

Application Note:  
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**APPLIES TO:** WatchportV2, WatchportV3, Video for Windows applications using the VfW/TWAIN Watchport camera driver

**PROBLEM:** Disconnecting a WatchportV2 or WatchportV3 camera when using the VfW/TWAIN drivers and previewing live video may cause unexpected results and will require the application to be shut down and reopened once the camera is reconnected.

**WHY:** Video for Windows relies on a single address (a “handle”) to a capture window in the application. An application first creates a capture window and using the handle returned, it then “connects” the capture window to a specific camera device instance. All camera functionality from that point on relies on that handle to the capture window linked to the camera, which will be useless once the camera is unplugged. Most VfW applications will not be able to recover from such an event, including the Vc3 Viewer and VidCap applications and must be shut down to recover.

**RECOVERY:** In order to recover from a surprise removal event, you must first close the Video for Windows application. Once the camera is reconnected and only after a minimum of 30 to 40 seconds have transpired\*, you can then reopen the application and try to connect to the camera.

**\*NOTE:** It can take up to 40 seconds after a Video for Window application is closed for the camera driver to receive the instruction (IRP\_MJ\_CLOSE) to close. Therefore, if you do not wait for at least 30 - 40 seconds to restart the application, you will get a message stating, “Could not detect camera on any Port, check power and I/O connections and Retry”. (Always check to make sure you’re using the latest service packs for your Windows operating system. In some cases, this delay may be reduced or fixed after upgrading.)