

# 2 GDS Helpsheet

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*World Leaders in Computer Controlled Testing  
Systems for Geotechnical Engineers and Geologists*

Hardware

Traditional Triaxial Cell

Installation of Pore Pressure Transducer

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## 1. Introduction

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The GDS 50/70/100mm triaxial cell is provided with an attachment called the "pressure transducer block" which enables a pore pressure transducer to be plumbed directly to the base pedestal of the cell. This block is located adjacent to the upper chamber of the cell and may be identified by connections to it. On one side there is a flexible straw coloured "saran" tube connecting the block to the inside of the cell. The other side is connected to a ball valve.

## 2. Connecting the Pressure Transducer

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Apply to the threads of the transducer a small amount of the Loctite hydraulic sealant 542 provided. Screw the pressure transducer into the underside of the block. Ask a colleague to help you by holding the digital pressure interface and turning it so that the transducer lead does not get twisted.

Flush deaerated water through the ducting by attaching a GDS digital controller to the valve on the block and observing water flowing out of the hole in the base pedestal. Don't forget to loosen and retighten the bleed screw to bleed off any residual air at this time.

***Under no circumstances attempt to deair the inside of the transducer by inserting any kind of device as this will almost certainly cause damage to the transducer diaphragm. Provided you use appropriate back pressures, the small amount of air in the transducer will compress and pass into solution.***