

## **INSTALLING THE ACTIVE TAG DEMO KIT SOFTWARE**

In order to install the Demo Software the USB stick containing the installation software must be plugged into a convenient USB port on the PC on which the Demo Software is to be installed.

Open the **PC Demo Installation** folder on the USB stick.

Now, double click on the **setup.exe** file and installation should commence.

The Demo Software will install to the folder "C:\Program Files\ActiveTagReaderDemo".

The file "ReaderConfig.txt" must be copied into the folder "C:\Program Files\ActiveTagReaderDemo" after the software has been installed.

If the Demo Software is installed to a directory other than the default named above, for any reason, the file "ReaderConfig.txt" must be copied into the same folder as the Demo Program.

It must now be established which COM port is assigned to the RFID reader and this must be changed if necessary. This can be easily accomplished by means of the following steps:

1. Do not plug the reader's USB connector into your PC yet!
2. Open the Device Manager window. On an XP system this can easily be achieved by clicking on **start** on the Desktop, then right-click **My Computer** then **Properties** on the Drop-Down. You will now be on the **System Properties window** and can select the **Hardware tab**. Finally click the **Device Manager button**.
3. Once you have the Device Manager window open, open Ports (COM & LPT) by clicking on the "+" sign to the left of the Ports (COM & LPT) label. At this point you will see a list of the COM ports on your PC together with their numbers. You will not see the RFID reader yet as it has not yet been plugged in.
4. Now plug the reader's USB connector into any convenient USB connector of the PC to be used for setting up and initial evaluation of the RFID technology system. The RFID reader should now start to read any compatible tags within read range as indicated by beeping emanating from the RFID reader. (As the reader is shipped set to Short Range the tags can be very close to the reader and will read up to approximately 3 meters distance from the reader).
5. The display in the Device Manager window will now update to show the RFID reader and its pre-assigned COM port number. This should not clash with any of the pre-existing COM port numbers.
6. If the COM port number is between 1 and 12, it can be used without change. However, if it clashes with a COM port number used by any other device normally connected to the PC (including devices that are not currently plugged in) or is greater than 12, the COM port number must be changed. This can easily be achieved as follows:
  - a. Click on the RFID reader's COM port entry in the Device Manager window. If you have followed the above steps this will be the last (bottom) entry under Ports (COM & LPT) and will be in the form USB "Serial Port (COMn) Properties" where "n" is the actual COM Port number.
  - b. Now select the Port Settings tab and click on the Advanced button. The desired COM Port Number can now be selected using the Drop-Down list found on the top left of the Advanced Setting for COMn window. Unfortunately Windows tends to mark ports as (in use) even when that is not the case. The best solution seems to be to try it if it was not shown on the Ports (COM & LPT) list displays in the Device Manager window.
  - c. Record the RFID reader's COM Port Number for using in setting up communications with the reader.

Should a "run-time" error occur saying that some of the required dependency files are not available (e.g. MSEBVM50.DD and MSCOMM32.06) these can be installed by clicking on the VBD.EXE file in this folder.