

# Changelog - Poseidon Pharos GMDSS Simulator 8.0



[Official Pharos 8.0: Build 8.0]

<b>Important information</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>What's included in this update?</b>	<b>2</b>
LT-3100S GMDSS Satellite Instrument	2
<b>Planned updates</b>	<b>3</b>
Coastal Radio Stations	3
We want to hear from you!	3

## Important information

The Inmarsat B legacy service has been closed as of 30. December 2016. The SAT-B instrument has therefore been removed from the simulator and can no longer be used.



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## What's included in this update?

Pharos 8 aims to improve the user experience by upgrading system architecture “under the hood”. Most of the changes made from 7.11 to 8 are on a low level, and will not be seen by the user directly. Rather, the user will experience a smoother flow, less errors and less bugs. A new networking protocol ensures higher network stability, especially in large environments.

### Features and bug fixes

- 64-bit architecture
  - Pharos is now migrated to 64-bit architecture, allowing for better future support and upgrades of internal packages
  - 64-bit enables better utilization of memory, which will reduce many of the bugs experienced in previous Pharos versions
- Assignment
  - Assignment issues has been investigated after reports of instability, and largely mitigated, both for auto- and manual assignment
  - Memory leak from assignment has been addressed. 64 bit memory allocation will also help with this issue
- Networking
  - Pharos is now running on the TCP networking protocol, which ensures higher quality in the network transfer. Pharos is reliant on a stable network for optimal performance, and the TCP-implementation will give noticeable effects on stability, especially in large environments.
- Instruments
  - Several small bugs have been fixed on Pharos' instruments, which will improve the user experience



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## LT-3100S GMDSS Satellite Instrument



**Lars Thrane Iridium LT-3100S** is a brand new satellite communication system for maritime use. This model introduces GMDSS-support with 100% global coverage, and can be used as the primary satellite communication product on vessels. It covers the basic communication needs in terms of connectivity between the ship and shore, as well as critical GMDSS services, such as: Distress Alert, Safety Voice, and Maritime Safety Information (MSI). This comes as a result of Iridium being approved by the IMO's Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) in 2018.

The LT-3100S GMDSS system is introduced as an alternative to the Inmarsat C. The release of Pharos 7.11 includes a software implementation of the Lars Thrane LT-3100S GMDSS system, with new features implemented both on the Instructor- and Student-platform. All GMDSS-features are implemented as part of this installation. These features include, but are not limited to: Distress alert and safety calling, routine calling between ships, MSI-messaging, coastal warnings and safety messaging. The instructor, representing the RCC, can communicate with students through the LT-3100S terminal deployed on the ships through messaging and calling.

## Planned updates

Some things we already have received feedback on, and plan on implementing:

### **LT-3100S Hardware Integration**

As for other instruments, there is a high demand for integrating the physical LT-3100S terminal with the simulator. This update depends on driver support from Thrane, and will therefore not be included in this release.

### **Long Range Identification and Tracking (LRIT), and Fleet Safety**

We plan to add two more instruments into the simulator.

### **Coastal Radio Stations**

We are aware that there are coastal areas in need of updates. We are eager to engage a competent person to assist us in revising the coastal stations that are known to have various changes. We have a special editing program for this but it requires a person familiar with radio-technical procedures. Please, contact us at [info@poseidon.no](mailto:info@poseidon.no) if you are interested.

## **We want to hear from you!**

For the last few years, we have been spending most of our development efforts on integrating Pharos with partners, stabilizing the simulator and adding new radio models. We are now at a point where we can decide for ourselves where to proceed, and this is where you – our customers – can help us prioritize. We already have some thoughts on what to do, but we would very much like to hear about what you want to see. Our line at [info@poseidon.no](mailto:info@poseidon.no) is always open for any kind of feedback. Please let us know your thoughts.



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