

# 2015 Iridium Time Epoch Change

October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Notification V1.2



Dear Iridium Partners,

As part of standard satellite network operations Iridium periodically resets the Iridium L-Band system time count, otherwise known as a “re-epoch”. Iridium previously reset the L-Band system time count at 10:00:00 EDT on June 17, 2014 and unfortunately, a very small set of Iridium partners notified us that their applications had an issue with the re-epoch. Iridium made the difficult decision to revert to the previous L-Band system time count in order to assist those partners that were not fully prepared for the re-epoch. We want to reiterate that the issues with the June 2014 re-epoch were limited to a very small number of partners; Iridium’s network continues to operate at a high level of performance, providing reliable and robust service quality.

The requirement to reset the L-Band system time count in order to maintain network continuity remains necessary, and therefore:

- **On March 3, 2015 at 18:00:00 UTC, Iridium will change the Iridium L-Band system time count from “ERA1” to “ERA2”.**
- **On March 3, 2015 after the change to ERA2, the new UTC date and time of the Iridium L-Band system time count will be May 11, 2014, 14:23:55.**

**[PARTNERS ARE REQUIRED TO REVIEW THE ATTACHED ITN0018 ISU EPOCH CONSIDERATIONS DOCUMENT AND TAKE THE 2015 IRIDIUM RE-EPOCH SURVEY](#)**

Similar to the preparation leading up to the last re-epoch event, Iridium will work extensively with partners to ensure that they are prepared for the Iridium L-Band system time count reset and to better understand their operating environments in order to facilitate a smooth re-epoch event on March 3, 2015. In addition, Iridium will hold monthly Q&A conference calls with our partners and will begin scheduling those sessions shortly. Iridium thanks all our partners in advance for taking the survey, participating in the Q&A sessions, and adjusting their reliance on the Iridium L-Band system time count.

Also, similar to the preparation leading up to the 2014 re-epoch event, Iridium will conduct rigorous and extensive testing on all Iridium subscriber equipment including Iridium handsets, Iridium OpenPort®, Iridium Pilot®, Iridium SBD transceivers, and Iridium L-band transceivers.

**Iridium invites all partners to physically test their solution(s) at our Technical Support Center in Chandler, Arizona prior to the March 2015 re-epoch event.** If you would like to test your solution under the ERA2 L-Band broadcast downlink prior to the March 2015 re-epoch event please contact [ian.itz@iridium.com](mailto:ian.itz@iridium.com) before **November 15<sup>th</sup> 2014** in order to schedule a time and date for your visit and testing.

If you have any questions about the upcoming March 2015 re-epoch event or would like to speak to someone on the Iridium technical support team please contact [datasupport@iridium.com](mailto:datasupport@iridium.com)

**IF YOU HAVE DEVELOPED A PRODUCT THAT UTILISES AN IRIDIUM TRANSCEIVER YOU NEED TO TAKE ACTION**