

LA19-13-01/02 VNA User Interface Software

Release Notes

Last Update: 28 Jul 06

1. Latest driver for the US232B USB to RS232 adaptor

The latest drivers for the US232B adaptor at the time of writing were issued in April 2004. It is recommended that these drivers be used. A copy is included in the CD ROM. A possible procedure is as follows.

- Extract the driver files to a directory of your choice (e.g. C:\temp)
- Plug the adaptor into the PC or laptop
- When asked about the location of the driver, choose the advanced option and browse to the directory chosen above

If the old driver has previously been installed, then unplug the adaptor and use the add/remove program facility (start > settings > control panel) to uninstall it first before following the procedure above.

2. Graph Refresh when using the USB to RS232 adaptor

Symptom: It is possible that under some circumstances the graphics display may have a jerky refresh rate. Most likely when averaging is switched off and the unit is measuring a single parameter.

Possible cause: The US232B adaptor operating parameters result in the driver waiting until its receive data buffer is full (4 Kbytes) before passing the data to the PC.

Solution: Reduce the US232B buffer size as follows.

- Ensure that the adaptor is connected to the PC (or laptop)
- Click Start > Settings > Control Panel > System
- In the Systems Properties window click the Hardware tab
- Click on the Device Manager button
- Expand the Ports section and
- Right click on the USB serial port and click on properties
- Select the Port Settings tab (Fig. 1.1)
- Click on the Advanced button
- On the Advanced settings window (Fig. 1.2), set the transfer sizes to 256 bytes. Leave all other parameters unchanged
- Click OK to apply the values and close the windows
- Disconnect the adaptor from the PC (or laptop)
- Wait a few seconds and re-connect the adaptor to the PC (or laptop)

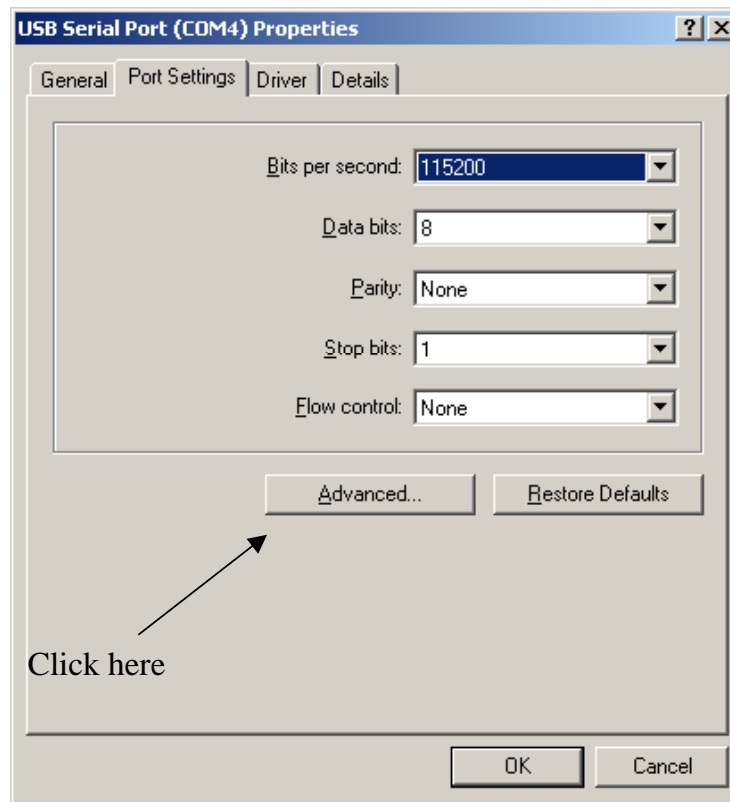


Figure 1.1: Navigate to the USB adaptors port settings tab and click on Advanced

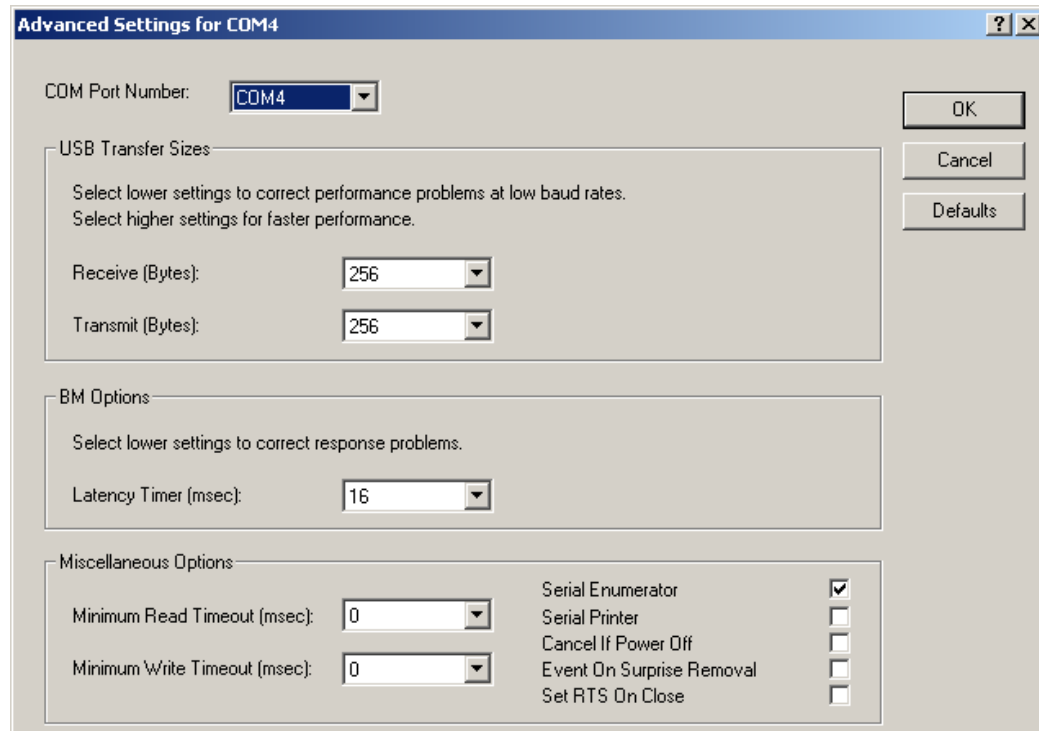


Figure 1.2: Set the adaptor's transfer sizes to 256 bytes

3. Windows 98[®]

Operation under the Windows 98[®] operating system is not supported. However, some success has been reported using the US232B USB to RS232 adaptor running with the latest driver (dated Apr 04).

4. USB RS232 Port Number

The VNA user interface software supports only serial port number 1 to 16. This means that if the USB to RS232 adaptor is assigned a port higher than 16, then it must be re-assigned manually. The procedure is to navigate to the Advanced settings (see Fig. 1.2 above) and from there change the COM port number to one that is free anywhere in the range 1 to 16.