

RDS PRO -1 and -2

Firmware Update Instructions

Issue 4.0 2012-11-12

For version 1.5e, update released 2012-11-12

Firmware upgrade instructions

- Connect the RDS encoder to any local COM port (or USB via VCP - Virtual COM Port, but N.B. a proper RS-232 COM port is preferable for upgrading, as it is generally faster and more stable).
- Turn the RDS encoder on.
- Close **all** applications that can access the COM port (e.g. Audessence RDS GUI, broadcast automation systems, any other applications accessing serial ports).
- Run the RDSUP application, select the correct COM port and click **<Start!>** button
- The upgrade process is fully automated and takes a few minutes.

Frequently Asked Questions

Will the RDS encoder work if upgrade interruption occurs (e.g. power off during upgrade)?

- Be reasonably careful and do not 'tempt fate' by experimenting, but don't worry unduly. It very, very unlikely that the RDS encoder will be damaged by interruption to the upgrade. If the upgrade process does unavoidably get interrupted (e.g. by mains power failure etc.), the RDS encoder will probably stop responding. Simply switch it off, wait a few minutes, run the RDSUP application, click **<Start!>** button and **then** switch the RDS encoder on again. In the vast majority of cases the upgrade process will recover.

What firmware version is currently in my RDS encoder? Do I need the upgrade?

- It is worth using this latest firmware version (**1.5e**) if you wish to take advantage of newly added features (see version history on following page). Many Audessence RDS PRO-1s and RDS PRO-2s sold from product launch in 2008 up to September 2010 will have firmware **1.4a** loaded. Those sold between September 2010 and January 2011 and not since modified will have version **1.5b** loaded. From January 2011 to April 2012 they had firmware version **1.5c** loaded, and from April to November 2012, version **1.5d**. You can also check the firmware version in any terminal application (e.g. HyperTerminal). After power-up or after the RESET command, the RDS encoder will return the internal firmware version.

Does the upgrade clear my RDS data stored in EEPROM memory?

- In general the RDS data won't be affected by the upgrade, but in minor cases some data fields could be interpreted slightly differently. Do use latest GUI to ensure fully compatible Group Sequence is used by loading 'Default' Group Sequence from GUI (this can be found in the menus under ...\\Options\\Special\\Group Sequence).
- For more information please read the manual and / or check <http://www.audessence.com>

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Version History

1.5e

- UECP command data error detection strengthened.

1.5d

- AF 'method B' added.
- Addressing feature upgraded.
- Few minor improvements

1.5c

- UECP TMC support added
- Few minor improvements

1.5b

- Basic UECP support and compatibility commands added
- RT+ ready (with direct RT+ support)
- Internal time periodically updated from on-board accurately trimmed RTC
- Group sequence control added
- Baudrate range extended to 1200 -19200 Baud
- External program switch can control any other RDS service, incl. switching between text messages
- 'No-header' communication mode added for easy integration with play-out systems
- Default RT timeout function added
- Pilot PLL redesigned
- New commands: DTTMOUT, LEVEL, NOHDR, PSW, RTP, RTPRUN
- New commands: RTTYPE
- LIC support added
- Other new commands: DPSxEN, EQTEXT1, VER
- RDSGEN=2 option removed (no longer required)
- DPS1REP command: CLR option added (clear after specified number of repeats)
- Many small improvements made
- Bug fixes: G=, *UDG2, space character in DPS2

Please also download the new version of the Windows GUI control software and the latest manual. Both can be found at:

<http://www.audessence.com/downloads>

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