

Communication with VXM Controllers under Linux Operating System

AppNote: 02-17-03

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17 February 2003

I.) The program that will be used to open the serial port under Linux is called Minicom. It's intended to be used for communication with modems, so you need to do a few nonstandard things to use it on a raw serial port. The first thing to do is start Minicom in setup mode with the command "minicom -s" (or if in a graphical environment like KDE, 1st open a shell and then run the Minicom command.)

II.) This will bring up a configuration screen. You need to choose "Serial Port Setup", and change it to reflect the proper /dev/ttyS? device. (Com1=ttyS0 and Com2=ttyS1)

III.) The Bps/Par/Bits setting needs to be 9600 8N1 (VXM factory default) or set to the BaudRate that the VXM BaudRate is set to.

IV.) Both hardware and software flow control need to be turned off.

V.) Turn Line Wrap on and Append Line Feed on

VI.) Now save the configuration however you like, and close Minicom.

VI.) Now start Minicom again with the command "minicom -o" (The -o will prevent Minicom from trying to initialize a modem instead of your serial port).

VII.) In Minicom type the capital letter "E" and see if the VXM controller comes online.

VIII.) Congratulations you have now successfully configured a terminal to communicate with the VXM controller under the Linux operating system. For further commands to control the VXM controller, see the VXM user's manual or type the capital letter "Q" to bring the controller offline.