

Installing Digi ClassicBoard Adapters in Windows NT 4 Environments

This addendum to the documentation shipped with Digi ClassicBoard adapters supersedes and replaces the information presented in the ClassicBoard *Installation Guide* (part #90000001 Rev F) pages 29-31. Please disregard pages 29-31 of the manual and use the following information instead.

There are three main steps to installing the ClassicBoard under Windows NT.

1. Determine available resources for the adapter from within Windows NT.
2. Install the ClassicBoard adapter and run the ClassicBoard configuration program to define the resources the adapter will use.
3. Install the ClassicBoard driver for Windows NT, configuring the driver to use the same resources that you have configured the adapter to use in step 2.

Each of these steps will be discussed in detail below.

Since it is necessary to configure the adapter from outside of NT, (in step 2), it is much easier to first determine what resources are available while you are still running NT. The Windows NT Diagnostic Utility (WINMSD.EXE) can be used for this purpose.

1. Determine available resources for the adapter from within Windows NT

From within Windows NT, run the WINMSD.EXE utility, (Start/Run/Winmsd). Within Winmsd, press the Resources tab and determine what resources you have available to allocate to the ClassicBoard adapter.

The ClassicBoard adapter requires several types of resources to be allocated for its use. For example, a four-port ClassicBoard 4 adapter requires one available IRQ, one 5-byte block of I/O addresses to be used for its Control Register, and an 8-byte block of I/O addresses for each of the four serial ports on the ClassicBoard adapter. A ClassicBoard 8 will have the same requirements for the IRQ and Control Register, but requires eight blocks of I/O addresses for the serial ports.

A common configuration for a ClassicBoard 4 adapter is shown below:

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IRQ 5
Board Control Register I/O Address: 140h - 144h
Port 1 I/O Address: 100h - 107h
Port 2 I/O Address: 108h - 10Fh
Port 3 I/O Address: 110h - 117h
Port 4 I/O Address: 118h - 11Fh

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Once you've determined the resources that you can allocate to the ClassicBoard adapter, you may proceed to configure the adapter to use those resources.

2. Install the ClassicBoard adapter and run the ClassicBoard configuration program to define the resources the adapter will use.

The ClassicBoard configuration program must be run from outside of Windows NT, so the first thing you'll need to do is shutdown your NT system. After NT shuts down, power off the computer and install the ClassicBoard adapter according to the instructions in the *Installation Guide*. Insert the Digi diskette labeled "ClassicBoard Utilities Disk" and restart the computer. Once the computer has booted from the diskette, type the command **CFG** and press the enter key.

The ClassicBoard adapter has two modes of operation, “Plug and Play” (PNP) mode, and “Legacy” mode. PNP mode is not currently supported for Windows NT installations, so the first thing you’ll need to do is set the adapter to use Legacy mode, (PNP Mode? = No). To do this, press the <F3> key, and then press either the Up or Down arrow key. Setting PNP Mode to “No” will open up several other fields for you to enter the rest of the configuration information you determined was available in step 1. Navigation instructions are supplied in the lower left portion of the configuration screen. Note that you only need to enter the starting address for each of the I/O areas, not the entire range of the I/O area. Once you’ve finished, press the <F3> key again, and then press the <F5> key to write the configuration to the adapter.

Follow the instructions on pages 22 - 24 of the ClassicBoard *Installation Guide* (part #90000001 Rev F) if you need further help with the Configuration program.

Once the adapter has been configured, the next step is to install the Windows NT drivers.

3. Install the ClassicBoard driver for Windows NT.

Remove the configuration diskette from the floppy drive and restart Windows NT. Once you have logged in as the Administrator, launch the Network applet from the Control Panel. Press the Adapters tab, and then press the Add button. Insert the diskette labeled ClassicBoard Driver for Windows 95/NT, press the Have Disk button, and then specify the path A:\WINNT. Select the option titled Digi ClassicBoard Version 1.02, and then press the OK button. Here you’ll be able to configure the driver to use the same resources that you configured the adapter to use in step 2. Note: The Board Control Register I/O Address is called Interrupt Status I/O Address within the driver configuration screen. The individual port I/O addresses can then be configured by pressing the Ports button.

Once you’ve completed the configuration of the driver, press the OK button and the driver installation will complete. Press the Close button on the Network Applet window, and let Windows NT restart.

Once Windows NT restarts, check for the existence of your additional COM ports with the Ports applet in the Control Panel.

After installation, to configure the enhanced capabilities of the ClassicBoard Windows NT driver:

1. Double-click the Network applet from the Control Panel.
2. Select the appropriate ClassicBoard adapter from the list of adapters.
3. Double-click the adapter or click the Properties button.
4. Press either the FIFO button, or the Baud button.
5. Help for these functions is available by pressing the Help button.