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Digi XBee 3 Global LTE-M/NB-IoT Release Notes

Digi XBee 3 Global LTE-M/NB-IoT

Version 1161C (December, 2023)

INTRODUCTION

These are the release notes for Digi XBee 3 Global LTE-M/NB-IoT.

SUPPORTED PRODUCTS

- [Digi XBee 3 Global LTE-M/NB-IoT](#)

KNOWN ISSUES

1. By-pass mode is now deprecated and is not recommended for new designs. XBee 3 Cellular products support direct USB to access the cellular modem directly. See the user manual for details on how to configure your XBee to use direct USB.
2. Module with SPI mode enabled and pending Status frames to send to the SPI Master will not go to sleep.
3. Closing a TLS session and then immediately opening a new one may result in failure. To workaround, insert a small delay (~5s). [XBCELL-3732]
4. Intermittent failure to go to sleep or wake up when using pin sleep with the SPI_nSSEL line while in SPI mode. [XBCELL-3100]
5. Internal logic can interfere with USB operation in direct USB mode when configured for anything other than bypass (AP=5). [XBCELL-3753]
6. It may not be possible to interrupt MicroPython autostart if the application performs a soft reset very quickly. Workaround: delay the soft reset by a second using `time.sleep(1)`. [XBPY-796]
7. Connections to the BLE API Service within five seconds of waking from sleep can sometimes fail to perform the unlock sequence.
8. Instances where the desired BLE connection type is "Display YesNo" with legacy pairing being used the XBee will request LE Secure Connections instead of using "Just Works". This will cause the XBee to fail to pair as LESC will be disabled on the other device. [XBPY-862]
9. The GNSS and Cellular share certain circuitry, and cannot be run at the same time together. The GNSS On Demand and raw NMEA feature will close the cellular network connection when obtaining GNSS data. Likewise, the GNSS functionality cannot be used while the cellular connection is up.
10. SMS transmissions can be delayed significantly (>30 s) and result in duplicate messages using cellular component version 37.00.xx3. This will be fixed in a future release from the cellular

component vendor. [XBCELL-7570]

11. The ATAS (Active Scan) command can return reports for unidentified cells (missing cellid and area code) [XBCELL-7166]
12. For UDP sockets, it is required to either connect or bind the socket before being able to use send or sendto.

UPDATE BEST PRACTICES

Digi recommends the following best practices:

1. Test the new release in a controlled environment with your application before you update production devices.
2. Unless otherwise noted, apply updates in the following order:
 1. Device firmware
 2. Modem/Module firmware
 3. Configuration
 4. Application

Digi recommends Digi Remote Manager for automated device updates. For more information, go to <https://www.digi.com/products/iot-platform/digi-remote-manager>.

If you prefer manually updating one device at a time, follow these steps: 1. [Update to latest firmware from XCTU](#)

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Get the help you need via our Technical Support team and online resources. Digi offers multiple support levels and professional services to meet your needs. All Digi customers have access to product documentation, firmware, drivers, knowledge base and peer-to-peer support forums.

Visit us at <https://www.digi.com/support> to find out more.

CHANGE LOG

1161C (December, 2023)

This is a recommended release.

NEW FEATURES

1. Updated MicroPython to version 1.20.0. This does change the bytecode format requiring recompilation of program code.
2. In MicroPython, `os.bundle()` now reserves 64 KiB of the XBee's internal flash. This is increased from 32 KiB on previous firmwares. [XBCELL-5885]
3. Adjusted Internet activation recovery timers to better adhere to common cellular carrier requirements. [XBCELL-9801]
4. In MicroPython, the `phyconfig` method was added to GAP connection objects, allowing configuration of the Bluetooth PHY selection – the default 1M PHY, or 2M PHY (higher data rate but reduced range). [XBCELL-9793]

5. GNSS Only Airplane mode available with ATAM=2. Disables Cellular connections while keeping Location services (GNSS) available. [XBCELL-9737, XBCELL-9845]
6. In MicroPython, the `digi.ble.format_address` and `digi.ble.parse_address` functions have been added, to aid in converting BLE MAC addresses between a human-readable format (e.g. "00:12:34:56:78:9A") and the 48-bit format presented by `gap_scan` and used in `gap_connect` (e.g. `b"\x00\x12\x34\x56\x78\x9A"`). [XBPY-1044, XBPY-1045]
7. To improve the reliability of the Digi Remote Manager SM/UDP Request Connect feature, the XBee no longer performs a UDP check-in with Digi Remote Manager if a TCP connection is already open, or if a datapoint/health metric upload will soon cause a TCP connection to be created. [XBCELL-9785]
8. The `math` module was added to MicroPython. [XBPY-1058]
 - Functions: `acos`, `asin`, `atan`, `atan2`, `ceil`, `copysign`, `cos`, `degrees`, `exp`, `fabs`, `floor`, `fmod`, `frexp`, `isfinite`, `isinf`, `isnan`, `ldexp`, `log`, `log10`, `modf`, `pow`, `radians`, `sin`, `sqrt`, `tan`, `trunc`
 - Constants: `e`, `pi`

BUG FIXES

1. In MicroPython, `os.bundle(None)` now performs a soft reboot of the REPL, to clear out stale data. [XBPY-1021]
2. Fixed an issue where the TCP connection to Remote Manager for publishing data points or health metrics could be delayed by several minutes unexpectedly. [XBCELL-9670]
3. Improved reliability of UDP sends performed very quickly after a TCP socket is opened. This improves the reliability of the "SM/UDP Request Connect" feature from Digi Remote Manager. [XBCELL-9674]
4. Fixed an issue where the XBee would be unresponsive on boot if a non-default value is saved for AT\$0, AT\$1 or AT\$2. [XBCELL-9788]
5. Repeated BLE connect and disconnect cycles no longer stop the device from advertising. [XBCELL-9844]
6. Fixed an issue where interacting with the XBee BLE API service would disrupt the output of data received in transparent mode. [XBCELL-9913]
7. Fixed an issue where MicroPython would cause the XBee to crash when using callbacks or certain other features. [XBCELL-9916]

1161B (June, 2023)

This is a recommended release.

NEW FEATURES

1. Include the cellular network type (2g, 4g) in the health metrics reported to Digi Remote Manager when HM bit 7 (Serving Cell Data) is set. [XBCELL-9069]
2. The `modem_status.receive()` and `modem_status.callback()` functions have been added to the `xbec` module in MicroPython, allowing MicroPython applications to respond to modem status messages generated by the module. [XBCELL-7803]

3. Optimize TCP receive data buffering for MicroPython sockets, by allowing more data to be collected between `.recv()` calls. [XBCELL-9278]
4. Added the modem event log that can be viewed with the `ATM#` command. This log provides power and connection status of the cellular modem component and can be used to help understand cellular connection issues. [XBCELL-8741]

BUG FIXES

1. Fixed an intermittent issue where deep sleep or shutdown was held off for up to 30 seconds after the cellular component was turned off. [XBCELL-9142]
2. In MicroPython, callbacks are now allowed to be any callable object. Previously they were required to be either literal functions or lambdas. [XBPY-958]
3. Fixed an issue where a client closing an incoming connection to a TCP listening socket created by MicroPython could cause further connection attempts to the same listener to fail. [XBCELL-9280]
4. For the SMS messaging with Remote Manager feature, the default value for ATDP (Remote Manager phone number) was changed to 12029823370 and the default value for ATRI (Remote Manager service ID) was changed to the empty value (single space, ASCII 0x20) meaning no service ID. This change was made because the previous default phone number 32075 was discontinued by Digi's Remote Manager SMS service provider and will no longer function. To ensure the Remote Manager SMS message feature continues to work properly with this change in defaults, it is highly recommended the settings on both the device side and the Remote Manager side be checked and this functionality be tested by sending an SMS ping from Remote Manager.
5. Improved network registration timing when joining a roaming network, particularly on reattach after power cycle. [XBCELL-9561]
6. Fixed an issue where PSM sleep current was around 50 uA higher than expected. [XBCELL-9480]
7. Fixed an issue in the MicroPython `digi.ble` module where a gap scan iterator would block indefinitely after the module enters sleep. [XBCELL-9577]
8. Fixed an issue in MicroPython where bundled code could not be imported if the bundled filename contains a directory separator. [XBPY-1022]

KNOWN ISSUES

1. The XBee will be unresponsive on boot-up if a non-default value for AT\$0, AT\$1 or AT\$2 is saved to flash (ATWR). Workarounds: update to newer XBee firmware, downgrade to the previous firmware, or apply AT\$0/\$1/\$2 at runtime without performing ATWR. [XBCELL-9788]

1161A (September, 2022)

This is a recommended release.

NEW FEATURES

1. This release includes support for a new maintenance release for the cellular module (Telit ME310G1-WW version 37.00.2x5).

See the Digi Product Support page for XBee 3 Global LTE-M/NB-IoT for directions on how to obtain this update and apply it using TFI, over-the-air update, or API mode. The 11619 release was tested with this Telit firmware and it is recommended that you upgrade for best results.

2. Added support for Active Scan in MicroPython. [XBCELL-6307]
3. Added support for reporting Timezone when using ATDT1. [XBCELL-7785]
4. Updated MicroPython to version 1.18.
5. The AI value 0x30 (update in progress) is now applied for the XBee firmware as well. [XBCELL-5629]
6. Added support for reporting Timezone offset using `time.tz_offset()` as seconds west from UTC. [XBCELL-7784]
7. Allow MicroPython floats as values in Remote Manager data points.
8. Added AT command for performing a MicroPython Soft Reset: ATPYR [XBPY-431]
9. Added support for sending Python control commands through Remote Manager. [XBCELL-6885]
10. Changed GATT identification model name string and the default local name used in BLE advertisements to XBee3 Global LTE-M/NB/2G. [XBCELL-8971]
11. Added option for reporting serving cell info to Digi Remote Manager as a health metric. [XBCELL-8977]

BUG FIXES

1. The ATTL command can now properly prevent TLS negotiation below TLS v1.2. This fix depends on Telit firmware version 37.00.2x4 or above. [XBCELL-7169]
2. Received UDP datagrams could sometimes be concatenated, or prefixed with unexpected data. [XBCELL-8163]
3. Improve reliability of starting and stopping GNSS. [XBCELL-8285]
4. Fixed an issue where a 0x2B Cellular Component Firmware Update frame marked as the final request and containing a non-empty payload could cause the update to fail. [XBCELL-5197]
5. Improve reliability of receiving SMS messages. [XBCELL-8293]
6. In MicroPython, maximum UDP TX datagram sizes are now enforced. `OSError EMSGSIZE` will be returned if a datagram is too large to send. [XBCELL-7783]
7. When creating a TLS socket in MicroPython, the minimum TLS version that should be allowed is now pulled from the ATTL value. [XBCELL-8444]
8. Improve retrieving the IMSI value from the SIM on certain providers that can change the IMSI while running. [XBCELL-6463]
9. Fixed an issue where under some circumstances, FTP_OTA device requests sent through Digi Remote Manager could result in attempting to download an incorrect filename. [XBCELL-8835]
10. Improve reliability of processing received UDP datagrams. [XBCELL-8912]
11. Fixed an issue where a modem status would be sent prematurely when a FOTA, initiated through DRM, is successful. [XBCELL-8836]
12. Fixed an issue where GNSS would lock up, preventing further attempts at location acquisition. [XBCELL-8809]
13. Fixed issues when using GNSS and trying to sleep, shutdown the modem, or enter airplane mode. [XBCELL-9067]

14. An issue was fixed in the cellular component firmware where closing a socket without sending or receiving any data on that connection may intermittently cause the cellular component to lock up and lead to a short loss of network connectivity. This was fixed in the 37.00.xx5 version of the cellular component firmware. [XBCELL-7287]
15. An issue was fixed in the cellular component firmware where making more than a single authenticated TLS session at a time may result in the second connection being terminated immediately. This was fixed in the 37.00.xx5 version of the cellular component firmware. [XBCELL-7170]

KNOWN ISSUES

1. MicroPython code which has been “bundled” can not be imported if the bundled filename contains a directory separator. Workaround: Restructure the code into a single directory before bundling. [XBPY-1022]
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11618 (September 7, 2021)

This is a recommended release.

NEW FEATURES

1. Initial release
2. Key Features:
 - Digital I/O support.
 - Analog Input support.
 - API & Transparent mode
 - AT command mode
 - SMS
 - TCP/UDP
 - TLS/TCP
 - Incoming connections
 - MicroPython
 - On-device programmability to add local intelligence.
 - Many examples in the Digi MicroPython Programmer Guide.
 - Filesystem support
 - ATFS command to access through AT command mode
 - API frames to access through API mode
 - MicroPython file interfaces for programmatic access
 - Supports filesystem access through Digi Remote Manager
 - Provides MicroPython module import support
 - Allows storage of TLS certificates for MicroPython
 - Secure encrypted file storage to protect MicroPython code and TLS private keys
 - Digi Remote Manager
 - Location reporting to Remote Manager as a health metric.
 - Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE)
 - Send a subset of API frames to the XBee through the encrypted BLE API Service
 - Configure the XBee 3 Cellular using the Digi XBee Mobile app for Android and iOS.
 - Use MicroPython to scan for advertisements, connect to peripherals and interact with connected devices.
 - Low power modes
 - LTE power save mode (PSM)
 - Deep sleep mode
 - Pin sleep support

- Cyclic sleep support
- Airplane mode support
- eDRX configuration support (extended discontinuous reception) for additional power savings
- FTP(s) OTA update the Telit module by using the **FO** AT command or through Digi Remote Manager. FTPS is supported for encrypted FTP.
- Update the Telit module locally using Cellular Component FW Update (0x2B) API frames.
- Digi TrustFence secure boot
- Direct USB
- SMS UTF-16/UCS-2 encoding support
- Multi-network capability (Verizon, AT&T, ...)
- NB-IoT support
- GNSS On Demand and raw NMEA payload support

IMPORTANT NOTES

Digi XCTU version 6.5.6 or newer must be used when installing XBee firmware 11618 or newer.

*Release Notes Part Number: 93001355