



User's Manual

Contents

Introduction	1
What FastCalXP Can Do For You	1
How it Works	2
Using this Manual	2
Installation and Setup	3
System Requirements	3
Computer	3
Comparator	3
Reference	3
Hardware Setup and Connections	3
Software Installation	4
Quick Start	4
Set Up the Calibration	5
Take the As Received Data	6
Perform a New Calibration	6
Or Load Existing As Received Data	6
Take the As Left Data	6
Generate and Print the Certificate	7
Calibrating Gauges	7
Gauges	7
Loading a Gauge	8
New Gauge Wizard	8
Calibration Schedule	11
References	12
Reference Selection	12
Autodetection	12
Adding References Manually	13
Test Profiles	13
Calibration Strategies	15
Exercising	15
Matching the Target	16
The Adiabatic Effect	17
Completing a Calibration	18
Actual Mode Calibration	19
Standard Actual Mode	19

Using the Foot Switch.	20
Peak Mode Calibration.	20
Standard Peak Mode	20
Auto Peak Detection.	20
Creating Certificates.	21
Excel Templates.	22
Viewing Certificate Data.	23
Settings and Options	24
Config Settings.	25
Calibration Settings.	26
Login Options.	27
Security Settings.	28
Where Settings Are Stored	28
Head Correction Calculator.	29
Managing the Database.	30
Gauges.	31
Models	32
Manufacturers	34
Test Profiles	34
Locations	36
Pressure Units	36
References	37
Users	38
Multiple Database Support.	38
Menus and Windows	40
File.	40
View	40
Tools	40
Help.	40
Main Window	41
Calibration Window.	41
Frequently Asked Questions.	42
Pressure Calibration Terms	43
Appendix A: FastCalXP Pressure Units.	43
Appendix B: Excel Template Tags	44

Introduction

Thank you for purchasing (or trying) FastCalXP.

FastCalXP is the cornerstone of a specially designed and easy to use pressure calibration system that helps you calibrate pressure gauges faster than you ever imagined. Whether you calibrate pressure gauges every day or only once in a while, FastCalXP saves you time, while helping you automate record keeping and reduce data entry errors.

Instead of using deadweight testers, FastCalXP was specifically designed to be used with Crystal Engineering products—pressure gauges and calibrators as the reference pressure standards (currently XP2, XP2i and 30 series calibrators) and the GaugeCalXP pressure comparator for pressure generation and precise pressure control.

FastCalXP was designed to run on Windows® XP or Windows 2000. Calibration and instrument data are stored in a Microsoft Access® compatible database, but reports are created in the familiar Microsoft Excel® (*.xls) file format. If you know how to use Excel, you can have FastCalXP produce calibration certificates that look exactly like the format your company uses now (including logos and any other information). Just modify the included Excel template spreadsheet or create your own template files (You don't need to know anything about Access.)

Often, installing, configuring and managing other calibration software and databases is very difficult and can take a very long time. FastCalXP software is not only easy to use, it's also very easy to set up—***you can start to use it right away!***

But read the following Installation and Quick Start sections for an overview of how FastCalXP works and for additional time saving tips and techniques to better use the software.

Although deadweight testers can be accurate if used properly (and it's easy to make mistakes), each measurement can take a minute or more – so a 10 point calibration (10 points up and down) takes at least 20 minutes. With FastCalXP calibration system, you can do it in 2 minutes!

To easily generate and set pressure precisely, use GaugeCalXP, a high pressure (up to 10,000 PSI or 700 bar) hydraulic comparator. GaugeCalXP is not limited to only oil as the hydraulic fluid (many deadweight testers require oil, only). You can use distilled water instead, or even isopropyl alcohol (IPA) with GaugeCalXP. (Warning: IPA dries quickly, but it is flammable) We also recommend that you consider our range of quick connecting, leak free fittings that let you connect the gauges being tested (to the comparator) without the need for thread sealing tape, seals, or tools.

What FastCalXP Can Do For You

FastCalXP provides

- Convenient storage of all pressure calibration-related data in a single database.
- Automatic detection of Crystal Engineering digital reference gauges and automatic reading and storage of pressure data.

- Easy generation and storage of pressure test profiles.
- Flexible templates for certificate generation.
- Intuitive user interface for all calibration operations and data management.

How it Works

A typical installation of FastCalXP includes a personal computer running Windows 2000 or later, a GaugeCalXP comparator and an XP2i or Model 30 digital pressure gauge, used as the reference. The device under test, or gauge, is mounted on the comparator along with the reference and the reference is connected to the computer's serial port.

FastCalXP stores detailed information about all tested or otherwise entered gauges, references and users as well as all acquired calibration for each gauge. The flow of the program proceeds in four steps:

- 1 Select Gauge Step
- 2 As Received Step
- 3 As Left Step
- 4 Certificate Step

FastCalXP automatically detects a Crystal digital reference connected to the computer's serial port. The software also automatically reads and records pressure measurements from the reference.

All of the information entered into or acquired by FastCalXP is stored in a single relational database using Microsoft Access components already on your computer. Using the database, FastCalXP generates Microsoft Excel-compatible calibration certificates.

Using this Manual

To quickly get started with your FastCalXP software, read the [Installation and Setup](#) section, followed by the [Quick Start](#) section.

More detailed sections on [Calibrating Gauges](#), [Creating Certificates](#), fine tuning [Settings and Options](#), and [Managing the Database](#) follow the Quick Start.

Also included in this manual are reference sections for [Menus and Windows](#), [Frequently Asked Questions](#) and [Pressure Calibration Terms](#). Appendices include [Appendix A: FastCalXP Pressure Units](#) and [Appendix B: Excel Template Tags](#).

Additional sources of information include the *GaugeCalXP Operator Instructions*, the *XP2i Digital Test Gauge Operation Manual*, and the *30 Series Operation Manual*.

Installation and Setup

Included in your FastCalXP box is an installer CD, a CD key and an operation manual. Also included is a standard serial cable for use with a Crystal Engineering XP2i digital pressure gauge. An optional foot switch or RS232 to USB adapter may also be included.

System Requirements

FastCalXP is a Windows application. No peripherals are required to run the software and manage the FastCalXP database. However, a typical installation includes a pressure comparator and a digital pressure gauge, or reference, along with the computer on which FastCalXP will be installed.

► Computer

FastCalXP requires a personal computer with a serial port, or USB port if using the RS232 to USB adapter. An additional USB will be required if using the optional foot switch. Version 1.0 is compatible with Windows 2000, XP or 2003. In order to create certificates using FastCalXP, Microsoft Excel (or Office) 2000, XP or 2003 must also be installed.

► Comparator

FastCalXP was designed to operate with a Crystal Engineering GaugeCalXP pressure comparator.

► Reference

For automatic reference detection and data acquisition, FastCalXP requires a Crystal XP2i or Model 30 digital pressure gauge connected via a serial cable to the computer. The Model 30 requires its own non-standard serial cable. This cable can be ordered from Crystal Engineering as Crystal Part Number 1928.

Ideally, the calibration station will include a range of references that will provide optimal accuracy over the pressure range of each of the models normally tested at the station. Refer to the discussion of [Reference Selection on page 12](#).

Hardware Setup and Connections

To set up your work station, position the GaugeCalXP next to the computer monitor and keyboard. Be sure that your serial cable will reach from the reference mounted on the rear comparator position to the serial port of the computer. Also, in some modes of operation, you may need to have one hand on the handle of the comparator and one hand on your computer keyboard or mouse.

If you have purchased the optional foot switch, plug the switch in to a USB port on your computer. Position the foot switch so that you will be able to operate it with your foot while you are operating the comparator with your hands. Refer to the [Using the Foot Switch discussion on page 20](#).

Refer to the *GaugeCalXP Operator Instructions* for help with setting up the comparator.

Software Installation

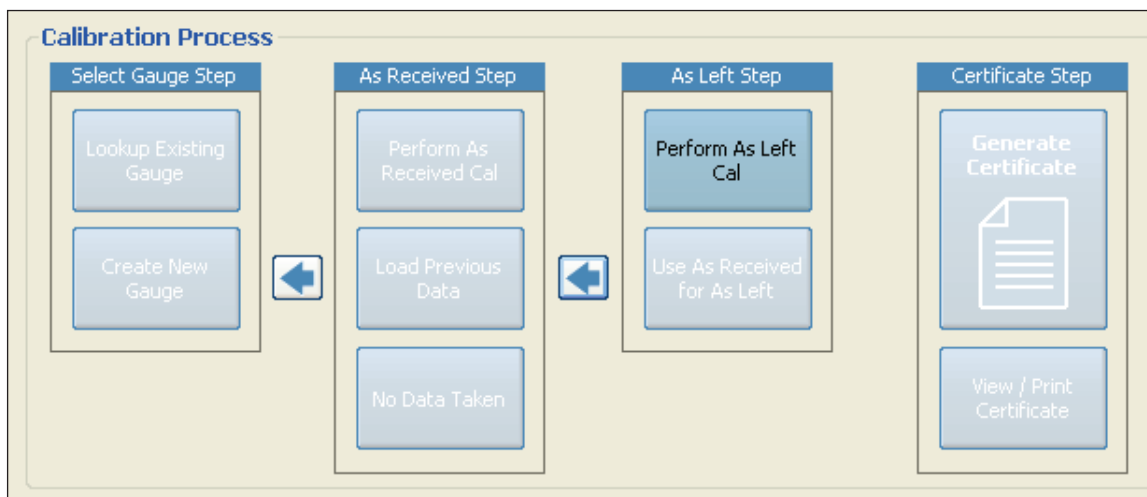
If you have downloaded the software from the Internet, simply run the downloaded executable and follow the instructions to complete the installation.

If you have an installation CD, insert the CD into the drive on your computer and setup will run automatically. If setup fails to start, run the SETUP.EXE from the CD. Follow the instructions in setup to complete the installation.

Quick Start

This section provides a summary of the four basic steps needed to complete a calibration using FastCalXP. It is intended to get you quickly up and running upon installation and to provide a guide for the new user of an existing installation.

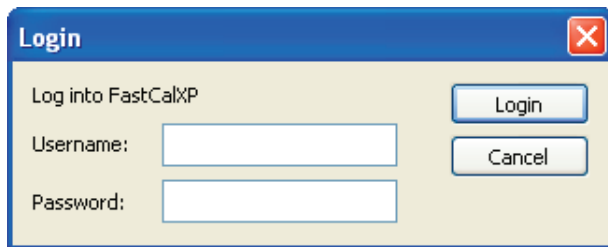
The four basic FastCalXP steps are displayed in the center of the main window and following the steps from left to right will get you through a calibration session. At the completion of any step it is possible to return to any previous step using the back arrows.



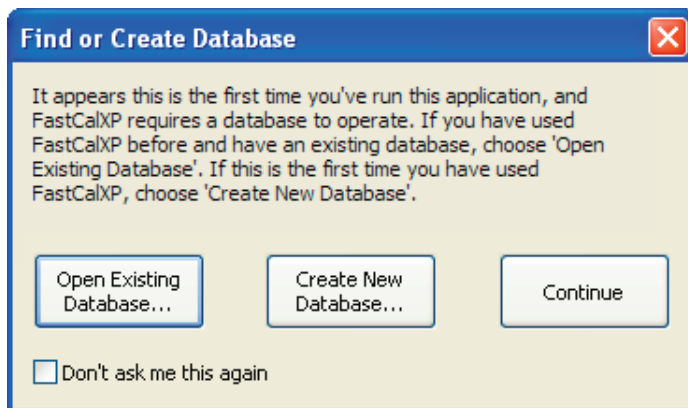
Before attempting calibrations, verify that your work station is set up as described above.

Set Up the Calibration

- 1 Run FastCalXP. After the initial installation, FastCalXP does not require a username or password. However, if the Login option has been engaged, FastCalXP will prompt you for your username and password.



The first time FastCalXP is run after installation, the software will prompt you to locate the database or specify the name and location of a new database.



You will also be prompted to select a location for the storage of certificates.

- 2 Load the Gauge. Lookup existing gauge or create a new gauge using the New Gauge Wizard. The New Gauge Wizard will take you through the addition of a new gauge in four steps:
 - a Select or add a manufacturer.
 - b Select or add a model. The New Model Wizard will take you through the process of adding a new model in two steps:
 - Enter model information.
 - Select or build a test profile. Refer to the discussion of [Test Profiles on page 34](#).
 - c Select or add a location. A location is not required.
 - d Enter information about the gauge.

Refer to the detailed discussion of the [New Gauge Wizard on page 8](#).

- 3 Connect the gauge as described in the *GaugeCalXP Operator Instructions*.

- 4 Choose a reference with appropriate accuracy. For example, metrology guidelines suggest a four-to-one accuracy ratio of the reference to the gauge. Refer to the discussion of [Reference Selection](#) on page 12 for more detail.
- 5 Connect the reference as described in the GaugeCalXP manual. Connect the serial cable to the reference and to the computer's serial port. By default, FastCalXP will look for the reference on the first serial port. Refer to the [Settings and Options](#) section for help with changing the serial port.

Take the As Received Data

► Perform a New Calibration.

- 1 Click the **Perform As Received Cal** button.
- 2 The Calibration Wizard welcome page will be displayed. Click **Next** to auto-detect the reference as described in the discussion of [References](#) on page 12.

If a new reference is detected, the Calibration Wizard will prompt you to enter the current certificate information for the reference.

- 3 If the profile requires it, exercise the gauges by increasing and decreasing the pressure over the full range of the gauge one or more times. Refer to the *GaugeCalXP Operator Instructions* or the discussion of [Exercising gauges](#) on page 15 for more information.

The Calibration Window will then open. Refer to description of the Calibration Window in the [Menus and Windows](#) section.

- 4 Select **Actual** or **Peak** mode and step through the calibration. Refer to the discussions of [Calibration Strategies](#), [Actual Mode Calibration](#) and [Peak Mode Calibration](#) later in the manual.
- 5 Save the calibration data.

► Or Load Existing As Received Data.

If the As Received calibration has been completed in a previous session, complete the As Received Step by clicking the **Load Previous Data** button.

Take the As Left Data

If the gauge failed the As Received calibration and adjustments have been made to the gauge, click on **Perform As Left Cal**. Follow steps 2 through 5 in the [Perform a New Calibration](#) instructions above.

Alternatively, if the gauge passed the As Received calibration and no adjustments have been made to the gauge, FastCalXP can use the As Received calibration for the As Left calibration. Click on the **Use As Received for As Left** button.

Generate and Print the Certificate

Enter any notes regarding the calibration or modifications made to the gauge in the Calibration Notes / Modifications box and click on the **Save Data button** in the Calibration Status box. Notes cannot be added after the certificate has been generated.

Create the calibration certificate by clicking on the **Generate Certificate button**. FastCalXP will create the certificate and open the certificate by running Excel. Go to the Excel window with the current certificate and print the certificate.

Refer to the [Creating Certificates section on page 21](#) for more information on working with certificates.

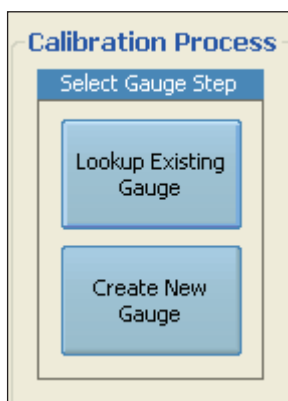
Calibrating Gauges

This section describes, in detail, many of the concepts referred to in the Quick Start section above.

Gauges

FastCalXP refers to the device under test (DUT) as the gauge. Gauges are the heart of the FastCalXP database.

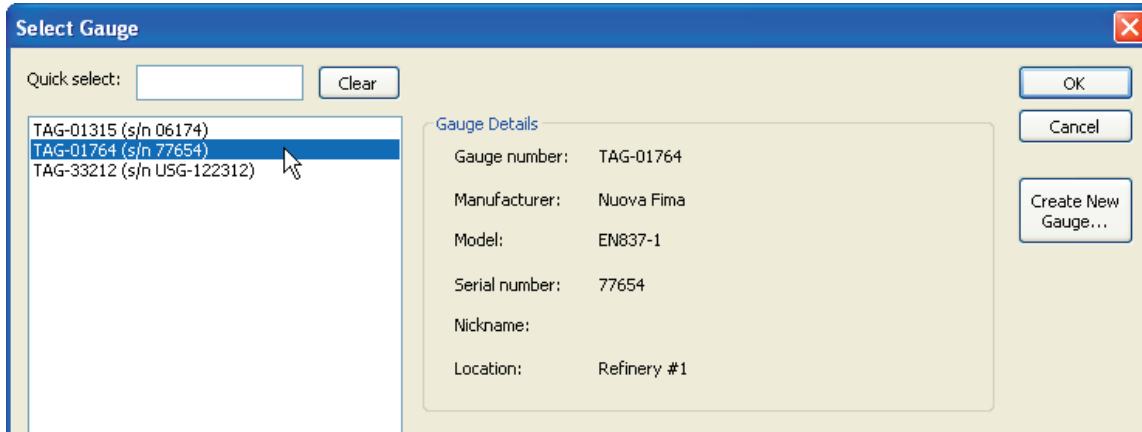
Before beginning a calibration, FastCalXP must load the gauge. Load an existing gauge or use the New Gauge Wizard to create a new gauge.



Refer to the [Managing the Database section on page 30](#) for detailed information about managing gauges with the database manager.

► Loading a Gauge

To load an existing gauge, click on **Lookup Existing Gauge** from the Select Gauge Step column, choose **Lookup Existing Gauge** from the File menu (Ctrl+O) or use the **Lookup Gauge** button on the toolbar.

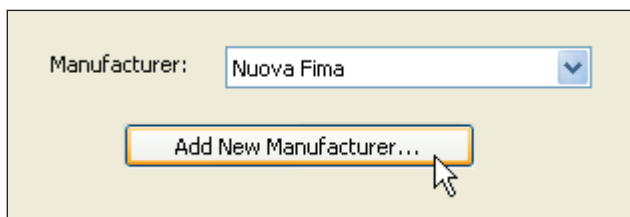


Enter the gauge number or select a gauge from the list on the left. Click **OK** to load the gauge then connect the gauge as described in the GaugeCalXP manual.

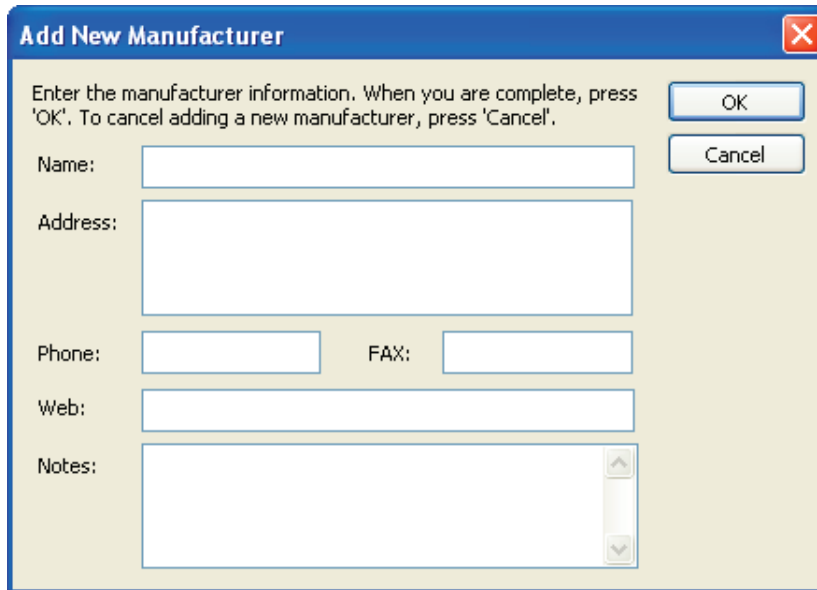
► New Gauge Wizard

The New Gauge wizard is accessed using the **Create New Gauge** button in the Select Gauge window or from the Select Gauge Step column in the main window. This wizard will take you through the generation of a new gauge in four steps:

- 1 Select a manufacturer from the pull-down list. If the manufacturer of the gauge you are creating has not been previously entered into the database, click on the **Add New Manufacturer** button.



Enter manufacturer information in the **Name**, **Address**, **Phone**, **FAX** and **Web URL** text boxes. In addition there is space to enter any pertinent notes. Only the **Name** field is required.



Add New Manufacturer

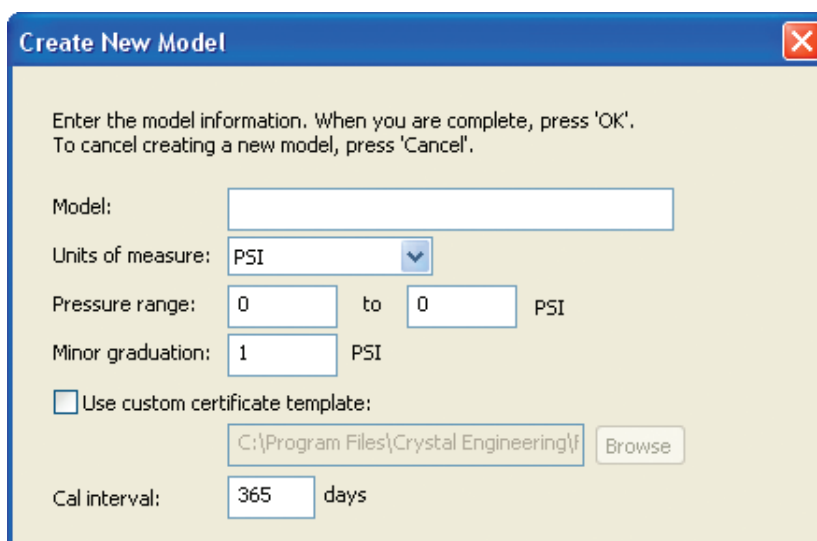
Enter the manufacturer information. When you are complete, press 'OK'. To cancel adding a new manufacturer, press 'Cancel'.

Name:
 Address:
 Phone: FAX:
 Web:
 Notes:

OK Cancel

- 2 Select a model from the pull-down list. If the model of the gauge you are creating has not been previously entered into the database, click on the **Add New Model** button. The Add New Model Wizard will step you through the creation of a new model in two steps.

The first page of the wizard allows you to enter the model information. Enter the **Model** number or name and select the **Units of measure** from the pull-down list. Enter the **Pressure range** measured by the model and the increment represented by a **Minor graduation** on the gauge. When **Use custom certificate template** is checked, you can override the default Excel template defined in the FastCal^{XP} Options dialog. This allows this model to have a unique certificate format. Enter the **Cal Interval**, in days, that will be used for calibration scheduling.



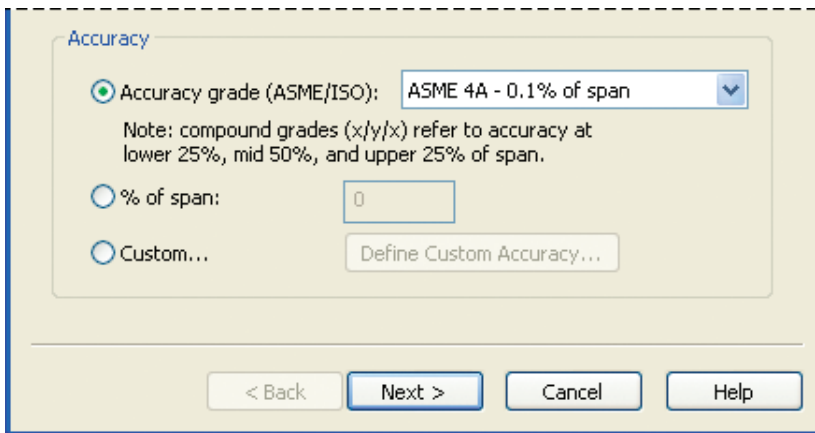
Create New Model

Enter the model information. When you are complete, press 'OK'. To cancel creating a new model, press 'Cancel'.

Model:
 Units of measure:
 Pressure range: to PSI
 Minor graduation: PSI
☐ Use custom certificate template:

 Cal interval: days

Select the **Accuracy** of the gauge from the pull-down list or specify a percent-of-full-scale or custom accuracy. Refer to the discussion of **Models** on page 32 in the **Managing the Database** section.

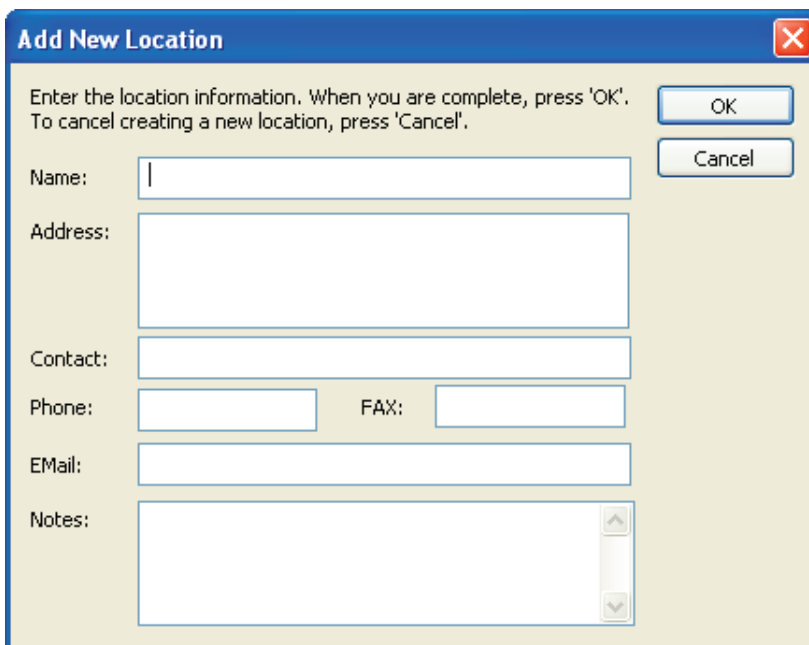


The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "Accuracy". It contains three radio button options: "Accuracy grade (ASME/ISO):", "% of span:", and "Custom...". The first option is selected, and its corresponding dropdown menu is open, showing "ASME 4A - 0.1% of span". Below the first option, a note states: "Note: compound grades (x/y/x) refer to accuracy at lower 25%, mid 50%, and upper 25% of span." The second option has a text box with the value "0". The third option has a button labeled "Define Custom Accuracy...". At the bottom of the dialog are four buttons: "< Back", "Next >", "Cancel", and "Help".

Use the second page of the New Model Wizard to select the As Received and As Left calibration Profiles. If the desired profiles are not listed, click on the **Create New Profile** button to open the Profiles editor. Refer to the discussion of **Test Profiles** on page 34.

3 Select a location from the pull-down list or click on the **Add New Location** button.

A location is not required. However, if you are calibrating gauges from several different locations, the location is another tool for keeping track of gauges. Enter location information in the **Name**, **Address**, **Contact**, **Phone**, **FAX** and **Email** text boxes. In addition there is space to enter any pertinent **Notes**.



The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "Add New Location" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. It contains the instruction: "Enter the location information. When you are complete, press 'OK'. To cancel creating a new location, press 'Cancel'." Below this are several input fields: "Name:" (a single-line text box), "Address:" (a multi-line text box), "Contact:" (a single-line text box), "Phone:" (a single-line text box), "FAX:" (a single-line text box), "Email:" (a single-line text box), and "Notes:" (a multi-line text box with scrollbars). On the right side of the dialog are two buttons: "OK" and "Cancel".

4 Enter critical gauge information.

The **Gauge number** is your number for this particular gauge. This number is required and it must be unique among all gauges stored in the database.

The **Serial number** is that which is provided by the manufacturer. The serial number, along with model and manufacturer is a second method of uniquely describing the gauge.

The **Nickname** is not required but may provide another useful description for the gauge.

Calibration due is the date this gauge is next due for calibration. When a calibration has been completed and a certificate created, this date is updated automatically using the calibration interval specified for the model.

When the New Gauge wizard has been completed FastCalXP will automatically load the new gauge. Refer to the [Managing the Database section](#) for help with creating a series of gauges in one session or with modifying a gauge after it has been created.

► Calibration Schedule

FastCalXP keeps track of the calibration schedule for all gauges and references in the database. To view a list of upcoming calibrations, choose **Upcoming Calibrations Report** from the View menu.

Use the radio buttons to view a list of **Gauges** or a list of **References**. The time span over which FastCalXP looks for upcoming calibrations is specified under the **Config Settings tab** of the FastCalXP Options. Refer to the discussion of [Settings and Options on page 24](#).

References

A **reference** is the digital pressure gauge to which the gauge under test is compared during a calibration. FastCalXP is designed to work with Crystal Engineering's XP2i and Model 30 digital pressure gauges connected to the computer's serial port.

In addition to pressure references, the FastCalXP database can store references used to verify ambient conditions at the calibration work station such as ambient air pressure, temperature and humidity. These references can be automatically listed on all certificates. Refer to the discussion of [Managing References in the in the FastCalXP database on page 37](#).

► Reference Selection

Reference selection is perhaps the most important factor in ensuring the most accurate calibration possible. Many metrology and/or quality systems require that the uncertainty of the reference be at least 4 times better than the device being tested, but your metrology requirements may be different.

Crystal XP2i Digital Test Gauges have an accuracy of $\pm 0.02\%$ of full scale in the lower 20% of their ranges and an accuracy of $\pm 0.1\%$ of reading in the remainder of the range. Model 30 gauges have an accuracy of $\pm (0.05\% \text{ of reading plus } 0.005\% \text{ of full scale})$. Both gauges are available with a variety of pressure ranges to suit a wide range of needs.

► Autodetection

FastCalXP automatically detects Crystal Engineering's XP2i and Model 30 gauges. Once the gauge and the reference have been mounted on the GaugeCalXP and the serial cable has been connected to the reference and the computer's serial port, the autodetection and calibration can proceed. Refer to the [Installation and Setup section](#) for help with configuring your calibration work station.

To automatically detect a new or previously used reference, turn the reference on and click the **Perform New As Received Cal button** or the **Perform As Left Cal button**. FastCalXP will take a few seconds to detect the reference.

When a new reference has been detected it can be added to the database and the current calibration certificate information must be entered by the operator.

Enter the latest calibration certificate number and the date on which that certificate expires.

Create New Crystal Reference

Please choose either an existing model or create a new model and fill in all the details for the pressure port(s).

☒ Select existing model:

Model of Gauge: 5KPSIXP2I

Pressure (0 to 5000 PSI)

☐ Create new model:

Model of Gauge: 5KPSIXP2I

Pressure range: 0 to 5000 PSI

Lastest calibration certificate number: 38512

Certificate expires on: 1/13/06 (mm/dd/yyyy)

OK Cancel

If the autodetected reference exists in the database, FastCalXP will proceed to the Exercise Window or Calibration Window.

If the reference is not automatically detected refer to the [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

► Adding References Manually

References can also be added manually using the Database Manager. Refer to the [Managing References](#) on page 37.

Test Profiles

Test profiles are the standardized series of pressure levels used for the calibration of each model. Thus, there is a profile for As Received calibrations and a profile for As Left calibrations associated with each model in the database. In general, profiles begin at zero, ascend to the full range of the gauge and descend to zero again.

The second page of the New Model Wizard (accessed via the New Gauge Wizard) is the profile selection page. Use the **AR test profile** and **AL test profile** pull-down lists to select a test profile for the As Received calibration and a test profile for the As Left calibration.

If the desired profile is not listed, click the **Create New Profile** button to open the Profiles editor. Refer to the discussion of **Test Profiles** in the **Managing the Database** section help with the Profiles editor.

To edit a profile or add a new profile outside of the New Model Wizard, choose **Manage Database** from the Tools menu and click on the **Profiles** button to open the Profiles editor.

To change the profiles that are associated with a model, choose **Manage Database** from the Tools menu and click on the **Models** button to open the Models editor.

Select the desired model and choose the desired profiles from the pull-down lists for **AR test profile** and **AL test profile**. If a desired profile is not listed, click the **Create New Profile** button to open the Profiles editor. When the profile has been created, return to the Models editor and select the profile from the pull-down list.

To associate more than one set of profiles to a specific model, create more than one model. Imagine, for example, you have a number of Nuova Fima EN837-1 40 Bar gauges and some require a standard nine-point calibration but others, because of the task that they perform, require a finer 17-point calibration. In this case you would create two models, identical except that they would have different names, such as EN837-1 Coarse and EN837-1 Fine, and different calibration profiles associated with them.

Calibration Strategies

The following discussions provide detailed instructions for getting through a calibration using the various modes and approaches available with FastCalXP. These discussions also provide information which should help you to establish your own protocol for pressure gauge calibration.

Regardless of the protocol that you settle on, practice will improve your speed and accuracy. Take your time and do not hesitate to retrace your steps. A calibration is only finalized when it is saved following completion of the profile.

► Exercising

Exercising the gauges prior to completing a calibration may improve the accuracy of the calibration. Exercise the gauges by applying the full scale pressure of the gauge one or more times. Refer to the *GaugeCalXP Operator Instructions* for a more detailed discussion of exercising the gauges.

FastCalXP provides an Exercise Window to encourage completion of exercise cycles prior to a calibration. The number of exercise cycles is associated with the profile and specified in the Profiles editor.

Calibration Wizard - Exercise

Exercise Status
Exercise 2 of 2 (High)

Target Pressure
40.0 bar

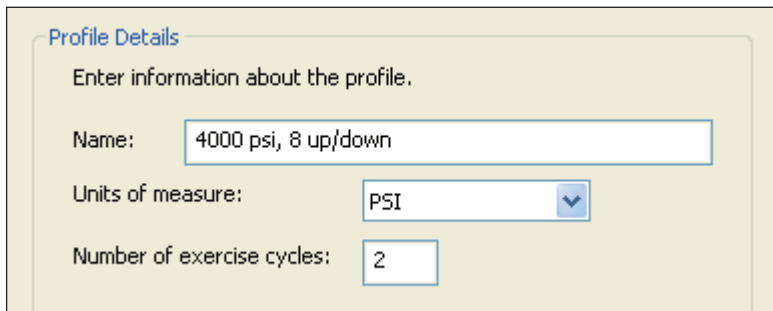
Reference
2297

Model No:
2KPSIBXP2I

Serial No:
543899

< Back Next > Cancel Help

To change the number of exercise cycles associated with a profile, choose **Manage Database** from the Tools menu and click on the **Profiles** button. Select the profile of interest and click on the **Edit** button.



Profile Details

Enter information about the profile.

Name:

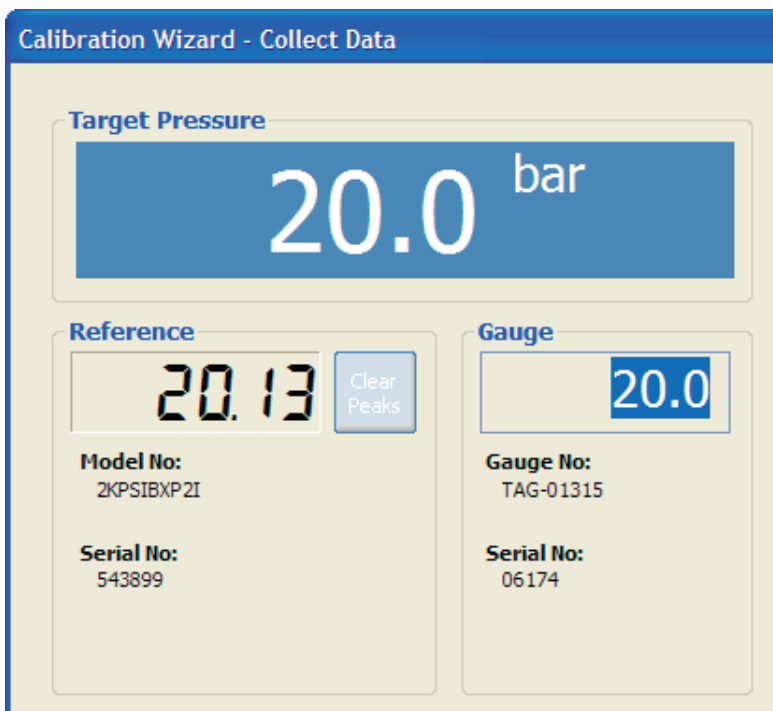
Units of measure: ▼

Number of exercise cycles:

Enter the desired number of exercise cycles in the **Number of exercise cycles** text box.

► Matching the Target

Two different approaches can be taken while stepping through a calibration profile: matching the gauge to the Target Pressure or matching the reference to the Target Pressure.



Calibration Wizard - Collect Data

Target Pressure

20.0 bar

Reference

Model No:
2KPSIBXP2I

Serial No:
543899

Gauge

Gauge No:
TAG-01315

Serial No:
06174

During a calibration, the Target Pressure is the next profile value and the Reference and Gauge pressures are indicated below. The Gauge value is, by default, the same value as the Target Pressure. However, the value can be changed by the user to match what is read from the gauge.

To match the reference to the Target Pressure, turn the handle of the GaugeCal^{XP} until Reference matches the Target Pressure. Then read the gauge and enter that value in the Gauge.

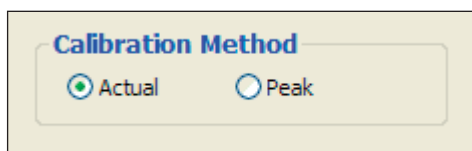
To match the gauge to the Target Pressure, read the gauge while turning the handle of the GaugeCal^{XP}. Stop when the gauge reaches the Target Pressure value. Matching the gauge allows for much faster calibration since interpolation is not required to read the gauge and the Gauge value does not have to be entered.

► The Adiabatic Effect

Regardless of what fluid is used in the comparator there will always be a small amount of air remaining between the fluid and the gauge sensor. When pressure is increased in the comparator the air is pressurized and this pressurized gas heats up. When the pressure stops increasing, the gas cools and the pressure in the comparator decreases slightly. The reverse is true when the pressure is reduced in the comparator. This is called the *adiabatic effect*.

The result of the effect for FastCal^{XP} is that the pressure is not immediately stable when a new target pressure is reached. At high pressures, the adiabatic effect can be large. For example, at 10,000 PSI the pressure can change by 100 PSI or more as the gas stabilizes thermally.

With FastCal^{XP}, there are two approaches to working with the adiabatic effect. One approach is to adjust the comparator and wait for the pressure to stabilize. This approach is used in the **Actual data** acquisition mode. The other approach is to take advantage of the adiabatic effect with the **Peak data** acquisition mode.



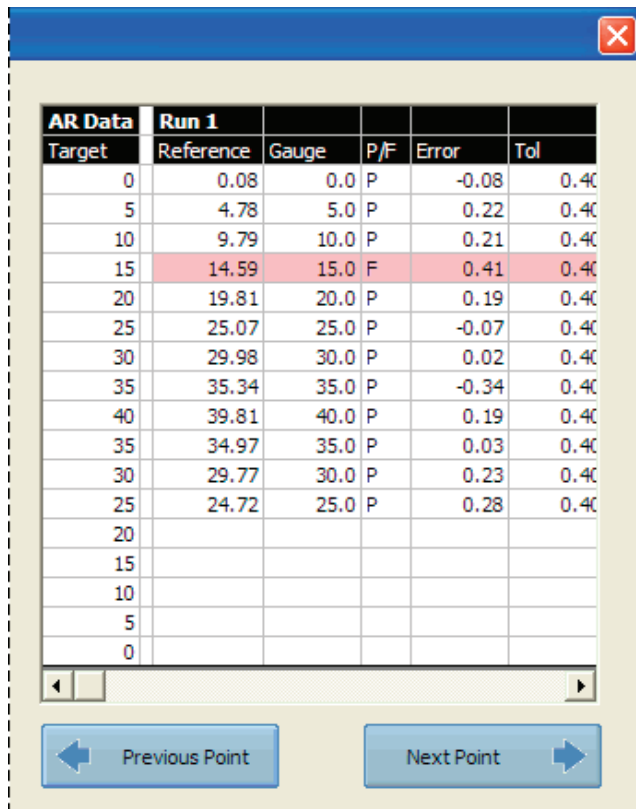
Actual or Peak Mode calibration can be selected in the Calibration Window. Refer to the discussions of the techniques used in [Actual Mode Calibration](#) and [Peak Mode Calibration](#) on pages 19 and 20.

To change the default Data Acquisition Mode, choose **Options** from the Tools menu and click on the **Calibration Settings** tab.

► Completing a Calibration

When the exercising is complete and the data acquisition mode has been selected, the calibration measurements can begin.

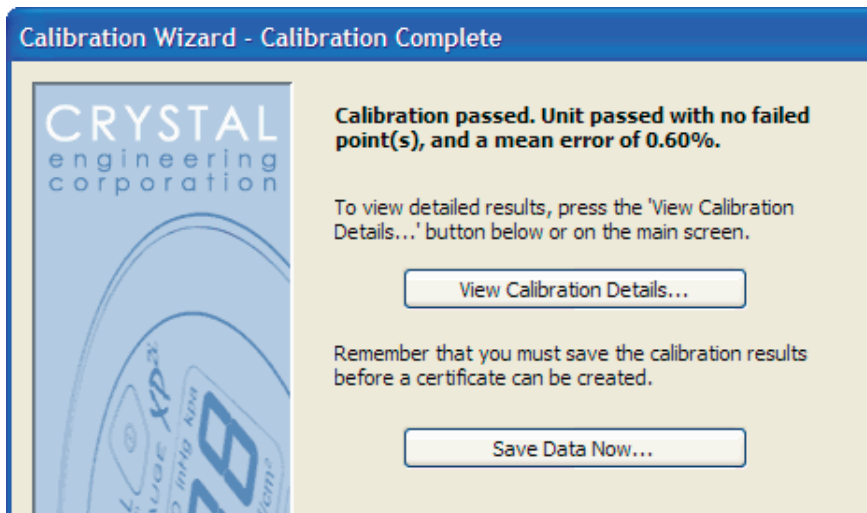
Even in auto peak mode, the first zero-level measurement must be made manually by pressing **Enter**, clicking on the **Next Point** button, or pressing the foot switch. Refer to the discussions of **Actual Mode Calibration** and **Peak Mode Calibration** on pages 19 and 20 for guidance with making measurements.




AR Data	Run 1	Gauge	P/F	Error	Tol
Target	Reference				
0	0.08	0.0	P	-0.08	0.40
5	4.78	5.0	P	0.22	0.40
10	9.79	10.0	P	0.21	0.40
15	14.59	15.0	F	0.41	0.40
20	19.81	20.0	P	0.19	0.40
25	25.07	25.0	P	-0.07	0.40
30	29.98	30.0	P	0.02	0.40
35	35.34	35.0	P	-0.34	0.40
40	39.81	40.0	P	0.19	0.40
35	34.97	35.0	P	0.03	0.40
30	29.77	30.0	P	0.23	0.40
25	24.72	25.0	P	0.28	0.40
20					
15					
10					
5					
0					

As the calibration progresses, the gauge will pass or fail at each profile point, or Target Pressure. To pass, the Gauge must be equivalent to the Reference within the tolerance range. The tolerance is defined as the accuracy of the gauge at the measured pressure. The data are displayed in a box at the right of the calibration window.

Failed profile points are shaded red. The gauge must pass at every profile point to pass the calibration. When the specified number of runs has been completed, the Calibration Wizard will provide a summary of the results and give the option of displaying the calibration details and/or saving the data.



Save the data, and then press the **Finish button**, to complete the As Received or As Left calibration. Use the **Back buttons**  to return to a previous step or to start over.

Actual Mode Calibration

When FastCal^{XP} is operating in Actual Mode, the Reference value that is taken for any point is the pressure reading from the reference at the moment the Next Point button is clicked. Actual Mode is the easiest mode of operation for the novice operator. However, for the experienced operator the calibration process may be slightly slower than in Peak Mode.

► Standard Actual Mode

It is important to remember that with Actual Mode, you may need to work with one hand on the comparator and one hand on the keyboard or mouse.

To make an Actual Mode measurement, turn the handle of the comparator until the gauge (or reference) reaches the Target Pressure. Adjust the comparator handle until the gauge (or reference) has stabilized at the Target Pressure.

Take care not overshoot the target since the hysteresis can be significant on mechanical gauges, causing the gauge to remain high when the pressure has been reduced. Verify that the Gauge value is correct and press **Enter** or click on the **Next Point button**.

If you are matching the Target Pressure to the reference, you will have to enter the reading from the gauge in the Gauge box before you press **Enter**.

To re-measure a profile step, click on **Previous Point** and adjust the comparator to reach the target again.

► Using the Foot Switch

The optional foot switch will significantly speed operation in Actual Mode since it enables hands-free acceptance of a measurement. In most cases, the foot switch will provide the fastest calibration method, even over Auto Peak Mode. In all calibration modes, the foot switch operates as the Next Point button.

To make an Actual Mode measurement with the foot switch, turn the handle of the comparator until the gauge reaches the Target Pressure. Adjust the comparator handle until the gauge has stabilized at the Target Pressure and push on the foot switch.

Peak Mode Calibration

Peak Mode calibration uses FastCal^{XP}'s peak detection capability to take advantage of adiabatic pressure changes. In Peak Mode, the Reference reading is the largest (or smallest when descending) value recorded by the reference since the peaks were last cleared. FastCal^{XP} will determine automatically whether you are ascending or descending in order to correctly pick a maximum or minimum for the "Peak."

► Standard Peak Mode

For a moderately experienced operator, standard Peak Mode has the potential of being slightly faster than Actual Mode since it is not necessary to hold the comparator at the target pressure while it stabilizes.

To make a standard peak mode measurement, turn the handle of the comparator smoothly and steadily until the gauge (or reference) reads the Target Pressure value. Verify that the Gauge pressure is correct and press **Enter**, click the **Next Step button** or push on the foot switch.

If you are matching the Target Pressure to the reference, you will have to enter the reading from the gauge in the Gauge box before you press **Enter**.

If you overshoot the Target Pressure but did not press **Enter**, back off from the target, click **Clear Peaks** and approach the target again.

To re-measure a profile step, turn the handle of the comparator to back off from the last pressure step, click **Previous Point** and approach the target again.

To use the foot switch in standard peak mode, follow the instructions above for making peak mode measurements using the foot switch to engage the **Next Point button**. The foot switch operates as the Next Point button.

► Auto Peak Detection

Auto Peak Detection mode provides the fastest way of performing a calibration for the experienced operator. With Auto Peak turned on, FastCal^{XP} will automatically detect a peak in the ascending portion, or valley in the descending portion of the profile, record the value reached at the peak or valley and advance to the next profile point.

Auto Peak mode is set up specifically for calibrations where the gauge is being matched to the Target Pressure value. The mode will not provide an accurate calibration if the reference is matched to the Target Pressure since the Target Pressure value is automatically taken for the Gauge.

To turn on Auto Peak mode, choose **Options** from the Tools menu and click on the **Calibration Settings** tab.

The screenshot shows the 'Calibration Settings' tab with the following details:

- Calibration Method:**
 - ☒ **Actual**: Real-time calibration method uses the actual value of the reference at the moment the 'Next Point' button is pressed. Any drift in the measurement will be included in the collected data point.
 - ☐ **Peak**: The peak calibration method uses the peak value of the reference as the applied data point. The method allows the operator to peak the gauge at the set point without being affected by the subsequent change in pressure after the set point is achieved.
- ☒ **Use Auto Peak Detection**:
 - Look at prior readings to establish peak found.

Select **Peak calibration method** and check the **Use Auto Peak Detection** box.

You will also have the option of specifying the number of readings to look at in determining if a peak has been reached. The default is five but the optimal number will depend on the individual operator's speed and will likely be determined experimentally. A number that is too high will cause a delay in the detection of the peak and a number that is too low will cause FastCalXP to detect undesired peaks. FastCalXP gets a reading about once every second from a Model 30 gauge and about twice every second from an XP2i.

To make an Auto Peak mode measurement, turn the handle of the comparator smoothly and steadily until the gauge reads the Target Pressure value. Stop, wait for the program to beep and record the data point. Then begin to turn the handle again for the next profile step.

To clear the last profile step in Auto Peak mode, turn the handle of the comparator to back off from the last pressure step, click **Previous Point** and approach the target again.

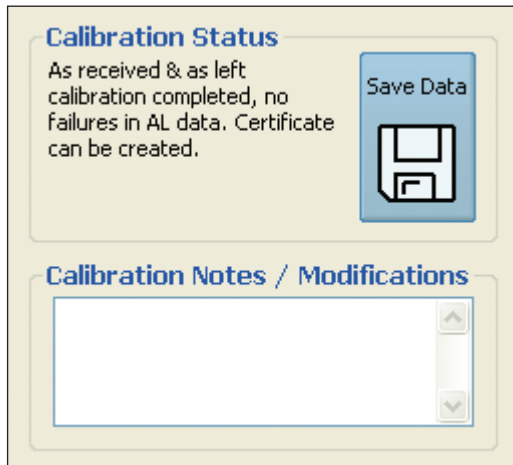
Creating Certificates

Certificate Basics

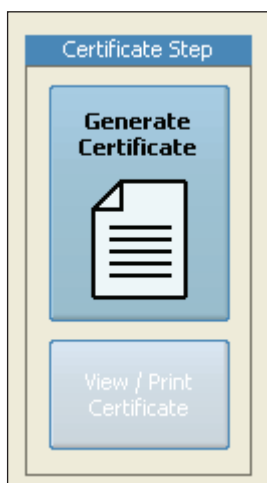
Certificates are meant to be enduring documents that record the calibration of gauges. They are Excel XLS format documents with one or more worksheets each. For the most part, certificate data cannot be edited in the database once the certificate has been created, although the Excel worksheets can be password protected to enhance the security of the data.

When As Received and As Left calibrations have been completed the certificate can be created, viewed and printed. Since all of the data for the certificate are retained in the database, the certificate can be re-created at any time.

To add notes to a calibration, type the notes into the **Calibration Notes / Modifications** box in the lower right of the main window and click on the **Save Data** button in the Calibration Status box. Notes cannot be added after the certificate has been generated.



To create a certificate from loaded data, click the **Generate Certificate** button. FastCalXP will create the certificate and open it in Excel. The certificate can then be viewed and printed.



Excel Templates

One of FastCalXP's greatest strengths is the ability to create custom certificates using an Excel template. This allows the certificate to be fully customized, including the use of graphics and foreign languages. Each model in the database can have a different template, allowing for the greatest flexibility in generating certificates.

FastCalXP creates certificates by filling an Excel template with the appropriate stored data, replacing tags that identify the fields that are to be filled. FastCalXP does search-and-replace operations in each worksheet in the template that includes a certificate number tag. Refer to [Appendix B: Excel Template Tags](#) for a list of tags that can be included in the certificate templates.

Tags are organized in a hierarchy so that the software will not search for tags that are lower in the hierarchy unless it has already found associated upper level tags. For example, reference fields will not be filled unless there is a reference number tag associated with those fields. Bold tags listed in [Appendix B](#) are necessary tags in the tag group with which they are associated.

The number sign that is included in some of the tags is a placeholder indicating that numbering is required. FastCalXP will not add fields to a template when it is creating a certificate but it will empty all unused fields. For example, if the template only contains tags for 5 data points, but the profile contains 10 data points, only the first 5 data points will be placed in the certificate.

Worksheets within the template can be password protected if the Excel password is set in the Options dialog (see [Settings and Options on page 24](#)). Every sheet in the workbook will be password protected, even if no tags exist on a sheet.

Templates are associated with models. A standard template is provided with the FastCalXP software. This template can be copied and edited to create any number of different templates. Refer to Excel documentation for help with creating Excel templates.

To create a new template, copy the provided template, rename the copy and edit the new template in Excel. Make sure there are enough fields and tags for the number of data points to be collected.

To specify the default template, choose [Options](#) from the Tools menu and click on the [Config Settings tab](#). Browse to find the desired template. Take care in making this change, as this will affect all models that do not have the checkbox [Use custom certificate template](#) checked.

To change the template that is associated with a model for models that have a custom template selected, choose [Manage Database](#) from the Tools menu and click on [Models](#). Select the desired model, click [Edit](#) and use the [Browse button](#) to find the desired template.

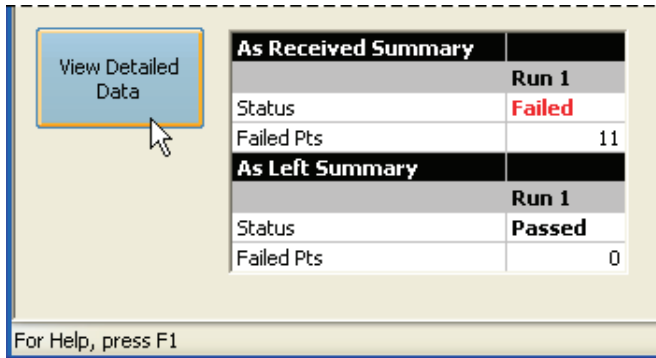
Viewing Certificate Data

Before creating a certificate, you may wish to look at the data from the current calibrations or from an older certificate.

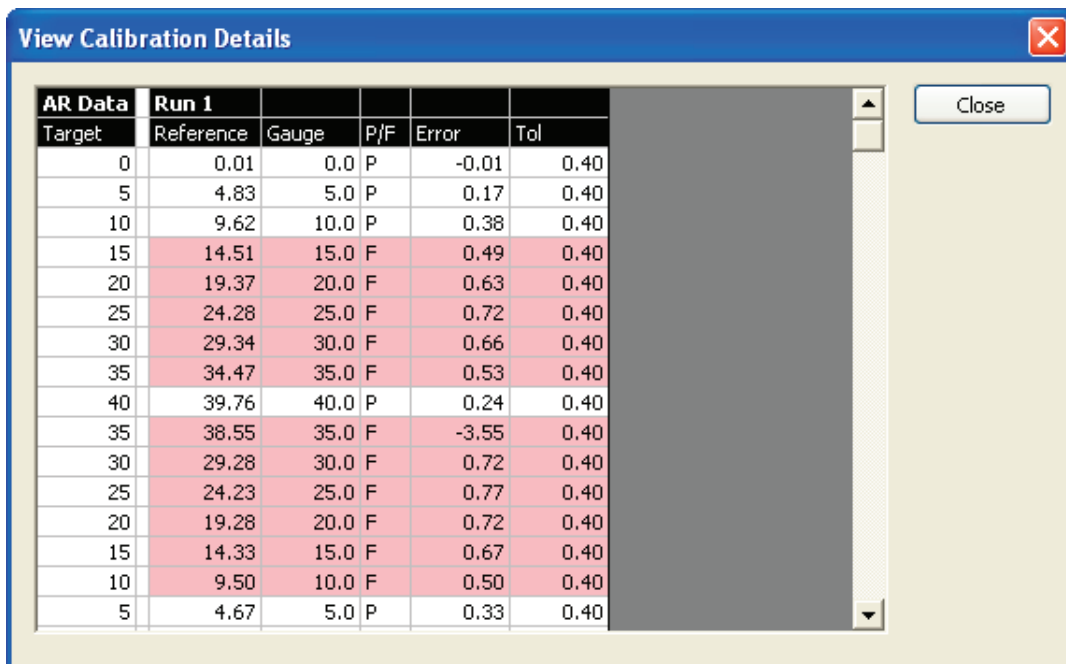
To view data from a current or previous certificate, open the Excel certificate or load the data into FastCalXP.

There are two ways to load the data for a specific certificate. Choose **Load Certificate Data** from the File menu to select certificate data for the gauge that is currently loaded. Alternatively, if you know the certificate number or gauge number that you are looking for, choose **Lookup Certificate** from the Tools menu and enter the number.

Once the data is loaded, click the **View Detailed Data** button located next to the summary at the bottom of the main window.



You may need to use the scroll bars to view the entire dataset.



Settings and Options

Options

FastCal^{XP} settings can be modified by choosing **Options** from the Tools menu. By default, this menu item not available when a technician is logged on. Log on as an administrative operator to access **Options**.

The FastCal^{XP} Options dialog box allows configuration in four areas available via four tabs.

► Config Settings

The Config Settings tab provides access to system defaults and certificate settings.

The screenshot shows the 'Config Settings' dialog box with the 'Certificates' tab selected. The 'Certificates' section contains the following fields and options:

- Default certificate template:** A text box with a 'Browse...' button.
- Save certificates to:** A text box showing 'C:\Documents an...\My Documents' with a 'Browse...' button.
- Certificate naming template:** A text box containing 'FASTCAL-C####'. Below it, a note states: 'Note: use number signs (#) to denote where to insert certificate number. Use one number sign per digit.'
- Next certificate number:** A text box containing '2'.
- Calibration representative:** A pull-down menu showing 'pcorr (Peter Corr)'.
- Quality representative:** A pull-down menu showing 'sjones (Steven Jones)'.

Below the 'Certificates' section, there are additional system settings:

- Default calibration interval:** A text box with '365' and a 'days' label.
- Default pressure unit:** A pull-down menu showing 'PSI'.
- Multiple database support:** An unchecked checkbox.
- Check DSN on startup:** A checked checkbox.
- Cal due report window:** A text box with '60' and a 'days' label.
- XP2/Model 30 serial port:** A pull-down menu showing 'Auto'.
- Language:** A pull-down menu showing 'English (United States)'.
- Use custom audio alert:** An unchecked checkbox next to a text box and a 'Browse...' button.

The **Default certificate template** is the calibration certificate template that will be used, by default, for creating certificates. This can be overridden by checking **Use custom certificate template** in the model configuration. Refer to the [Creating Certificates](#) section for a discussion on creating and editing certificate templates. Refer to [Models](#) in the [Managing the Database](#) section on selecting alternate templates.

The calibration certificates created by FastCalXP will be saved in the directory specified in **Save certificates to**. This directory is set the first time the software is run after installation or when a new database is created and can be changed here using the Browse button.

The **Certificate naming template** is used by FastCalXP to name the calibration certificates. In general, certificates are numbered with the **Next certificate number** incrementing automatically each time a certificate is created. Use number signs (#s) in the Certificate naming template to define the number of digits to be used.

The **Calibration Representative** and the **Quality Representative** must be listed users and can be selected using the pull-down lists. In the certificate template provided with the software these names will be listed, with signature lines, on the first page of each certificate.

The **calibration interval** and **pressure unit** specified here will be used as the defaults for all newly created models.

The **Multiple Database Support** checkbox enables the management of multiple databases. For help with multiple databases, refer to **Multiple Database Support** in the **Managing the Database** section on page 30.

By default, FastCalXP will check for the default database when the program starts. If you do not want this to happen uncheck the **Check DSN on startup** box. For help with specifying the default database, refer to the **Managing the Database** section on page 30.

Specify how far in advance you wish to be warned of upcoming calibrations in the Upcoming Calibrations Report by adjusting the number of days in the **Cal due report window**.

The **XP2/Model 30 serial port** specifies which port FastCalXP will look at to find the Crystal reference. Typically, this is set to 'Auto', and FastCalXP will automatically detect the serial port to which the gauge is connected. Change to the specific serial port if your configuration requires it.

The **Language** selection will list all available translations for FastCalXP that have been installed. Language packs are available through your local distributor as well as online at <http://www.crystalengineering.net>. After changing the language, you will need to restart FastCalXP before the change will take affect.

The **Use custom audio alert** checkbox allows you to change the sound that is played when FastCalXP automatically advances to the next pressure point during calibration.

► Calibration Settings

The Calibration Settings define the default Calibration Method.

Config Settings Calibration Settings Login Options Security Settings

Calibration Method

☒ **Actual**
Real-time calibration method uses the actual value of the reference at the moment the 'Next Point' button is pressed. Any drift in the measurement will be included in the collected data point.

☐ **Peak**
The peak calibration method uses the peak value of the reference as the applied data point. The method allows the operator to peak the gauge at the set point without being affected by the subsequent change in pressure after the set point is achieved.

☒ Use Auto Peak Detection
Look at prior readings to establish peak found.

Head correction is to compensate for significant height differences between the gauge and reference which might affect the actual applied pressure. Head correction is ADDED to the reference's pressure reading.

Head correction: PSI

The **Actual** method uses the pressure reading from the reference at the moment the Next Point button is clicked.

The **Peak** method uses the peak reading from the reference immediately prior to the moment the Next Point button is clicked. The number of readings used to identify a peak can be specified here.

If **Auto Peak Detection** is enabled, FastCalXP will automatically advance to the Next Point when a peak is detected.

If the gauge and the reference do not sit at the same height, a **Head correction** can be applied. Enter a correction to be added to the reference pressure, or use the **Correction calculator** to calculate a correction given the specific conditions of the calibration. Refer to the discussion of the **Head Correction Calculator** on page 29.

► Login Options

The Login Options allow the administrator to enable the login feature of FastCalXP. The login feature allows control over who uses the software. In addition, the feature provides a record in the database of which user performed each calibration and of which user created each certificate. The Login Options tab is not available to technicians.

Select **No Login** to disable the user login feature.

Select **Automatic Login** to log the specified user in each time the program is run.

Select **Require Login** to require any user to enter a valid user name and password. If a valid user name and password is not specified, FastCalXP will not run.

Config Settings Calibration Settings **Login Options** Security Settings

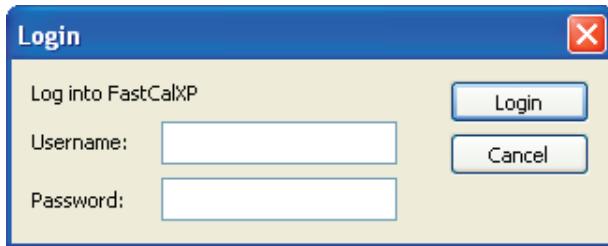
Login Options

☒ **No login**
The system will not prompt for login information and the session user will be left blank.

☐ **Automatically login**
Log into the system using the following user name:
User name:

☐ **Require login**
Users are required to log into the system using a valid user name and password.

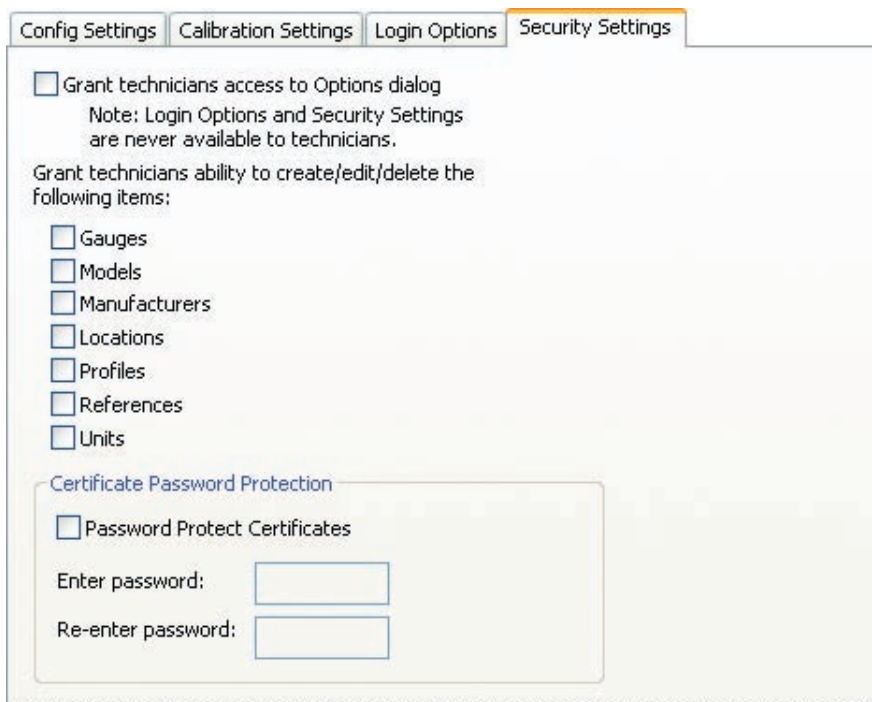
When a user is logged in, the name of the user is displayed in the Status Bar at the bottom of the FastCalXP main window. The privileges of the user will be determined by the user type (administrator or technician) and the Security Settings as discussed below.



To log in when Login is disabled choose **Login** from the File menu. The login dialog will be displayed. Enter your **Username** and **Password**.

► Security Settings

The Security Settings allow the administrator to set the privileges of technicians. The Security Settings tab is not available to technicians.



To allow technicians access to the Options dialog with the Config Settings and Calibration Settings, check the **Grant technicians access box**.

To allow technicians to edit portions of the database, check the boxes next to the desired table names. When **Manage Database** is selected from the Tools menu, the technician will have access only to the checked tables. All other buttons will be grayed out.

The **Password Protect Certificates** setting enables you to set a password to each sheet of the Excel calibration certificate to prevent modification after the certificate has been generated. All worksheets within the workbook will be protected with this password.

Where Settings Are Stored

While most settings and options are stored within the database, some settings, such as the serial port, are stored separate from the database and apply to all databases. If you are only working with a single database, you can ignore this section as it will have no affect on you. However, if you use multiple database support, it is important to understand that some settings are unique to the database you are using, while others only need to be set once for all databases.

The following settings apply to all databases and only need to be set once:

Options dialog, Config Settings tab

- Multiple database support
- Check DSN on startup
- Language selection
- XP2/Model 30 serial port

Options dialog, Calibration Settings tab

- Calibration method
- Peak detection settings
- Head correction

Options dialog, Security Settings tab

- All security settings except certificate password.

Change Database dialog

- Choosing database on startup setting

All other settings are stored within the database. This means that when you change any setting not included in the list above, it affects only the current database. If you want to change a setting not in the list above, but have it affect all of your databases, you will need to switch to each database and make the change.

Head Correction Calculator

The Head Correction Calculator is accessed via a button under the Calibration Settings tab.

Head Correction, Gravity, and Air Density Calculator

Head Correction

Fluid density: kg/m³ Standard densities, click to set

Gravity: m/s²

Height change = Gauge height - Reference height

Height change: m

Head correction: PSI

Note: correction is ADDED to Reference's reading.

Gravity Calculation

Latitude: Degrees

Mean sea level: m

Gravity: m/s²

The calculator uses **Fluid density**, **Gravity** and **Height change** to calculate a correction that is added to the pressure measured by the reference.

Four standard fluid densities, for **Isopropyl Alcohol at 25°C**, **Pure Water at 4°C**, **Pure Water at 20°C** and **Air at 15°C** and sea level, can be applied using the buttons in the Head Correction box.

The local gravity can be estimated using the local **Latitude** and the altitude above **Mean sea level**. Enter these values and click on the **Calculate Gravity button**. The calculated gravity will automatically be entered into the **Gravity** field in the Head Correction box.

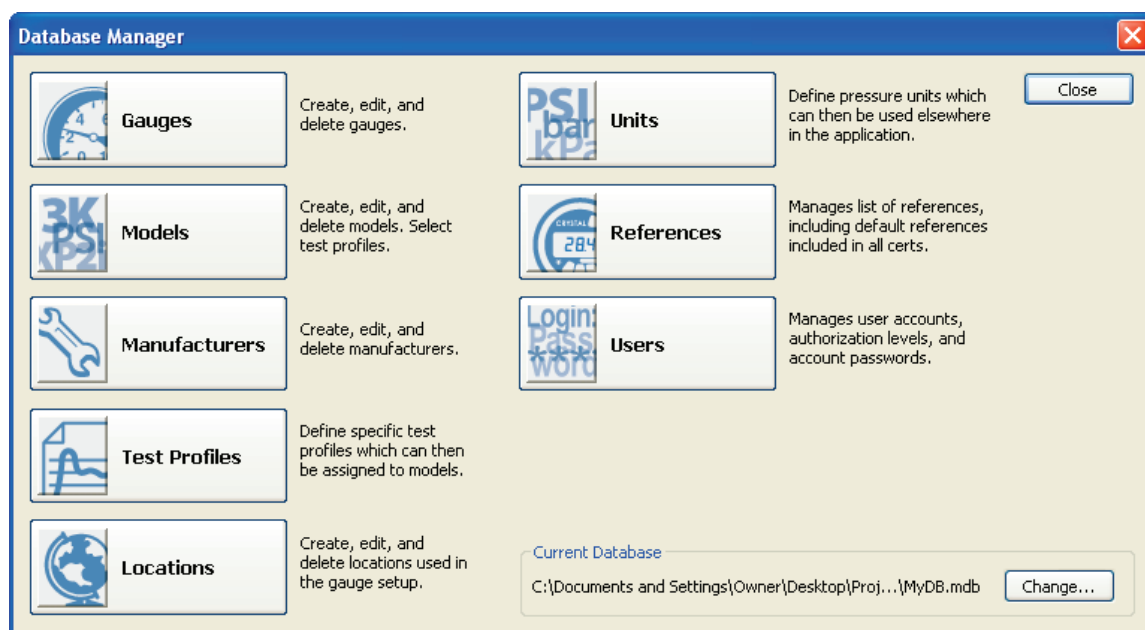
When the appropriate parameters are entered, click on the **Calculate Head Correction button** to display the calculated Head Correction. Click **OK** to insert the correction into the head correction box in the Calibration Settings.

Managing the Database

The FastCalXP database stores all of the information entered into or acquired by the program. The database is a Microsoft Access format database that is accessible from within FastCalXP. All user-entered data related to Gauges, Units, References and Users can be edited by an administrator. Administrator-defined privileges may also permit access to some portions of the database by a technician. Refer to the discussion of **Security Settings on page 28** in the **Settings and Options section**.

Calibration data collected by FastCalXP cannot be edited by the user. This data can be viewed and printed in the form of certificates only.

To modify or add to the editable portions of the database, choose **Manage Database** from the Tools menu. For management purposes, the database consists of eight tables which can be accessed via the buttons in the Database Manager.



To change the Current Database, click the **Change button** in the lower right corner. If Multiple Database Support has been enabled in the Options dialog, you will be taken to the Select FastCalXP Database dialog (see below). Otherwise, use the Open dialog to browse your directories to find the .MDB file that you wish to load.

To add to or edit a table, click on the button for that table. Each dialog, or table editor, includes a list of items on the left, item details in the center which can be edited and action buttons on the right. A checkbox at the bottom left allows you to display hidden items in the list. A checkbox at the bottom center allows you to specify whether or not the current item is hidden.

To add a new item, click on the **New button** and enter the details in the center box.

To edit an existing item, select the item from the list on the left, click the **Edit button** and modify the details as desired.

To end an editing session, click on one of the action buttons on the right.

OK will save the changes and exit the editor. **Save** will save the changes but leave the editor open. **Cancel Edit** will abandon the changes and leave the editor open.

Gauges

The Gauges editor allows access to the data associated with all gauges in the database. The Gauge Details in the center of the editor includes seven fields containing identifying information about the currently selected gauge. Most of these fields are required.

The **Gauge number** is your number for this particular gauge. This number must be unique among all gauges stored in the database.

Use the pull-down lists to select a **Manufacturer** and a **Model** from those stored in the database. If the desired Manufacturer and Model are not listed, click on the **Create New Model button** to open the Models editor.

The **Serial number** is that which is provided by the manufacturer. The serial number, along with model and manufacturer is a second method of uniquely describing the gauge.

The **Nickname** is not required but may provide another useful description for the gauge. The **Location** is also not required. If you wish to enter a location but do not see the desired location listed, click on the **Create New Location button** to open the Locations editor.

Calibration due is the date this gauge is next due for calibration. When a calibration has been completed and a certificate created, this date is updated automatically using the calibration interval specified for the model.

Models

The Models editor allows access to the data associated with all models stored in the database. The Model Details in the center of the editor must be completely specified for each model.

Model Details

Enter information about the model. All fields are required.

Model: BU-2581-AM

Manufacturer: US Gauge

Units of measure: PSI

Pressure range: 0 to 4000 PSI

Minor graduation: 100 PSI

AR test profile: 4000 psi, 8 up/down Qty: 1

AL test profile: 4000 psi, 8 up/down Qty: 1

☒ Use custom certificate template:

C:\Cert\Cert Template.xlt Browse...

Cal interval: 365 days

Accuracy

☒ Accuracy grade (ASME/ISO):

ASME 1A - 1% of span

Note: compound grades (x/y/x) refer to accuracy at lower 25%, mid 50%, and upper 25% of span.

☐ % of span: 0

☐ Custom... Define Custom Accuracy...

☐ Hidden

The **Model** name is normally simply the name of the model provided by the manufacturer. However, if you wish use different test profiles on different groups of a single manufacturer's model, you may need to add a modifier to the model name that will help you recognize which test profiles will be used for calibration.

Select the **Manufacturer** and the **Units of measure** for this model from the pull-down lists. Specify the **Pressure range** and the value associated with each tic, or **Minor graduation**, on the gauge. The minor graduation value defines the resolution of the gauge.

From the pull-down lists, select **test profiles** for As Received (**AR**) and As Left (**AL**) calibrations. Specify the number of runs through each profile, or **Qty**. If the desired profile is not listed, click on **Create New Profile** to open the Profiles editor.

When **Use custom certificate template** is checked, you can override the default Excel template defined in the Options dialog. This allows different manufacturers or models to have unique certificate formats.

There are three ways to define the Accuracy of the model. Many gauges will have an ASME or ISO/IEC grade which can be selected from the pull-down list. If the accuracy is not listed, you may be able to simply enter a **% of span** accuracy.

Alternatively, define a **Custom** accuracy by specifying a series of pressure ranges and accuracies associated with those ranges. Click the **Add button** to include a range and accuracy in the specification. When the accuracy is fully specified, click **OK**.

Define Custom Accuracy

Accuracy Setting

From: PSI

To: PSI

Accuracy = % of reading + % of range

Add >>

<< Remove

Double-click an item to remove it.

OK Cancel

Manufacturers

The Manufacturers editor allows access to the information about each manufacturer stored in the database.

Manufacturer Details
Enter information about the manufacturer.

Name:

Address:

Phone: FAX:

Web:

Notes:

Only the **Name** is required. The **Address**, **Phone**, **Fax** and **Web** address will help with contacting the manufacturer if necessary. In addition there is space to enter any pertinent **Notes**.

Test Profiles

Profile Details
Enter information about the profile.

Name:

Units of measure:

Number of exercise cycles:

☒ Ascending/descending points:

Minimum pressure:

Maximum pressure:

of ascending points:

of descending points:

☐ Custom:

Pressure(s)
0
500
1000
1500
2000
2500
3000
3500
4000
3500
3000
2500
2000
1500
1000
500
0

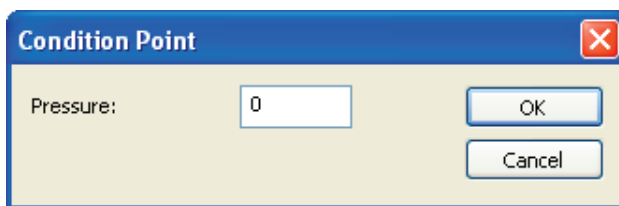
The Profiles editor provides access to all test profiles stored in the database.

The Profile Details box is also available for creating a new profile when a new model is created using the New Gauge Wizard.

When creating a new profile, it will help to make the **Name** descriptive and specific, particularly if you will be using several similar profiles for different models. Be sure to specify the correct **Units of measure**. A non-zero **Number of exercise cycles**, will remind the operator to exercise the gauges before beginning any calibration that uses this profile.

To create a uniform series of pressure points, click on **Ascending/descending points**. Any current list of pressures will be cleared. Specify the minimum and maximum range of the profile and the number ascending and descending points. The Pressure(s) list will be filled automatically.

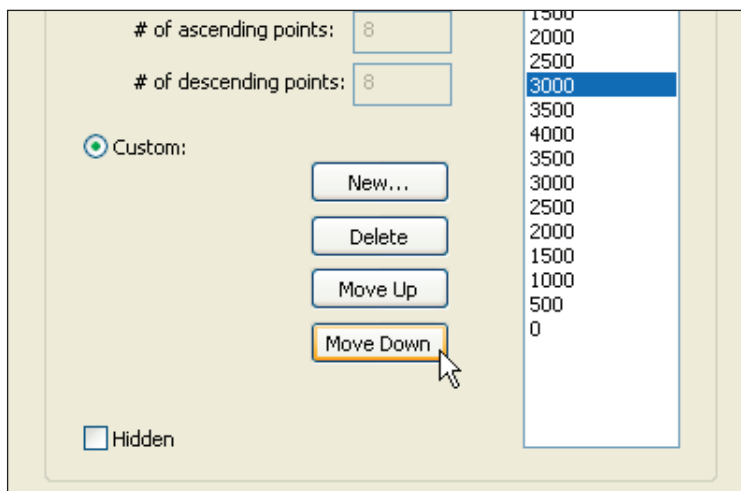
To create a non-uniform series, click on **Custom**. Any points that are already listed will remain. Select a point to delete or move or click **New** to add a point.



The **Condition Point** dialog box is shown. It has a title bar with a close button (X). Inside, there is a label "Pressure:" followed by a text input field containing the value "0". To the right of the input field are two buttons: "OK" and "Cancel".

The entered pressure value will be added to the list.

Click **Move Down** or **Move Up** to position the selected point in the profile. Double-click on a point or click on the **Delete** button to remove the selected point.



The main profile configuration window is shown. It has a title bar. Inside, there are two input fields: "# of ascending points:" with the value "8" and "# of descending points:" with the value "8". Below these is a radio button labeled "Custom:" which is selected. To the right of the radio button are four buttons: "New...", "Delete", "Move Up", and "Move Down". A mouse cursor is pointing at the "Move Down" button. At the bottom left is a checkbox labeled "Hidden" which is unchecked. On the right side is a list box containing a series of pressure values: 1500, 2000, 2500, 3000, 3500, 4000, 3500, 3000, 2500, 2000, 1500, 1000, 500, and 0. The value "3000" is currently selected and highlighted in blue.

When the desired profile is achieved, the profile can be saved for use with any model.

Locations

The Locations editor allows access to the information about each location stored in the database.

The screenshot shows a web form titled "Location Details" with a light beige background. At the top, it says "Enter information about the location below." The form contains several input fields: "Name:" with the value "Refinery #1"; "Address:" with the value "720 Aerovista Pl, STE B San Luis Obispo, CA 93401"; "Contact:" with the value "Tim Dobson"; "Phone:" with the value "(805) 595-5477" and a "FAX:" field; "EMail:" with the value "tdobson@refinery.com"; and "Notes:" with a large text area and scrollbars. At the bottom, there is a "Hidden:" checkbox which is currently unchecked.

Only the **Name** is required to store and use a location in the database. The **Address**, **Contact** name, **Phone**, **Fax** and **Email** address will help with contacting the location if necessary. There is also a field for any **Notes**.

Pressure Units

Units are specified for each model and that model's associated profiles. The FastCal^{XP} software includes 13 different defined system units. The names of these units and their PSI conversion factors are listed in Appendix A. These system units cannot be modified.

The Units editor provides access to all custom units stored in the database.

If a model has units not included in the units list, add the unit first, then add the model.

Specify the **Name** of the unit and the **PSI conversion factor**.

The screenshot shows a web form titled "Unit Details" with a light beige background. It says "Enter information about the pressure unit. The PSI conversion factor will be used when unit conversions are needed." The form contains two input fields: "Name:" with the value "cu ft at 70F" and "PSI conversion factor:" with the value "0.11". Below these fields, the "Calculation Method:" is displayed as "Pressure (in this unit) = Pressure (in PSI) * PSI Conversion Factor".

References

The References editor provides access to all references stored in the database.

Most references are Crystal digital pressure gauges automatically detected by FastCal^{XP}. Refer to the [Autodetection discussion on page 12](#). These references can, however, be added manually and will always require updating of the calibration information each time the reference is calibrated.

To add a Crystal reference manually, select the **Type** from the pull-down list. Then fill in the serial number (**SN**), the **Cal Cert** number and the date that the certificate **Expires**. The information that will require editing for these references will be calibration certificate information.

Reference Details

Enter information about the reference.

Manufacturer: Crystal Engineering

Model: IS33-36/3000PSI

SN: 428823

Cal cert: 77434

Expires: 4/1/2006 (mm/dd/yyyy)

Accuracy: LP: +/- (0.05% of Reading + 0.005% of F.S., vacuum: +/- (0.25% of Reading + 0.004 PSI); HP: +/- (0.05% of Reading + 0.005% of F.S.)

Crystal Reference

Type: Crystal Engineering, IS33-36/3000PSI

'LP' port range: -14.5 to 36 PSI

'HP' port range: 0 to 3000 PSI

☐ Include in all certs

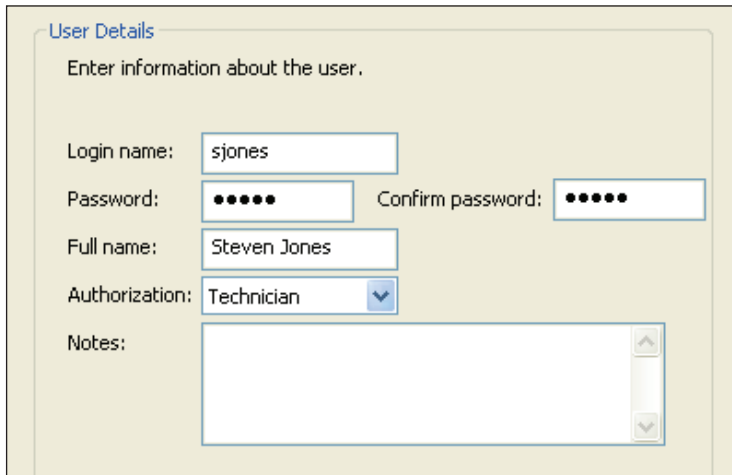
☐ Hidden

Any instrument used to measure ambient conditions in the calibration laboratory, such as temperature, humidity and barometric pressure, can also be considered a reference. These references are used to verify that ambient conditions are within specified ranges. If these references are included in the database, it may be desirable to list them in each certificate that is generated.

To add a reference for ambient conditions, enter the **Manufacturer**, **Model** number and serial number (**SN**). Enter the most recent **Cal Cert** number and the date that the certificate **Expires**. Enter a representation of the **Accuracy** of the instrument. Click the **Include in all certs** checkbox to list the reference in every certificate that is generated.

Users

The Users editor provides the administrator access to the login information for all users of the FastCalXP software.

A screenshot of the 'User Details' dialog box. The title bar says 'User Details'. Below the title bar, it says 'Enter information about the user.' There are five input fields: 'Login name:' with the text 'sjones', 'Password:' with six dots, 'Confirm password:' with six dots, 'Full name:' with the text 'Steven Jones', and 'Authorization:' with a dropdown menu showing 'Technician'. Below these fields is a 'Notes:' label followed by a large text area with a vertical scrollbar on the right side.

The **Login name** and **Password** are used in the login dialog box. The **Full name** of the user is attached to the saved calibrations and certificates completed by the user. The **Authorization** of Technician or Administrator defines the privileges of the user. There is also a field for any **Notes**.

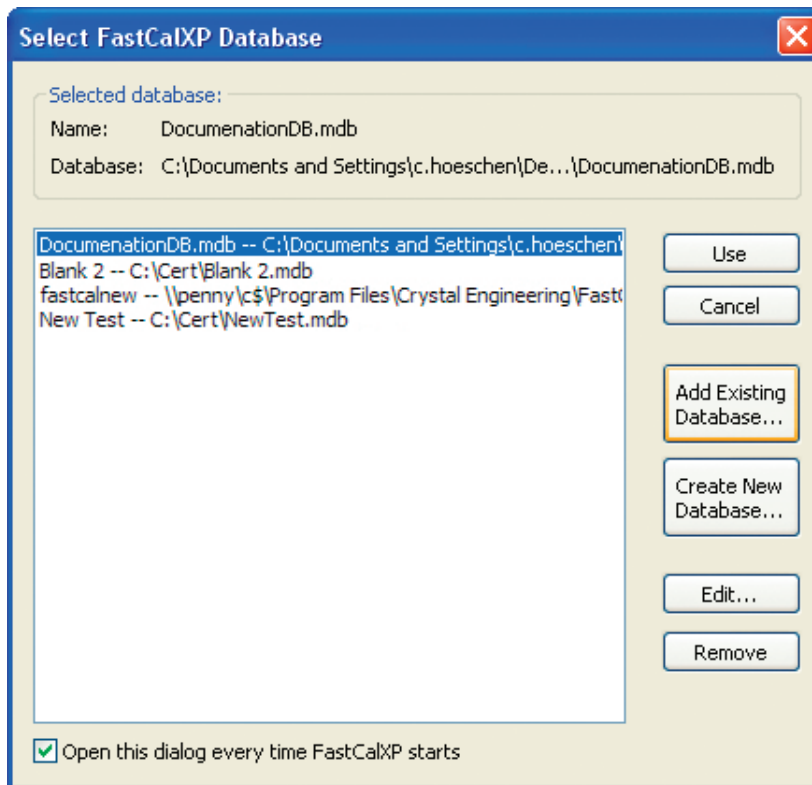
Refer to discussions of login options and security settings in the Options and Settings section above.

Multiple Database Support

FastCalXP is designed to work with Access Databases for data storage. By enabling **Multiple database support** in the Options dialog, it is possible to create and manage multiple databases directly from FastCalXP. While only one database can be open at a time, this feature simplifies the process of switching between databases.

It is important to understand that you will not be able to share any data between databases, including records of references, gauges, models, etc. In addition, many settings, such as the default template, are stored within the database (see [Where Settings Are Stored on page 28](#), for more details). Be sure you understand the implications of using multiple databases before enabling this feature. For example, if you are using the same references in multiple databases, you will have duplicate entries in each database, and when the gauge is recalibrated, the new calibration date will need to be changed in every database that uses the reference.

If multiple database support is enabled, when the **Change button** is clicked in the Manage Database dialog, the following dialog appears:



To add a database to the list of available databases, simply click the **Add Existing Database button**. Browse to the database and click **Open**. After selecting the database, you will be asked for a name, which will be displayed along with the database file name. This name is also displayed in the title bar of the application to indicate which database is in use.

Similarly, to create a new, blank database, click the **Create New Database button**. Browse to where you would like to store the database and provide a name.

The **Edit** and **Remove buttons** allow you to change settings for or remove a database entry, respectively.

To select the database you want to use, simply click on the database entry and then click the **Use button**. If you are changing the database file after FastCalXP has started, you will need to exit and restart the program before the database change will go into effect.

To have this dialog appear every time FastCalXP starts, click the **Open this dialog every time FastCalXP starts checkbox**. This will allow you to select the database during startup of FastCalXP without needing to change it from within the Manage Database dialog.

Menus and Windows

Command Summary

Following is a list of all commands available in the FastCalXP menu structure.

► File

- Create New Gauge Use the New Gauge Wizard to create a new gauge.
- Lookup Existing Gauge Load a gauge.
- Load Previous Data Load existing calibration data for the loaded gauge.
- Load Certificate Data..... Load data for an existing certificate associated with the loaded gauge.
- Save..... Save pressure calibration data that has not yet been saved.
- Generate Certificate Create an Excel format certificate from the currently loaded data.
- Login..... Enter a username and password. Change the user.
- Exit..... Close FastCalXP

► View

- Detailed Data..... Display a table of the currently loaded calibration data.
- Certificate View the currently loaded certificate.
- Upcoming Calibrations Report .. Display a table showing calibrations that are due.
- Toolbar..... View/hide the toolbar.
- Status Bar View/hide the status bar.

► Tools

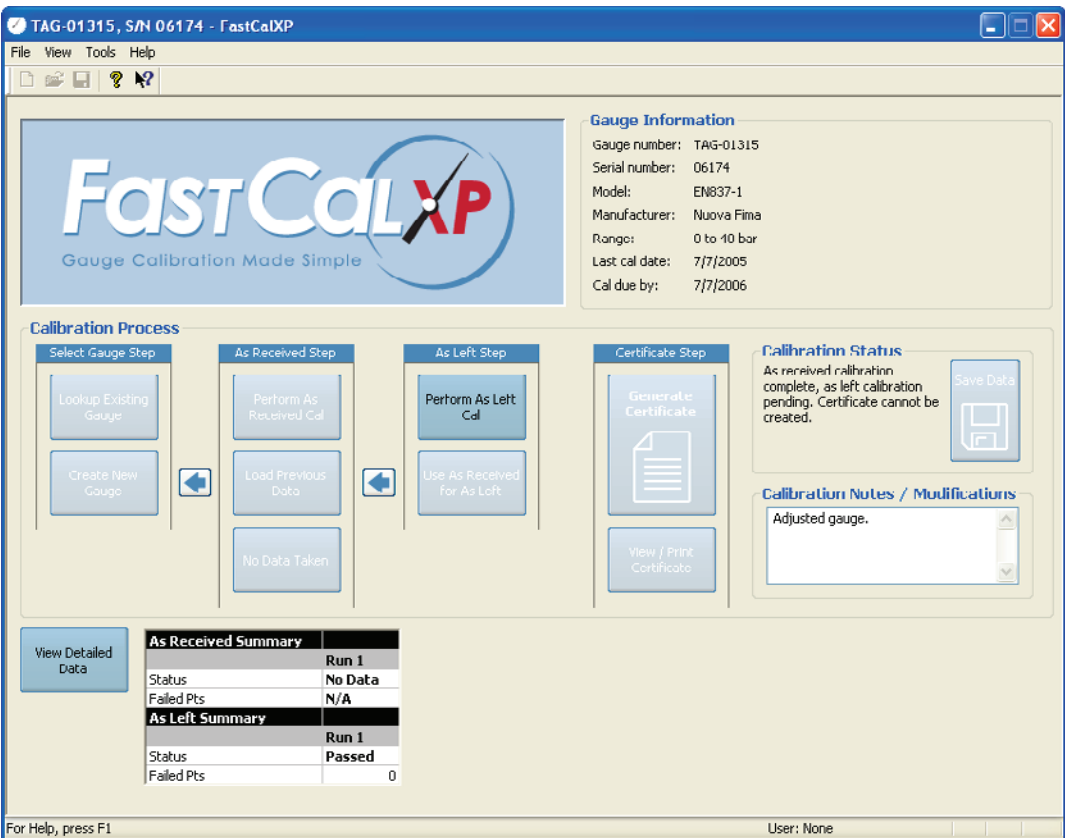
- Look up Certificate..... Pull up a certificate by number.
- Manage Database Open the database manager.
- Options View the settings and options dialog.

► Help

- Help Topics..... Open the FastCalXP PDF manual.
- About FastCalXP..... Display information about this version of FastCalXP

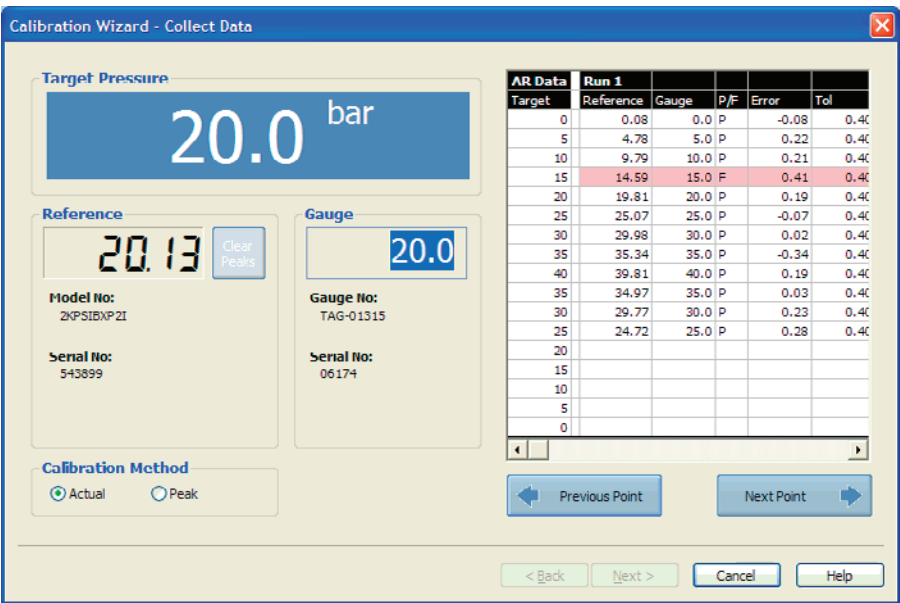
Main Window

The FastCalXP Main Window provides a graphical representation of the program flow and the current status of the program and the calibration process.



Calibration Window

The FastCalXP Calibration Window provides a straightforward user interface for proceeding with a single calibration.



Frequently Asked Questions

Gauges

Why doesn't the gauge that I am looking for show up on the list in the Load Gauge window?

It is marked as hidden. Click the box that says **Show hidden gauges**. To un-hide the gauge edit the gauge with the Database Manager.

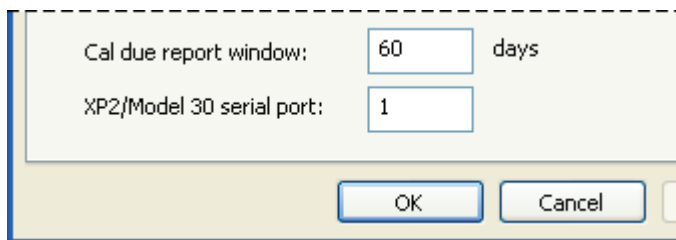
Why doesn't a model that I have already entered show up in the pull-down menu in the New Gauge Wizard?

If you know that you have the correct manufacturer for the model, you may have entered the model under the wrong manufacturer originally. Use the Database Manager to see if the model is listed. If it is listed, verify and correct the manufacturer that is associated with the model.

References

Why doesn't the Calibration Wizard detect my reference?

Be sure that the serial cable connectors are properly seated and that the reference has been turned on. If the software still does not detect the reference, check the number of the serial port on the computer. choose **Options** from the Tools menu.



On the Config Settings tab, verify that the XP2/Model 30 serial port is the same as that to which the serial cable is connected.

Why isn't the peak value on my computer the same as the peak value on my XP2i?

Peak Mode operation *does not* use the XP2i's peak feature. Instead, the peak is detected within the FastCal^{XP} software.

I am using a Model 30 for a reference. Can I still use Peak Mode?

Yes. The peaks are detected within the FastCal^{XP} software so you can use a gauge that does not have its own peak feature.

Units

Why don't I see anything in the Units portion of the Database Manager?

Only units added by an operator can be edited with the Database Manager so only these units are listed. Refer to the list of FastCal^{XP} Pressure Units in Appendix A to find conversions to PSI.

Peak Mode

I have selected Peak Mode. Why doesn't my computer beep when I stop at a target?

Auto Peak detection is not turned on. Choose **Options** from the Tools menu, click on the Calibration Settings tab and click to check the Auto Peak Detection box.

The Auto Peak box has been checked in the Calibration Settings. Why isn't my computer beeping?

Your computer's speaker may be muted or the volume may be very low. Check the speaker volume and try again.

Pressure Calibration Terms

Actual Mode ... The data acquisition mode that takes the current reading from the reference at the desired moment of measurement.

As Left The state of the gauge after it has had calibration adjustments made.

As Received The state of the gauge when it is initially measured.

Comparator A device used to apply equal pressure to the gauge and reference.

Gauge The instrument that is being calibrated, or the device under test (DUT).

GaugeCalXP Crystal Engineering's pressure comparator.

Model 30 A Crystal Engineering digital pressure gauge.

Peak Mode The data acquisition mode that takes the most recent peak (or valley) from the reference at the desired moment of measurement.

Reference The instrument to which the DUT is compared during a calibration. Also, any instrument used to measure ambient conditions during the calibration.

XP2i A Crystal Engineering digital pressure gauge.

Appendix A: FastCal^{XP} Pressure Units

FastCal^{XP} uses the following standard units and associated conversion factors. All conversion factors use a gravity constant of 9.80665 m/sec².

1.0000 PSI per PSI	2.03602 inch Hg @ 0°C (32°F) per PSI
27.68059969 .. inch H ₂ O @ 4°C (39.2°F) per PSI	51.7149 mm Hg @ 0°C (32°F) per PSI
27.70699859 .. inch H ₂ O @ 60°F (15.6°C) per PSI	6.8948 kPa per PSI
27.72920132 .. inch H ₂ O @ 68°F (20°C) per PSI	0.0068948 MPa per PSI
703.087 mm H ₂ O @ 4°C (39.2°F) per PSI	0.068948 bar per PSI
70.3087 cm H ₂ O @ 4°C (39.2°F) per PSI	68.948 mbar per PSI
0.070307 kgf/cm ² per PSI	

Appendix B: Excel Template Tags

Following is a list of Excel template tags used by FastCalXP to create certificates using search-and-replace operations.

Tags are always included within chevrons (e.g., <tag>) and they can occur anywhere within a template worksheet. However, FastCalXP will only search and replace in a worksheet that includes the <CertNum> tag. Bold tags must be present for FastCalXP to fill fields defined by other tags in the same group.

Tags marked "Saved in Cert" are values that will remain constant within a certificate once the certificate is created, even if the information in the database is changed at a later date. For example, the gauge number for a given certificate will not change even if it is changed in the database after the certificate is created. Since the system can recreate the certificate at a later date, saved fields provide an assurance that the major elements within a certificate will not be modified after the certificate is created.

Some of the tags have a number sign (#) as part of the tag. This is to support multiple values of the same type (i.e., multiple references or data points) to be included in the certificate. For example, to have a certificate that has ten indicated pressure points for run 1, you would need to include <ARRun1Point1Indicated> through <ARRun1Point10Indicated> tags in the template.

Tag Name	Saved in Cert	Description
As Left Profile		
<ALProfileActive>		0 = active, 1 = inactive (hidden)
<ALProfileExerciseCount>		Number of exercises
<ALProfilePressureHigh>	Yes	Maximum pressure in profile
<ALProfilePressureLow>	Yes	Minimum pressure in profile
<ALProfileID>		Database ID number of profile
<ALProfileName>		Name of profile
As Received Profile		
<ARProfileActive>		0 = active, 1 = inactive (hidden)
<ARProfileExerciseCount>		Number of exercises
<ARProfilePressureHigh>	Yes	Maximum pressure in profile
<ARProfilePressureLow>	Yes	Minimum pressure in profile
<ARProfileID>		Database ID number of profile
<ARProfileName>		Name of profile
Gauge		
<GaugeActive>		0 = active, 1 = inactive (hidden)
<GaugeID>		Database ID number of gauge
<GaugeNickname>		Gauge nickname
<GaugeNumber>	Yes	Gauge number
<GaugeSerialNumber>	Yes	Gauge serial number

Tag Name	Saved in Cert	Description
Calibration Rep		
<CalRepFullName>	Yes	Calibration rep full name
Certificate		
<CertActive>	Yes	0 = active, 1 = inactive (hidden)
<CertALCondition>	Yes	Pass/fail condition: 0 = no data taken, 1 = failed, 2 = passed
<CertARCondition>	Yes	Pass/fail condition: 0 = no data taken, 1 = failed, 2 = passed
<CertGaugeModifications>	Yes	Memo field of modifications to gauge
<CertEffectiveOn>	Yes	Effective date of cert (when cert was created)
<CertExpiresOn>	Yes	Cert expiration date = CertEffectiveOn + ModelCertPeriod
<CertNum>	Yes	Certificate number
Globals		
<GlobalsCalMode>		Calibration mode
<GlobalsDefaultCertTemplate>		Default certificate
<GlobalsHeadCorrection>		Head correction
Location		
<LocationActive>		0 = active, 1 = inactive (hidden)
<LocationAddress>		Location address
<LocationContact>		Location contact
<LocationEMail>		Location email
<LocationFAX>		Location FAX
<LocationID>		Location database ID
<LocationName>		Location name
<LocationNotes>		Location notes
<LocationPhone>		Location phone
Manufacturer		
<MfgActive>		0 = active, 1 = inactive (hidden)
<MfgAddress>		Manufacturer address
<MfgFAX>		Manufacturer FAX
<MfgID>		Manufacturer database ID
<MfgName>	Yes	Manufacturer name
<MfgNotes>		Manufacturer notes
<MfgPhone>		Manufacturer phone
<MfgURL>		Manufacturer URL

Tag Name	Saved in Cert	Description
Model		
<ModelActive>		0 = active, 1 = inactive (hidden)
<ModelALProfileID>		Model AL profile database ID
<ModelALQuantity>		Model AL profile quantity
<ModelARProfileID>		Model AR profile database ID
<ModelARQuantity>		Model AR profile quantity
<ModelCertPeriod>		Model cert period
<ModelCertTemplate>		Model cert template
<ModelID>		Model database ID
<ModelName>	Yes	Model name
<ModelRangeMax>		Model maximum pressure
<ModelRangeMin>		Model minimum pressure
<ModelResolution>		Model pressure resolution
<ModelType>		Model type
<ModelUnitID>		Model Unit database ID
Operator		
<OperatorActive>		The Operator User is the account that is logged in when the cert was created. 0 = active, 1 = inactive (hidden)
<OperatorAuthLevel>		Operator authorization level
<OperatorFullname>		Operator full name
<OperatorNotes>		Operator notes
<OperatorUserID>		Operator database ID
<OperatorUsername>		Operator login username
Quality Representative		
<QualRepFullname>	Yes	Quality rep full name
Session		
<SessionDate>		The session is the top level object that contains everything else about the calibration. Session date (last time data saved)
<SessionID>		Session database ID
Session User		
<SessionUserActive>		The Session User is the account that did the calibrations 0 = active, 1 = inactive (hidden)
<SessionUserAuthLevel>		Session user authorization level
<SessionUserFullname>		Session user full name
<SessionUserNotes>		Session user notes
<SessionUserUserID>		Session user database ID
<SessionUserUsername>		Session user login username
Units		
	*	For UnitID < 1000, all fields are saved in certificate as they are built-in units
<UnitActive>	*	0 = active, 1 = inactive (hidden)
<UnitID>	*	Unit database ID
<UnitName>	*	Unit name
<UnitPSIConversion>	*	Unit PSI conversion factor

Tag Name	Saved in Cert	Description
References		
<Reference#SN>	Yes	Reference serial number
<Reference#ID>	Yes	Reference database ID
<Reference#Manufacturer>	Yes	Reference manufacturer
<Reference#Model>	Yes	Reference model
<Reference#CertNumber>	Yes	Reference certificate number
<Reference#CertExpires>	Yes	Reference certificate expiration
<Reference#AccuracyStatement>	Yes	Reference accuracy statement
Conditions		
<ALCond#Pressure>	Yes	As Left pressure set point
<ARCond#Pressure>	Yes	As Received pressure set point
Data		
<ARRun#Point#Indicated>	Yes	AR indicated
<ARRun#Point#Setpoint>	Yes	AR set point
<ARRun#Point#Applied>	Yes	AR applied
<ARRun#Point#Error>	Yes	AR error
<ARRun#Point#Tolerance>	Yes	AR tolerance
<ARRun#Point#Temperature>	Yes	AR temperature
<ARRun#Point#Passed>	Yes	AR point passed
<ALRun#Point#Indicated>	Yes	AL indicated
<ALRun#Point#Setpoint>	Yes	AL set point
<ALRun#Point#Applied>	Yes	AL applied
<ALRun#Point#Error>	Yes	AL error
<ALRun#Point#Tolerance>	Yes	AL tolerance
<ALRun#Point#Temperature>	Yes	AL temperature
<ALRun#Point#Passed>	Yes	AL point passed

