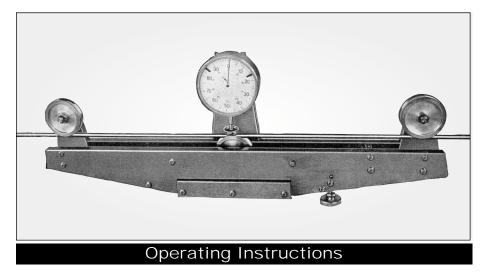


# Tension Meter *Type SY*





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#### 1.0 OVERVIEW

The CHECK•LINE® Type SY Cable Tensiometers are used to measure or compare static tensions in long, moderately flexible galvanized or stainless steel wire ropes, fiberglass rods and other cables with similar stiffness. The Model SY-600 covers diameters from 3/16" to 1/2" (*4 to 12mm*) for tensions of 400-3000 lbs (*200-1500 kg*). The Model SY-1000 covers diameters from 1/2" to 1" (*13 to 24mm*) for tensions of 850-5500 lbs (*400-2500 kg*). Select the model by cable diameter and range involved in your application.

#### 1.1 Operating Principle

SY Cable Tensiometers employ the three-roller system for operation, where the outer two rollers act as reference points and the middle, sensing roller responds to a fixed spring force behind it to cause a cable deflection which is inversely proportional to the cable tension. The precision dial indicator on the opposite side of the cable measures this deflection with a very high degree of accuracy. This deflection can then be converted into pounds, kilograms or Newtons force tension by referring to a chart or curve, which has been prepared in advance for the cable material and size involved. (Refer to Procedure for Preparing SY Tensiometer Calibration Charts, below). U-grooved rollers are used in lieu of points or blocks to minimize friction and cable surface marring.

#### **1.2 Tension Measurement**

As noted above, tension measurement requires reference to a calibration chart or curve for each cable type and size, prepared by the purchaser or a local lab facility, at the purchaser's expense. (ELECTROMATIC's lab facility maximum capacity is 3300 lbs). The attached sample copy of a chart and curve was prepared for a customer's SY-600 Cable Tensiometer for 7X19 SS 5/16" cable.

#### 1.3 Tension Comparison or Balance

This method permits operation without reference to a Calibration Chart. However, it does require that at least one cable be under acceptable tension, be less than the maximum tensions cited above, and that the other cables involved are of the same type, size and stiffness. The deflection it causes can be considered to be the "standard" deflection for the tension involved. The deflection can then be compared to the deflections found in the other cables.

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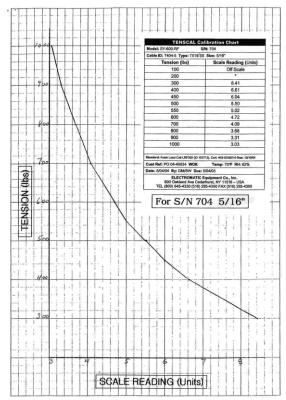
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- 6. Turn the CF screw head counter-clockwise (CCW) until the middle roller reaches the cable. Continue turning until the dial indicator pointer value reaches its maximum value, and then turn it another turn or two. This action applies the pre-set Constant Force to the middle roller, causing maximum cable deflection.
- 7. Apply sufficient tension with the load-applying device, as indicated on the load cell or dynamometer, to reach the first calibration point. (The user should decide the minimum and maximum calibration points). Record the cable deflection reading on a Load Vs Deflection chart.
- Continue to apply tension at pre-selected intervals until maximum tension values have been reached, recording deflections at each interval. A corresponding Calibration Curve is recommended for easier reading of values between intervals.
- 9. Remove the tensiometer by turning the CF screw clockwise until the middle roller drops sufficiently to clear the indicator foot and cable plus some more to clear the outer rollers when the unit is lifted slightly and pushed back to clear the cable.



2.0 OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

**NOTE:** The following instructions are somewhat detailed, to make them very clear for the first time user. Be assured that the operations described are very simple and easy to perform. After a couple of repetitions of the procedure, it should not take more than a minute to complete a measurement.

- 1. Adjust the pointer of the Tensiometer's Dial Indicator to "0" by rotating the outer, knurled rings of the lens bezel.
- 2. Referring to Figure 1. SY Tensiometer Measuring Setup, below, turn the knurled "constant force" (CF) screw clockwise (cw) to lower the middle, "sensing" roller sufficiently to clear the Dial Indicator shoe and the cable to be measured. The Tensiometer should then be hung on the cable by passing it under the outer "reference" rollers and over the middle "sensing" roller, without contacting the indicator shoe. (If the cable is vertical or slanted, the Tensiometer should be held, or blocked with a "C" clamp, to prevent movement, until the next step is completed).
- 3. With the Tensiometer hung on the cable, or held in place, turn the CF screw counter-clockwise (ccw) until the middle roller deflects the cable completely and there is no further movement of the dial indicator pointer. Continue rotating the CF screw for one more turn. This action applies the full constant force midway between the two outer rollers during the measurement.
- 4. If TENSION MEASUREMENT\* is being made, refer to the previously made SY Calibration Chart/Curve to determine the tension in the cable. If tension adjustment is needed, note the required cable deflection for the tension desired by referring to the calibration chart/curve and then adjust the cable tension until the dial indicator reads the corresponding cable deflection.
- 5. If only TENSION COMPARISON or BALANCE\* measurement is being made, note the indicator cable deflection reading and compare it with that made on the similar "standard" cable that has been tensioned to an acceptable tension. If the deflection difference is not acceptable, adjust tension in the cable being checked until the deflection reading is the same or nearly the same as with the "standard" cable.
- 6. To remove the Tensiometer, reverse the process by turning the CF screw clockwise (cw) until the middle roller drops sufficiently to clear the indicator shoe and cable plus some more to clear the outer rollers when the unit is lifted slightly and pushed back to clear the cable.
- 7. After measurements have been completed and before storing the Tensiometer, turn the CF screw clockwise (cw) until the Dial Indicator foot is between 1/4" to 1/2" from the middle roller. To protect the dial indicator during storage or shipping, do not leave its foot in contact with the roller.

\* Refer to introductory remarks on page 2 of these instructions.

Figure 3 Sample Calibration Chart/Curve

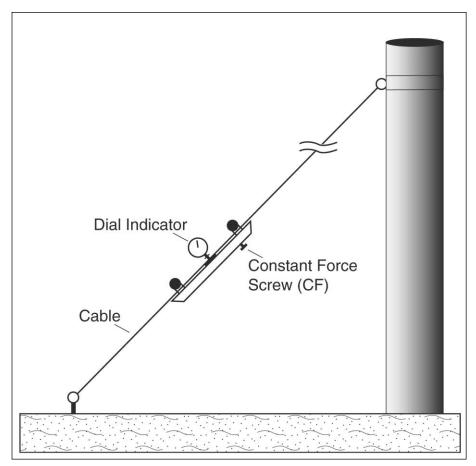


Figure 1. SY Tensiometer Measuring Setup

### 3.0 PREPARING SY TENSIOMETER CALIBRATION CHARTS/CURVES

#### 3.1 Material Required

1. Test Span Sample of 14-ft (minimum) of the installed cable, where long cables are involved. Where installed cables are less than 14-feet long, use a test span equal to the length of the cable.

**NOTE:** Application spans of less than 14-feet, great stiffness and/or large diameter may not be measurable. Please inquire.

- 2. Turnbuckle, winch or hydraulic tensioning system of sufficient load capacity for the application.
- 3. An in-line tension-reading device, such as a certified dynamometer or load cell with indicator.
- 4. Rigid attachment structure, to withstand the full tensile loads.
- 5. Attachment hardware for all cable ends and devices.

#### 3.2 Procedure

- 1. Set up the load cell, or other readout device, so that its indicator reads "0".
- 2. The pointer of the Tensiometer dial indicator should read "0". If not, rotate the outer bezel of the indicator until it does read "0".
- 3. Set up the test cable sample, load-applying device and the inline tension read-out device, as indicated in Figure 2., SY Tensiometer Calibration Setup, below.

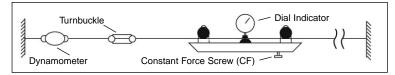


Figure 2. SY Tensiometer Calibration Setup

- 4. Before hanging the SY Tensiometer being calibrated on the cable, lower the middle roller to provide clearance between the dial indicator shoe and the middle roller for the test cable, by turning the knurled CF screws head clockwise (CW) until the middle roller retracts sufficiently to provide the needed clearance.
- 5. Hang or hold the SY Tensiometer so that the test cable passes under the outer rollers and over the middle roller. The inline indicator will show a minimum tension, resulting from the weight of the cable and the tensiometer itself.