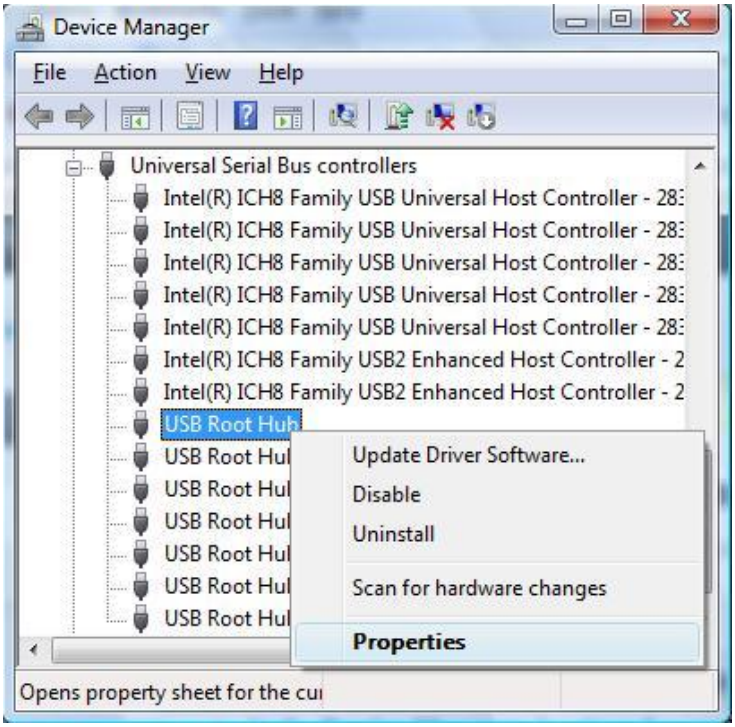
How To Disable Power Management For USB Root Hubs

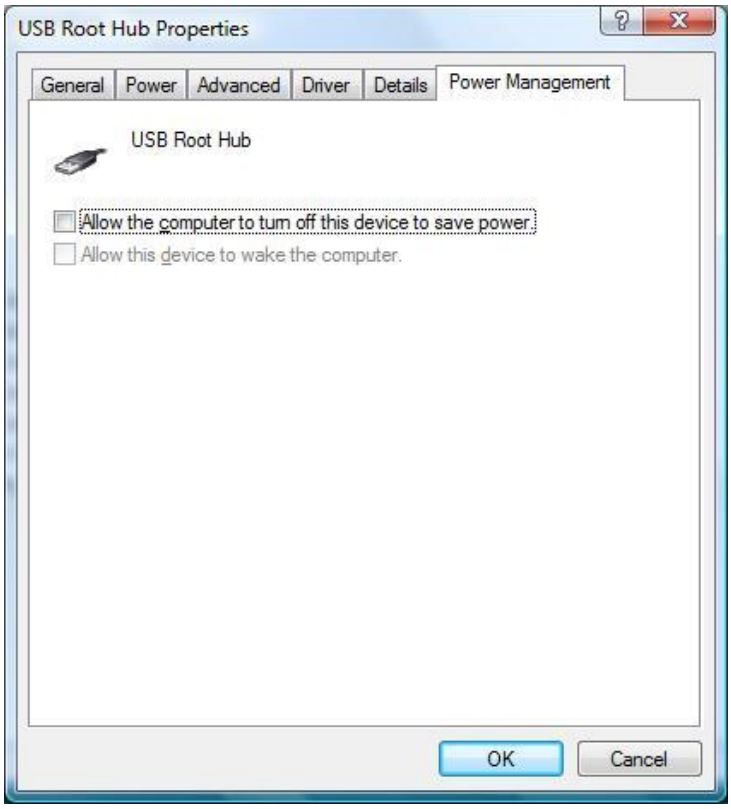
In some cases USB devices may stop working, in worse cases a complete USB hub may stop working. USB problems are always unwelcome, but if things are working fine and suddenly USB devices do not work anymore or are not recognized, troubleshooting can proof difficult.

If you have tried rebooting, unplugging and re-plugging, reinstalling all necessary USB device drivers, then you might want to try disabling the power management on the USB Root Hubs in Windows. We'll use Win7 as an example, but this method works just the same in Windows XP.

1. In the Windows **Start** menu, select **Run**.
2. In the **Run** dialog box, type **devmgmt.msc** and click **OK** or press **Enter**.
3. In the **Device Manager**, locate and open the **Universal Serial Bus controllers** branch.
4. You should now see a number of **USB Root Hub** entries.
5. Right-click the first of the **USB Root Hub** entries, and in the popup menu select **Properties**.



6. In the **USB Root Hub Properties** dialog box, select the **Power Management** tab.
7. Clear the checkbox named "**Allow the computer to turn off this device to save power**", and click **OK**.

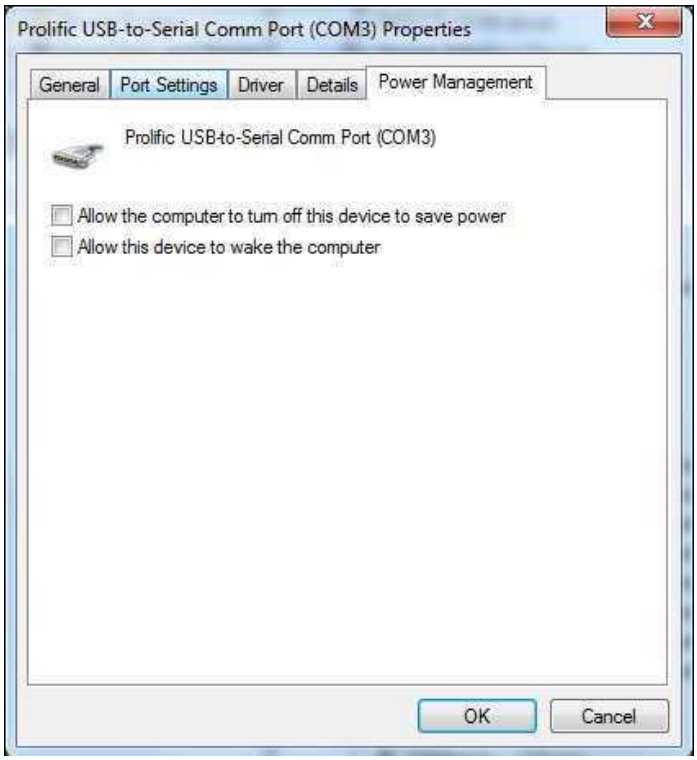


8. Repeat steps 5 till 7 for all **USB Root Hub** entries.
9. Now close the **Device Manager** and restart your computer.

Computer which working with Prolific USB-to-Serial Comm Port

1. In the **Device Manager**, locate and open the **Ports** branch.
2. You should now see the entry of **Prolific USB-to-Serial Comm Port**.
3. Right-click the first of the **Prolific USB-to-Serial** entry, and in the popup menu select **Properties**.

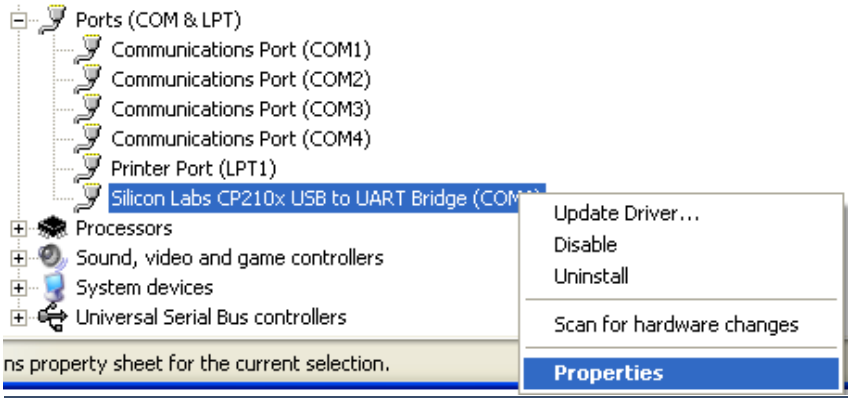
4. In the **Prolific USB-to-Serial Comm Port** dialog box, select the **Power Management** tab.



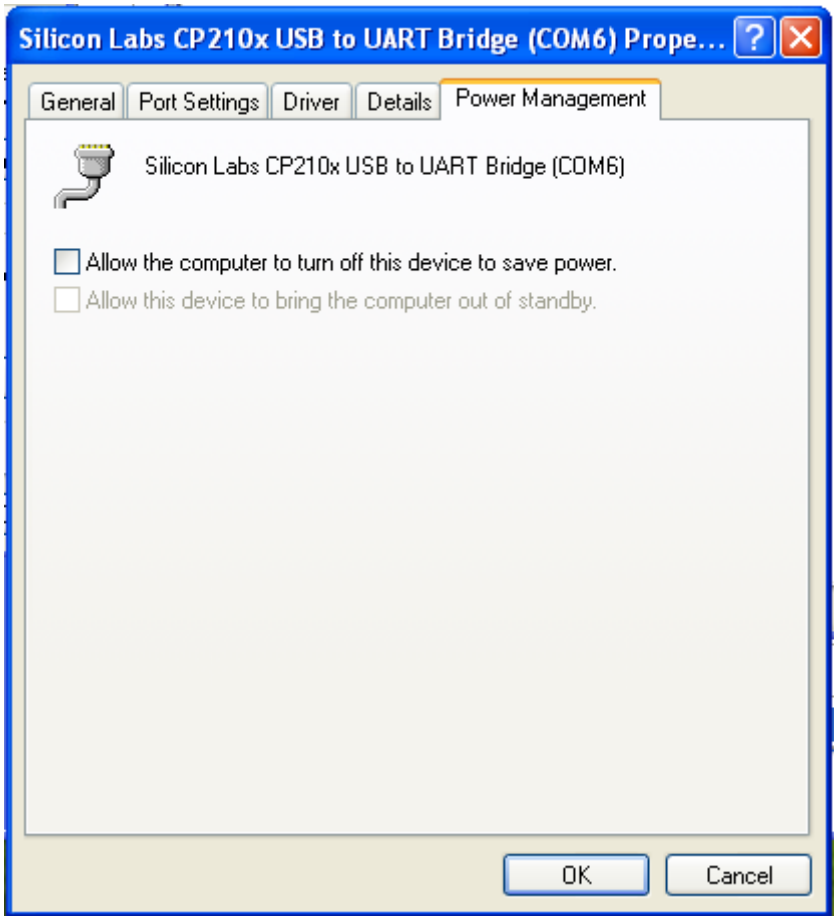
5. Clear the checkbox named "**Allow the computer to turn off this device to save power**".
6. Clear the checkbox named "**Allow this device to wake the computer**", and click **OK**.

Computer which working with Silicon Labs CP210x USB to UART Bridge

1. In the **Device Manager**, locate and open the **Ports** branch.
2. You should now see the entry of **Silicon Labs CP210x USB to UART Bridge**.
3. Right-click the first of the **Silicon Labs CP210x USB to UART Bridge** entry, and in the popup menu select **Properties**.



4. In the **Silicon Labs CP210x USB to UART Bridge** dialog box, select the **Power Management** tab.



5. Clear the checkbox named "**Allow the computer to turn off this device to save power**", and click **OK**.

Hopefully the USB problems will disappear after this. If not, you can of course turn power management on again. If the USB problems do disappear, you can try to enable the power management for each of the USB Root Hubs again to save power (especially on laptops and notebooks). By doing it one-by-one you can try to identify the problematic USB hub. Do keep in mind that this requires you to keep your USB devices plugged to the same USB ports!