Operating Guide for TraxTX

Introduction.

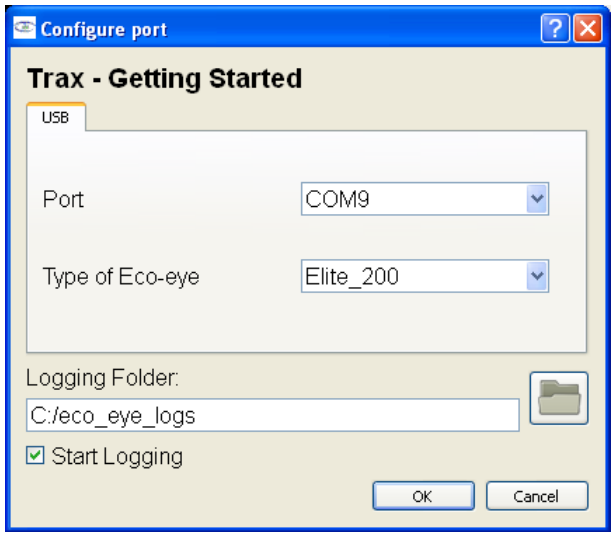
This version of Trax is for use with the Eco-eye USB cable and the transmitters supplied with the Eco-eye Elite 100/200 and SmartPC

The transmitter port streams live readings only so requires a computer for data logging.

There are different versions of the transmitter firmware and the correct one must be selected when running TraxTX.

Running TraxTX

The initial screen sets up the program for the device to be used.



Port:
This should be set automatically if there is only one port but otherwise select the correct one (see appendix 1).

Type of Eco-eye:
See below

Logging folder:
Log files are named automatically by Trax but it needs to know where to store them. Enter the details here or click the folder button to browse for a folder.

Start Logging:
Tick this box to start logging when Trax starts.

When OK is clicked there will be a slight delay while the device is initialized. The main graph screen should be shown next.

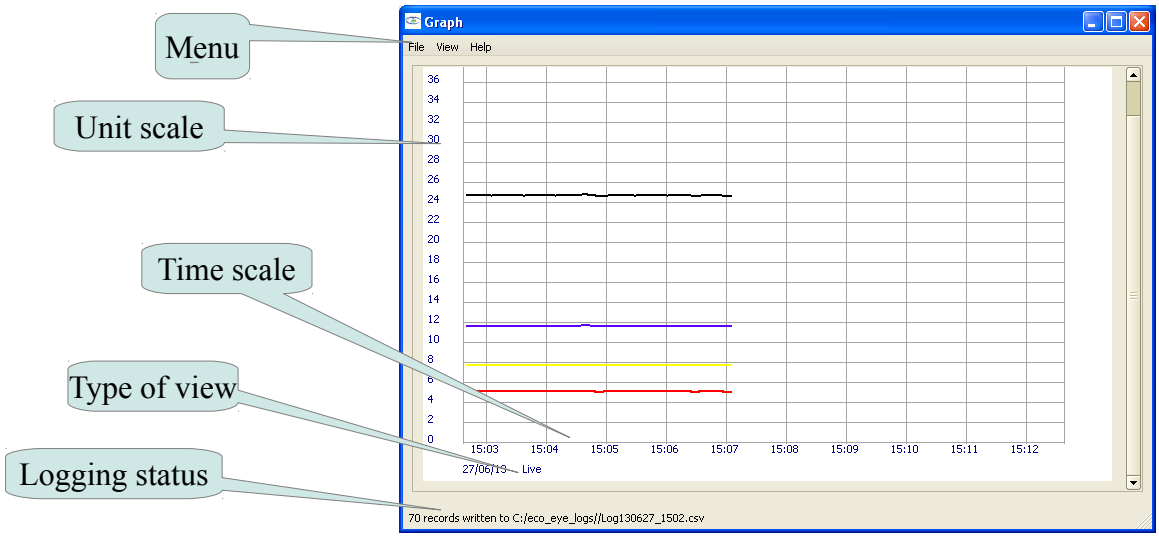
Selecting the type of Eco-eye and preparing the transmitter:

Elite 100/200
This can just be plugged straight in.
Start TraxTX and select Elite200.

Smart
Normally serial output is disabled and must be enabled to start live output.
Remove all sensors and the USB cable.
Take a battery out
press and hold the square button
put the battery back in while holding the square button down.
Release the button after the Red LED has flashed.
Plug the sensors and the USB cable back in.
Start TraxTX and select Smart.

Trax1 – the main screen

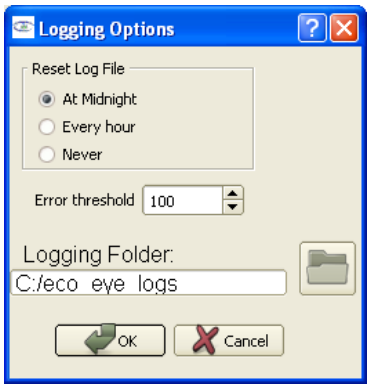
Trax uses 3 windows:
Graph: This is the main window and closing it will close Traxtx.



The graph starts at the left and will scroll automatically when it reaches the right hand edge. The 3 phases are only shown in the Amps graph

Menu options:
File:
Open old log file:
This allows you to select a file already recorded and view it in the graph window.
This does not affect any live logging which will continue to run in the background.
Close old log file:
Closes the log file being viewed and returns to the live view.
Start logging:
If logging is in progress a message box asks if you want to close the active file and start a new one.
Stop logging:
A message box will ask for conformation that you want to stop logging:
Logging options:
Starts a new window:

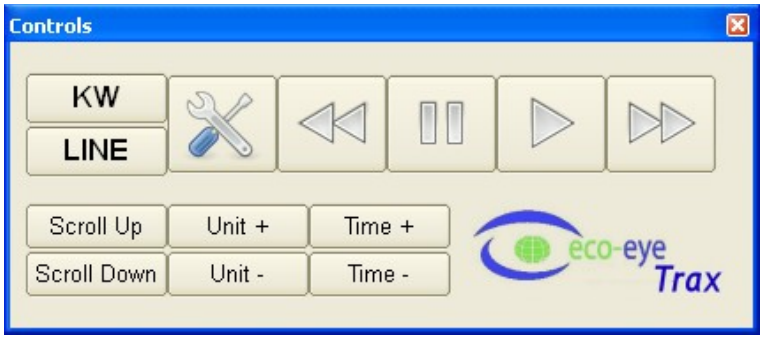
Reset log file is the interval that the log file should be closed and a new one started
Error threshold should be set to the highest amps expected, anything above this will not be logged
The logging folder can be set here.



Exit:
Closes TraxTX

View:
Show/hide controls:
Toggles the control window display
Show/hide realtime:
Toggles the display of the real-time window display.

Controls:



Hover mouse pointer over the items for information about their use.
All the buttons are active and display their current state.

Unit +-	change the vertical scale
Time +-	change the time scale
KW	Click to changes the graph units to AMPS, Kwh, £, or KGCO2
LINE	Click to changes the graph type to LINE, BAR or POINT
	Set Colours and values for voltage and cost
	Scroll back 1 minute
	Pause graph
	Play – restarts live graph when viewing log file or when paused
	Scroll forward 1 minute

Live details:

Log file format.

Files are named automatically with the date and time they started:

1. Log
2. _
3. YY
4. MM
5. DD
6. _
7. HH
8. MM
9. .csv

The contents are:

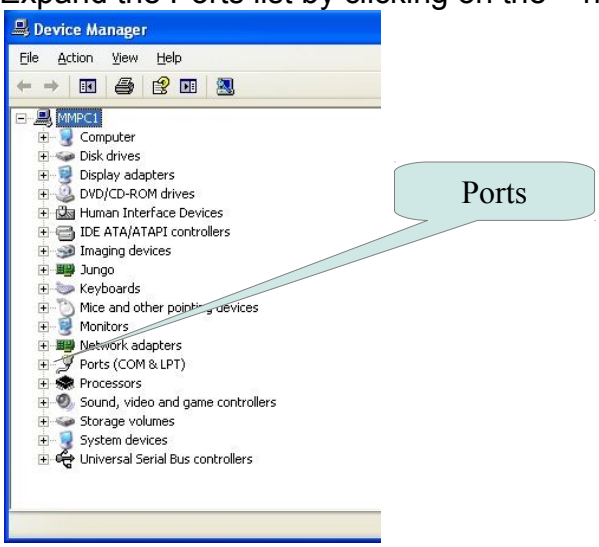
Date DD/MM/YY
Time: HH.MM.SS
Time stamp: floating point number, seconds since epoch
Total Amps to 2 decimal places
Phase 1 Amps
Phase 2 Amps
Phase 3 Amps

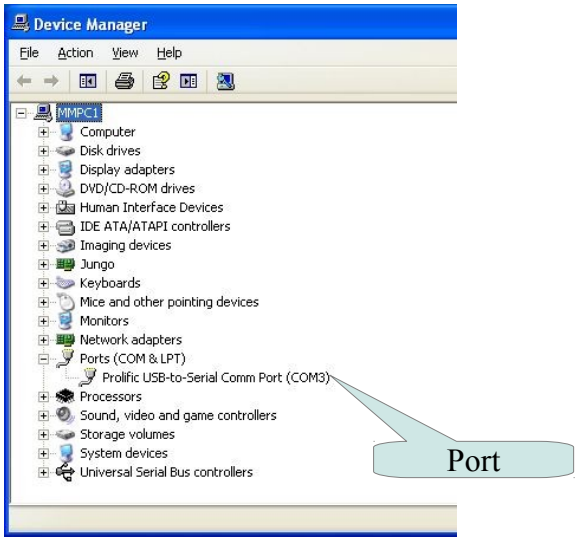
Appendix 1

Finding the port number on Windows XP

Plug your USB cable into a spare USB port on your computer.
You need to establish what number has been assigned by windows to this USB port.
Right click on “My Computer” and select “Properties” or “Device Manger” if this is an option. Select the Hardware tab, then “Device Manager”.

Expand the Ports list by clicking on the + next to Ports(COM &LPT)





In this example there is just the one port and it has been assigned to COM3. However you may have a number of entries. Hopefully there will just be one Prolific USB-to-Serial Comm Port entry and that is what you want. If there is more than one you will need to unplug the cable, wait a few seconds for the list to change and one of them will disappear. That is the one you unplugged, so plug it back in and see what number is assigned.