Operating Instructions

Radar sensor for continuous level measurement of bulk solids

VEGAPULS 68

Four-wire 4 … 20 mA/HART

Document ID: 36536

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Safety instructions for Ex areas

Take note of the Ex specific safety instructions for Ex applications. These instructions are attached as documents to each instrument with Ex approval and are part of the operating instructions.

Editing status: 2018-11-23

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1 About this document

1.1 Function

This operating instructions provides all the information you need for mounting, connection and setup as well as important instructions for maintenance, fault rectification, the exchange of parts and the safety of the user. Please read this information before putting the instrument into operation and keep this manual accessible in the immediate vicinity of the device.

1.2 Target group

This operating instructions manual is directed to trained personnel. The contents of this manual must be made available to the qualified personnel and implemented.

1.3 Symbols used

Document ID
This symbol on the front page of this instruction refers to the Document ID. By entering the Document ID on www.vega.com you will reach the document download.

Information, tip, note
This symbol indicates helpful additional information.

Caution: If this warning is ignored, faults or malfunctions can result.

Warning: If this warning is ignored, injury to persons and/or serious damage to the instrument can result.

Danger: If this warning is ignored, serious injury to persons and/or destruction of the instrument can result.

Ex applications
This symbol indicates special instructions for Ex applications.

- **List**
  The dot set in front indicates a list with no implied sequence.

→ **Action**
This arrow indicates a single action.

1 **Sequence of actions**
Numbers set in front indicate successive steps in a procedure.

Battery disposal
This symbol indicates special information about the disposal of batteries and accumulators.

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2 For your safety

2.1 Authorised personnel

All operations described in this documentation must be carried out only by trained, qualified personnel authorised by the plant operator.

During work on and with the device, the required personal protective equipment must always be worn.

2.2 Appropriate use

VEGAPULS 68 is a sensor for continuous level measurement.

You can find detailed information about the area of application in chapter "*Product description*".

Operational reliability is ensured only if the instrument is properly used according to the specifications in the operating instructions manual as well as possible supplementary instructions.

2.3 Warning about incorrect use

Inappropriate or incorrect use of this product can give rise to application-specific hazards, e.g. vessel overfill through incorrect mounting or adjustment. Damage to property and persons or environmental contamination can result. Also, the protective characteristics of the instrument can be impaired.

2.4 General safety instructions

This is a state-of-the-art instrument complying with all prevailing regulations and directives. The instrument must only be operated in a technically flawless and reliable condition. The operator is responsible for the trouble-free operation of the instrument. When measuring aggressive or corrosive media that can cause a dangerous situation if the instrument malfunctions, the operator has to implement suitable measures to make sure the instrument is functioning properly.

During the entire duration of use, the user is obliged to determine the compliance of the necessary occupational safety measures with the current valid rules and regulations and also take note of new regulations.

The safety instructions in this operating instructions manual, the national installation standards as well as the valid safety regulations and accident prevention rules must be observed by the user.

For safety and warranty reasons, any invasive work on the device beyond that described in the operating instructions manual may be carried out only by personnel authorised by the manufacturer. Arbitrary conversions or modifications are explicitly forbidden. For safety reasons, only the accessory specified by the manufacturer must be used.

To avoid any danger, the safety approval markings and safety tips on the device must also be observed and their meaning read in this operating instructions manual.

Depending on the instrument version, the emitting frequencies are in the C, K or W band range. The low emission power is far below the internationally approved limit values. When used correctly, the device poses no danger to health.

2.5 EU conformity

The device fulfils the legal requirements of the applicable EU directives. By affixing the CE marking, we confirm the conformity of the instrument with these directives.

You can find the EU conformity declaration on our website under www.vega.com/downloads.

Electromagnetic compatibility
Instruments in four-wire or Ex-d-ia version are designed for use in an industrial environment. Nevertheless, electromagnetic interference from electrical conductors and radiated emissions must be taken into account, as is usual with class A instruments according to EN 61326-1. If the instrument is used in a different environment, the electromagnetic compatibility to other instruments must be ensured by suitable measures.

2.6 NAMUR recommendations

NAMUR is the automation technology user association in the process industry in Germany. The published NAMUR recommendations are accepted as the standard in field instrumentation.

The device fulfils the requirements of the following NAMUR recommendations:

- NE 21 – Electromagnetic compatibility of equipment
- NE 43 – Signal level for fault information from measuring transducers
- NE 53 – Compatibility of field devices and display/adjustment components
- NE 107 – Self-monitoring and diagnosis of field devices

For further information see www.namur.de.

2.7 Radio license for Europe

The instrument was tested according to the latest issue of the following harmonized standards:

- EN 302372 - Tank Level Probing Radar

It is hence approved for use inside closed vessels in countries of the EU.

Use is also approved in EFTA countries, provided the respective standards have been implemented.

For operation inside of closed vessels, points a to f in annex E of EN 302372 must be fulfilled.

2.8 Radio license for USA

This approval is only valid for USA. Hence the following text is only available in the English language.

This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions:

- This device may not cause interference, and
- This device must accept any interference, including interference that may cause undesired operation of the device

This device is approved for unrestricted use only inside closed, stationary vessels made of metal, concrete and reinforced fiberglass.

For operation outside of closed vessels, the following conditions must be fulfilled:

- This device shall be installed and maintained to ensure a vertically downward orientation of the transmit antenna's main beam. Furthermore, the use of any mechanism that does not allow the main beam of the transmitter to be mounted vertically downward is prohibited.
- Operation of the instrument with horn antennas ø 40 mm, ø 48 mm and parabolic antenna (ø 245 mm) is only permitted within closed vessels.
- This device shall be installed only at fixed locations. The LPR device shall not operate while being moved or while inside a moving container.
- Hand-held applications are prohibited.
- Marketing to residential consumers is prohibited.

Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the manufacturer could void the user's authority to operate this equipment.

2.9 Radio license for Canada

This approval is only valid for Canada. Hence the following texts are only available in the English/French language.

This device complies with Industry Canada's license-exempt RSS standards. Operation is subject to the following conditions:

- This device may not cause interference, and
- This device must accept any interference, including interference that may cause undesired operation of the device

This device has been approved for both closed containers and open-air environments with the following limitations:

- Closed Containers: For installations utilizing a tilt during installation: This device is limited to installation in a completely enclosed container made of metal, concrete or reinforced fiberglass to prevent RF emissions, which can otherwise interfere with aeronautical navigation, the maximum approved tilt angle is 10°.
- Open Air Environment: For operation outside of closed vessels, the following condition must be fulfilled: This device shall be installed and maintained to ensure a vertically downward orientation of the transmit antenna's main beam. Furthermore, the use of

any mechanism that does not allow the main beam of the transmitter to be mounted vertically downward is prohibited.
- Operation of the instrument with horn antennas ø 40 mm, ø 48 mm and parabolic antenna (ø 245 mm) is only permitted within closed vessels.

The installation of the LPR/TLPR device shall be done by trained installers, in strict compliance with the manufacture's instructions.

This device shall be installed only at fixed locations. The LPR device shall not operate while being moved or while inside a moving container.

Hand-held applications are prohibited.

Marketing to residential consumers is prohibited.

The use of this device is on a "no-interference, no-protection" basis. That ist, the user shall accept operatings of high-powered radaar in the same frequency band which may interfere with or damage this device.

However, devices found to interfere with primary licensing operations will be required to be removed at the user's expense.

The installer/user of this device shall ensure that it is at least 10 km from the Dominion Astrophysical Radio Observatory (DRAO) near Penticton, British Columbia. The coordinates of the DRAO are latitude 49°19′15″ N and longitude 119°37′12″W. For devices not meeting this 10 km separation (e.g., those in the Okanagan Valley, British Columbia,) the installer/user must coordinate with, and obtain the written concurrence of, the Director of the DRAO before the equipment can be installed or operated. The Director of the DRAO may be contacted at 250-497-2300 (tel.)or 250-497-2355 (fax). (Alternatively, the Manager, Regulatory Standards, Industry Canada, may be contacted.)

Le présent appareil est conforme aux CNR d'Industrie Canada applicables aux appareils radio exempts de licence. L'exploitation est autorisée aux conditions suivantes :

- L'appareil ne doit pas produire de brouillage; et
- L'utilisateur de l'appareil doit accepter tout brouillage radioélectrique subi, même si le brouillage est susceptible d'en compromettre le fonctionnement.

Cet appareil est homologué pour une utilisation dans les cuves fermées et les environnements ouverts avec les restrictions suivantes :

- Cuves fermées : Pour les installations impliquant une inclinaison lors de l'installation : cet appareil ne doit être installé que dans une cuve totalement fermée en en métal, en béton ou en matière plastiqe renforcée de fibres de verre, pour empêcher les émissions RF susceptibles d'interférer avec la navigation aéronautique. L'angle d'inclinaison maximum autorisé est de 10°.
- Environnement ouvert : Pour l'utilisation hors des cuves fermées, la condition suivante doit être remplie : L'appareil doit être installé et entretenu de manière à garantir une orientation verticale vers le bas du faisceau principal de l'antenne émettrice. De plus,

l'utilisation de tout mécanisme ne permettant pas l'orientation verticale vers le bas du faisceau principal de l'émetteur est interdite

- Il est uniquement autorisé d'exploiter l'appareil avec les antennes cônes ø 40 mm, ø 48 mm et parabolique (ø 245 mm) dans des boîtiers fermés.

L'installation d'un dispositif LPR ou TLPR doit être effectuée par des installateurs qualifiés, en pleine conformité avec les instructions du fabricant.

Cet appareil ne doit être installé qu'à des emplacements fixes. L'appareil LPR ne doit pas être utilisé pendant qu'il est en train d'être déplacé ou se trouve dans un conteneur en mouvement.

Les applications portables sont interdites.

La vente à des particuliers est interdite

Ce dispositif ne peut être exploité qu'en régime de non-brouillage et de non-protection, c'est-à-dire que l'utilisateur doit accepter que des radars de haute puissance de la même bande de fréquences puissent brouiller ce dispositif ou même l'endommager. D'autre part, les capteurs de niveau qui perturbent une exploitation autorisée par licence de fonctionnement principal doivent être enlevés aux frais de leur utilisateur.

La personne qui installe/utilise ce capteur de niveau doit s'assurer qu'il se trouve à au moins 10 km de l'Observatoire fédéral de radio-astrophysique (OFR) de Penticton en Colombie-Britannique. Les coordonnées de l'OFR sont : latitude N 49° 19′ 15″, longitude O 119° 37′ 12″. La personne qui installe/utilise un dispositif ne pouvant respecter cette distance de 10 km (p. ex. dans la vallée de l'Okanagan [Colombie-Britannique]) doit se concerter avec le directeur de l'OFR afin d'obtenir de sa part une autorisation écrite avant que l'équipement ne puisse être installé ou mis en marche. Le directeur de l'OFR peut être contacté au 250-497-2300 (tél.) ou au 250-497-2355 (fax). (Le Directeur des Normes réglementaires d'Industrie Canada peut également être contacté).

2.10 Installation and operation in the USA and Canada

This information is only valid for USA and Canada. Hence the following text is only available in the English language.

Installations in the US shall comply with the relevant requirements of the National Electrical Code (ANSI/NFPA 70).

Installations in Canada shall comply with the relevant requirements of the Canadian Electrical Code.

2.11 Environmental instructions

Protection of the environment is one of our most important duties. That is why we have introduced an environment management system with the goal of continuously improving company environmental protection. The environment management system is certified according to DIN EN ISO 14001.

Please help us fulfil this obligation by observing the environmental instructions in this manual:

- Chapter "*Packaging, transport and storage*"
- Chapter "*Disposal*"

3 Product description

3.1 Configuration

Type label

The type label contains the most important data for identification and use of the instrument:

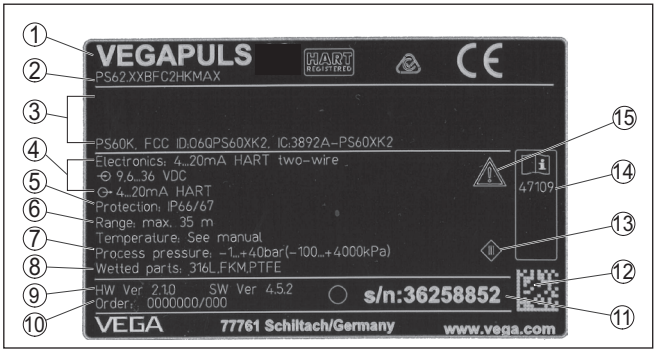

Fig. 1: Layout of the type label (example)

1 *Instrument type*
2 *Product code*
3 *Approvals*
4 *Power supply and signal output, electronics*
5 *Protection rating*
6 *Measuring range*
7 *Process and ambient temperature, process pressure*
8 *Material wetted parts*
9 *Hardware and software version*
10 *Order number*
11 *Serial number of the instrument*
12 *Data matrix code for VEGA Tools app*
13 *Symbol of the device protection class*
14 *ID numbers, instrument documentation*
15 *Reminder to observe the instrument documentation*

Serial number - Instrument search

The type label contains the serial number of the instrument. With it you can find the following instrument data on our homepage:

- Product code (HTML)
- Delivery date (HTML)
- Order-specific instrument features (HTML)
- Operating instructions and quick setup guide at the time of shipment (PDF)
- Order-specific sensor data for an electronics exchange (XML)
- Test certificate (PDF) - optional

Go to "www.vega.com", "*Search*". Enter the serial number.

Alternatively, you can access the data via your smartphone:

- Download the VEGA Tools app from the "*Apple App Store*" or the "*Google Play Store*"
- Scan the Data Matrix code on the type label of the instrument or
- Enter the serial number manually in the app

Scope of this operating instructions

This operating instructions manual applies to the following instrument versions:

- Hardware from 2.1.0
- Software version from 4.5.3

Scope of delivery

The scope of delivery encompasses:

- Radar sensor
- Documentation
  - Quick setup guide VEGAPULS 68
  - Instructions for optional instrument features
  - Ex-specific "*Safety instructions*" (with Ex versions)
  - If necessary, further certificates

Information:
The optional instrument features are described in the operating instructions manual. The respective scope of delivery results from the order specification.

3.2 Principle of operation

Application area

The VEGAPULS 68 is a radar sensor for continuous measurement of bulk solids also under arduous process conditions and large measuring ranges. It the ideal solution for level measurement in high silos, large bunkers, stone crushers and melting furnaces. With different antenna versions and materials, this sensor is the optimum solution for virtually all applications and processes.

The instrument is also suitable for applications in liquids.

Dependent on the application range, different versions are used:

- Small silos and vessels, measurement of virtually all bulk solids: **Horn antenna**
- Large silos and vessels, measurement of bulk solids with low ε_r value: **Parabolic antenna**
- Liquids: **Parabolic antenna**

The instrument can be used with products with an ε_r value ≥1.5. The actually achievable value depends on the measuring conditions and the antenna system.

Functional principle

The antenna of the radar sensor emits short radar pulses with a duration of approx. 1 ns. These pulses are reflected by the product and received by the antenna as echoes. The transit time of the radar pulses from emission to reception is proportional to the distance and hence to the level. The determined level is converted into an appropriate output signal and outputted as measured value.

3.3 Packaging, transport and storage

Packaging

Your instrument was protected by packaging during transport. Its capacity to handle normal loads during transport is assured by a test based on ISO 4180.

The packaging of standard instruments consists of environment-friendly, recyclable cardboard. For special versions, PE foam or PE

foil is also used. Dispose of the packaging material via specialised recycling companies.

Transport

Transport must be carried out in due consideration of the notes on the transport packaging. Nonobservance of these instructions can cause damage to the device.

Transport inspection

The delivery must be checked for completeness and possible transit damage immediately at receipt. Ascertained transit damage or concealed defects must be appropriately dealt with.

Storage

Up to the time of installation, the packages must be left closed and stored according to the orientation and storage markings on the outside.

Unless otherwise indicated, the packages must be stored only under the following conditions:

- Not in the open
- Dry and dust free
- Not exposed to corrosive media
- Protected against solar radiation
- Avoiding mechanical shock and vibration

Storage and transport temperature

- Storage and transport temperature see chapter "*Supplement - Technical data - Ambient conditions*"
- Relative humidity 20 … 85 %

Lifting and carrying

With instrument weights of more than 18 kg (39.68 lbs) suitable and approved equipment must be used for lifting and carrying.

3.4 Accessories and replacement parts

PLICSCOM

The display and adjustment module PLICSCOM is used for measured value indication, adjustment and diagnosis. It can be inserted into the sensor or the external display and adjustment unit and removed at any time.

The integrated Bluetooth module (optional) enables wireless adjustment via standard adjustment devices:

- Smartphone/tablet (iOS or Android operating system)
- PC/notebook with Bluetooth USB adapter (Windows operating system)

You can find further information in the operating instructions "*Display and adjustment module PLICSCOM*" (Document-ID 36433).

VEGACONNECT

The interface adapter VEGACONNECT enables the connection of communication-capable instruments to the USB interface of a PC. For parameter adjustment of these instruments, the adjustment software PACTware with VEGA-DTM is required.

You can find further information in the operating instructions "*Interface adapter VEGACONNECT*" (Document-ID 32628).

VEGADIS 81

The VEGADIS 81 is an external display and adjustment unit for VEGA plics® sensors.

For sensors with double chamber housing the interface adapter "*VEGADIS adapter*" is also required for VEGADIS 81.

You can find further information in the operating instructions "*VEGADIS 81*" (Document-ID 43814).

VEGADIS adapter

The VEGADIS adapter is an accessory part for sensors with double chamber housings. It enables the connection of VEGADIS 81 to the sensor housing via an M12 x 1 plug.

You can find further information in the supplementary instructions "*VEGADIS adapter*" (Document-ID 45250).

VEGADIS 82

VEGADIS 82 is suitable for measured value indication and adjustment of sensors with HART protocol. It is looped into the 4 … 20 mA/HART signal cable.

You can find further information in the operating instructions "*VEGADIS 82 4 … 20 mA/HART*" (Document-ID 45300).

PLICSMOBILE T81

PLICSMOBILE T81 is an external GSM/GPRS/UMTS radio unit for transmission of measured values and for remote parameter adjustment of HART sensors. The adjustment is carried out via a PC with PACTware and the corresponding DTM or via smartphone/tablet with the VEGA Tools app. The connection is made via the Bluetooth interface integrated in PLICSMOBILE.

You can find further information in the operating instructions "*PLICSMOBILE T81/B81/S81*" (Document-ID 55234).

Protective cover

The protective cover protects the sensor housing against soiling and intense heat from solar radiation.

You will find additional information in the supplementary instructions manual "*Protective cover*" (Document-ID 34296).

Electronics module

Electronics module "VEGAPULS series 60" is a replacement part for radar sensors of VEGAPULS series 60. A different version is available for each type of signal output.

You can find further information in the operating instructions "*Electronics module VEGAPULS series 60*" (Document-ID 36801).

Supplementary electronics for 4 … 20 mA/HART - four-wire

The supplementary electronics is a replacement part for the following sensors with 4 … 20 mA/HART - two-wire:

- VEGAPULS series 60
- VEGAFLEX 80 series
- VEGABAR series 80

You can find further information in the operating instructions "*Supplementary electronics for 4 … 20 mA/HART - four-wire*" (Document-ID 42766).

Flanges

Screwed flanges are available in different versions according to the following standards: DIN 2501, EN 1092-1, BS 10, ASME B 16.5, JIS B 2210-1984, GOST 12821-80.

You can find additional information in the supplementary instructions manual "*Flanges according to DIN-EN-ASME-JIS*".

Antenna impedance cone

The antenna impedance cone is a replacement part used for optimum transmission of microwaves and for sealing against the process.

You find further information in the operating instructions "*Antenna impedance cone VEGAPULS 62 and 68*" (Document-ID 31381).

4 Mounting

4.1 General instructions

Screwing in

On devices with a threaded fitting, the hexagon on the process fitting must be tightened with a suitable wrench.

See chapter "*Dimensions*" for wrench size.

Warning:
The housing or the electrical connection may not be used for screwing in! Tightening can cause damage, e. g. to the rotation mechanism of the housing.

Protection against moisture

Protect your instrument against moisture ingress through the following measures:

- Use a suitable connection cable (see chapter "*Connecting to power supply*")
- Tighten the cable gland or plug connector
- When mounting horizontally, turn the housing so that the cable gland or plug connector point downward
- Lead the connection cable downward in front of the cable entry or plug connector.

This applies mainly to outdoor installations, in areas where high humidity is expected (e.g. through cleaning processes) and on cooled or heated vessels.

To maintain the housing protection, make sure that the housing lid is closed during operation and locked, if necessary.

Make sure that the degree of contamination specified in chapter "*Technical data*" meets the existing ambient conditions.

Suitability for the process conditions

Make sure before mounting that all parts of the instrument exposed to the process are suitable for the existing process conditions.

These are mainly:

- Active measuring component
- Process fitting
- Process seal

Process conditions in particular are:

- Process pressure
- Process temperature
- Chemical properties of the medium
- Abrasion and mechanical influences

You can find detailed information on the process conditions in chapter "*Technical data*" as well as on the type label.

Suitability for the ambient conditions

The instrument is suitable for standard and extended ambient conditions acc. to IEC/EN 61010-1.

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4.2 Mounting preparations

The instrument is also available in versions with an antenna whose diameter is larger than the process fitting (thread, flange). In such cases the antenna must be disconnected from the process fitting before mounting.

Horn antenna

Proceed as follows:

1. Loosen the hexagon socket screws (3) on the antenna socket with an Allen wrench (size 3)
2. Remove the antenna (4)

Note:
The plastic cone may not be pulled out of the antenna socket.

3. Insert the antenna from below into the vessel socket and secure it against falling off
4. Retighten the antenna with hexagon screws to the antenna socket; max. torque see chapter "*Technical data*"

Note:
The radar sensor with rinsing air connection or with antenna extension has a notch on the antenna socket for polarization. This notch must be aligned with the marking on the process fitting.

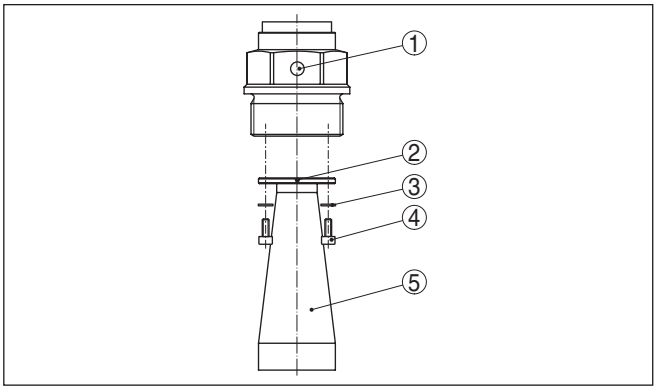

Fig. 2: Dismounting of the horn antenna

1 Marking on the process fitting
2 Marking at the antenna socket
3 Screw locking device
4 Hexagon socket screws
5 Antenna

Caution:
A secure hold of the antenna is only ensured with the untwist guard. The untwist guards inserted on site must hence be used again. Depending on temperature range and antenna material, these are spring rings according to DIN 217 or wedge lock washers according to DIN 25 201.

Parabolic antenna

Proceed as follows:

1. Clamp VEGAPULS 68 with the flange, e.g. in a bench vice
2. Hold the connection piece (1) with a wrench on the flat surfaces (width across flats 22 mm)
3. Loosen counter nut (3) completely with a wrench (width across flats 36 mm) in the direction of the antenna
4. Loosen compression nut (2) completely with a wrench (width across flats 41 mm) in the direction of the antenna
5. Remove the parabolic antenna (4) axially
6. Mount sensor flange on the adapter flange and fasten it tightly
7. Check if the O-ring seal is present on the connection piece and make sure it is not damaged.

Note:
A damaged O-ring seal must be replaced: FKM (SHS FPM 70C3 GLT), FFKM (Kalrez 6375)

8. Remount the parabolic antenna (4)
9. Fasten compression nut (2) with a wrench (width across flats 41), max. torque see chapter "*Technical data*"
10. Fasten counter nut (3) with a wrench (width across flats 36), max. torque see chapter "*Technical data*"

Note:
On the version with rinsing air connection, make sure that the holes in the antenna and in the process fitting coincide. This ensures a sufficient air flow (the air is led through the holes to the feed system. A rinsing of the whole parabolic antenna is not intended).

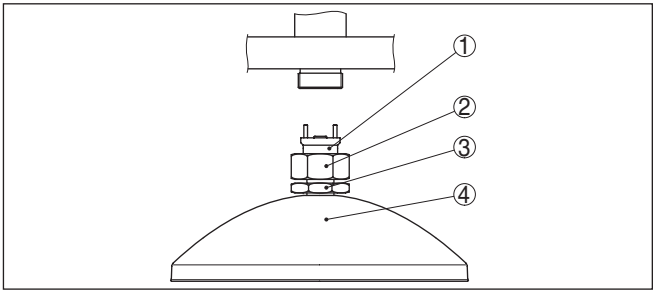

Fig. 3: Dismounting, parabolic antenna

1 Connection piece
2 Compression nut
3 Counter nut
4 Parabolic antenna

4.3 Mounting preparations - Parabolic antenna

The instrument is also available in versions where the antenna has a diameter larger than the process fitting (thread, flange). With such versions the antenna must be disconnected from the process fitting before mounting. Proceed as follows:

1. Clamp VEGAPULS 68 with the flange, e.g. in a bench vice
2. Hold the connection piece (1) with a wrench on the flat surfaces (width across flats 22 mm)
3. Loosen counter nut (3) completely with a wrench (width across flats 36 mm) in the direction of the antenna
4. Loosen compression nut (2) completely with a wrench (width across flats 41 mm) in the direction of the antenna
5. Remove the parabolic antenna (4) axially
6. Mount sensor flange on the adapter flange and fasten it tightly
7. Check if the O-ring seal is present on the connection piece and make sure it is not damaged.

Note:
A damaged O-ring seal must be replaced: FKM (SHS FPM 70C3 GLT), FFKM (Kalrez 6375)

8. Remount the parabolic antenna (4)
9. Fasten compression nut (2) with a wrench (width across flats 41), max. torque see chapter "*Technical data*"
10. Fasten counter nut (3) with a wrench (width across flats 36), max. torque see chapter "*Technical data*"

Note:
On the version with rinsing air connection, make sure that the holes in the antenna and in the process fitting coincide. This ensures a sufficient air flow (the air is led through the holes to the feed system. A rinsing of the whole parabolic antenna is not intended).

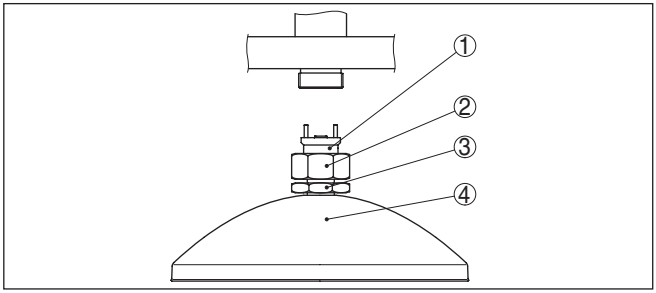

Fig. 4: Dismounting, parabolic antenna

1 Connection piece
2 Compression nut
3 Counter nut
4 Parabolic antenna

4.4 Mounting instructions

Horn and parabolic antenna

The illustrations with the following mounting instructions show a radar sensor with horn antenna. The mounting instructions apply analogously also to the version with parabolic antenna.

Polarisation

The emitted radar impulses of the radar sensor are electromagnetic waves. The polarisation is the direction of the electrical wave component. By turning the instrument in the connection flange or mounting boss, the polarisation can be used to reduce the effects of false echoes.

The position of the polarisation is marked on the process fitting of the instrument.

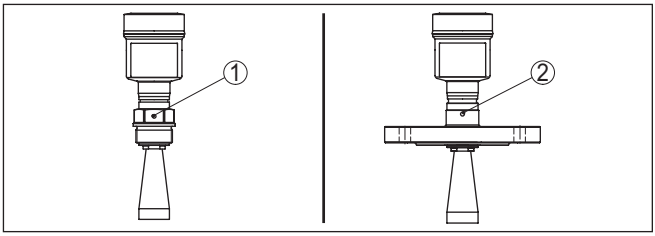

Fig. 5: Position of the polarisation

1 Marking with screwed version
2 Marking with flange version

Installation position

Mount the sensor at least 200 mm (7.874 in) away from the vessel wall.

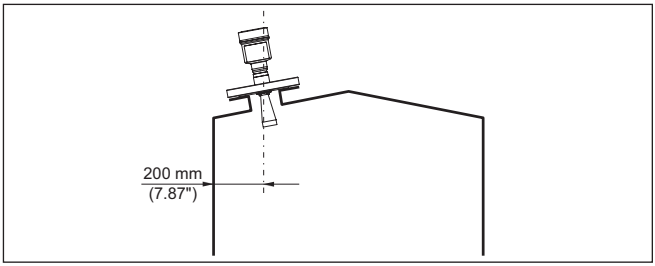

Fig. 6: Mounting the radar sensor on the vessel top

If you cannot maintain this distance, you should carry out a false signal suppression during setup. This applies particularly if buildup on the vessel wall is expected. In such cases, we recommend repeating the false signal suppression at a later date with existing buildup.

Inflowing medium

Mounting should not be too close to the inflowing material as the microwave signal will be interferred. The optimum mounting position is on the opposite of the filling. To avoid strong pollution, the distance to the filter or dust extraction must be as big as possible.

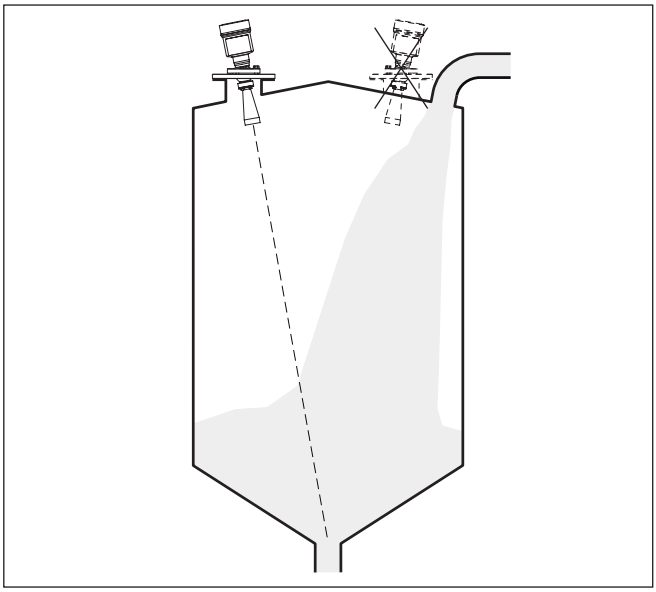

Fig. 7: Mounting of the radar sensor with inflowing medium

With bulk solids silos with lateral pneumatic filling, mounting should not be in the filling stream as the microwave signal will be interferred. The optimum mounting position is next to the filling. To avoid strong pollution, the distance to the filter or dust extraction must be as big as possible.

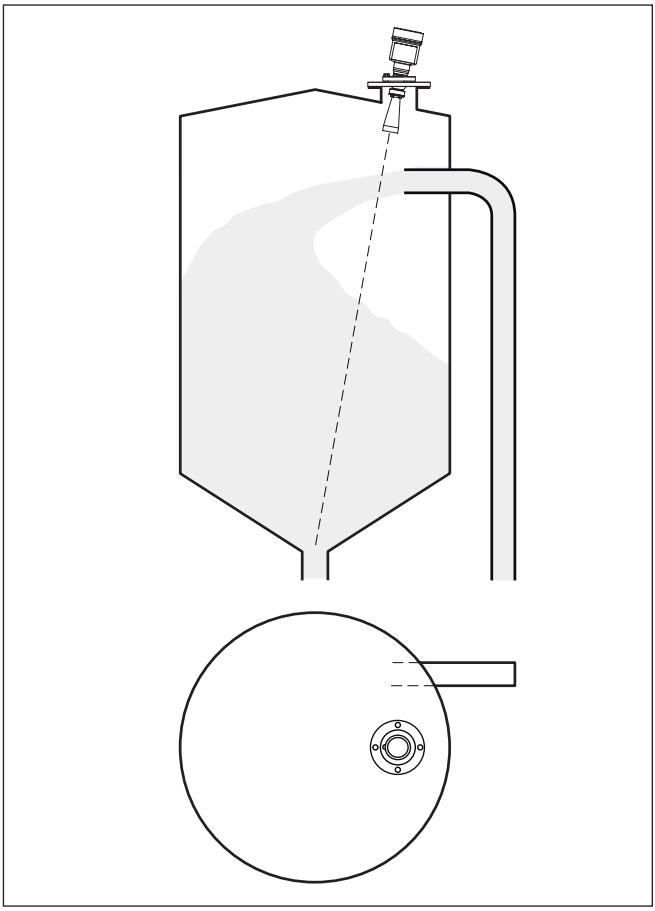

Fig. 8: Mounting of the radar sensor with inflowing medium

Mounting socket

The socket piece should be dimensioned in such a way that the antenna end protrudes slightly out of the socket.

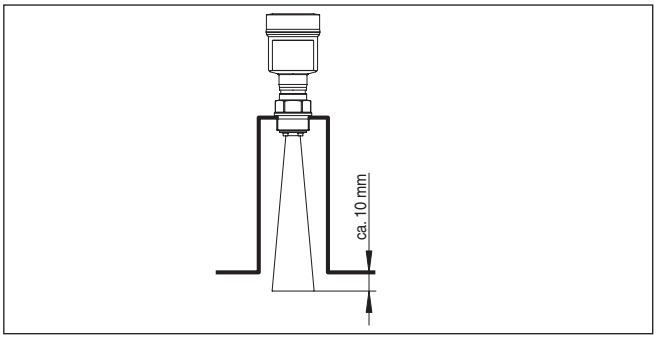

Fig. 9: Recommended socket mounting with horn antenna

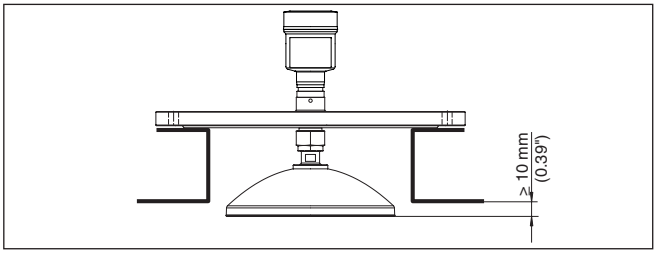

Fig. 10: Recommended socket mounting with parabolic antenna

When using a swivelling holder, keep in mind that the distance between antenna and socket gets smaller as the inclination of the sensor increases. Additional false reflections may be generated which can influence the measuring result at close range. Max. torque see chapter "*Technical data*"

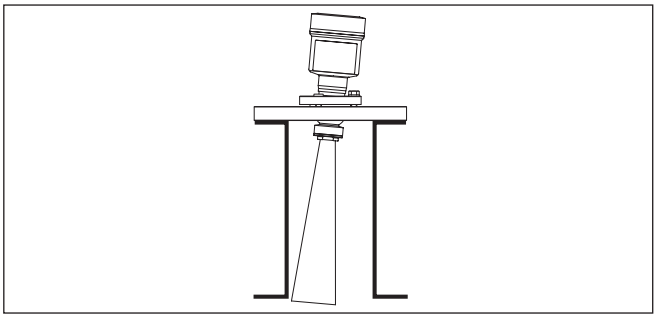

Fig. 11: Distance between antenna and socket with horn antenna

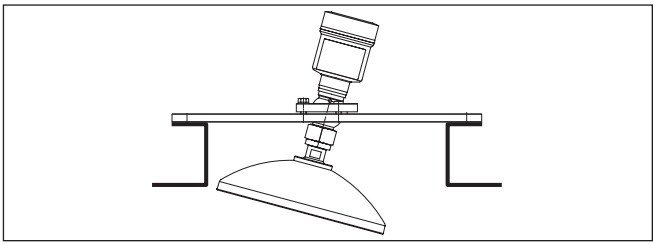

Fig. 12: Distance between antenna and socket with parabolic antenna

If the medium has good reflective properties, VEGAPULS 68 with horn antenna can also be mounted on a longer socket piece. Recommended values for socket heights are specified in the following illustration. You must carry out a false signal suppression afterwards.

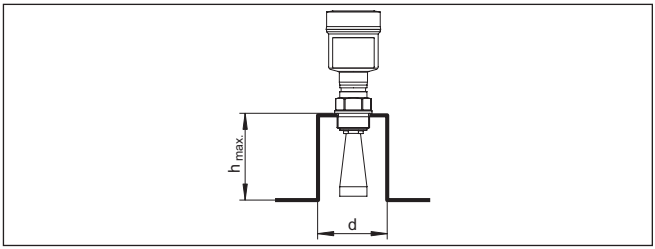

Fig. 13: Deviating socket dimensions

Socket diameter d		Socket length h		Recommended antenna diameter	
40 mm	1½"	≤ 100 mm	≤ 3.9 in	40 mm	1½"
50 mm	2"	≤ 150 mm	≤ 5.9 in	48 mm	2"
80 mm	3"	≤ 300 mm	≤ 11.8 in	75 mm	3"
100 mm	4"	≤ 500 mm	≤ 19.7 in	95 mm	4"
150 mm	6"	≤ 800 mm	≤ 31.5 in	95 mm	4"

Tip:
The instrument is also optionally available with an antenna extension. The antenna length can be selected (either ex works or later) to allow the antenna to protrude slightly out of the end of the mounting socket. Due to the antenna extension however, disturbing reflections are generated in the close-up range. This can lead to an increase in the required minimum distance, especially with poorly reflecting media such as plastic powder. In practice, a cleanly constructed mounting socket, if necessary with rounded edges, introduces fewer disturbing influences than an antenna extension.

Sensor orientation

To measure as much of the vessel volume as possible, the sensor should be aligned so that the measuring beam reaches the lowest level in the vessel. In a cylindrical silo with conical outlet mounting is

carried out on a socket. It should be positioned on one third up to the half of the vessel radius.

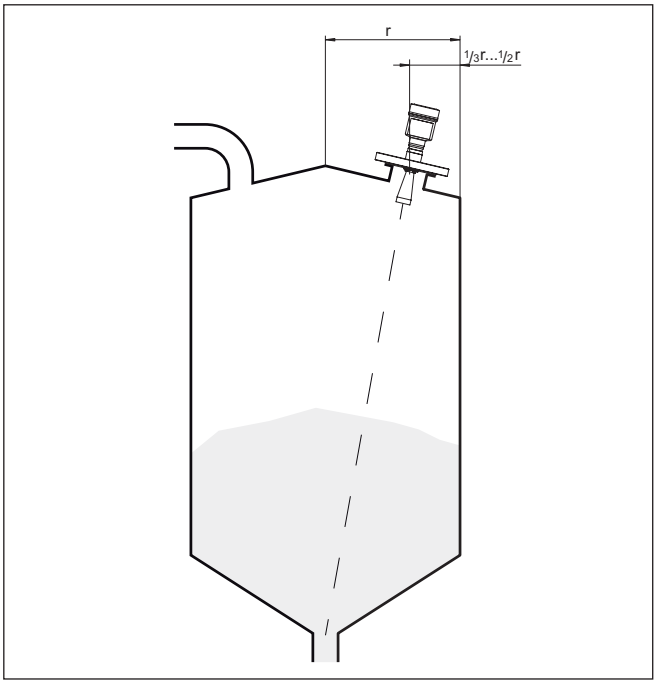

Fig. 14: Orientation

If mounting in the centre of the silo is not possible, the sensor can be directed to the vessel center by using the optional swivelling holder. The following description shows a simple way to determine the required angle of inclination.

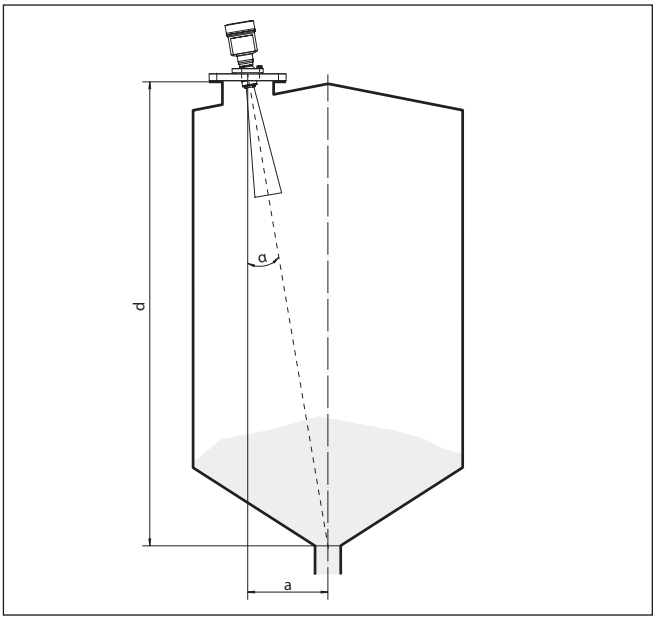

Fig. 15: Proposal for installation after orientation VEGAPULS 68

The angle of inclination depends on the vessel dimensions. It can be easily checked with a suitable level or water leve on the sensor.

The following table specifies the distance "a" between installation position and vessel centre dependent on the measuring distance for inclination angles of 2° … 10°.

Distance d (m)	2°	4°	6°	8°	10°
2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4
4	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.7
6	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.8	1.1
8	0.3	0.6	0.8	1.1	1.4
10	0.3	0.7	1.1	1.4	1.8
15	0.5	1.0	1.6	2.1	2.6
20	0.7	1.4	2.1	2.8	3.5
25	0.9	1.7	2.6	3.5	4.4
30	1.0	2.1	3.2	4.2	5.3
35	1.2	2.4	3.7	4.9	6.2
40	1.4	2.8	4.2	5.6	7.1
45	1.6	3.1	4.7	6.3	7.9
50	1.7	3.5	5.3	7	8.8

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Distance d (m)	2°	4°	6°	8°	10°
55	1.9	3.8	5.8	7.7	9.7
60	2.1	4.2	6.3	8.4	10.6
65	2.3	4.5	6.8	9.1	11.5
70	2.4	4.9	7.4	9.8	12.3
75	2.6	5.2	7.9	1.0	13

Example:

In a vessel 20 m high, the installation position of the sensor is 1.4 m from the vessel centre.

The necessary angle of inclination of 4° can be read out from this table.

To adjust the angle of inclination with the swivelling holder see next section.

Swivelling holder

Proceed as follows to align the sensor with the swivelling holder:

1. Loosen terminal screw of the swivelling holder with a fork spanner SW 13

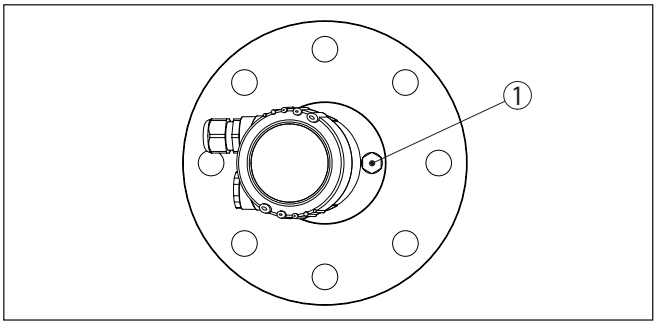

Fig. 16: VEGAPULS 68 with swivelling holder

1 Terminal screw

Information:
The hexagon screws must not be loosened.

2. Align the sensor, check angle of inclination. Max. angle of inclination of the swivelling holder see chapter "*Dimensions*"
3. Re-tighten the terminal screw, max. torque see chapter "*Technical data*".

Vessel installations

The mounting location of the radar sensor should be a place where no other equipment or fixtures cross the path of the radar signals.

Vessel installations, such as e.g. ladders, limit switches, heating spirals, struts, etc., can cause false echoes and impair the useful echo. Make sure when planning your measuring point that the radar sensor has a "clear view" to the measured product.

In case of existing vessel installations, a false signal suppression should be carried out during setup.

If large vessel installations such as struts or supports cause false echoes, these can be attenuated through supplementary measures. Small, inclined sheet metal baffles above the installations scatter the radar signals and prevent direct interfering reflections.

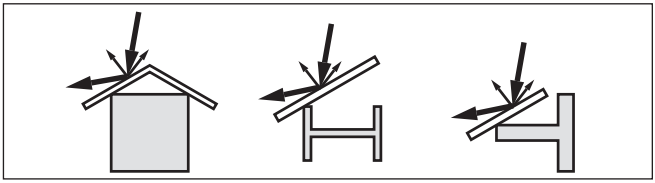

Fig. 17: Cover flat, large-area profiles with deflectors

Agitators

If there are agitators in the vessel, a false signal suppression should be carried out with the agitators in motion. This ensures that the interfering reflections from the agitators are saved with the blades in different positions.

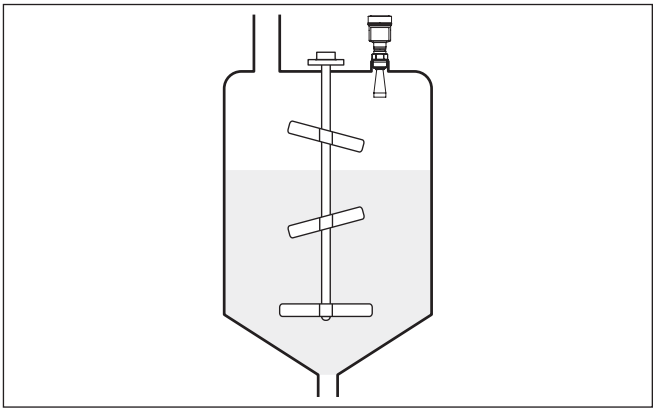

Fig. 18: Agitators

Material heaps

Large material heaps are detected with several sensors, which can be mounted on e.g. traverse cranes. For this type of application, it is best to orient the sensor toward the solid surface. A mutual infuence of the sensors is not possible.

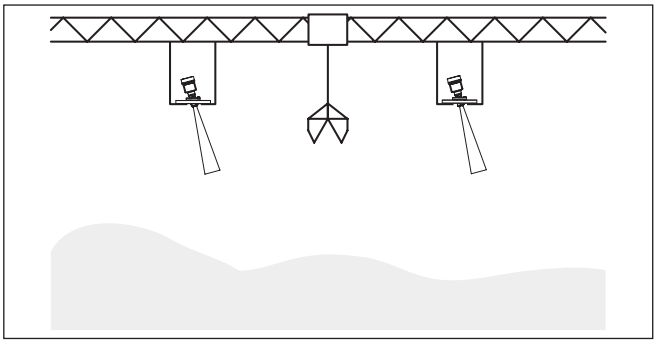

Fig. 19: Radar sensors on traverse crane

Information:
Keep in mind that for these applications, the sensors are designed for relatively slow level changes. When using VEGAPULS 68 on a movable bracket, the max. measuring rate must be observed (see chapter "*Technical data*").

Mounting in the vessel insulation

Instruments for a temperature range up to 250 °C or up to 450 °C have a distance piece between process fitting and electronics housing. Ths distance piece is used for thermal decoupling of the electronics against high process temperatures.

Information:
The spacer may only be incorporated up to a maximum of 50 mm into the vessel insulation. Only then is a reliable temperature decoupling guaranteed.

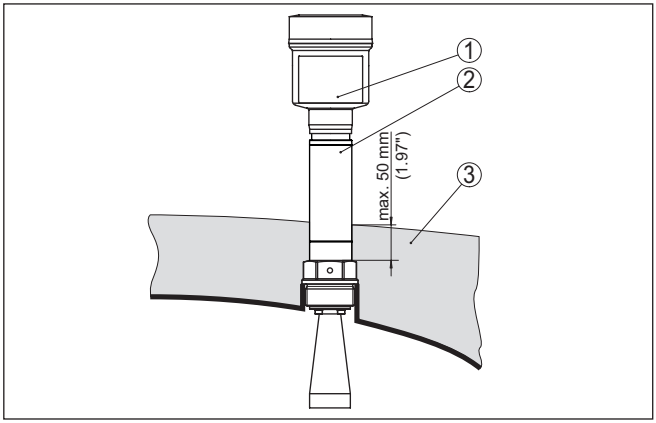

Fig. 20: Mounting the instrument on insulated vessels.

1 Electronics housing
2 Spacer
3 Vessel insulation

Installation in subsurface enclosures

For level measurements in concrete silos, the sensors are often mounted in protective boxes. These boxes can be for example metallic, closed subsurface enclosures.

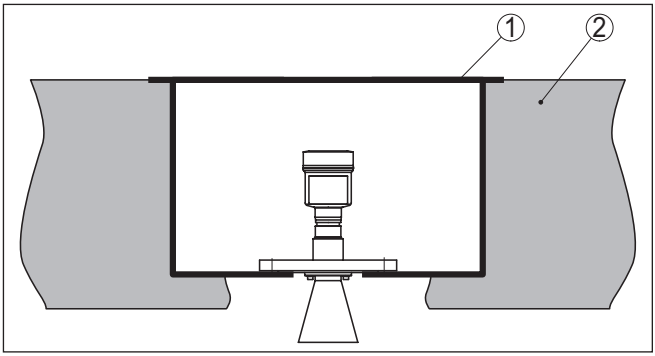

Fig. 21: Mounting of the instrument in an subsurface enclosure

1 Subsurface enclosure
2 Concrete bottom

For this application, the minimal amounts of stray radiation from the sensor can be reflected and strengthened by the walls of the subsurface enclosures. In the case of sensors with plastic housings, this can lead to coupling disturbances. This can be avoided by using a sensor with aluminium or stainless steel housing.

Mounting in multiple chamber silo

The silo walls of multiple chamber silos are often made of profile walls, such as e.g. profile sheeting, to ensure the required stability. If the radar sensor is mounted very close to a heavily structured vessel wall, considerable false reflections can be generated. Hence the sensor should be mounted at a large distance from the separating wall. The optimal mounting position is on the outer wall of the silo with the sensor directed towards the emptying aperture in the silo center.

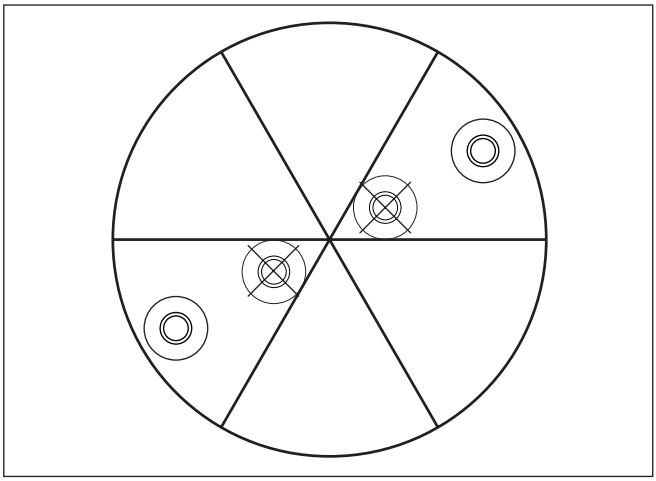

Fig. 22: Mounting of VEGAPULS 68 in multiple chamber silos

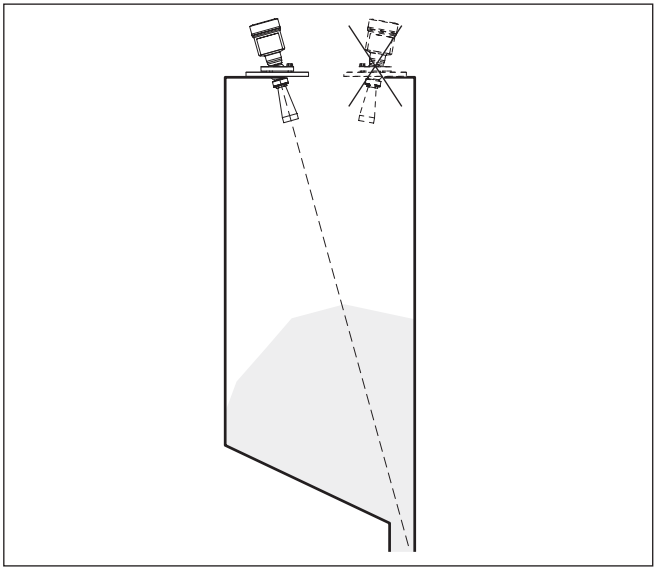

Fig. 23: Orientation of VEGAPULS 68 for emptying in the silo center

Dust deposits

To avoid strong buildup and dust in the antenna system, the sensor should not be mounted directly at the dust extraction of the vessel.

In case of extreme dust deposits in the antenna system, VEGAPULS 68 is available with a rinsing air connection. The air is distributed via channels in the antenna system and keeps it largely free of dust.

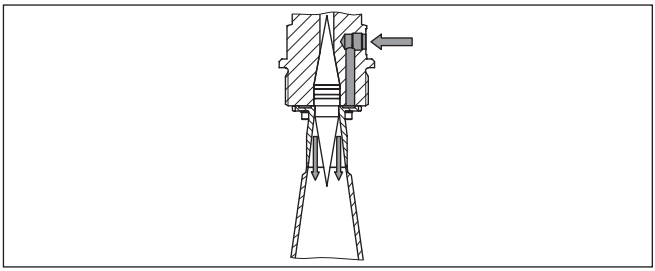

Fig. 24: Purging air connection with horn antenna

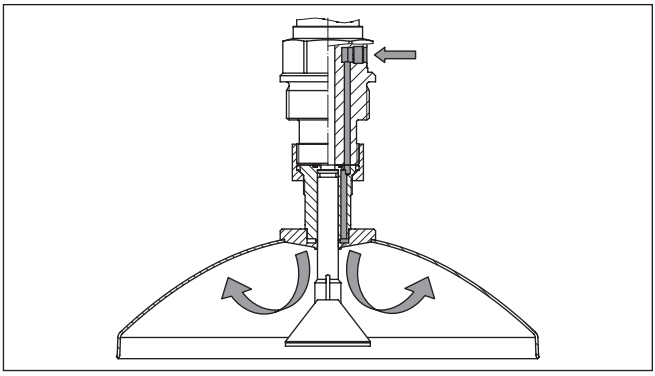

Fig. 25: Purging air connection with parabolic antenna

The practice has shown that a pressure of approx. 0.2 … 1 bar provides a sufficient air flow (see diagram in chapter "*Technical data*", "*Purging air connection*".

5 Connecting to power supply

5.1 Preparing the connection

Safety instructions

Always keep in mind the following safety instructions:

Warning:
Connect only in the complete absence of line voltage.

- The electrical connection must only be carried out by trained, qualified personnel authorised by the plant operator.
- If overvoltage surges are expected, overvoltage arresters should be installed.

Note:
Install a disconnecting device for the instrument which is easy to access. The disconnecting device must be marked for the instrument (IEC/EN 61010).

Voltage supply via mains voltage

In this case, the instrument is designed in protection class I. To maintain this protection class, it is absolutely necessary that the ground conductor be connected to the internal ground terminal. Take note of the national installation regulations.

Supply voltage and current signal are carried on separate connection cables if reliable separation is required. The supply voltage range can differ depending on the instrument version.

The data for power supply are specified in chapter "*Technical data*".

Voltage supply via low voltage

In this case, the instrument is designed in protection class II. Generally connect the instrument to vessel ground (potential equalization) or with plastic vessels to the next ground potential. For this purpose, a ground terminal is located laterally on the instrument housing.

Connection cable

An approved, three-wire installation cable with PE conductor is required for voltage supply with mains voltage.

The 4 … 20 mA current output is connected with standard two-wire cable without screen. If electromagnetic interference is expected which is above the test values of EN 61326-1 for industrial areas, screened cable should be used.

Make sure that the cable used has the required temperature resistance and fire safety for max. occurring ambient temperature

Use cable with round cross section for instruments with housing and cable gland. Use a cable gland suitable for the cable diameter to ensure the seal effect of the cable gland (IP protection rating).

Cable glands

Metric threads
In the case of instrument housings with metric thread, the cable glands are screwed in at the factory. They are sealed with plastic plugs as transport protection.

You have to remove these plugs before electrical connection.

NPT thread

In the case of instrument housings with self-sealing NPT threads, it is not possible to have the cable entries screwed in at the factory. The free openings for the cable glands are therefore covered with red dust protection caps as transport protection.

Prior to setup you have to replace these protective caps with approved cable glands or close the openings with suitable blind plugs.

On plastic housings, the NPT cable gland or the Conduit steel tube must be screwed into the threaded insert without grease.

Max. torque for all housings, see chapter "*Technical data*".

Cable screening and grounding

If screened cable is required, we recommend connecting the cable screening on both ends to ground potential. In the sensor, the cable screening must be connected directly to the internal ground terminal. The ground terminal on the outside of the housing must be connected to the ground potential (low impedance).

In Ex systems, the grounding is carried out according to the installation regulations.

In electroplating plants as well as plants for cathodic corrosion protection it must be taken into account that significant potential differences exist. This can lead to unacceptably high currents in the cable screen if it is grounded at both ends.

Information:

The metallic parts of the instrument (process fitting, sensor, concentric tube, etc.) are connected with the internal and external ground terminal on the housing. This connection exists either directly via the conductive metallic parts or, in case of instruments with external electronics, via the screen of the special connection cable.

You can find specifications on the potential connections inside the instrument in chapter "*Technical data*".

5.2 Connecting

Connection technology

The voltage supply and signal output are connected via the spring-loaded terminals in the housing.

Connection to the display and adjustment module or to the interface adapter is carried out via contact pins in the housing.

Information:

The terminal block is pluggable and can be removed from the electronics. To do this, lift the terminal block with a small screwdriver and pull it out. When reinserting the terminal block, you should hear it snap in.

Connection procedure

Proceed as follows:

1. Unscrew the housing lid
2. Loosen compression nut of the cable gland and remove blind plug

3. Remove approx. 10 cm (4 in) of the cable mantle (signal output), strip approx. 1 cm (0.4 in) insulation from the ends of the individual wires
4. Insert the cable into the sensor through the cable entry

Fig. 26: Connection steps 5 and 6

5. Insert the wire ends into the terminals according to the wiring plan

Information:
Solid cores as well as flexible cores with wire end sleeves are inserted directly into the terminal openings. In case of flexible cores without end sleeves, press the terminal from above with a small screwdriver, the terminal opening is then free. When the screwdriver is released, the terminal closes again.

6. Check the hold of the wires in the terminals by lightly pulling on them
7. Connect the cable screening to the internal ground terminal, connect the outer ground terminal to potential equalisation in case of power supply via low voltage
8. Connect the lead cable for voltage supply in the same way according to the wiring plan, in addition connect the ground conductor to the inner ground terminal when powered with mains voltage.
9. Tighten the compression nut of the cable glands. The seal ring must completely encircle the cables
10. Screw the housing lid back on

The electrical connection is finished.

Information:
The terminal blocks are pluggable and can be removed from the housing insert. To do this, lift the terminal block with a small screwdriver and pull it out. When inserting the terminal block again, you should hear it snap in.

5.3 Wiring plan, double chamber housing

The following illustrations apply to the non-Ex as well as to the Ex-d-ia version.

Electronics compartment

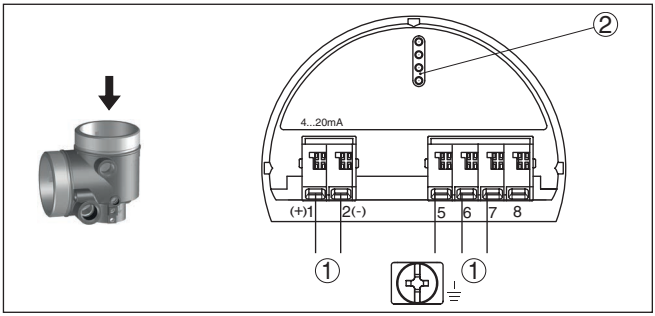

Fig. 27: Electronics compartment - double chamber housing

1 Internal connection to the connection compartment
2 For display and adjustment module or interface adapter

Information:
The connection of an external display and adjustment unit is not possible with the Ex-d-ia version.

Connection compartment with mains voltage

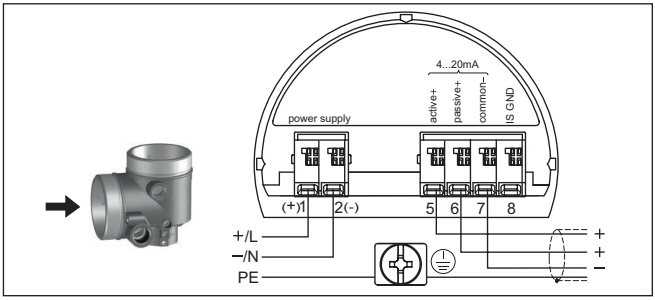

Fig. 28: Connection compartment with double chamber housing with mains voltage

Terminal	Function	Polarity
1	Voltage supply	+/L
2	Voltage supply	-/N
5	4 … 20 mA output (active)	+
6	4 … 20 mA output (passive)	+
7	Mass - output	-
8	Function ground when installing according to CSA (Canadian Standards Association)	

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Connection compartment with low voltage

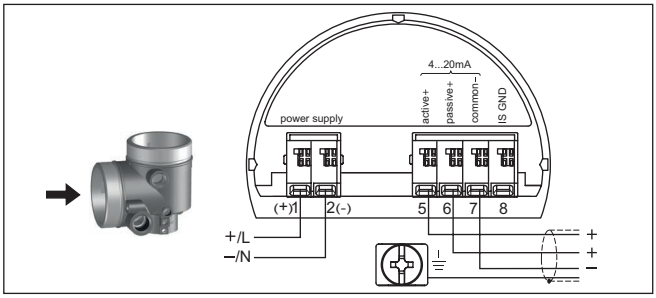


Fig. 29: Connection compartment with double chamber housing with low voltage

Terminal	Function	Polarity
1	Voltage supply	+/L
2	Voltage supply	-/N
5	4 … 20 mA output (active)	+
6	4 … 20 mA output (passive)	+
7	Mass - output	-
8	Function ground when installing according to CSA (Canadian Standards Association)	

5.4 Double chamber housing with VEGADIS-Adapter

The following illustrations apply to the non-Ex version.

Electronics compartment

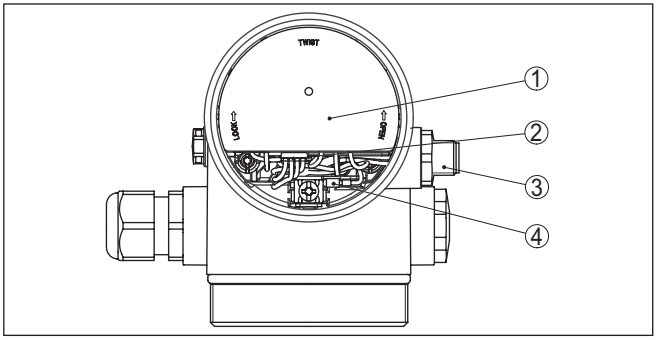


Fig. 30: View to the electronics compartment with VEGADIS adapter for connection of the external display and adjustment unit

1 VEGADIS adapter
2 Internal plug connection
3 Plug connector M12 x 1

Assignment of the plug connector

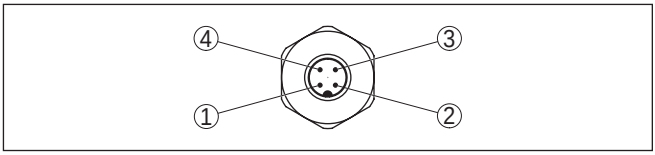


Fig. 31: View to the plug connector M12 x 1

1 Pin 1
2 Pin 2
3 Pin 3
4 Pin 4

Contact pin	Colour, connection cable in the sensor	Terminal, electronics module
Pin 1	Brown	5
Pin 2	White	6
Pin 3	Blue	7
Pin 4	Black	8

5.5 Switch-on phase

After connecting the instrument to voltage supply or after a voltage recurrence, the instrument carries out a self-check for approx. 30 s:

- Internal check of the electronics
- Indication of the instrument type, hardware and software version, measurement loop name on the display or PC
- Indication of the status message "*F 105 Determine measured value*" on the display or PC
- The output signal jumps to the set fault current

As soon as a plausible measured value is found, the corresponding current is output to the signal cable. The value corresponds to the actual level as well as the settings already carried out, e.g. factory setting.

6 Set up with the display and adjustment module

6.1 Insert display and adjustment module

The display and adjustment module can be inserted into the sensor and removed again at any time. You can choose any one of four different positions - each displaced by 90°. It is not necessary to interrupt the power supply.

Proceed as follows:

1. Unscrew the housing lid
2. Place the display and adjustment module on the electronics in the desired position and turn it to the right until it snaps in.
3. Screw housing lid with inspection window tightly back on

Disassembly is carried out in reverse order.

The display and adjustment module is powered by the sensor, an additional connection is not necessary.

Fig. 32: Installing the display and adjustment module in the electronics compartment of the single chamber housing

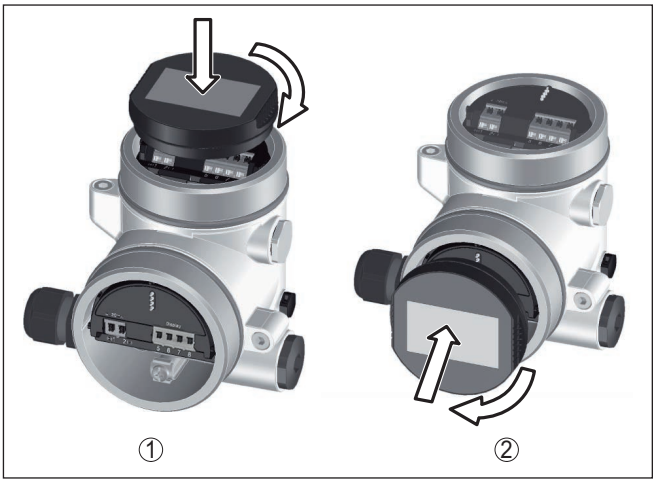


Fig. 33: Installing the display and adjustment module in the double chamber housing

1 In the electronics compartment
2 In the connection compartment

Note:
If you intend to retrofit the instrument with a display and adjustment module for continuous measured value indication, a higher lid with an inspection glass is required.

6.2 Adjustment system

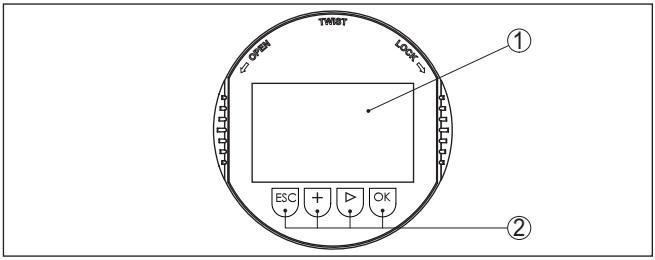


Fig. 34: Display and adjustment elements

1 LC display
2 Adjustment keys

Key functions

- ***[OK]*** key:
  - Move to the menu overview
  - Confirm selected menu
  - Edit parameter
  - Save value
- ***[->]*** key:
  - Change measured value presentation
  - Select list entry

- Select menu items in the quick setup menu
- Select editing position

- ***[+]*** key:
  - Change value of the parameter
- ***[ESC]*** key:
  - Interrupt input
  - Jump to next higher menu

Operating system - Keys direct

The instrument is operated via the four keys of the display and adjustment module. The individual menu items are shown on the LC display. You can find the function of the individual keys in the previous illustration.

Adjustment system - keys via magnetic pen

With the Bluetooth version of the display and adjustment module you can also adjust the instrument with the magnetic pen. The pen operates the four keys of the display and adjustment module right through the closed lid (with inspection window) of the sensor housing.

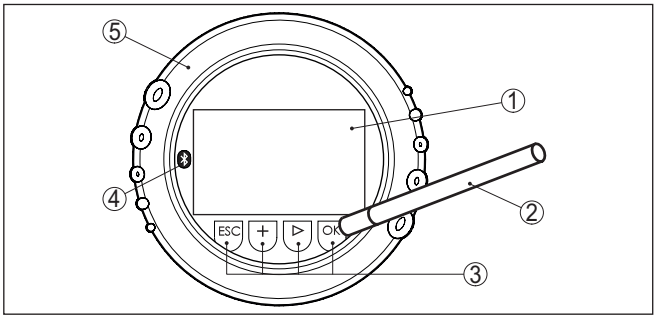


Fig. 35: Display and adjustment elements - with adjustment via magnetic pen

1 LC display
2 Magnetic pen
3 Adjustment keys
4 Bluetooth symbol
5 Lid with inspection window

Time functions

When the ***[+]*** and ***[->]*** keys are pressed quickly, the edited value, or the cursor, changes one value or position at a time. If the key is pressed longer than 1 s, the value or position changes continuously.

When the ***[OK]*** and ***[ESC]*** keys are pressed simultaneously for more than 5 s, the display returns to the main menu. The menu language is then switched over to "*English*".

Approx. 60 minutes after the last pressing of a key, an automatic reset to measured value indication is triggered. Any values not confirmed with ***[OK]*** will not be saved.

6.3 Measured value indication - Selection of national language

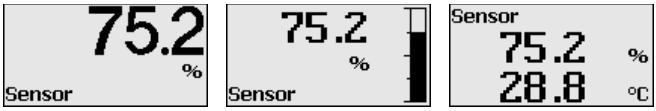
Measured value indication

With the ***[->]*** key you move between three different indication modes.

In the first view, the selected measured value is displayed in large digits.

In the second view, the selected measured value and a corresponding bar graph presentation are displayed.

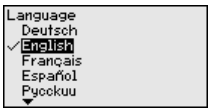
In the third view, the selected measured value as well as a second selectable value, e.g. the temperature of the electronics, are displayed.



During the initial setup of an instrument shipped with factory settings, use the "***OK***" key to get to the menu "*National language*".

Selection of national language

This menu item is used to select the national language for further parameter adjustment. You can change the selection via the menu item "*Setup - Display, Menu language*".



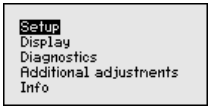
With the "***OK***" key you move to the main menu.

6.4 Parameter adjustment

The instrument is adapted to the application conditions via the parameter adjustment. The parameter adjustment is carried out with an adjustment menu.

Main menu

The main menu is divided into five sections with the following functions:



Setup: Settings, e.g., for measurement loop name, medium, application, vessel, adjustment, signal output

Display: Settings, e.g., for language, measured value display, lighting

Diagnosis: Information, e.g. on instrument status, pointer, measurement reliability, simulation, echo curve

Further settings: Instrument unit, false signal suppression, linearisation curve, reset, date/time, reset, copy function

Info: Instrument name, hardware and software version, date of manufacture, instrument features

Information:
In this operating instructions manual, the instrument-specific parameters in the menu sections "*Setup*", "*Diagnosis*" and "*Additional settings*" are described. The general parameters in these menu sections are described in the operating instructions manual "*Display and adjustment module*".

In the operating instructions manual "*Display and adjustment module*" you can also find the description of menu sections "*Display*" and "*Info*".

In the main menu item "*Setup*", the individual submenu items should be selected one after the other and provided with the correct parameters to ensure optimum adjustment of the measurement. The procedure is described in the following.

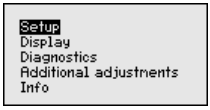
Setup - Measurement loop name

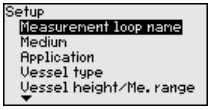
In the menu item "*Sensor TAG*" you edit a twelve-digit measurement loop designation.

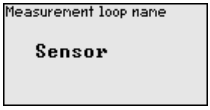
You can enter an unambiguous designation for the sensor, e.g. the measurement loop name or the tank or product designation. In digital systems and in the documentation of larger plants, a singular designation must be entered for exact identification of individual measuring points.

The available digits include:

- Letters from A … Z
- Numbers from 0 … 9
- Special characters +, -, /, -



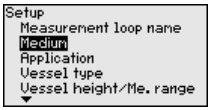


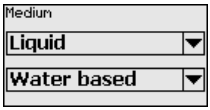


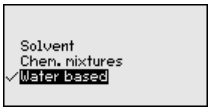
Setup - Medium

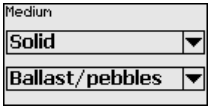
Every medium has different reflective properties. With liquids, there are additional interfering factors such as turbulent product surface and foam generation. With bulk solids, the additional interfering factors are dust generation, angle of repose and secondary echoes from the vessel wall.

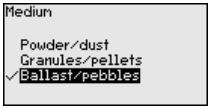
To adapt the sensor to these different measuring conditions, the selection "*Liquid*" or "*Bulk solid*" should be made in this menu item.











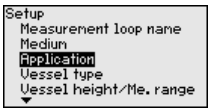
Through this selection, the sensor is optimally adapted to the product, and measurement reliability, particularly in products with poor reflective properties, is considerably increased.

Enter the requested parameters via the appropriate keys, save your settings with ***[OK]*** and jump to the next menu item with the ***[ESC]*** and the ***[->]*** key.

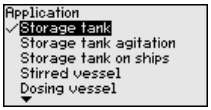
Setup - Application

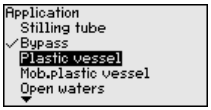
In addition to the medium, also the application, i.e. the measuring site, can influence the measurement.

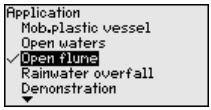
With this menu item, the sensor can be adapted to the applications. The adjustment possibilities depend on the selection "*Liquid*" or "*Bulk solid*" under "*Medium*".



The following options are available when "*Liquid*" is selected:



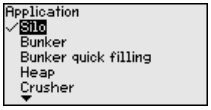


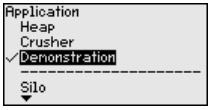


Note:
Probably the operation of the instrument in the following applications is subject to national restrictions in respect to the radio license (see chapter "*For your safety*"):

- Plastic tank
- Transportable plastic tank
- Open water
- Open flume
- Rain water spillover

The following options are available when "*Bulk solid*" is selected:





Following the characteristics of the applications and the metrological features of the sensor with application "*Bulk solids*" are described.

Silo (slender and high):
- Vessel of metal: weld joints
- Process/measurement conditions:
  - Filling aperture too close to the sensor
  - System noise in completely empty silo increased
- Properties, sensor:
  - Stable measured values through higher averaging
  - False signal suppression during setup recommended, required for automatic false signal suppression
  - Automatic false signal suppression with partly filled vessel[1)]

Bunker (large-volume):
- Vessel of concrete or metal:
  - Structured vessel walls
  - Installations present
- Process/measurement conditions:

[1)] The instrument recognizes if a manual false signal suppression was carried out with empty vessel and high system noise. An automatic false signal suppression is then carried out if a product echo was detected at the beginning of the filling process.

  - Large distance to the medium
  - Large angles of repose
- Properties, sensor:
  - Mean averaging
  - High measured value jumps are accepted

Bunker with fast filling:
- Vessel of concrete or metal, also multiple chamber silo:
  - Structured vessel walls
  - Installations present
- Process/measurement conditions:
  - Measured value jumps, e.g. through truck loading
  - Large distance to the medium
  - Large angles of repose
- Properties, sensor:
  - Lower averaging
  - Very high measured value jumps are accepted

Heap:
- Sensor mounting on movable conveyor belts
- Detection of the heap profile
- Height detection during filling
- Process/measurement conditions:
  - Measured value jumps, e.g. by the profile of the heap or traverses
  - Large angles of repose
  - Measurement near the filling stream
- Properties, sensor:
  - Mean averaging
  - High measured value jumps are accepted

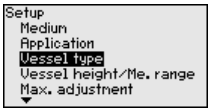
Crusher:
- Vessel: installations, wear and protective facilities available
- Process/measurement conditions:
  - Measured value jumps, e.g. through truck loading
  - Fast reaction time
  - Large distance to the medium
- Properties, sensor:
  - Little averaging
  - Max. reaction speed, very high measured value jumps are accepted

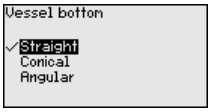
Demonstration:
- Adjustment for all applications which are not typically level measurement
  - Instrument demonstration
  - Object recognition/monitoring (additional settings required)
- Properties, sensor:
  - Sensor accepts all measured value changes within the measuring range immediately
  - High sensitivity to interference, because virtually no averaging

Enter the requested parameters via the appropriate keys, save your settings with ***[OK]*** and jump to the next menu item with the ***[ESC]*** and the ***[->]*** key.

Setup - Vessel form

Apart from the medium and the application, the vessel form itself can influence the measurement. To adapt the sensor to these measuring conditions, this menu item offers different options for vessel bottom for certain applications.



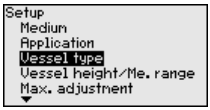


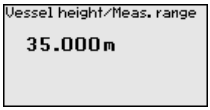
Enter the requested parameters via the appropriate keys, save your settings with ***[OK]*** and jump to the next menu item with the ***[ESC]*** and the ***[->]*** key.

Setup - Vessel height, measuring range

Through this selection the operating range of the sensor is adapted to the vessel height, which considerably increases measurement reliability under different basic conditions.

The min. adjustment must be carried out independently of this.





Enter the requested parameters via the appropriate keys, save your settings with ***[OK]*** and jump to the next menu item with the ***[ESC]*** and the ***[->]*** key.

Setup - Adjustment

Since the radar sensor is a distance measuring instrument, it is the distance from the sensor to the product surface that is measured. To indicate the actual level, the measured distance must be assigned to a certain height percentage.

To perform the adjustment, enter the distance with full and empty vessel, see the following example:

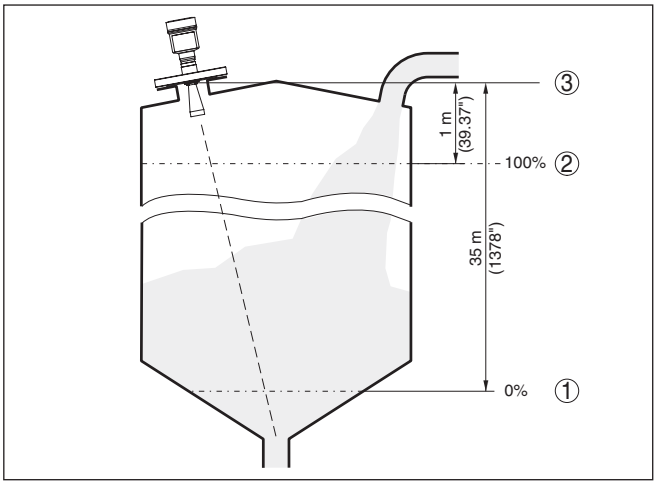


Fig. 36: Parameterisation example, Min./max. adjustment

1 Min. level = max. measuring distance
2 Max. level = min. measuring distance

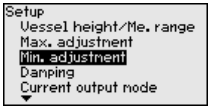
If these values are not known, an adjustment with the distances of e.g. 10 % and 90 % is possible. Starting point for these distance specifications is always the sealing surface of the thread or flange. You can find further specifications on the reference plane in the chapters "*Mounting instructions*" and "*Technical data*". The actual level is calculated on the basis of these settings.

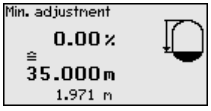
The actual product level during this adjustment is not important, because the min./max. adjustment is always carried out without changing the product level. These settings can be made ahead of time without the instrument having to be installed.

Setup - Min. adjustment

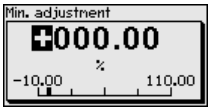
Proceed as follows:

1. Select the menu item "*Setup*" with ***[->]*** and confirm with ***[OK]***. Now select with ***[->]*** the menu item "*Min. adjustment*" and confirm with ***[OK]***.

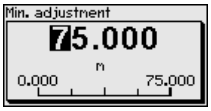




2. Edit the percentage value with ***[OK]*** and set the cursor to the requested position with ***[->]***.



3. Set the requested percentage value with ***[+]*** and save with ***[OK]***. The cursor jumps now to the distance value.

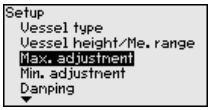


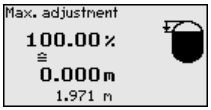
4. Enter the suitable distance value in m for empty vessel (e.g. distance from the sensor to the vessel bottom) corresponding to the percentage value.
5. Save settings with ***[OK]*** and move with ***[ESC]*** and ***[->]*** to the max. adjustment.

Setup - Max. adjustment

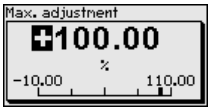
Proceed as follows:

1. Select with ***[->]*** the menu item Max. adjustment and confirm with ***[OK]***.

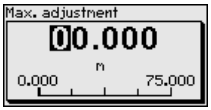




2. Prepare the percentage value for editing with ***[OK]*** and set the cursor to the requested position with ***[->]***.



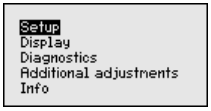
3. Set the requested percentage value with ***[+]*** and save with ***[OK]***. The cursor jumps now to the distance value.

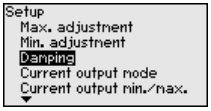


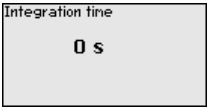
4. Enter the appropriate distance value in m (corresponding to the percentage value) for the full vessel. Keep in mind that the max. level must lie below the min. distance to the antenna edge.
5. Save settings with ***[OK]***

Setup - Damping

To damp process-dependent measured value fluctuations, set an integration time of 0 … 999 s in this menu item.



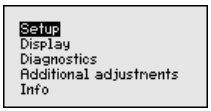


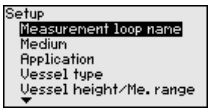


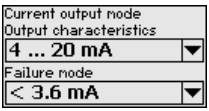
Depending on the sensor type, the factory setting is 0 s or 1 s.

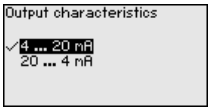
Setup - Current output, mode

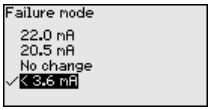
In the menu item "*Current output mode*" you determine the output characteristics and reaction of the current output in case of fault.







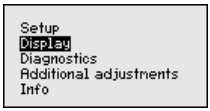


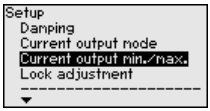


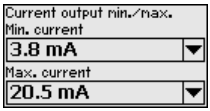
The default setting is output characteristics 4 … 20 mA, fault mode < 3.6 mA.

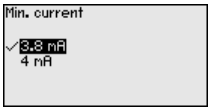
Setup - Current output Min./Max.

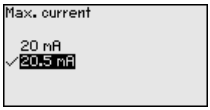
In the menu item "*Current output Min./Max.*", you determine the reaction of the current output during operation.







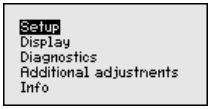


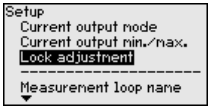


The default setting is min. current 3.8 mA and max. current 20.5 mA.

Setup - Lock adjustment

In this menu item, the PIN is activated/deactivated permanently. Entering a 4-digit PIN protects the sensor data against unauthorized access and unintentional modifications. If the PIN is activated permanently, it can be deactivated temporarily (i.e. for approx. 60 min.) in any menu item.





Only the following functions are permitted with activated PIN:

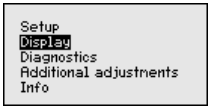
- Select menu items and show data
- Read data from the sensor into the display and adjustment module

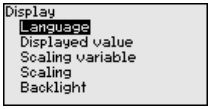
Caution:
When the PIN is active, adjustment via PACTware/DTM as well as other systems is also blocked.

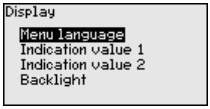
In delivery status, the PIN is "*0000*".

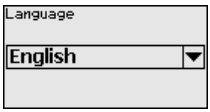
Display - Language

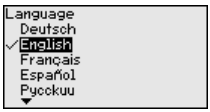
This menu item enables the setting of the requested national language.

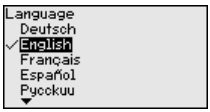








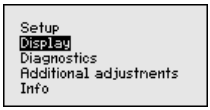


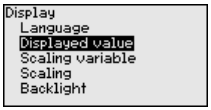


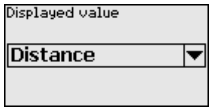
In delivery status, the sensor is set to the ordered national language.

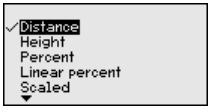
Display - Indicated value

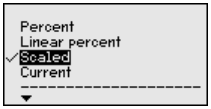
In this menu item you can define the indication of the measured value on the display.







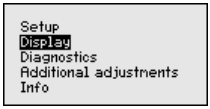


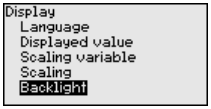


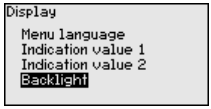
The default setting for the indicated value is e.g. "Distance" on radar sensors.

Display - Backlight

The optionally integrated background lighting can be switched on via the adjustment menu. This function depends on the level of the supply voltage, see operating instructions of the respective sensor.



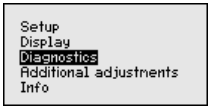


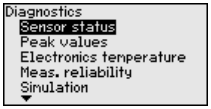


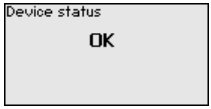
In delivery status, the lighting is switched on.

Diagnostics - Device status

In this menu item, the device status is displayed.

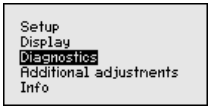


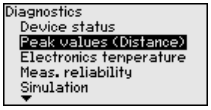


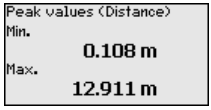


Diagnostics - Peak values (distance)

The respective min. and max. measured distance values are saved in the sensor. The values are displayed in the menu item "*Peak values*".

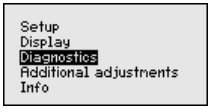


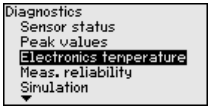


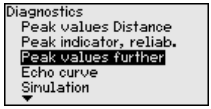


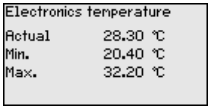
Diagnosis - Electronics temperature

The respective min. and max. measured values of the electronics temperature are saved in the sensor. These values as well as the current temperature value are displayed in the menu item "*Peak values*".



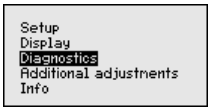


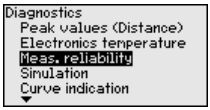


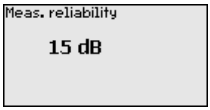


Diagnosis - Measurement reliability

When non-contact level sensors are used, the measurement can be influenced by the respective process conditions. In this menu item, the measurement reliability of the level echo is displayed as a dB value. Measurement reliability equals signal strength minus noise. The higher the value, the more reliable the measurement. A well functioning measurement normally has a value > 10 dB.

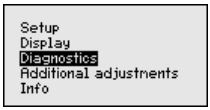


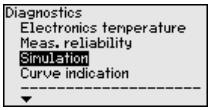


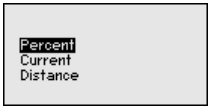


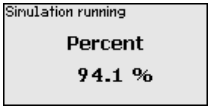
Diagnosis - Simulation

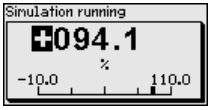
In this menu item you can simulate measured values via the current output. This allows the signal path to be tested, e.g. through downstream indicating instruments or the input card of the control system.











How to start the simulation:

1. Push ***[OK]***
2. Select the requested simulation variable with ***[->]*** and confirm with ***[OK]***.
3. With ***[OK]*** you start the simulation, first of all the actual measured value is displayed in %
4. Start the editing mode with ***[OK]***
5. Set the requested numerical value with ***[+]*** and ***[->]***.
6. Push ***[OK]***

Note:
During simulation, the simulated value is output as 4 … 20 mA current value and digital HART signal.

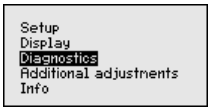
How to interrupt the simulation:

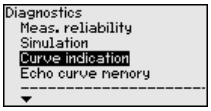
→ Push ***[ESC]***

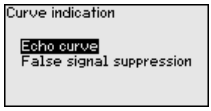
Information:
The simulation is automatically terminated 10 minutes after the last pressing of a key.

Diagnosis - Curve indication

The "*Echo curve*" shows the signal strength of the echoes over the measuring range in dB. The signal strength enables an evaluation of the quality of the measurement.

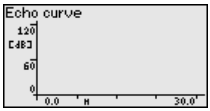


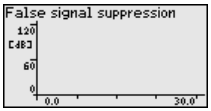




The "*False signal suppression*" displays the saved false echoes (see menu "*Additional settings*") of the empty vessel with signal strength in "dB" over the entire measuring range.

A comparison of echo curve and false signal suppression allows a more detailed statement about measurement reliability.





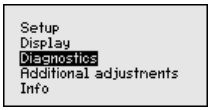
The selected curve is continuously updated. A submenu with zoom functions is opened with the ***[OK]*** key:

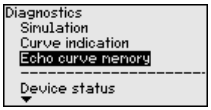
- "X-Zoom": Zoom function for the meas. distance
- "Y-Zoom": 1, 2, 5 and 10x signal magnification in "*dB*"
- "Unzoom": Reset the presentation to the nominal measuring range without magnification

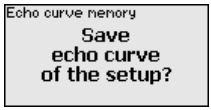
Diagnostics - Echo curve memory

The function "*Echo curve memory*" makes it possible to save the echo curve at the time of setup. This is generally recommended, and it is absolutely necessary if you want to use the Asset Management functions. If possible, the curve should be saved with a low level in the vessel.

With the adjustment software PACTware and a PC, a high resolution echo curve can be displayed and used to recognize signal changes during operation. In addition, the echo curve of setup can be displayed in the echo curve window and compared with the current echo curve.

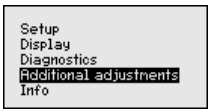


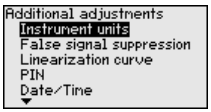


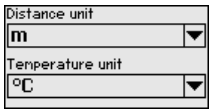


Additional adjustments - Instrument units

In this menu item you select the measured variable of the system and the temperature unit.







Additional settings - False signal suppression

The following circumstances cause interfering reflections and can influence the measurement:

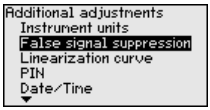
- High mounting sockets
- Vessel internals such as struts
- Agitators
- Buildup or welded joints on vessel walls

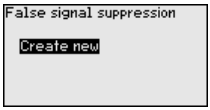
Note:
A false signal suppression detects, marks and saves these false signals to ensure that they are ignored in the level measurement.

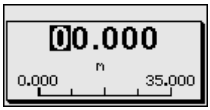
This should be done with the lowest possible level so that all potential interfering reflections can be detected.

Proceed as follows:

1. Select with ***[->]*** the menu item "*False signal suppression*" and confirm with ***[OK]***.



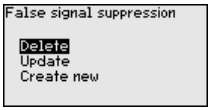




2. Confirm 3-times with ***[OK]*** and enter the actual distance from the sensor to the product surface.
3. All interfering signals in this range are detected by the sensor and stored after being confirmed with ***[OK]***.

Note:
Check the distance to the product surface, because if an incorrect (too large) value is entered, the existing level will be saved as a false signal. The level would then no longer be detectable in this area.

If a false signal suppression has already been saved in the sensor, the following menu window appears when selecting "*False signal suppression*":



Delete: An already created false signal suppression will be completely deleted. This is useful if the saved false signal suppression no longer matches the metrological conditions in the vessel.

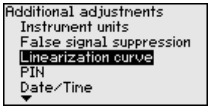
Extend: is used to extend an already created false signal suppression. This is useful if a false signal suppression was carried out with too high a level and not all false signals could be detected. When selecting "*Extend*", the distance to the product surface of the created false signal suppression is displayed. This value can now be changed and the false signal suppression can be extended to this range.

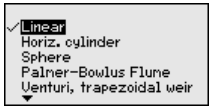
Additional settings - Linearization

A linearization is necessary for all vessels in which the vessel volume does not increase linearly with the level - e.g. a horizontal cylindri-

cal or spherical tank - and the indication or output of the volume is required. Corresponding linearization curves are preprogrammed for these vessels. They represent the correlation between the level percentage and vessel volume.

By activating the appropriate curve, the volume percentage of the vessel is displayed correctly. If the volume should not be displayed in percent but e.g. in l or kg, a scaling can be also set in the menu item "*Display*".





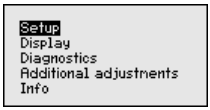
Enter the requested parameters via the appropriate keys, save your settings and jump to the next menu item with the ***[ESC]*** and ***[->]*** key.

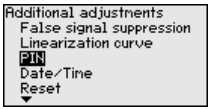
Caution:
Note the following if instruments with appropriate approval are used as part of an overfill protection system according to WHG:

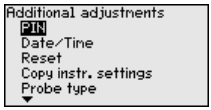
If a linearisation curve is selected, the measuring signal is no longer necessarily linear to the filling height. This must be considered by the user especially when setting the switching point on the limit signal transmitter.

Additional settings - PIN

Entering a 4-digit PIN protects the sensor data against unauthorized access and unintentional modification. In this menu item, the PIN is displayed or edited and changed. However, this menu item is only available if adjustment is enabled in the menu "*Setup*".



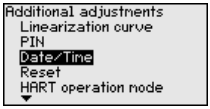




In delivery status, the PIN is "*0000*".

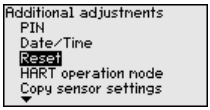
Additional settings - Date/ Time

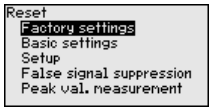
In this menu item, the internal clock of the sensor is set.



Additional settings - Reset

After a reset, certain parameter adjustments made by the user are reset.





The following reset functions are available:

Delivery status: Restores the parameter settings at the time of shipment from the factory, incl. order-specific settings. Any stored false signal suppression or user-programmed linearisation curve, as well as the measured value memory, are deleted.

Basic settings: Restores the parameter settings, incl. special parameters, to the default values of the respective instrument. Any stored false signal suppression or user-programmed linearisation curve, as well as the measured value memory, are deleted.

Setup: Restores the parameter settings made in the menu item Setup to the default values of the respective instrument. False signal suppression, user-programmed linearisation curve, measured value memory and event memory remain untouched. The linearisation is set to linear.

False signal suppression: Deletes a previously created false signal suppression. The false signal suppression created at the factory remains active.

Peak values, measured value: Resets the measured min. and max. distances to the current measured value.

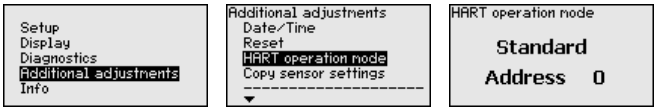
The following table shows the default values of the instrument. Depending on the instrument version, not all menu items are available or some may be differently assigned:

Menu	Menu item	Default value
Setup	Measurement loop name	Sensor
	Medium	Liquid/Water Bulk solids/Crushed stones, gravel
	Application	Storage tank Silo
	Vessel form	Vessel bottom, dished form Vessel top, dished form
	Vessel height/Measuring range	Recommended measuring range, see "*Technical data*" in the supplement.
	Min. adjustment	Recommended measuring range, see "*Technical data*" in the supplement.
	Max. adjustment	0,000 m(d)
	Damping	0.0 s
	Current output mode	4 … 20 mA, < 3.6 mA
	Current output, min./max.	Min. current 3.8 mA, max. current 20.5 mA
	Lock adjustment	Released

Menu	Menu item	Default value
Display	Language	Like order
	Displayed value	Distance
	Display unit	m
	Scaling size	Volume l
	Scaling	0.00 lin %, 0 l 100.00 lin %, 100 l
	Backlight	Switched on
Additional adjustments	Distance unit	m
	Temperature unit	°C
	Probe length	Length of standpipe ex factory
	Linearisation curve	Linear
	HART mode	Standard Address 0

Additional settings - HART mode

The sensor offers the HART modes standard and Multidrop. In this menu item you specify the HART mode and enter the address for Multidrop.



The mode "standard" with the fixed address 0 means outputting the measured value as a 4 … 20 mA signal.

In Multidrop mode, up to 63 sensors can be operated on one two-wire cable. An address between 1 and 63 must be assigned to each sensor.[2)]

The default setting is standard with address 0.

Additional settings - Copy instrument settings

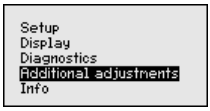
The instrument settings are copied with this function. The following functions are available:

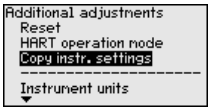
- Store data from sensor in the display and adjustment module.
- Store data from display and adjustment module in the sensor

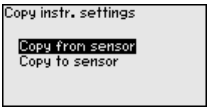
The following data or settings for adjustment of the display and adjustment module are saved:

- All data of the menu "*Setup*" and "*Display*"
- In the menu "*Additional settings*" the items "*Distance unit, temperature unit and linearization*"
- The values of the user-programmable linearisation curve

[2)] The 4 … 20 mA signal of the sensor is switched off. The sensor uses a constant current of 4 mA. The measuring signal is transmitted exclusively as a digital HART signal.







The copied data are permanently saved in an EEPROM memory in the display and adjustment module and remain there even in case of power failure. From there, they can be written into one or more sensors or kept as backup for a possible sensor exchange.

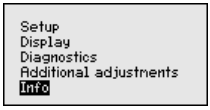
The type and the volume of the copied data depend on the respective sensor.

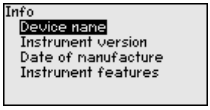
Note:

Before the data are stored in the sensor, a check is carried out to determine if the data fit the sensor. If the data do not fit, a fault signal is triggered or the function is blocked. When data are being written into the sensor, the display shows which instrument type the data originate from and which TAG-no. this sensor had.

Info - Instrument name

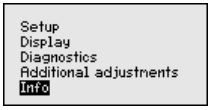
In this menu, you read out the instrument name and the instrument serial number:

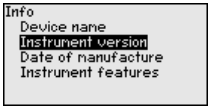




Info - Instrument version

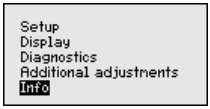
In this menu item, the hardware and software version of the sensor is displayed.

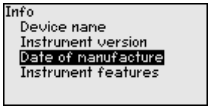




Info - Date of manufacture

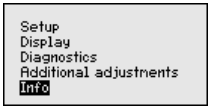
In this menu item, the date of factory calibration of the sensor as well as the date of the last change of sensor parameters are displayed via the display and adjustment module or via the PC.





Instrument features

In this menu item, the features of the sensor such as approval, process fitting, seal, measuring range, electronics, housing and others are displayed.



6.5 Saving the parameterisation data

On paper

We recommended writing down the adjustment data, e.g. in this operating instructions manual, and archiving them afterwards. They are thus available for multiple use or service purposes.

In the display and adjustment module

If the instrument is equipped with a display and adjustment module, the parameter adjustment data can be saved therein. The procedure is described in menu item "*Copy device settings*".

7 Setup with PACTware

7.1 Connect the PC

Via the interface adapter directly on the sensor

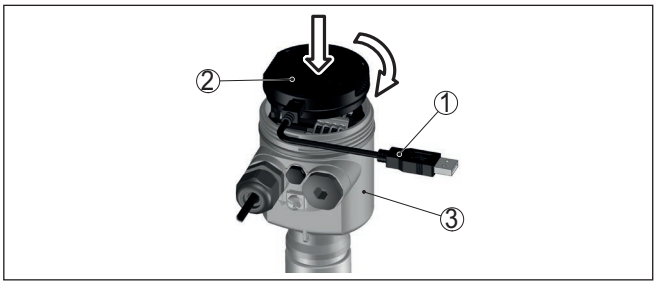


Fig. 37: Connection of the PC directly to the sensor via the interface adapter

1 USB cable to the PC
2 Interface adapter VEGACONNECT
3 Sensor

Connection via HART

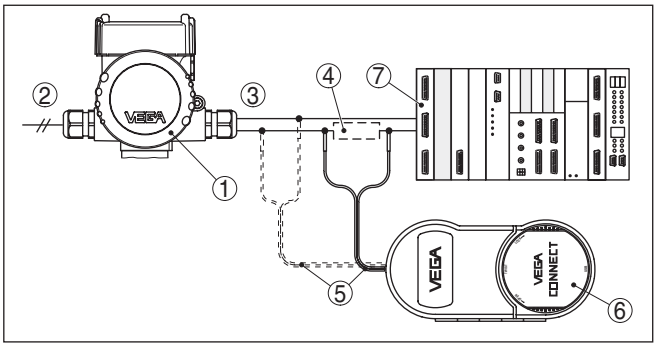


Fig. 38: Connecting the PC via HART to the signal cable

1 VEGAPULS 68
2 Voltage supply
3 4 … 20 mA signal output
4 HART resistance approx. 250 Ω (optional depending on processing)
5 Connection cable with 2 mm pins and terminals
6 VEGACONNECT
7 Processing system/PLC

Necessary components:

- VEGAPULS 68
- PC with PACTware and suitable VEGA DTM
- VEGACONNECT
- HART resistance approx. 250 Ω
- Processing system/PLC

Note:
With power supply units with integrated HART resistance (internal resistance approx. 250 Ω), an additional external resistance is not

necessary. This applies, e.g. to the VEGA instruments VEGATRENN 149A, VEGAMET 381 and VEGAMET 391). Commercially available Ex separators are also usually equipped with sufficient current limitation resistance. In such cases, VEGACONNECT can be connected parallel to the 4 … 20 mA cable.

7.2 Parameter adjustment

Prerequisites

For parameter adjustment of the instrument via a Windows PC, the configuration software PACTware and a suitable instrument driver (DTM) according to FDT standard are required. The latest PACTware version as well as all available DTMs are compiled in a DTM Collection. The DTMs can also be integrated into other frame applications according to FDT standard.

Note:

To ensure that all instrument functions are supported, you should always use the latest DTM Collection. Furthermore, not all described functions are included in older firmware versions. You can download the latest instrument software from our homepage. A description of the update procedure is also available in the Internet.

Further setup steps are described in the operating instructions manual "*DTM Collection/PACTware*" attached to each DTM Collection and which can also be downloaded from the Internet. Detailed descriptions are available in the online help of PACTware and the DTMs.

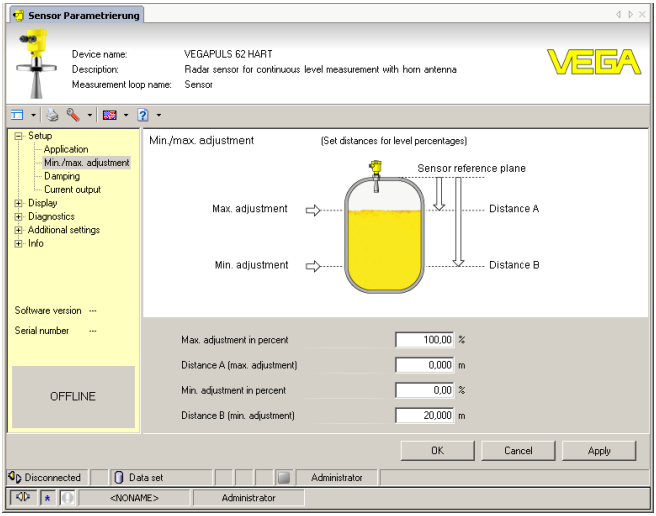


Fig. 39: Example of a DTM view

Standard/Full version

All device DTMs are available as a free-of-charge standard version and as a full version that must be purchased. In the standard version, all functions for complete setup are already included. An assistant for simple project configuration simplifies the adjustment considerably.

Saving/printing the project as well as import/export functions are also part of the standard version.

In the full version there is also an extended print function for complete project documentation as well as a save function for measured value and echo curves. In addition, there is a tank calculation program as well as a multiviewer for display and analysis of the saved measured value and echo curves.

The standard version is available as a download under www.vega.com/downloads and "*Software*". The full version is available on CD from the agency serving you.

7.3 Saving the parameterisation data

We recommend documenting or saving the parameterisation data via PACTware. That way the data are available for multiple use or service purposes.

8 Set up with other systems

8.1 DD adjustment programs

Device descriptions as Enhanced Device Description (EDD) are available for DD adjustment programs such as, for example, AMS™ and PDM.

The files can be downloaded at www.vega.com/downloads under "*Software*".

8.2 Field Communicator 375, 475

Device descriptions for the instrument are available as EDD for parameterisation with Field Communicator 375 or 475.

Integrating the EDD into the Field Communicator 375 or 475 requires the "Easy Upgrade Utility" software, which is available from the manufacturer. This software is updated via the Internet and new EDDs are automatically accepted into the device catalogue of this software after they are released by the manufacturer. They can then be transferred to a Field Communicator.

9 Diagnosis, asset management and service

9.1 Maintenance

Maintenance

If the device is used properly, no special maintenance is required in normal operation.

Precaution measures against buildup

In some applications, buildup on the antenna system can influence the measuring result. Depending on the sensor and application, take measures to avoid heavy soiling of the antenna system. If necessary, clean the antenna system in certain intervals.

Cleaning

The cleaning helps that the type label and markings on the instrument are visible.

Take note of the following:

- Use only cleaning agents which do not corrode the housings, type label and seals
- Use only cleaning methods corresponding to the housing protection rating

9.2 Measured value and event memory

The instrument has several memories available for diagnostic purposes. The data remain there even in case of voltage interruption.

Measured value memory

Up to 100,000 measured values can be stored in the sensor in a ring memory. Each entry contains date/time as well as the respective measured value. Storable values are for example:

- Distance
- Filling height
- Percentage value
- Lin. percent
- Scaled
- Current value
- Measurement reliability
- Electronics temperature

When the instrument is shipped, the measured value memory is active and stores distance, measurement reliability and electronics temperature every 3 minutes.

The requested values and recording conditions are set via a PC with PACTware/DTM or the control system with EDD. Data are thus read out and also reset.

Event memory

Up to 500 events are automatically stored with a time stamp in the sensor (non-deletable). Each entry contains date/time, event type, event description and value. Event types are for example:

- Modification of a parameter
- Switch-on and switch-off times
- Status messages (according to NE 107)
- Error messages (according to NE 107)

The data are read out via a PC with PACTware/DTM or the control system with EDD.

Echo curve memory

The echo curves are stored with date and time and the corresponding echo data. The memory is divided into two sections:

Echo curve of the setup: This is used as reference echo curve for the measurement conditions during setup. Changes in the measurement conditions during operation or buildup on the sensor can thus be recognized. The echo curve of the setup is stored via:

- PC with PACTware/DTM
- Control system with EDD
- Display and adjustment module

Further echo curves: Up to 10 echo curves can be stored in a ring buffer in this memory section. Additional echo curves are stored via:

- PC with PACTware/DTM
- Control system with EDD

9.3 Asset Management function

The instrument features self-monitoring and diagnostics according to NE 107 and VDI/VDE 2650. In addition to the status messages in the following tables, detailed error messages are available under menu item "*Diagnostics*" via the display and adjustment module, PACTware/DTM and EDD.

Status messages

The status messages are divided into the following categories:

- Failure
- Function check
- Out of specification
- Maintenance requirement

and explained by pictographs:

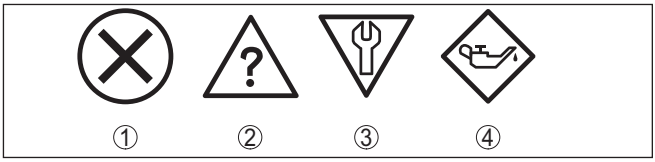


Fig. 40: Pictographs of the status messages

1 Failure - red
2 Out of specification - yellow
3 Function check - orange
4 Maintenance - blue

Failure: Due to a malfunction in the instrument, a fault message is output.

This status message is always active. It cannot be deactivated by the user.

Function check: The instrument is being worked on, the measured value is temporarily invalid (for example during simulation).

This status message is inactive by default. It can be activated by the user via PACTware/DTM or EDD.

Out of specification: The measured value is unreliable because an instrument specification was exceeded (e.g. electronics temperature).

This status message is inactive by default. It can be activated by the user via PACTware/DTM or EDD.

Maintenance: Due to external influences, the instrument function is limited. The measurement is affected, but the measured value is still valid. Plan in maintenance for the instrument because a failure is expected in the near future (e.g. due to buildup).

This status message is inactive by default. It can be activated by the user via PACTware/DTM or EDD.

Failure

Code Text message	Cause	Rectification	DevSpec State in CMD 48
F013 no measured value available	● Sensor does not detect an echo during operation ● Antenna system dirty or defective	● Check or correct installation and/or parameter settings ● Clean or exchange process component or antenna	Bit 0 of Byte 0 … 5
F017 Adjustment span too small	● Adjustment not within specification	● Change adjustment according to the limit values (difference between min. and max. ≥ 10 mm)	Bit 1 of Byte 0 … 5
F025 Error in the linearization table	● Index markers are not continuously rising, for example illogical value pairs	● Check linearisation table ● Delete table/Create new	Bit 2 of Byte 0 … 5
F036 No operable software	● Failed or interrupted software update	● Repeat software update ● Check electronics version ● Exchanging the electronics ● Send instrument for repair	Bit 3 of Byte 0 … 5
F040 Error in the electronics	● Hardware defect	● Exchanging the electronics ● Send instrument for repair	Bit 4 of Byte 0 … 5
F080 General software error	● General software error	● Disconnect operating voltage briefly	Bit 5 of Byte 0 … 5
F105 Determine measured value	● The instrument is still in the start phase, the measured value could not yet be determined	● Wait for the end of the switch-on phase ● Duration up to approx. 3 minutes depending on the version and parameter settings	Bit 6 of Byte 0 … 5
F113 Communication error	● EMC interference ● Transmission error during external communication with 4-wire power supply unit	● Remove EMC influences	Bit 12 of Byte 0 … 5
F125 Impermissible electronics temperature	● Temperature of the electronics in the non-specified range	● Check ambient temperature ● Insulate electronics ● Use instrument with higher temperature range	Bit 7 of Byte 0 … 5

Code Text message	Cause	Rectification	DevSpec State in CMD 48
F260 Error in the calibration	● Error in the calibration carried out in the factory ● Error in the EEPROM	● Exchanging the electronics ● Send instrument for repair	Bit 8 of Byte 0 … 5
F261 Error in the instrument settings	● Error during setup ● False signal suppression faulty ● Error when carrying out a reset	● Repeat setup ● Carry out a reset	Bit 9 of Byte 0 … 5
F264 Installation/Setup error	● Adjustment not within the vessel height/measuring range ● Max. measuring range of the instrument not sufficient	● Check or correct installation and/or parameter settings ● Use an instrument with bigger measuring range	Bit 10 of Byte 0 … 5
F265 Measurement function disturbed	● Sensor no longer carries out a measurement ● Operating voltage too low	● Check operating voltage ● Carry out a reset ● Disconnect operating voltage briefly	Bit 11 of Byte 0 … 5

Function check

Code Text message	Cause	Rectification	DevSpec State in CMD 48
C700 Simulation active	● A simulation is active	● Finish simulation ● Wait for the automatic end after 60 mins.	"Simulation Active" in "Standardized Status 0"

Out of specification

Code Text message	Cause	Rectification	DevSpec State in CMD 48
S600 Impermissible electronics temperature	● Temperature of the electronics in the non-specified range	● Check ambient temperature ● Insulate electronics ● Use instrument with higher temperature range	Bit 5 of Byte 14 … 24
S601 Overfilling	● Danger of vessel overfilling	● Make sure that there is no further filling ● Check level in the vessel	Bit 6 of Byte 14 … 24

Tab. 9: Error codes and text messages, information on causes as well as corrective measures

Maintenance

Code Text message	Cause	Rectification	DevSpec State in CMD 48
M500 Error during the reset "delivery status"	● The data could not be restored during the reset to delivery status	● Repeat reset ● Load XML file with sensor data into the sensor	Bit 0 of Byte 14 … 24
M501 Error in the non-active linearisation table	● Hardware error EEPROM	● Exchanging the electronics ● Send instrument for repair	Bit 1 of Byte 14 … 24

Code Text message	Cause	Rectification	DevSpec State in CMD 48
M502 Error in the diagnostics memory	● Hardware error EEPROM	● Exchanging the electronics ● Send instrument for repair	Bit 2 of Byte 14 … 24
M503 Measurement reliability too low	● The echo/noise ratio is too small for reliable measurement	● Check installation and process conditions ● Clean the antenna ● Change polarisation direction ● Use instrument with higher sensitivity	Bit 3 of Byte 14 … 24
M504 Error at a device interface	● Hardware defect	● Check connections ● Exchanging the electronics ● Send instrument for repair	Bit 4 of Byte 14 … 24
M505 No echo available	● Level echo can no longer be detected	● Clean the antenna ● Use a more suitable antenna/ sensor ● Remove possible false echoes ● Optimize sensor position and orientation	Bit 7 of Byte 14 … 24

Tab. 10: Error codes and text messages, information on causes as well as corrective measures

9.4 Rectify faults

Reaction when malfunction occurs

The operator of the system is responsible for taking suitable measures to rectify faults.

Procedure for fault rectification

The first measures are:

- Evaluation of fault messages via the adjustment device
- Checking the output signal
- Treatment of measurement errors

Further comprehensive diagnostics options are available with a PC with PACTware and the suitable DTM. In many cases, the reasons can be determined in this way and faults rectified.

Check the 4 … 20 mA signal

Connect a multimeter in the suitable measuring range according to the wiring plan. The following table describes possible errors in the current signal and helps to eliminate them:

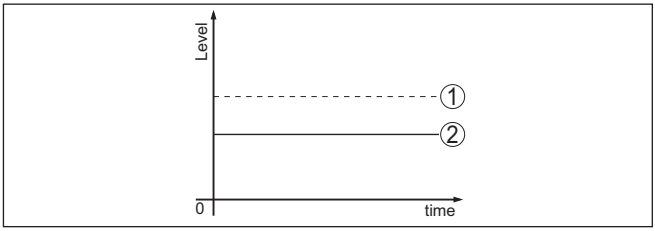
Error	Cause	Rectification
4 … 20 mA signal not stable	● Fluctuating measured value	● Set damping
4 … 20 mA signal missing	● Electrical connection faulty	● Check connection, correct, if necessary
	● Voltage supply missing	● Check cables for breaks; repair if necessary
	● Operating voltage too low, load resistance too high	● Check, adapt if necessary
Current signal greater than 22 mA, less than 3.6 mA	● Sensor electronics defective	● Exchange the instrument or send it in for repair

Treatment of measurement errors with bulk solids

The below tables show typical examples of application-related measurement errors with bulk solids. A distinction is made between measurement errors during:

- Constant level
- Filling
- Emptying

The images in column "*Error pattern*" show the real level as a broken line and the level displayed by the sensor as a continuous line.

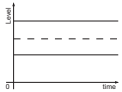
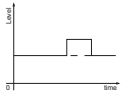


1 Real level
2 Level displayed by the sensor

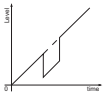
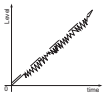
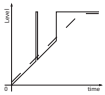
Notes:

- Whenever the sensor displays a constant value, the reason could also be that the fault setting of the current output is set to "Hold value"
- If the level indication is too low, the reason could be a line resistance that is too high

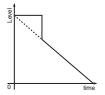
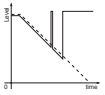
Measurement error with constant level

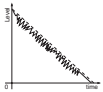
Fault description	Cause	Rectification
1. Measured value shows a too low or too high level 	● Min./max. adjustment not correct	● Adapt min./max. adjustment
	● Incorrect linearisation curve	● Adapt linearisation curve
2. Measured value jumps towards 100 % 	● Due to the process, the amplitude of the product echo decreases ● A false signal suppression was not carried out	● Carry out a false signal suppression
	● Amplitude or position of a false signal has changed (e.g. condensation, buildup); false signal suppression no longer matches actual conditions	● Determine the reason for the changed false signals, carry out false signal suppression, e.g. with condensation

Measurement error during filling

Fault description	Cause	Rectification
3. Measured value jumps towards 0 % during filling 	● Amplitude of a multiple echo (vessel top - product surface) is larger than the level echo	● Check parameter "Application", especially vessel top, type of medium, dished bottom, high dielectric constant, and adapt if necessary
	● The level echo cannot be distinguished from the false signal at a false signal position (jumps to multiple echo)	● Remove/reduce false signal: minimize interfering installations by changing the polarization direction ● Chose a more suitable installation position
	● Transverse reflection from an extraction funnel, amplitude of the transverse reflection larger than the level echo	● Direct sensor to the opposite funnel wall, avoid crossing with the filling stream
4. Measured value fluctuates around 10 … 20 % 	● Various echoes from an uneven product surface, e.g. a material cone	● Check parameter "Type of medium" and adapt, if necessary ● Optimize installation position and sensor orientation
	● Reflections from the product surface via the vessel wall (deflection)	● Select a more suitable installation position, optimize sensor orientation, e.g. with a swivelling holder
5. Measured value jumps sporadically to 100 % during filling 	● Changing condensation or contamination on the antenna	● Carry out a false signal suppression or increase false signal suppression with condensation/contamination in the close range by editing ● With bulk solids use radar sensor with purging air connection or flexible antenna cover

Measurement error during emptying

Fault description	Cause	Rectification
6. Measured value remains unchanged in the close range during emptying 	● False signal larger than the level echo ● Level echo too small	● Eliminate false signals in the close range. Check: Antenna must protrude out of the socket ● Remove contamination on the antenna ● Minimize interfering installations in the close range by changing the polarization direction ● After eliminating the false signals, the false signal suppression must be deleted. Carry out a new false signal suppression
7. Measured value jumps sporadically towards 100 % during emptying 	● Changing condensation or contamination on the antenna	● Carry out false signal suppression or increase false signal suppression in the close range by editing ● With bulk solids use radar sensor with purging air connection or flexible antenna cover

Fault description	Cause	Rectification
8. Measured value fluctuates around 10 … 20 % 	● Various echoes from an uneven product surface, e.g. an extraction funnel ● Reflections from the product surface via the vessel wall (deflection)	● Check parameter "Type of medium" and adapt, if necessary ● Optimize installation position and sensor orientation

Reaction after fault rectification

Depending on the reason for the fault and the measures taken, the steps described in chapter "*Setup*" must be carried out again or must be checked for plausibility and completeness.

24 hour service hotline

Should these measures not be successful, please call in urgent cases the VEGA service hotline under the phone no. **+49 1805 858550**.

The hotline is also available outside normal working hours, seven days a week around the clock.

Since we offer this service worldwide, the support is provided in English. The service itself is free of charge, the only costs involved are the normal call charges.

9.5 Exchanging the electronics module

If the electronics module is defective, it can be replaced by the user.

In Ex applications, only instruments and electronics modules with appropriate Ex approval may be used.

If there is no electronics module available on site, the electronics module can be ordered through the agency serving you. The electronics modules are adapted to the respective sensor and differ in signal output or voltage supply.

The new electronics module must be loaded with the default settings of the sensor. These are the options:

- In the factory
- Or on site by the user

In both cases, the serial number of the sensor is needed. The serial numbers are stated on the type label of the instrument, on the inside of the housing as well as on the delivery note.

When loading on site, the order data must first be downloaded from the Internet (see operating instructions "*Electronics module*").

Caution:
All application-specific settings must be entered again. That's why you have to carry out a fresh setup after exchanging the electronics.

If you saved the parameter settings during the first setup of the sensor, you can transfer them to the replacement electronics module. A fresh setup is then not necessary.

9.6 Software update

The device software can be updated in the following ways:

- Interface adapter VEGACONNECT
- HART signal
- Bluetooth

Depending on the method, the following components are required:

- Instrument
- Voltage supply
- Interface adapter VEGACONNECT
- Display and adjustment module PLICSCOM with Bluetooth function
- PC with PACTware/DTM and Bluetooth USB adapter
- Current instrument software as file

You can find the current instrument software as well as detailed information on the procedure in the download area of our homepage: www.vega.com.

Caution:
Instruments with approvals can be bound to certain software versions. Therefore make sure that the approval is still effective after a software update is carried out.

You can find detailed information in the download area at www.vega.com.

9.7 How to proceed if a repair is necessary

You can find an instrument return form as well as detailed information about the procedure in the download area of our homepage: www.vega.com. By doing this you help us carry out the repair quickly and without having to call back for needed information.

In case of repair, proceed as follows:

- Print and fill out one form per instrument
- Clean the instrument and pack it damage-proof
- Attach the completed form and, if need be, also a safety data sheet outside on the packaging
- Ask the agency serving you to get the address for the return shipment. You can find the agency on our home page www.vega.com.

10 Dismount

10.1 Dismounting steps

Warning:
Before dismounting, be aware of dangerous process conditions such as e.g. pressure in the vessel or pipeline, high temperatures, corrosive or toxic products etc.

Take note of chapters "*Mounting*" and "*Connecting to voltage supply*" and carry out the listed steps in reverse order.

10.2 Disposal

The instrument consists of materials which can be recycled by specialised recycling companies. We use recyclable materials and have designed the electronics to be easily separable.

WEEE directive
The instrument does not fall in the scope of the EU WEEE directive. Article 2 of this Directive exempts electrical and electronic equipment from this requirement if it is part of another instrument that does not fall in the scope of the Directive. These include stationary industrial plants.

Pass the instrument directly on to a specialised recycling company and do not use the municipal collecting points.

If you have no way to dispose of the old instrument properly, please contact us concerning return and disposal.

11 Supplement

11.1 Technical data

Note for approved instruments

The technical data in the respective safety instructions are valid for approved instruments (e.g. with Ex approval). These data can differ from the data listed herein - for example regarding the process conditions or the voltage supply.

General data	
316L corresponds to 1.4404 or 1.4435	
Materials, wetted parts	
– Process fitting	316L, Alloy C22 (2.4602), Alloy 400 (2.4360)
– Process seal	On site (instruments with thread: Klingersil C-4400 is enclosed)
– Antenna	316L,Alloy C22 (2.4602), Tantalum, 316L electropolished, stainless steel investment casting (1.4848), Alloy 400 (2.4360), 316L Safecoat coated
– Antenna impedance cone	PTFE TFM 1600 or PTFE INOFLON M290, PP, PEEK, ceramic (99.7 % Al_2O_3)
– Seal, antenna system	FKM (SHS FPM 70C3 GLT), FFKM (Kalrez 6375), FFKM (Kalrez 6230 - FDA), graphite (99.9 %)
Materials, non-wetted parts	
– Plastic housing	Plastic PBT (Polyester)
– Aluminium die-cast housing	Aluminium die-casting AlSi10Mg, powder-coated (Basis: Polyester)
– Stainless steel housing	316L
– Cable gland	PA, stainless steel, brass
– Sealing: cable gland	NBR
– Blind plug: cable gland	PA
– Seal between housing and housing lid	Silicone SI 850 R, NBR silicone-free
– Inspection window housing cover	Polycarbonate (UL-746-C listed), glass[3)]
– Ground terminal	316L
Conductive connection	Between ground terminal, process fitting and antenna
Process fittings	
– Pipe thread, cylindrical (ISO 228 T1)	G1½ according to DIN 3852-A
– Pipe thread, conically	1½ NPT, 2 NPT
– Flanges	DIN from DN 25, ASME from 1"
Weights	
– Instrument (depending on housing, process fitting and antenna)	approx. 2 … 17.2 kg (4.409 … 37.92 lbs)
– Antenna extension	1.6 kg/m (1.157 lbs/ft)
Length antenna extension max.	5.85 m (19.19 ft)

[3)] Glass with Aluminium and stainless steel precision casting housing

Torques

Max. torques, antenna system	
– Mounting screws, antenna cone	2.5 Nm (1.8 lbf ft)
– Compression nut, parabolic antenna	50 Nm (36.89 lbf ft)
– Counter nut, parabolic antenna	40 Nm (29.50 lbf ft)
– Terminal screws, swivelling holder	15 Nm (11.06 lbf ft)
Max. torques for NPT cable glands and Conduit tubes	
– Plastic housing	10 Nm (7.376 lbf ft)
– Aluminium/Stainless steel housing	50 Nm (36.88 lbf ft)

Input variable

Measured variable	The measured quantity is the distance between the end of the sensor antenna and the product surface. The reference plane for the measurement is the sealing surface on the hexagon or the lower side of the flange.

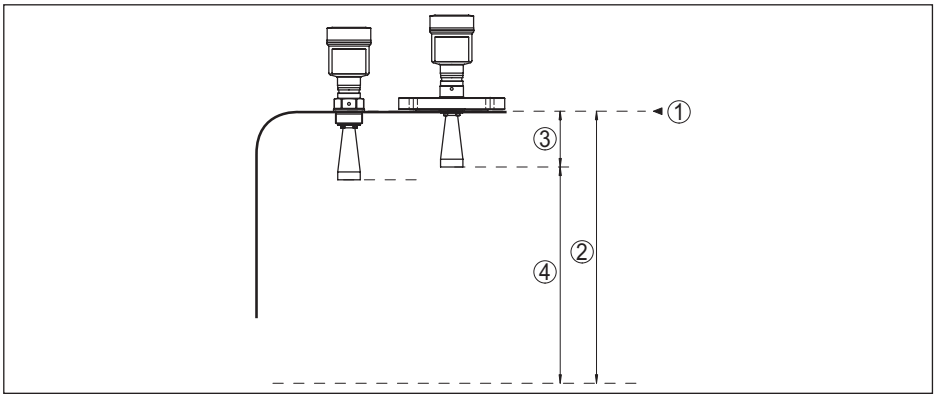


Fig. 50: Data of the input variable

1 Reference plane
2 Measured variable, max. measuring range
3 Antenna length
4 Utilisable measuring range

Max. measuring range	75 m (246.1 ft)
Recommended meas. range depending on the antenna diameter	
– ø 40 mm (1.575 in)	up to 15 m (49.21 ft)
– ø 48 mm (1.89 in)	up to 20 m (65.62 ft)
– ø 75 mm (2.953 in)	up to 40 m (131.2 ft)
– ø 95 mm (3.74 in)	up to 50 m (164 ft)
– Parabolic antenna	up to 75 m (246.1 ft)

Output variable

Output signals	4 … 20 mA/HART - active; 4 … 20 mA/HART - passive
Range of the output signal	3.8 … 20.5 mA/HART (default setting)

Terminal voltage passive	9 … 30 V DC
Shortcircuit protection	Available
Potential separation	Available
Signal resolution	0.3 µA
Fault signal, current output (adjustable)	mA-value unchanged 20.5 mA, 22 mA, < 3.6 mA
Max. output current	22 mA
Starting current	≤ 3.6 mA
Load (4 … 20 mA/HART - active)	< 500 Ω
Damping (63 % of the input variable)	0 … 999 s, adjustable
HART output values	
– PV (Primary Value)	Distance
– SV (Secondary Value)	Percent
– TV (Third Value)	Lin. percent
– QV (Fourth Value)	Scaled
Resolution, digital	< 1 mm (0.039 in)

Deviation (according to DIN EN 60770-1)

Process reference conditions according to DIN EN 61298-1	
– Temperature	+18 … +30 °C (+64 … +86 °F)
– Relative humidity	45 … 75 %
– Air pressure	860 … 1060 mbar/86 … 106 kPa (12.5 … 15.4 psig)
Installation reference conditions	
– Min. distance to internal installations	> 200 mm (7.874 in)
– Reflector	Flat plate reflector
– False reflections	Biggest false signal, 20 dB smaller than the useful signal
Deviation with liquids	≤ 2 mm (meas. distance > 1.0 m/3.280 ft)
Non-repeatability[4)]	≤ 1 mm
Deviation with bulk solids	The values depend to a great extent on the application. Binding specifications are thus not possible.

[4)] Already included in the meas. deviation

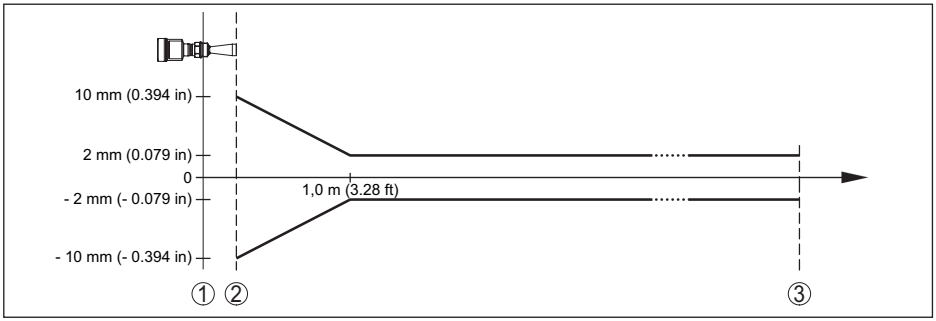


Fig. 51: Deviation under reference conditions

1 Reference plane
2 Antenna edge
3 Recommended measuring range

Variables influencing measurement accuracy

Specifications apply to the digital measured value

Temperature drift - Digital output	< 3 mm/10 K, max. 10 mm

Specifications apply also to the current output

Temperature drift - Current output	< 0.03 %/10 K relating to the 16 mA span or ≤ 0.3 %
Deviation in the current output due to digital/analogue conversion	< 15 µA

Additional deviation through electromagnetic interference

– According to NAMUR NE 21	< 80 µA
– According to EN 61326-1	None
– According to IACS E10 (shipbuilding)/ IEC 60945	< 250 µA

Characteristics and performance data

Measuring frequency	K-band (26 GHz technology)
Measuring cycle time approx.	700 ms
Step response time[5)]	≤ 3 s
Beam angle[6)]	
– Horn antenna ø 40 mm (1.575 in)	20°
– Horn antenna ø 48 mm (1.89 in)	15°
– Horn antenna ø 75 mm (2.953 in)	10°
– Horn antenna ø 95 mm (3.74 in)	8°
– Parabolic antenna	3°

[5)] Time span after a sudden measuring distance change by max. 0.5 m in liquid applications, max 2 m with bulk solids applications, until the output signal has taken for the first time 90 % of the final value (IEC 61298-2).
[6)] Outside the specified beam angle, the energy level of the radar signal is 50% (-3 dB) less.

Emitted HF power (depending on the parameter setting)[7]

- Average spectral transmission power density: -14 dBm/MHz EIRP
- Max. spectral transmission power density: +43 dBm/50 MHz EIRP
- Max. power density at a distance of 1 m: < 1 µW/cm²

Ambient conditions

Ambient, storage and transport temperature: -40 … +80 °C (-40 … +176 °F)

Process conditions

For the process conditions, please also note the specifications on the type label. The lowest value always applies.

Seal	Antenna impedance cone	Process temperature (measured on the process fitting)
FKM (SHS FPM 70C3 GLT)	PTFE	-40 … +130 °C (-40 … +266 °F)
	PTFE[8]	-40 … +200 °C (-40 … +392 °F)
	PEEK[9]	-40 … +200 °C (-40 … +392 °F)
FFKM (Kalrez 6375)	PTFE	-20 … +130 °C (-4 … +266 °F)
	PEEK	-20 … +250 °C (-4 … +482 °F)
FFKM (Kalrez 6230)	PTFE	-15 … +130 °C (5 … +266 °F)
	PEEK	-15 … +250 °C (5 … +482 °F)
Graphite	Ceramic	-196 … +450 °C (-321 … +842 °F)
Graphite Process fitting Alloy C22 (2.4602)	Ceramic	-196 … +400 °C (-321 … +752 °F)

Vessel pressure - horn antenna

- Antenna impedance cone PTFE: -1 … 40 bar (-100 … 4000 kPa/-14.5 … 580 psig)
- Antenna impedance cone PEEK: -1 … 100 bar (-100 … 10000 kPa/-14.5 … 1450 psig)
- Antenna impedance cone ceramic: -1 … 160 bar (-100 … 16000 kPa/-14.5 … 2320 psig)

Vessel pressure - parabolic antenna: -1 … 6 bar (-100 … 6000 kPa/-14.5 … 870 psig)

Vessel pressure with swivelling holder: -1 … 1 bar (-100 … 100 kPa/-14.5 … 14.5 psig)

Vessel pressure relating to the flange nominal pressure stage: see supplementary instructions manual "*Flanges according to DIN-EN-ASME-JIS*"

Vibration resistance

- Horn antenna: 4 g at 5 … 200 Hz according to EN 60068-2-6 (vibration with resonance)

[7] EIRP: Equivalent Isotropic Radiated Power.
[8] Not with steam.
[9] Not with steam.

– Parabolic antenna	1 g at 5 … 200 Hz according to EN 60068-2-6 (vibration with resonance)
Shock resistance	
– Horn antenna	100 g, 6 ms according to EN 60068-2-27 (mechanical shock)
– Parabolic antenna	25 g, 6 ms according to EN 60068-2-27 (mechanical shock)

Data on rinsing air connection

Max. permissible pressure 6 bar (87.02 psig)

Air volume with horn antenna, depending on pressure (recommended area)

Pressure	Without reflux valve	With reflux valve
0.5 bar (7.25 psig)	3.3 m³/h	1.2 m³/h
0.6 bar (8.70 psig)	3.5 m³/h	1.4 m³/h
0.7 bar (10.15 psig)	3.7 m³/h	1.7 m³/h
0.8 bar (11.60 psig)	3.9 m³/h	1.8 m³/h
0.9 bar (13.05 psig)	4.0 m³/h	2.1 m³/h
1 bar (14.5 psig)	4.2 m³/h	2.2 m³/h
1.5 bar (21.76 psig)	5.0 m³/h	3.2 m³/h
2 bar (29.0 psig)	5.5 m³/h	4.5 m³/h

Air volume with parabolic antenna, depending on pressure (recommended area)

Pressure	Without reflux valve	With reflux valve
0.5 bar (7.25 psig)	3.0 m³/h	1.2 m³/h
0.6 bar (8.70 psig)	3.2 m³/h	1.4 m³/h
0.7 bar (10.15 psig)	3.4 m³/h	1.7 m³/h
0.8 bar (11.60 psig)	3.5 m³/h	1.9 m³/h
0.9 bar (13.05 psig)	3.6 m³/h	2.0 m³/h
1 bar (14.5 psig)	3.8 m³/h	2.2 m³/h
1.5 bar (21.76 psig)	4.3 m³/h	3.5 m³/h
2 bar (29.0 psig)	4.8 m³/h	4.0 m³/h

Thread	G⅛
Closure with	
– Non-Ex	Dust protection cover of PE
– Ex	Threaded plug of 316Ti

Reflux valve - unmounted (as option with non-Ex version, included in the scope of delivery with Ex version)

– Material	316Ti
– Seal	FKM (SHS FPM 70C3 GLT), FFKM (Kalrez 6375)
– for tube diameter	6 mm

– Opening pressure	0.5 bar (7.25 psig)
– Nominal pressure stage	PN 250

Electromechanical data - version IP 66/IP 67

Cable gland	M20 x 1.5 or ½ NPT
Wire cross-section (spring-loaded terminals)	
– Massive wire, stranded wire	0.2 … 2.5 mm² (AWG 24 … 14)
– Stranded wire with end sleeve	0.2 … 1.5 mm² (AWG 24 … 16)

Display and adjustment module

Display element	Display with backlight
Measured value indication	
– Number of digits	5
Adjustment elements	
– 4 keys	***[OK]***, ***[->]***, ***[+]***, ***[ESC]***
– Switch	Bluetooth On/Off
Bluetooth interface	
– Standard	Bluetooth smart
– Effective range	25 m (82.02 ft)
Protection rating	
– unassembled	IP 20
– Mounted in the housing without lid	IP 40
Materials	
– Housing	ABS
– Inspection window	Polyester foil
Functional safety	SIL non-reactive

Interface to the external display and adjustment unit

Data transmission	Digital (I²C-Bus)
Connection cable	Four-wire

Sensor version	Configuration, connection cable			
	Cable length	Standard cable	Special cable	Screened
4 … 20 mA/HART	50 m	●	–	–
Profibus PA, Foundation Fieldbus	25 m	–	●	●

Integrated clock

Date format	Day.Month.Year
Time format	12 h/24 h
Time zone, factory setting	CET
Max. rate deviation	10.5 min/year

Additional output parameter - Electronics temperature	
Range	-40 … +85 °C (-40 … +185 °F)
Resolution	< 0.1 K
Deviation	±3 K
Output of the temperature values	
– Indication	Via the display and adjustment module
– Analogue	Via the current output, the additional current output
– Digital	Via the digital output signal (depending on the electronics version)

Voltage supply	
Operating voltage	
– Version for low voltage	9.6 … 48 V DC, 20 … 42 V AC, 50/60 Hz
– Version for mains voltage	90 … 253 V AC, 50/60 Hz
Reverse voltage protection	Integrated
Max. power consumption	4 VA; 2.1 W

Potential connections and electrical separating measures in the instrument	
Electronics	Not non-floating
Reference voltage[10]	500 V AC
Conductive connection	Between ground terminal and metallic process fitting

Electrical protective measures	
Protection, depending on housing version	
– Plastic housing	IEC 60529 IP 66/IP 67 (NEMA Type 4X)
– Aluminium housing; stainless steel housing - precision casting	IEC 60529 IP 66/IP 68 (0.2 bar), NEMA Type 6P[11]
Overvoltage category (IEC 61010-1) - Version with low voltage	
Connection of the feeding power supply unit to networks of overvoltage category	III
Overvoltage category (IEC 61010-1) - Version with mains voltage	
– Altitude up to 2000 m (6562 ft) above sea level	III
– Altitude up to 5000 m (16404 ft) above sea level	III - Only with connected overvoltage protection
– Altitude up to 5000 m (16404 ft) above sea level	II
Pollution degree[12]	4
Protection rating (IEC 61010-1)	I

[10] Galvanic separation between electronics and metal housing parts
[11] The prerequisites for maintaining the protection rating are a suitable cable as well as correct mounting.
[12] When used with fulfilled housing protection.

Approvals

Instruments with approvals can have different technical specifications depending on the version.

For that reason the associated approval documents of these instruments have to be carefully noted. They are part of the delivery or can be downloaded under www.vega.com, "*Instrument search (serial number)*" as well as in the download area.

11.2 Dimensions

The following dimensional drawings represent only an extract of all possible versions. Detailed dimensional drawings can be downloaded at www.vega.com/downloads under "*Drawings*".

Housing

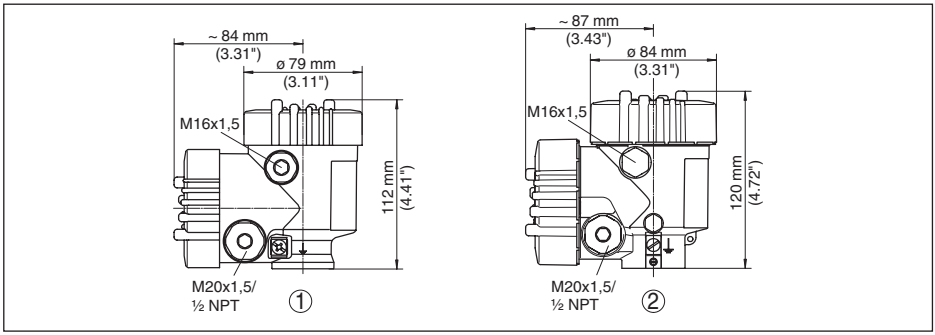
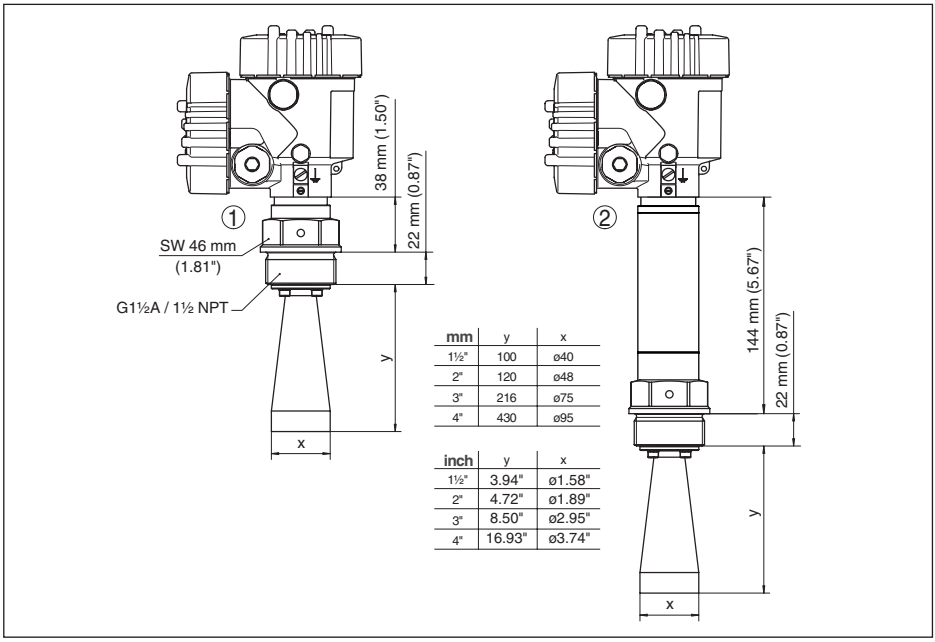


Fig. 52: Dimensions housing (with integrated display and adjustment module the housing is 9 mm/0.35 in higher, with metal housings 18 mm/0.71 in)

1 Plastic double chamber
2 Aluminium/Stainless steel double chamber

VEGAPULS 68, horn antenna in threaded version



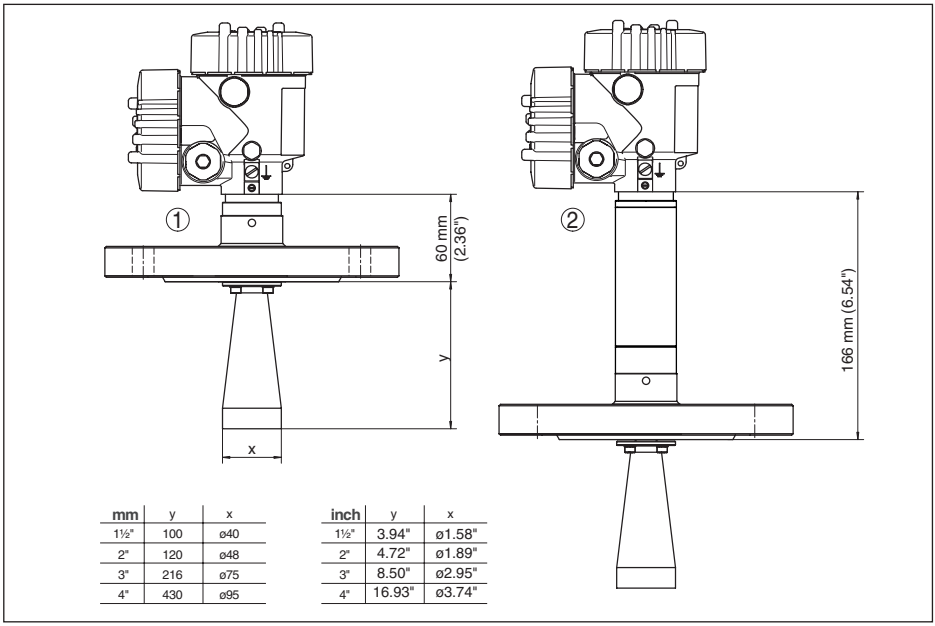
mm	y	x
1½"	100	ø40
2"	120	ø48
3"	216	ø75
4"	430	ø95

inch	y	x
1½"	3.94"	ø1.58"
2"	4.72"	ø1.89"
3"	8.50"	ø2.95"
4"	16.93"	ø3.74"

Fig. 53: VEGAPULS 68, horn antenna in threaded version

1 Standard
2 With temperature adapter up to 250 °C

VEGAPULS 68, horn antenna in flange version



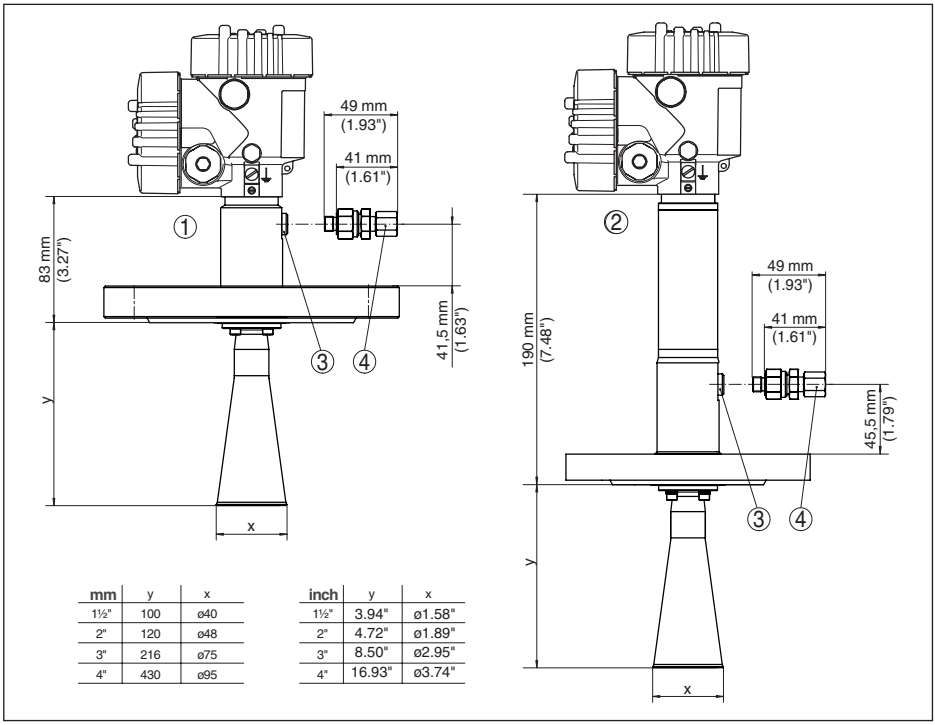
mm	y	x
1½"	100	ø40
2"	120	ø48
3"	216	ø75
4"	430	ø95

inch	y	x
1½"	3.94"	ø1.58"
2"	4.72"	ø1.89"
3"	8.50"	ø2.95"
4"	16.93"	ø3.74"

Fig. 54: VEGAPULS 68, horn antenna in flange version

1 Standard
2 With temperature adapter up to 250 °C

VEGAPULS 68, horn antenna in flange version with purging air connection



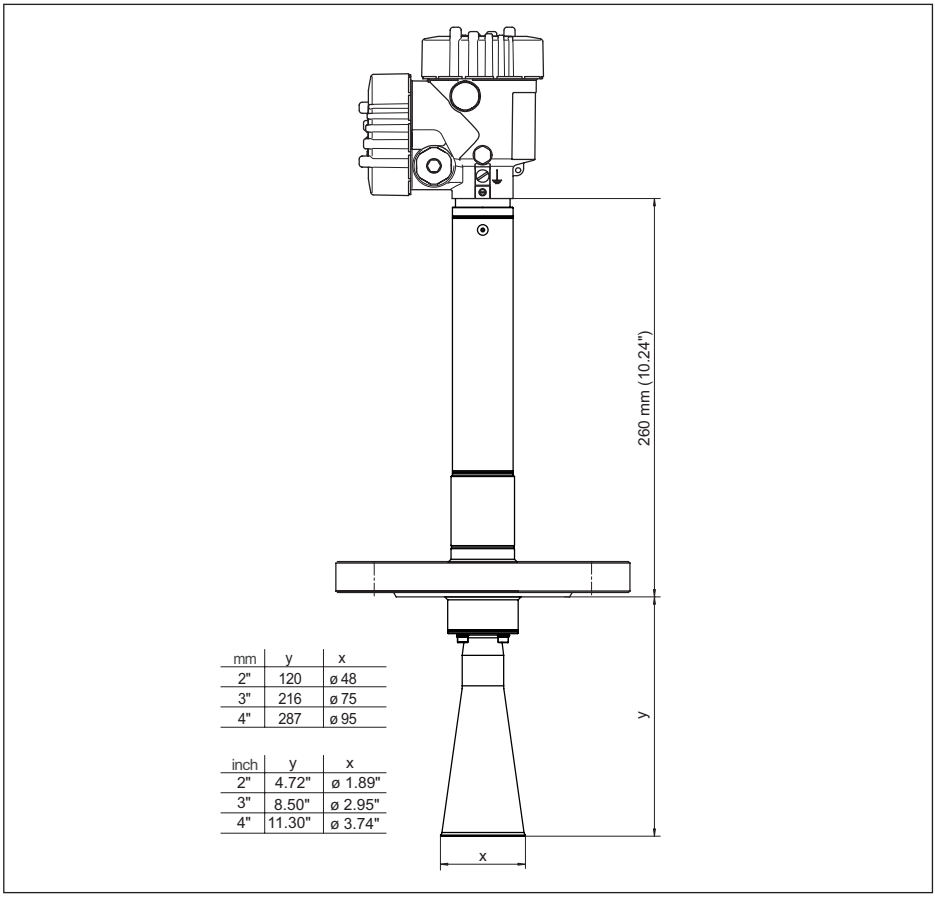
mm	y	x
1½"	100	ø40
2"	120	ø48
3"	216	ø75
4"	430	ø95

inch	y	x
1½"	3.94"	ø1.58"
2"	4.72"	ø1.89"
3"	8.50"	ø2.95"
4"	16.93"	ø3.74"

Fig. 55: VEGAPULS 68, horn antenna in flange version with purging air connection

1 *Standard*
2 *With temperature adapter up to 250 °C*
3 *Blind plug*
4 *Reflux valve*

VEGAPULS 68, horn antenna in flange version 450 °C

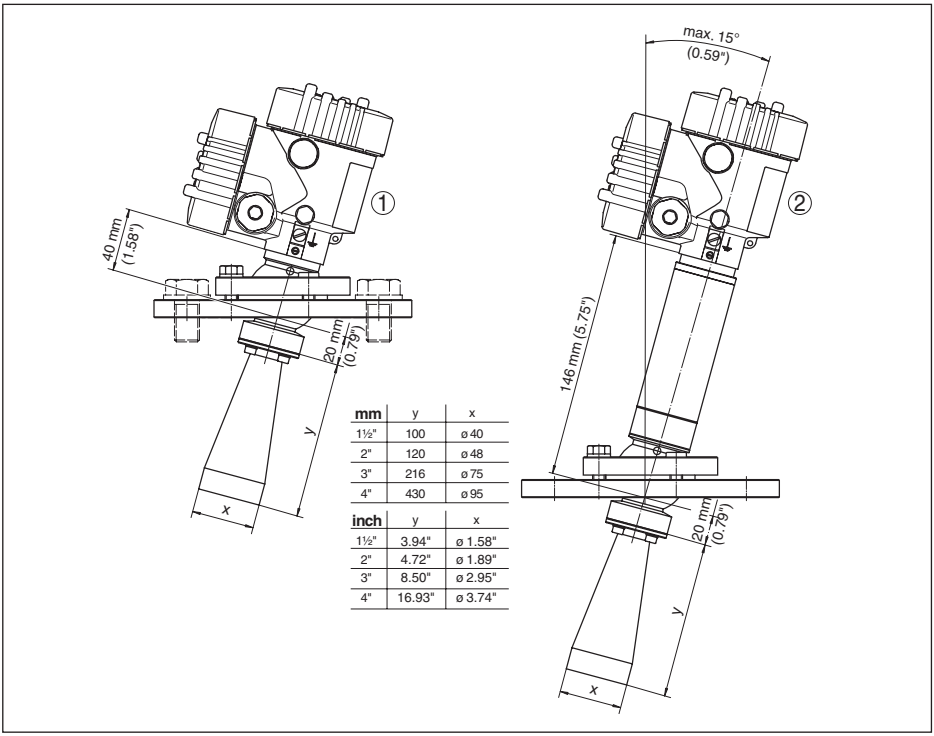


mm	y	x
2"	120	ø 48
3"	216	ø 75
4"	287	ø 95

inch	y	x
2"	4.72"	ø 1.89"
3"	8.50"	ø 2.95"
4"	11.30"	ø 3.74"

Fig. 56: VEGAPULS 68, horn antenna in flange version with temperature adapter up to 450 °C

VEGAPULS 68, horn antenna and swivelling holder



mm	y	x
1½"	100	ø 40
2"	120	ø 48
3"	216	ø 75
4"	430	ø 95

inch	y	x
1½"	3.94"	ø 1.58"
2"	4.72"	ø 1.89"
3"	8.50"	ø 2.95"
4"	16.93"	ø 3.74"

Fig. 57: VEGAPULS 68, horn antenna and swivelling holder

1 Standard
2 With temperature adapter up to 250 °C

VEGAPULS 68, horn antenna and swivelling holder, threaded fitting

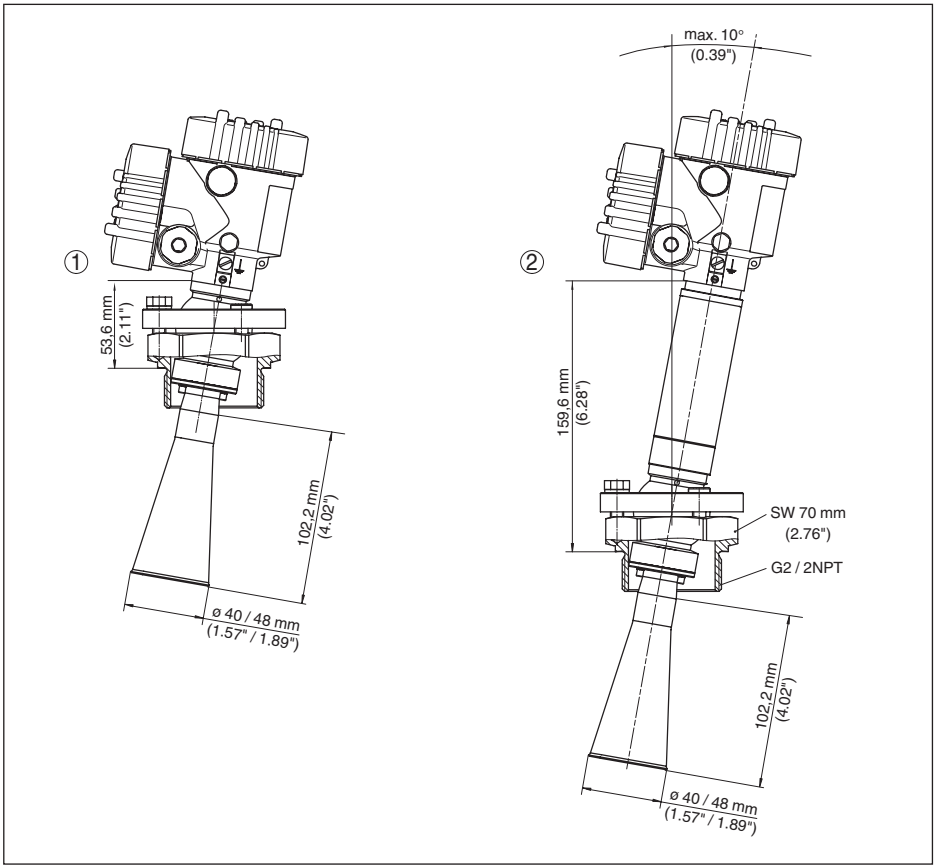


Fig. 58: VEGAPULS 68, horn antenna and swivelling holder, threaded fitting

1 Standard
2 With temperature adapter up to 250 °C

VEGAPULS 68, parabolic antenna and swivelling holder

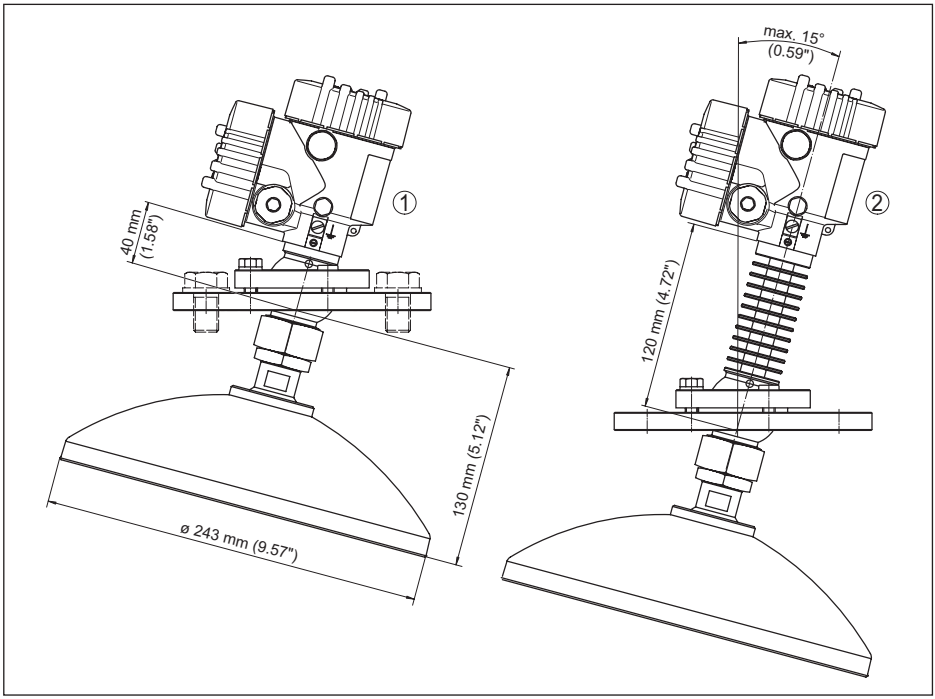


Fig. 59: VEGAPULS 68, parabolic antenna and swivelling holder

1 Standard
2 With temperature adapter up to 200 °C

11.3 Industrial property rights

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36536-EN-181127

Printing date:

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36536-EN-181127

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