

Release Notes for MobileMapper CE GPS Firmware Version E032

22 March 2007

Scope

This document describes changes made to the MobileMapper CE's GPS F/W since the previously released version (E031).

Problem description

This version has been released primarily to fix the following problem seen with RoHS-compliant MMCE: under certain power-up conditions, the GPS sensor does not start properly and therefore prevents application software from functioning properly. In this state the GPS sensor cannot exchange data with the MMCE's on-board computer on which the GPS utilities and third-party software applications run. This problem appears to have been caused by the use of new SDRAM chips in compliance with the Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) initiative.

Note: this problem is NOT seen with older, non-RoHS-compliant MMCE units. These units may continue to use GPS F/W version E031 without any problems. Installing E032 into an older model will have no effect, either negative or positive. There are two ways to determine if a MMCE is RoHS-compliant and therefore should be upgraded to GPS F/W version E032:

1. Antenna/SD slot flap screws
 - a. Older receivers have no washers
 - b. RoHS-compliant receivers have washers
2. Color of printed circuit boards (visible inside the SD card slot)
 - a. Older receivers use either red or green boards
 - b. RoHS-compliant receivers use blue boards

The consequences of the problem are:

- The **GPS Status** utility and any third-party data logging application will not display any GPS activity and will not log any data
- The GPS firmware version is displayed as "unavailable" when you tap **Start > Settings > Control Panel > Thales System Info**)
- The unit remains dysfunctional until it is successfully put into "Full Shut Down mode"
- It is impossible to switch off the unit with the normal procedure (pressing the power button and tapping **OK** on the **Shut Down** window)

The only way to switch off the unit properly is as follows:

- Simultaneously depress the **ESC**, **ENTER** and **power** buttons on the front panel (the screen will turn off)
- Remove the receiver from external power (if necessary)
- Remove the battery and replace it

The only way to avoid the problem before the release of E032 was to always turn the unit on by depressing the red power button until the power LED turns solid green.

New or Deleted Features

None

Resolved Problems

1. Fixes the data exchange problem between the MMCE's GPS sensor and on-board computer, described above.
2. Corrects the following issue: In some cases, if you removed the battery from a MMCE and attached the unit to external power via its I/O module and AC Adapter, the MMCE's **Thales System Info** screen would display the version number of the GPS firmware as "unavailable." In these cases, it was impossible to track any satellites.

Outstanding Issues

None

Upgrade Availability

To see which version of GPS F/W is currently installed in a MMCE, tap **Start > Settings > Control Panel > Thales System Info**. MMCE GPS F/W version E032 and instructions for installing it are available for free download from <ftp:magellangps.com> in the /Mobile Mapping/MM CE/Firmware/ folder.