

Technical Note



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Downloading Stored PCA Data Using Windows® HyperTerminal®

1. INTRODUCTION

This Technical Note describes how to download stored data from a Bacharach PCA to a personal computer running Windows 95/98/SE/Me and the program HyperTerminal. Downloaded data can then be opened in a spreadsheet program (e.g., Microsoft Excel) for analysis.

2. MATERIALS REQUIRED

- Serial Cable (P/N 24-0729)
- PC running Windows 95/98/SE/Me with an available COM port
- Microsoft Excel
- PCA with test data stored in memory.

3. PROCEDURE

1. Connect the serial cable to an available COM port on the PC. A 25-pin to 9-pin adapter may be required.
2. Run hypertrm.exe by selecting **Start > Programs > Accessories > Communications > HyperTerminal**. Or, in the Start menu, select **Run**, type in "HYPERTRM.EXE" and then click **OK**.
3. If the Connection Description window is not visible, select **New Connection** under the **File** pull-down menu.
4. Enter a name to identify this connection such as "PCA." Select an icon and then click **OK**. The **Connect To** window should now appear.
5. Click the drop-down arrow for **Connect using:** and click on the COM port that the serial cable was connected to in Step 1, and then click **OK**. The Properties window for that COM port will then be displayed.
6. Adjust the port settings as follows, and then click **OK**:

Bits per second	9600
Data Bits	8
Parity	None
Stop bits	1
Flow Control	Hardware

7. Select **Save** from the **File** pull-down menu. This will create an icon with the extension “.ht” in the HyperTerminal folder (e.g., PCA.ht). This icon can be dragged onto the desk top and used to start HyperTerminal with the port settings that were just entered.
8. Connect the serial cable to the PCA’s RS-232 port.
9. Start the PCA. After the 60-second warm-up, proceed to the **MEMORY TO PC** menu and position the cursor in front of **Transmit Data**. If necessary, refer to the PCA’s instruction manual for a more detailed description of this step.
10. From HyperTerminal, select **Transfer** from the **Menu** bar, and then select **Capture text...** Click **Start** to accept the default drive\directory\filename to which all received data will be stored as a comma-delimited ASCII text file.

NOTE: *By default, the captured text file will be stored on the hard drive at C:\Program Files\Accessories\HyperTerminal\CAPTURE.TXT. If desired, click **Browse** to select a different drive, directory and filename. The next time data is captured, it will be stored under the same location and filename.*

TIP: *Changing the filename extension from “TXT” to “CSV” (comma separated variable) will allow the file to be directly opened in the spreadsheet program. For example, double clicking the filename “CAPTURE.CSV” in Windows Explorer will automatically start Microsoft Excel and load the file.*

11. Press the PCA’s **Enter** key to begin downloading. Data should appear on the computer screen while downloading.
12. When downloading is complete, select **Transfer** from the **Menu** bar, and then select **Capture text... > Stop**.
13. Close HyperTerminal, turn OFF the PCA, and disconnect the serial cable.
14. The stored data file on the computer can now be opened in a spreadsheet program for analysis. Refer to the spreadsheet’s instruction manual for information on how to import comma-delimited text files. Or if the data filename has a “CSV” extension, double click the filename to automatically start Microsoft Excel and load the file.