ADAPTIVE®

PRIORITY:	Normal
DATE:	October 8, 2001
TITLE:	Using AlphaNET software with USB-equipped Apple $^{\textcircled{R}}$ Power Macintosh $^{\textcircled{R}}$ computers
ECO REFERENCE:	N/A
PRODUCT(S) AFFECTED:	AlphaNET software (version 1.4 or greater)
SUMMARY:	This document shows how to use AlphaNET software on a Power Macintosh [®] G3 or G4 computer.

Introduction

This TechMemo shows how to use AlphaNET software (version 1.4 or greater) on a Power Macintosh[®] G3 or G4 computer to send messages to Alpha[®] signs.

To do this, the AlphaNET software should be run on Windows[®] 2000 emulator software, called Virtual PC, on a Macintosh[®] computer.

NOTE: This TechMemo only applies to Apple[®] Power Macintosh[®] G3 and G4 computers, <u>not Apple[®] iMac computers</u>.

Required materials

Item	Availability
Connectix Virtual PC v4.0 with Windows [®] 2000 software	MacWarehouse (800-622-6222), \$230
Belkin USB Serial Adapter for a PC (not the Macintosh $^{\textcircled{B}}$ version), Belkin part number F5U103	Belkin (www.belkin.com), \$80
AlphaNET software (version 1.4 or greater)	Contact Adaptive Micro Systems.

Related documentation

Name	Part number	Description
AlphaNET plus™ for Windows [®] User Manual	9708-8081	Step-by-step examples on how to use this software
Network Configurations	9708-8046	Examples on how to network Alpha® signs

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Install the Virtual PC software

- **NOTE:** Do NOT connect the Belkin USB Serial Adapter to your computer until instructed to do so.
- 1. Delete all previous versions of Virtual PC software from your computer. This includes any Virtual PC files in the *System > Extensions* folder and the *System > Preferences* folder.
- 2. Restart your computer.
- 3. Install the Virtual PC v4.0 with Windows[®] 2000 software.
- 4. Start the Virtual PC software and then start the Windows[®] 2000 software:



5. Eject the Virtual PC CD ROM.

- Virtual PC "Windows 2000" 日日 e **6**2 PHA ELECTRONI My Network Places Recycle Bin AlphaNET plus for Windows 0 Version 1.4 Internet Explorer Copyright © 1997-2001 Adaptive Micro Systems, Inc ield Wizard Connect to the Internet AlphaNET Plus for Windows Setup is preparing the InstallShield® Wizard, which will guide you through the rest of the setup process. Please wait. This program is prote Shortcut to Setup Cancel 🏦 Start 🔢 🙆 🏐 🚺 InstallShield Wizard 4 1:47 PM 📾 💿 🗄 🐧 👀 🗠
- 6. Insert the AlphaNET CD ROM and install this software:

7. After installing the AlphaNET software, you'll have to restart the Windows[®] 2000 software.

Connect the Belkin USB Serial Adapter to your computer

- 8. Plug the Belkin USB Serial Adapter into a USB port on your computer.
 - **NOTE:** The Belkin adapter should be directly connected to one of the USB ports on your computer not through a USB hub or another USB device.

Install the software driver for the Belkin USB Serial Adapter

- 9. Using Windows[®] 2000 software, eject and remove the AlphaNET software CD ROM. Then insert the installation CD ROM that came with the Belkin adapter.
 - **NOTE:** For the Belkin Serial Adapter used with these instructions, two CD ROMs were included: an installation CD ROM and a Windows[®] 2000 CD ROM. In this case, the Windows[®] 2000 CD ROM was used because it contained the necessary software driver.

10. The following prompts should appear on the Windows[®] 2000 software screen:





Determine the COM port of the Belkin USB Serial Adapter

You need to find which Windows[®] 2000 software COM port the Belkin USB Serial Adapter is using. To do this, follow these steps:

11. In the Windows® 2000 software, select *Start > Settings > Control Panel*. Then select *System > Hardware > Device Manager > Ports*:

System Properties	<u>? × </u>	
General Network Identification	Hardware User Frontics Advanced System: Microsoft Windows 2000 5.00.2195 Service Pack 1 Registered to: TH AMS 51873-0EM-0001015 System Properties 2 × by: Connectix Corp. Windows 2000 Versio 2 × by: Connectix Corp. Windows 2000 Versio 1 Hardware Wizard Support Information. General Network Identification. Hardware. BX Connectix Corp. The Hardware wizard helps you install, uninstall, repair, unplug, eject, and configure your hardware. Ejected Manager BX. Cancel Device Manager lists all the hardware devices installed on your computer. Use the Device Manager to change the properties of any device. Device Manager is and the hardware devices installed on you computer. Use the Device Manager to change the properties of any device. OK Cancel Driver Signing Device Manager Hardware Profiles Mardware profiles provide a way for you to set up and store diferent hardware configurations. Mardware Profiles OK Cancel Apply	
1	Gevice Manager	<u>_ </u>
In this case, the Belkin USB Serial Adapter is using the COM 3 port.	AMIS-WSACPOPYHYS Computer Disk drives Display adapters Display adapters Display disk controllers Floppy disk controllers Mice and other pointing devices Mice and other pointing devices Metwork adapters Ports (COM & LPT) Bellin FSU103 USB Serial Port (COM3) Communications Port (COM2) Printer Port (LPT1) Communications Port (COM2) Printer Port (LPT1) Sund, video and game controllers System devices Universal Serial Bus controllers View of the series Universal Serial Bus controllers	

Single sign network using RS232



Multiple sign network using RS485



Set up AlphaNET software

For more information on using AlphaNET software, see the **AlphaNET plus™** for Window® User Manual:

1. Create a USB device in the AlphaNET software by starting the *Site Manager* and then selecting *Device* > *New*:

The site Manager - sitebase.dat		
File Edit Messages View Help		
Device Alt+D Si Counter File Automode File Alt+C Automode File Message Na Select All Ctrl+[Deselect All Ctrl+] Switch Pane F6 Preferences Alt+P	Time Start Day/Time	
Create new or edit existing device	Image: SiteManage: - sitebase.dat File Edit Messages View Device Editor New/Rename Device Image: Comparison of Compar	
"COM 3" is included in the device name because the Belkin USB Serial Adapter is installed in the COM 3 port. (See "Determine the COM port of the Belkin USB Serial Adapter" on page 6.)	Device Name: USB-COM3	Cancel Rename Remove Make Default Install Help

2. After naming the new device, select *Edit* and make sure *COM Port* is set to *COM3*:

NFW SiteM	anager - sitebase.dat		
Device Editor	ssages view neip		X
Default D USB-COM)evice 13	Close New	ay/Time
Available I USB-COM	Devices: 3	Edit	
	-	Bename	
L L	JSB-COM3		
	General Settings		Wireless Settings
	COM Port: COM3 -	∏ Modem	Pager Header:
	Data Format: 7E2 💌	Wireless 🗆	Pager Trailer:
	Baud Rate: 9600 💌	🗆 ТСР/ІР	
	IP Port: 3001		
Ready	Modem Settings		
	Dialing Prefix:		Packet Size: 150
	Modem Init String:		Packet Delay: 2
		OK	Cancel Help

3. After creating the USB device, create a Site that uses this device by selecting *New Site*:

🔁 NFW SiteManager - sitebase.dat		
File Edit Messages View Help		
New Site Ctrl+N		
Open Site Ctrl+O Mess	age Name Start Day/Time	
New Group Alt+N		
Remove Del		
Transmit Alt-T		
Exit		
	1	
		V
		<u> </u>
	Site Info Sign Info Group Info Advanced	
	Site Description	
1	Site Name: USB Test Site	
Create a new site		
	Compatibility: Alpha 1.0 (E235) VUse as an Editor transmit site:	
	Network Configuration	
Make sure that this new	Connect Device: UISB-COM3	
Site uses the USB		
device you just set up.	Phone Number: Cap Code:	
	Enable error checking	
		~
	OK Cancel Apply Help	

4. Next, create a test message using the *Message Editor* and transmit this message to a sign attached to your computer:

