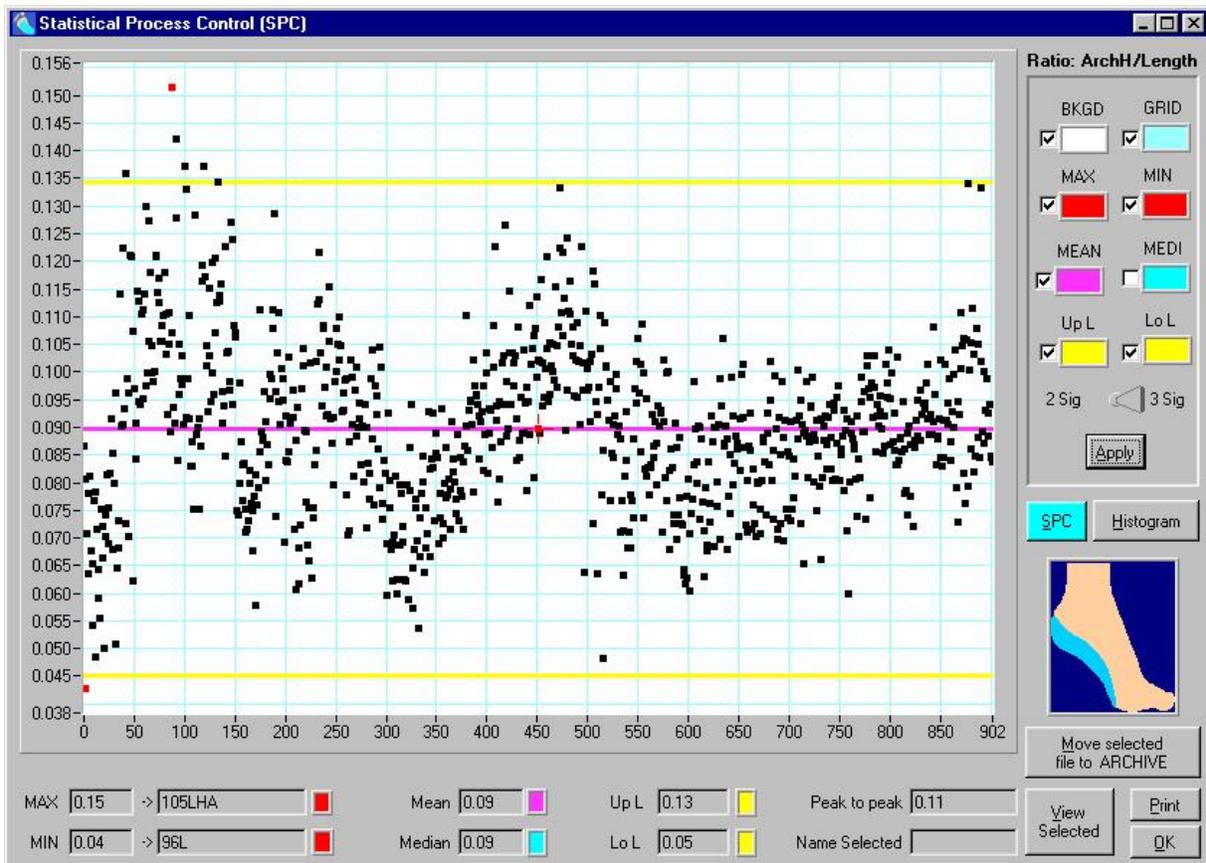


Introducing 'AOMS SPC'

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If you are a lab owner or a lab manager using the AOMS® system, it's very likely that you want to control the quality of the orthotics made from the manufacturing process. If you are a lab technician using the AOMS® system, it's likely that you have corrected thousands of foot casts. These files contain your expertise in orthotic designing. You want to make sense out of them, but how? There were no better tools until now.

What is SPC in general? Statistical Process Control (SPC) is an effective statistical method of monitoring a process through the use of control charts. SPC is most often used during manufacturing processes. The intent of SPC is to monitor product quality and to maintain processes to fixed targets. With its emphasis on early detection and prevention of problems, SPC has a distinct advantage over quality control, such as inspection, that apply resources to detecting and correcting problems at the end of a product or service.

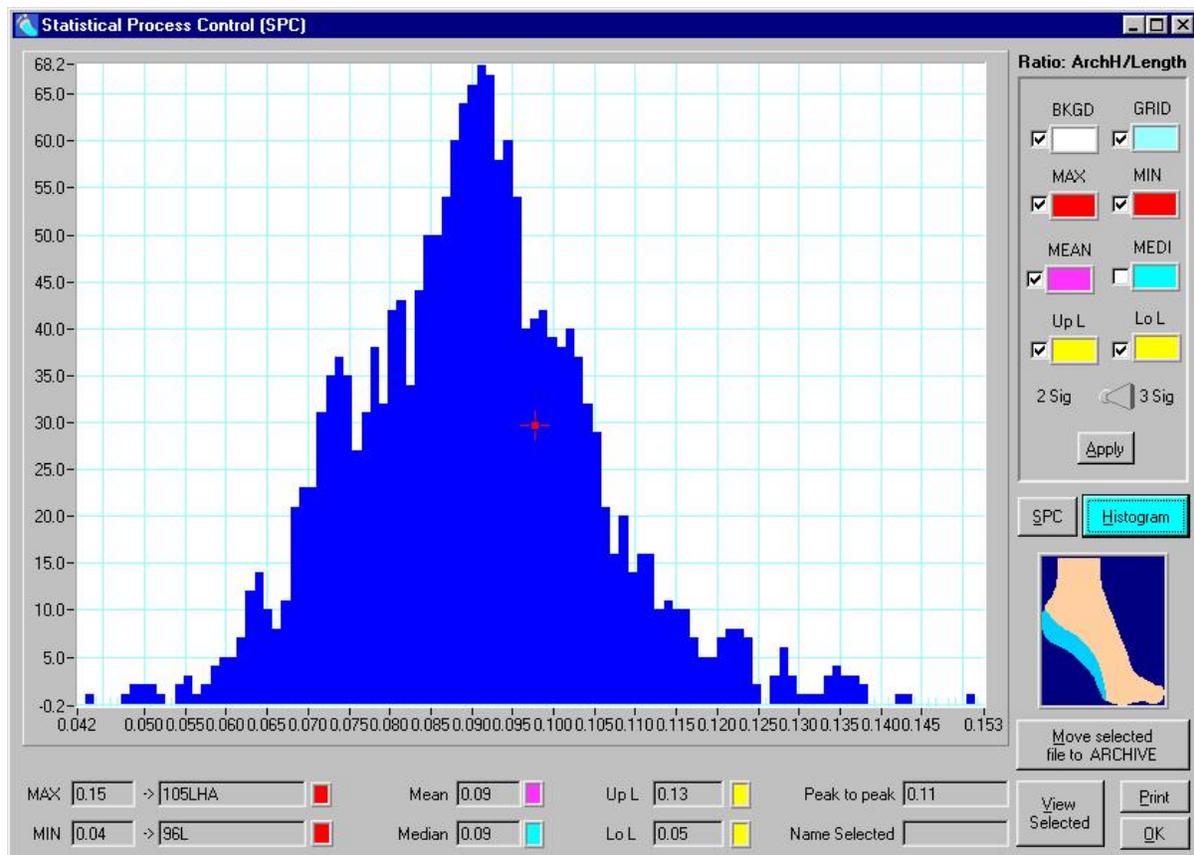


What is 'AOMS SPC'? AOMS SPC is a Windows-based program that utilizes the SPC principles on the COR files generated from the AOMS® systems. All AOMS users know that COR files are the cast correction design files generated from the AOMS®. AOMS SPC is the most useful quality-control tool since the introduction of the AOMS® system. It helps to manage and control the quality of the orthotics manufacturing process.

Who use the AOMS SPC? Lab managers and owners can use AOMS SPC to improve the quality of orthotics, and to provide better products to their customers. Lab technicians can use it to improve their work and make better designs.

What are the statistical functions of the AOMS SPC? Means and Standard Deviations are calculated. 2-sigma and 3-sigma SPC charts are plotted. Histograms are plotted. These functions apply to orthotic length, forefoot width, rear-foot width, arch height, and heel cup depth. Not only the single items are calculated, ratios are calculated as well. Sometimes, ratios make more sense. For example, arch-height/length should be very consistent, e.g. longer foot has higher arch and shorter foot has lower arch. If you see 'out laws' in the ratio categories, you want to take a good look at the designs. The reason is that you're looking at the ratio, not the absolute arch height.

How to use the AOMS SPC in your lab? The software reads a group of COR files in a folder and to make statistics from these files. AOMS SPC will alert you if designs have out of ordinary data (see from the 2-sigma or 3-sigma charts). You can then find out whether the design was flawed, or whether those are the patients' true measurements. Based on the SPC chart, you can choose the out of the ordinary COR file and review it. You can also further check out the RAW file and COR file in the AOMS cast correction software.



How to use the AOMS SPC effectively? You can group specific COR files for management. For example, you can group men, women, and children's COR files separately, or you can group files based on month or year, or you can group them according to designers. You can compare this month's designs with last month's designs. Or you can compare Technician A's designs with Technician B's designs. This way, the resulting conclusions are more specific and convincing. Find out why the MAX or MIN happened, and check those files. Maybe they are normal, or maybe they need your attention. The purpose is to improve the quality of your products.

How to implement the AOMS SPC in a lab by us? Because of differences in COR file formats from lab to lab, we need to install the program individually. You may have a mold system, and you may have an orthotic system or insole system, we need to handle them individually. After the software is customized based on a specific lab, we will email the software to the customer. Please contact us for details.

Notes:

1. This software is still in the beta testing phase. There are some aspects to improve.
2. This software does not require CNC setup so it is relatively easy to implement.
3. How many COR files can be put into a folder to do the SPC? In theory, you can put as much as the computer can handle, but in reality, the computer will slow down significantly if there are too many files in a single folder. For now, we have limited the number of files to 1000. We may increase the number in the future.
4. Padding function is not included in the software and the padding data are not used in the software. Padding is a separate program that is used in the AOMS®.
5. Since it is still the beginning, the price of the software and how we are going to charge the fees have not been decided.

We will continue to address any other unknowns that may arise as we fine tune the software. If you have any questions or comments, please contact us at sharpshape@comcast.net. -- *End of File* --