

Prolific RS232 to USB Converter Model PL-2303 HXD Description

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K4LED Observatory

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The testing of several different FTDI chip-based RS232 to USB converter cables with Windows 10 computers at this station failed to find one without Windows 10 driver issues or issues with their performance. Perhaps some were counterfeit with non-compatible drivers. A Prolific PL-2303 HXD converter cable with their proprietary converter chip was the winner. Below is information about a converter cable at my station that worked well and quietly at this station.

Prolific PL-2303 HXD. Currently using Windows 10 driver version 3.8.31.0, Driver dated 7/30/2019. The driver is updated periodically by regular windows driver updates if you have it turned on.

If you have a Prolific converter cable and do not know its version, Prolific provides a check software (PL2303_CheckChipVersion_1006.exe) that will tell you the Prolific converter model you have on a COM port. First turn off any software that is using the COM port in question then run the software check tool. Please be aware there are many Prolific PL-2303 counterfeit converter cables being sold.

Warning Notice:

Please be warned that counterfeit (fake) [PL-2303HX \(Chip Rev A\) USB to Serial Controller ICs](#) using Prolific's trademark logo, brandname, and device drivers, were being sold in the China market. Counterfeit IC products show exactly the same outside chip markings but generally are of poor quality and causes Windows driver compatibility issues ([Yellow Mark Error Code 10 in Device Manager](#)). We issue this warning to all our customers and consumers to avoid confusion and false purchase.

Prolific recommends following vendor cable brands:

[Product: AP1103 \(AP1100\) USB Serial Converter](#)

Good Way Technology Co., Ltd. (Taiwan)

E-mail: gary_chang@goodway.com.tw

<http://www.goodway.com.tw>

[Product: Plugable USB to RS-232 DB9 Serial Adapter \(PL-2303HX Rev D chipset\)](#)

Plugable Technologies (USA & UK Direct)

E-mail: support@plugable.com

<http://www.plugable.com/>

[Product: Y-105 USB to Serial Converter](#)

Tech-Top Technology Ltd.

<http://www.tech-top.com/usb-to-serial-cable.html>

CAVEAT: The Prolific model PL-2303 HXD is performing well at this station on Windows 10 (Latest version) Minix NEO N42C-4 computers with the current Windows driver. Performance at your location may differ depending on OS version, computer model, and Windows driver in use, etc.