

SPARK MAX

SPARK MAX Overview

The REV Robotics SPARK MAX Motor Controller is an all-in-one USB, CAN, and PWM enabled motor controller that can drive both 12 V brushed and 12 V brushless DC motors. SPARK MAX is designed for use in the *FIRST®* Robotics Competition (FRC), incorporating advanced motor control in a small, easy-to-use, and affordable package. Configure and run the SPARK MAX through its built-in USB interface without needing a full control system.





Feature Summary

- Brushed and sensored-brushless motor control
- PWM, CAN, and USB control interfaces
 - PWM/CAN - Locking and keyed 4-pin JST-PH
 - USB - USB type C
- USB configuration and control
 - Rapid configuration with a PC
- Smart control modes
 - Closed-loop velocity control
 - Closed-loop position control
 - Follower mode
- Encoder port
 - Locking and keyed 6-pin JST-PH
 - 3-phase hall-sensor encoder input
 - Motor temperature sensor input
- Data port
 - Limit switch input
 - Quadrature encoder input with index
 - Multi-function pin
- Mode button
 - On-board motor type and idle behavior configuration
- RGB status LED
 - Detailed mode and operation feedback
- Integrated power and motor wires
 - 12 AWG ultra-flexible silicone wire

- Passive cooling
-

Kit Contents

The following items are included with each SPARK MAX Motor Controller

- 1 - SPARK MAX Motor Controller
- 1 - USB-A male to USB-C cable
- 1 - 4-pin JST-PH to CAN cable
- 1 - 4-pin JST-PH to single PWM cable
- 1 - PWM/CAN cable retention clip
- 1 - Data port protection cap

Special Thanks

We appreciate the assistance from the community for feedback, contributing, and testing the SPARK MAX, especially [Team 195 The CyberKnights](#).

SPARK MAX Specifications

The following tables provide the operating and mechanical specifications for the SPARK MAX motor controller.

 DO NOT exceed the maximum electrical specifications. Doing so will cause permanent damage to the SPARK MAX and will void the warranty.

Main Electrical Specifications

 Continuous operation at 60A may produce high temperatures on the heat sink. Caution should be taken when handling the SPARK MAX if it has been running at higher current level for an extended period of time.

 If using a battery to power SPARK MAX, make sure the fully charged voltage is below 24V allowing for sustained operation. Some battery chemistries and configurations, including 6S LiPo packs, have a charge voltage above the maximum operating voltage for SPARK MAX.

PWM Input Specifications

†	Brushed: between A and B outputs at 100% duty. Brushless: A->B->C direction at 100% duty.
††	Neutral corresponds to zero output voltage (0 V) and is either braking or coasting depending on the current idle behavior mode.
†††	Brushed: between A and B outputs at 100% duty Brushless: C->B->A direction at 100% duty.
‡	If a valid pulse isn't received within the timeout period, the SPARK MAX will disable its output.
‡‡	Input deadband is added to each side of the neutral pulse width. Within the deadband, output state is neutral. The deadband value is configurable using the REV Hardware Client or through the CAN interface.

Data Port Specifications

Parameter	Min	Typ	Max	Units
Digital input voltage range †	0	-	5	V
Digital input-high voltage ††	1.85	-	-	V
Digital input-low voltage †	-	-	1.36	V
Analog input voltage range †††	0	-	3.3	V
Analog input (12bit)	-	81	-	µV
5V supply current (I5V) ‡	-	-	100	mA
3.3V supply current (I3.3V)	-	-	30	mA
Total supply current (I5V + I3.3V)	-	-	100	mA

†	See Data Port for more details on the digital pins on the Data Port.
††	See Data Port for more details on the analog pins on the Data Port.
‡	The 5V supply is shared between the Data Port and Encoder Port.

Encoder Port Specifications

Parameter	Min	Typ	Max	Units
Digital input voltage range †	0	-	5	V
Digital input-high voltage †	1.85	-	-	V
Digital input-low voltage †	-	-	1.36	V
Analog input voltage range ††	0	-	3.3	V
5V supply current (I _{5V}) ‡	-	-	100	mA
3.3V supply current (I _{3.3V})	-	-	30	mA
Total supply current (I _{5V} + I _{3.3V})	-	-	100	mA

†	See Encoder Port for more details on the digital pins on the Data Port.

††	See Encoder Port for more details on the analog pin on the Data Port.
‡	The 5V supply is shared between the Data Port and Encoder Port.

Mechanical Specifications

Parameter	Min	Typ	Max	Units
Body length	-	70	-	mm
Body width	-	35	-	mm
Body height	-	25.5	-	mm
Weight	-	113.3	-	g
Power and motor wire gauge	-	12	-	AWG
Power and motor wire length	-	15	-	cm

Getting Started with SPARK MAX

The SPARK MAX is a motor controller that can control both Brushed DC and Brushless DC motors. Out of the box, the MAX defaults to its Brushless Mode and is ready to drive a NEO Brushless Motor with its PWM interface. Included in this section are the basic steps to get a motor spinning using the REV Hardware Client as well as information on how to configure your SPARK MAX.

- We recommend following this guide in its entirety at least once to understand the key features of the SPARK MAX. This guide can also serve as a fallback in case of any issues faced.

Before You Start

Before following this guide, the REV Hardware Client should be [Installed](#) before continuing. The client is the best way to verify that the device is configured correctly, and is **required** before using the CAN interface.

Wiring the SPARK MAX

Required Materials

- 12V Battery
 - 120A Circuit Breaker
 - Power Distribution Panel
 - SPARK MAX
 - Brushed or Brushless Motor
 - USB Type-C Cable
-

Prepare the Components

Test Bed

Using a test bed is an easy way to get started with using the SPARK MAX and verify connections and code. For the initial bring up of the SPARK MAX a test bed with a single SPARK MAX, a brushless or brushed motor, and a [properly wired Power Distribution Panel with breaker](#) is recommended.

Electrical Connections

The power and motor wires are permanently connected to the SPARK MAX and are not replaceable. So take care not to cut these wires too short. It is highly recommended to install connectors on these wires to simplify both the power and motor connections. A common connector used for this purpose is the Anderson Power Pole connector. Follow our [Anderson Power Pole](#) guide for tips on how to properly crimp these connectors.

 Make sure power is disconnected or turned off before making any electrical connections on your test bed or robot.

Connect the integrated SPARK MAX power leads labeled V+ (red) and V- (black) to an available channel on the Power Distribution Panel. If you need to extend the length of the integrated wires, it is recommended to use 12AWG wire or larger (lower gauge number).

Motor Connections

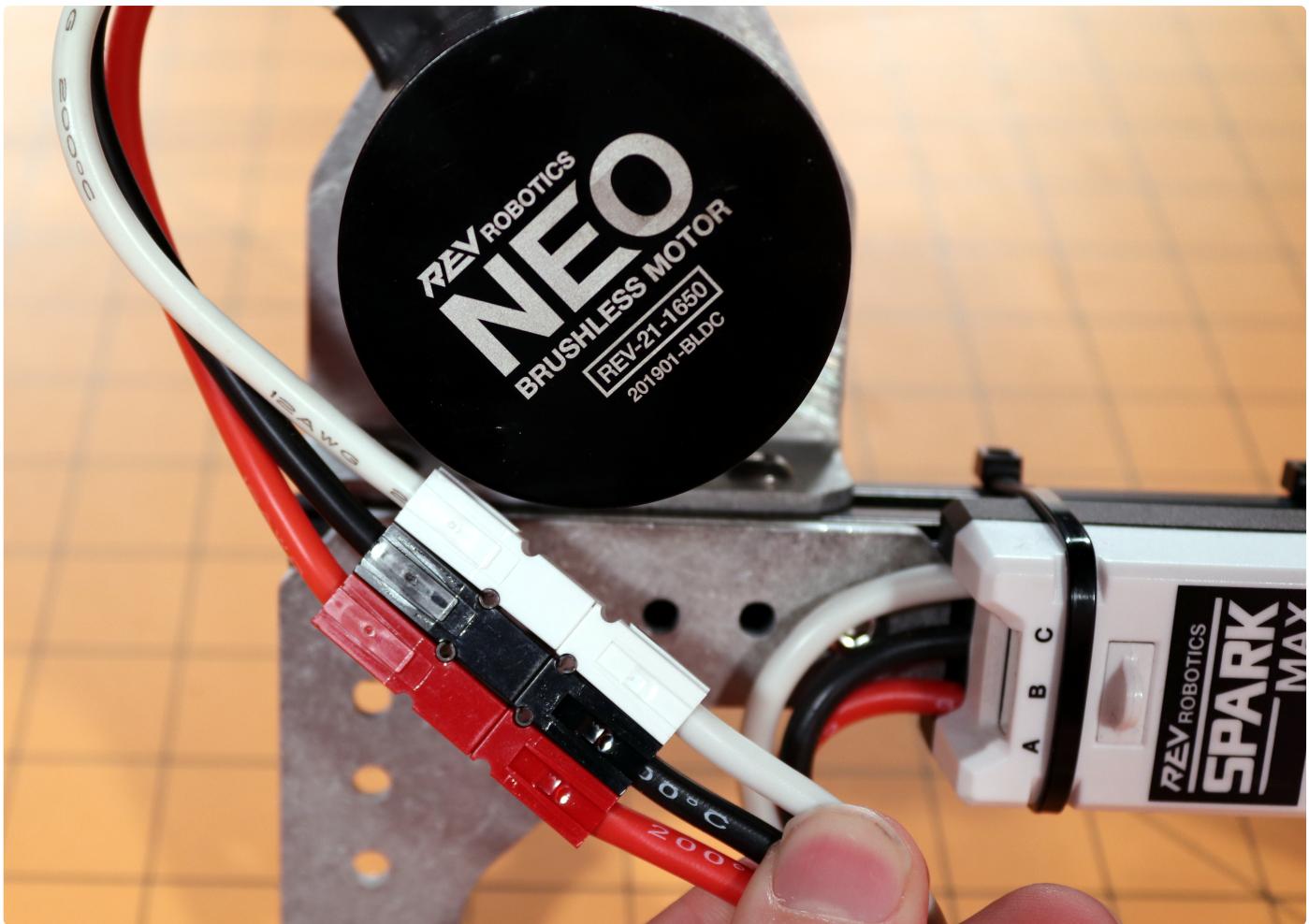
The first step is determining the type of motor you wish to connect. The SPARK MAX supports two types of motors: brushed DC and brushless DC. An easy way to determine the motor type is to look at the number of

primary (larger) motor wires. Brushed motors only have 2 primary motor wires, while brushless motors have 3 primary wires and additional s

Brushless	Brushed
NEO	CIM
NEO 550	Mini CIM
	RS-775
	RS-550
	BAG
	etc.

NEO Brushless Motor Connections

Connect the three motor wires; red, black, and white, to the matching SPARK MAX output wires labeled A (red), B (black), and C (white).



Next connect the NEO or NEO 550's encoder cable to the port labeled ENCODER just above the output wires.



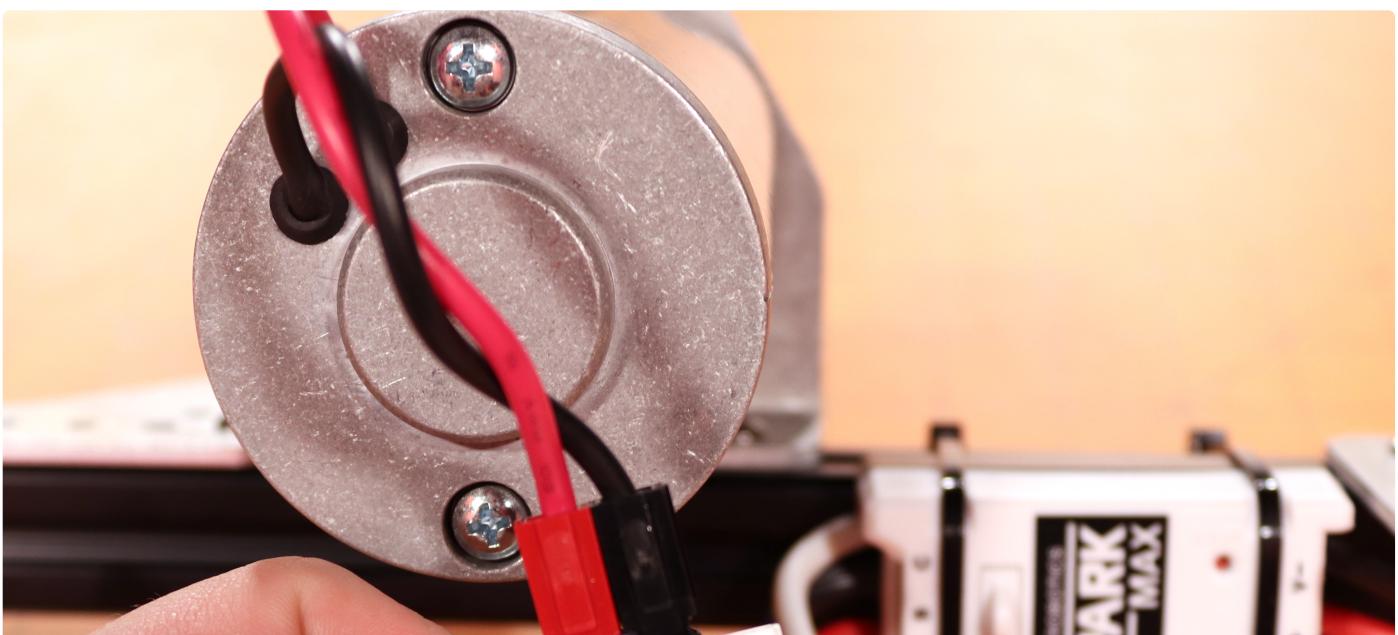


- ⚠️ The encoder sensor cable is **required** for the operation of brushless motors with SPARK MAX. The motor will not spin without it.

Brushed DC Motor Connections

Connect the two motor wires, M+ (red) and M- (black), to the SPARK MAX output wires labeled A (red) and B (black).

The third output wire, labeled C (white), is not used when driving a brushed motor and should be secured and insulated. We recommend tying it back with a zip-tie and covering the end with a piece of electrical tape. Do not cut this wire in case you wish to use a brushless motor in the future. In the example below the extra unused motor wire is insulated by the white connector and secured in the block.





Verify Connection

Carefully check all connections before continuing and verify that all colors match. The SPARK MAX can be permanently damaged if the power connection is reversed.

- (i) Leave the CAN cable disconnected for now, we will wiring this up later.

Make it Spin!

Power On

Now that the device is wired, and the connections carefully checked, power on the robot. You should see the SPARK MAX slowly blinking its for a new device the color will be Magenta. If the LED is dark, or you see a different blink pattern, refer to the [Status LED](#) guide for troubleshooting.

- (i) If you are using a brushed motor, you may see a sensor error. This is expected until you configure the device to accept a brushed motor in the following steps.

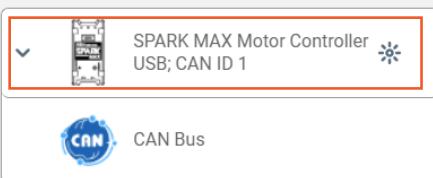
Connect to the SPARK MAX

Plug in the USB cable and start the REV Hardware Client. Select the SPARK MAX from the Connected Hardware

Connected Hardware

[Check for Updates](#)

Last check: 10:07 am

 Scan For Devices

Don't see your device?

[Report an Issue](#)

- i If you can not see the SPARK MAX, make sure that the SPARK MAX is not being used by another application, such as the REV SPARK MAX Client
. Then unplug the SPARK MAX from the computer and plug it back in.

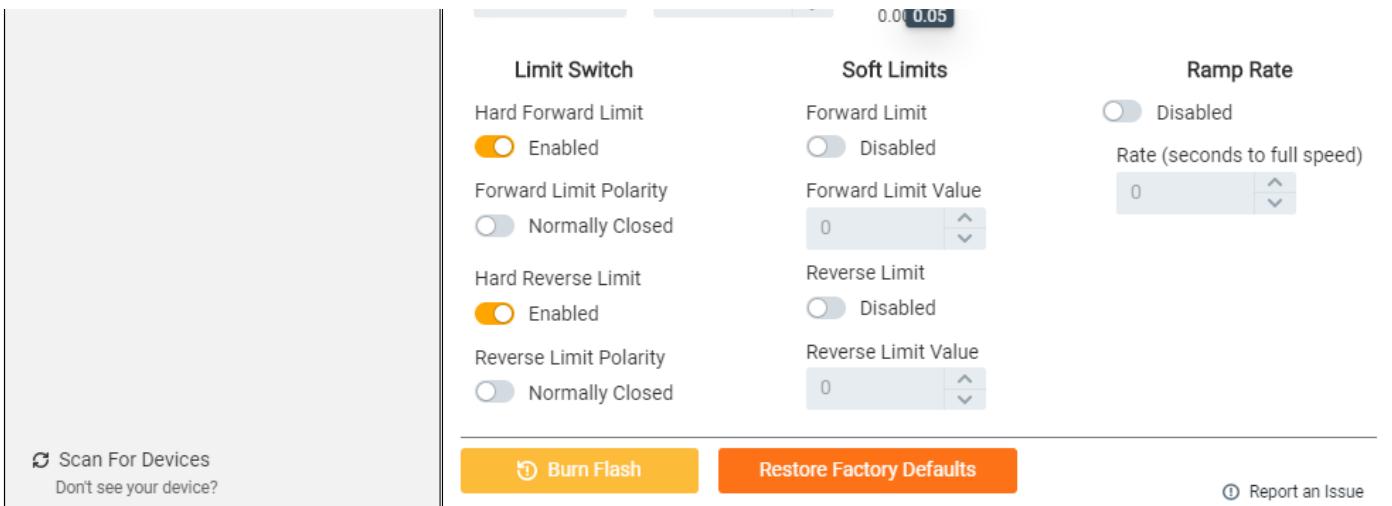
Basic Setup and Configuration

Before any parameters can be changed, you **must** first assign a unique CAN ID to the device. This can be any number between 1 and 63. After setting a unique CAN ID, the user interface will refresh and allow you to change other parameters.

The screenshot shows the REV Hardware Client interface. The top navigation bar includes links for Hardware, Downloads, Telemetry, and About. A yellow "Check for Updates" button is visible. The main area displays "Connected Hardware" with a single entry: "SPARK MAX Motor Controller USB; CAN ID 1". Below this, a "Scan For Devices" checkbox and a "Report an Issue" link are present. The central part of the screen shows the "SPARK MAX Motor Controller" configuration for "USB; CAN ID 1". The "Basic" tab is selected. Key settings shown include:

- CAN ID:** 1 (highlighted with a red box)
- Motor Type:** REV NEO Brushless
- Idle Mode:** Brake
- Smart Current Limit:** 80
- Sensor Type:** Hall Effect
- Encoder Counts Per Rev:** 4096
- PWM Input Deadband:** (Slider control)

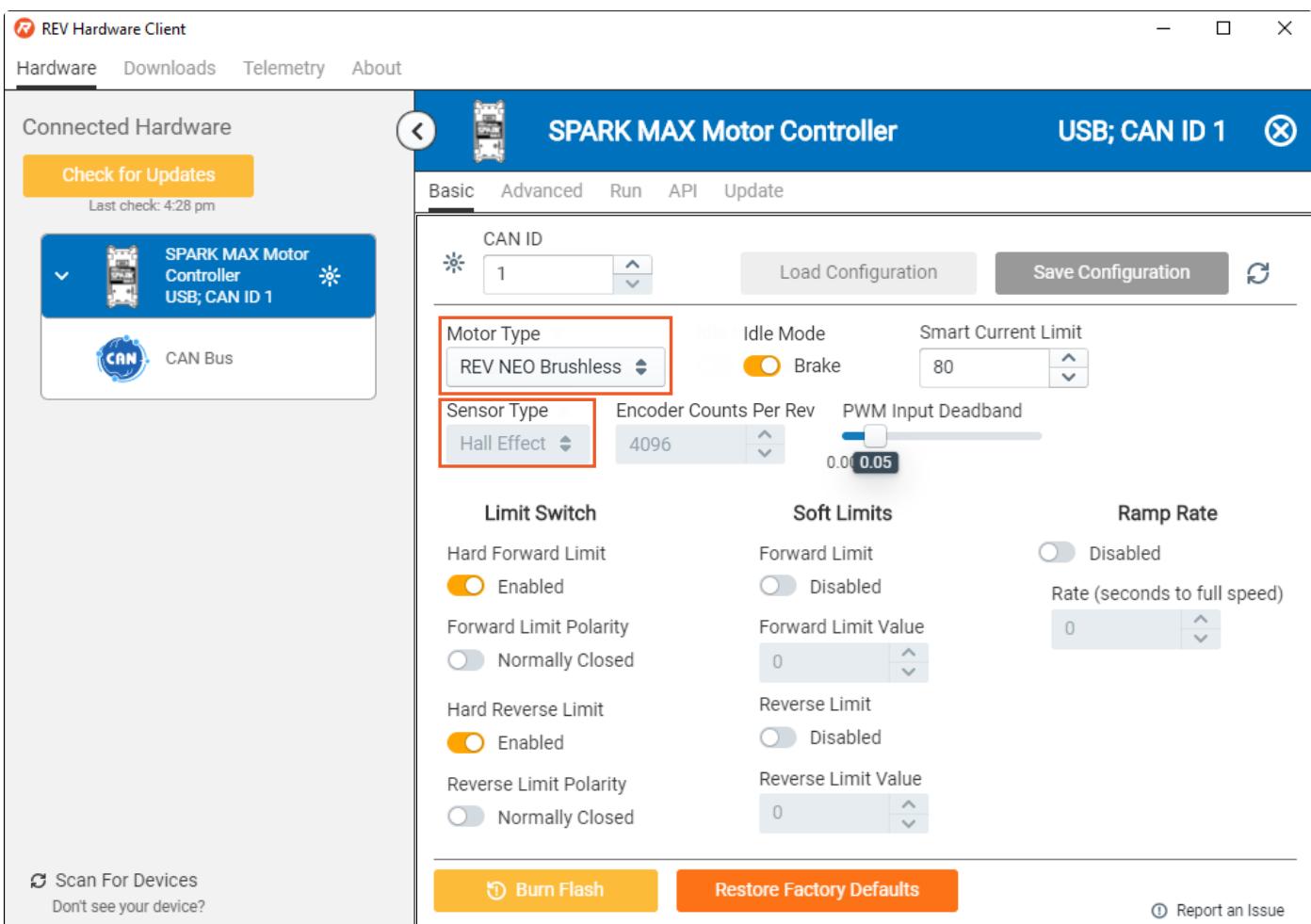
Buttons for "Load Configuration" and "Save Configuration" are also visible.



(i) Eventually you may set up a CAN network on your test bench or robot. Be sure each device on the network has a unique CAN ID. It is helpful to label each device with its ID number to aid in troubleshooting.

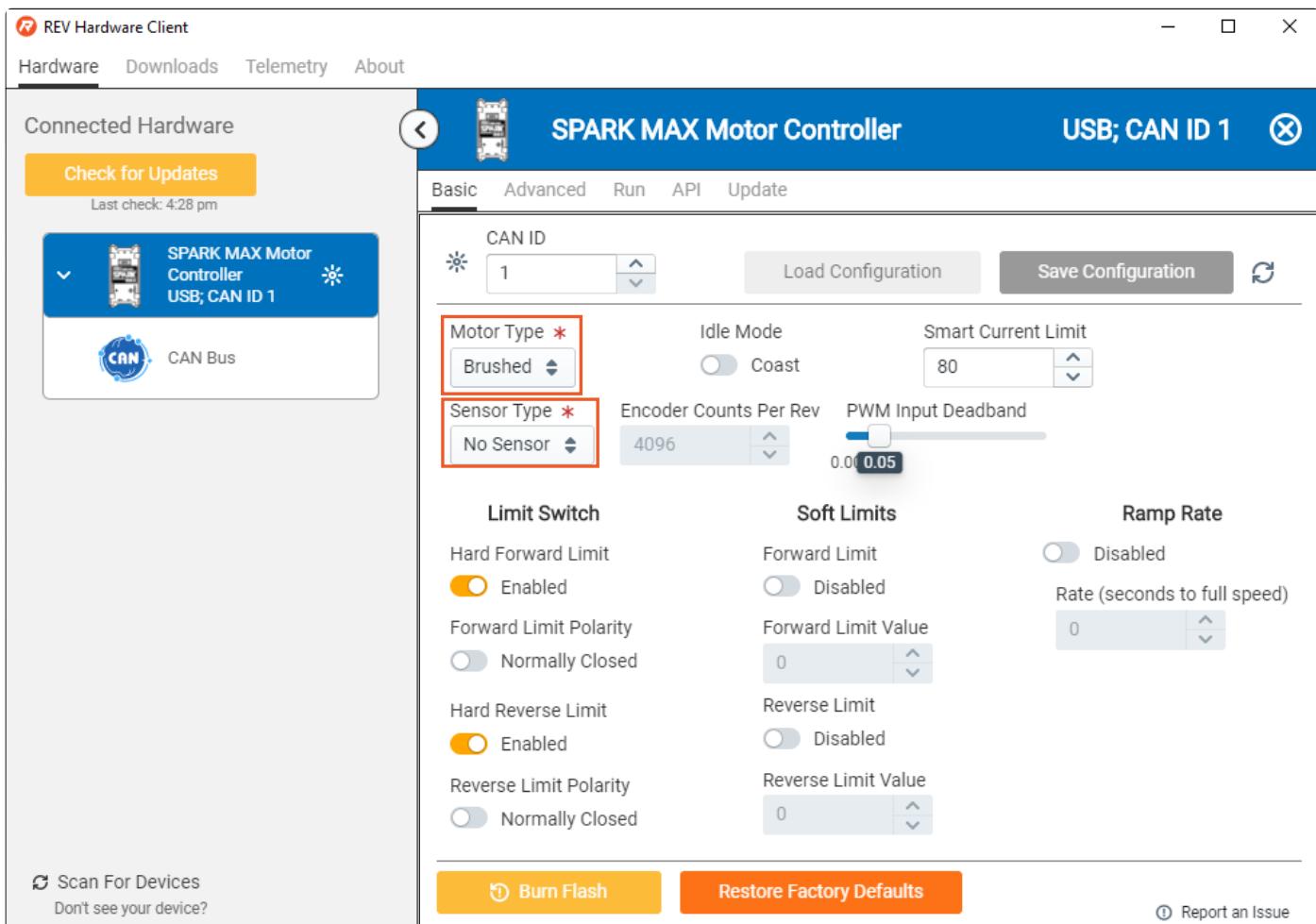
Set the Motor Type

If you are using a NEO or NEO 550, verify that the motor type is set to **REV NEO Brushless**, Sensor Type is **Hall Effect**, and the LED is blinking Magenta or Cyan.



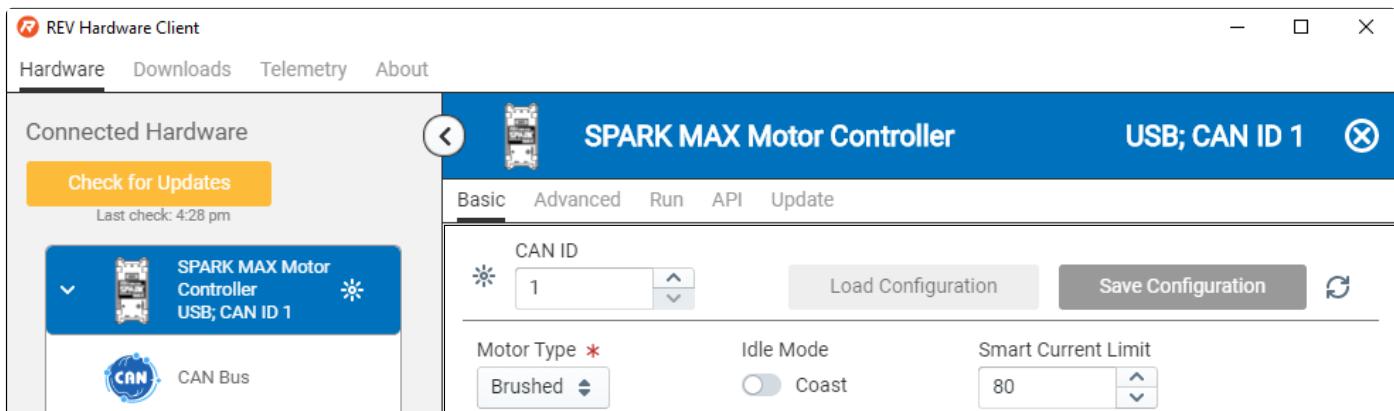
 If you see a *Sensor Fault* blink code, make sure the encoder cable is plugged in completely.

If you are running brushed motor, set the motor type to **Brushed**, sensor type as **No Sensor**, and verify that the LED is blinking Yellow or Blue.



Save the Settings

For the SPARK MAX to remember its new configuration through a power-cycle, the settings must be saved. To do this, press the *Burn Flash* button on the bottom of the page. It will take a few seconds to save, indicated by the loading symbol on the button.



The screenshot shows the SPARK MAX Configuration software interface. At the top, there are three main sections: 'Sensor Type' set to 'No Sensor', 'Encoder Counts Per Rev' set to 4096, and 'PWM Input Deadband' set to 0.05. Below these are sections for 'Limit Switch' (Hard Forward Limit Enabled, Forward Limit Polarity Normally Closed), 'Soft Limits' (Forward Limit Disabled, Forward Limit Value 0, Reverse Limit Disabled, Reverse Limit Value 0), and 'Ramp Rate' (Disabled). At the bottom left is a 'Scan For Devices' button and a note about not seeing the device. In the center are 'Burn Flash' and 'Restore Factory Defaults' buttons. On the right is a 'Report an Issue' link.

Any settings saved this way will be remembered when the device is powered back on. You can always restore the factory defaults if you need to reset the device.

Spin the Motor

 Before running any motor, make sure all components are in a safe state, that the motor is secured, and anyone nearby is aware. FRC motors are very powerful and can quickly cause damage to people and property.

-  Keep the CAN cable disconnected throughout the test. For safety reasons, the SPARK MAX Client will not run the motor if the roboRIO is connected. If the roboRIO was connected, power cycle the SPARK MAX.

To spin the motor, go to the Run tab, keep all of the default settings and press *Run Motor*. The *setpoint* is 0 by default, meaning that the motor is being commanded to **idle** (0% power). When you press *Run* you should see the LED go from slow blinking to solid, indicating that the motor is idling.

The screenshot shows the SPARK MAX Client software interface. The top bar includes tabs for 'Hardware', 'Downloads', 'Telemetry', and 'About'. The 'Hardware' tab is selected, showing 'Connected Hardware' with a 'Check for Updates' button (last check at 10:07 am) and a list item for 'SPARK MAX Motor Controller USB; CAN ID 1'. The main area is titled 'SPARK MAX Motor Controller' for 'USB; CAN ID 1'. It has tabs for 'Basic', 'Advanced', 'Run' (selected), 'API', and 'Update'. The 'Run' tab contains a large orange 'Run Motor' button. Below it are 'Mode' (set to 'Percent') and 'Setpoint' (set to 0). A slider for the setpoint is highlighted with a red border, showing values from -1.00 to 1.00.

The screenshot shows the configuration software's PDIF tab. At the top, there are input fields for 'Profile' (set to 0) and 'Increment' (set to 0.00001). Below these are four parameter sliders: kP_0, kI_0, kD_0, and kF_0, all currently set to 0. In the bottom left corner, there is a 'Scan For Devices' button with a note 'Don't see your device?'. In the bottom right corner, there is a 'View Graph on Telemetry Tab' button and a 'Report an Issue' button.

Slowly ramp the setpoint slider up. The motor should start to spin and you should see a green blink pattern proportional to the speed you have set to the motor. Slowly ramp the slider down. The motor should spin in reverse, and you should see a red blink pattern proportional to the speed you have set to the motor.

If you are unable to spin the motor, visit our [troubleshooting guide](#).

Basic Configurations

SPARK MAX has many operating modes that can be configured through its CAN and USB interfaces. Additionally, the following basic operating modes can be configured with the MODE button located on the top of the SPARK MAX:

- [Idle Behavior](#): Brake/Coast
- [Motor Type](#): Brushed/Brushless

Mode configuration must be done with power applied to the SPARK MAX.

i Configuring the idle behavior and motor type using the mode button is a quick way to set up a SPARK MAX without using a computer. This is most useful when you are controlling the SPARK MAX through its PWM interface or when testing the affect of Braking or Coasting on a mechanism.

Idle Behavior

Whenever the SPARK MAX is receiving a neutral signal (no motor movement) or no signal at all (robot disabled), it can either brake the motor or let it coast. When in Brake Mode, MAX will short the motor wires to each other, electrically braking the motor. This slows the motor down very quickly if it was spinning and makes it harder, but not impossible to back-drive the motor when it is stopped.

- With power turned on, press and release the MODE button to switch between Brake and Coast Mode.
- The STATUS LED will indicate which mode it is in. See the [STATUS LED Colors and Patterns](#) section for more information.

Motor Type

It is very important to have the SPARK MAX configured for the appropriate motor type.

 Operating in Brushed Mode with a brushless motor connected will permanently damage the motor!

With power turned on, press and hold the MODE button for approximately 3 - 4 seconds.

- The STATUS LED will change and indicate which motor type is selected. See the [STATUS LED Colors and Patterns section](#) for more information.
- Release the MODE button.

Status LED Patterns

SPARK MAX will indicate important status information on its multi-colored STATUS LED located on the top of its case. The following tables shows each state and the corresponding LED color pattern.

Standard Operation

Operating Mode	Idle Mode	State	Color/Pattern	Graphic
Brushed	Brake	No Signal	Blue Blink	
		Valid Signal	Blue Solid	
	Coast	No Signal	Yellow Blink	
		Valid Signal	Yellow Solid	
Brushless	Brake	No Signal	Cyan Blink	
		Valid Signal	Cyan Solid	

	Coast	No Signal	Magenta Blink	
		Valid Signal	Magenta Solid	
Partial Forward			Green Blink	
Full Forward			Green Solid	
Partial Reverse			Red Blink	
Full Reverse			Red Solid	
Forward Limit			Green/White Blink	
Reverse Limit			Red/White Blink	

Identification, Updating, and Recovery

Mode	Color/Pattern	Graphic
Device Identify	White/Magenta Fast Blink	
CAN Bootloader Firmware Updating	White/Yellow Blink (v1.5.0) Green/Magenta Blink (v1.4.0)	
CAN Bootloader Firmware Retry	White/Blue Blink	
USB DFU (Device Firmware Update)	Dark (LED off)	
Recovery Mode	Dark (LED off)	

Fault Conditions

Fault Conditions	Condition	Color/Pattern	Graphic
12V Missing	The motor will not drive if powered only by USB. This blink code warns the user of this condition.	Orange/Blue Slow Blink	
Sensor Fault	This can occur if the sensor type is misconfigured, the sensor cable is not plugged in or damaged, or if a sensor other than the motor sensor is plugged in.	Orange/Magenta Slow Blink	
Gate Driver Fault	A fault reported by the core internal electronic circuitry. If this code persists after power cycling the controller, contact REV.	Orange/Cyan Slow Blink	
CAN Fault	The CAN fault will be shown after the first time the device is plugged into the CAN port and a fault later occurs. Check your CAN wiring if you see this fault.	Orange/Yellow Slow Blink	
Corrupt Firmware (recover using Recovery Mode)	Firmware failed to load.	Dark (LED off)	

Troubleshooting

Many issues can be solved by systematic troubleshooting without needing to contact REV Support. Take a

look at the troubleshooting tips below for help in determining the cause of the issue you are seeing. Should you need to contact us, describing the steps you've taken in detail will help us get you up and running quickly.

General Troubleshooting Tips

The key to effective troubleshooting is isolating the issue. Many issues can show the same symptom, so eliminating failure points one at a time is critical to finding the root cause.

Rule Out Issues By Isolation

If possible, try to eliminate a section of the system when troubleshooting. For example:

- Rule out a code or control wiring issue:
 - Use the REV Hardware Client to run the SPARK MAX over USB.
 - **Please be aware of the CAN lockout feature of the SPARK MAX.** If it has been connected to the roboRIO's CAN bus, a safety feature within the SPARK MAX will lock out USB communication. Disconnecting from the CAN bus and power-cycling the MAX will release the lock.
 - If this is your first time running the REV Hardware client, see the [Getting Started with the REV Hardware Client](#) for a tour of the software and its features.
 - Rule out a code issue:
 - Create a simple test program using our SPARK MAX Example Code.
 - Rule out a mechanical issue:
 - Remove the motor from the mechanism or use a different, free spinning motor.

Use the Driver Station

An extremely useful set of tools can be found on the Driver Station:

- Use the [Driver Station Log File Viewer](#)
 - Look at the PDP channel current draw:
 - Higher than expected current on a channel can indicate both mechanical and electrical issues.
- Look at the battery voltage:
 - Large dips in the battery voltage around the time of an issue can indicate battery health issues that cause brownouts.
- Use the [CAN/Power Tab](#)
 - Look at the CAN Bus Utilization.
 - Look at CAN Faults.
 - Look at Comms Faults:

Comms faults can affect the SPARK MAX. If it loses communication with the roboRIO, it will go to its safe disabled state. This can look like a momentary glitch in a motor spinning if the comms faults are infrequent and irregular.

Use the APIs

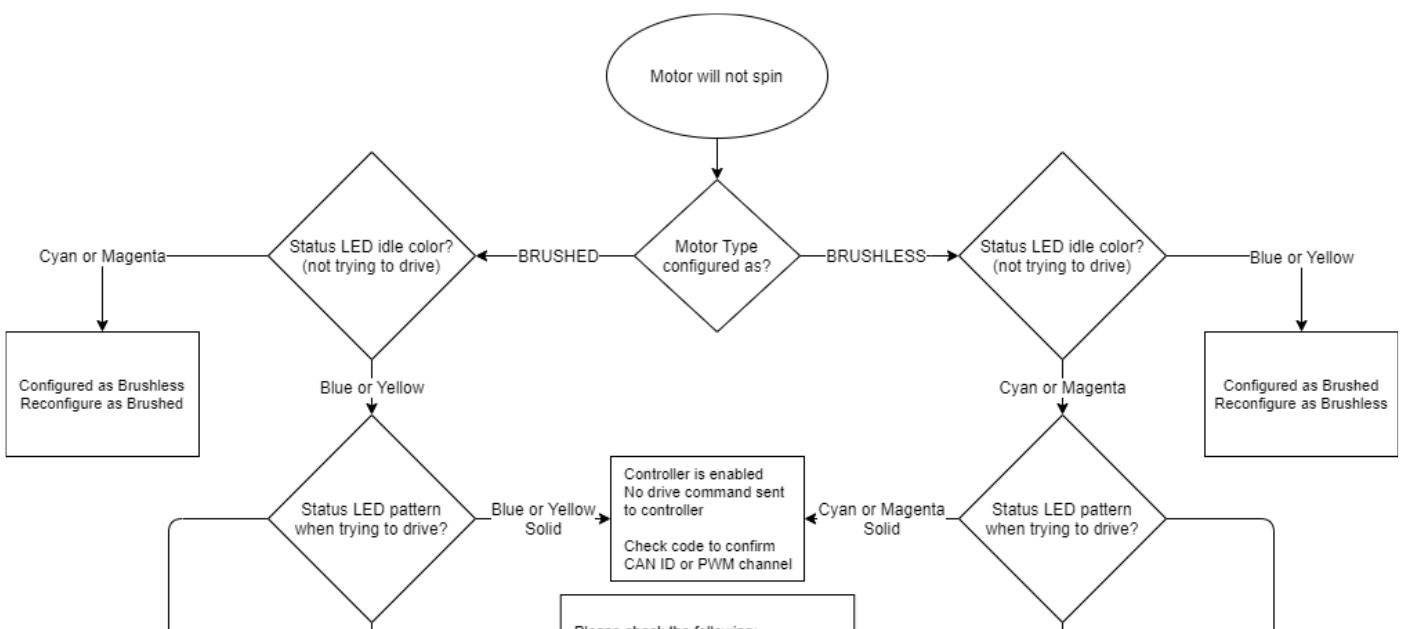
It is also very useful to log or plot operating values internal to the SPARK MAX. These values can be accessed using the [SPARK MAX APIs](#). Useful values to log:

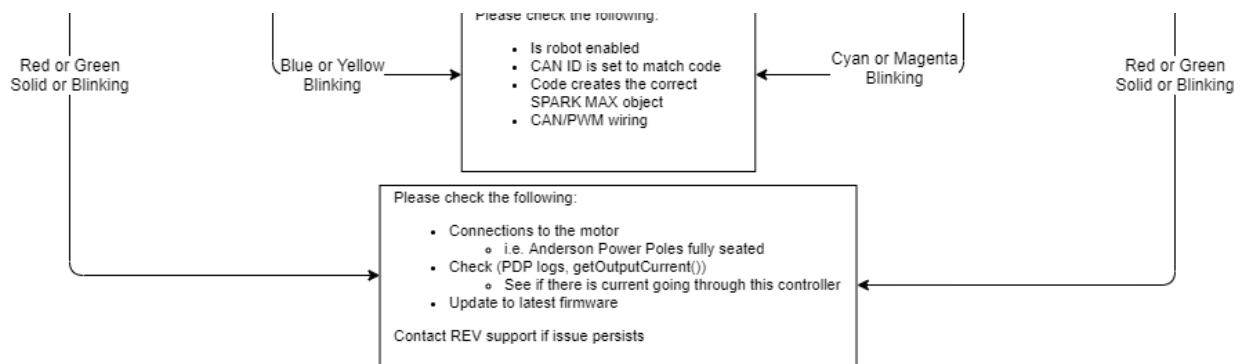
- `getAppliedOutput()`
 - This value will show what the SPARK MAX is actually applying to the motor output. This can illuminate issues with closed loop control tuning.
- `getOutputCurrent()`
 - This value will show the output current going to the phases of the motor. [Output current won't always be the same as the Input current](#) measured by the PDP. Knowing the output current is useful to diagnose current-limit issues if motors are overheating.
- `getBusVoltage()`
 - A way to measure the input voltage right at the controller.
- `getStickyFaults()`
 - A sticky fault indicates if a fault has occurred since the last time the faults were reset. Checking these can provide a lot of insight into what the controller is experiencing.

Common Faults and Issues

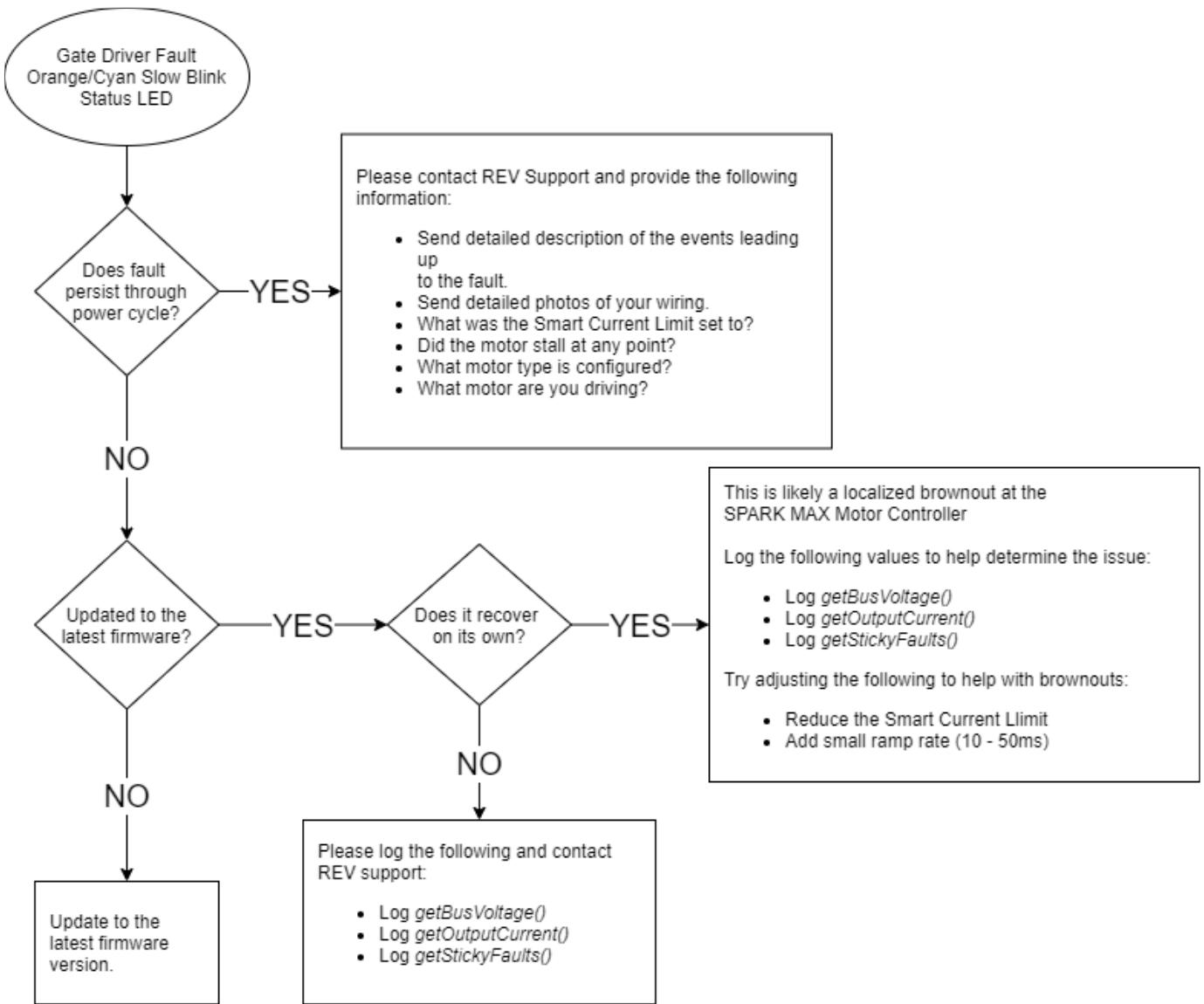
Below you will find some troubleshooting steps for some common faults and issues related to operating the SPARK MAX.

Motor Not Spinning

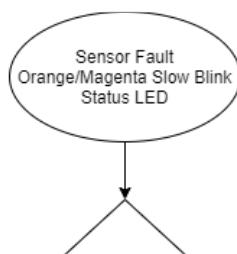


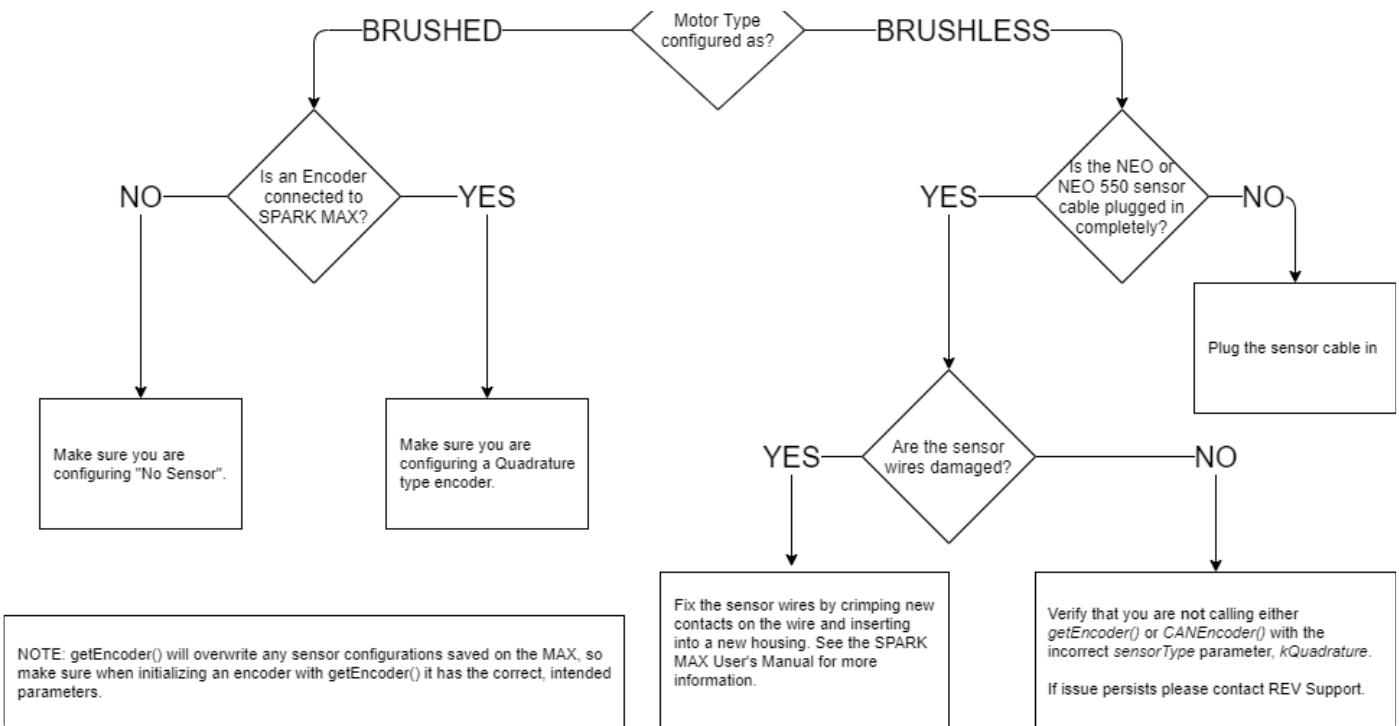


Gate Driver Fault



Sensor Fault

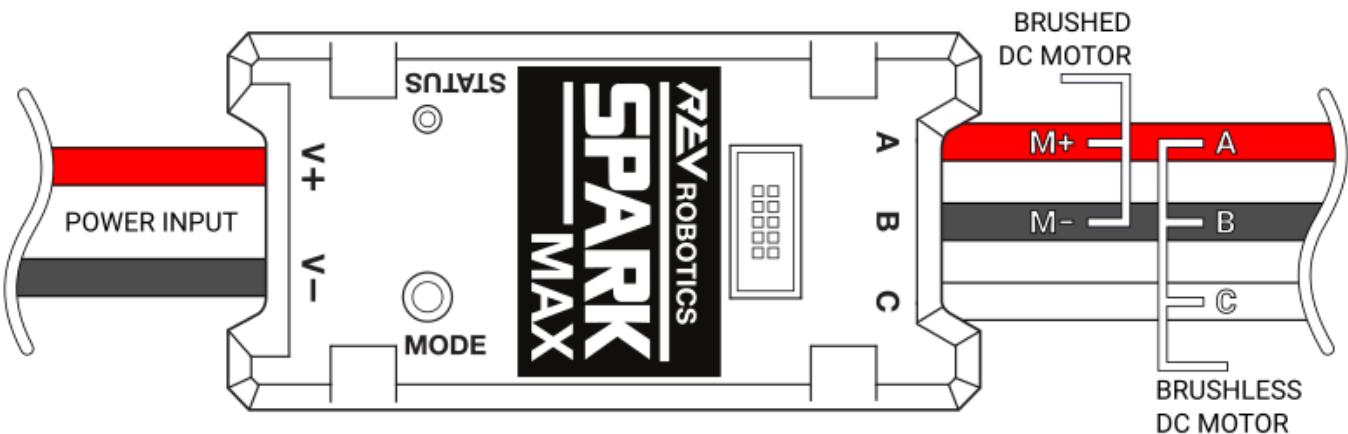




Feature Description

Power and Motor Connections

SPARK MAX is designed to drive 12V brushed and brushless DC motors at currents up to 60A continuously. Power and motor connections are made through the two sets of wires built into the SPARK MAX. The wires are 12AWG ultra-flexible silicone-coated wire. Each wire runs approximately 15cm from the end faces of the controller. Be sure to take care when cutting and stripping the wires as not to cut them too short. The figure below shows these connections in detail.



SPARK MAX Motor Controller Power Connections



 As with any electrical component, make all connections with the power turned off. Connecting the SPARK MAX to a powered system may result in unexpected behavior and may pose a safety risk.

Motor Output

Motor output wires are labeled as A, B, and C with red, black, and white wires. Brushed motors must be connected to the A and B wires, while brushless motors must be connected to all three. **It is critical that the order of the brushless motor wires match the SPARK MAX or the motor will not spin and could be damaged.** Additional details are below.

Motor Connections

Motor Type	Motor Wires	SPARK MAX Wires
Brushed	Red / M+ Black / M-	Red / A Black / B
Brushless (NEO Brushless Motor)	Red / A Black / B White / C	Red / A Black / B White / C

SPARK MAX cannot detect which motor type it is connected to. Be sure to configure the SPARK MAX to run the type of motor you have connected. See the [Motor Type - Brushed/Brushless Mode](#) section for more details on configuring the appropriate motor type.

Power Input

Power input wires are labeled as V+ and V- with red and black wires. The SPARK MAX is intended to operate in a 12 V DC robot system, however it is compatible with any DC power source between 5.5 V and 24 V.

 DO NOT reverse V+ and V- or swap motor and power connections. Doing so will cause permanent damage to the SPARK MAX and will void the warranty.

 DO NOT exceed the maximum supply voltage of 30V. Doing so will cause permanent damage to the SPARK MAX and will void the warranty.

When using high current motors, it is recommended to use a power source that is capable of handling large surge currents, e.g. a 12V lead-acid battery. If the supply voltage drops below 5.5V the SPARK MAX will brown out, resulting in unexpected behavior. It is also highly recommended to incorporate a fuse or circuit-

breaker in series with the SPARK MAX between it and the power source to prevent exceeding the maximum

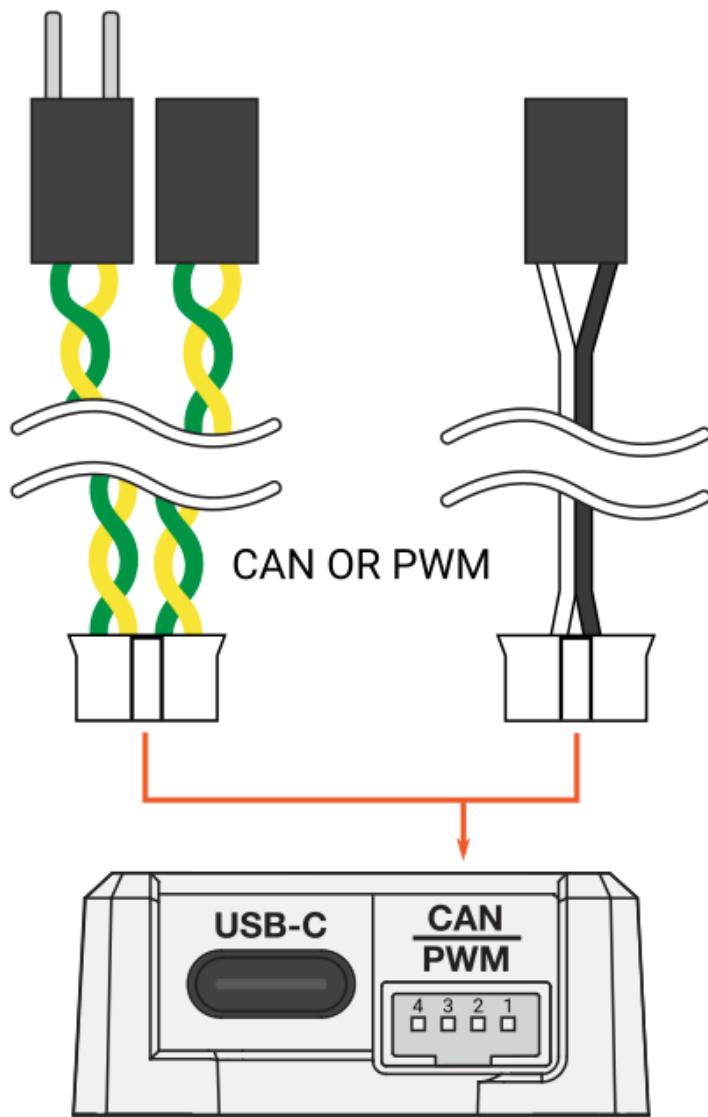
⚠️ DO NOT exceed the maximum current ratings of 60A or 100A for 2 seconds. Doing so will cause permanent damage to the SPARK MAX and will void the warranty.

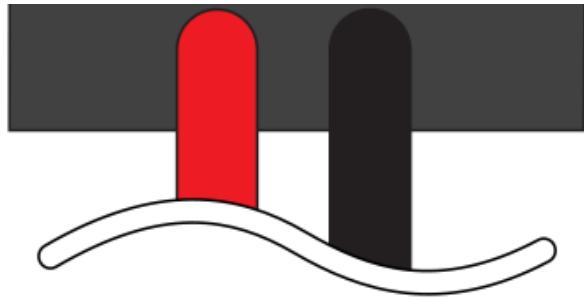
Control Connections

The SPARK MAX can be controlled by three different interfaces, servo-style PWM, controller area network (CAN), and USB. The following sections describe the physical connections to these interfaces in detail. For details on the operation and protocols of the PWM, CAN, and USB interfaces, please see the [section on Control Interfaces](#).

CAN/PWM Port

The CAN/PWM Port is located on the power input side of the SPARK MAX. This port can be connected to either a servo-style PWM signal or a CAN bus with other devices. Connector details can be found below.





CAN/PWM Port Connector Information

Connector Pin	CAN Function	PWM Function
1	CAN High	Signal
2	CAN Low	Ground
3	CAN High	Signal
4	CAN Low	Ground

Matting Connector Information

Description	Manufacturer	Part Number	Vendor	Vendor P/N
JST-PH 4-pin Housing	JST	PHR-4	DigiKey	455-1164-ND
JST-PH Contact	JST	SPH-002T-P0.5L	DigiKey	455-2148-1-ND
Recommended Crimping Tool	IWISS	SN-2549	Amazon	SN-2549

Identical-function pins are electrically connected inside the SPARK MAX, therefore the CAN daisy-chain is completed internally and any two signal and ground pairs can be used for PWM.

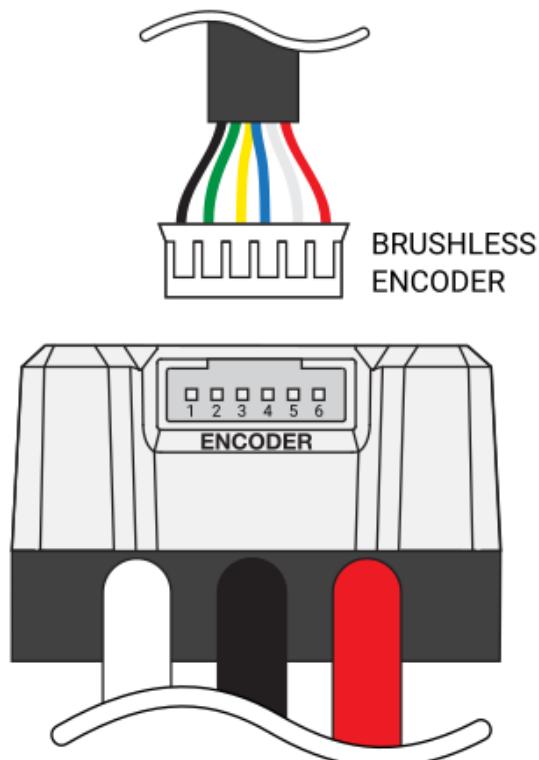
USB-C Port

The USB-C Port is located on the power input side of the SPARK MAX. It supports USB 2.0 and 5V power for the SPARK MAX's internal microcontroller. While you can configure the SPARK MAX without main power, you will not be able to spin a motor.

Encoder Port

Located on the motor output side of the SPARK MAX is a 6-pin Encoder Port. This port is designed to accept the built-in hall-encoder from the [NEO Brushless Motor](#), but it can also connect to other external encoders when running in Brushed Mode. The connector details can be found below.

- (i) The SPARK MAX can be configured to run in [Alternate Encoder Mode](#), which reconfigures the Data Port on the top of the controller to accept an alternative quadrature encoder in addition to the Encoder Port.



Encoder Port Connector Information

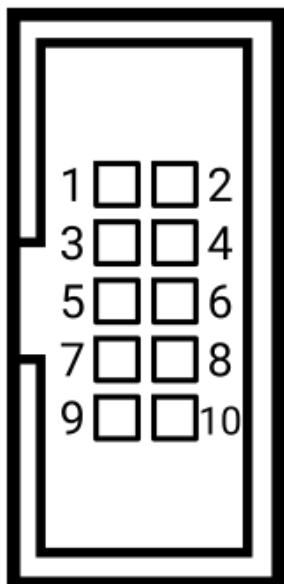
Connector Pin	Pin Type	Pin Function
1	Power	Ground
2	Digital	Encoder C / Index
3	Digital	Encoder B
4	Digital	Encoder A
5	Analog	Motor Temperature
6	Power	+5V

Mating Connector Information

Description	Manufacturer	Part Number	Vendor	Vendor P/N
JST-PH 6-pin Housing	JST	PHR-6	DigiKey	455-1162-ND
JST-PH Contact	JST	SPH-002T-P0.5L	DigiKey	455-2148-1-ND
Recommended Crimping Tool	IWISS	SN-2549	Amazon	SN-2549

Data Port

Located on the top of the SPARK MAX, the Data Port allows for extra sensor input and future feature development. The connector details can be found below.



Data Port Connector Information

Connector Pin	Pin Type	Pin Function
1	Power	+3.3V
2	Power	+5V
3	Analog	Analog Input
4	Digital	Forward Limit Switch Input

5	Digital	Encoder B
6	Digital	Multi-function Pin
7	Digital	Encoder A
8	Digital	Reverse Limit Switch Input
9	Digital	Encoder C / Index
10	Ground	Ground

Using the [SPARK MAX Data Port Breakout Board \(REV-11-1278\)](#) makes interfacing with the SPARK MAX Data Port easier.

Limit Switch Inputs

SPARK MAX has two limit switch inputs that, when triggered, can independently prevent motion in both the forward and reverse directions. By default, when the pin for the corresponding direction is grounded, SPARK MAX will override any input commands for that direction and force the output into the neutral state. Input commands for the opposite direction will still be processed unless the corresponding limit signal is also triggered.

The default polarity is compatible with Normally Open (NO) style limit switches, who's contacts are shorted together when the switch is pressed. The Limit Switch Inputs can be configured for the opposite polarity using the USB or CAN interfaces. When configured for the opposite polarity, Normally Closed (NC), the limit will be triggered when the pin is left disconnected from ground. In other words, connecting the pin to ground will release the limit. The following table shows these configurations in detail:

Limit Switch Operation

Connected Switch Type	Configured Limit Switch Polarity	Switch State	Limit Triggered (preventing motion)	Recommended Combinations
Normally Open	Normally Open (default)	Released	Normal operation	*
		Pressed	Triggered	
	Normally Closed	Released	Triggered	
		Pressed	Normal operation	
Normally Closed	Normally Open (default)	Released	Triggered	
		Pressed	Normal operation	
	Normally Closed	Released	Normal operation	*
		Pressed	Triggered	

Quadrature Encoder Input

The Quadrature Encoder Input on the Data Port is compatible with standard quadrature encoder signals, usually labeled as channel A, channel B, and Index. SPARK MAX shares these signals with the Encoder Port on the output side of the controller, therefore the Index signal is shared with the third brushless encoder signal C. When in Brushless Mode, these Data Port pins cannot be used with an external encoder. See [Alternate Encoder Mode](#) for information on how to configure the SPARK MAX to accept an alternative encoder source when running in Brushless Mode.

When in Brushed Mode, an external encoder can be connected through either the Data Port or the Encoder Port.

The SPARK MAX encoder signals are not pulled high internally. This is to ensure the maximum compatibility with different types of encoders.

Analog Input

The Analog Port on the SPARK MAX can measure voltages up to 3.3V with 12-bit resolution. The SPARK MAX Data Port Breakout includes a 5V to 3.3V amplifier circuit so that 5V signals can be sensed with the Analog Input pin.

Analog input is supported on firmware versions 1.4.0 and newer.

Multi-function Pin

This pin is reconfigured when the SPARK MAX is configured in Alternate Encoder Mode.

Power Rails

The SPARK MAX Data Port can provide both 3.3V and 5V power to connected devices. Please check [Data Port Specifications](#) for details on the supply current capabilities of both rails.

SPARK MAX Data Port Breakout Board - Features

The SPARK MAX Data Port Breakout Board ([REV-11-1278](#)) makes it easy to connect external sensors to the SPARK MAX Data Port.

- Solder pads for every Data Port pin
- Analog input 5V to 3.3V converter
 - Built-in amplifier maps 0V - 5V analog signals to the native 0V - 3.3V range of the SPARK MAX Analog Input
 - Configurable resistors can bypass the amplifier (move R3 to R4 position)

- Pass-through Data Port connector
 - Connect other sensors with data port compatible cables while using this breakout
- Mounts directly to SPARK MAX
 - No need for a data port cable
 - Securely mounts to the SPARK MAX zip-tie notches

Operating Modes

Motor Type - Brushed/Brushless Mode

Brushed and brushless DC motors require different motor control schemes based on the differences in their technology. It is possible to damage the SPARK MAX, the motor, or both if the appropriate motor type isn't configured properly. At the moment, the [NEO Brushless Motor](#) and the [NEO 550 Brushless Motor](#) are the only FRC-legal brushless motors compatible with the SPARK MAX, so choosing the correct operating mode should be straightforward.

Brushed or brushless motor types can be configured using the Mode Button, CAN, and USB interfaces.

Configuration with Mode Button

Follow the steps below to switch motor types with the Mode Button. It is recommended that the motor be left disconnected until the correct mode is selected.

 Use a small screwdriver, straightened paper clip, pen, or other small implement to press the button. Do not use any type of pencil as the pencil lead can break off inside the SPARK MAX.

1. Connect the SPARK MAX to main power, not just USB Power.
2. The Status LED will indicate which motor type is configured by blinking yellow or blue for Brushed Mode, or blinking magenta or cyan for Brushless Mode.
3. Press and hold the Mode Button for approximately 3 seconds.
4. After the button has been held for enough time, the Status LED will change and indicate the different motor type.
5. Release the mode button.

 Please see the [Status LED Colors and Patterns](#) in for more details on the Brushed and Brushless Mode colors.

Configuration with USB

Follow the steps below to switch motor types with the USB and the REV Hardware Client application. Be sure to download and install the [REV Hardware Client](#) application before continuing.

1. Connect the SPARK MAX to your computer using a USB-C cable.
2. Open the REV Hardware Client and verify that the application is connected to your SPARK MAX.
3. On the **Basic** tab, select the appropriate motor type under the **Select Motor Type** menu.
4. Click **Update Configuration** and confirm the change.

Configuration with CAN

Please see the [API Information](#) for information on how to configure the SPARK MAX using the CAN interface.

Idle Mode - Brake/Coast Mode

When the SPARK MAX is receiving a neutral command the idle behavior of the motor can be handled in two different ways: **Braking** or **Coasting**.

When in **Brake Mode**, the SPARK MAX will effectively short all motor wires together. This quickly dissipates any electrical energy within the motor and brings it to a quick stop.

When in **Coast Mode**, the SPARK MAX will effectively disconnect all motor wires. This allows the motor to spin down at its own rate.

The Idle Mode can be configured using the Mode Button, CAN, and USB interfaces.

Configuration with Mode Button

Follow the steps below to switch the Idle Mode between Brake and Coast with the Mode Button.

 Use a small screwdriver, straightened paper clip, pen, or other small implement to press the button.
Do not use any type of pencil as the pencil lead can break off inside the SPARK MAX.

1. Connect the SPARK MAX to main power, not just USB Power.
2. The Status LED will indicate which Idle Mode is currently configured by blinking blue or cyan for Brake and yellow or magenta for Coast depending on the motor type.
3. Press and release the Mode Button

4. You should see the Status LED change to indicate the selected Idle Mode.

- (i) Please see the [Status LED Colors and Patterns](#) for more details on the Brushed and Brushless Mode colors.

Configuration with USB

Follow the steps below to switch the Idle Mode between Brake and Coast with the USB and the REV Hardware Client application. Be sure to download and install the [REV Hardware Client](#) application before continuing.

1. Connect the SPARK MAX to your computer using a USB-C cable.
2. Open the REV Hardware Client application and verify that the application is connected to your SPARK MAX.
3. On the **Basic** tab, select the desired mode with the **Idle Mode** switch.
4. Click **Update Configuration** and confirm the change.

Configuration with CAN

Please see the [API Information](#) for information on how to configure the SPARK MAX using the CAN interface.

Control Interfaces

The SPARK MAX can be controlled by three different interfaces, servo-style PWM, controller area network (CAN), and USB. The following sections describe the operation and protocols of these interfaces. For more details on the physical connections, see [Control Connections](#).

PWM Interface

The SPARK MAX can accept a standard servo-style PWM signal as a control for the output duty cycle. Even though the PWM port is shared with the CAN port, SPARK MAX will automatically detect the incoming signal type and respond accordingly. For details on how to connect a PWM cable to the SPARK MAX, see [CAN/PWM Port](#).

The SPARK MAX responds to a factory default pulse range of 1000 μ s to 2000 μ s. These pulses correspond to full-reverse and full-forward rotation, respectively, with 1500 μ s ($\pm 5\%$ default input deadband) as the neutral position, i.e. no rotation. The input deadband is configurable with the [REV Hardware Client](#) or the CAN interface. The table below describes how the default pulse range maps to the output behavior.

PWM Pulse Mapping

	Output duty cycle and direction (default deadband)				
	Full Reverse	Proportional Reverse	Neutral	Proportional Forward	Full Forward
Output duty cycle, D (%)	D = 100	100 < D < 0	D = 0	0 < D < 100	D = 100
Input pulse width, p (μ s)	p ≤ 1000	1000 < p < 1475	1475 ≤ p ≤ 1525	1525 < p < 2000	2000 ≤ p
Maximum pulse range, p (μ s)			500 ≤ p ≤ 2500		
Valid pulse frequency, f (Hz)			50 ≤ f ≤ 200		

 If a valid signal isn't received within a 60ms window, the SPARK MAX will disable the motor output and either brake or coast the motor depending on the configured Idle Mode. For details on the Idle Mode, see [Idle Mode - Brake/Coast Mode](#).

CAN Interface

The SPARK MAX can be connected to a robot CAN network. CAN is a bi-directional communications bus that enables advanced features within the SPARK MAX. SPARK MAX must be connected to a CAN network that has the appropriate termination resistors at both endpoints. Please see the FIRST Robotics Competition Robot Rules for the CAN bus wiring requirements. Even though the CAN port is shared with the PWM port, SPARK MAX will automatically detect the incoming signal type and respond accordingly. SPARK MAX uses standard CAN frames with an extended ID (29 bits), and utilizes the FRC CAN protocol for defining the bits of the extended ID:

CAN Packet Structure

ExtID [28:24]	ExtID [23:16]	ExtID [15:10]	ExtID [9:6]	ExtID [5:0]
Device Type	Manufacturer	API Class	API Index	Device ID

Each device on the CAN bus must be assigned a unique CAN ID number. Out of the box, SPARK MAX is assigned a device ID of 0. It is highly recommended to change all SPARK MAX CAN IDs from 0 to any unused ID from 1 to 62. CAN IDs can be changed by connecting the SPARK MAX to a Windows computer and using the [REV Hardware Client](#). For details on other SPARK MAX configuration parameters, see [Configuration Parameters](#).

Additional information about the CAN accessible features and how to access them can be found in the [SPARK MAX API Information](#) section.

Periodic Status Frames

The SPARK MAX sends data periodically back to the roboRIO. Frequently accessed data, like motor position and temperature, can be accessed using several APIs. Data is broken up into several CAN "frames" which are sent at a periodic rate. This rate can be changed manually in code, but unlike other parameters, this setting **does not persist** through a power cycle. The rate can be set anywhere from a

minimum 1ms to a maximum 65535ms period. The table below describes each status frame and its available data.

Periodic Status 0 - Default Rate: 10ms

Available Data	Description
Applied Output	The actual value sent to the motors from the motor controller. The frame stores this value as a 16-bit signed integer, and is converted to a floating point value between -1 and 1 by the roboRIO SDK. This value is also used by any follower controllers to set their output.
Faults	Each bit represents a different fault on the controller. These fault bits clear automatically when the fault goes away.
Sticky Faults	The same as the Faults field, however the bits do not reset until a power cycle or a 'Clear Faults' command is sent.
Is Follower	A single bit that is true if the controller is configured to follow another controller.

Periodic Status 1 - Default Rate: 20ms

Available Data	Description
Motor Velocity	32-bit IEEE floating-point representation of the motor velocity in RPM using the selected sensor.
Motor Temperature	8-bit unsigned value representing: Firmware version 1.0.381 - Voltage of the temperature sensor with 0 = 0V and 255 = 3.3V. Current firmware versions - Motor temperature in for the NEO Brushless Motor.
Motor Voltage	12-bit fixed-point value that is converted to a floating point voltage value (in Volts) by the roboRIO SDK. This is the input voltage to the controller.
Motor Current	12-bit fixed-point value that is converted to a floating point current value (in Amps) by the roboRIO SDK. This is the raw phase current of the motor.

Periodic Status 2 - Default Rate: 20ms

Available Data	Description
Motor Position	32-bit IEEE floating-point representation of the motor position in rotations.

Use-case Examples

Position Control on the roboRIO

A user wants to implement their own PID loop on the roboRIO to hold a position. They want to run this loop at 100Hz (every 10ms), but the motor position data in Periodic Status 2 is sent at 20Hz (every 50ms).

The user can change this rate to 10ms by calling:

Pseudocode

```
setPeriodicFrameRate(PeriodicFrame.kStatus2, 10);
```

High CAN Utilization

A user has many connected CAN devices and wishes to minimize the CAN bus utilization. They do not need any telemetry feedback, and have several follower devices that are only checked for faults.

The user can set the telemetry frame rates low, and set the Periodic Status 0 frame rate low on the follower devices:

Pseudocode

```
leader.setPeriodicFrameRate(PeriodicFrame.kStatus1, 500);
leader.setPeriodicFrameRate(PeriodicFrame.kStatus2, 500);
follower.setPeriodicFrameRate(PeriodicFrame.kStatus0, 100);
follower.setPeriodicFrameRate(PeriodicFrame.kStatus1, 500);
follower.setPeriodicFrameRate(PeriodicFrame.kStatus2, 500);
```

Faster Follower Bandwidth

The user wants the follower devices to update at a faster rate: 200Hz (every 5ms).

The Periodic Status 0 frame can be increased to achieve this.

Pseudocode

```
leader.setPeriodicFrameRate(PeriodicFrame.kStatus0, 5);
```

USB Interface

The SPARK MAX can be configured and controlled through a USB connection to a computer running the [REV Hardware Client](#). The USB interface utilizes a standard CDC (USB to Serial) driver. The command interface is similar to CAN, using the same ID and data structure, but always sends and receives a full 12-byte packet. The CAN ID is omitted (DNC) when talking directly to the device. However, the three MSB of the ID allow selection of alternate commands:

- 0b000 - Standard command - CAN ID omitted (DNC)
- 0b001 - Extended command - USB specific

All commands sent over USB receive a response. In the case that the corresponding CAN command does not receive a response, the USB interface receives an Ack command.

USB Packet Structure

ExtID [31:29]	ExtID [28:24]	ExtID [23:16]	ExtID [15:10]	ExtID [9:6]	ExtID [5:0]
USB Command Type	Device Type (2)	Manufacturer (0x15)	API Class	API Index	Device ID

USB Non-Standard Commands

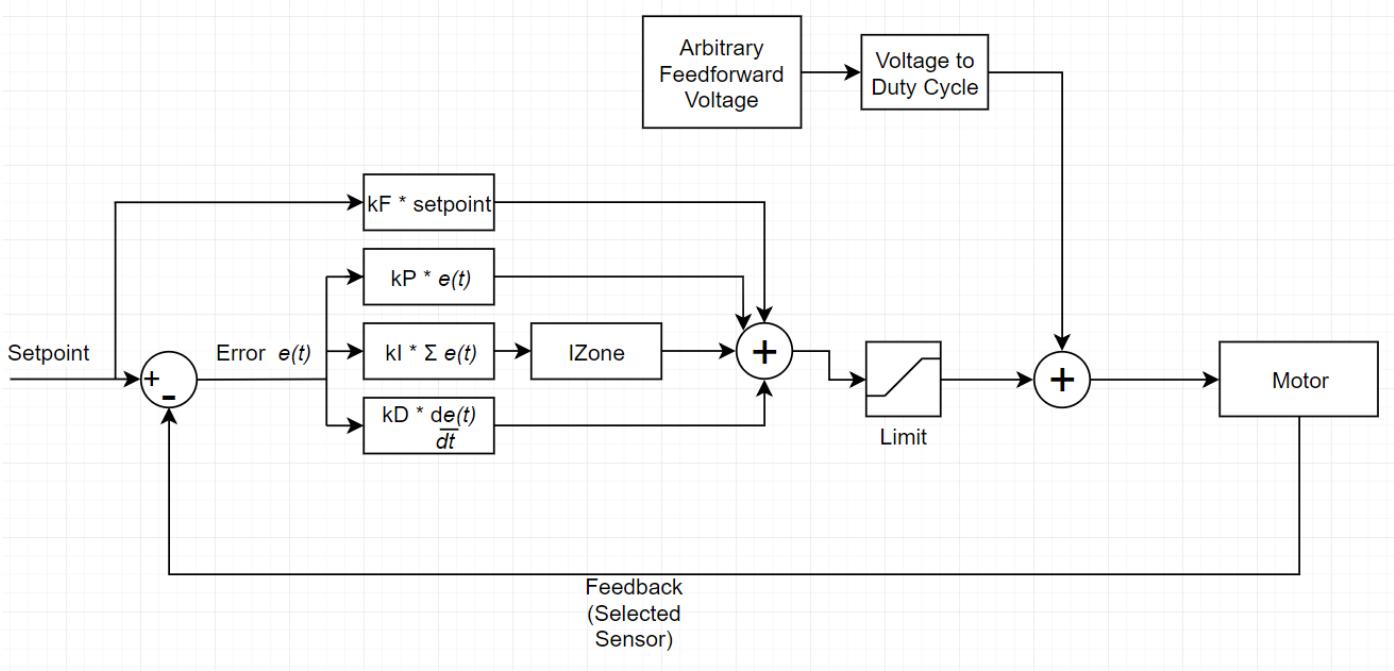
Command	API Class	API Index
Enter DFU Bootloader (will also disconnect USB interface)	0	1

Closed Loop Control

SPARK MAX can operate in several closed-loop control modes, using sensor input to tightly control the motor velocity, position or current. The internal control loop follows a standard PID algorithm with a feed-forward (F) term to compensate for known system offsets.

Additionally, an arbitrary feedforward signal is added to the output of the control loop after *all* calculations are done. The units for this signal can be selected as either *voltage* or *duty cycle*. This feature allows more advanced feedforward calculations to be performed by the controller. More details about the types of feedforward calculations can be found on the [WPILib documentation](#). Using the *voltage* units for arbitrary feedforward allows the user to send the calculated feedforward voltage from the WPILib API directly to the control loop.

Below is a diagram and the firmware implementation of the internal SPARK MAX PIDF.



```

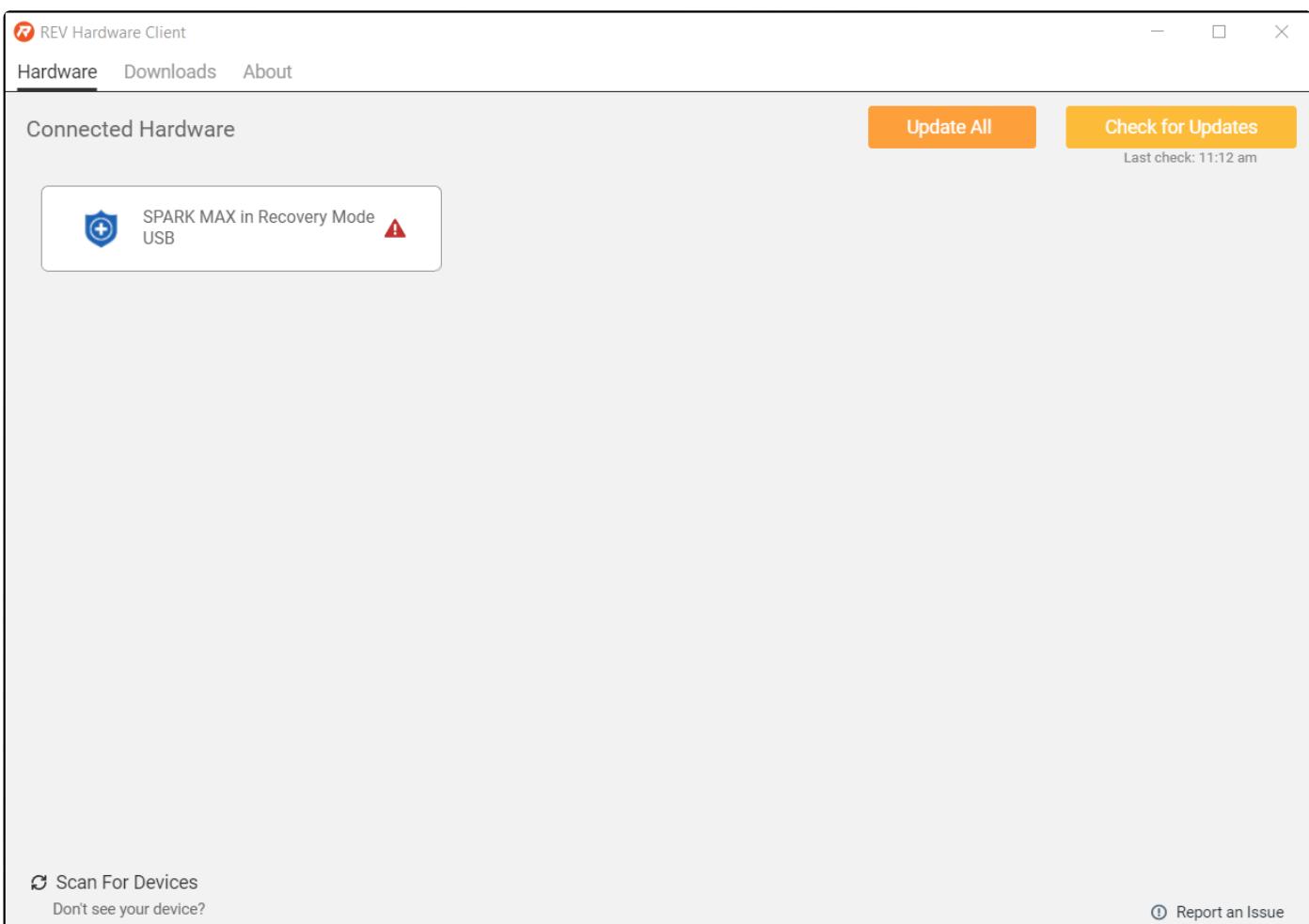
1 //Synchronous PID, call at desired frequency
2 float pid_run(pid_instance_t* pid, float setpoint, float pv,
3                 const pid_constants_t* constants)
4 {
5     float error = setpoint - pv;
6
7     float p = error * constants->kP;
8
9     if(fabsf(error) <= constants->iZone || constants->iZone == 0.0f) {
10         pid->iState = pid->iState + (error * constants->kI);
11     } else {
12         pid->iState = 0;
13     }
14
15     float d = (error - pid->prev_err);
16     pid->prev_err = error;
17     d *= constants->kD;
18
19     float f = setpoint * constants->kF;
20
21     float output = p + pid->iState + d + f;
22     pid->output = fminf(fmaxf(output,constants->kMinOutput),constants->kMaxOutput);
23
24     return output;
25 }
```

For more information on utilizing the built-in closed-loop control modes, please take a look at our [SPARK MAX Code Examples](#).

Recovery Mode

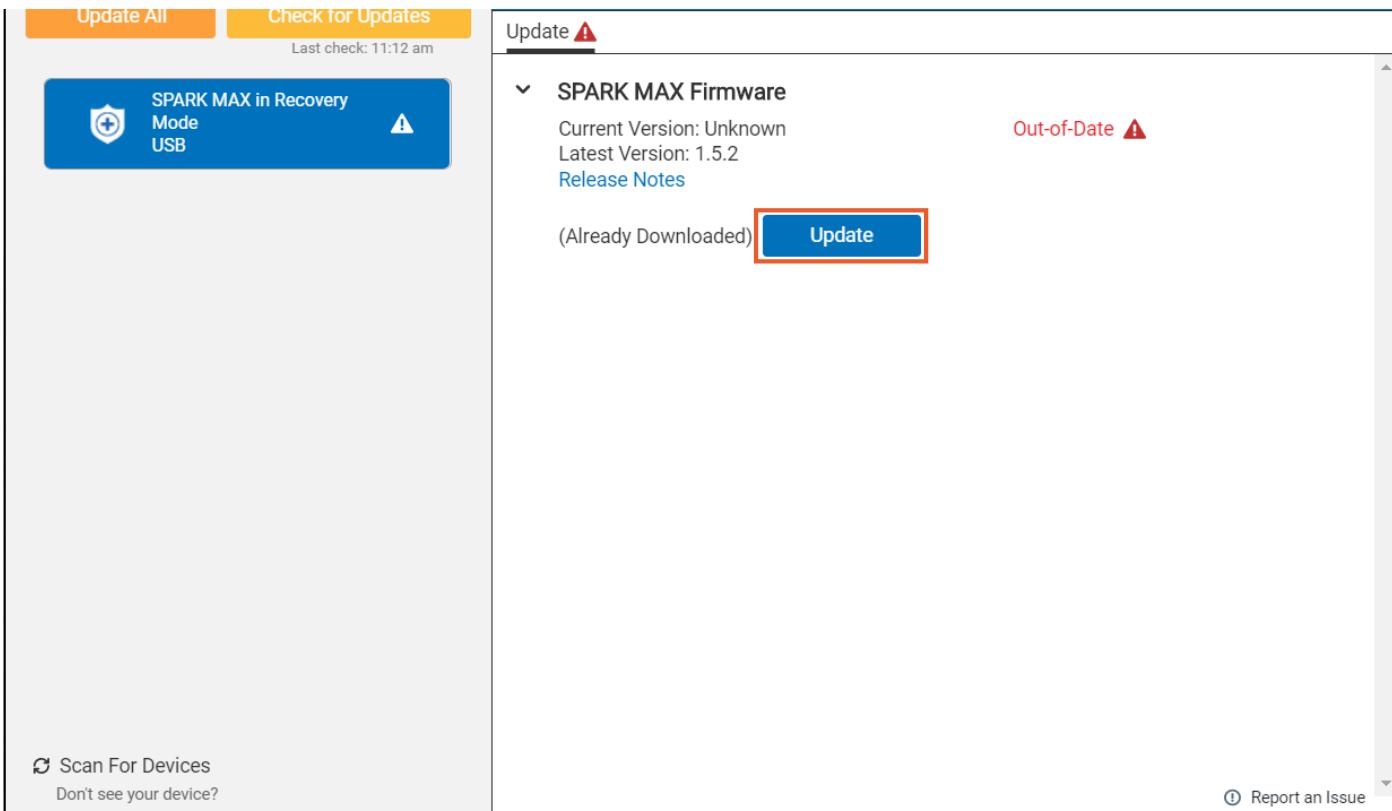
When updating the firmware on the SPARK MAX, it is possible for the process to be interrupted or for the firmware to be corrupted by a bad download. In this state, the Status LED will be dark and the SPARK MAX will fail to operate. SPARK MAX has a built-in recovery mode that can force it to accept new firmware even if the controller seems to be bricked. The following procedure requires a small tool, like a straightened paper clip, to press the Mode Button, a USB C cable, and a computer with the [REV Hardware Client](#) installed:

- With the SPARK MAX powered off completely, press and hold the Mode Button.
- While still holding the Mode Button, connect the SPARK MAX to the computer using the USB cable. The Status LED **will not** illuminate, this is expected.
- Wait a few seconds for the computer to recognize the connected device, then release the Mode Button.
- Open the REV Hardware Client. The SPARK MAX will remain dark and it **will not** connect to the Client, this is expected.
- Select the SPARK MAX in Recovery Mode from the REV Hardware Client

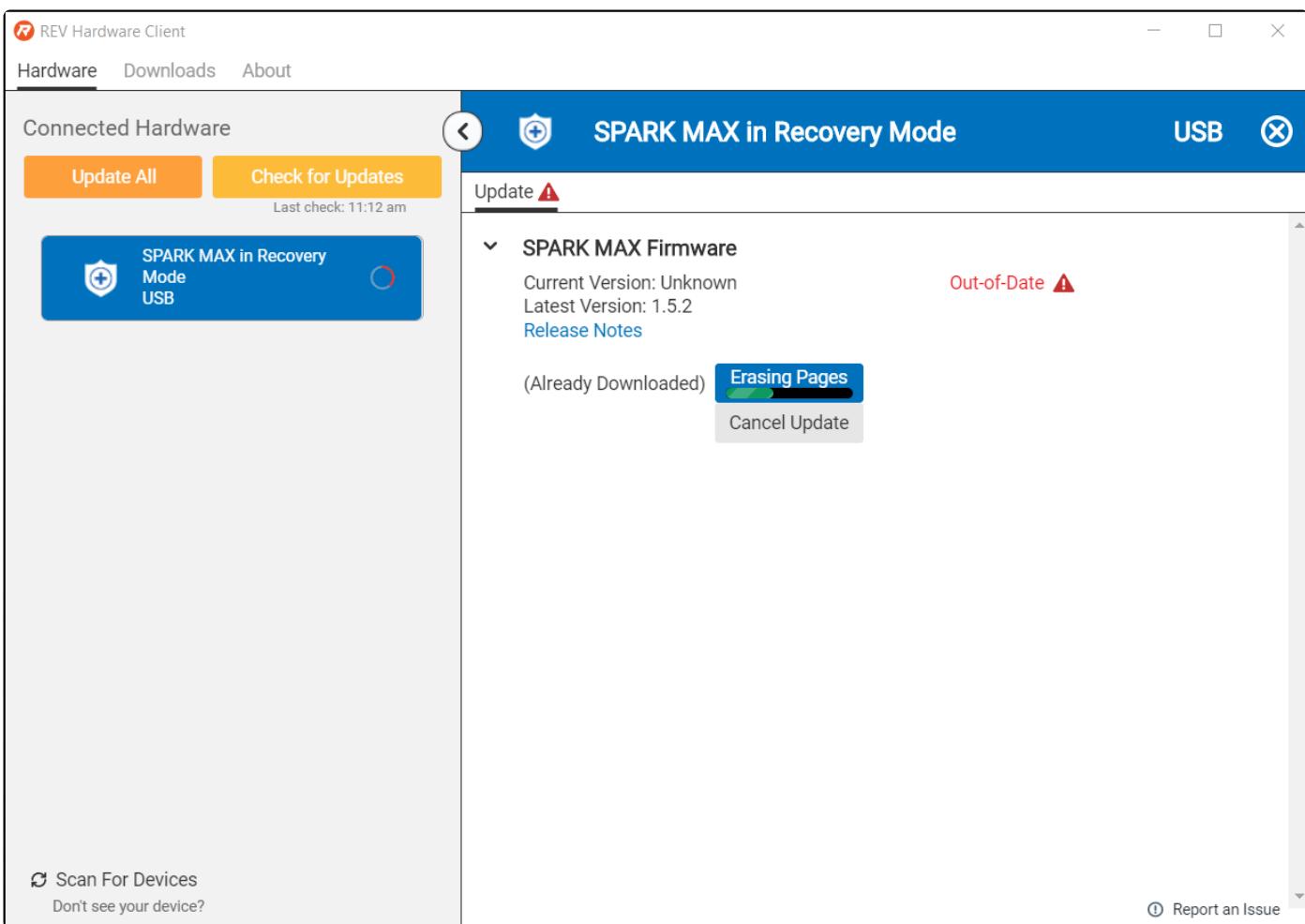


- Press the Update Button



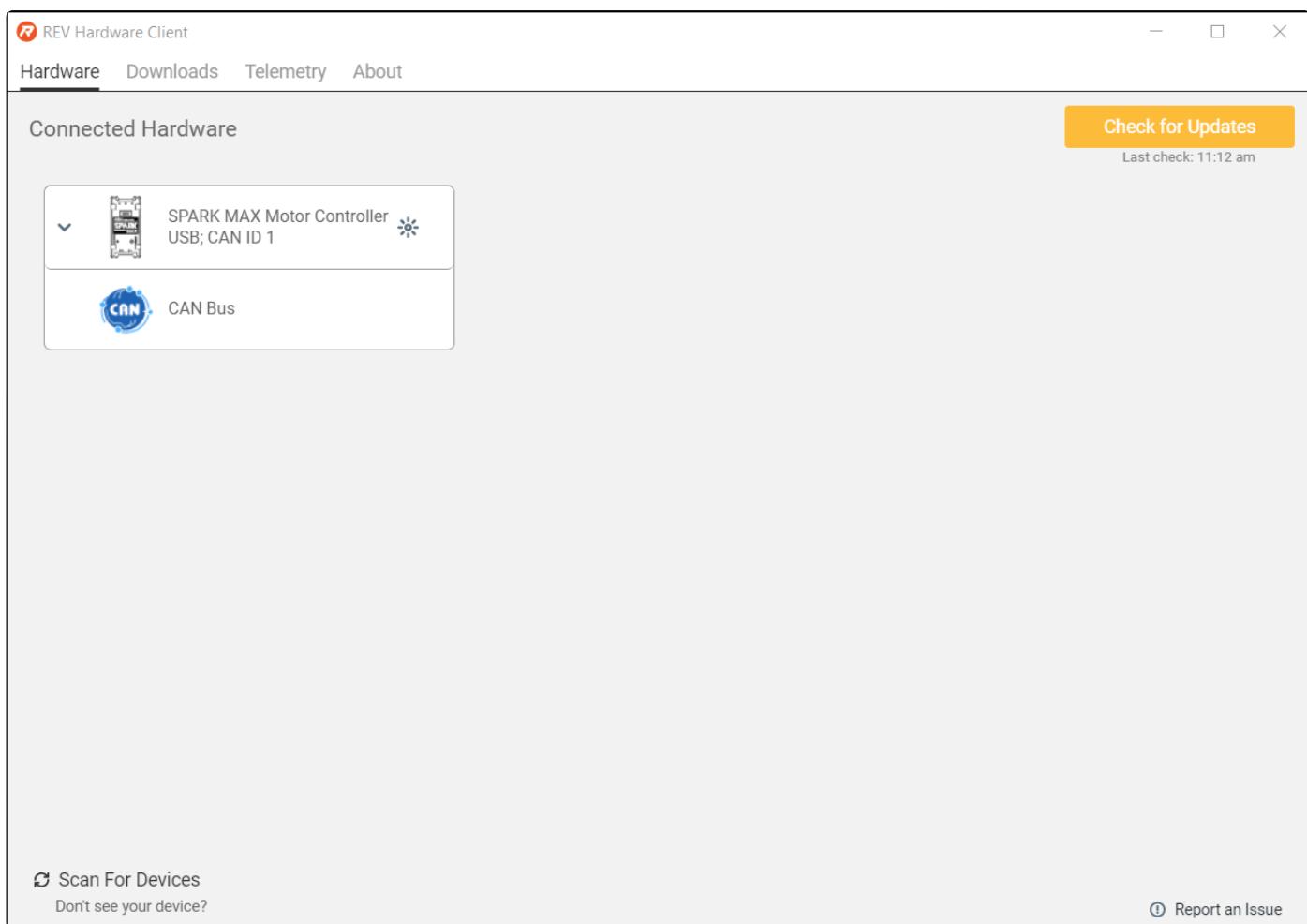


- Wait for the Firmware Update to complete



- Once completed the SPARK MAX will disconnect then reconnect to the REV Hardware Client. Select

the SPARK MAX to start the configuration process



i The Recovery Mode is also available with the [Legacy SPARK MAX Client](#)

Alternate Encoder Mode

The SPARK MAX can be configured to run in Alternate Encoder Mode, which reconfigures the Data Port on the top of the controller to accept an alternative quadrature encoder, separate from the default encoder inputs shared between the front Encoder Port and the default quadrature encoder Data Port pins. Analog input is not affected by Alternate Encoder Mode.

i **This feature is designed for use in low-RPM mechanisms such as drivetrains, arms, and other manipulators.** For high RPM applications it is recommended to use the built-in motor sensor for brushless motors or the default encoder inputs for brushed motors.

Alternate Encoder Specifications

Parameter	Specification
-----------	---------------

Encoder Output Voltage Level	3.3V or 5.0V
Encoder Type Supported	Quadrature†
Maximum Counts per Second	165000

†	Index pulses are not currently supported
---	--

⚠ Before connecting a sensor with 5V output, the SPARK MAX must first be configured into Alternate Encoder Mode and its configuration must be saved on the SPARK MAX. This can be done through the REV Hardware Client or the software APIs.

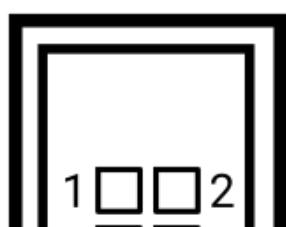
Maximum RPM with Common Quadrature Encoders

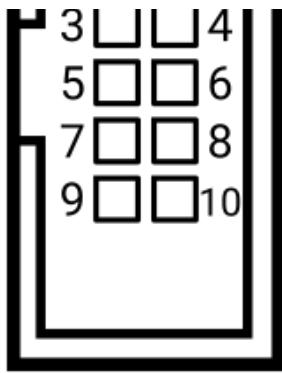
Encoder	Counts per Revolution	Max RPM
REV Through Bore Encoder	8192	1200
CTRE SRX Mag Encoder	4096	2400
Greyhill 63R256	1024	9600

When configured for Alternate Encoder Mode, a quadrature encoder connected to the reconfigured Data Port pins can be used as a feedback device by the SPARK MAX. **Please note, the limit switch inputs cannot be used at the same time as an alternate encoder.** The limit switch pins are repurposed for the alternate encoder and are thus disabled. Please see [Connecting an Alternate Encoder](#) for more information.

Connecting an Alternate Encoder

Connecting an alternate encoder will likely require a custom wiring harness to connect the necessary encoder power, ground, and signals to the reconfigured Data Port. When configured in Alternate Encoder Mode, the Data Port has the following pinout:





Data Port Pinout in Alternate Encoder Mode

Connector Pin	Pin Type	Pin Function
1	Power	+3.3V
2	Power	+5V
3	Analog	Analog Input
4	Digital	Alternate Encoder Index†
5	Digital	Encoder B
6	Digital	Alternate Encoder A
7	Digital	Encoder A
8	Digital	Alternate Encoder B
9	Digital	Encoder C / Index
10	Ground	Ground

†	The Alternate Encoder Index pin is reserved but currently supported

Use an Alternate Encoder Adapter ([REV-11-1881](#)) to connect a [REV Through Bore Encoder](#) directly to the SPARK MAX Data Port. This adapter has a JST PH 6-pin connector that is compatible with the Through Bore Encoder's pinout and a selection switch to change the signal that is connected to pin 4 of the data port.

Another option is the [SPARK MAX Data Port Breakout Board](#). This board can be used to wire an alternate encoder to the Data Port. The following table describes which pads on the breakout should be used for which signals coming from the alternate encoder.

Alternate Encoder Pin-mapping for SPARK MAX Data Port Breakout Board

Breakout Board Pad Label	Alternate Encoder Function
Limit - F	Index†
P6 (P5 in older batches)	A
Limit - R	B
3.3V or 5.0V	Encoder Power
GND	Encoder Ground

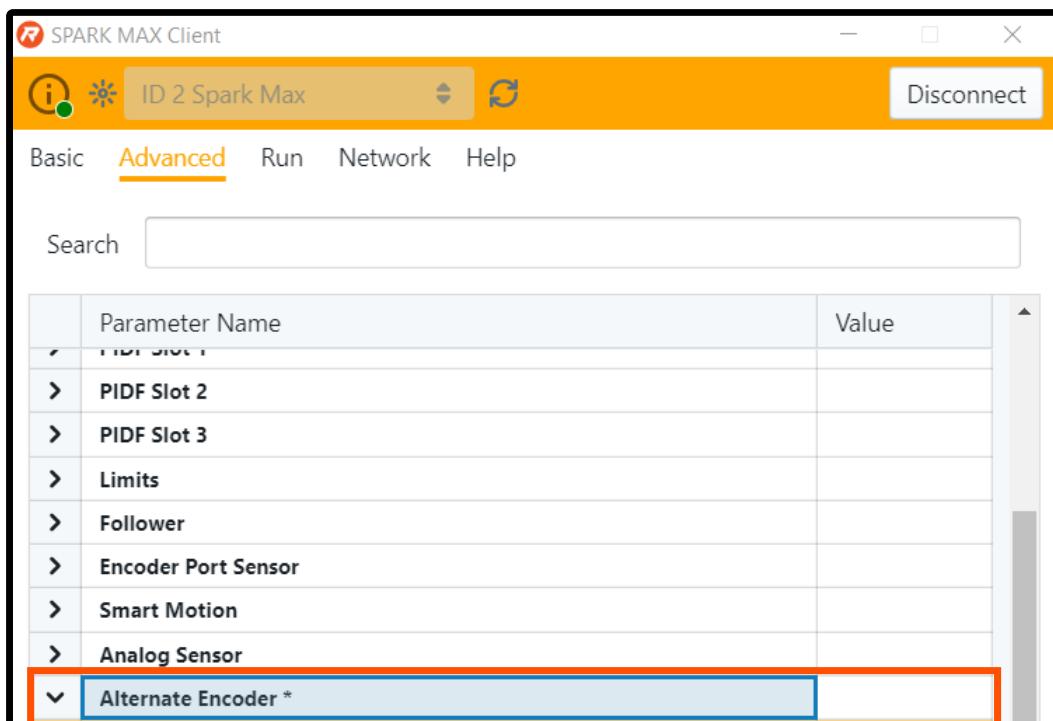
†	The Alternate Encoder Index pin is reserved but currently supported
---	---

Configuring and Using the Alternate Encoder Mode

Below you will find the steps required to set up and use the Alternate Encoder Mode on the SPARK MAX, starting with configuration through either the SPARK MAX Client or the SPARK MAX APIs.

Configuration Using the SPARK MAX Client

Using the SPARK MAX Client, navigate to the Advanced Tab and scroll to the Alternate Encoder parameter section. Enable the alternate encoder by setting the *kDataPortConfig* parameter to '1'. You can also set the other Alternate Encoder parameters at this time.





Configuring Using the SPARK MAX APIs

If using the SPARK MAX APIs, the Alternate Encoder is automatically configured when the Alternate Encoder object is instantiated. An Alternate Encoder is created the same as a *CANEncoder*, either by directly using the constructor or calling *GetAlternateEncoder()* on a previously constructed *CANSparkMax*.

```

1 static constexpr int kCanId = 1;
2 static constexpr auto kMotorType = rev::CANSparkMax::MotorType::kBrushless;
3 static constexpr auto kAltEncType = rev::CANEncoder::AlternateEncoderType::kQuadrature;
4 static constexpr int kCPR = 8192;
5
6 // initialize SPARK MAX with CAN ID
7 rev::CANSparkMax m_motor{kCanID, kMotorType};
8
9 /**
10 * An alternate encoder object is constructed using the GetAlternateEncoder()
11 * method on an existing CANSparkMax object. If using a REV Through Bore
12 * Encoder, the type should be set to quadrature and the counts per
13 * revolution set to 8192
14 */
15 rev::CANEncoder m_alternateEncoder = m_motor.GetAlternateEncoder(kAltEncType, kCPR);

```

Currently, quadrature is the only available type of configuration for an alternate encoder. This is differentiated from the other types of encoder configurations available for an encoder connected through the front facing Encoder Port on the SPARK MAX.

Configuration Conflicts

Since the alternate encoder inputs and the default digital inputs are shared on the Data Port, the user cannot use both the alternate encoder and a digital inputs in code. Therefore, a **std::invalid_argument** (C++), **IllegalArgumentException** (Java), or an **Error on the Error Out terminal** (LabVIEW) will be thrown if a user tries to construct both types objects in code simultaneously.

Closed-Loop Control

The alternate encoder can be used with the different closed-loop control modes available on the SPARK MAX. The feedback device used by a *CANPIDController* must be set to use the alternate encoder through

`SetFeedbackDevice()`.

```
1 /**
2 * By default, the PID controller will use the Hall sensor from a NEO or NEO 550 for
3 * its feedback device. Instead, we can set the feedback device to the alternate
4 * encoder object
5 */
6 m_pidController.SetFeedbackDevice(m_alternateEncoder);
```

Initial Bring-up

Unlike the built-in sensor on the NEO Brushless motors, the 'phase' of the alternate encoder is unknown to the SPARK MAX. Before enabling any closed-loop control, it is critical that the phase is configured correctly. To verify:

1. Configure and connect the sensor as a quadrature alternate encoder, but **do not** run a closed-loop mode.
2. Plot the output signal of the motor using `GetAppliedOutput()` and the output of the encoder using `altEncoder.GetVelocity()`. Confirm that the sensor is behaving as expected. This can be done on the SmartDashboard:

```
frc::SmartDashboard::PutNumber("Alt Encoder Velocity",
m_alternateEncoder.GetVelocity());
frc::SmartDashboard::PutNumber("Applied Output",
m_motor.GetAppliedOutput());
```
3. Verify that the sign of the sensor is correct relative to the motor direction when driving it forward and backward. If it is not, the sensor must be inverted by calling `altEncoder.SetInverted(true)`.

REV Hardware Client

Getting Started with the REV Hardware Client

The REV Hardware Client is software designed to make managing REV devices easier for the end user. This Client automatically detects connected device(s), downloads the latest software for those device(s), allows for seamless updating of the device(s), and allows for device configuration and management.

For more information on the REV Hardware Client, including a full list of supported devices, [see the User's Manual](#).

Latest REV Hardware Client - Version 1.3.0

[Download Latest REV Hardware Client](#)



The REV Hardware Client **will not work with SPARK MAX beta units** distributed by REV to the SPARK MAX beta testers. It is only compatible with units received after 12/21/2018.

System Requirements

- Operating System: Windows 7 (64-bit) or newer
- Processor: 64-bit

Installation Instructions

- Download the REV Hardware Client Installer above.
- Run the Installer
- Run the REV Hardware Client from the Windows Start Menu or a desktop shortcut

Navigating the REV Hardware Client

The REV Hardware Client has three tabs to manage different features of the Client. The Hardware Tab is where supported hardware devices are managed. The Downloads Tab allows for the downloading of supported device software for updating when offline. The About Tab has information on what devices are supported, updating the REV Hardware Client, and having issue reporting.

Individual devices, like the SPARK MAX, have additional tabs available when the device is selected. For a full overview of the default navigation features of the [REV Hardware Client see the User's Manual](#). Below is more information on using the specific features for the SPARK MAX.

Hardware Tab

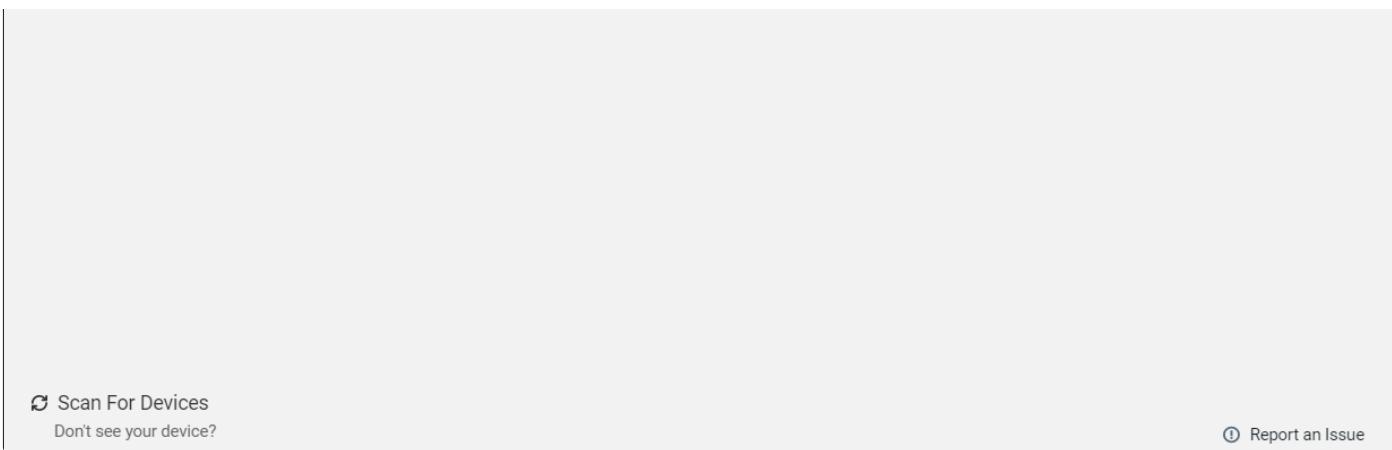
The Hardware Tab is used to select devices connected via USB or the USB to CAN bridge for configuration, updates, and more.

The screenshot shows the REV Hardware Client application window. At the top, there is a menu bar with the logo and the text "REV Hardware Client". Below the menu is a navigation bar with four tabs: "Hardware" (which is underlined, indicating it is the active tab), "Downloads", "Telemetry", and "About".

In the main content area, there is a section titled "Connected Hardware". This section lists three devices:

- SPARK MAX Motor Controller (USB; CAN ID 1) - This entry has a red warning icon and a yellow asterisk icon next to it.
- CAN Bus - This entry has a blue CAN icon next to it.
- SPARK MAX Motor Controller (CAN ID 2) - This entry has a red warning icon next to it.

At the bottom right of the "Connected Hardware" section, there are two buttons: "Update All" and "Check for Updates". Below these buttons, the text "Last check: 10:55 am" is displayed.



Once a SPARK MAX is selected from the Hardware tab a number of device specific tabs will show.

Basic Tab

The Basic Tab is used to set the most common parameters for the SPARK MAX.

The screenshot shows the REV Hardware Client interface with the Basic tab selected for a SPARK MAX Motor Controller connected via USB; CAN ID 1. The main configuration area is outlined with a red border and contains the following settings:

- CAN ID:** Set to 1. Number 1 is highlighted with a red box (1). Number 2 is highlighted with a red circle (2).
- Load Configuration** and **Save Configuration** buttons.
- Motor Type:** REV NEO Brushless.
- Idle Mode:** Brake (selected).
- Smart Current Limit:** 80.
- Sensor Type:** Hall Effect.
- Encoder Counts Per Rev:** 4096.
- PWM Input Deadband:** 0.00 to 0.05.
- Limit Switch:**
 - Hard Forward Limit: Enabled.
 - Forward Limit Polarity: Normally Closed.
 - Hard Reverse Limit: Enabled.
 - Reverse Limit Polarity: Normally Closed.
- Soft Limits:**
 - Forward Limit: Disabled.
 - Forward Limit Value: 0.
 - Reverse Limit: Disabled.
 - Reverse Limit Value: 0.
- Ramp Rate:** Rate (seconds to full speed) set to 0. Toggle switch is off (Disabled).

At the bottom of the configuration area are **Burn Flash** and **Restore Factory Defaults** buttons.

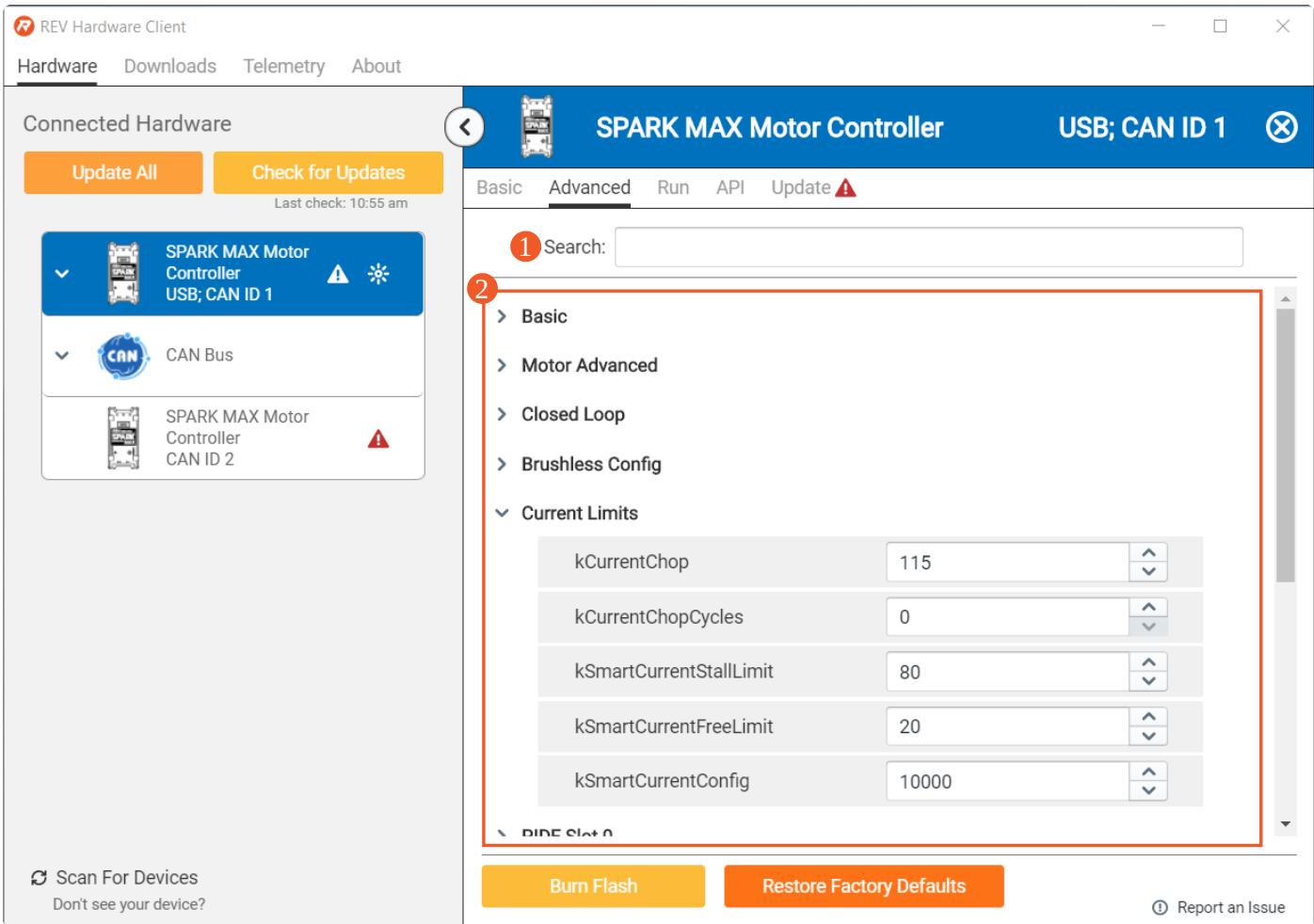
The left sidebar shows connected hardware: SPARK MAX Motor Controller (USB; CAN ID 1), CAN Bus, and SPARK MAX Motor Controller (CAN ID 2). The first two have warning icons. The bottom left also has a "Scan For Devices" section.

- Device Identify:** Blink the selected SPARK MAX's LED for identification.
- CAN ID:** This assigns a SPARK MAX a CAN ID for identification over the CAN BUS. Any configured SPARK MAX **must have** a CAN ID.

3. **Configurations:** This drop down allows you to select pre-existing configurations store on the Windows machine running the SPARK MAX Client or to pull the existing parameters stored on in RAM on the SPARK MAX. This is helpful when configuring multiple motor controllers to the same settings.
 4. **Configured Parameters:** Change the motor type, sensor type, idle mode behavior, and more.
-

Advanced Tab

The Advanced Tab allows for changing all configurable parameters of the SPARK MAX without needing to set them in code.



The screenshot shows the REV Hardware Client application window. At the top, there's a navigation bar with tabs for Hardware, Downloads, Telemetry, and About. Below that is a sub-navigation bar for Connected Hardware, featuring Update All and Check for Updates buttons, and a note about the last check at 10:55 am. The main content area is titled "SPARK MAX Motor Controller" and shows "USB; CAN ID 1". It has tabs for Basic, Advanced, Run, API, and Update. A red box highlights the "Advanced" tab. To the left, a sidebar lists connected hardware: "SPARK MAX Motor Controller USB; CAN ID 1" (with a warning icon) and "CAN Bus". Another "SPARK MAX Motor Controller CAN ID 2" entry is shown below it. A red box highlights the "Basic" section of the parameter table. The table contains the following parameters:

kCurrentChop	115
kCurrentChopCycles	0
kSmartCurrentStallLimit	80
kSmartCurrentFreeLimit	20
kSmartCurrentConfig	10000

At the bottom of the table, there's a "DINE Slot 0" section. Below the table are two buttons: "Burn Flash" and "Restore Factory Defaults". On the far right, there's a "Report an Issue" link. The bottom left corner of the main content area has a "Scan For Devices" button and a note: "Don't see your device?".

1. **Search Parameters:** Allows for easy look up of a specific parameter for editing.
2. **Parameter Table:** Select the arrow to show all configurable parameters within a specific group. For more information on each parameter type see [Configuration Parameters](#).

i Remember to burn the parameters to flash memory before disconnecting the SPARK MAX

Run Tab

The Run Tab allows for the SPARK MAX to operate over USB or a USB to CAN Bridge without the need for a full control system. This is helpful for testing mechanisms and tuning their control loops.

The screenshot shows the REV Hardware Client interface with the Run Tab selected for a SPARK MAX Motor Controller connected via USB; CAN ID 1. The left sidebar lists connected hardware: SPARK MAX Motor Controller (USB; CAN ID 1) and CAN Bus. The main area has tabs for Basic, Advanced, Run, API, and Update. The Run tab is active, featuring a large orange 'Run Motor' button. Below it are Mode (Percent slider from -1.00 to 1.00, currently at 0.00), Setpoint (0.00), and PIDF parameters (Profile 0, Increment 0.00001, kP_0, kI_0, kD_0, kF_0). A red box highlights the Run section, and numbered callouts point to each: 1 points to the Run Motor button, 2 points to the PIDF parameters, and 3 points to the 'View Graph on Telemetry Tab' button. A 'Scan For Devices' link is also visible.

- 1. Run:** Choose setpoints to run a motor connected to a SPARK MAX using various modes, including position, velocity, and duty cycle.
- 2. PIDF:** Update PIDF parameters on the fly to tune control loops on the SPARK MAX.
- 3. View Graph:** Moves the Client over to the Telemetry Tab to show any added signals in graph form when running a SPARK MAX. This is helpful when tuning control loops.

API Tab

The API tab shows what the current version and latest version of the SPARK MAX APIs are. There are links to installing the current version of WPILib and for installing the SPARK MAX APIs properly.

The screenshot shows the REV Hardware Client interface with the API Tab selected for a SPARK MAX Motor Controller connected via USB; CAN ID 1. The left sidebar lists connected hardware: SPARK MAX Motor Controller (USB; CAN ID 1) and CAN Bus. The main area has tabs for Basic, Advanced, Run, API, and Update. The API tab is active, showing the current version (1.0.0) and latest version (1.0.0) of the SPARK MAX API, along with links to download WPILib and install the SPARK MAX API. A red box highlights the API tab, and a numbered callout points to the 'View Graph on Telemetry Tab' button.

The screenshot shows the REV Hardware Client interface. On the left, under the 'Hardware' tab, there's a list of connected devices: 'SPARK MAX Motor Controller USB; CAN ID 1' (status: warning), 'CAN Bus' (status: info), and 'SPARK MAX Motor Controller CAN ID 2' (status: warning). On the right, under the 'API' tab, a red box highlights the 'SPARK-MAX Java API' section. It shows the API is not downloaded, the latest version is 1.5.2, and a 'Release Notes' link. An 'Install' button is available, with a note 'Out of Date' and a warning icon next to it. Below this are sections for 'SPARK-MAX C++ API' and 'SPARK-MAX LabVIEW API Installer', each with similar status and download/install options. A 'Scan For Devices' button and a 'Report an issue' link are also present.

SPARK MAX Motor Controller USB; CAN ID 1

CAN Bus

SPARK MAX Motor Controller CAN ID 2

WPIlib 2021 is not installed
You must install it from the [WPIlib website](#) before the C++ or Java APIs can be used.

WPIlib Year: 2021

WPIlib Offline Install Instructions

SPARK-MAX Java API
Not downloaded
Latest Version: 1.5.2
[Release Notes](#)

Out of Date

Install

SPARK-MAX C++ API
Not downloaded
Latest Version: 1.5.2
[Release Notes](#)

Out of Date

Install

SPARK-MAX LabVIEW API Installer
Latest Version: 1.5.2
[Release Notes](#)

Out of Date

Download

Scan For Devices

Don't see your device?

Report an issue

- Select Year:** Selects the WPIlib release year that is installed for API compatibility.
- API Selection:** Ability to choose which language API to download.

Update Tab

The Update tab shows what version of firmware is on the selected device, if that device is up to date, and update the firmware of the selected device.

The screenshot shows the REV Hardware Client interface. On the left, under the 'Hardware' tab, there's a list of connected hardware: 'SPARK MAX Motor Controller' (status: warning), 'CAN Bus' (status: info), and 'SPARK MAX Motor Controller' (status: warning). On the right, under the 'Update' tab, the 'SPARK MAX Motor Controller' device is selected. It shows the current version is 1.5.0 and the latest version is 1.5.2, with a note 'Out-of-Date' and a warning icon. Below this are 'Download' and 'Update' buttons. A red box highlights the 'SPARK MAX Firmware' section. A note '3' with a warning icon is located near the bottom left of the left panel.

REV Hardware Client

Hardware Downloads Telemetry About

Connected Hardware

Update All Check for Updates

Last check: 10:55 am

SPARK MAX Motor Controller USB; CAN ID 1

CAN Bus

SPARK MAX Motor Controller CAN ID 2

SPARK MAX Motor Controller USB; CAN ID 1

Basic Advanced Run API Update

SPARK MAX Firmware
Current Version: 1.5.0
Latest Version: 1.5.2
[Release Notes](#)

Out-of-Date

Download Update

3

 Scan For Devices
Don't see your device?

 Report an Issue

1. **Download Latest Firmware:** Downloads latest firmware onto the local machine running the Client.
2. **Update Firmware:** Updates the selected device with the latest firmware.
3. **Out-of-date Firmware Warning:** Warning to alert the user there is new firmware available for any connected device.

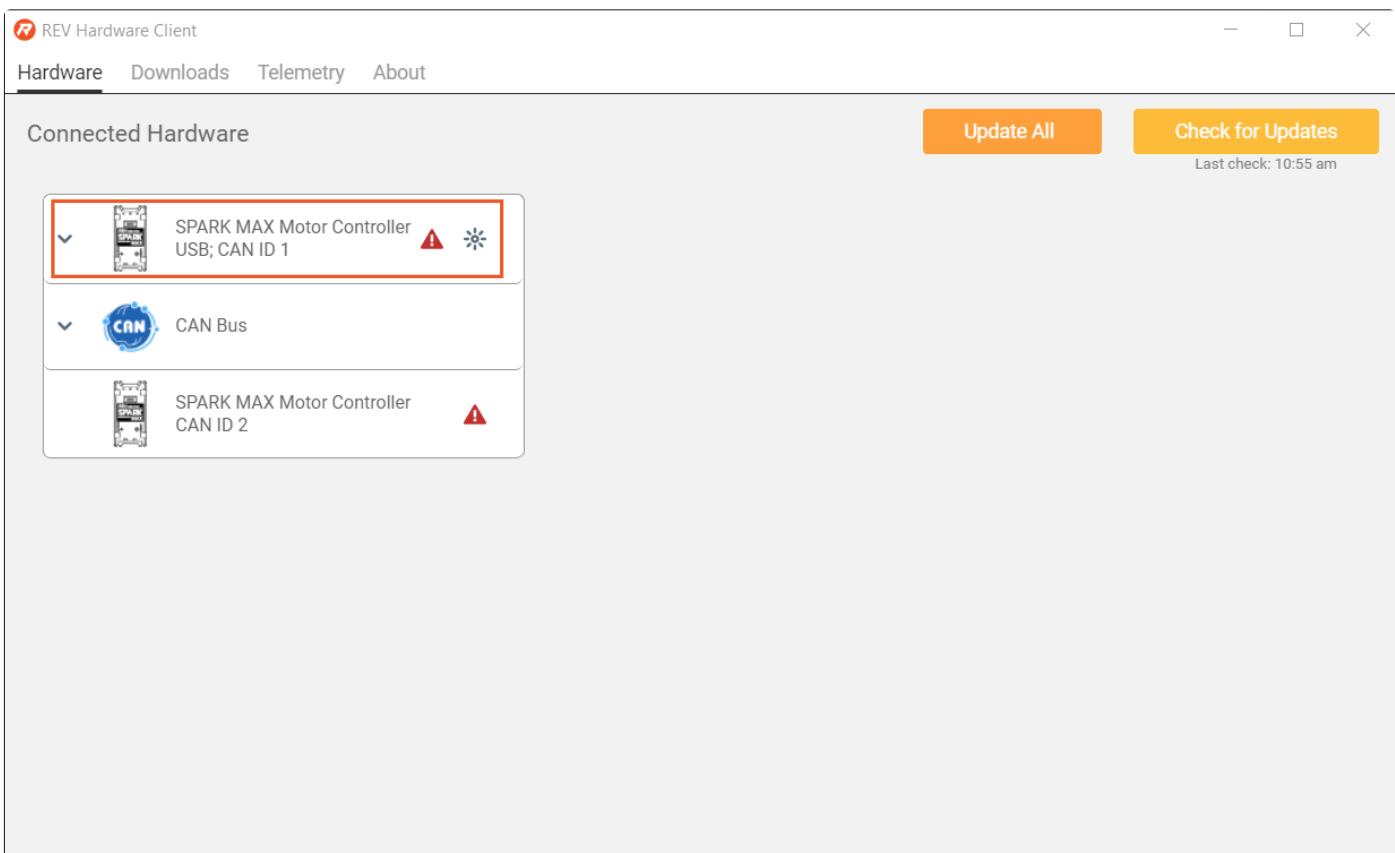
 For more information on the firmware updating process see Updating Device Firmware

Updating Device Firmware

Updating a Single SPARK MAX

- Connect your SPARK MAX Motor Controller to your computer with a USB-C cable.
- Open the REV SPARK MAX Client application.
- The Client should automatically scan and connect to your SPARK MAX.

Once the SPARK MAX is connected via USB-C select it within the **Connected Hardware**.

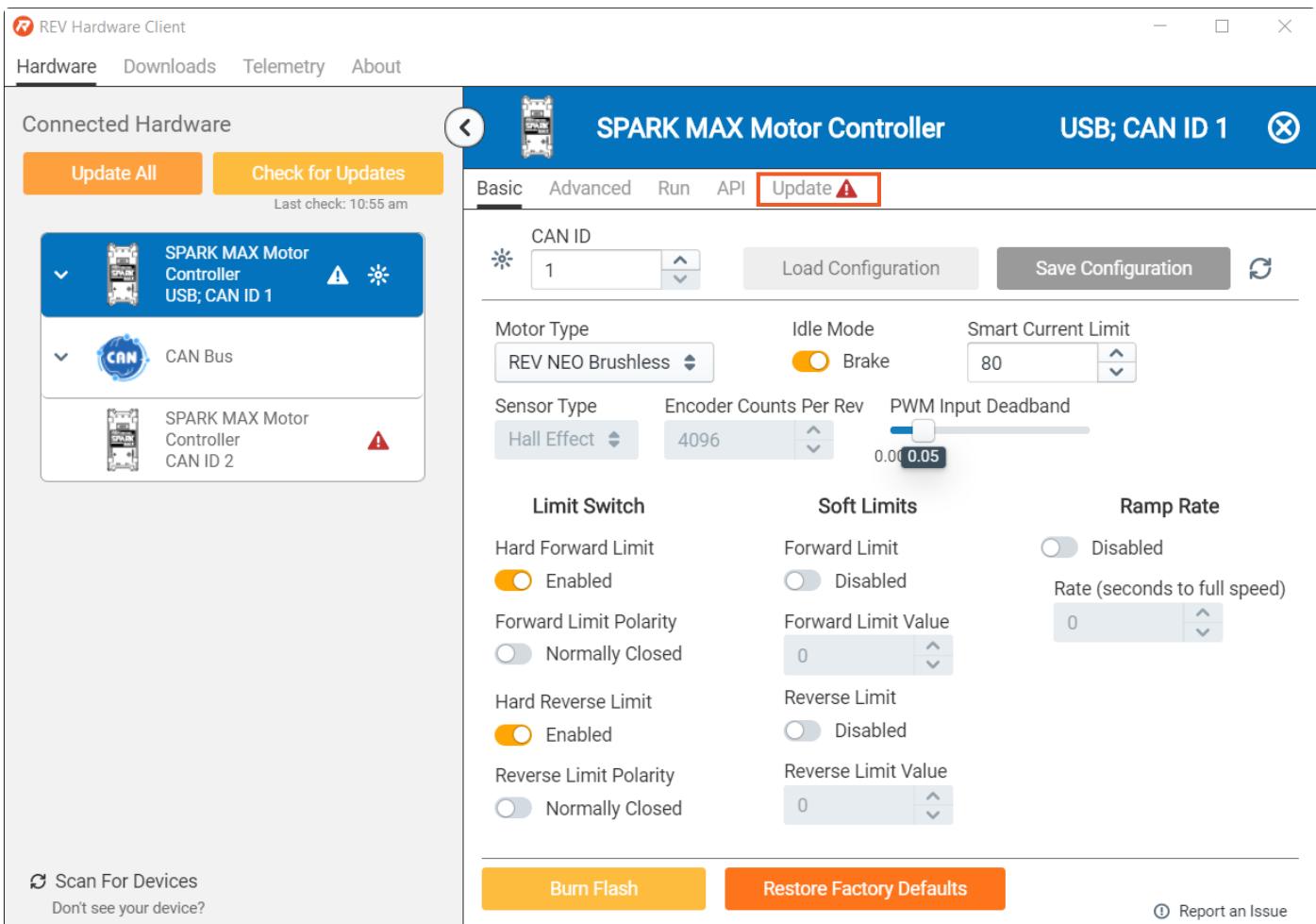


Scan For Devices
Don't see your device?

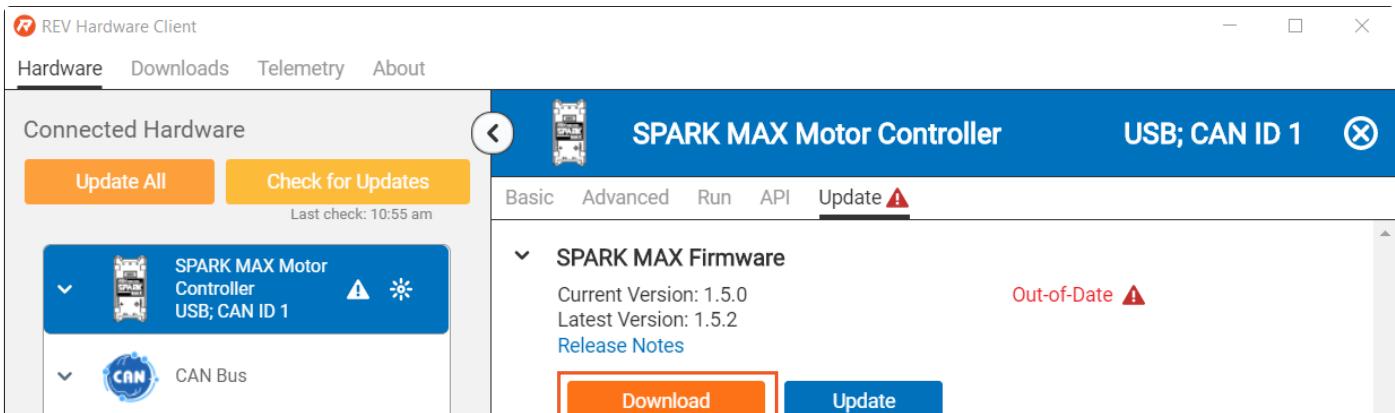
Report an Issue

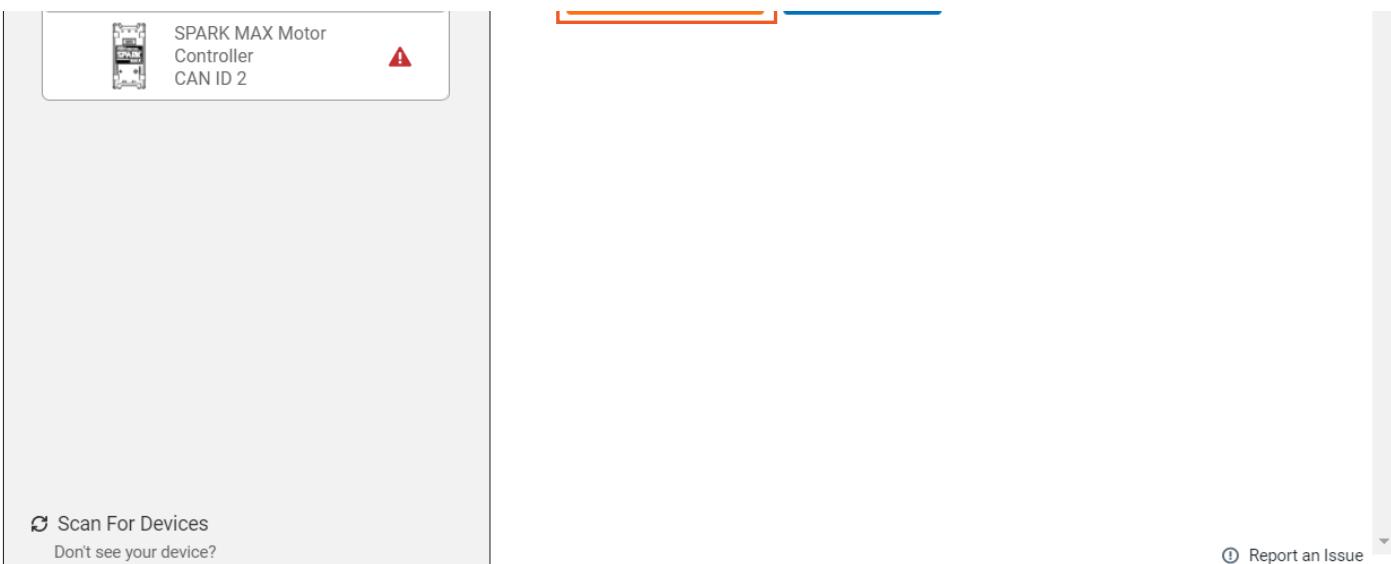
- (i) If the SPARK MAX connected via USB-C is running firmware version 1.5.0 or later allows the SPARK MAX to work as a USB to CAN Bridge. Other CAN connected SPARK MAXs running version 1.4.0 can be selected for firmware updates over CAN.

Within the Hardware Client, for the SPARK MAX, there are 5 tabs. The Hardware Client will open up on the **Basic** tab. To update firmware select the **Update** tab.



Under **SPARK MAX Firmware**, select download to download the latest version of the firmware.





Once the firmware has downloaded select update.

The screenshot shows the REV Hardware Client software interface. The top navigation bar includes 'REV Hardware Client', 'Hardware' (selected), 'Downloads', 'Telemetry', and 'About'. The main content area is titled 'SPARK MAX Motor Controller' and shows it is connected via 'USB; CAN ID 1'. Below this, there are tabs for 'Basic', 'Advanced', 'Run', 'API', and 'Update' (which is selected). Under the 'Update' tab, there's a section for 'SPARK MAX Firmware' showing 'Current Version: 1.5.0' and 'Latest Version: 1.5.2'. A red warning icon is present. There's a 'Release Notes' link and a note '(Already Downloaded)'. A prominent blue 'Update' button is highlighted with a red box. The sidebar on the left shows other connected hardware: 'SPARK MAX Motor Controller' (USB; CAN ID 1) and 'CAN Bus'. The bottom sidebar includes a 'Scan For Devices' button and a 'Report an Issue' link.

The update process will flash the firmware image onto the SPARK MAX. The status bar will show the progress of the process.

The screenshot shows the REV Hardware Client software interface. The top navigation bar includes 'REV Hardware Client', 'Hardware' (selected), 'Downloads', 'Telemetry', and 'About'. The main content area is titled 'SPARK MAX Motor Controller' and shows it is connected via 'USB; CAN ID 1'. Below this, there are tabs for 'Basic', 'Advanced', 'Run', 'API', and 'Update' (which is selected). The 'Update' button is now red, indicating the process is in progress. The sidebar on the left shows other connected hardware: 'SPARK MAX Motor Controller' (USB; CAN ID 1) and 'CAN Bus'. The bottom sidebar includes a 'Scan For Devices' button and a 'Report an Issue' link.

The screenshot shows the REV Hardware Client interface. On the left, a sidebar lists connected hardware: 'SPARK MAX Motor Controller USB; CAN ID 1' (status: 'Up-to-Date'), 'CAN Bus' (status: 'Up-to-Date'), and 'SPARK MAX Motor Controller CAN ID 2' (status: 'Out-of-Date'). A red box highlights the 'Writing Image' button for the CAN ID 2 device. The main panel displays the 'SPARK MAX Firmware' section for the selected device. It shows 'Current Version: 1.5.0' and 'Latest Version: 1.5.2'. A red box highlights the 'Up-to-Date' status indicator.

SPARK MAX Motor Controller
USB; CAN ID 1

CAN Bus

SPARK MAX Motor Controller CAN ID 2

Writing Image

Up-to-Date

Once the firmware update is done your SPARK MAX will show a new status of **Up-to-Date**.

The screenshot shows the REV Hardware Client interface after the update. The sidebar now shows all three devices as 'Up-to-Date': 'SPARK MAX Motor Controller USB; CAN ID 1', 'CAN Bus', and 'SPARK MAX Motor Controller CAN ID 2'. The main panel shows the 'SPARK MAX Firmware' section for the selected device, with 'Current Version: 1.5.2' and 'Latest Version: 1.5.2'. A red box highlights the 'Up-to-Date' status indicator.

SPARK MAX Motor Controller
USB; CAN ID 1

Up-to-Date

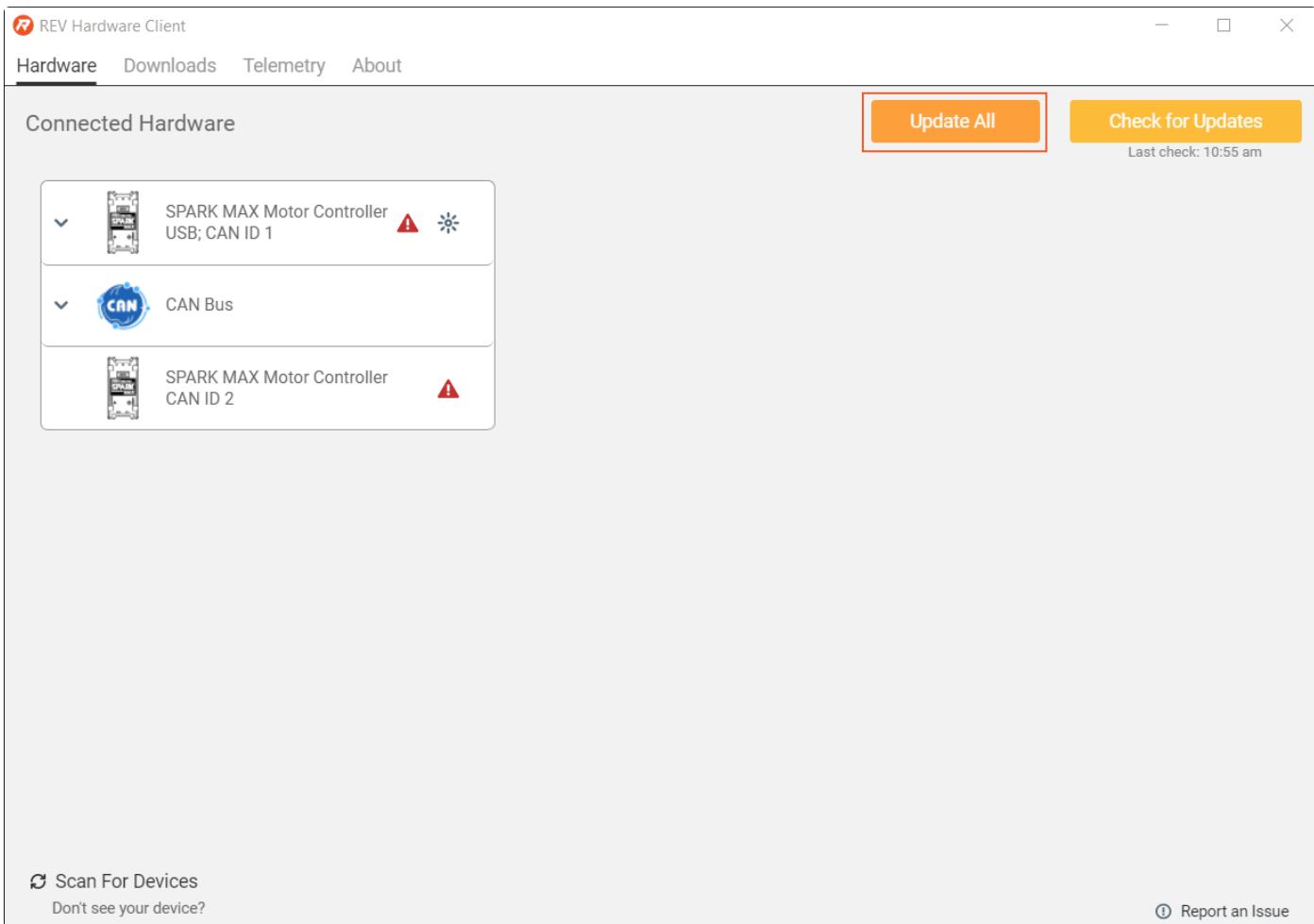
- i If your SPARK MAX is running firmware older than 1.4.0, you may need to unplug and replug the USB-C cable into the SPARK MAX for it to reconnect to the Client.

Updating Multiple Devices with the USB-to-CAN Bridge

SPARK MAX Firmware Version 1.5.0 includes a USB-to-CAN Bridge feature that allows a single USB-connected SPARK MAX to act as a bridge to the entire CAN bus it is connected to. This allows for configuration and simultaneous updating of multiple SPARK MAX controllers without having to connect to each one individually. Using this feature requires the following:

- A USB-connected SPARK MAX that is updated to firmware version 1.5.0 or newer to act as the Bridge.
- Other SPARK MAXs connected on the CAN bus must be individually updated to firmware version 1.4.0 before they are able to receive mass-updates from the Bridging SPARK MAX.

Once these requirements are satisfied, navigate to the **Hardware** tab, select the **Update All** button.



Each device with the Out-of-Date warning will update with the latest version of the firmware.

Software Resources

SPARK MAX Firmware Change Log

It is recommended to keep your SPARK MAX up-to-date with the latest firmware. The REV Hardware Client application will automatically download the latest firmware, but you can also download the firmware manually below:

Latest Firmware - Version 1.5.2

[Download Latest Firmware](#)

 This firmware **will not work with SPARK MAX beta hardware units** distributed by REV to the SPARK MAX Beta testers. It is only compatible with units received after 12/20/2018.

Latest Firmware Change Log - Version 1.5.2

- Fixes issue with the *kDataPortConfig* parameter not enabling Alternate Encoder Mode on a power cycle after it has been configured and saved to flash.
- Improves Gate Driver Fault recovery.

Previous Firmware Change Log - Version 1.5.1

- Improvements to BLDC commutation timing.
 - Most noticeable at high RPMs only achievable by the NEO 550.
- Fixes rare case where the SPARK MAX Status LED shows normal driving but no actual output is occurring until a reboot of the controller.

Previous Firmware Change Log - Version 1.5.0

- Version 1.5.0 Changes
 - Adds a unique hash key to the firmware. This key is a hashed value based on the unique 96-bit device ID guaranteed to be unique for every STM32 device. The hash value itself is 32-bits to make transmission/reception and on-board comparison easier. It is unlikely for a key collision especially since most buses have only a small number of devices.
 - Adds ID Query command to have all devices which match the CAN ID sent to return their unique hash key. This is typically used to identify all devices with CAN ID 0 but can be used to identify devices with conflicting CAN IDs.
 - Adds ID Assign command, which sends a unique hash key and a CAN ID, which is received by any device whose CAN ID matches the ID field. The device whose unique hash matches has their own CAN ID set to the desired value. This is for initial or automatic provisioning, or to re-address devices with the same CAN ID.
 - Adds identify command which flashes the LED blue/magenta. This command uses the CAN ID, or the unique hash if CAN ID = 0.
 -

Complete overhaul of USB interface, creating a generic USB-to-CAN driver connection to act as the bridge to the interface.

- Adds [Alternate Encoder Mode](#) for BLDC external encoder support.
- Adds device manufacturing info to firmware frame.
- Adds retry frame to CAN bootloader if there is an issue.
- Version 1.4.1 Changes
 - Fixes issue where creating a CANSparkMax object would cause the SensorType parameter to be set to NoSensor.

Previous Firmware Change Log - Version 1.4.0

• Version 1.4.0 Changes

- Adds non-competition heartbeat command when not used with a roboRIO.
- Adds Raspbian support using official WPILib tools.
- Adds locking mechanism to prevent simultaneous USB and CAN commands.
- Proportional blink codes now match inversion settings (i.e. positive input is always green, and negative input is always red).
- Limit switch and soft limits now follow inversion settings.
- Motor controller inversion now in the firmware instead of the API.
- Adds a configurable range for absolute feedback devices (currently only applicable to an absolute mode analog sensor), which also prevents users from setting a setpoint out of range.
- Adds ability to use both absolute and relative analog sensors as feedback devices
- Adds filtering for Analog sensor with settings for velocity moving average filter
- Adds ability to configure how errors are tracked and handled by the user.
 - Calls can be automatically registered and tracked, with any errors displayed to the DriverStation or users can use the `GetLastError()` after calls to determine if an error has been thrown. This is done by changing the error timeout through `SetCANTimeout()`, where a timeout of 0 means that the calls are non-blocking, and errors are checked in a separate thread and sent through to the driver station.
- Other minor improvements and bug fixes.

• Version 1.3.0 Changes

- Ability to configure the feedback device for the PIDController.
- Addition of CANAnalog which will function as a possible feedback device.
- Added API for using encoders with brushed DC motors.
- Adds API to enable and set soft limits.
- All control modes now reset integrator on limit switch activation for long as the limit switch is held.
- Smart Motion now honors acceleration rate after limit switch changes from triggered to not triggered.
- Fixes issue where sticky faults can be cleared incorrectly when a new fault is set and the old fault is no longer present.
-

- Adds status 3 periodic frame for analog sensor.
- Other minor improvements and bug fixes.
- **Version 1.2.1 Changes**
 - Adds initial CAN bootloading functionality.
 - Requires continuous power during update and requires USB recovery if the update fails after erasing the flash (i.e. power is lost during update).
 - This is not yet integrated into a formal tool, but is exposed in the API. Future versions will allow recovery over CAN.
 - Fix to bus voltage measurement, previous version reported a lower value.
 - Additional accuracy improvements to all ADC measurements.
 - Adds additional filtering to bus voltage.
 - Fix for Follow settings not being reapplied after power cycle.
 - Adds ability to change units for arbFF between voltage and percent bus voltage (or percent compensated voltage).

Previous Firmware Change Log - Version 1.1.33

- Fixes issue that causes a Gate Driver Fault if the NEO is spinning at a certain speed during power up.
 - e.g. while still moving after a breaker trips for more than ~1.4s after breaker recovery.
- Fixes issue where configuration data can be corrupted under a unique set of conditions, including loss of power while configuration settings are being saved to flash memory.
 - Issue symptoms: Controller cannot be controlled by a normal address and would report a firmware version of 0.0.0 in the Client, even after a successful firmware update. **Updating a controller that is in this state to 1.1.33 will recover the controller.**

Previous Firmware Change Log - Version 1.1.31

- Adds new Smart Velocity mode - uses same constraints as the Smart Motion mode but outputs velocity instead of position. This is not a motion profiling mode, but rather provides acceleration limiting as opposed to simple ramp rates.
- Improvements to heartbeat implementation.
- CAN ID of 0 now considered 'unconfigured' and will not be enabled.
- Changes the default output range for all PID slots to be [-1,1] instead of [0,0]
- Changes setpoint commands to 'stick' instead of relying on periodic frames from the controller.
- Follow mode can now persist through a power-cycle.
- Periodic Status 2 (position data) frame rate default changed from 50ms to 20ms.
- Watchdog changed to 220ms.
- Proportional blink codes while driving now have a minimum blink rate (minimum is same as 10% applied output blink rate).
- Fault flag 'over voltage' replaced with 'IWDT Reset'.

- Velocity and Position conversion factors are now used for all internal PID calculations.

This firmware update requires an API update. Please see the [API Information](#) section for the latest updates. The table below outlines the compatibility between firmware versions and API versions:

		API		
		LabVIEW - 1.0.26	LabVIEW - 1.1.8 (or newer)	
		Java - 1.0.28	Java - 1.1.8 (or newer)	
		C++ - 1.0.27	C++ - 1.1.8 (or newer)	
Firmware	1.1.26 (or newer)	Not Compatible	Compatible	
	1.0.385 (or older)	Compatible	Not Compatible	

Previous Firmware Change Log - Version 1.1.26 (beta)

- Adds new Smart Motion mode utilizing trapezoidal motion profiling
- Improvements to velocity decoding for low speeds and associated PID control loops requiring control at low speeds
- Improvements to gate driver fault handling
- Adds voltage compensation mode
- Adds ability to set the stored sensor position
- Adds ability to set the maximum PID integral accumulator value to prevent integral windup
- Adds ability to set the PID I accumulator value
- Adds filter function to PID derivative value
- Adds closed-loop current control
- Adds closed-loop ramp rate separate from open-loop
- Adds ability to follow Phoenix 4.11 motor controllers
 - Note: This feature depends on the firmware of the Phoenix controllers, and is not controlled by REV. We will do our best to build this functionality, but this is not an officially supported feature.
- Adds ability to set a unit conversion for both velocity and position units
- Adds ability to reset to factory defaults
- Improvements to smart current limits
- Improvements to current data sent over CAN
- Improvements to internal settings table implementation
- Calling the constructor no longer resets the encoder count. This must be done manually by running CANEncoder.setPosition()

Previous Firmware Change Log - Version 1.0.385

- Fixes PWM control issue introduced by version 1.0.384.

Previous Firmware Change Log - Version 1.0.384

- Fixes GetPosition() randomly returning 0.
 - Fixes momentary velocity spike when accelerating from 0 speed.
 - Fixes issue related to rapid control mode switching by the user.
 - Fixes issue related to extreme low voltage CAN bus operation.
 - Adds conversion for motor temperature.
 - Improvement to "Has Reset" flag.
 - Improvements to brownout fault indicator.
 - Improvements to brownout behavior.
-

Factory Images

When updating the SPARK MAX Firmware we recommend using the REV Hardware Client and the latest firmware file listed in the [firmware changelog](#). When updating normally, key configuration parameters, such as the CAN ID, will be preserved through an update, preventing the need to reconfigure every time you update. In some rare instances it may be beneficial to completely reinstall the factory firmware and reset all configuration parameters. Factory images can be found below:

- [Factory Image Version 1.1.33](#)
- [Factory Image Version 1.1.31](#)
- [Factory Image Version 1.0.385](#)
- [Factory Image Version 1.0.381](#)

SPARK MAX API Information

Below you will find information on how to download and install the SPARK MAX APIs for LabVIEW, Java, and C++.

Language	Current API Version	Documentation
LabVIEW	1.5.2	Embedded (Press Ctrl-H)
Java	1.5.4	Java Docs
C++	1.5.4	C++ Docs

Latest API Change Log - Version 1.5.4 - Java/C++ Only

- Updated dependencies for WPILib 2021.1.2
- Adds basic simulation support

- Adds MacOS X support
- Fixes issue effecting some C++ projects when using static initialization for the SPARK MAX object

Latest API Change Log - Version 1.5.2 - Java/C++ Only

- Fixes possible crash when no CAN bus connected when code is first run.
- Adds the CAN ID of the device to every error message.
- Reduces the timing for error messages, and removes repeated messages to make error diagnostics more clear.
- Makes the base class rev::CANSensor object public to help with some Kotlin wrappers.
- Sends an error to the console if two CANSparkMax objects are created with the same CAN ID.

Latest API Change Log - Version 1.5.2 - LabVIEW Only

- Fixes issue with Follow.vi not deploying correctly.

Previous API Change Log - Version 1.5.1 - Java/C++

- Updated dependencies for WPILib 2020.1.2
- Removed extra thread for setpoint calls.
 - Set calls now directly call CAN, reducing CAN latency.
- Adds SetVoltage() override for the WPILib SpeedController class.

Previous API Change Log - Version 1.5.1 - LabVIEW

- Update to LabVIEW 2019 (FRC 2020)

Previous API Change Log - Version 1.5.0 - All Languages

- Adds the ability to use an alternate encoder as a feedback device when connected to the SPARK MAX Data Port. When using an alternate encoder, Hard Limit Switches cannot be used on that SPARK MAX.
- Adds the ability to send telemetry data back from a SPARK MAX. This is done by opening a Telemetry Stream for a particular subset of telemetry data (categorized by TelemetryIDs). A TelemetryMessage contains the ID, value, timestamp, name, units, and bounds of a particular TelemetryID. Additionally, users can list what subset of telemetry data is available for each SPARK MAX.
- Adds a DeviceScanner that will scan the CANBus for other CAN Devices. Will filter what devices to look for, and users can specify filters to let through different devices.
- Addresses bug with CANEncoder backwards compatibility.
- Addresses bug with the Java Control Frame Period not being properly set.

Previous API Change Log - Version 1.4.1 - Java/C++ Only

- Fixes issue in Java/C++ where creating a `CANSparkMax` object causes the Sensor Type parameter to be set to `NoSensor`. Desired behavior is to leave the existing setting.

Previous API Change Log - Version 1.4.0 - All Languages

• Version 1.4.0 Changes

- Adds non-competition heartbeat command when not used with a roboRIO.
- Adds Raspbian support using official WPILib tools.
- Adds locking mechanism to prevent simultaneous USB and CAN commands.
- Motor controller inversion now in the firmware instead of the API.
- Adds a configurable range for absolute feedback devices (currently only applicable to an absolute mode analog sensor), which also prevents users from setting a setpoint out of range.
- Adds ability to use both absolute and relative analog sensors as feedback devices
- Adds filtering for Analog sensor with settings for velocity moving average filter
- Adds ability to configure how errors are tracked and handled by the user.
 - Calls can be automatically registered and tracked, with any errors displayed to the DriverStation or users can use the `GetLastError()` after calls to determine if an error has been thrown. This is done by changing the error timeout through `SetCANTimeout()`, where a timeout of 0 means that the calls are non-blocking, and errors are checked in a separate thread and sent through to the driver station.
- Other minor improvements and bug fixes.

• Version 1.3.0 Changes

- Ability to configure the feedback device for the PIDController.
- Addition of `CANAnalog` which will function as a possible feedback device.
- Added API for using encoders with brushed DC motors.
- Vendor dependencies now allows building Windowsx86-64 based build target.
- Moves entire implementation to C level, C++ and Java libraries are now simple wrappers.
- Adds API to enable and set soft limits.
- Fixes possible driver set out of bounds if given a CAN ID less than 0.
- `CANSparkMaxLowLevel::SetEncPosition()` and `CANSparkMaxLowLevel::SetIAccum()` have been moved to protected and should be accessed via their respective objects: `CANEncoder.SetEncoderPosition()` and `CANPIDController::SetIAccum()`.
- `CANSparkMaxLowLevel::SetParameter*` and `GetParameter*` are changed to private.
- Adds status 3 periodic frame for analog sensor.
- Other minor improvements and bug fixes.

• Version 1.2.1 Changes

- Adds initial CAN bootloading functionality.
 - Requires continuous power during update and requires USB recovery if the update fails after

erasing the flash (i.e. power is lost during update).

- This is not yet integrated into a formal tool, but is exposed in the API. Future versions will allow recovery over CAN.
- Adds ability to change units for arbFF between voltage and percent bus voltage (or percent compensated voltage).
- API adds check if its own version is too old based on major and minor revision numbers.
- Adds version number of API.

Previous API Change Log - Version 1.1.9 - LabVIEW

- Fixes potential hang in Follow.vi in the case that an error is on the input terminal. Java/C++ unaffected.

Previous API Change Log - Version 1.1.9 - Java/C++ Only

- Fixes loop overrun issues in Java/C++. LabVIEW unaffected.

Previous API Change Log - Version 1.1.8 - All Languages

- Adds Smart Velocity Mode
- Fixes inversion issues for IMaxAccum and Output Range
- Updates heartbeat implementation
- Adds default slotID for setDFilter() functions
- Update heartbeat rate from 50ms to 25ms
- Changes fault flag for Overvoltage to IWDTReset

This API update also requires a firmware update. Please see the SPARK MAX Firmware Updates section for the latest updates. The table below outlines the compatibility between firmware versions and API versions:

		API	
		LabVIEW - 1.0.26	LabVIEW - 1.1.8 (or newer)
Firmware	1.1.26 (or newer)	Java - 1.0.28	Java - 1.1.8 (or newer)
	1.0.385 (or older)	C++ - 1.0.27	C++ - 1.1.8 (or newer)
		Not Compatible	Compatible
		Compatible	Not Compatible

Previous API Change Log - Version 1.1.5 (beta) - Java/C++ - Version 1.1.4 (beta) - LabVIEW

- Version 1.1.5
 - Adds method to stop any REV periodic frames before enabling heartbeat
 - Improvements to heartbeat protocol
 - Moved all heartbeat implementation into its own dependency called by C++ and Java through JNI

- Removed setControlFrameRate() call and removed repeating packets
 - Updates to control frames are now as fast/slow as the user calls Set() or SetReference()
 - Updates to doxygen/javadocs comments
 - Maven artifacts now include source for both Java and C++
 - Version 1.1.3
 - Improvements to setInverted()
 - New API calls for new firmware features
 - Better error message in Java when CAN is not connected
 - Documentation updates are in progress.
-

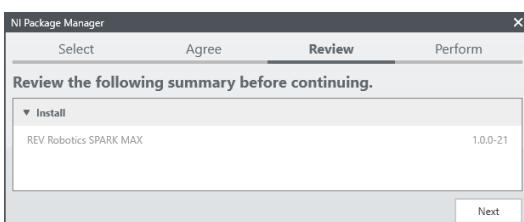
LabVIEW API

Latest LabVIEW API - Version 1.5.2

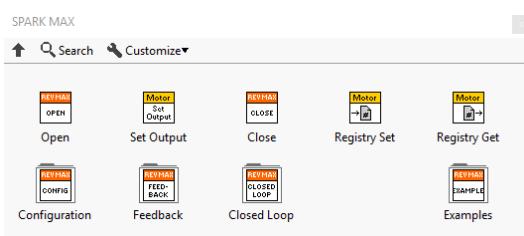
[Download Latest LabVIEW API](#)

LabVIEW API Installation Instructions

1. Download the latest API package from the download link above.
2. Make sure LabVIEW for FRC 2021 is installed and updated.
3. Open the REV SPARK MAX LabVIEW Package. The NI Package Manager should automatically open.
4. Click **Next**:



5. Once the installation is complete, you will be able to access the REV SPARK MAX VIs in the **LabVIEW Functions Pallet -> WPI Robotics Library -> Third Party -> REV Robotics -> SPARK MAX**.



Java API

Latest JAVA API - Version 1.5.4

[Download Latest JAVA API](#)

Java API Installation Instructions

Online Installation

You can use the online method to install the REV Robotics Java API if your development machine is connected to the internet:

1. Open your robot project in VSCode.
2. Click on the WPI icon in the corner to open the WPI Command Pallet.
3. Select **Manage Vendor Libraries**.
4. Select **Install new library (online)**.
5. Enter the following installation URL and press ENTER:

<https://www.revrobotics.com/content/sw/max/sdk/REVRobotics.json>

Offline Installation

Latest Java API - Version 1.5.4

1. Download and unzip the latest SPARK MAX Java API into the `C:\Users\Public\wpilib\2021` directory on windows and `~/wpilib/2021` directory on Unix systems.
2. Follow the [Adding an offline-installed Library](#) instructions from WPI.

Java API Documentation

For a list and description of all classes:

- [Online SPARK MAX Java Documentation](#)
- [Offline SPARK MAX Java Documentation \(pdf\)](#)

C++ API

Latest C++ API - Version 1.5.4

[Download Latest C++ API](#)

C++ API Installation Instructions

Online Installation

You can use the online method to install the REV Robotics C++ API if your development machine is connected to the internet:

1. Open your robot project in VSCode.
2. Click on the WPI icon in the corner to open the WPI Command Pallet.
3. Select **Manage Vendor Libraries**.
4. Select **Install new library (online)**.
5. Enter the following installation URL and press ENTER:

<https://www.revrobotics.com/content/sw/max/sdk/REVRobotics.json>

Offline Installation

Latest C++ API - Version 1.5.4

1. Download and unzip the latest SPARK MAX C++ API into the `C:\Users\Public\wpilib\2021` directory on windows and `~/wpilib/2021` directory on Unix systems.
2. Follow the [Adding an offline-installed Library](#) instructions from WPI.

C++ API Documentation

For a list and description of all classes:

- [Online SPARK MAX C++ Documentation](#)
- [Offline SPARK MAX C++ Documentation \(pdf\)](#)

SPARK MAX Code Examples

At the links below you will find code examples in LabVIEW, Java, and C++ for common SPARK MAX control modes. We will be adding examples as we develop them, so please check back regularly. Examples included as of 2/6/19:

- [LabVIEW Code Examples](#)
 - Alternate Encoder
 - Arcade Drive with CAN
 - Arcade Drive with PWM
 - Bus Measurements
 - Get and Set Parameters

- Limit Switch
- Position Closed Loop Control
- Read Encoder Values
- Velocity Closed Loop Control

- [Java Code Examples](#)

- Alternate Encoder
- Analog Feedback Device
- Bus Measurements
- Encoder Feedback Device
- Get and Set Parameters
- Limit Switch
- Motor Follower
- Position Closed Loop Control
- Read Encoder Values
- Smart Motion Example
- Soft Limits
- Tank Drive With CAN
- Velocity Closed Loop Control

- [C++ Code Examples](#)

- Alternate Encoder
- Analog Feedback Device
- Arcade Drive With CAN
- Arcade Drive With PWM
- Bus Measurements
- Encoder Feedback Device
- Get and Set Parameters
- Limit Switch
- Position Closed Loop Control
- Read Encoder Values
- Smart Motion Example
- Soft Limits
- Velocity Closed Loop Control

Even though some examples may only exist in a particular language, they can be a good place to start as the APIs are very similar between languages.

SPARK MAX Code Examples

Configuration Parameters

Below is a list of all the configurable parameters within the SPARK MAX. Parameters can be set through the CAN or USB interfaces. The parameters are saved in a different region of memory from the device firmware and persist through a firmware update.

Name	ID	Type	Unit	Default	Description
kCanID	0	uint	-	0	CAN ID This parameter persists through a normal firmware update.
kInputMode	1	Input Mode	-	0	Input mode, this parameter is read only as the input mode is detected by the firmware automatically. 0 - PWM 1 - CAN 2 - USB
kMotorType	2	Motor Type	-	BRUSHLESS	Motor type: 0 - Brushed 1 - Brushless This parameter persists through a normal firmware update.

Reserved	3	-	-		Reserved
kSensorType	4	Sensor Type	-	HALL_EFFECT	<p>Sensor type 0 - No Sensor 1 - Hall Sensor 2 - Encoder</p> <p>This parameter persists through a normal firmware update.</p>
kCtrlType	5	Ctrl Type	-	CTRL_DUTY_CYCLE	<p>Control Type this is a read only parameter controlled by the currently active controller type. The control type can be changed by calling the correct API.</p> <p>0 - Duty Cycle 1 - Velocity 2 - Voltage 3 - Position</p>
kIdleMode	6	Idle Mode	-	IDLE_COAST	<p>State of the half bridge when the motor controller commands zero output is disabled.</p> <p>0 - Coast 1 - Brake</p> <p>This parameter persists through a normal firmware update.</p>

kInputDeadband	7	float32	%	0.05	Percent of input which results in zero output for PWM mode. This parameter persists through a normal firmware update.
Reserved	8	-	-	-	Reserved
Reserved	9	-	-	-	Reserved
kPolePairs	10	uint	-	7	Number of pole pairs for the brushless motor. This is the number of poles/2 and can be determined by either counting the number of magnets or counting the number of windings and dividing by two. This is an important term for speed regulation to properly calculate the speed.
					If the half bridge detects this current limit will disable the motor driver for a

kCurrentChop	11	float32	Amps	115	fixed amount of time set by kCurrentChopCycles. This is a low sophistication 'current control'. Set to 0 to disable. The max value is 125.
kCurrentChop Cycles	12	uint	-	0	Number of PWM Cycles for the h-bridge to be off in the case that the current limit is set. Min = 1 multiples of PWM period (50µs). During this time the current will recirculate through the low side MOSFETs, instead of 'freewheeling' the diodes, the bridge will be in brake mode during this time.
kP_0	13	float32	-	0	Proportional gain constant for gain slot 0.
kI_0	14	float32	-	0	Integral gain constant for gain slot 0.
kD_0	15	float32	-	0	Derivative gain constant for gain slot 0.

kF_0	16	float32	-	0	Feed Forward gain constant for gain slot 0.
kIZone_0	17	float32	-	0	Integrator zone constant for gain slot 0. The PIDF loop integrator will only accumulate while the setpoint is within IZone of the target.
kDFilter_0	18	float32	-	0	PIDF derivative filter constant for gain slot 0.
kOutputMin_0	19	float32	-	-1	Max output constant for gain slot 0. This is the max output the controller can produce.
kOutputMax_0	20	float32	-	1	Min output constant for gain slot 0. This is the min output the controller can produce.
kP_1	21	float32	-	0	Proportional gain constant for gain slot 1.
kI_1	22	float32	-	0	Integral gain constant for gain slot 1.
kD_1	23	float32	-	0	Derivative gain constant for gain slot 1.
					Feed

kF_1	24	float32	-	0	Forward gain constant for gain slot 1.
kiZone_1	25	float32	-	0	Integrator zone constant for gain slot 1. The PIDF loop integrator will only accumulate while the setpoint is within IZone of the target.
kDFilter_1	26	float32	-	0	PIDF derivative filter constant for gain slot 1.
kOutputMin_1	27	float32	-	-1	Max output constant for gain slot 1. This is the max output of the controller.
kOutputMax_1	28	float32	-	1	Min output constant for gain slot 1. This is the min output of the controller.
kP_2	29	float32	-	0	Proportional gain constant for gain slot 2.
ki_2	30	float32	-	0	Integral gain constant for gain slot 2.
KD_2	31	float32	-	0	Derivative gain constant for gain slot 2.
kF_2	32	float32	-	0	Feed Forward gain constant for gain slot 2.

					constant for integrator 2.
kIZone_2	33	float32	-	0	zone consta for gain slot The PIDF loop integrator w only accumulate while the setpoint is within IZone of the target
kDFilter_2	34	float32	-	0	PIDF derivative filter consta for gain slot
kOutputMin_2	35	float32	-	-1	Max output constant for gain slot 2. This is the max output the controller
kOutputMax_2	36	float32	-	1	Min output constant for gain slot 2. This is the min output o the controller
kP_3	37	float32	-	0	Proportiona gain consta for gain slot
kI_3	38	float32	-	0	Integral gain constant for gain slot 3.
kD_3	39	float32	-	0	Derivative gain consta for gain slot
kF_3	40	float32	-	0	Feed Forward ga constant for gain slot 3.
					Integrator

kIZone_3	41	float32	-	0	zone constant for gain slot 3. The PIDF loop integrator will only accumulate while the setpoint is within IZone of the target.
kDFilter_3	42	float32	-	0	PIDF derivative filter constant for gain slot 3.
kOutputMin_3	43	float32	-	-1	Max output constant for gain slot 3. This is the max output of the controller.
kOutputMax_3	44	float32	-	1	Min output constant for gain slot 3. This is the min output of the controller.
Reserved	45	-	-	-	Reserved
Reserved	46	-	-	-	Reserved
Reserved	47	-	-	-	Reserved
Reserved	48	-	-	-	Reserved
Reserved	49	-	-	-	Reserved
kLimitSwitchForwardPolarity	50	bool	-	0	Forward Limit Switch polarity. 0 - Normally Open 1 - Normally Closed
					Reverse Limit Switch

kLimitSwitchRevPolarity	51	bool	-	0	polarity. 0 - Normally Open 1 - Normally Closed
kHardLimitFwdEn	52	bool	-	1	Limit switch enable, enabled by default
kHardLimitRevEn	53	bool	-	1	Limit switch enable, enabled by default
Reserved	54	-	-	-	Reserved
Reserved	55	-	-	-	Reserved
kRampRate	56	float32	V/s	0	Voltage ramp rate active for all control modes in % output per second, a value of 0 disables this feature. All APIs take the reciprocal to make the unit 'time from 0 to full'.
kFollowerID	57	uint	-	0	CAN EXTID of the message with data to follow
					Special configuration register for setting up to follow on a repeating message (follower mode). CFG[0] to CFG[3] when

kFollowerConfig	58	uint	-	0	CFG[0] is the motor output start bit (LSB), CFG[1] is the motor output stop bit (MSB). CFG[0] - CFG[1] determines endianness. CFG[2] bits determine sign mode and inverted. CFG[3] sets preconfiguration controller (0x1A = RE, 0x1B = Talon/Victor style as of 2018 season).
kSmartCurrentStallLimit	59	uint	A	80	Smart Current Limit at stall or any RPM less than kSmartCurrentConfig RPM.
kSmartCurrentFreeLimit	60	uint	A	20	Smart current limit at free speed
kSmartCurrentConfig	61	uint	-	10000	Smart current limit RPM value to start linear reduction of current limit. Set this > free speed to disable.
Reserved	62	-	-	-	Reserved
Reserved	63	-	-	-	Reserved

Reserved	64	-	-	-	Reserved
Reserved	65	-	-	-	Reserved
Reserved	66	-	-	-	Reserved
Reserved	67	-	-	-	Reserved
Reserved	68	-	-	-	Reserved
kEncoderCountsPerRev	69	uint	-	4096	Number of encoder counts in a single revolution, counting every edge on the A and B lines of a quadrature encoder. (Note: This is different than the CPR specification of the encoder which is 'Cycles per revolution'. This value is 4 * CPR.)
kEncoderAverageDepth	70	uint	-	64	Number of samples to average for velocity data based on quadrature encoder input. This value can be between 1 and 64.
					Delta time value for encoder velocity measurement in 500µs increments.

kEncoderSampleDelta	71	uint	per 500us	200	The velocity calculation will take delta time from the current sample, and the sample * 500µs behind, and divide by the sample delta time. Can be any number between 1 and 255
Reserved	72	-	-	-	Reserved
Reserved	73	-	-	-	Reserved
Reserved	74	-	-	-	Reserved
kCompensateNominalVoltage	75	float32	V	0	In voltage compensation mode, this is the max scaled voltage.
kSmartMotionMaxVelocity_0	76	float32	-	0	
kSmartMotionMaxAccel_0	77	float32	-	0	
kSmartMotionMinVelOutput_0	78	float32	-	0	
kSmartMotionAllowedCloseLoopError_0	79	float32	-	0	
kSmartMotionAccelStrategy_0	80	float32	-	0	
kSmartMotionMaxVelocity_1	81	float32	-	0	

kSmartMotion MaxAccel_1	82	float32	-	0	
kSmartMotion MinVelOutput _1	83	float32	-	0	
kSmartMotion AllowedClose dLoopError_1	84	float32	-	0	
kSmartMotion AccelStrategy _1	85	float32	-	0	
kSmartMotion MaxVelocity_ 2	86	float32	-	0	
kSmartMotion MaxAccel_2	87	float32	-	0	
kSmartMotion MinVelOutput _2	88	float32	-	0	
kSmartMotion AllowedClose dLoopError_2	89	float32	-	0	
kSmartMotion AccelStrategy _2	90	float32	-	0	
kSmartMotion MaxVelocity_ 3	91	float32	-	0	
kSmartMotion MaxAccel_3	92	float32	-	0	
kSmartMotion MinVelOutput _3	93	float32	-	0	
kSmartMotion AllowedClose dLoopError_3	94	float32	-	0	
kSmartMotion AccelStrategy _3	95	float32	-	0	

kMaxAccum_0	96	float32	-	0
kSlot3Placeholder1_0	97	float32	-	0
kSlot3Placeholder2_0	98	float32	-	0
kSlot3Placeholder3_0	99	float32	-	0
kMaxAccum_1	100	float32	-	0
kSlot3Placeholder1_1	101	float32	-	0
kSlot3Placeholder2_1	102	float32	-	0
kSlot3Placeholder3_1	103	float32	-	0
kMaxAccum_2	104	float32	-	0
kSlot3Placeholder1_2	105	float32	-	0
kSlot3Placeholder2_2	106	float32	-	0
kSlot3Placeholder3_2	107	float32	-	0
kMaxAccum_3	108	float32	-	0
kSlot3Placeholder1_3	109	float32	-	0
kSlot3Placeholder2_3	110	float32	-	0
kSlot3Placeholder3_3	111	float32	-	0
kPositionConversionFactor	112	float32	-	1
kVelocityConversionFactor	113	float32	-	1

kClosedLoopRampRate	114	float32	DC/sec	0	
kSoftLimitFwd	115	float32	-	0	Soft limit forward value
kSoftLimitRev	116	float32	-	0	Soft limit reverse value
Reserved	117	-	-	-	Reserved
Reserved	118	-	-	-	Reserved
kAnalogPositionConversion	119	float32	rev/volt	1	Conversion factor for position from analog sensor. This value is multiplied by the voltage to give an output value.
kAnalogVelocityConversion	120	float32	vel/v/s	1	Conversion factor for velocity from analog sensor. This value is multiplied by the voltage to give an output value.
kAnalogAverageDepth	121	uint	-	0	Number of samples in moving average of velocity.
					0 Absolute: this mode the sensor position is always read as voltage * conversion factor and reads the

kAnalogSensorMode	122	uint	-	0	absolute position of the sensor. In this mode setPosition() does not have an effect.
					1 Relative: this mode the voltage difference is summed to calculate a relative position.
kAnalogInverted	123	bool	-	0	When inverted, the voltage is calculated as (ADC Full Scale - ADC Reading). This means that for absolute mode, the sensor value is 3.3V - voltage. In relative mode the direction is reversed.
kAnalogSampleDelta	124	uint	-	0	Delta time between samples for velocity measurement
Reserved	125	-	-	-	Reserved
Reserved	126	-	-	-	Reserved
					0: Default configuration using limit switches

kDataPortConfig	127	uint	-	0	1: Alternate Encoder Mode - limit switches are disabled and alternate encoder is enabled. This parameter persists through a normal firmware update.
kAltEncoderCountsPerRev	128	uint	-	4096	Number of encoder counts in a single revolution, counting every edge on the A and B lines of a quadrature encoder. (Note: This is different than the CPR specification of the encoder which is 'Cycles per revolution'. This value is 4 * CPR.)
kAltEncoderAverageDepth	129	uint	-	64	Number of samples to average for velocity data based on quadrature encoder input. This value can be

kAltEncoderSampleDelta	130	uint	-	200	between 1 and 64. value for encoder velocity measurement in 500µs increments. The velocity calculation will take delta time from the current sample, and the sample * 500µs behind, and divide by the sample delta time. Can be any number between 1 and 255.
kAltEncoderInverted	131	bool	-	0	Invert the phase of the encoder sensor. This is useful when the motor direction is opposite of the motor direction.
kAltEncoderPositionFactor	132	float32	-	1	Value multiplied by the native units (rotations) of the encoder for position.
kAltEncoderVelocityFactor	133	float32	-	1	Value multiplied by the native units (rotations) of the encoder for velocity.

Migrating from CTRE Phoenix to SPARK MAX

Many teams have been using various CTRE motor controllers such as the Talon SRX and Talon SPX, and have concerns about porting software between platforms. Fortunately the feature set and code required is similar between the two, and porting from one to the other is easy. Below shows the common tasks and the changes required to convert from the code for CTRE Phoenix devices to the SPARK MAX.

JAVA

Include Library

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 import com.revrobotics.CANEncoder;
2 import com.revrobotics.CANPIDController;
3 import com.revrobotics.CANSparkMax;
4 import com.revrobotics.ControlType;
5 import com.revrobotics.CANSparkMaxLowLevel.MotorType;
```

Phoenix Framework

```
1 import com.ctre.phoenix.motorcontrol.can.*;
2 import com.ctre.phoenix.motorcontrol.*;
```

Create Object CAN ID 1

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 private CANSparkMax sparkMax = new CANSparkMax(deviceID, MotorType.kBrushless);
```

```
1 TalonSRX talonSRX = new TalonSRX(1);
```

Reset Factory Defaults

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 sparkMax.restoreFactoryDefaults();
```

Phoenix Framework

```
1 talonSRX.configFactoryDefault();
```

Select Encoder

This is a brushed motor feature and not needed for using brushless motors with SPARK MAX

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 encoder = sparkMax.getEncoder();
2 encoder.setInverted(false);
3 sparkMax.setFeedbackDevice(encoder);
```

Phoenix Framework

```
1 talonSRX.configSelectedFeedbackSensor(FeedbackDevice.CTRE_MagEncoder_Relative, kPIDL
2 talonSRX.setSensorPhase(true);
```

Set closed loop constants

```
1 pidController.setP(kP);
2 pidController.setI(kI);
3 pidController.setD(kD);
4 pidController.setIZone(kIZ);
5 pidController.setFF(kFF);
6 pidController.setOutputRange(kMinOutput, kMaxOutput);
```

Phoenix Framework

```
1 talonSRX.configNominalOutputForward(0, kTimeoutMs);
2 talonSRX.configNominalOutputReverse(0, kTimeoutMs);
3 talonSRX.configPeakOutputForward(kMaxOutput, kTimeoutMs);
4 talonSRX.configPeakOutputReverse(kMinOutput, kTimeoutMs);
5
6 talonSRX.config_kF(kPIDLoopIdx, kP, kTimeoutMs);
7 talonSRX.config_kP(kPIDLoopIdx, kI, kTimeoutMs);
8 talonSRX.config_kI(kPIDLoopIdx, kD, kTimeoutMs);
9 talonSRX.config_kD(kPIDLoopIdx, kF, kTimeoutMs);
```

Run Closed Loop Velocity Control

For this example velocity is set at 500 RPM

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 pidController.setReference(500.0, ControlType.kVelocity);
```

Phoenix Framework

```
1 // Convert from 500 RPM to 'native units'
2 double VelocityinUnitsPer100ms = 500.0 * 4096 / 600;
3 talonSRX.set(ControlMode.Velocity, VelocityinUnitsPer100ms );
```

Read RPM of Motor

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 encoder.getVelocity();
```

Phoenix Framework

```
1 talonSRX.getSelectedSensorVelocity(kPIDLoopIdx) * 600 / 4096;
```

Read Applied Output Percent

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 sparkMax.getAppliedOutput();
```

Phoenix Framework

```
1 talonSRX.getMotorOutputPercent();
```

Run Closed Loop Position Control

This example runs a position control loop for 10 rotations.

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 pidController.setReference(10.0, ControlType.kPosition);
```

Phoenix Framework

```
1 targetPositionRotations = 10.0 * 4096;
2 talonSRX.set(ControlMode.Position, targetPositionRotations);
```

Change Units from 'rotations' to 'inches'

This example assumes a 4" wheel on a 15:1 reduction

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 encoder.setPositionFactor(M_PI * 4/15);
```

Phoenix Framework

```
1 // No Equivellant
```

Run Closed Loop Position Control for a set distance

This example assumes a 4" wheel on a 15:1 reduction to move 2 feet (24 inches).

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 pidController.setReference(24.0, ControlType.kPosition);
```

Phoenix Framework

```
1 targetPositionRotations = (M_PI * 4 / 15 * 4096) * 24;
2 talonSRX.set(ControlMode.Position, targetPositionRotations);
```

Save Parameters

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 // Run after all parameters are set in RobotInit()
2 sparkMax.burnFlash();
```

Phoenix Framework

```
1 //Automatic
```

Follow another device

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 sparkMax1.follow(sparkMax2);
```

Phoenix Framework

```
1 talonSRX1.follow(talonSRX2);
```

Invert a device

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 sparkMax.setInverted(true);
```

Phoenix Framework

```
1 talonSRX.setInverted(true);
```

Configure a limit switch

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 forwardLimit = sparkMax.getForwardLimitSwitch(LimitSwitchPolarity.kNormallyOpen);
```

Phoenix Framework

```
1 talonSRX.configForwardLimitSwitchSource(  
2                                     LimitSwitchSource.LimitSwitchSource_Feedback  
3                                     LimitSwitchNormal.LimitSwitchNormal_Normally  
4                                     kTimeoutMs);
```

Disable a limit switch

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 forwardLimit.EnableLimitSwitch(false);
```

Phoenix Framework

```
1 talonSRX.overrideLimitSwitchesEnable(true);
```

C++

Include Library

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 #include "rev/CANSparkMax.h"
```

Phoenix Framework

```
+ #include "ctre/Phoenix.h"
```

Create Object CAN ID 1

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 rev::CANSparkMax sparkMax{1, rev::CANSparkMax::MotorType::kBrushless};
```

Phoenix Framework

```
1 TalonSRX* talon = new TalonSRX(1);
```

Reset Factory Defaults

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 sparkMax.RestoreFactoryDefaults();
```

Phoenix Framework

```
1 talon->ConfigFactoryDefault();
```

Select Encoder

This is a brushed motor feature and not needed for using brushless motors with SPARK MAX.

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 rev::CANEncoder encoder = sparkMax.GetEncoder(rev::CANEncoder::EncoderType::kQuadrat
2 encoder.SetInverted(true);
3 sparkMax.SetFeedbackDevice(encoder);
```

Phoenix Framework

```
1 talonSRX->ConfigSelectedFeedbackSensor(FeedbackDevice::CTRE_MagEncoder_Relative, 0,
2 talonSRX->SetSensorPhase(true);
```

Set closed loop constants

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 rev:::CANPIDController pidController = sparkMax.GetPIDController();
2 pidController.SetFeedbackDevice(encoder);
3
4 pidController.SetP(kP);
5 pidController.SetI(kI);
6 pidController.SetD(kD);
7 pidController.SetIZone(kIZ);
8 pidController.SetFF(kFF);
9 pidController.SetOutputRange(kMinOutput, kMaxOutput);
```

Phoenix Framework

```
1 talonSRX->ConfigNominalOutputForward(0, kTimeoutMs);
2 talonSRX->ConfigNominalOutputReverse(0, kTimeoutMs);
3 talonSRX->ConfigPeakOutputForward(1, kTimeoutMs);
4 talonSRX->ConfigPeakOutputReverse(-1, kTimeoutMs);
5
6 talonSRX->Config_kF(kPIDLoopIdx, 0.1097, kTimeoutMs);
7 talonSRX->Config_kP(kPIDLoopIdx, 0.22, kTimeoutMs);
8 talonSRX->Config_kI(kPIDLoopIdx, 0.0, kTimeoutMs);
9 talonSRX->Config_kD(kPIDLoopIdx, 0.0, kTimeoutMs);
```

Run Closed Loop Velocity Control

For this example velocity is set at 500 RPM

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 pidController.SetReference(500.0, rev::ControlType::kVelocity);
```

Phoenix Framework

```
1 // Convert from 500 RPM to 'native units'  
2 double VelocityinUnitsPer100ms = 500.0 * 4096 / 600;  
3 talonSRX->Set(ControlMode::Velocity, VelocityinUnitsPer100ms );
```

Read RPM of Motor

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 encoder.GetVelocity();
```

Phoenix Framework

```
1 talonSRX->GetSelectedSensorVelocity(kPIDLoopIdx) * 600 / 4096;
```

Read Applied Output Percent

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 sparkMax.GetAppliedOutput();
```

Phoenix Framework

```
1 talonSRX->GetMotorOutputPercent();
```

Run Closed Loop Position Control

This example runs a position control loop for 10 rotations.

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 pidController.SetReference(10.0, rev::ControlType::kPosition);
```

Phoenix Framework

```
1 targetPositionRotations = 10.0 * 4096;  
2 talonSRX->Set(ControlMode::Position, targetPositionRotations);;
```

Change Units from 'rotations' to 'inches'

This example assumes a 4" wheel on a 15:1 reduction

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 encoder.SetPositionFactor( M_PI * 4 / 15 );
```

Phoenix Framework

```
1 // No Equivellant
```

Run Closed Loop Position Control for a set distance

This example assumes a 4" wheel on a 15:1 reduction to move 2 feet (24 inches).

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 pidController.SetReference(24.0, rev::ControlType::kPosition);
```

Phoenix Framework

```
1 targetPositionRotations = (M_PI * 4 / 15 * 4096) * 24;  
2 talonSRX->Set(ControlMode::Position, targetPositionRotations);
```

Save Parameters

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 // Run after all parameters are set in RobotInit()  
2 sparkMax.BurnFlash();
```

Phoenix Framework

```
1 //Automatic
```

Follow another device

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 sparkMax1.Follow(sparkMax2);
```

Phoenix Framework

```
1 talonSRX1->Follow(*talon2);
```

Invert a device

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 sparkMax.SetInverted(true);
```

Phoenix Framework

```
1 talonSRX->SetInverted(true);
```

Configure a limit switch

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 rev::CANDigitalInput forwardLimit = sparkMax.GetForwardLimitSwitch(rev::CANDigitalIn
```

Phoenix Framework

```
1 talonSRX->ConfigForwardLimitSwitchSource(  
2                                     LimitSwitchSource::LimitSwitchSource_Feedbac  
3                                     LimitSwitchNormal::LimitSwitchNormal_Normall  
4                                     kTimeoutMs);
```

Disable a limit switch

REV SPARK MAX

```
1 forwardLimit.EnableLimitSwitch(false);
```

Phoenix Framework

```
1 talonSRX->OverrideLimitSwitchesEnable(true);
```

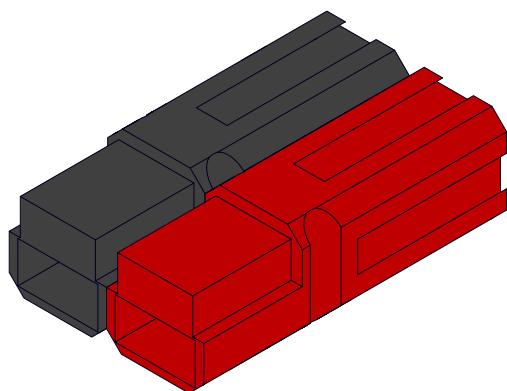
Tips and Tricks

Anderson Powerpole Connectors

Anderson Powerpole connectors are a popular choice in the FIRST community for electrical connections. Ensuring that these connectors are crimped properly and the contact is fully inserted into the housing is key to having a good electrical connection.

Anderson Powerpole Connectors consist of two major parts: the **housing** and **contact**. There are a number of different housings and contacts depending on the power requirements of the system. The most common housing and contact used with the SPARK MAX is the 1327 series housing paired with the 45 amp contacts.

Anderson Connector Housing



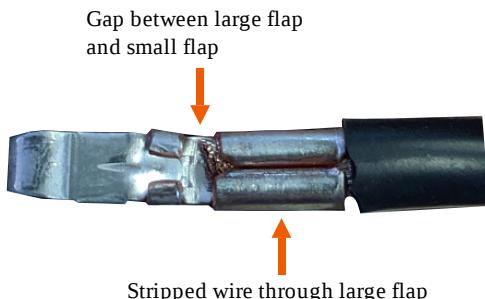
The housings for the connectors are genderless allowing all powerpole connectors to mate with themselves. The 1327 series housing can utilize contacts rated for 15-45 amps. Housings come in a variety of colors allowing for easy pairings with the wire color.



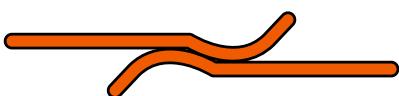
Dovetails on each housing allow them to slide together. Do not attempt to snap the housings together as they can break. After the housings are mated together adding a roll pin prevents the housings from becoming detached during operation. Each housing is fitted with a spring to retain the contacts after they are inserted

Anderson Contacts

1327 series housings can use contacts rated for between 15 and 45 amps. The 45 amp contacts are used with the SPARK MAX. When stripping wire for the contact, make sure the stripped wire is the length of the large flap. No wire should extend past the large flap into the gap between the large and small flaps on the contact. Utilize a proper crimping tool when crimping on the connector.



Having too much wire exposed can cause issues with proper placement of the contact in the housing. This can lead to bad connections. If the contacts are not fully inserted into the housing the contact connection issues can arise. The images above are examples of good crimps with the proper amount of wire inserted into the contact.



Good Connection



Bad Connection

Having improper placement of the contact in the housing can lead to intermittent brownouts of the SPARK MAX, the contact dislodging from the housing, or have cause problems with one or more of the phases of a brushless motor.

For more information on powerpole assembly see the [Powerwerx](#) instructions.

SPARK MAX Client - Legacy

Getting Started with the SPARK MAX Client

i This is **legacy documentation** for our discontinued SPARK MAX Client Software. If you are interested in running a SPARK MAX via a computer, please see our newer documentation: [Getting Started with the REV Hardware Client](#).

Update, configure, and test your SPARK MAX Motor Controller with the SPARK MAX Client application.

Latest SPARK MAX Client - Version 2.1.1

[Download Latest SPARK MAX Client](#)

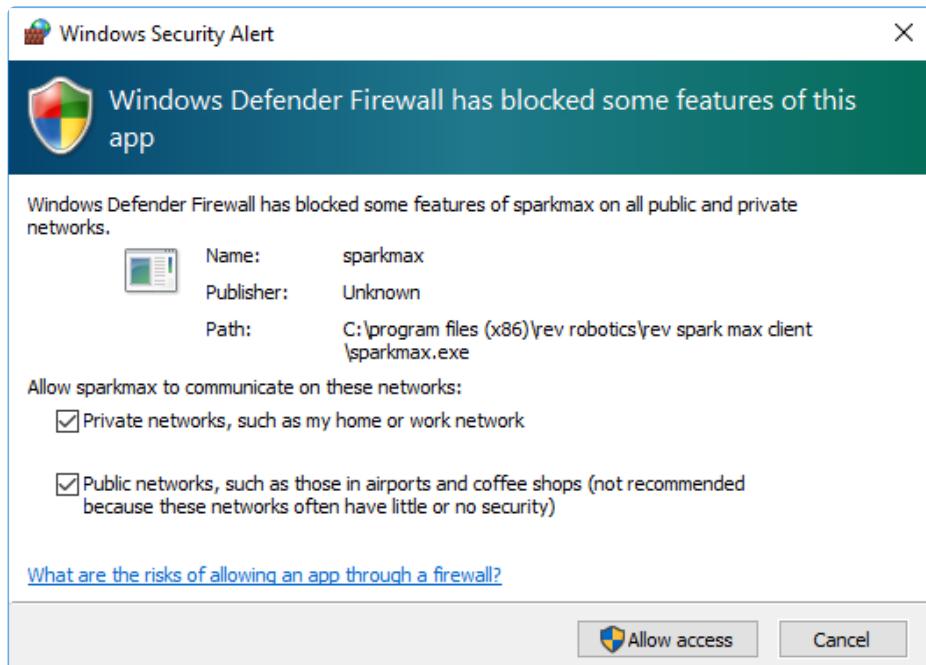
The SPARK MAX Client **will not work with SPARK MAX beta units** distributed by REV to the SPARK MAX beta testers. It is only compatible with units received after 12/21/2018.

System Requirements

- Windows 10 64-bit
 - Windows 7 64-bit might work but it is [not supported](#).
- Internet connection for automatic updates

Installation Instructions

1. Download the SPARK MAX Client installer above.
2. Run the installer. Windows may require approval to install the application.
3. During the installation process, separate driver installation windows may appear. Some driver installations may fail if you already have the driver installed from a previously installed Client, this is expected.
4. Once installed, run the application. If prompted, be sure to grant network access. Without network access, the client software won't be able to download the latest SPARK MAX firmware and client updates.

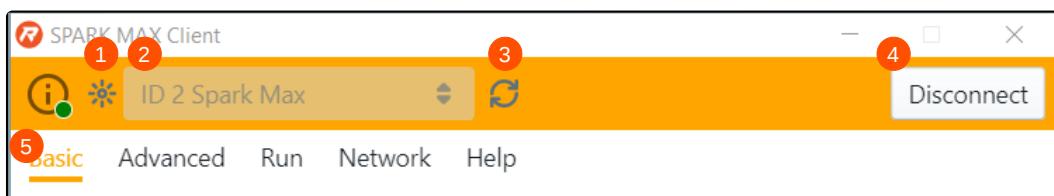


Navigating the SPARK MAX Client

(i) This is **legacy documentation** for our discontinued SPARK MAX Client Software. If you are interested in running a SPARK MAX via a computer, please see our newer documentation: [Getting Started with the REV Hardware Client](#).

Navigation Bar

The Navigation bar is visible on all tabs of the SPARK MAX Client and allows you to select which SPARK MAX the Client is connected to.

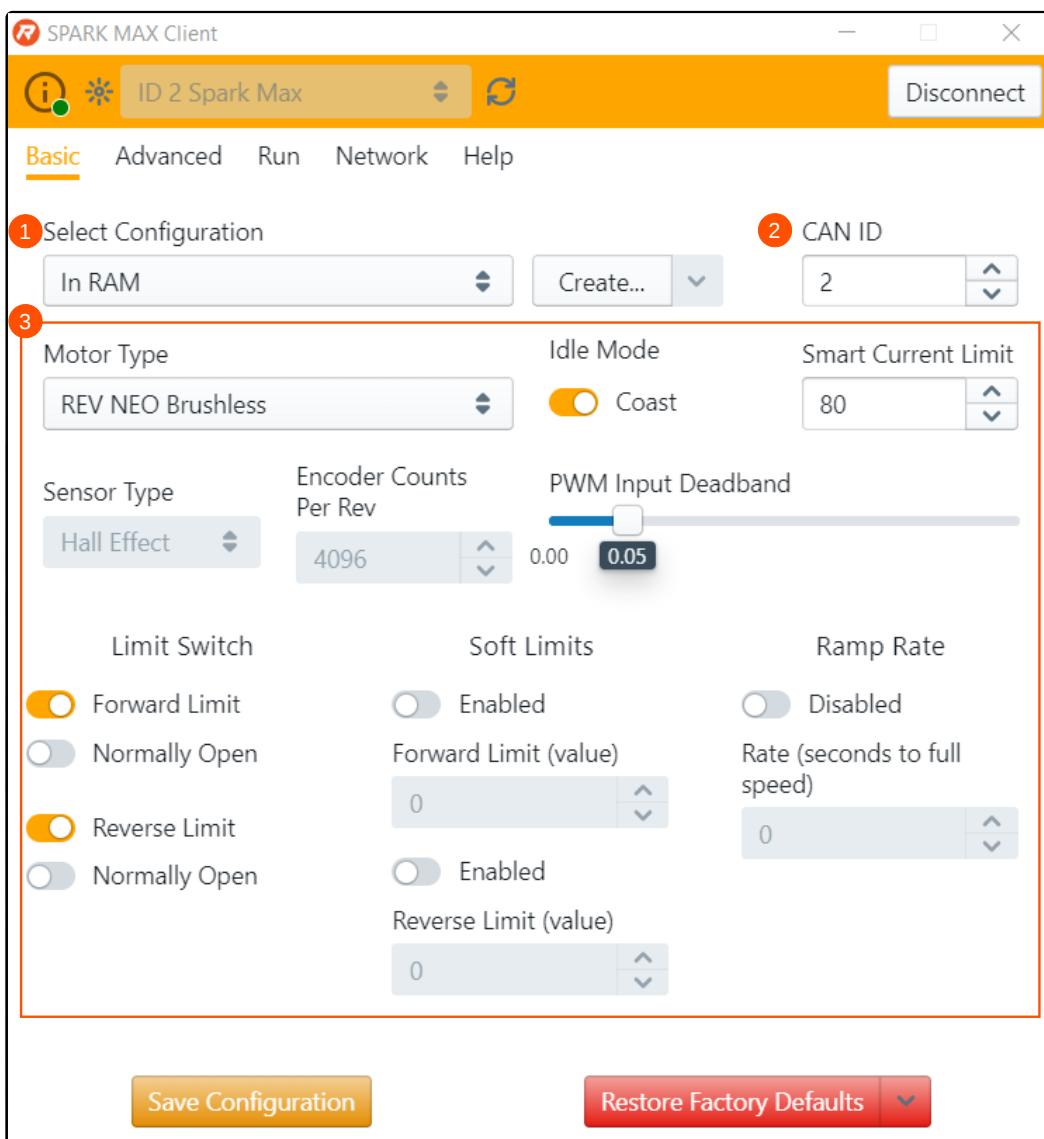


- 1. Identify Device:** The status LED of a selected device will blink. This is helpful when troubleshooting or configuring multiple devices.
- 2. Device Selection:** See each SPARK MAX connected to the SPARK MAX Client. This includes other devices connected via CAN if running firmware 1.4.0 or later.

3. **Rescan:** Looks for additional SPARK MAX devices connected to the SPARK MAX Client. This includes other devices connect via CAN if running firmware 1.4.0 or later.
 4. **Connect/Disconnect:** After selecting a device connecting to the device pulls all the configuration parameters set on the device.
 5. **Tabs:** Select one of the five tabs to gain access to configure, update, and run SPARK MAX.
-

Basic Tab

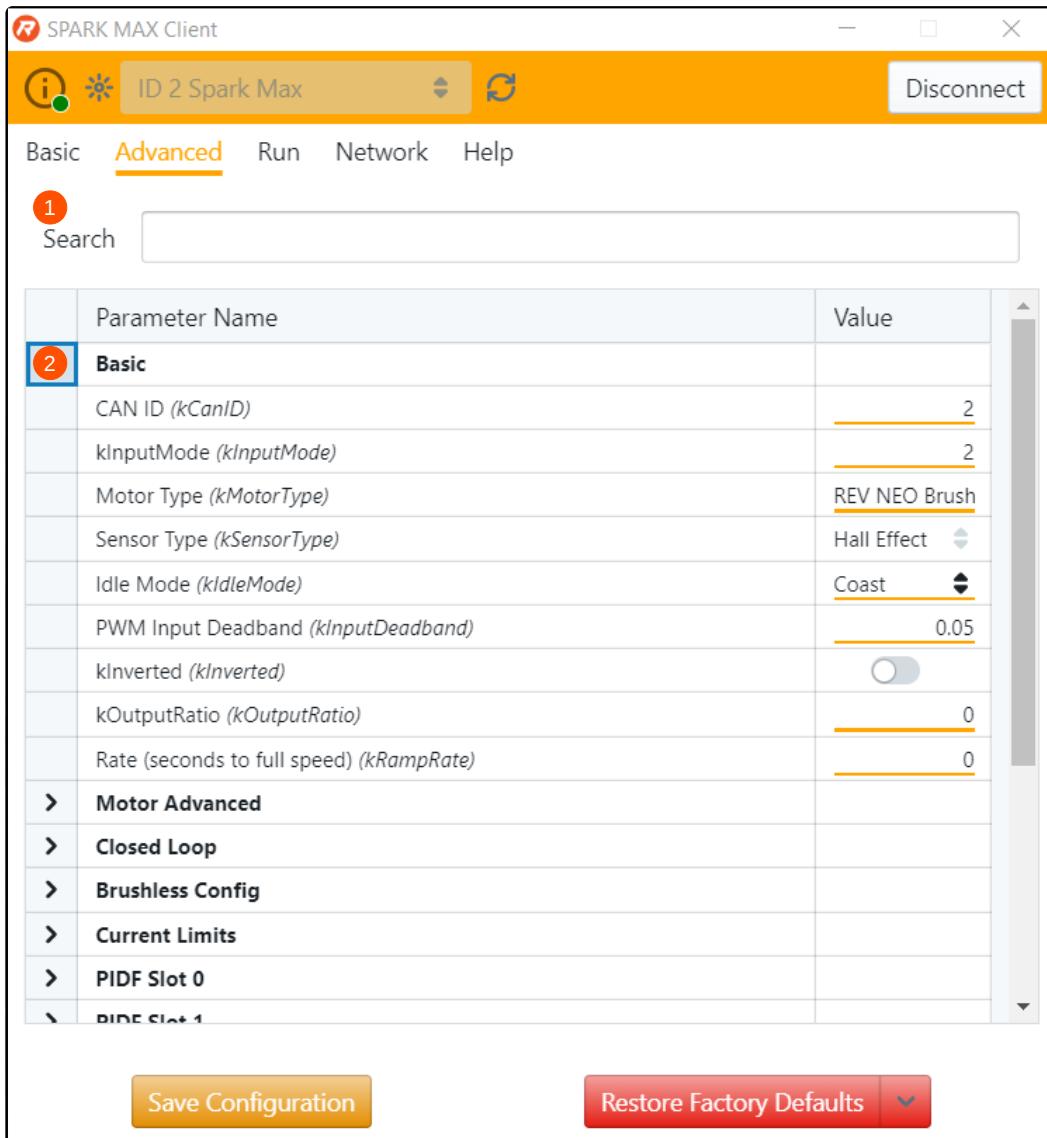
The Basic Tab is used to set the most common parameters for the SPARK MAX



1. **Configurations:** This drop down allows you to select pre-existing configurations store on the Windows machine running the SPARK MAX Client or to pull the existing parameters stored on in RAM on the SPARK MAX. This is helpful when configuring multiple motor controllers to the same settings.
2. **CAN ID:** This assigns a SPARK MAX a CAN ID for identification over the CAN BUS. Any configured SPARK MAX **must have** a CAN ID.
3. **Configured Parameters:** Change the motor type, sensor type, idle mode behavior, and more.

Advanced Tab

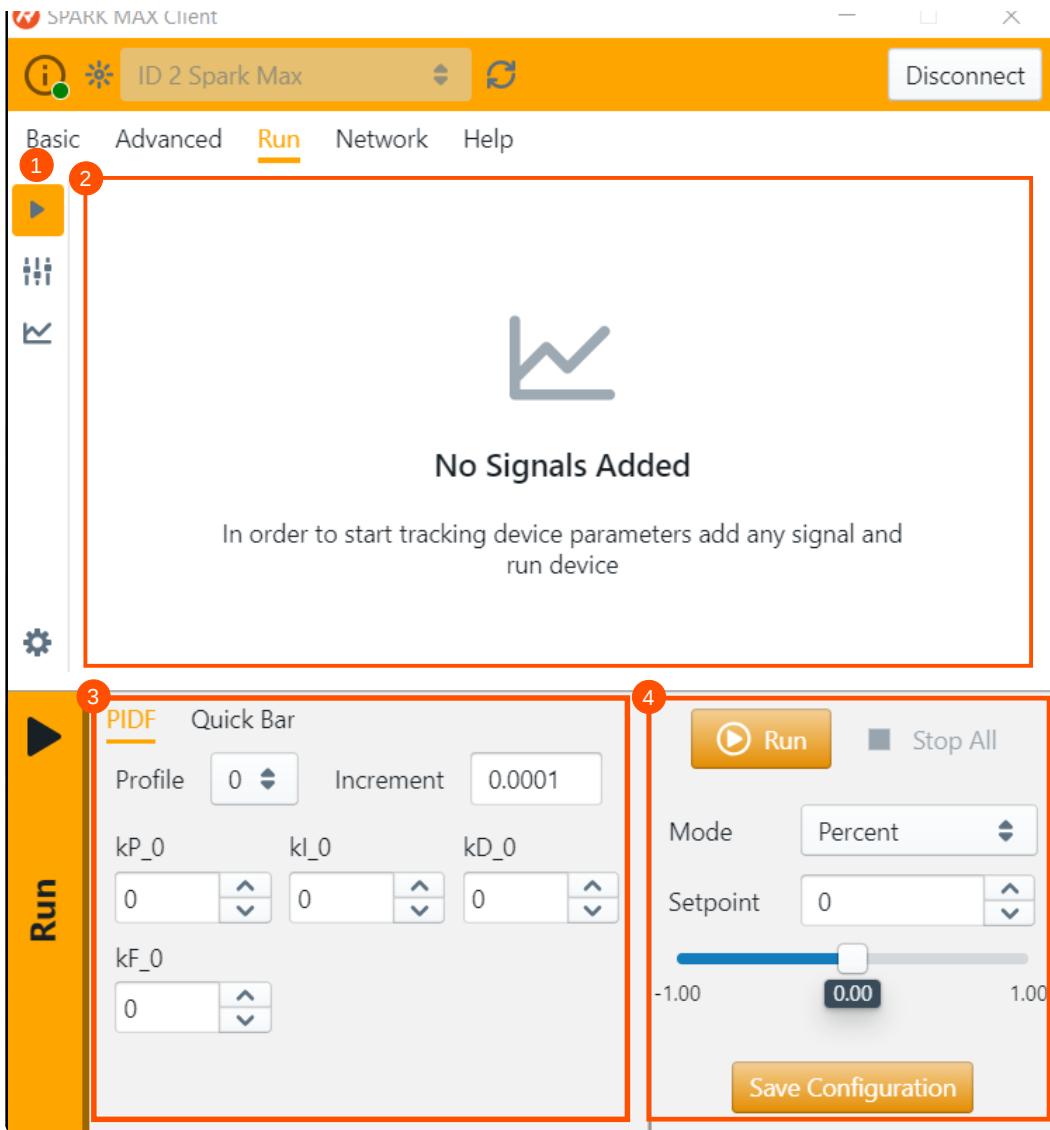
The Advanced Tab allows for changing all configurable parameters of the SPARK MAX without needing to set them in code.



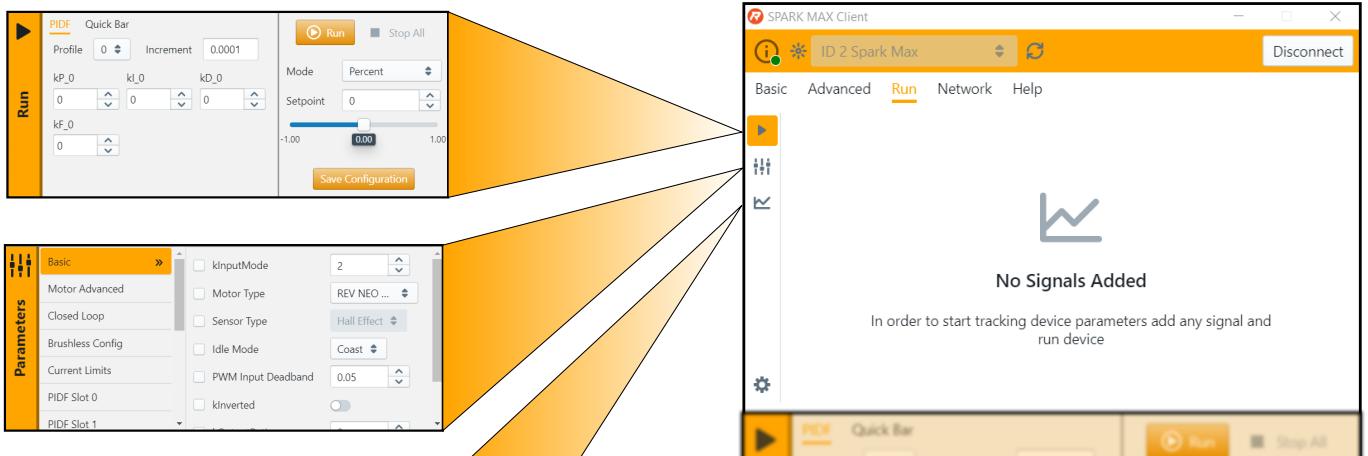
- Search Parameters:** Allows for easy look up of a specific parameter for editing.
- Parameter Table:** Select the arrow to show all configurable parameters within a specific group. For more information on each parameter type see [Configuration Parameters](#).

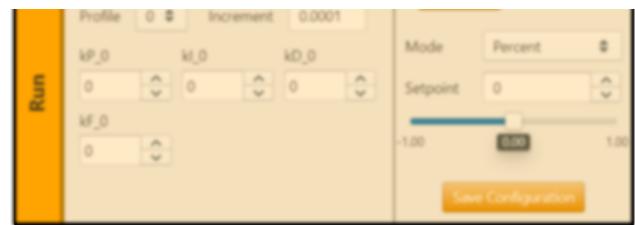
Run Tab

The Run Tab allows for the SPARK MAX to operate over USB or a USB to CAN Bridge without the need for a full control system. This is helpful for testing mechanisms and tuning their control loops.



- 1. Bar Select:** Select from either run, parameters, or signals to provide information and feedback when operating SPARK MAX.
- 2. Signal Chart:** Shows any added signals in graph form when running a SPARK MAX. This is helpful when tuning control loops.
- 3. PIDF:** Update PIDF parameters on the fly to tune control loops on the SPARK MAX.
- 4. Run:** Choose setpoints to run a motor connected to a SPARK MAX using various modes, including position, velocity, and duty cycle.





- i** The three icons for bar select change the bottom third of the Run Tab for configuration. Once signals and other parameters are configured selecting the run bar icon will allow for running of a motor with the SPARK MAX Client.

Network Tab

The Network Tab shows all connected devices via USB and the USB to CAN interface. From the Network Tab each device can be identified and firmware updated.

	Interface	Device	CAN ID		Firmware
1	USB to CAN	Spark Max	1		1.5.2
2	USB to CAN	Spark Max	2		1.5.2

Load Firmware

Latest Firmware: 1.5.2

Console

```
[INFO] Check the latest firmware version
[INFO] The latest firmware version is 1.5.2
[INFO] Firmware already exists. Not downloading.
```

1. **Device Select:** Select a device to update firmware.
2. **Load Firmware:** Select what firmware to update onto selected devices.

i For more information on the firmware updating process see [Updating Device Firmware](#) for both [single device](#) and [multiple device](#) updates.

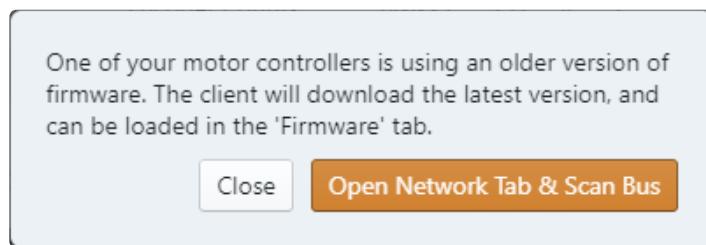
Updating Device Firmware

i This is **legacy documentation** for our discontinued SPARK MAX Client Software. If you are interested in running a SPARK MAX via a computer, please see our newer documentation: [Getting Started with the REV Hardware Client](#).

Updating a Single Device

Follow the steps below to update the firmware on your SPARK MAX:

- Connect your SPARK MAX Motor Controller to your computer with a USB-C cable.
- Open the REV SPARK MAX Client application.
- The Client should automatically scan and connect to your SPARK MAX. If your SPARK MAX is running outdated firmware, you will be notified with a pop-up window like the one pictured below:



i If your SPARK MAX is running firmware older than 1.4.0, you may not see a pop-up and will need to proceed directly to the **Network** tab and click **Scan Bus** manually.

- Click **Open Network Tab & Scan Bus** and proceed to the next step.
- Your SPARK MAX should now be listed in the device list. Click the checkbox next to the SPARK MAX you wish to update, and click **Load Firmware**.



	Interface	Device	CAN ID	Firmware	<input type="checkbox"/>
1	Serial	Spark Max	11	1.4.0	<input type="checkbox"/>
2					<input type="checkbox"/>
3					<input type="checkbox"/>
4					<input type="checkbox"/>
5					<input type="checkbox"/>
6					<input type="checkbox"/>
7					<input type="checkbox"/>
8					<input type="checkbox"/>
9					<input type="checkbox"/>
10					<input type="checkbox"/>

Scan Bus
Load Firmware

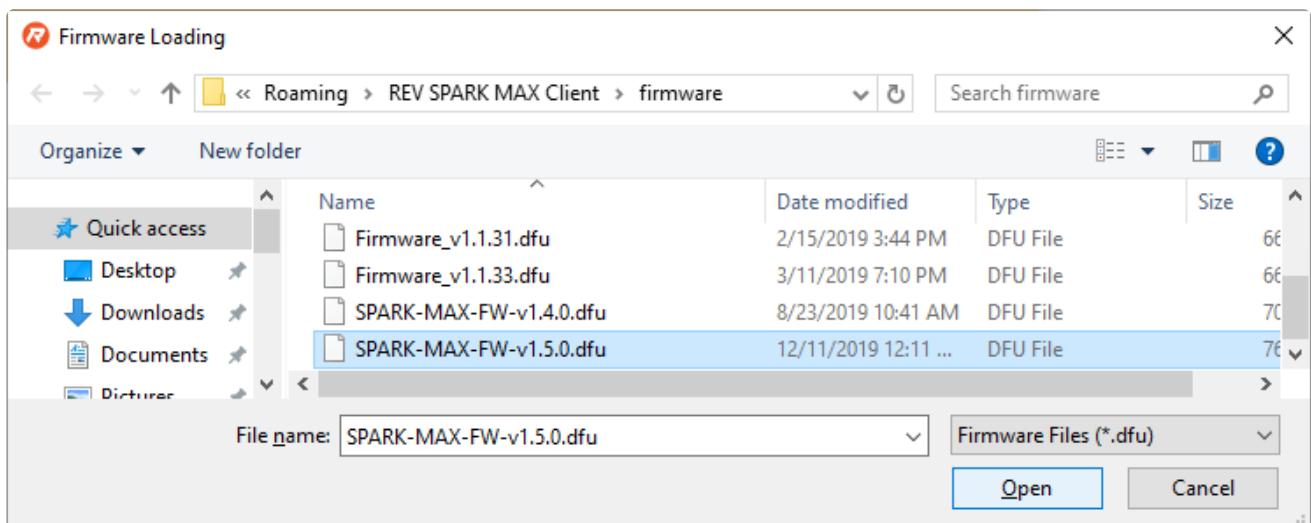
Latest Firmware: 1.5.0

Console
Show More

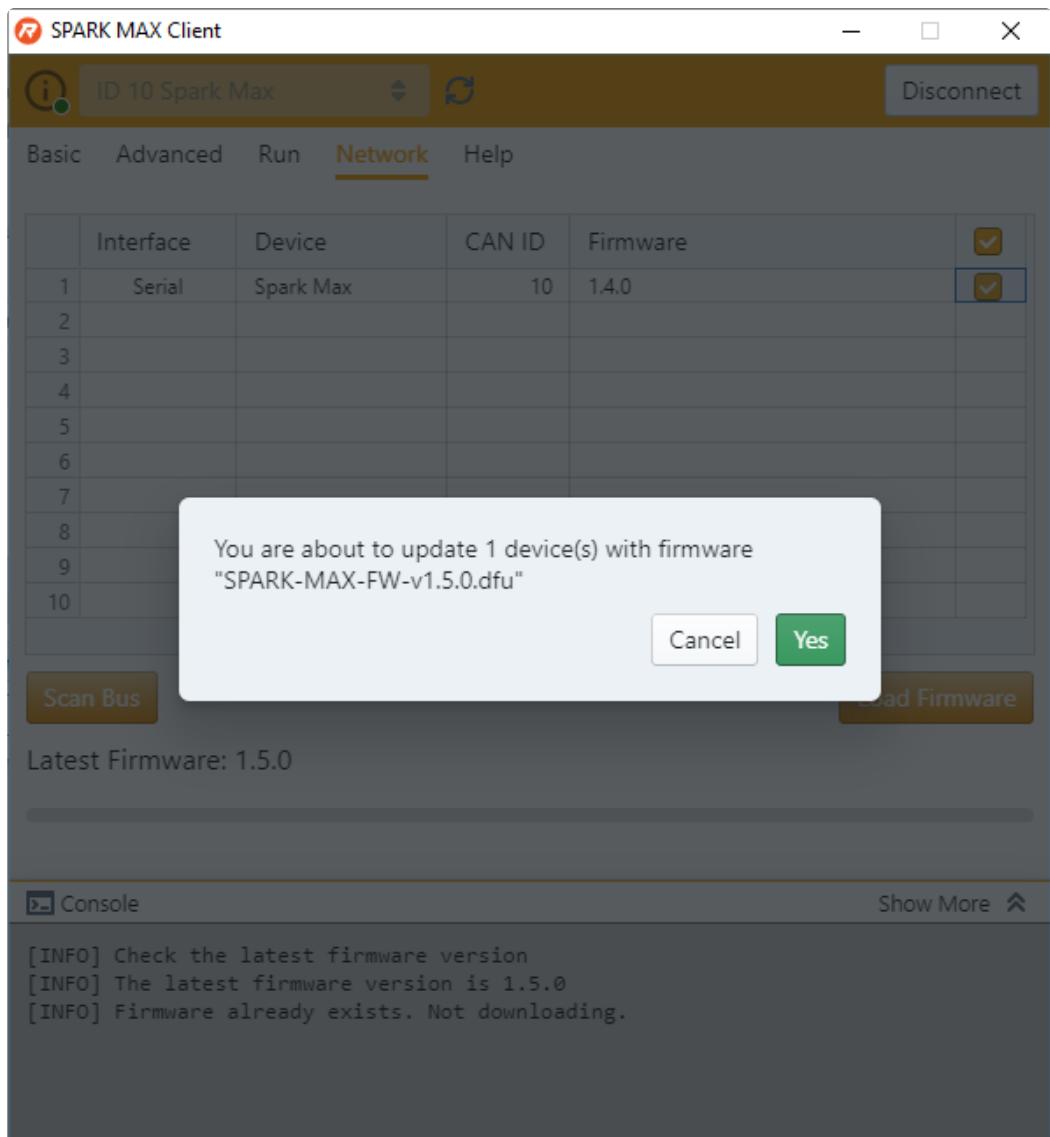
```
[INFO] Check the latest firmware version
[INFO] The latest firmware version is 1.5.0
[INFO] Firmware already exists. Not downloading.
```

- If your SPARK MAX is listed and you are unable to click the checkbox next to it, you must put your SPARK MAX into [Recovery Mode](#).

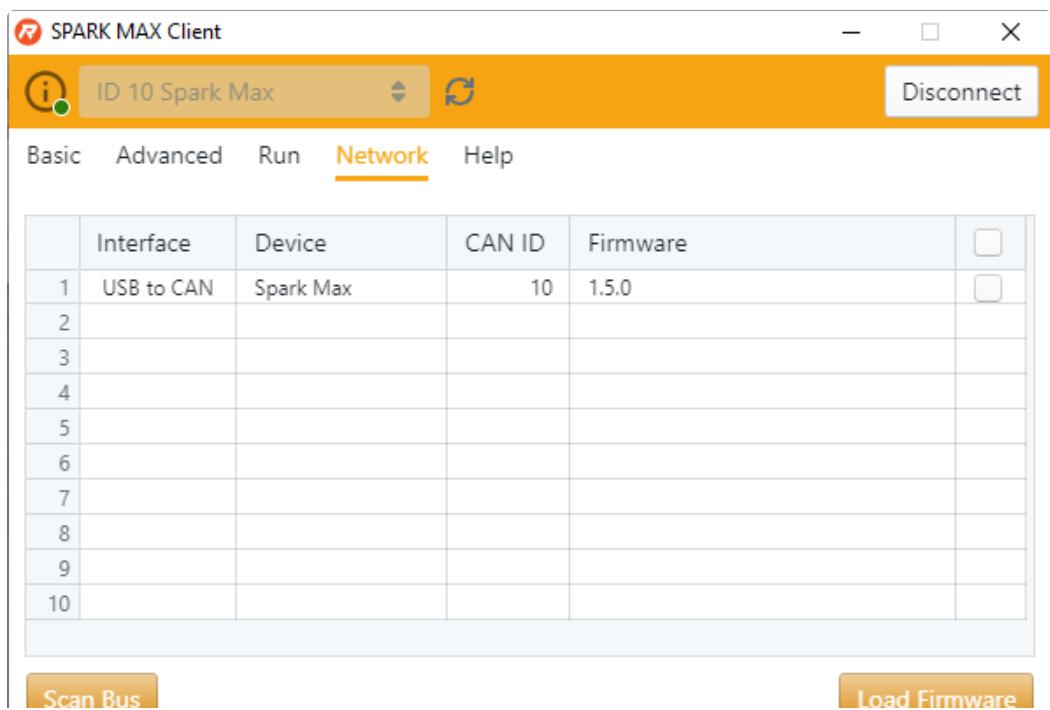
- Select the latest firmware file in the firmware directory that the client created on startup. If there isn't a firmware directory, you can also navigate to a file that was downloaded manually. Click **Open** once the appropriate firmware file is selected:



- Click **Yes** to confirm the update.



- Once complete, the Client will rescan the bus and display the updated controllers.



Latest Firmware: 1.5.0

Console Show More ↗

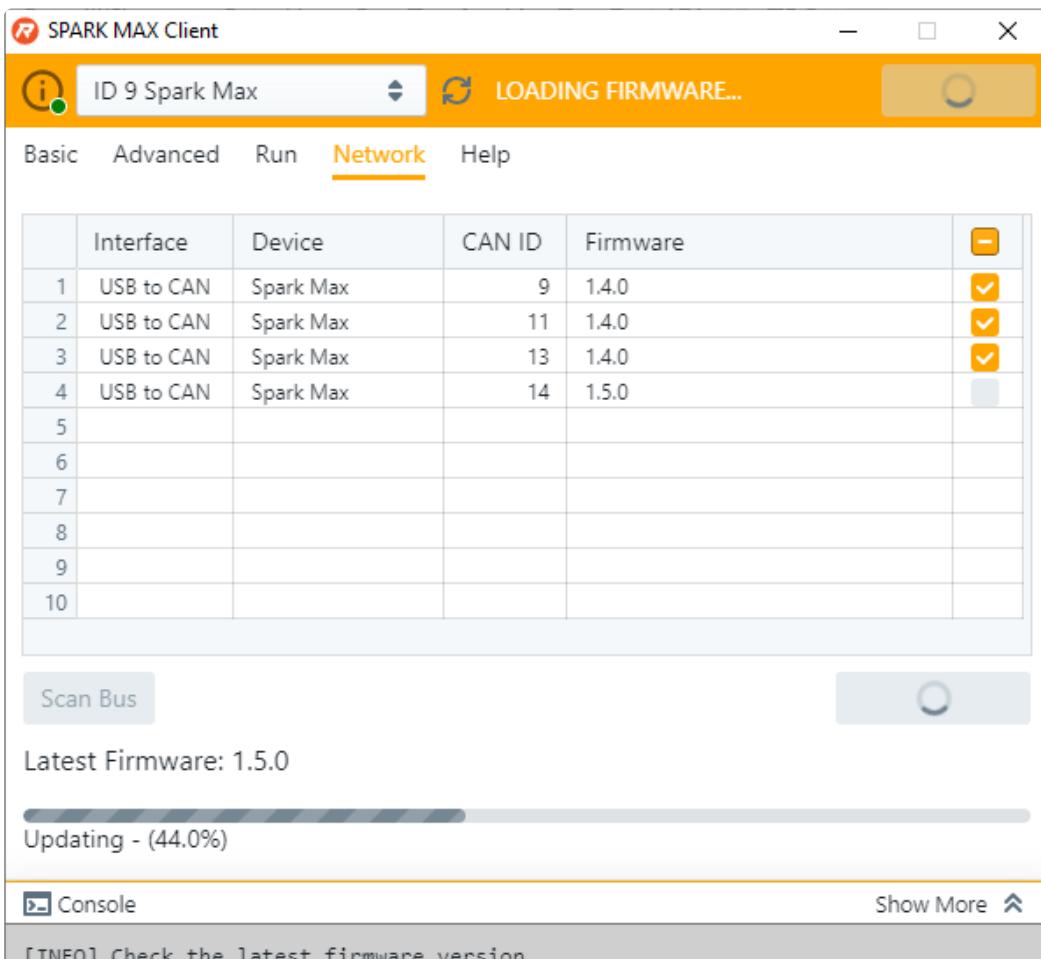
```
[INFO] Check the latest firmware version
[INFO] The latest firmware version is 1.5.0
[INFO] Firmware already exists. Not downloading.
[INFO] (100.0%) Rebooting Device
[INFO] Successfully updated firmware.
[INFO] Connecting back to controller...
[INFO] Rescan list of devices
```

Updating Multiple Devices with the USB-to-CAN Bridge

SPARK MAX Firmware Version 1.5.0 includes a USB-to-CAN Bridge feature that allows a single USB-connected SPARK MAX to act as a bridge to the entire CAN bus it is connected to. This allows for configuration and simultaneous updating of multiple SPARK MAX controllers without having to connect to each one individually. Using this feature requires the following:

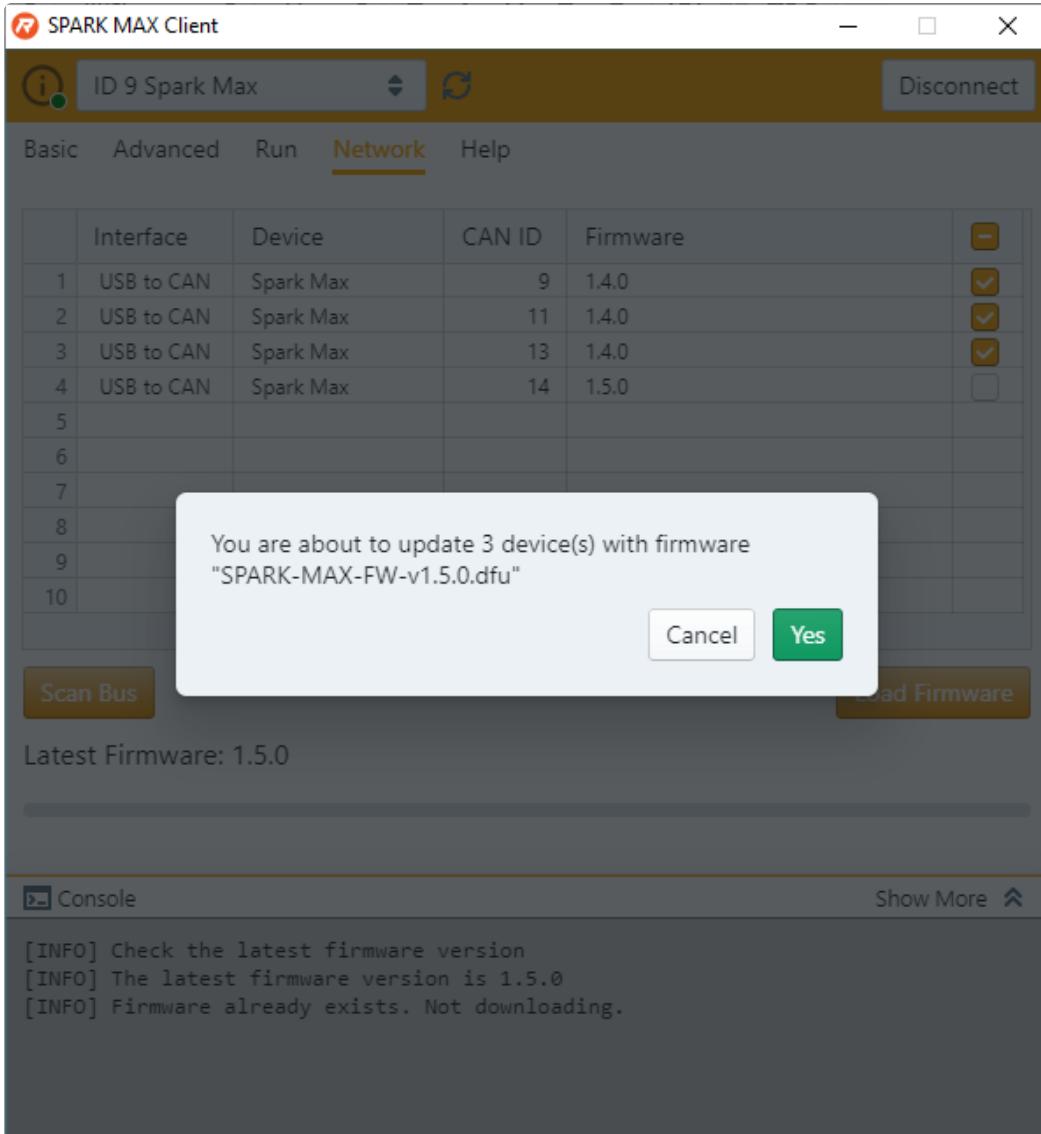
- A USB-connected SPARK MAX that is updated to firmware version 1.5.0 or newer to act as the Bridge.
- Other SPARK MAXs connected on the CAN bus must be individually updated to firmware version 1.4.0 before they are able to receive mass-updates from the Bridging SPARK MAX.

Once these requirements are satisfied, navigate to the **Network** tab, select the controllers you wish to update, and follow the same firmware update procedure described above starting at Step 4.



```
[INFO] The latest firmware version is 1.5.0
[INFO] Firmware already exists. Not downloading.
[INFO] (44.0%) Updating
```

When complete, the Client will display the number of successfully updated controllers.



If a controller fails to update it is usually due to the process being interrupted by a bad power or CAN connection. Severe interruptions can cause the firmware update to be corrupted. A corrupted controller can no longer be updated over the USB-to-CAN Bridge, however, it can be recovered by connecting to the controller directly over USB and putting it in [Recovery Mode](#).

Recovery Mode with the SPARK MAX Client

- (i) This is **legacy documentation** for our discontinued SPARK MAX Client Software. If you are interested in running a SPARK MAX via a computer, please see our newer documentation: [Getting Started with the REV Hardware Client](#).

When updating the firmware on the SPARK MAX, it is possible for the process to be interrupted or for the firmware to be corrupted by a bad download. In this state, the Status LED will be dark and the SPARK MAX will fail to operate. SPARK MAX has a built-in recovery mode that can force it to accept new firmware even if the controller seems to be bricked. The following procedure requires a small tool, like a straightened paper clip, to press the Mode Button, a USB C cable, and a computer with the [SPARK MAX Client Application](#) installed:

1. With the SPARK MAX powered off completely, press and hold the Mode Button.
2. While still holding the Mode Button, connect the SPARK MAX to the computer using the USB cable. The Status LED **will not** illuminate, this is expected.
3. Wait a few seconds for the computer to recognize the connected device, then release the Mode Button.
4. Open the SPARK MAX Client Application. The SPARK MAX will remain dark and it **will not** connect to the Client, this is expected.
5. Navigate to the **Network** tab and click the **Rescan** arrows at the top of the window.
6. The SPARK MAX will be listed under *Devices in Recovery Mode*. Click the checkbox next to the device.
7. Click the **Load Firmware** button.
8. Select the latest firmware file and click **Open**.
9. The firmware should load successfully and the SPARK MAX will now connect to the Client.

SPARK MAX Client Troubleshooting

 This is **legacy documentation** for our discontinued SPARK MAX Client Software. If you are interested in running a SPARK MAX via a computer, please see our newer documentation: [Getting Started with the REV Hardware Client](#).

Error During First-time Firmware Update

If this is the first time installing the SPARK MAX Client or connecting a SPARK MAX in Recovery Mode, you may see an error the first time you try to update firmware on your computer. The DFU driver is one of two drivers installed by the Client and is used for updating firmware. It may not install completely until a SPARK MAX in DFU Mode (Recovery Mode) is plugged in to the computer.

If you see an error during your first firmware update, please do the following:

1. Close the Client application.
2. Unplug the SPARK MAX from the computer.
3. Plug the SPARK MAX back into the computer.
4. Open the Client application.

Alternatively, you can preemptively finalize the DFU driver installation by following the [Recovery Mode](#) steps before using the Client for the first time.

We are aware of this issue and will be releasing a fix in a future update of the SPARK MAX Client.

Troubleshooting

As we get feedback from users and identify exact causes for issues, please look back here for troubleshooting help. If you are running into issues running the SPARK MAX Client try the following **BEFORE** contacting support@revrobotics.com:

- Try running the SPARK MAX Client as an Administrator
- Make sure that Windows is fully up-to-date. Some computers have Windows Update disabled and need to be updated manually.
- Check the Device Manager and verify that the SPARK MAX shows up as one of the following two devices with no caution symbols:
 - Normal operating mode: Device Manager -> Ports (COM & LPT) -> USB Serial Device (COMx)
 - Recovery mode: Device Manager -> Universal Serial Bus Controllers -> STM Device in DFU Mode
 - If the device shows up with errors or as STM32 BOOTLOADER, try installing the [DFU drivers](#) separately.