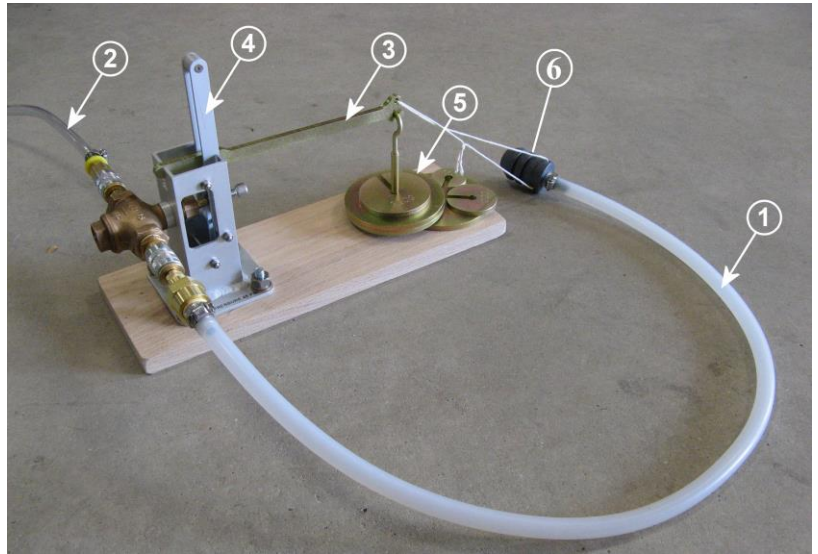




1. Remove inflation kit from the transportation case.
2. Connect the balloon inflation hose (1) to the output side of the shut-off valve.
3. Connect the helium input hose (2) to the input side of the shut-off valve.
4. Connect the regulator assembly (not shown) to the helium tank.
5. Connect the input hose (2) to the output of the regulator.
6. Lift the weight lever arm (3).
7. Pull back on the vertical valve control arm (4) and allow the weight lever arm to fall.
8. Calculate the counterweight (5) based on the balloon, radiosonde, flight train options, and conditions. Options include radiosondes, parachutes, de-reelers, etc. Refer to Table 1 for all of these options.



- Counterweight = Balloon + Radiosonde + Options + Conditions**
9. Attach the balloon neck to the nozzle (6) and secure it using spring clamp. Begin inflation by opening the primary gas valve on the helium tank. Adjust the output pressure to 10-12 PSI and lock adjusting knob.



Do not exceed 45 PSI output pressure when opening valve.

10. Once the desired lift is achieved, the balloon will raise the weight lever arm, shutting off the gas supply.

NOTE

If used outdoors, strong winds may cause the weights to be lifted prematurely, stopping inflation before the desired lift is achieved. Find suitable shelter if necessary in windy conditions.

11. Close the primary gas valve on the helium tank.
12. Pull back the vertical valve control arm (4) to relieve pressure in the inflation system.
13. Tie off the balloon and remove the nozzle from the neck. The balloon is now ready for flight.

For a video demonstration, please see: <http://www.youtube.com/InterMetsystems>

Table 1 recommendations are based on performance standards for Totex balloons. If you follow it, you should expect an ascent rate of approximately 320 m/min. It is meant as a guideline since user experience is required to fine tune ascent rates. Balloons from other manufacturers may have different characteristics.

Table 1: Balloons, Options, and Conditions

Balloon (g)	Lift (g)
100	+460
200	+510
300	+560
350	+585
600	+870
Radiosonde	
iMet-1	+260
iMet-4	+125
Parachute	+70
De-Reeler	+50
Rain	
Light	+100
Moderate	+200
Heavy	+300
Icing	
Moderate	+300
Severe	+500
High Surface Wind	
>25 kts (>12.5 m/s)	+100
>40 kts (>20.5 m/s)	+200-300

Table 2 shows the typical performance for difference balloon sizes.

Table 2: Balloon Burst Altitudes

Balloon (g)	Approx. Burst Altitude (km)	Approx. Burst Pressure (hPa)
100	17	66
200	21	45
300	25	26
350	26	22
600	31	10