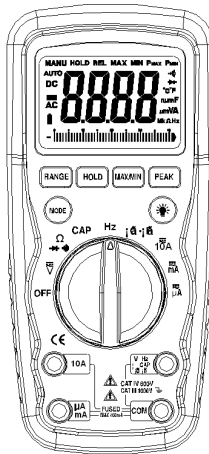




# TRUE RMS AUTORANGING DIGITAL MULTIMETER

## Model AX-155



## INSTRUCTION MANUAL





## SAFETY WARNINGS

The following safety information must be observed to insure maximum personal safety during the operation at this meter:

- Measurements beyond the maximum selected range must not be attempted.
- Extreme care must be taken when measuring above 50 V, especially on live bus-bars.
- To measure voltage, the instrument must **not** be switched to a current or resistance range, or to the diode check or buzzer position.
- Circuits must be de-energised and isolated before carrying out resistance tests.
- The rotary selector switch must only be turned after removing test connections.
- All external voltages must be disconnected from the instrument before removing the battery.
- Test leads and prods must be in good order, clean, and with no broken or cracked insulation.
- UK Safety Authorities recommend the use of fused test leads when measuring voltage on high energy systems.
- Replacement fuses must be of the correct type and rating.
- The instrument must not be used if any part of it is damaged.
- Warnings and precautions must be read and understood before an instrument is used. They must be observed during the operation of this instrument.

Symbols used on this instrument are:



**Caution: refer to accompanying notes.**

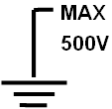
This symbol indicates that the operator must refer to an explanation in the Operating Instructions to avoid personal injury or damage to the meter.



**Caution: risk of electric shock**

This WARNING symbol indicates a potentially hazardous situation, which if not avoided could result in death or serious injury.

This CAUTION symbol indicates a potentially hazardous situation



This symbol advises the user that the terminal(s) so marked must not be connected to a circuit point at which the voltage with respect to earth ground exceeds (in this case) 1000VAC or VDC





Equipment protected throughout by Double Insulation (Class II)



Equipment complies with current EU directives

## SYMBOLS AND ANNUNCIATORS

•)))	Continuity
BAT	Low Battery
	Diode test
HOLD	Data Hold
AUTO	Auto Ranging
AC	Alternating Current or Voltage
DC	Direct Current or Voltage
MAX/MIN	Stores the highest or lowest measurement
PEAK	Find glitches and transients without a scope
	Backlight
V	Volts
A, mA, uA	Current range

## OPERATION

To turn on the instrument turn the range knob from the OFF position to any measurement range.

### Note:

For best battery life ALWAYS turn the function switch to the OFF position when the meter is not in use. This meter has Auto OFF that automatically shuts the meter OFF if 30 minutes elapse between uses.

NOTE: On some low AC and DC voltage ranges, with the test leads not connected to a device, the display may show a random, changing reading. This is normal and is caused by the high-input sensitivity. The reading will stabilize and give a proper measurement when connected to a circuit.

## MODE button

To select AC or DC measurement when in Voltages, Amps, mA , uA ,  $\Omega$  , , •))) ,  $^{\circ}\text{C}$  or  $^{\circ}\text{F}$  ranges.



## HOLD button

The HOLD function allows the meter to "freeze" a measurement for later reference.

1. Press the HOLD button to "freeze" the reading on the indicator. The "HOLD" message will be appear in the display.
2. Press the HOLD button again to return to normal operation.

## BACKLIGHT button

1. Press the BACKLIGHT button to switch on the display light.
2. Press BACKLIGHT button again to exit the light mode.

## MAX/MIN button

The MAX/MIN function allows the meter to capture the highest or lowest measurement for later reference.

1. Press the MAX/MIN button to begin measurement. The indicator "MAX" or MIN will appear in the display.
2. If the "MAX MIN" messages are flashing, the instrument is in MAX/MIN mode but not recording, press the MAX/MIN button to select a mode.
3. To return to normal AUTO measurement mode, hold down the MAX/MIN button for 2 seconds.

## Peak Hold button

The Peak Hold function captures the peak AC or DC voltage or current. The meter can capture negative or positive peaks as fast as 1 millisecond in duration.

Turn the function switch to the A or V position.

1. Use the **MODE** button to select AC or DC.
2. Allow time for the display to stabilize.
3. Press and Hold the **PEAK** button until "**CAL**" appears in the display. This procedure will zero the range selected.
4. Press the **PEAK** button, **Pmax** will display.
5. The display will update each time a higher positive peak occurs.
6. Press the **PEAK** button again, **Pmin** will display. The display will now update and indicate the lowest negative peak.
7. To return to normal operation, press and hold the **PEAK** button until the **Pmin** or **Pmax** indicator switches off.

**Note:** If the Function switch position is changed after a calibration the Peak Hold calibration must be repeated for the new function selected.



## **RANGE button**

When the meter is first turned on, it automatically goes into AutoRanging. This automatically selects the best range for the measurements being made and is generally the best mode for most measurements. For measurement situations requiring that a range be manually selected, perform the following:

1. Press the RANGE button. The “Auto Range” display indicator will turn off, The “Manual Range” display indicator will turn on
2. Press the RANGE button to step through the available ranges until you select the range you want.
3. Press and hold the RANGE button for 2 seconds to exit the ManualRanging mode and return to AutoRanging.

## **AC/DC VOLTAGE MEASUREMENT**

1. Insert the black test lead into the negative COM terminal and the red test lead into the positive V terminal.
2. Set the function switch to the VAC or VDC position.
3. Use the MODE button to select AC or DC Voltage
4. Connect the test leads in parallel to the circuit under test.
5. Read the voltage measurement on the LCD display

## **DC CURRENT MEASUREMENT**

1. Insert the black test lead banana plug into the negative (COM) jack.
2. For current measurements up to 4000uA DC, set the function switch to the uA position and insert the red test lead banana plug into the (uA) jack.
3. For current measurements up to 400mA DC, set the function switch to the mA range and insert the red test lead banana plug into the (mA) jack.
4. For current measurements up to 10A DC, set the function switch to the A position and insert the red test lead banana plug into the 10A jack.
5. Press the AC/DC button until “DC” appears in the display.
6. Remove power from the circuit under test, then open up the circuit at the point where you wish to measure current.
7. Touch the black test probe tip to the negative side of the circuit. Touch the red test probe tip to the positive side of the circuit.
8. Apply power to the circuit.
9. Read the current in the display. The display will indicate the proper decimal point, value and symbol.

## **AC CURRENT MEASUREMENT**

1. Insert the black test lead plug into the negative (COM) socket.
2. For current measurements up to 10A, set the function switch to the A position and insert the red test lead plug into the (10A) jack.
3. For current measurements up to 400mA, set the function switch to the mA range and insert the red test lead banana plug into the (mA) jack.



4. For current measurements up to 10A AC, set the function switch to the A position and insert the red test lead banana plug into the 10A jack.
5. Press the MODE button. The measurement mode will change between AC or DC as required.
6. Remove power from the circuit under test, then open up the circuit at the point where you wish to measure current.
7. Touch the black test probe tip to the negative side of the circuit. And touch the red test probe tip to the positive side of the circuit.
8. Apply power to the circuit.
9. Read the current in the display. The display will indicate the proper decimal point, value and symbol.

## RESISTANCE ( $\Omega$ ) MEASUREMENT

**WARNING:** To avoid electric shock, disconnect power to the unit under test and discharge all capacitors before taking any resistance measurements. Remove the batteries and unplug the line cords.

1. Set the function switch to the  $\Omega$  position.
2. Insert the black test lead plug into the negative (COM) socket and the red test lead plug into the positive  $\Omega$  jack.
3. Press the MODE button until “ $\Omega$ ” appears in the display.
4. Touch the test probe tips across the circuit or part under test. It is best to disconnect one side of the part under test so the rest of the circuit will not interfere with the resistance reading.
5. Read the resistance in the display. The display will indicate the proper decimal point, value and symbol.




## CONTINUITY CHECK

**WARNING:** To avoid electric shock, never measure continuity on circuits or wires that have voltage on them.

1. Set the range switch to the  $\bullet)))$  position.
2. Insert the black lead plug into the COM socket and the red test lead plug into the positive  $\bullet)))$  socket.
3. Press the MODE button until “ $\bullet)))$ ” appears in the display.
4. Touch the test probe tips to the circuit or wire you wish to check.
5. If the resistance is less than  $35\Omega$ , the audible signal will sound. The display will also show the actual resistance in ohms.

## DIODE TEST

**WARNING:** To avoid electric shock, do not test any diode that has voltage on it.

1. Set the function switch to the  position.
2. Insert the black test lead plug into the COM socket and the red test lead plug into the  socket.
3. Press the MODE button until “” appears in the display.
4. Touch the test probe tips to the diode or semiconductor junction you wish to test. Note the



meter reading.

5. Reverse the probe polarity by switching probe position. Note this reading.
6. The diode or junction can be evaluated as follows:
  - A. If one reading shows a value and the other reading shows OL, the diode is good.
  - B. If both readings show OL, the device is open.
  - C. If both readings are very small or zero, the device is shorted.

**NOTE:** The value indicated in the display during the diode check is the forward voltage.

## CAPACITANCE MEASUREMENT

**WARNING:** To avoid electric shock, discharge the capacitor under test before measuring.

1. Set the function switch to the **CAP** capacitance position.
2. Insert the black test lead banana plug into the negative **COM** jack and the red test lead banana plug into the **CAP** positive jack.
3. Touch the test probe tips across the part under test.
4. Read the capacitance value in the display.
5. The display will indicate the proper decimal point and value.

**Note:** For very large values of capacitance measurement time can be several minutes before the final reading stabilizes. The bar graph is disabled in capacitance measurement mode. The LCD displays **DIS. C**. Discharging through the chip is quite slow. We recommend the user to discharge the capacitor with some other apparatus.

## FREQUENCY MEASUREMENT

1. Set the function switch to the Hz position.
2. Insert the black test lead banana plug into the negative (COM) jack and the red test lead banana plug into the positive Hz jack.
3. Touch the test probe tips to the circuit under test.
4. Read the frequency in the display. The digital reading will indicate the proper decimal point, symbols (kHz, MHz) and value.

## TEMPERATURE MEASUREMENT

1. Set the function switch to the Type K  $^{\circ}\text{F}$  or  $^{\circ}\text{C}$  position.
2. Insert the Temperature Probe into the input jacks, making sure to observe the correct polarity.
3. Press the MODE button until " $^{\circ}\text{F}$  or  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ " appears in the display.
4. Touch the Temperature Probe head to the part whose temperature you wish to measure. Keep the probe touching the part under test until the reading stabilizes (about 30 seconds).
5. Read the temperature in the display.



Note: The temperature probe is fitted with a type K mini connector. A mini connector to banana connector adaptor is supplied for connection to the input banana jacks.

## SPECIFICATIONS

**Technical:**

**Insulation:** Class2, Double insulation.

**Overvoltage category:** CATIV 600V,CATIII 1000V

NOTE: These meters meet CAT III and CAT IV IEC 61010 standards. The IEC 61010 safety standard defines four overvoltage categories (CAT I to IV) based on the magnitude of danger from transient impulses. CAT III meters are designed to protect against transients in fixed-equipment installations at the distribution level; CAT IV meters are designed to protect against transients from the primary supply level (overhead or underground utility service).

**Maximum voltage between any terminal and earth ground:** 1000V DC/AC RMS  
**Surge Protection:** 8kV peak IEC 61010

**AC True RMS:** The term stands for “Root-Mean-Square,” which represents the method of calculation of the voltage or current value. Average responding multimeters are calibrated to read correctly only on sine waves and they will read inaccurately on non-sine wave or distorted signals. True rms meters read accurately on either type of signal.

**Display:** 4000 counts LCD display, 21mm high  
**Polarity:** Automatic, (-) negative polarity indication.  
**Over-range:** “OL” mark indication.  
**Low battery indication:** A battery “ ” symbol is displayed when the battery voltage drops below the operating level.  
**Measurement rate:** 2 times per second nominal.  
**Auto power off:** Meter automatically shuts down after approx. 30 minutes of inactivity.  
**Operating environment:** -10 °C to 50 °C (14 °F to 122 °F) at < 70 % relative humidity.  
**Storage temperature:** -30 °C to 60 °C (-4 °F to 140 °F) at < 80 % relative humidity.  
**Relative humidity:** 90% (0°C to 30°C); 75%(30°C to 40°C); 45%(40°C to 50°C);  
**For inside use, max height:** Operating:3000m, Storage 10,000m  
**Pollution degree:** 2  
**Safety:** The instrument complies with IEC 61010-1:2001 and IEC, 61010-031:2002  
**Power:** One 9V battery , NEDA 1604, IEC 6F22.  
**Dimensions:** 182 (H) x 82 (W) x55 (D) mm  
**Weight: Approx.: 375g.**

## ACCURACY

Accuracy is given at 18 °C to 28 °C (65 °F to 83 °F), less than 70 % RH





### DC Voltage (Auto-ranging)

Range	Resolution	Accuracy
400.0mV	0.1mV	±0.5% of rdg ± 2 digits
4.000V	1mV	
40.00V	10mV	
400.0V	100mV	
1000V	1V	±0.8% of rdg ± 2 digits

Input Impedance: 7.8MΩ.

Maximum Input: 1000V dc or 1000V ac rms.

### AC Voltage (Auto-ranging)

Range	Resolution	Accuracy
400.0mV	0.1mV	±0.8% of rdg ± 3 digits
4.000V	1mV	
40.00V	10mV	
400.0V	100mV	
1000V	1V	±1.2% of rdg ± 5 digits

Input Impedance: 7.8MΩ.

AC Response: True RMS , 50 Hz 60Hz

Maximum Input: 1000V dc or 1000V ac rms.

### DC Current (Auto-ranging)

Range	Resolution	Accuracy
400.0uA	0.1uA	±1.2% of rdg ± 3 digits
4000uA	1uA	
40.00mA	10uA	
400.0mA	100uA	
10A	10mA	±2.5% of rdg ± 3 digits

Overload Protection: 0.5A / 1000V and 10A / 1000V Fuse.

Maximum Input: 400uA dc on uA range

400mA dc on mA range

10A dc on 10A range.



### AC Current (Auto-ranging)

Range	Resolution	Accuracy
400.0uA	0.1uA	±1.5% of rdg ± 5 digits
4000uA	1uA	
40.00mA	10uA	
400.0mA	100uA	
10A	10mA	±3.0% of rdg ± 5 digits

Overload Protection: 0.5A / 1000V and 10A / 1000V Fuse.

AC Response: True RMS, 50 Hz to 60 Hz

Maximum Input: 400uA ac rms on uA

400mA ac rms on mA

10A ac rms on 10A range.

### Resistance [ $\Omega$ ] (Auto-ranging)

Range	Resolution	Accuracy
400.0 $\Omega$	0.1 $\Omega$	±0.8% of rdg ± 5 digits
4.000k $\Omega$	1 $\Omega$	
40.00k $\Omega$	10 $\Omega$	
400.0k $\Omega$	100 $\Omega$	
4.000M $\Omega$	1k $\Omega$	±2.5% of rdg ±8digits
40.00M $\Omega$	10k $\Omega$	

Input Protection: 1000V dc or 1000V ac rms.

### Capacitance (Auto-ranging)

Range	Resolution	Accuracy
4.000nF	1pF	±5.0% of rdg ±20 dgts
40.00nF	10pF	
400.0nF	0.1nF	±3.0% of rdg ± 5 dgts
4.000uF	1nF	
40.00uF	10nF	
400.0uF	0.1uF	
4.000mF	0.001mF	±10% of rdg ± 10 dgts
40.00mF	10.00mF	



Input Protection: 1000V dc or 1000V ac rms.

### Frequency (Auto-ranging)

Range	Resolution	Accuracy
4.000kHz	1Hz	±1.2% of rdg ± 3 dgts
40.00kHz	10Hz	
400.0kHz	100Hz	
10.00MHz	1kHz	±1.5% of rdg ± 4 dgts

Sensitivity: >0.5V RMS while ≤1MHz ;

Sensitivity: >3V RMS while >1MHz ;

Input Protection: 1000V dc or 1000V ac rms.

### Temperature

Range	Resolution	Accuracy
-20°C-+760°C	1 °C	±3% of rdg ±5dgts
-4 °F-+1400 °F	1°F	±3% of rdg ±9dgts

Sensor: Type K Thermocouple

Overload protection: 1000V dc or ac rms..

### Diode Test

Test current	Resolution	Accuracy
1mA typical/Open MAX.3V	1 mV	±10% of rdg ± 5 digits

Open circuit voltage: MAX. 3V dc

Overload protection: 1000V dc or ac rms.

### Audible continuity

Audible threshold: Less than 35Ω Test current MAX. 1.5mA

Overload protection: 1000V dc or ac rms.

### ACCESSORIES

#### Included accessories

Standard Red/Black lead set with test probes



## BATTERY and FUSE replacement

**WARNING:** To avoid electric shock, disconnect the test leads from any source of voltage before removing the battery door.

1. When the batteries become exhausted or drop below the operating voltage, the battery warning symbol will appear in the LCD display. The battery should be replaced.
2. Follow instructions for installing battery. See the Battery Installation section of this manual.
3. Dispose of the old battery properly.

**WARNING:** To avoid electric shock, do not operate your meter with the battery cover removed.

### BATTERY INSTALLATION

**WARNING:** To avoid electric shock, disconnect the test leads from any source of voltage before removing the battery cover.

Do not operate the instrument with the battery cover removed

1. Disconnect the test leads from the meter.
2. Open the battery cover by loosening the screw using a Phillips head screwdriver.
3. Insert the battery into battery holder, observing the correct polarity.
4. Put the battery cover back in place. Secure with the two screws.

**NOTE:** If your meter does not work properly, check the fuses and battery to make sure that they are still good and that they are properly inserted.

### REPLACING THE FUSE

**WARNING:** To avoid electric shock, disconnect the test leads from any source of voltage before removing the fuse /battery cover.

1. Disconnect the test leads from the meter and any item under test.
2. Open the fuse door by loosening the screw on the door using a Phillips head screwdriver.
3. Remove the old fuse from its holder by gently pulling it out.
4. Install the new fuse into the holder.
5. Always use a fuse of the proper size and value (0.5A/1000V fast blow for the 400mA range, 10A/1000V fast blow for the 10A range).
6. Put the fuse door back in place. Insert the screw and tighten it securely.

**WARNING:** To avoid electric shock, do not operate your meter until the fuse door is in place and fastened securely.

