

Handheld Terminal Update Application

Software Manual

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1 Application Overview

This application provides firmware updates for the following VECTRONIC Aerospace products:

- Handheld Terminal V6
- Handheld Terminal V7
- Release Transmitter V6
- Release Transmitter V7

Note: Due to significant changes in internal data storage functionalities, some devices with older firmware versions will trigger an automatic backup routine. Please refer to section (3.2 Automatic Backups) for more information.

2 Prerequisites

Any device intended for use with this software must be connected to the PC via USB. The USB connector for Handheld Terminals and Release Transmitter is located behind the plastic cover at the bottom of the device. Remove the cover by pressing down the two plastic clamps.

2.1 Driver

Supported devices will only appear if the correct drivers are installed on the host PC. You can find the drivers in the download section of our website.

Handheld Terminal (V6 and V7): [Handheld Terminal V6 +](#)
Release Transmitter (V6 and V7): [Release Transmitter Driver Setup for Hardware V6+ \(red cap\)](#)

2.2 Firmware Source

Before performing an update, you must provide a firmware file. You have two options:

WEBFILE: The application fetches the newest firmware version for the connected device directly from our server.

LOCAL FILE: You can select a specific firmware binary from your local disk. Download the latest version from <https://www.vectronic-aerospace.com/downloads/#firmware-updates>

3 Application Usage

The software assists you with on-screen messages and explanations. The general process for a firmware update is as follows:

- 1) Plug in the device to be updated. The software will detect it automatically.
- 2) Start the device in 'Firmware Update Mode'
- 3) Select Firmware File
- 4) Perform Software Update

3.1 Firmware Modes

Handheld Terminal and Release Transmitter devices can be started in two different modes. The user must choose one when the device boots. The software refers to these modes as 'Firmware Mode' and 'Firmware Update Mode'.

Firmware Mode: Select the 'Continue' option. This starts the regular firmware and is required for backups.

Firmware Update Mode: Firmware Update Mode: Select the 'Firmware Update' option. This mode is relevant to this software.

If a backup is required before the update, the application may prompt you to switch between these modes.

 **Software Updates require Firmware Update Mode**

Terminal devices can be booted either in Firmware Update Mode or in Firmware Mode. To initiate software updates for your device, please enter **Firmware Update Mode**



To enter Firmware Update Mode

1. Press [START] or reboot the device
2. Select **F1 Firmware Update**

 **Idle User Action Required**

The application is waiting for device to enter Firmware Mode. Please follow above instructions

Figure 1 : A prompt that asks the user to switch modes

3.2 Automatic Backups

Some Handheld Terminals with older firmware versions installed will initiate a memory card reset immediately after an update.

For this reason, an optional automatic backup can be performed before the update. If you do not create a backup, all stored collar data will be lost. This process is indicated by the following prompt:

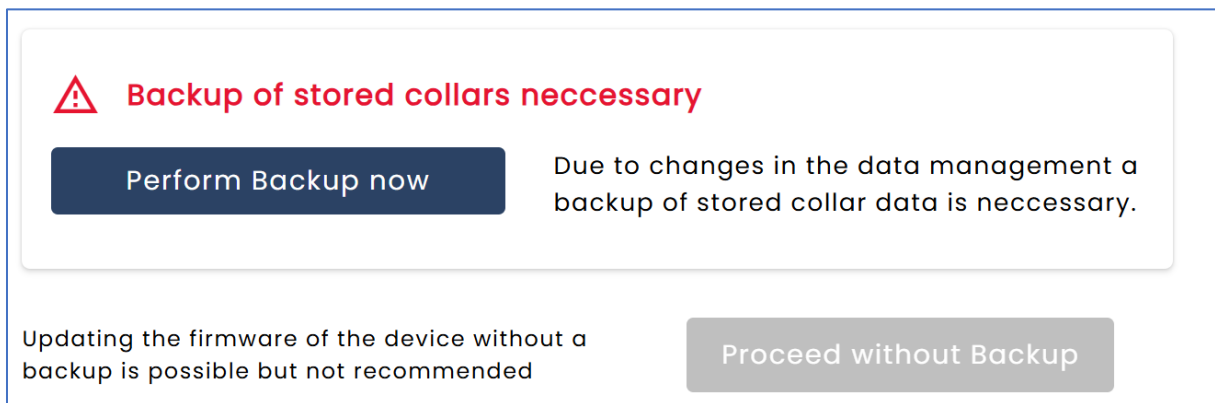


Figure 2 Prompt to create a stored collar backup

If this prompt is **not displayed**, a backup is not necessary and the device can be updated as is.

3.2.1 Creating a Backup

If you choose to create a backup, you will be required to switch between device modes during the process. The on-screen assistant will guide you through the process, which consists of three steps:

- 1) Create a backup
- 2) Perform firmware update
- 3) Recover the backup

After the backup is created, you can proceed with the firmware update.

DO NOT DISCONNECT THE DEVICE!

3.2.2 Backup Recovery

After the firmware is updated, **DO NOT DISCONNECT THE DEVICE**. The application will guide you through its first boot.

1) The device will validate the updated firmware. This may take a moment.

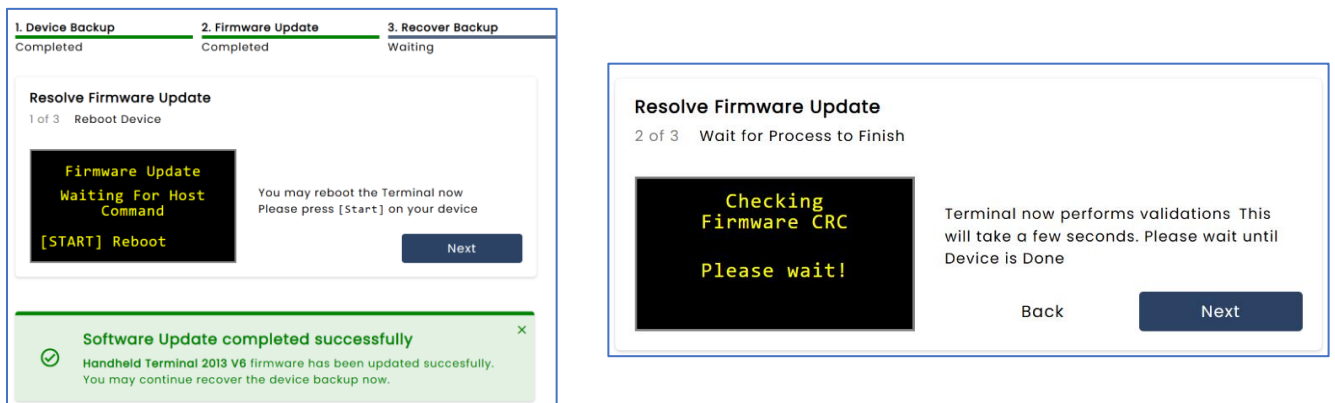


Figure 3 Validate new firmware

2) On first boot, the device will inform you about the memory card reset.

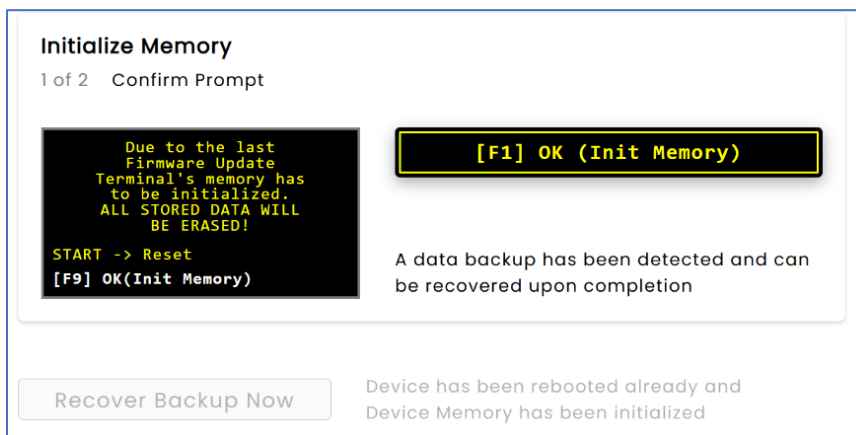


Figure 4 Memory card reset prompt

3) Initiate the data recovery.

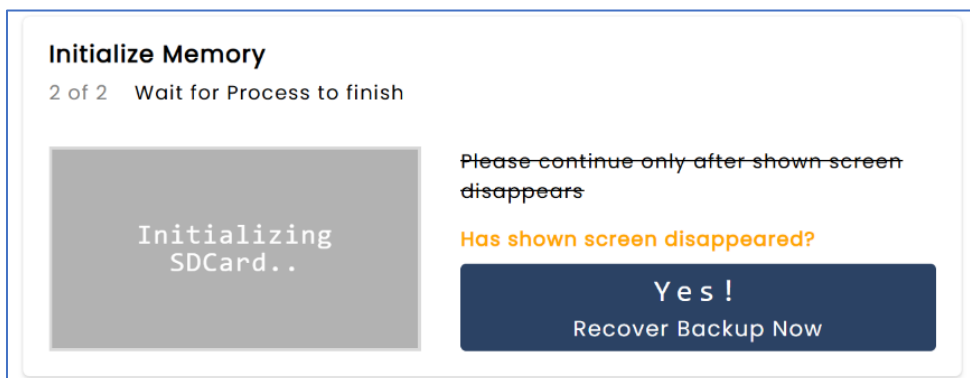


Figure 5 Button to initiate the backup recovery

3.2.3 Backup Failure

The automatic backup may fail for some stored collars if the data is corrupted or incorrectly formatted. In such cases, you will receive an error message specifying the affected collar IDs.

If this occurs, please contact our customer support team: support@vectronic-aerospace.com

Note: All created backups are permanently stored in the following folder

%appdata%/VAS/ TerminalFirmwareUpdater/Backups

If you have trouble locating the folder, copy and paste the path above into the **Run** command (press **Windows Key + R**).