

Connecting eComStation and Palm OS Devices

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- 2 Palm Desktop with ODIN
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- 3 Pilot Link over Serial and USB
 - General
 - Pilot Link 0.9.5 over Serial

Outline II

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- What Pilot Link can do

4 Storage Card Solutions

- General
- Things you can do

5 WLAN Solutions

- General

First Things First!

The Basics

- Before looking at the software, we need to talk about the connection!

No Way...

- While there is an IRDA driver for OS/2, it does not work with PALM devices
- At least, that was true for PALM III and PALM V models
 - Not tested with newer models, but don't expect a change

Good for older PALM Devices

- Tested with PALM III and PALM V, should work with others too
- Newer PALM devices do not come with a serial cable anymore
 - ... actually, it's hard or impossible to get one!
- Even some desktops and notebooks lack a serial port

The Way to go!

- Current PALM devices come with USB cables
- Most computers do have a USB port
 - ... and most of them do work with eComStation!

The Alternative - 1

- You can exchange data between an eComStation computer and a PALM device this way
- To read SD-Cards/Memory Sticks in desktops or notebooks you may need a USB attached card reader
 - PCMCIA adapters will work as well
- Not everything that can be done via a "real connection" can also be done with a storage card
- Additional software is required on the PALM device

The Alternative - 2

- You can exchange data between an eComStation computer and a PALM device this way
- The PALM device needs WLAN
- ... so does the desktop or notebook
- Not everything that can be done via a "real connection" can also be done with WLAN
- Additional software is required on the PALM device and on the computer

No Way...

- There is no Bluetooth driver for OS/2 or eComStation

- Teruel de Campo wrote a VOICE Newsletter article March 2001
- Should work with PALM 3 and V, PALM OS 3.X (untested with 4.X)
- Works only with Palm Desktop 3.X for Windows 95/98 and NT
- Serial connection is required, does not work with USB
- Usage of Ray Gwinn's SIO COM port driver may be required

- The full functionality of Palm Desktop can be used
 - Installing applications, full hotsync support
 - Perform backup/restore
 - Editing calendar and address book on the computer
 - Just like "Windows"
- Restricted to serial port and old PALM devices
- Requires a working ODIN installation and some fiddling

- Usage of the serial and USB versions is not very different
- Make sure the hardware works **before** you try to connect the PALM
- No data loss has been reported due to simple read-only operations with Pilot Link. However, if you have access to a Windows machine, perform a hot sync before continuing with testing Pilot Link.
 - There is nothing wrong with playing save!

Installation

- Test the COM port before trying to use Pilot Link
 - mouse, modem, serial cable,...
- Determine the number of the CPM port you want to use
- Install Pilot Link and specify the correct COM port
 - Unzip the archive and run `makefolder.cmd` from the OS2 subdirectory
- Add to `config.sys`: `SET PILOTRATE=9600`
 - Later increase to: 57600 or better

Installation I

- This version does not support serial connections
- Test the USB installation before trying Pilot Link
 - mouse, keyboard, memory sticks
- Unzip the Pilot Link archive and run `makefolder.cmd` from the OS2 subdirectory
- Install `USBRESMG.SYS` that comes with Pilot Link
 - May also work with newer versions from SANE for example
 - Does not work with the original version that comes with eCS 1.1 or 1.2
 - put this in `config.sys`:
`DEVICE=C:\OS2\BOOT\USBRESMG.SYS`
 - and copy `USBRESMG.SYS` to `C:\OS2\BOOT`

Installation II

- Start USB Resource Manager from the system configuration and see if it lists USB attached devices
- Connect a USB device and run `testlibusb.exe`
The attached USB device should be listed, if it is not, the USB connection is not working correctly!

- **NOTE:** For USB connections, a hot sync has to be initiated by the PALM OS device before starting the application on the computer!
- Perform a full backup
- Restore
- Syncing
- Update (see the manual for differences to syncing)
- Install plain text files as text into the memo pad
 - For the USB version, those files have to be UNIX type files, otherwise you will see additional characters at the line end
- Install PALM programs and databases (PRC and PDB) (possible problem with Windows installers!)
- And a lot of other things...

- You may use the "file manager" that comes with PALM OS
- However, it's a good idea to get a real file manager
- Some applications can use a storage card directly, for others, the files have to be in RAM





- Use files on the storage card from applications
 - Documents To Go
- Install PDB and PRC files
 - Move the files from the storage card into RAM, using a file manager
- Perform limited backup/restore

- This is the advanced stuff!
- Demo: FilePoint with SMB access
- Demo: VNC client
- Demo: Web with Apache/2

Summary

- eComStation and PALM OS devices do go together quite well
- some PM / WPS integration available, but commandline has more options
- most of the basic tasks are supported

For Further Reading I

-  http://www.os2voice.org/VNL/past_issues/VNL0301H/vnewsf4.htm
Palm Desktop under OS/2
-  <http://www.stellarcom.org/palmstuff/index.html>
PalmPilot and OS/2 (PilotLink 0.9.5 - serial)
-  <http://hobbes.nmsu.edu>
pilot-link-0.12.0-pre4-b2-os2.zip (USB)
-  <http://www.dataviz.com/>
Dataviz Documents To Go

For Further Reading II



<http://www.bachmannsoftware.com/filepoint.htm>

FilePoint (file manager and access to SMB resources)



<http://www.nosleep.net>

FileZ (file manager)