VEX Robotics, Inc.

Old Style 276-2186 Programming Adapter Windows 8 Driver Install

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1. Overview

The old style (solid orange) Programming Hardware Kit may not be supported by Windows 8 default drivers. It is supported by the Prolific 3.2.0.0 driver.

2. Verifying a Driver Issue

1. Connect the Programming Hardware Kit to a USB port on the PC.
2. Mouse to the far bottom left of the Windows 8 screen and right click. Select "Device Manager" (Fig. 1).
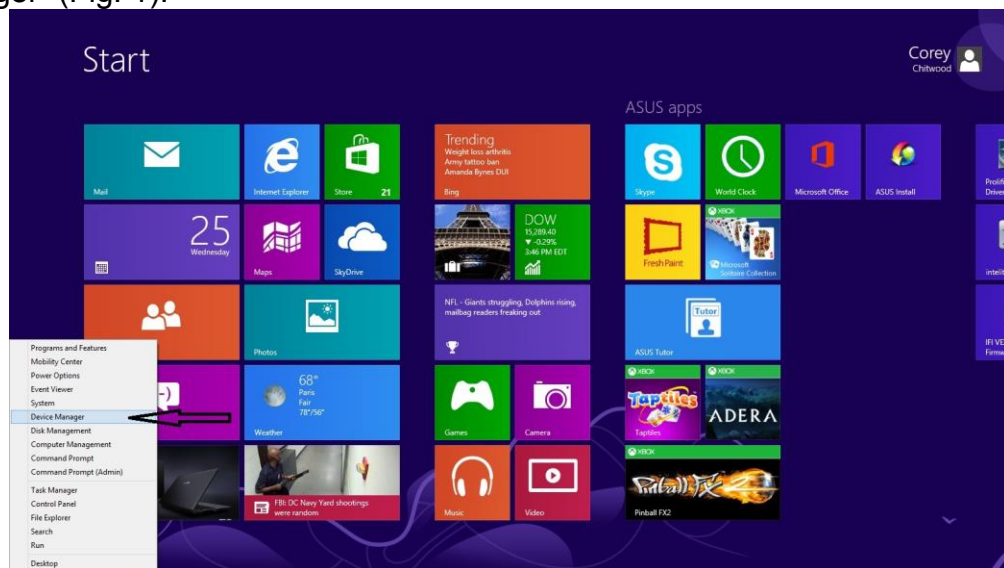

Figure 1. Selecting Device Manager with Windows 8

3. A yellow triangle exclamation mark next to a Comm port ( ) indicates there is an issue.
4. Unplug the Programming Hardware Kit from the PC.

3. Installing the Prolific Driver

1. Copy the "Win_Driver_Prolific_3.2.0.0.exe" program to the PC.
2. Run the "Win_Driver_Prolific_3.2.0.0.exe" program. Allow security warnings, if any.
3. Install the "PL-2303 Vista Driver" by following the prompts.

4. Update Driver Software

1. Attach the Programming Hardware Kit to the PC.

2. Mouse to the far bottom left of the Windows 8 screen and right click. Select "Device Manager".
3. Right click on the Comm Port showing an issue.
4. Select "Update Driver Software…" (Fig. 2).
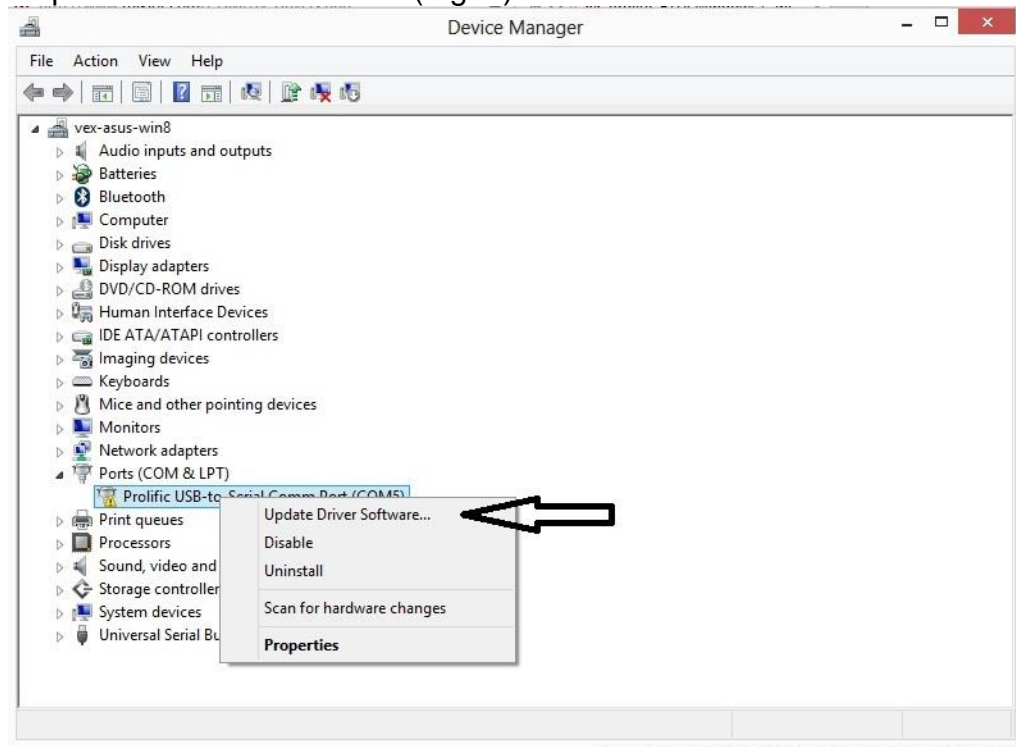

Figure 2. Selecting "Update Driver Software" for a Comm Port with issues

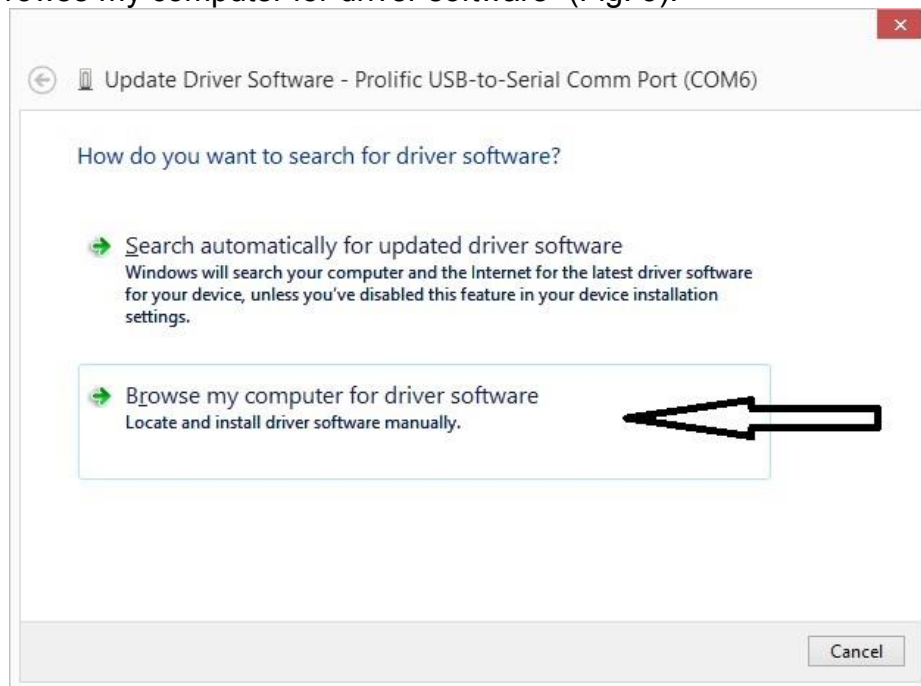5. Select "Browse my computer for driver software" (Fig. 3).

Figure 3. Selecting the driver software.

6. Select "Let me pick from a list of device drivers on my computer". Click "Next" (Fig. 4).
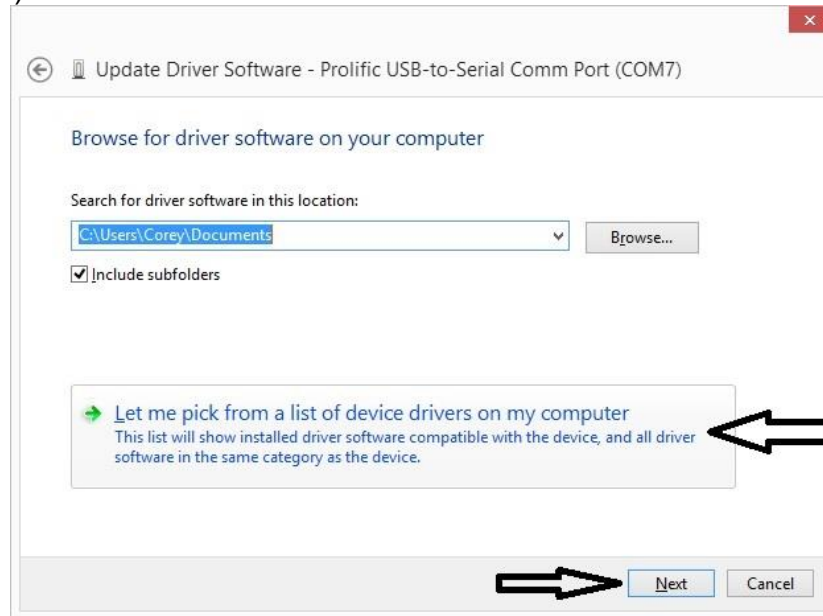
Figure 4. Picking the device driver.

7. Select "Prolific USB-to-Serial Comm Port Version: 3.2.0.0 [7/31/2007]". Click "Next" (Fig. 5).
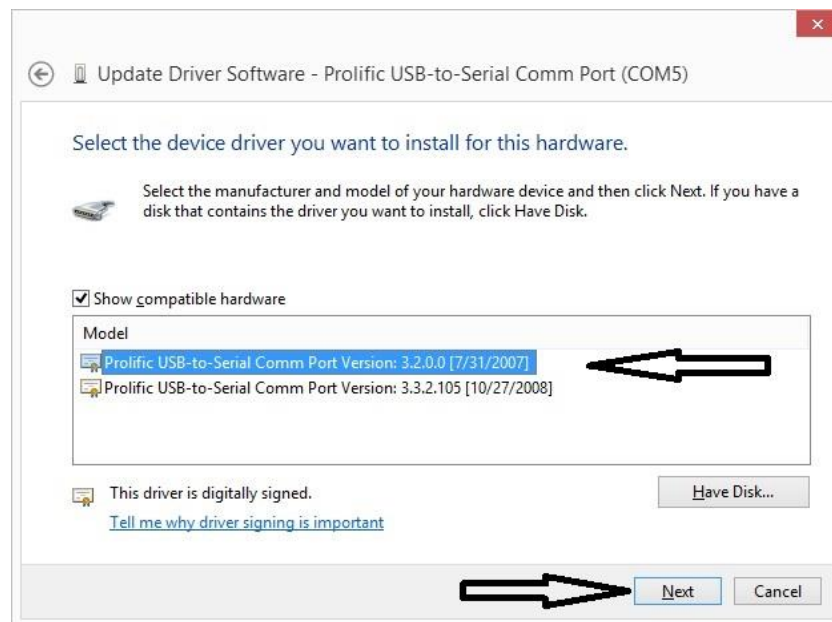
Figure 5. Selecting Prolific Driver 3.2.0.0

8. The driver software will display "Windows has successfully updated your driver software" after the installation completes. Click "Close" (Fig. 6).
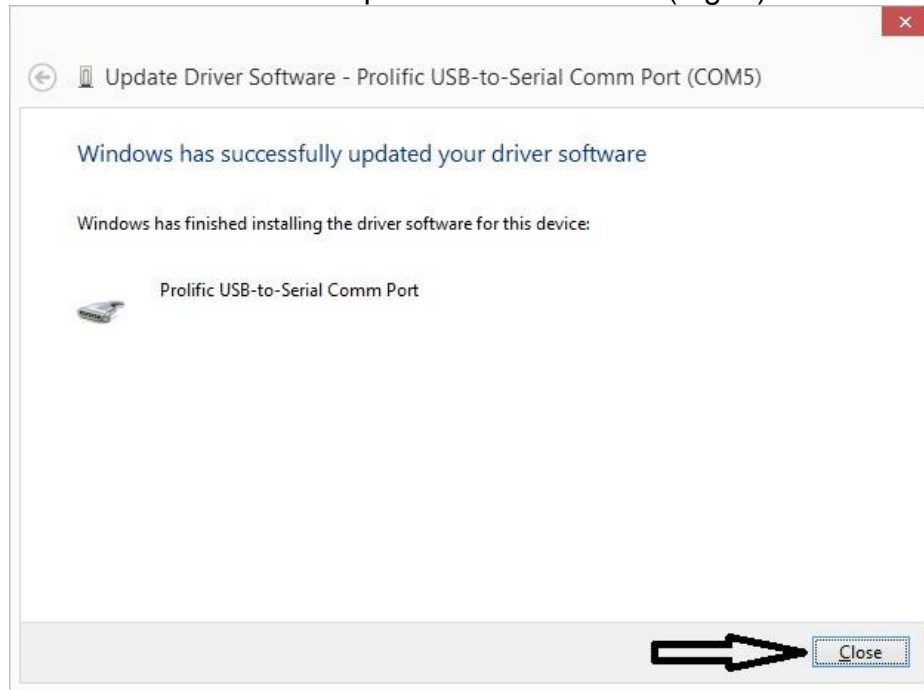

Figure 6. Prolific Driver installed.

9. If different USB ports are to be used, repeat the Update Driver Software process.

5. Appendix A: Document Version History

Date Code	Rev	Changes
2013-10-02	1	Initial document release.