

Applied Biosystems PCR System 9700, Firmware v3.12 Release Notes

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1. Overview

Firmware v3.12 for GeneAmp® PCR System 9700

The GeneAmp® PCR System 9700 delivers the proven performance and reliability of earlier generation Applied Biosystems GeneAmp® PCR Systems.

Firmware v3.12 or above must be installed on the GeneAmp® PCR System base in order to operate the Dual Flat Block GeneAmp® PCR System 9700. Instructions for firmware upgrade are below.

New features in this firmware include:

- Support for Dual Flat Block GeneAmp® PCR System 9700 for TaqMan® OpenArray® Genotyping Systems
- Enhanced diagnostic Rate Test to accommodate newer GeneAmp® PCR System 9700 sample blocks
- Cosmetic update to TNU testing dialogue for 96-well aluminum, silver and gold GeneAmp® PCR 9700 systems

2. Features

No new features were added in this firmware release.

3. Confirm Firmware Version

Instrument display at power up will display current GeneAmp® PCR System 9700 firmware. If v3.11 or lower, firmware upgrade is necessary for operation of Dual Flat Block GeneAmp® PCR System 9700. If v3.12 or higher, instrument is ready to operate Dual Flat Block GeneAmp® PCR System 9700.

4. **Downloading Firmware:**

Please visit Applied Biosystems' support website to download the latest version of the firmware.

<http://www.appliedbiosystems.com/support/software/>

5. **Upgrading Firmware:**

Using the N8051327 cable, there are settings that need to be set when upgrading using the HyperTerminal program in Windows XP.

Part 1: Configurations of the GeneAmp 9700

Step 1: On the control panel main menu select "UTIL"

Step 2: select "DIAG"

Step 3: select "STOP" & "F3" buttons at the same time, which will lead user into the hidden menu

Step 4: select "PORT MODE"

Step 5: ensure that "TERM" is the selected mode

Step 6: exit to main menu

Step 7: select "UTIL"

Step 8: select "CONFIG"

Step 9: select "MORE"

Step 10: select "BAUD RATE", make note of the figure displayed. This is the baud rate setting used later for the HyperTerminal program in Part 2

(Baud rate is determined by block type. Baud rate setting on HyperTerminal program must exactly match setting on 9700 unit)

Step 11: Select "More" twice, and ensure that "Get IP" is set to OFF

Step 12: Select "Accept"

Step 13: Reboot the 9700 system (power down and power up)

Step 14: Select "UTIL"

Step 15: Select "DIAG"

Step 16: Select "UPGRAD"

Step 17: Select "SERIAL"

Step 18: Select "UPDATE"

Part 2: On your computer: Settings of HyperTerminal

Note: HyperTerminal can be found in:

Start/Accessories/Communication/HyperTerminal in Windows XP.

Step 1: Name File, Select COM1 or COM2, depending upon your computer port to which the cable is attached
Set the "Bits per second" to same setting as displayed in "BAUD RATE" previously noted on the 9700 unit.
Step 2: Ensure port settings are configured as in Figure 1, below. Select "Apply"
Step 3: Under "File", select "Properties", select "Settings", select "ASCII Setup"
Step 4: Select both of the "ASCII Sending" settings as in Figure 2, below
Step 5: Under "Transfer", select "Send File"
Step 6: In Filename field, locate upgrade file with the name under which you saved the file
Step 7: In the protocol field, select "Kermit", then select "Send"

Do not touch connections or restart instrument once upgrade has begun. A pop-up screen atop the HyperTerminal display provides upgrade status. Only when the upgrade has completed, HyperTerminal confirms upgrade, 9700 system has re-booted and "RUN" button appears on 9700 should connections be severed and power may be cycled.

Figure 1

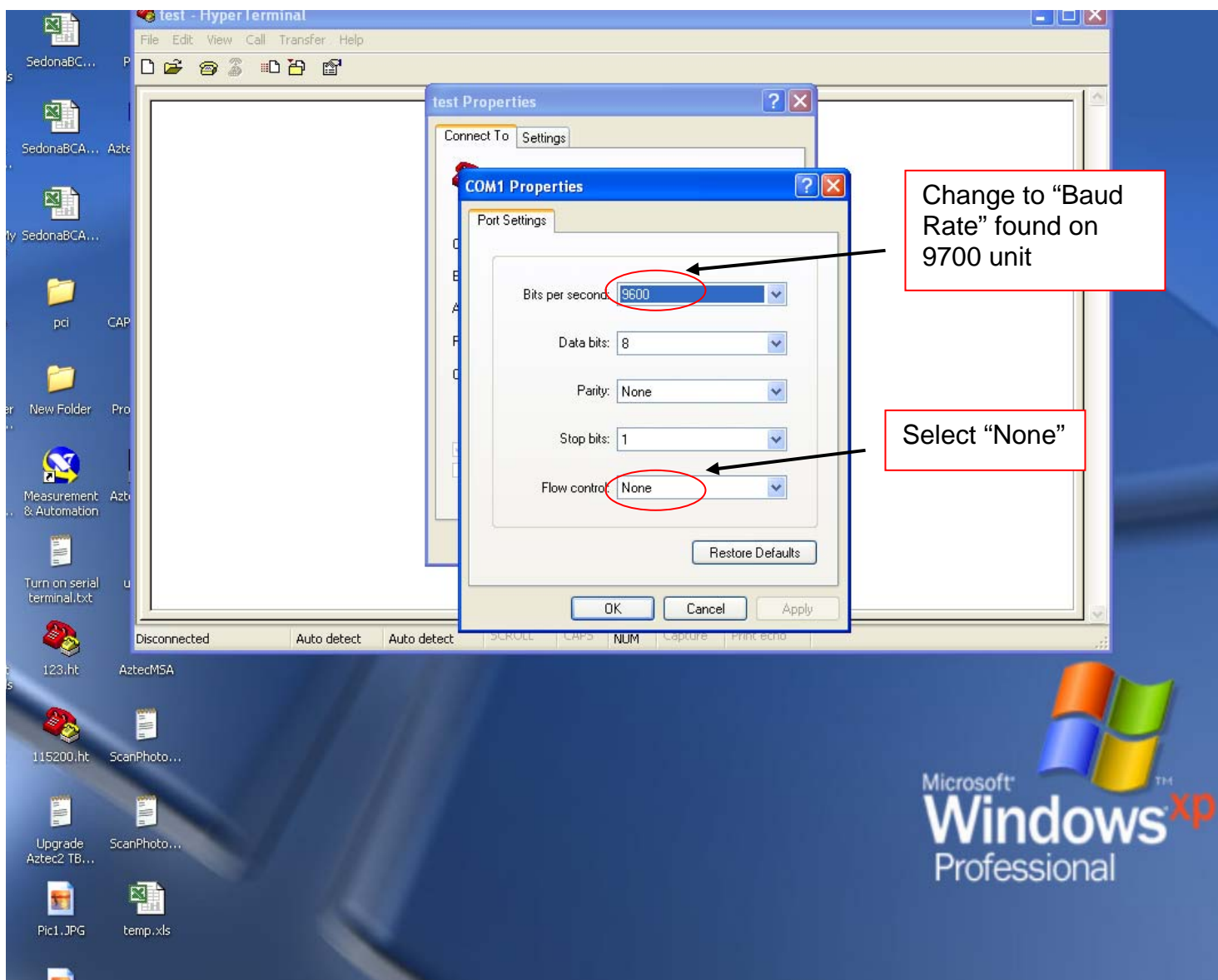
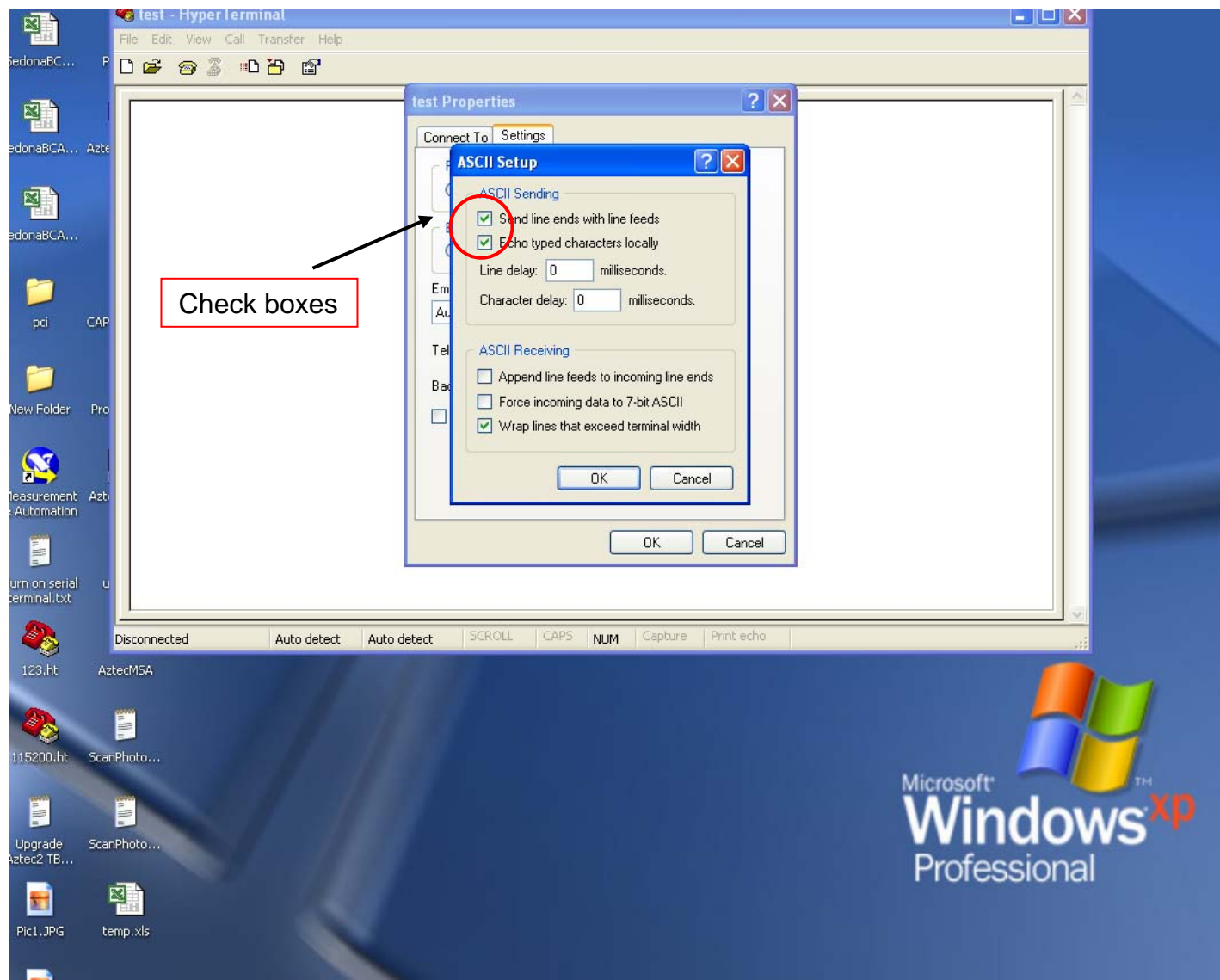


Figure 2



6. Known Issues

- Run does not return to exact point of the protocol at which the power loss occurred.

7. Legal Section

NOTICE TO PURCHASER: Label License

The GeneAmp® PCR System 9700 is covered by patents owned by Applied Biosystems. No right is conveyed expressly, by implication, or by estoppel to apparatus, reagents, kits, or methods such as the patented 5' nuclease methods. For further information contact the Director of Licensing, Applied Biosystems, 850 Lincoln Centre Drive, Foster City, California 94404, USA.

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