

ALBA Software Disk 5

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:

- Current in a bulb at switch-on
- Efficiency of a motor
- Specific Heat Capacity - liquids
- Specific Heat Capacity - solids
- Joule and Watt Meter - a general purpose Application
- Force and Motion
- Lift - Force and Motion
- Weight component down a slope
- Wheatstone Bridge - out of balance conditions
- Half value thickness of lead
- SHM - force constant

It should be noted that the SHM - force constant Application is for use with the ALBA Ranger and will not be available to run unless a Ranger is connected.

In addition to the Applications there is a pdf version of the manual - this is placed in your ALBA folder during installation. The manual can be read using Adobe Acrobat. A version of the Acrobat Reader is on the CD. It is recommended that you read the ALBA Help file to see what is new in the latest version of the ALBA Core. To do this click on *Help, Version History, Software History* and then scroll to the bottom of the text. to see what's new in the latest version.

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.

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