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To: Telecom Supervisor, Engineering and Procurement agents

Critical Infrastructure Communications (CIC)

GE Vernova announced the discontinuance of its JungleMUX SONET & T1 and TN1U/TN1Ue SDH & E1 Multiplexers June 2023 here.

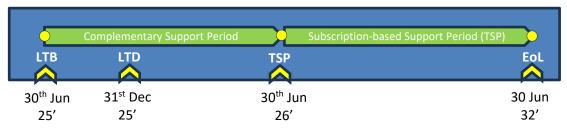
JungleMUX SONET/T1 and TN1U/TN1Ue SDH/E1 customers,

With approximately 4 months before Lentronics Multiplexers are discontinued and no longer commercially available for purchase, this note serves as a reminder to users. to provide an update on migration strategies (to <u>JPAX</u> and <u>JPAX-H</u>) and support services offered after the June 30th, 2025 discontinuance date.

Important Dates

- 1. June 30th, 2025: Last Time Buy date (LTB) for all affected Lentronics Multiplexer products (see below for some unit exceptions) at which time GE will transition into a 'Support' period*, providing customers with ongoing technical phone & field support, and unit repair & return services for as long as these components remain available and economically viable (7 years planned*). Design of new products and features will be limited to sustaining activities, including fixes for critical vulnerabilities.
- 2. **July 1**st, **2025**: Commencement of Post Obsolescence Support (see below for changes to GE's support model)
- 3. December 31st, 2025: Last Time Delivery date (LTD) for affected products
- 4. **June 30**th, **2026**: Commencement of a subscription-based Technical support <u>contracts</u> (see below for changes to GE's support model)
- 5. June 30th, 2032: End of product Life (EoL) and all Sparing & Technical support programs

Lentronics Multiplexer Support Timeline for affected Products



Last Time Buy Exceptions

- **B86900-01** Evolution Module,
 - SFPs (90010/AA, -BB and -CC), and
 - o CBW cables (all lengths) (035-86430-70 to -79)
- **B86429-xx** Direct Transfer Trip Test Panel (24V, 48V and 130VDC) and all cables / cabling harness
- 86485-99 CBUS to JPAX Paddleboard
- **86430-53** Computer Cable Kits, cable (**84910-05**) and Adaptor (**84910-06**)
- Spacer Panels (**PB885997**) and with removeable front (**PB000086**)
- 86456-xx VistaNET NMS and all premium components
- Most SFP Optical Transceivers

For these exempt products, the current support model will remain in affect. Refer to Changes to Product Support Model below. For lifecycle planning purposes, Appendix B contain a view towards the complete set of Multiplexer offerings currently available in 2025. Please examine these pages carefully. We've attempted to define **GE's ongoing strategy for each product** (unit hardware, hardware paddleboard, firmware and software), either suggesting a Sustaining (active), new design (consider), not recommended for new design (NRND) or manufacturer discontinue (MD). The intent of this list is to provide transparency to your team during telecom planning and risk assessment.

Changes to Product Support Model

The technical support model affecting Lentronics Multiplexers is changing to reflect changes in the products lifecycle status. Please review these policy changes carefully and discuss with your GE Vernova Sales Manager to assure your organization has the necessary coverage to adequately protect your investment.

Effective June 30th, 2026, the following changes will form GE Vernova's product support policy for all affected Lentronics Multiplexer products:

- A New subscription-based <u>Technical Phone & Field Support Program (TSP)</u> will be required for all customers requesting technical phone and field support. Phone support had been offered at no charge prior to discontinuance however that model is not sustainable. To assure GE can continue to attract & retain qualified technical staff to support these products after discontinuance, customer participation is required.
 - All JMUX customers will be required to retain an annual quantity of technical support hours, which can used for technical phone, field or training purposes.
 - GE's TSP terms and conditions will apply.

Exclusions

- Customers who have an existing and valid Platinum professional Support contract have by default opted-in to this program at no additional charge.
- Customers who are actively migrating to JunglePAX (-X or -H, see below)
 have by default opted-in to this program at no charge (minus the 1-week of
 on-site support).
- Note (1): Customer who opt-out of this program can not be guaranteed a timely response to their phone enquiry or field-related request.
- Note (2): Product that are exempt from this lifecycle statement shall also follow these new TSP support guidelines.
- Note (3): There are no planned changes to the existing Repair-and-Return support program:
 - <u>Repair-and-Return</u> of failed equipment will be available to all customers for 7 years after discontinuance is announced based on GE's ability to support these products over this period. Refer here for all advisories (JMUX, TN1U and TN1Ue).

Migration Strategies

In response to this discontinuance, GE has been investing heavily in the development of our second generation optical platform <u>JunglePAX</u> (JPAX-X) and <u>JunglePAX-H</u> (JPAX-H). Both JPAX products are designed to be interoperable and positioned as a drop-in replacement for JMUX and TN1U/Ue nodes. Built with equivalent hardening, dependability, and performance, JPAX offers a unique proposition to SONET/SDH Multiplexer users: invest in JPAX today for all new network deployments. New stations, modernization of existing stations or depreciated communication assets slated for a refresh can safely and reliably deploy JPAX in place of a Lentronics Multiplexer node. Following this approach, operators can focus capital and operational resources towards 'self-paced' migration strategies, selectively replacing nodes or rings of nodes at a time instead of a whole-sale network-wide replacement. Inserting JPAX node(s) are exceptionally efficient, cost effective, fast to deploy while preserving critical and time sensitive application performance across platform boundaries.

GE is recommending two mitigation strategies

- 1. Node-by-Node upgrades to JunglePAX for new node purchases and/or network modernization initiatives. This solution uses <u>GE's Evolution module</u> to interlace a JPAX node within an existing JMUX/TN1U/Ue ring, in instances where just one new substation is being energized or modernized. Customers should leverage GE's Analysis and Design expertise to simplify traffic integration, reducing cost and improving accuracy of adding a new JunglePAX nodes into your overall design.
- Ring-by-Ring upgrade to JunglePAX that also employs <u>GE's Evolution Module</u> to optically tie Multiplexer networks to JunglePAX via dual-homed nodes for improved resiliency. Evolution Modules use GE's Hybrid Technology to tie 1G Ethernet and TDM traffic concurrently over the same fiber without the need for packetization / TDM emulation.

By strengthening interoperability between JungleMUX/TN1U and JunglePAX, this enables seamless traffic migration and assure application performance between the platforms, especially those critical and performance-sensitive applications such as Teleprotection. JunglePAX offers a modern communications solution that requires fewer parts, a simplified architecture and network management, and a stronger security posture than the JungleMUX platform, while maintaining the harsh ruggedness and fanless operation certified to IEEE 1613, IEC 61850-3 and IEC 60834-1.

Our SONET and SDH Multiplexers have been widely deployed across all regions of the globe with tens of thousands of nodes deployed. Many customers continue to rely of these products for secure and dependable communications and can be assured that JunglePAX, as a replacement product will uphold those same fundamentals. We also often find that customers are challenged with an array of life-cycle support tasks ranging from analysis, design, migration, order engineering, system configuration & testing as well as operational staff training throughout the lifecycle of JungleMUX products. GE has taken this opportunity to reposition our **Professional Service offerings** to address this growing need.

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Yours truly,

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