

You Need to Know...

- **New e-mail address for Pop-up tag data—PopUpData@aol.com**
We have established a new e-mail address, PopUpData@aol.com, just for collecting pop-up data. If you receive your pop-up data via ADS from Service Argos please request that they also send the data to this address at four day intervals. This will insure that we get the data, and alert us that your tag has popped up. We can then process your data in a timely manner.
- **Reprogramming for Pop-up tags**
Pop-up tags can be returned to us at any time for reprogramming. Although the reprogramming is free of charge, the return shipping is not. Please include your Federal Express account number when requesting reprogramming of your Pop-up tag.
- **Returning PTTs to us**
We have noticed an improvement in utilization of the proper paperwork when returning PTTs to us. However, our international customers should always ship PTTs back via Federal Express. All other carriers charge a customs clearance fee that sometimes exceeds \$200! We have no alternative but to add this fee to your invoice.
- **Two-page form**
To make it easier for you to submit all the information we need to build your PTTs, we have a new version of our two-page form. This form is in Word format and will be sent to you as an email attachment. Make sure that the form is completely filled in and returned to us in a timely manner, preferably six weeks before delivery of your PTTs. Please contact us at microwt@aol.com if you have any questions.



New Packaging

Please Keep Your Boxes!

We are now shipping transmitters in our new packaging that is designed to better protect your PTTs during shipment. The antistatic foam provides perfect storage until your PTTs are deployed. After deployment, please save your original box to return your PTTs to us for refurbishment.

Always use the original boxes when returning PTTs to us.



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New Argos Frequencies—Argos II and SiV™

As many of you know, tiny low powered PTTs (less than 0.5w) face more competition in data reception in the European region than elsewhere in the world. This is due to a higher background noise level of unknown origins together with a high density of users. Earlier this year, Service Argos and Microwave Telemetry carried out a series of experiments to analyze this problem and find a way around it. The results are very clear in showing that we must move away from the “traditional” center frequency and take advantage of the Argos II systems on NOAA 15 and 16.



20 gram PTT with Argos II specifications and SiV™

This might seem disadvantageous to those of you used to receiving data from up to five satellites. However, by employing our SiV™ (Satellite in View) technology along with an Argos II frequency PTT, the unit can be programmed to transmit for only a few hours each day during the best NOAA 15 and 16 overpasses. Initial results from a few PTTs configured like this have given performance in Europe equal to that in the USA.

Two new satellites are due to be launched in 2002 which will bring the Argos II constellation to four satellites. It seems clear that our European customers should request their PTTs be built to the Argos II specifications with the SiV™ option, which we will be offering to them at a discount.