djb microtech ltd

Technical Notes
g by free fall using the falling ball release mechanism

Step 1
Connect two wires from the release mechanism to either input on djb microtech's Time-Speed-Acceleration unit (TSA) or to our ALBA Data Logger. Mount the release mechanism at the top of a tall stand.

Step 2
Connect the Timing Plate to the other input on TSA and place it beneath the release mechanism so that when the ball bearing falls it will hit the Timing plate. You can achieve large distances for the ball bearing to fall through if you place the Timing plate on the floor and the stand overhanging the bench - the time to fall 1 metre should be 0.45s

Step 3
Set TSA to the Gap Timer mode and press GO or if you are using ALBA then load the Gap Timer Application.

Step 4
Release the ball bearing when ready.

The Timing Plate is very sensitive to vibrations so take care not to bang the bench while the software is waiting for a timing event.

A photograph of the setup can be viewed at www.djb.co.uk/ppm_falling_ball_release.html