

Leak Sizer[®] - Operational Tips

To Start

Assemble the Ground Microphone plus handle and magnetically attach the mass. Switch on the Pocket PC (operating Leak Sizer software) which connects to the Ground Microphone via Bluetooth. Plug the headphones into the PDA.

Caution – PDA Fujitsu/Siemens LOOX

The on/off button pressed briefly puts the PDA into a *suspend* mode and this only gives a standby time of 20 hours. To get the quoted 500 hours the on/off button must be held for 1 second to ensure it turns fully *off*. The button must also be held for 1 second to turn back *on*.

Important tips when leak sizing

- The Ground Microphone must be positioned over the leak position.** Ensure the mass is pressed firmly onto the ground and that there are no loose stones or grit to obstruct a good contact).
- Many leaks are marked with paint that deadens sound. Do **not** place the Leak Sizer mass directly on a paint mark - but on an unsprayed area very close to the leak position.
- Whilst capturing noise data **keep very still** - movements can disturb the measurement.
- Time data captures during quiet periods in traffic noise or other disturbances.

Operating Procedure

There are two leak sizing options as defined below:

Mains pipe procedure (pipe diameter > 50mm)

- Record 30 seconds of noise data directly over leak position
- Enter an estimate of pressure
- Enter pipe material and diameter
- Leak Size probability: in two categories <3 or ≥3 cum/hr
- Priority Ranking factor: The most significant digit repeats the leak size probability and the remaining digits indicate a ranking factor when compared to other leaks of the same size (i.e. same most significant digit)

Non-Mains pipe procedure (pipe diameter ≤ 50mm, including customer service pipes, communication pipes, sub-mains and ferrules onto larger mains pipes).

- Record 30 seconds of noise data directly over leak position
- Enter an estimate of pressure
- Connect sensor directly to the nearest pipe fitting such as a valve. Enter distance from leak position to pipe fitting. Record 30 seconds of noise data (this step is optional but highly recommended)
- Leak Size probability: in three categories ≤0.1, 0.1 – 0.5 or >0.5 cum/hr
- The Priority Ranking factor is shown (as defined at (e) above)