Procedure for Locking Down COM Port Numbers for FTDI Devices

This procedure locks FTDI devices to COM port 3

First Step: Bring up Regedit.



Select:

My Computer\HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control\UsbFlags

Add the following New Binary Value from the Edit/New pulldown menu:

IgnoreHWSerNum04036001

Click on Edit/Modify and assign "01" as the binary value.

Close Regedit

Next, open up the System Properties (from Control Panel) window and click on the Advanced tab. At the bottom of this tab, click on Environment Variables:

tem Proper	iles			?
System Restore		Automatic Updates		Remote
General	Compu	uter Name	Hardware	Advanced
You must be lo Performance Visual effects,	gged on as , processor	an Administra	tor to make most emory usage, and	of these changes. d virtual memory
				<u>S</u> ettings
-User Profiles-				
Desktop settir	ngs related	to your logon		
				S <u>e</u> ttings
Startup and R	ecovery-			
System startu	p, system fa	ailure, and deb	ugging information	n
				Se <u>t</u> tings
	En	viro <u>n</u> ment Vari	ables E <u>r</u>	ror Reporting
		OK	. Cano	el Apply

Environment Variables 🔹 💽 🗙				
User variables for Cameron.Forbes				
Variable	Value			
TEMP TMP	C:\Documents and Settings\cameron.fo C:\Documents and Settings\cameron.fo			
	New Edit Delete			
<u>System variable</u>	5			
Variable	Value			
ComSpec DevMgr_Show FP_NO_HOST_ NUMBER_OF_I OS	C:\WINDOW5\system32\cmd.exe			
	New Edit Delete			
	OK Cancel			

By clicking on the New pushbutton, add the following environment variable:

Edit System Variable 🔹 💽 🔀			
Variable <u>n</u> ame:	DevMgr_Show_Nonpresent_Devices		
Variable <u>v</u> alue:	1		
	OK Cancel		

Click on OK to save the changes.

Next, open the device manager. Under the View pull-down menu, enable "Show hidden devices"

You will now see all the old port assignments as "ghost" devices. Go ahead and delete these ghost devices.

Alternatively, you can run the FTClean utility to delete previously installed FTDI drivers

http://www.ftdichip.com/Resources/Utilities/FTClean.zip

The above procedures should free up all of your COM port assignments.

Install your FTDI serial device. Use the Hardware Wizard.

On my Lenovo laptop, the above procedure locks FTDI devices to COM Port 3.

Swap out the FTDI cable for a different cable. Use the same physical USB port.

The device manager will refresh itself, and you should see the new cable assigned to the same COM port.