

Excitron USB Controller (10A-USB or our USB-TTL adaptor) software driver installation

This document explains how to install USB drivers so that you can communicate with the 10A-USB (or our USB-TTL adaptor) controllers via a USB to RS232 USART bridge. After installation, your USB port appears as a virtual serial COM port for use with most PC programs.

Your Excitron USB controller sends and transmits serial port characters with its onboard USB chip. The USB port is a mini 5 pin standard USB.

The Excitron controller receives its +5v power from the USB line, and is not self-powered. The USB must always be plugged in (after you complete software installation) in order to function. The stepper motor power (usually +24 volts) is applied via the 8-pin white polarized locking header. Please see the Excitron USB controller sheet for details.

In your email from Excitron, please copy the attached USB drivers winzip file to any folder you want, then unzip into that folder. Run Preinstaller.exe first, before plugging in the USB cable. When prompted for, select Virtual COM port. Microsoft warnings may appear, click on install anyway. You have to install Preinstaller.exe first, and then plug in our USB controller. Complete details:

1. Browse to the folder where you unzipped the files.
2. Run PreInstaller.exe. This program will copy the driver files to the PC's "Program Files" directory and then will register the driver files so the board will be recognized when it is connected.
3. Connect the USB cable between the host computer and the Excitron USB controller.
4. Windows will open a "Found New Hardware Wizard" window.
5. Press "Next" after selecting the (Recommended) option.
6. Windows Logo testing warnings may appear. Press the "Continue Anyway" button.
7. Press "Finish" to finish installing the "Excitron USB Composite Device".
8. Windows will open a second "Found New Hardware Wizard" window.
9. Press "Next" after selecting the (Recommended) option.
10. Windows Logo testing warnings may appear. Press the "Continue Anyway" button.
11. Press "Finish" to finish installing the "Excitron USB Bridge Controller".

Note that we use an integrated USB chip from Silabs, and you may see file names and references to Silabs.

After installation, you communicate with our USB controllers as if it is a COM port device. For instance, in Windows use Hyperterminal, and under Properties, select the new COMxx port, configure for 57600 baud, one stop bit, handshaking = none. Click ok, and then click on Connect button. Then type a little w, and you should see the Excitron sign-on message. In other Windows applications, the Excitron USB controller is used just as if it was an RS232 serial COM port.

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