

Products affected **Radio Data Controller (RDC)**  
Serial numbers All  
Action required None – Advisory only  
Reason for notice Provides information on compatibility issues with RDC devices.

Notes  
The original RDC is the combined datatenna and IPC which was supplied in one mast head enclosure with a DB9 connector underneath.



Resolution Firmware revisions:

Version	Notes
1.05 (Feb 02)	Sentek released firmware version 1.1.5 which did not work with transmitter because SDI-12 card did not accept the first break and command sequence. Modified our firmware to send first break followed by a second after a delay of 50 mSec
1.09 (March 03)	Buffer sizes in earlier versions not large enough to handle more than 5 sensors per probe. Fixed in this revision
1.09 (Current)	While older systems and probes which are working may be compatible, if new probes are added to such a system the user should be aware that Sentek changed the way their probes wake up and firmware revisions less than 1.05 will not work with these later probes. Rev 1.09 is currently the latest version.

#### Compatibility Issues:

The RDC units were originally supplied with the Radiometrix radio modules. These were the same modules used in the later datatennas. During 2005, the datatennas were produced using a new Genesis module. These modules allowed greater transmission distances. You should look at EIT's product awareness notice, PAN 06001 for details on this change as it applies to datatenna products.

There have been some instances where RDC's have been fitted with the new transmitter module, either for repair or to give the RDC greater transmission range. There is no compatibility problem with the new transmitters. We cannot install the new receiver module in RDC's because this creates a compatibility issue with the timing in the firmware of the RDC.

There are no known compatibility issues with mixing the newer IPC's (PIC or Atmel based) with the older RDC's, providing the restrictions of PAN 06007 are observed. This is essentially that the newer style radio receiver modules are not used with the older PIC based IPC's and that new style transmitter modules are not in close proximity to older style receivers.

The use of an RDC receiver in conjunction with an RTECH data recorder is not recommended.