

KRAMER ELECTRONICS LTD.

# USER GUIDE

### Kramer VSPM

Virtual Serial Port Manager

P/N: 2900-300125 Rev 2

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### 1 Introduction

Welcome to Kramer Electronics! Since 1981, Kramer Electronics has been providing a world of unique, creative, and affordable solutions to the vast range of problems that confront the video, audio, presentation, and broadcasting professional on a daily basis. In recent years, we have redesigned and upgraded most of our line, making the best even better!

Our 1,000-plus different models now appear in 11 groups that are clearly defined by function: GROUP 1: Distribution Amplifiers; GROUP 2: Switchers and Routers; GROUP 3: Control Systems; GROUP 4: Format/Standards Converters; GROUP 5: Range Extenders and Repeaters; GROUP 6: Specialty AV Products; GROUP 7: Scan Converters and Scalers; GROUP 8: Cables and Connectors; GROUP 9: Room Connectivity; GROUP 10: Accessories and Rack Adapters and GROUP 11: Sierra Products.

Congratulations on purchasing your **Kramer VSPM**, which is ideal for setting up virtual ports on the PC to forward data from/to TCP connections.

### 2 Overview

The **Kramer VSPM** software lets you emulate virtual ports which normally would be present in the machine hardware. After setup, the virtual port lets you control Kramer machines via your PC.

In the example illustrated in <u>Figure 1</u>, machines A and B need to be controlled from a distance by the PC. Both machines are connected to the Kramer **FC-10ETH** Ethernet Controller which is connected via Ethernet to the PC.

To control the two Kramer machines A and B via their serial port from a distance, two virtual serial ports are defined on the PC (Port 5 for machine A and Port 3 for machine B). Commands to port 5 can now be sent to machine A and commands to port 3 can be sent to machine B (and back from both machines to the PC).



Figure 1: Virtual Port Setup Example

The following sections describe how to install the **Kramer VSPM** software and set up the virtual ports.

## 3 Kramer VSPM Software Installation

To install the software:

Download the **Kramer VSPM** application Software from http://www.kramerelectronics.com.

The Kramer VSPM requires the following:

- Microsoft Windows XP, Vista 64-bit, Windows 7 32-bit, Windows 7 64-bit
- Microsoft .Net Framework version 4.0

To install the Control Software:

1. Double click the Setup.exe file.

The Welcome window appears:

👹 Virtual Serial Port Manager	
Welcome to the Virtual Serial Port Manager Setup Wizard	
The installer will guide you through the steps required to install Virtual Serial Port Manage computer.	r on your
WARNING: This computer program is protected by copyright law and international treati Unauthorized duplication or distribution of this program, or any portion of it, may result in or criminal penalties, and will be prosecuted to the maximum extent possible under the la	es. severe civil w.
Cancel	<u>N</u> ext >

Figure 2: Welcome Window

2. Click Next.

The Select Installation Folder window appears:



Figure 3: Select Installation Folder Window

- 3. Click Browse to select the destination folder.
- 4. When finished, click Next.

The Confirm Installation window appears:

🞲 Virtual Serial Port Manager	
Confirm Installation	
The installer is ready to install Virtual Serial Port Manager on your computer. Click "Next" to start the installation.	
Cancel Casck	<u>N</u> ext >



5. Click Next. The Installation Progress window appears:

👹 Virtual Serial Port Manager	
Installing Virtual Serial Port Manager	
Virtual Serial Port Manager is being installed.	
Please wait	
Cancel < Back	<u>N</u> ext>

Figure 5: Installation Progress Window

Then the Installation Complete window appears:

👹 Virtual Serial Port Manager	
Installation Complete	
Virtual Serial Port Manager has been successfully installed. Click "Close" to exit.	
Please use Windows Update to check for any critical updates to the .NET Framework.	
Cancel < <u>B</u> ack	<u>C</u> lose

Figure 6: Installation Complete Window

6. Click Close.

An icon appears on the desktop and a shortcut appears in the *Start Menu Programs* folder in the *Kramer* sub-folder.

Kramer VSPM - Kramer VSPM Software Installation

Once the installation is complete, you can open the program:



Once the program is opened, the **Kramer VSPM** icon appears in the system tray bar and the existing virtual ports are being defined:



The COM port icon will remain in the task bar (unless you right-click Exit),

indicating that the ports that you created are ready for use. You can click this icon to open the main window (or right-click Open) for review or to make any changes.



# 4 Using the Kramer VSPM

Open the application by right-clicking the **Kramer VSPM** icon. The Main window opens:

🔟 Kramer Virtual Serial Port Man	ager	_ ×
Settings About		
+ - 0		
Virtual Serial Port List:		
	Label:	
	Port Number:	~
	Destination IP:	
	Destination Port:	
	Reconnect on connection lost:	
		Cancel Add new

Figure 7: Virtual Serial Port Manager Main Window

### 4.1 Setting Preferences

To set preferences click the Settings menu on the top left side of the main window and select Preferences:

🔟 Kramer Virtual Serial Port Mana	ager	– ×
Settings About		
Reset Ports		
Preferences		
Virtual Serial Port List:		
	Label:	
	Port Number:	
	Destination IP:	
	Destination Port:	
	Reconnect on connection lost:	
		Cancel Add new



The Preferences window appears:

Preferences ×
Automatically launch Kramer Virtual Serial Port Manager on PC startup
Always minimize to system tray instead of to the taskbar
Generate Log files
Log Folder: C:\Documents and Settings\dphilosoph\My Docum
Open Log Folder
Keep log history for 1 day(s)
OK Cancel

Figure 9: The Preferences Window

Check the desired boxes.

To generate Log files, check the appropriate box and click the button to select the log folder. The Browse for Folder window appears:

Browse For Folder	? 🗙
🞯 Desktop	~
🖃 🚞 My Documents	
🗉 🧰 Adobe	
🗉 🧰 Corel	
Corel User Files	=
🗉 🧰 Kramer	
🖃 🚞 Kramer Electronics	
🚞 Virtual Serial Port Manager	
🚞 My eBooks	
🚵 My Music	
Discrete My Palettes	
🗉 📇 My Pictures	
🗉 🧰 SymbolLibrary	~
Make New Folder OK Car	icel

Figure 10: Selecting the Log Folder

Select the folder to which you want to send the Log file or create a new folder and click OK.

Select the number of days for which you wish to keep the Log folder (from 1 day to 365 days).

### 4.2 Adding a Virtual Serial Port

To add a virtual port:

 Type the port name (up to seven characters) in the Label textbox (for example, Mach A) and click the D button:

🔣 Kramer Virtual Serial Port Man	ager	_ ×
Settings About		
1 - 0		
Virtual Serial Port List:		
	Label:	Mach A
	Port Number:	COM2
	Destination IP:	
	Destination Port:	
	Reconnect on connection lost:	
		Cancel Add New



 Select the desired port to use (from the ports available between COM1 to COM255):

Kramer Virtual Serial Port Mana	ager		– ×
Settings About			
+ - 0			
Virtual Serial Port List:			
	Label:	Mach A	
	Port Number:	COM2	~
	Destination IP:	COM2 COM3 COM4	<b>^</b>
	Destination Port:	COM5 COM6	
	Reconnect on connection lost:	COM7 COM8 COM9 COM10 COM11 COM12 COM12 COM12 COM14 COM15 COM16 COM16 COM17 COM18	
		COM19 COM20 COM21 COM22 COM23 COM23 COM24 COM25 COM26 COM26 COM27 COM28	

Figure 12: Selecting the COM Port

 Type the Destination IP number and the destination port (for the Kramer FC-10ETH in the example illustrated in <u>Figure 1</u>) in the appropriate text boxes:

🔟 Kramer Virtual Serial Port Man	ager	_ ×
Settings About		
+ - 0		
Virtual Serial Port List:		
	Label:	Mach A
	Port Number:	COM5
	Destination IP:	192 168 61 39
	Destination Port:	500d
	Reconnect on connection lost:	
		Cancel Add New

Figure 13: Adding the Destination IP and Port

You can check the Reconnect on connection lost box if you want the virtual port to automatically reconnect to the destination port following a connection loss.

4. Click the Add New button.

The new Virtual Port will be added to the Virtual Serial Port List:

🔟 Kramer Virtual Serial Port Man	ager	_ × `
Settings About		
Virtual Serial Port List:		
Mach A COM5	Label:	
	Port Number:	v
	Destination IP:	
	Destination Port:	
	Reconnect on connection lost:	
		Cancel Replace

Figure 14: Virtual Port COM5 Added to the Virtual Port List

The virtual serial port list shows if the port is currently connected, the machine label and the COM port number.



If the physical ports are connected, the virtual port will automatically be connected. If not, the virtual port will appear disconnected. To connect the port, you will either need to edit the COM port (see <u>Section 4.3</u>), delete the port and recreate it, or exit Kramer VSPM and re-enter it.

5. In the same way, you can add additional virtual ports (for example, COM3):

🚯 Kramer Virtual Serial Port Man	ager	_ ×
Settings About		
+ - 0		
Virtual Serial Port List:		
Mach A COM5	Label:	Mach B
	Port Number:	COM3
	Destination IP:	192 168 61 39
	Destination Port:	5001
	Reconnect on connection lost:	M
		Cancel Add New

Figure 15: Adding the COM 3 Port

6. Click Add New:

🔟 Kramer Virtual Serial Port Man	ager	_ ×
Settings About		
<b>+ - Ø</b>		
Virtual Serial Port List:		
Mach A COM5	Label:	
Mach B COM3	Port Number:	~
	Destination IP:	
	Destination Port:	
	Reconnect on connection lost:	
		Cancel Replace

Figure 16: COM 5 and COM 3 in the Virtual Serial Port List

### 4.3 Editing Port Details

To edit the COM port details, do the following:

1. Select the COM port you want to edit (for example, COM3).

🔟 Kramer Virtual Serial Port Man	ager	- ×
Settings About		
+ - 0		
Virtual Serial Port List:		
Mach A COM5	Label:	Mach B
Mach B COM3	Port Number:	COM3 🗸
	Destination IP:	192 168 61 39
	Destination Port:	5001
	Reconnect on connection lost:	$\checkmark$
		Cancel Replace

Figure 17: Selecting a COM Port for Editing



If the machine application is running, you can only change the Label name and check/uncheck the Reconnect on connection loss box. You cannot edit the Port Number, Destination IP and Destination Port if the virtual port is used by the machine application program.

Click the button to edit the selected COM port and change the COM3 details.

Kramer Virtual Serial Port Man	ager	_ ×
Settings About		
100		
Virtual Serial Port List:		
Mach A COM5	Label:	Mach B
III Mach B COM3	Port Number:	COM3
	Destination IP:	192 168 61 39
	Destination Port:	5002
	Reconnect on connection lost:	
		Cancel Replace
		Control Replace

Figure 18: Editing the COM Port

Click the Replace button to accept changes or Cancel to return to the previous settings.

### 4.4 Deleting / Resetting Ports

You can delete a COM port that is not in use or reset and delete all the ports in case they fail to function.

To delete a COM port:

1. Select the COM port you want to delete (for example, COM 5):

🔟 Kramer Virtual Serial Port Man	ager	- ×
Settings About		
+ - 0		
Virtual Serial Port List:		
■► Mach A COM5	Label:	Mach A
Mach B COM3	Port Number:	COM5 🗸
	Destination IP:	192 168 61 39
	Destination Port:	5000
	Reconnect on connection lost:	
		Cancel Replace

Figure 19: Deleting a COM Port

2. Click the Dutton to delete COM5.

To reset the ports (in case of virtual ports function failure):

1. Open the Settings menu and click Reset Ports.

The following message appears:

WAR	NING	×
1	This will delete all your virtual ports settings and perform a bus reset. You must close all applications which use virtual ports. Are you sure?	
	OK	el

2. Click OK.

If you did not close the applications that use the virtual serial port, the following message will appear:

ERRC	R ×
×	Failed to reset bus settings. Make sure there are no applications runing which use virtual ports.
	ок

If all applications are closed, all ports will be reset, and the main window is cleared:

🔟 Kramer Virtual Serial Port Man	ager	_ ×
Settings About		
+ - 0		
Virtual Serial Port List:		
	Label:	
	Port Number:	COM2 🗸
	Destination IP:	
	Destination Port:	
	Reconnect on connection lost:	
L		Cancel Replace

Figure 20: Reset Ports



For the latest information on our products and a list of Kramer distributors, visit our Web site where updates to this user manual may be found.

#### We welcome your questions, comments, and feedback.

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