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Aqualink Software



Logging on Multiparameter meters is a quick and easy way to download results straight onto a PC where it can be easily exported to Excel for manipulation. This guide is an introduction to using the Aqualink software to help make your sampling event run smoothly.

Introduction

This 'Getting Started' card is intended to introduce you to the Aquaread AQUALINK Version 3.02 software and supply enough information for you to install and use the software's basic features. For detailed instructions refer to the PDF document included on the AQUALINK CD named Aquameter Instruction Manual. Alternatively, visit www.aquaread.co.uk and download the latest revision.

AQUALINK is a utility program designed to run under Microsoft® Windows® XP®, Vista® or 7 on a stand-alone PC with a minimum screen resolution of 800 x 600, and 2 available USB 2.0 sockets.

These instructions describe installation on a PC running Windows® Vista®. Other versions of Windows® may vary slightly.

IMPORTANT: Install the software BEFORE plugging your Aquameter into your PC.

Program Installation

Place the Van Walt USB Key in an available USB Socket. Browse to the removable disk drive, into the AQUALINK folder and click on 'setup.exe'. You will be given the usual Windows® security warnings. Allow the software to install. Once installed, AQUALINK will run automatically. Leave the Key in the USB socket. To communicate with the AQUAMETER, two further software 'drivers' need to be installed.

Driver Installation

Ensure your AQUAMETER has batteries installed but is switched off. Connect the AQUAMETER to your PC using the USB cable supplied. The AQUAMETER will switch itself on automatically and display 'USB CONNECTED' on its screen as you plug into your PC.

The 'Found New Hardware' wizard on your PC will automatically activate. Select the recommended option: 'Locate and install driver software'. If given the option, do not allow Windows® to search the Internet for drivers. The next screen will ask you to 'Insert the disk that came with your Aquameter'. The CD should still be in your drive. Click on the 'Next' button. Wait while the first driver is installed.

The next screen will ask you to 'Insert the disk that came with your USB Serial Port'. The CD should still be in your drive. Click on the 'Next' button. Wait while the second driver is installed. When this has completed, AQUALINK is ready to use. Select your preferred operating language by clicking on one of the national flags at the top of the screen.

Uploading Data From Your AQUAMETER

Click the 'Upload Data From Aquameter' button. AQUALINK will search for the AQUAMETER then upload all the available logged data from the Meter to your PC. A progress bar and file counter will be displayed during this process.

Once upload is complete, the memory Tag, date and time for all the logged data that has been uploaded will be displayed in the Uploaded Data column on the left of the screen.

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On Screen Help

Help has been provided in this software in the form of 'Tool Tips'. If you want to know what a control button does or what a data box displays, simply move your mouse pointer over the item in question. A multi-lingual Tool Tip will appear after a few seconds to give you more information.

Viewing Logged Data

To view any of the logged data records, simply click on the desired Tag, date and time label in the left-hand column. The data for the highlighted label will be displayed in the individual data boxes, which are grouped by electrode function. Any data that is unavailable or out of range will be displayed as dashes. To move up and down the date/time column, use either your mouse or the cursor up/down keys.

The AQUAMETER stores all logged data in a raw Probe format, so can be made to output logged data in several different forms, dependent upon the Meter's current settings. See Section 8.6 (Important Information About Memory Mode) in the full manual for more information.

Displaying GPS Co-ordinates

On the right of the screen, the position at which the data was logged is displayed in the GPS boxes (when logged using an AM-200 GPS AQUAMETER only). Latitude and longitude can be displayed as Degrees, Minutes and fractions of minutes (DD MM.MMMM) or as Degrees and fractions of degrees (DD.DDDDD). Select one format or the other by clicking one of the two options at the bottom of the GPS box.

GPS position is also displayed as an Ordnance Survey Great Britain (OSGB) grid reference, if the position falls within the United Kingdom.

Saving Logged Data

Once a set of logged data has been uploaded from the AQUAMETER, it can be saved on your PC as a Raw Data file. These files use a proprietary Aquaread format and are saved with a .amf (aquameter file) extension.

To save the uploaded data, click the 'Save as Raw Data' button. You will be asked for a file name in the normal Windows® format. The file name you choose will automatically be given the .amf extension.

Retrieving Logged Data

Once a Raw Data file has been saved using the above technique, it can be easily retrieved by clicking on the 'Open Raw Data' button. When a raw data file is opened, it will appear exactly as uploaded data and the file name will be displayed in the box below the data column.

Exporting Data

AQUALINK can export data as a Text Report, an Excel® file or a Google® file. Before exporting data, the actual data to be exported must be selected.

First, select which data records you want to export by checking the relevant check-boxes in the Uploaded Data column. You can check or un-check all data records simultaneously by checking or un-checking the 'Check / Un-Check All' box above the Uploaded Data column.

Next, select which individual data classes you want to export by checking or un-checking the check-boxes next to each individual data box. If you are exporting a Text Report, fill in the Report Header on the left of the screen. You are now ready to export your data. Click one of the Export buttons to export your file.

See the Aquameter Instruction Manual for more information and for detailed instructions on importing Aqualink data into Google™ Maps and Google™ Earth.