

SW-A Bell Controller Quick Start

Windows XP (service pack 3), Windows Server, Vista, Windows 7, 8.1, 10 and Windows 11

(Step 1) Connect to the Internet. This permits any security or software updates to occur during installation. If you do not have an Internet connection, you may skip this step (please note that if you are not connected to the Internet, the installer will delay for about 30 seconds while attempting to connect).

(Step 2) Connect your AR-2MF Relay Interface to any available USB port on your computer using a CC-USBB cable (1 to 15 foot). A high percentage of systems will be up to date and you will not see any activity or a pop-up message (allow up to 30 seconds for any system message). If your USB Com driver is out of date, you may receive a message that your system is being updated or a new driver installed. Allow the update to occur before you move to the next step.

(Step 3) Verify your Com Driver. When the SW-A Bell Controller software is used with a USB port, the USB com driver must be installed in addition to this software. Please refer to the com driver installation procedure on page 2 to verify that your com driver is installed and up to date. If you do not see the Prolific com driver entry in Device Manager, click the "Install Com Driver" button before installing the SW-A Bell Controller software.

To install the SW-A Bell Controller on Windows 7, 8.1, 10 or Windows 11: click the "Install EECI Device Driver" button on your installation CD or run setup.exe in the Application/DotNet folder. The ar-2bell.ini file along with time and holiday settings are saved in the C:\eeci\ar-bell folder.

To install on Windows XP or Vista: click the "View Content" button on your installation CD and browse to the Legacy folder, then double click: setup.exe

Alternate versions of the SW-A Bell Controller software are available to meet special requirements (such as password protected, audio output using .mp3, .wav, etc.) and support for legacy operating systems. Please contact EECI support for more info.

*Please note that the Microsoft .Net Framework must be installed on your system. The .Net Framework is already installed if you have Windows 7 or higher. If the .Net Framework is not installed on your computer, the installation program will attempt to download and install the .Net Framework from the Microsoft web site through your internet connection. This may take 5 minutes or longer. In order for the .Net Framework to install correctly, your computer must be up to date with Windows update. This is especially important with Windows XP and Vista. You may update your computer by clicking on the start button, All Programs, Windows Update and clicking on "Check for Updates".

(Step 4) Verify the com port. If the correct com port is not detected, you must change when you start the SW-A software (enter com port when prompted). After the SW-A Bell Controller is installed, you may double click on the Com port indicator to change. When using the CO-USB cable to connect to the AR-2, you must remove the two hex screws on the AR-2 DB-9 connector.

(Step 5) Start the SW-A Bell Programmer from the Start button or from the desktop shortcut. The current day relay status will be displayed inside the Relays frame (Bell off is green, Bell on is red**). The Events frame will display the bell events for Relay 1. Com port is displayed to the right.

To display or set events for different relays, click on the relay label.

To display or set events for different days of the week, click on the day.

To add a ring time event for the current relay and day of week, dial in the time using the pull down arrows (hours are in 24 hour format). Select the ring duration (1 to 30 seconds) for this event using the Delay pull down arrow. Click the red Add Ring button to store the event.

To delete an event time, select the time (time will turn white) and click Delete.

To rename a relay, double click the relay label or change in Setup.

To change the Com port, double click on the Com label, enter new Com port and restart the Bell controller application.

To set a holiday date, click the menu item Holiday or Setup. The regular day of week schedule is suspended on the holiday date and the holiday schedule will be implemented.

To copy all time events for the current day and relay, click Copy.

To paste all time events to the current day and relay, click Paste.

To save the current time schedule, use the menu item File and Save. The current time schedule is automatically saved if the program is exited using the menu item File and Exit or clicking the red X on the top right.

BACKUP: You may back up your time schedule by copying the following two files to a backup folder: time-set.dat and hday-set.dat. These files are located in the eeci folder (and sub folder ar-2bell) located in the parent directory on your C: drive. You may also save multiple time schedules by renaming the files (such as time-setA.dat or timesetB.dat, etc.). To enable the desired schedule, overwrite the time-set.dat and hday-set.dat (after backing up) in the c:\eeci\ar-2bell folder with the new schedule files and restart the SW-A Bell Controller software.

To use ALT relay commands (to prevent relays from toggling on startup). In setup, select ALT under relay command and click apply. Re-start Bell controller software for change to take effect. NOTE: this feature is only for use with the AR-2MF (set shunts on the AR-2MF to enable ALT).

IMPORTANT: You must set your computer power setting to never sleep or the timed events will stop (see page 2).

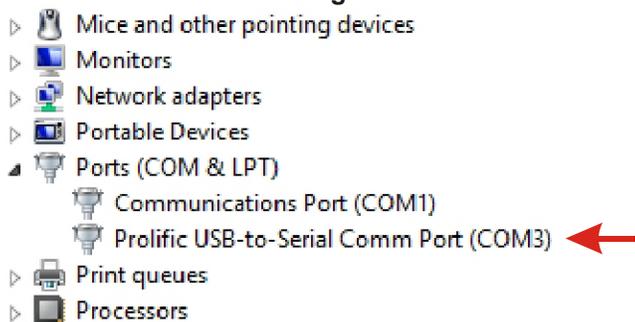
Click the "-" button (top right on Bell Controller) to minimize the Bell Controller software and place in your taskbar. The Bell control software will continue to run. Click the Bell icon in your taskbar to open the Bell Controller user interface.

**Complete Technical Reference is located on your Installation CD
Call (937) 349-6000 or (800) 842-7714 for free technical support**

Com Driver Verification or Installation

Check your USB Com driver by clicking on the "Open Device Manager" button in the installation dialog and expanding the "Ports (COM & LPT)" category (see the AR-2MF Technical Reference if you have difficulty or go directly to Device Manager from Control Panel). If you see a "Prolific USB-to-Serial Comm Port" entry, this is your USB Com driver* and the com port assigned is to the right of the entry. Right click on the entry and select "Properties" and click the "Driver" tab. Your USB Com driver must be Prolific version 3.4.62.293 or higher (dated 10/17/2013 or later). If your USB Com driver is not up to date, right click on the entry and select "Update Driver Software". If your USB Com driver is up to date then please note the Com port number assigned and jump to step 4.

Device Manager



*verify that this is the com port assigned to the AR-2MF by unplugging the AR-2MF from your USB port and watching the entry in device manager. The entry should disappear and then reappear when you plug the AR-2MF back in.

If you do not have an Internet connection or are having problems with the USB Com driver installation, disconnect the AR-2MF USB cable from your computer and install the USB Com driver from your CD by clicking on the "Install USB Com Driver" button. Please note that you may have to remove any out of date Prolific Com drivers on your system before the current driver will install correctly. It is important that you use the remove feature on your CD (not the remove feature in Device Manager). The remove feature is shown after clicking the "Install USB Com Driver" button from the installer dialog window (allow up to 30 seconds for the installer to load and appear).

Control Panel > All Control Panel Items > Power Options > Edit Plan Settings

Change settings for the plan: Balanced

Choose the sleep and display settings that you want your computer to use.

Turn off the display: 1 hour

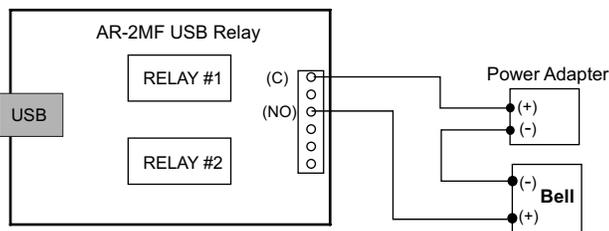
Put the computer to sleep: **Never**

SET YOUR SLEEP SETTING

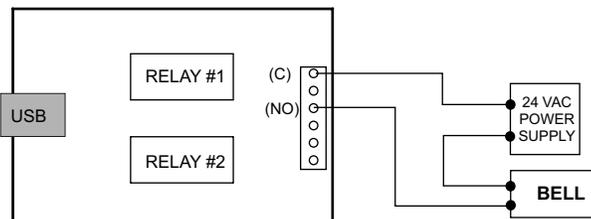
You must go to Windows Control Panel/Power Options and set your computer sleep setting to "Never" to allow all scheduled bell events to complete (as shown to the left).

** each relay has normally open (NO) and normally closed (NC) contacts. You will typically connect to the NO contacts so your bell will be off when the relay is not energized. This allows your bell to remain off when power is removed from your system.

CONNECTION TO A LOW VOLTAGE BELL OR SOUNDER

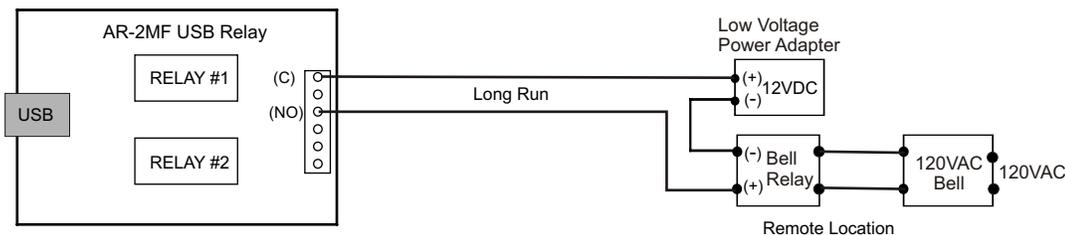


CONNECTION TO A 24 VOLT AC BELL OR SOUNDER



Bell interconnect cable may be up to several thousand feet long as long as the voltage drop does not effect bell operation. The wire gauge may be increased to reduce voltage drop (22 ga to 18 ga door bell wire or thermostat wire typical)

CONNECTION TO A LONG DISTANCE 120 VOLT AC BELL OR SOUNDER



You may connect a 120 volt AC bell direct to the AR-2MF terminals (using 120 volt rated wire) if your bell is located close to your computer. The relay is only needed so that low cost low voltage wire may be used for long distance runs.

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CONTROL SYSTEM
TECHNOLOGY

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