N4903B-01

S E R V I C E   N O T E

Supersedes:
NONE

N4903B Serial Bit Error Ratio Tester

Serial Numbers: DE49100100 – DE49100250

An incorrect setting within the Agilent IO Libraries may lead to programmatic inaccessibility and communication failure of the N4903B when connected via the GPIB bus.

Parts Required:

P/N	Description	Qty.
NONE		

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

SERVICE NOTE CLASSIFICATION:

MODIFICATION RECOMMENDED

ACTION CATEGORY:	[[]] ON SPECIFIED FAILURE XX AGREEABLE TIME	STANDARDS	LABOR: 0.1 Hours	
LOCATION CATEGORY:	XX CUSTOMER INSTALLABLE XX ON-SITE XX SERVICE CENTER XX CHANNEL PARTNER	SERVICE [[]] RETURN INVENTORY: [[]] SCRAP XX SEE TEXT	USED PARTS:	[[]] RETURN [[]] SCRAP XX SEE TEXT
AVAILABILITY:	PRODUCT'S SUPPORT LIFE	NO CHARGE AVAILABLE UNTIL: 31-Jan-2011		
AUTHOR: HK		PRODUCT LINE: PL24		
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:				

January 20, 2010

Agilent Technologies

Situation:
The N4903B instrument has a GPIB connector on the back which may be used for programmatic control of the unit. On a GPIB bus there are several slaves and one master, which usually would be an external PC connected to the GPIB bus acting as a controller. However, in the noted serial number range of the N4903B there may be the case that the N4903B may act as master, too. This leads to a communication failure of the complete GPIB bus.

It is necessary to change the settings of the built-in GPIB controller card with the help of the Agilent IO Libraries ("Agilent Connection Expert").
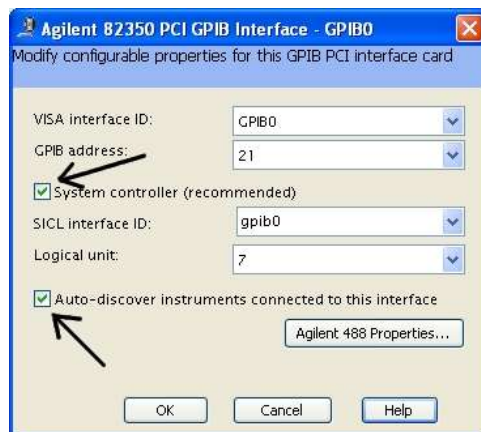
Solution/Action:
Please execute the following steps to correctly configure the N4903B GPIB interface card:

1. Identify the icon of the Agilent IO Libraries in the lower right corner of the N4903B display ( ), right-click on it, search for the menu entry "Agilent Connection Expert" and start it.
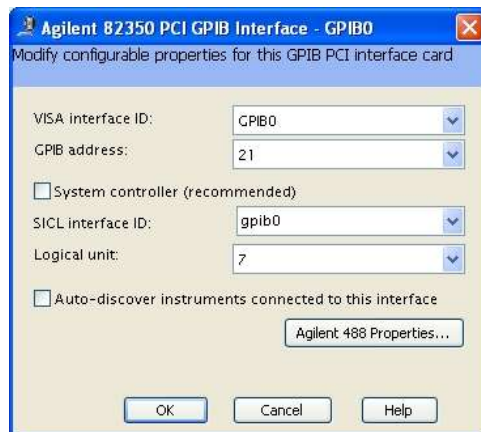
2. You will see the following window:

Identify the GPIB0 interface, select it with the mouse and right-click it to get the menu shown above. In the menu select "Change Properties".

3. You will see the following picture:

You will find the 2 checkboxes checked as shown in the picture above.

4. Please **uncheck** both checkboxes as shown in the next picture:

The **correct** settings shown in the picture above will make sure that the N4903B does not act as GPIB master and does not disturb communication on the GPIB bus.