



**Link  Motion™**

**by Solustan, Inc.**

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# User's Manual

## **SOFTWARE LICENSE AGREEMENT**

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7. LinkMotion driver software is protected with a software protection key. The protection key is tied to your specific PC computer using appropriate Microsoft Operating System. If the technology was not available to transfer the license to another PC, **you will be required to buy another license at a full price** of the software in case of a PC failure beyond normal repair. **It is very important to safeguard the PC with the license.**

8. LinkMotion driver software you purchased can also protected with optionally available hardware ID (dongle) key. If the ID key fails for some reason, you could return it for replacement. As long as Solustan can identify the key to be the one issued by us, **we will replace it for a fee.** On the other hand, if you lose the key, you will be required to buy another license at a full price of the software. **It is very important to safeguard the ID key.**

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# **LinkMotion Detail Installation and Setup Instructions**

## **Computer Requirements:**

**Windows XP with Service Pak 2 or higher and Microsoft .NET 2.0 Framework installed, Parallel Port**, Processor speed of at least 800 Mhz, Minimum RAM memory 1 GB or more preferred, 60 MB of Hard drive free space, Screen resolution of at least 800 x 600, CD-ROM drive is not required, if the driver software was down-loaded from the web site. CD-ROM drive is necessary, if the software was received on a CD.

**Use keyboard and mouse with PS2 connection only. Do not use Keyboard and mouse with USB connection.**

Microsoft .NET 2.0 Framework is available for a free download from the following site:  
**Microsoft.com>Downloads & Trials>Download Center>.NET Framework Version 2.0 or Higher.**

## **Installation required for LinkMotion VC:**

**Part 1** - Second part is **installation of LinkMotion VC driver** software.

**Part 2 - Software License Code procedure** is necessary for full working license.

When you install the LinkMotion software on your computer it is good for 30 days or 30 executions. Within this period you need to get a license code from Solustan to make it a permanent license for the computer of your choice. **Please make sure and install on the computer that you are planning to use for long term. All LinkMotion product Licenses are non-transferrable.** Price is subject to change any time. Additional software licenses can be made available for an extra charge.

**Part 3 - Installation of Fonts** is necessary and provided to the customers with Engraving machine upgrade kits.

## **Part 1 - Installation Procedure for LinkMotion VC driver version 2.7 or higher:**

Note that you must have administrative privileges on the computer in order to install LinkMotion. Most of the installation process is self-explanatory with following screens. You can stop the installation at any time by clicking "Cancel".

**If you have received the driver software on a CD then follow steps from (1A). If you have downloaded from the web then go to step (1B). Go to step (2) if you already installed the driver for the hardware key (dongle).**

**(1A) Insert the LinkMotion installation CD into your CD-ROM drive.** If the Auto-run feature is enabled, Windows will start the Installation automatically. If the Auto-run feature is not enabled, browse the CD drive in Windows explorer and double-click on the "Launcher.exe" and installation will begin.  
or

**(1B)** After downloading, unzip the files and save them by creating a folder name LinkMotion. Now double click on the file name Launcher.exe and installation will begin.

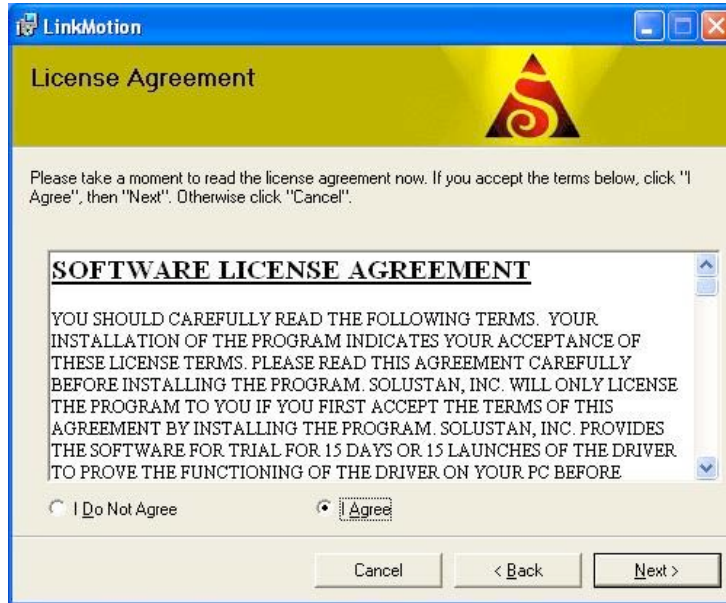
**(2)** Click on the Next Button.



**(3)** Click on the **Next Button**.



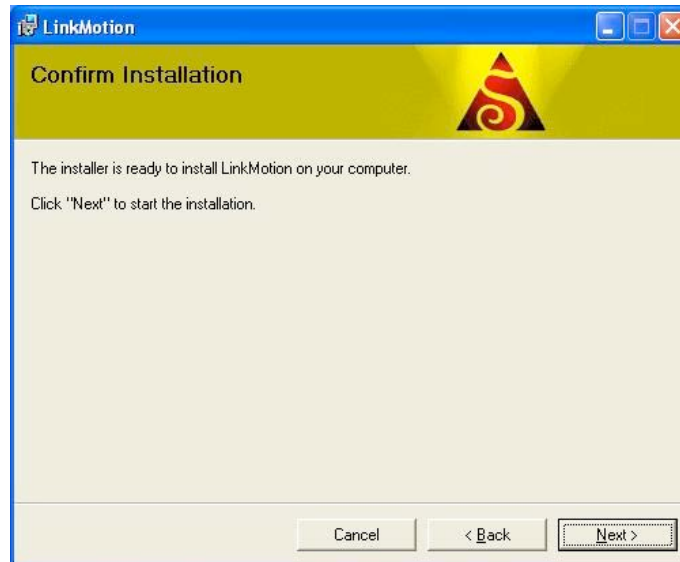
(4) When you get to the License Agreement dialog (see above), **you must read the agreement. If you agree, go ahead and click the radio button, "I Agree" for the installation process to continue. Then Click on the Next Button.**



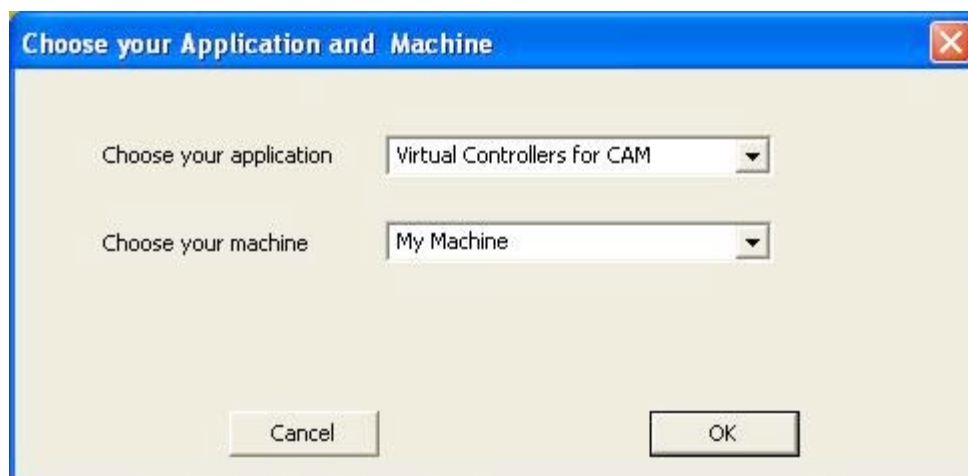
(5) After you have read and agreed to the License Agreement, you will be asked to specify the installation folder. In most cases you can leave this at the default value. You will also be asked to specify who will be able to run LinkMotion on this computer. In most cases you should specify **"Everyone" and then Click on Next button.**



(6) Click on the Next button once again.



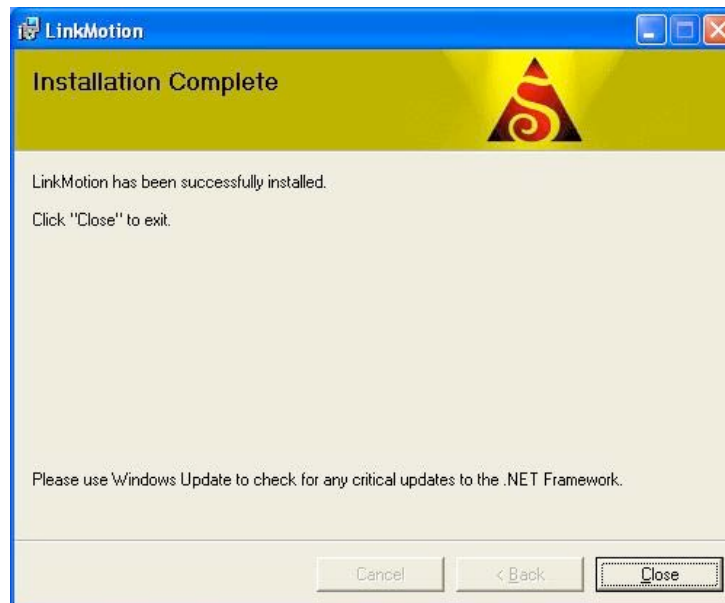
(7) Later during the installation you will see **Choose your application and Choose your machine** for installation. Application name is **Virtual Controller for CAM** and machine is **My Machine**. Name of the machine is shown as an example and if you click on the scrolling arrow on the right you should see many more machines listed. If you do not see the name of your machine then it is easy for us to include once we have proper information from you with specifications of your machine.



(8) During installation, if a dialog pops up warning you that you are installing an untested driver, **click on "continue anyway"**. This warning will be removed in a future release.

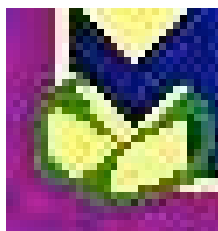


(9) Click on "Close" when the installation is complete.



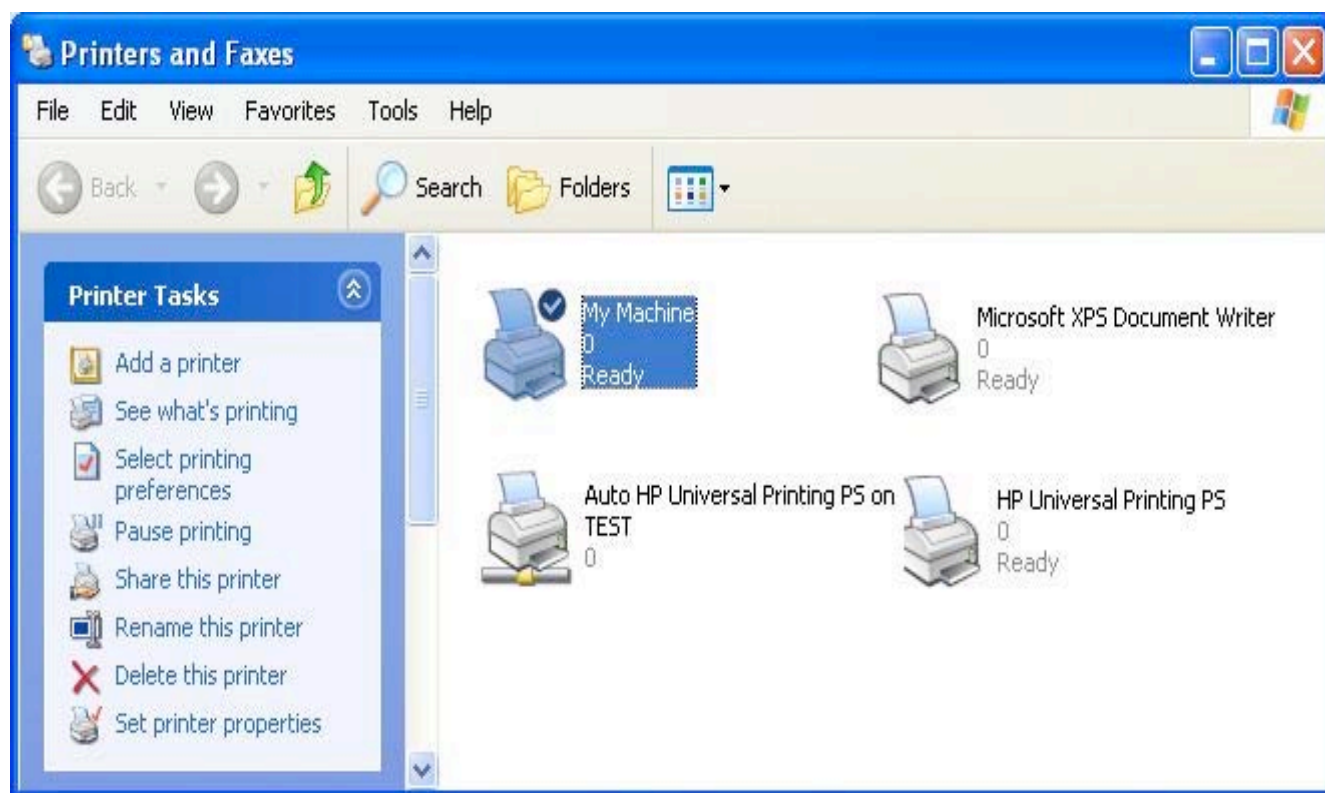
Icon shown above should show up in system tray at the bottom right.





### (10) Setting up the Default Printer:

You want the LinkMotion printer to be your default printer. Go to the Start button and open the "Control Panel>Printers and Faxes" menu and find the **printer driver with My Machine** name as shown in the picture below. **Right click on this printer and select "Set as Default Printer"**.



Installation procedure is complete.

Now refer to **Using LinkMotion** and the design application you are using and how that works with **LinkMotion and Popular Applications**. Document names are as following:

LinkMotion and Corel Draw

LinkMotion and Illustrator

LinkMotion and Auto Cad and More .....

## **Uninstalling LinkMotion:**

### **Please make sure of the following before you uninstall:**

Your specific machine related settings are saved as **LinkMotion.ini** file. This file can be **saved** from **General Options Menu** and simply click on the **Save button** and give whatever name you prefer. You can also navigate where in your hard drive you want to save it. Different users can save under different names. Similarly you can **Load** that file back after another installation of LinkMotion by going to the General Options menu and clicking on the **Load button**. Navigate to the file from your computer where you saved it earlier. Restore Default button allows you to load default installed INI file that is supplied with LinkMotion. **It is very important to exit LinkMotion applet and Re-launch the applet when you make any changes for it to be effective.**

### **Uninstall LinkMotion Procedure:**

Make sure the LinkMotion applet is closed. Open the **Start menu** and select the **Control Panel**. Double-click on **Add or Remove Programs**. Look for LinkMotion entry in the list and click on that. **Select "Remove" and answer "Yes"** when it asks you if you really want to remove LinkMotion.

**LinkMotion.INI file (configuration file) does not get deleted with uninstall procedure. If you want to delete your existing INI file following is the procedure:**  
In the hard drive Find folder name **Document and Settings> Folder with users (your own name) name> Folder name Application Data> Folder name Total Graphics Network> Folder name LinkMotion> LinkMotion.INI**. Delete this file.

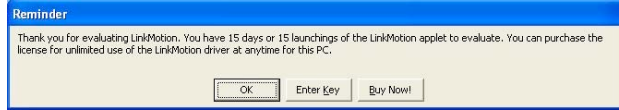
### **Re-Launch LinkMotion:**

**It is extremely important to Re-Launch LinkMotion if you replace or change LinkMotion.INI file for it to be effective.**

**Exit the LinkMotion (icon) applet by right mouse click from the systems tray at the bottom right. LinkMotion icon should go away from the systems tray.**  
**Now launch it back again by following and selecting the path Windows Start button>Program Files>Solustan>LinkMotion by the arrow of your mouse.**  
**LinkMotion icon should appear again in the systems tray at the bottom right.**

## **Part 2 – Software License Key Procedure:**

We welcome you for trying out our LinkMotion driver software. You will see the following message on the screen when LinkMotion is launched from the systems tray every time when you are using the program as demo.



Click on the **Enter key** button, whenever you decide to purchase or you have purchased it and you are ready for full license key. Enter Key will open following dialog box and show the **Hardware fingerprint** of your computer.



You need to provide us the proper information for **Hardware fingerprint, Business Name, valid email for Business along with the LinkMotion version and operating system you are using**. Fill out this information in each respective boxes, save the file and email it to us at [support@solustan.com](mailto:support@solustan.com). **Solustan is not responsible for any incorrect Hardware fingerprint code you provide. Please double check this information before you send it to us.** Software license working with Hardware fingerprint and matching code provided by Solustan, Inc. is intended to work only on the computer with the proper hardware fingerprint. **Key Code will not be generated for any incomplete information.**

**All LinkMotion product licenses are non-transferrable. User will need to buy another license for another computer. Additional license can be made available for an extra charge.**

### **Hardware fingerprint:**

### **Name: (Business name or Computer user's name)**

### **Valid email for Business or User:**

**Your Operating System:**     Win 7 64     Win 7 32     Win XP

**Your LinkMotion Application:**

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> LinkMotion USB       | <input type="checkbox"/> LinkMotion Lite       | <input type="checkbox"/> LinkCAM M&G       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LinkMotion VC        | <input type="checkbox"/> LinkMotion VC-Laser   | <input type="checkbox"/> LinkMotion Galvo  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LinkMotion HPGL Eng. | <input type="checkbox"/> LinkMotion HPGL Vinyl | <input type="checkbox"/> LinkMotion Leetro |

**LinkMotion USB and LinkMotion Lite users need to verify Serial number of the USB controller card.** Launch your LinkMotion application and select the Help tab(menu). Last thing at the bottom right it displays the serial number for the USB Controller. Please write this serial number in the box below.

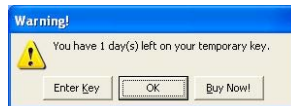
**USB Controller Serial Number:**

After you send us all of the information in above boxes, we will send you the customized Key Code. This key code is long text containing numeric numbers as well as alphabet letters.

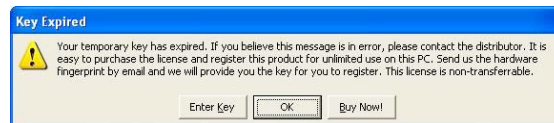
**Key: (Key Code for LinkMotion License)**

**We highly recommend that you simply copy and paste this in the Key section by bringing back the same Enter Key screen. Click OK and you are ready to use your LinkMotion driver software license.**

If you did not purchase within 30 days or 30 launchings you will see a last reminder as seen in the following picture. It will be best to purchase at this point.



Once the trial period of LinkMotion expires, you will see the following message.



Click on the **Enter key** will always give you the Hardware Fingerprint and you can purchase the software any time if you were using the trial version.

### **Part 3 - Install Engraving Fonts: (Rotary Engraving machine users only.)**

Although, any TrueType font can be engraved under the LinkMotion application, Solustan provides traditional engraving fonts. All the engraving fonts are not only designed as TrueType fonts but they are also designed such that engraving bit does not lift up to finish any alphabet character once it starts. We call them Non Lift Fonts. It will engrave faster and smoother. Multi Line fonts are designed and Optimized to work with 0.5 inch or higher sizes.

Fonts provided with the LinkMotion driver software (for engraving customers) has the folder name **MaxFonts (Basic Fonts)**. **Fontpak** is the optional fonts and you will see this folder only if you have purchased optional fonts. Customer using Braille option should see a folder name **Braille Fonts**.

**Make sure there is no application launched before starting to install the fonts.**

**(1A)** If you have not removed your CD LinkMotion Installation you can move to the next step. If the CD was removed you need to put CD back into the CD drive. It will start installing again and you need to click cancel for automatic Installation.

or

**(1B)** If you received this by internet when you unzip the software you should see appropriate fonts folder names as described earlier.

**(2)** Now go to the **Control Panel**. On the left side on the top you will see **Switch to Classic View**. Click on it. Select **Font** folder from the list of items you see on the right side.

**(3)** Select **Install New Fonts** from the **File** menu.

**(4)** Under **Driver** section select **Your CD drive** (D or E) if you received the software on CD or your **hard drive C** if you down loaded the software from internet.

**(5)** Under **Folder** section open **MaxFonts** folder. Select all fonts from the **List of Fonts** on the top and Click **OK**.

**(6)** You are done with the Installation. If you have purchased other optional fonts you can install them in the same way.

Please follow the keyboard layout pictures to enter proper text from each keyboard layouts shown in the **Fonts section** of the document **Using LinkMotion manual**.

# **LinkMotion Virtual Controller for 3 or 4 Axis:**

The LinkMotion driver comes with a small application that resides in the System Tray. The System Tray is the lower right bar of the Windows screen. **Double click on the LinkMotion icon** to bring up the application. Based on the selection, the Control Pad will show up in English, Spanish, or symbols. Control Pad can be designed easily into any of the languages of the world.

**Your computer should have Windows XP operating system with Service Pak 2 (SP 2) installed, one parallel port (on original mother board) and one USB connection. Also you should install Microsoft .NET Framework Version 2.0. This is available form Microsoft's web site for you to download freely:**

**Microsoft.com>Downloads & Trials>Download Center>.NET Framework Version 2.0**

**Do not use Keyboard or mouse connected with USB connection. Use PS2 connections.**

**Install LinkMotion following the instruction that you received with your LinkMotion CD. First part of the installation is only for LinkMotion I.D. Key driver for customers who purchased the hardware key option (customers with software protection only will not have this driver) and the second part will be the LinkMotion driver application. Make sure to select proper application and your machine name during the last part of the LinkMotion installation.**

## **Warning for Control Pad:**

**Please avoid using the mouse after you have sent the job for the output. Once the job is done, your mouse should be available for use. Use the 'Zero' or the 'Space Bar' key on your keypad to Pause. You will see a message box asking you if you want to Continue or Quit the job. (Some times this message box is in the back of your Control pad and you can bring it to the front simply by clicking on the system tray's active LinkMotion application.) At this point you can go to LinkMotion and change the speed or depth in the materials menu, click apply and then click Yes to continue the job or No to stop the job completely. Keep in mind that if it is in the 'Move Mode' between the shapes or letters, it may not pause. When jogging the machine do not press three keys together, it may cause undesirable results. Some times pressing two keys together for both X and Y movements can cause machine to continue moving in one direction even if you are no longer pressing the key.**

**Pressing the same key again or the opposite direction key should stop this unnecessary movements.**

**Do not use the arrow keys elsewhere on the keyboard in place of the Control Pad keys.**

**Once a job is sent or you have activated the LinkMotion applet then it shows up in the bottom bar where active applications are displayed. If LinkMotion was already in active mode and if you launch again from the system tray on the bottom right**

**Control pad of LinkMotion does not become active. User need to either launch it again from the active mode or needs to close it and re-launch it to make it active.**

**LinkMotion.INI file can be found as follows:**

**In the hard drive Find folder name Document and Settings> Folder with user's(your own or business name) name> Folder Application Data> Folder Solustan> Folder LinkMotion> File name - LinkMotion.INI**

**Open LinkMotion.INI file by double clicking on the file. It is a text file. You will see all the different machine names at the beginning. Specific machine related controls are further down in the file. Find the specific settings for your machine and you can make changes there. Remember to save the file after you make changes. Also, remember to Re-Launch LinkMotion for your changes to take effect.**

**Re-Launch LinkMotion:**

**It is extremely important to Re-Launch LinkMotion if you replace or change LinkMotion.INI file for it to be effective.**

**Exit the LinkMotion (icon) applet by right mouse click from the systems tray at the bottom right. LinkMotion icon should go away from the systems tray.  
Now launch it back again by following and selecting the path Windows Start button>Program Files>Solustan>LinkMotion by the arrow of your mouse.  
LinkMotion icon should appear again in the systems tray at the bottom right.**

## Control Pad in English:



The Control Pad is operated using the numeric keypad, the right side of the extended PC keyboard. **Click on the Apply button after any changes** you make on any of the Tabs (Menus). Changes are effective only when you click on these buttons.

**Home (Limit) switches** (Green or red lights) show up at the top of the Control Pad for each axis. If switches are present and properly configured, it will show **green** color when not tripped. We protect you from driving into the end of an axis where you may have tripped the Home switch already. Move the table in any one of the axis until the switch is tripped, the green color will change to **red**. Once the switch has Settings for the switches are in the Origin Setup menu. Sometime Z axis is either Solenoid or there may not be a home switch in Z axis and in that case you need to go to the Origin menu and under Home switches uncheck Z axis Enabled.

**Reset Counter** – Basic function of this is to **Reset Counter to 0 value** for each X, Y and Z axis positions. If you move the tool any where on the table, the X, Y and Z the counter will display the actual position of the tool. If you then click on the **Reset Counter** it will make all the display values to 0, 0, 0. Machines without the Home switches or selecting a new starting position on any machines are some of the useful functions of **Reset Counter** button.



**Move To 0,0** – Clicking on this button will make your machine **move your X and Y position to 0, 0 location if the counters show values other than 0, 0**. This is a useful function for resetting back to the start position for the machines without the Home switches.

Clicking on the Solustan logo will take you to Solustan web site, if the computer is online and connected to Internet.

**All the blue colored keys are designed to move X, Y, and Z axis** with respective direction. Following are the keys for each axis X left (4), X Right (6), Y Up (8), Y Down (2), Z Up (-), Z Down (+) and Move Fast (5).

**Move Fast Key (5)** is pressed along with X or Y key movement to make it move faster. For faster movement you also need to have faster speed in the Move section of the materials menu. Move value is responsible for two functions. One function is **fast jog speed** and second function is **tool up speed** when it lifts up between the shape while doing a job.

**Z Ref key (\*)** is clicked when the tool is just touching the top of the material. LinkMotion will remember the reference surface for the job. It will use the Z reference to calculate the moves in the Z axis for the depth and lift as it processes the job. If **your machine has the home switch** for Z axis and if it is activated in LinkMotion, **Z Reference value is automatically calculated**. If **your machine does not have the home switch** then you can declare the Z Reference value in the **Origin setup in the Z offset for Start Position** and it will go up by that distance with the **Z Reference Key**. **If you traveled in X and Y direction to do the Z Reference you should go back to home position only by clicking on the button on the Control Pad ‘Move To 0, 0’**.

**If your Z stroke is 3 inches or more and you do not care to travel the full stroke while seeking the home switch during homing operation, you could declare Z home switch not enabled and declare your own Z-up stroke in the Z-offset in start position of Origin setup menu.**

**HOME key (7)** will move the machine to its Home position, if the machine is equipped with home switches. Machines may have home switches in X and Y axis or all the three axis. Home key is used after you do your Z Reference.

**I/O Keys (1), (3), (. or Del) and (9)** are available for I/O 1, I/O 2, I/O 3 and I/O4 controls. These could be used to control Z axis movement in case Z axis is not motorized but it is solenoid and is controlled by air valve, for example. Can also be used for lubrication of tools, vacuum control, laser control, red diode, air, water etc. Each click of the keys can toggle the I/O position. User can set to make the action momentary or toggle by way of settings in the LinkMotion .INI file.

**Spindle Control for CNC/Engraving type application or Air Control for Laser type application - Key (9)** I/O 4 is used to control spindle motor or air in case of laser application. Each click of the keys will toggle the I/O position.

**I/O keys to be either momentary or toggle keys find the following lines in LinkMotion.INI file and in the area of your machine name selection:**

**Key1Toggle=0**  
**Key3Toggle=0**  
**Key9Toggle=0**  
**KeyDeleteToggle=0**

These lines control the toggle or no toggle nature of the four I/O keys on the Control Pad. The four keys correspond to keys 1, 3, 9, and Del. Any key with a declared value of zero is a momentary key while a declared value of 1 becomes a toggle key.

**The big 0 (zero) or Space bar key is available to stop processing of the job anytime. When job is being processed it is very important to remember not to touch the mouse and the rest of the keyboard.**

**Num Lock and \ keys are available only when machine is in motion.**

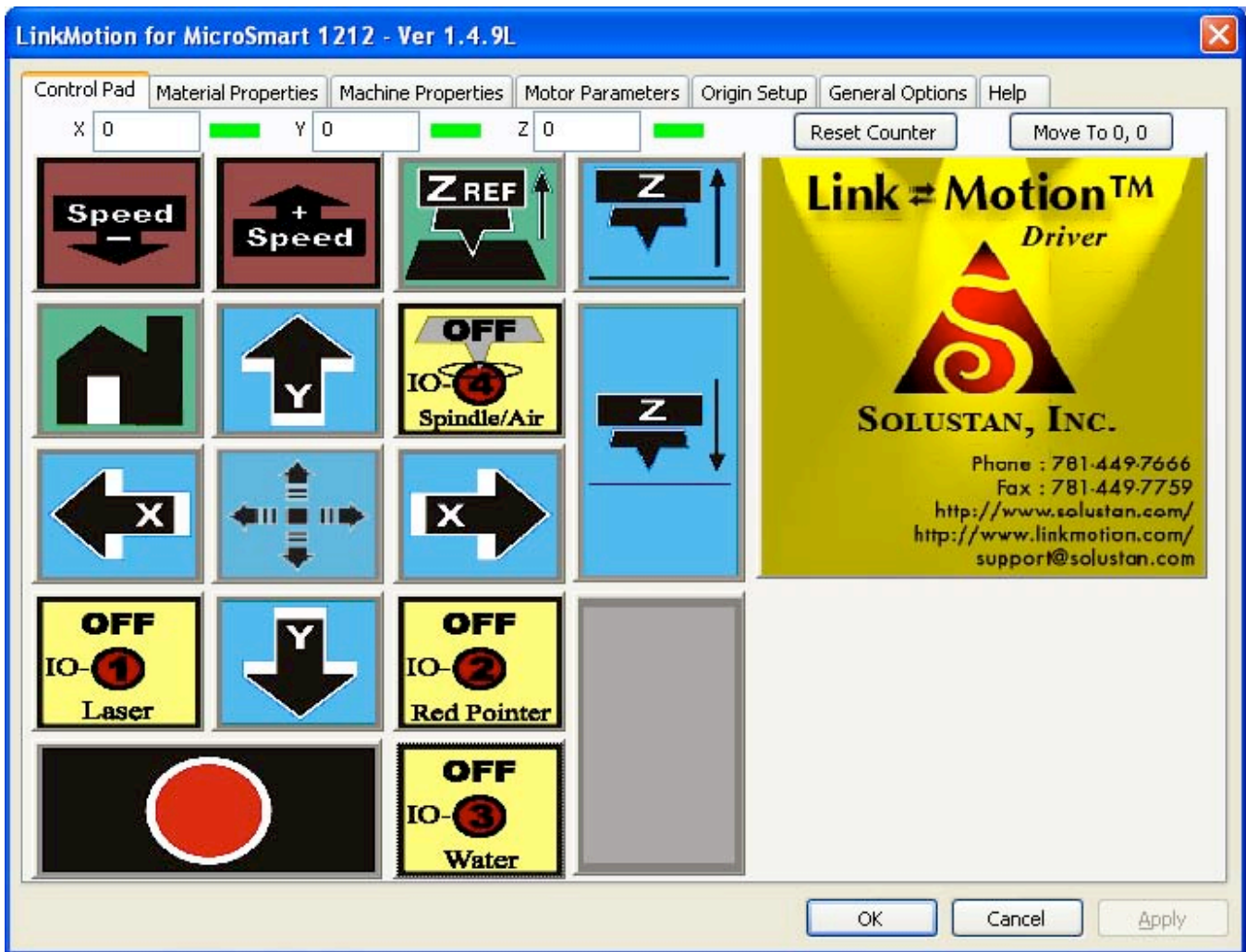
These keys can **decrease or increase** the speed of the X, Y movements of the machine. Do not keep this key pressed for long time. Simply press and release gently **each click of the key** will decrease or increase the speed according to the settings in the LinkMotion.INI file. **OnTheFlySpeedChange=4** is a default value in the INI file. This number works in percentage value of the original speed specified in the **Job feed rate of the Materials menu**. When the machine is in motion user can **decrease the speed by pressing Num Lock Key**. Similarly user can **increase the speed by pressing the / Key**. For safety reasons **increasing the speed will never go above the speed declared in the Job Feedrate of the Material Properties**. Once the job is done the speed again goes back to what is declared in the Job Feedrate of the Material Properties.

**Control Pad in Spanish language:**



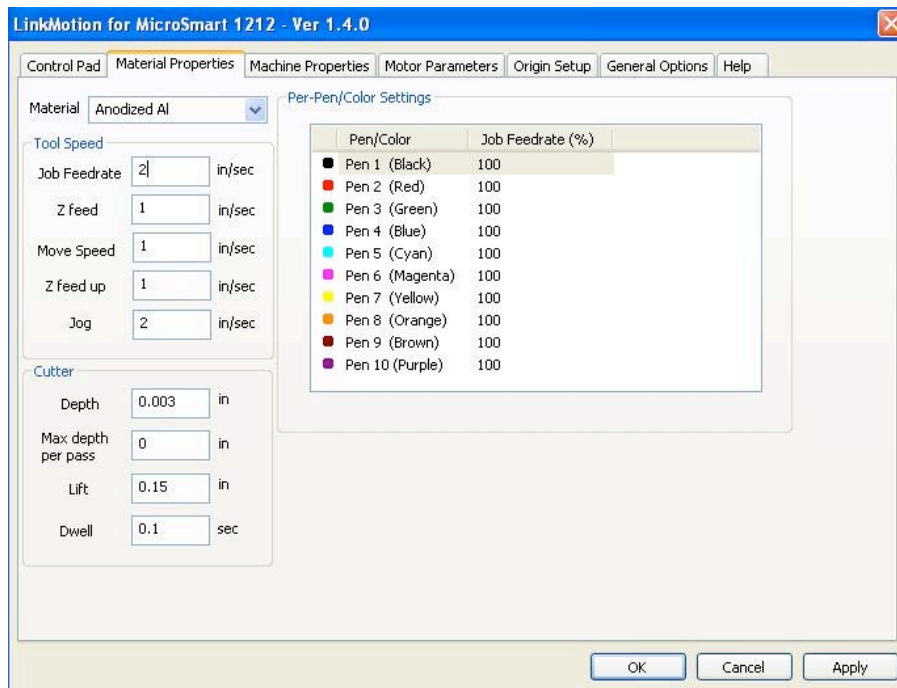
Go into **General Options** menu. Look at **Control Pad Labels**. Arrow to the right will show you the choices you have. Here select the **Spanish** Control pad and click on **Apply** button. Now you will see the **Spanish control pad**.

## Control Pad with Symbols:



Go into **General Options** menu. Look at **Control Pad Labels**. Arrow to the right will show you the choices you have. Here select the **Symbol** Control pad and click on **Apply** button. Now you will see the **Symbol** control pad.

## Materials Properties Menu:



## Material:

Pull down the **Material Properties menu** to observe a selection of various materials. Pre-select the values of speed and tool positions for each of the materials. The default values are simply that. LinkMotion can be employed to work with many different types of machines. Hence, there is no single value appropriate for all different machines. User's experience will dictate the values for his/her machines.

The values can be inches per second or millimeters per second or centimeters per second. General Options menu allows you to make your selection for this measure of units.

## Per-Pen/Color Settings:

Jobs can be designed in color and job feed rate speeds can be defined as percentage of declared values for each of the color. One of the applications of this feature is to design the same job in different colors on different layers and sequence the layers appropriately.

Following are the color/pen values for the LinkMotion printer driver. RGB values are given in percent.

Pen number	Color	R	G	B
1	Black	0	0	0

2	Red	255	0	0
3	Green	0	255	0
4	Blue	0	0	255
5	Cyan	0	255	255
6	Magenta	255	0	255
7	Yellow	255	255	0
8	Orange	255	128	0
9	Brown	128	0	0
10	Purple	128	0	128

If you did not create a color palette with the above RGB values, our understanding of the way GDI handles this is that GDI will convert the object's color to an RGB value using whatever color correction model is in effect, then will do a least-squares fit to the 10-color palette (whichever of the 10 colors is closest to the color of the object on a least-squares bases will be the color that is sent to the printer driver).

### **Tool Speed:**

**Job feed rate** is the speed when the tool is engaged into material and working. Bringing your arrow on the number that shows Job Feedrate (100%) for each pen and Double clicking on the number should open a box that will allow you to change this number. If your job federate in tool speed is 2in/sec and you make the red pen to give output at 50% then job should run at 1in/sec.

**Jog speed** is when the user is jogging the machine with the help of Control Pad.

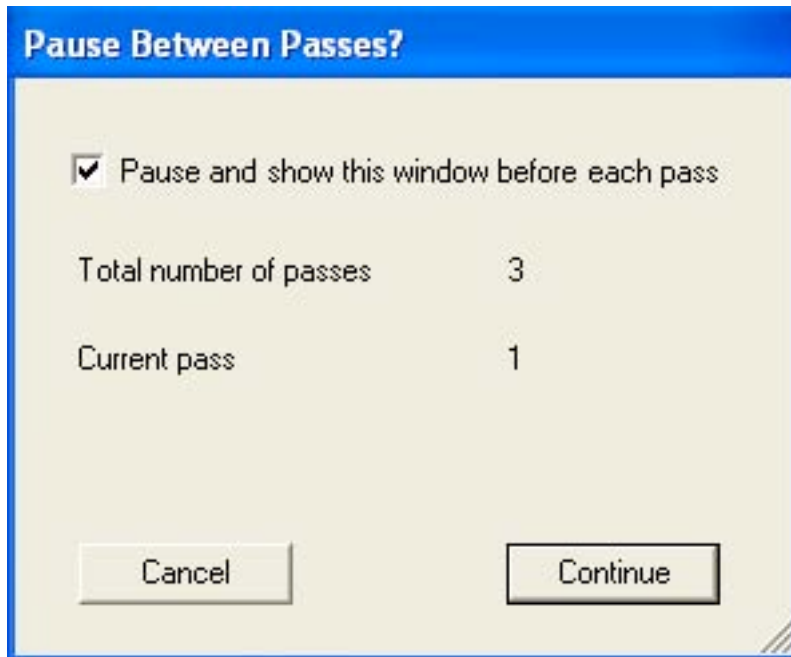
**Move speed has two functions**, it is the speed when the tool is retracted and the **machine is moving to the next shape** after finishing the previous one and it is also used for **fast jogging** (holding down fast key while keeping the directional key pressed).

User can set up separate speeds for **Z feed up** and **Z feed down**.

### **Cutter:**

**Depth** is the value declared for tool to travel in the material. Once the top of the material surface is determined, **depth** value controls the movement of the tool in the vertical axis.

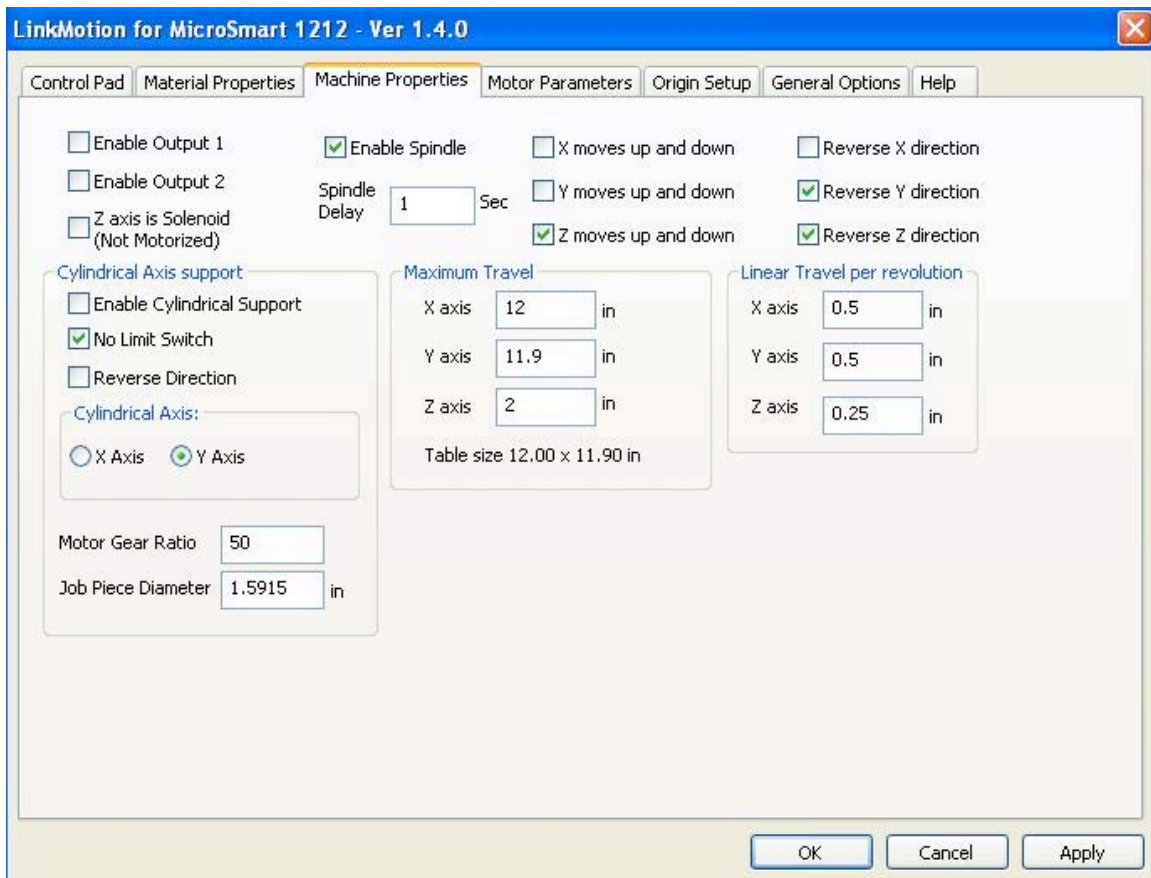
**Maximum depth per pass** is the value declared if you wish to do your job in multiple passes. For example if you have selected 0.15 in to be your Depth value and you want to do your job in three passes you can declare 0.05 in value for Maximum depth per pass and your job will be done in three passes. When you send the job you should see the dialog box for **Pause Between passes**. User can select to pause between the passes or continue without the pause in the dialog box when doing the job with multiple passes as shown on the screen below. Your tool will always return to 0, 0 for X, Y position (Regardless of weather you have checked or unchecked in the origin setup for Return to 0,0 after job) and then do the next path. If you declare 0 value in multiple pass it will always do the job in one pass.



**Lift** is the value for tool to lift between the shapes to do the job. If you have several inches of travel available for Z axis then it saves time to plug in the lift value where it does not travel all the way up for Z axis between the shapes and instead it travels only by the Lift value and saves time.

**Dwell** is the amount of time in seconds and fraction of seconds the tool will stay at the same position in the material before making X, Y move and after finishing the shape to cut the material.

## Machine properties:



### Enable output 1, 2, 3 and Spindle/Air:

If **Enable I/O control 1** is checked, it will turn the I/O **ON** while cutting/engraving a shape during a job and turn itself **OFF** at the end of completing the shape. The I/O will stay **OFF** during the traverse/Move motion to the beginning of the next shape. You can test the operation of the I/O by either clicking on the **Key 1** button with a mouse or depressing the key on the Control Pad.

If **Enable I/O control 2** is checked, it will turn the I/O **ON** while cutting/engraving a shape during a job and turn itself **OFF** at the end of completing the shape. The I/O will stay **OFF** during the traverse/Move motion to the beginning of the next shape. You can test the operation of the I/O by either clicking on the **Key 3** button with a mouse or depressing the key on the Control Pad.

**Z axis can be selected as solenoid or air controlled.** It may be attached to I/O 1 or I/O 2.

If **Enable I/O control 3** is checked, it will turn on and off with the job execution. You can check by clicking **Key Del (.)** on the Control Pad.



If **Enable I/O control 4 (Spindle)** is checked, it will turn on and off with the job execution. You can check by clicking **Key 9** on the Control Pad. The value of delay can be entered in **seconds and fraction of seconds in the Spindle Delay area**. This delay value will allow the spindle motor to reach its speed before the tool plunges into the material.

## Logic levels of the I/O's

Microsoft Windows sets all the active lines of the parallel port as logic High when the PC and the Windows are launched. To comply with that, LinkMotion uses Logic Low to activate any of the I/O's. We set up a line in the INI file called,

**Control Port Default=4** (This makes logic High) or

**Control Port Default=11** (This makes logic Low)

If you need to invert any of the I/O lines, you could do that by declaring different values for the above setting. Following values will give you the following results:

<b>Control Port Default=</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b><u>4</u></b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>15</b>
I/O1 (Pin14)	L	H	<u>H</u>	L	H	L	L
I/O2 (Pin1)	H	L	<u>H</u>	L	H	L	L
I/O3 (Pin17)	H	H	<u>H</u>	H	L	L	L
I/O4 (Pin16)	L	L	<u>H</u>	H	L	L	H

## Safety, Limit, and Emergency controls

Pin 15 on the parallel port is available for connecting safety, limit, and emergency switches. **We will expect Logic 0 on pin 15 for the machine to operate normally. When we see logic 1 on pin 15, the job will be aborted or will not start.** Once job is aborted, it cannot be recovered. It has to be restarted. We feel Logic 1 is failsafe and requires active response from the safety apparatus for it to work properly.

### Reverse X, Y, or Z direction:

**Directions for X, Y and Z** can be set properly here by checking or un-checking the direction button. If the axis movements are opposite to the intended directions, the direction or directions can be reversed without changing the wiring.

### Machine Travel (Table size) for X and Y and Maximum Z travel:

The **maximum travel distances of the machine in X, Y and Z axis is shown here which is also known as the table size of your machine**. The maximum travel numbers should match the Design applications you are using like Corel Draw or Auto Cad for the job to appear in the expected place on the machine.

### Linear travel per revolution for X, Y, and Z:

**Linear travel per revolution (lead screw pitch)** is shown here and you can change this if necessary. There are unknowns in a system from time to time. These are the pitch of the screw (2 turns per inch, 5 turns per inch, etc.), full step angle of a step motor (200 full steps for 360 degree turn, etc.), and micro stepping of the driver. If you know any two of the three, **the third one can be determined using nudge feature of the Control Pad.** Typically, most of the Control Pad is activated using physical keys of the keyboard and using them with fingers. The nudge feature is activated using a single click of the mouse on the appropriate key on the screen. Nudge a distance by declaring the distance in the General Options. Next, measure the actual distance moved by the machine. Make the necessary correction of the value for the unknown parameter until you get the desired distance by nudging.

### **Machine setup Test:**

There is one simple test you can do using the **nudge** value in the **General Options** tab. Default nudge value is 1inch when you install LinkMotion. User can change this nudge value (0.25 or 0.5 inches) for Z axis if your machine is designed to travel very small distance overall.

Now when you bring up the control pad and bring the arrow of your mouse on the x axis right movement arrow and click with the left mouse button and X Axis of your machine should move 1inch to the right. If it does not move 1 inch then your values declared as explained above is not correct and you need to get the proper values.

Using that nudge value you can do this test for all of the three axis to determine if your settings are proper in **Linear Travel per revolution of Machine Properties** as well as **Microstep per full step in Motor parameters.**

**Following two values are important for getting proper size output.**

#### **(1) Linear Travel per revolution in Machine Properties**

The pitch of the screw in all three axis determines the linear movement of the axis per single rotation of the step motor.

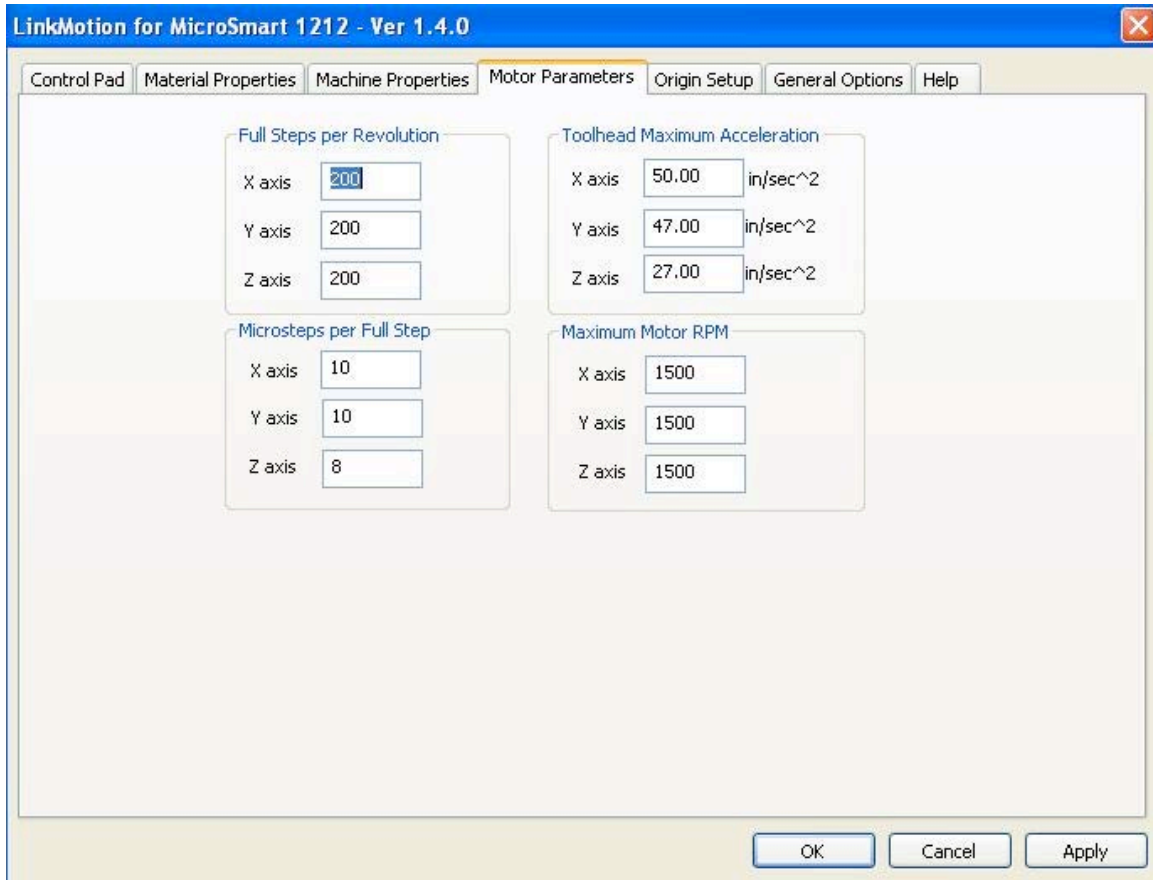
#### **(2) Microstep per full step in Motor Parameters**

Amplifier Drivers used for the motors of your machine determine this value.

### **Cylindrical Axis:**

Cylindrical axis choices will be offered if the machine is equipped with it. **It is very important to quit and Re-launch LinkMotion applet after you make this selection.** Maximum Travel size of the table in X or Y will change when you Enable Cylindrical Axis Support. You do not need to enter this new size in Maximum Travel area in LinkMotion applet. However, it is very important to remember the dimensions and create that Table size in your design applications like Corel or Cad. Selecting X or Y whichever is the cylindrical axis for your machine. **Motor Gear Ratio and Job Piece Diameter** is entered for your job in the bottom section.

## Motor Parameters:



### Full steps per revolution:

Above values are determined by the motor manufacturer. Enter **Full steps per revolution** values for each axis depending upon the motor and the lead screw size specifications.

### Toolhead Maximum Acceleration:

Declare **Toolhead Maximum Acceleration** values for the motors in each of the axis in in/sec<sup>2</sup>. You may need to adjust this numbers to get proper acceleration constants for smooth motion. Check with your machine manufacturer for the correct numbers required for the machine. In absence of that, you should start with a number between 25 and 100 as a safe starting point.

### Microsteps per every full Step:

Set the **Microsteps per every full Step** for your system for each of the axis. This is necessary only if you are using step motors in your system. This number is derived from the Amplifier driver used for your motors. In case of servo motors, you need to make sure that the multiplication of numbers in this

area as well as in the number of full steps per revolution of the motor in the Motor parameters match your encoder number for the feedback. Generally, it would be a good idea to declare number 1 as the number in microsteps per every full step and the encoder resolution number in the number of full steps per revolution in the motor parameters location.

### **Maximum Motor RPM:**

**Maximum Motor RPM** number should be selected by the specifications given by your motor manufacturer.

### **Machine setup Test:**

There is one simple test you can do using the **nudge** value in the **General Options** tab. Default nudge value is 1inch when you install LinkMotion. User can change this nudge value (0.25 or 0.5 inches) for Z axis if your machine is designed to travel very small distance overall.

Now when you bring up the control pad and bring the arrow of your mouse on the x axis right movement arrow and click with the left mouse button and X Axis of your machine should move 1inch to the right. If it does not move 1 inch then your values declared as explained above is not correct and you need to get the proper values.

Using that nudge value you can do this test for all of the three axis to determine if your settings are proper in **Linear Travel per revolution of Machine Properties** as well as **Microstep per full step in Motor parameters**.

**Following two values are important for getting proper size output.**

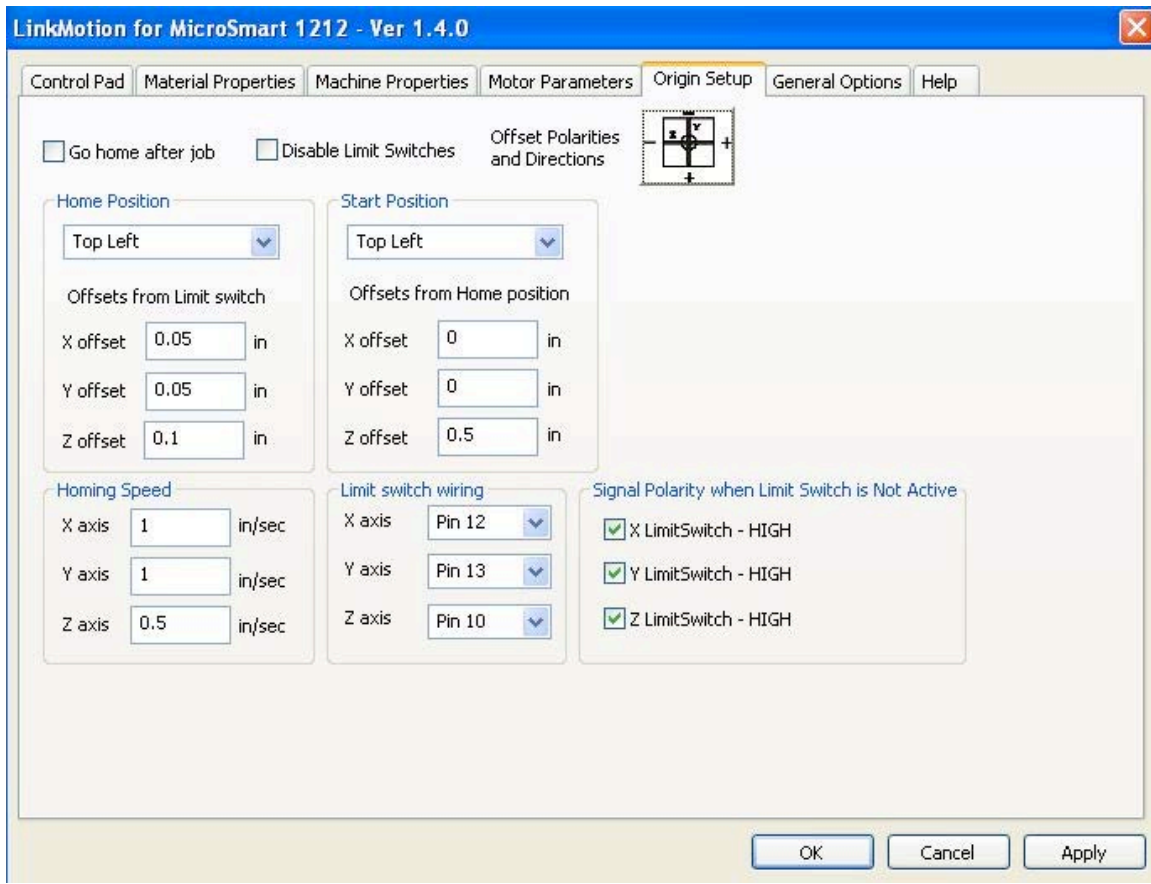
#### **(1) Linear Travel per revolution in Machine Properties**

The pitch of the screw in all three axis determines the linear movement of the axis per single rotation of the step motor.

#### **(2) Microstep per full step in Motor Parameters**

Amplifier Drivers used for the motors of your machine determine this value.

## Origin Setup:



## Go Home After Job:

**If you have not checked this box** then after finishing the job the tool will travel up on Z axis and stop at the position where it finished the last shape. It does not move the X and Y position. It does not go to the start position. Checking this box **makes your tool go back to the starting position (parking position) for X, Y and Z axis.** Most of the time parking positions are 0, 0 for X and Y. If you have the need to sense the Home switches again then you need to make sure your surfacing value in the Z axis (Origin Setup and Z offset value in Start Position) is proper and then click on the Home key on the control pad and that will place you tool in the Home position. If you need to change the surfacing value then you need to surface the tool again and then go home.

## Disable Home (Limit) Switch:

**Checking this box disables the home switches. Un checking the box activates the limit switches.** If **limit switches** are present, **pin numbers** need to be assigned in **home switch wiring** section where the switches are connected to the computer. It is also important to declare the logic level of the switch in normal conditions high or low.

## **Home Switch Position:**

This is the parking position of the tool of your machine. **Bottom Left and Top Left** are the choices. Top Right and Bottom Right are not available at present.

It is important to understand the setting of the origin for the machine. If the machine has home switches, it will have a defined **Home position**. It should be selected. The offsets from the limit switch sensing serve two purposes:

- A. It is advisable to get off the switch once sensed. The **offset value** will allow the machine to move back by the declared distance after reaching the switch.
- B. The offset values can be adjusted to get to a specific position such as the very corner of the table where the user may want to start every job.
- C. This position shall be recalibrated every six months or anytime the sensor is replaced.

## **Homing Speed:**

The **Homing speed** for finding and going Home is different than the jogging or move speed. LinkMotion forces the machine to go Home twice when asked to go Home. **The Home key is key 7 on the Control Pad**. The first time the machine travels at a higher speed. Once reaching Home the first time, the machine travels back into the working area of the table and hunts for Home again at a slower speed. This will allow the table to get to the exact Home position every time.

## **Start Position:**

**Bottom Center, Bottom Left, Bottom Right, Center, Top Center, Top Left and Top Right** are the choices.

**If your Home Position and Start Positions are the same following are the selection necessary: Top left and Bottom left are the only two home positions supported at this point if your machine has the home switches.**

<b>Home Position Selection</b>	<b>Start Position Selection</b>
Bottom Left	Bottom Left
Top Left	Top Left

**Job start position can be different than the Home position. Job start position may be,**

- Where the jig is positioned (Home Position)
- **Center of a machine in case of a vise type machine** with offset values in X and Y where both jaws move
- **Top center of a machine** with offset value in X only in case of a machine where only bottom jaw moves

In above situations and others, it is necessary to select **Start Position** and declare offset values for X and Y appropriately.

If you suspect that there is a problem with one or more limit switches and it is hindering your production, check the **Disable home (limit) switch box at the top**. This will allow the operation of the machine while the limit switches are being investigated.

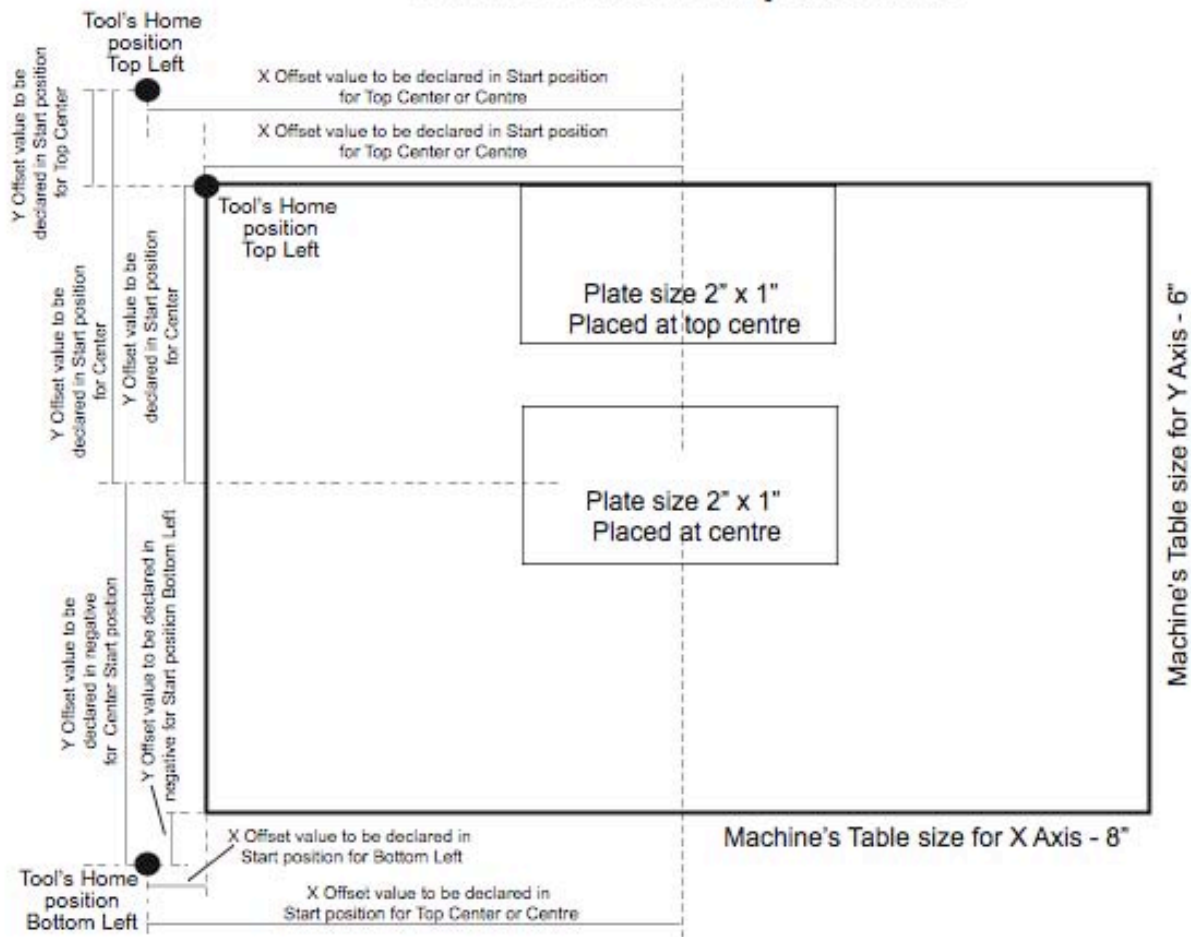
### **Home Switches:**

**Home Switches** for each axis can be selected individually by selecting the pin numbers. This depends on how your machine is built and wiring is connected. Some machines have home switches for all three axis and some have for X and Y but not for Z axis. Make proper selection for your machine.

**Home Switch Polarity** selection is available for **Normally High or Low** and it depends on how the wiring is done for your home switches. LinkMotion will sense those switches and show you **green lights on the control pad** (next to X, Y and Z movement boxes) when we sense proper switches. If you do not know how your machine is wired then try selecting one after another and when the lights are green you have made the proper selection.

Select **Not Present** when machine you are using does not have home switches.

## Start Position Explanation



Three different Home Positions are shown in the above diagram. Top left away from the table, Top left at the corner of the table and Bottom left away from the table. Home Switch Position values for X, Y and Z offset are the values where you want to park the tool after it senses the home switches and parks away from those switches. Start position offset values are shown in the diagram above after you have parked the tool.

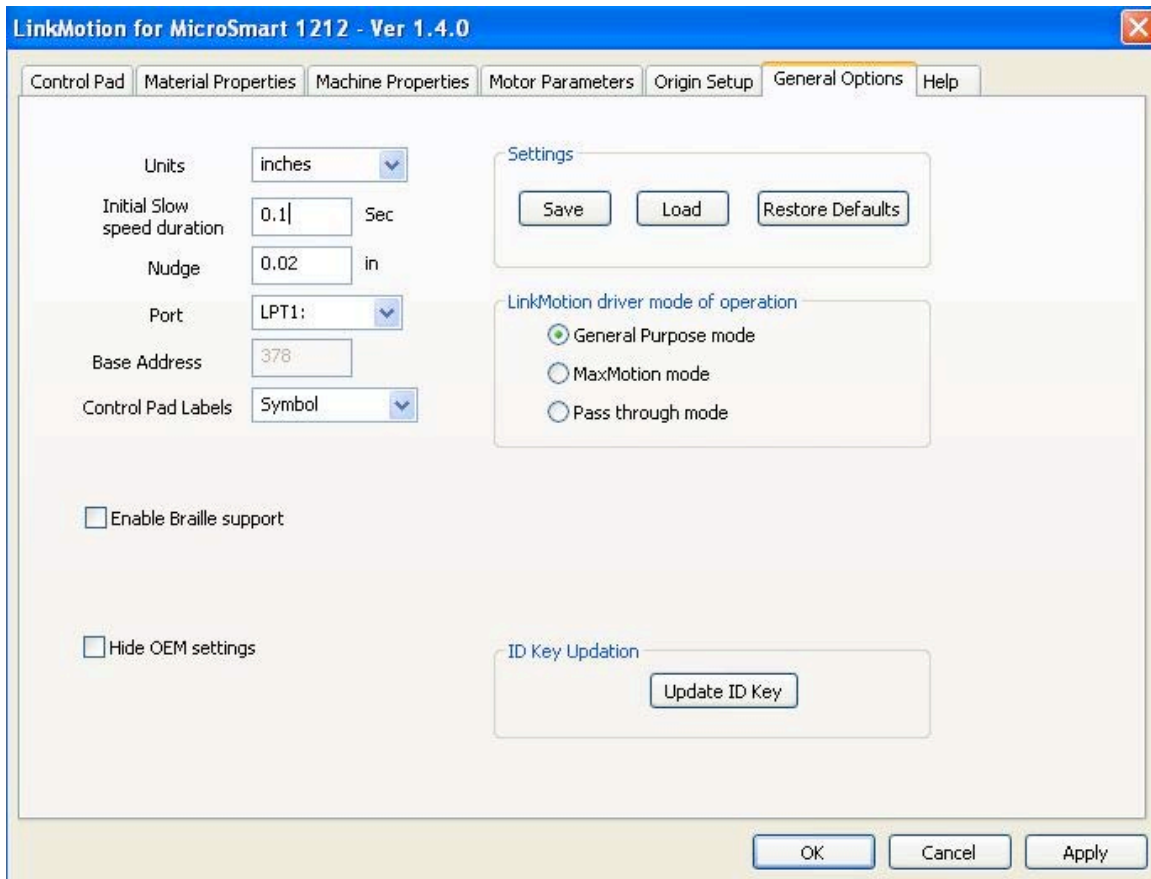
Start position offsets are declared when you use Top Centre or Center to be the Start position. Above diagram explains how to setup design output in relation to your selection of Home Switches Position and Start Position in Origin Setup of Linkmotion. It is extremely important to understand that Table size and the page size in your design software should be the same in order to get the output in proper location. If you select start position also to be top left or bottom left you need to declare only the distance between the tool's position and where the table begins.

If your machine is designed to use other home position for parking of the tool then measure the distance from those location and decide the proper values to declare in positive or negative numbers in the origin setup accordingly.

If you are using engraving design software where design is done in actual plate size then it is better to declare your table size to be same as your plate size and re-launch your design software to get the proper output in proper location.



## General Options:



### Units:

There are just a few things in the General Options screen. **Units of choice can be selected from inch, mm, or cm.**

LinkMotion is designed to provide a **slow speed move** for a declared amount of time, when jogging. After that, the tool will move at the declared speed of jogging in materials property screen. This allows the user to position the tool or the laser red indicator diode at a precise position quickly.

### Nudge:

The **Nudge** will allow the axis to move a fix distance when any axis is moved with a **single mouse click** on the keys that move the X, Y and Z axis when Control Pad tab is open or selected.

**Using nudge you can do the basic testing for your machines settings in following manner:**

Set up the Nudge to be 1” and Apply and save. Go to Control Pad.

Bring the arrow of your mouse on the X-Right arrow.

Click the left mouse button and watch and measure the machines movement in X direction.

If it moved 1” to the right then your settings are proper. If it moved less or more distance than 1” you need to change **linear travel per revolution** in **Machine properties** as well as check your **Microsteps per full steps (dependent upon drivers used for the motors)** declared in the **Motor Parameters**.

### **Port:**

**Port:** LinkMotion will send the jobs to the **selected port**. If it is used for Virtual Controller applications where machine is connected to parallel port. You can specify the port’s **Base address**.

### **Control Pad Labels:**

**Control Pad Labels:** Arrow to the right will show you the choices you have. Here select the **English, or Spanish or Symbol** and click on the **Apply button**. Now you should see the control pad you have selected.

### **Enable Braille support:**

**Enable Braille support** is an **optional feature** and it is designed to drill dots. This is used for creating Braille signs. **Adot is the font** we provide when Optional Braille support is purchased. Selecting this option makes your tool travel to the **begin point of each shape** and go down to create a mark or a hole and go back up and go to the begin point of the next shape.

### **OEM Settings:**

**Hide OEM setting** is for OEM customers only and it hides some of the control pad settings as requested. It is controlled by a line User Type=0 or 1 in the LinkMotion.INI file. One value enables OEM settings and Zero value displays all settings. Checking the button in the General Options menu will hide some of the settings and user needs to change the value back to Zero in the LinkMotion.INI file manually to bring back those hidden settings.

### **Save Settings:**

#### **Save:**

**Once the machine is properly configured and is working well, it is advisable to Save the settings on the hard disk drive. This is saved as LinkMotion.INI file.**

**LinkMotion.INI file is located on your hard drive C:\ Document and Settings> Folder with computer users name> Folder name Application Data> Folder name Solustan> Folder name LinkMotion> LinkMotion.INI.**

Click on the **Save** button and it will ask you to give a file name. Make sure to remember the file name, and where you are saving it. You can navigate on your hard drive where you want to save. You can also rename the file with what ever is easy for you to remember. Mostly our customers rename the file with their machine name.

#### **Load:**

**In case the LinkMotion needs to be loaded again from the CD supplied by Solustan, or you need to load upgraded version the user will be able to reload all the settings with your .INI file without wasting any time.** For loading the settings back select **Load** button and navigate to the saved .INI file and click on **Apply and OK**. Now click on the right mouse button when you are on the LinkMotion applet and exit the program. Go to the start button and launch back LinkMotion. You should see all your saved settings here now.

#### **Restore Defaults:**

Clicking on this button will load **default LinkMotion.INI** file that we supply with the LinkMotion driver.

**It is very important to exit Link applet and Re-launch the applet when you change and select another INI file for it to be effective.**

#### **LinkMotion driver mode of operation:**

**General purpose mode** – This is loaded by default. This mode is used when you use Corel, AutoCAD type of design softwares and use LinkMotion to send files to your machine. **Only MaxMotion users do not need to use this mode.**

**MaxMotion mode** – This mode is used when you use **MaxMotion** virtual controller applications. **MaxEng, MaxCAM, MaxMark**, User needs to change this after you install LinkMotion. After changing to **MaxMotion mode** you need to apply and close the LinkMotion applet. Exit LinkMotion applet by right mouse click. Relaunch the LinkMotion applet. This is necessary only when you change the mode. **Not switching to this mode can result into undesirable results.**

**Font Height Control** is necessary for working in the MaxMotion applications. Please follow the instructions below for correct font size output.

**Pass through mode** – This mode is no longer supported and it will not show up in newer versions.

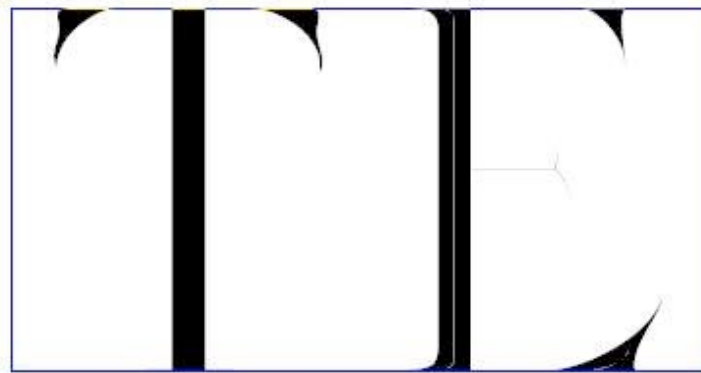
This mode is used when you use **MaxMotion HPGL and Unica** applications. **MaxHPGL, MaxUnica**. User needs to change this after you install LinkMotion. After changing to **Pass through mode** you need to apply and close the LinkMotion applet. Exit LinkMotion applet by right mouse click. Re-launch the LinkMotion applet. This is necessary only when you change the mode.

**Font Height Control** is necessary for working in the MaxHPGL and Unica applications. Please follow the installation instructions for correct font size output.

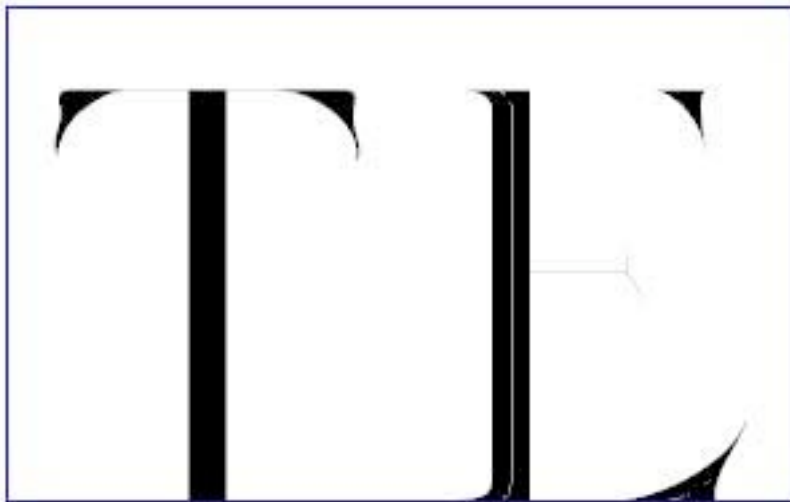
#### **Setting up MaxMotion font sizes:**

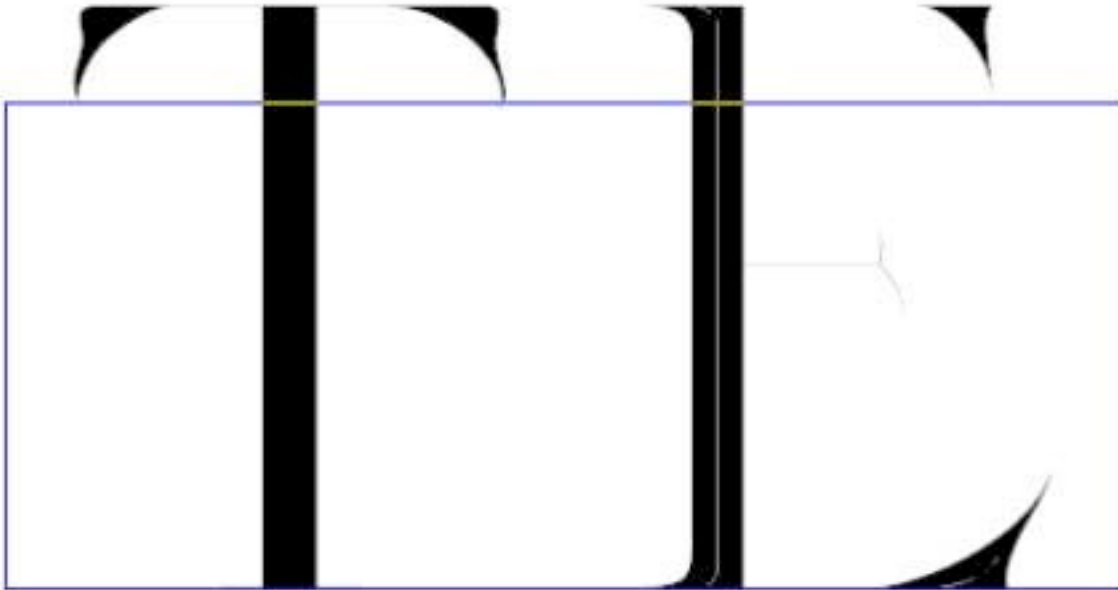
Because of differences in the way Windows 98 and Windows XP handle screen resolution, you may have to adjust the way MaxMotion displays and handles fonts. To see if you need to make an adjustment, start one of the MaxMotion applications, pull down the "Job Design" menu, and select "Fonts ". Choose the A3Roman fonts, set the size to 1 inch, and click OK. Now choose the font tool and

type an uppercase T and an uppercase E. Now choose the arrow tool and select the text you just typed; you will see a blue box around the text. The text should be the same height as the box, like this:



**These are cases of incorrect font sizes:**





If your fonts are too big, you need to make the Font Size factor larger. If your fonts are too small, you need to make the Font Size factor smaller. As an example if font size shown in the picture above that is smaller you need to enter .80 or for the larger you need to enter 1.25 as a value. To change the Font Size factor, launch LinkMotion, select the "General Options" tab, and select the Font Size factor you want. There are three preset values you can try (Normal, Higher, and Lower) or you can enter your own custom value. Remember to click "Apply" and "OK".

You must exit from your LinkMotion and MaxMotion application and restart it before the new setting will take effect.

After this setup you can start using MaxMotion Applications.

### **Using MaxMotion application with LinkMotion:**

To run the legacy MaxMotion applications, go to the Start Menu, find the Solustan menu, open the MaxMotion submenu, and click on the MaxMotion program you want to run.

**MaxMotion for XP does not support the Print command** to print to a regular Printer.

Once you design in MaxMotion application you can use windows Print Screen key command, Paste it in the Paint Program and Print to a regular printer.

**LinkMotion does not support dot design from MaxMotion for output. Scoring output from MaxEng application is not supported. Bridge, lead in and 3D output features from MaxCam application are not supported. Bottom left is the only home and start position supported from MaxCam. Dotted output for Marking application is also not supported.**

### **Instructions for I.D. key Upgrade:**

**This is used only if you have hardware key.**

**This is required only when you need to upgrade the features offered or upgrade to use with the new version of LinkMotion or upgrade the number of executions for the I.D. Key.**

To upgrade your I.D. key you will receive a code as a text file from us.

Note pad or Word pad type of utility should open this code.

**Simply highlight the code with a cursor.** Right mouse click and select **Copy**.

Now launch **LinkMotion** Icon. Click on the **General Options** menu. Click on the button **Update I.D. Key**. A dialog box will open. Right mouse click inside the **Authorization Code** box. Select **Paste**. Click **OK**. Click on **OK** in General Options menu.

Now right mouse click on the **LinkMotion** icon and select **Exit**.

Go to the **Start** button. Select **All Programs**. Select **Solustan** folder and select **LinkMotion** application. Now you will see a **LinkMotion** Icon on the bottom right again. You are all set to work with your updated I.D. Key.

**Engraving Fonts:**

**Basic Fonts with LinkMotion - MaxFonts**

ACentury

ABCDefg123

AVictori

*ABCefg123*

A Eras

ABCDefg123

A3Roman

ABCDefg123

A3RomanCap

ABCDEF123

A2Roman

ABCefg123

ASwiss

ABCefg123

AScribe

*ABcd123*

A2Scribe

*ABcd123*

AScript

*ABCDefg1234*

A2Script

*ABCDefgh123*

ABahaus

ABCefg123

AFuture

ABCD 123

ABlockEuro

ABCDefg123

ABlock

ABCDefg123

AContempo

ABCDEF123

AKaufman

*ABCDefg123*

AEnglish

**ABCDefg123**

ASymbol

+ ☞ ⊖ ☞ ♿

AFifth Ave

ABCDEF123

AGothic

ABCefg123

AGothCon

ABCDefg123

# Optional FontPak

A4Swiss (4 Line Swiss)

ABcd12

A6Optem (6 Line Optem)

ABcd12

A4Roman (4 Line Roman)

AB12

A6Gould (6 Line Gould)

ABcd12

ATBlock

ABCD12

ASlant

ABcd12

ACircle

AAA BBB CCC

AOrnamet (20)



A6Swiss (6 Line Swiss)

ABcd12

A10Optem (10 Line Optem)

ABcd12

A10Roman (10 Line Roman)

ABcd12

AMicro

AB12

ATScript

A B e f g 1

AInterlock

AA BBB





































A2Symbol (94)















































AOcasion (63)





**Symbol Keyboard Layout**

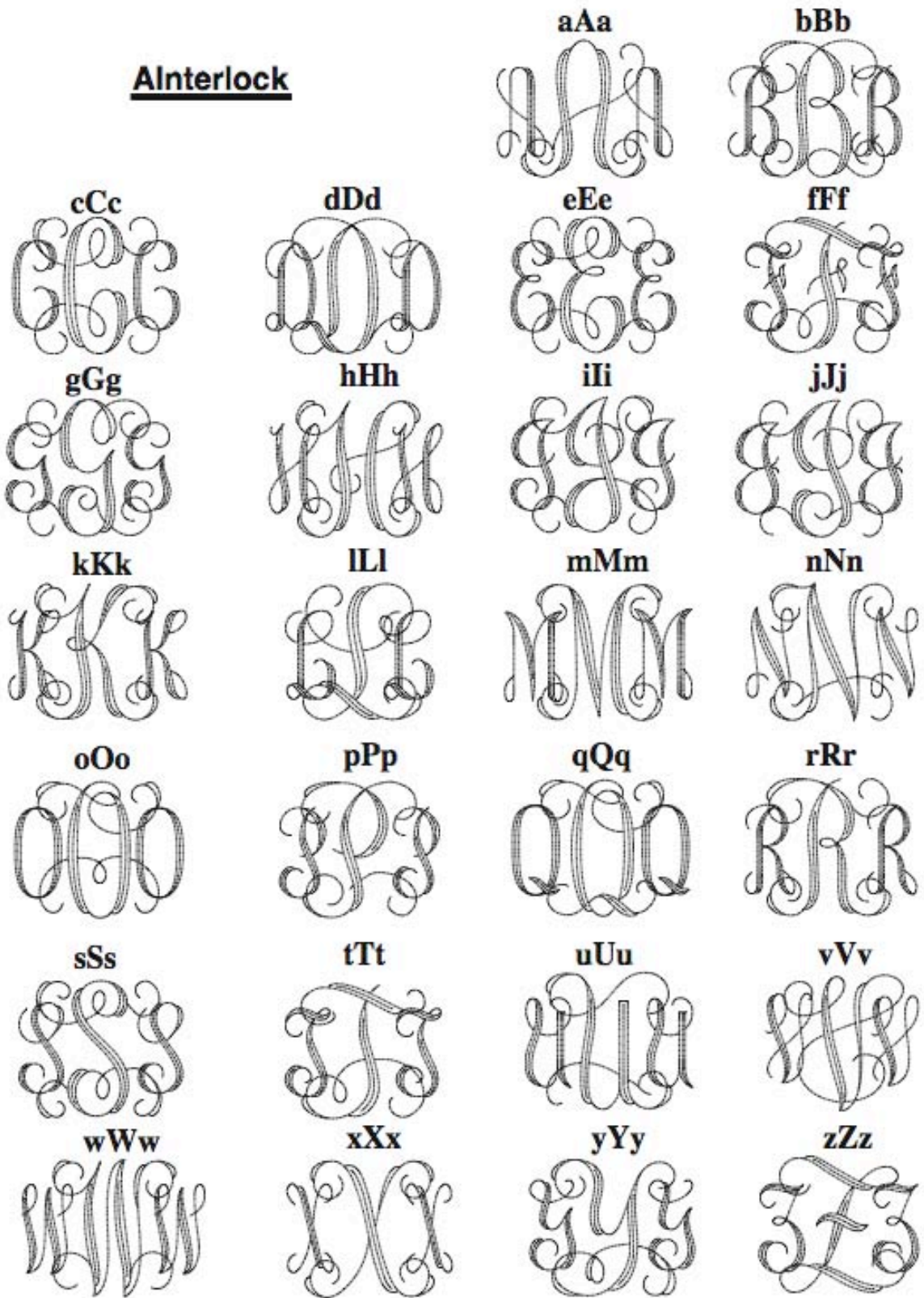
													
													
													
													

**A2Symbol Keyboard Layout**

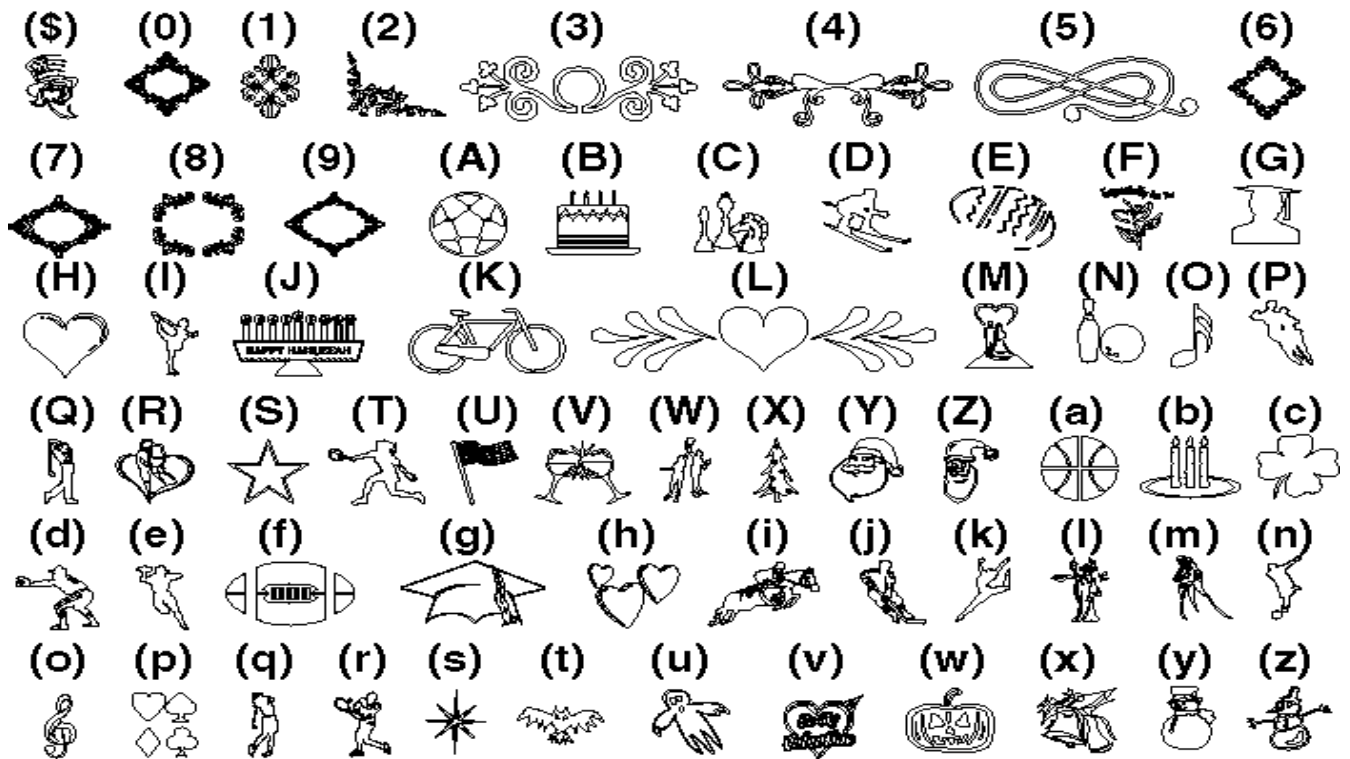
													
													
													

**ACircle Keyboard Layout**

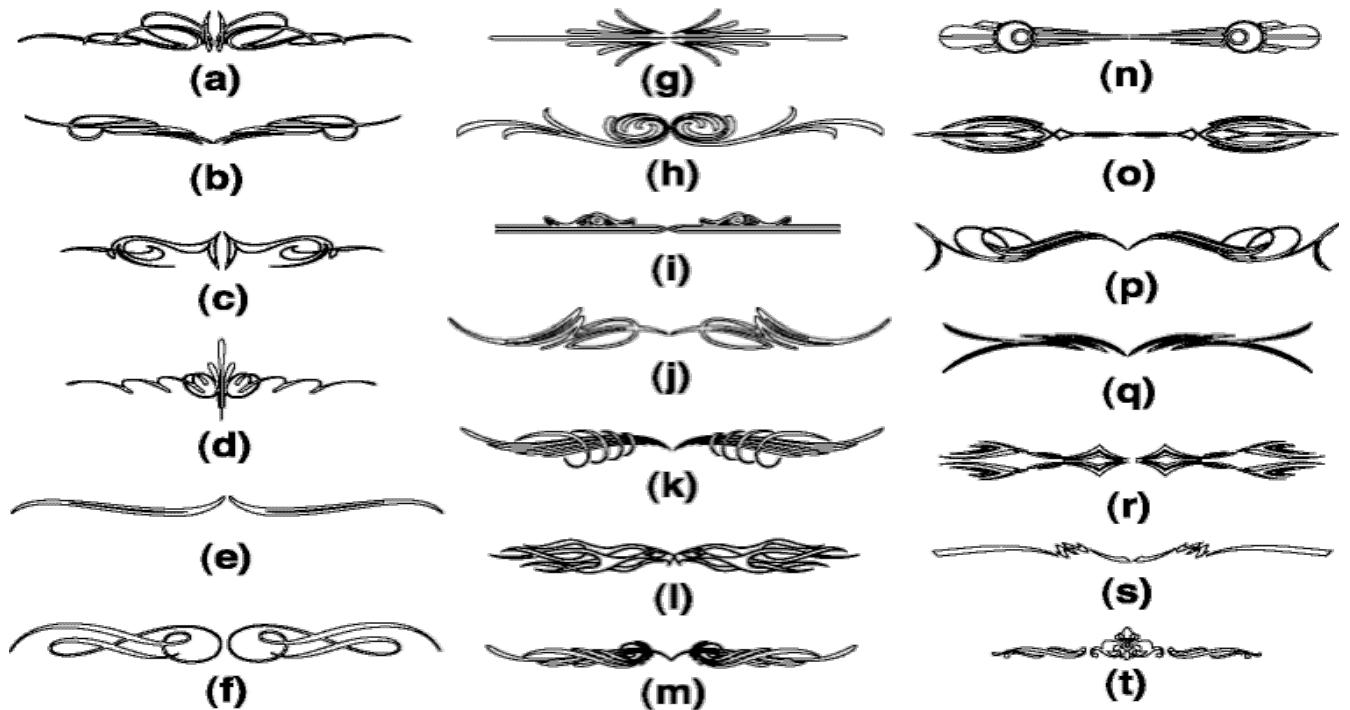
**Alinterlock**



AOccaston



**Ornamental Font (AOrnamet) Keyboard Layout**



# How to access International Characters

Please access numbers from the accounting key pad.

<u>Character</u>	<u>Key</u>	<u>Character</u>	<u>Key</u>	<u>Character</u>	<u>Key</u>
€	Alt 0128	ì	Alt 0204	ç	Alt 0231
‘	Alt 0145	í	Alt 0205	è	Alt 0232
,’	Alt 0146	î	Alt 0206	é	Alt 0233
“	Alt 0147	ï	Alt 0207	ê	Alt 0234
”	Alt 0148	Ñ	Alt 0209	ë	Alt 0235
™	Alt 0153	Ò	Alt 0210	ì	Alt 0236
ı	Alt 0161	Ó	Alt 0211	í	Alt 0237
£	Alt 0163	Ô	Alt 0212	î	Alt 0238
®	Alt 0174	Õ	Alt 0213	ï	Alt 0239
¿	Alt 0191	Ö	Alt 0214	ñ	Alt 0241
À	Alt 0192	Ø	Alt 0216	ò	Alt 0242
Á	Alt 0193	Ù	Alt 0217	ó	Alt 0243
Â	Alt 0194	Ú	Alt 0218	ô	Alt 0244
Ã	Alt 0195	Û	Alt 0219	õ	Alt 0245
Ä	Alt 0196	Ü	Alt 0220	ö	Alt 0246
Å	Alt 0197	à	Alt 0224	ø	Alt 0248
Æ	Alt 0198	á	Alt 0225	ù	Alt 0249
Ç	Alt 0199	â	Alt 0226	ú	Alt 0250
È	Alt 0200	ã	Alt 0227	û	Alt 0251
É	Alt 0201	ä	Alt 0228	ü	Alt 0252
Ê	Alt 0202	å	Alt 0229		
Ë	Alt 0203	æ	Alt 0230		

## **Application Compatibility with LinkMotion:**

Go to [www.solustan.com/support](http://www.solustan.com/support) and download instructions for the appropriate design application you might be using. Some applications have their own limitations and mostly it is listed in the document. We are adding information as we test with respective applications.

Solustan tests the primary function of accepting hair lines (vector lines) from the third party application software to make the vector moves on the machine using LinkMotion driver. Solustan may test additional functions. However, it is not a detailed testing. The developer and marketer of the third party software make changes to their applications quite often. It is the responsibility of the user to make sure that the necessary functions are available while making the choice of off-the-shelf application software.

Solustan's liability is limited to the purchase price of the LinkMotion driver software.

1. Corel Draw version 9, 10, 11, 12, X3, X4 and X5
2. Corel Paint Shop Pro (Raster Only)
3. Adobe Illustrator
4. EngraveLab / SignLab version 6.0 and higher
5. FlexiExpert
6. FreeHand MX
7. Gerber ArtPath and Composer
8. Vinyl Express
9. Xenetech
10. AutoCAD version 2000 and higher
11. DesignCad
12. DolphinCAD specially designed version for LinkMotion
13. Instant Engineer 14
14. Rhino 4.0 Beta
15. IntelliCAD (AcceliCAD)
16. BarTender (Raster only)
17. Microsoft Word (Raster only)
18. PhotoShop (Raster only)
19. MaxMotion – Windows XP and 2000 (Not supported in Vista, Win 7 32 or Win 7 64)

## **Frequently Asked Questions:**

### **Section I - Microsoft Windows configuration and computer related questions:**

#### **1. What is the minimum configuration required for the PC?**

Windows XP operating system with Service Pak 2 or higher and Microsoft .NET 2.0 or higher Framework installed and one Parallel port, one USB port if your want hardware option, Processor speed of at least 800 Mhz, minimum RAM memory 512 MB, 1 GB preferred. 40 MB of Hard drive free space, Screen resolution of at least 800 x 600.

Service Pak and .NET 2.0 Framework are (free) downloadable from Microsoft's website. CD-ROM drive is not required, if the driver software was down loaded from the web site. CD-ROM drive is necessary, if the software was received on a CD.

#### **2. How to check if I have installed Service Pak2 or higher on my computer?**

Go to the **Start** button. Select **Control Panel**. Select **System**. Now in **General** menu it should show if **Service Pak 2** is installed. Also you can install and uninstall by windows standard Add/Remove program procedure. Make sure you install LinkMotion after you install windows operating system related update first.

#### **3. How to check if I have installed .NET Framework 2.0 or higher on my computer?**

**Go to the Start button. Select Control Panel. Select Add/Remove programs. Here you should see if you have installed the .NET Framework 2.0 of Microsoft.** This is required to work with our new version of LinkMotion.

#### **4. How can I check the processor speed and RAM memory on my PC?**

Go to the **Start button** on the System Tray on the bottom left and **select Control Panel**. Select **System** from the Control panel. Here you should see information for the version of your operating system and **under Computer** you should see the **processor speed and the RAM memory** installed on your computer.

#### **5. How to see hidden folders in windows?**

Go to the **Start button**. Select **Control Panel**. Select **Tools Menu and select Folder option**. Click on the **View menu**. You should see a folder called **Hidden files and folders**. Here **select the button for Show hidden files and folders**. Click on the **Apply button**. Now you will see all the folders. This is useful to see the configuration file name **LinkMotion.INI** for **LinkMotion driver** application.

## **Section II - LinkMotion Driver:**

### **1. Do I need to access LinkMotion driver software once loaded?**

Generally, you simply deal with your job design software and your machine. We do provide an accompanied settings application. This application can be invoked from its icon in the System Tray area. This application will allow you to choose a few settings by going to different tabs (menu) like Material Properties, Machine parameters, Origin setup and Motion Control Boards. Make proper selection, click on the apply button and then start the design application.

### **2. How do I know if my LinkMotion is installed properly?**

When you launch LinkMotion applet does it show the title “**LinkMotion for My Machine-USB – Ver. X.XX**” (version that you have). If this is not proper you may have installed for the wrong machine. You need to **uninstall and re-install LinkMotion again** by windows standard uninstall procedure.

If you had a trial version you need to purchase the full working version.

### **3. How to see the file for my LinkMotion related configuration settings?**

This file is named **LinkMotion.INI**.

**Go to your C:\ > Documents and Settings > Folder with computer User’s name (how ever you have set up your computer) > Application Data > Total Graphics Network > LinkMotion > LinkMotion.INI.**

**This file has all your machine related settings. You can save this file under different name as well as reload this file from where you might have saved this file.**

### **4. I click on Z axis and I do not see any movement on Z axis. Why?**

You may have solenoid controlled Z axis or motor control Z axis. In case of solenoid Z axis you can see the control from the I/O 1 or I/O 2 depending on how it is connected. In case of motorizes Zaxis it should move up and down by – and + keys on the control pad. Also, it is possible that you may have selected a wrong machine while installing LinkMotion.

### **5. My machine is connected. I can jog the machine using the ControlPad. However, the directions are wrong. What do I do?**

Launch LinkMotion from SysTray. Go to **Machine Properties** menu. Reverse the direction of the axis that are wrong. Click Apply. Read the details in the HELP tab under the chapter How to use LinkMotion.

### **6. Can I change speeds of operation? How?**

Launch LinkMotion from SysTray. Go to Material Properties. Set values for speeds of operation for different materials. Click Apply. Read the details in the HELP tab under the chapter **How to use LinkMotion or LM&USB.PDF**.

## **7. Can I preset values for speeds of operation for different materials? Where?**

Launch LinkMotion from SysTray. Go to **Material Properties**. Set values for speeds of operation and other settings for different materials. Read the details in the HELP tab under the chapter How to use LinkMotion.

## **8. How can I change starting positions of a job?**

Check the **Origins Setup** tab in the LinkMotion settings. Note the Home Positions and Start Positions and the offset values for each axis. Read the details in the HELP tab under the chapter How to use LinkMotion.

## **9. How can I check and make sure my Home switches work properly?**

You can check a few clever things easily before exercise Home switch command.

Set up your switch polarities in LinkMotion. Turn on the power to your controller and machine. You should see green lights for X, Y and Z axis (If you have a motor and a home switch in the Z axis) on the Control Pad of LinkMotion next to the X, Y and Z coordinate values. If you can get to the home switches, actuate the switch and see that the appropriate light turns red. If not, you may have a wrong connection, no connection, loose connection, broken switch, or wrong selection of the pin number or the polarity in the Origin Setup.

## **10. I want to design in millimeters and not inches. How do I change?**

Simply go to the **General Options tab** and change from **inches to mm** by clicking on the scroll down arrow and then **click on the Apply button**. Similarly you can change to cm also. It is that easy.

## **11. I am sending file for printing and nothing is happening. What am I doing wrong?**

This situation may occur due to any of the following:

- (A) Check all hardware cable connections and lights for your equipments.
- (B) Check the settings in General Options tab of LinkMotion for proper selection on Parallel (printer) port and its address where you have connected the parallel port cable on your computer.
- (C) Check if you have given the Print command from your design application.
- (D) Check the print queue for any extraneous documents and remove them.



(E) Check the job feed rates and other settings to make sure that they are all correct.

(F) Printer driver installed for your machine may not have been selected as **DEFAULT DRIVER**. Please check in **Control Panel>Printers and Faxes>Your Machine Driver (this should be selected as default driver)**.

(G) **You might have selected thick outline or filled object in your design. White fill is also not proper to send the job to a machine. Use only Hairline for any job you design with graphics or text. If you sent the file for print by mistake with thick line or the filled object go to the print spooler and make sure you delete the file properly before sending the new corrected file.**

(H) If **Service Pak 2** was not installed on your **Windows XP operating system** you may see the problem of LinkMotion not sending anything to the machine. You need to **uninstall the LinkMotion** and then **install the Service Pak 2** and **re-install the LinkMotion driver**.

(I) Make sure to design the job within the size of plotting area available with your machine table size.

## **12. Can I preset or change the values for the speeds of operation for different materials? Where and How?**

Launch LinkMotion from Systems Tray. Go to Material Properties. Set values for **Job Feed Rate** of operation for different materials. Click Apply and then send the file again to the machine. Read more details in the HELP tab under the chapter **Using LinkMotion or LM&USB.PDF**.

## **13 I have setup and customized LinkMotion for my needs. Now, you sent me information for new version of LinkMotion. How can I preserve my settings while upgrading to a new version?**

It is very easy. Remember to first save your older configuration file and then uninstall. Follow the uninstall instruction (from the end of the document) from installation instructions. Now install the new version and bring back your older configuration file from General Options tab by Load button. Re-Launch LinkMotion driver one time and then work with your new version.

## **14. How do I Pause a job?**

**Space Bar** or **Zero Key** on your accounting key pad of your Key board will pause the job any time. After a job is paused you get a message if you want to continue or quit. Make your selection. If you select continue then it will finish the rest of the job. If you select not to continue it will ask you if you wish to go back to 0,0 position or you wish to stay at the position where you are. Make your selection and work accordingly.

## **15. My machine is in motion doing the job and my computer screen behaves extremely strange and I am unable to do anything about it. Why?**

This is LinkMotion Virtual Controller driver. It is communication to your machine continuously thru the parallel port of your computer. We advise you not to touch your mouse and key board while job is in process. Please wait until the job is finished to use your computer for any other work.

### **Section III - LinkMotion and Design Applications:**

#### **1. My machine moves properly with Control Pad of LinkMotion but when I send the job I have a problem. Why?**

You need to make sure that your page size in the design application is same as the machine (table) size declared in the machine properties of LinkMotion. Printer driver selection from your application should be for Linkmotion driver installed for your machine. Shapes you design should have either **hair line, thinnest line or zero width line** selected for vector output. **Shapes cannot be filled for vector output.**

Please refer to the most recent document **on help section** or LM&USB and LM & Popular applications.

#### **2. Can you tell me briefly the settings I should make sure of in Corel Draw! version 11 or 12 to make Corel and LinkMotion compatible with each other?**

Yes, we suggest that you take a look at the HELP section and read the chapter on LinkMotion and popular applications. We have listed a number of settings and suggestions. **Also check help menu or LM&Vc and LM&Popular applications.**

#### **3. How can I change starting positions of a job?**

Starting position is controlled by your design application as well as what you have **selected in Start Position under Origin Setup of LinkMotion. Please read and understand functions of both applications from their help section before using it.**

#### **4. Why is my job being cut goes back and forth all over the machine?**

Most design applications generally will output jobs in the order that it was designed. If you wish to see a different order then you need to use sorting available from the Design Application. Please check your design application functions. **LinkMotion and specific Design Application** document has more detail explanation.

#### **5. How can I design a job in different colors or layers?**

These functions are available from the design Applications. Please check the document of your design application or the document name **LinkMotion with popular applications.**

## **6. How can I duplicate my design to cut several times?**

These functions are available from the design Applications. Please check the document of your design application or the document name **LinkMotion with popular applications**.

## **7. Can I cut the same job again since it was not cut all the way (depth) properly?**

User should always do preliminary testing for proper depth and then send the job for production. Following conditions will allow you to cut the job again.

Check the box under **Origin setup** for **Return to 0,0 after job**. This allows your tool to be parked back in the same position as before.

Make sure to make changes in the **depth** selection of **Material Properties**, Click on the **Apply button** for it to be effective.

Now you can select the object or the shapes that did not cut properly and send it again to the machine. Make sure to look at the preview before you create the file for proper location of the output.

## **8. Can I cut any part of the job again without sending a complete job again?**

Yes, Follow the same procedure as in answer no. 5 from above.

## **9. Can I use any design applications to save my job?**

Yes, you can use other applications as long as the design application is capable of sending a vector output file. Design application should allow you to design shapes with thinnest line or hairline or zero line width and no fill. Word processing type applications are not capable of sending the vector output. Please check with your supplier for more information. We document the one we do testing with.

## **10. What can I do to get more help?**

Support is freely available by email – [support@solustan.com](mailto:support@solustan.com)