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Normal Incidence Pyrheliometer (NIP) Daily Procedure

I. Purpose:

This procedure describes the required daily care and maintenance of the Eppley NIP at the Tropical Western Pacific Site.

II. Cautions and Hazards:

- Use extreme care when cleaning the window; fine dirt particles scratch the glass.
- Never touch the window with your fingers.

III. Requirements:

- Lint-free soft cloth or Kimwipes
- Distilled water

IV. Procedure:

A. Steps

1. Check to see if the window is scratched, pitted, cracked, and/or broken.
 - If window is not damaged, go to step 2.
 - If window is damaged, enter this fact in the site operations log and report the problem to Operations Central.
2. If the window is dirty, moisten with a few drops of distilled water, then wipe it with a lint-free soft cloth; repeat if necessary.
3. Check window for condensation; if condensation appears inside the window, the unit is faulty and must be replaced with a spare NIP.
4. Check the NIP alignment using the solar bulls eyes. If the sun dot is greater than 1/2 out of the white ring, the Solar Tracker may need adjustment.
5. If bulls eye is out of the ring, make a note of the date and time and enter this fact in the site data log.
6. Enter the date, start-time, end-time, and any comments in the site data log.

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V. References:

None.

VI. Attachments:

None.