

Use of Detector Tubes in Cold Weather

The majority of detector tubes have an operational temperature range of 32 to 104 °F (0 to 40 °C). The actual temperature of many worksites can vary considerably according to the season of the year. It is not uncommon to experience temperature swings of 80 °F from summer to winter. During the cold months of the year, temperatures may routinely be below freezing (<32 °F).

Draeger has two options to use detector tubes in cold weather. The cold temperature options are recommended for temperatures as low as -4 °F (-20 °C). At lower temperatures the reagents may freeze resulting in no indication on the tube.

Option 1:

Keep the tube contents warm during the course of the measurement using body heat. The outdoors gloves or mittens with the split palm work well for this task. Lay the tube across the palm of your hand and keep your fingers wrapped around the tube during the measurement.

Option 2:

Use the Draeger Tube Warmer with the reusable Hot Packs to keep the tube contents warm during the measurement. The Tube Warmer originally designed for use with the simultest sets can also be used with individual tubes. A photo of the Tube Warmer is shown in the Pump & Tube Accessory Guide. The part number for the Tube Warmer, including two hot packs is 8316130.

Options 1 and 2 work well down to -4 °F (-20 °C).