FT-IR Ethernet Interface Firmware Components
Releases 1-3 & 1-4
Release Note

This note contains important information about the FT-IR Ethernet Interface Firmware Components, release 1-3 and 1-4.

Product Description

The FT-IR Ethernet Interface Firmware Components release 1-3 & 1-4 media contains this release note and two program files: the processor NetArm application version 3.80, FPGA code version 2.11. The Loader version 2.19 is also part of this release but not included on the diskette because the customer can only upgrade the NetArm processor firmware and the FPGA code.

The firmware files are preloaded in your instrument, or in your External Ethernet Interface ACC 126. The media supplied is used for backup or upgrade purposes. Your current firmware version can be found using the configuration applet in the Windows Control Panel. If you need to reload the firmware or the FPGA program, please refer to the document FT-IR Ethernet Interface and External Ethernet Interface ACC 126 User’s Guide in the section Updating Firmware.

Solved problems

- A flip of the detector selector on the side port does not generate bad scans.
- Excellent reliability on long-term acquisition.
- Supports 10/100 Mbps communication with half-duplex mode
- Supports Ethernet auto-negotiation.
- Standard DHCP address changes now supported without anomalous behavior.
- Supports operation over a live network without anomalous behavior.
- Supports the Ethernet Interface Card (SEQ5900G) revision 1-7 and higher.
Limitations

- As in the previous releases, the two principal firmware components (application and FPGA) can be upgraded in the field. The customer should never attempt to upload the loader file `loadx_xx.abb`. Only an authorized service technician can upload this firmware component.

- For SEQ5900G boards revision 1-7 and later, flash programming operations need more time to complete execution.

- Live network operations are subject to limitations imposed by non-FTIR related traffic already present on the network.

Known problems

- A forced re-negotiation of IP address, by the master DHCP server, on both the Ethernet adaptor and its PC counterpart simultaneously will result in a malfunction.

- An incorrect procedure for changing the loader file on Ethernet Interface card with revision 1-7 or higher can render the card unusable. [Ref: SCR #1345]

- In the "Instrument Properties" dialog, an incorrect value for the default Gateway (e.g. 255.255.255.255) or the Default IP address (e.g. 0.0.0.0) can render the card unusable. [Ref: SCR #1332]

- When a parameter is changed in the "Instrument Properties" dialog box, do not interrupt the power on the instrument, or on the External Ethernet Interface ACC 126. Wait for the message "Bodriv; you must restart the instrument..." to appear before resetting the instrument or the Communicator. A power failure that occurs while the changes are written to the flash memory can render the instrument unusable. [Ref: SCR #1337]