



HYDROLAB HL4

What People are Saying about the Hydrolab HL4 Multiparameter Water Quality Instrument

The Hydrolab HL4 multiparameter sonde has been used around the world by a diverse set of users on four continents that have experience with Hydrolab sondes and similar products on the market. Feedback has been positive in the areas of reliability, ease-of-use, and metadata.

Reliability

The Hydrolab product team has done a “great job of addressing issues” with field units and the Hydrolab HL4 is “more durable than its predecessor.” Some of the changes are obvious, like the deployment cables that are “beefy” and “very sturdy.” But many advances that improve reliability are not obvious and are not to the physical sonde. For example, the software makes the system more reliable too. “Setting up the log file was very intuitive and easy to check” which makes it easy to “prevent mistakes” that might lead to lost data. Notifications while using the sonde make sure things are done correctly.

Users are very impressed with battery life. “After 2 weeks in very extreme conditions the [internal battery] was still at 80%”, which reassured this user of the data quality. “The instrument performed very well despite being deployed in extreme winter conditions including a large flooding event.”

Many of the testers compared the data to a reference sonde. “All parameters compared well” to a Series 5 and data were of “high quality.”

Ease of Use

The most common feedback has been that the Hydrolab HL4 is “very easy to use,” which comes primarily from the Hydrolab Operating Software that is “top notch.” The sonde has “very simple calibration” procedures that are also “fast” based on readings that “stabilized very quickly.” Because calibration results are logged internally, this “streamlines field work and reduces the amount of potential lost original documentation of field notes.” Beyond calibration, “setting up the log file was very intuitive and easy to check” which will “prevent mistakes.” “Maintenance is very easy” too. First impressions have been strong and one reviewer predicts “it would become [easier] with use.”

Metadata

The metadata that are in the log files and calibration history are useful. Many really like that “it keeps track of when the instrument was last calibrated,” which will reduce uncertainty in calibration validity, help planning for field deployments, and minimize wasted calibrations. The similar feature for tracking maintenance is also useful. The information that is exported to Excel is “very nice – helps keep track of things” and “any errors that may arise are noted.”

See for yourself that the Hydrolab HL4 will provide data you can trust with its reliability, ease-of-use, and metadata. Contact us at sales@otthydromet.com or visit otthydromet.com for more information.