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## ICS Engineering Manual

FOR FIRMWARE UPDATE OF PCI-BASED MRF PRODUCTS

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	Name (Role/Title)
Author	Javier Cereijo Garcia Jeong Han Lee
Reviewer	TBD
Owner	ICS
Approver	ICS

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# 1 Overview

At European Spallation Source (ESS), Integrated Control System (ICS) uses the Micro Research Finland (MRF) Timing System<sup>1</sup> as its timing system of the ESS site. The consistent and up-to-date engineering manual is essential for the ESS Timing system.

## 1.1 Scope

- This document explains how to perform a FirmWare (FW) update of PCI-based MRF products used at ESS.
- This document identifies two possible ways of performing such update: using the mrfioc2 EPICS module, or using the vendor's own driver.
- This document attempts to maintain consistency with existing ESS Timing system hardware as far as possible.

**Note that this is a very early draft document and should be updated as development progresses.**

## 1.2 Target Audience

This document is targeted to ICS engineers and technical stakeholders of the ESS timing system. It is assumed that the target audience has a technical background in the MRF Timing System, the EPICS development, and a Linux environment.

# 2 System Description

MRF Technical Reference [see 1, p5] explained the timing system and wrote :

*The MRF Timing System provides a complete timing distribution system including timing signal generation with only a few components.*

*The system is capable of generating and synchronous frequencies, trigger signals and sequences of events, etc. synchronous to an externally provided master clock reference and mains voltage phase signal. Support for timestamps makes the system a global timebase and allows attaching timestamps to collected data and performed actions.*

ICS uses and will use the following different types of MRF products:

- MTCA-EVR-300
- PCIe-EVR-300DC

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<sup>1</sup><http://www.mrf.fi/>

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The scope of this document is to explain how to update the FW of both, but other products may also be updated using the same procedure (not tested).

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## 3 System Environment

Before describing the engineering procedure for the FW update, it is mandatory to have proper system environment that consists of specific hardware and software lists.

### 3.1 Hardware

Table 1 shows the hardware list and its environment. Here, TAG is used as the prefix of the ICS internal inventory system in order to track it down.

Hardware	Info	Serial Number
MRF PCIe-EVR-300DC	ICS TAG-476	M263060
Workstation		
MRF MTCA-EVR-300	ICS TAG-255	L534006
NAT-MCH-PHYS	ICS TAG-704	1135210809
Concurrent Technologies AMC CPU	ICS TAG-734, hostname: icslab-ts02	M29597/010
Schroff MTCA 3U crate	ICS TAG-793	1401701204AA
NAT MTCA power supply unit	ICS TAG-743	121114 0269

**Table 1** Hardware List and its Environment.

### 3.2 Software

Table 2 shows the Software list and its environment. It is mandatory to check the kernel version, and the mrf kernel module version. Since the mrfioc2 is dependent upon devlib2 E3 internally, an end-user is unnecessary to check its version explicitly.

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Item	Version Info.
CentOS Linux	<b>CentOS</b> 7.5.1804
Kernel	3.10.0-862.3.2.el7.x86_64
mrf kernel module	version : 1 / srcversion A998B22F1425D7388F5F7A7
E3	3.0.0
EPICS Base	3.15.5
mrfluc2	E3 module ver. 2.2.0-rc2
devLib2	E3 module ver. 2.9.0

**Table 2** Software and its version information.

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## 4 Engineering Procedure

This chapter provides the instructions on how to perform the FW update.

### 4.1 FW update using mrfioc2

This is the preferred method. Tested on MTCA, PCIe.

Since this method uses the mrfioc2 module, it is assumed that the E3 is installed and loaded in the current session<sup>2</sup>. It is also necessary to have the mrf kernel module loaded and to register the EVR with the IOC. To do so you need to know the PCI parameters, which can be retrieved as is explained in the engineering manual corresponding to your specific form factor [2, 3].

Then run the following IOC from the directory containing your bitfile using your PCI parameters with `iocsh.bash fwupdate.cmd`:

```

1 require devlib2,2.9.0
2 require mrfioc2,2.2.0-rc2
3
4 epicsEnvSet("DEV1", "EVR1")
5
6 mrmEvrSetupPCI("${DEV1}", "01:00.0")
7
8 iocInit()
```

**Listing 4.1** Start-up script `fwupdate.cmd`. Line 6 should be modified according to the PCI parameters.

Before upgrading, it is suggested to backup the existing firmware. All Xilinx bit files for a particular device typically have the same size, so you can use the size of the new FW to estimate the size of the old one.

In this example of a PCIe-EVR-300DC with the 207.0 firmware, the exact size is 3011417 bytes, which is arbitrarily rounded up to 3MB. Create the backup bit file running from inside the IOC:

```

epics> flashread("EVR1:FLASH", 0, 0x300000, "PCIe-EVR-300DC.207.0.backup.bit")
| 3080192
| 3014656
| 2949120
| ...
| 65536
| 0

Done
epics>
```

Now write the new FW file, named `PCIe-EVR-300DC.207.8.bit` in this example, that should be located in the current directory:

```

epics> flashwrite("EVR1:FLASH", 0, "PCIe-EVR-300DC.207.8.bit")
| 0/3011417
| 65536/3011417
```

<sup>2</sup>To install and load E3 check <https://github.com/icshwi/e3> and <https://github.com/icshwi/e3training>.

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```
| 131072/3011417
...
| 2949120/3011417
| 3011417/3011417

Done
epics>
```

If the update process is interrupted, do not power cycle! Re-run the update process to completion.

After the write completes successfully, power cycle the card to load the new bit file.

For more information you can check [\[4\]](#), section Firmware Update, PCIe-EVR-300DC, mTCA-EVR-300].

#### 4.1.1 Troubleshooting

If the mrfioc2 module was built for a different kernel version than the one the system has, it is possible that the FW update fails while printing a successful message. In this case, if the update is interrupted and the board is power cycled, or if you have any other problem that causes an incorrect bit file being flashed, bring the board to ICS for manual flashing of the board.



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## 4.2 FW update using the vendor's own driver

It's better to do it with the previous method. This one is only possible if we can write and compile on the machine, for example with a physical development machine, and we can log in as the root user.

This method was only tested on MTCA, not PCIe.

For this method you will need to ask ICS for the vendor's driver.

First make sure that you powercycle the crate, and that no mrf kernel module is loaded. You can check this with `lsmod |grep mrf`. If the module is loaded unload it with `sudo rmmod mrf`. Then copy the driver to the machine with the board you want to update. In this example we work in the `/home/iocuser/FWupdate` directory. The bitfile we are flashing is `mTCA-EVR-300DC-18050207.bit` found in the same directory.

Uncompress the driver and build it:

```
[iocuser@icslab-ts02 FWupdate]$ tar -zxvf mrf_pci_driver.tar.gz
[...]
[iocuser@icslab-ts02 FWupdate]$ cd mrf_pci_driver/
[iocuser@icslab-ts02 mrf_pci_driver]$ make
[...]
```

Log in as root user and install and load the modules:

```
[iocuser@icslab-ts02 mrf_pci_driver]$ sudo su
[sudo] password for iocuser:
[root@icslab-ts02 mrf_pci_driver]# make modules_install
make -C /lib/modules/3.10.0-229.7.2.el7.x86_64/build M=/home/iocuser/FWupdate/mrf_pci_driver
modules_install
make[1]: Entering directory '/usr/src/kernels/3.10.0-229.7.2.el7.x86_64'
INSTALL /home/iocuser/FWupdate/mrf_pci_driver/pci_mrfevg.ko
Can't read private key
INSTALL /home/iocuser/FWupdate/mrf_pci_driver/pci_mrfevr.ko
Can't read private key
DEPMOD 3.10.0-229.7.2.el7.x86_64
make[1]: Leaving directory '/usr/src/kernels/3.10.0-229.7.2.el7.x86_64'
[root@icslab-ts02 mrf_pci_driver]# depmod -a
[root@icslab-ts02 mrf_pci_driver]# sh module_load
Found 0 Event Generators.
Creating device nodes...
Found 1 Event Receivers.
Creating device nodes...
Creating nodes /dev/era[0-3] for major 247chgrp: invalid group:  m r f
```

Flash the bitfile to the EVR:

```
[root@icslab-ts02 mrf_pci_driver]# dd if=mTCA-EVR-300DC-18050207.bit of=/dev/era1
5881+1 records in
5881+1 records out
3011417 bytes (3.0 MB) copied, 11.2043 s, 269 kB/s
[root@icslab-ts02 mrf_pci_driver]#
```

This will take some time. When it's finished powercycle the board to load the new FW.

For more information you can check [\[5\]](#).

### 4.2.1 Troubleshooting

If the update is interrupted and the board is power cycled, or you have any other problem that causes an incorrect bit file being flashed, bring the board to ICS and explained what

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has happened.

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- [3] Jeong Han Lee Javier Cereijo Garcia. *ICS Engineering Manual for MRF MTCA-EVR-300*, .
- [4] Michael Davidsaver. *EVR Usage Guide*, August 2017, Rev. 8.
- [5] Jukka Pietarinen. *CompactPCI Event Generator and Event Receiver Linux Kernel 2.6 Drivers*, 13 March 2007.