PRODUCT ADVISORY NOTICE

 PAN/16-01
 Issue 1
 Date: 19-Aug-2016

Product Line: VisionMaster FT series

Software Versions: As per table below

Who is affected by this notice?

Anyone operating Commercial VisionMaster FT or VisionMaster FT products using the software versions listed in the table below is affected by this notice.

| Product | Software version prefix | Software version |
|--|-------------------------|------------------|
| Commercial VisionMaster FT | None | 4.0.0 to 7.3.0 |
| VisionMaster FT Navalised Display | MA | 1.1.0 to 1.9.0 |
| VisionMaster FT Surveillance Radar | CA | 1.0.0 |
| (Commercial) | | |
| VisionMaster FT Surveillance Radar (Navalised) | MG | 1.0.0 |

The following VisionMaster FT products are <u>not</u> affected by this notice:

• VisionMaster FT series products using software versions **not** listed above.

Note: Refer to Appendix A for how to determine the product and software version fitted.

Background

VisionMaster FT provides two Electronic Bearing Lines (EBLs) which are selected and drawn along a line of fixed bearing. These EBLs can be used in one of two modes:

- *Centred* on own ship the origin of the EBL is the Consistent Common Reference Point of own ship, typically the conning position, and moves with own ship
- Offset from own ship the origin of the EBL is positioned off own ship

Additionally, the offset EBL has two distinct sub-modes – *Dropped* or *Carried*. A Dropped EBL has a fixed position, a Carried EBL moves with own ship.





PRODUCT ADVISORY NOTICE

PAN/16-01

Issue 1

Date: 19-Aug-2016

Issue

Northrop Grumman Sperry Marine B.V. has identified that in some circumstances, when an EBL is offset from own ship, there can be a significant discrepancy between the bearing that the EBL is graphically drawn at and the textual readout of the EBL display. The difference between graphical bearing and textual readout appears more significant:

- at higher latitudes, and
- the further East or West the EBL origin is from own ship.

This Product Advisory Notice relates to the use of an *offset EBL only* and does not apply to the EBL when it is centred on own ship.

Impact on Commercial VisionMaster FT software version 7.0.0 to 7.3.0

If your equipment is fitted with **Commercial VisionMaster FT software version 7.0.0 to 7.3.0** then a significant discrepancy may be experienced with an offset EBL:

- on the ECDIS watch mode, or
- on Radar or Chart Radar watch modes AND the EBL is used when the radar is in Standby mode.

Note that there is **NO** significant discrepancy under the following conditions:

- when the EBL is centred, or
- on Radar or Chart Radar watch modes when the radar is in Transmit mode.

Impact on other affected software

If your equipment is fitted with **other affected software** (see table in the "Who is affected by this notice?" section of this Product Advisory Notice) then a significant discrepancy may be experienced with an offset EBL:

- on the ECDIS watch mode AND when the EBL is Carried, or
- on a Radar, Chart Radar or Surveillance watch mode AND when the radar is in Standby mode AND when the EBL is Carried.

Note that with **other affected software** there is **NO** significant discrepancy under the following conditions:

- when the EBL is centred
- when the EBL is Dropped



PAN/16-01

Issue 1

Date: 19-Aug-2016

 on Radar, Chart Radar or Surveillance watch modes when the radar is in Transmit mode¹.

Summary of Guidance

The following table summarises the guidance above:

| Product | Carried EBL can have a significant discrepancy? | Dropped EBL can have a significant discrepancy? |
|---|--|--|
| Commercial VisionMaster FT (version 4.0.0 to 6.0.0) | Yes | No |
| Commercial VisionMaster FT (version 7.0.0 to 7.3.0) | Yes | Yes |
| VisionMaster FT Navalised Display | Yes | No |
| VisionMaster FT Surveillance Radar (commercial) | Yes | No |
| VisionMaster FT Surveillance Radar (Navalised) | Yes | No |

Precautionary Advice

If your vessel is affected by this notice, then when measuring bearings from positions other than own ship, NGSM advises the following:

On Radar, Chart Radar or Surveillance watch modes:

- Navigators are advised not to use an offset EBL in the Carried mode when the radar is in Standby
- Navigators using Commercial VisionMaster FT 7.0.0 to 7.3.0 are additionally advised not to use an offset EBL in the Dropped mode when the radar is in Standby

On ECDIS watch mode:

- Navigators are advised not to use an offset EBL in the Carried mode.
- Navigators using Commercial VisionMaster FT 7.0.0 to 7.3.0 are additionally advised not to use an offset EBL in the Dropped mode.

¹ Note that available watch modes differ depending on the equipment carried.



PRODUCT ADVISORY NOTICE

PAN/16-01

Issue 1

Date: 19-Aug-2016

As a matter of good practice, navigators are advised against using a Carried EBL for measuring bearings when the EBL is offset a large distance from own ship (i.e. > 96 NM). This is because the effect of own ship movement on the origin of the offset EBL will not be visible. In this case, the appropriate tool for measuring bearings is as follows:

| Product | Appropriate Tool |
|---|------------------|
| Commercial VisionMaster FT 4.0.0 to 6.0.0 | Dropped EBL |
| Commercial VisionMaster FT 7.0.0 to 7.3.0 | Distance Line |
| VisionMaster FT Navalised Display | Dropped EBL |
| VisionMaster FT Surveillance Radar | Dropped EBL |
| (commercial) | |
| VisionMaster FT Surveillance Radar | Dropped EBL |
| (Navalised) | •• |

The Distance Line tool is available on the VisionMaster FT ECDIS watch mode via the Nav Tools | Distance Line menu.

Follow-up Action

You are advised to contact Northrop Grumman Sperry Marine if you are affected by this notice and using Commercial VisionMaster FT v.7.0.0. to 7.3.0 (later versions are not affected). For other versions of software, please follow the precautionary advice given in this notice.

If you have any other query, please contact Northrop Grumman Sperry Marine using the contact details below.

Contact Details: Northrop Grumman Sperry Marine

E-mail: <u>service.eu@sperry.ngc.com</u>





PRODUCT ADVISORY NOTICE

PAN/16-01

Issue 1

Date: 19-Aug-2016

Appendix A - How to check which product and software version you have

Select the ECDIS watch mode, if it is not already selected. The software version number is read from the right side of the lower menu bar, an example is ringed below.

To make the menu bar appear, place the cursor over the lower region of the screen.



Alternatively, on a radar, the software version is permanently displayed at the bottom of the screen.

If the software version number does not have a pair of characters prefixing it, your product is commercial VisionMaster FT. If it has a two character prefix (e.g. "MA", "MG" etc.) it is a different product type (as shown in the table in the "Who is affected by this notice?" section of this Product Advisory Notice).