
PromICE parallel port driver for Windows

Under Windows NT, 2000 and XP a driver is required to be installed for the parallel port to be used with the PromICE.

Under DOS and older versions of windows the LoadICE application can directly talk to the parallel port hardware and a driver is not required.

The files included in NTDRIVER ZIP file are:

```
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promice.bat   - A batch file to install the PromICE parallel driver  
promice.ini   - The parallel port driver registry settings file  
promice.sys   - The PromICE parallel port driver itself  
regini.exe    - The Microsoft REGINI program  
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```

Step-by-Step Instructions:

1. First determine the settings of the parallel port. That means what mode it is set in and what I/O address it has. This is done variously for different kinds of parallel ports and different versions of Windows.
2. One older method is as follows:
 - a. Reboot your computer and access your computer's BIOS setup screens.
 - b. While in BIOS setup, be sure that the parallel port is in either Standard or EPP mode. Do not use bi-directional, ECP or DMA modes.
 - c. While in BIOS setup, note the address of the parallel port. This is very important. Some new computers may not use the standard addresses.
 - d. Save any changes and exit BIOS. Reboot and login to Windows as Administrator.
3. For some other parallel ports you may have to use the Control Panel etc. to determine I/O address or set the port mode to EPP.
4. Change directory to where you unzipped the NTDRIVER files
5. Edit the `promice.ini` file and change the `IoPortAddress` to match the address of your parallel port. Save this file and...
6. Run `promice.bat` by simply typing `promice` in the command window. This batch file copies `promice.sys` into your computer's system directory. Then it runs `regini.exe` to record the settings from `promice.ini` file to the registry.
7. Reboot the computer

Now you are ready to use the PromICE on the parallel port. If you need to start or stop the driver, it will not show up in various Windows Control Panel tool. Instead you can verify that the driver is running and start or stop it from a command window. By default the driver is running unless you explicitly stop it. The commands are

```
net start promice  
net stop promice
```

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Trouble Shooting:

If the driver still does not seem to work there are few things you can try.

1. Check that the correct parallel port is used to determine all the setting. Once the driver is loaded and working it does not matter what parallel port you tell LoadICE, you will see that when the driver is correctly installed, LoadICE instead of saying opening parallel device LPT1 etc. it will say opening parallel device PromICE.
2. Check the hardware address of the parallel port. Sometimes you have to look in to the Control Panel in the System icon under hardware to see what the parallel port settings are.
3. If the address checks out then the only other thing can be the mode of that parallel port. It can be many things and different vendors use different terminology to indicate the various modes. Such as: AT, PS2, Standard, Compatible, Bi-directional, EPP, and ECP etc.. As for as we know ECP DOES NOT WORK, others may work, but EPP ALWAYS WORKS.
4. It is still possible that the parallel port may not work reliably, it generally happens when the mode setting is still incorrect and there is no way to determine what it is. This generally happens on PCI parallel port cards that don't show up in BIOS and the system will only show you the I/O address. You may be able to find some software from the parallel port manufacturer that will let you set the mode explicitly.

If you still need to talk to someone. Call Tech Support at 614.899.7878 or send e-mail to support@gei.com

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