Compression Test Set Up

- **Run proper Bluehill compression test method (cylindrical_metallic or cylindrical_polymer). Follow proper file naming convention.**
- **Hardness** (average 3 readings)
- **Diameter *and* Length** (average 3 measurements for each)

Metals	PMMA (polymer)
Install extensometer *(see below)* **Remove extensometer when computer prompts.**	**No Extensometer** (fully enclose back of loading fixture with shield)
Crosshead speed: *2.5 mm/min*	**Crosshead speed:** *5 mm/min*
Specimen info: *as appropriate*	**Specimen info:** *no extensometer*
Hardness: *as measured*	**Hardness:** *NA*
Hardness corr. dia: *as measured*	
Initial plot is *Load vs. Strain*	**Plot is** *Load vs. Computed Strain*

- **Open front shield. Raise piston. Check clearance for specimen.**
- **Jog up if necessary. Close shield.**
- **Center the fixture on the Instron platen.**

- **<*metals only*> At BACK of the Instron, hold the Extensometer, wire DOWN.**
- **Set the Extensometer Calibration Buttons (*SEE* the cup-cone engage).**
  (*Keep the buttons engaged during the entire installation procedure*)
  < Do NOT place the specimen in the fixture yet. >
- **Center the specimen in the extensometer clips.**
- **Center the specimen on the fixture platen.**
- **Check vertical alignment and then lower the piston.**
- ***Carefully release* the extensometer buttons.**
- **Close shields – Do not contact the extensometer.**
- **Extensometer – Balance Strain 1 (upper left of computer screen).**

- **Jog down – Small gap between the load cell and piston.**
- **GL Reset.**
- **Start the test.**
- **For metals, computer will prompt (at 12% strain) to remove extensometer & close shield (strain is automatically computed from crosshead position beyond 12%)**
- **Stop test manually, as appropriate (upper right on computer screen or red button on control console). Test will auto-stop if 100kN load is exceeded.**
- **UNLOAD (**Jog Up**) *BEFORE* removing shields. Watch Load indicator.**
- **Remove (extensometer and) specimen.**
- **Measure final dimensions and enter in Bluehill.**