Access the CLI via PuTTY on CBS 250 and 350 Switches

Objective

Switches can be accessed and configured through the Command Line Interface (CLI). Accessing the CLI allows commands to be entered in a terminal based window. For a user who has had more experience with terminal commands, this may be an easier alternative to navigating the web configuration utility. Certain tasks such as recovering an administrator password can only be performed through the CLI. In order to access the CLI you must use an SSH client. PuTTY is a standard SSH client and can be found *here*. This document assumes you are connecting to the switch using PuTTY.

The objective of this document is to show you how to access the Command Line Interface (CLI) of a switch and a Secure Shell (SSH) client.

Applicable Devices | Software Version

- CBS250 (Data Sheet) | 3.0.0
- CBS350 (Data Sheet) | 3.0.0
- CBS350-2X (Data Sheet) | 3.0.0
- CBS350-4X (Data Sheet) | 3.0.0

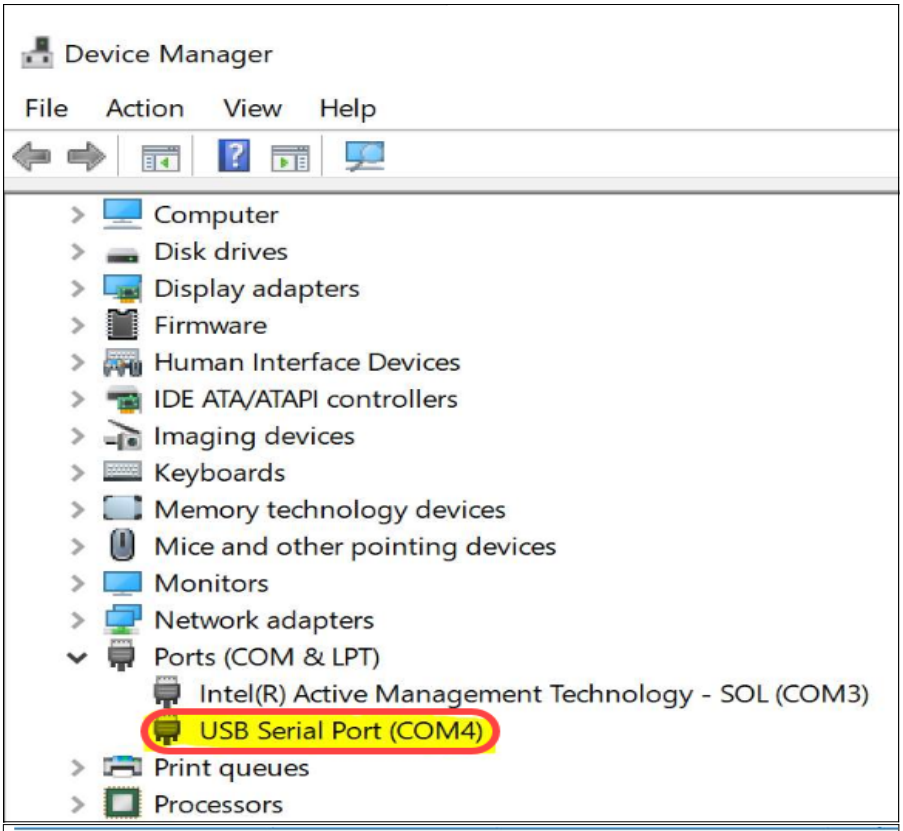
Accessing the CLI via PuTTY with a Console Connection

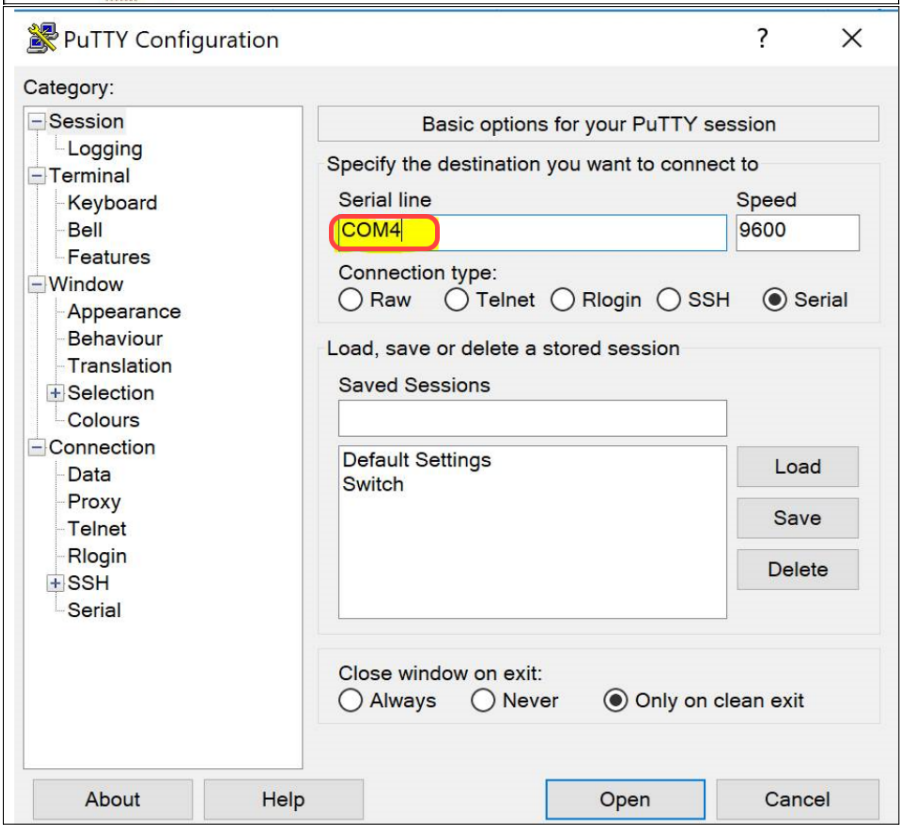
Step 1. Connect the switch to the computer using a standard 9-pin serial cable.

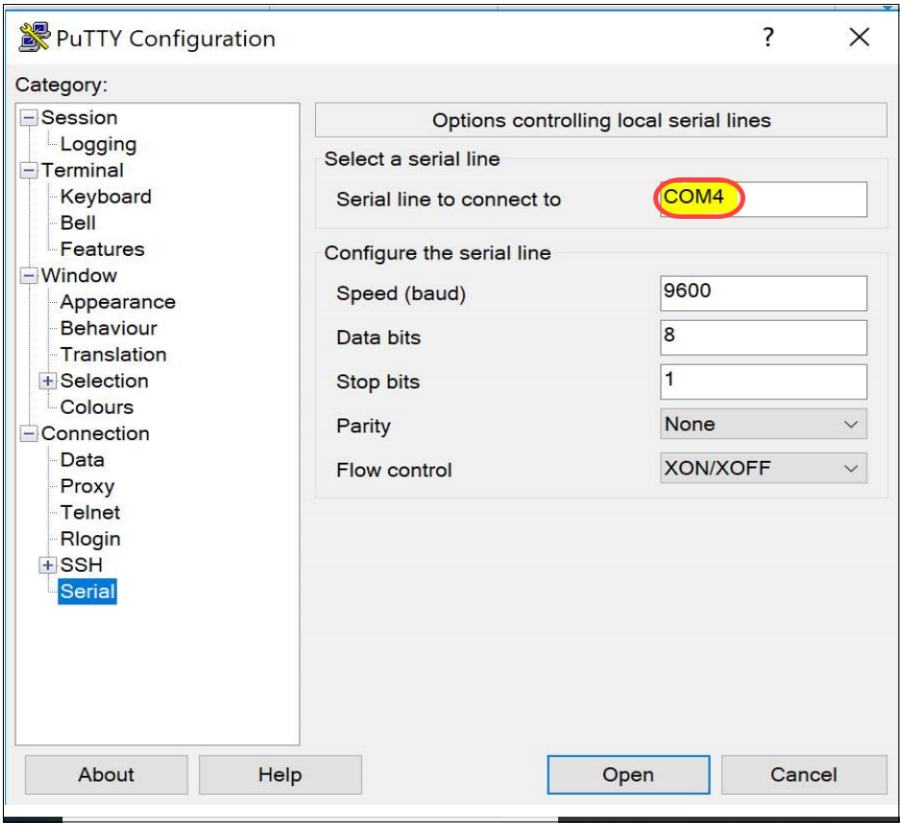
The Cisco DB9 to RJ45 Console Cable also supports console connections, but only if the switch has an RJ45 Console port. An RJ45 Console port resembles an Ethernet port and is labeled CONSOLE on the back of the switch.

Newer laptops don’t have Serial ports on them, so in this case you have to use a USB to Serial adapter. When plugging that into a computer it assigns a COM port number to it that is not COM1. If this is the case for you, you need to know where to look to find the correct COM port number when setting up the connection with PuTTY. Right-click on the Windows logo/Start menu and click on Device Manager to open it.

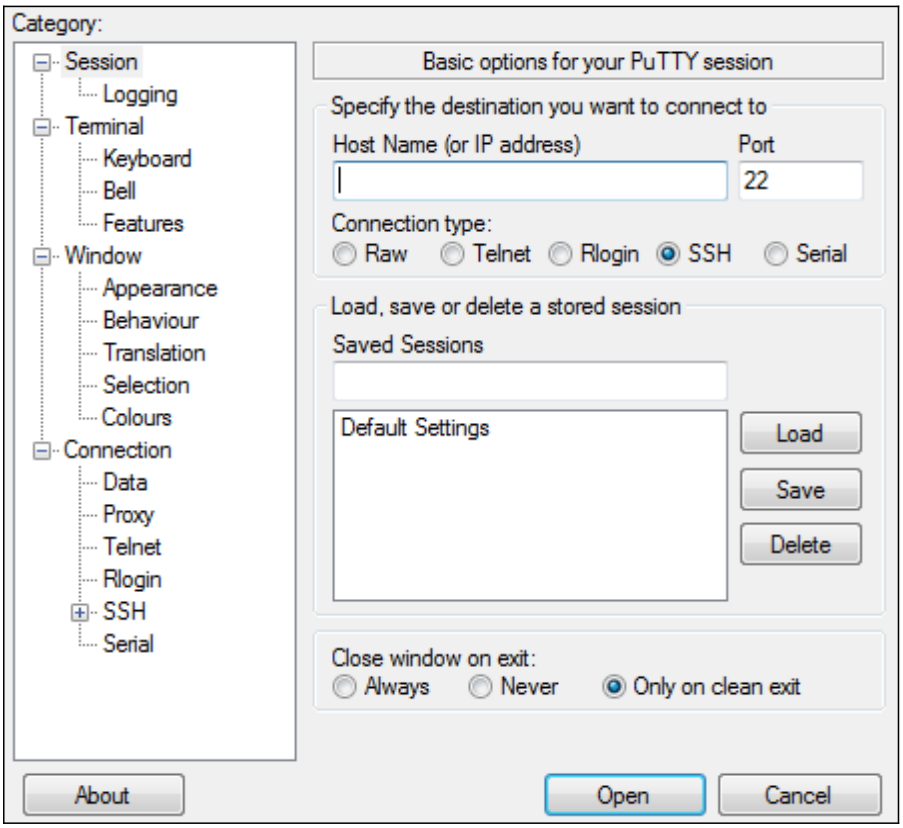
In the Device Manager, you would look to see what COM port is given to the USB adapter. In this case you would need to use COM4 for the Serial line to make the connection.


Device Manager
File
Action
View
Help
Computer
Disk drives
Display adapters
Firmware
Human Interface Devices
IDE ATA/ATAPI controllers
Imaging devices
Keyboards
Memory technology devices
Mice and other pointing devices
Monitors
Network adapters
Ports (COM & LPT)
Intel(R) Active Management Technology - SOL (COM3)
USB Serial Port (COM4)
Print queues
Processors

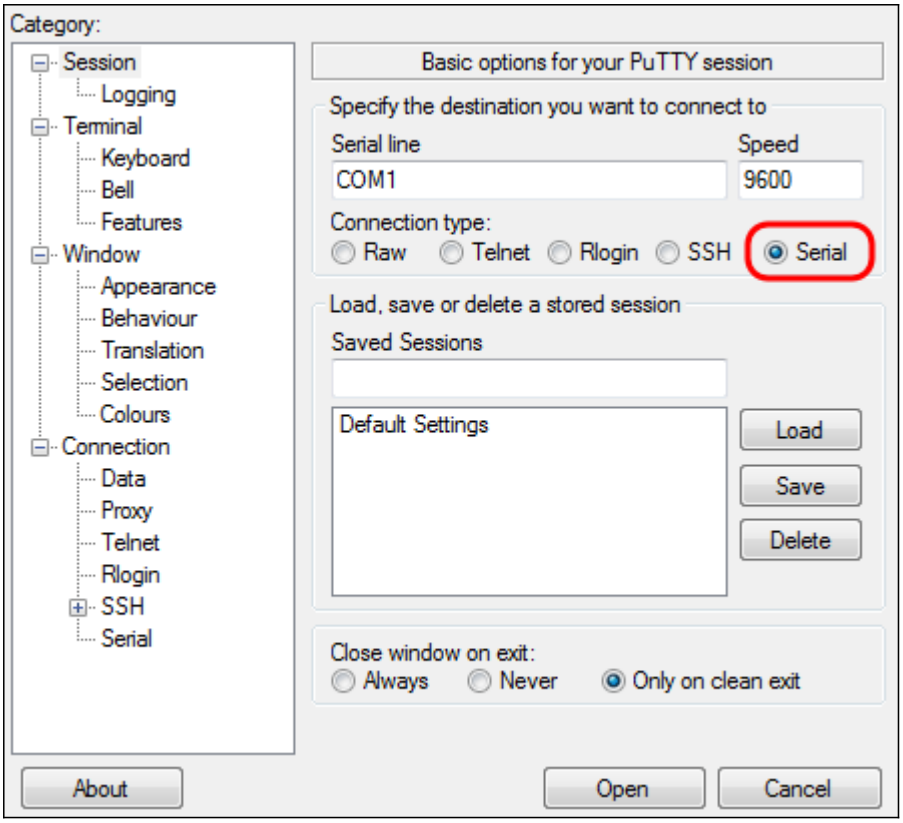

PuTTY Configuration
Category:
Session
Logging
Terminal
Keyboard
Bell
Features
Window
Appearance
Behaviour
Translation
Selection
Colours
Connection
Data
Proxy
Telnet
Rlogin
SSH
Serial
Basic options for your PuTTY session
Specify the destination you want to connect to
Serial line
Speed
COM4
9600
Connection type:
Raw
Telnet
Rlogin
SSH
Serial
Load, save or delete a stored session
Saved Sessions
Default Settings
Switch
Load
Save
Delete
Close window on exit:
Always
Never
Only on clean exit
About
Help
Open
Cancel



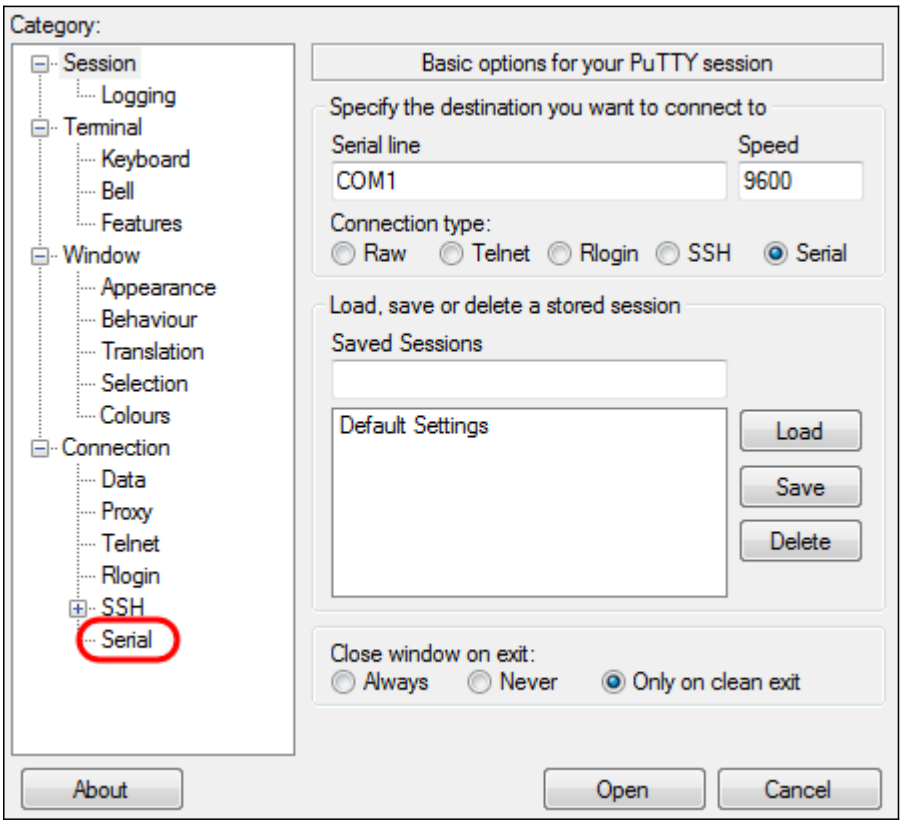
Step 2. Open the PuTTY application. The *PuTTY Configuration* window opens:



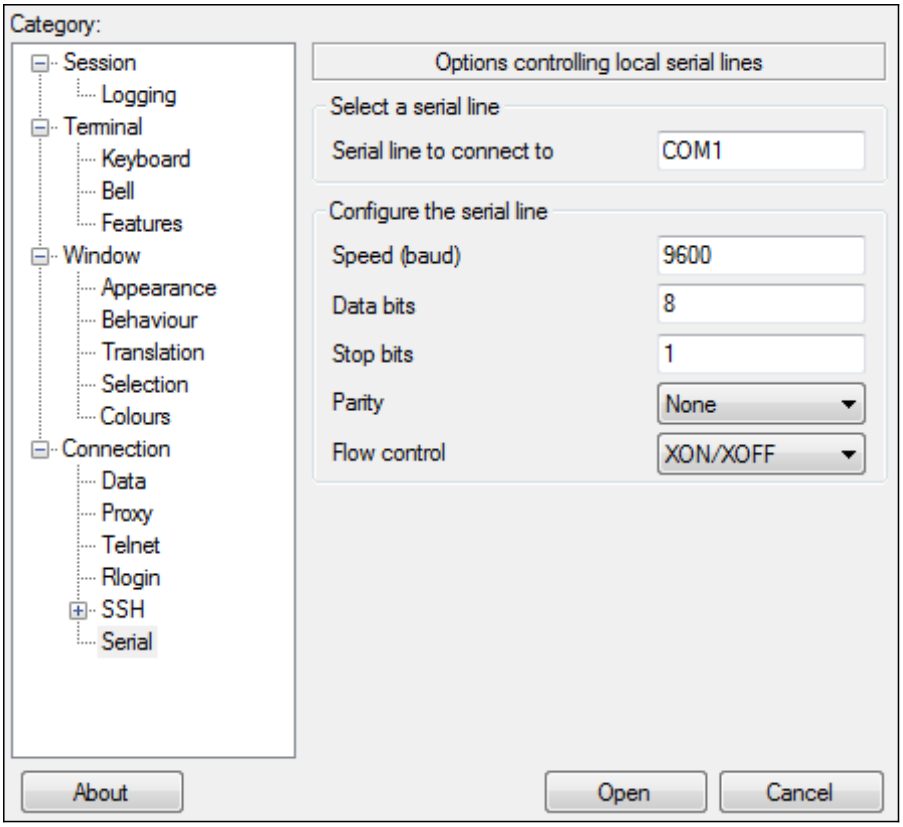
Step 3. Under the *Connection Type* field, click the **Serial** radio button.



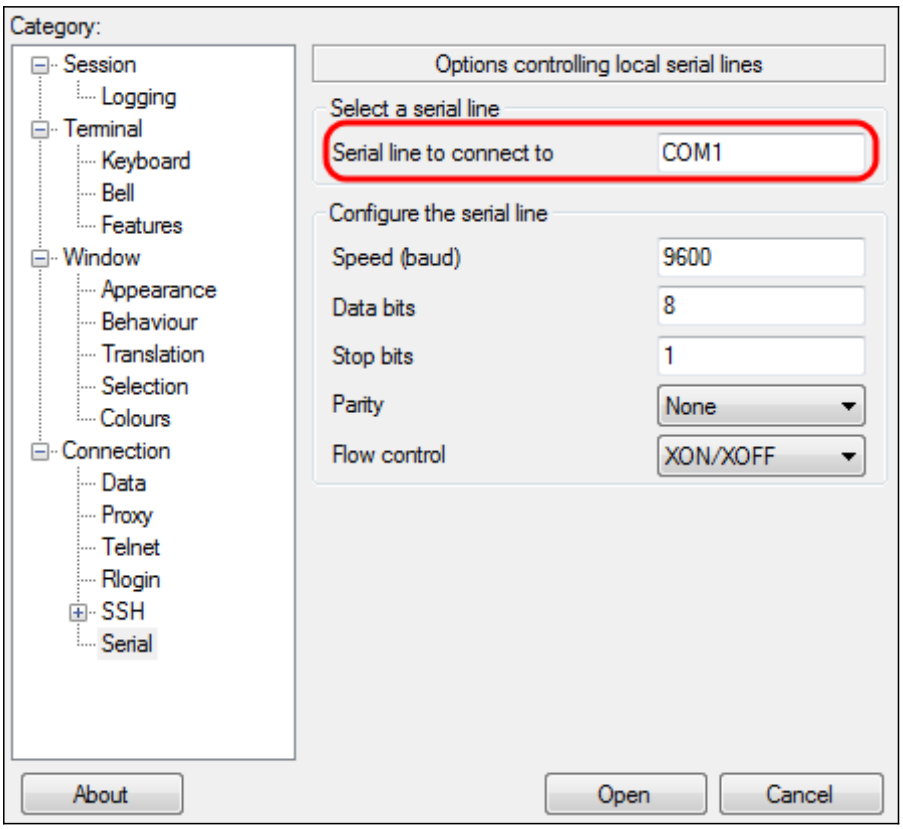
Step 4. In the *Category* navigation field, choose **Serial**.



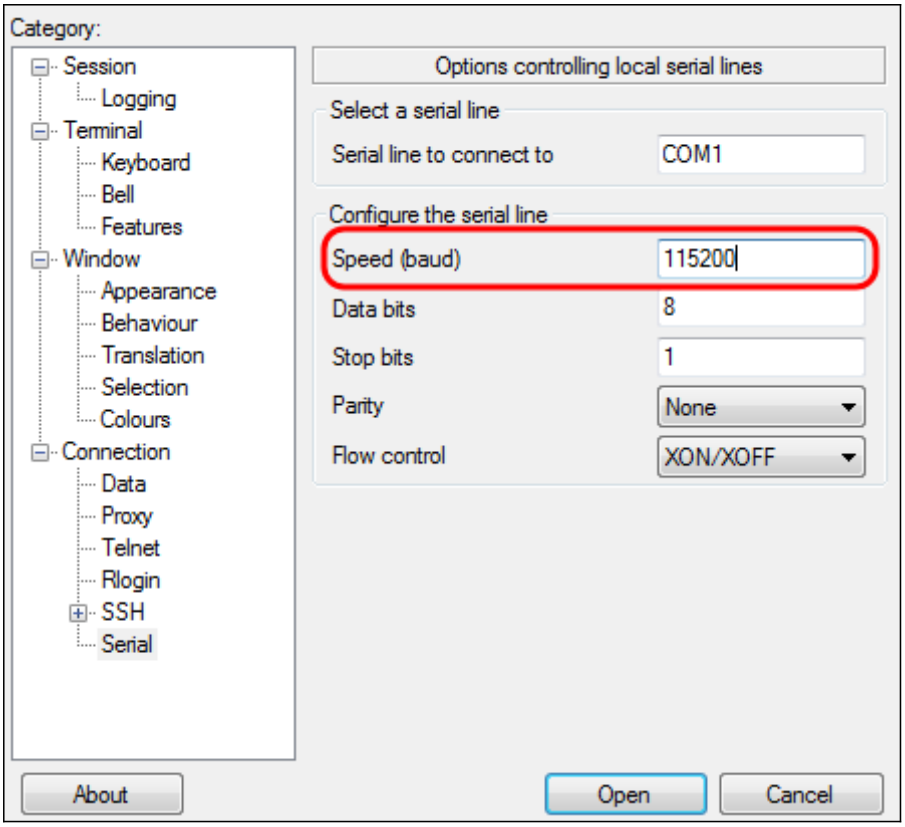
The *Options controlling local serial lines* page opens:



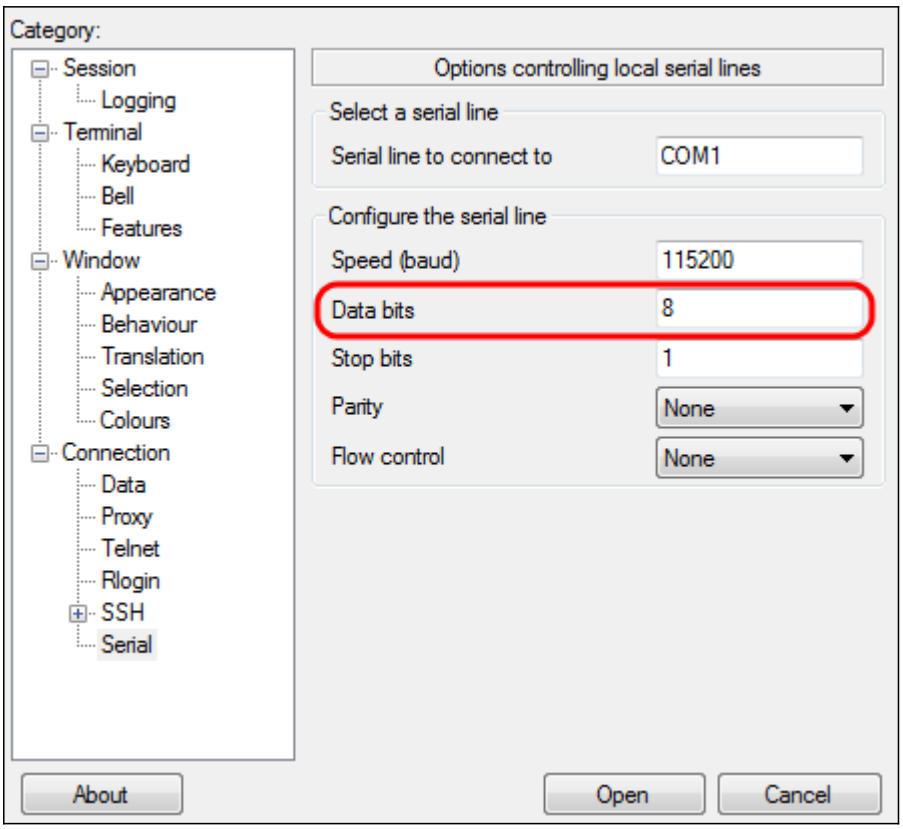
Step 5. In the *Serial line to connect to* field, enter the COM port that your device is connected to. The default COM port is COM1.



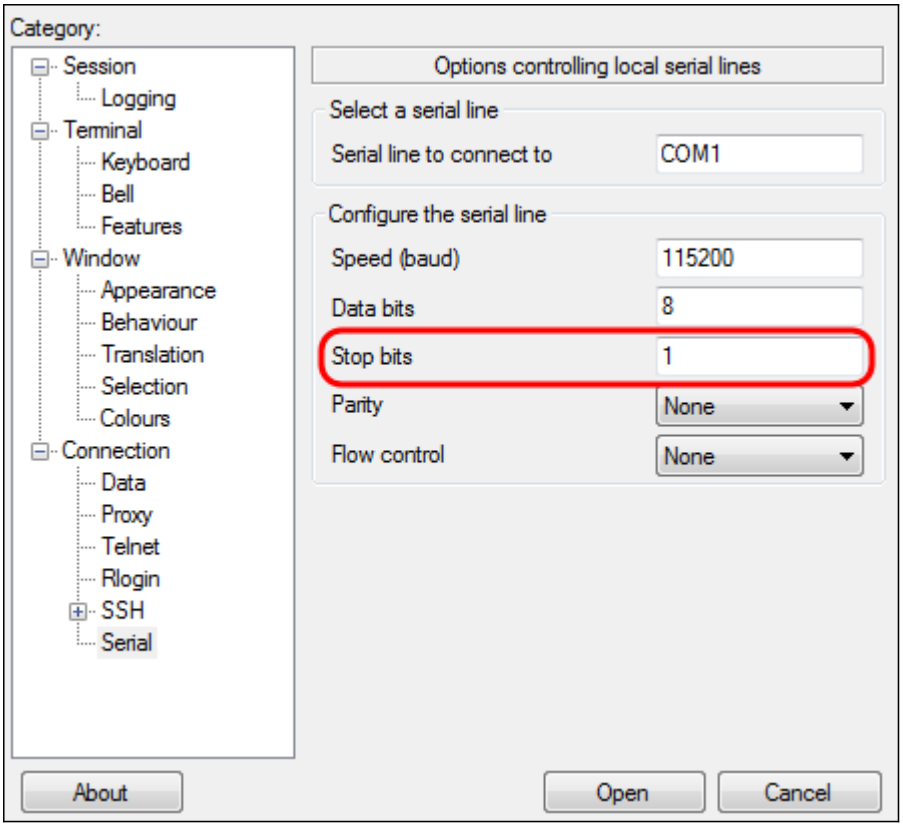
Step 6. In the *Speed (baud)* field, enter the digital transmission speed that is compatible with the switch. For 250 and 350 Series Managed Switches, the speed must be set to **115200**.



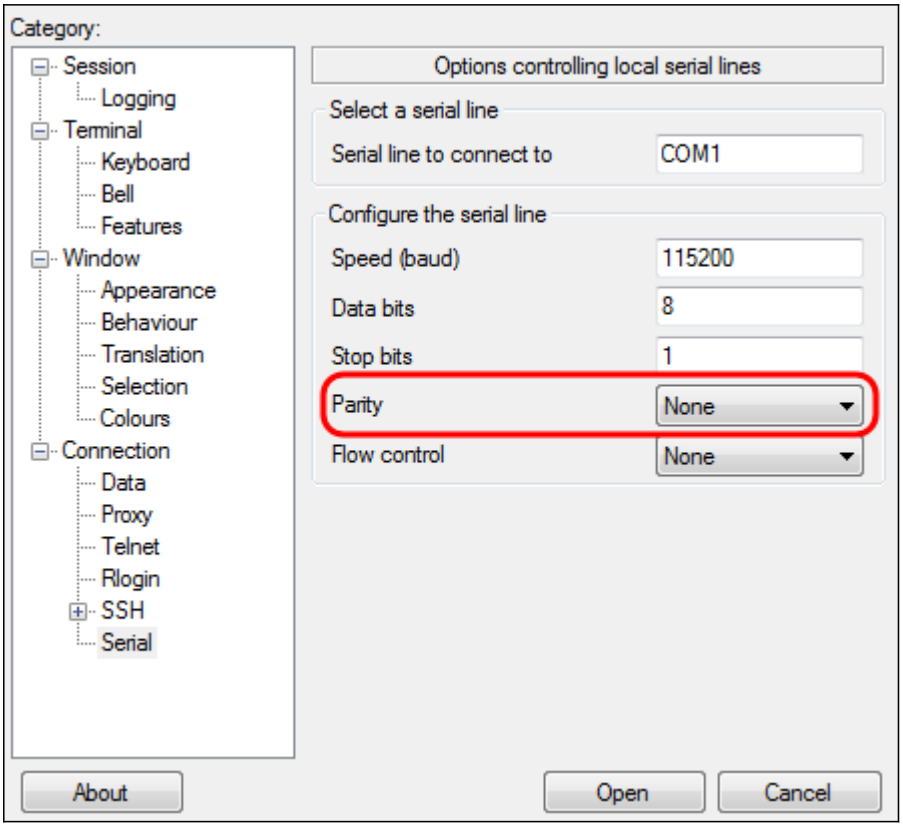
Step 7. In the *Data bits* field, enter the number of data bits used for each character. The recommended value is **8**.



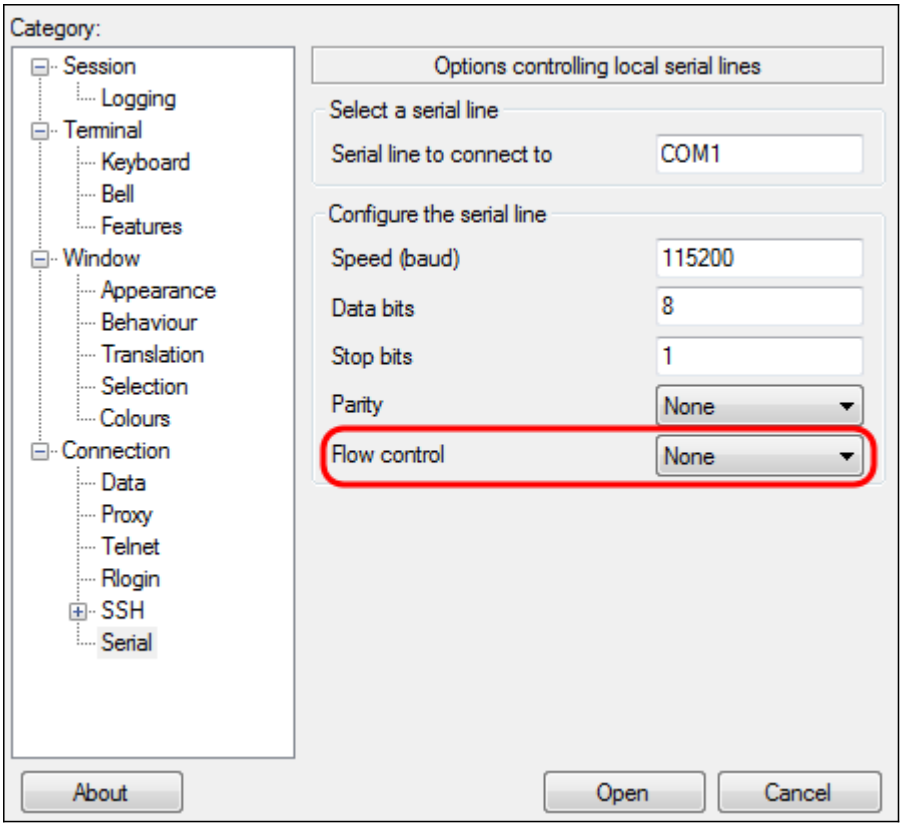
Step 8. In the *Stop bits* field, enter the number of bits to be sent at the end of every character. The stop bit informs the machine that it has reached the end of a byte. The recommended value is **1**.



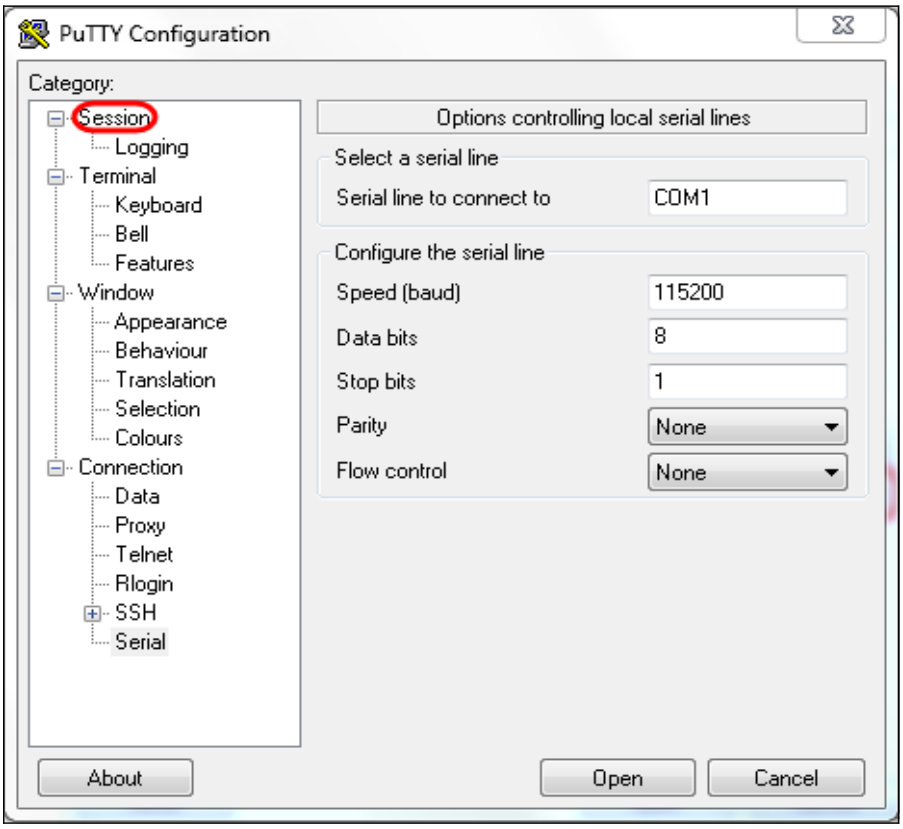
Step 9. In the *Parity* drop-down menu, select the method of detecting errors in transmission. The recommended method for detecting errors in transmission is **None**.



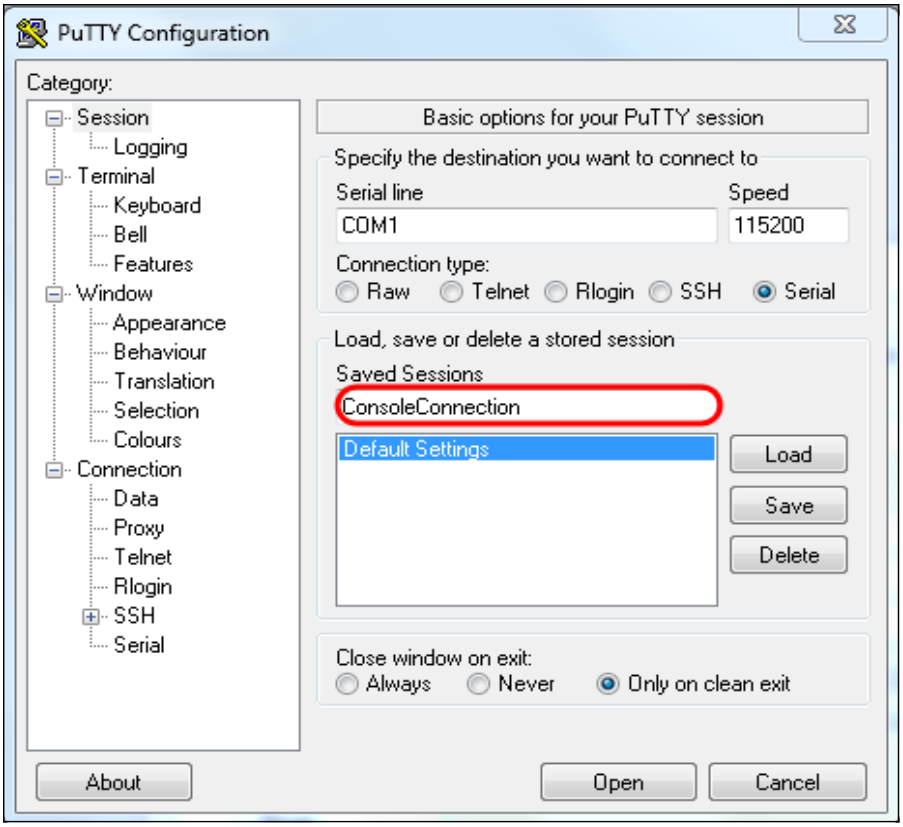
Step 10. In the *Flow Control* drop-down menu, select the method of preventing data overflow. The recommended method for preventing data overflow is **None**.



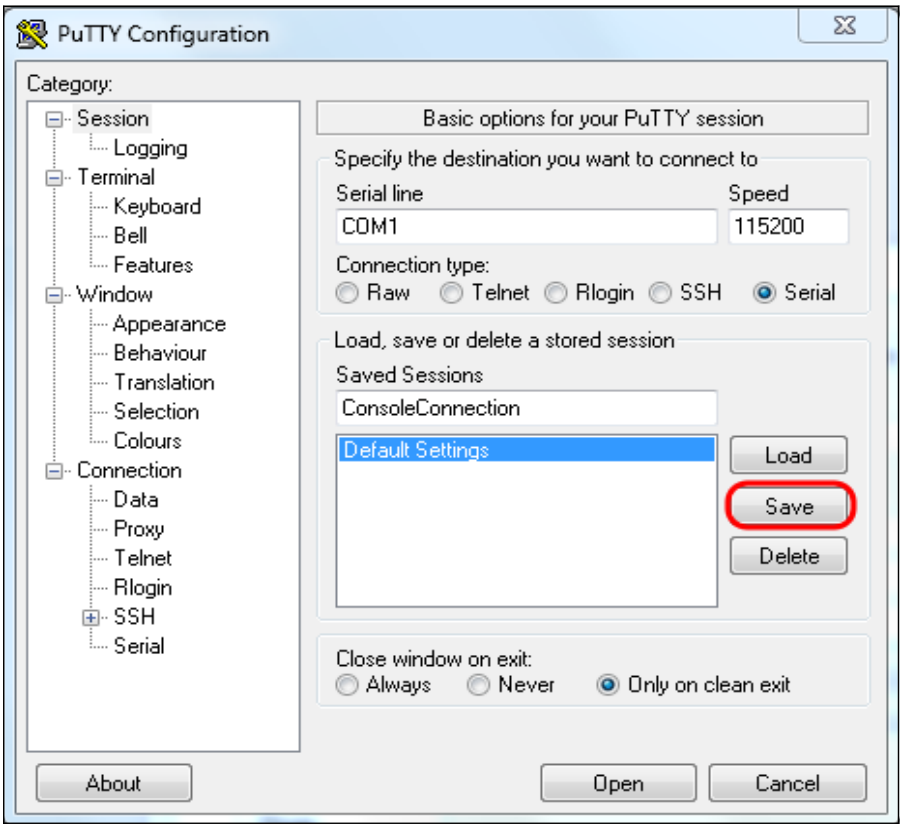
Step 11. (Optional) In order to save the connection settings for future use, go to the *Category* navigation pane and choose **Session**. If you do not wish to save the connection settings, skip to Step 14.



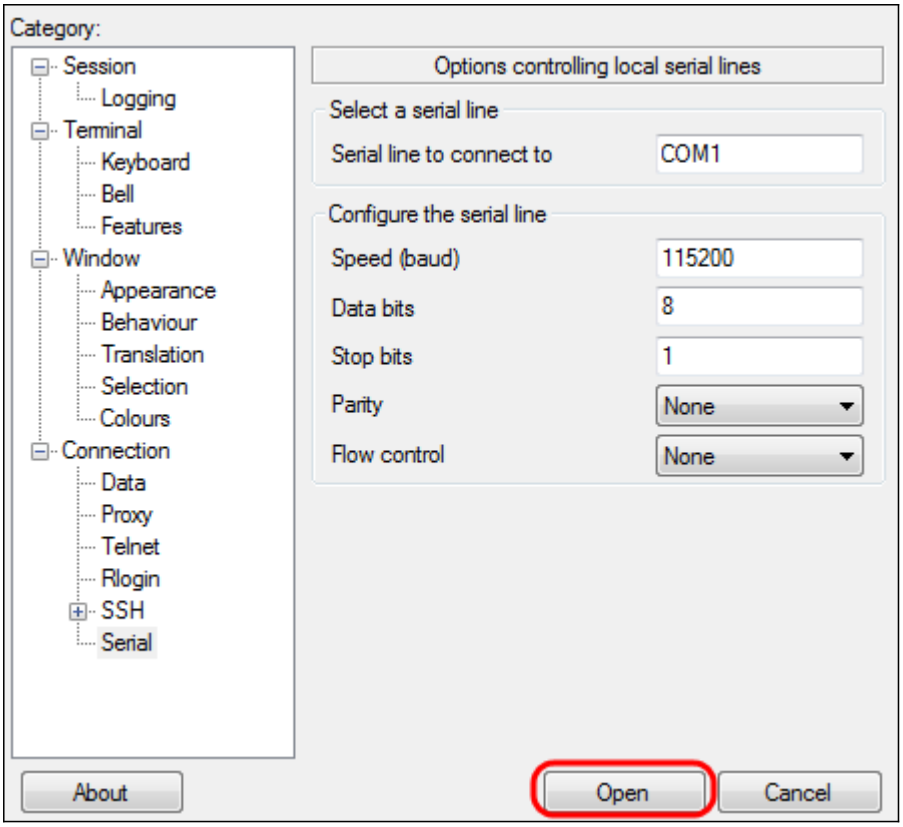
Step 12. Under the *Saves Sessions* field, enter a name for the settings to be saved as.



Step 13. Click **Save**.



Step 14. Click **Open**.



The *COM1 – PuTTY* console window opens.

Step 15. Hit **Enter** on the keyboard to activate the Command Line Interface (CLI). The log in prompt is displayed:

Step 16. Enter the User Name. The default username is *cisco*.

Step 14. Enter the Password. The default password is *cisco*.