

<b>PRIORITY:</b>	Normal
<b>DATE:</b>	October 8, 2001
<b>TITLE:</b>	Using AlphaNET software with USB-equipped Apple® Power Macintosh® computers
<b>ECO REFERENCE:</b>	N/A
<b>PRODUCT(S) AFFECTED:</b>	AlphaNET software (version 1.4 or greater)
<b>SUMMARY:</b>	This document shows how to use AlphaNET software on a Power Macintosh® G3 or G4 computer.

## Introduction

This TechMemo shows how to use AlphaNET software (version 1.4 or greater) on a Power Macintosh® G3 or G4 computer to send messages to Alpha® signs.

To do this, the AlphaNET software should be run on Windows® 2000 emulator software, called Virtual PC, on a Macintosh® computer.

**NOTE:** This TechMemo only applies to Apple® Power Macintosh® G3 and G4 computers, not Apple® iMac computers.

## Required materials

Item	Availability
Connectix Virtual PC v4.0 with Windows® 2000 software	MacWarehouse (800-622-6222), \$230
Belkin USB Serial Adapter for a PC ( <u>not</u> the Macintosh® version), Belkin part number F5U103	Belkin (www.belkin.com), \$80
AlphaNET software (version 1.4 or greater)	Contact Adaptive Micro Systems.

## Related documentation

Name	Part number	Description
AlphaNET plus™ for Windows® User Manual	9708-8081	Step-by-step examples on how to use this software
Network Configurations	9708-8046	Examples on how to network Alpha® signs

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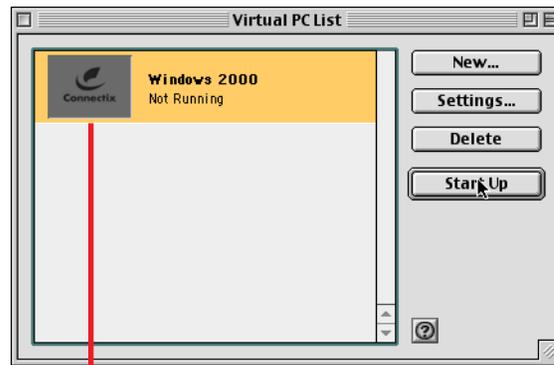
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Due to continuing product innovation, specifications in this manual are subject to change without notice.

## Install the Virtual PC software

**NOTE:** Do NOT connect the Belkin USB Serial Adapter to your computer until instructed to do so.

1. Delete all previous versions of Virtual PC software from your computer. This includes any Virtual PC files in the *System > Extensions* folder and the *System > Preferences* folder.
2. Restart your computer.
3. Install the Virtual PC v4.0 with Windows® 2000 software.
4. Start the Virtual PC software and then start the Windows® 2000 software:

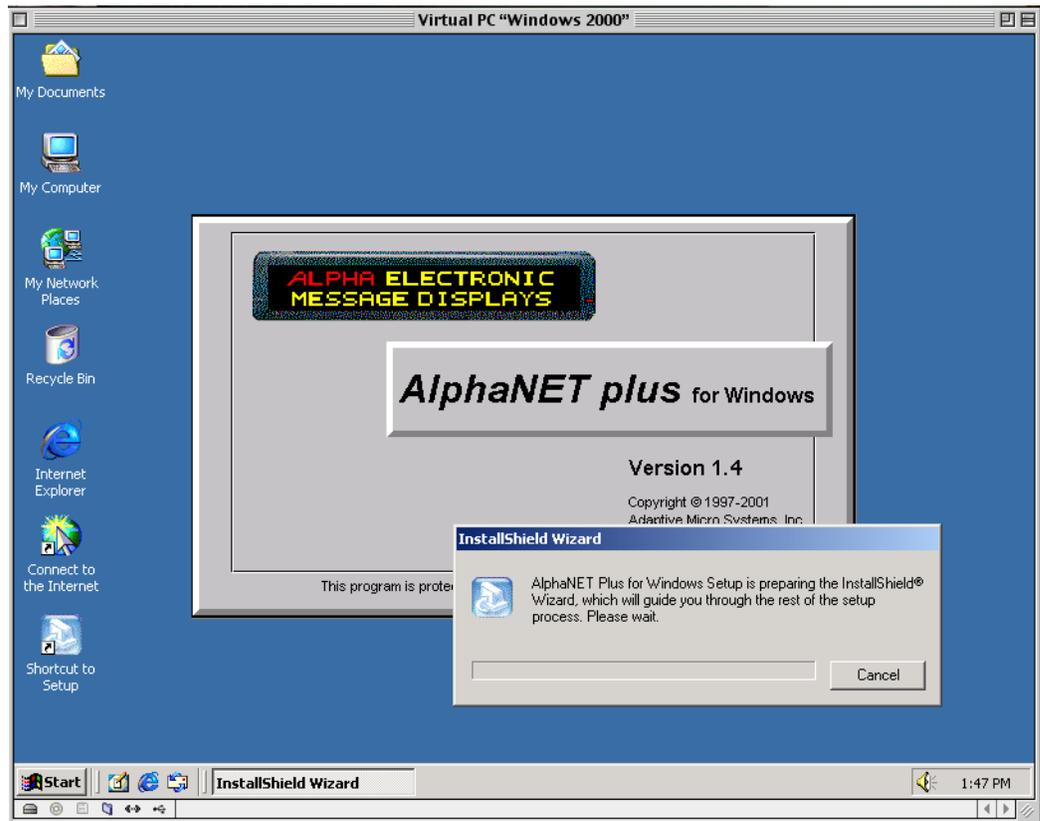


5. Eject the Virtual PC CD ROM.

## Install the AlphaNET software

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6. Insert the AlphaNET CD ROM and install this software:



7. After installing the AlphaNET software, you'll have to restart the Windows<sup>®</sup> 2000 software.

## Connect the Belkin USB Serial Adapter to your computer

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8. Plug the Belkin USB Serial Adapter into a USB port on your computer.

**NOTE:** The Belkin adapter should be directly connected to one of the USB ports on your computer — not through a USB hub or another USB device.

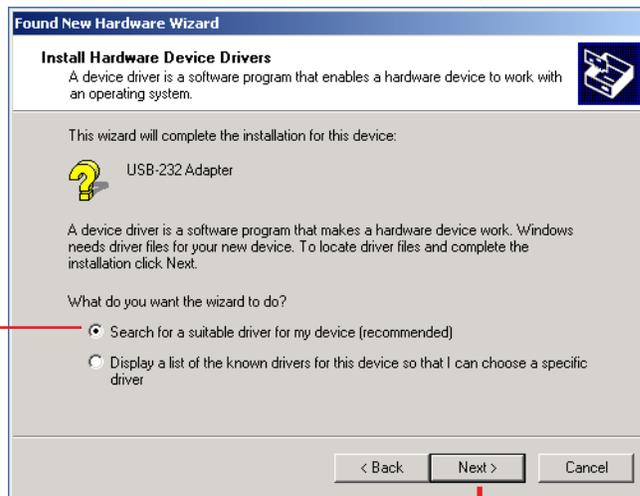
## Install the software driver for the Belkin USB Serial Adapter

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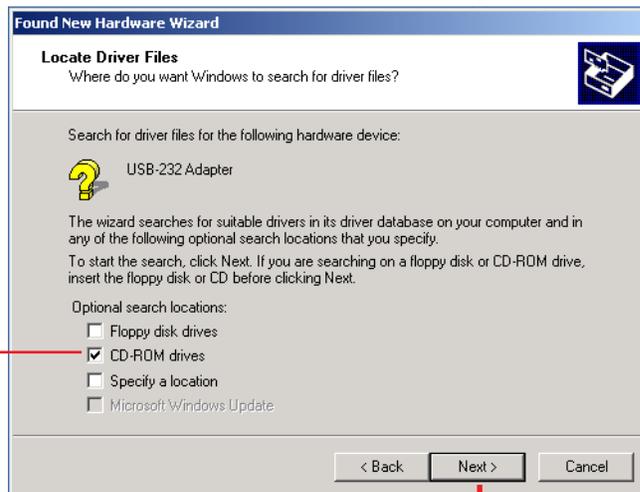
9. Using Windows<sup>®</sup> 2000 software, eject and remove the AlphaNET software CD ROM. Then insert the installation CD ROM that came with the Belkin adapter.

**NOTE:** For the Belkin Serial Adapter used with these instructions, two CD ROMs were included: an installation CD ROM and a Windows<sup>®</sup> 2000 CD ROM. In this case, the Windows<sup>®</sup> 2000 CD ROM was used because it contained the necessary software driver.

10. The following prompts should appear on the Windows® 2000 software screen:



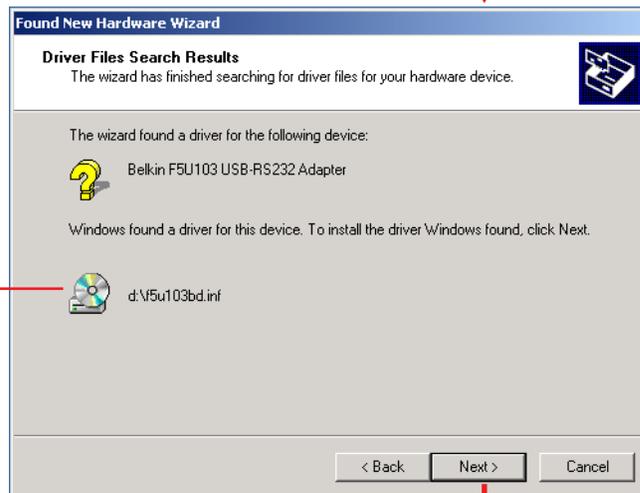
Select this



Select this unless the Belkin USB Adapter driver is not on a CD ROM



The New Hardware Wizard should automatically locate the driver.

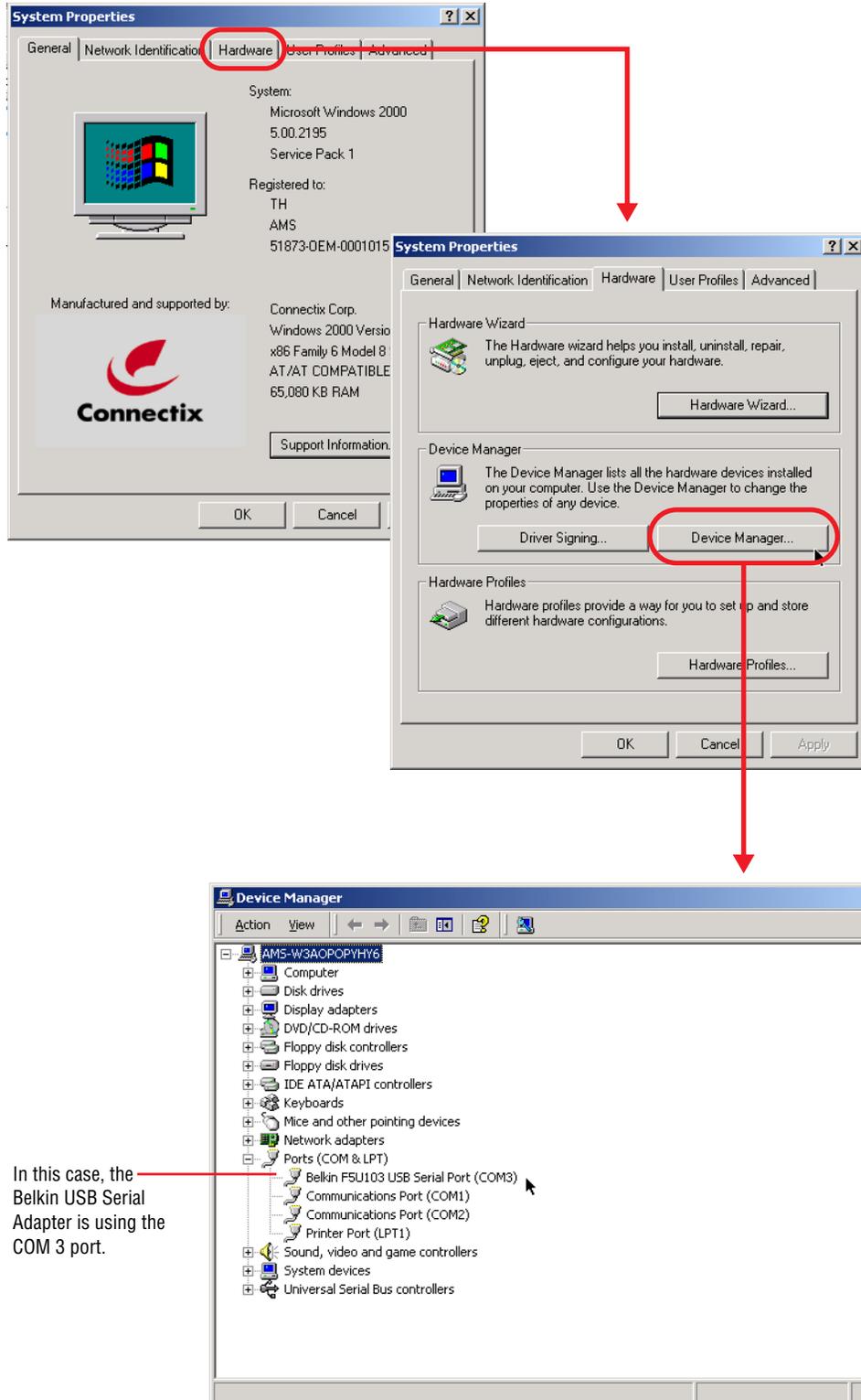


This indicates that the installation was a success.

## Determine the COM port of the Belkin USB Serial Adapter

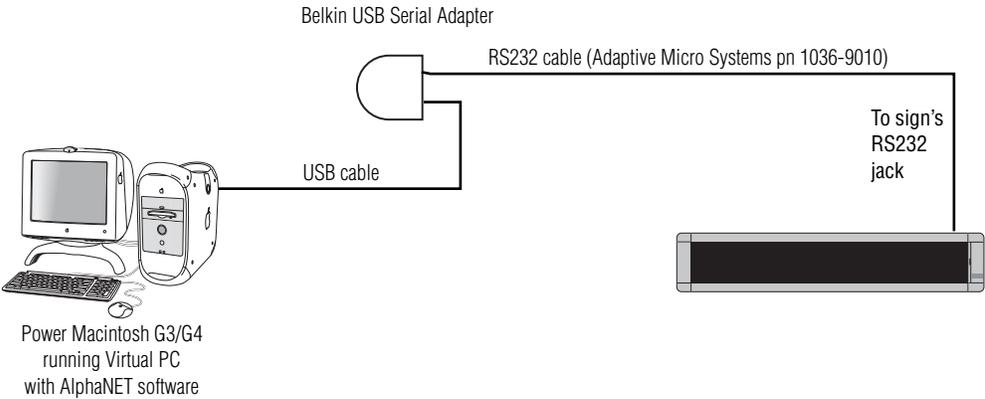
You need to find which Windows® 2000 software COM port the Belkin USB Serial Adapter is using. To do this, follow these steps:

11. In the Windows® 2000 software, select *Start > Settings > Control Panel*. Then select *System > Hardware > Device Manager > Ports*:

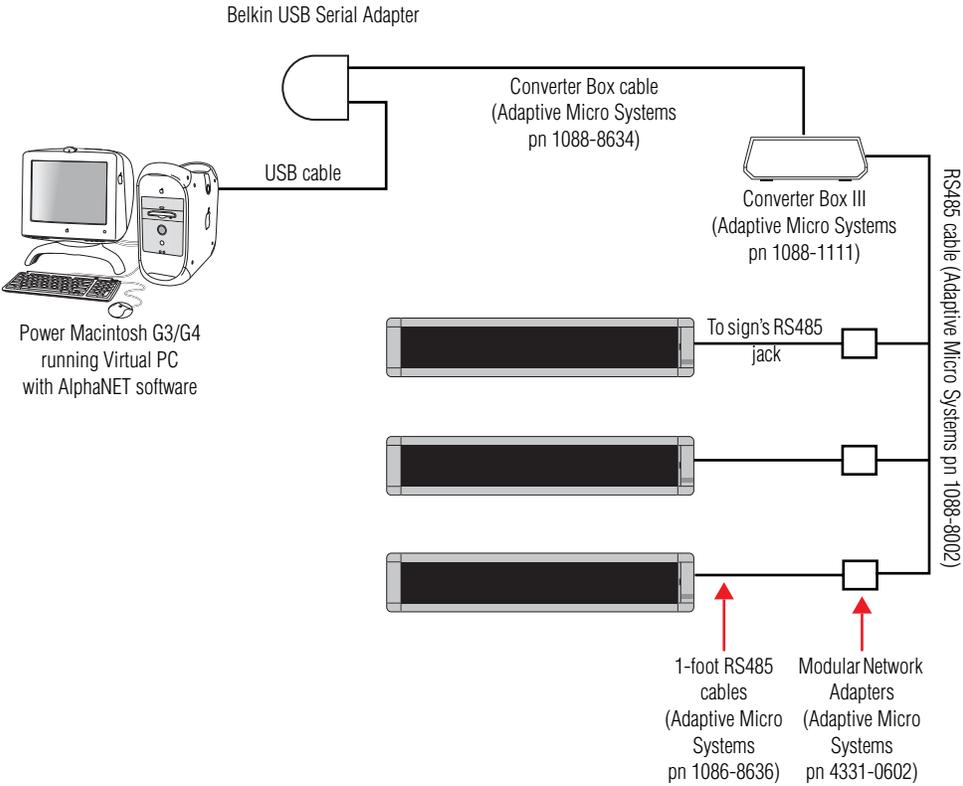


# Connect the Belkin USB Serial Adapter to Alpha<sup>®</sup> signs

## Single sign network using RS232



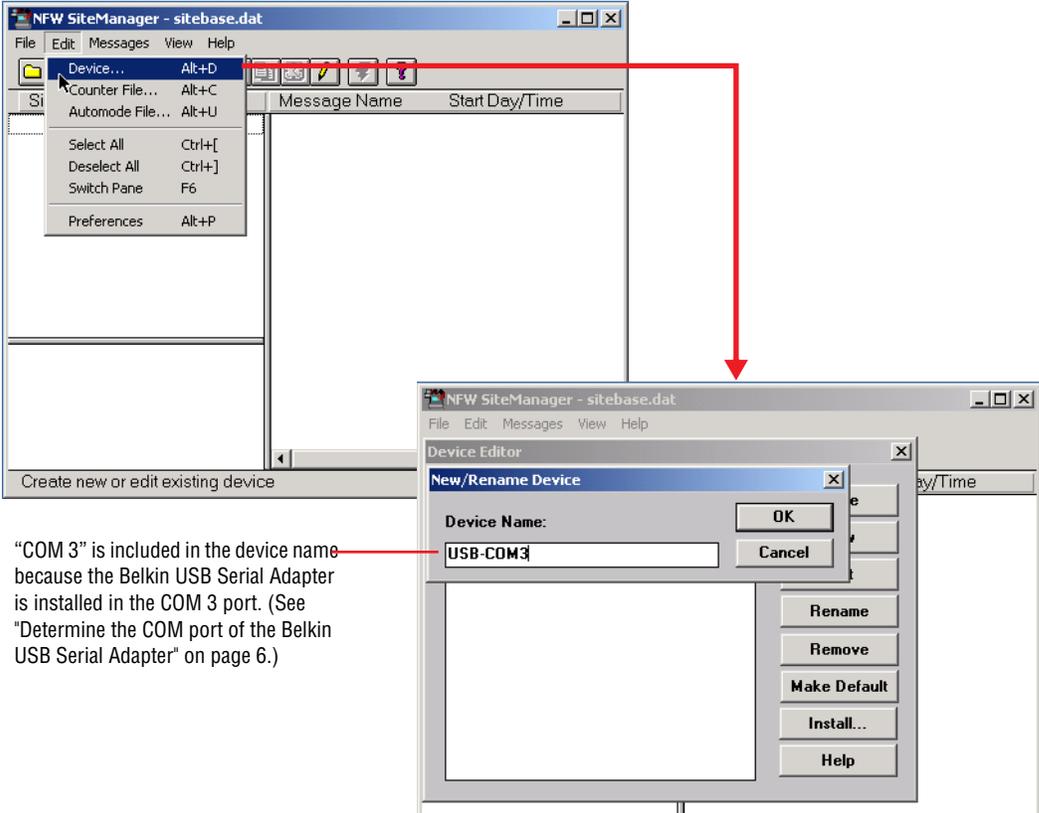
## Multiple sign network using RS485



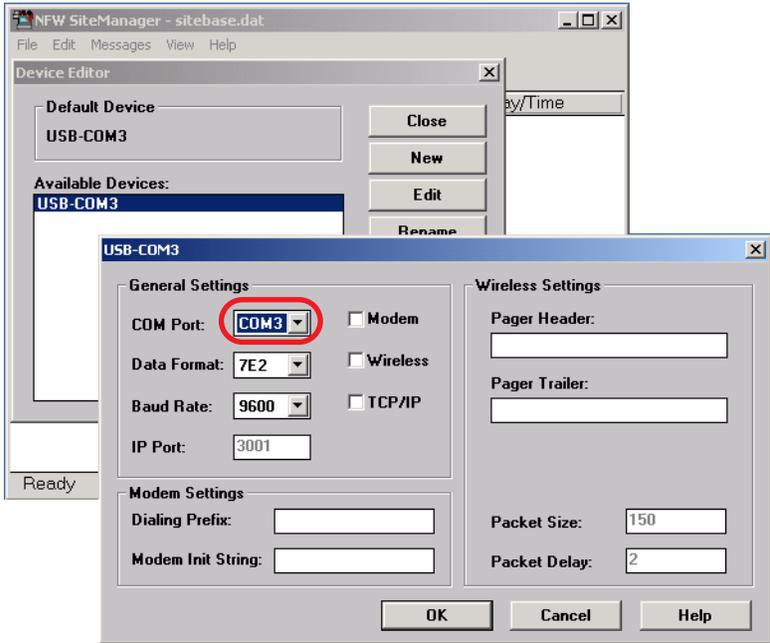
# Set up AlphaNET software

For more information on using AlphaNET software, see the **AlphaNET plus™ for Window® User Manual**:

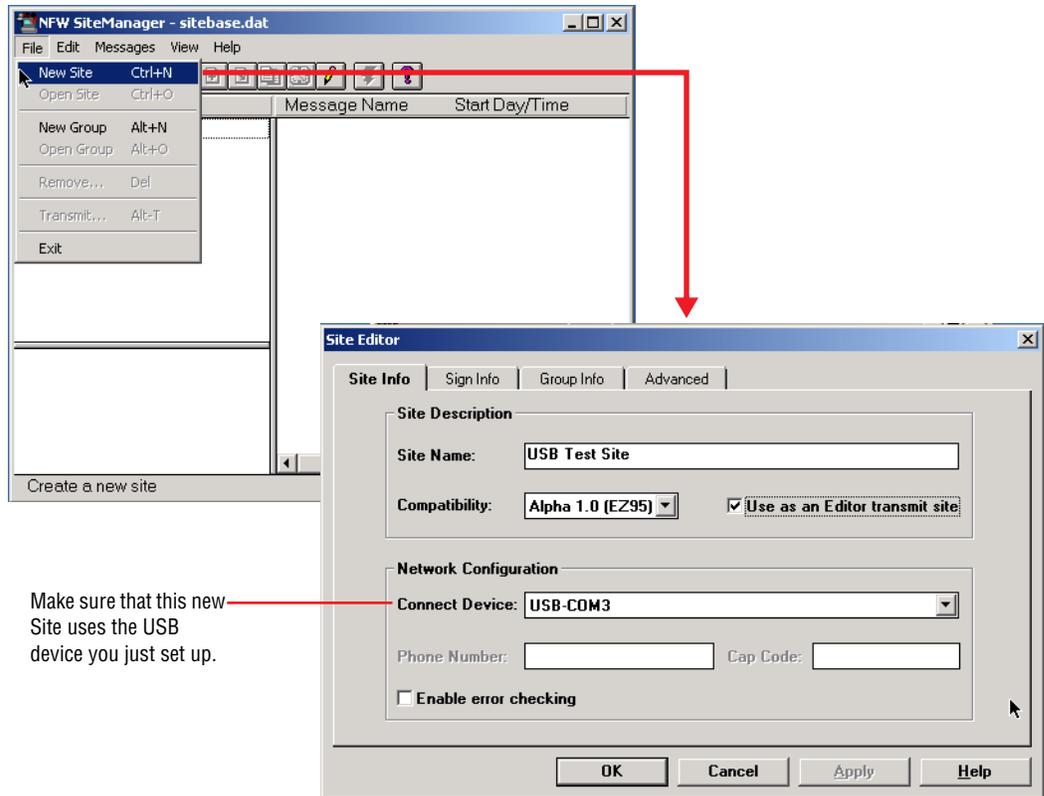
1. Create a USB device in the AlphaNET software by starting the *Site Manager* and then selecting *Device > New*:



2. After naming the new device, select *Edit* and make sure *COM Port* is set to *COM3*:



3. After creating the USB device, create a Site that uses this device by selecting *New Site*:



4. Next, create a test message using the *Message Editor* and transmit this message to a sign attached to your computer:

