

SPEEDTRONIC* Mark* V Turbine Control End of Production

September 2003

GE Drives and Controls, Inc. will cease normal production of the SPEEDTRONIC Mark V Turbine Control system on March 31, 2004. As with many products, and particularly with electronics, the Mark V control will eventually exceed its supportable life. Parts and components will become unavailable and technology resources will become scarce. This will make it increasingly difficult to guarantee timely availability and reparability of parts for an extended period.

In order to address this issue and support customer initiatives, GE has established the following guidelines. These guidelines are designed to help customers as they develop their plans to purchase and retire equipment and to minimize costs throughout the Mark V control end-of-life stages.

Product End of Life

Once production of Mark V control systems ceases, its end-of-life process will have begun. During this process, the Mark V control will be supported by renewal parts and technical support for 10 years, or as long as feasible. The length of time for continued support after obsolescence is dependent upon numerous items including: supplied parts and components, design automation tools, test equipment, technical expertise, and manufacturing facility. A product end-of-life team reviews each product annually to determine its status and future plans for continued support.

Renewal Parts End of Life

A renewal parts end-of-life planning team will determine the support strategy for parts, which will be coded to identify their availability and stage of support as follows:

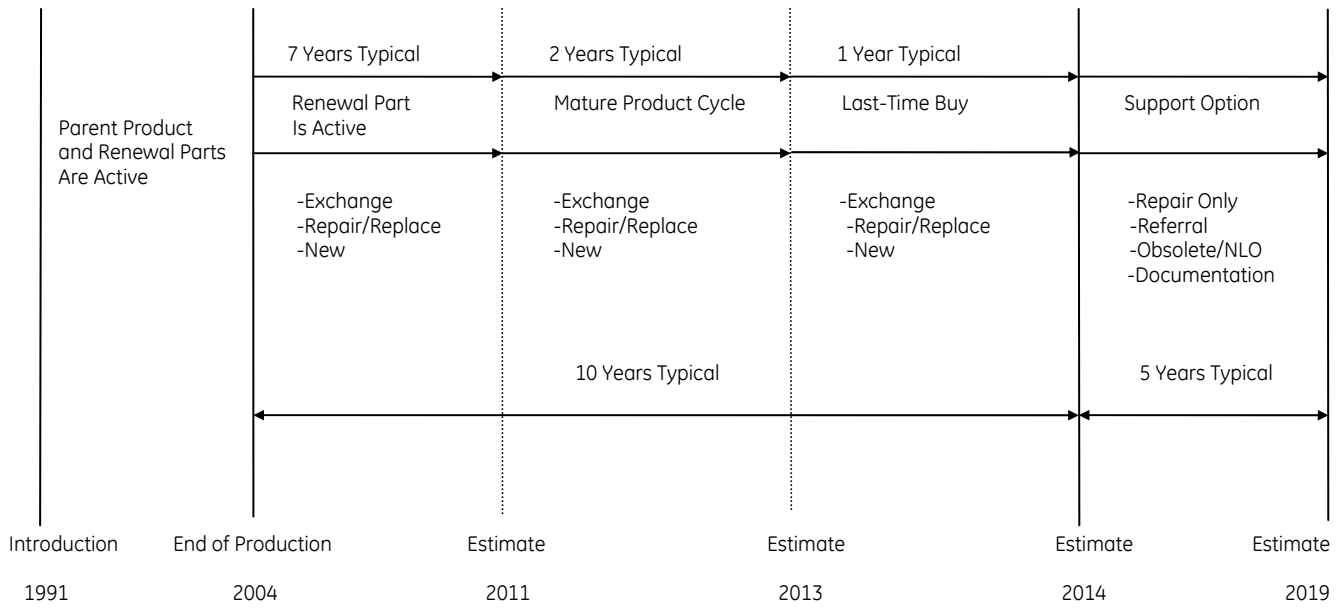
RTS&S Refer to Sales & Service (RTS&S) is temporarily assigned due to part problems including: cost, availability, quality, test equipment, technical expertise, EHS concerns, and low volume. The part will be reviewed for availability at the time of request.

OBS - No Replacement Obsolete (OBS) - No Replacement is assigned to designate parts that GE Industrial Systems can no longer manufacture or obtain from suppliers, and for which no replacement part is available.

OBS - USE _xxxx_ Obsolete (OBS) - Use _xxxx_ is assigned to designate parts that GE Industrial Systems can no longer manufacture or obtain from suppliers, but has assigned a replacement.

NLO No Longer Offered (NLO) is assigned to designate parts that GE Industrial Systems can no longer offer.

The life-cycle stage of parts will be identified on the current order/quote system, along with the date that they entered each life-cycle stage. The stages of the part's life cycle are shown in the following table.



Mark V Control Timeline Overlay

GE is committed to the life-cycle support of your controls and associated equipment. For more information, contact the nearest GE Sales or Service Office, or an authorized GE Sales Representative.

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