

Using **Bluetooth** with the PTC-IIusb

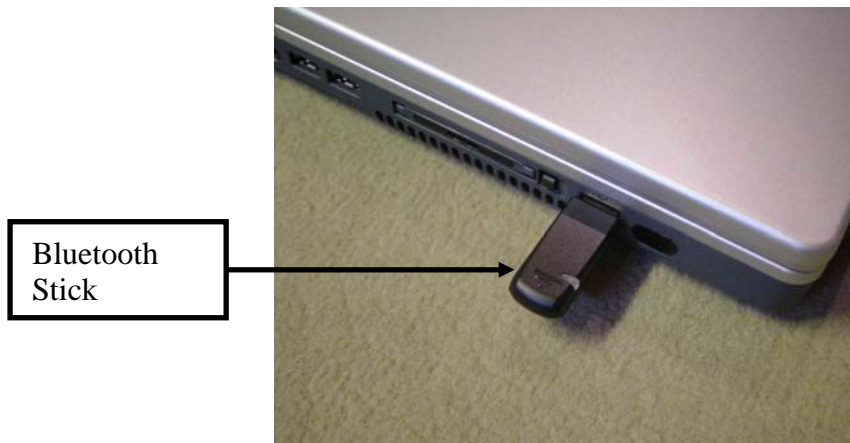
The PTC-IIusb is now available with optional **Bluetooth**. Bluetooth is a low power high frequency (2.4 GHz) radio link which serves as a cable replacement for short distances. In the interference susceptible shortwave environment of the PTC-IIusb, the USB cable connection between the modem and the PC can be eliminated.

Advantage:

The data stream signal of a USB interface is located in the middle of the shortwave bands. Therefore, the USB data signal cannot be separated from the shortwave signal being transmitted or received by simply filtering. Mutual interference is possible, especially where the antenna is located close to the modem/PC setup (ship borne installations). Mutual interference in this case means that the transmitted HF-signal can disturb the USB data stream between PC and modem, as well the USB data stream can disturb the radio reception of shortwaves. Bluetooth can help solve this problem, as Bluetooth and shortwave radio signals don't interfere with one another. Additionally, eliminating the USB cable connection, the danger of ground loops and parasitic currents distorting the radios signal modulation are removed, which will lead to a better transmission quality.

Installation at the PC side:

Many modern laptop computers are already equipped with Bluetooth. In this case there is no further installation required. All the others need to purchase a "Bluetooth stick" which is plugged into a free USB connector.



Bluetooth Sticks of various brands are available from computer stores. The installation should be done in accordance with the instructions of the Bluetooth Stick vendor (driver and software, etc.). **SCS** does not supply Bluetooth stick software on the **SCS-CD**. Please use the CD from the Bluetooth Stick manufacturer for the installation!

After installation (or after the first connection with the PTC modem), a virtual COM port is generated (just like with USB) which can be accessed by any terminal or PTC program.

Installation at the PTC-IIusb side:

You can order the PTC-IIusb with Bluetooth option already installed, or you can get an existing PTC-IIusb extended for Bluetooth by an authorized dealer or by **SCS**. For the prices for both versions please refer to the price list or ask your dealer.

Getting started:

Disconnect the USB cable from your PTC-IIusb and switch it on **afterwards**.

Important: If the USB cable is connected between the PTC-IIusb and the PC, then Bluetooth is always disabled, USB always has priority! This decision is made by the PTC-IIusb at power-on. Do not change the configuration whilst in operation, always switch off the PTC-IIusb if you want to swap between Bluetooth and USB. The USB cable serves you as “switch” in this case.

Locate the PTC-IIusb near your PC being equipped with Bluetooth (max. 5 m distance).

Start the Bluetooth manager software on your PC. The user interface of the manager may vary with different brands, so that only the basic operation can be described here.

Let your Bluetooth manager search for Bluetooth devices in range. The PTC-IIusb should be found within a short time and be displayed as a **symbol** in the manager. Now you need to “pair” the PTC-IIusb with the PC, so that both will recognize each other next time. Usually the manager offers you the pairing option when you double-click on the symbol, or when you select it and press the right mouse button. After you have started the pairing, you will be prompted to enter a key or password. The last 8 characters of the PTC-IIusb’s electronic serial-number represents this key. You’ll find the serial-number on the bottom of the modem. Enter the last 8 characters, which can be numbers and letters, and take care that you enter the letters in upper case. After you have confirmed the entry, the pairing should have been completed successfully.

Remark: The pairing might have a limited lifetime and may require to be repeated when the PTC-IIusb and the PC have not been connected by Bluetooth for a few days or weeks. If you use Bluetooth more frequently, repetition of the pairing usually is not necessary.

After the pairing the Bluetooth connection can finally be established. This usually happens by a double-click on the modem’s symbol in your manager. At connection a virtual COM port is created and the number of the COM port is usually displayed. Enter this COM number into the terminal programs you intend to use. From now on, as long as your Bluetooth manager is operating, starting and terminating the terminal program will also start or terminate the Bluetooth connection between the modem and the PC. From now on you’re wireless.

Many current Bluetooth sticks come with the Bluetooth manager software **BlueSoleil**. A step-by-step introduction for this manager with screenshots can be downloaded from our homepage.

Limitation:

Because of the fact that Bluetooth does not provide the signals “CD” and DTR” at the virtual COM port, applications that use the PTC-IIusb in Hayes mode (PACTOR-IP-Bridge) may not work properly with Bluetooth. In this case please use USB.

Problems with picture giving modes (FAX, SSTV) may occur, we are working on that.