Aqua Computer LeakShield Start-up and Event logging Observations

I have been trying to understand how to best use my Aqua Computer LeakShield and while doing this have noted several inconsistencies and oversights that Aqua Computer could/should address. I was unable to fully understand what was happening using just X.59. As soon as I started X.59 it changed the LKS Date Time so I could not easily tell what it was before X.59 was started so I wrote a few lines of code to provide this information.

While making these observations I was mainly focusing on what would happen when the system was initially powered on before X.59 could be active, further it could be a long time before X.59 could be active as I could be setting things up in the BIOS or booting into a Windows installation that did not have X.59 installed, or Linux. I did so knowing some of the issues would not exist if X.59 was active. I chose to do this as I expect the LeakShield firmware should operate well when X.59 is not active.

Initial Device Start-up

When the device is initially powered on and X.59 is not active, the Device Stat-up time is 0x0000 which is 2009-01-01 00:00:00 UTC (01:00:00 GMT) but other event times start from about 2021-05-03 07:16:00 GMT. After considering this I feel both should start from the same base and were I to design how this would be done I would have them all starting from 2009-01-01 00:00:00 UTC. By doing this it would mean that when X.59 is started and sets the correct Date Time as it would know the difference from the current LKS Date Time. It could and should adjust all the event log entries to make them correct. At the moment it's impossible to sensibly update the Device start-up Date Time.



Currently X.59 could correct all but the Device Start-up, but fails to do this. I consider this a bug.

I also noted that the LKS 1017 firmware fails to measure the fill level when I expected it to do this. As it's recommended that refill operations are done while the system is in stand-by it's likely the level will have changed. Why does the firmware not measure the fill level on start-up?

Given SIV is a 2nd party application I clearly need to show what it reports is the same as X.59 reports, so I started X.59 and when I did this it reported:

LEAKSHIELD even	ts			
03/05/2021 07:16:09 03/05/2021 07:16:08 01/01/0001 00:00:00	Event: Pressure setpoint changed. Event: Mode change to MONITOR. Event: Device startup.	Mode: MONITOR Mode: MONITOR Mode:	State: Initialize State: Initialize State: Initialize	Pressure: 98 mbar Pressure: 98 mbar Pressure: 0 mbar

As you can see, the information reported is the same apart from the 01/01/0000 00:00:00 Device start-up time which is incorrect in X.59 so X.59 should be fixed. I also expected there to be an Event Log entry for the time change showing the before and after Date Times and there is not.

I further feel that X.59 having Event: + Mode: + State: + ... on every line is inappropriate and that there should be a title line.

Events not being logged that should be logged

When I started X.59 the status panel was as follows:



Note there is no event to show the state is Monitor Unprotected, there should be.

Monitor Protected when there is no way to know it's Protected

Sometime later I noted the state had changed to Monitor Protected!



Looking at the screen, this is because the pump speed has changed from 3000 RPM to --- meaning it's unknown. Given this, there is no way to know if things are protected or unprotected so for X.59 (actually the LKS 1017 firmware) to report Protected is at best misleading.

X.59 Reporting Stale and possibly incorrect Information

Next I cleared the event log then with X.59 active I unplugged the LKS, waited 10 seconds and reconnected it. X.59 reported:



Notice now the dates are other than 2021, but it's still reporting P1 + P2 + Q + D. When I checked the hardware these values have not been set as they only get set after a measure level which 1017 fails to do on start-up. I know they have not been set in the hardware as I dumped the raw data block and decoded it.

🐇 [2:0 OF LKS-	05]<-	- [Al	O Li	ink S	itatu	is] <	- SIN	/64)	(- 5)	yster	m In	forn	natio	on V	iewer V5.67	Bet	a-06	RED	::ray	1								ŝ	-			×
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01 00 0	1 02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	0A	0B	0C	0D	0E	0F		10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	1A	18	1C	1D	1E	1F	
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0280 7F FF 02A0 00 0 02C0 00 0 02E0 7F FF 0300 00 0 0320 00 0 0340 00 0	F 7F 0 7F 0 00 F 7F 0 00 0 00 0 00	FF FF 00 FF 00 00 00	00 7F 00 7F 00 00	00 FF FF 00 00	00 7F 00 7F 00 00	00 FF 00 FF 00 00	7F 00 7F 00 00 00 00	FF FF 00 00 00 00	7F 00 7F 7F 00 00 00	FF FF 00 00 00 00	00 00 7F 00 00 00	00 00 FF FF 00 00	7F 00 7F 00 00 00	FF 00 FF 00 00 00	0290 0280 02D0 02F0 0310 0330	7F 00 7F 00 00 00	FF FF 00 00 00	7F 00 7F 7F 00 00	FF 00 FF 00 00	7F 00 00 7F 00 00	FF 00 00 FF 00 00	00 7F 7F 00 7F 00 00	FF FF 00 FF 00 00	00 00 7F 00 7F 00 00	00 FF FF FF 00 00	00 7F 00 7F 00 00	00 FF 00 FF 00 00	00 7F 00 00 00 00	FF FF 00 00 00	7F 7F 7F 00 00 00	00 FF FF 00 00	
LKS Structure LKS Serial LKS Number LKS Hardware LKS Device LKS Loader LKS Firmware				00 00 00 00 00 00	00 02 04 06 08 0A 0C		00 07 E8 03 00 00 00	64 88 8F E9 01 64 F9		@ 0 5	034- 193 953 100 10 101	4 1 5 1 1 0 7	Ua	ILd	CP_UTF8		L	Jala		14	d All I	um		Dat	đ	202	2-10)-19	08:	13:5	56	ype
LKS Protect Mod	de			01	28		00	02			3	2			Monitor																	
IKS Negative P	Pressu	ires			013	22		0.	1F4		50	.0 r	nbar		0320	80	0 m	har		038	81		80	.7 .	nbar		035	-8	10	0.0) mh	ar
LKS Volumes at LKS Progress LKS Membrane LKS Membrane LKS Membrane	P1 P2 D	0.0 0.0 0.0)		013 013 030 030 031	34 3C 06 0E 14)27)00)00)00)00		39 (.00 .00 .00	ml) % 0.0 0.0		003D 0000 0000 0000 0000	61. 0	00 1 00. 00 0	mł %).0).0)0)0)0		100	.00	ml 0.0 0.0		271 000		1	100	0.0 0.0	.0 10
LKS Membrane	Q	NA			03:	1C		00	000			0	.00		0000		0.	00		000	0			0	.00		000	00			0.0	0

Aqua Computer failing to provide insight into what all the values on Status mean.

I have searched the LeakShield manual for insight into what all the numbers on the Status panel mean, but this is not present.

For some time I have been watching the <u>https://forum.aquacomputer.de/weitere-foren/english-forum/112946-leakshield-</u><u>status-diagram-what-are-the-2-temps-reported</u> forum thread in the hope of Aqua Computer providing this absent information into what all the numbers on the Status panel mean and am disappointed they have not done this. In general Aqua Computer often just seem to ignore some posts, which I consider unprofessional.

Some forum members have managed to figure out what P1 + P2 + D probably are, but not where they are measured and Q is a total mystery. Also, regarding Temp1 and Temp2 it's impossible to deduce where the two temperatures are measured and/or what they represent. I feel Aqua Computer should provide this information. Why does X.59 prominently display these values but not document them anywhere? Why does Aqua Computer then ignore requests from paying customers who want to understand what these values mean?

How hard would these issues be to fix?

I suspect implementing the changes to fix these would not take long at all, as it only took me a few minutes to correct the Event Log date times as best as possible given inconsistent data. Initially all the 2021 dates were automatically adjusted:

삼 [Event Log] <- [AlO	Link Status] <- SIV64X - Syst	em Inform	ation Vie	wer V5.67 E	eta-06 RED::ray				_		×
SIV64X - Aqua Compu	ter LeakShield (LKS-05) Eve	nt Log on	\\RED -	Windows :	10 x64 Enterprise	V10.00 Build	19045 22	42			
Protection Mode	Ionitor Stat	e Unpro	otected	2022	-10-19 13:09:55	Δ 0.470	2022-10-	19 13:09:55	GMT Su	mmer Tin	ne
Event Log Date Time	Event Description	:	Seq Mo	ode	State	Pressure	P Rate	V Rate	Value 1	Value	2
2022-10-19 13:09:08 2022-10-19 13:09:07 2010-06-19 06:52:59	Setpoint Pressure Chang Mode Change to Monitor Device Start-up	ed	3 Ma 2 Ma 1 Na	onitor onitor ot Setup	Initialise Initialise Initialise	94.5 mbar 94.3 mbar 0.0 mbar	NC NC NC	NC NC NC	50.0 mbar NC NC	1	
OK I▼ Copy I▼	First Ir Prev Ir	This I-	Next	: I v La	st I-						

I then started X.59 and did a Measure Level, the adjustment was automatically stopped and I saw:

Protection Mode	Monitor State	Unprotecte	d 🗆 202	2-10-19 13:11:01	Δ 0.476	2022-10	-19 13:11:0	I GMT S	ummer Time
Event Log Date Tim	Event Description	Seq 1	Mode	State	Pressure	P Rate	V Rate	Value 1	Value 2
022-10-19 13:10:5	Pressure is too High	10 1	Monitor	Unprotected	101.1 mbar	NC	NC	100.0 mbar	NC
022-10-19 13:10:5	3 Setpoint Pressure Changed	9 1	Monitor	Initialise	101.1 mbar	NC	NC	50.0 mbar	NO
022-10-19 13:10:5	2 Mode Change to Monitor	8 1	Monitor	Finished	101.1 mbar	NC	NC	NC	NC
022-10-19 13:10:5	2 Measure Fill Level Finished	7 1	leasure	Stabalise	101.1 mbar	NC	NC	40.0 mč	100.00 %
022-10-19 13:10:4	4 Calibrating Pressure Sensor	6 1	leasure	Negative	-0.3 mbar	NC	NC	NC	NC
022-10-19 13:10:3	1 Measure Fill Level Starting	5 1	Measure	Initialise	94.3 mbar	NC	NC	NC	NC
022-10-19 13:10:3	1 Mode Change to Mesaure	4 1	Measure	Unprotected	94.3 mbar	NC	NC	NC	NO
021-05-03 07:16:0	9 Setpoint Pressure Changed	3 1	Monitor	Initialise	94.5 mbar	NC	NC	50.0 mbar	NO
021-05-03 07:16:0	8 Mode Change to Monitor	2 1	Monitor	Initialse	94.3 mbar	NC	NC	NC	NC
009-01-01 01:00:0	0 Device Start-up	1 1	Not Setup	Initialise	0.0 mbar	NC	NC	NC	NC

I feel that the most serious issues are the 1017 firmware reporting Protected when the pump speed and hence pump pressure is unknown and state changes from such as Unprotected to Protected not being in the Event log.

🐇 [Event Log] <- [AlO Link Status] <- SIV64X - System Information Viewer V.5.67 Pata 06 PEDurat												
SIV64X - Aqua Computer LeakShield (LKS-05) Event Log on \\RED - Correct the Date Time se V10.00 Build 19045 22H2												
Protection Mode	Monitor State	Protected	1 20	22-10-19 13:16:03	∆ 0.124	2022-10-	19 13:16:0	3 GMT S	ummer Time			
Event Log Date Time	Event Description	Seq	Mode	State	Pressure	P Rate	V Rate	Value 1	Value 2			
2022-10-19 13:10:54	Pressure is too High	10	Monitor	Unprotected	101.1 mbar	NC	NC	100.0 mbar	NC			
2022-10-19 13:10:53	8 Setpoint Pressure Changed	9	Monitor	Initialise	101.1 mbar	NC	NC	50.0 mbar	NC			
2022-10-19 13:10:52	Mode Change to Monitor	8	Monitor	Finished	101.1 mbar	NC	NC	NC	NC			
2022-10-19 13:10:52	2 Measure Fill Level Finished	7	Measure	Stabalise	101.1 mbar	NC	NC	40.0 ml	100.00 %			
2022-10-19 13:10:44	Calibrating Pressure Sensor	6	Measure	Negative	-0.3 mbar	NC	NC	NC	NC			
2022-10-19 13:10:31	Measure Fill Level Starting	5	Measure	Initialise	94.3 mbar	NC	NC	NC	NC			
2022-10-19 13:10:31	Mode Change to Mesaure	4	Measure	Unprotected	94.3 mbar	NC	NC	NC	NC			
2021-05-03 07:16:09	Setpoint Pressure Changed	3	Monitor	Initialise	94.5 mbar	NC	NC	50.0 mbar	NC			
2021-05-03 07:16:08	8 Mode Change to Monitor	2	Monitor	Initialise	94.3 mbar	NC	NC	NC	NC			
2009-01-01 01:00:00	Device Start-up	1	Not Setup	o Initialise	0.0 mbar	NC	NC	NC	NC			

When should the LKS 1017 firmware automatically do a Measure Level

I was wondering when the 1017 firmware would do a measure level. Given it does not do one on start-up I wondered what would happen if I used to button to change from Monitor -> Release -> Monitor so tried it.

삼 [Event Log] <- [A	AIO Link Status] <- SIV64X - Systen	n Information \	/iewer V5.67 B	eta-07 RED::ray				_	□ ×
SIV64X - Aqua Com	puter LeakShield (LKS-05) Event	Log on \\RED	- Windows 1	0 x64 Enterprise	V10.00 Build	19045 22H2	2		
Protection Mode	Monitor State	Protected	2022	-10-20 11:15:00	Δ 0.469	2022-10-20	0 11:15:00	GMT Sum	nmer Time
Event Log Date Tim	e Event Description	Seq	Mode	State	Pressure	P Rate	V Rate	Value 1	Value 2
2022-10-20 11:10:3	8 Pressure is too High	14	Monitor	Unprotected	102.3 mbar	NC	NC	100.0 mbar	NC
2022-10-20 11:10:3	8 Setpoint Pressure Changed	13	Monitor	Initialise	102.3 mbar	NC	NC	50.0 mbar	NC
2022-10-20 11:10:3	87 Mode Change to Monitor	12	Monitor	Finished	102.2 mbar	NC	NC	NC	NC
2022-10-20 11:10:3	7 Measure Fill Level Finished	11	Measure	Stabalise	102.2 mbar	NC	NC	41.0 ml	97.50 %
2022-10-20 11:10:2	28 Calibrating Pressure Sensor	10	Measure	Negative	-0.2 mbar	NC	NC	NC	NC
2022-10-20 11:10:1	5 Measure Fill Level Starting	9	Measure	Initialise	-0.1 mbar	NC	NC	NC	NC
2022-10-20 11:10:1	5 Mode Change to Mesaure	8	Measure	Release	-0.1 mbar	NC	NC	NC	NC
2022-10-20 11:09:5	61 Released the Pressure	7	Release	Negative	0.0 mbar	NC	NC	NC	NC
2022-10-20 11:09:5	51 Calibrating Pressure Sensor	6	Release	Negative	0.2 mbar	NC	NC	NC	NC
2022-10-20 11:09:4	0 Equalising Pressure	5	Release	Negative	84.9 mbar	NC	NC	NC	NC
2022-10-20 11:09:4	0 Mode Change to Release	4	Release	Unprotected	84.9 mbar	NC	NC	NC	NC
2022-10-20 11:09:1	0 Setpoint Pressure Changed	I 3	Monitor	Initialise	84.7 mbar	NC	NC	50.0 mbar	NC
2022-10-20 11:09:0	9 Mode Change to Monitor	2	Monitor	Initialise	84.7 mbar	NC	NC	NC	NC
2010-06-20 04:53:0	1 Device Start-up	1	Not Setup	Initialise	0.0 mbar	NC	NC	NC	NC
ОК І◄ Сору	I▼ First I▼ Prev I▼	This I v Ne	ext I ▼ La	st I▼					

I noted that there was no Measure Level on start- up or when I changed from Monitor to Release, but when I changed from Release to Monitor there was.

I then did Monitor -> Release -> Monitor and while the level was being measured disconnected the LKS. Then I reconnected it I saw:

坐 [Event Log] <- [AlO	Link Status] <- SIV64X - System	Information V	/iewer V5.67 B	eta-07 RED::ray				-	
SIV64X - Aqua Compute	er LeakShield (LKS-05) Event	Log on \\RED	- Windows 1	10 x64 Enterprise	V10.00 Build	19045 22H2			
Protection Mode Mo	onitor State	Unprotecte	ed ☑ 2022	-10-20 11:25:39	∆ 0.004	2022-10-20) 11:25:39	GMT Sur	nmer Time
Event Log Date Time	Event Description	Seq	Mode	State	Pressure	P Rate	V Rate	Value 1	Value 2
2022-10-20 11:22:38 2022-10-20 11:22:38 2022-10-20 11:22:36 2022-10-20 11:22:36 2022-10-20 11:22:28 2022-10-20 11:22:18 2012-10-20 11:22:18 2010-06-20 05:06:10	Pressure is too High Setpoint Pressure Changed Mode Change to Monitor Measure Fill Level Finished Calibrating Pressure Sensor Measure Fill Level Starting Mode Change to Mesaure Device Start-up	8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1	Monitor Monitor Measure Measure Measure Not Setup	Unprotected Initialise Finished Stabalise Negative Initialise Initialise Initialise	102.3 mbar 102.4 mbar 102.4 mbar 0.3 mbar 0.2 mbar 0.2 mbar 0.0 mbar	NC NC NC NC NC	NC NC NC NC NC	100.0 mbar 50.0 mbar NC 43.0 m² NC NC NC	NC NC 92.50 % NC NC NC

So it did a Measure Level on start-up. Given this I expect it would be quite a small change to have the LKS always do a Measure Level on start-up when the mode is Shield or Monitor.

Why were these and other issues not found by Aqua Computer?

In summary many of the issues are edge cases which makes me wonder what the Aqua Computing software engineering standards specify about the need for edge case testing. Whatever they say it's clear that edge case testing needs to be improved.

These are not the only cases of poor edge case testing I have found. Others include X.59 allowing UTF-16 to be input and then changing what was input to "?" or "??" some time later, Aquaero 6 reporting impossible powers such as 13376 W when the flow sensor goes off-line, F360 failing to report software sensors when I select them and several others.

Power measurements					
HFN Power 1 W		0 W	Name Agus	Dower 2 W	
Aqua Power 2 W		13376 W	Name Aqua	D	ata sources
ASU-1 Power 3 W		0 W		Drag senso	r values into the boxes.
			Aqua Flow Rate	:1 0.0 l/h	HEN Flow Rate
ASU-2 Power 4 W		0 W	Aqua Flow Rate	2 0.0 l/h	I/h
			HFN Flow Rate	l/h	
					Temperature sensor 1
			Aqua Temp 2	22.2 °C	Aqua Temp 2
			Aqua Temp 5	25.7 °C	22.2 °C
			HFN H2O Temp	o?? 0.0 ℃	Temperature sensor 2
			HFN ALT Temp	?? 0.0 °C	Agua Temp 5
			F360 Temp 1 ??	0.0 °C	25.7 °C
					— × 🗆 _ () 📚 ()
Sensors				<u></u>	
Sensors				Select data source	
			F360 25.81 Q		
			HFN č ⊿ 🚞 L	ata from Aqua Computer service EAKSHIELD (LKS)	
HFN õŸœ Temp	HFN 🜉 Temp	F360 Voltage	D5N č) Sensor data	
			23.96 °	LKS Fill level	92.5 %
				LKS Pump @ DSN	3044 rpm 311.0 l/b
				HFN Conductivity	
				📲 Fan #4	
D5N Pump V				D5N Pump V	11.9 V
				D5N Pump A	0.5 A 6 0 W
				D5N Fan V	12.0 V
	LEAKSHIELD (LKS)/Sensor data/E	5N Pump V 🕒 🛞		🚮 D5N Fan A	0.0 A
	1.000			D5N Fan W	0.0 W
				Data	
	0.000 🜩			Profile	

Closing Thoughts

In closing, I hope by creating and refining this document Aqua Computer will be more likely to address these issues than if I had simply posted them.

I hope that Aqua Computer will carefully review and thoroughly consider the issues that I have identified in their software and firmware. I have been told that Aqua Computer products and the Aquasuite software are considered to be the best out there for cooling component control. <u>Aqua Computer has stated in it's forum</u> that "errors that we know about and can reproduce will be fixed as far as possible", and that "the Aquasuite is constantly being further developed and optimised". I offer my observations in an effort to help you do this and hope that you will address the issues I have pointed out in this document.

I would also like to publically thank the 3rd party forum member who proof read this document and suggested changes.