

# Quick Start Guide

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## XCite-PKG-U™ USB RF Modem

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Create a Long Range Wireless Link in Minutes!

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MD0021

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## Range Test Setup

### Requirements for Range Test

- One XCite-PKG-U™ USB RF Modem
- One XCite-PKG-R™ RS-232/485 RF Modem (or an XCite OEM RF Module  
 mounted to a MaxStream XIB-R interface board)
- USB and RS-232 Accessories Packages (Accessories packages  
 are included with RF Modem part numbers ending with "-UA" and "-RA")
- One computer (Windows 98 SE, 2000 or XP) with an available USB port
- X-CTU Software and USB RF modem drivers installed on the computer

### Install X-CTU Software

Double-click the 'setup\_X-CTU.exe' file then follow the prompts of the installation screens. This file is located on the MaxStream CD and on the following web page: [www.maxstream.net/helpdesk/download.php](http://www.maxstream.net/helpdesk/download.php)

### Install Drivers (Hardware USB Bus & Virtual Com Port drivers)

1.  Connect the XCite-PKG-U RF Modem to a PC using a USB cable. A USB  
 cable is included with the USB RF Modem accessories package.  
 ▶ The XCite USB RF Modem is a "plug-and-play" device that should  
 automatically be detected by the PC.

#### Found New Hardware Wizard (Windows XP)

Windows 2000 and 98 SE use different text to identify these same options.

2.  Select "Install from specific list or location" option; then select "Next" button.
- 3a.  [First verify MaxStream CD is inserted] Select the "Search for best driver in  
 these locations" option.
- 3b.  [Check "Search removable media (CD-ROM...)" box; then select "Next" button.
4.  ["Windows Logo Testing" alert box] Select the "Continue Anyway" button.
5.  Select the "Finish" button.
6.  Repeat steps 2 through 5 to install the second driver.

## Range Test Setup (continued)

### Verify Driver Installations and Read Virtual Com Port Number

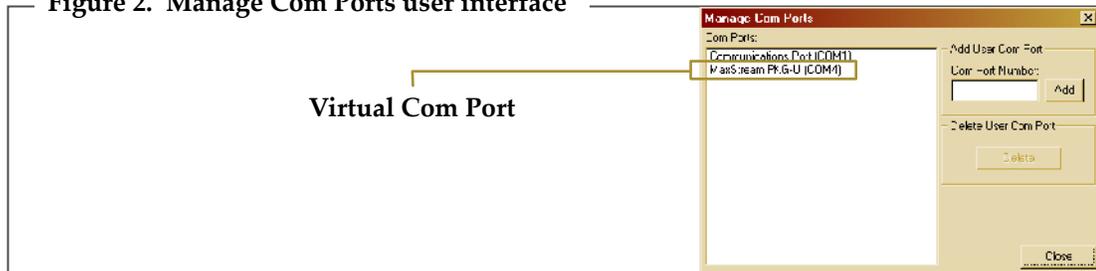
- Make sure XCite-PKG-U RF Modem (Radio1) is connected to the  
 USB port of the PC. [Figure 1 - Illuminated bottom-left red LED indicates  
 successful USB link.]
- Launch the X-CTU Software and go to the "PC Settings" tab.  
 [Start --> All Programs --> MaxStream --> X-CTU]
- Click the "Manage" button located on the "PC Settings" tab.
- [Manage Com Ports window] Locate 'MaxStream PKG-U' in the "Com Port"  
 list and read the com port number associated with the USB RF Modem.  
 The number assigned to the XCite-PKG-U USB RF Modem will be used  
 in the "Perform Range Test" section.  
 ▶ PC com port enumerations can also be read under the "Ports (COM &  
 LPT)" entry of the Microsoft Windows "Device Manager".

— **Figure 1. LED indication of successful USB link** —————

- ⊙ Bottom-left (red) LED is illuminated



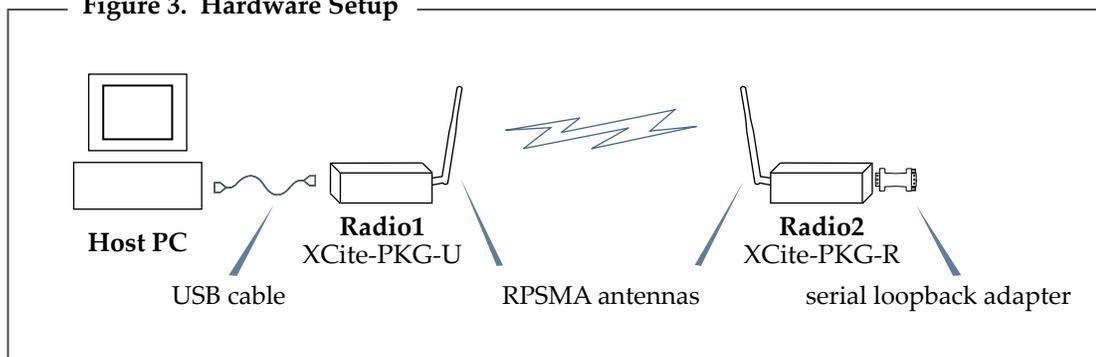
— **Figure 2. Manage Com Ports user interface** —————



### Hardware Setup

- Verify XCite-PKG-U RF Modem (Radio1) was successfully connected to  
 the USB port of the PC [see Figure 1].
- Attach the serial loopback adapter to the DB-9 serial connector of the  
 XCite-PKG-R RS-232 RF Modem (Radio2). [Figure 3]  
 The serial loopback adapter configures Radio2 to function as a repeater by  
 looping data back into the module for retransmission.
- Attach RPSMA antennas to Radio1 & Radio2.
- Power Radio2 through its power connector. (Radio1 is already powered  
 through one of the pins in the USB connection.)

— **Figure 3. Hardware Setup** —————





## Tips and Suggestions

### Change Interface Baud Rate of RF Modem (Optional)

OEMs and integrators can interface with XCite RF Modems at different baud rates than the modem defaults (though actual RF data rate is fixed). To change the modem's serial interfacing rate, first select the PC com port baud rate that matches the modem's default [steps 1-2]. Then change the baud rate of the modem itself [steps 3-7]. Then lastly, select the baud rate of the PC com port to match the newly set baud rate of the Module [step 8].

### Change Baud Rate (Optional)

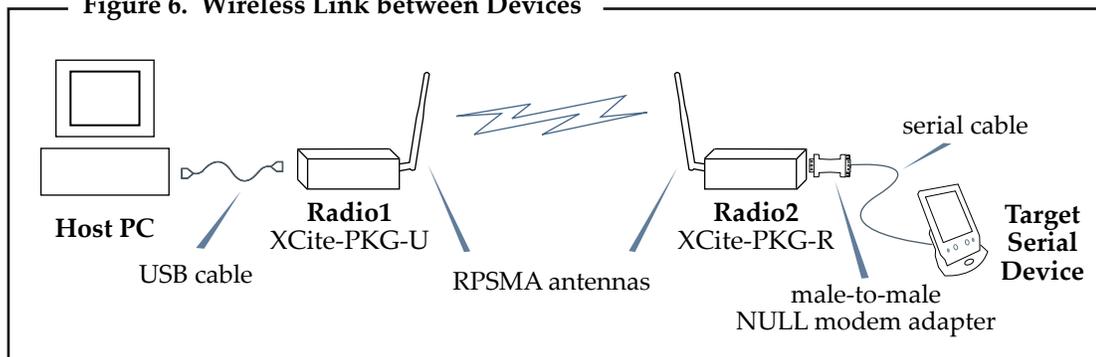
1.  Setup connection to a PC by following the steps of the "Install Drivers"  instructions on page 1 of this guide.
2.  Select the PC Com port baud rate that matches the RF Modem's fixed RF  data rate by following steps 1, 2 and 3 of the "Range Test". [on page 3]
3.  Select the "Modem Configuration" tab of the X-CTU Software.
4.  Select the "Read" button to view current parameter values.
5.  In the Command & Parameter hierarchical tree, open the "Serial  Interfacing Options" folder by selecting its plus (+) sign.
6.  Select the "Baud Rate" entry, then select a desired baud rate from the  dropdown list.
7.  Select "Write" button to save new settings to the RF Modem.
8.  Select the "PC Settings" tab [Figure 4] then select the value from the  "Baud" dropdown list that matches the newly set baud rate. This  configures the PC Com Port to communicate at the new baud rate.

### Create a Wireless Link between Devices

A pair of RF Modems can be used in lieu of a serial cable to create a wireless link between devices. The topology below illustrates a basic wireless strategy that can be used when connecting to target devices such as automatic meter readers, fleet management devices, remote weather stations and a host of other applications. When connecting devices, consider the following:

- Use the **male-to-male NULL modem adapter** to connect Radio2 to a  target serial device. [Figure 6] Signals crossover inside the adapter.
- To verify serial cabling is functioning properly, insert a **female-to-female**  **NULL modem adapter** in place of Radio1 and Radio2, then test  communications without radios in the link.

Figure 6. Wireless Link between Devices



**Contact MaxStream** (Office hours are 8am – 5pm U.S. Mountain standard time)

Phone: (801) 765-9885, Live Chat: [www.maxstream.net](http://www.maxstream.net), E-mail: [rf-xperts@maxstream.net](mailto:rf-xperts@maxstream.net)