

Service Note

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TROUBLESHOOTING TEMPERATURE CIRCUITS FOR API MODEL 700 CALIBRATOR

- NOTE: ALL THERMISTORS USE A TWISTED PAIR OF YELLOW WIRES. ANYTIME YOU SEE A TWISTED PAIR OF YELLOW WIRES, THAT IS A THERMISTOR CIRCUIT. BECAUSE THERMISTOR WIRES OFTEN SHARE A CONNECTOR WITH HEATERS, **BE SURE YOU MEASURE RESISTANCE OR SUBSTITUTE RESISTORS ON THE YELLOW WIRES TO AVOID RISK OF ELECTRICAL SHOCK.**
- 1. All temperature circuits use thermistors to sense temperature. The thermistor is a resistor which varies resistance with temperature. Higher temperature equals lower resistance, and vice versa.
- 2. The thermistor sensing circuits are located on the I2C/MUX pcb which is attached to the CPU card. A simple voltage divider is created by the thermistor and a 15K ohm resistor found on the RN1 resistor pack (refer to schematic #01562). The voltage divider creates a voltage based on the resistance of the thermistor. This voltage is muxed through U4 and buffered by U7. The output of U7 goes to the V/F card to be converted to a number. The CPU converts the number to temperature and makes a decision to turn on or off a heater, or do nothing.
- 3. The trick to troubleshooting these circuits is to divide them into two parts; a temperature sensing circuit and a control circuit. The sensing circuit consists of the thermistor, the I2C/MUX card and the V/F. The control circuit consists of the heater element, the power supply for the element, the switch to turn the element on or off, and the V/F card which uses an I/O port to control the switch.

CAUTION! SOME THERMISTORS SHARE CONNECTORS WITH HEATERS! PAIRS OF RED WIRES ARE HEATERS (115 volts AC)! USE EXTREME CAUTION IN THE FOLLOWING STEPS TO AVOID ELECTRICAL SHOCK!

- 4.
- a. In troubleshooting the sensing circuits, unplug the thermistor in question and plug an 11K ohm resistor into the connector where the thermistor was connected. Observe the front panel test function for a value of 50 degrees C. A correct reading indicates the CPU, V/F and I²C/mux are working. Incorrect reading is most likely the V/F card.

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- b. If the readings are correct, ohm from one side of the thermistor to chassis. A reading other than infinite indicates the thermistor is shorted internally to case, indicating a failed thermistor which must be replaced.
- c. Ohm across the thermistor. Verify the reading is correct for the temperature of the thermistor based on the attached chart.
- 5. The control circuits for the heaters are all the same. They consist of a heater, a 15VAC power source and an optoisolator switch or solid-state relay. The most common control failure is a complaint that the temperature is too high and moves around. This is caused by the relay shorting in one direction allowing 1/2 wave voltage to the heater always. This will be characterized by the heater LED never coming on. With the heater off, measure the voltage across the heater with the heater plugged in. If you have 50-70VAC, the relay is shorted and must be replaced. On a working unit, this voltage should be less than 10VAC with the heater LED off.
 - a. First verify the heater isn't open by unplugging it at the molex connector and using an ohmmeter to verify the resistance usually between 100 and 750 ohms (on a good heater). A failed heater will read greater than 1K ohm or close to zero ohms.
 - b. Next verify that the heater LED is on. It is located on the power supply module. The LED is powered by the 115VAC supplied to the heater. If the LED is on, then the heater is receiving power and the problem is a bad heater or bad connection.
 - c. If the heater resistance is correct, but 115VAC is absent, look at the power supply schematic (attached) and verify that the +5VDC logic signal is present at the Power Supply Module. This signal turns the relay on. If the signal is there, the relay is bad. If the +5VDC is missing, the V/F is bad or a connection problem exists between the V/F and the PSM.

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