

CE 2007

USER'S GUIDE
for
MIDDLETON SOLAR
EQ08 and EQ08-E
FIRST CLASS PYRANOMETER
(and EQ16 & EQ16-E Pyrano-albedometer)

Date: Jan. 2019

Version: 2.6



Middleton Solar, Australia.

© copyright 2019

www.middletonsolar.com

The contents of this manual are subject to change without prior notice.

CONTENTS		page
1	General	1
2	Construction	1
3	Installation	1
4	Maintenance	2
5	Calibration	3
6	Technical Specification	3
8	Spare Parts	4
Appendix A: Directional Response		5
Appendix B: EQ16 & EQ16-E Pyrano-albedometer		6

1 GENERAL

The EQ08 Pyranometer is used for measuring total global solar irradiance on a plane surface. It exceeds the requirements for an ISO9060 First Class Pyranometer. The EQ08-E version has an in-built signal amplifier.

2 CONSTRUCTION

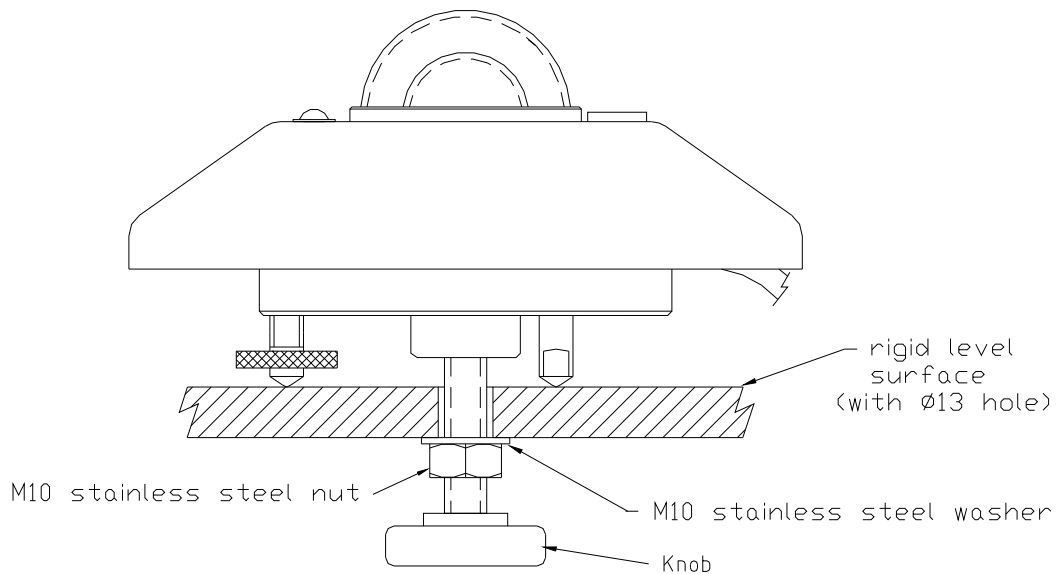
The EQ08 is machined from marine-grade aluminium and is hard anodised to provide a durable, corrosion-resistant finish. It has a blackened thermal sensor shielded by two glass domes. The sensor incorporates a precision thermoelectric element that generates a passive microvolt output proportional to the intensity of the incident radiation. The sensor is equally receptive to all radiation wavelengths and therefore its response to solar radiation is non-selective spectrally.¹

3 INSTALLATION

3.1 SITE SELECTION

For global radiation measurement, select a site where obstructions do not exceed 5 degrees of elevation, in the path followed by the sun, between earliest sunrise and latest sunset during the year. Avoid positioning the instrument near light coloured objects (eg. painted walls) which can cause errors due to reflection of radiation onto the instrument; also avoid siting near sources of artificial light.

3.2 MOUNTING



The EQ08 should be mounted on a rigid level surface. The instrument has a central M10 x 1.5p hole in its base. The mounting knob supplied should be screwed into this hole and the instrument mounted, as shown above, using the washer & nut provided. Adjust the height of the feet so the circular level is centred. Secure the knob & nut finger-tight only (do not over-tighten). Alternatively the

¹ upgraded temperature response, response time, and directional response from S/No. 8996

EQ08 can be fastened using the two additional mount holes in the base. These holes are M4 x 0.7p, 65mm centre to centre.

3.3 ELECTRICAL CONNECTION, EQ08²

The EQ08 has a shielded output cable. The cable shield is not connected to the instrument body and can be grounded at the measurement end.

The cable cores are:

red = output +ve (typically 8-12 μ V per W/m²)

blue = output -ve

The measurement equipment should range up to 50mV and have an input impedance of at least 1M Ω .

3.4 ELECTRICAL CONNECTION, EQ08-E³

The EQ08-E is supplied with a 4-core lead:

red = supply +V (5 to 15VDC, < 6mA)

blue = supply 0V

yellow = output +ve (1mV per W/m²)

green = output -ve

The EQ08-E can be powered from a 6V, 9V, or 12V battery. Alternatively it can be connected to a small power supply or datalogger. The typical fullscale output is <+2V. The measuring equipment impedance should exceed 3K Ω . The settling time of the amplifier is 50ms from power-up.

Avoid ground loop induced interference in your measurement setup by ensuring there is only one ground point for the sensor and measurement system.

4 MAINTENANCE

Keep the outer glass dome clean. Use only water and mild detergent to gently wash the surface. If the outer dome is cracked or pitted it must be replaced. Periodically inspect the sensor plate to ensure that the black surface is not faded or flaking.

The EQ08 is hermetically sealed and contains a desiccant sachet to ensure that the interior remains dry and free from condensation. The desiccant is orange silica gel (non-toxic). It is not necessary to routinely replace the desiccant. The silica gel changes from orange to clear if moisture has entered the instrument.

To gain access to the dessicant sachet remove the three socket screws that hold the body to the top (it is not necessary to remove the shade disk). When refitting the body take care to locate the O-ring in its groove before securing the three socket screws.

² some EQ08 are: black = output -ve.

³ some EQ08-E are: black = supply -ve; white = output -ve.

5 CALIBRATION

Each pyranometer is individually calibrated during manufacture. It is recommended that the instrument calibration be checked annually.

Two International Standards for pyranometer calibration are:

- ISO 9846: 1993(E), Calibration of a pyranometer using a pyr heliometer.
- ISO 9847: 1992(E), Calibration of field pyranometers by comparison to a reference pyranometer.

6 TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

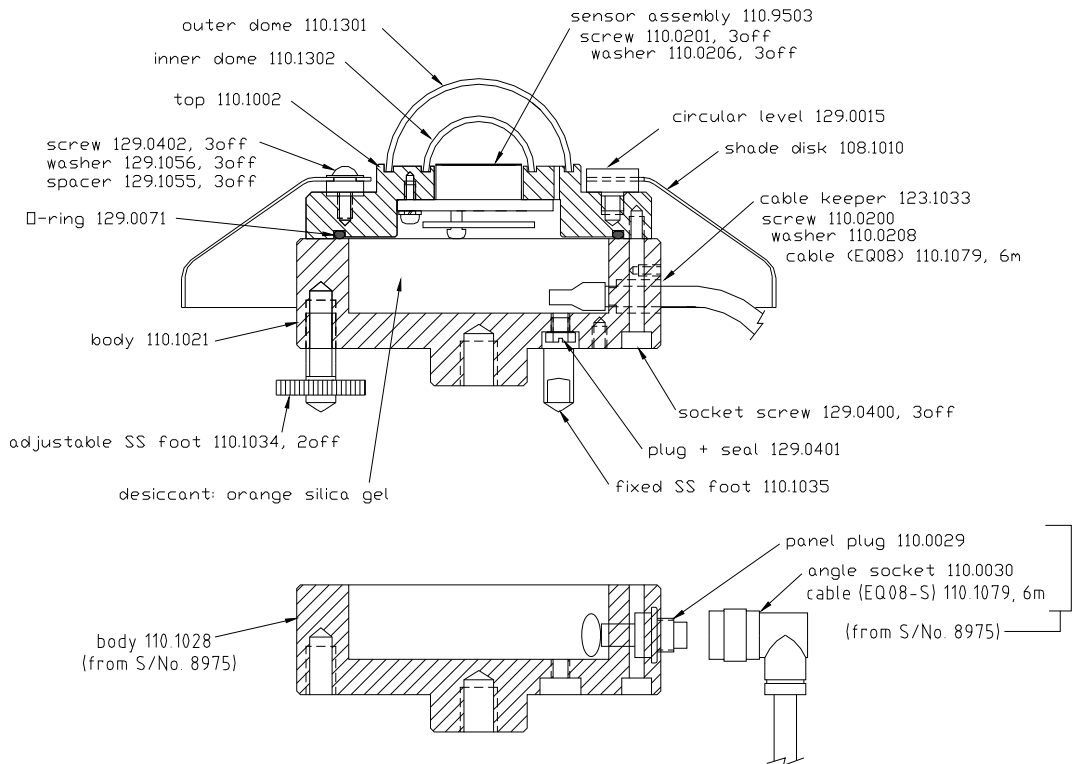
Performance Specification	ISO9060 First Class	EQ08/E (typical)
Response time (to 95%)	< 30s	< 10s
Zero off-set: a) 200 W.m ⁻²	+ 15 W.m ⁻² (ventilated)	< + 3 W.m ⁻² (ventilated) < + 4 W.m ⁻² (unventilated)
b) 5K.h ⁻¹	± 4 W.m ⁻²	< ± 2 W.m ⁻²
Non-stability (per year)	± 1.5%	< -0.5%
Non-linearity (100-1000W.m ⁻²)	± 1%	< ± 0.5%
Directional response (w.r.t. 1000 W.m ⁻²)	± 20 W.m ⁻²	< ±15 W.m ⁻²
Spectral selectivity (0.35 to 1.5µm)	± 5%	< ±3%
Temperature response (for 50K interval)	4%	< 2%
Tilt response (0-90°)	± 2%	< ± 0.25%

General Specification	
viewing angle	2π steradians
irradiance	0 - 4000W/m ²
spectral range	300 - 3000nm (nominal) 305 - 2850nm (50% points)
sensitivity (typical)	EQ08: 8-12 µV/W.m ⁻² EQ08-E: 1.0 mV/W.m ⁻²
signal resolution	< 0.5 W/m ²
impedance	EQ08: 20Ω; EQ08-E: 65Ω
power requirement (EQ08-E only)	5 -15VDC; < 6mA
operating temperature	-35 to +60°C
bubble level resolution	0.1°
level adjustment	one fixed foot, two adjustable feet
desiccant	orange silica gel (non-toxic, self-indicating)
mounting method	central M10 hole in base, plus pair M4 holes on 65mm P.C.D.
output lead	6m

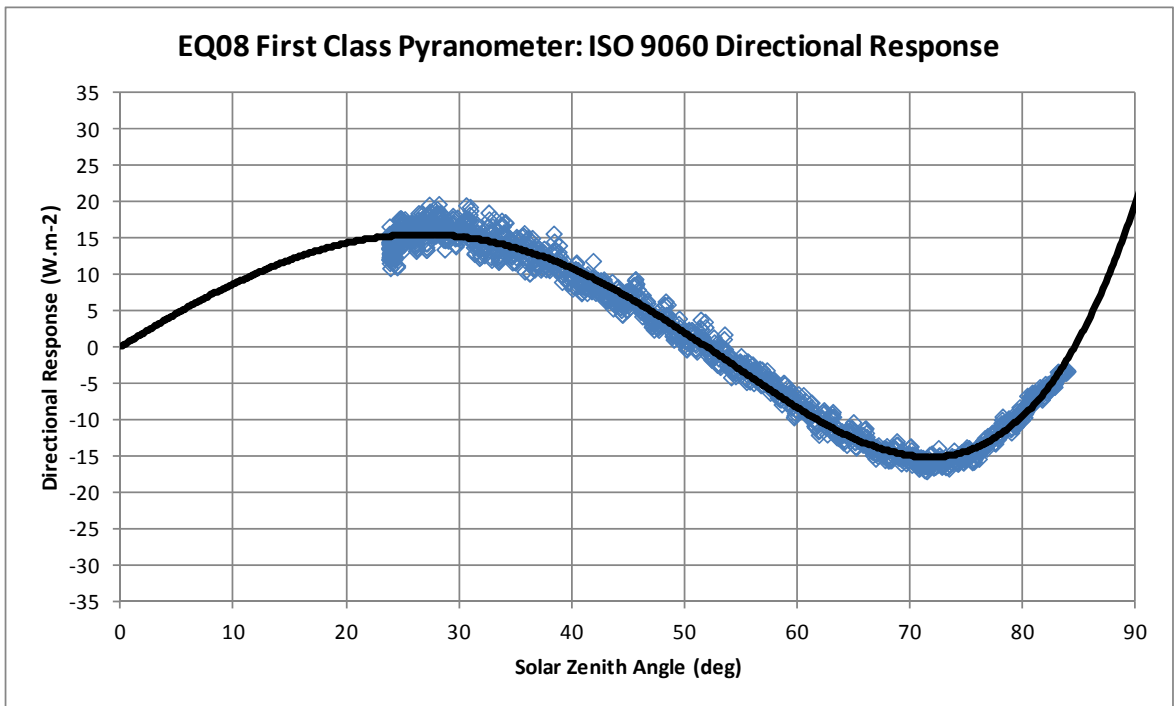
7 SPARE PARTS

Spare parts may be ordered from the manufacturer or through an approved distributor. For your convenience the part name and number is shown below. Please quote both when ordering. It is also important when ordering parts to include the Serial Number of the instrument, this is inscribed on the identification label of the unit.

note: part numbers valid for S/No.8814 onwards



Appendix A: DIRECTIONAL RESPONSE



Appendix B: EQ16 & EQ16-E PYRANO-ALBEDOMETER⁴

Albedo is the ratio of upward to downward flux densities of solar radiation. The EQ16 Pyrano-albedometer consists of a modified EQ08 pyranometer with an additional inverted sensor assembly. The dual sensors are matched for response and sensitivity and their collector surfaces are parallel. The EQ16-E version is based on the EQ08-E and has dual in-built signal amplifiers.

The sensors have separate outputs.

The output wires for the EQ16 are:

Top Sensor: red, +ve	Bottom Sensor: yellow, +ve
blue, -ve	green, -ve

The output wires for the EQ16-E are:

Top Sensor: yellow, +ve	Bottom Sensor: white, +ve
blue, -ve	green, -ve

The input wires for the EQ16-E are:

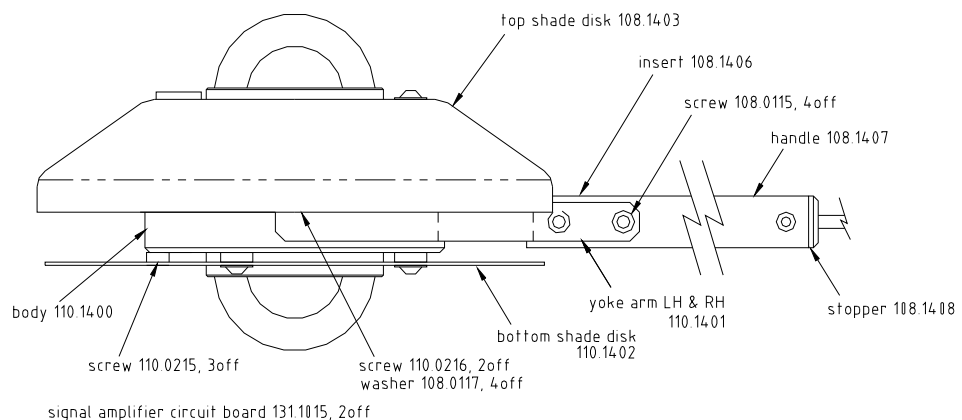
red = supply positive (5.5 to 14.5VDC, 12mA)
black = supply negative

The EQ16-E can be powered as per the EQ08-E (see Section 3.4).

Take care to select a site that is level, as the directional nature of the solar beam means that a surface that slopes toward the sun will receive more radiation than a level surface and thus make the albedo appear too high. If the surface is rough or non-uniform then mount the Pyrano-albedometer as high as possible to integrate the effect of the surface features. Avoid a site that is subject to shadows or reflected light from adjacent structures.

Mount the instrument horizontally, normally 1-2m above the ground, by clamping the handle to a suitable support.

The part numbers of items unique to the EQ16 & EQ16-E are identified below. Other parts are the same as the EQ08/EQ08-E.



⁴ Production of the EQ16 and EQ16-E was discontinued in 2015