

Problem with Searching NIST Library from ACD

I have a copy of 5.0 of ACD MS processor and use it to search the NIST library with version 2.0 of the NIST search.

Focus problem: I will describe the first one. The first time I open up ACD and send a spectrum to the NIST search (append mode), the program sends the spectrum to the NIST search, opens NIST, and then searches it with no problem. The second time (NIST is already open, so ACD just brings it back into focus), there is a problem. The NIST program is brought into focus, but the file is not imported (the HPNIST.txt file is not deleted) and the program does not search. If you go to the icon for the NIST version 2.0 program on the task bar and single click it, it opens the program, imports the spectrum and deletes the HPNIST.txt file.

Apparently, it will open and search correctly; however, if already open, it will not bring into focus. I have seen it work at times correctly though. All the other programs (AMDIS, Wsearch, MassLynx, HP, etc) work properly. Only the ACD has a problem.

I found a way to temporarily fix. I modified the ACDappnd.bat file as follows:

```
@ECHO OFF
REM Created by Michel Hachey, May 2001
REM
REM Copies content of the HPNIST2.txt template to the secondary
REM locator: HPNIST.txt
REM This template will cause NIST to read the spectrum in the
REM ACD data file to APPEND it to the NIST Spectrum List.
REM
copy c:\HPCHEM\HPNIST2.txt c:\HPCHEM\HPNIST.txt
start c:/hpchem/focus.bat
exit
```

and added the following focus.bat file:

```
start c:nist98\nistms.exe

echo.
echo off
cls
exit
```