



BAS Dealer Information Note 05/16/98

BAS and the Year 2000

What is Year 2000 compliant?

Microsoft determines a software product to be Year 2000 compliant if it functions without errors or User intervention through the year 2035. The C programming language, the predominant software development platform for PCs, can only deal with dates through January 18, 2038. Presumably this issue will be resolved sometime before that date arrives.

The question has been raised about a PCs ability to deal with leap year on February 29, 2000. This will not cause a problem on PCs running DOS or Windows.

Host PC System Software and Remote Monitoring Software

BAS System and Remote software is fully Year 2000 compliant for all versions beginning with 3.9f. Versions prior to 3.9f have a formatting error in the name of the all monthly Trend and Alarm logs created after January 1, 2000. This error prevents the System as recognizing the file as a valid log when the User attempts to access it.

RSC and EPROMs

All RSC types (1, 2, & 3) and all EPROM versions are fully Year 2000 compliant and will function fine even beyond the current date limitation of January 18, 2038 built into the C language.

PC BIOS System Clock

The PC BIOS clock on all BAS Host PCs needs to be tested for Year 2000 compliance. The following test procedure will confirm compliance. If the test fails, it will be necessary to use the BIOS setup utility to manually reset the clock on January 1, 2000.

Test BIOS to ensure that it handles the rollover, using the following steps:

1. Using a test system, set the date/time to December 31, 1999, at 11:59 p.m.
2. Allow the date to rollover into the year 2000.
3. Turn the computer off for several minutes.
4. Restart the computer and check the date.

Gateway PCs provided by BAS

Gateway Pentium based systems will, without any modifications, function properly and roll over to the correct date when the year 2000 arrives. Older 486 and 386 based systems will rollover to the year 2000 and function properly in the new millennium provided they are left on through the change and are not re-booted. However, once the system is turned off, the date upon re-boot will not be correct. Because the real-time clock only stores the last two digits of the year, it will attempt to set the year to 1900 instead of the year 2000.

The real-time clock in these 486 and 386 based systems will need to be manually reset after the year 2000 rollover. Gateway recommends the use of the DOS Date command to reset the real-time clock. Once the DOS Date command is completed, the system real-time clock will function properly and will continue to do so at each subsequent re-boot.

This is done as follows:

For systems with Dos 6.x / Windows 3.x:

1. If the system has not been re-booted since the year 2000 roll over, do so.
2. Close BAS.
3. Exit windows by Choosing File, Exit Windows from the Program Manager screen.
4. At a DOS prompt type the following command: C:\> date 01-01-2000
5. Press Enter
6. Re-boot the system. The date should now be correct.

For systems with Windows 95 / 98 etc:

1. If the system has not been re-booted since the year 2000 roll over, do so.
2. Close BAS.
3. Restart the computer in MS-DOS mode. This can be done by choosing the Start Button, selecting Shutdown, Clicking on "Restart the computer in MS-DOS mode" and clicking on Yes.
4. At a DOS prompt type the following command: C:\> date 01-01-2000
5. Press Enter
6. Re-boot the system. The date should now be correct.