Anton Paar

Measure
what is measurable
and make measurable
that which is not.

Galileo Galilei (1564-1642)

RheoCompass™ Software

Getting Started

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Further information

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Address of the instrument producer:

Anton Paar GmbH
Anton-Paar-Str. 20
A-8054 Graz / Austria – Europe

Tel: +43 (0) 316 257-0
Fax: +43 (0) 316 257-257
E-Mail: info@anton-paar.com
Web: www.anton-paar.com

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Contents

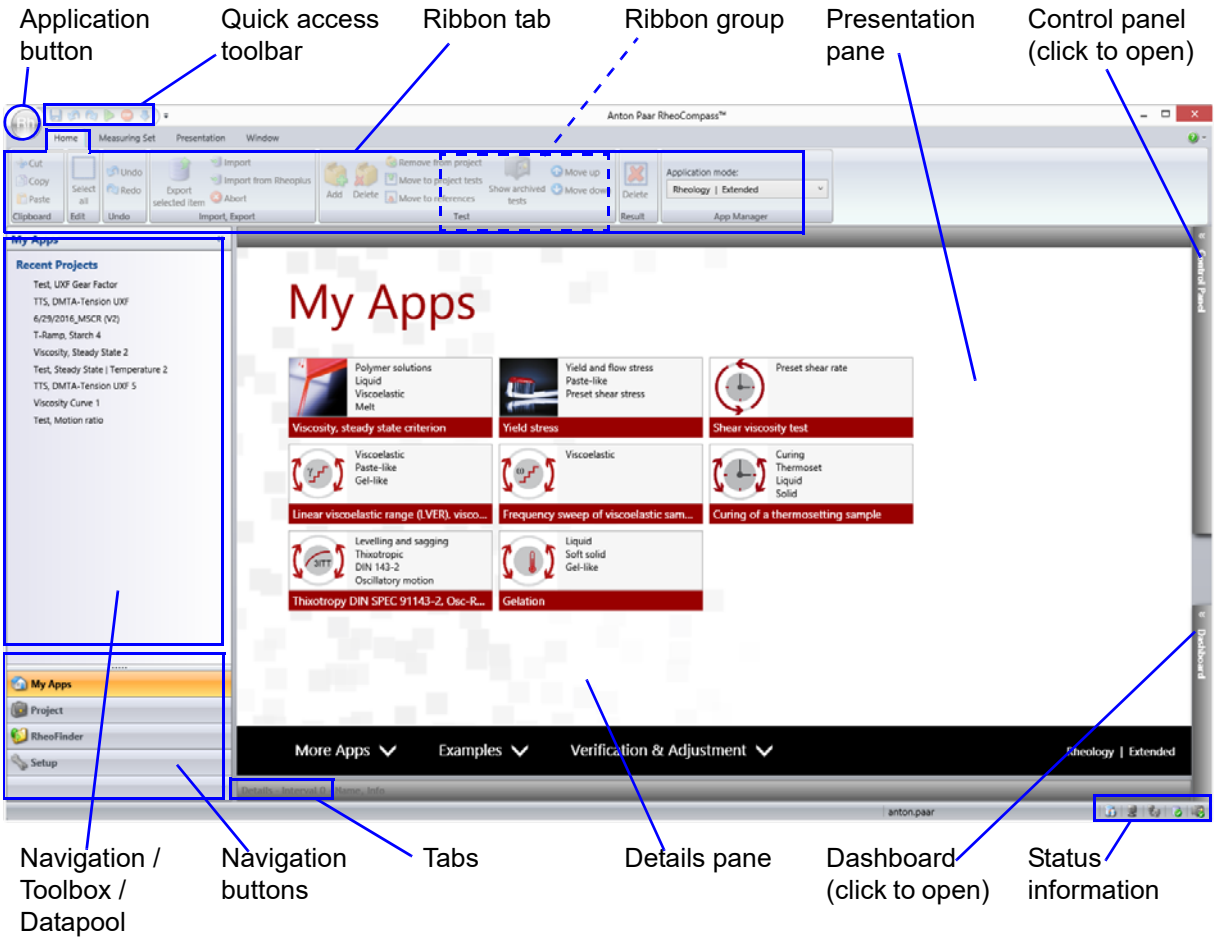
1 RheoCompass™ - Overview

1.1 Description

The RheoCompass™ software is used for the control of the Anton Paar MCR rheometer series. The measurement parameters and results as well as all settings are recorded in a database. The settings for a measuring device are stored as a measuring set configuration.

To facilitate getting started with the rheological measurements, the RheoCompass™ contains various templates suited to different applications and methods. The templates can be selected from the application flow shown at the first start of the software. Each template includes a full test definition from the first start to the evaluation of measurement results. The test definition, the results and all presentation windows are stored in separate projects which can be retrieved at any time.

The figure below shows the main elements. The definitions for the software items, e.g. ribbons or navigation, will be used throughout this manual.



Application Button

The Application button contains the main file functions such as "Open", "Save" or "Print". You have further access to the "Options" dialog for general settings in the RheoCompass™. The options should be changed with great care only.

Quick Access Toolbar

Use the quick access bar to undo or redo the last action or to save the currently opened project. "Start" and "Stop" are applied to the test Definition contained in the project.

Ribbon Tab

In the ribbon tabs, you find all software functions grouped by their relevant context. The groups of buttons within a ribbon are called ribbon groups.

Navigation Buttons

These are used to select the main area, usually you will be working with "Projects". The "Setup" area contains functions for installing new devices or accessories, for example, and the "RheoFinder" gives access to the database functions.

Navigation / Toolbox / Datapool

The content of the navigation pane area depends on the currently selected main area of the RheoCompass™, e.g. whether you are editing settings in the general setup or whether you are running measurements. The "Navigation" always lists all available items or options, the "Toolbox" contains the action blocks for a test definition and the "Datapool" shows all measurements and analyses in the currently opened project.

Presentation Pane

The "Presentation pane" is the main working area of the RheoCompass™. Here you will find the test definition, diagram and table windows, report windows and so on. To change settings for the various items inside this pane, you click on the items and make the changes in the details pane.

Details Pane

The details pane contains the detailed settings for the current content of the presentation pane. The settings can be edited in the information pane. As the RheoCompass™ is working with a database, the changes take effect immediately, a confirmation is not necessary.

2 Checking the Supplied Parts

The RheoCompass™ installation package includes the installation media and the license key.

Keep the packaging material (box, foam piece, transport protection) for possible returns and further questions from the transport and insurance company.

If a part is missing, contact your Anton Paar representative. If a part is damaged, contact the transport company and your Anton Paar representative.

3 Installation and Setup

This chapter describes the installation procedure for the RheoCompass™ and the setup of the connection between instrument and computer as well as the basic settings for a measuring set configuration.

3.1 Before the Installation

The devices of the MCRxx2 series require a driver to be installed on the computer, if they are connected via the USB connection. This driver is installed with the RheoCompass™ software. If the device is connected to the computer and is switched on before the driver installation, the computer will detect a new USB device and request the driver to be installed. If this is canceled by the user, the driver has to be installed manually. It is therefore recommended to install the RheoCompass™ and the USB driver first, before switching on the rheometer.

A file for manual installation of the driver is provided with the installation media.

3.2 RheoCompass™ Setup Variants

The RheoCompass software is available for the following installation scenarios:

1. **RheoCompass Single Lab installation**: one computer directly connected to a database (standard):

- RheoCompass and database are installed on the same computer
- In the setup program, this case is handled by the standard installation (recommended)
- License feature: any

No further settings are required for the single lab installation, except selection of the license file and the device serial number. Any computer administrator with basic computer skills should be able to run the setup.

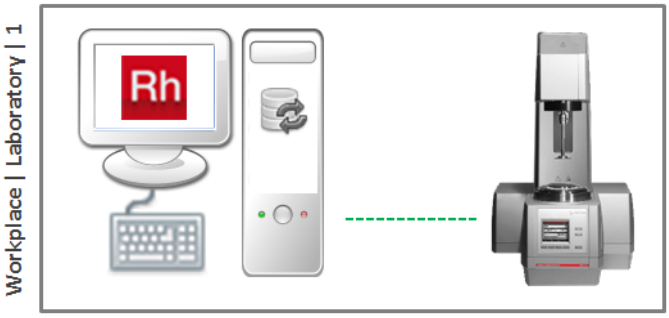


Fig. 1: RheoCompass Single Lab installation

2. **RheoCompass Shared Lab installation**: two computers sharing the same database at the same time:

- Lab computer: RheoCompass software and RheoCompass database
- Office computer: RheoCompass software connected to RheoCompass database in lab
- Two RheoCompass clients access one RheoCompass database at the same time
- It is even possible to have further computers connected to the lab database, but not at the same time
- License feature: RheoCompass Professional or RheoCompass with Managed Lab feature

The Shared Lab installation should be done by administrators with advanced computer skills according to the instructions in this manual.

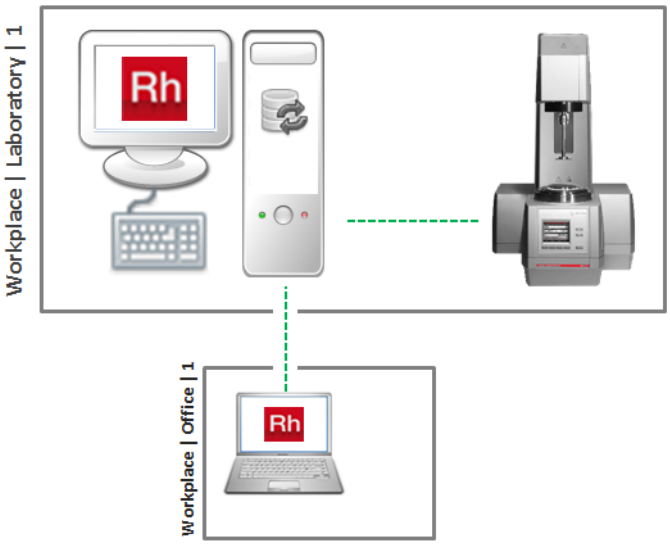


Fig. 2: Shared lab with office and laboratory computers sharing the same database

3. **RheoCompass Managed Lab installation**: Multiple computers sharing the same database:

- Several lab and office computers are connected to one central RheoCompass database
- License feature: Managed Lab

The Managed Lab installation should be done by IT professionals following the instructions in this manual.

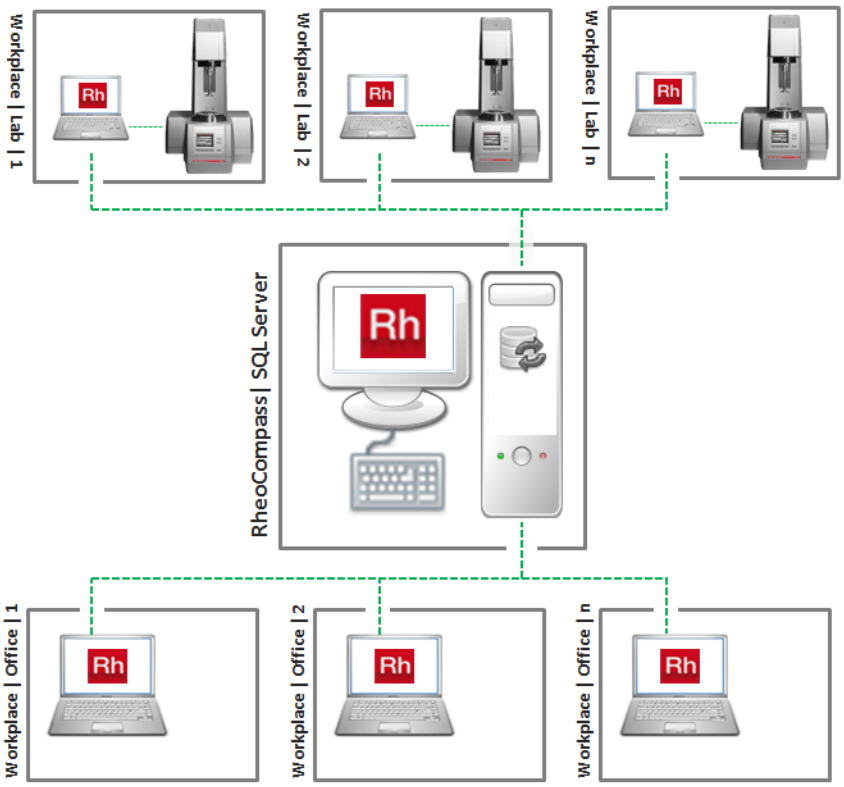


Fig. 3: Managed lab with multiple clients and a central server for data storage.

	Outstanding Features	Light	Advanced	Professional	Managed Lab
Shared data	Devices in License	1 RheolabQC	1 MCR x2	multi	multi
	Single lab, one client	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Shared lab, two clients[a]	x	x	✓	✓
	Managed lab, multiple clients[b]	x	x	x	✓

a Two variable clients are connected to one database at the same time
b Several measuring setups (computers with MCR in the lab) connected to a central database (computer specified as server)

3.3 RheoCompass™ Single Lab Setup (Standard)

The following setup is the one most commonly used. The workspace consists of a PC and a single measuring device.

Objective

Easy setup with all components on a single workplace.

About the database

All data is stored on the hard disk (HD) of the computer in a so-called database. The database contains all measured data, the device components, templates and the user administration. Backups are done on a frequent basis, and stored on the same HD. Optionally, the local backup file can also be copied to a server drive.

- **RheoCompass Single lab installation**: one computer directly connected to a database (standard)
  - RheoCompass and database installed on the same computer
  - In the setup program this case is handled by the standard installation (recommended)
  - License feature: any

No further settings are required for the single lab installation, except the selection of the license file and the device serial number. Any administrator with basic computer skills can run the setup.

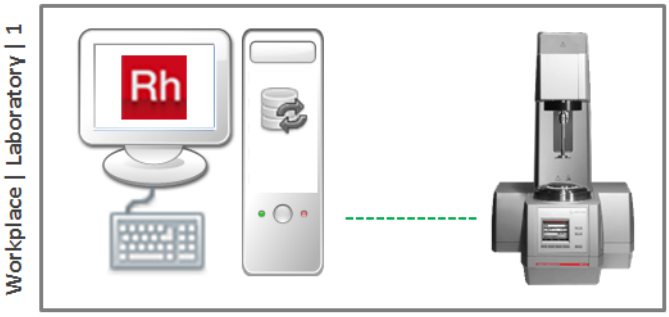


Fig. 4: RheoCompass Single Lab installation

Installation procedure

Follow these step-by-step instructions to install RheoCompass for the first time or to install an update.

1. Welcome

Click **Next** > to start the installation wizard.

2. License agreement

Confirm that you have read the license agreement, check the option and click **Next** > to continue.

3. Installation mode

Select the **Standard installation (recommended)**. This option is also used for updating the previous version of RheoCompass.
Click **Next** > to continue.

4. Installation of standard components

Depending on the operating system and components already installed, the **Installation of standard components** screen is shown.

Click **Next** > to start the installation of components such as the Microsoft .NET framework and the Microsoft SQL Server. This may take some time depending on the components required. Restart the computer if you are requested to do so.

5. Folder options

Change the installation path if necessary (not recommended). Click **Next** > to continue.

6. Product activation

Select a valid license file issued for any RheoCompass version 1.11 or higher and enter the device serial number for one of the included devices. Click **Next** > to continue.

7. Start menu group

The recommended setting is **All users of this computer**. Click **Next** > to continue.

8. Ready to update

Click **Next** > to start the installation.

9. Finish

Click **Finish** to complete the installation and to start the RheoCompass software.

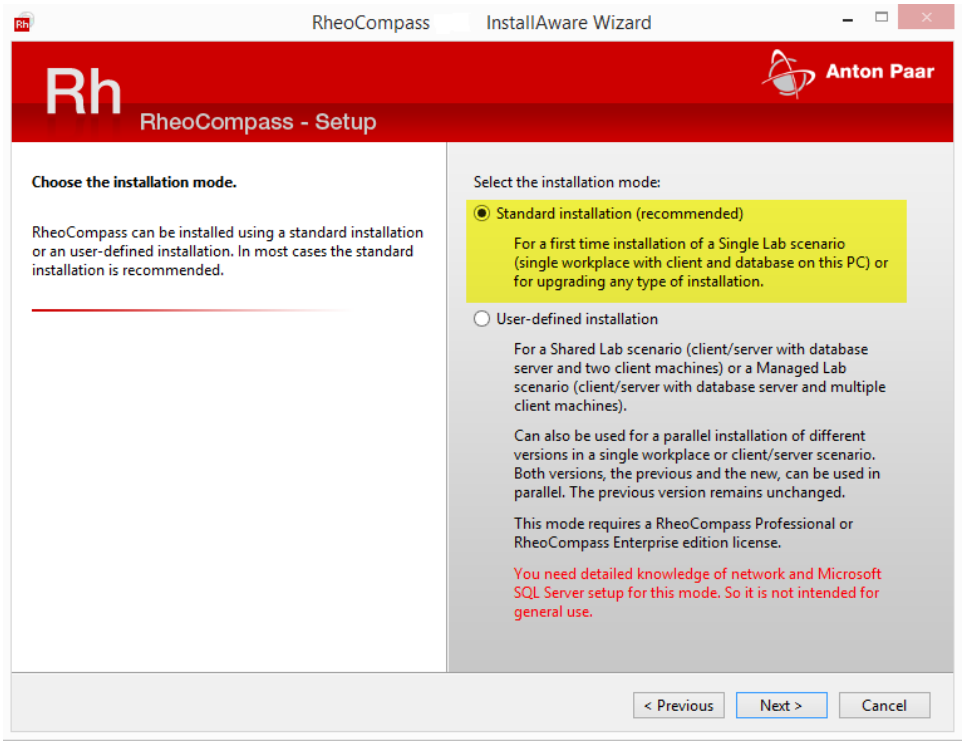


Fig. 5: RheoCompass Single Lab installation procedure

What was done during the installation

The following actions are included in the Standard installation:

- **Removal** of the previous version (if found)
- **Installation** of the new version
- **Conversion** of the existing database to the new version
- **Safety/Rollback**: A backup of all data of the previous version is performed prior to any of the above actions to C:\ProgramData\Anton Paar\RheoCompass \DBBackups*.bak. This file can be used to roll-back the installation in case anything goes wrong.

3.4 RheoCompass™ Shared Lab Setup

The following scenario is used to set up a complete workplace in the lab with any office computer connected to this workplace.

Objective

Shared setup giving any office computer remote access to all data stored on a lab computer.

Requirements

To install RheoCompass as a shared lab, the license feature RheoCompass Professional or RheoCompass with Managed Lab feature is required (1.16 or higher).

About the Database

All data is stored on the hard disk (HD) of the lab computer in a so-called database. The database contains all measuring data, the device components, templates and the user administration. Back-ups are done on a frequent basis stored on the same HD. The local backup file can also be copied to a server drive, if required.

A second PC is connected to the database of the Lab computer.

RheoCompass Shared Lab & Office installation: two computers sharing one database at the same time

- Lab computer: RheoCompass software and RheoCompass database
- Office computer: RheoCompass software connected to RheoCompass database in lab
- Two RheoCompass clients share one RheoCompass database at the same time
- It is even possible to have other office computers connected to the lab database, although not at the same time
- The lab computer just needs to be started - no local user login required
- License feature: RheoCompass Professional or RheoCompass with Managed Lab feature
- The shared lab installation should be done by administrators with advanced computer skills following the instructions in this manual.

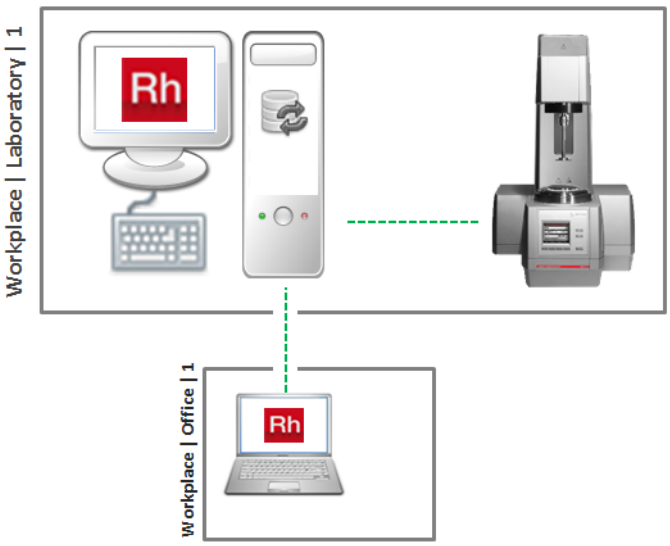


Fig. 6: Shared Lab with an office computer remotely connected to the lab computer.

Laboratory workplace installation

Follow the step-by-step instructions (See “Installation procedure” on page 10.) to install a lab workplace for the first time or to install an update.

Office workplace installation with remote connection

- Follow the step-by-step instructions to install RheoCompass for the first time.
- To install an update, proceed as explained (See “Installation procedure” on page 10.)

1. Welcome

Click **Next** > to start the installation wizard.

2. License agreement

Confirm that you have read the license agreement, check the box, and click **Next** > to continue.

3. Installation mode

Select the **user-defined installation**.

Click **Next** > to continue.

4. Select the components

a. Standard: Select **Install client components** to install a local client of RheoCompass. Please note that RheoCompass will not start with a remote connection if the connected workplace computer is down.
Click **Next** > to continue.

b. Select **Install client components** and **Install server components** to install a local client and a local database of RheoCompass.
Objective: This means you can still work "offline" whenever the lab computer is not started.
Click **Next** > to continue.

5. Installation of standard components

Depending on the operating system and components already installed, the **Installation of standard components** screen is shown.

Click **Next** > to start the installation of components such as the Microsoft .NET framework and the Microsoft SQL Server. This may take some time, depending on the required components. Restart the computer if required.

6. Product activation

Select a valid license file issued for any RheoCompass version 1.11 or higher and enter the device serial number of one of the included devices. Click **Next** > to continue.

7. Start menu group

The recommended setting is **All users of this computer**. Click **Next** > to continue.

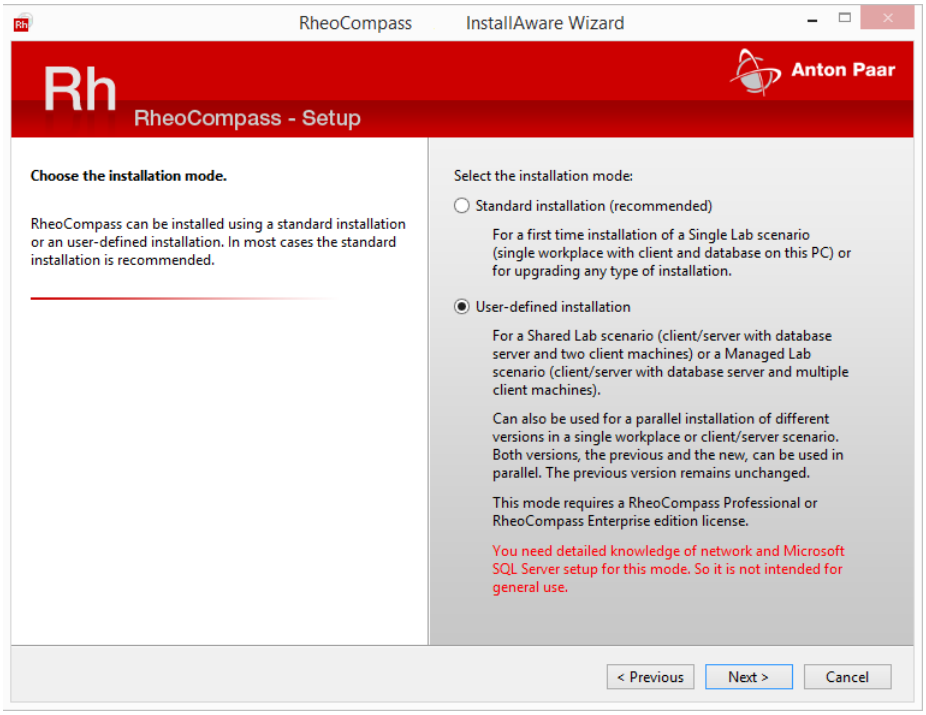


Fig. 7: RheoCompass installation

8. Ready to update

Click Next > to continue and to start with the installation.

9. Finish

Click Finish to complete the installation and to start the RheoCompass software.

10. First start setup

In the first **start** setup screen select the option **Browse for an existing database** and click Continue.

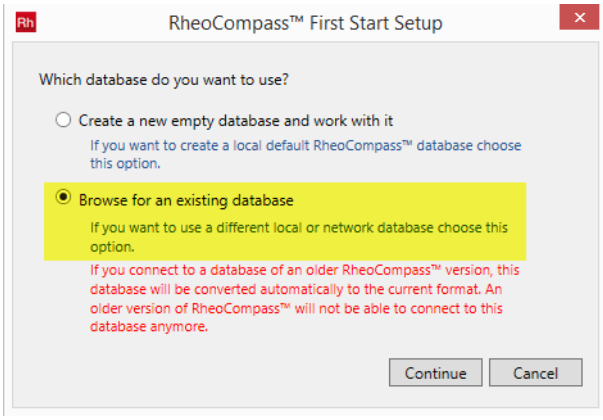


Fig. 8: First start setup

11. Select database connection

To select the workplace in the lab proceed as follows:

1. Click the '**...**' to browse the network for other computers
2. Select the computer from the workplace in the lab
3. Click **Connect to server and browse databases**
4. Select the database of the RheoCompass installed on the lab computer
5. Check **Remember connection** to remember the connection for the next time

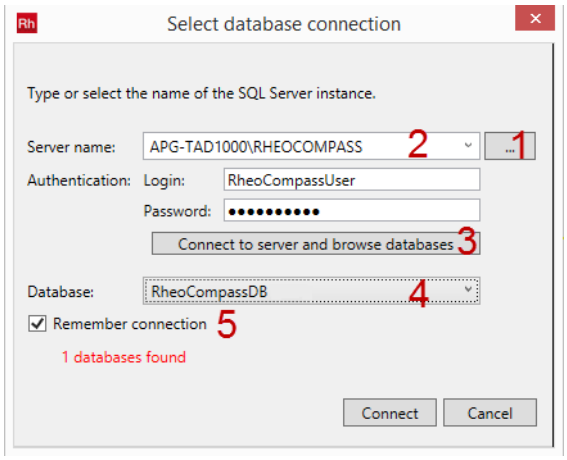


Fig. 9: Select database connection

Additional information

1. Start the SQL Server Browser

Be sure to start the SQL server browser in the laboratory in order to provide the RHEOCOMPASS SQL server of the laboratory in the local network. To make sure it is running, click the Windows item **Start, All Programs, Microsoft SQL Server 2012, Configuration Tools, SQL Server Configuration Manager** and select the **SQL Server Browser**. Make sure the service has the status *Running*. If it has stopped, then **Start Service** using the icon in the taskbar.

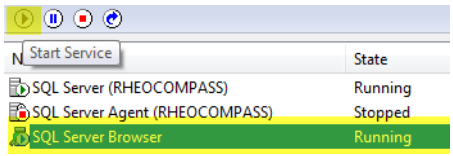


Fig. 10: Starting the SQL server browser

2. How to connect with a user-defined computer by using a shortcut

Objective: Create an icon to connect with the database of the office computer and another icon to connect with the database of the lab computer.

- Before creating the shortcut, it is helpful to print the so-called configuration string file of both computers. The file is of text format and can be opened using Notepad. It can be found in the folder: C:\Program Files\Anton Paar\RheoCompass 1.xx\RheoCompass.exe.
- Create a shortcut of the RheoCompass.exe at the desktop.
- Right mouse-click to edit the shortcut-icon properties.
- Add the following command line to the target.
- "C:\Program Files\Anton Paar\RheoCompass 1.xx\RheoCompass.exe" Connection-String="Data Source=COMPUTER-NAME\RHEOCOMPASS;Persist Security Info=True;User ID=RheoCompassUser;Initial Catalog=RheoCompassDBX;Password=CeC3XZZMu5;Connection Timeout=600.
- COMPUTERNAME = Name of the computer or server to be connected.
- RheoCompassDBX = Name of the RheoCompass database with X = consecutive number.
- 1.xx = Version number of RheoCompassStartup.

3.5 RheoCompass™ Managed Lab Setup

The following scenario is used to setup multiple workplaces in the lab and in any office. All workspaces are connected to one central RheoCompass SQL server.

Objective:

Managed Lab setup giving any lab or office computer remote access to a central data storage. All data is shared between the clients.

Requirements

To install RheoCompass as a managed lab the license feature Managed Lab is required (1.16 or higher).

About the Database

All data is stored on an SQL server (any computer specified as server) in a central RheoCompass SQL database instance. The database contains all measuring data, device components, templates and user administration.

Backups are done on a frequent basis, and are stored in a backup folder, the location of which depends on the installation scenario:

- **Installation with RheoCompass Client** and **SQL Server**
  - C:\ProgramData\Anton Paar\RheoCompass\Db Backups
  - For backup settings have a look at **Rh, Options**
  - **Installation with SQL Server** without any **RheoCompass Client**
  - C:\Program Files\Microsoft SQL Server\MSSQL11.RheoCompass\MSSQL\Backups
  - This path is defined in the Windows Registry: HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Software\Mircosoft\Microsoft SQL Server\MSSQL11.RheoCompass\MSSQLServer\BackupDirectory (in case of a standard installation scenario)
  - For backup settings, have a look at **Rh, Options**
- **RheoCompass Managed Lab installation**: multiple computers sharing the same database
  - Several lab and office computers are connected to one central RheoCompass SQL database
  - License feature: Managed Lab
  - The server or server computer just needs to be started - no local user login is required

The **Managed Lab installation** should be done by **IT professionals**, and should be done according to the instructions in this manual.

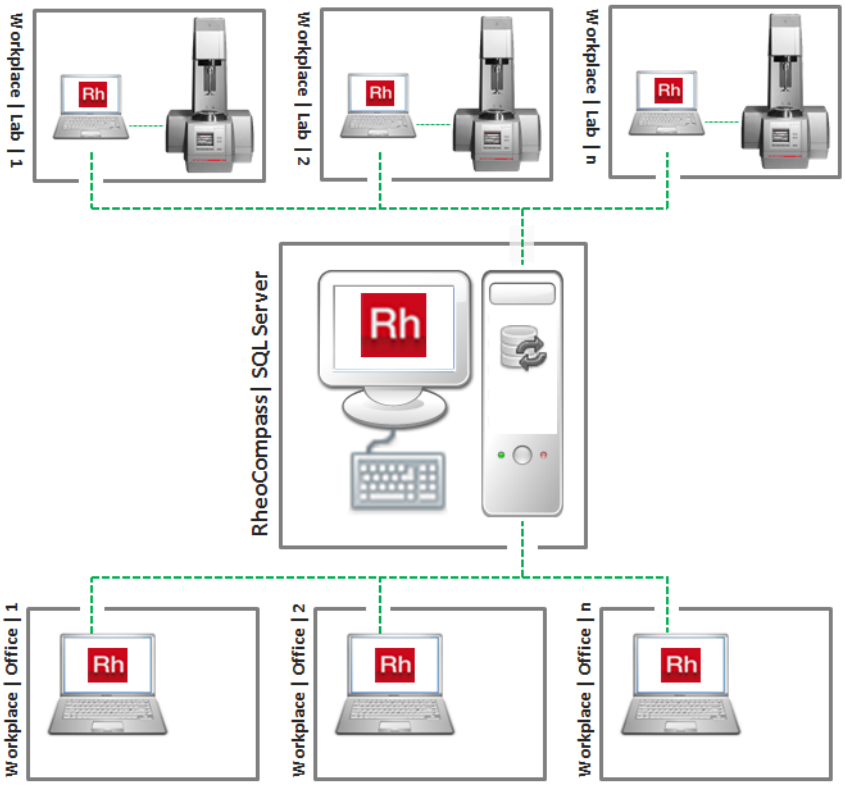


Fig. 11: Managed Lab with multiple clients and a central server for data storage

Server installation: There are two options for installing a RheoCompass SQL Server:

- Installation of the server with a local RheoCompass client
- Installation of the server with no RheoCompass client

Installation of the RheoCompass SQL Server with a local RheoCompass client on the server:

- To install a server with a local client for the first time or to update, proceed as explained in Chapter 3.3 .

Installation of the RheoCompass SQL Server with no RheoCompass client:

- Follow these step-by-step instructions to install a RheoCompass SQL Server for the first time.

1. Welcome

Click **Next** > to start the installation wizard.

2. License agreement

Confirm that you have read the license agreement, check the option and click **Next** > to continue.

3. Installation mode

Select the **User defined installation**.

Click **Next** > to continue.

4. Installation of standard components

Depending on the operating system and components already installed, the **Installation of standard components** screen is shown.

Click **Next** > to start the installation of components such as the Microsoft .NET framework and the Microsoft SQL Server. This may take some time, depending on the components required. Restart the computer if required.

5. Finish

Click **Finish** to complete the installation of the SQL Server.

What is done during the installation?

The following actions are part of the server setup routine:

- Installation of Microsoft components and the SQL Server
- Installation of a new instance within the SQL Server
- A new user is created within the SQL. The user name is sa (short for system administrator):
  - User ID: sa
  - Password: ********
  - The instance name is: "RHEOCOMPASS"
  - The password of the instance is: Ahu8Rir6 (V1.12 or below) or 'GFd2#65_A%tg' (1.13 or above)

How is the RheoCompass database installed on the SQL server instance?

Proceed with the installation of the first remote client to install the RheoCompass database on the RheoCompass SQL server instance (See “Select database connection” on page 17. in the instructions below). During the setup routine a new RheoCompass database named RheoCompassDBx is created, in which x is a consecutive number.

Workplace installation with remote connection to the server

- Follow the step-by-step instructions below to install RheoCompass for the first time.
- To install an update: See “Installation procedure” on page 10.

1. Welcome

Click **Next** > to start the installation wizard.

2. License agreement

Confirm that you have read the license agreement by checking the box and click **Next** > to continue.

3. Installation mode

Select the **User-defined installation**.

Click **Next** > to continue.

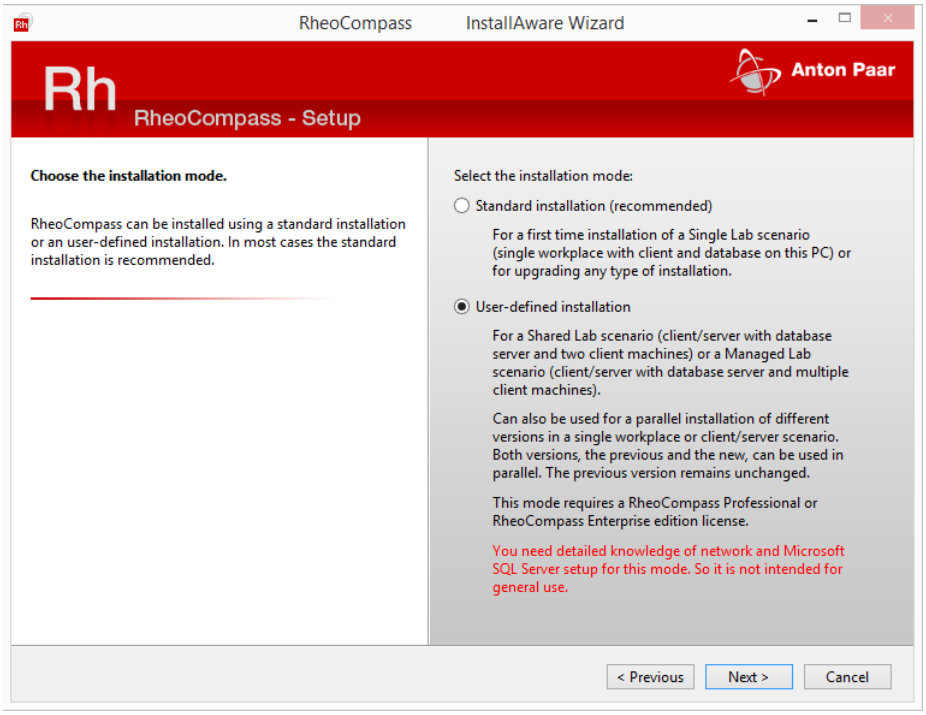


Fig. 12: User-defined installation

4. Select the components

a. Standard: Select **Install client components** to install a local client of RheoCompass.
Please note: RheoCompass will not start with a remote connection if the connected workplace computer is down.
Click **Next** > to continue.

b. Select **Install client components** and **Install server components** to install a local client and a local database of RheoCompass.
Objective: This means that you can still work "offline" when the lab computer is not started.
Click **Next** > to continue.

5. Product activation

Select a valid license file issued for any RheoCompass version 1.11 or higher and enter the device serial number for one of the included devices. Click **Next** > to continue.

6. Start menu group

The recommended settings is **All users of this computer**. Click **Next** > to continue.

7. Ready to update

Click **Next** > to continue with the installation.

8. Finish

Click **Finish** to complete the installation and start the RheoCompass software.

9. First start setup

In the first start setup screen select the option **Browse for an existing database** and click **Continue**.

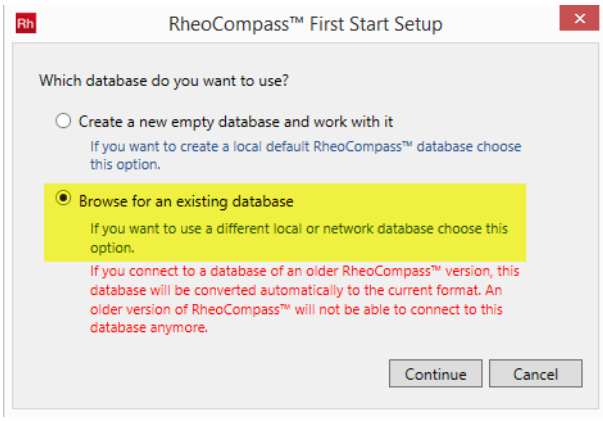


Fig. 13: Browse for an existing database

10. Select database connection

1. Installation of the very first workplace.
To install the very first workplace in the lab proceed as follows:

- Click the '**...**' to browse the network for the remote RheoCompass SQL server
- Select the RheoCompass SQL server or enter the name "Server-Name\RHEOCOMPASS" manually if no RheoCompass SQL instance is found.
- <**Create a new database**> for RheoCompass in the instance of the SQL server the RheoCompass installed on the lab computer
- Check **Remember connection** to remember the connection for next time
- Use the Login name "sa" and password "GFd2#65_A%tg " or any other name and password provided by IT.
- Click **Connect** to create the new database

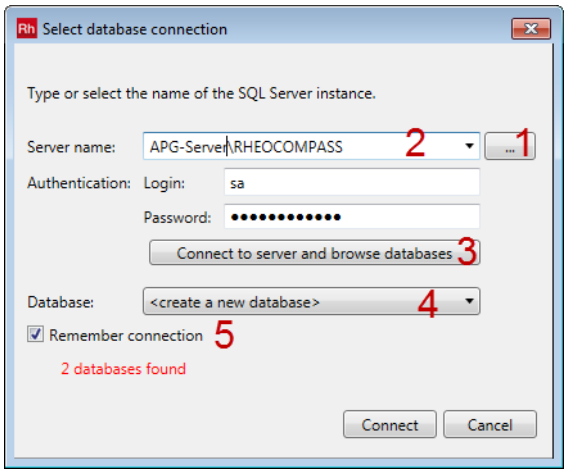


Fig. 14: Selecting database connection: Very first workplace

2. Installation of further workplaces connected with existing RheoCompass database.
To select the workplace in the lab proceed as follows:

- Click the '**...**' to browse the network for other computers
- Select the RheoCompass SQL server
- Click **Connect to server and browse databases**
- Select the database of the RheoCompass installed on this server
- Check **Remember connection** to remember the connection for next time

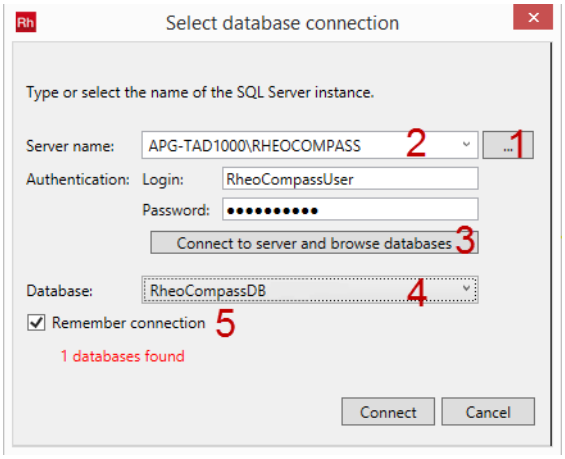


Fig. 15: Selecting database connection: further workplaces

Additional information for IT professionals

1. Start the SQL Server Browser

Be sure to start the SQL Server Browser on the server in order to provide the RHEOCOMPASS SQL Server in the local network. To make sure it is running, click the Windows item **Start, All Programs, Microsoft SQL Server 2012, Configuration Tools, SQL Server Configuration Manager** and select the **SQL Server Browser**. Make sure the service has the status *Running*. If it has stopped, then Start Service using the icon in the taskbar (Fig. 16:).

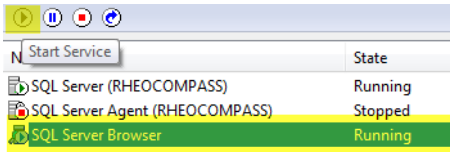


Fig. 16: Starting the SQL Server Browser

2. **How to connect with a user-defined server using a shortcut**, e.g. one for offline and one for connecting to a remote server

- Print out or make a copy of the configuration string file of the target computer or server (text file):
- C:\ProgramData\Anton Paar\RheoCompass1.xx\DbConfiguration.config
- Create a shortcut of the RheoCompass.exe at the desktop
- Right mouse-click to edit the properties of the shortcut icon
- Add the following command line to the target
  - **Remote server configuration string**: "C:\Program Files\Anton Paar\RheoCompass 1.xx\RheoCompass.exe" ConnectionString="Data Source=COMPUTERNAME\RHEOCOMPASS;Persist Security Info=True;User ID=RheoCompassUser;Initial Catalog=RheoCompassDBX;Password=CeC3XZZMu5;Connection Timeout=600
  - **Local default configuration string**: "C:\Program Files\Anton Paar\RheoCompass 1.xx\RheoCompass.exe" ConnectionString="Data Source=.\RheoCompass;Initial Catalog=RheoCompassDBx;User ID=RheoCompassUser;Password=CeC3XZZMu5
  - COMPUTERNAME = Name of the computer or server to be connected, or IP-Address
  - RheoCompassDBX = Name of the RheoCompass database, where X=consecutive number
  - 1.xx = RheoCompass version number

3. Show the database browser during RheoCompass startup

If you wish to install RheoCompass on the office computer with a local database parallel to the database being used in the lab, proceed as follows. Instead of 4a select 4b during the setup.

To recall the dialog for selecting a **RheoCompass Database Browser** permanently during startup on the office computer:

- Right mouse-click the RheoCompass link (desktop)
- Select **Properties**
- Add the string **ShowDatabaseBrowser** to the **Target**

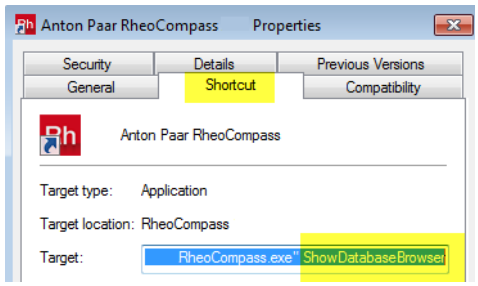


Fig. 17: Show the database browser during RheoCompass startup

- This opens the **RheoCompass database browser** every time RheoCompass is started on the office computer

- As the latest connections are **remembered**, the **RheoCompass database browser** will remember the office and laboratory connection allowing a single click connection

4. **How to change the configuration string of a database connection manually**

As an alternative to the database browser, the configuration string file can be manually changed, and the names of the database and computer entered.

- **Connection string file**: C:\ProgramData\Anton Paar\RheoCompas 1.xx\DbConfiguration.config
- **Local default configuration string**: <DbConfiguration ConnectionString="Data Source=.\RheoCompass;Initial Catalog=RheoCompassDBx;User ID=RheoCompassUser;Password=CeC3XZZMu5" />
- **Remote server configuration string**: <DbConfiguration ConnectionString="Data Source=192.27.168.98; Initial Catalog=RheoCompassDB; user ID=my user; password=my password" />

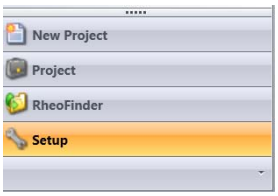
3.6 Selecting the Connection to the Instrument

The selection of the instrument connection is only required after the first installation of the RheoCompass™, if a rheometer has been added, or if the connection type is to be changed.

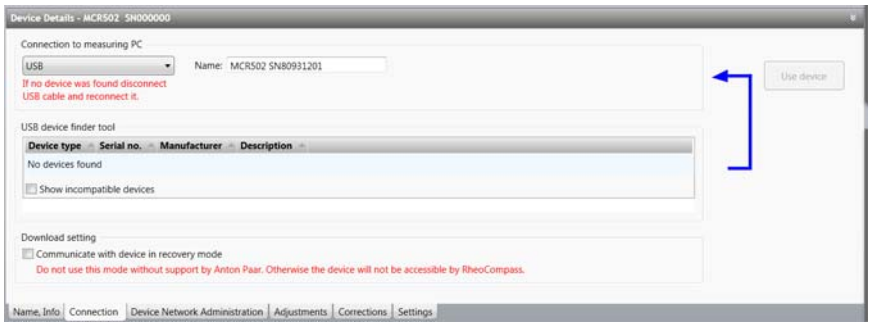
To select the communication method for the instrument follow the procedure described in 3.6.1 or 3.6.2 respectively.

3.6.1 USB Connection

1. On the lower left side of the start screen in the RheoCompass™, click the navigation button "Setup".

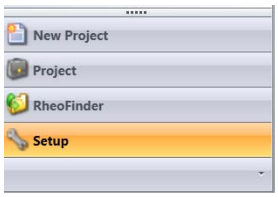


2. Highlight the entry "Devices" under "Measuring set components" in the navigation and select the tab "Connection" in the details pane.
3. Click the list under "Connection to measuring PC" and select "USB".
4. The software will now scan for available devices. If no devices are visible, disconnect the USB cable and re-connect it, check the rheometer is switched on and connected to a USB port of the computer. Further, check that the MCR xx2 is set to USB communication. Information on changing the communication settings in the device can be found in the MCR xx2 hardware documentation.
5. Highlight the device you want to use and click "Use this device"



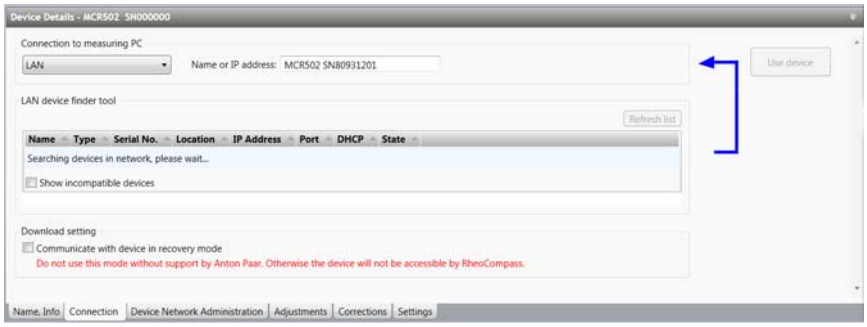
3.6.2 Ethernet (LAN) Connection

1. On the lower left side of the start screen in the RheoCompass™, click the navigation button "Setup".



2. Highlight the entry "Devices" under "Measuring set components" in the navigation and select the tab "Connection" in the details pane.
3. Click the list under "Connection to measuring PC" and select "LAN".
4. The software will now scan for available devices. If no devices are visible, disconnect the LAN cable and re-connect it, check the rheometer is switched on, that the Ethernet cable is connected and that the device is set to use LAN communication. Information on changing the communication settings of the device can be found in the MCR xx2 hardware documentation.
5. Highlight the device you want to use and click "Use this device".

In case detailed settings are required for the LAN connection, refer to the following chapter.



3.6.3 Setting up an Ethernet Connection

The Ethernet (LAN) connection is set in the tab "Device Network Administration" under "Measuring set components" and "Devices".

The instrument can either be connected to the network or directly to the computer's network interface card. In case the computer is connected to the network as well, a second interface card has to be installed in the computer. Further, the TCP/IP protocol needs to be installed on the computer. If the instrument is connected to the company network, the assistance of the network administrator will be required.

For a direct connection between instrument and computer use the crossover patch cable, for a connection to the network use the standard patch cable. Both cables are delivered with the instrument.

1. Go to the network settings of your computer and check the properties of the TCP/IP protocol. Make a note of the IP number, the subnet mask and the IP number of the standard gateway. If these are not set and the computer is not connected to a network, you may use the following settings:
   IP number: 192.168.21.5
   Subnet mask: 255.255.255.0
   Standard gateway: 192.168.21.10

TIP: *If the computer is connected to a network, ask the administrator for information on the TCP/IP settings.*

2. Make sure that the device is set to use the Ethernet connection for communication and click "Refresh list" to scan for available devices. If the list shows "OK" in the "State" column, you do not need to change any settings, but can continue with step 5.
3. If the device is connected directly to the computer, you may use the following settings:
   IP number:192.168.21.7
   Subnet mask:255.255.255.0
   Standard gateway:192.168.21.10

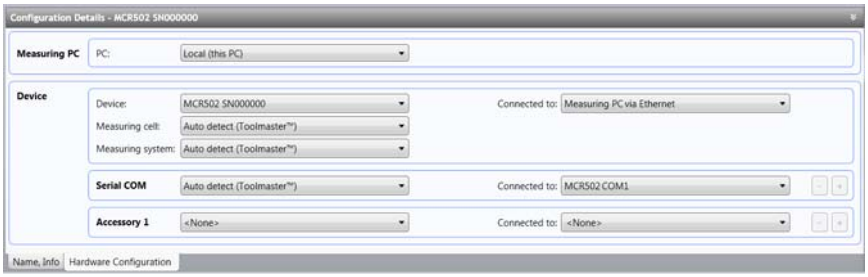
TIP: *If both device and computer are connected to a network, please ask the administrator for the available settings. The software can work with both static and dynamic (DHCP) IP-addresses.*

4. Once you have made the required changes to the settings, click "Apply settings to device" and wait for the list to become active again. The "State" column should now show "OK" for the device.
5. Switch to the tab "Connection" and find the device for which you have just edited the settings in the list. Click "Use device".
6. If the device shows "OK" for the status, select the ribbon "Measuring Set" and change the current configuration to "None".
7. Select the configuration that you want to use.

3.7 Editing or Creating a Measuring Set Configuration

The configuration contains the selected device, its accessories and measuring system as well as a moving profile. Once selected, it is valid for all projects and will establish immediate communication to the defined device.

1. Click the navigation button "Setup".
2. Select "Configurations" in the navigation pane.
3. Make sure that the ribbon "Setup" is active and click "New" in the "Item" ribbon bar.
4. Click "Create new Item".
5. You will now see the tab "Name, Info" in the details pane
6. The entry "Configuration name" is required, as it is used to identify the configuration for the measuring set and in the list of available configurations.
7. "Location" and "Description" are optional entries which can be used to enter details, in case several devices are used in a network or on one computer.
8. The moving profile defines the speed and normal force settings for going to measuring or lift position as well as the settings for a measurement. Choose the profile from the list of available profiles.
9. Change to the tab "Hardware Configuration" to see or change the device or the other measuring set components, i. e. accessories and measuring system.



10. Select the device from the list "Device" and the connection type from the list "Connected to:".
11. The default settings for accessories is the automatic detection with the Toolmaster™.

The selection of a configuration is available in the ribbon "Measuring set". Changes can be made to a currently selected configuration but will not become active until the configuration has been deactivated and activated.

4 First Steps

This chapter describes the general steps necessary from generating a new project to starting the measurement. The test definition and measurement settings have to be set up individually depending on the sample properties and steps required for a certain test definition.

4.1 Checking the Communication to the Device

Make sure that the instrument is switched on, connected to the computer and that both computer and device have been set to use the same communication method. The communication method can be USB, Ethernet or RS232 depending on the device type. For choosing the communication method on the device, please see the respective instruction manual. If you are using the USB connection for a rheometer of the MCR xx2 series, make sure that the USB driver has been installed. This is normally done automatically during the installation of the RheoCompass™ software.

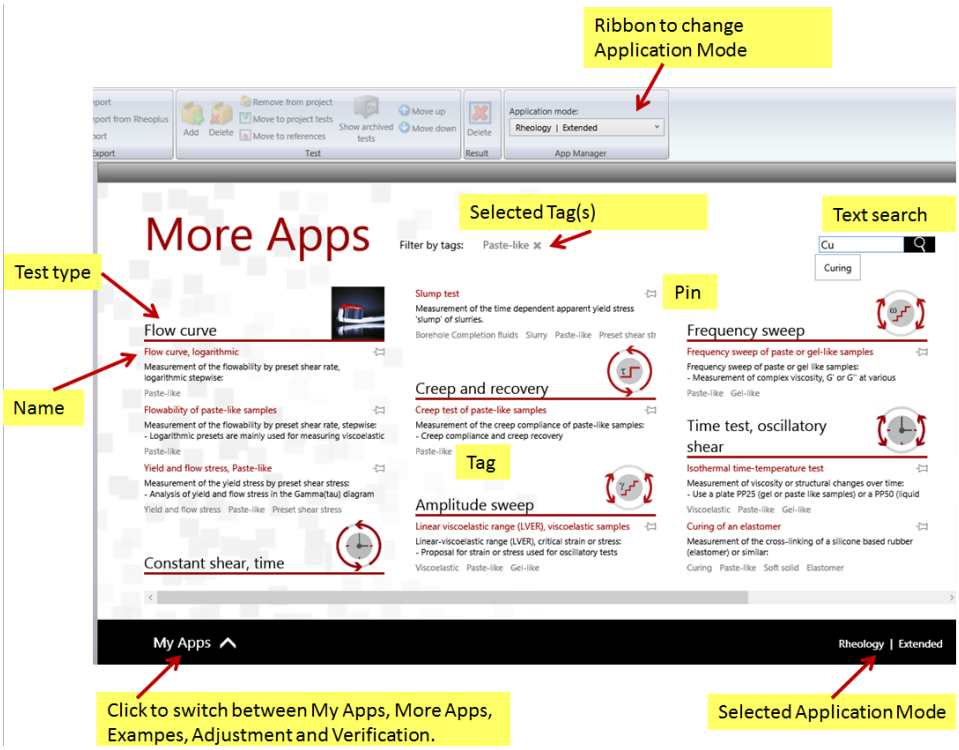
Select the configuration containing the device in the ribbon "Measuring set" from the list named "Current configuration". For the creation of a configuration please see the previous chapter in this manual.

Click on the control panel and check whether the button <Initialize> is active. If not, please check the connection (hardware and settings) to the rheometer. If you cannot get the communication to work, click the button <Check communication> in the ribbon "Measuring set". Make a note of the message shown there and contact Anton Paar RheoCompass™ support or our local distributor.

4.2 Creating a Project

To create a new project click the **My Apps** category in the navigation. This will display the AppManager as shown in the figure below.

To create a new project select the **My Apps** category in the Navigation pane and click **More Apps** in the **App Manager**. Next click the red name of the project template to open up the template of your choice.



Application Mode:

The application mode is used to predefine the **Anton Paar templates** shown in the **App Manager**. To change the application mode, click the Home, App Manager ribbon and select the **Application Mode** that best suits your application. Typical approaches are: Rheology, Scientific, DMA, Powder, Tribology, Asphalt.

User-Defined Filtering of Templates:

To reduce the number of **Apps** at this page use the text search in the upper right corner or click on any of the **Tags** listed below the template descriptions. To show again **All templates** remove the **Tags** defined in the header of the page.

Pin to My Apps Page:

Click the **Pin** icon behind each App to pin frequently used items to the **My Apps** page.

The My Apps page is a desktop-style page that allows the user to pin projects and frequently used project templates to it. The colors and the additional info are defined within the Apps positioned at the page.

Further categories found in the **App manager** are **Examples** (project templates containing measuring data from Anton Paar) and **Verification and adjustment** (templates used for adjustments and verification measurement). Click **My Apps** to select any of these categories accordingly.

4.3 Editing the Project and Starting the Measurement

The project template contains several views, depending on the requirements of the selected measurement. In general, you will have a view with the test definition, one with a diagram and one with a table.

The test definition contains a number of steps, called action blocks which can be used to define actions for the rheometer for example, such as sending a temperature before the measurement, setting zero-gap, if required, and similar things. Further, you can use the action blocks to add information or instructions to the user, if the template is to be used in a quality control environment for example. The name and other information for the measurement is entered in the start action block which becomes active, once you start the execution of the test definition.

To start the test definition click the green arrow button in the ribbon tab "Test". You may also use the green arrow in the quick access toolbar. With this button, you start the default test definition (a project may contain more than one test definition). The tab of the default test definition will be highlighted with a blinking frame. To enter information to the start action block and proceed with the test, switch to the view containing the test definition.

The default test definition can be defined in the ribbon tab "Test" under "Test definition". Click the button <Set as default> while the test definition you want to use as default is shown.

The action blocks that have been carried out in a test definition, can be viewed and edited while the test is running, the subsequent and the active action block can be viewed but not edited.