

## NORTH AMERICAN SERVICE GROUP'S METROLOGY DEPARTMENT:

*Where Accuracy Is Our Focus*

American Meter Company is a strong believer in providing value-added services to its customers. The Metrology Department, part of the North American Service Group, offers several valuable services for our customers. Their primary focus is making sure that our meters, and those out in the field, are proven to be accurate.

The Metrology department has over 35 years of combined experience in design, manufacture, servicing and maintaining SNAP sonic nozzle provers. The American Meter SNAP Prover is the number one selling residential and light commercial sonic nozzle prover on the market. Metrology provides upgraded and new production provers to all plants of American Meter Company including residential and light commercial production SNAPs for Nebraska City, Nebraska and Canadian Meter Company (Edmonton, Alberta and Cambridge, Ontario). Higher capacity SNAPs for rotary meters are used in our Mexicali plant. Metrology also supports all other proving equipment within American Meter.



*Testing meters from the field*



*Proving meters using the sonic nozzle prover*

We have been providing SNAP Provers since 1990, with a customer base of over 300 SNAP Provers in the United States and Canada, as well as a few provers in Europe and North Africa. Currently, we produce the SNAP 2002 Series II and Series III Provers, the fourth generation of the American Meter sonic nozzle prover. Upgrade kits are available for all SNAP Provers on the market. The kits usually contain computer and electronic packages for old-style provers. Metrology works in conjunction

with our customers to create data collection packages, so that provers can be integrated into utility mainframe networks to transfer test meter information.

Another one of our services is to provide Bell Prover certification. We use physical strapping or "bottling" methods (both of which are accepted by the American Gas Association). A unique service that was successfully developed by our group is "field proving" or "curbside proving" in which we use a mobile meter shop (usually a large vehicle) with a modified SNAP Prover. We can drive out to various sites and test meters right inside the vehicle. This concept has been proven to be as accurate as removing meters from the field and testing them in a utility's meter shop.

A full listing of the services we provide are as follows:

**SNAP Provers**

- ▶ New prover commissioning and training
- ▶ Basic service and recertification
- ▶ SNAP to Master Bell Interface
- ▶ Custom Software/network and data collection systems

## **Bell Provers**

- ▶ Refurbish – polish bell, oil filtration or change out
- ▶ Strapping/bottling
- ▶ Master bell certification
- ▶ Calibration of automated proving systems
- ▶ Regulatory compliance audit

## **Meter Shop Consulting**

- ▶ Audit proving room/procedures
- ▶ Correlation analysis
- ▶ Material handling
- ▶ Environmental studies
- ▶ Establish master bell program

## **Training**

- ▶ Generic meter proving practices
- ▶ Proving equipment maintenance
- ▶ In-house measurement training programs

Our Metrology department continues to develop products to better prove the accuracy of our meters. We are currently working on developing products for the smaller markets, mainly municipalities (government utilities) and the smaller utilities.

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