

Calorimeter measuring devices CWD



Measurement parameter

- Calorific value / heating value
- Wobbe index
- Specific density
- CARL, air requirement

Applications

- Steel/Iron
- Biogas
- Sewage gas systems
- Landfills
- Glass/Ceramics
- Oil & Gas
- Chemistry
- Energy supply
- Energy production



Gas composition and CWD product series

Gas composition, Wobbe-Index

Natural gas and other combustible gases have gained high importance as fuels for industrial processes. Depending on their origin, they differ significantly in their chemical composition and combustion behaviour. The technical terms are "gas composition" or "gas properties" which describe characteristics such as heating value, calorific value and Wobbe-Index (see textbox below).

In view of the increasing diversification of natural gas sources, consumers are increasingly supplied with varying gas composition of the natural gas and thus different combustion behaviour. If the gas consumer is a thermally sensitive process or burner, the composition of the gas supplied must be monitored and, if necessary, adjusted to the required value by conditioning. Otherwise the function of a burner and of the downstream process and hence also the product quality are jeopardised. Typical examples are processes in the glass industry and in metallurgy. A similar effect is created by the increasing use of bio-gas and bio-methane or process gases (blast furnace gases) as combustion gases.

CWD calorimeter series

A suitable gas measurement technology is required to control the variations in the gas composition while supplying heat to processes – BAGGI has been offering this technology with its extensive CWD device series for many decades.

CWD is a mnemonic of the terms **C**alorimetry, **W**obbe-Index and specific **D**ensity and designates a modular product series for determining calorimetric values in gases according to the DVGW codes of practice G260 and G262 (see page 7).

Figure 1 gives an overview of the different CWD variants with their manifold ranges of application, including custody transfer measurements (CT) and the determined parameters. Parameters measured are the Wobbe-Index and specific gas gravity, from which the heating value and calorific value are calculated.

For details on the device design refer to page 4, for technical data to page 6.

Application segment	CWD/STD	CWD/CT	CWD/PLUS	CWD/DPC	CWD/SPC	CWD/Ex	W2005
Natural gas, Biomethane, Liquid gas	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Blast furnace gas, Coke gas, Mixed gas, Low Gas	✓	–	(✓)	–	–	–	✓
Refinery gas, Mixed gas, High gas	–	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Certifications / Conformity	–	PTB 7.631 08.64	–	NFPA 496, 2013; ANSI/ISA 12.01	USTC/14/FAI/00983 (Kundenref. 710162)	BVS 04 ATEX E 018 X	–
Measured values	Wobbe-Index, Spezific Gravity						Wobbe-Index
Calculated values	Heating value, Calorific value						Heating-/calorific value (constant specific gravity)

figure 1: Device series CWD

Net calorific value

Maximum usable heat upon combustion of a gas without condensation of the water vapour in the exhaust gas.

Gross calorific value

Maximum usable heat upon combustion of a gas with condensation of the water vapour in the exhaust gas.

Wobbe-Index (Wobbe number, kWh/m³)

Indicator of the interchangeability of combustion gases with respect to the thermal load on the burners. Important when using combustion gases of changing composition in one burner. If combustion gases of different composition have the same Wobbe-Index and the same flow pressure at the burner, they have approximately the same heat capacity.

Wobbe-Index - Direct or indirect determination

Wobbe-Index

The Wobbe-Index of a gas is a corrected heating value (see equation 1) and serves as an index for the interchangeability of combustion gases at burners. Gases of different chemical composition but with the same Wobbe-Index are equivalent in terms of burner load and can be interchanged without jeopardising the burners. For safe and efficient operation of a combustion system, the Wobbe-Index must therefore be continuously determined before the combustion gas enters the burner. For this purpose, direct and indirect determination methods are in use.

Direct determination (principle of the CWD)

All devices of the CWD series use the direct measurement method to determine the Wobbe-Index: Continuous measurement of the energy released by the combustion of a defined gas flow determines the Wobbe-Index directly. In addition, the specific gravity is measured which can serve to calculate the heating value. A correlation function is not required at any point.

Even unknown and unexpected components in the gas are determined during combustion and taken into consideration in the measurement. That is of great importance with rapidly changing gas compositions of e.g. residual gases from chemical processes or substitute gases in the steel industry.

Indirect determination

Many Wobbe devices do not determine the Wobbe-Index directly; they determine the residual oxygen remaining in the gas after a leaner-than-stoichiometric, catalytic combustion of the gas. Once this indirect value is determined by means of gas analysis, the air requirement is calculated and then, after its correction, the characteristic CARI (Combustion Air Requirement Index) for combustion. Finally, the Wobbe-Index is determined from CARI (see equation 2) via a correlation function.

The precision that can be achieved with this method depends on how the catalyst influences the completeness of the combustion and on the precision with which the used correlation function represents the respective application (i.e. the current gas mix). Studies in the steel industry have shown that when using "substitute gases", faults cannot be ruled out as frequently used gas mixtures are positioned outside the typical correlation curves. Figure 2 shows this situation: There is a by no means clear correlation between the Wobbe-Index and CARI for gases typically used in the steel industry. The following gases (and their mixtures) are plotted:

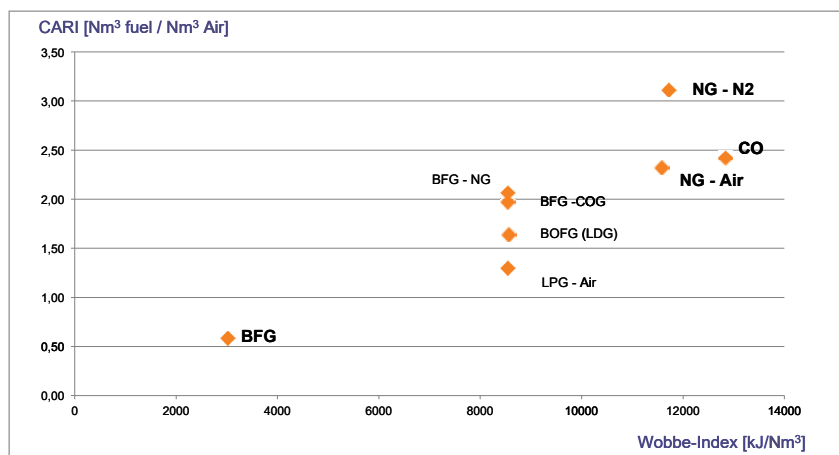


Figure 2: Non-linear correlation between CARI and Wobbe-Index (steel industry)

NG	Natural Gas
BFG	Blast Furnace Gas
BOFG	Basic Oxygen Furnace Gas
LPG	Liquified Petroleum Gas
LDG	Linz Donawitz Gas
COG	Coke Oven Gas

Wobbe-Index

$$\frac{\text{Heating value}}{\sqrt{\text{Specific gravity}}} \quad (1)$$

CARI

$$\frac{\text{Air demand}}{\sqrt{\text{Specific gravity}}} \quad (2)$$

Specific gravity

$$\frac{\text{Density fuel gas}^*}{\sqrt{\text{Density air}^*}} \quad (3)$$

*At the same conditions

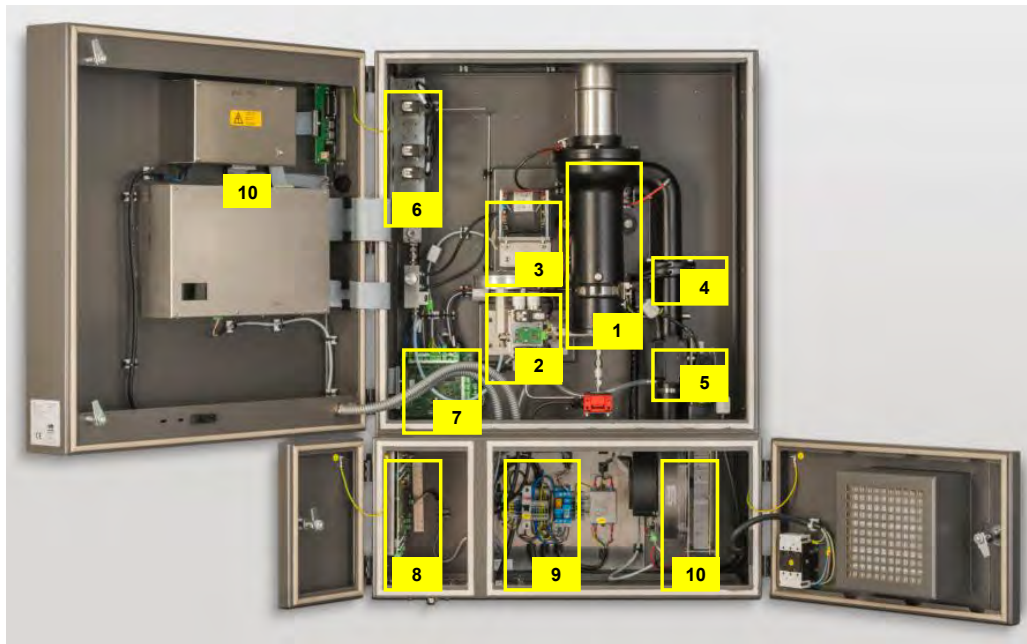


Figure 3: Device layout CWD

The sample gas is combusted in the **measuring cell with burner (1)**. The flame is detected via the energy release on successful ignition. To determine the energy quantity, the temperature increase is determined directly in the exhaust gas flow using very rugged thermocouples. This allows for particularly fast measurement of heating value variations of the sample gas.

The **low-pressure gas supply (2)** offers the user a number of advantages:

- The inlet pressure of only 20 – 40 mbar allows the use of a pressure booster pump to be eliminated in many cases. This also eliminates a possible source of errors because the compression of vapour-saturated gases (e.g. boiler gases) generates condensation which impairs the subsequent measurement. This influence is deliberately minimised in the CWD by the low inlet pressure.
- The metering technology of the CWD enables measurements with small gas flows from 10 l/h. This allows the entire sample gas to be combusted. This eliminates the problems otherwise encountered by the user of the gas disposal.

- For precise measurement of the Wobbe-Index, the gas must be metered with high precision. In the CWD, this is ensured by a system of pressure controller and nozzle: The precision pressure reducer from UNION Instruments is temperature independent and can control pressure differentials of 4 mbar in constant operation. The measuring range is determined by a gas nozzle with a diameter of 0.4 – 1.5 mm.

The acoustic **density measurement (3)** is performed in the bypass to the main sample gas flow. It offers a wide measuring range from 0.2 to 2.2 relative density.

The **air measurement (4)** is performed via a measuring orifice and a precision differential pressure sensor.

The **gas is supplied (6)** via a valve block which controls the supply of sample gas and calibration gas to the analyser. In device variants approved for custody transfer, a "block and bleed" circuit with increased security is used.

The other modules in Figure 3 are:

- (5) Automatic ignition device
- (7) Data logger
- (8) I/O section
- (9) Power supply
- (10) Fan
- (11) Electronics/power supply unit

Acoustic density measurement of gases

The piezoelectric effect converts mechanical deformations into electric signals and vice versa.

One of the many applications is the acoustic density measurement of gases with particularly high linear measuring range (0.0 – 2.0 relative density). **The piezoceramics used for this in the CWD** are gold-plated and therefore extremely corrosion-resistant. The measurement is performed in the bypass with a very small gas throughput (1 – 4 l/h) and hence very low risk of soiling. The high measurement precision allows the Wobbe-Index to be converted into calorific value even for custody transfer measurements for natural gas.

Control system (hardware and software)

Control and operation

The operating unit HMI (Human Machine Interface) comprises the components central control unit, display and keyboard and is linked to two modules via the device bus (Figure 4): The measurement technology module collects the measurement data, the I/O module controls the external communication. The details of the user interface are shown in Figure 5.

The software

is based on a real-time operating system. It is structured in various menu levels which are reached via softkeys.

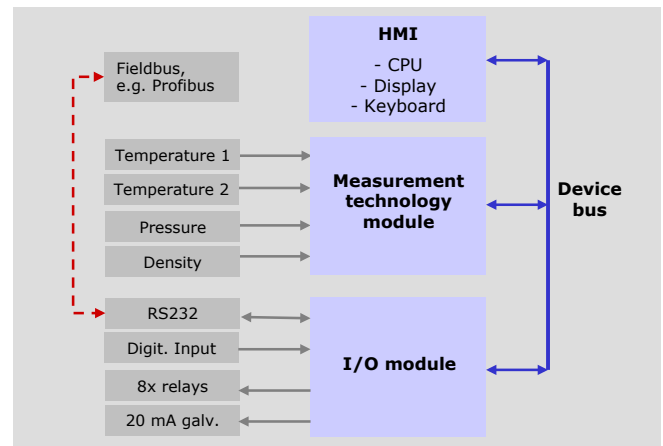


Figure 4: CWD function flowchart

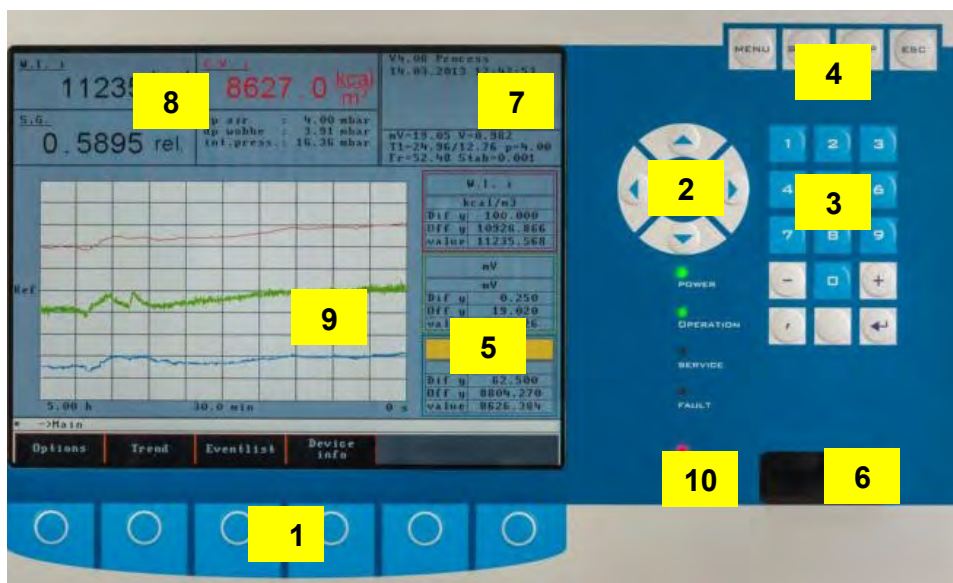


Figure 5: Operation and display panel CWD (Human Machine Interface)

- 1: Menu keys (softkeys)
- 2: Current measurement data (graphic display)
- 3: Current measurement data (numerical, with dimension)
- 4: Info field (date, time, internal operating data, ...)
- 5: Trend displays
- 6: Position keys
- 7: Input keys
- 8: Start/Stop
- 9: Burner window (for observing the flame)
- 10: LED status displays

Fieldbus

Term for serial communication bus systems in production and process automation in which field devices such as sensors, measurement devices and actuators (slaves) are connected to control systems (masters). The bus enables bidirectional communication among the bus participants for digital data exchange. The most successful field bus worldwide is Profibus. Fieldbuses are increasingly replacing the conventional 4 – 20 mA technology.

CWD - Technical data

CWD device series	CWD/STD	CWD/CT	CWD/PLUS	CWD/DPC	CWD/SPC	CWD/Ex	W2005
Weight	ca. 54 kg	ca. 54 kg	ca. 54 kg	ca. 85 kg	ca. 250 kg	ca. 450 kg	ca. 54 kg
Dimensions W x H x D [mm]	720 x 1200 x 337	720 x 1200 x 337	720 x 1200 x 337	822 x 1798 x 399 + 300 (H) for flame arrestor	1150 x 2500 x 600	1540 x 2380 x 600	720 x 1200 x 337
Protection class	IP 50	IP 50	IP 50	IP 50	IP 64 (Nema 4X)	--	IP 50
Ambient temperature	5 – 40 °C	5 – 40 °C	5 – 35 °C	5 – 40 °C	-20 – 50 °C	-20 – 45 °C	5 – 40 °C
Ambient humidity	0 – 95 % relative	0 – 95 % relative	0 – 95 % relative	0 – 95 % relative	0 – 95 % relative	0 – 95 % relative	0 – 95 % relative
External pressure [hPa]	800 – 1100	800 – 1100	800 – 1100	800 – 1100	800 – 1100	800 – 1100	800 – 1100
Supply pressure of gas	20 – 40 mbar	20 – 40 mbar	20 – 40 mbar	30 – 40 mbar	30 – 40 mbar	40 - 50 mbar	20 – 40 mbar
Process gas supply	max. 2	max. 2	1	1	1	1	max. 2
Calibration gas supply	max. 2	max. 2	1	2	2	2	max. 2
Carrier gas supply	optional	optional	--	1	1	1	optional
Relative gas humidity	≤ 95 %, condensate-free	≤ 95 %, condensate-free	≤ 95 %, condensate-free	≤ 95 %, condensate-free	≤ 95 %, condensate-free	≤ 95 %, condensate-free	≤ 95 %, condensate-free
Supply temperature of gas	max. 45 °C	max. 45 °C	max. 45 °C	max. 45 °C	max. 45 °C	max. 45 °C	max. 45 °C
Instrument air consumption	--	--	--	ca. 25 m³/h	ca. 25 m³/h	30 m³/h	--
T90 display time	≤ 20 sec	≤ 15 sec	≤ 15 sec	≤ 15 sec	≤ 15 sec	≤ 15 sec	≤ 20 sec
Interfaces	240 VAC, 50/60 Hz 110 VAC, 60 Hz						
Schnittstellen	3 x Relais; RS232; 4 – 20 mA; Feldbus; Profibus-DP; Profinet IO; Modbus RTU/TCP; Industr. Ethernet						

figure 6: Technical data device series CWD

Ethernet

Term for a communication technology for data exchange among devices in a network with especially high transfer rates. In its variant "Industrial Ethernet", Ethernet is the accepted industry standard on the level of interlacing control systems and implementing control technology to higher levels. Particularly in combination with other protocols, Ethernet is widely used in the form of Ethernet-based solutions such as PROFINET or Modbus TCP. PROFINET in particular is both Industrial Ethernet and 100% Ethernet and is therefore suitable for all industrial applications and also for the use of all web-based services and tools.

CWD – Applications

There are many applications for CWD devices, both with regard to the gases to be measured and to the process-engineering aspects (industries) and applications in the production lines. Figure 7 provides an overview. Special CWD device variants allow use in custody transfer traffic and operation in potentially explosive atmospheres.

Use in custody transfer

Calibration laws require that measuring devices used in commercial business (purchase and sale of measurable goods) must be calibrated. This is referred to as custody transfer.

This is of special importance in the oil and gas industry because of the immense volume and energy flow moved in that field and delivered between different suppliers or to consumers. This obligatory calibration also applies to calorimeters for the calorific value of gases.

The calorimeter CWD/CT-UNION was approved in 2009 as a calorific value measuring device for custody transfer. It can be used for all gases according to Code of Practice G260/262 of the DVGW (Deutscher Verband der Gas- und Wasserwirtschaft, German Association of Gas and Water Management) for officially verified determination of the calorific value in the range 8.4 – 13.1 kWh/Nm³. Applicable for calibration is the measurement of processed biogas, including gases which are conditioned by using air and liquified gas.

Use in potentially explosive areas

When calorimeters are used in the oil and gas industry, they are frequently installed in potentially explosive areas. This requires special protective measures in the device technology and corresponding approval by the authorities.

The version CWD/DP (Direct Purge Certified) is designed accordingly and approved as Class1, Div. 2 according to NEC500 (USA). The housing has compressed air purging (Type Z) and a safety shutdown. An additional variant for use in explosive areas (II 2G Ex d IIA T3 Gb) is the CWD/Ex with an EC type examination certificate (BVS 04 ATEX E 018 X)



Figure 8: CWD/Ex for potentially explosive areas

Typical measuring ranges [MJ/m³] / Accuracy Wobbe-Index [± %FS]													
CWD device series	CWD/STD		CWD/CT		CWD/PLUS		CWD/DPC		CWD/SPC		CWD/Ex		W2005
Flare gas	0 – 15	3.0	—	—	—	—	0 – 15	3.0	0 – 15	3.0	—	—	0 – 15 3.0
Blast furnace gas	3.5 – 6	3.0	—	—	3.5 – 6	3.0	3.5 – 6	3.0	3.5 – 6	3.0	—	—	3.5 – 6 3.0
Converter gas	4.5 – 9	1.5	—	—	—	—	4.5 – 9	1.5	4.5 – 9	1.5	—	—	4.5 – 9 1.5
Mixed gas	5 – 10	2.0	—	—	5 – 10	2.0	5 – 10	2.0	5 – 10	2.0	—	—	5 – 10 2.0
Coke oven gas	15 – 30	1.5	—	—	15 – 30	1.5	15 – 30	1.5	15 – 30	1.5	—	—	15 – 30 1.5
Biogas	25 – 35	1.5	—	—	25 – 35	1.5	25 – 35	1.5	25 – 35	1.5	—	—	25 – 35 1.5
Natural gas	25 – 48	1.5	30 – 47	1.0	25 – 48	1.0	25 – 48	1.0	25 – 48	1.0	30 – 47	1.0	25 – 48 1.5
Refinery gas	25 – 50	1.5	—	—	25 – 50	1.5	25 – 50	1.5	25 – 50	1.5	—	—	25 – 50 1.5
LPG	40 – 90	1.5	—	—	40 – 90	1.5	40 – 90	1.5	40 – 90	1.5	40 – 90	1.5	40 – 90 1.5

figure 7: Typical measuring ranges device series CWD

CWD in use in the production of float glass

The production of float glass is a continuous process. At 1100 °C, the glass melt is guided into a bath of liquid tin on which the lighter glass floats. Optimal combustion conditions and a constant temperature of this bath are crucial for a consistently high glass quality. The energy content of the combustion gas, preferably natural gas, varies however over time. By having the CWD permanently determine the energy content and by corresponding compensation with suitable additions, constant flame temperature and stable combustion conditions can be achieved.