

IRIS 8.03 Release Notes

These notes cover changes made in IRIS since release 8.02 of 29 August 2003. If you are upgrading from an earlier release, please read those notes also.

Important Upgrade Notes

1. We have added a new configuration directory to IRIS which holds GIF background images. When upgrading IRIS, you need to do the following:
 - Add the following line to your `${IRIS_CONFIG}` profile file. Place this just after the `IRIS_DICTIONARY` line:

```
export IRIS_IMAGES="${IRIS_ROOT}/config/images/"
```

- Create the new directory with:

```
$ mkdir /usr/sigmet/config/images
```

- Move GIF files from their previous locations. There are 3 types of files to move: 1) The IRIS window startup picture. 2) The background image for **irisnet**. 3) The background images for **bitex**. The **bitex** and **irisnet** images previously were stored in the `IRIS_OVERLAY` directory. The filenames can be customized, so use the names for your system. Here is an example of the commands to do this:

```
$ cd /usr/sigmet/config/overlay  
$ mv bitex_panel0.gif ../images/
```

The IRIS window startup picture was stored in the `IRIS_BITMAPS` directory. If you have customized that file, then you must copy it out before you upgrade, with the following:

```
$ cd /usr/sigmet/dt/icons  
$ cp startup_image.gif /usr/sigmet/config/images/
```

If you have not customized that file, then you can simply copy our standard file after the upgrade with:

```
$ cd /usr/sigmet/config_template/images  
$ cp startup_image.gif /usr/sigmet/config/images/
```

2. The IRIS POM menu saved the automatic send requests in files called `${IRIS_MENU}/*.POMHEADER`. These files have now been converted to ASCII, and you will need to run **makeAsciiSetups** after upgrading to convert them.

Bug Repairs

1. Fixed a performance bug in **irisnet**. We were doing a redraw for each site even if the site status had not changed. On a system with many sites, this could take several seconds of CPU time. Now redraw is only done when site status has changed.
2. Fixed a bug in the IRIS code to convert from 2-byte dBZ data to 1-byte dBZ. Values below the minimum 1-byte value of -32 dBZ were being converted to very large numbers. Also the ingest data simulator was enhanced to produce values below -32.

3. Repaired a bug in the NDOP product configuration menu. The map projection section would sometimes be drawn at the top of the menu. This only happened if you edited the NDOP product, then disconnected to the IRIS server, then reconnected, then edited it again.
4. Repaired a bug in the **overlay** utility. It was crashing if the user attempted to add an icon whose size was larger than 50x50 pixels. Overlay was also leaving a stray file /tmp/tempoverbitmap on the disk. This could cause overlay to crash if the file was owned by root. You will need to manually delete this file if you have this problem.
5. *Linux platforms only:* Repaired the rotated text in the Quick-Look Window so that it now works under RedHat 9.0.
6. Fixed “Pending” bug. Old status products were not correctly timing out after **siris** when no status products were arriving at a workstation.
7. Repaired the “-site” option to **show_machine_code**. It was printing out an invalid machine code.
8. Excessive redrawing of the Quick-Look Window’s red X is dramatically improved. Now the red X is redrawn only after 1 second of inactivity.
9. *RVP6 Radar Systems Only:* Previously IRIS was reloading the trigger waveform table at the start of every task. This could cause sudden changes to the trigger, such as a missing trigger, which could cause a fault. IRIS now loads the trigger waveforms only once when Ingest is initializing the RVP6.
10. We have improved support for the RVP8 custom defined major modes: The IRIS task configuration menu will now allow you to select a range out to twice the unambiguous range for user defined modes. This is needed if the new modes perform range unfolding.

New Features

1. Sometimes you need to limit the frequency that a product is sent to a particular destination. For example, you may have a movie loop which wants one frame every 10 minutes, but you are making scans every 5 minutes. The new POM Filter feature lets you do this. Highlights are:

In **setup** you can specify a “Min time between output” for each output device (called “Skip-Time” below). The value of zero disables the feature.

In the POM, for header lines only, on the left of the line you can tag it with a “f” for filter. This turns on the feature for that particular product. This bit can be saved.

Each time a product is output because of the automatic send requests on the header line, the current time is stored. The day is broken up into time intervals of the SkipTime. If a new automatic send request is in the same time interval as the last one, then the product is not sent, instead it is labeled “Cancel” in the POM.
2. IRIS Network output now supports using scp in addition to rcp to copy data over the network. This is a more secure version of rcp, and it requires setting up RSA authentication keys.

Setup Changes

1. In the Output section of **setup**, there is now a new question called “Min time between output”. See New Features 1. above for details.
2. In the RCP: *Control and Support Features* section of **setup**, there is a new question “Radiate toggle period”. This controls how long the radiate is held off when IRIS is attempting to turn on the radiate by toggling it off then on again. On systems which require this feature, the recommended value is 1 second. Previously, IRIS toggled it twice for 200 ms.
3. In the Output section of **setup**, for network output devices, the “Copy Scheme” selection now includes “scp”.