



a xylem brand

SonTek Firmware Release Notes

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CastAway-CTD Firmware Version 1.63

SonTek, a Xylem brand has released CastAway-CTD firmware version 1.63. This firmware is required for a new GPS module and a new Bluetooth chip as these components are no longer available from the manufacturers. Firmware version 1.63 is required on all systems manufactured after April 2018. Existing customers can upgrade to version 1.63 if they would like to, but it is not a requirement.

1 Changes in Firmware Version 1.63

- 1.1 New drivers added to the firmware to support the new GPS and Bluetooth components.
- 1.2 Minor bug fixes associated with the measurement process.
- 1.3 Fixed a bug in v1.62 that was causing an issue during calibration

2 Installing Firmware Update

- 2.1 Firmware version 1.63 must be installed with CastAway-CTD Software version 1.5 or above. The software can be installed by running the setup.exe file included in the CastAway-CTD software zip file.
- 2.2 Make sure there is sufficient battery life remaining on the CastAway. If the batteries are low, install a new set before updating the firmware. Installing new firmware with low batteries could lead to an interruption and unsuccessful installation.
- 2.3 Prior to updating the firmware, backup all existing data files and reformat the CastAway memory. The firmware update may not work properly if the recorder has not been formatted. To backup data, connect the CastAway to the PC Software and navigate to maintenance from the main menu. To reformat the recorder, navigate to the devices tab in the PC software. Under Tasks, click on the Format Memory button. A message will alert you that all files on the CastAway will be deleted.
- 2.4 Under Tasks, click on the More button, then Firmware info/upgrade. Click OK to confirm you would like to upgrade from the current version. An information window will provide details on the firmware upgrade process. Read and click OK. You will

then be prompted to select the firmware file (.ctdfw). Browse to the file location and click Open. When prompted, click OK to proceed with the firmware upgrade.

- 2.5 The upgrade will take several minutes. Do not turn the instrument off, exit the software, or use other applications on your PC during the upgrade process. If the firmware upgrade process is accidentally interrupted the instrument will still operate using the old firmware and/or exhibit unusual behavior. In this case, the upgrade process should be repeated. During the firmware installation it will be normal to see messages such as, “missing screen: home” or “missing screen: splash” displayed on the CTD.
- 2.6 To verify that the system has been successfully upgraded, go to the system information screen on the CastAway-CTD and verify firmware version 1.63. If the instrument shows that it is still running the old firmware, the connection to the instrument was probably disrupted inadvertently during the upgrade and the upgrade process will need to be repeated.

Contact Information

We welcome any comments, questions, or suggestions you have regarding CastAway-CTD firmware version 1.63.

SonTek Support

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