Updating the Eggtimer Quantum Software

From time to time we may make updates to the Eggtimer Quantum software, to fix bugs and/or to add new features. The Quantum is designed so that you can update the software easily from any Windows computer, using only the standard Eggtimer USB-Serial cable and a simple tool... a paperclip.

Here's how to do it. We recommend that you read ALL of the steps before you start.

IMPORTANT NOTE: DO NOT try to perform a firmware update with any loads attached to the deployment outputs! Although the chance of them firing during an update is virtually zero, it's very bad safety practice to have any pyrotechnic loads connected to an altimeter when the rocket is not being prepped for flight.

1) Download the latest software update from eggtimerrocketry.com, go to the Support/Eggtimer Quantum page.

2) Unzip the download file to c:\eggtimer (create the directory first if it doesn't exist).

3) Open up a Command Prompt, and type cd c:\eggtimer

4) Plug the USB-Serial cable into your computer.

5) If your COM port is NOT COM2, edit the "quantum_<version>.bat" file, where <version> will be the latest version (i.e. 1_02) and change COM2 to COM3 or whatever port you're using. Save the file.

6) Get a small paperclip and bend it into a "U" shape, with the prongs about 1/8" apart.

7) Disconnect the battery and any deployment wires from your Quantum. If they're soldered in, just make sure that there's no igniter or other loads on the deployment channels.

8) Connect the serial cable to the 3-pin header on the Quantum as follows:

BLACK – GND GREEN – RX WHITE – TX

9) Insert the bent paperclip into the pads on the board marked PGM, next to the serial header.

10) Connect your battery.

11) Now, from the Command Line (which should be at "c:/eggtimer") type "quantum_<version>.bat", where <version> is the current version of the software (i.e. 1_08c). For this example, you'd type

C:/eggtimer: quantum_1_08c.bat

You should immediately see some text scrolling across the screen, and in about 3-5 seconds you should see a bunch of dots going across your screen (.....). This should go on for about a minute, then your Quantum should give you the normal power-up beeping. If it does not, unplug the battery, take a look at your files, your COM port, etc., then repeat steps 9-12.

You can confirm that you've uploaded the right version by simply connecting to your Quantum with your WiFi device, the software version will be in the upper-right corner of every page. As usual, if you have any questions, feel free to drop us a line at support@eggtimerrocketry.com.