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› SMC SMCWPCI-G EZ Connect g 2.4GHz 54 Mbps Wireless PCI Card User Manual

SMC SMCWPCI-G

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Model: SMCWPCI-G

INTRODUCTION

This manual provides comprehensive instructions for the installation, configuration, and operation of the SMC EZ Connect g SMCWPCI-G 802.11g Wireless PCI Card. Please read this manual thoroughly before installation to ensure proper setup and optimal performance.

The SMCWPCI-G is designed to provide high-speed wireless connectivity for desktop computers, adhering to the IEEE 802.11g and 802.11b standards. It offers data rates up to 54 Mbps and includes security features such as 64/128-bit WEP encryption and Wi-Fi Protected Access (WPA).

PACKAGE CONTENTS

Verify that your package contains the following items:

- SMC EZ Connect g SMCWPCI-G Wireless PCI Card
- Detachable external SMA antenna
- Installation CD (typically includes drivers and utility software)
- Quick Installation Guide (if applicable)

SETUP AND INSTALLATION

System Requirements

- Desktop PC with an available PCI v2.2 slot
- Compatible operating system (e.g., Windows 98SE, ME, 2000, XP, Vista - note: compatibility with newer OS like Windows 10 may vary and require updated drivers from the manufacturer's website)
- CD-ROM drive for driver installation (if not downloading drivers)

Hardware Installation

1. **Power Off Computer:** Shut down your computer completely and unplug the power cord.
2. **Open Computer Case:** Remove the computer case cover.

3. **Locate PCI Slot:** Identify an available PCI slot on your motherboard.
4. **Insert PCI Card:** Carefully insert the SMCWPCI-G card into the PCI slot, ensuring it is seated firmly. Secure the card with a screw if your case requires it.
5. **Attach Antenna:** Screw the detachable SMA antenna onto the connector on the back of the PCI card. Position the antenna for optimal signal reception.
6. **Close Case and Power On:** Replace the computer case cover, plug in the power cord, and power on your computer.



Image: The SMCWPCI-G Wireless PCI Card with its attached external antenna, ready for installation into a computer's PCI slot. The card features a green circuit board and a metal bracket for securing it in the case.

Driver Installation

1. **Insert Installation CD:** Once Windows starts, it may detect new hardware. Insert the provided installation CD into your CD-ROM drive.
2. **Follow On-Screen Prompts:** Follow the instructions on the screen to install the drivers and utility software. If an auto-run program does not start, navigate to the CD drive in "My Computer" and run the setup executable.
3. **Restart Computer:** After the installation is complete, restart your computer if prompted.
4. **Verify Installation:** After restarting, check Device Manager (right-click "My Computer" > "Manage" > "Device Manager") to ensure the wireless card is listed without any error symbols.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Connecting to a Wireless Network

1. **Access Wireless Utility:** Use the SMC wireless utility software (usually found in the system tray or Start Menu) or the Windows built-in wireless network connection utility.
2. **Scan for Networks:** The utility will scan for available wireless networks in your area.
3. **Select Network:** Choose your desired wireless network (SSID) from the list.
4. **Enter Security Key:** If the network is secured (recommended), enter the correct network security key (WEP, WPA, or WPA2 password).
5. **Connect:** Click "Connect" to establish a connection.
6. **Verify Connection:** Once connected, the utility or Windows network icon will indicate a successful connection. You should now have internet access if the wireless network is connected to the internet.

Understanding LED Indicators

The SMCWPCI-G card typically features LED indicators to provide status information:

- **PW (Power) / Lnk (Link):** Indicates the card is powered on and/or has an active wireless link.
- **ACT (Activity):** Flashes to indicate data transmission or reception.

MAINTENANCE

The SMCWPCI-G Wireless PCI Card requires minimal maintenance. Follow these guidelines to ensure continued optimal performance:

- **Keep Drivers Updated:** Periodically check the SMC website for updated drivers, especially if you upgrade your operating system or experience connectivity issues.
- **Antenna Position:** Ensure the antenna is positioned vertically and unobstructed for the best signal reception.
- **Cleanliness:** Keep the computer's interior clean to prevent dust buildup on the card, which can affect performance and lifespan.
- **Environmental Conditions:** Operate the computer within recommended temperature and humidity ranges to prevent damage to internal components, including the wireless card.

TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your SMCWPCI-G Wireless PCI Card, refer to the following common problems and solutions:

No Wireless Networks Detected

- **Check Antenna:** Ensure the antenna is securely attached and properly positioned.
- **Driver Installation:** Verify that the drivers are correctly installed in Device Manager. Reinstall drivers if necessary.
- **Wireless Router/AP:** Ensure your wireless router or access point is powered on and broadcasting its SSID.
- **Interference:** Move closer to the wireless router or away from potential sources of interference (e.g., microwaves, cordless phones).

Cannot Connect to a Specific Network

- **Incorrect Security Key:** Double-check that you are entering the correct WEP/WPA/WPA2 security key. Security keys are case-sensitive.
- **SSID Broadcast:** If the network's SSID is hidden, you will need to manually enter the SSID in addition to the security key.
- **MAC Filtering:** Check if MAC address filtering is enabled on your wireless router. If so, add the MAC address of your SMCWPCI-G card to the router's allowed list.

Slow Connection Speed or Frequent Disconnections

- **Signal Strength:** Check the signal strength indicator. Low signal strength can lead to slow speeds and disconnections. Try repositioning the antenna or moving closer to the router.
- **Interference:** Other wireless devices or electronic equipment can cause interference.
- **Driver Updates:** Ensure you have the latest drivers installed.
- **Router Settings:** Verify that your wireless router is configured for optimal performance (e.g., correct channel, 802.11g mode).

Card Not Recognized by Computer

- **Reseat Card:** Power off the computer, unplug it, open the case, and reseat the PCI card firmly in its slot.
- **Try Another PCI Slot:** If available, try installing the card in a different PCI slot.
- **Check BIOS:** Ensure the PCI slot is enabled in your computer's BIOS settings.

SPECIFICATIONS

Model Number	SMCWPCI-G
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Standards	IEEE 802.11g, IEEE 802.11b
Interface	PCI v2.2
Frequency Band	2.4 GHz
Data Rate	Up to 54 Mbps (802.11g)
Security	64/128-bit WEP, WPA (Wi-Fi Protected Access)
Antenna	Detachable external SMA antenna
LED Indicators	PW/Lnk, ACT
Operating Range (Outdoors)	Up to 400 m (1,312 ft)
Operating Range (Indoors)	Up to 100 m (328 ft)
Dimensions	7.1 x 5.3 x 1.6 inches
Item Weight	3.04 ounces (0.19 lbs)
Chipset (Advertised)	Atheros AR2413A-00 (Note: Some units may contain Realtek 8185 chipset)

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information and technical support, please refer to the documentation included with your product or visit the official SMC website. Support resources typically include:

- Online FAQs and knowledge base
- Driver downloads
- Contact information for technical support

Please retain your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

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Question

Example: How do I reset this device or fix this error?

Details

Model number, symptoms, what you tried, or the section of the manual you are using.

Submit question

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