

EL/GL Series - Mach 3

PC Spa Dashboard Control User Guide



Australian Spa Parts



PC SPA DASHBOARD

The PC Spa Dashboard can be used with the EL8000, EL2000, EL1000 and GL systems. System software version 28 or higher is required for this panel. This user guide lists all features that are available. The icons shown on your panel will vary depending on the configuration of your spa.

Certain conditions (priming mode, filters or freeze) can cause a function to operate longer, while faults can cause a function to operate for a shorter length of time.

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Description and Requirements

The PC Spa Dashboard (referred to as "Dashboard" hereafter), is a system designed to remotely control the use of a spa through the use of your computer. A graphic interface allows a user to easily see and control devices that are installed onto the spa system. Through the use of a transceiver, data is transmitted from your computer to the system.

Minimum PC Requirements

- Runs on Windows: 2000/NT or XP; SP 1 or SP 2
- CPU: 300 MHz or better
- 128MB of RAM
- CD-ROM/DVD drive
- Mouse; Compatible with any USB
- 20 MB of available hard disk space
- Super VGA (800 × 600) or higher resolution video adapter/monitor.

Do not connect the USB device to your PC until drivers have been installed.

Parts Needed for Installation

- Dashboard CD disk (supplied)
- USB Spa Control (supplied)
- USB A/B cable (supplied)

Software Installation

Insert the CD into your CD ROM to launch the program. The "PC Installer" start-up screen should appear. If the software does not start automatically, start it manually.



From the START menu:
START > Run > Browse > (CD drive) > PCSetup.exe (Application) > Open. Then press OK on the RUN dialog box. (cont'd next page)



The first start up screen will appear.

On the PC Installer screen, be sure that both “USB Driver” and “PC Software” are checked. Press “Begin Installing”. Accept the license agreement if you wish to continue.



If you should encounter the following Security Warning screen, click “Run” to continue.



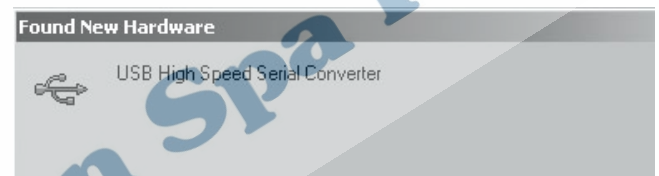
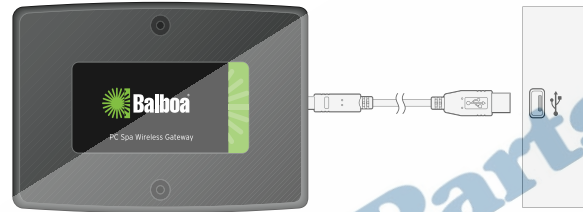
After a few moments, the FTDI Driver Installation screen will appear. Click OK.

Once the drivers installation has been acknowledged by pressing OK, the program will then continue to install the PC software. A “Preparing to Install” message will briefly appear in the “Windows Installer” dialog box.

The “Welcome to the Spa Dashboard Installation Wizard” screen will appear. Press “Next” to continue, then “Next” again to accept the Destination Folder. Continue the on screen instructions until finished.

Hardware Installation

Plug the USB Spa Control cable into an available port.



Once plugged in, a dialog box will appear showing that the USB device is being installed. Allow the installation to continue until it has finished.

Run the Software

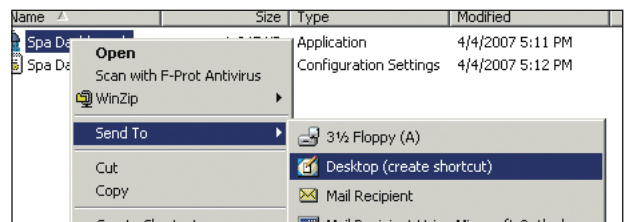
From the Desktop:

Right click “My Computer” > Open > C: drive > Program Files > (Show Files >) Spa Dashboard folder > Spa Dashboard.exe > double click to finish installation.

Placing a shortcut on the Desktop

To place an icon on your Desktop:

Right click “My Computer” > Open > C: drive > Program Files > (Show Files >) Spa Dashboard folder > Right click on Spa Dashboard.exe (Application) > Send to > Click on Desktop (create shortcut).





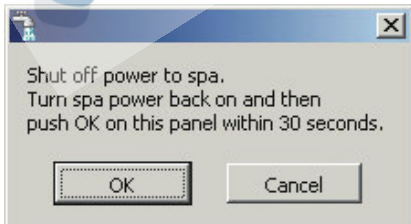
Link and Proceed buttons

Filter Cycle arrows

“Communication link error” will disappear when a link has been established

Establishing a Network Connection

To establish a Network link, select the “Link” radio button on the Dashboard, then press Proceed. (Follow the on screen instructions.) Power Off, then Power On your Spa. You will have a 30 second window to push the “OK” button to link the USB device to the RF network.



If the RF network has been set up correctly, within one minute information will begin to display on the screen, such as “Priming mode”, system time, temperature, and diagnostic information. (Priming mode takes about four minutes to complete.) The Priming Mode is complete when the Displayed Temp. appears and the Pump 1 icon becomes active.

The Dashboard Panel

The USB Icon

The green USB “LED” will normally be lit. It will flash if a USB device is not connected to the system.

Icons & Radio Buttons

Turn on and off devices like Pumps, Light, and Blower by pressing the device icons. The changes are shown on the Dashboard control panel.

The icons become animated when active. Pump icons will rotate at the speed of the mechanical pumps: high, medium, low, and off; the Light icon will light; the Heat icon will become lit when the heater is on.



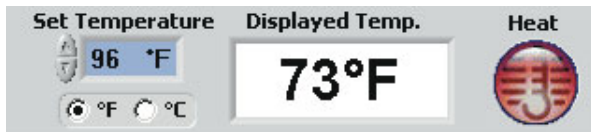
Setting the Time

The time should be set first. All timed devices are regulated by the clock being set. To set the clock, push the appropriate arrows up or down in “Spa System Time”. Or, under “Time Mode”, simply activate the radio button “Sync to PC”. You have the option of using a 12 or 24 hour clock.

Temperature Display

You have the option to view the temperature in Fahrenheit or Celsius.

The **Set Temperature** is the target temperature that you set. The **Displayed Temp.** window shows the current temperature. As the spa is heating up, the Heat icon will become brighter and animated.



Temperature and pH/ORP Displayed

If your spa is equipped with pH/ORP sensors, the **Displayed Temp.** readout will alternate the temperature and the pH/ORP values every five seconds.

Mode, Change Heat Mode

The Dashboard accommodates three heating modes: Standard, Economy, or Sleep mode.

Standard mode maintains the desired temperature.

Economy mode heats the spa to set temperature only during filter cycles.

Sleep mode heats the spa to within 20°F (11°C) of the set temperature only during filter cycles.

Spa Panel/Temperature Lock and Reminders

When the Spa Panel Lock and Spa Temp. Lock are checked, the spa hard wired panel becomes inactive. Checking the Reminders On box will provide reminders on cleaning filters and related maintenance.

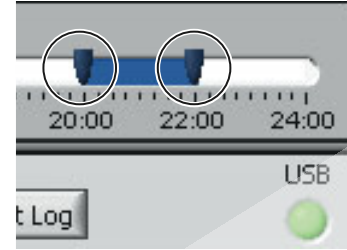
Spa Messages & Create Fault Log

Any faults in your Spa or Dashboard communication links will appear in the Spa Messages dialogue box. In addition, an alert will sound every 15 seconds until the fault code is cleared. Once the fault is corrected, the Spa Messages clears automatically.

The Create Fault Log button records a spa fault log and saves it in a text file location specified by the end user. Spa Messages include scheduled maintenance reminders.

Filter Cycles

The time of the filter cycles can be set by moving the filter cycles arrows to the times requested. Adjust the arrows on the ends of the blue slide bar to designate the on/off times desired. The Filter Cycles Default radio button resets the filter cycles to the default setting, from 8:00 to 10:00 AM and PM.



The arrows on each end of the slide bar (circled) designate the start and stop time of each cycle. In this example, the evening filter cycle is scheduled to start at 8:00 PM and end at 10:00PM.

Link and Unlink Devices

The Proceed button and the three adjacent radio buttons allow you to link or unlink devices from your PC to the spa transceiver. First select the radio button option, then click on Proceed, which merely executes or performs the action.



a) Select the **Link** button and press Proceed to link the USB device to the Spa transceiver. You must manually power Off and power On your spa when establishing the main network link.

b) **Unlink all**, then Proceed unlinks all devices that are connected to the spa transceiver. Once devices are unlinked, they will have to be relinked.

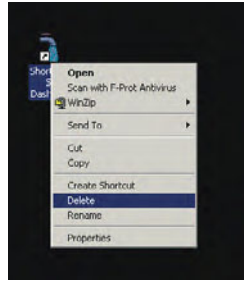
c) **Link other devices** adds devices. It allows the spa wireless menu panel to link with the spa transceiver. Moreover, it simulates a Power Off/On of the spa system.

Note: Once you have established the main link, you can add new devices remotely from inside the house without having to manually power down/power up the spa. (For example, if you are adding a Balboa Spa Wireless Panel from inside the house.)

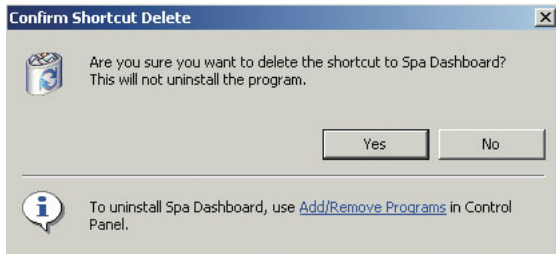


Uninstalling Dashboard

Either from the Start Up menu (START > Programs > PC Spa Dashboard), or the Desktop icon (shown at right) right click on the PC Spa Dashboard Icon.

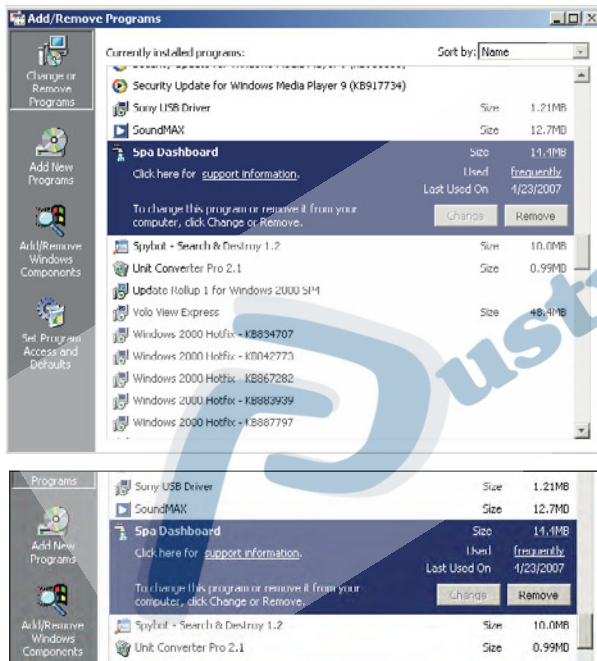


On the drop down box, press Delete.

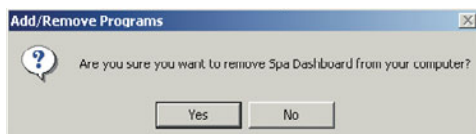


On the Confirm Shortcut Delete dialog box, press Add/Remove Programs.

The Add/Remove Programs Dialog box will appear. Highlight Spa Dashboard by clicking on it.



Spa Dashboard will highlight in blue. Press Remove.



Press Yes to confirm your choice. The PC Spa Dashboard will be removed from your system.

Trouble Shooting

Spa Messages

The Spa Messages describe what problems may occur. Once the problem is corrected, the Spa Messages panel automatically clears itself.

Troubleshooting Software Installation

Problem: If the software does not install automatically.

Solution: Reload the software manually.

From the Windows Desktop:

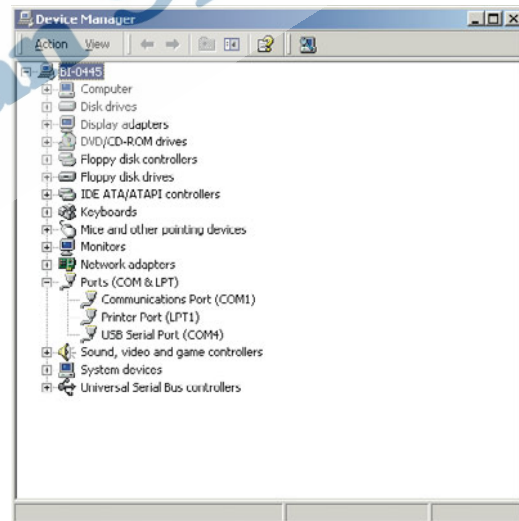
START > Run > Browse > (CD drive) > PCSetup.exe (Application) > Open. Then press OK on the RUN dialog box.

Verifying the USB Connection

Problem: If you have doubts if your USB is installed.

Solution: Check your hardware connection by opening up the Device Manager.

From the Desktop: Right click "My Computer" > Properties > Hardware > Device Manager.



Open the "Ports (COM & LPT)" tree by clicking on the "+" next to it. The USB installed device should appear as an additional COM port with the label "USB Serial Port (COMx)".



Poor Communication Due to Lack of Resources

Problem: Having multiple USB devices installed on your system may cause your USB not to work or the communication to be sporadic (intermittent). A possible cause is that too many components are plugged into your computer. This can often deplete the resources of your computer. (One such example is if you have a Bluetooth installed into a USB port, which can take up to five COM resources.)

Solution: With the Dashboard USB plugged in, pull out your other USB devices one at a time and retry communicating with your spa through the Dashboard. (You may have to remove the hardware device through the Control Panel/ Remove Hardware Device.)

If the problem is solved, then an externally powered hub is recommended. For more information on this topic, visit <http://support.microsoft.com/kb/885624>.

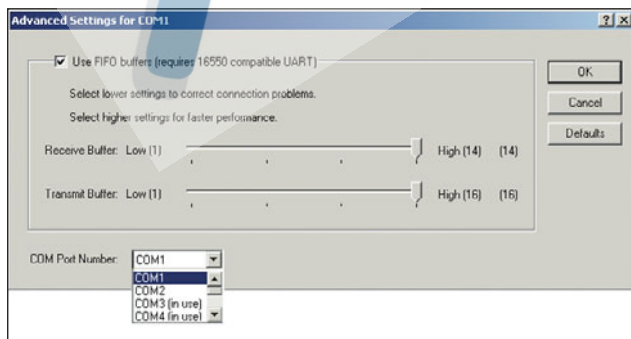
Error Message: Only COM 1-9 are Valid Ports

Problem: Your system may not communicate due to an invalid COM Port. The message will read:

Only COM 1-9 are valid port settings

Solution: Remap to a lower COM port using the Device Manager. From the Desktop:

- 1) Right click on "My Computer"
- 2) Click Properties
- 3) Click on the Hardware tab
- 4) Click on the Device Manager
- 5) Click on "+" to open the Ports (Com & LPT) tree
- 6) Right click on Communications Port (COM X)
- 7) Click on Properties
- 8) Click on the Ports Settings tab
- 9) Click on Advanced
- 10) Open the COM Port Number drop down menu



- 11) Choose any unused COM port between 1-9
- 12) Click OK to accept your settings, then close the dialog box.

Balboa's Contact Information

Balboa's Technical Support

For further assistance, contact Balboa's Technical Support. Phone: 714 384-0384

Balboa's Website

For more information on panel controls and related products, please visit our website:
<http://www.balboainstruments.com/>

