

## **MicroPoint Standard User Guide**

### **About MicroPoint Standard**

Congratulations on your purchase of the revolutionary MicroPoint Standard by Altra! MicroPoint Standard replaces standard two or three-button mice with programmable three-button functionality. It combines the ergonomics of a trackball with the precision of a mouse to give you absolute cursor control. Computer users who experience wrist, arm, or shoulder pain while using a mouse report that their pain disappears after switching to MicroPoint Standard!

Your MicroPoint Standard will work with the standard mouse drivers that ship with Microsoft Windows. However, installing the MicroPoint Standard drivers (included on a floppy disk in your package) enhances your experience while using your MicroPoint Standard by adding one-for-one cursor mapping, extreme cursor precision, and programmable three-button functionality. One-for-one mapping means that moving the MicroPoint Standard from one edge of the pad to the other moves the cursor from one edge of your screen to the other. By using optical tracking with the custom drivers, MicroPoint Standard gives you unprecedented precision when moving the cursor. This feature is especially useful when running high-end graphics programs or when working with very small text

MicroPoint Standard will be referred to as MicroPoint throughout the rest of this manual.

### **System Requirements**

To use MicroPoint, your PC must have either a PS/2 mouse port or a serial port (9 or 25 pin) and be running one of the following operating systems:

- DOS 3.0 or later
- Windows 3.x
- Windows 95
- Windows 98

### **Getting Started**

Setting up your MicroPoint is as easy as 1-2-3. Simply:

Note: If you are using a portable PC, you may need to disable the built-in, on-key board pointing device.

- Turn your computer off and disconnect your old pointing device (if any) then connect your MicroPoint to the appropriate port on your computer. If necessary, you can use the serial to PS/2 adapter included with your MicroPoint.
- Restart the system.
- To install the MicroPoint Standard driver follow the simple instructions below.

### **Your MicroPoint Buttons**

Mouse software, like most other software, refers to the buttons on your MicroPoint as left, middle, and right. Therefore, it is important to note the correlation of the three MicroPoint buttons to the standard three-button mouse layout. When looking at the MicroPoint, the side with cord emerging from the base is the top. The three MicroPoint buttons function as follows:

1. This button corresponds to the left button in the AltraPoint software. By default, this button functions as a single-click when pressed.
2. This button corresponds to the right button in the AltraPoint' software. By default, this button activates the pop-down context menu.
3. This button corresponds to the middle button in the AltraPoint' software. By default, this button is inactive.

### **MicroPoint Driver Installation**

Please refer to the appropriate section below. Sections are divided by type of port (PS/2 or serial), and these divisions are broken down by operating system (Windows 98 or Windows 95).

#### **PS/2 Installation**

This section describes installing your MicroPoint using a PS/2 port on either Windows 98 or 95.

#### **Windows 98**

- Shut down your computer. With the power off, disconnect your old pointing device and connect your MicroPoint.
- Restart your computer.
- When Windows reboots, click Start>Settings>Control Panel>System and select the Device Manager tab. Click the plus (+) sign next to mouse and highlight the mouse driver. Click the Properties button, select the Driver tab, then click the Update driver button. In the next window, click the radio button to Display a List and click next.
- Insert the MicroPoint floppy disk (drive A or B). Click Have Disk and select the floppy drive containing the MicroPoint disk. Click OK.
- Select the MicroPoint Standard PS\2 driver and click Next.
- If Windows displays a warning about the device driver not being the best driver for the mouse, ignore that warning by clicking Yes to use the selected driver. Windows will copy the files.
- When Windows has finished copying the driver files, click Finish, remove the MicroPoint disk, and click Yes to restart your computer. When your system reboots, you will find the MicroPoint control panel in the Mouse Properties sheet under the Buttons tab.

#### **Windows 95**

- Shut down your computer. With the power off, disconnect

- your old pointing device and connect your MicroPoint.
- Restart your computer.
- When Windows reboots, click Start>Settings>Control Panel>Mouse to open the Mouse Properties window. Click the General tab, then click the Change button to open the Select device window.
- Insert the MicroPoint floppy disk (drive A or B). In the Select Device window, click Have Disk and select the floppy drive containing the MicroPoint disk. Click OK. Highlight the MicroPoint Standard PS/2 driver, then click Next. Windows will copy the files and change the name to MicroPoint.

### **Standard PS\2.**

When Windows has finished copying the driver files, click Finish, remove the MicroPoint disk, and click Yes to restart your computer. When your system reboots, you will find the MicroPoint control panel in the Mouse Properties sheet under the Buttons tab.

### **Serial Installation**

This section describes installing your MicroPoint using a serial port on either Windows 98 or 95. Normal serial installations use Windows' Plug-N-Play feature. Instructions are included in case Plug-N-Play fails to operate properly.

#### **Windows 98**

- Shut down your computer. With the computer powered off, disconnect your old mouse and connect your MicroPoint.
- Start your computer. When Windows boots, the Found New Hardware Wizard will find your MicroPoint and search for the appropriate drivers. If this does not occur, please refer to the section Non Plug-N-Play Procedure, below.
- Insert the MicroPoint floppy disk into drive A or B. Click Next>Display a List of all the Drivers>Next>Have Disk> If the drive is A: click OK, if not, change the drive letter and click OK.
- Select MicroPoint Standard Serial, and click Next. When your computer has finished copying the driver files, click Finish. Windows will prompt you to restart your computer to finish installing the new drivers. Click Yes and remove the driver disk as your computer shuts down. When your system reboots, you will find the MicroPoint control panel in the Mouse Properties sheet under the Buttons tab.

#### **Windows 95**

- Shut down your computer. With the computer powered off, disconnect your old mouse and connect your MicroPoint.
- Start your computer. When Windows boots, the Found New Hardware Wizard will find your MicroPoint and search for the appropriate drivers. If this does not occur, please refer to the section Non Plug-N-Play Procedure, below.
- Insert the MicroPoint" floppy disk into drive A or B.
- Click Next and follow the on screen instructions.

- Files will install and Windows 95 will prompt you to restart your computer to finish installing the new drivers, click Yes and remove the MicroPoint floppy disk. When your system reboots, you will find the MicroPoint control panel in the Mouse Properties sheet under the Buttons tab.

### **Non Plug-N-Play Procedure (Serial)**

NOTE: In this section, specific keyboard keys are depicted in square brackets and are capitalized, for example: [ESC].

If the Found New Hardware Wizard does not launch during Step 2 of the above procedure, use the following procedure to install your serial MicroPoint :

- Click Start>Settings>Control Panel>System, and click the Device Manager tab.
- Click the plus (+) next to the mouse icon and then highlight the current mouse driver and click Remove. Click OK to confirm the removal. The mouse cursor may disappear or freeze.
- Either click Close or press [TAB]until the Close button is highlighted, and press [ENTER].
- Shut down your computer by either clicking Start>Shut Down and click OK or by pressing [ALT]+[F4] until the Shutdown Menu appears and press [ENTER].
- Wait ten seconds and then restart your computer.

Your MicroPoint should now install using the appropriate Plug-N-Play procedure above. If you still encounter problems, please call Altra Technical Support at (307) 328-1342.

### **Settings**

You may customize your MicroPoint functionality by using the following procedure:

- Click Start>Settings>Control Panel>Mouse to open the Mouse Properties Sheet, and click the Buttons tab.
- Make your desired assignments.
- Click the DOS Acceleration control slider to adjust your MicroPoint when using DOS applications.
- When you are finished making adjustments, click Apply to record your changes, then click OK to exit the Mouse Properties Sheet

To uninstall the MicroPoint drivers, click the Uninstall MicroPoint button in the Buttons tab of the Mouse Properties Sheet.

### **Windows NT**

MicroPoint™ operates with many of the standard mouse drivers bundled with Windows NT, however the custom MicroPoint Standard drivers will not work with Windows NT. Please contact Altra for information about the MicroPoint Professional for NT.

### **Cursor Control**

You may adjust cursor speed by moving the Pointer Speed slide control located in the Motion tab of the Mouse Properties Sheet. You may also adjust the double-click speed by

moving the slider. We recommend that you set the speed to medium (middle of the slider). Click Apply to record your changes, then click OK to exit the mouse Properties Sheet. This will help control cursor float.

## **Windows 3.x and DOS**

NOTE: In this section, items you must type appear in Courier font. Specific keyboard keys are depicted in square brackets and are capitalized, for example: [ESC].

### **Drivers**

The MicroPoint™ comes with custom Windows 3.x/DOS drivers. To install these drivers:

- Insert the MicroPoint™ floppy disk (drive A or B).
- At the DOS prompt, switch to the floppy drive containing the MicroPoint™ disk by typing <drive>:[ENTER] where <drive> is the letter designation of the floppy drive. Then, type CD \WIN31 [ENTER]. Once in the WIN31 directory, type SETUP [ENTER]. Windows will boot and run the driver installation application. Follow the on-screen prompts.
- Confirm the installation type (Windows, DOS, or both), the driver directory, and whether or not the DOS driver should load upon system startup. If you are unsure about one or more of the possible choices, simply accept the default responses.

Your Windows driver will activate the next time you start Windows. If you installed the DOS drivers and allowed the Setup program to modify your AUTOEXEC.BAT file, Setup will prompt you to reboot your system once installation is complete.

### **Settings**

You may customize your MicroPoint functionality by using the following procedure:

- Open Program Manager and find the program group MicroPoint Standard.
- Make your desired adjustments.
- Click the DOS Acceleration control slider to adjust your MicroPoint™ when using DOS applications.
- When you are finished making adjustments, click Apply to record your changes, then click OK to exit the Mouse Properties Sheet

To uninstall the MicroPoint™ drivers, open the MicroPoint program group and click Uninstall MicroPoint.

### **Care and Maintenance**

MicroPoint requires virtually no maintenance because, unlike a mouse or trackball, it does not require disassembly or other cleaning. Simply wipe it down periodically with a dry cloth.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Is the MicroPoint driver necessary to operate the device?

No, but it makes MicroPoint a much more powerful tool. The driver offers one-to-one positioning between the device and your display, as well as three-button programmability. MicroPoint will work with many other mouse drivers already installed on your system without installing the custom drivers, including (among others) some three-button Logitech drivers and most Microsoft drivers. Your MicroPoint will not work to its full potential with generic or alternate drivers.

### Where can I find updated driver files for my MicroPoint?

Please visit [www.altra.to](http://www.altra.to). and click Support.

### Why don't I have the Buttons, Pointers, Motion, and General tabs in the Mouse Properties Sheet as described in the MicroPoint" for Windows 98/95 installation instructions?

Another mouse driver has changed the normal state of Mouse Properties in Windows 95 or 98. Open the Windows Control Panel and click Add/Remove Programs and remove the mouse driver listed there. The Mouse Properties Sheet will revert to its normal state once you restart your computer. Only then is it safe to install the MicroPoint" driver.

NOTE: Windows 98's Mouse Properties Sheet does not contain a General tab. The other three tabs, however, are displayed.

### Will MicroPoint" work with a laptop system?

Yes. In some cases, however, MicroPoint" may temporarily disable a keyboard-mounted pointing device. Unplug MicroPoint" and reboot to bring back the keyboard pointer. On a PS/2 system, disable the on board pointer in BIOS before attaching and installing the driver.

### Will MicroPoint" work on a bus mouse port?

No. Use a standard serial or standard PS/2 mouse port for the device.

### What if I need an adapter to hook up MicroPoint"?

Your MicroPoint" includes a serial to PS/2 adapter. Only the adapter provided by Altra will work with the MicroPoint". You may also need to get a standard 9 to 25-pin serial adapter depending on your computer's serial port(s).

### I upgraded to MicroPoint" from an earlier model. After installation, the cursor now won't reach the bottom two inches of my screen. Is this normal?

The driver disk that came with your new MicroPoint" contains a different set of coordinates needed for screen tracking. Uninstall the previous mouse driver before installing the new MicroPoint" driver on your system to correct this problem.

### Some of my older DOS applications launch with only partial screen movement when loaded directly from Windows 95. How can I correct this?

Restart your computer in MS-DOS mode for those older DOS applications. In doing so, your system will default to a Microsoft driver, and you will regain full-screen motion.

### Will MicroPoint" function with a 'Y-mouse' adapter?

Yes. Be sure to load MicroPoint" on the secondary port of the Y-mouse adapter for best results. You will then be able to use both a mouse and your MicroPoint" at the same time. For more information on the Y-mouse adapter, please call us at

(800) 628-3185.

I have repetitive stress injury, arthritis, wrist, elbow or neck problems. What is the safest way to use MicroPoint™ to avoid further injury?

Dramatic results have been reported within a week or two of properly using Altra's pointing products. For best results, lay your hand in front of (not directly on) your MicroPoint™, and move the button handle with your fingertips. This limits the range of motion required of your wrist and hand joints. A wrist pad or support is recommended as well.

What sort of maintenance does my MicroPoint™ require?

MicroPoint™ requires little or no maintenance on your part. From time to time, simply wipe the unit with a soft, dry cloth to keep it dust-free. Do keep the device out of prolonged direct sunlight, away from heavy smoke, or a heating vent of any kind.