



**S** Schweizerischer Kalibrierdienst  
**S** Service suisse d'étalonnage  
**C** Servizio di taratura in Svizzera  
**S** Swiss Calibration Service  
SCS 018 Accreditation ISO/IEC 17025



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## Precision and Quality In The Third Generation (Company Profile)

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PROFILE,33

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HUBER INSTRUMENTE forms a member of the third generation of a family dedicated to precision techniques since 1886.

In August 1900, grandfather Fritz Huber opened his own watchmaker shop in Thoune. Being in charge of the clocks of the city-towers, he was the guardian of the cities precise time; during several decades, he - and his sons - had to wind up and to adjust the different clocks, some them daily.

Subsequently two of his sons learned the same trade. One of them moved to the Principality of Liechtenstein, where two watchmaker shops are held today by his sons and their families.

The other, Hans, in April 1937 opened a watch and jewellery store at Zeughausplatz 16 in Liestal. After the difficult years of active military service 1939 to 1941, the shop was moved to Rathausstrasse 66 in July 1943.

In November 1963 again, a move was up, into the newly acquired building at Freihofgasse 4, where Hans Huber-Mühleisen continued his business until the end of 1975.

In the meantime, his son, Peter, had got an instruction - not as a watchmaker - but in related precision manufacturing techniques and had specialised in measurement and control.

An experience of over twenty years in this sector, in the latest years as sales manager for measurement, control and aircraft instruments and in the function of publicity manager as well, formed a fertile soil for new ideas.

The longtime cherished idea of a highly precise pressure gauge based on the force-balance principle was activated by the electronic balances appearing on the market by the end of the seventies.

The possibility to manufacture a new product without enormous investment was offered in an ideal way, because it could be produced essentially by completing the structure of a serial product.

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The fact on the other side, that the market for the resulting high precision pressure standard was logically restricted, formed the second condition for the production by a very small business enterprise.

Initial sales here and abroad led to the creation of the one-man firm HUBER INSTRUMENTE, which was entered in the commercial register the 16th August 1978. The enterprise operated in the parental business building, first on a part-time, then from April 1980 on a full-time basis.

Less than two years later, the 25th instrument was delivered to a customer in France. By mid 2002, 172 customers in 24 countries on 4 continents have purchased 197 HUBER Pressure Primary Standards. Most of them are maintenance departments of well known enterprises in the energy supply, chemistry, petrochemical, aerospace and automotive industry as well as manufacturers of measurement and control equipment and laboratories of most various research directions.

Distribution is direct by the producer as well as through agents and resellers in the most important industry nations.

After the prove of concept by the sales up to now, the task is now to penetrate the opened market by a more intensive distribution as well as the actual process of deepening of the product line by a differential pressure version of the Pressure Primary Standards and a fundamental Bell-Type Primary Standard for very low pressures.

An extension of the application possibilities in form of a PC-AT computer controlled calibration system has been successfully introduced on the market. Its flexibility, granted by consequently modular design of hard- and software will at any time allow the operator to adapt his system to changing needs.

The business activity is supported and complemented by the fact that the 20th December 1988 HUBER INSTRUMENTE was the very first enterprise of the private sector to be accredited as calibration laboratory for pressure by the Swiss Federal Office of Metrology. The mutual recognition of the calibration services of eight western european countries one year later proved a help in the sale of traceable standards to foreign customers. Today this mutual recognition of accreditations under ISO/IEC 17025 comprises most european countries under the uniform approach of EA (European co-operation for Accreditation).

The need for more space and the increasing difficulties of business premises in the centre of Liestal led in 1990 to the move to a more peripheral location at Militärstrasse 15.

Neither the public limited company HUBER MESSTECHNIK AG, founded in 1995, nor the strategic alliance with the British company CMR CONTROLS, specialist in air condition controls, were able to fulfill its promise of a much stronger market position so both developments were discontinued in turn.

The actual extremely rapid change of requirements in the industry has forced us to discontinue the production of our primary pressure standards in 1999. Maintenance however is still available, partially even for instruments more than twenty years old. The massive introduction of quality assurance programs in accordance to ISO 9000 in industry as well as the ecologically motivated more careful use of our resources will continue to increase the demand for more accurate measuring instruments and calibration systems in the coming years.



*Pressure Calibration - perfect from Laboratory to Site*