USB Director RS-232

Add one, two, four, or eight RS-232 serial ports to your PC, laptop, thin client, or server.

BLACK BOX®
724-746-5500

SYSTEM STATUS

USB Director
USB→Dual Port RS-232

FEATURES

» Add serial, USB, and parallel ports to a PC, server, laptop, or thin client without opening the computer's chassis!
» High-speed alternative to serial cards.
» All models have operating-system support for Windows 98, SE, Me, XP, and Windows 2000.
» Single-port model also supports Windows CE.
» Lower cost per port than serial boards.
» Configurable COM port assignment.

4-Port USB Director RS-232 in a point-of-sale application.

4-Port USB Director RS-232 (IC135A)

PC

USB

POS System

Serial RS-232 Devices

Printer
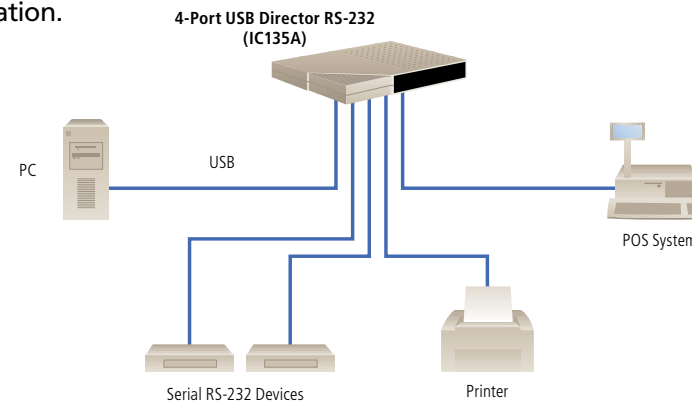
OVERVIEW

The Single-Port USB Director RS-232 gives you reliability, superb performance, and operating-system support. Simply plug the Single-Port USB Director RS-232 into the USB port of a desktop PC, laptop, or thin client and gain one high-speed RS-232 DB9 serial port. Attaching personal digital assistants (PDAs), printers, bar-code scanners, and other peripheral devices has never been easier! The director is perfect for point-of-sale and mobile computing applications in which space is limited and flexible I/O expansion is required.

The 2-, 4-, and 8-port USB Director RS-232s are intelligent, stackable expansion modules designed for the enterprise user who requires reliability in mission-critical applications. They connect to a PC, thin client, laptop, or server via the Universal Serial Bus (USB) port, providing instant COM-port expansion for peripheral-device connectivity. Unmatched operating-system support and reliable performance make the USB Director RS-232 ideal for applications such as point-of-sale, kiosk connectivity, and mobile computing. The 2-, 4-, and 8-port USB Directors RS-232 are compatible with Windows® 98, SE, Me, XP, and Windows 2000. The single-port model is also compatible with Windows CE.

The USB Director RS-232s feature a Type B USB connector that's used to attach a cable to the USB port of a PC, USB hub, or USB switch. In addition, the units are equipped with one, two, four, or eight DB9 male RS-232 ports (depending on the model). Port pinning is like that of a PC's serial ports.

Installing the hardware is straightforward. To make connections, simply plug one end of the included USB cable into your PC's USB port (or into a USB hub or switch, if necessary), and plug the cable's other end into the USB Director RS-232. Then plug your RS-232 device(s), or their attached cables, into the USB Director RS-232's serial connector(s).

Driver installation is just as easy. CD-ROM-based wizards take you step-by-step through the process of setting them up in your Windows system. In fact, once you install the drivers, Windows will detect your USB Director RS-232's new COM ports and will begin to initialize them.

After you install the hardware and software, the USB Director RS-232 operates without requiring further intervention on your part. On the 2-, 4-, and 8-port models, a tri-color indicator signals USB communications between the device and host as well as serial port activity on the device.

The USB Director RS-232 also comes with a configuration utility program that enables you to manage various resources on the unit, such as mapping of each physical communications port to your Windows COM port numbers. You can reassign the physical ports on the USB Director RS-232 to any available Windows COM port number 1 to 255 or give your USB Director RS-232 a user-friendly device name—a feature that's particularly helpful if you intend to install more than one USB Director RS-232.

To install the USB Director, you don't need to open the chassis, power down your computer, or reconfigure the system. It supports baud rates of up to 230 kbps per port.

A tri-state LED shows the device status and COM port activity. The Director is compatible with USB 1.0 and 1.1.

The USB Director offers full hardware and software flow-control support. And it costs less per port than serial boards. Each port features a UART with 64-byte FIFOs.

No additional IRQ or memory is required. And jack screws keep your serial devices securely in place.

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TECH SPECS

System Requirements — Pentium® class CPU with at least 16 MB RAM and at least one available USB type A (downstream) port, running Windows 98, SE, Me, CE, XP, or Windows 2000

Compliance —
EMI/RFI: CE (EN 55022, EN 55024)
Class B, FCC Part 15 Subpart B
Class B, IC Class/classe B;
Safety: UL® 1950 (3rd. ed.),
CSA No. 950, IEC 950, EN 60950

Data Rate — Up to 230 kbps; Serial port(s) can be set to any data format, flow control, or duplex setting the PC application supports

User Controls — Software drivers on included CD

Interface — Universal Serial Bus v1.1 (can be attached to a USB 2.0 host but will operate at USB 1.1 data rates), EIA/TIA RS-232

Connectors —
All models: (1) USB Type B female (front-mounted on IC1001A, rear-mounted on other models);
Rear-mounted DB9 male for
RS-232: IC1000A: (1);
IC1001A: (2);
IC135A: (4);
IC1002A: (8)

Indicators — IC1000A: None;
IC1001A, IC1002A, IC135A:
(1) Front-mounted tricolor LED

Temperature Tolerance — 32 to 131°F (0 to 55°C)

Humidity Tolerance — Up to 95% noncondensing

Power — USB-bus-powered, consumes less than 200 mA at full operating speed

Size —
IC1000A: 0.8"H x 1.75"W x 3"D (2 x 4.4 x 7.6 cm);
DB9 thumbscrews protrude an additional 0.15" (0.4 cm) from the rear;
IC1001A, IC135A: 1"H x 7"W x 4"D
(2.5 x 17.8 x 10.2 cm);
IC1002A: 1.75"H x 7"W x 4.25"D
(4.4 x 17.8 x 10.8 cm)

Weight —
IC1000A: 1.6 oz. (45.4 g);
IC1001A: 12 oz. (340.2 g);
IC1002A, IC135A: 1 lb. (0.5 kg)

IC1002A: rear view

Technically Speaking

Universal Serial Bus (USB)

Universal Serial Bus is a royalty-free bus specification developed by the leading manufacturers in the PC and telephony industries to support plug-and-play peripheral connections.

USB offers increased bandwidth and lower costs than conventional I/O ports.

The USB bus is a daisychain consisting of USB hubs and peripherals less than 16.4 ft. (5 m) apart. The USB daisychain can support up to 127 devices. Instead of opening up the CPU to insert new boards, make all connections outside the case to the USB ports.

Because USB connections are hot-swappable, you can attach or remove peripherals without shutting down your computer.

What's included

✦ (1) USB Director RS-232: Single-, 2-, 4-, or 8-Port
✦ (1) CD-ROM containing installation and utility drivers
✦ (1) 3.2-ft. (1-m) USB cable
✦ (1) Users' manual

Item	Code
USB Director RS-232	
Single-Port	**IC1000A**
2-Port	**IC1001A**
4-Port	**IC135A**
8-Port	**IC1002A**
If your PC doesn't have a USB port, order…	
USB Card (PCI)	**IC136C**
You might also want to order…	
Universal Serial Bus (USB) Cable	**USB01**

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