

TFT EAS-911 Encoder-Decoder

Field “Problem Fixes”

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Replace R 121, a 10K resistor located on the Main Board between chips U28 and U14 with a “zero ohm” resistor. A wire jumper will do just fine.

Tighten the eight screws that hold the main board to the chassis. This tightening is required to improve grounding and to reduce noise in the data circuitry.

Verify that the power supply five-volt VCC supply is between 5.0 and 5.1 (nominal 5.02) volts at the power supply output pin. This is a critical adjustment. Please use a known accurate digital meter.

Check for power supply sag when the unit is printing and producing audio from the speaker. The electrolytics in the power supply have limited life. A complete replacement power supply is TFT part number 5102-3951. The replacement power supply costs \$108 plus shipping. Purchasing a replacement to place into your encoder/decoder is good, cheap insurance. Then you can replace the electrolytics in the old one and have a good “shelf spare.”

Check for your software version. Radio stations should have reversion version 0.79 or later. The number will be different for TV stations. New eeproms should be ordered and installed soon so you will comply with the new EAS Event Codes recently adopted by the FCC. These new codes are optional now, but will likely become mandatory soon. Newly installed equipment placed in service on or after February 1, 2004 must incorporate the new EAS Event Codes. CAE is one of the new codes which will eventually be used for Amber Alerts.

Be sure the printer protection printed circuit board is installed. It mounts face-down on the back of the printer. Unplug the printer cable, plug the PCB into the printer, then plug the printer cable into the PCB. This TFT supplied PCB keeps stuck printer drivers from burning up the printer.

EAS911 memory never refreshes. Cycle any “flaky” feature on and off several times. This will force memory refresh. Otherwise what the display indicates may not be how the internal setting is configured.

To minimize false “tripping” from the remote control system, if any, make sure that Setup Menu item #23 Enable Remote Control/Status Module Interface is set to the number of remote control EAS 941’s (if any) you have and not set to a higher number. If you have no remote control EAS 941’s, set the display to “0 Remotes.” Also – the RS-485 remote control interface can easily pick up noise which the EAS911 will interpret as data or the noise can contaminate otherwise good data. Be sure the RS-485 wiring is well shielded, and that the EAS911 and the EAS941 have a good common chassis ground.

If you’re participating in New Mexico **Amber Alerts**, be sure to set your EAS box for automatic forwarding of event type **CEM**. **Civil Emergency Message** will continue to be used for Amber Alerts for the foreseeable future.

For New Mexico EAS system information or for Amber Alert information, please contact the Broadcast Chair of the New Mexico EAS system, Mike Langner, at Citadel Radio Center at 767-6763 or contact the New Mexico Broadcasters Association at 881-4444.