

EMS NEWS: 2014

EXO SONDES MODELS INCLUDE TITANIUM BULKHEADS & CONNECTORS

Monitoring water quality around the world is often a tough job that requires the most rugged instrumentation possible.

With the EXO sonde platform, YSI has taken ruggedness to a whole new level - introducing equipment built with titanium sensors and impact resistant polymers. In January 2014, we will go one step further, upgrading the sonde's bulkhead and communications connectors to titanium as well.

With this enhancement, it is no longer necessary to deploy EXO sondes with sacrificial zinc anodes in marine or other corrosive environments, reducing the maintenance of the sonde in these applications and freeing a sensor port for the measurement of additional parameters. These improvements strengthen the product and make it the most corrosion resistant and rugged instrument we have ever built.

Below are some frequently asked questions (and answers) about the 2014 EXO sonde:

- Q.** When will the change to titanium bulkheads & connectors occur?
- A.** All EXO sondes will be manufactured with titanium bulkhead/connector materials starting January 2nd, 2014.

- Q.** Will the copper alloy bulkheads still be available for purchase in 2014?
- A.** No, all 2014 EXO sondes will be equipped with titanium bulkheads and communications connectors.

..... **See reverse for additional FAQ.**



The new titanium bulkhead.



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EMS NEWS: EXO Titanium Bulkhead FAQ

Q. Can I upgrade an existing EXO sonde with a titanium bulkhead & connectors?

A. Yes, YSI service centers will be able to upgrade EXO sondes manufactured prior to 2014. Given the higher cost of material there will be a charge to add the new feature to your EXO. We anticipate being able to perform upgrades in March 2014.

Q. My sonde is equipped with a copper-alloy bulkhead, do I need to upgrade to titanium?

A. No, you do not need to upgrade to a titanium bulkhead. Applications that involve coastal and estuary long-term monitoring may benefit from the reduced maintenance requirements; however the copper alloy will continue to function properly in these environments when used with a zinc anode.

Q. Will titanium bulkheads & connectors increase the price of EXO sondes?

A. Yes, unfortunately titanium is a much more expensive material to buy and machine, therefore all 2014 EXO sonde models will see an increase in price.

Q. Will these material changes impact the accuracy of my data?

A. No! Changing from copper-alloy materials to titanium (or vice-versa) will not impact data quality.

Q. Will this change in bulkhead material interfere with calibrating EXO sensors?

A. No, all calibration processes will remain the same. EXO sensors are already built with titanium, so the upgrade in bulkhead material will have no effect on calibration.

Q. Is a zinc anode required on 2014 EXO models?

A. No, titanium bulkheads do not require the use of an anode, but they also do not have the same fouling resistant properties of the original copper alloy parts. The use of C-Spray on all titanium parts is recommended in moderate to severe bio-fouling sites to aid in cleaning.

Note: In addition to the sensor bulkhead, titanium is also being used on all EXO communications connectors.

Q. Is the new bulkhead compatible with EXO anti-fouling accessories?

A. The new titanium material is completely compatible with all EXO AF-Sensor Guards, copper tape, and the copper screen for the CT sensor. When a 2014 EXO sonde is used with the anti-fouling guard and other anti-fouling components, the protection of the copper tape and copper alloy parts is enhanced.



An EXO sonde prepped for deployment with anti-fouling copper tape.

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