# User Manual

# English

Congratulations on the purchase of your Leica DISTO<sup>™</sup> D3a BT.



Carefully read the Safety Instructions and the User Manual before using this product.

The person responsible for the instrument must ensure that all users understand these directions and adhere to them.

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Leica DISTO™ D3a BT 776750 gb

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# **Safety Instructions**

# Symbols used

The symbols used in the Safety Instructions have the following meanings:

#### WARNING:

& Indicates a potential hazardous situation or an unintended use which, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury.

CAUTION: & Indicates a potentially hazardous situation or an unintended use which, if not avoided, may result in minor injury and/or in appreciable material, financial and environmental damage.

Important paragraphs which must be adhered The practice as they enabled the product to be used in a technically correct and efficient manner.

# Use of the instrument

#### Permitted use

- Measuring distances
- Computing functions, e. g. areas and volumes
- Storing measurements (BLUETOOTH®)
- Measuring tilts

### **Prohibited use**

- **GB** Using the instrument without instruction
  - Using outside the stated limits
  - Deactivation of safety systems and removal of explanatory and hazard labels
  - Opening of the equipment by using tools (screwdrivers, etc.), as far as not specifically permitted for certain cases
  - Carrying out modification or conversion of the product
  - Use after misappropriation
  - Use of accessories from other manufacturers without the express approval of Leica Geosystems.
  - Deliberate or irresponsible behaviour on scaffolding, when using ladders, when measuring near machines which are running, or near parts of machines or installations which are unprotected
  - Aiming directly into the sun
  - Deliberate dazzling of third parties; also in the dark
  - Inadequate safeguards at the surveying site (e.g. when measuring on roads, construction sites, etc.)

# Limits of use

See section "Technical Data".

The Leica DISTO<sup>™</sup> is designed for use in areas permanently habitable by humans, do not use the product in explosion hazardous areas or in aggressive environments

# Areas of responsibility

Responsibilities of the manufacturer of the original equipment Leica Geosystems AG, CH-9435 Heerbrugg (for short Leica Geosystems): Leica Geosystems is responsible for supplying the product, including the User Manual and original accessories, in a completely safe condition. (additional language versions can be found at:

www.disto.com.

# Responsibilities of the manufacturer of non-Leica accessories:

The manufacturers of non-Leica accessories by the Leica DISTO<sup>™</sup> are responsible for developing, implementing and communicating safety concepts for their products. They are also responsible for the effectiviness of these safety concepts in combination with the Leica Geosystems equipment.

# Responsibilities of the person in charge of the instrument:

#### 

The person responsible for the instrument must ensure that the equipment is used in accordance with the instructions. This person is also accountable for the deployment of personnel and for their training and for the safety of the equipment when in use.

The person in charge of the instrument has the following duties:

afety Instructions

- To be familiar with local safety regulations relating to accident prevention.
- To inform Leica Geosystems immediately if the equipment becomes unsafe.

## Hazards in use

# & CAUTION:

Watch out for erroneous distance measurements if the instrument is defective or if it has been dropped or has been misused or modified.

#### **Precautions:**

Carry out periodic test measurements. Particularly after the instrument has been subject to abnormal use, and before, during and after important measurements.

Make sure the Leica DISTO™ optics is kept clean and that there is no mechanical damage to the bumpers.

# & CAUTION:

In using the instrument for distance measurements or for positioning moving objects (e.g. cranes, building equipment, platforms, etc.) unforeseen events may cause erroneous measurements.

#### **Precautions:**

Only use this product as a measuring sensor, not as a control device. Your system must be configured and operated in such a way, that in case of an erroneous measurement, malfunction of the device or power failure due to installed safety measures (e.g. safety limit switch), it is assured that no damage will occur.

# & WARNING:

Flat batteries must not be disposed of with household waste. Care for the environment and take them to the collection points provided in accordance with national or local regulations



- The product must not be disposed of with household waste.
  - Dispose of the product appropriately in accordance with the national regulations in force in your country.
  - Always prevent access to the product by unauthorized personnel.
- Product specific treatment and waste management information can be downloaded from the Leica Geosystems home page at http://www.leica-geosystems.com/treatment or received from your Leica Geosystems dealer.

# Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC)

The term "electromagnetic compatibility" is taken to mean the capability of the product to function smoothly in an environment where electromagnetic radiation and electrostatic discharges are present, and without causing electromagnetic interference to other equipment.

## WARNING:

The Leica DISTO™ conforms to the most stringent requirements of the relevant standards and regulations. Yet, the possibility of it causing interference in other devices cannot be totally excluded.

### CAUTION

& Never attempt to repair the product yourself. In case of damage, contact the local dealership.

# FCC statement (applic. in U.S.)

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation

This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions. may cause harmful interference to radio communications.

However, there is no guarantee that interference not occur in a particular installation.

If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.

et Instructions

Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.

- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circu different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/ ٠ technician for help

#### WARNING: &

Changes or modifications not expressly approved by Leica Geosystems for compliance could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

# Use of the product with BLUETOOTH®

#### WARNING:

<mark>&</mark> ( Electromagnetic radiation can cause disturbances in other equipment, in installations (e.g. medical ones such as pacemakers or hearing aids) and in aircraft. It can also affect humans and animals.

#### Precautions:

Athough this product conforms to the most stringent standards and regulations, Leica Geosystem cannot totally exclude the possibility of harm to people and animals.

- Do not use the product near petrol stations, chemical plants, in areas with a potentially explosive atmosphere and where blasting takes place.
- Do not use the product near medical equipment. ٠
- Do not use the product in airplanes. ٠

- Do not use the product near your body for extended periods.
- & CAUTION:

Never attempt to repair the product yourself. In case of damage, contact the local dealership.

# Laser classification

## Integrated distancemeter

The Leica DISTO<sup>™</sup> produces a visible laser beam which emerges from the front of the instrument.

### WARNING:

Looking directly into the beam with optical aids

(e.g. binoculars, telescopes) can be hazardous.

#### Precautions:

Do not look directly into the beam with optical aids.

### &, CAUTION:

Looking into the laser beaminay be hazardous to the eyes.

### Precautions:

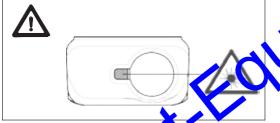
Do not look into the laser beam. Make sure the laser is aimed above or below eye level. (particularly with fixed installations in machines, etc.)

It is a Class 2 laser product in accordance with:

IEC60825-1 : 2007 "Radiation safety of laser products"

#### Laser Class 2 products:

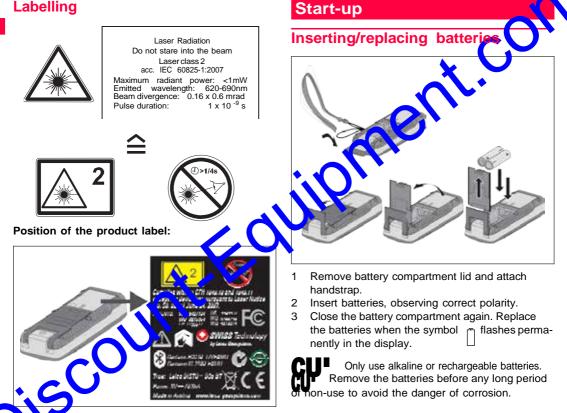
Do not stare into the aser beam or direct it towards other people unnecessarily. Eye protection is normally alforded by aversion responses including the blink reflex



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## Labelling

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# Changing the reference point (multifunctional endpiece)



The instrument can be adapted for the following measuring situations:



- For measurements from an edge, fold out the positioning bracket until it first ocks in place.
- For measurements from a corner open the positioning bracket until inlocks in place, then push the positioning bracket lightly to the right to fold it out fully.

A built-in sensor automatically detects the orientation of the positioning bracket and adjusts the zero point of the instrument accordingly.

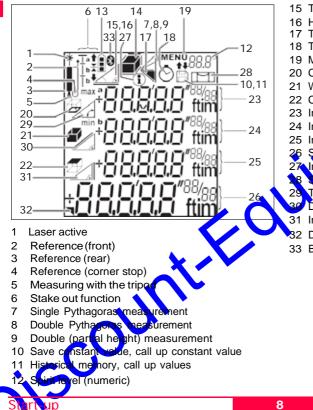
# Keypad

- ON/DIST (On/measuring) button
- 2 Horizontal distance button
- 3 Plus (+) button
- 4 Minus (-) button
- 5 Area/volume-button
- 6 Storage button
- 7 Reference button
- 8 Functions button
- 9 Timer button
- 10 Second function button
- 11 Menu/equal button
- 12 Clear/off-button
- 13 Bluetooth button

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### Display

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- 13 Battery status
- 14 Area/volume
- 15 Tilt
- 16 Horizontal distance measurement using tilt
- 17 Triangle area
- 18 Timer
- 19 Menu
- 20 Circumference
- 21 Wall area
- 22 Ceiling area
- 23 Intermediate line
- 24 Intermediate line
- 25 Intermediate line 3
- Summary line
- 27 Information
- Spirit level
- 29 Tilt angle
- 30 Distance measured
- 31 Indirect height
- 32 Detail display
- 33 Bluetooth Icon

# **Menu functions**

# Settings

The menu allows settings to be altered and permanently stored. After switching off the device or replacing the batteries the settings are stored.

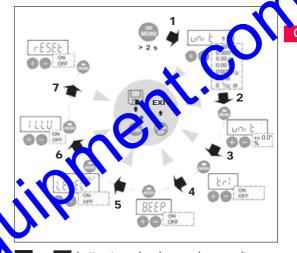
#### Navigation in the menu

The menu allows settings to be made at the user level. The instrument can be specifically configured to your personal requirements.

#### **General description**

button (pressed long) - You are in the **MENU** the units set and the first menu item "Unit" are displayed.

button (pressed **short**) pages through each menu item.



or button to make changes in menu items.
button (pressed short) brings up the next menu item.

A long press on the subtron in the menu confirms the new settings made in the submenu items .

Pressing the button for longer in the menu allows you to quit the settings function without saving.

# Setting the unit for distance measurements

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The following units can be set:

	Distance	Area	Volume
1.	0.000 m	0.000 m <sup>2</sup>	0.000 m <sup>3</sup>
2.	0.000 <sup>0</sup> m	0.000 m <sup>2</sup>	0.000 m <sup>3</sup>
3.	0.00 m	0.000 m <sup>2</sup>	0.000 m <sup>3</sup>
4.	0.00 ft	0.00 ft <sup>2</sup>	0.00 ft <sup>3</sup>
5.	0'00" <sup>1</sup> / <sub>32</sub>	0.00 ft <sup>2</sup>	0.00 ft <sup>3</sup>
6.	0.0 in	0.00 ft <sup>2</sup>	0.00 ft <sup>3</sup>
7.	0 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>32</sub> in	0.00 ft <sup>2</sup>	0.00 ft <sup>3</sup>

# LEVEL \*\*\*)

# Setting the unit for tilt measurements

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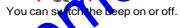
nu functions

The following units can be set for tilt measurements

	Units for ti	ilt		
1.			+/- (	).0°
2.			0.0	)0%

# Measuring with the tripod (-,)

The reference must be appropriately adjusted in order to be able to take correct measurements with a tripod. To do this select  $L_{\Gamma}$  (**ON** in this manufem. You can switch the reference on the tripod on or off. The setting can be seen on the display  $\frac{1}{4}$ .



# evel in status field

Beep (RFF

The level (in °) in status field can be switched on or off.

# Display illumination ( ز ال ال

The display illumination can be turned on or off.

# Reset - returning the instrument to the factory settings (r[5]])

The instrument has a **RESET** function. When you select the menu function **RESET** and confirm, the instrument defaults to the factory settings.

A reset returns the following values to their factory settings:

- Reference (rear)
- Display illumination (ON)
- Beep (ON)
- Unit (m(mm))
- Stack and memory are erased

All customised settings and stored values are also lost.

# Operation

# Switching on and off



CLEAR

Switches on the instrument and laser. The display shows the battery symbol until the next button is pressed.

Pressing this button for longer switches the instrument off.

The instrument switches off automatically after six minutes of inactivity.

## **CLEAR** button

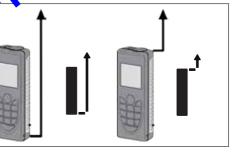
The last action is cancelled. While making area or volume measurements, each single measurement can be deleted and remeasured in series.

# Reference setting

The default reference setting is from the rear of the instrument.

Press this button to take the next measurement from the front edge of A special beep sounds whenever the reference setting is changed.

After a measurement the reference returns automatically to the default setting (rear reference).



Press this button for **longer** the front reference is set permanently.

Press this button, the rear reference is set again.



# Measuring

## Single distance measurement

Press to activate the laser. Press again to trigger the distance measurement.

The result is displayed immediately.

## Tilt measurement

measurement.

The tilt sensor measures tilts between  $\pm$  45°. During the measurement of tilt, the instrument should be held without transverse tilt, as far as possible, ( $\pm$  10°).

### Horizontal measurement

Press button to activate horizontal measurement in the instrument. The following symbol. appears in the display \_\_\_\_\_. If the button is active, the horizontal distance is displayed in the summary line for each distance measurement (up to max. +/-45° and up to max. a transverse tilt or +/-10°).

Press the outton for longer to display additional information on the measurement, for example the tilt angle  $\angle$ , the distance measured  $\angle$  and the indirect height  $\boxed{}$ .

Press button again to switch off horizontal

# Minimum/maximum measuremen

This function allows the user to measure the minimum or maximum distance from a fixed measuring point. It can also be used as to determine spacings.



It is commonly used to measure room diagonals (maximum values) or horizontal distances (minimum values).

Press and hold down this button until you hear a beep. Then slowly sweep the laser back and forth and up and down over the desired target point - (e.g. into the corner of a room).

Press to stop continuous measurement. The values for maximum and minimum distances are shown in the display as well as the last measured value in the summary line.

#### Laser continuous

Press and hold down the key when switching on the device until the character appears permanently in the display and a beep sounds. Every further press of the key releases a distance measurement.

Press the key and **hold** to switch the device and Laser continuous operation off.

If the laser is in continuous operation mode, device switches off automatically after 15 minutes.

## **Functions**

# Addition/subtraction

Distance measuring.

The next measurement is added to the previous one.

The next measurement is subtracted from the previous one.

This process can be repeated as required.

Press this button and the result is then always shown in the summary line.

The last step is cancelled.

Area

Press **once**. The *rest* symbol appears in the display.

Press this button to take the first length measurement (e.g. length).

Press it again to take the second length measurement (e.g. width).

The result is displayed in the summary line.

Press the to button **for longer** to calculate the circumference

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### Volume



Press this button **twice**. The symbol appears in the display.

Press this button to take the first length measurement (e.g. length).

Press this button to take the second length measurement (e.g. width).

Press this button to take the third length measurement (e.g. height).

The volume then appears in the summary line.

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ctions

Press the button for longer to display additional room information such as ceiling/floor area surface area of the walls , circumference

### **Tilt measurement**

Press this button **once** to activate the tilt sensor. The  $\angle$  symbol appears in the display. The tilt is continuously shown as ° or % depending on the setting.

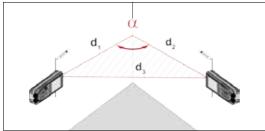
DIM IST	Press to measur	e the	inclin	ation	and	the
sta	ince.					

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## Triangular area

The area of a triangle can be calculated by the measurement of three sides.



Press the key **two times** - the triangle symbol appears in the display.

Press the key and measure the first side of the triangle.

Press the key and measure the second side of the triangle.

Press the key and measure the third side of the triangle.

The result vis shown in the summary row.

Press and **hold** the key to display additional information about the measurement, such as the angle included by the first two measurements and the perimeter of the triangle .

# **Stake out function**

Two different distances (a and b) can be entered into the instrument and can then be used to mark off defined measured lengths, e.g. in the construction of wooden frames.

Entering stake out distances:

Press this button **three times** and the stake out function symbol appears in the display  $\frac{1}{16}$ .

The value (a) and the corresponding intermediate line flash.

By using the and then b, you can adjust the values (first a and then b) to suit the desired stake out distances. Holding the buttons down increases the rate of change of the values.

Once the desired value (a) has been reached it can be confirmed with the button.

The value (b) and the intermediate line flashes (the

Leica DISTO™ D3a BT 776750 gb

a‡b



defined value (a) is automatically adopted). Value (b) can be entered using and and and a set.

The defined value (b) is confirmed with the button.

Pressing the button starts the laser measurement. The display shows required stake out distance in the summary line between the stake out point (first a and then b) and the instrument (rear reference).

If the DISTO<sup>™</sup> is then moved slowly along the stake out line the displayed distance decreases. The instrument starts to beep at a distance of 0.1m from the next stake out point.

The arrows in the display  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$  indicate in which direction the DISTO<sup>TM</sup> needs to be moved in order to achieve the defined distance (either a or b). As soon as the stake out point is reached the beep changes. The function can be stopped at any time by pressing

the CLE

🗾 button.

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## Indirect measurement

The instrument can calculate distances using Pythagoras' theorem.

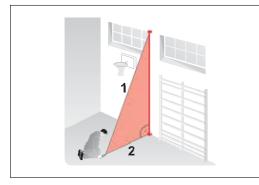
Make sure you adhere to the prescriped sequence of measurement:

- All target points must be in a horizontal or vertical plane.
- The best results are achieved when the instrument is rotated about a fixed point (e.g. with the positioning bracket fully folded out and the instrument paced on a wall).

The minimum/maximum function can be used see explanation in "Measuring -> Minimum/ maximum measurement". The minimum value must be used for measurements at right angles to the target; the maximum distance for all other measurements.

Make sure that the first measurement and the ensance to be measured are at right angles. Use the Minimum/maximum function, as explained in "Measuring -> Minimum/maximum measurement".

### Indirect measurement - determining a distance using 2 auxilliary measurements

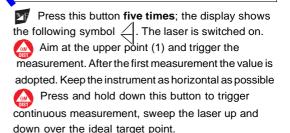


e.g. for measuring building heights or widths. It is helpful to use a tripod when measuring heights that require the measurement of two or three measurements.

Press this button **four times**, the display shows the following symbol  $\angle$ . The laser is switched on. Aim at the upper point (1) and trigger the measurement. After the first measurement the value is adopted. Keep the instrument as horizontal as possible.

Press and hold down this button to trigger continuous measurement, sweep the laser back and forth and up and down over the ideal target point. Press to stop continuous measurement (2). The result is displayed in the summary line, the partial results in the secondary line.

## Indirect Measurement - determining a distance using 3 measurements





Press to stop continuous measurement (2). The

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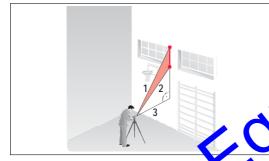
GB

value is adopted. Aim at the lower point and

(3). The result is displayed in the summary line, the

partial results in the secondary lines.

# Indirect measurement - determining a chain value using 3 measurements



e.g. determining the height between point 1 and point 2 using three target points.

Press this button **six times** the display shows the following symbol  $\angle$  the laser is switched on. Aim at the upper point (1).

Press this button and trigger the measurement. After the first measurement the value is adopted. The display flashes (2).

nctions

Triggers the measurement. After the second measurement the value is adopted. The display flashes (3).

Press and hold down this button to trigger continuous measurement. Sweep the laser up and down over the ideal target point

Press this button to end continuous measurement. The result is displayed in the summary line, the partial results in the secondary lines.

# Storage of constants/historical

#### torage of a constant

You can store and recall a frequently used value e.g. height of a room. Measure the desired distance, press and hold the button until the device beeps to confirm storage.

### **Recalling the constant**

Press this button **once** to recall the constant and make it available for further calculations by pressing button

### Adjusting the constant

Press the solution for longer to change the constant

- the constant flashes, you can now change the

constant to the required value using the even or button. Press the button to save the constant.

#### **Historical storage**

Press this button **twice** and the previous 20 results (measurements or calculated results) are shown in reverse order.

The \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ buttons can be used for navigation.

Press this button to use a result from the summary line for further calculations.

Pressing the and buttons at the same time erases all the values in historical storage.

# Timer (self-triggering) 🔗

Press this button to set a 5-second time delay

Press and hold down this button until the desired time delay is reached (max. 60 seconds).

Once the key is released the remaining seconds until measurement (e.g. 59, 58, 57...) are displayed in a countdown. The last 5 seconds are counted down with a beep. After the last beep, the measurement is taken and the value is displayed.

ne timer can be used for all measurements.

# Working with BLUETOOTH®

# Switching on BLUETOOTH sending measurements

Whilst the first connection between the bocketPC/PC and the DISTO<sup>™</sup> is being established, a prompt for the Pin-code of the DISTO<sup>™</sup> may be displayed. In this case, enter the code 0000 into your Pocket PC/PC.

# Switching off BLUETOOTH®

 $\label{eq:blue} BLUETOOTH @ switches off as soon as the DISTO^{{\mbox{\scriptsize TM}}} is switched off.$ 

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### The direction keys

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Eight direction keys (identified by a small arrow near the key) on the operator's keypad are used to manoeuvre the cursor. The direction keys become active when you switch to the second level (by pressing the wey key). The distance measuring key is active in both levels. The functionality of the direction keys depends on the software used.

### **Transmitting the measurement**

If your software supports the direction keys use them to select the appropriate position for the cursor.

Press the summary row to the pocket PC / PC.

Press the solution long to transfer all values from the display.

For further details please consult your manual for the software used.

## During data transmission

Appendix

If the data is not confirmed as being successfully received by the Pocket PC/PC then no new measurement can be processed. The Info code "240" appears in the display if no data transmission has taken place after a seconds. Press the received of the received of the transmission has taken place after a seconds.

the measurement and then transmit it.

The free software supplied is designed to provide the user with basic functionality. Leica Geosystems provides no warranty for this free software and offers no support for it. Leica Geosystems accepts no liability whatsoeveratising from the use of the free software and is not obliged to provide corrections nor to develop updates or upgrades. You can find numerous commercial vendors of software for a wide range of applications on our homepage.

# Appendix

### Message codes

All message codes are displayed with either (i) or "Error". The following errors can be corrected:

	Cause	Remedy
156	Transverse tilt greater than 10°	Hold the instrument without any transverse tilt
160	Main tilt direction, angle too high (> 45°)	Measure angle up to max. ± 45°
204	Calculation error	Repeat procedure
240	Data transfer error	Repeat procedure

	Cause	Remedy	Technical data	
245	2nd button pressed although no Blue- tooth connection exists.	Establish Bluetooth connection	Distance measurements: Measuring accuracy* up to 10 m	typically:=_1).16 in (+/-1.0mm)
252	Temperature too high	Cool down instrument	(2 s, standard deviation) Power Range	X
253	Temperature too low	Warm up instrument	Technology™: Range (use target plate	0.00 m to 100 m 2 in. to 325 ft
255	Receiver signal too weak, measurement time too long, distance > 100 m	Use target plate	from about 80m) Smallest unit dig lav	0.1 mm
256	Received signal too strong	Target too reflective (use target plate)	Minimum/m. ximum measuren en Continuous	
257	Wrong measure- ment, background brightness too high	Darken target (measure in different lighting conditions)	measurement Are two one calculation of it on data	
260	Laser beam inter- rupted	Repeat measurement	A Idition / subtraction	
Error	Cause	Rinedy	Indirect measurement using Pythagoras	
Error	Hardware error	Switch on to the device seven I times. If the time still appears, then your instrument is defective. Please call your dealer	Tilt measurements: Tilt sensor: Accuracy (2 s, standard deviation) - to laser beam - to the housing	± 0.3° ± 0.3°
		hr assistance.	Horizontal measurement	
	3000	•	Indirect measurement using tilt sensor (direct horizontal distance)	
• (	$\sim$		Angle measurement using tilt sensor(± 45°)	

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General:	
Laser class	II
Laser type	635 nm, < 1 mW
Ø laser point	6/30/60 mm
(at distances)	(10 / 50 / 100 m)
Autom. laser switch-off	after 3 min
Autom. instrument switch-off	after 6 min
Display illumination	
Multifunctional endpiece	
Timer (self-triggering)	
Save constant value	
Historical storage (20 values)	
BLUETOOTH® 2.0	
Range of BLUETOOTH® Cl. 2	10 m
Tripod thread	
Battery life,	r to
Type AAA, 2 x 1.5V	5 000 mean ements
Protection against splashes and dust	IP 54, dust prest, splatn-preof
Dimensions	5, 1.93 x 1.06 in
Weight (with batteries)	150 g
Temperature range: Storage	-25°C up to +70°C (- 13°F up to +158°F)
Operation	-10°C up to +50°C (14°F up to +122°F)
15	
Appendix	

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\* maximum deviation occurs under unfavourable conditions such as bright sunlight or when measuring to poorly reflecting on very rough surfaces. Measuring accuracy between 10 m and 30 m may deteriorate to approx.  $\pm$  0.025 mm/m, for distances above 30 m to  $\pm$  0.1 mm/m.

# Measuring conditions

#### **Measuring range**

The range is limited to 100 m. At night or dusk and if the target is in shadow the measuring range without target plate is increased. Use a target plate to increase the measurement range during daylight or if the target has poor reflection properties.

## arget surfaces

Measuring errors can occur when measuring toward colourless liquids (e.g. water) or dust free glass, Styrofoam or similar semi-permeable surfaces.

Aiming at high gloss surfaces may deflect the laser beam and lead to measurement errors.

Against non-reflective and dark surfaces the measuring time may increase.

### Care

Do not immerse the instrument in water. Wipe off dirt with a damp, soft cloth. Do not use aggressive cleaning agents or solutions. Handle the instrument as you would a telescope or camera.

# Warranty

The Leica DISTOTM D3a BT comes with a three\* year warranty from Leica Geosystems AG.

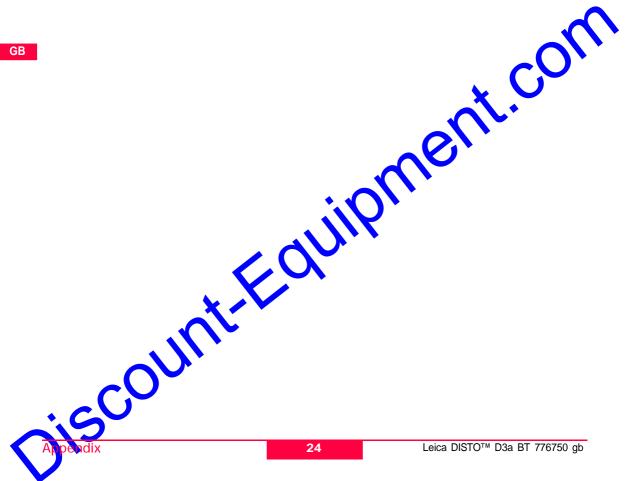
More detailed information can be found at:

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www.disto.com

All illustrations, descriptions and technical specifications may be subject to change without prior notical

\* To receive the three year warranty, the product must be registered on our website **www.disto.com** within eightweeks of the purchase date. If the product is not registered, a two year warranty applies.





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- when it has to be right