

ALBA Software Disk 3

Installing the Software for the USB Version of ALBA

The ALBA software runs on computers with the Windows XP operating system or later. Versions 2.00 and greater of the ALBA software support both the serial port and USB versions of the ALBA Interface and Logger.

If the installation does not start automatically then type *D:\setup.exe* from the “run” command where D is the letter of your CD-ROM drive.

There are several parts to the installation:

- The first part installs the latest ALBA core, the Help file and manual.
- Next the software asks you if you wish to install the USB drivers. If you are using only the older serial port ALBAs then you do not need to install the USB drivers. If you are using a USB ALBA and already have the drivers installed from other ALBA disks then you may answer No to this else answer Yes. Note that answering Yes when the drivers are already installed is ok. If you have a mixture of serial port and USB in your lab then all your computers should have the USB drivers installed.
- Next the Applications are installed.
- Finally you are asked if you wish to install the Adobe Acrobat Reader.

Note that if in the future you wish to uninstall the ALBA software there are two parts to uninstall: the ALBA Core and the Applications.

Users may make as many copies of the manual as they wish for use within their educational establishment.

To uninstall the drivers and associated registry entries do the following :

- Go to <http://www.fdichip.com/Resources/Utilities.htm> and download the utility FTClean – Driver Removal Utility.
- Run the file FTClean.exe
- Now from the Control Panel select *Add or Remove Software*. Scroll down until you see two copies of *Windows Driver Package – FTDI CDM Driver Package*. Remove both of them.

Windows 98

djb microtech does not officially support the older operating systems. However the ALBA software does run on windows 98 and ME and users with these operating systems will have to install the USB drivers manually.

The following steps may help you :

- After installing the ALBA software connect the ALBA Interface and Logger to your PC. A message will appear telling you that new hardware has been found.
- The next window displays *Please insert the disk labeled 'FTDI USB Driver Disk', and then click ok*. You do not have this disk – just click ok to dismiss the window.
- At the bottom of the next window you will see *'Copy files from:'* and a location underneath. Replace this location with *D:\Drivers\Win98* where D is the letter of your CD-ROM drive. Alternatively you can click the browse button and navigate to the folder containing the 98 drivers on your CD.
- Now click OK to install the drivers.

Your ALBA Interface and Logger should now work when the ALBA software is launched.

Please note that if you have several ALBA Interfaces then you will have to go through this procedure for each ALBA on each computer. If you find yourself in this position please contact djb microtech.

Contents of CD - ROM

The Applications contained on this disk are:

- 1) Resistor Current/Voltage - shows that current and voltage are directly proportional for AC.
- 2) Resistor Current/Frequency - shows that current is independent of frequency.
- 3) Capacitor Current/Voltage - shows that current and voltage are directly proportional but the gradient of the graph depends on the frequency i.e. frequency is a variable.
- 4) Capacitor Current/Frequency - shows the direct relationship.
- 5) Capacitor Current /Capacitance - shows the direct relationship. Combining the three AC Capacitor experiments enables the expression for capacitive reactance to be derived.
- 6) Inductor Current/Voltage - shows that current and voltage are directly proportional but the gradient of the graph depends on the frequency i.e. frequency is a variable.
- 7) Inductor Current/Frequency - shows the inverse relationship.
- 8) Inductor Current/Inductance - shows the inverse relationship. Combining the three AC Inductor experiments enables the expression for inductive reactance to be derived.
- 9) Series Resonance
- 10) Parallel Resonance
- 11) Low-pass Filter - this is intended as an application of capacitors.
- 12) Bode Plot - this is a general purpose tool for plotting the gain/log(f) of a filter.

It should be noted that some of the Applications on Disk 3 go beyond the Scottish Higher and Advanced Higher syllabus. However it is hoped that the resonance and filter Applications will lend themselves to investigative work.

Upgrading the ALBA Core

As new versions of the core are produced they will be put on the website along with the accompanying manual and Help files. In this way you will be able to stay abreast of all new core features which are developed without incurring additional costs.

djb microtech ltd

Delfie House, 1 Delfie Drive, Greenock, Scotland, PA16 9EN

Email: info@djb.co.uk Website: www.djb.co.uk Phone/fax 01475 786540