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**Common Practice Command
Test Specification**

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Use of imperatives in HART Specifications

The key words (imperatives) "must", "required", "shall", "should", "recommended", "may", and "optional" when used in this document are to be interpreted as follows:

- Must** **Must, Shall, or Required** denotes an absolute mandatory requirement. For example, "All HART Field Devices must implement all Universal Commands"
- Should** **Should or Recommended** indicates a requirement that, given good cause/reason, can be ignored. However, the consequences of ignoring the requirement must be fully understood and well justified before doing so.
- May** **May or Optional** identifies a requirement that is completely optional and can be supported at the discretion of the implementation. May can be used to identify optional Host Application or Client functionality and, when this is the case, does not imply the function is optional in Field Devices.

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