

TechNote #26 ROTALIGN®

Cordless data transmission using the ROTALIGN® infrared link

Introduction

Sometimes the shafts to be aligned cannot easily be stopped once rotation is begun for measurement. In such cases, the ROTALIGN infrared link can be extremely useful, especially when readings are repeated, when the shafts can be turned in only one direction or when they are to be rotated slowly and continuously for measurement 'on the fly'. The infrared link replaces the cable with an infrared signal transmitted between the receiver and the computer in both directions.

The infrared interface package for ROTALIGN, ALI 4.609, includes the following parts:

- ALI 4.608 ROTALIGN infrared interface module
- ALI 4.610 External receiver battery with IR interface
- ALI 4.701-2 Receiver-external battery cable, 2m / 6 1/2'

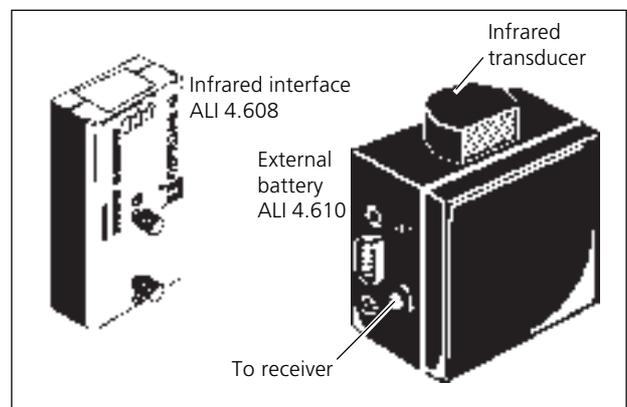
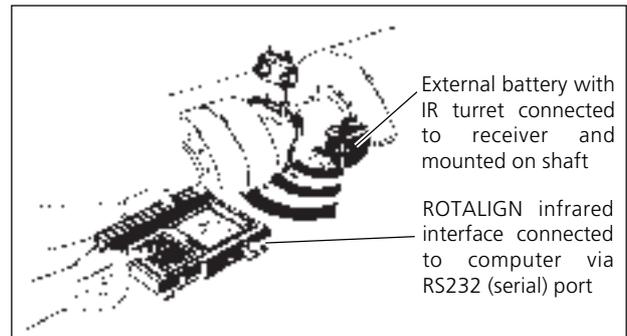
The following accessory is also recommended:

- ALI 3.576 Charger for two external batteries (or one battery and one ROTALIGN)

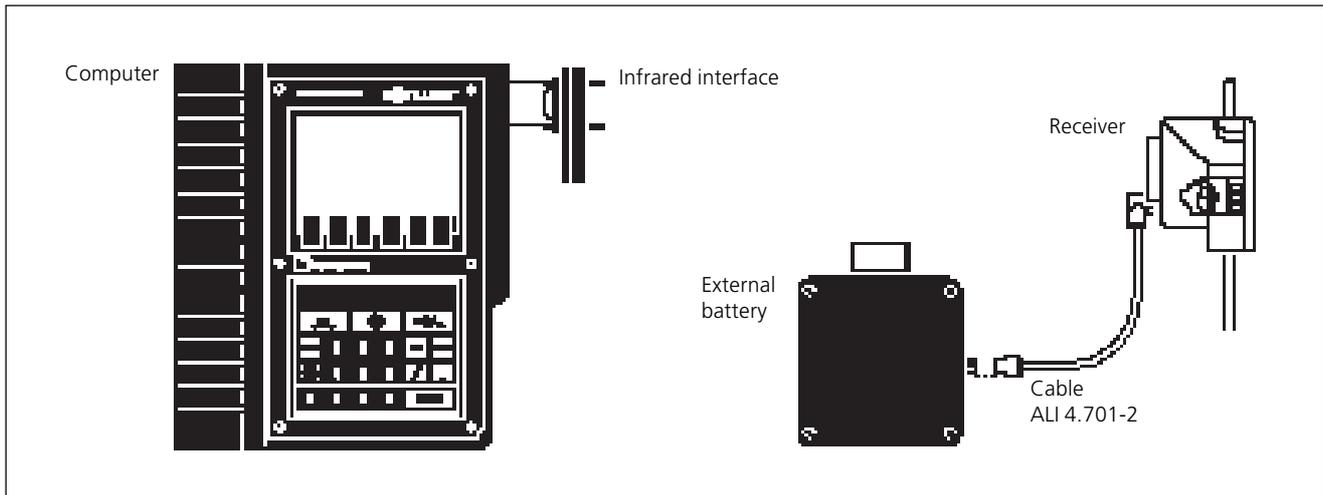
Setup

The infrared interface ALI 4.608 plugs into the RS232C socket on the side of the ROTALIGN computer. Its thumbscrews should be tightened down firmly to secure it into place.

The external receiver battery ALI 4.610 not only powers the receiver, but it also contains a built-in infrared transducer for data exchange with the computer infrared interface. It features two strong permanent magnets built flush into one side of its housing to allow quick and easy mounting onto any ferromagnetic shaft or coupling surface. The cable screws into the sockets of the battery and the receiver (as always, note the keyway on the plug for proper orientation).

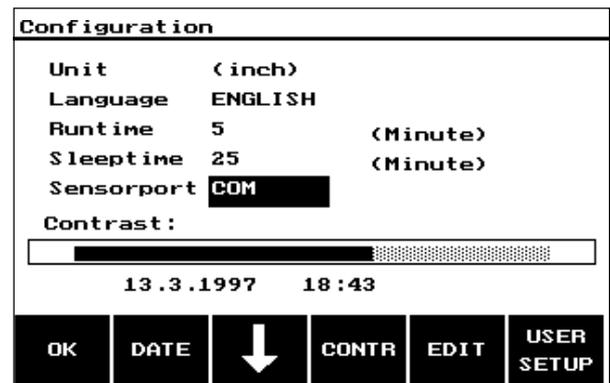


Infrared interface connections



Switch on the computer and use the MENU key to call up CONFIGURATION options as shown at right. There, the 'Sensorport' must be set to 'COM' in order for the infrared interface to be addressed correctly by the computer.

The ROTALIGN system is then ready for use in exactly the same manner as usual.



The external battery can be charged using the same ALI 3.576 battery charger as that used to charge the lead-acid battery of the ROTALIGN computer. The battery charger has two connectors, one for the external battery and one for the ROTALIGN computer.