

FAQ Subject	Product Notification Change – Ranger 2304 Series Hardware and Firmware Changes
Products	USB 2.0 Ranger® 2304 and USB 2.0 Ranger® 2304GE-LAN
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Q1: What hardware changes are being made to the USB 2.0 Ranger 2304 Series?

- A1:
- Transition from FPGA-based to ASIC-based design
 - Internal USB hub change from Microchip to Cypress
 - Internal Ethernet PHY change from Broadcom to Realtek
 - Rear faceplates have the factory “Configuration” port position change and “Pair” button is renamed “Mode” to better reflect its capabilities

Q2: What firmware changes are being made to the USB 2.0 Ranger 2304 Series?

A2: The firmware is being revised from N07 to N09 (N08 was not offered for the 2304 Series) which includes some updates pertaining primarily to networking and OEM features.

Q3: Are the ASIC-based extenders compatible with the FPGA-based extenders?

A3: Yes, they are backward compatible with FPGA-based extenders using firmware releases N08, N07, N06 and N05.

Q4: Why are you making these hardware and firmware changes?

A4: Icron is in the process of adopting a common baseline with all ExtremeUSB® extension solutions for better ongoing support and integral to this effort is transition to the latest ExtremeUSB platform ASIC and firmware release code. Configuration port and Mode button changes resulted from the improved design and customer feedback.

Q5: What USB 2.0 Ranger 2304 Series extender models will be impacted?

A5: All models of the 2304 will be impacted with the exception of the 2304-LAN which will not transition as a new 2304GE-LAN model will be launched, making the 2304-LAN redundant; instead it will be discontinued through Icron’s end-of-life (EOL) process.

Q6: Tell me more about the new USB 2.0 Ranger 2304GE-LAN?

A6: The new “Gigabit Ethernet” model supersedes the 2304-LAN by supporting isochronous devices such as web cameras, microphones and speakers. It will be available beginning May 25, 2016.

Q7: When will the transition to ASIC-based hardware with N09 firmware take place?

A7: The change is expected around May 25, 2016 – same time as the launch of the new 2304GE-LAN.

Q8: Will the ASIC-based models cost more?

A8: No, in fact lower pricing is available. Please contact your account manager for more details.

Q9: Where can I read more about these hardware and firmware changes?

A9: Hardware release notes are available [here](#), and N09 firmware release notes are available [here](#).

For further information or more questions about this PCN, please contact your Account Manager, or email us at pcn@icron.com.