



# Field Notice: EAS Force-Tune Setup for SR 4.3

## Overview

### Problem

System Release (SR) 4.3.x was designed so that the Emergency Alert System (EAS) force-tune channel has to use the SAM Service ID.

Although SRs 5.0 and later offer an option for setting the EAS force-tune channel without using the SAM Service ID, this is a feature that did not exist when SR 4.3.x was developed. This means that in order to accomplish an EAS force-tune without using the SAM Service ID in SR 4.3.x, the Source ID for the force-tuned channel must be equal to the SAM Service ID.

**Note:** Additionally, the SAM Service ID must be greater than 200 because Source IDs in the range of 1 to 200 are reserved by the DNCS.

### Background

There are several types of STBs and third-party devices operating on SR 4.3.x systems. Each device places constraints upon implementation of EAS force-tuning.

- Legacy DCHTs that do not support CableCARD modules. These devices use the *samserviceId* parameter in Cisco proprietary messaging to force-tune if they are using the SARA resident application.
- Hosts with CableCARD modules. These devices use out-of-band SCTE-18 messaging for force-tuning, and therefore use the Source ID.
- Hosts that support CableCARD modules but do not have one. These devices use in-band SCTE-18 messaging for force-tuning, and therefore use the Source ID.
- PowerKEY® Digital Terminal Adapter 170 (pkDTA 170) devices. These devices expect the Source ID for force-tuning in Cisco proprietary messaging, but currently are receiving the *samserviceId* (this is the same messaging as the legacy DHCTs.) To change the proprietary messaging for the pkDTA 170 devices would break the messaging for the legacy DHCTs.

## **SR 4.3.x Force-Tuning Recommendations**

The method for supporting EAS force-tune in SR 4.3.x requires that the SAM Service ID be aligned with (equal to) the currently defined force-tune Source ID. If a change in this SAM Service ID/Source ID relationship is needed, it requires the assistance of Cisco© engineers. Contact Cisco Services for assistance in implementing this change should your system require it.

**Note:** With SR 4.3.x, you can only have one force-tune channel.

## About This Field Notice

### **Audience**

This document is written for system operators of the Digital Broadband Delivery System (DBDS) who support SR 4.3.x. Engineers who help support and maintain the DBDS will also find this document to be useful.

### **Document Version**

This is the first formal release of this document.

## For More Information

If you have additional technical questions, call Cisco Services at 770 236-2200 or 866 787-3866 for assistance. Follow the menu options to speak with a service engineer.



Cisco Systems, Inc.  
5030 Sugarloaf Parkway, Box 465447  
Lawrenceville, GA 30042

678 277-1120  
800 553-6387  
[www.cisco.com](http://www.cisco.com)

Cisco and the Cisco logo are trademarks or registered trademarks of Cisco and/or its affiliates in the U.S. and other countries. To view a list of Cisco trademarks, go to this URL:

**[www.cisco.com/go/trademarks](http://www.cisco.com/go/trademarks)**.

CableCARD is a trademark of Cable Television Laboratories, Inc.

Other third party trademarks mentioned are the property of their respective owners.

The use of the word partner does not imply a partnership relationship between Cisco and any other company. (1110R)

Product and service availability are subject to change without notice.

© 2013 Cisco and/or its affiliates. All rights reserved.

February 2013

Part Number OL-28818-01