

How using the right calibration equipment saves time and money, improves efficiency, and boosts productivity



Tratz Gastec GmbH, Germany

BEAMEX
CASE
STORY

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A BETTER WAY TO CALIBRATE

About Tratz Gastec – measuring, metering, and control

Tratz Gastec is a young service company based in Greding, Germany. The company operates in the gas industry and offers a wide range of services for gas pressure regulating and metering stations. Its services cover everything from maintenance and repairs through to rebuilds and customizations. An important part of the portfolio is measurement technology. This includes the construction and support of metering stations, the measurement of volume converters, data storage media, and the verification and inspection of meters and electronic instruments.

Tratz Gastec GmbH is active throughout Germany and the surrounding countries. One of its employees, Christian Backfisch, has 12 years of experience in the field of calibration as a service technician and is head of the service department. Not only does he provide customers with the services listed above, he also complements the all-inclusive package of gas and calibration activities with technical consulting and tailor-made training programs. Thanks to its extensive range of services and its pool of flexible and reliable staff, operators of gas control instrumentation can count on Tratz Gastec as a reliable partner.

Core competency: all-inclusive service packages for customers

At Tratz Gastec, the focus is on customers and their needs. The all-inclusive service packages, which cover everything from maintenance through commissioning to calibration, are complemented by dedicated support. Thanks to a flexible working policy, customers can contact Tratz Gastec about orders or problems and request a visit from a service technician at short notice.

It's not just the company's flexibility and reliability that serve to create strong bonds with customers; it's also the professional competence and the quality of its instrument calibration, adjustment, and testing. With a business model based on the monitoring of volume converters, or so-called pressure and temperature measurements, and the subsequent adjustment of the instrument prior to final verification, it goes without saying that calibration is of fundamental importance to Tratz Gastec. Another core business is the calibration, adjustment, and verification of industrial pressure and temperature sensors.

On average, a Tratz Gastec service technician needs a whole day for on-site testing, which involves performing up to five calibrations. This adds up to 200 calibrations per service technician per year. Tratz Gastec uses Beamex calibration equipment to calibrate, adjust, and verify gas conversion devices. The pressure and temperature signals used by the gas metering station to convert actual cubic meters to standard cubic meters are measured by the Beamex MC6 process calibrator and communicator in combination with the Beamex FB150 temperature dry block. The Beamex calibrator's logging function records and stores the measurement data in its internal memory. Additional Beamex calibrator functions can be used to automatically calculate the data averages, which greatly simplifies work procedures and reduces susceptibility to errors. In summary, the equipment can be used to precisely

determine measurement errors.

Calibration is primarily organized to fit in with the customer's schedule and, following commissioning, is completed within the time frame specified by the customer. Thanks to Tratz Gastec's flexible working policy, there's always a member of staff on hand to resolve unexpected problems at the customer's premises within the shortest possible time. Commissioning requirements are discussed and specified in advance and, if required, on site. At the customer's request, service technicians take care of all gas-related work. And for anything not included in the scope of service, Tratz Gastec will put customers in touch with a contractor, thus providing a genuine all-inclusive service package.

High expectations of themselves and the calibration equipment

Tratz Gastec distinguishes itself through high flexibility, reliability, and high-quality service activities. In order to be able to maintain and continuously enhance these attributes, Tratz Gastec needed reliable and precision calibration equipment. Instrumentation functionality, longevity, and safety can only be guaranteed if the right equipment is used. Fast error analysis through continuous measurements is an essential part of this. "The dry block is very fast and extremely stable. It reaches the selected temperature almost immediately. It's also very reassuring to know that I'll realize straightaway if the temperature sensor is faulty. I always connect it to the MC6, and if it doesn't show -0.01, I know that something's wrong. Being able to use the dry block with the MC6 has real





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benefits. There’s no doubt about it: it’s a well thought-out system,” says Backfisch.

Since starting to use Beamex calibrators, Tratz Gastec has been able to meet the expectations of its customers and perform a range of calibrations quickly and efficiently. As Backfisch explains: “The measurement equipment is very fast. It used to take us about two hours to carry out a verification. Now we only need half the time. Because I’m much faster, I can get through about twice as many

instruments in the same time, which of course offers significant added value for the customer.”

But it’s not only customers who benefit from Beamex’s straightforward calibration procedure. The staff themselves also appreciate the simple handling. When a Tratz Gastec employee recently saw the Beamex equipment for the first time, he picked it up and immediately knew how to use it. “The equipment is self-explanatory. You give it to someone and they instinctively know what to do with it,” points out Backfisch.

The robustness, easy handling, and continuous measurement offered by the equipment allows Tratz Gastec to offer customers an equally high level of quality.

Choosing the right calibration equipment was easy

When asked why Tratz Gastec chose Beamex, Backfisch replied: “We chose Beamex because, in our opinion, they’re the best. I used other equipment at various companies before joining Tratz Gastec. There were quite a few things about them I didn’t like and they certainly didn’t offer me the same functionality Beamex calibrators do.” When service technicians perform calibrations, there are situations in which they might have to halt the measurement because, for example, the gas control instrumentation has stopped working or serious pressure flow differences have been detected. Afterwards, when the measurement has finished, the service technician needs to access the data. “Equipment from other manufacturers dictated to you when the test was finished and you couldn’t influence this. Neither would the equipment output the data. And even if it did, it was a complicated business to export it to an Excel file and then define the formula to calculate the average values. Worst of all was when I had to sit down with a calculator, enter the values, and work out the averages myself. The Beamex MC6 process calibrator and communicator means I don’t have to do any of this now,” explains Backfisch.

Used in combination with the Beamex FB150 dry block, it has enabled Tratz Gastec to save time and money, improve efficiency, and boost productivity considerably. “Beamex equipment gained my confidence years ago. It costs more, but it’s definitely worth it.” Not only do Beamex products speak for themselves in terms of reliability, their sales staff were also on hand at the beginning to help out with any teething problems and, just like the staff at Tratz Gastec, they’re always there to resolve problems and are open to improvements or further developments. Backfisch adds: “You can always reach someone at Beamex if there’s a problem and you need advice. That’s something you can’t take for granted these days. I’m completely satisfied with the equipment and service from Beamex.”

Future plans with Beamex

Tratz Gastec’s technological level is comprehensive and consistently high, which means the company recognizes the importance of digitalization. Due to the nature of their job, service technicians are often out and about and hence they must ensure they can readily access the data they need to answer customer questions or provide them with information, for example.



Another Tratz Gastec division focuses on gas pressure regulator maintenance, functional tests, and visual checks. A database is under development at this division to store the data generated by these processes. The Beamex CMX calibration management software and the Beamex bMobile calibration application play an important role here. Checklists created in CMX can be ticked off at the customer's site via the bMobile app. This makes it easier

to generate and record the maintenance or inspection logs to be handed over to the customer. Tratz Gastec is also expecting the CMX calibration software's barcode generator to further simplify the calibration process. "Beamex is pushing forward with digitalization. Just being able to use CMX to barcode an asset and access it afterwards without having to search for it first saves a whole load of time. Before starting to use Beamex equipment, I had to individually record every instrument, every time by manually entering its data into the log file together with its serial number and other details. Now, with CMX, you simply put the barcode on the instrument and that's it", says Backfisch in conclusion.



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Tratz Gastec GmbH, Germany

CALIBRATION SOLUTIONS

- Beamex MC6 calibrator and communicator
- Beamex FB150 temperature dry block

MAIN BENEFITS

- Significant efficiency improvements
- Equipment functions enable faster calibration
- Inter-equipment communication allows for simpler operation
- Robust, reliable, and precise devices
- Enhanced quality

CASE
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IN BRIEF

“**BEAMEX EQUIPMENT GAINED
MY CONFIDENCE YEARS AGO. IT COSTS
MORE, BUT IT'S DEFINITELY WORTH IT.**”

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