

Adrienne Electronics Corporation

“WINDOWS BEST DRIVER OVERRIDE”

FIELD APPLICATION NOTE

Introduction:

We have discovered that while attempting to install 32-bit PCIe-TC board drivers for 32-bit Windows, Windows may display something like “The best driver software for your device is already installed.”. Windows then refuses to allow you to install the Adrienne Electronics driver for the Adrienne Electronics board. This problem only affects our PCIe-TC boards (not PCI-TC), and only affects 32-bit drivers (not 64-bit drivers, which are signed). This is evidently a Windows security feature which does more harm than good.

Solution - Circumvent Windows Default Behavior:

Use the current version of the “PCIe-TC Windows Guide” (PDF) document posted on our website to circumvent the default (non-helpful) Windows behavior.

Summary of Driver Installation Differences:

Normally when installing a Windows driver for our PCIe-TC boards, as described in the “PCIe-TC Windows Guide” document, you navigate to the “Driver” tab of the “<device name> Properties” window, then select “Update Driver”, then select “Browse my computer...”, then navigate to the directory which contains the driver file.

The process for circumventing the Windows security feature mentioned above is to proceed in the exact same manner, but after selecting “Browse my computer...”, DO NOT directly select the directory which contains the driver file (that would be too easy). Instead, select “Let me pick from a list...”, then select “Have disk...”, then select the directory which contains the driver file, then proceed as usual. For some inexplicable reason, Windows is perfectly happy doing things this more difficult way instead of the easy way. Driver installation should now proceed normally.

Windows Update Precaution:

It is possible that at some point in time, Windows will recommend that you update the “SD Host Controller” driver on your PC, and in fact may do so automatically (without notifying you) if your Windows Updates are configured in that manner. If that happens, you may have to reinstall the Adrienne Electronics driver for your PCIe-TC board. We recommend that you change your Windows Updates preferences to only install updates with your express permission, and to avoid installing a new SD Host Controller driver unless you are also willing to reinstall the PCIe-TC board driver. Enough said.