

RELEASE NOTES

RMS1551-01-H

These release notes contain important information about the new firmware and how it will affect the performance of instruments in which it is installed. Please read the notes before attempting to use the new firmware.

1 SCSI SUPPORT

This firmware is meant to be used with SCSI module firmware RMS1530-01-I. See the compatibility table below.

Empty files are now deleted automatically when they are closed. This is always accompanied by the message "EMPTY DATA FILE HAS BEEN DELETED". The same message is also displayed after the explicit deletion of a data file that happens to be empty. In the latter case, the error message "FILE NOT FOUND" is displayed immediately afterwards. This is a logical consequence of the operation and **does not** indicate a problem.

This revision corrects problems of size allocation that some users have reported. This is a discrepancy between the actual file size and the size reported in the directory. Also corrected are problems that only appear with very long directories.

2 NAMED ROUTINE "CLOSE"

The named routine "CLOSE" provides an easy way to close a data file from the run mode. The routine may be assigned to a programmable function key in the usual way. Failure to close a data file before turning the power off usually causes loss of data. If data is subsequently appended to such a file, the data extraction program may have trouble reading it. It is best to develop the habit of closing a data file before turning the power off.

3 SOFTWARE DELAYS

The named routines MS001, MS005, MS050, and MS100 are guaranteed to cause delays that are at least as long as their nominal values. Because these routines can always be interrupted to execute hardware-dependent tasks, there is no way to put an upper bound on their duration. The average length of one of these delays is approximately 110% of its nominal value.

4 CONFIGURATION FILES

Configuration files for version RMS1551-01-G are completely compatible with this version (RMS1551-01-H), and can be used without modification.

Note: Configuration files produced by versions RMS1551-01-D, -E, or -F will also be accepted without a warning, but these must be modified in order to work the same as they did in previous versions. After loading the old configuration into the new version, use the new item #9 (MIN SP) in the DATA ENTRIES #1 menu. Change the value shown by item #9 to zero, and leave that display by pressing ENTER. Compile and save the new configuration.

The parameter controlled by Item #9 was introduced in version RMS1551-01-G. Entering a value of zero causes the parameter to be ignored.

Using a non-zero value for this parameter may help to avoid data loss. To understand the advantages, please refer to the RMS1551-01-G release notes, or see Section 3.6.9 in the DAS8 or DGR33 manual, as well as Section 4.5.7 in the HDS manual.

5 COMPATIBILITY

The new firmware (RMS1551-01-H) is compatible with the firmware of other RMS modules as shown in Table 2. Using incompatible firmware revisions will cause unpredictable behavior.

Module name	Module Number	Firmware Revision Number
ANALOG	RMS4185	RMS1221-07-C RMS1221-07-D RMS1221-08-A RMS1221-08-B RMS1221-08-C
ANALOG	RMS4185A	RMS1517-01-A
ARINC	RMS4429	RMS1446-01-C
ARINC	RMS4429A	RMS1529-01-A
SERIAL	RMS4272	RMS1356-02-H
SERIAL	RMS4272A	RMS1527-01-C RMS1527-01-D
SPECTROMETER	RMS4241	RMS1336-01-D
SPECTROMETER	RMS4241A	RMS1528-01-A
SCSI	RMS4526	RMS1530-01-I
TIM (TAPE I/F MODULE)	RMS4239A	RMS1518-01-A

Table 2. Compatibility of other RMS firmware with RMS1551-01-H