

Application note
March 10, 2010

Use of USB / Serial adapters

Recommendations when using a USB / Serial adapter

1/ General description

The progressive dying-out of serial ports on the new PCs will involve the mandatory use of USB/Serial adapters for using the parameterization softwares with our drives.

The operation principle of these adapters consists in creating virtual COM ports (1 to 16) on the PC.

The Gem Drive Studio software takes into consideration only the COM1 to COM8 ports up to version V2.5. The following versions allow to deal with serial ports up to COM16.

For the Gem Drive Studio versions below 2.5, if the USB/Serial adapter driver creates a virtual COM port with number higher than 8, this number can be modified:

- From the PC peripheral manager accessible in the control, select the virtual COM port and modify its number in the advanced parameters of the Properties window.

2/ Selection of an adapter

Plenty of adapters are available on the market, but they do not all offer the same warranties as for the performances and the sensitiveness to electromagnetic disturbances.

When purchasing an adapter, it is highly recommended to choose an industrial adapter than a consumer one. Its cables must also be mandatorily shielded.

For example, the **USB-COM-M** adapter developed by company **VSCOM** answers the performance and reliability requirements.

The distributors of this product are listed at following link: www.vsc.com