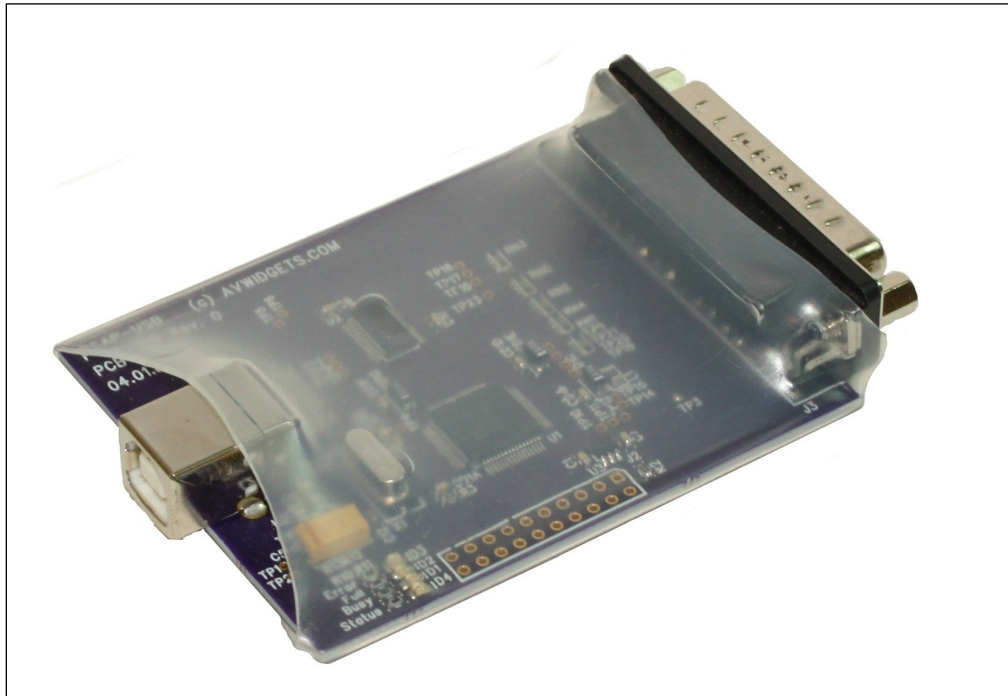


AV Widgets
AVW-PCAP
Printer Capture



Title: AVW-PCAP Installation and Use
Date: 03.14.2015
Firmware: Rev. 1.3
Hardware: Rev. 1

Description

The AVWidgets AVW-PCAP provides a simple method to capture printer data and import to an electronic copy. The AVW-PCAP acts as a printer emulator, converting parallel data originally destined for obsolete an printer to your computer's USB port. The AVWidgets AVW-PCAP performs the parallel to serial conversion in a single device.

Features

- Faster conversion than RS232 based parallel to serial converters.
- No confusing switch/setup settings such as baud, stop bit, parity settings.
- No software settings for baud, stop bit and parity.
- Lower cost. Up to half the price of other solutions.
- No serial to USB converter required for computers without a serial port.

General Use

The AAVW-PCAP emulates a printer interface, converts the printer data to serial and sends the data to the host computer. The AVW-PCAP does not interpret the data in anyway.

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- AVW-PCAP looks like a printer to your printing device.
- AVW-PCAP looks like a serial USB port to your host computer.

For example, if the printing device sends raw text (no printer codes) a simple terminal program could be used to read the data,

If the data contains printer specific data, the easiest way to view the data is to use F&F SoftTools software package called PrintCapture. www.printcapture.com PrintCapture will directly interface with the AVW-PCAP making the process easy.

Setup

1. Download and install F&F SoftTools PrintCapture. PrintCapture software is available as a 30 day trial with a reasonable purchase price.
2. Open Windows *Device Manager* and expand the USB Controllers section as shown in Figure 1.
3. Connect the AVW-PCAP to the host computer with a standard USB Type A to USB Type B cable.
4. Your computer should recognize the AVW-PCAP and a new entry “*USB Serial Converter*” should be listed as shown in Figure 1.
5. Right click the *USB Serial Converter* and inspect the “*Advanced*” tab.
6. Select the “*Load VSP*” if not already selected.

7. Unplug the PCAP-AVW for a moment and plug back in.
8. Note that now there should be a new entry in the “*Ports*” section. It should be listed as a “*USB Serial Port (COMXX)*”.
9. Note which number has been assigned to the communication port. This number will be used in PrintCapture.
10. Start PrintCapture and select the “*Setup*” drop-down menu.
11. Select the “*Configuration*” and “*Serial Port*” tab.
12. Select the port that was detailed in *Device Manager*.

Use

The AVW-PCAP has four diagnostic LEDs, they are Error, Full, Busy and Status.

LED Descriptions

Status Indicator that the AVW-PCAP is powered and functioning. When no data is being received, it will blink at a continuous rate. During data reception it will blink more rapidly and will give a general indication of data rate.

Full The AVW-PCAP has a receive buffer between the parallel data input and USB output. This buffer facilitates faster communication. The receive buffer is 512 bytes. Full LED will assert if the buffer has reached a full state. This should typically never happen as the AVW-PCAP implements a handshake protocol with printing device.

Busy The LED indicates that printer busy protocol handshake bit has been set. In normal operation this will be flashing during data transmission.

Error This LED will assert when there has been a buffer error. This is an indicator that data has most likely been lost. A buffer error occurs when:

- Buffer is full
- Printing device has ignored the handshake protocol
- Printing device has written more data

Upon first power, the firmware version of the AVW-PCAP is displayed on the diagnostic LEDs.

Status = Major revision

Full = Minor revision

Busy = Alpha revision

Version 1.1.0 would result in one Status LED blink, one Full LED blink and zero blink of Busy LED.

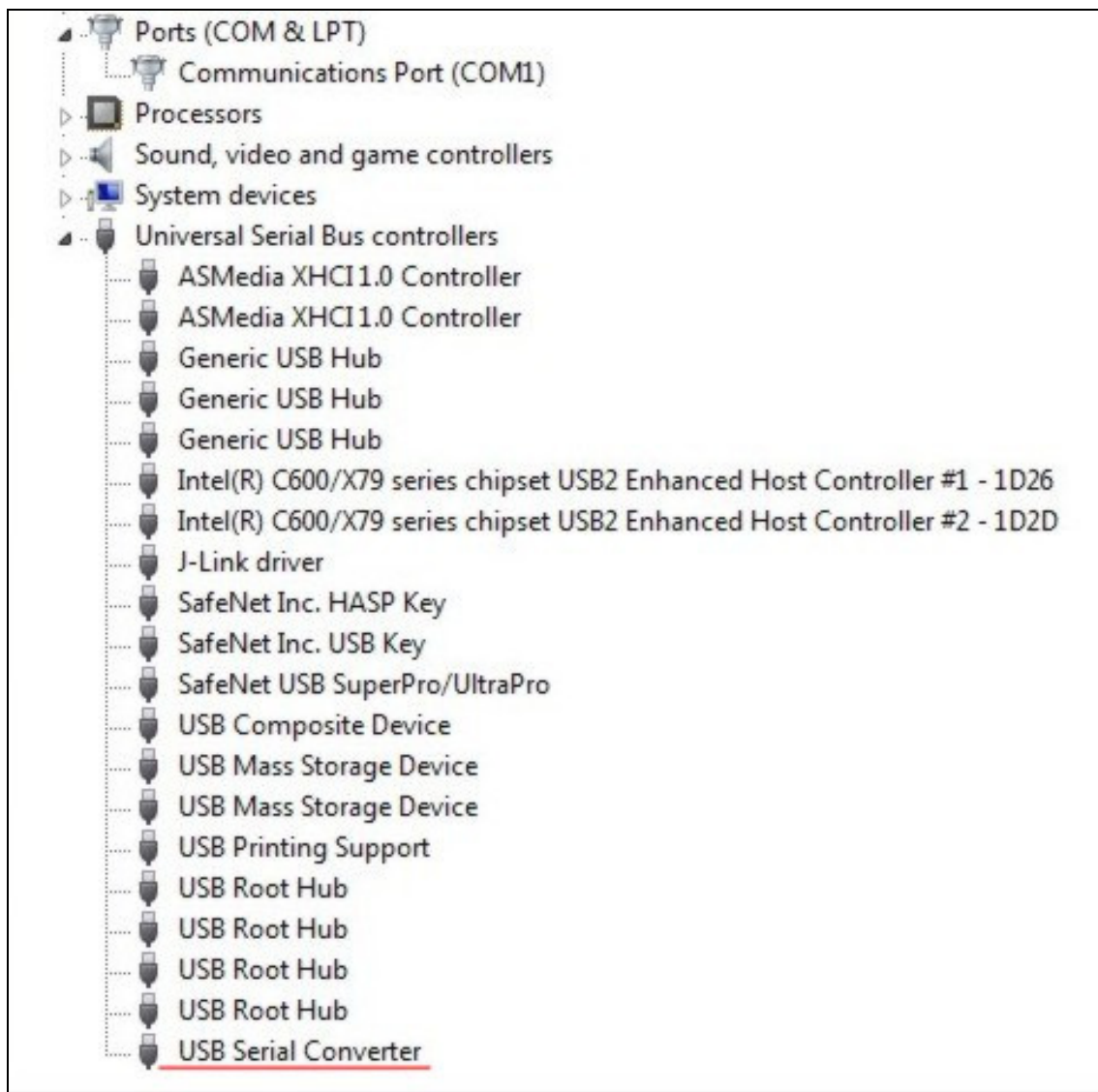


Figure 1

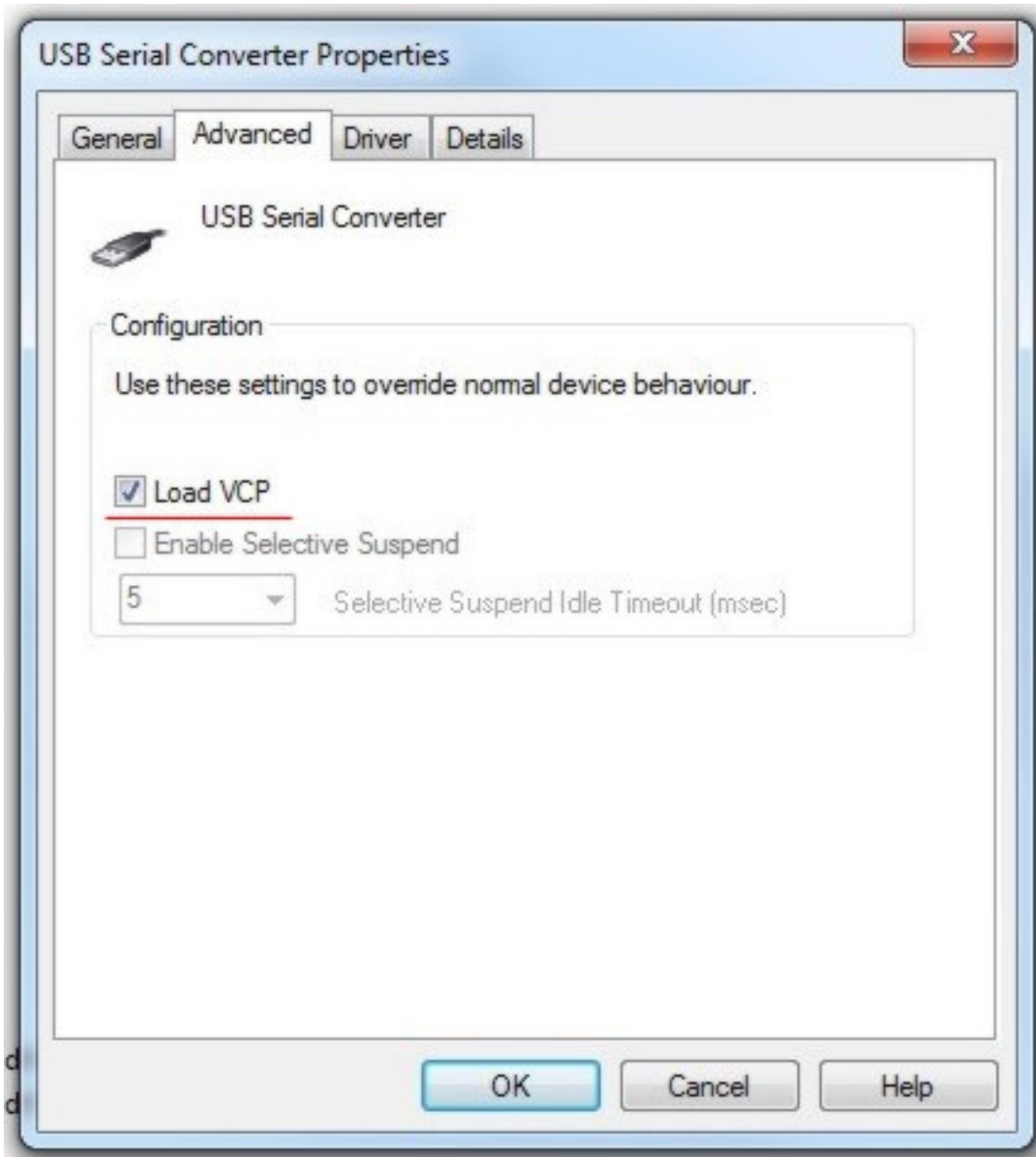


Figure 2

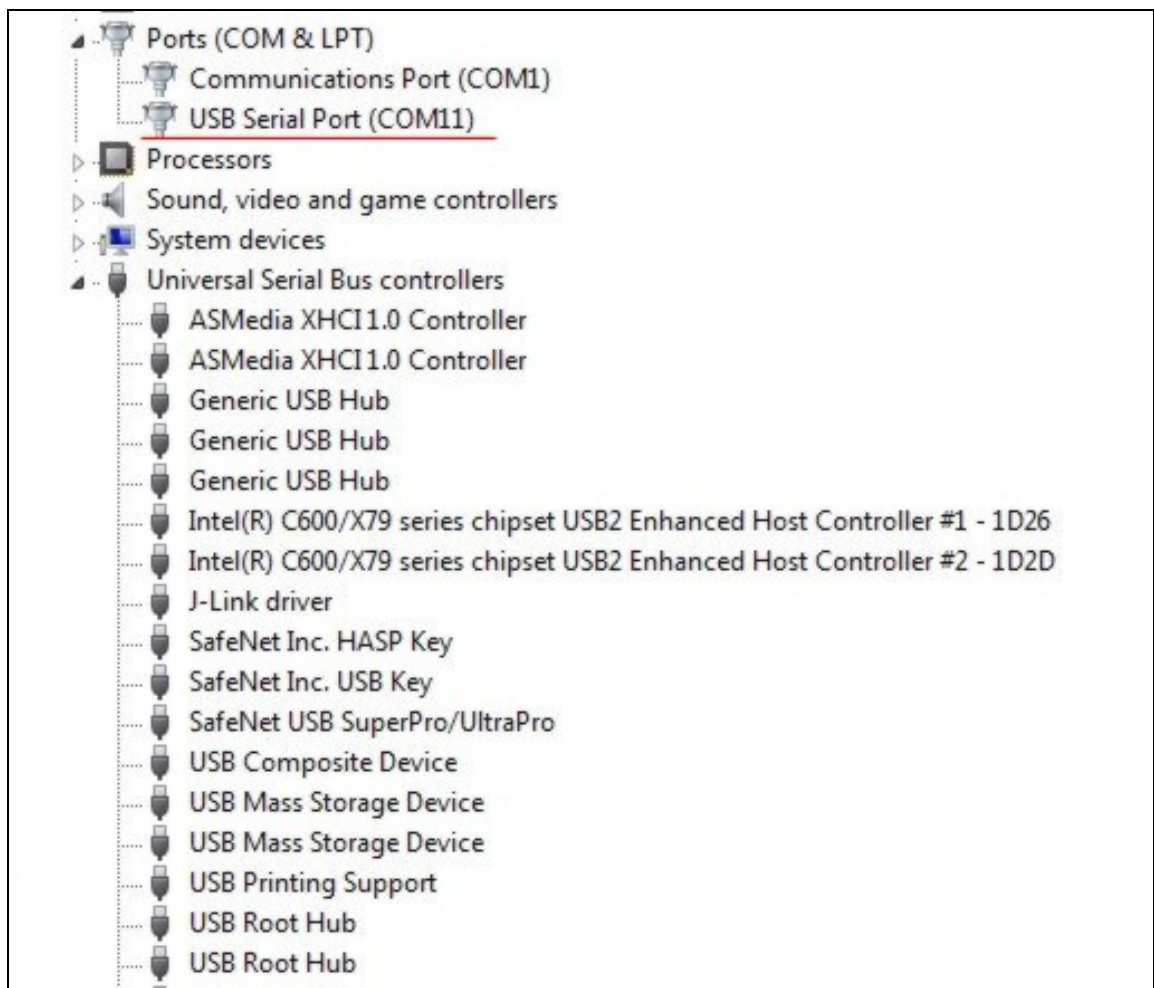


Figure 3

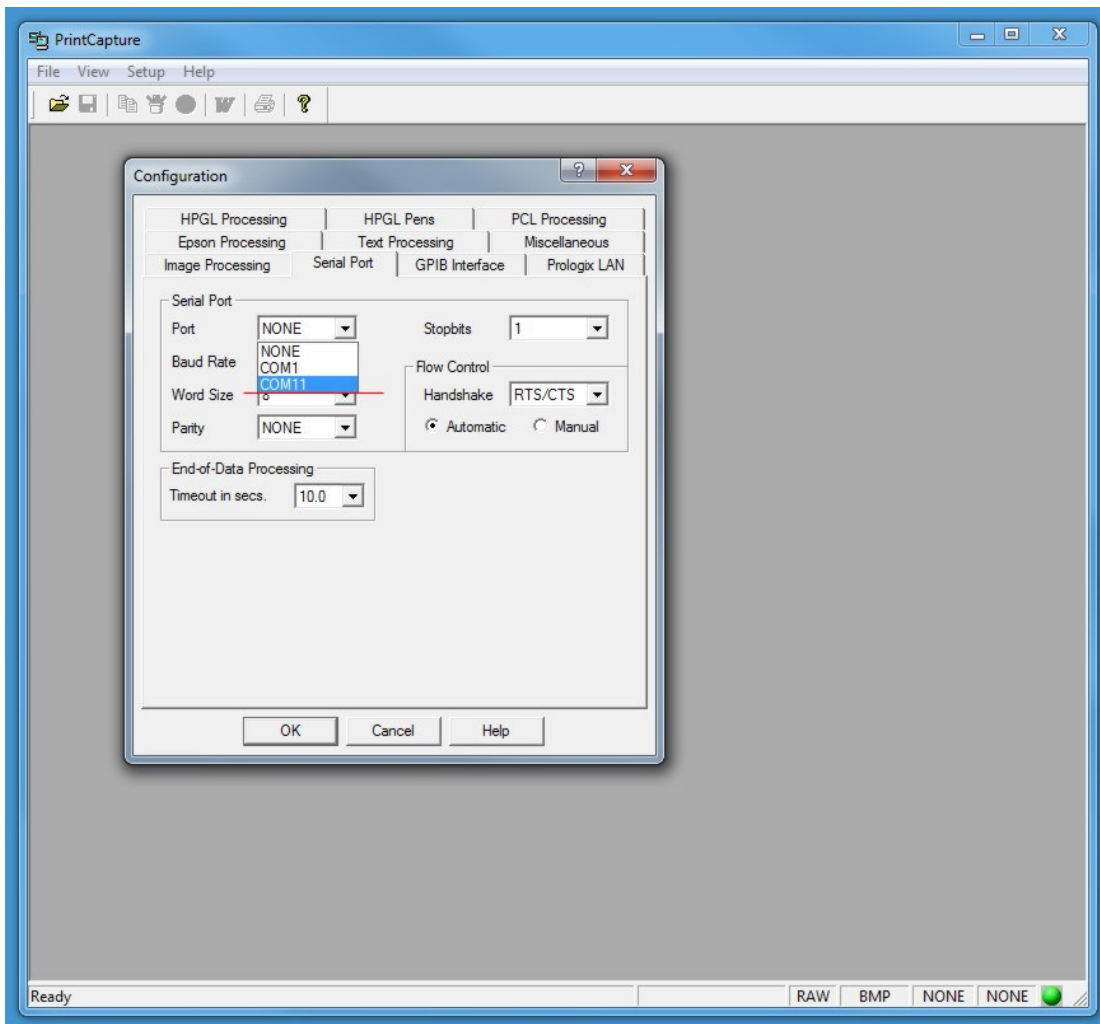


Figure 4