



MesaLabs

# 1480 Self-Contained Biological Indicator Incubator

## USER MANUAL



**For use with the ProSpore Ampoule 4mL  
Biological Indicator Products**

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## Introduction

The Mesa Labs biological indicator incubator is designed for convenient and effective incubation of the ProSpore 4mL ampoule self-contained biological indicators requiring an incubation temperature of 57°C. The incubator features a built-in thermometer with LED display and 11 incubation cavities.

Upon removal from the sterilizer, the indicator is then incubated for a specified length of time and observed for color change of the growth medium. If the medium turns yellow during incubation, the test is positive indicating growth and inadequate sterilization.

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# Safety Information



Handle with caution. The surface of the incubator may become hot to the touch.

The incubator has been designed with function, reliability, and safety in mind. It is the user's responsibility to install it in conformance with local electrical codes. For safe operation, please pay attention to the alert boxes throughout the manual.

## Warning



Refer to manual.

## Caution



Cautions alert you to potential equipment damage and hazards.

## Note



Notes alert you to pertinent facts and conditions.

## Use Only as Directed

- Indoor use only.
- Temperature 10°C to 35°C.
- Maximum relative humidity 80% for temperatures up to 31°C decreasing linearly to 50% relative humidity at 35°C.
- Main power supply voltage fluctuations not to exceed  $\pm 10\%$  of the nominal voltage.
- Installation class II service.
- Pollution-Degree 2 environments.
- Altitude less than 2000m.

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# Installation and Warm Up

The incubator is designed for continuous operation and does not have a power switch. The incubator will power on when it is plugged into a power source.



Note: the incubator must be installed in a location where temperature is maintained between 10°C (50°F) and 35°C (95°F).

1. Remove the incubator from its packaging.
2. Unpack the power supply. The power supply includes interchangeable blades (plugs). Select the appropriate blades for your region and attach the blades to the power supply.
3. Plug the power supply into a power source.
4. Insert the small connector from the power supply into the matching receptacle in the back of the incubator (see Figure 1).
5. The incubator will automatically power on and perform a self-test. Upon completion, the installed firmware revision will be displayed on the LED screen for two seconds.
6. The incubator will begin its warm-up phase. During this time the configured temperature setpoint will fade in and out on the LED screen. Pressing either button will display the current temperature.
7. The incubator is ready to use when the configured setpoint is no longer fading in and out, and the LED screen displays the current operating temperature of the incubator.



Note: it may take approximately 30 minutes for the incubator to warm up to operating temperature, depending on the selected incubation temperature and the temperature of the environment in which the incubator is installed.

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# Temperature Selection

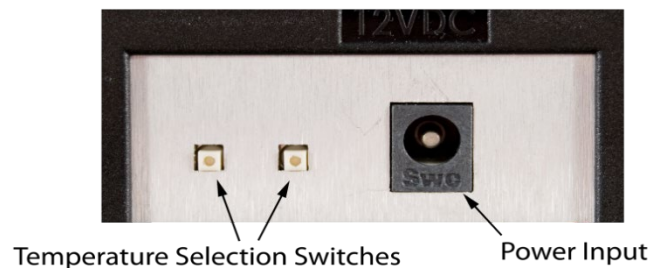
The 1480 incubator is initially configured to operate at 57°C for biological indicators containing *Geobacillus stearothermophilus*, specifically ProSpore ampoule. The incubator can be configured to operate at 37°C, 57°C or 60°C. If the temperature selection needs to be adjusted/returned to its original setting, please follow the directions below.



Caution: failure to set the correct incubation temperature will yield invalid test results. It is not possible to incubate at multiple temperatures simultaneously. Refer to the instructions for use for your biological indicators to select the appropriate incubation temperature.

1. With the incubator powered on, simultaneously press and hold the two small buttons on the rear of the incubator (*see Figure 1*) for ~2 seconds until the currently selected temperature setpoint blinks on the LED display.
2. Release the buttons, then press either button repeatedly to toggle between the available temperature setpoints (37°C, 57°C, or 60°C).
3. When the desired temperature setpoint is blinking on the display, press and hold both buttons for ~2 seconds. Alternatively, leave the desired setpoint blinking for 30 seconds and the set point displayed will be applied and the Incubator returns to normal operation.
4. The configured setpoint will fade in and out on the LED screen until the incubator has reached temperature, upon which the actual temperature of the incubator will be displayed.

**Figure 1 - Rear of Incubator**



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# Operation



**Note:** refer to the instructions for use supplied with your biological indicators for information on processing, incubation, interpretation of results, and using positive controls.

When the incubator has reached the configured temperature, the actual temperature of the incubator will be shown on the LED display, indicating that the unit is ready to accept biological indicators. Verify that the temperature displayed is within the allowable range for your biological indicator before proceeding (see the instructions for use supplied with your biological indicators).

## Incubation

To confirm adequate sterilization (negative result), self-contained biological indicators must be incubated for the appropriate length of time (“incubation time”). Please refer to the instructions for use that came with your biological indicators for the proper incubation time.

Place the indicator into one of the eleven numbered incubation cavities (*see Figure 2*). Record the incubation start time and cavity number.

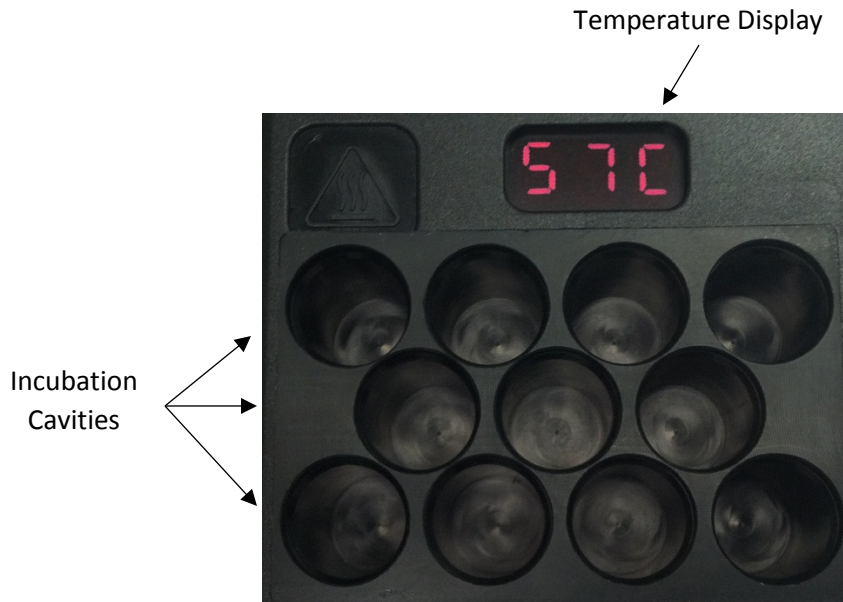
Observe the color of the growth medium in the BI at regular intervals during incubation. A color change to yellow during the incubation time indicates bacterial growth (positive test). If the incubation time expires and no color change to yellow is observed, this indicates a negative test.



**Caution:** if a positive control does not grow, do not use the remaining units from the box and contact your dealer immediately. A positive control that does not turn yellow is a serious problem. Fortunately, the causes are few: a grossly malfunctioning incubator, inadvertent sterilization of the control vial, inadvertent sterilization of the box of indicators, or improper storage. If the control is negative because of one of the latter two causes, do not use any of the other biological indicators from the same box.

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**Figure 2 – Top of Incubator**



Dispose of positive or negative BIs immediately per the instructions for use that accompany each box of indicators, or per your organization's policy.

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# Maintenance & Service

The incubator requires no maintenance other than cleaning as necessary.

## Cleaning

1. Unplug the incubator before cleaning.
2. To clean the exterior, use a cloth dampened with isopropyl alcohol.
3. To clean the incubation and activation cavities, use a cotton swab dampened with isopropyl alcohol.



WARNING: DO NOT IMMERSE THE UNIT IN ANY LIQUID AND DO NOT SPRAY OR POUR LIQUID DIRECTLY ONTO THE UNIT. DOING SO MAY DAMAGE THE INCUBATOR AND VOID YOUR WARRANTY.

## Replacement Parts

Description	Quantity Required	Part Number
Power Supply	1	P6-1000
Thermometer Bushing	1	9505-1480
Digital Thermometer	1	IDT2

## Temperature Verification

The incubator, including the LED temperature display, is factory calibrated using a NIST traceable temperature standard and does not require user calibration.

Incubation temperature can be verified by placing the Thermometer Bushing in the center well, power on Incubator and allow to come up to temperature. Place a NIST traceable thermometer into the Bushing and allow 10 minutes for temperature to stabilize. The temperature reading should be within +/- 2°C of the incubator set-point temperature.



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## **Service**

The incubator is not field-serviceable. In the event of an incubator malfunction, please contact your dealer immediately.

When requesting service, please have ready the model and serial number of the incubator. The model and serial number are located on the bottom of the unit.

Prior to returning any materials, a Return Goods Authorization (RGA) must be obtained from your dealer. Any materials returned without an RGA will be refused.

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# Warranty

Mesa Labs expressly warrants the Model 1480 biological indicator incubator manufactured by it as set forth herein. Mesa Labs makes no other warranties, either express or implied. No warranty as to merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose shall apply. In addition, the following shall constitute the exclusive remedies of buyer for any breach by Mesa Labs of its warranty hereunder.

**Material and Workmanship:** Mesa Labs warrants the Model 1480 incubator manufactured by Mesa Labs shall be free from defects in material and workmanship, under normal use and service, for a period of fifteen (15) months from the date the product shipped from Mesa Labs. If any part of the equipment is returned within this time and found by Mesa Labs to be defective in workmanship or material, it will be replaced or repaired, free of charge and returned F.O.B. your plant. Any equipment or part thereof so replaced or repaired shall be warranted by Mesa Labs for the remainder of the original warranty period. All replacements or repairs necessitated by inadequate preventive maintenance, or by normal wear and usage, or deterioration under unsuitable environmental conditions shall be at Buyer's expense. Buyer may incur service charge for evaluation of returned equipment not found to be defective. Mesa Labs shall not be obligated to pay any charges incurred by Buyer except as may be agreed upon in writing in advance by Mesa Labs.

**Limitation of Remedy:** Mesa Labs shall not be liable for damages caused by delay in performance. The sole and exclusive remedy for breach of contract shall be limited to repair or replacement under the standard warranty clause. In no case shall Mesa Labs liability exceed the price to buyer of the specific goods manufactured by Mesa Labs giving rise to the cause of action. Buyer agrees that in no event shall Mesa Labs liability extend to include incidental or consequential damages.

# Specifications

## Incubator

Catalog Number	I1480	
Overall Dimensions	Width	3.5 in / 9 cm
	Height	2.0 in / 5.08 cm
	Depth	4.0 in / 10.2 cm
	Weight	0.89 lb / 0.4 kg
Incubation Cavities	Number	11
	Diameter	0.605 in / 1.54 cm
	Depth	1.125 in / 2.86 cm
Thermometer	Accuracy	+ / - 1°C
Electrical Ratings (for use with certified class 2 power supply)	Volts	12VDC
	Watts	18.0
	Amps	1500 mA
Operating Range	Temperature	37°C / 57°C / 60°C
Environmental Conditions	Ambient Temperature	10°C - 35°C
	Relative Humidity	20% - 80% Non-condensing
Conformance	CSA/C/US, CE, RoHS, FCC Part 15 Class A, ICES-003 Class A	

## Power Supply

Catalog Number	P6-1000
Rated Input Voltage	100 – 240VAC
Input Voltage Range	90 – 264VAC
Rated Frequency	47 – 63Hz
Rated Input Current	1.0A
Output Voltage	12VDC
Max Output Current	3A
Max Output Wattage	36W
Safety Approvals	UL/cUL, CCC, RCM, PSE
EMC/EMI	FCC Part 15B Class B, CE
RoHS Compliant	Yes
Storage Temperature	-20°C – +80°C
Storage Humidity	10 – 90% Non-condensing
Operating Temperature	0 – +40°C
Operating Relative Humidity	20 – 80% Non-condensing



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