



SMARTLink 2

VERSION 1.0

**for use with the Smart Colorimeter
and Smart Spectrophotometer • Code 61923**

Introduction

The Smartlink 2 software was designed to allow the data stored in the SMART Colorimeter or Spectrophotometer to be easily transferred to a personal computer. The Smartlink 2 software relates a set of test results to a particular testing site and date. Understanding how the data is stored in the SMART Colorimeter and Spectrophotometer will make using the software even easier.

Every time a test is run on the SMART Colorimeter or Spectrophotometer the result is stored in a list. The colorimeter will store up to 500 results. Every time the colorimeter is turned off, an empty space is stored in the list. The list consists of blocks of data separated by blank spaces. This allows sets of data to be stored as separate blocks just by turning off the meter. Run tests at one site and turn off the meter and go to the next test site. Run more tests and turn off the meter. There are now two blocks of data which can be related to a particular site when the data is downloaded with the Smartlink 2 software. (Hint: to identify blocks of data, edit the name of a USER TEST to be the site name and run that test first at that site. Turn off the meter and there will be a block of data which contains the name of the site!!).

Using the Smartlink 2 program allows you to input information about different testing sites into databases. As the data is downloaded from the Smart Colorimeter or Spectrophotometer, the software asks which testing site each block of data should be stored with. The data can then be printed or exported to a spread sheet program if desired.

System Requirements

Operating System: Windows 95, 98, or Windows NT

Hardware: 486 computer (Pentium PC preferred) with

- 16 MB RAM
- Hard Disk Drive with at least 5 MB available space
- Super VGA Monitor
- 3.5" Floppy Disk Drive
- Mouse
- Parallel Printer (Laser printer preferred)

Installing Software

CD Version

- 1.** Close all other opened Windows programs before attempting installation of Smartlink 2.
- 2.** Insert the disk into the CD drive.
- 3.** Choose the "D" drive or other CD drive under "My Computer".
- 4.** Double click the icon labeled "Setup.exe" and the installation process will begin.
- 5.** Click on the NEXT button to advance from one window to the next. The second window lets you select the directory that the program will be installed into. If you currently have another version of Smartlink on your computer, that directory will become the default directory for installation. If you do not want Smartlink 2 installed in the directory listed, click the BROWSE button to change directories. If you choose a different directory it's name will appear in the upper box of the Select Destination Directory Window with the original directory's name immediately after it. You will need to delete the original directory name by highlighting it with your mouse and pressing the Delete key. The install program will automatically make a backup file in the directory that the program is being installed into and will make a Program file called Smartlink 2 for you. You can change either of these default settings if you choose.
- 6.** Once the program has been installed it will prompt you to shut down the computer and restart it in order to finalize all settings.
- 7.** After restarting your computer you can access the program through the Programs option on your Start button. Or you can put a Shortcut Icon on your desktop.

NOTE: The first time you open the Smartlink 2 program you will be prompted to index the databases. Click on the start button in the Database Indexing Window. You will only need to do this once.

Floppy Disk Version

- 1.** Close all other opened Windows programs before attempting installation of Smartlink 2.
- 2.** Insert Disk 1 into the drive on your computer.
- 3.** Choose Run from the menu on the Start button.
- 4.** At the prompt type "A:\setup.exe" and then press Enter.
- 5.** Click on the NEXT button to advance from one window to the next. The second window lets you select the directory that the program will be installed into. If you currently have another version of Smartlink on your computer, that directory will become the default directory for installation. If you do not want Smartlink 2 installed in the directory listed, click the BROWSE button to change directories. If you choose a different directory it's name will appear in the upper box of the Select Destination Directory Window with the original directory's name immediately after it. You will need to delete the original directory name by highlighting it with your mouse and pressing the Delete key. The install program will automatically make a backup file in the directory that the program is being installed into and will make a Program file called Smartlink 2 for you. You can change either of these default settings, if you choose. When disk 1 is finished copying, insert disk 2 and click the continue button. Once disk 2 is finished copying, insert disk 3 and click the continue button.
- 6.** Once the program has been installed it will prompt you to shut down the computer and restart it in order to finalize all settings.
- 7.** After restarting your computer you can access the program through the Programs option on your Start button. Or you can put a Shortcut Icon on your desktop.

NOTE: The first time you open the Smartlink 2 program you will be prompted to index the databases. Click on the start button in the Database Indexing Window. You will only need to do this once.

Smart Colorimeter/Spectrophotometer Connection

1. Plug the round 8 pin mDIN end of the cable into the RS232 port of the SMART Colorimeter.
2. Plug the rectangular 9 pin F D-submin end of the cable into a Serial port, or "COM port," on the computer. Note which port you have used.

First Steps

1. Setup the Smartlink Operator: Click on Setup/ Operator Information to enter your operator's name, address, phone and report message. This information will appear on report headers.
2. Setup the Smartlink Device. Click on Setup/Select Device to indicate which testing device you will be using to collect data. Connect the device to one of your PC's available comports.
3. Setup the Comport. Click on Setup/Com Port Setup to initiate serial communication with the device selected in Step 2 above.

Test Data

Single Test Entry

Smartlink 2 provides a data grid to allow test entry into the Smartlink 2 database as the tests are performed. If you plan to run a number of tests someplace where you can connect the meter to your computer you may wish to transmit the data to the computer as they are completed. The single test entry does require a site to be selected before tests can be transmitted.

Multiple Test Download

Smartlink 2 provides this data grid to allow the transmission of stored data from either the colorimeter or the spectrophotometer. Normally, this data grid is used after the tests have been completed and stored in the data log of your meter. This becomes very convenient when tests need to be conducted on-site.

Test Maintenance and Review

Smartlink 2 provides this screen for access to test results by site and date. You will be prompted for a site which is selected from a drop down list and either a single test date or a range of dates. This will help narrow the selected list of test records to review. The data grid will display the tests in date order.

Setup

Operator Information

The information screen allows you to enter your name, address and phone number. This information will be included on report headers. You may also enter messages in the text box that will be printed at the end of reports. You may include sale advertisements, promotions, or other events.

Site information

This data entry screen allows you to enter site data and also collect data from the Smartlink colorimeter or spectrophotometer.

How do I enter test results?

- 1.** Make sure the proper device has been selected (Select Device)
- 2.** Make sure the comport has been properly setup (Com Port Setup)
- 3.** Be sure the device (colorimeter/spectrophotometer) is properly connected to the computer.
- 4.** If you are using the colorimeter be sure the device is set in remote control mode.
- 5.** Click on the download button located just above the data grid.
- 6.** The computer is now in download mode. If you are using the colorimeter it will Command the colorimeter to transmit data. This may take a little time, don't be alarmed by the pause. If you are using the spectrophotometer, the meter is waiting for you to transmit the data from the meter. You must select the pc link and download option from the devices menu in order to transfer the data to the computer.

How do I graph test results?

There are two ways to graph the data in the data grid:

- Highlight the records you want to graph and click on the “Refresh Graph” button. For Instructions on how to select multiple records from the data grid, see “Browse Window Grid.” Note that only test results from a single test name can be graphed with this method.
- Manually enter the date/time range for the X-axis and the max and min test values for the Y-axis. Select the test names you wish to include from the list of available test names. Once the parameters are entered, click on the “Refresh Grid” button. Each test name selected will be graphed in a different color. Note that if you have multiple records selected in the data grid, the method above takes precedence.

Comport Setup

There are two methods for selecting the comport:

- Manual Method: Click on the radio button indicating the comport number you plan to use to transmit data from the meter.
- Comport Wizard: The comport wizard consists of a sequence of screens that will help select the comport being used by your meter. Before beginning the selection process, verify that your meter is connected to the computer. If you are using the colorimeter, the meter will be located automatically. If you are using the spectrophotometer, you will be required to transmit data to the computer while Smartlink tests each comport.

Select Device

Smartlink provides support for both the colorimeter and the spectrophotometer. Select the device you plan to use by clicking on the appropriate option. The test entry and download screens will be tailored for the device you select. You may change this setting at any time.

Printer Setup

The printer setup option accesses the Windows’ printer setup window. The changes made here affect the printer setup for all Windows programs. For detailed information on the options in this window, please refer to your Microsoft manuals.

Maintenance

Index Data Files

Index files are used to track and sort your site data and test results. This window allows the creation of new index files in the event that the current indices are deleted or damaged. If you are experiencing difficulties locating sites you entered previously, or are receiving key violation errors, attempt to re-index your files before calling technical support.

Backup Data Files

The backup utility is used to copy your data files to a different directory or floppy disk. This will help prevent the loss of data during a computer failure. It is recommended that a regular backup schedule be established and that the data be stored on a floppy disk separate from your computer's hard drive. If your hardware should fail, your backup is the only way of restoring the customer list and test results.

Restore Data Files

The restore utility copies files from a backup disk or directory into the Smartlink 2 data directory. After restoring, your data files will be set to the same condition as when the backup was made. Therefore, if you need to restore files, use your most recent backup.

Help

Contents

Smartlink2 offers a quick guide to the functions of the program by selecting the contents file under the "help" menu. Just click one of the subheadings on the left side of the screen and a description of that topic will appear on the right side of the screen.

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