

Re: COM1 not behaving...

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.hardware/2007-10/msg00156.html>

- *From:* Bob I <birelan@xxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Fri, 05 Oct 2007 08:02:00 -0500
-

Can you set the COM1 to IRQ4 in the BIOS AND Device Manager? See the Resources tab in the Com port properties.

Erik wrote:

Not a thing. IRQ's the same, memory allocations, nothing changed to speed settings, FIFO, etc. And the "i" is still there. The only difference is that before it doesn't work, and after it does.

"Bob I" wrote:

After looking through the properties, what changes from "before" you disable/enable to afterwards?

Erik wrote:

I'm afraid it doesn't. It shows the exact same information as in the device list, and nothing else than "this device is working properly"...

"Bob I" wrote:

Double click on it, it will open Properties, there is a window that will provide the info about the error.

Erik wrote:

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Oh, it's interesting alright!

I have gone into the BIOS, and changed the IRQ to 3, with its corresponding memory range. I have also removed the /fastdetect switch from boot.ini.

Device manager now shows me that COM1 has IRQ 3, and the default memory allocation as shown in the BIOS.

Now, when I start my PC, right before my mouse lights up, my device connected to COM1 clicks (relays) as it has done for all the years that I've been using it. So that's OK.

However, something must still go wrong after those drivers are loaded, because my programs still say that they can't open COM1.

After some more digging in the device manager, looking at the resources by connection, when I go to COM1 I see that there's a small, blue letter "i" on top of the serial cable icon. It also did that when it was on IRQ 4 (7). There are no memory allocation overlaps.

It seems like Windows is trying to tell me something ("i" for "information?"); but I can't find more info about that "i"...

I have gone through the event viewer again, but there are no new errors concerning the com port. Still, it doesn't work as

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expected.

Any other ideas?

Erik

"Bob I" wrote:

Interesting,
perhaps the
BIOS is
handing off
4 and OS is
assigning 7
because it
thinks 4 is
used and
there is the
error
message?

Erik wrote:

Nope,
not
forcing
anything.

COM1
has
its
own
IRQ.
COM2
and
3
share
IRQ
16.

What's
weird
though,
is

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that
I
just
noticed
that
COM1
now
has
IRQ
7
(not
shared
with
anything
else),
while
it
had
IRQ
4
yesterday
(again
not
shared).
And
I
swear
it's
always
been
4
in
the
BIOS...

"Bob
I"
wrote:

You
say
"3
com
ports".
You
wouldn't

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happen
to
be
trying
to
"force"
IRQ4
on
2
of
them?
In
the
old
ISA
system,
IRQ
4
is
used
in
COM1
and
COM3,
and
that
would
be
conflict.

Erik
wrote:

Thanks
Bob,
but
that
switch
is
already
present
in
boot.ini.
I
suspect
it's
the

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default.

"Bob
I"

wrote:

Just
a
thought,
you
could
try
killing
mouse
detection
on
the
serial
ports
with
the
/fastdetect
switch.

Available
switch
options
for
the
Windows
XP
and
the
Windows
Server
2003
Boot.ini
files
<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/8337>

Erik
wrote:

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Hi
DL.

Sorry
for
the
late
reply;
I
didn't
get
a
notification
that
you
had
replied
again.

Often
missed
yes;
but
if
I'd
tell
you
how
many
times
I've
called
the
1800
number
for
a
new
activation
code
(if
I
could
remember...)
you'd
know
that

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I've
done
this
"a
couple"
of
times
:)

To
answer
your
questions:

1.
No
conflicts
in
device
manager
at
all.
Everything
is
reported
as
"working
properly".

2.
Error
messages
in
event
viewer:
lots!
A
little
over
600
in
the
Application
tab,
almost
2,000
(yep,
two
thousand)
under
the
System

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tab.
Many
of
these
entries
are
merely
Information
(about
SP2
that
was
installed),
some
are
related
to
some
CDROM
issue
(even
though
they
appear
to
work
fine);
but
I've
found
a
few
that
say
"While
validating
that
\Device\Serial1
was
really
a
serial
port,
a
fifo
was
detected.
The
fifo
will
be

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used."
I've
done
a
Google
(oops!)
search
for
this
error
message;
but
didn't
find
anything
useful.
Any
idea
what
that
means?
And,
what
else
am
I
looking
for?
3.
I
haven't
swapped
the
expansion
card
to
a
different
PCI
slot
yet,
no.
I
was
kinda
hoping
that
there
is
an
easier

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(as
opposed
to
opening
the
box
–
again
–
and
swapping
cards
around...).

Any
ideas?

Thanks,

Erik

"DL"
wrote:

Thats
often
missed
:)

When
you
get
the
problem,
any
conflicts
shown
in
Hardware
Devices?
Any
err.msgs
in
Event

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Viewer?
Tried
the
card
in
a
different
slot?

"Erik"
<Erik@xxxxxxxxxxx>
wrote
in
message
<news:A2CAEDD5-2>

Of
course
:-)

"DL"
wrote:

new
mob
You
have
insta
the
chip
drive

"Erik"
<Erik@xxxxxxxxxxx>
wrote
in
mess

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new

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