

Appendix A

USB Communication Interface Setup

Summary:

1. Obtain the appropriate USB Virtual COM Port Driver .zip file for your PC operating system.
2. Install the Virtual COM Port Driver.
3. Determine USB Virtual COM Port setting

Detailed Instructions:

Step 1. Obtain the appropriate USB Virtual COM Port Driver .zip file for your PC operating system.

Future Technology Devices International (FTDI) provides drivers for the USB communications interface contained in your data logger. The USB driver files can be obtained from the FTDI web site.

The latest available USB Virtual COM Port driver for your operating system can be found at the FTDI Virtual COM Port Driver web page:

<http://www.ftdichip.com/Drivers/VCP.htm>

See **Figure A-1**. Download and save the file appropriate to your operating system to a location on your PC. Extract the contents of the appropriate zip file to a folder on your computer. Note the location of the folder.

Virtual COM Port Drivers - Mozilla Firefox
<http://www.ftdichip.com/Drivers/VCP.htm>

Future Technology Devices International Ltd.
 USB Device Solutions ASIC Design Product Design

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Virtual COM Port Drivers
 This page contains the VCP drivers currently available for FTDI devices.
 For D2XX Direct drivers, please click [here](#).
 Installation guides are available from the [Installation Guides](#) page of the [Documents](#) section of this site for selected operating systems.

VCP Drivers
 Virtual COM port (VCP) drivers cause the USB device to appear as an additional COM port available to the PC. Application software can access the USB device in the same way as it would access a standard COM port.

Operating System	Devices Supported	Driver Version	Release Date	Comments
Windows Server 2008				Microsoft WHQL certified.
Windows Server 2008 x64				Also available as a setup executable for default VID and PID values.
Windows Vista				For custom VID and PID combinations see AN232R-03
Windows Vista x64	FT232R, FT245R, FT2232, FT232B, FT245B,	2.04.06	20th March 2008	Combined driver model (D2XX and VCP). Devices programmed as VCP will expose a COM port, as will AM and BM devices. Release Notes
Windows XP	FTBU232AM, FTBU245AM			
Windows XP x64				
Windows 2000				
Windows Server 2003				
Windows Server 2003 x64				
Windows 98	FT232R, FT245R, FT232B, FT245B, FTBU232AM, FTBU245AM	1.09.06	25th November 2004	No longer actively supported. FT2232 not supported.
Windows ME				
Windows 98				No longer actively supported. Only for use with Windows 98/ME. Not Microsoft WHQL certified.
Windows ME	FT2232	1.0.3	12th March 2004	This driver can be used as a combined VCP

Figure A-1

Step 2. Install the Virtual COM Port Driver.

For convenience a concise and brief guide for installation of the USB Virtual COM Port driver utilizing the *Windows XP Found New Hardware Wizard* is contained below.

Thorough installation guides for *Windows XP*, *Windows 2000*, *Windows 98*, *Windows ME*, and *Mac OSX* platforms are also available at the FTDI website at

<http://www.ftdichip.com/Drivers/VCP.htm>

Via a USB cable, connect a USB port on the PC to the Com Port on the Q-DL-2100 panel. (The data logger power does not need to be on during this step, although it is ok if it is).

When using *Windows XP*, the *Found New Hardware Wizard* should activate and display a window as shown below in **Figure A-2**.



Figure A-2.

To the question “Can Windows connect to Windows Update to search for software?” Select the “No, not this time” option as shown, and click Next.

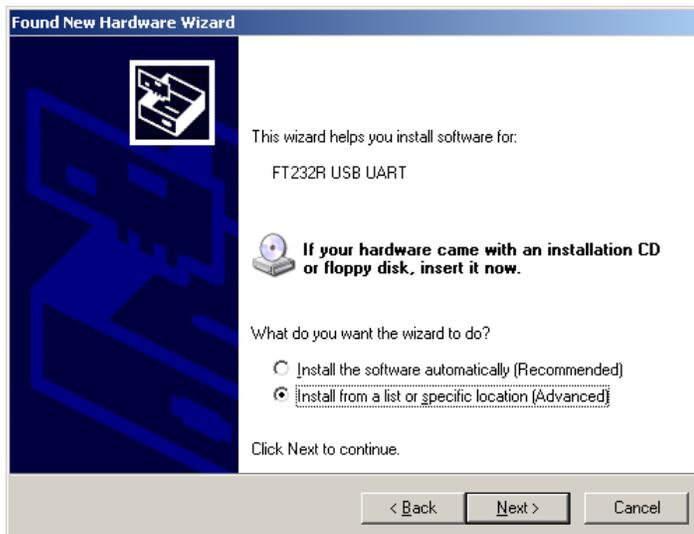


Figure A-3

The window shown in **Figure A-3** should now be displayed. Select “Install from a list or specific location (Advanced)”, and click Next. The window shown below in **Figure A-4** should appear.

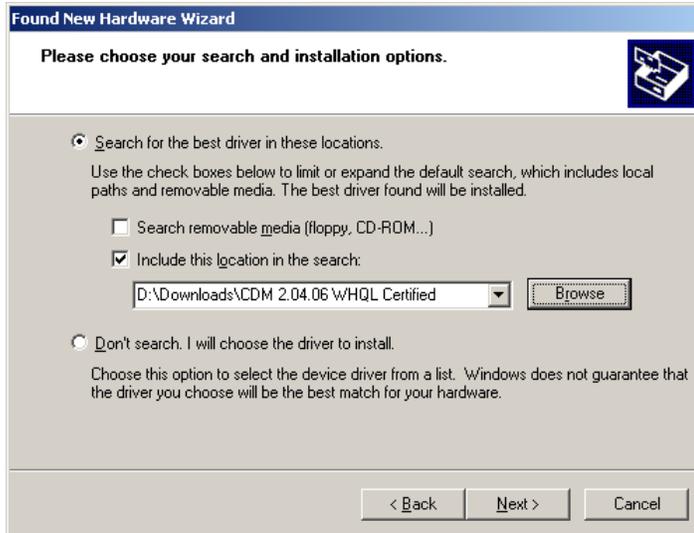


Figure A-4

Select the option button “Search for the best driver in these locations”. Then clear the checkbox “Search removable media (floppy, CD-ROM...)” and select the “Include this location in the search” checkbox. Use the Browse button to select the folder where the USB FTDI drivers were extracted in Step 1 above, and then click Next.

The installation of the drivers will begin. A window as shown in **Figure A-5** will appear confirming successful installation of the USB Virtual COM Port drivers (called a USB Serial Converter by *Windows*).



Figure A-5

Step 3. Determine USB Virtual COM Port setting.

After Step 2 is complete, the USB Virtual COM Port should be installed. This will make the USB connection to the data logger behave as a *Windows* serial port,

otherwise known as a COM port. To verify this, leave the USB port on the PC connected to the COM connector on the data logger. Now go to the *Windows* Control Panel (accessible from the Start Menu). In the Classic View mode, the Control Panel window will look something like that shown in **Figure A-6**.

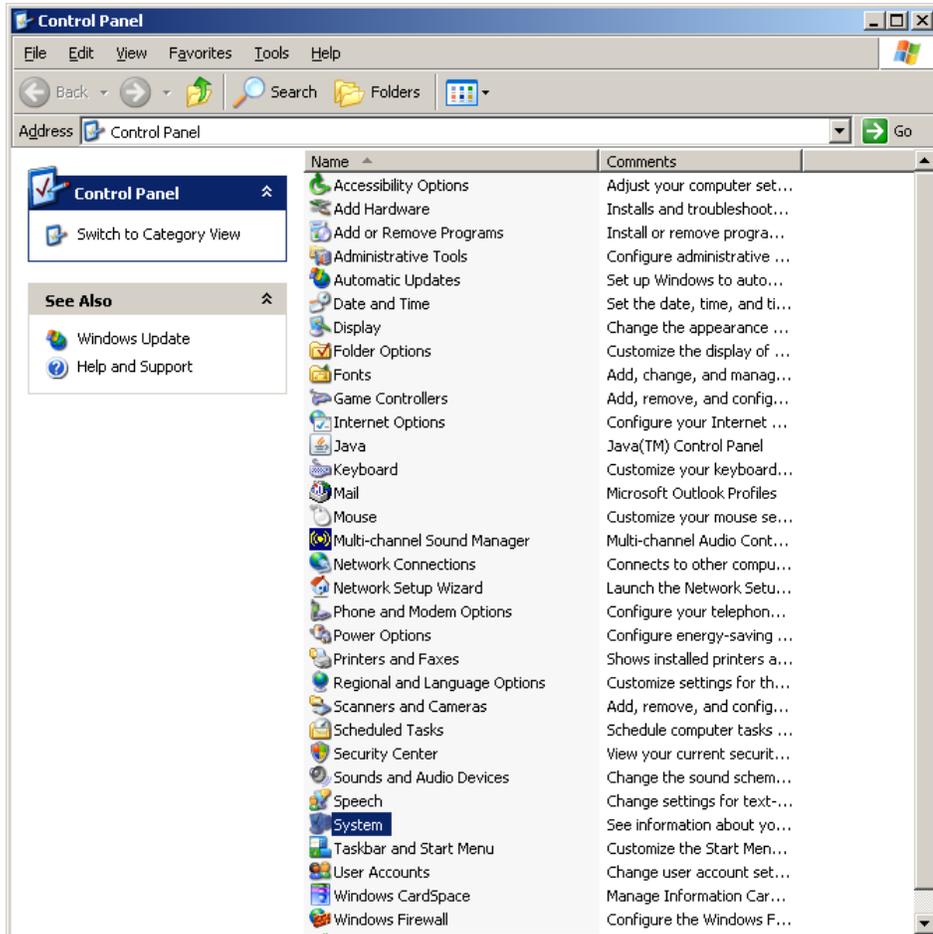


Figure A-6

Select **System** to open up the System Properties window, shown in **Figure A-7**.

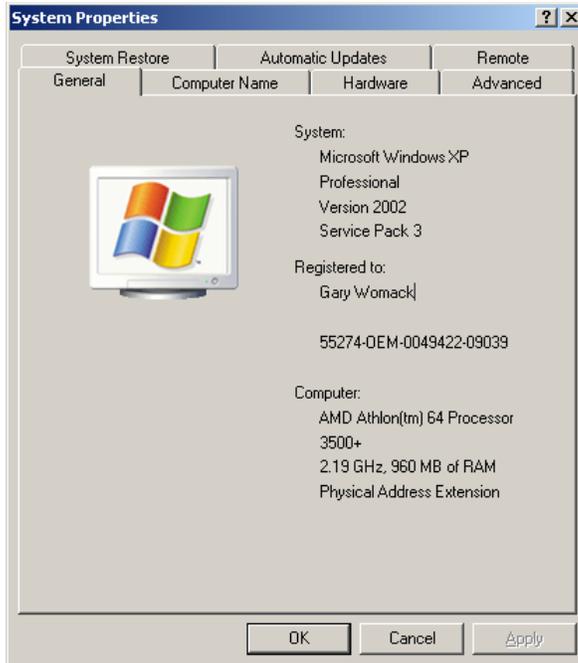


Figure A-7

Select the Hardware tab to reveal a window of the form shown in **Figure A-8**.



Figure A-8

Select Device Manager and look for an entry under Ports (COM & LPT) which corresponds to the USB Virtual COM Serial Port. It will look like any other COM port, but usually will be assigned a number higher than 2. i.e., COM3 in **Figure A-9** below.

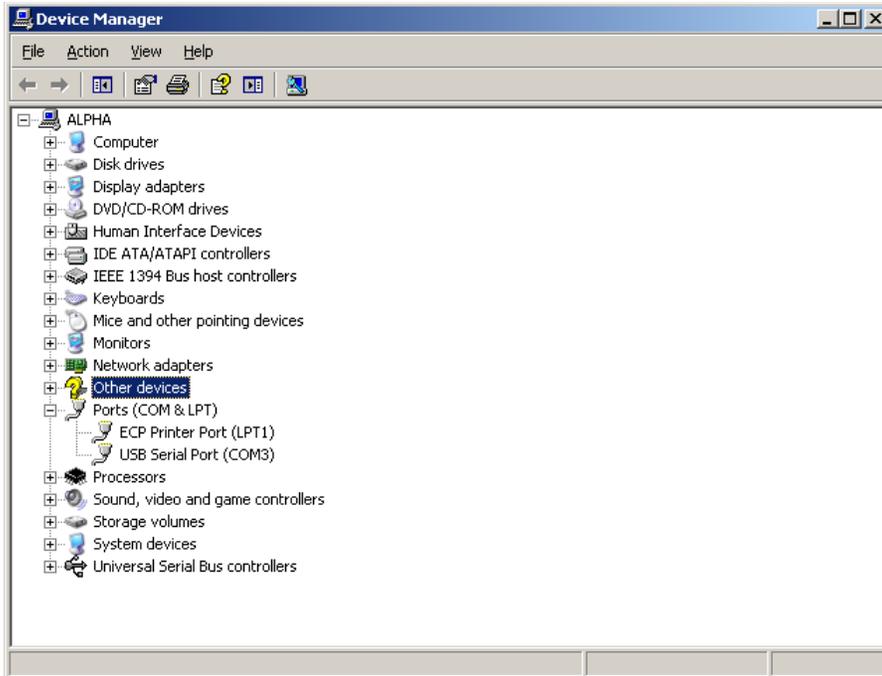


Figure A-9

If multiple serial ports show up, unplug the USB cable from the COM port on the Q-DL-2100 data logger and identify which COM port number disappears. It should reappear when the USB cable is plugged in again.

Note the COM Port number assigned to the data logger USB interface.

To communicate with the data logger you will need to make use of PC based terminal emulation software such as *Windows HyperTerminal* or *Tera Term Pro*. See **Appendix B** for setup instructions for these programs.