

Sales/Technical Bulletin

Date: 27 June 2018

To: Authorized U.S. TracVision Dealers and Distributors

From: KVH Satellite Sales Group

Subject: **DIRECTV/AT&T Migrating from Standard Def (SD) to High Def (HD) TV and Implications for Older TracVision® Systems**

DIRECTV/AT&T will be ending Standard Definition (SD) television transmissions from the 101W and 119W satellites in mid-2019. At that time, SD transmissions originating from the 101W orbital slot will be converted to high-definition (HD) format, and SD transmissions originating from the 119W satellite will be terminated.

DIRECTV has not yet identified the specific channel listing that will be available from the 101W or 119W satellites once the transition is completed. KVH anticipates popular national channels such as CNN, ESPN, etc., will be available in HD on 101W, but we have not received confirmation. DIRECTV is currently sending out notifications to customers that DIRECTV equipment needs to be updated, and that they will upgrade the equipment for free to HD compatible components.

These changes will have no impact on customers using TracVision systems with other TV services.

TracVision TV-series, HD-series, RV1, and A9 are Unaffected

The TracVision TV-series, HD-series, RV1, and the A9 will continue to work as designed and will not require any changes or updates. The SD/HD changes being made by DIRECTV/AT&T will not affect these systems.

Impact to Owners of Other TracVision Systems

The changes DIRECTV/AT&T are implementing require that HD-compatible receivers be installed. The approved HD receivers that are compatible with KVH products are the H24, HR24 and H25 models.

If your customer's marine or land mobile system includes older DIRECTV/AT&T receiver models or utilizes a KVH mobile receiver, then an upgrade to the DIRECTV/AT&T equipment will be required. In most cases, the newer DIRECTV/AT&T receivers are not a direct replacement for the existing receiver(s) and additional equipment or upgrades may be required. Information regarding specific antenna models is included below.

TracVision HD-series Antennas (HD7, HD11)

The TracVision HD-series systems will continue to operate with the DIRECTV/AT&T service on the 101W orbital slot¹. Non-HD-compatible DIRECTV/AT&T receivers (D-series, R-series) will require replacement with HD-compatible (H-series) receivers. Refer to the Installation/User's Guide for information regarding DIRECTV/AT&T receiver compatibility and configuration. Subscribers may be subject to a change in channel availability as DIRECTV/AT&T shifts channels to available orbital slots as a result of this transition.



TracVision TV-series

The TracVision TV-series antennas will continue to operate with the DIRECTV/AT&T service on the 101W orbital slot¹. Non-HD-compatible DIRECTV/AT&T receivers (D-series, r-series) will require replacement with HD-compatible (H-series) receivers. Refer to the Installation/User's Guide for information regarding DIRECTV/AT&T receiver compatibility and configuration. Subscribers may be subject to a change in channel availability as DIRECTV/AT&T shifts channels to available orbital slots as a result of this transition.

TracVision M5, M7, and M9 Antennas

The TracVision M5, M7, M9 antenna systems will continue to operate with the DIRECTV/AT&T service on the 101W orbital slot¹. Non-HD-compatible DIRECTV/AT&T receivers (D-series, R-series) will require replacement with H24/HR24 HD-compatible receivers (Note that H25 and Genie components are not recommended for this application). Refer to the Installation/User's Guide and a forthcoming technical bulletin for information regarding DIRECTV/AT&T receiver compatibility and configuration. Subscribers may be subject to a change in channel availability as DIRECTV/AT&T shifts channels to available orbital slots as a result of this transition.

TracVision M1, M1DX, M3, and M3DX Antennas

The TracVision M1, M1DX, M3, and M3DX antenna systems are not compatible with the newer HD DIRECTV/AT&T receivers. See "Upgrade Opportunities" below for options.

TracVision A5, A7, R6, R6DX, and R6ST Antennas

The TracVision A7 and R6 family of land mobile antenna systems are not compatible with the newer HD DIRECTV/AT&T receivers. See "Upgrade Opportunities" below for options.

Older Legacy Products

Older legacy marine and land mobile TracVision models, such as the R4SL, R5SL, R4, R5, G4, G6, G8, 4, 6, and C3, are not compatible with the newer HD DIRECTV/AT&T receivers. See "Upgrade Opportunities" below for options.

Upgrade Opportunities

KVH recommends that TracVision M1, M1DX, M3, M3DX, A5, R6, A7 customers upgrade to the TracVision TV-series. These systems have integrated DIRECTV SWiM technology, which aligns closely with the home installation configuration, available DIRECTV receivers, and helps to future proof your configuration.

KVH will be providing additional technical and sales information as we get closer to the DIRECTV/AT&T migration to HDTV. In the meantime, please contact KVH Sales if you have any questions.

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¹ The KVH antenna may need to have the tracking parameters updated once DIRECTV/AT&T completes the changes.