

# Virtual COM Port Drivers

The YCCC SO2R Box (plus) has been tested with three virtual COM port drivers.

## ***VSP Manager***

This driver is available from Steve, K5FR. Information on how to obtain it is available from:

[http://k5fr.com/ddutilwiki/index.php?title=VSP\\_Manager](http://k5fr.com/ddutilwiki/index.php?title=VSP_Manager)

### **Advantages**

This is a commercial quality driver. It is a signed driver, which means can be easily installed on 64 bit Windows systems.

### **Disadvantages**

This driver is only available to licensed hams.

### **Notes**

Read the installation directions, particularly the part which talks about selecting a directory. When installing it double check that you select the directory you want.

## ***com0com***

This is an open-source driver. Information on installing and using it is available from:

<http://com0com.sourceforge.net/doc/UsingCom0com.pdf>

### **Advantages**

This is a reliable driver. It is still being developed.

### **Disadvantages**

This driver is difficult to install on 64 bit Windows platforms. Some people have had trouble configuring it or find the directions confusing.

### **Notes**

There is a graphical interface and a command interface. The graphical interface is fairly easy to use.

## ***N8VB Vcom***

This is an open source driver written by N8VB. It is no longer available on the author's website.

### **Advantages**

This driver is easy to configure. Some people who have had difficulty with com0com have found this to be better.

### **Disadvantages**

It is only usable on 32 bit systems. And it is no longer in development.

### **Notes**

Installation is described in detail in older versions of the SO2R Box Manual (V1.2 and earlier).

## ***Recommendations***

If you are using a logging program that supports Windows named pipes you do not need a virtual COM port driver. Currently WriteLog version 10.68 and newer support named pipes.

For 64 bit Windows, if you are a licensed ham, use VSP Manager. Otherwise use com0com.

For 32 bit Windows, VSP Manager or com0com are both good choices.

If you are using the N8VB driver there is no reason to switch. But since it is no longer being developed we don't recommend it for new installations.