



SightLine
APPLICATIONS

EAN-Managing the Parameter File

PN: EAN-Managing-the-Parameter-File

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Alerts

The following notifications are used throughout the document to help identify important safety and setup information to the user:

 **CAUTION:** Alerts to a potential hazard that may result in personal injury, or an unsafe practice that causes damage to the equipment if not avoided.

 **IMPORTANT:** Identifies crucial information that is important to setup and configuration procedures.

 *Used to emphasize points or reminds the user of something. Supplementary information that aids in the use or understanding of the equipment or subject that is not critical to system use.*



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1 Overview

The parameter file on each board contains system and configuration startup settings. This guide outlines both dynamic and non-dynamic settings and how to manage these using the Panel Plus Software application.

1.1 Associated Documents

[EAN-Startup Guide 1500-OEM](#): Describes steps for connecting, configuring, and testing the 1500-OEM board on the 1500-AB accessory board.

[EAN-Startup Guide 3000-OEM](#): Describes the steps for connecting, configuring, and testing the 3000-OEM video processing board on the 3000-IO interface board.

[EAN-Firmware Upgrade Utility](#): Outlines the steps for installing and running the Firmware Upgrade Utility. Describes the steps for rebooting the video processor from a MicroSD card.

[Interface Command and Control \(IDD\)](#): Describes the native communications protocol used by the SightLine Applications product line. The IDD is also available as a local download on the [Software Download](#) page.

EAN-Panel Plus User Guide: (Located in the Panel Plus application in the *Help* menu) Provides descriptions of all the settings in the Panel Plus application.

1.2 Hardware Compatibility

Standard Ethernet network or serial connection to the SightLine hardware.

1.3 SightLine Software Requirements

The 3000-OEM (REV C) requires firmware 2.24.xx and higher.

ⓘ IMPORTANT: The Panel Plus software version should match the firmware version running on the board.

1.4 Third Party Software

[Tera Term](#) or [PuTTY](#): Terminal emulator programs used for debug output, or to issue commands on SLA hardware.

Additional information and links to third party software can be found on the SightLine [website](#).





1.5 Parameter File Description

The parameter file contains system configuration definitions for the board. The parameter file is loaded at system startup. Changes to system and configuration definitions are made via the Panel Plus software or directly with SightLine's communication protocol.

The Panel Plus application provides multiple ways to save settings to the parameter file. The main menu (*Parameters » Save to board*) is the primary path used to save settings to the board.

 *The parameter file name used is the same for all SLA boards (param51ac9a4a.txt).*

-  **IMPORTANT:** The parameter file format changed with firmware release 2.23.x. The parameter file format can change with major releases. Some older releases of firmware may not be able to read new formats. It is recommended to use the same versions of Panel Plus and firmware to ensure compatibility.
-  **IMPORTANT:** In troubleshooting situations, sending the parameter file to SightLine can help expedite the troubleshooting process. See the [EAN-Firmware Upgrade Utility](#) document for steps on how to download the file from the board. In some troubleshooting procedures it may be advantageous to delete the parameter file, and either reload a copy of a known good file or reset the board to factory defaults. Before removing the file or resetting the board it is important to record the current network, pass-through, and camera configuration settings.

2 Configuring Dynamic and Non-Dynamic Settings

Some changes to configuration settings are made immediately and are referred to as *dynamic*. Other settings, to become active, must first be written to the parameter file and then loaded at system startup or reboot. These are referred to as *non-dynamic*.

When to save:

- All settings that need to be preserved through system restarts should be saved to the board.
- Most hardware and camera setup related settings are non-dynamic and require a save and system reboot before they take effect.
- Settings most often used during video processing are dynamic and take effect immediately.

Table 1 lists functions containing configuration settings that are dynamic. They do not require a board restart.



Table 1: Dynamic Parameter Settings (reboot not required)

Dynamic Parameter Setting	Description
Compression	Output options including frame size, bit rate, I-Frame interval, delivery format, streaming destination IP and Port
Video	Pan, enhancement, false color, image control, display, and stabilization
Tracking	Tracking modes, track-box size, index, and acquisition assist
Detection	Detection modes, frame step, sensitivity, background threshold, watch frames, temperature (radio metric) modes,
Recording	Start/stop video clips, snapshots, capture, display
Multi Camera	Display PiP, camera selection
Overlays	Text, lines, boxes, circles, cursor
User Palate	Allows a custom color palette for the radiometric display data
Lens	Focus and zoom
Acquisition Settings	Region of interest

Table 2 lists areas within the Panel Plus application that contain configuration setting that are non-dynamic and must be saved to the parameter file and the system restarted prior to taking effect.

Table 2: Non-Dynamic Parameter Settings (save and reboot required)

Non-Dynamic Parameter Setting	Description
Acquisition Settings	Camera type / resolution / settings
Network Settings	IP address / settings
Communications	Serial port settings / options
Lens	Lens type

ⓘ IMPORTANT: All settings that need to be preserved through system restarts should be saved to the board. Main menu » *Parameters* » *Save to board*.



3 Controlling Parameter File with Panel Plus

Table 3 lists the menu options that control the Parameter file.

Table 3: Panel Plus Menu Functions that relate to the Parameter File

Panel Plus Main Menu	
Parameters	
Download	Downloads a copy of the parameter file to the PC
Save to Board	Save parameters stored in memory to the parameter file
Request All	Gets all current settings from the board (refreshes Panel Plus)
Reset	
Board	Restart the board and load the last saved parameter file
Factory Defaults (params)	Deletes the parameter file on the board and restart. System resets to factory default settings. Network IP address will also reset to factory default. See the startup guide
Soft Reset	Resets most dynamic settings on the board
Help	
About Board	Snapshot of the boards configuration and allows parameter and license file capturing
User Guide	Online users guide for the Panel Plus application

4 Renaming / Moving the Parameter File

The following instructions were written for the 1500-OEM, but also apply to the 3000-OEM. Additional steps for the 3000-OEM are specified.

When logging into the SLA-hardware the default username and password are *root*.

The same procedure can be done using SSH instead of the serial port. This assumes the SLA-hardware is on the network and the IP address of the unit is known. Test by using PING tools to query the SLA-hardware. If using SSH first, proceed to step 8 below.

Figure 1: Example Using SSH to Connect to SLA-Hardware

Problem: The 1500-OEM seems to have power, but the video does not display. Connection cannot be made over the network or the serial port.

Analysis: The boot cycle is not being completed. This is most likely due to a combination of settings. The solution is to interrupt the boot cycle using the serial port, rename or move the suspect parameter file to a temporary file, and then reboot the hardware.



i IMPORTANT: If you are unsure how to complete any of the steps below, do not proceed. Contact [Support](#) for further assistance.

i IMPORTANT: The following procedure assumes that:

- analog video in and out and network and serial communication are working.
- all the cables are connected properly.
- a 1500-OEM and 1500-AB (or similar) are being used.

If these assumptions are not correct do not proceed. Contact [Support](#) further assistance.

The 1500-AB board uses a DB-9 connector for RS-232C communication for use with a PC. Only 3 pins are used (2, 3, 5). If you are using a serial port that does not support the RS-232C voltage levels do not proceed. Contact [Support](#) for further assistance.

1. Power off the 1500-OEM.
2. Connect the 1500-AB board serial port to the host PC.

A null modem cable or adapter may be required for this procedure.

3. From the PC run a terminal emulator / console such as [PuTTY](#) or [TeraTerm](#) (or similar).

The baud rate for debugging is 115200.

4. Apply power to the 1500-OEM.
5. In the terminal window hold the Shift key down and repeatedly press the S key (Shift+S). This will disrupt the boot process on the board.
6. In the terminal window, at the command prompt type: `boot`

```
COM7 - PuTTY
OMAP Logic # boot
Booting from nand...


NAND read: device 0 offset 0x300000, size 0x2a0000
2752512 bytes read: OK
## Booting kernel from Legacy Image at 81000000 ...
Image Name:   Linux-3.0.0-BSP-dm37x-2.3-2SLA-s
Image Type:   ARM Linux Kernel Image (uncompressed)
Data Size:    2401260 Bytes = 2.3 MiB
Load Address: 80008000
Entry Point:  80008000
Verifying Checksum ... OK
Loading Kernel Image ... OK
OK
```




7. More text will slowly display (it varies based on error). Press the Enter key to stop the VideoTrack1500.
8. At the SLA_1500_ login, enter the login and password:

Login: root

Password: root

 Enter the login and password twice if needed.

```
route add -host 255.255.255.255 dev eth0
vidTsk_core: FPGA version = 0x0
Assuming eth0
Available Network Interfaces:
    lo
    eth0
IP = 169.254.1.180  NETMASK = 255.255.0.0
Hit ENTER to terminate the program...

SLA1500_ login: █
```

9. Linux command prompt:

- a. Type: `ls`

This command lists all the files. Verify that the `param51ac9a4a.txt` file is shown.

- b. For the 3000-OEM type: `mount -w -o remount /`


- c. Type: `mv param51ac9a4a.txt param51ac9a4a.backup`

- d. For the 3000-OEM type: `mount -r -o remount /`

- e. For the 3000-OEM type: `sync`

- f. Type: `reboot`

The 1500-OEM should begin the reboot cycle and start in factory default mode.

 IMPORTANT: When the system reboots, if there is no analog video in/out or network connectivity do not proceed further. Contact [Support](#) for further assistance.



4.1 Additional Tasks in U-Boot (1500-OEM only)

At the OMAP Logic # prompt (after Shift+S in step 5):

- `setenv bootdelay 1` # sets a delay in seconds before Linux kernel loads
setting to zero make SHIFT+S Impossible
- `saveenv` # saves u-boot args to NAND flash
- `setenv silent 1` # disable console window output
- `setenv silent` # re-enable console window output to serial
- `setenv bootargs run nfsboot` # boot from an NFS server rather than NAND
requires additional parameters to be set
- `setenv bootargs run nandboot` # boot from NAND rather than NFS Server
- `boot` # load and execute the Linux kernel
- `printenv` # shows all the u-boot args

```
COM7 - PuTTY
Hit any key to stop autoboot: 0
OMAP Logic # setenv bootdelay 1
OMAP Logic # saveenv
Saving Environment to NAND...
Erasing Nand...
Erasing at 0x260000 -- 100% complete.
Writing to Nand... done
OMAP Logic #
```

Figure 2: Changing Boot Delay in U-Boot

⚠ CAUTION: Care should be taken when working with system files. In the event the system becomes inoperable, the system can be recovered by creating a bootable microSD card. See the [EAN-Firmware Upgrade Utility](#) document for more information.

5 Questions and Additional Support

If you are still having issues and require additional support, please contact [Technical Support](#). Additional support, documentation and Engineering Application Notes (EANs) can be found on the Support pages of the SightLine Applications [website](#).