

Process: Software Loading Utility for Tracstar Cobham antennas

Date & Rev: 07/29/15 Rev 0

Description: *This document describes in step by step detail how to update the operating firmware on a TracStar antenna. This procedure is written based on current revision systems (2.xx) with backwards compatible details in brackets [] where differs for older versions.*

Precautions: **RF Precautions**
No RF precautions should be necessary as this procedure can be executed with the antenna stowed, in idle mode not pointing, or acquired.

Process Precautions

End user must be careful to follow all steps in order and not interrupt the file upload until fully completed or risk corrupting the update and making your antenna inoperable!

Skills Required: The following steps require the technician to be familiar with the Antenna's ACU Interface, have adequate understanding of how to use HyperTerminal or similar terminal communications program, or be able to follow instructions over the phone from TracStar support personnel.

Tools Required: Computer with DB-9 Serial communications port (or USB adaptor)
Tracstar Cobham provided Software Utility program
Standard 9-pin (DB-9 RS232) Male- Female serial cable

Procedure: Save the attached .hex file, .s19 file, and .zip to your local drive.
To use the utility, extract to a folder and then install the software.

- If you system is already running software 26321T or higher you can skip to page 6.

- If you system is already running software 223G1 or higher you can skip to page 6.

- If you system is already running software 229G1 or higher you can skip to page 6.

- If you are running any other software, please contact the support group before continuing with any updates.

Continued on Page 2 of 12

WARNING! DO NOT update your system if ANY of the following conditions apply:

- 1) Revisions 2.21x or lower.**
- 2) Load only the correct software family before proceeding as described below*.**
- 3) Your system is running a version of software other than 2.2xx, or 2.6xxx.**

***To check version compatibility:** From the “Ready”/ “Idle” page, press the Main key to the “User Setup” menu, and take note of your current software revision. This is the number listed on the bottom line of this page after the “Ver”.

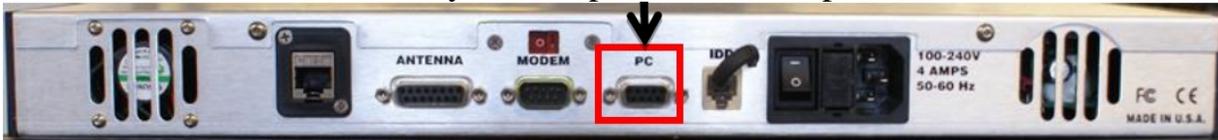
Examples: If this reads 2.22x or 223xx you must load the software files beginning with Main223xx.

If your version reads 2.60xx or 263xxx then you must load software files beginning with Main263xxx.

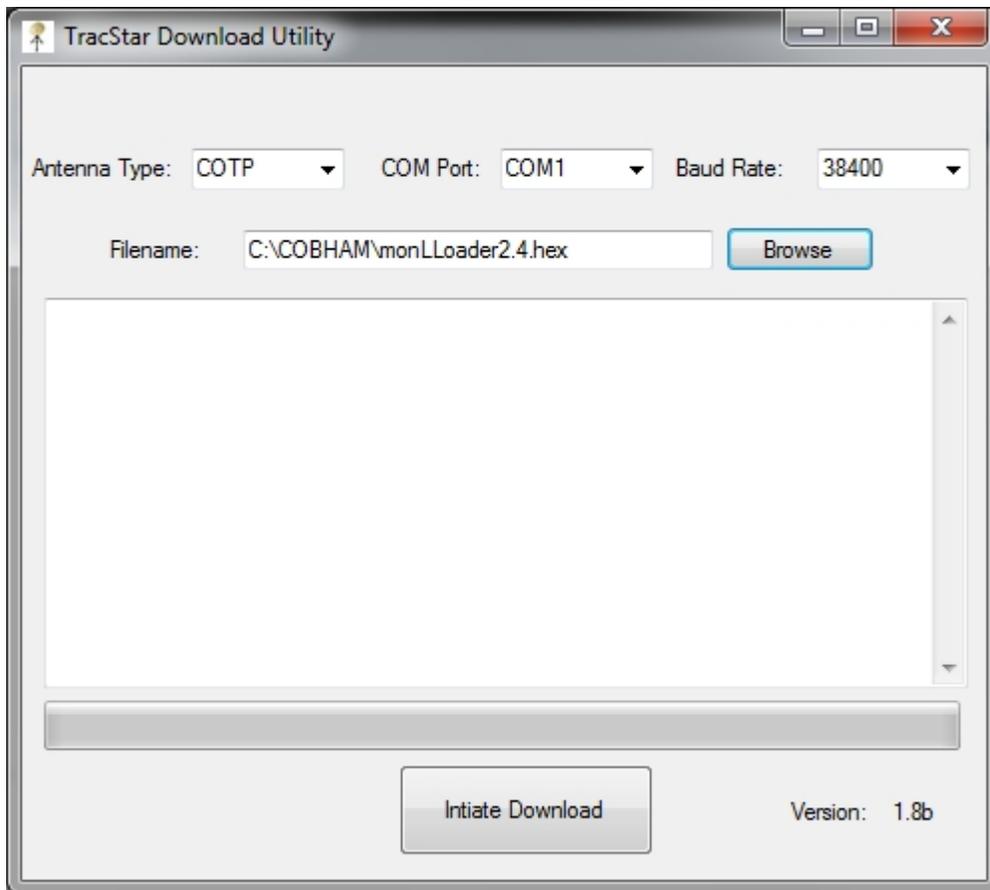
You must call TracStar Support for further assistance before proceeding or serious damage may occur!

UPDATING MONITOR VERSION TO 2.4

1. Turn the power off on the controller.
2. Connect the serial cable from your computer to the PC port on the back of the ACU.



3. Open the download utility program. Under the Antenna Type menu select the “COTP” option. Then select your COM Port and set the Baud Rate to 38400. Then click on the Browse button and select the “monLLoader2.4.hex” file.

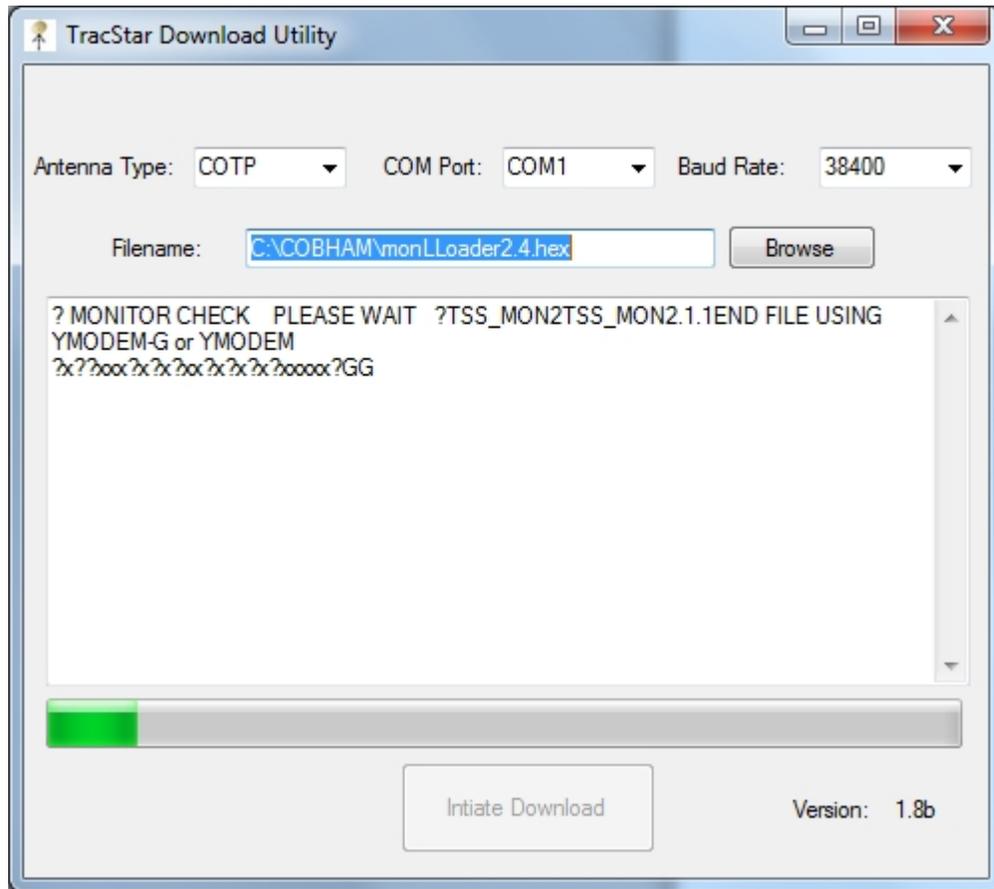


***If you cannot see the file you may need to change the file type selection to All files(*.*).

4. Click the “Initiate Download” button and power up the controller.

Continued on Page 4 of 12

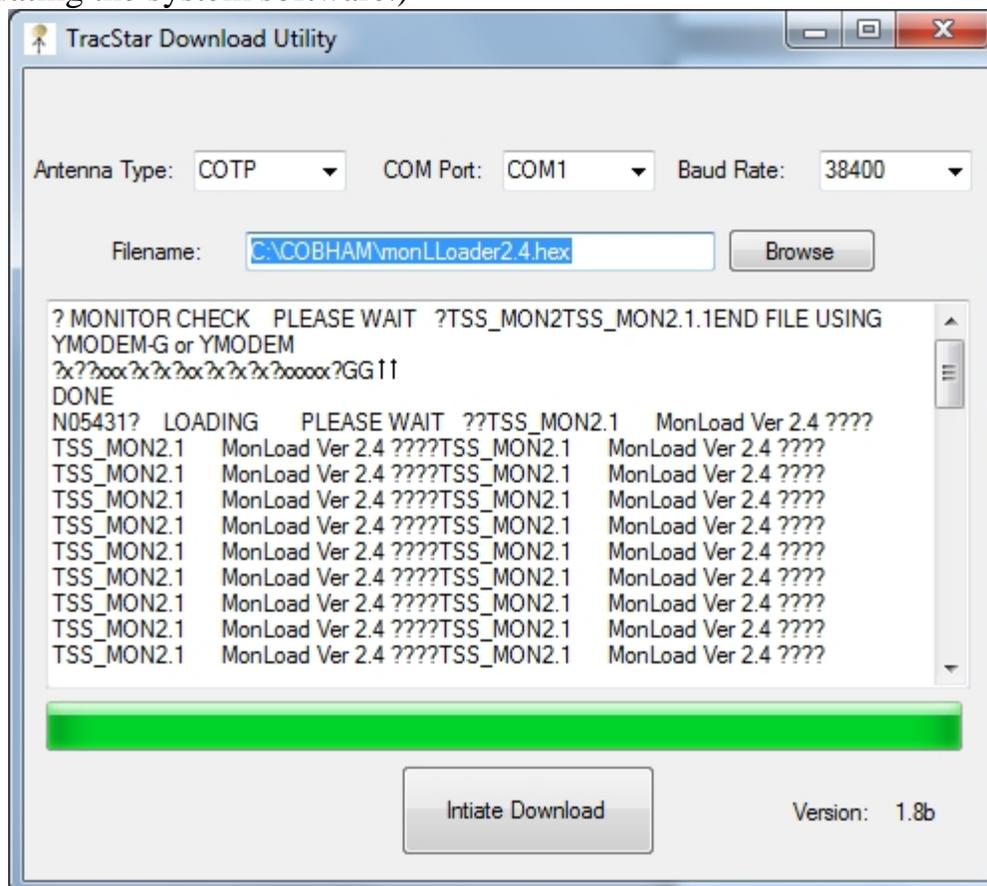
5. Now power on the controller and the program will interrupt the boot sequence and start to load the file.



- IF THIS DOES NOT WORK ON THE FIRST ATTEMPT, TRY TO POWER CYCLE THE CONTROLLER AGAIN.

- IF THIS DOES NOT WORK AFTER THIS THEN SKIP TO PAGE 10.

6. Once it has finished loading the file the controller will reboot and come up to a screen that will say “TSS_MON2.1”. You will also see this on the download utility: (The “2.1” is the current monitor version, is it says 2.4, you may continue onto updating the system software.)



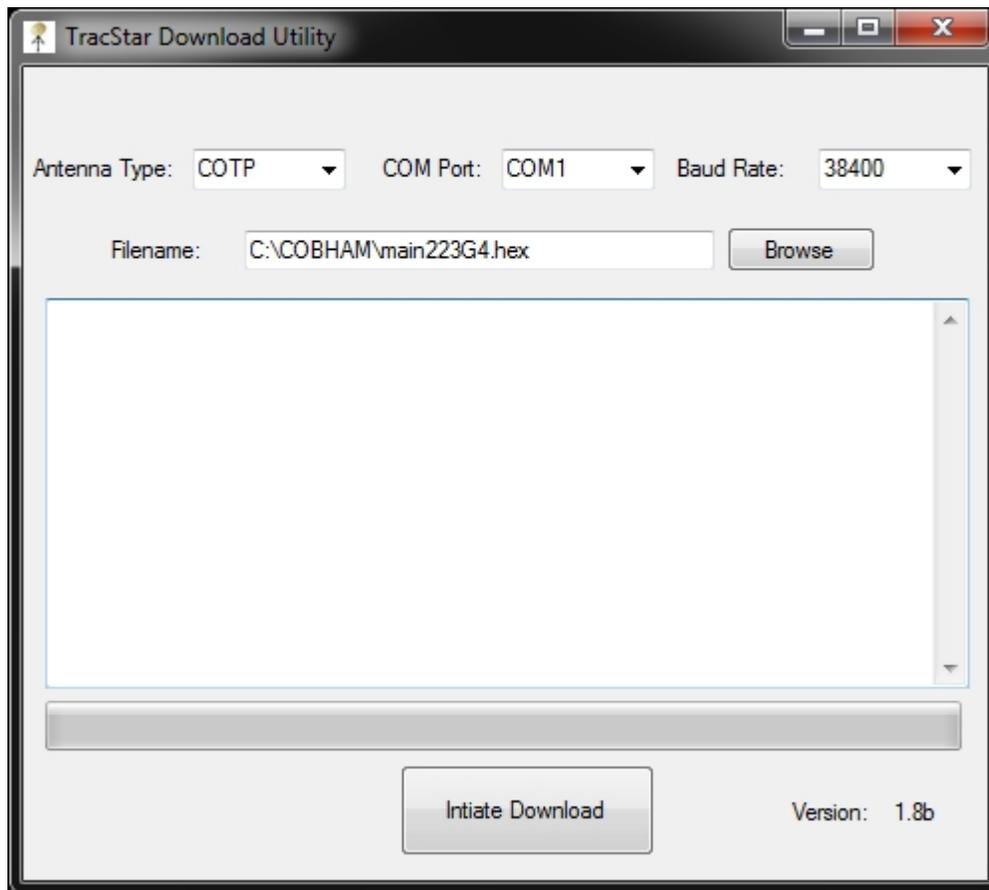
7. Go to the controller and press the “MAIN” button once to the TECH SETUP screen.
8. Set the code to 13 using the (+)/(-) buttons and press “ENTER”.
9. Press the (→) button once to the SET TEST / Monitor Load screen, using the (+)/(-) buttons change the “cancel” on the top right to “RUN NOW” and press “ENTER”.
10. The controller should reboot and then say “TSS_MON2.4” on the top left.

If you see this message, you have successfully updated the monitor on you antenna.

Close the Download Utility and continue to the next step.

UPDATING SYSTEM SOFTWARE

1. Turn the power off on the controller.
2. Open the download utility program. Under the Antenna Type menu select the “COTP” option. Then select your COM Port and set the Baud Rate to 38400. Then click on the Browse button and select the “Main2XXXX.hex” file.

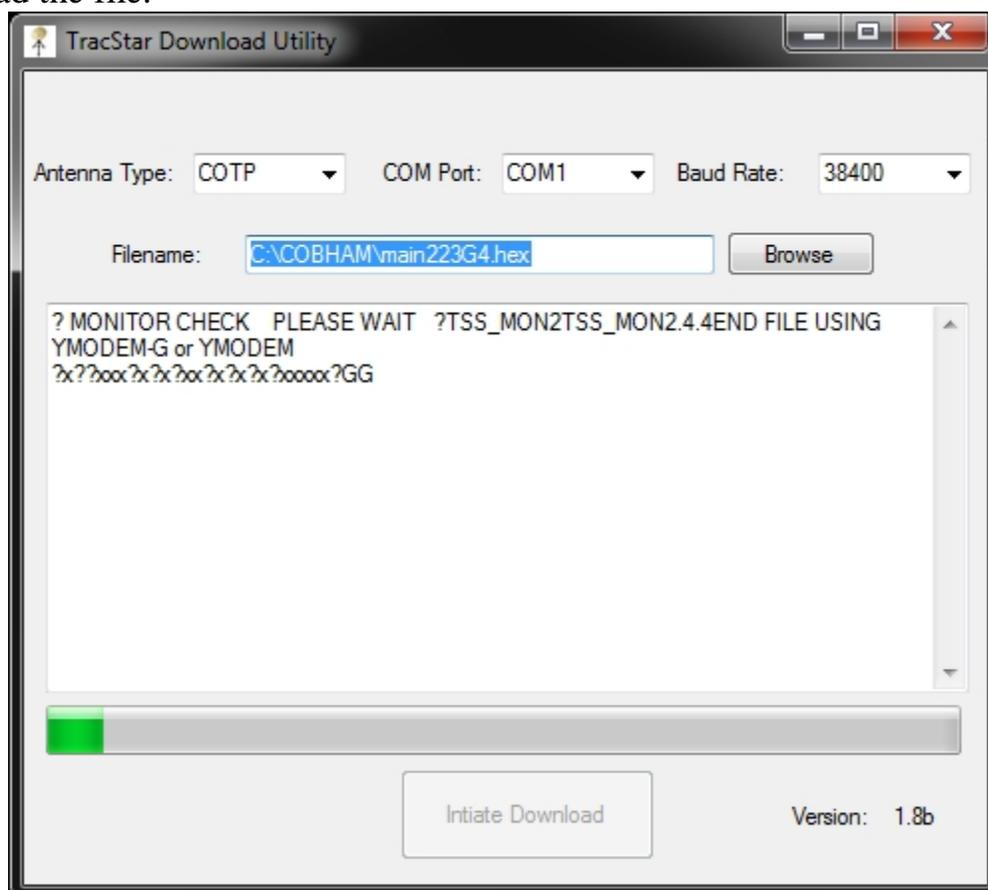


***If you cannot see the file you may need to change the file type selection to All files(*.*).

3. Click the “Initiate Download” button and power up the controller.

Continued on Page 7 of 12

4. Now power on the controller and the program will interrupt the boot sequence and start to load the file.



Save Settings

1. Press “Main” to “TECH SETUP” and set the code to “13” using the (+)/(-) buttons and the press Enter.
2. Press (-->) 2 times to the “SET TEST” screen.
3. Press (-) 2 times to the “EPP SAVE” option.
4. Press “Enter” and you will see a CANCEL on the top right of the screen, press (+) and it will change to RUN NOW and press “Enter again”.
5. The process will take 10-15 seconds and it will show “OPER DONE” when finished.
6. Press “Main” back to the Ready screen. You may now continue with your normal operation.

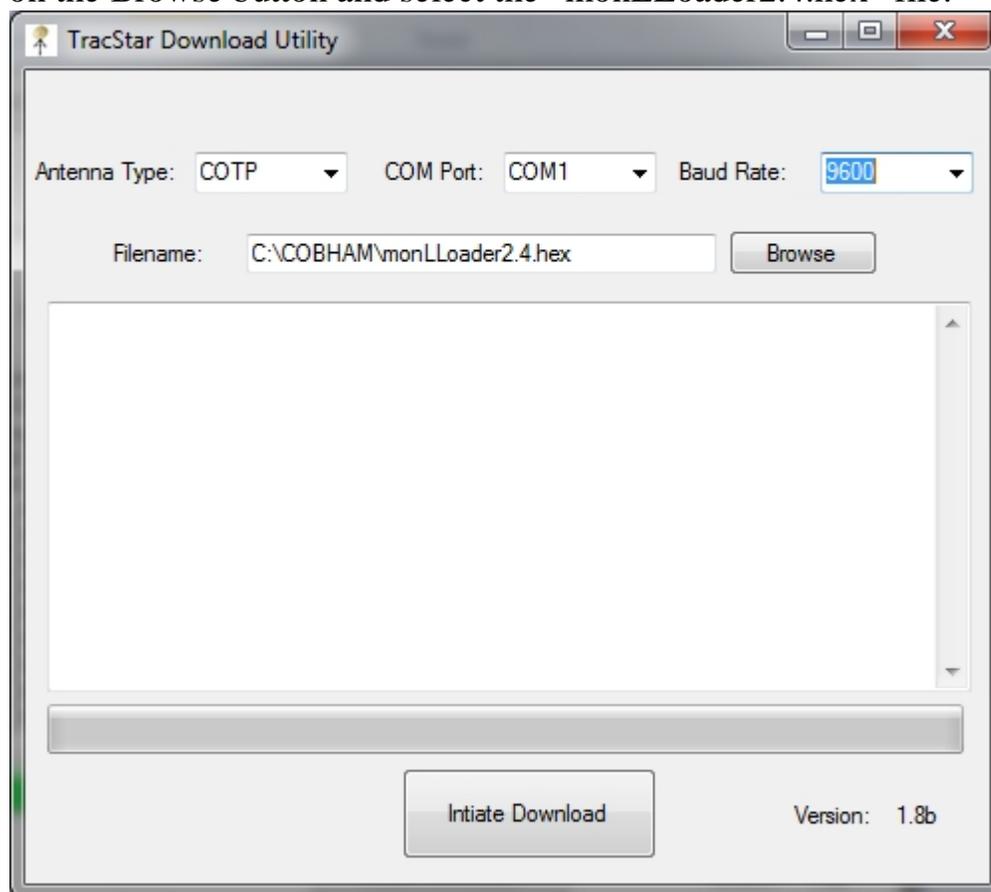
Continued on Page 10 of 12

INSTALLING MONITOR LOADER SOFTWARE AT 9600 BAUD.

- DO NOT USE THESE STEPS UNLESS YOU WERE NOT ABLE TO UPDATE THE MONITOR AS DESCRIBED ON PAGES 3 AND 4.

If you were not able to update the system at the 38400 baud rate, it may be because of the age of the system.

1. Turn the power off on the controller.
2. Open the download utility program. Under the Antenna Type menu select the “COTP” option. Then select your COM Port and set the Baud Rate to 9600. Then click on the Browse button and select the “monLLoader2.4.hex” file.

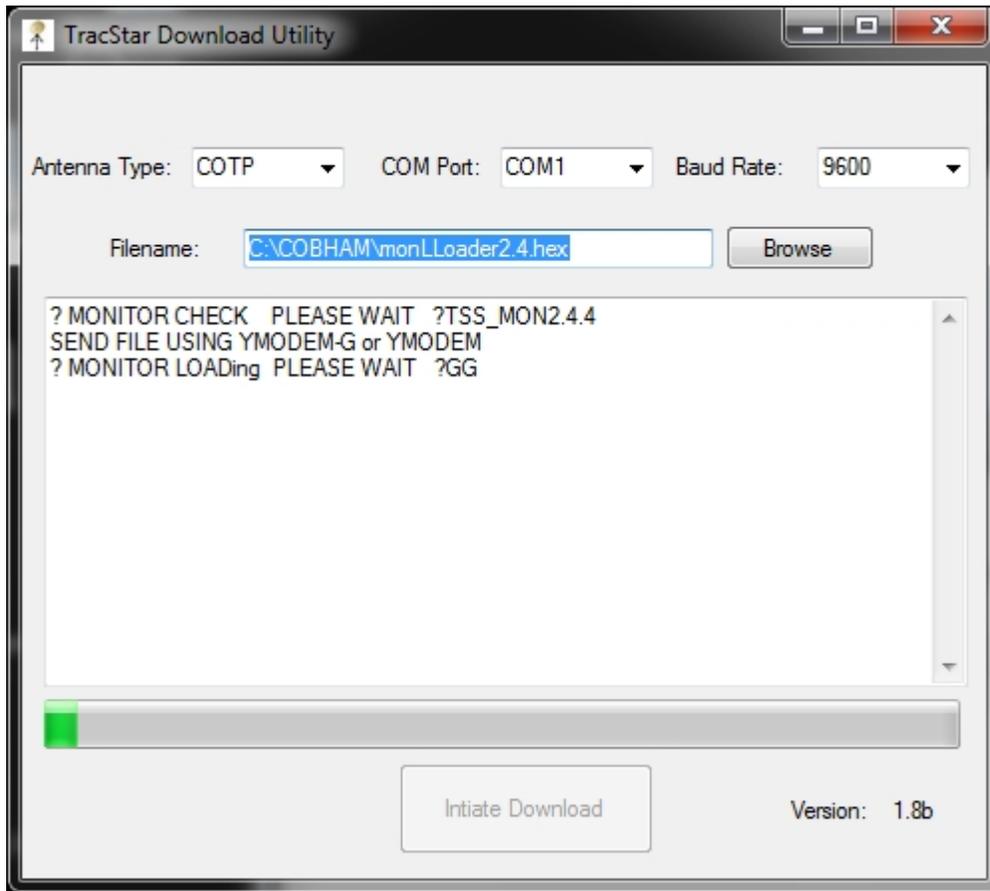


***If you cannot see the file you may need to change the file type selection to All files(*.*).

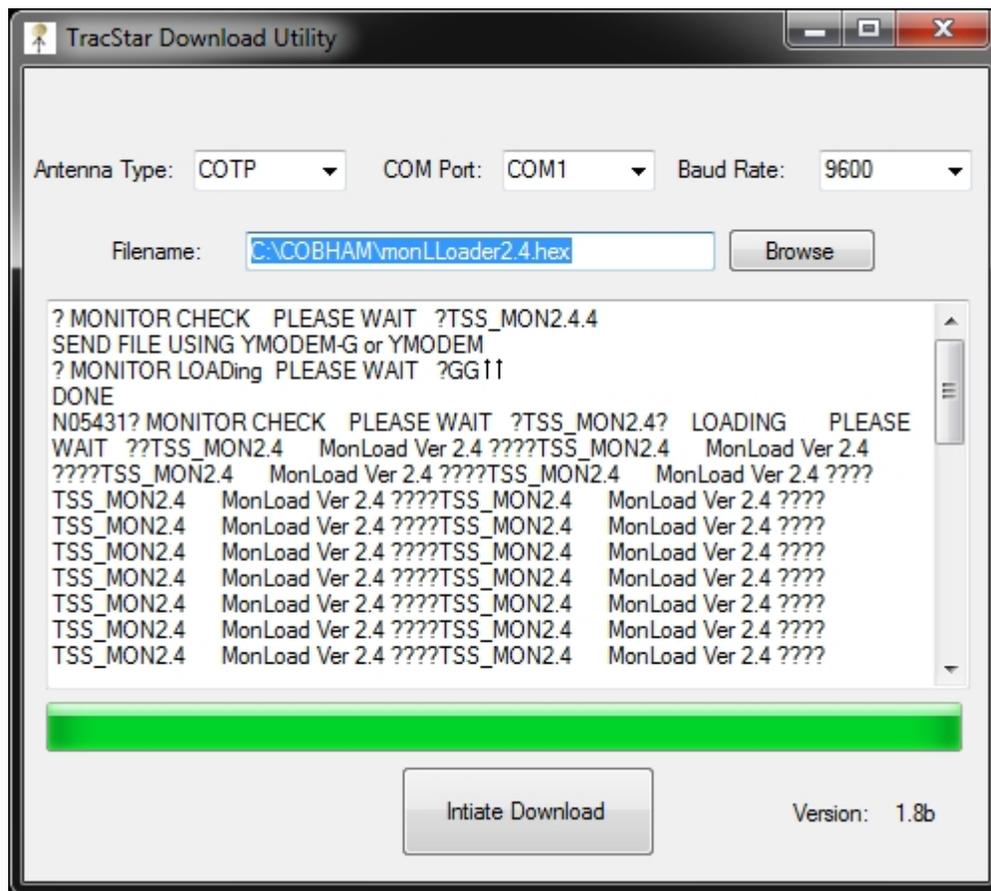
3. Click the “Initiate Download” button and power up the controller.

Continued on Page 11 of 12

4. Now power on the controller and the program will interrupt the boot sequence and start to load the file.



- Once it has finished loading the file the controller will reboot and come up to a screen that will say “TSS_MON2.4”. You will also see this on the download utility:



NOW YOU CAN GO BACK TO PAGE 6 AND CONTINUE WITH UPDATING THE SYSTEM SOFTWARE.

Continued on Page **13** of **12**