

GENERAL INFORMATION

Knowing the maximum particle size in drilling fluids can assist well sight personnel in determining the need for, and in evaluating the performance of solids control equipment. The Particle Size Plate is an accurate and reliable means of measuring maximum particle size.

MEASURING PARTICLE SIZE

Follow this procedure to measure the maximum particle size in a drilling fluid:

NOTE: THE PARTICLE SIZE PLATE IS SHIPPED COVERED WITH A COAT OF LIGHT OIL. THIS OIL MUST BE REMOVED WITH SOAP AND WATER BEFORE THE PLATE IS USED.

1. Make sure the plate is clean.
2. Place 5 or 6 drops of the fluid to be measured on the end of the plate where the grooves are deepest. The fluid should completely cover the grooves.
3. Hold the scraper perpendicular to the length of the grooves and the surface of the plate, and draw the fluid down the length of the grooves.
4. Immediately read the particle size as follows:
 - a. Hold the particle size plate up to a strong light that will make the dispersion pattern visible, and view the plate from the side. (There should be an angle of 20 to 30 degrees between the line of sight and the face of the plate).
 - b. Inspect the thin wedge of dispersion remaining in a groove for projecting particles. The point where the fluid first shows a predominantly speckled appearance is recorded in microns as the maximum particle size.
 - c. If the reading falls between two gauge divisions, the particle size should be reported as the highest number. (A reading between 40 and 38 is reported as 40).
5. Repeat the measurement procedure at least two times, with as little time as possible between drawdown of the fluid and reading the particle size.

NOTE: DO NOT USE READINGS OBTAINED MORE THAN 10 SECONDS AFTER DRAWING DOWN THE FLUID.

PARTS LIST

PART NO.	DESCRIPTION
206060	Particle Size Plate and Scrapper

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