If you do not have the loop-back diagnostic module, complete the following steps to test the plotter's serial port:

1. Turn off the SmarTrac.

2. Remove the serial cable from the back of the plotter.

3. Using paperclips or short lengths of wire, jumper pins 2 to 3 and 4 to 5. Make sure you get the wires in far enough to make a good connection. The pinholes are labeled on the plotter's serial port hardware. The top row is 1 through 13, from right to left, so the pins to jumper are:

4. Turn on the SmarTrac while you hold down the "Test Cut" key on the keypad. Continue holding down "Test Cut" key until SmarTrac beeps and the light flashes three times. This places the plotter in the serial diagnostic mode.

5. Press any "Arrow" key on the plotter keypad. This emulates the transmitting and receiving of characters. The SmarTrac should beep and the light should flash each time an "Arrow" key is pressed.

6. Turn off the SmarTrac after the test. This will take the plotter out of the serial diagnostic mode.

7. Remove the jumpers from the serial port.

If this test passes, then the serial port of the plotter is communicating properly.