

Lathe9 Alignment Software

for Lathes and Turning Centers

Powerful new Lathe9 alignment software simplifies lathe and turning center alignment, even on large lathes

Hamar Laser's new Lathe9 alignment software supports our L-700 Spindle Alignment system equipment to create a powerful tool for aligning lathes or other turning-type machines. This comprehensive and easy-to-use program displays live readings of the horizontal and vertical center (offset) and the horizontal and vertical angular (slope) readings of the tailstock to the headstock and also checks the straightness of the guideways and parallelism to the main spindle axis.

Applications include:

- Cylindrical Grinders
- Turning Centers
- Lathes
- Turret Lathes
- Screw Machines

Machine Geometry Measurement:

- Guideway straightness
- Headstock spindle-axis parallelism to tailstock or turret guideways
- Guideway pitch and yaw
- Headstock spindle-axis alignment to: tailstock or turret centers, or subspindle rotation axes

Program Features include:

■ Easy 6-Step Process

Lathe9 guides the user through the alignment with a 6-step process, designed to align a lathe the best, most efficient way. First the setup data is entered. Then the guideways are checked for straightness and it is determined if the headstock spindle axis is parallel to the bed. If these geometries are out of spec, they need to be fixed first. Lathe9 then takes data for the headstock spindle alignment to the tailstock or turret and provides a live, 4-axis display of the alignment, along with shim value calculations to align them. Finally, a printed report details the alignment of all the lathe geometries. Results can be plotted, saved, and exported to an Excel spreadsheet for further analysis.

■ Easily Measure Lathe Headstock Spindle-Axis Parallelism to Guideways

After following the simple Lathe9 procedure to align the laser to the headstock spindle axis, the T-261 Target is inserted into the tailstock or turret (saddle) and it is moved down the bed to take straightness data. At the end of the run, Lathe9 automatically calculates the guideway straightness and parallelism of the spindle axis to the bed. It can even check parallelism of the saddle or turret guideways if they are separated from the tailstock guideways.

■ Project Headstock Spindle Axis Out to 100 Feet

By following our simple Step 2 procedure, the laser can be aligned exactly to the spindle axis of rotation, which can then be projected out to 100 feet (30 M) to measure guideway parallelism of even the largest lathe.

■ Live 4-axis Data Display

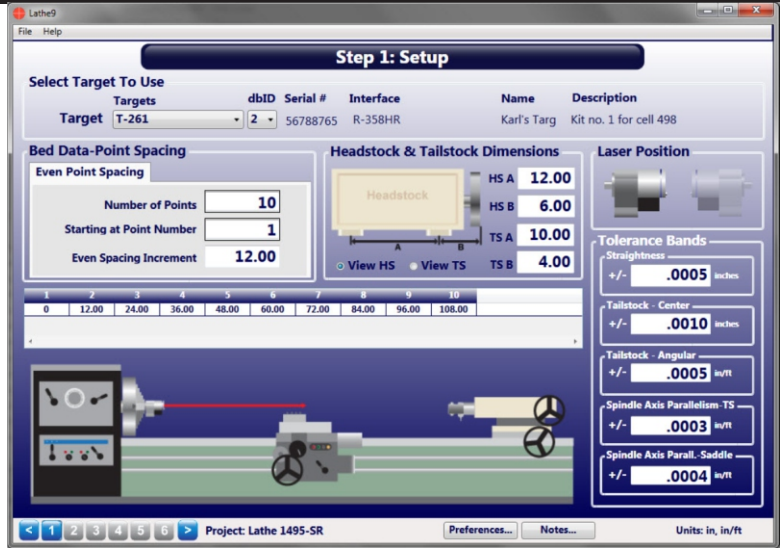
The alignment displays the update with each adjustment in four axes: V-center, H-center, V-angle and H-angle. This allows the user to quickly correct misalignment errors.

■ Other Plotting Features

Additional features include the ability to zoom in and out of the graph area, to change direction when recording data, to select the target orientation when performing the NORMIN procedure and to automatically move from one point to be measured to the next. The Data Source view may be changed from tailstock, saddle, or from both tailstock and saddle, and results can be displayed with the best-fit line, tolerance bands and pitch and yaw data.

■ Report Generation

Reports can be customized to show the results relative to the laser or the guideway best-fit line, comments may be added, and the report can be printed with a summary, a graph of the vertical and horizontal straightness, comments and a table showing the recorded data.



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Program Features

Lathe9 Alignment Software

Step 1: Set Up

Select the target and computer interface to be used in the alignment and the side of the lathe on which the user is standing. Enter the headstock and tailstock dimensions, choose the number of points to be recorded and enter the alignment tolerances. The dimensions are used to calculate shims when aligning the headstock, tailstock and/or turrets. The alignment tolerances are automatically applied to the displays, results screen and graphs.

Step 2: Qualify Laser

Align the laser to the headstock spindle axis by following the NORMIN procedure, where one set of data is recorded with the spindle/laser in the NORMAl position and a second set is recorded with the spindle/laser in INVerted position. Display offsets are automatically applied so the user zeros out the laser's four axes of adjustment to make it parallel and coincident the spindle axis of rotation.

Step 3: Guideway Straightness and Spindle-Axis Parallelism

After qualifying the laser, straightness data is recorded for tailstock guideways, the turret (saddle) guideway or both, using the number of points selected in Step 1. Lathe9 records four axes of data (V-center, H-center, V-angle, H-angle) at each location along both sets of guideways. This is especially helpful where the tailstock and turret (saddle) ride on separate guideways. To take the data, the target is mounted in the tailstock or turret (saddle) and moved along the lathe bed to each point. Press the spacebar to record the values. When finished, click the **Results** button to view the alignment data.

Step 3: Alignment Data Results

After taking data, click the **Results** button to view alignment results for:

- Tailstock guideway straightness
- Turret (saddle) guideway straightness
- Headstock spindle-axis parallelism to the tailstock guideways and/or turret guideways and the parallelism between the two sets of guideways.

A check mark or X displays if the data is in or out of tolerance, based on the tolerances entered in Step 1.

Step 3: Headstock Spindle-Axis Real-Time Alignment Screen

Click the **Move** button in Step 3 to open the Headstock Spindle-Axis Real Time Alignment Screen. In this screen, the headstock may be aligned to either the tailstock guideways or turret (saddle) guideways or an average of both. Shim values are calculated to align the headstock and a live angular display shows whether the alignment is in or out of tolerance. After the alignment is completed, the lathe bed straightness data needs to be re-recorded to verify the alignment.



Program Features

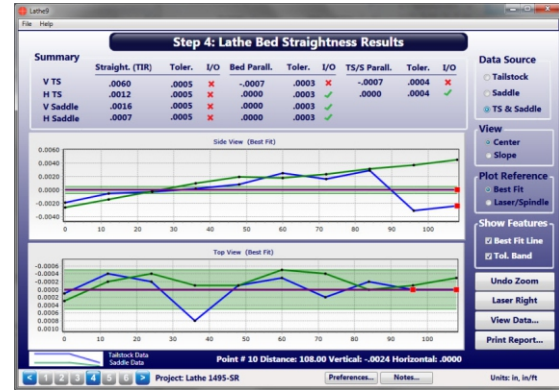
Lathe9 Alignment Software

Step 4: Lathe-Bed Straightness Results and Graph

After recording data in Step 3, Step 4 calculates:

- Straightness for each set of guideways
- The parallelism of the main spindle axis to the tailstock guideways and turret guideways
- The parallelism between both sets of guideways.

Results are displayed in the table and are compared against the tolerances defined in Step 1. Straightness is then plotted on a graph, showing whether the data is in or out of tolerance. The V and H angular (pitch and yaw) values at each location are also plotted. The user may choose which set of data to plot and what reference to use: the laser or the least-squaresness, best-fit line. Clicking a point on the graph displays the data for that point. A report may now be printed or the user may proceed to the Tailstock Axis Live Move Screen to align the tailstock or subspindle to the headstock spindle.



Step 5: Record Tailstock/Subspindle Axis Data

After the headstock spindle axis has been aligned to the lathe's guideways, Step 5 is used to take data for the alignment of either the tailstock or a subspindle to the headstock spindle axis of rotation. It takes about 3 minutes to record the data and on-screen instructions guide you through the procedure. Once the data is recorded, alignment results are calculated and compared against the tolerance and a graphical display illustrates the alignment. Display offsets are also automatically applied to the live, 4-axis display to show the alignment of the tailstock or subspindle to the main spindle.




Step 6: Tailstock/Turret Real-Time Alignment Screen

If the data recorded in Step 5 is out of tolerance, the misalignment can be fixed in the Step 6: Tailstock/Turret Alignment screen. Lathe9 automatically applies display offsets so the live, 4-axis display shows the actual alignment results. It also calculates the shims necessary to align the tailstock or turret. Live spindle graphics (vertical/side view and horizontal/top view) automatically update with each move, showing how the alignment is progressing. When the shim displays turn green, the alignment is complete.



Generating Reports



Lathe Alignment Report

Project Name: Lathe 1495-BR
Date Printed: 10/14/2017 at 9:11 AM

Report Issued By:

Company Name:
Address:
City, State, ZIP:
Email:

Machine Information:

Factory: Alpha 12
Machine: 41/53
Notes: The machine appears to have been crashed.

Setup Information:

Spooling and Dimensions

Units:	In., In/ft	Headstock A:	12.00
Number of Points:	10	Headstock B:	6.00
Starting Point:	1	Tailstock A:	10.00
Spooling Increment:	12.00	Tailstock B:	4.00

Tolerance Bands

Straightness: .0005
Tailstock Center: .0010
Tailstock Angular: .0005
Spindle Axis Parallelism: .0003
T8/Saddle Axis Parallelism: .0004

Target Information

Target Name: Karl's Target
Interface: R-350HR
Serial Number: 56788765
Calibration Date: 10/4/2016
Description: Kit no. 1 for cell 498

Units: In., In/ft
Project: Lathe 1495-BR
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Laser Qualification

Orientation	V Center	H Center	V Slope	H Slope
Inverted Laser	-.0298	-.0039	.0044	.0071
Normal Laser	-.0298	-.0039	.0044	.0071
Mounting Offset	-.0298	-.0039	.0044	.0071

Lathe Bed Straightness & Headstock Spindle Axis Parallelism


Summary

	Straight(TIR)	Tol (+/-)	I/O	Bed Parall.	Tol (+/-)	I/O	T8/S Parall.	Tol (+/-)	I/O
V T8	.0008	.0005	✓	.0000	.0004	✓	.0000	.0004	✓
H T8	.0000	.0005	✓	.0000	.0004	✓	.0000	.0004	✓
V Saddle	.0018	.0005	✗	.0000	.0004	✓			
H Saddle	.0007	.0005	✓	.0000	.0004	✓			


Lathe Bed Straightness Plots

Data Source: Tailstock Plot Reference: Best Fit View: Center

Side View Flatness



Top View Straightness



Units: In., In/ft
Project: Lathe 1495-BR
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Saddle Parallelism

Side View
Side View Slope I/O
.0000 ✓

Top View
Top View Slope I/O
.0000 ✓

Side View Slope
-.0016

Top View Slope
+.0016

Front Shim
.0000

Back Shim
.0000

Front Move
.0000

Back Move
.0000

Lathe Bed Data

Point	Distance	Tailstock VC	Tailstock HC	Tailstock VS	Tailstock HS	Saddle VC	Saddle HC	Saddle VS	Saddle HS
1	0	-.0303	-.0029	.0042	.0071	-.0301	-.0018	.0029	-.0032
2	12.00	-.0300	-.0029	.0042	.0071	-.0308	-.0020	.0034	-.0079
3	24.00	-.0306	-.0029	.0042	.0072	-.0300	-.0022	.0197	-.0178
4	36.00	-.0306	-.0029	.0042	.0072	-.0346	-.0079	.0107	-.0133
5	48.00	-.0301	-.0029	.0042	.0071	-.0344	-.0076	.0088	-.0139
6	60.00	-.0307	-.0029	.0044	.0071	-.0332	-.0082	.0207	-.0181
7	72.00	-.0306	-.0029	.0044	.0071	-.0354	-.0081	.0247	-.0109
8	84.00	-.0295	-.0029	.0044	.0071	-.0352	-.0076	.0228	-.0207
9	96.00	-.0303	-.0029	.0042	.0071	-.0354	-.0076	.0240	-.0000
10	108.00	-.0301	-.0029	.0042	.0071	-.0354	-.0079	.0241	-.0082

Units: In., In/ft
Project: Lathe 1495-BR
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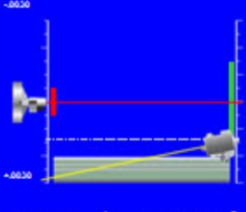
Tailstock/Subspindle Axis Data

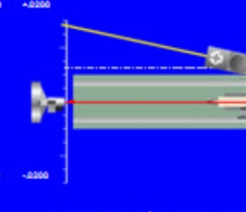
Laser Position	V Center	H Center	V Slope	H Slope
Laser Inverted/Target Normal	-.0016	-.0046	.0032	.0144
Laser Normal/Target Inverted	.0002	.0032	.0003	-.0066
Laser Normal/Target Normal	-.0005	-.0040	.0044	.0067
Mounting Offset	.0004	-.0001	.0029	-.0043

Tailstock/Subspindle Alignment Results

Side View
V.Center I/O V. Slope I/O
-.0008 ✓ .0016 ✗

Top View
H.Center I/O H. Slope I/O
-.0039 ✗ .0106 ✗





Front Shim
.0004

Back Shim
-.0009

Front Move
.0004

Back Move
-.0084