# DR-500 Series Handheld OTDR PC Software User Manual

Reflect.exe

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#### DR-500 Series PC Software "Reflect"

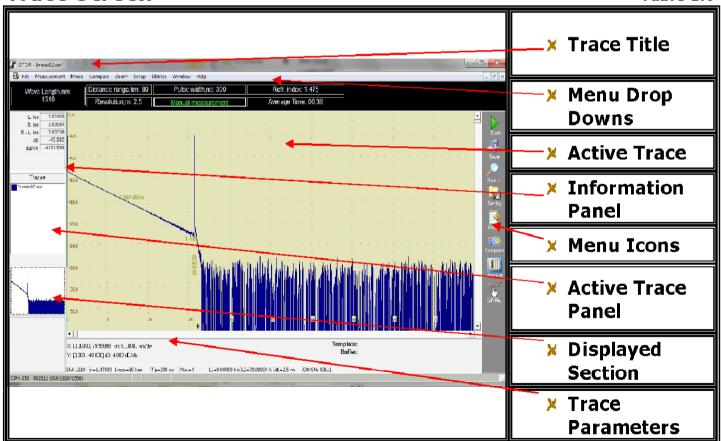
**Reflect.exe** is a Windows based application and is compatible with a Windows  $^{\text{TM}}$  operating system. The software is capable of displaying, storing, reading, printing and analyzing several traces at the same time. **Reflect.exe** is capable of controlling the operation of the DR-500 series OTDR via a USB cable and windows mobile device interface **AcitveSyn** if desired by the OTDR operator.

#### **Software Installation**

- 1. Insert CD in PC
- 2. In CD drive open SetupAFS\_eng
- 3. Allow PC to run installation

## **Functional Description**

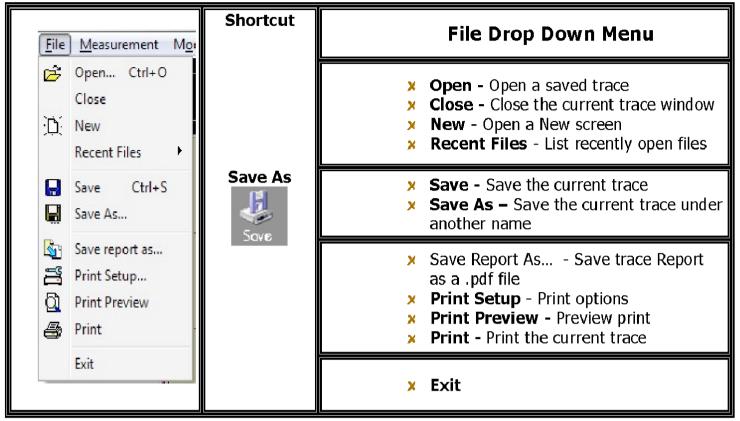
Trace Screen Table 1.0



A Trace screen on the Reflect software is illustrated above

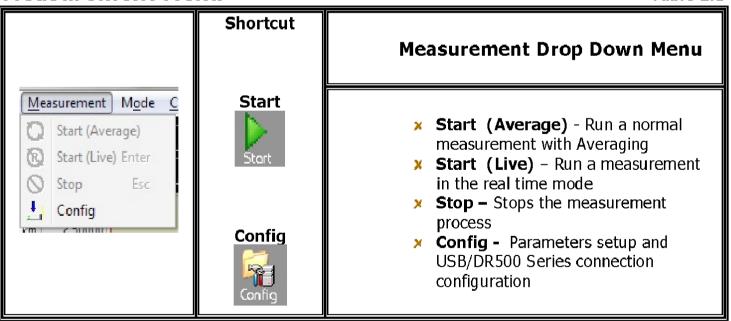
## **Menu Tool Bar**

File Menu Table 2.0

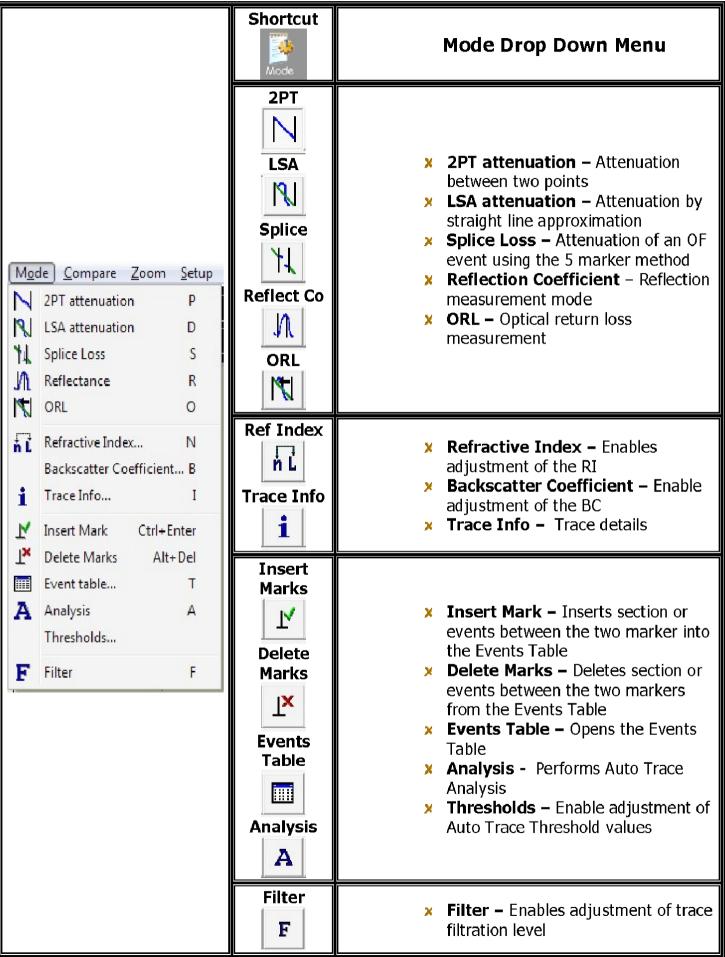


#### **Measurement Menu**

Table 2.1

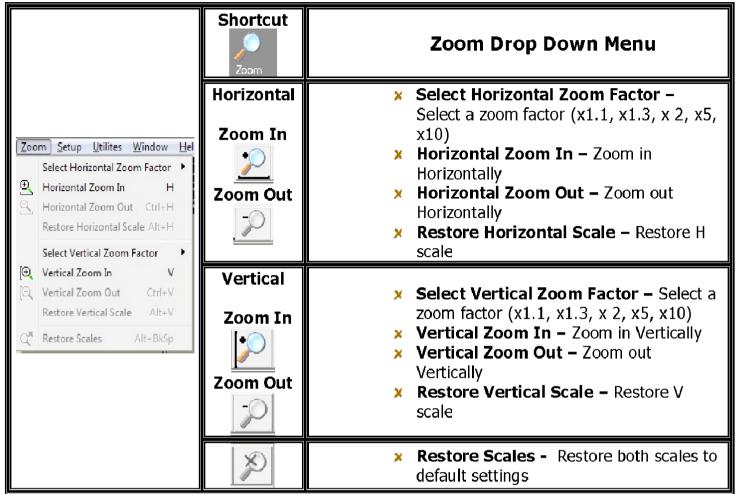


Mode Menu Table 2.2



	Shortcut  Compare	Compare Drop Down Menu
Compare Zoom Setup Utilit Copy trace Ctrl+Ins Paste trace Shift+Ins Delete trace Ctrl+Del Shift Trace Quick Paste Z	Copy Trace Paste Trace Delete Trace	<ul> <li>Copy Trace – Copies trace to clip board</li> <li>Paste Trace – Insert trace from clip board to current trace</li> <li>Delete - Deletes inserted trace</li> <li>Shift Trace - Enable shifting of the trace vertically</li> </ul>
Create Template Apply Template Ctrl+T		<ul> <li>Quick Paste – Enable a shortcut to paste previously opened traces</li> </ul>
Copy Image	Create Template Apply Template	<ul> <li>Create Template – Stores current trace as template</li> <li>Apply Template – Applies template to trace</li> <li>Delete Template – Delete template</li> </ul>
		<ul><li>Copy Image – Copies image to clip board</li></ul>

Zoom Menu Table 2.4



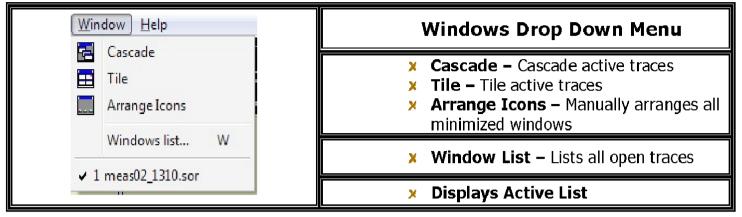
Setup Menu Table 2.5



Utilities Menu Table 2.6

<u>U</u> tilites <u>W</u> indow <u>H</u> elp	Utilities Drop Down Menu
Device (ActiveSync) File Manager	<ul> <li>Device (ActiveSync) File Manager –</li> <li>Enables DR-500 series file management</li> </ul>

Windows Menu Table 2.7



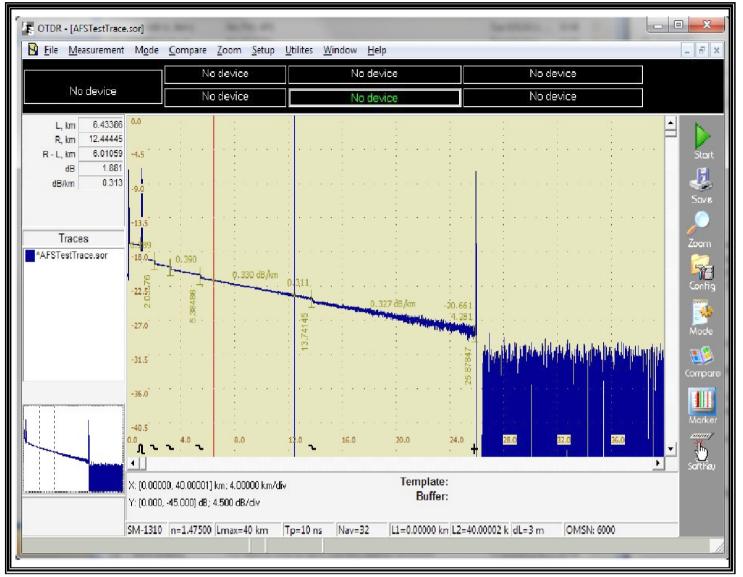
Help Menu Table 2.8



Markers Icon Table 2.9

Markers Icon (Shortcut)			
Markers Icon		× Moves active Marker <b>Left</b>	
	LR	× Selects all Markers	
		× Moves active Marker <b>Right</b>	
	L	× Selects <b>Left Marker</b> as active Marker	
	R	× Selects <b>Right Marker</b> as active Marker	

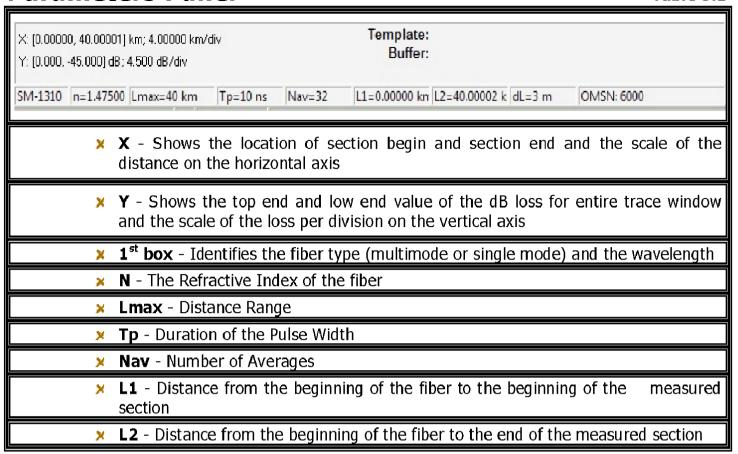
Trace Table 3.0



A Trace is a visual representation of a fiber optic link. The beginning of the fiber optic link is located on the left side of the trace. The slope or attenuation of the fiber link can be seen as the trace moves to the right. There are two "active" markers, the information containing the location of the markers is located on the left side of the screen at shown above in Table 3.0

The screen also displays several numbers that correspond to measurement values (attenuation, attenuation loss at an event, distance to an event and Optical Return Loss (ORL), These values are the measurements from the Automatic Trace Analysis that the OTDR performs. Automatic Trace Analysis will be covered in a later section.

The testing parameters for the active trace are located below the trace window (in the gray area). All parameters are preset (by operator) prior to running a test. See the measurement parameters section for more information.



The parameters properties window is accessed by selecting the **Config icon** or **Config** option under the measurement drop down menu. A dialog box will appear as shown in table 3.2 allowing the technician to modify or change the specific testing parameters in the appropriate box.

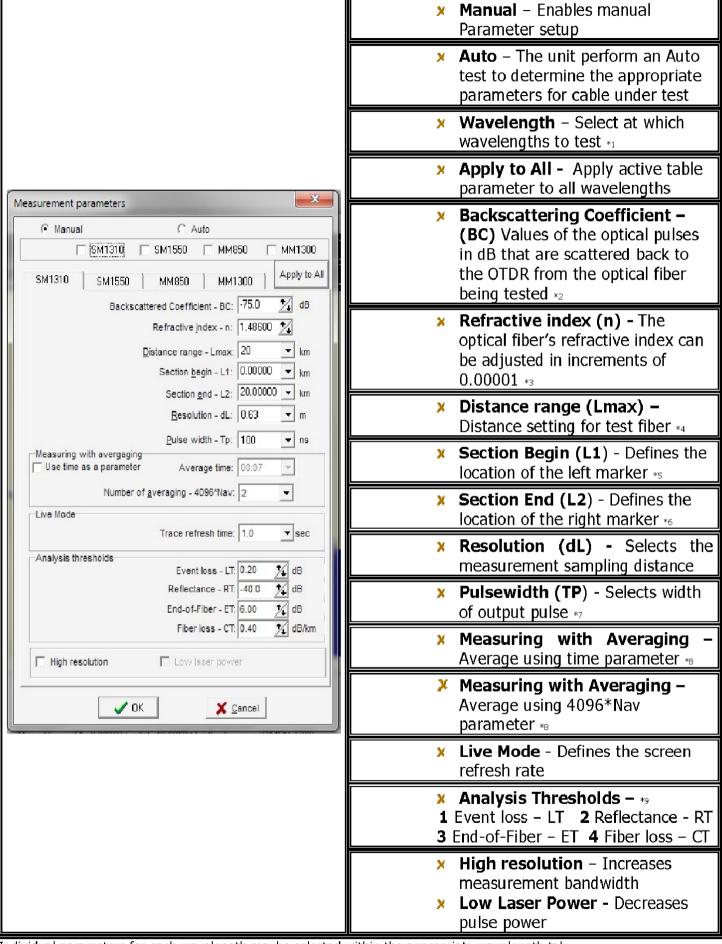
For more accurate measurements, it may be necessary for the Technician to adjust certain testing parameters for the specific fiber under test.

The operating parameters should be set according to the fibers being measured. For short fiber runs, shorter pulse widths and fewer averages are optimum. With longer fiber runs, longer pulse widths and more averages are best.

The values chosen by the user are dependent upon the testing requirements and there are tradeoffs that are sometimes necessary.

#### **Measurement Parameter Properties Window**

Table 3.2



Individual parameters for each wavelength maybe selected within the appropriate wavelength tab.

\*1 If two (or more) Single Mode or both Multimode wavelengths are selected then Lmax, L1, L2 and dL become common parameters for the selected wavelengths.

#### \*2 Default BC values

- -82 dB for SM at 1550 nm
- -77 dB for SM at 1310 nm
- -76 dB for MM at 1300 nm
- -68 dB for MM at 850 nm
- \*3 For an exact index of refraction value of the cable, contact the fiber optic cable manufacturer.

#### **Default RI values**

- 1.4682 for SM at 1550nm 1.4675 for SM at 1310nm 1.4860 for MM at 1300nm 1.4900 for MM at 850nm
- \*4 Available values in km: 2, 5, 10, 20, 40, 80, 120, 160 and 240
- \*5 L1 marker can be placed anywhere from 0 to L2 in the trace window.
- \*6 L2 marker can be placed anywhere from the L1 to the Lmax in the trace window.
- \*7 Shorter pulses are generally used for shorter distances and higher resolution. Longer pulse widths are required for longer fiber runs. The allowable pulse width is determined by the distance range- **Lmax**.
- \*8 **Number of Averages** (4096\*Nav) This defines the number of allowable trace averages when the OTDR in the "RUN" mode. **Nav** may be set to any of the following values → 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64, 128, 256 **Averaging Time** (min: sec) The user also has the option to set the time range that they would like for a particular measurement.

#### \*9 Threshold values for Automatic Trace Analysis

The parameter menu contains the threshold values that the OTDR compares with the actual trace values when operating in the Automatic Trace Analysis mode. These values are inputted by the OTDR operator and are used to compare expected measurement values to actual measurement values. The measurement values are displayed on the events table and if the expected parameters are not met – the results will be indicated by an asterisks "\*" in the events table.

**Event Loss (LT) -** Threshold of the event attenuation value in dB. Events with attenuation value that exceeds the threshold value will be shown in the **Events Table.** 

**Reflectance** (**RT**) - Threshold of the event reflectance value in dB. The reflected event having a reflectance higher than the threshold value are shown in the **Events Table**.

**End of Fiber (ET)** - Threshold of the event attenuation value in dB for defining the fiber end. The first event with an attenuation exceeding the threshold value is defined during the automatic trace analysis as an optical fiber end. All subsequent events will be ignored.

**Fiber Loss (CT)** – Attenuation coefficient threshold value of the section in dB/km. Exceeding the attenuation coefficient threshold value will mark the section with an \* in the **Events Table.** 

If the threshold are exceeded, the coefficient value will be marked by an asterisk "\*" in the marks table. This cannot be construed as certification – as true attenuation loss, according to the standards (EIA/TIA) are only determined by a power meter and a source.

#### **Default values of Fiber Loss**

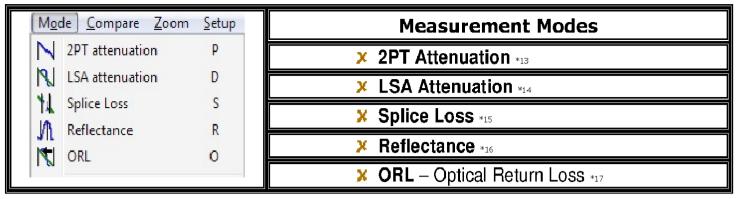
- 0.25 dB/km for Single Mode at 1550nm
- 0.4 dB/km for Single Mode at 1310nm
- 1.0 dB/km for Multimode at 1300nm
- 2.0 dB/km for Multimode at 850nm



- \*10 **Start (Averages)** The measurement mode with averaging is designed for measuring and analyzing all of the parameters of the fiber optic cable. When using this feature, the measurement average counter is displayed on the bottom of the main screen. The OTDR displays a progress bar (**Nav=Number of Averages**) at the bottom of the screen. This indicates time elapsed verses total measurement time. The software will beep when the total measurement is completed.
- \*11 **Start (Live)** In the Real Time mode the OTDR will continue to run measurements according to the preset parameters.
- \*12 **Stop** Both an Average reading or a Live reading maybe stopped by this function at any time in the measurement process.

#### **Measurement Modes**

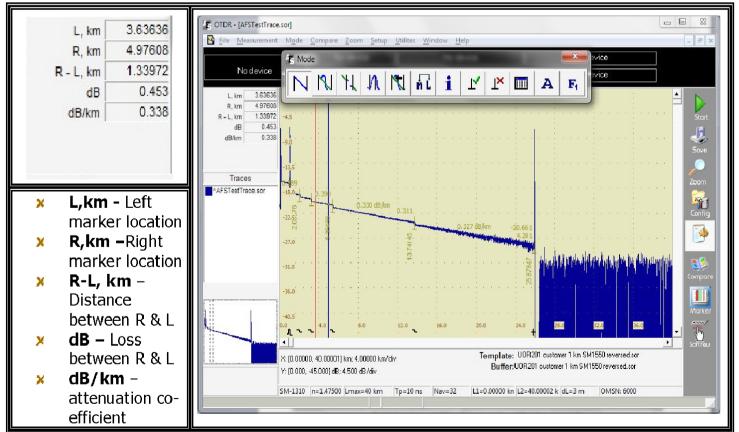
Table 5.0



## \*13 Measuring Attenuation between two marker points - (2 PT)

In this markers mode values are shown at the left side of the screen in the information panel. The measurement values are based upon where the left hand marker (L) and right hand marker (R) are positioned on the trace screen. The (L,km) field indicates the distance of the L marker while (R,km) field indicated the distance of the right hand marker on the trace. (R-L,km) indicates the distance between the left and right markers. The dB field in the information panel displays the attenuation between the left and right hand markers, while the dB/km field displays the attenuation co-eff.

2PT Attenuation Table 5.1

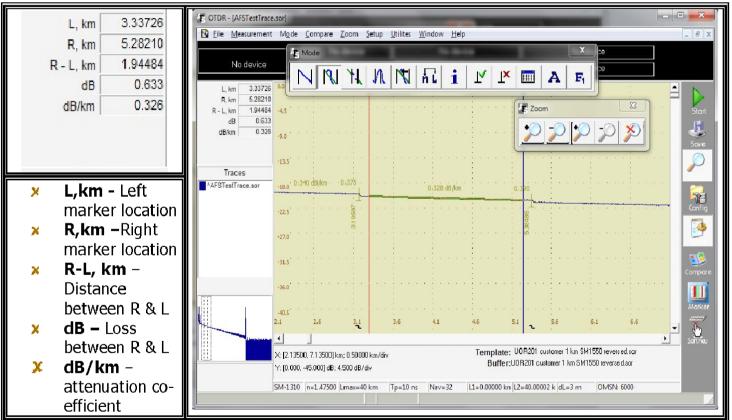


## \*14 Measuring the Attenuation by Approximation - (LSA)

The attenuation measurement by approximation mode is used to measure "non-event" sections of the fiber optic link. This mode increases the accuracy of the attenuation measurement between the two markers by using a straight line to approximate the measurement. The approximation straight-line measurement values are shown on the left side of the screen in the information panel. The measurement values are based upon where the left hand marker (L) and right hand marker (R) are positioned on the trace screen. The (L,km) field indicates the distance of the L marker while (R,km) field indicated the distance of the right hand marker on the trace. (R-L,km) indicates the distance between the left and right markers. The dB field in the information panel displays the attenuation between the left and right hand markers, while the dB/km field displays the attenuation coefficient.



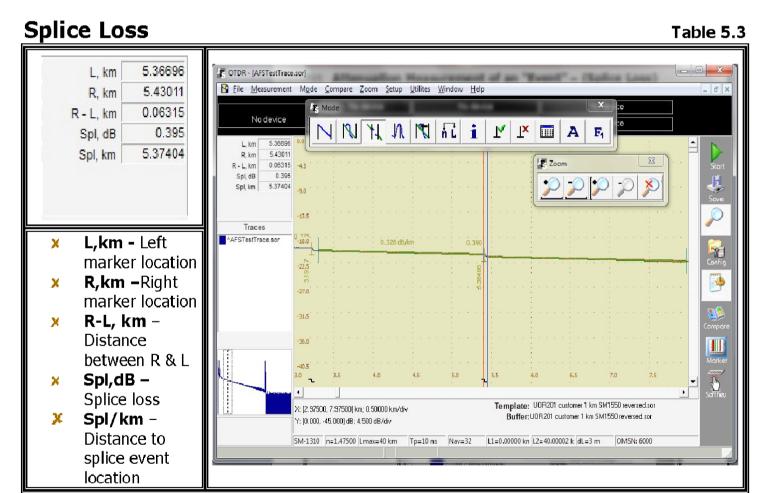
Table 5.2



## \*15 Attenuation Measurement of an "Event" - (Splice Loss)

Using the "Five Markers" method the OTDR measures the attenuation of a specific event. The "five marker" method works as follows:

The left marker (L) and right marker (R) are placed on either side of the event, as close as possible to the edges of the event, without touching the event itself. The two outermost markers (Lx and Rx) are used to calculate the straight line approximation of the fibers on both sides of the event and the fifth marker (C) is used to locate the begining of the event. The measurement results are displayed in the information panel. The (L,km) field indicates the distance of the L marker while (R,km) field indicated the distance of the right hand marker on the trace. (R-L,km) indicates the distance between the left and right markers. The Spl, dB field in the information panel displays the attenuation of the event while the Spl, km field displays the distance to the event being tested (middle marker C).

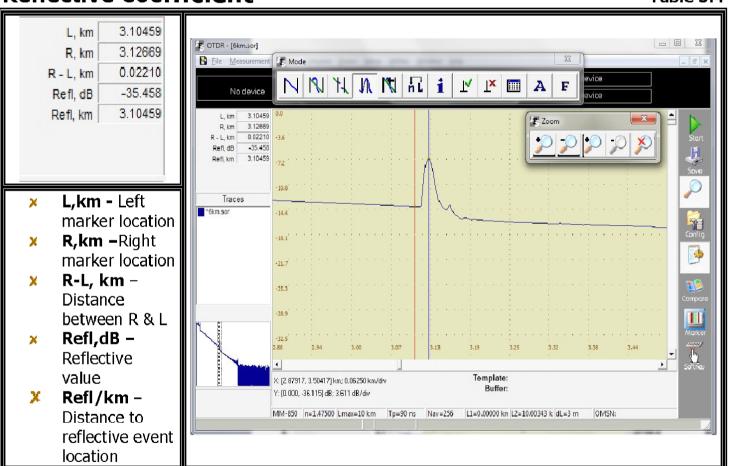


## \*16 Reflective Coefficient Measurement - (Reflection)

This marker method is used to measure the reflection coefficient of a specific connector event. Place the right marker (**R**) on the peak of the reflected event. Place the left marker (**L**) on the base line of the trace directly before the event. The measurement results are displayed in the information panel. The (**L,km**) field indicates the distance of the L marker while (**R,km**) field indicated the distance of the right hand marker on the trace. (**R-L,km**) indicates the distance between the left and right markers. The **Refl, dB** field displays the reflective coefficient between markers **L** and **R** while the **Refl, km** field displays the left (**L**) marker and location of the base of the connector.

## Reflective Coefficient

Table 5.4

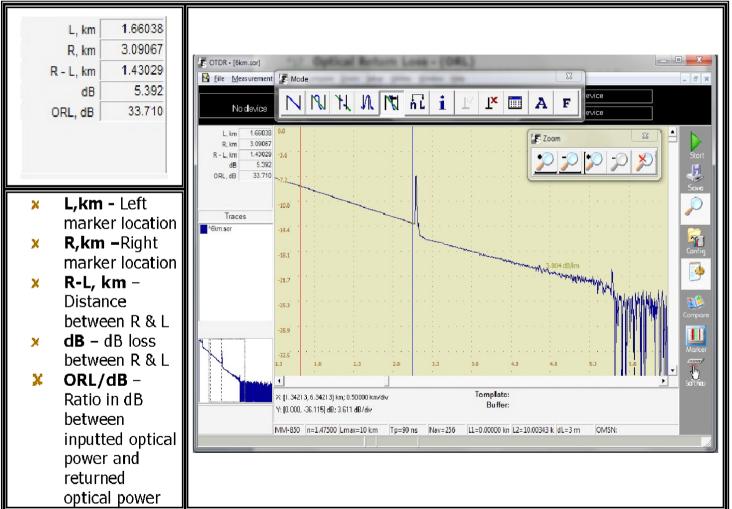


## \*17 Optical Return Loss - (ORL)

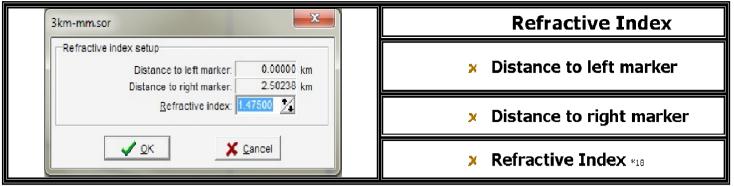
This marker method measures the Optical Return Loss of a partial fiber section or the whole fiber link.

Place the left (L) and right (R) markers on the fiber link that is being tested. The measurement results are displayed in the information panel. The (L,km) field indicates the distance of the L marker while (R,km) field indicated the distance of the right hand marker on the trace. (R-L,km) indicates the distance between the left and right markers. The dB field in the information panel displays the attenuation between the left (L) and right (R) hand markers while the ORL, dB field displays the ratio (in dB) of the optical power entered into the fiber link verses the power which is returned to the beginning of the fiber for the marked section.

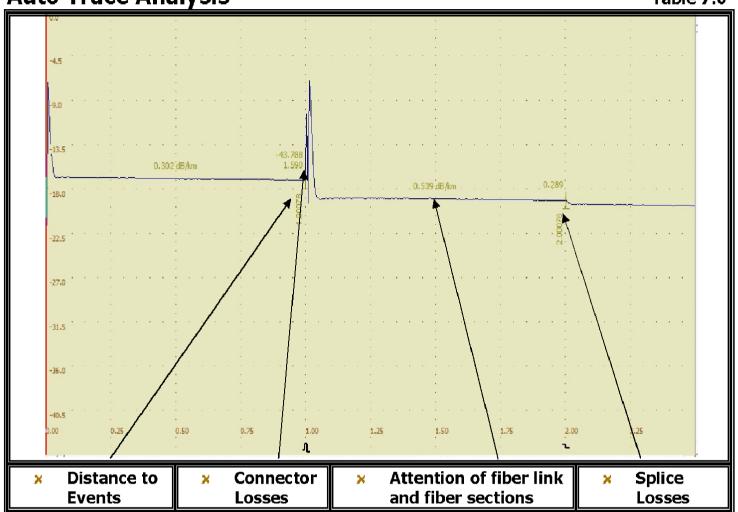




Refractive Index Table 6.0



- \*18 The **Refractive Index** box enables the user to adjust the refractive index setting according to the specific fiber under test.
  - If the refractive index value is unknown but the fiber length is known, then the refractive index can be estimated by comparing the index of refraction with a known value from a previous trace.



When the OTDR takes a measurement it also performs an automatic trace analysis (if preset). Once the trace analysis is completed, the OTDR will determine the following, the **distance** of the fiber link and **distance to events**, the **attenuation** of the fiber link and of fiber sections, the **ORL**, the **splice losses** and the **connector losses**.

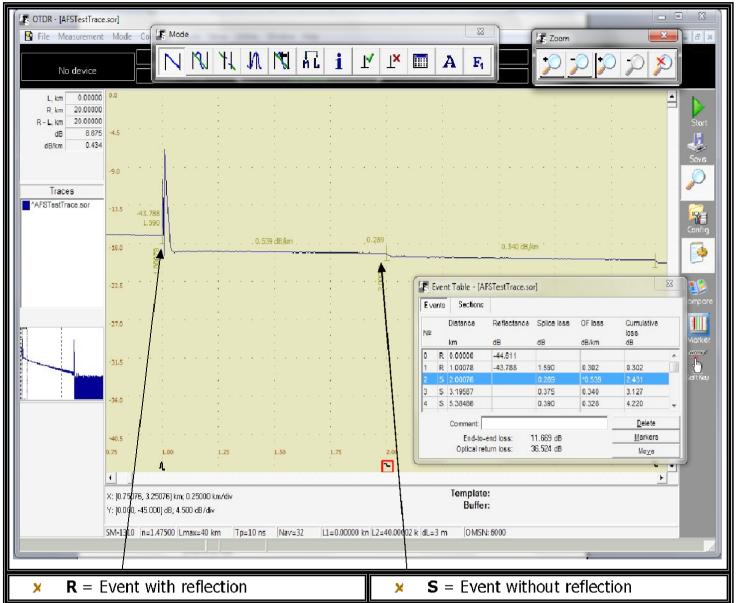
Once the OTDR completes the test, the OTDR displays the results on the trace screen, as shown in **table 7.0**. The results are also displayed in the **Events Table**.

The OTDR will establish "marks" with the " $\perp$ " symbol. From these marks, the OTDR determines the appropriate values.

- The event distance(s) is represented vertically on the trace.
- Fiber attenuation values are displayed as dB/distance (unit measurements).
- Optical return loss is displayed as a single value (no unit measurements).

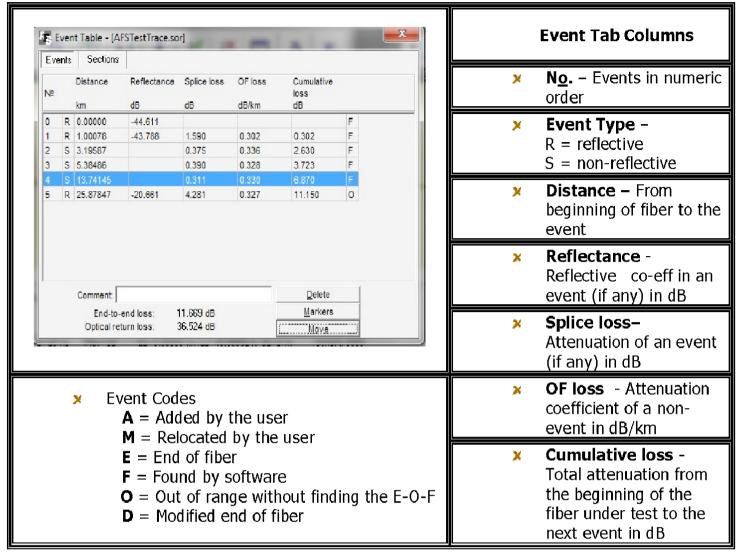
In the auto mode, the OTDR compensates for the "Dead Zone" of the fiber link and calculates the attenuation from the end of the dead zone.

Events Table Table 8.0



The **Events Table** lists the measurement values of the data points (marks,  $\perp$ ) on the particular fiber under test. The Events Table (table 8.0) has two fields, the "Events" field and the "Sections" field.

Events Tab Table 8.1

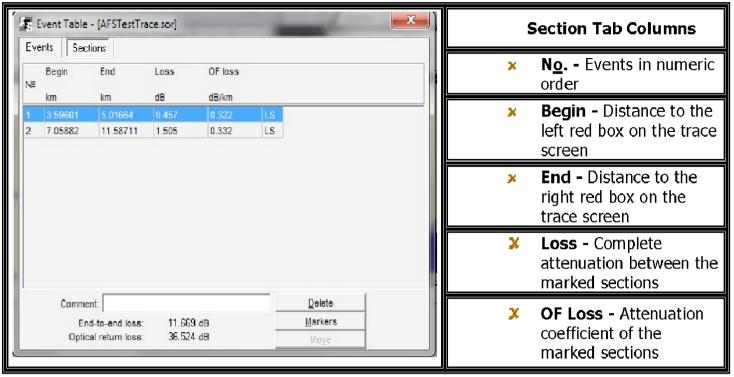


The "**Delete**" Button will delete the highlighted marks from the trace window and the corresponding data from the Events table. (**Note**\* it is impossible to remove the pre-established markers from the beginning and the end of the fiber trace.)

When in the events table, the "Markers" button, when pressed, will jump to the appropriate marks on the trace window related to the highlighted data.

The "Move" button allows the user to adjust the markers position incrementally back and forth around the highlighted event in the trace window, allowing the user to adjust any measurements made by the automatic trace analysis. Please see Table 8.3 below.

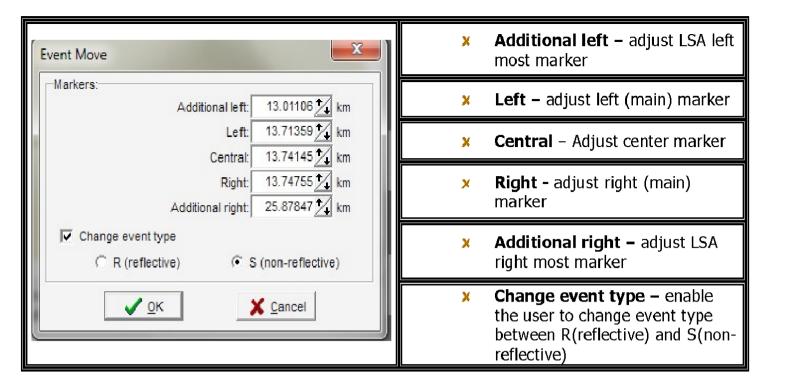
Section Tab Table 8.2



Chosen sections will be highlighted on the events table. Pressing the "Markers" button will move the vertical markers in the trace window to the location indicated by the highlighted section in the events table.

To delete a section simply highlight that particular section and press the delete button.

The Reflect PC software allows the user to measure a specific section of the fiber under test by inserting marks  $\bot$  on the trace. To insert a set of markers, place the left vertical marker and the right vertical marker at each side of a section to be measured and press the "insert marks" button.



**Compare and Trace Function** 

(Please refer to Table 2.3)

For a fast analysis of a multi-fiber optic cable with many events, the **Compare** and **Trace** function becomes a very useful tool. With the **Compare and Trace** option, the user can transfer marks and parameters on one fiber to another by simply pressing one key.

Selecting the **create template** allows the user to save data points of the marks on a trace to a buffer allowing the user to transfer those points on to a different trace for evaluation.

The **Compare** drop down menu will now activate the functions **Apply Template** and **Delete Template**.

#### The template is the analysis calculations related to a particular trace.

The data stored in the template buffer can be erased and written over by repeating the above procedure.

Each trace is displayed in its own separate window. However, if desired the user may insert several traces in one window for data comparison.

To insert a trace from one window into another window simply follow the below procedure

- Open the trace window to be copied
- × Select Compare → Copy

By selecting **Compare Copy**, the trace will be saved in the buffer displayed in the information panel. The **Compare** and **Paste** functions will now become active. **Note: They may have already been activated from a previously saved trace.** 

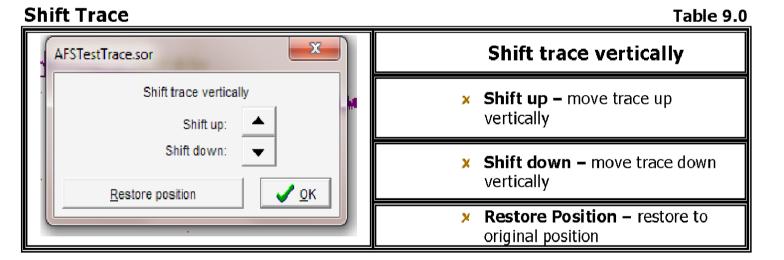
- Open host trace window
- X Select Compare→Paste

The names of the inserted traces will appear in the information panel under **Traces** (The host trace name will appear at the top of the list.)

It is possible to insert up to seven traces at the same time.

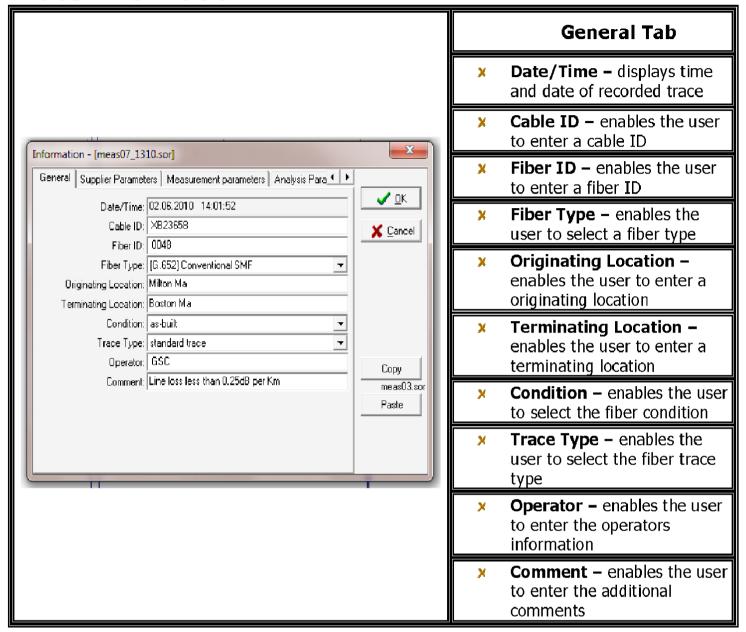
Only one trace at a time is active in the host window. This is indicated by the symbol "^" beside the file name in the **traces** window of the information panel. Using the vertical markers it is possible to measure the length and attenuation of each active trace. To make a trace active simply double click on its name in the information panel. Pressing keys **CTRL+SPACE** when it is highlighted will also activate the trace. **CTRL+PAGE UP** and **CTRL+PAGE DOWN** will allow the user to scroll up and down through traces in the information panel.

To remove an inserted trace from the host window, select and highlight the trace then press the icon or press the CTRL+DEL keys.



It is also possible to shift the inserted trace vertically in the host window. Highlight the desired trace to shift and select the **menu** item **Compare**  $\rightarrow$  **Shift Trace**.

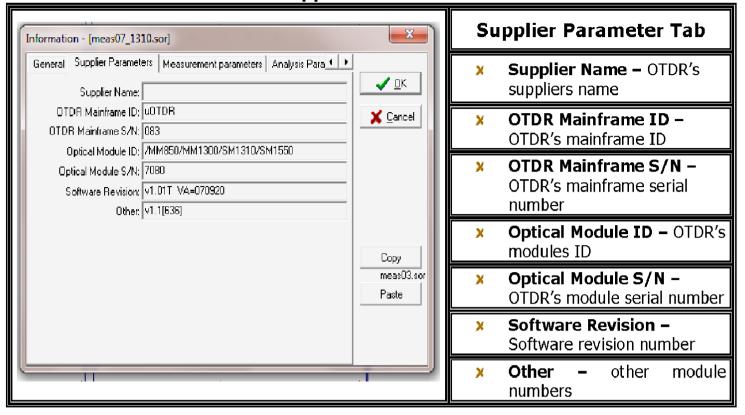
On the inserted trace it is possible to place vertical markers for specific measurements or enter explanatory information and apply it to the function "model."



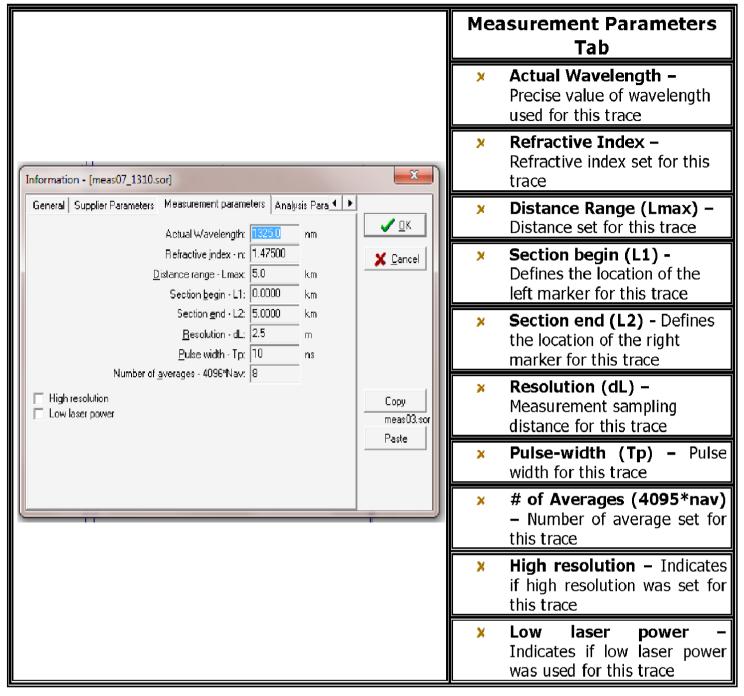
The Technician can input specific information about each fiber link that is being tested. This includes cable/fiber ID, fiber type, fiber location, termination location, fiber condition, the fiber optic test technician and any applicable comments.

# Trace Information - Supplier Parameter Tab

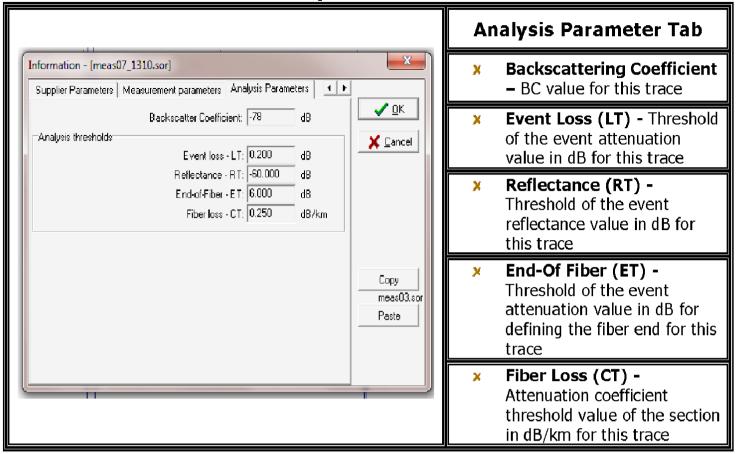
**Table 10.1** 



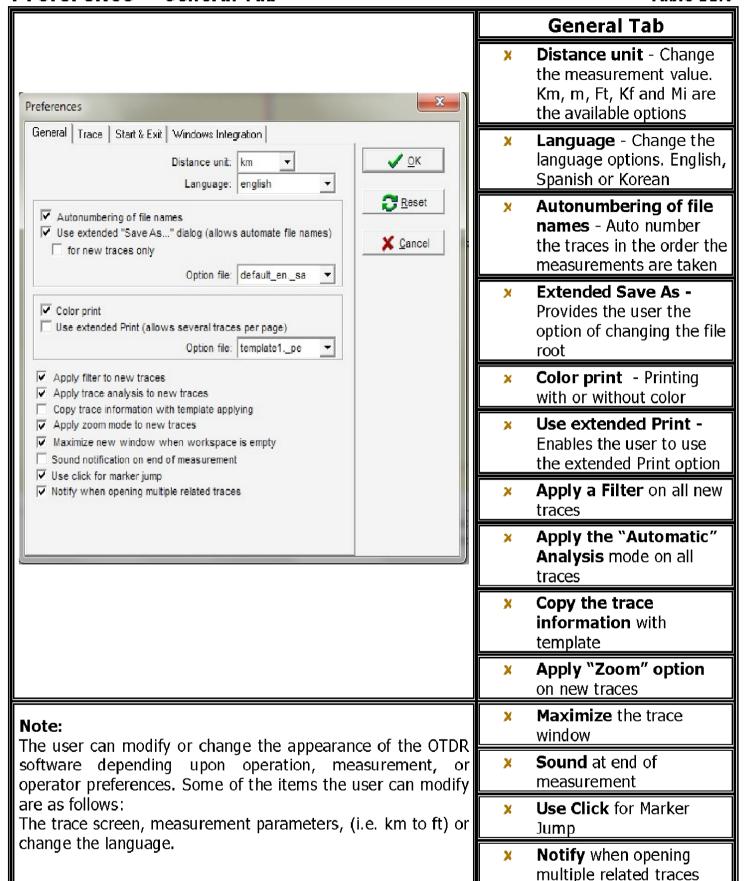
This information tab shows the OTDR's mainframe characteristics.

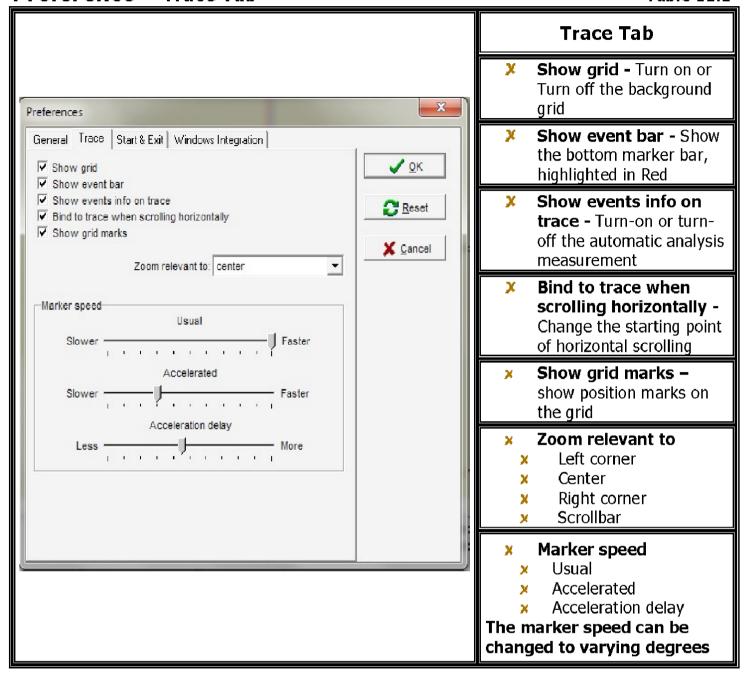


This Information Window shows the initial measurement parameters tab that the user sets to take the OTDR measurements. These values are inputted during the initial measurement parameters setup.

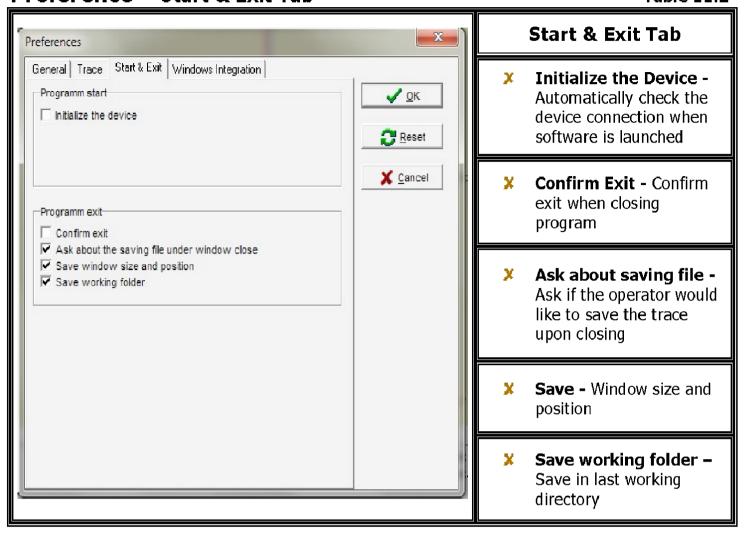


This information tab shows the threshold values selected by the Technician for the automatic trace analysis.

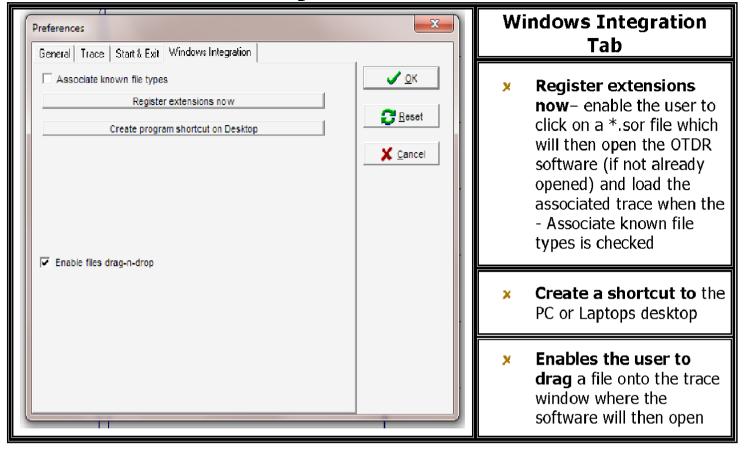




The Trace tab in the preferences window allows the user to setup different parameters related to the trace grid, event bar, events information on trace, scrolling, zooming and markers speed.

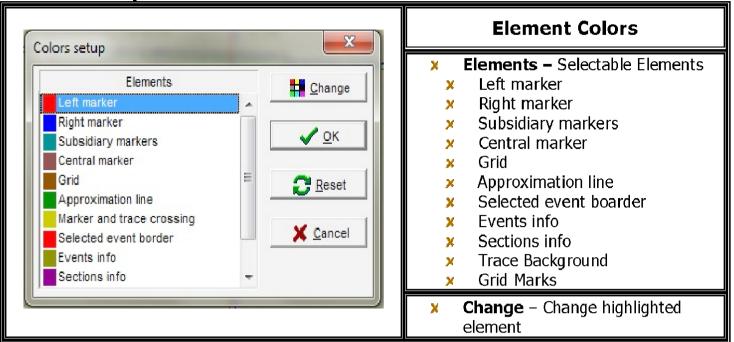


The Start & Exit tab in the preferences window allows the user to setup different parameters related opening the program and exiting the porgram



## **General Preferences Window Options**

- ✗ The "OK" button accepts any changes.
- X The "Reset" button resets default values.
- x The "Cancel" button cancels all the changes.



This option enables the user to change the color scheme of the Reflect software elements by changing the color palette.

- × Highlight the specific "element"
- ➤ Select Change. A standard windows™ "Color" window will appear
- Select the colors you wish and press OK

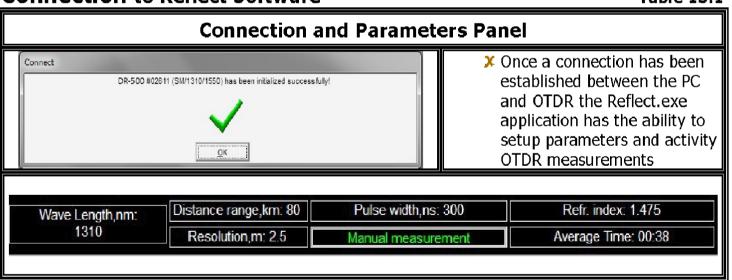
Do this as necessary. To store changes and return to software press **OK** or press **Cancel** to quit without changing any colors.

# Connecting DR500 Series unit to Reflect.exe via Windows Mobile Device Center Table 13.0



## **Connection** to Reflect Software

#### **Table 13.1**



## **Troubleshooting**

#### Software does not load correctly

System needs to be Win 98 or more recent, at least 16MB of RAM and a processor that is 75Mhz or better

## PC or Laptop does not recognize OTDR

The PC and the OTDR communicate via **Window Mobile Device Center** please verify that this program is correctly installed on Laptop or PC

For further assistance contact AFS

## **Warranty Certificate**

Advanced Fiber Solutions, Inc warrants that its products sold by it to purchaser will, upon delivery to purchaser, be free of defects in workmanship or materials and will conform and function in accordance with the specifications for the product as published by Advanced Fiber Solutions, Inc and in effect at the time of delivery. Should any failure to conform to this warranty become apparent during the one-year period after date of delivery of the product to purchaser.

THE FORGOING WARRANTY IS EXCLUSIVE AND IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES OF QUALITY, WHETHER WRITTEN, ORAL OR IMPLIED (INCLUDING ANY WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR PURPOSE). THE REMEDIES PROVIDED HERIN SHALL BE THE PURCHASER'S SOLE REMEDY FOR ANY FAILURE OF AN AFS PRODUCT TO COMPLY WITH THE WARRANTY PROVISIONS HERIN, WHETHER CLAIMS BY THE PURCHASER ARE BASED IN CONTRACT OR IN TORT, INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE.

In no event will the AFS product warranty extend to non-conformity in the performance resulting from: improper or inadequate maintenance performed by any person other then AFS; failure of performance or function caused by or attributable to any associated or complimentary equipment not supplied by AFS; modification of any AFS product or connection therewith or supplementary equipment not supplied by AFS or not produced by it; operation of the product or its use other then as provided by AFS; accident, disaster, transportation or neglect or any other circumstance, agency or event beyond AFS's control.

IN NO EVENT SHALL AFS BE LIABLE FOR SPECIAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES SUCH AS, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, DAMAGE OR LOSS OF OTHER PROPERTY OR EQUIPMENT, LOSS OF PROFITS OR REVENUES, LOSS OF USE OF EQUIPMENT, COST OF CAPITAL, COST OF PURCHASED REPLACEMENT, OR CLAIMS FOR SERVICE INTERUPTION.

The remedies of the purchaser set forth herein are exclusive and the liability of AFS with respect to any contract or anything done in connection therewith, such as the performance or breech thereof, or from sale, delivery, repair, or use of any AFS product, whether in contract, in tort, on strict liability or otherwise, shall not exceed the price of the equipment or part thereof on which such liability is based.