LinkMotion and FreeHand MX:

Install LinkMotion driver software, check all settings, and finally launch the FreeHand application.

Important notes:

Zero or thinnest line width and No fill are the most important things to remember when you are designing a file for Vector or line output. Line type of output is required by rotary tool machines like engraving, routing, and CNC. Do not fill shapes with bitmaps for any line or vector output. Raster or bitmap fills are used by laser machines. It is important to remove fill when you import scanned files.

Solustan's LinkMotion driver tests the primary function of accepting hairlines (vector lines) generated by popular application software packages for job design. It is important for the user to learn the job design software and to make sure that the jobs are properly prepared for successful execution of a job.

Do not check Design Using Plate Size feature in LinkMotion Material properties.

Solustan's liability is limited to the purchase price of the LinkMotion driver software.

It is necessary for the user to acquire the application that will be used for the job design. There are many books of various levels available for all these popular applications. This document is simply a guideline to point the user in the right direction. We welcome feedback from our users. Share your findings with us and we will include them here for all users benefit.

Following are helpful details for a user of FreeHand design software:

Important pointers:
1. **Design a job with 0.003 Point size line thickness for vector or line output to a CNC machine.**
2. **Please, make sure that the design objects are unfilled. (Raster fill will confuse any vector output device like engraving or CNC machine)**
3. **All graphics shapes and fonts need to be ungrouped before sending the job to the machine. Modify menu will allow you to ungroup your design.**
4. **Raster design may have filled and it is used mostly for the laser output in the raster mode.**

(1) How to do quick and simple settings?

Launch Macromedia **FreehandMX** application.

Open a **New File**.

To the right and under **Properties select Document** tab.

Select Custom for your page size. Actually, here you will enter the working area of your machine.

At the bottom of the screen, it shows Points for measurements. Select your preference like **Inches** or **Millimeters** or **Centimeters, etc**. This measurement should be the same as what you select in LinkMotion.

Next, go back to the **Properties>Document** and put the values of your **table size for X and Y** direction. Once you enter proper table size it should display the page to be **your Table Size**. If your machine Table size is same in X and Y direction it is important to keep it in Portrait mode and enter X value to be 0.1" less than the actual value. For example, Your table size is 12"x12" then enter X 11.9" and Y 12.0". Again, This measurement should be the same as what you select in LinkMotion.

Draw your **objects** and/or type your **text**. It is very important to make sure that everything you draw should be **.003 Point size thick line** for proper vector output.

After drawing any object make sure that **object is high lighted or selected**.

Go to the right of the page and **select Object under Properties**. Select the basic stroke. Default shows 1pt. High light the number and type 0.003 and Enter.

Similarly, every object you draw should have **no fill and .003 Point size line thickness for proper Vector output**.

Text in your design should be **converted to Paths from the Text menu**.

Select all the text, go to the **Modify menu, and ungroup** it.

Go to **windows menu** and select **Swatches**. Here select none for the fill. **Also, select .003 Point Size line thickness for the Stroke**.

Select **Print** from the file menu. Make sure that Printer has **Your Machine Name driver**. Click on the **Properties** button. Click on the **Advance** button. Here make sure Paper Size is selected to be the **Table Size**. Click on the **OK** button. Click on **OK** button again on your driver properties.

Click on the **Preview** button in the Print section. You should be able to see your artwork within your Table Size. Uncheck the button for **Automatic orientation**. Close the preview selection.

In scale% area select **Fit on Paper**. Now when you click on **OK** here your job should go to the machine.