Windows 8: Disabling Driver Signature Enforcement 8/16/2013

Background

With the advent of Windows 8, Microsoft has taken the stance of not allowing USB device attachment without driver "Certification." Previous windows version provided a "customer option" to allow driver installation regardless of certification. Windows 8 does not, *unless the user performs this procedure*. This is problematic in that drivers that work on XP, WIN7 etc are not installable without a "Win8 recertification" cycle.

In the RTC Evaluation project, our software uses an exact copy of the Silicon Lab's certified Windows 8 USB Express driver. However, we do utilize a different Vendor ID and Product ID. This negates the certification of the motherboard attachment; so it cannot not be installed.

Given that the RTC evaluation software is low volume tool, only used by industrial rather than consumer situations, the cost of certification is not justified.

As a final note, after changing the Windows 8 Startup option as describe in this procedure, the user still receives a message and has the option to not install uncertified devices. This procedure removes the operating system from arbitrarily rejecting the installation.

For Window 8 without hidden side bar and a start button.

Press the "Start" button, select the "Control Panel" button on the right panel.

Select "User Accounts", then select the "Make changes to my account in PC settings" link.

All else the same after the 3rd step below.

For Window 8 with hidden side bar.

Bring up the Desktop View



Go to the right bottom corner of the desktop and wait for the side menu to appear. When it's there click on the gear icon with the title "Settings".



Now click on the entry "Change PC Settings"



Click on the entry "General"

PC settings
Personalize
Users
Notifications
Search
Share
General <<<<<
Privacy
Devices
Wireless
Ease of Access
Sync your settings
HomeCroup

Scroll down (right side) to "Advanced start up " and click "Restart now"

PC settings	Available storage You have 373 GB available. See how much space your apps are using. View app sizes
Personalize	
Users	Refresh your PC without affecting your files
Notifications	If your PC isn't running well, you can refresh it without losing your photos, music, videos, and other personal files.
Search	Get started
Share	Remove everything and reinstall Windows
General	If you want to recycle your PC or start over completely, you can reset it to its factory settings.
Privacy	Get started
Devices	Advanced startup
Wireless	Start up from a device or disc (such as a USB drive or DVD), change your PC's firmware settings, change Windows startup settings, or restore Windows from a
Ease of Access	system image. This will restart your PC.
Sync your settings	
HomeGroup	

Wait a bit for a menu.

Now click "Troubleshoot"



Click "Advanced options"



Select "Startup Settings"



After clicking "Restart", wait for next screen to appear.

€	Startup Settings
	Restart to change Windows options such as: • Enable low-resolution video mode • Enable debugging mode • Enable boot logging • Enable Safe Mode • Disable driver signature enforcement • Disable early-launch anti-malware protection • Disable automatic restart on system failure
	Restart

Press "F7" to "Disable driver signature enforcement"





During the installation of the software you will be asked the following, just click "Install this driver software anyway" and this will install your driver.

