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## COM Port Allocation

Once a COM port has been allocated, plugging the same module into the same USB socket will result in the same COM port being allocated. But plugging that same module into a different USB port or plugging a different DSCUSB module into the same USB socket will result in a new COM port being allocated.

If enough different modules are connected to the same PC then eventually a problem can arise because there are no more COM ports to allocate and even the newer operating systems (Windows 7 and 8) have issues once all the 255 available COM ports have been allocated.

In a production environment where many modules are being plugged into a single PC for testing or calibration the allocation of unique COM ports is a disadvantage because of the problem with using up all the allocated COM ports as well as having to detect on which COM port the module currently resides.

Mantracourt has some free software available to fix a PC so that the same COM port is allocated regardless of what module is plugged in. Contact Mantracourt if you would like this software.

When you first plug in a DSCUSB module a unique COM port will be allocated but you can change that using Device Manager to whatever COM port you would like to use. From that point onwards different modules will be allocated the same COM port.

Please note that if you plug a module into a different USB socket a different COM port may be allocated.

For those of you that would like to activate this feature without using Mantracourt software it is a simple registry key. Below you will find text that could be placed in a REG file to be merged with the registry.

### Windows Registry Editor Version 5.00

```
[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control\usbflags]  
"IgnoreHWSerNum17810BAD"=hex:01
```

Disable by setting the key value to 00

**NOTE: Ideally this should be configured BEFORE the FTDI kernel level drivers are installed.**



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