# Davis



# **EZ-MOUNT ADVANCED STATION**

Installation Manual for GroWeather<sup>®</sup>, Energy EnviroMonitor<sup>®</sup> and Health EnviroMonitor<sup>®</sup> Systems

This manual describes how to install the EZ-Mount Advanced Station. Separate manuals included with the station cover the operation of the console and sensors.

The EZ-Mount Advanced Stations are the "EZ" installation versions of the GroWeather, Energy EnviroMonitor and Health EnviroMonitor stations. In addition to the normal EZ-sensor suite, the advanced stations feature an *EZ-Sensor Arm* for measuring Solar Radiation and/or UV (depending on the station).

There are two installation options for the EZ-Mount Advanced Stations: *stan-dard* and *industrial*. The industrial option offers greater protection from radio frequency interference, electrostatic discharges, and voltage surges by providing 100 feet of *shielded* cable, an extra grounding wire, an ICAM (Interface Cable Adapter Module) with its own grounding wire, and a 25 foot (7.5 m) cable to connect the ICAM to the console.



Additional products—such as the Alarm Output Module (AOM), Mounting Tripod, EZ-Solar Power Kit, WeatherLink<sup>®</sup>, and Grounding Kit—are mentioned here but are not required (contact Davis for more information).

# **COMPONENTS**

The EZ-Mount Advanced Weather Station includes the following components. Please make sure you have everything you need before beginning.



# TOOLS AND MATERIALS NEEDED

In addition to the components listed on page 2, you may need some of the following tools and materials.

- Flat-Bladed Screwdriver
- Phillips Screwdriver
- ✤ Adjustable Wrench
- Wire Cutter or Scissors
- Wire Stripper or Knife (Industrial Installation Only)
- Electrical Tape
- Cable Clips or Weather-Resistant Cable Ties (with ability to be mounted)
- Hammer

# INSTALLATION STEPS

This manual takes you through the step-by-step process of installing your weather station. These steps are indicated below, along with their page numbers for easy reference:

- Assemble and test the station, page 4
  - ✤ Detach the extension tube, page 4
  - + Attach the anemometer, page 4
  - ✤ Attach the wind cups, page 4
  - ✤ Snip the cable tie in the rain collector, page 5
  - ✤ Apply power to the console, page 5
  - ✤ Attach the EZ-Sensor Arm, page 6
  - Connect sensor array to console, page 8
  - ◆ Check that the console and sensors are working properly, page 8
  - Re-attach rain collector cone and unplug sensor array (or ICAM) cable from console, page 8
- ✤ Install the station, page 9
  - Choose locations for the sensor array and console, page 9
  - ✤ Mount, secure, and ground the sensor array, pages 10 & 11
  - ◆ Run sensor array cable (or ICAM cable) to console, page 11
  - ✤ Industrial stations only: mount the ICAM, page 11
  - Mount the console, page 14

If, once installed, you encounter any problems with the station, please refer to the troubleshooting guide on page 14 or call our technical support line (510-732-7814) for assistance.

# **GETTING STARTED**

Follow the steps below to install your station. At various stages of this installation, you will be advised to test the system to ensure proper functioning.

- 1. Detach and remove the extension tube from the support tube by cutting the two black cable ties.
- 2. Attach the anemometer arm to the support tube as shown below. Make sure that the anemometer is positioned over the white field case and NOT over the black rain collector cone.



3. Attach the wind cups to the anemometer.

Push the wind cups onto the shaft as far as they will go, then tighten the set screw. The cups should drop slightly and into the ideal position automatically. Spin the wind cups. If they do not spin freely, loosen the set screw and lower the cups slightly. Repeat until the wind cups spin freely.



4. Detach the rain collector cone and snip the cable tie.

Detach the black rain collector cone from its base by rotating the cone counter-clockwise until its latches line up with the latch openings in the base and then raise the cone off. (The cone may be tightly attached to the base the first time.) Carefully cut and remove the black cable tie which holds the bucket in place during shipping.



Do not re-attach the rain collector cone at this point; you will need to test the tipping bucket before you complete the installation.

5. Apply power to the station console.

To power up the console, first remove the console's mounting base by pressing down on the large tab between the two oblong holes on the base's underside and pulling the base free. Plug the power adapter into the center "Power" slot, as shown below, and then plug the other end into a 110 VAC outlet. Once power is applied, the console should beep twice within 10 seconds if the console is working properly. (If you have the optional Weather-Link installed, the console should beep three times within 20 seconds.) The readings will appear dashed out until you connect the sensors.

Note: If you are going to use a battery as backup, make sure that you plug in the AC power before installing the battery. Powering up the console with the battery alone may cause the console to lock up due to insufficient power. (Do NOT use a backup battery if you use the optional EZ-Solar Power Kit.)



#### 6. Attach the EZ-Sensor Arm to the sensor array.

For the recommended default assembly, attach the EZ-Sensor Arm to the sensor array as shown below. If you are in the Northern Hemisphere, point the arm south (or *left* if you are facing the same direction as the anemometer arm). If you are in the Southern Hemisphere, point the EZ-Sensor Arm north (or *right*).

To attach the EZ-Sensor Arm, loosely fasten the brace clamp on the support tube as shown. Then, while tightly holding the end of the brace clamp that grips the support tube, insert the EZ-Sensor Arm, letting the wire drop through the bottom gap in the brace clamp, and tighten.



## Alternative EZ-Sensor Arm Positioning

You may face the sensors straight up, as shown above, or you may reposition the arm and tilt the sensors to an angle of your choice (e.g., to match the angle of a solar panel, or to maximize UV or solar radiation readings). Please find detailed instructions on the following page.

**Note:** If you tilt sensors to match the angle of an EZ-Solar Power Kit, know that the solar panel is probably optimized for winter reception; your sensors will not receive maximum readings in the summer.

If you have a *GroWeather*, Davis recommends *not* tilting the solar radiation sensor. The GroWeather's ET calculations assume that the solar radiation sensor points straight up.

**Note:** When mounted, the anemometer should always point west. If you mount the sensor array in some other orientation, recalibrate the wind vane (see "Recalibrating the Wind Vane" on page 12).

If you have a *Health EnviroMonitor*, on the other hand, Davis does recommend tilting the UV sensor. The Health's temperature-humidity-sun-wind index calculations assume that the UV sensor is tilted according to your latitude. Additionally, maximizing UV readings (via tilting) gives the best indication of potential health risk.

To maximize UV and/or solar radiation reception:

- a. Recalibrate the anemometer to point north in the Northern Hemisphere, south in the Southern Hemisphere (see "Recalibrating the Wind Vane" on page 12 for instructions).
- b. Position the EZ-Sensor Arm to point either east or west.
- c. Tilt the sensor(s) toward the sun (south in the Northern Hemisphere, north in the Southern Hemisphere).

Note: This alternative configuration is not standard for meteorological measurements.

Use the following rubric to determine the tilt angle for maximum readings:

Maximum Readings During Spring or Fall

If you want maximum readings in the Spring or Fall, use your latitude as the angle (that is, at 45° latitude, use an angle of 45° from vertical).

Maximum Readings During Summer

If you want maximum readings in the Summer, subtract  $18^{\circ}$  from your latitude to determine the correct angle (that is, at  $45^{\circ}$  latitude, use an angle of  $27^{\circ}$  from vertical).

Maximum Readings During Winter

If you want to maximize readings in the Winter, add  $18^{\circ}$  to your latitude to determine the correct angle (that is, at  $45^{\circ}$  latitude, use an angle of  $63^{\circ}$  from vertical).

For greater accuracy in determining the correct angle, consult a table of the sun's declination over the desired time span. The best tilt angle is derived by subtracting declination from latitude.

 Connect the sensor array field case to the console (see cover page schematic). <u>Standard Stations:</u> Plug the free end of the 100' (30 m) 8-conductor cable on the sensor array into the jack labeled SENSOR INTERFACE underneath the console. Then skip to step 8 below.

**Industrial Stations:** Connect the sensor array to the ICAM and then connect the ICAM to the console.

**Note:** If you are using the optional EZ-Solar Power Kit, the ICAM and ICAM connections are unnecessary (see the power kit manual for an alternative installation).

- a. Strip 4" (10 cm) of cable jacket and shield (the grey outer covering and foil-like inner covering) from the end of the cable.
- b. Remove the cover from the ICAM by pressing down on the two tabs at the top until you can remove the tabs from the slots.
- c. Feed the wires through the ferrite bead and insert the tips of the wires into terminal block connector C2 according to the wire colors printed on the circuit board. (To place wires into a terminal, use a small screwdriver to push down hard on the lever next to the terminal, insert the exposed wire into the opening created, and release the lever.)
- d. Connect the bare drain wire to the SHIELD terminal JP2, and cut off any excess drain wire.
- e. Attach the ground wire to the SHIELD terminal JP2 as well. Run the ground wire and the shielded 8-conductor wire out through the bottom right corner of the ICAM. Secure them with a cable tie to the cable tie lug.
- f. Plug the 25' (7.5 m) standard 8-conductor cable into connector S7.
- g. Reattach the ICAM cover.
- h. Plug the free end of the 25' (7.5 m) 8-conductor cable into the jack labeled SENSOR INTERFACE underneath the console.

Note: Refer to the Interface Cable Adapter Module manual for illustrations and further assistance, if necessary.

8. Check all of the readings on your display to be sure they appear correctly (i.e., not dashed out).

Consult your user's manual for instructions on displaying the various readings. Spin the wind cups, move the wind vane, and tip the rain bucket to verify wind speed and direction and rainfall readings. Note that some sensor readings (e.g., barometer and 0.2 mm rain collectors) must be adjusted in order to read correctly; specific instructions are contained in your user's manual.

If the console is having problems reading the sensors, consult the troubleshooting guide at the end of this manual.

- 9. Re-attach the rain collector cone.
- 10. Unplug the console end of the 8-conductor cable.

# **INSTALLING YOUR STATION**

#### Choosing Locations for the Sensor Array and Console

The cable that connects your sensor array to your console *(or ICAM)* is 100 feet (30 m) long. Choose a location where the cable can safely and reasonably connect with the console *(or ICAM)*. Most people install the sensor array on the roofs of their houses, on fences, or in open fields where wind flow, sunlight, and rainfall are unobstructed by trees and nearby buildings.

Unless you plan to mount the console in the sensor array field case (keeping in mind that you will need a power source), you should locate the console indoors. For more accurate readings, follow these suggestions:

- Avoid placing console in direct sunlight. The black casing heats up in direct sunlight. This may cause erroneous readings and/or damage to the unit.
- ◆ Avoid placing the console near radiant heaters or heating/air conditioning ducts.
- If you are mounting the console on a wall, choose an inner or interior wall. Avoid walls which heat up or cool down depending on the weather.
- To connect the console to an 8-conductor cable running inside the wall, attach the mounting base to an empty switch box, using the two screw holes on the mounting base.

#### Mounting the Sensor Array

The sensor array has been pre-assembled for easy installation. However, you will still need to provide a solid mounting for the sensor array. Mounting hard-ware has been included for the most common installations (see figures below). If you are using the optional Mounting Tripod, consult the tripod's manual for mounting instructions.





**Note:** For roof mounting, we recommend the optional Mounting Tripod. If mounting on a roof, tower, or other elevated structure without the Tripod, be sure to consider the effects of lightning, wind loading and vibration and design the installation accordingly.

#### Securing and Grounding the Sensor Array

After mounting the sensor array, secure the sensor array to the extension tube as shown below.



Run the green grounding wire(s) to a proper ground such as a metal underground water main or grounding rod (as in Davis' optional Grounding Kit).

#### Running the Cable from the Sensor Array to the Console (or ICAM)

To prevent fraying or cutting of the 8-conductor cable, secure the cable so it does not whip about in the wind. Secure it to the extension tube by wrapping electrical tape around them both. To prevent rain from running along the cable to your console, secure the cable underneath the eaves of your house or in another location similarly shielded from rain; place cable clips or weather-resistant cable ties approximately every 3-5 feet (1-1.6 m).

**Note:** Do not use metal staples or a staple gun to secure the cable. Metal staples—especially when installed with a staple gun—have a tendency to cut the cables.

#### Mounting the ICAM, Industrial Stations Only

Use the hardware provided to install the ICAM in a sheltered, weatherprotected area (or a Davis weatherproof shelter). Refer to the ICAM manual for instructions, if necessary. Remember to ground the ICAM to a proper ground such as a metal underground water main or grounding rod (as in Davis' optional Grounding Kit).

#### Recalibrating the Wind Vane

The wind vane is pre-calibrated as if the anemometer arm were facing west. If you choose to mount your station in a *different* orientation—for example, in order to tilt the EZ-Sensor Arm for maximum readings—you need to recalibrate the wind vane. *Otherwise, skip this calibration.* 

To recalibrate the wind vane, you will need to look at the console display. If your EZ-Station is mounted on a roof or raised platform, you may wish to have a friend on the ground do this for you. Or, you may wish to bring the console onto the roof or platform with you.

1. Use the allen wrench provided to loosen the set screw on the side of the wind vane and remove the wind vane from the shaft.



- 2. Press WIND on the console until a wind direction reading and the word DIRECTION appear on the display.
- 3. Use a compass or local area map to determine which direction (N, S, E, W, NE, etc.) the anemometer arm is pointing.
- 4. Use the wind direction chart to find the degree reading which corresponds to that direction.
- Slowly turn the wind direction shaft with your fingers. Stop turning when the console display reaches the degree reading obtained in step 4.
- 6. Being careful to keep the stainless steel shaft from turning, place the wind vane on the shaft with the bullet-shaped nose of the vane pointing in the same direction as the arm. Leave approximately a 1/16-inch (1.5-mm) gap between the base of the wind vane and the arm.



- 7. Use the allen wrench provided to tighten the set screw on the side of the wind vane. Do not over-tighten.
- 8. Test your assembly by pointing the wind vane in any direction and—using the compass or map as a guide—make sure the console displays the correct wind direction. Re-adjust the wind vane if necessary.

#### Mounting the Console

- 1. Plug the 8-conductor cable into the SENSOR INTERFACE jack on the console.
- 2. Apply power to the console (step 7 on page 8).
- 3. Install a backup battery in the console, if desired. If you are using the optional EZ-Solar Power Kit, do *not* install a backup battery.
- 4. Mount the console on a desk, shelf or wall.

You can change the console's orientation by reversing the mounting base, as shown below.



DISPLAYING THE CONSOLE ON A SHELE

- Or, to display the console on a wall, follow these steps:
  - a. Hold the mounting base flat against the wall and use a pencil to mark the location of the two keyholes.
  - b. Use an electric drill with a #36 or 2.5-mm drill bit to make pilot holes in these locations.
  - c. Using a screwdriver, drive the two pan head screws into the wall. Leave at least 1/8 inch (3 mm) between the wall and the heads of the screw.
  - d. Depending on how high you mount the console on the wall, you can use either tabletop or shelf orientation. Attach the mounting base in the orientation you prefer.
  - e. Slide the keyholes on the back of the mounting base over the two screw heads. Lock the console into place by gently sliding it downward.



## TROUBLESHOOTING

While the EZ-Mount Advanced Station is designed to provide years of troublefree operation, occasional problems may arise. If you experience a problem, please check the troubleshooting tips below before calling tech support.

\* Console does not register any rainfall

Double check that you have cut the cable tie that secures the rain bucket during shipping. See step 4 on page 5 for instructions. Also, make sure the anemometer is not positioned above the rain collector cone.

✤ Console does not register wind direction correctly

Check that you have either pointed the anemometer arm westward when mounting (page 10), or that you have recalibrated the wind vane to the anemometer arm's current direction.

#### Console locks up

Insufficient power during power up or a power surge may cause the console to lock up. If this occurs, remove all power by disconnecting any battery backup and the AC/DC power cord. Wait for 1 minute with all of the power removed. Then re-connect the AC/DC power cord and listen for 2 beeps within 10 seconds.

**Note:** If you have the WeatherLink installed, listen for 3 beeps within 20 seconds and then, if all is well, try communicating with the WeatherLink using the software.

Once you receive the final beep, install a fresh backup battery, if desired, and put the console back into service.

Display is flashing

Unit is operating under battery power. Check to be sure the power adapter has not come unplugged from the console or outlet.

Display is blank

Unit is not receiving power. Check to be sure the power adapter has not come unplugged from the console or outlet.

If power is interrupted, battery may be installed incorrectly. Check and reinstall.

Battery may be run down or old. Replace.

Display shows a series of dashes in place of function reading

Sensor for function which is "dashed out" is not plugged in.

Cable from sensor for function which is "dashed out" may have broken wire. Check the areas where cables have been secured carefully.

A reading has exceeded the limits indicated on the specifications table.

For temperature, wind speed, or rainfall: calibration numbers may be causing readings to exceed display limits. Check calibration number and adjust if necessary. ◆ Display is sluggish or console does not work at low temperatures The LCD display may not work below 32°F (0°C). Use the external temperature sensor in low-temperature locations and keep the console in a warmer location. See "Mounting the Console" on page 13 for more information.

#### Other problems

Check the troubleshooting guide in the back of your user's manual and sensor manuals for help with many of the most common problems.

If, after checking this troubleshooting guide, you are unable to solve the problem, please call our technical support team at (510) 732-7814 for assistance (M-F, 7 am–5:30 pm PST). Please do not return your unit for repair without prior authorization.

#### **One Year Limited Warranty**

For details on Davis' warranty policy, please refer to the *Maintenance, Service, and Repair Information* brochure included with your station.

#### FCC Part 15 Class B Registration Warning

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications.

However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment on and off, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

Changes or modifications not expressly approved in writing by Davis Instruments may void the user's authority to operate this equipment.

Product Numbers: 7450EZ, 7455EZ, 7460EZ, 7465EZ, 7470EZ, 7475EZ (EU, UK, M) Davis Instruments Part Number: 7395-305

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