



## The Breath Tester Bulletin

Lifeloc's newsletter features a variety of content specific to the drug and alcohol testing industry including the latest DOT updates, special equipment trade-in offers, upcoming events, recertification requirements, technical tips and much more!

### **DOT Report:** Electronic Signatures, Forms & Storage for Drug and Alcohol Testing Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

DOT is looking to reduce paper documentation associated with the drug and alcohol testing program without compromising the integrity of the testing process by allowing electronic signatures, forms and signatures in the future. The initial comment period for this ANPRM closed in October, but can be reviewed at the link below, along with the full details of the Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking made on August 5, 2022.



[READ ABOUT THE ANPRM](#)

### **Lifeloc Spotlight:** Holidays 2022

The holidays are quickly approaching! Please remember that Lifeloc will be closed the following dates and that all inquiries will be responded to the following business day:

- Thursday November 24th
- Friday November 25th
- Friday December 23rd
- Monday December 26th
- Friday December 30th

- Monday January 2nd

PLACE SUPPLY ORDERS DURING  
CLOSURES HERE



## Knowledge Check: Calibration

### Why Calibration?



As with any precision instrument, periodic calibration is required to ensure instrument accuracy. Calibration adjusts the internal settings of your alcohol tester to a predetermined and known standard.

If your unit is used under Department of Transportation (DOT) guidelines, Lifeloc has DOT approved Quality Assurance Plans (QAPs) that will state the requirements and help guide you through the calibration process. Please note that in order to perform a qualified calibration on units used for evidential DOT testing, you must be certified through Lifeloc as a factory authorized Operator and Calibration Technician (CLOCT) on the specific model you are using. This certification must be renewed every five years.

### What Are My Options?



There are several options when it comes to calibrating. Lifeloc breath testers can either be calibrated using a dry gas or a wet bath solution. Both options can be done by the operator, or by the factory.

When using **dry gas**, the operator of the breath tester can opt for a manual calibration using the dry gas tank, a regulator and a calibration adapter. This is a very economical and portable option. The operator will need to be educated in the process to ensure it is done properly and the outcome is correct. There is also an option to use the EasyCal Calibration Station which also



LEARN MORE ABOUT  
EASYCAL

uses dry gas and will automatically calibrate any Lifeloc breath tester that is properly seated and connected. This helps to prevent human error in the calibration process and provides the most accurate result possible. This option does not require a power source or batteries for operation.

When using a **wet bath solution**, the operator of the breath tester will use a manual process including a liquid solution, a simulator and an electric pump. As with dry gas calibration, the operator will need to be educated in the process to ensure it is done properly and the outcome is correct. This option requires a power source and is much less portable than the dry gas options, however it is a good solution for locations that are expensive to ship dry gas to due to the HAZMAT fees that are incurred.

## Timelines and Reminders

Lifeloc recommends instrument calibration at least annually to ensure test accuracy and precision. Breath testing devices can be calibrated more often if a facility's internal policy requires it.

If you fall under DOT Part 40 regulations, best practice would be to Calibrate once annually, and to perform a Calibration Check once every 30 days and after a positive confirmation test.

### Don't forget:

When using a dry gas calibration method, it is important to remember that altitude affects the tanks known standard. Due to this, if the breath testing device does not have an internal barometric pressure sensor, the **Altitude Correction Factor** chart on the dry gas tank must be used to help you compensate for each 500 feet of elevation that you have. This adjustment is done manually in the breath tester calibration settings and then a Calibration is immediately done to ensure accuracy of the device going forward.



CALIBRATION CHEAT SHEET

LIFELOC QAP EXAMPLE

All calibration results are considered compliant with DOT regulations, the device QAP & Lifeloc recommendations as long as they are within +/- .005 of the value of the alcohol standard utilized.

Lifeloc recommendation and DOT requirements are to have a **Calibration Log Book** for each calibration event on each device. All printouts should be affixed in the book and in sequential order for easy access. The printout should include the signature of the certified calibration technician, as well as the lot number and the expiration date of the dry gas tank. DOT does

require these records to be maintained for each device for at least 2 years.

**Calibration Questions?**  
**[View video tutorials here](#)**



***Essentials Kit***  
**Restock With One Click!**

Having the appropriate supplies for testing is so important that we put together an Essentials Kit for each of our EBTs! You can easily order all of your needed supplies specific to your device with the click of one button on our online shopping cart.

**[ORDER NOW!](#)**



***Certificate Renewal***  
**Friendly Reminder!**

Don't forget to contact your local Lifeloc Master Trainer to schedule your BAT and/or CLOCT renewal well ahead of your expiration date. Most trainer's schedules run several weeks out, and we don't want you to expire before you can get the chance to be recertified!

**[REQUEST TRAINING](#)**

***Did you know?***

**Lifeloc and our network of Certified Master Trainers offer various live training programs including:**

- Breath Alcohol Technician
- Calibration & Operator (CLOCT)
- Train the Trainer
- Urine Specimen Collector
- Reasonable Suspicion for Supervisors

## Request Training Information

Lifeloc makes the world safer from alcohol and drug abuse by delivering superior products, services and value to our customers.

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