

QFlash User Guide

Version: 3.6

Date: 2021-01-28

Status: Released



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About the Document

Revision History

Version	Date	Author	Description
1.0	2012-10-30	Yolanda YAO	Initial
1.1	2012-12-02	Yolanda YAO	Updated QFlash version to 1.1
1.2	2013-02-25	Karen REN	Updated QFlash version to 1.4
1.3	2013-05-20	Apple SONG/ Karen REN	Added USB port to upgrade firmware for U10 and UC20 module
1.4	2013-10-10	James CAI	1. Added the way to upgrade GCxx module 2. Updated QFlash version to 2.1
1.5	2013-11-05	Lucky DOU	Updated QFlash version to 2.2
1.6	2013-12-07	James CAI	Updated QFlash version to 2.3
1.7	2013-12-12	Lucky DOU	Updated QFlash version for UC15
1.8	2014-02-11	James CAI	Updated QFlash version to 2.4
1.9	2014-02-26	Steed NING	Updated QFlash version to 2.5
1.10	2014-03-18	James CAI	Updated QFlash version to 2.6
1.11	2014-04-24	Anny ZHANG	Updated QFlash version to 2.7
1.12	2014-06-25	James CAI	Updated QFlash version to 2.8
1.13	2014-08-13	Martin LI/ Roddick SUN	Updated QFlash version to 2.9
1.14	2014-10-08	Martin LI	Updated QFlash version to 3.0
1.15	2014-11-11	Mario XU	Updated QFlash version to 3.1
1.16	2015-03-05	Jesse ZHANG	Updated QFlash version to 3.3

1.17	2015-06-03	James CAI	Updated QFlash version to 3.4
1.18	2016-03-24	James CAI	Updated QFlash version to 3.5
1.19	2016-06-16	Sophie ZHU	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Added the way to upgrade Ecxx module 2. Updated QFlash version to 3.6
1.20	2016-09-26	Dylan LIU	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Added the way to load APP firmware 2. Updated QFlash version to 3.7
1.21	2017-07-24	Abby WU/ Upton XU	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Added the way to upgrade SCxx and AG35 modules 2. Updated QFlash version to 4.3
2.0	2017-09-28	Joy WANG	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Updated QFlash version to 4.4 2. Added information about applicable modules
2.1	2017-11-29	Joy WANG	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Updated QFlash version to 4.5 2. Added the way to upgrade BC95 module
2.2	2018-01-03	Joy WANG	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Updated QFlash version to 4.6 2. Added a note about firmware downloading in Firehose mode for Ecxx modules
2.3	2018-04-25	Kitty WANG	Updated QFlash version to 4.7
2.4	2018-05-21	Kitty WANG	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Updated QFlash version to 4.8 2. Added notes about tool and firmware paths
2.5	2018-09-14	Kitty WANG	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Updated QFlash version to 4.9 2. Added the way to upgrade EM12, BC95-G, BC68 and BC66 modules
2.6	2018-12-25	Kitty WANG	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Updated QFlash version to 4.10 2. Added applicable module MC25, M25 and M26 3. For M26 and MC60 modules (MTK platform), added command line download method to upgrade firmware, in addition to the standard method. (Chapter 2.3.2)
2.7	2019-04-08	Anne QIU	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Updated QFlash version to 4.11 2. Updated the list of applicable modules (Chapter 1.2) 3. Added the log printing description of BC95-G (Chapter 2.3.1)
2.8	2019-07-03	Kawhi HE	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Updated QFlash version to 4.12 2. Added the way to upgrade EC200T module
2.9	2019-09-17	Anne QIU	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Updated QFlash version to 4.13 2. Added the applicable module AG15 3. Added the method of loading firmware file for OpenCPU modules (Chapter 2.2.1.2) 4. Added applicable module M66-OpenCPU of loading APP firmware (Chapter 2.2.2.1) 5. Added the method of loading APP firmware for M65-OpenCPU module (Chapter 2.2.2.2)

			6. Added abnormalities of M65 (Figure 23, 31, 38 and 45)
2.10	2019-11-12	Anne QIU	1. Updated QFlash version to 4.14 2. Added the method of upgrading BG95/BG77 module 3. Updated OpenCPU to QuecOpen
2.11	2019-12-19	Kawhi HE	1. Updated QFlash version to 4.15 2. Added the method of upgrading RG500Q module
3.0	2020-02-02	Kitty WANG	Updated QFlash version to 4.16
3.1	2020-06-01	Kidd CHEN	1. Updated QFlash version to 4.18 2. Added the method of upgrading RM500Q-GL and RG800H module
3.2	2020-07-30	Kidd CHEN	1. Updated QFlash version to 4.19 2. Added the method of upgrading RG801H module 3. Added the upgrading method for MBN function
3.3	2020-09-11	Anne QIU	1. Updated QFlash version to 4.20 2. Updated the note in Chapter 2.1.1.5
3.4	2020-11-26	Kawhi HE	1. Updated QFlash version to 5.0 2. Removed EC20 R2.0, RG800H and RG801H modules
3.5	2020-12-30	Kitty WANG/ Kawhi HE	1. Updated QFlash version to 5.1 2. Added the method of upgrading BC660K-GL module
3.6	2021-01-28	Kawhi HE	Updated QFlash version to 5.2

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1 Introduction

1.1. OS and Version

This document mainly introduces methods of upgrading the firmware with “QFlash” upgrade tool provided by Quectel. The tool can run on a PC without installation if the OS is among the ones listed below:

- Windows 7
- Windows 8
- Windows 10

Any newer version of the tool and notification thereof will be provided in advance.

NOTES

1. In Windows 10, please start *QFlash.exe* by right-clicking the icon and select “**Run as administrator**”.
2. The storage path of the tool and the firmware should NOT contain any space, and English characters are preferred.

1.2. Applicable Modules

QFlash is applicable to the following Quectel modules.

Table 1: Applicable Modules

LPWA Module Series	BCxx: BC95-G/ BC68/ BC66/ BC660K-GL
	BGxx: BG96/ BG95/ BG77
LTE Standard Module Series	ECxx: EC20 R2.1/ EC25/ EC21
	EG9x: EG91/ EG95
	EG2x: EG21-G/ EG25-G

	EM05
LTE-A Module Series	Ex06: EP06/ EG06/ EM06
	Ex12: EG12/ EM12-G
	EG18
Automotive Module Series	AGxx: AG35/ AG15/ AG520R/ AG550Q
Smart Module Series	SCxx: SC20/ SC66
WCDMA Module Series	UCxx: UC15/ UC20/ UC200T
	UGxx: UG95/ UG96
GSM/GPRS/GNSS Module Series	Mxx: M10/ M66/ M72/ M80/ M85/ M95/ M65/ MC60
	GCxx: GC10
5G Module Series	RG500Q/ RM500Q

NOTE

Quectel modules listed above may include multiple models. See the corresponding module specifications for more specific information.

1.3. About QFlash Tool

The QFlash tool developed by Quectel is shown as below.



Figure 1: About the Tool

2 Firmware Upgrade Procedures

The firmware is upgraded through the following three steps with QFlash.

Step 1: Set serial port and baud rate.

Step 2: Load firmware files.

Step 3: Upgrade the firmware.

The following chapters describe the details about how to use the tool to upgrade firmware.

2.1. Configure Serial Port and Baud Rate

After the QFlash tool is started, the main interface is shown as below.

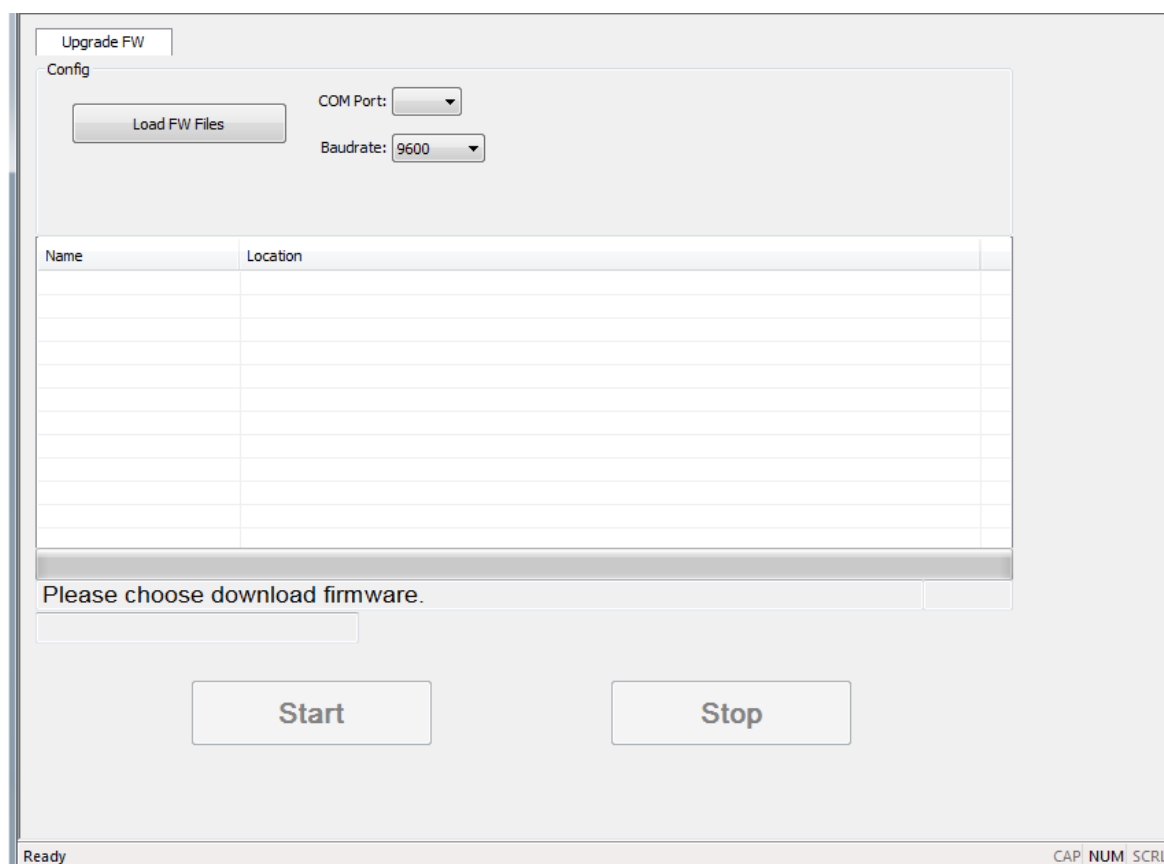


Figure 2: Main Interface of QFlash

2.1.1. Set COM Port

2.1.1.1. COM Port Selection for Mxx/GCxx/BCxx Modules

Click “**COM Port**” drop-down list to select the COM port through which the firmware will be upgraded, as shown in the following figure.

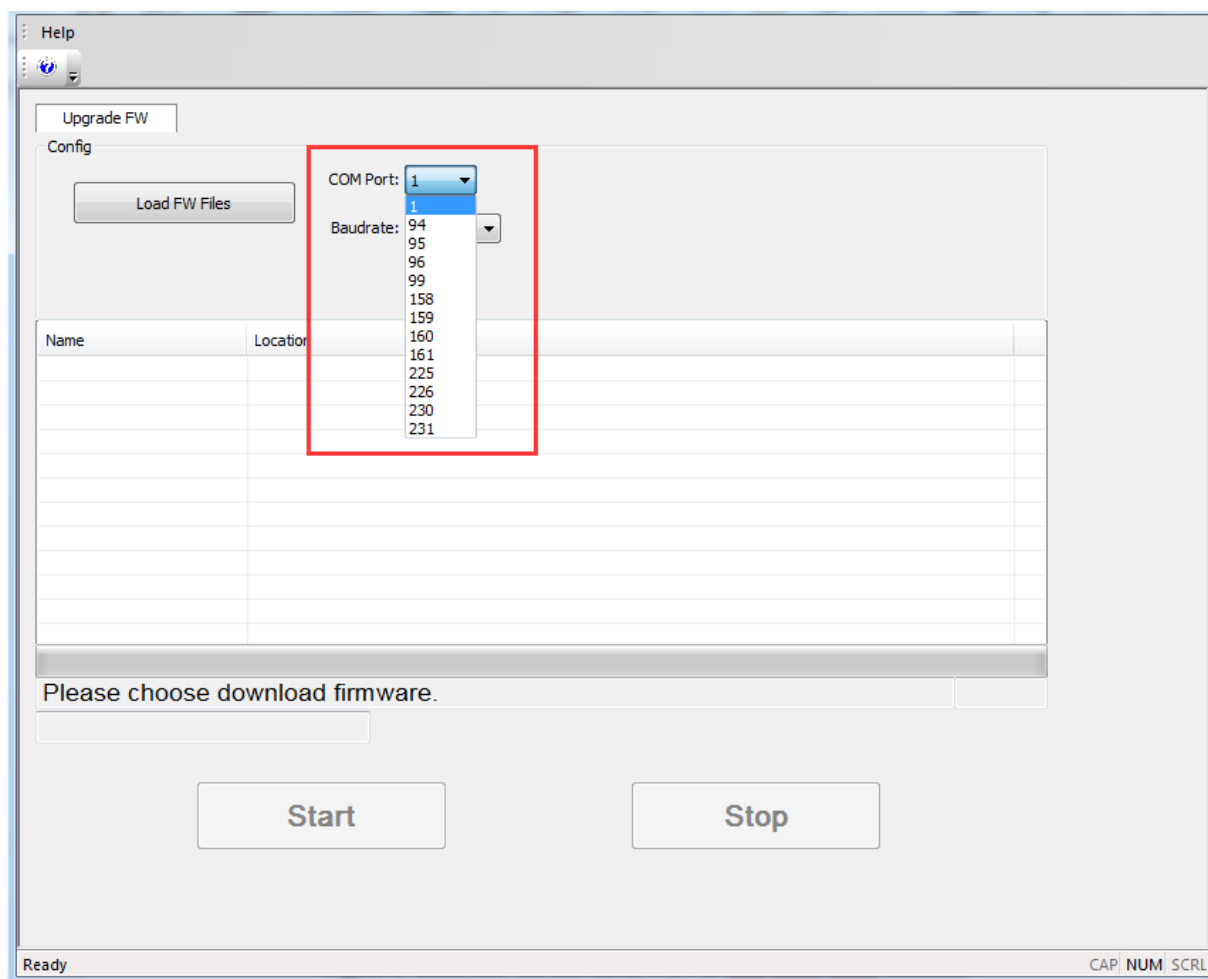


Figure 3: Select the Correct Serial Port for Mxx/GCxx/BCxx Modules

NOTES

1. For M10, M66, M72, M80, M85, M95 or MC60, the main UART is used to upgrade firmware. After the port is selected, please manually restart the module.
2. For M65 and GCxx modules, the USB port is used to upgrade firmware, and the module will be automatically restarted after “**Start**” button is clicked.
3. For BC66 module, the USB UART Ch A is used to upgrade firmware. After the port is selected, please click the “**Start**” button and wait for the prompt “[INFO]Start connect with target,Please reset

DUT...”, and then manually restart the module.

4. For BC95-G and BC68 modules, the USB UART Ch A is used to upgrade firmware. After the port is selected, please click the **“Start”** button and wait for the prompt **“Reset”**, and then manually restart the module.
5. For BC660K-GL module, the first USB Serial Port is used to upgrade firmware. After the port is selected, please click the **“Start”** button and wait for the prompt **“Reset**”, and then manually restart the module.

2.1.1.2. COM Port Selection for UGxx

For UGxx, the USB port is used to upgrade firmware, and it can be selected automatically. When firmware files are uploaded, “USB” will be displayed in gray in **“COM Port”** drop-down list. The module needs to be turned off before **“Start”** is clicked. After clicking **“Start”**, please turn on the module within 10 seconds. The interface is shown in the following figure.

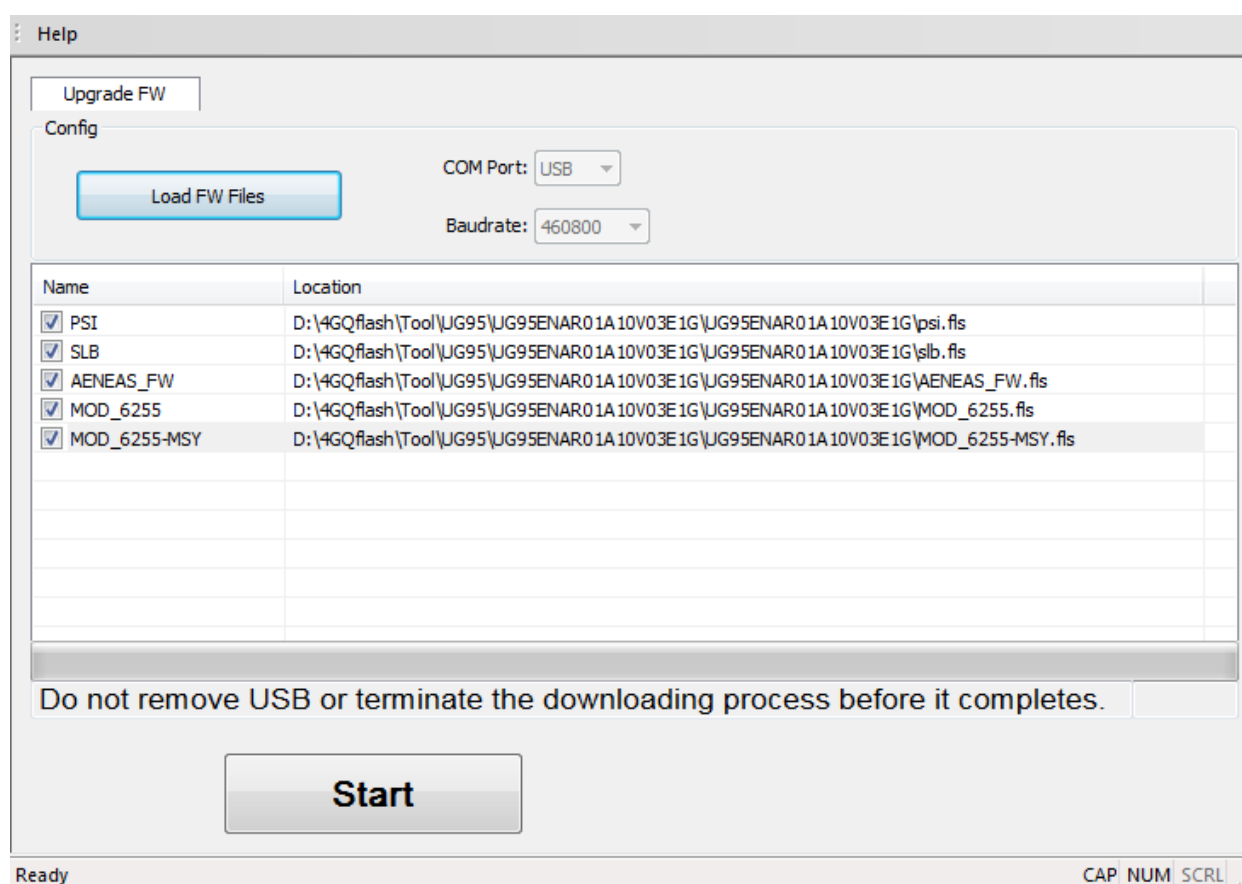


Figure 4: USB Port Selected Automatically for UGxx

2.1.1.3. COM Port Selection for UCxx/ECxx/EG9x/EG2x/Ex06/EM05/AGxx/BGxx/Ex12/EG18/

RG500Q/ RM500Q

For UCxx, ECxx, EG9x, EG2x, Ex06, EM05, AGxx, BGxx, Ex12, EG18, RG500Q or RM500Q, the USB DM port can be used for firmware upgrade. Click “**COM Port**” drop-down list and select the USB DM port for upgrade, as shown in the following figure.

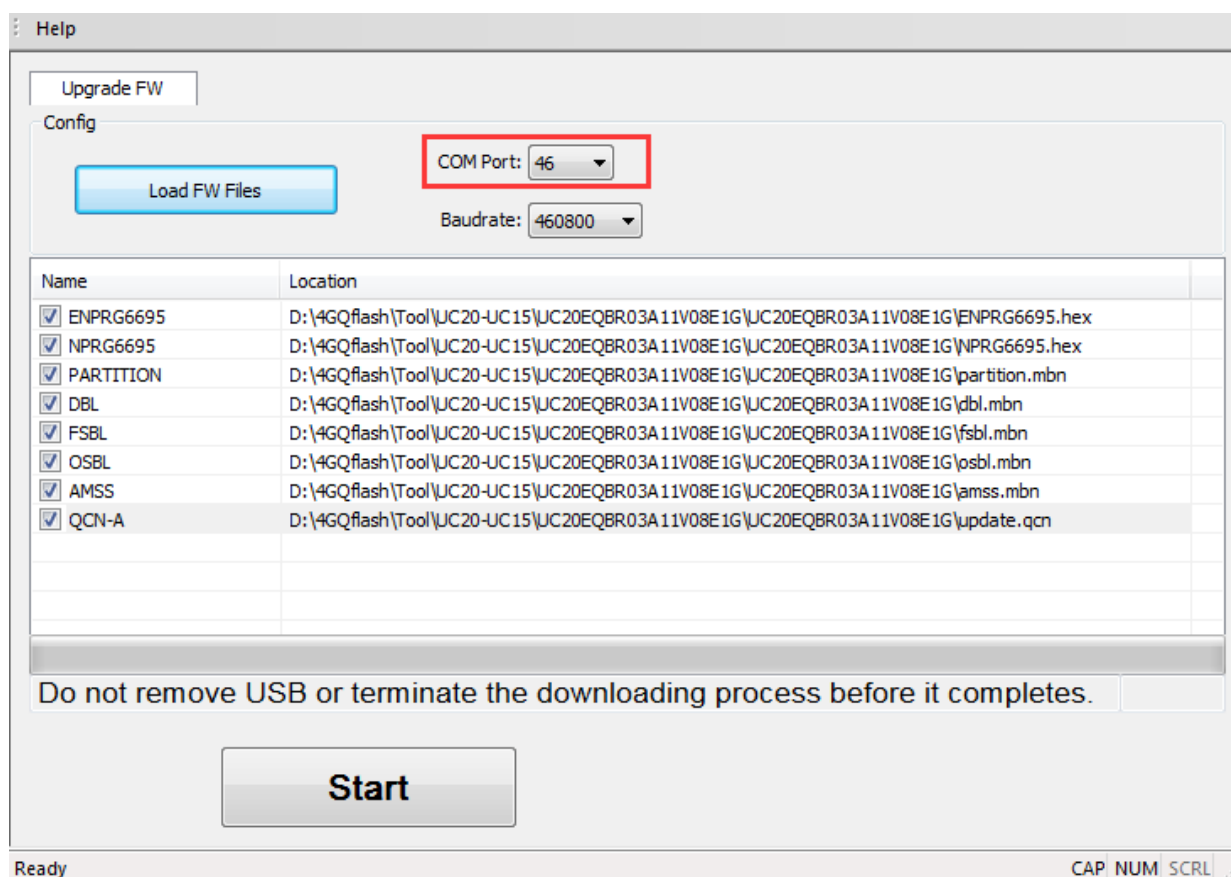


Figure 5: Select the USB DM Port for UCxx/ECxx/EG9x/EG2x/Ex06/EM05/AGxx/BGxx/Ex12/EG18/RG500Q/RM500Q

2.1.1.4. COM Port Selection for SCxx

For SCxx, the HS-USB Diagnostics 9091 port can be used for firmware upgrade. Click “**COM Port**” drop-down list and select the HS-USB Diagnostics 9091 port for upgrade, as shown in the following figure.

The screenshot shows the 'Upgrade FW' window in QFlash. The 'Config' section contains a 'Load FW Files' button, a 'COM Port' dropdown menu (highlighted with a red box and set to '7'), and a 'Baudrate' dropdown menu (set to '460800'). Below this is a table listing files to be loaded:

Name	Location
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> File_Path	E:\MSM8909\SC20\SC20CEPCR01A01V01H8G_SX_factory\SC20CEPCR01A01V01H8G_SX_factory
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> prog_emmc_firehose_...	E:\MSM8909\SC20\SC20CEPCR01A01V01H8G_SX_factory\SC20CEPCR01A01V01H8G_SX_factory\prog_em...
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> rawprogram_unsparse...	E:\MSM8909\SC20\SC20CEPCR01A01V01H8G_SX_factory\SC20CEPCR01A01V01H8G_SX_factory\rawprog...
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> patch0.xml	E:\MSM8909\SC20\SC20CEPCR01A01V01H8G_SX_factory\SC20CEPCR01A01V01H8G_SX_factory\patch0.xml
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fs_image.tar.gz.mbn.img	E:\MSM8909\SC20\SC20CEPCR01A01V01H8G_SX_factory\SC20CEPCR01A01V01H8G_SX_factory\fs_image...
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> zero.bin	E:\MSM8909\SC20\SC20CEPCR01A01V01H8G_SX_factory\SC20CEPCR01A01V01H8G_SX_factory\zero.bin

Below the table is a warning message: 'Do not remove USB or terminate the downloading process before it completes.' and a large 'Start' button. The status bar at the bottom shows 'Ready' and 'CAP NUM SCRL'.

Figure 6: Select the HS-USB Diagnostics 9091 Port for SCxx

2.1.2. Set Baud Rate

Click the “**Baudrate**” drop-down list and select an appropriate baud rate, as shown in the following figure.

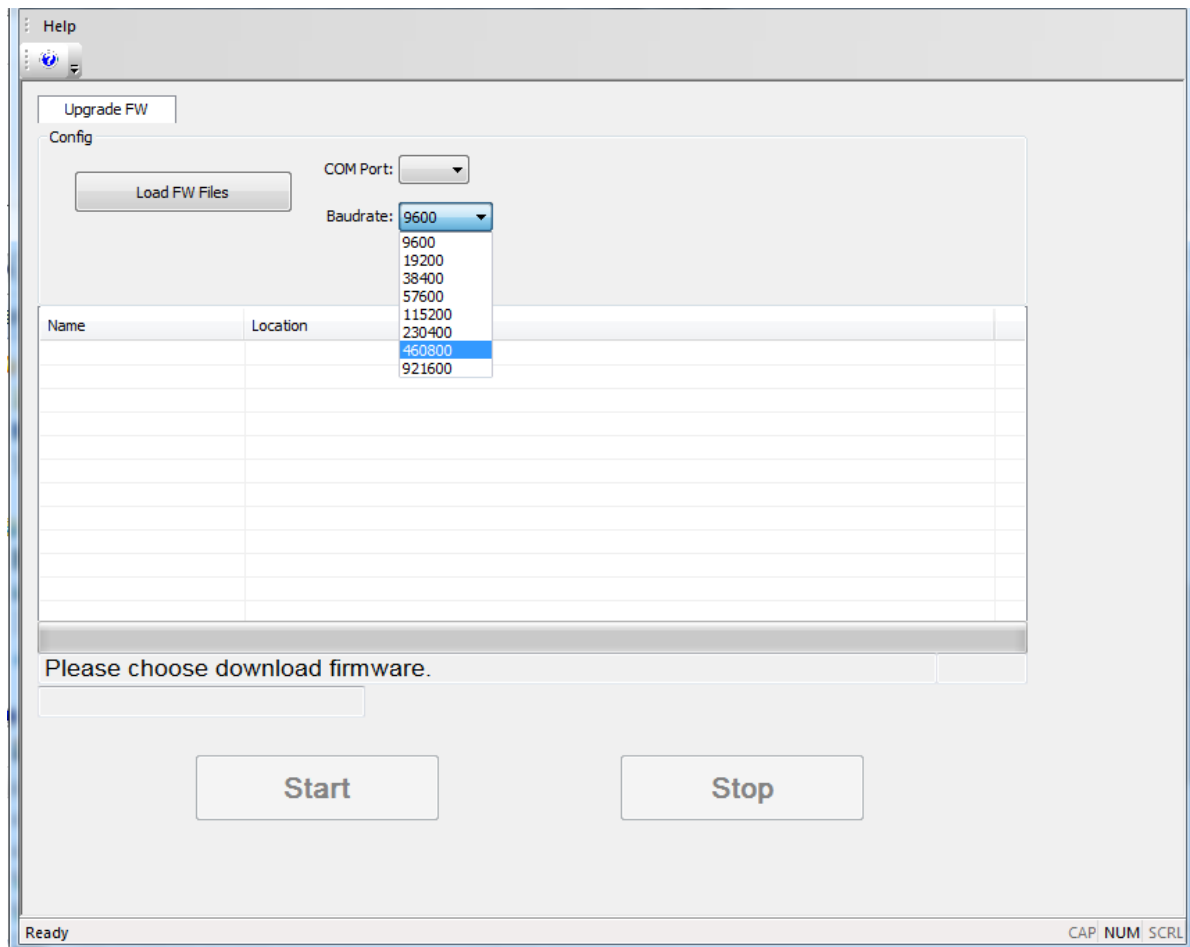


Figure 7: Select the Baud Rate

NOTES

1. There are different baud rate values to be selected and the hardware environment determines whether a specified baud rate can be supported. If the baud rate is not supported, an error message will be returned.
2. Please set baud rate to 921600 when upgrading firmware for GCxx, M65 or BC660K-GL modules, 9600 for other BCxx modules, and 460800 for other Quectel modules. Other baud rates may lead to an upgrading failure.
3. Baud rate setting is unnecessary for virtual USB ports.

2.2. Load Firmware Files and APP Firmware

2.2.1. Load Firmware Files

The steps in this chapter are performed to load firmware files for standard and QuecOpen modules.

NOTE

The storage path of the firmware files should NOT contain any spaces, and English characters are preferred.

Step 1: Click the button “Load FW Files”.

Step 2: Select the Bootloader_xxx.bin, .txt, .cfg, .mbn, .lod, .fls, .fwpkg, .zip or .bat file which needs to be downloaded to the module.

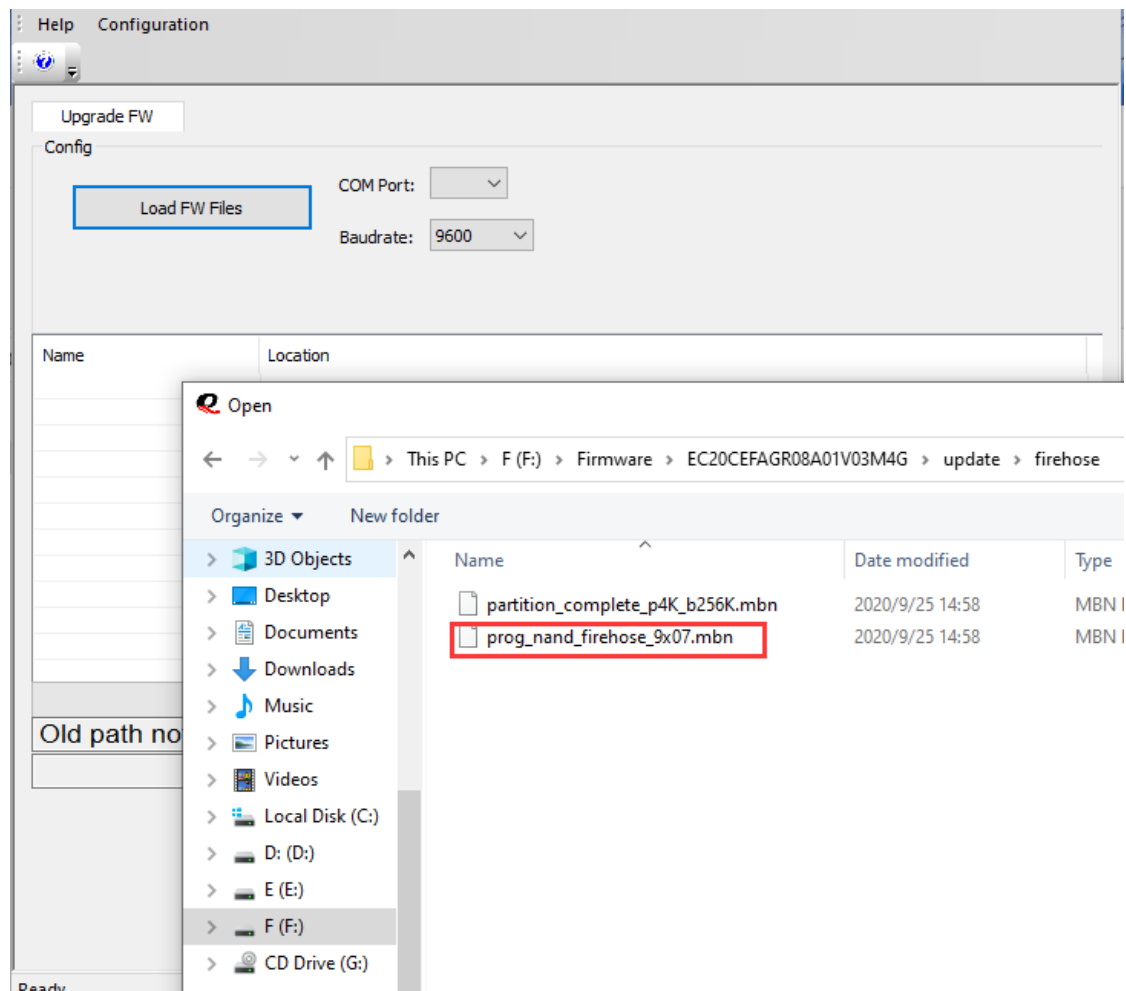


Figure 8: Select the File to Be Downloaded (Standard or QuecOpen Modules)

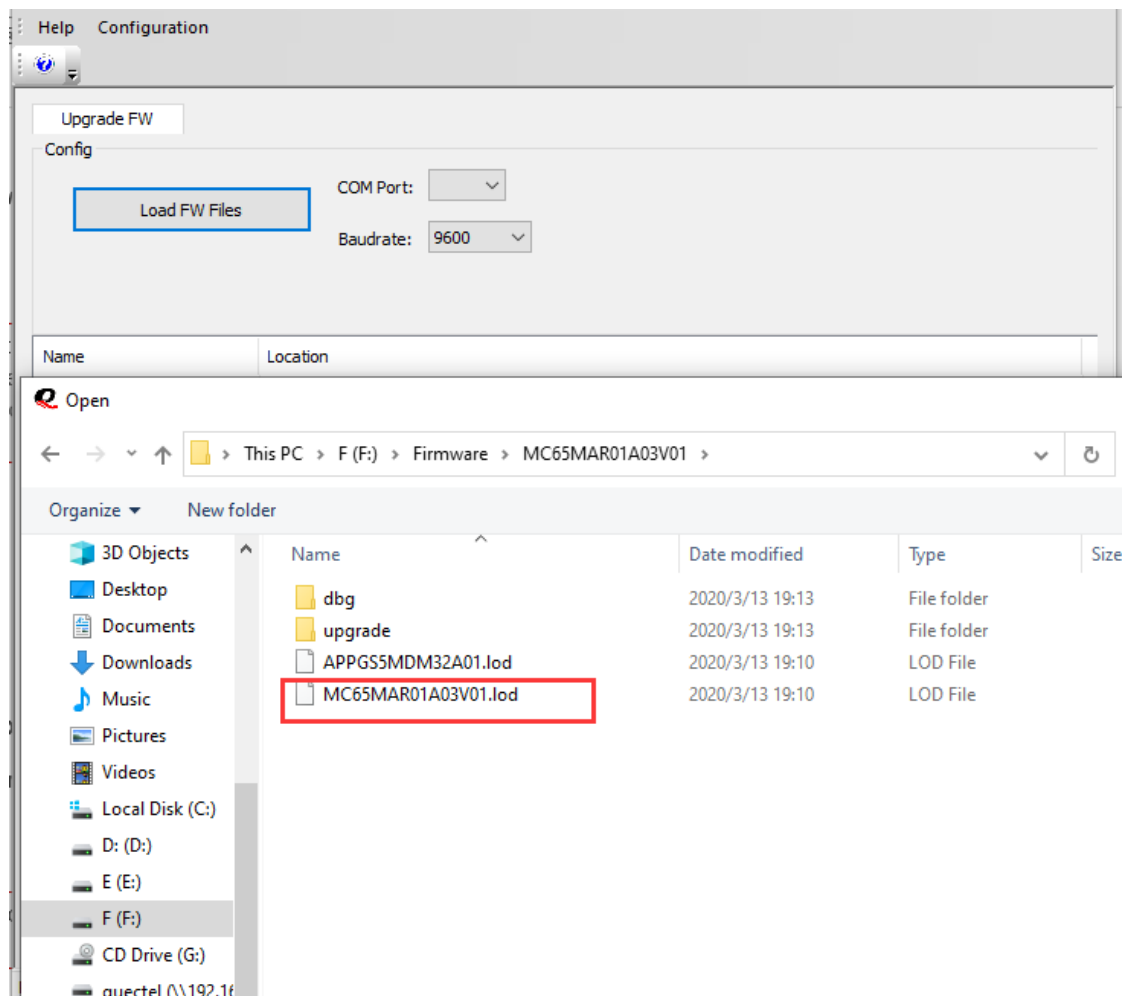


Figure 9: Select the File to Be Downloaded (QuecOpen Modules)

NOTE

When *Firehose* folder exists in the firmware package, the firmware will be upgraded in Firehose mode by default. To upgrade in Sahara mode, please select “**Sahara only**” under “**Configuration**” in the menu bar. The upgrade will be processed in Sahara mode by default if there is no *Firehose* folder in the firmware package.

2.2.2. Load APP Firmware for QuecOpen Modules

The steps in this chapter are performed to load APP firmware for QuecOpen modules.

NOTE

The storage path of the APP firmware should NOT contain any spaces, and English characters are preferred.

2.2.2.1. Load APP Firmware for MC60/M66 QuecOpen

Step 1: Click the button “**Load FW Files**”, and select the .cfg file which needs to be downloaded to the module.

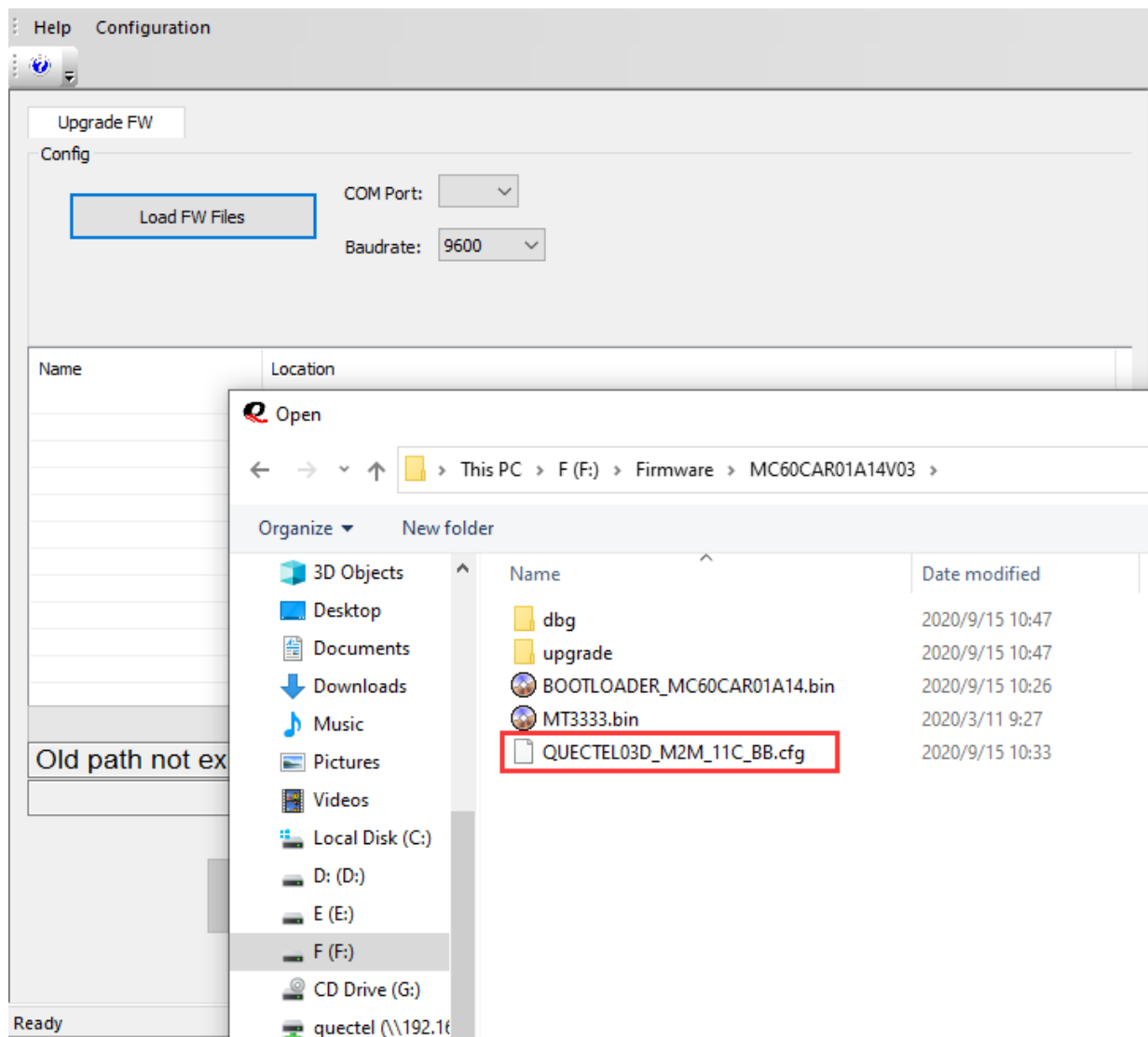


Figure 10: Select the .cfg File

Step 2: Click the “**Module Type**” drop-down list and select the corresponding module.

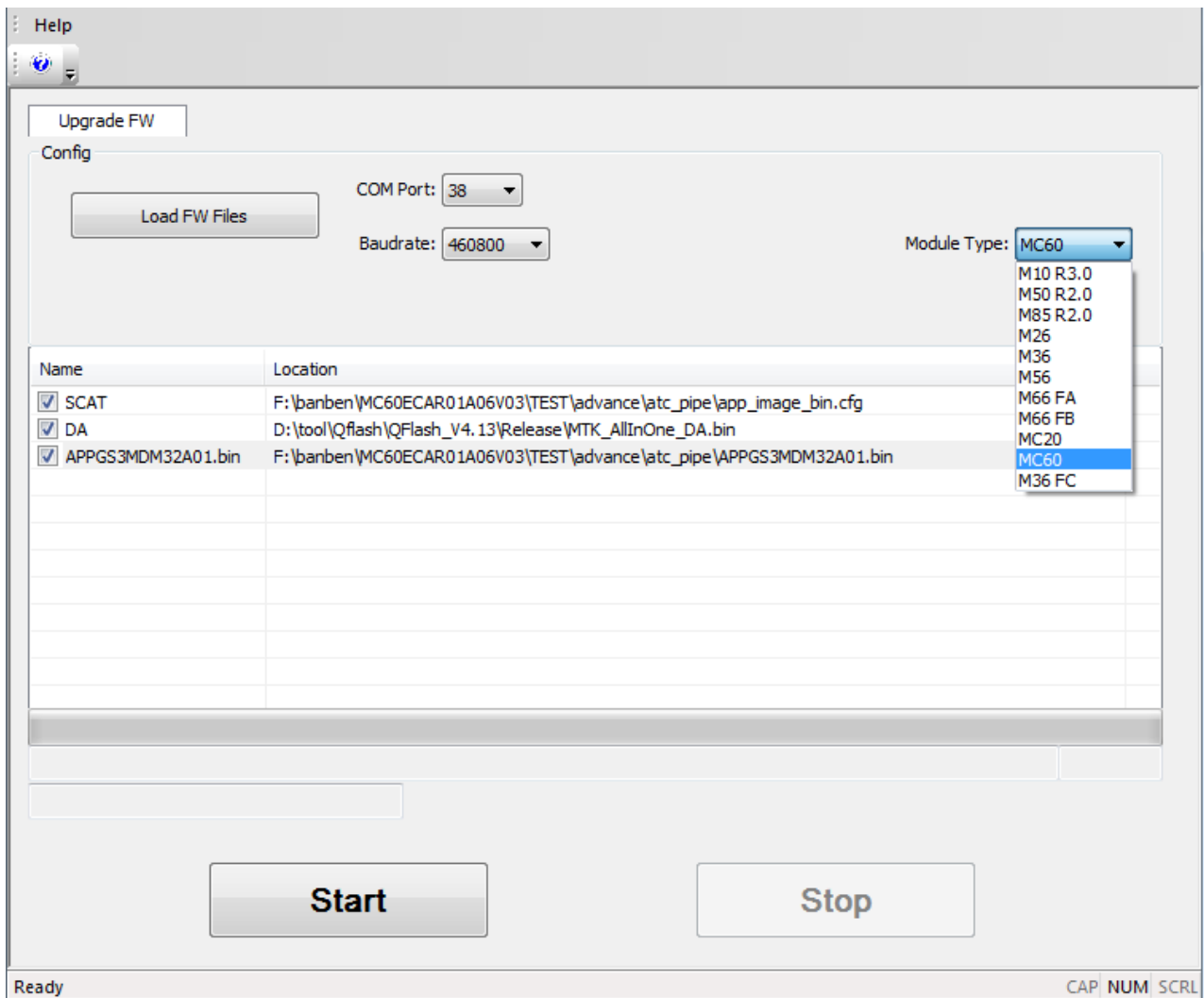


Figure 11: Select the Module Type

2.2.2.2. Load APP Firmware for M65 QuecOpen

Click the button “**Load FW Files**”, and select the .lod file which needs to be downloaded to the module.

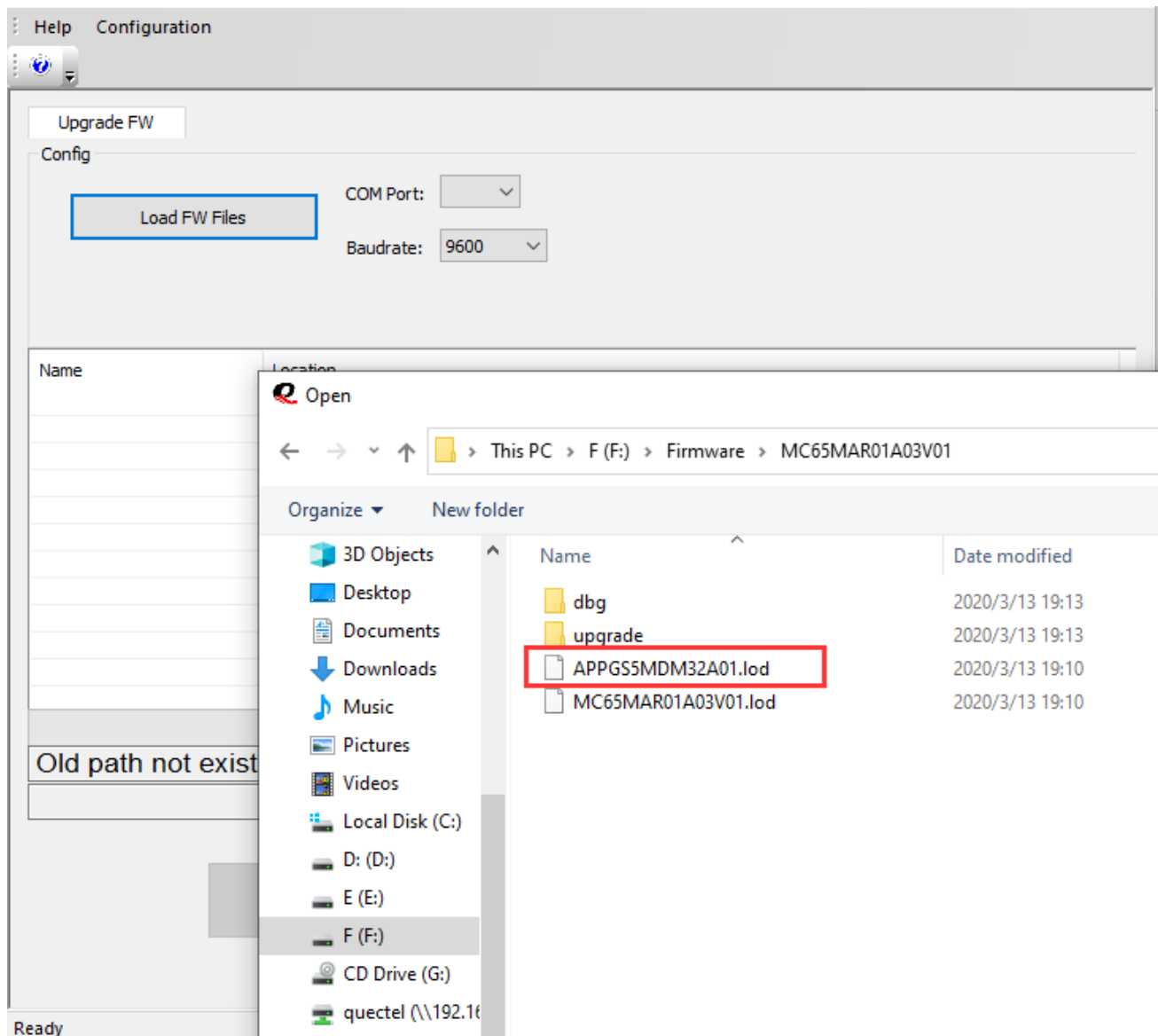


Figure 12: Select the.lod File

2.3. Upgrade Firmware

Step 1: Click the “Start” button.

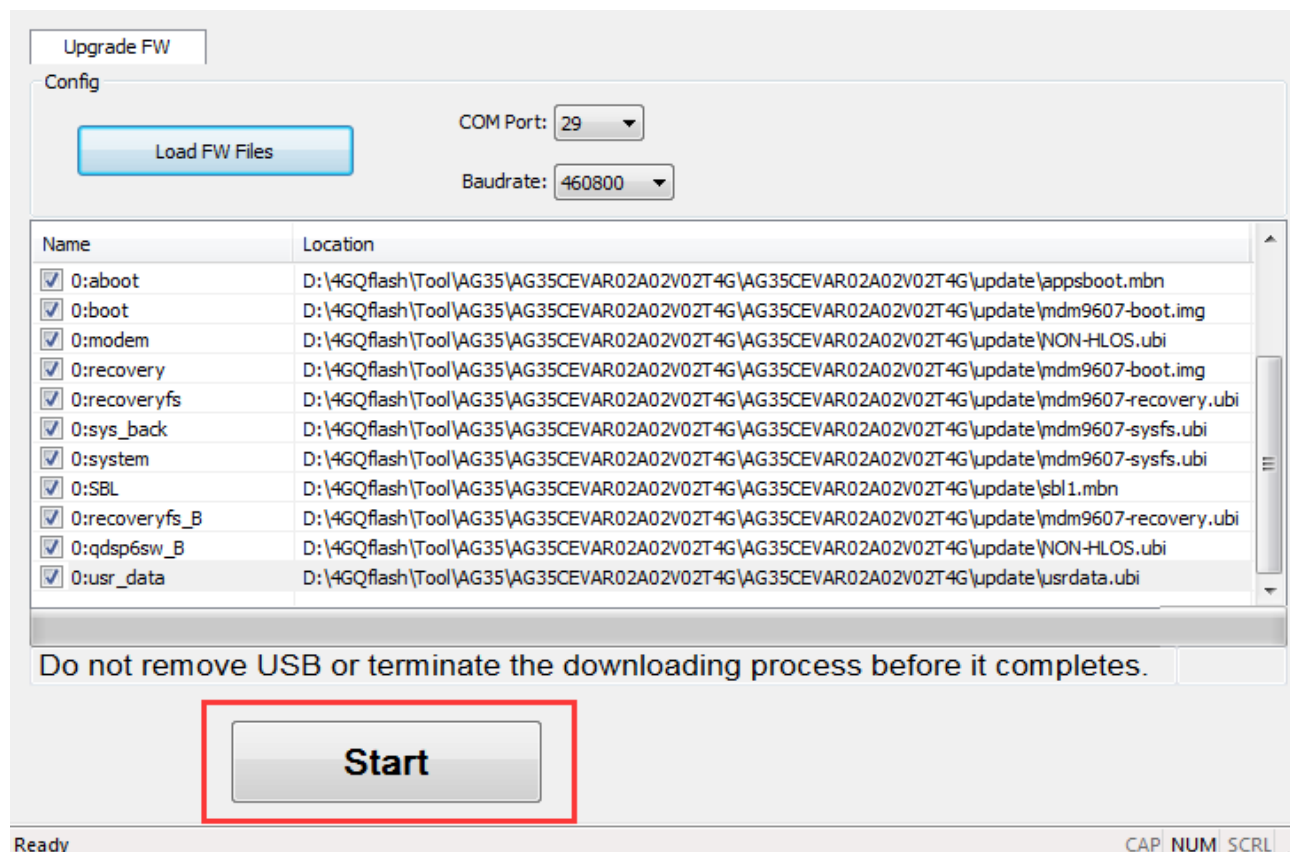


Figure 13: Click the Start Button

NOTES

1. Please note that there is no “**Stop**” button while upgrading firmware for GCxx, UCxx, UGxx, ECxx, EG9x, EG2x, Ex06, SCxx, BCxx, EM05, AGxx, BG96, Ex12, and EG18, as shown above. In this case, it is NOT permitted to stop the upgrading process, and please do NOT remove the USB or terminate the downloading process before the upgrading is completed.
2. When *Firehose* folder exists in the firmware package, the firmware will be upgraded in Firehose mode by default. To upgrade in Sahara mode, please select “**Sahara only**” under “**Configuration**” in the menu bar. The upgrade will be processed in Sahara mode by default if there is no *Firehose* folder in the firmware package.
3. If the upgrade in Firehose mode fails after many attempts, please try again after turning off or uninstalling the anti-virus software and firewall.

Step 2: Restart the module to enable automatic firmware upgrade.

- (1) GCxx, UCxx, ECxx, EG9x, EG2x, Ex06, SCxx, EM05, AGxx, BGxx, Ex12, EG18, M65, RG500Q and RM500Q modules will be restarted automatically after clicking the **“Start”** button, so there is no need to restart the modules manually. See the following figure.

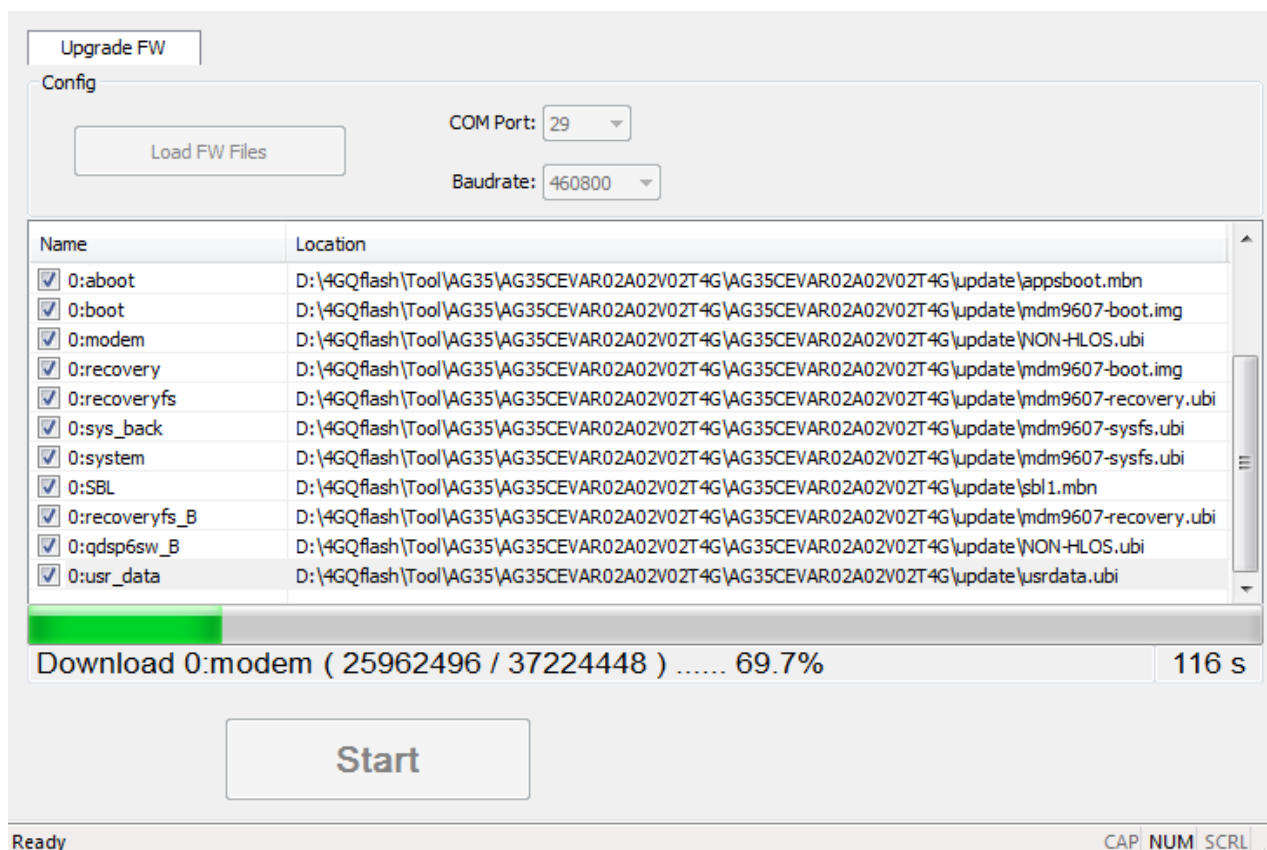


Figure 14: Start Firmware Upgrade Automatically After Clicking “Start” Button

NOTE

For GCxx, UCxx, UGxx, ECxx, EG9x, EG2x, Ex06, SCxx, EM05, AGxx, BG96, Ex12, EG18, M65, RG500Q or RM500Q, if there is no EVB for module firmware upgrade, please drive the PWRKEY pin to a low level after clicking the **“Start”** button in 30 seconds.

- (2) For UGxx, the module needs to be turned off before **“Start”** is clicked. After clicking **“Start”**, please turn on the module within 10 seconds.
- (3) For M10, M66, M72, M80, M85, M95, or MC60, switch the D/L to **“ON”** on EVB within 30 seconds after clicking **“Start”** button, and then manually restart the module. In this way, as shown in the following figures, the firmware upgrade will be started.

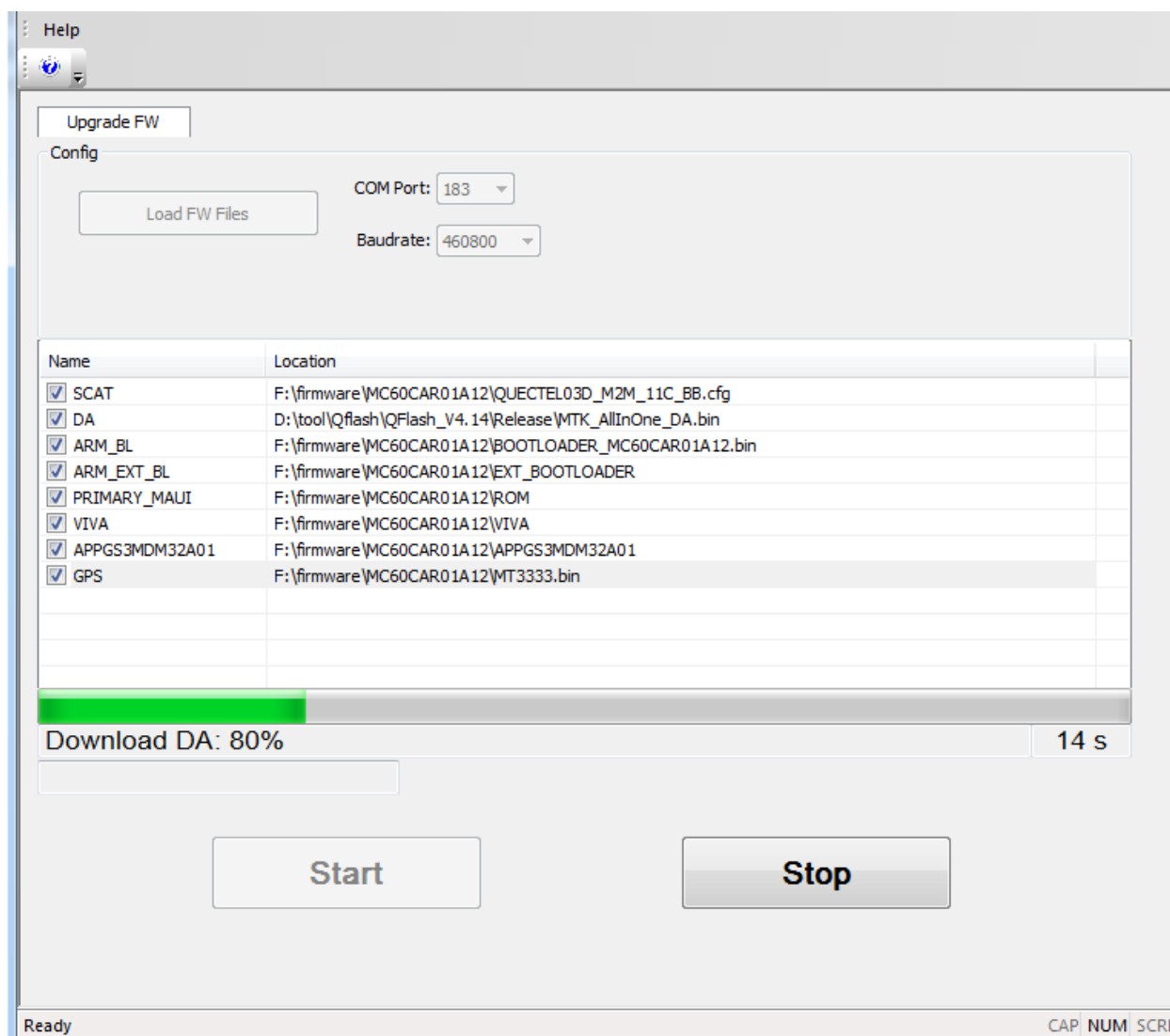


Figure 15: Start Firmware Upgrade after Manually Restarting the Module (M10/M66/M72/M80/M85/M95/MC60)

NOTE

On M10, M66, M72, M80, M85, M95, MC60, please make sure the EVB is powered by 5 V power supply when switching the D/L to “ON”, and then manually restart the module.

- (4) For the firmware upgrade of BC95-G, BC68, BC66 and BC660K-GL modules through TE-B, please wait for the prompt “Reset” (for BC95-G and BC68) or “[INFO]Start connect with target,Please reset DUT...” (for BC66) or “Reset” (for BC660K-GL) after clicking the “Start” button, and then manually restart the modules.

The log will be printed in the path *QFlash_V5.2\Release\WB-IoT\1* when the firmware of BC95-G module is upgraded.

Step 3: “PASS” will be shown on the interface after the firmware has been successfully upgraded, as shown in the following figure.

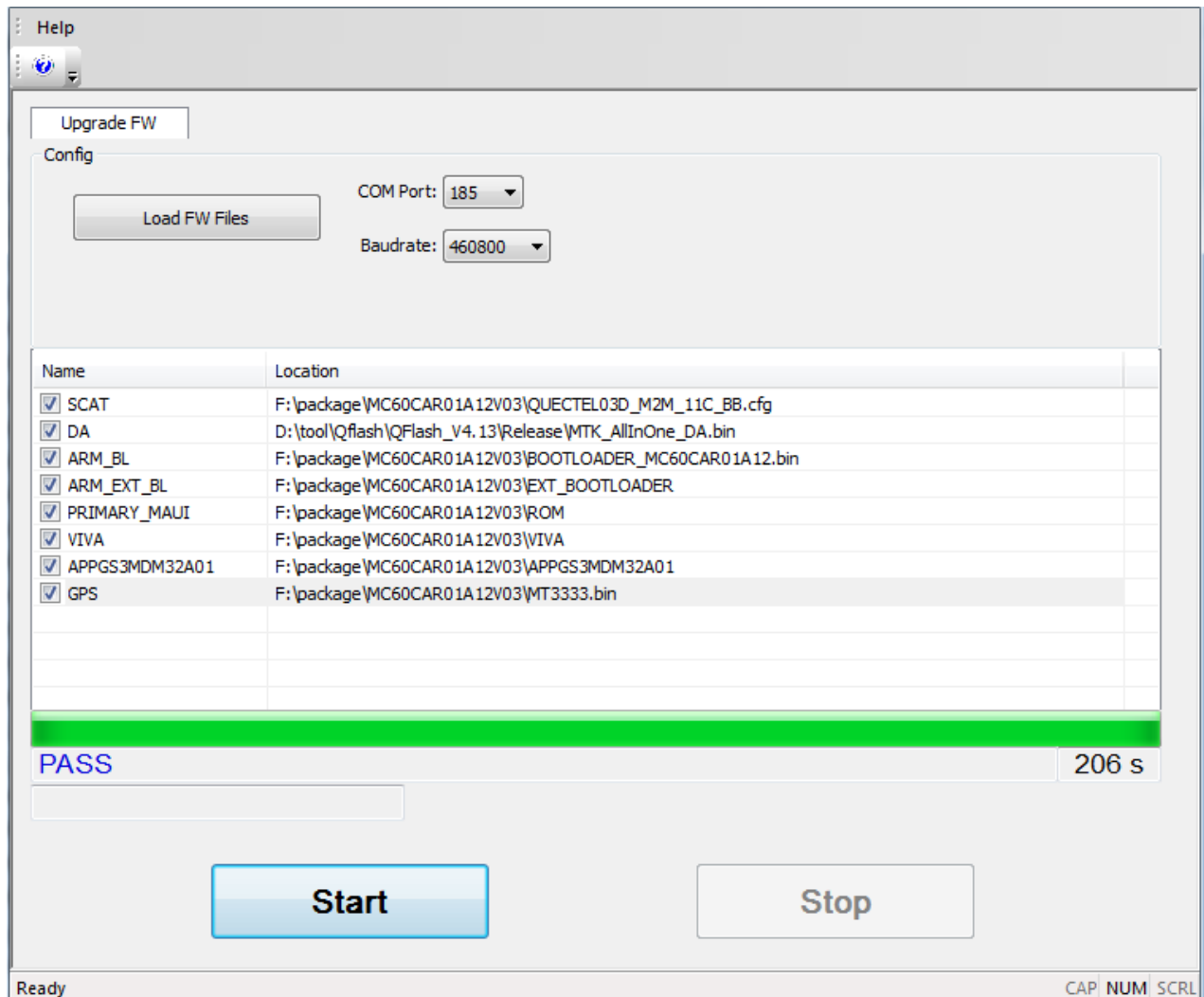


Figure 16: Firmware Upgraded Successfully

2.4. MBN Function

Currently QFlash only supports MBN upgrade function for BG96, the operating procedure is as follows:

Step 1: Click the “**COM Port**” drop-down list and select the COM port that will be used to upgrade the firmware, as shown in the following figure.

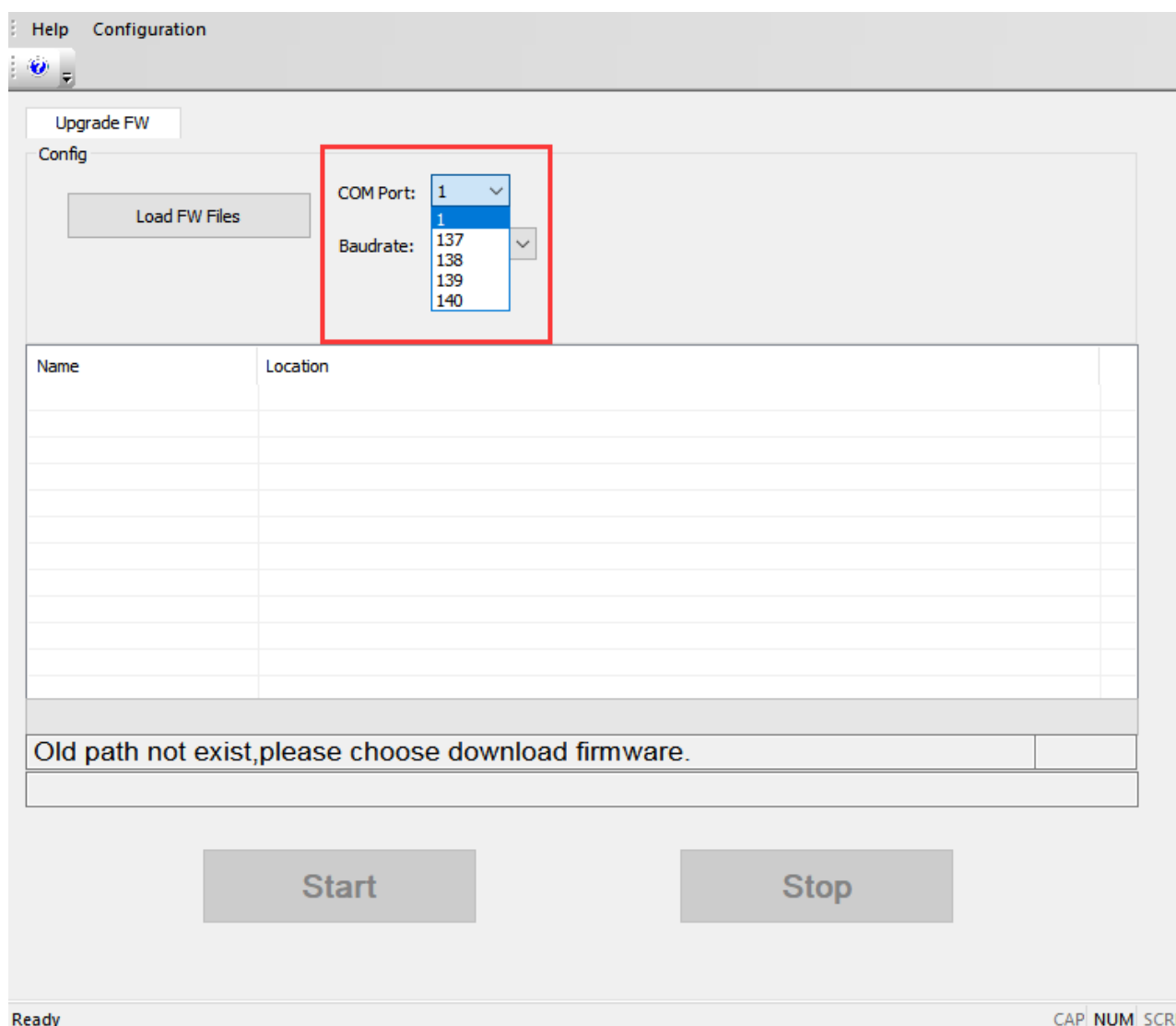


Figure 17: Select the Serial Port of BG96 Module

Step 2: Click the “Load FW Files” button and select the firmware file with the extension .mbn to download to the module.

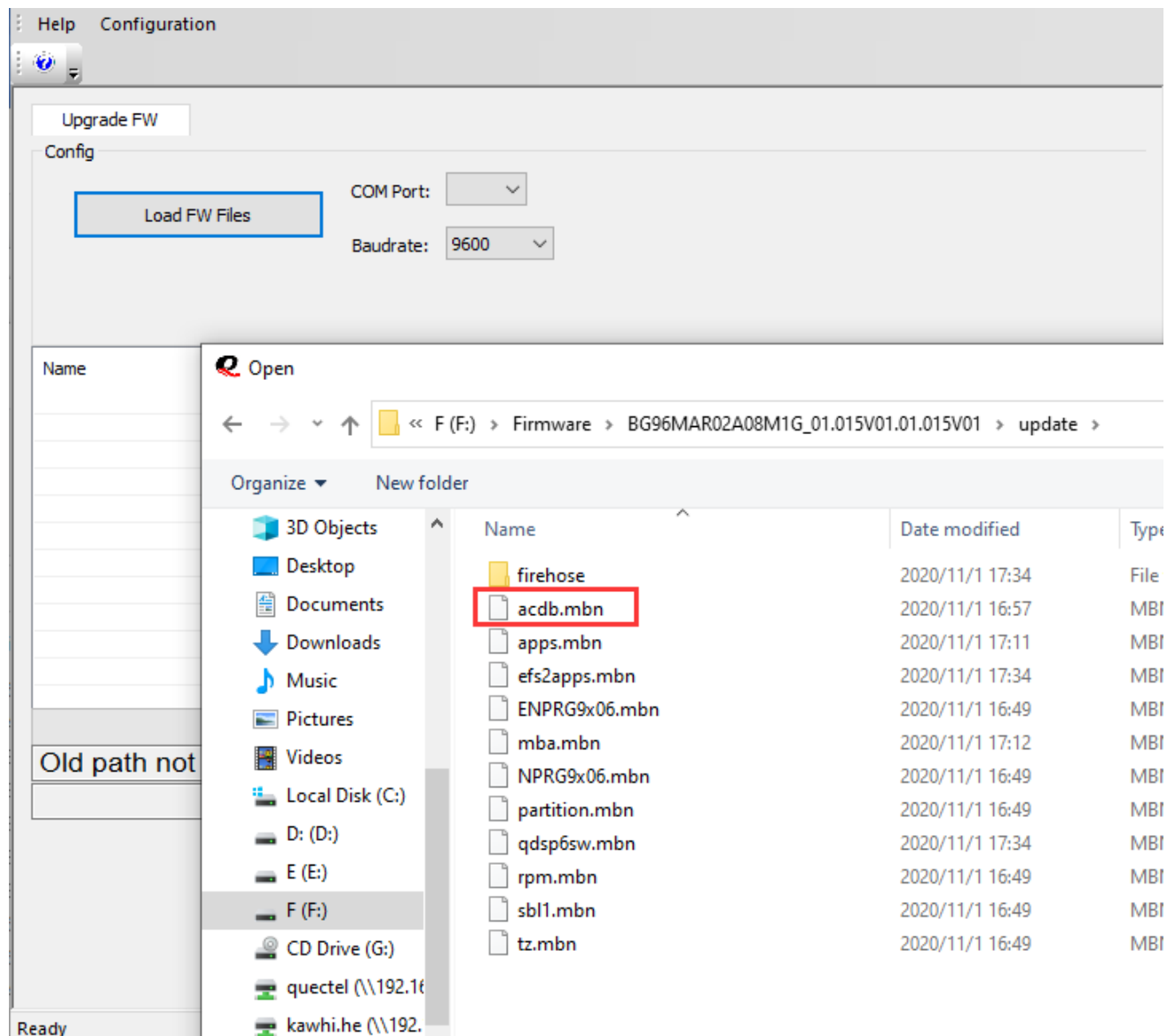


Figure 18: Select the File to be Downloaded

Step 3: Click the “Start” button and the prompt “Do you need MBN autosel feature enabled by default” will pop out.

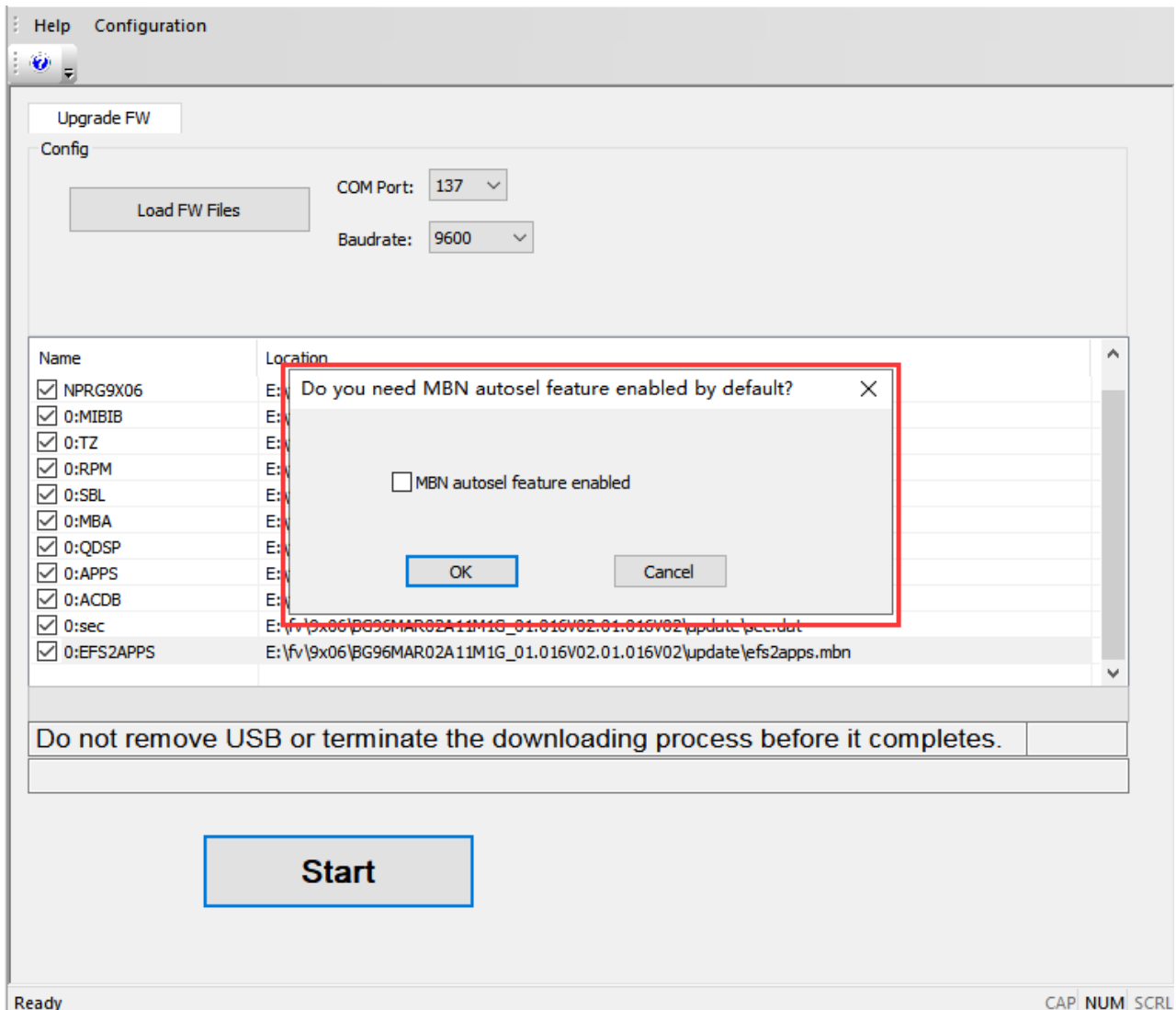


Figure 19: Select MBN autosel function

NOTES

1. Make sure there is *mbn* folder in the selected firmware version package before upgrading.
2. Select “**MBN autosel feature enabled**” to turn on MBN automatic selection function, otherwise it will be disabled. You can enable this function either by clicking “**OK**” button after checking “**MBN autosel feature enabled**”, or by clicking “**Cancel**” with it left unchecked.

Step 4: “PASS” will be shown on the interface after the firmware has been successfully upgraded, as shown in the following figure.

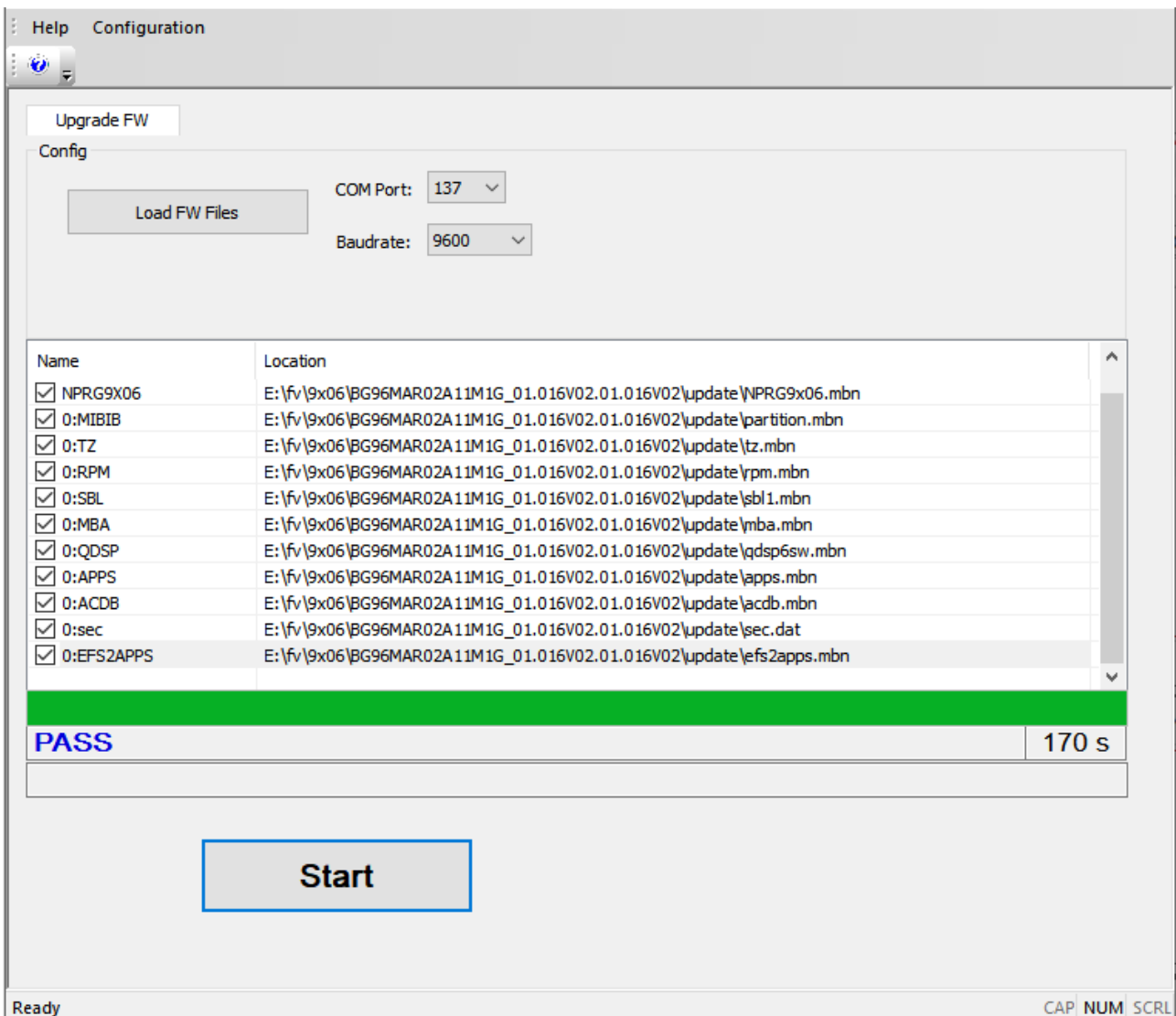


Figure 20: MBN Upgraded Successfully for BG96

2.5. Abnormalities

Abnormalities may be caused by the incorrect baud rate, damaged EVB/TE-B or invalid files, etc. The following illustrates some common abnormalities.

2.5.1. Selected a Wrong Serial Port

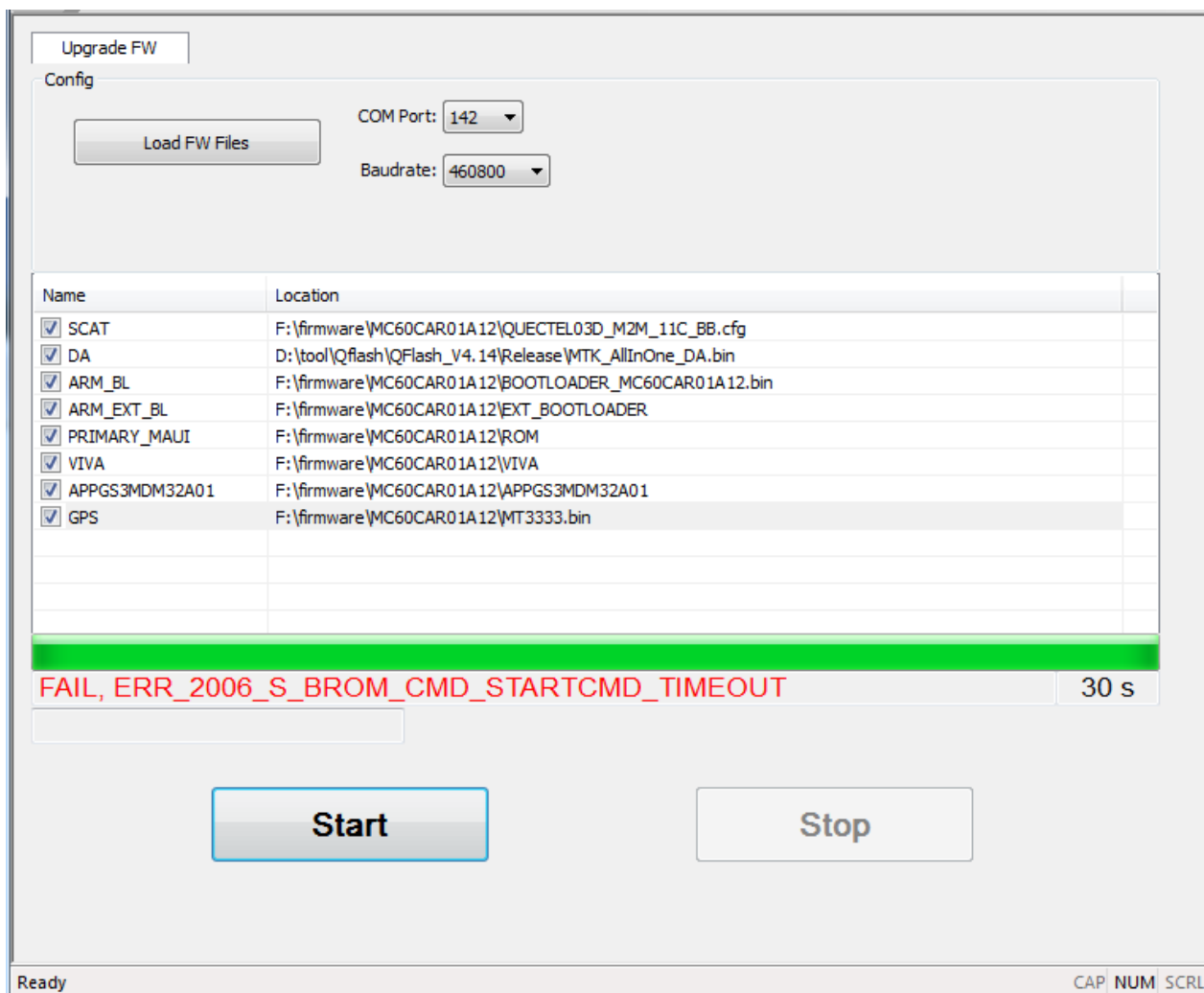


Figure 21: Connected to a Wrong Serial Port (M10/M66/M72/M80/M85/M95/MC60)

NOTE

After selecting a correct serial port, if M10, M66, M72, M80, M85, M95 and MC60 modules are not restarted, the error message will be the same as that caused by selecting a wrong serial port.

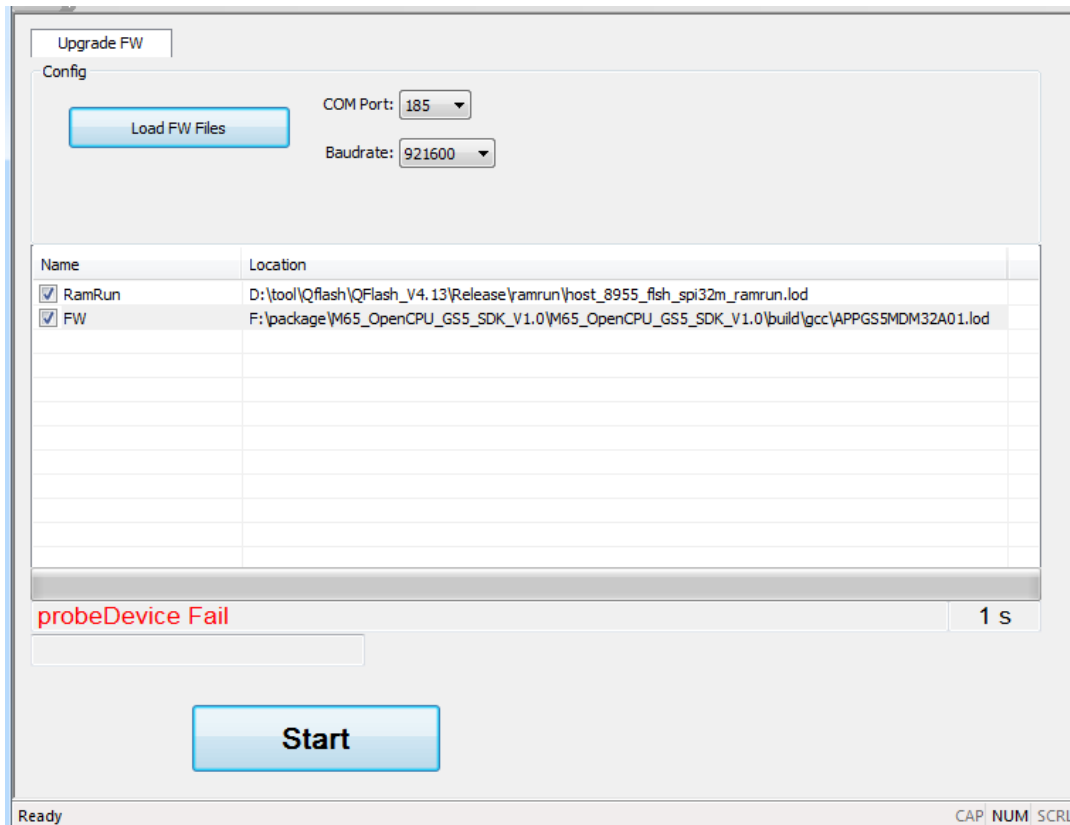


Figure 22: Connected to a Wrong Serial Port (M65)

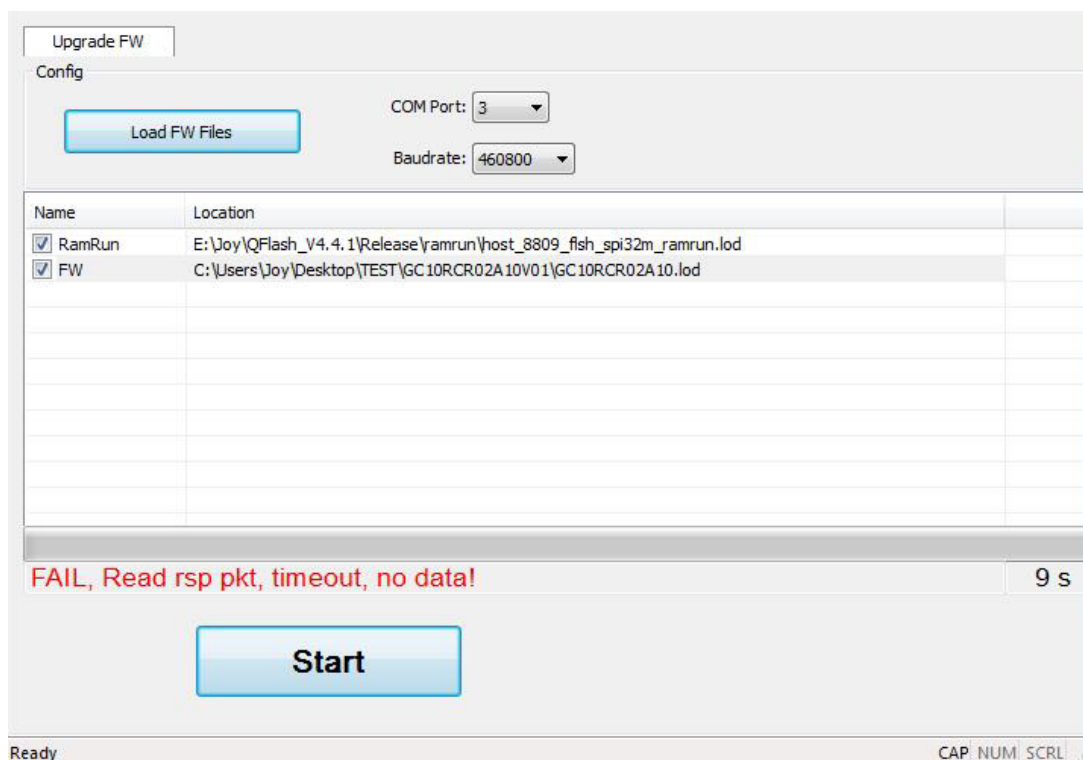


Figure 23: Connected to a Wrong Serial Port (GCxx)

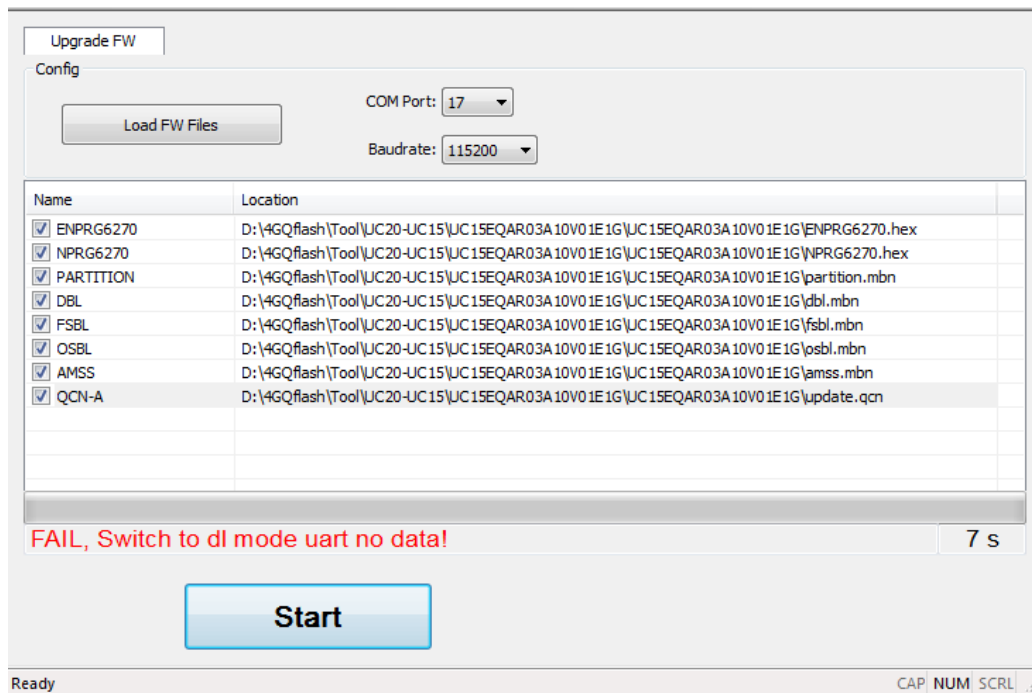


Figure 24: Connected to a Wrong Serial Port (UCxx)

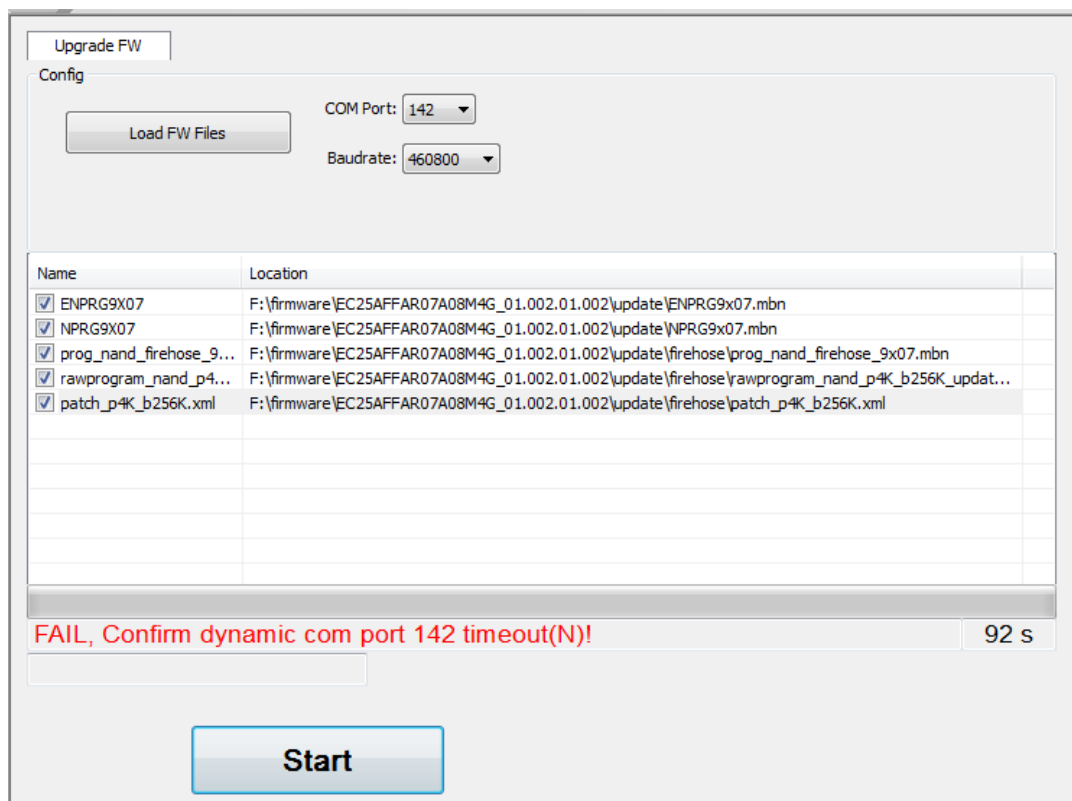


Figure 25: Connected to a Wrong Serial Port (ECxx/AGxx/EG9x/EG2x/Ex06/EM05/BGxx/Ex12/EG18/RG500Q/RM500Q)

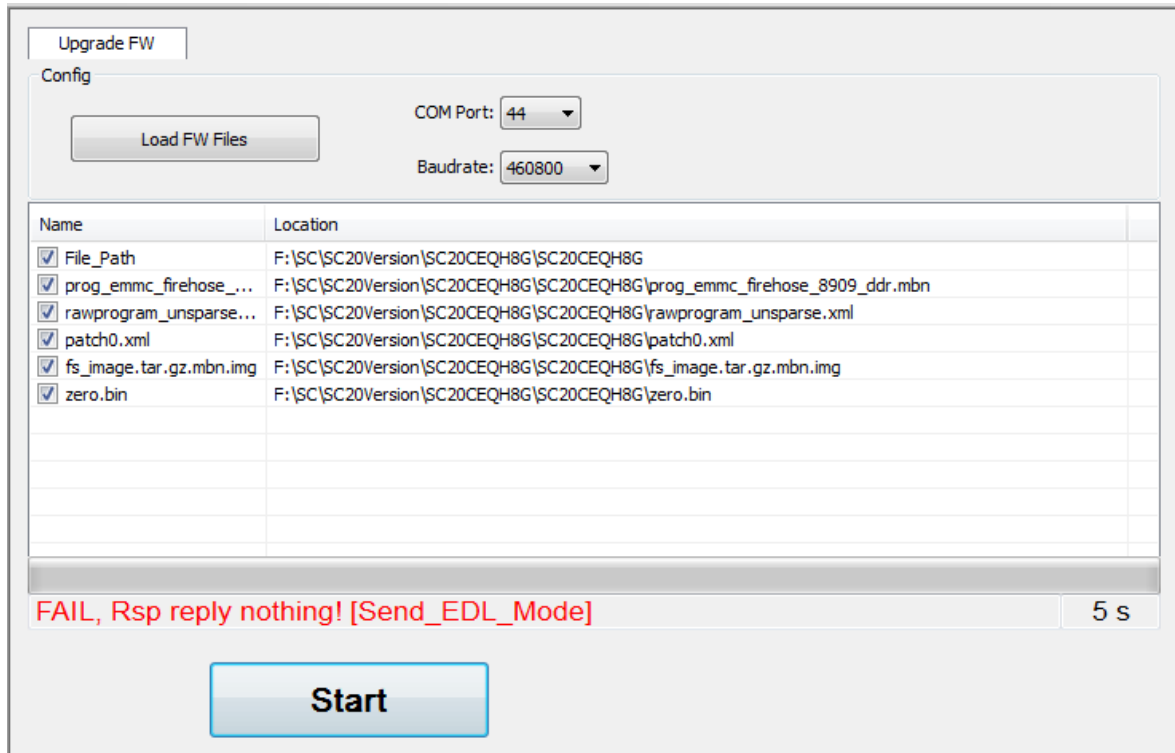


Figure 26: Connected to a Wrong Serial Port (SCxx)

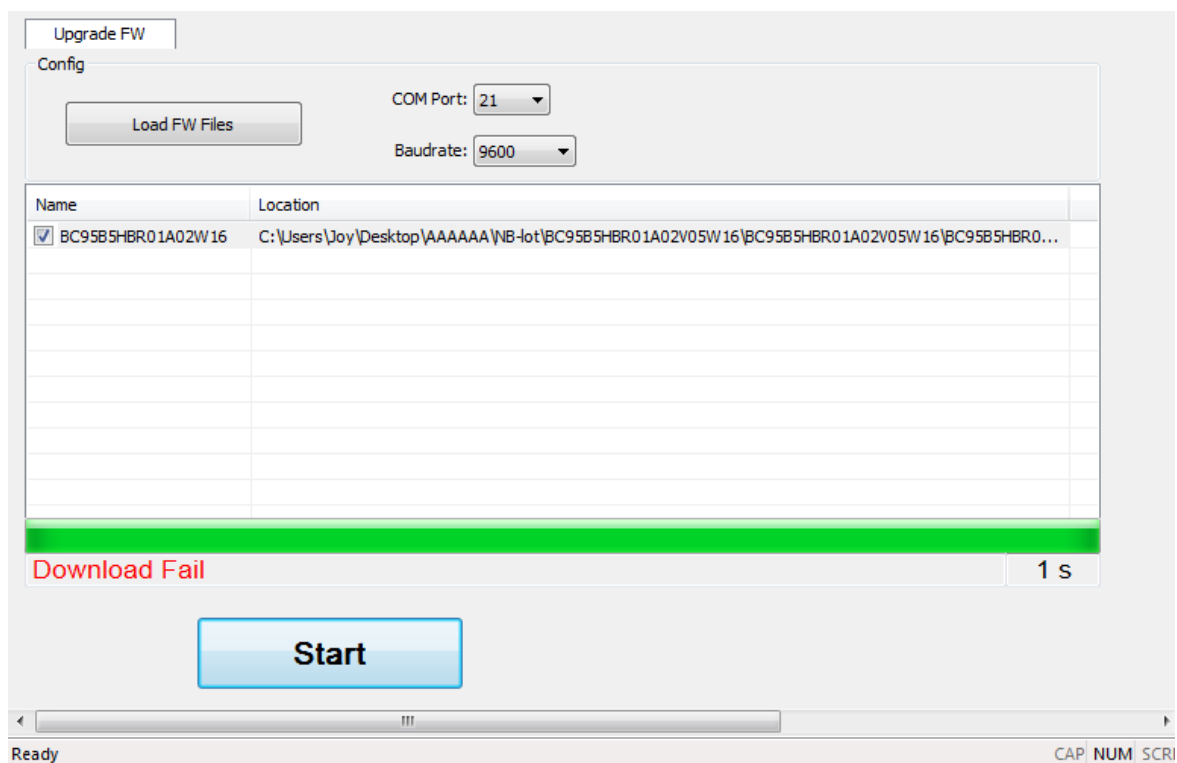


Figure 27: Connected to a Wrong Serial Port (BCxx)

2.5.2. Connected to an Occupied Serial Port

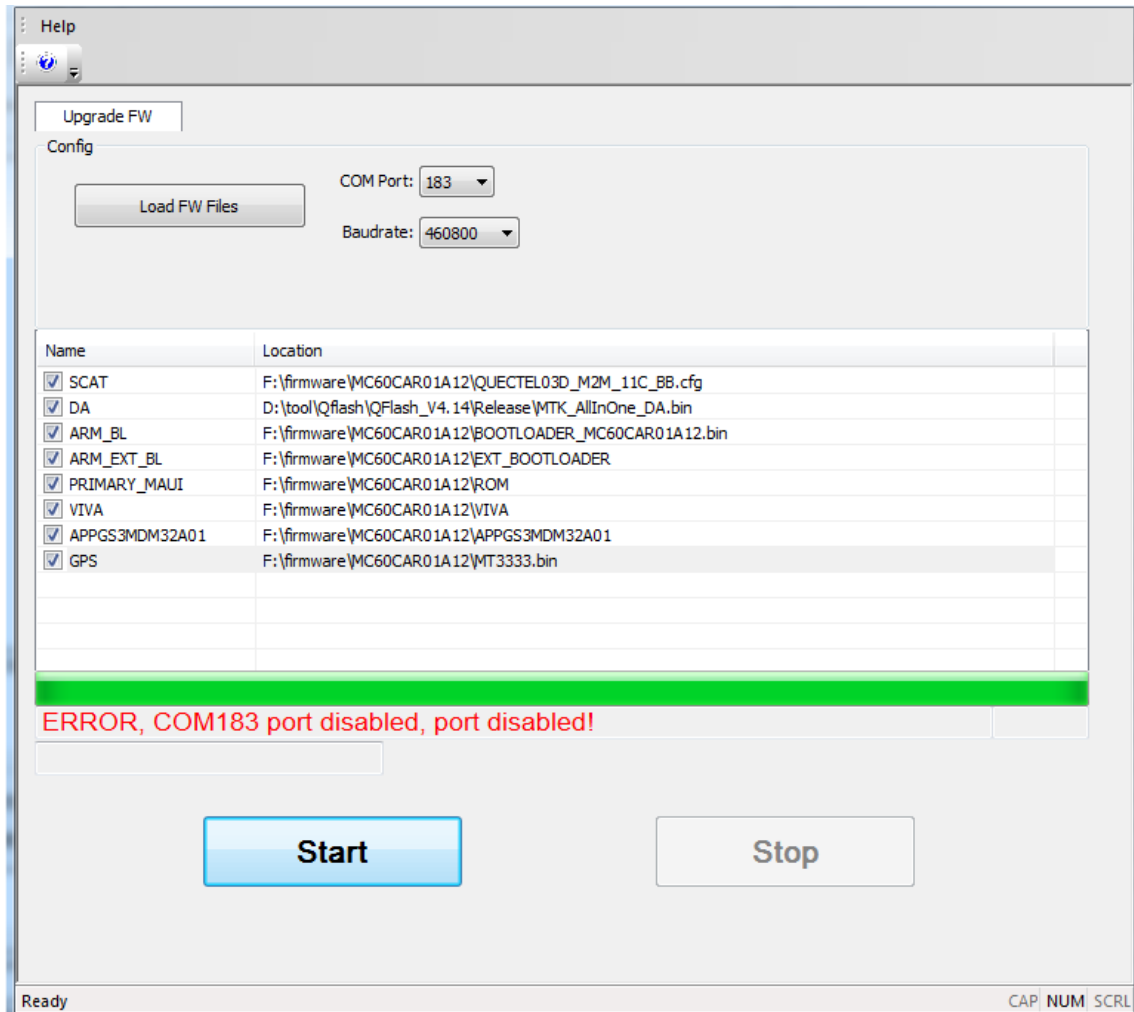


Figure 28: Connected to an Occupied Serial Port (M10/M66/M72/M80/M85/M95/MC60)

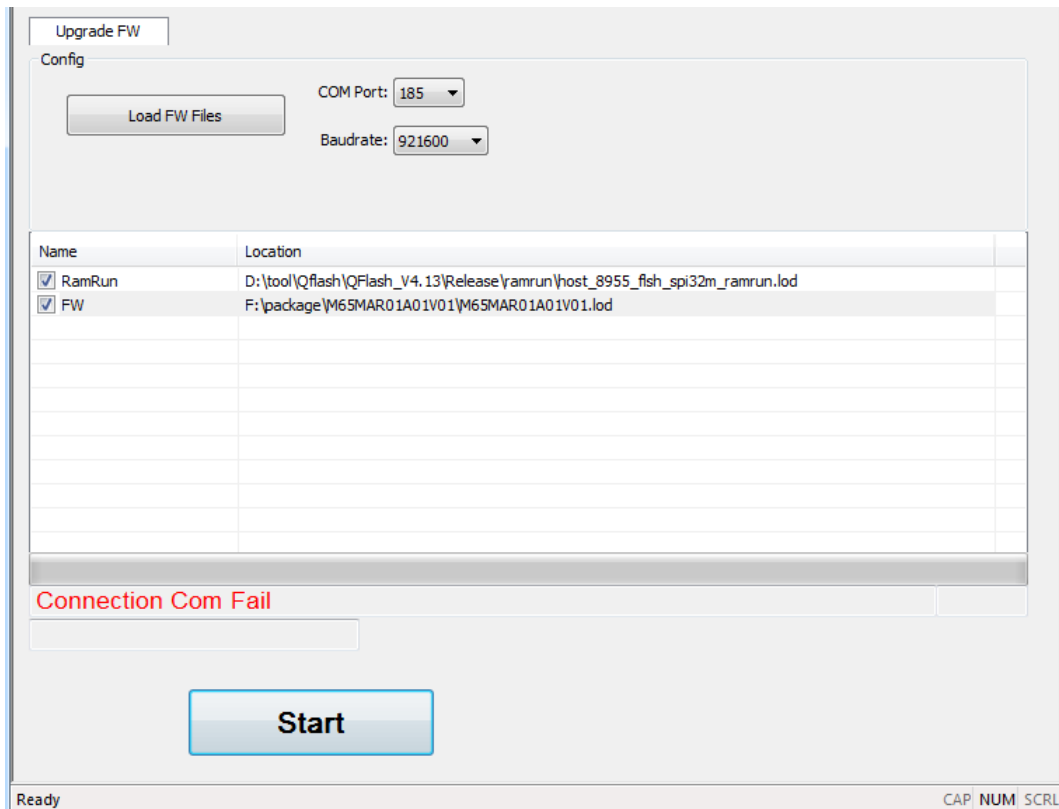


Figure 29: Connected to an Occupied Serial Port (M65)

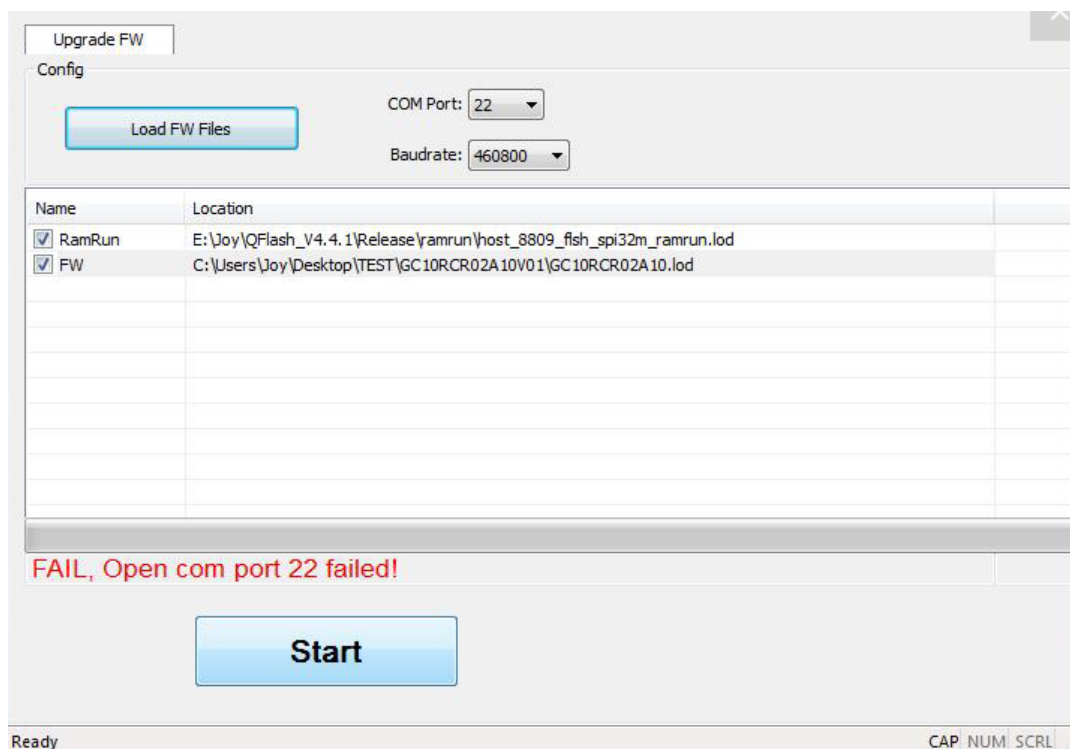


Figure 30: Connected to an Occupied Serial Port (GCxx)

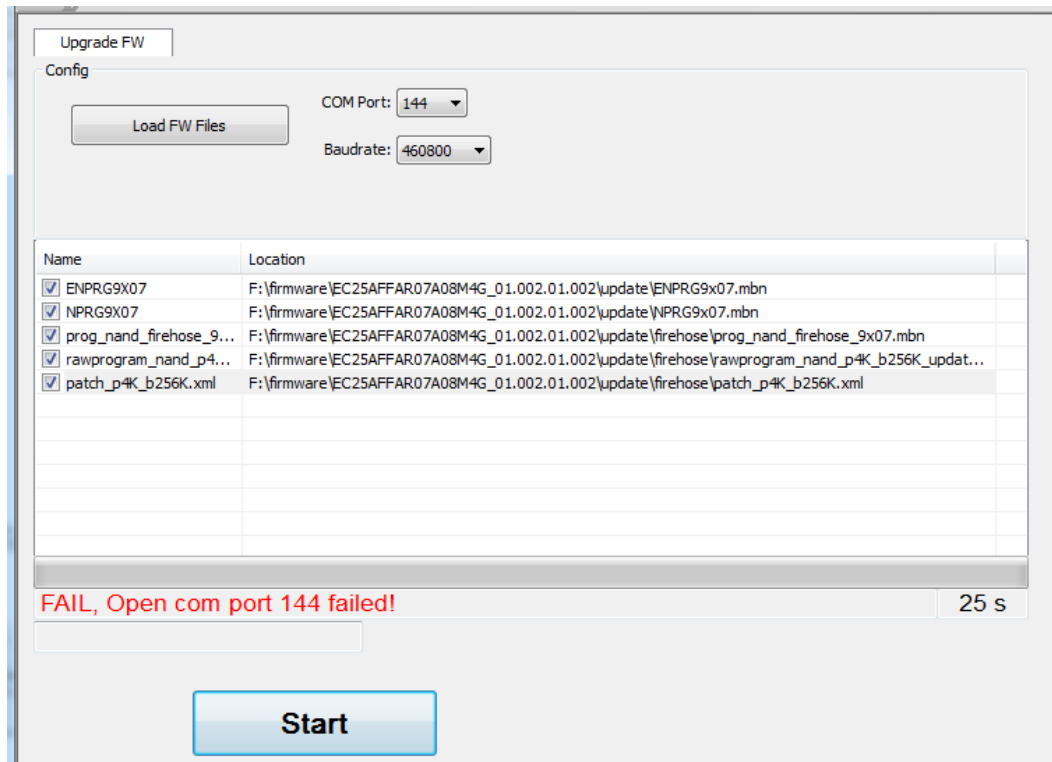


Figure 31: Connected to an Occupied Serial Port (UCxx/ECxx/EG9x/EG2x/Ex06/SCxx/EM05/AGxx/BGxx/Ex12/EG18/RG500Q/RM500Q)

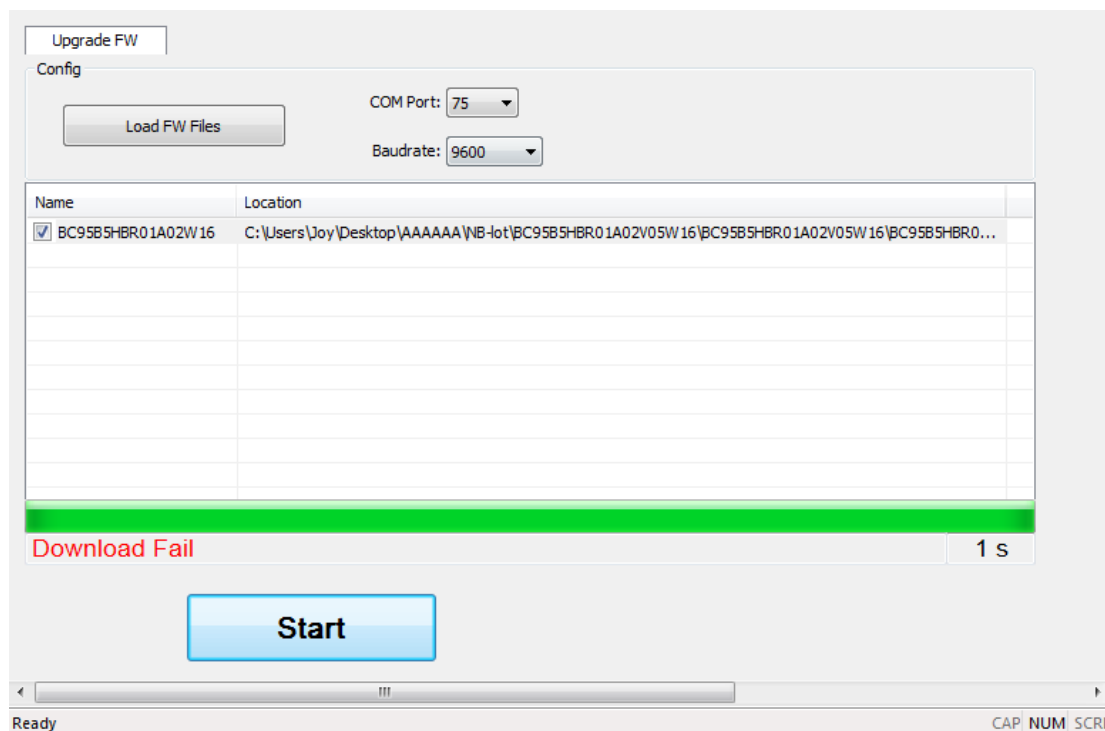


Figure 32: Connected to an Occupied Serial Port (BCxx)

2.5.3. Selected an Unsupported Baud Rate

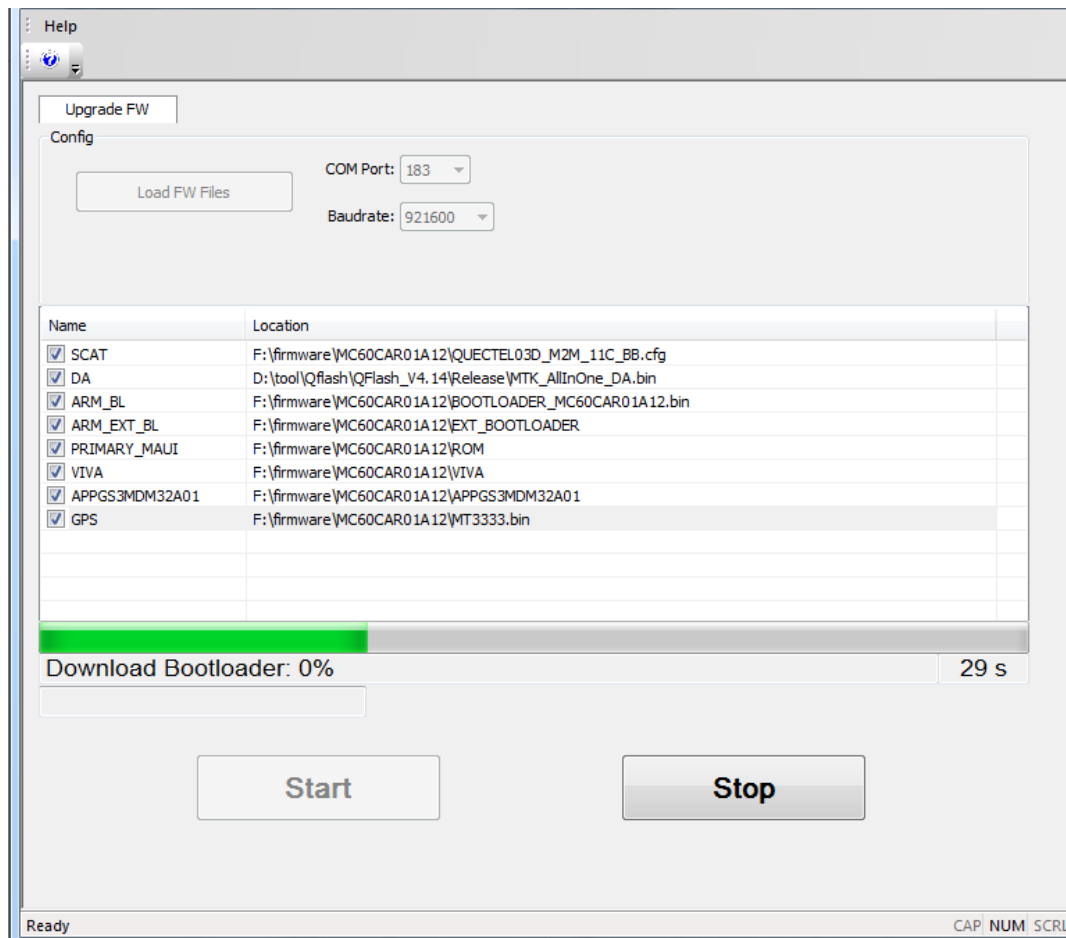


Figure 33: Selected an Unsupported Baud Rate (M10/M66/M72/M80/M85/M95/MC60)

NOTE

For M10, M66, M72, M80, M85, M95 or MC60, if an unsupported baud rate is selected, the tool will stop running and no error message will be prompted. In such a case, please click the “**Stop**” button to re-select a supported baud rate to restart with.

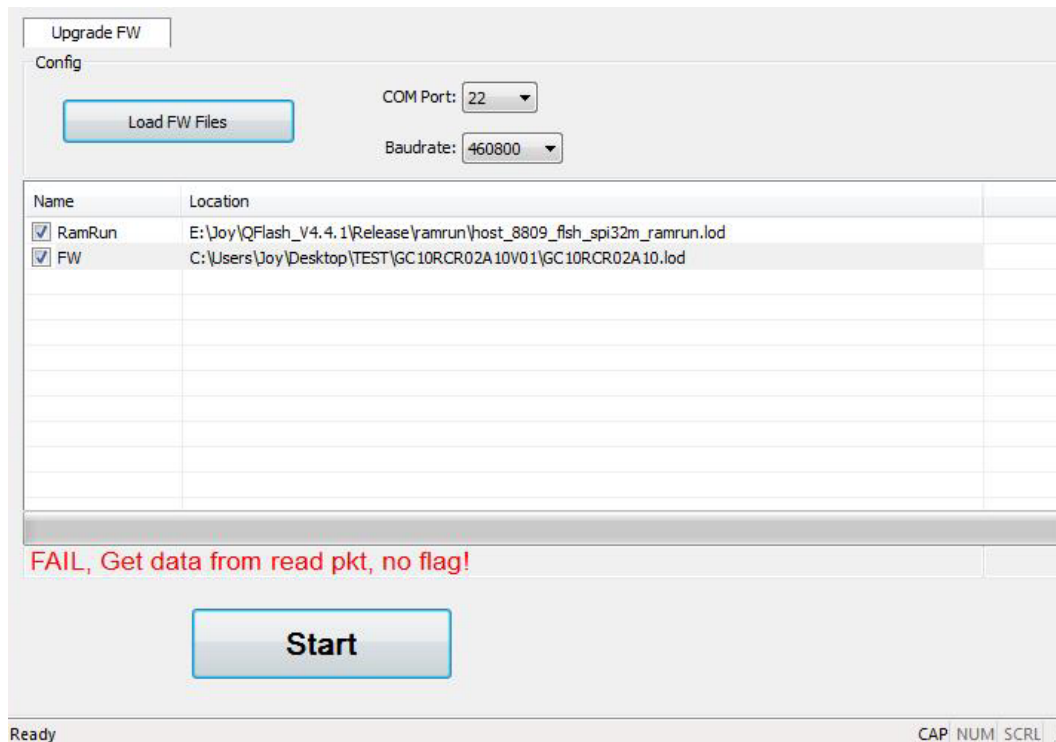


Figure 34: Selected an Unsupported Baud Rate (GCxx)

2.5.4. Selected an Invalid FW File

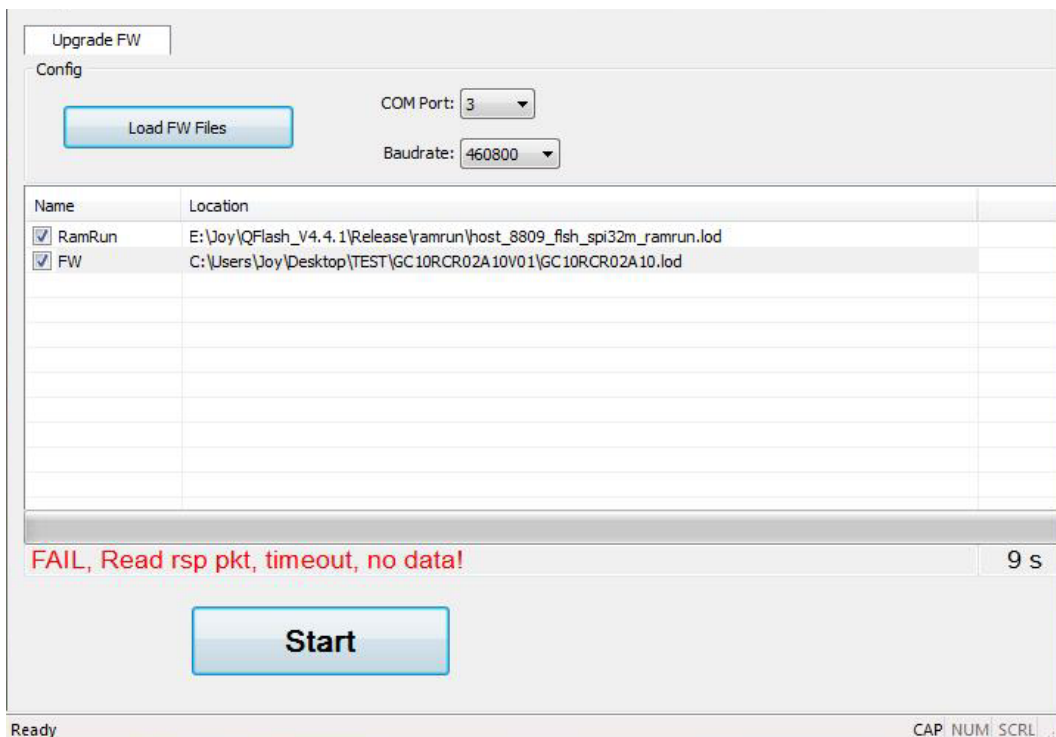


Figure 35: Selected an Invalid FW File (M10/M66/M72/M80/M85/M95/MC60)

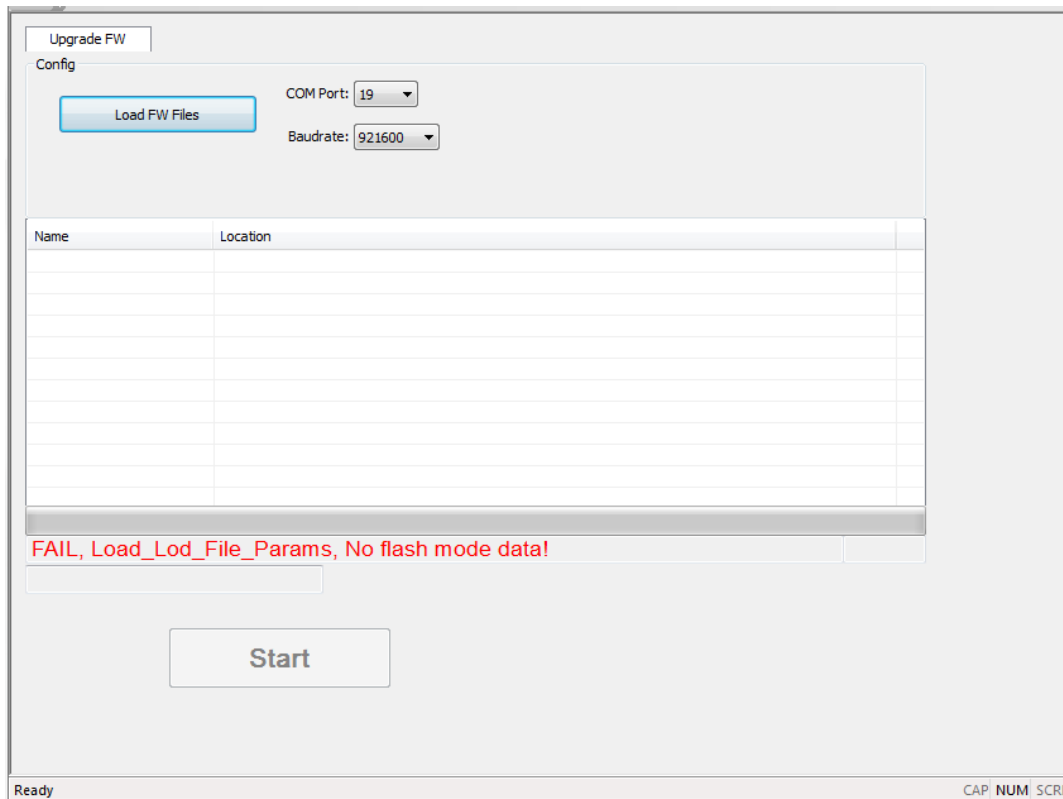


Figure 36: Selected an Invalid FW File (M65)

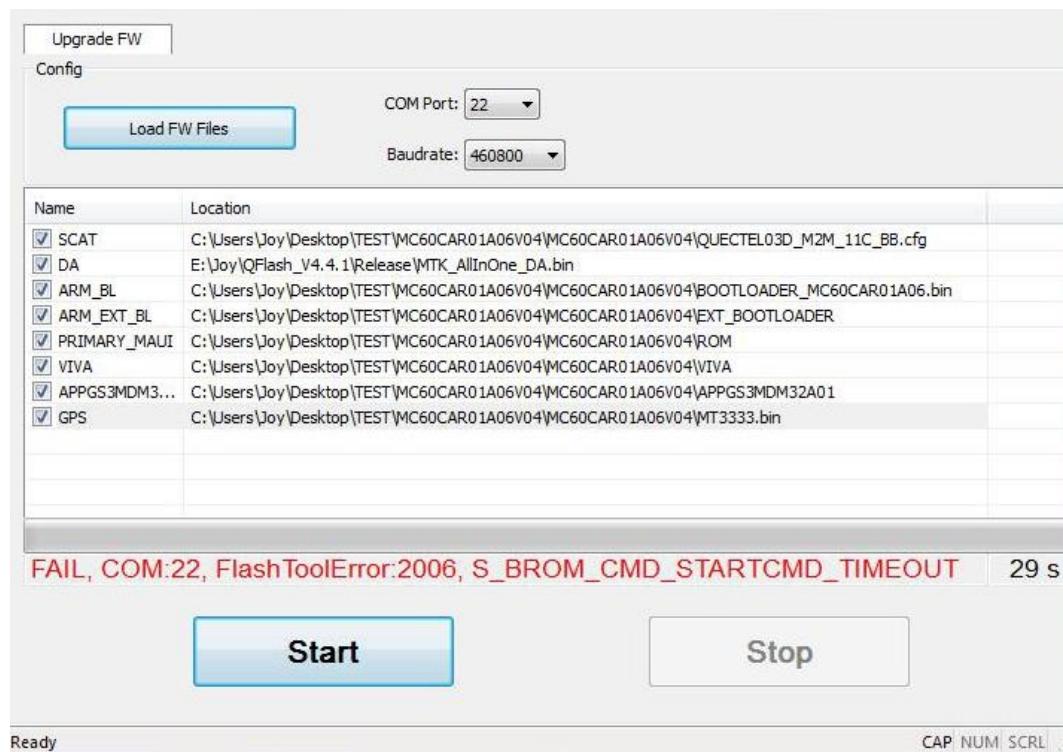


Figure 37: Selected an Invalid FW File (GCxx)

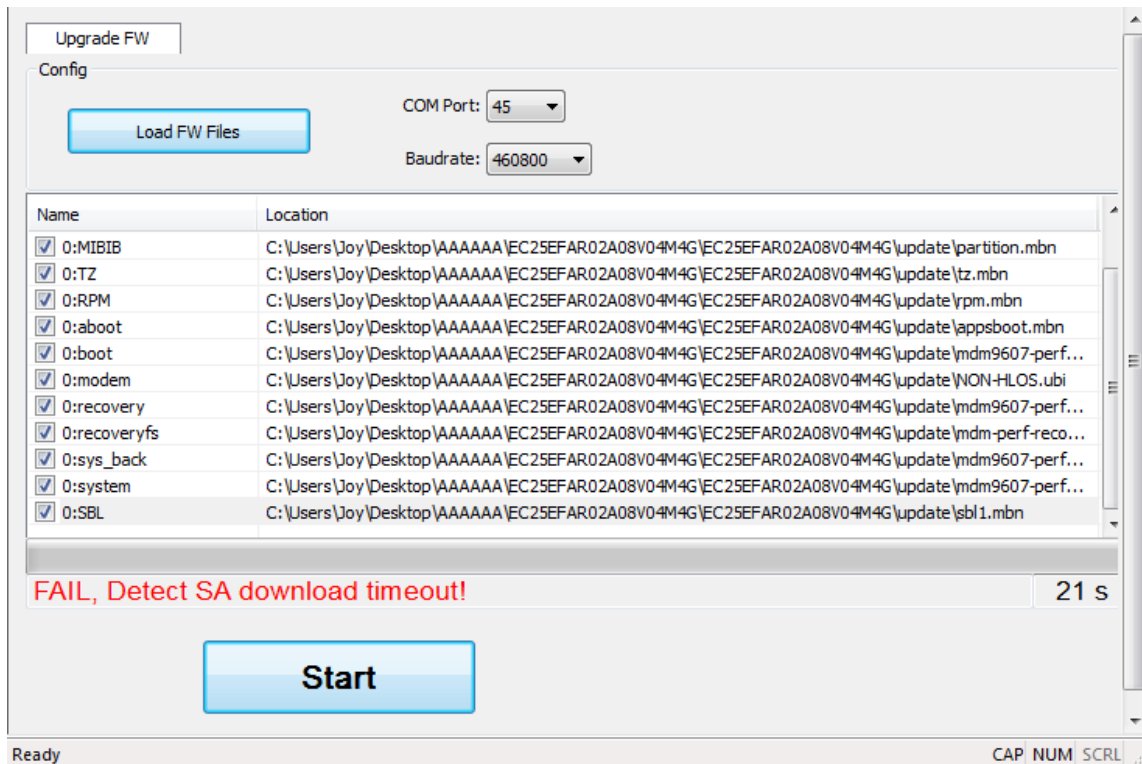


Figure 38: Selected an Invalid FW File (UCxx)

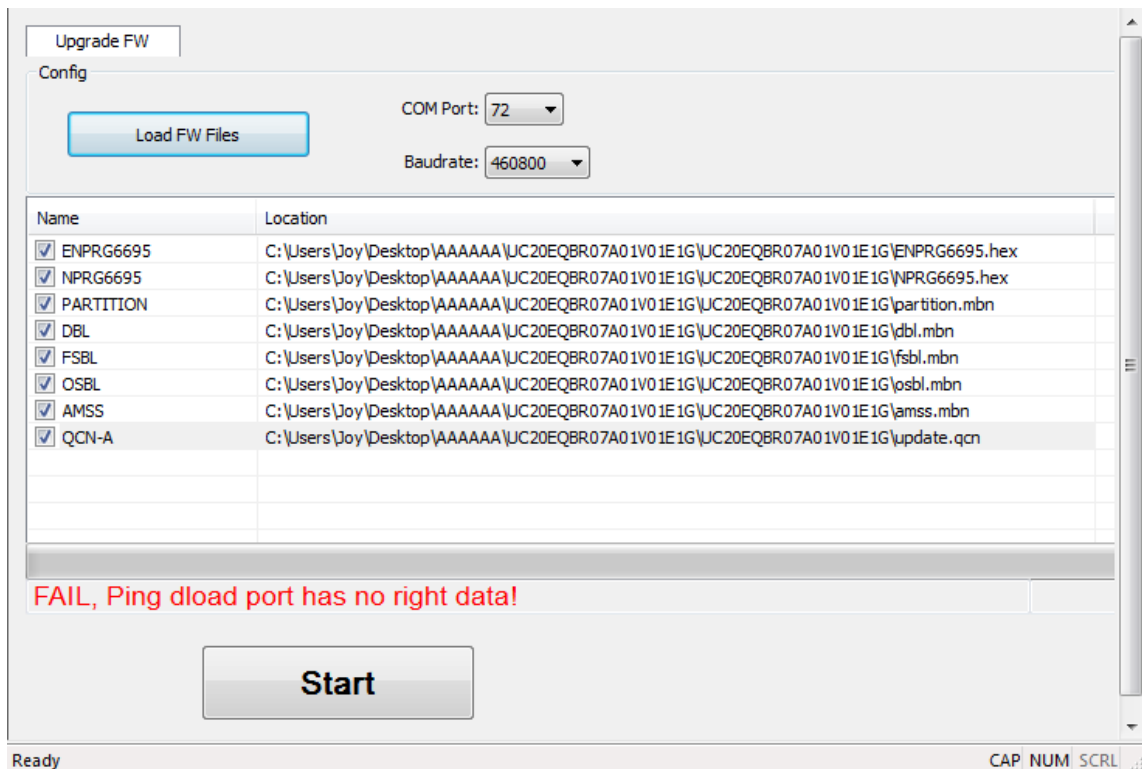


Figure 39: Selected an Invalid FW File (ECxx/EG9x/EM05)

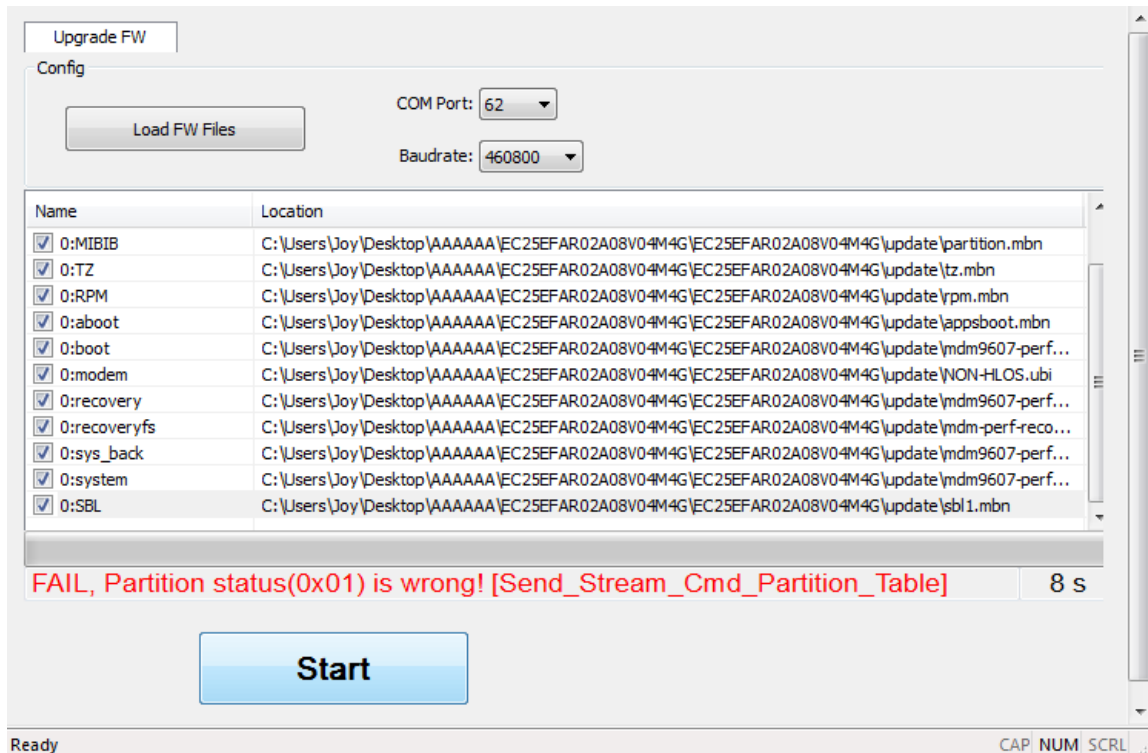


Figure 40: Selected an Invalid FW File (Ex06/AGxx/BG96/Ex12/EG18)

2.5.5. Power Supply is Abnormal

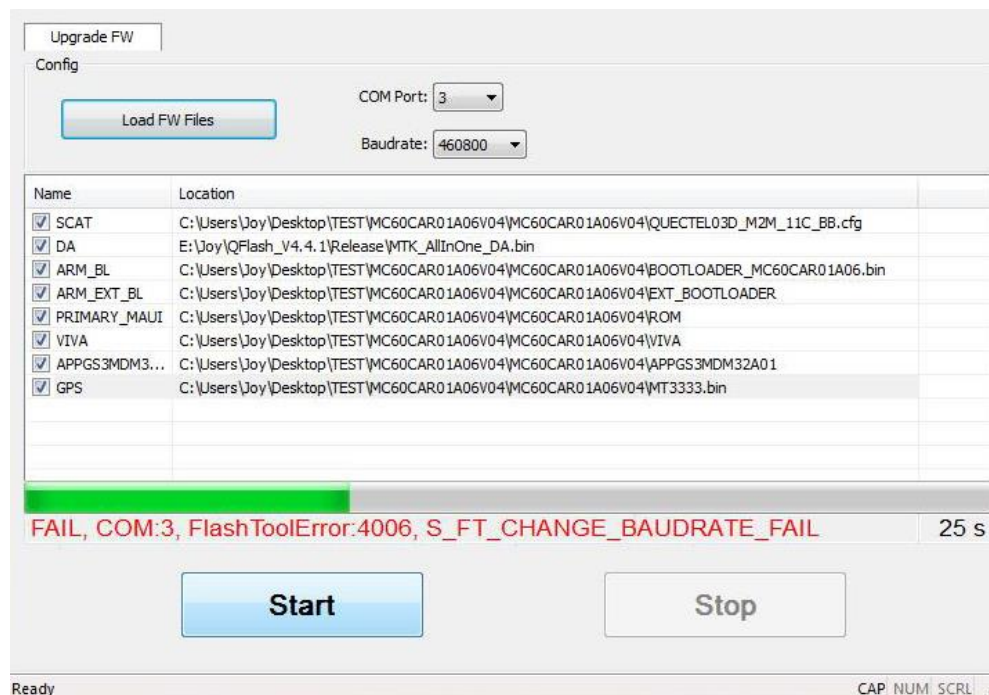


Figure 41: Abnormal Power Supply (M10/M66/M72/M80/M85/M95/MC60)

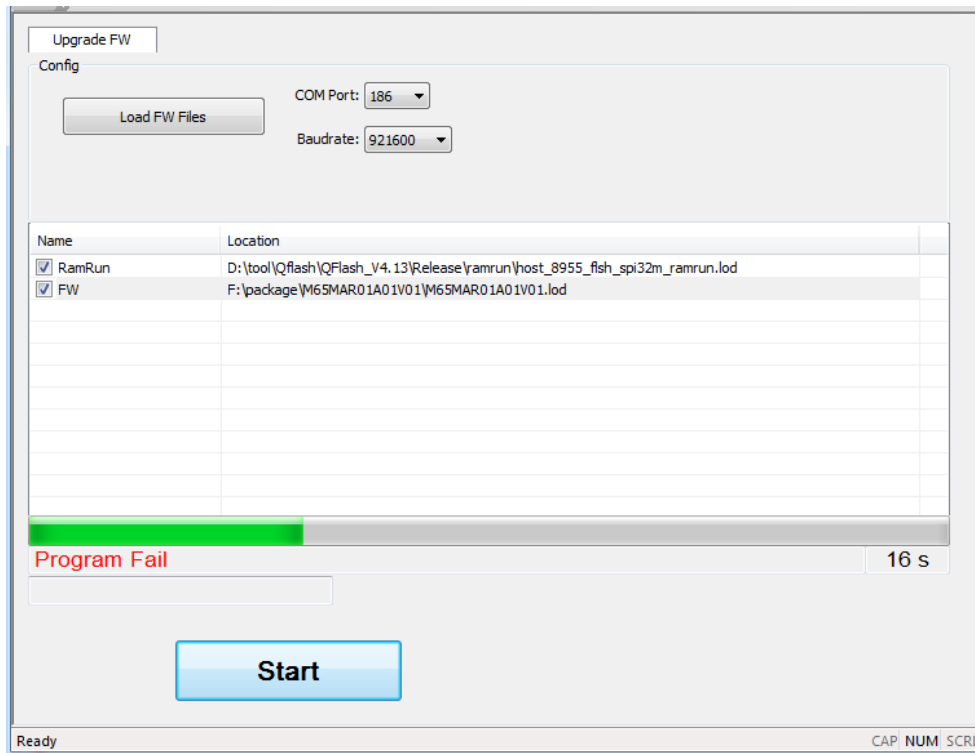


Figure 42: Abnormal Power Supply (M65)

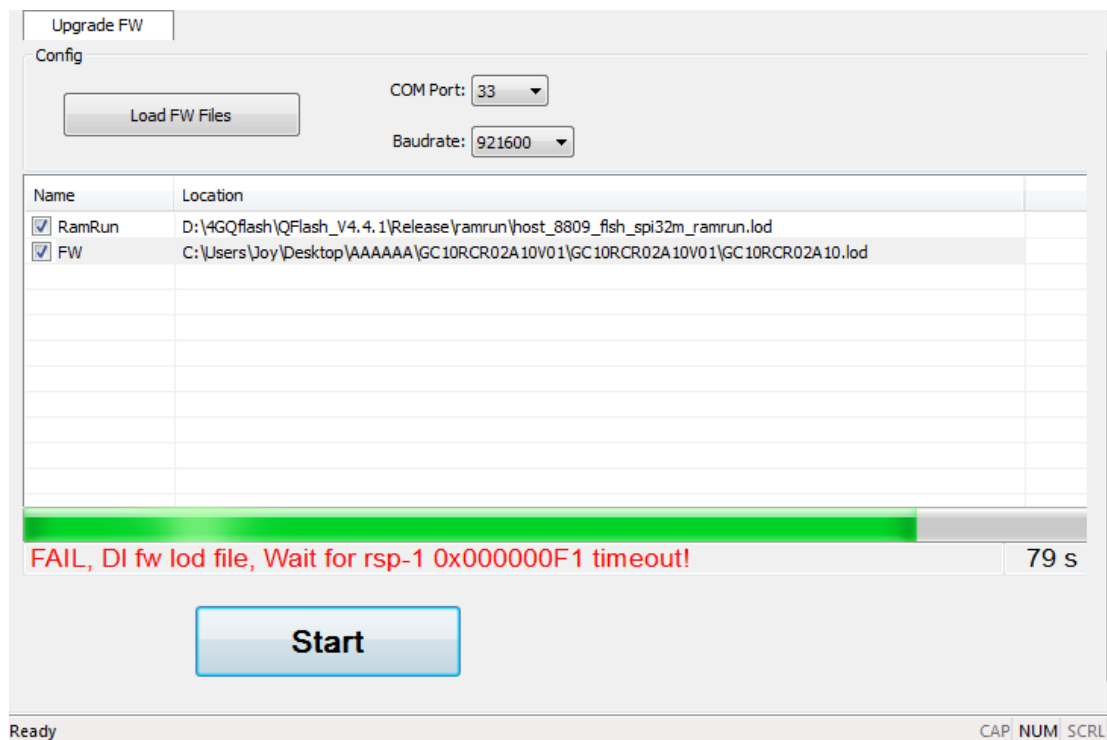


Figure 43: Abnormal Power Supply (GCxx)

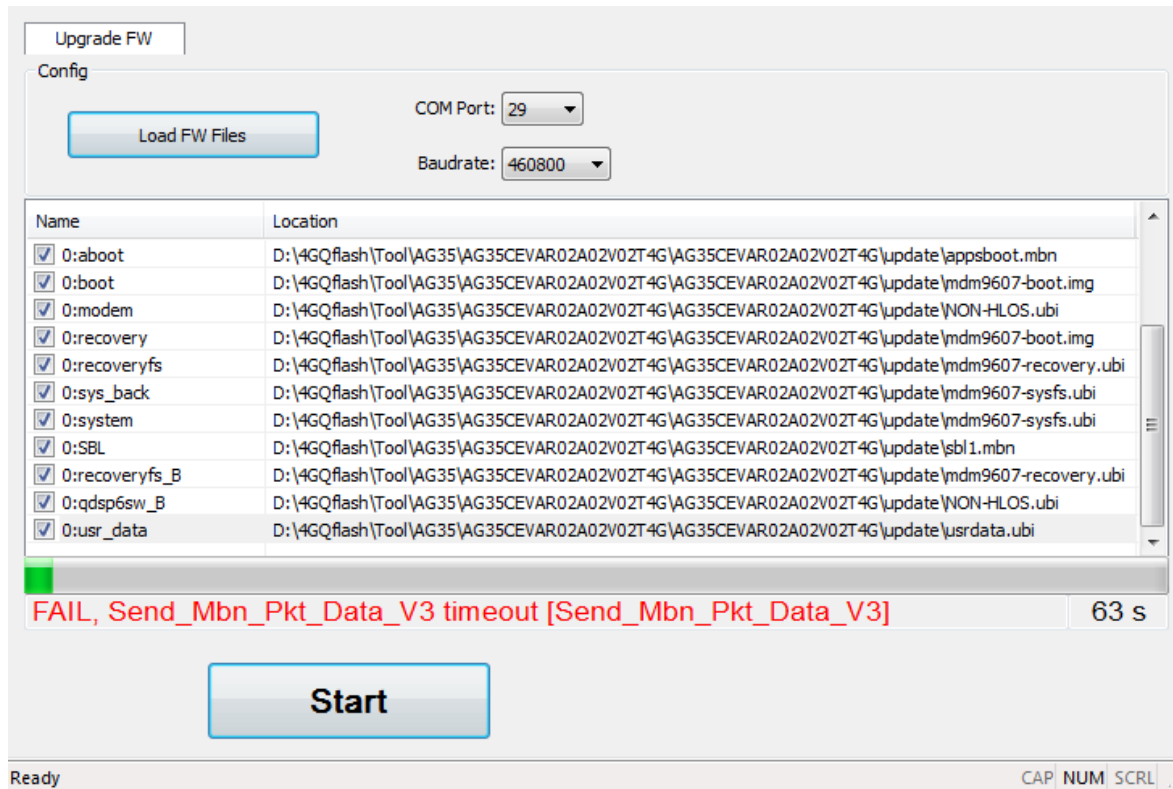


Figure 44: Abnormal Power Supply (UCxx/ECxx/EG9x/EG2x/Ex06/EM05/AGxx/BGxx/Ex12/EG18/RG500Q/RM500Q)

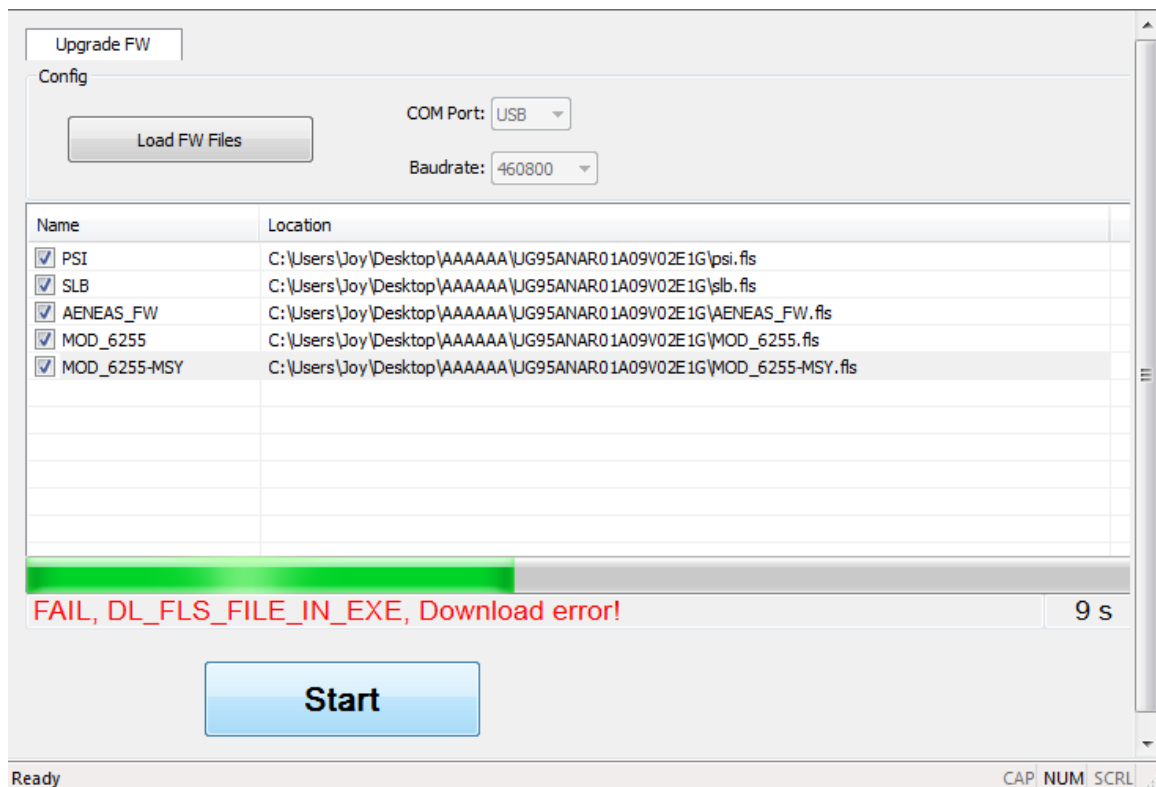


Figure 45: Abnormal Power Supply (UGxx)

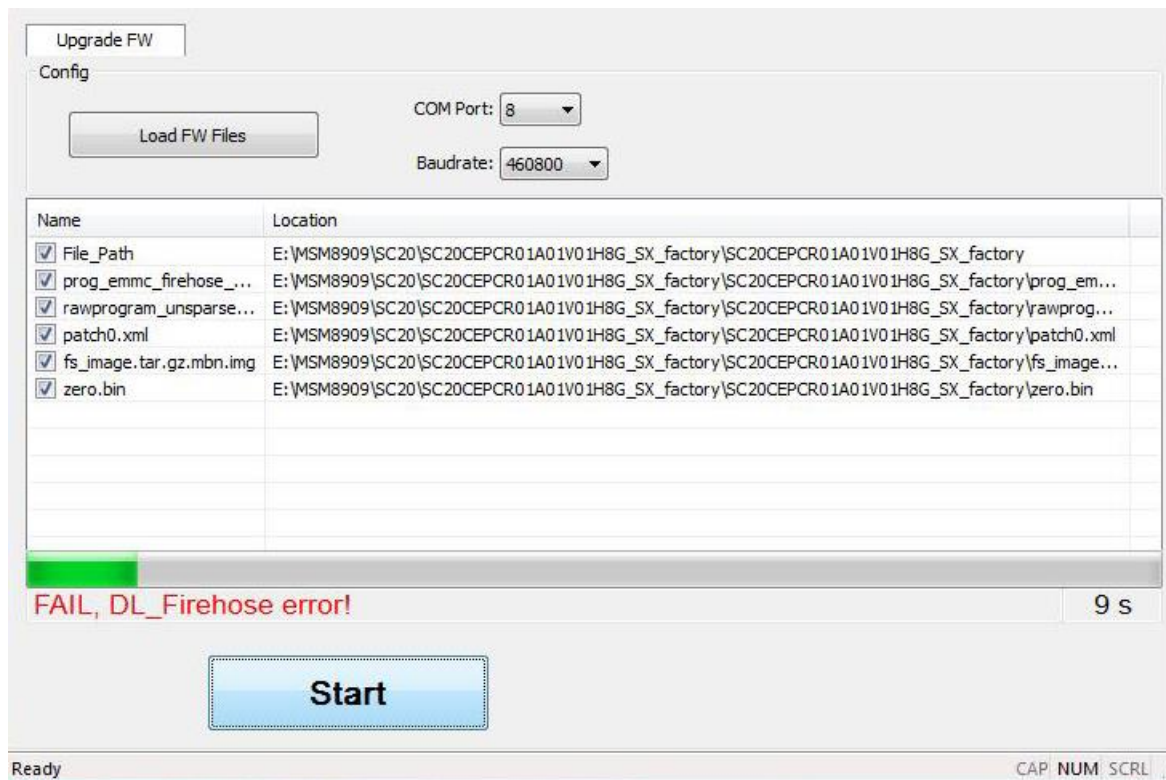


Figure 46: Abnormal Power Supply (SCxx)

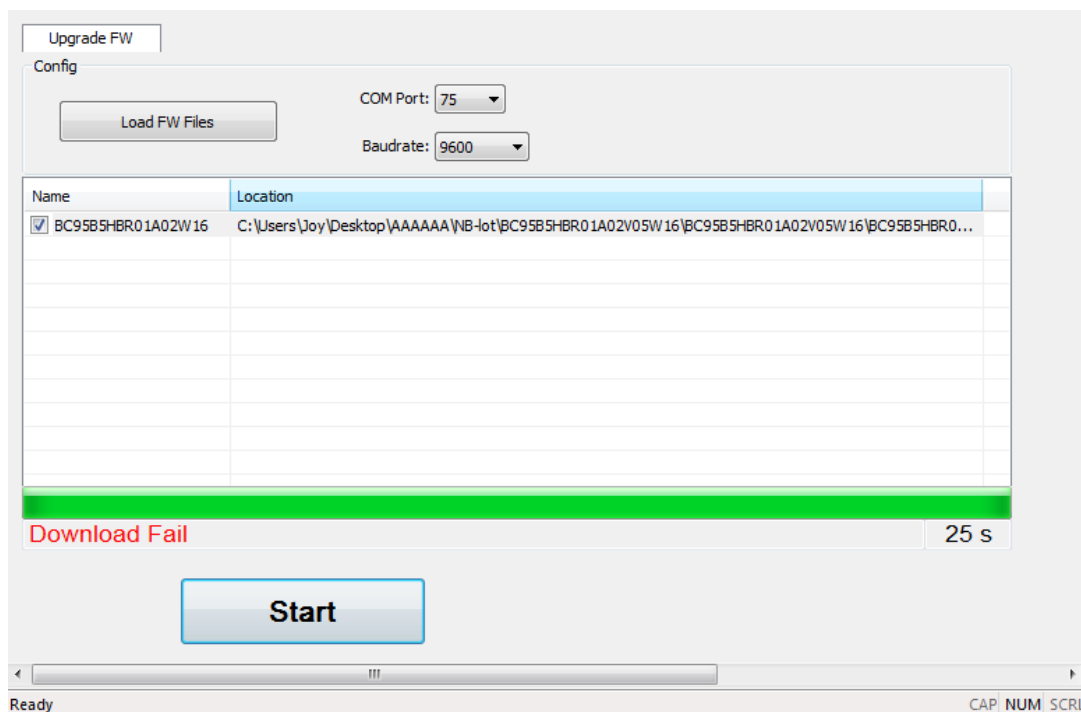


Figure 47: Abnormal Power Supply (BCxx)

2.5.6. USB to RS-232 Converter Cable is Abnormal

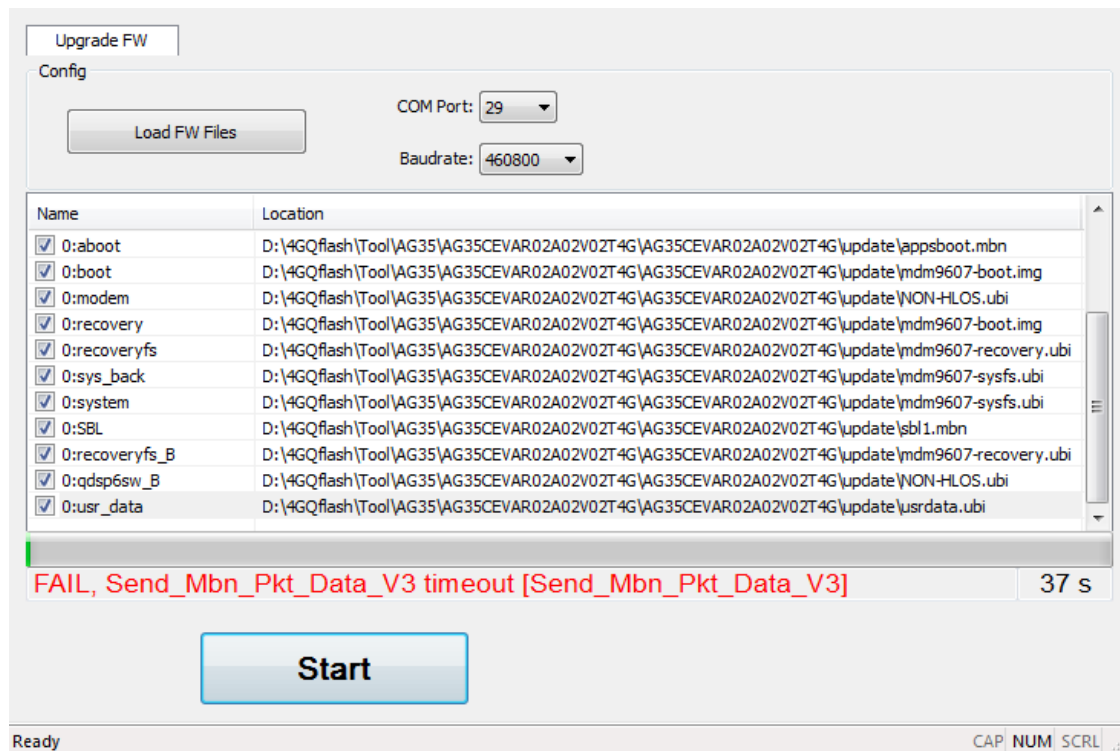


Figure 48: Abnormal USB to RS-232 Converter Cable