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Resting Voltage Test.





Yes —

You likely have something wired wrong on your plasm

cutter that is creating a voltage at rest. With the plasr

cutter on but not firing, use a multimeter to check D

oltage across the two pins on the THC cable that plug

IECK GUIDE for more info). If you are measuring mo

han 135mV DC voltage here your plasma cutter is wire

correctly. Remove power from your plasma cutter ar

measure the DC voltage to confirm. Consult our Th

<u>nstallation</u> <u>Guide</u> to confirm that your Plasma Cutte

wiring was done correctly.

into the electronics box (see below THC VOLTAGE

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THC VOLTAGE CHECK GUIDE Rev. A

Purpose:

The purpose of this guide is to ensure that your plasma cutter/THC wiring is correct and also that all of your components are functioning properly. There is a separate guide for both of the input methods; Divided Voltage and Raw Voltage. You will need a digital multimeter (DMM) that is capable of measuring DC Voltage and continuity in order to perform the below troubleshooting steps.

Divided Voltage Wiring

Follow the steps below to verify that (-1-) the CNC port on your plasma cutter is working properly, (-2-) that you have wired correctly into this port, and (-3-) that your VIM Box is wired correctly and generating the correct output voltage. Making sure that your THC port is being fed a known-good-voltage from your plasma cutter is essential to troubleshooting the THC system. *Below is a wiring diagram for a typical Divided Voltage wiring installation.*



1.) Verify that your plasma cutter's 50:1 voltage divider port is functioning properly while cutting.

If your plasma cutter is equipped with a 50:1 voltage divider in the CNC port (called a CPC port on Hypertherm), we will use your Digital Multimeter (DMM) to measure the DC Voltage across the two pins of this port while the plasma cutter is cutting. Place the black electrode of the DMM on the negative pin (torch) of your voltage divider port, and place the red electrode on the positive pin (work clamp). *You may need to check your*

plasma cutter documentation to verify which pin is which on your CNC port. Next, using the STRAIGHT CUT feature in FireControl perform a straight line cut with your machine with the THC panel toggled off in FireControl and measure the DC voltage across these two pins. Depending on your plasma cutter, the typical arc voltage while cutting will range between 60-150V and since the voltage divider is 50:1, you should see an output voltage of around +1.2 - 3V. If your voltage value is within range but is a negative reading, you have your two pins switched (positive and negative are reversed). If you are not getting the expected voltage here, contact your plasma cutter manufacturer to remedy the issue. *NOTE: Some plasma cutters have an adjustable internal voltage divider. You will need to make sure that your voltage divider is configured to 50:1 to work with our system. Most modern plasma cutters have the CNC port configured to 50:1 for THC by default.*



2.) Verify that your Divided Voltage Input Pigtail Cable is wired correctly

Next, you will need to use the provided 'Divided Voltage Input Pigtail Cable' for wiring up to the divided voltage port that you tested in step 1 (if you purchased a pre-made THC cable for your cutter from us you will use that here instead). Per the instructions, the red wire should be connected to the negative pin, and the black wire should be connected to the positive pin (see pic below). *NOTE:* Yes we know this is reversed from a color perspective but please make sure that you are wiring this cable correctly according to the picture below or you will get no voltage reading!



Once you've fashioned a suitable plug onto this bare-wire end for connecting to your voltage divider port, use your DMM to verify that your wiring is correct. Touch the red electrode of the DMM to the inside of the barrel connector and the black electrode to the outside of the barrel connector. *The DC voltage that you measure here should be identical to the value measured in step 1 above. If you are getting a negative voltage here but the magnitude of this value is correct, you need to switch the polarity of your wiring on the plug to the 50:1 voltage port. Failure to do so will result in no voltage reading in FireControl; the THC module can only measure positive voltage.*



3.) Verify that your VIM Box is wired and operating properly

Plug the barrel jack end of your Divided Voltage Input Pigtail Cable into the **DIV INPUT** socket on the VIM Box. Next, plug in the supplied Output Voltage Cable into the **DIV OUTPUT** socket on the VIM Box. *STOP: MAKE SURE THAT YOU ARE PLUGGING IN THE CORRECT CABLE INTO THE CORRECT SOCKET ON THE VIM BOX OR YOU WILL NOT GET THE CORRECT VOLTAGE OUTPUT. IF YOU ARE UNSURE, CONSULT THE WIRING DIAGRAM AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS GUIDE.*

Next, locate the free end of the Output Voltage Cable and note the pins labeled 1 and 2 on the front face of this aviation connector plug. Using the DMM, touch the Red DMM lead to pin 1 and the black lead to pin 2. Perform the same straight line cut as before with the THC Control panel toggled off in FireControl and measure the DC voltage between these two pins as shown in the pictures below. For safety, do not touch the exposed leads of your DMM when performing this test.Again, this voltage value should be positive! Your test setup should look exactly like the pictures below:





You will notice that the DC voltage that is coming out of the VIM will be less than the input voltage that you measured in step 2. This is because the VIM further divides the voltage for an effective total voltage division of 73:1. To figure out the ballpark voltage that you should be getting, multiply the voltage you found in step 2 by 0.685 to get the value you should expect in step 3. For example in step 2 we measured +2.16V multiplied by 0.685 gives us an expected voltage of +1.47V which is very close to the +1.45V we measured in the picture above.

If you are getting good voltage values in steps 1 and 2 but measure no voltage or an unexpected voltage coming out of the VIM box, double check the continuity of the two wires in the Output Voltage Cable. Also, verify that your Output Voltage Cable is plugged into the DIV OUTPUT socket on the VIM BOX and not the PV OUTPUT socket. If everything else looks good with the cable and you are getting a good input voltage in step 2, you are more than likely experiencing a VIM module failure; contact support@langmuirsystems.com for next steps. *NOTE: We have discovered an issue where PrimeWeld Plasma cutters do not output the correct voltage*

over the voltage divider CNC port which can damage the VIM box. We highly recommend wiring your plasma cutter with the Raw Voltage configuration if you have a PrimeWeld cutter. Please refer to the section below and follow the instructions for RAW VOLTAGE WIRING.

If you are getting the expected positive voltage values in steps 1, 2, & 3 but still showing no voltage in FireControl, consult the above THC Troubleshooting Flow Chart to pinpoint the downstream issue with your system.

Raw Voltage Wiring

Follow the steps below to verify that (-1-) your Raw Voltage Input Pigtails are connected to your plasma cutter correctly and that (-2-) your VIM Box is wired correctly and generating the correct output voltage. Making sure that your THC port is being fed a known-good-voltage from your plasma cutter is essential to troubleshooting the THC system. *Below is a wiring diagram for a typical Raw Voltage wiring installation.*



!STOP! VOLTAGES HAZARDOUS TO HEALTH AND LIFE ARE PRESENT INSIDE A PLASMA CUTTER CHASSIS.

Connection to the main terminals of your plasma cutter either inside or outside of the chassis can expose you to deadly voltages. Our <u>LS-THC operating manual</u> should be read in its entirety before attempting to install this hardware. If you are unqualified to perform the installation and subsequent testing, we recommend working with a qualified professional electrician to perform this installation. Langmuir Systems will not be held liable for damage or bodily harm as a result of improper installation.

Making modifications to your plasma cutter in order to connect to the main plasma terminals may or may not violate your plasma cutter's warranty. Langmuir Systems does not provide instructions for hooking up to the

main terminals of your plasma cutter. It is your responsibility to check with your plasma cutter manufacturer regarding the terms of the warranty and whether or not executing the wiring procedure violates those terms. Langmuir Systems will not be held responsible for warranty violations.

Once the Raw Voltage Pigtail Cables are connected to your Plasma Cutter, they are live and carrying high voltages. The sheathed banana connectors protect against exposure to high voltages ONLY when installed into the VIM module. YOU WILL BE ASKED IN THE BELOW GUIDE TO MEASURE DC VOLTAGE BETWEEN THESE UNINSTALLED BANANA CONNECTORS TO VERIFY INSTALLATION; BE CERTAIN TO NEVER TOUCH THESE EXPOSED LEADS WHEN THE PLASMA CUTTER IS UNDER OPERATION OR YOU RISK EXPOSURE TO HIGH VOLTAGES THAT CAN KILL YOU.

Completing the wiring procedure may require you to open up the cabinet of your plasma cutter power supply which will expose you to high powered electrical components. It is your responsibility to make sure that all work is done safely and with the power disconnected and discharged. If you have any doubts regarding your ability to safely perform this work, we strongly urge you to solicit the services of a professional electrician. Langmuir Systems will not be held responsible for any injury or death resulting from the incorrect or unsafe execution of this procedure.

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1.) Verify that your Raw Voltage Pigtail Cables are connected correctly

In this step we need to verify that you have successfully connected to raw voltage inside your plasma cutter and that the polarity of this wiring is correct. Using a DMM, connect your black DMM lead to the black raw voltage banana connector and connect your red DMM lead to the red raw voltage banana connector (as shown below). DO NOT TOUCH OR CONNECT THESE EXPOSED BANANA CONNECTORS OR DMM LEADS WHILE CUTTING! Next, Next, using the STRAIGHT CUT feature in FireControl perform a straight line cut with your machine with the THC panel toggled off in FireControl and measure the DC voltage across these two connectors. Depending on your plasma cutter, the typical arc voltage while cutting will range between 60-150V. If you are getting a negative voltage reading here, you need to switch the connection points inside your plasma cutter or FireControl will read 0V (FireControl can only read a positive voltage). If you are getting no voltage reading at all, you will need to contact your plasma cutter manufacturer or a qualified electrician for better guidance on how to hook-up to raw voltage inside your cutter.



2.) Verify that your VIM Box is wired and operating properly

Plug the banana connector ends of the Raw Voltage Pigtail Cables into the corresponding color sockets on the top of the VIM box. Next, plug in the supplied Output Voltage Cable into the **PV OUTPUT** socket on the VIM box.

Next, locate the free end of the Output Voltage Cable and note the pins labeled 1 and 2. Using the DMM, touch the Red DMM lead to pin 1 and the black lead to pin 2. Perform the same straight line cut as before and measure the DC voltage between these two pins as shown in the pictures below. For safety, do not touch the exposed leads of your DMM when performing this test. Again, this voltage value should be a positive voltage!





You will notice that the DC voltage that is coming out of the VIM will be much less than what you measured in step 1. This is because the VIM divides the raw voltage input for an effective voltage division of 73:1. To figure out the ballpark voltage that you should be getting, divide the voltage you found in step 1 by 73. For example in step 1 if you measured 110V, divide this by 73 and you should expect roughly 1.5V DC across the plug pins.

If you are getting a good voltage value in step 1 but measure no voltage or an unexpected voltage from the VIM box, double check the continuity in the Output Voltage Cable and that your Output Voltage Cable is plugged into the socket markets PV OUTPUT. If everything looks good with the cable, you are more than likely experiencing a VIM module failure; contact support@langmuirsystems.com for next steps.

If you are getting the expected positive voltage values in steps 1 and 2 but still showing no voltage in FireControl, consult the above THC Troubleshooting Flow Chart to pinpoint the downstream issue with your system.