

JSIM PC Joystick Interface

Introduction

Thank you for purchasing this PC joystick interface, this is a ready-made version of the very popular kit that has been sold to hundreds of people in the last few years. The design was originally published in the UK magazine, Radio Control Models and Electronics (RCM&E).

JSIM is an RC buddy box to PC games port joystick interface, it will work with up to 8 channels, channels 1 to 4 will be used as analogue inputs for the joystick, giving 4 axes. Channels 5 to 8 will be used to activate the button inputs. If your RC transmitter has less than 8 channels, then the interface will only generate output for the same number of input channels i.e. if you have a 6 channel set, it will produce 4 analogues and 2 switched channels or, if you only have a 3 channel transmitter, then it will just produce 3 analogue channels and no more.

JSIM will work with any PC program that uses input from a PC games port joystick, be it an RC simulator, flight/combat simulator or any other game. It will not work with any program that requires its own special RC transmitter interface. It will work with most makes of RC transmitter that output a standard PPM buddy box signal from their training socket.

In Use

If your make/model of RC transmitter does not support switching-on when the buddy box lead is plugged in, then you will need to switch it on with the main power on/off switch. It is then best to remove the crystal or RF module for the transmitter, this will increase battery life and mean you will not need to have the antenna extended.

JSIM is very easy to use and set up, it emulates a standard 4 axis, 4 button PC joystick. You will need to calibrate it, this can either be done in Windows via "Start", "Settings", "Control Panel", "Game Controllers" or using the calibrate function in the program you want to use it with.

NOTE: If you only have a 4-channel transmitter, you cannot use the windows control panel option to calibrate, as it requires the use of a fire button to function properly.

If you don't already have a suitable joystick installed on your system by the program you want to use it with, you will need to add a new game controller via "Start", "Settings", "Control Panel", "Game Controllers", "Add". Select the "Custom" option at the top of the list, then select "4 axis, 4 Buttons" and give it a name such as "JSIM" and click "OK". You should now have in your list of Controllers "JSIM", if it is plugged in it will show Status "OK", click on "JSIM" in the Controllers list and then click "Properties".

You can now use the tabs "Test" and "Settings". Use "Test" to check the functioning of the unit and "Settings" to calibrate it by following the instructions on screen.

Most PC programs allow for re-mapping of input channels to control functions, so use this facility if you need to swap channels around.

USB Version

The USB version does not need any special drivers, as it will be installed as a standard USB device, called a Human Interface Device or HID. This device is standard to all versions of Windows from Windows 98 onwards. When the interface is first plugged in, the LED on the interface box will light up RED and Windows will pop up a dialog box saying "New hardware found". Just follow the instruction from Windows about installing a driver for this device, for this you may need your Windows installation CD. Once Windows has installed its driver, the LED on the interface box should change to AMBER to show that the USB device has been enumerated. The LED will change to GREEN when an RC transmitter is connected to the input lead and switched on if necessary.

The USB version functions just the same as the games port version, the only difference is that it will appear in "Control Panel", "Game Controllers" as a "HID Game Controller: 4 axis 4 button joystick"

Buddy Box Connections

The only difference between the different versions of JSIM is the buddy box connector that is fitted to the lead. If you want to change the connector for use with a different make of radio or make up adaptors for use with different makes, then refer to the plug wiring diagrams that you can find on the web site (<http://www.rc-electronics.co.uk/buddy.htm>).

Contacting Us.

If you have any problems, please first check the web site (<http://www.rc-electronics.co.uk>) for any updates to this instruction sheet and the FAQ page for any common questions, if this does not help then email us at info@rc-electronics.co.uk.