

PL-2303 USB-to-Serial Bridge Controller Mac OS X Universal Binary Driver Installation Guide

Introduction

This installation guide document shows the procedure for installing the MacOS X driver for Prolific PL-2303 (H/HX/X) devices. The driver can be downloaded from the Support webpage of the Prolific website:

<http://www.prolific.com.tw/eng/downloads.asp?ID=31>

System Requirement

The following requirements are needed:

- Mac OS X 10.1 to 10.7 operating systems (includes 64-bit support)
 ✓ **Also supports Mac OS X Lion 10.7 (see page 12)**
- Apple Mac OS X compatible computers (Intel or PowerPC based machines)
- USB 1.1 or higher port
- PL-2303 USB-to-Serial Cable Adapter
- PL-2303 Mac OS X Universal Binary Driver

Mac OS X Driver Installation

The following steps will show how to install the PL-2303 device under Mac OS X operating system:

1. Download the Mac OS X Universal Binary driver from Prolific website.

PL-2303 Software and Drivers

Filename	Release Date	Version	File Size
EULA.pdf	2010/9/3		22 KB

End User License Agreement ("EULA")

Do not install or use any software from Prolific website until you have read and accepted all of the license terms. Permission to use the software is conditional upon your agreeing to the license terms. Installation or use of the software by you will be deemed to be acceptance of the license terms. Acceptance will bind you to the license terms in a legally enforceable contract with Prolific Technology Inc.

NOTE: Prolific does not manufacture any end-user cable products and does not provide exclusive support to end-users. Prolific highly suggest end-users to contact the user product manufacturer for service and support. Please read the End-User License Agreement (EULA) before downloading any software or drivers from Prolific website.

md_PL2303_MacOSX10.6_dmg_v1.4.0.zip	2010/9/2	1.4.0	54 KB
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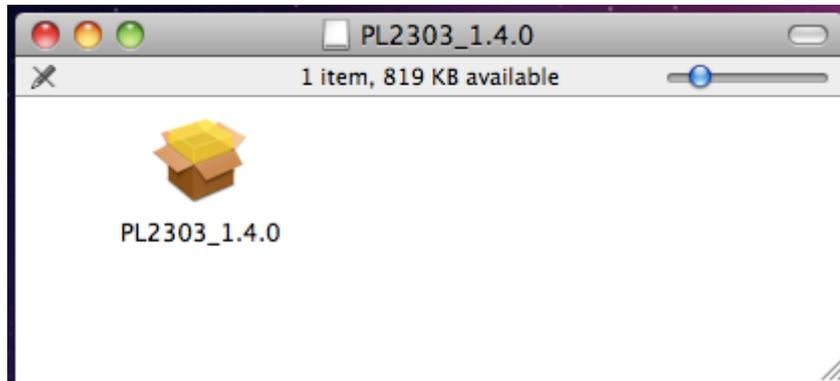
PL-2303 (H, HX, X chip version) Mac OS X Universal Binary Driver v1.4.0 (DMG file format), Prolific Edition
 For Mac OS X 10.6.x Snow Leopard (32-bit and 64-bit kernel)

md_pl2303H_HX_X_dmg_v1.2.1r2.zip	2007/3/21	v1.2.1r2	62 KB
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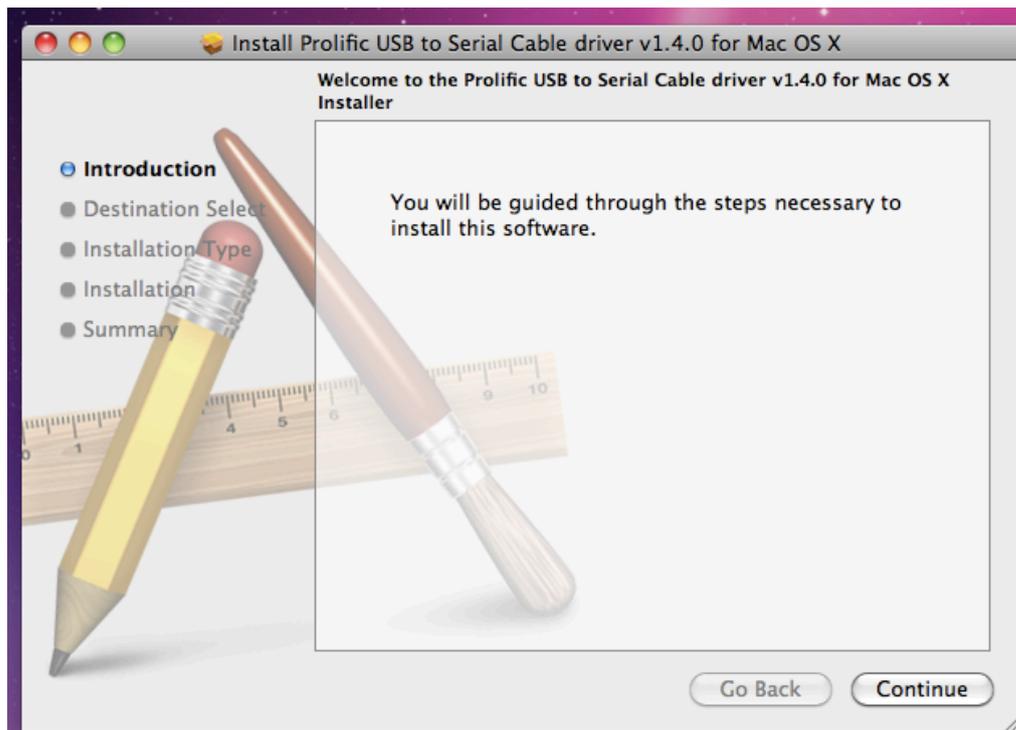
PL-2303 (H, HX, X chip version) Mac OS X Universal Binary Driver v1.2.1r2 (DMG file format), Prolific Edition
 For Mac OS 10.1 and above for PowerPC based Mac
 For Mac OS X 10.4.x and 10.5.x for PowerPC and Intel based Mac

- The PL-2303 Mac OS X driver package contains the DMG compressed image file. Click on the DMG file to extract the driver installer package.

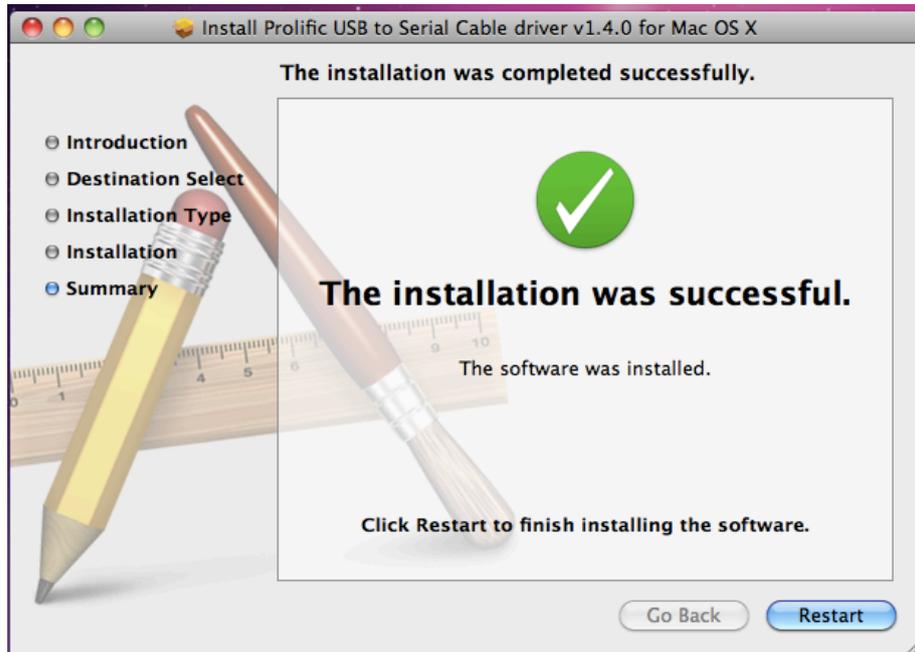
Name	Date Modified	Size
 PL2303_1.4.0.dmg	Sep 2, 2010 4:57 PM	8.9 MB



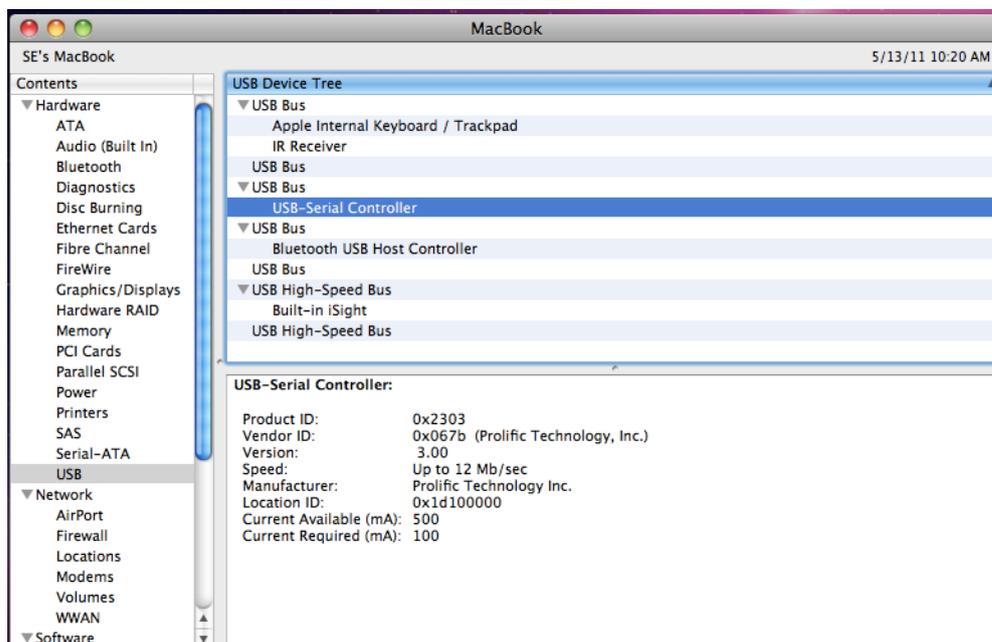
- Click on the driver installer file to run the driver installation process. Click Continue to proceed and follow the succeeding instructions to complete the installation.



- At the end of the installation, you will need to restart your computer. Close all programs and click Restart to complete installation and reboot the system.



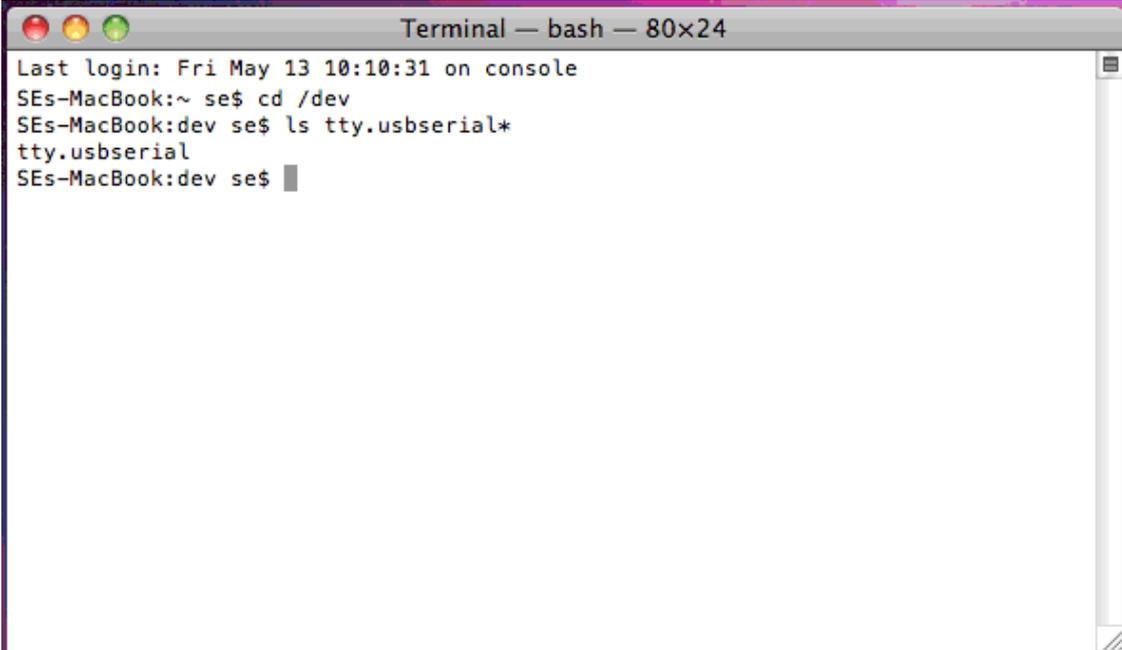
- After rebooting the system, you can now plug the PL-2303 USB-to-Serial adaptor or cable to the USB port. You can first run the System Profiler program under the Applications-Utilities folder. Click USB hardware inside System Profiler and look for “USB-Serial Controller” or “USB-Serial Controller D”. This means that the hardware device is detected by your Mac computer.



6. You can then proceed to check if the USB serial port device is setup properly. You can run the Terminal program under Applications-Utilities folder and type the following commands:

```
cd /dev  
ls tty.usbserial*
```

You should see the “**tty.usbserial**” device which means the USB serial device is already setup properly. If you try to plug another PL-2303 device, you should also see several “**tty.usbserialx**” listed where “**x**” is the assigned device number similar to Windows COM port assignment.



```
Terminal — bash — 80x24  
Last login: Fri May 13 10:10:31 on console  
SEs-MacBook:~ se$ cd /dev  
SEs-MacBook:dev se$ ls tty.usbserial*  
tty.usbserial  
SEs-MacBook:dev se$
```

7. NOTE: Mac OS may also pop-up a new network interface when it detects a new USB-Serial Controller device. See next section for more explanation.



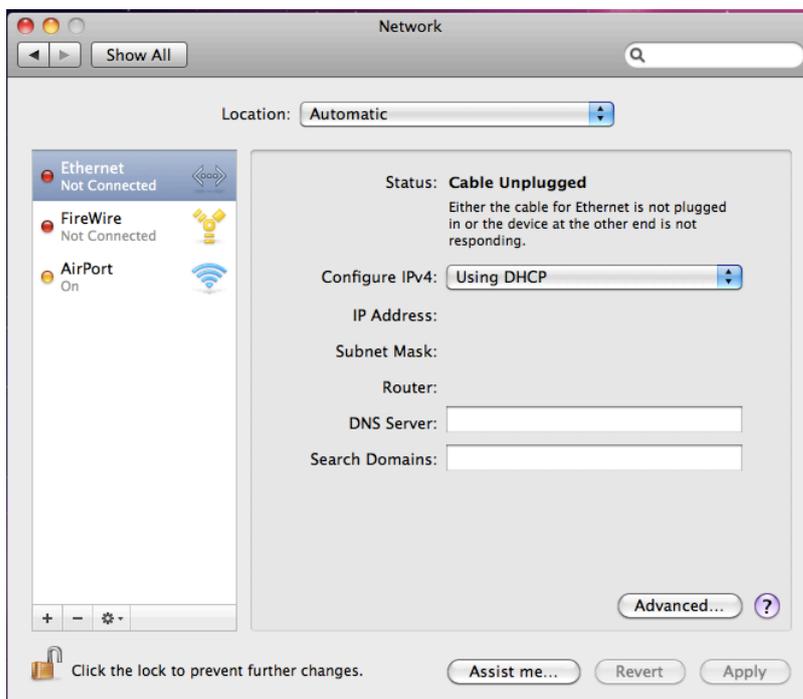
Using the USB-to-Serial Device under Mac OS X

The following steps will show how to use the PL-2303 device under Mac OS X operating system:

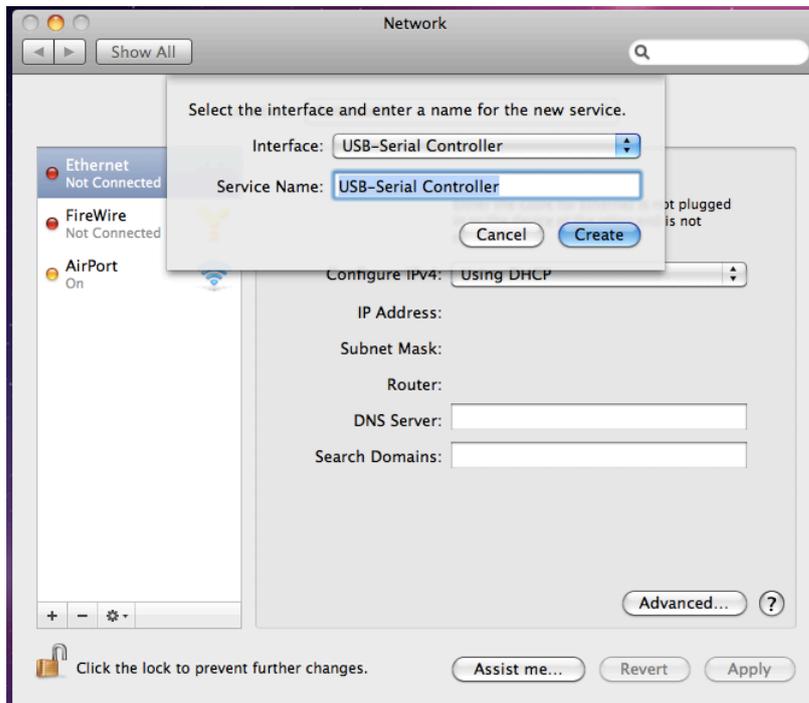
1. One common test is to connect a 56K serial modem to the PL-2303 adapter. Go to System Preferences and click on Network.



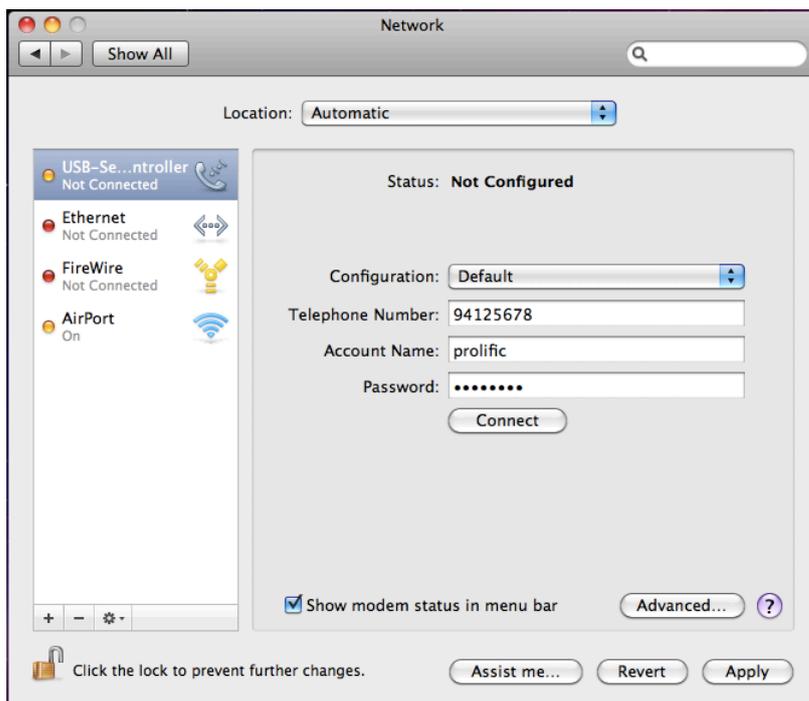
2. The left side column shows you all the existing ports and status. If you do not see the USB Serial Controller device, click on the "+" add button to look for the device.



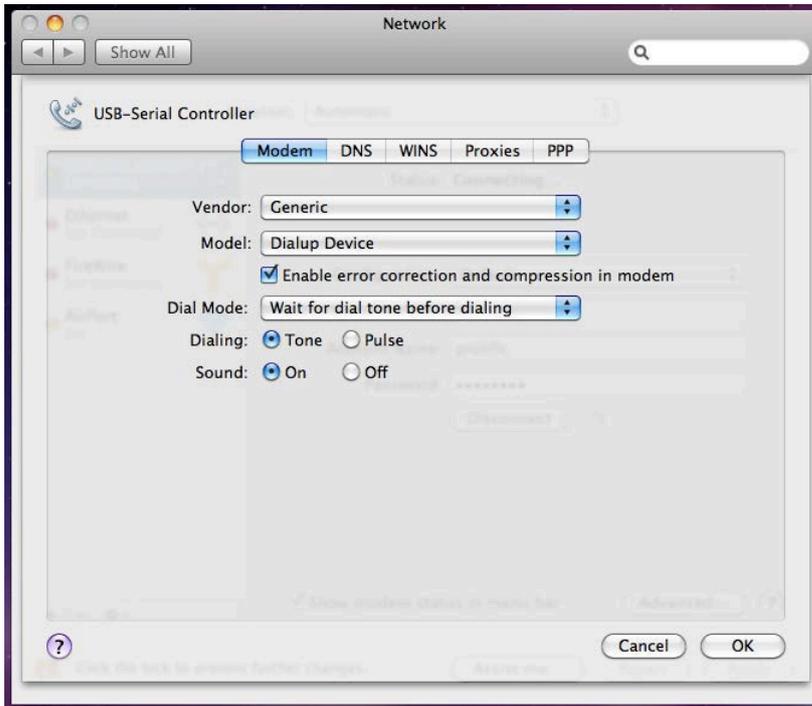
3. Select the Interface “USB-Serial Controller”. You can also choose to change the Service Name to distinguish the device if you have several devices attached.



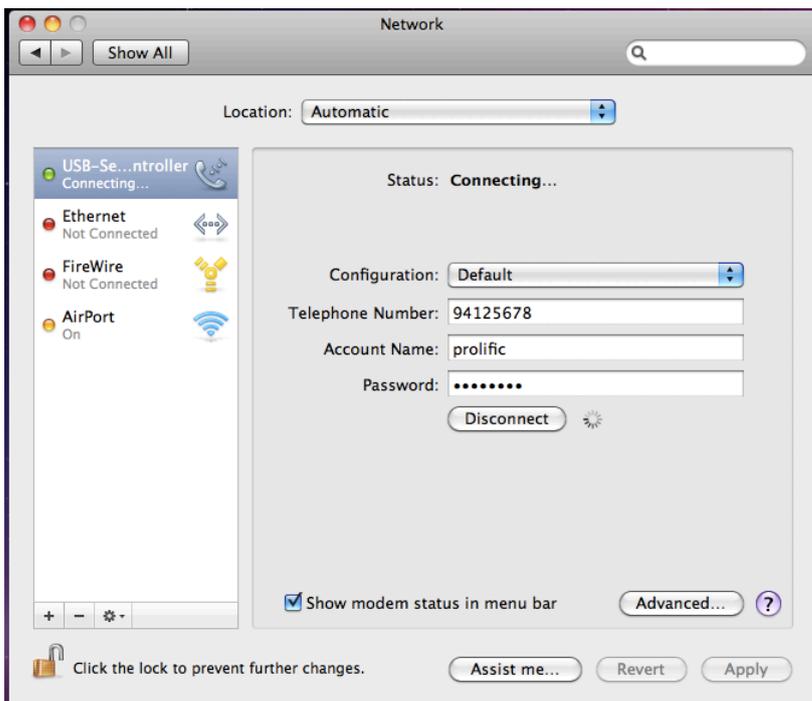
4. Now the “USB-Serial Controller” device is added to the list and you can start to configure the serial modem Internet dial-up settings attached to the PL-2303 cable adaptor.



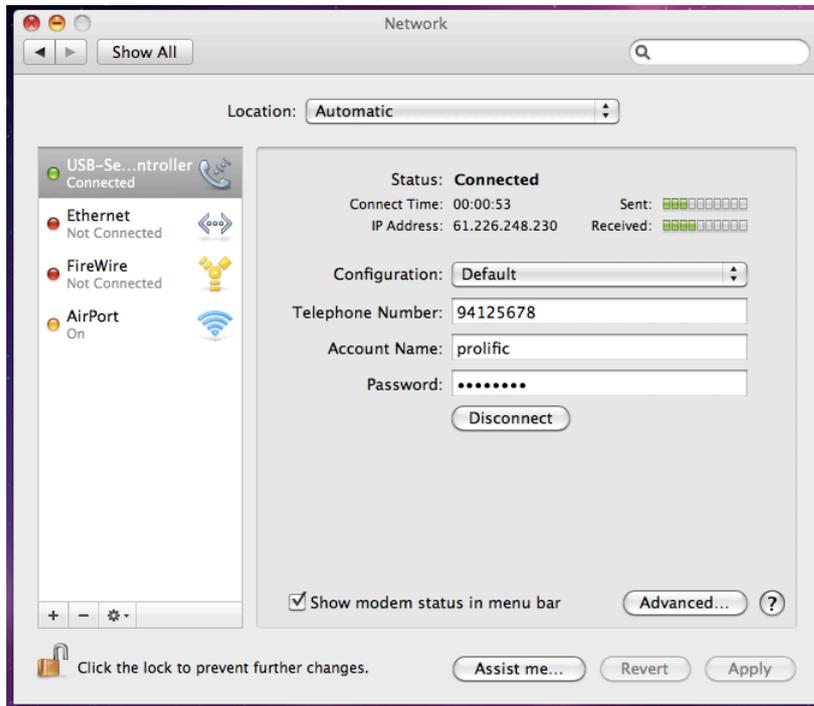
5. You can click on the Advanced button to set the correct modem vendor and model. The default modem settings normally would work on any serial modems.



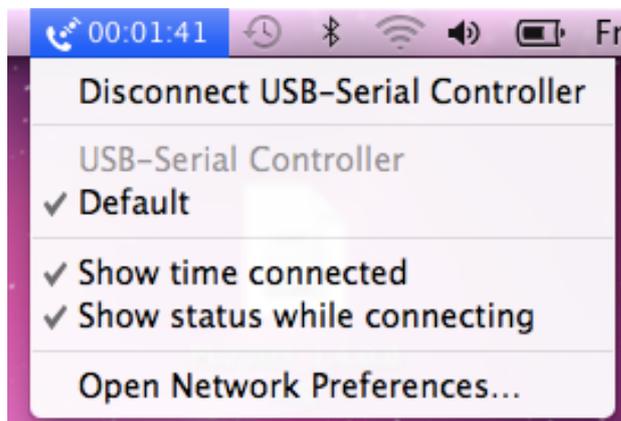
6. Click the Connect button to start the Internet dial-up connection. Make sure the serial modem has a telephone connected and powered on.



- When connection is made, you can start to use Mac OS X Safari web browser and monitor the modem connection status by data sent and received.



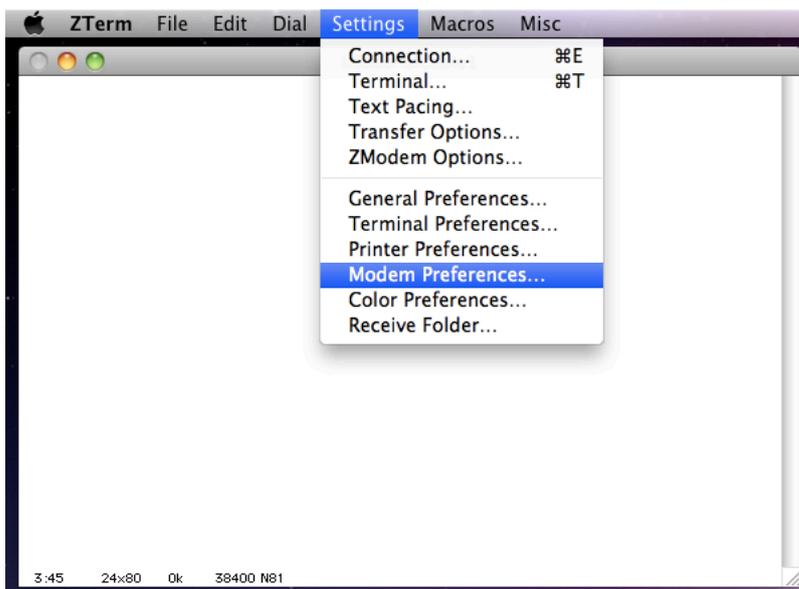
- You can also click the "Show modem status in menu bar" to see the connection status on top of the menu bar. Then click on the Modem status on the menu bar to show the controls.



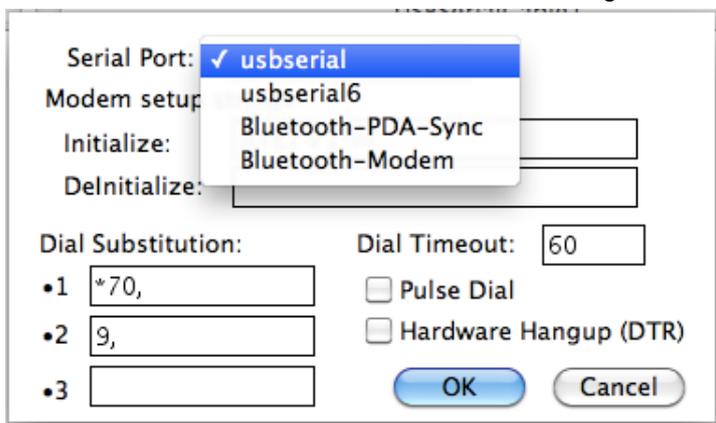
Using ZTerm program under Mac OS X

You can also test the PL-2303 device by using the ZTerm serial port terminal program and a null modem cable to connect two computers and transmit/receive data files. The following steps will show how to use the program:

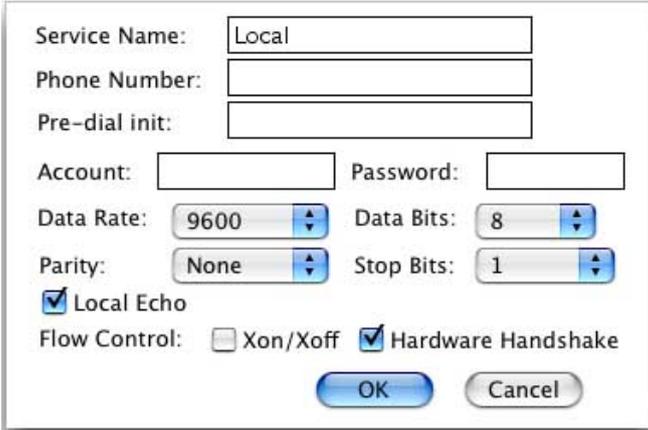
1. Download the ZTERM program from below website and install the program under Mac OS X:
<http://homepage.mac.com/dalverson/zterm/>
2. Run the ZTERM program and select the PL-2303 device by clicking on Settings-Modem Preferences.



3. Click on the Serial Port box. If you have several PL-2303 devices attached, you will find those devices listed similar to the list shown when running the Mac OS Terminal program.



- Then click on Settings-Connections to set the data transfer rate and flow control settings.



Service Name: Local

Phone Number:

Pre-dial init:

Account: Password:

Data Rate: 9600 Data Bits: 8

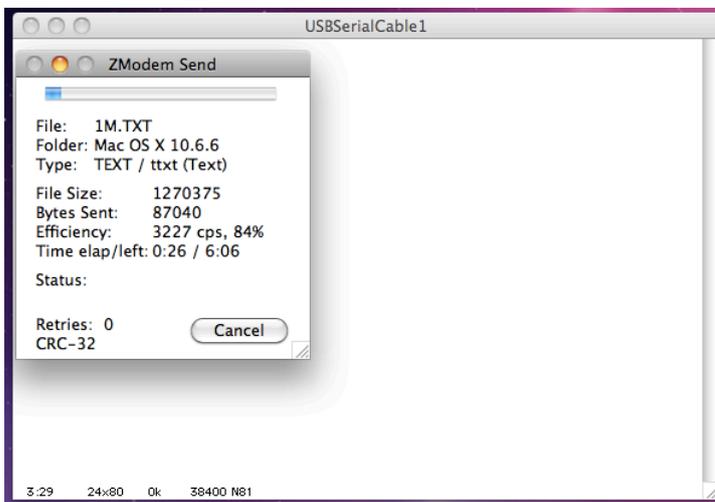
Parity: None Stop Bits: 1

Local Echo

Flow Control: Xon/Xoff Hardware Handshake

OK Cancel

- Run all of the above same procedures for the other Mac OS computer. Use a serial null modem cable to connect the PL-2303 port from both computers. On one computer, click File-Send Files and choose the file to send. On the other computer, click File-Receive Files. You will then see the file transfer to begin.



- You can also simply plug a loopback connector (TX-RX short) to the PL-2303 serial port and type the keyboard to show the send characters on the Local window display.



How to Uninstall Driver

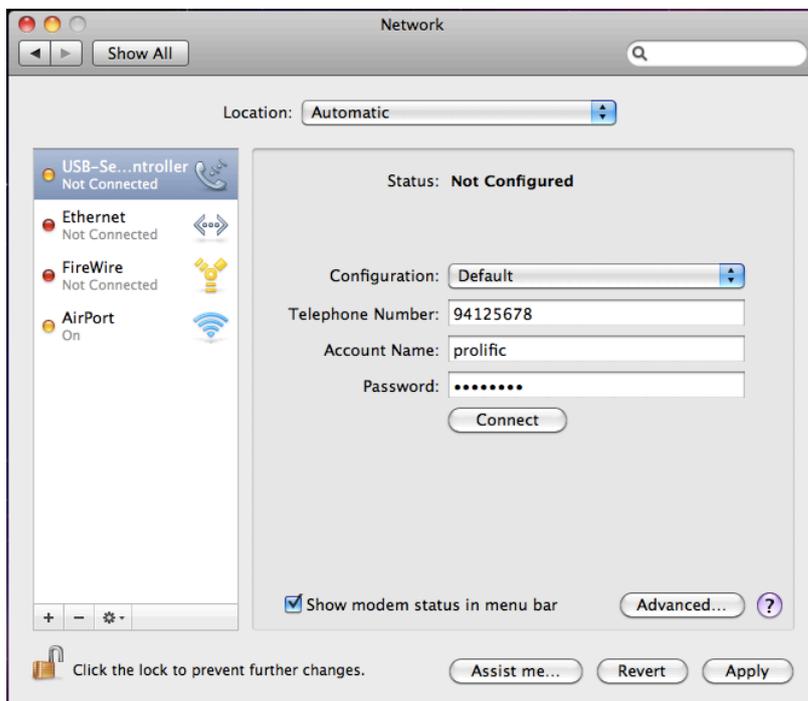
To remove and uninstall the PL-2303 drivers from Mac OS X operating system, you must be logged on as root. You can use the “sudo” command option to substitute user privileges.

1. Run a Terminal session (Applications-Utilities-Terminal) and enter the following commands at the command prompt:

```
cd /System/Library/Extensions
sudo kextunload ProlificUSBSerial.kext (enter system password)
rm -r ProlificUSBSerialDriver.kext
```

You can also go to the System-Library-Extensions file folder to delete the “ProlificUSBSerialDriver.kext” file.

2. To remove the port from the system, go to System Preferences and select Network. Select the “USB-Serial Controller” device shown from the Show menu and click on the “-“ remove button to uninstall the port.



3. Restart the computer again before reinstalling the driver.

Mac OS X 10.7 Lion Support

The PL-2303 is also tested to be compatible with Mac OS X 10.7 Lion version using ZTerm terminal program and Network-Dialup serial modem.

