Computer Requirements & Guidelines for Installation of Advantage Software Suite

Rev. 091902

1. The computer selected must meet these minimal specifications:

   Intel Pentium III, 733MHz with 256kB L2 cache or better.
   ≥ 256MB RAM
   ≥ 8MB Video RAM (AGP or PCI based)
   ≥ 20GB Hard Drive
   ≥ 48X CD-ROM
   Available Full size (conforming) PCI slot;
   (2 PCI slots required to run Advantage & Advantage Q-Series simultaneously).
   3Com or Intel 10/100TX PCI Ethernet NIC for Advantage Q-Series.
   All Ethernet cabling must be EIA-568B Category 5 UTP.
   ≥ 17inch monitor (1024 x 768).
   Windows 2000 or XP Professional installed. [TAI instrument control software is supported only on NT and 2000, not Windows 95, 98, or ME. Moreover, Advantage Integrity software is only supported on Windows 2000 and XP.]

   Please note: This computer must have an Ethernet connection available for the Q Series modules!

2. The computer selected must be from one of these suppliers: IBM, Dell, Compaq, Hewlett-Packard, Gateway, or Micron and must be able to accommodate the National Instruments PCI-GPIB board. Multi-processor machines cannot be used.

3. Peripherals (e.g., printer, NIC, etc.) must be from the known compatible list. (See Microsoft's website at http://www.microsoft.com/hwtest for the most current list.)

4. The computer should be a new computer that is not attached to other analytical instruments.

5. The computer must have Windows 2000 Professional with Service Pack 2 (or greater) or Windows XP Professional software installed. This software can be installed by the user, or the computer can be purchased with these packages already installed. Verification that these packages are properly installed and will readily accommodate the TA Instruments Software Suite can be obtained as follows:
For Windows 2000

a. Select Programs/Accessories/System Tools/System Information from the Start menu.
b. Verify System Summary is highlighted.
c. Select Action/Print or press the print button on the MMC toolbar. Select to print “Selection” only.

For Windows XP

a. Select Programs/Accessories/System Tools/System Information from the Start menu.
b. Verify System Summary is highlighted.
   Note: If you print out this summary from this window [e.g., File/Print – “selection”], you will receive all system information (> 50 pages). Follow the instructions below to copy and print only the system summary information.
c. Select Edit>Select All. Then Edit/Copy.
d. Open Notepad or another word processing program [e.g., select Programs/Accessories/Notepad from the Start menu.].
e. From Notepad, select Edit/Paste, then File/Print.

Note: Before the TA Instruments Service Representative will schedule an installation visit for new modules supported by the computer (controller), a hard copy of the Windows system summary, obtained from this verification process, must be faxed to the TA Instruments Service Department at (302) 427-4054.

6. Installation of the Software Suite by TA Instruments Service assumes a stand-alone controller situation. The customer is responsible for resolving all issues associated with controllers used in corporate network situations.

7. The customer is responsible for any future hardware/software conflicts created by addition of "non-TA Instruments" hardware or software to the system.