

Service Bulletin

To: All Hemisphere GNSS Dealers & Customers
From: Hemisphere GNSS Technical Support
Date: August 1, 2016
Reference #: SB 080116

Products Affected:

All HGNSS products equipped with the SBX4 DGPS radio beacon receiver module and all HGNSS products capable of tracking DGPS radio Beacon correction data.

Scope:

Hemisphere GNSS would like to inform all customers utilizing any of its DGPS radio beacon-capable products that recent changes to the US Coast Guard DGPS radio beacon network will impact the use of several inland and coastal DGPS radio beacon stations. This notice is a result of Hemisphere GNSS' continuing efforts to provide its dealers and customers with world-class GNSS positioning performance.

Description Of Changes:

The U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and the Department of Transportation (DOT) have released a Federal Register Notice announcing a reduction of the Nationwide Differential Global Positioning System (NDGPS). The planned reduction calls for the shutdown and decommissioning of 37 DGPS sites, leaving 46 operational sites available to users in coastal areas. The full notice can be found via this link: <https://federalregister.gov/a/2016-15886>

Summary: The Nationwide Differential Global Positioning System (NDGPS) service augments GPS by providing increased accuracy and integrity using land-based reference stations to transmit correction messages over radio beacon frequencies. The service was implemented through agreements between multiple Federal agencies including the United States Coast Guard (USCG), Department of Transportation (DOT), and United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), as well as several states and scientific organizations, all cooperating to provide the combined national DGPS utility.

However, a number of factors have contributed to declining use of NDGPS. Based on an assessment by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), DOT, and USACE, the agencies will shut down and decommission 37 DGPS sites, which will leave 46 operational sites available to users in coastal areas. Termination of the NDGPS broadcast at the 37 sites is planned to occur on August 5, 2016.

Further Information:

If you have any further questions, please contact Hemisphere GNSS technical service department at +1 (480) 348-6380. For support via email, please contact TechSupport@HGNSS.com or consult www.HGNSS.com for the latest HGNSS product and software information.

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