

# General Monitors® Observer® i Ultrasonic Gas Leak Detector



*The General Monitors® **Observer-i** is the world's first ultrasonic gas leak detector equipped with Artificial Neural Network (ANN) real-time broadband acoustic sound processing technology. This technology is based on extensive studies and real recording of gas leak sounds and industrial background noise from a wide array of industry sources over the years. The ANN algorithm has been "trained" with these recordings to automatically distinguish between unwanted acoustic background noise and dangerous gas leaks.*



## Description

With ANN technology, the Observer-i makes it possible to fully analyze the sound spectrum as low as 12 kHz since common high pass filters are not used. This provides a broader leak detection range which also increases sensitivity to smaller gas leaks, without interference from unwanted background noise.

ANN technology enables the Observer-i to be installed without time consuming "training" sequences, and provides industry-leading detection distance, with unprecedented suppression of false alarms. In addition, ANN technology ensures that the Observer-i has the same gas leak detection coverage in high and low noise areas. The device requires no alarm set points or trigger levels to be configured, nor do these alarm parameters need to be adjusted if background ultrasound were to increase or decrease over time.

The Observer-i is backwards compatible with earlier versions of the Gassonic® Observer by means of the Classic Mode setting wherein ANN is disabled and the legacy electrical interface is used.

The Observer-i features the patented Senssonic™ self-test function. This well-proven self-test checks the device's electrical integrity and microphone every 15 minutes and ensures the Observer-i is operational at all times. The microphone and the microphone windscreen are constantly monitored to ensure that the detector always has optimal sensitivity and detection coverage.

## Applications

- Floating Production Storage and Offloading Vessels (FPSOs)
- Gas Compressor and Metering Stations
- Gas Storage Facilities
- Hydrogen Storage Facilities
- LNG / GTL Trains
- LNG Re-gasification Plants
- Offshore and Onshore Oil and Gas Installations
- Petrochemical Processing Plants

Features	Benefits
ARTIFICIAL NEURAL NETWORK (ANN)	Improved detection range and background noise rejection prevents false alarms
SENSSONIC™ INTEGRATED ACOUSTIC SELF-TEST	Failsafe operation
ONE-PERSON ACOUSTIC SOUND CHECK WITH TRACEABLE PORTABLE TEST UNIT	High reliability and trouble free maintenance
HART AND MODBUS	Provides complete status and control capability in the control room
EVENT LOGGING	Stores fault, sound check, calibration, and alarm event history
DETECTS GAS LEAKS FROM 2 BAR (29 PSI) PRESSURE	Very small gas leaks can be detected quickly



## Observer-i Specifications

System Specifications	
DETECTOR TYPE	Ultrasonic (acoustic) gas leak detector
BACKGROUND NOISE REJECTION METHOD	Artificial Neural Network (ANN)
GAS LEAK RECOGNITION METHOD	Artificial Neural Network (ANN)
MIN. ACOUSTIC DET. FREQUENCY (ANN MODE)	12 kHz
MIN. DETECTION LIMIT	40 dB (u)
ACCURACY	±3 dB
SELF-TEST	Performed every 15 minutes
MIN. PRESSURE REQUIREMENT	2 BAR (29 psi)
DETECTOR COVERAGE (REF. METHANE)	<p><b>Enhanced Mode (ANN) (@ 0.1 kg/sec):</b>            FQHI setting (59 dB ANN sensitivity level):            17 meters (56 ft.) Default            Ultra-high to medium background noise            FQLO setting (54 dB ANN sensitivity level):            28 meters (92 ft.)  <i>Medium to low background noise</i></p> <p><b>Classic Mode (@ 0.1 kg/sec):</b>            Ultra-high: 7 meters (23 ft.) w/84 dB T.L.            High: 12 meters (39 ft.) w/74 dB T.L.            Medium: 18 meters (59 ft.) w/64 dB T.L.            Low: 24 meters (79 ft.) w/54 dB T.L.</p>
RESPONSE TIME	< 1 s (speed of sound)
APPROVALS CLASSIFICATION	<p><b>ATEX/IECEX:</b>            II 2 G D            Ex db ia IIB+H2 T6 Gb, Ex tb IIIC T85°C Db</p> <p><b>CSA:</b>            Ex d ia IIB+H2 Gb T6, Ex tb IIIC T85°C Db</p> <p><b>FM/CSA:</b>            Class I, Div. 1, 2 Groups B,C,D;            Class II, Div. 1, 2 Groups E,F,G; Class III, T5            (Ta = -40°C to +60°C)</p>
APPROVALS	ATEX, CE, UKEx, CSA, FM, IECEX, Inmetro, SANS HART 6.0 registered FM certified to IEC 61508 (SIL 3)
ACCESSORIES	1701 Test and Calibration Unit
DEVICE DRIVERS	DDL, DTM available <a href="#">here</a>
WARRANTY	2 years

Electrical Specifications	
INPUT POWER	15–36 VDC, 250 mA max. 24 VDC, 170 mA nominal
RELAY RATINGS (OPTIONAL)	8 A @ 250 VAC
CURRENT OUTPUT (SINK OR SOURCE)	<p><b>Status Indications:</b>            0 mA: Start up, no power            1 mA: Pulsed acoustic error            3 mA: Unit inhibit</p> <p><b>Classic Mode:</b>            4–20 mA, 40–120 dB (u)</p> <p><b>ANN Mode:</b>            4–12 mA, 40–120 dB (u)            16 mA, warning            20 mA, alarm</p>
EMC/RFI	EMC Directive 2014/30/EU EN 61000-6-2, EN 61000-6-4
SERIAL DIGITAL COMMUNICATION	HART, Modbus
CABLE REQUIREMENTS	Max. cable length between Observer-i and power source @ 24 VDC (20 ohm) 2.08 mm <sup>2</sup> (14 AWG) – 1,809 m (5,928 ft)
Environmental Specifications	
OPERATING TEMPERATURE RANGE	-40°C to 60°C (-40°F to 140°F)
OPERATING HUMIDITY RANGE	10–95% RH, non-condensing
Mechanical Specifications	
HOUSING	Stainless Steel AISI 316L
DIMENSIONS	203 x 203 x 201 mm (7.99 x 7.99 x 7.91 in)
WEIGHT	7.5 kg (16.6 lbs)
CONDUIT ENTRIES	M20 x 1.5 (additional ¾" NPT adapter available)
MOUNTING HOLES	2 x mounting screws – M8 x 19 max
INGRESS PROTECTION	IP66 / Type 4X
STANDARD CONFIGURATION	OBSERVER i-1-1-1-1-1

Note: This Bulletin contains only a general description of the products shown. While product uses and performance capabilities are generally described, the products shall not, under any circumstances, be used by untrained or unqualified individuals. The products shall not be used until the product instructions/user manual, which contains detailed information concerning the proper use and care of the products, including any warnings or cautions, have been thoroughly read and understood. Specifications are subject to change without prior notice. MSA is a registered trademark of MSA Technology, LLC in the US, Europe, and other Countries. For all other trademarks visit <https://us.msasafety.com/Trademarks>.

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