

Connecting CALPlex Using a USB-to-Serial Cable



TechniCAL's CALPlex datalogger is designed to communicate with the CALSoft software using Direct RS-232 DB-9 Serial connection. However, newer computers are not equipped with serial ports but instead, utilize USB ports for connecting external devices. CALPlex is not designed for true USB connectivity; therefore, a converter cable/device must be used. TechniCAL has tested several USB-to-SERIAL converters and they all work with CALPlex. CALPlex dataloggers shipped after April 15, 2007 include a USB-to-Serial communication cable. If you do not have one, you can simply search the internet for "USB-to-Serial" and find many different options. Each USB to Serial converter cable will require the installation of a driver. Once installed on a computer, that computer can communicate with CALPlex using a USB to Serial communications cable.

STEP 1

Install the driver for the USB-to-Serial Cable.

This driver is supplied by the manufacturer of the cable. For Windows XP users:



- Power on the CALPlex datalogger
- Plug the Serial end of the USB-to-Serial cable into the "Data Out" port of CALPlex
- Plug the USB end of the cable into a USB port on your computer
- Windows XP should recognize the new device and ask you to install it
- Insert the CDROM with the driver for the USB-to-Serial cable
- Using Windows XP's install wizard, install the driver

The driver is only required to be installed once. After the driver installation is complete, the USB-to-Serial Cable will work on that computer every time you connect CALPlex.

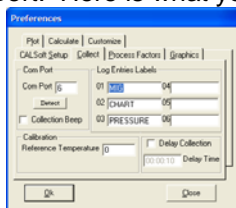
STEP 2

Assign the communication port in CALSoft

BEFORE YOU BEGIN THIS STEP.. you must have the most current version of CALSoft32 in order for this to work. CALSoft 32 users can download the most current version of the software at no charge...

<http://www.tcal.com/CALSoftSoftwareSupport.php>.

Now you will need to set up the COM port in CALSoft to recognize the CALPlex datalogger connected to the USB port. Here is what you do...



- Launch CALSoft and run the "CALSoft Collect" module
- Click on the "Edit" Menu and then chose "Preferences"
- The Preferences window will appear. Chose the "Collect tab."
- MAKE SURE the CALPlex is powered on and connected to the computer
- Click on the "Detect" button. CALSoft will then attempt to detect the port on which the CALPlex datalogger is connected. It will cycle through 10 different ports until it finds the CALPlex datalogger.

If you have any problems or questions, please contact TechniCAL.

