

## Bluetooth GPS units and Pocket PC 2002

### ***The Problem***

Our development team has found that on some hardware, not all locations received by a Bluetooth GPS unit were properly recorded by the mapping software.

The problem is reproducible on a Compaq iPAQ 3970 unit running Pocket PC 2002, when used in conjunction with an Emtac Bluetooth GPS unit. We expect the problem will affect all mobile devices running Pocket PC 2002 and is not the fault of the Compaq or Emtac hardware.

The problem is most apparent in streaming mode where the MapX software is required to process continuous feed from the GPS unit (eg when recording GPS tracks to a MapInfo table). It is not apparent with cable connected GPS units or systems running the 2003 version of Microsoft Pocket PC.

### ***The underlying cause***

A port tester program confirmed that the GPS unit was correctly passing location strings to the PDA over the Bluetooth connection, but the locations were not getting through to the MapX code.

We believe the problem is most likely related to inefficiencies in the multi-tasking in the earlier Pocket PC 2002 operating system, that have been corrected in Pocket PC 2003.

### ***Solution***

Bluetooth users with mobile devices running older versions of the Microsoft operating system should upgrade to Pocket PC 2003.

Contact your hardware supplier for upgrade options. Compaq and HP customers can obtain an operating system upgrade kit from Hewlett Packard. Enter "pocket PC 2003 upgrade kit" into the search engine at [www.hp.com](http://www.hp.com) for details.