

IRIS 7.32 Release Notes

These notes cover changes made in IRIS since release 7.31 of 9 October 2002. If you are upgrading from an earlier release, please read those notes also.

Important Upgrade Changes

1. IRIS products now look best on displays using 24-bit or 16-bit true color visuals. Many of our older IRIS systems were configured as 8-bit pseudo color. IRIS will continue to display on 8-bit displays, but the colors are degraded. IRIS always uses the default depth of the screen. Now is a good time to switch your computer's default, if your graphics hardware supports this. You can see what you are currently set to by running **"xdpyinfo"** on the display of interest. Scroll through the resulting printout until you find the text **"screen #0:"**. Look just below that for a line like:

depth of root window: 8 planes

Linux systems only: Change this by editing your `/etc/X11/XF86Config-4` file. Be sure to keep a backup copy. Sometimes the **Xconfigurator** program can make these changes.

HP-UX systems only: Change this using **sam**. Select "Display" / "X Server Configuration", then select your display, then select "Actions" / "Modify Default Visual...".

2. *RVP7 systems only:* We now check for a match between the max PRFs configured in IRIS and in the RVP7. This may cause errors after upgrading. This is fixed by using **setup** or **dspix** to change the configurations to match.

Data Format Changes

1. There are new BITE related commands on the serial interface between IRIS and the RCP. These support the new individual BITE commands. See the *IRIS Programmer's Manual* for details. The new commands are not required, so you do not need to change your RCP code. SIGMET will support the new commands in the **RCP8**, but not in the **RCP02**.
2. On the IRIS source release, directories `utils/pipes` and `utils/in-pipes` were renamed to `utils/pipes_out` and `utils/pipes_in`. If you are using the source, be sure to delete the old directories after upgrading.

Bug Repairs

1. Repaired a bug in **overlay**. When writing a gif output, if display was > 8-bits the resulting gif file had the wrong colors.
2. IRIS shell script files in the source tree (like **sig_ftp**) were missing from the 7.31 release media by a mistake.
3. Repaired bugs in the 7.31 version of the **UfToIris** input pipe. It was missing the IRIS product type. The `UfToIris.conf` file now supports specifying the local TZ names. Also

added support for picking the task name based on the nearest starting fixed angle in the UF file. When upgrading, be sure to upgrade your convertor pipe, as well as the .conf file. **IrisToUf** was enhanced to allow output from single sweep RAW products, if needed.

4. Fixed a timezone related bug introduced in 7.31: If the recording time not local, then **siris** tags files with the wrong time. Specifically this causes a problem with status products after **siris** in timezones east of UTC. For 7.31 users, there is a patch for this on our ftp site.
5. Curiously, **siris** would not complete correctly on IRIS systems which have no output devices defined. This is now repaired.
6. Fixed bugs when displaying windows on a byte-swapped X-server. You get this configuration if you export an IRIS window from a Linux computer to a 24-bit HP-UX display. IMAGE products were displayed wrong, as well as the power-up picture, and the TRACK product annotate colors.

New Features

1. The **PictureToIris** pipe can now also convert PBM PGM PPM input data to IRIS IMAGE products.
2. Added support for user named processing modes in the **RVP8** (in **ascope** and the task configuration menu).
3. Added features to the antenna library and to **bitex** to better support the NEXRAD DAU and DCU. This consists of new commands to individually interrogate, sample data, and reset BITE units.
4. SIGMET now support a new input pipe **RainbowToIris**. It converts Gematronik Rainbow data to SIGMET IRIS format. This pipe cannot be installed on older IRIS versions.
5. IRIS now support a full color underlay gif image as part of its overlay. The customer can supply their own country map, and the **overlay** utility has new features to add the gif image into the overlay. The image will be drawn in the background in the quick-look window, the real-time display and the web-look window. The underlay is visible wherever data is thresholded, and is darkened outside of the area scanned.
6. IRIS now supports a customer selected startup image in each of the display windows. To configure, place a file called startup_image.gif in the \${IRIS_ROOT}/dt/icons directory.
7. IRIS COMP product will now allow compositing of DB_USER data type and PROD_USER product type. This allows you to use the COMP product to change the projection of a satellite image before overlaying it on a radar product.
8. Raised the maximum number of subcatchments allowed in the CATCH product from 256 to 512.

9. The SHEAR product can now be made from Vc input data.
10. IRIS now includes silent signals when the ingest and product processes are turned on or off from the menus. These can be used to clear faults created with the SIGNALS.DAT file. For example, whenever the ingest process starts, the silent message “Ingest Process Starting” is signalled.

Setup Changes

1. Removed special printer legend and background colors from **color_setup**. When printing to an IRIS output printer device, these colors will now be the same as the color display. Also removed the 3 special underlay_noscan colors. These colors are now automatically generated at 70% of the regular underlay colors.
2. There are changes made to the **setup/RVP** section to support the new RVP8. The **GPIO** interface option is removed, and there are two new choices: **Native** and **Socket**. Native is used for local access from IRIS programs to an RVP8 running on the same computer.

Socket is used to allow access to an RVP8 (or 7 or 6) over the LAN. When selecting Socket, you must also specify the host and port number. On that host you must run the “DspExport” program to listen for the socket requests.
3. **Setup** now automatically detects if it is running on an RVP8 or RCP8. In this case it only displays the appropriate sections. If it works incorrectly, you can override with command line options. To see them type “setup -help”.