

SHOUT ns/nsx Quick Start Guide

Version A

April 18, 2022



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REVISION HISTORY

Revision	Date	Description
1.0.3	03/21/2018	Initial version
1.1	07/29/2021	Updated to new template
A	04/18/2022	Added SHOUT nsx device; Formal release

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

The latest revisions of the NAL documents are available from the NAL Research website at

<https://www.nalresearch.com/support/documentation-downloads/>.

Reference	Title	Revision/Date
[1]	AT Commands for SHOUT ns/nsx	Version A, 04/25/2022
[2]	SatTerm User Guide (supports SatTerm v8.9.7)	Version A, March 29, 2022

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ACRONYM LIST

AES	Advanced Encryption Standard
AT	Two-letter sequence starting a string of terminal commands. The AT is intended to get the terminal's <u>attention</u> prior to executing a command.
DoD	Department of Defense
EMSS	Enhanced Mobile Satellite Services
GPS	Global Positioning System
IMEI	International Mobile Equipment Identification
kbps	kilobits per second
LCD	Liquid Crystal Display
LED	Light Emitting Diode
mAh	Milliampere Hour
NOC	Network Operation Center
s	Second
SatTerm	Satellite Terminal Emulator Software
SBD	Short burst data
USB	Universal Serial Bus

1 INTRODUCTION

In this SHOUT ns/nsx Quick Start user guide, all references of the operational features, interface, and electrical specifications of the SHOUT ns device also apply to the SHOUT nsx device. Where the SHOUT nsx device differentiates from the SHOUT ns device, the Quick Start user guide will note it in the applicable sections. In summary, the SHOUT nsx device is taller, heavier, and has a larger battery for longer mission life than the SHOUT ns device

The SHOUT ns is the “no LCD display” version of the SHOUT ts. It is a body-worn tracker/messaging device weighing less than 3 ounces and is 60% smaller than the SHOUT ts in volume. Both the Iridium and GPS antennas are embedded inside the enclosure. The SHOUT ns device’s operating parameters are set with a computer via the USB port. With an internal 650 mAh rechargeable battery, the SHOUT ns can send a position report every hour for up to 20 days (about 480 reports). The device can periodically wake up from sleep to send its position report to a command center. A 911 activation sequence is used for immediate emergency/alert notifications. Data is packaged in either standard or 256-bit AES encrypted format. Data can also be sent in encrypted PECOS formats to include brevity codes.

This Quick Start Guide provides a basic overview of the SHOUT ns standard features and functions. It is designed to familiarize you with the SHOUT ns and provide basic guidance for its operation.

1.1 DEVICE DESCRIPTION

The SHOUT ns comprises a Power button/911, Bluetooth button/911, a Light Emitting Diode (LED) Status display, embedded Iridium, GPS, and Bluetooth antennas, and a Universal Serial Bus (USB) Micro-B interface as shown in Figure 1. The USB Micro-B interface port is for battery charging, firmware updates, data collection, and setting parameters using the NAL Research SatTerm application. The six Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs) provide the status of power state, battery charging status, GPS fix, Bluetooth connection status, report message transmission status, and Iridium connection status to the user. Using the *Power* and *Bluetooth* buttons, activates the emergency/911 mode to send an emergency message with an increased reporting rate. For detailed information on the emergency/911 mode, refer to **Section 2.2.1**.



Figure 1: SHOUT ns/nsx Buttons and Indicators

1.2 ACCESSORIES



AC Wall Adapter



USB-A to USB Micro-B Cable

Figure 2: SHOUT ns Accessories

1.3 POWER BUTTON/911

The SHOUT ns has a single power ON/OFF button. The SHOUT ns can be turned off and on again by momentarily holding down the Power button for two seconds and releasing it.

1.4 BLUETOOTH BUTTON

The SHOUT ns has a single Bluetooth (BT) button. Press this button for two seconds to activate the Bluetooth link. Press the Bluetooth button again for two seconds to deactivate the Bluetooth link.

1.5 EMERGENCY/911 MODE ACTIVATION

The SHOUT ns has an emergency/911 mode that immediately sends a location report with the Emergency bit set, and thereafter sends location reports at a rate configured in the Emergency Report Rate parameter until the emergency/911 mode is canceled. For detailed information on the emergency/911 mode, refer to **Section 2.2.1**.

1.6 LED STATUS DISPLAY

The SHOUT ns has six status LEDs, as shown in **Figure 3**, which include: power , battery level (BATT), GPS fix (GPS), Bluetooth state (BT), message transmission status (STAT), and Iridium signal (IRDM). They provide a quick visual check to ensure proper operations. Each LED can be enabled and disabled through a setting in the general configuration profile (^LEDS). Table 1 describes the function of each LED.

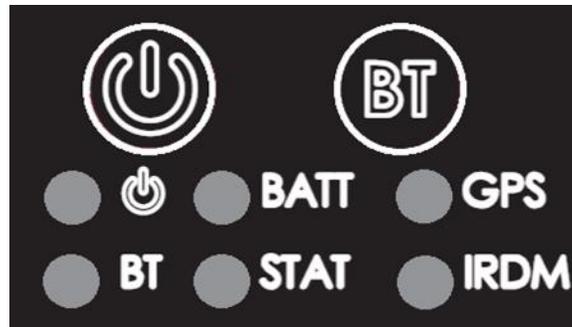


Figure 3: Control Buttons and Status LEDs on the SHOUT ns Front Face

Table 1: Description of LED States

Label	Name	LED Off	LED Blinking	LED Solid
	Power	Device is off	Once every 5 secs: Device is on and sleeping in normal mode Once every 2.5 sec: Device is on and sleeping in emergency mode	Device is on and awake

Table 1: Description of LED States

Label	Name	LED Off	LED Blinking	LED Solid
BATT	Battery	During operation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charge required 	During operation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charge under 80%; 1.25 sec on, 0.25 sec off Charge under 20%; 0.125 sec on, 1.00 sec off While charging: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charge in progress; 1.25 sec on, 0.25 off 	During operation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charge over 80% While charging: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charge complete
GPS	GPS	GPS off or time only	2-D fix or dead reckoning	3-D fix
BT	Bluetooth	Bluetooth off	1 sec: Bluetooth on and not connected/pairing	Bluetooth on and connected
STAT	Status	No successful report transmission	1 sec: Last report transmission failed	Last report transmission succeeded
IRDM	Iridium	Off or has no signal	Has 1–2 bars of signal	Has 3–5 bars of signal

1.7 SPECIAL FUNCTIONS

The SHOUT ns features two (2) special LED patterns that indicate the following:

- Emergency Mode Active:** All six (6) LEDs blink simultaneously in a 0.5 second on and 0.5 second off pattern for as long as the emergency mode is active and the device is awake. When the device is asleep, the 6 LED pattern stops but the power LED blink rate changes from once every 5 seconds for normal mode to once every 2.5 seconds for emergency mode.
- Upon Charger Connection:** When power is on*, the Battery, GPS, Iridium, and Status LEDs blink in clockwise sequence for 3 seconds when power is applied.

After a special function has ended, the LEDs revert to their standard operating state.

* **Note:** There are no LED indicators while the SHOUT ns is powered off and while plugged in and charging. To verify charge status, the SHOUT ns must be turned on.

2 OPERATING THE SHOUT NS

2.1 PREPARING THE DEVICE

Prior to use of the SHOUT ns, first purchase airtime from NAL Research or from any Iridium-certified airtime reseller. An airtime reseller must register the SHOUT ns International Mobile Equipment Identification (IMEI) number to “point” to a Network Operations Center (NOC) server. This section explains how you can quickly set up the SHOUT ns as a tracking device.

The SHOUT ns is shipped with a partially charged battery. Before use, charge the SHOUT ns for one hour.** To charge the SHOUT ns, take the provided AC adapter and connect the provided USB-A to USB Micro-B cable to the adapter and the SHOUT ns to charge the device. Hold the power button for 2 seconds.

Upon powering on the SHOUT ns while plugged in, the *Battery*, *GPS*, *Iridium*, and *Status* LEDs will blink in a clockwise sequence for 3 seconds.

****Note:** Upon battery depletion, the SHOUT ns should reach full charge within 2 hours of being continuously plugged in.

2.2 STARTING THE DEVICE

After charging the SHOUT ns, the device is ready to use. Hold the power button  for 2 seconds. The *Power* LED and *Battery* LED light up and the device begins functioning. Ensure the top of the SHOUT ns has a clear view of the sky. The standard LED sequence during a successful report is as follows:

1. The *GPS* LED illuminates first when a signal has been acquired. It will then turn off.
2. The *Iridium* LED illuminates when an Iridium signal has been acquired and then turns off.
3. The *Status* LED illuminates when a report has been transmitted.

Once this has been accomplished, all LEDs turn off and the *Power* LED blinks intermittently, indicating the device is in sleep mode awaiting the next report transmission.

2.2.1 EMERGENCY MODE ACTIVATION

In order to activate the emergency mode feature on the SHOUT ns, a four (4)-button sequence must be initiated. This sequence involves alternating between the *Power* button (first) and *Bluetooth* button for a total of two (2) times each. This action results in all six (6) LEDs blinking at the same time until the device is turned off. This sequence can be activated with the SHOUT ns powered on or off.

The SHOUT ns is shipped with default settings below:

Report Rate5 Minutes
Emergency Report Rate5 Minutes
Transmit Report Without GPS FixYes
Message FormatNAL Message Format

3 CONFIGURING THE SHOUT NS

If you want to change the default settings, the SHOUT ns supports a USB Micro-B connection to a computer with SatTerm software (or any terminal emulator software) activated to configure its operating profile using NAL Research's defined AT commands. Find these AT commands in the NAL document "AT Commands for SHOUT ns/nsx" [1]. The SHOUT ns does not support auto-baud and the default baud is factory-set at 19.2 kbps. Baud rate can be changed with the **+IPR** command.

The required hardware and software for the configuration of the SHOUT ns include:

- A desktop or laptop computer (not provided).
- A USB-A to USB Micro-B cable (provided with the SHOUT ns).
- A USB AC wall plug adapter (provided with the SHOUT ns).
- SatTerm software or any terminal emulator software (SatTerm is available on the NAL Research web site (See **Section 4** Technical Support).

To configure the operating profile using NAL Research's defined AT commands:

1. Connect the USB-A to USB Micro-B cable to the adapter and the SHOUT ns to charge the device.* Hold the power button for 2 seconds. Upon powering on the SHOUT ns while plugged in, the *Battery*, *GPS*, *Iridium*, and *Status* LEDs blink in a clockwise sequence for 3 seconds. Charge the battery for at least one (1) hour prior to use.**

***Note:** The SHOUT ns can alternatively be charged with a computer USB 2.0 or later port.

****Note:** Upon battery depletion, the SHOUT ns should reach full charge in 2 hours once plugged in.

2. Install SatTerm software on a computer. See the NAL document "SatTerm User Guide" [2] for details. Connect the provided USB-A to USB-Micro-B cable to the computer and to the SHOUT ns and hold the power button for 2 seconds to turn the device on.
3. Run the SatTerm software while the SHOUT ns is connected to a computer. An NAL Research message appears along with firmware version to indicate proper communications and power input.

4. Use SatTerm (or any terminal emulator) installed on the computer to set the SHOUT ns operating parameters, referring to the SatTerm User Guide [2] for descriptions of the parameters and their use. The SHOUT ns is now ready for use. Verify the antennas have a full view of the sky to ensure optimal tracking.

IMPORTANT: An Enhanced Mobile Satellite Services (EMSS)-enabled SHOUT ns must first be provisioned (signed up for airtime) with EMSS short burst data (SBD) service before testing or field use. Accessing the Department of Defense (DoD EMSS Gateway is not authorized until the SHOUT ns is provisioned. Unauthorized attempts to access the DoD EMSS Gateway will result in immediate disabling of the offending device, which must then be returned to NAL Research for repair. See <https://sbd.pac.disa.mil> for more information regarding EMSS service provisioning.

4 TECHNICAL SUPPORT

For technical support, please contact us at:

Phone: 703-392-1136, x203

Fax: 703-392-6795

Email: support@nalresearch.com

Technical documents are also available to download on NAL Research's website www.nalresearch.com in the Support > Documentation & Downloads section.