



# APPLICATION NOTE

20180405-1

## **DATE:**

5 April, 2018

## **SEVERITY:**

High – requires prompt attention to prevent equipment damage

## **TOPIC:**

Antenna connections on Target System radios

## **PRODUCTS AFFECTED:**

G2 Controller (yellow box)

Server boxes (S10, S25, S50, etc.)

PnP Target Control Boxes (3-lane boxes with antennas)

PnP Uplink radio

**SOLO** Target device (**T-SOLO**) and Firing Line Device (**F-SOLO**)

## **PROBLEM:**

It has been determined that it is possible to permanently damage the radio module of certain pieces of target system hardware if the antenna is disconnected while the unit is running. This is a low-probability failure, however if it does happen the G2 will be permanently damaged and no longer be able to communicate at long distance. It will still run but its signal will be significantly reduced. It applies to any device that has a removable antenna.

## **CAUSE:**

As with any radio transmitter device, the transmitter circuitry usually requires a load applied to the transmitter, accomplished by the antenna. Operating without this load (without a proper antenna) can damage the transmitter.

## **RESOLUTION:**

Effectively immediately, SMT recommends that all of our equipment with removable antennas (see above) never be operated unless an antenna is attached. **PERMANENT DAMAGE may result** if you:

- power up without an antenna attached
- remove an antenna connection while the device is running.

Please only make changes to your antenna connection with your device powered off and ensure you do not power up your device unless it has an antenna attached. Should your unit be damaged by failing to follow these guidelines, an expensive repair will be needed.

## **ACTIONS:**

If you believe your unit has suffered damage prior to the date of this release please contact your SMT dealer immediately so that your unit can be diagnosed. If your unit has been damaged for this reason prior to this release, SMT will arrange to repair your unit free of charge. You must report this possible damage by the end of April, 2018, or it will not be covered.

If your unit suffers damage after the release of this document, you may be required to pay for the repair work.