



Superintendent's Report on Approved Screening Devices (ASDs)

June 2012

This information reflects current police practices and has been compiled by the Superintendent of Motor Vehicles for conducting reviews of immediate roadside driving prohibitions.

Prescribed ASDs in Use in British Columbia

ASDs are prescribed under the *Motor Vehicle Act Approved Screening Device Regulation*. Under this regulation the following devices are approved for use in British Columbia (BC):

- Alcolmeter S-L2
- Alco-Sensor IV DWF
- Alco-Sensor FST

Serial Numbers

ASD devices used in BC have a six digit serial number. When the first and/or second digit is a "0", the serial number may be recorded as a four or five digit serial number. In some cases, inventory control or asset numbers are used in place of serial numbers.

ASD Calibration

ASDs are currently calibrated to display a "warn" reading at a blood alcohol concentration of 60 mg% (milligrams of alcohol in 100 millilitres of blood) or over, and a "fail" reading at a blood alcohol concentration of 100 mg% or over.

Calibration Expiry Date

ASDs are checked for calibration accuracy by a qualified ASD calibrator once every four weeks. The calibration expiry date refers to the date displayed on the ASD indicating when the 4 week period ends.

Service Expiry Date

ASDs are serviced by the manufacturer on an annual basis. The service expiry date is displayed on the ASD. Dates are displayed in the following manner: Year/Month, or Year/Month/Day. Where a date appears as year and month (example: 11-01 or 2011-01), the annual service expiry occurs at 2359 hours of the last day of the expiry month. Where a date is a full date (example: 11-01-15 or 2011-01-15), the annual service expiry occurs at 23:59 hours of the date indicated.

Ministry of Justice

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Timing of Breath Samples

Breath samples are taken at least 15 minutes after the last drink was consumed to allow for elimination of mouth alcohol.

ASD Operating Temperature

The Alcosensor IV DWF is designed to provide maximum accuracy when the internal unit temperature is between 10 and 40 degrees C. Breath tests taken outside this range may result in falsely low readings. The unit does not prevent a test from being completed if the temperature is outside the acceptable range. The temperature is displayed briefly when the ASD test sequence is initiated and operators are trained to ensure the unit is within the acceptable range.

Breath Flow and Volume

The Alco Sensor IV DWF measures breath flow and breath volume to capture a sample for analysis. The minimum breath flow required is 12 litres per minute and the minimum volume is 1.2 litres.

“NOGO” or “VOID” is Displayed

The Alco Sensor IV DWF will display a “NOGO” when there is an interruption to the airflow before the person has blown the minimum 1.2 litres of air. The “NOGO” display is an alert to the ASD operator to indicate that airflow has been interrupted. This occurs when the person blowing into the ASD blocks the airflow into the device, or stops blowing, after initially providing some airflow. After 3 attempts or after 1 minute, the word “VOID” will be displayed. Once a “VOID” occurs, the mouthpiece has to be ejected and reinserted for the ASD to reset.

Pages 3 through 11 redacted for the following reasons:

s.13, s.16