

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME UPDATE MARCH 11th

This year congress changed daylight savings time to go into effect the second Sunday in March and end on the first Sunday in November. This change could have a major impact on your EAS systems, Automation Systems, Transmitter remote controls, or anything with an embedded clock that is crucial to the operation of your facility. Below are some steps to help you with the transition.

EMNET SYSTEM – The EMnet system will require an update to function properly. I've done a lot of research on what methods are the easiest to implement. I found a simple utility on the internet you can download to correct the DST times.

<http://www.intelliadmin.com/DaylightSavingFix.exe> This update works on Windows XP, 2000, and NT machines. I have tested this utility on 10 machines in my office and it worked great. The site www.intelliadmin.com also has a free DST utility for Windows 98, ME.

For those that would like to do the update using the official Microsoft method, they decided not to provide an automatic update for windows 2000 users. They have a manual tool called TZedit.exe you can download, and then manually edit the beginning and end dates of DST. Here is the link to Microsoft's DST information:

http://support.microsoft.com/gp/dst_topissues, If you scroll down to Windows 2000 Microsoft provides a link to the TZedit utility.

So what happens if you do not do this update? The EAS messages should still pass thru to your EAS unit since the messages are sent using UTC time. However the local time will be displayed incorrectly, and if the message uses locally generated audio the spoken times for the emergency messages will be wrong! So it is important you do this update! At the same time you should also download any Microsoft updates and service packs. Everyone should be on Windows 2000 Service pack 4, with all critical updates installed.

EAS Systems - Each EAS manufacturer has a different set of instructions to address the Daylight savings time issue. I will provide you with a summary as well as links to the full information. Thankfully EAS systems work via UTC time, so in most cases if you do not touch your EAS unit, it will still work with the exception of the local time being displayed incorrectly.

Sage – The EAS system works via UTC time so only the displayed time will change. You can simply do nothing and the system will still work properly except the time on the logs, and any external devices like LED signs and character generators will be wrong. On April 1st the unit will change to DST and everything will be fine. IMPORTANT: Do not correct the time displayed on the ENDEC during the transition to its internal April 1st DST change. If you do the unit will calculate an incorrect UTC time and EAS messages could be ignored! For detailed information please visit

<http://www.broadcast.harris.com/support/sage/SageEndec-DST.pdf>

TFT - Has a new firmware version available for \$130 plus shipping, or you can choose to do nothing just like the above Sage procedure and it will still work, but the displayed time and logs will be incorrect until April 1st. Since TFT has not provided any instructions on their website, I'll do my best to provide you with a quick summary of how to change the time Manually if you cannot deal with the time being incorrect from March 11th until April 1st. This should only be performed after March 11 at 2AM.

Please refer to your TFT manual for detailed instructions, this is a summary:
Press password, enter your primary password normally 911. Then press password again and enter 912. The first thing you will see is station time. Press enter and set the correct time and date in 24 hour format. Enter thru the date and then it will show "Set Station Time Zone" press enter. You will change the UTC offset to + 4. Just for reference it should be, +4 for EDT (DST), and +5 for EST. Press enter. It will display "Daylight Saving" Select NO with the arrows and press enter. This will keep the unit from adjusting automatically to DST In the future. Please remember on the first Sunday in November you will need to change the UTC back to +5

Please keep in mind all the other devices in your facility that will be effected. Like your phone and voice mail systems, security systems, CCTV monitoring systems, door entry systems, transmitter remote control, master clocks, etc. All of these devices will need to be addressed!

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thank You,

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