Installing a Hitecastro EQMOD unit in Windows 8.

The latest prolific driver will not work with windows 8. The good news is there is a slightly earlier version of the driver which does work. Typically windows will automatically update the driver to the latest version causing the device to fail. We need to stop windows doing this. Here's how. Step one only applies if you have previously tried to install the device and failed because of an incompatible driver. If the computer has never had an EQMOD unit plugged in proceed directly to step two.

Step One.

Remove any existing drivers

Control Panel -> Device Manager



Find the Prolific USB-to-Serial device which has a yellow exclamation mark showing it has a problem.

Right click on it and choose properties.

Prolific USB-to-Serial Comm Port (COM4) Properties	×
General Port Settings Driver Details Events	
Prolific USBto-Serial Comm Port (COM4)	
Driver Provider: Prolific	
Driver Date: 17/07/2009	
Driver Version: 3.3.5.122	
Digital Signer: Microsoft Windows Hardware Compatibility Publisher	
Driver Details To view details about the driver files.	
Update Driver To update the driver software for this device.	
Roll Back Driver If the device fails after updating the driver, roll back to the previously installed driver.	
Disable Disables the selected device.	
Uninstall To uninstall the driver (Advanced).	
OK Cancel	

Click the uninstall button.



VERY IMPORTANT. You must check the 'Delete the driver software for this device.' checkbox.

Step Two

Download and Install Driver from;

http://www.hitecastro.co.uk/support/eqdir/PL2303 Prolific DriverInstaller_v10518.zip

DO NOT use any other driver than the one linked above.

Now goto Control Panel-> System ->Advanced System Settings -> Hardware -> Device Installation Settings

Device Installation Settings	×
Do you want Windows to download driver software and realistic icons for your devices?	
○ Yes, do this automatically (recommended)	
No, let me choose what to do	
○ Always install the best driver software from Windows Update.	
Never install driver software from Windows Update.	
Automatically get the device app and info provided by your device manufacturer.	
Why should I have Windows do this automatically?	
🚱 Save Changes Cancel	

Set 'No let me choose what to do and 'Never install driver software from Windows Update' (don't worry we are going to change this setting back to allow windows update drivers shortly)

<u>Step 3.</u>

Now plug the device and allow it to install



The device should install and show correctly in device manager. If you are happy to leave windows automatic updating of driver off, you can stop here. If not continue.

Step 4.

Go back to Control Panel-> System ->Advanced System Settings -> Hardware -> Device Installation Settings and once again allow windows to update drivers as normal.

Device Installation Settings
Do you want Windows to download driver software and realistic icons for your devices?
• Yes, do this automatically (recommended)
○ No, let me choose what to do
Why should I have Windows do this automatically?
😵 Save Changes Cancel

Save Changes

The driver will update through windows and once again get a yellow exclamation mark to show it has a problem.



Step 5.

Now right click on the device and choose properties.

Prolific USB-to-Serial Comm Port (COM4) Properties
General Port Settings Driver Details Events
Prolific USB-to-Serial Comm Port (COM4)
Driver Provider: Prolific
Driver Date: 05/02/2013
Driver Version: 3.4.48.272
Digital Signer: Microsoft Windows Hardware Compatibility Publisher
Driver Details To view details about the driver files.
Update Driver To update the driver software for this device.
Roll Back Driver If the device fails after updating the driver, roll back to the previously installed driver.
Disable Disables the selected device.
Uninstall To uninstall the driver (Advanced).
OK Cancel

Choose 'Roll Back Driver'

Driver Package rollback
Are you sure you would like to roll back to the previously installed driver software?
Rolling back to older driver software may reduce the functionality or security of your device. If this doesn't resolve the issues you're having with your device, visit the manufacturer's web site to determine if updated driver software is available.
Yes No

Click Yes.



The device now shows correctly in device manager and functions normally. Windows will not now automatically update it.

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact us support@hitecastro.co.uk