

Test Products International, Inc.

TPI 510

**Solar Power Meter** 

User's Manual





1.800.561.8187



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### 1. FOREWORD

Thank you for purchasing TPI brand products. The TPI Solar Meter is state of the art and easy to use. It is designed to measure solar power in  $W/m^2$  or BTU (ft<sup>2\*</sup>h).

### 2. SAFETY PRECAUTIONS AND PROCEDURES

This instrument conforms with safety Standard EN 61010-1 related to electronic measuring instruments.

For your own safety and to avoid damaging the instrument follow the procedures described in this instruction manual and read carefully all notes

preceded by this symbol  $\triangle$ .

# $\underline{\mathbb{N}}$

CAUTION

For your own safety and to avoid damaging the instrument follow the procedures described in this instruction manual

and read carefully all notes preceded by this symbol  $\triangle$ .

When taking measurements:

Avoid performing measurements in humid or wet places and in areas where explosive gas, combustible gas, steam or excessive dust is present.

### 3. CAUTION:

CAUTION - refer to the instruction manual - improper use may damage the instrument or its components



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### 4. APPLICATIONS

- Suitable for measuring the effectiveness of solar film.
- Solar radiation measurement.
- Car windows light intensity measurement.
- Optimal incident angle for solar panels.
- Measurement of the sun's transmission through transparent and film glass

### 5. FEATURES

- Convenient, no need to adjust, data displayed clearly.
- Measurable light sources, including all visible light.
- Overload display "OL" when measurement is out of range.
- Select either W/m2 or BTU / (ft2\*h) units





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#### 6. DESCRIPTION AND FUNCTION

#### 6.1.LCD DISPLAY:



6.2.BUTTONS:







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### 6.2.1. Power button $\bigcirc$ :

- Press the " <sup>(0)</sup> " button to turn the power on.
- Press the " <sup>(0)</sup> " button again to turn the power OFF and the meter will go into sleep mode.

#### 6.2.2. Max. and Min button:

- Press the " vibutton to display the max. or min. reading.
- Press and hold the " v button for 1 second to read the max. value. Press the button one more time to read the min. value.
- Press and hold the " v button for more than 1 second, and max. and min. mode turns off and the 510 returns to normal operation.
- When the " button is active, the " or " button is disabled.

### 6.2.3. BTU (ft2\*h) / W/m<sup>2</sup> button

Press the "<sup>(0)</sup>" button to turn power on. The screen displays BTU (ft<sup>2</sup>\*h). Press the "<sup>(\*)</sup>" button to switch from BTU (ft<sup>2</sup>\*h) to W/m<sup>2</sup>. Pressing the button again returns the unit to BTU.

### 6.2.4 Data hold button

### 6.2.5 Auto Range button

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- The '' button allows the range to be changed from 199.9 to 1999 and back again. If a measurement is being made and "OL" is displayed, press the button ' to switch to the higher range.

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### **6.3.TEST PROCEDURE**

- Measuring your car headlights:
- Turn the car headlights on. Turn on the 510 solar meter, and "00.0" appears on the screen. Put the 510 down close to the headlights. Switch between high beam and low beam, and the light intensity values appear on the display. Test both the right and left headlights and write the values down for reference. (Refer to Picture 2)
- Measure the effect of solar insulation of your vehicle's windows:
- Press the " <sup>(0)</sup>" button to turn the 510 solar meter on and "00.0" appears on the screen. Aim the 510 at the sun holding it close to a window and the intensity value appears on the display. Open the window and aim the device at the sun. Compare the value against that acquired when the window is closed to understand the efficiency of the window's solar film. (Refer to Picture 2)
- NOTE. : When the light sensor cover is not attached "CAP" is indicated. Make sure that it is attached. If performing the zero adjustment after powering on, several digits may not disappear. In this case, perform the zero adjustment again.



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Picture 2:



Picture 3



- Measure the solar insulation effect of your house's windows:
- Close the window. Press the "<sup>(0)</sup>" button on your 510 solar meter, and "00.0" comes up on the screen. Put the device close to the window and aim it at the sun. Compare the value against that acquired when the window is open and the device is placed at the same position, in order to understand the window's heat efficiency. (Refer to Picture 3)

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#### 7. SPECIFICATIONS

- Battery life: approx. 100 hr.
- Accuracy : typically within ± 10W/m2[ ±3 BTU / (ft2\*h) ] or ±5% , whichever

is greater in sunlight; Additional temperature induced error  $\pm 0.38$ W/m2 /

 $^{\circ}C$  [ ±0.12 BTU / (ft2\*h)/  $^{\circ}C$ ] from 25  $^{\circ}C$ 

- Operating temp. & RH: 5°C~40°C, below 80%RH.
- Storage temp. & RH: -10 °C ~60 °C, below 70%RH.
- DISPLAY : 3-1/2 digits LCD with maximum reading 1999.
- Sampling Time : Approx. 0.25 second
- Resolution : 0.1W/m2 · 0.1 BTU /(ft2\*h).
- Over-input : Display shows" OL".
- Range: 1999W/m 2 、 634 BTU /(ft 2 \* h).
- Dimensions & weight: 132(L) x 60(W) x 38 (H)mm, approx. 150g.
- EMC: this instrument is EMC-compliant and has undergone compatibility tests according to EN61326 (1997) + A1 (1998) + A2 (2001).

### ACCESSORIES

- User manual.
- 9V battery(NEDA 1604 IEC 6F 22 JIS 006P)\*1
- carrying case.

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### 8. SAFETY AND MAINTENANCE

- Operating altitude: below 2,000m.
- Operating environment: for indoor use, exposure to pollution level II.
- This is a precision device. Observe use and storage specifications to prevent possible damage.
- Do not store this device in direct sunlight or where it is hot and/or damp.
- Remember to turn the power off after use. For long term storage, remove the battery to prevent the battery from leaking and causing damage to the parts inside.
- Clean the device with a dry soft cloth.

### 9. BATTERY REPLACEMENT

When the "+-" symbol is displayed the battery is in need of replacement.

Unscrew the battery cover and remove the battery. Insert a new battery of the same type (9V NEDA1604, JIS006P, IEC6F22) observing the proper polarity, re-screw the battery cover and reposition the protective holster.

#### **10. WARRANTY**

Your TPI instrument is guaranteed free from defects in materials and workmanship for 1 year from the date of purchase. This guarantee does not affect your statuary rights. For additional information please refer to the included warranty card.

### 11. END OF LIFE



Caution: this symbol indicates that equipment and its accessories shall be subject to a separate collection and correct disposal

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