

Re: using serial port using APIs

Source: <http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/VB/microsoft.public.vb.winapi/2005-10/msg00230.html>

- *From:* "vbexp" <nobody@xxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 25 Oct 2005 17:01:31 -0400
-

At 9600, 15 bytes(150 Bits) would take 15.625 ms to transmit all the response, or 1.0417 ms for the first byte. Somehow I don't think that the API solution would help you, MSComm could not have possibly be slower than the API by several milliseconds. Here are some links to API solutions anyway:

http://groups.google.com/group/microsoft.public.vb.winapi/browse_thread/thread/bcb9856896865bed/a22f8460dab18

More:

http://groups.google.com/groups?as_q=vb%20setcommconfig%20createfile&num=100
http://www.google.com/search?as_q=vb%20setcommconfig%20createfile&num=100

"JamesT" <JamesT@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message <news:7E071DB1-94B4-4508-B155-83B8149A21DE@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

> The baud rate is 9600 and there are only 15 bytes.

>

> It is the time takes between the mscomm1.output (TxData) command and the
> polling device actually getting the data that is the problem.

>

> It just takes too long.

>

> Also I cannot find any help searching for vb setcommconfig.

>

> Is there an API that will wait for receive data and then inform the
> programme that there is data available?

>

>

>

> ---

> JamesT

>

>

> "vbexp" wrote:

>

>> What baud rate are you using? How many bytes in the response?

>>

>> It takes 7 ms to send a byte at 1428 baud. Usually, it takes 10 bits

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>> total
>> to send a byte(the byte itself+start and stop bits). So if you are
>> sending
>> at 38400 Bits/Sec, that is 3840 Bytes/Sec. Each byte takes 260 us, for 7
>> ms,
>> the response can be no more than 26 bytes.
>>
>> For an API approach, check newsgroups for "vb SetCommConfig"
>>
>> > I would also like help on making the programme multi threaded so that
>> > the
>> > comm portion can be started as a separate thread so that the main
>> > programme
>> > can get on with other things while waiting for a poll.
>>
>> VB6 is not multi-threaded except for ActiveX EXE's, but even that may not
>> be
>> suitable(global variables are not shared between threads). I recommend
>> that
>> you design your software in such away that it returns quickly from the
>> OnComm event. You can't show a MsgBox in OnComm event. If you have to,
>> defer
>> it to a Timer.
>>
>>
>> "JamesT" <JamesT@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
>> news:A6FC7773-0B28-4302-A777-F89D7DE0E397@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
>> >I would like to use the Windows APIs to communicate with a Device
>> >connected
>> > to the serial port. Can any one suggest good reading material that uses
>> > VB6.
>> > Most of what I have found gives examples in C++.
>> >
>> > The Programme is polled every 20ms by the device and the PC has to
>> > build
>> > the
>> > response (about 7 ms) and reply very quickly. Using the MSComm control
>> > is
>> > too slow as the reply seems to take about 20ms to get to the device
>> > after
>> > the
>> > MSComm write command.
>> >
>> > I would also like help on making the programme multi threaded so that
>> > the
>> > comm portion can be started as a separate thread so that the main
>> > programme
>> > can get on with other things while waiting for a poll.
>> >
>> > Please help
>> >

>> > —
>> > JamesT
>>
>>
>>

• **Follow-Ups:**

- ◆ **[Re: using serial port using APIs](#)**
◇ From: JamesT

• **References:**

- ◆ **[Re: using serial port using APIs](#)**
◇ From: vbexp
- ◆ **[Re: using serial port using APIs](#)**
◇ From: JamesT

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