North American NovAtel Customers affected by Issues related to OmniSTAR HP Frequency and Broadcast Format Changes.

Summary:
North American NovAtel Customers need to be aware of issues related to OmniSTAR HP Frequency and Broadcast Format Changes. OmniSTAR recently announced frequency and broadcast changes, as well as a new HP 4.27 library, which incorporates VBS seeding of the HP engine for faster convergence.

Products Affected:
OEMV with firmware version 3.4 are using OmniSTAR library 4.27 and therefore could be affected.

Region Affected:
North America Only

Details:
OmniSTAR, having now switched to 3 new North American frequencies, were unable to go ahead with the planned format change. This was due to an issue in their new OmniSTAR HP 4.27 library which caused the OmniSTAR HP service to fail with the new format. As a temporary measure, OmniSTAR has changed the message format back to the old format until such time as they can fix the problem and issue a new OmniSTAR HP library. This means that convergence improvements gained through HP 4.27 are unavailable until OmniSTAR resolves this problem.

What does this mean for NovAtel OEM4 and OEMV users?
- All OmniSTAR users must switch to the new OmniSTAR frequencies. The following link will take you to the OmniSTAR frequency webpage: http://www.OmniSTAR.com/chart.html
- OmniSTAR will continue to broadcast the old message format on the new frequencies until the new library is created and widely distributed

Solution:
As long as OmniSTAR continues to use the old format there should be no disruption of service due to this issue. When the new OmniSTAR library is incorporated into NovAtel firmware a new OEMV firmware release will be created. Once released, OEMV users will need to load this new firmware in order to access the features of the new OmniSTAR message format and to avoid HP problems which would occur once OmniSTAR switches to the new broadcast format.

OEM4 receivers will not be affected when Omnistar does switch to the new format

Application Notes: None yet available
Download Update: None yet available

For more information please contact support@novatel.com