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# **Star Chromatography Workstation**

## **Version 6**

# **Data Acquisition**

## **Operation Manual**



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# Getting Started

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## About this Manual

This manual describes the operation of the Star Chromatography Workstation when used with the Star ADC Board for chromatography data acquisition. It covers configuring an instrument for data acquisition, building a method, and running samples. For post-run data handling, peak integration, and standard report generation, please refer to the Data Handling and Reports Operation Manual.

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## Additional Manuals

Other sources of information are available to help you get the most from this product.



### Data Handling and Reports Operation Manual

This manual describes post-run and interactive data handling, standard report generation, and advanced application.



### Data Handling and Reports Tutorial Manual

The tutorials provide a practical way to quickly learn how to perform basic tasks using the Star Chromatography Software. These Tutorials cover Star Workstation operation that is common to all instrument configurations.

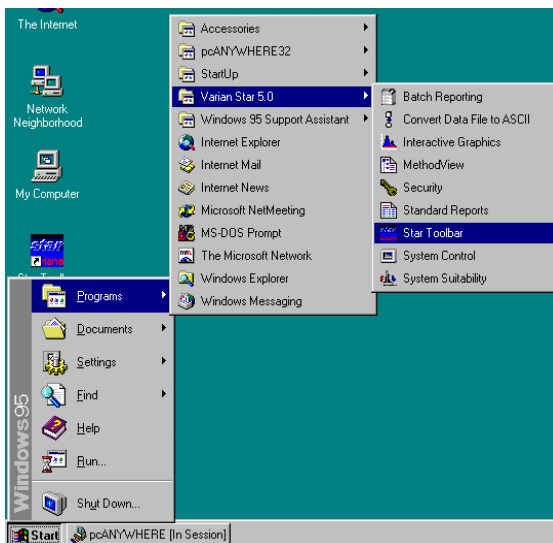
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## Star Toolbar



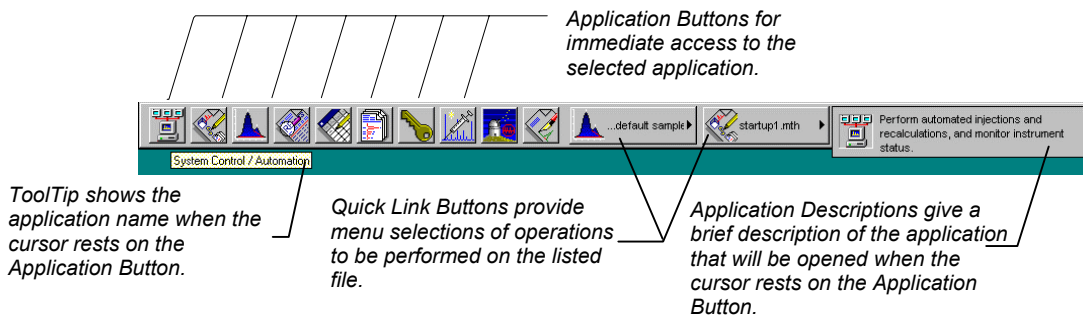
Star Chromatography Workstation is a suite of applications for controlling chromatographs, collecting data from chromatograph detectors, and analyzing that data. The Star Toolbar provides quick and easy access to the Star Chromatography Workstation applications. When activated the Star Toolbar behaves very much like the Windows Taskbar. It can be docked on any of the four sides of the display screen and other Windows programs will not cover or go behind it when they are opened in full screen mode.

If the Star Toolbar is not already opened on your Star Workstation, you can start it from the Windows Start Menu.

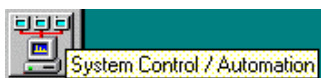




## Elements of the Star Toolbar



## Application Buttons



Used to monitor instrument status, perform automated injections, and perform batch recalculations.



Used to view and edit instrument operation, data acquisition, and data handling methods.



Used to review chromatograms, interactively edit data handling parameters, and recalculate results.



Used to preview standard chromatogram and results reports.



Used for offline editing of SampleLists, RecalcLists and Sequences.



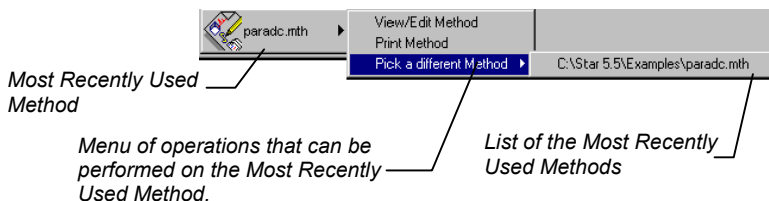
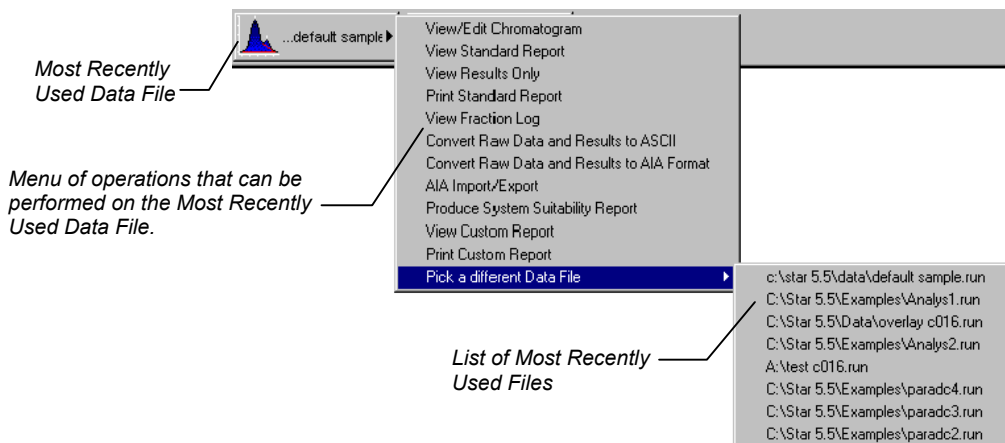
Used to generate standard reports for a group of Data Files by dragging and dropping them on the Batch Report Window.



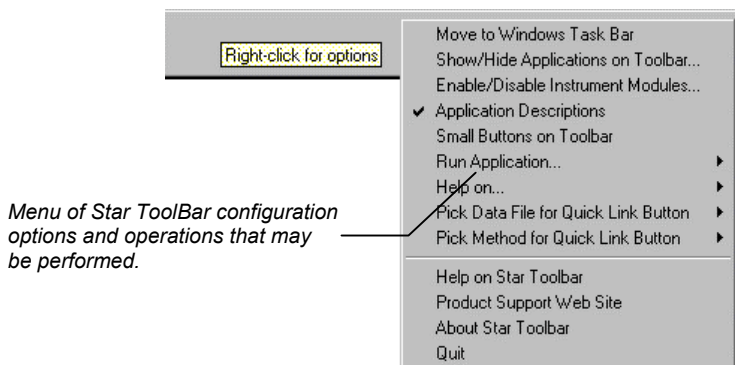
Used to set Star Workstation security options and passwords.

Other application buttons may be added to the Star Toolbar when you install additional Star Workstation Options, such as StarFinder, Star Custom Report Writer, and PolyView2000.

## Quick Link Buttons



## Star Toolbar Options

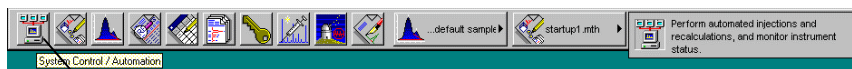


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## Starting System Control the First Time

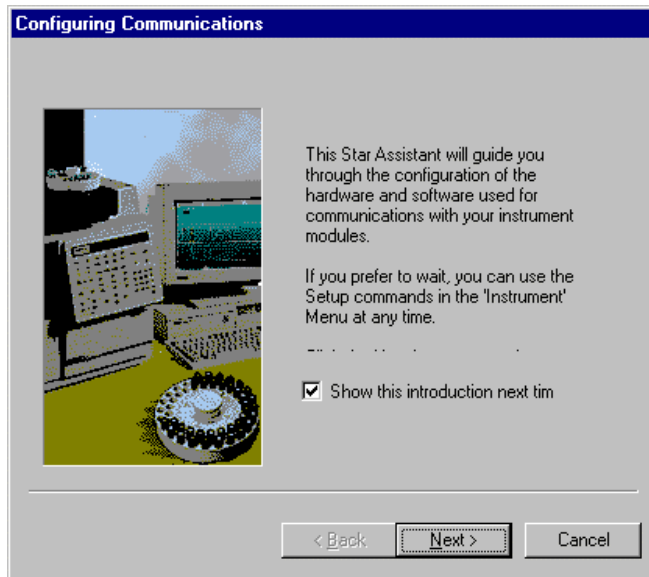
The first time that you use the Star Chromatography Workstation to control your instrument, collect chromatographic data and generate results, you must configure the System Control application. The System Control Configuration Window allows you to set the communication parameters for each of your chromatograph modules and to drag the various modules into Star Workstation instrument areas to match the physical plumbing arrangement of your modules. Once the instruments are configured in System Control, the configuration is stored and you only need to reconfigure System Control when you change the physical hardware configuration of your chromatograph modules.

Start by running System Control.

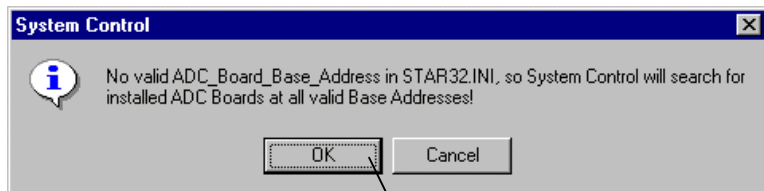


*Click on the System Control /Automation button  
on the Star ToolBar to start System Control.*

When System Control is started the first time, the Star Assistant Communication Configuration Wizard will appear to guide you through the setting of the ADC Board I/O port addresses.



Read the description presented in the Star Assistant window and click on the Next button to advance to the next step. The first time the Star Assistant guides you through the setup of your ADC Board I/O addresses, you will get the following message:



*Click on the OK button to let the System Control application search for any installed ADC Boards.*

When System Control finishes searching for installed ADC Boards, you will see this screen.

*Star Workstation Module number for the ADC Board at the specified I/O Address.*

*System Control finds all installed ADC Boards and indicates their addresses. 280 is the recommended base address.*

*Select the style that matches the S1 switch on your ADC Board.*

*Shows which ADC Boards have been detected, if any.*

*ADC Board S1 switch settings for the specified I/O address. If an ADC Board was found, these settings will match the switch on the ADC Board. If the ADC Board was not found or is not installed, the S1 switch settings on the ADC Board should be set to match these.*

*Click on next to continue with the Star Assistant.*

ADC Board Bus Address	ADC Board I/O Address	ADC Board Switch S1 Settings	I/O Port Status
16	280	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	ADC Board
18	284	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	ADC Board
20	288	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Vacant
22	28c	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Vacant

☒ Show Rocker Style (dark area shows depressed half of each switch)

☒ Prompt for Setup if needed

< Back   Next >   Cancel

When the Star Assistant finishes, you will be at the System Control Configuration Screen.

# Configuring an Instrument

## Modules and Instruments Defined

System Control communicates with hardware **modules** that are used to perform chromatography. When you group these modules together in System Control (and physically connect together any necessary cables and plumbing), they form an **instrument**. All modules in an instrument are synchronized to run on the same time base. For Star Data Acquisition Workstation, the only modules that are installed are ADC Boards. An instrument, therefore, would consist of one or more ADC Boards electrically connected to your detector output(s).

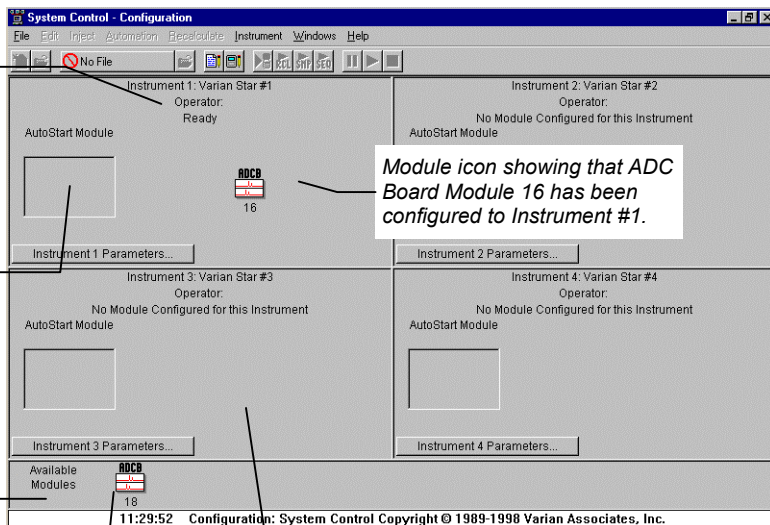
## Elements of the Configuration Screen

*Instrument Parameters --  
Instrument Name  
Operator Name  
Instrument status*

*AutoStart Module area.  
Place the ADC Board  
Module icon in this box if  
you want the ADC Board to  
provide the Start signal to  
the chromatograph.  
If the ADC Board receives a  
Start signal from the  
chromatograph, do NOT put  
it in this box.*

*Click on this button to enter  
or change the Instrument  
Name, Operator Name, and  
Maximum allowable error  
count.*

*Modules that have logged in and  
are available for configuration into  
an instrument are displayed here.*

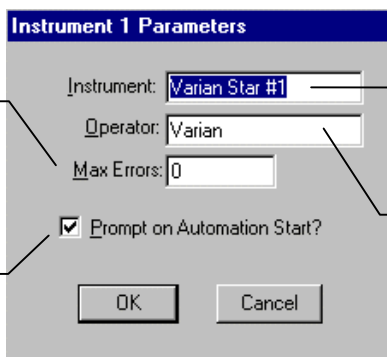


*Instrument Window – drag modules from the  
available module area to add them to an  
instrument. Double-click in this area to view  
the System Control Status and Control  
Window for this instrument. For the Star Data  
Acquisition Workstation Single Instrument,  
there will only be one instrument window  
shown on this screen.*

## Setting Instrument Parameters

When the maximum number of non-fatal errors is exceeded during automation, the automation sequence halts. Setting this value to zero disables this feature.

You are optionally prompted for this information when you start an automated sequence of injections or recalculations.



The dialog box titled "Instrument 1 Parameters" contains the following fields and controls:

- Instrument:** A text field containing "Varian Star #1".
- Operator:** A text field containing "Varian".
- Max Errors:** A text field containing "0".
- Prompt on Automation Start?:** A checked checkbox.
- Buttons:** "OK" and "Cancel" buttons at the bottom.

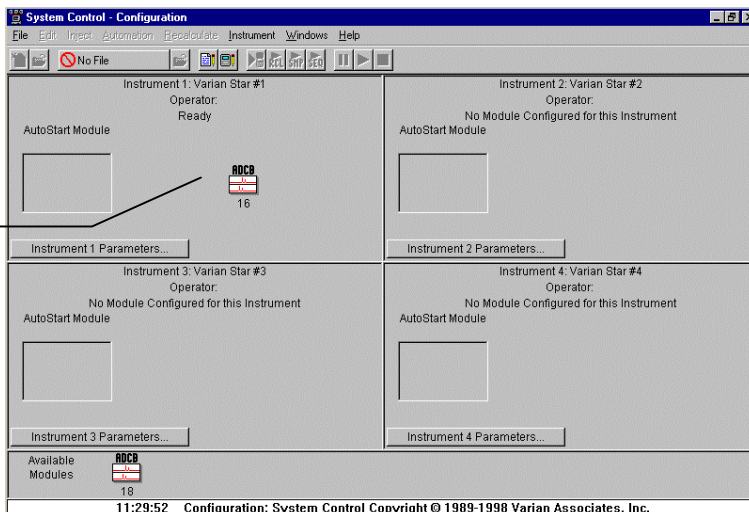
The instrument name appears on reports and in the instrument window.

The operator name appears on reports.

## The Instrument Window

Once you have configured your instruments, you may view any instrument window.

Double-click in this area or select the instrument from the Instrument menu to view the System Control Status and Control Window for this instrument.



The "System Control - Configuration" window displays a grid of instrument status panels:

- Instrument 1: Varian Star #1**  
Operator: Ready  
AutoStart Module: [Empty box]  
[Instrument 1 Parameters... button]
- Instrument 2: Varian Star #2**  
Operator: No Module Configured for this Instrument  
AutoStart Module: [Empty box]  
[Instrument 2 Parameters... button]
- Instrument 3: Varian Star #3**  
Operator: No Module Configured for this Instrument  
AutoStart Module: [Empty box]  
[Instrument 3 Parameters... button]
- Instrument 4: Varian Star #4**  
Operator: No Module Configured for this Instrument  
AutoStart Module: [Empty box]  
[Instrument 4 Parameters... button]

At the bottom, there is an "Available Modules" section showing a "RDCB" module with a value of 18.

Footer: 11:29:52 Configuration: System Control Copyright © 1989-1998 Varian Associates, Inc.

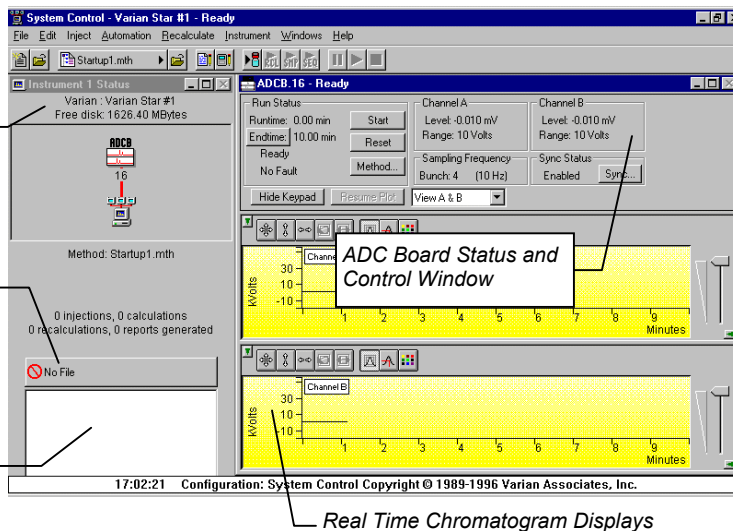
The instrument window allows you to monitor the status of all modules assigned to the instrument, perform injections of one or more samples, and perform batch recalculations.

## Elements of the Instrument Window

Instrument Status display shows Operator and Instrument Names, free disk space, connected modules, open method, and the number of injections, calculations, recalculations, and reports.

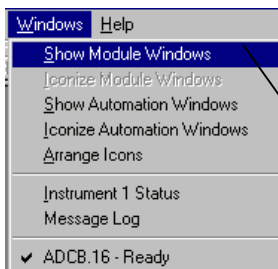
Quick Link button for the selected Data File.

List of the most recently used Data Files. Data Files are added to this list box as they are generated. When a Data File is selected, its name appears on the Quick Link button above. This Quick Link button provides access to additional operations for the selected Data File.



System Control Instrument Window positions are remembered the next time you start System Control.

## Displaying ADC Board Status and Control Window

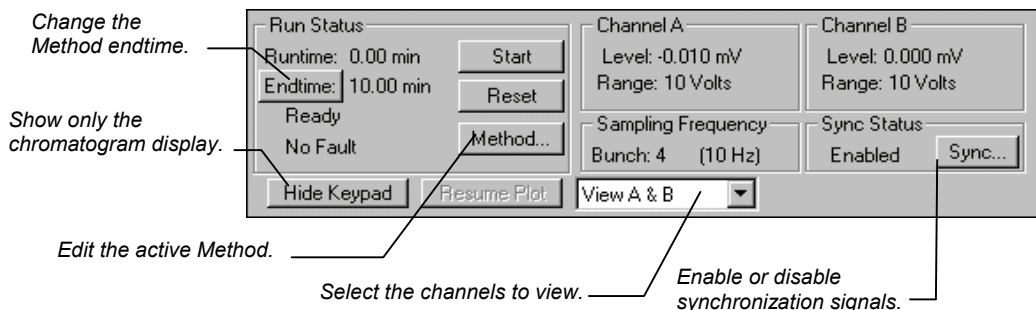


If the Status and Control Windows for the modules configured in the instrument are not currently displayed, you can select Show Module Windows from the Windows menu.



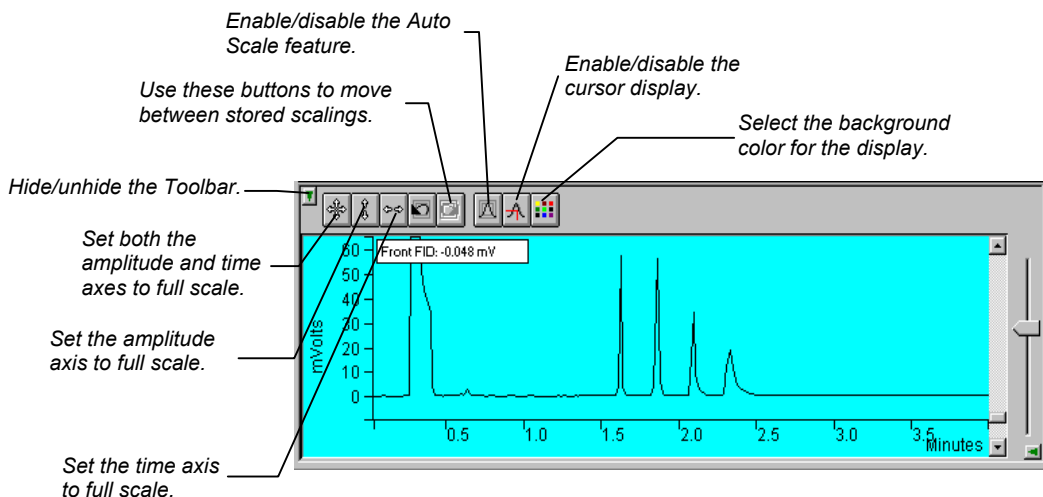
## Configuring the ADC Board Status and Control Window

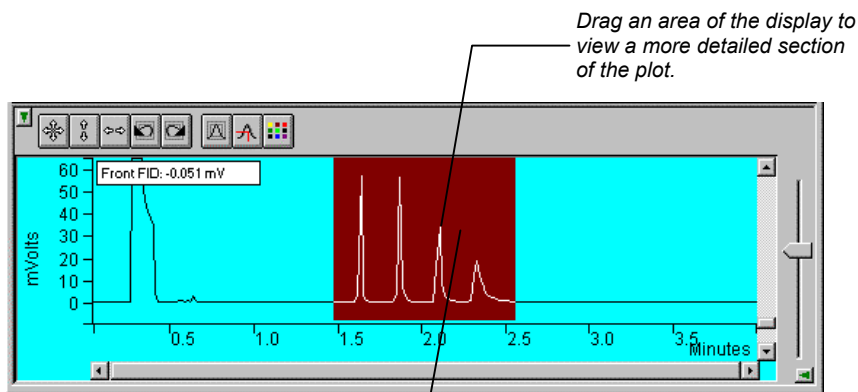
Method parameters and synchronization signals can be configured in the ADC Board window.



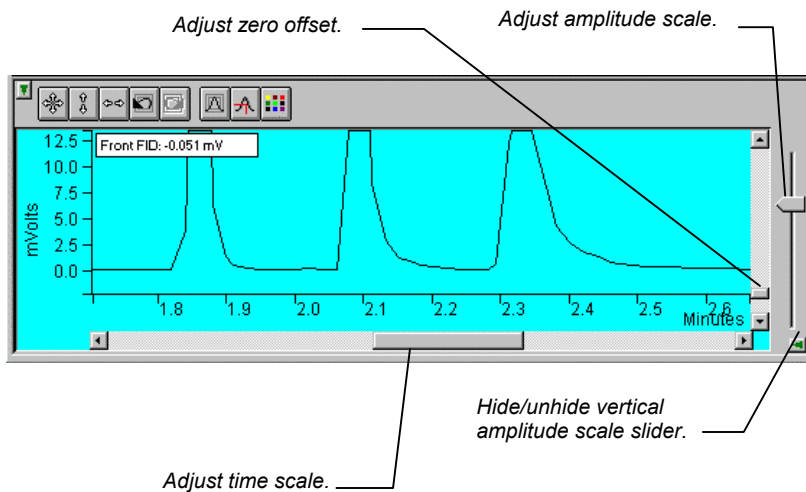
## Configuring the Real-Time Chromatogram Display

All detectors installed on the 3800 GC display their chromatographic signals in real time. Configuration of the chromatogram display for all detectors is the same.





...or zoom in both axes by pressing and holding the left mouse button on the spot you wish to enlarge. (Holding the Control key down will allow you to zoom out.)

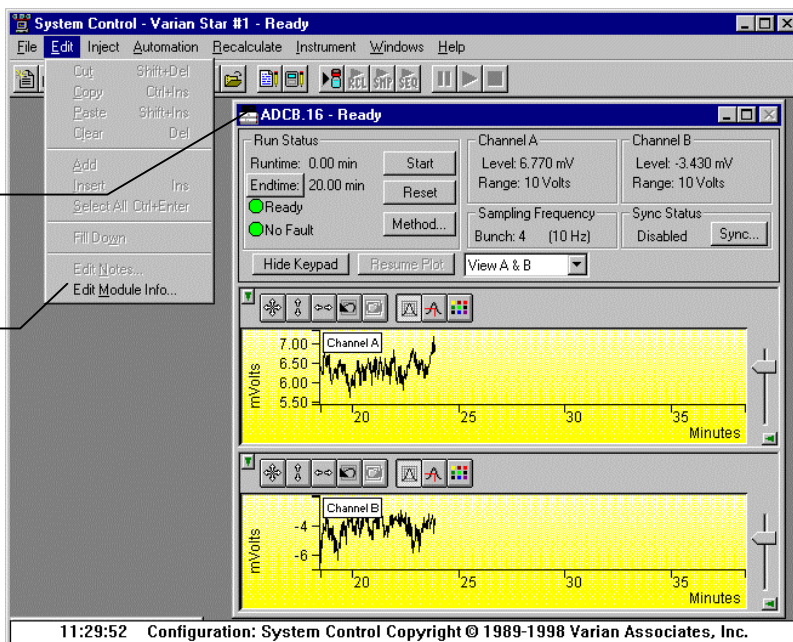


## Documenting Module Information

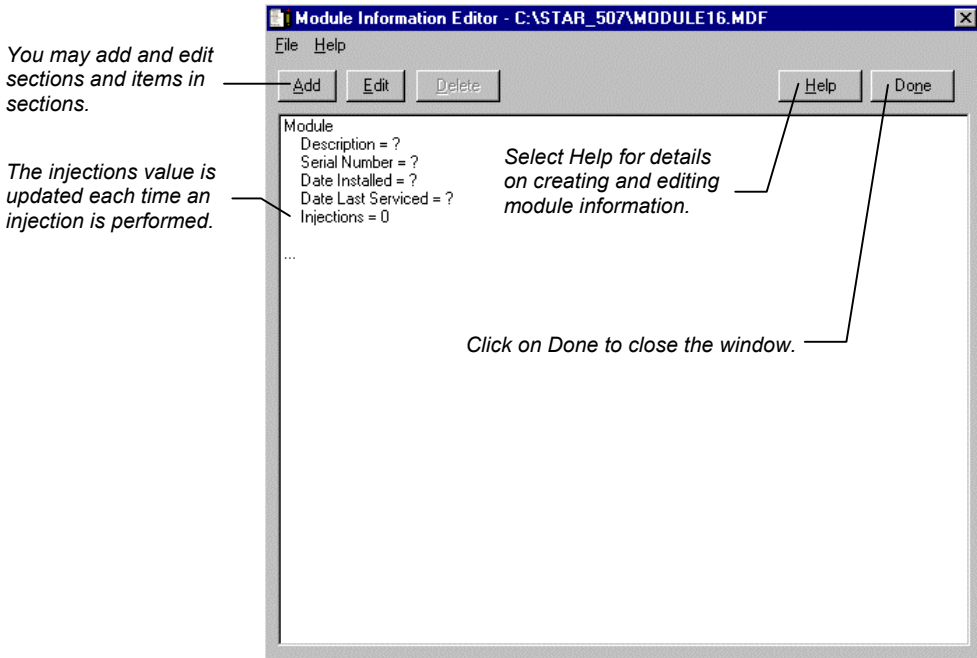
You may wish to document the configuration of your modules, their installation and most recent service dates, and other information pertinent to your instrument. To do so, use the Module Information Editor accessed from the Edit menu in the instrument window.

Click on the module window to give it the focus.

Select Edit Module Info.



The Module Information Editor window is displayed.



Module information is copied into Data Files generated after injections and can be included in the Run Log portion of the results report.

# Ethernet Communication Setup

This section describes the procedure for configuring your computer for use with the Star 800 MIB that communicates with the Star Workstation over a standard 10BaseT Ethernet connection. Your system can easily be expanded from a single module on a single Star Workstation configuration to multiple modules on a single Star Workstation. In a fully networked lab, it is possible to have several Star 800 MIBs connected to any one of several Star Workstation systems located anywhere on the network.

The term *Ethernet* refers to the cables and interface cards that are used to connect devices on the network. Several types of Ethernet cables exist, and if you are connecting your Star 800 MIB to an existing Ethernet network, you will need to use cables compatible with 10BaseT Ethernet connections. Generally these will be Ethernet category 3 or Ethernet category 5 cables with RJ45 connectors.

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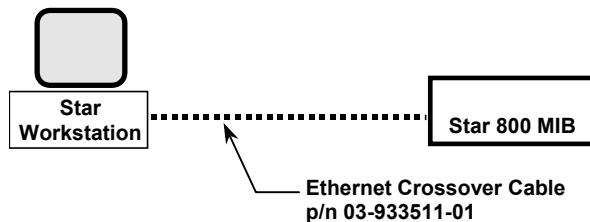
## What Do I need to Know about Networks

The Star 800 MIB uses *TCP/IP* (Transmission Control Protocol / Internet Protocol) to communicate over the Ethernet network. Ethernet is a set of hardware specifications that govern the way a device is connected to the network. This section of the manual describes the Ethernet connections used to connect these modules to Star Workstations.

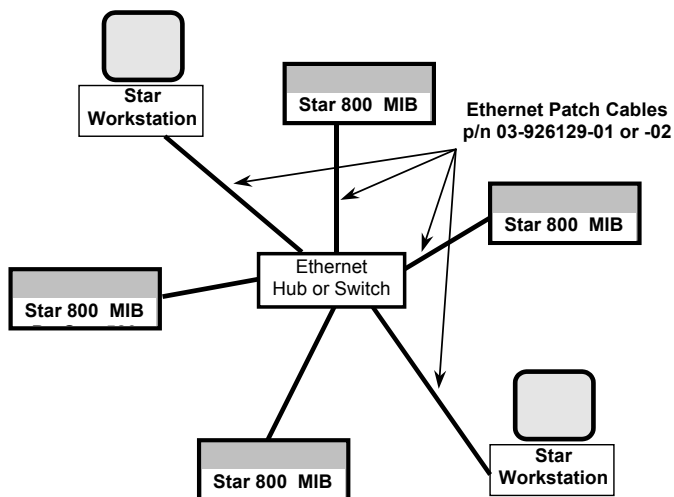
The term TCP/IP refers to the software protocol that allows various devices to communicate with each other over a network. Communications over the Internet and the World Wide Web use TCP/IP. Since the Star 800 MIB use TCP/IP to communicate with the Star Workstation, the Star Workstation PC and the Star 800 MIB need to be given unique *IP addresses*—the addresses that are used to identify each networked TCP/IP device. The process used to assign IP addresses to the PC and to the Modules is also covered in this section of the manual.

### Isolated Network

If you have one Star 800 MIB to connect directly to the Star Workstation PC and the Star Workstation PC is NOT connected to a company network, then you may connect your Star Workstation and Star 800 MIB directly to each other using the Ethernet crossover cable supplied with the Star 800 MIB.



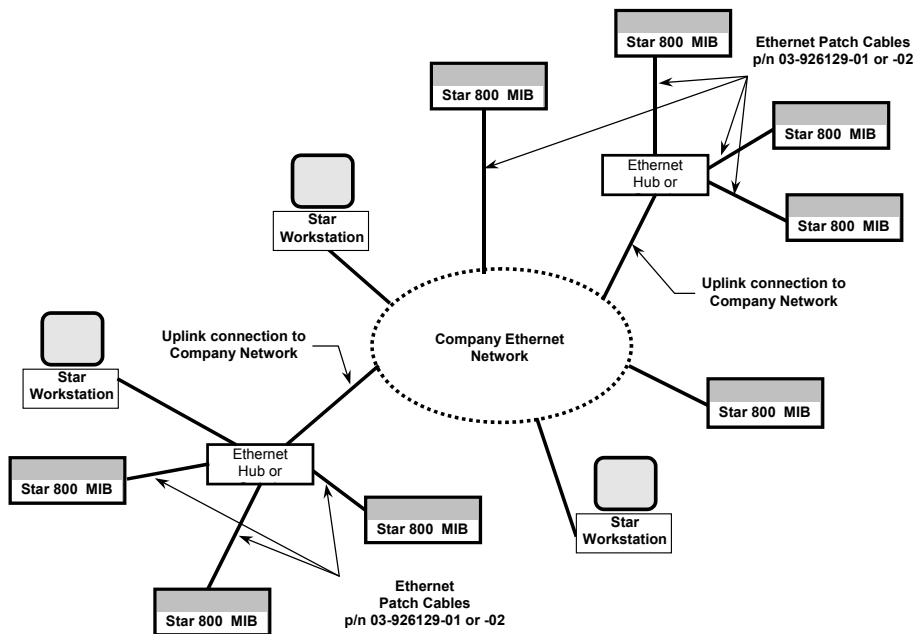
If you want to connect several Star 800 MIBs to one or more Star Workstations, then you will need to use an Ethernet 10BaseT hub or switch and Ethernet Category 3 or 5 patch cables to connect the modules and the Star Workstation PCs to the Ethernet hub or switch.



We refer to this type of special purpose network as an **Isolated Network** (one that does not have IP addresses provided by a Network Administrator).

## Company Network

You may also connect your Star Workstations and Star 800 MIBs to a company Ethernet network used for purposes other than instrument control (such as Internet access or file server access).



We refer to this type of multi-purpose network as a **Company Network**, and a Network Administrator in your company will typically manage it. If this is the case, then some of the settings needed to configure your Star 800 MIB and Star Workstation PC will need to be provided by your Network Administrator.

The Star 800 MIB is provided its IP address either by the BOOTP server included with Star Workstation or by BOOTP software running on your network. The software used to send IP addresses to TCP/IP devices is called a **BOOTP Server** (Bootstrap Protocol Server). You will see the term BOOTP Server mentioned in this manual. If you are connecting your modules and Star Workstation to a company network, your Network Administrator should be made aware that the Star 800 MIB would require a BOOTP Server for IP address assignment.



---

## Where to Begin

Before beginning the configuration process, you should know whether you will be attaching your Star Workstation PC, the Star 800 MIB to a company network (as described in the previous section) or as an isolated network only used for instrument control. If you have a Network Administrator on site, you may wish to ask which configuration is recommended.

Use this information to determine the order in which you should read the following sections.

- “Setting the Network Properties for Isolated Network” describes the procedure for configuring the TCP/IP parameters of your Star Workstation PC for use with No Company Network.
- “Setting the Network Properties for Company Network” describes the procedure for configuring the TCP/IP parameters of your Star Workstation PC for use on a Company Network.
- “Setting the Star WS BOOTP Server to Assign IP Addresses” describes the process of getting the Star Workstation to assign IP Addresses for the modules connected to the network.
- “Adding Star 800 MIB to Instruments in System Control” describes the process of configuring and adding the modules to instruments.

---

## Setting the Network Properties for Isolated Network

**Note:** The following section describes a procedure specific to Windows 2000. If you are running Windows NT 4.0 or Windows 98, the Windows and dialog boxes shown will differ from those you see on your system, but the procedure described here is essentially the same as the one for Windows NT 4.0 or Windows 98.

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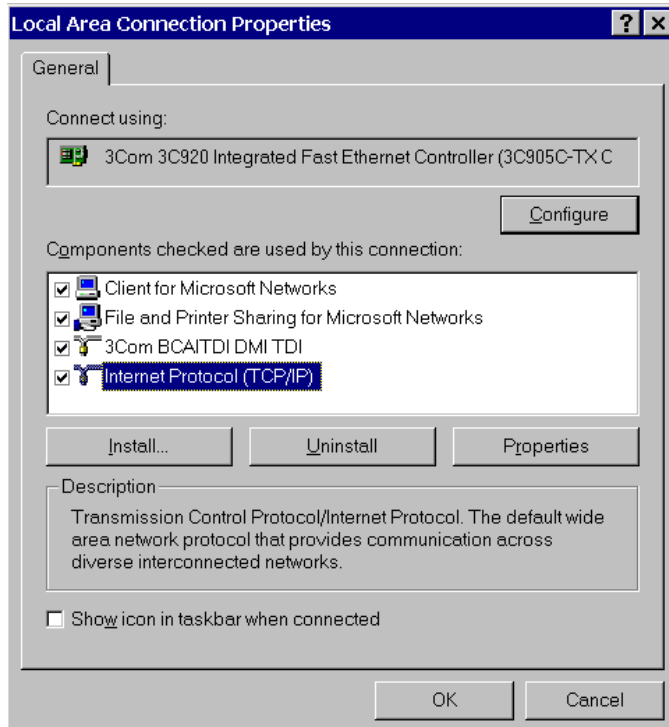
If you will be connecting your Star Workstation PC directly to one or more Star 800 MIB modules, with **no connection to the company network**, then you can use the following network properties on your PC:

Subnet mask                      255.0.0.0

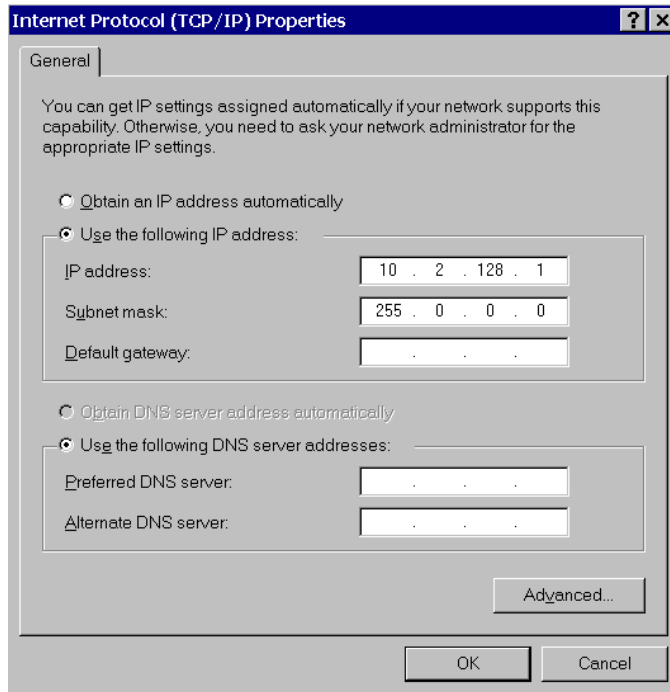
Gateway

DNS

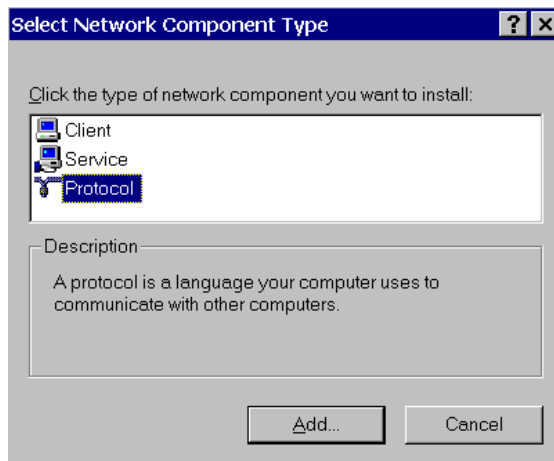
To access the TCP/IP network properties click on the Windows Start button and select Settings → Network and Dial-up Connection → Local Area Connection → Properties.



From the installed component list, click on the TCP/IP protocol and select properties. Since your Star Workstation PC is only connected to the Star 800 MIB, you can set the IP Address to any value, for example 10.2.128.1.



If the TCP/IP is not listed in the list of Network components, then click on the Install button and select Protocol from the list of Network Components Type, and select Microsoft as the manufacturer and TCP/IP as the Protocol.



If your **isolated network** contains multiple Star 800 MIBs, and Star Workstation PCs or a combination of these, then each device on the network will need a unique IP address assigned to it. You will need to keep track of which IP addresses have been used to avoid assigning duplicates.

---

**Note:**      **After making changes to the network properties in the PC, save the changes and then shutdown and power off the PC. This will ensure that the Ethernet board is reset and communication is restarted with the new properties.**

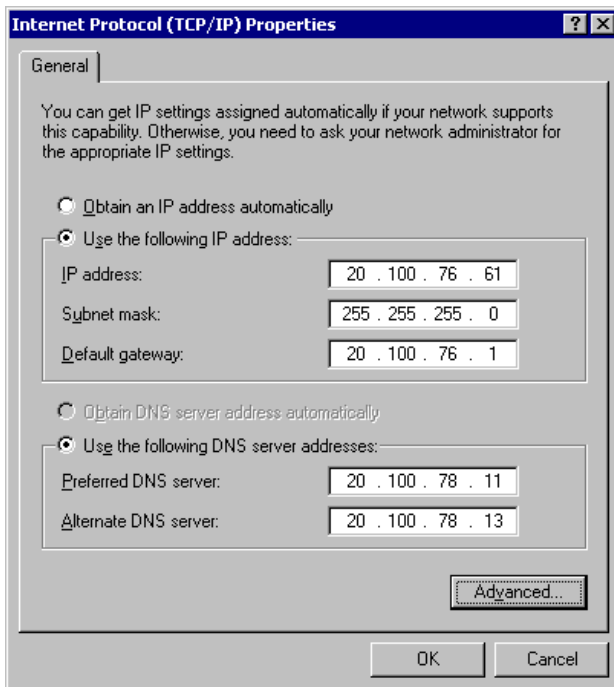
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## Setting the Network Properties for a Company Network

If you will be connecting your Star Workstation PC to your **company network**, you should contact your Network Administrator to obtain the static IP addresses for each device, the gateway, domain, DNS settings, and WINS settings that should be used. Note that each Workstation PC must have a unique IP address.

To access the TCP/IP network properties click on the Windows Start button and select Settings → Network and Dial-up Connection → Local Area Connection → Properties. The following is only an example of the Network TCP/IP properties for the Star Workstation PC when connected to a company network.



---

## Setting the Star WS BOOTP Server to Assign IP Addresses

If you are using a **Company Network** and the Network Administrator has a BOOTP Server on the network that will be providing the IP Addresses for the chromatography instruments connected to the network, you should skip to the next section. For all other installations, choose one Star Workstation PC to be the BOOTP server.

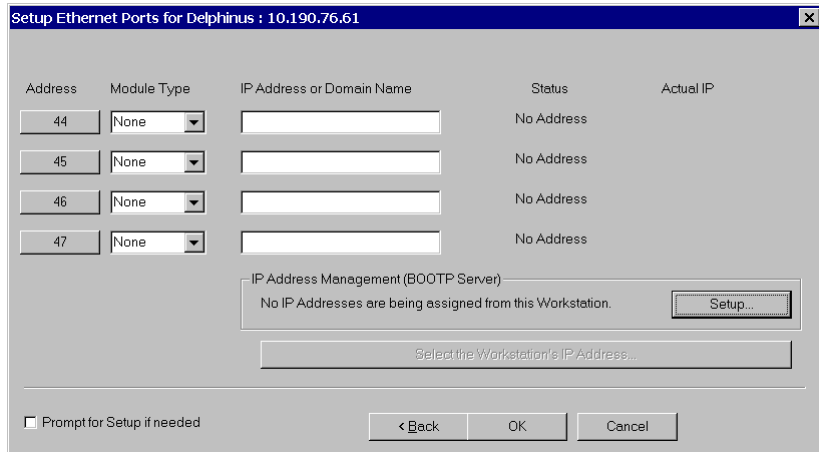
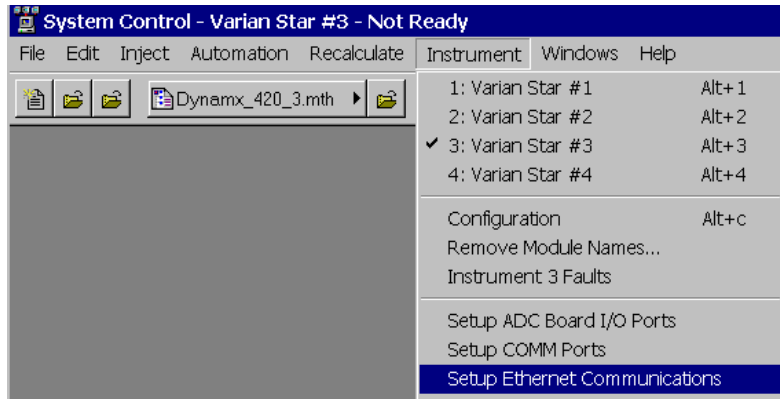
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**Note:**      **It is good practice to have only one BOOTP server on a network.**

---

1. Power up your Star Workstation PC that will be the BOOTP server. The Star 800 MIBs connected to the network should still be powered down.
2. When System Control has started for the first time, the Star Assistant Communication Configuration Wizard will appear to guide you through the Ethernet communication setup.

Otherwise, start System Control and choose Setup Ethernet Communications from the Instrument drop down menu. Click on the Next button. The Setup Ethernet Ports dialog will display a table of module Addresses (44, 45, 46, 47), Module Type, and IP Address or Domain Name.



- Click on the Setup button located at the right side of the window. The "Setup BOOTP Server" dialog box will display a table with the headings Ethernet Address, IP Address, and Host Name.

**Setup BOOTP Server at 10.190.76.61**

☒ Manage IP addresses from this Workstation  
☐ Require password entry for this dialog box

	Ethernet Address	IP Address	Host Name
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			

Add  
Insert  
Delete

Manually enter an IP Address and Host Name corresponding to each Ethernet Address in the table. Use this feature when individual IP Addresses and Host Names have been reserved for use by each Module, but IP Address and Host Name management is not performed by a Network Administrator.

☒ Assign IP addresses manually

☐ Assign:  IP addresses starting from:

This Workstation will assign these settings to each Ethernet Module

Subnet Mask:	255.255.255.0
Gateway:	10.190.76.1
Domain:	<unnamed>

Ok    Advanced...    Cancel

4. Check the box labeled "Manage IP Addresses from this Workstation" and select that you want to manually assign IP Addresses or enter the number of IP Addresses you wish to have automatically assigned if you have a sequential block of IP addresses to assign. If you are on a **Company Network**, your Network Administrator will provide the IP Addresses to be entered. Now OK each of the dialog screens that are displayed.
5. Close System Control.

## Assigning IP Addresses from Star WS BOOTP Server

1. Invoke (or re-invoke) System Control on the Star Workstation and choose Setup Ethernet Communications from the Instrument drop down menu. Click on the Next key. Click on the Next button. The Setup Ethernet Ports dialog will display a table of module Addresses (44, 45, 46, 47), Module Type, and IP Address or Domain Name.

2. Click on the Setup button located at the right side of the window. The Setup BOOTP Server dialog box will display a table with the headings Ethernet Address, IP Address, and Host Name.

Verify that the PC IP address in the title bar and Ethernet settings at the bottom of the dialog box are correct before proceeding.

3. Power-up one of your Star 800 MIBs.
4. Within a couple of minutes, the Ethernet address will appear in the table for the Star 800 MIB that you just turned on. If you are in a network environment, this could take longer. If you have chosen to manually assign IP Addresses, you should enter one now, otherwise, it should appear automatically in this dialog box. If you are on a **Company Network**, your Network Administrator should provide this IP address.
5. Enter a descriptive name in the Host Name field for your Star 800 MIB. If you are on a **Company Network**, your Network Administrator may provide this name.
6. Repeat steps 3, 4, and 5 for each Star 800 MIB connected to your network.
7. When all of the chromatographic devices have been powered up and had their IP Address and Host Name entered into the table, click OK.

The following is an example for Isolated Network IP addresses that were assigned to a Star 800 MIB. These IP addresses are not provided by a Network Administrator, However, the IP addresses must be on the same segment as your Star Workstation PC that was assigned an IP address of 10.2.128.1 in this section of the manual.



**Setup BOOTP Server at 10.190.76.156**

☒ Manage IP addresses from this Workstation  
☐ Require password entry for this dialog box

	Ethernet Address	IP Address	Host Name
1	00.50.c2.00.12.ae	10.2.128.2	Star800_NG
2	00.e0.4b.00.8b.54	10.2.128.3	NG_520
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			

Manually enter an IP Address and Host Name corresponding to each Ethernet Address in the table. Use this feature when individual IP Addresses and Host Names have been reserved for use by each Module, but IP Address and Host Name management is not performed by a Network Administrator.

☒ Assign IP addresses manually  
☐ Assign:  IP addresses starting from:

This Workstation will assign these settings to each Ethernet Module

Subnet Mask:	255.255.255.0
Gateway:	10.190.76.1
Domain:	csb.varianinc.com

Ok Advanced... Cancel

The following is an example for Company Network IP addresses that were assigned to a Star 800 MIB. A Network Administrator provided these IP addresses.

**Setup BOOTP Server at 10.190.76.61**

☒ Manage IP addresses from this Workstation  
☐ Require password entry for this dialog box

	Ethernet Address	IP Address	Host Name
1	00.e0.4b.00.8b.54	20.100.76.171	NG_520
2	00.50.c2.00.12.ae	20.100.76.172	Star800_NG
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			

Manually enter an IP Address and Host Name corresponding to each Ethernet Address in the table. Use this feature when individual IP Addresses and Host Names have been reserved for use by each Module, but IP Address and Host Name management is not performed by a Network Administrator.

☒ Assign IP addresses manually  
☐ Assign:  IP addresses starting from:

This Workstation will assign these settings to each Ethernet Module

Subnet Mask: 255.255.255.0  
Gateway: 10.190.76.1  
Domain: <unnamed>

Ok Advanced... Cancel

Allow a couple of minutes for the Star 800 MIB to get their IP Addresses and finish booting.

## Adding Star 800 MIB to Instruments in System Control

Once you have configured your Star Workstation computer and the Star 800 MIB for network communication, you may select up to four Ethernet modules to be controlled from each Star Workstation. If it is not already running, start System Control. The Star Assistant Communication Configuration Wizard will be displayed if you have not yet configured your Star 800 Ethernet connections. Click on the Next button to advance to the *Setup Ethernet Ports* dialog box.

1. In the Setup Ethernet Ports Dialog box, click on the Module Type drop down box for one of the lines and select 800.

2. Press the TAB key and type in the IP Address or Host Name of the Star 800 MIB that you wish to control.

Address	Module Type	IP Address or Domain Name	Status	Actual IP
Config...	800	10.20128.2	No Address	
45	None		No Address	
46	None		No Address	
47	None		No Address	

IP Address Management (BOOTP Server)  
2 IP Addresses are being assigned from this Workstation. Setup...

Select the Workstation's IP Address...

☒ Prompt for Setup if needed < Back OK Cancel

3. Click on the “Config...” button located to the left of the Star 800 MIB that you want to configure. The Assign ADC Channels dialog box will be displayed. Each Star 800 MIB channel can be configured for the analog signal level and synchronization signal polarity.

	ADC System	Address	ADC Module	Channel 1	Channel 2	Channel 3	Channel 4	Start In	System Ready Out
1	1	84							
2	2	85	800	+10V	+1V			when closing	when closed
3	3	86							
4	4	87							

	Serial Port	Address	Serial Module	Linked ADC System
1	1	104		
2	2	105		
3	3	106		
4	4	107		

Serial Number and Firmware Version for this Box: 0664.0400.H2.0100\_v2.1.7

Save Cancel

4. The top half of this dialog box is a table for the settings of the analog and synchronization signals. The different rows allow the configuration of analog channels connected to different instruments. ONLY the analog channels connected to detectors in the same instrument should have their settings on the same row. There will be one 800 MIB icon created for each row that has an analog signal setting. Multiple analog signal settings in the same row are different channels in the same ADCB.

Select the analog input signal range from the drop down box for each channel that is being used.

5. Next select the Start In and System Ready Out synchronization signal settings from the drop down boxes for each row that has channel entry. The bottom half of this dialog box allows the optional serial ports to be configured. For Varian detectors, Start In should be set to “when closing” and Ready Out should be set to “when closed”.
6. When the entries are complete, click on Save.
7. Click OK on the dialog box reminding you to restart System Control for the changes to be implemented.
8. Click OK to close the Setup Ethernet dialog box.
9. Close and restart System Control.
10. When System Control is restarted, 800 MIB icons corresponding to the analog channels just configured for the Star 800 MIB will appear. These icons can now be configured into the instruments and used like any other module in Star Workstation.

# Using the Star 800 MIB

This section describes the use of the Star 800 Module Interface Box (MIB) with the Star Data Acquisition Workstation. For information on the operation of the Star Workstation, please refer to the earlier sections of this manual.

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**Note:** For information on the Star 800 MIB setup and configuration, please refer to the *Ethernet Communication Setup* section of this manual.

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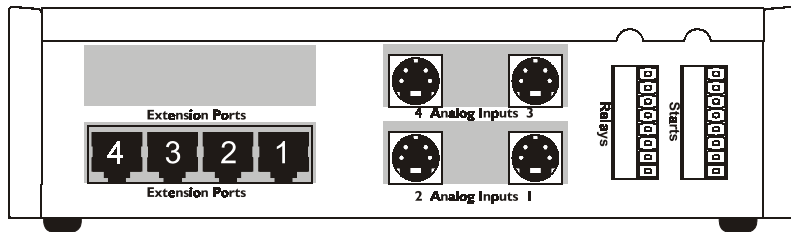
A maximum of four Star 800 MIBs can be configured in one computer for use with the Star Chromatography Workstation software.

---

## Connecting to an Instrument

The Star 800 MIB provides up to four channels of analog-to-digital signal conversion (ADC) with chromatographic module synchronization contacts for each analog channel. The ADC channels can be used to collect data from any chromatographic detector that provides a voltage output signal of less than 10 volts. The synchronization signals are contact closures for START IN and READY OUT signals that can be used to synchronize the Star Chromatography Workstation operation with the chromatographic modules connected to it. The Star 800 MIB can also provide a serial interface to 3400 GCs, 3600 GCs, and standalone 8200/SPME AutoSamplers when equipped with the optional serial interface board.

All of the instrument interface connections are on the right side of the Star 800 MIB.



Output signals from the PS-310, PS-320, PS-340, PS-345, PS-350 and PS-363 can be connected to the ADC channels of the Star 800 MIB for data processing by the Star Workstation.

## Analog Signals

The analog signals connect to the Star 800 MIB using a 4-pin mini DIN (round) connector that attaches to one of the analog signal input ports in the middle of the right side of the Star 800 MIB. Depending on how the Star 800 MIB was ordered, there will either be two or four analog input ports on the Star 800 MIB.

Analog cables are sold separately and they are available with various end configurations to match the Varian detector analog output connectors. Included with each analog signal cable is the corresponding synchronization cables. The following analog signal cables are available and the cables appropriate for your installation should have been purchased and be available to complete this installation.

<b>Description</b>	<b>Part Number</b>
Analog Cable with 3-pin Molex Connector For use with 3300, 3400, 3410, 3500, and 3600 GC. It can also be used with LC detectors that have a 3-pin molex analog connection.	03-907938-04
Analog Cable from 3800 GC 15-pin D-shell connector provides all three 3800 GC detector analog signals and synchronization signals. This cable is also compatible with 3900 GC.	03-907938-05
Analog Cable from ProStar 363 Special end connector for use only with ProStar 363 Fluorescence detector.	03-907938-06
Analog Cable with tinned ends, 3 meters long Generic cable for use with detectors with screw terminals.	03-907938-02
Analog Cable with tinned ends, 5 meters long Generic cable for use with detectors with screw terminals.	03-907938-03

## Synchronization Signals

Two orange screw terminal strips are provided for synchronization signals to the Star 800 MIB. One of the terminal strips is labeled "Start" and is used for the Start Inputs to the Star 800 MIB. The other terminal is labeled "Relays" and is used for the Ready Outputs to the instrument(s) whose analog signal is being collected by the Star 800 MIB. The synchronization signals are contact closures and the polarity of the signal is set in the Star 800 MIB configuration from Star Workstation System Control.

Connect the tinned ends of the Start synchronization cable to the pair of terminals that correspond to the analog input port being used for that instrument.

<b>Analog Port</b>	<b>Relay &amp; Start Terminals</b>
1	1, 2
2	3, 4
3	5, 6
4	7, 8

## Serial Communication Signals

If the Star 800 MIB is equipped with the optional four-port RS-232 serial card, the Star Workstation can use these serial ports to control 3400 GCs, 3600 GCs, or Standalone 8200/SPME AutoSamplers. The RS-232 serial card connections (if installed in the Star 800 MIB) are to the left of the analog input ports. They are a block of four rectangular RJ45 modular connectors.

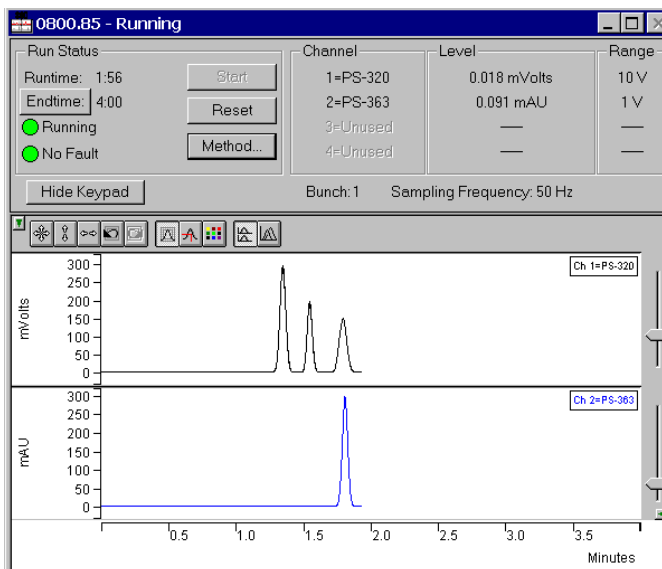
Serial cables are sold separately and are designed to connect to specific Varian instruments. The following table lists the serial cables that are available and the device to which they connect.

Description	Part Number
Serial Cable to PC 9 pin D-shell For connection to Standalone 8200/SPME AutoSamplers that have the PC serial cable installed.	03-907938-12
Serial Cable to 3000 series GC For connection to 3400 GC and 3600 GC that have the GC Serial I/O Card installed. <b>NOTE:</b> This cable does not provide for detector signal acquisition. For acquisition of the detector output signal, the previously described analog/synchronization cable sets are also required.	03-907938-13



## The Star 800 MIB Status Window

Below is shown the status window for the Star 800 MIB that is configured with 2 ADC channels, one connected to a PS-320 detector and one connected to a PS-363 detector.



On the left of the Star 800 MIB status window is the Run Status that includes the usual Workstation buttons (Start, Reset, Method Edit and Endtime).

The center section of the Status window shows the Channel Status, which includes the number of channels and the Detector Name for each channel as specified in the currently active Method. To the right is the Level status window, which shows the signal level during the run. The far right section shows the Range of the signal that is specified during the Configuration process of the Star 800 MIB (refer to the Ethernet Communication Setup section of this manual). The lower part of the Status window shows the Real Time chromatogram displays. Refer to the Star 800 MIB help file for more information about the parameters shown in this window.

---

## Star 800 MIB Method

End Time:  min  
Frequency:    
☒ Zero Displays at Start  
Detector Bunch Rate:    
Noise Monitor Length:   points ( 50.0 Hz)  
bunched points ( 2.6 sec)

	Channel	In Use?	Detector Name	Fullscale Value	Data Units	Data Scale	Data Offset
1	1	Yes <input type="button" value="v"/>	PS-320		Volts	1	0
2	2	Yes <input type="button" value="v"/>	PS-363		AU	1	0
3	3	No <input type="button" value="v"/>					
4	4	No <input type="button" value="v"/>					

From the Star Workstation Method Builder window select the Star 800 MIB Set Condition Method section. The Parameter Entry pan will be displayed. The top section of the window contains data acquisition and display settings. The table at the bottom of the window allows entry of Star 800 MIB labeling and scaling information including a Data Units column to specify the Units for the detector signal that is being digitized. Please refer to the Method Editor Help files for more information on the Star 800 MIB Method section.

# Building Methods

---

## Overview

In the Getting Started section, you configured your hardware for an instrument and opened the System Control Window for the instrument. At this point, you could simply inject a sample, as described in the following sections. However, it is not likely that the default Method will have the Method settings that are appropriate for your analysis. Therefore, the default Method will need to be edited to enter the settings appropriate for your analysis. Method Builder is used to view and edit Methods. It can be accessed from:

*This button on the Star Toolbar opens Method Builder and prompts you to create a new Method or open an existing one.*



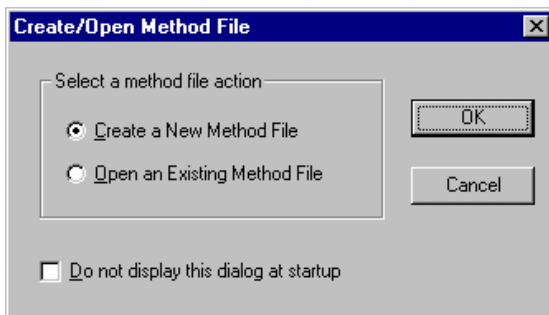
*This button on the System Control Toolbar allows you to view and edit the Method file shown on the button.*

*This button on the Star Toolbar allows you to view and edit the Method file shown on the button.*

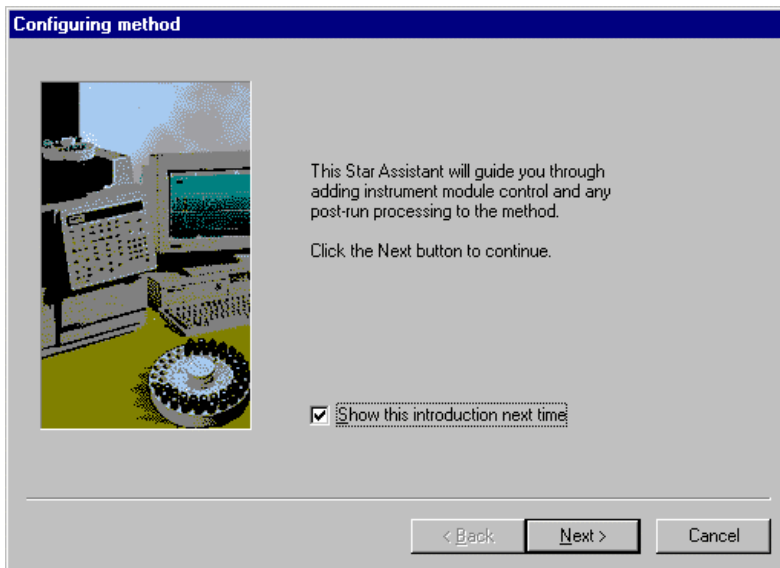
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## Using Star Assistant to Create a new Method

If you click on the Method Builder button on the Star Toolbar, you will get this dialog box.



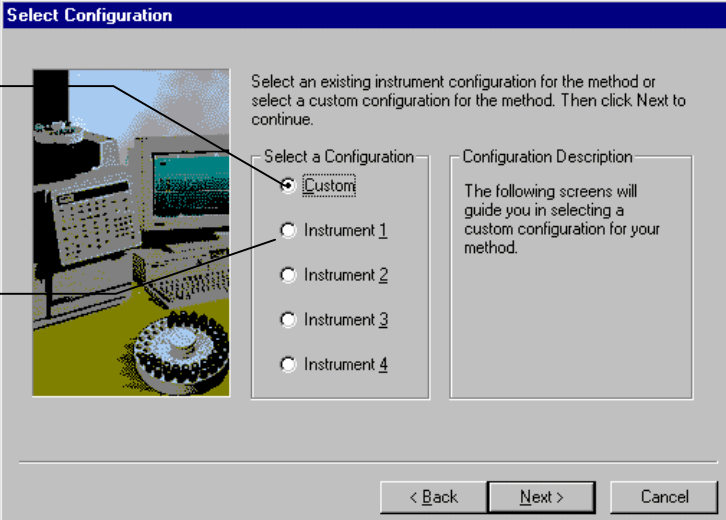
If you choose Create a New Method File, the Star Assistant Wizard will guide you in building this new Method.



You will first be asked to select the instrument configuration for which you want to create a Method.

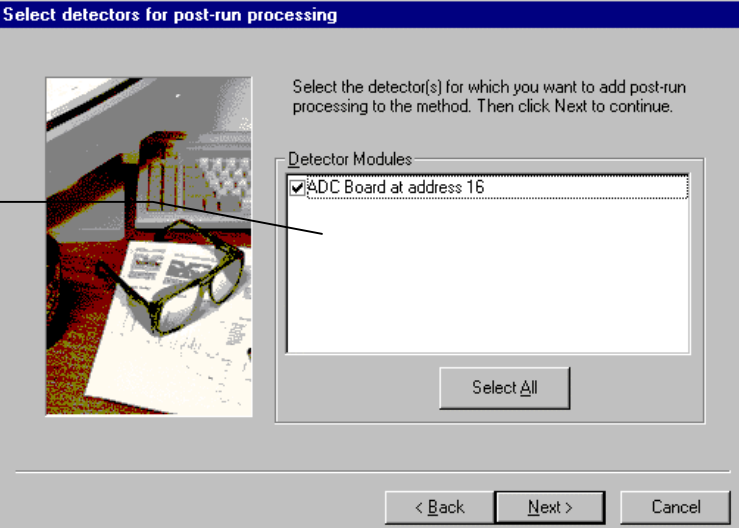
*Select Custom to create a Method for an instrument that is not attached to the Star Workstation.*

*Select the Instrument for which this Method will be used.*



The 'Select Configuration' dialog box has a blue title bar. On the left is a grayscale image of a laboratory instrument. To the right of the image, the text reads: 'Select an existing instrument configuration for the method or select a custom configuration for the method. Then click Next to continue.' Below this text is a section titled 'Select a Configuration' containing five radio buttons: 'Custom' (selected), 'Instrument 1', 'Instrument 2', 'Instrument 3', and 'Instrument 4'. To the right of this section is a box titled 'Configuration Description' containing the text: 'The following screens will guide you in selecting a custom configuration for your method.' At the bottom right are three buttons: '< Back', 'Next >', and 'Cancel'.

*If the instrument has more than one detector configured, all of the configured detectors will be shown here. You may build a Method for any detector or combination of detectors shown in this box.*



The 'Select detectors for post-run processing' dialog box has a blue title bar. On the left is a grayscale image of a hand holding a pen over a document with a graph. To the right of the image, the text reads: 'Select the detector(s) for which you want to add post-run processing to the method. Then click Next to continue.' Below this text is a section titled 'Detector Modules' containing a list box with one item: 'ADC Board at address 16', which has a checkmark to its left. Below the list box is a button labeled 'Select All'. At the bottom right are three buttons: '< Back', 'Next >', and 'Cancel'.

For each detector in the Method, you will be asked to select the channels on which post-run processing will be performed.

Create sections for post-run processing

For the following module: ADCB at address 16

Select the channel(s) to process:

- ☒ Channel A=A
- ☐ Channel B=B

Select the Post-Run processes to perform:

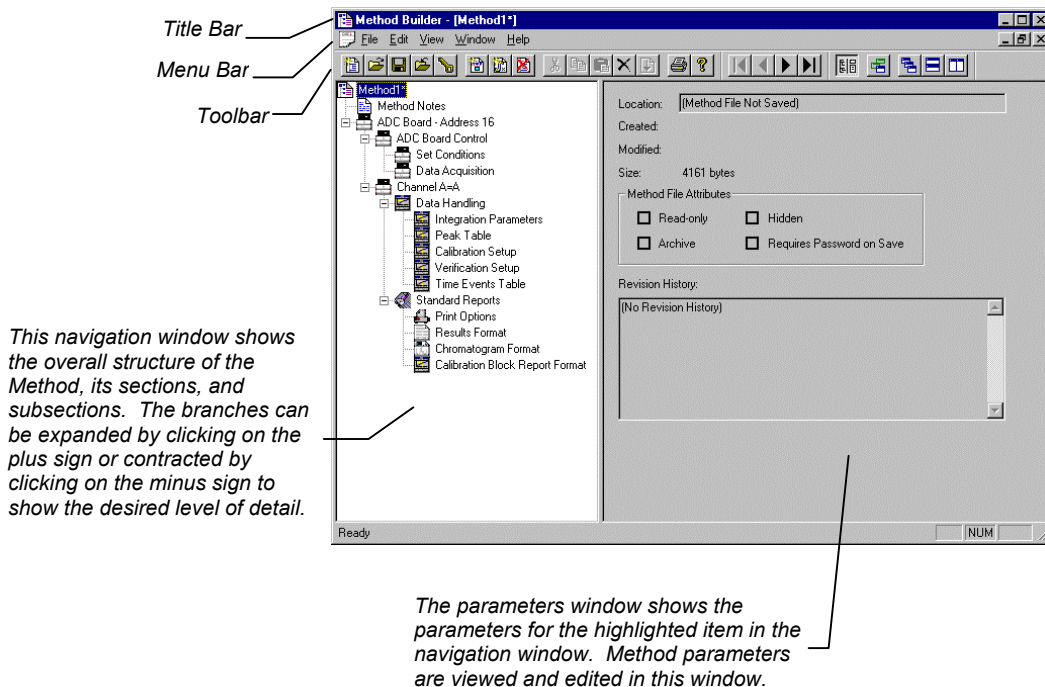
- ☒ Data Handling
- ☒ Standard Reports

Select All

< Back   Next >   Cancel

When you have selected the data channels and type(s) of post-run processing to be run for each detector, the Star Assistant will create a Method containing all of the sections that are needed to control the hardware, collect data and do the post-run processing specified. These Method sections will contain default values for all of the parameters. These parameters will need to be edited to match your analysis.

## The Method Builder Window



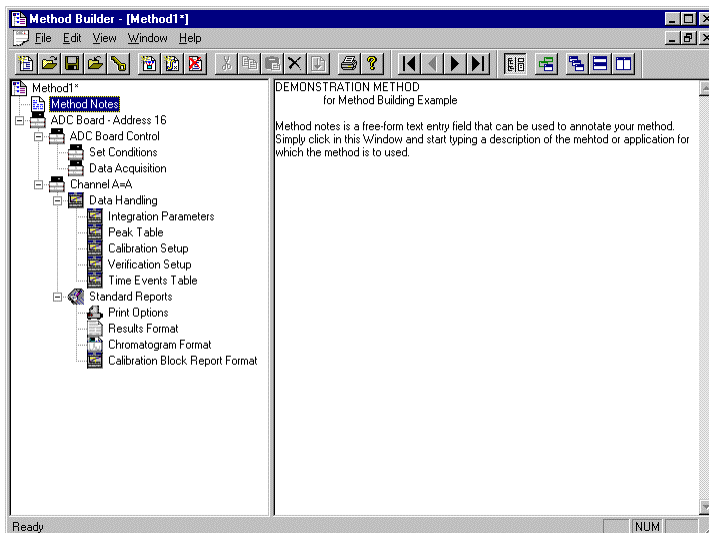
Detailed information about the menu items and Toolbar buttons can be found in the on-line help.

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## Editing a Method

As you step down through the Method tree, the parameters associated with each section of the Method are displayed for editing.

### Method Notes

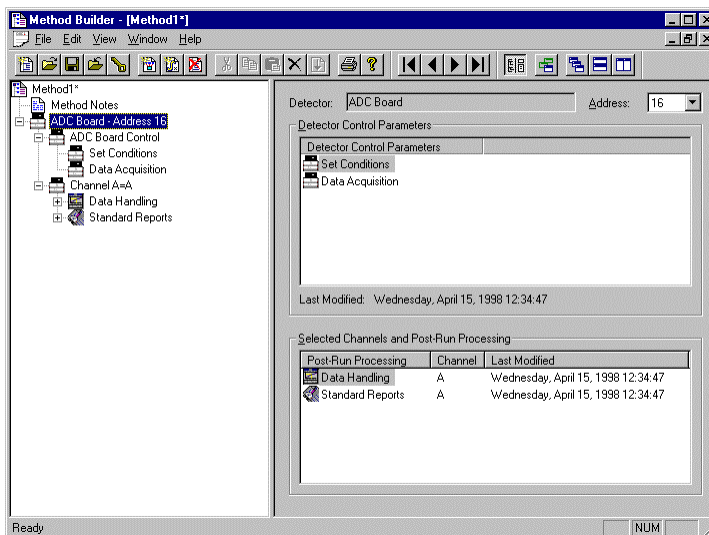


The first item in the Method is the Method Notes section. Method Notes is a free form text field where information about the Method or the application can be entered. Method Notes are displayed in the File Open dialog boxes used whenever you select a Method.

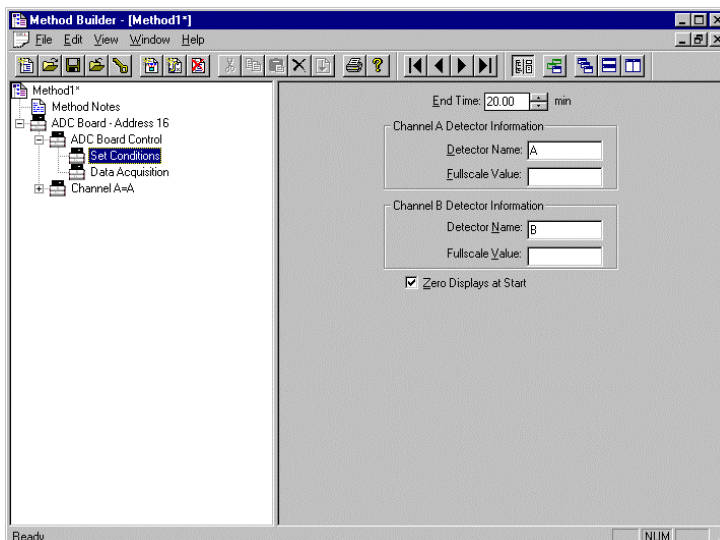
Method Notes can help explain to the operator when a Method should be used. They can also be used to convey sample preparation information and reminders to refer to specific items in the lab's Standard Operating Procedures.



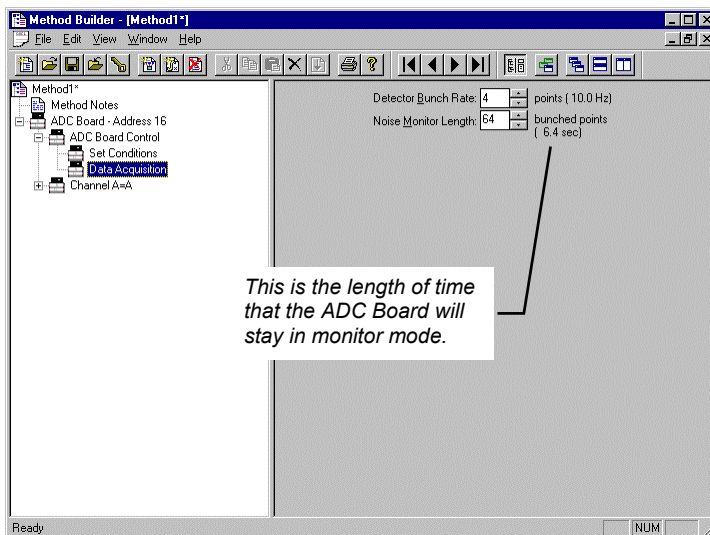
## ADC Board Data Acquisition Settings



The ADC Board entry specifies the Star Workstation module address of the ADC Board that the Method uses. The module address in the parameters window can be changed so that a Method developed for an instrument using one module address can be easily modified for use on another instrument at a different module address.

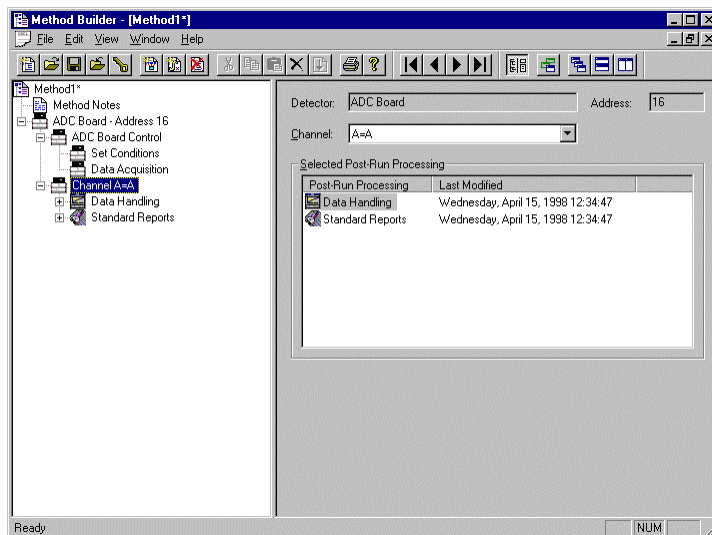


The ADC Board Set Conditions screen allows the user to set the endtime for the ADC Board Data Acquisition. This endtime can also be set from the ADC Board Status and Control Window Endtime... button in System Control. Names for the detectors associated with Channel A and Channel B and their full scale values can be entered for annotation on the printed reports.

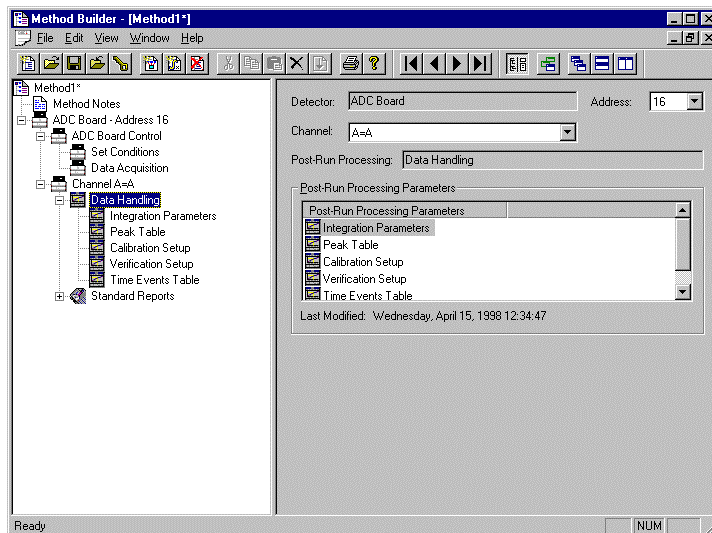


The ADC Board Data Acquisition screen allows you to change the Detector Bunch Rate and Noise Monitor Length. The Detector Bunch Rate sets the frequency of the raw data points stored in the Data File. The Noise Monitor Length specifies how many of the data points will be used to calculate the noise value. The length of time that the ADC Board spends in monitor mode is the product of the frequency of data points and the Noise Monitor Length.

## Post-run Processing

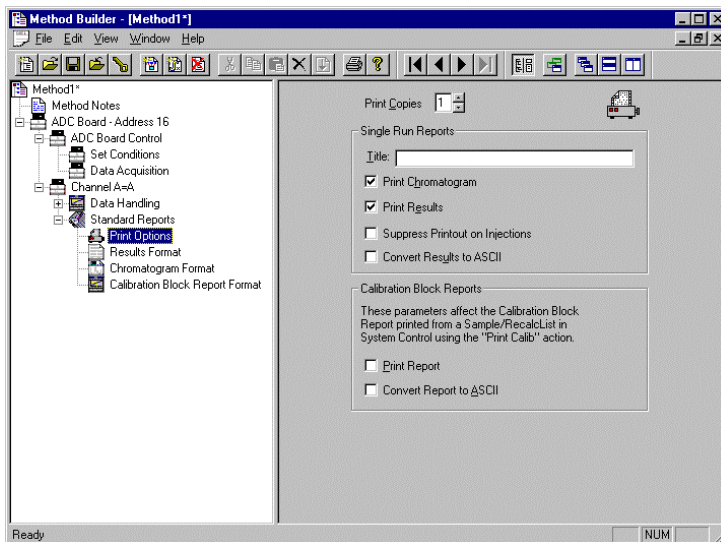


Multichannel detectors can have post-run processing sections for any or all of their channels. For the Method shown above, post-run processing has only been chosen for ADC Board Channel A. The post-run processing for Channel A includes both Data Handling (peak detection and integration) and Standard Reports (numerical results and chromatogram).

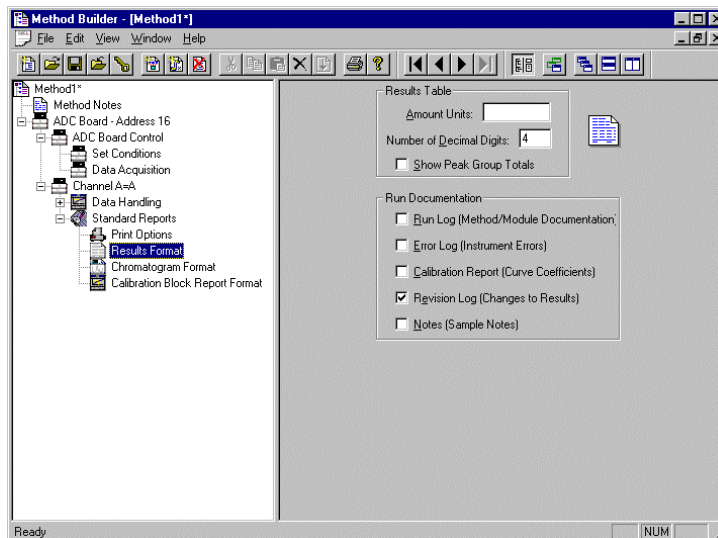


The Data Handling section has parameter pages for Integration Parameters, Peak Table entries, Calibration Setup, Verification Setup and Time Events (integration control parameters). For the initial setup of a Method the default values are usually a good starting place. For information on these Data Handling parameters and setting them for your application, please refer to the Data Handling and Reports Operation Manual.

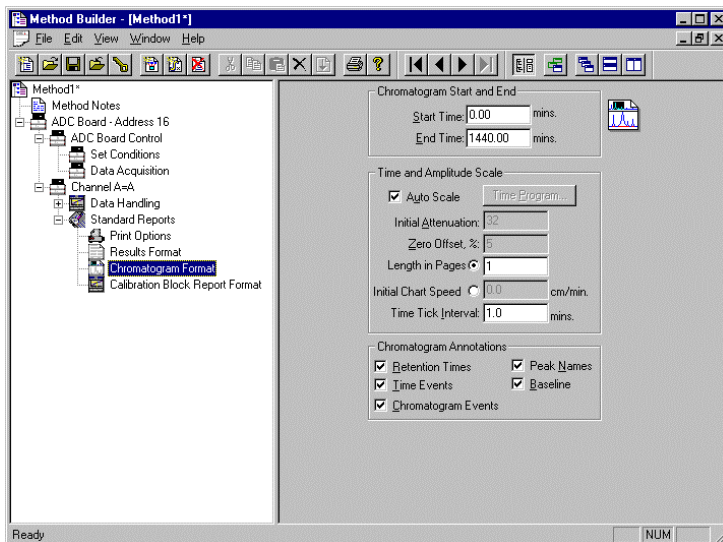




The Standard Reports section sets the parameters for the information that will be printed after Data Handling has been run. For a complete description of the Standard Report options, please refer to the Data Handling and Reports Operation Manual. Until you get comfortable using the Star Workstation, you may want to always print the chromatogram and results (default options). To help identify the reports that are generated, you will probably want to give them a Method-specific title. To do so simply, click in the *Title* box and type in the title to be used on the chromatogram and results report pages.



The Results Format page controls the format of the results table, the result units to be printed in the Amount column header and the number of decimal digits to print for the calculated amounts. It also controls what additional information is appended to the end of the results report.



The Chromatogram Format page controls the formatting of the printed chromatogram. When the defaults are used, the chromatogram for the complete run will be printed and autoscaled to fit on one page. You may only want to print the portion of the chromatogram that contains the peaks of interest. This may be done by changing the start and end times to bracket the period of interest. Auto Scale is often turned off and a fixed attenuation and zero offset chosen so that printed chromatograms from several runs may be visually compared. For more information about the Chromatogram Format parameters, please refer to Data Handling and Operation Reports Manual.



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## The Startup Method

When you start System Control and display an Instrument Window, the last active Method for that instrument is activated. When System Control is started, it will return to the initial settings in the Method that was last used on the instrument.

To change Methods, simply click on the activate Method button on the System Control Toolbar or choose New Method from the File menu.

---

## Editing Methods from the ADC Board Status and Control Window

The ADC Board Status and Control Window Method... button allows you to directly edit the active Method corresponding to that ADC Board. When you click on this button, Method Builder is opened with active Method loaded and the corresponding ADC Board Instrument Control section selected. You can then edit that section or any other section of the Method as described previously.

Once you have edited the Method and closed the Method Builder window, you are prompted to reactivate the Method. Reactivating the Method downloads the changes to the ADC Board.

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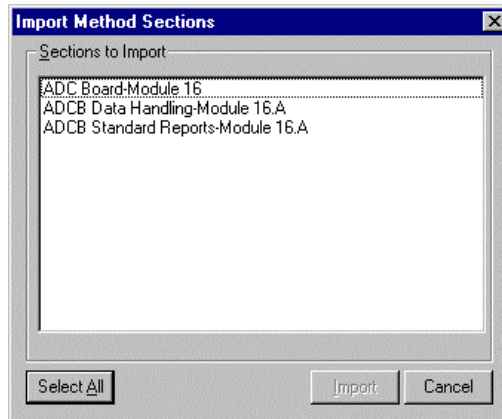
## Changing Method Endtime from the ADC Board Status and Control Window

The ADC Board Status and Control Window Endtime... button allows you to immediately change the endtime of the active Method Instrument Control section corresponding to that ADC Board. This is useful if you wish to extend a run while the run is in progress. Changing the endtime in this manner updates the endtime in the stored Method. This endtime will then be used until the Method endtime is changed by again using the Endtime... button or editing the Method.



## Importing Method Sections

You may wish to copy sections from one Method file to another. This can be done by opening the Method file that you want to edit in Method Builder. Then from the Method Builder File menu, select *Import Section...* The Import command prompts you to select the file containing the sections you wish to import.



Once you have selected the file, a dialog box of sections contained in the Method file is displayed. Highlight the sections that you wish to import by clicking on them. If you click on one section and then hold down the shift key while clicking on another section, all of the sections in between will be selected. Holding down the control key while clicking on a section will add that selection to those files already selected. Clicking on a highlighted section while holding down the control key will remove that section from the list of selected files.

When the desired sections have been highlighted, click on the Import button to import them into the Method being edited. If the Method already has sections with the same module address and channel ID, you will be prompted to reassign a new module address and channel number to the imported section or overwrite the existing section in the current Method.

---

## Deleting Method Sections

To remove sections from a Method open the Method containing the sections you wish to remove in Method Builder. Click on the Delete Section button on the Method Builder Toolbar or select Delete Section from the File menu. A dialog box of sections contained in the Method file is displayed. Highlight the sections that you wish to delete by clicking on them. If you click on one section and then hold down the shift key while clicking on another section, all of the sections in between will be selected. Holding down the control key while clicking on a section will add that selection to those files already selected. Clicking on a highlighted section while holding down the control key will remove that section from the list of selected files.

When the desired sections have been highlighted, click on the Delete button to delete them from the Method being edited. You will be prompted to confirm that you want to delete each section before it is deleted.

---

## Printing the Method

To print a Method from Method Builder, click on the Print button on the Toolbar and select the Method section or sections to be printed. The active Method can also be printed from the System Control Toolbar and the Star Toolbar. Click on the Active Method Options button on the System Control Toolbar or on the Method Operations button on the Star Toolbar and select Print Method.

---

## Password Protecting a Method

A Method can be password protected from changes by clicking on the Set Password button on the Method Builder Toolbar or selecting *Set Password* from the File menu. Enter the password and then re-enter it to verify that it was not mistyped. After a Method has been password protected, the password will be required to save changes to the Method.

Once a Method is password protected, it can be activated and used for instrument control and data acquisition. It can also be viewed from Method Builder. Only the saving of changes to the Method will be inhibited unless the correct password is entered.

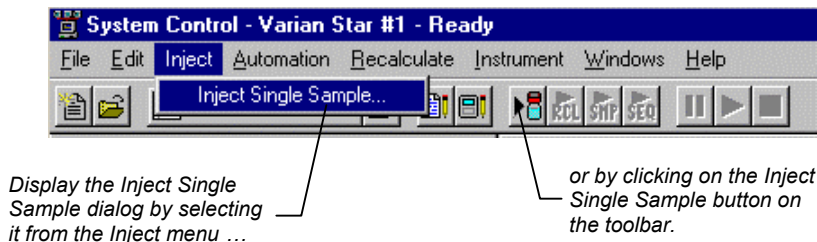
# Injecting a Single Sample

By now you should have your instrument configured and a basic Method built for data acquisition. If this hasn't been done, please refer to the previous sections for instructions on doing this.

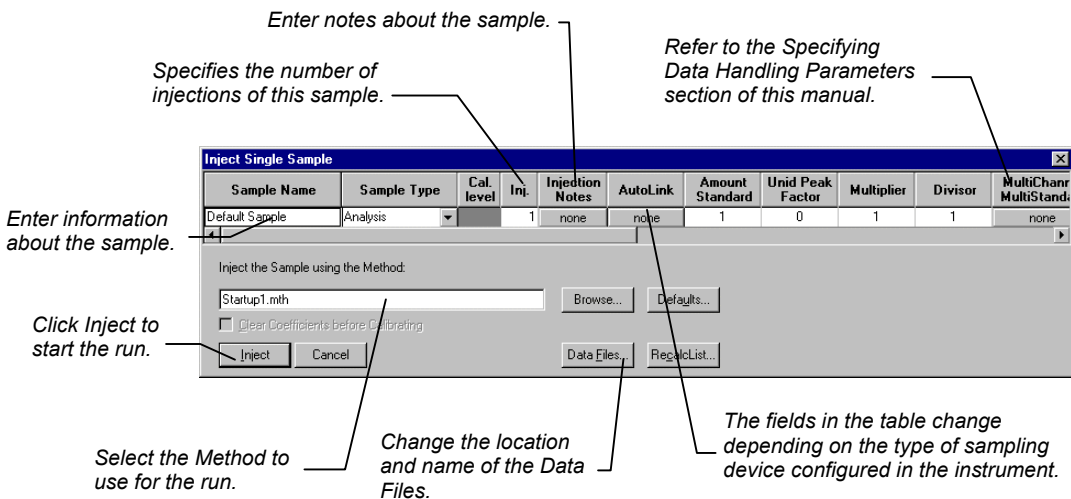
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## Using the Inject Single Sample Dialog Box

You can inject a single sample from System Control by using the Inject Single Sample dialog box.



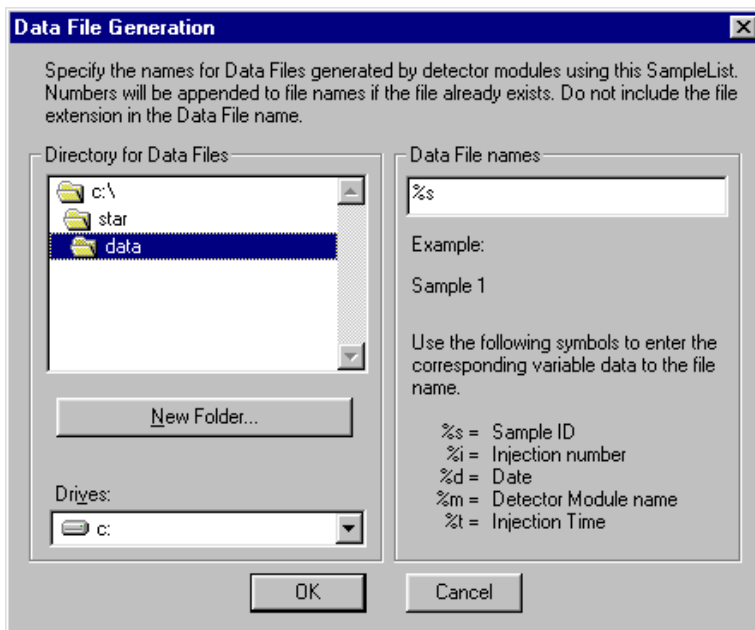
The Inject Single Sample dialog box is displayed.



## Specifying the Data File Name and Path

Data File names can be up to 255 characters long. Sample ID, injection date, module name, and injection number can be embedded in the file name making the Data File name correlate with each sample injection. When you click on the Data Files... button, the Data Files Generation dialog box is displayed. This dialog box allows you to select the path and the file name specification for the data file displayed.

The left side of the Data File Generation dialog box allows you to select the drive letter and subdirectory (path) where the data files are to be stored. The default directory is the data subdirectory of your Star directory.



The right side of this dialog box allows you to create a file name specification. You can combine text entry with the “%” variable symbols shown to specify file names that contain sample injection specific information. An example of the file name is dynamically updated as you type in the file name specification. This makes it easy to see how a Data File created with this file name specification would appear.

---

## Specifying Per-Sample Data Handling Parameters

Most Data Handling parameters are specified in the Method used during the injection. Some parameters may vary on a per-sample basis, and are therefore specified when you perform the injection.

The following Data Handling parameters can be specified on a per-sample basis:

- Unidentified Peak Factor
- Multiplier
- Divisor
- Amount Standard when one Internal Standard is being used



Refer to the Data Handling and Reports Operation Manual for a brief description of these parameters.



Refer to the Regulatory Compliance Manual for a complete description of how these parameters are used to calculate results.

Not only can you specify these parameters on a per-sample basis, but you can specify them on a per-detector channel basis. This is useful if, for example, you have an ADC Board with channel A and channel B connected to two different detectors on a GC. In addition, if you are using multiple internal standards, you can also specify their amounts on a per sample and per detector channel basis.

To access these extended Data Handling parameters, click on the button in the Multi-Channel Multi-Standard column in the Inject Single Sample dialog box. The Data Handling Channels dialog box is displayed. When you select the detector channel to in the Data Handling Channels dialog box, the calculation type, internal standard peaks and amounts are read from the active Method. ***Be sure the Method you will be using is already active before you enter detector-specific parameters.***

Select specific detector channels here (up to 4).

	Detector Channel	Calculation Type	Unid Peak Factor	Multiplier	Divisor	Standard Peak 1	Amount Standard 1
1	ADCB.16 Channel A	Uncalibrated	0	1	1		
2							
3							
4							

Use these buttons to edit the corresponding sections of the active Method.

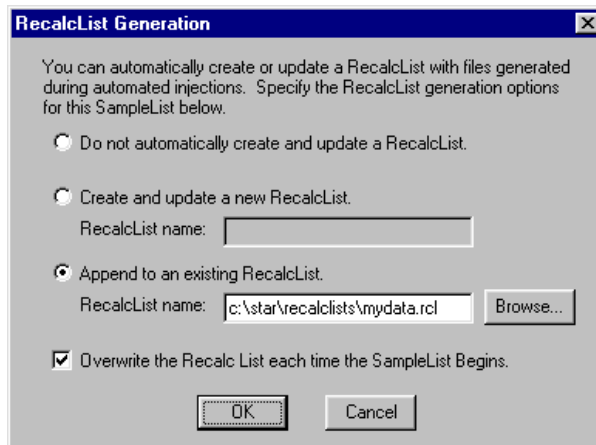
An amount may be entered for each internal standard peak in the Method.

Buttons: Add, Insert, Delete, Ok, Cancel, Edit Calibration Setup..., Edit Standard Peak(s)...

---

## Specifying a RecalcList

You can choose to create a new RecalcList, append to an existing RecalcList, or not create nor update a RecalcList. To select the RecalcList option that you want, click on the RecalcList button. The RecalcList Generation dialog box is displayed.



If you choose to create a new RecalcList, this automatically generated RecalcList will not overwrite an existing RecalcList unless you also specify "Overwrite the Recalc List each time the SampleList begins". If a RecalcList with the same file name exists, the newly created RecalcList will have number appended to its file name to make it unique and to prevent the older RecalcList from being overwritten.

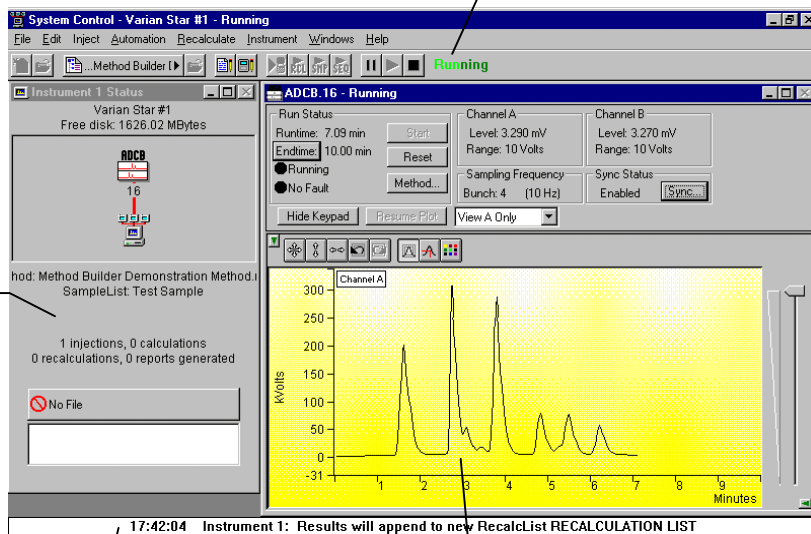


## Monitoring the Status of the Run

After an injection is performed, the status of the run can be monitored in the instrument window.

Module status is shown in the status and control windows and on the toolbar.

The total number of injections completed is shown in the Instrument Status window.

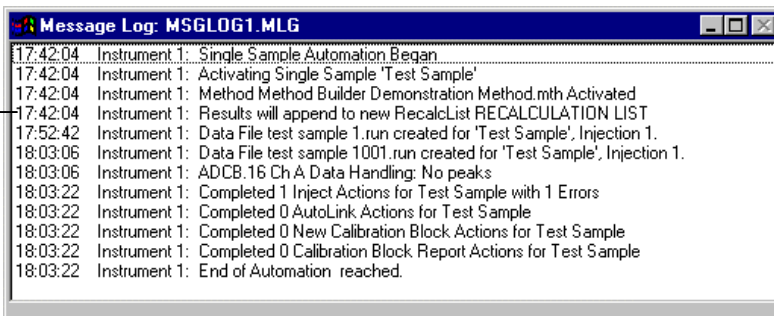


Automation actions and errors are logged in the Message Log.

The chromatogram is displayed as it is acquired.

When you double-click on the status bar at the bottom of the instrument window, the entire Message Log window is displayed.

All Message Log entries are stamped with the time they occurred.



## Using QuickStart



QuickStart is a fast way to inject a single sample without having to use System Control directly. QuickStart can be customized and is ideal when setting up instruments for routine use. Refer to the on-line help in QuickStart for further details.

QuickStart first starts System Control and waits until all modules have logged in. When ready, the QuickStart window is displayed.



This button on the Star Toolbar opens QuickStart for doing injections of routine samples.

Enter the name of the  
folder you wish to use for  
storing the Run files.

Press Start to begin.

The image shows the 'Star QuickStart - 3' software window. It has a menu bar with 'File', 'Screen', and 'Options'. The main area contains several input fields and buttons. On the left, there are labels for 'Instrument Number', 'Instrument Name', 'Operator Name', 'Sample Name', 'Sample Description 1', 'Sample Description 2', 'Primary Method', and 'Folder for Data File Storage'. On the right, there are corresponding input boxes. Below these, there is a 'Browse' button and a text field containing '430'. Further down, there is a 'Sample Type' section with radio buttons for 'Baseline', 'Calibration', 'Analysis' (which is selected), and 'Verification'. Below this is a 'Clear Coefficients' checkbox and an 'AutoLink...' button. To the right of the 'Sample Type' section, there are input fields for 'Well/Vial', '# Injects', 'Wash Vol.', 'Volume', 'Amount', 'Factor', 'Multiplier', 'Divisor', and 'Level'. At the bottom, there is an 'Inj. Mode' dropdown menu set to 'Partial Loopfill', a 'Hardware' button, and four large buttons: 'Start' (green), 'Stop' (red), 'Help', and 'Exit'.

Instrument Number	3
Instrument Name	Instrument #3
Operator Name	N. Garas
Sample Name	UV Standard
Sample Description 1	specimen # 5
Sample Description 2	
Primary Method	C:\Star\HP_FC1_330.mth
Folder for Data File Storage	c:\Star\PS_430_4
Browse	430
Sample Type	
Baseline	
Calibration	
Analysis	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Verification	
Clear Coefficients	<input type="checkbox"/>
AutoLink...	
Well/Vial	A1
# Injects	2
Wash Vol.	300
Volume	20
Amount	1
Factor	1
Multiplier	1
Divisor	1
Level	1
Inj. Mode	Partial Loopfill
Hardware	
Start	
Stop	
Help	
Exit	

Choose the instrument  
for the injection.

Enter information about  
the sample.

Enter the name of the  
Method you wish to use.

Enter sampling  
information. This  
information is specific to  
the type of sampling  
device installed.

Refer to the on-line help for  
more details on the QuickStart  
screen.



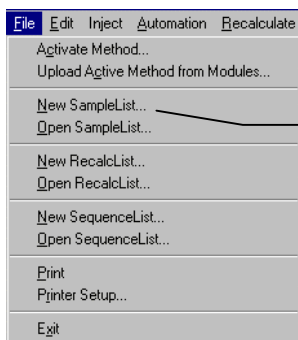
# Injecting Multiple Samples

By now you should have your instrument configured and a basic method built for data acquisition. If this hasn't been done, please refer to the previous sections for instructions on doing this.

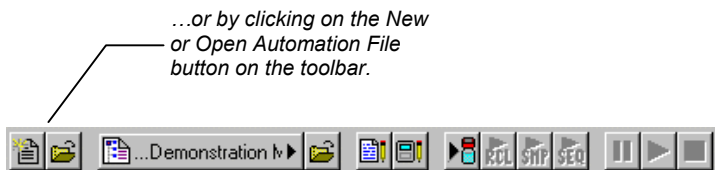
---

## Using a SampleList in System Control

You can inject multiple samples from System Control by using the SampleList.



*Choose to open either a New SampleList or an existing SampleList from the File menu...*



*...or by clicking on the New or Open Automation File button on the toolbar.*

The SampleList window for the open SampleList is displayed. It contains fields that are specific to the sampling device configured in the instrument. In this case, since there is no sampling device configured, a generic SampleList is used (no vial positions or sampling options).

Spreadsheet columns can be sized by dragging their border using the left mouse button. Move columns by dragging them using the right mouse button. Right click on column headers for formatting options.

Enter notes about the sample.

Enter post-run operations to be performed.

Enter information about the samples and the injections you wish to perform.

	Sample Name	Sample Type	Cal. level	Inj.	Injection Notes	AutoLink
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						

Buttons on the right: Add, Insert, Delete, Fill Down, Add Lines..., Defaults...

Buttons at the bottom: Begin, Suspend, Resume, Data Files..., RecalcList...

Press the Begin button to start injecting samples.

Select the location and name for the Data Files generated by the SampleList.

Used to specify RecalcList generation options.

When the table is scrolled to the right, the Sample Name column doesn't scroll so you can easily tell for which sample you are entering additional parameters. Commonly used data handling parameters, the amount for single internal standard calculations, the unidentified peak factor, a multiplier, and a divisor, can be entered directly into this table.

If you have more complex requirements, such as multiple internal standards or multiple detectors requiring different entries for these data handling parameters, click on the button in MultiChannel MultiStandard column.

*Click here to enter extended data handling parameters.*

	Sample Name	Amount Standard	Unid Peak Factor	Multiplier	Divisor	MultiChannel MultiStandard
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						

If you need to add several similar lines to the sample list, click on the Add Lines... button. You can then enter the common information in the dialog box.

*For sequentially numbered Sample names, enter the starting number and the number of entries to add to the SampleList. The Sample Names will have these numbers appended to them.*

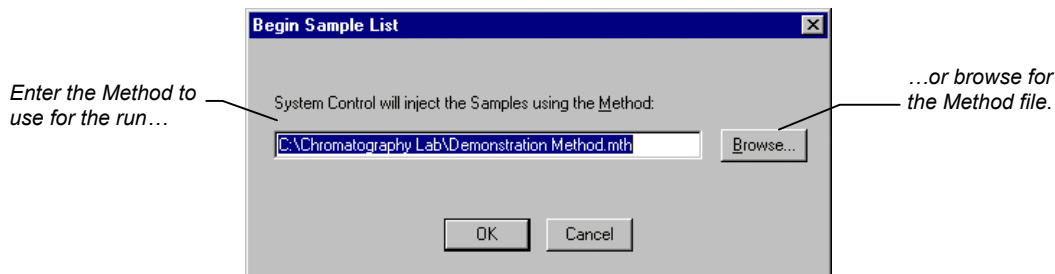
Sample Name	Sample Type	Cal. level	Inj.	Injection Notes	AutoLink	Amount Standard	Unid Peak Factor	Multiplier	Divisor	MultiChanr MultiStand.
Test Injection #	Analysis		1	none	none	1	0	1	1	none

Number of Lines to Add:

☒ Number Sample Names from:

When you press the Begin button, you are prompted for the Method to use.



After you click on OK, the run will begin. If you are using a manual injector or a sampling device that is not controlled by the Star Workstation, you will need to start the device manually.

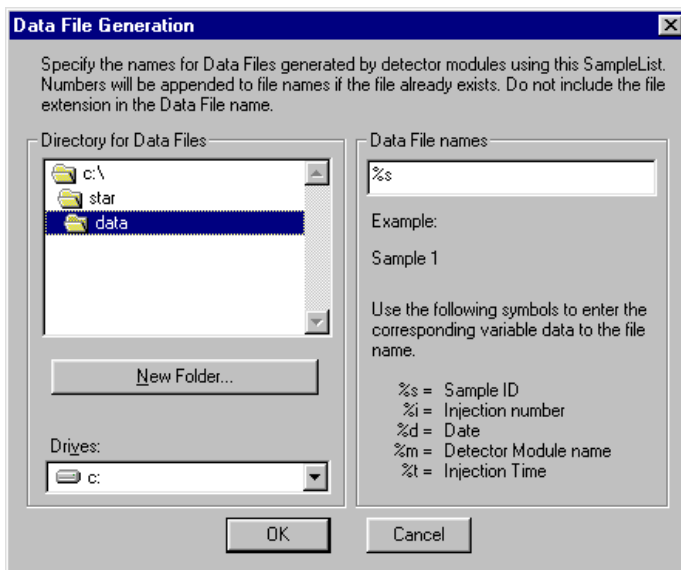
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## Specifying the Data File Name and Path

Data File names can be up to 255 characters long. Sample ID, injection date, module name, and injection number can be embedded in the file name making the Data File name correlate with each sample injection. When you click on the Data Files... button, the Data Files Generation dialog box is displayed. This dialog box allows you to select the path and the file name “specification” for the data file.



The left side of the Data File Generation dialog box allows you to select the drive letter and subdirectory (path) where the data files are to be stored. The default directory is the data subdirectory of your Star directory.



The right side of this dialog box allows you to create a file name "specification". You can combine text entry with the "%" variable symbols shown to specify file names that contain sample injection specific information. An example of the file name is dynamically updated as you type in the file name specification. This makes it easy to see how a Data File created with this file name specifications would appear.

---

## Specifying Per-Sample Data Handling Parameters

Most Data Handling parameters are specified in the Method used during the injection. Some parameters may vary on a per-sample basis, and are therefore specified when you perform the injection.

The following Data Handling parameters can be specified on a per-sample basis:

- Unidentified Peak Factor
- Multiplier
- Divisor
- Amount Standard when one Internal Standard is being used



Refer to the Data Handling and Reports Operation Manual for a brief description of these parameters.



Refer to the Star Workstation Regulatory Compliance Manual for a complete description of how these parameters are used to calculate results.

Not only can you specify these parameters on a per-sample basis, but you can specify them on a per-detector channel basis. This is useful if, for example, you have an ADC Board with channel A and channel B connected to two different detectors on a GC. In addition, if you are using multiple internal standards, you can also specify their amounts on a per sample and per detector channel basis.

To access these extended Data Handling parameters, click on the button in the MultiChannel MultiStandard column in the SampleList. The Data Handling Channels dialog box is displayed. When you select the detector channel to in the Data Handling Channels dialog box, the calculation type, internal standard peaks and amounts are read from the active Method. ***Be sure the Method you will be using is already active before you enter detector-specific parameters.***

Select specific detector channels here (up to 4).

Data Handling Channels For Method Method Building Demonstration Method.mth, Sample 'Default Sample'						
	Detector Channel	Calculation Type	Unid Peak Factor	Multiplier	Divisor	Standard Peak 1
1	ADCB.16 Channel A	Uncalibrated	0	1	1	
2						
3						
4						

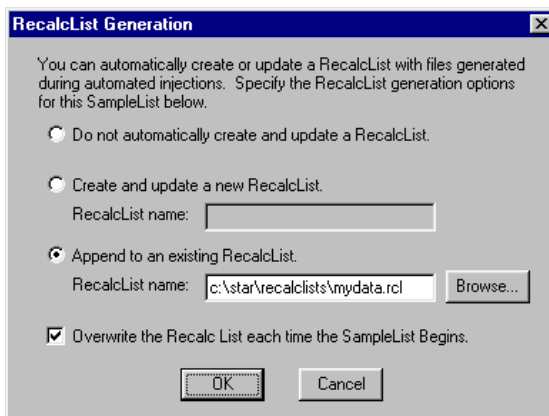
Use these buttons to edit the corresponding sections of the active Method.

An amount may be entered for each internal standard peak in the Method.

---

## Specifying a RecalcList

You can choose to create a new RecalcList, append to an existing RecalcList, or not create nor update a RecalcList. To select the RecalcList option that you want, click on the RecalcList button. The RecalcList Generation dialog box is displayed.



The RecalcList Generation dialog box contains the following elements:

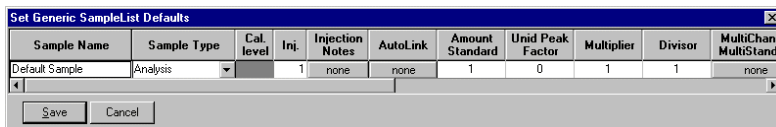
- Instructional text: "You can automatically create or update a RecalcList with files generated during automated injections. Specify the RecalcList generation options for this SampleList below."
- Three radio buttons:
  - ☐ Do not automatically create and update a RecalcList.
  - ☐ Create and update a new RecalcList. Below this is a text field for "RecalcList name:".
  - ☒ Append to an existing RecalcList. Below this is a text field for "RecalcList name:" containing "c:\star\recalclists\mydata.rcl" and a "Browse..." button.
- A checked checkbox: ☒ Overwrite the Recalc List each time the SampleList Begins.
- Buttons: "OK" and "Cancel".

If you choose to create a new RecalcList, this automatically generated RecalcList will not overwrite an existing RecalcList unless you also specify "Overwrite the Recalc List each time the SampleList begins". If a RecalcList with the same file name exists, the newly created RecalcList will have number appended to its file name to make it unique and to prevent the older RecalcList from being overwritten.

---

## Changing Default SampleList Entries

When you add a new row into a SampleList, default values are used for each cell. To change the default values, click on the Defaults... button in the open SampleList window. The following dialog box will be displayed. Enter the desired default values and click on Save.



The Set Generic SampleList Defaults dialog box features a table with the following data:

Sample Name	Sample Type	Cal. level	Inj.	Injection Notes	AutoLink	Amount Standard	Unid Peak Factor	Multiplier	Divisor	MultiChanr MultiStand.
Default Sample	Analysis		1	none	none	1	0	1	1	none

Below the table are "Save" and "Cancel" buttons.

## Monitoring the Status of Runs

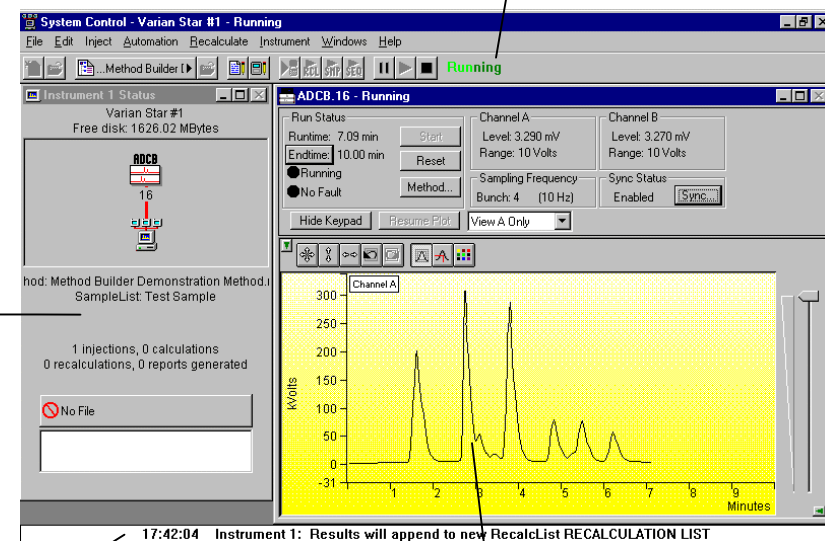
After an injection is performed, the status of the run can be monitored in the instrument window.

Module status is shown in the status and control windows and on the toolbar.

The total number of injections completed is shown in the Instrument Status window.

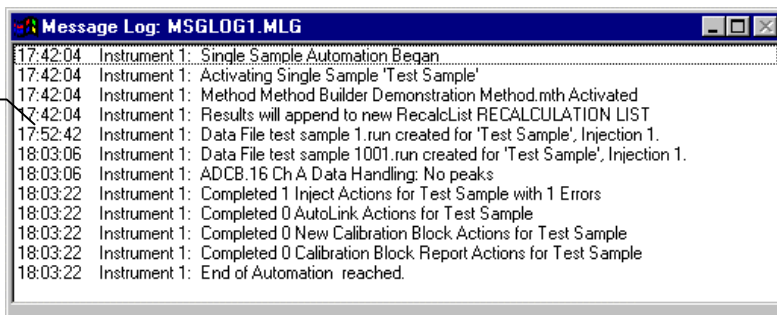
Automation actions and errors are logged in the Message Log.

The chromatogram is displayed as it is acquired.



When you double-click on the status bar at the bottom of the instrument window, the entire Message Log window is displayed.

All Message Log entries are stamped with the time they occurred.



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## Saving SampleLists for Later Use

When you make changes to the open SampleList, the changes are automatically saved to the SampleList file and will be used for the automated runs that are in progress. If you want to edit a SampleList other than the open SampleList, use the offline Automation File Editor application described in the next section of this manual.

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**Note:** Opening an automation file, SampleList, Sequence, or RecalcList, during automated runs will cause the automation that is in progress to be suspended.

---

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## Using More Than One Method for Injections

The Star Workstation allows you to perform automated injections using more than one Method. There are two ways in which this can be accomplished. The first is by changing the active Method from within the SampleList. The second is by using a Sequence.

### Changing the Method in the SampleList

You may change the Method used during injections by activating a Method in a SampleList row.

Select Activate Method from the Sample Type cell.

Click on the AutoLink button. The Activate Method dialog box is displayed.

Enter the name of the Method to use...

...or pick the Method from a list of files.

**Activate Method**

Method PathName

S:\STAR\Demo2.mth

Browse...

OK Cancel

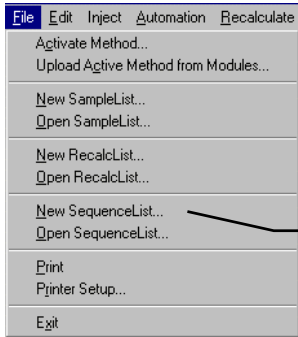
When this line is encountered during automated injections, the specified Method is activated.

		Sample Name	Sample Type	Cal. level	Inj.	Injection Notes	AutoLink	Amount Standard
1	1	Test Run #1	Analysis		2	none	none	1
2		Test Run #2	Analysis		2	none	none	1
3		Test Run #3	Analysis		2	none	none	1
4		Test Run #4	Analysis		2	none	none	1
5		Test Run #5	Analysis		2	none	none	1
6			Activate Method				demo1.mth	
7								
8								
9								

You may specify any number of Methods to be used in the SampleList.

## Using the Sequence Window

The Sequence window allows you to specify multiple Methods and SampleLists to be processed during automation.



Choose to open either a New Sequence or an existing Sequence from the File menu...

...or by clicking on the New or Open Automation File button on the toolbar.





The Sequence window for the open Sequence is displayed.

*Enter the Method and SampleList to use. You may enter any number of Sequence lines.*

*Choose the action to be done in each step of the Sequence from the drop down box.*

*Press Begin to start automation.*

*Browse for a Method or Sample/RecalcList file in the active cell.*

	Action	Method	Sample/RecalcList
1	Inject	c:\chromatography lab\demonstration method.mth	c:\chromatography lab\demonstration runs.smp
2	Print	c:\ata\demo1.mth	c:\chromatography lab\demonstration runs.rcl
3	Inject		
4	Inject		
5	Recalc		
6	Print		
7	Print Message		
8			
9			
10			



# Automation File Editor

The Automation File Editor is used for editing and creation of automation files, SampleLists, RecalcLists, and Sequences offline (outside of Star Workstation's System Control application). The Automation File Editor allows access to these files without disrupting automated runs that may be occurring in System Control.

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## Accessing the Automation File Editor

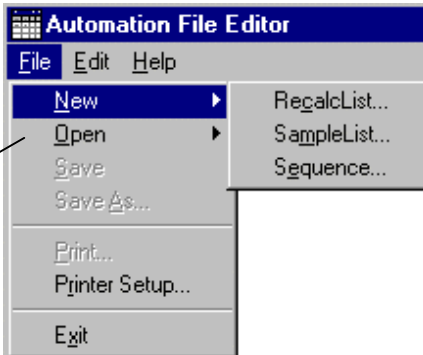


*Click on the Automation File Editor icon on the Star Toolbar.*

---

## Editing or creating a RecalcList

*Choose either a New RecalcList or Open an existing RecalcList from the File menu...*



*...or by clicking on the New or Open Automation File button on the toolbar.*



The RecalcList window for the open RecalcList is displayed. It contains most of the same fields contained in the SampleList. Where the SampleList may contain AutoSampler and sample specific data handling information, the RecalcList contains the Data File name and data file specific data handling information. The fields that are common to both the RecalcList and the SampleList are described in the sections following the creation of the SampleList.

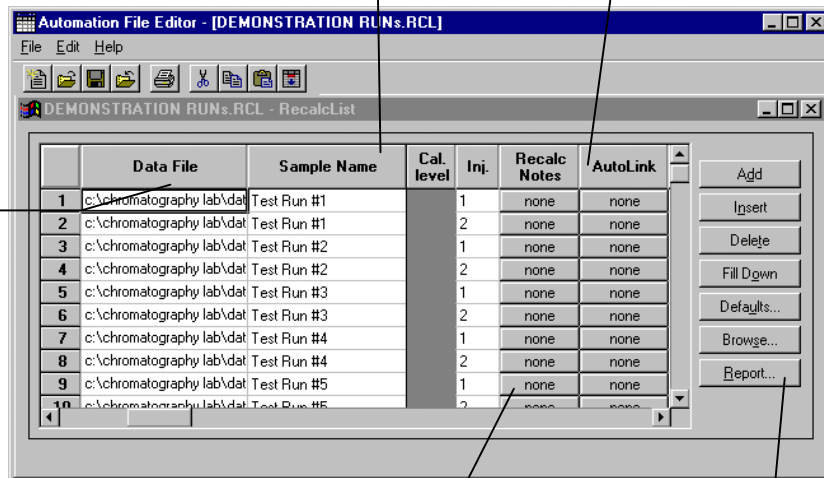
## AUTOMATION FILE EDITOR

### Editing or creating a RecalcList

As the table is scrolled to reveal additional columns, the Data File and Sample Name column do not scroll. They remain visible so that you can see for which data file and sample you are entering parameters.

Enter postcalculation operations to be performed.

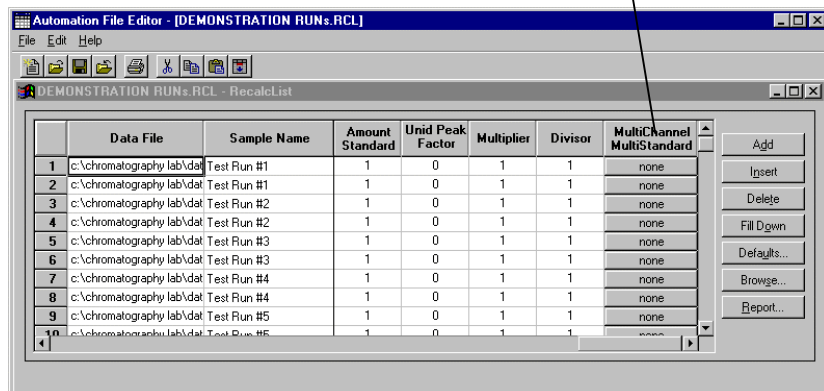
Spreadsheet columns can be sized by dragging their border using the left mouse button. Right-click on column headers for formatting options.



Enter notes about the recalculation of the Data File.

Provides quick access to the Standard Report for viewing the results.

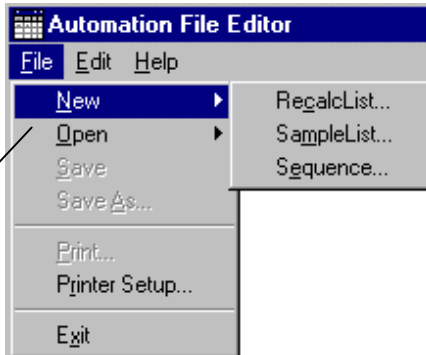
Click here to enter extended data handling parameters.



---

## Editing or creating a SampleList

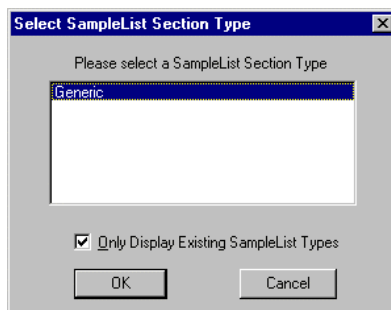
Choose either a New SampleList or Open an existing SampleList from the File menu...



...or by clicking on the New or Open Automation File button on the toolbar.



After choosing the SampleList to open the “Select SampleList Section Type” dialog box is displayed. This dialog box allows you to choose a SampleList that is appropriate for the AutoSampler that will be used. The Star Data Acquisition Workstation does not include AutoSampler control, therefore Generic is the only available choice.



The SampleList window for the open SampleList is displayed.

Spreadsheet columns can be sized by dragging their border using the left mouse button. Right-click on column headers for formatting options.

Enter notes about the sample.

Enter post run operations to be performed.

As the table is scrolled to reveal additional columns, the Sample Name column does not scroll. It remains visible so that you can see for which sample you are entering parameters.

Enter information about the samples you plan to inject.

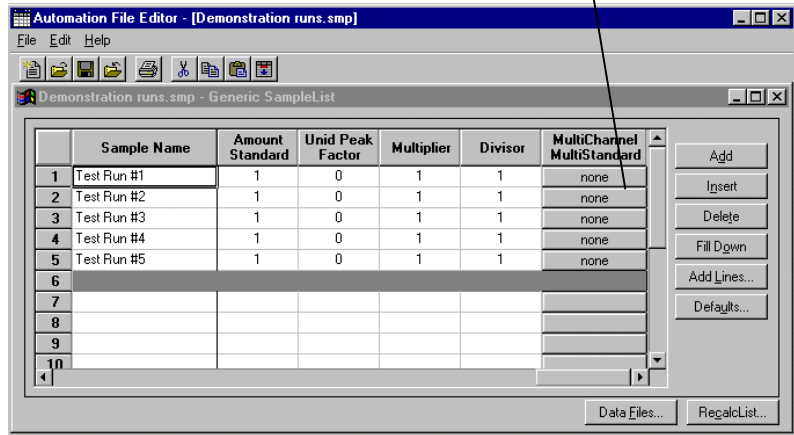
Select the location and name for the Data Files generated by the SampleList.

	Sample Name	Sample Type	Cal. level	Inj.	Injection Notes	AutoLink
1	Test Run #1	Analysis		2	none	none
2	Test Run #2	Analysis		2	none	none
3	Test Run #3	Analysis		2	none	none
4	Test Run #4	Analysis		2	none	none
5	Test Run #5	Analysis		2	none	none
6		Activate Method				demo1.mth
7						
8						
9						
10						

When the table is scrolled to the right, the Sample Name column doesn't scroll so you can easily tell for which sample you are entering additional parameters. Commonly used data handling parameters, the amount for single internal standard calculations, the unidentified peak factor, a multiplier, and a divisor, can be entered directly into this table.

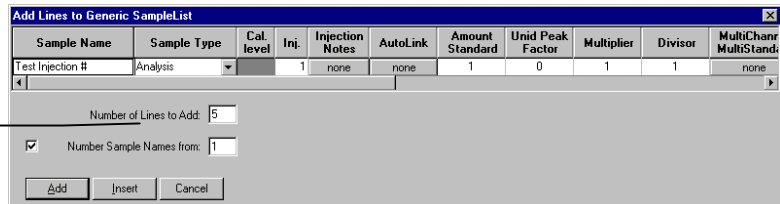
If you have more complex requirements, such as multiple internal standards or multiple detectors requiring different entries for these data handling parameters, click on the button in MultiChannel MultiStandard column.

Click here to enter extended data handling parameters.



If you need to add several similar lines to the SampleList, click on the Add Lines... button. You can then enter the common information in the dialog box.

*For sequentially numbered Sample names, enter the starting number and the number of entries to add to the SampleList. The Sample Names will have these numbers appended to them.*

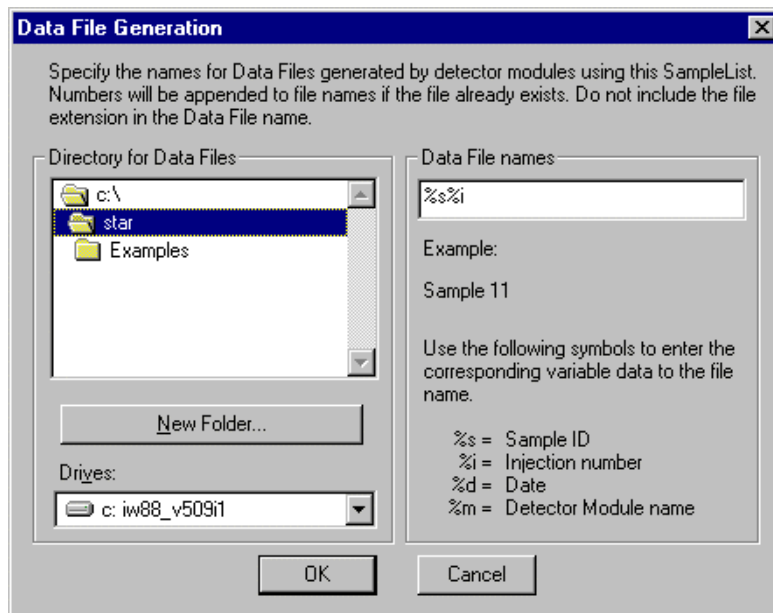


## Specifying the Data File Name and Path

Data File names can be up to 255 characters long. Sample ID, injection date, module name, and injection number can be embedded in the file name making the Data File name correlate with each sample injection. When you click on the Data Files... button, the Data Files Generation dialog box is displayed. This dialog box allows you to select the path and the file name "specification" for the data file.



The left side of the Data File Generation dialog box allows you to select the drive letter and subdirectory (path) where the data files are to be stored. The default directory is the data subdirectory of your Star directory.



The right side of this dialog box allows you to create a file name "specification". You can combine text entry with the "%" variable symbols shown to specify file names that contain sample injection specific information. An example of the file name is dynamically updated as you type in the file name specification. This makes it easy to see how a Data File created with this file name specifications would appear.

---

## Specifying Per-Sample Data Handling Parameters

Most Data Handling parameters are specified in the Method used during the injection. Some parameters may vary on a per-sample basis, and are therefore specified when you perform the injection. The following Data Handling parameters can be specified on a per-sample basis:

- Unidentified Peak Factor
- Multiplier
- Divisor
- Amount Standard when one Internal Standard is being used



Refer to the Data Handling and Reports Operation Manual for a brief description of these parameters.



Refer to the Regulatory Compliance Manual for a complete description of how these parameters are used to calculate results.

Not only can you specify these parameters on a per-sample basis, but you can specify them on a per-detector channel basis. This is useful if, for example, you have an ADC Board with channel A and channel B connected to two different detectors on a GC. In addition, if you are using multiple internal standards, you can also specify their amounts on a per sample and per detector channel basis.

To access these extended Data Handling parameters, click on the button in the Multi-Channel Multi-Standard column in the Inject Single Sample dialog box. You will be prompted for the Method that will be used when this SampleList is run. Then Data Handling Channels dialog box is displayed. When you select the detector channel in the Data Handling Channels dialog box, the calculation type, internal standard peaks and amounts are read from the Method that you just selected. The values entered for internal standard peaks and amounts will be entered into the peak table of this method.

*An amount may be entered for each internal standard peak in the Method.*

*Select specific detector channels here (up to 4).*

Data Handling Channels For Method Method Building Demonstration Method mth, Sample 'Default Sample'						
	Detector Channel	Calculation Type	Unid Peak Factor	Multiplier	Divisor	Standard Peak 1
1	ADCB.16 Channel A	Uncalibrated	0	1	1	
2						
3						
4						

Buttons: Add, Insert, Delete, Ok, Cancel, Edit Calibration Setup..., Edit Standard Peak(s)...

*Use these buttons to edit the corresponding sections of the active Method.*

## Specifying a RecalcList

From the SampleList RecalcList... button, you can choose to create a new RecalcList, append to an existing RecalcList, or not create nor update a RecalcList. Clicking on the RecalcList button displays the RecalcList Generation dialog box.

**RecalcList Generation**

You can automatically create or update a RecalcList with files generated during automated injections. Specify the RecalcList generation options for this SampleList below.

☐ Do not automatically create and update a RecalcList.

☐ Create and update a new RecalcList.  
RecalcList name:

☒ Append to an existing RecalcList.  
RecalcList name:

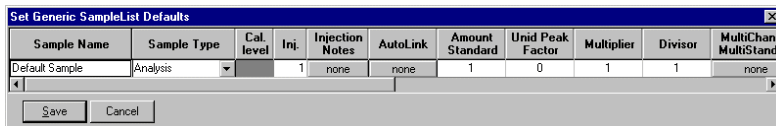
☒ Overwrite the Recalc List each time the SampleList Begins.

If you choose to create a new RecalcList, this automatically generated RecalcList will not overwrite an existing RecalcList unless you also specify "Overwrite the Recalc List each time the SampleList begins". If a RecalcList with the same file name exists, the newly created RecalcList will have number appended to its file name to make it unique and to prevent the older RecalcList from being overwritten.

---

## Changing Default SampleList Entries

When you add a new row into a SampleList, default values are used for each cell. To change the default values, click on the Defaults... button in the open SampleList window. The following dialog box will be displayed. Enter the desired default values and click on Save.



The dialog box titled "Set Generic SampleList Defaults" contains a table with the following columns: Sample Name, Sample Type, Cal. level, Inj., Injection Notes, AutoLink, Amount Standard, Unid Peak Factor, Multiplier, Divisor, and MultiChar MultiStand. The "Default Sample" row shows values: Analysis, 1, none, none, 1, 0, 1, 1, none. Below the table are "Save" and "Cancel" buttons.

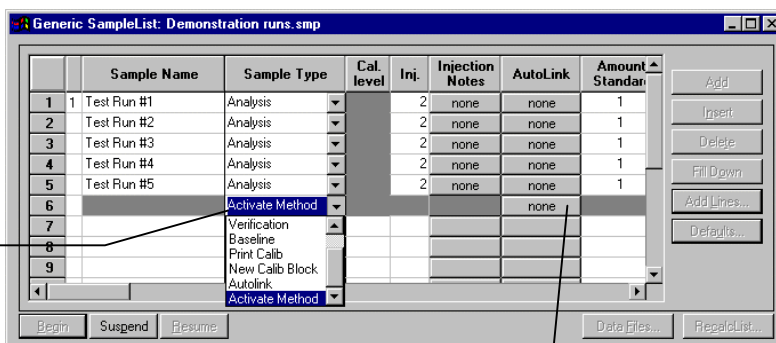
Sample Name	Sample Type	Cal. level	Inj.	Injection Notes	AutoLink	Amount Standard	Unid Peak Factor	Multiplier	Divisor	MultiChar MultiStand
Default Sample	Analysis	1	none	none	1	0	1	1	1	none

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## Using More Than One Method for Injections

The Star Workstation allows you to perform automated injections using more than one Method. There are two ways in which this can be accomplished. The first is by changing the active Method from within the SampleList. The second is by using a Sequence.

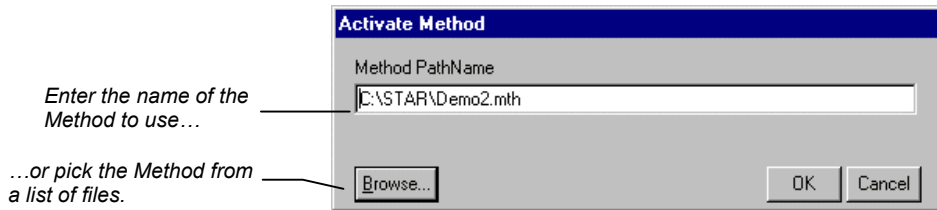
You may change the Method used during injections by activating a Method in a SampleList row.



The "Generic SampleList: Demonstration runs.smp" window displays a table with columns: Sample Name, Sample Type, Cal. level, Inj., Injection Notes, AutoLink, and Amount Standard. Rows 1-5 show "Test Run #1" through "Test Run #5" with "Analysis" as the Sample Type. Row 6 has "Activate Method" selected in the Sample Type cell. A list of methods (Verification, Baseline, Print Calib, New Calib Block, AutoLink) is shown in a dropdown menu. Row 7 has "Activate Method" selected in the AutoLink cell. To the right are buttons: Add, Insert, Delete, Fill Down, Add Lines..., Defaults..., Begin, Suspend, Resume, Data Files..., and RecallList....

Select Activate Method from the Sample Type cell.

Click on the AutoLink button. The Activate Method dialog box is displayed.



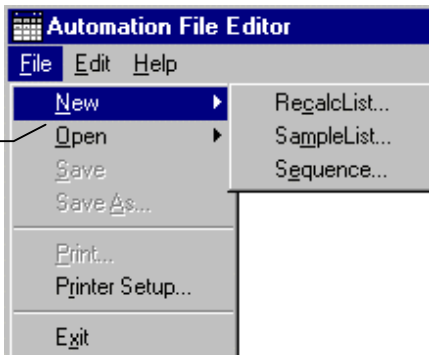
When this line is encountered during automated injections, the specified Method is activated.

		Sample Name	Sample Type	Cal. level	Inj.	Injection Notes	AutoLink	Amount Standard
1	1	Test Run #1	Analysis		2	none	none	1
2		Test Run #2	Analysis		2	none	none	1
3		Test Run #3	Analysis		2	none	none	1
4		Test Run #4	Analysis		2	none	none	1
5		Test Run #5	Analysis		2	none	none	1
6			Activate Method				demo1.mth	
7								
8								
9								

You may specify any number of Methods to be used in the SampleList.

## Editing or creating a Sequence

Choose either a New Sequence or Open an existing Sequence from the File menu...



...or by clicking on the New or Open Automation File button on the toolbar.



The Sequence window for the open Sequence is displayed.

Enter the Method and SampleList to use. You may enter any number of Sequence lines.

Browse for a Method or SampleList file in the active cell.

Choose the action to be done in that step of the Sequence from the drop down box.

