



PRODUCT ADVISORY LETTER (PAL)

PRODUCT ADVISORY LETTER NO.: F046-08003

DATE: 04-20-2008

AFFECTED PRODUCT(S): FOCUS multiplexers with optical transceiver modules.

AFFECTED MODULE(S): Any single or dual laser transceiver, with or without hot standby, using SC, ST, or FC-PC connectors that were received between 6-6-2006 and 3-15-2008 should be examined. Transceiver modules with assembly number F020-LASMN-xxx are NOT part of this PAL.

SYMPTOM(s): The detector will appear to operate properly for both low and high levels of optical attenuation, but may cause alarms at various points *between* -3 and -36 dBm receive levels. The exact attenuation points that will cause the alarms, and subsequent data loss, will vary from unit to unit.

RECOMMENDATION: Ametek recommends all optical modules received in the above time frame be inspected and that the corrective action listed below be taken if miss-wiring is indicated as described in TECHNICAL DETAILS below. This is recommended whether or not the above symptom has been experienced to date.

CORRECTIVE ACTION: Call Ametek at 800-785-7274 (customer service) to obtain an RMA number and reference this PAL. Modules can be returned to Ametek in Coral Springs for updating and retesting. Advance replacement modules are available upon request. This modification is available at no charge and will not affect any applicable remaining product warranty.

TECHNICAL DETAILS: In June of 2006 we switched manufacturers for the detectors used on our optical transceiver modules. Recently, we became aware that some of the new detectors were miss-wired when installed onto the optical transceiver modules. The majority of the miss-wired detectors will function properly when first placed into service, but could show errors if the overall attenuation between the FOCUS nodes changes.

The detectors on the laser transceivers are identified as LE2 on single, LE2 and LE5 on dual modules and LE3 and LE2 on Four-Fiber-Hot-Standby Aux. boards. The new detector can be identified by a white sticker with a six-digit black number on top of the device. It should also have a series resistor and capacitor connected to one of the leads. Because the pin configuration of this new device is changed, two of the four wires leading from this device need to be crossed before they are soldered into the PCB. Properly wired "new" devices can be identified by observing both of the following conditions. ("Old" devices, not identified with a white sticker as above, will not have either of these two items and do not require any "crossed" leads.)

1. A plastic sleeve protecting one of the wires from shorting to one other wire.
2. A series resistor and capacitor are added to one of the wires.

If you identify the new manufacturer's detector, and you don't see a plastic sleeve on one of the wires, indicating a wire flip, then it is probable that your device is miss-wired. (Note: The presence of number 2 above alone does NOT indicate a properly wired device.) If there are any questions about whether or not your units are candidates for this modification, please contact customer service in Coral Springs.

Ametek Power Instruments appreciates your past support and we want to continue to provide you the best service possible. Please help us by letting us know if future notices for our FOCUS products should be sent to another individual.

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