PolyLogic

Podium Data Analysis Software

User Manual

RCA40 Version

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1   Introduction

1.1 What is Podium?

PolyLogic's Podium Data Analysis Software enables data logged by the Farringdon Instruments RCA40 lap timer to be downloaded to a host PC and analysed in a variety of ways. Podium also provides facilities for configuring the lap timer via the serial port of the host PC.

With PolyLogic's Podium Data Analysis Software you can:

- Download and store data logged by the Farringdon Instruments RCA40
- Group related data together under common headings
- Display graphs of:
    - Wheel speed
    - Engine speed
    - Two user channels
- Overlay and compare lap data from different sessions
- Create a track map for each circuit visited – using optional lateral accelerometer
- Define segments for each circuit map
- Produce reports of:
    - Minimum and maximum values logged for a lap
    - Minimum and maximum speeds for each segment for a lap
    - Split times for all laps in a session
- Configure the RCA40 via the serial port of the host PC

1.2 About This Manual

This User Manual is intended to complement the help files built into the Podium application. The chapters are presented in an order intended to help new users understand the program as quickly as possible. Be aware, however, that this manual and the program's help file assume that you are comfortable using the Microsoft Windows 98/2000/Me/NT4/XP operating system. If you are new to Windows you may find the Windows Online Help file useful. To access Microsoft Windows Help choose **Help** from the start menu on your Windows desktop.

1.3 Typographical Conventions

Please be aware of the following typographical conventions when reading this manual:

- Menu items that you are instructed to choose appear with an arrow (➡) symbol separating each menu level. For example, if you if you are instructed to choose the Download command in the File menu it will appear as **File ➡ Download**. If you are instructed to select the Track command from the Map Colours sub-menu in the Setup menu it will appear as **Setup ➡ Map Colours ➡ Track**.

- Where a button or other control needs to be clicked the name of the button or control will be shown in bold text.

1.4 Getting Technical Support

For technical support with Podium please contact:

support@polylogic.co.uk

In addition, there are pages dedicated to support issues with PolyLogic's products on the PolyLogic web site.

The table below lists the ways to contact PolyLogic:

Contact Method	Address or Number
Website:	www.polylogic.co.uk
Telephone:	+44 (0) 1462 621066
Fax:	+44 (0) 1462 621066
Mail:	PolyLogic Limited 21 Cambridge Road Langford Biggleswade Bedfordshire SG18 9PR UK

2   Getting Started

Podium is supplied on a CD-ROM. The CD-ROM also includes some sample data so you can start exploring the software straightaway.

2.1 System Requirements

Before attempting to install Podium, make sure that your computer meets the following minimum system requirements shown in the table below:

Component	Requirement
Processor	Pentium class processor or equivalent
Operating System	Microsoft Windows 98/Me/NT4/2000/XP
Hard Disk Space	10Mb
System Memory	32Mb (64Mb recommended)
Other Drives	CD-ROM
Monitor/Display	Super VGA (800 x 600) or higher resolution with 256 colours
Serial Port	One serial port or USB port with USB-serial adapter
Pointing Device	Microsoft Mouse or compatible pointing device

2.2 Installing Podium

Before you can run Podium you must install it on the hard disk of your computer.

Follow these steps to install the software:

- Switch on your computer and log on in the normal way.
- Insert the Podium CD into the CD drive. The Podium Setup Wizard dialog will appear automatically.
- Click **Next**.
- Choose the installation folder for the software and click **Next**.
- Click **Next** again to complete the installation.
- Click **Close** once the installation is complete.
- The installation process places shortcuts to Podium on the computer's desktop and Start menu.

NOTE: *If the Podium installation process does not start automatically, you can start it manually by using My Computer or Windows Explorer to navigate to the contents of the CD and then double-clicking the file SETUP.EXE.*

2.3 Uninstalling Podium

Podium can be removed from your computer by selecting the **Add and Remove Programs** option within Windows **Control Panel**. Find Podium in the list of installed software, select it, and then click **Remove**.

This will remove the Podium software together with its shortcuts and configuration entries but all logged data, including the sample data provided on the installation CD, will remain on the hard disk of the computer.

2.4 Using Online Help

Once Podium is running you can view items in the Help menu at any time. To display the online Help file press F1 or choose **Help ➡ Topics**.

2.5 Starting Podium

Start Podium by either double clicking the shortcut on the computer's desktop or by selecting **Programs ➡ PolyLogic ➡ Podium** from the **Start** button on the desktop's toolbar.

2.6 Selecting Data Logger

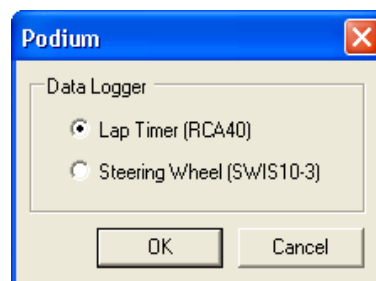The first time that Podium is run, the Select Data Logger Dialog (Figure 1) is displayed.

Figure 1 - Select Data Logger Dialog

Select the Lap Timer (RCA40) option and then click **OK**.

2.7 Licences

A licence is require to access certain features within Podium such as downloading data from the data logger.

To enter the licence code supplied do the following:

1. Select **Help ➡ Licences** from the main menu, the Licence Details Dialog (Figure 2) appears.
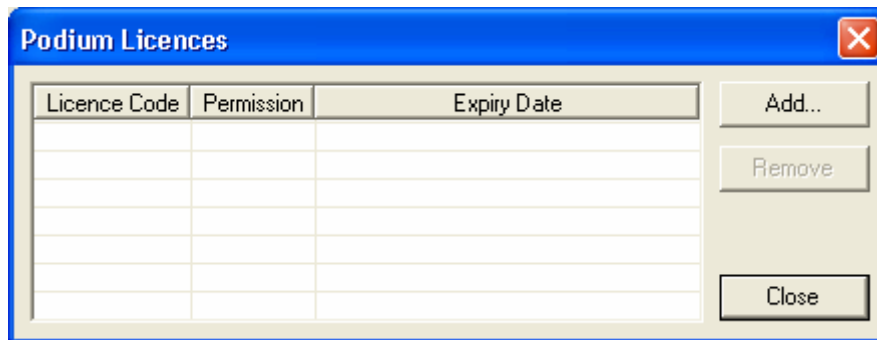
Figure 2 - Licence Details Dialog

2. Click **Add** to display the Add Licence Dialog (Figure 3), enter the licence code and then click **OK**.
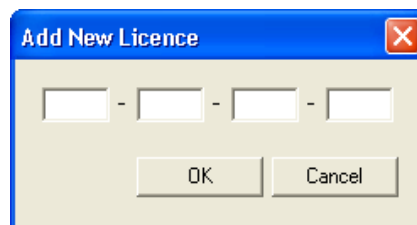
Figure 3 - Add Licence Dialog

2.8 Exiting Podium

You can exit Podium using either of the following methods:

- Choose **File ➡ Exit** from the main menu, or

- Click the close button ⊠ in the upper right corner of the title bar, or

- Press the key combination Ctrl + Q, or

- Press the key combination Alt + F4.

3   Getting to Know Podium

This chapter provides an overview of the Podium user interface. It describes the main windows, menu, toolbars and other important features. To help you better understand the program and become familiar with its features, please review this chapter thoroughly prior to analysing any data.

3.1 Tour of the Podium User Interface

When you start Podium the main program window appears. This window is your work area and is divided up into sections where specific types of information are displayed.

The following screen shot shows the main program window during a typical session. The Lap Explorer and Notes window are displayed on the right hand side with four overlay graphs plotted on the left.
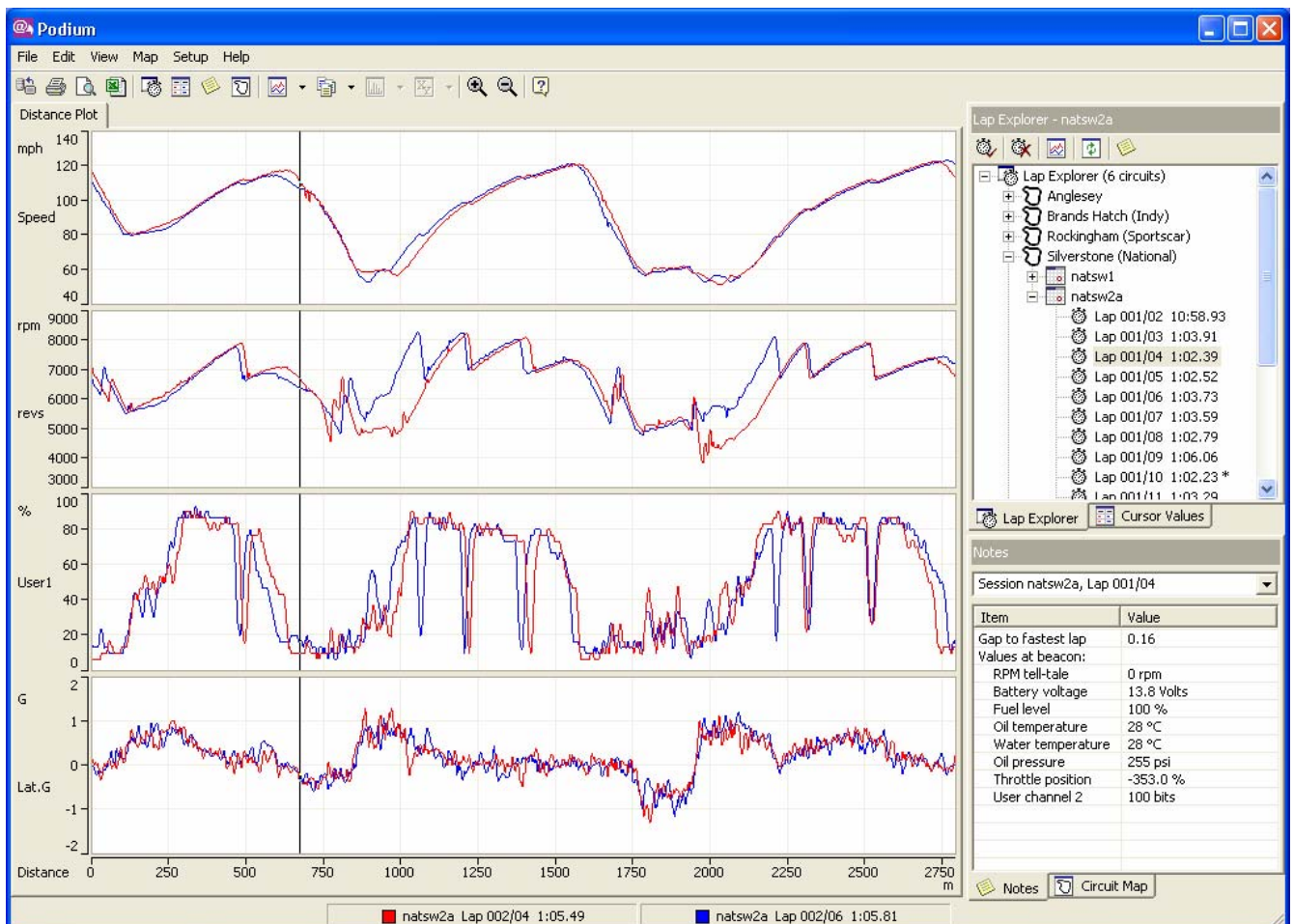

Figure 4 - Podium Main Screen

At the top of the main program window a menu and toolbar provide access to a majority of the program's features.

A status bar at the bottom of the screen identifies the laps for which data is currently being displayed.
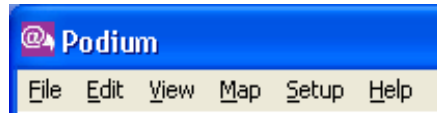
3.2 Main Menu

Figure 5 - Podium Main Menu

The Main Menu (Figure 5), which is directly below the title bar, displays the menu headings. Click a menu heading to open the menu and choose a command.

Use either of the following methods to choose a menu command:

- Open the menu and click the command, or

- Open the menu, use the Up arrow or Down arrow key to highlight a command, and then press <Enter>.

In addition, each menu may be opened by pressing the <Alt> key and then pressing the key associated with the required menu. Section 3.12 lists all the available menu commands.

3.3 Main Toolbar

Figure 6 - Podium Main Toolbar

The Main Toolbar (Figure 6), which is located directly below the Main Menu, contains buttons for accessing frequently used menu commands. To see the name of a button, place the cursor over it without clicking.

To execute the command associated with a toolbar button click the button. If a button is greyed out the command is not available. Section 3.12 lists the function of each of the toolbar buttons.

3.4 Lap Explorer

Figure 7 - Lap Explorer Window
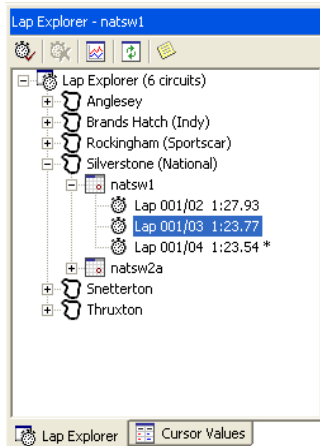
The Lap Explorer window (Figure 7) displays the available data in a 'tree' or hierarchical manner.

This window is used to select the laps to be analysed.

Nodes are displayed for each circuit and session for which data exists. To expand a node either click on the ⊞ next to the node or double click the node's icon or text.

Once a node has been expanded it can be collapsed by either clicking on the ⊟ next to the node or double clicking the node's icon or text again.

If the Lap Explorer window is not currently visible it can be activated in any of the following methods:

- Click the Lap Explorer tab next to the Cursor Values tab, or

- Click the Lap Explorer button 🕑 on the main toolbar, or

- Choose **View ➡ Lap Explorer** from the main menu.
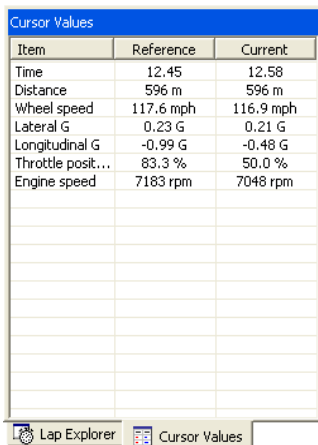
The content of the toolbar below the window's title bar changes depending on the type of node that is currently highlighted as shown below:

Toolbar	Highlighted Node
🖳 🔃 📄	Root or circuit.
🔃 📄	Session.
🕑 🕑 📈 🔃 📄	Lap.

To see the name of a button, place the cursor over it without clicking. To execute the command associated with a toolbar button click the button. If a button is greyed out the command is not available.

🖳 Downloads data from data logger.

🕑 Makes the highlighted lap the Reference Lap.

🕑 Removes the Reference Lap.

📈 Makes the highlighted lap the Current Lap.

🔃 Refreshes the contents of the Lap Explorer window.

📄 Makes the Notes window visible.

3.5 Cursor Values

The Cursor Values window (Figure 8) displays the value of each graph at the current cursor position.

This window is used to compare parameters at any point on a lap.

The values change as the graph or map cursor are moved.

Time and distance are always displayed with other parameters being added when a graph for that parameter is selected.
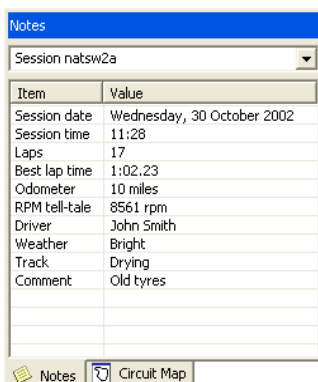
Removing a graph removes that parameter from the list of parameters displayed in the Cursor Values window.

Figure 8 - Cursor Values Window

If the Cursor Values window is not currently visible it can be activated in any of the following methods:

- Click the Cursor Values tab next to the Lap Explorer tab, or

- Click the Cursor Values button 🔲 on the main toolbar, or

- Choose **View ➡ Cursor Values** from the main menu.

3.6 Notes

The Notes window (Figure 9) displays additional information about the item currently highlighted in the Lap Explorer window.

This window is used in conjunction with the Lap Explorer window to identify the laps to be analysed.

The list of information displayed depends on the type of node highlighted in the Lap Explorer node.

Figure 9 - Notes Window

If the Notes window is not currently visible it can be activated in any of the following methods:

- Click the Notes tab next to the Circuit Map tab, or

- Click the Notes button 📝 on the main toolbar, or

- Choose **View ➡ Notes** from the main menu.

3.7 Circuit Map
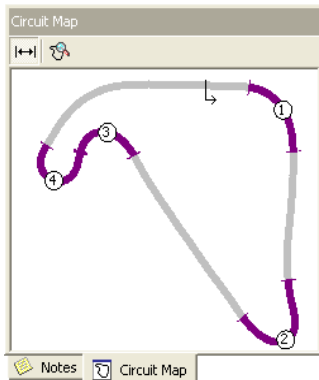
Figure 10 - Circuit Map Window

The Circuit Map window (Figure 10) displays a map of the circuit for the Current Lap.

This window is used in conjunction with the Graphs window to relate the graph cursor position to a specific point on the lap.

Clicking on the map moves the map cursor to the point on the track closest to the mouse click. This also moves the graph cursor to the same point.

If the Circuit Map window is not currently visible it can be activated in any of the following methods:

- Click the Circuit Map tab next to the Notes tab, or

- Click the Circuit Map button ⬚ on the main toolbar, or

- Choose **View ➜ Circuit Map** from the main menu.

The buttons on the toolbar immediately below the title bar are enabled whenever a map is displayed and they perform the following:

|↔| Shows/hides segments.

🐾   Allows the segments for the current circuit map to be edited.

To see the name of a button, place the cursor over it without clicking. To execute the command associated with a toolbar button click the button. If a button is greyed out the command is not available.

3.8 Graphs
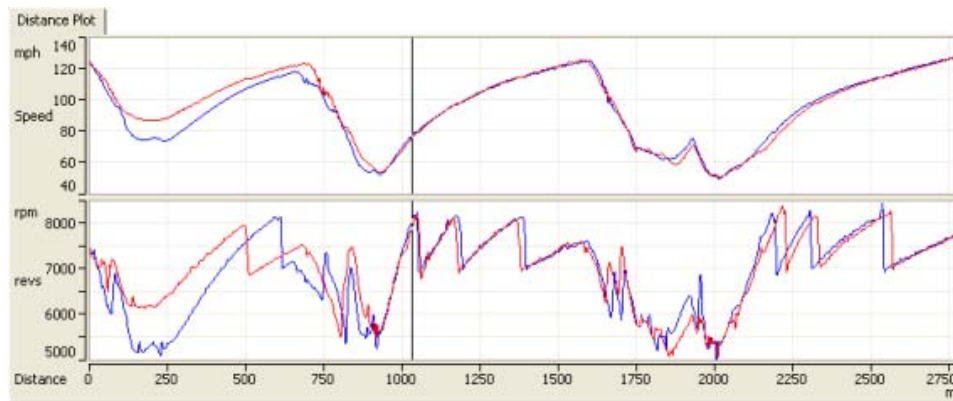
Figure 11 - Graphs Window

The Graphs window (Figure 11) displays logged values for a lap against either distance or time. This window is used to plot data for the laps of interest and to compare two laps from the same or different sessions.

Clicking on a graph moves the graph cursor to that point on the graph. This also moves the map cursor to the same point. The values of the displayed parameters at the current cursor position are displayed in the Cursor Values window.

Once a lap has been highlighted in the Lap Explorer window a graph of any of the logged parameters is displayed using either of the following methods:

- Activate the graphs drop down menu by clicking on the arrow ▾ next to the Graphs button 🗠 on the main toolbar and select the parameter to display, or

- Choose **View ➡ Graphs** from the main menu and select the parameter required.

Clicking the Graphs button 🗠 on either the main toolbar or the Lap Explorer toolbar will either display the current graphs for the highlighted lap or display a graph of wheel speed against distance for the highlighted lap if no graphs are currently displayed.

3.9 Reports

Item	Current Minimum	Reference Minimum	Delta Minimum	Current Maximum	Reference Maximum	Delta Maximum	
Wheel speed	50.2 mph	50.8 mph	-0.6 mph	127.9 mph	127.7 mph	0.2 mph	
Engine speed	5013 rpm	5074 rpm	-61 rpm	8351 rpm	8370 rpm	-19 rpm	
Throttle position	3.3 %	6.7 %	-3.3 %	89.9 %	93.2 %	-3.3 %	
User channel 2	78 bits	75 bits	3 bits	105 bits	104 bits	1 bits	
Battery voltage	13.6 Volts	13.5 Volts	0.1 Volts	13.9 Volts	13.9 Volts	0.0 Volts	
Fuel level	100 %	100 %	0 %	100 %	100 %	0 %	
Lateral G	-1.09 G	-1.20 G	0.10 G	1.30 G	1.30 G	0.00 G	
Longitudinal G	-1.74 G	-1.83 G	0.09 G	0.09 G	0.39 G	-0.30 G	
Oil pressure	255 psi	255 psi	0 psi	255 psi	255 psi	0 psi	
Oil temperature	28 °C	28 °C	0 °C	28 °C	28 °C	0 °C	
Water temperature	28 °C	28 °C	0 °C	28 °C	28 °C	0 °C	

Min/Max Values | Speed Report | Split Report

Figure 12 - Reports Window

The Reports window (Figure 12) displays tabular data for the currently selected laps or session. This window is used to compare laps in more detail.

Once at least one graph is displayed in the Graphs window any of the available reports can be selected using either of the following methods:

- Activate the reports drop down menu by clicking on the arrow ▾ next to the Reports button 🖼 on the main toolbar and selecting the report to display, or

- Choose **View** ➡ **Reports** from the main menu and select the report required.

3.10 Status Bar

🟥 natsw2a Lap 001/04 1:02.39   🟦 natsw2a Lap 001/07 1:03.59

Figure 13 - Podium Status Bar

The Status Bar (Figure 13) identifies the laps for which data is currently being displayed together with the colours used.

3.11 Resizing Windows

The relative proportions of the various windows can be altered to suit the data being displayed.

To adjust the position of the line dividing two windows do the following:

1. Move the mouse over the space between the two windows until the mouse pointer changes shape.

2. Drag the dividing line to the required position. The windows either side of the dividing line will be redrawn to fill their new boundaries when the mouse button is released.

3.12 Command Reference

The following commands are available:

Menu Command	Keyboard Shortcut	Toolbar Button	Section
File Menu	Alt + F		
Download	-	🖥️	4.1
Import Old Data	-	-	4.2
Export	-	📗	-
Page Setup	-	-	-
Print Preview	-	🔍	-
Print	Ctrl + P	🖨️	-
Exit	Ctrl + Q	-	2.6
Edit Menu	Alt + E		
Beacon Position	-	-	4.3
Session Details	-	-	4.4
View Menu	Alt + V		
Zoom In	Ctrl + I	🔍	-
Zoom Out	Ctrl + O	🔍	-
Lap Explorer	-	🕹️	3.4
Cursor Values	-	🔲	3.5
Notes	-	📒	3.6
Circuit Map	-	🔄	3.7 & 6
Graphs	-	📈	3.8 & 5
Reports	-	📑	3.9 & 7
Histograms	-	📊	-
X-Y Plots	-	❌	-
Map Menu	Alt + M		
New	-	-	6.1
Edit Segments	-	🐾	6.2
		(On Circuit Map toolbar)	

Menu Command	Keyboard Shortcut	Toolbar Button	Section
Setup Menu	**Alt + S**		
Data Logger	-	-	8.1
Show Setup For Session	-	-	8.2
Channels	-	-	8.3
Serial Port	-	-	8.4
Graph Colours	-	-	8.5
Map Colours	-	-	8.5
Help Menu	**Alt + H**		
Help Topics	F1		-
About PolyLogic Podium	-	-	-
Licences	-	-	2.7

4 Managing Session Data

This chapter describes how Podium allows you to download and manage data logged by the Farringdon Instruments RCA40 lap timer .

4.1 Downloading Session Data

Before any analysis can be performed, the logged data must be transferred from the data logger to the hard disk of the host computer. This process, referred to as downloading, is straightforward and is achieved in the following way:

1. Click the Download button 📲 on either the main toolbar or the Lap Explorer tool bar, or select **File ➡ Download** from the main menu. The Session Data Download dialog (Figure 14) appears.
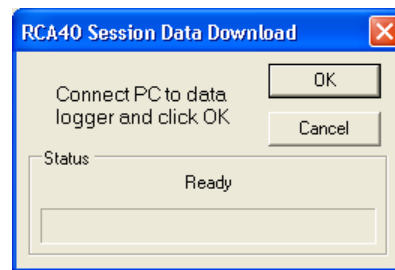
Figure 14 - Session Data Download Dialog (Idle)

2. Connect the data logger to the serial port of the host computer using the cable provided and click **OK**. The process of transferring the data from the data logger to the host computer will start.
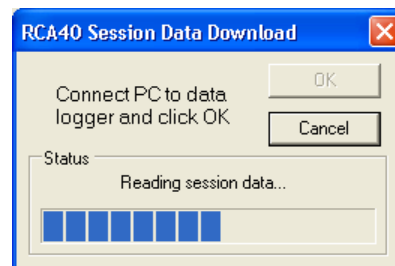
Figure 15 - Session Data Download Dialog (Downloading)

3. When the data has been successfully transferred the Save Session Data dialog (Figure 16) appears. Podium will populate the Session field with a unique identifier for this session based on the current date. Other fields will be set to the values used previously.
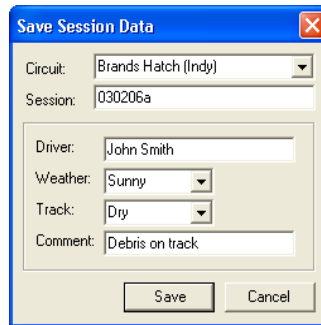
Figure 16 - Save Session Data Dialog

4. Update the fields to reflect the prevailing conditions and add a comment if necessary. Note that the Driver, Weather, Track, and Comment fields are all optional but the Circuit and Session fields determine where the data is stored so cannot be left blank. If the current circuit is not listed then the name can be typed in. The optional fields can be changed at a later date using the **Edit ➡ Session Details** option from the main menu. See Section 4.4 for more information.

5. When all the required information has been entered click **Save** and the data will be stored on the hard disk of the host computer.

6. The Save Session Data Dialog closes and the new session appears highlighted and expanded in the Lap Explorer window.

4.2 Importing Old Data

To import data downloaded using the FIDAP application do the following:

1. Select **File ➡ Import Old Data** from the main menu. The Open RCA40 Dump File Dialog (Figure 17) appears.
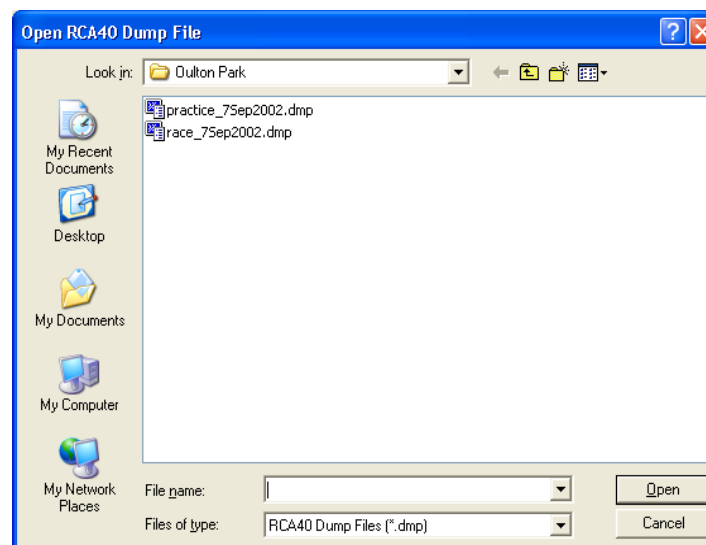
Figure 17 - Open RCA40 Dump File Dialog

2. Locate the dump file you wish to import, highlight it and then click **Open**.

3. The data in the chosen dump file is converted into the correct format and the Save Session Data dialog (Figure 16) is displayed when this process is complete.

4. Update the fields in the Save Session Data Dialog as required and click **Save** to store the imported data.

4.3 Changing the Beacon Position

When using a portable beacon it is not always possible to place the beacon at the same location for each session at a particular track.

Podium provides a mechanism to move the position of the beacon on a session-by-session basis so that all sessions for a track can have a common start point.

The beacon position for a session is changed in the following way:

1. Highlight the session (or any lap within the session) in the Lap Explorer window.

2. Select **Edit ➔ Beacon Position** from the main menu. The Edit Beacon Position dialog (Figure 18) appears.

Figure 18 - Edit Beacon Position Dialog

3. Enter the required beacon offset in m and indicate whether the beacon position is to be moved forwards or backwards from its current point. Clicking **Reset** sets the offset to zero.

4. Click **Save** to update the session. All laps in the session will now use the revised beacon position. Click **Cancel** to leave the beacon offset unchanged.

4.4 Changing Session Details

The details associated with a session may be changed in the following way:

1. Highlight the session (or any lap within the session) in the Lap Explorer window.

2. Select **Edit ➜ Session Details** from the main menu. The Edit Session Details dialog (Figure 19) appears.
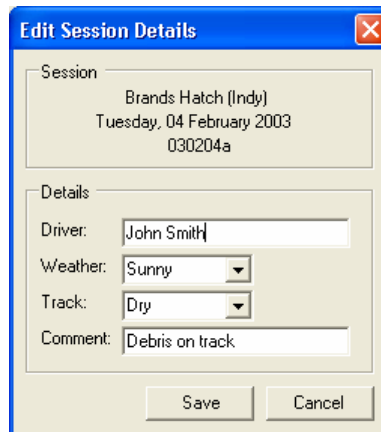
Figure 19 - Edit Session Details Dialog

3. Enter the new details for the session.

4. Click **Save** to update the session or **Cancel** to leave the session details unchanged.

5 Graphs

This chapter describes how graphs are produced from stored lap data and how graphs for different laps can be compared.

Podium allows data to be plotted for up to two laps at any one time. One lap is designated the Current Lap whilst the other is the Reference Lap. The Reference Lap is typically the fastest lap for a particular session, driver, or circuit and is used as a benchmark against which other laps completed at the same circuit are compared.

5.1 Setting the Current Lap

The Current Lap is set as follows:

1. Highlight the lap in the Lap Explorer window.

2. Click the Graphs button 📈 on the Lap Explorer toolbar.

3. A graph of wheel speed vs distance is plotted in the Graphs window and the session and lap details for the new Current Lap are displayed in the status bar. If a circuit map has been defined for this circuit then this will appear in the Circuit Map window.

The colour of the graph lines for the Current Lap can be changed via the Setup option of the main menu. See Section 8.5.1 for more information.

5.2 Adding Graphs

Further graphs are added by either of the following methods:

- Activate the graphs drop down menu by clicking on the arrow ▾ next to the Graphs button 📈 on the main toolbar and select the graph to display, or

- Choose **View ➡ Graphs** from the main menu and select the graph required.

5.3 Removing Graphs

Existing graphs are removed by either of the following methods:

- Activate the graphs drop down menu by clicking on the arrow ▾ next to the Graphs button 📈 on the main toolbar and select the graph to remove, or

- Choose **View ➡ Graphs** from the main menu and select the graph no longer required.

5.4 Setting the Reference Lap

The Reference Lap is set as follows:

1. Select a Current Lap and plot data for it as described in Section 5.1.

2. Highlight the lap to use as a Reference Lap in the Lap Explorer.

3. Click the Set Reference button 🕙 on the Lap Explorer toolbar.

4. A new line is added to each graph showing the data for the new Reference Lap. The session and lap details of the new Reference Lap are displayed in the status bar.

The colour of the graph lines for the Reference Lap can be changed via the Setup option of the main menu. See Section 8.5.2 for more information.

5.5 Clearing the Reference Lap

The Reference Lap is cleared as follows:

1. Highlight any lap in the Lap Explorer window.

2. Click the Clear Reference button 🕙 on the Lap Explorer toolbar.

3. The lines for the Reference Lap are removed from each graph in the Graphs window and the details of the Reference Lap are removed from the status bar.

5.6 Moving the Graph Cursor

The graph cursor can be moved by clicking or dragging the mouse or by using the following keys:

Action	Result
→	Moves the cursor one sample to the right.
←	Moves the cursor one sample to the left.
Ctrl + →	Moves the cursor 25 samples to the right.
Ctrl + ←	Moves the cursor 25 samples to the left.
Home	Moves the cursor to the start of the graph.
End	Moves the cursor to the end of the graph.

Note that the cursor can only be moved using the keyboard when the Graphs window has the input focus, i.e. immediately after it has been clicked.

6   Circuit Mapping

Podium allows a track map to be produced for each circuit for which data has been logged and stored. This chapter describes how circuit maps are produced and how they may be divided up into segments that allow more detailed analysis to be performed.

Note that data must have been logged from a suitable lateral accelerometer connected to one of the user channels for circuit maps to be produced.

6.1 Creating a New Circuit Map

A new circuit map is created in the following way:

1. Highlight the lap to use as the basis for the circuit map in the Lap Explorer window.

2. Choose **Map** ➡ **New** from the main menu. The New Circuit Map dialog (Figure 20) appears.
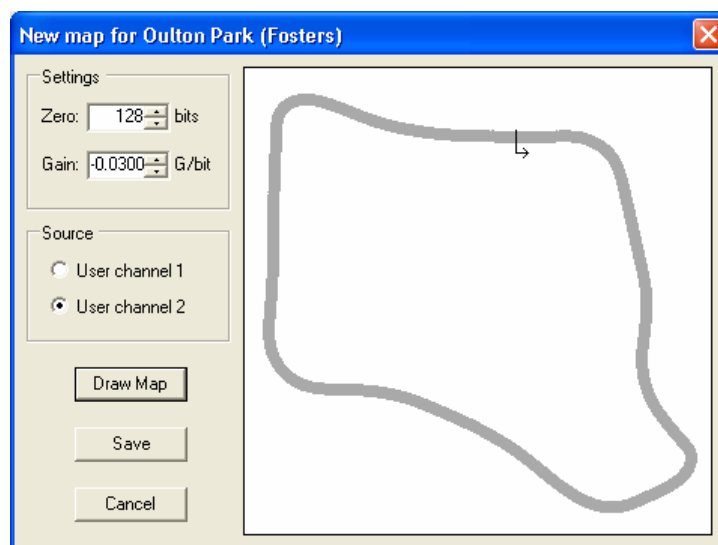
Figure 20 - New Circuit Map Dialog

3. The mapping process produces an approximate map based on the current zero and gain values for the lateral accelerometer connected to the chosen user channel. Some adjustment may be necessary to make the plotted map resemble the actual circuit.

4. To make an adjustment alter the zero or gain value and then click **Draw Map**. The circuit map is redrawn using the new settings. Experiment with the zero and gain settings until the map most closely matches the actual layout of the circuit.

5. Click **Save** to make this the default map for this circuit or **Cancel** to abandon any changes made.

6.2 Map Segments

Once a map has been created and stored for a circuit it can then be divided up into segments.

6.2.1 Adding Segments

Segments are added to an existing circuit map in the following way:

1. Highlight the circuit (or any session or lap for the circuit) in the Lap Explorer window.

2. Choose **Map ➡ Edit Segments** from the main menu. The Edit Map Segments dialog (Figure 21) appears.
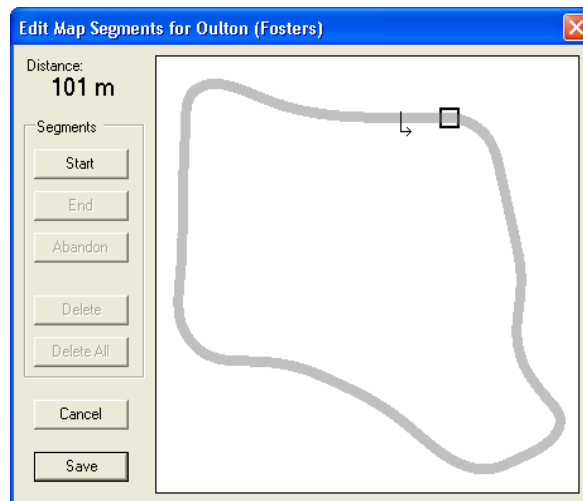
Figure 21 - Edit Map Segments Dialog (No Segments)

3. Mark the start point of the segment by clicking on the map and then clicking **Start**. The start point of the segment is marked with a square drawn in a dashed line (see Figure 22). The **Start** button is disabled and the **End** and **Abandon** buttons are enabled.
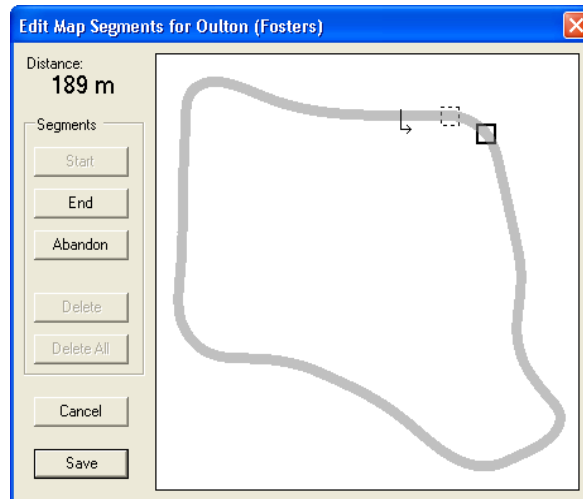
Figure 22 - Edit Map Segments Dialog (Defining a Segment)

4. If you want a segment to start at the end of another segment place the cursor anywhere in the other segment before clicking **Start**.

5. Mark the end point of the segment by clicking on the map and then clicking **End**. The portion of the map between the start and end points changes colour with small bars marking the extents of the segment (see Figure 23). Clicking **Abandon** before marking the end point of a segment allows the definition of the current segment to be cancelled.
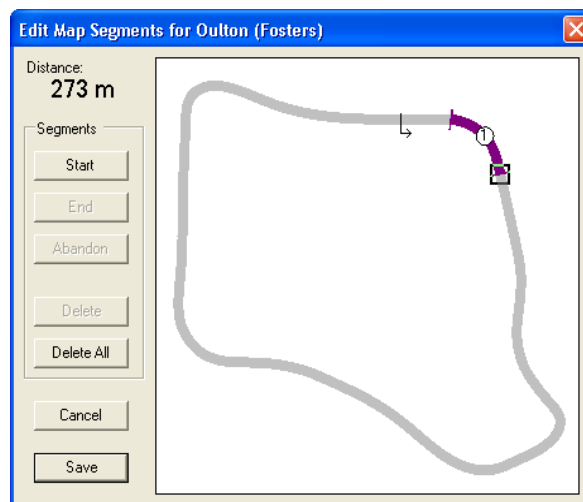
Figure 23 - Edit Map Segments Dialog (Segment Defined)

6. If you want a segment to end at the start of another segment place the cursor anywhere in the other segment before clicking **End**.

7. Continue to define more segments if required.

8. Click **Save** to update the segments for the circuit map or **Cancel** to abandon any changes made.

The Edit Map Segments dialog can also be accessed using the Edit Segments button 🖑 on the Circuit Map toolbar.

The colours for both the track and the segments can be changed via the Setup option of the main menu. See Section 8.5 for more information.

6.2.2 Deleting Segments

Unwanted circuit map segments are deleted in the following way:

1. Highlight the circuit (or any session or lap for the circuit) in the Lap Explorer window.

2. Choose **Map** ➡ **Edit Segments** from the main menu. The Edit Segments dialog appears.

3. Place the cursor over the segment to be deleted by clicking the map anywhere in the segment. The **Delete** button is enabled (see Figure 24).
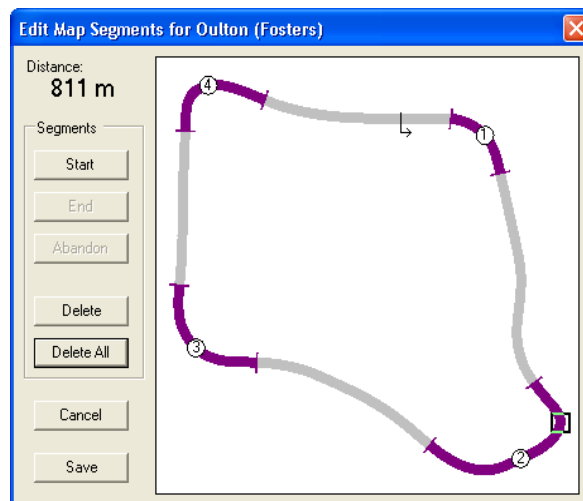
Figure 24 - Edit Map Segments Dialog (Deleting a Segment)

4. Click **Delete**. The segment is removed from the map (see Figure 25).
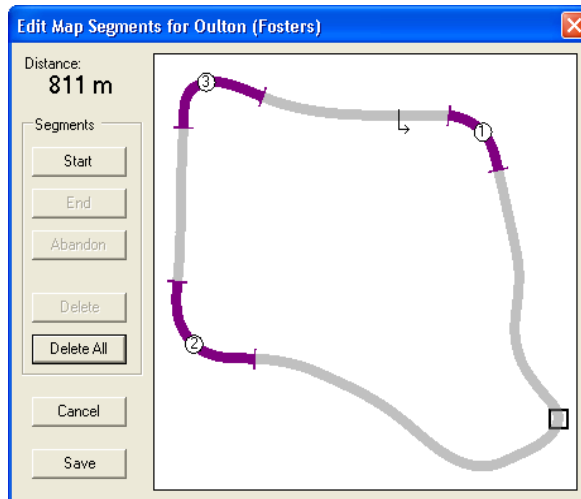
Figure 25 - Edit Map Segments Dialog (Segment Deleted)

5. Click **Save** to update the segments for the circuit map or **Cancel** to abandon any changes made.

6.2.3 Deleting All Segments

All the segments for a circuit map are deleted in the following way:

1. Highlight the circuit (or any session or lap for the circuit) in the Lap Explorer window.

2. Choose **Map ➡ Edit Segments** from the main menu. The Edit Segments dialog appears.

3. Click **Delete All**. A message box is displayed which requests confirmation of the delete operation (see Figure 26).
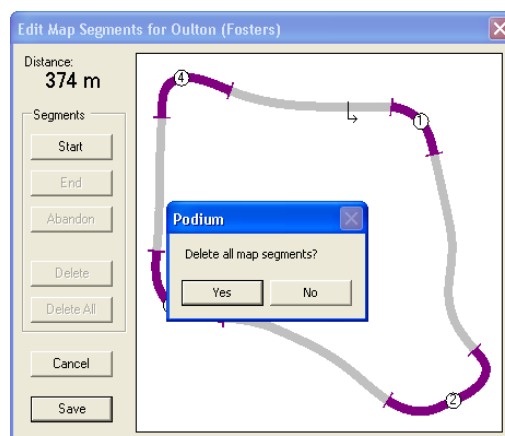
Figure 26 - Edit Map Segments Dialog (Delete All Segments)

4. Click **Yes** to delete all the map segments or **No** otherwise.

5. Click **Save** to update the segments for the circuit map or **Cancel** to abandon any changes made.

7   Reports

Reports are used to summarise important aspects of a specific lap or session. They are a particularly useful way of comparing relative times and speeds when a circuit map has been divided up into segments. This chapter describes how reports are produced from stored data.

7.1 Min/Max Values Report

A min/max values report shows the minimum and maximum values attained for each parameter for the currently selected lap or laps. If both a Current Lap and a Reference Lap have been selected then the difference between each minimum and maximum value is also displayed.

Use either of the following methods to produce a min/max values report:

- Activate the reports drop down menu by clicking on the arrow ▾ next to the Reports button 🗐 on the main toolbar and select **Min/Max Values**, or

- Choose **View ➡ Reports** from the main menu and select **Min/Max Values**.

7.2 Speed Report

A speed report shows the minimum and maximum speeds for each segment for the currently selected lap or laps. If both a Current Lap and a Reference Lap have been selected then the difference between each minimum and maximum value is also displayed.

Use either of the following methods to produce a speed report:

- Activate the reports drop down menu by clicking on the arrow ▾ next to the Reports button 🗐 on the main toolbar and select **Speed Report**, or

- Choose **View ➡ Reports** from the main menu and select **Speed Report**.

7.3 Split Report

A split report shows the time taken to complete each segment for each lap in the current session. The theoretical fastest lap time is calculated together with the fastest rolling lap achieved in the session.

The theoretical fastest lap is made up of the fastest time for each segment and these are highlighted in the report. The values of the segments making up the fastest rolling lap are shown in a different text colour.

Use either of the following methods to produce a split report:

- Activate the reports drop down menu by clicking on the arrow ▾ next to the Reports button 🗎 on the main toolbar and select **Split Report**, or

- Choose **View** ➡ **Reports** from the main menu and select **Split Report**.

7.4 Removing Reports

Use either of the following methods to remove a report:

- Activate the reports drop down menu by clicking on the arrow ▾ next to the Reports button 🗎 on the main toolbar and select the report to be removed, or

- Choose **View** ➡ **Reports** from the main menu and select the report to remove.

8   Configuration

Podium provides facilities for the RCA40 lap timer to be configured via the serial port.

The way in which Podium itself operates can also be configured to suit each particular application or personal taste.

This chapter describes how this configuration is carried out.

8.1 Data Logger

The parameters available via the setup mode of the RCA40 lap timer can also be accessed using Podium.

8.1.1   Reading Current Configuration

Before the configuration of the lap timer can be changed the current configuration must be downloaded to the host computer. This is achieved in the following way:

1. Choose **Setup ➜ Data Logger** from the main menu. The Configuration Download Dialog (Figure 27) appears.
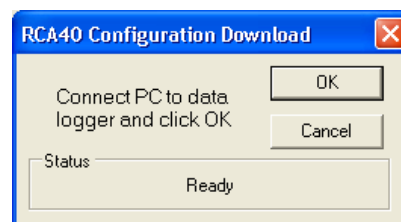
Figure 27 - Configuration Download Dialog

2. Connect the data logger to the serial port of the host computer using the cable provided and click **OK**. The current configuration of the lap timer is transferred to the host computer and the Setup Data Logger Dialog (Figure 28) appears.

The Setup Data Logger Dialog contains four pages which are described in the following sections.

Note that any configuration changes made in the Setup Data Logger Dialog will only come into effect when they have been transferred back to the lap timer.

Refer to the RCA40 User Manual for a more complete description of the purpose of each of the configuration settings.

8.1.2   General

Click the **General** tab to display the General page (Figure 28) of the Setup Data Logger Dialog.
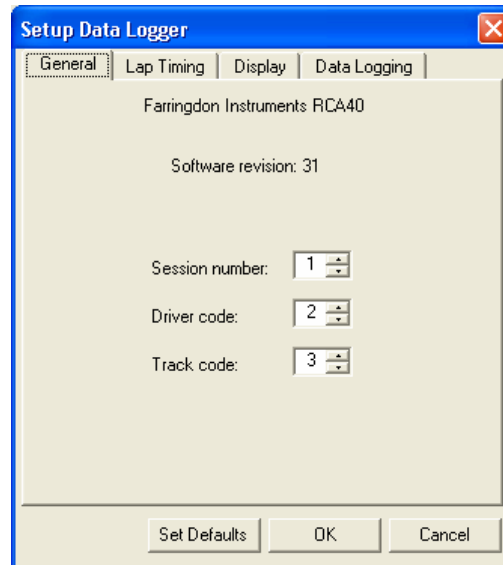
Figure 28 - Setup Data Logger Dialog (General Page)

The model and software revision of the lap timer are displayed at the top of the page.

Session Number	Type a number or use the up/down arrows to set the Session Number value.
Driver Code	Type a number or use the up/down arrows to set the Driver Code value.
Track Code	Type a number or use the up/down arrows to set the Track Code value.

8.1.3 Lap Timing

Click the **Lap Timing** tab to display the Lap Timing page (Figure 29) of the Setup Data Logger Dialog.
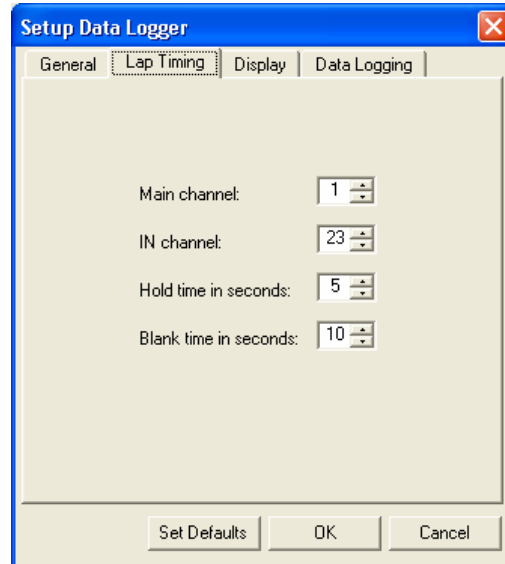
Figure 29 - Setup Data Logger (Lap Timing Page)

Main Channel	Type a number or use the up/down arrows to set the Main Channel value.
IN Channel	Type a number or use the up/down arrows to set the IN Channel value.
Hold Time	Type a number or use the up/down arrows to set the Hold Time value.
Blank Time	Type a number or use the up/down arrows to set the Blank Time value.

8.1.4 Display

Click the **Display** tab to display the Display page (Figure 30) of the Setup Data Logger Dialog.
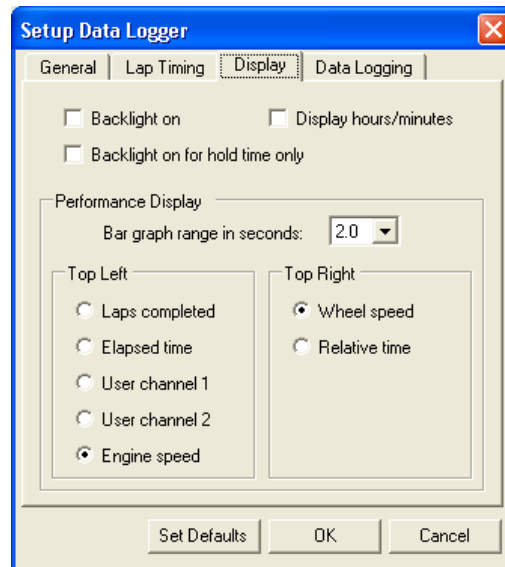
Figure 30 - Setup Data Logger (Display Page)

Backlight On	Check this box if you want the backlight to be on all the time the lap timer is on.
Backlight On for Hold Time Only	Check this box if you want the backlight to come on as the beacon is passed and stay on for the hold time.
Display Hours/Minutes	Check this box if you want the elapsed time displayed as hours and minutes rather than minutes and seconds.
Bar Graph Range In Seconds	Select the required full scale range of the bar graph displayed in performance mode.
Top Left	Choose the parameter you want to be displayed in the top left of the the screen in performance mode.
Top Right	Choose the parameter you want to be displayed in the top right of the screen in performance mode.

8.1.5   Data Logging

Click the **Data Logging** tab to display the Data Logging page (Figure 31) of the Setup Data Logger Dialog.
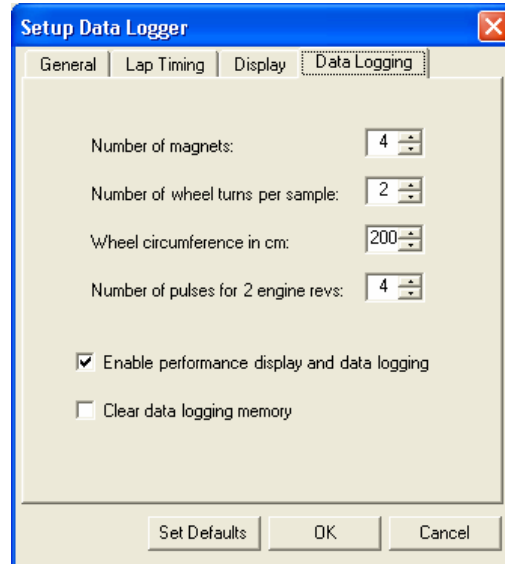
Figure 31 - Setup Data Logger (Data Logging Page)

Number of Magnets	Enter a number or use the up/down arrows to set the number of magnets fitted to the sensing wheel.
Wheel Turns Per Sample	Enter a number or use the up/down arrows to set the number of turns per sample value.
Wheel Circumference	Enter a number or use the up/down arrows to set the wheel circumference value.
Engine Pulses	Enter a number or use the up/down arrows to set the number of sensor pulses for two revolutions of the engine.
Enable Data Logging	Check the box to enable performance mode and data logging.
Clear Memory	Check the box to clear the data logging memory.

8.1.6   Writing New Configuration

Once all the required changes to the configuration of the lap timer have been made, click **OK**. The Configuration Upload Dialog (Figure 32) appears.
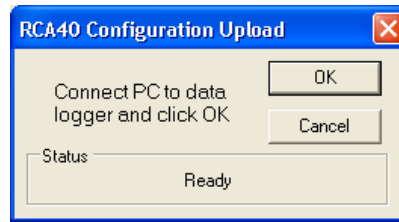
Figure 32 - Configuration Upload Dialog

Verify that the data logger is still connected to the host computer and click **OK**. The updated configuration is transferred to the data logger.

8.2 Show Setup For Session

To examine the data logger configuration used for a session do the following:

1. Highlight the session of interest, or any lap within it, in the Lap Explorer window.

2. Choose **Setup ➤ Show Setup For Session** from the main menu.

The configuration for the chosen session will be displayed using the Setup Data Logger Dialog as described above.

8.3 Channels

Podium needs to know how the sensors connected to the RCA40 are configured so that logged data can be displayed correctly.

The sensors are setup (or calibrated) in the following way:

1. Choose **Setup ➤ Channels** from the main menu. The Setup Channels Dialog (Figure 33) appears.

2. Make the necessary changes and click **Apply** to update the current configuration. Click **Cancel** to abandon any changes made.

The Setup Channels Dialog has five pages which are described in the following sections.

8.3.1 User Channels

The two user channels of the RCA40 are configured in the same way so the pages used to set them up are identical. Click the **User Channel 1** tab to display the User Channel 1 page (Figure 33) and the **User Channel 2** tab to display the User Channel 2 page.
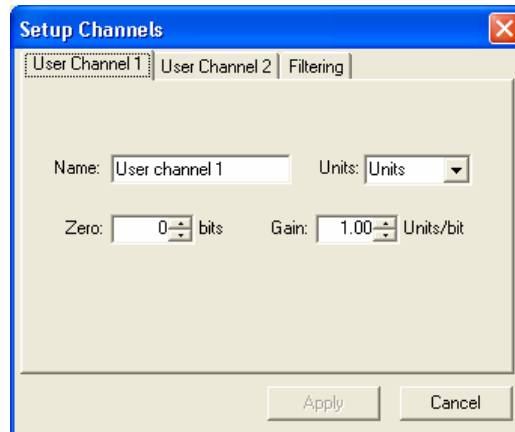
Figure 33 - Setup Channels Dialog (User Channel Page)

Name	Type the name for the user channel.
Units	Type in the units of measurement for the user channel or pick an option from the list.
Zero	Enter a number or use the up/down arrows to set the zero point of the sensor attached to the user channel.
Gain	Enter a number or use the up/down arrows to set the gain of the sensor attached to the user channel.

8.3.2 Filtering

Click the **Filtering** tab to display the Filtering page (Figure 34) of the Setup Channels Dialog.
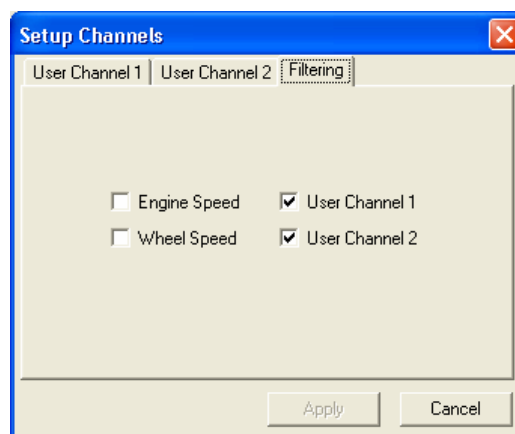
Figure 34 - Setup Channels Dialog (Filtering Page)

Podium uses a simple, but effective, averaging filter to remove noise from logged data.

To filter data for a particular channel, check the box adjacent to the channel name on the Filtering page.

Note that filtering cannot compensate for poor quality data due to electrical noise or poorly mounted sensors. If the data is excessively noisy then filtering may give unpredictable results.

8.4 Serial Port

To alter the serial port that Podium uses to communicate with the RCA40 do the following:

1. Choose **Setup ➡ Serial Port** from the main menu. The Setup Serial Port Dialog (Figure 35) appears.
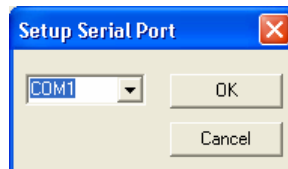
Figure 35 - Setup Serial Port Dialog

2. Select the new serial port from the list.

3. Click **OK** to update the serial port or **Cancel** to leave it unchanged.

8.5 Colours

The colours used to display the graphs and circuit map can be changed if required.

In each case, the standard colour dialog (Figure 36) is used to set the new colour. Forty-eight standard colours are available as well as an almost infinite number of user-defined custom colours.

Figure 36 – Standard Colour Dialog

8.5.1   Current Lap Graph

The colour used to display graphs for the Current Lap is changed in the following way:

1. Choose **Setup ➡ Graph Colours ➡ Current Lap** from the main menu. The Standard Colour Dialog (Figure 36) appears.

2. Select the new colour for Current Lap graphs and click **OK** or click **Cancel** to leave the colour unchanged.

8.5.2   Reference Lap Graph

The colour used to display graphs for the Reference Lap is changed in the following way:

1. Choose **Setup ➡ Graph Colours ➡ Reference Lap** from the main menu. The Standard Colour Dialog (Figure 36) appears.
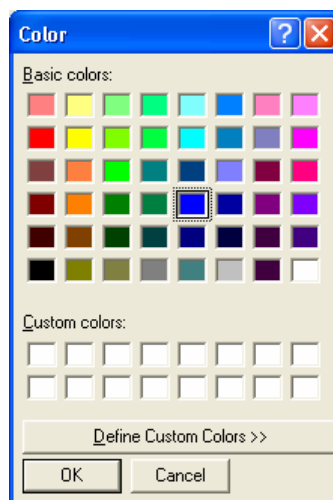
2. Select the new colour for Reference Lap graphs and click **OK** or click **Cancel** to leave the colour unchanged.

8.5.3   Circuit Map Outline

The colour used to display the track outline for the circuit map is changed in the following way:

1. Choose **Setup ➡ Map Colours ➡ Track** from the main menu. The Standard Colour Dialog (Figure 36) appears.

2. Select the new colour for the track outline and click **OK** or click **Cancel** to leave the colour unchanged.

8.5.4   Circuit Map Segments

The colour used to display the map segments for the circuit map is changed in the following way:

1. Choose **Setup ➡ Map Colours ➡ Segments** from the main menu. The Standard Colour Dialog (Figure 36) appears.

2. Select the new colour for the map segments and click **OK** or click **Cancel** to leave the colour unchanged.

9 Troubleshooting

Problem	**I can't download data from the lap timer or read/write its configuration.**
Cause	The lap timer is not powered up.
Action	Turn on the Master switch, and the ignition switch (if necessary).
Cause	The download lead is not connected.
Action	Connect the data logger to the serial port of the host computer using the cable provided and try again.
Cause	The lead is not making a good connection.
Action	Ensure both connectors are fully home and that the lead is not damaged in any way.
Cause	The serial port is not configured correctly.
Action	Choose **Setup ➜ Serial Port** from the main menu and select the correct serial port.
Problem	**The circuit map doesn't match the track layout.**
Cause	The lateral accelerometer has not been installed in the correct orientation.
Action	Re-position the accelerometer so that the arrow is perpendicular to the direction of travel.
Cause	The zero and gain values are incorrect.
Action	Enter the correct zero and gain values and try again.

10 Glossary

Accelerometer	A sensor for measuring acceleration, or the rate of change of speed.
Calibration	The process of scaling logged data into engineering units.
Downloading	The process of transferring stored data from a data logger to a host computer.
Filtering	A mathematical method for removing noise from a graph.
Gain (of sensor)	The relationship between the logged value (in bits) and the physical value (in engineering units).
Lateral G	The sideways acceleration caused by cornering.
Longitudinal G	The fore-aft acceleration caused by accelerating and braking.
Session	Data stored for one or more track outing and downloaded to the host computer.
Zero (of sensor)	The value logged by the data logger when the parameter being measured by the sensor is zero.