

## Gas Density Monitoring Equipment

EPA-Conference on SF<sub>6</sub> & the Environment, 2006, San Antonio

Thomas Heckler, WIKAI Germany

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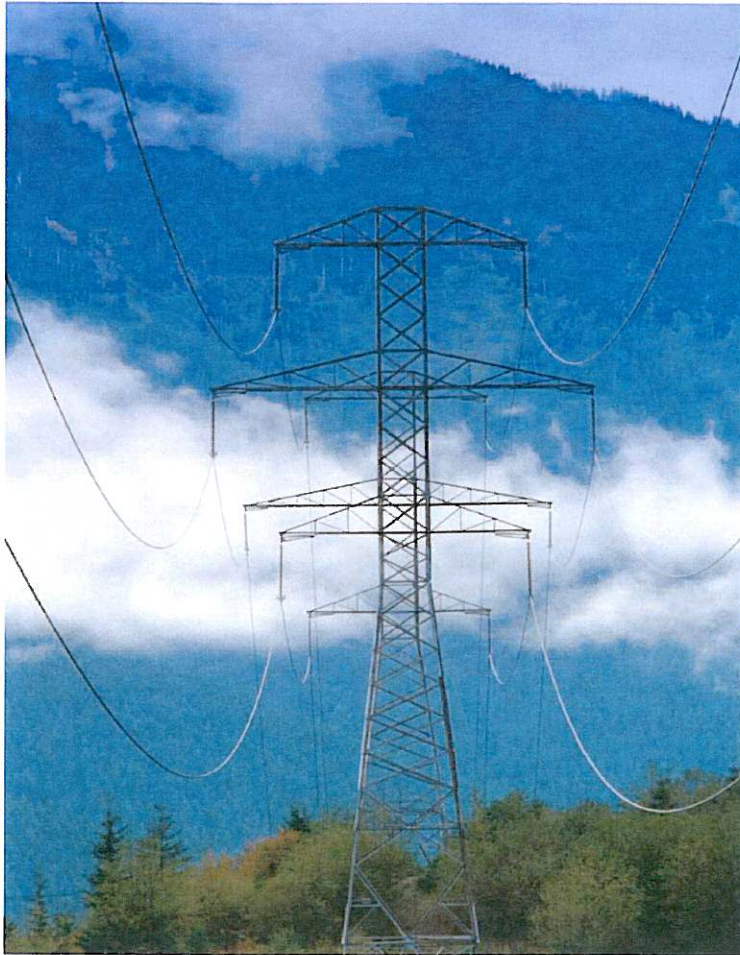
Visionary Vanguard



## Gas Density Monitoring Equipment

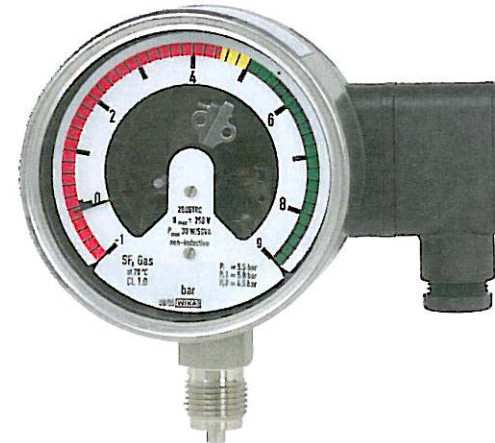
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## WIKA in the T&D world

# Purpose of Gas Density Monitoring

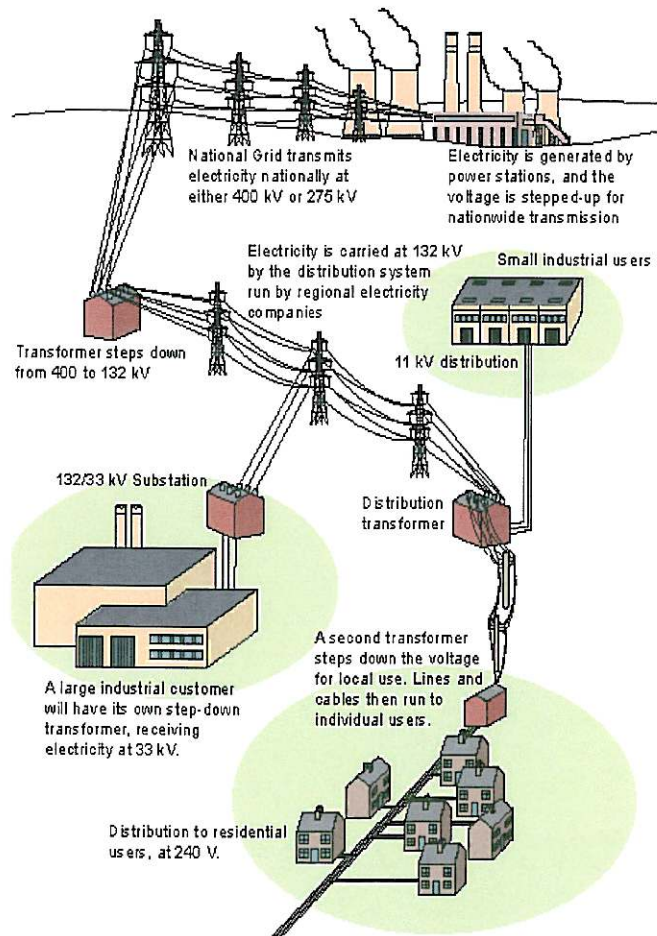


## Gas Density Monitors

furnish proof of ...

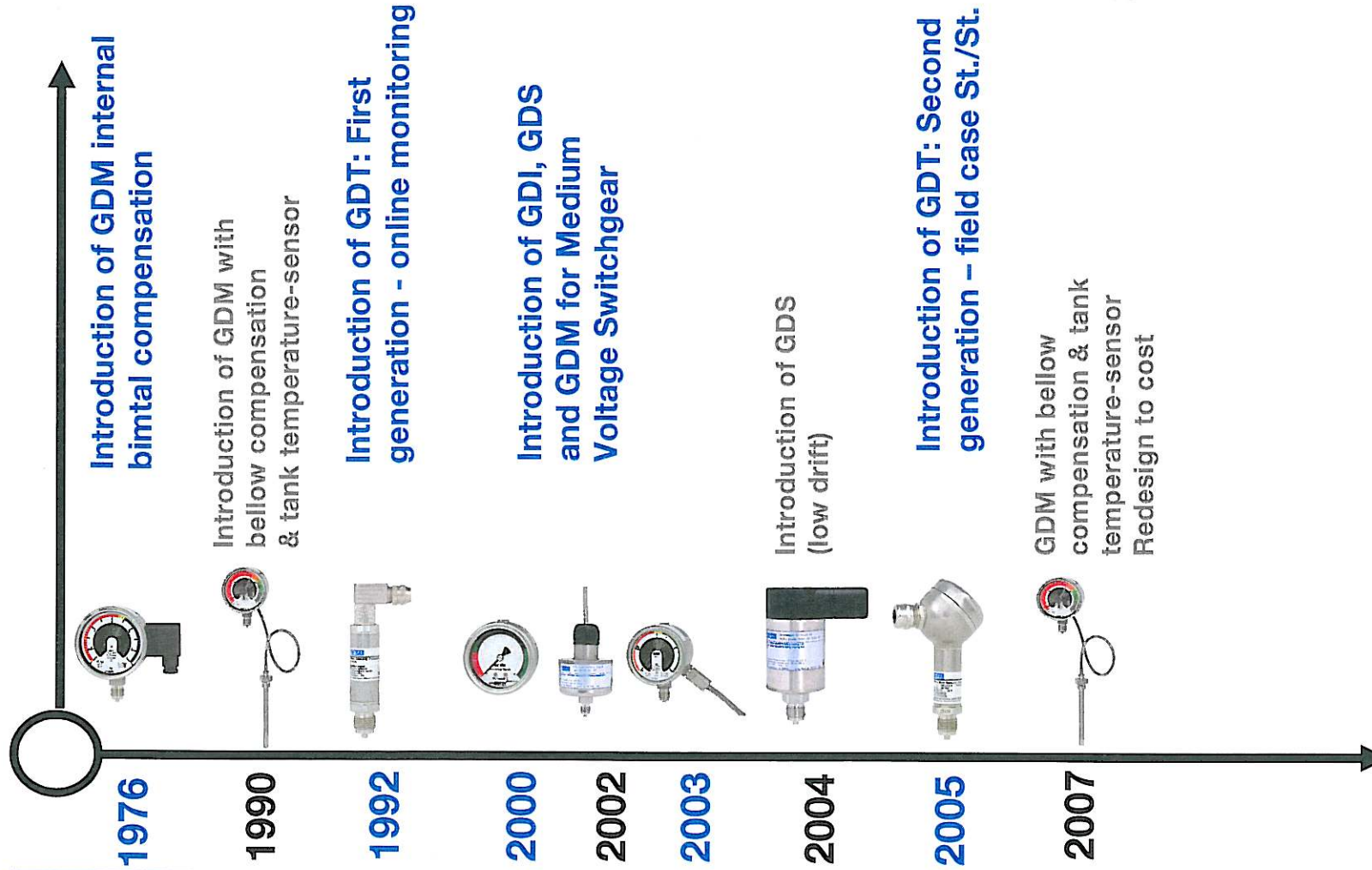
- the safe operating condition of a breaker
- the filling process of a breaker
- the situation of the actual density in a tank

# Application | Portfolio of Products



<p>&gt; 100 kV</p> <p>High Voltage</p>	<p>Primary Distribution</p>	
<p>&gt; 12 kV - 60 kV</p> <p>Medium Voltage</p>	<p>Primary Distribution</p>	
<p>&lt; 12 kV</p> <p>Medium Voltage</p>	<p>Secondary Distribution</p>	

# Milestones in Leak Detection



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# Milestones in Leak Detection

## Installed Fleet of Gas Monitoring Equipment

Product line:

**GDM** bi-metal compensated \_\_\_\_\_ more than **450.000**

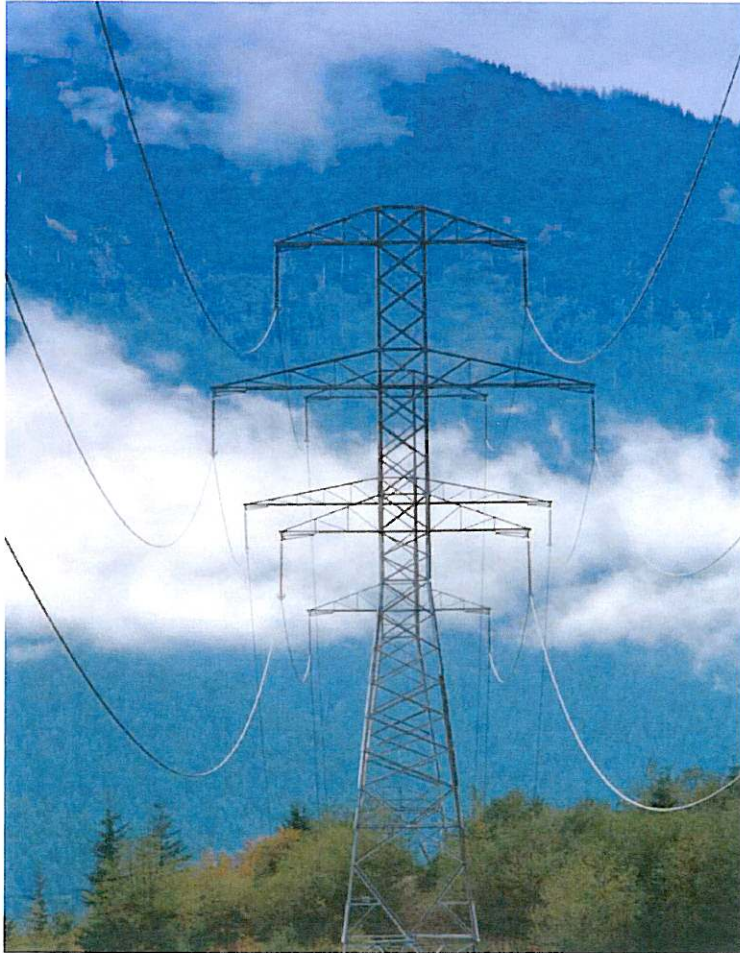
**GDI** bi-metal compensated \_\_\_\_\_ more than **100.000**

**GDM** bellow compensation  
& tank temperature sensor \_\_\_\_\_ more than **35.000**

**GDS** reference chamber compensation \_\_\_ more than **17.000**

**GDT** electronically compensated \_\_\_\_\_ more than **16.000**

In the last 15 years **618.000** instruments installed



$SF_6$  Real Gas Law

Accuracy

Quest for higher Accuracy



# Spherical View of SF<sub>6</sub> (Reference = True Values)

real gas law (virial equation) :

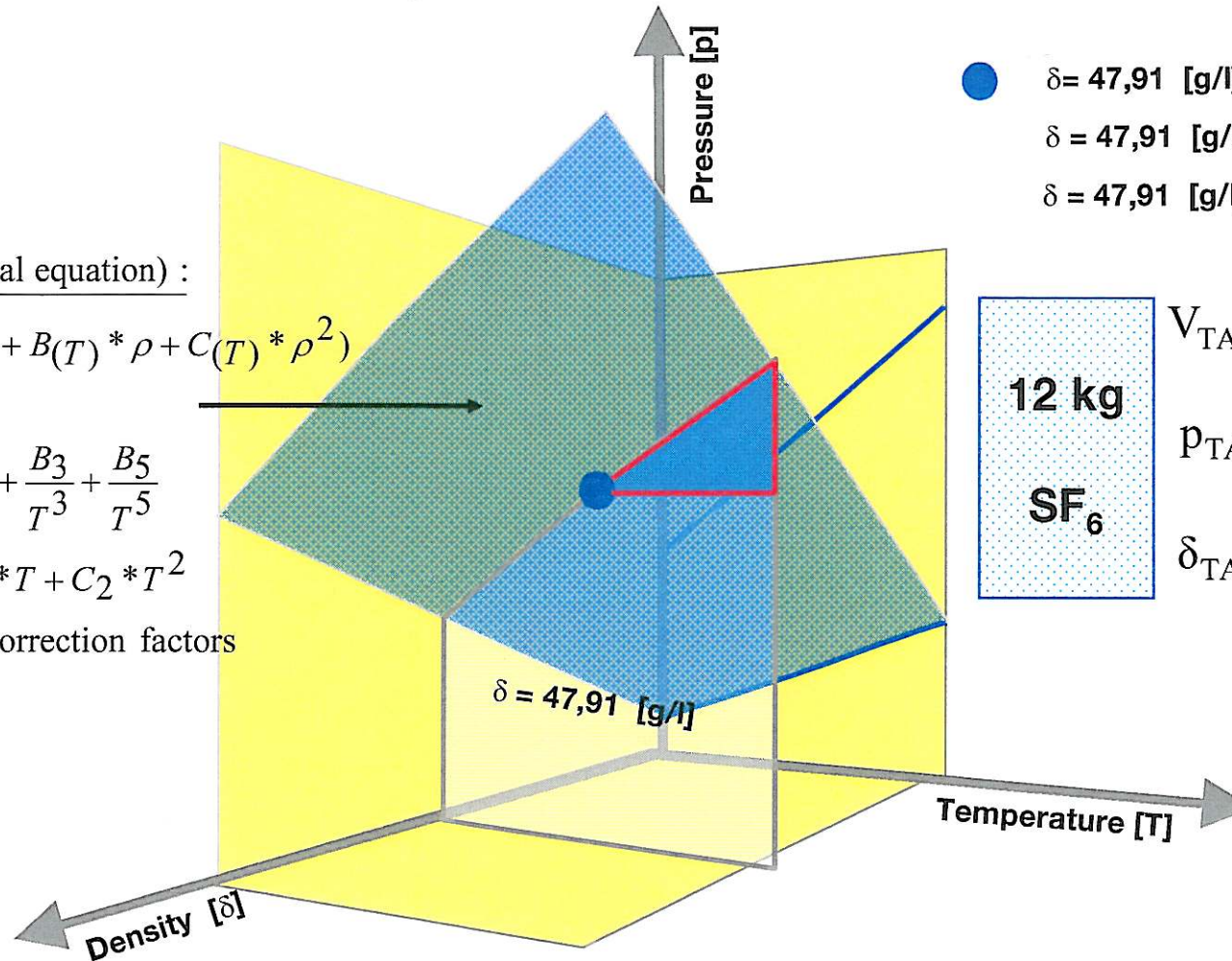
$$p = \rho * R * T * (1 + B(T) * \rho + C(T) * \rho^2)$$

with

$$B(T) = B_0 + \frac{B_1}{T} + \frac{B_3}{T^3} + \frac{B_5}{T^5}$$

$$C(T) = C_0 + C_1 * T + C_2 * T^2$$

B(T), C(T) are correction factors



- $\delta = 47,91 \text{ [g/l]} = p_{20^\circ\text{C}} = 6,200 \text{ bar}$
- $\delta = 47,91 \text{ [g/l]} = p_{60^\circ\text{C}} = 7,454 \text{ bar}$
- $\delta = 47,91 \text{ [g/l]} = p_{-20^\circ\text{C}} = 4,867 \text{ bar}$

12 kg  
SF<sub>6</sub>

$$V_{\text{TANK}} = 250 \text{ l}$$

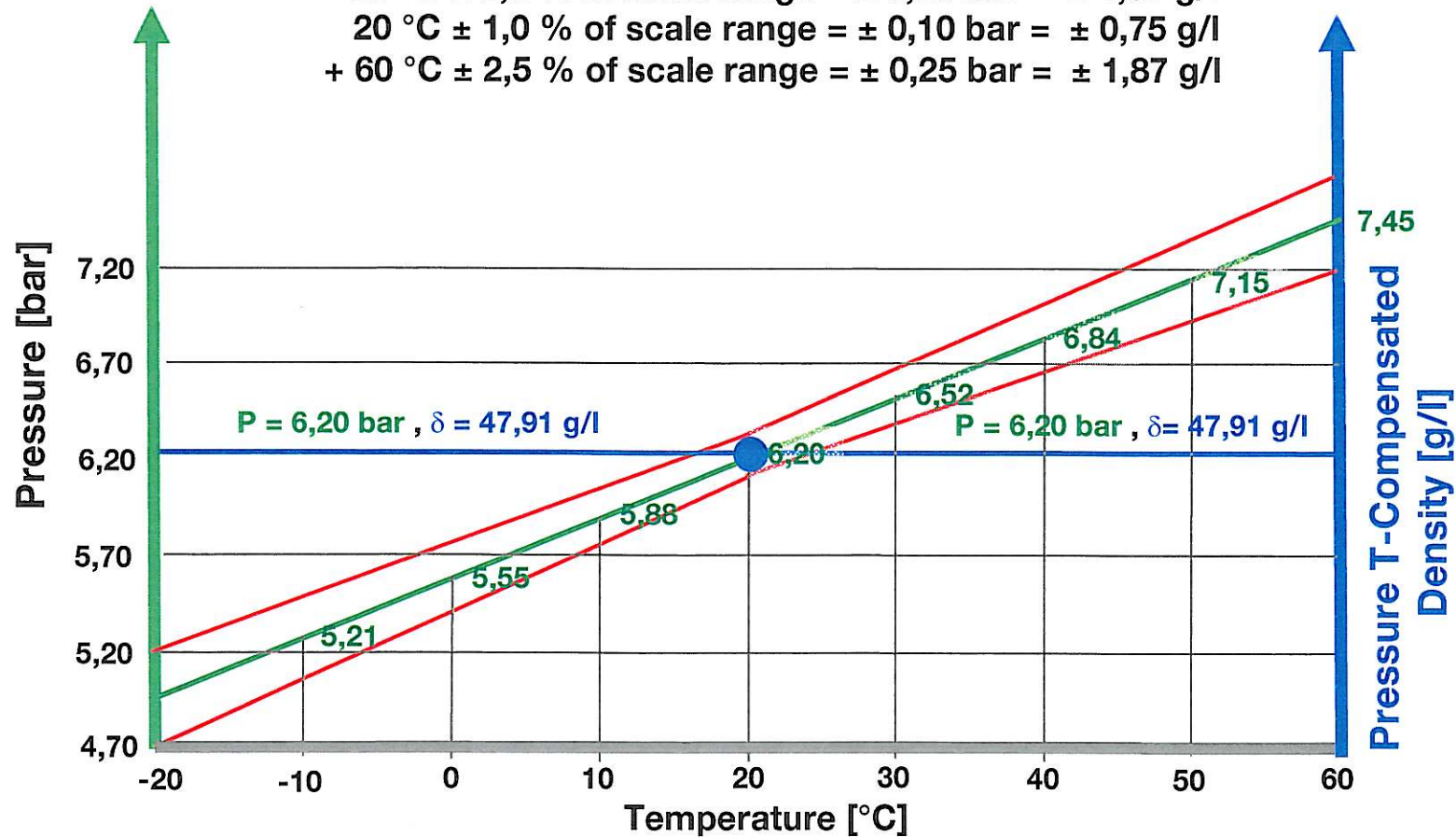
$$p_{\text{TANK}} = 6,20 \text{ bar}_{\text{rel}}$$

$$\delta_{\text{TANK}} = 47,91 \frac{\text{g}}{\text{l}}$$

# Pressure-Temperature Chart of SF<sub>6</sub> Standard GDM

Example: Errorband of Instrument with Range of 10 bar and calibrated for 6,20 bar (47,91g/l)

- 20 °C ± 2,5 % of scale range = ± 0,25 bar = ± 1,87 g/l
- 20 °C ± 1,0 % of scale range = ± 0,10 bar = ± 0,75 g/l
- + 60 °C ± 2,5 % of scale range = ± 0,25 bar = ± 1,87 g/l



# Quest for High Precision Instrumentation

Equation: Loss of SF<sub>6</sub>    High Voltage:

$$V_{\text{TANK}} = 250 \text{ l}$$

$$p_{\text{TANK}} = 6,20 \text{ bar}_{\text{rel}}$$

$$\delta_{\text{TANK}} = 47,91 \frac{\text{g}}{\text{l}}$$

**1,0 % p.a.**

**(relative to the quantity in the product)**

**Voluntary Commitment:**

**< 0.5 % p.a.**

**(relative to the quantity in the product)**

$$m_{\text{SF}_6} = \delta_{\text{TANK}} * V_{\text{TANK}}$$

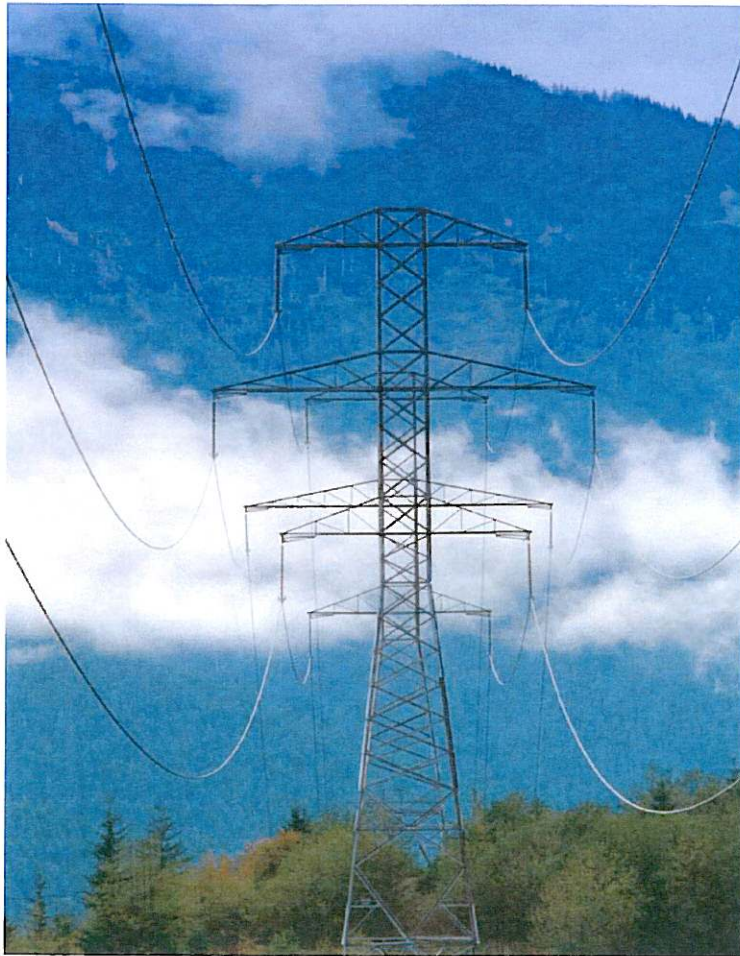
$$m_{\text{SF}_6} = 11977 \text{ g}$$

**1,0 %/year :**

$$\Delta m/\text{year} = 119,8 \text{ g/year} \Rightarrow \Delta \delta/\text{year} = 0,48 \text{ g/l} \Rightarrow \Delta p = 0,065 \text{ bar/year}$$

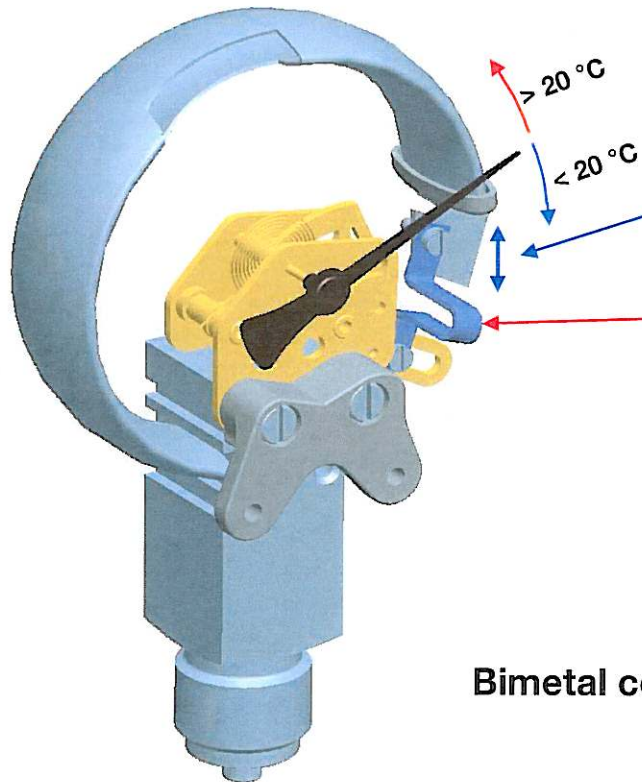
**0,5 %/year :**

$$\Delta m/\text{year} = 59,9 \text{ g/year} \Rightarrow \Delta \delta/\text{year} = 0,24 \text{ g/l} \Rightarrow \Delta p = 0,032 \text{ bar/year}$$

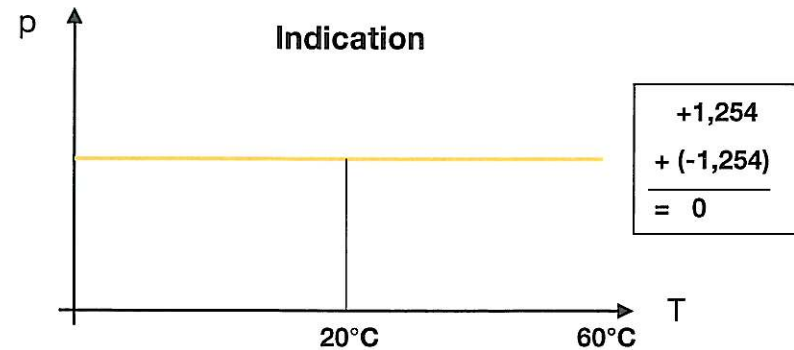
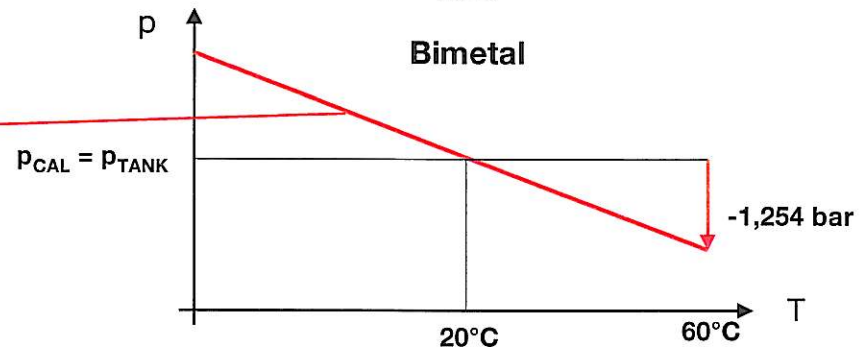
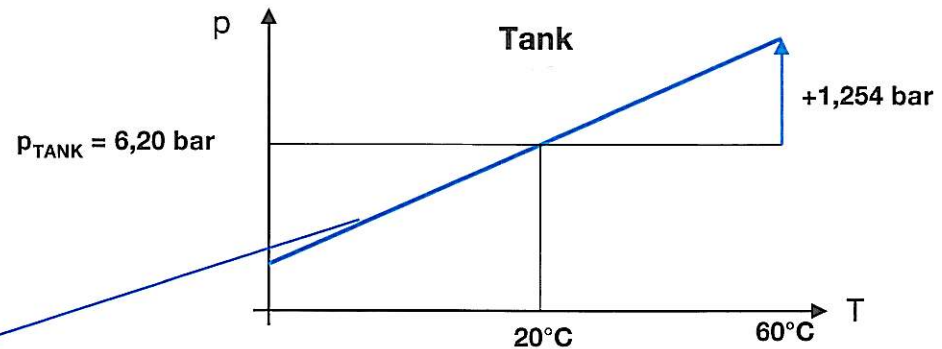


# Compensation

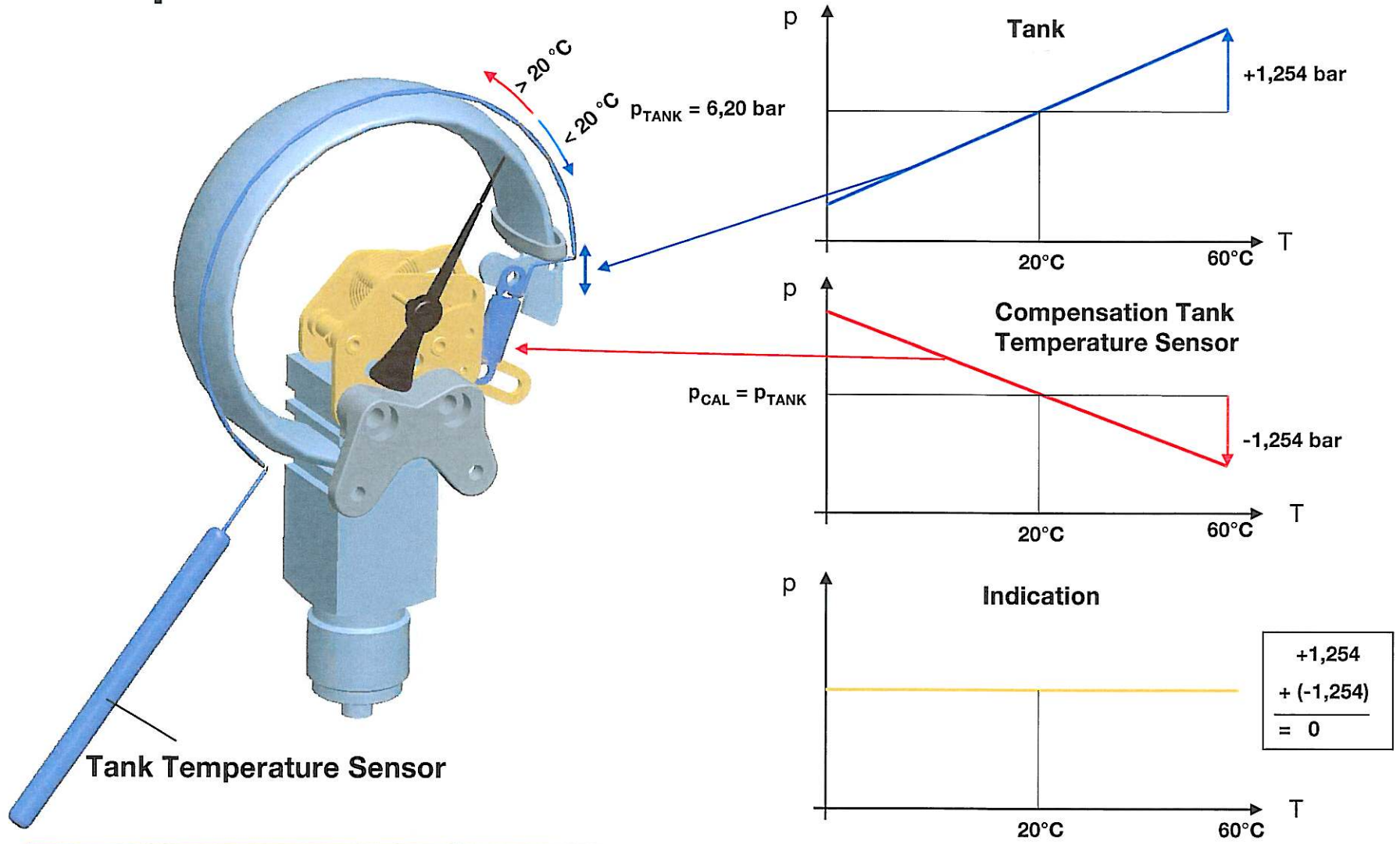
# Compensation



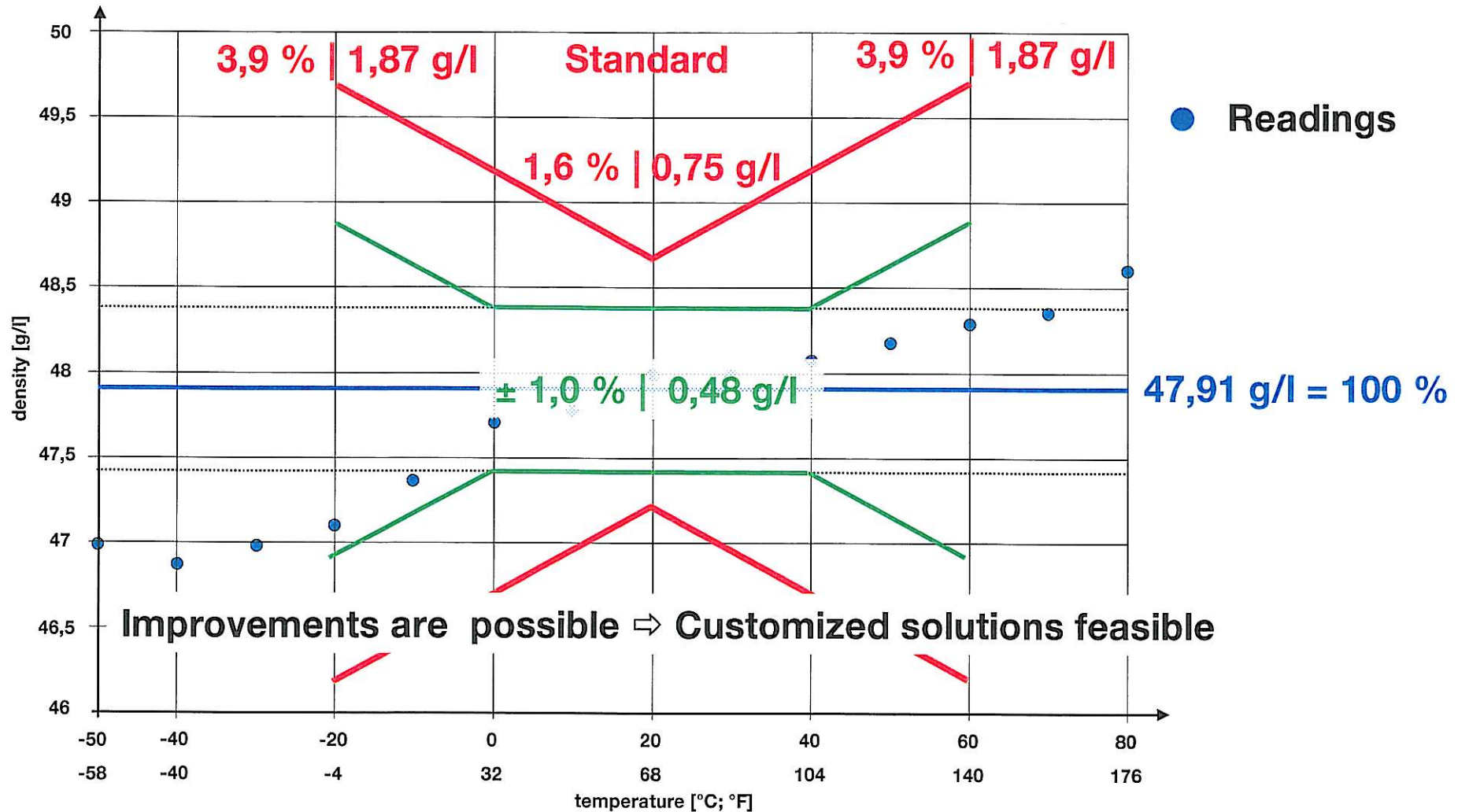
Bimetal compensation

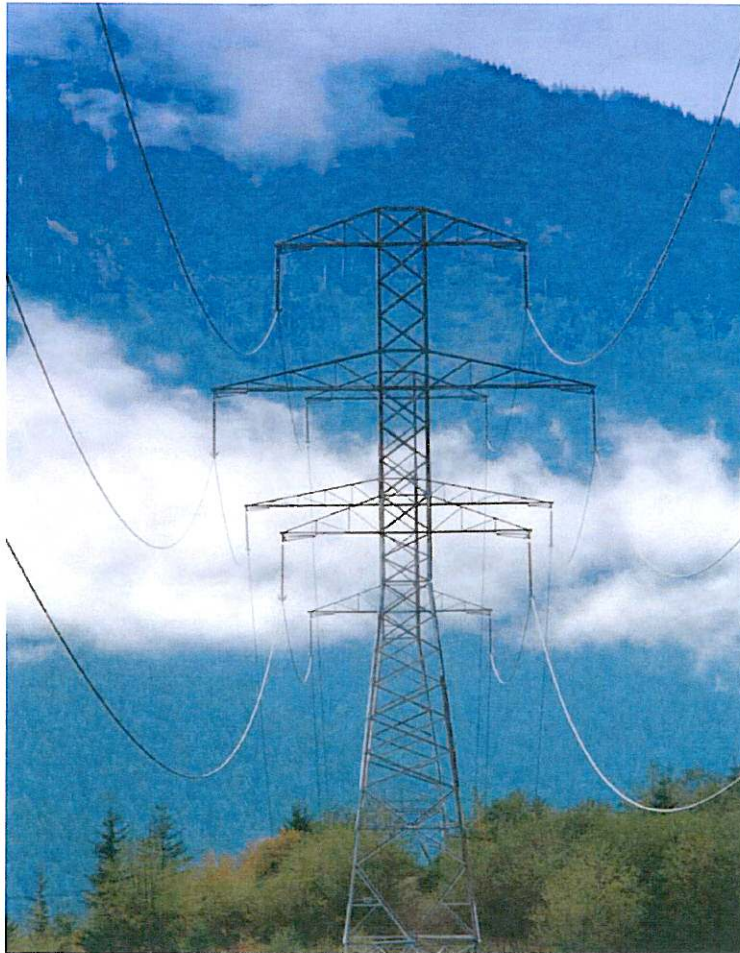


# Compensation



# What can WIKA do to improve the Errorband @ $p_{cal}$





# Density Measurement Methods



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# Pressure Gauges | Temperature Gauges | P-T – Charts or Tables



## Reading influenced by:

- Altitude (**systematic**)
- Weather System (High – Low –Pressure) **erratic**
- Temperature **difference** between gas and ambient
- **Erratic** reading **errors** of the operator due to small scales (graduations)
- **Inaccurate** SF<sub>6</sub> pressure temperature charts
- **Misinterpretation** of color codes and dial information



Do not use this method to monitor SF<sub>6</sub>

⇒ **It is a potential Safety Risk due to misunderstandings**

# Gas Density Monitors

Bimetal compensated Gas Density Monitors combine 2 functions (Switching / Indication) NS: 2 ½ in. & 4 in.

- Hermetically sealed (no erratic influences)
- Integral tank test feasible
- Excellent long-term stability (St./St)
- Full Vacuum test
- Laser welded contacts

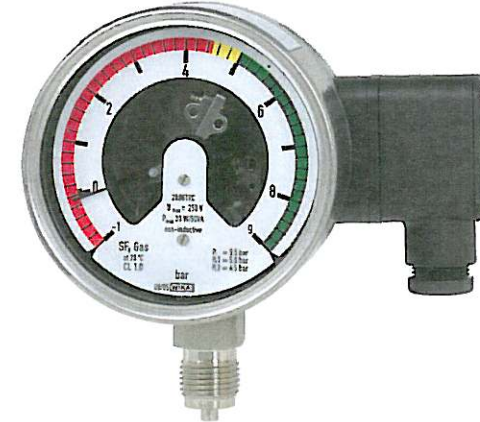
<< 0,001 mbar / breaker operation 40 g & 60 g, 10 ms

Errorband : -20/60 °C 2,5 % f.s.d.  
(calibration pressure) : 20 °C 1,0 % f.s.d

Temperature Range: -50 ... 80 °C upon request

Higher precision upon request

GDM NS 4 in.



GDM NS 2 ½ in.



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# Gas Density Indicators

Bimetal compensated Gas Density Indicators- indicate only

NS: 2 ½ in. & 4 in.

- Hermetically sealed (no erratic influences)
- Integral tank test feasible
- Excellent long-term stability (St./St)
- Full Vacuum test
- Laser welded contacts
- Submersible



GDI NS 2 ½ in.

Errorband : -20/60 °C 2,5 % f.s.d.  
(calibration pressure) : 20 °C 1,0 % f.s.d

Temperature Range: -50 ... 80 °C upon request

Higher precision upon request

# Gas Density Monitors c/w ext. Tank T-Sensor



- Hermetically sealed (no erratic influences)
- Integral tank test feasible
- Excellent long-term stability (St./St)
- Full Vacuum test
- Laser welded contacts

Fast response time of compensation

Ideal for tanks equipped with tank heaters

Errorband : -20/60 °C 2,5 % f.s.d.  
(calibration pressure) : 20 °C 1,0 % f.s.d

Higher precision upon request

Uncertainties due to disbalance of temperatures eliminated by tank temperature sensor

# Gas Density Switches



- Hermetically sealed (no erratic influences)
- Integral tanktest feasible
- Excellent long-term stability (St./St)
- Full vacuum proof

Big size reference chamber (135 cm<sup>3</sup>)

Errorband: -20/60 °C ±0,8 % (standard ±0,080 mbar)

Switch for low pressure applications available (RMU)

Stainless Steel

Glass Bushings used



# Stainless Steel Gas Density Switches



Hermetically sealed (no erratic influences)

Large reference chamber (135 cm<sup>3</sup>)

Errorband: -20/60 °C ±0,080 bar (standard)

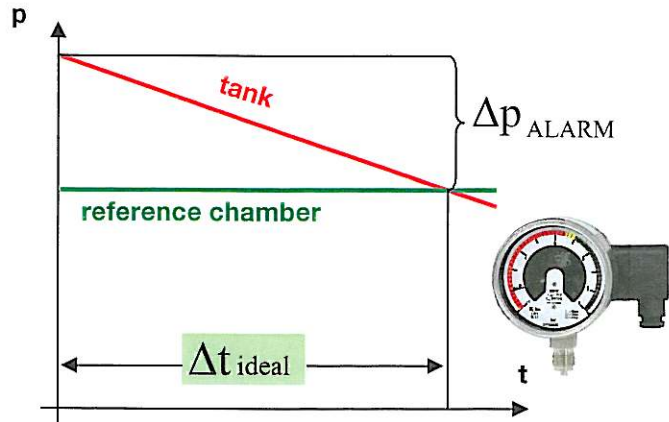
⇒ 5 • 10<sup>-9</sup> mbar l / s; 135 cm<sup>3</sup>; drift: 1,2 mbar / year

⇒ 5 • 10<sup>-9</sup> mbar l / s; 25 cm<sup>3</sup>; drift: 6,3 mbar / year **Products with small reference Chamber (25 cm<sup>3</sup>....33 cm<sup>3</sup>)**

$$\Delta p_{REF} = \frac{q_p V(REF) * \Delta t}{V_{REF}} = \frac{5 * 10^{-9} \frac{\text{mbar} * \text{l}}{\text{sec}} * 31536000 \text{ sec}}{0,025 \text{ l}}$$

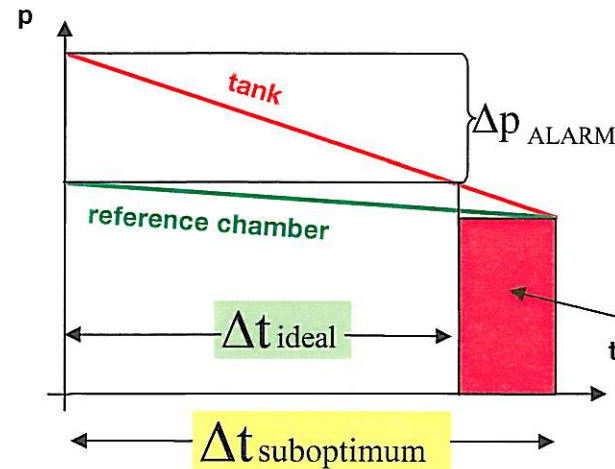
$$\Delta p_{REF} = 6,3 \text{ mbar/Year}$$

# Gas Density Switches drift of reference chambers vs. Gas Density Monitors without compensation drift



$$\Delta t_{ideal} = \frac{p_1 - p_2}{\Delta p_{TANK}}$$

$$= \frac{200 \text{ mbar}}{41,15 \text{ mbar}} a = 4,854 a$$



Delay:

**135 cm<sup>3</sup>**  
 $\Delta t_{delay} = 0,146 \text{ years}$   
 = **53,3 days**

Products with small reference Chamber (25cm<sup>3</sup>....33cm<sup>3</sup>)

**25 cm<sup>3</sup>**  
 $\Delta t_{delay} = 0,878 \text{ years}$   
 = **320,5 days**

$$\Delta t_{suboptimum} = \frac{p_1 - p_2}{\Delta p_{TANK} - \Delta p_{REF}} =$$

$$= \frac{200 \text{ mbar}}{(41,20 - 6,31) \text{ mbar}} a = 5,732 a$$

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# Gas Density Transmitters



Hermetically sealed (no erratic influences)

Analog „passive“ compensation: No Microprocessors needed

Temperature **compensated** with a 4 ... 20 mA Output over the 3-D-behavior of the real gas (Online monitoring)

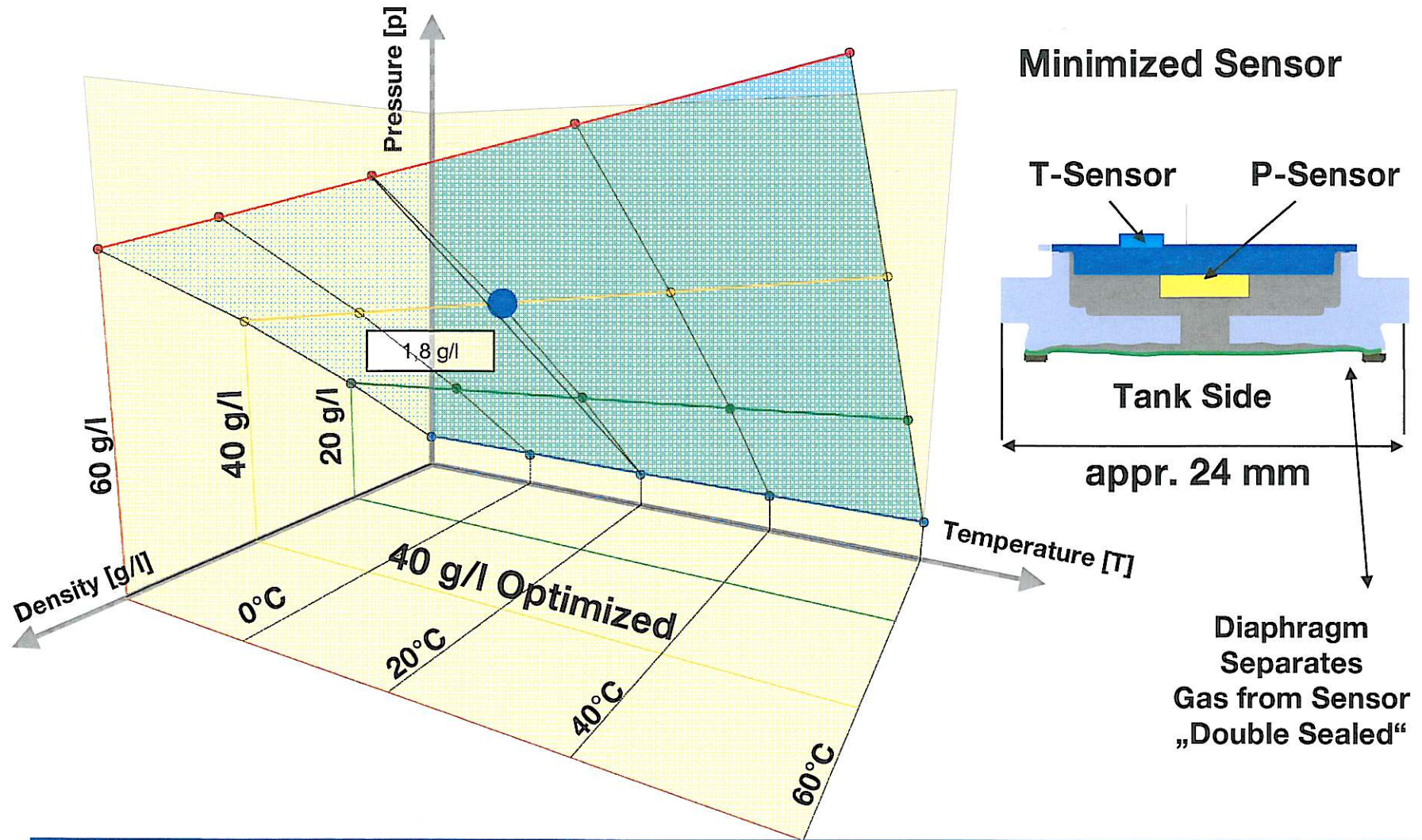
Measurement of fast transients (pressure) possible (Arc – detection)

Minimized version ⇨ Ideal for integration into the tank

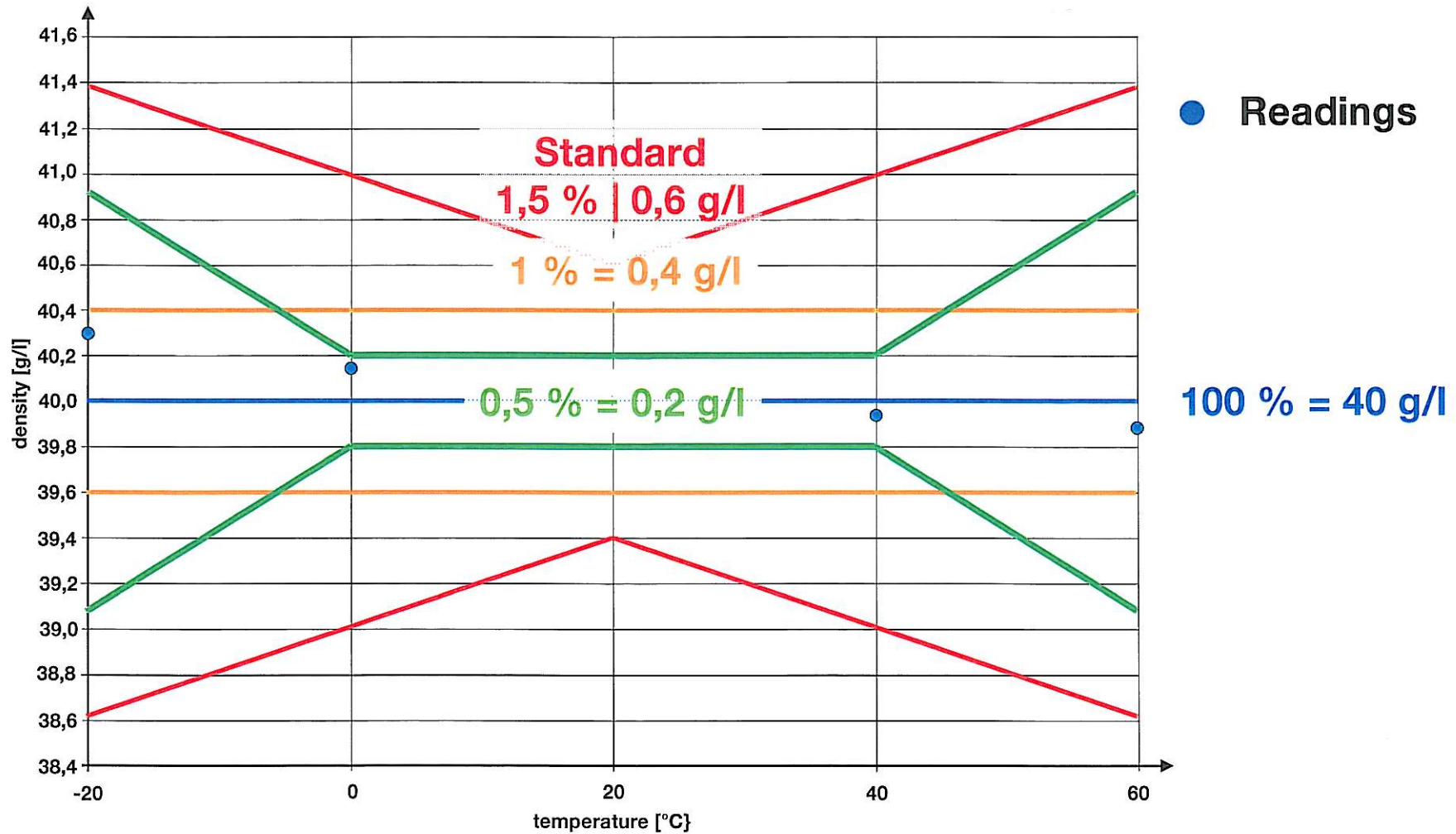




# Gas Density Transmitters: „Surface of Accuracy“



# Gas Density Transmitters Errorband for customized $p_{cal}$



# Comparison of Errors in Density Measurement Methods

Method	Compensation	Ambient Pressure (Erratic)	Altitude (Systematical)	Disbalance of Temperature (Erratic)	Reading Error of Operator (Erratic)	Drift (Systematical)	Potential Opportunities for Errors (Instrument)	Potential Opportunities for Errors (Method)
Pressure Gauge	None	Yes	Yes	Yes	Unlikely	None	3	5
Temperature Gauge	None	None	None	Yes	Unlikely	None	1	
P-T-Chart	None	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	Most likely	None	1	
Gas Density Indicator	Bimetall	None	None	Yes	Unlikely	None	1	1
Gas Density Monitor	Bimetall	None	None	Yes	Unlikely	None	1	1
Gas Density Monitor	Tank Sensor	None	None	None	Unlikely	None	0	0
Gas Density Switch	Reference Chamber 135	None	None	Yes	N.A.	1,2 mbar / Year	2	2
Gas Density Switch	Reference Chamber 25	Yes	Yes	Yes	N.A.	6,3 mbar / Year	4	4
Gas Density Transmitter	Electronics	None	None	Yes	N.A.	None	1	1

All current methods are designed for High Level Leak Detection .....

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# What should be done and what is next ?

## Eliminate the erratic influences

- Ambient pressures by WIKA's sealing concept
- Altitude and related pressure by WIKA's sealing concept
- Temperature disbalance between tank and compensation by GDM with external tank temperature sensor

## Improve the filling process with adequate instrumentation

- Use of GDM or GDI's to monitor the filling process
- Ask WIKA for certified instrumentation done by accredited laboratory

## Improve the accuracy of the instrument

- Ask WIKA for customized GDM's with 0,5 ..0,8 % f.s.d. accuracy

Ask **WIKAI** for a Emission Detector

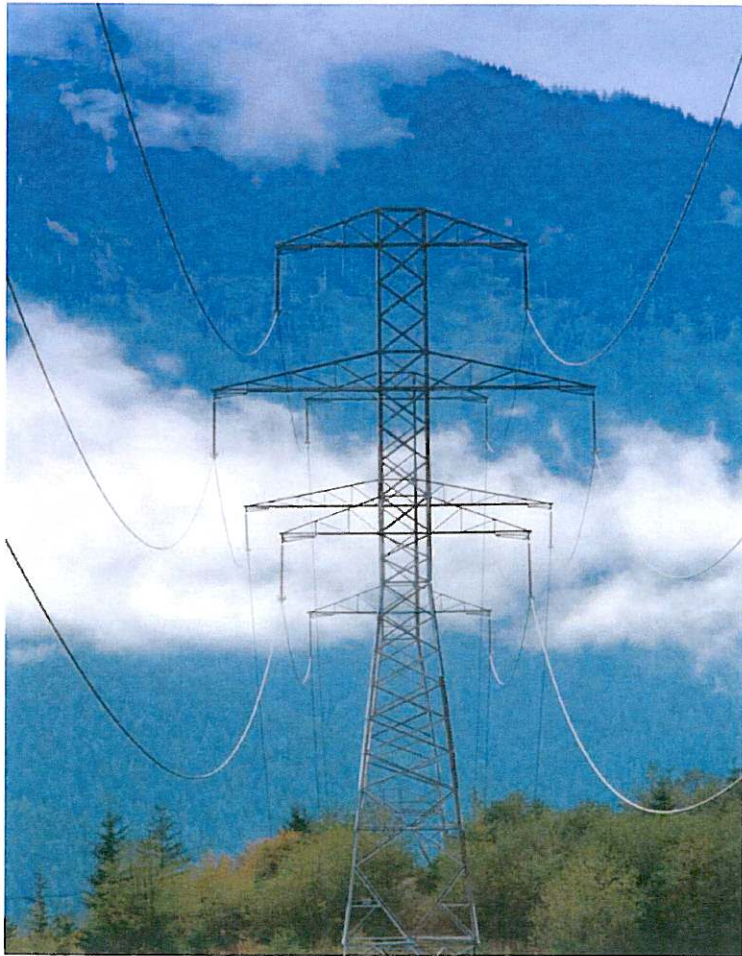
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# What could we do with new innovative Instrumentation ?

## With an Emission Indicator you could:

- Measure low level leak rates
- Obtain clear information of emission levels for specific breakers
- Detect leaks early
- Monitor commitments / emission rates
  - ⇒ Provide sound data for Emission Trading
- Improve tank filling procedures (Tier 3 Method's improved)
- Issue emission certificate for breakers

## Emission Data Acquisition System



Join us to become:  
*Visionary Vanguard*s

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# Visionary Vanguards

## Emission Indicator

High precision instrument to detect:

*low leak rates*

Purpose:

- Provide information of actual tank gas emission
- Trend Analysis
- Emission levels : 0,25 ... 0,50 ... 1,00 %



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Rome: 1 st. century before Christ

„The price of product is matched,

by the value the buyer is prepared to pay”

Publius Syrus, Roman writer first century before Christ

## Gas Density Monitor Equipment:

Insurance protecting:

- Lives
- The environment
- Tens of thousands of dollars in switchgear