

Question 8.18

Topic: RATA Schedule for Flow Monitors

Question: How do I determine when to perform my next flow RATA?

Answer: For a flow monitor, the percent relative accuracy obtained determines when the next test must be performed.

If a flow monitor passes a RATA and the relative accuracy at any load or operating level tested is > 7.5 percent and ≤ 10.0 percent, then the next flow RATA must be performed on a semiannual basis (i.e., within the next two QA operating quarters). If the relative accuracy is ≤ 7.5 percent at all loads or operating levels tested then the next flow RATA must be performed on an annual basis (i.e., within the next four QA operating quarters).

Each time that a 2-load or 3-load flow RATA is completed and passed, the frequency (semiannual or annual) of the next flow RATA is established or re-established. Note, however, that a single-load (normal load) flow RATA may *not* be used to establish or re-establish the RATA frequency, except when:

- (1) The single-load RATA is specifically required under Section 2.3.1.3(b) of Appendix B (for flow monitors installed on peaking units and bypass stacks; and for flow monitors that qualify for single-level RATAs under section 6.5.2(e) of appendix A); or
- (2) A single-load RATA is allowed under Section 2.3.1.3(c) of Appendix B, for a unit which has operated at a single load level (low, mid, or high) for $\geq 85.0\%$ of the time since the last annual flow RATA.

Apart from these two exceptions, the only way to establish or re-establish the RATA frequency for a flow monitor is to perform a 2-load or 3-load flow RATA.

References: Appendix A, Section 6.5.2(e); Appendix B, Sections 2.3.1.1, 2.3.1.2, 2.3.1.4, and 2.4

History: First published in July 1995, Update #6; revised in October 1999 Revised Manual; revised in October 2003 Revised Manual; revised in 2013 Manual