

MODIFICATION RECOMMENDED

N5181A-04

S E R V I C E N O T E

Supersedes:
None

N5181A MXG Analog Signal Generator

Serial Numbers: **ALL**

“Installing the latest firmware release will eliminate false Self Test(s) failures”

Parts Required:

P/N	Description	Qty.
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None

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

SERVICE NOTE CLASSIFICATION:			
MODIFICATION RECOMMENDED			
ACTION CATEGORY:	<input type="checkbox"/> ON SPECIFIED FAILURE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGREEABLE TIME	STANDARDS LABOR: 0.25 Hours	
LOCATION CATEGORY:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CUSTOMER INSTALLABLE <input type="checkbox"/> ON-SITE <input type="checkbox"/> SERVICE CENTER <input type="checkbox"/> CHANNEL PARTNER	SERVICE INVENTORY: <input type="checkbox"/> RETURN <input type="checkbox"/> SCRAP <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SEE TEXT	USED PARTS: <input type="checkbox"/> RETURN <input type="checkbox"/> SCRAP <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SEE TEXT
AVAILABILITY:	PRODUCT'S SUPPORT LIFE NO CHARGE AVAILABLE UNTIL: 9/1/2009		
AUTHOR: AKS		PRODUCT LINE: PL15	
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Latest release of MXG Firmware can be obtained at: http://www.agilent.com/find/upgradeassistant			

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PRINTED IN U.S.A.

September 8, 2008

Rev. 15



Situation:

The N5181A MXG Signal Generator has the capability of performing, under firmware controlled conditions, a complete suite of internal hardware tests that compare test results to predetermined limits. The predetermined limits are embedded in the signal generator's firmware and are updated as necessary with each firmware revision.

Over time new hardware and self tests are introduced into the product and are updated within the firmware as necessary. Due to these product changes, earlier revisions of firmware may provide limited self tests with minimal limits that when applied to different vintages of N5181A sources' hardware can cause false self test failures to occur.

False self test failures that have occurred are usually experienced immediately after running a complete self test routine following the installation of a newer revision of firmware or after installing new hardware in the field. To experience a self test failure, self tests have to be initiated. If self tests are not run in conjunction with a hardware or firmware change to the N5181A, then any false self test failures will not be immediately known till self tests are eventually performed.

Solution/Action:

It is recommended, if after performing self tests on a MXG and the instrument fails, the latest released firmware be installed and self tests re-ran.

Self tests and the associated limits are easily updated by installing the latest released firmware, which can be obtained at:

<http://www.agilent.com/find/upgradeassistant>

If self tests continue to fail after installing the latest firmware release, proceed with any additional troubleshooting following the procedures outlined in the MXG Service Guide. This Service Note will no longer be applicable due to the additional unrelated repair needs of the instrument.