

Uncontrollable Mouse/Cursor in Windows

by Roy Goyette

Several users have noticed their mouse behaving strangely when they connect a GPS to their computer. Windows, in its 'all-knowing' wisdom, has decided that it knows best and that your GPS is really a mouse. We have explained this problem in past newsletters, but we still get users calling us about it.

This is a known Microsoft Windows problem and it is easily resolved.

If your mouse or cursor is jumping all over your screen when you connect a device in HYPACK® and you can't seem to control it, the problem is almost always an error on the part of Microsoft Windows Plug-and-Play feature that tries to load device drivers for you automatically when you hook up a new device to your computer.

There are a couple of different ways to correct the situation.

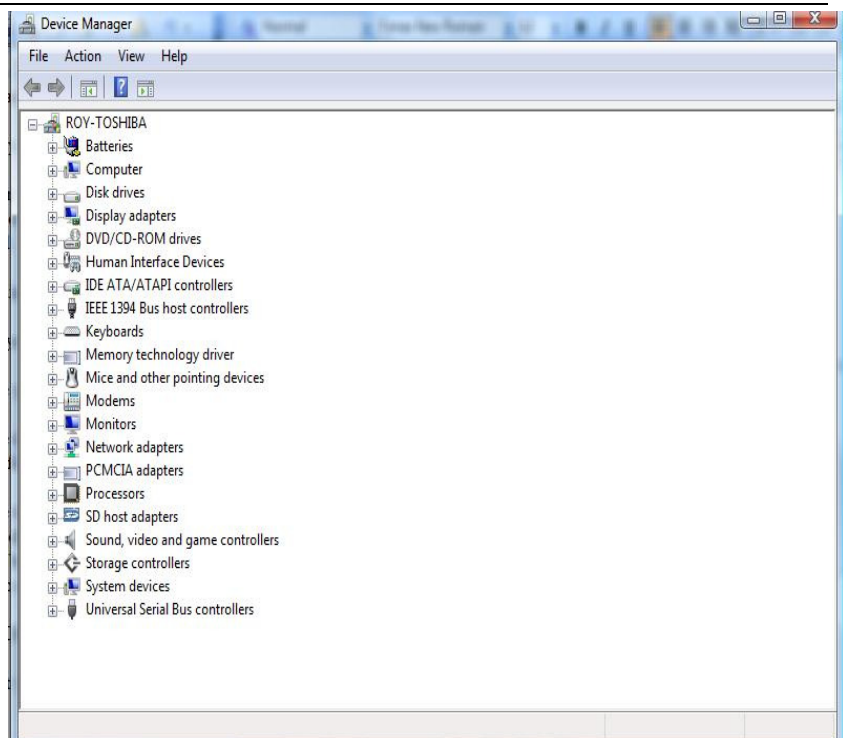
Method 1:

First try this method for eliminating the problem.

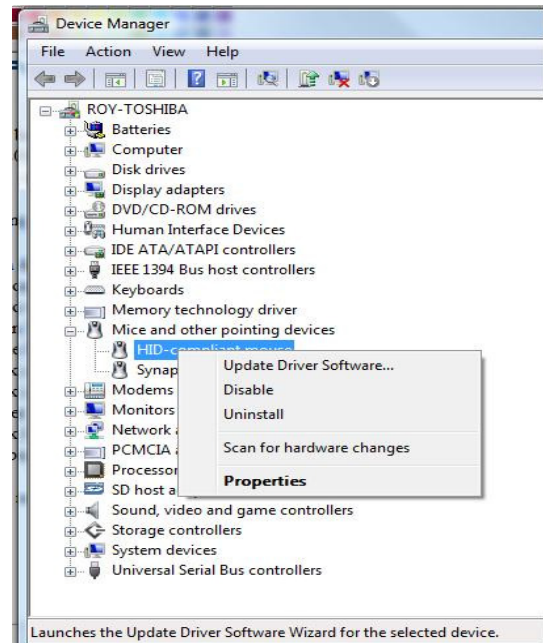
1. **Turn on your PC with the device plugged into your computer and operating.**
Be patient and allow your machine to start up all the way and it will start to exhibit the problem of jumping around.
2. **Disconnect the device.**

Note: This is usually the GPS device.

3. **Go to your Control Panel in Windows and click on System to open the applet.**
4. **Click on the Hardware tab in the System applet.**
5. **Click the button for Device Manager.** In Device Manager you will see all the different devices associated with your computer. See the screen to the right for an example.



6. **Click on the plus (+) sign next to the category “Mice and other pointing devices”**. When you click on this plus sign the category opens and you should see a Microsoft Serial Mouse listed.
7. **Right-click on the Microsoft Serial Mouse device and select ‘Disable’**.
8. **Exit the Device Manager.**
9. **Plug in your GPS and restart your computer.** The problem should be resolved.



Method 2:

A second method to resolve the issue is a resolution put out by Microsoft itself and involves editing the registry. If you aren't comfortable working with the REGEDIT feature of Microsoft, this isn't a good time to start playing with it. Be sure you know what you're doing here to avoid that serious trouble.

For the detailed instructions for this method please see the article from Microsoft at the following URL.

<http://support.microsoft.com:80/default.aspx?scid=kb;en-us;283063>