

# INSTRUCTION MANUAL

## FOR

### MODEL 158A

### LEVEL-TEL

*We do our level best*



Probe, Cable and Conduit Outlet Box  
shown for illustration only.  
Must be ordered separately.



Industrial Products Division  
1602 Mustang Drive  
Maryville, Tennessee 37801  
Phone: (865) 981-3100 Fax: (865) 981-3168

INSTRUCTION MANUAL NUMBER

**909GF197B**

P-2410

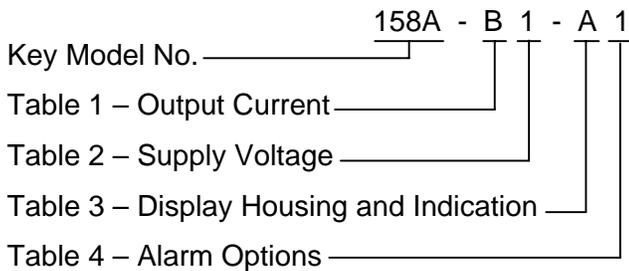
## Section I – DESCRIPTION

### 1.1 GENERAL

The Robertshaw Model 158A Level-Tel is a capacitance operated DC current transmitter with noninteracting and independent zero and span adjustments internally located. The transmitter is remotely mounted from the probe with a triax cable interconnected between the probe and the transmitter.

### 1.2 MODEL IDENTIFICATION

Identify instrument models in accordance with the descriptions and variations listed in each table.



#### KEY MODEL NO.

Model No.	Description
158A	Capacitance-to-current transmitter system for remotely mounted probe assemblies. Control Unit is available with or without indication and optional alarms.

**Table 1 – OUTPUT CURRENT**

Desig.	Description
A	1-5 mADC
B	4-20 mADC
C	10-50 mADC
D	0-10 mADC

**Table 2 – SUPPLY VOLTAGE**

Desig.	Description
1	26.5 VDC, ± 10%
2	120 VAC, ± 10%, 50/60 Hz
3	240 VAC, ± 10%, 50/60 Hz

**Table 3 – DISPLAY HOUSING AND INDICATION**

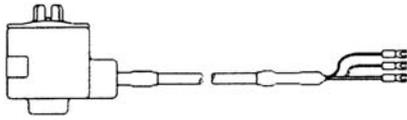
Desig.	Description
A	Water tight enclosure without indicator. Meets NEMA Type 4 and CSA Enclosure 5.
B	Water tight housing with indicator. Meets NEMA Type 4 and CSA Enclosure 5.
C	Explosion proof housing without indicator. For Class I, Division 1, Groups C and D; Class II, Division 1, Groups E, F and G, areas.
D	Explosion proof housing with indicator. For Class I, Division 1, Groups C and D; Class II, Division 1, Groups E, F and G, areas.
E	Large weatherproof enclosure with indicator to be used with optional alarms. Meets NEMA Type 12 & 13 and CSA Encl 3.

**Table 4 – ALARM OPTIONS**

Desig.	Description
1	None
2	*Alarm Relays for High or Low Alarm.
3	*Alarm Relays for High and Low Alarms.

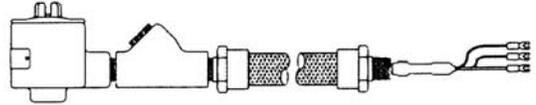
**\* May only be used with Designation E on Table 3.**

**1.3 TRIAXIAL CABLE ACCESSORY ITEMS**



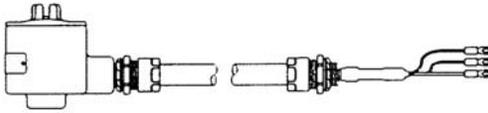
**032KE03X-XX\***

GENERAL PURPOSE (polyethylene insulated) Triax Cable with probe connection conduit outlet box. (Recommended for use with customer supplied rigid or flexible conduit.) Maximum temperature 185° F.



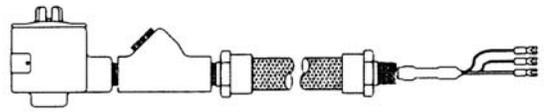
**032KE090-05 (5 ft long)**  
**032KE090-10 (10 ft long)**

GENERAL PURPOSE (polyethylene insulated) Triax Cable in explosion proof flexible conduit (protective armor) with seal fitting and probe connection conduit outlet box. Maximum temperature 185° F.



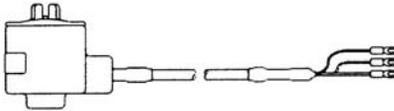
**032KE05X-XX\***

GENERAL PURPOSE (polyethylene insulated) Triax Cable in flexible conduit (protective armor) with probe connection conduit outlet box. Maximum temperature 185° F.



**032KE100-05 (5 ft long)**  
**032KE100-10 (10 ft long)**

HIGH TEMPERATURE (Teflon insulated) Triax Cable in explosion proof flexible conduit (protective armor) with seal fitting and probe connection conduit outlet box. Maximum temperature 350° F.



**032KE04X-XX\***

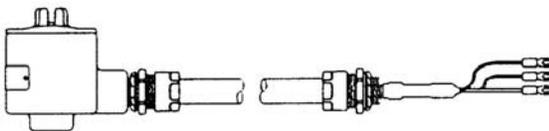
HIGH TEMPERATURE (Teflon insulated) Triax Cable with probe connection conduit outlet box. (Recommended for use with customer supplied rigid or flexible conduit.) Maximum temperature 350° F.

\* Substitute length in feet for X-XX in part number.

Example: For 10 feet substitute 0-10

For 120 feet substitute 1-20

Explosion proof cables are standard in 5 and 10 foot lengths.



**032KE06X-XX\***

HIGH TEMPERATURE (Teflon insulated) Triax Cable in flexible conduit (protective armor) with probe connection conduit outlet box. Maximum temperature 350° F.

## Section II - SPECIFICATIONS

### 2.1 ENVIRONMENTAL

Ambient Temperature Limits..... -40° F to +160° F

Vibration Limits .....  $\pm 2$  G from 10 to 200 Hz

### 2.2 ELECTRICAL

Supply Voltage..... 120 VAC  $\pm 10\%$ , 50/60 Hz  
 240 VAC  $\pm 10\%$ , 50/60 Hz  
 26.5 VDC  $\pm 10\%$

Supply Power..... 5 watts, 7 VA max.

Terminal Capacitance Range ..... 0 to 1000 pF

Span Capacitance Range..... 10 pF plus 1 pF for  
 each 10 feet of Triax  
 cable up to 2000 pF

Maximum Recommended  
 Terminal/Span Ratio ..... 10:1

Output Signal  
 and Load..... 1-5 mADC into 0-2500 ohms  
 4-20 mADC into 0-700 ohms  
 10-50 mADC into 0-250 ohms  
 0-10 mADC into 0-1000 ohms

Connecting Cable Length ..... 150 feet max.

### 2.3 PERFORMANCE

Linearity ..... 0.5% max. for span  
 less than 1000 pF  
 1% max. for span  
 greater than 1000 pF

Repeatability .....  $\pm 0.1\%$

Sensitivity.....0.01% minimum

Frequency Response.....-3 db at 1 Hz

Supply Variation Effect .....0.5%/10% supply

Ambient Temperature Effect:

Span .....0.01%/° F  
 Zero ..... 0.01%/F or 0.01 pF/F,  
 whichever is greater

Output Signal Ripple..... 0.2% max.

Output Meter Accuracy .....  $\pm 2\%$

### 2.4 ENCLOSURE

Water Tight ..... NEMA 4, CSA Enclosure 5,  
 Polyurethane painted cast aluminum

Explosion Proof...Class I, Division 1, Groups C, D;  
 Class II, Division 1, Groups E, F, G;  
 Polyurethane painted cast aluminum

Weatherproof ..... NEMA 12, 13, CSA Enclosure 3,  
 Polyurethane painted steel

### 2.5 INTRINSIC SAFETY

Models 158A – (A, B) (1, 2) – (A, B, C, D) – 1:  
 Probe circuit is CSA Certified intrinsically  
 safe for Class I, Division 1, Group C & D;  
 Class II, Division 1, Group E, F & G  
 hazardous locations when connected as  
 shown on drawing 907GA518 (Figure 8).

### 2.6 AGENCY CERTIFICATIONS

Models 158A – (A, B) (1, 2) – (A, B, C, D) – 1:  
 CSA Certified ..... File LR 18690

## Section III - INSTALLATION

### 3.1 GENERAL

Examine the instrument for possible shipping damages. **IMPORTANT:** If for any reason it is determined that parts should be returned to the factory, please notify the nearest Robertshaw sales representative prior to shipment. Each unit must be properly packaged to prevent damage. Robertshaw assumes no responsibility for equipment damaged in shipment due to improper packaging.

Choose the location in accordance with good instrument practice, avoiding extremes of temperature, humidity and vibration (see Specifications, Section II).

### 3.2 PROBE MOUNTING

Level-Tel probes for use with the Model 158A are purchased separately from a variety of styles and types which provide for various specific applications involving liquids or granular materials. Insulated rod-type probes are normally used for liquid solutions or liquid-interface junctions.

Since many materials have a tendency to build up on the probe over extended periods of operation, it is advisable on horizontally mounted probes to place the probe so that its lower tip is below the gland entrance. This encourages self-cleaning by permitting the material to drip from the probe. However, some materials will continue to build up and cause the Level-Tel to become insensitive or fail to operate. If such material is being used, the installation should be made so that the probe is easily removed for periodic cleaning.

The face of the gland on the rod-type probes must be installed until nearly flush with the vessel wall. **DO NOT** install the probe in a nozzle, recess, or open-end well, unless the probe was supplied with a factory assembled sheath as there is danger of material collecting in such a recess and causing false operation.

### 3.3 TRANSMITTER UNIT MOUNTING

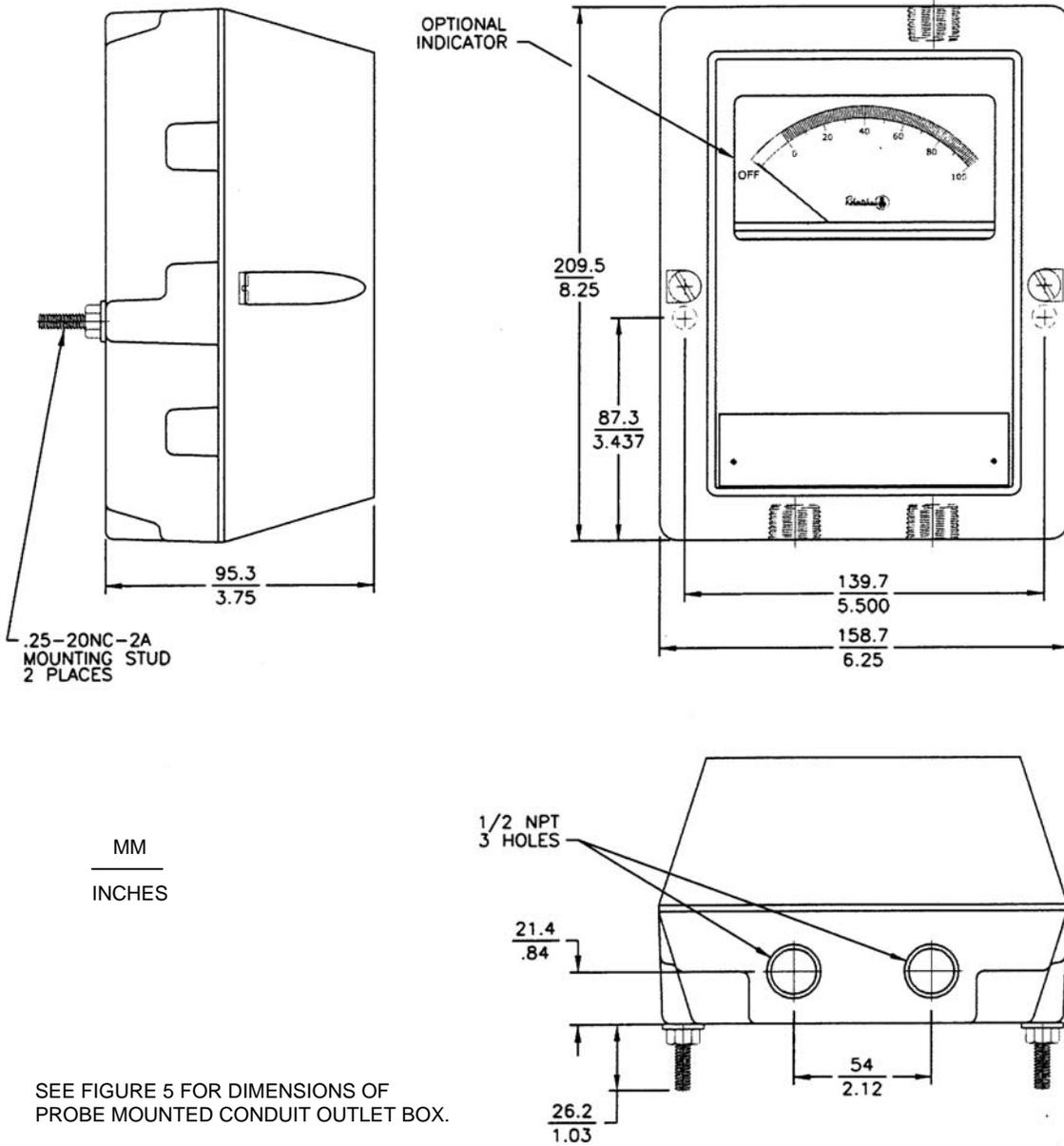
The Model 158A is designed for vertical surface mounting: e.g. wall, panel or column. Choose the mounting location to avoid extremes of ambient temperature or vibration (see Specifications, Section II).

### 3.4 WATER TIGHT & WEATHERPROOF TRANSMITTER MOUNTING & ELECTRICAL CONNECTIONS

See Figures 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 for the mounting dimensions and electrical connections of the Water Tight and Weatherproof Transmitters. See Figure 8 for interconnection diagram for those models certified for intrinsically safe probe installations.

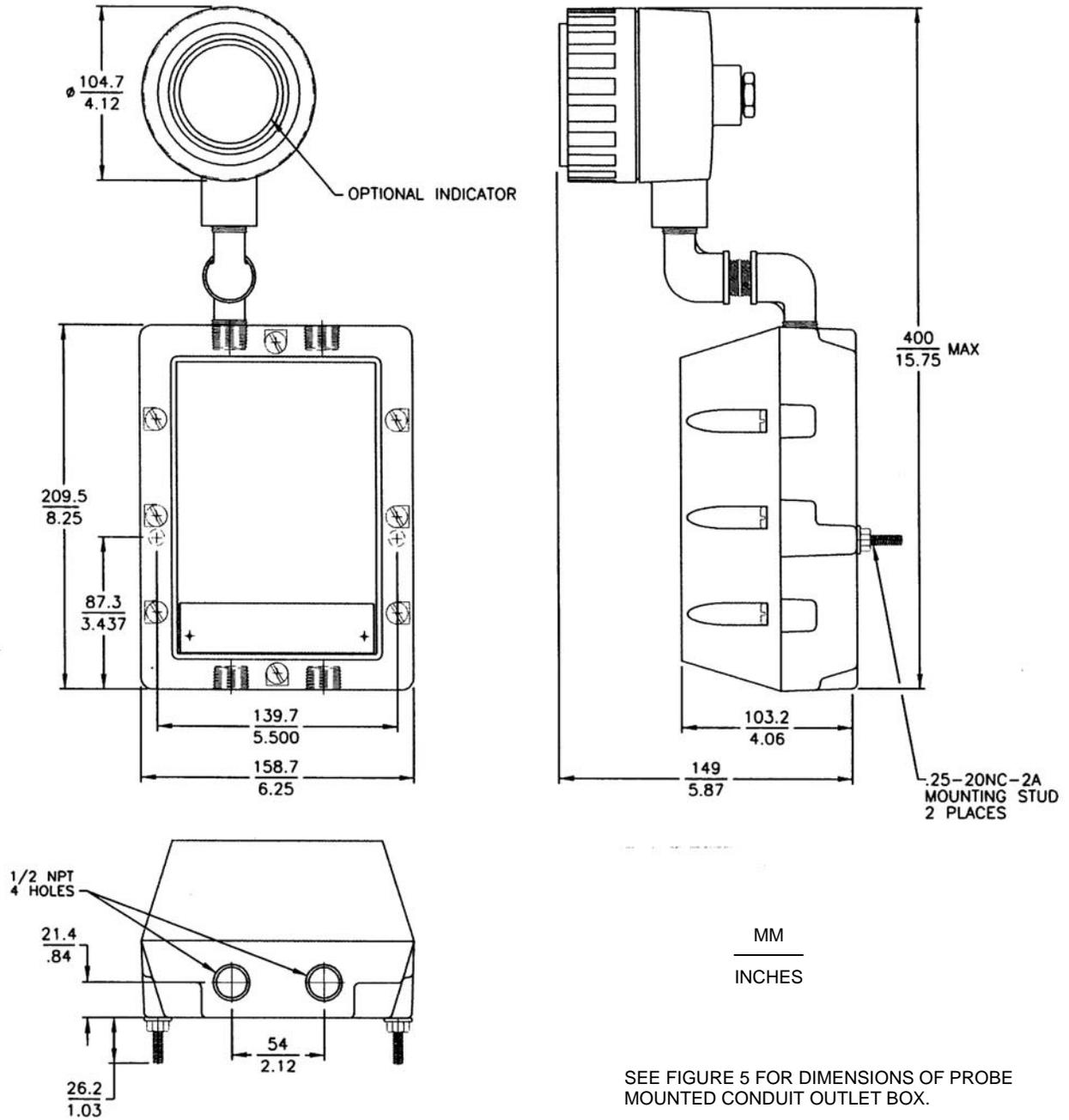
### 3.5 EXPLOSION PROOF TRANSMITTER MOUNTING & ELECTRICAL CONNECTIONS

See Figures 2, 3 and 5 for the mounting dimensions and electrical connections of the Explosion Proof Transmitter. See Figure 8 for the interconnection diagram for those models certified for intrinsically safe probe installations.



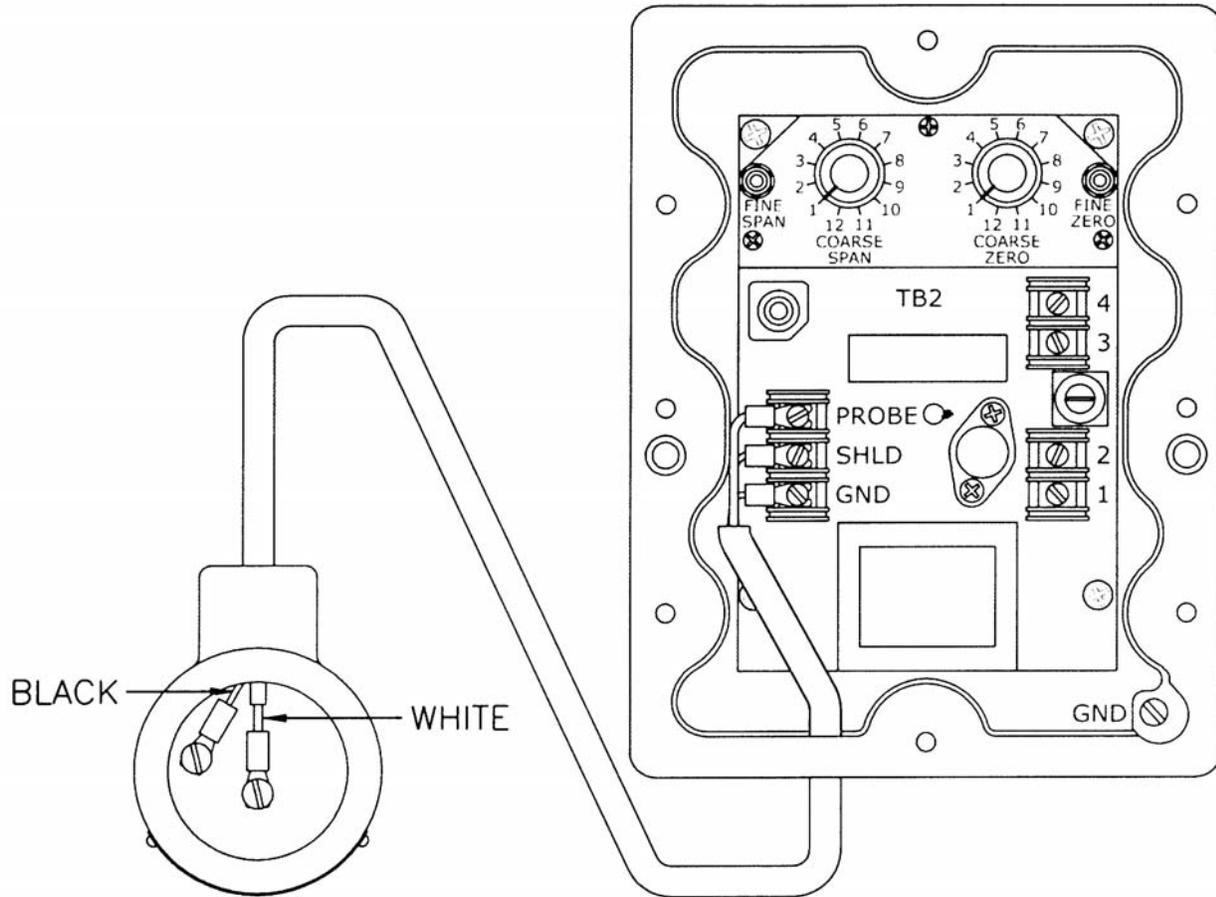
**FIGURE 1**

MOUNTING DIMENSIONS FOR MODEL 158A WATER TIGHT ENCLOSURE WITH AND WITHOUT INDICATOR, MODELS 158A - ( ) ( ) - A1 AND 158A - ( ) ( ) B1.



**FIGURE 2**

MOUNTING DIMENSIONS FOR MODEL 158A EXPLOSION PROOF ENCLOSURE WITH AND WITHOUT INDICATOR, MODELS 158A - ( ) ( ) - C1 AND 158A - ( ) ( ) - D1.



TERMINAL		
TERMINAL	CONNECTION	REMARKS
PROBE	TRIAX WHITE LEAD	
SHLD	TRIAX RED LEAD	
GND	TRIAX BLACK LEAD	
1	N (-) SUPPLY	SEE RATING PLATE (120 VAC, 240 VAC OR 26.5 VDC)
2	H (+) SUPPLY	
GND	CHASSIS GROUND	
3	(-) OUTPUT SIGNAL	SEE NOTE 1
4	(+) OUTPUT SIGNAL	

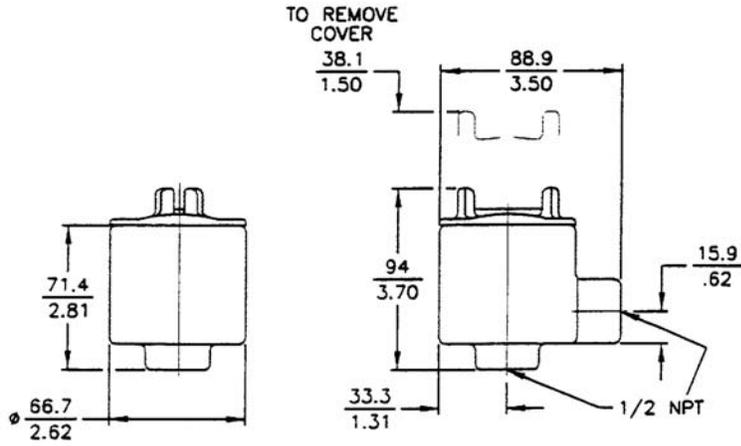
NOTES:

1. REMOVE JUMPER ACROSS OUTPUT TERMINALS 3 AND 4 WHEN RECORDER, CONTROLLER, ETC. IS USED.

**FIGURE 3**

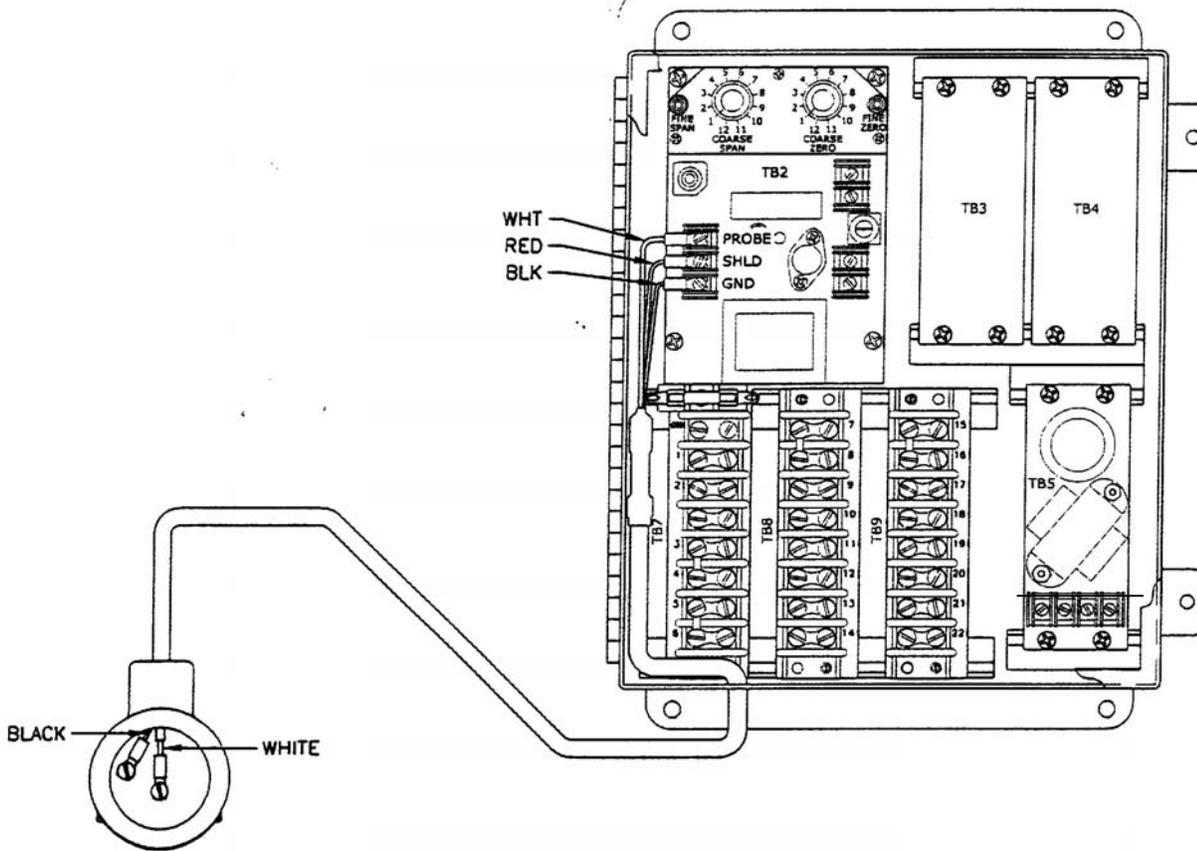
ELECTRICAL CONNECTIONS FOR WATER TIGHT AND EXPLOSION PROOF ENCLOSURES, MODELS 158A - ( ) ( ) - (A, B, C, D) ( ) .





**FIGURE 5**

DIMENSIONS OF PROBE MOUNTED CONDUIT OUTLET BOX SUPPLIED WITH TRIAX CABLE.  
(TRIAx CABLE ORDERED SEPARATELY)



**FIGURE 6**

ELECTRICAL CONNECTIONS FOR LARGE WEATHERPROOF ENCLOSURE,  
MODEL 158A - ( ) ( ) - E ( ) .

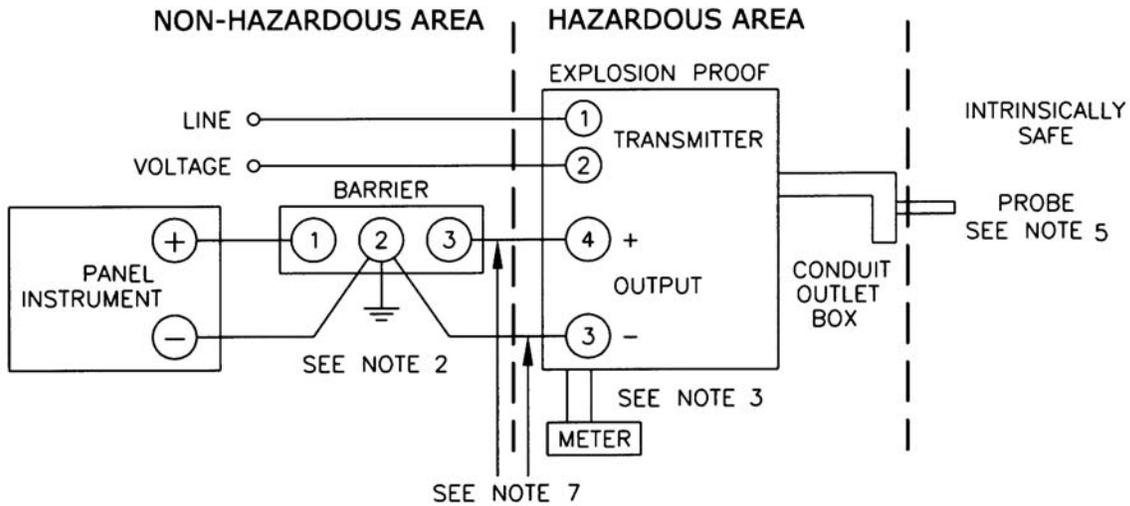
FIELD WIRING			
TERMINAL	CONNECTION	REMARKS	
TB2	PROBE	TRIAX WHITE LEAD	
	SHLD	TRIAX RED LEAD	
	GND	TRIAX BLACK LEAD	
TB7	G	CHASSIS GROUND	
	1	N (-) SUPPLY	SEE RATING PLATE (120 VAC, 240 VAC OR 26.5 VDC)
	2	H (+) SUPPLY	
	3	(-) OUTPUT	SEE NOTES 2 AND 5
	4	(+) OUTPUT	
	5	NO CONNECTION	SEE NOTE 5
	6		
7			
TB8	8	OPTIONAL NO. 1 ALARM CONTACTS  SEE NOTES 1 AND 3	
	9		N.C.
	10		COM.
	11		N.O.
	12		N.C.
	13		COM.
	14		N.O.
TB9	15	NO CONNECTION	OPTIONAL NO. 2 ALARM CONTACTS  SEE NOTES 1 AND 4
	16		
	17	N.C.	
	18	COM.	
	19	N.O.	
	20	N.C.	
	21	COM.	
22	N.O.		

NOTES:

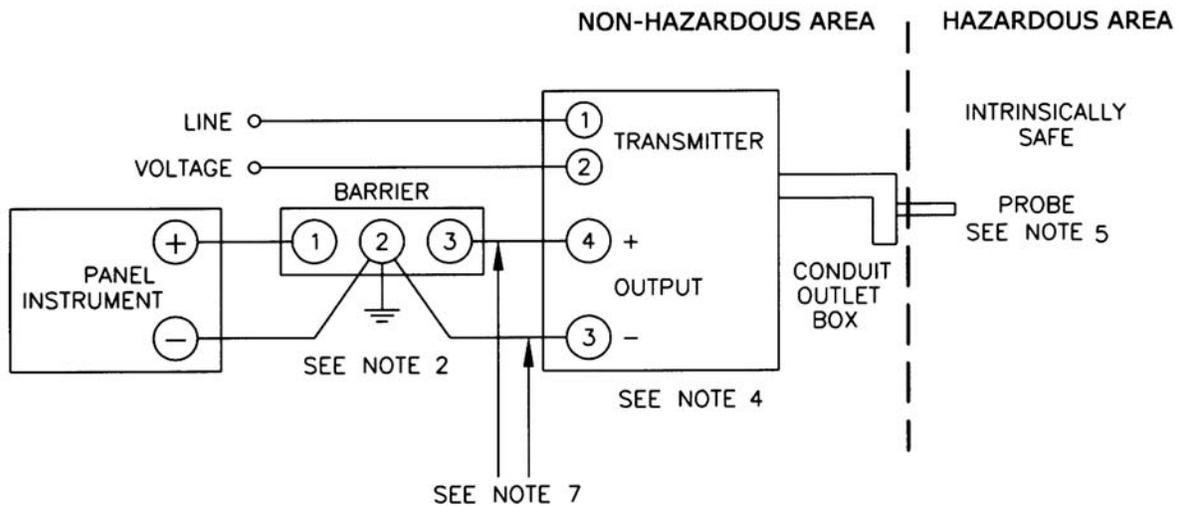
1. THE ALARM RELAY CONTACTS ARE SHOWN IN THE DE-ENERGIZED CONDITION. FOR NORMAL OPERATION THE RELAY IS ENERGIZED AND BECOMES DE-ENERGIZED WHEN THE OUTPUT SIGNAL REACHES THE ALARM POINT.
2. REMOVE JUMPER ACROSS OUTPUT TERMINALS 3 AND 4 WHEN RECORDER, CONTROLLER, ETC. IS USED.
3. UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED ALARM NO. 1 SUPPLIES HLFS.
4. UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED ALARM NO. 2 SUPPLIES LLFS.
5. TERMINALS 3 AND 4, 5 AND 6, 7 AND 8 ARE NORMALLY JUMPERED TOGETHER.

**FIGURE 7**

ELECTRICAL CONNECTIONS FOR LARGE WEATHERPROOF ENCLOSURE,  
MODEL 158A - ( ) ( ) - E ( ).



**FIGURE 1**



**FIGURE 2**

**NOTES:**

1. IN FIGURE 1, THE TRANSMITTER IS CSA CERTIFIED FOR HAZARDOUS LOCATIONS, CLASS I, DIVISION 1, GROUPS C & D; CLASS II, DIVISION 1, GROUPS E, F & G. THE PROBE IS INTRINSICALLY SAFE FOR CLASS I, DIVISION 1, GROUPS A, B, C & D; CLASS II, DIVISION 1, GROUPS E, F & G.  
IN FIGURE 2, THE TRANSMITTER IS CSA CERTIFIED FOR ENCLOSURE 5. THE PROBE IS INTRINSICALLY SAFE FOR CLASS I, DIVISION 1, GROUPS A, B, C & D; CLASS II, DIVISION 1, GROUPS E, F & G.
2. R. STAHL INC., MODEL 8901/33-293/000-79 OR CSA CERTIFIED EQUIVALENT (28.1V MAX., 300 OHM MIN.) POSITIVE-POTENTIAL SIGNAL RETURN LINE BARRIER WITH INTRINSICALLY SAFE TERMINALS 2 (GROUND) AND 3. BARRIER MUST BE MOUNTED AND GROUNDED OUTSIDE THE HAZARDOUS AREA IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INSTRUCTIONS PACKED WITH BARRIER. POTENTIAL TO GROUND MUST NOT EXCEED 250V RMS (360V PEAK).
3. ROBERTSHAW MODELS 158A – (A, B) (1, 2) – (C, D) 1.
4. ROBERTSHAW MODELS 158A – (A, B) (1, 2) – (A, B) 1.
5. ROBERTSHAW MODEL 702, 728, 729, 736, 738, 739, 740 OR 741 PROBE. INSULATED PROBES ONLY MAY BE USED IN CLASS II, GROUPS E & F AREAS.
6. 650 OHMS MAXIMUM TOTAL LOOP RESISTANCE, EXCLUDING BARRIER RESISTANCE.
7. FOR AN INTRINSICALLY SAFE INSTALLATION, ALL WIRING BETWEEN THE BARRIER AND THE TRANSMITTER MUST BE INSTALLED IN RIGID METAL CONDUIT.

**FIGURE 8 – DRAWING 907GA518**

DIAGRAM FOR INTRINSICALLY SAFE INTERCONNECTIONS FOR MODELS 158A – (A, B) (1, 2) – (A, B, C, D) 1.

## Section IV – OPERATION

### 4.1 CALIBRATION ADJUSTMENTS

All the adjustments for calibrating the Model 158A Level-Tel are located on the printed circuit board assembly and consist of the following (see Figure 8):

#### 4.1.1 Zero Adjustment (0% Process Level Point)

The zero adjustment can be obtained by the use of the Fine and Coarse Zero adjustments. The Fine Zero adjustment is a multi-turn potentiometer (approximately 20 turns). The Coarse Zero adjustment is a 12 position switch. Clockwise rotation of the zero adjustments will increase the output signal. When used in combination, the zero adjustments are capable of varying the 0% Process Level Point through an approximate range between 0 and 1000 pF of terminal capacitance.

#### 4.1.2 Span Adjustment

The span adjustment can be obtained by the use of the Fine and Coarse Span adjustments. The Fine Span adjustment is a multi-turn potentiometer (approximately 20 turns). The Coarse Span adjustment is a 12 position switch. Clockwise rotation of the span adjustments will increase the output signal.

#### 4.1.3 Null Adjustment

The Null adjustment is a multi-turn potentiometer (approximately 20 turns) that prevents interaction between the zero adjustment and the span adjustment during calibration of the instrument. **This adjustment is factory set and should not require readjustment.** However, calibration of the null adjustment (Ref. Para. 4.3.2) will be required if a shift of the 0% Process Level Point of the instrument is experienced following calibration of the span.

### 4.2 OPERATIONAL MODE

(For Models 158A – ( ) ( ) – E (2, 3) only)

Unless otherwise specified, the operational mode for the optional alarms No. 1 & No. 2 of Models 158A – ( ) ( ) – E (2, 3) when they leave the factory are as specified in Figure 7 of this manual. The operational mode of either of the alarms may be changed by relocating the links on the Alarm Relay Modules. See Figure 6 for location of the modules. TB3 is Alarm Module No. 1 and TB4 is

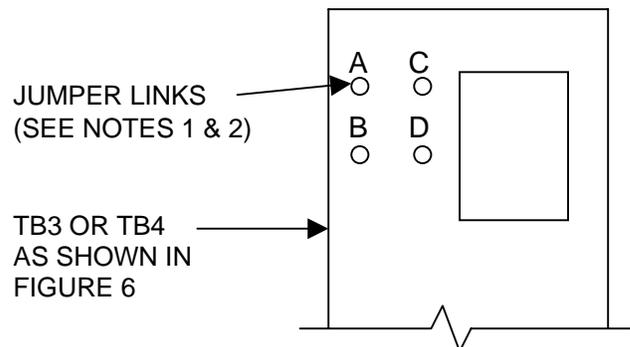
Alarm Module No. 2. Refer to Figure 9 and the following paragraphs for detailed instructions on how to change the links to obtain the desired mode. The supply voltage to the instrument should be disconnected when making this change.

#### 4.2.1 Low Level Fail Safe

Applications for low level detection should utilize the Low Level Fail Safe (LLFS) mode which is defined as a decrease in input signal level to cause the relay to become de-energized or “alarmed”. This mode is accomplished by jumpering “A” to “B” and “C” to “D”. (Ref. Figure 9.)

#### 4.2.2 High Level Fail Safe

Applications for high level detection should utilize the High Level Fail Safe (HLFS) mode which is defined as an increase in input signal level to cause the relay to become de-energized or “alarmed”. This mode is accomplished by jumpering “A” to “D” and “B” to “C”. (Ref. Figure 9.)



NOTES:

1. JUMPER “A” TO “B” AND “C” TO “D” FOR LLFS MODE OF OPERATION.
2. JUMPER “A” TO “D” AND “B” TO “C” FOR HLFS MODE OF OPERATION.

**FIGURE 9**

MODES OF OPERATION

## CALIBRATION PROCEDURE

### 4.3.1 Zero and Span Calibration

With the Model 158A Level-Tel mounted and electrical connections made, the following procedures should be followed in calibrating the instrument:

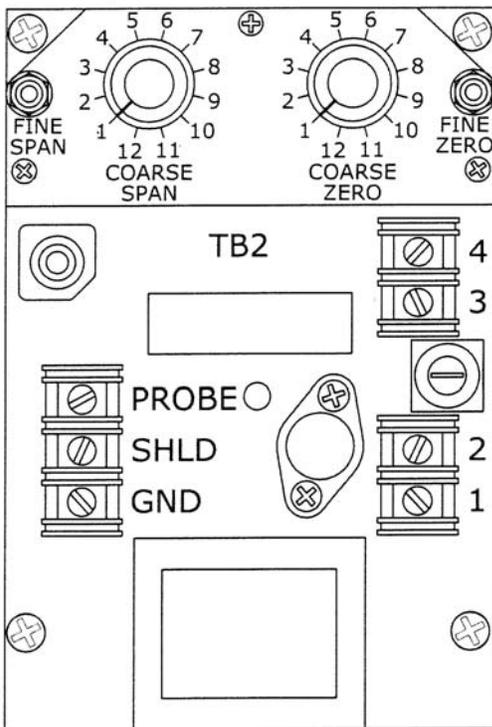
- On units not containing an indicator, connect an accurate milliammeter in series with the output terminals 3(-) and 4(+).
- Adjust the Coarse Span switch to position No. 10.
- With the process level in the vessel or tank at the desired 0% (low) level, adjust the Coarse and Fine Zero until the output current indicates 0% (1, 0, 4 or 10 mA depending on the output signal range of the Model 158A Level-Tel being used). Clockwise rotation of the zero adjustments will increase the output current.

- Change the process level in the tank to the desired 100% (high) level and adjust the Coarse and Fine Span until the output or meter indicates 100% (5, 10, 20 or 50 mA depending on the output signal range of the Model 158A Level-Tel being used). Clockwise rotation of the span adjustments will increase the output current.
- The instrument is now calibrated and ready for operation. However, it is recommended that the zero and span calibration be repeated to obtain optimum accuracy.

### 4.3.2 Null Adjustment Calibration

THIS ADJUSTMENT IS FACTORY SET AND SHOULD NOT BE REQUIRED. However, should calibration of the null adjustment be required, perform the following procedure:

- With the Model 158A Level-Tel mounted and the electrical connections made, adjust the Coarse Span switch to position 10.
- With the process level in the vessel or tank at the desired 0% (low) level, adjust the Coarse and Fine Zero adjustments until the output current indicates 0% (1, 0, 4 or 10 mA depending on the output of the Model 158A Level-Tel being used). Clockwise rotation increases the output current.
- Adjust the Coarse Span switch to the No. 1 position.
- Adjust the Null adjustment until the output current or meter indicates 0%. Clockwise rotation increases the output current.
- Repeat steps "a" through "d" until the output current remains at 0% when the Coarse Span switch is rotated from position No. 1 to position No. 10.



**FIGURE 10**

CALIBRATION ADJUSTMENTS

## Section IV – SPARE PARTS

SPARE PARTS					
DESIG.	DESCRIPTION	SUPPLY	OUTPUT	USED ON	PART NO.
TB2	TRANSMITTER PRINTED CIRCUIT ASSY	26.5 VDC	1-5 mADC	158A-A1-XX	044KB766-01
			4-20 mADC	158A-B1-XX	044KB766-04
			10-50 mADC	158A-C1-XX	044KB766-07
			0-10 mADC	158A-D1-XX	044KB766-10
		120 VAC 50/60 Hz	1-5 mADC	158A-A2-XX	044KB766-02
			4-20 mADC	158A-B2-XX	044KB766-05
			10-50 mADC	158A-C2-XX	044KB766-08
			0-10 mADC	158A-D2-XX	044KB766-11
		240 VAC 50/60 Hz	1-5 mADC	158A-A3-XX	044KB766-03
			4-20 mADC	158A-B3-XX	044KB766-06
			10-50 mADC	158A-C3-XX	044KB766-09
			0-10 mADC	158A-D3-XX	044KB766-12
F1	FUSE, 1/8 A, SLO-BLO	ALL	ALL	ALL	130GD020
K1	RELAY	ALL	ALL	158A-XX-E2 158A-XX-E3	250KB051-02



## **U.S.A. and CANADA**

Robertshaw Industrial Products Division  
1602 Mustang Drive  
Maryville, Tennessee 37801  
Phone: (865) 981-3100 Fax: (865) 981-3168  
<http://www.robertshawindustrial.com>

## **Exports**

Invensys Appliance Controls  
1701 Byrd Avenue  
P.O. Box 26544  
Richmond, Virginia 23261-6544  
Phone: (804) 756-6500 Fax: (804) 756-6561

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