

PAB EAS MEMO- Setting TIME ZONES

Have you noticed your EAS ENDEC unit printing the wrong time on its message printouts? Do you see a line on the printout **“Message expired upon reception”** and then the unit will not forward the emergency message? Most likely this is due to an improper setting of the **Time Zone Offset**. The time zone settings can be confusing so I decided to write a brief memo explaining the proper time zone settings for both the EMnet system and ENDEC units.

The EMnet system is just a standard computer so you would set it just like any other computer. Computers in the U.S. **subtract** hours from UTC (Coordinated Universal Time) to derive local time. **So the time zone offset for computers would be -5 hours** UTC for Eastern Standard Time. During Eastern Daylight Time, the UTC offset would be -4 hours. If your computer has checked **“Automatically adjust for daylight savings time”** in the time properties box then your computer should always stay set for -5 UTC. The computer will automatically change the internal offset to -4 for EDT with this option checked. Just a reminder if your using the **“Automatically adjust for daylight savings time”** setting, your computer must have the DST patch installed so the times will change on the correct date. This information was sent out to all stations in March.

EAS ENDEC units are the exact opposite of computers. This can cause some confusion. Just because the local displayed time on your ENDEC is correct does not mean your unit is setup for the correct offset. If the offset is wrong, your ENDEC may not forward an important emergency message!! They derive UTC time from local time. So for **Eastern Standard Time the UTC Offset should be set for +5**. Make sure when setting the local time on the ENDEC you do so using the 24 hour time format. For example 3PM is 15:00 hours, 3 AM is 03:00 hours. During Daylight Savings Time your ENDEC should be set to +4 UTC offset if automatically adjust for daylight savings time is turned off. Just like computers ENDEC units have an option to automatically adjust for Daylight Savings Time internally, but this option should be disabled unless you have recently updated your ENDEC units Firmware to support the new dates for Daylight savings time. Please verify the time changes on the correct date if you have DST update turned on.

Remember if you have “Automatically adjust for Daylight savings time” disabled on your ENDEC, you manually will need to set the UTC offset to +5 beginning on the first Sunday of November at 2AM. On the Second Sunday of March at 2AM you will need to set it to +4 for Daylight Savings Time. If “Automatically adjust for daylight savings time” is enabled on in your ENDEC the time zone offset will always be set to +5

Please consult your ENDEC manual for the correct procedure on setting the clock and time zone offset. If you need help, please email me the make and model of your ENDEC unit, and I will send you instructions for setting the time and offset.

Thank You,

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