

User Instructions for AlphaEclipse RoadStar Signs
(PN 97175020)

Instructions for the *User*

ADAPTIVE
Connecting people, places and ideas



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1 Have you installed ALPHANET software from the CDROM?

YES, I have installed the software.

If you have already installed the ALPHANET software, try sending a message to the sign(s). See "Sending your first message to the sign(s)" on page 8. If your message appears on the sign(s), then the sign installation is complete.

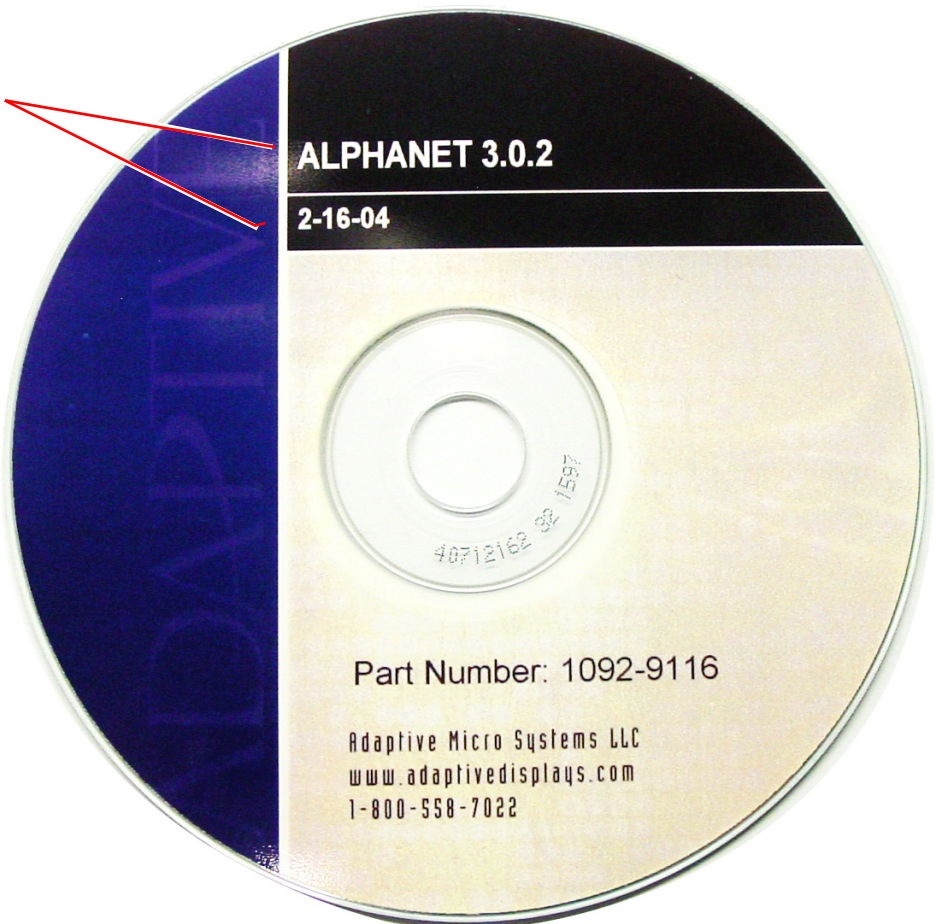
However, if you can *not* display messages on the sign(s):

- First, follow the steps in "Appendix B: Uninstalling ALPHANET software" on page 12.
- Then follow the steps in "Installing ALPHANET software" on page 3.

NO, I have *not* installed the software yet.

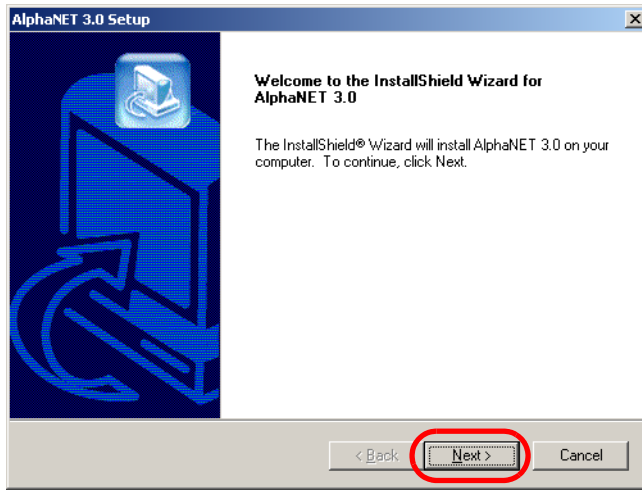
Then go to "Installing ALPHANET software" on page 3.

The software version and date may be different on your CDROM.

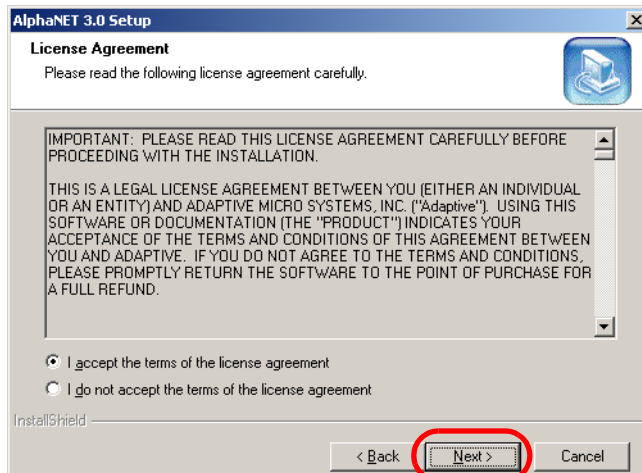


2 Installing ALPHANET software

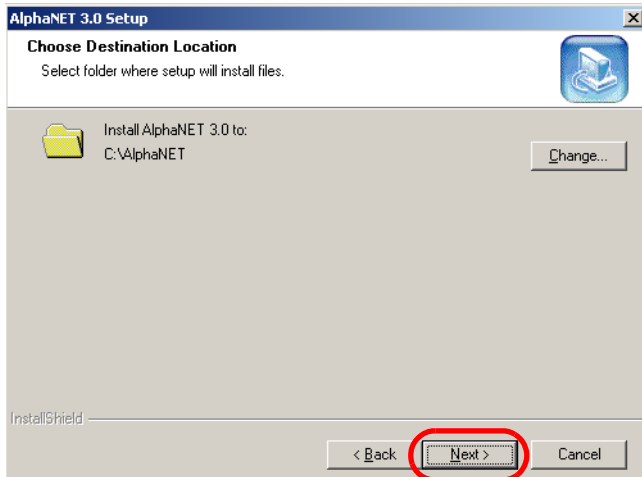
1 Insert the ALPHANET CDROM in your computer. When the following screen appears, click *Next*:



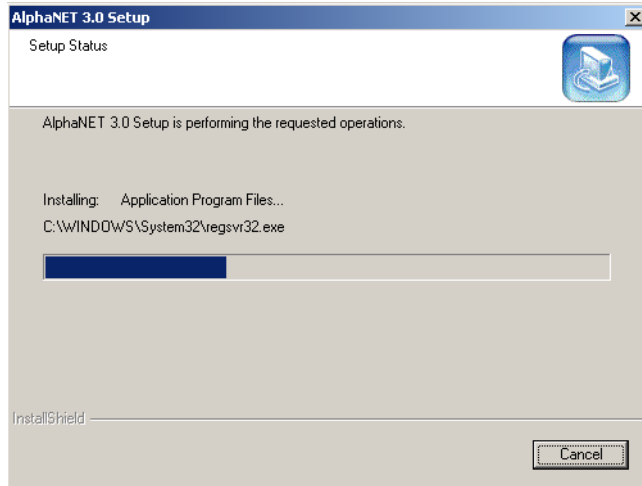
2 In the next screen, click *I accept the terms of the license agreement*. Then click *Next*.



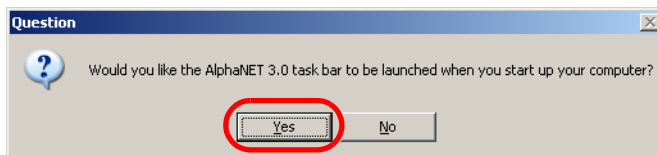
3 In this screen, click *Next*.



4 ALPHANET software will install on your computer:

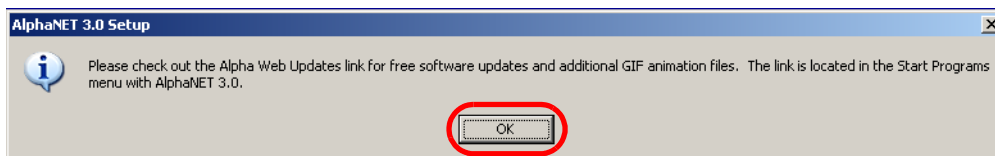


5 When this prompt appears, click *Yes*:

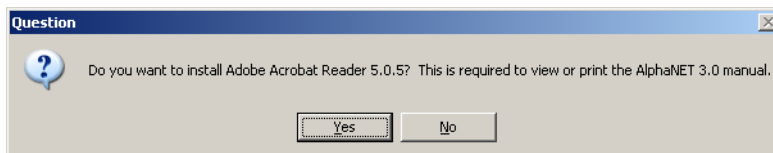


Task bar

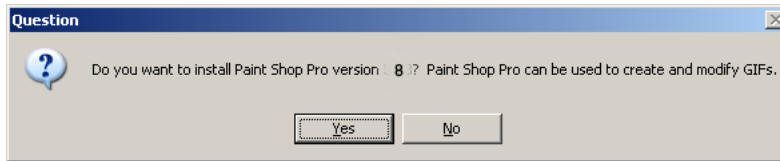
6 Click *OK* after reading this prompt:



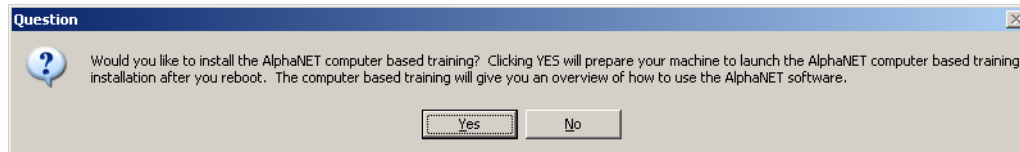
7 Select *No* if Adobe Acrobat is already installed on your computer
Otherwise, select *Yes*:



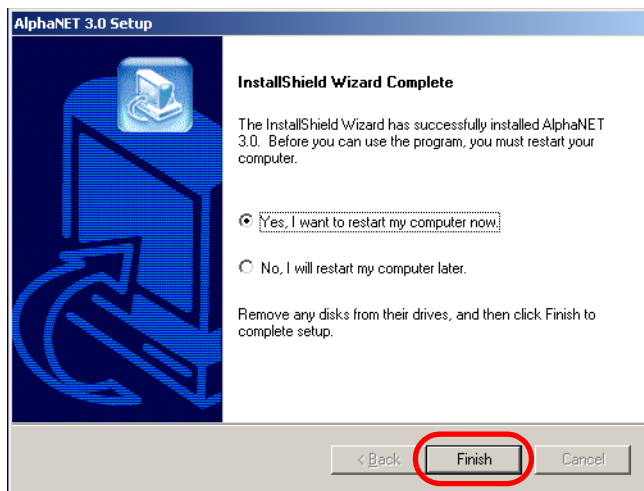
- 8 When this prompt appears, click *Yes* to install Paint Shop Pro software. This software can be used to create and edit sign graphics.



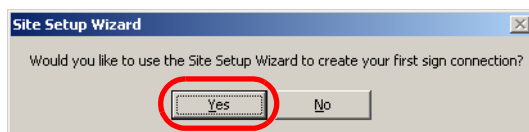
- 9 For the following prompt, click *Yes* to install a computer-based tutorial on ALPHANET software:



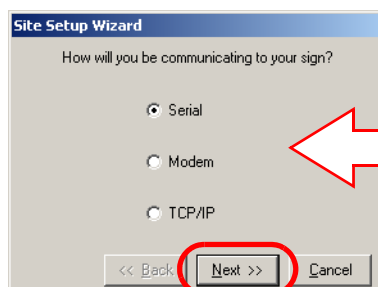
- 10 Finally, click *Yes, I want to restart my computer now*. Then click *Finish*:



- 11 Soon after your computer restarts, this prompt will appear. Click *Yes*:



- 12 On the next screen, select one of the three Connection Types (*Serial, Modem, TCP/IP*). Then click *Next*.



If you are not sure which one of these three Connection Types to select, see "Appendix A: How is your computer connected to the sign(s)?" on page 10.

13 If you selected *Serial*, use the settings shown below. Then click *Next*.

The screenshot shows the 'Site Setup Wizard' dialog box. The title bar reads 'Site Setup Wizard'. Below the title bar, it says 'The default communication settings (the settings typically used with Adaptive signs) are as follows:'. There are three dropdown menus: 'Com Port' set to 'Com1', 'Data Format' set to '8N1', and 'Baud Rate' set to '9600'. Below these is the text 'Please adjust the above settings to properly reflect your signs settings, if necessary.' At the bottom, there are three buttons: '<< Back', 'Next >>', and 'Cancel'. The 'Next >>' button is circled in red.

If you selected *Modem*, use the settings below. Then click *Next*.

The screenshot shows the 'Site Setup Wizard' dialog box for Modem settings. The title bar reads 'Site Setup Wizard'. Below the title bar, it says 'The default communication settings (the settings typically used with Adaptive signs) are as follows:'. There are five input fields: 'Com Port' (dropdown set to 'Com1'), 'Data Format' (dropdown set to '8N1'), 'Baud Rate' (dropdown set to '9600'), 'Dialing Prefix' (empty text box), 'Modem Init String' (empty text box), and 'Phone Number' (empty text box). Below these is the text 'Please adjust the above settings to properly reflect your signs settings, if necessary.' At the bottom, there are three buttons: '<< Back', 'Next >>', and 'Cancel'. The 'Next >>' button is circled in red.

Dialing Prefix = If you need to dial a number (like "9") to get an outside telephone line for the modem attached to your computer, enter that number here.

Modem Init String = leave this blank.

Phone Number = type the phone number for the modem that is inside the sign.

If you selected *TCP/IP*, set *IP Address* and *Port* as shown below. Then click *Next*.

The screenshot shows the 'Site Setup Wizard' dialog box for TCP/IP settings. The title bar reads 'Site Setup Wizard'. Below the title bar, it says 'Please enter the IP Address and Port you will be using to communicate with your sign.' There are two text input fields: 'IP Address' containing '20.67.66.123' and 'Port' containing '3001'. Below these is the text 'Adaptive signs typically use Port 3001, as a default.' At the bottom, there are three buttons: '<< Back', 'Next >>', and 'Cancel'. The 'Next >>' button is circled in red.

Set *IP Address* = the IP address of the MSS485 Ethernet interface. See your network administrator to get this address.

Set *Port* = 3001.

- 14** In the next screen, select *AlphaEclipse RoadStar*. Then choose the other settings as shown below. Finally, click *Finish*:

Single Color = All AlphaEclipse RoadStar signs are single color.

Columns = sign width in pixels
Rows = sign height in pixels

To figure out the size of your sign, add up the pixels. Each panel of LEDs in a sign is 8 x 8 pixels:

Columns = 64

8 pixels

8 pixels

8 pixels

8 pixels

8 pixels

8 pixels

8 pixels

8 pixels

8 pixels

Rows = 16 pixels

1 pixel

- 15** To send your first message, go to “Sending your first message to the sign(s)” on page 8.

3 Sending your first message to the sign(s)

1 Select *Site Manager* from the ALPHANET task bar:



Paint Shop Pro Animation — used to create simple GIF animations to show on a sign.

Paint Shop Pro — used to create sign graphics. (Adobe's PhotoShop is also a powerful graphics editor.)

Communications Manager — used to diagnose sign communication errors.

Site Manager — used to set up a sign for messaging.

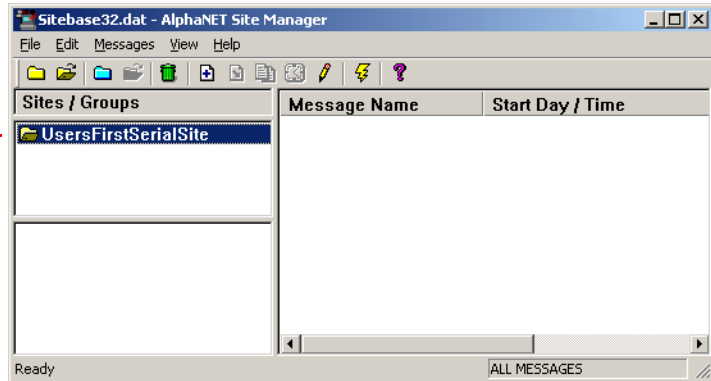
Message Editor — used to create and to send messages to a sign. Graphics can also be included in messages. However, graphics must be created in a program like Paint Shop Pro.

2 A screen similar to the following will appear:

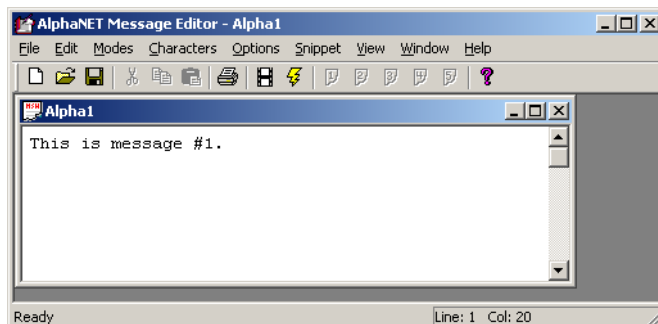
This site name could also be:


- *UsersFirstModemSite*
- *UsersFirstTCPIPSite*

(Depending on what you selected previously in "Installing ALPHANET software" on page 3.)



3 Select *Messages > Edit* (or click the  icon). Then type the following message:



- 4** Select *File > Transmit* (or click the  icon). Then send the message to the sign by clicking *OK* at this prompt:



- 5** If the message appears on the sign(s), your installation is successful.

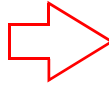
However, if your message does *not* appear:

- Make sure any interface device (like a modem, Converter Box III, and so on) has power and all cables are all properly connected.
- Send the message again. If it still does not appear, contact Adaptive Customer Support at 800-719-2838.

Appendix A: How is your computer connected to the sign(s)?

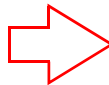
Select one of the following:

Converter Box III
 (Connected by RS485 wire to MASTER UNIT. Connected to messaging computer by cable. Placed next to computer.)



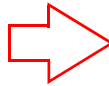
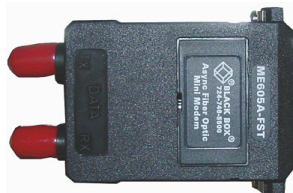
Connection Type = Serial
 Connection Device = Local Wired Com 1

Telephone modem
 (One modem connected inside MASTER UNIT. Another connected to messaging computer.)



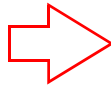
Connection Type = Modem
 Connection Device = Modem on Com 1

Fiber optic modem
 (One fiber optic modem connected inside MASTER UNIT. Another connected to messaging computer.)



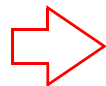
Connection Type = Serial
 Connection Device = Local Wired Com 1

Alpha RF900 wireless transceiver
 (One transceiver connected inside MASTER UNIT. Another connected to messaging computer.)



Connection Type = Serial
 Connection Device = Alpha RF900 Wireless Com 1

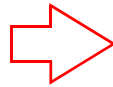
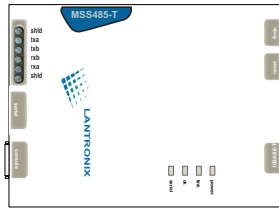
MaxStream Xtend 900 MHz transceiver
 (One transceiver connected inside MASTER UNIT. Another connected to messaging computer.)



Connection Type = Serial
 Connection Device = Local Wired Com 1

Lantronix MSS485 Ethernet interface

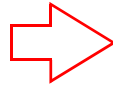
(Connected to MASTER UNIT by RS485 wire. Connected to Ethernet along with messaging computer.)



Connection Type = TCP/IP
Connection Device = Ethernet Adapter

Locus tranceiver

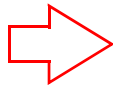
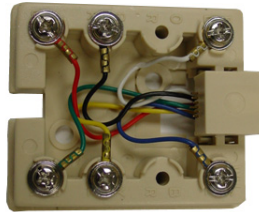
(One tranceiver connected inside MASTER UNIT. Another connected to messaging computer.)



Connection Type = Serial
Connection Device = Local Wired Com 1

External connection box

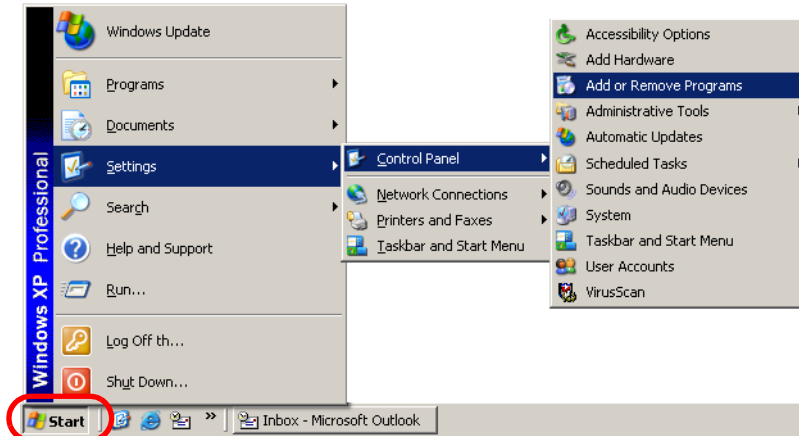
(Connected to MASTER UNIT using RS485 wire. Placed at base of signs.)



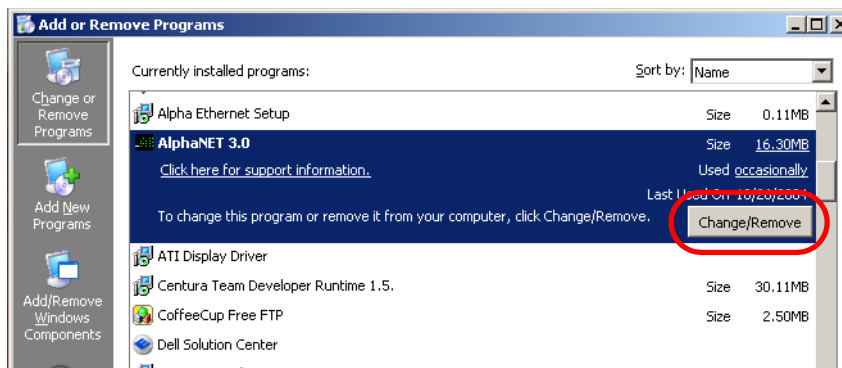
Connection Type = Serial
Connection Device = Local Wired Com 1

Appendix B: Uninstalling ALPHANET software

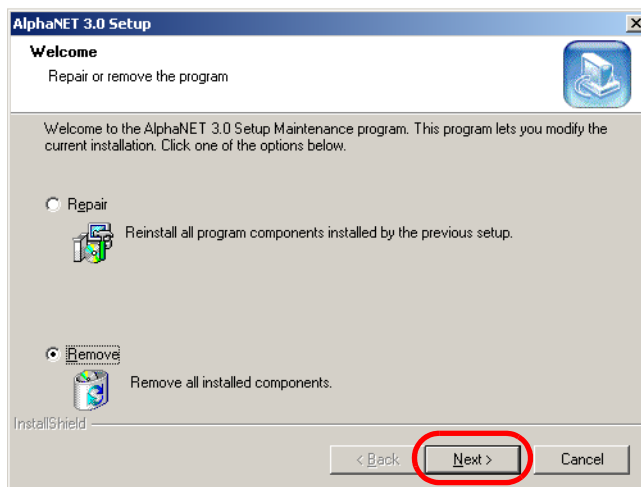
- 1 Click *Start > Settings > Control Panel > Add or Remove Programs* as shown:



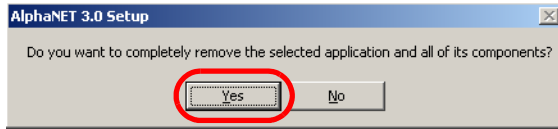
- 2 When the *Add or Remove Programs* window appears, locate and select the program *AlphaNET 3.0*. Then click *Change/Remove*:



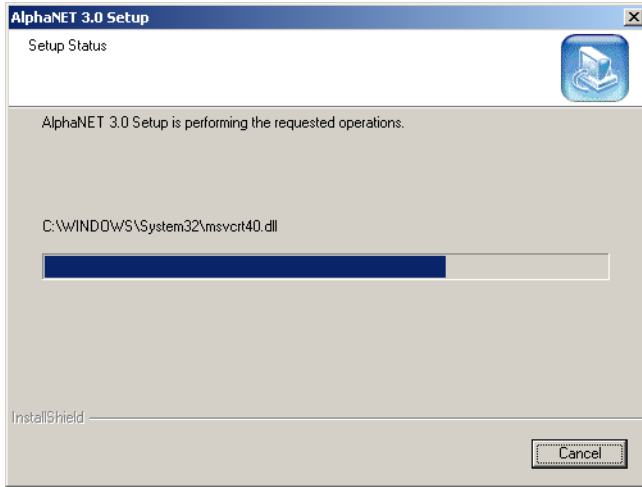
- 3 Select *Remove*. Then click *Next*:



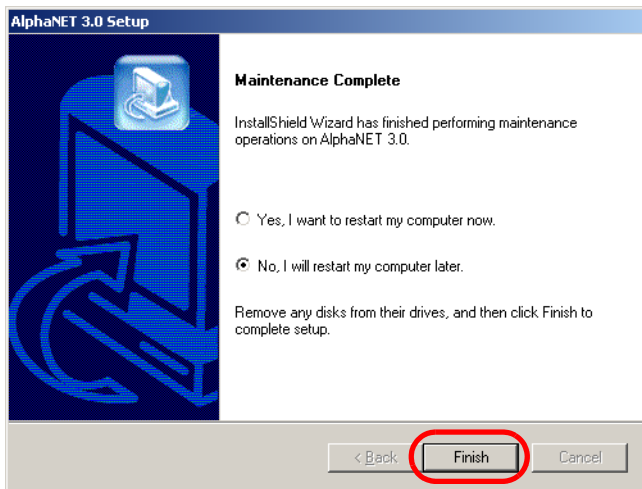
4 Click *Yes* at this prompt:



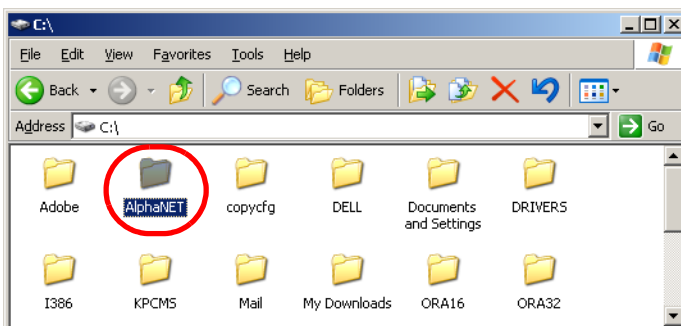
5 ALPHANET software will be removed from your computer:



6 Click *No, I will restart my computer later*. Then click *Finish*.



7 Locate the *AlphaNET* folder in your C:\ drive. Then delete this folder:



8 Click *Start > Shutdown > Restart*. Then click *OK*:



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