



MetaXpress[®] 6 Software Guide

Setting Up Microscope Slides: Slide Autofocus Wizard

Date Revised 07/14/15 Version B



Chapter Purpose

The purpose of this chapter is to guide the user in setting up laser autofocus settings for microscope slides using the **Slide Autofocus Wizard** on the **IXM Taskbar**.

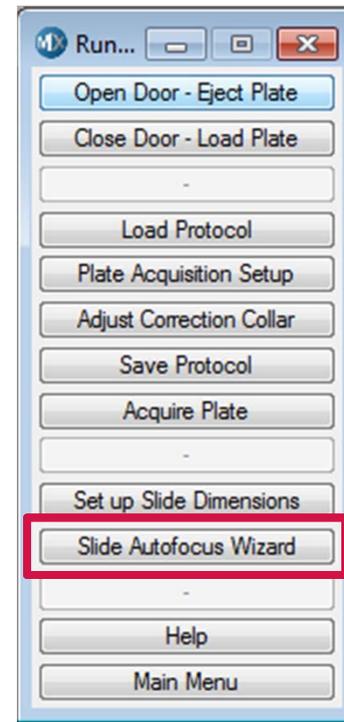
Refer to corresponding chapters on installing the **IXM Taskbar** for more details.



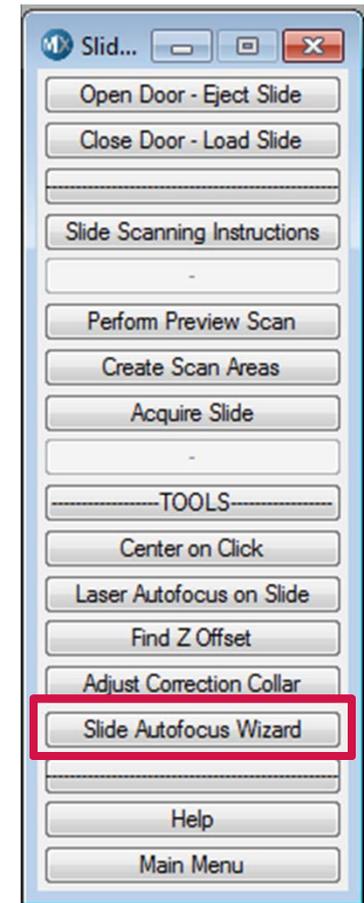
Slide Autofocus Wizard: Overview

In order to acquire microscope slide or similar format slides, laser autofocus settings need to be created.

- Do Not use the **Laser Autofocus Wizard** in the **Review Plate Data** dialog, **Plate** tab. This is for plates only.
- Instead, use the **Slide Autofocus Wizard** from the **IXM Taskbar** for slides
- This is available in the **Run a Plate** or **Slide Scanning** taskbars
- Both the **Set up Slide Dimensions** and **Create Scan Areas** workflows will automatically link you to the **Slide Autofocus Wizard**
- The **Slide Autofocus Wizard** will set up settings for each selected objective
- The user will then need to test and adjust laser exposure times as needed

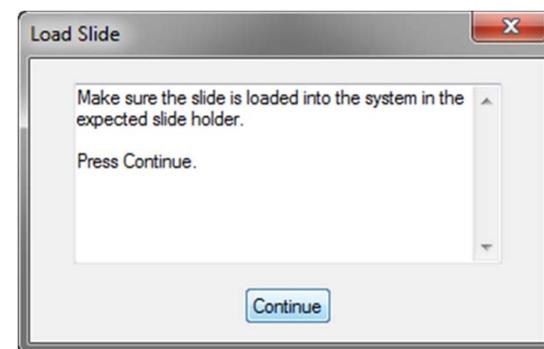


or



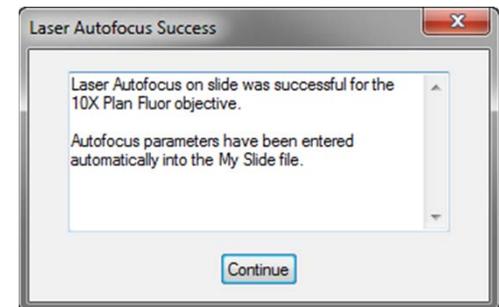
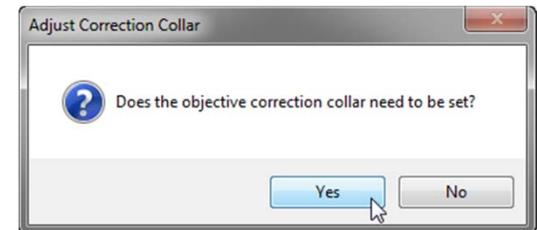
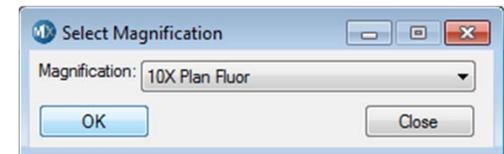
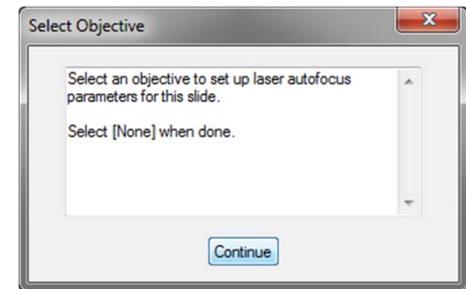
Running the Slide Laser Autofocus Wizard

1. Make sure the **IXM Taskbar** is loaded (refer to corresponding manuals for more details)
2. Click on either
 - **Run a Plate > Slide Autofocus Wizard**
 - **Slide Scanning > Slide Autofocus Wizard**
3. Enter or confirm the slide name
 - Name must match an existing plate file exactly
 - Plate created by **Set up Slide Dimensions**
 - Plate created by **Create Scan Areas**
 - User-created plate
 - If unsure of name, find plate file in the plate folder (e.g. **C:\MX6\Plates**)
4. Load the appropriate slide holder (holder with which the plate was created) with slide into the system and click **Continue**



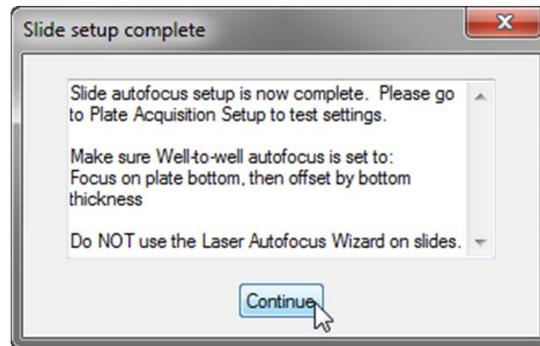
Running the Slide Laser Autofocus Wizard

5. The **Select Objective** dialog with instructions will appear. Click **Continue**.
6. Select an objective from the **Magnification** drop-down menu
7. If the objective chosen has a correction collar, the software will give you the chance to adjust the correction collar
 - If you will be imaging through the microscope slide, set correction collar to **1**
 - If you will be imaging through the cover slip, set correction collar to **0.17**
8. The **Slide Autofocus Wizard** will prompt you when the settings for the objective have been completed. Click **Continue**.
9. Repeat for all objectives you want to configure. When done, select **[none]** from the drop-down menu and click **OK**

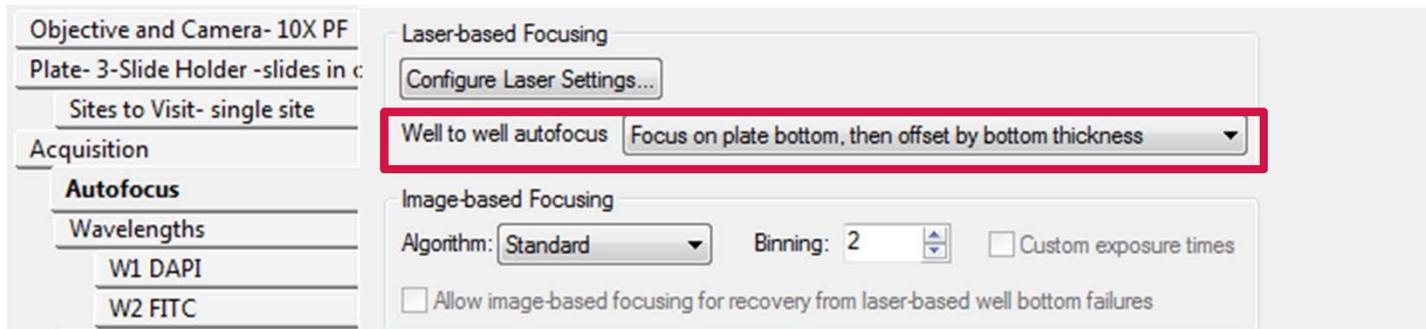


Running the Slide Laser Autofocus Wizard

10. The **Slide Setup** dialog with further instructions on setting up the slide in **Plate Acquisition Setup** will appear. Click **Continue**.



11. Open **Plate Acquisition Setup**, select **Configure** tab, then the **Autofocus** tab
 - Set **Well to well autofocus** to **Focus on plate bottom, then offset by bottom thickness**



Running the Slide Laser Autofocus Wizard

12. Click on the **Focus** button

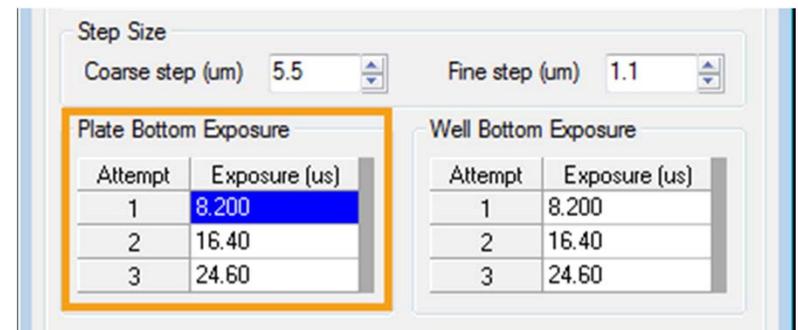


13. An image should appear fairly quickly. It is okay if the image is out-of-focus. The important thing to note is the time it takes to display the image.

14. If a snowy or blank image appears, it may be necessary to adjust laser autofocus settings.

15. In **Plate Acquisition Setup**, select the **Autofocus** tab and click on the **Configure Laser Settings** button

16. Adjust the **Plate Bottom Exposure** times as necessary. Refer to the chapter on **Advanced Laser Autofocus Settings and Troubleshooting** guide for details and suggestions.



Support Resources

- F1 / HELP within MetaXpress® Software
- Support and Knowledge Base: <http://mdc.custhelp.com/>
- User Forum: <http://metamorph.moleculardevices.com/forum/>
- Request Support: <http://mdc.custhelp.com/app/ask>
- Technical Support can also be reached by telephone:
 - 1 (800) 635-5577
 - Select options for Tech Support → Cellular Imaging Products → ImageXpress Instruments





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