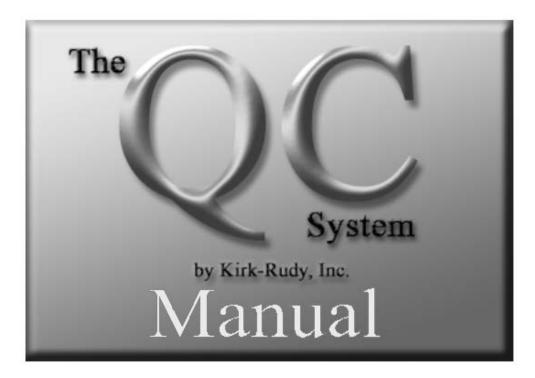
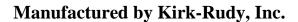
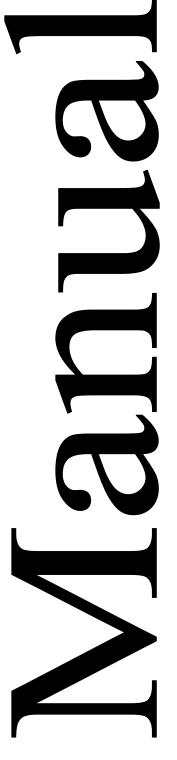
# Kirk-Rudy, Inc.

# Instruction and Parts Manual The QC System





Before using this machine, all operators must study this manual to understand and follow the <u>Safety Warnings and Instructions</u>. Keep these instructions with the machine for future reference. If you have any questions, contact your local Kirk-Rudy, Inc. Distributor.



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## 1 Important Safety Instructions

<u>Intended Use Statement:</u> The KRQC Barcode Checker is a quality control checking tool for analyzing barcode quality and suggesting improvements. Usage for other purposes may lead to an unsafe condition.

SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS. Read all instructions before using this product.



## **WARNING**

\* NEVER OPERATE THE MACHINE WITHOUT ALL GUARDS OR SAFETY DEVICES IN PLACE.

## 2 Introduction



## **WARNING**

Read and follow all Safety Instructions, Page 4 before proceeding.

## 2.1 Physical Specifications

Height: 15-3/8"

Width: 10-1/2"

Length: 36"

## 2.2 Electrical Power Requirements

120VAC, 1A, 60HZ

## **3 System Components**



## WARNING

Read and follow all Safety Instructions, Page 4 before proceeding.

3.1

546690-05 ASSY, COGNEX CAMERA SYSTEM

546694-01 ASSY, CONTROL BOX LIGHT

## 4 Installation



## WARNING

Read and follow all Safety Instructions, Page 4 before proceeding.

#### 4.1 Hardware Installation

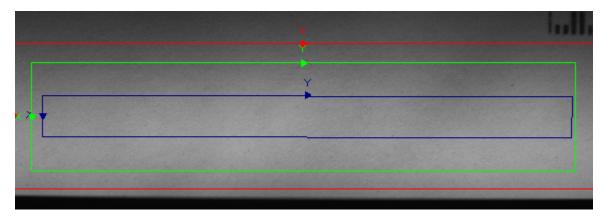
## 4.1.1 Light Adjustment

In the case where the LED light has moved or needs to be installed, the LED light must be adjusted so that it is at the best angle for most reliable results.

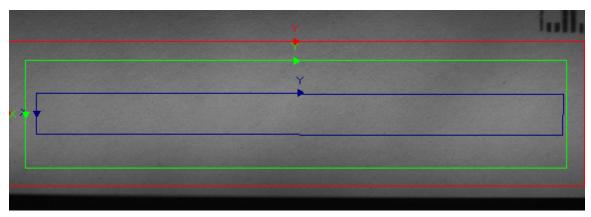
#### To adjust the LED light:

- 1. Gently loosen the screws on the side of the light.
- 2. Start the QC software, load/start a job.
- 3. Switch to Normal Mode.
- 4. Make sure the software is in the Setup step and auto refresh is selected.
- 5. Place a blank product until the camera sensor.
- 6. Adjust the angle of the light until the brightest spot is at the center of the image.
- 7. Examples are on the next page.

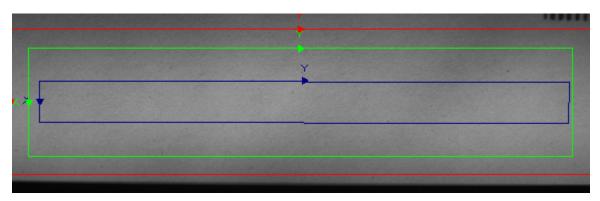
To Low



## Too High



#### Perfect

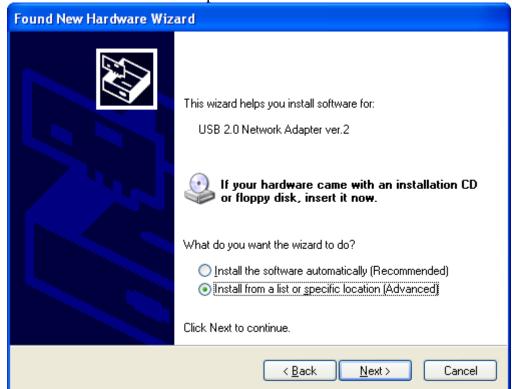


## 4.1.2 Installing USB Ethernet Adapter

#### Windows XP

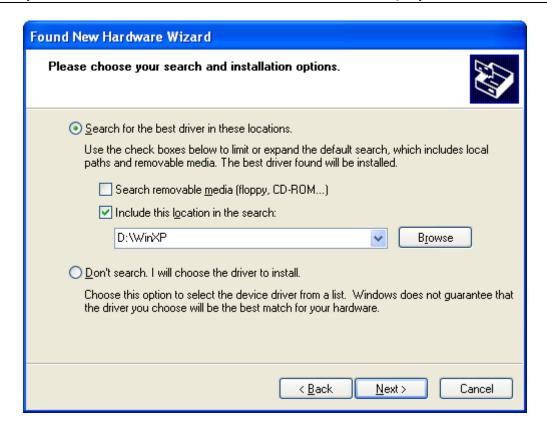
- 1. Plug the small USB to Ethernet converter into a free USB 2.0 slot.
- 2. If you see the following screen, select "No, not at this time" and click Next. Otherwise, skip to step 3.





3. Select "Install from a list or a specific location" and click Next.

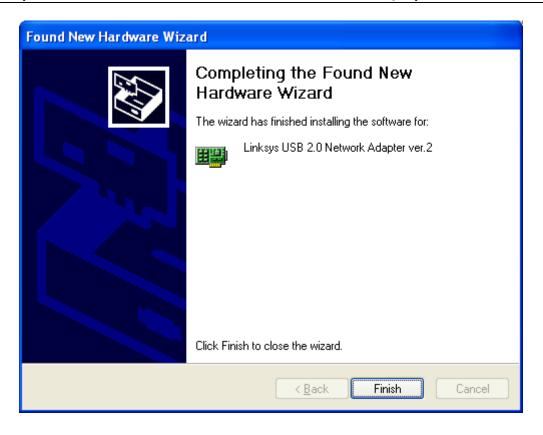
4. In the following screen select "Search for the best driver in these locations" and only select "Include this location in the search." Enter D:\winxp in the field, or if the CDROM drive is another letter, replace D with the CDROM's drive letter. Click Next.



5. Click "Continue Anyway"

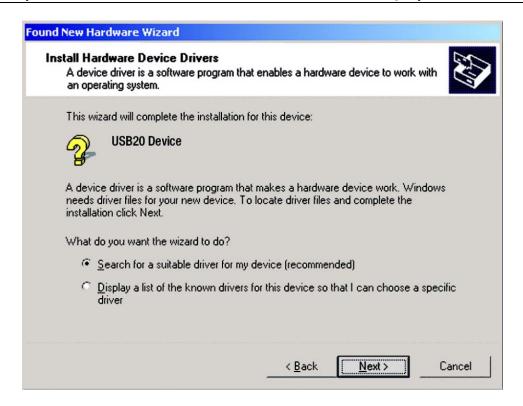


6. Installation is complete. Click "Finish."



#### Windows 2000

- 1. Plug the small USB to Ethernet converter into a free USB 2.0 slot.
- 2. When the following screen is displayed, select "Search for a suitable driver for my device" and click Next.



3. Select "Specify a location" and click Next.



- 4. In the *Copy manufacturer's files from:* field enter **D:\win2000** then click OK. If the CD-ROM drive is not D, replace D with the CD-ROM's drive letter.
- 5. The following *Driver Files Search Results* screen will appear. Click "Next"



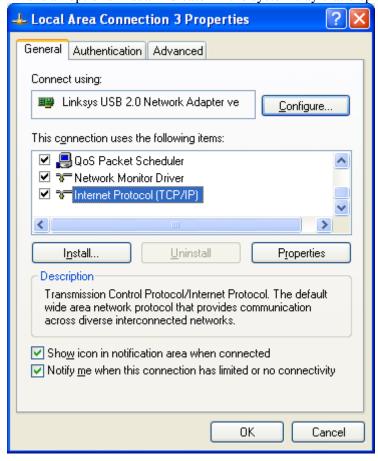
6. If the following screen is displayed, click **Yes**.



7. Click **Finish** then remove the driver CD from the CD-ROM drive.

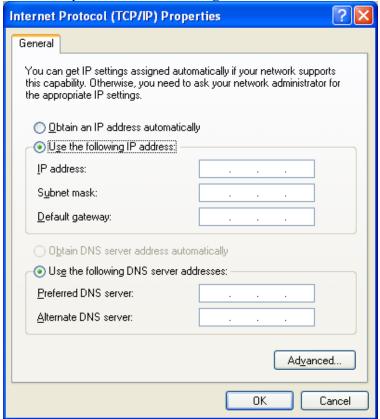
## 4.1.3 Configuring USB Ethernet Adapter

- 1. Open Network Connections
  - a. Windows XP: Click Start All Programs Accessories Communications Network Connections
  - b. **Windows 2000**: Click Start Programs Accessories Communications Network and Dial-Up Connections.
- 2. Find the interface that uses the Linksys USB 2.0 Network Adapter ver.2
- 3. Right click on the interface icon, click rename, type in 'QC' then click enter.
- 4. Right click on the interface icon and click **Properties**.
- 5. Put a check in the box near the bottom next to "**Show icon in notification area when connected**." This is an optional visual indicator in the system tray that displays the camera's connection to the PC.

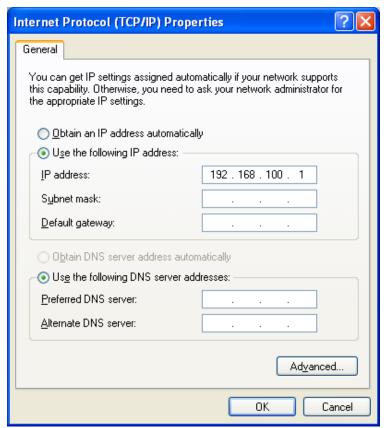


6. Scroll down the list of items under the section "This connection uses the following items." Click once on Internet Protocol (TCP/IP) and then click Properties.

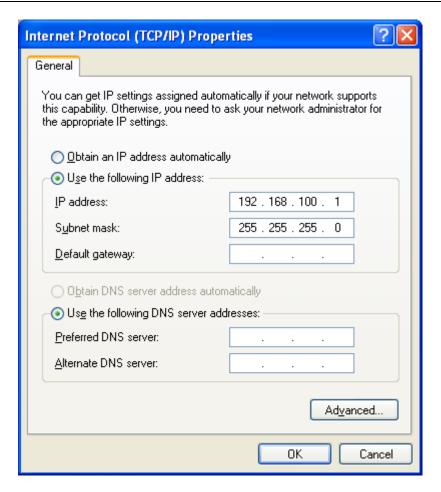
7. Select the option "Use the following IP address."



8. Enter the IP address 192.168.100.1 in the field **IP address** 



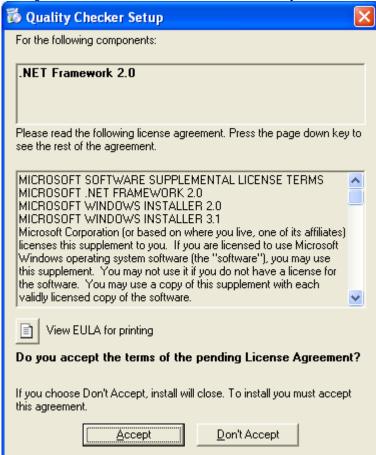
9. Click in the field **Subnet mask** so that it is filled automatically with 255.255.255.0.



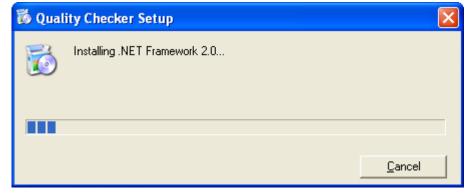
- 10. Click **OK.**
- 11. Click Close.
- 12. The USB Ethernet interface is now configured and ready to communicate with the camera sensor.

#### 4.2 Software Installation

- 1. Insert the QC System Installation CD into the CD-ROM drive.
- 2. Run Setup from the CD.
- 3. If the .NET 2.0 Framework is not installed, the following message will be displayed. Click **Accept**. If the .NET 2.0 Framework is already installed, skip to step 6.



4. Allow several minutes for the .NET Framework 2.0 to install.



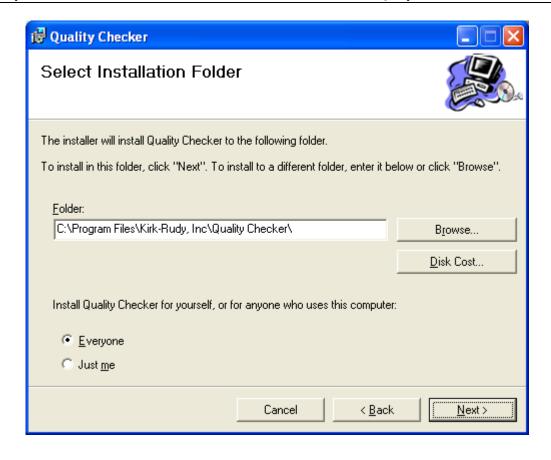
5. Click "Yes" to reboot the system.



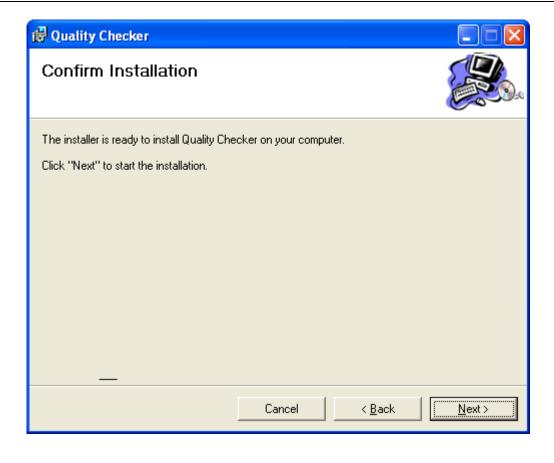
6. After the PC reboots the QC System installer should automatically start. If the installer does not start, run Setup from the CD again. Click **Next**.



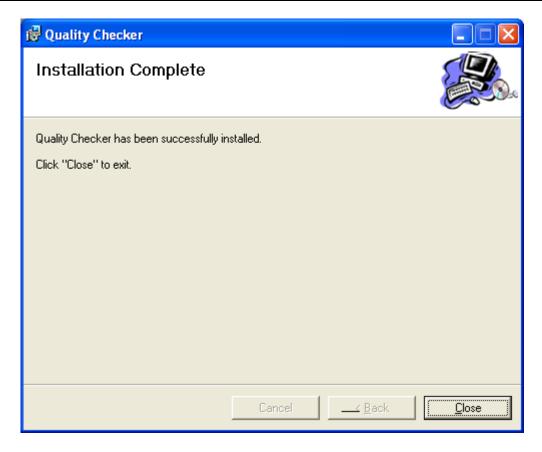
7. Click Next.



#### 8. Click Next.



9. Installation is complete. Click **Close**.



10. A link has been created on the desktop and a program group has been created.

## **5 Software Operation**

#### 5.1 Introduction

The QC System is designed to be a tool for reporting barcode quality in such a way that an operator can quickly identify quality problems for a barcode and fix them before starting a job. Detailed barcode quality metrics allow an operator to tweak a printer's output so that the printer prints barcodes at the highest quality level possible. The QC system uses both DMM and MERLIN specifications for determining thresholds, and its graphical display makes it easy to make sure barcode measurements are in the middle of allowed limits.

#### The QC System provides

- Detailed barcode quality metrics
- Audible alarm for failure condition
- Report generation

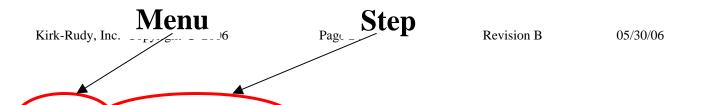
## 5.2 Startup Procedure

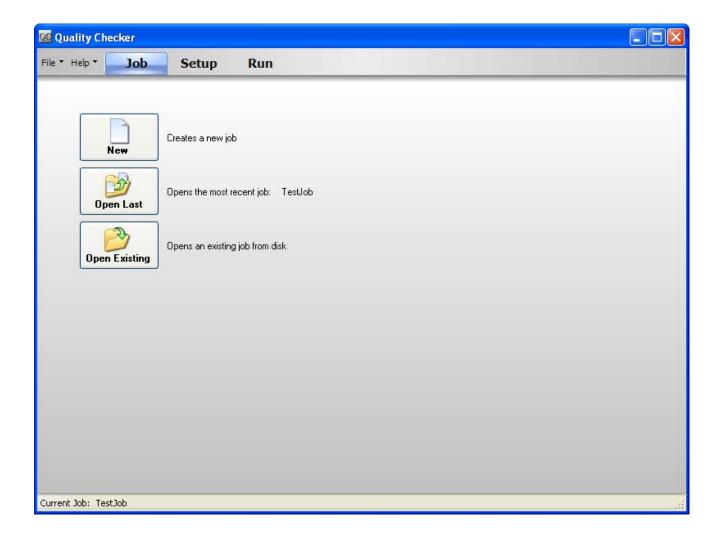
- 1. Power on the PC if it is turned off.
- 2. Power on the camera sensor.
- 3. Wait 30 seconds.
- 4. Start The Quality Checker System software.





## 5.3 User Interface





#### Menu

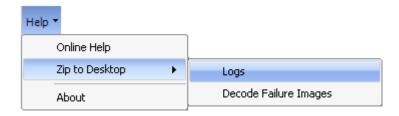
The menu has two dropdown items, File and Help.

#### Menu -File



Command	Description		
New	Creates a new job.		
Open	Opens an existing job from disk.		
Save	Saves the current job to disk using the current job name.		
Save As	Allows saving the current job to a different file on disk.		
Mode	Wizard – Switches software to wizard mode.		
Wiode	<ul> <li>Normal – Switches software to normal mode.</li> </ul>		
Exit	Exit Closes the application.		

#### Menu -Help



Command	Description
Online Help	Displays this manual in a browser
Zip to Desktop	<ul> <li>Logs – Zips all software logs and saves them to the desktop in a zip file.</li> <li>Decode Failure Images – Zips all images, where the barcode was unable to be decoded, to the desktop. For diagnostic and reporting purposes only.</li> </ul>
About Displays The QC System software information	

#### Step

The **Step** bar allows switching between different steps in the software. The ideal progression is left to right. However, steps can be skipped if the user wishes to do so.



#### 5.4 Job Files

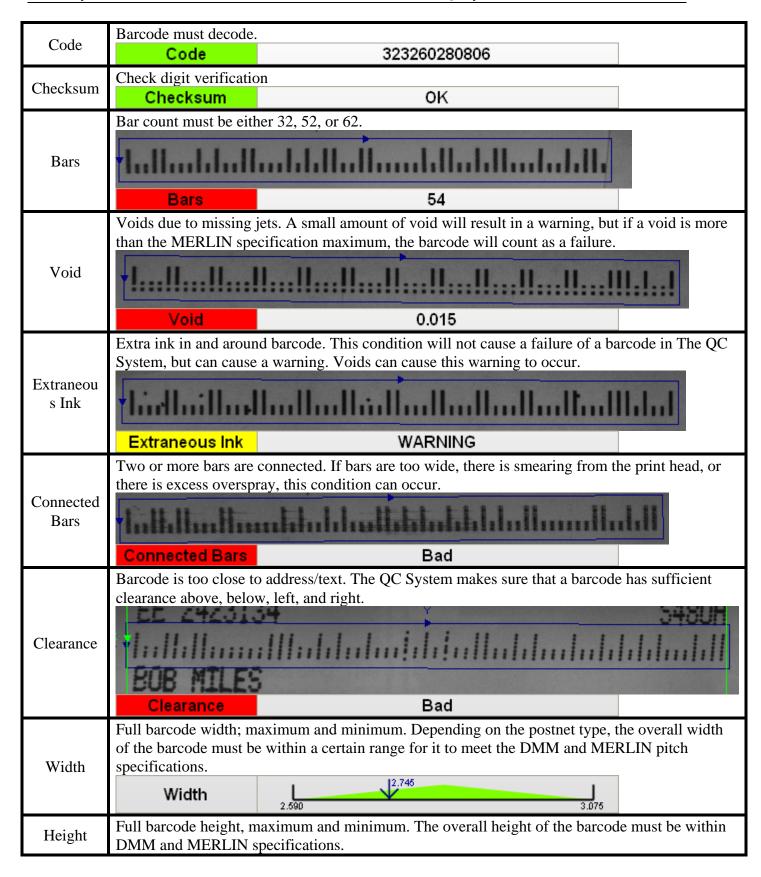
Job files provide a way to save settings for a particular job as well as result stats. Due to portability and size constraints, job files do not save all result data for each product. Result data for each product is lost when the application closes. Jobs are automatically saved when the software closes. The following information is stored in a job file:

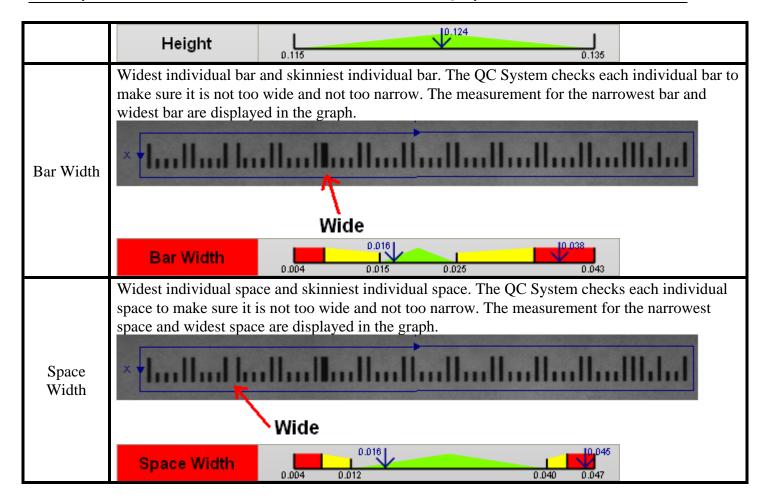
Item	Description
Invert	Whether or not the image is inverted.
Scan Type Barcode position (below, above, between text)	
Stop Percentage The percentage at which an alarm condition will be raised.	
Stop Count	The number of recent products for determining the failure percentage for
	the alarm condition.
Passed	Number of products that passed analysis.
Failed Number of products that failed analysis.	

## 5.5 Barcode Quality

To reduce the probability of failing MERLIN, printers should produce barcodes that are in the middle of allowed specifications. The QC System analyzes many aspects of a barcode's quality, some of which are displayed graphically. The graphical display makes it easy to identify when a barcode is of high quality or when it will risk failure. The following table provides an overview of the different quality checks The QC System performs when analyzing a barcode. All measurements are in inches.

Quality Metrics			
Item	Description		





## 5.6 Analyzing Barcodes

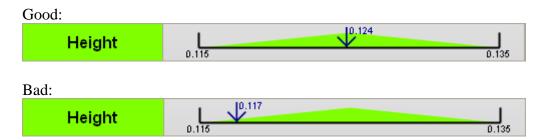
The QC System provides real-time reporting of barcode quality. The **Run** step is where barcodes are analyzed and results and statistics displayed. There are two modes for analyzing barcodes: **Preview** and **Job**.

Mode Overview			
Preview	Job		
Results are not saved	Result stats saved with job		
Displays all barcodes	Displays failed barcodes		
100 results before warning	Exportable results		
	Unlimited # of results		
	Ability to raise alarm condition		

## 5.6.1 Preview

The purpose of **Preview** mode is to allow an operator to see each barcode that is being analyzed and the corresponding quality measurements. In **Preview** mode the analysis results are not saved or counted towards a job. This mode is a means for improving barcode quality until the quality is

sufficient to run a job. For all quality measurements that are displayed using a colored gauge, the ideal quality measurement is in the center of the high and low limits, as shown in the following image:



Even if The QC System reports a barcode as passing, if the quality results are near a failure condition the probability of failing MERLIN increases. Preview mode allows the operator to make any printing changes necessary to get quality results in the center of the limits so as to reduce the probability of MERLIN or QC System failure.

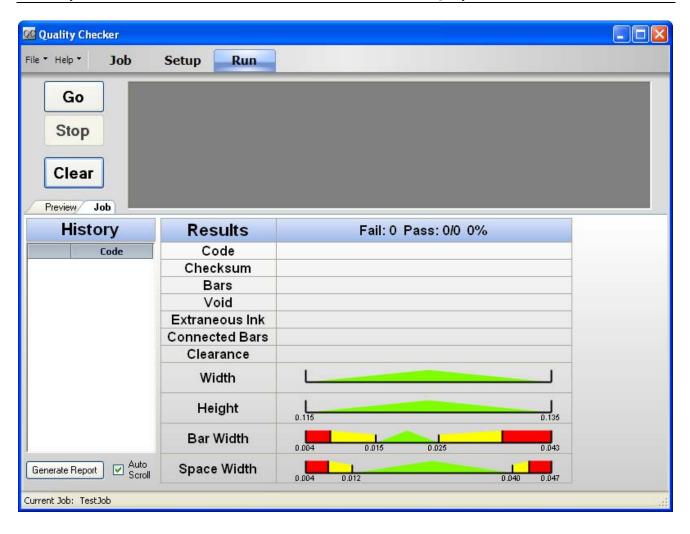
#### 5.6.2 **Job**

The purpose of **Job** mode is to keep track of barcode quality for the duration of a print job. The results for each barcode are stored in memory until either the 'clear' button is clicked or the software closes. However, the total number of pass/fails for a job is stored in the job file. This allows a job to be resumed another day. Images of barcodes that pass the QC System quality checking are not displayed on the screen. Only images of warning or failed barcodes are displayed. This means that during the run of a job, the image displayed will always be the most recent bad quality barcode.

#### 5.6.3 User Interface

The **Run** step is nearly identical in both the wizard mode and normal mode. The only difference is that **Preview** mode does not keep track of total stats and reports cannot be generated. The Run step has several user interface items:

- 1. Go/Stop/Clear
- 2. Barcode image display
- 3. Preview/Job mode selection (tabs)
- 4. Barcode quality history
- 5. Results display
- 6. Report generation (**Job** mode only)



Item	Description		
Go/Stop/Clear	<ul> <li>Go – Puts the camera in online mode, in analyze barcodes.</li> <li>Stop – Stops the camera from analyzing</li> <li>Clear – Clears all results for the curren (Preview or Job)</li> </ul>	g barcodes	
Barcode Display	Displays the most recent image of a product passing under the camera sensor. In Preview mode, all images are displayed. In Job mode, only the most recent failure or warning barcode is displayed.  • Red Box – The red box is displayed during setup, and it is the actual field of view for analyzing barcodes. This Barcode Display is the same area and same field of view as the red box during setup.  • Green Box – The green box is the ideal field of view for barcodes. If a barcode is outside the green box, analysis of a barcode may result in error or failure condition.  • Blue Box – The blue box is the QC's way of displaying where it has identified a barcode.		
Run Mode	Allows switching between <b>Preview</b> and <b>Job</b> mode.  Preview Job		
Barcode Quality History	Code   106   300221559012   107   300221559012   108   300221559012   110   300221559012   111   300221559012   112   300221559012   113   300221559012   115   300221559012   116   300221559012   117   300221559012   118   300221559012   119   300221559012   119   300221559012   119   300221559012   110   300221559012	he selection Results is a failure or nding image result. In orresponding to 100	

Results Display	Results Code Checksum Bars Void Extraneous Ink Connected Bars Clearance Width Height Bar Width Space Width	Fail: 26 Pass: 38/64 59.38%  323260280806  OK  62  0.000  OK  OK  OK  OK  OK  OK  OK  OK  OK	Displays the quality measurements. If the barcode passes, all items are green. If the barcode fails or is a warning, the corresponding item(s) will be yellow for warning or red for failure. In <b>Job</b> mode, run stats are displayed at the top.
Report Generation	Allows the failed items in the result history to be exported to PDF. (Only available in <b>Job</b> mode)		
Auto Scroll	Auto Scroll  When enabled, the History and Result Display will automatically scroll and update as new barcodes are and When disabled, the user is able to browse the history and select a see the corresponding detailed results.		barcodes are analyzed.

#### 5.7 Wizard Mode

#### 5.7.1 Introduction

The user interface wizard is designed to walk users through the process of setting up and running a job. Each step has a pass light that indicates if the current step was completed correctly. A 5 second delay is displayed using a progress bar before the wizard automatically moves to the next step.

Pass light off:



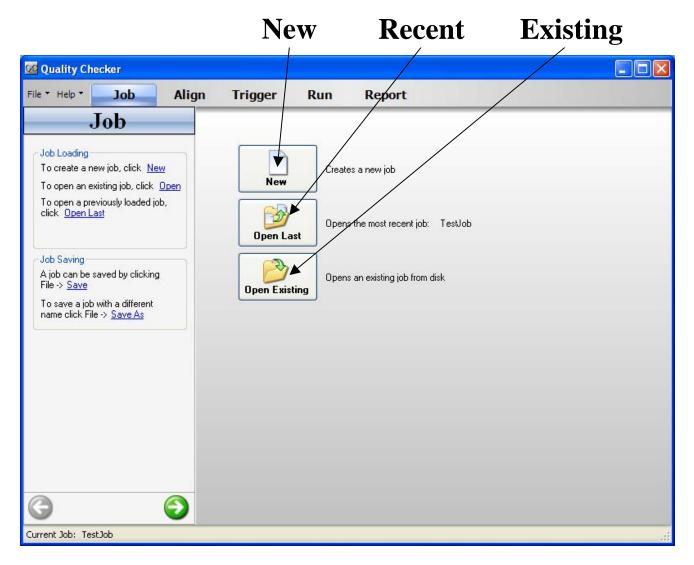
Pass light on:



#### 5.7.2 **Job**

When the QC software is first started, no job is loaded. All features in the software are disabled until a job is created or opened. There are 3 ways to start a job:

- 1. Create a **new** job.
- 2. Open the most **recent** job that was loaded.
- 3. Open an **existing** job from disk.



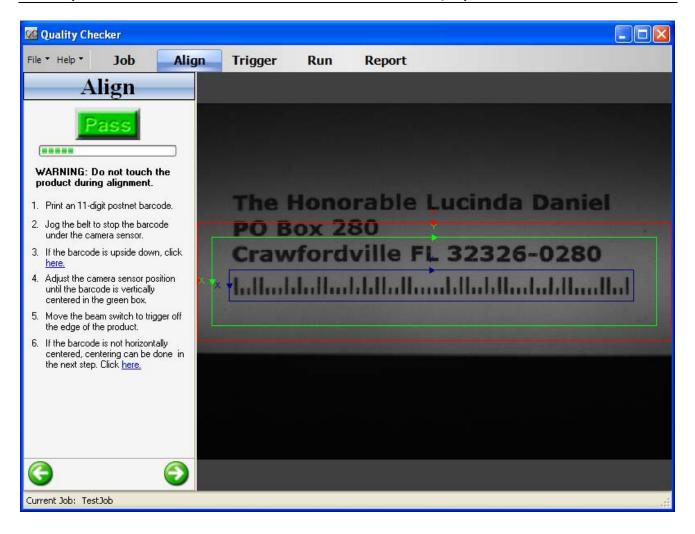
Once a job is loaded, the wizard will automatically move to the next step, which is **Alignment**.

## **5.7.3** Align

The purpose of the alignment step is to make sure the barcode is vertically centered on the screen as the product moves under the camera. The camera sensor has the ability to physically slide forward or backward. Moving the camera forward (away from the operator) will make a barcode move down on the screen. Moving the camera back will make a barcode move up on the screen.

The steps to vertically align the barcode on the screen are as follows:

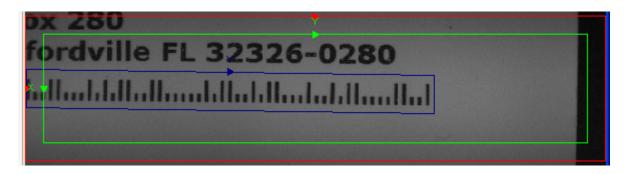
- 1. Print an 11 digit postnet barcode
- 2. Allow the product to travel slowly down the table using a slow belt speed and/or jogging until the barcode is horizontally centered under the camera sensor. If the barcode is not horizontally centered on the screen (it traveled too far or not far enough), it can be horizontally aligned in the next wizard step.
- 3. If the barcode is upside down, click the blue label 'here' in step 3 in the wizard. The image will be rotated 180 degrees.
- 4. Slide the camera sensor forward or back until the barcode is vertically centered in the green box.
- 5. If the barcode is a floating barcode and will not remain in one position, move the camera sensor accordingly such that all positions of the barcode will be in the green box.
- 6. Move the beam switch to a position such that it is as close to the leading/trailing edge of the product as possible while still getting a reflection. This makes the next wizard step easier.
- 7. If the barcode is vertically centered, but not horizontally centered, the **Pass** light will not turn on. As long as the barcode is vertically centered on the screen, proceed to the next step (**Trigger**). The **Trigger** step will align the barcode horizontally.



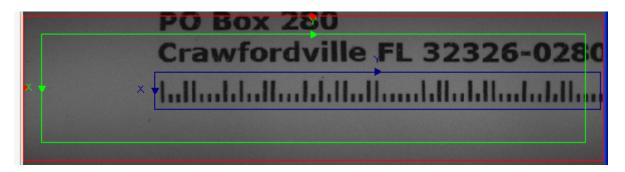
## 5.7.4 Trigger

The trigger step is for adjustment of the location of the beam switch so that when a product triggers the camera sensor, the barcode is horizontally aligned on the screen. The steps to horizontally align the barcode on the screen are as follows:

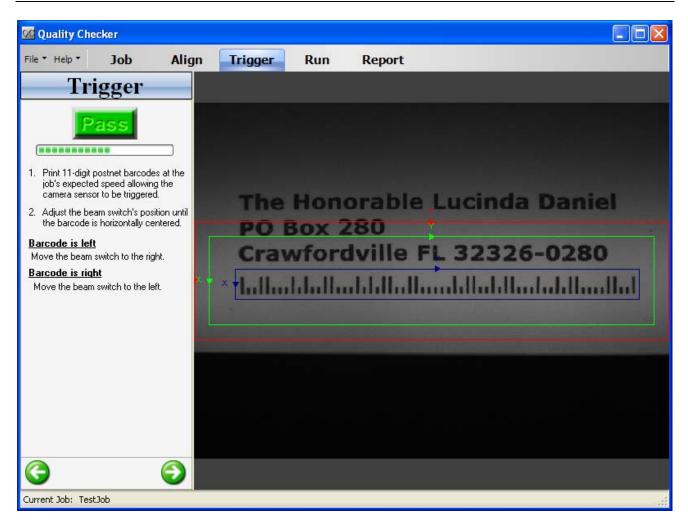
- 1. Print 11 digit postnet barcodes as the print job's expected belt speed (Or use existing printed items from the job).
- 2. As the product moves down the belt, the leading or trailing edge of the product (depending on the beam switch mode) will trigger the camera and the screen will be updated.
- 3. If the barcode is horizontally and vertically centered on the screen, the Pass light will light up and the software will automatically move to the next step **Run**.
- 4. If the barcode is too far left, demonstrated in the following image, then the beam switch must be moved to the right.



5. If the barcode is too far right, demonstrated in the following image, then the beam switch must be moved to the left.



6. A barcode that is both horizontally and vertically aligned on the screen looks like the following:



## 5.7.5 Run

**Step 1:** Use the height lever to make sure the camera sensor is the proper distance above the product. The lever should be able to touch the product and still be able to perform a full swing over the product. **Failure to set the proper camera sensor height will result in incorrect measurements.** 

**Step 2:** Choose the barcode position for the current job. This option is for determining which type of scan the camera will make to find the barcode. If the incorrect option is selected, the barcode may not be able to be identified. **Below address** offers the best performance, but **Between text** should find the barcode in any position.



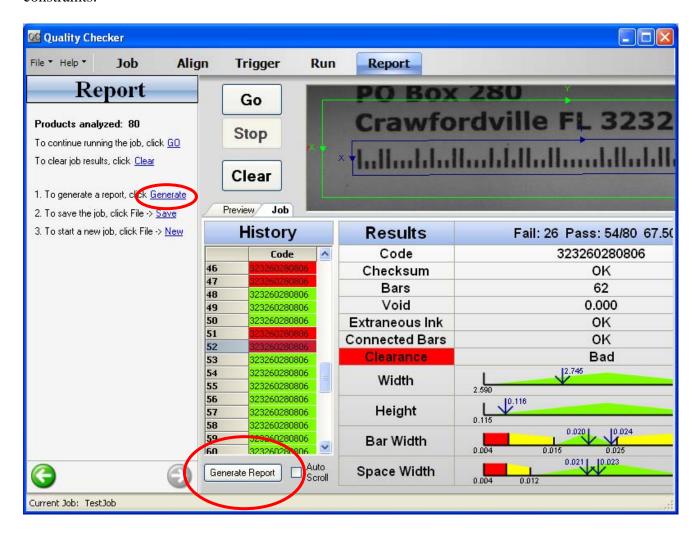
**Step 3:** Choose **Preview** mode and analyze a job's product to make sure the printer is printing high quality barcodes. Once the printer is producing high quality barcodes the system is ready to analyze them in **Job** mode which will keep track of pass/fail stats and allow a report to be generated.

**Step 4:** Choose **Job** mode and select the alarm condition percentage and product count. The software is now ready to run a job and keep track of stats.

Using the results that are displayed on the screen, if necessary the operator should adjust the barcode parameters in their ink-jet software until their printed barcodes are in the center of the DMM specifications. This 'centering' will produce the highest quality barcode and reduce the probability of printing barcodes that fail MERLIN due to low quality.

## **5.7.6** Report

The Report step allows a user to generate a PDF report. Reports contain only failed items due to size constraints.



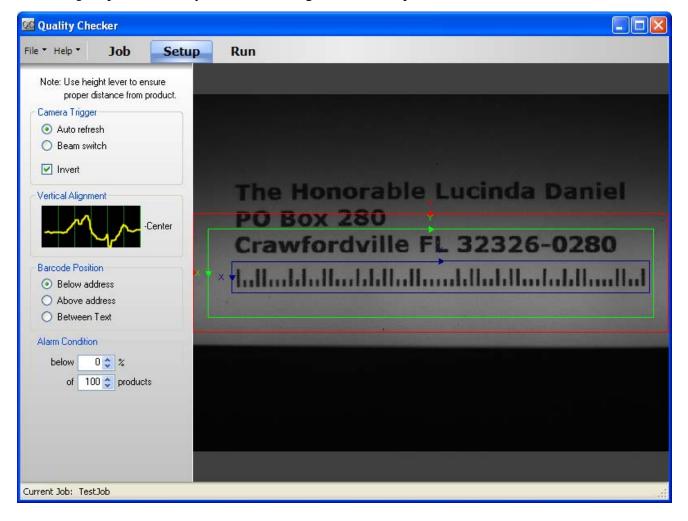
## 5.8 Normal Mode

## 5.8.1 **Job**

Other than the wizard panel, the Job step is identical in Normal Mode as the Job step in Wizard mode.

## **5.8.2 Setup**

The **Setup** step allows the system to be configured and set up from one screen.



Height Adjustment	proper distance from product.  touch the product and still be a	Use the height lever to make sure the camera sensor is the proper distance above the product. The lever should be able to able to perform a full swing over the oper camera sensor height will result in
Camera Trigger	<ul> <li>Auto refresh         <ul> <li>Beam switch</li> <li>Invert</li> </ul> </li> <li>Auto refresh – This option puts the camera in a state where it automatically takes pictures at regular intervals. This allows the barcode to be vertically aligned.</li> <li>Beam Switch – This option puts the camera in a state where it takes a picture only when the beam switch is triggered. This allows the barcode to be horizontally centered by moving the beam switch left or right.</li> <li>Invert – If a barcode is upside down, this option allows it to be</li> </ul>	
Vertical Alignment	flipped to be right side  Vertical Alignment  -Center	_
Barcode Position	Barcode Position  Below address Above address Between Text  be identified. Below address of text should find the barcode in	Choose the barcode position for the current job. This option is for determining which type of scan the camera will make to find the barcode. If the incorrect option is selected, the barcode may not be able to offers the best performance, but <b>Between</b> any position.
Alarm Condition	Alarm Condition  below 0 \$ %  of 100 \$ products	Specifies the condition at which the system will raise an alarm. The pass percentage is calculated using the number of most recent results specified.

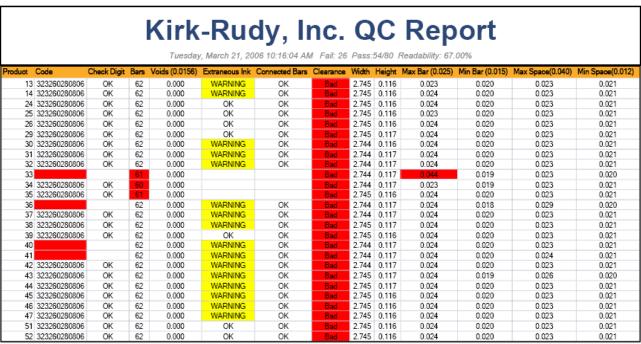
## 5.8.3 Run

Other than the wizard panel, the Run step is identical in Normal Mode as the Run step in Wizard mode

## 5.9 Reports

Quality analysis results can be exported to a PDF file. Due to size constraints, reports contain only failed items. A report displays all of the same measurements as the **Result Display** except in the report numbers are used instead of graphs. Failure items are indicated in red, and warnings are indicated in yellow.

### Sample PDF Report:



# 6 Appendix

# 6.1 Appendix A Troubleshooting

### **Problem: Unable to detect sensor**

- 1. Power off the sensor.
- 2. Power on the sensor.
- 3. Wait 30 seconds.
- 4. Restart the QC system software to try to reconnect.
- 5. If no connection is established, repeat 1-4 up to 5 times.

### Problem: Barcode is unable to be decoded

- 1. Ensure the barcode is centered
- 2. Make sure the barcode is not too close to the edge of the screen.
- 3. Try to print a higher quality barcode.

### Problem: Barcode metrics are not being read correctly

- 1. Ensure the barcode is centered
- 2. Make sure the barcode is not slanted too much.
- 3. Make sure camera height is correct by using the Height lever.

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# 9 Software License Agreement

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