



Why is my Mouse "Jumping" all Around my Screen

By Joe Burnett

Under Windows NT, 2000, and XP, the auto configuration performed while booting sometimes identifies certain devices with RS-232 controls as a serial mouse. Any device that is connected to a COM port, and is powered up and transmitting data (before the computer is turned on and booted up), becomes unavailable and causes the mouse cursor to "jump" all across your screen.

THERE ARE 3 OPTIONS TO SOLVE THIS ISSUE:

OPTION #1

Leave the devices powered off or disconnected while booting.

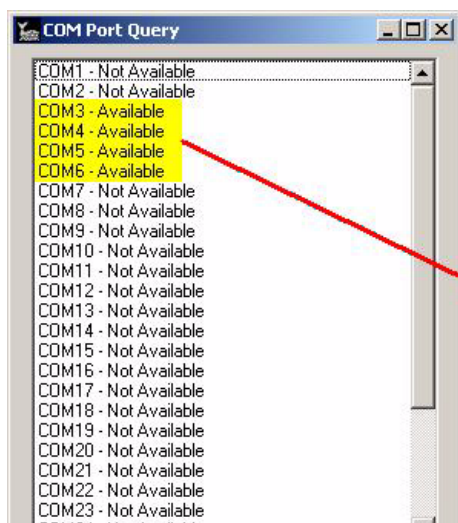
OPTION #2

This Option will allow you to have your devices connected, powered on, and transmitting data to your Data Collection Computer even before you turn on and boot up the Data Collection Computer.

To disable COM port detection in Windows NT, 2000, and XP:

1. Unplug or Power Off all the Devices connected to your computer
2. Start HYPACK® and select **Utilities > Communications > ComQuery**. You will see the screen. It will tell you all the Available COM ports on your computer. Write the Available COM port numbers down, as you will need to know them in a future step of this procedure.

FIGURE 1. ComQuery



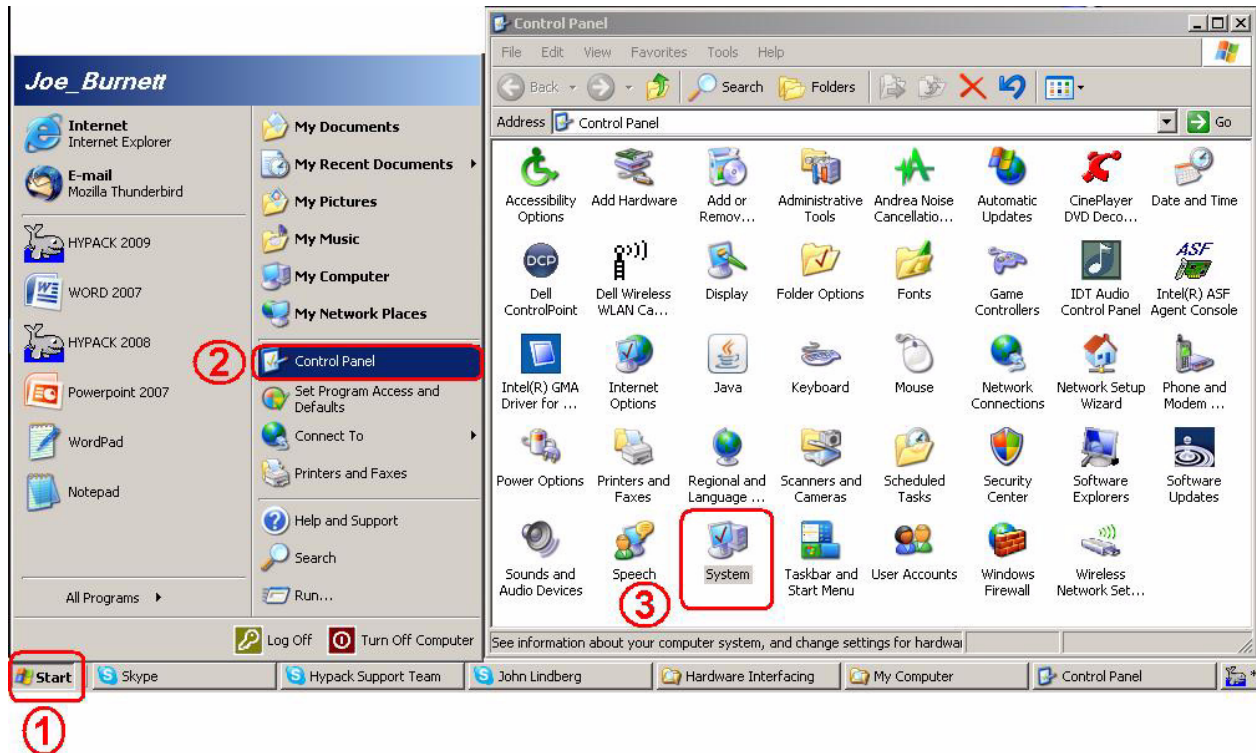
NOTE: If you did NOT Unplug or Power Off all of the Devices coming into your computer, you will ONLY see the COM ports that are Available for use, and NOT all the COM ports that are on your Computer

Here, we can see that COM ports 3, 4, 5, and 6 are Available on this computer. These are the numbers that you will need to know later.

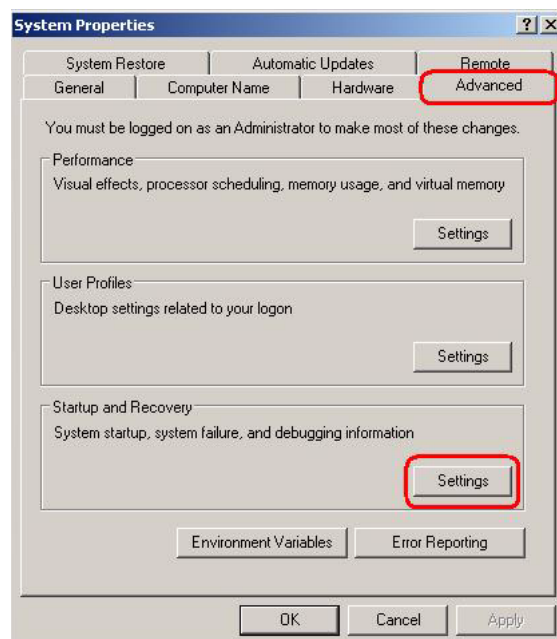
DISABLING SERIAL MOUSE DETECTION

To Disable serial mouse detection, perform the following:

1. Click on the Start button, then select Control Panel > Settings > System. Your System Properties window will now open.



2. On the Advanced Tab, under the Startup and Recovery Section, click on the Settings button.



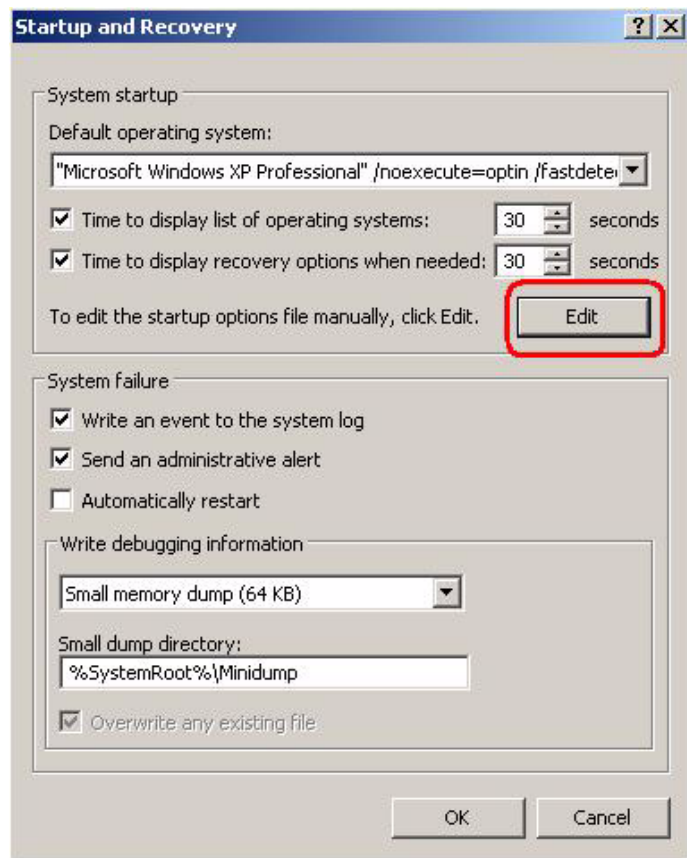
- Click on the Edit button under the System Startup Section. The **Boot.ini** file will now be active in **Notepad**, and ready for modification.

- Locate the line that looks like the following:

```
multi(0)disk(0)rdisk(0)partition(2)\XP="Windows XP" /fastdetect
```

- Now, add **/NoSerialMouse** to the end of it, so that it now reads:

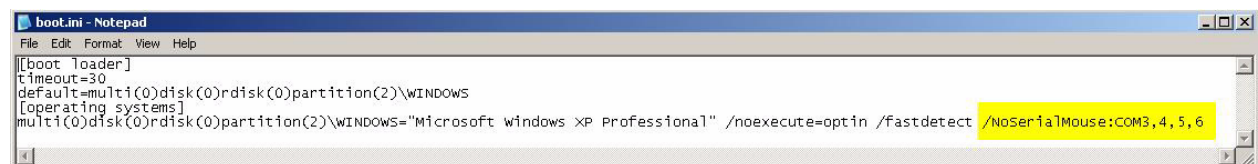
```
multi(0)disk(0)rdisk(0)partition(2)\XP="Windows XP" /fastdetect /NoSerialMouse  
(This is CASE SENSITIVE so add it exactly as shown here.)
```



After **/NoSerialMouse** you have the following Options:

/NoSerialMouse	disable detection on all COM ports
/NoSerialMouse:COMx	disable detection on COMx port
/NoSerialMouse:COMx,y,z	disable detection on COMx, y, and z ports

For Example, as you saw earlier, the computer showed COM ports 3, 4, 5, and 6 as being Available, so you would modify the **Boot.ini** as follows:



- After making the modification, Click on **File**, then **Save**.
- You can now close all the other Windows.
- Reboot your computer.
- Reconnect and/or Power On all your Devices. You can now leave all your devices connected and Powered On, if you so choose, because the modifications made to your

Boot.ini will now be in place and should keep the mouse from ever "jumping" around on your screen again.

NOTE: I have had limited success with this Option, and I would try it to see if it will work in your application.

OPTION 3

You can go to the following website and download this "free" program that will also do the same as Option 2, however, I believe that it is actually going into the Registry and disabling the Serial Mouse issue. (But don't know this for sure.)

<http://www.marciowb.net/blog/2008/10/rapidinha-dispositivo-serial-windows>

Once you get to the website, Scroll down the page until you see the following:

The screenshot shows the NoSerialMouse website on the left and the NoSerialMouse application window on the right. The website text describes the program's purpose and includes a 'Click Here to Download' button. The application window shows a 'Serial Port Name' dropdown set to 'COM13', with 'Fix' and 'Unfix' buttons. It also has checkboxes for 'List All Ports' and 'Automatically Fix', and a copyright notice for Marcio Wesley Borges.

NoSerialMouse

Pensando no bem coletivo e aproveitando um pequeno programinha que fiz anteriormente, acabei por automatizar a solução descrita pelo artigo 283063 da Microsoft. A idéia foi criar algo bem simples, mas que fosse eficaz. Você deixa ele rodando antes de plugar o dispositivo e quando o dispositivo é plugado, ele automaticamente desativa o mecanismo que faria o Windows reconhecê-lo como um Mouse. O programa funciona particularmente bem com dispositivos USB e foi testado no Windows XP, Vista 64 e 2000. O NoSerialMouse pode listar todas as portas COM do computador ou somente as COM que estejam efetivamente disponíveis.

O NoSerialMouse é gratuito. No entanto, pode ser que alguém se interesse pelos fontes. Já que o mecanismo de reconhecimento das portas seriais é particularmente sofisticado e reconhece com excelente precisão os mais diversos tipos de portas seriais - onde, inclusive, outros mecanismos de enumeração de hardware, falham (isso vale para Win2k, XP, Vista32/64). Os fontes do programa estão em Delphi 6 (com código e comentários em inglês) e posso, eventualmente, responder alguma questão por e-mail. Para adquirir os fontes, acesse:

Referências:

- Serial Device May Be Detected as a Serial Mouse in Windows 2000
- "Jumping Mouse" bug in Windows 2000/XP
- How to Use and Edit Boot.ini in Windows XP

Click Here to Download

NoSerialMouse

Serial Port Name
COM13

Fix

Unfix

☐ List All Ports

☐ Automatically Fix

This utility disable the Windows detection of serial mouse. Sometimes when using some kind of serial devices, like GPSs, Windows thinks that them are a Mouse and so, the mouse pointer goes crazy. You must have administrator permission to execute the 'fix'

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<http://www.marciowb.net>
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I have added the Yellow portions, the program is very small (only 423 kB).

Also, according to the author, it will work on Windows 2000, XP, and Vista 64.

HYPACK, Inc. assumes no responsibility for this program, and warns all users that you are doing this *at your own risk*. I have downloaded it, and can tell you that it has had NO adverse effects on any of my computers, and that it has done exactly what it says it will do. The "jumping" mouse problem goes away.