



TECHNICAL ALERT No.14-13

GME EPIRB's- Product Recall.

1. Introduction

- 1.1. A new Product Safety Recall has been issued by Standard Communications Pty Ltd.
- 1.2. The Bahamas Maritime Authority wishes to bring the information referenced in Paragraph 1.1 to the attention of interested parties¹.

2. EPIRB Self-Test Defect

- 2.1. Standard Communications Pty Ltd manufacture a series of EPIRB's under the GME Brand.
- 2.2. Standard Communications have become aware of a number of instances where some GME EPIRBS of type MT400, MT401 & MT403 have been found to have faults with their microprocessor that causes the units to shut down. Such a failure may mean the EPIRB will not operate in an emergency situation.
- 2.3. The Product Safety Recall issued by Standard Communications Pty Ltd is appended to this Technical Alert.

3. Validity

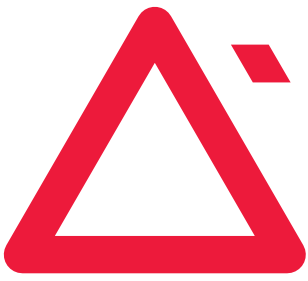
- 3.1. This alert is valid until further notice.

4. Revision History

Rev.0 (05 Aug 2014) – First issue

¹ This Technical Alert is provided by the Bahamas Maritime Authority with the aim of highlighting incidents, lessons learnt and to increase awareness, which may help avoid similar incidents occurring elsewhere. Any queries on the content of the information provided should be referred to the party providing the information.

Appendix – Product Safety Recall



Product Safety Recall

GME EMERGENCY POSITION INDICATING RADIO BEACONS (EPIRBs)

MT400/MT401/MT403

Standard Communications Pty Ltd designs and manufactures a range of Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacons (EPIRBs) marketed globally under the GME brand.

Problem

After exhaustive testing we have identified a fault in the microprocessor of certain units that effectively shuts the beacon down. We are concerned that the beacon may not work in an emergency situation.

Action

In consultation with national maritime authorities, Standard Communications has decided to recall certain EPIRBs manufactured between January 2005 and February 2008.

The affected units are the MT400, MT401 and MT403 beacons with serial numbers between 50101000 and 80250722.

What should you do?

If you have a GME EPIRB, please check the model number and serial number. The serial number can be found on the left side of the beacon at the base of the identity panel.

If you own one of the affected units listed above, please contact GME at recall@gme.net.au or your local distributor to arrange a replacement of your beacon at no extra charge.

Standard Communications would also like to take this opportunity to remind all EPIRB users, regardless of the brand, to regularly test the unit. There should be a simple self-test mechanism on all units. You should also ensure that beacon batteries are replaced at intervals recommended by the manufacturer.

Standard Communications Pty Ltd
PO Box 96, Winston Hills, NSW, 2153, Australia.
www.gme.net.au

See www.recalls.gov.au for Australian product recall information

