

An Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB) or Personal Locator Beacon (PLB) is used to alert search and rescue services in the event of an emergency. They do this by transmitting a coded message on the 406 MHz distress frequency. This message is relayed via satellite and earth station to the nearest rescue co-ordination centre.



406 MHz EPIRBs and PLBs work with the COSPAS-SARSAT polar orbiting and geostationary satellite system which provides true global coverage. The system has an alert delay of typically 45 minutes dependant on when the satellites come into view on the horizon.

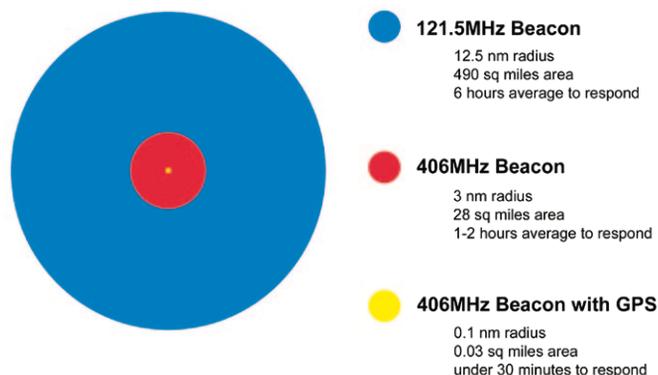
The satellite can determine the position of your EPIRB or PLB to within 5km (3 miles). The coded message identifies the exact vessel to which the EPIRB is registered or the person the PLB is registered to. This information allows the rescue services to eliminate false alerts and launch an appropriate rescue.

The GPS enabled EPIRB and PLB have built-in transmitters that will typically alert the rescue services within 4 minutes. GPS EPIRBs and PLBs are capable of providing typical positional accuracy of +/- 62m and regular position updates, given a clear view skyward.

All Kannad Marine EPIRBs and PLBs also have a secondary distress transmitter. This transmits on 121.5 MHz and is used for "homing" purposes. When the rescue services get close this allows them to home-in on the signal. To cater for searches at night, the EPIRBs have a high brightness LED flashing light that aids final visual location.

Since its inception in 1982 the COSPAS-SARSAT System has provided distress alert information which has assisted in the rescue of over 30,000 people in over 8,000 distress situations. The COSPAS-SARSAT Programme assists search and rescue (SAR) activities on a worldwide basis by providing accurate, timely, and reliable distress alert and location data to the international community on a non-discriminatory basis.

GPS EPIRBs



The GPS EPIRB and PLB have been designed to further enhance the lifesaving capabilities of conventional beacons. The standard Global Positioning System (GPS) uses an array of 27 satellites and provides continuous positional information with a typical accuracy of around 62m. A 406MHz EPIRB or PLB such as the Safelink SOLO or the Safelink PRO has built in GPS. When the beacon is activated in an emergency, positional information is incorporated into the distress message it transmits.

This incorporation of positional information overcomes the location problem when using geostationary satellites and can greatly reduce the time it takes for the SAR authorities to arrive on the scene. When speed of response and accuracy of location are important considerations, then the GPS EPIRB / PLB offers the best performance.

SAFELINK SPORTPRO+ GPS EPIRB

Meeting the demands of both commercial mariners and recreational boaters, the new SafeLink SPORTPRO+ is a compact and stylish 406MHz EPIRB with a built in high accuracy GPS, for enhanced position location.

Boasting a 6 year replaceable battery life, the SPORTPRO+ EPIRB range offers two models – one features a manual deployment bracket, the other an automatic deployment housing (see inset picture below) which also includes a hydrostatic release unit.

The SPORTPRO+ is designed to operate with the COSPAS-SARSAT international search and rescue system. The unit can be activated automatically by immersion in water, or manually by following the activation instructions printed on the unit.

The built in GPS receiver ensures that an accurate position of a casualty is relayed to the rescue services. This can in turn improve the speed of recovery by updating the position of the beacon at regular intervals.

Key Features:

- State-of-the-art multi-channel GPS
- Internationally Approved
- Transmits on 406 and 121.5 MHz
- Non hazardous battery for safe and easy transportation
- Stow safe carry bracket available for safe transportation
- High brightness LED flashing locator light
- 72 comprehensive diagnostic and self-tests during battery life
- Once activated, will transmit for a minimum of 48 hours
- 6 year battery life
- 5 year warranty



SAFELINK SPORTPRO EPIRB (NON GPS)

The SafeLink SPORTPRO EPIRB is a 406MHz entry level beacon. It has been designed to operate with the COSPAS-SARSAT 406 MHz international search and rescue system. It can be activated automatically by immersion in water, or manually by following the activation instructions printed on the unit.

It is fully certified to IMO SOLAS (commercial vessel) standards when purchased with fl

oat free automatic housing. For the recreational user, the SPORTPRO EPIRB comes with a manual deployment bracket. However, there is also the option to purchase the EPIRB with automatic housing if required.

The SPORTPRO has a 6 year replaceable battery life and is the ideal standard EPIRB for recreational boaters.

Key Features:

- Internationally Approved
- Transmits on 406 and 121.5 MHz
- Non hazardous battery for safe and easy transportation
- Stow safe carry bracket available for safe transportation
- High brightness LED flashing locator light
- 72 comprehensive diagnostic and self-tests during battery life
- Once activated, will transmit for a minimum of 48 hours
- 6 year battery life
- 5 year warranty

A float free automatic housing is available for the Safelink SPORTPRO and SPORTPRO+ EPIRB.

