

Thermo Nicolet

OMNIG[®]

NICALAS User's Guide
Version 3.0

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Introduction

This manual is a guide to using NicALAS™, Thermo Nicolet's Analytical Lubricant Analysis Software. NicALAS is a customized interface for Thermo Nicolet's OMNIC® software that is used to analyze the thickness of lubricant on magnetic disks. To do this kind of analysis, the software uses spectral data collected from a Nicolet FT-IR spectrometer with a grazing angle accessory installed.

Questions and concerns

If you have questions or concerns, contact Thermo Nicolet Customer Support for assistance. If you reside in the U.S.A., use the numbers listed below. Outside the U.S.A., call your local sales or service representative.

- Telephone (U.S.A.): 800-642-6538
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(Choose ABOUT US and then click the desired location under "Contact Us" at the left side of the page.)
- E-mail: techinfo@thermonicolet.com

Installing and starting NicALAS

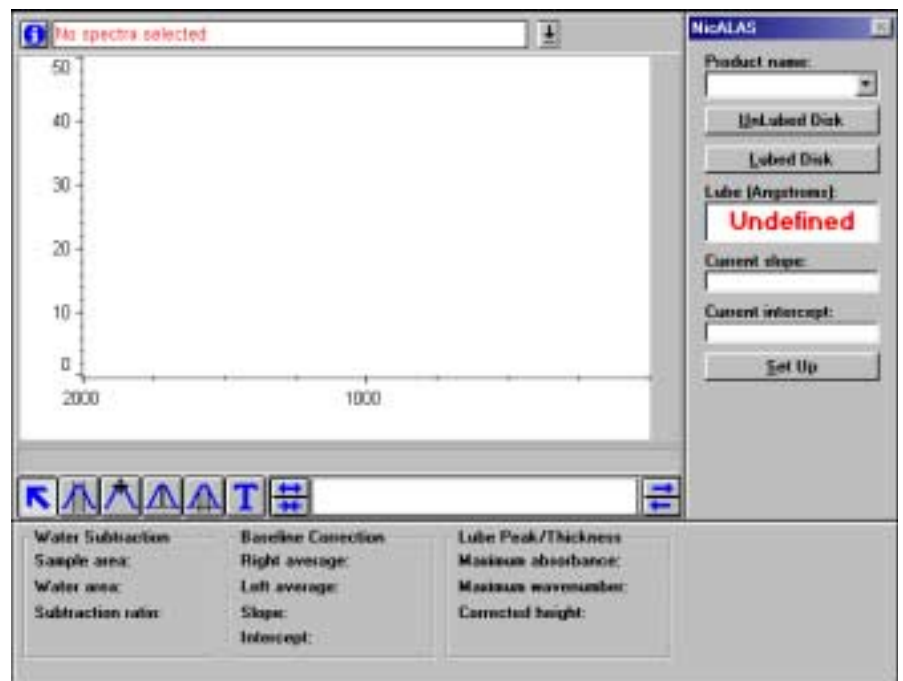
Follow the instructions on the disk label to install NicALAS. Once the software is installed, you can start NicALAS by following the instructions below.

- 1. Click the Start button**
- 2. Point to Programs.**
- 3. Point to the NicALAS folder.**
- 4. Click the NicALAS program.**

The NicALAS display

The NicALAS display consists of three main sections: the spectral display, the button panel, and the calculation window.

- The spectral display is located in the upper left part of the NicALAS display. This is the OMNIC display that shows the collected spectral data.
- The button panel is located to the right of the spectral display. This panel allows you to control the software functions and displays the results of a lubrication thickness analysis.
- The calculation display is located under the spectral display. This display shows the intermediate values that NicALAS calculates to determine the final lubrication thickness.





Using NicALAS

This chapter provides information about using NicALAS to perform tasks such as:

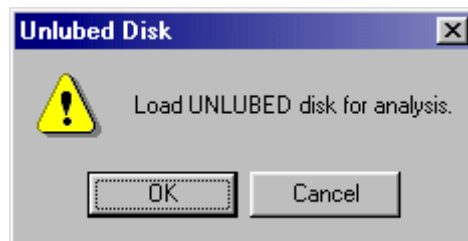
- Analyzing lubricant thickness on disks.
- Adding, editing, or deleting lubricating products.
- Using the Setup dialog box.
- Using passwords.

Analyzing lubricant thickness

The instructions below tell you how to use NicALAS to analyze the thickness of a lubricant on a magnetic disk:

- 1. Select the product you are analyzing from the Product Name drop-down list box.**
- 2. Collect a background spectrum by clicking Unlubed Disk.**

At specified intervals, a background spectrum must be collected. This is done by analyzing a disk that has not been lubricated. After you click Unlubed Disk, the prompt shown below will appear. Load an unlubricated disk and click OK. The background will be collected automatically.



3. **Once the background collection has stopped, click Lubed Disk to analyze your sample.**

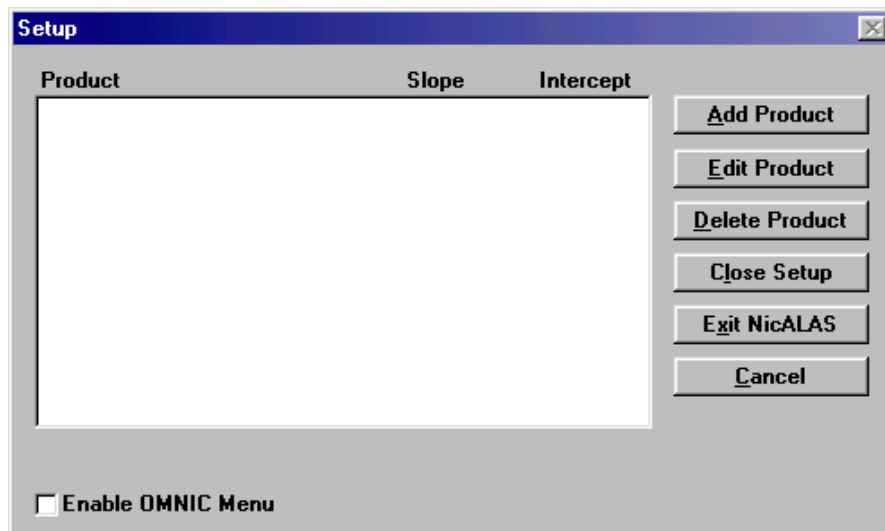
After you click Lubed Disk, the prompt shown below will appear. Load a lubricated disk and click OK. The analysis is completed automatically, and the results are shown in the in the Lube (Angstroms) box.



Using the Setup dialog box

The Setup dialog box is accessible only by password. The controls in this dialog box allow authorized personnel to perform the following software tasks:

- Adding, editing, or deleting products.
- Closing the Setup dialog box.
- Exiting NicALAS.
- Enabling the OMNIC menu.



Opening the Setup dialog box

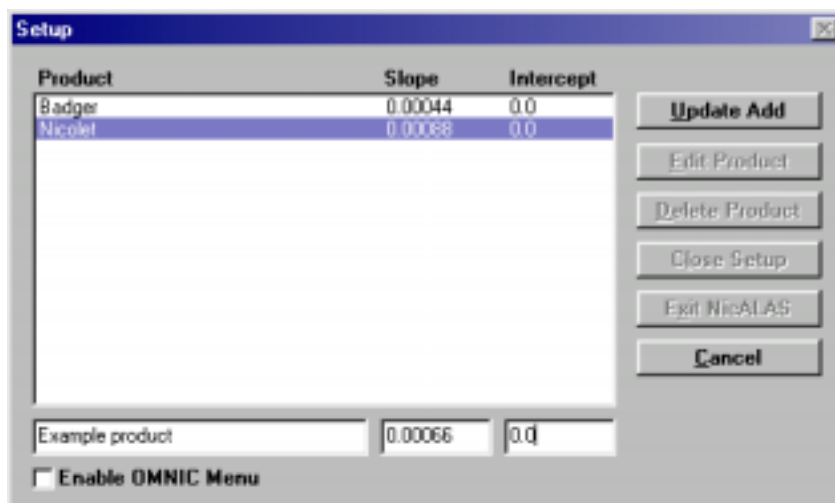
To open the Setup dialog box, click Setup in the button panel and enter the password in the dialog box shown below.



Adding products

To add a product to the Product Name drop-down list box, follow these instructions:

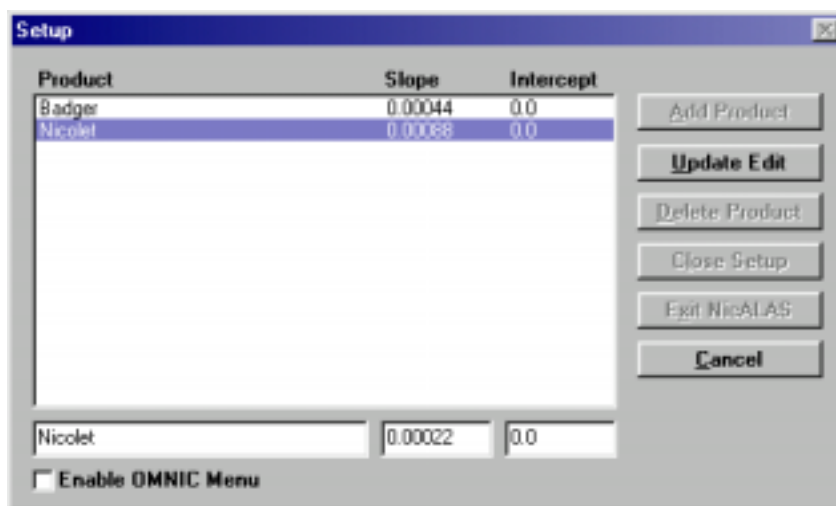
1. Click the Add Product button in the Setup dialog box.
2. Enter the product's name, slope value, and intercept value in the boxes at the bottom of the dialog box as shown below.



3. Click Update Add to add the product to the Product Name drop-down list box.

Editing products To edit an existing product, use the instructions below:

1. **Click the Edit Product button in the Setup dialog box.**
2. **Select a product to edit from the list shown in the dialog box.**
3. **Enter any changes to the product's name, slope value, and intercept value in the boxes at the bottom of the dialog box as shown below.**



4. **Click Update Edit to implement the changes to the product.**

Deleting products	To delete an existing product, select the product you want to delete from the list shown in the Setup dialog box, and then click the Delete Product button.
Closing the Setup dialog box	To close the Setup dialog box and implement any changes you have made, click the Close Setup button. To close the Setup dialog box and abandon any changes you have made, click the Cancel button.
Exiting NicALAS	To close the NicALAS program, click the Exit NicALAS button in the Setup dialog box.
Turning on the OMNIC menu	To make the OMNIC menu available in the NicALAS display, click Enable OMNIC Menu in the Setup dialog box.

Passwords

The Setup dialog box is password protected to restrict the functions available there to administrative or supervisory personnel. For information about the default password or changing the password, please contact Thermo Nicolet Customer Support for assistance. If you reside in the U.S.A., use the numbers listed below. Outside the U.S.A., call your local sales or service representative.

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