

1.0 EDITION December 1998

## **<u>Guarantee.</u>** FULL 36 MONTHS GUARANTEE.

We guarantee your interface card for a full 36 months from purchase, parts and labour, provided it has been used in the specified manner. In the unlikely event of failure return your interface to your Dealer, with proof of purchase, who will determine whether to repair or replace this product with an equivalent unit.

## COPYRIGHT. COPYRIGHT © 1985-1998.

All rights reserved. No part of this hardware, circuitry or manual may be duplicated, copied, transmitted or reproduced in any way without the prior written consent of the Manufacturer.

Due to the Manufacturers commitment to quality, software is subject to continuous improvements: information regarding upgrades can be obtained from your supplier.

supplied to you by:

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

IBM, COMPAQ, Hewlett Packard, H.P. and EPSON are trademarks of the relevant companies. Windows is a trademark of Microsoft.

# PCI Photon Twin 9 PCI PHOTON TWIN 9

These products conform to the following standards:

CE Standard:	EN55022:1987 Class B
IEC 801-2:	1991 Level 2
IEC 801-3:	1984 Level 2
IEC 801-4:	1988 Level 2
TIA / EIA:	232 - Е
FCC	Class A.

To comply with the requirements for UL certification, the following installation requirements should be observed:-

1. This card is intended for use in a UL listed IBM compatible PC.

2. The maximum current consumption of this card is less than 500mA DC; it should therefore be installed in a motherboard connection capable of delivering a minimum current of 500mA DC.

## PCI Photon Twin 9 <u>The Layout Of This Manual</u>

## **THE LAYOUT OF THIS MANUAL**

**Chapter 1 - Hardware Configuration,** Summarises the features of the PCI Photon 4 Card, describes the two configurable options and lists all the possible DIP Switch options settable on the card.

### Chapter 2 – Installing the card into the PC,

Explains how to open the PC and insert a new serial card

### **Chapter 3 – Software Installation**

This chapter details how to install and configure the Photon 4 Card in Windows 3.x, Windows 95/98 and Windows NT.

## Chapter 4 – RS232 Port Cabling

## PCI Photon Twin 9 Table Of Contents.

CHAPTER 1 HARDWARE GUIDE	6
Introduction. WARNING For Windows 98 Users Only.	
Configuring PCI Cards	6 7
Chapter 2 INSTALLING IN YOUR COMPUTER	
Serial Card Installation.	
Problems!	10
CHAPTER 3 SOFTWARE INSTALLATION	11
Introduction	
Configuring Ports In Windows 3.x	11
Determining PCI Photon Twin 9 Resources	11
Serial Solutions Installation for Windows 3.x	
Serial Port Installation.	
Adding an PCI Photon Twin 9 Serial Card	15
Settings for Photon Twin 9 Card COM1 Present	
Settings for Photon Twin 9 Card COM1 & 2 Present	
Settings for Photon Twin 9 Card COM1 to 4 Present	
Configuring The COM Ports	
Changing Serial Port Settings	
Deleting Ports in Windows.	19
Restarting Windows	19
Configuring Ports in Windows 95 and 98	
Windows 95/98 Installation Procedures	20
PCI Photon Twin 9 Card Settings In Win95/98	
Force Configuration	
PCI Photon Twin 9 Card Port Settings In Win 95/98	
Maximum Baud Rate Settings	
Configuring PCI Photon Twin 9 In Windows NT	
Software Installation.	
Examining Card Configuration.	

PCI Photon Twin 9	Introduction
Changing Serial Port Settings	
Advanced Port Settings	
Uninstalling Serial Solutions for Windows NT	
CHAPTER 4 RS232 PINOUTS AND PORT CABLE	ING 34
Introduction	
The RS232 Standard.	
Serial Port Pin Outs.	
9 Pin D Serial Port RS232 Cables.	
9 Pin D Serial Port Connection To Another PC	
9 Pin D Serial Port To A Modem.	
9 Pin D Serial Port Loop Back Connector	
INDEX	40

## CHAPTER 1 HARDWARE GUIDE

## Introduction.

This chapter details the specifications of the PCI Photon Twin 9 Serial card. These half-sized cards will work happily in any PCI 2.0 (or greater) compliant PC compatible.

## WARNING For Windows 98 Users Only.

Each PCI Photon Twin 9 Card should be fully installed before adding additional PCI Photon cards.

## PCI Photon Twin 9 Card Features.

- \* Two independent RS232 Serial ports.
- \* Reliable communications up to 50 feet, 15m, and beyond!
- \* 100% 16C550 PC Compatible serial port, up to 230,400 baud.
   16550 Compatible FIFO provides 128 byte input and 128 byte output buffer on each port.
- \* Full modem control TXD, RXD, DSR, DCD, DTR, RTS, CTS and RI signals.
- \* Fully double buffered for reliable asynchronous operation. High speed integrated circuitry ensures operation with fast PC's e.g. 500 MHz Pentium II.
- \* Fully PCI 2.1 compliant.
- \* Fully Plug and Play.
- \* PCI enabled interrupt sharing.



Dimensions:	5 x 3 in, 120 x 85 mm
I/O Connection:	Serial Port 1: 9 pin Male D type.
	Serial Port 2: 9 pin Male D type.
Weight:	84g

## **Configuring PCI Cards.**

PCI cards, by definition, require no hardware configuration and can be installed "directly from the box".

## Serial Card Installation.

Once the card has been correctly configured then it can be installed in the PC. For the PCI card it is best to make a note of the COM port I/O address and IRQ jumper settings for later use.

After installing the card and configuring the software the cables should be attached and communication with the serial peripheral devices should be established.

Provided that the RS232 installation is attacked in this orderly manner, everything should work first time. If it does not then check the software selectable communications parameters, Baud rate, Parity, stop bits first, and that the communications program is attempting to access the serial port installed. If this fails to solve the problem check the cable connections. Finally check that the card is indeed configured as you believed!

**<u>NOTE</u>**: Always turn the computer OFF before installing or removing any interface board..!!!

After having made sure that the I/O address and if appropriate jumpers are correctly set, now is the time to insert the PC Serial card into the I/O connector slots in the computer.

**STEP 1**: Before the PC card can be installed the power to the PC **MUST** be switched **OFF!** 

**STEP 2:** Remove the case.

## PCI Photon Twin 9 Installing the Card Figure 3-1. Removing Blanking Cover



STEP 3: Choose an empty appropriate expansion slot. Remove the blanking cover protecting the slot on the PC back panel. KEEP the blanking cover screw safely for later (Figure 2-1).

## Figure 3-2. Inserting The PC Serial Card.



STEP 4: Now insert the PC Serial card in the available slot. Be careful to ensure that the gold plated PCB fingers fits neatly into the I/O expansion connector. Press down firmly but evenly on the top of the PC Serial card (Figure 2-2).

STEP 5: The D connectors should fit neatly through the slot's aperture to the outside world. NB. Use the screw kept back from the blanking cover to screw the PC Serial retaining bracket into the PC back panel housing.

STEP 6: Now replace the system units cover by carefully sliding it down and back over the system unit. Replace the cover mounting screws.

Attach all the cables. The PC should power on in the normal way.

## **Problems!**

If the system fails to power up normally check the following:

- i.) Ensure that the PC Serial card is installed correctly.
- ii.) Ensure that other cards in the PC have not been upset.
- iii.) Ensure that the power is connected and the PC is switched ON!

■ If all these have been checked and the PC still does not power up then there is probably a conflict of I/O address between the PC Serial card and another board in the PC. Ask your dealer to check this

## Introduction.

This section describes the software installation procedure allowing the PCI Photon Twin 9 to be configured within the Windows 3.x, Windows 95/98 and Windows NT operating systems.

## **Configuring Ports In Windows 3.x**

The Windows 3.x installation procedure consists of 3 steps:

- 1. Insert the PCI Photon Twin 9 Card into a free PCI slot and power up the PC.
- 2. Determine the resources that the PCI Photon Twin 9 has claimed.
- 3. Inform Windows 3.x of those resources.

## **Determining PCI Photon Twin 9 Resources.**

- Insert the card into a PC, as described in Chapter 2, power up the PC
- From DOS Run BBCARDS.EXE, Found on the Serial Solutions CDROM, by typing the following:

```
<drive:>\diskimg\ssutil\pci\bbcards.exe
```

Where <drive>is the drive containing the supplied disk.

BBCARDS.EXE will display a message that looks similar to the following ( the values displayed may differ due to resource availability):

#### PCI Photon Twin 9 Software Installation PCI Photon Twin 9 Users: card 1 is on bus 0, device 16, function 0

card 1 is on bus 0, device 16, function 0
Card ID=2, revision 3: Photon Twin 9
interrupt line IRQ11 has been assigned
2 sets of 16550-compatible registers are at Bank I/O address FF40

Baud clock control is at I/O address FFC0 Write 0xf6 for /8 (default), 0xf2 for /4, 0xd6 for /2, 0xd2 for /1.

Note the IRQ and I/O address values

In our example: The IRQ = 11 The IRQ is the interrupt line shared amongst the Photon Twin 9 card's serial ports

The Bank address = FF40 The Bank address determines the COM Port Base addresses in the following manner: COM Base of port 1 = the Bank Address COM Base of port 2 = the Bank Address + 8hex

## Serial Solutions Installation for Windows 3.x

Run	
<u>C</u> ommand Line: A:\Diskimg\sswin3x\setup.exe	OK Cancel
🗌 Run <u>M</u> inimized	Browse
	<u>H</u> elp

To install the software from the supplied disk, insert the disk from Windows **Program Manager's** File menu choose "Run" and in the Command Line entry window type <drive:>\diskimg\sswin3x\setup.exe (where <drive:> is the path to the CDROM drive containing the installation disk).

Selecting the "OK" button shows the setup program main screen, Figure 4-1, which will automatically select components for installation that have not already been installed. Selecting the "Del

#### **Software Installation**

All" button will select all installed components for deletion and selecting "Add All" chooses all uninstalled components for installation. Several of the components have user selectable parameters, e.g. target install directory, which can be changed by clicking on the button. These options may not be changed once the components have been installed. A README.TXT file on the disk contains details of the latest updates to this software,

Note: If it is necessary to re-install an OLDER version of a component then the NEWER version component must be FIRST removed by selecting the component's button in the "Uninstall" column then selecting the "Continue" button.

If only logical ports COM1 to COM9 are to be used then de-select the Comms API library option button in the "Install" column. This library is only necessary to allow the use of logical ports greater than COM9 e.g. COM10, COM11 etc.





Selecting the **Continue** button will start the installation process. When the setup program has finished select the **Done** button. A Windows restart message will be shown only if the Windows communications driver option has been selected, and you should choose **Yes** to allow the new driver to run.

## PCI Photon Twin 9 Serial Port Installation.

• From Main, select Control Panel:



• Click on Serial Ports:



The following dialogue will be displayed:

COM Ports				
Port	Base	Irq		OK
Com001	0x03F8	04		<u>S</u> ettings
				<u>A</u> dd
				Delete
				<u>H</u> elp
				A <u>b</u> out

## PCI Photon Twin 9 Software Installation <u>Adding an PCI Photon Twin 9 Serial Card.</u> Figure 3-2. PCI Photon Twin 9 Serial Card Settings.



For both ports on the Photon Twin 9 card we need to **ADD** a port and fill in the following 5 settings in the order given.

<sup>①</sup>Each Port should have the **Standard** button selected, each port on the Photon Twin 9 Card is a independent serial port

### **Standard Settings:-**

<sup>(2)</sup>The **COM Base** address is the I/O address of each serial card.

<sup>(3)</sup>The **IRQ** as indicated by the BBCARDS.exe program.

(a) The **UART** on the Photon port is an enhanced 16550 called the 16950.

S Having selected the 16950 you can then set the **FIFO level** at 128 bytes.

Card Port 2

## Settings for Photon Twin 9 Card COM1 Present

COM	COM	IRQ	UART	FIFO
Port	Base			Trip
BBCARDS Values *	FF40	11		
COM2	FF40	11	16950	Default
COM3	FF48	11	16950	Default

\*The BBCARDS Values may be different from your machine.

#### Card Port 1

😑 Hardware	e Settings for COM2	🛥 Hardware	Settings for COM3
<sup>−</sup> Multiport Settings	UART 0 8250 0 16450 16550 0 16650 0 16750 16950 Fifo Trig Levels T x 1 1 128 128	Multiport Settings Standard O Multiport SISR Base:	UART 8250 16450 16550 16650 16750 16550 Fifo Trig Levels Tx 1 + 128
Standard Settings COM Base: FF40 IRQ: 11 Fifo level: 128	Rx 1     +     128       Auto Flow Control     OK       RTS/CTS     OK       DTR/DSR     Help       None     Cancel	Standard Settings COM Base: FF48 IRQ: 11 Fifo level: 128	Rx 1     +     128       Auto Flow Control     OK       RTS/CTS     OK       DTR/DSR     Help       Image: None     Cancel

## Settings for Photon Twin 9 Card COM1 & 2 Present

COM	COM	IRQ	UART	FIFO
Port	Base			Trip
BBCARDS Values*	FFC0	10		
COM3	FFC0	10	16950	Default
COM4	FFC8	10	16950	Default

\*The BBCARDS Values may be different from your machine.

#### Card Port 1



## Card Port 2



## PCI Photon Twin 9Software InstallationSettings for Photon Twin 9 Card COM1 to 4 Present

COM	COM	IRQ	UART	FIFO
Port	Base			Trip
BBCARDS Values*	FFC0	5		
COM5	FFC0	5	16950	Default
COM6	FFC8	5	16950	Default

The BBCARDS Values may be different from your machine.

Card Port 2

### Card Port 1

- Hardware	Settings for COM5	- Hardware	Settings for COM6
Multiport Settings	UART 0 8250 0 16450 0 16550 16650 16750 0 16950	Multiport Settings	UART 0 8250 0 16450 16550 16650 16750 16950
Card Port:	Fifo Trig Levels           Tx 1           #           Px 1           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #           #	Card Port:	Fifo Trig Levels           Tx 1         +           Rx 1         +
COM Base: FFC0 ± IRQ: 5 ± Fifo level: 128 ±	Auto Flow Control O RTS/CTS O DTR/DSR None Cancel	COM Base: FFC8 ± IRQ: 5 ± Fifo level: 128 ±	Auto Flow Control O RTS/CTS O DTR/DSR None Cancel

Select the **OK** button to finish adding the port. This will display a Windows restart message, but do not restart until you have installed all four ports. Be sure to restart Windows after all serial ports have been added so that the new configuration takes effect.

Figure 3-3. After Adding a PHOTON Card (COM1 present).

_	COM Ports				
Port	Base	Irq		ОК	
Com001	0x03F8	04		<u>S</u> ettings	
Com003	0xFF48	ii		<u>A</u> dd	
				Delete	
				<u>H</u> elp	
				A <u>b</u> out	

**Software Installation** 

Note: Adding a port automatically sets default values for the communications settings to 9600 baud, no parity, 8 data bits and 1 stop bit. These values can be changed as described below.

## **<u>Configuring The COM Ports.</u>** Figure 3-4 PCI Photon Twin 9 Card Comms Settings

Settings for COM2:					
<u>B</u> aud Rate:	9600	Ŧ	ОК		
<u>D</u> ata Bits:	8	<b>±</b>	Cancel		
<u>P</u> arity:	None	Ŧ			
<u>S</u> top Bits:	1.0	<b>±</b>	Advanced		
Flow	None	±	<u>H</u> elp		

## **Changing Serial Port Settings**

Once the Photon Twin 9 card has been installed it may be necessary to change the communications settings in the COM Ports to match the baud rate, parity settings etc. of the remote serial device.

- Highlight the serial port required, e.g. COM2., in Serial Ports, Control Panel
- Click on the **Settings** button to change the communications settings, Figure 5-3.
- Select the appropriate communications settings, which must match the communications settings on the remote device.
- Click on the **OK** button to leave the communications **Settings** window.

The **Advanced** option in **Settings** can be used to change the hardware settings to match a new base address and IRQ because the PC's BIOS has reallocated the PCI resources due to the installation of other new hardware.

#### **Software Installation**

• Click on the **Advanced** button for the hardware settings window, Figure 5-4. Enter the 5 options in the same manner as described in the section "Adding a PCI Photon Twin 9 Serial Card"

## **Deleting Ports in Windows.**

The **Delete** button can be used to discard the entries of ports that have been removed from the system.

Note. Due to problems with the standard Windows Serial Ports Applet in the Control Panel **Make sure** that there are no gaps in the numbering of the first four serial ports, COM 1-4. If necessary leave a "place holder" otherwise Windows may automatically reorder the COM port numbers resulting in serious problems.

## **Restarting Windows.**

Whenever certain values have been changed in the **Advanced** window, a message prompting the user to restart Windows will appear. Once ALL necessary changes have been made Windows should be restarted so that the new settings may come into effect.

## **Configuring Ports in Windows 95 and 98.**

Although covering the installation of the PCI Photon Twin 9 cards into the Windows 95 operating system. The Windows 95 environment now supports up to 255 standard serial ports.

## Windows 98

The Windows 98 operating system procedure is the same as for Windows 95 with only minor differences. The only significant difference is that only one PCI Photon Card should be added to the PC per boot. E.g. if three PCI Photon cards are to be installed then the whole of the following procedure needs to be carried out three times.

## Windows 95/98 Installation Procedures

- Insert the card in a free PCI slot, power up the PC.
- Windows 95 should then load normally. During the booting process, Windows 95 will detect the card and briefly display a message box indicating the detection process.
- Windows will then display the "Update Device Driver Wizard", requesting "insert any disk which came with the PCI card". Insert the HandyWeb CDROM installation disk into an appropriate drive and click 'Next' and follow the path laid out below.

#### Figure 3-5 CDROM Installation Path



**Chapter 3 Page 21** 

#### **Software Installation**

• After copying the files Windows 95 will then detect each of the serial ports in turn and install them as Photon Twin 9 communications ports.

System Properties		? ×
General Device Manage	er Hardware Profiles Performance	
View devices by typ	De C View devices by <u>c</u> onnection	
Monitor     Mouse     Multi-function a     Photon 2     Ports (COM & L	adapters Port Card LPT) sations Port (COM1) COM5) COM5) tt (LPT1) rs 	
P <u>r</u> operties	Re <u>f</u> resh R <u>e</u> move Pri	<u>n</u> t
	Close	Cancel

The **Device Manager**, reached by clicking on 'System' in the Control Panel, now shows the presence of the PCI Photon Twin 9 Card under **Multi-function adapters.** See below.

If there are no other serial port cards installed above COM 4, the PCI Photon Twin 9 will appear as COM5 & COM6. If there already are more than 5 COM ports installed the Multiport card ports will appear as the next highest available COM ports. PCI Photon Cards do not appear with the COM1 to COM4 assignment since these ports are reserved for legacy ISA cards.

## PCI Photon Twin 9 Card Settings In Win95/98.

• Double clicking a card entry under the "**Multi-Function Adapters**", in **Device Manager** will display general properties for the selected card.

#### **Software Installation**

• Clicking on the Serial Solutions tab will display:

General Serial Solutions Driver Resources					
Serial Solutions PCI Communications Card Settings					
Shared Interrupt Settings					
- Dart Cattings					
Port Assignment IO Range IRQ Device Status					
1 COM5 FEAD-FEA7 11 No problem					
2 COM6 FEA8-FEAF 11 No problem					
Version Information					
Software Version : 1.07					
OK Cancel					

Some communications applications require the serial ports they access to be as named COM 4 or lower. The COM port assignment may be changed, simply by selecting a new COM port value from the pull down menu relevant to the port. However, COM port usage other than those for the selected card itself are not checked, so it is advisable to first check which COM ports are in use - port availability can be checked by viewing the **Device Manager**:

## **Force Configuration**

This allows the user to select a particular In/Out Address for one or more of the ports. This is usually only necessary when running old applications in the DOS box that access ports at hard coded addresses.

All COM ports present will be listed under the entry "**Ports** (**COM & LPT**)." The above screenshots indicates that COM7 and above are not installed.



## PCI Photon Twin 9Software InstallationPCI Photon Twin 9 Card Port Settings In Win 95/98.

Double clicking upon an individual port entry in the **Device Manager**, and selecting the **Port Settings** tab will display:

Multiport	(COM5) Prope	erties	? ×
General	Port Settings	Serial Solutions Driver Resources	
Com	nunications Setti	ngs	
	Baud Rate:	230400 💌	
	<u>D</u> ata bits:	8	
	<u>P</u> arity:	None	
	<u>S</u> top bits:	1	
	Elow control:	Xon / Xoff	
Maxir	num Baud Rate	Setting <u>Advanced</u>	
		OK Car	icel

Settings available in this window are:



Chapter 3 Page 24

#### **Software Installation**

## Maximum Baud Rate Settings.

## Advanced

Clicking the Advanced button gives the user the option of

Multiport (C	OM5) Prope	rties		2 X
General	Port Settings	Serial Solution	ons Driver Reso	ources
Commu	inications Setti	ngs		
	<u>B</u> aud Rate:	230400	-	
	<u>D</u> ata bits:	8	<u>•</u>	
	<u>P</u> arity:	None	•	[
	<u>S</u> top bits:	1	•	1
	Elow control:	Xon / Xoff	•	
- Maximu ⊙ Defa	um Baud Rate : ault O f	Setting Double [	Advanced	
			<u>R</u> estore Defa	aults
			OK	Cancel

changing the behaviour of the driver.

The **Default** behaviour of the driver is to operate on a wysiwyg (what you see is what you get) basis, meaning the Baud rate than application selects will be the Baud rate of the data leaving the port.

Selecting **Double** changes the driver behaviour in the following ways...

For applications using the above dialogue e.g. HyperTerminal there will be no change.

#### **Software Installation**

For applications directly calling the Win32 API e.g. Dial Up Networking the selected baud rate is doubled, i.e. selecting 115,200 gives a real baud rate of 230,400.

Selecting the **Serial Solutions** tab of the selected port properties Window will display:

Aultiport (COM5) Prope	ties					? ×
General Port Settings	Serial S	olutions	Driver	Resou	urces ]	
🌀 Serial S	olutions	Serial Po	rt Setting	s		
Shared Interrupt Settin	gs					
FIFO Settings						
Enable FIFO		∏ E <u>x</u> te	nd FIFO			
Receive Buffer : Low	0	0	۲	0	High	
<u>I</u> ransmit Buffer : Low	0	0	0	۲	High	
Automatic Hardware F	low Conl C <u>R</u> TS	trol /CTS	0	DTR/	DSR	
485 Mode						
				<u>B</u> e	estore	
				-	Cano	
			UK.		Cane	~~

Settings available in this window are:

#### FIFO settings.

- **Enable FIFO** turns the selected ports FIFO buffer on or off. It is strongly recommended that the FIFO for all ports is left enabled.
- **Extend FIFO** When the FIFO is enabled the default FIFO size is 16 Bytes. The extended FIFO size is 128 Bytes.
- **Receive Buffer** These settings allow the selection of a receiver FIFO trigger setting. Selecting a low value will allow the interrupt to be serviced quicker, which is good for slow machines. If you have a fast machine, setting a

#### **Software Installation**

high value will give you more time for multi-tasking operations. The trigger options in the case of the Photon Card's 128 byte FIFO are 1, 32, 64 and 112.

**Transmit Buffer** - These settings allow the selection of a transmitter FIFO trigger setting. Selecting a low value will send fewer data-bytes per interrupt, and this is recommended if you are communicating to a slower machine. Selecting a high value will send more data-bytes per interrupt, and will give more time for multi-tasking operations. The trigger options in the case of the Photon Card's 128 byte FIFO are 1, 32, 64 and 112.

#### **Restore-**

Clicking on this port will restore the port setting of the Serial Solutions tab to the values set on entry to this page.

## Configuring PCI Photon Twin 9 In Windows NT.

Microsoft Windows NT Provides built in support for 255 standard serial ports. To setup your PCI Photon Twin 9 serial card you should follow these steps. Please note that to change any kind of hardware configuration under Windows NT you must be logged in as a user with Administrator level privileges, if you do not have these please contact your system administrator.

## Software Installation.

Run	? ×
<u>7</u>	Type the name of a program, folder, or document, and Windows will open it for you.
<u>O</u> pen:	<pre><drive:>\Diskimg\ssnt\setup.exe</drive:></pre>
	Run in Separate Memory Space
	OK Cancel <u>B</u> rowse

Insert the PCI Photon Twin 9 Card into your PC, as described in chapter 2, and restart. Place the supplied HandyWEB CDROM in a suitable drive and from the Start Menu choose Run and enter <drive:>\Diskimg\ssnt\setup.exe (where <drive:> is the path to the drive containing the installation disk).

Selecting the "OK" button begins the conventional InstallShield setup process, there are no options for this installation, all items must be installed in the NT System32 directory. Once the software has been installed, you may run the **Serial Solution** applet by double clicking on it's icon from the **Control Panel**.

• InstallShield will then install the driver software automatically - it will then copy the necessary files and start itself. This automatically detects your new PCI serial card(s) and does not require any further system restarting.

## **Examining Card Configuration.**

Go to Control Panel (Start Menu/Settings/Control Panel) and double click on Serial Solutions:



After adding a Photon Twin 9 Card (COM 1 present) you will be presented with a Serial Solutions Port Configuration window:

Serial Solut	ions for Wind	ows NT				×
Name	Card	Bus	Port No	Slot	BusNo	Cancel
СОМ1	Comm Port	ISA	N/A	N/A	0	
💋 СОМ2	Photon Card	PCI	1	6	0	<u>S</u> ettings
🚿 сомз	Photon Card	PCI	2	6	0	<u>A</u> dd
						<u>D</u> elete
						A <u>b</u> out
•					Þ	<u>H</u> elp

## PCI Photon Twin 9 Changing Serial Port Settings

Adding a Photon Twin 9 Card to the system automatically sets default values for communications settings to 9600 Baud, 8 Data Bits, No Parity and 1 Stop Bit.

To view the settings of a port, select it and click on **Settings**. Clicking on the **Port Settings** tab opens up the following window:

Settings	for communication	s port COM3	×
General	Port Settings Resource	25	
	Bits per second:	9600 💌	
	Data bits:	8	
	Parity:	None	
	Stop bits:	1	
	Flow control:	None	
A	dvanced	Restore Defaults	
0	K Cancel	Apply Help	

Settings available in this window are:

- Baud Rate determines the baud rate at which the selected port operates, providing it is not overridden by any serial comms applications in use. PCI Photon Twin 9 will operate correctly up to 230,400 baud at distances of up to 10 meters, Note: Many serial comms applications will not actually register the ports as running at baud rates of above 115200.
- 2. Data Bits.
- 3. Parity.
- 4. Stop Bits.

Change to suit remote device.

- 5. Flow Control.
- 6. Advanced see the section below, titled "Advanced Port Settings."

#### **Software Installation**

7. **Restore Defaults** - when clicked, resets the selected COM port to the following values:

9600
8
None
1
Hardware

## **Advanced Port Settings.**

When the **Advanced** button of Port Settings in selected the following dialogue is displayed:

Advanced Settings	×
Fifo Trigger Levels	OK
✓ Enable Fifos	Cancel
Transmit Fifo Trigger Level:	
0% · J 100%	
Receive Fifo Trigger Level:	
- 485 Mode	
C Half Duplex C Eul Duplex C Force CTS TRUE	

Settings available in this window are:

- 1. FIFO settings.
  - Use FIFO Buffers turns the selected ports FIFO buffer on or off. It is strongly recommended that the FIFO for both ports is left enabled.
  - **Receive Buffer** These settings allow the selection of a receiver FIFO trigger setting. Selecting a low value will lessen the likelihood of data loss due to overrun errors when Photon Twin 9 cards are installed in slower host PCs running ports at higher baud rates. Setting a high value will give better overall system performance when the host PC has multiple applications running simultaneously.

#### **Software Installation**

• **Transmit Buffer** - These settings allow the selection of a transmitter FIFO trigger setting. Selecting a low value will send fewer data-bytes per interrupt, this is recommended if you are communicating to an older external serial device. Setting a high value will give better overall system performance when the host PC has multiple applications running simultaneously.

Be warned, many older devices or even modern PC's without PHOTON ports cannot deal with long bursts of data, especially at high Baud rates.

2. **Defaults -** When clicked this button resets the advanced properties to the followed settings:

Use FIFO Buffers:On (checked)Transmit Buffers:1%Receive Buffers:80%

## **Uninstalling Serial Solutions for Windows NT**

To uninstall Serial Solutions for Windows NT:

🐼 Control Panel 📃 🗖						
<u>F</u> ile <u>E</u> dit <u>V</u> i	iew <u>H</u> elp					
<u>ę</u>			MS	B	Ť	<b>^</b>
Accessibility Options	Add/Remove Programs	Caere Scan Manager 3.0	Console	Date/Time	Devices	
	-	VEH VEH	A.	<hr/>		
Display	Find Fast	FindVirus scan settings	Fonts	Internet	Keyboard	-
Sets up programs and creates shortcuts.						

• From Control Panel, open the **Add/Remove** Programs applet, then be certain to close the Control Panel.

Add/Rem	ove Programs Properties					
Install/Uninstall Windows NT Setup						
æ	To install a new program from a floppy disk or CD-ROM drive, click Install.					
	İnstell					
3	The following software can be automatically removed by Windows. To remove a program or to modify its installed components, select it from the list and click Add/Remove.					
Microso Microso Microso Microso Microso Microso Serial S VDOLiv WebCE	Microsoft Internet Explorer 4.0 Microsoft Office Professional Microsoft Outlook Express Microsoft Wallet Microsoft Wellet Microsoft Web Publishing Wizard 1.51 Microsoft® PowerPoint® Animation Player Serois Solutions for Windows NT VDOLive Player WebCD Viewer					
	Add/ <u>R</u> emove					
	OK Cancel Apply					

- Select from the list Serial Solutions for Windows NT.
- Click the Add/Remove button.

## PCI Photon Twin 9 RS232 Pinouts and Cabling CHAPTER 4 RS232 PINOUTS AND PORT CABLING.

## Introduction.

This chapter gives details of the 9 and 25 pin RS232 pin outs, cabling and connections, with information on how to connect the serial ports of two PCs and how to make a selftest loop back connector.

## The RS232 Standard.

The RS232 standard is ancient in computer industry terms. Introduced in 1962, it is now widely established. RS232 is a slow Photon, short distance, single ended transmission system (i.e. only one wire per signal). Typical RS232 maximum cable length is 50 feet with a maximum data rate of 20K bits per second.

## Figure 4-1. RS232 Point To Point Connection.



#### **RS232** Pinouts and Cabling

### PCI Photon Twin 9 Serial Port Pin Outs.

The pinouts of the 9 and 25 pin Male D connectors are given below.

## Figure 4-2. Serial Port RS232 Pin Outs.

PIN 6 - DATA SET READY (DSR) PIN 7 - REQUEST TO SEND (RTS) PIN 8 - CLEAR TO SEND (CTS) PIN 9 - RING INDICATOR (RI)



9 Pin connector:



## 9 Pin D Serial Port RS232 Cables.

To connect to the AT style RS232 Serial Port you will need a cable terminating in a 9 way female D connector. It is sound practice to use cables with screws fitted that will allow you to fasten the cable securely to the PC card.

In general, you will need to make up a "cross over" cable to correctly interface the PC to the RS232 port of another computer or device. Traditionally, making up the cross over cable has been

**RS232** Pinouts and Cabling

considered a black art. However, provided you have the pin outs and handshake requirements of both sides of your RS232 connection, the cross over cable becomes a matter of common sense. The cross over cable is simply to ensure that the right signals going out of one RS232 port go into the appropriate lines of the other RS232 port.

## 9 Pin D Serial Port Connection To Another PC.

Suppose we want to connect the AT style 9 pin D Serial Port to the serial port of another IBM PC. See Figure 4-3.

- Connect the earth lines.
   Line 5 of Serial Port 2 to lines 1 & 7 of the other PC.
   This gives the two devices a common earth level.
- Connect the Transmit and Receive lines together. Line 3, TXD, Port 2 goes to line 3, RXD, of the other PC. Line 2, RXD, Port 2 goes to line 2, TXD, of the other PC. This allows each to receive the data transmitted by the other.
- 3) Connect the Port 2 DTR line, pin 4 to the other PC DCD, pin 8 and CTS, pin 5, lines.
  Also, connect up the other PC DTR line, pin 20 to the Port 2 DCD, pin 1 and CTS, pin 8, lines.
  This allows the receiving device to signal when it can no longer accept data. The receiving device sets DTR false when it is unable to receive any more data. The sending device reads DTR on its CTS and DCD pins. It should stop sending when CTS goes false.
- 4) Connect the Port 2 RTS line, pin 7, to the other PC DSR line, pin 6. Also, connect the other PC RTS line, pin 4, to the Port 2 DSR line, pin 6. This RTS line is used to let the other device know that it is ready for data exchange.

## PCI Photon Twin 9RS232 Pinouts and CablingFigure 4-3. 9 Pin D Serial Port To Other PC Cable.



Chapter 4 Page 37

## PCI Photon Twin 9 RS232 Pinouts and Cabling 9 Pin D Serial Port To A Modem.

If you are connecting a MODEM to a 9 pin D Serial Port then you will NOT need a cross over cable and a straight through cable connected as the 9 to 25 pin adapter given in Figure 4-5.

## 9 Pin D Serial Port Loop Back Connector.

A loop back connector can be used to echo RS232 data transmitted by a serial port back into its own RS232 receiver. In this way, the function of the serial port can be tested.

For an AT style Serial Port use the a female 9 way connector wired as in Figure 4-4.

## Figure 4-4. 9 Pin D Serial Loop Back Connector.

#### 9 PIN D CONNECTOR

SCHEMATIC REPRESENTATION:



ACTUAL REPRESENTATION:





25 PIN D CONNECTOR

Chapter 4 Page 38

## PCI Photon Twin 9 RS232 Pinouts and Cabling Figure 4-5. 9 To 25 Way Adapter.

This adapter cable makes the AT style 9-pin serial port, look like the standard PC 25 pin serial port. It is NOT a cross over cable!

<u>9 Pin AT SERIAL PORT</u> 9 Pin Female D Connector 25 Pin PC SERIAL PORT 25 Pin Male D Connector

#### SCHEMATIC REPRESENTATION:



### Index

## PCI Photon Twin 9 INDEX

16450 / 16550	6
2500	2
adapter	
asynchronous	6
baud / baud rate	6
BBCARDS.EXE	
bits	
buffer	6
buffered	6
cable	. 8, 34, 35, 38, 39
Changing COM numbers in Windows 95	
connectors	
cross over	
CTS	
DCD	
DSR	
DTR	
FIFO	6
handshake	
installation	
Installing Ports In Microsoft Windows NT 4.0	
Installing Ports In Windows 3.x	
Installing Ports In Windows 95 & 98	
jumper	
loop back	
Maximum Baud Rate	
modem	6
pin outs	
port / ports6, 8, 20, 28, 3	34, 35, 36, 38, 39
receive	
RI	6
RS2326,	8, 11, 34, 35, 38

PCI Photon Twin 9	Index
RTS	
RXD	
serial port6, 8, 2	20, 28, 34, 36, 38, 39
SISR	
speed	6
stop bits	
TXD	
Uninstalling Serial Solutions PCI for Windows	s NT
Windows	2, 4, 20, 28