



ADVANCED DETECTION SYSTEMS®

Metal Detection Experts

● 4740 W. Electric Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53219 P: (414) 672-0553 ● www.adsdetection.com ● Engineered & Manufactured in USA ●

Validation, Certification and Calibration Differences

RE: Food Processing & Packaging Industry



Ferrous, Non-Ferrous & Stainless-Steel Certified Test Wands

Metal Detector “validation”, “certification” and calibration”!!! What do these terms mean and what’s pertinent as you strive for proper use of your investment in metal detection equipment? The term calibration is often used as a catch-all term when describing validation procedures and 3rd party certification services.

Validation – The daily procedure you have in place to confirm and document that your metal detectors are detecting the ferrous, non-ferrous and stainless-steel particles specified in the metal detector section of your HACCP plan; for instance, passing test wands through the detector with product every two hours.

Certification – The procedure conducted by a 3rd party to certify that your metal detectors and automatic reject devices are performing as you have documented in your daily validation procedure. This procedure is similar to your validation procedure but done by a 3rd party.

Calibration – The procedure conducted by the metal detector’s manufacturer to re-balance the metal detector transmit and receive coils. This procedure may still be required as part of the certification service if you have older analog metal detectors in use. However, current generation ProScan metal detectors feature auto-balance technology which eliminates the need for calibration service.

As your metal detector usage comes under scrutiny applied by government regulations, auditors and your customers there is an opportunity to meet expectations and improve your competitive advantage by being proactive in certifying your metal detectors on an annual basis.

Questions we hear.....

QUESTION – If my detectors don’t require calibration why does the government, auditors and customers require me to arrange for 3rd party certification of my detectors?

ANSWER – Having an appropriate 3rd party visit your plant and run tests, certifies the results of your daily validation procedures. If the 3rd party is unable to certify detection of the test particles then its apparent the daily validations are being performed incorrectly and are not properly testing the detector’s performance. If this were to happen the 3rd party is obligated to train your staff to properly conduct daily validation tests.

QUESTION – Proper certification has value but at what cost?

ANSWER – Dispatching factory service technicians to your plant can be costly so Advanced Detection Systems has trained our local manufacturer’s representatives to conduct certification of Advanced Detection Systems and other brand metal detectors as economically as possible. Advanced Detection Systems factory trained representatives bring you the added value of certification documented by Advanced Detection Systems as the manufacturer of your ProScan metal detection equipment.