



RAVEn™

Radio Adaptor for Viewing Energy

User Manual

Version 1.01
April 2011

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RAVEn™ – Radio Adaptor for Viewing Energy

RFA-Z106

Version 1.01

User Manual

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Regulatory information

FCC Notices

Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the manufacturer could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

FCC/IC RF Exposure Statement

This equipment complies with FCC and Industry Canada radiation exposure limits set forth for an uncontrolled environment. The antenna(s) used for this equipment must be installed to provide a separation distance of at least 8 inches (20cm) from all persons.

ICES-003 Compliance

This Class B digital apparatus complies with Canadian ICES-003.

This device complies with Industry Canada licence-exempt RSS standard(s). Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) this device may not cause interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference, including interference that may cause undesired operation of the device.

Le présent appareil est conforme aux CNR d'Industrie Canada applicables aux appareils radio exempts de licence. L'exploitation est autorisée aux deux conditions suivantes : (1) l'appareil ne doit pas produire de brouillage, et (2) l'utilisateur de l'appareil doit accepter tout brouillage radioélectrique subi, même si le brouillage est susceptible d'en compromettre le fonctionnement

Note: This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

Initial Setup

Step 1: Check your computer

Your computer must be running Windows XP, Windows Vista, or Windows 7. It must also have the .NET Framework (ver 2.0) installed. If .NET is not installed on your computer, you will be prompted to download it during the software installation procedure. You must also have an available USB port on your computer to plug your **RAVEn™** into.

Step 2: Register your **RAVEn™**

In order for your **RAVEn™** to connect to the smart meter, you will need to register your **RAVEn™** with your utility. Please follow the procedure provided by your utility. You will need the Install Code and MAC Address, which are found on the Information Label on the underside of your **RAVEn™**.

Note that it may take some time for your utility to enable the smart meter to connect with your **RAVEn™**. You should be advised by your utility how long this will take. Your utility should also provide you with a Username and Password to download the *Personal Meter Reader™* software.

Step 3: Install the *Personal Meter Reader™* software

Enter the following link into your internet browser:

<http://www.rainforestautomation.com/download/>

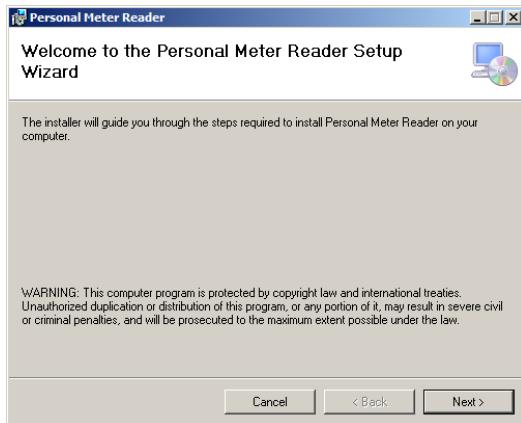
You will be prompted to enter the supplied Username and Password. Then you will be connected to the Rainforest “Software Downloads” web page. Click on the following link:

[RAVEn Personal Meter Reader Software](#)

Save the .ZIP file when prompted. Extract the files in the .ZIP folder. Double click on the application file named “setup.exe”.

Note that this installation requires that you have the necessary permissions to install programs on your hard drive. You may need Power User/Admin permissions.

You must agree to run the install when you are prompted to do so. You will see the Welcome screen for the Setup Wizard:



Click on “Next” and follow the onscreen directions to complete the installation of the software.

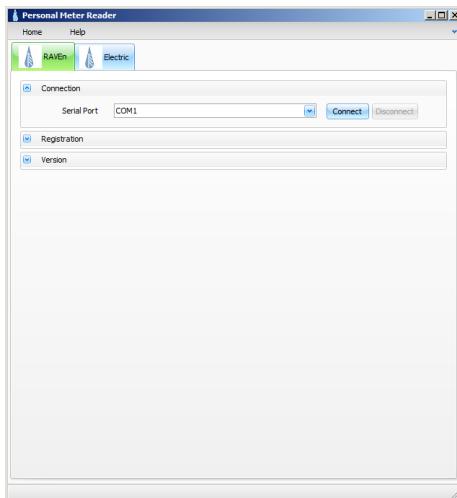
When the software installation is complete, there will be a new icon on your desktop that is a shortcut to the *Personal Meter Reader™* software:



Step 5: Plug in your RAVEn™

Before proceeding with this step, ensure that you have received confirmation from your utility that Step 2 is complete, and that the smart meter is ready to talk to your **RAVEn™**.

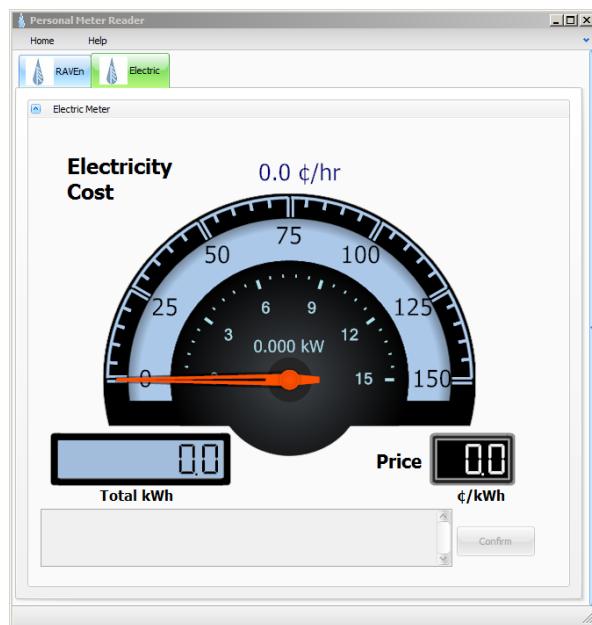
First, launch the *Personal Meter Reader™* software by double clicking on the icon. You should see the following screen:



Then, plug your **RAVEN™** into a USB port of your computer.

When your **RAVEN™** is plugged in for the first time, the device drivers have to be installed. This should be done automatically by Windows. If, for some reason, Windows is unable to find the drivers, they can be downloaded by going to this link: http://www.ftdichip.com/Drivers/CDM/CDM20802_Setup.exe

It may take a while for Windows to make the device ‘active’ but it will let you know; just as with any USB device, there will be a popup in the Status Bar. When your **RAVEN™** is ready, the display will switch to the “Electric” tab, and you will see graphical real-time energy data on your PC:



Using the *Personal Meter Reader™* Software

The *Personal Meter Reader™* software allows you to control your **RAVEN™**, and to display the data it retrieves from the smart meter in a convenient graphical format.

At the top of the program window are a series of menu tabs:

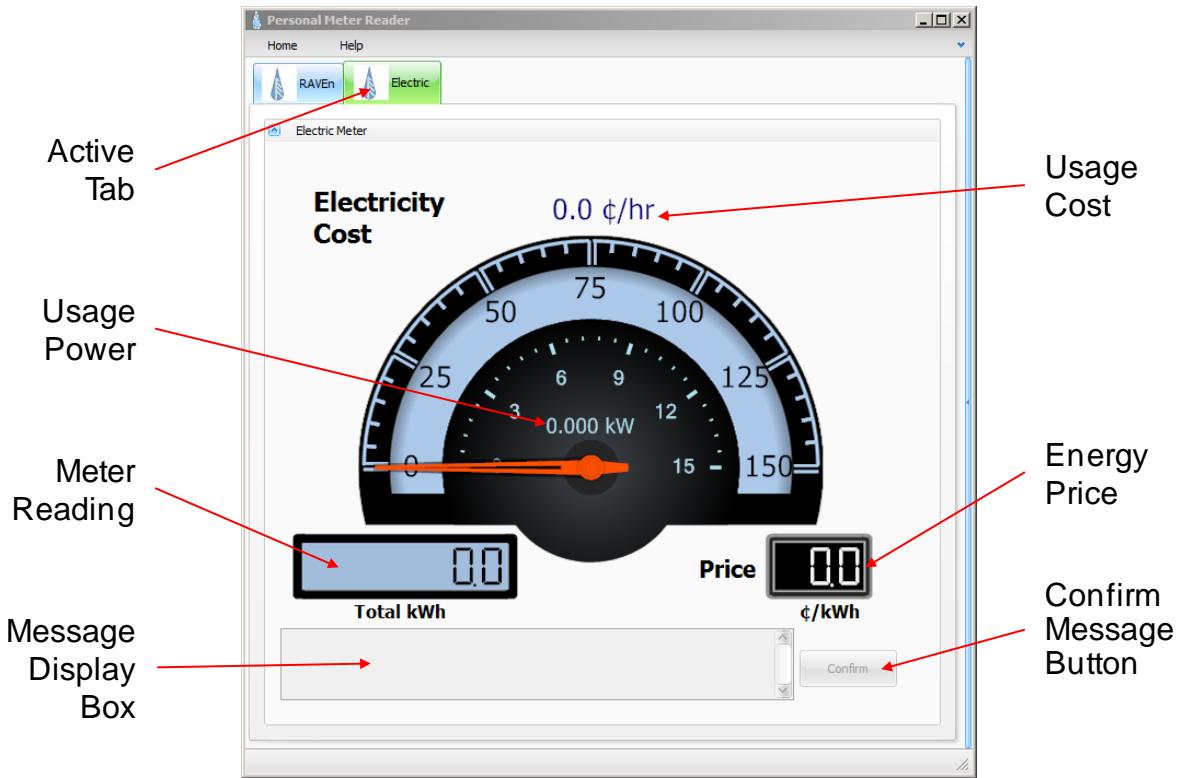


The lower row of tabs selects the information display. The upper row of tabs selects configuration options.

Display Tabs

The active Display Tab is colored green, and the screen attached to that tab is displayed. The other tabs are blue, and their attached screens are not shown.

Electric Information Display

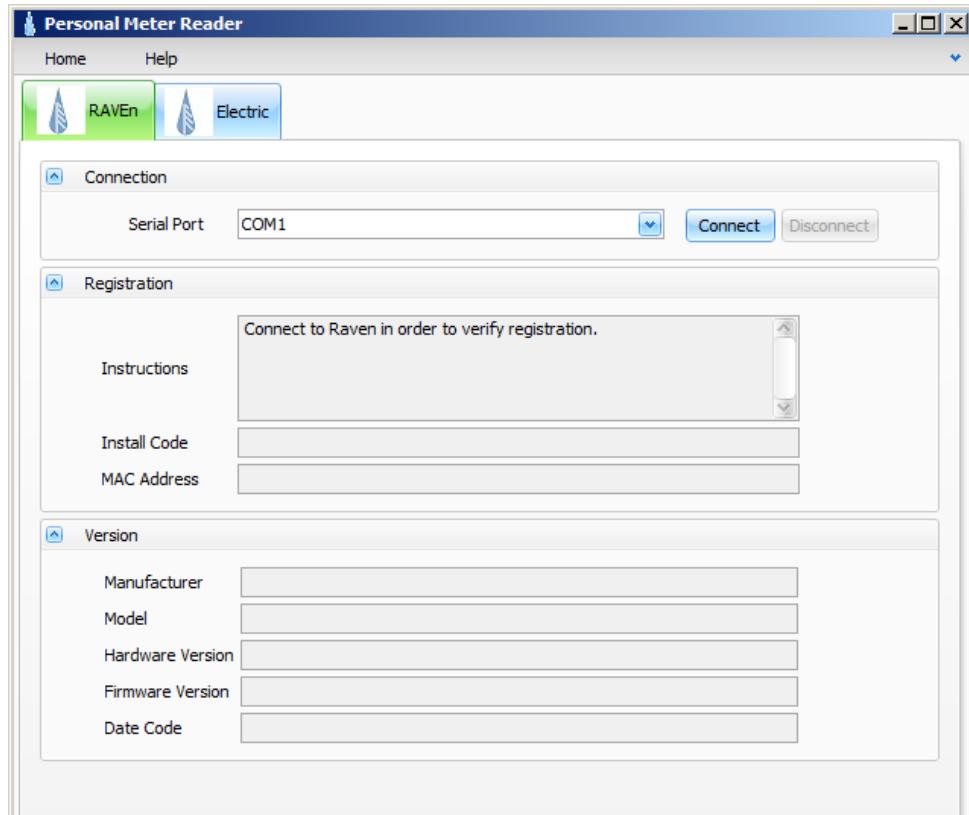


This is the main screen to show real-time smart meter electricity data. It is set up to resemble a car speedometer. The rate of energy consumption is shown on the dial in both kilowatts (inner scale) and estimated cost per hour (outer scale). The estimated cost is calculated from the current price per kilowatt-hour multiplied by the current rate of energy consumption. The display dial is self calibrating, and will rescale as usage changes. The absolute values for usage are also shown digitally within (kW) and above (¢/hr) the dial.

Below the dial and to the left is the Meter Reading, which is the raw total accumulated kilowatt-hours reading from the smart meter. On the right is the Energy Price that is currently in effect. The rate is shown in cents per kilowatt-hour. The current price value is usually obtained directly from the smart meter, but it is also possible to manually set this value.

At the bottom of the display is the Message Display Box, which will show the contents of a text message when there is a message from your utility. A message can be up to 80 characters long. If the message requires an acknowledgment, the Confirm Message Button to the right will be highlighted. Clicking this button sends a confirmation to your utility, telling them that you have read the latest text message that they have sent to you.

RAVEn Information Display



This screen shows information about your **RAVEn™**. Each section has an expander button in the top left-hand corner that will alternately hide or reveal the detailed information in that section.

The Connection section shows the serial port that your **RAVEn™** is emulating through the USB connection. The Connect button initiates the connection between the *Personal Meter Reader™* software and your **RAVEn™**.

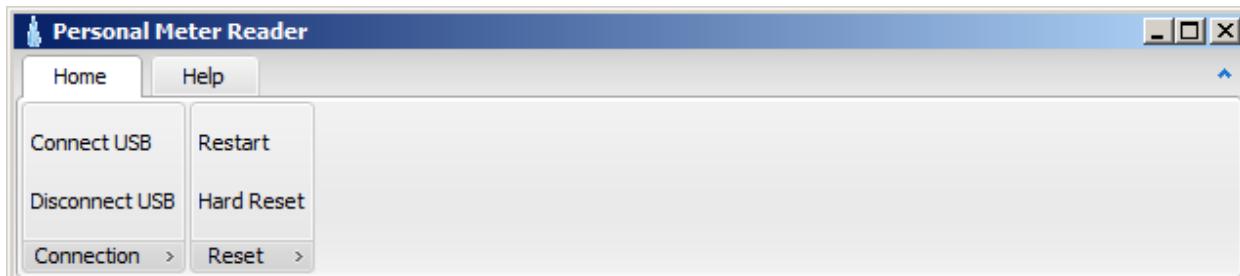
The Registration section reports the Install Code and MAC Address, as read from the **RAVEn™** (you must be connected to the **RAVEn™** to read this information). This information is used to register your **RAVEn™** with your utility. These numbers should match those found on the Information Label on the underside of your **RAVEn™**.

The Version section reports the manufacturer's information, as read from the **RAVEn™** (you must be connected to the **RAVEn™** to read this information). This information is used to identify the specific revision of the firmware installed on your **RAVEn™**, as well as the hardware version.

Configuration Tabs

The Tab Expander Button in the top right-hand corner of the window will alternately hide or reveal the Configuration menu items.

Home Menu

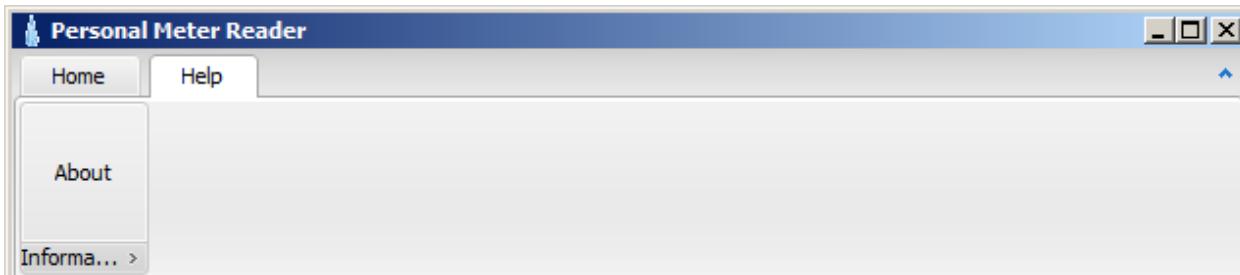


The Connect USB item initiates the connection between the *Personal Meter Reader*™ software and your **RAVEn™**. The Disconnect USB item terminates the connection between the *Personal Meter Reader*™ software and your **RAVEn™**. These actions do not affect the connection between your **RAVEn™** and the smart meter.

The Restart item will cause the firmware on the **RAVEn™** to restart, but retain its registration with the smart meter.

The Hard Reset item will cause the **RAVEn™** to reset, erasing all existing data and configurations, and cause it to be decommissioned. It will then not be able to immediately rejoin the smart meter. The smart meter will not allow the **RAVEn™** to join until the meter has also decommissioned the **RAVEn™**, and then reregistered the **RAVEn™** for joining.

Help Menu



The About item displays information about this version of the *Personal Meter Reader*™ software.