



SOFTWARE UPDATING OF OLD JASCO CD SPECTROPOLARIMETERS

New Jasco J-810 is using an advanced 32 bit Windows™ software called Spectra Manager™. Spectra Manager is a general-purpose spectrophotometric software developed by Jasco, the basic package is common to CD, UV-Vis, IR, Raman and fluorescence techniques, drivers are available to control the different hardware.

The question is: which updating possibilities are available for older instruments?

J-715

Good news here. Jasco prepared hardware driver for this model. So you can install the new Spectra Manager soft and pertinent driver. Your PC should obviously operate under Win 95/98 or NT.

J-710/720

Here matter is more difficult. To use SM soft you must retrofit the basic unit into J-715. The retrofit (Jasco p/n 6648-H901A) calls for a change of a board and other small modifications. It can be carried on from user directly if a minimum of service support is locally available, if not a visit of a Jasco engineer is needed.

A few instruments are probably still around operating under original DOS software. Conversion to 16 bit Windows is easy and you can get free of charge from your local Jasco office. This software (latest version is 1.51) operates also under Win 95 or 98.

J-600

The original DOS software or the improved JUP-342 package can be easily updated with the latest J-700 Windows package (1.51), which includes driver also for this model. During the installation, when required, you simply specify J-600 as hardware. You must also check that pins 4-5 of RS-232VC cable are connected together on both sides, if necessary modify your original cable.

This updating has only one drawback: you are not allowed any more to stop an acquisition (single or accumulation) once started: the risk to create a “fatal error”. Otherwise is a good improvement.

J-500

Still many instruments are around. The only today acceptable way to connect it to a PC is via the IF-500II interface and related PC DOS software. Files can be however read through the 16 bit J-700 Win software for a more modern manipulation.

A few remarks:

1. file extension of 32 bit and 16 bit soft is the same: .JWS, but file structure is different. So you cannot read J-810 .JWS files when using the J-700 Windows software.
2. fortunately however you can read on Spectra Manager software .JWS files generated by J-700 (or 600) with 16 bit Windows soft.
3. viceversa .JSP and .J DOS files (from J-700, J-600 and J-500+IF-500II) cannot be loaded, at least at this moment, directly by Spectra Manager software.
To use old files you must install in your PC also the 16 bit J-700 Windows software (which can read them), load and convert them as .JWS files and finally transfer to Spectra Manager.
4. requesting software update to Jasco offices, pls do not forget to ask also for the update of the accessory drivers installed in your unit (for example temp-scan software and related bath driver).
5. occasionally while operating with Spectra Manager you may need to store data in the .JWS format of the previous J-700 16 bit Windows software. Typical case is when using free of charge Secondary Structure Estimation packages available from Internet. This is possible: Jasco prepared a 32-16 bit .JWS file converter.