

PROSCAN

MOISTURE METER

OPERATION MANUAL



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ProScan™
VERSION 1.2
OWNER'S MANUAL

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for purchasing ProScan, a multi-purpose meter that can be used in many applications including lumber and woodworking, flooring, water damage restoration, home inspection, and indoor air quality. ProScan provides a fast, effective way to identify moisture problems and determine if further action must be taken.

ProScan is a capacitance-type moisture meter with patented sensor technology, using the relationship between the moisture content and the dielectric properties of the material under test. When the meter is placed on wood or other hygroscopic building material, an electro-magnetic field penetrates approximately 19 to 25mm ($\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 inch) into the material. The meter reading represents a biased average, with the MC nearest to the sensor having the greatest effect.

If you require a more complete evaluation of moisture conditions or need to penetrate through flooring, check behind drywall, or test lumber over 1-1/2" thick, we recommend using ProScan in conjunction with a Delmhorst resistance (pin-type) moisture meter. ProScan offers specific gravity settings from 0.30-0.80 and reads wood moisture content over a 5%-30% range, depending on the specific gravity (SG). ProScan also includes a 0-100 reference scale for relative indications of moisture levels on non-wood hygroscopic materials.

SWITCH KEY FUNCTIONS



1. **On/Hold Key:** Press to turn meter on, return to reading mode after checking calibration, setting alarm, or to hold the current reading if pressed while reading. (There is a slow beeping sound while holding a reading.)
2. **Self-Check Key:** Press once to display battery status. Press again to check calibration. During calibration check the meter must be held in the air to read internal reference only.
3. **Select Key:** Press to select wood species (SG) mode or alarm mode.
4. **Up Arrow Key:** Press to increase SG settings or alarm settings.
5. **Down Arrow Key:** Press to decrease SG settings or alarm settings.

OPERATION

Checking the Battery and Calibration

- Press the Self Check key once to display the battery status. “bAtt” will be displayed followed by “PASS”, “FAIL”, or “LO”. PASS indicates there is sufficient battery voltage to operate the meter. LO indicates the battery should be replaced soon. FAIL indicates the battery no longer has sufficient capacity to operate the meter. NOTE: the meter automatically checks the battery when the meter is turned on and will display the status if it is FAIL.
- Press the Self Check key twice to check the meter calibration. The meter will display “CAL”. The meter should read between 11.5 and 13.5 if set to a wood species; 50-55 if set to the reference scale. If the meter reads out of calibration, replace the battery. If a new battery does not resolve, refer to the Service for Your Meter section (p 9).

Taking a Reading

- Press the On/Hold key to turn the unit on.
- Press the Select key to enter Species mode. This will be confirmed by a red LED. The default SG is 0.46. Use the Up or Down arrow keys to select the correct SG or “reF” to select the 0-100 reference scale for non-wood materials. When the meter is set to the reference scale, the meter switches to a lower sensitivity mode which is suitable for a wide range of materials.
- Press the On/Hold key while reading to hold the current reading. The meter will beep slowly and continue to hold the reading until the On/Hold key is pressed again.
- The alarm (fast beep) will sound whenever the current reading is above the alarm setting.

Setting the Alarm

- With the meter turned on, press the Select key to enter Alarm mode. The red LED confirms you are in Alarm mode. Use the Up or Down arrow keys to adjust the alarm setting. The range of alarm settings is 5.0 to 30.0 for wood and 1 to 100 for the reference scale. The meter stores separate wood and reference alarm settings.
- To turn the alarm off, use the Up or Down key to scroll to “OFF”.
- Exit the Alarm mode by pressing the On/Hold key and return to read mode.

Auto Shut-off

- The meter automatically turns off when no keys are pressed for three minutes.
- Five seconds before the meter turns off, the beeper will sound and the display will count down the 5 seconds.
- To prevent the meter from turning off, press any key before the meter turns off.

HELPFUL TIPS FOR USING PROSCAN TO MEASURE MC IN WOOD:

- Turn the meter on and select the appropriate SG for the wood you are testing. The entire sensor plate should be in contact with the surface of the board. The sensor plate measures 63x89mm (2-1/2"x3-1/2").
- Readings obtained with ProScan and pin-less moisture meters in general, are affected by the amount of pressure applied to the material. Apply and maintain uniform, firm pressure to the meter when taking readings.
- The meter's RF signal penetrates to 19-25mm (3/4"–1"). When measuring thinner material the material underneath the wood may influence the readings. If possible place a piece of glass, rubber or styro-foam under the sample to avoid false readings.
- The meter works best on smooth lumber. Rough, uneven, or cupped boards yield lower readings due to the air pockets between the sensor plate and the surface. Avoid readings on knots or splits.
- Surface moisture slightly increases the readings. Wipe obvious moisture from the board surface to minimize this effect.
- The meter is influenced by a moisture gradient but cannot detect it. If you suspect a gradient, use a Delmhorst resistance meter with insulated pins to determine if a normal gradient (wet core to drier outer surface) is present or if surface moisture has just soaked into the board.
- Before installing a wood floor, if possible allow the flooring to acclimate in its environment for several days before installation. During this period, check both the floor and the sub floor to ensure that moisture levels of both materials remain stable and are within recommended MC guidelines.
- The "right" moisture content depends on the final use of the wood and is climate-driven. Recommended moisture content for indoor woodworking / furniture ranges from 6%-9%. Outdoor construction grade lumber is usually 19% or less; 10%-15% for safe painting or staining.

Corrections for Specific Gravity (SG)

Measurements obtained with capacitance type moisture meters such as ProScan are greatly influenced by the specific gravity of the material (specifically the wood) being measured. Materials with higher specific gravity produce higher moisture readings than materials with lower specific gravity at the same moisture content. Since ProScan is calibrated for wood at a specific gravity (SG) of 0.46, a correction is required when measuring wood species with SG values other than 0.46. At the end of this manual you

will find a listing of common species with published average values for SG and also a table to correct meter readings for wood species. Use these values with the knowledge that specific gravity varies within a single species and may even vary within the same board. The following resources can be helpful if you are working with a species that is not included in these tables. When referring to published data use the SG values based on green volume and oven-dry weight (sometimes referred to as “green basis”).

www.wood-database.com

www.fpl.fs.fed.us/ (Wood Handbook 2010)

www.woodworkerssource.com

HELPFUL TIPS FOR USING TECHSCAN TO MEASURE RELATIVE MOISTURE LEVELS IN NON-WOOD MATERIALS:

- **Set the scale to “reF”.** The 0-100 reference scale is for relative wet/dry indications only. The numbers on this scale are relative, or qualitative indications of moisture levels – not % moisture content. Select when testing building materials such as drywall, concrete, plaster, EIFS, etc. Readings in the low end of the scale usually indicate a drier condition; readings in the upper end of the scale usually indicate a higher moisture level in the material.

To establish a benchmark or “dry standard” for the material you are measuring, first take readings in areas that you know are dry, or acceptable. Then take readings on areas that you know are wet. These “dry to wet” readings should be used as the reference points against which subsequent readings are compared. One should not expect that the reference scales for meters of different brands and types (resistance /capacitance) will read alike on the same material. The benchmark may be different from one meter type/brand to another because a given meters’ response depends on the material used for calibration and on the meter’s range.

- The entire sensor plate should be in contact with the surface of the material being measured. The sensor plate measures 63x89mm (2-1/2”x3-1/2”).
- Readings obtained with ProScan and pin-less moisture meters in general, are affected by the amount of pressure applied to the material. Apply and maintain uniform, firm pressure to the meter when taking readings.
- The meter’s RF signal penetrates to 19-25mm (¾”–1”). Material underneath or behind the surface being tested may influence the readings. This includes metal studs, wiring, and in the case of concrete, rebar and aggregate.
- The meter works best on smooth, clean surfaces. Surface moisture slightly increases the readings. Wipe obvious moisture from the board surface to minimize this effect.

- **Testing Concrete Slabs for Flooring Applications**

Pinless moisture meters can be an effective tool to check comparative moisture conditions in concrete slabs. They can tell you where there may be excess moisture and help determine if you need to conduct further testing, and identify specific areas on which that testing should be performed.

ProScan cannot provide quantitative results as a basis for acceptance of a slab for installation of moisture-sensitive flooring systems. ASTM Test Method F2170 (RH using in situ probes), F1869 (calcium chloride), and F2420 (RH on surface using insulated hood) provide quantitative information for determining if moisture levels are within specific limits.

- **Using ProScan In A Water Damage Restoration Or Mold Remediation Job:**

ProScan is a useful tool in identifying moisture in walls, ceilings and floors in a water restoration or mold remediation. In order to establish pre-loss conditions, find an area of the building that was not damaged and take several readings on various materials. This will provide you with a “dry standard” or target moisture levels when drying damaged areas.

Take several readings on each wall. Pay special attention near the base, around doorjamb, electrical and plumbing fixtures, and other places where water may have entered. Use the meter continuously during the drying process to monitor drying progress.

- **Testing EIFS (Exterior Insulation and Finishing System):**

Moisture intrusion problems in EIFS (synthetic stucco) stem from leaking window and door frames, improper use of or lack of sealant, and faulty installation of flashing. If you suspect a problem conduct a visual inspection. Look for gaps around windows, doors, air conditioning units, light fixtures, hose bibs, dryer vents and other areas of potential penetration. Also look for visible signs of water damage. If you believe a problem exists, use ProScan as a quick scanning tool to determine the general location of the moisture. Then use a pin-type meter to better identify exact problem areas and depth of moisture intrusion.

CARE OF YOUR METER

To keep your meter in good working order:

- ✓ Store your meter in a clean, dry place. The protective carrying case provided is an ideal storage place when the meter is not in use.
- ✓ Change the 9-Volt battery as needed. Continued use with a low battery may cause the meter to go out of calibration. Use only Duracell, Eveready, or other battery brand designed for digital electronics.
- ✓ Clean the meter with any biodegradable cleaner. Use the cleaner sparingly and on external parts only.
- ✓ **DO NOT IMMERSSE THE METER IN WATER.**
- ✓ Remove the battery if the meter will not be used for one month or longer.

SERVICE FOR YOUR METER

If your meter is not working properly, replace the battery with a new one and check the calibration. If this does not resolve the problem:

- ✓ Pack your meter securely. Enclose a purchase order or letter with a brief description of the problem.
- ✓ There is no need to call us for a return authorization number if you are within the EU. Customers outside the EU must contact us for more specific instructions prior to returning a meter.
- ✓ Include your name, address, daytime phone and fax numbers or e-mail address. If you believe the meter is under warranty, please provide the original sales slip or invoice.
- ✓ Ship via UPS, Express Mail, Priority Mail or any overnight courier who provides prompt service. Do not use standard parcel post.
- ✓ Insure your instrument for its full value and ship prepaid. We are not responsible for damage in transit.
- ✓ We do not accept COD shipments or cover any incoming freight or duty charges on returned merchandise
- ✓ Turnaround time on repairs is approximately two weeks.
- ✓ We will call you with an estimate if you specifically request one, or if we determine that the meter may be too costly to repair.
- ✓ Non-warranty repairs will be returned via UPS/COD unless you have already established other payment terms. There is no COD service outside the EU.
- ✓ Payments have to be made by Bank transfer prior to the return shipment. A proforma invoice will be raised in advance.
- ✓ Warranty repairs will be returned at no charge if shipped within the EU via UPS Ground Service. Freight charges for expedited services (i.e., Federal Express, UPS/2 Day, UPS/1 Day, etc.) are the customer's responsibility and will be charged as per the above terms.

WARRANTY

Delmhorst Europe, referred to hereafter as Delmhorst, guarantees your moisture meter for one year from date of purchase and any optional electrodes against defects in material or workmanship for 90 days. If, within the warranty period of the meter, you find any defect in material or workmanship return the meter following the instructions in the “**Service for Your Meter**” section. This limited warranty does not cover abuse, alteration, misuse, damage during shipment, improper service, unauthorized or unreasonable use of the meter or electrodes. This warranty does not cover batteries, pin assemblies, or pins. If the meter or any optional electrodes have been tampered with, the warranty shall be void. At our option we may replace or repair the meter. Delmhorst shall not be liable for incidental or consequential damages for the breach of any express or implied warranty with respect to this product or its calibration. With proper care and maintenance the meter should stay in calibration; follow the instructions in the “**Care of Your Meter**” section.

Under no circumstances shall Delmhorst be liable for any incidental, indirect, special, or consequential damages of any type whatsoever, including, but not limited to, lost profits or downtime arising out of or related in any respect to the meters or electrodes and no other warranty, written, oral or implied applies. Delmhorst shall in no event be liable for any breach of warranty or defect in this product that exceeds the amount of purchase of this product. The express warranty set forth above constitutes the entire warranty with respect to Delmhorst meters and electrodes and no other warranty, written, oral, or implied applies. This warranty is personal to the customer purchasing the product and is not transferable.

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For over 65 years, Delmhorst is a leading brand for high-quality resistance moisture meters. Today the Delmhorst range consists of a complete line of portable moisture meters for a variety of different applications including woodworking / lumber, agriculture, construction and paper.

PROSCAN ADDENDUM

TECHSCAN/PROSCAN - SPECIES/SG LIST

<u>SPECIES NAME:</u>	<u>BOTANICAL NAME:</u>	<u>SG</u>	<u>SPECIES NAME:</u>	<u>BOTANICAL NAME:</u>	<u>SG</u>
ALDER	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	0.37	KERUING	<i>Dipterocarpus</i> spp.	0.69
ASH, WHITE	<i>Fraxinus americana</i>	0.55	KOA	<i>Acacia koa</i>	0.53
ASPEN	<i>Populus tremula</i>	0.36	LARCH, EURO	<i>Larix decidua</i>	0.45
BASSWOOD	<i>Tilia glabra</i>	0.32	LARCH, WESTERN	<i>Larix occidentalis</i>	0.48
BEECH, AMERICAN	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	0.56	MAGNOLIA, SOUTHERN	<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	0.46
BEECH, EURO	<i>Fagus sylvestris</i>	0.53	MAHOGANY- AFRICAN	<i>Khaya</i> spp	0.42
BIRCH	<i>Betula alba</i>	0.55	MAHOGANY- HOND	<i>Swietenia</i> spp	0.45
BRAZILIAN CHERRY	<i>Hymenea courbaril</i>	0.64	MAHOGANY-TRUE	<i>Shorea</i> spp.	0.46
BUBINGA	<i>Guibourtia</i> spp.	0.71	MAPLE, HARD	<i>Acer saccharum</i>	0.56
CEDAR, EASTERN RED	<i>Juniper virginiana</i>	0.44	MAPLE, RED (SOFT)	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	0.49
CEDAR, INCENSE	<i>Libocedrus decurrens</i>	0.35	MAPLE, SILVER (SOFT)	<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	0.44
CEDAR, SPANISH	<i>Cedrela</i> spp.	0.41	MERANTI	<i>Shorea</i> spp.	0.46
CEDAR, WESTERN RED	<i>Thuja plicata</i>	0.31	MYRTLE, OREGON	<i>Umbellularia californica</i>	0.51
CHERRY, BLACK	<i>Prunus serotina</i>	0.47	MYRTLE, TASMANIAN	<i>Nothophagus</i> spp	0.50
COTTONWOOD, BLACK	<i>Populus strichocarpa</i>	0.31	OAK, RED	<i>Quercus</i> spp.	0.56
DOUGLAS FIR	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	0.45	OAK, WHITE	<i>Quercus</i> spp.	0.60
EBONY, AFRICAN	<i>Diospyros crassiflora</i>	0.78	PECAN	<i>Carya illinoensis</i>	0.60
ELM, AMERICAN	<i>Ulmus</i> spp.	0.46	PINE, JACK	<i>Pinus banksiana</i>	0.40
FIR, RED	<i>Abies magnifica</i>	0.65	PINE, LONGLEAF	<i>Pinus palustris</i>	0.54
FIR, WHITE	<i>Abies concolor</i>	0.37	PINE, PONDEROSA	<i>Pinus ponderosa</i>	0.38
GUM, BLACK	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	0.64	PINE, RADIATA	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	0.42
GUM, RED/SWEETGUM	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	0.46	PINE, SHORTLEAF	<i>Pinus echinata</i>	0.47
HACKBERRY	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	0.49	PINE, SUGAR	<i>Pinus lambertiana</i>	0.34
HEMLOCK, EASTERN	<i>Tsuga canadensis</i>	0.36	PINE, WHITE	<i>Pinus strobus</i>	0.36
HEMLOCK, WESTERN	<i>Tsuga heterophylla</i>	0.42	POPLAR, YELLOW	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	0.40
HICKORY, SHAGBARK	<i>Carya ovata</i>	0.64	PURPLEHEART	<i>Peltogyne</i> spp.	0.67
JATOBA	<i>Hymenea courbaril</i>	0.77	RAMIN	<i>Gonystylus</i> spp.	0.52

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SPRUCE, BLACK	<i>Picea mariana</i>	0.38	REDWOOD	<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>	0.36
SPRUCE, ENGLMN	<i>Picea engelmannii</i>	0.33	ROSEWOOD, BRAZ	<i>Dalbergia nigra</i>	0.80
SPRUCE, SITKA	<i>Picea sitchensis</i>	0.37	RUBBERWOOD	<i>Hevea brasiliensis</i>	0.49
SPRUCE, WHITE	<i>Picea glauca</i>	0.33	TUPELO	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	0.64
TAMARACK	<i>Larix laricina</i>	0.48	VIROLA	<i>Virola</i> spp.	0.42
TEAK	<i>Tectona grandis</i>	0.55	WALNUT, BLACK	<i>Juglans nigra</i>	0.51

NOTE: SG VALUES ARE BASED ON GREEN VOLUME AND OVEN-DRY WEIGHT.

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