



# USB-Link 2 Technical Guide

USB-Link 2 Code: SS0073 Version 4.11 and up



RS-485

USB-LINK 2

LOW  HIGH  
COMM SPEED

NETWORKED  STAND ALONE  
COMM CONFIG

COMM

USB TX

USB RX

USB

LB102099

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**USB-Link 2 Overview**

The OE366 USB-Link 2 (AAON Part No. T38010) is a portable device that is used as an interface to connect your computer to AAON controllers without the need for a CommLink.

The USB-Link 2 provides a direct link to enable you to view the status and configure and adjust the setpoints of any controller on the control system communications loop using Prism 2 software.

The USB-Link 2 is small in size and is powered by the USB port of the computer it is plugged into, making it completely portable and allowing connection to the system from any controller.

The USB-Link 2 is supplied with a USB cable, a mini-DIN male communication cable, and two mini-DIN to terminal adapters. The communication cable allows you to walk up to any controller that has a communication socket and plug in the USB-Link 2 to gain access to the system. The adapters are used for boards that do not have a female mini-DIN plug connection.

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**CAUTION:** The USB-Link 2 will not work with Prism software. It will only work with Prism 2 software.

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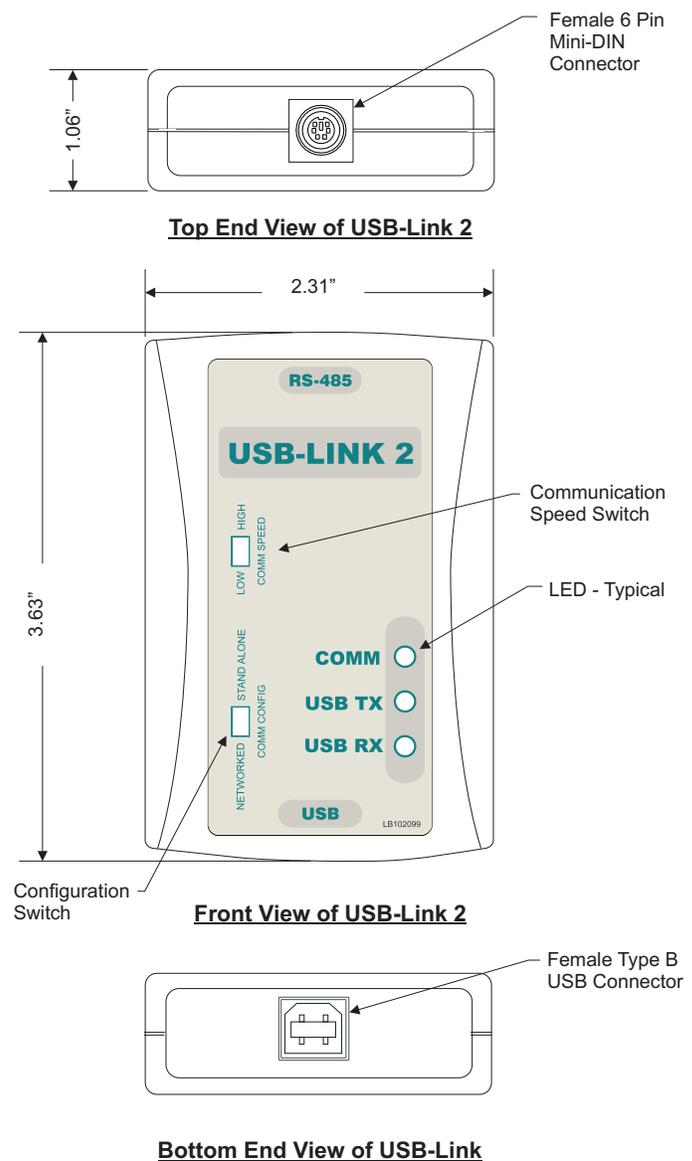
**System Requirements**

To enable the USB-Link 2 to work with Prism 2, you will need:

- USB-Link 2 with USB cable, mini-DIN male communication cable, and adapters for terminal and modular connections (cables and adapters provided)
- USB drivers on CD-ROM (supplied with USB-Link 2 but also downloadable from [orioncontrols.com](http://orioncontrols.com)). **Make sure to install the drivers before connecting the USB-Link 2 to your computer.**
- PC with USB 1.1 or 2.0 port (supplied by others)
- Microsoft® Windows® 2000, Vista, 7, 8 & 10
- Prism 2 software version 4.0.4 or later (supplied with USB-Link 2 but also downloadable from [orioncontrols.com](http://orioncontrols.com))

**Networked Systems Only**

- CommLink(s) and/or MiniLink(s)



**Figure 1: Top, Front, and Bottom Views of the USB-Link 2**

### Important Notes

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- Follow the included USB-Link 2 driver installation instructions (**page 5**).
- Follow the connection and wiring instructions (**Figure 2, page 6**) to connect and configure the USB-Link 2.
- If you use your USB-Link 2 on a network and after installation you cannot view all controllers, you may need an EPROM upgrade in your CommLink(s) and/or MiniLink(s). See Troubleshooting in the back of this guide on **page 10** for further instructions.
- Familiarize yourself with all system components and review all documentation. Pay special attention to “Cautions,” “Notes,” and “Warnings” since these may keep you from experiencing unnecessary problems.
- If you encounter any problems, please refer to the Troubleshooting section of this guide first. If you can’t resolve the problem, please call AAON Controls Support at our toll free number—1-866-918-1100.

### Quick Guide

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Follow the five steps below to get your USB-Link 2 up and running in no time.

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**WARNING:** You must install the USB drivers (Step 3 below) before connecting the USB-Link 2 to your computer (Step 4 below).

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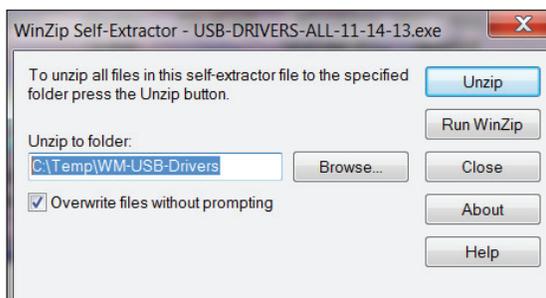
- Step 1:** Set your USB-Link 2’s configuration switch to Stand Alone or Network (**Figure 3, page 10**).
- Step 2:** Set your USB-Link 2’s communication speed switch to Low Speed or High Speed (**Figure 3, page 10**).
- Step 3:** Install the USB drivers from the included CD-ROM onto your computer.
- Step 4:** Attach the USB cable to your USB-Link 2 and plug the other end of the cable into your computer’s USB port (**Figure 2, page 6**).
- Step 5:** Attach the communication cable to your USB-Link 2 and connect the other end of the cable to the Controller’s communication port (**Figure 2, page 6**).
- Step 6:** Install the included Prism 2 software on your computer (**page 8**).

### USB Serial Converter and Serial Port Driver Installation

The internal USB communication port of the USB-Link 2 uses a specialized driver that must be installed on your Windows PC before communication to the device can be established.

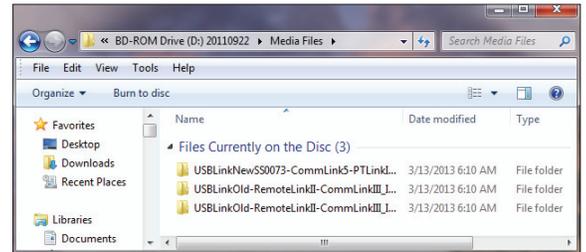
**NOTE:** You may already have this driver installed on your PC if you are using a CommLink 5.

1. Before you begin, you must determine if your computer is running 32-bit or 64-bit Windows. Open the System information by *clicking* the **<Start>** button, *clicking* **<Control Panel>**, and *clicking* **<System>**. Under System, you can view the system type. Based on what type of system you have, you will choose 32\_Bit.exe or 64\_Bit.exe from the list of files shown in **Step 10**.
2. *Insert* the USB Drivers CD-ROM into your CD-ROM drive or *download* the USB Drivers file from orioncontrols.com. If using the CD-ROM, go to **Step 7**. If downloading the file, you will need to scroll down the page until you find “USB Drivers For All Products” to download the driver files.
3. *Right click* on “**Click Here.**” Then *click* **<Save Link As>** or **<Save Target As>** and *select* Desktop as the destination.
4. *Go to* the “USB-DRIVERS-ALL.exe” file on your desktop. *Double-click* on this file and choose “Run” from the options list. The following window will appear:



5. *Select* **<Unzip>** and the file will be unzipped to the folder C:\Temp\WM-USB-Drivers folder by default.
6. Next, *go to* the C:\Temp\WM-USB-Drivers folder and now *go to* **Step 9**.
7. *Click* your **<Start>** button and then *click*, **<Computer>**.
8. *Double-click* on your CD-ROM drive. Open the Media Files Folder.

9. *Double-click* the folder “USBLink NewSS0073”.



10. The following list of files will display. Choose 32\_Bit.exe or 64\_Bit.exe based on what type of system you determined you have in **Step 1**.

Name	Date modified
x64	11/19/2013
x86	11/19/2013
CP210xVCPInstaller_32_Bit.exe	10/24/2013
CP210xVCPInstaller_64_Bit.exe	10/24/2013
dpinst.xml	10/24/2013
ReleaseNotes.txt	10/24/2013
SLAB_License_Agreement_VCP_Windows...	10/24/2013
slabvcp.cat	10/24/2013
slabvcp.inf	10/24/2013
WM-USB-NewProducts-01B.pdf	11/14/2013

11. In the window that pops up, shown below, *click* **<Next>** and the installation program will walk you through the rest of the steps.



12. When successful installation has occurred, connect the USB cable between the PC and the USB-Link 2. The PC will automatically recognize the device and a COM port will be assigned. Follow the procedures on **page 7** to verify the Comm Port.

# CONNECTION & WIRING

## Connection and Wiring

**Notes:**

1. In Order To View A Single Controller Using Prism 2, You Must Disconnect The Communication Loop From The Controller Your USB-Link Is Plugged Into, Set The USB-Link Configuration Switch To Stand Alone, Set The Type Of CommLink In Prism 2 To USB Link Stand Alone, And Cycle Power By Disconnecting And Reconnecting the USB Power Supply Cable.

Connect The USB-Link 2 Mini-DIN Cable To The Female Mini-DIN Plug Connector On Controllers That Are Supplied With Them. **NOTE:** This Allows Communications With All Controllers That Are Connected To The System When Network Communication Is Chosen.

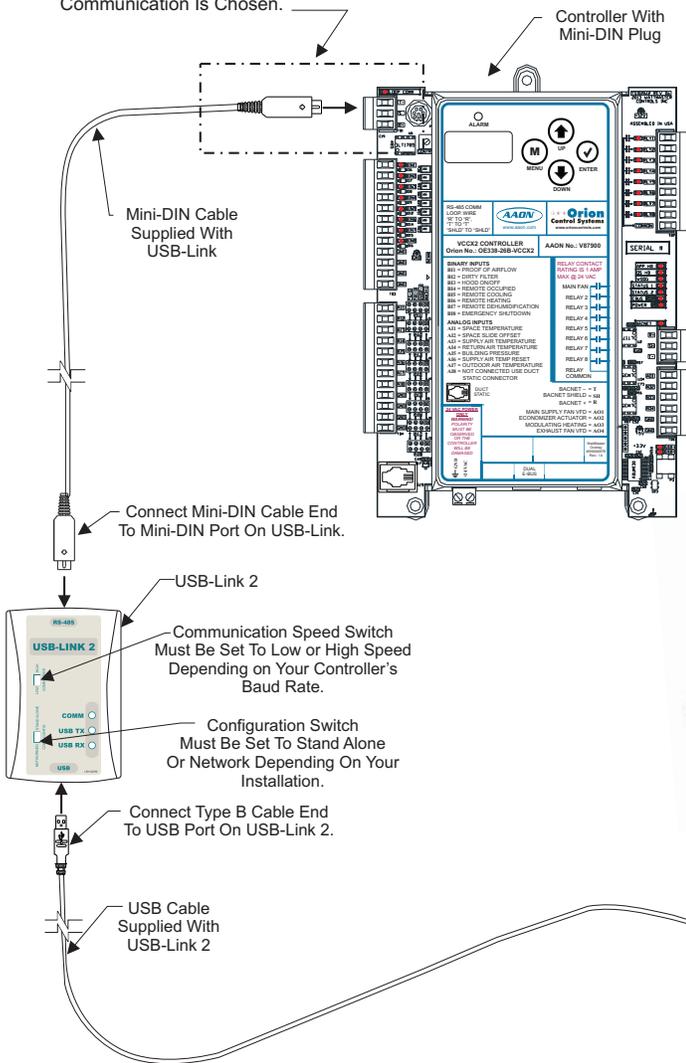
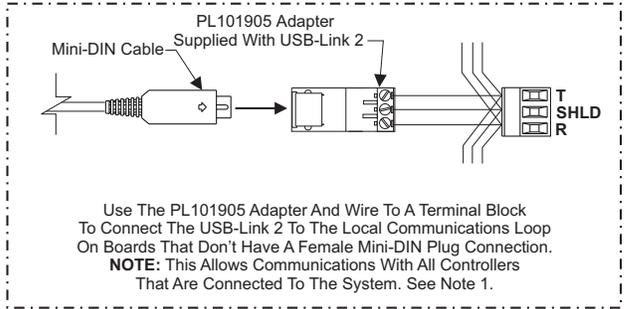
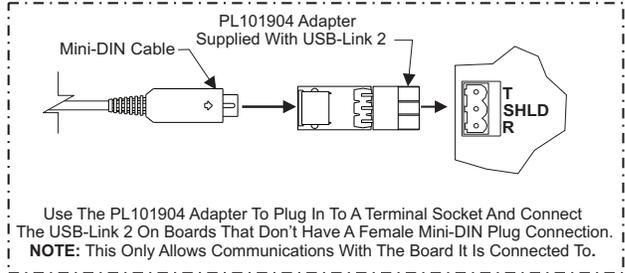


Figure 2: USB-Link 2 Connection & Wiring

### Finding What COM Port Number the USB-Link 2 is Using

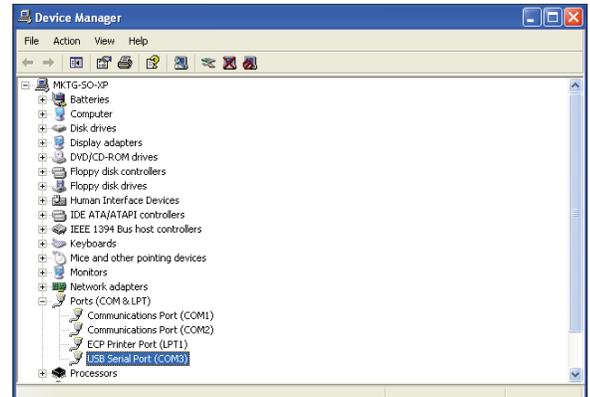
1. *Left-click* on **<Start>**, located on the bottom left of the Windows toolbar. *Select <Control Panel>*. *Double-click* the **<System>** icon.



2. *Click* the **<Hardware>** tab. *Click* the **<Device Manager>** button.



3. *Click* on the plus sign next to Ports to see all of the COM ports.



4. *Locate* the USB Serial Port (COM#). The COM# in parentheses is the port it is located on. *Write* this COM port number down. You will need to know this when setting up the Prism 2 software.

## Prism 2 Setup Instructions

### Configuring Prism 2 for the USB-Link 2

1. Insert your Prism 2 software CD and follow the steps in the readme.txt file to install the software.

2.  The instructions will tell you to create a Prism 2.exe shortcut on your desktop. Click on this icon to open your Prism 2 software.

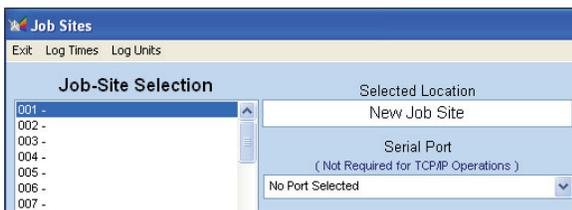
3.  Click the **<Login>** button and type in the level 3 User Name and password (default is “admin, admin”). Click **<Login>**.



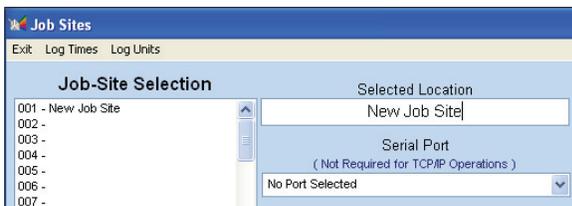
4.  If Prism 2 is online, click the **<ON LINE>** button to make it go **<OFFLINE>**.

5.  Click the **<Job-Site>** button to open the Job Sites Window.

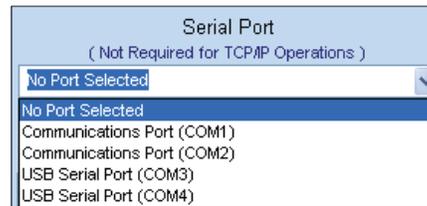
6. Click on any empty location in the Job-Site Selection Window and type in a job name in the Selected Location field. Press **<Enter>**.



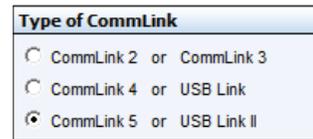
Your job site name will now appear in the Job-Site Selection Window.



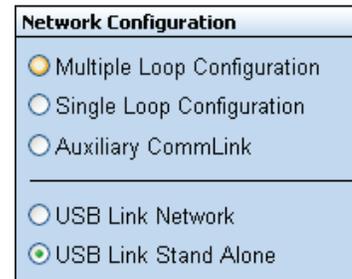
7. In the Serial Port field, click on the pull down box and select the COM port number that the USB-Link 2 is using.



8. In the Type of CommLink selection box, select the radio button next to “CommLink 5 or USB Link II”.



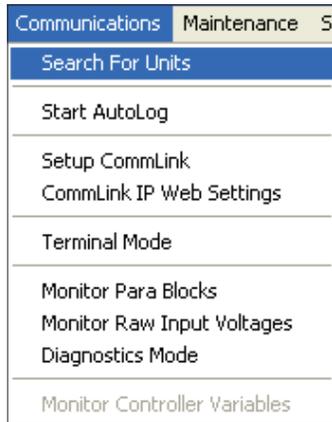
9. In the Network Configuration selection box, select the mode for the USB-Link 2 you are using. If using stand alone mode, select USB Link Stand Alone. If using network mode, select USB Link Network. The position of the slide switch on the USB-Link 2 must also be set to the mode you are using (See Figure 3, page 10 for help in setting this switch).



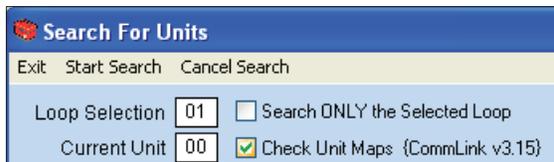
10. Click **<Exit>** to close out of the Job Sites Window.

11.  Click the **<OFFLINE>** button to go **<ON LINE>**.

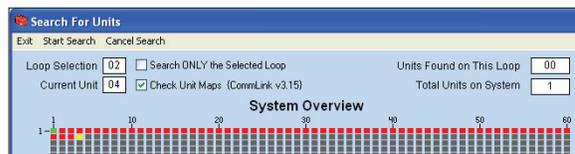
12. From the **<Communications>** menu on the main toolbar, select **<Search for Units>**.



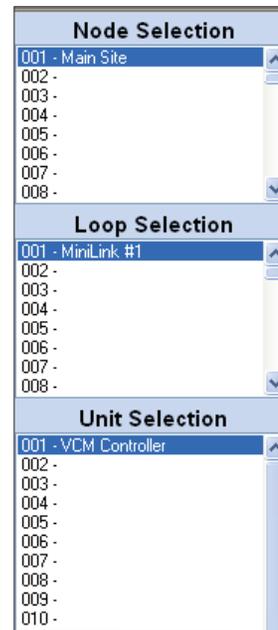
13. The *Search For Units Window* will appear. If you haven't performed a previous search, the **Loop Selection** field will read 01 and the **Current Unit** will read 00. You can perform a selective search by entering the loop number you would like to search and checking **Search ONLY the Selected Loop**. The **Check Unit Maps** box will already be checked. Do not deselect this box. Deselecting it will cause the search not to work.



14. Click **<Start Search>** to initiate an automatic detection of all installed controllers on your system.
15. If everything is working correctly, **Units Found on this Loop** should increase. You will also see green boxes indicating units that have been found.



16. If **Units Found on this Loop** stays at zero, check the wiring to the USB-Link 2 and the controller and/or read through these directions again to make sure all steps were followed. Refer to the Troubleshooting Section in the back of this guide for further help.
17. To stop a search, click **<Cancel Search>**.
18. Once you are done searching for units, *close* out of the window or click **<Exit>**.
19. A window will pop up that asks, "Do you want to save the search results?" Click **<Yes>** if you wish to save the results. Click **<No>** if not.
20. You can now access any installed unit from the *Main Prism 2 Screen* by selecting a loop from the *Loop Selection Window* with a *single-click* and by selecting the unit from the *Unit Selection Window* with a *double-click*.



## Communication Settings and LED Descriptions

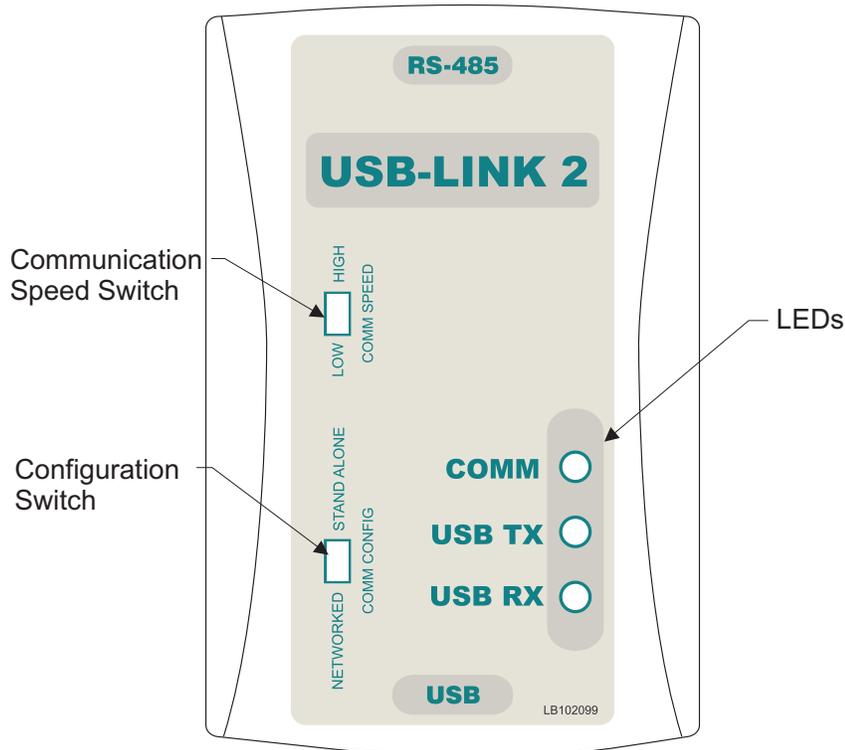


Figure 3: USB-Link 2 Configuration Switch, Communication Speed Switch, and LEDs

**NOTE:** Whenever you change the configuration or communication speed setting on the USB-Link 2, you must cycle the power to the USB-Link 2 by disconnecting and reconnecting the USB power supply cable.

### USB-Link 2 Switch Settings

#### Configuration Switch

The configuration switch for stand alone or network mode is found to the left of the LEDs. See Figure 3 above. To set the configuration switch, insert a pen tip to move the switch up or down.

**Stand Alone - No MiniLink or CommLink** - The slide switch on the USB-Link 2 should be set to “Stand Alone” when you are trying to talk to a stand alone controller or multiple controllers on a loop without a CommLink or a MiniLink wired to the communications loop.

**Network - MiniLink or CommLink connection** - The slide switch on the USB-Link 2 should be set to “Network” any time there is a CommLink or MiniLink wired to the communications loop.

#### Communication Speed

The communication speed switch for low or high speed is found to the left of the LEDs. See Figure 3 above. To set the communication speed switch, insert a pen tip to move the switch up or down.

**Low Speed** - The switch should be set to LOW if using VCM-X or older generation Orion Controllers, older generation Auto-Zone Controllers, or VCB-X or GPC-XP Controllers set to Low Speed.

**High Speed** - The switch should be set to HIGH if using AZ2 Controllers, VCCX2/VCC-X Controllers, or VCB-X and GPC-XP Controllers set to High Speed.

### USB-Link 2 LED Descriptions

**COMM** - Indicates communication activity between the USB-Link 2 and the controller(s) that the USB-Link 2 is connected to. When this LED is flashing, data is being exchanged.

**USB TX & USB RX** - Indicates communication activity between the USB-Link 2 and the computer that the USB-Link 2 is connected to. The LEDs will flash only when data is sent from Prism 2 to the USB-Link via USB.

## Troubleshooting Tips

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### Problems with Prism 2 Software

- Verify that the correct USB serial port created by the USB connection is selected in the *Job-Sites Window*. Verify the COM port number in **<Control Panel>**, **<System>**, **<Hardware>**, **<Device Manager>**, **<Ports>**.
- Verify that USB-Link 2 is selected for Type of CommLink in the *Job Sites Window*.
- Verify that the correct USB-Link 2 mode is selected under Network Configuration in the *Job-Sites Window*.

### Problems with USB Connection

- Verify that the USB-Link 2's USB LEDs blink when you perform a Search for Units or try to open a status screen in Prism 2.
- If the USB-Link 2's USB LEDs fail to blink, disconnect and reconnect the USB connection.
- If the problem persists, check that the USB drivers have been installed properly

### Problems with RS-485 Wiring

- Make sure T connects to T, R to R, and Shld to Shld if multiple boards are wired together on a loop.
- Make sure that the USB-Link 2 mini-DIN communication cable is plugged into a controller or wired to the local side of the loop.

### Problems Viewing Controllers on a Network

- Make sure that in Prism 2, USB Link Network is selected under Network Configuration in the *Job-Sites Window*.

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**NOTE:** AAON Controls Support cannot troubleshoot internal PC and/or Windows®-based operating system problems.

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**NOTE:** AAON Controls Support cannot troubleshoot firewalls, routers, and/or problems on a customer's internal or external network. An IT professional may need to be consulted.

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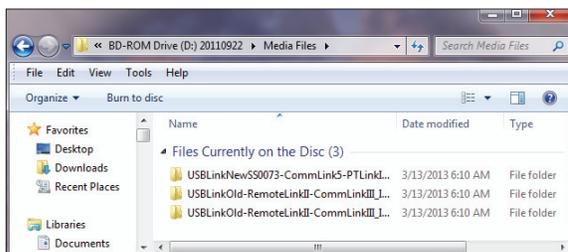
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## USB Serial Converter and Serial Port Driver Installation

The internal USB communication port of the USB-Link 2 uses a specialized driver that must be installed on your Windows PC before communication to the device can be established.

**NOTE:** You may already have this driver installed on your PC if you are using a CommLink 5.

1. Before you begin, you must determine if your computer is running 32-bit or 64-bit Windows. Open the System information by *clicking* the **<Start>** button, *clicking* **<Control Panel>**, and *clicking* **<System>**. Under System, you can view the system type. Based on what type of system you have, you will choose 32\_Bit.exe or 64\_Bit.exe from the list of files shown in **Step 5**.
2. Open the WM USB Drivers folder.



3. Copy and paste the folder “USBLink NewSS0073” to a location on your computer’s hard drive.
4. Locate the folder “USBLink NewSS0073” on your hard drive and *double-click* on it.
5. The following list of files will display. Choose 32\_Bit.exe or 64\_Bit.exe based on what type of system you determined you have in **Step 1**.

Name	Date modified
x64	11/19/2013
x86	11/19/2013
CP210xVCPInstaller_32_Bit.exe	10/24/2013
CP210xVCPInstaller_64_Bit.exe	10/24/2013
dpinst.xml	10/24/2013
ReleaseNotes.txt	10/24/2013
SLAB_License_Agreement_VCP_Windows...	10/24/2013
slabvcp.cat	10/24/2013
slabvcp.inf	10/24/2013
WM-USB-NewProducts-01B.pdf	11/14/2013

6. In the window that pops up, shown below, *click* **<Next>** and the installation program will walk you through the rest of the steps.



7. When successful installation has occurred, connect the USB cable between the PC and the USB-Link 2. The PC will automatically recognize the device and a COM port will be assigned. Follow the procedures on the **next page** to verify the Comm Port.

## Finding the COM Port Number

### Finding What COM Port Number the USB-Link 2 is Using

1. *Left-click* on **<Start>**, located on the bottom left of the Windows toolbar. *Select <Control Panel>*. *Double-click* the **<System>** icon.

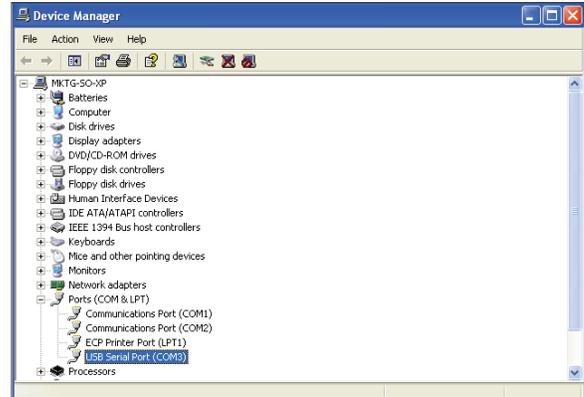


System

2. *Click* the **<Hardware>** tab. *Click* the **<Device Manager>** button.



3. *Click* on the plus sign next to Ports to see all of the COM ports.



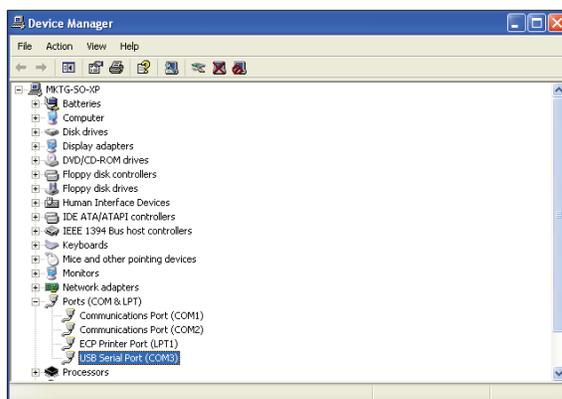
4. *Locate* the USB Serial Port (COM#). The COM# in parentheses is the port it is located on. *Write* this COM port number down. You will need to know this when setting up the Prism 2 software.
5. If the COM port number is 10 or greater, go to “Changing the USB COM Port Number” in the Troubleshooting section on page 12; otherwise, continue with the section “Prism 2 Setup” on the next page.

## Troubleshooting the COM Port Number

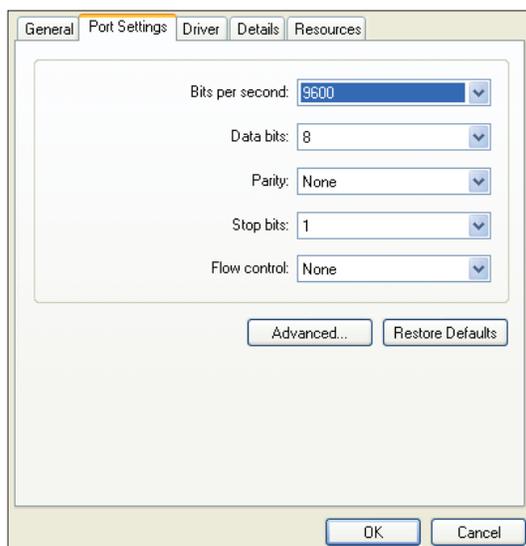
### Changing the USB COM Port Number

When the USB-Link 2 is first plugged in, it will be assigned a COM port number to be used for communicating with the Prism 2 software. If the port number is 10 or greater, it needs to be changed to a value less than 10 to be recognized by Prism 2.

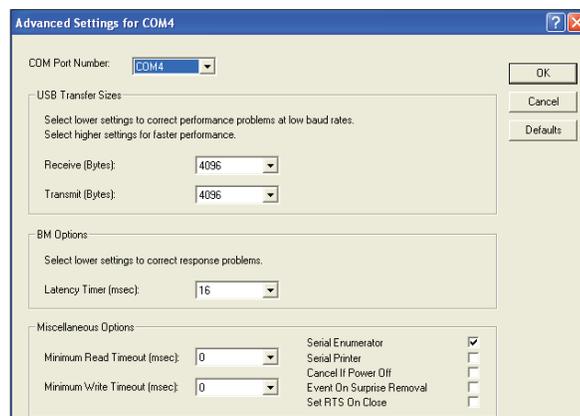
1. Click **<Start>**, click **<Control Panel>**, click **<System>**, click the **<Hardware>** tab, and then click **<Device Manager>** to get to the *Device Manager Window*.
2. Click on the plus sign next to Ports to see all of the COM ports.



3. Right-click on “USB Serial Port (COM#)” and select **<Properties>**. In the *Properties Window*, select the **<Port Settings>** tab.



4. To assign a port number less than 10, click on **<Advanced>**. The *Advanced Settings Window* will appear.



5. In the COM Port Number drop down box, select which COM port you wish to use. Make sure you select a COM port number that is not currently in use (you can see the ports in use in the *Device Manager Window*). Select a port that is less than 10.

**NOTE:** Windows® will assign a port number to every device that has ever been installed on your computer. So if there are no available ports below 10, choose a port number less than 10 for a device listed that you know you are not currently using.

6. Once you select the correct COM port number, click **<OK>** and close any windows opened in the process of changing the port number. Make note of this number because you will need it for your Prism setup.