

Getting Started with Your MC-GPIB and the NI-488.2™ Software for DOS

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National Instruments Corporate Headquarters

6504 Bridge Point Parkway

Austin, TX 78730-5039

(512) 794-0100

Technical support fax: (800) 328-2203

(512) 794-5678

Branch Offices:

Australia (03) 879 9422, Austria (0662) 435986, Belgium 02/757.00.20,

Canada (Ontario) (519) 622-9310, Canada (Québec) (514) 694-8521,

Denmark 45 76 26 00, Finland (90) 527 2321, France (1) 48 14 24 24,

Germany 089/741 31 30, Italy 02/48301892, Japan (03) 3788-1921,

Netherlands 03480-33466, Norway 32-848400, Spain (91) 640 0085,

Sweden 08-730 49 70, Switzerland 056/20 51 51, U.K. 0635 523545

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This equipment generates and uses radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in strict accordance with the instructions in this manual, may cause interference to radio and television reception. This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the following two regulatory agencies:

Federal Communications Commission

This device complies with Part 15 of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Rules for a Class B digital device. A Class B device is distinguishable from a Class A device by the appearance of an FCC ID number located on the Class B device.

Canadian Department of Communications

This device complies with the limits for radio noise emissions from digital apparatus set out in the Radio Interference Regulations of the Canadian Department of Communications (DOC).

Le présent appareil numérique n'émet pas de bruits radioélectriques dépassant les limites applicables aux appareils numériques de classe B prescrites dans le règlement sur le brouillage radioélectrique édicté par le ministère des communications du Canada.

Instructions to Users

These regulations are designed to provide reasonable protection against interference from the equipment to radio and television reception in residential areas.

There is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. However, the chances of interference are much less if the equipment is installed and used according to this instruction manual.

If the equipment does cause interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment on and off, one or more of the following suggestions may reduce or eliminate the problem.

- Operate the equipment and the receiver on different branches of your AC electrical system.
- Move the equipment away from the receiver with which it is interfering.
- Reorient or relocate the receiver's antenna.
- Be sure that the equipment is plugged into a grounded outlet and that the grounding has not been defeated with a cheater plug.

Notice to user: Changes or modifications not expressly approved by National Instruments could void the user's authority to operate the equipment under the FCC Rules.

If necessary, consult National Instruments or an experienced radio/television technician for additional suggestions. The following booklet prepared by the FCC may also be helpful: *How to Identify and Resolve Radio-TV Interference Problems*. This booklet is available from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402, Stock Number 004-000-00345-4.

Bescheinigung des Herstellers/Importeurs

Hiermit wird bescheinigt, daß die MC-GPIB in Übereinstimmung mit den Bestimmungen der Vfg. 1046/1984 funk-entstört ist.

Der Deutsche Bundespost wurde das Inverkehrbringen dieses Gerätes angezeigt und die Berechtigung zur Überprüfung der Serie auf Bestimmungen eingeräumt.

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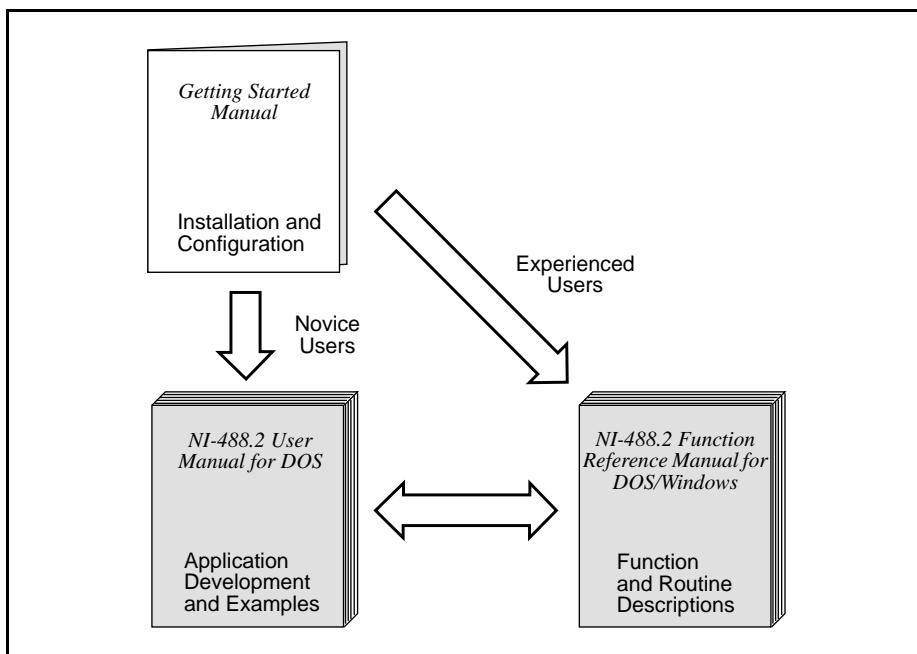
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About This Manual

This manual contains instructions for installing and configuring the National Instruments MC-GPIB interface board and the NI-488.2 software for DOS. The interface board is intended for use in personal computers equipped with 16-bit Micro Channel slots. The NI-488.2 software is intended for use with MS-DOS (version 3.0 or higher) or equivalent. This manual assumes that you are already familiar with the DOS operating system.

How to Use the Manual Set



Use this getting started manual (part number 320738-01) to install and configure your GPIB board and NI-488.2 software for DOS.

Use the *NI-488.2 User Manual for DOS* (part number 320700-01) to learn the basics of GPIB and how to develop an application program. The user manual also contains debugging information and detailed examples.

Use the *NI-488.2 Function Reference Manual for DOS/Windows* (part number 320702-01) for specific NI-488 function and NI-488.2 routine information, such as format, parameters, and possible errors.

Organization of This Manual

This manual is organized as follows:

- Chapter 1, *Introduction*, explains how to use this manual, lists what you need to get started, and includes a brief description of the MC-GPIB board and the NI-488.2 software.
- Chapter 2, *Hardware Installation and Configuration*, contains instructions for configuring and installing your MC-GPIB board.
- Chapter 3, *Software Installation and Configuration*, contains instructions for installing and configuring your NI-488.2 software.
- Chapter 4, *Installation Verification and Troubleshooting*, describes how to verify the hardware and software installation and how to troubleshoot problems.
- Chapter 5, *Using Your NI-488.2 Software*, describes the `ibic` utility and lists some programming considerations.
- Appendix A, *Hardware Specifications*, describes the characteristics of the MC-GPIB board and the recommended operating conditions.
- Appendix B, *Customer Communication*, contains forms you can use to request help from National Instruments or to comment on our products and manuals.
- The *Glossary* contains an alphabetical list and a description of terms used in this manual, including abbreviations, acronyms, metric prefixes, mnemonics, and symbols.

Conventions Used in This Manual

The following conventions are used in this manual.

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| bold | Bold text denotes menus, menu items, dialog buttons, or options. |
| <i>italic</i> | Italic text denotes emphasis, a cross reference, or an introduction to a key concept. |
| <i>bold italic</i> | Bold italic text denotes a note, caution, or warning. |
| monospace | Lowercase text in this font denotes text or characters that are to be literally input from the keyboard, sections of code, programming examples, and syntax examples. This font is also used for the proper names of disk drives, directories, programs, subprograms, subroutines, device names, functions, variables, field names and filenames. |

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| bold monospace | Bold text in this font denotes the messages and responses that the computer automatically prints to the screen. |
| ◇ | Angle brackets enclose the name of a key on the keyboard—for example, <PageDown>. |
| - | A hyphen between two or more key names enclosed in angle brackets denotes that you should simultaneously press the named keys—for example, <Control-Alt-Delete>. |
| <Enter> | Key names are capitalized. |
| IEEE 488 and IEEE 488.2 | IEEE 488 and IEEE 488.2 refer to the ANSI/IEEE Standard 488.1-1987 and the ANSI/IEEE Standard 488.2-1987, respectively, which define the GPIB. |

Abbreviations, acronyms, metric prefixes, mnemonics, symbols, and terms are listed in the *Glossary*.

Related Documentation

The following documents contain information that you may find helpful as you read this manual.

- ANSI/IEEE Standard 488.1-1987, *IEEE Standard Digital Interface for Programmable Instrumentation*
- ANSI/IEEE Standard 488.2-1987, *IEEE Standard Codes, Formats, Protocols, and Common Commands*
- *IBM Personal System/2 Quick Reference Manual*
- *Microsoft MS-DOS User's Guide*, Microsoft Corporation

Customer Communication

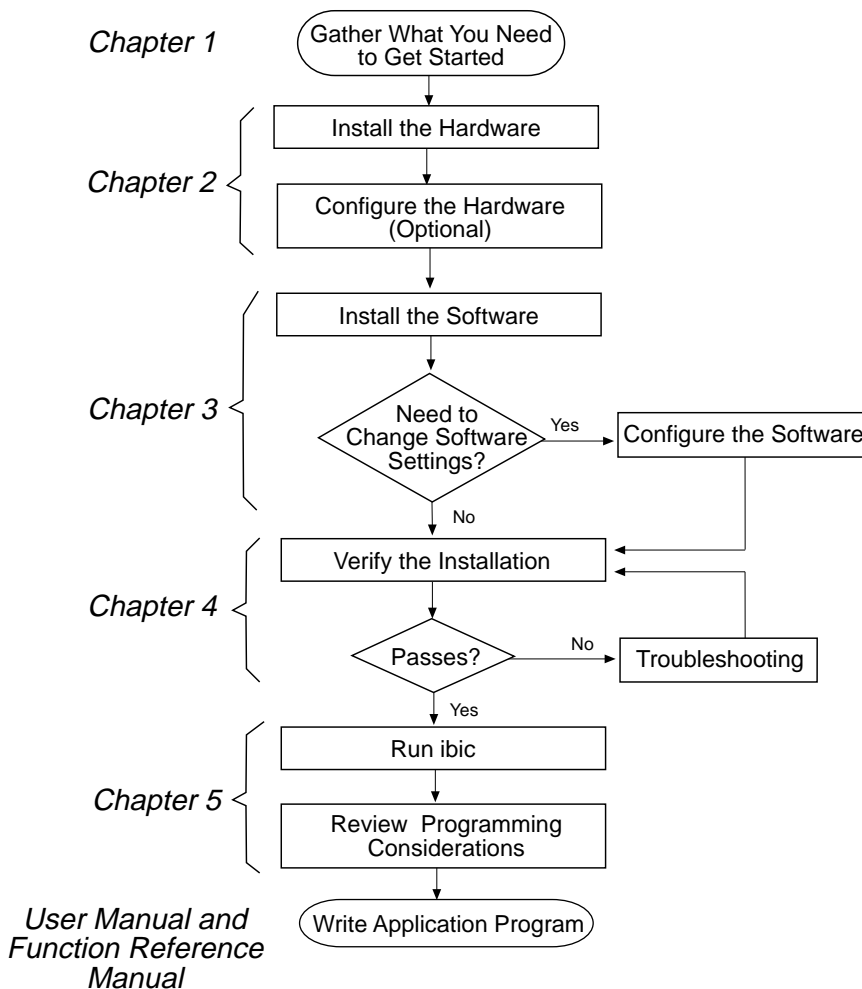
National Instruments wants to receive your comments on our products and manuals. We are interested in the applications you develop with our products, and we want to help if you have problems with them. To make it easy for you to contact us, this manual contains comment and configuration forms for you to complete. These forms are in Appendix B, *Customer Communication*, at the end of this manual.

Chapter 1

Introduction

This chapter explains how to use this manual, lists what you need to get started, and includes a brief description of the MC-GPIB board and the NI-488.2 software.

How to Use This Manual



What You Need to Get Started

- MC-GPIB board (part number 181165-01)
or
MC-GPIB board with key (part number 181165-02)
- 3.5 in. low density (720 KB) *NI-488.2 Software for DOS. Distribution Disk for the MC-GPIB* (part number 413047-99)
- MS-DOS (version 3.0 or higher) or equivalent installed on your computer
- A blank diskette to use for a backup copy of the IBM PS/2 reference diskette (or your system reference diskette if you have a PS/2-compatible computer)

Hardware Description

The MC-GPIB board transforms any IBM Personal System/2 (PS/2) or compatible computer equipped with 16-bit Micro Channel slots into a full-functioning Talker/Listener/Controller. The NAT4882 controller chip is fully compatible with the IEEE 488.2 standard. The Turbo488 performance-enhancing ASIC boosts GPIB read and write transfers to rates exceeding 1 Mbytes/s.

You can use standard GPIB cables to connect the MC-GPIB with up to 14 instruments. If you want to use more instruments, you can order a bus extender or expander from National Instruments. Refer to Appendix A, *Hardware Specifications*, for more information about the MC-GPIB hardware specifications and operating conditions.

Software Description

The NI-488.2 software for DOS includes a loadable DOS device driver, language interface libraries, and debugging and development utilities. The NI-488.2 software and GPIB hardware transform a general-purpose PC into a GPIB Talker/Listener/Controller that has complete communications and bus management capability.

Chapter 2

Hardware Installation and Configuration

This chapter contains instructions for configuring and installing your MC-GPIB board.

Warning: *Several components on your MC-GPIB board can be damaged by electrostatic discharge. To avoid such damage in handling the board, touch the antistatic plastic package to a metal part of your computer chassis before removing the board from the package.*

Setting the Shield Ground Configuration (Optional)

The MC-GPIB board is set at the factory with the jumper in place to connect the logic ground of the MC-GPIB board to its shield ground. This configuration minimizes EMI emissions.

Caution: *The MC-GPIB board was tested for compliance with FCC standards with the shield ground connected to logic ground. Removing the jumper might cause EMI emissions to exceed any or all of the applicable standards.*

If your application requires that logic ground be disconnected from shield ground, follow these steps:

1. Locate the jumper W1 on your MC-GPIB board.
2. Remove the jumper and place it across only one of the jumper pins as shown in Figure 2-1.

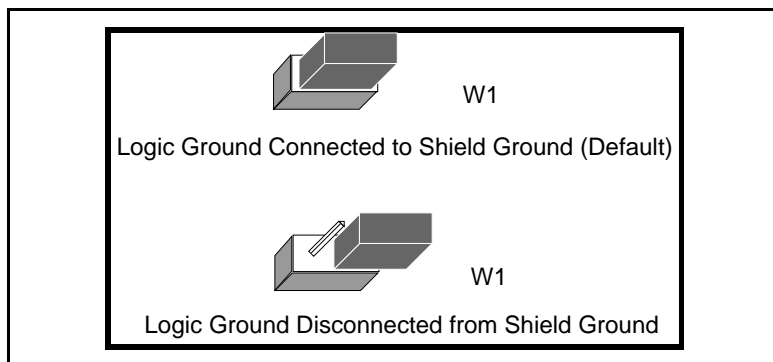


Figure 2-1. Ground Configuration Jumper Settings

3. Record the jumper setting on the *MC-GPIB Hardware and Software Configuration Form* in Appendix B, *Customer Communication*.

Install the Hardware

Before you install the MC-GPIB, make sure you have a backup copy of the PS/2 reference diskette. If you do not have one, you can make one by following the instructions in the *IBM Personal System/2 Quick Reference* manual that came with your PS/2 computer.

Follow the steps to install the MC-GPIB board:

1. Turn on your computer with the backup copy of the PS/2 reference diskette already inserted into the diskette drive.
2. Select **copy an option diskette** to copy the configuration files from your NI-488.2 distribution disk.
3. Wait for the reference program to prompt you for the option diskette, then remove the PS/2 diskette and insert the NI-488.2 distribution disk into the diskette drive.
4. Remove the NI-488.2 distribution disk when all the files have been copied.
5. Turn off your computer. Keep the computer plugged in so that it remains grounded while you install the MC-GPIB board.
6. Remove the top or side cover of the system unit.
7. Remove the expansion slot cover on the back of the system unit.
8. Insert the MC-GPIB board into an unused slot with the GPIB connector sticking out of the opening on the back panel.
9. Screw the mounting bracket of the MC-GPIB to the back panel rail of the computer.
10. Replace the system cover.

Configure the Hardware

1. Restart your computer with the backup copy of the PS/2 reference diskette inserted into the diskette drive. The reference program asks if you want to automatically configure the computer. Respond by typing a *y* for yes.

The reference program on the PS/2 diskette automatically configures the hardware by assigning values for the base I/O address, interrupt level, and DMA channel of the interface board.

2. To see what values were assigned by the reference program, select **Set Configuration** from the **Main Menu** and then **View Configuration** from the subsequent **Set Configuration Menu** of the PS/2 reference diskette.

Make sure that the DMA channel the reference program chooses is between 0 and 7. If the program assigns one in the range of 8 to 14, select **Change Configuration** in the reference program and select an unused DMA channel between 0 and 7.

You can use programmed I/O GPIB transfers if you do not want to use DMA for GPIB transfers. If this is the case, run `ibconf` and select `NONE` for the DMA channel. You do not need to update the configuration file on the reference diskette. However, you might want to update this file just to remind yourself that you disabled DMA.

The MC-GPIB supports fairness, so the `Fairness Enable Field` defaults to `ON`. This setting means that even if the MC-GPIB is using the Micro Channel bus exclusively, it releases control of the bus when another Micro Channel bus master requests to use the bus.

3. Remove the PS/2 reference diskette.
4. Restart your computer.

After you install the NI-488.2 software, it automatically configures itself to match the hardware settings. If you are installing one MC-GPIB board, the software assigns it as `gpib0`. If you are installing more than one board, the board in the lowest-numbered slot is `gpib0`, the board in the next lowest-numbered slot is `gpib1`, and so on.

Chapter 3

Software Installation and Configuration

This chapter contains instructions for installing and configuring your NI-488.2 software.

NI-488.2 Software Components

The NI-488.2 software includes the following components:

- Device driver
- Hardware and software diagnostic tests
- Configuration utility
- Interactive control program
- Utilities for software development
- Language interface libraries for the following languages – BASICA, Microsoft QuickBASIC, Microsoft Professional BASIC/Microsoft Visual Basic for DOS, and Microsoft C
- Example programs that use NI-488 functions and NI-488.2 routines

For a detailed list of files, refer to the *NI-488.2 User Manual for DOS*.

Install the Software

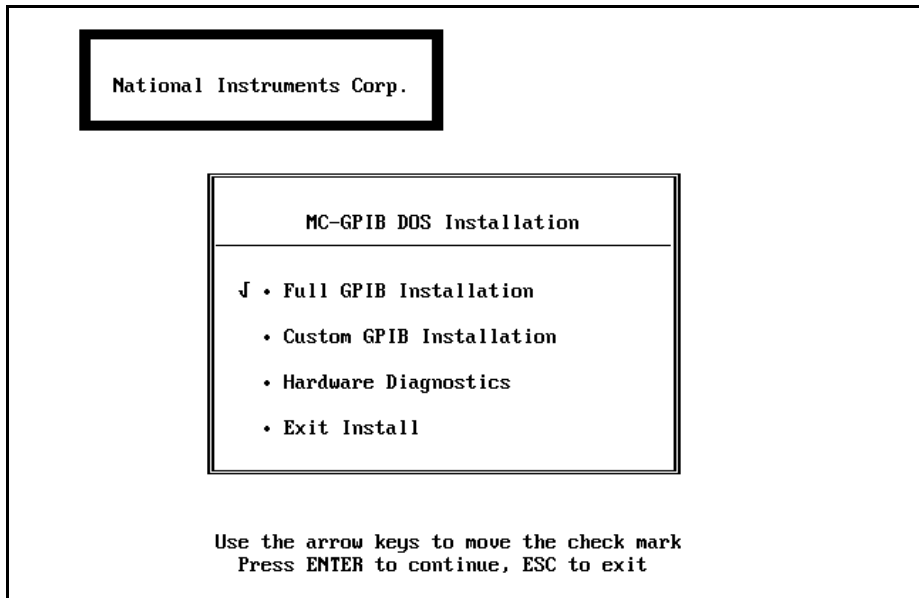
After you have installed and configured the hardware, you are ready to install the NI-488.2 software. Complete the following steps to run the software installation program.

1. Insert the NI-488.2 distribution disk into an unused drive.
2. Begin the software installation by entering the following command:

```
x:\install
```

where *x* is the letter of the drive containing the distribution disk (usually a or b).

The software installation begins with the following screen:



3. Select the type of installation you want.
 - Selecting `Full GPIB Installation` installs all of the NI-488.2 software files on your hard drive.
 - Selecting `Custom GPIB Installation` lets you select the parts of the NI-488.2 software to install on your hard drive.
 - Selecting `Hardware Diagnostics` executes the hardware diagnostics program `ibdiag`. If the hardware diagnostics fail, refer to Chapter 4, *Installation Verification and Troubleshooting*, for information on `ibdiag`.
 - Selecting `Exit Install` or pressing the escape key <Esc> at any time causes you to exit the installation program and return to the DOS prompt.
4. Reboot your computer, after the installation is complete.

When you reboot your computer, the NI-488.2 driver is loaded. If the installation is successful, the driver displays a banner message on your screen when DOS loads the driver.

After you have installed your software, you might want to view or modify the driver configuration. Refer to the next section for instructions on running the configuration utility `ibconf`. If you do not want to run `ibconf`, refer to Chapter 4, *Installation Verification and Troubleshooting*, for instructions on verifying the hardware and software installation.

Configure the Software with `ibconf` (Optional)

`ibconf` is an interactive utility you can use to examine or modify the configuration of the driver. Follow these steps to run `ibconf`:

1. Go to the directory where the NI-488.2 software is installed and enter the following command:

```
ibconf
```

2. Use the cursor keys to select different fields and view corresponding help information.
3. Make any necessary changes.
4. Exit `ibconf` by pressing <Esc> or the function key <F9>, and save your changes.
5. Reboot your computer.

For more information about `ibconf`, refer to the *NI-488.2 User Manual for DOS*.

After you have installed and configured the software, you should verify the installation. Refer to Chapter 4, *Installation Verification and Troubleshooting*.

Chapter 4

Installation Verification and Troubleshooting

This chapter describes how to verify the hardware and software installation and how to troubleshoot problems.

Run the Hardware Diagnostic Program `ibdiag`

To verify and test the hardware installation, run the `ibdiag` hardware diagnostic program that came with your NI-488.2 software. `ibdiag` verifies that your hardware is functioning properly and that the configuration of your board does not conflict with anything else in your system.

Follow these steps to run `ibdiag`:

1. Disconnect any GPIB cables.
2. Go to the directory where the software is installed (for example, `c:\mc-gpib`).
3. Enter the following command:

```
ibdiag
```

If `ibdiag` completes with no errors, your hardware is functioning properly. If `ibdiag` returns an error message, refer to the next section for troubleshooting instructions.

Troubleshooting `ibdiag` Error Messages

Follow these steps to troubleshoot `ibdiag` error messages.

1. Make sure that there are no base I/O address or DMA channel conflicts in your system. The configuration program on the PS/2 reference diskette warns you if these types of conflicts exist. If conflicts exist, follow these steps:
 - a. Restart your computer using your PS/2 reference diskette.
 - b. Using the PS/2 configuration program, change the base I/O address or DMA channel until the program indicates that no conflicts exist. Then change the interrupt level setting so that interrupts are disabled.
 - c. Save the changes and restart your computer.
 - d. Run `ibdiag` again.

If `ibdiag` fails again, one of the following situations is occurring:

- A GPIB cable is connected to the board. Remove all GPIB cables before running `ibdiag` again.
- Another board or built-in device in your computer is using the same I/O address space or DMA channel, without reporting its usage. Because of this problem, the PS/2 configuration program is not able to detect conflicts. Repeat this step using a new value for the base I/O address or DMA channel.
- The board is defective or cannot be used in your computer. Complete the *Technical Support Form* in Appendix B, *Customer Communication*, and contact National Instruments.

If `ibdiag` passes, your base I/O address and DMA channel settings are valid. Continue to Step 2 to verify your interrupt request setting.

2. Make sure you are using a valid interrupt request line. The configuration program on the PS/2 reference diskette does *not* warn you about interrupt conflicts. To make sure you are using a valid interrupt request line, follow these steps:
 - a. Restart your computer using your PS/2 reference diskette.
 - b. Using the PS/2 configuration program, change the interrupt level setting so that interrupts are enabled.
 - c. Save the changes and restart your computer.
 - d. Run `ibdiag` again.

If `ibdiag` fails this time, one of the following situations is occurring:

- Another board or built-in device in your computer is using the same interrupt request line. Repeat this step using a new value for the interrupt request line.
- The board is defective or cannot be used in your computer. Complete the *Technical Support Form* in Appendix B, *Customer Communication*, and contact National Instruments.

Run the Software Diagnostic Program `ibtest`

To verify and test the hardware and software installation, run the `ibtest` software diagnostic program that came with your NI-488.2 software. The `ibtest` program is an NI-488.2 application that makes calls to the driver just as your application does.

Follow these steps to run `ibtest`:

1. Disconnect any GPIB cables.

2. Go to the directory where the software is installed (for example, `c:\mc-gpib`).
3. Enter the following command:

```
ibtest
```

If `ibtest` completes with no errors, you have installed the NI-488.2 software correctly. If `ibtest` returns an error message, refer to the next section for troubleshooting instructions.

Troubleshooting `ibtest` Error Messages

The following sections explain common error messages generated by `ibtest`.

The `ibtest` program locks up your computer if the GPIB board under test is configured to use an incorrect interrupt level. If `ibtest` locks up, you can either reconfigure the hardware to use a different interrupt level or use `ibconf` to disable the use of interrupts. For detailed instructions, refer to the sections *Configure the Hardware* in Chapter 2 and *Configure the Software with `ibconf`* in Chapter 3.

Note: *In the following paragraphs, `gpibx` refers to board `gpib0`, `gpib1`, `gpib2`, or `gpib3` as appropriate.*

Presence Test of Driver

The `ibtest` program tests for the presence of the NI-488.2 driver. `ibtest` displays the following message if it detects a problem:

```
<<< No driver present for GPIBx. >>>
```

If this message appears, make sure that the GPIB driver is installed. Check that the following line is in your `config.sys` file:

```
device = drive:\path\gpib.com
```

where *drive* is the drive where the NI-488.2 software is installed (usually `c:`) and *path* is the directory path on the drive to the NI-488.2 software (for example, `mc-gpib`).

Presence Test of Board

The following error message appears if `gpibx` is not installed or if the software is not configured properly:

```
<<< No board present for GPIBx. >>>
```

If this message appears, you could have one of the following situations:

- The Use this GPIB Interface field in `ibconf` might be set to `no` for board `gpibx`. If you want to use the board, you must set this field to `yes`.
- The board is not properly installed. Refer to the *Install the Hardware* section in Chapter 2, *Hardware Installation and Configuration*, for detailed instructions.

GPIB Cables Connected

The following error message appears if a GPIB cable is connected to the board when you run `ibtest`:

```
Call(25) 'ibcmd " " failed, ibsta (0x134) not what was expected  
(0x8130)
```

```
Call(25) 'ibcmd " " failed, expected ibsta (0x100) to have the  
ERR  
bit set.
```

Disconnect all GPIB cables before trying the test again.

Common Questions

Which NI-488.2 software (DOS or Windows) do I need to install?

If you want to run a GPIB application under DOS, install the NI-488.2 software for DOS. If you want to run a GPIB application in Windows, you must install the NI-488.2 software for Windows.

Can I have the NI-488.2 software for DOS and Windows drivers installed at the same time?

Yes, there is nothing wrong with installing both. However, it is better not to use them at the same time.

How can I determine which type of GPIB board I have installed?

Run the `GPIBInfo` utility. If you run `GPIBInfo` without specifying any parameters, it returns information about the GPIB boards currently configured for use in your system. If you know the base I/O address of a GPIB interface board, you can enter it as a parameter for specific information. For example, `GPIBInfo E00` returns information about the GPIB board at base I/O address E00. For more information about `GPIBInfo`, refer to the *NI-488.2 User Manual for DOS*.

How can I determine which version of the NI-488.2 software I have installed?

Run the GPIBInfo utility. If you run GPIBInfo without specifying any parameters, it returns information about the version of the NI-488.2 software currently installed. For more information about GPIBInfo, refer to the *NI-488.2 User Manual for DOS*.

What do I do if ibdiag or ibtest fails with an error?

Refer to the troubleshooting sections of this chapter for specific information about what might cause these tests to fail.

When would I use ibic?

You can use `ibic` to test and verify instrument communication, troubleshoot problems, and develop your application program. For more information about `ibic`, refer to Chapter 5, *ibic—Interface Bus Interactive Control*, in the *NI-488.2 User Manual for DOS*.

How do I use an NI-488.2 language interface?

For information about using NI-488.2 language interfaces, refer to Chapter 3, *Developing Your Application*, in the *NI-488.2 User Manual for DOS*.

What information should I have before I call National Instruments?

When you call National Instruments, you should have the results of the diagnostic tests `ibdiag` and `ibtest` and the output from `GPIBInfo`. Also, make sure you have filled out the configuration form in Appendix B, *Customer Communication*.

Chapter 5

Using Your NI-488.2 Software

This chapter describes the `ibic` utility and lists some programming considerations.

Introduction to `ibic`

You can use `ibic`, the Interface Bus Interactive Control utility, to enter NI-488 functions and NI-488.2 routines interactively and to display the results of the function calls automatically. Without writing an application, you can use `ibic` to do the following:

- Verify GPIB communication with your device quickly and easily.
- Learn the NI-488 functions and NI-488.2 routines before you write your application.
- Become familiar with the commands of your device.
- Receive data from your GPIB device.
- Learn new NI-488.2 routines before integrating them into your application.
- Troubleshoot problems with your application.

For more information about `ibic`, refer to the *NI-488.2 User Manual for DOS*.

General Programming Considerations

As you begin developing your NI-488.2 application, remember the following points:

- You must link the language interface library with your compiled source code.
- You must include the header file in your source code.

For information about choosing a programming method, developing your application, or compiling and linking, refer to the *NI-488.2 User Manual for DOS*. For detailed information about each NI-488 function and NI-488.2 routine, refer to the *NI-488.2 Function Reference Manual for DOS/Windows*.

Appendix A

Hardware Specifications

This appendix describes the characteristics of the MC-GPIB board and the recommended operating conditions.

Table A-1. Electrical Characteristics

| Characteristic | Specification |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Maximum GPIB Transfer Rates (DOS) Reads Writes | 800 kbytes/s* 1.1 Mbytes/s* |
| Power Requirement | +5 VDC 1.0 A Typical 1.6 A Maximum |
| * Actual speed may vary considerably from speed shown because of instrumentation capabilities. | |

Table A-2. Physical Characteristics

| Characteristic | Specification |
|----------------|--|
| Dimensions | 8.9 cm by 29.2 cm (3.5 in. by 11.5 in.) |
| I/O Connector | IEEE 488 Standard 24-pin |

Table A-3. Environmental Characteristics

| Characteristic | Specification |
|---|---|
| Operating Environment Component Temperature Relative Humidity | 0° to 40° C 5% to 90%, noncondensing |
| Storage Environment Temperature Relative Humidity | -20° to 70° C 5% to 90%, noncondensing |
| EMI | FCC Class B Certified |

Appendix B

Customer Communication

For your convenience, this appendix contains forms to help you gather the information necessary to help us solve technical problems you might have as well as a form you can use to comment on the product documentation. Filling out a copy of the *Technical Support Form* before contacting National Instruments helps us help you better and faster.

National Instruments provides comprehensive technical assistance around the world. In the U.S. and Canada, applications engineers are available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (central time). In other countries, contact the nearest branch office. You may fax questions to us at any time.

Corporate Headquarters

(512) 795-8248

Technical support fax: (800) 328-2203
(512) 794-5678

| Branch Offices | Phone Number | Fax Number |
|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Australia | (03) 879 9422 | (03) 879 9179 |
| Austria | (0662) 435986 | (0662) 437010-19 |
| Belgium | 02/757.00.20 | 02/757.03.11 |
| Denmark | 45 76 26 00 | 45 76 71 11 |
| Finland | (90) 527 2321 | (90) 502 2930 |
| France | (1) 48 14 24 00 | (1) 48 14 24 14 |
| Germany | 089/741 31 30 | 089/714 60 35 |
| Italy | 02/48301892 | 02/48301915 |
| Japan | (03) 3788-1921 | (03) 3788-1923 |
| Netherlands | 03480-33466 | 03480-30673 |
| Norway | 32-848400 | 32-848600 |
| Spain | (91) 640 0085 | (91) 640 0533 |
| Sweden | 08-730 49 70 | 08-730 43 70 |
| Switzerland | 056/20 51 51 | 056/20 51 55 |
| U.K. | 0635 523545 | 0635 523154 |

Technical Support Form

Photocopy this form and update it each time you make changes to your software or hardware, and use the completed copy of this form as a reference for your current configuration. Completing this form accurately before contacting National Instruments for technical support helps our applications engineers answer your questions more efficiently.

If you are using any National Instruments hardware or software products related to this problem, include the configuration forms from their user manuals. Include additional pages if necessary.

Name _____

Company _____

Address _____

Fax (____) _____ Phone (____) _____

Computer brand _____

Model _____ Processor _____

Operating system _____

Speed _____MHz RAM _____MB

Display adapter _____

Mouse _____yes _____no

Other adapters installed _____

Hard disk capacity _____MB Brand _____

Instruments used _____

National Instruments hardware product model _____

Revision _____

Configuration _____

National Instruments software product _____

Version _____

Configuration _____

(continues)

The problem is _____

List any error messages _____

The following steps will reproduce the problem _____

MC-GPIB Hardware and Software Configuration Form

Record the settings and revisions of your hardware and software on the line to the right of each item. Complete a new copy of this form each time you revise your software or hardware configuration, and use this form as a reference for your current configuration. Completing this form accurately before contacting National Instruments for technical support helps our applications engineers answer your questions more efficiently.

National Instruments Products

- MC-GPIB Revision _____
- NI-488.2 Software Version Number on Distribution medium

- Programming Language Interface Version _____
- Shield Ground Connected to Logic Ground (yes or no) _____
- Board Settings:

| | Base I/O Address | Interrupt Level | DMA Channel |
|------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| gpi0 | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| gpi1 | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| gpi2 | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| gpi3 | _____ | _____ | _____ |

Other Products

- Computer Make and Model _____
- Microprocessor _____
- Clock Frequency _____
- Type of Monitor Card Installed _____
- DOS Version _____
- Application Programming Language (BASIC, C, Pascal, and so on) _____

- Other Boards in System _____
- Base I/O Address of Other Boards _____
- Interrupt Level of Other Boards _____
- DMA Channels of Other Boards _____

Glossary

| Prefix | Meaning | Value |
|--------|---------|-----------|
| m- | milli- | 10^{-3} |
| k- | kilo- | 10^3 |
| M- | mega- | 10^6 |

| | |
|------|--|
| ° | degrees |
| % | percent |
| A | amperes |
| AC | alternating current |
| ANSI | American National Standards Institute |
| ASIC | application-specific integrated circuit |
| BIOS | Basic Input/Output System |
| C | Celsius |
| CPU | central processing unit |
| DMA | direct memory access |
| EMI | electromagnetic interference |
| FCC | Federal Communications Commission |
| GPIB | General Purpose Interface Bus |
| hex | hexadecimal |
| Hz | hertz |
| IEEE | Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers |
| in. | inches |
| I/O | input/output |
| IRQ | interrupt request |
| KB | kilobytes of memory |
| MB | megabytes of memory |
| PC | personal computer |
| RAM | random-access memory |
| s | seconds |
| VDC | volts direct current |