User's Manual

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Introduction

The Infinity Farm Management System is a full featured system based on the M2M Lodestar, a high-voltage, web-to-wireless remote monitoring and control system. Its internal wireless modem provides two-way communications to the automated M2M Network Operations Center (NOC) and the M2M Web site (www.m2mcomm.com).

CDMA or GPRS cellular communications provide wide spread coverage throughout North America with no requirement for a local cellular account. An Iridium satellite communications-based model is also available. Iridium satellite communications can be used anywhere in the world regardless of cellular coverage.

Cellular communications process

The inputs and outputs of the Infinity are suitable for a wide range of direct connect monitoring and control applications. The standard Infinity monitors one digital dry contact input and two analog inputs, which can be set to monitor either 0-10V or 0-20ma. The Infinity also contains a remote control relay.

Flexibility was the key behind the features designed for the Infinity, the flexibility to operate as a remotely controlled or time-scheduled device for any variety of applications.

- Set flexible remote control on/off schedules from the Web site.
- One command opens normally closed relay outputs for a programmable amount of time.

The Infinity maximizes the potential of the communication network by internally testing the data from monitored devices and only sending data when a reportable event occurs. Reports generate when:

- A monitored input changes.
- A user requests a report from the Web site.

Operation is simple

1. Connect the Lodestar to the device(s) you want to monitor and turn it on. Set up the values the device will record and send.

2. The Lodestar will automatically establish two-way communication over the cellular network to the M2M Web site.

3. Log into your private site on the secure M2M Web site to:
   - View the last reported status of your equipment including switch positions, equipment on/off status, tank levels, number of pump starts, and run time.
   - Request an updated report from the device.
   - Configure selected events to trigger an immediate user notification by phone or e-mail.

How it Works

The Infinity system uses either the available cellular network or the Iridium satellite network, depending on coverage availability at the installation location.

Using the Cellular Network

When the Infinity system uses the cellular network to make a call from anywhere in North America, where there is cellular coverage. It connects to the local carrier and passes data through the carrier to the M2M NOC. The device sends the data using an encrypted Virtual Private Network (VPN). In addition, the NOC can send configuration information to the Infinity system as well as request information from the system. Expected response time from the system is about 10 seconds.

Using Satellite Communications

The Iridium satellite network is available everywhere in the world. All commands to or from the system send in one message. The installer must mount the satellite antenna outdoors with a clear view of the sky. The typical communication time is slower with the satellite network, but still relatively quick at about 30 seconds.

The *Message Delivery Latency* is the time to send a message through all segments of the system, including the "wait" time for a satellite.

Satellite communications process

Features

The core of the Infinity system, the Lodestar, provides the following features:

- 1 direct connect digital input
- 2 analog inputs
- 1 remote control output

One Direct Connect High Voltage Input

The Lodestar is equipped with one on-board high voltage (120, 240, or 480 VAC) status input. Surge suppression circuitry per ANSI C37.90.1-2002 protects the input to minimize the effect of external transient voltages.

You can select to individually enable or disable each input and configure the inputs to either report or not report all state changes.

The Lodestar reports the state of all inputs when any input changes states in either direction (open-closed or closed-open) for longer than the set trigger time. The on-site installer sets the trigger time of each input using a local programming utility. Trigger times can vary from 1-240 seconds. Additionally, the Lodestar ignores any change to an input that does not last for the specified time. The default trigger time is 5 seconds.

Two Analog Inputs

Two analog inputs monitor 0-10 VDC or 0-20 milliamp (mA), jumper selectable input signals. Other values are available as factory options.

Two programmable set points and one trigger time are locally programmable for each input. When the monitored signal crosses a set point for the specified trigger timer, a range change report sends. The A-D converter has 10-bit resolution, so the analog report sends the measured signal(s) as a number from 0-1023.

At the M2M Web server, offsets, scalars and lookup tables are available to convert the raw numbers into meaningful values such as temperature, tank level, pressure, etc. These flexible conversion options allow the system to monitor and accurately interpret many types of sensors. The analog report also includes the present range (low, medium, high) of the monitored signal.

Surge suppression circuitry per ANSI C37.90.1 protects the analog inputs.

Remote Control Output

The single mechanical relay can handle the following switching load:

- Up to 7 Amps at up to 277-volts alternating current (VAC).

The relay connects to both Normally Open (NO) and Normally Closed (NC) contact points on a terminal strip.

Remote control commands from the Web server can:

- Set each output to a steady state ON or OFF.
- Initiate a temporary ON or OFF condition.

Reports

The Infinity system communicates over the cellular or, optionally, satellite communication networks. Some of the features and reports are configurable and can be enabled or disabled by M2M and/or the user.

- A user can request a report at any time from the Web site.
- When powered on, the device will report *Power On*.
- When powered off for more than one minute, the device reports *Power Off*.
- Reports send when an input changes state.

The Infinity system status report contains the following information:

- Call Reason
- Number of Transmission Attempts
- Model Number
- On/off state of the 8 digital inputs
- On/off state of the 4 controlled outputs
- Radio Signal Strength
- Expanded input/output (I/O) information
- AC Power on/off (when the battery is included)
- Daily Call Limit Exceeded? (yes/no)

Time-Scheduled Reports

Users can time-schedule reports at a predefined frequency. Call frequencies are schedulable from once every hour to once every 240 hours (10 days). The factory default setting for time-scheduled reports is *Disabled*.

> **Note:** If you enable the time-scheduled report option, the first report(s) will begin at the specified time after you turn the device on. For example, if reports are set for every hour, the first report will send one hour after you turn the device on.

To schedule daily calls at a specific time, leave this setting disabled and initiate the time-scheduled reports from the Web site at a specific time.

> **Note:** M2M recommends scheduling daily status calls in the off-peak hours between 10:00 pm to 3:00 am MST.

Reports on Request

In addition to automatic reports based on events or alarms and time-scheduled reports, you can request an individual report from the Web site at any time. See the Commands section for details.

Local Maintenance Mode

To place the device in a local maintenance mode, set the Daily Call Limit to 228.

When Local Maintenance Mode is ON, all event-based reports are disabled. This prevents unwanted transmissions while installing or servicing the device.

Remote Maintenance Mode

Users can place the device in a remote maintenance mode with a command from the Web site. When Remote Maintenance Mode is ON, all event-based reports are disabled. Like a teenager, the M121 ignores all remote commands, except for the command to disable the remote maintenance mode and return to normal operation.

User Notifications

An advanced feature of the M2M Communications Web site is the ability for you to send out an automatic telephone or e-mail message in case of an alarm or other important event.

The M2M Web site provides a three-step process to lead you through creating User Notifications.

1. Enter contact names, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses.

2. Create contact lists. Different events may trigger phone calls or e-mails to different people.

3. Enable events that your contacts need to know about.

After logging in to the Web site, click Device **Setup** from the Welcome or Current Status pages. For more information about setting up user notifications, see the Device Setup section.

Optional - Wireless Expansion of the Local Control System

The abilities of the Lodestar are expandable using up to six additional RF wireless units, each with its own on-board voltage monitors and control relays. The master and additional units are controllable as a single system and can report their status as a single unit. This makes the Infinity System, with a Lodestar control unit, an ideal solution for controlling an irrigation pump and the connected pivots as an integrated system.

The Infinity System is compatible with a large variety of M2M approved sensors and transmitters for monitoring soil moisture, flow, pressure, electric current, temperature and humidity, and more.

Optional - Data Logging

The M121 can collect data through its inputs from a variety of sensors. You can decide to when the device sends that data to the M2M NOC through regularly scheduled reports. The NOC averages and stores your data. Using the M2M Web site, you can create custom charts that display the values recorded from the inputs as easy-to-understand graphs that show the most recent data or historical trends — you decide.

Using the data logging option allows you to adjust your operations to meet your unique needs. For instance, if you are concerned about soil moisture levels and over- or under-watering, you can place several soil moisture sensors and monitor the soil saturation levels. You can then decide to water more or water less depending upon what you decide is the ideal saturation point.

Real World Applications

There are many useful applications for the Infinity Farm Management System. A few of the uses you may have for the Infinity System include:

- Lodestar Irrigation Load Control System
- Cable Theft Security System
- Farm Monitoring System
- Cold Storage Facility Load Control System

The Lodestar Irrigation Load Control System

Load control for the purpose of electric Demand Side Management (DSM) involves the remote monitoring and control of high voltage pumps and irrigation systems. The objective of DSM is to reduce peak demands for electricity, usually on hot summer days. Irrigation systems are significantly different from other types of equipment that are controlled for DSM purposes:

- The equipment is located in remote and widespread outdoor environments.
- Large Kilowatt (kW) loads provide significant opportunities for DSM.
- High voltage equipment is involved, often 480VAC.
- High value crops require reliable operation and farmer-friendly policies to encourage participation.

The Lodestar Advantage

M2M developed the Lodestar to address the specific DSM requirements of irrigation pumps. Our team of engineers envisioned several desired characteristics for the "Ideal Product:"

- Centralized control and access
- A secure Network Operations Center and Web site
- Two-way wireless communications
- Cellular communications provide widespread coverage in rural areas. Satellite based modems are used for sites outside of cellular coverage.
- All control commands and actions are acknowledged
- Remote monitoring

- Status reports upon request, on status change, or on a time schedule
- Control on demand of any selected unit or group of units
- Time-scheduled controls
- One time and repetitive control actions
- Customer notification of Load Shed Events via email and phone calls
- A full history log and comprehensive reporting for each load shed event

While there are many variations in the internal wiring of irrigation control panels, the Lodestar objectives are always the same:

- Switch the pump OFF for a specific amount of time
- Measure and report the on /off status of the pump

Step One: Install the

Cable Theft Security System

The heavy copper conductors that provide power to a large irrigation pump have unfortunately become an attractive target for thieves. The remote location of most pumps also makes it difficult for the equipment owner to monitor the site.

The same Lodestar system that controls and monitors a pump deters wire theft by integrating a state-of-the-art Passive Infrared (PIR) sensor and 120-decibel siren\light with the M2M remote monitoring and alert network.

The PIR mounts on the pump control panel and points in the direction of vulnerability, usually towards the pump. If thieves enters this armed security zone (a 15-foot radius and 85-degree swath), they breach the system, activating the siren and light and generating a text message, voice call or email to the grower.

Farm Monitoring Systems

By adding preconfigured sensors and wiring, the Infinity system can provide additional significant benefits. You can add the following options individually or as a group, as needed:

- Water pressure measurement
- Water flow rate measurement
- Electric current measurement
- Soil moisture at multiple depths and locations using wireless communication
- Temperature and humidity
- Any other sensor with a 4-20mA, SDI-12, or other compatible output

Monitoring and reporting this valuable data gives the grower or agronomist the information needed to accurately manage the farm.

The information can be especially useful when an irrigator is offered an opportunity to participate in DSM events. By reviewing the current soil moisture at key locations around the farm, the grower can quickly determine if the system can safely turn pumps off for a few hours.

Water pressure, flow rates, and electrical current are useful for monitoring the efficiency and operation of the complete irrigation system, and for detecting problems or a need for maintenance. For example, monitoring the pressure before and after a sand filter can identify when the system needs a back flush.

Cold Storage Facility Load Control System – with hi/low temperature alarm

Cold storage facilities are excellent candidates for Demand Side Management projects. The Lodestar, with wireless expansion capabilities, acts as the primary controller if there is only one compressor to control. If there are more compressors, the M2M model M844 replaces the Lodestar as the core of the system.

Typically, one temperature sensor is installed outdoors and the other one inside the refrigerated room. The system monitors and reports temperatures, both as the current value and as a data-logged history chart.

If any monitored temperature drops below or rises above user-configurable setpoints, the system sends an alarm to the M2M Web site. The alarm report can then be relayed to multiple people using voice-based telephone calls, email or text messages.

Step One: Install the Lodestar

The Lodestar's installation process consists of the following three steps:

1. Select an installation location.

2. Apply power and test the receiver strength.

3. Connect the device inputs and outputs.

Select an Installation Location

The types of contacts or sensors that you want to monitor or control largely determine the installation location.

Operating Environment	
Recommended operating temperature range	-22 to 140 degrees F (-30 to 60 degrees C)
Recommended relative humidity range	5 - 85% non-condensing

Varieties of pre-approved antennas are available to match the environment and signal conditions. The standard cellular antenna mounts inside the door and is fine for most locations. If desired, a remote antenna with higher gain is available and attaches to the connector.

> **Note:** The antenna **must** be located outside of any metal box or cabinet.

Connect the Device

The following section contains information about wiring the different connections necessary for the Lodestar to operate. A wiring diagram is included at the end of this section.

⚠️ **Be sure the electrical panel mains disconnect is off and no voltage is present before proceeding with installation.**

Step One: Apply Power to the Lodestar

The power supply is 480V alternating current (AC). Connect the neutral lead to the NEUT point and the hot lead to the 480 VAC point.

When power turns ON, the green LED illuminates (lights up).

Ground, 480VAC, and NEUT points

Power connected and green LED lit

> **Note:** Use 16AWG to 12AWG stranded wire for all connections.

Step Two: Test the Receiver Strength

For cellular radios, the signal strength varies depending on location and is measurable. After selecting an installation location and connecting power, it is a good idea to test the device's ability to transmit and receive before continuing the actual installation.

Test with a Computer

If you plan to test the Radio Signal Strength Indication (RSSI) with a computer, you must first turn the main power source back on. Afterwards, you can test the RSSI in either of the following ways:

- If the device is able to transmit, the RSSI reports to the M2M Web site in the Power-On call. The terminal program displays a *Transmission Successful* message.
- If a computer is connected and the Local Programmer utility is running, select the Check Cell Service option from the menu to display the RSSI.

For Iridium satellite radios, the signal strength reports as a value from 0-5. Five is the best available signal. To obtain the best signal, be sure the antenna has a clear view of the entire horizon, free from any obstructions that could interfere with satellite communications.

Test without a Computer

Follow the steps below to test the signal strength locally without a computer.

1. Wait until all LEDs have stopped blinking.

2. Press and release the small black test switch near the edge of the radio*.

   Reset switch at top-left inside corner

   * Pressing the test switch for more than two seconds will initiate a test report to the Web site.
   This will also clear the daily call count. This is useful if you do not have a computer available.

3. The Lodestar then reads the Radio Signal Strength Indication (RSSI) from the radio. The signal strength displays using the red and the green LEDs labeled RSSI.

   Use the following table to determine signal strength:

   Red and green RSSI LEDs lit

LED Appearance	Meaning
Solid Red	Inadequate signal strength
Red Blinking	Acceptable signal strength
Green Blinking	Good signal strength
Solid Green	Excellent signal strength

The range descriptions given in the table above are a helpful means to understanding the range of signal strength. Obviously, excellent signal strength is better than good signal strength and it is worthwhile to try to orient the antenna to receive the strongest signal. However, the Lodestar should be reliable with any acceptable strength or better signal (red LED blinking).

If the signal strength from the radio is inadequate (solid red non-blinking LED), you must re-orient the antenna or change the mounting location.

> **Note:** A directional or high gain antenna might improve inadequate signal strength. High gain Yagi and omni-directional antennas are available from M2M Communications.

After maximizing the signal strength, continue the installation. If the Lodestar is not working correctly after installation, see the Lodestar Troubleshooting section of this manual for troubleshooting help.

Step Three: Connect the Digital Input

The high voltage input monitors and reports the presence or absence of 120, 240, or 480VAC.

1. If you have turned on the main power source, turn it back off.

2. Connect the common lead to the input terminal labeled "C" and hot lead to the input terminal labeled "IN1."

   > **Note:** Use 16AWG to 12AWG stranded wire for these connections.

Step Four: Connect the Analog Inputs

Each of the analog inputs has a "**+**" terminal point labeled **A1+** and **A2+**. If any other device, such as a meter, connects between the sensor and device, the Lodestar's sensor readings will be inaccurate.

Analog input connections

The analog input monitors 0-10V or 0-20mA. Use 20AWG to 18AWG stranded wire for these connections.

You can easily damage the analog input connector by over-torquing. Insert the wires and torque gently, then tug on the wires. If they do not come out, they are tight enough.

Step Five: Connect the Output

The output relay has a Common (C) terminal point, plus a Normally Closed (NC) point and a Normally Open (NO) point.

Output connections

"Normal" is the condition or state when there is no power applied to the device. For example, a Normally Open relay will be open, or off, when there is no power applied. The device will also start up in the Normal condition and will stay in that position until told to change.

The output relay can switch up to 7 amps at up to 277VAC. To switch larger loads, use an external relay with the on-board relay controlling the external one.

Connect the load to be switched to the terminal points so that the on-board relay can interrupt the circuit and switch it on and off.

> **Note:** Use 16AWG to 12AWG stranded wire for these connections.

Wiring Diagram

ANALOG INPUTS
WIRING HERE

DIGITAL INPUT
WIRING HERE

PRIMARY POWER
WIRING HERE

CONTROL OUTPUT
WIRING HERE

Step One: Install the
Lodestar with all connections wired

🟥	**Primary Power wiring**
🟩	**High Voltage Input wiring**
🟨	**Control Output wiring**
🟦	**Analog Inputs wiring**

Step Two: Local Programming / Input & Output Test

M2M delivers Infinity system with the programmable parameters preset to default values. To change those settings before installation, or at any time in the future, connect the Lodestar unit to a computer or PDA using a serial connection.

> **Note:** The Local Programming process disables remote communication.

Connect the Lodestar to a Computer

An on-board serial port allows local programming and configuration from a computer or Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs).

The Lodestar detects the connection of a remote communication program running on a standard RS232 device and connects the serial connector to the microprocessor's serial port. You can use an external terminal, computer, or PDA with a terminal emulator program to set the programmable parameters and locally test the inputs and outputs.

Follow the steps below to connect the Lodestar to a computer.

1. On the computer, open the terminal emulator program. Terminal emulator programs include HyperTerminal, Tera Term, Putty, and many others. Commercially available terminal emulator programs such as ProComm or Hyper Access may offer features that are more advanced.
2. Set the terminal communications settings to:

   - 38,400 baud
   - 8 bits
   - 1 stop bit
   - No parity
   - No flow control

3. Verify the communication port is set to the serial port where you connected the cable, and there are no conflicts with other serial devices such as a modem.
4. Plug one end of an Ethernet cable into the device's Ethernet port.

   Ethernet port located at top center inside device

5. Plug the other end into an RJ-45 to a DB-9 serial adapter.

   RJ-45 to a DB-9 serial adapter

6. Connect the RJ-45 to a DB-9 serial adapter to a 9-pin serial cable/adapter to connect the Lodestar to the computer.

   9-pin serial to USB adapter

   Note: A 9-pin serial to USB adapter cable is available from M2M to connect to a standard USB port.

7. When the communication program is running AND the connector is connected, the Lodestar automatically detects the computer. Both the red and green RSSI LEDs turn on and the device enters the local programming mode.

8. Press **Enter** to display the firmware menu. The menu will be similar to the following:

```
M2M Communications M121
CDMA/1xRTT Cellular
Version 7

1: Modem Utility Menu
2: Read & Set I/O Values
3: Control Outputs
4: Local Programming
5: Restore Factory Defaults
7: Configure Remote I/O Units
8: Display Status Messages
```

9. Set the desired parameters as needed.
10. When prompted, press **S** on the keyboard to save the settings.
11. To end the local programming session, remove the connectors.

Menu Options

The firmware menu that displays depends upon the options selected and the radio installed in the unit. The physical location where you install the device and the availability of cellular coverage dictates the type of radio the device uses. Some units use CDMA-type cellular radios while others use GPRS cellular or Iridium satellite radios.

The following sections explain the different options available in the firmware menu for each radio. The number before the menu option indicates the number key to press to select that option.

```
M2M Communications M121
Version

1: Check Cell Service
2: Read Inputs & Outputs
3: Control Outputs
4: Local Programming
5: Restore Factory Defaults
6: Clear all Counters & Timers
7: Send Status Report
8: Display Status Messages
```

To select "Local Programming" from the menu to the left, press **4** on the keyboard.

To select "Configure Remote I/O Units" from the menu on the right, press **7** on the keyboard.

```
M2M Communications M844
CDMA/1xRTT Cellular
Version

1: Modem Utility Menu
2: Read & Set I/O Values
3: Control Outputs
4: Local Programming
5: Restore Factory Defaults
7: Configure Remote I/O Units
8: Display Status Messages
```

Use the following guide to find the menu option you need information for quickly:

Modem Utility Menu

Select **Modem** Utility **Menu** to display the Modem Utility menu.

From this sub-menu, you can check the cellular service signal strength, clear the daily call counter, send a test report, and activate the cellular service to the device.

```
Modem Utility Menu

1: Check Cell Service
2: Clear Daily Call Counter
3: Send Test Report
4: Activate Verizon Service
Press 'm' for menu
```

Check Cell Service

Select **Check Cell Service** to measure and display the Radio Signal Strength Indicator (RSSI).

This is useful for testing fringe area signal strength and antenna orientation.

After the test, press any key to return to the main device menu.

```
1
Reading RSSI....
RSSI (dB): -75    Excellent
Press any key to continue
Reading RSSI....
RSSI (dB): -75    Excellent
Press any key to continue
```

Clear Daily Call Counter

Select **Clear Daily Call Counter** to clear the daily call counter. You can also clear the call counter from the M2M Web site. The device reports that it saved your changes and displays the main device menu.

Send Test Report

Select **Send Test Report** to send a test report.

This is helpful in determining if the radio is functioning correctly. The device will report if the transmission was successful or not. Press **M** to return to the main device menu or press any other key on the keyboard to send the test report again.

Activate Verizon Service

Select **Activate Verizon Service** to activate the Verizon cellular service used by the device. This process may take a few minutes to complete.

After the device connects with the service, press the **Enter** key to return to the main device menu.

> **Note:** The Lodestar cellular service activation occurs before the device ships to you. Use this option only if you have deactivated the device and it needs re-activation.

```
4
Dialing Verizon Service Activation
This may take a few minutes
Please Wait...
Provisioning Service Connected
Establishing Data Connection
Service Provisioning Complete

Re-Starting the System

Power On- Press any key for menu
Configuring Communications
Radio Power On OK
CDMA Cellular
Transmission Initiated
Transmission Successful
```

Read and Set I/O Values

While connected to the computer, the status of the digital input displays to the computer. This is useful for local verification of both the device and the monitored inputs. Input changes made during the local input test do not report to the Web site until the local programming session ends.

Select **Read & Set I/O Values** to read the input and output values. The digital input and output will report their state, either On or Off.

Press **M** to return to the main device menu or press **1** to adjust the on/off setpoints. Enter a new value for each setpoint or press **Enter** to keep the existing value.

Record these values as they are needed later to create lookup tables that you can load into the M2M Web site to convert the device readings into easy-to-understand values.

```
Input #1 Off    1
Output #1 Off

Analog Input #1: 1
Analog Input #2: 1

Press '1' to adjust input
  on/off setpoints
Press 'm' for menu or
 any other key to repeat
1

120U is off below: 75
120U is on above: 120

240U is off below: 250
240U is on above: 300

480U is off below: 550
480U is on above: 700

Changes have been saved
```

Control Outputs

Select **Control Outputs** to turn the controlled output on or off. This is useful for local verification of both the device and the controlled equipment. Output changes made during the local output test do not report to the Web site until the next scheduled or requested report.

Automatic control routines are disabled while the output is controlled by the local output test.

Select the output by pressing **1**, and then press **1** to set the output to On or zero (**0**) to set the output to Off.

```
Any temporary output changes
have been cancelled

Select the Output # to Control
m: For the menu
1

Set to On(1) or Off(0) ?
m: For the menu
1
```

Local Programming

The local programming process sets the controls for the inputs, outputs, counters/timers, and reporting options.

1. Select **Local Programming** to edit the programmable parameters discussed in the following sections.
2. Select the parameter to set. If the displayed value is correct, press **Enter** on the computer keyboard to leave it unchanged and move to the next option. If not, edit the value.
3. After editing the last parameter, press **S** to save your changes.
4. Return to the main menu or remove the cable from the device to end local programming.

The following section explains the options available during local programming.

AC Voltage

Select the AC voltage that the input will monitor. Press **1** for 120V, **2** for 240V, or **3** for 480V.

Digital Input

The installer specifies trigger times for the input in one-second increments from zero to 240 seconds. The Lodestar reports any change to the monitored contact closure (digital) input that lasts longer than the specified number of seconds. The device ignores and does not report changes of a shorter duration.

The factory default setting is 15 seconds. Press **Enter** on the computer keyboard to keep the default setting or enter a new number of seconds. Default = alarm inputs

```
Digital Input 1:
 Trigger Time (Seconds,0-240): 15
```

Analog Inputs

Use an on-board jumper to select either 0-10 VDC or 0-20 mA operation. Two set points and one trigger time per input are specifiable for each input (0 = set point disabled).

Sample Analog Prompt

```
Analog Input 1:
 Enable(1) or Disable(0)? 1
 Low Set Point(0-1023): 100
 High Set Point(0-1023):400
 Trigger Time (Seconds,0-240): 5
 Report on Change? Yes(1), No(0) 1
```

Set point values

Low set point	0-1023
High set point	0-1023
Trigger Time	0-240 seconds

The Lodestar reports a raw value for each input of 0-1023 to the Web site that converts it to a more meaningful value by the use of either a formula or a look-up table.

Follow the steps below to set the input parameters. Press **Enter** to keep the current value.

1. Press **1** to enable the input or zero (0) to disable the input.
2. Enter a value between zero (0) to 1023 for the low set point.
3. Enter a value between zero (0) to 1023 for the high set point.
4. Enter a value between zero (0) to 240 seconds for the trigger time.
5. Press **1** to have the device report changes, or zero (**0**) to not report changes.
6. Repeat steps 1-5 for Input each additional input.

Output

Press zero (**0**) to disable the output or press **1** to enable the output.

Time-Scheduled Reports

If you enable the time-scheduled report option, the first report(s) will begin at the specified time after you turn the device on. For example, if reports are set for every hour, the first report will send one hour after you turn the device on.

```
Time Scheduled I/O Status Report
 Frequency (hours,0-240): 24
```

To schedule a report at a specific time, set the frequency to the desired value, between zero (0) and 240 hours. Then, use the M2M Web site to enable time scheduled calls at a specific time. This resets the call time of the reports.

> **Note:** M2M recommends scheduling daily status calls in the off-peak hours between 10:00 pm to 3:00 am MST.

Time-Scheduled Status + Analog Report

To schedule a status report that includes the analog inputs, set the frequency to the desired value, between zero (0) and 240 hours.

```
Time Scheduled Status + Analogs Report
 Frequency (hours,0-240): 24
```

Time-Scheduled Full Status + Configuration Report

To schedule a status report including a report on the current configuration of the device, set the frequency to the desired value, between zero (0) and 240 hours.

```
Time Scheduled Full Status + Configuration Report
 Frequency (hours,0-240): 24
```

Daily transmission Limit

To reduce the number of calls from over-active inputs or turning the device on and off, the number of event-based calls per 24 hours is limited. This does not affect time-scheduled or user requested status calls and command acknowledgements. The daily limit is from 1 to 99 calls. The default setting is 150 calls for data logging devices, 20 for non-data logging devices.

```
Daily Transmission Limit(1-99): 20
```

Low-Power Mode

Low power mode is for installations with limited power requirements. In low-power mode, the radio turns off to save power and cannot receive commands from the Web site. All other functionality remains active. If an input changes or a time-scheduled report is due, the radio temporarily turns on to make the call. Use "Normal" power mode whenever possible.

```
Enable Low Power Mode?
 Caution: Radio will be turned
 off when not in use
 Yes (1) No (0) 0
```

Restore Factory Defaults

Select **Restore Factory Defaults** on the keyboard to restore the original factory default settings. When prompted, press **1** to restore defaults.

```
5
Are you sure?
 Yes (1) No (0) 1

Changes have been saved
```

Configure Remote I/O Units

Select **Configure Remote I/O Units** to configure the remote control input and output units.

Display Status Messages

Select **Display Status Messages** to display status messages from the device.

With this option enabled, the Lodestar sends informative status messages to the computer as conditions change or events occur. These messages help you to understand what the system is doing and are useful for troubleshooting.

If you turn the device on with the computer and terminal emulator already on, the Lodestar automatically starts sending these messages.

> **Note:** To stop the status messages and return to the menu, press any key.

Some example messages are as follows:

- Power On Successful
- Cellular Coverage Found
- Checking for Cell Service
- Cellular Signal is Too Low
- Cellular Signal is Good

- Cellular Signal is Excellent
- Transmission Successful
- Transmit Error – Retrying
- Daily Call Limit Exceeded
- Action Request received from NOC

Step Three: Use the M2M Web Site to Set Up Device Communication

The M2M data center validates and processes the data from the Lodestar for distribution to the end user. In addition, the M2M data center sends configuration information to the Lodestar field module.

The M2M Web site (www.m2mcomm.com) records and displays all incoming status messages and depending on your instructions, will:

- Notify you of the reported event via e-mail or telephone, and/or
- Export the data to your designated e-mail address.

After entering your unique user ID and password, you can:

- View current and historical data for all units as well as customize displays with applicable labels.
- Define data exporting options.
- Create and maintain reporting options and user notification messages.
- Set up time-scheduled reports.

Step One: Activate a Device

Follow the steps below to activate a device and create your user name and password for the Web site. If you have devices that were pre-activated, skip to Step Two: Login to the M2M Web site.

1. Visit the M2M Web site.

2. Click **LOGIN** in the top, right corner of the screen.

   Top of the M2M Web site

3. The LOGIN page displays. Click **ACTIVATE A NEW DEVICE**.

   Account login page

4. The Activation page displays. Enter the Activation Key. You will find the activation key, along with the device ID, on the inside of the device door.

Activation page

Inside of product door with device label

5. Select **Create New Account**. If you have an existing account, select **Use Existing Account**.
   - If you click **Create New Account**, you must choose an airtime plan, set your billing type and frequency, accept the terms and conditions, your billing information, and create a username and password before proceeding with activation.
   - If you click **Use Existing Account**, you must log in on the next page to proceed.
6. The device is now active. To set up scheduled reports or send commands to the device, log in to the M2M Web site if you are not already.

Step Two: Log In to the M2M Web Site

To log in to your secure account on the M2M Web site, follow the instructions below.

1. Visit the M2M Web site.

2. Click **LOGIN** in the top, right corner of the screen.

   Top of the M2M Web site

3. The LOGIN page displays. Enter your personal user name and password. You create these when you activate your first device.

4. Click **LOGIN**. The Device List page displays.

Device List

After clicking the **LOGIN** button, the Device List displays.

Device List page

This page shows a list of all devices assigned to this account. The Device List gives a quick overview of the status of each device including the date and time of the last report and any current alarm states.

For more information on a specific device, go to the device's **General Status** page. To do this, click one of the Device Names in the Device list. The General Status page for that device displays.

> **Note:** If there is only one device in an account, the Device List might not display. Instead, you might see the General Status page for the device.

View Monitored Inputs on the General Status Page

Once you install and turn on the device, it immediately begins to monitor its inputs. Within a few seconds after an input changes state, it reports the change. This data is immediately available on the device's General Status page.

> **Note:** Click **Refresh** to update your page.

The General Status page is the primary window for viewing a monitored piece of equipment or facility. It shows the status of each input and output at the time of the last report. The time and date on each row shows when that status last changed.

Details page

Click **Show More** at the bottom of the page to see recent Diagnostics, device Configuration, and the configuration of Reports.

Step Three: Set Up the Device

To go to the Device Setup page, click **Device** on the M2M menu bar at the top of the screen and then **Setup**.

The Device Setup page is where you begin the setup process where you can create custom labels, enter your specific information, and create user notifications.

Device Data

Follow the steps below to name your device and enter its location information.

Device Data page

1. Click **Edit**.
2. Enter descriptive information that will identify the device and its location.
3. When finished, click **Update**.

Device Location

Follow the steps below to set the location of the device.

Device Location page

1. Click **Step 2 > Device Location**.
2. Do one of the following:
   - Enter the latitude and longitude coordinates of the device, if you have them.
   - If you do not have the exact coordinates, you can click the device marker ( ) and drag it to the correct location on the map.
3. Click **Save** when finished.

Phone & E-mail Contacts

This step allows you to create a "phone book" list of contact people with their telephone numbers and e-mail addresses.

Contacts page

Add a Contact

1. On the Contacts page, click **Add Phone Contact**. To add an e-mail/text message contact click **Add E-mail/Text Message Address**.

2. Enter the appropriate information for the contact when the dialog box displays.

New phone contact dialog box

New email/text message contact dialog box

3. For a phone contact, enter a number of **Retries**. This is the number of times that the system will call the person unless the system receives an acknowledgement first.

4. To share the contact with others users that you can add, check the **Shared Contact** box.

5. Click **Add Contact** when finished.

Edit a Contact

1. To edit a contact, click the **Edit** button ( ) to the right of the contact.

2. In the Edit Contact page, make the desired changes to the contact information.

3. When finished, click **Update**.

Delete a Contact

1. To delete a contact, click the **Delete** button ( ) to the right of the contact.

2. When prompted to delete the contact, click **OK**.

Contact Lists

The Contact List is a list of the phone numbers and e-mail addresses you want notified of an event. You can create multiple lists. For example, you may want to create one list of just e-mail addresses where you will send notifications of routine maintenance events and another list of phone contacts for events that need faster responses.

You can add, edit, or delete lists at any time.

Add a Contact List

1. On the Contact List page, click **Create New Contact List**.

Contact List page

2. In the next page, select the contacts you want in the list. You can only select contacts that you have previously added to your phone or e-mail/text message contacts.

3. Select a Time Delay for each contact. This is the amount of time after an event that the contact will receive a notification.

Select contacts dialog box

4. When finished, click **Save Changes**.

Edit a Contact List

1. To edit a contact list, click the **Edit** button ( ) to the right of the contact list.

2. In the next page, make the desired changes.

3. When finished, click **Save Changes**.

Delete a Contact List

1. To delete a contact list, click the **Delete** button ( ) to the right of the contact list.

2. When prompted to delete the contact list, click **OK**.

Display Settings

This page allows you to customize the labels assigned to all values reported by the device. The assigned labels show anywhere that references the labeled inputs and outputs. It also allows you to define scaling factors or offsets for the analog inputs.

Each input/output has an optional alarm state. The device's status, shown on the Device List page, will change from Normal (green) to Alarm (red) when an alarm state occurs.

You can save common label settings as Shared Profiles and reuse them on other, similarly configured, devices.

Connections tab on the Display Settings page

Custom Labels

Follow the steps below to add custom labels.

1. Click **Edit** next to the connection you want to label.

2. When the page reloads, type the Custom Label you want and select an alarm state from the drop-down list. The default states are **<< Not Set >>**, **On**, or **Off**.

Edit custom labels page

3. Click **Update** when finished to return to the previous page.

Alarm State Labels

Follow the steps below to customize the alarm state labels.

1. Click **Select** next to the appropriate connection.

2. Click the *Labels* tab for that connection (next to the Connections tab).

   Labels tab

3. Click **Edit** next to the appropriate label you want to change.

4. Type the custom label. When finished, click **Update**.

5. When the page reloads, click **Edit** next to the connection.

6. Select the newly labeled alarm state from the drop-down list.

   Alarm drop-down

7. Click **Update**.

Customize Analog Inputs

While setting up the analog inputs, you can customize the analog display values. The analog inputs report raw values that vary from 0-1023. While great for a machine, a human really wants to see the final answer, such as temperature in degrees Fahrenheit, relative humidity, etc.

This option allows conversion of the raw values to meaningful data by one of two methods. First, for linear data, a simple Scalar and Offset is specified. This method creates a linear translation in the common form of $y = mx + b$, where m is the Scalar and b is the Offset (x is the raw reported value and y is the displayed value).

Offsets can range from –10,000 to +10,000 and scalars can vary from 0.0001 to 1000. Offsets are added to the raw value while scalars are multiplied times the raw value. The result will be the displayed value.

Second, for non-linear display data, a technician creates a custom Lookup Table with up to 1024 defined points. Each point from 0-1023 is translatable into meaningful values.

Each analog input can have a different Scalar and Offset or Lookup Table. Each analog input uses only one method. If you specify a Lookup Table for an analog input, then the system ignores the Scalar and Offset values.

This page also displays the units of measure, such as Degrees F, PSI, or RPM.

Customize Analog Inputs page

1. Click "**Click here to customize Analog Inputs**."

2. Click **Edit** next to the analog input you want to customize.

3. Edit the Slope, Offset, Units, Type, and apply a custom range as desired.

4. Click **Update** when finished.

Upload custom Lookup Table

1. To create a Lookup Table, click the **Click here to upload a custom lookup list** link on the Customize Analog Inputs page.

2. A box displays with options allowing you to upload the file.

3. Create the file using Microsoft Excel or any spreadsheet software that creates comma-separate values (.csv) files. The file must contain two columns. The first column has whole numbers from 0-1023 representing raw reported values. The second column has numbers in the range of +/- 999999999.9999, representing the corresponding display values. The file must have 1024 rows, one for each possible raw value in the range 0-1023.

Lookup Table upload dialog box

4. Click **Upload File**.

Event Notifications

You can decide if you want notified of changes directly via phone message or e-mail. Check the desired notifications from the list and click **Edit** to select a previously made Contact List.

Event Notifications page

Monitored Data Point	State Change Watched for Notification	Contact List to Notify	Enable/Disable Notifications from the Website to a Contact List	Enable/Disable Control Actions
Step 1 ❯ Device Data				
Maintenance Mode	any value	The Team	☐ 🖂 edit	🖂 edit
AC Power	any value	The Team	☐ 🖂 edit	🖂 edit
East Soil Sensor	any value	The Team	☐ 🖂 edit	🖂 edit
Output 1	any value	The Team	☐ 🖂 edit	🖂 edit
Analog 1 Range	any value	The Team	☐ 🖂 edit	🖂 edit
Analog 2 Range	any value	The Team	☐ 🖂 edit	🖂 edit
Device did not respond		The Team	☐ 🖂 edit	
	Set contact list for all events to	---------- ▼	☐ Enable All	

Step 1 ❯ Device Data
Step 2 ❯ Device Location
Step 3 ❯ Contacts
Step 4 ❯ Contact Lists
Step 5 ❯ Display Settings
Step 6 ❯ Event Notifications
Step 7 ❯ Device Groups
Step 8 ❯ Remote Config

Setup Missing Device Notification

The M2M Web site sends notification messages to the e-mail addresses or phone numbers you specify. You can use an Internet e-mail address to send someone a regular e-mail message that appears in his or her e-mail inbox. You can also use a pager e-mail address to send a text page directly to a pager. Most modern pagers and cell phones have the ability to receive e-mailed pages.

For phone numbers, a tacky text-to-speech robot voice delivers the message to the lucky person who answers the phone. The robot voice then asks the recipient to press the star (*) key. Pressing the star key acknowledges that the system has done its job, that you got the message and are aware of the problem. It also ends the call out process.

If you are an answering machine or you just do not want to press the button, the system will call the next person on the list. This will continue until someone acknowledges the call or until everyone on the list gets a call.

The order of the notification calls comes from the Time Delay specified in the Contact List, not from the order the contacts are in on the list. The time delay is the number of minutes or hours since the event occurred. Adding a few minutes between each voice call lets the system call one person at a time and gives them enough time to acknowledge the event.

Enable/Disable Notifications

Click the checkbox next to the **Enable/Disable Notifications** icon (🖂) to enable or disable notifications for that device. If the checkbox is checked, notifications are on. If the checkbox is empty, notifications are off. When checked, the icon changes to (🖂).

> **Note:** M2M recommends enabling the "Device did not respond" notification. Enabling this notification will let the contacts you specify know that the device is not responding to sent commands. This can signal that there might be an issue with the device or power supply.

Edit Notifications

1. Click **Edit** in the "Enable/Disable Notifications from the Website to a Contact List" column for the appropriate notification.

2. In the next page, select the desired value (**On**, **Off**, *** any value**, or the custom label you created).

3. Select the appropriate Contact List.

Notification setup dialog box

4. When finished, click **Save Changes**.

Enable/Disable Remote Control

The last column shown below allows the Lodestar to control another device in the same account.

Event Notification page

Click **Edit** in the Control Actions column to set up a command to send directly from the NOC to another device when the selected event occurs. The Control Events Details page shows each possible change for the selected value and what action occurs if the control action is enabled for that change. You can send any command from the Commands page.

In the example below, Output 1 of Power Pump 1 will be set to On when Power Pump 1 is turned on. There is no action taken when Power Pump 1 turns off, but there could be, if set.

Control Actions

Device Groups

Use this page to move devices between existing groups and create new device groups, naming them with any description desired.

Device Groups page

Create New Device Group

1. Click **Create New Device Group**.
2. When the page reloads, type in the Group Name.
3. Select the appropriate device by clicking the check box next to it.
4. Click **Save Changes**.

Create New Device Group dialog box

Add/Remove Devices from a Group

1. Click **Add/Remove Devices** under the appropriate group you want to edit.
2. A list of the available devices not already assigned to a group displays.
3. Click the checkbox next to the device(s) you want to add or remove from the group.
   A checked box indicates the device will be added, an unchecked box means the device will be removed or not added.
4. When finished, click **Save Changes**.

Remote Config

The Remote Configuration page allows you to change the initial configuration of the inputs and time-scheduled reports that was set during local programming.

Note: This option is only available for models equipped with data logging capabilities.

Digital Inputs

The page reflects the current digital inputs configuration as reported by the device.

Click **Save All Digital Config** to save your changes.

Remote Configuration page showing Digital Inputs

Input	Enabled	Report On Change	Trigger Time (Seconds)	Set As	Count Method
East Soil Sensor	☑	☑	015 (0-240)	Alarm ▼	Since Last Report ▼
East Moisture Sensor	☐	☑	015 (0-240)	Alarm ▼	Since Last Report ▼
Input 3	☐	☑	000 (0-240)	Alarm ▼	Since Last Report ▼
Input 4	☐	☑	000 (0-240)	Alarm ▼	Since Last Report ▼
Input 5	☐	☑	120 (0-240)	Alarm ▼	Per Minute ▼
Input 6	☐	☑	000 (0-240)	Alarm ▼	Per Minute ▼
Input 7	☐	☑	075 (0-240)	Alarm ▼	Per Minute ▼
Input 8	☐	☑	000 (0-240)	Alarm ▼	Per Minute ▼

Save All Digital Config

▼ Analog Inputs
▼ Time Scheduled Data Logging Report

Analog Inputs

Click **Analog Inputs** to display the configuration menu. Click **Save All Analog Config** to save your changes.

Remote Configuration page showing Analog Inputs

▼ Digital Inputs
▼ Analog Inputs

Input	Enabled	Low Set Point	High Set Point	Trigger Time (Seconds)
Analog 1	☑	0100 (0-1023)	0400 (0-1023)	5 (0-240)
Analog 2	☑	0100 (0-1023)	0400 (0-1023)	5 (0-240)
Analog 3	☐	0100 (0-1023)	0400 (0-1023)	5 (0-240)
Analog 4	☐	0100 (0-1023)	0400 (0-1023)	5 (0-240)
Analog 5	☐	0 (0-1023)	0 (0-1023)	0 (0-240)
Analog 6	☐	0 (0-1023)	0 (0-1023)	0 (0-240)
Analog 7	☐	0 (0-1023)	0 (0-1023)	0 (0-240)
Analog 8	☐	0 (0-1023)	0 (0-1023)	0 (0-240)

Save All Analog Config

▼ Time Scheduled Data Logging Report

Time-scheduled data logging report

If you ordered a product with data logging capabilities, you can click **Time-scheduled data logging report** to display the configuration menu. If your device does not include data logging, the **Time-scheduled data logging report** section does not display.

Click **Save Report Config** to save your changes.

Note: The device sends the time-scheduled data logging reports for all digital inputs together.

Remote Configuration page showing time-scheduled data logging report section

▼ Digital Inputs
▼ Analog Inputs
▼ Time Scheduled Data Logging Report

Report Frequency	Max Report Interval
1 Hour	1 Minute
12 Hours	1/4 Hour Average
24 Hours	1/2 Hour Average
48 Hours	1 Hour Average

	Send Every:		With:		Interval
Analog 1	Disabled ▼		1 hour average ▼		Interval
Analog 2	Disabled ▼		1 hour average ▼		Interval
Analog 3	Disabled ▼		1 hour average ▼		Interval
Analog 4	Disabled ▼		1 hour average ▼		Interval
Analog 5	Disabled ▼		Each Minute ▼		Interval
Analog 6	Disabled ▼		Each Minute ▼		Interval
Analog 7	Disabled ▼		Each Minute ▼		Interval
Analog 8	Disabled ▼		Each Minute ▼		Interval
Digital ❓	Disabled ▼		1 hour average ▼		Interval

Save Report Config

Appendix A: Important Pages in the M2M Web Site

The Web site provides access to the data from the device 24-hours a day, seven days a week, from any computer that has access to the Internet. You can use the site to set up monitoring functions, to request a report from a device, and to set up automatic event notifications.

This section explains some of the key pages you will find in the Web site. Most of the Web pages are self-explanatory, so feel free to explore!

Device History

This a complete history log for the unit. The history database includes the time, date, and complete details for the following:

- All reports received from the unit
- All commands sent to the unit
- All user notifications sent from the web server to e-mail address and phone numbers
- A record of all acknowledgements of user notifications

From the menu bar, click **Device**, then **History** to display the History log.

The history report can display all calls or only the calls from a selected period. The first time you log in, the device history pulls any available data for the last 30 days. After that, each time you log in, the system will remember the last time range you previously selected.

Use the options under Display to select a new date range to view, then click **Load**. Values that have changed since the last report will be in bold.

History log

Delete the History

History events are saved forever or until you delete them. To delete a date range of old history events, click **Delete**.

Download the History

Click **Export History** to download a .csv formatted file of all history events in the specified date range.

Commands

From the Send Commands page, you can send a number of different commands to the Lodestar.

Control Commands page

To send a command, select the desired command(s) and click **Send Command**. The Web site immediately sends a request to the device after confirmation by the user. The device responds by sending back an acknowledgement along with its status.

Within approximately 90-120 seconds, you can click **Refresh** at the top of the screen to see the latest status of the inputs and outputs. Go to the Device History screen at any time to check that the device acknowledged a command.

You can send up to six commands at once, except Time Control Commands. You cannot send Time Control Commands with other command types. Doing so violates the space/time continuum and chaos ensues.

Time Control Commands change the state of an output for a chosen duration. When you send Time Control Commands, select the number of hours and minutes or seconds to turn the output(s) on or off.

Click **Show Advanced Options** to select commands for device configuration.

Advanced Options dialog box

Set Time-scheduled Commands

You can schedule commands to occur at a specific time or to recur at scheduled intervals.

Scheduled Commands dialog box

1. Select at least one of the commands in the Timed Control Commands section. Set the hours, minutes, and seconds as desired.
2. Click **Schedule Command** and select the appropriate time and frequency of the desired command(s).
3. Click **Save Schedule** when finished.

Main Menu > Account Info

The Account Info page provides access to the account level information. From the main menu, click **Account**, and then **Account Info**.

Account Info page

This information describes the owner of the account, not information about the specific unit. The five-digit Voice Personal Identification Number (PIN) is your secret code that allows you to access information over any telephone line. For more information on using your PIN, see the Monitor and Control the Lodestar via Inbound Telephone section.

Click **Billing** in the menu to make changes to your personal information. When finished, click **Save**.

User Management

From the Main Menu, click **Account**, then **Manage Users**. From that page, you can create new users and give them one of the three levels of authorization. The original account name is the Root User.

Manage Users page

| | | | | Access Levels | | | | |
Account Name	User ID	Email Address	View	View & Report	Admin	Root	Edit	Delete
Binkie	001		✓				📝	❌
Jeff	003		✓				📝	❌
John	002		✓				📝	❌

Access Levels

Four levels of access are available to accounts. There can be as many passwords as necessary.

View Only	Allows the user to view the current data and the history log. They cannot send commands or request reports from the unit.
View and Report	Allows the user to view all data and send control commands and requests for data.
Administrator	Allows the user access to all pages and functions including the setup pages.
Root Administrator	The overall administrator for the entire account.

Edit Users

From this page, the administrator can organize groups that sub-users can control or view.

1. Click the **Edit** (📝) icon to the right of a user to edit that user's settings. The Edit User's page displays

   Edit Users page

2. When finished entering the user's information, click **Save**.

3. A dialog box displays where you assign the user a password. Type in a password and click **Save**.

Chart Reports (Data Logging)

Eventually you might want to fine-tune your scheduled commands to the device or make an adjustment here and there. The Data Logger function collects, saves, and displays historical data as well as the most current readings from the device, allowing you to see trends in how your device and the equipment it controls operates. If you are over-watering, under-watering, or allowing too much or too little pressure to build, you can see that at a glance using the data logging device's built-in charting ability.

At predetermined intervals (one-minute for hardwired sensors and 15-minutes for wireless sensors), the system reads and saves the on/off state of all equipment, plus the measured value of each sensor value. The device averages and saves the one-minute readings as 15, 30, and 60-minute averages. This allows you to create custom charts that show the 15, 30 or 60-minute averaged readings.

You can use the data logging function to do the following:

- Request data reports from a specific starting date and time.
- Schedule periodic report requests from the Web site at various hourly frequencies (1, 12, 24, or 48 hours) with the data reported in intervals of 15, 30, or 60 minutes.
- Request reports for specific sensors.

Reported data is stored permanently, or until you delete it, at the M2M Web site. You can display the data in a chart by the desired date range.

The humidity rate displays above a simple temperature reading

Two charting options

You have two options when creating data charts, to use stored historical data or to request current data from the device.

Create a chart using historical data

The amount and timeliness of the historical data available for charting depends upon how often the device is set to send reports to the NOC. When you use the M2M Web site to setup the device, you set the reporting frequency for the inputs during Remote Config. If you set the device to report once every 24 hours, you will have less historical data than if the device reports every 12 hours. The data will also be less current since the data you see could be up to 23 hours old.

In the example shown below, the user enabled the three analog inputs that have custom labels and set the device to send humidity and brightness input reports every 12 hours.

The temperature in Celsius report sends every 24 hours. Reporting for analog input four is disabled. The digital output and any slaved digital outputs send in a single report. The example below has the digital input report set to send every 12 hours.

Example reporting options

Once the device is setup, recording, and reporting data, you can start charting data as soon as the first report sends.

Follow these instructions to create a chart displaying historical data.

1. In the menu bar, click **Reports**. The Chart page displays.

2. From the analog and digital inputs listed to the left, select the inputs to chart.

3. Select the **Start Date** (⊞) and **Time** (🕐).

4. Select the **End Date** (⊞) and **Time** (🕐).

5. Click Create Chart. The chart displays.

A light level reading, labeled Brightness, overlays historical humidity and temperature reading

Create a chart using current data

To see current data from the device, follow the steps below.

1. In the menu bar, click **Reports**. The Chart page displays.

2. Click **Request Recent Data from the Unit**.

3. Select the input you want recent data for from the *Channel* drop-down list.

4. Select the **Start Date** (📅) and **Time** (🕐) that you want data for.

5. Select the timed- average (one minute, 15, 30, or 60-minutes) you want from the *Data Interval* drop-down list.

6. Click **Request Data From Device**.

7. In the upper-left side of the screen, a box displays telling you that the Web site is requesting your data from the device. This usually takes 20-30 seconds but might take several minutes depending on how busy the cellular or satellite communications network is. When the box displays "Finished" or disappears, you can proceed with the next step.

8. From the analog and digital inputs listed to the left, select the input for which you requested data.

9. Select the **Start Date** (📅) and nearest **Time** (🕐) that matches your data request.

10. To request current data for other inputs, repeat steps 3-8, selecting each input you want to chart in step 8.

11. Click **Create Chart**. The chart displays with the current data.

Sample chart with requested data

Export data to a spreadsheet

If you need to share data with someone else or just want to keep your own data archive, you can export the values displayed on the chart to a simple .CSV (Excel-compatible) file that contains the selected data. You can also use Excel, or other spreadsheet programs, to plot the data in your own choice of format.

Sample .CSV file

To export the data to a .CSV follow the steps below.

1. Once you have created a chart, click **Export Data**.

2. When prompted by your browser to open or save the file, click the option to save the file.
3. Save the file to an easy-to-remember place in your computer.
4. Once the download is complete, you can open the file.

Appendix B: Monitor and Control the Lodestar via Inbound Telephone

In addition to receiving phone calls and user notifications from the M2M system via telephone, you can dial directly into the M2M Network Operations Center at any time using any telephone in North America.

The toll-free number is **1-877-747-9500.**

Call this number to do the following:

- Listen to the status of all selected inputs and outputs.
- Turn any output on or off.

When the system answers your call, it will ask for your Voice Personal Identification Number or PIN. This number is available on the Account Information page.

PIN Location

After entering your Voice PIN, you will hear a list of options including listening to the status of the monitored inputs and controlling the outputs.

The voice service provides you with the available options and which keys to press to select each option.

> **Note:** At anytime during the phone session, press the Pound (#) key to return to the previous option.

Tech Support

For assistance, questions, or suggestions, contact us at 208-947-9500. Office hours are 8:00 am - 5:00 pm MST, Monday through Friday. For prompt answers by e-mail, submit carefully described problems to support@m2mcomm.com.

Troubleshooting Procedure

Follow the steps below to troubleshoot the device.

Step One: Perform a Visual Inspection

Follow ALL of the steps below to perform a visual inspection of the device.

1. Turn power off to the device.
2. Visually inspect all wiring to ensure that the connections are tight.
3. If connections are loose, shut off the main panel power to the M2M device, tighten the connections, and turn the power to the M2M device back on.
4. Visually inspect the circuit assembly for ANY blown or burnt components or circuit board traces.
5. Inspect Relay at OUT1 for burn marks.
6. Inspect the digital input and the smaller transformer for burn or brown marks.
7. Inspect the circuit board around the Main transformer, IN1 and OUT1 for any deformities.
8. **REJECT** any device to an RMA case that has burns or deformities and replace the field device with a new unit.
9. Verify the Pwr LED is ON.

Pwr LED is Not Lit (On)

Follow the steps below if the Pwr LED in **NOT** lit.

1. Shut off the main panel power to the M2M device.
2. Inspect the Main power transformer for burn marks or deformities in the yellow tape wrap over the coil windings.
3. If the main power transformer shows burns or deformities, reject the device to an RMA case in the CRM system and replace the device in the field.
4. Using a Digital Volt Meter (DVM), check continuity on the main input fuse(s). Replace defective fuses with 600V/3A rated parts.

Step Two: Perform a Communications Test

Follow the steps below to test the device's signal strength and determine if the device is communicating with the NOC.

1. Connect to the M2M device with a laptop computer and a terminal program.
2. Verify the "Status OK" message is present.
3. Enter into the device menu.
4. Follow the steps below for the appropriate radio type.

You should run the communications several times with a high percentage of successes.

Satellite Units

1. Verify that the modem has a signal by pressing zero (**0**) to select "Check Signal Strength."

2. After checking the signal, the unit returns a number between 0-5. Zero (0) means there is no signal and 5 means there is a strong signal.

    > **Note:** It is possible to see a temporary "window" of no satellite coverage for 5-10 minutes. During this time, the reading can be zero (0) or low. This is okay.

3. Press **1** to select "Send Test Report." The device will build a report and send it to the M2M NOC. It will then wait for the response from the M2M NOC to be successful.

4. Once a successful transmission is completed, press **m** to return to the main menu. If the communications test takes a long time (more than three minutes), the unit might need a high-gain antenna. Generally, the communications test should pass every time, not just occasionally. If not, the unit might need a high-gain antenna.

M200/M300 Kyocera CDMA Units:

1. Press zero (**0**) to select menu option "0-Check Cell Service." The Device starts sampling cellular signal strength.

2. The signal should be -96 dB or better. If not, install a high-gain antenna.

    *   Decibel (dB) numbers are negative, so lower numbers are stronger signals.

    *   RSSI numbers are positive, so larger numbers are stronger.

    *   To convert the radio's RSSI value to dB, simply add it to -114 dB.

        > Example: an RSSI of 20 = - 94
        > 20 + -114 = -94

    *   No signal at all is RSSI = 0 or -114 dB.

    *   If the factory antenna installed inside the housing is resulting in poor signal strength, the unit might need a high-gain antenna to improve signal quality.

3. Press any key.

4. Once an acceptable signal has been verified, press **1** to select menu option "1-Full Communications Test."

    This sends a report to the M2M NOC and the device waits for a response from the M2M NOC to be successful.

5. Once the "Test Passed" message shows, press **m** to return to the main device menu.

    If the communications test takes a long time (more than three minutes), the unit might need a high-gain antenna. Generally, the communications test should pass every time, not just occasionally. If not, the unit might need a high-gain antenna.

Motorola (C24) CDMA Units:

1. From the main device menu, press **1** to select menu option "1-Modem Utility Menu."
   This displays the communications menu.

2. Press 1 to select menu option "1-Check Cell Service." The device starts sampling cellular signal strength.

3. If the use of the factory antenna is resulting in poor signal strength, the unit might need a high-gain antenna to improve signal quality.

4. Press any key.

5. Once an acceptable signal has been reached/verified, press **3** to select menu option "3-Full Communications Test." This sends a device report to the M2M NOC. Then the device waits for a response from the M2M NOC to be successful.

6. Once the "Test Passed" message is shown, press **m** to return to the main device menu.

   If the communications test takes a long time (more than three minutes), the unit might need a high-gain antenna. Generally, the communications test should pass every time, not just occasionally. If not, the unit might need a high-gain antenna.

Step Three: Functional Test

Follow the steps below top perform the functional test **while in the local program menu within a terminal program**.

> **Use caution when turning pumps on and off. There are minimum off times required before restarting a pump. Rapidly cycling a pump off and on can damage the pump. Verify that the connected equipment can be turned on and off without causing any equipment damage.**

1. Select **Control Outputs**.
2. Press **1** to select output 1 and then zero (**0**). This turns the pump OFF.
3. Press **m** to return to the main menu.
4. Select **Read & Set I/O Values**. Verify that the input reading is at, or close to, zero (0).
5. Press **m** to return to the main menu
6. Select **Control Outputs**.
7. Press **1** and then **1** again to turn the pump ON.
8. Press **m** to return to the main menu
9. Select **Read & Set I/O Values**. Depending on the measured input voltage, the reading can range from 250 up to 1023.
10. Verify that the input reading changes with the input voltage changes.

Lodestar Troubleshooting Tips

Troubleshooting with a Computer

The best way to troubleshoot the device is to allow the unit to display the status messages to the computer. These messages will tell you what the unit is thinking and doing.

If you do not have a computer with you, the on-board LEDs indicate key operating events and can be useful in troubleshooting and system testing. More information about troubleshooting using the LEDs is available in the Troubleshooting Transmission or Cellular Reception Problems section.

1. Verify that the device has power. There is a green "PWR" LED. It should be ON.
2. Verify that the antenna is tightly connected.
3. On the computer, open the terminal emulator program. Terminal emulator programs include HyperTerminal, Tera Term, Putty, and many others. Commercially available terminal emulator programs such as ProComm or Hyper Access may offer features that are more advanced.
4. Set the terminal communications settings to:

   - 38,400 baud
   - 8 bits
   - 1 stop bit
   - No parity
   - No flow control

5. Verify the communication port is set to the serial port where you connected the cable, and there are no conflicts with other serial devices such as a modem.
6. Use a 9-pin serial cable/adapter to connect the Lodestar to the computer's serial port.

   9-pin serial to USB adapter

7. When the communication program is running AND the connector is connected, the Lodestar automatically detects the computer. Both the red and green RSSI LEDs turn on and the device enters the local programming mode.
8. Press **Enter** to display the following menu:

9. Press **8** to select **Display Status Messages**. The Lodestar starts sending status messages to the computer as conditions change or events occur. These messages help you understand what the system is doing and are useful for troubleshooting.

   Note: If you turn the device on with the computer and terminal emulator already on, the Lodestar automatically starts sending these messages. If not, press **9** on the main menu.

Watch these messages carefully. If the device appears not to be operating correctly, these messages should explain the problem. A significant (bad) message might display and then scroll on by. This does not mean that it was unimportant!

Note: To stop the status messages and return to the menu, press any key.

9. Correct any issues indicated by the status messages.
10. Test the device again. If the device still is not operating correctly, contact M2M technical support at 208-947-9500. Office hours are 8:00 am - 5:00 pm MST, Monday - Friday.

For prompt answers by e-mail, please submit carefully described problems to support@m2mcomm.com.

Troubleshooting Transmission or Cellular Reception Problems

The M121 should operate anywhere there is cell coverage and the Iridium version operates anywhere it can see the sky. Both the Lodestar and the cellular/Internet transport system have proven to be very reliable and repeatable. In general, once the installation is set up and working, there are no ongoing problems. There are two categories of installation problems:

- Transmission or reception problems at the device level.
- Data lost in the carrier system.

Experience has shown that transmission or reception problems fall into one of two areas:

- Inadequate signal strength.
- Too much signal strength.

Inadequate Signal Strength

If you are installing the device in a remote location like Siberia, there may not be adequate signal strength. In this case, the RSSI will be less than or equal to −105 db. This is actually a rare problem in most of North America. To fix this, M2M has a variety of pre-tested, higher gain and/or directional antennas available.

Too Much Signal Strength

This is a more common problem, related to installations that are very close to cell towers and/or environments with nearby metal structures. Common examples are installations inside metal buildings or in buildings with internal metal structures or large metal objects nearby.

The problem occurs when the device's transmission echoes from the nearby metal and effectively sends several simultaneous messages (echoes) to the cell tower. The cell tower gets confused and rejects the call. The solution to this is to move the antenna to a different location inside or outside of the building until you find a good transmission point. Happy hunting! Luckily, you usually have to move the antenna only a few inches.

If the Status Message or Green LED Indicates a Good Transmission

If the device receives a positive acknowledgement from the cell tower and lights the green LED for one second, it has done its job. The cellular network sent, received, and acknowledged the data. If the data fails to display at the M2M Web site, the data may be getting lost in the carrier network. Like winning the lottery, this is uncommon, but does occasionally happen in new installations. Contact M2M Technical Support and we will track it down for you.