

Skip-Line® Sunset Plan: DL-08 / DL-09 Data Loggers

Overview

The DL-08 and DL-09 Data Logger product lines are scheduled to be discontinued from active production on May 31st, 2016. These products will be supported, as best we can, until May 2019. These products have been in production for up to seven years, and have seen many upgrades and feature additions over the years. Our experience with these products inspired the development of new, more robust systems that will provide higher quality results and better future-proofing.

Date of Notification: 15 DEC 2015

Product Name(s): DL-08 and DL-09 Data Logger & Monitoring Systems

Product Status: Near End-of-Life

Product End-of-Life Date: 31 MAY 2016

Product Extended Support Period: June 1st 2016 to May 2019 (3 years)

Reason(s) for End-of-Life:

- DL-09: Relies on 2G cellular network, which is being dismantled by cellular companies.
- Critical component sources are irregular, rely on consumer equipment and software.
- Product has a superior replacement with higher reliability and improved feature set.

Drop-In Replacements: None

Equivalent Replacements: DL-12 Data Logging System

What Does This Mean?

This means that we will accept orders for new DL-08/09 data logger systems until May 31st, 2016. After that, new system orders are subject to availability limitations so that sufficient quantities of raw components can be reserved to repair and support existing products in the field for the Extended Support Period.

AT&T has begun dismantling its 2G cellular network already, and has announced a complete 2G cellular network shutdown no later than Jan 1st, 2017. (The 2G networks are being replaced with more modern 3G and 4G equipment.) Because the DL-09 cellular modem relies on expiring 2G networks, customers will have significantly reduced or non-existent network coverage in some areas, and thus the product must be discontinued. You are encouraged to purchase a Glass Cockpit Interface with DL-12 Data Logging for any new Data Logger Systems required to transmit on cellular networks beyond Jan 1st, 2017. The DL-12 Data Logging system can communicate on modern cellular and WiFi networks.

Some components of the DL-08/09 system can be refurbished and upgraded for compatibility with the DL-12 Data Logging system. Check with Skip-Line or your preferred OEM for more information on trade-in & upgrade pricing.

The Extended Support Period will begin June 1st 2016, and continue through May of 2019. While we typically aim for 5 years of support, due to the timely nature of this product end-of-life and typical tablet/laptop computer life expectancy (items which are not of Skip-Line manufacture), extended support will be 3 years on this particular product line. During this period of time, we will repair and support these discontinued products to the best of our abilities. However, we cannot guarantee all repairs will be possible, nor can we guarantee the availability of new or used units. We cannot guarantee the availability of 2G cellular network coverage in your area. We will do everything we can to make sure your equipment stays operational, within reason.

In general, we recommend placing any new orders anticipated for Near End-of-Life products with their equivalent replacements to ensure a smooth transition. To ensure high availability and uptime for your data logging equipment, we suggest creating a progressive migration plan to upgrade your fleets to the DL-12 Data Logging system before the end of the Extended Support Period (May 2019).

OEM Customers and Equipment Integrators

Skip-Line strongly recommends upgrading vehicle designs to use the DL-12 Data Logging system. The primary differences between the DL-08/09 system, and the DL-12 Data Logging system, are:

- The DL-12 Data Logging system is wired with Cat5 network cables, instead of the on-vehicle wireless communications network of the DL-08/09. This improves system reliability.
- The DL-12 Data Logging system is compatible with WiFi, allowing connection to smartphones, cellular hotspots, or other networks.
- The DL-12 Data Logging system does not use the Windows operating system, and does not require computer experience for operation.
- The DL-12 Data Logging system is optionally integrated with the Video Guidance and Overlay functionality.

All data captured between the two systems is fully compatible with both Online and Desktop versions of Skip-Line report generators. The functionality and reliability of the DL-12 Data Logging system is higher, and daily usage is generally simpler. For full documentation and engineering assistance, please contact Skip-Line.

In the instance that an OEM has suggested updated specification language in the bidding process and been denied, Skip-Line may make an exception and provide products that are in end-of-life status. Additionally, all existing quotes will be honored for 120 days, superseding the

end-of-life date. Each exception made, however must accompany the understanding that the product will have a slightly reduced support period since the sale occurred .

Fleet Managers

Skip-Line will provide technical assistance for your maintenance and operations teams to ease migration to the new data logger system. We will continue to repair and support the DL-08/09 products through the Extended Support Period.

Some new features and operational requirements of state or other government agencies may not be able available for retrofit on these discontinued systems, and may require upgrading to a newer system.

We recommend all new vehicles be purchased with a DL-12 Data Logging system. We also recommend strategically converting refurbished or newly acquired used equipment to the DL-12 Data Logging system. Please work with your preferred Skip-Line OEM to learn about newly available features and options on our new product lines.

Again, to ensure high availability and uptime for your data logging equipment, we suggest creating a progressive migration plan to upgrade your fleets to the DL-12 Data Logging system before the end of the Extended Support Period (May 2019).

Vehicle Operators

Skip-Line will provide you with technical phone support, product manuals, free remote training webinars, and training materials to assist with your transition. Most operators experienced with using the DL-08/09 product will be comfortable using the DL-12 Data Logging system with an hour or two of use. Most operational concepts from the DL-08/09 have been directly translated to the DL-12 Data Logging system. Some advanced features of the DL-12 Data Logging system may require referencing the manual or additional training.