

BACHARACH[®]
The Measurable Difference

Tru Pointe[®] 1100 Ultrasonic Leak Detector

Instruction 0028-9002
Operation and Maintenance
Rev. 1 - May 2010



WARRANTY

The Bacharach Tru Pointe® 1100 is warranted for one year to be free of manufacturing defects adversely affecting performance. Should an instrument fail within the one year warranty period, the unit will be repaired or replaced provided in the opinion of the factory, the instrument has not been tampered with or abused.

If defective, return to the factory for repair and re-calibration. Maximum liability of Bacharach shall be limited to replacement of unsatisfactory product.

Recommendations and product information are believed to be accurate, but the furnishing of it does not constitute the making of a good process warranty of Seller.

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1 About This Manual

Thank you for investing in a Bacharach Tru Pointe® 1100 Ultrasonic Leak Detector.

To assure operator safety and the proper use of the Tru Pointe® 1100, please read the contents of this manual, which provides important information on the operation and maintenance of the detector.

Warning Statements



The use of the word WARNING (and the warning symbol at left) in this manual denotes a potential hazard associated with the use of this equipment. It calls attention to a procedure, practice, or condition, or the like, which if not correctly performed or adhered to, could result in personal injury or death.

Caution Statements



The use of the word CAUTION (and the caution symbol at left) in this manual denotes a potential hazard associated with the use of this equipment. It calls attention to a procedure, practice condition, or the like, which if not correctly performed or adhered to, could result in damage to the equipment.

2 Introduction

Congratulations on your purchase of the Bacharach Tru Pointe® 1100 Ultrasonic Inspection System. You have invested in the most sophisticated ultrasonic test instrument available.

The Tru Pointe® 1100 is the first ultrasonic leak detector to feature digital controls and displays, and no other ultrasonic detector can produce such accurate readings and consistent results in repeated tests. Using patented signal processing, the Tru Pointe® provides the most precise readings available.

The Tru Pointe® 1100 can detect pressurized leaks of compressed air, refrigerant, steam, and nitrogen, as well as detecting vacuum leaks. The Touch Probe allows the quick detection of flow abnormalities in pumps, steam traps and valves, as well as mechanical wear in bearings and other moving machine parts. Noise patterns can be recorded and compared to previous readings for an accurate record of noise patterns.

What's in the Kit

0028-8002

Tru Pointe® 1100 Kit

Tru Pointe® 1100.....	0028-7002
Instruction Manual	0028-9002
Probe Wrench	0028-0023
Solid Touch Probe	0028-0021
Heavy Duty Headset	0028-0020
Carrying Case	0028-0014
6" Wave Guide	0028-0004
9v Battery	0204-0024
Warranty Card	0006-8825

0028-8012

Tru Pointe® 1100 Kit w/ SoundBlaster®

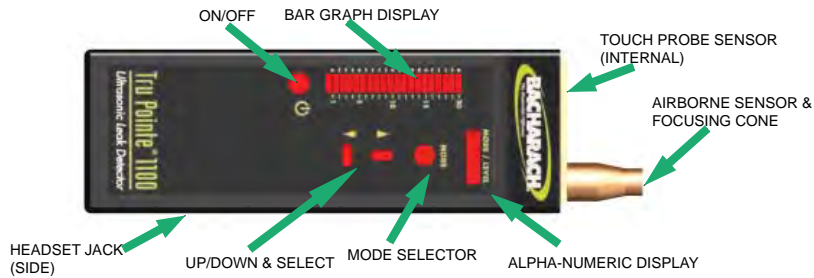
Tru Pointe® 1100.....	0028-7002
SoundBlaster®	0028-7006
Instruction Manual	0028-9002
Probe Wrench	0028-0023
Solid Touch Probe	0028-0021
Heavy Duty Headset	0028-0020
Carrying Case	0028-0014
6" Wave Guide	0028-0004
9v Battery	0204-0024
Warranty Card	0006-8825

3 Specifications

Physical	
Dimensions	7.075"L X 2.4"W X .875"D (197.7 mm X 61 mm X 22.22 mm)
Overall Length	8.185" (207.8 mm)
Body Material	Aluminium and ABS
Body Finish	Anodized, Gold, and Black ABS
Connector	3.5 mm Stereo
Weight	0.5 lb. (233 g) including battery
Electrical	
Sensitivity	-80 db/V- μ bar
Ultrasound Converter Type	Digitally Controlled Heterodyne
Frequency Response, Airborne	34kHz to 42kHz
Frequency Response, Touch Probe	16kHz to 24kHz
Heterodyne Oscillator	Digital
Heterodyne Filter	4kHz
Controls	4 Buttons
Digital Sensitivity Control	256 Steps
Digital Volume Control	256 Steps
Output, Audio	0Hz to 4kHz
Output, Visual	20 Element Bar Graph with Peak-Hold and Separate Alphanumeric Digital Display
Signal Output	Heterodyne
ON Indicator	Digital Display
Low Battery Indicator	Digital Display, BATT
Insufficient Battery Charge	Automatic Shut-Down
Battery Type	9 Volt
Run Time	58-80 hours

Physical Description

To begin using the Tru Pointe® 1100, first take a moment to become familiar with the unit's controls.



Airborne Sensor	Detects external ultrasonic sound traveling through the air, such as pressurized gas leaks, vacuum leaks, external system noise and the SoundBlaster®. The optional nose cone narrows the sensor's field of view.
Touch Probe Sensor	Detects internal system sounds such as internal valve leaks, bearing wear and faulty steam traps.
Bar Graph Display	Shows relative strength of detected signal in bar graph format and includes a Peak/Hold feature.
Power Button	Turns the Instrument On/Off
Alphanumeric Display	Level/Mode indicator. Displays active mode, current mode setting and numeric intensity reading. Also indicates when battery power is low.
Mode Select Button	Scrolls through menu options for adjustment/selection
Up Adjustment	Increases a setting or scrolls through mode options
Down Adjustment	Decreases a setting or scrolls through mode options
Headphone Jack	For headphone plug

4 Quick Start Guide

Battery Installation

The following instructions describe how to install/replace batteries in the Tru Pointe® 1100.

1. Turn the unit over so the controls are facing the floor.
2. Apply minimal pressure to the battery compartment panel and slide it toward the bottom of the instrument.
3. Install/Replace a 9v battery, noting the (+) and (-) positions on the inner label.

Turning the Instrument On/Off

1. Plug the headphones into the jack on the right side of the instrument
2. Press the On/Off Button once to turn the unit on.
3. Press the On/Off Button again to turn the unit off.

NOTE: If the unit is in "AIR" mode, translated ultrasound can be heard immediately. If the unit is in "PROB" mode, the Touch Probe must be in contact with the item being tested to translate the ultrasound.

Airborne Leak Detection

Use the Airborne Sensor for detecting pressurized gas leaks, vacuum leaks, or when using the SoundBlaster®. Leaks must be turbulent to be detected ultrasonically.

Using the Tru Pointe® 1100:

1. Insert the headset plug into the jack on the side of the instrument.
2. Push the Power Button once.
3. Push the Mode Select Button until the alphanumeric display reads "AIR", then press ▲ or ▼ to activate it. Once activated, the current sensitivity setting (0 to 255) will be displayed and translated ultrasound will be heard. The Bar Graph Display will display the strength of the corresponding signal. The highest LED will hold its place for 5 seconds before resetting its position.
4. The instrument always resets itself so that sensitivity is the active mode. Pressing the ▲ or ▼ buttons will adjust sensitivity up or down. If the LED Bar Graph Display is at maximum, reduce the sensitivity by pressing ▼ until it reads "5" or less, and continue searching for the leak. Pointing the Tru Pointe® 1100 away from the leak will cause the bar graph level to drop. Pointing the detector toward, or getting closer to the leak, will cause the bar graph level to increase. Any deviation from the direction of the leak will cause the LEDs to drop below the Peak Hold level. Moving closer to the leak will cause Peak value to reset. The highest Peak value will indicate the strongest leak point.

5. To adjust the volume, press the MODE button once. The alphanumeric display reads "VOL". Then use the ▲ and ▼ buttons to make the adjustment. The alphanumeric display will display the current setting as V###. The volume reading has a range of 0 to 255.
6. Listen for the leak. A gas or air leak will sound like a harsh rushing noise, or high intensity hiss. This sound will increase as the instrument is drawn toward the leak point, and will clearly disappear as the sensor is turned away.
7. For more detailed information on specific applications, refer to page 9 of this manual.

Touch Probe Applications

Use the touch probe to detect internally generated ultrasound such as leaks in steam traps, valves, and sounds from bearings.



WARNING! To ensure a good contact and accurate readings the touch probe has a sharp tip. Be careful not to injure yourself or others.

1. Insert the metal Touch Probe into the port on the nose of the Tru Pointe® 1100. The Tru Pointe® 1100 Touch Probe should be snug but do not overtighten. Depress the mode select button until the display reads "PROB" and press the "▲" or "▼" to activate the touch probe selection.
2. Making a firm contact, touch the tip of the probe to the item being tested. Apply just enough pressure to make good contact. A clear translation of the internally generated ultrasonic sound will be heard.
3. Listen for fluid leaks in valves, continuous flow or non-cycling in steam traps, and knocking or scraping in bearings.
4. The Tru Pointe® 1100 always defaults back to Sensitivity as the active mode, therefore if readings are off the scale simply press the "▼" to reduce the reading to within the range of the instrument. The alphanumeric display will display the active sensor and current sensitivity setting before it begins to make the adjustments.

NOTE: When testing bearings or machinery vibration, record your sensitivity setting, and use the reading on the Alphanumeric display as a baseline for future readings.
5. For more specific information refer to page 10.

Setting the Sensitivity

The Tru Pointe® 1100 always defaults to Sensitivity as the active mode. After any adjustment has been made, it will store the setting in memory, and reset itself so that ▲ and ▼ adjust sensitivity.

Pressing the ▲ and ▼ arrows will adjust the sensitivity while in either sensor mode. The prefix on the alphanumeric display indicates the sensor being changed. The display will read "A###" when the Airborne sensor is selected, or "P###" when the Touch Probe is selected.

Setting the Volume

Pressing the "MODE" button once will set the Tru Pointe® 1100 in the Volume Adjust Mode. The alphanumeric display will read "VOL" as long as the MODE button is pressed. When released it will show "V###" indicating the current volume setting. Use the ▲ and ▼ buttons to make the adjustment. The volume will change as the display changes from "V 000" to "V 255".

NOTE: Volume and sensitivity are not the same. **Volume** adjusts the loudness of the signal in the headset. **Sensitivity** adjusts the meter's reaction to the incoming signal.

Selecting the Sensor

Press the "MODE" button until the alphanumeric display reads "AIR" or "PROB". The instrument will delay 3 seconds after releasing the MODE button, for the sensor selection to be made by pressing the ▲ or ▼ button.

Adjusting the Display

The alphanumeric display offers three viewing options. Continuous, Peak, and OFF. Press the "MODE" button twice. The display will read "DISP" until released, and then display the current setting. Pressing the ▲ or ▼ buttons will scroll through the display options below.

"Cont" = Continuous, the alphanumeric display will show the level of the signal in real time.

"Peak" = Peak Hold, the alphanumeric display will hold the highest reading for 3 seconds.

"Off" = Turns the alphanumeric display off (with the exception of the "-"). Since this display is not necessary for most airborne applications, turning it off can save battery life.

NOTE: The changes made will stay in the unit's memory until they are updated.

Checking the serial number

While the unit is powered OFF, hold down the "MODE" button. Now turn the unit on while holding down the "MODE" button. The Tru Pointe® 1100 will show its serial number in the alphanumeric display.

Airborne Applications

The Airborne sensor is used to detect sound waves which travel to the Tru Pointe® 1100 through the air. The most common airborne application is compressed air or refrigerant leak detection.

Leaks

When searching for leaks with the Tru Pointe® 1100, remember that you are listening for the turbulent flow of the gas as it flows from the leak orifice (refer to “Principles of Operation” on page 15 for a more detailed explanation). The Tru Pointe® 1100 is capable of hearing leaks from over fifty feet away, but it is best to hold the instrument as close to the test area as safely possible.

1. Stand several feet from the suspected leak area and reduce the sensitivity of the Tru Pointe® 1100 until only 1 or 2 LED's are lit.
2. Scan around fittings, flanges and all other suspected leak sources.
NOTE: If the LED Bar Graph Display is at maximum, reduce the sensitivity and continue scanning.
3. The sound in the headset and the LED Bar Graph Display will increase as the unit gets closer to a leak.

In the case of refrigerant leaks in large areas remove the nose cone and the waveguide and increase the sensitivity. Then sweep the instrument over the entire area.

Reducing Background Noise Interference

The Tru Pointe® 1100 detects a narrow band of ultrasonic sound, therefore although there may appear to be an overwhelming background noise, the sound may not be within the detection range of the Tru Pointe® 1100.

Leaks sound like a “hiss” or rushing sound, while compressors “chatter” a rhythmical mechanical pattern. Fans should not produce any wind noise detectable by the Tru Pointe® 1100, although the fan motor may produce a “buzz” or “hum”.

EXAMPLE: Mechanical vibrations sound very different from leak sounds. Shake a set of keys, and then take a short quick breath through the nose. Listening to both sounds through the Tru Pointe® 1100 is a good example of how its direct translation process helps to distinguish the difference between the two signals.

Practice listening to different components of the test area, this will help to identify problems from other normal operational sounds.

The following methods can help reduce the amount of background noise detected by the Tru Pointe® 1100:

1. Placing the flexible waveguide onto the airborne sensor will make the reception of the Tru Pointe® 1100 more directional. This helps shield the sensor from competing sounds entering from other directions. Cupping a hand around the end of the wave guide will also help to reduce the background noise.

2. Reducing the sensitivity will suppress the effect background noise has on the display, and also in the headset. This will help make the leak sound more identifiable.

Sometimes the most interfering background sounds come from areas of high turbulence within a pipe. This can be where high velocity flow changes direction, or is restricted such as within a partially closed valve. These situations will produce a high frequency hiss which is very similar to the sound of the leak. Use the methods above for reducing the background noise.

Recording Overall System Noise

Use the Tru Pointe® 1100 to record sound levels of compressor noise, fan vibration, fan belts, motors, and even noisy ducts. The overall ultrasonic sound level of a system can be recorded and compared to previous and current readings. The Tru Pointe® 1100 will only record the ultrasonic range of a noisy system. This part of the sound will increase in proportion to the sonic part and is an indication of the problem.

Taking a Baseline Reading

When taking a reading of overall noise level, begin by reducing the sensitivity until the bar graph reads less than 1/2. This will give you room on the display for future readings.

IMPORTANT: The digital circuitry of the Tru Pointe® 1100 allows for great accuracy and consistency, but the operator must note the settings to ensure success. Record the sensitivity, volume, sensor type and the numeric level reading on the display, as well as the position from which the reading was taken. This will be your baseline for future tests.

Touch Probe Applications

Ultrasound not only travels through air but solid materials as well. The touch probe sensor is used to detect abnormal system sounds which are **internally** generated. Such sounds include abnormal flow in piping, valves, and steam traps. Other applications include the detection of friction or increased wear in bearings, motors and gears.

Steam Traps

A steam trap is a device which works much like an automatic faucet, opening only at times when condensed steam (water) has accumulated in the trap. The steam trap then will open to purge the condensate, while retaining the steam for maximum efficiency. Common problems arise when a malfunctioning steam trap fails in either the open or closed position. When this happens it can often go undetected. Left uncorrected in the closed position, faulty steam traps will cause problems such as "water hammer". If failed in the open position, the trap will constantly release live steam, drastically reducing system efficiency. These are problems that can be quite costly.

NOTE: It is fairly common for large manufacturing and processing plants to spend tens of thousands of dollars on steam system conservation programs (equipment and personnel) designed to locate and repair failing steam traps. Ultrasonic detectors play an important role in these programs.

To test steam traps you will use the touch probe sensor. Press the "MODE" button until the display reads the desired probe mode, then press ▲ and ▼ to activate the touch probe sensor. Making a firm contact, touch the end of the probe to the steam trap being tested. Apply just enough pressure to make a good contact, but do not push too hard. You will hear a clear translation of the internally generated ultrasonic sound. If the trap sounds appear to be masked by other system sounds, reduce the sensitivity, and touch just upstream and downstream from the trap to verify that what you hear is only the steam trap being tested.

A properly functioning steam trap will have a distinct on and off flow cycle which is easy to interpret with the Tru Pointe® 1100. A strong rushing sound indicates that the trap is purging.

You may want to listen to the sound of a good trap before trying to make important decisions on the condition of others. Knowing what a healthy trap sounds like will be a great advantage. There are many different types of steam traps. A "sputtering" sound may be quite normal for one type and not another.

Thermal Expansion Valves (TXV)

The Tru Pointe®1100 can be used to test a TXV, check valve, ball, needle, gate... any type of valve which may be leaking internally.

Any fluid or gas passing from the upstream side (high pressure) to the downstream side (low pressure) through a poorly seated valve will generate ultrasound, and clearly be heard using the Tru Pointe® 1100.

This test method is very similar to that of steam traps. Use the touch probe to test around the perimeter of the valve housing. The sound will be loudest at the point of the leak (the area where the gate, ball, needle, etc. seats into place to stop the flow. Use the sensitivity or frequency adjustment to eliminate any extraneous pipe noise and you will be able to hear only the internal flow of the valve.

By using the readings on the display and your ear, you can determine which side of the valve is leaking.

Bearings and Moving Machinery

The most common mechanical failure is a broken or seized bearing. However this type of failure normally does not happen instantly. When the bearing begins to fail, the sound that it makes changes. These changes occur in the ultrasonic range and can be detected with the Tru Pointe® 1100 by touching the bearing housing with the touch probe and listening for abnormal sounds. Periodic preventive maintenance tests can prevent major disasters in both the machinery and down time.

Bearings... The First Test

The first test is very important. This is the reading that all future tests will be based on. With some experience you will be able to compare two similar bearings and identify the sound of a good bearing from a worn one just by using your ear. When time passes between tests, however, it is very important to log your results because the slope of the curve that you will generate will predict the future failure of the bearing.

To take a reading on a mechanical system, such as a bearing or gear box, you must use the touch probe attachment. Touch the end of the probe to the outer housing of the gear box or bearing, making a good contact. Do not press very hard at any given point when collecting data. Use just enough force to keep the tip of the probe in place, and try to be consistent with the amount of pressure you use. It is often effective to use only the weight of the Tru Pointe® 1100 itself to hold the tip in place.

Adjust the sensitivity so that the intensity meter reads 5-6 LEDs. This gives you room on the display for future readings.

As the bearing wears the ultrasonic sound intensity will increase. Future readings can indicate the extent of this wear.

When testing a bearing or other moving machinery it is important to:

1. Record your volume, sensitivity, and frequency range.
2. Record the level on the alphanumeric display.
3. Record or mark the test point where the level was taken.
4. Record the temperature using a thermometer

By recording this Data you have the most accurate and repeatable test possible. Although the sound of a moving machine member may fluctuate, the Tru Pointe® 1100's built in peak hold feature will allow you to assign a number to the sound level emanating from the item being tested.

Use this number to compare future tests.

Charting your results

Ultrasound will be produced differently for all types of systems. It may be strong on one side of a bearing shaft, and weak on the other, depending upon the unique wear patterns. Therefore it is very important to mark the test point, so that future readings can be taken from the exact same position. Doing the same test with the sensitivity set differently can completely change the results, therefore it is extremely important to keep track of the instruments settings for future tests to be valid. These values can be entered into a computer spreadsheet program for creating charts, and storing data.

Keep this information in your files, or tagged on the equipment itself. When returning to the same equipment, perhaps several weeks or months later, you have the information you need to make a decision as to the degree of wear in a particular piece of equipment.

It is worthwhile to show this information to supervisors and plant management. The problems you identify and correct will eliminate costly downtime and energy loss, ultimately saving your Corporation money. More scheduled repairs and less emergency work keeps your business under control.

Vibration

Vibration, misalignment, or moving machinery which is not properly balanced can be deadly to a system. These things can cause excessive wear bringing the life of any system to an early demise.

All these problems have a common warning signal; increased ultrasonic energy. This ultrasonic energy is generated from the friction associated with these problems, and can be detected with the Tru Pointe® 1100.

EXAMPLE: Maintaining a system using multiple pumps or motors all of the same type. After testing a sample of these bearings, the will be able to determine what readings are normal or abnormal for each type.

REMINDER: To insure success, be consistent. If you test a compressor bearing, for example, test the same place, at the same sensitivity setting. It is a good idea (although not necessary) to test units when they are new, and keep your own records of what is acceptable for a new piece of equipment.

See the previous section on charting your results.



WARNING! Be careful when working around rotating machinery. The headphones will dampen much of the sound around you. Use care, and be alert at all times. Make certain the headphone cord is away from moving machine parts.

SoundBlaster® Sound Generator

The SoundBlaster® ultrasonic sound generator is used to detect leaks in enclosures which are not under pressure.

This item can be placed inside a vessel such as tank or walk-in freezer compartment. The sound generator emits a powerful 115dB ultrasonic tone which will follow the empty passage a gas or liquid would travel to produce a leak. The tone can then be identified at the point of exit by using the Tru Pointe® 1100 detector.



6 Principles of Operation

The principle of operation of the Tru Pointe® 1100 is based on the turbulent flow of fluids and gasses. Turbulent flow has a high content of ultrasound, which the Tru Pointe® 1100 can detect. Imagine air leaking from a tire. Because this is such a large leak, your ear can detect this sound, however your ear hears only about 1/3 of the actual spectrum of sound which exists. The sound of small leaks is mostly ultrasonic which your ear can not detect.

EXAMPLE: A piece of straight tubing connected to a gas supply and left free to exhaust into the atmosphere will not generate sound if the volume of gas through it is such that turbulence does not take place. Yet for that same flow, an opening as small as 0.005 of an inch could generate enough sound to be heard several feet away.

For a leak to happen there must be an opening in the system that carries a gas or fluid. Normally, these openings are not clean smooth holes, but passages through cracks with many jagged edges and internal chambers. Fluid or gas escaping through an "orifice" like this, is forced into turbulence, random circular-like motions. Inside a tube where a gas may be flowing, the flow is normally laminar which means that a given layer of gas does not mix with layers above it or below it. This condition happens in a straight long tube when the velocity of the fluid is not high. A gas leaking out of a straight and long tube will not generate as much sound as if it were leaking out of a small crack because the flow is not turbulent.

The intensity of sound generated at a leak is a very complex function of the viscosity, the temperature, the speed the fluid is moving, the Reynolds number, the pressure differential across the leak, and the physical dimensions and characteristics of the orifice. This is why it is impossible to quantify the size of a leak with ultrasonic technology. A smaller leak may generate more sound than a larger one.

The Tru Pointe® 1100 detects ultrasound NOT the presence of a specific gas. It is NOT a gas "Sniffer". Because of this fact, the Tru Pointe® 1100 can function in areas where heavy wind or a concentration of fumes renders other detectors useless.



WARNING! Ultrasonic detectors will not indicate a leak if there is no turbulent flow producing sound when checked. If you suspect a toxic gas, natural gas, or other combustible gas leak and it is not detected by the Tru Pointe® 1100, do not assume it doesn't exist, and use another method as verification there is no gas leak present.

5 Care and Service

The Tru Pointe® 1100 is constructed of durable, impact resistant ABS; however it is also a precision electronic test instrument which should be handled with care and respect. We suggest you follow these simple instructions to insure many years of reliable performance.

1. If you find yourself working in damp areas or the instrument is exposed to oils, or chemical agents that corrode, make sure that you wipe it clean with a soft cloth and window cleaner. Be very gentle around the front of the instrument so that the sensor is not damaged. Periodically, use an automotive plastic polish on the case to bring back its original luster.
2. Keep both sensor openings free of dirt, oils, moisture, or any other foreign substances. Use the yellow waveguide to protect the airborne sensor when using the unit in harsh environments.
3. When performing touch probe applications, do not use excessive pressure on the item being tested. Bent probes or cracked sensor housings are considered abuse, and will not be covered under warranty.
4. Keep the instrument stored in its protective carrying case when not in use.
5. Your Tru Pointe® 1100 comes with a high quality, 9 Volt Battery. However, all batteries have the possibility of leaks. Remove the battery if the unit is not to be used for longer periods of time and store it in one of the two storage locations at the lower left portion of the carrying case foam.

Service