



LASER TRACKER EVALUATION SYSTEM

User Manual





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Thank you for purchasing KinAiry. Remember that our customer support does not stop after shipment of a product—we are here to help you with any measurement challenges that you may have.

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WHAT IS KINAIRY?

KinAiry is a laser tracker evaluation system, and gives easy access to the Interim Field Test for Laser Trackers as designed by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). It guides you step by step, providing confidence that your tracker is performing within expected norms. KinAiry is comprised of a carbon-composite, precision length artifact, KINematically mounted at its AIRY points to a heavy duty rotary positioning device. The KinAiry solution is complete with data analysis and procedural guidance software.

The NIST Interim Field Test is designed to be quick, easy to learn, and yield consistent performance feedback. The role of interim testing is to evaluate instrument performance and errors under the same conditions as the measurement job, answering the question, "How is my tracker performing right now?" Results from interim testing can be used as part of a quality system, to double check instrument performance prior to critical measurements, and to track instrument performance over time. The test's target positions and artifact orientations have been carefully selected and justified to be sensitive to known error parameters, but the test is sufficiently brief to be accomplished in less than one hour (generally 30 minutes or less).

KinAiry's innovative, 2.3m long reference length artifact was designed to minimize sensitivity to gravity, fixturing forces, and other factors which affect stability of a calibrated length. And, it's portable for deployment in the field. The reference length can be calibrated using the range measurement capability of the laser tracker, with the calibrated value being established as a part of the test procedure.

KinAiry software leads you through the NIST Interim Field Test and analyzes that data. It also has test validity checks, and calculates MPEs (maximum permissible errors) for each point using the laser tracker manufacturer's MPE coefficients.

MEET THE ACME LT-1 LASER TRACKER

The tracker that you see pictured throughout our manual is the **ACME LT-1**. No, it's not the latest device ordered by Wile E. Coyote to foil his road-running adversary. It's the fictitious creation of the fertile minds in our engineering department. Our make-believe tracker features IFM along with ADM measuring capabilities, and comes complete with made-up MPE values.



SYSTEM COMPONENTS



Small Case

1. Positioner
2. Mirror and Holder
3. KinAiry Software Flashdrive
4. Spanner Wrench
5. EasyConnect™ Base
6. Two Retroreflector Counterweights
7. Small Hard Sided Case

Long Case

8. Long Hard Sided Case
KinAiry Artifact Bar (see next page)

LENGTH ARTIFACT DETAIL



Back of Artifact Bar

Side view of Positioner

- 1. Carry Handles
- 2. Target Nests
- 3. Counterweight Nests
- 4. Mirror Mount
- 5. Mirror Adjustment Screws
- 6. Ring Mount (on back)
- 7. Hand Wheel (on back)

CHAPTER ONE: GETTING STARTED

Precautions: Safety

- KinAiry is designed for use on flat, level floor surfaces. Deploying the length artifact on an unsuitable stand or on non-level surfaces increases the tipping hazard.
- Prior to transport, always remove the length artifact and positioner from the stand, and place them in the provided cases.
- The length artifact is very long (8-feet, 2.5m). When mounting and dismounting the artifact, pay attention to provide necessary clearance for its entire length to reduce the possibility of damage to either the artifact or the surroundings.
- The stands should be handled according to procedures in their respective owner's manuals.
- The artifact and positioner are heavy. Use proper lifting techniques when mounting/dismounting or transporting to prevent injury.
 - Positioner – 24.6 lbs (11.2 kg)
 - Length Artifact – 28.3 lbs (12.8 kg)
 - Small Case (packed) – 46.7 lbs (21.2 kg)
 - Long Case (packed) – 94.1 lbs (42.7 kg)

Precautions: Use

- As part of its function, the length artifact rotates between horizontal and vertical orientations.
- Ensure the stand is at sufficient height (> 4 ft) to allow clearance of the length artifact from the floor when rotated into the vertical orientation.
- Confirm that in the vertical orientation, the artifact will not contact the ceiling or fixtures on the ceiling, lighting, HVAC, etc. (height of tracker + 4 ft).
- Keep people and equipment clear from the path of rotation to prevent injury and equipment damage (circle, diameter 8 ft).
- The bearing housings supporting the rotating section are partially open, and present a pinch hazard. Keep hands, fingers, hair, and clothing clear of the rotating assembly.

Precautions: Residual Risks

Though precautions have been taken to identify and minimize risks to operators and equipment, some additional residual risk remains when handling long and heavy fixtures. To manage these inherent risks, operators may wish to use safety shoes to protect against drops as well as the use of a spotter to help identify clearance or safety issues when handling the equipment.

Required Equipment

The following items are required to run the NIST Interim Field Test with KinAiry. Not all of these items are included with your purchase of KinAiry.

- KinAiry laser tracker evaluation system
- Metrology stand (230 or M-Series recommended)
- One high quality retroreflector (three optimal)
- Computer to run KinAiry software
- Tracker being tested

Installing KinAiry Software on a Windows Machine

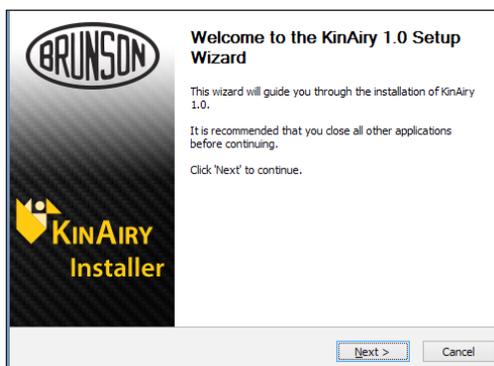
KinAiry software is designed to teach users how to conduct the NIST Interim Field Test Procedure, compile data, and organize the results. Minimal computer system requirements are:

- Windows 7, 32- or 64-bit
- 2.6GHz Processor
- 4GB RAM
- USB Port for software installation

Be sure you are logged in as an administrator when installing the software. KinAiry's program data folder (e.g., C:\ProgramData\Brunson KinAiry) will be defined with read/write permissions for all users at the time of installation.

Insert the jump drive into a USB port on your computer. Open the KinAiry folder and double click on the executable file **Setup_x.xx.exe**, where **x.xx** indicates the software revision.

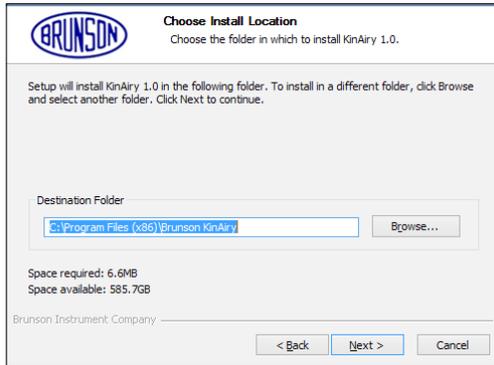
When you double-click the installation file, a security dialog may pop up, depending on the user account control settings on your computer. Click the **Yes** button to allow the changes.



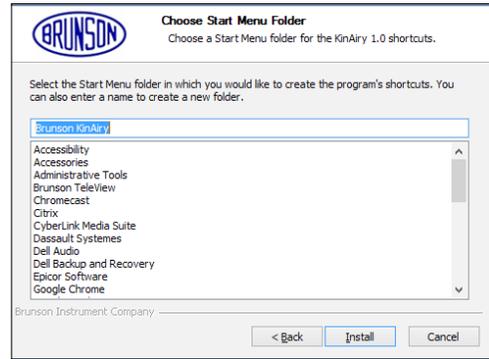
To begin the setup wizard, click **Next**.



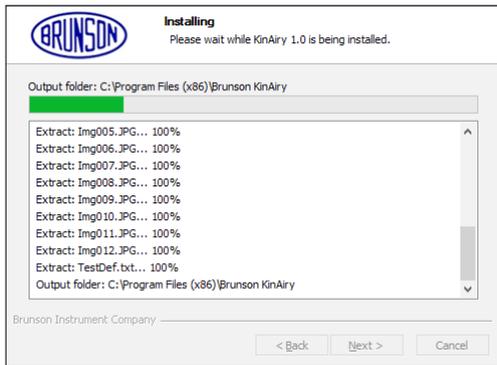
Read the license agreement and click the **I Agree** radio button, then click **I Agree** in the lower right corner.



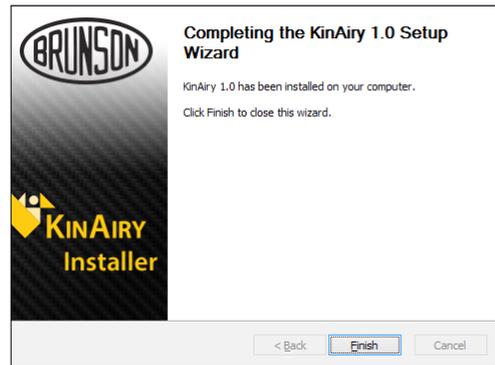
Accept or customize the destination folder, then click **Next**.



Accept or customize the *Start Menu* folder, then click **Install**.



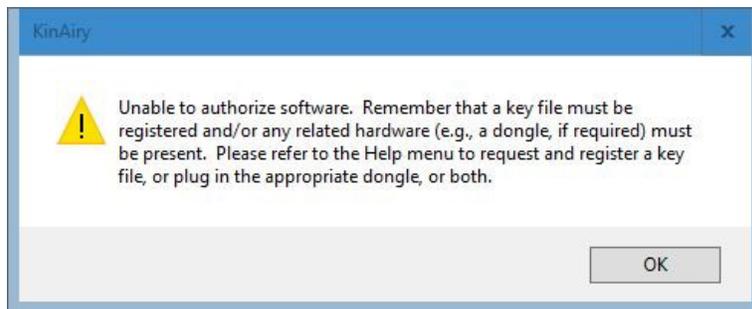
The green status bar indicates installation progress.



Click the **Finish** button to complete the installation.

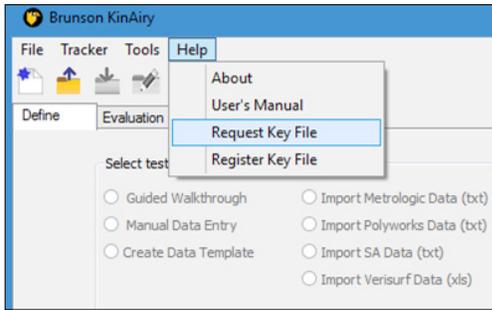
First Startup

Once installed, KinAiry will require a license to activate the software. This license is provided in the form of a key file. One type of key file ties KinAiry to a particular computer for a fixed period of time. Another type of key file ties KinAiry to a USB hardware lock (dongle) for a fixed period of time. A dongle allows the use of KinAiry on any number of machines, as long as the dongle is present.

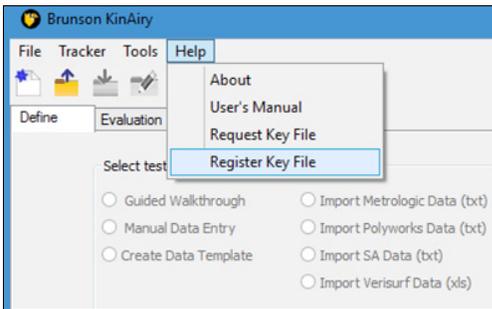


Begin by running the application. The first time KinAiry is started, it will alert you that no license was found.

A dongle is shipped with its own key file, so if you purchased a dongle, simply plug it in at any time, and KinAiry will recognize the key file resident on the dongle. If you didn't purchase a dongle, then you must follow the instructions below to request a key file for your particular computer.



From the *Help* menu, select **Request Key File**. KinAiry will generate a key file request, which is a text file. Save this text file to some location on your computer (perhaps the Desktop), then e-mail the text file as an attachment to your sales representative or to Brunson customer service at sales@brunson.us.



After you have received your Key File, register it with KinAiry by selecting **Register Key File** from the Help menu.

Navigate to the Key File and click **Open**.

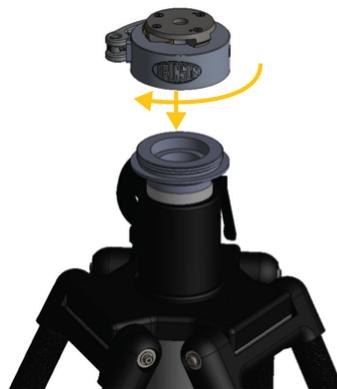
KinAiry will then validate and store the key. Once a valid key is registered, KinAiry will be ready to use.

Hardware Assembly

To set up KinAiry, you'll need the 2.3m carbon composite length artifact, EasyConnect™, spanner wrench, positioner, and a suitable metrology stand. When setting up the system, ensure that all stand joints are securely locked in place. Give consideration to the floor surface, avoiding carpet, vinyl, wood, or spanning large cracks in concrete when possible. Position all components as described below.



Setup the stand and lock all joints.



Install the EasyConnect. Tighten it in place using the spanner wrench.



Clamp the positioner in place.



Orient the positioner to allow clearance between the stand braces/legs and the length artifact as it rotates between horizontal and vertical orientations.



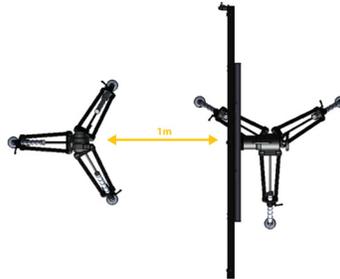
Improper orientation of the positioner may cause contact between the artifact and stand leg during rotation.



Mount the artifact by placing the ring brake into the slot on the face of the positioner.



Rotate the artifact into the horizontal orientation. The ring brake should click into position. Detents are provided at 45° intervals. Clamp the artifact to the positioner by engaging and tightening the hand wheel (6-8 full rotations). The hand wheel must be pushed toward the front of the system to engage the ring brake.



Arrange the tracker according to the NIST Interim Field Test approximately 1m from, and centered on (directly in front of), the length artifact.



At one point in the test, the tracker must be at the same height as the artifact. At another point, the artifact must be 0.5m above the tracker (in horizontal orientation only). This 0.5m offset can be established by either lowering the tracker or raising the artifact, or both. Adjust the initial height of the stands so that you can accommodate the 0m and 0.5m offsets during the course of the test.

CHAPTER TWO: SOFTWARE FEATURES

User-Selectable Test Modes

The KinAiry software has several unique modes:

- *Guided Walkthrough** – Use this test mode to see a detailed explanation of the test process, with no data capture or data file imports. Pictures and explanatory text guide you through the steps required by the NIST Interim Field Test Procedure.
- *Manual Data Entry* – Use this mode to walk through the test and manually enter point coordinates. This mode includes the same guidance as the Guided Walkthrough test mode. Data is analyzed and results are presented on a plot.
- *Create Data Template** – Use this test mode to create an empty KinAiry data file (in non-proprietary CSV format) using specific test conditions. Output the empty, preconfigured file, and edit it as desired with a text or spreadsheet editor. Reopen the file in KinAiry to view test results.
- *Import Metrologic Data File* – Use this test mode to import a data file exported by Metrologic® software.
- *Import Polyworks Data File* – Use this test mode to import a data file exported by Polyworks® software.
- *Import SA Data File* – Use this test mode to import a data file exported by New River Kinematics' SpatialAnalyzer® software.
- *Import Verisurf Data File* – Use this test mode to import a data file exported by Verisurf® software.

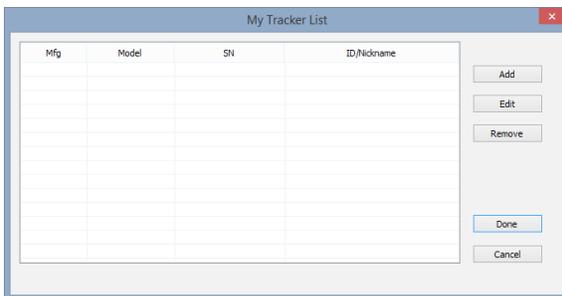
* These test modes do not handle data and do not create an error graph.

My Tracker List

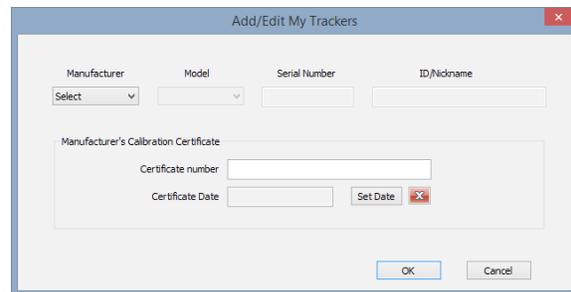


My Tracker List Icon

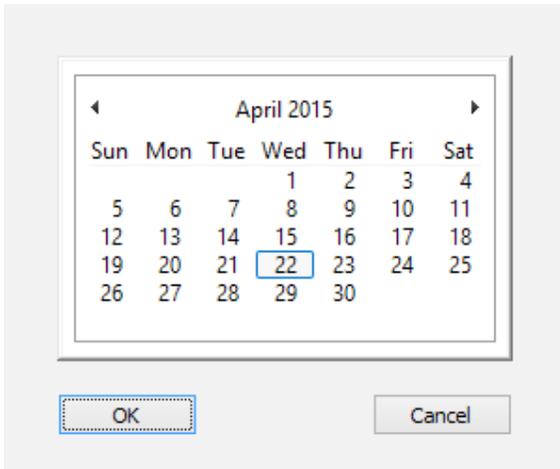
Most tests performed by KinAiry require the user to select a tracker from *My Tracker List*. The list is accessible by selecting **My Tracker List** under the *Tracker* menu or from the tracker icon on the toolbar. Use the list to store identifying information for any tracker you wish to test. KinAiry software accesses tracker information to manage test steps, MPE (Maximum Permissible Error) coefficients, and certification data.



To add a tracker click **Add**.



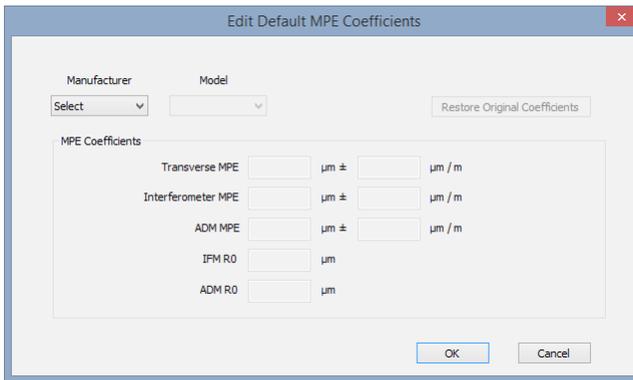
Select a Manufacturer and Model from the dropdown menus. Enter a *Serial Number* (required) and an *ID* or *Nickname* (optional) for the laser tracker. For traceability, entries are available for the instrument's calibration certificate number and date.



Clicking **Set Date** on the *Add/Edit My Trackers* dialog box will bring up a calendar form. Navigate the calendar and click on the correct calibration certificate date. To select the date click **OK**. When complete, click **Done** to close the *Add/Edit My Trackers* dialog.

*No changes will be saved if you click **Cancel** on the My Tracker List dialog box, regardless of how many changes you made to the tracker list using the **Add, Edit, or Remove** functions.*

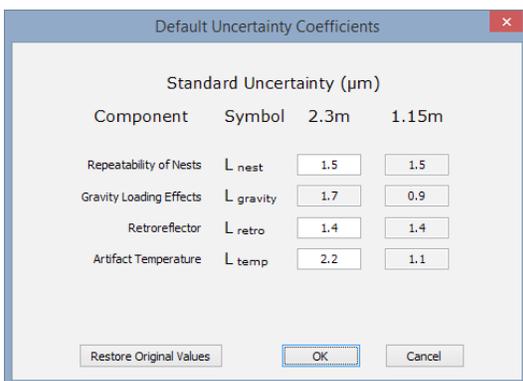
Edit Default MPE Coefficients



When creating error plots from test data, KinAiry calculates maximum permissible errors based on the given point geometry and several MPE coefficients provided by the tracker manufacturer. The calculation follows instructions laid out in ISO 10360-10⁽¹⁾. Default values for these MPE coefficients exist in the software for many tracker models. You are free to edit any of them as desired, based on your own information from the tracker manufacturer. This function is available from the main menu by selecting **Tracker**, then **Edit Default**

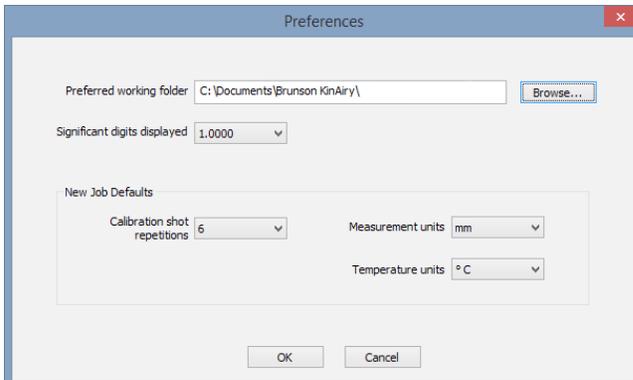
Tracker MPEs. Editing default values will alter the MPE coefficients that are loaded whenever a new test is initialized. Editing default values will not change the values for a test that is currently underway.

Edit Default Uncertainty Values



A number of values have been identified as components of the uncertainty budget when using KinAiry to perform the NIST Interim Field Test. Some may be edited by the user (from the main menu select **Tools**, then **Edit Default Uncertainty Values**). Depending on the conditions of the test, it may be appropriate to edit values in the uncertainty budget. The default uncertainty values are used when a new test is initialized. Editing the defaults does not change the values for any test currently underway. See Appendix E for a more detailed explanation of the uncertainty budget.

User Preferences



You can define certain user preferences by selecting **Tools** from the main menu, then **Preferences**. Options selected here define certain default values used when the software is opened and a new test is initialized.

The options are:

- *Preferred working folder* — identifies the default working directory for saving or opening files used with KinAiry.
- *Significant digits displayed* — controls how many decimal places are visible. All values are stored at full precision even though fewer digits may be displayed for clarity.
- *Calibration shot repetitions* — allows you to choose 1, 3, or 6 repetitions of the calibration points as the default.
- *Measurement units* — millimeters or inches.
- *Temperature Units* — Fahrenheit or Celsius.

Test Validity Conditions Report

Test validity conditions are requirements that must be met in order for the proposed uncertainty budget to be valid, and to preserve the sensitivity of the NIST Interim Field Test Procedure. KinAiry monitors these test validity conditions, and a report is accessible from the main menu under **Tools, Test Validity Conditions Report**. Test validity warnings are also displayed at various times during data entry or data import when data is detected which would trigger a validity condition violation. KinAiry's ability to test for certain validity conditions depends upon the origin of the coordinate system being located inside the tracker at or near the intersection of the horizontal and vertical axes. KinAiry software checks for the conditions below.

- *Distance* — The distance of the laser tracker from target B should be $1.0\text{m} \pm 0.5\text{m}$.
- *Angle* — The length artifact should be perpendicular to a line between target nest B and the aperture of the laser tracker. A deviation up to $\pm 10^\circ$ is allowed.
- *Temperature* — An error will be generated if a temperature field is left blank, or if any temperature deviates more than $\pm 1.0^\circ\text{C}$ ($\pm 1.8^\circ\text{F}$) from the temperature taken at the time of calibration.
- *Time* — The test is to be completed within 60 minutes. This error will be triggered if data is altered beyond the allowable time limit. Times are not accessible from within the KinAiry software. Times can be viewed or edited in the CSV data file using a text editor or spreadsheet software.

Also included are a couple of checks for gross user errors. While these errors do not technically violate test validity conditions, they can nonetheless be useful by calling attention to mistakes that may happen while the test is being conducted. These help alert you, for example, to targets which are measured out of order.

- *Lengths* — The distance between targets must appear to be reasonable. Lengths AB and AC are expected to be 1150mm ±5mm. Length AC is expected to be 2300mm ±5mm.
- *Two Face Errors* — The distance between front and back-facing points should be less than 5mm.

Save / Open Evaluation Data File



Save Icon

Tests performed in KinAiry are saved in a non-proprietary CSV file format, and reopened later as desired. Saved tests can be used to track instrument performance over time, or confirm results before and after the instrument is serviced.

To save a test, use the main menu's **File, Save** or **Save As** functions or the **Save** or **Save As** toolbar button. To view prior test data, or to view data placed in a template file, use **File, Open** from the main menu, or the **Open** toolbar button.



Save As Icon



Open File Icon

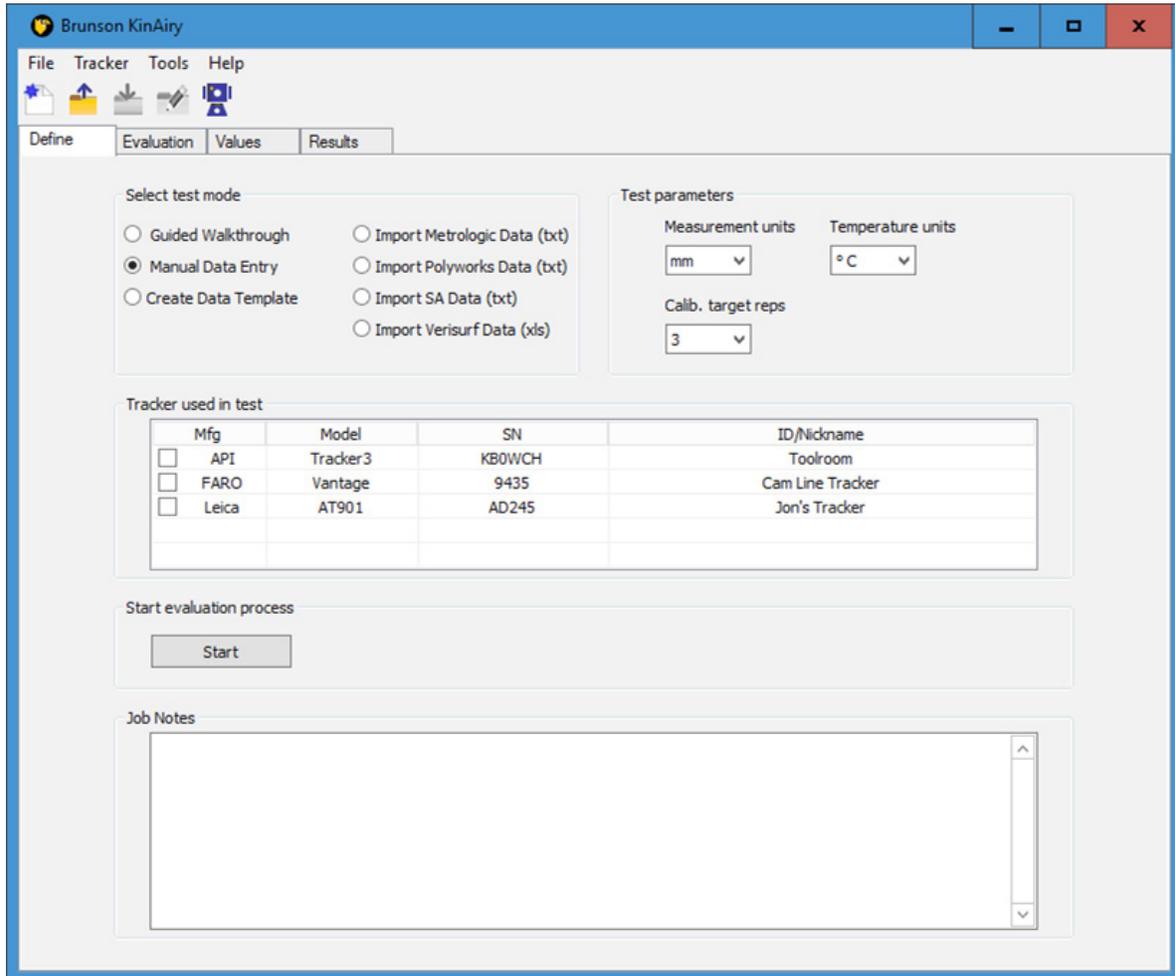
Export Error Graph Image

Once an error graph has been generated by KinAiry, it may be saved in JPG format. The **Export Error Graph Image** function is available in the **Tools** menu.

The Four Data Tabs

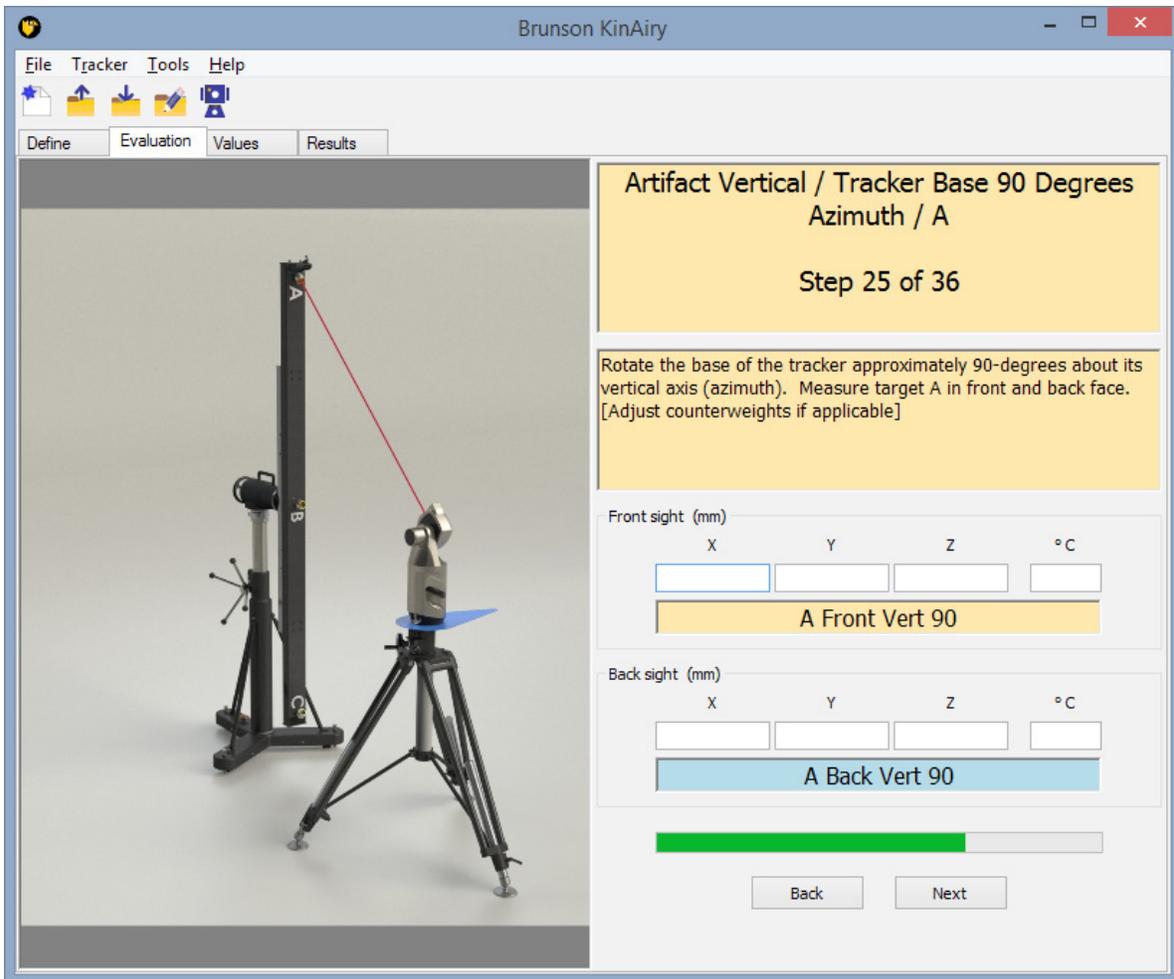
KinAiry has four tabs to display or edit information pertaining to any given test. These are the *Define*, *Evaluation*, *Values*, and *Results* tabs.

Define Tab



The *Define* tab is where an interim test begins. Here, you can define the test mode, and select parameters relevant to the chosen test mode. The **Start** button begins the test and takes you on to the next steps. While a test is underway, all options on this tab are switched to read-only mode, except for *Job Notes*. *Job Notes* is an edit field that you can use to keep any information relevant to the evaluation that's underway.

Evaluation Tab



The *Evaluation* tab presents step-by-step guidance to perform the NIST Interim Field Test. The **Back** and **Next** buttons can be used to walk through setup, alignment, calibration, and the full volumetric check. In some test modes, and when viewing an existing KinAiry test file, coordinate data is available and the *Evaluation* tab may be used as a viewer or editor when it is useful to see the numbers alongside the procedural guidance.

Values Tab

Tracker Information

Tracker

Cal. Cert. number

Cal. Cert. Date

MPE Coefficients

Transverse MPE $\mu\text{m} \pm$ $\mu\text{m} / \text{m}$

Interferometer MPE $\mu\text{m} \pm$ $\mu\text{m} / \text{m}$

ADM MPE $\mu\text{m} \pm$ $\mu\text{m} / \text{m}$

IFM R0 μm

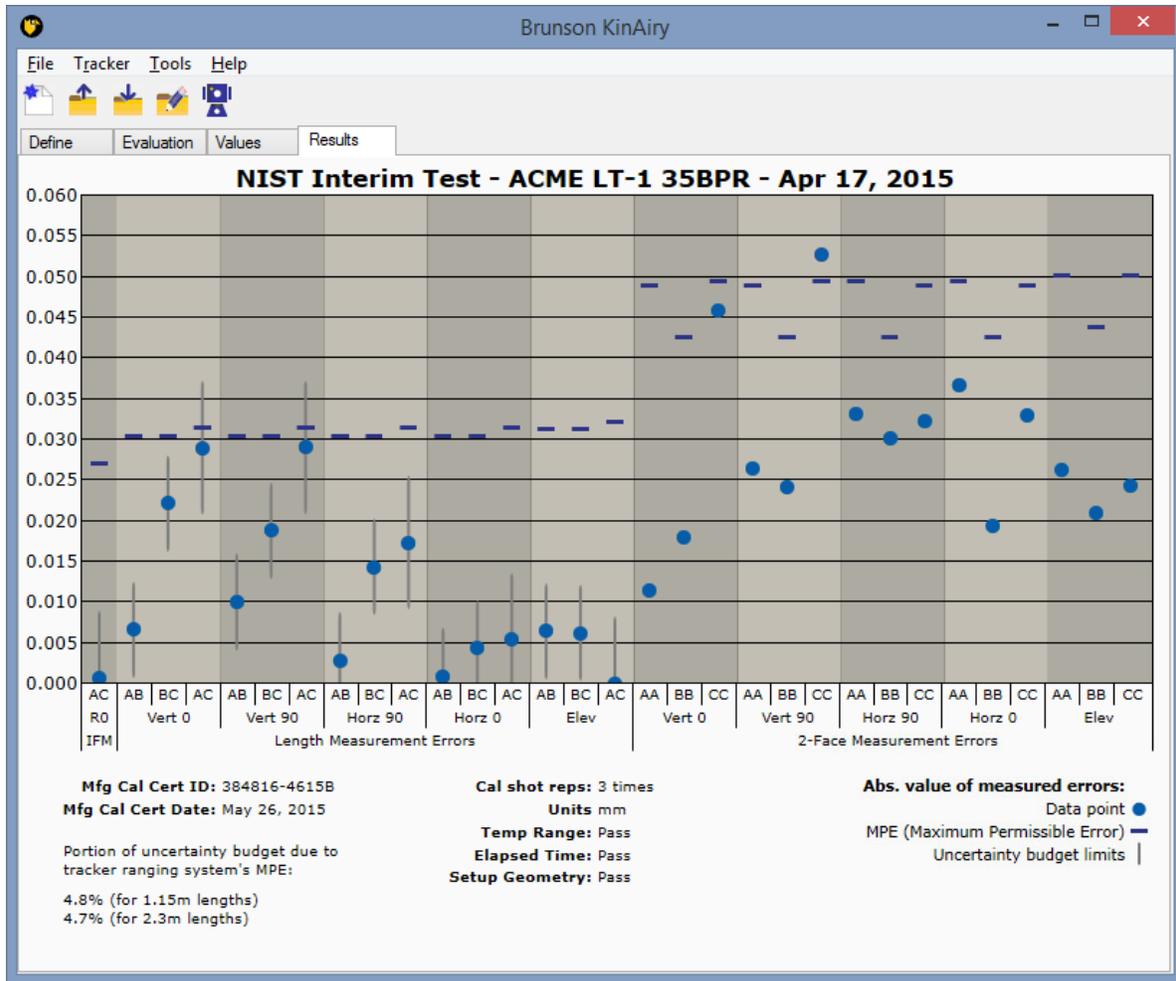
ADM R0 μm

Uncertainty Budget Values

Component	Symbol	2.3 m	1.15 m
Tracker Ranging Error	L_{tracker}	<input type="text" value="1.2"/>	<input type="text" value="0.9"/>
Repeatability of Nests	L_{nest}	<input type="text" value="1.5"/>	<input type="text" value="1.5"/>
Gravity Loading Effects	L_{gravity}	<input type="text" value="2.5"/>	<input type="text" value="1.6"/>
Retroreflector	L_{retro}	<input type="text" value="1.4"/>	<input type="text" value="1.4"/>
Artifact Temperature	L_{temp}	<input type="text" value="2.2"/>	<input type="text" value="1.1"/>
Total	$U_{k=2}$	<input type="text" value="8.2"/>	<input type="text" value="5.9"/>

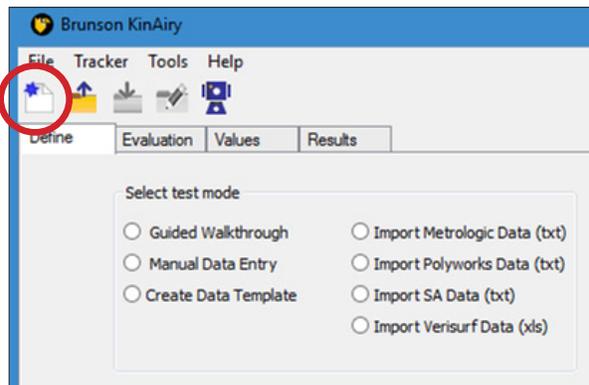
The *Values* tab displays critical values pertaining to the current test, such as information for the current tracker under test. *MPE coefficients* and *Uncertainty Budget* terms are also displayed, and can be modified here (for the current test only). This functionality allows you to make test-specific edits rather than use default values if you desire. As an example, you might alter the uncertainty budget value for the *retroreflector* when using targets of various grades. Alternatively, you may wish to verify your laser tracker to a different standard than that reported by the manufacturer. Changes to MPE coefficients or uncertainty budget items on the *Values* tab will be reflected in the error graph on the *Results* tab. Buttons are available on this tab to overwrite existing entries and restore user default values.

Results Tab



The *Results* tab displays an error graph visualizing results for the NIST Interim Field Test. The title contains the name of the test procedure, the make, model and serial number of the tracker under test, and the date the data was last modified. The scale on the vertical axis indicates length in millimeters or inches. Labels on the horizontal axis identify each data point by test orientation. Horizontal blue bars on the plot represent the MPEs for each measurement. MPEs are calculated according to ISO 10360-10^[1] using the actual coordinates for that particular error. On the left-hand portion of the plot, measured error points are displayed as dots with vertical uncertainty bars. The uncertainty bars refer to the combined expanded uncertainty of the reference length. See Appendix E for more detail regarding uncertainty. Error values on the right-hand portion of the plot do not have uncertainty error bars. They represent two-face errors, and are not compared against any reference length. In the plot legend, test information is preserved for later reference. The tracker's certification for the ranging system is referenced as the traceable standard used to calibrate the reference length. Checks for validity conditions are summarized in a list.

CHAPTER THREE: SOFTWARE TEST MODES



After launching KinAiry software, click the toolbar icon for **New Evaluation** (or from the main menu, select **File, New Evaluation**). Then, select the desired test mode using the radio buttons provided. Each test mode will reveal additional items that you can use to configure the test as desired.

In all of the test modes, you must choose between 1, 3, and 6 repetitions of the calibration target shots. The uncertainty budget (explained more fully in Appendix E) assumes that one sample is taken. Additional repetitions are not used to decrease the uncertainty budget for the calibrated length, but may reduce the effect of measurement inconsistencies in calibration by using the average of multiple measurements as the best estimate of the true value.

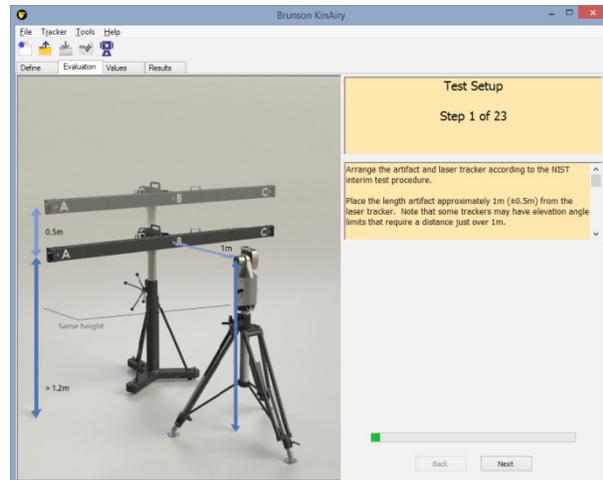
A short discussion of each test mode follows.

Test Mode: Guided Walkthrough

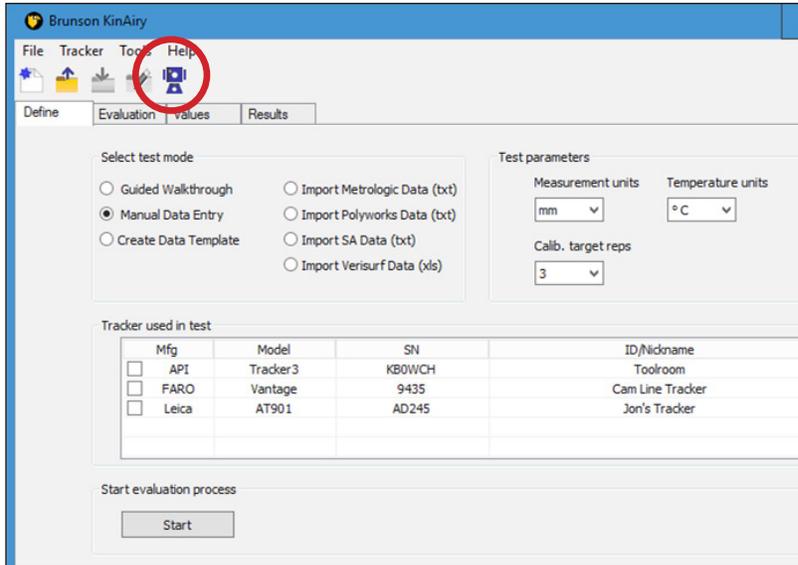
Using the *Guided Walkthrough* mode can be useful for familiarizing yourself with the procedure, or guiding a test where another application is used to collect the data. In this mode, you are responsible for:

- Determining the number of calibration target shot repetitions
- Indicating whether or not the tracker under evaluation has an interferometer

When you click **Start**, KinAiry will bring the *Evaluation* tab forward. Navigate through the steps with the **Next** and **Back** buttons. Since no data is entered or imported in this test mode, no test information is displayed on the *Values* tab, and no error graph is generated on the *Results* tab.



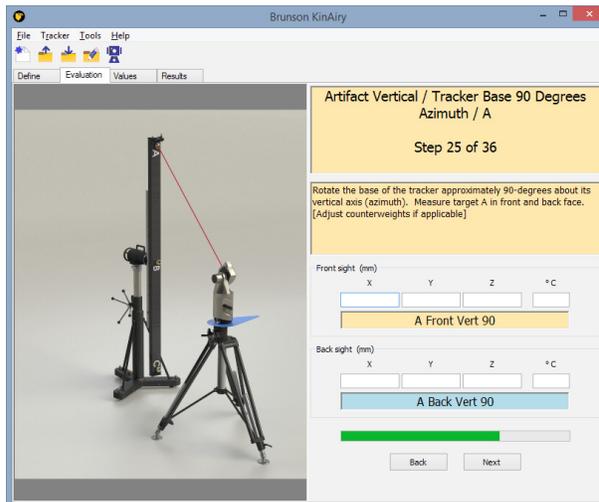
Test Mode: Manual Data Entry



Manual Data Entry mode is an easy way to run the test for the first time, and can be useful for familiarization and training. To begin *Manual Data Entry* mode, be sure that the tracker to be tested has been entered into *My Tracker List*. In this mode, you are responsible for:

- Determining the number of calibration target shot repetitions
- Verifying the measurement units (in or mm)
- Verifying the temperature units (°F or °C)
- Selecting the tracker to be evaluated

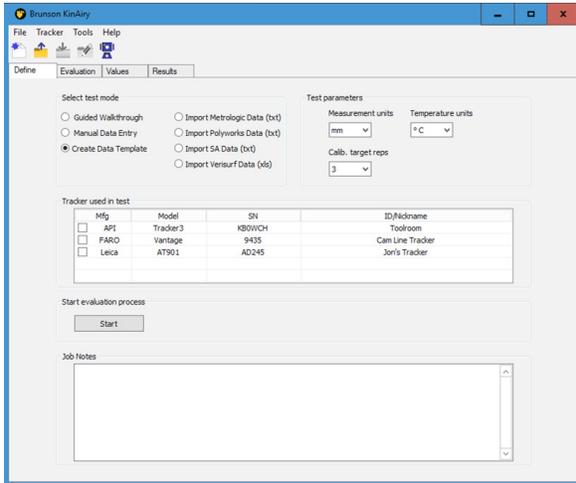
If the tracker you wish to test is not shown in the *tracker used in test* box, add it to the list by clicking on the **My Tracker List** icon on the toolbar or selecting **My Tracker List** from the **Tracker** menu.



To begin the routine, click the **Start** button. KinAiry then brings the *Evaluation* tab forward. Follow the instructions and enter the data for each step. Navigate through the procedure using the **Next** and **Back** buttons. Modify or confirm the MPE coefficients and uncertainty budget items on the *Values* tab so that they match the test conditions, then proceed to the *Results* tab.

Once a test is completed, save the file for reference at a later time. Monitoring laser tracker performance over time can give you powerful insights.

Test Mode: Create Data Template



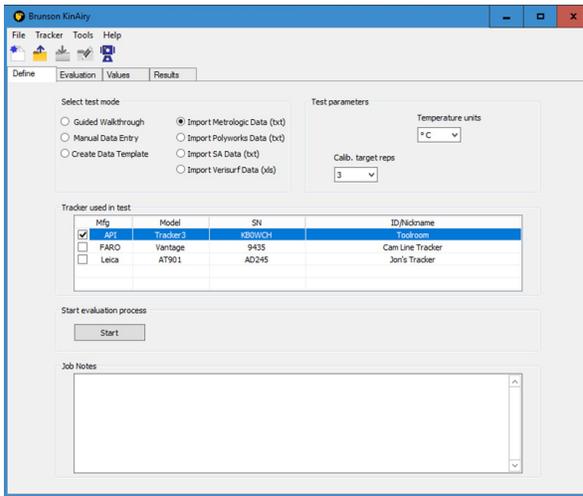
Create Data Template mode gives you an easy way to construct and save an empty KinAiry data file, in the common CSV file type. This non-proprietary file type was chosen to give you convenient access, if direct data editing is desired. This file is most easily edited using a program like Microsoft Excel[®]. The template file will contain a header with identifying information about the test, the given tracker's default MPE coefficients, uncertainty budget values, and a place to edit (or copy/paste) test point data. Once populated with data, the file may be re-opened in KinAiry to view results, check or modify data, and be saved again.

In this mode, you are responsible for:

- Determining the number of calibration target repetitions
- Verifying the measurement units (in or mm)
- Verifying the temperature units (°F or °C)
- Selecting the tracker to be evaluated

If the tracker you wish to test is not shown in the *tracker used in test* box, add it to the list by clicking on the **My Tracker List** icon on the toolbar or by selecting **My Tracker List** from the **Tracker** menu. To create the template, click the **Start** button. KinAiry will open a *Save* dialog in the default file folder location, with a suggested filename. You may use this name or assign your own. Save the data file and access it with an appropriate editor to enter data.

Test Mode: Import Metrologic Data



Data captured using Metrolog X4 can be output to a TXT file and read directly into KinAiry software for analysis. For more information on exporting a data file from Metrolog X4, see Appendix A.

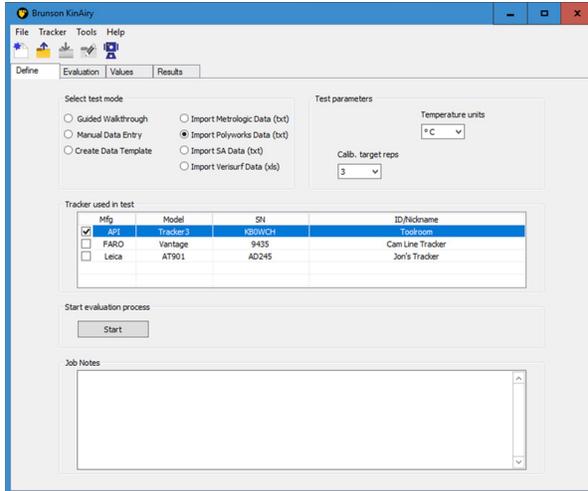
In this mode, you are responsible for:

- Determining the number of calibration target repetitions
- Selecting temperature units
- Selecting the tracker to be evaluated

After selections are made, click the **Start** button. A dialog will open. Navigate to the TXT file exported from Metrolog X4 and open it.

After importing the data file, KinAiry will display the results of the test on the Results tab. Point coordinates are viewable and editable on the Evaluation tab. Save the KinAiry file for your records.

Test Mode: Import Polyworks Data



Data captured using Polyworks can be output to a TXT file and read directly into KinAiry software for analysis. For more information on exporting a data file from Polyworks, see Appendix B.

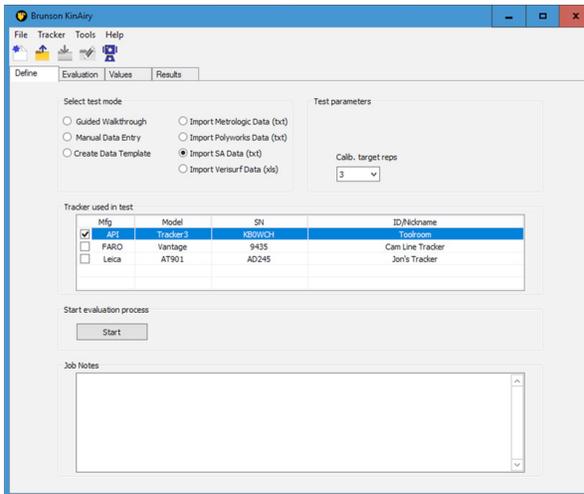
In this mode, you are responsible for:

- Determining the number of calibration target repetitions
- Selecting temperature units
- Selecting the tracker to be evaluated

After selections are made, click the **Start** button. A dialog will open. Navigate to the TXT file exported from Polyworks and open it.

After importing the data file, KinAiry will display the results of the test on the Results tab. Point coordinates are viewable and editable on the Evaluation tab. Save the KinAiry file for your records.

Test Mode: Import SA Data



Data captured using New River Kinematics' SpatialAnalyzer® (SA) can be output to a TXT file and then imported into KinAiry software for analysis. For more information on exporting a data file from SpatialAnalyzer, see Appendix C.

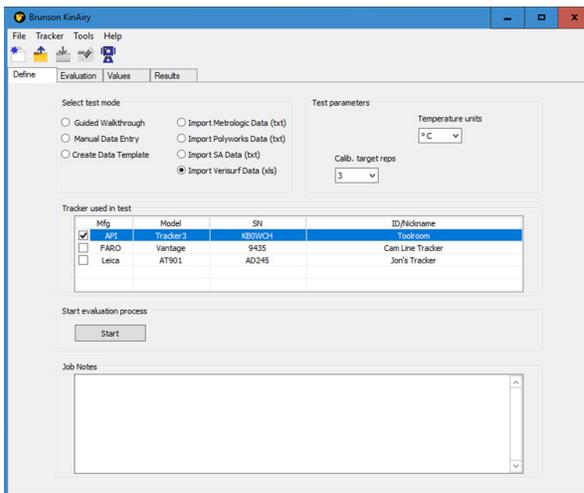
In this mode, you are responsible for:

- Determining the number of calibration target repetitions
- Selecting the tracker to be evaluated

After selections are made, click the **Start** button. A dialog will open. Navigate to the text file exported by SA and open it.

After importing the data file, KinAiry will display the results of the test on the *Results* tab. Point coordinates are viewable and editable on the *Evaluation* tab. Save the KinAiry file for your records.

Test Mode: Import Verisurf Data



Data captured using Verisurf X8 can be output to an XLS file and read directly into KinAiry software for analysis. For more information on exporting a data file from Verisurf X8, see Appendix D.

In this mode, you are responsible for:

- Determining the number of calibration target repetitions
- Selecting temperature units
- Selecting the tracker to be evaluated

After selections are made, click the **Start** button. A dialog will open. Navigate to the XLS file exported from Verisurf X8 and open it.

After importing the data file, KinAiry will display the results of the test on the *Results* tab. Point coordinates are viewable and editable on the *Evaluation* tab. Save the KinAiry file for your records.

CHAPTER FOUR: SYSTEM CARE

Caution

- Do not attach targets to the artifact other than 1.5-inch spherical retroreflectors used with laser trackers or the supplied counterweights which simulate the weight of a retroreflector.
- Do not attempt to make contact measurements of the artifact (e.g., using a portable CMM arm).
- Do not hang or attach anything to the system other than what is described in this manual. Although the carbon tube is very strong, it has very fine mounting connections which may be damaged by misuse.
- Lift and carry the length artifact ONLY by the two built-in handles. Do NOT carry the length artifact by holding the carbon composite bar.

Daily Care

- Keep the KinAiry hardware clean, dry, indoors, and away from harsh chemicals.
- The length reference artifact (carbon composite tube and the attached aluminum tube) should be handled gently to ensure optimum performance. It should never be located anywhere other than in its case or mounted on the positioner.

Seating the Kinematic Mounts

KinAiry's carbon composite length artifact rests on kinematic mounts. These mounts attach it to the aluminum support tube. As you face the artifact, you will see two sets of four socket cap screws. These are the two kinematic attachment points, and as you might expect, each one has a different internal configuration. While designed for durability, the kinematic mounts are nonetheless susceptible to abuse through mishandling. This is the main reason you should not pick up the bar by anything other than the two handles provided.

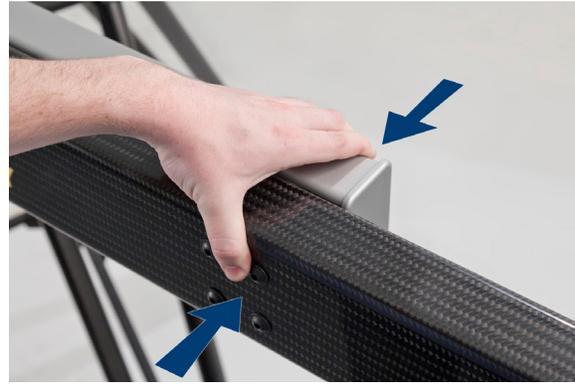
Also as you'd expect, the kinematic mounts allow the carbon and aluminum tubes to remain connected while moving independently of each other, with the mounts having a favored home position. This home position allows the carbon tube to float on the aluminum tube, relieving the fixturing stress that might otherwise exist.

It is possible (by shipping or rough handling) for one of the mounts to be moved to something other than its home position. If this happens, it must be resealed. This is easy to do.

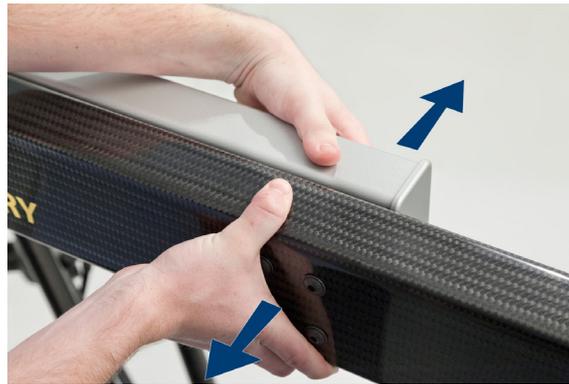
Do this learning exercise once or twice to get the feel of the mounts. The process is different for each mount. Once the length artifact is mounted securely to the positioner, do the following:



For the AB mount, located between target nests A and B: Squeeze the carbon tube together with the aluminum tube sufficiently to feel motion. Then release. The kinematic mount should click into place, ensuring that it has been properly seated.



For the BC mount, located between target nests B and C: Again, begin by squeezing the carbon and aluminum tubes together. However, you may not feel any motion. (If you don't, the mount is not in its home position.)



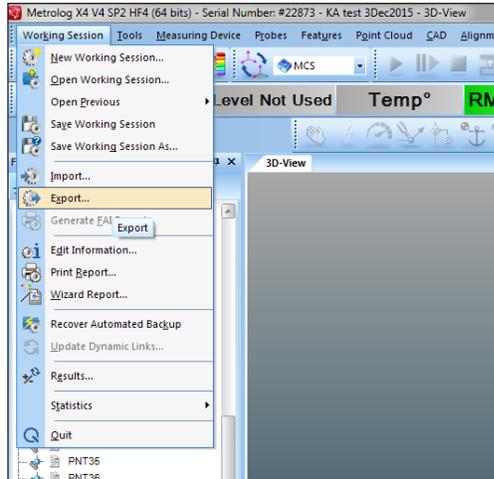
Follow this action by pulling the two bars apart. Again, the BC kinematic mount should click into place, now being properly seated.

We don't recommend that you go through this process each time you set up the bar. It is just an exercise so that you'll know how the mounts should feel when seated in their home position. Rather, you should know that the AB kinematic mount will always be in its home position unless the mount itself fails. The BC mount is the one susceptible to being moved out of home position through rough handling or shipping. Generally, all you need to do is hold the end of the carbon bar (at the C end), and wiggle or twist it gently. If it is not in its home position, you will be able to feel some motion, indicating that it is not seated in its home position. If this happens, twist the carbon tube or pull the tubes apart, as you did above, to reseal the AB kinematic mount.

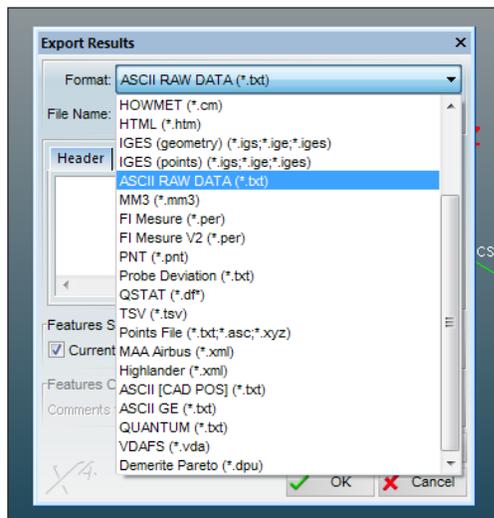
If you experiment a little you will understand the feel of the mounts and be able to quickly tell whether the AB mount is seated, while still treating the length artifact gently.

APPENDIX A: HOW TO EXPORT DATA POINTS FROM METROLOG X4

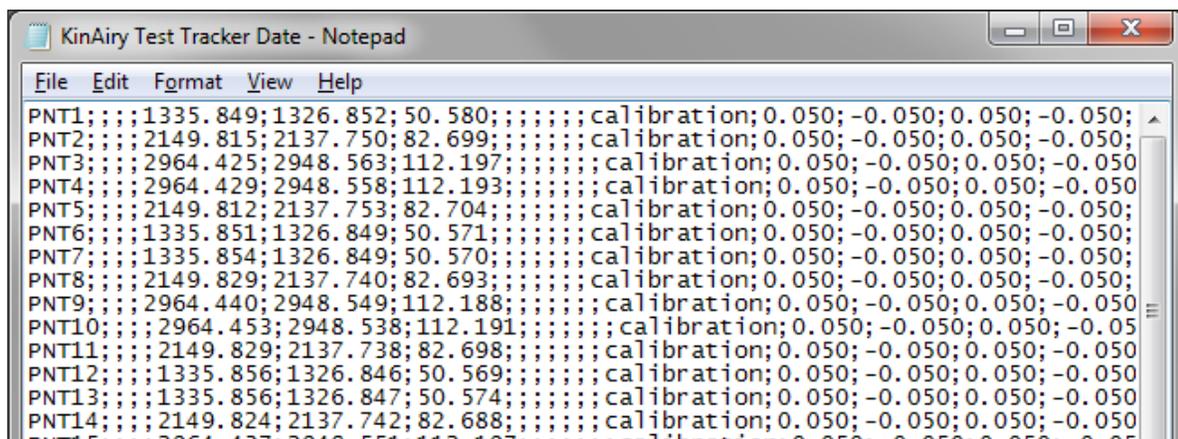
To prepare a text file for export to KinAiry using Metrolog, begin by taking the points in the same order as presented in KinAiry Guided Walkthrough mode.



From the menu, select **Working Session, Export**. In the Export Results dialog, choose **ASCII RAW DATA (*.txt)** as the Format. Click **OK**, name the data file, and save it in a location convenient to access later from KinAiry.

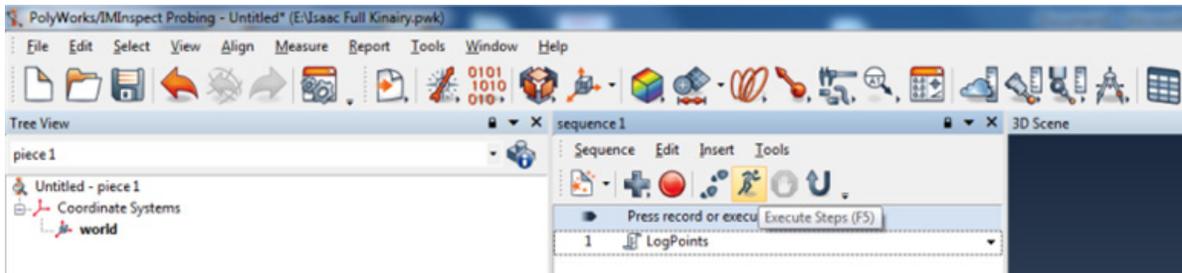
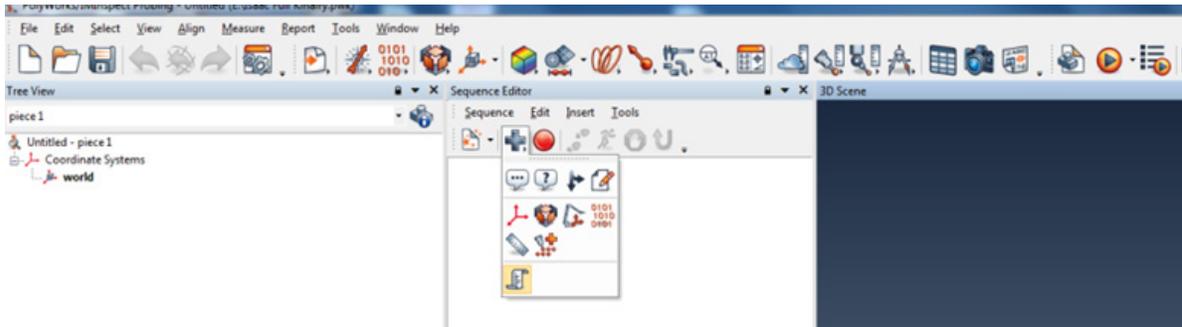


Import the text data file using KinAiry software, **Import Metrologic Data** function.



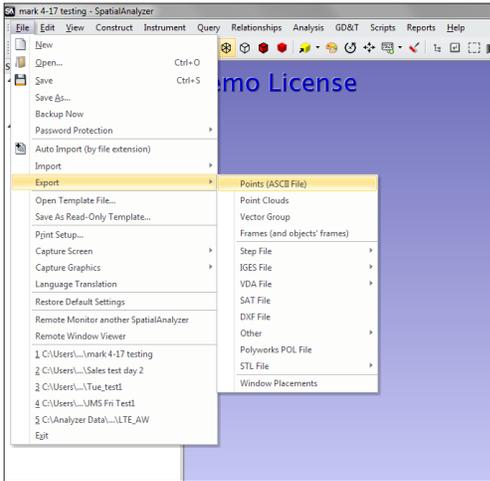
APPENDIX B: HOW TO EXPORT DATA POINTS FROM POLYWORKS

A macro script is utilized to export/log points during KinAiry calibration and testing. To begin, download the KinAiry LogPoints macro available on the Polyworks website. Begin the KinAiry test using the Guided Walkthrough option. After bucking-in the tracker, but before taking points, start the custom macro.



The macro will prompt the user to select a folder location and enter a filename. It will then collect and sequentially log point data in a text file. The macro does not assist with the KinAiry test or allow for custom naming of each point or point set. It is important for the user to take the points in the same order as presented in the KinAiry Guided Walkthrough. Do not stop the macro until the test is complete; only use the **Execute Steps**, **Take Point**, **Home**, and **Change Face** buttons. After completing the test the macro can be stopped. The text file will be ready to import into KinAiry with no further editing.

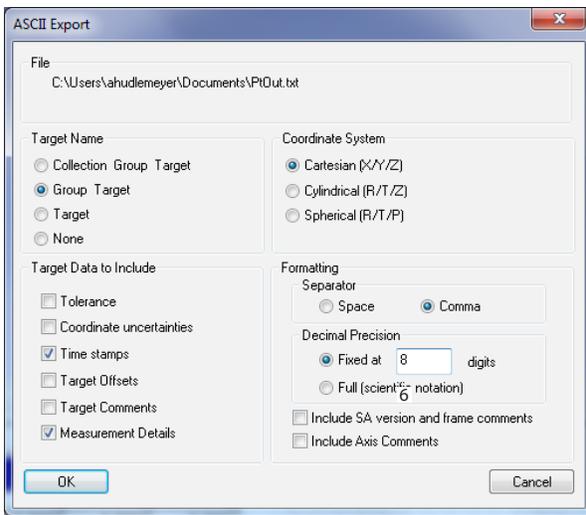
APPENDIX C: HOW TO EXPORT DATA POINTS FROM SPATIAL ANALYZER®



To prepare a text file for export to KinAiry using SpatialAnalyzer®, begin by taking the points in the same order as presented in KinAiry Guided Walkthrough mode. From the menu, select **File, Export, Points (ASCII File)**.

SA will then prompt you to select points. Press **F2** and check the boxes corresponding to the data points.

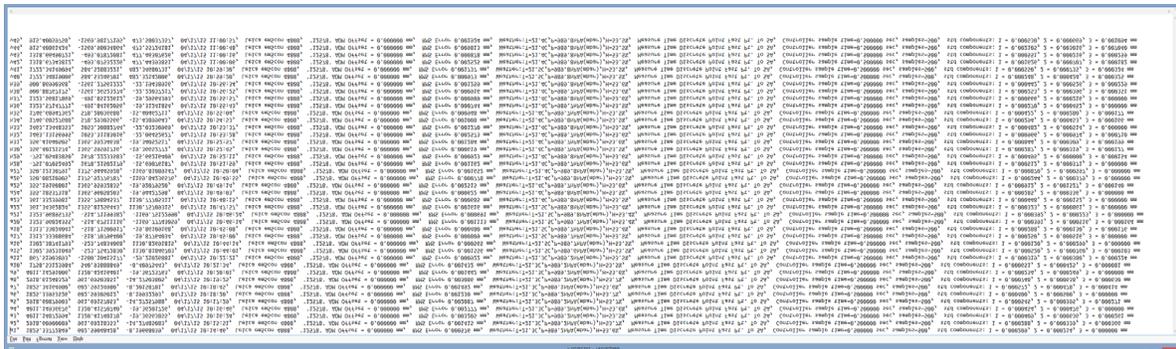
Once selected, SA will prompt for a file name and location to save the points. Save the text file in a location convenient to access from KinAiry software.



After clicking **Save**, SA will open a dialog with **Options** for what data to be exported.

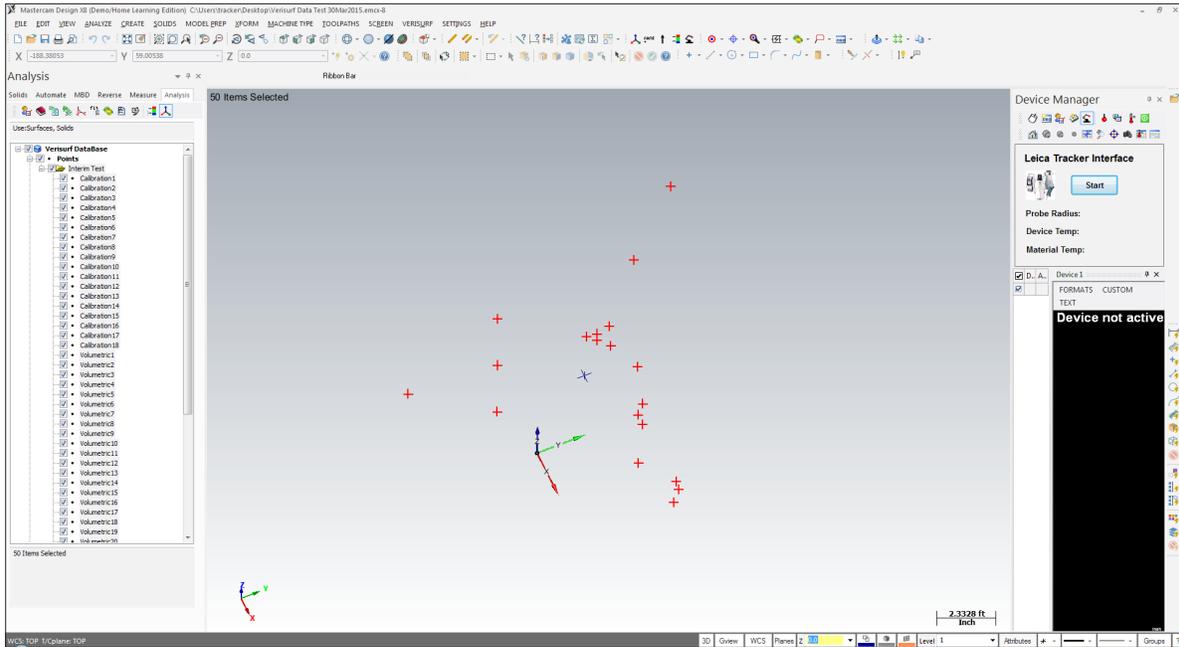
For **Target Name**, any option may be selected. The names are ignored because the point data is assumed to be in a known order. Select the **Cartesian (X/Y/Z)** coordinate system. For **Target Data to Include**, select **Time stamps** and **Measurement Details**. Under **Formatting**, choose **Comma** as the separator. **Decimal Precision** defaults at 6, which is sufficient in either millimeters or inches. Do not include **SA version** or **Axis Comments**. Click **OK** to complete the export.

The text file will contain many columns of data. Close the text file and import it using KinAiry.



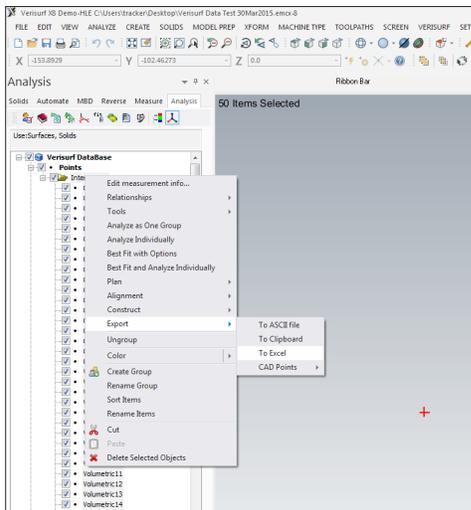
APPENDIX D: HOW TO EXPORT DATA POINTS FROM VERISURF X8

To prepare a data file for export to KinAiry using Verisurf X8, begin by taking the points in the same order as presented in KinAiry *Guided Walkthrough* mode. Once recorded, select the points for export by checking the appropriate boxes in the feature tree on the left-hand side.



Right-click on one of the points, and select Export, To Excel. Save the XLS file in a location convenient to access from KinAiry software.

The Verisurf XLS file will contain many columns of information for each data point. Close the file and import it using KinAiry software, **Import Verisurf Data** function.



The screenshot shows an Excel spreadsheet titled 'Verisurf Export to Excel.xls [Compatibility Mod]'. The spreadsheet contains 31 rows of data, each representing a data point. The columns are labeled A through H, with A being 'Name' and H being 'Time'. The data includes calibration points (e.g., Calibration1 to Calibration18) and volumetric points (e.g., Volumetric1 to Volumetric12).

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	Name	X	Y	Z				Time
1								
2	Calibration1	-50.0054	53.3026	-3.0251	6836	-7287	0414	Mon Mar 30 13:23:36 2015
3	Calibration2	-80.9592	86.3094	-4.8552	6836	-7287	0410	Mon Mar 30 13:23:52 2015
4	Calibration3	-111.8939	119.2952	-6.6672	6836	-7288	0407	Mon Mar 30 13:24:04 2015
5	Calibration4	-111.8940	119.2951	-6.6673	6836	-7288	0407	Mon Mar 30 13:24:12 2015
6	Calibration5	-80.9590	86.3097	-4.8553	6836	-7287	0410	Mon Mar 30 13:24:25 2015
7	Calibration6	-50.0054	53.3024	-3.0252	6836	-7287	0414	Mon Mar 30 13:24:41 2015
8	Calibration7	-50.0054	53.3025	-3.0253	6836	-7287	0414	Mon Mar 30 13:24:53 2015
9	Calibration8	-80.9589	86.3097	-4.8553	6836	-7287	0410	Mon Mar 30 13:25:06 2015
10	Calibration9	-111.8936	119.2954	-6.6673	6835	-7288	0407	Mon Mar 30 13:25:18 2015
11	Calibration10	-111.8937	119.2954	-6.6673	6836	-7288	0407	Mon Mar 30 13:25:26 2015
12	Calibration11	-80.9590	86.3096	-4.8553	6836	-7287	0410	Mon Mar 30 13:25:40 2015
13	Calibration12	-50.0054	53.3024	-3.0252	6836	-7287	0414	Mon Mar 30 13:25:55 2015
14	Calibration13	-50.0054	53.3023	-3.0252	6836	-7287	0414	Mon Mar 30 13:26:06 2015
15	Calibration14	-80.9589	86.3098	-4.8557	6836	-7287	0410	Mon Mar 30 13:26:19 2015
16	Calibration15	-111.8937	119.2953	-6.6676	6836	-7288	0407	Mon Mar 30 13:26:30 2015
17	Calibration16	-111.8936	119.2954	-6.6676	6835	-7288	0407	Mon Mar 30 13:26:38 2015
18	Calibration17	-80.9589	86.3097	-4.8554	6836	-7287	0410	Mon Mar 30 13:26:52 2015
19	Calibration18	-50.0054	53.3024	-3.0253	6836	-7287	0414	Mon Mar 30 13:27:20 2015
20	Volumetric1	-46.6618	51.9045	-2.9317	6680	-7430	0420	Mon Mar 30 13:28:10 2015
21	Volumetric2	43.8515	54.1171	-2.3128	-6288	-7765	0320	Mon Mar 30 13:28:28 2015
22	Volumetric3	-1.8919	52.5748	42.6211	0280	-7765	-6295	Mon Mar 30 13:29:58 2015
23	Volumetric4	-1.8983	52.5743	42.6236	0280	-7765	-6295	Mon Mar 30 13:30:11 2015
24	Volumetric5	-1.3485	53.0429	-2.6579	0254	-9984	0500	Mon Mar 30 13:30:38 2015
25	Volumetric6	-1.3481	53.0429	-2.6571	0254	-9984	0500	Mon Mar 30 13:30:52 2015
26	Volumetric7	-7904	53.5104	-47.9088	0109	-7450	6670	Mon Mar 30 13:31:21 2015
27	Volumetric8	-7791	53.5113	-47.9088	0108	-7450	6670	Mon Mar 30 13:31:33 2015
28	Volumetric9	-52.5312	2.3152	42.6165	7761	-0342	-6296	Mon Mar 30 13:32:34 2015
29	Volumetric10	-52.5388	2.3149	42.6170	7761	-0342	-6297	Mon Mar 30 13:32:43 2015
30	Volumetric11	-52.9483	2.9074	-2.6647	9972	-0548	0502	Mon Mar 30 13:33:12 2015
31	Volumetric12	-52.9483	2.9079	-2.6638	9972	-0548	0502	Mon Mar 30 13:33:20 2015

APPENDIX E: EXPLANATION OF THE CALIBRATION PROCESS

This KinAiry length artifact does not ship with a calibrated length certificate. The calibrated length is meant to be set in the field using the ranging system of the laser tracker. This procedure is relevant when the distance ranging performance of the laser tracker (i.e., straight IFM or straight ADM) is significantly more accurate than the angle measurement performance for volumetric checks, and is detailed in ASME B89.4.19^[3].

When taking calibration and measurement data, special care should be taken to obtain accurate readings:

- The length artifact must be allowed to soak in the environment to reach temperature equilibrium.
- To achieve the smallest uncertainties, counterweights are required to compensate for compliance of the stand and the support structure under the load of a retroreflector. On the length artifact are found three pairs of two target nests. Each pair is labeled A, B, or C. The nests on the face of the length artifact hold a retroreflector while taking calibration and measurement data. The nests on the top of the length artifact hold a counterweight when a retroreflector is not present in that position. For example, if a retroreflector has been placed in target nest C to take a measurement, counterweights will be placed in the other two locations (on the top of the length artifact, in nests A and B). As the retroreflector is moved from one target nest to the other, the counterweights are shifted into the empty positions prior to taking the measurement.
- At least when taking the calibration shots, the same retroreflector should be used in all three measurement locations A, B, and C in order to eliminate depth errors. Additionally, to eliminate runout error of the retroreflector, it should be placed in each nest in the same orientation. Use the engraving on the body of the retroreflector, or other indicator on the bezel to maintain a consistent orientation.
- Alternatively, after the calibration phase (during the point measurement phase), the length artifact can be loaded with three high-precision retroreflectors, in each of the target nests on the face of the artifact. The tracker can then be directed to each target by use of a measurement plan.

Pre-Calibration Alignment

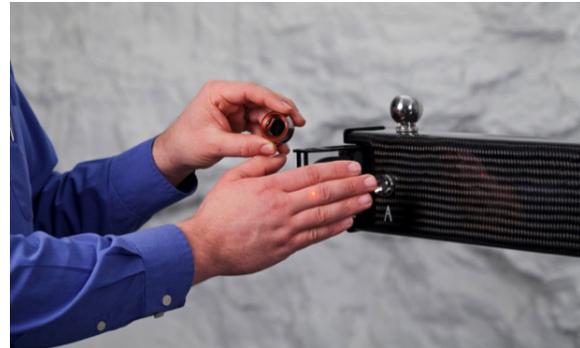
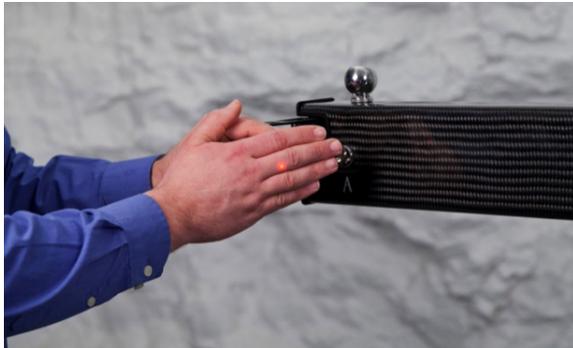
The KinAiry system comes equipped with a folding mirror to simplify the alignment procedure. The weight of the mirror is balanced with a built-in (non-removable) counterweight on the opposite end of the artifact. The calibrated length will be set while the detachable mirror is in place. It must remain in place throughout the interim test to maintain the calibrated length even though it is not actually used after calibration. To realize the accuracy of the in-line range performance of the laser tracker, the target nests of the scale bar must be aligned within 0.1 degrees azimuth and elevation, as seen from the laser tracker.

Note that it is not necessary to reposition the counterweights (as described above) during the pre-calibration alignment process.

- Set up KinAiry hardware components and your tracker in preparation for the test as described in Chapter 1: Getting Started.
- Remove the retroreflector from home position on the laser tracker.



Place the retroreflector in front of the mirror so that the tracker beam path is aimed at the center of the mirror.



Break the beam path and remove the retroreflector to end tracking. The laser beam should now reflect off of the mirror.



Place the retroreflector near target A in the path of the reflected beam, and allow the tracker to re-acquire the retroreflector. Once the tracker locks on, place the target in target nest A.



At this point, the beam is reflected off the mirror and directly into the retroreflector sitting in target nest A. Break the beam again, and then remove the retroreflector from target nest A.



Place the retroreflector in target nest C. The laser tracker will most likely not be pointing at the center of the retroreflector in this position.



Manipulate the tip-tilt adjustments on the mirror mount to direct the beam path into the center of the retroreflector in target nest C. Make sure the tracker re-acquires the target.

- Set the tracker software to show live data for horizontal and vertical (azimuth and elevation) angles.
- Note both angles while the laser tracker is aiming at the retroreflector in target nest C.
- Carefully remove the retroreflector from target nest C, and place it in target nest A. Note the horizontal and vertical angles again.
- Calculate the difference in horizontal angles from nest C to nest A as well as the difference in vertical angles from nest C to nest A. If both differences are less than 0.1 degrees, sufficient alignment has been achieved. If not, iterate through the procedure one more time. For the NIST Interim Field Test geometry, no more than 2 iterations should be required.

Taking the Calibration Measurements

After the pre-calibration alignment is complete, the next task is to measure the lengths between the three target nests. These lengths will be assigned as the calibrated lengths, and compared against volumetric length measurements to obtain the measurement error values.



Measure Target A, Counterweight at Positions B and C



Measure Target B, Counterweight at Positions A and C



Measure Target C, Counterweight at Positions A and B

If you have chosen to take several calibration shot repetitions, the KinAiry procedural guidance will explain the shot order to be: A, B, C, C, B, A, A, B, C, etc. Note that the KinAiry software expects points to be recorded in this same sequence when importing data. The first calibration point group moves from A to B to C. After taking point data in target nest C, you should remove the retroreflector from nest C, and then reseal it directly back into nest C again, in preparation for the next point group from C to B to A. This process gives fully independent calibration sets. Similarly, when you get back to nest A, the retroreflector should be removed and reseated prior to heading back to B and C.

APPENDIX F: THE NIST INTERIM TEST PROCEDURE

Standard tests of laser tracker performance have been developed (B89.4.19^[3], ISO 10360-10^[1], VDI/VDE 2617 Blatt 10^[4]). These tests use prescribed measurements under controlled laboratory conditions to determine or verify a laser tracker's performance characteristics, or to serve as a basis of common comparison between instruments. Manufacturer field checks or compensation routines are designed to isolate specific error modes, but are not as comprehensive as the standard tests^[5]. The role of interim testing is to evaluate instrument performance and errors under the same conditions as the measurement job, and answer the question, "How is my tracker performing right now?" Results from interim testing can be used as part of a quality system to confirm instrument performance prior to critical and costly measurements, and to track instrument performance over time.

The interim test developed by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)^[5] is the recommended test procedure because of its balance of comprehensive evaluation and brevity. The NIST Interim Field Test is comprehensive in that it uses both two-face checks and length measurements to quantify volumetric laser tracker performance, following a calibration which is accomplished by isolating the ranging element of the tracker. The positions and orientations have been carefully selected and justified to be sensitive to known error parameters, but the test is sufficiently brief to be accomplished in less than 30 minutes. After calibration of the length artifact has been established, the NIST Interim Field Test calls for length measurements and two-face checks in several orientations.

The following checks can be done in one of two ways. The target points can be measured using a single retroreflector, which will require counterweighting the beam and much handling of the retroreflector and artifact. This approach can be beneficial if very accurate target reflectors are not available, by reducing the error contribution from depth and runout from a single target. Alternatively, the artifact can be loaded with three high-precision retroreflectors into each of the target nests. The tracker would be directed to each target by use of a measurement plan. The advantage of this method is reduced time and handling of the system. For each setup, the azimuth of the tracker body, and the orientation of the artifact are specified. Front and back face measurements are taken for each point, A, B, C, in each orientation.

Table 1. NIST Interim Field Test orientations.

Position	Artifact Orientation	Tracker Azimuth
1	Vertical	0°
2	Vertical	90°
3	Horizontal	90°
4	Horizontal	0°
5	Horizontal with 0.5m vertical offset	0°



There are special considerations concerning R0, or Bird Bath Error. Trackers which are equipped with both ADM and IFM may have an R0 coefficient for each measurement mode. Care must be taken to test each mode for this error. KinAiry software will prompt an additional measurement step if a laser tracker is selected which operates in ADM and IFM mode. Further detail is available in the documentation for the NIST Interim Field Test ^[5].

Results

Once all measurement points are complete and recorded, measurement errors can be calculated. For two-face errors, the error is taken as the distance between the front and back-face measurement points for each target and test position. For length measurements, the error is taken as the difference between the measured lengths in front face only and the calibrated lengths.

The error values summarize the volumetric measurement performance of the laser tracker. They describe the measurement error of the tracker in the conditions which it's operating, and can be compared against other results taken over time, results taken at the time the tracker is factory calibrated, error limits for an internal quality system, or published MPEs.

Traceability

The NIST Interim Field Test relies upon measurements of points and calculated distances between points. Traceability of those measurements can be maintained following guidance from standards like: ASME B89.7.5, JCGM 200:2012, or ILAC P10:01/2013. It is important to note that the documentation of traceability to a metrological terminus is intended to come from the calibration of the laser tracker range system used to establish the reference length.

APPENDIX G: THE UNCERTAINTY BUDGET

Uncertainty Budget Components

Below are the uncertainty budget components for the calibration and measurement of the artifact used in the NIST Interim Field Test under field conditions. This budget should be modified to reflect your specific use and equipment. Modifications might increase or decrease overall uncertainty.

The reference lengths are defined as the distances between the centers of any two target nests on the face of the length artifact. Components of uncertainty in the reference lengths are described below.

Table 2. Uncertainty Budget for the Calibrated Length of the Artifact

Component	Symbol	1 Standard Uncertainty (μm)	
		2.3m	1.15m
Optical Alignment, Interferometer and Angular Encoders	L_{tracker}	0.6	0.4
Repeatability of Nests	L_{repeat}	1.5	1.5
Gravity Loading	L_{gravity}	2.5	1.6
Retroreflector	L_{retro}	1.4	1.4
Artifact Temperature	L_{temp}	2.2	1.1
	$U_{k=2}$	7.9	5.7

L_{tracker}

This component of uncertainty describes the effectiveness of the laser tracker in measuring the distance between points. There are three components to consider, the accuracy of the interferometer, the performance of the angular encoders, and the optical alignment. The mirror used in the alignment is flat to $\lambda/10$ and is considered negligible. For one target reflector used in the same orientation in all nests during calibration, the depth and runout errors do not contribute to alignment errors. If the optical alignment is contained within 0.1 degrees, the projected error due to the transverse error of the tracker is also negligible. The laser tracker used in this example analysis reported a maximum permissible error (MPE) of the interferometer accuracy of $\text{MPE}_{\text{range}} = \pm 0.4\mu\text{m} + 0.3\mu\text{m}/\text{m} * L$. For the 2.3m length, $\text{MPE}_{\text{range}} = \pm 1.1\mu\text{m}$. Converting from a rectangular distribution to a normal distribution gives $L_{\text{tracker}}(1\sigma) = 0.6\mu\text{m}$.

L_{repeat}

As a target reflector is repeatedly placed in a target nest on the artifact, variability can be observed. This variability can come from form of the sphere or nests, the support structure, or other physical behavior, as well as variability of the laser tracker discussed above. Because the targets will be placed in the nests differently during the volumetric portion of the test, and because this error would create systematic errors in the measurement, it is conservatively treated as being independent from variability in the tracker. Repeatability was tested during laboratory testing at NIST, and determined to be $L_{\text{repeat}}(1\sigma) = 1.5\mu\text{m}$.

L_{gravity}

The length of the artifact changes slightly due to gravity loading as the artifact is oriented horizontal or vertical. Careful design has minimized this effect, and the conformance limit is $L_{\text{gravity}}(1\sigma) = 2.5\mu\text{m}$ for the 2.3m length. Assuming a uniform distribution gives $L_{\text{gravity}}(1\sigma) = 1.7\mu\text{m}$. This error component is controlled as part of the overall manufacturing quality system.

L_{retro}

The target reflectors used for this uncertainty budget had a MPE of $2.5\mu\text{m}$ between the optical and mechanical centers. For random projection along the length measurement axis, $L_{\text{retro}}(1\sigma) = 1.4\mu\text{m}$.

L_{temp}

Uncertainty due to temperature has two components, variation of the temperature of the artifact and uncertainty of the coefficient of thermal expansion of the artifact. Presuming the artifact has soaked in the environment for sufficient time to approach equilibrium, a reasonable boundary is set at a maximum temperature variation of the artifact of 1°C . The coefficient of thermal expansion of the carbon tube is $1.5 \times 10^{-6} / ^\circ\text{C}$. The standard uncertainty for the 2.3m length due to temperature variation is $2.0\mu\text{m}$. The uncertainty of the coefficient of thermal expansion is conservatively estimated to be a uniform distribution up to 50% of its nominal value, $0.75 \times 10^{-6} / ^\circ\text{C}$, which gives a standard uncertainty of $1.0\mu\text{m}$. Combining these two components, $L_{\text{temp}}(1\sigma) = 2.2\mu\text{m}$.

$L_{\text{stability}}$

Testing at NIST was conducted to determine uncertainty in the length due to dimensional stability of the artifact over the time allowed to conduct the interim test (60 minutes). Dimensional stability was found to be insignificant over this brief time period.

Summary

Several contributing factors were analyzed to determine a combined expanded uncertainty for the artifact during an interim test: alignment and performance of the tracker when calibrating the reference length, repeatability of seating a retroreflector in a target nest, gravity loading of the artifact in varying orientations, target reflectors used in the length measurement tests, and temperature effects. This uncertainty is based on validity conditions appropriate to field use:

- The artifact has soaked in the environment and will not vary in temperature more than $\pm 1^{\circ}\text{C}$ from the temperature at time of calibration.
- The artifact is calibrated in the horizontal orientation only.
- The test is to be conducted within 1 hour.

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EU DECLARATION OF CONFORMITY WITH COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 2006/42/EC	
<i>Date of Issue:</i>	29 Sept, 2014
<i>Document Ref:</i>	18682 Rev 1
<i>Directive:</i>	Machinery Directive 2006/42/EC
<i>Conforming Machinery:</i>	KinAiry Tracker Evaluation System
<i>Manufacturer:</i>	Brunson Instrument Company 8000 E. 23rd St. Kansas City MO 64129 USA
<i>Authorised Representative:</i>	Carl Baines 6 Micklehead Business Village St. Michaels Road Lea Green, St. Helens WA9 4YU United Kingdom
<i>Harmonised Standards Referenced or Applied:</i>	EN ISO 12100:2010, BS EN 349:1993+A1:2008, ISO/TR 14121-2:2012
<i>Specifications with which Conformity is Declared:</i>	Essential Health and Safety Requirements of Annex 1 of the Machinery Directive
We hereby certify that the machinery described above conforms with the essential health and safety requirements of Council Directive 2006/42/EC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the safety of machinery.	
<i>Signed:</i>	<i>Deighton E. Brunson</i>
<i>Signatory:</i>	Deighton E. Brunson, President



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