Allegro MX
User Guide Supplement

Using RFID

This document is a supplement and is intended to be used in conjunction with American Innovations' *Allegro MX User Guide* version 4.4.0 or higher. The following information explains how to use the Allegro MX Annual/Periodic Survey (PS) software with the wireless Bluetooth® RFID reader and tags provided by AI. Topics in this document include those in the following list:

- charging the RFID reader

- creating a Bluetooth partnership

- setting up the Allegro PS survey file for RFID

- adding an RFID number to a facility site record

- frequently asked questions (FAQs)

If you need assistance with the Allegro MX or RFID reader and tags, contact Technical Services at 1-800-229-3404 (select 1, then press 2), or send an email to pcstechservices@aiworldwide.com.

1

Charge the RFID reader:

1. Plug the provided USB cable in the USB port on the end of the RFID reader (Figure 1).

2. Plug the other end of the USB cable in a USB port on your computer.

Figure 1. USB Port on RFID Reader

2

Create a Bluetooth partnership:

1. Turn on the RFID reader by pressing and holding the power button for two seconds (Figure 2).

   When the RFID reader has powered up, it will beep twice and both the device status LED and RFID status LED will flash green two times (Figure 2). The device status LED will then flash green and magenta indicating the RFID reader is in Bluetooth connectable mode.

2. While the RFID reader is in Bluetooth connectable mode (flashing magenta), press and release the power button to place the device in Bluetooth discoverable mode.
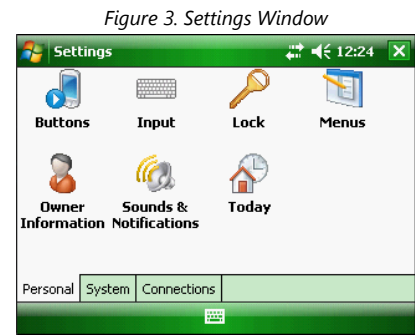
   The device status LED flashes blue during Bluetooth discoverable mode to indicate the RFID reader is waiting for a Bluetooth physical connection to be established. The device will return to the previous mode if no connection is established within the discovery time-out (60 seconds), or will indicate a physical connection if a Bluetooth connection is established.
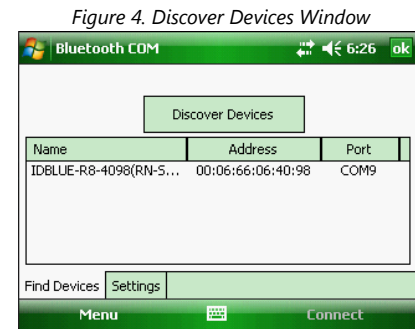

Figure 2. RFID Reader

Create a Bluetooth partnership, continued

3 On the Allegro, tap *Start > Settings* in the Allegro Start menu to open the *Settings* window (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Settings Window

4 Tap the *Connections* tab > *Bluetooth COM* icon > *Settings* tab to open the *Bluetooth COM* settings window and enable the following options:

- Turn on Bluetooth
- Make this device visible to other devices
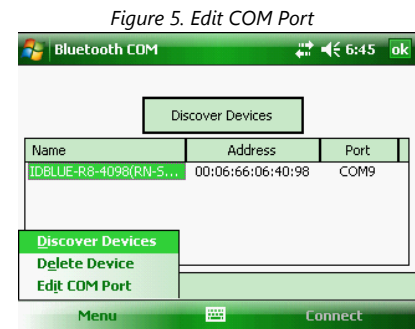- Let other devices connect to a COM port on this device

5 Tap the *Find Devices* tab and then tap *Discover Devices* (Figure 4).

Figure 4. Discover Devices Window

6 Point the RFID reader near the Allegro and wait for a Bluetooth connection to display in the *Discover Devices* window (Figure 4).

A connection has been established when the name of the RFID reader displays in the window, such as *IDBLUE-R8-4098* shown in Figure 4.

7 Tap the name of the RFID reader in the *Discover Devices* window and then tap *Connect*. When a COM port assignment displays in the window, the Allegro and RFID reader have established a Bluetooth partnership (Figure 4).

8 Record the COM port assignment shown in the *Discover Devices* window; it is needed later when setting up the PS survey file for RFID. If you want to change COM port assignments, tap *Menu > Edit COM Port* (Figure 5).

Figure 5. Edit COM Port

9 Tap *OK* to close the *Discover Devices* window and then tap the Windows close icon (*X*) to close the *Settings* window and return to the Allegro *Start* window.
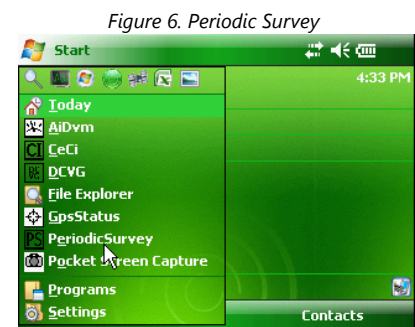
3

Setup RFID in the Allegro PS survey file:

Figure 6. Periodic Survey

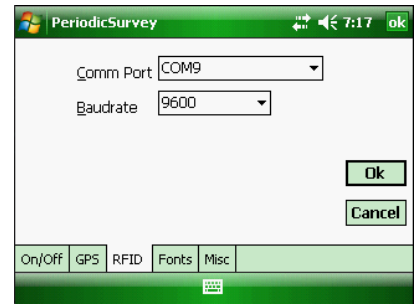**1** Transfer a survey file from PCS to the Allegro.

If needed, see the *PCS User and Administrator Guide* for information about how to transfer survey files to and from the Allegro.

2 On the Allegro, tap *Start > PeriodicSurvey* to start the software (Figure 6).

3 Tap *File > Open* and select a PS survey file. Tap *OK* to close the window.

Setup RFID in the Allegro PS survey file, continued

4 To setup the PS survey file with the COM port assignment recorded earlier, follow these steps:

Figure 7. PS Survey File COM Port

- Tap *View > Options > RFID* tab. Tap the down arrow in the *Comm Port* field and select a COM port (Figure 7).

- Verify the *Baudrate* field is setup with the *9600* baud rate option.

- Tap *Ok* to close the window and return to the PS survey file.

Note: If settings other than RFID are required (such as GPS and on/off survey settings) refer to the *Allegro MX User Guide* for instructions.

4

Assign an RFID number to a site record in a PS survey file:

1 Display a site record in the PS survey file with the facility you want to add an RFID number.

RFID Tag

2 Point the RFID reader within two inches of the RFID tag. Press and release the action button on the RFID reader to scan the RFID tag (Figure 8).
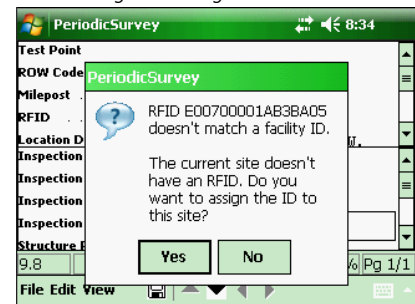
Figure 8. Scan RFID Tag

The RFID status LED is blue when the RFID reader is busy scanning a tag. When a successful tag read has been accomplished, the RFID reader emits a high tone and the RFID status LED flashes green (Figure 8). If the RFID reader is unable to find the tag, the RFID status LED flashes red.

Figure 9. Assign ID to Site

3 Tap *Yes* when a message displays asking if you want to assign the ID to this site (Figure 9).

4 Repeat steps 1 through 3 in this section to add an RFID number for another site record in the PS survey file.
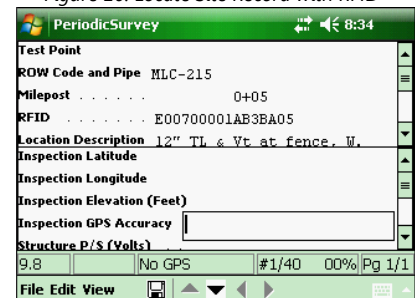
Search the PS survey file for a site record by scanning an RFID tag:

Figure 10. Locate Site Record with RFID

1 Open the PS survey file that includes RFID numbers previously assigned to site records.

2 Point the RFID reader within two inches of the RFID tag. Press and release the action button on the RFID reader to scan the tag.

When the PS software locates the RFID number, the matching site record displays in the survey file (Figure 10).

FAQs

1 Why does a message display on my computer stating the USB driver could not be found when I try to charge the RFID reader?

If Windows is unable to locate the USB driver required for communication with the RFID reader, download and install the USB driver labeled *IDBLUE.HF USB Driver* from the IDBlue website at the following web address:

http://idblue.com/support/drivers-software

2 How long should the battery be charged in the RFID reader?

Charge the RFID reader for at least 2 hours before using it for the first time. Subsequent recharging typically takes 1 to 1-½ hours maximum. Charge the battery using the provided USB cable connected to a USB port on your computer. You can also charge the RFID reader using a USB wall charger with the provided USB cable.

3 How long can I use the RFID reader before it needs recharging?

Depending on usage the battery typically lasts between 10 to 12 hours. The device status LED flashes green, yellow, or red indicating battery power status as follows:

- flashing green = good battery
- flashing yellow = medium battery
- flashing red = low battery

4 How do I reset the RFID reader?

If the RFID reader is unresponsive or a Bluetooth partnership cannot be established, perform a device reset. Press and hold the power button and the action button simultaneously for at least 3 seconds. While holding both buttons, the reading status and device status LEDs display a solid cyan color. When both of these LEDs turn off the RFID reader has performed a reset. Release both buttons.