

USB to Serial adapter installation for PeakSimple data systems with serial interface

SRI gas chromatographs (GC) and PeakSimple data systems manufactured from 1995 through 2007 were equipped with serial interfaces. A typical 9 pin serial cable is shown at right.

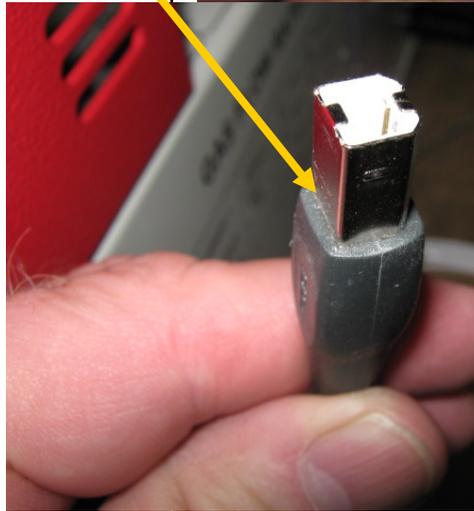
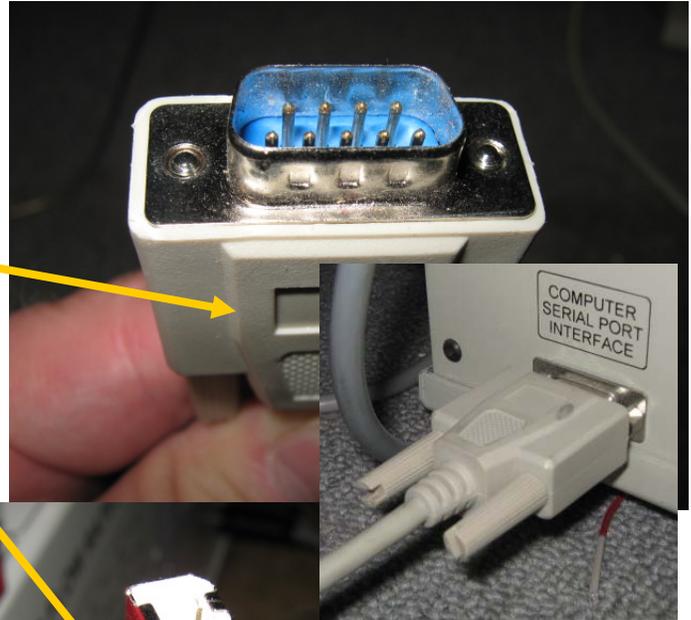
GCs and PeakSimple data systems after 2007 were typically supplied with USB interfaces. A USB cable is shown at right.

Many computers and most laptops no longer have serial jacks (as of 2010), so it is necessary to use a USB to serial converter to operate the serial type GCs and data systems with USB only computers.

Fortunately USB to serial converter products are widely available and sell for less than \$20.

A typical USB 2.0 to serial converter made by Cables Unlimited (part# USB2920) is shown at right.

It is **IMPORTANT** that the USB converter is labeled as USB 2.0 compliant since most of the earlier adapters (USB 1.0 or 1.1) did not function properly

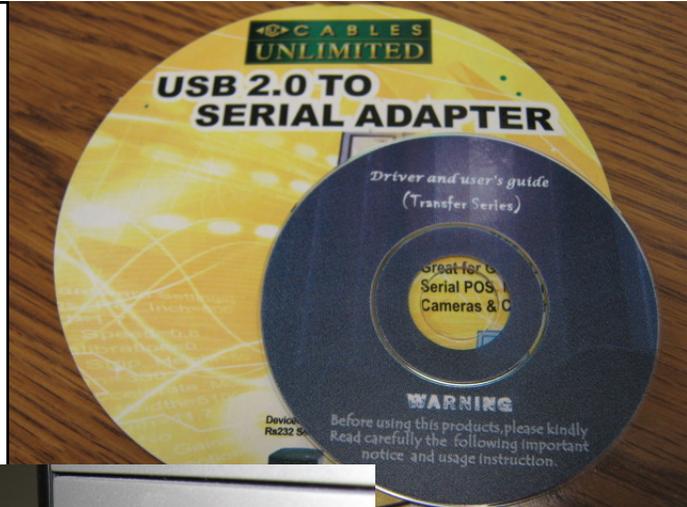


Must say USB 2.0 compliant

USB 1.0 or 1.1 compliant Will NOT Work

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The USB to serial adapter will include a CD. Put the installation CD in the CD drive and then plug the adapter into a USB jack on the computer.



Do not use the extension cable (if one is included with your adapter). The extension cable is unnecessary and sometimes causes problems.



The “ Found New hardware Wizard” will appear.



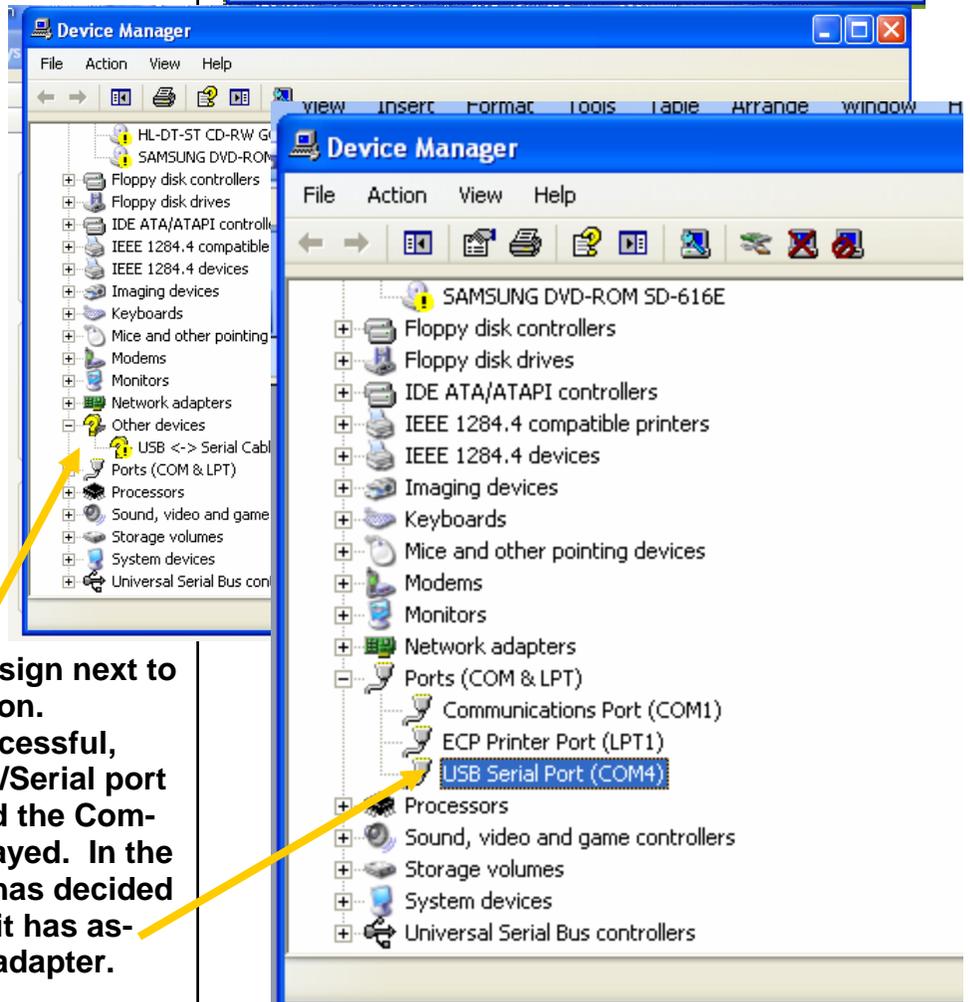
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It is **IMPORTANT** to force the Wizard to look for the driver on the CD, not search the internet, so click on No, not this time. The screen shown at right is from Windows XP. If you are using Vista or Windows7, the screens will be different. We will not show detailed screen shots to avoid confusion since every operating system has slightly different looking screens.

Follow the Wizard until Windows says the hardware has been installed.

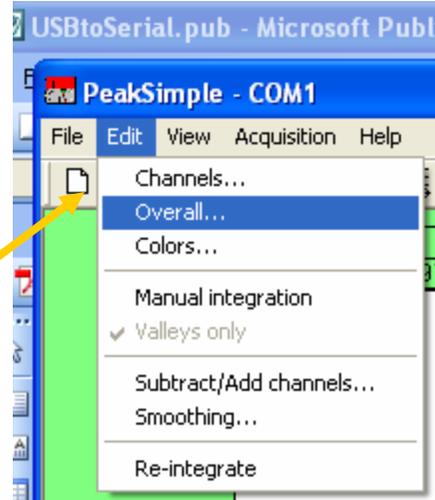
Verify that the USB/Serial adapter is correctly installed by navigating to the Device Manger screen in Windows. (My computer, then right click, then Properties, then hardware, then Device manager).

If the hardware installation is **NOT** correct you will see a yellow warning sign next to the USB/Serial Adapter icon. If the installation was successful, then you will see the USB/Serial port listed under "PORTS" and the Com-port number will be displayed. In the screen at right Windows has decided that Com4 is the number it has assigned to the USB/Serial adapter.



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Now that you know what comport number Windows has assigned to the USB/Serial adapter, return to PeakSimple and click the Edit/Overall Screen.



Enter the correct board type for your PeakSimple system. If you have a serial port connection it will be either the Model 203 single channel serial or the Model 202 four channel serial.

Enter the Comport number from the Device manager screen in the box. In this case you would enter the number 4.

Don't forget to click File/SaveAll so PeakSimple will remember the number you entered.

