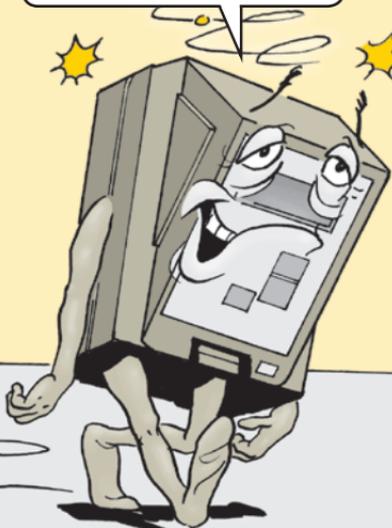


HOLY COW!
WHAT'S WRONG
WITH YOU!?



YOU USED THE WRONG
ALC-ALC=>HIC=<ALCOHOL!
BETTER START FUH-FOLLOWING
THIS TROUBLESHOOTING
=>URP!< GUIDE FOR ME!



GET PATS TROUBLESHOOTING DOWN PAT

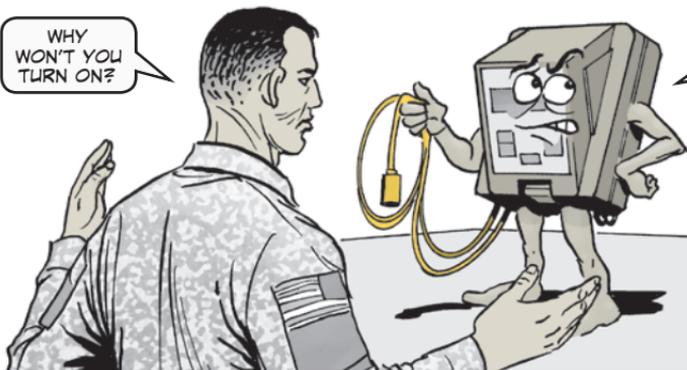
Dear Editor,

Through years of experience supporting the M41 protection assessment system (PATS), we've developed a troubleshooting guide for common PATS problems. Keep these tips handy:

PATS won't turn on

- Is the power supply plugged into both the power outlet and PATS?
- Does the power outlet have power?
- Is the power supply working? Try another power supply if available.

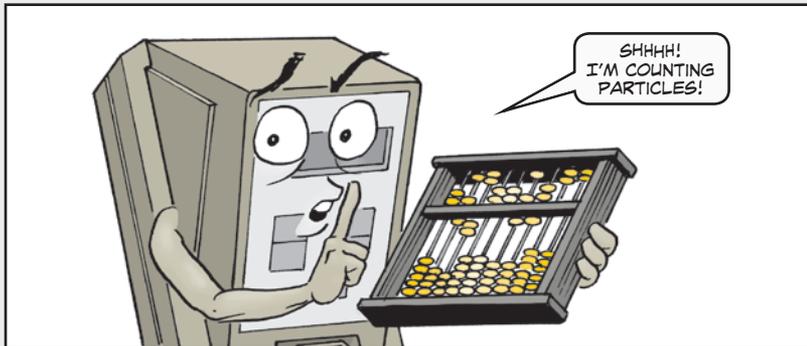
WHY
WON'T YOU
TURN ON?



I NEED
A LITTLE
POWER!

PATS won't measure any particles

- Is the alcohol cartridge installed?
- Are you using reagent grade alcohol (99.5 percent or greater) in the alcohol fill capsule?
- Is the alcohol wick properly installed in the alcohol cartridge?
- Is the nozzle blocked? See WP 14 in TM 3-4240-349-12&P (Nov 99) on how to clear it.



Alcohol cartridge fits too tight or is difficult to turn

See the alcohol cartridge technical note in WP 0015 00-1 of TM 3-4240-349-12&P.

Low alcohol warning comes on

Re-soak the alcohol wick in the alcohol fill capsule. But check that the alcohol level is to the fill line in the alcohol fill capsule before re-soaking.

Too much humidity

- Replace the alcohol wick with one of the spare wicks.
- Dry out the wick by putting it in a well-ventilated area with less than 50 percent humidity for at least 16 hours. This will dry out any water in the wick. Never throw out a wick. It can be reused.
- Turn off or lower the output setting of any water-based particle generator, such as an ultrasonic humidifier.



Fails zero check

- Are the green and silver inlet ports loose? If they are, hand-tighten the ports and then use pliers to turn each inlet an additional 1/8 turn.
- Is the HEPA filter leaking? Use a different HEPA filter. If that doesn't work, connect two filters together with a small piece of tubing and try the zero check again.
- Is the ambient particle concentration too high? If a particle generator is being used, move it at least 6 feet from the PortaCount® fit tester.



Fails minimum particle check

The ambient particle concentration may be too low. Use a particle generator to raise the ambient particle concentration. The ideal concentration is 1,000-8,000 pt/cc.

The fit test stops or the overall fit factor is below the pass level

- Is PATS passing the daily checks? If it is, check the mask or mask adapter for particle leaks. Check the mask adapter for dirt, corrosion, nicks or cracks. Clean away dirt or corrosion. Nicks and cracks mean the adapter may need to be replaced. To check the mask, do a quick PMCS like it says in the -10 TM.
- Is the ambient particle concentration too low? Use a particle generator to generate a concentration of 1,000-8,000 pt/cc.

Room for Help

Ideally, the room for testing should be approximately 20 x 20 feet. Position the fit test station near the room's return air grid. Close or cover the supply air diffuser and return air grid. Keep the room's doors closed. And, of course, keep a copy of TM 3-4240-349-12&P handy.

Jerry Young
Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD

Editor's note: You do have PATS troubleshooting down pat, Jerry. Read and save this, CBRN specialists. It will help make PATS testing a snap.

