



Number : 1728_Rev 2

Title : BacT/ALERT B.40 Release 4 Update Information

System : BacT/ALERT 3D B.40 Release 4	Classification : INFORMATION
Catalog Profile : C29	Lot/Serial : NA
Item :NA	Expiry date : NA
Issue Date : 5/29/2013	Required Actions : Cancel and replace the previous version of GCS Info 1728

Section A: Details

Dear colleagues,

1. Product Description

The next firmware revision for BacT/ALERT®3D will be B.40 Release 4. This is a mandatory update for all BacT/ALERT® 3D systems.

The B.40 Release 4 is primarily to address anomalies found in BacT/ALERT 3D B.30 and B.40 firmware, and there is one new feature. This bulletin will present the details of the changes found in B.40 Release 4.

The anomalies addressed in this firmware release are:

CCMC Info 1177: BacT/ALERT 3D Anonymous Bottle Issue after Power Outage: This has been fixed in Release 4 firmware.

GCS INFO 1293: BacT/ALERT 3D Anomaly with the Select Bottle to Edit Graph Function: If a bottle has been unloaded and a user goes to the Select Bottle to Edit screen and scans the Bottle Barcode, the graph icon will be



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functional; if they manually enter the Bottle ID, they will not get an Error Code 97. This function has been restored to work as expected.

FCA 1385: BacT/ALERT 3D B.40 Algorithm Assignment Anomaly: This anomaly affected Signature and Select Link configurations. If a user attempted to change the bottle type at the Database Management System (DBMS) or the LIS, the BacT/ALERT 3D did not change the algorithm to match that bottle type. This has been resolved and the user may change the bottle type at the BacT/ALERT 3D, at the DBMS or at the LIS.

The Controller Module does not communicate with disabled Racks, Drawers or Incubator Modules: The instrument notifies the user when a bottle is loaded into a Cell, Rack, Drawer or Incubator Module, which has been disabled by displaying Error 99 and a Fault Code 99. The B.40.42 firmware maintained this function for disabled Cells, but disabled this function for Racks, Drawers, or Incubator Modules which were disabled. With Release 4, this function has been restored for Racks, Drawers and Incubator modules.


B.40 Release 4 will detail the CPU board information available when pressing <Ctrl+D> and pressing 9.

FSCA 1494 BacT/ALERT 3D Slow System after B.40 Software Upgrade: The B.40 firmware had additional features which resulted in increased firmware computations with the LBC-586 CPU boards that caused the instrument to run more slowly. If customers did not wait for the previous bottle to complete the loading process, as signaled by two beeps after the bottle ID is scanned and processed, and 3 beeps after the Accession number is scanned and processed, an improper load results in the first bottle not being recognized as being loaded in the instrument, and the second bottle's readings being incorrectly reported in association with the first bottle. This resulted in anonymous bottles that would not appear until the system was rebooted. The B.40 Release 4 firmware will compare the current assigned load status with the actual load status every ten minutes to find any undetected bottle loads. If any are found, they will show up as anonymous bottles, and allow the user to handle them in a timely manner and avoid lost bottles.

B.40 Release 4 has restructured the task priorities to improve user interface performance.

Enhancement of the firmware to improve the cold bottle compensation filter: This will reduce the false positive rate caused by the loading of a large number of bottles in the same rack in a short period of time.

Apply Positive Result if a Positive Bottle is Reloaded Within 10 Minutes of Unload: -- THIS IS A NEW FEATURE: To decrease the occurrence of false negative bottles due to reloading a positive bottle without performing a smear examination and subculture, B.40 Release 4 firmware has the following behavior: If a positive bottle is reloaded within 10 minutes of the unload time, the Status will remain positive and the How

Determined Code will be 250 (the how determined code is found next to the  icon on the Edit Bottle Detail screen.



B.40 Release 4 firmware will undergo a controlled English only launch in June 2013. The global Launch of B.40 Release 4 is scheduled for July 2013 pending availability of translated documentation. Ordering information will be made available when the Supply Chain is ready to fill orders for the update kits. |

2. Context

This is a mandatory update for all BacT/ALERTS. Instruments must be running B.30 or higher firmware for the update to be successful. |

3. Customer letter

NA |

4. Procedure

NA |

5. Frequently Asked Questions

Q: If the Customer is currently running B.40.42, or B.40.42.1 or B.40.48 do they have to update to B.40 Release 4?

Yes, all versions of B.40 must be updated to B.40 Release 4.

Q: If a customer is currently at B.30.10 or B.30.11 do they have to first update to B.40.42? No, they can update from B.30 to B.40 Release 4.

Q: When can I order B.40 Release 4 Updates? When the Global Supply Chain is ready to accept orders, all subsidiaries and distributors will be notified and Part numbers for ordering will be provided.

Q: Will there be a B.40 Release 4 New Features Guide? Since there is only one new feature, Reload Positive Bottle Status, this information will be in the Customer Communication. For customers who are updating from B.30 to B.40 Release 4, the Update kits will contain the B.40 New Features Guide on a CD to allow users to learn about the new features in BacT/Alert 3D B.40 firmware. |

If you have any additional question or doubt concerning this INFO in general, please do not hesitate to contact the GCS_BacT/ALERT group through general email box :

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Section B: Required action

NA

Section C: Contact Information



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