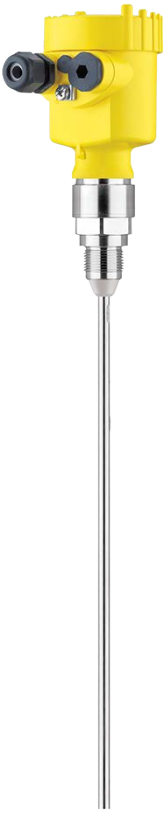
Operating Instructions

TDR sensor for continuous level and interface measurement of liquids



VEGAFLEX 81

Two-wire: 4 … 20 mA/HART

Rod and cable probe

Document ID: 41824

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1 About this document

1.1 Function

This instruction provides all the information you need for mounting, connection and setup as well as important instructions for maintenance, fault rectification, safety and the exchange of parts. Please read this information before putting the instrument into operation and keep this manual accessible in the immediate vicinity of the device.

1.2 Target group

This instruction manual is directed to trained personnel. The contents of this manual must be made available to the qualified personnel and implemented.

1.3 Symbols used

Document ID
This symbol on the front page of this instruction refers to the Document ID. By entering the Document ID on www.vega.com you will reach the document download.

Information, note, tip: This symbol indicates helpful additional information and tips for successful work.

Note: This symbol indicates notes to prevent failures, malfunctions, damage to devices or plants.

Caution: Non-observance of the information marked with this symbol may result in personal injury.

Warning: Non-observance of the information marked with this symbol may result in serious or fatal personal injury.

Danger: Non-observance of the information marked with this symbol results in serious or fatal personal injury.

Ex applications
This symbol indicates special instructions for Ex applications.

- **List**
  The dot set in front indicates a list with no implied sequence.

1 **Sequence of actions**
Numbers set in front indicate successive steps in a procedure.

Disposal
This symbol indicates special instructions for disposal.

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2 For your safety

2.1 Authorised personnel

All operations described in this documentation must be carried out only by trained and authorized personnel.

During work on and with the device, the required personal protective equipment must always be worn.

2.2 Intended use

VEGAFLEX 81 is a sensor for continuous level measurement.

You can find detailed information about the area of application in chapter "*Product description*".

Operational reliability is ensured only if the instrument is properly used according to the specifications in this document as well as possible supplementary instructions.

2.3 Warning about incorrect use

Inappropriate or incorrect use of this product can give rise to application-specific hazards, e.g. vessel overfill through incorrect mounting or adjustment. Damage to property and persons or environmental contamination can result. Also, the protective characteristics of the instrument can be impaired.

2.4 General safety instructions

This is a state-of-the-art instrument complying with all prevailing regulations and directives. The instrument must only be operated in a technically flawless and reliable condition. The operating company is responsible for the trouble-free operation of the instrument. When measuring aggressive or corrosive media that can cause a dangerous situation if the instrument malfunctions, the operating company has to implement suitable measures to make sure the instrument is functioning properly.

The safety instructions in this operating instructions manual, the national installation standards as well as the valid safety regulations and accident prevention rules must be observed.

For safety and warranty reasons, any invasive work on the device beyond that described in the operating instructions manual may be carried out only by personnel authorised by us. Arbitrary conversions or modifications are explicitly forbidden. For safety reasons, only the accessory specified by us must be used.

To avoid any danger, the safety approval markings and safety tips on the device must also be observed.

2.5 Installation and operation in the USA and Canada

This information is only valid for USA and Canada. Hence the following text is only available in the English language.

Installations in the US shall comply with the relevant requirements of the National Electrical Code (NEC - NFPA 70) (USA).

Installations in Canada shall comply with the relevant requirements of the Canadian Electrical Code (CEC Part I) (Canada).

A Class 2 power supply unit has to be used for the installation in the USA and Canada.

3 Product description

3.1 Configuration

Scope of delivery

The scope of delivery encompasses:

- Sensor VEGAFLEX 81
- Optional accessory
- Optionally integrated Bluetooth module

The further scope of delivery encompasses:

- Documentation
  - Quick setup guide VEGAFLEX 81
  - Instructions for optional instrument features
  - Ex-specific "*Safety instructions*" (with Ex versions)
  - If necessary, further certificates

Information:
Optional instrument features are also described in this operating instructions. The respective scope of delivery results from the order specification.

Type label

The type label contains the most important data for identification and use of the instrument:

- Instrument type
- Information about approvals
- Configuration information
- Technical data
- Serial number of the instrument
- QR code for device identification
- Numerical code for Bluetooth access (optional)
- Manufacturer information

Documents and software

To find order data, documents or software related to your device, you have the following options:

- Move to "www.vega.com" and enter in the search field the serial number of your instrument.
- Scan the QR code on the type label.
- Open the VEGA Tools app and enter the serial number under "***Documentation***".

3.2 Principle of operation

Application area

The VEGAFLEX 81 is a level sensor with cable or rod probe for continuous level or interface measurement, suitable for applications in liquids.

Functional principle - level measurement

High frequency microwave pulses are guided along a steel cable or a rod. Upon reaching the medium surface, the microwave pulses are reflected. The running time is evaluated by the instrument and output as level.

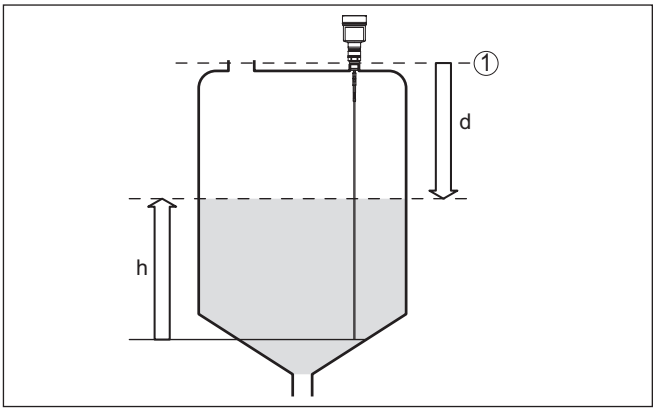

Fig. 1: Level measurement

1 Sensor reference plane (seal surface of the process fitting)
d Distance to the level
h Height - Level

Functional principle - interface measurement

High frequency microwave impulses are guided along a steel cable or rod. Upon reaching the medium surface, a part of the microwave impulses is reflected. The other part passes through the upper product and is reflected by the interface. The running times to the two product layers are processed by the instrument.

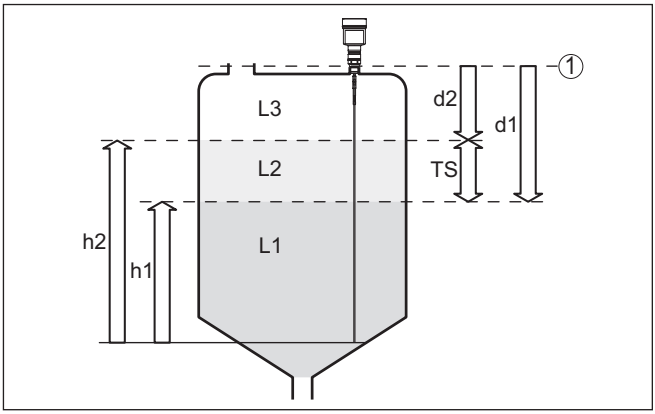

Fig. 2: Interface measurement

1 Sensor reference plane (seal surface of the process fitting)
d1 Distance to the interface
d2 Distance to the level
TS Thickness of the upper medium (d1 - d2)
h1 Height - Interface
h2 Height - Level
L1 Lower medium
L2 Upper medium
L3 Gas phase

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Prerequisites for interface measurement

Upper medium (L2)

- The upper medium must not be conductive
- The dielectric constant of the upper medium or the actual distance to the interface must be known (input required). Min. dielectric constant: 1.6. You can find a list of dielectric constants on our home page.
- The composition of the upper medium must be stable, no varying products or mixtures
- The upper medium must be homogeneous, no stratifications within the medium
- Min. thickness of the upper medium 50 mm (1.97 in)
- Clear separation from the lower medium, emulsion phase or detritus layer max. 50 mm (1.97 in)
- If possible, no foam on the surface

Lower medium (L1)

- The dielectric constant must be 10 higher than the dielectric constant of the upper medium, preferably electrically conductive. Example: upper medium dielectric constant 2, lower medium at least dielectric constant 12.

Gas phase (L3)

- Air or gas mixture
- Gas phase - dependent on the application, gas phase does not always exist (d2 = 0)

Output signal

The instrument is always preset to the application "*Level measurement*".

For the interface measurement, you can select the requested output signal with the setup.

3.3 Packaging, transport and storage

Packaging

Your instrument was protected by packaging during transport. Its capacity to handle normal loads during transport is assured by a test based on ISO 4180.

The packaging consists of environment-friendly, recyclable cardboard. For special versions, PE foam or PE foil is also used. Dispose of the packaging material via specialised recycling companies.

Transport

Transport must be carried out in due consideration of the notes on the transport packaging. Nonobservance of these instructions can cause damage to the device.

Transport inspection

The delivery must be checked for completeness and possible transit damage immediately at receipt. Ascertained transit damage or concealed defects must be appropriately dealt with.

Storage

Up to the time of installation, the packages must be left closed and stored according to the orientation and storage markings on the outside.

Unless otherwise indicated, the packages must be stored only under the following conditions:

- Not in the open
- Dry and dust free
- Not exposed to corrosive media
- Protected against solar radiation
- Avoiding mechanical shock and vibration

Storage and transport temperature

- Storage and transport temperature see chapter "*Technical data - Ambient conditions*"
- Relative moisture 20 … 85 %

Lifting and carrying

With instrument weights of more than 18 kg (39.68 lbs) suitable and approved equipment must be used for lifting and carrying.

3.4 Accessories

The instructions for the listed accessories can be found in the download area on our homepage.

Display and adjustment module

The display and adjustment module is used for measured value indication, adjustment and diagnosis.

The integrated Bluetooth module (optional) enables wireless adjustment via standard adjustment devices.

VEGACONNECT

The interface adapter VEGACONNECT enables the connection of communication-capable instruments to the USB interface of a PC.

VEGADIS 81

The VEGADIS 81 is an external display and adjustment unit for VEGA plics® sensors.

VEGADIS adapter

The VEGADIS adapter is an accessory part for sensors with double chamber housing. It enables the connection of VEGADIS 81 to the sensor housing via an M12 x 1 plug.

VEGADIS 82

VEGADIS 82 is suitable for measured value indication and adjustment of sensors with HART protocol. It is looped into the 4 … 20 mA/HART signal cable.

PLICSMOBILE T81

The PLICSMOBILE T81 is an external GSM/GPRS/UMTS radio unit for transmission of measured values and for remote parameter adjustment of HART sensors.

PLICSMOBILE 81

PLICSMOBILE 81 is an internal GSM/GPRS/UMTS radio unit for HART sensors for transmitting measured values and for remote parameterization.

Protective cover

The protective cover protects the sensor housing against soiling and intense heat from solar radiation.

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Flanges

Screwed flanges are available in different versions according to the following standards: DIN 2501, EN 1092-1, BS 10, ASME B 16.5, JIS B 2210-1984, GOST 12821-80.

External housing

If the standard sensor housing is too big or in case of strong vibrations, an external housing can be used.

Then the sensor housing is made of stainless steel. The electronics is located in the external housing which can be mounted in a distance of up to 15 m (49.2 ft) to the sensor by using a connection cable.

Rod components

If you are using an instrument in rod version, you can extend the rod probe with curved segments and rod extensions of different lengths.

All extensions used must not exceed a total length of 6 m (19.7 ft).

The extensions are available in the following lengths:

Rod ø 12 mm (0.472 in)

- Basic segments: 20 … 5900 mm (0.79 … 232 in)
- Rod segments: 20 … 5900 mm (0.79 … 232 in)
- Curved segments: 100 x 100 mm (3.94 … 3.94 in)

Bypass pipe

VEGAPASS X is a bypass system for continuous level measurement of liquids

The combination of a bypass tube and a VEGAFLEX 81 enables continuous level measurement outside the vessel. The bypass consists of a standpipe which is mounted as a communicating container on the side of the vessel via two process fittings. This kind of mounting the level in the vessel is the same.

The length and process fittings can be freely configured. Various connection options are also available. Specially optimised centring discs are available for installing the sensor in the VEGAPASS X.

You can find further information in the Operating instructions "*VEGAPASS X*" as well as the Supplementary instructions *Centering for VEGAFLEX series 80*

Centering

If you mount the VEGAFLEX 81 in a bypass tube or standpipe, you have to avoid contact to the bypass tube by using a spacer at the probe end.

Fixing facility

If there is a risk of the cable probe touching the vessel wall during operation due to product movements or agitators, etc., the measuring probe can be strained.

Cables with a diameter up to 8 mm (0.315 in) can thus be strained.

For this purpose there is an internal thread (M12 or M8) in the gravity weight.

4 Mounting

4.1 General instructions

Screwing in

Devices with threaded fitting are screwed into the process fitting with a suitable wrench via the hexagon.

See chapter "*Dimensions*" for wrench size.

Warning:
The housing or the electrical connection may not be used for screwing in! Depending on the device version, tightening can cause damage, e. g. to the rotation mechanism of the housing.

Protection against moisture

Protect your instrument against moisture ingress through the following measures:

- Use a suitable connection cable (see chapter "*Connecting to power supply*")
- Tighten the cable gland or plug connector
- Lead the connection cable downward in front of the cable entry or plug connector

This applies mainly to outdoor installations, in areas where high humidity is expected (e.g. through cleaning processes) and on cooled or heated vessels.

Note:
Make sure that during installation or maintenance no moisture or dirt can get inside the instrument.

To maintain the housing protection, make sure that the housing lid is closed during operation and locked, if necessary.

Cable glands

Metric threads
In the case of instrument housings with metric thread, the cable glands are screwed in at the factory. They are sealed with plastic plugs as transport protection.

You have to remove these plugs before electrical connection.

NPT thread
In the case of instrument housings with self-sealing NPT threads, it is not possible to have the cable entries screwed in at the factory. The free openings for the cable glands are therefore covered with red dust protection caps as transport protection. The dust protection caps do not provide sufficient protection against moisture.

Prior to setup you have to replace these protective caps with approved cable glands or close the openings with suitable blind plugs.

Process conditions

Note:
For safety reasons, the instrument must only be operated within the permissible process conditions. You can find detailed information on the process conditions in chapter "*Technical data*" of the operating instructions or on the type label.

Hence make sure before mounting that all parts of the instrument exposed to the process are suitable for the existing process conditions.

These are mainly:

- Active measuring component
- Process fitting
- Process seal

Process conditions in particular are:

- Process pressure
- Process temperature
- Chemical properties of the medium
- Abrasion and mechanical influences

4.2 Mounting instructions

Installation position

Mount the device in such a way that the distance to vessel installations or to the vessel wall is at least 300 mm (12 in). In non-metallic vessels, the distance to the vessel wall should be at least 500 mm (19.7 in).

During operation, the probe must not touch any installations or the vessel wall. If necessary, fasten the probe end.

In vessels with conical bottom it can be advantageous to mount the device in the center of the vessel, as measurement is then possible nearly down to the lowest point of the bottom. Keep in mind that measurement all the way down to the tip of the probe may not be possible. The exact value of the min. distance (lower blocking distance) is stated in chapter "*Technical data*" of the operating instructions.

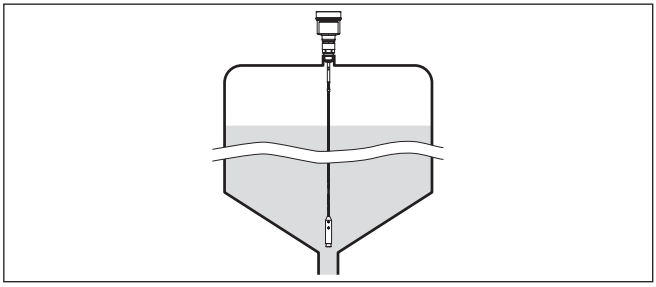


Fig. 3: Vessel with conical bottom

Type of vessel

Plastic vessel/Glass vessel

The guided microwave principle requires a metallic surface on the process fitting. Therefore, in plastic vessels, etc., use an instrument version with flange (from DN 50) or place a metal sheet (ø > 200 mm/8 in) beneath the process fitting when screwing it in.

Make sure that the plate has direct contact with the process fitting.

When mounting rod or cable probes in vessels without metal walls, e.g. in plastic vessels, the measured value can be influenced by strong electromagnetic fields (emitted interference according to EN 61326: class A). In this case, use a probe with coaxial version.

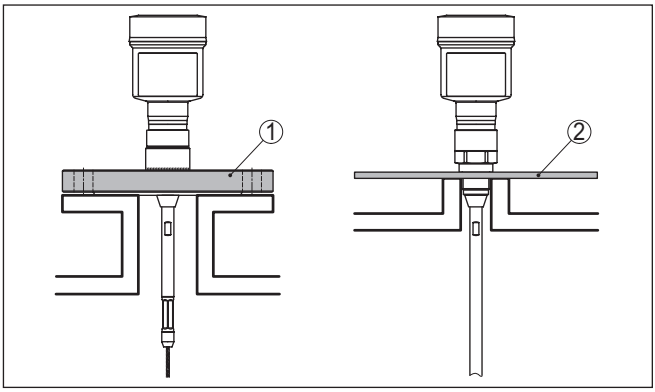


Fig. 4: Mounting in non-metallic vessel

1 Flange
2 Metal sheet

Nozzle

If possible, avoid nozzles. Mount the sensor flush with the vessel top. If this is not possible, use short nozzles with small diameter.

Higher nozzles or nozzles with a bigger diameter can generally be used. They can, however, increase the upper blocking distance. Check if this is relevant for your measurement.

In such cases, always carry out a false signal suppression after mounting. You can find further information under "*Setup procedure*".

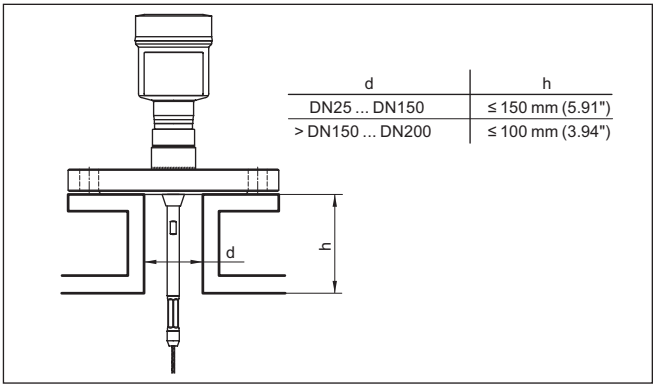


Fig. 5: Mounting socket

When welding the nozzle, make sure that the nozzle is flush with the vessel top.

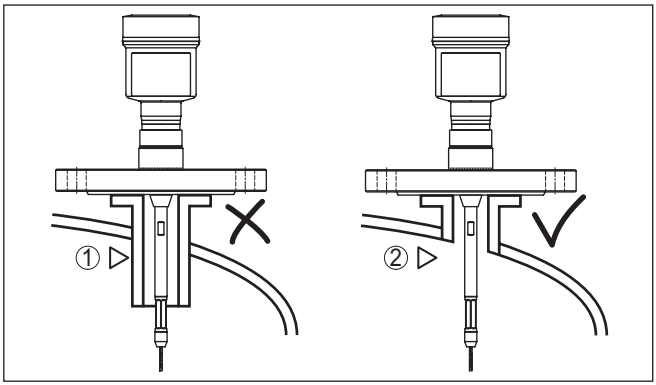


Fig. 6: Nozzle must be installed flush

1 Unfavourable mounting
2 Nozzle flush - optimum mounting

Welding work

Before beginning the welding work, remove the electronics module from the sensor. By doing this, you avoid damage to the electronics through inductive coupling.

Inflowing medium

Do not mount the instruments in or above the filling stream. Make sure that you detect the medium surface, not the inflowing product.

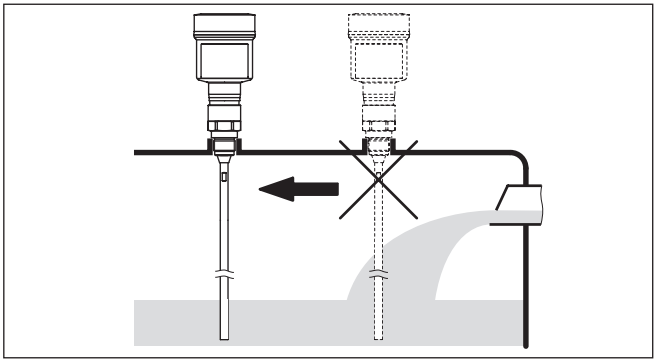


Fig. 7: Mounting of the sensor with inflowing medium

Measuring range

The reference plane for the measuring range of the sensors is the sealing surface of the thread or flange.

Keep in mind that a min. distance must be maintained below the reference plane and possibly also at the end of the probe - measurement in these areas is not possible (blocking distance). The length of the cable can be used all the way to the end only when measuring conductive products. These blocking distances for different mediums are listed in chapter "*Technical data*". Keep in mind for the adjustment that the default setting for the measuring range refers to water.

Pressure

The process fitting must be sealed if there is gauge or low pressure in the vessel. Before use, check if the sealing material is resistant against the measured product and the process temperature.

The max. permissible pressure is specified in chapter "*Technical data*" or on the type label of the sensor.

Bypass tubes

Standpipes or bypass tubes are normally metal tubes with a diameter of 30 … 200 mm (1.18 … 7.87 in). Up to a diameter of 80 mm (3.15 in) such a tube corresponds to a coax measuring probe. Lateral inlets in bypass tubes do not influence the measurement.

Measuring probes can be mounted in bypass tubes up to DN 200.

For bypass tubes, select the probe length such that the blocking distance of the probe is above and below the lower lateral filling openings of the bypass tube. You can thus measure the complete range of the medium in the bypass tube (h). When designing the bypass tube, keep the blocking distance of the probe in mind and select the length of the bypass tube above the upper lateral filling opening accordingly.

Microwaves can penetrate many plastics. This is why plastic tubes are problematic for measurement applications. If durability is no problem, we recommend the use of uncoated metal standpipes.

When the VEGAFLEX 81 is used in bypass tubes, contact with the tube wall must be avoided. We recommend for this purpose a cable probe with centering weight.

Caution:
When mounting, make sure that the cable is straight over its entire length. A kink in the cable can cause measurement errors and contact with the tube.

With rod probes, a centering is generally not required. However, if there is a risk of the rod probe being pressed against the tube wall by inflowing medium, you should mount a spacer or centering disc at the probe end to avoid contact with the tube wall. In the case of cable probes, the cable can be strained.

Keep in mind that the lower blocking distance underneath the spacer increases if spacers or centering discs are used.

Buildup can form on the spacers or centering discs. Strong buildup can influence the measurement.

You can find additional information in the operating instructions manual Centering.

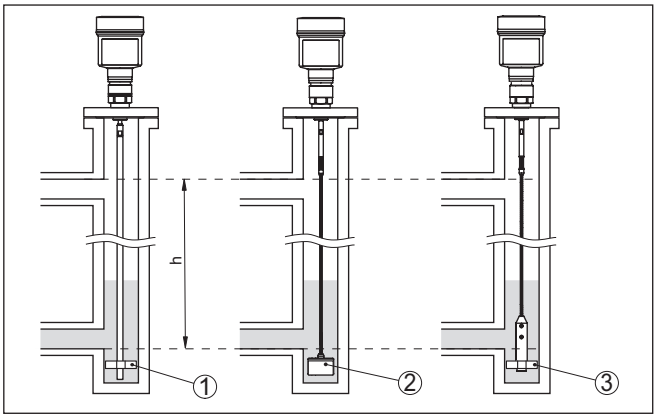


Fig. 8: Mounting in a bypass tube - Position of the spacer or the centering weight

1 Rod probe with spacer (PEEK) / Centering disc (316L)
2 Cable probe with centering weight
3 Spacer (PEEK) on the gravity weight of a cable probe
h Measurable tube section

Note:
Measurement in a standpipe is not recommended for extremely adhesive products. In case of slight buildup, you should choose a bypass tube with bigger diameter.

Instructions for the measurement:

- The 100% point for bypass tubes is at the upper side of the upper tube connection to the tank.
- The 0% point for bypass tubes is at the lower side of the lower tube connection to the tank.
- A false signal suppression with installed sensor is generally recommended to achieve the best possible accuracy.

Standpipes

Standpipes or surge pipes are normally metal tubes with a diameter of 30 … 200 mm (1.18 … 7.87 in). Up to a diameter of 80 mm (3.15 in), such a pipe corresponds to a coax measuring probe. It does not matter if the standpipe is perforated or slotted for better mixing.

Measuring probes can be mounted in standpipes up to DN 200.

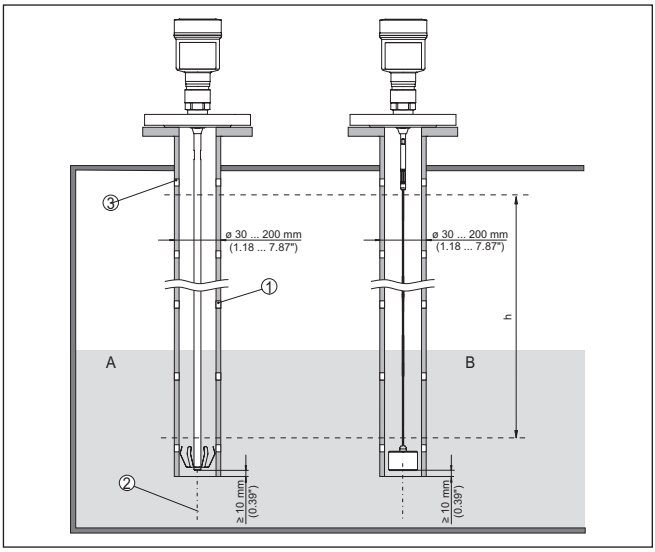


Fig. 9: Mounting in a standpipe

1 Holes (for mixing)
2 Standpipe - vertically mounted - max. deviation 10 mm (0.4 in)
3 Ventilation opening
A Rod probe with spacer (steel)
B Cable probe with centering weight
h Measuring range

For standpipes, select the probe length such that the upper blocking distance of the probe is above the upper ventilation hole. This allows you to measure the total level range of the medium in the standpipe. When designing the standpipe, keep the upper blocking distance of the probe in mind and plan the length above the upper lateral filling opening accordingly.

Microwaves can penetrate many plastics. This is why plastic tubes are problematic for measurement applications. If durability is no problem, we recommend the use of uncoated metal standpipes.

When the VEGAFLEX 81 is used in standpipes, contact with the tube wall must be avoided. We recommend for this purpose a cable probe with centering weight.

Caution:
When mounting, make sure that the cable is straight over its entire length. A kink in the cable can cause measurement errors and contact with the tube.

With rod probes, a spacer is generally not required. However, if there is a risk of the rod probe being pressed against the tube wall by inflowing medium, you should mount a spacer or centering disc at the probe end to avoid contact with the tube wall. In the case of cable probes, the cable can be strained.

Keep in mind that the lower blocking distance underneath the spacer increases if spacers or centering discs are used.

Buildup can form on the spacers or centering discs. Strong buildup can influence the measurement.

You can find additional information in the operating instructions manual Centering.

Note:
Measurement in a standpipe is not recommended for extremely adhesive products. In case of slight buildup, you should choose a standpipe with bigger diameter.

Instructions for the measurement:

- The 100 % point with standpipes is below the upper ventilation hole.
- The 0 % point in standpipes is above the gravity or centering weight.
- A false signal suppression with installed sensor is generally recommended to achieve the best possible accuracy.

Fasten

If there is a risk of the cable probe touching the vessel wall during operation due to product movements or agitators, etc., the measuring probe should be securely fixed.

In the gravity weight there is an internal thread (M8), e.g. for an eyebolt (optional) - (article no. 2.1512).

Make sure that the probe cable is not completely taut. Avoid tensile loads on the cable.

Avoid undefined vessel connections, i.e. the connection must be either grounded reliably or isolated reliably. Any undefined change of this condition can lead to measurement errors.

If there is a danger of the rod probe touching the vessel wall, fasten the probe at the bottom end.

Keep in mind that measurement is not possible below the fastening point.

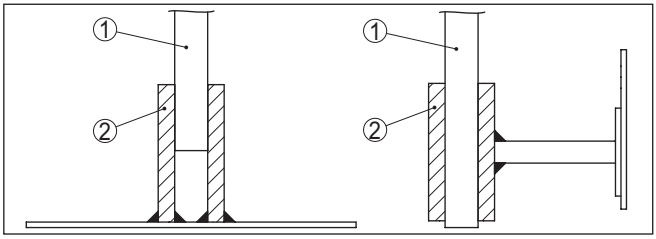


Fig. 10: Fasten the probe

1 Measuring probe
2 Retaining sleeve

Fixing facility

If there is a risk of the cable probe touching the vessel wall during operation due to product movements or agitators, etc., the measuring probe can be strained.

For this purpose there is an internal thread (M12 or M8) in the gravity weight.

Make sure that the probe cable is only hand tight. Avoid strong tensile loads on the cable.

The fixing facility can only be used up to a maximum medium temperature of 160 °C (320 °F).

Keep in mind that measurement is only possible up to the tensioning component. For this reason, order the cable probe 270 mm longer.

L = L1 + 270 mm (10.63 in)

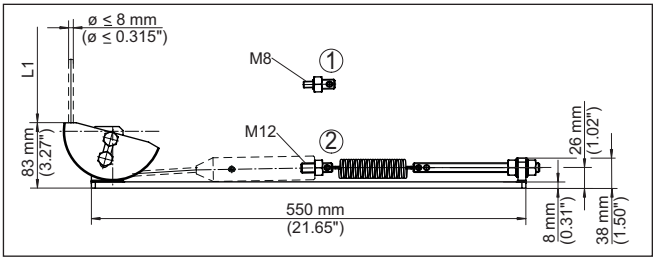


Fig. 11: Tensioning component for cable versions

1 Holding screw M8
2 Holding screw M12
L1 Max. measuring length
Probe length L = L1 + 270 mm (10.63 in)

Lateral installation

In case of difficult installation conditions, the probe can also be mounted laterally. For this, adapt the rod with rod extensions or angled segments.

To compensate for the resulting changes in signal runtime, let the instrument determine the probe length automatically.

The determined probe length can deviate from the actual probe length when using curved or angled segments.

If internal installations such as struts, ladders, etc. are present on the vessel wall, the measuring probe should be mounted at least 300 mm (11.81 in) away from the vessel wall.

You can find further information in the supplementary instructions of the rod extension.

Rod extension

In case of difficult installation conditions, for example in a nozzle, the probe can be suitably adapted with a rod extension.

To compensate for the resulting changes in signal runtime, let the instrument determine the probe length automatically.

You can find further information in the supplementary instructions of the rod and cable components.

5 Connecting to power supply

5.1 Preparing the connection

Safety instructions

Always keep in mind the following safety instructions:

- Carry out electrical connection by trained, qualified personnel authorised by the plant operator
- If overvoltage surges are expected, overvoltage arresters should be installed

Warning:
Only connect or disconnect in de-energized state.

Voltage supply

Power supply and current signal are carried on the same two-wire cable. The operating voltage can differ depending on the instrument version.

The data for power supply are specified in chapter "*Technical data*".

Provide a reliable separation between the supply circuit and the mains circuits according to DIN EN 61140 VDE 0140-1.

Power the instrument via an energy-limited circuit acc. to IEC 61010-1, e.g. via Class 2 power supply unit.

Keep in mind the following additional factors that influence the operating voltage:

- Lower output voltage of the power supply unit under nominal load (e.g. with a sensor current of 20.5 mA or 22 mA in case of fault signal)
- Influence of additional instruments in the circuit (see load values in chapter "*Technical data*")

Connection cable

The instrument is connected with standard two-wire cable without shielding. If electromagnetic interference is expected which is above the test values of EN 61326-1 for industrial areas, shielded cable should be used.

Use cable with round cross section for instruments with housing and cable gland. Use a cable gland suitable for the cable diameter to ensure the seal effect of the cable gland (IP protection rating).

We generally recommend the use of shielded cable for HART multidrop mode.

Cable glands

Metric threads:
In the case of instrument housings with metric thread, the cable glands are screwed in at the factory. They are sealed with plastic plugs as transport protection.

Note:
You have to remove these plugs before electrical connection.

NPT thread:
In the case of instrument housings with self-sealing NPT threads, it is not possible to have the cable entries screwed in at the factory. The

free openings for the cable glands are therefore covered with red dust protection caps as transport protection.

Note:
Prior to setup you have to replace these protective caps with approved cable glands or close the openings with suitable blind plugs.

On plastic housings, the NPT cable gland or the Conduit steel tube must be screwed into the threaded insert without grease.

Max. torque for all housings, see chapter "*Technical data*".

Cable screening and grounding

If shielded cable is required, we recommend connecting the cable screening on both ends to ground potential. In the sensor, the cable screening is connected directly to the internal ground terminal. The ground terminal on the outside of the housing must be connected to the ground potential (low impedance).

In Ex systems, the grounding is carried out according to the installation regulations.

In electroplating plants as well as plants for cathodic corrosion protection it must be taken into account that significant potential differences exist. This can lead to unacceptably high currents in the cable screen if it is grounded at both ends.

Note:
The metallic parts of the instrument (process fitting, sensor, concentric tube, etc.) are connected with the internal and external ground terminal on the housing. This connection exists either directly via the conductive metallic parts or, in case of instruments with external electronics, via the screen of the special connection cable.

You can find specifications on the potential connections inside the instrument in chapter "*Technical data*".

5.2 Connecting

Connection technology

The voltage supply and signal output are connected via the spring-loaded terminals in the housing.

Connection to the display and adjustment module or to the interface adapter is carried out via contact pins in the housing.

Information:
The terminal block is pluggable and can be removed from the electronics. To do this, lift the terminal block with a small screwdriver and pull it out. When reinserting the terminal block, you should hear it snap in.

Connection procedure

Proceed as follows:

1. Unscrew the housing lid
2. If a display and adjustment module is installed, remove it by turning it slightly to the left
3. Loosen compression nut of the cable gland and remove blind plug

4. Remove approx. 10 cm (4 in) of the cable mantle, strip approx. 1 cm (0.4 in) of insulation from the ends of the individual wires
5. Insert the cable into the sensor through the cable entry

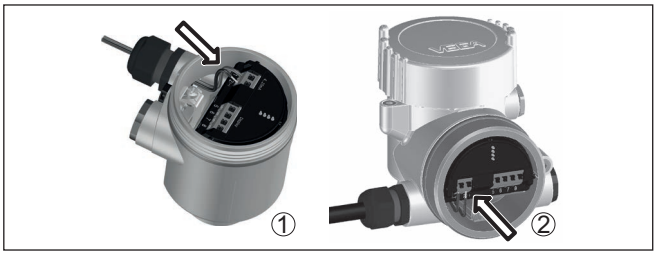


Fig. 12: Connection steps 5 and 6

1 Single chamber housing
2 Double chamber housing

6. Insert the wire ends into the terminals according to the wiring plan

Note:
Solid cores as well as flexible cores with wire end sleeves are inserted directly into the terminal openings. In case of flexible cores without end sleeves, press the terminal from above with a small screwdriver, the terminal opening is then free. When the screwdriver is released, the terminal closes again.

7. Check the hold of the wires in the terminals by lightly pulling on them
8. Connect the shielding to the internal ground terminal, connect the external ground terminal to potential equalisation
9. Tighten the compression nut of the cable entry gland. The seal ring must completely encircle the cable
10. Reinsert the display and adjustment module, if one was installed
11. Screw the housing lid back on

The electrical connection is finished.

5.3 Wiring plan - single chamber housing

The following illustration applies to the non-Ex, Ex ia and Ex d version.

Electronics and connection compartment

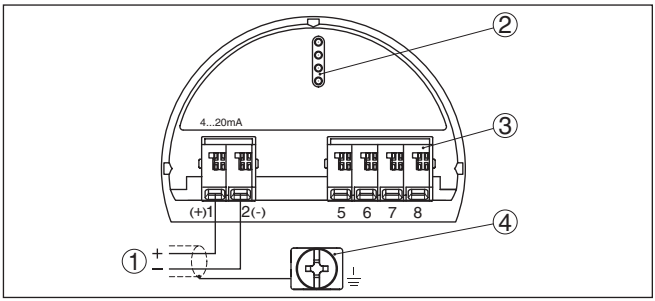


Fig. 13: Electronics and connection compartment - single chamber housing

1 Voltage supply, signal output
2 For display and adjustment module or interface adapter
3 For external display and adjustment unit
4 Ground terminal for connection of the cable screening

5.4 Wiring plan - double chamber housing

The following illustration applies to the non-Ex, Ex ia and Ex d version.

Electronics compartment

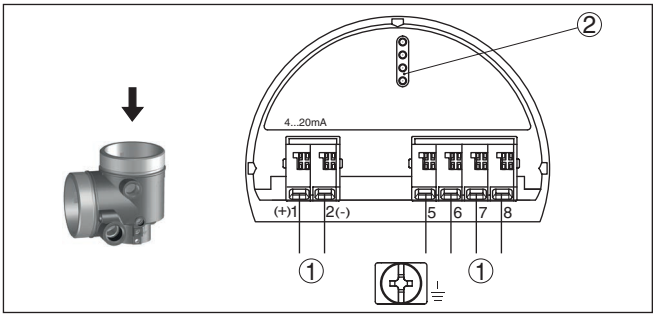


Fig. 14: Electronics compartment - double chamber housing

1 Internal connection to the connection compartment
2 For display and adjustment module or interface adapter

Connection compartment

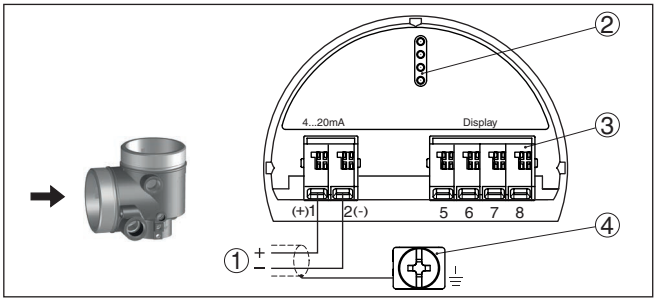


Fig. 15: Connection compartment - double chamber housing

1 Voltage supply, signal output
2 For display and adjustment module or interface adapter
3 For external display and adjustment unit
4 Ground terminal for connection of the cable screening

Connection compartment - Radio module PLICSMOBILE 81

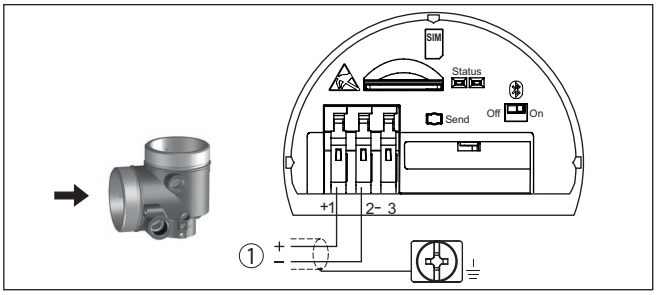


Fig. 16: Connection compartment - Radio module PLICSMOBILE 81

1 Voltage supply

You can find detailed information for connection in the operating instructions "*PLICSMOBILE*".

5.5 Wiring plan - Ex d ia double chamber housing

Electronics compartment

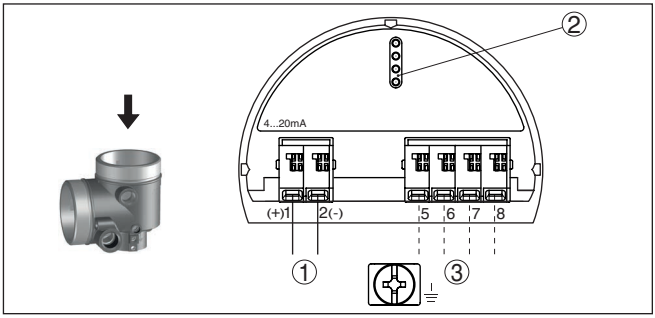


Fig. 17: Electronics compartment - Ex d ia double chamber housing

1 Internal connection to the connection compartment
2 For display and adjustment module or interface adapter
3 Internal connection to the plug connector for external display and adjustment unit (optional)

Note:
HART multidrop mode is not possible when using an Ex d ia instrument.

Connection compartment

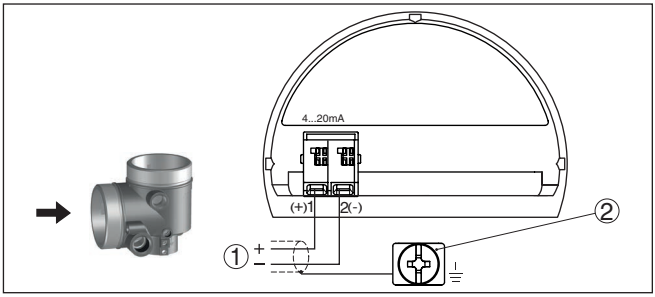


Fig. 18: Connection compartment - Ex d ia double chamber housing

1 Voltage supply, signal output
2 Ground terminal for connection of the cable screening

5.6 Double chamber housing with VEGADIS-Adapter

Electronics compartment

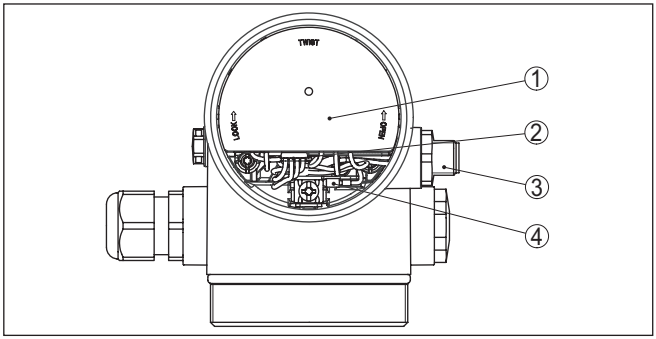


Fig. 19: View to the electronics compartment with VEGADIS adapter for connection of the external display and adjustment unit

1 VEGADIS adapter
2 Internal plug connection
3 M12 x 1 plug connector

Assignment of the plug connector

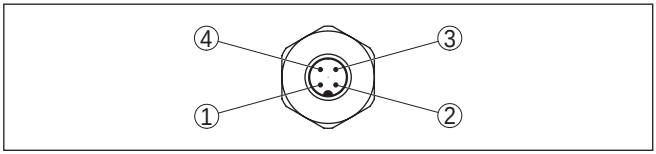


Fig. 20: Top view of the M12 x 1 plug connector

1 Pin 1
2 Pin 2
3 Pin 3
4 Pin 4

Contact pin	Colour, connection cable in the sensor	Terminal, electronics module
Pin 1	Brown	5
Pin 2	White	6
Pin 3	Blue	7
Pin 4	Black	8

5.7 Wiring plan - version IP66/IP68 (1 bar)

Wire assignment, connection cable

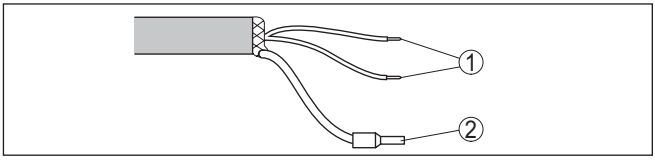


Fig. 21: Wire assignment in permanently connected connection cable

1 Brown (+) and blue (-) to power supply or to the processing system
2 Shielding

5.8 Supplementary electronics

Supplementary electronics - Additional current output

To make a second measured value available for use, you can use the supplementary electronics "*Additional current output*".

Both current outputs are passive and need a power supply.

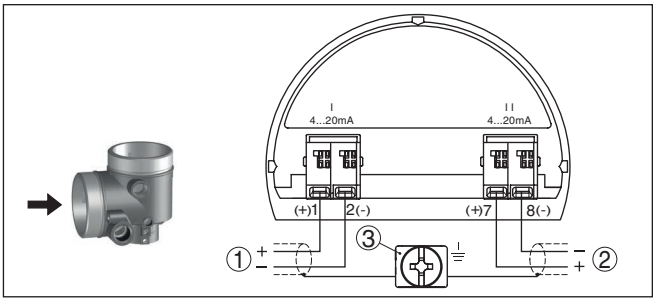


Fig. 22: Terminal compartment, double chamber housing, supplementary electronics "Additional current output"

1 First current output (I) - Voltage supply and signal output, sensor (HART)
2 Additional current output (II) - Voltage supply and signal output (without HART)
3 Ground terminal for connection of the cable screening

5.9 Switch-on phase

After connection of the device to power supply, the device first carries out a self-test:

- Internal check of the electronics
- Indication of the status message "*F 105 Determine measured value*" on the display or PC
- The output signal jumps briefly to the set fault current

Then the actual measured value is output to the signal cable. The value takes into account settings that have already been carried out, e.g. default setting.

6 Set up with the display and adjustment module

6.1 Insert display and adjustment module

The display and adjustment module can be inserted into the sensor and removed again at any time. You can choose any one of four different positions - each displaced by 90°. It is not necessary to interrupt the power supply.

Proceed as follows:

1. Unscrew the housing lid
2. Place the display and adjustment module on the electronics in the desired position and turn it to the right until it snaps in.
3. Screw housing lid with inspection window tightly back on

Disassembly is carried out in reverse order.

The display and adjustment module is powered by the sensor, an additional connection is not necessary.

Fig. 23: Installing the display and adjustment module in the electronics compartment of the single chamber housing

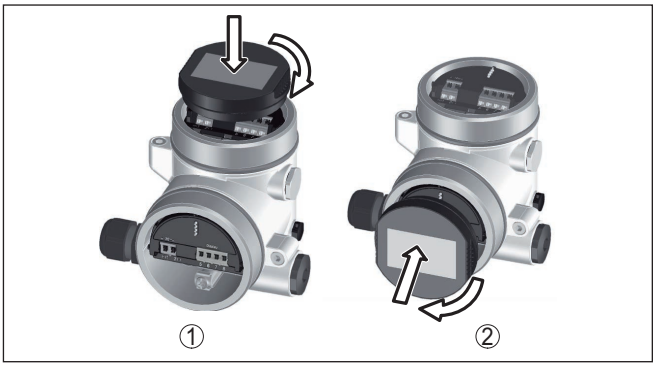


Fig. 24: Installing the display and adjustment module in the double chamber housing

1 In the electronics compartment
2 In the connection compartment

Note:
If you intend to retrofit the instrument with a display and adjustment module for continuous measured value indication, a higher lid with an inspection glass is required.

6.2 Adjustment system

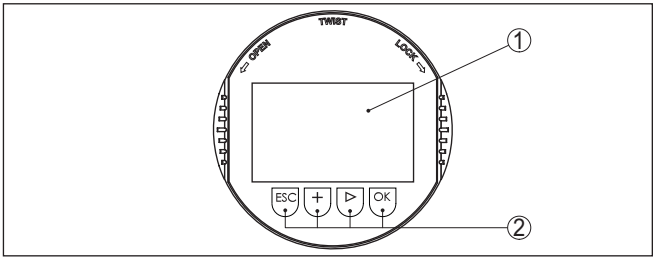


Fig. 25: Display and adjustment elements

1 LC display
2 Adjustment keys

Key functions

- ***[OK]*** key:
  - Move to the menu overview
  - Confirm selected menu
  - Edit parameter
  - Save value
- ***[->]*** key:
  - Change measured value presentation
  - Select list entry
  - Select editing position
- ***[+]*** key:
  - Change value of the parameter

- ***[ESC]*** key:
  - Interrupt input
  - Jump to next higher menu

Adjustment system

The instrument is operated via the four keys of the display and adjustment module. The individual menu items are shown on the LC display. You can find the function of the individual keys in the previous illustration.

Adjustment system - keys via magnetic pen

With the Bluetooth version of the display and adjustment module you can also adjust the instrument with the magnetic pen. The pen operates the four keys of the display and adjustment module right through the closed lid (with inspection window) of the sensor housing.

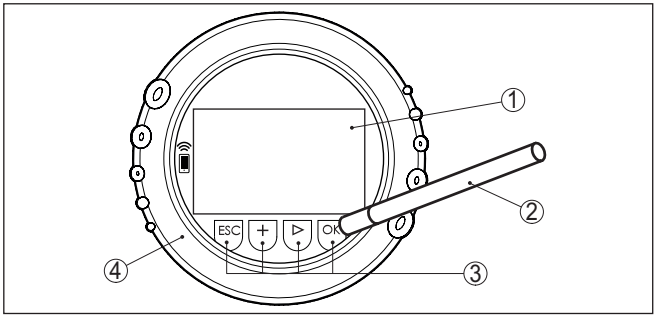


Fig. 26: Display and adjustment elements - with adjustment via magnetic pen

1 LC display
2 Magnetic pen
3 Adjustment keys
4 Lid with inspection window

Time functions

When the ***[+]*** and ***[->]*** keys are pressed quickly, the edited value, or the cursor, changes one value or position at a time. If the key is pressed longer than 1 s, the value or position changes continuously.

When the ***[OK]*** and ***[ESC]*** keys are pressed simultaneously for more than 5 s, the display returns to the main menu. The menu language is then switched over to "*English*".

Approx. 60 minutes after the last pressing of a key, an automatic reset to measured value indication is triggered. Any values not confirmed with ***[OK]*** will not be saved.

Switch-on phase

After switching on, the VEGAFLEX 81 carries out a short self-test where the device software is checked.

The output signal transmits a fault signal during the switch-on phase.

The following information is displayed on the display and adjustment module during the startup procedure:

- Instrument type
- Device name
- Software version (SW-Ver)
- Hardware version (HW-Ver)

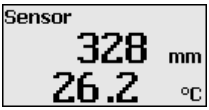
Measured value indication

With the ***[->]*** key you move between three different display possibilities:

In the first view, the selected measured value is displayed in large digits.

In the second view, the selected measured value and a respective bargraph presentation are displayed.

In the third view, the selected measured value as well as a second selectable value, e.g. the temperature, are displayed.



6.3 Parameter adjustment - Quick setup

Quick setup

To quickly and easily adapt the sensor to the application, select the menu item "*Quick setup*" in the start graphic on the display and adjustment module.

The following steps for the quick setup can be reached also in the "*Extended adjustment*".

- Instrument address
- Measurement loop name
- Medium type (optional)
- Application
- Max. adjustment
- Min. adjustment
- False signal suppression

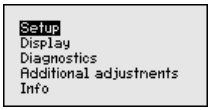
You can find the description of the individual menu items in the following chapter "*Parameter adjustment - Extended adjustment*".

6.4 Parameter adjustment - Extended adjustment

For technically demanding measuring points, you can carry out extended settings in "*Extended adjustment*".

Main menu

The main menu is divided into five sections with the following functions:



Setup: Settings, e.g. measurement loop name, medium, vessel, adjustment, signal output, device unit, false signal suppression, linearization curve

Display: Settings, e.g., for language, measured value display, lighting

Diagnosis: Information, e.g. on instrument status, peak indicator, measurement reliability, simulation, echo curve

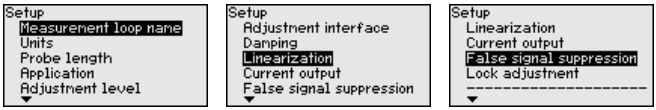
Additional adjustments: Reset, date/time, reset, copy function

Info: Instrument name, hardware and software version, date of manufacture, instrument features

Note:
For optimum setting of the measuring point, the individual submenu items in the main menu item "*Setup*" should be selected one after the other and provided with the correct parameters. If possible, go through the items in the given sequence.

The procedure is described below.

The following submenu points are available:



The submenu points are described below.

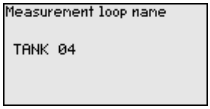
6.4.1 Setup

Measurement loop name

Here you can assign a suitable measurement loop name. Push the "***OK***" key to start the editing. With the "**+**" key you change the sign and with the "**->**" key you jump to the next position.

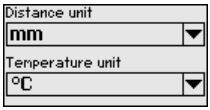
You can enter names with max. 19 characters. The character set comprises:

- Capital letters from A … Z
- Numbers from 0 … 9
- Special characters + - / _ blanks



Units

In this menu item you select the distance unit and the temperature unit.

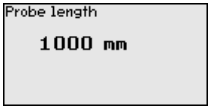


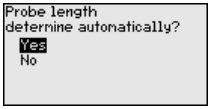
For the distance units you can choose between m, mm and ft and for the temperature units °C, °F and K.

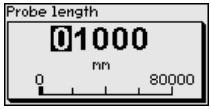
Probe length

In this menu item you can enter the probe length or have the length determined automatically by the sensor system.

When choosing "*Yes*", then the probe length will be determined automatically. When choosing "*No*", you can enter the probe length manually.

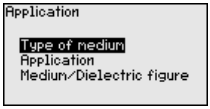


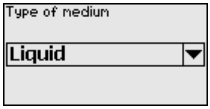


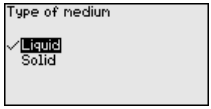


Application - Medium type

In this menu item you can select which type of medium you want to measure. You can choose between liquid or bulk solid.





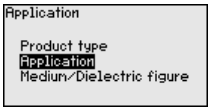


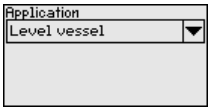
Application - Application

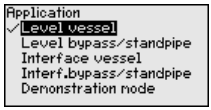
In this menu item, you can select the application. You can choose between level measurement and interface measurement. You can also choose between measurement in a vessel or in a bypass or standpipe.

Note:
The selection of the application has a considerable influence on all other menu items. Keep in mind that as you continue with the parameter adjustment, individual menu items are only optionally available.

You have the option of choosing the demonstration mode. This mode is only suitable for test and demonstration purposes. In this mode, the sensor ignores the parameters of the application and reacts immediately to any change.



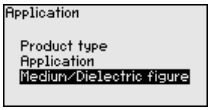


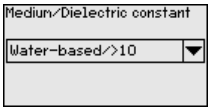


Application - Medium, dielectric constant

In this menu item, you can define the type of medium (product).

This menu item is only available if you have selected level measurement under the menu item "*Application*".





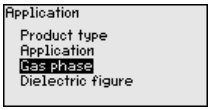
You can choose between the following medium types:

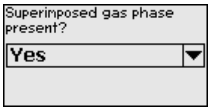
Dielectric constant	Type of medium	Examples
> 10	Water-based liquids	Acids, alcalis, water
3 … 10	Chemical mixtures	Chlorobenzene, nitro lacquer, aniline, isocyanate, chloroform
< 3	Hydrocarbons	Solvents, oils, liquid gas

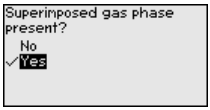
Application - Gas phase

This menu item is only available, if you have chosen interface measurement under the menu item "*Application*". In this menu item you can enter if there is a superimposed gas phase in your application.

Only set the function to "*Yes*", if the gas phase is permanently present.

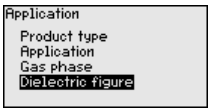


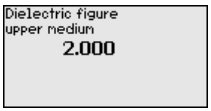


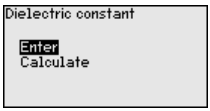


Application - Dielectric constant

This menu item is only available if you have selected interface measurement under the menu item "*Application*". In this menu item you can enter the dielectric constant of the upper medium.



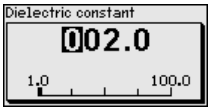


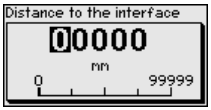


You can directly enter the dielectric constant of the upper medium or have the value determined by the instrument.

If you want the dielectric constant to be determined by the instrument, you have to enter the measured or known distance to the interface.

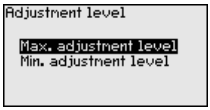
Note:
The dielectric constant can only be reliably determined if two different media and a sufficiently large interface are present.

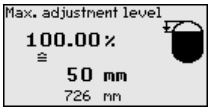




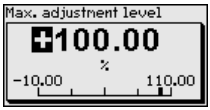
Max. adjustment - Level

In this menu item you can enter the max. adjustment for the level. With interface measurement this is the maximum total level.

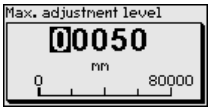




Adjust the requested percentage value with ***[+]*** and store with ***[OK]***.

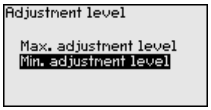


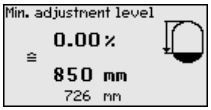
Enter the appropriate distance value in m (corresponding to the percentage value) for the full vessel. The distance refers to the sensor reference plane (seal surface of the process fitting). Keep in mind that the max. level must lie below the blocking distance.



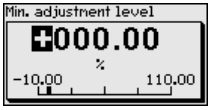
Min. adjustment - Level

In this menu item you can enter the min. adjustment for the level. With interface measurement this is the minimum total level.

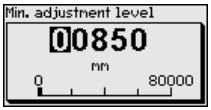




Adjust the requested percentage value with ***[+]*** and store with ***[OK]***.

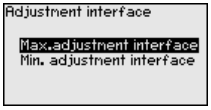


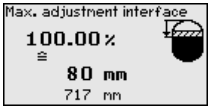
Enter the suitable distance value in m for the empty vessel (e.g. distance from the flange to the probe end) corresponding to the percentage value. The distance refers tot he sensor reference plane (seal surface of the process fitting).



Max. adjustment - Interface

This menu item is only available if you have selected interface measurement under the menu item "*Application*".

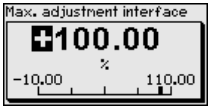


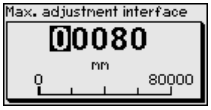


Enter the requested percentage value for the max. adjustment.

As an alternative, you have the possibility taking over the adjustment of the level measurement also for the interface.

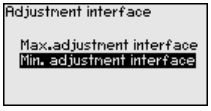
Enter the respective distance value in m for the surface of the upper medium corresponding to the percentage value.

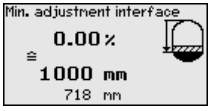




Min. adjustment - Interface

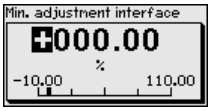
This menu item is only available if you have selected interface measurement under the menu item "*Application*".

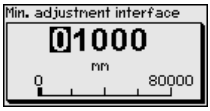




Enter the requested percentage value for the min. adjustment (interface).

Enter the respective distance value in m for the interface corresponding to the percentage value of the interface.

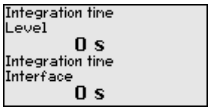


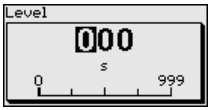


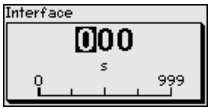
Damping

To damp process-dependent measured value fluctuations, you can set a time of 0 … 999 s in this menu item.

If you have selected interface measurement under the menu item "*Application*", you can adjust the damping for the level and the interface separately.





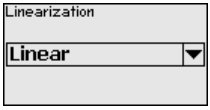


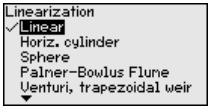
The default setting is a damping of 0 s.

Linearisation

A linearisation is necessary for all vessels in which the vessel volume does not increase linearly with the level, e.g. a horizontal cylindrical or spherical tank, when the indication or output of the volume is required. Corresponding linearisation curves are preprogrammed for these vessels. They represent the correlation between the level percentage and vessel volume.

The linearisation applies to the measured value indication and the output. By activating the appropriate curve, the volume percentage of the vessel is displayed correctly. If the volume should not be displayed in percent but e.g. in l or kg, a scaling can be also set in the menu item "*Display*".





Warning:
If a linearisation curve is selected, the measuring signal is no longer necessarily linear to the filling height. This must be considered by the user especially when setting the switching point on the limit signal transmitter.

In the following, you have to enter the values for your vessel, for example the vessel height and the socket correction.

For non-linear vessel forms, enter the vessel height and the socket correction.

For the vessel height, you have to enter the total height of the vessel.

For the nozzle correction you have to enter the height of the nozzle above the upper edge of the vessel. If the nozzle is lower than the upper edge of the vessel, this value can also be negative.

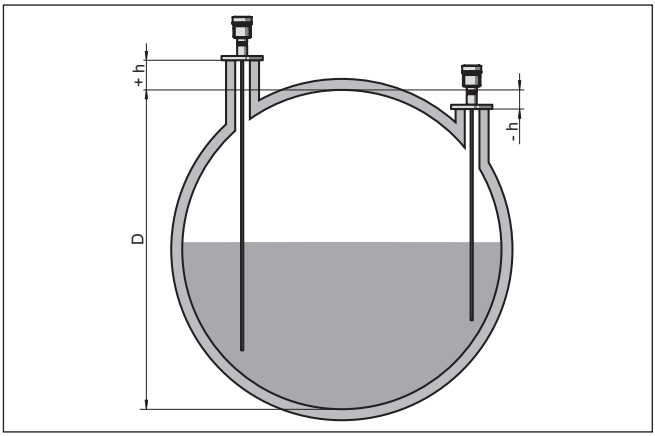
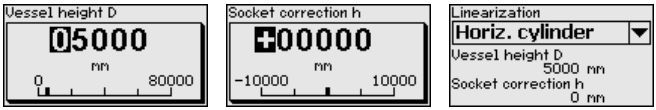


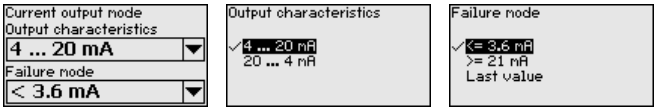
Fig. 27: Vessel height and socket correction value

D Vessel height
+h Positive socket correction value
-h Negative socket correction value



Current output - Mode

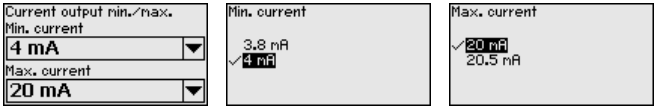
In the menu item "*Current output mode*" you determine the output characteristics and reaction of the current output in case of fault.



The default setting is output characteristics 4 … 20 mA, fault mode < 3.6 mA.

Current output - Min./Max.

In the menu item "*Current output Min./Max.*", you determine the reaction of the current output during operation.



The default setting is min. current 3.8 mA and max. current 20.5 mA.

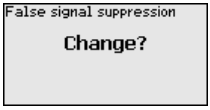
False signal suppression

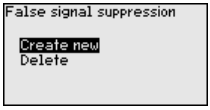
The following circumstances cause interfering reflections and can influence the measurement:

- High mounting nozzles
- Vessel internals such as struts

Note:
A false signal suppression detects, marks and saves these false signals so that they are no longer taken into account for the level and interface measurement. We generally recommend carrying out a false signal suppression to achieve the best possible accuracy. This should be done with the lowest possible level so that all potential interfering reflections can be detected.

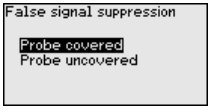
Proceed as follows:

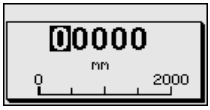




Select first if the probe is covered or uncovered.

If the probe is covered, enter the actual distance from the sensor to the product surface.



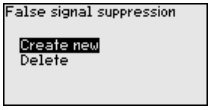


All interfering signals in this section are detected by the sensor and stored.

Keep in mind that with covered probe only false signals in the uncovered area of the probe are detected.

Note:
Check the distance to the medium surface, because if an incorrect (too large) value is entered, the existing level will be saved as a false signal. The level would then no longer be detectable in this area.

If a false signal suppression has already been saved in the sensor, the following menu window appears when selecting "*False signal suppression*":



The instrument carries out an automatic false signal suppression as soon as the probe is uncovered. The false signal suppression is always updated.

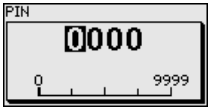
The menu item "*Delete*" is used to completely delete an already created false signal suppression. This is useful if the saved false signal suppression no longer matches the metrological conditions in the vessel.

Lock/Unlock adjustment

In the menu item "*Lock/unlock adjustment*", you can protect the sensor parameters against unauthorized or inadvertent modification. The PIN is activated/deactivated permanently.

With active PIN, only the following adjustment functions are possible without entering a PIN:

- Select menu items and show data
- Read data from the sensor into the display and adjustment module



Caution:
When the PIN is active, adjustment via PACTware/DTM as well as other systems is also blocked.

In delivery status, the PIN is **0000**.

Call our service department if you have modified and forgotten the PIN.

Current output 2

If a supplementary electronics with an additional current output is installed in the instrument, you can adjust the additional current output separately.

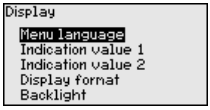
In menu item"*Current output 2*" you specify which measured value the additional current output refers to.

The procedure corresponds to the previous settings of the standard current output. See "*Setup - Current output*".

6.4.2 Display

In the main menu point "*Display*", the individual submenu points should be selected one after the other and provided with the correct parameters to ensure the optimum adjustment of the display. The procedure is described in the following.

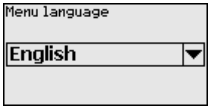
The following submenu points are available:

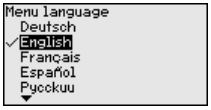


The submenu points are described below.

Menu language

This menu item enables the setting of the requested national language.

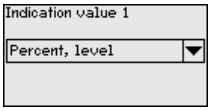




In delivery status, the sensor is set to English.

Displayed value 1

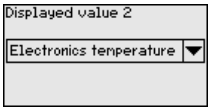
In this menu item, you define the indication of the measured value on the display. You can display two different measured values. In this menu item, you define measured value 1.



The default setting for the displayed value 1 is "*Filling height Level*".

Displayed value 2

In this menu item, you define the indication of the measured value on the display. You can display two different measured values. In this menu item, you define measured value 2.

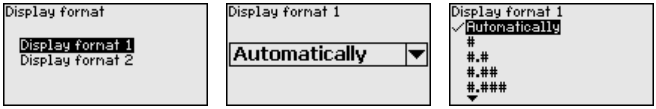


The default setting for the displayed value 2 is the electronics temperature.

Display format

In this menu item, you define the display format of the measured value on the display. You can define different display formats for the two measured values.

You can thus define the number of decimal positions the measured value is displayed with.

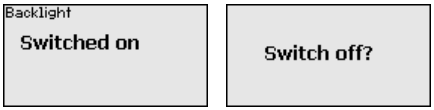


The default setting for the display format is "*Automatic*".

Backlight

The integrated backlight can be switched off via the adjustment menu. The function depends on the strength of the operating voltage, see "*Technical data*".

To maintain the function of the device, the lighting is temporarily switched off if the power supply is insufficient.



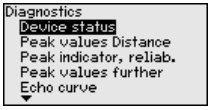
In delivery status, the lighting is switched on.

6.4.3 Diagnostics

Device status

In this menu item, the device status is displayed.

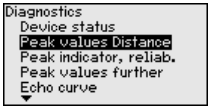
When the instrument displays a fault signal, you can here get detailed information on the failure reason.

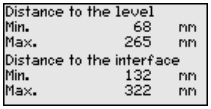


Peak indicator, distance

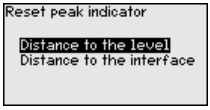
The respective min. and max. measured value is saved in the sensor. The two values are displayed in the menu item "*Peak indicator, distance*".

If you have selected interface measurement under the menu item "*Setup - Application*", the peak values of the interface measurement are displayed in addition to the peak values of the level measurement.





In another window you can carry out a reset of the two peak values separately.

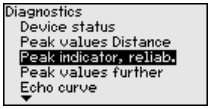


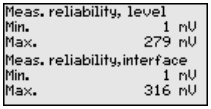
Peak indicator, measurement reliability

The respective min. and max. measured values are saved in the sensor. The two values are displayed in the menu item "*Peak indicator, measurement reliability*".

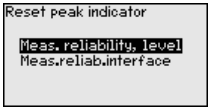
The measurement can be influenced by the process conditions. In this menu item, the measurement reliability of the level measurement is displayed in mV. The higher the value, the more reliable the measurement.

If you have selected interface measurement under the menu item "*Setup - Application*", the peak values of the interface measurement are displayed in addition to the peak values of the level measurement.





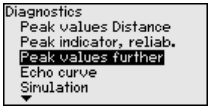
In another window you can carry out a reset of the two peak values separately.

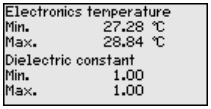


Peak indicator, additional

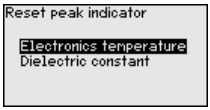
The respective min. and max. measured values are saved in the sensor. The values are displayed in the menu item "*Peak indicator Additional*".

This menu item displays the peak values of the electronics temperature as well as the dielectric constant.





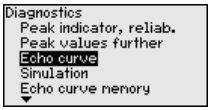
In another window you can carry out a reset of the two peak values separately.

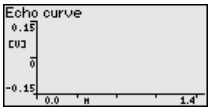


Information:
If one of the display values flashes, there is actually no valid value available.

Echo curve

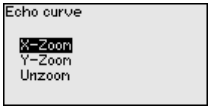
The menu item "*Echo curve*" shows the signal strength of the echoes over the measuring range in V. The signal strength enables an evaluation of the quality of the measurement.

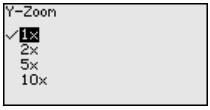




With the following functions you can zoom part sections of the echo curve.

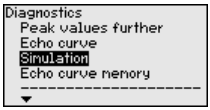
- "X-Zoom": Zoom function for the meas. distance
- "Y-Zoom": 1, 2, 5 and 10x signal magnification in "*V*"
- "Unzoom": Reset the presentation to the nominal measuring range without magnification

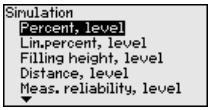




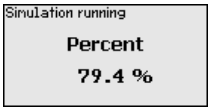
Simulation

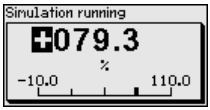
In this menu item you can simulate measured values via the current output. This allows the signal path to be tested, e.g. through downstream indicating instruments or the input card of the control system.





Select the requested simulation variable and set the requested value.





Caution:
During simulation, the simulated value is output as 4 … 20 mA current value and digital HART signal.

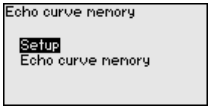
Push the ***[ESC]*** key to deactivate the simulation.

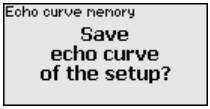
Information:
The simulation is terminated automatically 60 minutes after the activation of the simulation.

Echo curve memory

With the menu item "*Setup*" the echo curve it is possible to save at the time of setup. This is generally recommended; for using the Asset Management functions it is necessary. If possible, the curve should be saved with a low level in the vessel.

With this, you can detect signal changes over the operating time. With the adjustment software PACTware and the PC, the high-resolution echo curve can be displayed and used to compare the echo curve of the setup with the actual echo curve.



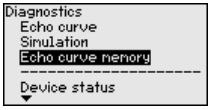


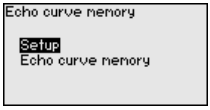
The function "*Echo curve memory*" enables storing echo curves of the measurement.

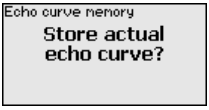
Under the sub-menu item "*Echo curve memory*" you can store the current echo curve.

Parameter settings for recording the echo curve and the settings of the echo curve itself can be carried out in the adjustment software PACTware.

With the adjustment software PACTware and the PC the high-resolution echo curve can be displayed and used later on to assess the quality of the measurement.



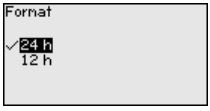


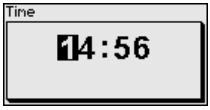


6.4.4 Additional adjustments

Date/Time

In this menu item, the internal clock of the sensor is set.





Reset

After a reset, certain parameter adjustments made by the user are reset.

Note:
After this menu window, the reset process is carried out. No further safety inquiry follows.

The following reset functions are available:

Delivery status: Restores the parameter settings at the time of shipment from the factory, incl. order-specific settings. Any stored false signal suppression or user-programmed linearisation curve, as well as the measured value memory, are deleted.

Basic settings: Restores the parameter settings, incl. special parameters, to the default values of the respective instrument. Any stored false signal suppression or user-programmed linearisation curve, as well as the measured value memory, are deleted.

The following table shows the default values of the instrument. Depending on the instrument version or application, all menu items may not be available or some may be differently assigned:

Menu - Setup

Menu item	Default value
Lock adjustment	Released
Measurement loop name	Sensor
Units	Distance unit: order-specific Temperature unit: order-specific
Probe length	Länge der Messsonde factory setting
Type of medium	Liquid
Application	Level, vessel
Medium, dielectric constant	Water-based, > 10
Superimposed gas phase	Yes
Dielectric constant, upper medium (TS)	1.5
Tube inner diameter	200 mm
Max. adjustment - Level	100 % Distance: 0.000 m(d) - note blocking distances
Min. adjustment - Level	0 % Distance: Probe length - take dead band into account
Max. adjustment - Interface	100 % Distance: 0.000 m(d) - note blocking distances
Min. adjustment - Interface	0 % Distance: Probe length - take dead band into account
Damping - Level	0.0 s
Damping - Interface	0.0 s
Linearization type	Linear
Linearisation - Socket correction	0 mm
Linearisation - Vessel height	Probe length
Scaling variable - Level	Volume in l
Scaling unit - Level	Litres

Menu item	Default value
Scaling format - Level	Without decimal positions
Scaling level - 100 % corresponds to	100
Scaling level - 0 % corresponds to	0
Scaling variable - Interface	Volume
Scaling unit - Interface	Litres
Scaling format - Interface	Without decimal positions
Scaling interface - 100 % corresponds to	100
Scaling interface - 0 % corresponds to	0
Current output - Output variable	Lin. percent - Level
Current output - Output characteristics	0 … 100 % correspond to 4 … 20 mA
Current output - Reaction in case of fault	≤ 3.6 mA
Current output - Min.	3.8 mA
Current output - Max.	20.5 mA
Current output 2 - Output variable	Distance - Level
Current output 2 - Output characteristics	0 … 100 % correspond to 4 … 20 mA
Current output 2 - Reaction in case of fault	≤ 3.6 mA
Current output 2 - Min.	3.8 mA
Current output 2 - Max.	20.5 mA

Menu - Display

Menu item	Default value
Language	Selected language
Displayed value 1	Filling height
Displayed value 2	Electronics temperature
Display format 1	Automatically
Display format 2	Automatically
Backlight	Switched on

Menu - Additional adjustments

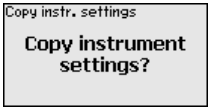
Menu item	Default value
PIN	0000
Date	Actual date
Time	Actual time
Time - Format	24 hours
Probe type	Device-specific

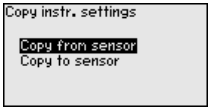
Copy instrument settings The instrument settings are copied with this function. The following functions are available:

- **Read from sensor**: Read data from sensor and store into the display and adjustment module
- **Write into sensor**: Store data from the display and adjustment module back into the sensor

The following data or settings for adjustment of the display and adjustment module are saved:

- All data of the menu "*Setup*" and "*Display*"
- In the menu "*Additional adjustments*" the items "*Reset, Date/Time*"
- Special parameters





Prerequisites
The following requirements must be met for a successful transmission:

- The data can only be transferred to the same device type, e.g. VEGAFLEX 81
- It must be the same probe type, e.g. rod probe
- The firmware of both devices is identical

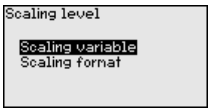
The copied data are permanently saved in an EEPROM memory in the display and adjustment module and remain there even in case of power failure. From there, they can be written into one or more sensors or kept as backup for a possible electronics exchange.

Note:
Before the data are stored in the sensor, a check is carried out to determine if the data fit the sensor. If the data do not fit, a fault signal is triggered or the function is blocked. When data are being written into the sensor, the display shows which instrument type the data originate from and which TAG number this sensor had.

Tip:
We recommend to save the instrument adjustments. In case of an electronics exchange the saved parameter adjustment data relieve this process.

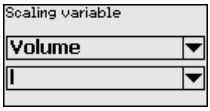
Scaling level

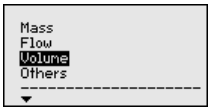
Since scaling is very extensive, scaling of the level value was divided into two menu items.



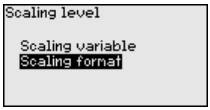
Scaling level - Scaling prime

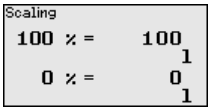
In menu item "*Scaling variable*" you define the scaling variable and the scaling unit for the level value on the display, e.g. volume in l.



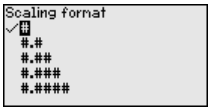


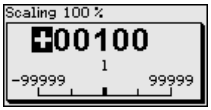
Scaling level - Scaling format

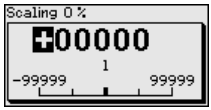




In menu item "*Scaling format*" you define the scaling format on the display and the scaling of the measured level value for 0 % and 100 %.

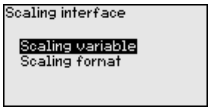






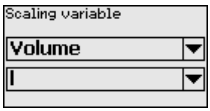
Scaling interface

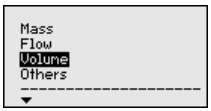
Since scaling is very extensive, scaling of the interface value was divided into two menu items.



Scaling interface - Scaling size

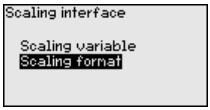
In menu item "*Scaling variable*" you define the scaling variable and the scaling unit for the interface value on the display, e.g. volume in l.

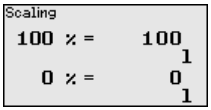


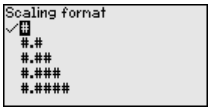


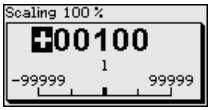
Scaling interface - Scaling format

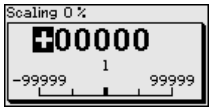
In menu item "*Scaling format*" you define the scaling format on the display and the scaling of the measured interface value for 0 % and 100 %.





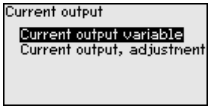






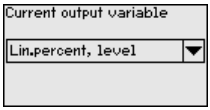
Current output

Since scaling is very extensive, scaling of the level value was divided into two menu items.



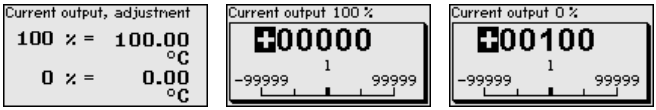
Current output - Current output size

In menu item "*Current output, variable*" you specify which measured variable the current output refers to.



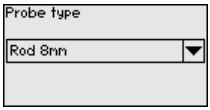
Current output - Current output adjustment

In menu item "*Current output, adjustment*" you can assign a respective measured value to the current output.



Probe type

In this menu item you can select the type and size of your probe from a list of all possible probes. This is necessary to adapt the electronics optimally to the probe.



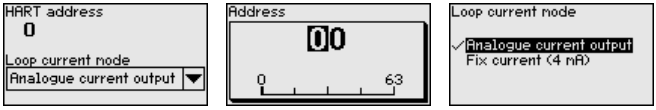
HART mode

The sensor offers the HART modes "*Analogue current output*" and "*Fix current (4 mA)*". In this menu item you determine the HART mode and enter the address with Multidrop mode.

In the mode "*Fixed current output*" up to 63 sensors can be operated on one two-wire cable (Multidrop operation). An address between 0 and 63 must be assigned to each sensor.

If you select the function "*Analogue current output*" and also enter an address number, you can output a 4 … 20 mA signal in Multidrop mode.

In the mode "*Fixed current (4 mA)*" a fixed 4 mA signal is output independently of the actual level.



The default setting is "*Analogue current output*" and the address 00.

Special parameters

In this menu item you gain access to the protected area where you can enter special parameters. In exceptional cases, individual parameters can be modified in order to adapt the sensor to special requirements.

Change the settings of the special parameters only after having contacted our service staff.

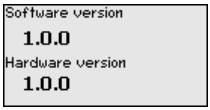
6.4.5 Info

Device name

In this menu, you read out the instrument name and the instrument serial number.

Instrument version

In this menu item, the hardware and software version of the sensor is displayed.

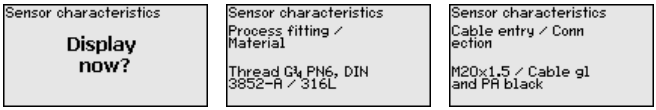


Factory calibration date

In this menu item, the date of factory calibration of the sensor as well as the date of the last change of sensor parameters are displayed via the display and adjustment module or via the PC.

Sensor characteristics

In this menu item, the features of the sensor such as approval, process fitting, seal, measuring range, electronics, housing and others are displayed.



Example for displayed sensor features.

6.5 Save parameter adjustment data

On paper

We recommended writing down the adjustment data, e.g. in this instructions manual, and archiving them afterwards. They are thus available for multiple use or service purposes.

Display and adjustment module

If the instrument is equipped with a display and adjustment module, the parameter adjustment data can be saved therein. The procedure is described in menu item "*Copy device settings*".

7 Set up with smartphone/tablet/PC/ notebook via Bluetooth

7.1 Preparations

Make sure that the Bluetooth function of the display and adjustment module is activated. For this, the switch on the bottom side must be set to "*On*".

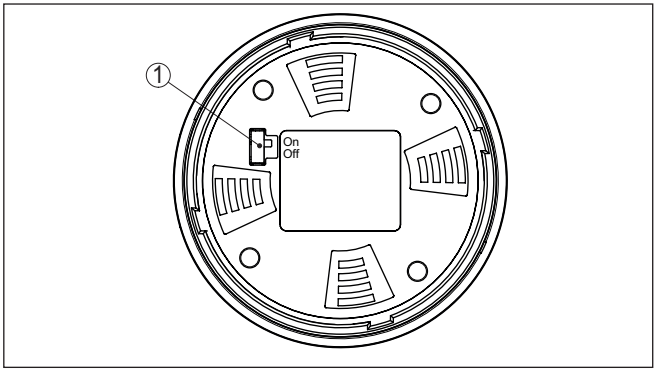


Fig. 28: Activate Bluetooth

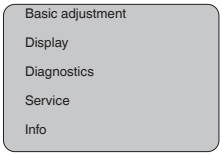
1 Bluetooth switch
On Bluetooth active
Off Bluetooth not active

Change sensor PIN

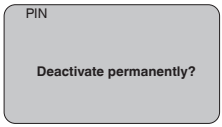
The security concept of Bluetooth operation absolutely requires that the default setting of the sensor PIN be changed. This prevents unauthorized access to the sensor.

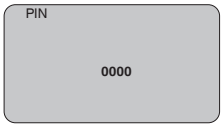
The default setting of the sensor PIN is "**0000**". First of all you have to change the sensor PIN in the adjustment menu of the respective sensor, e.g. to "**1111**".

Use "*OK*" to switch to the input menu.

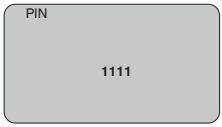


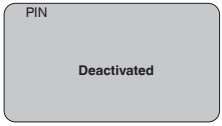
Under the menu item "*Service*" you can change or deactivate the device PIN.





Change the PIN, e.g. to "**1111**".



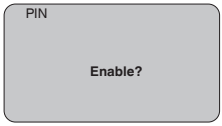


This permanently deactivates the PIN.

The display immediately changes to PIN activation.

Press "*ESC*" to cancel the activation of the PIN.

With "*OK*" you can enter and activate a PIN.



After the sensor PIN has been changed, sensor adjustment can be enabled again. For access (authentication) with Bluetooth, the modified PIN is still effective.

Information:
Bluetooth communication functions only if the actual sensor PIN differs from the default setting "**0000**".

7.2 Connecting

Preparations

Smartphone/Tablet
Start the adjustment app and select the function "Setup". The smartphone/tablet searches automatically for Bluetooth-capable instruments in the area.

PC/Notebook

Start PACTware and the VEGA project assistant. Select the device search via Bluetooth and start the search function. The device automatically searches for Bluetooth-capable devices in the vicinity.

Connecting

The message "*Searching …*" is displayed.

All found instruments will be listed in the adjustment window. The search is continued automatically.

Select the requested instrument in the device list.

The message "*Connecting …*" is displayed.

Authenticate

For the first connection, the operating device and the sensor must authenticate each other. After successful authentication, the next connection functions without authentication.

For authentication, enter in the next menu window the 4-digit sensor PIN.

7.3 Sensor parameter adjustment

The sensor parameterization is carried out via the adjustment app on the smartphone/tablet or the DTM on the PC/notebook.

App view

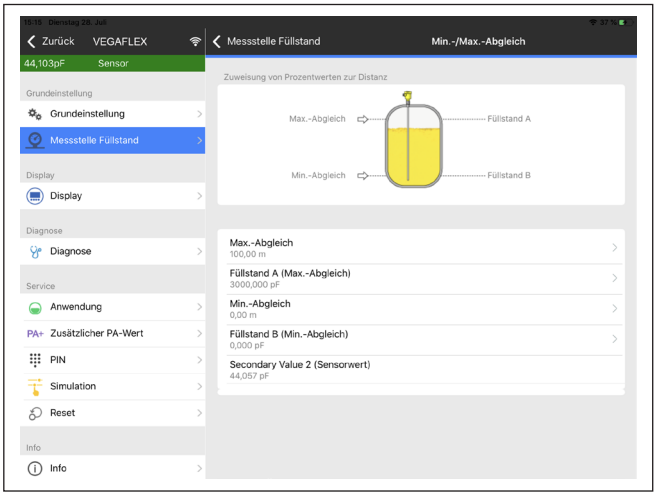


Fig. 29: Example of an app view - Setup sensor adjustment

8 Setup with PACTware

8.1 Connect the PC

Via the interface adapter directly on the sensor

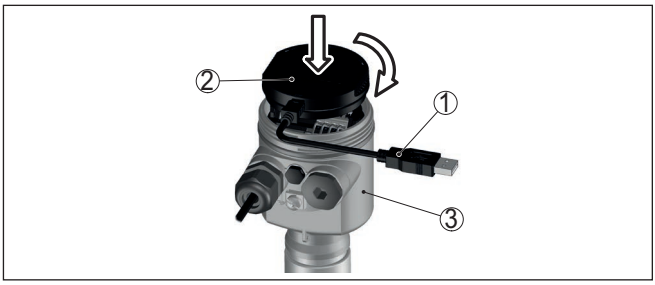


Fig. 30: Connection of the PC directly to the sensor via the interface adapter

1 USB cable to the PC
2 Interface adapter VEGACONNECT
3 Sensor

Via the interface adapter and HART

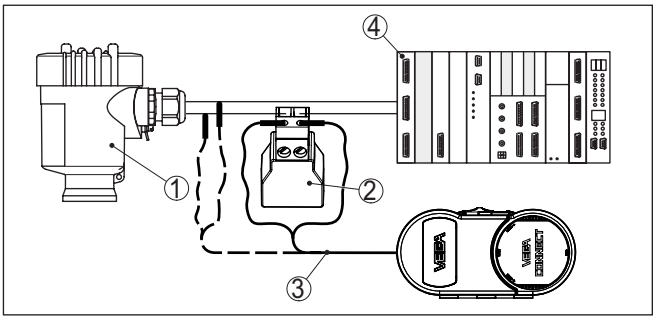


Fig. 31: Connecting the PC via HART to the signal cable

1 Sensor
2 HART resistance 250 Ω (optional depending on evaluation)
3 Connection cable with 2 mm pins and terminals
4 Processing system/PLC/Voltage supply

Note:
With power supply units with integrated HART resistance (internal resistance approx. 250 Ω), an additional external resistance is not necessary. This applies, e.g. to the VEGA instruments VEGAMET 381, VEGAMET 391. Common Ex separators are also usually equipped with a sufficient current limiting resistance. In such cases, the interface adapter can be connected parallel to the 4 … 20 mA cable (dashed line in the previous illustration).

8.2 Parameter adjustment

Prerequisites

For parameter adjustment of the instrument via a Windows PC, the configuration software PACTware and a suitable instrument driver (DTM) according to FDT standard are required. The latest PACTware

version as well as all available DTMs are compiled in a DTM Collection. The DTMs can also be integrated into other frame applications according to FDT standard.

Note:
To ensure that all instrument functions are supported, you should always use the latest DTM Collection. Please note that not all of the functions described may be available in older device software. You can download the latest instrument software from our homepage. A description of the update procedure is also available in the Internet.

Further setup steps are described in the operating instructions manual "*DTM Collection/PACTware*" attached to each DTM Collection and which can also be downloaded from the Internet. Detailed descriptions are available in the online help of PACTware and the DTMs.

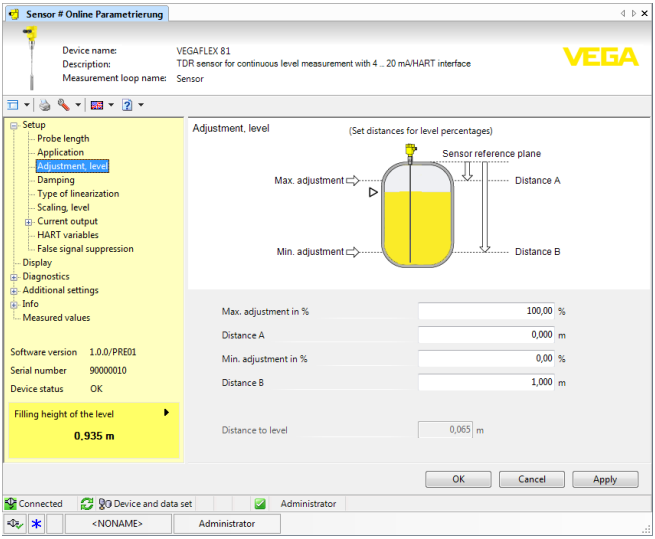


Fig. 32: Example of a DTM view

8.3 Set up with the quick setup

General information

The quick setup is another option for parameter adjustment of the sensor. It allows fast, convenient adjustment of the most important parameters to adapt the sensor quickly to standard applications. To use it, select the function "*Quick setup*" in the start screen.

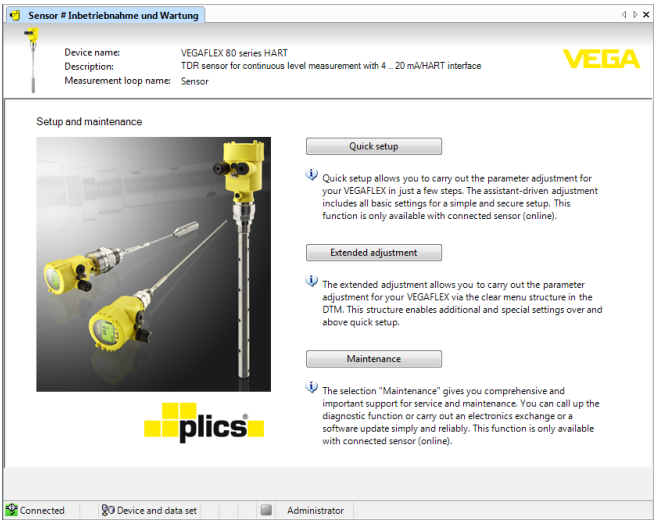


Fig. 33: Select quick setup

1 *Quick setup*
2 *Extended adjustment*
3 *Maintenance*

Quick setup
With quick setup you can carry out the parameter adjustment of VEGAFLEX 81 for your application in just a few simple steps. The assistant-driven adjustment includes the basic settings for simple, reliable setup and commissioning.

Information:
If the function is inactive, then possibly no instrument is connected. Check the connection to the instrument.

Extended adjustment
With the extended adjustment, you carry out the parameter adjustment for the instrument via the clear menu structure in the DTM (Device Type Manager). This enables additional and special settings over and above those offered by quick setup.

Maintenance
Under the menu item "*Maintenance*" you get comprehensive and important support for servicing and maintenance. You can call up diagnostic functions and carry out an electronics exchange or a software update.

Start quick setup

Click to the button "*Quick setup*", to start the assistant-driven adjustment for a simplified and reliable setup.

8.4 Save parameter adjustment data

It is recommended to document or save the parameter adjustment data. That way they are available for multiple use or service purposes.

9 Set up with other systems

9.1 DD adjustment programs

Device descriptions as Enhanced Device Description (EDD) are available for DD adjustment programs such as, for example, AMS™ and PDM.

The files can be downloaded at www.vega.com/downloads under "*Software*".

9.2 Field Communicator 375, 475

Device descriptions for the instrument are available as EDD for parameterisation with Field Communicator 375 or 475.

Integrating the EDD into the Field Communicator 375 or 475 requires the "Easy Upgrade Utility" software, which is available from the manufacturer. This software is updated via the Internet and new EDDs are automatically accepted into the device catalogue of this software after they are released by the manufacturer. They can then be transferred to a Field Communicator.

10 Diagnosis, asset management and service

10.1 Maintenance

Maintenance

If the device is used properly, no special maintenance is required in normal operation.

Cleaning

The cleaning helps that the type label and markings on the instrument are visible.

Take note of the following:

- Use only cleaning agents which do not corrode the housings, type label and seals
- Use only cleaning methods corresponding to the housing protection rating

10.2 Measured value and event memory

The instrument has several memories available for diagnostic purposes. The data remain there even in case of voltage interruption.

Measured value memory

Up to 100,000 measured values can be stored in the sensor in a ring memory. Each entry contains date/time as well as the respective measured value. Storable values are for example:

- Distance
- Filling height
- Percentage value
- Lin. percent
- Scaled
- Current value
- Measurement reliability
- Electronics temperature

When the instrument is shipped, the measured value memory is active and stores distance, measurement reliability and electronics temperature every 3 minutes.

In "Extended adjustment" you can select the respective measured values.

The requested values and recording conditions are set via a PC with PACTware/DTM or the control system with EDD. Data are thus read out and also reset.

Event memory

Up to 500 events are automatically stored with a time stamp in the sensor (non-deletable). Each entry contains date/time, event type, event description and value.

Event types are for example:

- Modification of a parameter
- Switch-on and switch-off times
- Status messages (according to NE 107)
- Error messages (according to NE 107)

The data are read out via a PC with PACTware/DTM or the control system with EDD.

Echo curve memory

The echo curves are stored with date and time and the corresponding echo data. The memory is divided into two sections:

Echo curve of the setup: This is used as reference echo curve for the measurement conditions during setup. Changes in the measurement conditions during operation or buildup on the sensor can thus be recognized. The echo curve of the setup is stored via:

- PC with PACTware/DTM
- Control system with EDD
- Display and adjustment module

Further echo curves: Up to 10 echo curves can be stored in a ring buffer in this memory section. Additional echo curves are stored via:

- PC with PACTware/DTM
- Control system with EDD
- Display and adjustment module

10.3 Asset Management function

The instrument features self-monitoring and diagnostics according to NE 107 and VDI/VDE 2650. In addition to the status messages in the following tables there are more detailed error messages available under the menu item "*Diagnostics*" via the respective adjustment module.

Status messages

The status messages are divided into the following categories:

- Failure
- Function check
- Out of specification
- Maintenance required

and explained by pictographs:

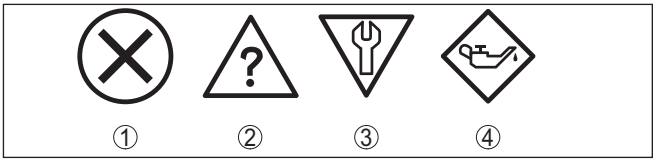


Fig. 34: Pictographs of the status messages

1 Failure - red
2 Out of specification - yellow
3 Function check - orange
4 Maintenance required - blue

Malfunction (Failure):
Due to a malfunction in the instrument, a fault signal is output.

This status message is always active. It cannot be deactivated by the user.

Function check:
The instrument is being worked on, the measured value is temporarily invalid (for example during simulation).

This status message is inactive by default.

Out of specification:
The measured value is unreliable because an instrument specification was exceeded (e.g. electronics temperature).

This status message is inactive by default.

Maintenance required:
Due to external influences, the instrument function is limited. The measurement is affected, but the measured value is still valid. Plan in maintenance for the instrument because a failure is expected in the near future (e.g. due to buildup).

This status message is inactive by default.

Failure

Code Text message	Cause	Rectification	DevSpec State in CMD 48
F013 no measured value available	Sensor does not detect an echo during operation Process component or probe contaminated or defective	Check for correct mounting and/or parameter adjustment Clean or exchange process component or probe	Bit 0 of Byte 0 … 5
F017 Adjustment span too small	Adjustment not within specification	Change adjustment according to the limit values (difference between min. and max. ≥ 10 mm)	Bit 1 of Byte 0 … 5
F025 Error in the linearization table	Index markers are not continuously rising, for example illogical value pairs	Check values of the linearization table Delete/create a new linearization table	Bit 2 of Byte 0 … 5
F036 No operable software	Failed or interrupted software update	Repeat software update Check electronics version Exchanging the electronics Send instrument for repair	Bit 3 of Byte 0 … 5
F040 Error in the electronics	Hardware defect	Exchanging the electronics Send instrument for repair	Bit 4 of Byte 0 … 5
F041 Probe loss	Probe mechanically defective	Check probe and exchange, if necessary	Bit 13 of Byte 0 … 5
F080 General software error	General software error	Disconnect operating voltage briefly	Bit 5 of Byte 0 … 5
F105 Measured value is determined	The instrument is still in the switch-on phase, the measured value could not yet be determined	Wait for the end of the switch-on phase Duration depending on the version and parameter adjustment max. 5 minutes	Bit 6 of Byte 0 … 5
F113 Communication error	EMC interference Transmission error during external communication with four-wire power supply unit	Remove EMC influences Exchange four-wire power supply unit or electronics	Bit 12 of Byte 0 … 5

Code Text message	Cause	Rectification	DevSpec State in CMD 48
F260 Error in the calibration	Error in the calibration carried out in the factory Error in the EEPROM	Exchanging the electronics Send instrument for repair	Bit 8 of Byte 0 … 5
F261 Error in the instrument settings	Error during setup Error when carrying out a reset False signal suppression faulty	Carry out a reset Repeat setup	Bit 9 of Byte 0 … 5
F264 Installation/ Setup error	Error during setup	Check for correct mounting and/or parameter adjustment Check probe length	Bit 10 of Byte 0 … 5
F265 Measurement function disturbed	Sensor no longer carries out a measurement	Carry out a reset Disconnect operating voltage briefly	Bit 11 of Byte 0 … 5
F267 No executable sensor software	Sensor cannot start	Exchanging the electronics Send instrument for repair	No communication possible

Tab. 6: Error codes and text messages, information on causes as well as corrective measures (some specifications are only valid for four-wire instruments)

Function check

Code Text message	Cause	Rectification	DevSpec State in CMD 48
C700 Simulation active	A simulation is active	Finish simulation Wait for the automatic end after 60 mins.	"Simulation Active" in "Standardized Status 0"

Tab. 7: Error codes and text messages, information on causes as well as corrective measures

Out of specification

Code Text message	Cause	Rectification	DevSpec State in CMD 48
S600 Impermissible electronics temperature	Temperature of the processing electronics in the non-specified section	Check ambient temperature Insulate electronics Use instrument with higher temperature range	Bit 8 of Byte 14 … 24
S601 Overfilling	Level echo in the close range not available	Reduce level 100 % adjustment: Increase value Check mounting socket Remove possible interfering signals in the close range Use coaxial probe	Bit 9 of Byte 14 … 24

Code Text message	Cause	Rectification	DevSpec State in CMD 48
S602 Level within the search range, compensation echo	Compensation echo superimposed by medium	100 % adjustment: Increase value	Bit 10 of Byte 14 … 24
S603 Impermissible operating voltage	Operating voltage below specified range	Check electrical connection If necessary, increase operating voltage	Bit 11 of Byte 14 … 24

Tab. 8: Error codes and text messages, information on causes as well as corrective measures

Maintenance

Code Text message	Cause	Rectification	DevSpec State in CMD 48
M500 Error in the delivery status	The data could not be restored during the reset to delivery status	Repeat reset Load XML file with sensor data into the sensor	Bit 0 of Byte 14 … 24
M501 Error in the non-active linearisation table	Index markers are not continuously rising, for example illogical value pairs	Check linearization table Delete table/Create new	Bit 1 of Byte 14 … 24
M504 Error at a device interface	Hardware defect	Exchanging the electronics Send instrument for repair	Bit 4 of Byte 14 … 24
M505 no measured value available	Sensor does not detect an echo during operation	Check and correct mounting and/or parameter adjustment	Bit 5 of Byte 14 … 24
	Process component or probe contaminated or defective	Clean or exchange process component or probe	
M506 Installation/Set-up error	Error during setup	Check and correct mounting and/or parameter adjustment Check probe length	Bit 6 of Byte 14 … 24
M507 Error in the instrument settings	Error during setup Error when carrying out a reset False signal suppression faulty	Carry out reset and repeat setup	Bit 7 of Byte 14 … 24

Tab. 9: Error codes and text messages, information on causes as well as corrective measures

10.4 Rectify faults

Reaction when malfunction occurs

The operator of the system is responsible for taking suitable measures to rectify faults.

Fault rectification

The first measures are:

- Evaluation of fault messages
- Checking the output signal
- Treatment of measurement errors

A smartphone/tablet with the adjustment app or a PC/notebook with the software PACTware and the suitable DTM offer you further comprehensive diagnostic possibilities. In many cases, the causes can be determined in this way and the faults eliminated.

4 … 20 mA signal

Connect a multimeter in the suitable measuring range according to the wiring plan. The following table describes possible errors in the current signal and helps to eliminate them:

Error	Cause	Rectification
4 … 20 mA signal not stable	Fluctuating measured value	Set damping
4 … 20 mA signal missing	Electrical connection faulty	Check connection, correct, if necessary
	Voltage supply missing	Check cables for breaks; repair if necessary
	Operating voltage too low, load resistance too high	Check, adapt if necessary
Current signal greater than 22 mA, less than 3.6 mA	Sensor electronics defective	Replace device or send in for repair depending on device version

Treatment of measurement errors

The below tables show typical examples for application-relevant measurement errors. There are two measurement errors:

- Constant level
- Filling
- Emptying

The images in column "*Error pattern*" show the real level as a broken line and the level displayed by the sensor as a continuous line.

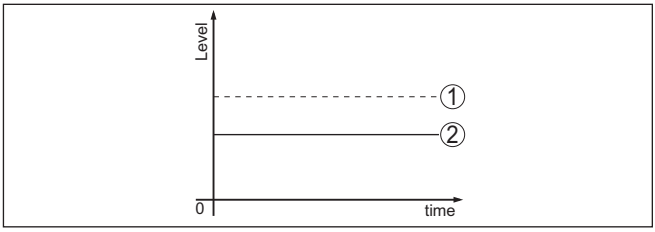
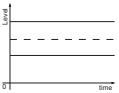
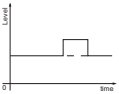


Fig. 35: The broken line 1 shows the real level, the continuous line 2 shows the level displayed by the sensor

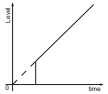
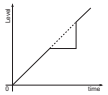
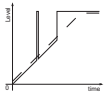
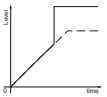
Note:
If the output level is constant, the cause could also be the fault setting of the output to "*Hold value*".

If the level is too low, the reason could be a line resistance that is too high

Measurement error with constant level

Fault description	Cause	Rectification
Measured value shows a too low or too high level 	Min./max. adjustment not correct	Adapt min./max. adjustment
	Incorrect linearization curve	Adapt linearization curve
	Running time error (small measurement error close to 100 %/serious error close to 0 %)	Repeat setup
Measured value jumps towards 100 % 	Due to the process, the amplitude of the product echo decreases A false signal suppression was not carried out	Carry out a false signal suppression
	Amplitude or position of a false signal has changed (e.g. buildup); false signal suppression no longer matches	Determine the reason for the changed false signals, carry out false signal suppression, e.g. with buildup

Measurement error during filling

Fault description	Cause	Rectification
Measured value remains in the area of the bottom during filling 	Echo from the probe end larger than the product echo, for example, with products with ε_r < 2.5 oil-based, solvents, etc.	Check parameter "Medium" and "Vessel height", adapt if necessary
Measured value remains momentarily unchanged during filling and then jumps to the correct level 	Turbulence on the medium surface, quick filling	Check parameters, change if necessary, e.g. in dosing vessel, reactor
Measured value jumps sporadically to 100 % during filling 	Changing condensation or contamination on the probe	Carry out a false signal suppression
Measured value jumps to ≥ 100 % or 0 m distance 	Level echo is no longer detected in the close range due to false signals in the close range. The sensor goes into overfill protection mode. The max. level (0 m distance) as well as the status message "Overfill protection" are output.	Eliminate false signals in the close range Check installation conditions If possible, switch off the function "Overfill protection"

Measurement error during emptying

Fault description	Cause	Rectification
Measured value remains unchanged in the close range during emptying 	False signal larger than the level echo Level echo too small	Eliminate false signals in the close range Remove contamination on the probe. After having removed the source of the false signals, the false signal suppression must be deleted. Carry out a new false signal suppression
Measured value remains reproducible in one position during emptying 	Stored false signals in this position are larger than the level echo	Delete false signal suppression Carry out a new false signal suppression

Reaction after fault rectification

Depending on the reason for the fault and the measures taken, the steps described in chapter "*Setup*" must be carried out again or must be checked for plausibility and completeness.

24 hour service hotline

Should these measures not be successful, please call in urgent cases the VEGA service hotline under the phone no. **+49 1805 858550**.

The hotline is also available outside normal working hours, seven days a week around the clock.

Since we offer this service worldwide, the support is provided in English. The service itself is free of charge, the only costs involved are the normal call charges.

10.5 Exchanging the electronics module

If the electronics module is defective, it can be replaced by the user.

In Ex applications, only instruments and electronics modules with appropriate Ex approval may be used.

If there is no electronics module available on site, the electronics module can be ordered through the agency serving you. The electronics modules are adapted to the respective sensor and differ in signal output or voltage supply.

The new electronics module must be loaded with the default settings of the sensor. These are the options:

- In the factory
- Or on site by the user

In both cases, the serial number of the sensor is needed. The serial numbers are stated on the type label of the instrument, on the inside of the housing as well as on the delivery note.

When loading on site, the order data must first be downloaded from the Internet (see operating instructions "*Electronics module*").

Information:
All application-specific settings must be entered again. That's why you have to carry out a fresh setup after exchanging the electronics.

If you saved the parameter settings during the first setup of the sensor, you can transfer them to the replacement electronics module. A fresh setup is then not necessary.

10.6 Exchanging the cable/rod

Exchanging the cable/rod

If necessary, the cable or rod (measuring part) of the probe can be exchanged.

Loosen the rod or cable with a fork wrench, wrench size 7 (rod ø 8, cable ø 2 and 4) or wrench size 10 (rod ø 12).

Note:
When exchanging the rod or cable, make sure that the instrument and the new rod or cable are dry and clean.

1. Loosen the rod or cable with a fork wrench applied to the flat surface, provide counterforce with another fork wrench.
2. Dry the process fitting and the upper rod end before unscrewing the measuring rod.
3. Unscrew the loosened rod or cable manually.
4. Insert the new measuring rod carefully by hand with a screwing motion into the opening of the process fitting.
5. Continue screwing in the rod manually into the opening of the process fitting.
6. Exert counterforce with the second fork spanner and tighten the rod or cable on the flat surfaces with the following torque.

   Rod ø 8, cable ø 2 and 4: 6 Nm (4.43 lbf ft)

   Rod ø 12: 10 Nm (7.37 lbf ft)

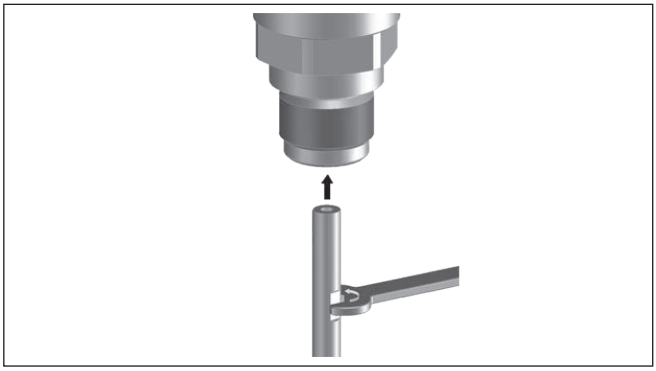


Fig. 36: Exchange cable or rod

Information:
Please maintain the specified torque so that the max. tensile strength of the connection remains.

7. Enter new probe length and if necessary the new probe type and then carry out a fresh adjustment (see "*Setup procedure, Carrying out min. adjustment - Carrying out max. adjustment*").

Shorten cable/rod

The rod or cable of the probe can be shortened individually.

1. Mark the requested length with mounted measuring rod.
2. Cable: Loosen the pins on the gravity weight (hexagon 3)
3. Cable: remove the pins
4. Cable: Pull the cable out of the gravity weight
5. Shorten the cable/rod with a cut-off wheel or metal saw at the marking. Take note of the specifications in the following illustration when shortening the cable.
6. Cable with gravity weight: Shift the cable according to the drawing into the gravity weight
7. Cable with gravity weight: Fasten cable with the pins, torque 7 Nm (5.16 lbf ft)

   Cable with centering weight: Fasten cable with the pins, torque 7 Nm (5.16 lbf ft) and fix the clamping part on the centering weight.
8. Enter new probe length and then carry out a fresh adjustment (see "*Setup procedure, Carrying out min. adjustment - Carrying out max. adjustment*").

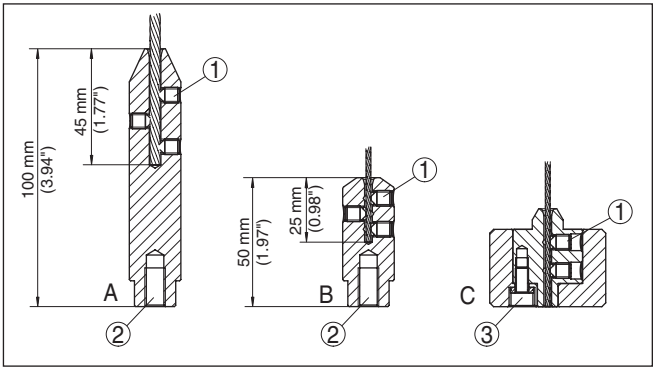


Fig. 37: Shortening the cable probe

A Gravity weight - cable ø 4 mm
B Gravity weight - cable ø 2 mm
C Centering weight - cable ø 2 mm
1 Threaded pins
2 Thread M8 for eye-bolt
3 Fixing screw - centering weight

10.7 Software update

The following components are required to update the instrument software:

- Instrument
- Voltage supply

- Interface adapter VEGACONNECT
- PC with PACTware
- Current instrument software as file

You can find the current instrument software as well as detailed information on the procedure in the download area of our homepage: www.vega.com.

You can find information about the installation in the download file.

Caution:
Instruments with approvals can be bound to certain software versions. Therefore make sure that the approval is still effective after a software update is carried out.

You can find detailed information in the download area at www.vega.com.

10.8 How to proceed if a repair is necessary

On our homepage you will find detailed information on how to proceed in the event of a repair.

So that we can carry out the repair quickly and without queries, generate a instrument return form there with the data of your device.

The following is required:

- The serial number of the instrument
- A short description of the fault
- Details of the medium, if applicable

Print the generated instrument return form.

Clean the instrument and pack it damage-proof.

Send the printed instrument return form and possibly a safety data sheet together with the device.

You will find the address for the return on the generated instrument return form.

11 Dismount

11.1 Dismounting steps

To remove the device, carry out the steps in chapters "*Mounting*" and "*Connecting to power suplly*" in reverse.

Warning:
When dismounting, pay attention to the process conditions in vessels or pipelines. There is a risk of injury, e.g. due to high pressures or temperatures as well as aggressive or toxic media. Avoid this by taking appropriate protective measures.

11.2 Disposal

Pass the instrument on to a specialised recycling company and do not use the municipal collecting points.

Remove any batteries in advance, if they can be removed from the device, and dispose of them separately.

If personal data is stored on the old device to be disposed of, delete it before disposal.

If you have no way to dispose of the old instrument properly, please contact us concerning return and disposal.

12 Certificates and approvals

12.1 Approvals for Ex areas

Approved versions for use in hazardous areas are available or in preparation for the device or the device series.

You can find the relevant documents on our homepage.

12.2 Conformity

The device complies with the legal requirements of the applicable country-specific directives or technical regulations. We confirm conformity with the corresponding labelling.

The corresponding conformity declarations can be found on our homepage.

12.3 NAMUR recommendations

NAMUR is the automation technology user association in the process industry in Germany. The published NAMUR recommendations are accepted as the standard in field instrumentation.

The device fulfils the requirements of the following NAMUR recommendations:

- NE 21 – Electromagnetic compatibility of equipment
- NE 43 – Signal level for fault information from measuring transducers
- NE 53 – Compatibility of field devices and display/adjustment components
- NE 107 – Self-monitoring and diagnosis of field devices

For further information see www.namur.de.

12.4 Environment management system

Protection of the environment is one of our most important duties. That is why we have introduced an environment management system with the goal of continuously improving company environmental protection. The environment management system is certified according to DIN EN ISO 14001.

Help us to meet these requirements and observe the environmental instructions in the chapters "*Packaging, transport and storage*", "*Disposal*" of this instructions manual.

13 Supplement

13.1 Technical data

Note for approved instruments

The technical data in the respective safety instructions which are included in delivery are valid for approved instruments (e.g. with Ex approval). These data can differ from the data listed herein, for example regarding the process conditions or the voltage supply.

All approval documents can be downloaded from our homepage.

General data

316L corresponds to 1.4404 or 1.4435

Materials, wetted parts

– Process fitting (version up to 6 bar)	316L and PPS GF 40
– Process fitting (version up to 40 bar)	304L and PCTFE
	316L and PEEK
	Alloy C22 (2.4602) and PEEK
	Alloy C276 (2.4819) and PEEK
	Duplex steel (1.4462) and PEEK
	Alloy 400 (2.4360) and PTFE
– Process seal on the instrument side (cable/rod leadthrough)	FKM (SHS FPM 70C3 GLT)
	FKM (FLUORXP41)
	FFKM (Kalrez 6375 + Ecolast NH5750)
	FFKM (Perlast G75B)
	EPDM (A+P 70.10-02)
	Silicone FEP coated (A+P FEP-O-SEAL)[1]
– Process seal, process side (for volatile substances such as e.g. Ammonia)	Borosilicate glass GPC 540 with 316L and Alloy C22 (2.4602)[2]
– Process seal	On site (instruments with thread: Klingersil C-4400 is enclosed)
– Rod: ø 8 mm (0.315 in)	316L, Alloy C22 (2.4602), 304L, Alloy C276 (2.4819), Duplex steel (1.4462)
– Rod: ø 12 mm (0.472 in)	316L, Alloy C22 (2.4602), Alloy 400 (2.4360)
– Cable: ø 2 mm (0.079 in)	316 (1.4401), Alloy C276 (2.4819), Alloy 400 (2.4360), Duplex steel (1.4462)
– Cable: ø 4 mm (0.157 in)	316 (1.4401), Alloy C22 (2.4602), PFA
– Inner conductor (up to the cable)	316L
– Gravity weight (optionally available)	316L
– Centering weight (optionally available)	316L

[1] Not suitable for hot steam applications > 150 °C (> 302 °F). In this case, use a device with a ceramic-graphite seal.

[2] Not suitable for hot steam applications.

Materials, non-wetted parts	
– Plastic housing	Plastic PBT (Polyester)
– Aluminium die-cast housing	Aluminium die-casting AlSi10Mg, powder-coated (Basis: Polyester)
– Stainless steel housing (precision casting)	316L Optional anti-corrosion coating with Novolak epoxy resin according to Norsok 6C
– Stainless steel housing (electropolished)	316L
– Temperature adapter	316L
– Second Line of Defense (optional)	Borosilicate glass GPC 540 with 316L and Alloy C22 (2.4602)
– Seal between housing and housing lid	Silicone SI 850 R
– Inspection window in housing cover (optional)	Plastic housing: Polycarbonate (UL746-C listed) Metal housing: Glass
– Ground terminal	316L
– Cable gland, blind plug cable gland	PA, stainless steel, brass
– Sealing, cable gland	CR/NBR
– Connection cable IP66/IP68 (1 bar)	PE (only in conjunction with Aluminium and stainless steel housings, precision casting)
Second Line of Defense (optional)	
– The Second Line of Defense (SLOD) is a second level of the process separation in the form of a gas-tight feedthrough in the lower part of the housing, preventing product from penetrating into the housing.	
– Supporting material	316L
– Glass potting	Borosilicate glass GPC 540
– Contacts	Alloy C22 (2.4602)
– Helium leak rate	< 10^{-6} mbar l/s
– Pressure resistance	See process pressure of the sensor
Conductive connection	Between ground terminal, process fitting and probe
Length - Connection cable - Devices with protection rating IP66/IP68 (1 bar)	max. 300 m (984 ft)
Process fittings	
– Pipe thread, cylindrical (ISO 228 T1)	G¾, G1, G1½ (DIN 3852-A)
– Pipe thread, conical (ASME B1.20.1)	¾ NPT, 1 NPT, 1½ NPT
– Flanges	DIN from DN 25, ASME from 1"
Weight	
– Instrument weight (depending on process fitting)	approx. 0.8 … 8 kg (0.176 … 17.64 lbs)
– Rod: ø 8 mm (0.315 in)	approx. 400 g/m (4.3 oz/ft)

– Rod: ø 12 mm (0.472 in)	approx. 900 g/m (9.68 oz/ft)
– Cable: ø 2 mm (0.079 in)	approx. 16 g/m (0.17 oz/ft)
– Cable: ø 4 mm (0.157 in)	approx. 60 g/m (0.65 oz/ft)
– Gravity weight for cable ø 2 mm (0.079 in)	100 g (3.22 oz)
– Gravity weight for cable ø 4 mm (0.157 in)	200 g (6.43 oz)
– Centering weight ø 40 mm (1.575 in)	180 g (5.79 oz)
– Centering weight ø 45 mm (1.772 in)	250 g (8.04 oz)
– Centering weight ø 75 mm (2.953 in)	825 g (26.52 oz)
– Centering weight (ø 95 mm (3.74 in)	1050 g (33.76 oz)
Probe length L (from seal surface)	
– Rod: ø 8 mm (0.315 in)	up to 6 m (19.69 ft)
– Rod: ø 12 mm (0.472 in)	up to 6 m (19.69 ft)
– Trimming accuracy - Rod	±(1 mm + 0.05 % of the rod length)
– Cable: ø 2 mm (0.079 in)	up to 75 m (246.1 ft)
– Cable: ø 4 mm (0.157 in)	up to 75 m (246 ft)
– Trimming accuracy - Cable	±(2 mm + 0.05 % of the cable length)
Lateral load	
– Rod: ø 8 mm (0.315 in)	10 Nm (7.38 lbf ft)
– Rod: ø 12 mm (0.472 in)	30 Nm (22.13 lbf ft)
Max. tensile load	
– Cable: ø 2 mm (0.079 in) - 316 (1.4401)	1.5 KN (337 lbf)
– Cable: ø 2 mm (0.079 in) - Alloy C276 (2.4819)	1.0 KN (225 lbf)
– Cable: ø 2 mm (0.079 in) - Alloy 400 (2.4360)	0.6 KN (135 lbf)
– Cable: ø 4 mm (0.157 in)	2.5 KN (562 lbf)
Thread in gravity weight, e.g. for eye-bolt (cable version)	M 8
Torque for exchangeable cable or rod probe (in the process fitting)	
– Cable: ø 2 mm (0.079 in)	6 Nm (4.43 lbf ft)
– Cable: ø 4 mm (0.157 in)	6 Nm (4.43 lbf ft)
– Rod: ø 8 mm (0.315 in)	6 Nm (4.43 lbf ft)
– Rod: ø 12 mm (0.472 in)	10 Nm (7.38 lbf ft)
Torque for NPT cable glands and Conduit tubes	
– Plastic housing	max. 10 Nm (7.376 lbf ft)
– Aluminium/Stainless steel housing	max. 50 Nm (36.88 lbf ft)

Input variable

Measured variable	Level of liquids

Min. dielectric constant of the medium	
– Dielectric constant cable probes	≥ 1.6
– Dielectric constant rod probes	≥ 1.6

Output variable

Output signal	4 … 20 mA/HART
Range of the output signal	3.8 … 20.5 mA/HART (default setting)
Fulfilled HART specification	7.0
Further information on Manufacturer ID, Device ID, Device Revision	See website of HART Communication Foundation
Signal resolution	0.3 µA
Fault signal, current output (adjustable)	Last valid measured value, ≥ 21 mA, ≤ 3.6 mA
	In order to detect the rarely occurring hardware failures in the device, we recommend monitoring both interference values (≥ 21 mA, ≤ 3.6 mA)
Max. output current	21.5 mA
Starting current	
– for 5 ms after switching on	≤ 10 mA
– for run-up time	≤ 3.6 mA
Load	see load under Power supply
Damping (63 % of the input variable), adjustable	0 … 999 s
HART output values according to HART 7 (default setting)[3]	
– First HART value (PV)	Linearised percentage value, level
– Second HART value (SV)	Distance to the level
– Third HART value (TV)	Measurement reliability, level
– Fourth HART value (QV)	Electronics temperature
Indication value - Display and adjustment module[4]	
– Displayed value 1	Filling height - Level
– Displayed value 2	Electronics temperature
Resolution, digital	< 1 mm (0.039 in)

Output variable - Additional current output

For details on the operating voltage see chapter "Voltage supply"	
Output signal	4 … 20 mA (passive)
Range of the output signal	3.8 … 20.5 mA (default setting)
Signal resolution	0.3 µA

[3] The output values can be assigned individually.
[4] The indication values can be assigned individually.

Fault signal, current output (adjustable)	Last valid measured value, ≥ 21 mA, ≤ 3.6 mA In order to detect the rarely occurring hardware failures in the device, we recommend monitoring both interference values (≥ 21 mA, ≤ 3.6 mA)
Max. output current	21.5 mA
Starting current	
– for 20 ms after switching on	≤ 10 mA
– for run-up time	≤ 3.6 mA
Load	Load resistor, see chapter "Voltage supply"
Damping (63 % of the input variable), adjustable	0 … 999 s
Indication value - Display and adjustment module[5]	
– Displayed value 1	Filling height - Level
– Displayed value 2	Electronics temperature
Resolution, digital	< 1 mm (0.039 in)

Measurement accuracy (according to DIN EN 60770-1)

Process reference conditions according to DIN EN 61298-1	
– Temperature	+18 … +30 °C (+64 … +86 °F)
– Relative humidity	45 … 75 %
– Air pressure	+860 … +1060 mbar/+86 … +106 kPa (+12.5 … +15.4 psig)
Mounting, reference conditions	
– Min. distance to internal installations	> 500 mm (19.69 in)
– Vessel	metallic, ø 1 m (3.281 ft), centric mounting, process fitting flush with the vessel ceiling
– Medium	Water/Oil (dielectric constant ~2.0)[6]
– Mounting	Probe end does not touch the vessel bottom
Sensor parameter adjustment	No gating out of false signals carried out

[5] The indication values can be assigned individually.
[6] With interface measurement = 2.0.

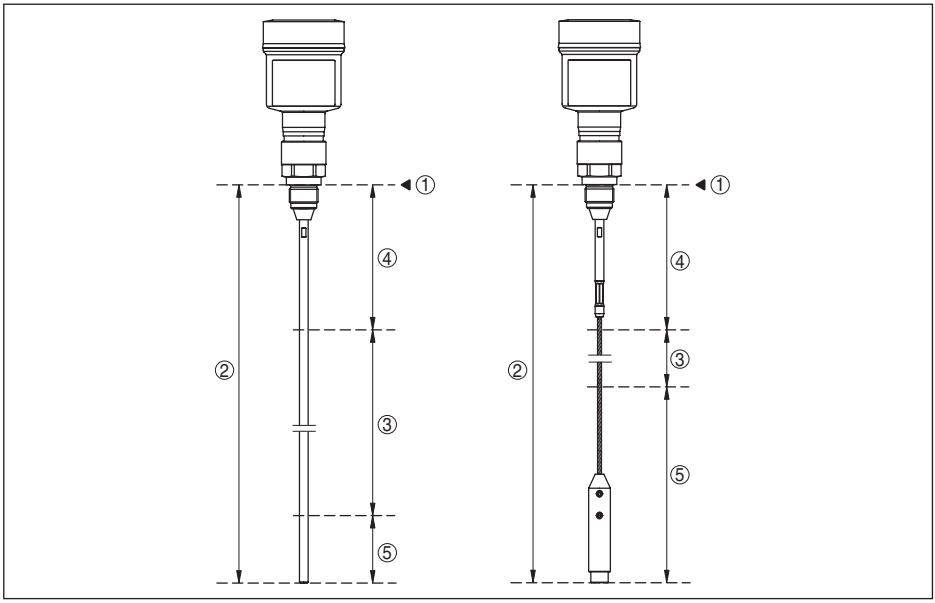


Fig. 38: Measuring ranges - VEGAFLEX 81

1 Reference plane
2 Probe length L
3 Measuring range (default setting refers to the measuring range in water)
4 Upper blocking distance (see following diagrams - grey section)
5 Lower blocking distance (see following diagrams - grey section)

Typical deviation - Interface measurement	± 5 mm (0.197 in)
Typical deviation - Total level interface measurement	See following diagrams
Typical deviation - Level measurement[7)8)]	See following diagrams

[7)] Depending on the mounting conditions, deviations can occur which can be rectified by adapting the adjustment or changing the measured value offset in the DTM service mode.
[8)] The blocking distances can be optimized via a false signal suppression.

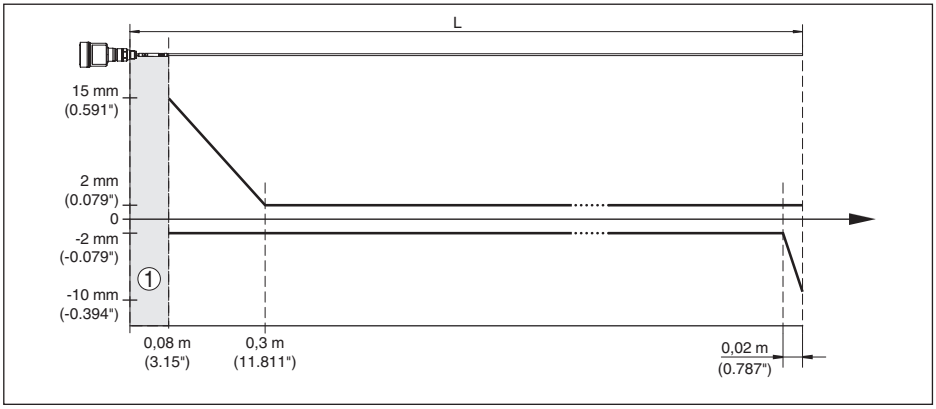


Fig. 39: Deviation VEGAFLEX 81 in rod version in water

1 Blocking distance (no measurement possible in this area)
L Probe length

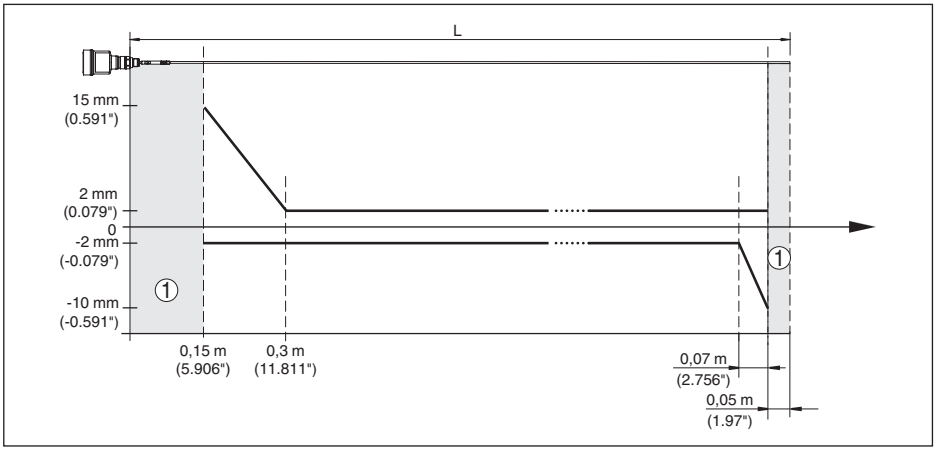


Fig. 40: Deviation VEGAFLEX 81 in rod version in oil

1 Blocking distance (no measurement possible in this area)
L Probe length

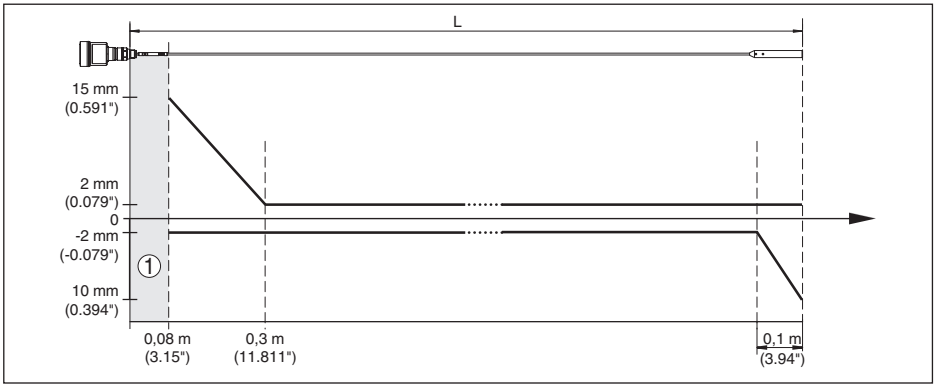


Fig. 41: Deviation VEGAFLEX 81 in cable version in water

1 Blocking distance (no measurement possible in this area)
When using a centering weight, it is only possible to measure up to the upper edge of the cerntering weight.
L Probe length

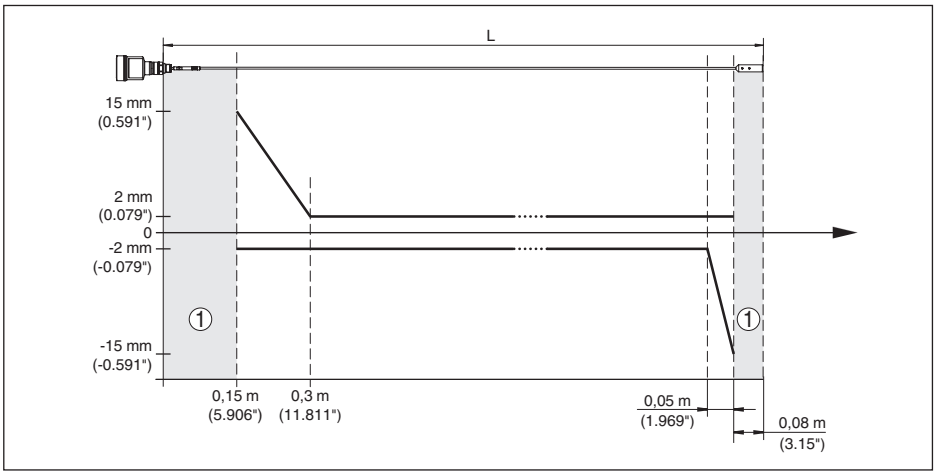


Fig. 42: Deviation VEGAFLEX 81 in cable version (ø 2 mm/0.079 in), in medium oil

1 Blocking distance (no measurement possible in this area)
When using a centering weight, it is only possible to measure up to the upper edge of the cerntering weight.
L Probe length

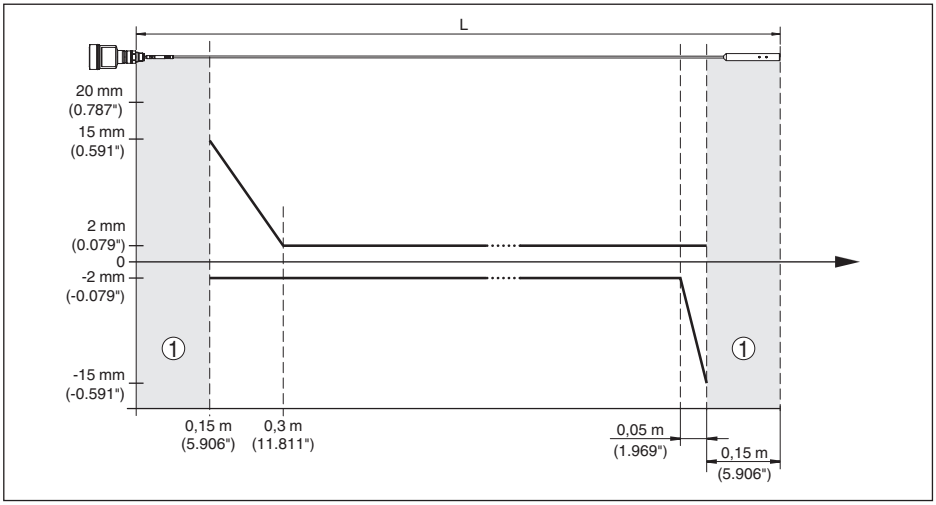


Fig. 43: Deviation VEGAFLEX 81 in cable version (ø 4 mm/0.157 in), in medium oil

1 Blocking distance (no measurement possible in this area)
When using a centering weight, it is only possible to measure up to the upper edge of the cerntering weight.
L Probe length

Deviation (cable - PFA-coated) from 6 m probe length = 0.5 % of the probe length

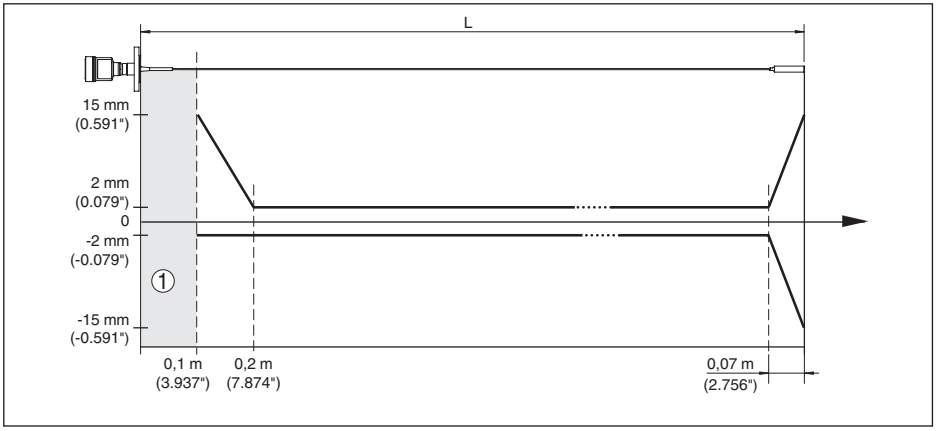


Fig. 44: Deviation VEGAFLEX 81 in cable version (ø 4 mm/0.157 in, PFA-coated) in water

1 Blocking distance (no measurement possible in this area)
L Probe length

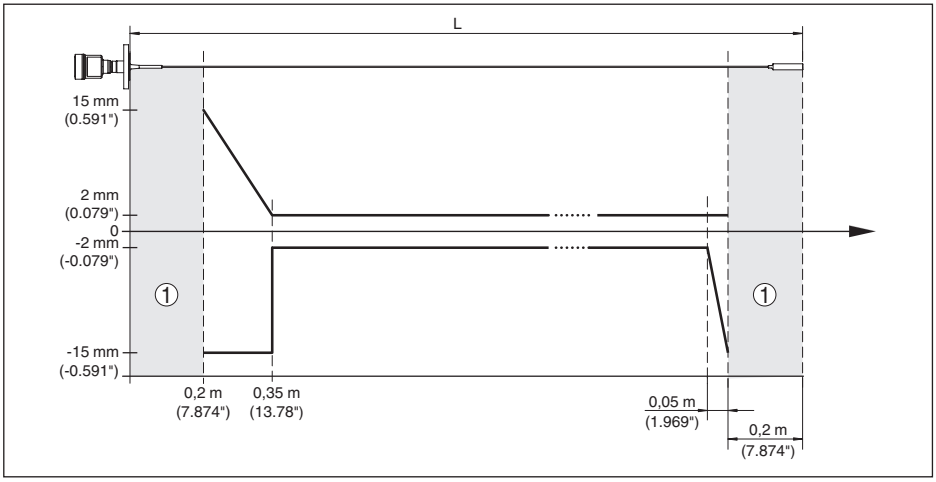


Fig. 45: Deviation VEGAFLEX 81 in cable version (ø 4 mm/0.157 in, PFA-coated), in oil

1 Blocking distance (no measurement possible in this area)
L Probe length

Non-repeatability	≤ ±1 mm

Variables influencing measurement accuracy

Specifications for the digital measured value

Temperature drift - Digital output	±3 mm/10 K relating to the max. measuring range or max. 10 mm (0.394 in)
Additional deviation through electromagnetic interference acc. to EN 61326	< ±10 mm (< ±0.394 in)

Specifications apply also to the current output[9)]

Temperature drift - Current output	±0.03 %/10 K relating to the 16 mA span or max. ±0.3 %
Deviation in the current output due to digital/analogue conversion	
– Non-Ex and Ex ia version	< ±15 µA
– Ex d ia version	< ±40 µA
Additional deviation through electromagnetic interference acc. to EN 61326	< ±150 µA

Influence of the superimposed gas and pressure on measurement accuracy

The propagation speed of the radar impulses in gas or vapour above the medium is reduced by high pressure. This effect depends on the superimposed gas or vapours.

The following table shows the resulting deviation for some typical gases and vapours. The specified values refer to the distance. Positive values mean that the measured distance is too large, negative values that the measured distance is too small.

9) Also for the additional current output (optional).

Gas phase	Temperature	Pressure		
		1 bar (14.5 psig)	10 bar (145 psig)	50 bar (725 psig)
Air	20 °C (68 °F)	0 %	0.22 %	1.2 %
	200 °C (392 °F)	-0.01 %	0.13 %	0.74 %
	400 °C (752 °F)	-0.02 %	0.08 %	0.52 %
Hydrogen	20 °C (68 °F)	-0.01 %	0.1 %	0.61 %
	200 °C (392 °F)	-0.02 %	0.05 %	0.37 %
	400 °C (752 °F)	-0.02 %	0.03 %	0.25 %
Steam (saturated steam)	100 °C (212 °F)	0.26 %	-	-
	150 °C (302 °F)	0.17 %	2.1 %	-

Characteristics and performance data

Measuring cycle time	< 500 ms
Step response time[10)]	≤ 3 s
Max. filling/emptying speed	1 m/min
	Products with high dielectric constant (> 10) up to 5 m/minute

Ambient conditions

Ambient, storage and transport temperature	-40 … +80 °C (-40 … +176 °F)

Process conditions

For the process conditions, please also note the specifications on the type label. The lowest value always applies.

The measurement error through the process conditions in the specified pressure and temperature range is < 1 %.

Process pressure

– Process fitting with PPS GF 40	-1 … 6 bar/-100 … 600 kPa (-14.5 … 87 psi), depending on the process fitting
– Process fitting with PEEK	-1 … +40 bar/-100 … +4000 kPa (-14.5 … +580 psig), depending on the process fitting
– with borosilicate glass leadthrough	-1 … +100 bar/-100 … +10000 kPa (-14.5 … +1450 psig), depending on the process fitting
Vessel pressure relating to the flange nominal pressure stage	see supplementary instructions manual "*Flanges according to DIN-EN-ASME-JIS*"

Process temperature (thread or flange temperature)

– PPS GF 40	-40 … +80 °C (-40 … +176 °F)

10) Time span after a sudden measuring distance change by max. 0.5 m in liquid applications, max 2 m with bulk solids applications, until the output signal has taken for the first time 90 % of the final value (IEC 61298-2).

– FKM (SHS FPM 70C3 GLT)	-40 … +150 °C (-40 … +302 °F)
– FKM (FLUORXP41)	-15 … +150 °C (+5 … +302 °F)
– EPDM (A+P 70.10-02)	-40 … +150 °C (-40 … +302 °F)
– Silicone FEP coated (A+P FEP-O-SEAL)	-40 … +150 °C (-40 … +302 °F)
– FFKM (Kalrez 6375)	-20 … +150 °C (-4 … +302 °F)
– FFKM (Kalrez 6375) - with temperature adapter	-20 … +200 °C (-4 … +392 °F)
– FFKM (Ecolast NH575)	-15 … +150 °C (+5 … +302 °F)
– FFKM (Ecolast NH575) - mit Temperaturzwischenstück	-20 … +200 °C (-4 … +392 °F)
– FFKM (Perlast G 75 B)	-15 … +200 °C (+5 … +392 °F)
– FFKM (Perlast G 75 B) - mit Temperaturzwischenstück	-15 … +200 °C (+5 … +392 °F)
– with anti-corrosion coating - Novolak epoxy resin according to Norsok 6C (optional)	-40 … +150 °C (-40 … +302 °F) on the flange surface

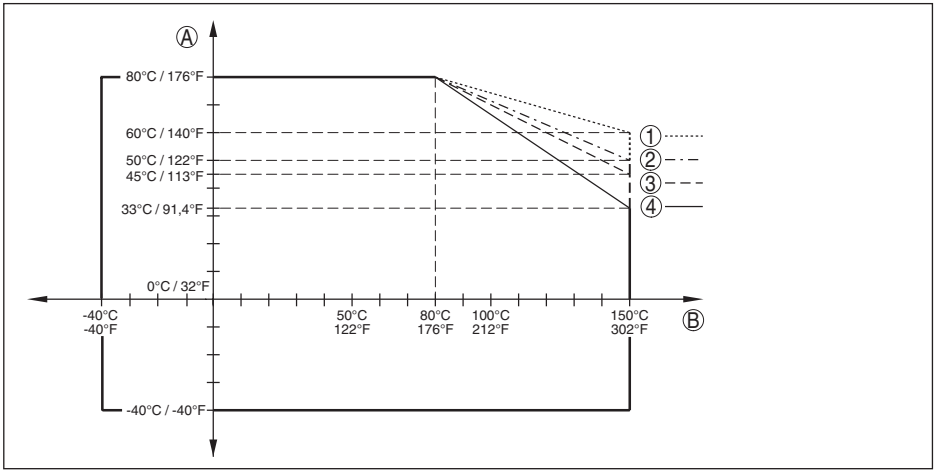


Fig. 46: Ambient temperature - process temperature, standard version

A Ambient temperature
B Process temperature (depending on the seal material)
1 Aluminium housing
2 Plastic housing
3 Stainless steel housing (precision casting)
4 Stainless steel housing (electropolished)

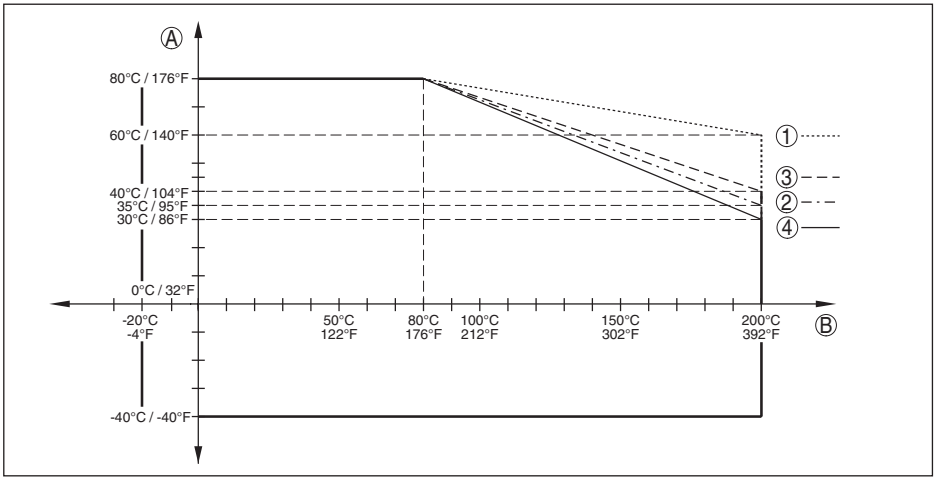


Fig. 47: Ambient temperature - process temperature, version with temperature adapter

A Ambient temperature
B Process temperature (depending on the seal material)
1 Aluminium housing
2 Plastic housing
3 Stainless steel housing (precision casting)
4 Stainless steel housing (electropolished)

Vibration resistance

- Rod probe — 1 g with 5 … 200 Hz according EN 60068-2-6 (vibration at resonance) with rod length 50 cm (19.69 in)

Shock resistance

- Rod probe — 25 g, 6 ms according to EN 60068-2-27 (mechanical shock) with rod length 50 cm (19.69 in)

Electromechanical data - version IP66/IP67 and IP66/IP68 (0.2 bar)

Options of the cable entry

- Cable entry — M20 x 1.5; ½ NPT
- Cable gland — M20 x 1.5; ½ NPT (cable ø see below table)
- Blind plug — M20 x 1.5; ½ NPT
- Closing cap — ½ NPT

Material cable gland	Cable diameter				
	4.5 … 8.5 mm	5 … 9 mm	6 … 12 mm	7 … 12 mm	10 … 14 mm
PA	–	√	√	–	√
Brass, nickel-plated	√	√	√	–	–
Stainless steel	–	√	√	–	√

Wire cross-section (spring-loaded terminals)

- Massive wire, stranded wire — 0.2 … 2.5 mm² (AWG 24 … 14)

– Stranded wire with end sleeve	0.2 … 1.5 mm² (AWG 24 … 16)

Integrated clock	
Date format	Day.Month.Year
Time format	12 h/24 h
Time zone, factory setting	CET
Max. rate deviation	10.5 min/year

Additional output parameter - Electronics temperature	
Range	-40 … +85 °C (-40 … +185 °F)
Resolution	< 0.1 K
Deviation	± 3 K
Availability of the temperature values	
– Indication	Via the display and adjustment module
– Output	Via the respective output signal

Voltage supply	
Operating voltage U_B	9.6 … 35 V DC
Operating voltage U_B with lighting switched on	16 … 35 V DC
Reverse voltage protection	Integrated
Permissible residual ripple	
– for 9.6 V < U_B < 18 V	≤ 0.7 V_{eff} (16 … 400 Hz)
– for 18 V < U_B < 36 V	≤ 1 V_{eff} (16 … 400 Hz)
Load resistor	
– Calculation	(U_B - U_{min})/0.022 A
– Example - U_B= 24 V DC	(24 V - 9.6 V)/0.022 A = 655 Ω

Potential connections and electrical separating measures in the instrument	
Electronics	Non-floating
Galvanic separation	
– between electronics and metallic parts of the device	Reference voltage 500 V AC
Conductive connection	Between ground terminal and metallic process fitting

Electrical protective measures

Housing material	Version	Protection acc. to IEC 60529	Protection acc. to NEMA
Plastic	Single chamber	IP66/IP67	Type 4X
	Double chamber	IP66/IP67	Type 4X

Housing material	Version	Protection acc. to IEC 60529	Protection acc. to NEMA
Aluminium	Single chamber	IP66/IP68 (0.2 bar) IP66/IP68 (1 bar)	Type 6P Type 6P
	Double chamber	IP66/IP67 IP66/IP68 (0.2 bar) IP66/IP68 (1 bar)	Type 4X Type 6P Type 6P
Stainless steel (electro-polished)	Single chamber	IP66/IP68 (0.2 bar)	Type 6P
Stainless steel (precision casting)	Single chamber	IP66/IP68 (0.2 bar) IP66/IP68 (1 bar)	Type 6P Type 6P
	Double chamber	IP66/IP67 IP66/IP68 (0.2 bar)	Type 4X Type 6P

Connection of the feeding power supply unit	Networks of overvoltage category III
Altitude above sea level	
– by default	up to 2000 m (6562 ft)
– with connected overvoltage protection	up to 5000 m (16404 ft)
Pollution degree[11]	4
Protection rating (IEC 61010-1)	III

13.2 Dimensions

The following dimensional drawings represent only an extract of all possible versions. Detailed dimensional drawings can be downloaded at www.vega.com/downloads under "*Drawings*".

Plastic housing in protection rating IP66/IP67

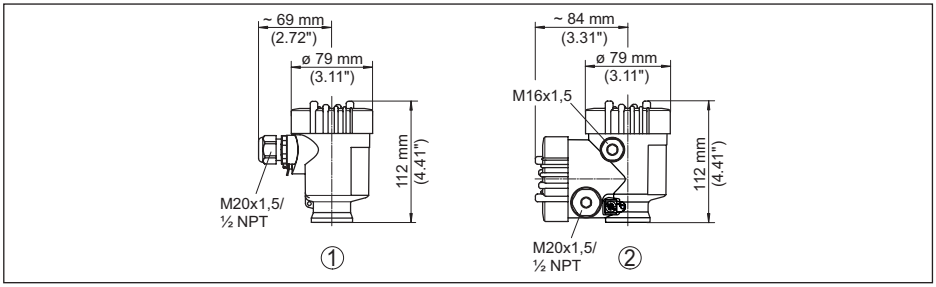


Fig. 48: Housing versions in protection IP66/IP67 (with integrated display and adjustment module the housing is 9 mm/0.35 in higher)

1 Plastic single chamber
2 Plastic double chamber

[11] When used with fulfilled protection.

Aluminium housing with protection rating IP66/IP68 (0.2 bar)

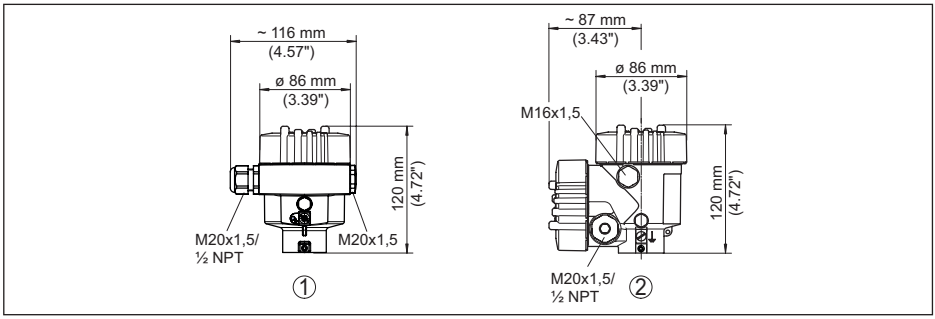


Fig. 49: Housing versions with protection rating IP66/IP68 (0.2 bar), (with integrated display and adjustment module the housing is 18 mm/0.71 in higher)

1 Aluminium - single chamber
2 Aluminium - double chamber

Aluminium housing with protection rating IP66/IP68 (1 bar)

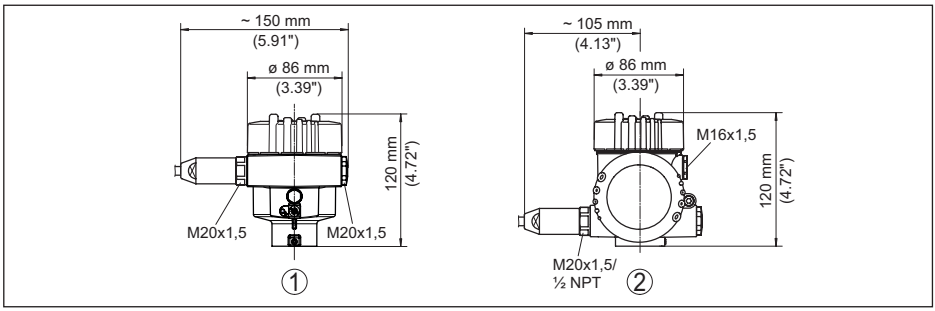


Fig. 50: Housing versions with protection rating IP66/IP68 (1 bar), (with integrated display and adjustment module the housing is 18 mm/0.71 in higher)

1 Aluminium - single chamber
2 Aluminium - double chamber

Stainless steel housing with protection rating IP66/IP68 (0.2 bar)

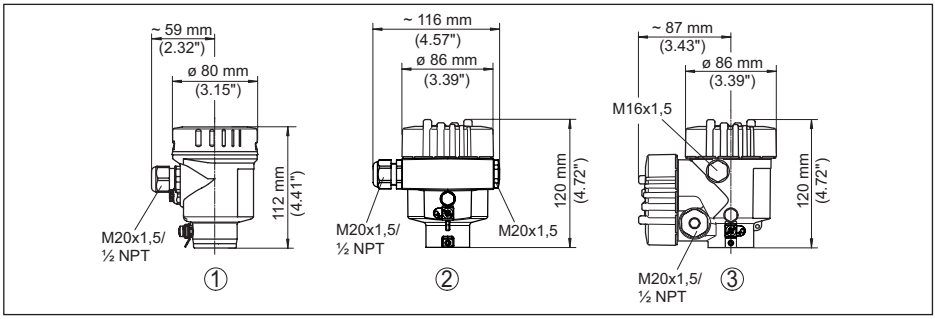


Fig. 51: Housing versions with protection rating IP66/IP68 (0.2 bar), (with integrated display and adjustment module the housing is 18 mm/0.71 in higher)

1 *Stainless steel single chamber (electropolished)*
2 *Stainless steel single chamber (precision casting)*
3 *Stainless steel double chamber (precision casting)*

Stainless steel housing with protection rating IP66/IP68 (1 bar)

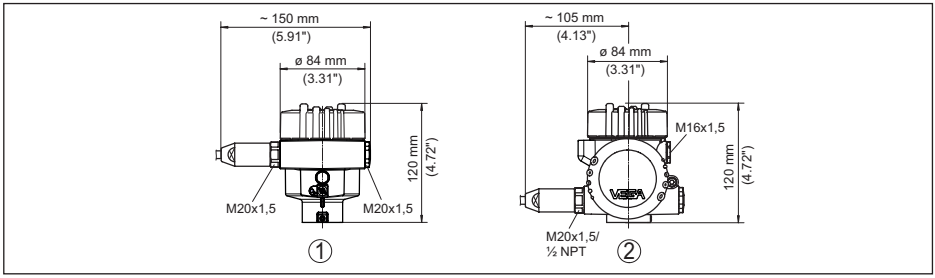


Fig. 52: Housing versions with protection rating IP66/IP68 (1 bar), (with integrated display and adjustment module the housing is 18 mm/0.71 in higher)

1 *Stainless steel single chamber (precision casting)*
2 *Stainless steel double chamber (precision casting)*

VEGAFLEX 81, cable version with gravity weight

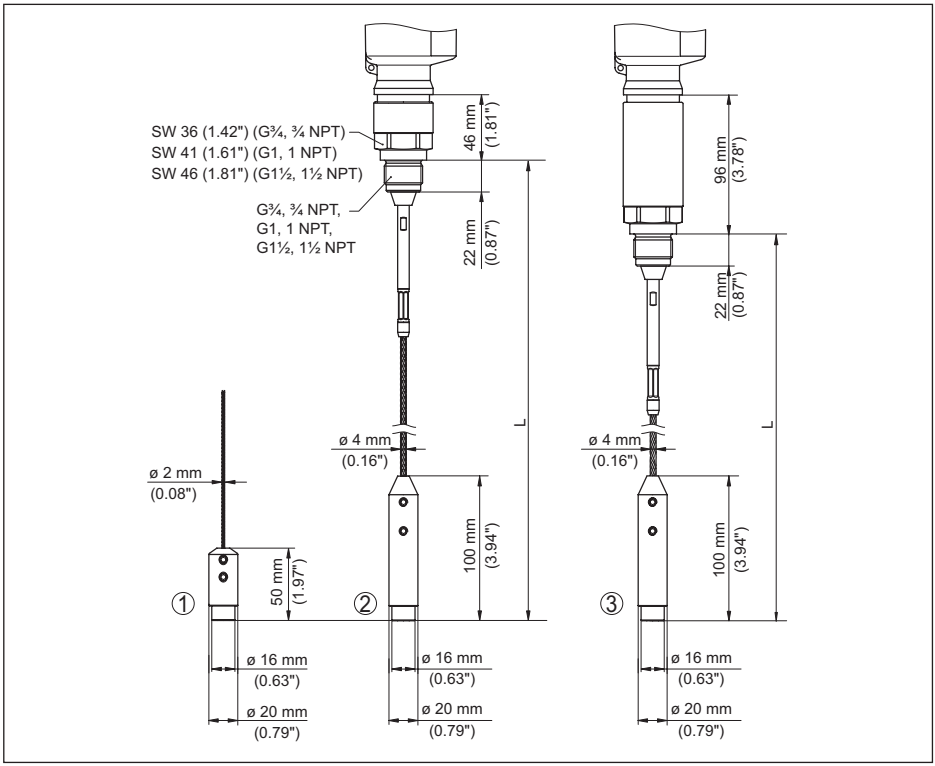


Fig. 53: VEGAFLEX 81, threaded version with gravity weight (all gravity weights with thread M8 for eye-bolt)

L Sensor length, see chapter "Technical data"
1 Cable version ø 2 mm (0.079 in) with gravity weight
2 Cable version ø 4 mm (0.157 in) with gravity weight
3 Cable version with temperature adapter

VEGAFLEX 81, cable version with centering weight

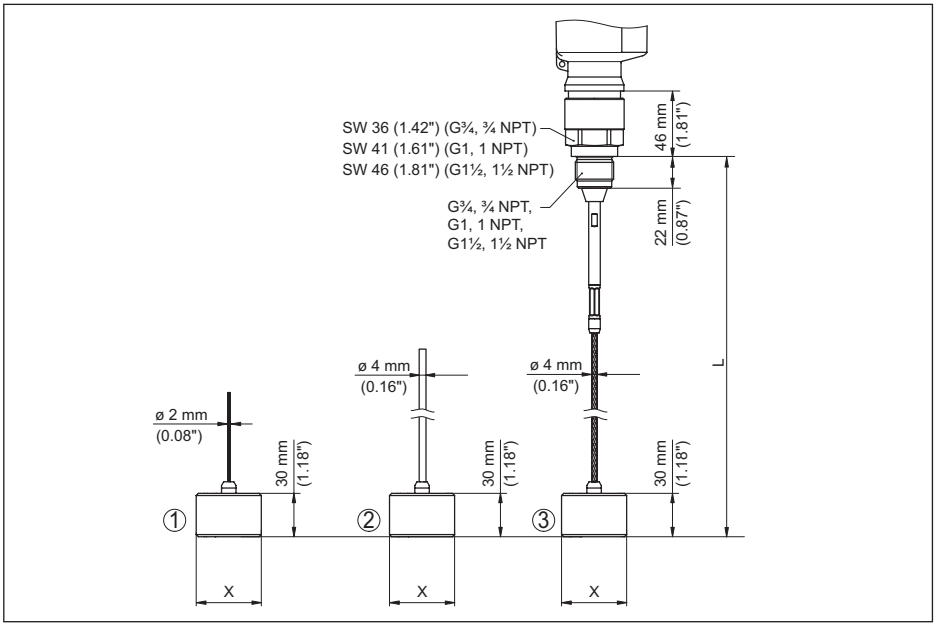


Fig. 54: VEGAFLEX 81, threaded version

L Sensor length, see chapter "Technical data"

x ø 40 mm (1.57 in)
ø 45 mm (1.77 in)
ø 75 mm (2.95 in)
ø 95 mm (3.74 in)

1 Cable version ø 2 mm (0.079 in) with centering weight (see supplementary instructions "Centering")

2 Cable version ø 4 mm (0.157 in) PFA-coated with centering weight (see supplementary instructions "Centering")

3 Cable version ø 4 mm (0.157 in) with centering weight (see supplementary instructions "Centering")

VEGAFLEX 81, rod version

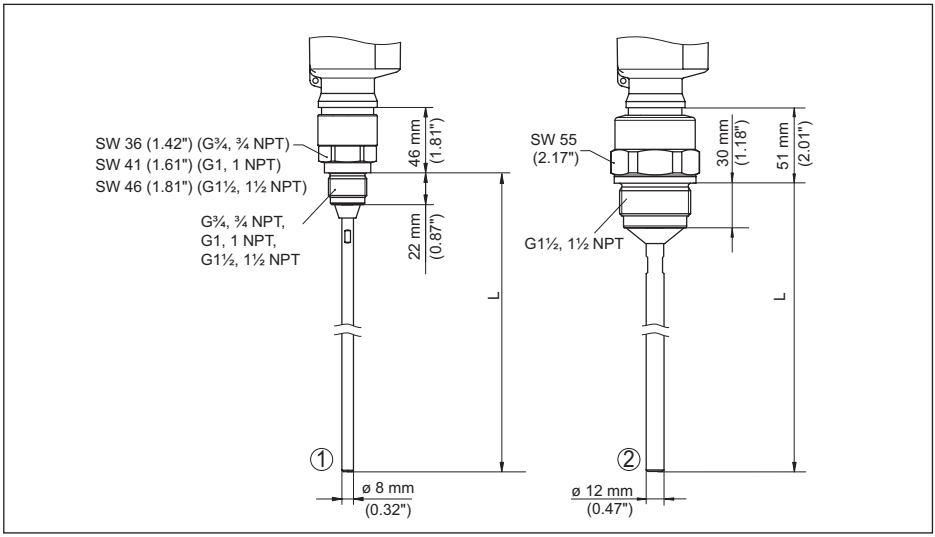


Fig. 55: VEGAFLEX 81, threaded version

L Sensor length, see chapter "Technical data"
1 Rod version ø 8 mm (0.315 in)
2 Rod version ø 12 mm (0.472 in)

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