

## Pira CZ Serial Logger – User Manual

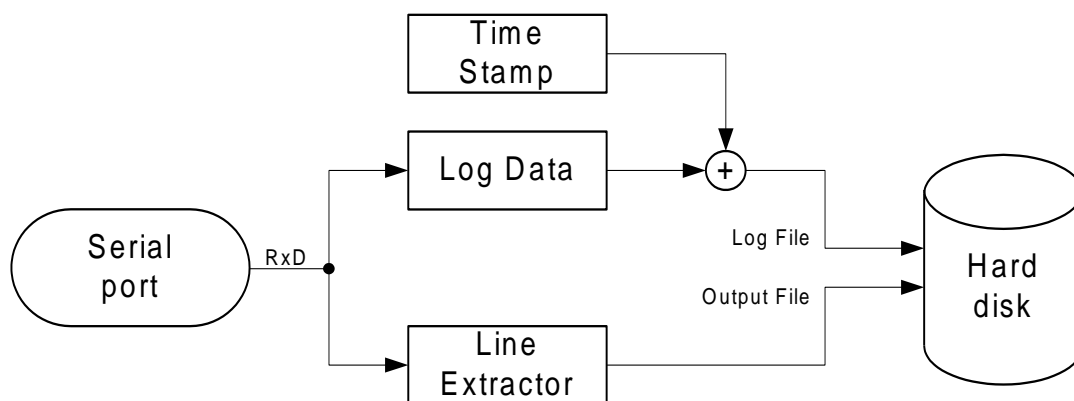
### Features

- Simple freeware application for incoming serial data logging
- Supports all Windows versions from 95
- User selectable serial COM port, baudrate and other port parameters
- Can add time stamps to the log file
- Selectable log file format (binary/hex)
- Independent line extractor keeps last text line/packet in a specified file
- Configuration is made via ini file
- No need to install

### First Steps

1. Connect a serial cable between your PC and the serial data source. If your PC is not equipped with standard serial RS-232 connector, you may use any commercially available USB-to-serial adapter.
2. Copy the files to a folder on your hard disk. Access rights must allow writing to that folder.
3. Open the ini file in any plain text editor (for example Notepad)  
- or -  
Run the exe file, rightclick on the application icon in tray (usually bottom-right corner of your desktop) and select Settings.
4. Configure the parameters using the guide that follows.
5. Any changes will take effect on next start-up of the application.
6. Closing the window will minimize the application to tray. To exit the application, select Exit in the menu.

### Application Scheme



### Connection Requirements

The application gets serial data from RxD pin of local serial port. For proper operation at least two pins must be connected on the PC side: the RxD pin and the Ground pin. It's possible to read data from a virtual serial port (VCP) as well.

For logging data on existing connections, use Y splitter on the ground wire and on the signal wire representing the signal direction desired.

Wiring of standard RS-232 connectors is showed on the next page.

*Important note: Only one application can access one serial port at the same time. The serial logger cannot open a port that is already in use by another application.*

## Configuration Settings

### Default Configuration

By default, the application opens COM1 at 19200 Bd, no parity, 8 data bits, 1 stop bit, no flow control. Logging is enabled, the destination file is rs232log.log placed in the application folder. Line extractor is disabled. The application window hides 3 seconds after start-up.

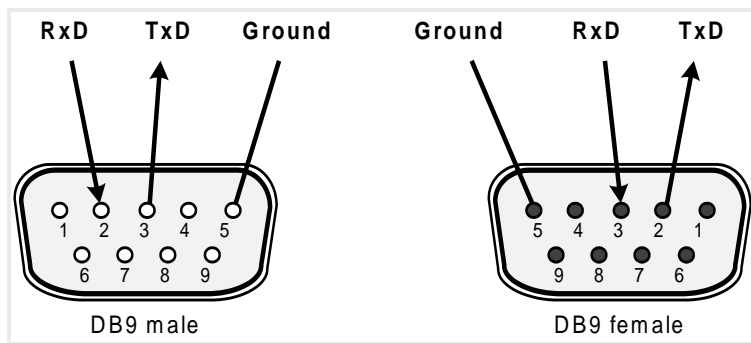
Default ini file content is showed on the right. The configuration file name is rs232log.ini and it's placed in the application folder.

```
[General]
Visible=3
COMPort=1
COMSpeed=19200
Parity=None
Databits=8
Stopbits=1
XonXoff=0
LogData=1
LogFile=rs232log.log
LogTimeStamps=0
LogHexFormat=0
LineExtractor=0
LineDelimiter=0D
LineTimeout=0
OutputFile=C:\lastline.txt
```

### List of Settings

<b>Visible</b>	Specifies duration in seconds during which the application window stays visible after start-up. To show the application window later, doubleclick on the tray icon.
<b>COMPort</b>	Specifies serial COM port number. Default is <b>1</b> (that is COM1).
<b>COMSpeed</b>	Specifies baud rate in bits per second. Default is <b>19200</b> .
<b>Parity</b>	Specifies parity. Default is <b>None</b> .
<b>Databits</b>	Specifies number of data bits. Default is <b>8</b> .
<b>Stopbits</b>	Specifies number of stop bits. Default is <b>1</b> .
<b>XonXoff</b>	Specifies whether software flow control is being used in the connection. Can be either <b>0</b> (disabled, the default) or <b>1</b> (enabled).
<b>LogData</b>	Controls the logging feature. Can be either <b>0</b> (disabled) or <b>1</b> (enabled).
<b>LogFile</b>	Specifies the logging file name (and optional path). If path is specified, the path must exist. If path is not specified, the file is created in the application folder. A dynamic tag <b>%date</b> can be included to create separate log file each day.
<b>LogTimeStamps</b>	Specifies interval in [ms] between two inserts of time stamp. The time stamp format is as follows: CR+LF+[YYYY.MM.DD hh:mm:ss.sss <byte counter>]+CR+LF Set <b>0</b> to disable this feature. Set <b>1000</b> as a starting value for typical use.
<b>LogHexFormat</b>	Selects the log file format. Set <b>0</b> for standard binary format (all bytes are saved as received). Set <b>1</b> for hexadecimal format (all bytes are hex-coded prior to saving).
<b>LineExtractor</b>	Controls the line extractor feature. Can be either <b>0</b> (disabled) or <b>1</b> (enabled). Since the output file is reopened any time a new line is written, it is recommended to disable this feature if you don't need it, in order to save system resources when processing large amount of data.
<b>LineDelimiter</b>	Specifies the line delimiter as a sequence of bytes written in hexadecimal form. The most frequent line delimiter is <b>0D0A</b> (that is CR+LF character). Depending on the format of the data being received, some of the following line delimiters may also apply: <b>0D</b> or <b>0A0D</b> or <b>0D0A0D0A</b> etc. The line delimiter is not included in the resulting line.
<b>LineTimeout</b>	Specifies the line delimiter as time duration in [ms] between receptions of the incoming characters. If no character has been received during the timeout, actual buffer content, if exists, is flushed into the OutputFile. Set <b>1000</b> as a starting value for typical use. Set <b>0</b> for disable the timeout feature.
<b>OutputFile</b>	Specifies the line extractor file name (and optional path). This file will hold actual text line received via the serial port. Characters in ASCII range 0 to 31 are replaced by space, excl. 9, 10 and 13. The end of line is identified by the LineDelimiter or by the LineTimeout. <i>To avoid potential reading of only a part of the line by other application, read access is denied at the moment the file is being written.</i>

## RS-232 Port Pinning



## Contact and support

Email support is **not** available for this application.

Please use the online forum instead: <http://pira.cz/forum/> (section Utilities – Serial Data Logger)

*Important note: If no files are created, check whether write access is enabled in the destination folder.*

The author is not liable for any damages, including but not limited to, lost profits, lost savings, or other incidental or consequential damages arising out of the use of the application or its documentation.

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