Connecting my Kestrel Using Bluetooth For Windows 8 or 8.1

1) First please ensure that you have a Kestrel Bluetooth Device. There should be a Bluetooth logo in the top left of the front window (see figure below). Also in the Main Menu, there should be a Bluetooth menu option. If neither of these is present, your device does not have Bluetooth, but you can still upload and download to a PC with a Kestrel Computer Interface Adapter.

[Image: Indicates Bluetooth present in unit. If blank, not a Bluetooth unit.]

2) You will also need to ensure that your computer has a Bluetooth module installed as well. If you go to Control Panel->Device Manager, there should be a section labeled Bluetooth. If not, you may purchase an external Bluetooth dongle or will need a PC Interface Adapter. Please note: If your Bluetooth module is specified as Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE), Bluetooth SMART or Bluetooth for iPhone 5s, these modules may be incompatible with the Bluetooth hardware in the Kestrel. Your best bet is to purchase an external dongle. We recommend the Kensington Bluetooth Dongle because we have had consistent performance from this dongle on many brands and styles of computers, but you are free to try any brand.
3) On the Kestrel, go to the Main Menu by pressing the ON key. Scroll down to the Bluetooth menu option and hit the center button. Please ensure that Bluetooth is Enabled (ON, Ready) as shown. If not, use the left and right arrow to adjust.

![Kestrel Bluetooth Menu]

4) Scroll to the Info and press the center button. Please ensure that all 4 fields are populated with information similar to what is shown below. If you have blank fields or “****” in a field, please contact Nielsen Kellerman for technical troubleshooting.

![Kestrel Info]

5) Now go to your computer and ensure that you have a Bluetooth module on your computer. Swipe the right side of the screen with the mouse to open up the Search function and search for Control Panel. Then select Device Manager. On Device Manager, open up the Bluetooth selection. You should see a module listed below Bluetooth as shown in the following screen shots:

![Windows Search]

![Windows Control Panel]
Once you have confirmed you have Bluetooth, swipe the right side of the screen again and go to the search toolbar. Search for Bluetooth and select Bluetooth Settings. If Bluetooth is not listed, you will have to purchase a separate Bluetooth External Dongle. Make sure Bluetooth is not Low Energy (BLE) or Bluetooth SMART only, as they will not work.

6) Once you have confirmed you have Bluetooth, swipe the right side of the screen again and go to the search toolbar. Search for Bluetooth and select Bluetooth Settings.
7) Your computer should immediately start searching for your Kestrel, it may appear as UNKNOWN at first but should resolve to show the Serial number of the unit. When you identify it, click on it to pair it to the computer. This serial number matches the one in my Kestrel, so I know it is the correct one. Click on it.

Now click Pair.
8) If done correctly, you should be prompted for the passcode (PIN) on the Kestrel. Go to the Kestrel->Bluetooth->Info to locate the PIN to enter. It should be 4 digits long. Then click Next.

![Image of Enter the passcode for your device]

9) You should see the connection turn to CONNECTED as shown below. Please note that the connection may go back to Not Connected after a brief period. This *does not mean you lost connection*, just that the Kestrel is not actively sending data to the computer.

![Image of Kestrel Bluetooth status]

10) The last step is locating which COM Port we connected to so that we can enter that information on the application we are trying to connect to. So swipe on the right side of the screen with the mouse and search for Bluetooth again. This time select *Change Bluetooth Settings*. 

![Image of Kestrel Bluetooth status]

11) Select the COM ports tab. You are looking for the OUTGOING port with your Kestrel name next to it. In the example below, we are connecting through COM port 3.

12) Now open up the application you are trying to connect to with the Kestrel. We will use Kestrel Communicator as our example below. Ensure that the COM port matches the number that we found above.
13) Then hit Load from Kestrel Tracker to upload the data from your Kestrel. You should see a progress bar appear showing that the unit is talking to the program.
If you encounter issues during this final step, such as “Unable to Communicate with the Kestrel” or “Cannot determine state of the device” or the program freezes, please check the following:

- Make sure the Kestrel is still powered on.
- Make sure Bluetooth is still enabled.
- Make sure the Kestrel is close enough to the computer
- Try changing the Range settings from HI to LOW or MEDIUM.
- Go back and ensure that you have selected the correct COM port (application freezing is most likely that you selected the INCOMING port).
- Find an updated driver for your Bluetooth module.
- Try the suggestion at the bottom of our FAQ page