

TA042

100 MHz x100/x1000 Differential Probe

User's Manual

This probe complies with IEC-1010.1, IEC-1010.2–031 CAT III, Pollution Degree 2.

1. Safety terms and symbols

Terms appearing in this manual:

\bigstar	WARNING	Warning statements identify conditions or practices that could result in injury or death.
\triangle	CAUTION	Caution statements identify conditions or practices that could result in damage to this product or other property.

Symbols appearing on the product:



Danger High Voltage



Protective (Earth) Terminal



Attention Refer to Manual



2. General safety summary

Please review the following safety precautions to avoid injury and prevent damage to this probe or any products that are connected to it.

Observe maximum working voltage

To avoid any injury, do not use the probe above 1000 V rms CAT III between each input lead and earth or between the two input leads. This voltage rating applies to both the 1/100 and the 1/1000 settings.

Must be grounded

This probe is grounded with the shell of the BNC connector and an auxiliary grounding terminal.

WARNING	Before making connections to the input leads of this probe, ensure that its output lead is grounded. You may do this either by connecting the BNC shell to a grounded measurement instrument, or by connecting the auxiliary grounding terminal to a reliable ground point. Read the next paragraph for
	further advice.

You must verify that the probe is securely grounded before connecting the probe input leads. Some types of measuring instrument, such as a USB oscilloscope connected to a laptop, are unlikely to be grounded even if the laptop is powered from the mains. Bench-top oscilloscopes are usually grounded, but in some cases may have been isolated from ground. A USB oscilloscope connected to a desktop computer is usually grounded. In any case, do not assume that the measurement instrument is grounded. Always verify the ground connection for yourself before connecting the probe input leads.

Use fused test prods if necessary

If this probe is intended to use for measurements in circuits of INSTALLATION CATEGORY III, it should incorporate with fused test prods.

Do not operate without covers

To avoid electric shock or fire hazard, do not operate this probe with the covers removed.

Do not operate in wet or damp conditions

To avoid electric shock, do not operate this probe in wet or damp conditions.

Do not operate in explosive atmosphere

To avoid injury or fire hazard, do not operate this probe in an explosive atmosphere.

Avoid exposed circuitry

To avoid injury, remove jewelry such as rings, watches and other metallic objects. Do not touch exposed connections and components when power is present.



Use proper power source

To ensure proper functioning of this probe, use four AA cells or a 6 VDC / 200 mA mains adaptor or regulated 9 VDC / 120 mA mains adaptor or power leads.

Do not operate the probe if it is damaged

If you suspect there is damage to this probe, have it inspected by qualified service personnel.

3. Description

By enabling conventional oscilloscopes to display and measure in-circuit waveforms that are referenced to high common-mode voltages, this differential probe extends the measurement capability of oscilloscopes in electronic power converters, inverters, motor speed controls, switch-mode power supplies and many applications.

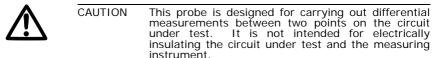
4. Installation

- a. Simply plug in the BNC output connector to the vertical input of a general-purpose oscilloscope or other measurement instrument, and connect the auxiliary grounding terminal to a proper ground. The measurement instrument must have a ground reference.
- b. Install four AA cells or connect an appropriate power source to this probe.
- c. Select the proper attenuation ratio. When measuring signals below 140 V, switch the attenuation ratio to 1/100 in order to get higher resolution and less noise. Otherwise, set the attenuation to 1/1000.



WARNING To protect against electric shock, use only the accessories designed for use with this differential probe.

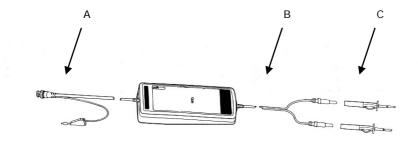
d. Using the appropriate probe accessories, connect the input to the circuits under measurement.





5. Appearance

The differential probe looks like this:



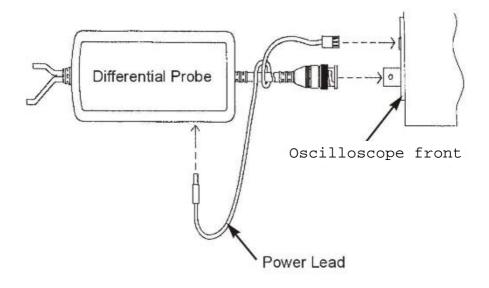
- A. Output Lead The BNC output connector and an auxiliary grounding terminal are connected to the oscilloscope.
- B. Input Leads The input leads of the differential probe connect to sprung hooks that come with the probe.
- C. Sprung Hooks The sprung hooks are connected safely to test points in the circuits under test.



6. Power leads

Two types of power leads are available for use with this instrument:

- a. Lemo[®] Lead: For oscilloscopes with Lemo[®] power connectors.
- b. Probus[®] Lead: For oscilloscopes with Probus[®] power connectors.





7. Specifications

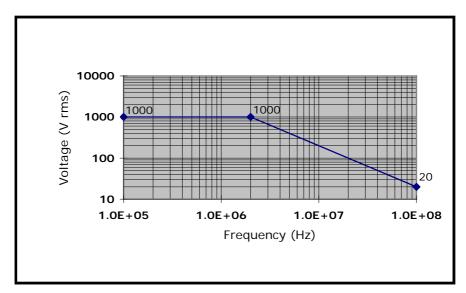
Attenuation ratio1:100/1000Accuracy $\pm 2\%$ Rise Time 3.5 ns Input Impedance $4 M\Omega // 7 \text{ pF}$ each side to groundInput VoltageMax. Differential* (1/100) $\pm 140 \text{ V}$ (DC + Peak AC) or 140 V rmsMax. Differential* (1/100) $\pm 1400 \text{ V}$ (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rmsCommon Mode Range* $\pm 1400 \text{ V}$ (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rms(1/100 and 1/1000) $\pm 1400 \text{ V}$ (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rmsAbsolute Max. Voltage* $\pm 1400 \text{ V}$ (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rms CAT III(Differential or Common Mode) $\pm 1400 \text{ V}$ (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rms CAT IIIOutput Voltage $\pm 1400 \text{ V}$ (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rms CAT IIISwing (into 50 kΩ load) $\pm 7V$ Offset (typical) $4 \text{ M} \text{ V}$ rmsSource Impedance (typical) 0.9 mV rms Source Impedance (typical) 50Ω CMRR (typical) $-80 \text{ dB} \text{ @ } 60 \text{ Hz}; -50 \text{ dB} \text{ @ } 1 \text{ MHz}$ Ambient Operating Temperature $-30 \text{ to } 70 \text{ °C}$ Ambient Storage Temperature $-30 \text{ to } 70 \text{ °C}$ Ambient Storage Humidity $25 \text{ to } 85\% \text{ RH}$ Power Requirements $4xAA \text{ cells or } 6 \text{ V DC } 200 \text{ mA mains adaptor**}$ Standard $4xAA \text{ cells or } 6 \text{ V DC } 120 \text{ mA mains adaptor**}$ OptionPower leadsLength of Input Leads 30 cm Length of BNC Lead 90 cm	Bandwidth	DC to 100 MHz (-3 dB)			
Accuracy $\pm 2\%$ Rise Time 3.5 ns Input Impedance $4 \text{ M}\Omega / / 7 \text{ pF}$ each side to groundInput VoltageMax. Differential* (1/100) $\pm 140 \text{ V}$ (DC + Peak AC) or 140 V rmsMax. Differential* (1/100) $\pm 1400 \text{ V}$ (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rmsCommon Mode Range* $\pm 1400 \text{ V}$ (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rmsCommon Mode Range* $\pm 1400 \text{ V}$ (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rmsMax. Differential or Common Mode) $\pm 1400 \text{ V}$ (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rms CAT III(Differential or Common Mode) $\pm 1400 \text{ V}$ (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rms CAT IIIOutput Voltage $\pm 1400 \text{ V}$ (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rms CAT IIISwing (into 50 k\Omega load) $\pm 7 \text{V}$ Offset (typical) $\pm 5 \text{ mV}$ Noise (typical) 0.9 mV rms Source Impedance (typical) $50 \ \Omega$ CMRR (typical) $-80 \text{ dB} \text{ @ } 60 \text{ Hz}; -50 \text{ dB} \text{ @ } 1 \text{ MHz}$ Ambient Operating Temperature $-30 \text{ to } 70 \ \text{C}$ Ambient Storage Temperature $-30 \text{ to } 70 \ \text{C}$ Ambient Storage Humidity $25 \text{ to } 85\% \text{ RH}$ Power Requirements $53 \ \text{C} 6 \text{ V DC} / 200 \ \text{mA mains adaptor}^{**} \text{ or regulated 9 V DC} / 120 \ \text{mA mains adaptor}^{**}$ OptionPower leads $30 \ \text{cm}$ Length of Input Leads $30 \ \text{cm}$ Length of BNC Lead $90 \ \text{cm}$		× ,			
Rise Time3.5 nsInput Impedance $4 M\Omega // 7 pF$ each side to groundInput Voltage $M\alpha // 7 pF$ each side to groundMax. Differential* (1/100) $\pm 1400 V (DC + Peak AC) or 140 V rms$ Max. Differential* (1/100) $\pm 1400 V (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rms$ Common Mode Range* $\pm 1400V (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rms$ Common Mode Range* $\pm 1400V (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rms$ Max. Differential or Common Mode) $\pm 1400 V (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rms CAT III(Differential or Common Mode)\pm 1400 V (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rms CAT III(Differential or Common Mode)\pm 1400 V (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rms CAT III(Differential or Common Mode)\pm 1400 V (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rms CAT III(Differential or Common Mode)\pm 1400 V (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rms CAT III(Differential or Common Mode)\pm 1400 V (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rms CAT III(Differential or Common Mode)\pm 1400 V (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rms CAT III(Differential or Common Mode)\pm 1400 V (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rms CAT III(Differential or Common Mode)\pm 1400 V (DC + Peak AC)Offset (typical)\pm 5 mVNoise (typical)\pm 5 mVNoise (typical)\pm 7VSource Impedance (typical)50 \OmegaCMRR (typical)-80 dB @ 60 Hz; -50 dB @ 1 MHzAmbient Operating Temperature-10 to 40 °CAmbient Storage Temperature-30 to 70 °CAmbient Storage Humidity25 to 85% RHPower Requirements4xAA cells or 6 V DC / 200 mA mains adaptor** or regulated 9 V DC / 120 mA main$					
Input Impedance $4 M\Omega // 7 pF$ each side to groundInput VoltageMax. Differential* (1/100)Max. Differential* (1/100) $\pm 140 V (DC + Peak AC) or 140 V rms$ $\pm 1400 V (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rms$ Common Mode Range* $\pm 1400V (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rms$ (1/100 and 1/1000)Absolute Max. Voltage* $\pm 1400 V (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rms CAT III(Differential or Common Mode)(1/100 & 1/1000)Output VoltageSwing (into 50 k\Omega load)\pm 7VOffset (typical)Noise (typical)0.9 mV rmsSource Impedance (typical)50 \OmegaCMRR (typical)Ambient Operating Temperature-10 to 40 °CAmbient Storage Temperature-30 to 70 °CAmbient Storage Humidity25 to 85% RHAmbient Storage Humidity25 to 85% RHOptionPower RequirementsStandard4xAA cells or 6 V DC / 200 mA mains adaptor**or regulated 9 V DC / 120 mA mains adaptor**OptionPower leadsLength of Input Leads30 cmLength of BNC LeadWeight$					
Input VoltageMax. Differential* (1/100) ± 140 V (DC + Peak AC) or 140 V rmsMax. Differential* (1/1000) ± 1400 V (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rmsCommon Mode Range* ± 1400 V (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rmsMax. Voltage* ± 1400 V (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rms CAT III(Differential or Common Mode) ± 1400 V (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rms CAT III(Differential or Common Mode) ± 1400 V (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rms CAT IIIOutput Voltage ± 1400 V (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rms CAT IIISwing (into 50 kΩ load) $\pm 7V$ Offset (typical) $< \pm 5$ mVNoise (typical)0.9 mV rmsSource Impedance (typical) $50 \ \Omega$ CMRR (typical)-80 dB @ 60 Hz; -50 dB @ 1 MHzAmbient Operating Temperature-10 to 40 °CAmbient Storage Temperature-30 to 70 °CAmbient Storage Humidity25 to 85% RHAmbient Storage Humidity25 to 85% RHAmbient Storage Humidity25 to 85% RHOptionPower leadsStandard $4xAA$ cells or 6 V DC / 200 mA mains adaptor**OptionPower leadsLength of Input Leads30 cmLength of BNC Lead90 cmWeight500 g					
Max. Differential* (1/100) Max. Differential* (1/100) $\pm 140 \vee (DC + Peak AC) \text{ or } 140 \vee rms$ $\pm 1400 \vee (DC + Peak AC) \text{ or } 1000 \vee rms$ Common Mode Range* $\pm 1400 \vee (DC + Peak AC) \text{ or } 1000 \vee rms$ (1/100 and 1/1000)Absolute Max. Voltage* (Differential or Common Mode) $\pm 1400 \vee (DC + Peak AC) \text{ or } 1000 \vee rms$ CAT III (1/100 and 1/1000)Output Voltage $\pm 1400 \vee (DC + Peak AC) \text{ or } 1000 \vee rms$ CAT III (1/100 & 1/1000)Output Voltage $\pm 7V$ Offset (typical)Source Impedance (typical) 0.9 mV rms Source Impedance (typical)Source Impedance (typical) $-80 \text{ dB} @ 60 \text{ Hz}; -50 \text{ dB} @ 1 \text{ MHz}$ Ambient Operating Temperature Ambient Storage Temperature $-30 \text{ to } 70 \degree C$ Ambient Operating Humidity 25 to 85% RH $25 \text{ to } 85\% \text{ RH}$ Power Requirements $4xAA \text{ cells or } 6 \vee DC / 200 \text{ mA mains adaptor**} or regulated 9 \vee DC / 120 \text{ mA mains adaptor**} or regulated 9 \vee DC / 120 \text{ mA mains adaptor**} or regulated 9 \vee DC / 120 \text{ mA mains adaptor**} or regulated 9 \vee DC / 120 \text{ mA mains adaptor**} or regulated 9 \vee DC / 120 \text{ mA mains adaptor**} or regulated 9 \vee DC / 120 \text{ mA mains adaptor**} or regulated 9 \vee DC / 120 \text{ mA mains adaptor**} or regulated 9 \vee DC / 120 \text{ mA mains adaptor**} or regulated 9 \vee DC / 120 \text{ mA mains adaptor**} or regulated 9 \vee DC / 120 \text{ mA mains adaptor**} or regulated 9 \vee DC / 120 \text{ mA mains adaptor**} or regulated 9 \vee DC / 120 \text{ mA mains adaptor**} or regulated 9 \vee DC / 120 \text{ mA mains adaptor**} or regulated 9 \vee DC / 120 \text{ mA mains adaptor**} or regulated 9 \vee DC / 120 \text{ mA mains adaptor**} or regulated 9 \vee DC / 120 \text{ mA mains adaptor**} or regulated 9 \vee DC / 120 \text{ mA mains adaptor**} or regulated 9 \vee DC / 120 \text{ mA mains adaptor**} or regulated 9 \vee DC / 120 mA mai$		4 MΩ // 7 pF each side to ground			
Max. Differential* (1/1000) $\pm 1400 \text{ V}$ (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rmsCommon Mode Range* $\pm 1400 \text{ V}$ (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rmsAbsolute Max. Voltage* $\pm 1400 \text{ V}$ (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rms CAT III(Differential or Common Mode) $\pm 1400 \text{ V}$ (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rms CAT IIIOutput Voltage $\pm 1400 \text{ V}$ (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rms CAT IIISwing (into 50 kΩ load) $\pm 7 \text{ V}$ Offset (typical) $< \pm 5 \text{ mV}$ Noise (typical)0.9 mV rmsSource Impedance (typical)50 ΩCMRR (typical)-80 dB @ 60 Hz; -50 dB @ 1 MHzAmbient Operating Temperature-10 to 40 °CAmbient Operating Humidity25 to 85% RHAmbient Storage Humidity25 to 85% RHPower RequirementsStandardStandard $4xAA$ cells or 6 V DC / 200 mA mains adaptor** or regulated 9 V DC / 120 mA mains adaptor** or regulated 9 V DC / 120 mA mains adaptor** or regulated 9 V DC / 120 mA mains adaptor** or regulated 9 V DC / 120 mA mains adaptor** or regulated 9 V DC / 120 mA mains adaptor**Determine Length of Input Leads30 cmLength of BNC Lead90 cmWeight500 g	1 5				
Absolute Max. Voltage* (Differential or Common Mode) $\pm 1400 V (DC + Peak AC) \text{ or } 1000 V \text{ rms CAT III}$ (1/100 & 1/1000)Output Voltage $\pm 7V$ Swing (into 50 k Ω load) $\pm 7V$ Offset (typical) $<\pm 5 \text{ mV}$ Noise (typical)0.9 mV rmsSource Impedance (typical)50 Ω CMRR (typical)-80 dB @ 60 Hz; -50 dB @ 1 MHzAmbient Operating Temperature-10 to 40 °CAmbient Operating Humidity25 to 85% RHAmbient Storage Humidity25 to 85% RHPower Requirements4xAA cells or 6 V DC / 200 mA mains adaptor** or regulated 9 V DC / 120 mA mains adaptor** or regulated 9 V DC / 120 mA mains adaptor** or regulated 9 V DC / 120 mA mains adaptor**OptionPower leadsLength of Input Leads30 cmLength of BNC Lead90 cmWeight500 g	Max. Differential* (1/100) Max. Differential* (1/1000)				
(Differential or Common Mode)(1/100 & 1/1000)Output VoltageSwing (into 50 kΩ load)±7VOffset (typical)<±5 mV	Common Mode Range*	±1400V (DC + Peak AC) or 1000 V rms (1/100 and 1/1000)			
Swing (into 50 k Ω load) \pm 7VOffset (typical)< \pm 5 mVNoise (typical)0.9 mV rmsSource Impedance (typical)50 Ω CMRR (typical)-80 dB @ 60 Hz; -50 dB @ 1 MHzAmbient Operating Temperature-10 to 40 °CAmbient Storage Temperature-30 to 70 °CAmbient Operating Humidity25 to 85% RHAmbient Storage Humidity25 to 85% RHPower Requirements4xAA cells or 6 V DC / 200 mA mains adaptor** or regulated 9 V DC / 120 mA mains adaptor**OptionPower leadsLength of Input Leads30 cmWeight500 g					
Offset (typical) <±5 mV	Output Voltage				
Noise (typical) 0.9 mV rms Source Impedance (typical) 50 Ω CMRR (typical) -80 dB @ 60 Hz; -50 dB @ 1 MHz Ambient Operating Temperature -10 to 40 °C Ambient Storage Temperature -30 to 70 °C Ambient Operating Humidity 25 to 85% RH Ambient Storage Humidity 25 to 85% RH Power Requirements - Standard 4xAA cells or 6 V DC / 200 mA mains adaptor** or regulated 9 V DC / 120 mA mains adaptor** Option Power leads Length of Input Leads 30 cm Length of BNC Lead 90 cm Weight 500 g	Swing (into 50 k Ω load)	±7V			
Source Impedance (typical) 50 Ω CMRR (typical) -80 dB @ 60 Hz; -50 dB @ 1 MHz Ambient Operating Temperature -10 to 40 °C Ambient Storage Temperature -30 to 70 °C Ambient Operating Humidity 25 to 85% RH Ambient Storage Humidity 25 to 85% RH Power Requirements	Offset (typical)	<±5 mV			
CMRR (typical) -80 dB @ 60 Hz; -50 dB @ 1 MHz Ambient Operating Temperature -10 to 40 °C Ambient Storage Temperature -30 to 70 °C Ambient Operating Humidity 25 to 85% RH Ambient Storage Humidity 25 to 85% RH Power Requirements	Noise (typical)	0.9 mV rms			
Ambient Operating Temperature -10 to 40 °C Ambient Storage Temperature -30 to 70 °C Ambient Operating Humidity 25 to 85% RH Ambient Storage Humidity 25 to 85% RH Power Requirements 25 to 85% RH Standard 4xAA cells or 6 V DC / 200 mA mains adaptor** or regulated 9 V DC / 120 mA mains adaptor** Option Power leads Length of Input Leads 30 cm Length of BNC Lead 90 cm Weight 500 g	Source Impedance (typical)	50 Ω			
Ambient Storage Temperature -30 to 70 °C Ambient Operating Humidity 25 to 85% RH Ambient Storage Humidity 25 to 85% RH Power Requirements 25 to 85% RH Standard 4xAA cells or 6 V DC / 200 mA mains adaptor** or regulated 9 V DC / 120 mA mains adaptor** Option Power leads Length of Input Leads 30 cm Length of BNC Lead 90 cm Weight 500 g	CMRR (typical)	-80 dB @ 60 Hz; -50 dB @ 1 MHz			
Ambient Operating Humidity 25 to 85% RH Ambient Storage Humidity 25 to 85% RH Power Requirements 25 to 85% RH Standard 4xAA cells or 6 V DC / 200 mA mains adaptor** or regulated 9 V DC / 120 mA mains adaptor** Option Power leads Length of Input Leads 30 cm Length of BNC Lead 90 cm Weight 500 g	Ambient Operating Temperature	-10 to 40 °C			
Ambient Storage Humidity 25 to 85% RH Power Requirements 4xAA cells or 6 V DC / 200 mA mains adaptor** or regulated 9 V DC / 120 mA mains adaptor** Option Power leads Length of Input Leads 30 cm Length of BNC Lead 90 cm Weight 500 g	Ambient Storage Temperature	-30 to 70 °C			
Power Requirements Standard 4xAA cells or 6 V DC / 200 mA mains adaptor** or regulated 9 V DC / 120 mA mains adaptor** Option Power leads Length of Input Leads 30 cm Length of BNC Lead 90 cm Weight 500 g	Ambient Operating Humidity	25 to 85% RH			
Standard4xAA cells or 6 V DC / 200 mA mains adaptor** or regulated 9 V DC / 120 mA mains adaptor**OptionPower leadsLength of Input Leads30 cmLength of BNC Lead90 cmWeight500 g	Ambient Storage Humidity	25 to 85% RH			
or regulated 9 V DC / 120 mA mains adaptor**OptionPower leadsLength of Input Leads30 cmLength of BNC Lead90 cmWeight500 g	Power Requirements				
Length of Input Leads 30 cm Length of BNC Lead 90 cm Weight 500 g	Standard	4xAA cells or 6 V DC / 200 mA mains adaptor** or regulated 9 V DC / 120 mA mains adaptor**			
Length of BNC Lead90 cmWeight500 g	Option	Power leads			
Weight 500 g	Length of Input Leads	30 cm			
5	Length of BNC Lead	90 cm			
Dimension (LxWxH) 207 mm x 83 mm x 38 mm	Weight	500 g			
	Dimension (LxWxH)	207 mm x 83 mm x 38 mm			

 * Voltage limit is the lesser of the DC+Peak AC and RMS values. *

- a. The supplied voltage must be less than 12 V and greater than 4.4 V, otherwise the probe could be damaged or might not operate properly.
- b. Polarity is "+" inside and "-" outside. If the polarity is wrong, a built-in circuit protects the probe so that no danger or damage will occur.
- c. When the voltage of the cells becomes too low, the power indicator on the panel will flicker.



8. Derating curve



The derating curve for absolute maximum input voltage is as follows:

9. Overrange indicator

The overrange indicator lights up red if the voltage of the input signal exceeds the linear operating range of the probe. When this happens, the signal on the probe output may not accurately represent the signal on the probe input.

10. Test procedure

- d. Connect the BNC output connector to the vertical input of a general-purpose oscilloscope.
- e. Install four AA cells or connect an appropriate mains adaptor to this probe.
- f. Set the oscilloscope input coupling to DC and 1 V/div. Center the trace on the display.
- g. Connect the sprung hooks of the probe to power lines.
- h. Set the range of the probe to 1/1000.
- i. A 50 Hz / 60 Hz sine-wave of proper amplitude will be displayed on the screen of the oscilloscope. This means the probe is working properly.

11. Cleaning

Use a soft cloth to clean the probe, taking care not to cause damage.

- a. Do not immerse the probe.
- b. Do not use abrasive cleaners.
- c. Do not use chemicals contains benzene or similar solvents.

DO137-1 © Copyright Pico Technology 2008



Issue history: 8.8.2008. 1

Pico Technology James House Colmworth Business Park St. Neots **PE19 8YP**

www.picotech.com

Lemo[®], Probus[®] and Pico Technology are registered trademarks.



