



# Quick Start Guide

**PROCESS DATA**  
Displays setpoints and actual temperature and humidity data

**GRAPHS**  
Displays setpoint and actual temperature and humidity data on a line graph

**ALARMS**  
Sets and monitors process alarms such as maximum allowed temperatures

**LOGGING**  
Logs setpoint and actual temperature and humidity data and PID values to a text file

**EVENTS**  
Displays status of events, dipswitch settings and logical inputs

**PROFILES**  
Allows users to create and download test profiles to a chamber

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# Synergy Manager Quick Start Guide

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# 1. Introduction

Synergy Manager is a Microsoft Visual Basic Software application designed for the Microsoft Windows™ family of PC Operating Systems (see 'Hardware Requirements' for details). Synergy Manager utilizes a Multi-Document Interface (MDI) familiar to Windows™ software applications so multiple chamber windows can be monitored at the same time. Synergy Manager provides centralized remote monitoring and control of multiple process controllers simultaneously. Synergy Manager supports several different process controllers, see 'Supported Controllers/Features' for details. The major features provided by Synergy Manager are:

- Interactive remote control and monitoring.
- Alarm reporting and notification via Email or Fax.
- User-friendly profile program editor.
- Controller specific profile download.
- Importing / exporting of VersaTenn 5 profiles via floppy disk.
- Logging, printing and graphing of process data, and External UUT process Data.
- Exporting of logging history data via an ASCII comma separated values (CSV) file for easy import into Microsoft Excel or any analysis package that accepts comma separated values (CSV) file format.
- Ability to display user manual via the Synergy Manager Support menu utilizing Acrobat software.
- Supports up to sixteen (16) standard PC serial ports (ports must be recognized by supported OS and contiguous (1 thru 16)).
- Software protection via external hardware Rev. 2.05 and higher (See 'External Hardware Dongle Key'). Contact Tidal Engineering at [www.tidaleng.com](http://www.tidaleng.com) or 973 328-1173 for more information.

For more information see Supported Controllers/Features section.

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## **2. Hardware Requirements**

The minimum hardware requirements for Synergy Manager are as follows:

- A Pentium 233 MHz or better
- 128 MB ram plus 32 MB for each simultaneous chamber session
- 80 MB hard disk space
- One serial port (Optional)
- One National Instruments GPIB IEEE interface (Optional)
- One 10/100 Ethernet card using TCP/IP (Optional)
- One USB external hardware dongle (Parallel port type needed for NT 4.0) (see 'External Hardware Dongle').
- Printer (Optional)
- Fax Modem (Optional)
- One of these Microsoft Windows™ PC Operating systems:
  - ◆ Microsoft Windows™ 2000 Service Pack 2
  - ◆ Microsoft Windows™ XP Service Pack 1 (use latest available Service Pack)
  - ◆ Microsoft Windows™ Vista (32-bit only, adjust hardware requirements as necessary)

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## 3. Software Installation

Synergy Manager software utilizes Installshield installation software. This simplifies the installation process and uses standard Microsoft Windows™ installation conventions. Please read this section in its entirety before attempting installation.

1. First close all running programs (see Note 1).
2. **Uninstall any previous versions of Synergy Manager including 'Monitor Only' versions before installing this new version. Previous versions of this software are not compatible.**
3. Insert the installation CD into the proper drive and navigate to drive root folder. If necessary unzip program files into a temporary folder before proceeding to next step.
4. **Do not insert the Dongle key until application has been properly installed** (Note 8).
5. Run the Synergy Manager setup program (SynergyMan\_Setup.exe) file from the run option of the start menu.
6. Follow the installation instructions on the screen.

### Notes:

1. No other programs should be running during the installation process.
2. Acrobat Reader 5.1 can be found on the install CD in the \Support folder.
3. The latest revision of the 'Synergy Manager User Manual' can be found in the \Support folder of the installation CD and can also be downloaded from the Tidal Engineering website ([www.TidalEng.com](http://www.TidalEng.com)). Copy the 'Synergy Manager User Manual' PDF file to the Synergy Manager installation folder for proper integration.
4. **For Microsoft Windows™ 2000 users:** If the Synergy Manager setup program warns that it is about to replace a newer file with an older one, **select the response that will cancel the installation of the older version of the file, keeping the newer one.**
5. **For Microsoft Windows™ XP, and Microsoft Windows™ 2000** user must have administrator's privileges to install this software (Rev. 2.05 and up).

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### 3.1 Software Installation 'Cont'

6. Adobe Acrobat reader software must be installed for Synergy Manager to properly display the user manual. If Adobe Acrobat is not installed, copy AcroReader51\_ENU.exe located in the \Support folder of CD to a 'Temp' folder; then with the run option of the start menu, execute the program (AcroReader51\_ENU.exe). Then follow the on screen setup instructions that appear. The latest version of Adobe Acrobat reader can be downloaded from [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com).
7. During the install process it may be necessary for the setup program to reboot the PC to allow updated files to be used during installation. This is normal and it is handled automatically by setup program, just follow on screen instructions.
8. **Do not insert USB dongle key before Synergy Manager has been properly installed.** If the USB Dongle key is inserted before application has been properly installed, Microsoft Windows™ operating systems may incorrectly assign the wrong software driver to the USB Dongle key. This will cause Synergy Manager not to recognize the USB dongle even though it is inserted, and thus cause Synergy Manager to run in 'Monitor Mode Only'.
9. Releases prior to 2.09.50 do not install the proper dongle key drivers for Windows XP with Service Pack 2 installed. To use this software with Windows XP with SP2, use version 2.09.50 or higher. Please see 'Known issues' for more information on this issue.
10. Please review the 'Known Issues' section of the latest Synergy Manager User Manual before installing application. This section has a current list of concerns with their perspective solution or work around.
11. **For Microsoft Windows™ Vista** user must have administrator's privileges to install this software (Rev. 2.13 and up).

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## 4. External Hardware Dongle Key

Synergy Manager software now utilizes an external hardware dongle key to provide software registration and protection. The dongle comes in two versions: a USB model and a parallel port model. The USB model is preferred. The Dongle Key chart below indicates which model to use with what PC operating system.

External Dongle Key Chart	
Supported PC Operating System	Dongle Key Type
Microsoft Windows™ 2000 Service Pack 2 or latest available	USB or Parallel
Microsoft Windows™ XP Service Pack 1 or latest available	USB or Parallel
Microsoft Windows™ Vista (32-bit only)	USB or Parallel

**Do not insert USB dongle key before Synergy Manager has been properly installed**, this could cause the USB dongle key not to be properly recognized.

The dongle key must be inserted before Synergy Manager is started or Synergy Manager will run in 'Monitor Only Mode' and the About box will not display the serial number.

If Synergy Manager is started with dongle key inserted, the application will run in 'Full Feature Mode' and the 'About Box' will indicate the status of key search and display dongle key Serial Number.

Please review the 'Synergy Manager Monitor Only Mode' and 'Synergy Manager Full Feature Mode' sections of the latest Synergy Manager User Manual for more information.

Once Synergy Manager has been started with dongle key, the dongle key should not be removed while application is still running.

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## 5. Supported Controllers/Features

Please review the 'Supported Controllers and Feature Support' section of the latest Synergy Manager User Manual for a list of supported controllers. The user manual can be found in the installation folder after proper installation (Synergy Manager User Manual Rev x.pdf) or in the \support folder of the installation CD and can be downloaded from [www.tidaleng.com](http://www.tidaleng.com).

This section has a respective controller section for software/firmware hardware revision levels. Each controller section lists the communication methods supported for the controller and the features available. GPIB communications support for the controllers is provided by Tidal Engineering's Synergy488 Module and ICS Electronics' 4804A / 09A GPIB to Serial Interface except for VT5 and Synergy Controllers, for which GPIB communications is a built-in feature. Tidal Engineering's Synergy488 Module (ASCII) and Synergy Gateway Module (Modbus TCP for WF4 only) provide Ethernet support for VT3, P1460, W942, WF4 and Y750.

Contact Tidal Engineering at [www.tidaleng.com](http://www.tidaleng.com) or (973) 328-1181 for more information.

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## 6. Getting Started

1. Review installation Instructions then install application following on screen prompts.
2. Using the '**Supported Controllers and Feature Support**' section of User Manual which can be found in the installation folder after proper installation or from the 'Support' menu.
3. Choose a supported controller.
4. Choose a supported communication method for chosen controller and make physical connections accordingly.
5. Define a communication port.
6. Define a chamber definition window.
7. From 'Chambers' menu, select chamber definition defined in step 6. This will load the chamber definition into the application.
8. Click the '**CONnect**' button to initiate a communication session with physical chamber (controller).

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## 7. User Notes

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# **Synergy Manager Environmental Lab Manager**

## **Part Numbers**

**TE1566-1 Synergy Manager software with USB Dongle**

**TE1566-2 Synergy Manager software Parallel Port Dongle**

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