



PRODUCT NOTICE

PN Number 101 Revision 2

VIPER TF FLASH CHANGE NOTIFICATION

Issue Date:	31 Oct 2011	Circulation:	General
Board Version:	2	Board Issue:	3 and 4A
ECO Reference:	3748	MODBOX:	E

Notice:

Summary

This note is provided to highlight a change to the on-board NOR flash used on the VIPER board. The flash part changes from Intel 28FxxxP30T to Intel 28FxxxP30**TF** due to device obsolescence.

Issues or Problems the user may experience

The key difference between the 28FxxxP30T and 28FxxxP30**TF** flash parts relate to how the last block, which is subdivided into 4 x 32MB blocks, is now implemented as well as some subtle changes in the mechanisms used to control block erasure on the flash in general. The VIPER is typically supplied with either Linux or Windows CE. On systems that fail to take account of the newer flash part, users can expect to see flash file system failures. These can manifest in boot failures or runtime errors.

User Implications

On Linux based VIPER systems, the last block is used to store the '*fconfig*' data. To support this on the newer TF part, RedBoot needs to be updated to v3i9. Linux images created for the VIPER after AELv4i2b can be used on TF flash based boards by applying the latest RedBoot version. This can be obtained from Eurotech Technical Support. On Linux releases greater than AEL v4i2b, it is not necessary to update the Linux kernel or file system.

On Windows CE based units, both the eBOOT boot loader *and* the Windows CE Flash driver need to be updated to accommodate the newer flash type. This means that previous Windows CE images created for the VIPER cannot be directly used on TF flash based VIPER boards.

If you normally receive Windows CE boards with our standard image and simply add your applications on top of this on a board by board basis, then you should be able to continue to use the VIPER board in exactly the same way. If you have created an image that you download in order to speed up this process, then you will need to recreate this by adding your application on top of the new base image.

Change Details and Other Information

New development kit based images are currently available for both Windows CE and Linux. PN101 (this product notice) has been updated to reference AEL v4i2b.

Product list

657X-00655-XXX-XXX– All v2i3 and v2i4A VIPER boards
All products based on above VIPER versions.

We sincerely apologise for any inconvenience this may cause you and your end users.

If you have any questions about this please contact Eurotech Technical support.