

CaIMAN Setup Guide

FTDI USB to Serial Converter

Rev. 1.2

Introduction

If a USB to serial converter is required to connect a device to a CalMAN computer, we recommend an FTDI brand converter. Extensive testing has determined that these converters, which include a data buffer, are the most reliable converters to use for CalMAN device control.

Purchase Options

Two versions of the FTDI USB-Serial Converter are available for purchase on the following FTDI product page:

<http://www.ftdichip.com/Products/Cables/USBRS232.htm>

FTDI CHIP-10 USB-Serial Converter

The basic version of the FTDI USB to serial converter (Figure 1) fully supports CalMAN control of serial hardware devices through a computer USB port.



Figure 1. FTDI CHIP-10.

https://shop.clickandbuild.com/cnb/shop/ftdichip?productID=342&op=catalogue-product_info-null&prodCategoryID=293

https://www.google.com/shopping/product/14495824542956067245?q=CHIP-10&rlz=1C1ZKTG_enUS728US728&biw=1920&bih=1080&prds=hsec:online&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwj4tPXUzvfTAhWFh1QKHbzMDLYQ2SsIDA

FTDI US232R-10 Premium USB-Serial Converter

The premium version of the FTDI USB to serial converter (Figure 2) includes blue, side-lit LED TX and RX traffic indicators for functionality testing.



Figure 2. FTDI US232R-10.

<https://shop.clickandbuild.com/cnb/shop/ftdichip?op=catalogue-products-null&prodCategoryID=293&title=RS232+Cables>

Star Tech Version

A version of the FTDI USB-Serial Converter is also available from Star Tech, through Amazon:

StarTech.com ICUSB2321F USB-Serial Converter

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B004ZMYTYC/ref=cm_sw_r_cp_api_dtB5yb3WKKPQZ

Device Driver

When the driver is properly installed, the FTDI converter will be listed in Device Manager under Universal Serial Bus Controllers as “USB Serial Converter.”

The Virtual COM port (VCP) driver also causes the USB device to appear as an additional COM port, listed under Ports (COM & LPT), as “USB Serial Port (COMx).”

If the converter does not appear under those two listings, the driver is not yet properly installed.

CalMAN software can then access the USB device connected to the FTDI converter as it would a standard serial device, at the COMx port.

Device Driver download for FTDI converter

<http://www.ftdichip.com/Drivers/VCP.htm>

Or, CalMAN Device Driver Pack

<http://www.spectracal.com/download.php?id=3>

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