USER GUIDE

EZ-LINK®

V | 2.0

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Table of Contents

PREFACE ..... **I**

STRUCTURE OF THE MANUAL I
STYLE AND CONVENTIONS II
Icons ..... *ii*
QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS III
LEGAL NOTICES III
Trademarks ..... *iii*
Disclaimer ..... *iii*

INTRODUCING EZ-LINK® **1**

MENUS 1
MENUS 2
SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS 3
Hardware Requirements *3*
Software Requirements *3*

INSTALLATION **4**

RUNNING SETUP 4
RESTARTING YOUR COMPUTER 8

USING EZ-LINK® **9**

THINGS YOU SHOULD ALREADY BE FAMILIAR WITH 9
STARTING EZ-LINK® 10
THE EZ-LINK MAIN WINDOW 11
SETTING OPTIONS 11
THE COMMUNICATIONS LOG 11

Preface

Welcome to EZ-LINK®!

The *EZ-LINK® User Guide* tells you how to install, configure, and use EZ-LINK® to communicate with your RSC EZ-SNAP® Intelligent Camera Trigger.

Structure of the Manual

This manual is organized by function. Operations are presented in order of probable use, but feel free to review the information in whatever manner you desire – even skip sections if the content is familiar.

Chapter 1 introduces the EZ-LINK® software.

Chapter 2 walks you through the EZ-LINK® installation process. It provides a step-by-step walk through for installing your EZ-LINK® software.

Chapter 3 shows you how to use the EZ-LINK® to communicate with the EZ-SNAP®.

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Style and Conventions

In order to make this manual as easy to use as EZ-LINK®, we have adopted the following conventions:

Icons

Occasionally, an icon (small picture) will appear in the left margin. Each icon has a specific meaning. The paragraphs that follow identify the icons and their intended use.

Warning!

Warnings contain critical information. Typical warnings include cautions about products, processes, and methods that have proven to be unreliable, unstable, or non-supported. Failure to read a warning could result in serious consequences.

Note:

Notes alert you to information of special interest or provide clarification on a particular EZ-LINK® feature. Notes supplement standard content and are not required reading.

Hint:

As you may have guessed, the helpful hints suggest ways to make your life easier. The tips are based on suggestions from other EZ-LINK® users.

Terminology and Type

- Fields and forms are referenced by their proper names.
- Literal entries (commands you type) appear in `monospaced` type.
- Important new terms appear in *italics*.
- Optional entries appear in italics in square brackets [*option*].
- Single keys appear capitalized in brackets, such as [A] and [ENTER].

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Questions and Comments

Copies of this manual and related documents can be obtained directly from Redmer Software Company download from http://www.phototools.com. If you can't find an answer to your question in the manuals, check the list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) on our web site.

To provide feedback on this manual or suggest improvements, please send e-mail to support@phototools.com.

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Disclaimer

This document is designed to provide information about the RSC EZ-LINK® computer program and related applications. Every effort has been made to make sure this document is as complete and accurate as possible, but no warranty or fitness is implied.

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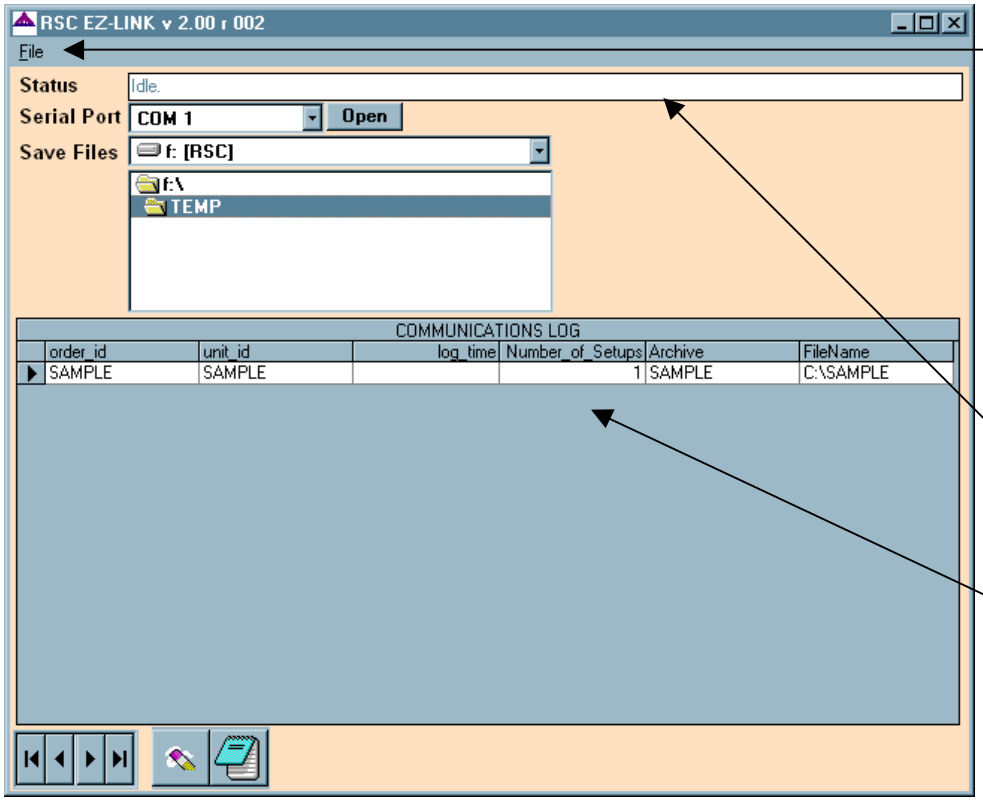
1

Introducing EZ-LINK®

EZ-LINK® is a simple communications application that provides the ability to transfer your order information from the RSC EZ-SNAP® to virtually any personal computer running Microsoft Windows 98®, or NT® version 4.0 or higher.

EZ-LINK® provides a very simple to use interface that provides a status of communications between the PC and the EZ-SNAP® as well as a history of all past communications. It also allows you to choose which communications port the EZ-SNAP® is connected to and where to place the downloaded EZ-SNAP® data files.



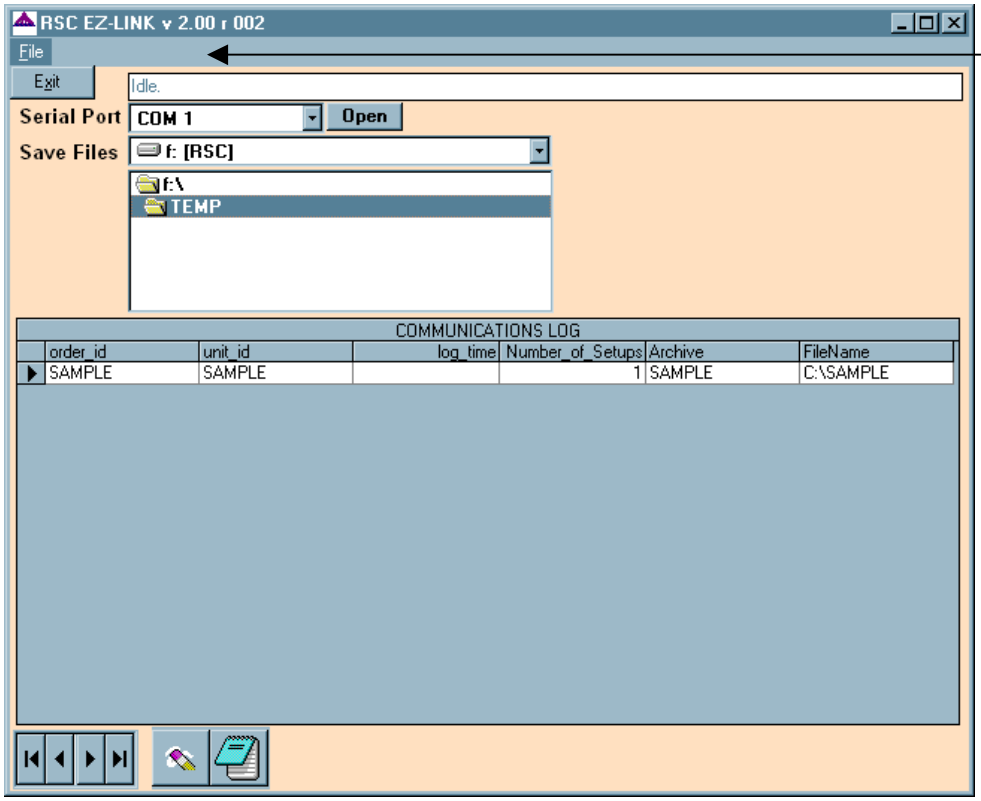
EZ-LINK® has simple to use pull-down menus like all Windows applications! Menus may be accessed using the mouse, or by pressing [Alt]+ the underlined character in the menu name. For example, [ALT][F] selects the File menu.

The Status area indicates if EZ-LINK® is currently communicating with EZ-SNAP®.

EZ-LINK® provides a complete history of all past communications in the COMMUNICATIONS LOG area.

Menus

The EZ-LINK® software is very simple in its design. In fact, it only has one menu available! The File menu provides a single option: Exit the program.



The EZ-LINK® File menu simply provides a method to exit the program. To access the File menu, simply press [ALT][F] or select it with the mouse.

System Requirements

Hardware Requirements

Intel 486, Pentium®, Pentium Pro®, or Pentium II® based computer

8 MB RAM Minimum, 16 MB RAM Recommended

100MB available disk drive space for the EZ-LINK® program and data files.

Software Requirements

Microsoft Windows 95®, Microsoft Windows 98®, or Microsoft Windows NT® version 4.0 or higher operating system.

2

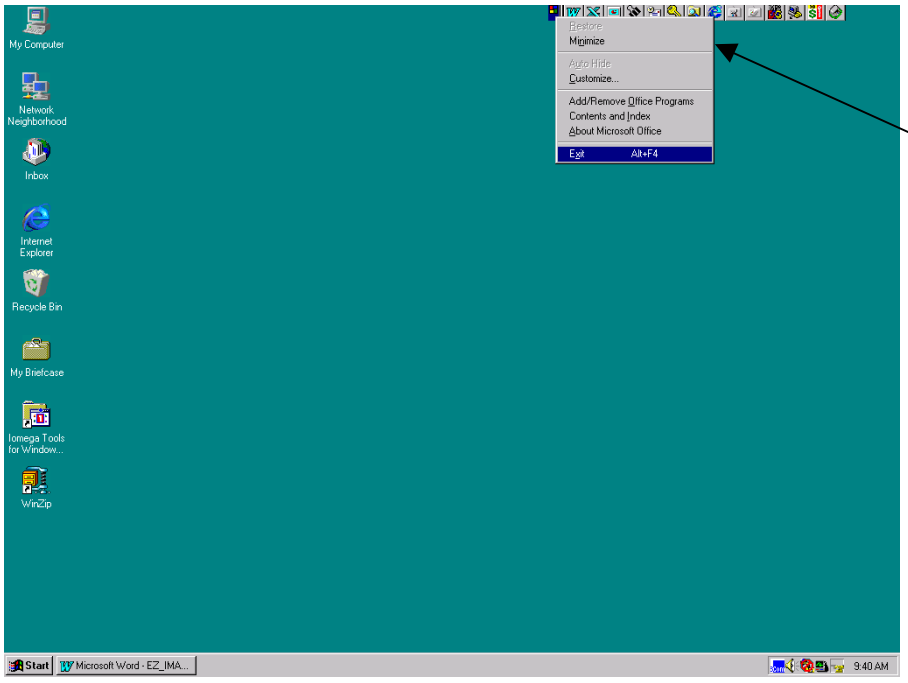
Installation

The EZ-LINK® software is shipped complete on a single compact disk and the application is very simple to install. Simply follow the step-by-step instructions in this chapter to get up and running!

Running Setup

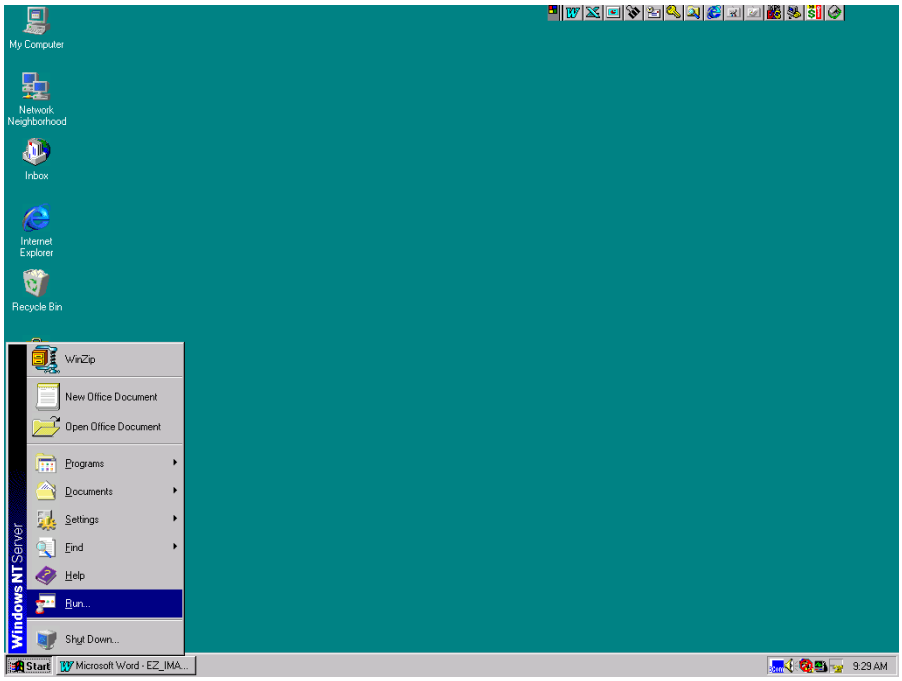
To install the EZ-LINK® application, simply insert the EZ-LINK® CD-ROM into your CD-ROM Drive and complete the following steps:

1. Close the Microsoft Office toolbar by right clicking on the small Office Icon on the left-hand side of the toolbar, and then selecting Exit from the drop-down menu. Also close any other Microsoft applications that may be running, such as PowerPoint®, Excel®, Word®, etc.



If you have Microsoft Office® installed, your office toolbar may be located anywhere on the screen. In fact, you can drag-and-drop the toolbar just about anywhere! Please refer to the Microsoft Office® documentation for more information about closing the Microsoft Office® toolbar.

2. Select "Run" from the Windows Start menu, which is usually located in the lower left-hand corner of the screen

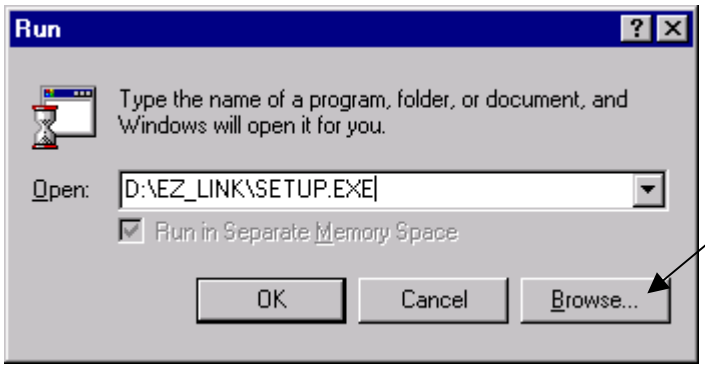


Your computer screen should look something like this when you click on the Start button and point at the Run… command.

3. Start the EZ-LINK Setup program typing the following command into the Run window:

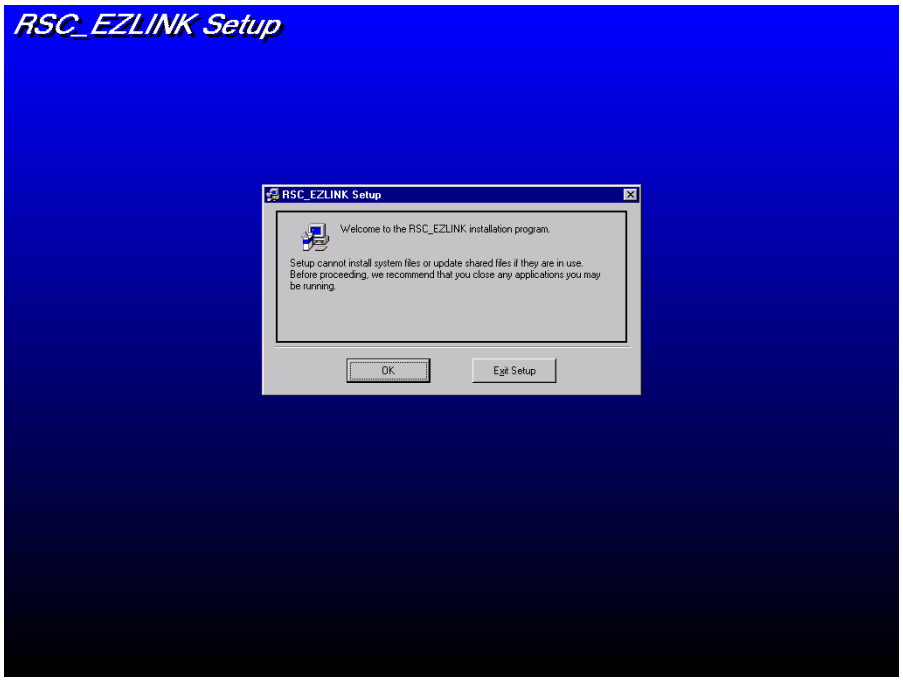
   `D:\EZ_LINK\SETUP.EXE [ENTER]`

   Replace the drive letter D with the drive letter assigned to your CD-ROM Drive.



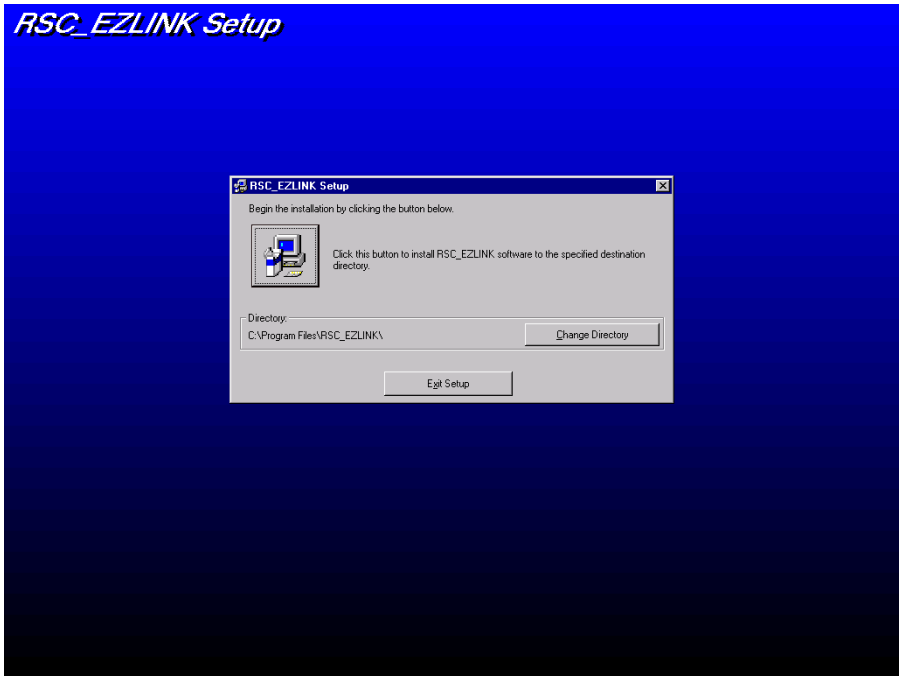
If you are not sure which drive letter your CD-ROM is assigned to, then you may click on the "Browse" button to use the Windows Open File feature. The Open File feature provides a menu of disk drive selections along with a folder selection list. Please refer to the Microsoft Windows 95/98/NT documentation for more information on running programs.

The EZ-LINK® application setup screen will display.



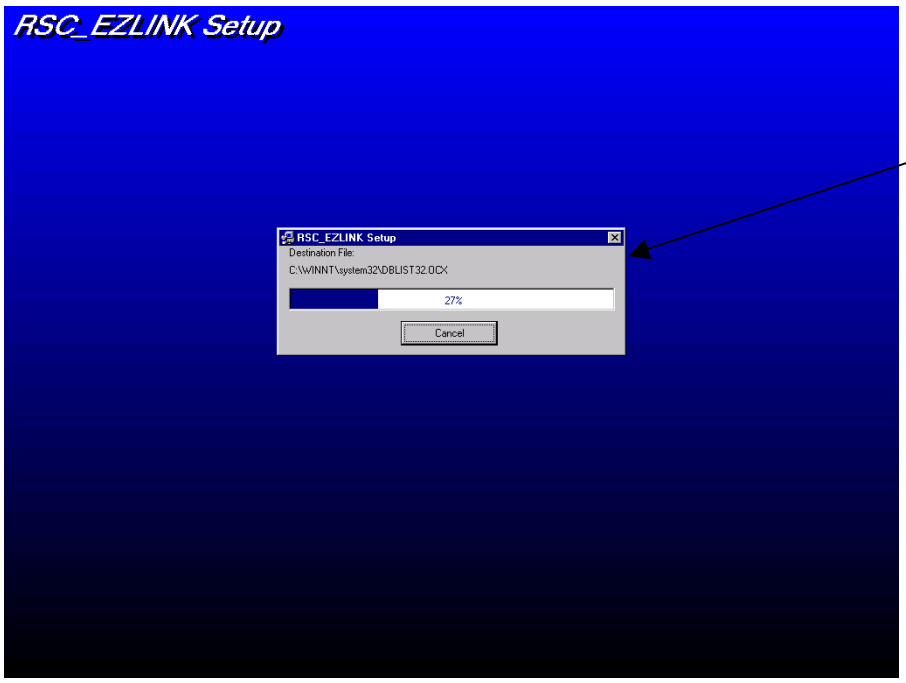
The EZ-LINK® Setup Screen displays a message indicating that all other applications should be closed prior to continuing. Simply click on OK to continue.

4. Simply click OK, or press [Enter]. The EZ-LINK® directory selection screen will display. RSC recommends installing the software in the location specified.



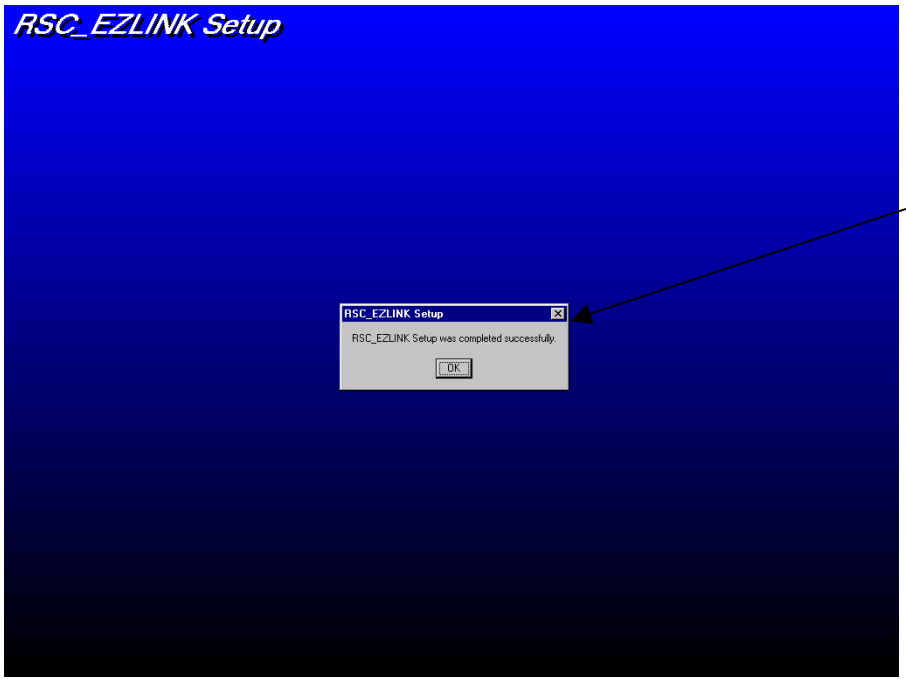
The EZ-LINK® directory selection screen provides the ability to install the software in any location on your computer. The standard setting is to install the software in the "Program Files" directory on your startup disk drive (Drive C). RSC recommends using these settings. Simply click the button with the setup icon on it to continue.

5. Simply click on the button to begin installation. Messages will display indicating the progress of the installation.



The Setup application indicates its progress using a meter that shows the percentage complete and the current file being installed.

6. When the installation process completes, the application will display the message "RSC_EZ-LINK Setup was completed successfully". Simply click on the OK button to quit the program.



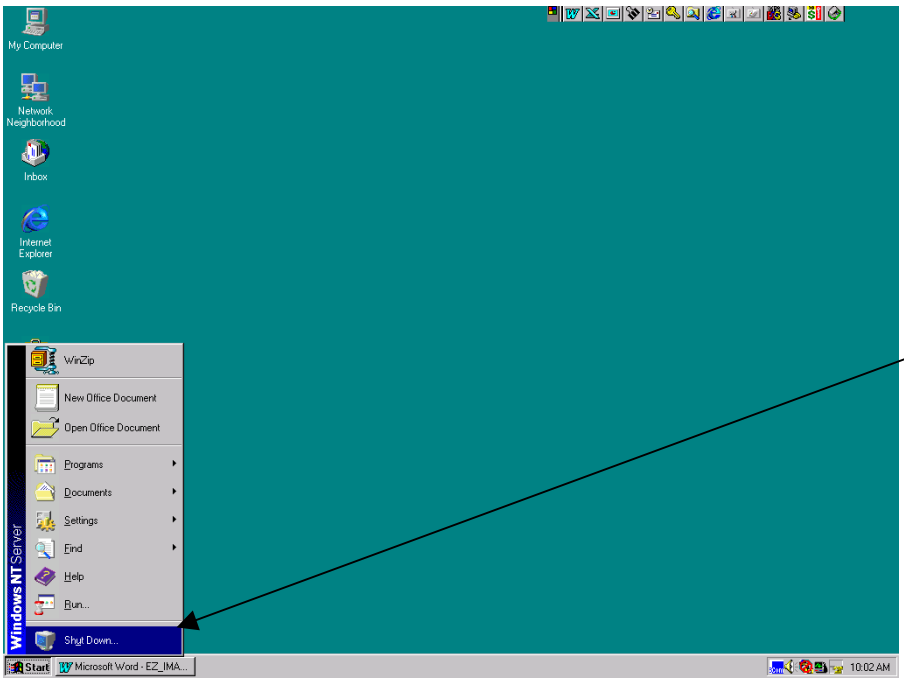
Simply click OK to quit the Setup program! After setup, please be sure to restart your computer PRIOR to starting EZ-LINK®. Failing to restart your computer may cause EZ-LINK® to malfunction and require re-installation.

7. Restart the computer to make sure all changes made during installation are completed prior to running the EZ-LINK® application.

Restarting Your Computer

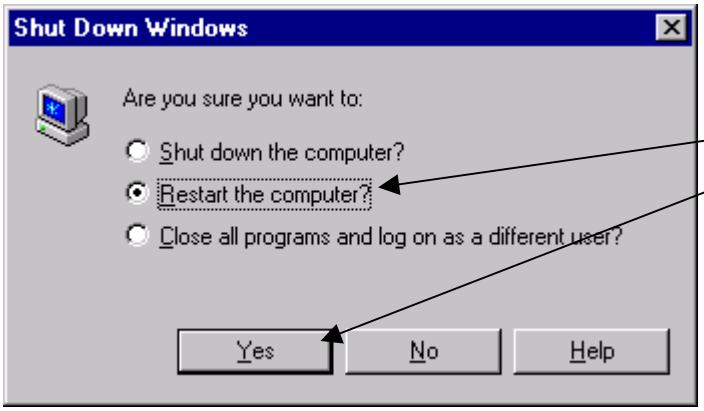
This task is so important that we decided to emphasize it again! The EZ-LINK® Setup application copies important system files to your Windows folder. These files only get loaded when Windows loads on machine startup. Therefore, it is absolutely critical to restart your computer prior to starting EZ-LINK®.

To restart your computer, select the "Shut Down" command on the Start menu, then select 'Restart the computer?" from the "Shut Down Windows" window.



It is important to always use the shutdown feature of Microsoft Windows prior to turning the power off. Please refer to your Microsoft Windows 95/98/NT documentation for more information.

The Shut Down command is located on the Start menu.



Select the "Restart the computer?" option, then click on the Yes button to restart your computer.

3

Using EZ-LINK®

This chapter explains how to use the EZ-LINK® application. It covers everything from starting the program using the Windows Start menu to configuring EZ-LINK® and transferring information from your EZ-SNAP®.

Things You Should Already Be Familiar With

This chapter assumes that you already familiar with using Microsoft Windows 95®, Microsoft Windows 98®, or Microsoft Windows NT® version 4.0 or higher. This includes starting applications, basic window features such as maximize, minimize, and close, as well as use of the mouse.

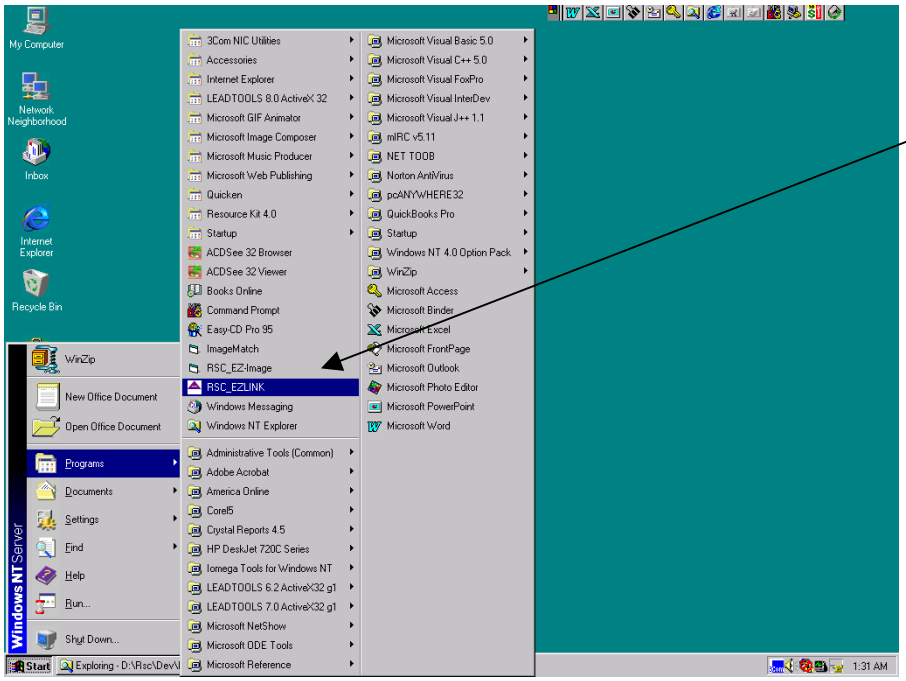
This manual is not intended to provide a reference or tutorial for the Microsoft Windows or Office products. For more information on those products, please refer to the Microsoft user documentation and the Microsoft World-Wide-Web site (http://www.microsoft.com). Training on all Microsoft Windows and Office products is available worldwide through Microsoft Solution Providers and Microsoft Education Partners. Please contact Microsoft for more information on the vast array of training options available.

Note:

Microsoft also provides training and training certification programs over the world-wide-web. These programs have proven successful for many RSC customers using the EZ-LINK® product. Please contact Microsoft for more information.

Starting EZ-LINK®

To start the EZ-LINK® application, select the program name from the Programs menu, which is located under the Start menu.



Your Programs menu may look quite different than this one! However, the RSC_EZ-LINK icon should appear as it does here. Simply click on it with the mouse to start the program.

The EZ-LINK main window

When you start EZ-LINK®, the application main window will display. While not communicating, the status message will display "Idle." When the EZ-SNAP® is communicating, the status message will indicate the number of the sequential block of information currently being received from EZ-SNAP®.

Setting Options

EZ-LINK® provides two options which need to be properly set to communicate with the EZ-SNAP®. The first option specifies the Serial Port that the EZ-SNAP® is connected to. In most cases, this will be COM1. Simply select the port from the drop-down menu and click open to start communications.

The second option allows you to choose the directory to store the downloaded files in. Simply select a drive and directory where the EZ-SNAP® files are to be stored and you are ready to begin downloading.

The Communications Log

EZ-LINK® provides a complete history of past communications in the COMMUNICATIONS LOG. This area shows each download communicated in order received. You may permanently delete records from the communication log by selecting the record and clicking the Eraser button. You may also view the contents of a download file by selecting the record and then clicking on the Notepad button.