

AQUA LAB Series 3 Quick Start

1 Environment (Chapter 3)

- Use AquaLab on a level surface.
- Use AquaLab where environmental temperature remains fairly stable.

2 Power

- Plug in AquaLab and turn on the power (switch in back).
- For best results measuring high a_w (>0.9 a_w), let AquaLab warm-up for 15 min.

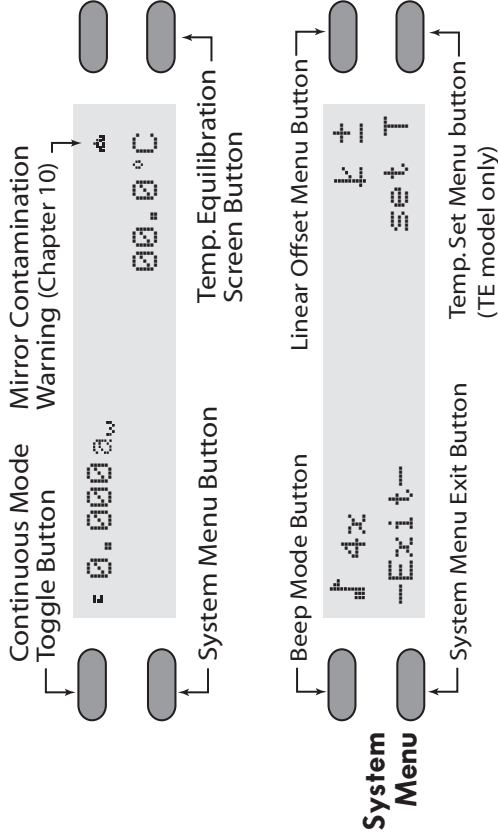
3 Sample Preparation (Chapter 6)

- Fill sample cup no more than half full (~7ml). **DO NOT OVERFILL!**
- Minimum sample amount should cover bottom of sample cup (small gaps OK).
- Ensure the rim and outside of sample cup are clean.
- Ensure sample temperature is not more than 4°C above the chamber temperature.

4 Sample Measurement

- Place sample cup in sample drawer. Close drawer carefully to avoid spillage.
- Turn drawer knob from OPEN/LOAD to READ to start measurement.
- AquaLab beeps once when starting a_w measurements.
- AquaLab displays the first a_w reading in about 40 seconds.
- AquaLab beeps (as set in system menu) & blinks LED when a_w measurement is done.
- AquaLab displays the sample's final a_w reading and temperature.

5 AquaLab Series 3 Options (Chapter 4)



Buttons only active when drawer knob in OPEN/LOAD position.

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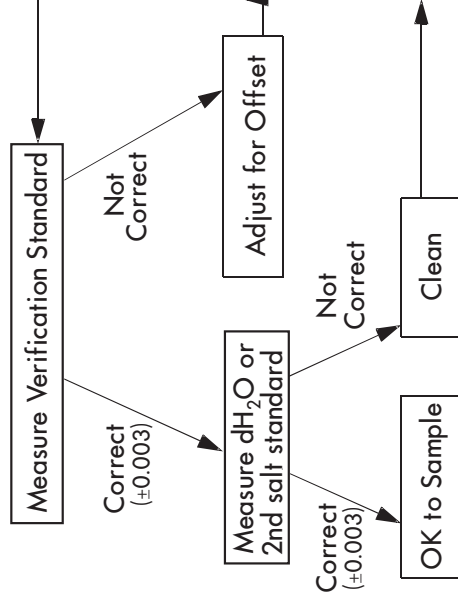
6 Temperature Adjustment menu (TE models only)

Temp. Equilibration Time Select



7 AquaLab Performance Verification (Chapter 5)

- AquaLab performance and cleanliness should be checked daily (each shift).
- Use AquaLab Verification Standards & distilled water to adjust linear offset.
- See Chapter 10 for AquaLab cleaning instructions.



8 Cautions

- Prevent AquaLab contamination and damage—Do not overflow sample cups.
- Never tip or move AquaLab with a sample loaded in sample drawer.
- Disconnect AC power before removing AquaLab case lid.

9 Error Messages & Troubleshooting (Chapter 12)

- Sample temperature greater than 4°C above AquaLab sensor causes error.
- Sample a_w below about 0.03 displays $a_w <$ last stable value.
- See Chapter 12 for samples taking longer than five minutes for final a_w reading.
- See Chapter 10 for “Mirror Contamination Warning” and cleaning instructions.

Decagon Devices

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