

# **Release Notes**

## **Version 2.1.5 of Windows Mobile® 5.0 Operating System for the Field PC**

Dec 2008

These release notes describe improvements and important information of Release 2.1.5 of Windows Mobile 5.0 for the Field PC. This release is for all 16 available languages. Additional information about updates added in previous OS release versions are mentioned in the previous release notes documents available at:

<http://www.ultraruggedfieldpc.com/releasenotes.php>

Release 2.1.5 provides only minor improvements and no new features, so the list of features and changes made in Release 2.1.4 have been included due to the brief period of time between these releases.

You can download the latest release 2.1.5 from the following website:

<http://www.ultraruggedfieldpc.com>

Instructions for installing the new operating system are contained in the Field PC Release 2.1.5 Installation Instructions at:

<http://www.ultraruggedfieldpc.com/OS215/OS215InstallInstructions.pdf>

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## System Requirements

The software release is installed on the Field PC. It includes new features and addresses discrepancies or issues identified in previous operating system versions.

The Field PC is the only device that accepts this update.

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## New Features

The following features are in this release of the operating system for the Field PC.

Release 2.1.5

- **Support for future vendor parts.** Added software support for parts from potential future vendors.

Release 2.1.4

- **Improved multiple USB device support.** Improved handling of multiple USB devices attached simultaneously to the USB Host port on the Field PC through a hub or adapter.
- **Enhanced USB Client drivers.** Enhanced drivers to better support custom development of multiple Field PC connections to desktop PCs.

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## Important Notes

- **Release 2.1.5 is available in 16 languages.** The release 2.1.4 with similar features was only provided in English and Japanese, unlike previous releases.
- **All memory, including /Storage, is erased during OS install.** Transfer any data that needs to be saved to a peripheral device or desktop computer.
- **OS cannot be downgraded.** A Field PC running 2.1.1 or higher cannot be downgraded to a previous release 1.03 or earlier version. [607]

- **Today screen may flicker or refresh.** Appears in Field PCs with no wireless (Wi-Fi or Bluetooth) peripherals installed and that run a version of the OS that is based on AKU 3.x.  
For a list of workarounds, see this issue under *Known Issues* in this document. [380]
- **Device drivers should be installed in the primary device storage.** Install device drivers and applications in the “Device” option on the Field PC, not in a secondary storage area (such as \Storage). Installing them in another area may prevent the device driver or application from functioning properly.
- **CF Cards remain powered when they are inserted—even if they are not active.** This has little to no effect on the operation of CF card devices that are recommended for use with the Field PC. Also, the low power requirements of most CF peripherals when idle, typically has little impact on battery life. Power is removed from the CF card when the Field PC is turned off (suspended or powered off).

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## Resolved Issues

This section lists resolved issues in this version of the Field PC operating system.

### Release 2.1.5

- Implemented fix to prevent occasional lockup on a black screen when a card device (such as a CF card Wifi 802.11 adapter) is being used in the Field PC. This issue was most often encountered when trying to resume the Field PC from a suspended (off) state, which would appear as if the Field PC remained off (accept the display backlight may turn on).

### Release 2.1.4

- Increased initial delay before writing to the internal flash storage memory location containing the operating system. Prevents memory corruption when installing the operating system or when saving data to “\Storage”, which occasionally resulted in system lock ups during power on (stuck at white, green “Windows Mobile” logo, blue “Ultra-Rugged Field PC”, or black “off” screen).

- Enhanced touchscreen drivers to prevent occasional issues with touchscreen not responding.
- Automatic suspend 15 seconds after system resume at midnight to prevent battery drain in some specific product applications.

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## Known Issues

These commonly known issues may still be encountered in Release 2.1.5 of the Field PC operating system.

Symptom or Issue	Workarounds	Issue
RS-232 Serial communications may become slow, lock up, or drop packets on higher baud rate connections.	A patch is available to download and install, or the following Windows registry key can be edited (then perform a Reset):  HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Drivers\BuiltIn\Serial "Priority256"=DWORD:67	1668
The Bluetooth drivers from Microsoft® require you to enter a Passkey even for Bluetooth devices which do not require a Passkey.	Enter 0000 as the Passkey. Or when you are asked to enter a Passkey, leave the entry box blank and click <i>Next</i> . Choose <i>No</i> when you are asked to add to the device list. See the Reference Guide for more details.	140
Some USB flash drives do not work with the Field PC. Flash drives found not to work include the Gizmo® by Crucial, Inc.® and the Cruzer Titanium® 1.0 GB drive from SanDisk®.	Use a supported USB flash drive as listed in the FAQs on the web site.	208
GPS CF card cannot be turned off once it is turned on.	Card devices remain in a low power idle state when not in use. There is a negligible increase in battery drain while idle. No power is drawn when the Field PC is turned off (suspended).	271
Reset does not disable touchscreen lock	Unlock the touchscreen by tapping <i>Unlock</i> when it appears and then tap <i>Unlock</i> again.	305

<p>Today screen flickers</p> <p>Conditions: This flicker appears in Field PCs with no wireless (Wi-Fi or Bluetooth) peripherals installed and that are running a version of the OS that is based on AKU 3.x.</p>	<p>The Today screen flicker can be eliminated by turning off the Wireless Today screen item under <i>Settings &gt; Today &gt; Items</i>. The Today screen flicker problem is resolved by installing a wireless device.</p>	380
<p>USB device is not recognized after Reset</p>	<p>Disconnect and reconnect the USB device.</p>	400
<p>File Explorer fails to access shared network drive ("Cannot Connect" error message appears)</p> <p>Conditions: This problem occurs when the Field PC has a Wi-Fi network connection or when there is a wired network connection.</p>	<p>Open Internet Explorer and enter the name of the computer with the shared resource (e.g., \\test-computer).</p>	411
<p>USB Host driver does not have power management capabilities.</p>		446
<p>When RAM memory is full, Field PC may close a program.</p>	<p>RAM memory is available on newer units up to 128MB</p>	529
<p>ActiveSync connection disables Wi-Fi connection</p>	<p>ActiveSync provides IP connection through desktop PC</p>	547

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