

Re: MSComm and USB to RS485 Converters (head hurting now, must have martini)

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.electronics.design/2007-11/msg03695.html>

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- *From:* Joerg <[notthisjoergsch@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:notthisjoergsch@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Fri, 23 Nov 2007 17:33:42 -0800
- 

EdV wrote:

On Nov 19, 8:29 pm, Joerg <[notthisjoerg...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:notthisjoerg...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>  
wrote:

EdV wrote:

On Nov 16, 5:40 pm, Jamie  
<[jamie\\_kallpa\\_not\\_valid\\_after\\_kall...@xxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:jamie_kallpa_not_valid_after_kall...@xxxxxxxxxxxx)>  
wrote:

EdV wrote:

I am having some weirdness  
and was wondering if any of  
the readers of  
this group are experiencing  
the something similar.  
I was using a Quatech  
QSU200/300 which worked  
great but then upgraded  
to their ESU series which do  
not work with my in house  
application.  
My senior SW developer is  
out for a spell. Here is what  
is unique  
about his application  
although I do not understand  
it in detail.  
1. TheMSCommcontrol is  
created in memory by his  
application which  
is  
a .dll that we then use in  
various test engineering  
applications  
2. As I look around in his

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code I see he commented out a "read from device" section of code in his .dll source for setting baudrate, inputmode, etc. Some devices need to be "woke up"? Sounds interesting, hmmmmm.

3. Hyperteminal to Hypterminal link ups work
4. Our applications are "talking" to embedded uC boards using LT1785 RS485 driver by Linear.

I am going to try and step through his test example with the .dll loaded in the project today to see what is going on but first I have to get it to run because there are undeclared variables scattered through out.

Thanks in advance for having a look at my dilemma.

Ed V.

PS – mmmmmmmm,  
martini

PPS –

1. RS232 to RS485 converters work fine but I am out of serial ports due my IT departments drive to use PCs that have fewer everthings.
2. BB–elec Ulinx USB converters do this also
3. If you keep the gin in the freezer and put pop a couple olives in your mouth you can skip those tedious shaker to glass to mouth steps

Check the default baud rate settings in windows if theMScommisn't being instructed to set the baud rates. Also,

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Check the name being used..

My Self, I don't useMScommsince it's a MS thing and requires a license key to operate it.

I just go for the raw API levels.

Make sure the USB device gets mapped in as a comport and operating before the App starts.

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"I'm never wrong, once i thought i was, but was mistaken"

Real Programmers Do things like

this.[http://webpages.charter.net/jamie\\_5](http://webpages.charter.net/jamie_5)–Hide

quoted text –

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I found that data is going out but the repsonse from the embedded controller is "wrong". I think it is time to get a serial protocol analyzer or a serial port sniffer and see what is coming out to see if it is corrupeted somehow.

You could try Portmon. It's been a while since I used it but IIRC it had to be started before starting the COM routine. Since I've got a DSO with a long buffer I use that nowadays, at the point where it is RS232 again.

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Regards, Joerg

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Well I threw the kitchen sink at it and we found out that we need to wait for the USB driver to finish poking around before we read the input bufffer after we send out a command. Ah the simple joys of looping until something is in the buffer. Why we don't use a routine that triggers on an MSComm event is still eating at me but I am tired of questions.

Don't know. Some SW won't use MSComm because of the licensing restrictions that it comes with. I have no idea whatsoever why Microsoft put those restrictions in place. To me it seems like a shot into their own foot because it stifles Excel VBA apps and thus Excel sales.

Sounds like a good time for that Martini :-)

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Regards, Joerg

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