

CL31 Ceilometer for Cloud Height Detection

The Vaisala Ceilometer CL31 is a compact and lightweight instrument for cloud base height and vertical visibility measurements. It detects three cloud layers simultaneously. The CL31 employs a pulsed diode laser LIDAR (light detection and ranging) technology. The CL31 is ideal for aviation and meteorological applications.

Measurement starts from ground level

The enhanced single-lens technology applied in the CL31 ensures excellent performance starting at a height of virtually zero. This is due to the strong and stable signal over the whole measurement range. The single-lens technology provides unsurpassed reliability during precipitation, low clouds and ground based obscurations, which are the most critical phenomena in aviation safety.

Fast measurement

Fast measurement helps to detect thin cloud patches below a solid cloud base. The CL31 provides a full backscatter profile for data visualization and research purpose.

The CL31 beam can be directed either vertically or tilted. The tilting option together with the novel optics design provides enhanced performance during precipitation by improving the protection given by the shield. In the measurement unit, a tilt angle sensor automatically corrects the measured cloud distance reading to vertical cloud base height.

Extensive self-diagnostics

The CL31 is fully automatic. In addition to cloud height data, the messages contain instrument status information based on comprehensive self-diagnostic routines. In case of a malfunction the diagnostics help users to identify the failed module. The CL31 features practical modularity and its easy-access door ensures fast servicing and high data availability.

Easy installation and maintenance

The CL31 is easy to install. It has a radiation shield that protects the unit during precipitation and against excessive heat or cooling in extreme temperatures. The automatic window blower with heater improves performance by keeping the window clean and dry. In cold conditions heating prevents frost generation on the window.



Vaisala Ceilometer CL31 measures cloud base height and vertical visibility in all weather - good or bad.

Features/Benefits

- Measurement range from 0 to 7.6 km (from 0 to 25,000 feet).
- Second-generation, advanced single-lens optics provides excellent performance also at low altitudes
- Reliable operation in all weather; unsurpassed performance in vertical visibility and cloud detection during precipitation
- Extensive self-diagnostics with fault analysis
- Modular design for easy installation and maintenance
- Fast measurement enables detection of thin cloud layers below a solid cloud base
- Latest technology from the world-leading manufacturer - based on the experience from more than 5000 installed Vaisala ceilometers worldwide

Technical Data

Performance

Measurement range	0 ... 25,000 ft. (7.6 km)
Reporting cycle	programmable, 2 ... 120 s
Reporting resolution	5 m/10 ft., units selectable
Distance measurement accuracy against hard target	greater of ± 1 % or ± 5 m
Laser	InGaAs diode, 910 nm
Eye safety	Class 1M IEC/EN60825-1

Electrical

Power (*	100/115/230 VAC $\pm 10\%$, 50 ... 60 Hz max. 310 W including heating
Interfaces	
data	RS232 / RS485 / Modem
maintenance	RS232
baud rate	
RS232 / RS485	300 ... 57,600
modem V.21, V.22, V.22bis	300 ... 2400
Back-up battery	Internal, 2 Ah

Data messages

Cloud hits (up to 3 layers) and status information
 Cloud hits, status and backscatter profile
 Cloud hits and internal monitoring data
 Emulation of CT12K, CT25K, LD-25/40
 Sky Condition (optional)

Mechanical

Dimensions	
total	1190 x 335 x 324 mm
measurement unit	620 x 235 x 200 mm
Weight	
total	32 kg
measurement unit	13 kg
Tilt positions	Vertical or 12° tilted
Automatic window blower / heater	
Radiation shield and pedestal	
Service access through a door	
Optical filters for protection against direct sunlight	

Environmental

Temperature range	-40 ... +60 °C (-40 ... +140 °F)
Humidity	0 ... 100 % RH
Wind	55 m/s
Housing classification	IP65
Vibration	Lloyds Register / IEC60068-2-6 5 ... 13.2 Hz ± 1.0 mm 13.2 ... 100 Hz ± 0.79 mm
EMC	IEC/EN 61326
Electrical Safety	IEC/EN 60950

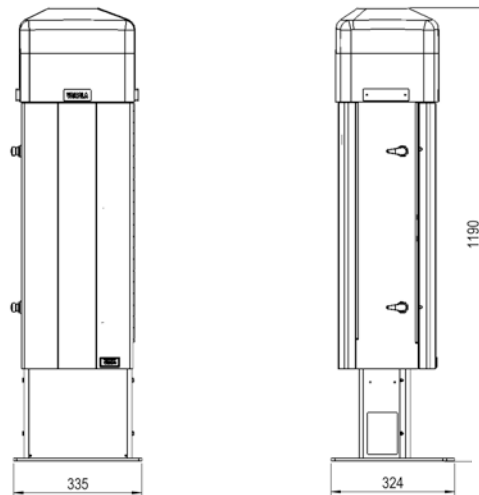
Accessories / options (*

Cable termination box Termbox-1200 with extra transient protection
 PC maintenance cable QMZ101
 Shock absorbing mounting pad CT35022 for ship installations
 Modem module DMX501
 Attachment mechanics for radio modem antenna CLRADIOKIT
 Graphical User Interface for Ceilometers CL-VIEW
 Bird deterrent device CL31BIRDKIT

(* Please specify power and optional accessories when ordering.)

Dimensions

Dimensions in mm



VAISALA

www.vaisala.com

Please contact us at
www.vaisala.com/requestinfo



Scan the code for more information

Ref. B210415EN-C ©Vaisala 2012

This material is subject to copyright protection, with all copyrights retained by Vaisala and its individual partners. All rights reserved. Any logos and/or product names are trademarks of Vaisala or its individual partners. The reproduction, transfer, distribution or storage of information contained in this brochure in any form without the prior written consent of Vaisala is strictly prohibited. All specifications — technical included — are subject to change without notice.

