

**LaserPro<sup>®</sup>**

# User Manual

EXPLORER





Dear Sir or Madam,

Thank you for choosing GCC and the LaserPro Explorer II. You can be assured that this machine meets all of the highest safety standards while using technological innovations shared by no other laser engraver. The Explorer II is backed by GCC, a truly international company that is dedicated to helping your business grow.

We at GCC are proud to introduce the LaserPro Explorer II II, our most technologically advanced laser engraver to date. This easy to operate machine has been designed with quality, productivity, and safety in mind. With innovations like the QSM™, Stellar Quality Under High Speed, SmartFILE file management, and the new Linear Low Maintenance Motion System, the Explorer II is clearly on the cutting edge of all laser systems.

GCC understands that a creative technical background is the key to successful growth in the ever-changing information economy. We have a strong team of R&D experts who propel our company to new heights. From product development to manufacturing, our engineers are dedicated to innovation and quality.

Guiding our solid technical base is a world-class management team. At GCC, our leaders bring together marketing, technical support, research development and distribution experts to create an international network able to meet your demands. Over the years, this network has been able to span the globe. Our technical support staff is committed to provide you with impeccable service, and when your business is ready to grow, our team will also be there!

Sincerely,

Leonard Shih

President of G.C.C.

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## CHAPTER I - SAFETY

### Safety Ratings

Laser engravers that have the CDRH safety rating of Class 1 are required to have key safety features such as an enclosed laser beam and safety interlock mechanisms designed to protect the operator. In addition to the safety features of a Class 1 machine, the LaserPro Explorer II has been equipped with a red guidance pointer. This red dot allows the operator to safely see the focal point of the laser beam. It also gives Explorer II the improved CDRH safety rating of 3R. Although the Explorer II is our most powerful laser engraver, when used correctly, it is an extremely safe machine.

### Principles of CO<sub>2</sub> Laser

LASER is the acronym for Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation. A CO<sub>2</sub> laser works by electrically stimulating the molecules of a carbon dioxide gas mixture. When focused through a lens, this invisible intensive beam can vaporize many materials. Depending on the speed and intensity of the beam, a CO<sub>2</sub> laser may be used to engrave or cut through a wide variety of materials.

### The Safety Interlock System

The LaserPro Explorer II is complete with a safety interlock system that automatically shuts off the power supply to the laser whenever the top or front door is opened. There are magnets on the top and front door, which activate this safety mechanism. Do not attempt to remove or modify these magnets or any other component of the safety interlock system.

### Safety measures

- Prior to operation, carefully read and be familiar with the warning labels on your machine as well as in this manual.
- Always wear certified safety goggles. Reflective materials such as mirrors, enameled brass and anodized aluminum may reflect a portion of the invisible laser radiation. This may cause severe eye damage if appropriate safety goggles are not worn.

**NOTE:** Each LaserPro laser machine is equipped with a safety goggle, if you need another one, please contact LaserPro for it or try to get one that meets the following specification.

190-398 nm OD5+  
10,600 nm OD5+  
Visible light transmission: 92.9%

- A clean, well-ventilated room with a temperature of 15 ~30 (60 ~85 ) (especially the temperature of 30 ), and a relative humidity between 30% and 40% as an office type of environment.
- Setup the machine to be apart from the wall at least 60 cm (2 feet)
- Connect the machine to a properly grounded power outlet. Make sure that the voltage level of the machine matches that of the power source.



- Do not open the laser access panel when the machine is plugged in.
- The top door is equipped with a pair of magnets, which act as safety interlock mechanisms. When the door is opened, the laser beam will cease operation. Do not attempt to modify these magnets.
- Do not attempt to modify or disassemble the laser module.
- Good ventilation is required to remove odors and vaporized materials from the work area of the machine. An exhaust system and the cutting table/honeycomb table are recommended.
- Do not work with heat sensitive surfaces or other materials that may produce toxic fumes such as PVC and Teflon.
- Have a fire extinguisher close to the working location at all times.
- Make sure your smoke/fire detecting system is functioning.

**NOTE:** An excellent Fire Detection & Alarm System has been developed by GCC. Ask your LaserPro Explorer II dealer for details.

- When using materials that may easily catch fire, such as acrylic, wood, or paper, always use the air assist system to prevent flames.
- Never leave the machine unattended during operation.
- Follow the maintenance and cleaning instructions well. Not only will this enable you to use the machine effectively, but it will also ensure long and safe operation.

## Safety Labels

In compliance with CDRH standards, the LaserPro Explorer II has all of the appropriate safety labels attached. These labels are in key positions and are properly attached to the machine at the time of manufacture. These labels are NOT to be removed for any reason. Please become familiar with the safety messages and locations of these labels. Below is a list of all the safety labels and their locations on the machine.

**On the right of top door and outside of the first mirror cover.**

**DANGER**  
INVISIBLE LASER RADIATION WHEN OPEN  
AND INTERLOCK FAILED OR DEFEATED  
AVOID EYE OR SKIN EXPOSURE DIRECT OR  
SCATTERED RADIATION

**On the upper center of the front door.**

**WARNING!!**  
Do not use reflective metals, heat sensitive  
surfaces or other materials that may produce  
toxic substances or cause corrosion  
problems, such as PVC and Teflon.



On the front center of the top area.

**CAUTION**  
AVOID PLACING YOUR EYES IN  
THE RED BEAM PATH

On the front center of the top door.

**DANGER**  
INVISIBLE LASER RADIATION  
WHEN OPEN  
AND INTERLOCK FAILED OR  
DEFEATED  
AVOID EYE OR SKIN EXPOSURE  
DIRECT OR SCATTERED RADIATION

**WARNING**

 PLEASE MUST WEAR  
A SAFETY GOGGLE  
DURING OPERATION

 DO NOT LEAVE THE  
MACHINE UNATTENDED  
DURING OPERATION

**WARNING**

 PLEASE CLEAN THE  
BEARINGS AND MOTION  
SYSTEM TRACKS  
EVERYDAY.

On the RF Connector

	<p><b>WARNING</b></p> <p><b>Do Not Disassemble.</b> This unit is to be serviced by trained personnel only.</p>			<p><b>WARNING</b></p> <p><b>Do Not Disassemble.</b> This unit is to be serviced by trained personnel only.</p>
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## CHAPTER II - HARDWARE INSTALLATION

### Unpacking and Unloading

The LaserPro Explorer II is shipped in one crate that contains the machine, the software and all of the necessary accessories. The following section has a detailed list of the steps required for unpacking and assembly of the machine.

To prevent damage to the machine or personal injury, please get assistance when loading and unloading the shipping crate.

Please save the original shipping crate in case it is needed for future transport or product servicing.

Move the shipping crate close to the desired working location of the machine. Unpack using the following steps.

Step 1.

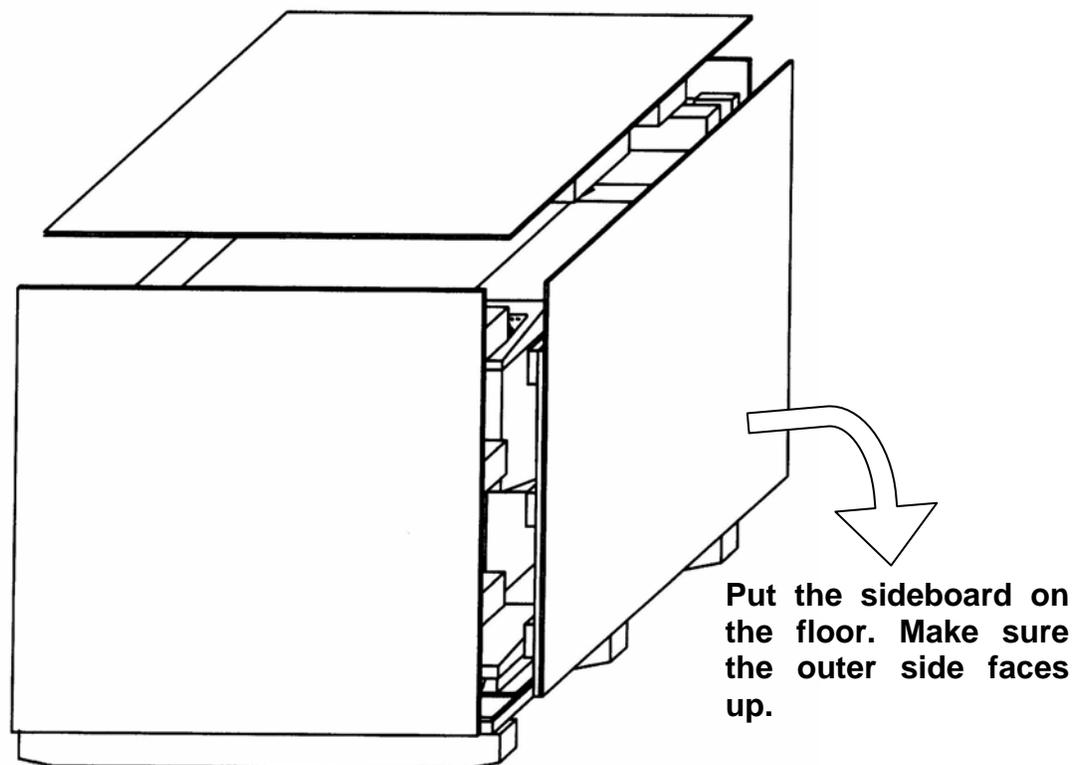


Fig. 2- 1 Unpacking and Unloading



Step 2.

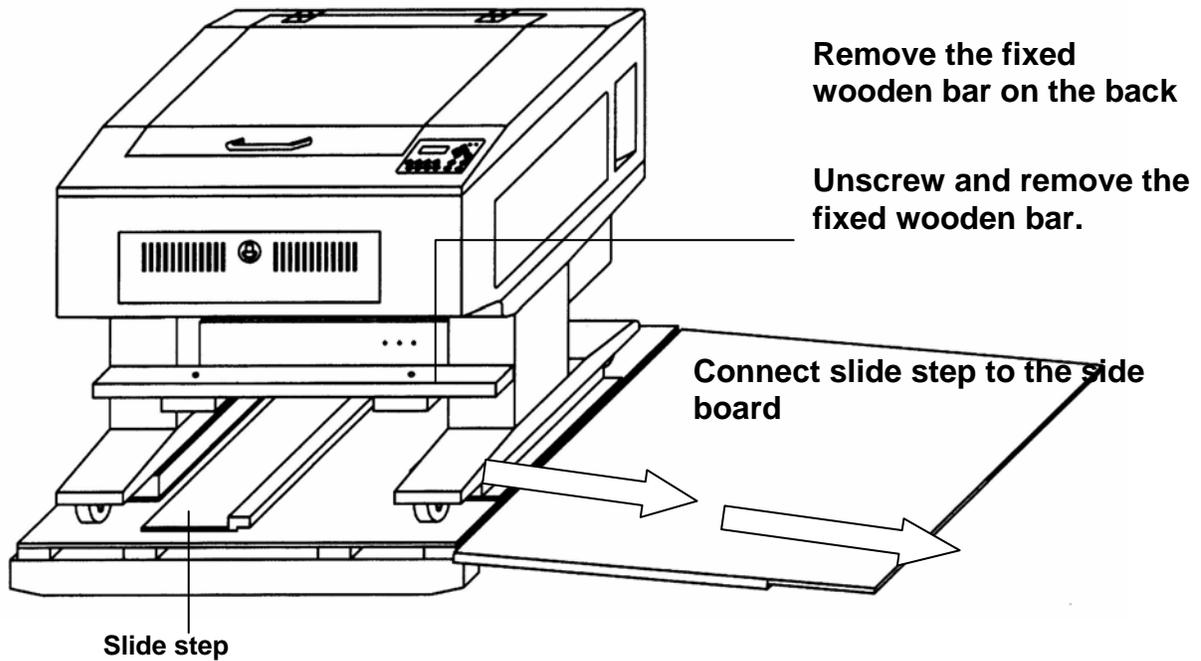


Fig. 2- 2 Unpacking and unloading

STEP 3.

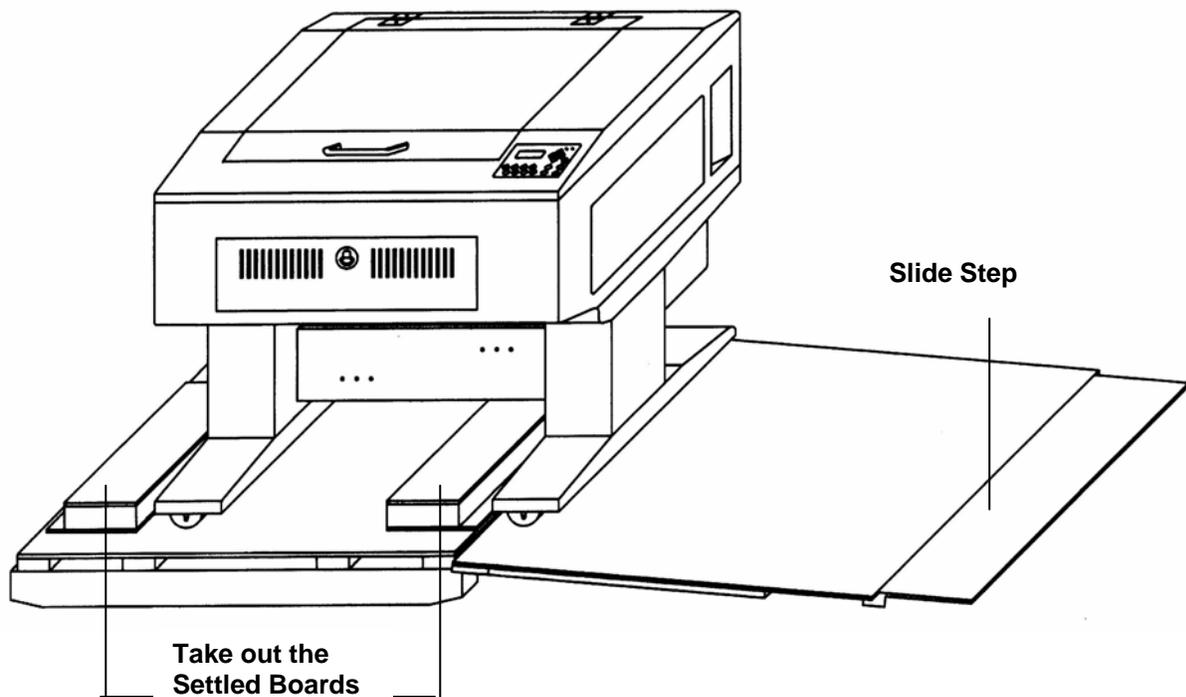


Fig. 2- 3 Unpacking and unloading



Step 4.

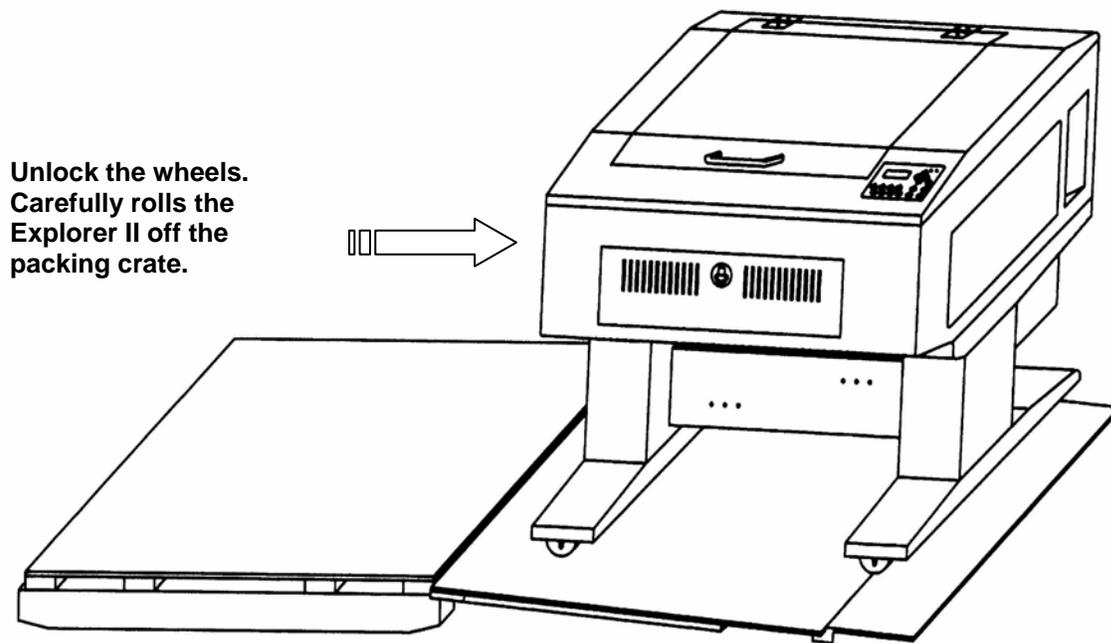


Fig. 2- 4 Unpacking and Unloading



## Power Cable Connection

If the LaserPro EXPLORER II you purchased is a 100W laser power, please have a professional technician install the power cable wiring as shown below.

Step 1. Each EXPLORER II 100W machine is equipped with the following power cord and the end of each power cord is labeled separately with G-Ground, N-Neutral, and L-Live. Notice that the two ends of the power cord has different type of connectors, O-shape and Y-shape.



Fig. 2-5 Power Cord for EXPLORER II 100W machine



Fig. 2- 6 O shaped Power Cord



Fig. 2- 7 Y-shaped Power Cord

Step 2. Unscrew the M/B cover in the right side and laser cabinet cover in the rear side of EXPLORER II.



Fig. 2- 8 Unlock the M/B Cover and Laser Cabinet Cover

Step 3. Loosen the black wiring fixing connector in counter-clockwise, insert the O-shaped power cord into the fixing connector, and then re-install to the EXPLORER II.



Fig. 2-9 Loosen the Wiring Fixing Connector



Fig. 2- 50 Insert the power cord through the power fixing connector



Fig. 2- 61 Lock and Re-install the Wiring Fixing Connector to Laser Machine

Step 4. Insert the power cord into the opening in red circle.



Fig. 2- 72 Insert the Power Cord into the Opening



Step 5. Loosen the screws on the terminal connector in the left side of laser cabinet.



Fig. 2- 83 Loosen the Screw on Terminal Connector

Step 6. Put the O shaped power cord in specified order to the terminal connector and re-install the screws to fix it.

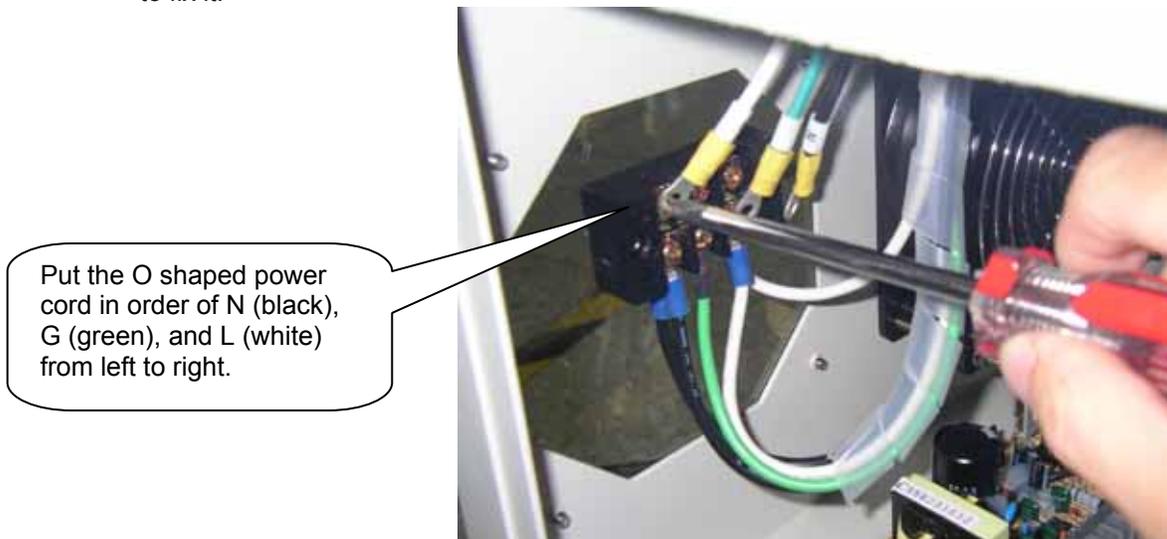


Fig. 2-14 Install the O shaped Power Cord to the Terminal Connector

Step 7. Close the M/B cover and laser cabinet cover of Explorer II to finish the power cord installation.





Fig. 2- 15 Close the M/B cover and Laser Cabinet Cover

## Accessories Kit Checklist

Please check to make sure that all of the following items have been shipped with the Explorer II

ITEM	QUANTITY
Cleaning Kit Cotton swabs Lens cleaner solution Lens tissue	1 1 1
Replacement Mirror	1
PS2 Lubrication Grease	1
Sponge	1
Hex Screw Wrench	1
2" Manual Focus Gauge (blue)	1
Origin Position Fixture	1
Tubing Connector for exhaust system unit	1
AC Power Cord	2
Printer Port Cable	1
USB Port Cable	1
CD including Explorer II user manual, driver	1
Safety Goggle	1



Engraving Sample	1
------------------	---

Table 1 Accessories checklist

## Working Environment

It is very important to choose a working location that meets the following guidelines. Improper work environments may lead to operational malfunction and/or unsafe working conditions.

The Explorer II is best suited in an office type environment. Avoid places where the machine is exposed to high temperatures, dust, or high humidity

- Keep the machine where the room temperature is between 15 – 30 degrees Celsius or 60 – 86 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Setup machine to be apart from the wall at least 60cm (2 feet).
- Avoid small, enclosed areas where a considerable amount of dust is present.
- Avoid areas where the humidity is above 70% or where the temperature is near the dew point.

Choose a flat surface that is not exposed to high levels of vibration. Be sure to lock all four of the machine's wheels to ensure that the machine remains stationary when in use.

Choose a location that is large enough to accommodate the machine, the exhaust system, the computer and a work/storage table.

- Having a separate working table or storage area prevents the operator from possibly damaging the machine or the computer.

Have a fire extinguisher close to the working location at all times.

- Make sure your smoke/fire detecting system is functioning.

**NOTE :** A great Fire Detection & Alarm System has been developed by G.C.C. Ask your LaserPro Explorer II dealer for details.



## CHAPTER III - MECHANICAL OVERVIEW

Before you unload the Explorer II and complete the installation, it is a good idea to become more familiar with the machine's features and components. You should also make note of the new features that have been developed exclusively for the LaserPro Explorer II.

### Front View

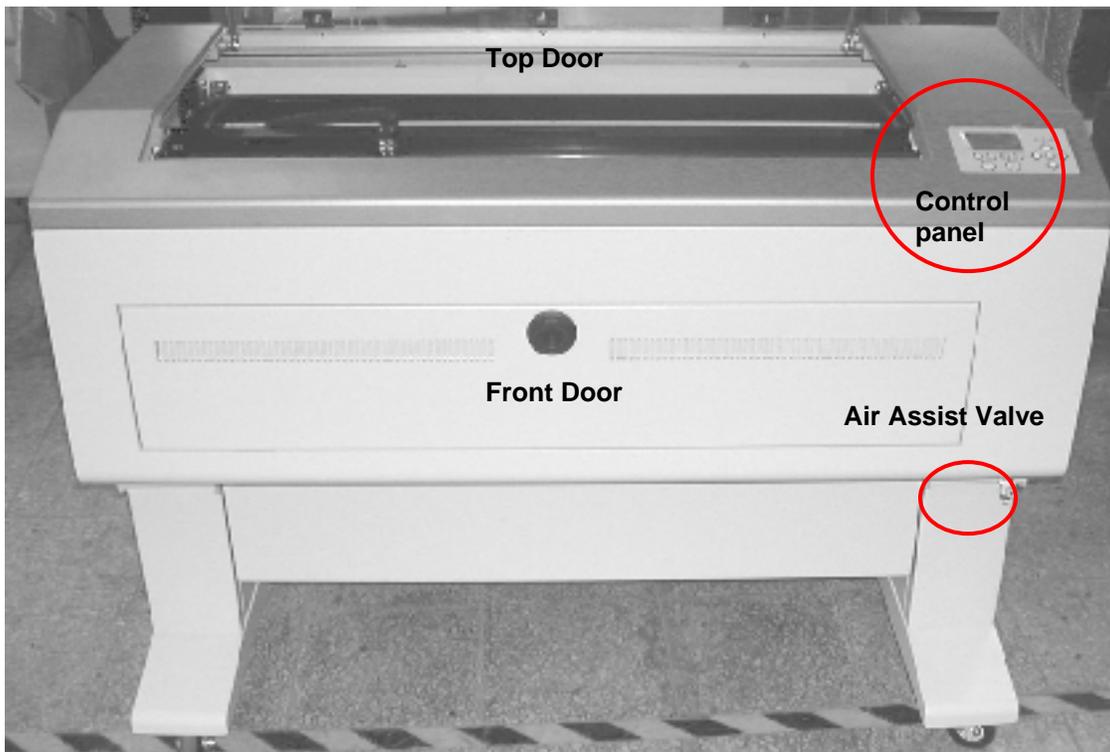


Fig. 3-1 Machine Front View

**Right Side View**

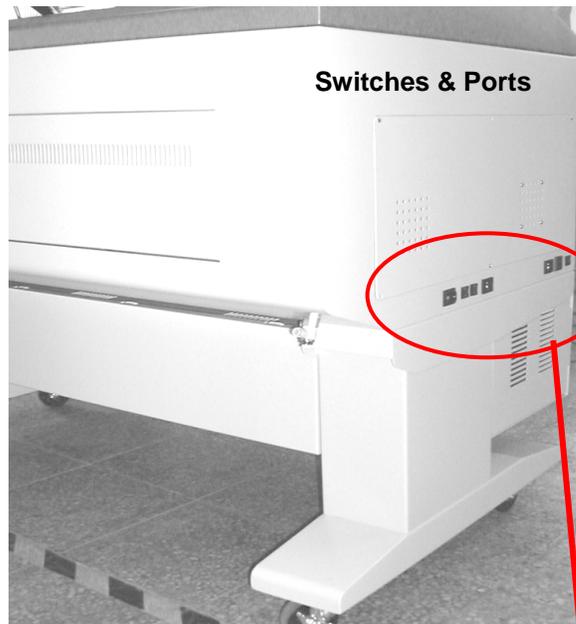


Fig. 3-2 Machine Right Side View

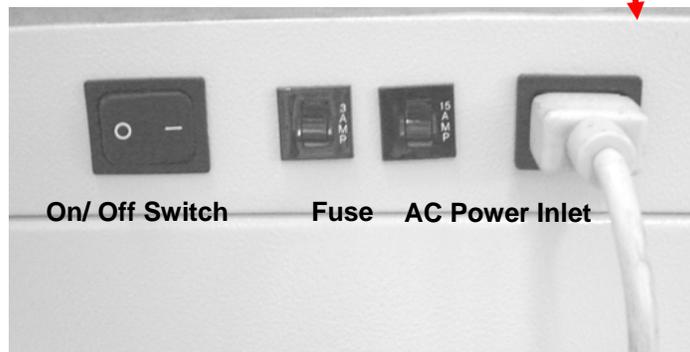


Fig. 3-3 Power Switch and Inlet



Fig. 3-4 Compressor Power

**Left Side View**



Fig. 3-5 Machine left side view

## Back View

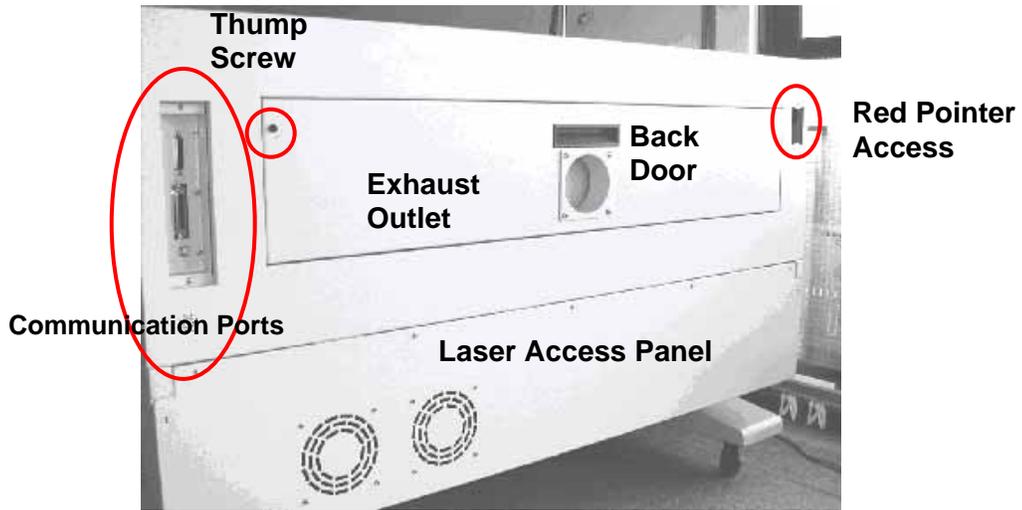


Fig. 3-6 Machine Back View

**NOTE:** 1. Never open laser access panel when machine is plugged in.

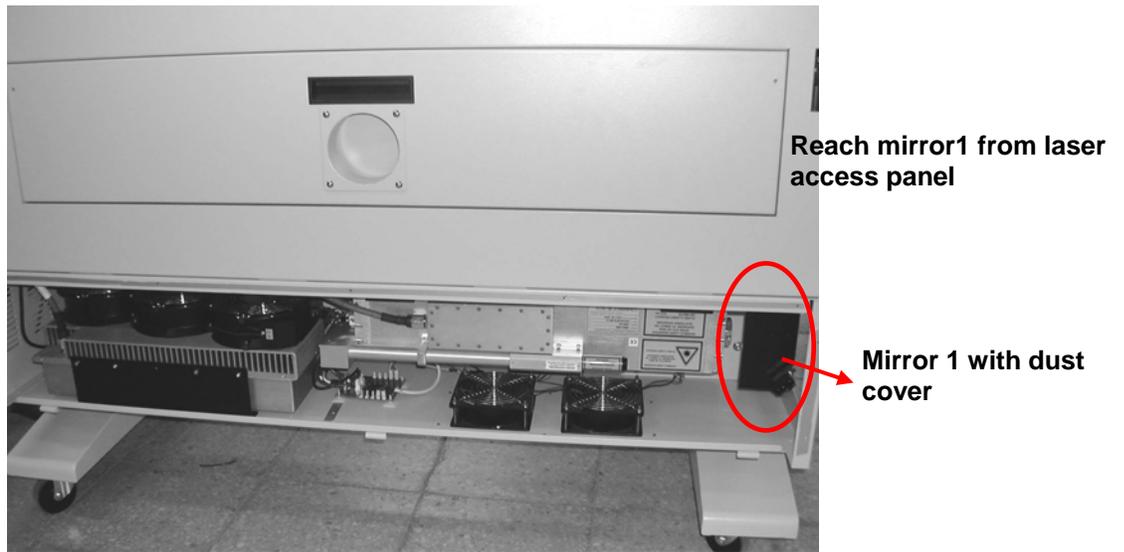


Fig. 3-7 Mirror Access





Take off the dust cover to access mirror 1

Fig. 3-8 Remove mirror 1



Fig. 3-9 Remove mirror 1



Fig. 3-10 Red Pointer Access Panel

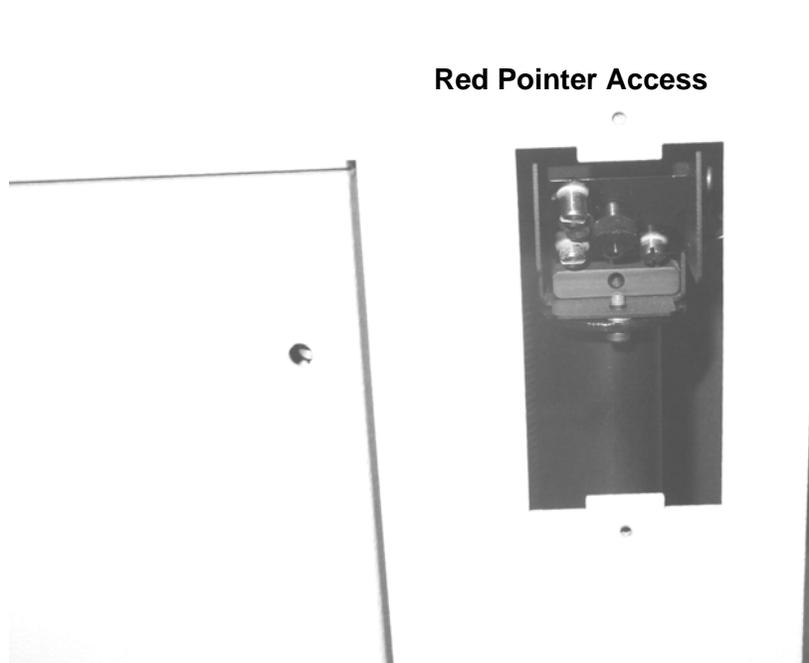


Fig. 3-11 Red Pointer Access

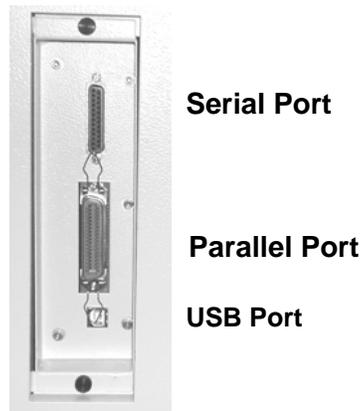


Fig. 3-12 Print Port

## Motion System & Working Table View

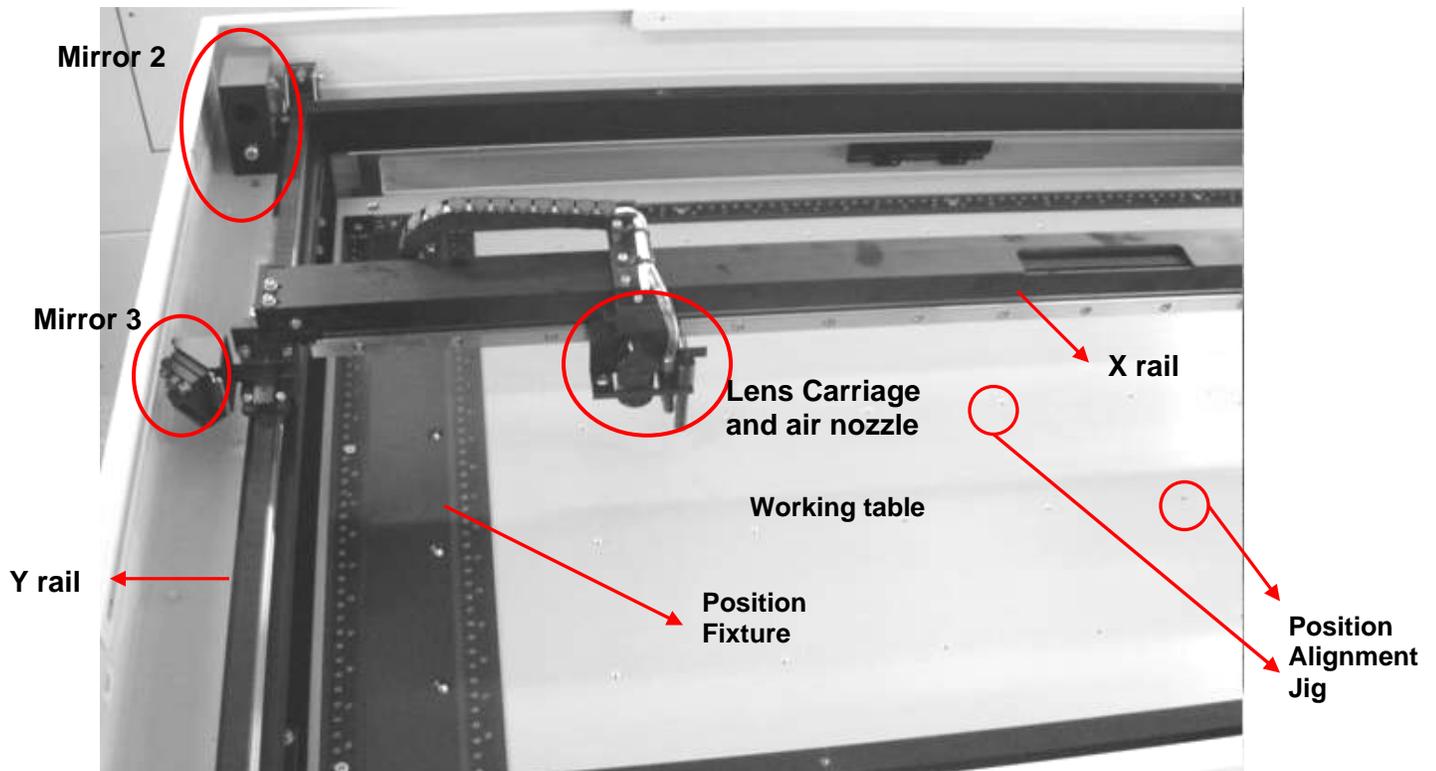


Fig. 3-13 Motion System

**NOTE :**

1. Typically the working table can load material about 65lbs./30kg, and 86lbs./40kg is the maximum.
2. The origin point of Explorer II is set at (3", 0), and the position fixture can help you to easily align the working piece with the origin.

## Focus Lens Holder Assembly



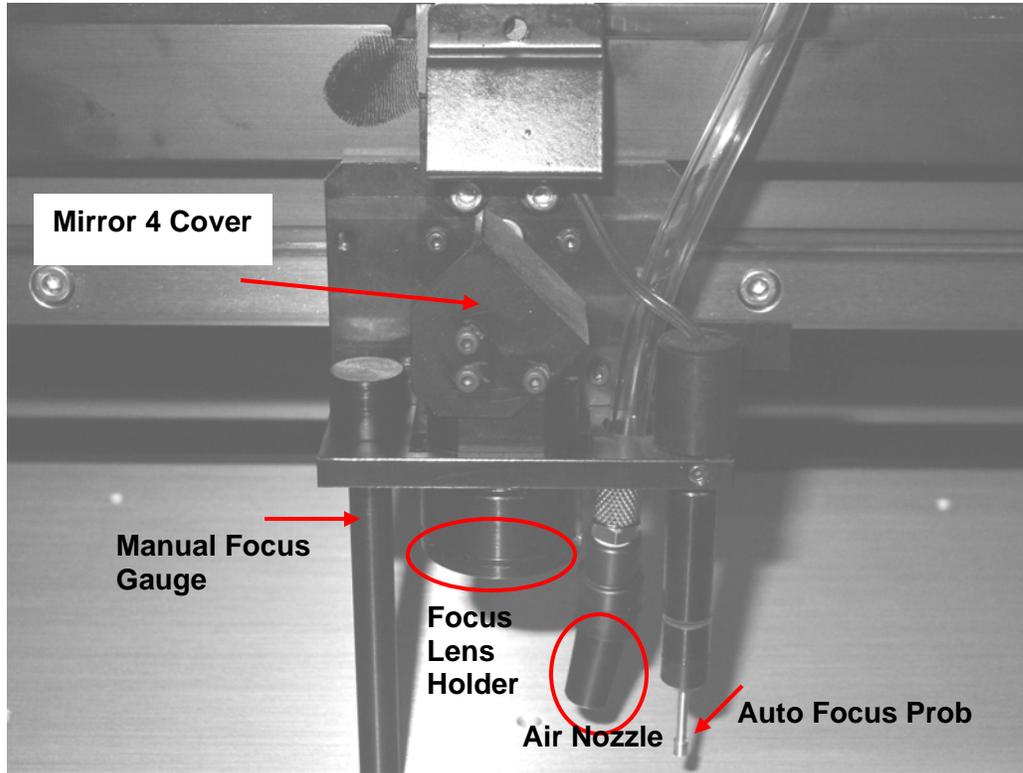


Fig. 3-14 Laser Carriage Assembly

## Manual Focus Gauge

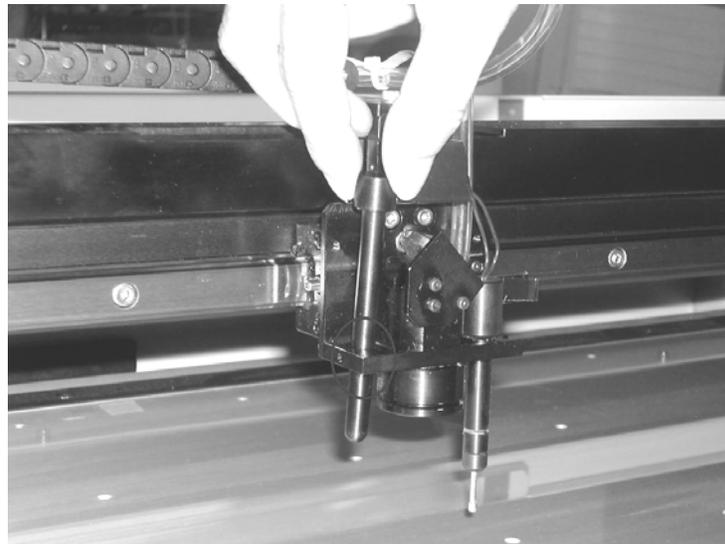


Fig. 3-15 Manual Focus Gauge

The LaserPro Explorer II comes equipped with the FOCAL SHARP™ Auto Focus Gauge for consistent, precision etching and cutting. However, certain special laser effects may require that the Auto Focus Gauge be disengaged. Blurred or fuzzy laser cutting and etching techniques require different Manual





Focus Gauges Holders to be used. The LaserPro Explorer II has three different sizes of Manual Focus Gauges Holders available: Purple, Blue, Gold, and Red. Become familiar with the cutting and etching difference between the FOCAL SHARP™, Manual Focus Gauges Holders and different Lens combinations. See Table 3-2 to find out how to use the Manual Focus Gauges Holders.

## Lenses

The LaserPro Explorer II gives you the choice of four lens sizes to best suit your cutting and engraving applications. Shorter lenses work better for most etching application, as the laser's focal point is targeted at the surface of the material. Longer lenses are more suitable for cutting applications, as the laser's focal point is targeted behind the material. The machine comes equipped with a standard 2.0" Lens, and has 1.5", 2.5" and 4.0" lenses available. The different lenses have been color coded Purple, Blue, Gold and Red to easily pair with the Manual Focus Gauges Holders.

## Manual Focus Gauge Holders and Lens Combinations

		Focus Lens Holder	Manual Focus Gauge	Resolution	Cutting Capability
1.5"	Optional	Purple	Purple	High	Thin
2.0"	Standard	Blue	Blue		
2.5"	Optional	Gold	Gold	↑	↓
4.0"	Optional	Red	Red	Low	Thick

Table 2 Manual Focus Holders and Lens



## Exhaust System Installation

To properly remove dust, vaporized materials and smoke from the materials and the machine, it is necessary to install a suitable exhaust system. Such a system will remove these potentially harmful contaminants from the machine and the work area. An exhaust system is not included with the machine. However, the exhaust blower and other components are readily available from your LaserPro Explorer II dealer or nearest industrial supply company.

Install exhaust blower on the outside of the building close to the working location of the Explorer II. Mount the blower on the roof or on a cement pad next to the building.

**NOTE:** It is useful to wire the exhaust blower to a wall switch adjacent to the machine.

Attach an air duct from the exhaust blower to an appropriate hole through the wall or ceiling. Use a rigid, smooth walled tubing such as PVC or sheet metal that is the same diameter as the exhaust blower opening. Try to keep this tubing as straight as possible as bends reduce the exhaust efficiency. Use the appropriate sized clamps and sealants to ensure proper attachment.

In an easily accessible location, install a shut off gate to the exhaust blower tubing. This gate restricts outside air and dust from gaining access to the machine when not in use. It is highly recommended for cold and/or humid climates.

For exhaust blowers that have larger than a 4" diameter outlet, install an appropriate reducing coupler. The Explorer II requires tubing that is 4" in diameter.

Locate the exhaust outlet in the back door of the Explorer II. This needs to be reversed in order to be of use. Using a #2 Phillips screwdriver, unscrew the outlet; reverse it so that the flange is facing outward and reattach. (see fig. 3-16 & fig. 3-17)



Fig. 3-16 Exhaust Outlet





Fig. 3-17 Exhaust System Installation

From the reducing coupler to the Explorer II, use 4" diameter flexible rubber tubing. Attach with proper hose clamps.

## Air Assist System Installation

One of the great features of the LaserPro Explorer II is the Air Assist System. This system removes much of the heat, vaporized particles and dust from the inside of the machine. Using an exterior air compressor and ¼" tubing, the Air Assist System safely blows heat and excess particles from the working table to the exhaust outlet, allowing the exhaust system and the machine itself to function more effectively. Follow the steps below to correctly install the Air Assist System.

Use an air compressor capable of handling ¼" tubing to power the Air Assist System. An electric air compressor can be plugged into the Explorer II's auxiliary power outlet.

**NOTE:** To take advantage of Explorer II's computer controlled Air Assist System, plug the compressor into the AC Power Outlet on the side panel of the machine.

Use enough flexible ¼" tubing to connect from the air compressor to the Explorer II's air assist valve. The valve is located at the lower right-hand side of the front of the machine.

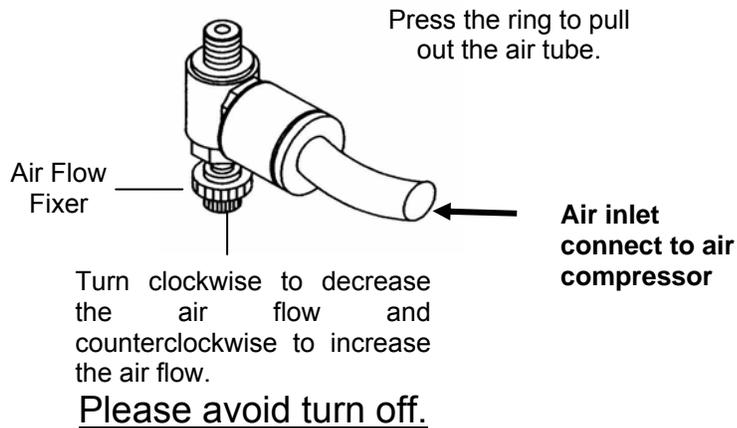


Fig. 3-18 Air Assist Installation

Push the ¼" tubing into the Air Flow valve. Pull on the tubing to make sure that it is locked into place. The outer ring of the valve needs to be pushed in before the tubing can be disengaged. **NOTE:** It is important that the ¼" tubing has clean, straight cuts on each end. Any jagged or slanted cuts will not produce a good seal between the tubing and the valve. Use a sharp knife on a flat surface to ensure a proper cut.

Open the Air Flow valve. The valve has a dial that allows and restricts airflow. To avoid damage to the air compressor, never fully close the Air Flow valve. Adjust the valve to find the setting that is best for each application. (See fig. 3-19)

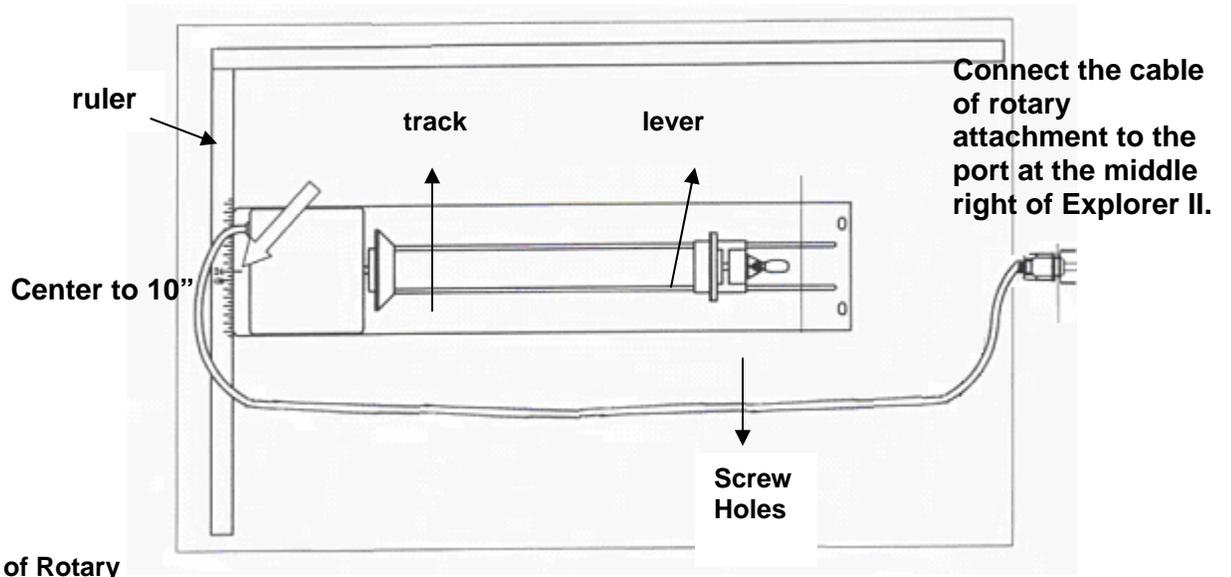


Fig. 3-19 Air Assist Installation



Test the Air Assist System. Turn on the air compressor and make sure that the Air Flow valve is open. The air nozzle located near the Auto Focus Gauge should emit a steady flow of air. If the Air Assist System is not functioning properly, double-check the installation steps. If the system is still not working properly, consult your Explorer II dealer.

## Rotary Attachment Installation and Operation



Instruction of Rotary

Front Door

Fig. 3-20 Rotary Attachment Top View



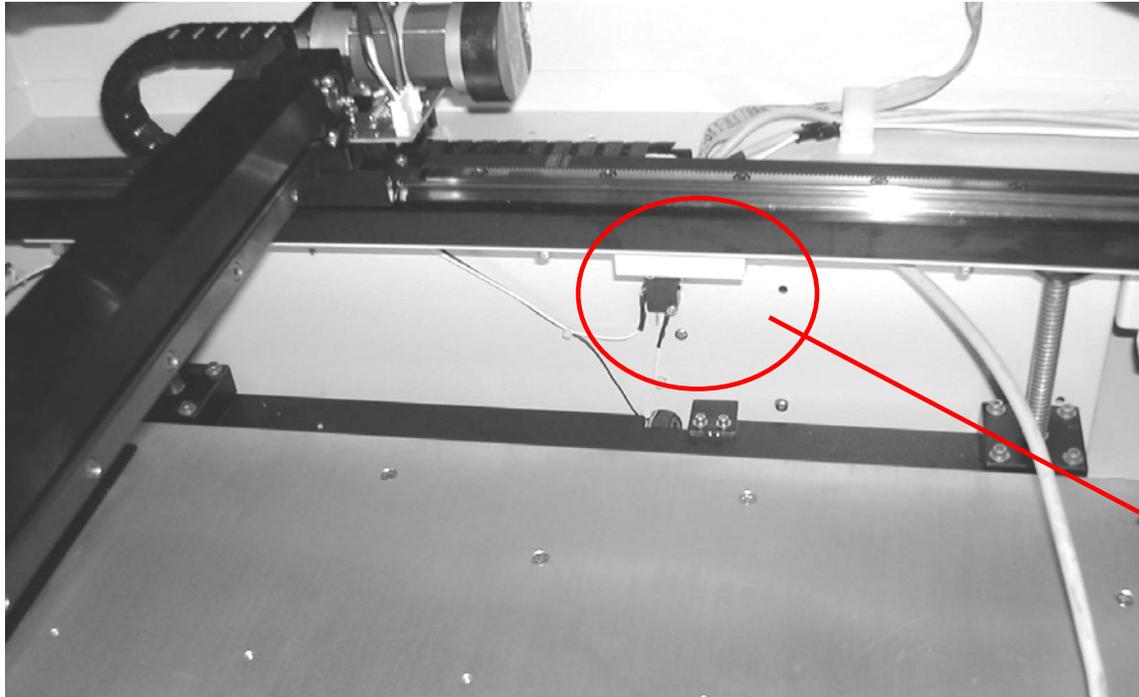


Fig. 3-21 Rotary Attachment Installation

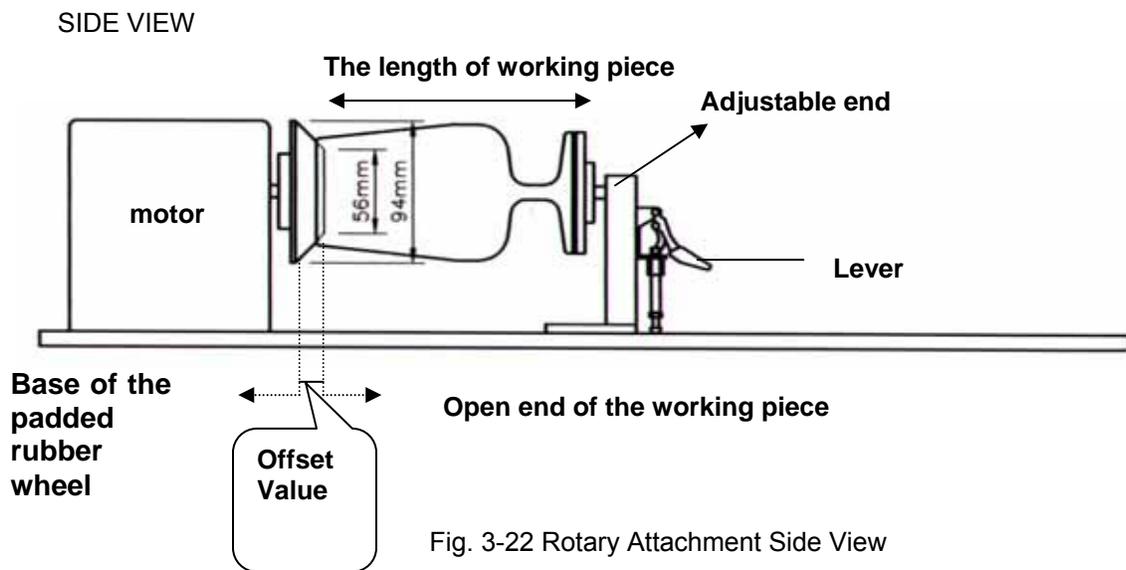


Fig. 3-22 Rotary Attachment Side View

**Installation:**

Turn off the power of the engraver.

Put the rotary attachment to the working table of Explorer II. Ensure the two screw holes match the two corresponding position jig on the engraving table and have the left side of rotary attachment align to the 10 inch position on the ruler (or position fixture), then tighten the screws to fix it.

Connect the cable of the rotary attachment to the port in the right middle side of Explorer II (refer to Fig. 3-21).



Turn on Explorer II, the working table would automatically move down to the lowest position when it senses rotary attachment connected.

**NOTE:** The maximum length of the working project is 450 mm (17.71 inch). The maximum diameter of the padded rubber wheel is 94 mm. To get an accurate engraving position during rotating, it is better that the diameter of the working piece is not smaller than 90mm (3.54 inch). However, the maximum diameter of the loaded object is 180mm and the limited loading weight is 7 Kg (15.4 Lb.).

## Operation

Measure the diameter and length of the working piece and set up the software operation before engraving. Lift the lever, loading the working piece, move the adjustable end to bottom of the working piece firmly, then lower down the lever to fix the object.

If the working piece is too small, please apply 4-inch focus lens for operation to prevent collision between lens carriage and rotary attachment device.

Turn on Explorer II. Explorer II would detect the rotary attachment and the working table would move down to the bottom automatically along with Explorer II would initialize to the home position at the same time.

Set up focus.

**NOTE:** Set up focus after initializing the system to prevent the carriage hit the engraving object.

The following is an example of engraving process by using CorelDRAW V.9.0 or higher version with LaserPro Explorer II XP driver.

Choose FILE and select PRINT SETUP (see fig. 3-23)

Choose LaserPro Explorer II and click PROPERTIES to enter Explorer II driver setup

Choose PAPER section and check ROTARY FIXTURE (see Fig. 3-24)

Key in proper DIAMETER, PAPER SIZE and OFFSET values

Press OK to confirm the setting

Go to LAYOUT function of Corel Draw and choose PAGE SETUP (Refer to Chapter VI Software Operation for PAGE SETUP)

Under page setup page, choose SET FROM PRINTER and then check LANDSCAPE

Press OK to finish the setting

Go to start laser engraving by going to FILE→ PRINT→choose Explorer II→ PROPERTIES (Refer to Chapter VI Software Operation for LaserPro Explorer II driver parameters setting)

Set up desired laser engraving parameters such as speed, power etc.

Press OK to start laser working

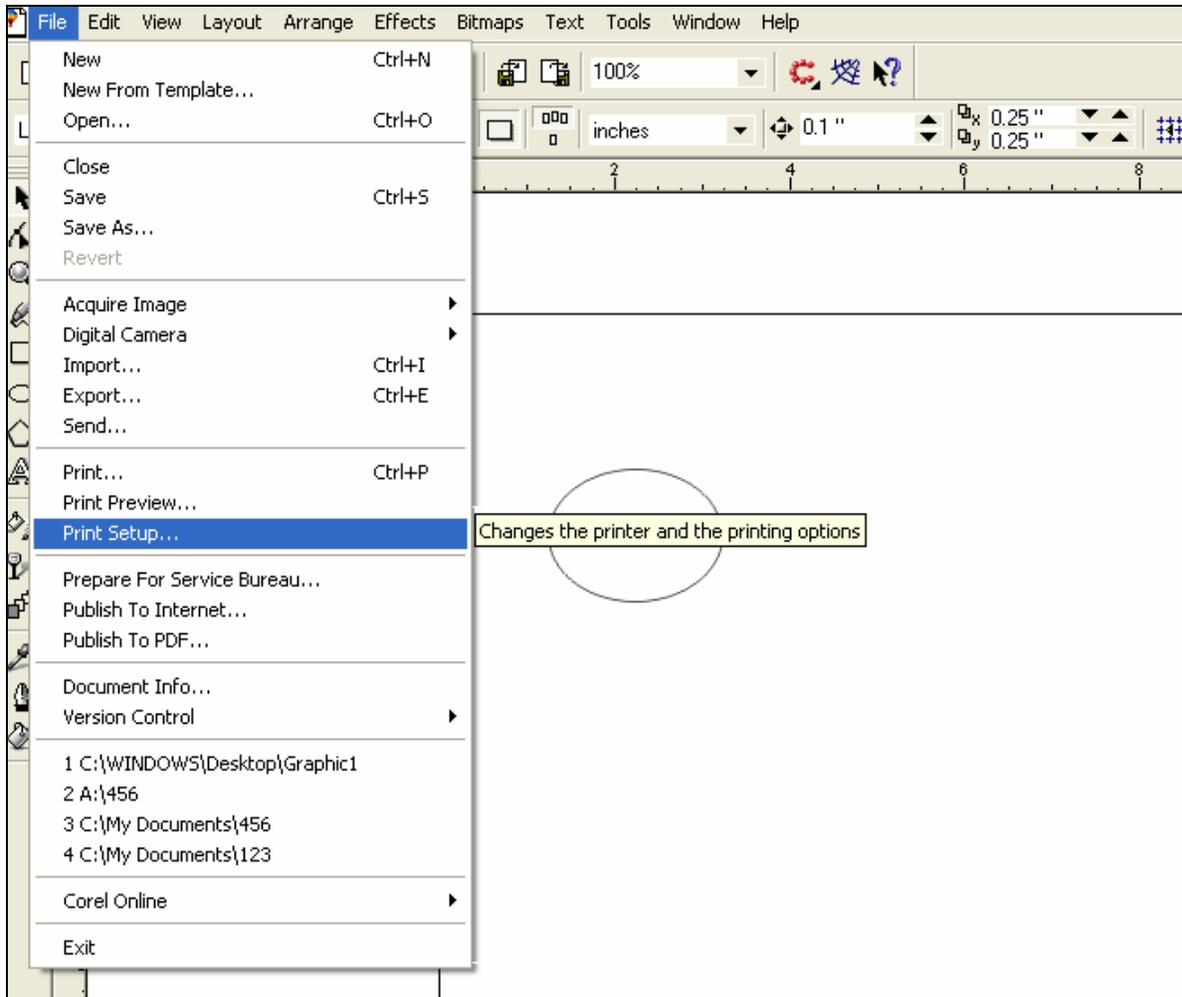
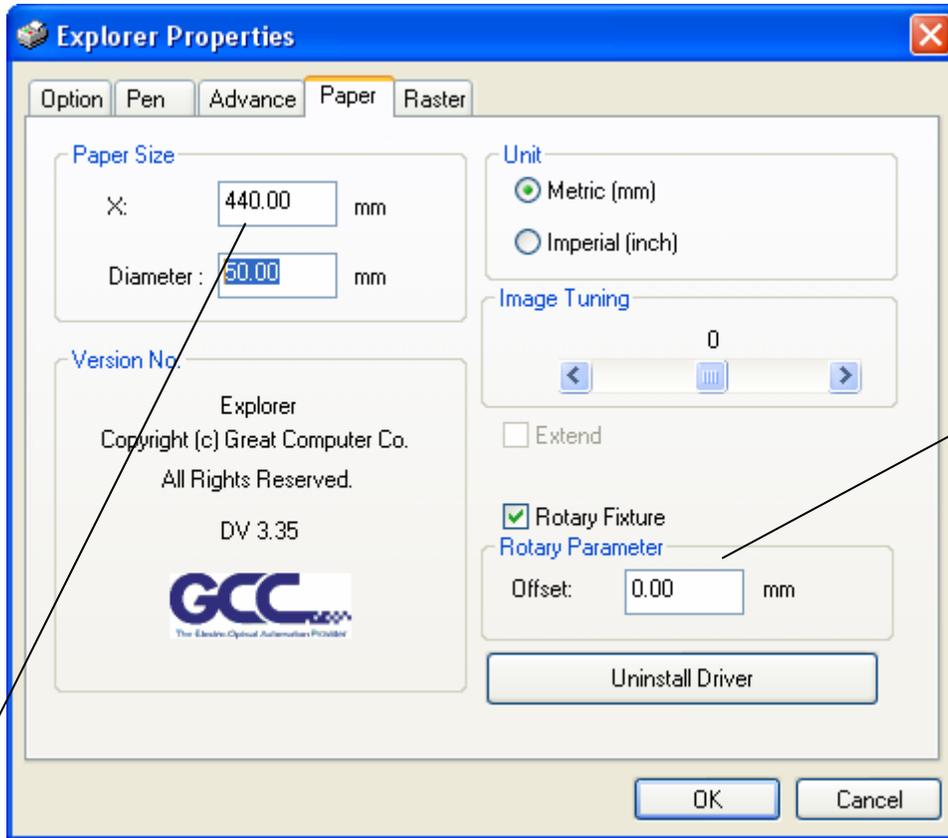


Fig. 3-23 Rotary Attachment Software Operation



Please key in proper offset value after measuring the working piece.

Fig. 3-24 Rotary Attachment Software Operation

- Key in proper diameter value after measuring the working piece.
- The X value here means the length of the working piece

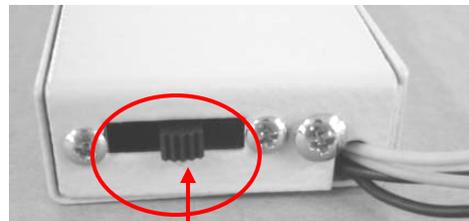
## SmartGUARD Fire Alarm

From fig.3-25, you would find the reset button on the top of SmartGUARD and sensor adjustment switch on the right side. The reset button enables you to reset the SmartGUARD when it senses the fire and warns you by beeping. The sensor adjustment switch provides you four options, 0, 1, 2, and 3. 0 represents turning off the SmartGUARD, and 13 represents different reaction times once SmartGUARD senses fire. If you switch it to 1st level, SmartGUARD would automatically shut down the laser and alert at the same time when it senses fire lasting for 1second, 2nd level is for 4 seconds, and 3rd for 8 seconds.

Sensor adjustment switch level	Reaction time
1 <sup>st</sup> level	1 second
2 <sup>nd</sup> level	4 seconds
3 <sup>rd</sup> level	8 seconds



**Reset button**



**Sensor adjustment switch**

Fig. 3-25 SmartGUARD Fire Alarm Review

Because SmartGUARD is an optional item of Explorer II, if you purchase it for Explorer II after getting Explorer II, you would need to follow the instruction listed below to install the fire alarm.

Step 1.

Please attach SmartGUARD underneath the front center of top cover (see fig. 3-26). Please arrange the wires along the cover and fix it appropriately.



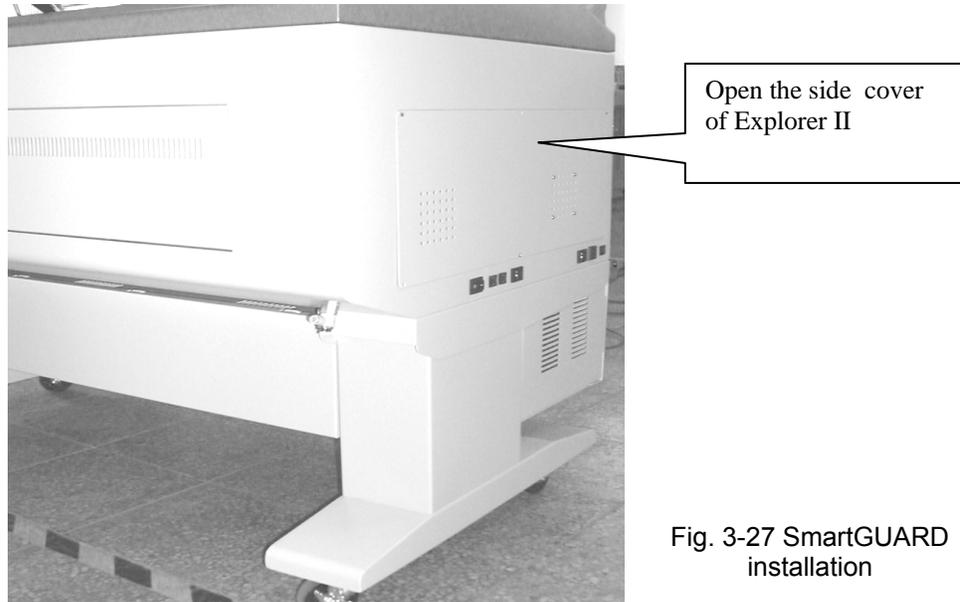
Attach SmartGUARD beneath here

Fig. 3-26 Install the SmartGUARD beneath here

Step 2.



Open the right side cover of the Explorer II as indicated in fig. 3-27.



Step 3.

Feed the wires of SmartGUARD through the “A” opening next to the Y axis on the right side of Explorer II (see fig. 3-28)

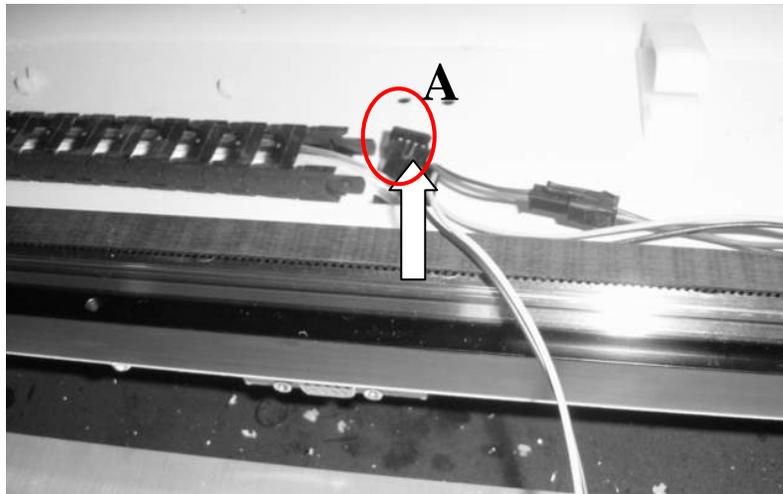


Fig. 3-28 SmartGUARD Installation

Step 4.

Apply SmartGUARD power control board (the green board in fig. 3-30) to Explorer II with M3 screws. Fit the M1 and M3 openings on SmartGUARD power control board to the two posts on Explorer II mother board separately (see fig. 3-29).

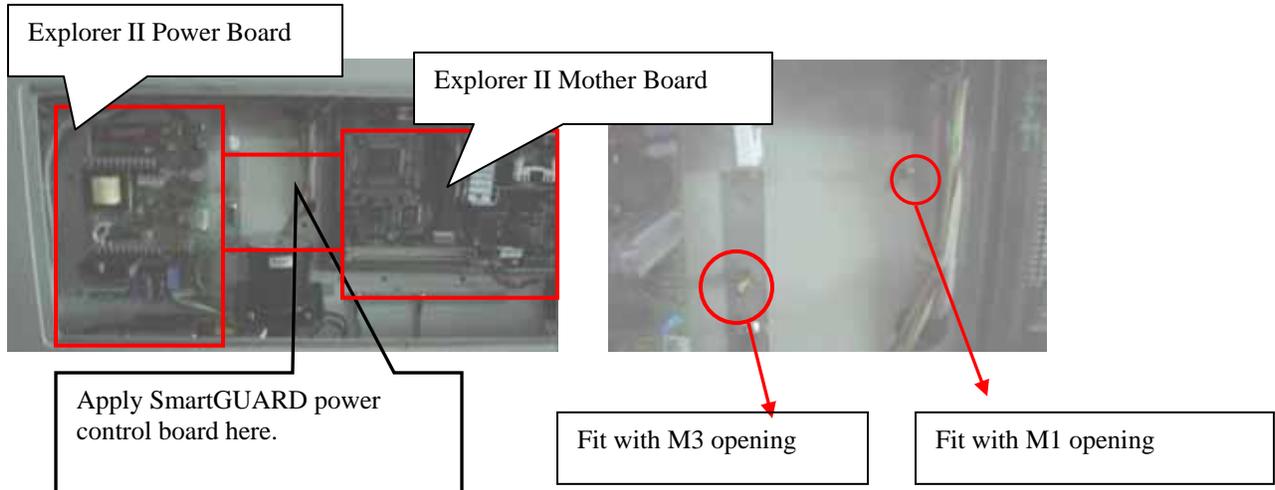


Fig. 3-29 SmartGUARD Installation



Fig. 3-30 SmartGUARD Installation

Step 5.

Connect the yellow wire of SmartGUARD to the JP2 connector on SmartGUARD power control board. (see fig. 3-31 )

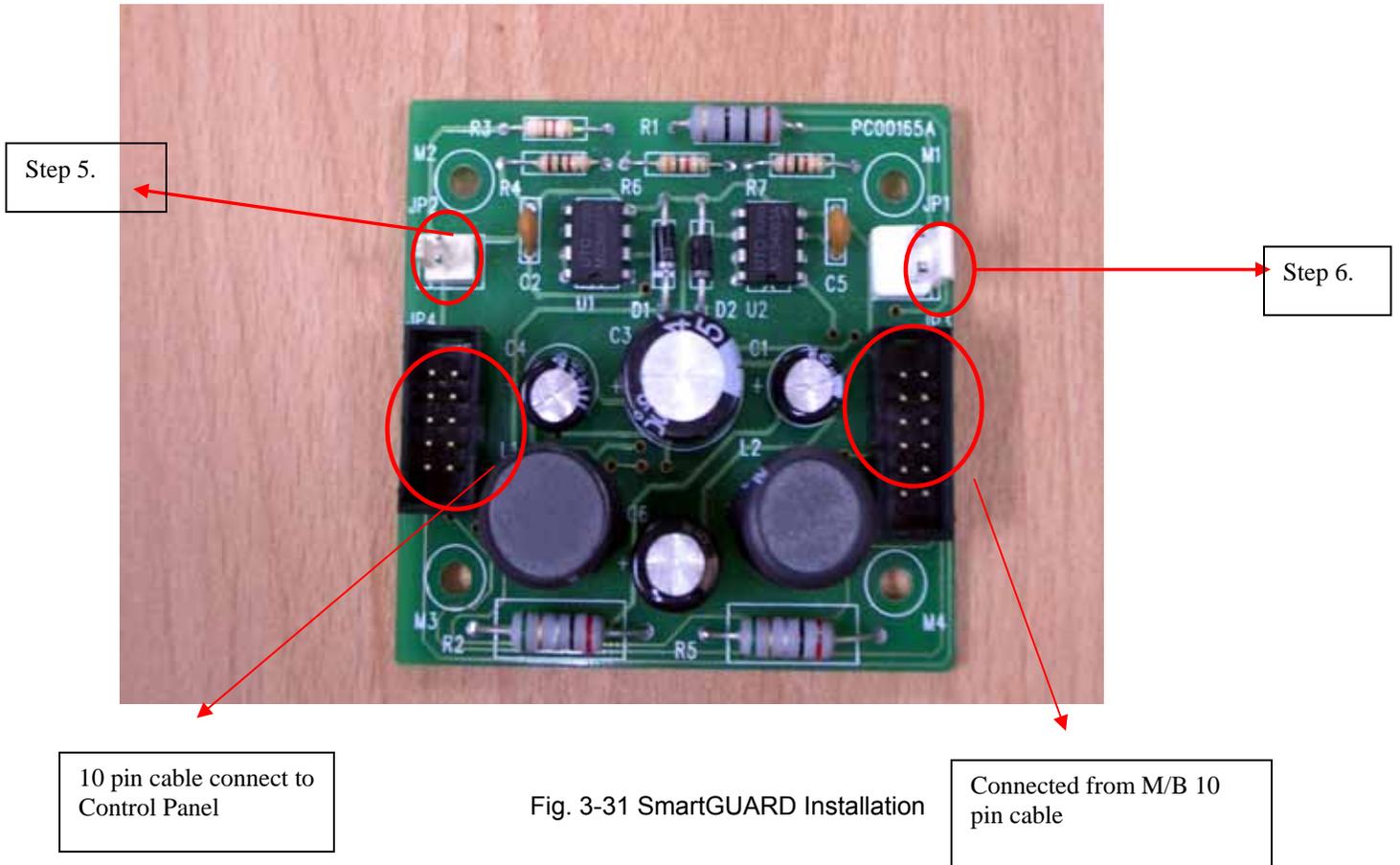


Fig. 3-31 SmartGUARD Installation

Step 6.

Connect the yellow wire with white head on Explorer II power board to the JP1 connector on SmartGUARD power control board. (see fig. 3-31 )

Step 7.

Connect the green wire of SmartGUARD to the connector on the Explorer II mother board. (see fig. 3-32)

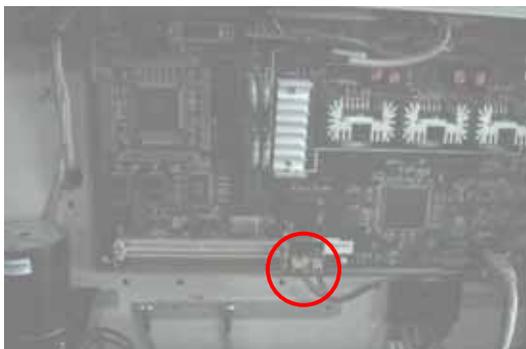


Fig. 3-32 SmartGUARD Installation

Step 8.

Assemble the side cover of Explorer II with screws to finish SmartGUARD installation.

Step 9.

Turn on Explorer II and it would initiate fire alarm function automatically.

## CHAPTER IV - SOFTWARE INSTALLATION

### Recommended Computer Configuration and Setup

The LaserPro Explorer II is able to accommodate Windows operating systems with the following minimum requirements.

#### Computer

- CPU Pentium 90 (or equivalent) or greater
- DRAM 32 MB RAM and upgrade to 64MB
- FDD One 3.5" 1.44 MB Floppy Disk Drive
- HDD 1.2 GB Hard Drive or greater
- SVGA 15" Super VGA Monitor
- On Board Parallel Mode (Setup from PC BIOS):
  - ✓ SPP – Preferred Mode
  - ✓ ECP – Cable (Less than 1.8 meters)

#### Scanner

- Flatbed scanner only
- Minimum resolution: 200 DPI

#### Software

- GCC LaserPro Explorer II driver is designed for Windows 95 or newer operating system

**NOTE:** Win 95 and NT do not support USB port.

- Explorer II is compatible with any graphic design program that can output HPGL commands. (CorelDRAW, Adobe Photoshop, AutoCAD, Illustrator, etc.)

### Connecting the LaserPro Explorer II to the Computer

- Make sure that the Explorer II and computer are turned off before connecting them to a power source.
- Connect the male of the power cord to a good quality surge protector then the surge protector into a grounded outlet.
- Connect the female end of the power cord into the machine's AC Power Inlet (main) located on the side of the machine.

**NOTE:** The Explorer II has been designed to switch from 100 – 240 VAC automatically.

- The Explorer II can communicate with a computer using either a parallel or USB port.

**NOTE:** Explorer II is not support Macintosh computer through serial port yet. Please contact with your dealer for update.

### Installation of the USB Driver (Using Windows)

**NOTE:**



1. Please install USB driver before install Explorer II print driver.
2. Please do not plug USB cable to the PC until finishing the USB driver and Explorer II print driver installation.

STEP 1: Open computer and insert the LaserPro CD. Please keep Explorer II off at this moment.

STEP 2: Choose **Explorer II** → **USB Driver** icon to start USB driver auto run program (see fig. 4-1)



Fig. 4-1 USB Driver Installation

STEP 3: The USB driver auto run program will remove the original USB driver version from your computer, before install the updated USB driver, please click **YES**. (fig. 4-2)





Fig. 4-2 USB Driver Installation

STEP 4: Start to install Explorer II print driver.

## Installation of the LaserPro Explorer II driver (Using Windows)

STEP 1: Put LaserPro compact disk into your computer

STEP 2: Choose **Explorer II** → **LaserPro Driver** to start the printer installation wizard (see fig. 4-3)



Fig. 4-3 Print Driver Installation

STEP 3: Double click **ADD PRINTER** and start the **ADD PRINTER WIZARD**

STEP 4: Click **NEXT STEP** (see fig. 4-4)



Fig. 4-4 Print Driver Installation

STEP 5: Choose **LOCAL PRINTER** and click **NEXT STEP** (see fig. 4-5)

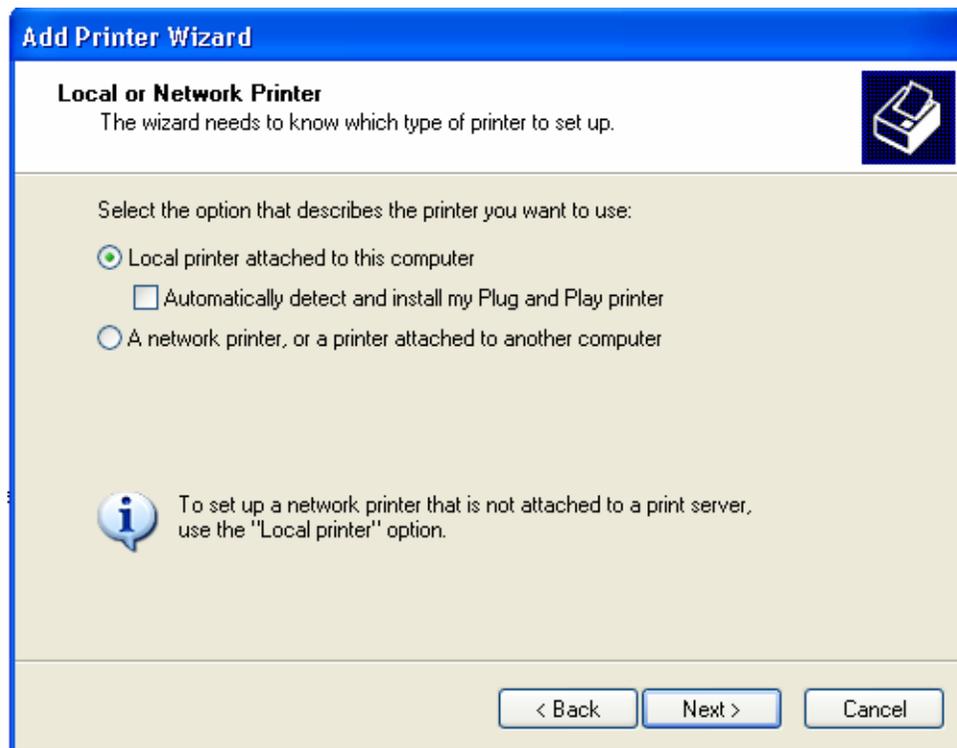


Fig. 4-5 Print Driver Installation



STEP 6: Insert the LaserPro Explorer II driver disk into the compact disk reader.

STEP 7: Select a Printer Port, and choose **NEXT STEP**. (see fig. 4-6)

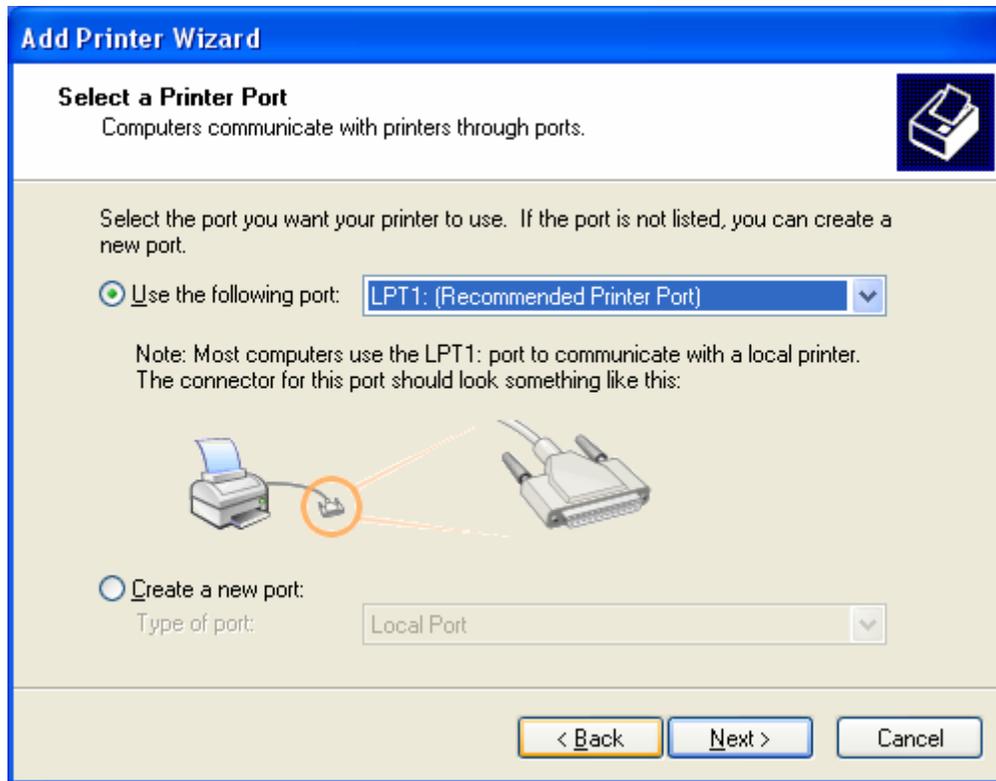


Fig. 4-6 Print Driver Installation

STEP 8: Select your system or bypass (see fig. 4-7)

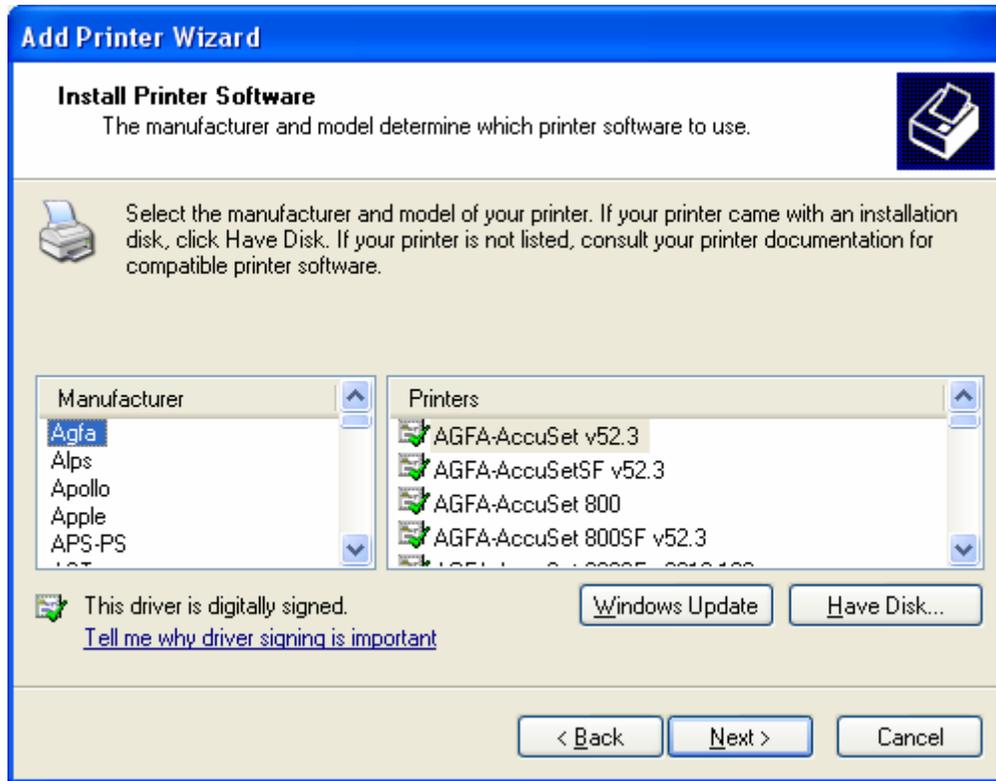


Fig. 4-7 Print Driver Installation

STEP 9: Select the port that the machine is connected to and click **OK** (see fig. 4-8)

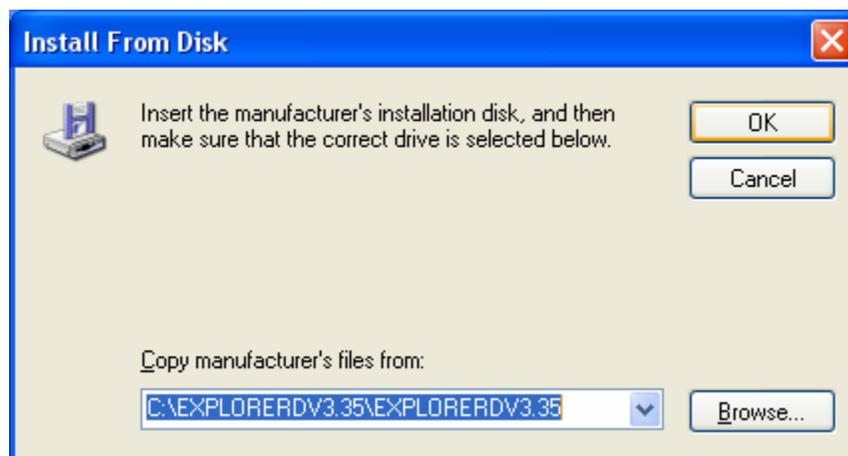


Fig. 4-8 Print Driver Installation



STEP 10: Choose Explorer II to be the default printer and click **NEXT STEP** (see fig. 4-9)

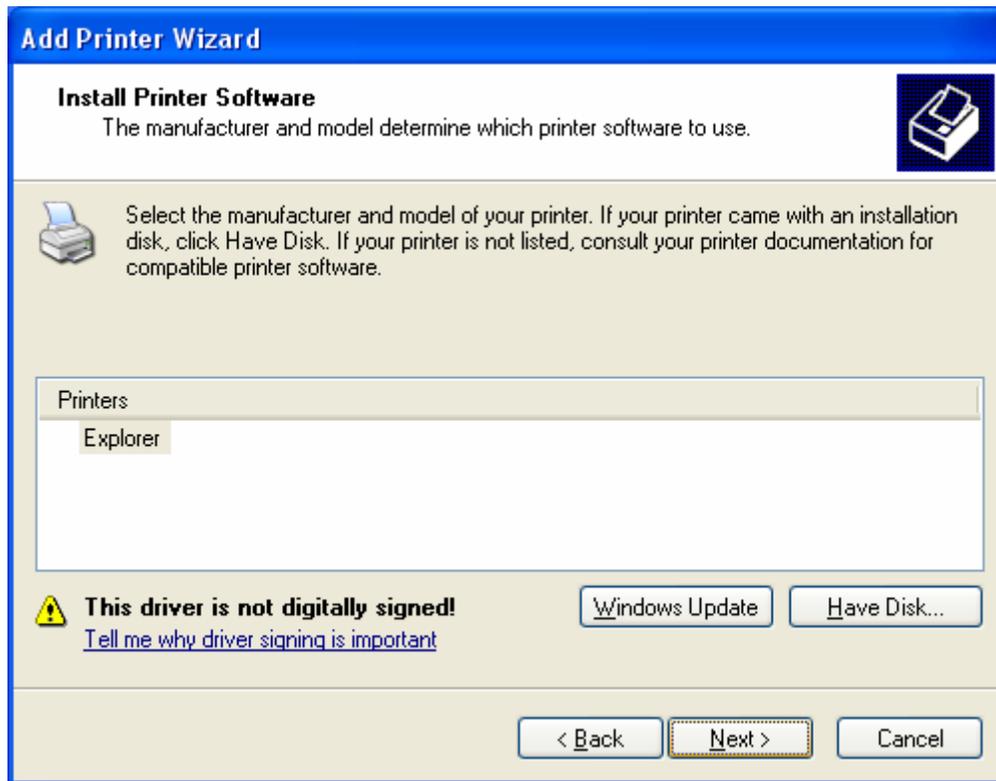


Fig. 4-9 Print Driver Installation

STEP 11: Select **Replace existing driver** and click **NEXT STEP** (see fig. 4-10)

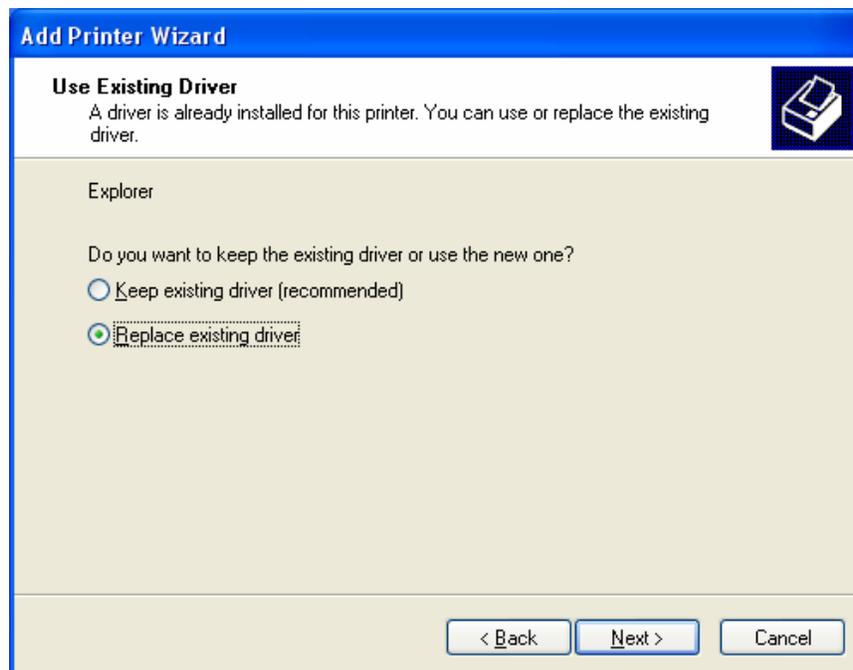


Fig. 4-10 Print Driver Installation

STEP 12: Input Printer name **Explorer II**, select **NO** if you don't want to use this printer as the default printer and click **NEXT STEP** (see fig. 4-11)

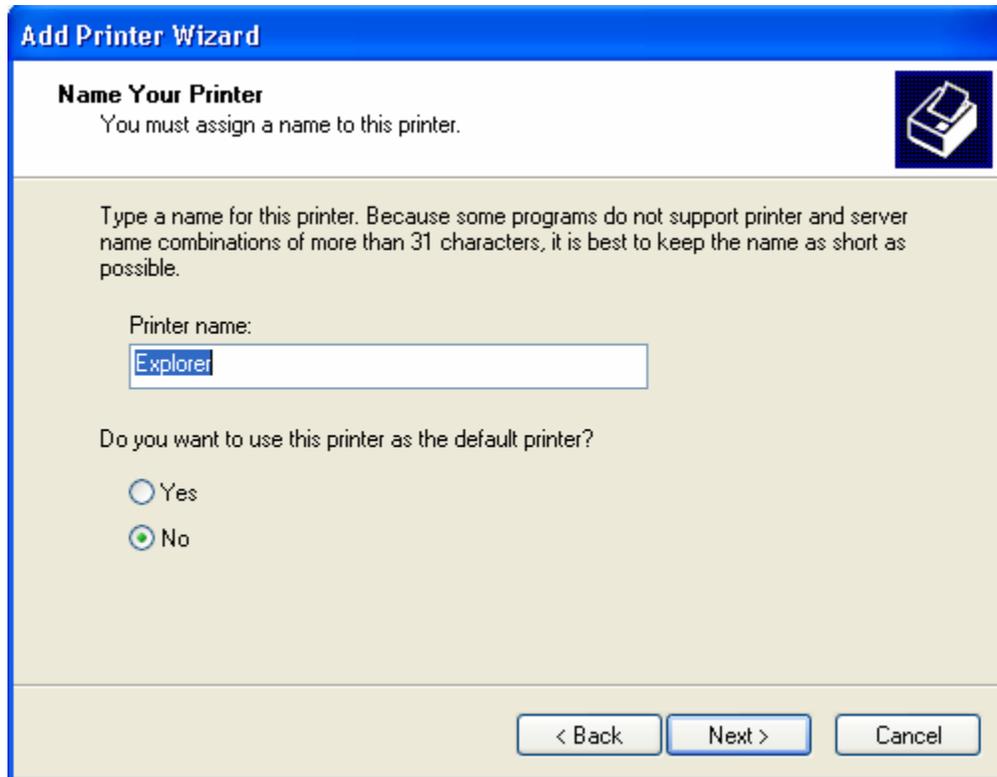


Fig. 4-11 Print Driver Installation

STEP 13: Select **Do not share this printer** and click **NEXT STEP** (see fig. 4-12)

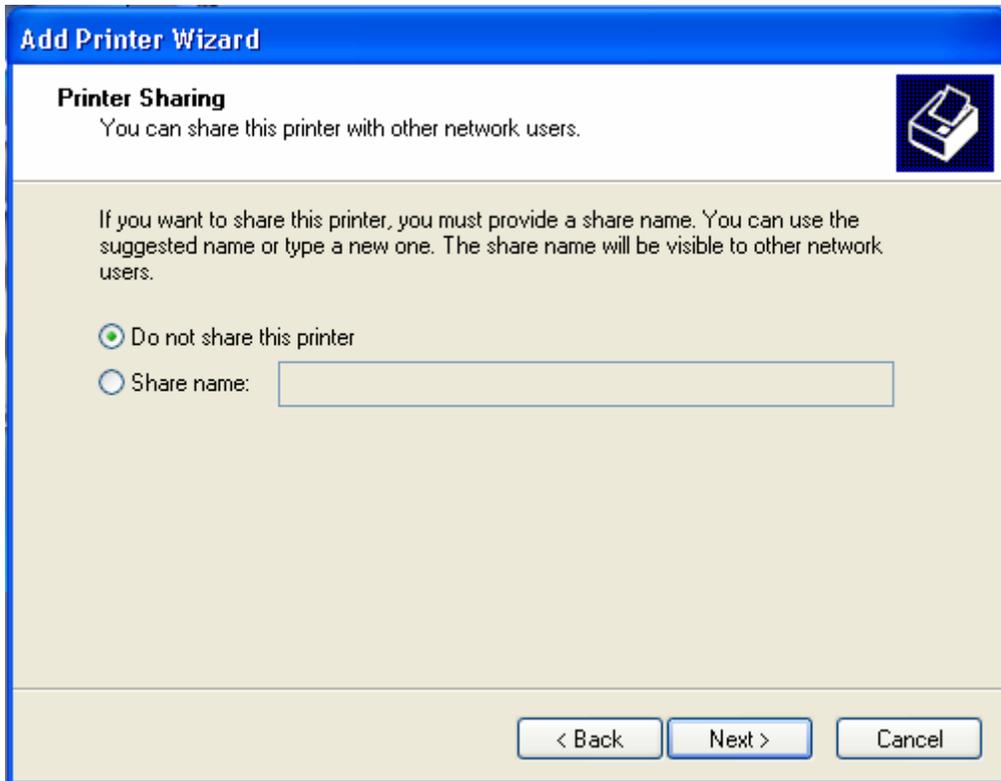


Fig. 4-12 Print Driver Installation

STEP 14: Select **NO** when asked to print a test page and click **NEXT STEP** (see fig. 4-13)

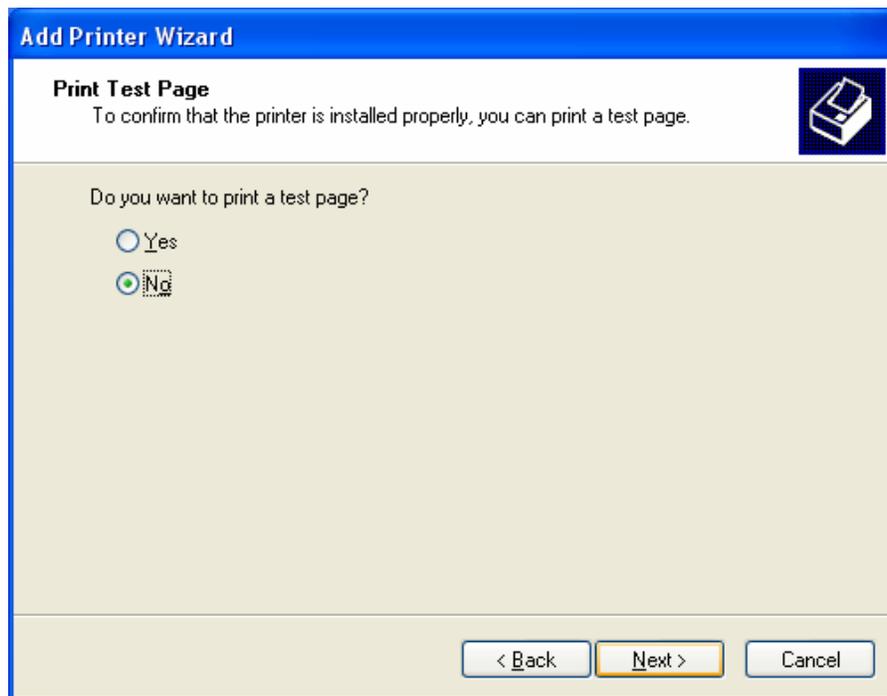


Fig 4-13 Print Driver Installation

STEP 15: Click **FINISH** to complete the Add Printer Wizard (see fig. 4-14)

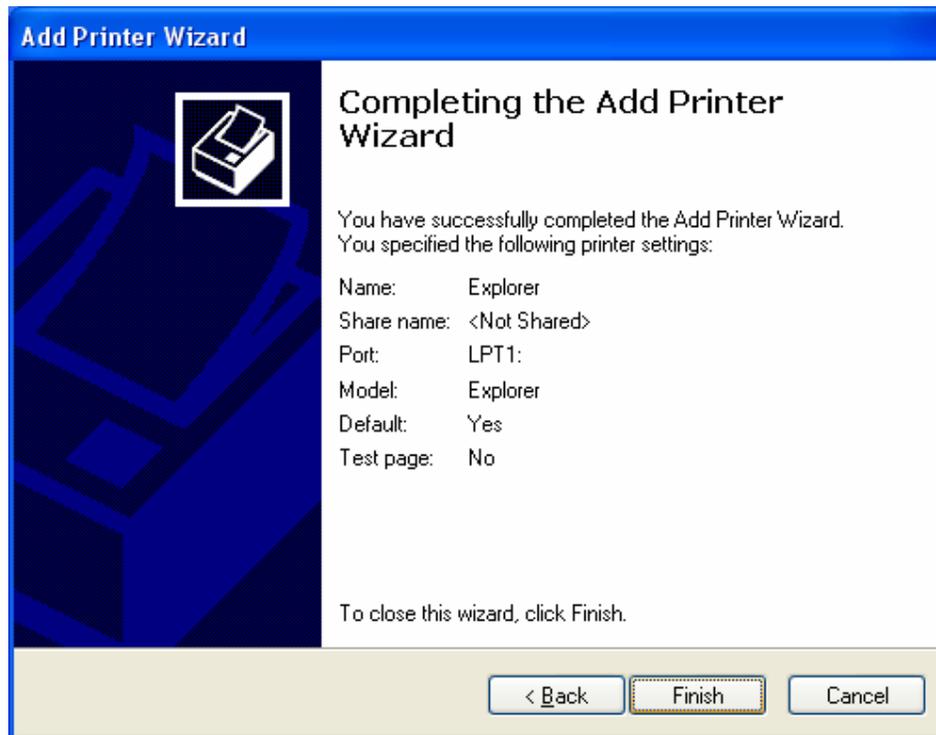


Fig 4-14 Print Driver Installation

STEP 16: Click **Continue Anyway** to set up the driver (see fig. 4-15)



Fig 4-15 Print Driver Installation

STEP17: Now the LaserPro Explorer II print driver is successfully installed. Don't forget to remove the driver disk from the computer and store it in a safe place.



STEP 18: Go to the Printers and Faxes and choose the Explorer II printer by click right mouse button to open the printer property.

STEP19: Go to the Ports, and choose the GCCUSB0 to enable the USB transmission, and click OK to finish the installation. (see fig. 4-16)

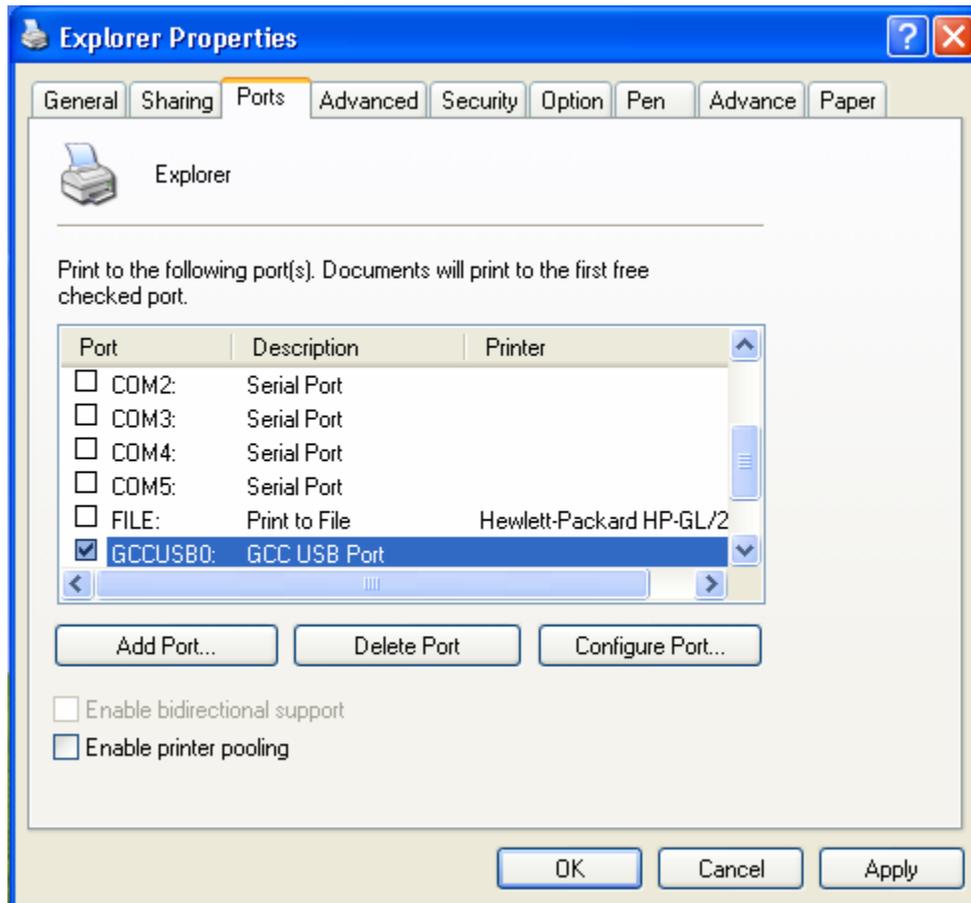


Fig 4-16 Print Driver Installation

## CHAPTER V - MACHINE OPERATION

### Graphic Control Panel Operation

Once you have the LaserPro Explorer II connected to the computer and the driver installed, you will need to familiarize yourself with the controls of the machine before beginning any cutting or engraving. The Explorer II driver will be the primary sources of information for your machine. However, the manual controls on the Explorer II allow you to manipulate the file order, auto/manual focusing, starting point and other important tasks.

### The Control Panel

The control panel on the LaserPro Explorer II provides easy access to all of the manual controls needed for cutting and engraving. The liquid crystal display (LCD), directional and selection buttons make navigating through the machine's manual controls easy to do. (See fig. 5-1)

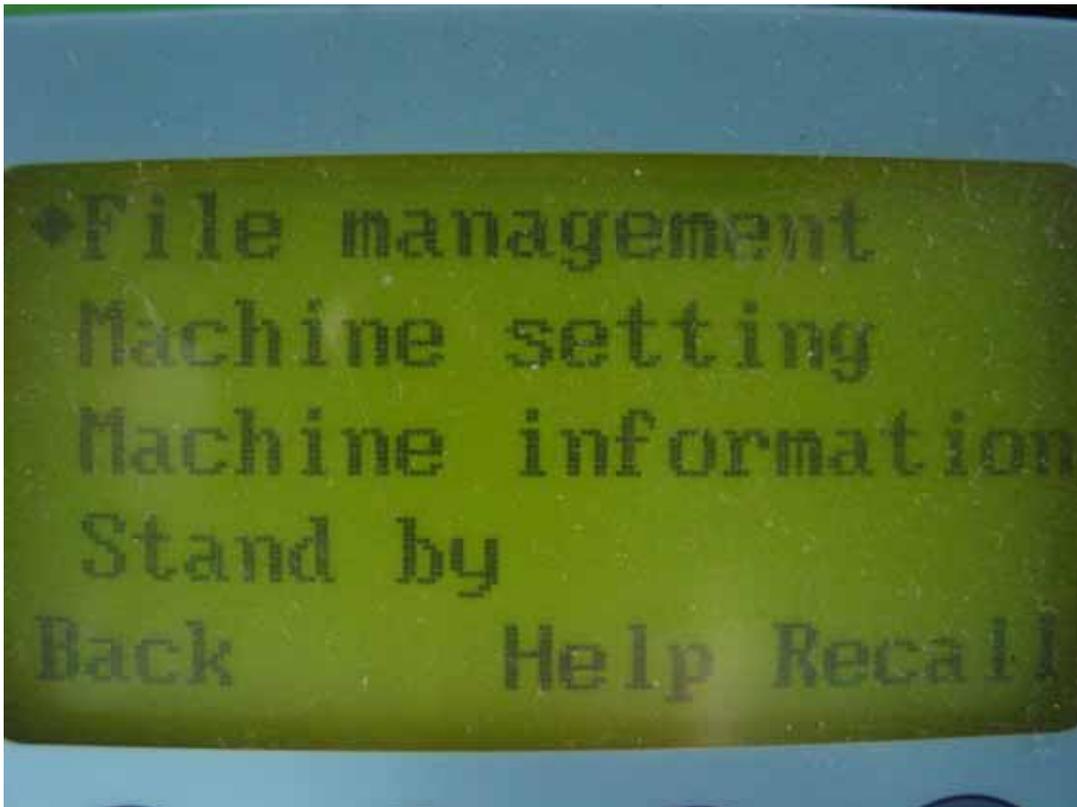


Fig. 5-1 Graphic Control Panel View

#### Direction Buttons

The four directional buttons on the right of the control panel allow you to navigate the selection cursor through the control panel menu and adjust the value of specific settings. Move the cursor RIGHT with the UP and DOWN directional buttons and adjust value settings with the LEFT and RIGHT buttons. Press the ENTER button to confirm each selection.



## LED Indicator Light

The three LED indicator lights above the Directional Buttons display the status of the machine's power and safety functions. The LASER indicator light will inform you if the laser is actively firing. The DOOR light will inform you if either the Top Door or Front Door is open. If either door is open, the Explorer II's safety interlock mechanism will prevent the laser from firing. The POWER light will come on when the machine is plugged into an appropriate power source.

## Function Buttons

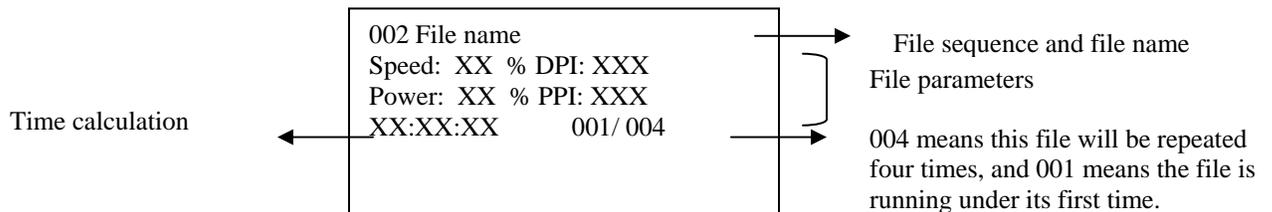
The F1, F2, F3, & F4 buttons let you select the various available options located on the lower portion of the graphic control panel. These buttons will allow you to scroll through the control panel menu, access help pages, and pause and resume jobs.

The AUTO FOCUS button will activate the Focal Sharp™ Auto-Focus Gauge while in the Main Operation Page.

The START/STOP button will let you start and pause jobs once they have been successfully loaded into the LaserPro Explorer II.

## Display

When you start transmitting files to Explorer II, the control panel would display as following:



When the LaserPro Explorer II is powered on, the machine will perform a series of safety checks and initializing routines. The graphic control panel will scroll through the GCC Copyright Page, Table Object Moving Page and the Machine Initialize Page before reaching the Main Operation Page. Once the machine has reached the Main Operation Page, it is ready for use. Refer to the diagram of Fig. 5-2 for a detailed listing of the different pages within the control panel menu.

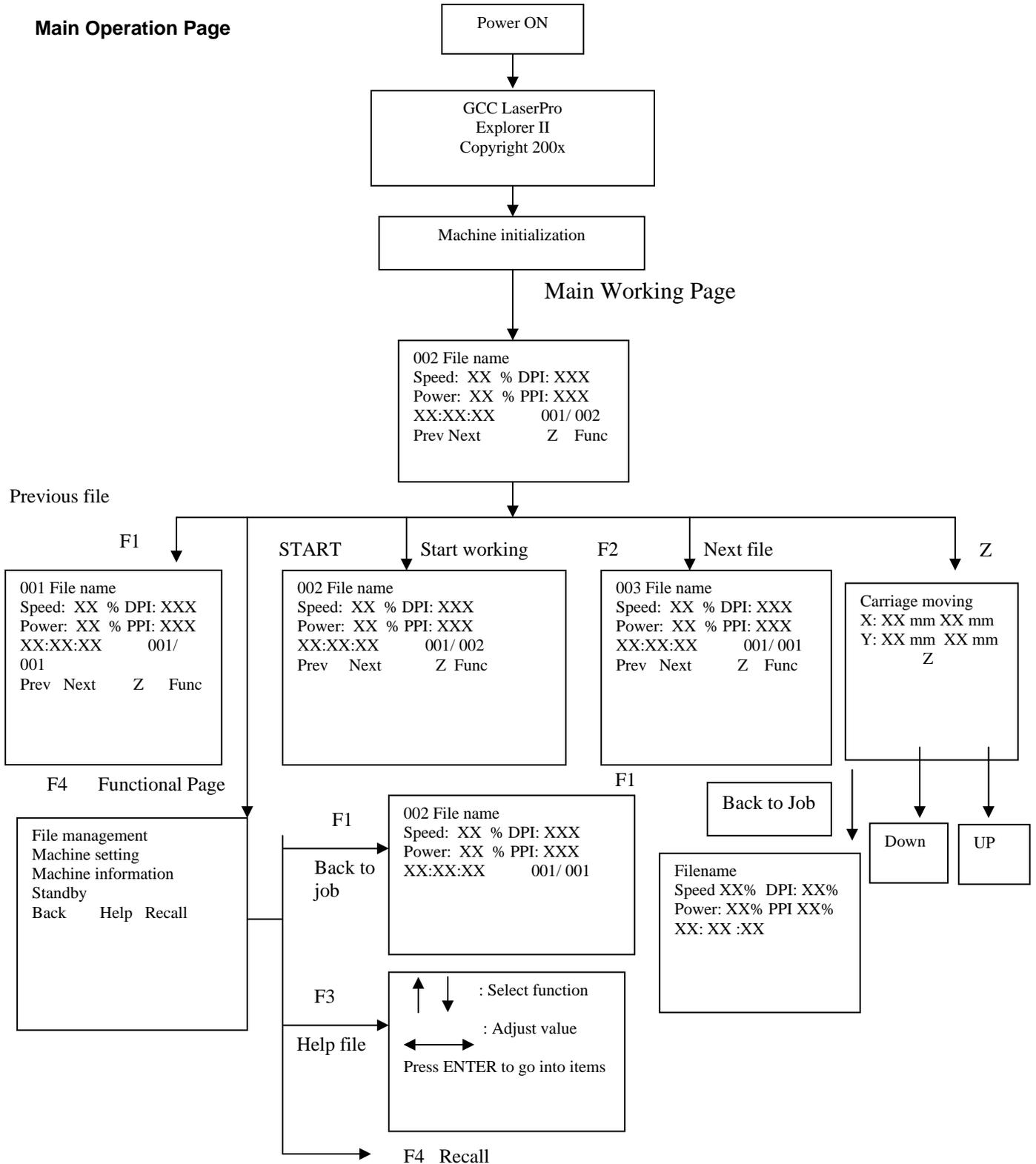
### NOTE:

1. Prior to initialization, the Explorer II will display an image of a table on the graphic control panel. This should prompt you to make sure that the working table area is clear for unwanted obstructions.
2. Each time when you turn on Explorer II, it would run initialization of working table moving down and up, lens carriage bottom to top and air blowing. Therefore, you have to wait for few seconds to finish air blowing test before start work.

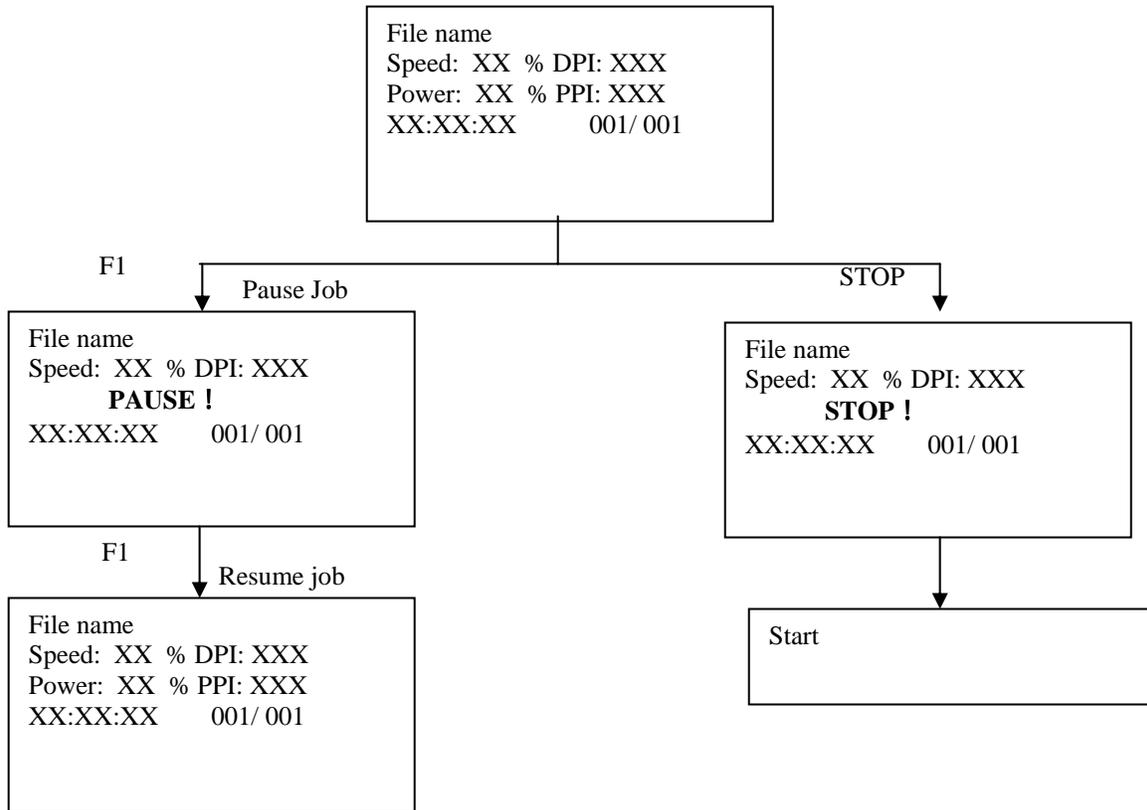


## Control Panel Operation Chart

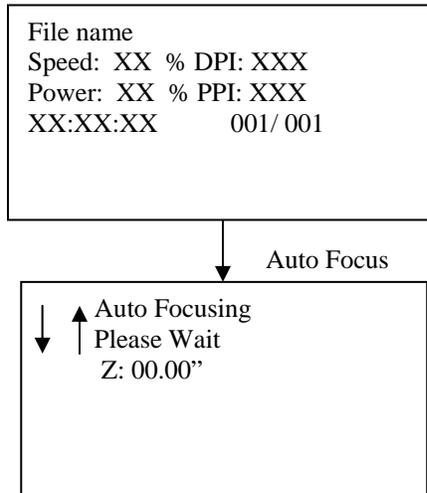
### Main Operation Page



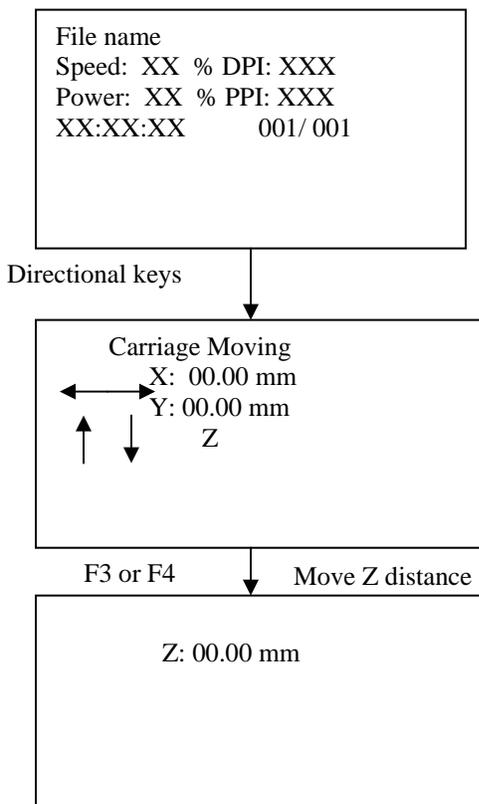
**Stop or Pause Job**



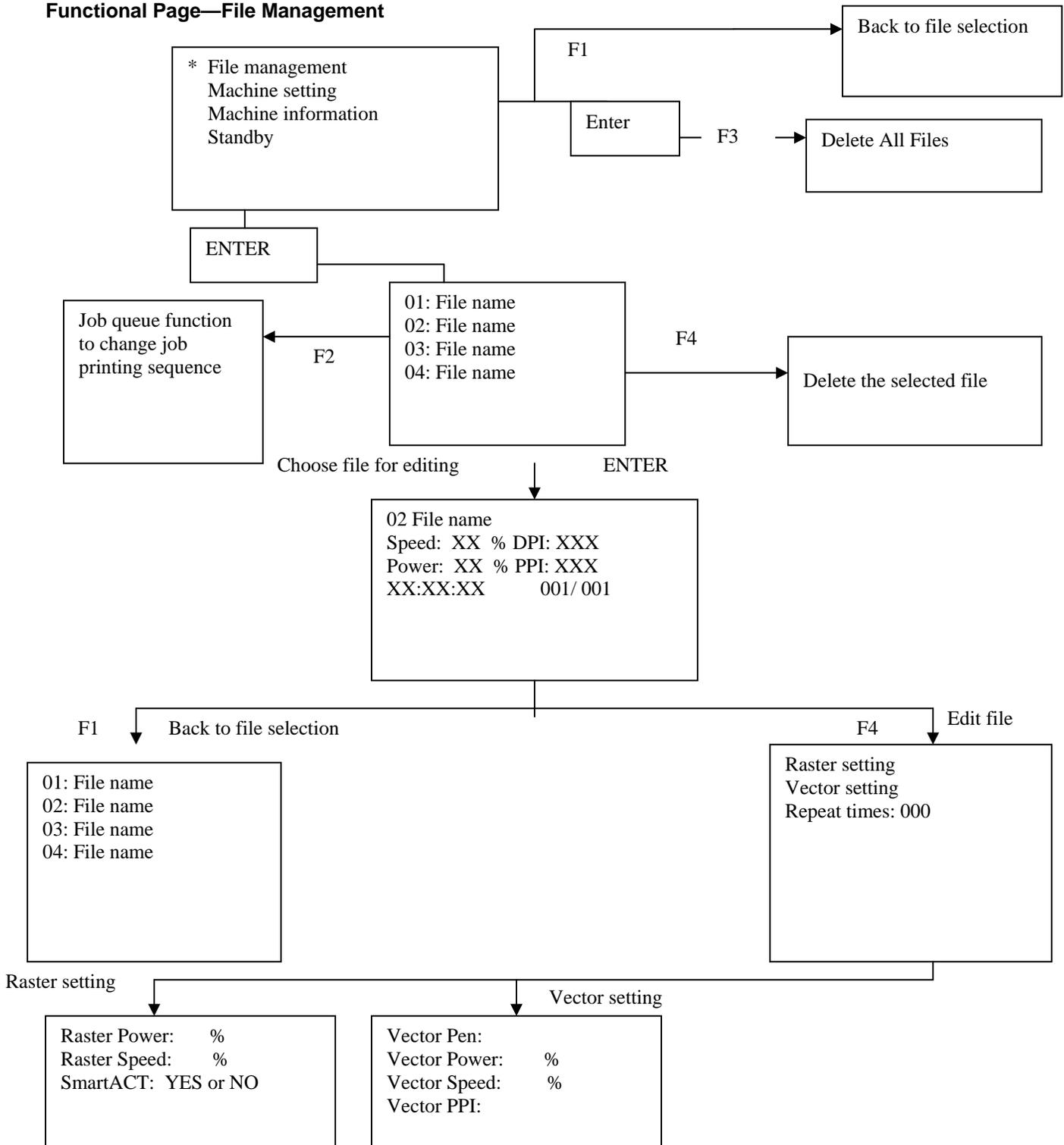
**Auto Focus**



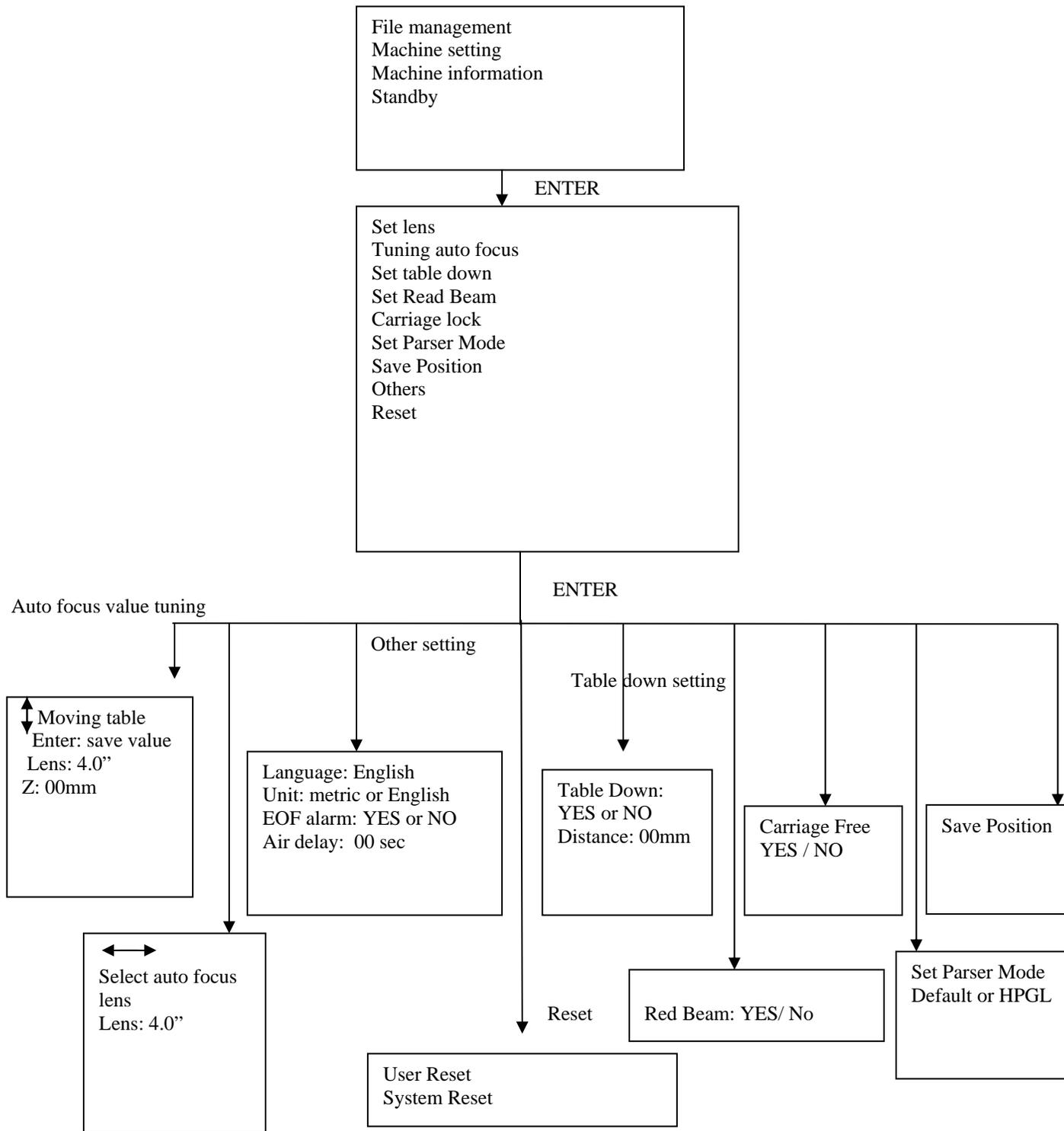
**Manual Focus and Carriage Moving**



**Functional Page—File Management**



**Functional Page—Machine Setting**





## Main Operation Page

The Main Operation Page will be the “home base” for the control panel menu. It will remain on most of the time during normal operation. It has been designed to display all of the basic information relevant to operation. This page will inform you of the speed, power, PPI, DPI, time, and copies of each individual file loaded into the Explorer II. The first line of the Main Operation Page indicates the first job’s filename. If more than one job has been downloaded, press the **PREV** and **NEXT** buttons to scroll through the jobs in the buffer. Pressing the **FUNC** button will transport you to the **Function Select Page**, where you will be able to edit File Management, Machine Settings and Machine Information. (see Fig. 5-2)

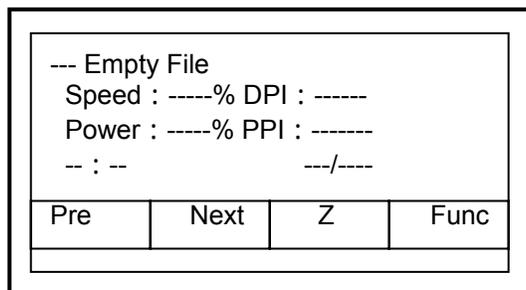


Fig. 5-2 Main Operation Page

### Focus Adjustment

While in the Main Operation Page, press the **AUTO FOCUS** button to activate the Focal Smart™ Auto-Focus Gauge. The control panel menu will move to the Auto Focus Page while the machine automatically adjusts the working table (Z-axis) to accommodate the thickness of your materials. At the same time, if you need to adjust the working table by manual, you can do this function after AUTO FOCUS (see fig. 5-3). After focus adjustment, you can use **F1** to return Main Operation Page.



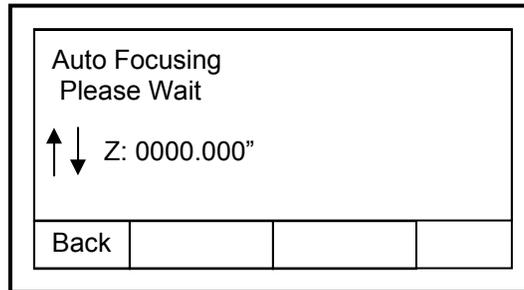


Fig. 5-3 Auto Focus Page

Certain blurred or soft laser effects require the materials on the working table to be moved away from the laser's optimum focal point. When the UP and DOWN directional buttons are pressed while in the Auto Focus Page you will disengage the auto focus system. This will allow you to manually raise or lower the z-axis. After you have made adjustments to the z-axis, press the F1 button to return to the Function Select Page.

**NOTE:** When adjusting the depth of the working table, make sure that the materials do not come in contact with the laser carriage or focus gauge.

#### Job Starting Point

If you want to adjust the starting point of the job before you begin the cutting or engraving, press the directional buttons while in the Main Operation Page. Pressing the directional buttons will bring to the Carriage Moving Page. In this page you can adjust the starting 0,0 point of the x and y rails. Without adjustment, the 0,0 starting point of your job will be the extreme upper left hand corner of the motion system. This point will correspond to the extreme upper left hand corner of your graphics program. Manually moving the laser carriage will move the 0,0 starting point to a different location. The Carriage Moving Page will display in millimeters how far the location is away from the default location.

#### Start Job

If you are satisfied with the existing settings, auto-focus adjustments and starting point location, press the **START** button to start cutting or engraving. When a job is in operation, the graphic control panel will display the Working Page. This page informs you the speed, power, PPI, DPI, time, working time and copies status. While in this page, at no time are you able to edit the laser or file settings. You may press the **F1** button to jump to the Working Pause Page, which will pause and resume the operation. Or you may press the **STOP** button that will cease all cutting and engraving and return the control panel menu back to the Main Operation Page. (see fig. 5-4 )

The laser tube switches on the security system automatically after every pause. Therefore every time when you restart the machine after pause, the laser requires 8 seconds to warm up. Please note that when the top cover is opened which also means Pause command to machine.



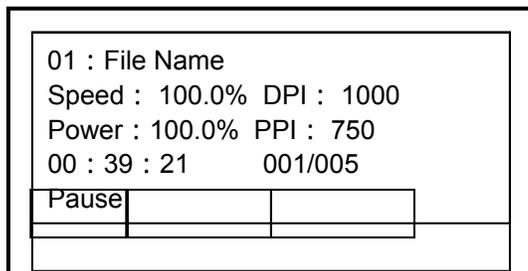


Fig. 5-4 File Management Information Page

**Stop Job**

In Working Page, you can press **STOP** button to stop a job.

**Pause Job**

In the Working Page, you can press **F1** to pause the job temporary and press **F1** again to restart the job in the Working Pause Page. (See fig. 5-5)

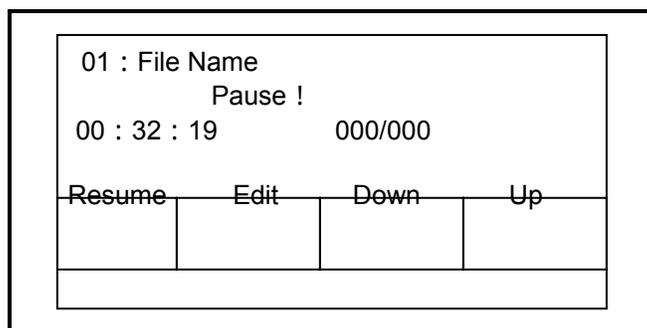


Fig. 5-5 Job Pause Page

## Function Select Page

Pressing the **F4** button while in the Main Operation Page will bring you to the Function Select Page. This page allows you to edit File Management and Machine Settings. Press the directional keys to move the cursor to the **File Management**, **Machine Setting**, **Machine Information** and **Standby** Page. Press **ENTER** to confirm your selection. (See Fig. 5-6)

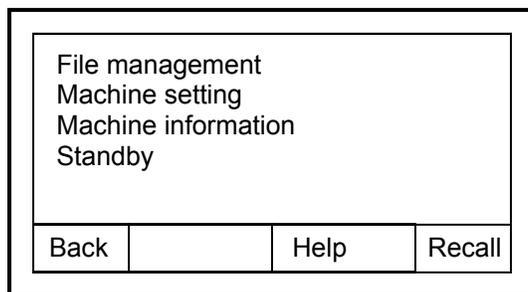


Fig. 5-6 Function Select Page

### Function Select Page-- File Management

The File Management Page will show all of the files that have been downloaded into the Explorer II. Pressing the **UP** or **DOWN** directional buttons will scroll through the available files. If a file is no longer needed or if the memory buffer has reached its capacity and you would like to download new files, press **F4** to delete unwanted files. The **F2** key would initiate the job queue function to manage the job printing sequence (Please check page 65 and see how to change job printing sequence). Using **F3** to delete all files. Press **ENTER** to see the File Settings in the File Management Information Page. (see fig. 5-7 & 5-8)

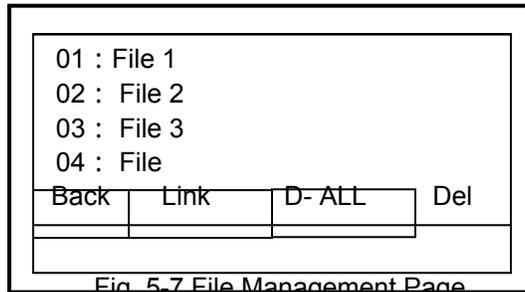


Fig. 5-7 File Management Page

After select a file, you may press **F4** further to edit the settings of this file. Such as raster, vector and repeat settings (see fig. 5-8). Or using **Star** and move to the main operation page.

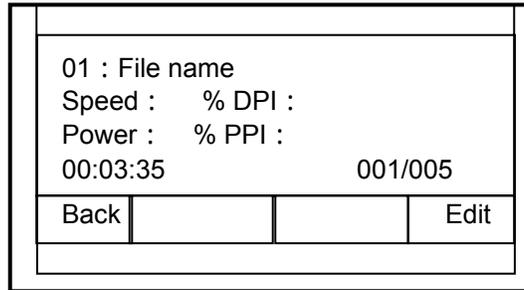


Fig. 5-8 File Management Information Page

Once F4 is pressed you will go to the File Management Edit Page to edit the setting of the file. From here, press the **Arrow Key** directional buttons to select to adjust the raster, vector and repeat settings and **RIGHT** or **LEFT** directional button to adjust the setting value (see fig. 5-9).

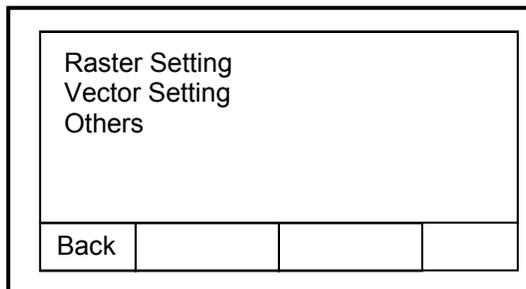


Fig. 5-9 File Management Edit Page

File Management -- File Edit Raster Page

This page will allow you to edit the raster settings of a select file. Use the directional buttons to scroll through the editing options and adjust the values. Adjusting the Raster Power and Raster Speed will override the saved settings downloaded from the computer. Select the SmartACT option to initiate the function of SmartACT to speed EXPLORETR operation speed when perfect output quality is not a demand (see fig. 5-10). **F3** button would provide you a direct approach to main operation page.

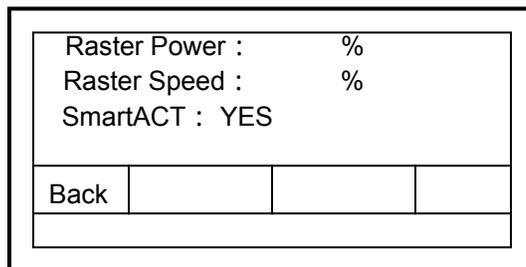


Fig. 5-10 File Edit Raster Page

File Management -- File Edit Vector Page

If your selected file features vector settings, this page will allow you to adjust them. Use the directional buttons to adjust the pen, power, speed, and PPI settings (see fig. 5-11).

Vector Pen :			
Vector Power :		%	
Vector Speed :		%	
Vector PPI :			
Back			

Fig. 5-11 File Edit Vector Page

File Management-- Others

If you press **ENTER** at OTHERS item, you would be able to set the repeat times of the selected file by using **LEFT** or **RIGHT** direction buttons to adjust repeat times (see fig. 5-12).

Repeat Times:			
Back			

Fig. 5-12 File Edit Others Page2

**NOTE:** If the Repeat Times is set to "0", the file would be repeated without limits.

File Management – Job Queue

LaserPro Explorer II enables you to use LINK or DLINK to decide the job printing sequence of a specified job queue and press START button once to print them all.

**NOTE:** Job queue means a group of files has been managed in printing sequence.

**A. Where is the LINK/ DLINK function**

Step 1. Go to the Main Working Page as fig. 5-13 shows

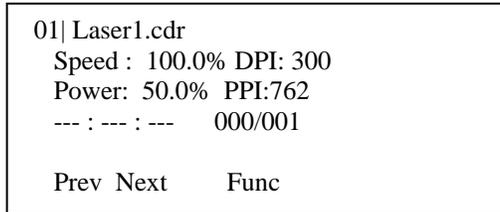


Fig. 5-13 Change job printing sequence

Step 2. Press F4 key to enter Function Selection Page and pressing ENTER to choose File Management

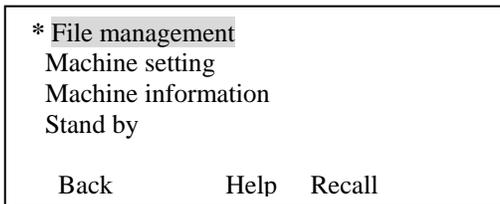


Fig. 5-14 Change job printing sequence

Step 3. Stop the cursor at the starting file you would like set as the first printing job and press F2 key to initiate the LINK function or F4 to DLINK (see fig. 5-15 & 5-16)

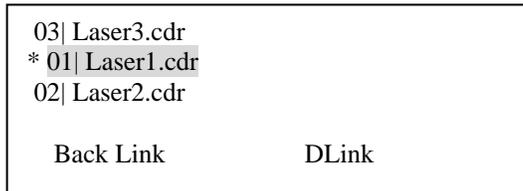


Fig. 5-15 Change job printing sequence

```

03| Laser3.cdr  |---|---
*01| Laser1.cdr |---|---
02| Laser2.cdr  |---|---

Back Link      Dlink
    
```

Fig. 5-16 Change job printing sequence

**B. How to Link Files**

Take a printing sequence of Laser3.cdr--->Laser2.cdr--->Laser1.cdr for example to show how to link different files.

Step 1. Go to the LINK/ DLINK function page as fig. 5 shows.

```

02| Laser2.cdr  |---|---
*03| Laser3.cdr |---|---
01| Laser1.cdr  |---|---

Back Link      Dlink
    
```

Fig. 5-17 Change job printing sequence

Step 2. Stop cursor at Laser3.cdr and press F2 to start LINK. You would find Laser3.crd file gets a X sign. The x sign means that the LINK is working and you can link the current file to another one.

```

02| Laser2.cdr  |---|---
*03| Laser3.cdr |---x---  01|
Laser1.cdr     |---|---

Back Link      Dlink
    
```

Fig. 5-18 Change job printing sequence

Step 3. Move cursor by arrow keys and stop at Laser2.cdr file then press F2 to link laser3.cdr and laser2.crd.

```

01| Laser1.cdr |----|---
*02| Laser2.cdr |-03x---
03| Laser3.cdr |----|-02

Back Link      Dlink
    
```

Fig. 5-19 Change job printing sequence

Step 4. Move cursor by arrow keys and stop at Laser1.cdr file then press F2 to link laser2.cdr and laser1.crd.

```

03| Laser3.cdr |----|-02
*01| Laser1.cdr |-02x---
02| Laser2.cdr |-03|-01

Back Link      Dlink
    
```

Fig. 5-20 Change job printing sequence

Step 5. Press F2 again to finish the LINK function and the x sign would disappear.

```

03| Laser3.cdr |----|-02
*01| Laser1.cdr |-02|---
02| Laser2.cdr |-03|-01

Back Link      Dlink
    
```

Fig. 5-21 Change job printing sequence

**C. How to DLINK files**

DLINK here stands for removing files from specified job queue. Here we would show you how to remove Laser2.cdr from Laser3.cdr--->Laser2.cdr-->Laser1.cdr job queue.

Step 1. Go to LINK/ DLINK function page and stop cursor at Laser2.cdr.

```
01| Laser1.cdr  |-02|---
*02| Laser2.cdr  |-03|-01
03| Laser3.cdr  |----|-02

Back Link      Dlink
```

Fig. 5-22 Change job printing sequence

Step 2. Press F4 key to initiate DLINK function and you would find Laser2.cdris removed from the job queue.

```
01| Laser1.cdr  |-03|---
*02| Laser2.cdr  |----|---
03| Laser3.cdr  |----|-01

Back Link      Dlink
```

Fig. 5-23 Change job printing sequence

**NOTE:**

1. The same file can't print more than once in the same job queue.
2. Explorer II can accept multiple job queues at the same time, each job queue is independent and unable to link each other.
3. In order to know the printing sequence, the main working page would remind you what is the next printing job. Find fig. 5-24 for example.

```
03| Laser3.cdr  *02
Speed : 100.0% DPI: 300
Power: 50.0% PPI:762
--- : --- : --- 000/001

Prev Next  Z   Func “
```

02 is the next file

Fig. 5-24 Change job printing sequence

Function Select Page-- Machine Setting

Under Machine setting page, you would have Set Lens, Tuning Auto Focus, Set Table Down, Others and Reset options by pressing ENTER to go into each function.

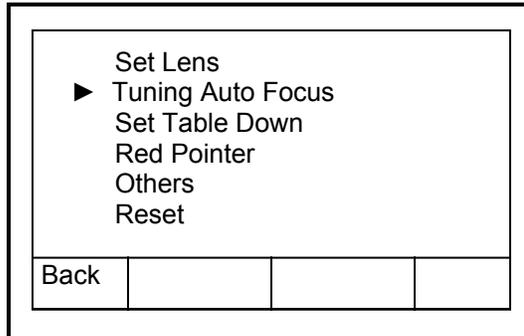


Fig. 5-25 Machine Setting Page

Machine Setting -- Select Lens Page

Please always adjust the lens in SELECT LENS PAGE when you apply different focus lens for application. Pressing **LEFT** or **RIGHT** to adjust lens and **F4** to save adjustment. (Fig. 5-26) After adjusting to different focus lens, we would suggest you to press **AUTO FOCUS** and Explorer II would get the new focal length accordingly.

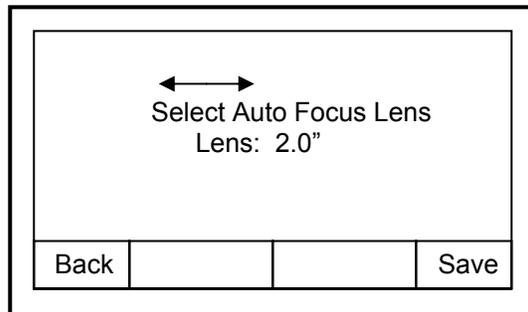
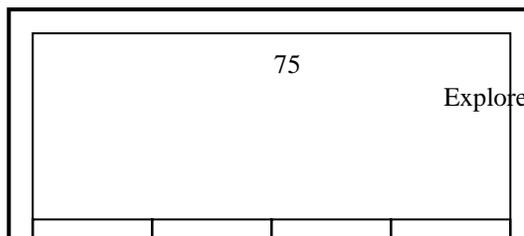


Fig. 5-26 Set Lens Page

Machine Setting -- Auto Focus Tuning Page

After adjust focus lens, you can enter AUTO FOCUS TUNING PAGE to tune the focal length if the default value can't meet your application needs. The Auto-Focus Tuning Page will allow you to edit the default auto-focus lens focal length, that decides the distance between laser and the working table each time after you using Auto Focus.

Use the directional buttons **UP** or **DOWN** to move the Z axis to a desired level , then press **F4** to save the changing. (see fig. 5-27)



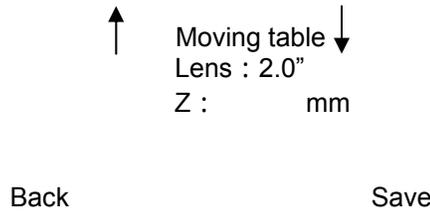


Fig. 5-27 Auto Focus Tuning Page

Machine Setting -- Set Table Down

This function would provide you an option if you need Explorer II to show “Table will move down and remove objects on table” warning message before Explorer II starts initialization. When the Set Table Down function is at YES status, Explorer II would move to initialization after you press ENTER to confirm the warning message; when Set Table Down is at NO status, Explorer II would not show the warning message. After all setting is determined, please use F4 to save all the changing.

Machine Setting—Red Pointer

Red pointer function would help you to know where the laser moves more easily and precisely. Under red pointer function, Explorer II enables you to use LEFT or RIGHT directional button to adjust red pointer on or off.

Machine Setting— Carriage Lock

Carriage lock or free function would enable the lens carriage remain under always free or lock status, under free status, user can manually move the lens carriage to where they want. While under carriage lock status, user has to free the carriage by any directional key and then can manually move it.

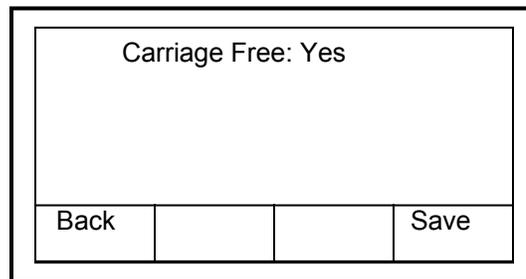
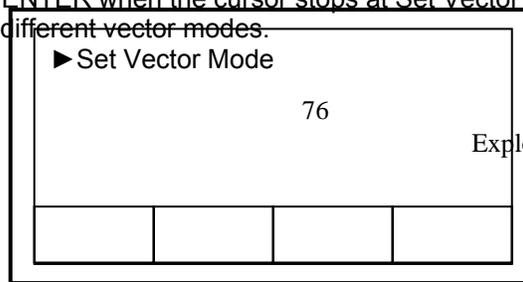


Fig. 5-28 Lock Carriage Page

Machine Setting— Set Vector Mode

Explorer II provides you four options of vector speed mode, Quality Vector, Fine Vector, Coarse Vector, Speedy Vector to meet different application needs. Vector graphic can be output with rapid movement under Speedy Vector mode, while it is a trade off between vector qualities; while Quality Vector represents the best vector quality with slower movement. All these four vector modes give you the flexibility between vector quality and vector speed, choose the mode that performs best result for your special application. Select “Set Vector Mode” by pressing ENTER when the cursor stops at Set Vector Mode, and use LEFT or Right directional button to scroll different vector modes.



Tune Image Power  
Others

Back

Fig. 5-29 Set Vector Mode Page 1

Mode: Quality Vector			
Back			Save

Fig. 5-30 Set Vector Mode Page 2

Machine Setting— Set Multiple File

Set Multiple File function enables you to automatically delete or save the files after output. When you start to work and choose not to save the file, each job would be automatically delete after lasering. This function is great for production line that marks number or name on plates. Each file is printed one time and the memory space would not be occupied by unwanted data.

▶ Set Multiple File Set Vector Mode Tune Image Power Others			
Back			

Fig. 5-31 Set Multiple File Page 1

File Save: NO			
Back			Save

Fig. 5-32 Set Multiple File Page 2

Machine Setting— Save Position

Save Position function enables to set the laser origin point to the saved position and recall to apply this origin when it is necessary for application. The benefit of this function is to precisely apply the working piece to the save origin position where you might have fixture already and save time for testing and laser firing position adjustment for new job.

Select the Save Position function by pressing ENTER, and choose RECALL to have the laser carriage moves to the saved position and starts to print.

**Notice:** Save Position function is only effective under Relative or Center mode.

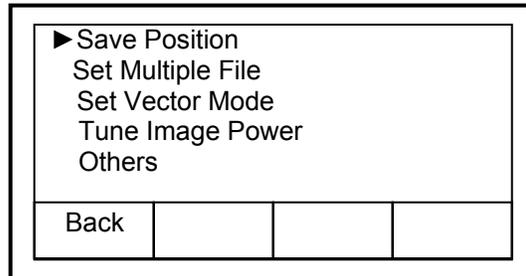


Fig. 5-33 Save Position Page 1

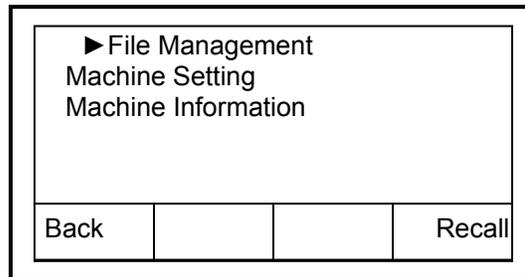


Fig. 5-34 Save Position Page 2

#### Machine Setting-- Others Setting Page

This page allows you to change the language of usage, the unit of measurement (from metric to inches), to enable/disable the EOF (end of file) alarm, and to set a delay time of the Air Assist System to make sure the air assist is functioning when job starts working. When the setting is finished, please use F4 to save the changing. (see fig.5-35)

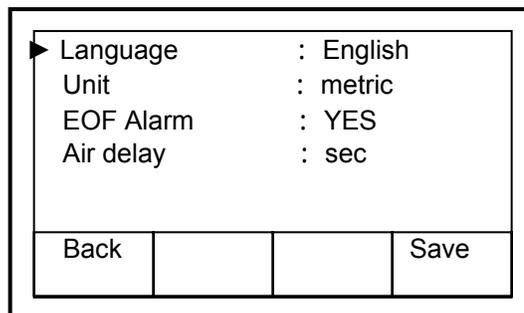


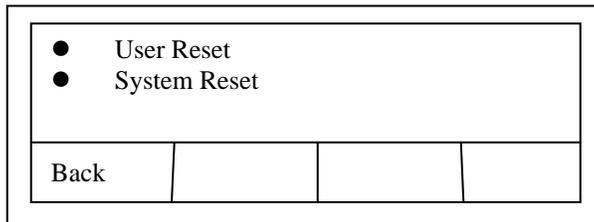
Fig. 5-35 Other Setting Page

**NOTE:** The EOF (end of file) alarm will make an audible “beep” when your file has been completed.

Machine Setting --Reset Page

Use the reset feature in the Machine Setting Page to return all changes to the machine settings to their original default settings. This feature will not affect the settings saved to an image file on the computer.

- User Reset- Click **User Reset**, all setting would be set back to the origins.
- System Reset- After upgrading a new firmware, the system has to be reset, click **System Reset**, the version of firmware is updated but previous settings are well saved.



Function Select Page-- Machine Information

Under the Machine Information Page, you can find the machine information including G.C.C. logo, machine name and firmware version etc. By pressing **DOWN** button, you can go further to next page. (see fig. 5-36 and 5-37)

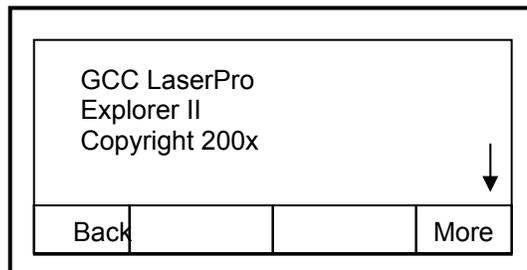


Fig. 5-36 Machine Information Page 1

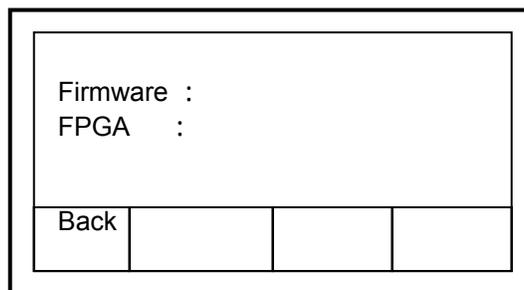


Fig. 5-37 Machine Information Page 2

## How to Set Origin

LaserPro Explorer II features setting origin per laser application changes. Please check the following procedure about how to change origin.

Step 1.

Turn on Explorer II, and hold ENTER key when display shows,

“GCC LaserPro  
Explorer II  
Copyright 200x”

Until it shows,

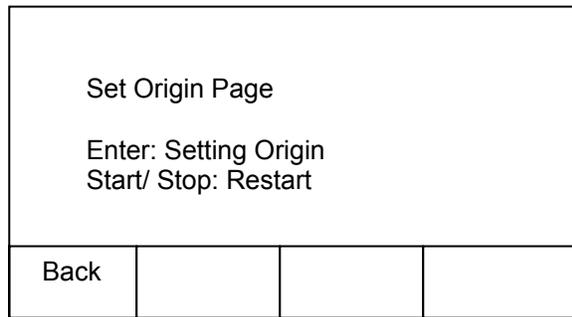


Fig. 5-38 Set Origin Page

Step 2.

Press ENTER to set origin and the display will show:

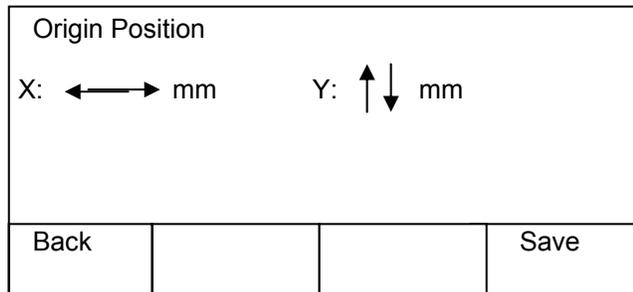


Fig. 5-39 Set Origin Page

Step 3.

Press arrow key to move the lens carriage for the new origin. And press F4 to save the changing.

Step 4.

Press F1 and back to Set Origin Main Page. Press START/ STOP button once, Explorer II would restart in 30secs.

## CHAPTER VI - SOFTWARE OPERATION

Before proceeding to Explorer II laser working, please make sure the page and layout setting, along with color adjustment of graphics software (here we illustrate Corel Draw) is set to proper condition. Please check the following sections.

### Page and Layout Setup

Now that your Explorer II driver has been successfully installed, you will need to adjust the printer and page size default settings before you can begin editing and completing jobs.

**NOTE:** Please make sure Explorer II is set to the default printer before proceeding to the page and layout setup.

Ensure that the LaserPro Explorer II has been selected as the DEFAULT PRINTER.

NOTE: Refer to default printer set up steps in Chapter IV, Software Installation.

Ensure that the paper size layout of your graphics program will accommodate the size of the Explorer II's working table. Please follow the following steps to set proper page and layout setup. (Example is for CorelDRAW, use comparative methods for other graphics programs)

- Click LAYOUT → PAGE SETUP (see fig. 6-1)

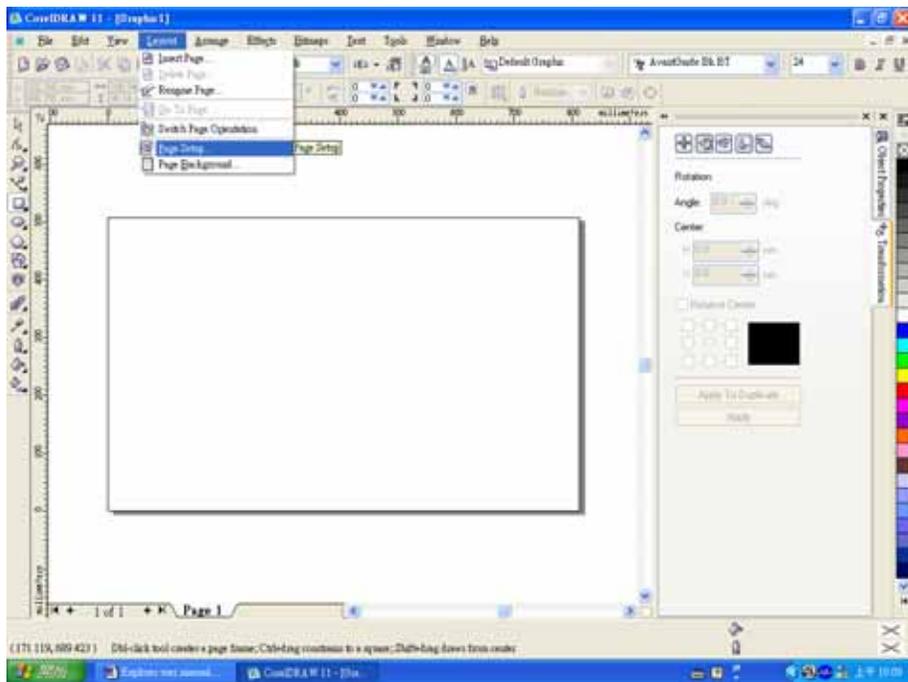


Fig. 6-1 Page and Layout Setup in CorelDraw

- Using the SET FROM PRINTER paper option (see fig. 6-2)



- Click DOCUMENT → PAGE → SIZE (see fig. 6-2)
- Ensure that NORMAL PAPER and **LANDSCAPE** are selected (see fig. 6-2)
- Click OK to complete the paper size adjustment.

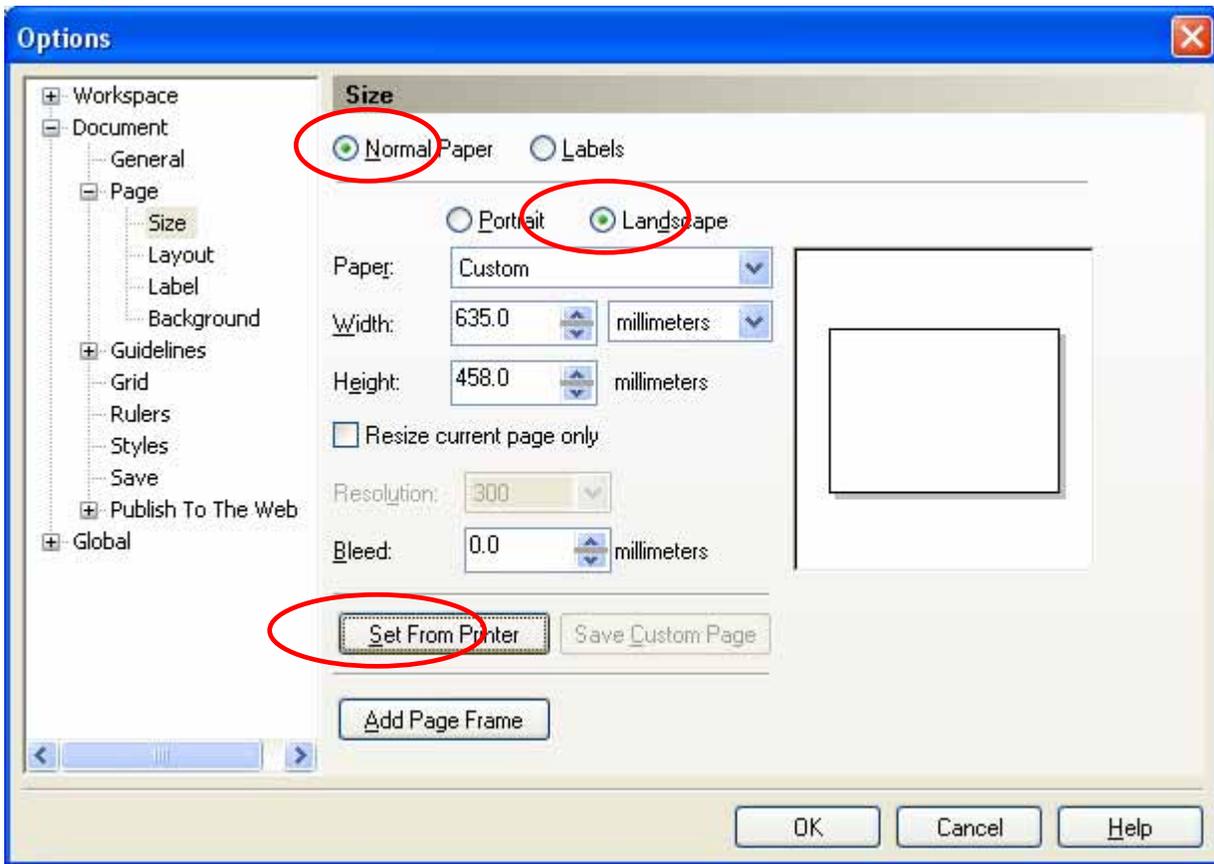


Fig. 6-2 Page Setup and Layout

## Color Adjustment

LaserPro driver uses color pen to control laser engraver engraving and cutting parameters, before heading for laser working, please make sure to uniform Corel Draw and LaserPro driver color mapping. Please follow the procedure to adjust it.

Click TOOLS and select COLOR MANAGEMENT  
Uncheck the CALIBRATE COLORS FOR DISPLAY  
Press OK to finish the setting

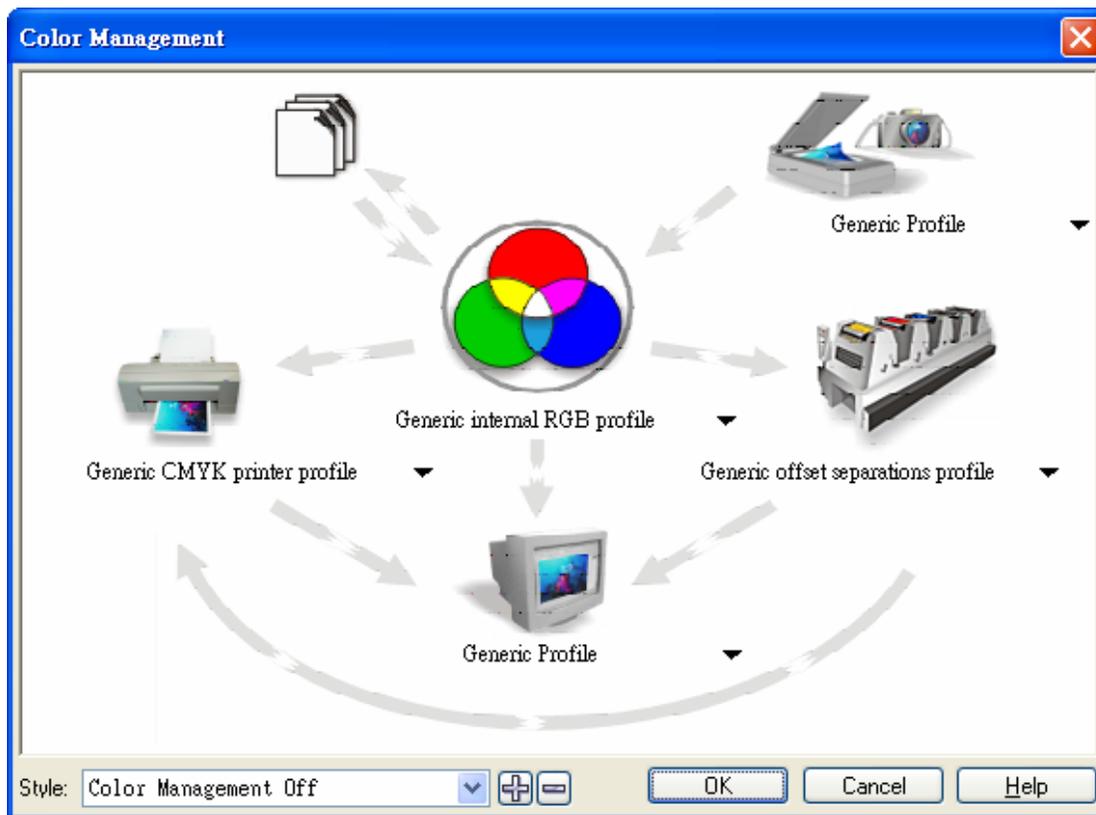


Fig. 6-3 Color Management in CorelDraw

## Vector and Raster

The LaserPro Explorer II driver will interpret between raster mode (engraving) and vector mode (cutting) by the types of lines and line widths used in your graphic image. Usually, line widths that are set between 0.001" (0.025mm) and 0.004" (0.1mm) will prompt the machine to use the vector mode. To ensure that the Explorer II cuts out the outline of an image, adjust the properties of the outline to change its width to the thinnest possible line.

## Vector Cutting

When we say vector cutting here, it means use laser engraver to print out graphics composed of lines, such as circle, triangle, etc.

The laser cutting is NOT doing a proper *cutting*, because the width of the text's outline is not set to its *thinnest* width. The MS-Windows® driver determines raster/vector cutting based on the outline width of an object. Therefore to achieve a vector cutting, please set the text's fill to white and its outline to its thinnest width in CorelDraw.

**NOTE:** If the width of the line to be cut is not set at minimum value, the laser is going from left to right back and forth instead of vector cutting. The laser unit looks like engraving instead of cutting.

Select the text in which the change applies by clicking on the text

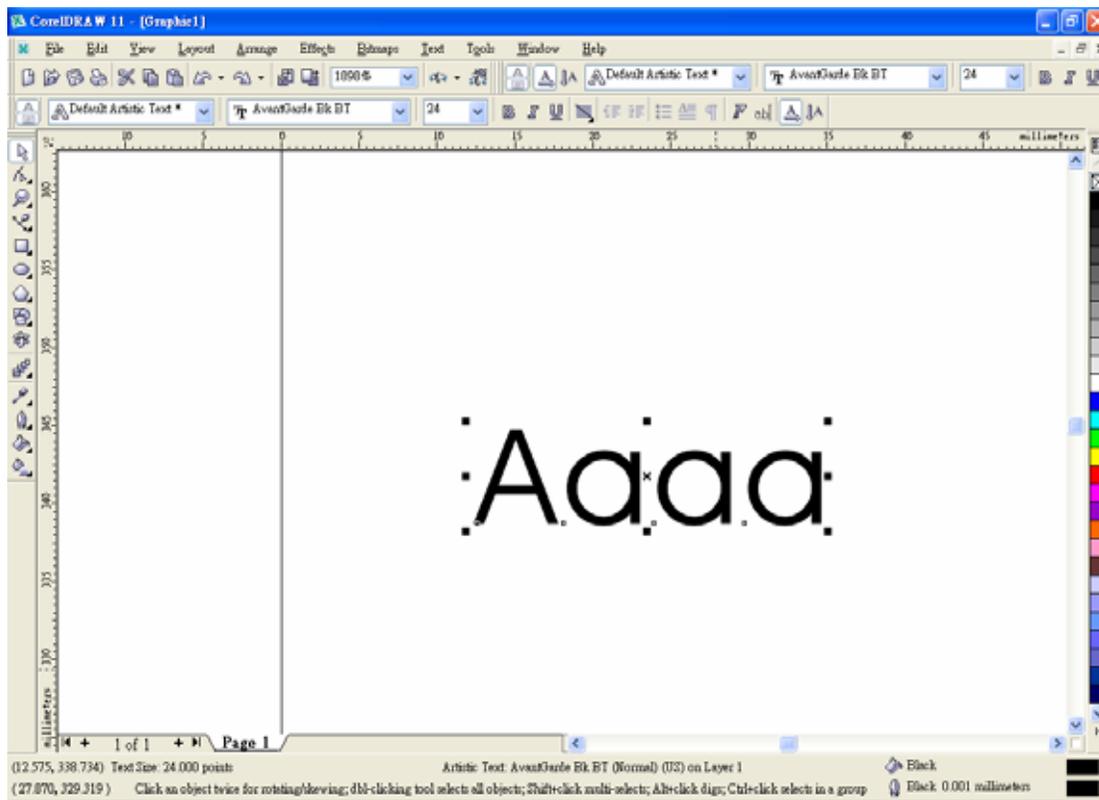


Fig. 6-4 Vector Cutting Illustration

Change the text to be filled with white by left clicking on the white color of "CorelDraw Color Palette" located on the right hand side of the screen.

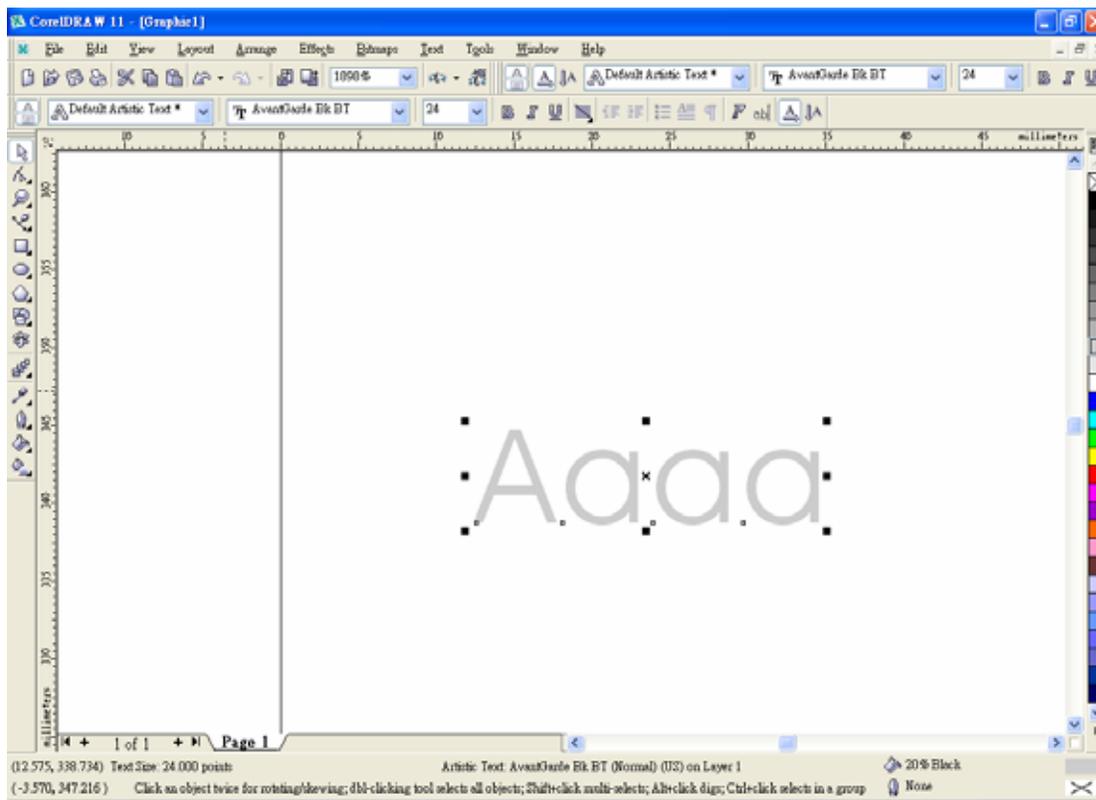


Fig. 6-5 Vector Cutting Illustration

Change the color of text outline by *right clicking* on the desired color on CorelDraw Color Palette.

Change the outline to its thinnest width by *right clicking* on the selected text

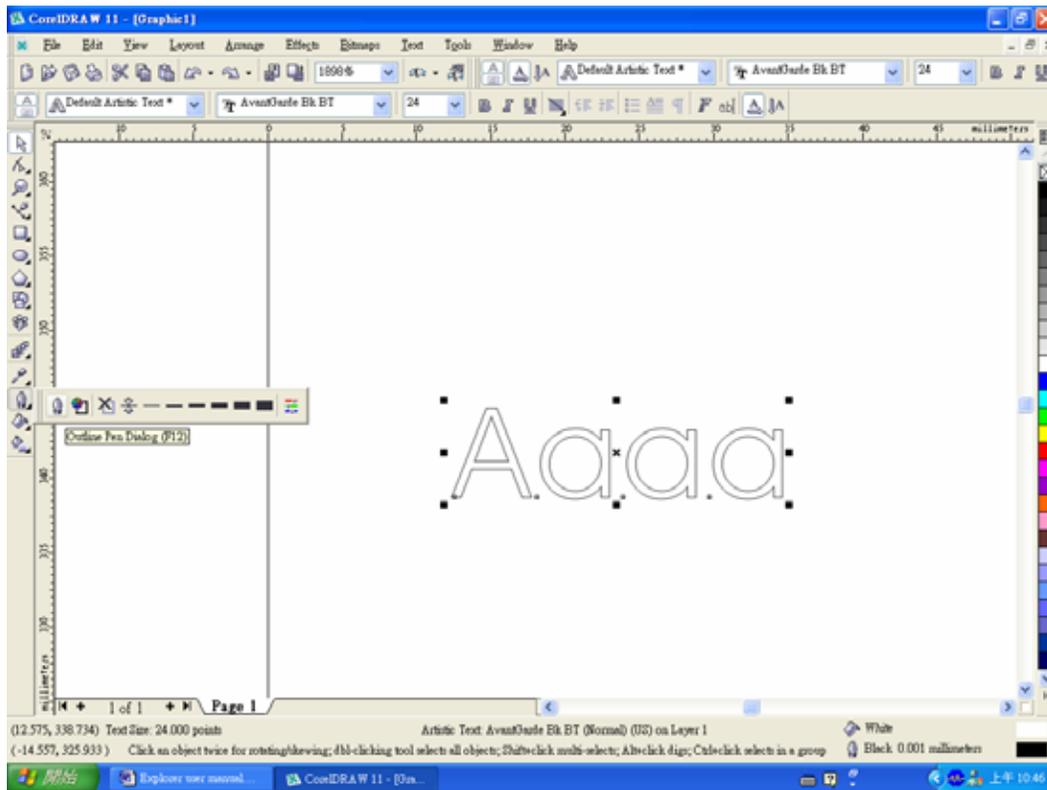


Fig. 6-6 Vector Cutting Illustration

Go to the “Properties” option  
Click on the “Outline” tab and change the “Width” to its thinnest dimension.

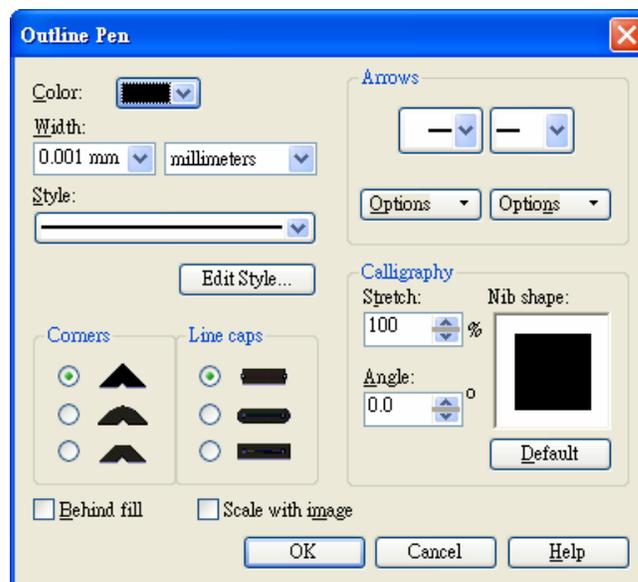


Fig. 6-7 Vector Cutting Illustration

Click on “OK” to apply the changes.  
Print out the *selected text* again and the laser will do the letter cutting.

**NOTE:** When performing vector engraving or vector cutting job, we would suggest setting the PPI value at **400** to obtain the superb vector output quality.

## Raster Engraving

A laser engraver can process laser engraver prints raster images as grids/ dots of individually pixels, any digital or scanned images. After the image or graphics is ready, please go further to the laser printing operation.

## Printing- Explorer II Driver Editing

After the graphics is ready, take advantage of the many performance-editing features of the Explorer II driver by clicking FILE→PRINT→PROPERTIES (see fig 6-8)

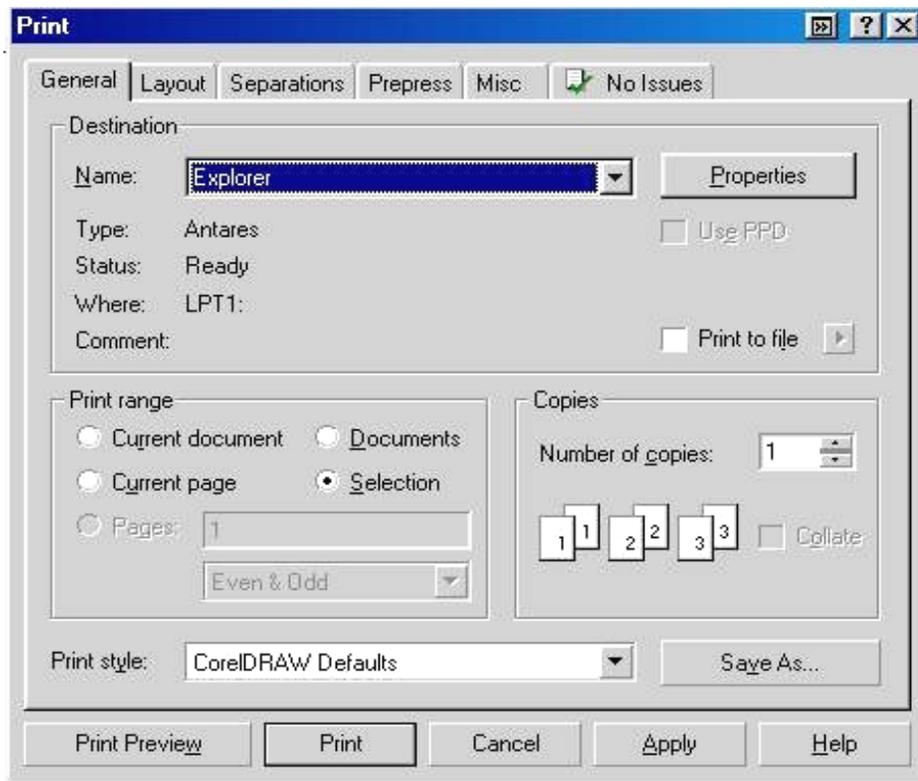


Fig. 6-8 Machine Output and Property

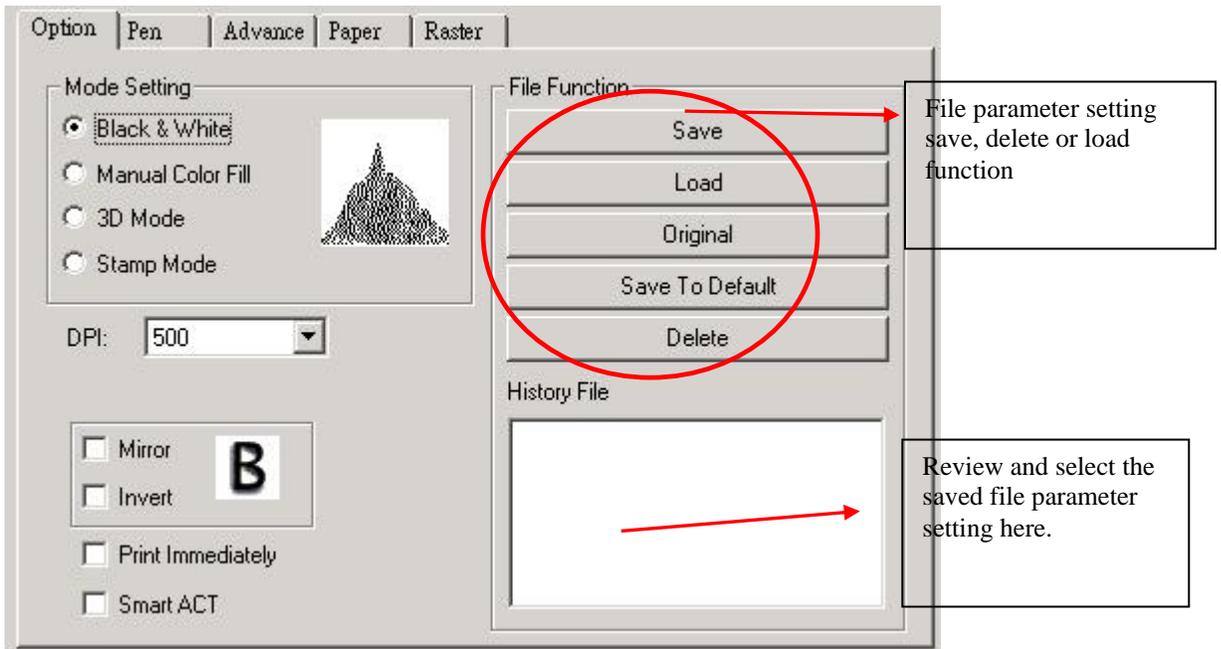


Fig. 6-9 Output Properties Setting

### A. Choose Printing Mode

**A-1 B/W (Black & White) Mode**– It is useful to activate this mode when using ClipArt or drawings with several colors, shades of gray, or many outlines. This mode will create a laser output similar to that of a laser printer. The entire selected image will be engraved using a single pen, black one (power & speed setting). The Explorer II driver will interpret colored and shaded areas as different shades of gray by producing a halftone effect while engraving. Instead of engraving only solid lines, gray/halftone areas will be a collection of dots. The resolution and depth of these halftone areas can be adjusted with the DPI, the B/W mode dithering settings from 2x2 to 8x8, error diffusion, and pattern type. Experiment with these different settings to get the best results.

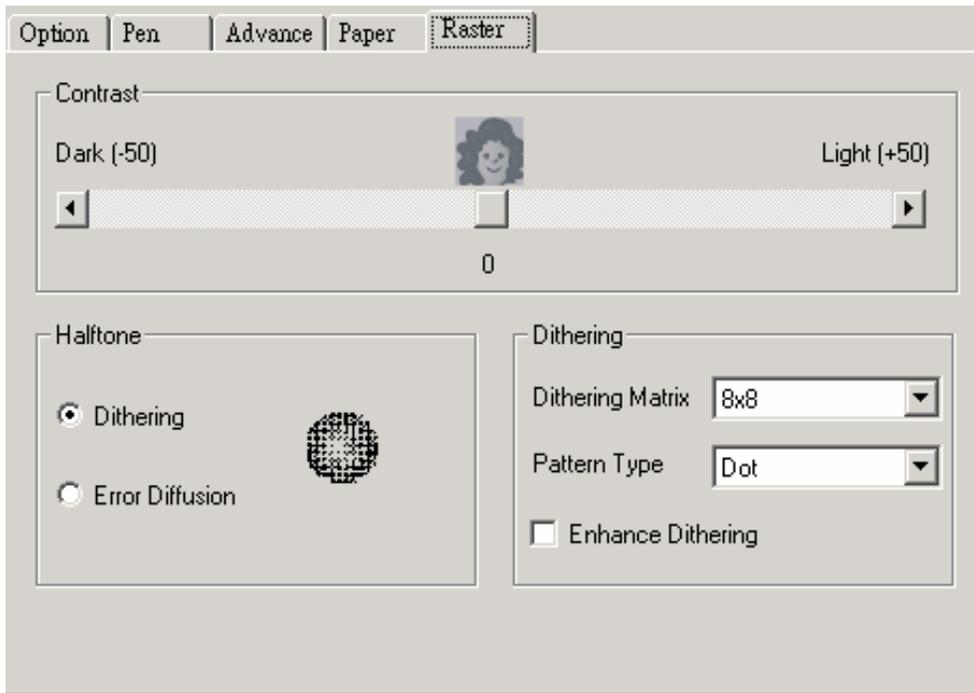
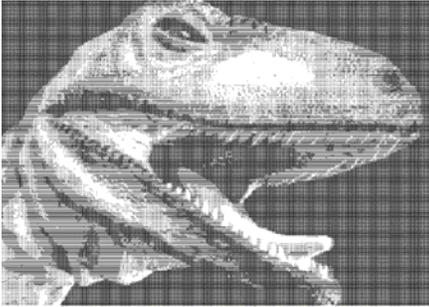


Fig. 6-10 Raster Dithering mode setting

**Dithering type** – The gray areas of image will be filled with from a 5- grade halftone with 2x2 dots to a 65- grade halftone with 8x8 dots. 8x8 dithering type would presents the image into different shading effect than the 2x2 dithering, while the 2x2 dithering type would have smaller dots than 8x8, that produces higher resolution. The dithering type choice would depend on the image and application.

**Enhance dithering** – The enhance dithering as what it reads would help to compensate the shortage of smaller grade halftone type, such as choosing 2x2 dithering type and enhance dithering at the same time, the image would be printed with 256- grade halftone and 2x2 dots, therefore, better shading effect with small 2x2 dots/ grids.

**Error Diffusion** – The error diffusion presents the shade of image as a spread halftone instead of dots, therefore more detailed.



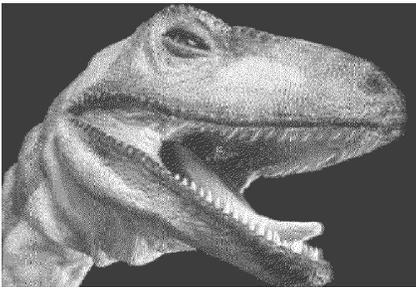
2\*2 dithering



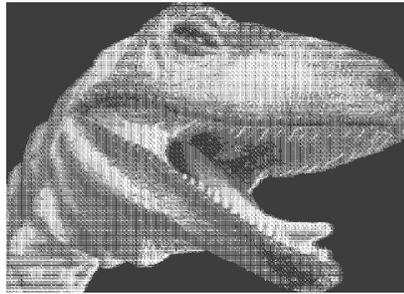
4\*4 dithering



8\*8 dithering



Error Diffusion



2x2 Enhance Dithering



8x8 Enhance Dithering



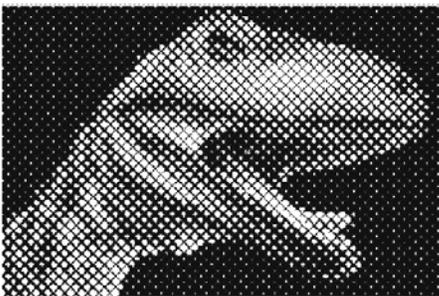
Dot



Bayer



Corner



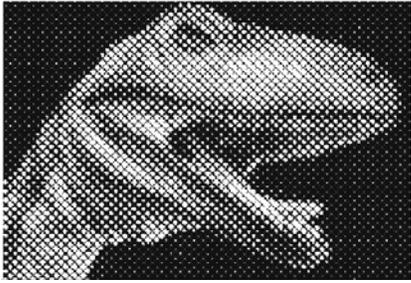
45 degree+ 4\*4 dithering



45 degree+6\*6 dithering



45 degree+8\*8 dithering



45 degree+ 10\*10 dithering

Pattern Type – The halftone pattern has three kinds of layout options, which determine the shape of each grid/ dot to compose the shading effect of raster image.

- **Dot** A halftone pattern consists of circle dots.
- **Corner** The dark dot spread from the left upper corner of the pattern result in a little triangle shape to imitate a shading effect.
- **Bayer** A random halftone pattern which is defined by Bayer. The principal advantage of this type of dithering is to smooth the banding effect obtained with ordered clustered dithering.
- **45 degree** a halftone pattern consists of 45 degree matrix of dot arrangement

**NOTE:** The B/W mode reads the processed image by shade and light, and if the image is a colorful one, different color would get different shading effect. Usually we would suggest transform the colorful image to a black and white one before output by a laser under B/W mode.

**A-2 Manual Color Fill Mode**– Activate this mode when you wish to designate specific power and speed settings to certain colors in your image. The Explorer II driver has 16 available pen settings to choose from.

**A-3 3D Mode** – With this mode you can automatically get a sculptured 3D effect. Using images that have gray areas, the Explorer II driver can manipulate the image to give it added depth. This mode can be adjusted with the DPI, PPI, power and speed settings.



3D Image File



Sample/ Material: Density Board

Fig. 6-11 3D Image and Sample

**A-4 Stamp Mode**– Stamp production is one of the most dynamic functions of the LaserPro Explorer II. Due the nature of the engraving, stamp production requires different operational steps than most engraving or cutting. In order to create stamps, select the Stamp Mode and the corresponding settings: Set Shoulder, Pitch, Border, Invert, and Mirror. (see fig.6-)

**NOTE:** The Cluster and automatic Border settings are located in Explorer II driver Properties → Advance.

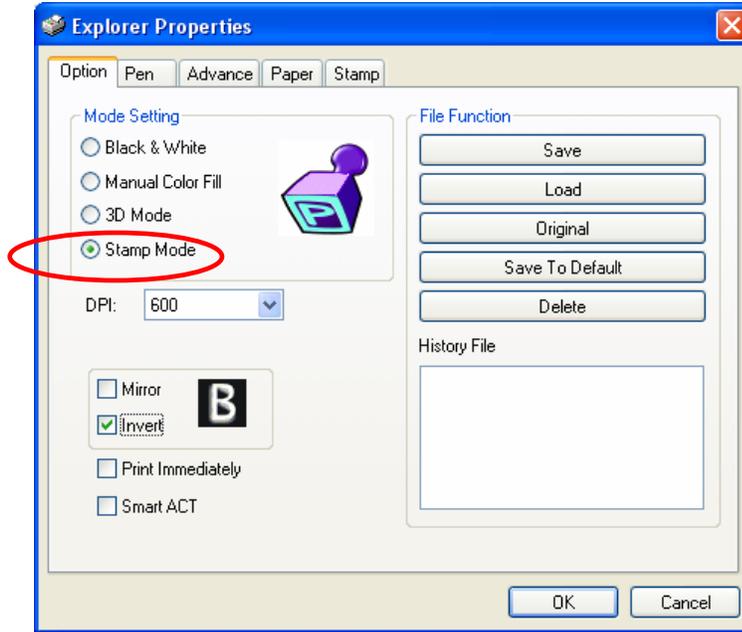
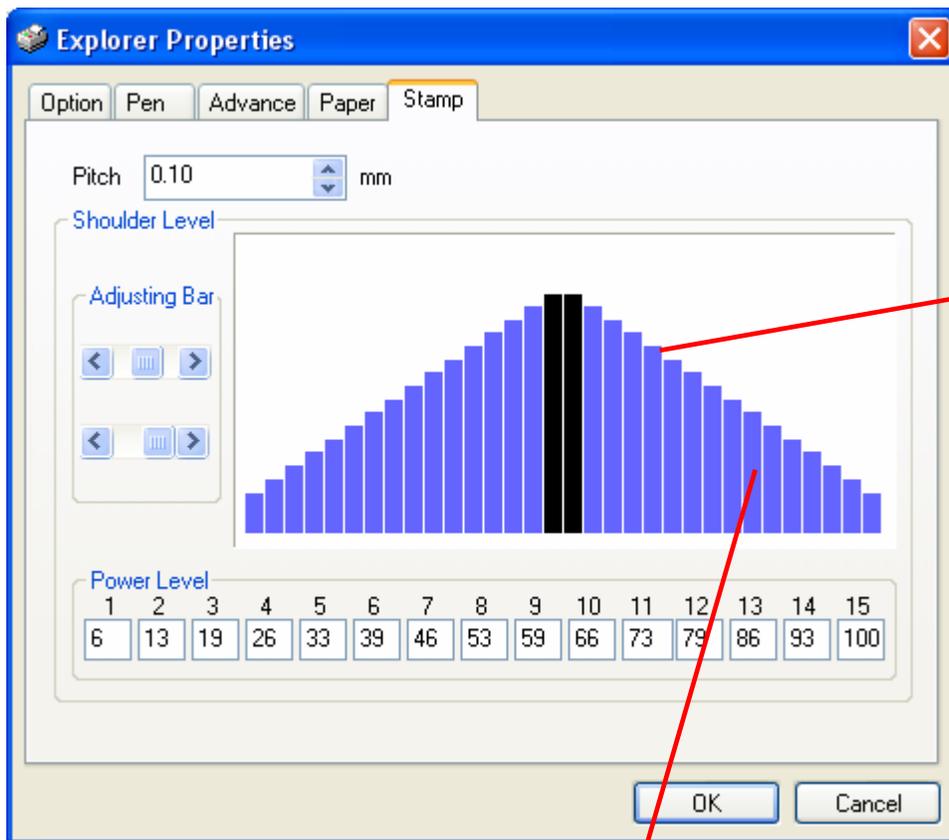


Fig. 6-12 Stamp mode

#### Pitch Value & Shoulder Power Setting

The finished stamp will be a reversed image with engraved depressions and ridges. Many of these ridges may be too thin and would break off or be unstable. Creating pitch is a way to add support to the thin lines and ridges. The pitch value setting allows you to adjust the width of the ridge. Broad pitch gives the maximum amount of support for each ridge. Experiment with different pitch value settings in order to produce the stamp that is best suited for your application. You can specify the size into the pitch box under stamp mode and adjust the bar to specify different laser power level for shoulder.



The central part presents the letter of stamp.

The blue bar means different laser power level to compose of the slope. Higher level blue bar gets less engraving laser power.

Fig. 6-13 Adjust Stamp Power Level

**Add Border**

You may wish to include a thin or wide border around the outline of your stamp. This can be done by creating outline greater than .001" thickness around the image. When the Mirror setting is selected, this outline will automatically be reserved as a ridge that does get engraved.

**NOTE:** The automatic Border setting is located in Explorer II driver Properties → Advance

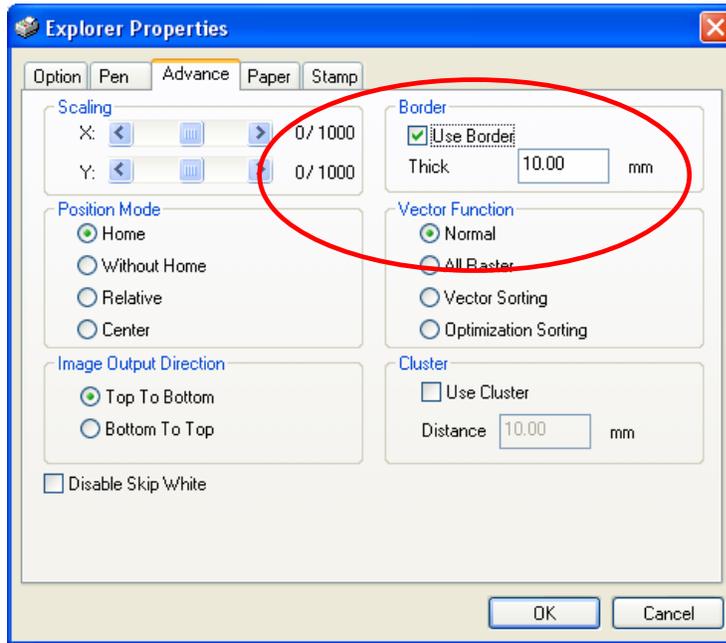


Fig. 6-14 The border setting of stamp

**Invert**

The Invert mode will reverse the black and white outlines and fills in the selected image. Black will become white and vice-versa, thus creating a high area that will be covered with ink when the stamp is put to use. This function is disabled when using the Manual Color Fill mode.

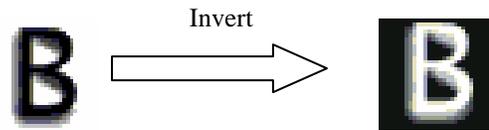


Fig. 6-15 Invert Effect

**Mirror**

When using a stamp, the image needs to be reversed or mirrored in order to show up properly when the stamp is in use. This setting will transfer right to left and vice-versa.

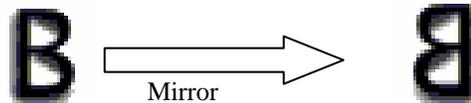


Fig. 6-16 Mirror Effect

**Cutting out the Stamp**

After you have created a border around the stamp, you may wish to have the Explorer II's vector setting cut out the stamp from the rubber sheet. To do this, create a thin (0.001") red line on the outline edge of the border or where ever you wish the stamp to be cut. The vector setting will always be performed after the engraving is complete.

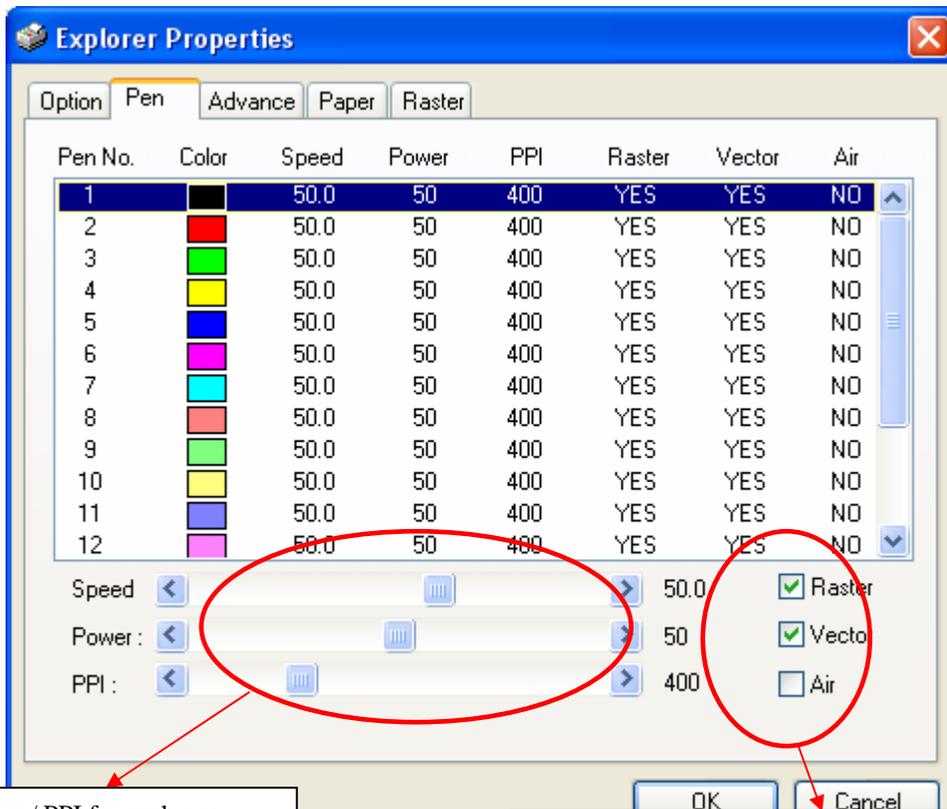
**Stamp Production**

You may wish to create a full sheet of duplicated rubber stamps in order to have them all engraved at once, saving on material costs and operational time. To do this, copy and paste the image enough times to fill the page size that is smaller or equivalent to the working table and the rubber sheet. Next make sure that the image is mirrored, inverted and that the appropriate shoulder, border, power and speed settings are in place.

**A-5 SmartACT**-- SmartACT is much like the fast or economic printing mode with printer which speeds up the total working time by eliminating unnecessary travel of laser carriage, but the output quality can't be exactly same as what it is under normal speed mode.

**B. Parameter Settings**

The LaserPro Explorer II allows the use of 16 different colors to represent 16 different power and speed settings when cutting and engraving. These colors are referred to as PENS. Try to think of each pen as a designated laser setting, rather than as a color. An image that is only black and white will use only one power and speed laser setting (Black). An image that includes black, red and blue colors will use three different assigned power and speed settings. In order to utilize up to 16 different pens, make sure your graphics program uses the 16 colors recognized by the Explorer II driver. (see fig. 6-18)



Adjust speed / power / PPI for each pen

Check to enable or disable raster / vector / air assist function for each pen

Fig. 6-17 Laser Parameter Settings

**Pen Settings** – There are 16 available pen settings to match a specific laser setting with the different colors used in the graphic image. If your image uses black outlines, and red and blue color fills, then the Explorer II driver will instruct the laser to use three different power and speed settings on the three distinct areas. The

speed and power settings designated to each pen color, will represent a proportion of the master control speed and power settings.

If you would like to use a color not included in the driver's original 16 colors, please double click on the specified pen and the color manager window would jump out then you can select the color you would like to apply. (see fig. 6-19 )



Fig. 6-18 Pen color adjustment

**NOTE:** The driver can not store more than 16 pen colors for each file.

**Speed** – The master control for the laser's motion system speed during operation. The range is from 0.1 – 100%. 100% speed is equivalent to 80 inches per second; a 10% speed setting would be equivalent to 8 inches per second. This will be the speed that the motion system travels when cutting or engraving straight lines. The machine will automatically slow down when it is cutting or engraving curves.

**Power** – The master control for the laser's power during operation. The range, like the speed setting, is from 0.1 – 100%. This percentage represents the power of each laser pulse fired. Power and speed work together to determine the depth of a cutting and/or engraving. Higher power and slower speeds will produce the deepest engraving.

**Raster Vector On/Off** – Each color in the graphic image may include a variety of color fills and very thin lines. It is then possible for one pen color to require both raster and vector modes. Turning either Raster or Vector off will force the driver to ignore the pen color's fills or thin lines. You can check the Raster or Vector box to turn on/ off the function.

**DPI** – Dots Per Inch. This setting determines the quality of image resolution was using the raster engraving. DPI can also be referred to as horizontal lines per inch or fill spacing. The amount of raster strokes per vertical inch of travel will affect the image resolution of the engraving. Higher DPI settings will have cleaner and deeper engravings, but will take longer to complete. Lower DPI settings will have coarser and more shallow engravings, but will take less time to complete. Experiment with different settings to get your desired effect. You can find the DPI function at Explorer II driver-> Properties-> Option.

**NOTE :** LaserProExplorer II has 8 DPI options, 125, 250, 300, 380, 500, 600, 750, 1000. If you choose to use 300 or 600 DPI, the output in full table size would has a truncation error list below, in the meanwhile, 125, 250, 380, 500, 750, and 1000 DPI would gives you real DPI choices.

The list DPI is set for user’s convenience to remember, the form below is provided for corresponding to the real DPI.

<b>Set DPI</b>	125	250	300	380	500	600	750	1000
<b>Real DPI</b>	127	254	381	381	508	762	762	1016

	300DPI	600DPI
Truncation error (y rail)	1.5mm	0.5mm

Table 3 DPI and Truncation Error

- **PPI** – Pulses Per Inch. PPI determines the gross amount of laser pulses there will be per linear inch. **PPI is exclusively for the vector setting.** A PPI setting of 500 results in the laser firing every .002” (500 times per inch).

Explorer II applies TRUE PPI algorithm to control the laser power density when doing vector job. True PPI algorithm controls the laser pulsing density according to the distance (inch), thus when the laser carriage slows down in curve line, the power density keeps the same as straight line. The delivery output will be the turning point or curve would get even power density as the straight line does. The true PPI is particular useful when cutting thin materials such as paper, cloth, sticker etc. or when performing half-cut, cutting dash lines or dotted line is required.

**NOTE:**

- When vector scribing or cutting thin material such as paper, textile, we would suggest to set PPI value at **400**.
- When cutting thick material such as 10mm acrylic sheet, it is recommended to push the PPI to the maximum, X, to disable PPI control mechanism.
- Adjust the PPI bar to the most right end with the value “X”, the PPI effect will be turned off, that means the power ramp is disabled.

**Save Parameters Setting**-- Each job may require unique Explorer II driver settings. After you have adjusted all of the settings, remember to save it in a desired location for future use (see Fig. 6-20 to save parameters setting). Press the SAVE icon of Fig. 6-20 and save the parameter settings to the proper directory as wished or default for all applications, then you can see the saved files shown in the History Files column. You can access your saved settings by clicking on Load or by using the History scroll, which keeps track of the settings most recently used.

**NOTE:**

- a) These editing options can be saved to one image file such as CorelDraw graphics with printer driver parameters setting or can be saved as the default settings in LaserPro driver for future files.
- b) Please make sure your ID to log in the computer is set to “Administrator” level, therefore OS of 2000/XP can allow you to save parameter settings.

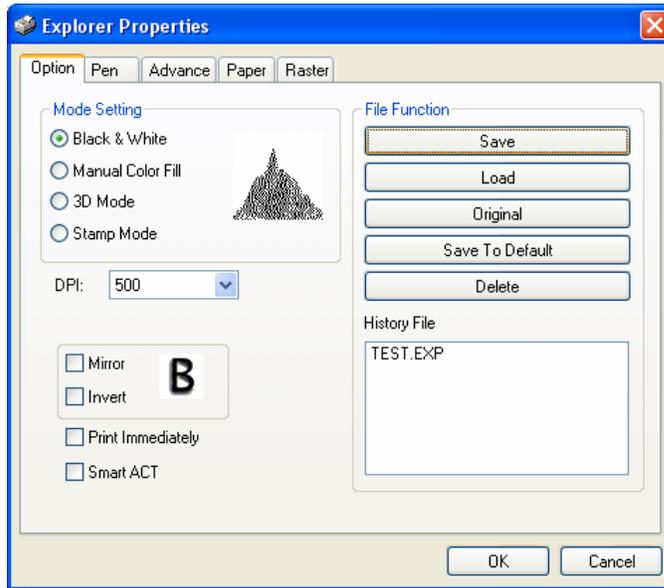


Fig. 6- 19 Save Laser Parameter Settings

## C. Advance Setting

### C-1 Scaling

Adjust output inaccuracy if you find the actual output scale is different from what you set in the computer, then you can use scaling function to modify it and get a perfect one. Here is the example, if you set a 60cm straight line output, and the real output from Explorer II is only 58cm, then you can use  $(60-58)/1000$  scaling value to adjust the difference.

**NOTE:** If you wish to use Border and Cluster, then the border must be less than the distance specified in the Cluster setting.

### C-2 Position mode options

- **Home** – At the end and beginning of each job, the laser will return to top right.
- **Without Home** – The laser will stop and start next job from the last position of the current job.
- **Relative Move** – The laser will return to the first position of the current job.
- **Center** – The laser will recognize whenever location the lens carriage (the red beam) is anchored as the center of the to-be-engraved graphic.

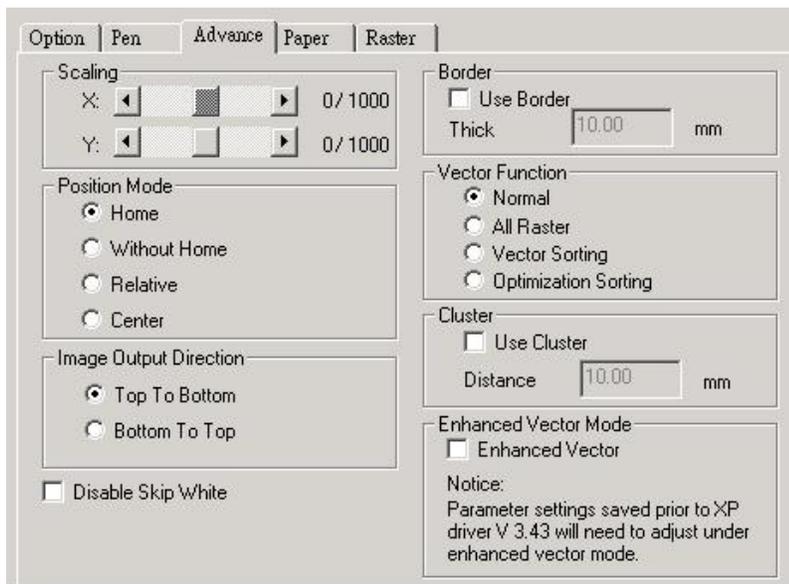


Fig. 6-20 Advance Setting

### C-3 Image Output Direction

- **Top to Bottom** – The laser would engraver from top to bottom of the image.
- **Bottom To Up** – Normally, the LaserPro Explorer II engraves from top to bottom, left to right. Selecting Bottom Up will force the machine to start from the bottom and work its way to the rear of the working table. Some laminates will produce dust that may get lodged in the engraved area if the machine engraves from top to bottom. Since the exhaust system is located at the rear of the machine, the dust will be sucked away from the engraved area.

### C-4 Skip White

When Skip White function is enabled, the laser would only engrave the black image and skip the white area to save time. The skip white enabled is the default setting of Explorer II, user can adjust it to disable according to applications.

### C-5 Border

When Border is selected, the cutting area will be larger, while the border would surround the image.

### C-6 Vector Function

- **All Raster Output** – When choose “all raster output” to print graphic including vector line and raster image, the laser would take the vector line as raster data and print the whole graphics as raster engraving image.
- **Vector Sorting** — When your image has one vector cut area enclosing another vector cut area, this setting will automatically direct the laser to cut out the inside enclosure before moving to the outside image.

- **Optimization Sorting** – This is another setting that will automatically cut down on operation time. When selected, the Explorer II driver will analyze your image and find the most efficient passing route to complete the job.

### C-7 Cluster

To reduce the working time needed for multiple production, this setting may be used. Let's take multiple stamp production for example. When selected, the Explorer II driver will automatically determine the fastest method to engrave more than one stamp. The laser may complete one stamp before starting another or may undertake several stamps at the same time. Adjust the Distance setting to determine the maximum distance the laser can "leap-frog" from one image to another.

### C-8 Enhanced Vector Mode

Check the enhanced vector mode to increase the cutting capacity.

**NOTE:** If you are one of the users had the driver before V.3.43, firmware before V3.17 and upgraded recently, please reset your parameters when you select Enhanced Vector Mode. The following chart could be your reference for the relationship of speed with Enhanced Vector and without Enhanced Vector.

- The speed from 0.1% to 3% under enhanced vector mode is linear allocation, such as 0.2% is 2 times faster than 0.1%.
- The speed from 3.1% to 100% under enhanced vector mode is another linear allocation. The 100% is equal to 20ips.
- The 3% under enhanced vector mode is a turning point of the speed curve.

Speed with Enhanced Vector Mode	Speed without Enhanced Vector Mode
0.10%	N/A
0.20%	0.10%
0.30%	N/A
0.40%	N/A
0.50%	N/A
0.60%	0.20%
0.70%	N/A
0.80%	N/A
0.90%	N/A
1.00%	0.30%
1.10%	N/A
1.20%	N/A
1.30%	N/A
1.40%	0.40%
1.50%	N/A
1.60%	N/A
1.70%	N/A



1.80%	0.50%
1.90%	N/A
2.00%	N/A
2.10%	N/A
2.20%	0.60%
2.30%	N/A
2.40%	N/A
2.50%	N/A
2.60%	0.70%
2.70%	N/A
2.80%	N/A
2.90%	N/A
3.00%	N/A
3.10%	0.80%
5.00%	1.70%
10.00%	4.20%
20.00%	9.20%
30.00%	14.20%
40.00%	19.20%
50.00%	24.20%
60.00%	29.20%
70.00%	34.20%
80.00%	39.20%
90.00%	44.20%
100.00%	49.20%

Table 4 Explorer II Enhanced Vector Mode and Normal Speed Comparison table

### Paper Settings

These settings are included in Explorer II driver Properties → Paper. They are used to adjust several output settings.

- **Paper Size** – As described in Paper and Layout Settings, ensure that the paper size is no greater than the working table area: 32"x20" (812.8mm x 508mm) or 38"x20" (963.2mmx506mm) under extend working area mode.

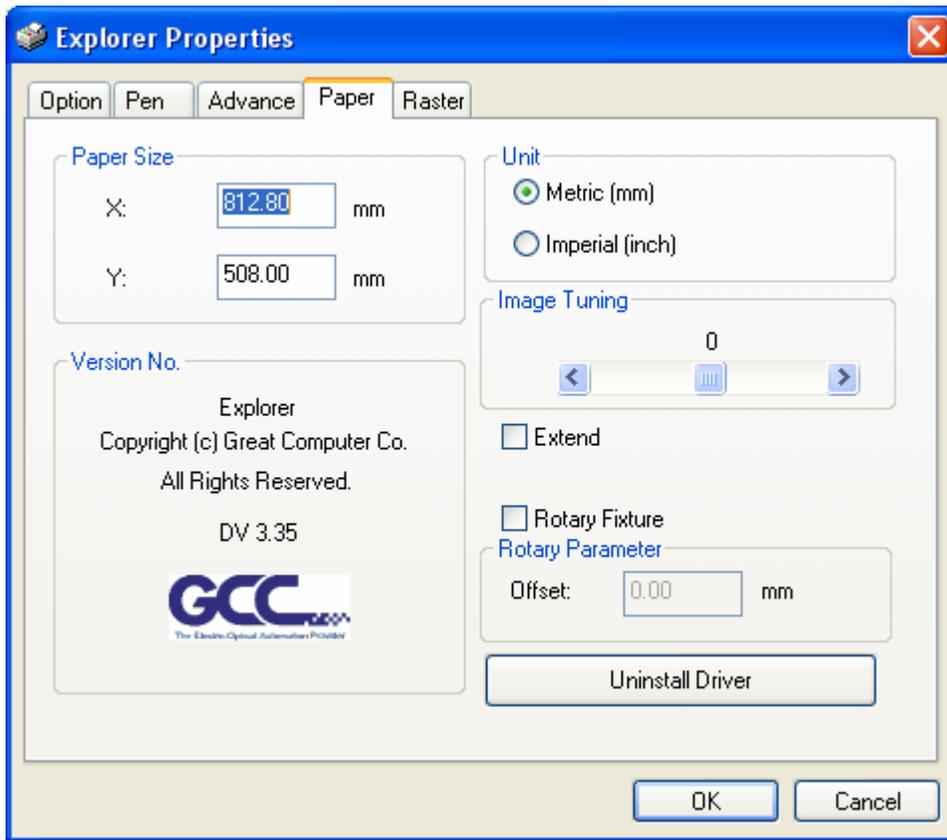


Fig. 6-21 Paper Size Setting

- **Unit** – You can choose the unit measurement either with metric or imperial inch
- **Image tuning** –This function helps to adjust the engraved images with smoother present. To adjust the Image tuning, always engrave a small full black square first and observe the blurred edge diagram by applying microscope. Table 5 will show you when you should set the image tuning value to negative or positive, and the bigger value would shift the engraving to the opposite direction more.



Without Image Tuning



With Image Tuning Value=1

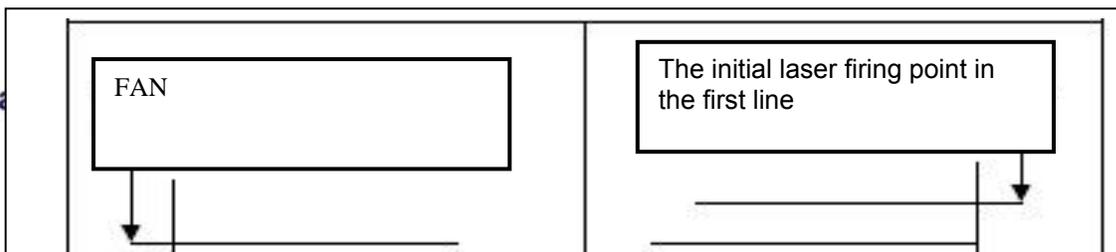


Table 5 Image tuning setting table

- **Extend** – Enable the Extend function by checking the Extend box, the working area of Explorer II would expand to 38"x20" (963.2mmx506mm) when the output quality is not high requirement.

**NOTE:** 3D and Stamp mode would be disabled under EXTEND working area.

- **Uninstall driver** – Push the button to uninstall the driver of Explorer II, and please restart your computer after uninstall.

## CHAPTER VII - BASIC MAINTENANCE

Keeping your LaserPro Explorer II clean and well maintained will ensure consistent quality and reliability. Smoke or dust build-up inside the laser system and the mechanical components can cause lower of laser power and irregularities in the motion system. This section will advise you on how to keep the working table, the motion system, and the mirrors and lens clean. The frequency of the cleaning schedule will depend entirely on the types of material being used, the working environment, the regularity of usage and the quality of the exhaust system.

## Supplies Needed for Basic Maintenance and Cleaning

Soap solution or all purpose cleaner  
Paper towels  
Cotton cloth  
Denatured alcohol (DO NOT use alcohol on any painted surface, plastic, or the laser system)  
Acetone (ONLY to be used on the working table)  
Vacuum cleaner with a flexible nozzle capable of cleaning the working table and motion system  
Cotton swabs (Supplied)  
Lens cleaner (Supplied)  
Lint free lens tissue (Supplied)  
#2 Phillips screwdriver  
Allen wrench .050"

## Cleaning the Working table and Motion System

Clean the working table and the motion system as frequently as possible using the following steps.

Turn the power off and unplug the Explorer II before cleaning.

Use a suitable vacuum machine to remove dust and debris from the working table and motion system.

Use a paper or cotton towel with soap solution, all purpose cleaner, alcohol, or acetone to clean the working table.

- Never pour or spray alcohol or acetone directly to the working table. Apply small amounts to a paper or cotton towel before using.

Use a paper or cotton towel with soap solution, all-purpose cleaner, or alcohol to wipe down the rails of the motion system. We recommend that the motion system be cleaned after each prolonged usage.

- To keep the motion system functioning properly, we recommend that the rails be lubricated on a semi-regular basis. Use a small amount of light grade machine oil on a paper or cotton towel and apply to the rails.

**NOTE:** Too much oil will accelerate the build up of debris.

- Make sure that the residue from the cleaning products is dry before continuing to use the Explorer II. Oil, alcohol and acetone can cause fires or smoke build-up if improperly used.

## Removing the Mirrors



We recommend that you check the mirrors once or twice a week to see if they require cleaning. If any debris or smoke residue is present, use the following steps to clean them. Remove, clean and replace the mirrors one at a time.

**NOTE:** Turn off and unplug the Explorer II before cleaning.

### Mirror 1

Mirror 1 is located in the lower left side of the machine. Use a #2 Phillips to remove the access panel. (see fig. 2-5)

Loosen the thumbscrew holding the mirror in place. (see fig. 7-1)



Fig. 7-1 Thumb Screw

Clean and replace the mirror. Tighten the thumbscrew and replace the access panel.

### Mirror 2 & 3

Mirror 2 & 3 are located behind their designated access panels (see fig. 3-5) Use a #2 Phillips screwdriver to remove the panels. You may need to use the control panel to move the x rail/mirror 3 to a position adjacent to the Mirror 3 Access Panel. Turn on the machine, use the control panel to move the x rail to an appropriate location, turn off the machine and continue to remove and clean mirrors 2 & 3.

Loosen the thumbscrew and remove the dust cover protecting Mirror 2. (see fig. 7-3)

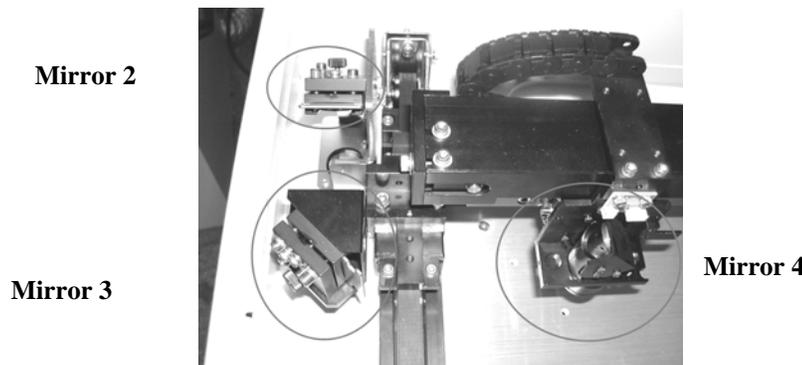


Fig. 7-2 Mirror 2, 3, and 4

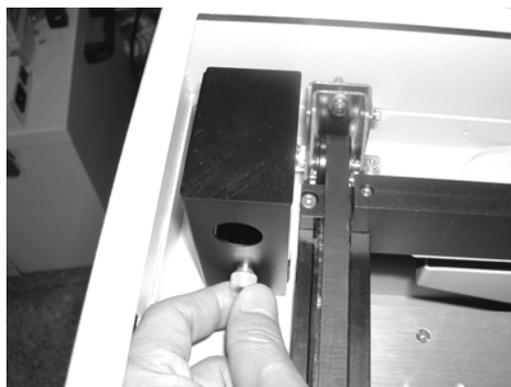


Fig. 7-3 Remove Dust Cover

Loosen the black thumbscrews (in circle marked as fig. 7-4 show) holding the mirrors in place.

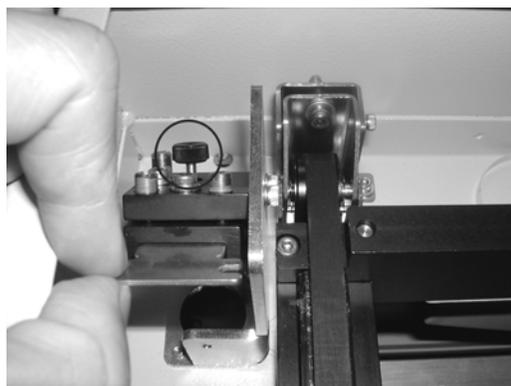


Fig. 7-4 Remove Mirror

Clean and replace the mirrors. Tighten the thumbscrews and, for mirror 2, replace the dust cover. (see the next section)

#### Mirror 4

Mirror 4 is attached to the laser carriage by three small hex screws. Using an allen wrench, remove the three hex screws holding Mirror 4 in place. (see fig. 7-5)

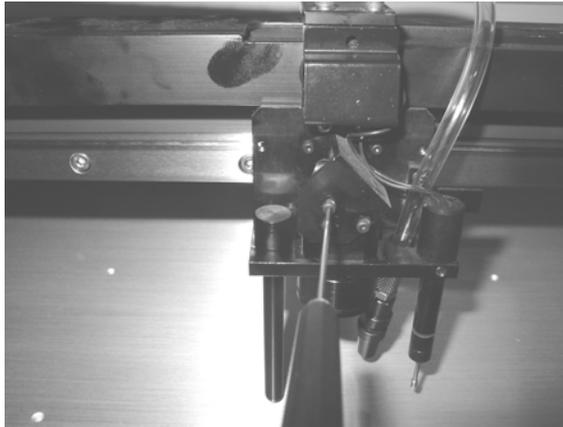


Fig. 7-5 Uninstall Hex Screw

Loosen the thumbscrew holding the mirror in place.

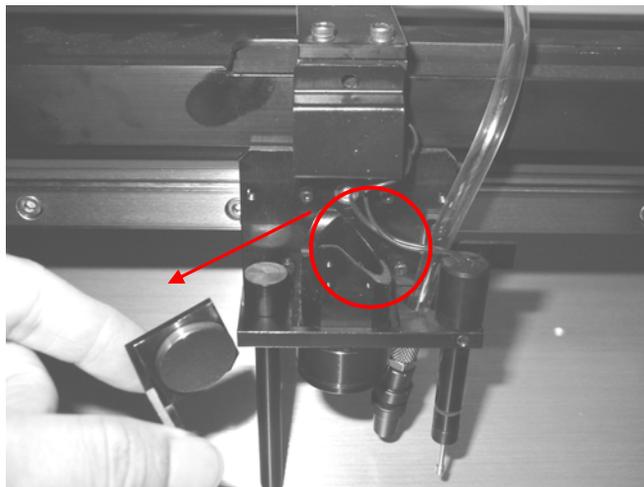


Fig. 7-6 Uninstall Mirror 4

Clean and replace the mirror. Tighten the thumbscrew and replace the Mirror 4 holder. (see the next section)

## Cleaning the Mirrors and Lens

### Cleaning the Mirrors

Inspect each mirror for scratches, smoke residue and debris. If residue or debris is present, use the following steps to clean the mirrors. The laser beam reflects off the middle of the mirror, so do not worry about the outside edge of the mirror. If the center of the mirror is scratched, contact your LaserPro Explorer II dealer for a replacement.

Hold the mirror with the reflective side up. Never touch the reflective side of the mirror.

Drape a fresh piece of lens tissue over the mirror.

Put a few drops of lens cleaner on the tissue covered mirror. Apply enough drops so that the tissue absorbs enough to cover the mirror surface. (see fig. 7-7)



Fig. 7-7 Drop Cleaner

Pull the tissue over the mirror in one direction only. (see fig. 7-8)



Fig. 7-8 Pull Tissue

Repeat the cleaning procedure if the mirror does not come clean on the first attempt. **DO NOT** apply any finger pressure or other cleaning solutions to the mirror surface. Make sure that the mirror is dry before reinstalling it.

### **Cleaning the Focus Lens**

Gently unscrew the focus lens cover and carefully pull out the focus lens. (see fig. 7-9)





Fig. 7-9 Uninstall Focus Lens

Clean the focus lens and the focus lens cover with cotton swabs and lens cleaner solution. (see fig. 7-10)



Fig. 7-10 Clean Focus Lens

Be sure to clean both sides of the focus lens.  
Use a cotton swab to gently dry the focus lens and focus lens cover.  
DO NOT apply any finger pressure or other cleaning solutions to the lens surface.

## Motion System Maintenance

In order to keep the motion system running smoothly, check for dirt and debris build up on the rails after every prolonged usage. You can use a clean sponge or cloth with PS2 grease to clean the dust piled up in the end of rails (see fig. 7-14). In addition, about every week, please check if rails become dry or lens carriage moves not so smoothly, and lubricate the rails with sponge applying with PS2 grease (check Fig. 7-12 and 7-13 to see how to apply PS2 grease to rails). Then move the lens carriage from left to right along the x rails to ensure the grease is evenly distributed.

- NOTE :**
1. Please clean the rails with PS2 grease each time after laser engraving or cutting working piece which would produce much dirt and debris easily such as wood.
  2. Please keep from hand touching or water with the groove of rails.
  3. You can purchase PS2 grease from NSK dealers. Please visit <http://www.nsk.com/eng/company/network/index.html> to find the local dealer's information.





Fig. 7-11 PS2 grease

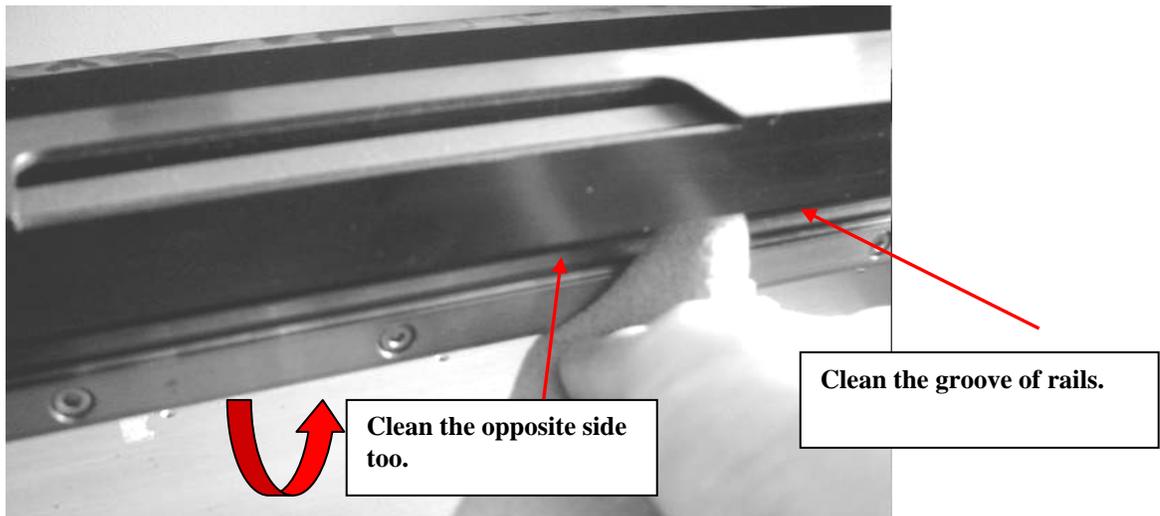


Fig. 7-12 Rails Maintenance

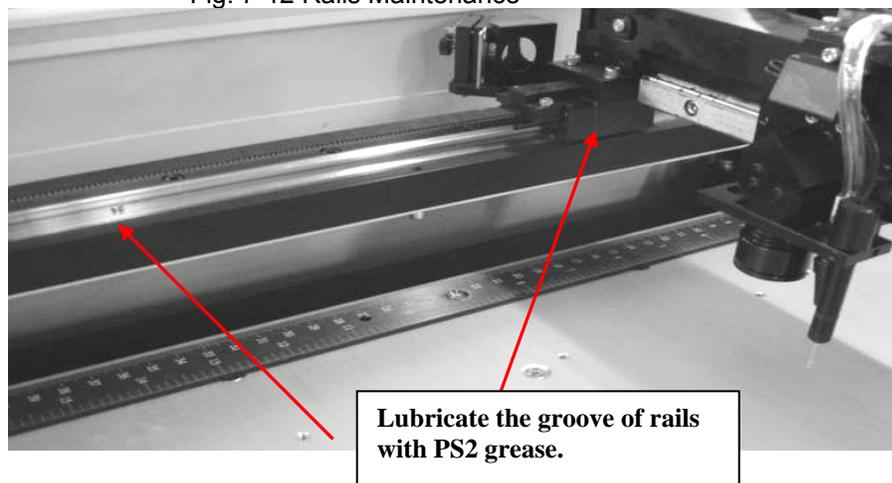
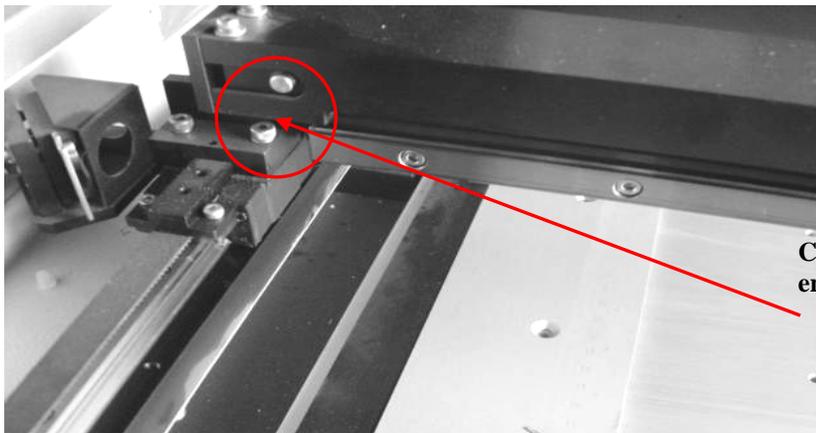


Fig. 7-13 How to Lubricate the Axis



Clean the dust piled up in the end of groove on rails.

Fig. 7-14 Rail Dust Cleaning

## CHAPTER VIII - TROUBLE SHOOTING

### Trouble Shooting

Proper care and maintenance should prevent most problems from happening. If your machine is not functioning properly, use the following Trouble Shooting guide to diagnose and find solutions to, common minor problems that may occur.

**NOTE:** If you can not easily find the source of your machine's problems, or successfully administer the corrective measures, please contact your Explorer II distributor or service representative for immediate assistance.

**NOTE:** Unplug the machine before examining the mirrors, lens, motion system or any other part of the laser system.

## Common Problems

The following are the three most common problems which may affect the performance of the Explorer II. The need for cleaning and improper reinstallation after cleaning can account for both laser and motion system problems:

1. The focus lens is not properly installed or loose in the holder.
2. Debris or dust has built up in the bearing tracks or X-Axis rails.
3. The focus lens and the mirror in the carriage are damaged or need cleaning.

## Other Problems

Use the following tips if you are having problems which are specifically affecting the laser beam, the Auto-focus pin, or are getting a “graphic was clipped” message on your computer screen when engraving.

### Laser Beam Does Not Generate

If the red beam does not show, the laser beam is misaligned. Adjust the reflection mirrors for exact focus.

If the red beam shows, the laser power may be too low to be detected. Increase the percentage of laser power from the Explorer II driver.

Check to see if the laser power connector is loose.

For safety reasons, the laser beam will not be generated when the top or front cover is opened, unless you shorten the connector of the magnetic switches.

Check the all the fans around the laser tube and see they work normally. If laser tube is overheated, laser beam will shut down automatically.

### “Graphic Was Clipped...” Message

The size or location of graphic image may be bigger or beyond legal working area.

Do not place graphic object, especially vectors, right from (3,0) origin position, or 0 at either x or y rail of working area on application software, Corel Draw for instance, even vector line’s width has been set to the thinnest. Because at thinnest line width, it still goes beyond the boarder and causes the error.

If the message appears randomly but frequently even image object is smaller or within the legal boarder, check or change DRAM module, a bad contact or faulty DRAM could cause such error.

### Auto Focus Pin is Not Functioning

The focus pin could be stocked by greasy residue that coats on it. Clean the probe with alcohol or acetone.

Check the cable of focus pin, there might be a bad contact or breakage.

## Appendix

### GLOSSARY

**Color Fill** – Term within the awards and engraving industry used to describe the variety of techniques used to add color or contrast to engraving.

**DPI** – Dots Per Inch or Pixels Per Inch. The resolution of an image as defined by the amount of dots/pixels included in an inch. The DPI setting of 500, will include tell the machine to include 500 laser firings within an inch.

**Driver** – A software program that allows the computer to communicate with its components and peripherals: printers, scanners, monitors, etc.

**Error Diffusion (Dithering Method)** - This effect uses a series of random black and white pixels to represent shading.

**Firmware** – Programming permanently set into a computer's ROM chips. This information is burned into the computer chips and can only be changed by replacing the chips, or in the case of EEROM, by special procedure.

**Parallel Cable** – The cable connection between the computer and another device (usually the printer). This allows the computer to send several bits of data simultaneously.

**Parallel Port** – An outlet on your computer or electronic device that allows the computer and device to be connected and share information simultaneously. Another common name for the parallel port is the LPT port.

**PPI** – Pulses Per Inch. PPI determines the gross amount of laser pulses there will be per linear inch. PPI is exclusively for the vector setting. A PPI setting of 500 results in the laser firing every .002" (500 times per inch). If the standard lens is producing a vector laser focal point of .007", then higher PPI settings will result in deeper, overlapping laser pulses. PPI settings lower than 150 will result in the individual laser pulses being spread far apart, so they will not touch each other. Low PPI settings are a good example of perforate paper.

**Raster** – The process of rendering a cutting or engraving by multiple horizontal lines. For example: when cutting out or engraving a square, the raster setting will make the laser use numerous horizontal lines to fill in the outlined space.

**Raster Image** – An image that is defined as a collection of arranged pixels in a rectangular array of lines. A raster image is similar to a "Bitmap" graphics image.

**Raster Line** – A raster line is the individual horizontal line that makes up the raster image.

**Serial Communication** – An interface between a computer and one of its devices that transfers one bit of data at a time.

**Serial Port** – A connection that allows a computer to send data to a peripheral device one bit at a time. Usually a COM port that meets the RS232C specification.

**Vector** – The process of cutting or engraving an image by using single horizontal, vertical and curved lines. For example: when cutting out or engraving the outline of a square, the vector setting will make the laser use a thin single line to follow the outline of the shape.

## LaserPro Explorer II Specification

### Explorer II

Work Area	32 x 20 in. (812 x 508 mm) extendable to 38 x 20 in. (965 x 508 mm)	
Maximum Part Size (W x D x Thick)	All doors closed	40.5 x 22.8 x 6.5 in. (1030 x 580 x 165 mm)
	All doors open	39 x ∞ x 6.3 in. (990 x ∞ x 160 mm)
Table Size	40.5 x 22.8 in. (1030 x 580 mm)	
Dimensions	50.4 x 28.5 x 38.5 in. (1280 x 725 x 980 mm)	
Laser Source	30 to 100 Watt Sealed CO2 Laser	
Cooling	Air-cooled, Operating environment temperature 15°- 30° C (60° - 85° F)	
Drive	DC Servo Control	
Speed Control	Adjustable from 0.1~100% of 80ips (Up to 16 color-linked speed settings per job)	
Power Control	Adjustable from 1~100% (Up to 16 color-linked power settings per job)	
Z-Axis Movement	Automatic	
Resolution (DPI)	Available 125, 250, 300, 380, 500, 600, 750, 1000	
Computer Interface	Standard printer port and USB port	
Memory Buffer	32MB standard (Upgradeable to 64MB)	
Display Panel	4-line LCD panel showing current file name, total working time, laser power, engraving speed, file(s) loaded into memory buffer, setup and diagnostic menus	
Safety	Class IIIR for red pointer	
Electrical	Below 60Watt, 100~240 Volt AC Auto Switching ; Above 60Watt 200~240 Volt AC Auto Switching	
Power Consumption	2000W- 4400W	
Air Extraction System	External air exhaust system is required, one 4" connection on the back of the machine.	
Optional Items	Honeycomb Table, Dual Head, Rotary Attachment, SmartAIR Fine Nozzle, SmartGUARD Fire Alarm System, SmartMemory Module, Air Extraction System, Air Compressor	

Above specifications are subject to change without prior notice.

Table 6 Explorer II Specification



## Application & Parameters

3D engraving / Material: 1cm Acrylic by Mercury 25W Lens: 2 inch

Step	Speed	Power	DPI	PPI	Focus	Remarks
1	25%	100%	600	auto	Auto Focus	3D Mode Engraving
2	25%	100%	600	auto	Lower down table 2.5mm	3D Mode Engraving
3	100%	100%	600	800	Lower table again 2 mm	Black and White Mode Polishing
4	0.2%	100%	500	auto	Move table up 1.3mm	Cutting off

3D engraving / Material: 1cm Acrylic by Venus 12W Lens: 1.5 inch

Step	Speed	Power	DPI	PPI	Focus	Remarks
1	13%	100%	600	auto	Auto Focus	3D Mode Engraving
2	13%	100%	600	auto	Lower down table 2.5mm	3D Mode Engraving
3	100%	100%	600	800	Lower table again 2 mm	Black and White Mode Polishing
4	0.1%	100%	500	auto	Move table up 1.3mm	Cutting off

3D engraving / Material : 1 cm Acrylic by Explorer II 60W Lens: 2"

Step	Speed	Power	DPI	PPI	Focus	Remarks
1	13%	100%	1000	auto	Auto Focus	3D Mode Engraving
2	13%	100%	1000	auto	Lower down table 2.5mm	3D Mode Engraving

