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TDS Nomad – GPS

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Working with your Nomad's built-in GPS

To determine whether your Nomad™ has a built-in GPS radio, choose **Start > Settings > System > System Information > Wireless**. If your Nomad has a GPS radio, you will also see which com port has been assigned to the GPS radio (typically COM2).

Nomad's GPS radio is on if a GPS-aware application is running on the Nomad and communicating with the radio. Your Nomad's GPS radio is otherwise off. You can view the status of the GPS radio (on or off) from the Today screen, but you cannot change its status from there.

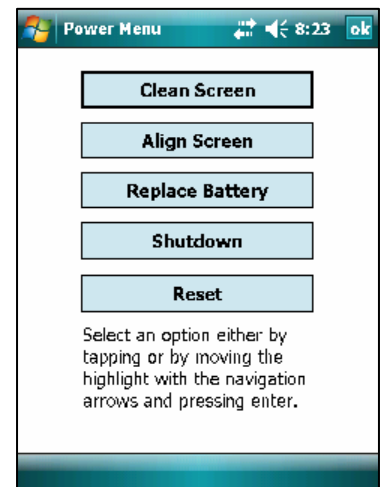
By default, the Nomad's GPS radio is configured to communicate at a baud rate of 9600. In most cases, establishing a connection with the GPS radio is as simple as launching a GPS-aware application on the Nomad; configuring that application to communicate with a GPS receiver on COM2 at 9600 baud; and then connecting with the GPS receiver. Note that even when everything is working correctly, it can take several minutes to acquire a fix on your position. If you are indoors, you may never get a position fix.

It is possible to inadvertently change the baud rate of your Nomad's GPS radio by running third party GPS-aware software. If this happens, then you will be unable to communicate with the Nomad's GPS radio at 9600 baud. If you know what baud rate the GPS radio has been set to, then simply configure your application to use that baud rate. However, in many cases, you may not know what baud rate the GPS radio is at and may find yourself unable to communicate with it.

There are other variables which may make it impossible for an application to connect with the Nomad's GPS radio. For instance, by default, the Nomad's GPS radio is in "NMEA mode". However, it is possible for an application to change the Nomad's GPS radio to "SiRF mode". Certain third party GPS applications may only be able to recognize the radio when it is in "NMEA mode". Even if the GPS radio baud rate is at 9600, those GPS applications may not be able to connect with the radio when it is in "SiRF mode".

Fortunately, it is possible to return your Nomad's GPS radio to a default state: NMEA mode at 9600 baud. To do this, hold down Nomad's power button for a few seconds until a countdown appears. Release the power button; you will see a window on the Nomad similar to the one on the right.

Choose **Shutdown**. The Nomad will enter a very low power state (intended for long term storage). Leave the Nomad in the Shutdown state for **at least five minutes** and then power it back on by pressing the power button. The Nomad will reboot to Windows. At this point, the Nomad's GPS receiver will be in a default state, and you should be able to connect to it in NMEA mode at 9600 baud.



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