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EndRun TECHNOLOGIES

Præcis Cf Time and Frequency Standard

User's Manual

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Preface

Thank you for purchasing the Præcis Cf Time and Frequency Standard. Our goal in developing this product is to bring precise, Universal Coordinated Time (UTC) and Frequency to your system quickly, easily and reliably. Your new Præcis Cf is fabricated using the highest quality materials and manufacturing processes available today, and will give you years of troublefree service.

About EndRun Technologies

Founded in 1998 and headquartered in Santa Rosa, California, we are the leaders in the exciting new time and frequency distribution technology based on the Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA) mobile telecommunications infrastructure. Our innovative designs and painstaking attention to the details of efficient manufacturability have made us the first to bring this technology to the broad synchronization market at prices small businesses can afford.

EndRun Technologies markets this technology in three major product lines:

Network Time Sources – These units are configured for optimum performance in operation with network servers running the Internet protocol known as the Network Time Protocol (NTP).

Instrumentation Time and Frequency References – These products provide UTC traceable time and frequency signals for use in precision test and measurement instrumentation.

OEM Time and Frequency Engines – These products provide the core time and frequency capabilities to our customers who require lower cost and tighter integration with their own products.

About this manual

This manual will guide you through simple installation and set up procedures.

Introduction – The Præcis Cf, how it works, where to use it, its main features.
Basic Installation – How to test operation and connect your Præcis Cf to your equipment.
Setting Up with Computers– Three sections, one for Unix-like platforms and two for Windows NT
Operation – Details of the software and hardware operation.

If you detect any inaccuracies or omissions, please inform us. EndRun Technologies cannot be held responsible for any technical or typographical errors and reserves the right to make changes to the product and manuals without prior notice.

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Præcis Cf User's Manual **Revision 9**

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Warranty

This new product, manufactured by EndRun Technologies, is warranted against defects in material and workmanship for a period of one year from date of shipment, under normal use and service. During the warranty period, EndRun Technologies will repair or replace products which prove to be defective.

For warranty service or repair, this product must be returned to EndRun Technologies. Buyer shall pre-pay shipping charges to EndRun Technologies and EndRun Technologies shall pay shipping charges to return the product to Buyer. However, Buyer shall pay all shipping charges, duties, and taxes for products returned to EndRun Technologies from another country.

Products not manufactured by EndRun Technologies but included as an integral part of a system (e.g. peripherals, options) are warranted for ninety days, or longer as provided by the original equipment manufacturer, from date of shipment.

Limitation of Warranty

The foregoing warranty shall not apply to defects resulting from improper or inadequate maintenance by Buyer, Buyer-supplied software or interfacing, unauthorized modification or misuse, operation outside of the environmental specifications for the product, or improper site preparation or maintenance.

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The remedies provided herein are Buyer's sole and exclusive remedies. EndRun Technologies shall not be liable for any direct, indirect, special, incidental or consequential damages, whether based on contract, tort or any other legal theory.

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Chapter

1

Introduction

The Præcis Cf is a precision source of Universal Coordinated Time (UTC) and Frequency that provides 1 Pulse-Per-Second (1PPS) and 10 MHz outputs. Instrumentation applications may use these signals to achieve time synchronization to typically less than ten microseconds and frequency syntonization to less than one part in 10^{11}.

In addition, the Præcis Cf provides the same computer time synchronization functionality of its sister product, the Præcis Cf and can be connected to any computer having an RS-232 serial I/O port. In its most basic operation, it broadcasts an ASCII time-of-day message each second with a specific character being the 'on-time' character. The transmission time of this character is accurate to less than one millisecond. More critical computer time synchronization applications using the Network Time Protocol (NTP) may take advantage of the two special signals available on the serial interface that allow synchronization to less than one-hundred microseconds.

For more detailed information that is not included in this manual, and links to other sites, please visit our website: http://www.endruntechnologies.com. There you can also download firmware upgrades, manuals and other documentation .

CDMA Timing–How it Works

CDMA mobile telecommunications base stations must be synchronized.

The Præcis Cf receives transmissions from base stations, also known as cell sites, that are operating in compliance with the TIA/EIA IS-95 standard for Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA) mobile telecommunications. This system requires a means of synchronizing the base stations throughout the network so that neighboring cells do not interfere with each other and so that calls can be efficiently transferred between the base stations, without interruption, as the mobile user traverses the cell coverage areas. This 'soft hand-off' feature means that the mobile telephone must be able to 'hitlessly' drop one base station and pick up the next one. To do this, the telephone must be able to calculate the relative difference in time between the codes that modulate the signals from each of the base stations, which again, requires that the base stations be synchronized.

Each base station contains at least one state-of-the-art GPS timing receiver with an ultra-stable local oscillator.

The system designers chose the Global Positioning System (GPS), which is itself a CDMA-based system, as the means of maintaining synchronization, and they defined *system time* to be *GPS time*. Each base station throughout the system contains one or more high-performance GPS timing receivers with sophisticated algorithms that control either an extremely stable ovenized quartz crystal oscillator or a Rubidium vapor atomic frequency standard. Such elaborate means are needed to meet the very difficult operating specifications required by the TIA/EIA IS-95 standard. The base station time synchronization must remain within 10 microseconds of GPS time over periods as long as twenty-four hours during which GPS satellite signals might not be available (typically due to antenna/cable failure, damage or vandalism) and in an environment where large ambient temperature swings may occur. Equipment capable of meeting these requirements is at the current state-of-the-art.

The base stations transmit a sync signal that all of the phones must use to establish and maintain system time.

The Præcis Cf receives the same initialization signals transmitted by the base stations that are used by the mobile telephones to establish their synchronization to system time. The mobile telephones cannot communicate in the system until they have established synchronization with the received spread spectrum encoded waveform. Unlike the mobile telephones, once this synchronization has occurred, the Præcis Cf has all of the information that it needs to perform its function of delivering accurate UTC time to a computer. The mobile telephone must decode much more information, establish two-way communications with the base station, and be a paid subscriber to performs its function of placing and receiving calls.

Spread spectrum modulation allows near perfect extraction of the timing information. We call it 'indirect GPS'.

All of this means that during normal operation, the quality of the timing information being transmitted from each of the base stations is virtually a repeat of that directly obtainable from the GPS. The big difference is that the received signal strengths from the base stations are a minimum of 30 dB larger than those from the GPS satellites, which is why you can usually talk on your cell phone indoors. Due to the nature of the IS-95 spread spectrum CDMA modulation scheme, this timing information may be extracted by a well-designed receiver with a precision of a few nanoseconds and the underlying frequency stability of the CDMA base station transmissions may thereby be reproduced as well. The Præcis Cf does just that, and for this reason, we call our technology 'indirect GPS'.

Where to Use It

You must have *cellular*, IS-95 CDMA coverage.

First, the Præcis Cf must be deployed in a *cellular* IS-95 CDMA coverage area. *Cellular* is a commonly used term that implies that the frequency band for the base station carrier transmissions is 824-895 MHz. This is in contrast to *PCS*, which implies operation in the 1850-1990 MHz frequency band. The Præcis Cf uses the cellular frequency band because it provides much better propagation characteristics in regards to building penetration and maximum receivable range from the transmitter. In general, if your cellular CDMA telephone works where you plan to install the Præcis Cf, then your Præcis Cf will work properly there.

Just about any system can use the Præcis Cf.

With the combination of serial I/O support for several time-of-day output message formats, Network Time Protocol support and precision 1 PPS and 10 MHz outputs, the Præcis Cf offers a functionally complete set of features for a wide variety of laboratory and network synchronization applications.

Main Features

Reliability

The Præcis Cf provides high performance and reliability combined with low power consumption. Its ARM7TDMI RISC microprocessor is the global standard for high-performance, battery-powered applications and is the current processor-of-choice in most phones today.

Flexibility

It supports operation in a variety of modes with a variety of platforms and operating systems.

Easy Installation

Its small size and integrated antenna make installation a snap compared to competing *direct* GPS products. Once the unit is placed near the instrument or computer requiring synchronization, connect the needed signals between the instrument and/or computer and the Præcis Cf. Then just plug in the AC adapter.

Free FLASH Upgrades

All firmware and configurable hardware parameters are stored in non-volatile FLASH memory, so the Præcis Cf can be easily upgraded in the field with any terminal program capable of performing file uploads using XMODEM. We make all firmware upgrades to our Præcis products available to our customers free of charge.

Notes

Chapter

2

Basic Installation

This chapter will guide you through the most basic checkout and physical installation of your Præcis Cf. Subsequent chapters and appendices will give you the information needed to configure your installation for the maximum performance in your operating environment.

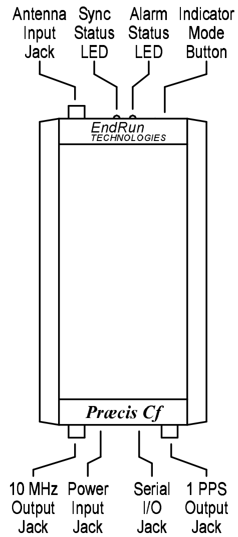
Checking and Identifying the Hardware

Unpack and check all the items using the following check list. Contact the factory if anything is missing or damaged.

The Præcis Cf Hardware Pack (part # 4001-0000-000 or #4001-variant) contains:

- ❑ Præcis Cf (part # 3001-0000-000 or # 3001-variant)
- ❑ Præcis Cf User's Manual (part # USM3001-0000-000)
- ❑ AC to 6VDC Power Supply (part # 0500-0000-000)
- ❑ Wall mount adapter (part # 0100-0000-000)
- ❑ Self-adhesive velcro strips (2) (part # 0100-0003-001)
- ❑ RJ-45 to RJ-45 CAT-5 patch cable, 2 meters (part # 0501-0000-000)
- ❑ RJ-45 to DB9F adapter (part # 0502-0000-000)
- ❑ Magnetic mount antenna/cable assembly (part # 0502-0007-000)

Præcis Cf Physical Description



Antenna Jack

This SMA jack connector mates with the supplied antenna or with the cable from the external antenna.

Sync Status LED

In Normal mode, this green LED flashes to indicate the synchronization status. In Signal Quality mode, it indicates the received signal quality.

Alarm Status LED

In Normal mode, this red LED illuminates briefly at power-up, and thereafter whenever a serious fault condition exists. In Signal Quality mode, it indicates the Sync data Cyclical Redundancy Check failure rate.

Indicator Mode Button

The Indicator Mode button is used for:

- Restoring the factory default settings
- Toggling the green LED indicator mode between Normal mode and Signal Quality mode

10 MHz Output Jack

This SMA jack connector provides a 10 MHz square-wave signal capable of driving 50 ohms at TTL levels.

Power Input Jack

This 3.5 mm phone jack connector provides power.

Serial I/O Jack This RJ-45 connector provides the RS-232 serial I/O receive and transmit signals as well as the two special timing signals needed to operate with the NTP reference clock drivers.

1 PPS Output Jack This SMA jack connector provides a 1 PPS signal capable of driving 50 ohms at TTL levels.

Performing an Initial Site Survey

Using the status LED's, it's easy to find out if your Præcis Cf will work in your desired location:

1. Screw the antenna onto the SMA antenna jack on the Præcis Cf.
2. Plug the AC to 6 VDC power supply into a 115 VAC outlet.
3. Plug the power input 3.5 mm phone plug into the 3.5 mm phone jack on the Præcis Cf.

You may hold the unit in your hand, or place it on a suitable surface while it is searching for the signal. Although the unit should normally be installed with the antenna oriented vertically, usually multipath conditions due to signal reflections indoors cause at least some of the signal to be horizontally polarized, so do not be surprised if you find that the unit will work either way. Multipath conditions can also cause another effect: signal cancellation. Since the wavelength of the signal is only about thirty centimeters, movement of the antenna just a few centimeters can sometimes cause significant signal strength changes.

Initially upon power up:

1. The unit will light the red LED for about ten seconds.
2. Then it will continuously light the green LED.
3. When the unit has detected a CDMA signal, the green LED will begin to flash very slowly (about a .4 Hz rate).
4. As the unit locks onto the CDMA signal and begins to decode the timing data, the green LED will flash very rapidly (about a 6 Hz rate) until the data is fully decoded.
5. Then the green LED will pulse at precisely a 1 Hz rate, synchronized to UTC seconds, with a short on duration relative to the off duration.

At this point, the unit is fully synchronized, and you may procede to permanently mounting it in the desired location.

If this sequence has not occurred within twenty minutes, you should move the unit and/or change its orientation and re-try. If you are unable to find a location where the unit will acquire the CDMA signals, you may not have coverage in your area or the signal might be too weak in your facility. You should continue to try for at least a day, however since base stations are taken down for service from time to time.

If you have a cellular CDMA phone, see if it will work in *digital* mode. If it will, then your Præcis Cf may be damaged and should be returned to the factory for repair or exchange.

Connecting Computers to the Præcis Cf

Mount the Præcis Cf

Using either the wall mount adapter or the velcro strips, mount the unit in the previously surveyed location near the computer. Make sure that the antenna is not blocked by metallic objects that are closer than about one meter. Ideally it should be mounted vertically, as the transmitted signals are vertically polarized. When indoors, however, multipath conditions may exist. This means that reflected signals may be present with either vertical or horizontal polarization, so your unit might work in either orientation. After mounting the unit, verify that it will still acquire and track the CDMA signals.

Connect the Serial Port

1. Shutdown the computer and disconnect power from the Præcis Cf.
2. Connect one end of the RJ-45 CAT-5 patch cable to the serial I/O jack on the Præcis Cf. Connect the other end of the RJ-45 CAT-5 patch cable to the RJ-45 jack on the RJ-45 to DB9F adapter connector.
3. Connect the DB9F connector to the appropriate serial I/O port on the computer. If the serial I/O port on your computer does not have a DB9M connector, you may need to use an adapter. Refer to Chapter 3 – *Serial I/O Control and Status Commands* for details on the signal wiring. *Remember which port you are using because you will need to know that in order to set up the terminal software.*
4. Power up the computer.

Test the Serial Port

To test serial communications with the Præcis Cf you will need a terminal program. You must configure your terminal program to use the serial I/O port you used in *Connect the Serial Port*. You must also configure your terminal program to use the correct baud rate, number of data bits, parity type and number of stop bits. Turn off any handshaking. The factory default settings for the Præcis Cf are:

- ❑ 9600 is the Baud Rate
- ❑ 8 is the Number of Data Bits

- None is the Parity
- 1 is the Number of Stop Bits

After configuring these parameters in your terminal program, apply power to the Præcis Cf. Within a few seconds, your terminal program should display a sequence of boot messages similar to these:

```
Praecis Bootloader 6010-0000-000 v 1.00 - Oct 06 2000 12:31:03
Praecis Cf FW 6010-0001-001 v 1.00 - Oct 07 2000 16:41:39
Praecis FPGA 6020-0001-000 v 01
```

The first line gives the part number and version of the Præcis BootLoader firmware and the date and time of its compilation. The second line gives the part number and version of the Praecis Cf application firmware and the date and time of its compilation. The third line gives the part number and version of the Field Programmable Gate Array (FPGA) configuration.

Following these three lines, factory default operation is to send a time-of-day message once-per-second. The factory default continuous, once-per-second, time-of-day message format is the native Praecis Cf format:

```
T YYYY DDD HH:MM:SS zZZ m<CR><LF>
```

where:

T is the Time Figure Of Merit (TFOM) character and is one of:

- 9 indicates error > +/- 10 milliseconds, or unsynchronized condition
- 8 indicates error < +/- 10 milliseconds
- 7 indicates error < +/- 1 millisecond
- 6 indicates error < +/- 100 microseconds

YYYY is the year,

DDD is the day of the year,

HH is the hour of the day,

MM is the minute of the hour,

SS is the second of the minute,

z is the sign of the offset to UTC, + implies time is ahead of UTC

ZZ is the magnitude of the offset to UTC in units of half-hours. Non-zero only when Time Mode is Local.

m is the Time Mode character and is one of:

G = GPS,
L = Local,

U = UTC

<CR> is Carriage Return control character (0x0D)

<LF> is Line Feed control character (0x0A)

Initially, you should see that the TFOM character is a '9'. When the green LED begins to flash at the 1 Hz rate, you should see the character change to a '6', which means that the time is accurate to less than 100 microseconds and the frequency is phase locked.

If you do not see characters displayed by your terminal program when the unit is powered up, you must troubleshoot your setup. An incorrectly wired cable is the most common problem. Refer to Chapter 3 – *Serial I/O Control and Status Commands* for the signal connections for the Præcis Cf.

Note

It is *not* necessary to use a *null modem* cable or adapter with the Præcis Cf.

If you are unable to find any errors in your setup, as a last resort you should restore the factory default settings to the Præcis Cf. It is possible that its serial port parameters are incorrect, so restoring the factory default settings will correct that. Refer to Appendix B – *Indicator Mode Button* for the procedure to restore the factory default settings.

Once you have successfully established communications with the Præcis Cf, you may procede to installing and configuring the software you intend to use to synchronize your computer's clock to UTC.

Connecting Instruments to the Præcis Cf

The Præcis Cf provides two precision output signals capable of driving properly terminated coaxial cables: 1PPS and 10 MHz. These two signals are DC coupled and sourced from Advanced CMOS (ACMOS) drivers which are able to maintain output TTL levels into a 50 ohm load. They are accessed via the two SMA jacks on the same end of the Præcis Cf that the serial I/O and power input jacks are located. Care should be taken not to short circuit these outputs or to connect them to other voltage sources.

If your primary application for the Præcis Cf is as a frequency standard, you should consider operating the LED indicators in the 'Signal Quality Mode'. Refer to Appendix B – *Indicator Mode Button* details. In this mode, you will always know whether the Præcis Cf is currently locked to a CDMA signal while you are performing measurements based on its 10 MHz output frequency. The holdover accuracy of the standard TCXO will degrade to the 5×10^{-8} level fairly quickly following CDMA signal loss, depending upon the ambient temperature environment.

Chapter 3

Serial I/O Control and Status Commands

This appendix describes the ASCII protocol supported by the Præcis Cf. In addition to the Præcis Cf native commands, the emulation modes which enable use of the Præcis Cf with existing public domain drivers for various operating systems and platforms are described. The serial I/O port physical and electrical characteristics are defined as well.

General Serial I/O Operation

The Præcis Cf accepts input commands that are terminated with either an ASCII Carriage Return (CTRL-M, 0x0A) control character (denoted by <CR>) or an ASCII Carriage Return (CTRL-M, 0x0A) - Line Feed (CTRL-J, 0x0D) pair of control characters (denoted by <CR><LF>). Commands are *not* case sensitive. The Præcis Cf terminates all status messages that it sends in response to commands with a <CR><LF> pair. The Præcis Cf does not 'echo' any user input.

The Præcis Cf responds to invalid commands with:

ERROR<CR><LF>

Numerical inputs are accepted in any standard format. For example, all of these formats are acceptable for the decimal number 10:

10, 1E1, 1.0e+1, 10.0, 10E0

At power-up with factory default settings, the Præcis Cf outputs a time-of-day message once-per-second. The factory default emulation mode is NONE, and the Præcis Cf sends the time-of-day message in its native format. See *Clock Emulation Modes* for details on these formats.

Available Commands

COMMAND	FUNCTION
CAL	Show the timing calibration factor in seconds
CAL=*c*	Set the timing calibration factor in seconds, where *c* may be -.0005 to +.0005, and + advances the timing outputs.
CHANNELSET	Show the setting of the selected channel set.
CHANNELSET=s	Select the channel set, either A for North America, K for North America plus Korea, or I for India.
CTIME	Show the status of the continuous, once-per-second, time-of-day output
CTIME=*e*	Enable or disable the continuous, once-per-second, time-of-day output, where *e* may be ON or OFF.
DSTSTART	Show the setting for the start date of the Daylight Savings Time transition.
DSTSTART=m,s,h	Set the Daylight Savings Time start date, where: m is month: 1-12 s is Sunday of month: 1-4,L for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, or Last h is the hour of the transition: 0-23 where 0=midnight DSTSTART=0,0,0 will disable Daylight Savings Time.
DSTSTOP	Show the setting for the stop date of the Daylight Savings Time transition.
DSTSTOP=m,s,h	Set the Daylight Savings Time stop date, where: m is month: 1-12 s is Sunday of month: 1-4,L for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, or Last h is the hour of the transition: 0-23 where 0=midnight DSTSTOP=0,0,0 will disable Daylight Savings Time.
EMUL	Show the continuous, once-per-second, time-of-day emulation mode.

EMUL=*x*	Set the continuous, once-per-second, time-of-day emulation mode, where x may be NONE, SPECTRACOM, TRIMBLE or TRUETIME.
EVENT=*e*	Enable or disable event timetagging, where *e* may be ON or OFF.
FLTSTAT	Show the summary fault status of the Præcis Cf
HELP	Show the Help menu
LEAP	Show the current leap seconds setting.
LEAP=c,f	Set the current and future leap seconds, where: c is the current leap seconds f is the future leap seconds
LO	Show the local offset setting.
LO=x	Set the local offset where x is a value from -12:30 to +12:30. The minutes field must be either 0 or 30.
PORT	Show the serial port settings
PORT=*b,d,p,s*	Set the serial port settings, where: *b* is baud rate: 9600, 19200, 38400 or 57600 *d* is data bits: 7 or 8 *p* is parity: o, e or n *s* is stop bits: 1 or 2
PPSWIDTH	Show the width of the 1PPS output pulse in milliseconds
PPSWIDTH=*w*	Set the width of the 1PPS output pulse in milliseconds, where *w* may be 1 to 999 or NTP.
REACQUIRE	Force new signal processor acquisition sequence.
RESET	Reset the unit. *(Valid with Praecis Cf FW v 1.04 or later.)*
RESPMODE	Show the command response mode
RESPMODE=*r*	Set the command response mode, where *r* may be TERSE or VERBOSE.

SETTINGS	Show the current user settings
SPSTAT	Show the current signal processor parameters
TIME	Show the current time in native Præcis Cf time-of-day format
TMODE	Show the time mode
TMODE=*m*	Set the time mode, where *m* may be GPS, UTC, LOCAL, or LOCALMAN.
UPLOAD	Initiates the FLASH upload process
VER	Show the firmware and hardware versions

Detailed Command Descriptions

CAL

This command allows the user to query and set the value of a calibration offset that the Præcis Cf can make to the Præcis Cf timing outputs. It can be useful for compensating various delays present in a system. The units for the offset are seconds. The allowable range is -.0005 seconds to +.0005 seconds, where a positive calibration offset means that the Præcis Cf timing outputs will be advanced in time. The Præcis Cf performs this adjustment with a resolution of approximately 32.5 nanoseconds. The example response indicates that the outputs are currently retarded by 123.452 microseconds relative to UTC as received from the CDMA base station.

In urban areas, distances to base stations should normally be less than two miles. It could make sense to set the calibration offset to perhaps + 5 microseconds, half of the approximate light speed transit time over two miles, to improve the absolute accuracy of the Præcis Cf. If you have some way of knowing how far the closest base station is from your site, you could make a more educated adjustment using the approximate propagation delay of one nanosecond per foot, or 3.3 nanoseconds per meter and the CAL command. Set value is retained in non-volatile FLASH memory.

Usage:

Query:	`CAL<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response:	`-.000123452<CR><LF>`
Set:	`CAL=.00015<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response:	`OK<CR><LF>`

Factory Default Setting: 0

CHANNELSET

This command allows the user to set the frequency channels that the signal processor searches in order to find a timing signal. Most users will not need to use this command as the default setting is for the North American frequency channel set. There are three allowable entries: A for North America, K for Korea plus North America, and I for India. Set value is retained in non-volatile FLASH memory. Korean and Indian users will need to change the default setting as below:

Usage:

Query:	`CHANNELSET<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response:	`NORTH AMERICA<CR><LF>`
Set:	`CHANNELSET=K<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response:	`OK<CR><LF>`

Set: `CHANNELSET=I<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response: `OK<CR><LF>`

Factory Default Setting: NORTH AMERICA

This is the setting as shipped by the factory but will not be affected by the Indicator Mode Button (see Appendix B - Restoring Factory Default Settings). Once the user modifies this setting it will stay that way regardless of resetting factory defaults.

CTIME

This command allows the user to query and set the status of the continuous, once-per-second, time-of-day message output. The status is either ON or OFF. Set value is retained in non-volatile FLASH memory.

Usage:

Query: `CTIME<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response: `OFF<CR><LF>`

Set: `CTIME=ON<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response: `OK<CR><LF>` Then the continuous, once-per-second, time-of-day output message starts, in the format previously selected using the EMUL command.

Factory Default Setting: ON

DSTSTART

This command allows the user to query and set the start time for the Daylight Savings Time transition. This setting is used to compute Local Time if TMODE = LOCALMAN (see TMODE command.) Set value is retained in non-volatile FLASH memory. Syntax for the command is DSTSTART=m,s,h. The month of the year, the Sunday of the month, and the hour of the transition all need to be set. For example, in the United States the DST start date is the first Sunday in April at 2:00 a.m. To set this, the command would be DSTSTART=4,1,2. You may disable DST by setting either the DSTSTART or DSTSTOP parameters to 0. For example, DSTSTART=0,0,0.

Month is 1-12.
Sunday is 1-4 for 1^{st}, 2^{nd}, 3^{rd}, 4^{th} or L for last.
Hour is 0-23 where 0 is midnight.

Usage:

Query: `DSTSTART<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response: `4,1,2<CR><LF>`

Set: `DSTSTART=4,1,2<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response: `OK<CR><LF>`

Factory Default Setting: 0,0,0

DSTSTOP

This command allows the user to query and set the stop time for the Daylight Savings Time transition. This setting is used to compute Local Time if TMODE = LOCALMAN (see TMODE command.) Set value is retained in non-volatile FLASH memory. Syntax for the command is DSTSTOP=m,s,h. The month of the year, the Sunday of the month, and the hour of the transition all need to be set. For example, in the United States the DST stop date is the last Sunday in October at 2:00 a.m. To set this, the command would be DSTSTOP=10,L,2. You may disable DST by setting either the DSTSTART or DSTSTOP parameters to 0. For example, DSTSTOP=0,0,0.

Month is 1-12.
Sunday is 1-4 for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th or L for last.
Hour is 0-23 where 0 is midnight.

Usage:

Query:	`DSTSTOP<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response:	`10,L,2<CR><LF>`
Set:	`DSTSTOP=10,L,2<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response:	`OK<CR><LF>`

Factory Default Setting: 0,0,0

EMUL

This command allows the user to query and set the current clock emulation mode for the continuous, once-per-second, time-of-day message output. There are four allowable emulation modes: NONE, SPECTRACOM, TRIMBLE, and TRUETIME. Set value is retained in non-volatile FLASH memory. See the *Clock Emulation Modes* section of this Appendix for details.

Usage:

Query:	`EMUL<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response:	`NONE<CR><LF>`
Set:	`EMUL=trimble<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response:	`OK<CR><LF>`

Factory Default Setting: NONE

EVENT

This command allows the user to query and set the status of the CTS input event timetagging. The status may be set to either ON or OFF. Set value is retained in non-volatile FLASH memory. When the clock emulation mode is set to TRIMBLE using the EMUL command, the CTS input event timetagging status is forced to ON(TRIMBLE) and attempts to change the status using the EVENT command receive the response 'ERROR<CR><LF>' and are ignored. If CTIME is ON, its output takes priority over these event timetags. It is recommended that CTIME be turned OFF during event timetagging operation. Refer to Appendix C – *Technical Specifications* for event timetagging implementation details.

Usage:

Query:	**EVENT<CR><LF>**
Præcis Cf response:	**OFF<CR><LF>**
Set:	**EVENT=ON<CR><LF>**
Præcis Cf response:	**OK<CR><LF>.** Then an Event Time message will be sent following each positive transition of the CTS serial I/O input signal. The Event Time message format is:

T YYYY DDD HH:MM:SS.sssssssss zZZ m<CR><LF>

See the native Præcis Cf time-of-day message format for the definition of each of these character fields. The Event Time message differs only in that the T character is not on-time, and in the augmentation of the seconds with a decimal point and nine digits (.sssssssss) of sub-second information.

Factory Default Setting: OFF

FLTSTAT

This query-only command displays the current summary status of the Præcis Cf. The summary status is contained in sixteen bits which are displayed in four hexadecimal characters. When operating in the Normal Indication Mode (see Appendix B – *Indicator Mode Button*), assertion of any of these bits will also be indicated by illumination of the red LED. Each bit of each character indicates the status of a sub-system component:

Hex Character	Bit 3	Bit 2	Bit 1	Bit 0
0	FLASH Write Fault	FPGA Config Fault	No Signal Time-Out	DAC Control Over-Range
1	Not Used	Not Used	Local Oscillator Failure	Local Oscillator PLL Fault
2	Not Used	Not Used	Not Used	Not Used
3	Not Used	Not Used	Not Used	Not Used

DAC Control Over-Range	This bit indicates that the electronic frequency control DAC for the TCXO has reached either the high (55000) or low (10000) limit while locked to the CDMA signal. Unless the unit is being subjected to out-of-specification environmental conditions, this would indicate that the TCXO frequency has drifted near to the end of life region. This should normally only occur after about ten years of operation. The unit will continue to function until the TCXO frequency finally reaches one of the actual DAC endpoints. The unit should be returned to the factory for TCXO replacement at the customer's convenience.
No Signal Time-Out	This bit indicates that the unit has not been able to acquire a CDMA signal for one hour while the Time Figure of Merit has been 9, the unsynchronized condition. This could be due to a variety of reasons. If there are no other faults that could explain the inability to receive a signal, then there could be a base station outage or antenna blockage. If the condition persists indefinitely, the unit may need to be returned to the factory for repair.
FPGA Config Fault	This bit indicates that the microprocessor was unable to configure the FPGA. This would be a fatal fault and the unit should be returned to the factory for repair .
FLASH Write Fault	This bit indicates that the microprocessor was unable to verify a write to the FLASH non-volatile parameter storage area. This should not ever occur under normal operation. This fault would cause erratic operation at the next power cycling since important parameters could be corrupt. The unit should be returned to the factory for repair.
Local Oscillator PLL Fault	This bit indicates that the Local Oscillator Phase Locked Loop (PLL) synthesizer is unlocked. This condition should not normally occur unless the unit is subjected to out-of-specification environmental conditions. Otherwise, this would be a fatal fault and the unit should be returned to the factory for repair.
Local Oscillator Failure	This bit indicates that the Local Oscillator Phase Locked Loop (PLL) synthesizer has failed. This con-

dition should not normally occur unless the unit is subjected to out-of-specification environmental conditions. This is a fatal fault and the unit should be returned to the factory for repair.

The example response indicates that there has been a period without tracking a CDMA signal that exceeded the time-out period, that there was a FLASH Write Fault and that there is a Local Oscillator PLL fault.

Usage:

Query:	`STAT<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response:	`0x001A<CR><LF>`
Set:	N/A
Præcis Cf response:	N/A

Factory Default Setting: N/A

HELP

This query-only command displays a menu of the available status and control commands supported by the Præcis Cf, along with the syntax of their usage.

Usage:

Query:	`HELP<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response:	Full menu of available commands and syntax is displayed
Set:	N/A
Præcis Cf response:	N/A

Factory Default Setting: N/A

LEAP

This command allows the user to set the current and future leap seconds. Set value is retained in non-volatile FLASH memory. The CDMA mobile phone system does provide a mechanism for automatic UTC leap second insertion. However, there are some locations where this has not been implemented to the precision needed for a smooth leap second transition. This command overrides the UTC leap second information received from the CDMA base station. In so doing, your Præcis Cf will properly perform a leap second transition at UTC midnight.

Leap seconds are inserted at UTC midnight on June 30 or December 31 only. If there is no leap second pending at the next transition point then enter the command with current=future. If there is a leap second pending then enter the command with current=future+1. The EndRun Technologies website maintains a page devoted to notifying users of the appropriate current and future leap second values at:

http://www.endruntechnologies.com/leap.htm

Usage:

Query:	`LEAP<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response:	`0 0<CR><LF>`
Set:	`LEAP=14,14` (Leap=current,future**)**
Præcis Cf response:	`OK`

Factory Default Setting: 13,14 or 14,14

There is a leap second insertion scheduled for December 31, 2005. For the second half of 2005 the factory will set leap =13, 14. After December 31, 2005 the factory will set leap=14, 14. This will ensure a precise leap second transition on December 31st and proper operation afterwards. This factory setting will not be affected by the Indicator Mode Button (see Appendix C - Restoring Factory Default Settings). Once the user modifies this setting it will stay that way regardless of resetting factory defaults. To have the unit automatically receive leap second information from the CDMA signals set leap=0,0.

LO

This command allows the user to set or query the local offset setting. This setting is used to compute Local Time if TMODE = LOCALMAN (see TMODE command). The values entered can range from -12:30 to +12:30. The minutes field must be either 00 or 30. Set value is retained in non-volatile FLASH memory.

Usage:

Query:	`LO<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response:	`-7:00<CR><LF>`
Set:	`LO=+12:30<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response:	`OK<CR><LF>`

Factory Default Setting: +0:00

OSCTYPE

This command allows the user to query the oscillator type for this unit. This value is set at the factory and cannot be changed.

Usage:

Query:	`OSCTYPE<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response:	`TCXO<CR><LF>`
Set:	N/A
Præcis Cf response:	N/A

Factory Default Setting: Hardware dependent.

PORT

This command allows the user to query and set the current serial I/O port settings. Changes to the settings take place immediately and are retained in non-volatile FLASH memory. You must change your terminal program to match these settings in order to continue to communicate with the Præcis Cf. *Restoring the factory default settings may be necessary should you forget the current settings.* See Appendix B – *Indicator Mode Button* for details on restoring the factory default settings. The baud rate, number of data bits, parity and number of stop bits may be set:

Baud rate may be 9600, 19200, 38400, 57600
Number of data bits may be 7 or 8
Parity may be E (even), O (odd) or N (none)
Number of stop bits may be 1 or 2

Usage:

Query:	`PORT<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response:	`9600,8,N,1<CR><LF>`
Set:	`PORT=19200,7,o,2<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response:	`OK<CR><LF>`

Factory Default Setting: 9600, 8, N, 1

PPSWIDTH

This command allows the user to query and set the current 1PPS output pulsewidth. Set value is retained in non-volatile FLASH memory. The value is in units of milliseconds and may be 1 to 999, or NTP. The NTP setting causes the 1PPS pulsewidth to be automatically set to one bit width at the currently selected baud rate of the serial I/O port. This is for use with the 1PPS on DCD NTP reference clock drivers.

Usage:

Query:	`PPSWIDTH<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response:	`1<CR><LF>`
Set:	`PPSWIDTH=500<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response:	`OK<CR><LF>`

Factory Default Setting: 1

REACQUIRE

This command allows the user to force another signal processor acquisition sequence and is generally only used in tightly-embedded systems. This will cause the unit to flywheel until it reacquires a signal.

Usage:

Query:	N/A
Præcis Cf response:	N/A
Set:	`REACQUIRE<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response:	`OK<CR><LF>`

Factory Default Setting: N/A

RESET

This set-only command allows the user to perform a software reset of the unit. *(Valid with Praecis Cf FW v 1.04 or later.)*

Usage:

Query:	N/A
Præcis Cf response:	N/A
Set:	`RESET<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response:	`OK`

Factory Default Setting: N/A

RESPMODE

This command allows the user to query and set the current serial I/O command response mode. Set value is retained in non-volatile FLASH memory. In the factory default TERSE mode, all responses to query commands are as described in this Appendix. When the response mode is set to VERBOSE, a string consisting of the command name, a space character, the equals sign character and a space character is prepended to the TERSE response string for all query commands except HELP and SETTINGS.

Usage:

Query:	`RESPMODE<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response:	`RESPMODE = VERBOSE<CR><LF>` `TERSE<CR><LF>`
Set:	`RESPMODE=TERSE<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response:	`OK<CR><LF>`

Factory Default Setting: TERSE

SETTINGS

This query-only command displays the current status of all of the user configurable settings. These settings are held in non-volatile FLASH memory.

Usage:

Query:	`SETTINGS<CR><LF>`

Præcis Cf response:	`Cal = 0.000000000<CR><LF>`
	`Ctime = OFF<CR><LF>`
	`Emul = NONE<CR><LF>`
	`Event = OFF<CR><LF>`
	`Port = 57600,8,N,1<CR><LF>`
	`Ppswidth = 1<CR><LF>`
	`Tmode = UTC<CR><LF>`

Set:	N/A
Præcis Cf response:	N/A

Factory Default Setting: N/A

SPSTAT

This query-only command displays the current status of selected signal processor parameters. This is a fixed-length message formatted as so:

SPS CHAN PNO AGC VCDAC SN.R F.ERR<CR><LF>

Where:

SPS — is the Signal Processor State, one of ACQ (Acquiring), DET (Signal Detected), LKG (Code Locking), TKG (Carrier Locking), LKD (Locked).

CHAN — is the CDMA frequency channel being used. For North American frequencies the reported channel will be: PRIA, PRIB, SECA, or SECB. These stand for Primary A, Primary B, Secondary A or Secondary B channels. For Korean frequencies the reported channel will be: PRKA, PRKB, SEKA, or SEKB. These stand for Primary A, Primary B, Secondary A or Secondary B channels. For Indian frequencies the reported channel will be: 185I, 226I, 267I, 308I, 369I, 410I, 451I, or 492I. There are multiple primary and secondary channels in the Indian channelset so the channel number is being used.

PNO — is the base station PseudoNoise Offset, 0 to 511 in units of 64 PseudoNoise code chips.

AGC — is the Automatic Gain Control DAC byte, 0 to 255 with larger numbers implying higher RF gain. Typical range is 150 to 220.

VCDAC — is the TCXO Voltage Control DAC word, 0 to 65535 with larger numbers implying higher TCXO frequency. Typical range is 20000 to 38000.

SN.R	is the carrier Signal to Noise Ratio, 0.00 to 99.9, measured in the Sync Channel symbol rate bandwidth. Typical range is 2.5 to 11.0.
F.ERR	is the Sync Channel Frame Error Rate, 0.000 to 1.000, with a higher number implying more Cyclical Redundancy Check failures when processing the Sync Channel message frames. Higher numbers will correlate with lower Signal to Noise Ratios.

Usage:

Query:	`SPSTAT<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response:	`LKD PRIB 132 161 28495  6.9 0.000<CR><LF>`
Set:	N/A
Præcis Cf response:	N/A

Factory Default Setting: N/A

TIME

This query-only command displays the current time-of-day in the native Præcis Cf format. See the *Clock Emulation Modes* section of this Appendix for details. The example response shows the local time and indicates a local offset to UTC of +11.5 hours, meaning that local time is 11.5 hours ahead of UTC. So for this example, UTC time-of-day would be 02:15:01.

Usage:

Query:	`TIME<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response:	`6 2000 155 13:45:01 +23 L<CR><LF>`
Set:	N/A
Præcis Cf response:	N/A

Factory Default Setting: N/A

TMODE

This command allows the user to query and set the current clock time mode. Set value is retained in non-volatile FLASH memory. **The setting of the time mode has no effect on the continuous, once-per-second, time-of-day messages sent when emulating the Spectracom, Trimble or TrueTime clock types. They are always sent in UTC time.** The time mode setting affects the *native* CTIME, EVENT and TIME time-of-day messages. There are three available time modes:

GPS	The GPS setting will cause the time-of-day to be displayed without the leap seconds which have been inserted between the UTC and GPS timescales since the beginning of GPS time: January 6, 1980. At the time of this writing, 13 leap seconds have been applied to UTC since the GPS epoch, so GPS time is currently 13 seconds ahead of UTC time.

UTC — The UTC setting will cause the time-of-day to be displayed as UTC time. UTC time is GPS time with the addition of leap seconds. Leap seconds can be determined by the unit automatically from data contained in the CDMA signal. Leap seconds can also be determined manually, via the user interface (refer to the LEAP command).

LOCAL — The LOCAL setting will cause the time-of-day to be displayed with the local time zone offset to UTC. The local time zone offset and daylight savings time transition is determined automatically from data contained in the CDMA signal.

LOCALMAN — The LOCALMAN setting will cause the time-of-day to be displayed with the local time zone offset to UTC. The local time zone offset is determined manually, via the user interface (refer to the LO, DSTSTART and DSTSTOP commands).

Usage:

Query: `TMODE<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response: `GPS<CR><LF>`

Set: `TMODE=LOCAL<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response: `OK<CR><LF>`

Factory Default Setting: UTC

UPLOAD

This set-only command allows the user to upload a new program to the FLASH memory of the Præcis Cf. Refer to Appendix A – *Upgrading the Firmware* for detailed instructions for performing the UPLOAD procedure.

Usage:

Query: N/A
Præcis Cf response: N/A

Set: `UPLOAD<CR><LF>`
Præcis Cf response:

```
Waiting for download using XMODEM 1K with CRC.<CR><LF>
Control X will abort download.<CR><LF>
CCCC…
```

The 'C' character is sent until the terminal program begins the upload.

Factory Default Setting: N/A

VER

This query-only command displays the firmware and hardware versions.

Usage:

Query: **VER<CR><LF>**

Præcis Cf response:

```
Praecis Cf FW 6010-0001-001 v 1.01 - Jan 25 2001 16:41:39 Praecis
FPGA 6020-0001-000 v 01<CR><LF>
```

Set: N/A

Præcis Cf response: N/A

Factory Default Setting: N/A

Clock Emulation Modes

The Præcis Cf emulates three industry-standard, continuous, once-per-second, time-of-day message formats in addition to its own native format. Currently these emulated formats are:

NONE

This is the native Præcis Cf time-of-day message format. It is sent once-per-second, with the TFOM character being the on-time character that is sent during the first millisecond of each second.

```
T YYYY DDD HH:MM:SS zZZ m<CR><LF>
```

T is the Time Figure Of Merit (TFOM) character and is one of:

- 9 indicates error > +/- 10 milliseconds, or unsynchronized condition
- 8 indicates error < +/- 10 milliseconds
- 7 indicates error < +/- 1 millisecond
- 6 indicates error < +/- 100 microseconds

YYYY is the year,
DDD is the day of the year,
HH is the hour of the day,
MM is the minute of the hour,
SS is the second of the minute,
z is the sign of the offset to UTC, + implies time is ahead of UTC
ZZ is the magnitude of the offset to UTC in units of half-hours. Non-zero only when Time Mode is Local.
m is the Time Mode character and is one of:

G = GPS,
L = Local,
U = UTC

Spectracom

This is WWVB Format 0 and it is sent once each second with the leading <CR> being the on-time character, which is sent during the first millisecond of each second. *The time mode is always UTC in this emulation mode*:

```
<CR><LF>Q  DDD HH:MM:SS  TZ=zz<CR><LF>
```

Q is the Time Quality character,

- ? indicates unsynchronized,
- indicates locked (space character).

DDD is the day-of-year,
HH is the hour-of-the-day,

MM is the minute-of-the-hour,
SS is the second-of-the minute,
zz is the timezone relative to UTC, which is always 0, since time mode is always UTC in this emulation mode.

Trimble

This format is only useful in conjunction with the Trimble Palisade NTP reference clock driver as it is not human readable. It is sent in Trimble Standard Interface Protocol (TSIP) using a binary packet format: *Primary NTP Pkt 8F-AD*. It sends packets for both the CTS assertion events and, if CTIME=ON, the 1PPS events. *It is recommended that 1PPS events be turned off when using this emulation mode by setting CTIME=OFF*. These packets contain a timestamp with 32 nanosecond resolution. When this mode is selected, the native Præcis Cf CTS input event timetagging function is disabled. *The Time Mode is always UTC in this emulation mode*.

Byte 18, Receiver Status of NTP Pkt 8F-AD contains the synchronization status information. The Præcis Cf uses three of these codes and they are set in the following manner:

Code 1 (Static 1 Sat. Timing Mode) is set when the time error is < 1 ms
Code 2 (Approximate Time) is set when the time error is < 10 ms
Code 3 (Startup) is set when the time error is > 10 ms

TrueTime

This format is sent once each second with the <CR> being the on-time character, which is sent during the first millisecond of each second. *The Time Mode is always UTC in this emulation mode*:

<SOH>DDD:HH:MM:SSQ<CR><LF>

<SOH>	is the ASCII Start-of-Header (CTRL-A, 0x01) control character,
DDD	is the day-of-year,
HH	is the hour-of-the-day,
MM	is the minute-of-the-hour,
SS	is the second-of-the minute,
Q	is the Time Quality character, and may be one of the following:

?	indicates the unsynchronized condition
#	indicates error < +/- 50 ms
*	indicates error < +/- 5 ms
.	indicates error < +/- 1 ms
	indicates error < +/- .1 ms (space character)

Time Figure of Merit/Time Quality

The native and emulated time-of-day messages sent by the Præcis Cf contain a character that indicates the level of accuracy that should be included in the interpretation of the time-of-day contained in the message. In some cases this character is referred to as the 'Time Figure of Merit' (TFOM) while in others it is referred to as the 'Time Quality'.

In all cases, the Præcis Cf reports this value as accurately as possible, even during periods of CDMA signal outage where the Præcis Cf is unable to directly measure the relationship of its timing outputs to UTC. During these CDMA outage periods, assuming that the Præcis Cf had been synchronized prior to the outage, the Præcis Cf extrapolates the expected drift of the Præcis Cf timing signals based on its knowledge of the characteristics of the internal Temperature Compensated Crystal Oscillator (TCXO). The extrapolated TFOM is based on a conservative estimate of the performance of the TCXO and should be considered 'worst case' for a typical benign ambient temperature environment.

Due to this extrapolation behavior, brief removal of the antenna from a normally operating Præcis Cf will not induce an immediate alarm condition. If the antenna is removed for long enough periods, you should see the TFOM character change to indicate a gradually deteriorating accuracy of the timing outputs. If the signal loss condition persists longer, then the final, unsynchronized state will eventually be reached. If the Præcis Cf is unable to achieve re-synchronization within one hour after reaching this state, the red LED will illuminate. Queries using the FLTSTAT serial I/O command will return with the appropriate bit set to indicate a loss-of-signal time-out condition.

Serial I/O Port Signal Definitions

RJ-45 Pin on Præcis Cf	DB9F Pin on Adapter	Signal Name
1	1	Data Carrier Detect (DCD)
2	2	Transmit Data (TX)
3	3	Receive Data (RX)
4	4	N/C
5	5	Ground
6	6	N/C
7	7	Clear To Send (CTS)
8	8	N/C

Data Carrier Detect (DCD) is driven by the 1PPS signal from the Præcis Cf. The falling edges are on-time.

Transmit Data (TX) is driven by the Præcis Cf.

Receive Data (RX) is driven by the host computer.

Ground is connected to the power supply ground on the Præcis Cf.

Clear To Send (CTS) is driven by Request To Send (RTS) from the host computer. The Præcis Cf timetags the positive transitions of CTS when CTS input event timetagging is ON (see the EVENT serial I/O command), or the unit is operating in the Trimble Palisade emulation mode.

Notes

Chapter 4

Setup with NTP on Unix-like Platforms

To configure your Unix-like computer to use your Præcis Cf, you must have successfully completed the *Basic Installation* procedures in Chapter 2. This manual is not a 'How-To' on installing and using NTP; basic approaches to NTP configuration for operation with the Præcis Cf will be described. It is expected that you are, or have access to, a capable Unix/Linux system administrator and know more than a little about installing distributions from source code and re-compiling your kernel. Installation must be performed by a user with root priviledges on the system. If you have never used NTP, then you should spend some time reading the on-line documents, especially the Distribution Notes, FAQ and Reference Clock Driver subject matter, which are available at:

http://www.ntp.org

Many problems may also be solved by the helpful people who participate in the Internet news group devoted to NTP:

news://*your_news_server*/comp.protocols.time.ntp

Note

All instruction given here assumes that you are using NTP Version 4. Version 4 is *required* for operation using the Trimble Palisade emulation capabilities of the Præcis Cf. If you are planning to use the 1PPS capabilities of the Præcis Cf, upgrading to NTP Version 4 is also recommended. In NTP Version 4 an attempt has been made to reduce some of the platform dependency in using the 1PPS measurements.

You should determine which features are available for your platform that pertain to specific NTP reference clock drivers. In particular, use of the 1PPS input timetagging capabilities of the NTP is somewhat messy and very platform dependent. Some platforms support the 1PPS input timetagging capability natively, others require additional code and a kernel re-compile. You must determine what you need for your platform.

If you only need a few milliseconds of precision, then all platforms will support synchronization using the standard NTP reference clock drivers which merely timetag the receipt of a specific on-time character in the clock's time-of-day message. This is the easiest path to setting up an NTP server and is recommended for all but the most demanding applications. This mode of operation does not make use of the two special signals on the Præcis Cf serial I/O connector:

Data Carrier Detect (DCD)	The Præcis Cf drives this signal from its 1PPS output. The falling edge of the DCD output from the Præcis Cf is on-time, and the negative pulse width is set to one bit width at the selected baud rate.
Clear To Send (CTS)	The Præcis Cf timetags, with 32 nanosecond resolution, the rising edge of transitions received on the CTS input.

For higher precision applications, the Trimble Palisade NTP reference clock driver is a way around the 1PPS complexity and is recommended if you find that 1PPS operation is too difficult to setup on your platform. This reference clock driver asserts a Request To Send (RTS) on the computer's serial I/O port which is connected via the supplied cable to the CTS input of the Præcis Cf serial I/O port. When configured for Trimble Palisade emulation mode, the Præcis Cf timetags the rising edge of this CTS signal, formats the timetag and returns it in a binary message that is compatible with the reference clock driver. Trimble's web site contains extensive documentation concerning the use of the Trimble Palisade with NTP. Much of this subject matter is also helpful in using the Præcis Cf when it is operating in Trimble Palisade emulation mode:

http://www.trimble.com/oem/ntp/

Three methods of using the Præcis Cf with NTP on Unix-like platforms will be described, in increasing order of precision:

Basic This is the simplest, and will yield a server whose timing accuracy is on the order of a few milliseconds. It does not use the 1PPS driven DCD output or CTS input event timetagging capabilities of the Præcis Cf. It does not require special modifications to the kernel and you should be able to use a pre-compiled NTP distribution if one is available for your platform. **NTP beginners and 1PPS users should always perform this setup first.**

Palisade This method is simpler than the 1PPS driven DCD method, and uses the CTS input event timetagging capability of the Præcis Cf. The precision attainable is comparable to the 1PPS driven DCD output method and is under 100 microseconds. Since this NTP reference clock driver is fairly new, your NTP distribution may not include it. If not, you should download an up-to-date NTP distribution and install it. **Recommended for most users due to the relatively simple set up and high precision attainable.**

1PPS This is more complicated, and will yield a server with precision less than 100 microseconds. It uses the 1PPS driven DCD output capability of the Præcis Cf. You will have to do more in-depth research and study to understand the interworking between the NTP and the Unix-like kernel. It may require Unix/Linux kernel modifications to support its operation. You may have to re-compile NTP to take advantage of any kernel modifications you made to support 1PPS. **Recommended only for experienced NTP users who are unable to use the Trimble Palisade driver.**

Basic NTP Setup

Basic setup is relatively simple, if:

- You have been able to successfully communicate with the Præcis Cf and know which serial I/O device on your host computer you are using.
- You have installed NTP version 4 on your host computer.

To complete the setup, these general steps will be performed. The example which follows gives the detailed step-by-step instructions.

1. You must decide which of two clock types you would prefer to have the Præcis Cf emulate. We will use the TrueTime emulation mode here as an example. Using the Spectracom WWVB, Format 0 is similar.
2. Issue the command to the Præcis Cf to set it to emulate the TrueTime clock type. Then make sure that the Præcis Cf serial I/O port parameters are compatible with the TrueTime NTP reference clock driver. Refer to Chapter 3 – *Serial I/O Control and Status Commands* for detailed information on using the serial I/O port with the Præcis Cf.
3. Now create a symbolic link in your /dev directory which points to the serial I/O port to which your Præcis Cf is connected. The symbolic link must be called true0, when you are using the TrueTime NTP reference clock driver.
4. Now edit the ntp.conf file so that NTP will use the TrueTime NTP reference clock driver.

EXAMPLE The following example will set up NTP on a Linux system. First, stop the power-up default, continuous, once-per-second, time-of-day message output by sending this command from your terminal program to the Præcis Cf:

ctime=off<CR><LF>

The Præcis Cf will respond:

OK<CR><LF>

Now send this command to change the time-of-day message format to TrueTime emulation:

emul=truetime<CR><LF>

The Præcis Cf will respond:

OK<CR><LF>

Now you need to make sure that the serial I/O port parameters of the Præcis Cf are compatible with those expected by the TrueTime NTP reference clock driver: 9600, 8, N, 1. You can check the current settings by sending:

`port<CR><LF>`

The Præcis Cf should respond:

`9600,8,N,1<CR><LF>`

If the **`port`** command responds with different settings, then you must change them using the **`port`** command with the appropriate arguments:

`port=9600,8,n,1<CR><LF>`

> **Note**
>
> If you had to change the port settings, you will now need to change the settings in your terminal program to match the new ones in order to be able to continue communicating with the Præcis Cf.

Now turn the time-of-day message output back on:

`ctime=on<CR><LF>`

You should now see a time-of-day message in the TrueTime emulation format issued once-per-second:

`<SOH>DDD:HH:MM:SSQ<CR><LF>`

The Præcis Cf is now configured for operation with the TrueTime NTP reference clock driver.

> **Note**
>
> Shut down your terminal program now so that it does not interfere with the NTP reference clock driver later.

Set the Symbolic Link

Now you must define a symbolic link in your /dev directory that points to the serial I/O port to which the Præcis Cf is connected. The name of this link is used by the NTP reference clock driver. For Linux, you might issue this shell command, where *x* is the serial device number to which your Præcis Cf is connected:

```
ln -s /dev/ttySx /dev/true0
```

Configure NTP

Now you must edit the ntp.conf file which *ntpd*, the NTP daemon, looks for by default in the the /etc directory. Add these two lines to the ntp.conf file:

```
server 127.127.5.0 prefer
fudge  127.127.5.0 refid CDMA
```

The first line tells *ntpd* to use the TrueTime reference clock driver and to prefer it over all other servers which might be declared in the ntp.conf file. The trailing zero in the server address is the 'unit id' and in this case tells *ntpd* to use the device pointed to by the symbolic link true0. The second line tells *ntpd* to replace the default reference identification field for the TrueTime reference clock driver with the characters 'CDMA'. This reference identification field is transmitted in the NTP server reply packets that are sent in response to NTP client request packets. It identifies the source of your NTP server's reference time.

Re-start *ntpd* to have it begin using the Præcis Cf as the preferred synchronization peer.

Use the NTP utility *ntpq* to check that *ntpd* is able to communicate with the Præcis Cf. After issuing the command

```
ntpq
```

you will see the ntpq command prompt:

```
ntpq>
```

Use the command

```
peers
```

to display the NTP peers which your computer is using. One of them should be the TrueTime reference clock driver which you have just configured. You should verify that is is being 'reached'. (You may have to continue issuing the peers command for a minute or two before you will see the 'reach' count increment.) If you have other peers configured, verify that the offset information for the TrueTime peer and your other peers is in agreement to within a few milliseconds, assuming that the other peers are synchronized to that level of accuracy.

It may also be useful to start the NTP daemon in 'debug' mode (*ntpd* –d) to confirm successful configuration. Refer to the NTP documentation for detailed usage of these debug utilities.

Palisade NTP Setup

Setup using the Trimble Palisade emulation mode is not much more complicated than basic setup, if:

- You have been able to successfully communicate with the Præcis Cf and know which serial I/O device on your host computer you are using.
- You have installed NTP version 4 on your host computer.

To complete the setup, these general steps will be performed. The example which follows gives the detailed step-by-step instructions.

1. Issue the command to the Præcis Cf to set it to emulate the Trimble Palisade clock type. Then make sure that the Præcis Cf serial I/O port parameters are compatible with the Trimble Palisade NTP reference clock driver. Refer to Chapter 3 – *Serial I/O Control and Status Commands* for detailed information on using the serial I/O port with the Præcis Cf.
2. Now create a symbolic link in your /dev directory which points to the serial I/O port that your Præcis Cf is connected to. The symbolic link should be called palisade0.
3. Now edit the ntp.conf file so that NTP will use the Trimble Palisade NTP reference clock driver.

EXAMPLE The following example will set up NTP on a Linux system. First, stop the power up default, continuous, once-per-second, time-of-day message output by sending this command from your terminal program to the Præcis Cf:

ctime=off<CR><LF>

The Præcis Cf will respond:

OK<CR><LF>

Now send this command to change the time-of-day message format to Trimble Palisade emulation:

emul=trimble<CR><LF>

The Præcis Cf will respond:

OK<CR><LF>

Now you need to make sure that the serial I/O port parameters of the Præcis Cf are compatible with the Trimble Palisade NTP reference clock driver: 9600, 8, O, 1 by sending:

port<CR><LF>

The Præcis Cf should respond:

9600,8,O,1<CR><LF>

If the **port** command responds with different settings, then you must change them using the **port** command:

port=9600,8,o,1<CR><LF>

Note

If you had to change the settings, you will now need to change the settings in your terminal program to match the new ones in order to be able to continue communicating with the Præcis Cf.

Verify proper configuration of the emulation mode by turning the time-of-day message output back on:

ctime=on<CR><LF>

Since the Trimble Palisade uses a binary serial protocol, you will not be able to understand the characters which will be displayed by your terminal program. You need only verify that characters are being sent once each second.

Important

Now turn the time-of-day message output back off. The Palisade reference clock driver uses the RTS assertion event messages for synchronization and the continuous time-of-day messages can interfere with these.

ctime=off<CR><LF>

The Præcis Cf is now configured for operation with the Trimble Palisade NTP reference clock driver.

Note

Shut down your terminal program now so that it does not interfere with the NTP reference clock driver later.

Set the Symbolic Link

Now you must define a symbolic link in your /dev directory that points to the serial I/O port to which the Præcis Cf is connected. The name of this link is used by the NTP reference clock driver. For Linux, you might issue this shell command, where *x* is the serial device number to which your Præcis Cf is connected:

```
ln –s /dev/ttySx /dev/palisade0
```

Configure NTP

Now you must edit the ntp.conf file which *ntpd*, the NTP daemon, looks for by default in the the /etc directory. Add these lines to the ntp.conf file:

```
server 127.127.29.0 prefer
fudge  127.127.29.0 refid CDMA
```

The first line tells *ntpd* to use the Palisade reference clock driver and to prefer it over all other servers. The trailing zero in the server address is the 'unit id' and in this case tells *ntpd* to use the device pointed to by the symbolic link palisade0. The second line tells *ntpd* to replace the default reference id field for the Palisade reference clock driver with the characters 'CDMA'. This reference id field is transmitted in the NTP server reply packets that are sent in response to NTP client request packets. It identifies the source of your NTP server's reference time.

Re-start *ntpd* to have it begin using the Præcis Cf as the preferred synchronization peer.

Use the NTP utility *ntpq* to check that *ntpd* is able to communicate with the Præcis Cf. After issuing the command

`ntpq`

you will see the ntpq command prompt:

`ntpq>`

Use the command

`peers`

to display the NTP peers which your computer is using. One of them should be the Trimble Palisade reference clock driver which you have just configured. You should verify that is is being 'reached'. (You may have to continue issuing the peers command for a minute or two before you will see the 'reach' count increment.) If you have other peers configured, verify that the offset information for the Palisade peer and your other peers is in agreement to within a few milliseconds, assuming that the other peers are synchronized to that level of accuracy.

It may also be useful to start the NTP daemon in 'debug' mode (*ntpd* –d) to confirm successful configuration. Refer to the NTP documentation for detailed usage of the debug utilities.

1PPS NTP Setup

You are ready to setup using the 1PPS driven DCD capability of the Præcis Cf if:

- You have been able to successfully communicate with the Præcis Cf and know which serial I/O device on your host computer you are using.
- You have installed NTP version 4 on you host computer.
- You have performed any kernel modifications and NTP recompilations that may be needed to support 1PPS driven DCD operation on your platform.
- You have performed *Basic NTP Setup* as described previously in this Chapter.

Basic NTP Setup is required because operation of the NTP with 1PPS driven DCD input measurements is always in conjunction with one of the standard NTP reference clock drivers, such as the TrueTime driver. NTP needs the time-of-day message from the NTP reference clock driver to determine the correct second for the rising edge of the next 1PPS.

Since the Præcis Cf supports a user selectable 1PPS pulsewidth (see Chapter 3 – *Serial I/O Control and Status Commands*), you should set it to the 'NTP' value when you are using it for 1PPS driven DCD operation with NTP by issuing this command:

ppswidth = ntp<CR><LF>

In this mode, the 1PPS driven DCD pulsewidth will be set to the width of one bit at the selected baud rate of the serial I/O port, as required by the NTP reference clock drivers.

To complete the setup, it only remains to edit the ntp.conf file so that NTP will use the 1PPS kernel measurements.

Configure NTP

Having performed the setup steps in *Basic NTP Setup,* now you must edit the ntp.conf file which *ntpd*, the NTP daemon, looks for by default in the the /etc directory. Find the two lines which you added previously in *Basic NTP Setup* and insert this line immediately before them:

```
pps /dev/true0 assert
```

This line tells *ntpd* to use timetags that the kernel captures on the positive transitions of the DCD line of the serial I/O port pointed to by /dev/true0. It will associate these 1PPS measurements with the reference clock driver which has the 'prefer' keyword. In this example, that would be the TrueTime reference clock driver that was setup in *Basic NTP Setup*.

Re-start *ntpd* to have it begin using the Præcis Cf as the preferred synchronization peer with 1PPS measurement capability enabled.

Use the NTP utility *ntpq* to check that *ntpd* is able to communicate with the Præcis Cf. After issuing the command

`ntpq`

you will see the ntpq command prompt:

`ntpq>`

Use the command

`peers`

to display the NTP peers which your computer is using. One of them should be the TrueTime reference clock driver which you have just configured. You should verify that is is being 'reached'. (You may have to continue issuing the peers command for a minute or two before you will see the 'reach' count increment.) If you have other peers configured, verify that the offset information for the TrueTime peer and your other peers is in agreement to within a few milliseconds, assuming that the other peers are synchronized to that level of accuracy.

It may also be useful to start the NTP daemon in 'debug' mode (*ntpd* –d) to confirm successful configuration. Refer to the NTP documentation for detailed usage of the debug utilities.

Chapter 5

Setup with NTP on Windows NT 4.0

To configure your Windows NT 4.0 computer to use your Præcis Cf, you must have successfully completed the *Basic Installation* procedures in Chapter 2. This manual is not a 'How-To' on installing and using NTP; basic approaches to NTP configuration for operation with the Præcis Cf will be described here. Installation must be performed by a user with administrative priviledges on the system. If you have never used NTP, then you should spend some time reading the on-line documents at:

http://www.ntp.org

Many problems may also be solved by the helpful people who participate in the Internet news group devoted to NTP:

news://*your_news_server*/comp.protocols.time.ntp

> **Note**
>
> Windows NT 4.0 and NTP Version 4 are *required* for operation using the Trimble Palisade emulation capabilities of the Præcis Cf. Since this NTP reference clock driver is fairly new, your current NTP distribution may not include it. If not, you should download an up-to-date NTP distribution and install it. A pre-compiled binary executable using the Windows NT InstallShield is also freely available from Five Ten Software Group at http://www.five-ten-sg.com.

The Præcis Cf is compatible with the only NTP reference clock driver that is currently available for NTP running under Windows NT: Trimble Palisade. This NTP reference clock driver asserts a Request To Send (RTS) on the computer's serial I/O port which is connected via the supplied cable to the Clear To Send (CTS) input of the Præcis Cf serial I/O port. The Præcis Cf timetags the rising edge of this CTS signal, formats the timetag and returns it in a binary message that is compatible with the Trimble Palisade NTP reference clock driver. The official NTP web site contains documentation concerning the use of the Trimble Palisade with NTP. Some of this subject matter is helpful when using the Præcis Cf in Trimble Palisade emulation mode:

http://www.eecis.udel.edu/~mills/ntp/html/drivers/driver29.html

Note

NTP must be the only clock synchronization program running on the system. Other utilities for clock synchronization such as TimeServ, which is available in the Microsoft Windows NT Resource Kit, must be stopped, disabled or uninstalled.

Palisade NTP Setup

Setup using the Trimble Palisade emulation mode is quite simple, if:

- You have been able to successfully communicate with the Præcis Cf and know which serial I/O device on your host computer you are using.
- You have successfully installed NTP version 4 with Trimble Palisade reference clock driver capability on your host computer.

To complete the setup, these general steps will be performed. The example which follows gives the detailed step-by-step instructions.

1. Issue the command to the Præcis Cf to set it to emulate the Trimble Palisade clock type. Then make sure that the Præcis Cf serial I/O port parameters are compatible with the Trimble Palisade NTP reference clock driver. Refer to Chapter 3 – *Serial I/O Control and Status Commands* for detailed information on using the serial I/O port with the Præcis Cf.
2. Now edit the ntp.conf file so that NTP will use the Trimble Palisade NTP reference clock driver. Depending upon how you installed NTP, some of the needed configurations may have already been made to your ntp.conf.

EXAMPLE The following example will set up NTP on a Windows NT 4.0 system. First, stop the power up default, once-per-second, time-of-day message output by sending this command from your terminal program to the Præcis Cf:

ctime=off<CR><LF>

The Præcis Cf will respond:

OK<CR><LF>

Now send this command to change the time-of-day message format to Trimble Palisade emulation:

emul=trimble<CR><LF>

The Præcis Cf will respond:

OK<CR><LF>

Now you need to make sure that the serial I/O port parameters of the Præcis Cf are compatible with the Trimble Palisade NTP reference clock driver: 9600, 8, O, 1 by sending:

port<CR><LF>

The Præcis Cf should respond:

9600,8,O,1<CR><LF>

If the **port** command responds with different settings, then you must change them using the **port** command:

port=9600,8,o,1<CR><LF>

> **Note**
>
> If you had to change the settings, you will now need to change the settings in your terminal program to match the new ones in order to be able to continue communicating with the Præcis Cf.

Verify proper configuration of the emulation mode by turning the time-of-day message output back on:

ctime=on<CR><LF>

Since the Trimble Palisade uses a binary serial protocol, you will not be able to understand the characters which will be displayed by your terminal program. You need only verify that characters are being sent once each second.

Important

Now turn the time-of-day message output back off. The Palisade reference clock driver uses the RTS assertion event messages for synchronization and the continuous time-of-day messages can interfere with these.

ctime=off<CR><LF>

The Præcis Cf is now configured for operation with the Trimble Palisade NTP reference clock driver.

Note

Shut down your terminal program now so that it does not interfere with the NTP reference clock driver later.

Configure NTP

Now you must edit the ntp.conf file which *ntpd.exe*, the NTP daemon, looks for by default in this directory on your system partition: \winnt\system32\drivers\etc. If your NTP installation placed this file in a different place, you must find it and edit it. Add these lines to the ntp.conf file:

```
server 127.127.29.x prefer
fudge  127.127.29.x refid CDMA
```

x is the 'unit id' and identifies the specific serial I/O port to which the Præcis Cf is connected. You must replace *x* with the COM port number that you are using. The first line tells *ntpd.exe* to use and to prefer the Palisade reference clock driver over the other servers configured in this ntp.conf file. It also tells *ntpd.exe* to expect to find a Trimble Palisade compatible reference clock connected to the serial I/O port designated as COM*x*, where *x* may be 1, 2, 3 or 4. The second line tells *ntpd.exe* to replace the default reference id field for the Palisade reference clock driver with the characters 'CDMA'. This reference id field is transmitted in the NTP server reply packets that are sent in response to NTP client request packets. It identifies the source of your NTP server's reference time.

Re-start *ntpd.exe* to have it begin using the Præcis Cf as the preferred synchronization peer. By default, the NTP installation program installs *ntpd.exe* as a service called Network Time Protocol, and starts it. You must use the Services utility in Control Panel to stop the Network Time Protocol service and then re-start it.

Use the NTP utility *ntpq.exe* to check that *ntpd.exe* is able to communicate with the Præcis Cf. By default it is installed in the \Program Files\Network Time Protocol sub-directory of your Windows NT partition. From a console window, after issuing the command

```
ntpq
```

you will see the *ntpq* command prompt:

```
ntpq>
```

Use the command

```
peers
```

to display the NTP peers which your computer is using. One of them should be the Trimble Palisade reference clock driver which you have just configured. You should verify that is is being 'reached'. (You may have to continue issuing the peers command for a minute or two before you will see the 'reach' count increment.) If you have other peers configured, verify that the offset information for the Palisade peer and your other peers is in agreement to within a few milliseconds, assuming that the other peers are synchronized to that level of accuracy.

It may also be useful to start the NTP daemon in 'debug' mode (*ntpd* –d) to confirm successful configuration. The debug version of the NTP daemon is located in the *debug* sub-directory of your NTP directory. Refer to the NTP documentation for detailed usage of the debug utilities.

Notes

Chapter 6

Setup with TimeServ on Windows NT

To configure your Windows NT 3.5 or later computer to use your Præcis Cf with TimeServ, a utility contained on the Microsoft Windows NT 4.0 Server Resource Kit CD-ROM, you must have successfully completed the *Basic Installation* procedures in Chapter 2. This manual is not a 'How-To' on installing and using TimeServ; basic approaches to TimeServ configuration for operation with the Præcis Cf will be described here. Installation must be performed by a user with administrative priviledges on the system. If you have never used TimeServ, then you should spend some time reading the on-line documents at:

http://www.niceties.com/timeserv.htm

Note

Windows NT 3.5 or later is *required* for operation using TimeServ. TimeServ must be the only clock synchronization program running on the system. TimeServ will interfere with the operation of clock synchronization via NTP, so NTP should be stopped or disabled when TimeServ is running.

The Præcis Cf can emulate two of the clock types acceptable to TimeServ: TrueTime and Spectracom WWVB, Format 0.

TimeServ Setup

If you have been able to successfully communicate with the Præcis Cf and know which serial I/O device on your host computer you are using, and you have successfully installed TimeServ, setup using the TrueTime or Spectracom WWVB, Format 0 clock emulation modes is quite simple and consists of two general steps. The example which follows gives the detailed step-by-step instructions:

1. Issue the command to the Præcis Cf to set it to emulate the selected clock type. Then make sure that the Præcis Cf serial I/O port parameters are compatible with TimeServ. Refer to Chapter 3 – *Serial I/O Control and Status Commands* for detailed information on using the serial I/O port with the Præcis Cf.
2. Now edit the timeserv.ini file so that TimeServ will use the selected clock type for synchronization.

EXAMPLE The following example will set up TimeServ on a Windows NT system, using the Spectracom WWVB, Format 0 clock type. Setup using the TrueTime clock type is similar. First, stop the power up default, once-per-second, time-of-day message output by sending this command from your terminal program to the Præcis Cf:

ctime=off<CR><LF>

The Præcis Cf will respond:

OK<CR><LF>

Now send this command to change the time-of-day message format to Spectracom WWVB, Format 0 emulation:

emul=spectracom<CR><LF>

The Præcis Cf will respond:

OK<CR><LF>

Now you need to make sure that the serial I/O port parameters of the Præcis Cf are compatible with the Spectracom WWVB, Format 0 for TimeServ: 9600, 8, N, 1 by sending:

port<CR><LF>

The Præcis Cf should respond:

9600,8,N,1<CR><LF>

If the **port** command responds with different settings, then you must change them using the **port** command:

```
port=9600,8,n,1<CR><LF>
```

> **Note**
>
> If you had to change the settings, you will now need to change the settings in your terminal program to match the new ones in order to be able to continue communicating with the Præcis Cf.

Now turn the time-of-day message output back on:

```
ctime=on<CR><LF>
```

You should see the Spectracom WWVB, Format 0 message appear once-per-second:

```
<CR><LF>Q  DDD HH:MM:SS  TZ=zz<CR><LF>
```

The Præcis Cf is now configured for operation with TimeServ using clock type Spectracom WWVB, Format 0.

> **Note**
>
> Shut down your terminal program now so that it does not interfere with TimeServ later.

Configure TimeServ

Now you must edit, using a plain text editor like NotePad, the timeserv.ini file which *timeserv.exe* looks for in the \winnt directory. By default, TimeServ is configured to use a dial-up modem to contact the National Institute of Standards and Technology. You must find the line in the 'type=' section of the file which does not have a semi-colon as the first character of the line and add one. Then find the line which is called 'type=spectracom' and remove the semi-colon from the beginning of that line.

Now, for de-bug purposes, scroll down to the 'period=0' line and change the entry from the default of 0, to 'period=96'. This will cause TimeServ to perform a system clock correction 96 times each day, or once every fifteen minutes. This will allow verification of proper operation relatively quickly.

Now scroll down in the file and find the 'port=' section of the file. Select the port to which your Præcis Cf is connected by removing the semi-colon from the beginning of the line. Add a semi-colon to the beginning of the line of any other port that is not being used.

Finally, for de-bug purposes, enable logging of informational events by scrolling down to the 'Log=' section and remove the semi-colon from the entry 'Log=yes'. Add a semi-colon to the beginning of the 'Log=no' line. Save and close the file.

If TimeServ is currently running, stop it using Services in the Control Panel. Make TimeServ update its settings from the new timeserv.ini file by issuing this command from a console window:

```
timeserv –update
```

Re-start TimeServ using Services in the Control Panel. Use Start->Programs->Administrative Tools->Event Viewer to verify that TimeServ is able to update the system clock by viewing the TimeServ sourced entries in the applications log. A new event should enter the log every fifteen minutes. It should indicate that the time has been set by an entry like this:

Time set (offset > .5 second)

or this:

Time set (offset < .5 second)

depending upon how far off your computer's clock was when TimeServ corrected it.

Appendix

A

Upgrading the Firmware

Periodically, EndRun Technologies will make bug fixes and enhancements to our products available for download from our website. All such downloads are freely available to our customers, without charge. After you have downloaded the appropriate FLASH binary image file, you are ready to perform the upgrade to your Præcis Cf.

What You Need To Perform the Upgrade

You will need a terminal program which supports file uploading using the XMODEM 1K protocol with CRC. This is a very common file transfer protocol and should be supported by virtually any terminal program.

Caution

You may perform the upload using any of the supported serial I/O parameter combinations, *except that 8 data bits must be used.* You must use 8 data bits because the FLASH image you will be uploading to the Præcis Cf is in a *binary* format.

Using the higher baud rates will reduce the time needed to transfer the image file to the Præcis Cf. The current image requires about one minute to transfer when using a baud rate of 57600.

Performing the Upgrade

Configure your terminal program and the Præcis Cf to communicate at the desired baud rate by using the settings facility for your terminal program and the `port` command for the Præcis Cf. Refer to Chapter 3 - *Serial I/O Control and Status Commands* for details on using the `port` command.

After establishing communications with the Præcis Cf using the desired port settings, issue the following command to initiate the upload:

upload<CR><LF>

After issuing this command, you will see the Præcis Cf respond with this message:

```
Waiting for download using XMODEM 1K with CRC.
Control X will abort download.
CCC…
```

You will then see the Præcis Cf send the character 'C' every three seconds while it is waiting for you to begin uploading the image file. Should you need to abort the upload process now, send CTRL-X to the Præcis Cf. If you abort at this time, your current firmware will remain intact. If you abort after the file transfer is in progress, you will not retain your original firmware. You will need to re-upload it.

Otherwise, start the upload using the appropriate method for your terminal program. During the upload, your terminal program will display some sort of status indication. If the upload is successful, you will see the Præcis Cf re-boot, displaying the firmware version information when it does. Note the firmware version information at this time and verify that it is indeed the firmware that you intended to upload to the Præcis Cf. If it is, you have successfully upgraded the firmware in your Præcis Cf.

Problems with the Upload

Should you have difficulties with the upload due to a corrupt file, power failure during upload, or other accident, do not be alarmed. Even though you may have lost the existing application program, the Præcis Cf boot loader program will remain intact. On boot up, it will check to see if a valid application program is in the FLASH memory. If there is not, it will immediately go into the 'waiting for download' mode, sending the 'C' character every three seconds. You may then re-try the upload procedure, after you have corrected the original problem.

It is possible for the boot loader program to be fooled by a corrupted application program that has been previously downloaded into FLASH. In this case, it will attempt to start the application program. Generally this will result in a failure that will force a watchdog initiated re-boot. This process will be repeated indefinitely unless you intervene.

For bootloader versions 3.00 and earlier: If the boot load/application launch sequence appears to be caught in a loop, hold down the 'b' key on your keyboard while the boot loader is coming up. This will cause the boot loader to ignore the presence of what it thinks is a valid application program in FLASH and force the boot loader to initiate the XMODEM upload sequence. When you see the character 'C' being displayed every three seconds, you may initiate the upload of a new application program file.

For bootloader versions 3.01 and later: If the boot load/application launch sequence appears to be caught in a loop, type "recover" right after the bootloader version string is displayed. This will cause the boot loader to ignore the presence of what it thinks is a valid application program in FLASH and force the boot loader to initiate the XMODEM upload sequence. When you see the character 'C' being displayed every three seconds, you may initiate the upload of a new application program file.

Notes

Appendix

B

Indicator Mode Button

The Indicator Mode Button is located on the same end plate of the Præcis Cf where the antenna input jack and indicator LEDs are mounted. It is accessed through a small hole in the endplate to the left of the LEDs. A paper clip or other small diameter, blunt tool is a good way to depress the button.

Caution

Do not use an excessive amount of force in depressing the Indicator Mode Button. Damage to the switch and/or its connection to the printed circuit board could result from such excessive pressure.

The Indicator Mode Button has two functions which are described here.

Restoring Factory Default Settings

Should you wish to reset the Præcis Cf to its factory default settings, follow this procedure:

Press and hold in the Indicator Mode Button for at least five seconds. The Præcis Cf will acknowledge the factory default restoration by flashing both of the LEDs together three times.

The Præcis Cf is now reset to factory default settings. Some user command settings (CHANNELSET and LEAP) are not affected by resetting factory defaults.

Selecting the Indicator Mode

After power has been applied, pressing the Indicator Mode Button will toggle the Indicator Mode between the Normal and Signal Quality modes of operation. On power-up, the Præcis Cf always defaults to the Normal Indicator Mode, which means that the current synchronization status is indicated using the green LED as described in Chapter 2, *Performing a Site Survey*.

Normal Indicator Mode

LED is On	The green LED is on continuously until a CDMA signal is detected.
LED Pulses Slowly	When the unit has detected a CDMA signal, the green LED will begin to flash very slowly (about a .4 Hz rate).
LED Pulses Rapidly	As the unit locks onto the CDMA signal and begins to decode the timing data, the green LED will flash very rapidly (about a 6 Hz rate) until the data is fully decoded.
LED Pulses at 1PPS	When the unit is completely locked to UTC the green LED will pulse at precisely a 1 Hz rate, synchronized to UTC seconds, with a short on duration relative to the off duration.

In Normal Indicator Mode, the red LED is only illuminated briefly during the power-up sequence and thereafter whenever any fault condition exists. The nature of the fault may be determined by using the FLTSTAT serial I/O command.

Signal Quality Mode

LED is Off	The green LED is off until a CDMA signal is detected.
LED is On	The green LED is on continuously once a CDMA signal has been detected.
LED Pulses	Once the Præcis Cf is code locking to the PseudoNoise correlation peak, the green LED pulses on and off at a rate that is proportional to the received signal carrier to noise ratio. This can be helpful in finding good locations for permanently mounting the Præcis Cf.

In Signal Quality mode, the red LED is turned on to indicate that either no Sync Channel data is available or that a Cyclical Redundancy Check (CRC) failure has occurred in decoding the Sync Channel data from the CDMA signal. In general, poor carrier to noise ratios, as indicated by a slowly flashing green LED, will result in a higher incidence of CRC failures, as indicated by a larger ratio of red LED on-time to off-time. While operating in Signal Quality mode, the red LED will not indicate summary alarm status.

Note

In general, it is advisable to return the Præcis Cf to the Normal Indicator Mode when you have finished your site selection and installation. Otherwise you may not be able to verify that your Præcis Cf is operating properly by simple observation of the red LED.

However, when the Præcis Cf is being used in a frequency standard application, it may be more important to know the CDMA signal locking status as you are performing measurements based upon the Præcis Cf output frequency. This is due to the holdover characteristics of the standard TCXO, which are not good enough for many precision applications. In these situations it may be desirable to operate the Præcis Cf in the Signal Quality Mode, which gives a real-time indication of the CDMA signal tracking status.

Notes

Appendix

C

Technical Specifications

Receiver:
Cellular Mobile Receive Band – 869-894 MHz
TIA/EIA IS-95 CDMA Pilot and Sync channels.

Antenna:
SMA bulkhead jack, $Z_{in} = 50\Omega$. 824-896 MHz ¼ wave helical, standard. Remotely mountable, magnetic base antenna/cable assembly optional.

Local Oscillator: TCXO. OCXO optional.
Time to Lock: < 5 minutes, typical.

1PPS Timing Characteristics:
- **Accuracy**: < 10 microseconds to UTC typical when locked. Fringe area reception may degrade the absolute timing accuracy due to increased propagation delay.
- **Stability:** TDEV < 50 ns, $\tau < 10^4$ seconds.

10 MHz Frequency Characteristics:
- **Accuracy:** $< 10^{-11}$ to UTC for 24 hour averaging times when locked.
- **Stability**: $\sigma_y(\tau) < 10^{-9}$ for $\tau < 10^2$ seconds, $\sigma_y(\tau) < 10^{-7}/\tau$ for $\tau > 10^2$ seconds.

CTS Input Event Timetagging Characteristics:
- **Accuracy**: Same as the 1PPS Timing Accuracy.
- **Resolution:** 32 ns.
- **PulseWidth**: 100 ns, minimum.
- **Re-Arm Delay**: 1 ms, i.e. the first event during any millisecond will be timetagged.
- **Buffering**: No events are buffered. Events occurring at a rate higher than 10 Hz will be discarded due to system loading and serial I/O transmission limitations.

I/O Signals (on RJ-45 jack)**:**
- **DCD** – output at RS-232 levels, falling edge is on-time, driven by internal 1PPS.
- **CTS** – input at RS-232 levels, positive edge transition can be captured with 32 nano-second resolution in event timetagging circuit.
- **Serial I/O** – RXD, TXD at RS-232 levels. 9600 to 57600 baud; 7 or 8 data bits; odd, even or no parity; 1 or 2 stop bits.

- **Time-of-Day** -- ASCII string via serial I/O port. Seconds through years in GPS, UTC or Local Time.
- RJ-45 to DB9F cable assembly is included.

Indicators:

- **Alarm LED** -- red indicator that illuminates when a serious fault condition occurs.
- **Lock LED** -- green indicator that pulses to indicate the current acquisition and lock status.
- **Indicator Mode Button** – dual mode, restores factory defaults and selects Lock and Alarm LED mode.

Power (on 3.5mm phone jack):

- 6 VDC @ 400 mA, AC wall adapter is included.

Size:

- **Case:** 4.84"L x 2.68"W x 1.18"H
- **Antenna**: 3.46"L x 0.43" dia.

Weight: .5 lb. (270 g.)

Environmental:

- **Temperature:** 0° to +70°C
- **Humidity:** 0 to 95%, non-condensing