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Safety Information

Important Safety Information for the Ground Control BGAN MCD-4801 System

*Like all BGAN systems, the MCD-4801 is a transmitting satellite device. All persons should stay at least 1 meter from the case when it is transmitting.*

If you have additional questions regarding connecting or operating your system, beyond the simple operation set of the MCD-4801, please review the Hughes 9450 Users Guide on the included USB key, or contact the Ground Control Technical Support Team for assistance.

GROUND CONTROL SUPPORT
USA Toll Free: 1-800-931-5559
International: +1-805-783-4633
Email: support@groundcontrol.com
MCD-4801 Owner Identifiers

Please fill out the information on this page with the account information supplied to you from Ground Control and keep this manual available in the field.

Ground Control Account Number: GC____________________

MCD-4801 Web Interface: 192.168.128.200

Hughes 9450 Web Interface: 192.168.128.100

BGAN Static IP Address: (if any) ______________________

SSID Wireless Broadcast Football [Serial Number]

Wireless Security Password: _______________________
Default has no wireless security

Contacting Ground Control Technical Support

Ground Control technical support representatives are available 24 hours per day for your convenience. Please note that our standard hours of operation are Monday – Friday, 8AM to 5PM Pacific Standard Time. If you call outside of these hours, support response may be delayed and certain resources may not be available to the support agent.

For Technical Support, please call 1-800-931-5559 from the U.S. or +1-805-783-4633 from abroad. You may also email support@groundcontrol.com from a computer connected to working Internet connection.
MCD-4801 “The Football” Overview
The MCD-4801 "Mobile Communications Device", also known as "The Football", is an auto-pointing BGAN satellite terminal that requires no user training to operate. Simply place the weather-tight case on the ground, or on a boat deck, or on any surface with a clear view of the sky, rain or shine, anywhere in the world and turn it on - no pointing necessary. Within a minute, the MCD-4801 becomes a wireless hotspot for any wireless device up to 100 meters from the case for up to 5 hours on the internal battery. The auto-pointing case uses the high performance Hughes 9450 in-motion BGAN terminal integrated with our proprietary mobile electronics for a ruggedized self-contained, in-field, user-friendly solution.

MCD-4801 Features
Features are subject to change. Please refer to the Ground Control website for current features.

- **No Aiming Required.** Simply turn the unit on under an open sky.
- **Does Not Require User Interaction.** No software to run. Establishes AP automatically.
- Up to 100 meter range wireless access point for laptop, smartphone, or other wireless device.
- Internet speeds up to 460 Kbps in both directions.
- Two external all weather RJ-45 Ethernet connection ports.
- Up to 5 hour battery life for normal use.
- May be plugged into a vehicle 12V power port for continuous operation (through included inverter).
- Operates from -25°C to 70°C (-13˚ F to +158˚ F) temperatures. Auto-shutoff at 158°F (internal temp)
- Operates on top of moving vehicle roof, or boat, or any moving object.
- Works well in heavy rain, and will operate with 20mm of ice before transmission issues.
- Watertight, crushproof, dustproof reinforced plastic case.
- The MCD-4801 operates globally (except for the north and south polar regions).
- Portable - Ships UPS, FedEx, carry-on luggage anywhere... Onboard battery is NOT Li-Ion.
- Full IP compatibility - Internet, SMTP email, file transfer (FTP, and VPN).
- Cost effect "always-on" access, charged for only what is transferred.
- The MCD-4801 case is a Ground Control manufactured solution, supported by us 24/7.
**LAN PORT** – Two RJ-45 ports for Ethernet connection are available on the front panel. Both are sealed with a quick-disconnect water-tight cap. Special quick-disconnect Ethernet cable ends that maintain a watertight connection to the MCD-4801 are available as an accessory item.

**Light Sensor** – This sensor will backlight the display in darkness so the display can be read. From the MCD-4801 control panel, the sensitivity of this sensor can be set, including always off.

**Display** – Shows power up status and battery level.

**Charge / Power Port** – This charge port is used to connect the AC/DC Power Supply. The charger will power the terminal as well as recharge and maintain the MCD-4801 battery. The charge system will work as necessary with the unit on or off. Higher outside air temperatures may increase charge time if the unit is on while charging. Always install the Charge Port Cap when the power supply is not connected to maintain its weatherproof integrity.

**One button operation,**  
**Global connectivity,**  
**High-speed Internet,**  
**No training or certification required,**  

**A Global, Portable WiFi Hotspot.**
The MCD-4801 includes (from top-left moving counter-clockwise) the MCD-4801 terminal with attached quickstart guide in the lid, a miniature compass, a USB flash drive with user guides, an international plug kit for US, UK, EU, AU and China plug types (with small bag), an AC/DC charger for the MCD-4801, a mini-inverter to power the MCD-4801 from a vehicle power port, and an accessory bag to hold all loose contents.
Inside the MCD-4801

Inside the case (from left side moving right) is the WiFi antenna, the domed class 11 BGAN satellite antenna, the SIM cover, fan, and the LED power button. There is also an internal fan used to vent electronics. We recommend having the case lid opened slightly in hot locations.

**WiFi Antenna** – When raised, the WiFi antenna adds extra range to the MCD-4801 wireless connection. This antenna is a standard RP-SMA type antenna and larger higher gain antennas can easily be mounted. Note the antenna needs to be folded down in order to close the case lid.

**SIM Card Tray** – Rotate the SIM cover to expose the SIM tray. Insert the SIM with the notch side down, and to the right. To insert a SIM, push it into the SIM slot until it “clicks”. To remove SIM card, simply push it in until it clicks, and it will self-eject when finger is removed.
**Fan & Fan Cover** – The fan inside of the MCD-4801 will automatically start if the internal temperature becomes too hot. It is advisable to run the case lid cracked open in hot weather. The terminal will auto-shutoff when the internal temperature reaches 158º Fahrenheit (70º Celsius).

**Power – On/Off** – When pressed, the power button will light up when the terminal is turned on. To power the system off, simple press the button again.

The MCD-4801 may be used on a moving vessel, even during heavy seas.
System Operation

STEP 1 – FIND AN OPEN AREA

Lay the MCD-4801 flat (top side up, as if to open the case), under an open sky.

The terminal needs to have line-of-sight with one of the three BGAN Inmarsat satellites.

These satellites are stationary in the sky, so as long as line-of-sight is maintained, the terminal may be placed up against a wall or tree.

The map below is very helpful to find what direction, and how high up from the horizon an available BGAN satellite is. Use the included compass to help you quickly discern where a good location would be to place the terminal to avoid things like trees and buildings.
The MCD-4801 may also work through glass from inside a building or through a tent wall. If possible, it is good to place the terminal on an elevated area, such as a vehicle roof, so that the satellite signal is not interfered with when people walk by.

**STEP 2 – TURN POWER ON**

Open the MCD-4801 to access the power button of the terminal.

Simply press the power button to turn it on. The button itself will light up to show the system is active. The external display will show the system status and current battery level.

Close the lid for a watertight seal. The MCD-4801 operates just as well with the lid open or closed. During hot weather, it is advised to keep the lid slightly open to vent internal heat.

Note, as with all BGAN systems, everyone should stay at least 1 meter from this device while it is transmitting.

The MCD-4801 will begin to search for a satellite, as well as attain a GPS location. A GPS signal will be quickly acquired if there is a wide sky above the terminal, otherwise it may take up to 3 minutes for GPS to be found.

In about 1 minute, the system will be online (3 minutes if GPS hasn't been found). If it is not online in that time, simply reboot the system. You may need to move the MCD-4801 to a new location if it has not found a satellite.

**STEP 3 – CONNECTING TO THE MCD-4801 WiFi HOTSPOT**

The MCD-4801 establishes a standard WiFi hotspot with the name of “Football”. You may connect a laptop or smart device to the MCD-4801 using that device's wireless access screen. Once connected, you are online, and may use the connection like any other Internet connection.

That's it... you are online!

**WiFi Security**

By default, wireless security is NOT enabled when the terminal is shipped. We recommend enabling WiFi security as soon as possible to keep the terminal from being used by unauthorized devices.
To access the WiFi security screens, type in 192.168.128.100 into any connected browser window. Next, select the “Settings” tab, and choose “WLAN Security”.

Select the type of security you wish to use from the pull down window (WPA2 is recommended).

Detailed wireless security information can be found on page 37 of the Hughes 9450 User Manual.
Accessing the MCD-4801 Web Interface

From any connected browser, type in **192.168.128.200** and press Enter. The MCD-4801 main interface screen will appear. This screen will show you the state of the battery and give you access to changes settings of the system as well as access usage totals.

Click on the **Settings** Button to be taken to the main interface window of the Hughes 9450. Here you can set any parameter of the system.

Click on **Usage** to see how much data has been transferred. You may reset totals so that you can track your current session.

Bookmark 192.168.128.200 from any connected browser so that you can monitor battery levels.

From any connected browser, type in **192.168.128.100** and press Enter. The Hughes 9450 web interface screen becomes available. These screens will allow a number of parameter changes such as SSID, enabling/disabling WiFi, Static IP configuration, MAC filtering, usage totals, along with a number of other status and parameter screens. For more information regarding the Hughes 9450, please refer to the Hughes 9450 User Manual.

Using the LAN Port

An Ethernet cable may connect to the waterproof jack on the external LAN port of the MCD-4801. Twist off the weather cap and connect a standard Ethernet cable. The MCD-4801 is normally set to DHCP (Dynamic Routing), which means it will automatically issue an IP address to any computer that connects to it. The LAN Port does provide POE (Power Over Ethernet) for devices that require this feature.

A standard Ethernet cable is all that is needed. A crossover cable is not required.
Monitoring Usage

The amount of Megabytes transferred is shown on the Usage Statistics screen of the Hughes 9450 Web Interface. This screen is reached by entering 192.168.128.100 into any connected browser.

As shown above, not only are Megabytes tracked for both inbound and outbound traffic, streaming services as well as time on the phone are tracked.

The usage screen is divided into two parts; “Trip Usage Statistics” are similar to the trip counter on a vehicle. You can reset the totals to 0 at any time. The other “Lifetime Usage Statistics” is like an odometer and cannot be reset unless the terminal is factory reset (and upgraded to the most recent firmware).

Note these totals are estimates and should only be used as a general idea of usage.
Charging Facts

Recharging the MCD-4801 Internal Batteries

The MCD-4801 will operate about 5 hours on a single battery charge. To charge the system, simply connect the charger to the system. Charge time will take less than eight hours if fully discharged.

Long Term Storage Charging

The charger may be left connected to the MCD-4801 during storage to keep the MCD-4801’s batteries in a state of readiness.

If you choose not to keep the system plugged in during storage, we recommend recharging every month, and no less than every 6 months to avoid complete battery depletion.

Vehicle Power for Continuous Use & Charging

Plug the Mini-Inverter into any vehicle power port to provide power for the MCD-4801 charger. Keep the vehicle running if the MCD-4801 will be online for any significant period of time to avoid depleting the car battery.

Solar Charging for Continuous Use and Charging

The optional foldable solar panel for the MCD-4801 will provide up to 75% of the power for operation, increasing run time by 300 to 400%. It will also recharge the internal batteries in no power locations when power is off.
# MCD-4801 Accessories

Note: All prices are subject to change. Please visit [www.groundcontrol.com/football](http://www.groundcontrol.com/football) for current pricing on all system accessories.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accessory</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gen 2 MCD-4801 Replacement AC/DC Charger</strong></td>
<td>The new &quot;Gen 2&quot; charger for the MCD-4801 works for both fast charging, and maintenance charging for long term storage. Charge time is just under 4 hours if the terminal is completely discharged. Keep it plugged in for long term storage to maintain battery at 100%. This charger is not compatible with Gen 1 MCD-4801 terminals.</td>
<td>MPN: BGANAMCDCHARGER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Replacement Universal Power Connectors</strong></td>
<td>International plugs including U.S., U.K., European, Australian, China, N. Europe.</td>
<td>MPN: BGANAMCDO3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ethernet Cables with Watertight RJ-45 Connector</strong></td>
<td>While standard Ethernet cables may connect to the MCD-4801 front panel, these gray Cat5e Ethernet cables have one end with a quick connect adapter that makes a watertight seal to the MCD-4801 front panel.</td>
<td>5 Meter MPN: BGANAMCD10 10 Meter MPN: BGANAMCD11 25 Meter MPN: BGANAMCD12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Watertight RJ-45 Connectors</strong></td>
<td>Make your own watertight cables with these connectors. While standard Ethernet cables may connect to the MCD-4801 front panel, these RJ-45 Ethernet connectors will make your Cat5e Ethernet cable have a watertight connection to the MCD-4801 case. Requires standard RJ-45 crimper tool to make.</td>
<td>MPN: BGANAMCDO8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
80+ Watt Foldable Solar Panel
For MCD-4801 & Universal Use
This lightweight 80+ watt solar panel will connect directly to the MCD-4801 for both power assist and recharging. Recharge time is 10-12 hours in full sunlight. If the MCD-4801 is turned on, the solar panel will power assist up to 75% of the power needed, extending the 5 hour battery life 300% to 400%. This panel also includes a "universal" cable kit such as a vehicle power port to charge other devices that can power from a vehicle port. Click for larger image
MPN: BGANAMCD04

DC Vehicle / Battery Power Cable
3 meters (10' feet) DC power cable - Power or recharge the MCD-4801 from any vehicle power port or battery or any DC power source. Includes quick-connecting alligator clips & vehicle power port connector. Input - 12VDC (vehicle battery) Output 24VDC. This accessory is essential for charging the MCD-4801 in no-power locations. Click for larger image.
MPN: BGANAMCD05

KIT - BB-2590 Rechargeable Lithium-Ion External Battery, and Cables
Kit includes the rechargeable BB-2590 external battery to power the MCD-4801 for an additional 3 hours (per battery). Kit also includes "Battery Connector Cable" (MPN: BGANAMCD06) that connects battery to MCD-4801, and the "Battery Recharger" (MPN: BTC-70791-LR) for recharging the BB-2590 battery.
Battery Technical Information
Battery Recharger Information
MPN: BB-2590KIT

BB-2590 Rechargeable Lithium-Ion External Battery
Extra BB-2590 batteries. Allows the MCD-4801 to operate for an additional 3 hours. 6.8 Amp hours. Requires Battery Connector Cable (MPN:BGANAMCD06) for battery connection to MCD-4801. Also Requires Battery Recharger for BB-2590 (MPN: BTC-70791-LR) for recharging the battery.
BB-2590 Battery Technical Information
MPN: BB-2590 (aka BB-2590/U)
Battery Recharger for BB-2590 External Battery
AC-DC Battery Recharger (110 to 240 VAC). May use international power plug adapters for recharging from any AC power source from any country. (Plug adapters are shipped with MCD-4801). Will recharge BB-2590 within 10 hours.

Non-Rechargeable BA-5590 External Battery
Single-Use lithium sulfur dioxide battery. Allows the MCD-4801 to operate for an additional 3 hours. 7.2 Amp hour. Meets MIL-B-49471/3A for voltage, leakage, mechanical or thermal shock, vibration, insulation. This battery will Require Battery Connector Cable (MPN: BGANAMCD06) below to connect battery to MCD-4801.

Battery Connector Cable
36" (3 feet) connector cable between an external battery (type BB-2590 or BB-5590) and the MCD-4801. Includes voltage regulator for smooth operation.

Directional 8 dBi Wireless Antenna
This directional antenna extends the wireless range of the MCD-4801 in one direction (a focused angle 66 degree wide by 16 degrees vertical from the face of the antenna).

Gen 2 - MCD-4801 Internal Batteries
Includes 2 battery packs
Each MCD-4801 includes two high-capacity NiMh (Nickel-Metal Hydride) battery packs inside of the case. Kit includes instructions for replacing packs with existing batteries.
MCD-4801 3 Year Extended Warranty
This is a 24 month extension on the standard 12 month warranty. Standard & extended warranties include replacement parts & labor.
SKW: BGANAMCD3YWAR

MCD-4801 5 Year Extended Warranty
This is a 48 month extension on the standard 12 month warranty. Standard & Extended warranties include replacement parts & labor.
SKW: BGANAMCD5YWAR

The MCD-4801 is watertight, and operates with the case lid closed.
### MCD-4801 Technical Specifications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MCD-4801 Contents</th>
<th>The MCD-4801 uses a Hughes 9450 BGAN terminal enclosed in a hardened Pelican case with proprietary electronics. Other items include an AC/DC Charger with International plug adapters (US, UK, AU, EU, China, N. Europe), 12V vehicle mini-inverter, laminated Quickstart guide, mini compass, system documentation on USB flash drive, and a carry case for all accessories.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Terminal Capability</td>
<td>Internet, Email, VoIP, FTP, SMS messaging, video streaming, VPN.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet Speeds</td>
<td>Class 2 BGAN - 464 Kbps down x 448 Kbps up with standard IP connection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antenna Type</td>
<td>Class 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Service</td>
<td>Inmarsat BGAN I4 network - Operates with any BGAN service provider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BGAN Rx/Tx Frequencies</td>
<td>L-band, Rx @ 1525.0-1559.0 MHz, Tx @ 1626.5-1660.5 MHz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network</td>
<td>DHCP, NAT, Public IP's available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wireless LAN</td>
<td>802.11b/g/n - Up to 100 meters WiFi range. Up to 11 concurrent wireless connections.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wireless Security</td>
<td>WPA &amp; WPA2, MAC filtering options for up to 10 devices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>External Port - LAN</td>
<td>Two - RJ45 Ethernet Ports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>External Port - Power</td>
<td>Power &amp; charge port for AC/DC charger or foldable solar option.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Streaming Services 1:1CIR</td>
<td>32Kbps, 64Kbps, 128Kbps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exterior Case Dimensions</td>
<td>17”L x 13.75”W x 6.75 &quot;H (432 x 349 x 171 mm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight (case only)</td>
<td>25 lbs. 4.3 oz. (11.46 kg)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Onboard Battery Life</td>
<td>Up to 5 hours normal use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recharge Time</td>
<td>Under 8 hours (from fully discharged) using 110 to 240 VAC (worldwide)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Onboard Battery Type</td>
<td>NiMH (Nickel-Metal Hydride)... FCC Compliant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Power Compatibility</td>
<td>Includes international plug kit for U.S., U.K., European, Australian, China, N. Europe -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Power Supply - Charger</td>
<td>Input 110 to 240 Volts AC. Output 28 Volts DC @ 8 Amps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>External Batteries</td>
<td>Optional military grade BB-2590 &amp; BA-5590 - adds up to 3 hour runtime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feature</td>
<td>Specification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humidity</td>
<td>95% RH at +40°C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating Temperatures</td>
<td>-25° to +70° Celsius (-13° to 158° Fahrenheit)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rain / Water / Dust:</td>
<td><strong>IP67 when case lid closed (may be submerged up to 1 meter for 30 minutes)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wind</td>
<td>If case is secure, it is not affected by wind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ice</td>
<td>20mm buildup before signal loss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turning Rate (Azimuth)</td>
<td>40° per second</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turning Acceleration</td>
<td>50°/s²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Colors Available</td>
<td>Desert Tan (default color), Yellow, Black, Silver, Orange, OD Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturer Support</td>
<td>The MCD-4801 is integrated satellite technology manufactured by Ground Control and support by us 24 x 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warranty</td>
<td>1 year standard warranty. Extended 3 year and 5 year extended warranties available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Made In The USA</td>
<td>The Hughes 9450 transceiver and the MCD-4801 case are U.S. manufactured</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inmarsat Type Approval</td>
<td>The Hughes 9450 has been type approved by Inmarsat</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Troubleshooting

SYSTEM OVERHEATING
The MCD-4801 has an internal fan that will activate when internal temperatures increase. When the temperature reaches 130°F (54°C), the terminal will shut off automatically. To avoid this, move the MCD-4801 to shade and open up the case lid for venting.

WIRELESS ACCESS ISSUES
If you are unable to connect to the wireless access point, use an Ethernet cable to directly connect to the system, and access the web interface screen (192.168.128.100). Click on WLAN to access the wireless access parameters and configure to your required specifications (including WPA2 Security).

UNABLE TO CONNECT TO THE INTERNET
If you are able to connect to the wireless access point, but unable to connect to the Internet, it could be:

1. The system has not yet acquired GPS. If this is the case, turn the system off and then back on. Access the Web Interface screen to see the current status of the BGAN connection.

2. A BGAN satellite has not been found, normally because there is a line-of-sight obstacle like a tree or building. Simply move the case to a new location and try again. Make sure to turn it off, and back on when a new location is found. Make sure there are no items stored inside or on top of the case that may be blocking the signal.

LOCATION AND LINE-OF-SIGHT
When choosing a place to set up your satellite equipment, please keep the following in mind:

First, all satellite systems require constant line-of-sight access to the stationary satellite in the sky, which means that you must choose your location with care. Small obstructions may sometimes be ignored, but that is never guarantee of connectivity. Large obstructions – such as trees, buildings, etc – must be avoided. The case requires a clear view of any of 3 BGAN satellites for operation.

Second, there are other things that can obstruct your signal through radio-spectrum interference. High voltage power lines may cause interference with the satellite signal, reducing performance or preventing access altogether. Radar emitters, such as those found at airports, in police vehicles, and in certain areas as part of speed enforcement measures, may also prevent the satellite system from obtaining a signal lock. Further, radar installations can shut off an already established satellite link by causing harmful interference.

Third, it is wise to place the system high enough so that people who walk around the system will not interfere with the signal. We recommend placing the case on top of a vehicle, or other high location.
Remember, use good judgment when choosing a set-up location. Choose an area with no obstructions to the south (if in the United States), and clear of other sources of radio or radar interference.

**Contacting Ground Control Support**

Ground Control technical support representatives are available 24 hours per day for your convenience. Please note that our standard hours of operation are Monday – Friday, 8AM to 5PM Pacific Standard Time. If you call outside of these hours, support response may be delayed and certain resources may not be available to the support agent.

For Technical Support, please call **1-800-931-5559** from the U.S. or **+1-805-783-4633** from abroad. You may also email support@groundcontrol.com from a computer connected to working Internet connection.