Goddard Design Co. - Lighting Test Products
Release Notes for *Lil'*DMXter V1.81 software.
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June 2, 2006

V1.81

While we may very well release future updates for the original *Lil'*DMXter (FD DMX-1x) the code will be reasonably stable from here on. This update is considered as tying up loose ends. There are several reasons for this.

● The last **version 1** hardware shipped in early 2000.
● The EPROM is full. There is no room for large new blocks of software.
● Future versions of DMX512 will require hardware not designed into this hardware.

We changed our default transmit flavor to conform to the slightly expanded requirements of DMX512-A, making our former default flavor (DMX512/1990) into the first alternate you may choose.

We dropped the scope trigger code from version V1.70 because of code storage space limits. However, we have had a number of requests to bring out a version with otherwise up to date code which includes **Receive Scope Trigger**. So V1.80 is going to be available in several different versions to meet various requirements. The user can pick which routines meet their requirements.

It should be noted that to fit **Receive Scope Trigger** and some new E1.11 routines requires dropping other routines, one of which is **Single Ended Cable Test**. In most cases the same function can be achieved by using **Flicker Finder**.

V181A   Includes:
    ShowSaver, Multi Channel Mode, the new E1.11 routines and all standard DMXter features except for **Receive Scope Trigger**.

C181A
    This version is V180A with support for the Colortran protocol. This version requires special hardware. The optional user ID string at boot up is not available on Colortran units.

V181B   Includes:
    Receive Scope Trigger, Multi Channel Mode, the new E1.11 routines and all standard DMXter features except for **Single Ended Cable Test** and **ShowSaver.**

V181C   Includes:
    Receive Scope Trigger, ShowSaver, the new E1.11 routines and all standard DMXter features except for **Single Ended Cable Test** and **Multi Channel Mode.**

Common features of these versions.

Lingering references to "dimmer" when we mean 'slot' have been removed. Certain text messages have been made briefer; the sign-on version number being the most visible of these changes. We feel that readability hasn't suffered - in fact it should have improved and it saves EPROM space.

Routines to send the Hex 55 test messages and a canned E1.11 formatted text message have been added. The Hex55 message is identical to that fitted on DMXter2 software version 2.30 up. The text message routine is a simplified version of the one fitted on the DMXter2.

A routine to receive and display E1.11 text messages identical to the one fitted on the DMXter2 version 2.30 up is included. DMX text messages are used by a number of manufacturers, including Goddard Design, to provide setup and operational informational output on products with limited user interfaces

When the DMXter was first sold, DMX512 was about Null START Code packets; alternate START Code messages were a curiosity. If a data stream of mixed Null and ASC messages is being received, it is not

obvious if it has updated the Null packet. The NO DATA timeout only times out if NO packets of any start code are received. With our old software it was not possible to easily tell if packets currently being displayed had been updated. We found this to be annoying when using the DMXter to test multi-START Code DMX. So we have added a small change to **VIEW LEVELS** in the receive menu.
Now, in **VIEW LEVELS,** pressing the <DOWN> key will clear the buffer as well as restart reception if that is needed. Pressing the <UP> simply restarts reception as it always has.

This version swatted a bug that caused the VIEW LEVELS summary screen to report incorrectly how many slots were in a packet if that packet had either 255 or 511 slots. It also swatted one that caused **view captured levels** in **receive scope trigger** not to find slots higher than 199..

Additional changes were made to **ADJUST ONE DIMMER**, **AUTOFADE ONE DIMMER** and **ADJUST ALL DIMMERS**. All were now changed from **DIMMER** to '**SLOT**'.

Compared to V1.70, V1.80 has a new release of our **ShowSaver** software. The primary change is a more flexible monitor mode. The new monitor mode will allow the DMXter to take control automatically in the event of a failure. The older version notified the user of a failure and saved the last look on stage but it did not start to transmit that look without operator intervention.