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8900NET (Net Card)

NETWORK INTERFACE MODULE

Release Notes

SOFTWARE VERSION 4.3.0

071808707
MAY 2008

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Grass Valley Web Site

The www.thomsongrassvalley.com web site offers the following:

Online User Documentation — Current versions of product catalogs, brochures, data sheets, ordering guides, planning guides, manuals, and release notes in .pdf format can be downloaded.

FAQ Database — Solutions to problems and troubleshooting efforts can be found by searching our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) database.

Software Downloads — Download software updates, drivers, and patches.

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Grass Valley's end-of-life product take back program assures proper disposal by use of Best Available Technology. This program accepts any Grass Valley branded equipment. Upon request, a Certificate of Recycling or a Certificate of Destruction, depending on the ultimate disposition of the product, can be sent to the requester.

Grass Valley will be responsible for all costs associated with recycling and disposal, including freight. However, you are responsible for the removal of the equipment from your facility and packing the equipment to make it ready for pickup.

For further information on the Grass Valley product take back system please contact Grass Valley at + 800 80 80 20 20 or +33 1 48 25 20 20 from most other countries. In the U.S. and Canada please call 800-547-8949 or 530-478-4148, and ask to be connected to the EH&S Department. Additional information concerning the program can be found at: www.thomsongrassvalley.com/environment

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Version 4.3.0

MAY 2008

8900NET Network Interface Module Release Notes

Introduction

This document provides information on the latest release of the software for the 8900NET Network Interface Module for controlling the 8900 Gecko and GeckoFlex frames. This release updates 8900NET software version 4.2.0 to version 4.3.0. Read this document completely before attempting to download the latest software.

All Modular product manuals and release notes are available on-line at:

http://www.thomsongrassvalley.com/docs/modular/

Version 4.3.0 Software Release

The enhancements and resolved software issues for 8900NET (Net Card) software release 4.3.0 from the previous 4.2.0 release are summarized below.

8900NET Enhancements

8900NET Software version 4.3.0 adds the following software enhancements:

- Two new controls, **Disable Slot Refresh** and **Disable Background Web Page Loading**, have been added to the 8900NET Configuration web page to enhance response time during heavy bus loading (page 6).

Resolved Software Issues

8900NET Software version 4.3.0 fixes the following software issues:

- Improved software update capabilities for larger files and module version compatibility when using the NetConfig PC Networking application have been added for all applicable Gecko and GeckoFlex modules.
- Improved communication between the Newton Control Panel and the 8900NET module (88393).

New 8900NET Configuration Controls

The following new controls have been added in version 4.3.0 to the 8900NET (Net Card) Configuration web page as shown in Figure 1 on page 7 and explained below.

Always Slot Refresh

The 8900NET module automatically polls and refreshes all media modules installed in each frame slot about every 50 minutes for a fully stuffed frame. The **Always Slot Refresh** checkbox, which is enabled by default, can be unchecked to disable the 8900NET module from doing the automatic refresh in conjunction with **Restore Upon Install** function on each media module Slot Config web page.

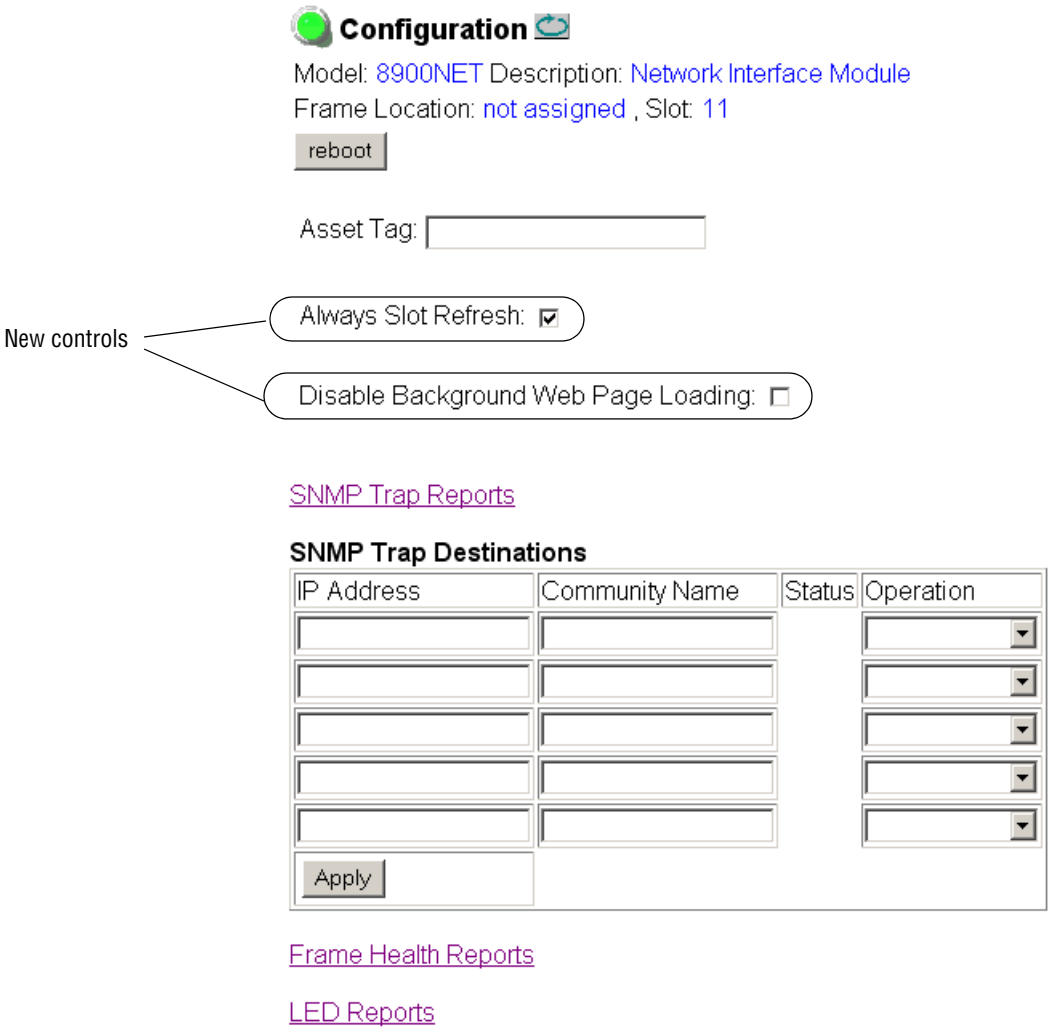
If **Always Slot Refresh** is checked, every slot is refreshed, regardless of any **Restore upon Install** settings. If **Always Slot Refresh** is unchecked, only media module slots that have the **Restore upon Install** setting checked are refreshed.

Disable Background Web Page Loading

When the frame is powered up or the 8900NET module is rebooted, the 8900NET module will automatically load every web page for every module in the frame. This is the default condition (**Disable Background Web Page Loading** unchecked).

The **Disable Background Web Page Loading** checkbox can be selected to disable the background loading of all web pages. The web pages will only be loaded when selected by the user. This will slow down the page response slightly the first time each web page is selected.

Figure 1. 8900NET Configuration Web Page



Acquiring and Installing Software

8900NET software updates are performed using the Grass Valley PC application NetConfig. If you do not have NetConfig or the latest version (version 2.0.9 as of this printing), you can download it free of charge from the Thomson Grass Valley ftp site at this URL:

ftp://ftp.thomsongrassvalley.com/router/NetConfig/

1. Right-click on the latest NetConfig link to download the zipped file to the C:\temp folder or other convenient location on your PC.
2. Extract the zipped files onto your local drive:
3. Double-click on the NetConfig.EXE file to install NetConfig.

Note Installing NetConfig into the default location given in the install script (C:\Programs\Grass Valley Group) is recommended for future NetConfig and module software updates.

4. For more information on using NetConfig, refer to the NetConfig Networking Application Instruction Manual which is included with the option, available on the Thomson Grass Valley web site, and may also be present in the NetConfig directory during some NetConfig installations (Newton Control Panel installation is one example).

NetConfig Software Updating Method

To use this method, your 8900NET module must be running version 3.2.0 or later and you must have the NetConfig Networking Application option running on a networked PC on the same subnet as the frame with the 8900NET module.

Note If your 8900NET software is earlier than v 3.2.0, you must first update your module(s) to version 3.2.0. Read the UrgentReadThis.txt file in the 8900NET software directory for instructions.

Two files are required for updating software, an .fld and an .sw2 for the module being updated. For acquiring software, refer to *Acquiring and Installing Software* on page 8.

Determine Module Part Number

There are two versions of update software on the ftp site for the version 4.3.0 release. The version you will use depends on the part number of the 8900NET module. To determine which .fld file to download, go to your current 8900NET Status web page and note the part number of the module (671- is shown in Figure 2 on page 9 and 771- is shown in Figure 3 on page 9).

Figure 2. 8900NET 671- Module Part Number

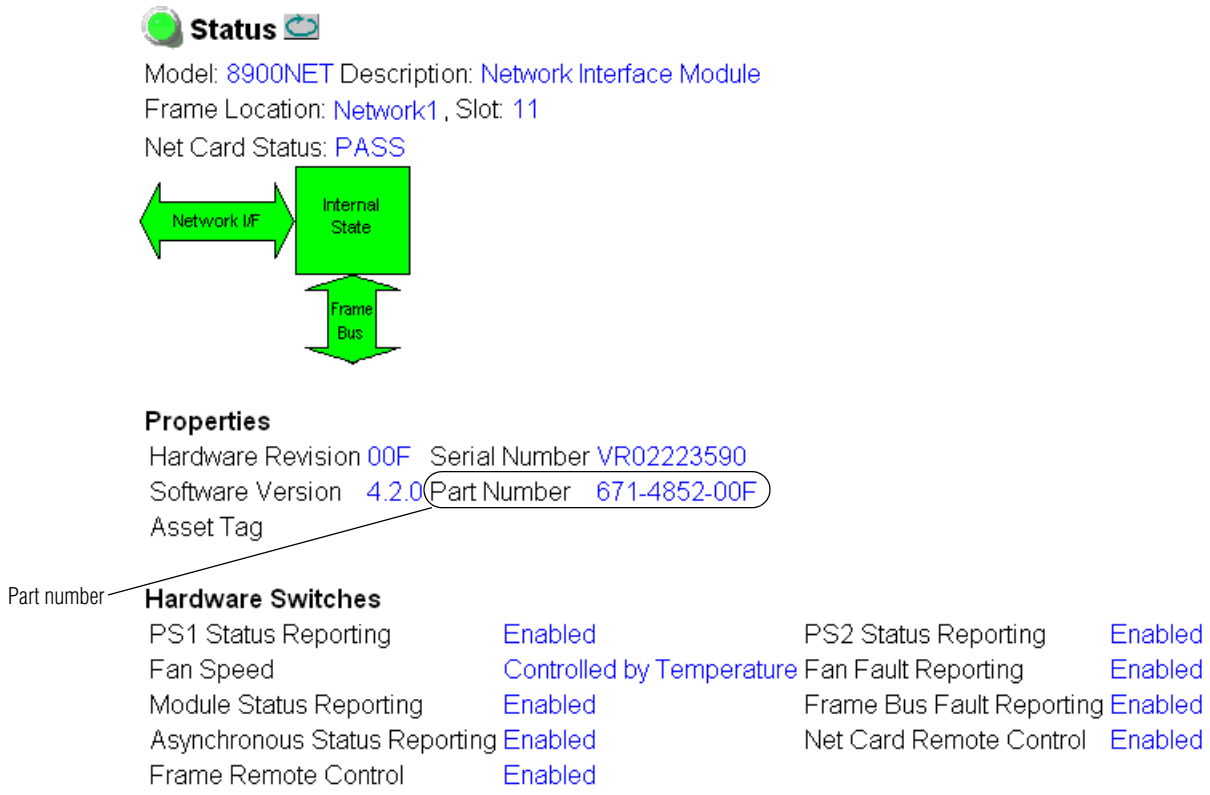
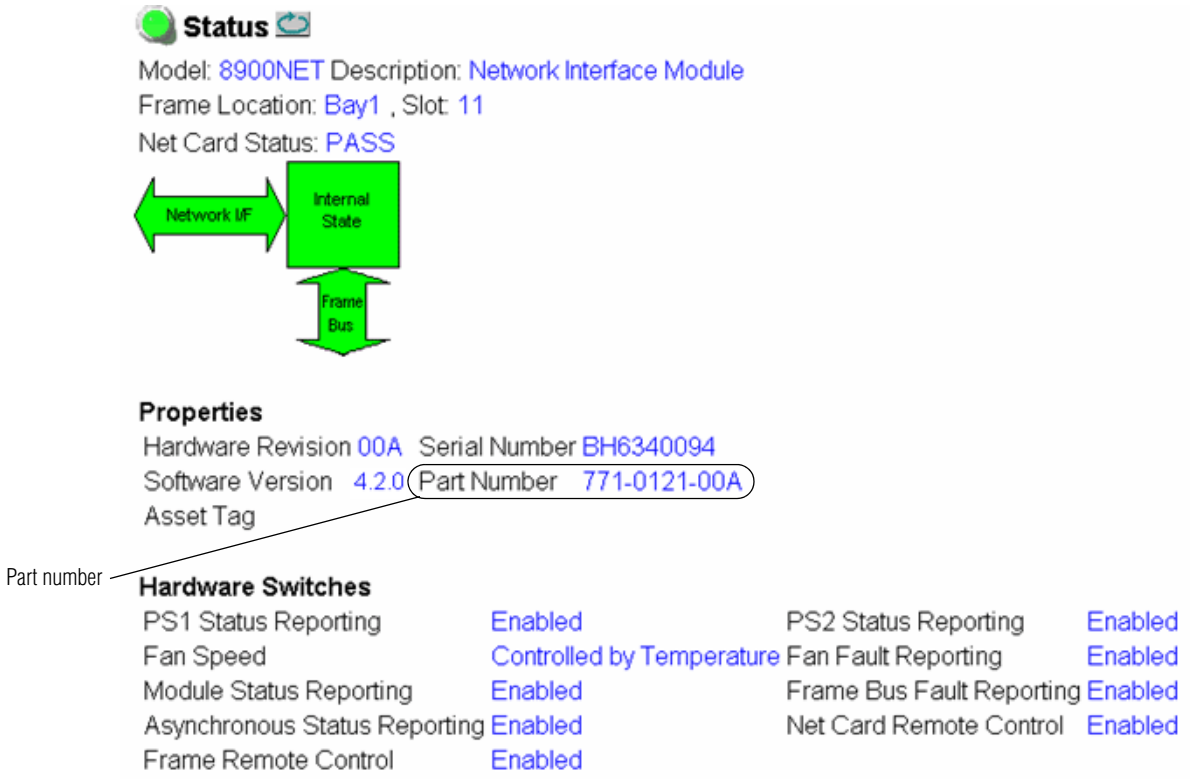


Figure 3. 8900NET 771- Module Part Number



Download Software Update Files

The latest software updates for the 8900NET module are available at the following URL:

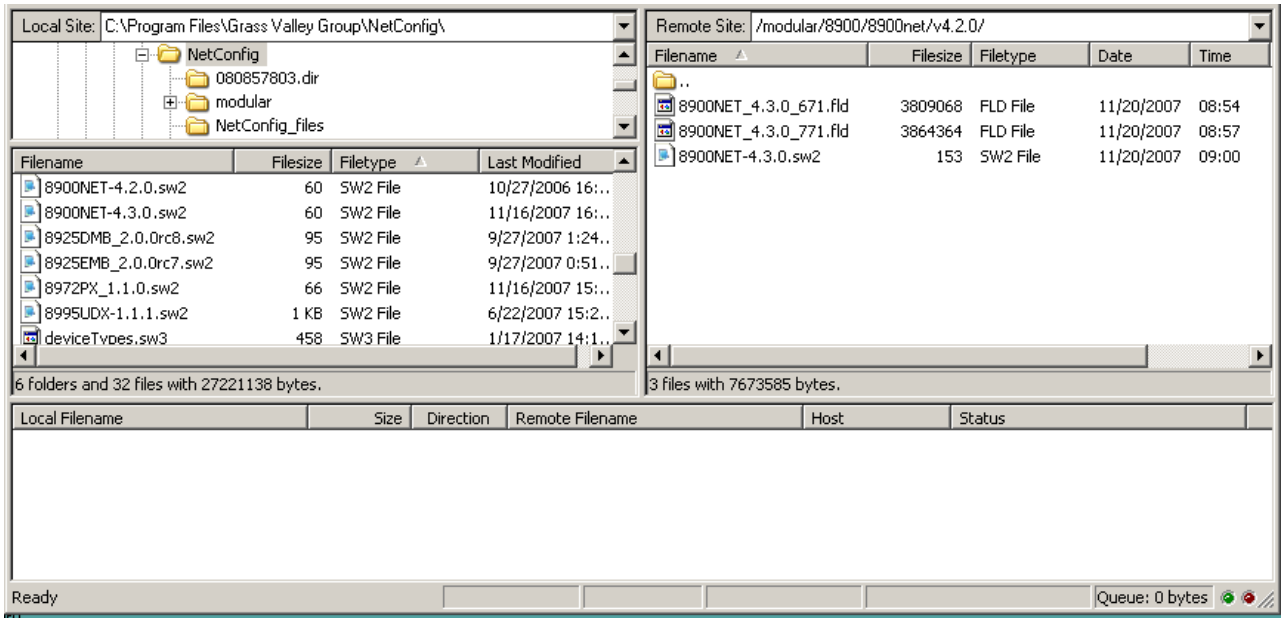
ftp://ftp.thomsongrassvalley.com/modular/8900/8900NET

This will take you to the Grass Valley ftp server. Be sure to read any README files in the main 8900NET directory that may be present and these release notes before downloading software.

Open the 4.3.0 directory and note that there are two .fld files, one for modules with a 671- part number (8900NET_4.3.0_671.fld) and one for the 771- part number (8900NET_4.3.0_771.fld) as shown in Figure 4. Download the appropriate .fld file to your PC or directly into the **modular** folder in the NetConfig directory.

Download the file named 8900NET-4.3.0.sw2 to your PC or directly into the NetConfig directory (not in the **modular** folder).

Figure 4. Download Corresponding .fld File



NetConfig Update Procedure

Follow the steps below to update software using NetConfig:

1. Locate the PC directory in which the NetConfig application has been installed. The default location is C:\Program Files\Grass Valley Group\NetConfig.

   If this is not where NetConfig was installed, right-click on the NetConfig desktop shortcut and select **Properties**, click on the **Shortcut** tab and note the location of the installation in the **Start In** field.

2. Copy the 8900NET-4.3.0.sw2 file for the module update into the main NetConfig directory (not in the **modular** folder) or verify it is there if you downloaded it directly from the ftp site.

3. Create a subdirectory named **modular** (if one does not already exist) in the main NetConfig directory.

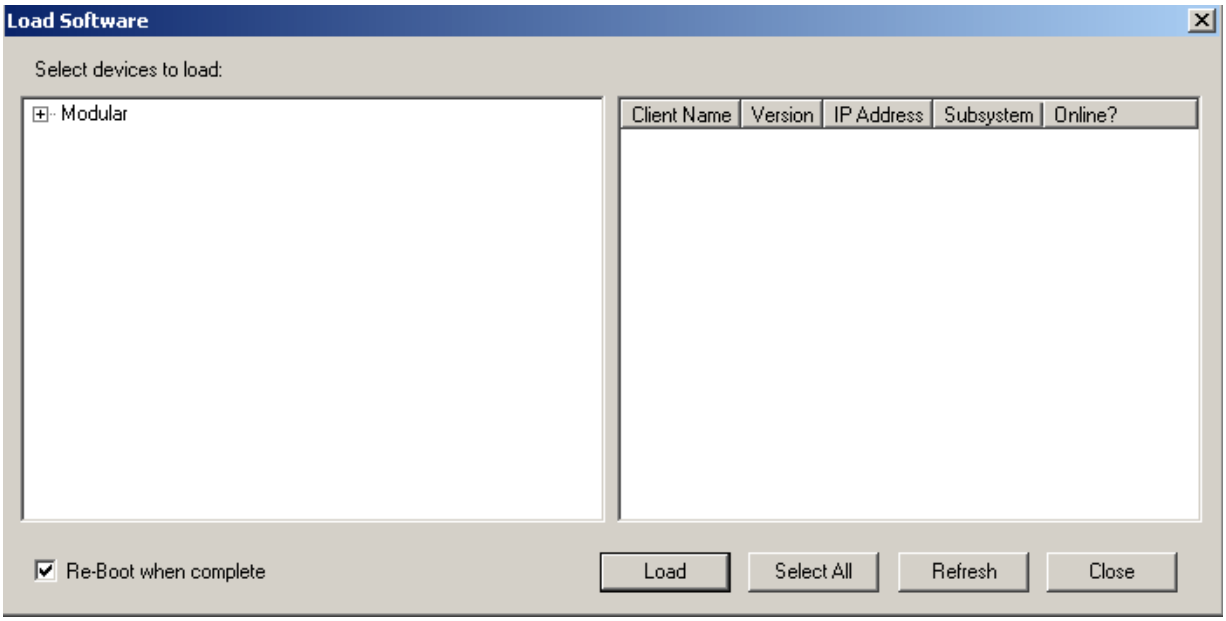
4. Copy the appropriate .fld file for the part number of your 8900NET module into this **modular** subdirectory in the NetConfig directory or verify that the correct .fld was downloaded directly from the ftp site.

5. Open NetConfig and locate the 8900 Gecko or GeckoFlex frame(s) with the 8900NET module(s) you will be updating in the menu tree on the left of the NetConfig screen.

6. Select the **Load SW** button at the top of the NetConfig screen.

7. The NetConfig **Load Software** window will open (Figure 5). There may be other directories for other Grass Valley products listed here depending on your facility. A **modular** directory should be present.

Figure 5. Load Software Window



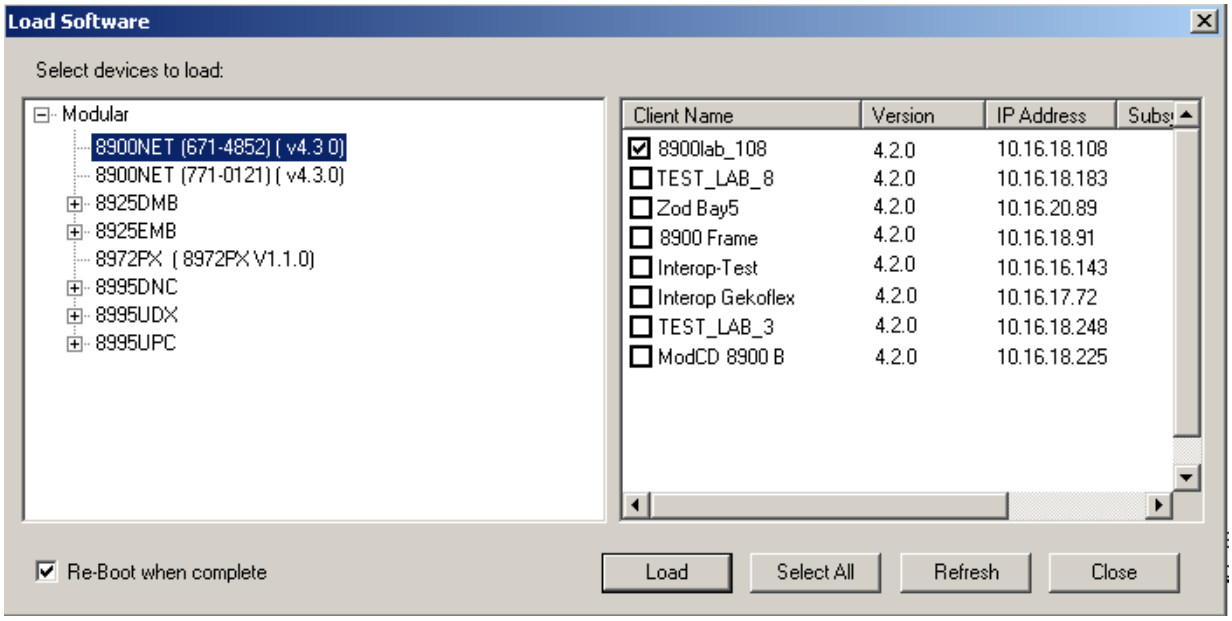
8. Open the **modular** directory by selecting the +. Software updates will be listed that are present in your NetConfig directory. (NetConfig version 2.0.9 is used in Figure 6.)

9. For 8900NET modules with a 671- part number, select the 8900NET (671-4852)(4.3.0) selection in the **modular** folder. All of the modules of this type accessible on the network will appear in the window on the right under the **Client Name** heading as shown in Figure 6.

   The current software loaded on each module will be listed as well as the IP address and other information for the module client.

10. Check the corresponding **Client Name** boxes to upgrade the modules or use the **Select All** button to update all modules of this type present on the network.

Figure 6. NetConfig Load Software Window (671- Part Number)



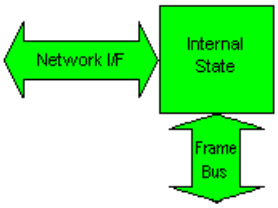
11. Press the **Load** button to perform the update to all the selected modules.

12. Once the loading is complete, close NetConfig and link to each 8900NET module Status web page to verify the software has been updated (Figure 7 on page 13).

Figure 7. Verify Module Update

Status

Model: 8900NET Description: Network Interface Module
Frame Location: Network1 , Slot: 11
Net Card Status: PASS



Properties

Hardware Revision 00F Serial Number VR02223590
Software Version 4.3.0 Part Number 671-4852-00F
Asset Tag

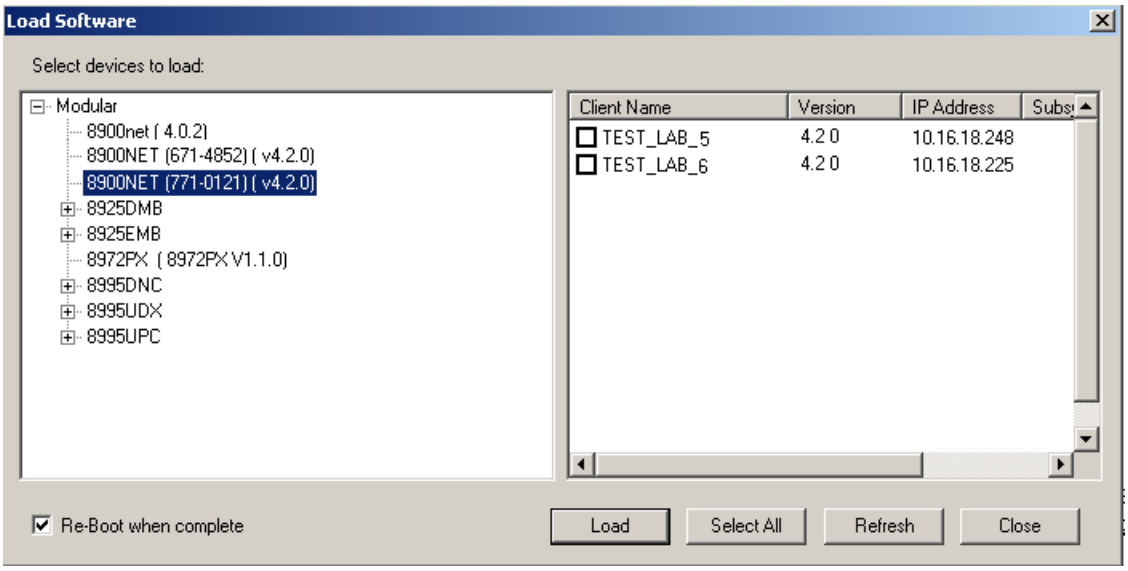
Software version

Hardware Switches

PS1 Status Reporting	Enabled	PS2 Status Reporting	Enabled
Fan Speed	Controlled by Temperature	Fan Fault Reporting	Enabled
Module Status Reporting	Enabled	Frame Bus Fault Reporting	Enabled
Asynchronous Status Reporting	Enabled	Net Card Remote Control	Enabled
Frame Remote Control	Enabled		

13. For 8900NET modules with a 771- part number, select the 8900NET (771-0121)(4.3.0) selection in the **modular** folder. All of the modules of this part number type accessible on the network will appear in the window on the right under the **Client Name** heading as shown in Figure 8.

Figure 8. NetConfig Load Software Window (771 Part Number)



14. Follow steps 10, 11, and 12 for the 771- module upload. Refer to the Status web page to verify the software update (Figure 9).

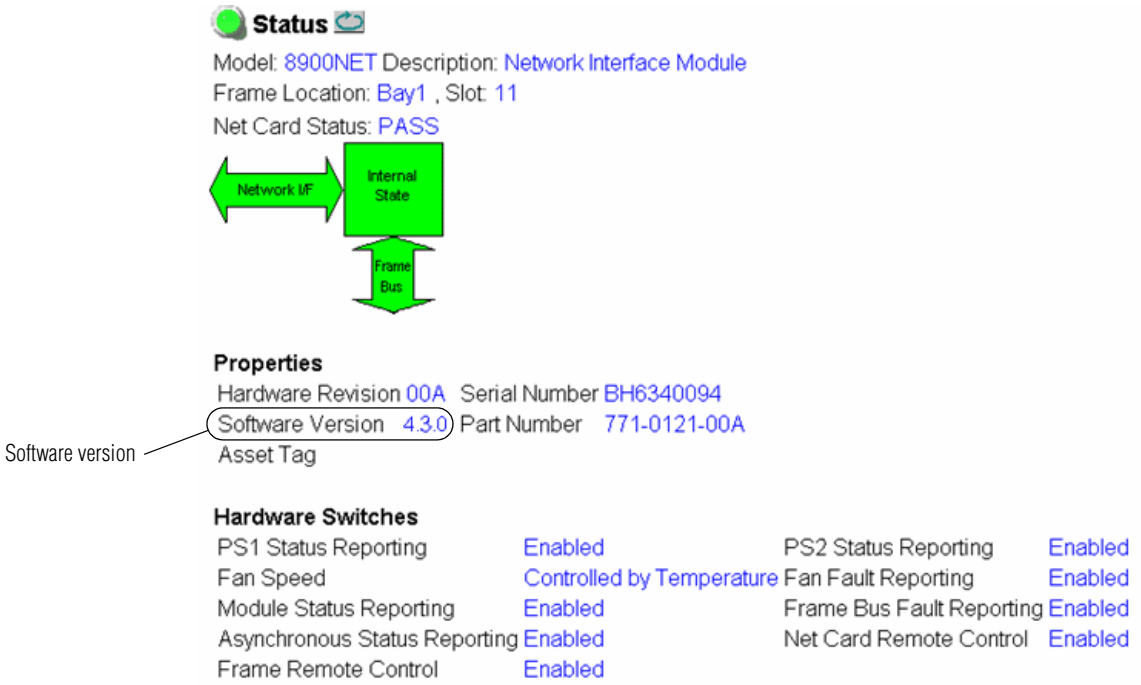



Figure 9. Verify Module Update