

Getting Started with the VEXnet Driver

Version 1.0

Setting up your program:

- Verify that the *VEXnetDriver* package has been copied to your **src** folder and that the *jSerialComm-2.9.2.jar* library is located in your project and has been added as a library (In IntelliJ, right click the jar file and select *Add as Library*).
- In the file containing your programs main function, import **VEXnetDriver.VEXnetDriver** and **VEXnetDriver.VEXnetPacket**.
- It is recommended to use the same driver initialization sequence as the **example.java** file; however, feel free to modify the driver initialization to fit your needs.
- If you have any difficulty with getting your project started, please reach out to the D13 channel for assistance.

Creating and using packets:

- The packet class is a representation of the data that is being sent to and received from the VEX robot.
- The primary packet type that you will be using is a controller packet (i.e. JOY_STATUS_REQUEST_RESPONSE).
- Controller packets can be created manually or using the **VEXnetPacket.compileControllerPacket** function. This function allows easy creation of a complete controller packet that is ready to send.

Connecting to the VEX robot:

If you want to test your program on the VEX robot, please contact Eric or Zachary to schedule a time access the robot in D13.

- To connect to the VEX robot, you will need to connect the VEX USB to RS232 adapter to your computer.
 - On Windows computers, you will need to install the Prolific PL2303 driver. See directions below.
- The VEX adapter will then need to be connected to the RS232 to RJ22 adapter and then connected to the VEX controller.
- Once the controller has been connected to the computer, switch the controller and the robot on and allow them to connect to each other (wait until all lights on the controller turn green).
- With the controller connected to the robot, you are ready to begin execution of your program.

Installing the Prolific PL2303 driver on a Windows computer:

- Unzip *Prolific PL2303 driver v3.3.2.102 (2008-24-09) Win8_x64_x86.zip*
- Right click on *ser2pl.inf* and select Install.
- With the VEX USB to RS232 adapter connected to your computer:
 - Open Device Manager
 - Find and expand *Ports (COM & LPT)*
 - Find the Prolific PL2303 device
 - Right click
 - Update driver
 - Browse my computer for drivers
 - Let me pick from a list of available available drivers on my computer
 - Prolific USB-to-Serial Comm Port Version 3.3.2.102 [9/24/2008]
 - Next
- The serial port driver is now installed on you computer and the VEX USB to RS232 adapter is ready for use.