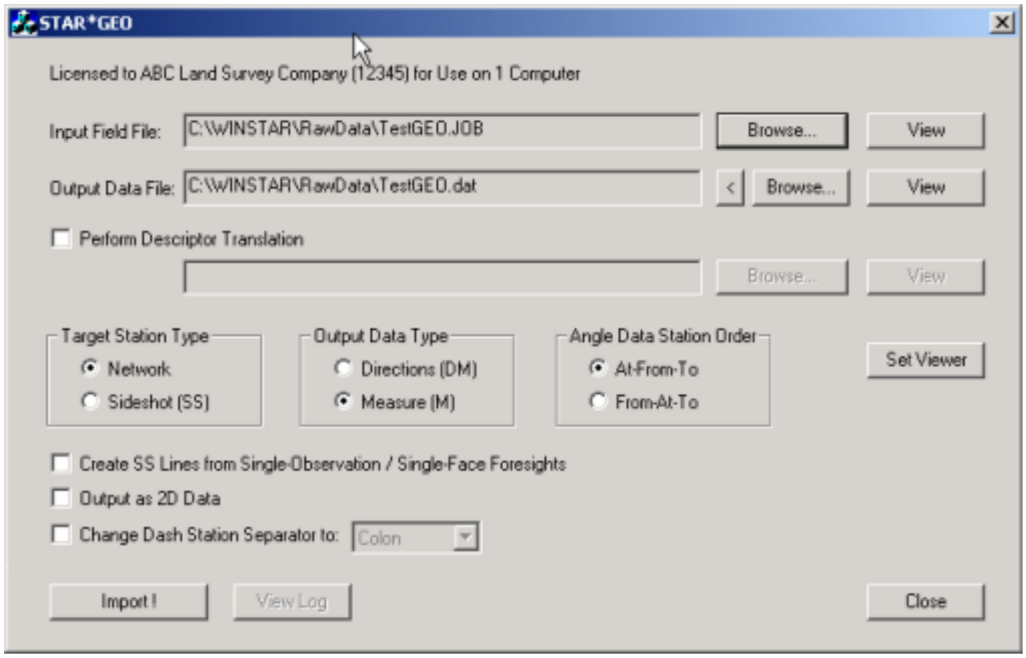
STAR*NET CONVERSION UTILTIES

STAR*GEO CONVERSION UTILITY

The STAR*GEO utility converts native Geodimeter data collector field files to STAR*NET input data format.



Running the program is easy. First browse for the raw field file to convert, then browse for an output file (a new or existing file), set desired options and press the “Import” button. If errors or warnings are found, they are listed in a Log file - review by pressing “View Log” button. When errors are found, data will not be created in the output file. In this case, review the errors listed in the Log File, edit the raw file to make necessary corrections and re-import. The end of the Log file will list any converted data up to the first error, which may be helpful in finding problems.

When browsing for the output file, you can press one of two buttons. The standard “Browse” button opens the output file dialog in the same directory as the raw field file and offers the same file name as the raw field file, but with a “dat” extension. Of course you can modify the offered name to whatever you wish to use. The smaller “<“ button opens the output file dialog in the same directory already shown in the field to the left – useful when you’ve stored output in a different directory during the previous run, and you want to output to that directory again.

A “View” button, next to each of the input and output file fields, brings up an editor. So besides viewing a file, you can also edit it. By default, the editor assigned is Windows “Notepad”, but just as in the STAR*NET program, you can set an editor of your choice by pressing the “Set Viewer” button and browsing for the editor program you prefer.

Selecting Processing Options

- Target Station Type (Network or Sideshot) – For typical field files, you will have this option set to the “Network” selection. However, some surveyors using Geodimeter total stations will create separate observations field files, one for control shots and another for single-face topo or detail shots. If you are converting a file that contains topo only, select the Sideshot option.
- Output Data Type (Directions or Measure) – Some users prefer to have observations created for STAR*NET as direction sets, and others, the majority, prefer turned angles.

- Angle Data Station Order (At-From-To or From-At-To) – Simply an output preference. Most surveyors have a preference to have angular observations shown one way or the other.
- Create SS Lines from Single-Observation, / Single-Face Foresights – This option causes any single-face observation to a target that appears only once during an instrument setup to be created as an "SS" (sideshot) data line rather than an "M" (measure) or "DM" (direction) line. Note however that if this target appears in some other instrument setup or in another file that will be added to the network, it is your responsibility to make sure that these lines are edited to "M" or "DM" lines so they will be handled as redundant network observations!
- Output as 2D Data – By default, STAR*NET data is created in a 3D output format. STAR*NET can handle 3D formatted data in both 2D and 3D adjustments. However if you have projects that are 2D and you prefer to have data immediately converted to simple 2D format by reducing slope distances and zenith observations to horizontal distances, you can select this option.
- Change Dash Station Separator to – By default we use the dash (i.e. 121-120-122) for station name separators. If some of your station names already contain dashes and you wish to keep them, this option allows you to change the separator to some other character.

Notes on Input and Output

The program currently assumes field collection files have GEO, JOB or OBS extensions. If you have a file with a different extension, choose "All Files (*.*)" from the "File of type" field in the file selection dialog and then select the file you wish to convert from the complete list.

An entire data file created by this utility can be added to the project using the "Input Data Files" dialog (see the STAR*NET manual), or using a text editor you can copy and paste parts of the file contents into a data file that already exists as part of your STAR*NET project.

All fields and option settings shown on the STAR*GEO dialog are stored in the registry when you close the program and are restored the next time you run the program.

The "Log File" is an important file that is created during a run. It lists any errors and warnings produced during the run and references actual line numbers in the field file. The log file is stored as a temporary file and is available only during the current session. To keep a permanent record of it, you can print it during the session, cut/paste to another file, or "Store as" another file.