User Guide to Cisco USB Console on MAC OS X and Linux

1.1 Cisco USB Console on MAC OS X

USB Console is a CDC (Connected Device Configuration) device, hence there are is no need for a separate running driver on the MAC OS. There are several methods of accessing the router once the router is connected to a usb port on the MAC.

- Using a terminal emulation program such as Z-Term for MAC OS X. For more information on Z-Term, please refer http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ZTerm
- Using "screen" program which is a built-in program for MAC OS X.

The steps below illustrate how to run "screen" program on the MAC

- Open a Terminal window on the MAC.
- Plug the Router usb console port to an available usb port on the MAC
- Find the enumerated port number for the usb connection on the MAC by entering these commands on the MAC terminal window:
  - Change directory to /dev   'cd /dev'
  - List enumerated usb port   'ls –ltr *usb*
  - Generally the connected usb port will be listed as some tty device 'tty.usbmodem' with a numeration suffix such as 'tty.usbmodem1a21'
- Connect to the above usb port using the "screen" program on the Terminal window followed by the speed of the router console   'screen /dev/tty.usbmodem1a21 9600'
- To disconnect usbconsole and exit from "screen" program, on the Terminal window, enter Ctrl-a follow by Ctrl-\ . Screen will prompt for confirmation to exit/quit the program.
- Illustrated example below:

DT-macbook: user$ cd /dev
DT-macbook:dev user$ ls -ltr /dev/*usb*
crw-rw-rw- 1 root   wheel   9, 66 Apr 1 16:46 tty.usbmodem1a21
DT-macbook:dev user$
DT-macbook:dev user$ screen /dev/tty.usbmodem1a21 9600

router#

router#
to quit, ^a (Ctrl-a) then ^\ (Ctrl-\) , user will see prompt to quit below:

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Really quit and kill all your windows [y/n]

1.2 Cisco USB Console on Linux

USB Console is a CDC (Connected Device Configuration) device, hence there are is no need for a separate running driver on Linux. There 'are several methods of accessing the router once the router is connected to a usb port on Linux machines.

- Using Serial to Network Proxy program such as ser2net which provides a way for user to connect either locally or from a network to the Linux machine serial port.

- Using "screen" program which is available for most Linux OS.

The steps below illustrate how to run "screen" program on a Linux machine:

- Open a Terminal window on the Linux machine.
- Plug the Router usbconsole port to an available usb port on the Linux machine
- Generally the connected usb port will be listed as some tty device 'ttyACM' with a numeration suffix such as 'ttyACM0'
- Connect to the above usb port using the "screen" program on the Terminal window followed by the speed of the router console 'screen /dev/ttyACM0 9600'
- To disconnect usbconsole and exit from "screen" program, on the Terminal window, enter Ctrl-a follow by Colon to enter "screen" program menu. Then enter quit to exit "screen".
- Illustrated example below:

usb-suse:/etc # screen /dev/ttyACM0 9600

router#
router#sh platform version
        ……
Platform Revisions/Versions :
==========================
        ……
router#

Enter Ctrl-a :   (Control-a then colon to enter menu, then quit to exit screen).

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:quit

[screen is terminating]
usb-suse:/etc #