Product   All NetworX Security Controls

Date   February 22, 2007

Issue   The Energy Policy Act of 2005 changes the starting and ending dates for Daylight Saving Time (DST) in the United States and Canada. Beginning this year, daylight saving time begins on the second Sunday in March and ends on the first Sunday in November. Changes must be made in certain security systems from GE Security to support the 2007 daylight saving time changes. We are providing the following technical bulletin to address the support issues.

NetworX "Version 2" panels are not currently compliant with the new DST rules, however, new panels produced beginning with manufacturing date code 07057 will allow the installer to specify any DST start and stop date. Panels shipped that include the attached manual addendum will have location 84 defaulted to the 2007 DST rules, so no further programming will be required.

How to Identify version 2 panels:

Version 2 NX-4, 6 and 8 panels were made after December 2004 and have the long main chip is soldered to the board.

Field action for installed panels:

Starting March 11, 2007, turn off automatic DST using the keypad (location 37, segment 6, bit 4), or via DL900 (control panel/main/system 2 tab). Then, reset the time using the *97 sequence from the keypad, or with DL900 (control panel/advanced/auto test and clock tab). You will have to reset the time again in the fall.

Future release:

These panels can be flashed in the field with an NX-588E flash tool. This tool will be available for purchase in the second quarter of 2007. The flash files will be shipped with the 588E and posted on the GESecurity.com website.

After the upgrade, location 84 will allow the DST start and stop dates to be changed. This location will need to be programmed (see enclosed addendum 466-2267A-networx-add.pdf) in order for DST to update the time correctly. Automatic DST enable will remain at location 37, segment 6, bit 4. DL900 V3.02 will allow remote DST changes and will be available in the second quarter of 2007. Note that the panel will not have to be reprogrammed since the upgrade does not affect the programming memory, however, GE Security does recommend that you fully test your system after any upgrade.

Networx NX-8E, 8E-CF panels are not currently compliant with the new DST rules, however, GE will have a chip upgrade available after 02/26/07 that will allow the installer to specify any DST start and stop date. Panels shipped that include the attached manual addendum will have location 84 defaulted to the 2007 DST rules, so no further programming will be required.

How to Identify 8E panels:

8E based controls have a large square chip in a socket that can be replaced in the field.

Field action for installed panels:

Starting March 11, 2007, turn off automatic DST using the keypad (location 37, segment 6, bit 4), or via DL900 (control panel/main/system 2 tab). Then, reset the time using the *97 sequence from the keypad, or with DL900 (control panel/advanced/auto test and clock tab). You will have to reset the time again in the fall.

Future release:

- Purchase new chips from GE Security customer support, or from your distributor:

    - 8E (revision 18)   #600-9388

    - 8E-CF (revision 13)   #600-9389

- Each chip will cost $10.00, and you will need one chip per panel.

- You will need to obtain and use a PLCC chip extraction tool from a local or online source equivalent to Radio Shack part number 276-2101 ($10.49 from Radio Shack).

To upgrade the panel, power down the panel completely. Wear a grounding strap, or touch a grounded, bare metal surface before handling the chips. Note the orientation of the old chip in its socket. Remove the old chip using an approved extraction tool. Align the new chip in the socket, then, press it firmly into the socket. Reapply power to the panel, AC first, and then connect the battery.

After the upgrade, location 84 will allow the DST start and stop dates to be changed. This location will need to be programmed (see enclosed addendum 466-2267A-networx-add.pdf) in order for DST to update the time correctly. Automatic DST enable will remain at location 37, segment 6, bit 4. DL900 V3.02 will allow remote DST changes and will be available in the second quarter of 2007. Note that the panel will not have to be reprogrammed since the upgrade does not affect the programming memory, however, GE Security does recommend that you fully test your system after any upgrade.

NetworX "Version 1" panels will not be upgraded:

How to Identify version 1 panels:

- NX-4, 6 and 8 panels made prior to December 2004 have the long main chip in a socket.

- All NX-8-CF Fire/ burglary combination panels have the long main chip in a socket.

Future release:

None. The time in any panels that utilize schedule based events, such as automatic arming, will have to be changed manually either via the keypad or by DL900.

Caddx Ranger Series panels do not have automatic DST.

Future release:

None. The time in any panels that utilize schedule based events, such as automatic arming, will have to be changed manually either via the keypad or by DL900.

Contact If you have questions or concerns with regard to the issues addressed in this customer bulletin, contact technical support at 888-GESECURity 437-3287) during normal business hours (Monday through Friday, excluding holidays, between 5 a.m. and 5 p.m. Pacific Time). To order replacement chips, contact customer support at the same number. Email inquiries can be sent to nstechsrv@ge.com. To view GE Security Recall and Technical Notifications, visit www.gesecurity.com/recalls.