

INSTALLING THE USB-TO-SERIAL ADAPTER OR USB CONSOLE DRIVERS:

Most desktop computers and some notebook computers have a built-in 9-pin serial communication port. If there is no 9-pin serial port on the computer then a USB-to-serial adapter must be used to connect to the console. Dialsmith provides one with new PA systems or they may be purchased from a local computer retailer. Consoles manufactured for the European market have a built-in USB port for a direct connection to the computer also requiring driver software installation.



USB-to-serial adapter



Console with USB port

Installing the driver for USB: Using the software packaged with the adapter, install the driver BEFORE connecting the USB adapter to the computer. The driver for adapters or direct-USB-connection consoles provided by Dialsmith may be installed from the Perception Analyzer software installation program. To install those drivers, re-run the software installation program and click the checkbox on the first screen to “install console and video drivers only.”

Connecting the USB adapter or USB console: After installing the driver, select a USB jack on the computer that will be used each time the PA is used and then connect the adapter. When connected, the Windows “New Hardware Found” wizard will automatically run and complete the installation of the device. The adapter provides a serial port (a 9-pin RS-232 jack) for the computer. A regular serial cable (provided) is then connected to the end of the adapter to make the connection to the console. Consoles with a built-in USB port only require a USB cable and power is provided via the cable. The driver installation for direct-USB connection consoles will be completed when the console is connected to the computer using the cable.

Configuring PA to communicate with the console: The USB-to-serial adapter or direct-USB-connection console is assigned by Windows to a COM port number. Usually the PA Collect software will self-configure to communicate with the console on the correct COM port at start up. If not, the PA may be manually configured to address the COM port number on which the USB-serial adapter is installed: After the adapter driver is installed, open the Windows Device Manager* and then open the Ports listing. A computer’s built-in serial port will be named “Communications Port” or, if present, a USB-serial adapter will be identified as such. In either case, make a note of the COM port number associated with the serial connection.

Next, in the Windows Start menu, select All Programs, then Perception Analyzer, and then Software Configuration to reopen the Perception Analyzer Setup dialog seen during the PA installation. Click the Advanced button. In the COM Port field, enter the number for the serial connection noted in the Device Manager. Click OK as needed to exit the dialogs.

**To open the Windows Device Manager: In the Windows XP or Vista Start menu, right-click on My Computer and select Properties in the pop-up menu. When the System Properties window opens, select the Hardware tabbed window, and then click the Device Manager button. In the Windows 7 Start menu, right-click on Computer and select Properties in the pop-up menu. When the System Properties window opens, click Device Manager in the list on the left.*