

OPERATING MANUAL

Pro-Loader II Load Frame 0.02—2.0in/min, 10,000lbf MS-398 and MS-398F

INTRODUCTION:

The MS-398 Load Frame is one of our most versatile testing units. The Pro-Loader II can be utilized for the following soil tests: California Bearing Ratio (CBR), Unconfined Compression (UC), Triaxial Compression, and Soil Cement. In addition, the following Asphalt tests: Marshal, Lottman, TSR, IDT, SCB and Tack Coat shear can all be performed. This unit also features strain rates - 0.02-2.0in/min (0.508-50.8mm/min) – controlled to $\pm1\%$ of set point. Front panel controls allow the operator to adjust the direction and speed of the platen, as well as select the strain rate. Sliding the cross-arm up or down the coarse-threaded 1.25in (32mm) diameter rods and tightening the nuts makes adjustment for the wide variety of testing components quick and easy.

FEATURES:

- Strain rate of 0.02-2.0in/min (0.508-50.8mm/min) allows for multiple testing options (calibration chart included)
- · Powerful 3/4hp DC drive motor
- Load capacity up to 10,000lbf (44kN)
- Durable 14-gauge steel cabinet and precision loading screw with protective boot
- Hardened steel 8in (203mm) diameter platen, accepts a wide variety of test fixtures
- Heavy 1.25in (31.8mm) diameter vertical rods with coarse threads
- Front panel controls
- · Upper and lower limit indicator lights
- Three-position control switch has built-in hesitation to prevent damage to the motor when reversing direction
- · Corrosion-resistant components

UNPACKING & SET UP:

- 1. Inspect your MS-398 for damage, remove it from the pallet.
- 2. Place the MS-398 on a sturdy, level surface such as a bench top or HMA-94 Rolling Load Frame Cart.



MS-398 shown with MSA-860

(Continued on back.)

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- 3. Connect to grounded power supply with correct voltage and amperage to output.
- 4. Adjust and level the crossarm to the appropriate height.
- 5. Install required Component Set and any accessories required for testing.

CONTROLS:

- **1. Main Power On/Off:** Includes an indicator light to show when the power is on.
- **2. Platen Direction:** Three-position switch (up, down and off) includes built-in hesitation to prevent motor damage when reversing direction.
- 3. Limit Lights: Indicate when upper and lower limits are attained.
- **4. Strain Rate:** Three-segment thumbwheel selector (strain rate calibration chart included).
- **5. High-Speed Jog:** Increases the speed of the platen when the switch is pushed to the up position.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS:

WARNING:

Disconnect and lock out power supply when servicing the unit or installing components.

- 1. Read all safety and operating instructions before operating the unit.
- 2. Power the unit with the Main Power switch (indicator light will show that the unit is on).
- 3. Based on the calibration chart (included), set the desired strain rate for the test using the three-segment thumbwheel selector.
- 4. Use the Platen Direction and High-Speed Jog switches to adjust the direction and speed of the platen for testing.
- 5. Center the Platen Direction switch to the off position when the test is complete.
- 6. Refer to ASTM and/or AASHTO test methods for specific test instructions.

COMPONENT SETS:

California Bearing Ratio (CBR)					
	ASTM D1883; AASHTO T 193				
HMA-684	6,000lbf load ring, dial indicator, piston				
HMA-685	10,000lbf load ring, dial indicator, piston				
HMA-685D	10,000lbf load cell, LVT, readout box, piston				

Soil Cement						
STM	D1	632.	D1	633		

HMA-687 10,000lbf load ring, dial indicator, 4 in platen HMA-687D 10,000lbf load cell, LVT, Readout box, 4 in platen

Triaxial

ASTM D2850, D4764; AASHTO T 296, T 297

HMA-686 1,000lbf load cell, dial indicator HM-413 1,000lbf load cell, LVT, Readout box

Unconfined Compressive Strength

ASTM D2166; AASHTO T 208

HMA-681 500lbf load ring, dial gauge, plastic discs HMA-683 1000lbf load ring, dial gauge, plastic discs HMA-683D 1,000lbf load cell, dial gauge, plastic discs

Marshall Stability

ASTM D5581, D6927; AASHTO T 245, T 283

MSA-860 10,000lbf load ring, dial indicator MSA-860D 10,000lbf load cell, LVT, readout box

Accessories

HMA-94 Rolling Load Frame Cart