

Question 11.10

Topic: 7-day Calibration Error Test

Question: Must a unit operate continuously for all 168 hours of the 7-day calibration error test during certification?

Answer: No. According to Section 6.3.1 of Appendix A, units must be operating when measurements are made. The same section of Appendix A of Part 75 specifies that units may be tested on non-consecutive calendar days (but the certification test must be performed on seven consecutive unit operating days). This allows certification testing of CEMS at actual stack conditions and at conditions similar to those that will be encountered later after certification.

When a unit has been shutdown, the monitor readings may drift. In order to improve monitor accuracy when the unit is again operating and to allow the monitor to pass the 7-day calibration error test, it is permissible to check the calibration of the instrument and adjust it while the unit is still shutdown. Calibration tests during shutdown periods are not to be reported as part of the 7-day calibration error test data.

When a unit comes back on-line after an outage, it is recommended that the 7-day calibration error test not be resumed until the unit operation has stabilized. This allows the monitor to measure while its probe is exposed to normal flue gas moisture and temperature conditions.

References: Appendix A, Section 6.1

History: First published in November 1993, Update #2; revised in 2013 Manual