



Sam Baker

**Chief USMCC** 

Frequently Activated Beacons 2009

301-817-4530 Sam.baker@noaa.gov





- Review frequently activated beacons
  - ➤ USA coded beacons in "30 Most Frequently Activated Beacons" paper reported by France in JC-23 paper
  - USA Summary by activation count of 2009 activations
  - Analysis of activations
  - > Impact of Frequently Activations
  - Actions taken
  - Possible Causes
  - Actions planned





#### Most Frequently Activated USA Coded Beacons Reported by France in JC-23 Paper

Beacon ID	Decoded Information	# of Activations	Average Duration	First Activation	Last Activation	Activated in 2009?	Activated in 2010?
2DC75BF884FFBFF	366/USA/AVI24b/ADFC42	169	10.83	2001-10-10	2009-03-19	Yes	Yes
2DD1FFFFBF81FE0	366/USA/AVInsn/262143	93	22.93	2001-06-22	2009-04-22	Yes	Yes
2DC6000000FFBFF	366/USA/AVI24b/000000	67	5.71	2001-07-08	2009-03-25	Yes	Yes
2DCC058000FFBFF	366/USA/MARser/11/0	27	5.27	2001-09-02	2009-03-03	No	No
ADCD023C7D00801	366/USA/MARffr/36639	21	4.64	2001-02-22	2009-02-04	No	No
ADCE02115D42C01	366/USA/MARnff/33879	19	1.12	2007-11-17	2009-04-25	Yes	No
ADCE01698040C01	366/USA/MARnff/23136	18	4.55	2003-01-11	2009-01-11	Yes	No





#### Activation Count (USMCC Data) by Number of Beacons (Page 1 of 2)

Activation Count	# of Beacons	Beacon ID	Country	First Activated	Last Activated	Owner	Manufacturer
52	1	9EE8D0DD40D34D1	Italian	15-Apr-09	12-Nov-09	NULL	N 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
44	. 1	6090CB8E7C01BFC	772	17-Jan-09	21-Dec-09	NULL	1.25
39	1	A608D40D04D04D1	Antigua	30-Aug-09	29-Dec-09	NULL	
36	1	CD28D29034D34D1	Cape Verde	02-Jan-09	23-Jun-09	NULL	
31	1	2DC75BF884FFBFF	USA	11-Jan-09	07-Dec-09		
28	1	DB465F972814101	Colombia	05-Jan-09	24-Dec-09	NULL	
26	1	A71AF42CACEA8D1	Belize	17-Feb-09	27-Mar-09	NULL	
22	1	E0E64D6F74C04D1	Venezuela	21-Feb-09	14-Dec-09	NULL	
22	1	9B68A0D034D34D1	Denmark	16-Feb-09	21-Oct-09	NULL	
21	-1	C1AB5C8A31928D1	Indonesia	12-Aug-09	28-Dec-09	NULL	
21	1	2DC85506CCFFBFF	USA	13-Sep-09	22-Dec-09		
20	1	C069D0CA34D34D1	Cambodia	28-Jan-09	21-Aug-09	NULL	
362	12	Sub Total		3.55			





#### Activation Count (USMCC Data) by Number of Beacons (Page 2 of 2)

Activation Count	# Beacons		Total Activations	False Alerts per Day
19	4		76	0.2
18	3		54	0.1
17	3		51	0.1
16	7		112	0.3
15	3		45	0.1
14	4		56	0.2
13	8	-	104	0.3
12	11	100	132	0.4
11	7	Service Control	77	0.2
10	13	6-200	130	0.4
9	17	10 TO	153	0.4
8	28		224	0.6
7	46		322	0.9
6	54		324	0.9
5	109		545	1.5
4	205	Mar. 197	820	2.2
3	406		1218	3.3
2	1702		3404	9.3
7847	2630	Sub Total	7847	21.5
8209		Total	8209	22.5





#### Beacons activated 2 or more times

2642 beacons were activated multiple times (All country codes) 944 USA Coded beacons were activated multiple times

- 944 of 2642 (36 %) activated beacons were USA coded
- ❖ 131 of 944 (14%) USA coded beacons have already activated in 2010
  - > 399 of 2642 (15%) have already activated in 2010
- ❖ 324 of 944 (34%) USA coded beacons were activated more than twice
  - > 940 of 2642 (36%) were activated more than twice
- 29 of 944 (3%) USA coded beacons were detected with a corrupt ID
  - > 86 of 2642 (3%) were detected with a corrupt ID
- 7 of 30 (23%) of the frequently activated beacons reported by FMCC at JC-23 were USA Coded
  - > 5 of 7 (71%) were activated again in 2009
  - > 3 of 7 (43%) and 3 of 5 (60%) were activated in 2010
- 3 Default IDs were in top 30 from the FMCC paper





#### Beacons activated more than 2 times

940 beacons were activated more than 2 times (All country codes) 325 USA Coded beacons were activated more than 2 times

- ❖ 325 of 944 USA (34%) Coded beacons were activated more than 2 times
  - > 940 of 2642 (36%) were activated more than twice
- 131 of 944 (14%) USA Coded beacons have already been activated in 2010
  - > 399 of 2642 (15%) have already been activated in 2010
- 29 of 944 (3%) USA Coded beacons were detected with a corrupt ID
  - > 86 of 2642 (3%) were detected with a corrupt ID
- 7 of 30 (23%) of the frequently activated beacons reported by FMCC at JC-23 were USA Coded
  - > 5 of 7 (71%) were activated in 2009
  - 3 of 7 (43%) or 3 of 5 (60%) were activated in 2010
- 3 Default IDs were in top 30 from the FMCC paper





- In the Analysis above
  - > Did not adjust for USMCC premature site closure
  - Did not adjust for Known rescues





#### Impact of Frequently Activations

- Accounts for 8209 False Alerts (22.5 Alerts per day) from all Beacons
  - > 2823 from False Alerts (7.7 Alerts per day) from USA coded beacons





#### **Actions Taken**

- Contacted manufacturers about default IDs
- Larry Yarbrough
  - Beacon malfunctions
    - Magnet in bracket
    - Bracket strap deterioration
    - □ Bracket allows beacon to be inserted backwards
  - Followed up on USMCC reports of beacons with frequent activations
    - □ Tug Boabad
- Encouraged USA RCCs to aggressively pursue owners of frequently activated beacons





#### Possible causes

- Bracket Failure
- Poor installation procedures
- Poor user instructions
- Use of Default Beacon IDs
- User carelessness
- Unauthorized testing
- Unauthorized Exercises





#### **Actions Planned**

- Planned
  - Address Beacons with frequent activations first
    - Improve ways to detect beacons that frequently activate
  - Continue to work with
    - Manufacturers to eliminate false alerts from beacons with the default IDs.
    - Continue to encourage USA RCCs to aggressively pursue owners of frequently activated beacons





