



MICRO LAMBDA WIRELESS, INC.

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MLBS Series Bench Test Synthesizer Security and Volatility Documentation.

Product Declassification and Security.

Introduction:

This document describes instrument security features and the steps to declassify an instrument through memory sanitization.

Terms and Definitions:

Definitions:

Clearing – Clearing is the process of eradicating the data on media before reusing the media so that the data can no longer be retrieved using the standard interfaces of the instrument. Clearing is typically used when the instrument is to remain in an environment with an acceptable level of protection.

Sanitization – Sanitization is the process of removing or eradicating stored data so that the data cannot be recovered using any known technology. Instrument sanitization is typically required when an instrument is moved from a secure to a non-secure environment such as when it is returned to the factory for calibration. (The instrument is declassified).

Security erase – Security erase is a term that is used to refer to either the clearing or sanitization features of Micro Lambda Wireless products.

Instrument declassification – A term that refers to procedures that must be undertaken before an instrument can be removed from a secure environment such as when the instrument is returned for calibration. Declassification procedures will include memory sanitization.

System Components:

Product/System includes the following components:

Microcontroller (Flash + Ram)
Volatile Memory (Aux. Flash)
Nonvolatile Memory (FRAM)

Note: The MLBS product does not contain a battery.

Instrument Memory and Volatility Information:

The MLBS has several types of memory.

1. Microcontroller internal program flash memory, 512 KB. This is nonvolatile memory. It is used for firmware storage and is not accessible by the customer.
2. Microcontroller internal SRAM memory, 128 KB. This is volatile memory. It is used for calculations and program execution, it is not accessible by the customer. All information is erased and unrecoverable when power to the unit is turned off, or the external power cord is removed from the instrument.
3. Microcontroller internal Auxiliary Flash memory, 12 KB. This is nonvolatile memory. This memory is not used.
4. External FRAM, this is nonvolatile memory, 32 KB. It is used for storing the products configuration, frequency settings, user memory storage, and specification information.

Memory Clearing, Sanitization Procedures:

This section explains how to clear and sanitize the memory in your instrument. This is for all memory that can be written to during normal operation and for which the clearing and sanitization procedure is more than trivial such as rebooting your instrument.

The following process completely clears all user accessible memory on the MLBS instrument.

Using USB or the ethernet interface, send the following commands: (See MLBS User Manual for information on sending commands)

SP – This command resets the MLBS to factory settings. This clears the current frequency memory location to be the minimum frequency of the instrument and sets the unit to minimum frequency.

While the unit is sitting at minimum frequency, send the MS0 through MS99 commands (100 commands). This will store the minimum frequency of the MLBS product into the 100 user saved frequency locations in nonvolatile FRAM memory, clearing any sensitive user saved frequency information from these locations. A programmatic technique is the preferred method for clearing this memory.

Resend the SP command.

The above process will completely erase the User Data nonvolatile memory information and reboot the instrument. When the reboot is completed, the instrument will be ready for normal operation, and clear of any past frequency setting information.