

# **Digital Data Loggers**

It is required of all VFC providers to have a calibrated temperature monitoring device in each storage unit. The VFC program requires all temperature monitoring devices be digital data loggers (DDL).

# Digital data loggers (DDL) requirements

To meet VFC requirements, the digital data logger must have the following features:

- An active display that can be read from outside the unit and display the minimum, maximum, and current temperature.
- The capacity for continuous monitoring and recording capabilities, where the data can be routinely downloaded and analyzed for review.
- A buffered probe that reflects vaccine temperature (see image on page 3 for examples)
- An alarm for out-of-range temperatures. The alarm can be audible or email, text, or call alerts.

### **Understanding your DDL**

A wide range of digital data loggers are available that have different mechanisms for logging of the temperature data. The two groups available are manual downloads and automatic data downloads.

### **DDL** with manual download

Temperature data usually stored in device's internal memory until downloaded by USB or docking station.



### DDL with WiFi/cloud

Models usually send temperature data directly to the cloud or other online application.



Regardless of the DDL you use, understanding how your device works is critical to temperature monitoring. When learning how to use your device focus on the following:

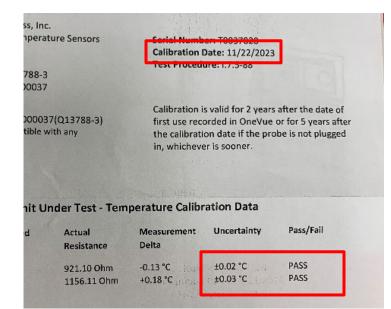
- Understand the digital display.
  - o Locate the current, minimum, and maximum readings.
  - o Understand what all buttons and icons on the display mean.
- Know how to retrieve and save the temperature data, for example manual download or accessing the cloud.
- Understand how to or when the device resets the minimum and maximum temperatures.
- Understand when your device needs to be recalibrated and how-to recalibrate it.
- Have manufacturer training materials or user guides available.

### **Certificate of calibration**

All DDLs need to have a current and valid certificate of calibration. Calibration testing is required to assure the accuracy of a temperature monitoring device and should be done at least every three years or according to the manufacturer's suggested timeline. Certificates of Calibration must include the following:

- Model/device number and serial number.
- Date of calibration (report or issue date).
- Confirmation the instrument passed testing (or the instrument in tolerance).

Customer:	ner miorman	50		Equipment		ment into	mation
Address: City, State Zip:		.8	1	Model No: Manufactur Serial No:	311- er: Lasc	STP	
Calibrated: 05/10/20	24		libration Temp:	Summary 70F +/- 10	0	As Four	nd: Ir
						Result:	C. S. C. C.
Cal Due Date: 05/10/20 Remarks:	126			: 50% +/-20 In: Sandra			
Remarks: Measurement Grou	p 1 hits		Technicia Re		Dagle Bidg		
Remarks: Measurement Grou <u>Tolerance</u> <u>Ur</u> Tolerance (+/-) 0.5 °C	p 1 <u>nits</u> Lir	As Found In Tolerar nits	Technicia Re	n: Sandra	Dagle Bidg	1 edures WB-1 R4	Left (Cal St Error
Remarks: Measurement Grou <u>Tolerance Ur</u>	p 1 hits lits lits Lit Upper	As Found In Tolerar	Technicia nce	n: Sandra ssult Pass As Found	Dagle Bldg Proce	1 edures WB-1 R4 As I	Contract of the second second



### Calibration date, due date, and first use date

Different devices may have different recommendations and language referring to when a DDL needs to be calibrated. All certificates will have a calibration date. This is the date the device was last calibrated. Some certificates will provide a due date (see above). This is the date the DDL must be calibrated by. If no date is provided, the DDL must be re-calibrated at a minimum every three years. Some DDLs base the re-calibration date on the date the probe is first installed, referred to the first use date. See the example to the left. The device must be re-calibrated two years after first use.

## **DDL use and placement**

- All vaccine storage units must have a digital data logger.
- All VFC providers must have at least one back-up DDL. The back-up temperature monitoring device should be stored outside of the storage unit until needed and should have a different calibration date than other DDLs to avoid requiring all DDLs to be sent out for recalibration at the same time.
- Providers who transport vaccine must have a DDL that can be used during transport of vaccine.
- Ensure appropriate logging interval is setup. At a minimum the DDL must log temperatures at least every 30 minutes.
- Probe must be placed in the center of the storage unit; the only exception is for units with a built-in port that dictates probe placement.



DDL probe placed in the center of the storage unit.

DDL probe placed in dedicated probe location of a pharmaceutical grade unit.

