

Virtual Serial Port Driver Instructions - 64 bit Windows 7

Dec 6, 2009

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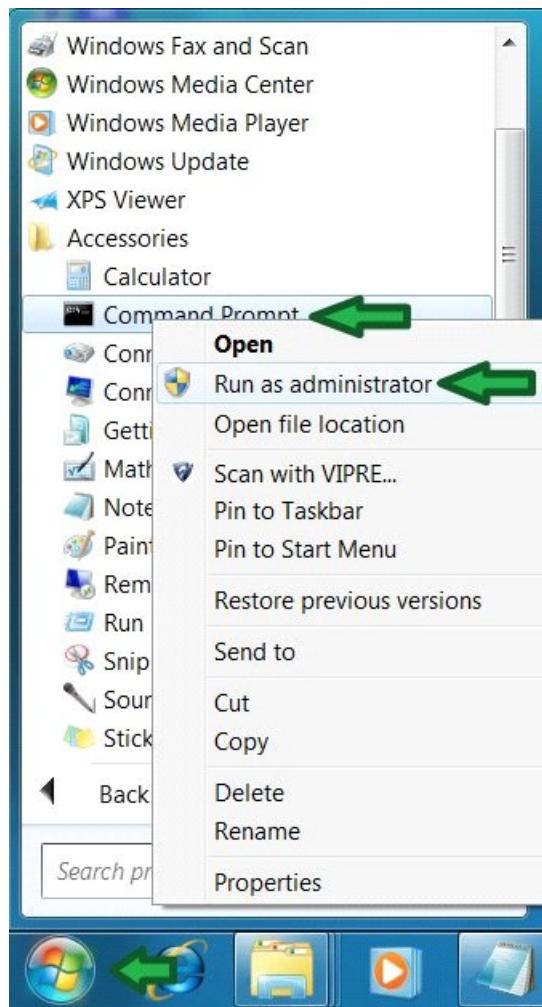
- 1) Download com0com driver. Note that com0com is an open source driver project, and is not a product of SoftWx, nor is there any affiliation between SoftWx and the author of com0com.

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Internet Explorer window displaying the SourceForge.net project page for com0com. The URL in the address bar is circled in green. The file list table, showing three zip files, is also circled in green. The table has columns for File/Folder Name, Platform, Size, Date, Downloads, and Notes/Subscribe.

File/Folder Name	Platform	Size	Date	Downloads	Notes/Subscribe
com0com-2.2.1.0-x64-fre.zip		207.6 KB	2009-05-29	2,292	
com0com-2.2.1.0-i386-fre.zip		182.1 KB	2009-05-29	12,487	
com0com-2.2.1.0.zip		194.8 KB	2009-05-29	6,158	

- 2) Microsoft requires 64-bit drivers to be signed, but this is expensive for freeware driver authors like the author of com0com. As a workaround, you can configure the Windows boot loader to put Windows 7 into test driver mode. This allows test-signed drivers such as com0com to install and run in 64-bit Windows 7. If you do not like the idea of running Windows in this test mode, you can purchase a signed 64-bit virtual serial port driver from Eterlogic <http://www.eterlogic.com/Products.VSPE.html>.

Run a command prompt windows as administrator



3) Enter the command to enable Windows Test Mode

```
Administrator: Command Prompt
Microsoft Windows [Version 6.1.7100]
Copyright (c) 2009 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Windows\system32> bcdedit.exe -set TESTSIGNING ON
```

4) Success!!

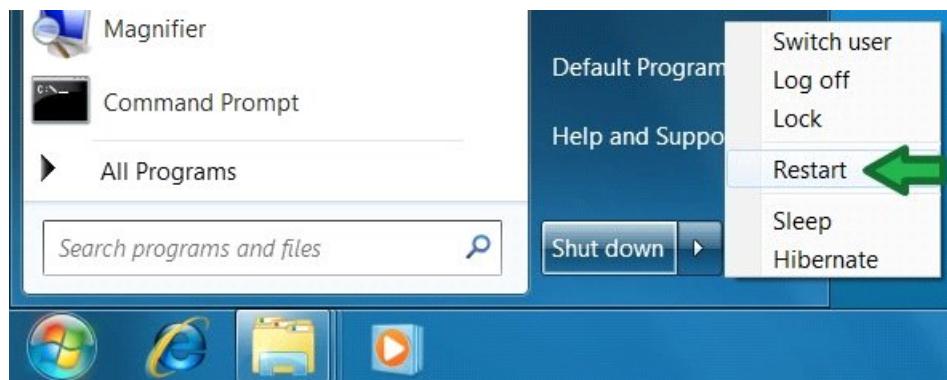


```
Administrator: Command Prompt
Microsoft Windows [Version 6.1.7100]
Copyright (c) 2009 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

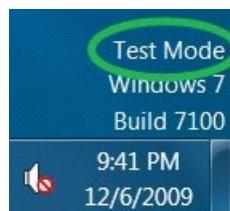
C:\Windows\system32> bcdedit.exe -set TESTSIGNING ON
The operation completed successfully.

C:\Windows\system32>
```

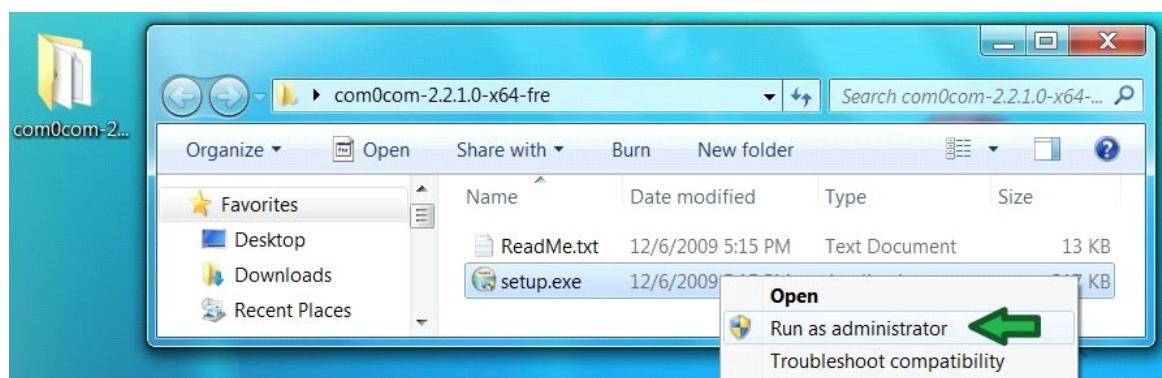
5) You must now reboot the computer



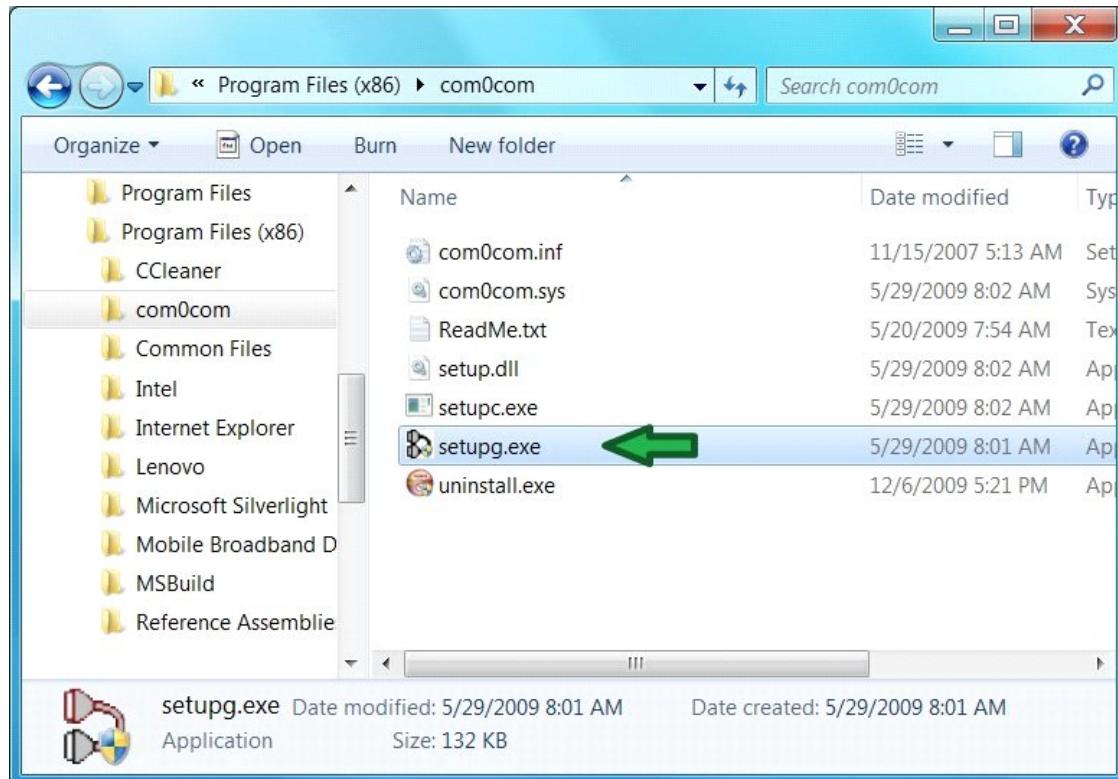
6) After you reboot, Windows will be in Test Signing Mode, allowing installation and operation of test signed drivers such as com0com.



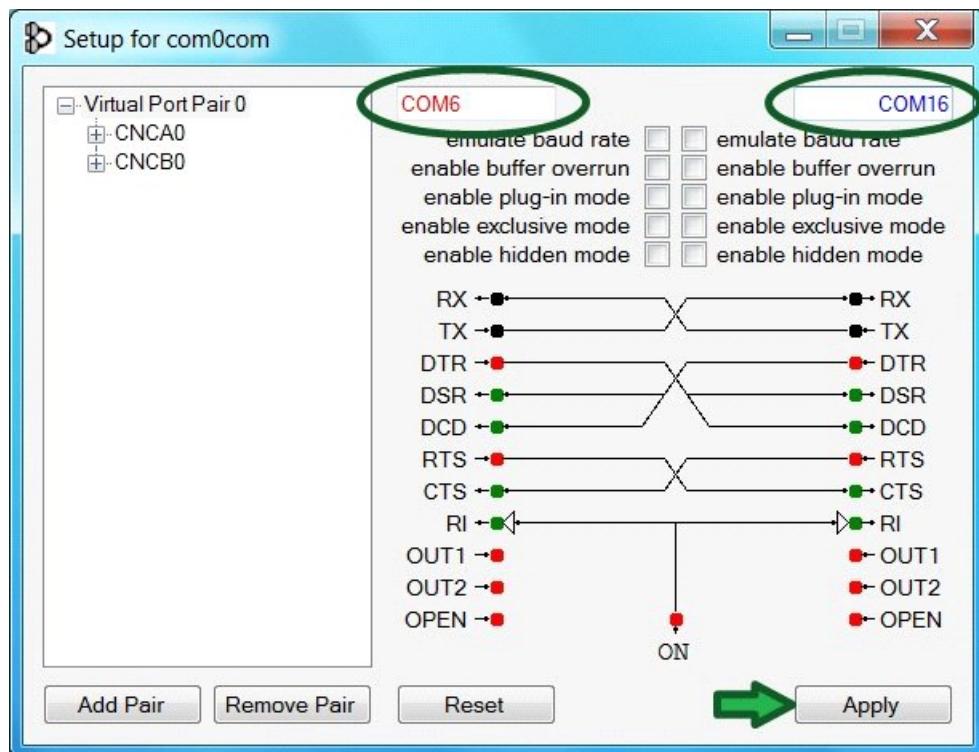
7) Run the setup.exe program from the com0com install file you downloaded earlier. You must run as administrator.



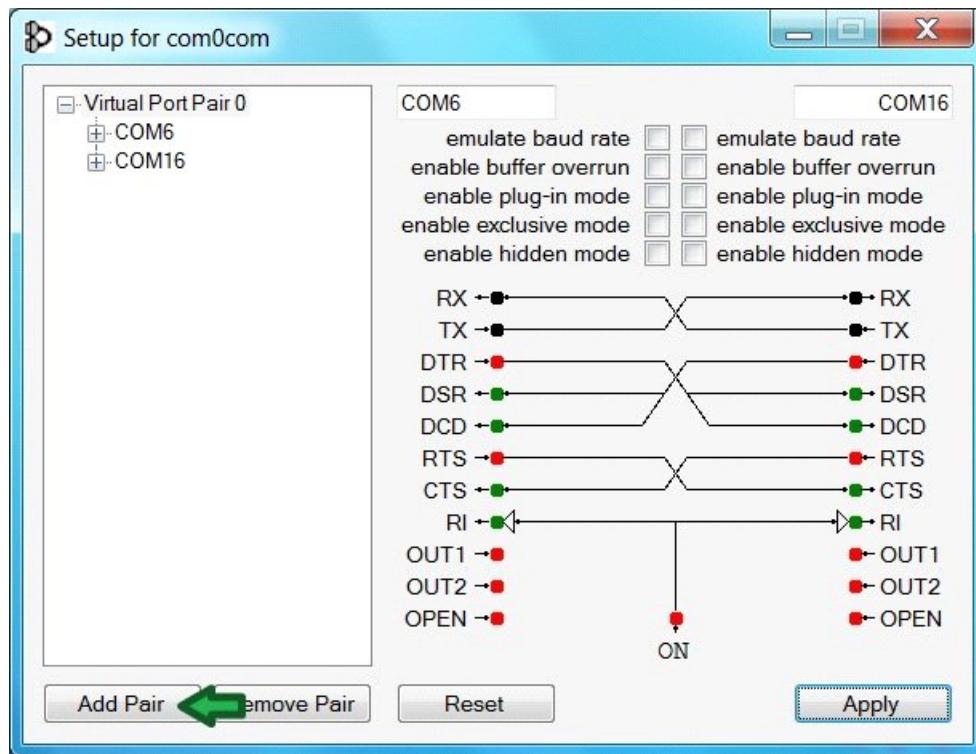
8) After the driver is installed, open the program for configuring com0com



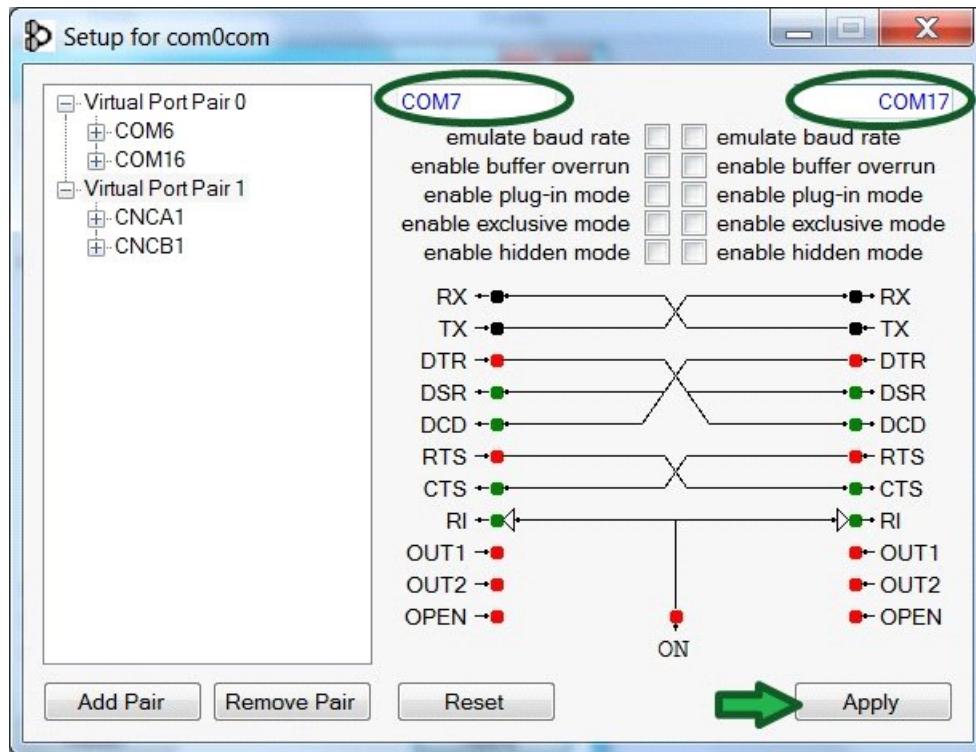
9) Change the port names for the default Virtual Port Pair 0 to COM6 - COM16



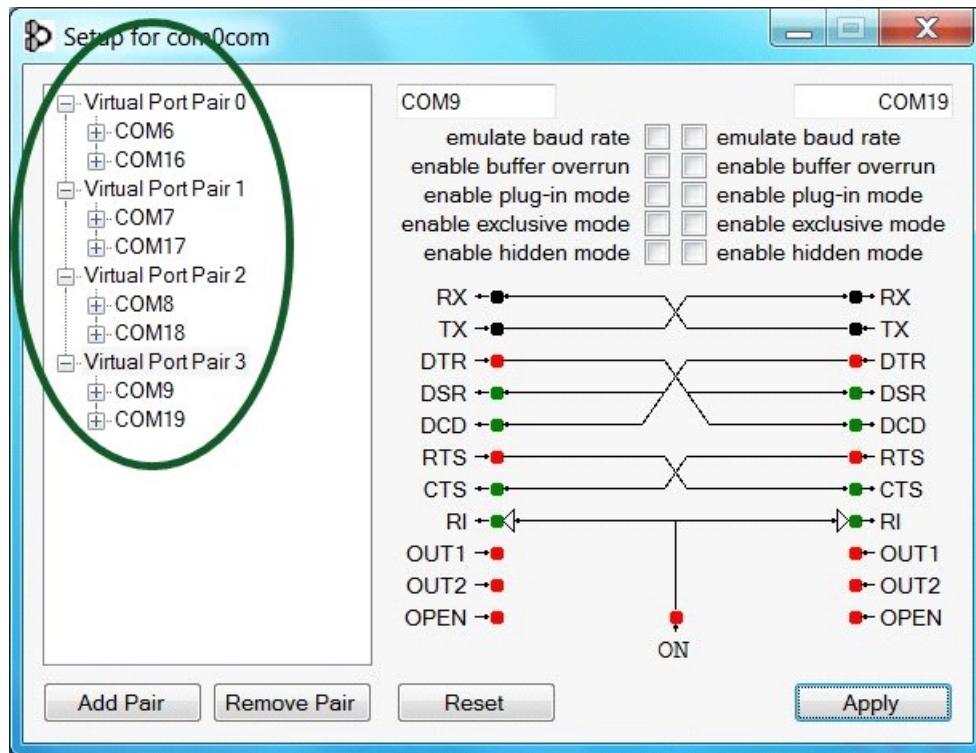
10) Add another Virtual Port Pair



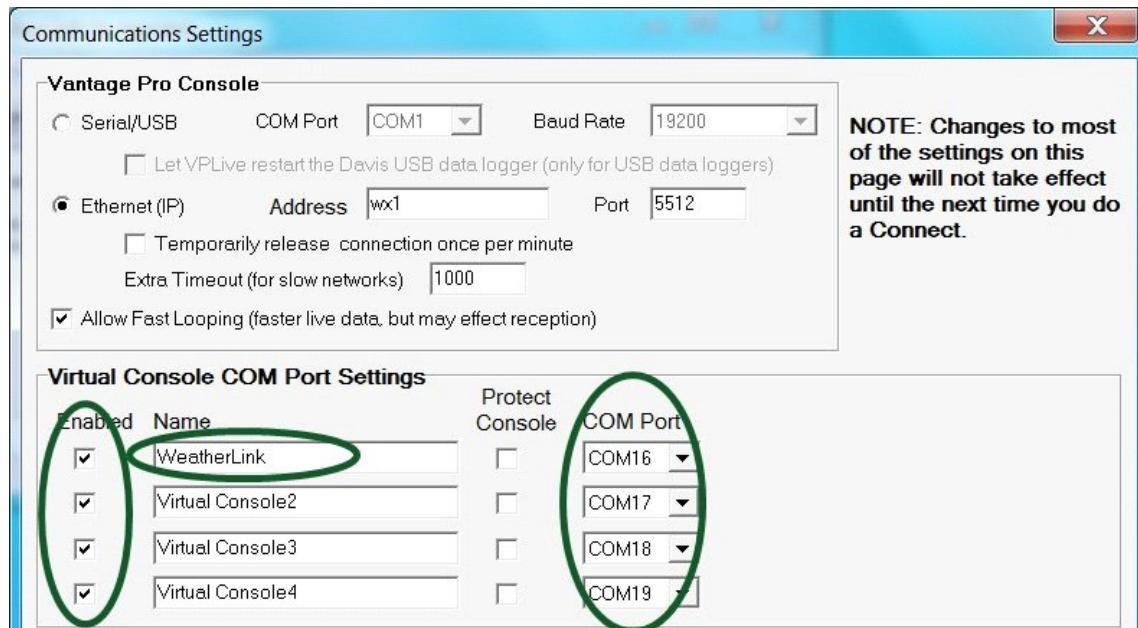
11) Configure Virtual Port Pair 1 to use COM7 - COM17



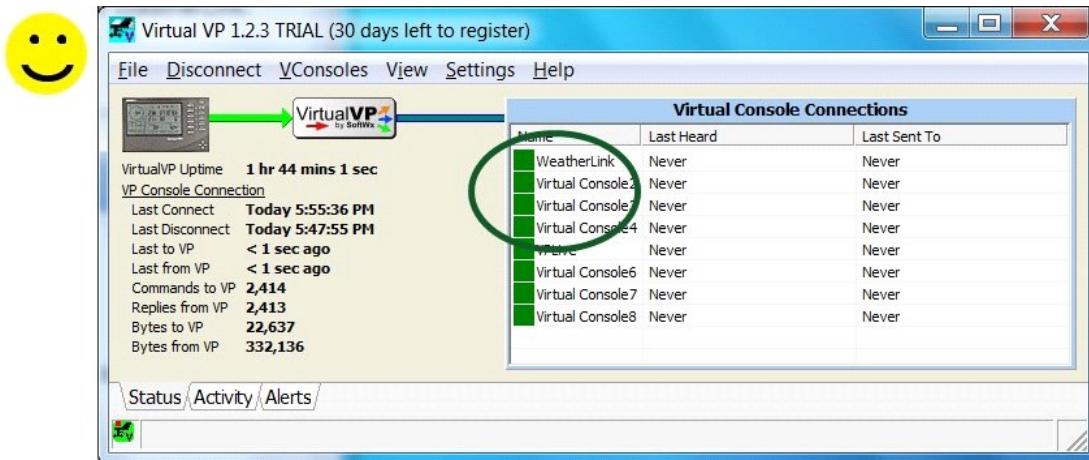
12) Repeat to create Virtual Port Pair 2 (COM8 - COM18), and Virtual Port Pair 3 (COM9 - COM19). When you are done, it should look like this:



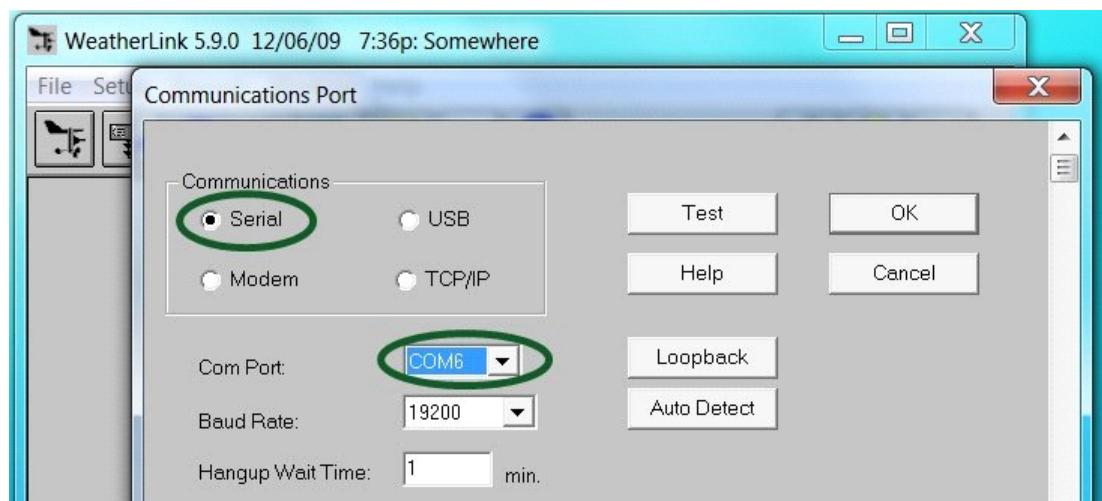
13) Configure VirtualVP to use Virtual Serial Ports. In this example, we will connect the first Virtual Console to the WeatherLink program.



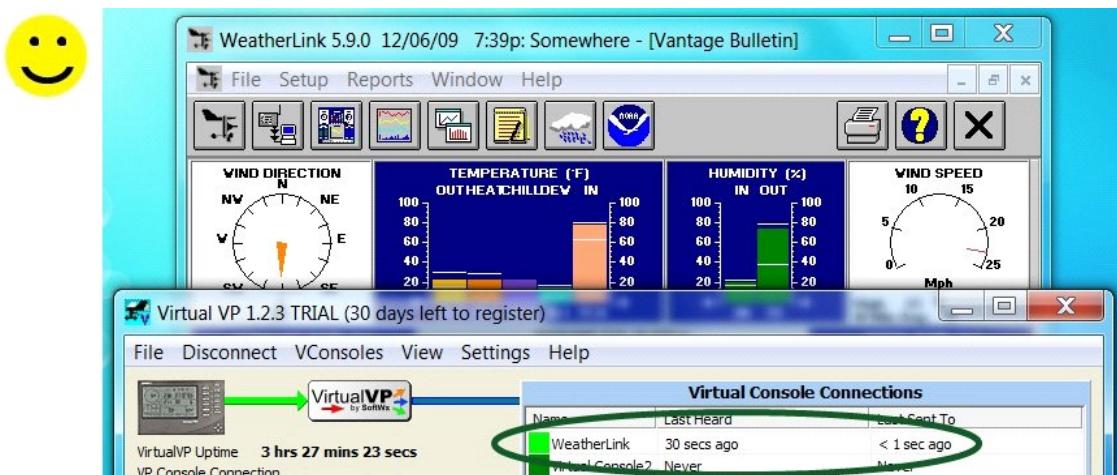
14) The next time you connect, VirtualVP should look like this:



15) Configure your weather programs to connect to VirtualVP via the Virtual Serial Ports. The following example configures the WeatherLink program.



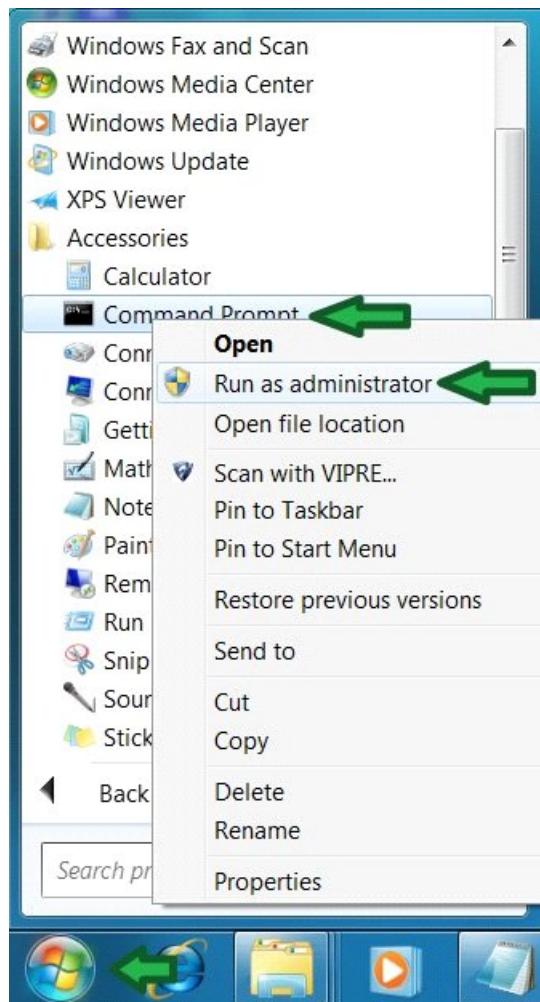
16) Success!!



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ADDENDUM) If you want to remove Test Signing mode from your computer, perform the following steps. If you remove Test Signing mode, the com0com driver not work on 64-bit Windows 7.

1) Run the command prompt as administrator.



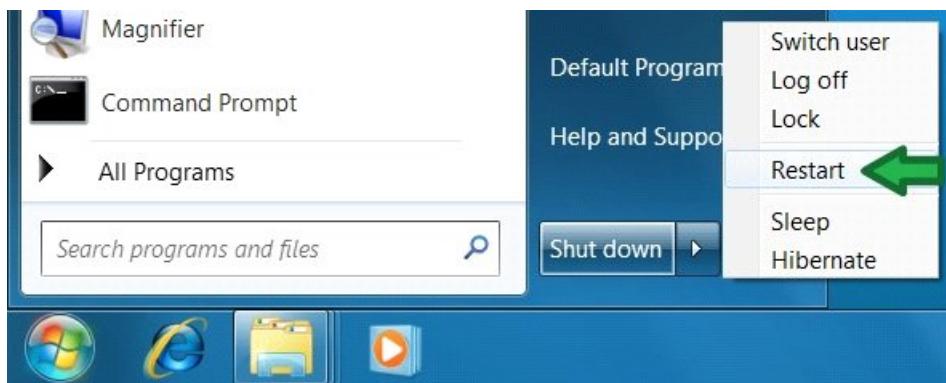
2) Enter the following command:

```
Administrator: Command Prompt
Microsoft Windows [Version 6.1.7100]
Copyright (c) 2009 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Windows\system32> bcdedit.exe -set TESTSIGNING OFF
```

A screenshot of an Administrator Command Prompt window. The title bar says 'Administrator: Command Prompt'. The window displays the command 'bcdedit.exe -set TESTSIGNING OFF' with a green oval highlighting it. The background shows the standard Windows command prompt interface.

3) Reboot Windows.



4) And you will not be in Test Signing mode any more.

