

SARSAT Beacon Manufacturer's Workshop

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Beacon Testing Policy Update

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Purpose

- To establish SARSAT Program policy on testing, training, and exercising with emergency beacons, survival radios, and direction finding/homing equipment which transmit and/or receive on the 406.0 – 406.1 MHz frequency band



Applicability

- This policy applies to all **non-distress transmissions in the 406.0 – 406.1 MHz frequency band** within the U.S. This policy covers self-test transmissions, test-coded transmissions and transmissions from operationally coded beacons used for training, tests, and exercises.



Policy Highlights

- What it does:
 - Defines situations under which policy applies
 - Self-test/Bit, Testing, Exercising, Training
 - Defines Types of Transmissions
 - Self-Test, Test Coded, Operationally Coded
 - Allows transmission by Individuals and others who are not SAR responders (no coordination)
 - Self test, anechoic chamber, shielded box, installation in self test mode
 - Allows transmission by SAR Responders (requires Coordination)
 - Testing, operational exercise, training



Policy Highlights

- What is does (continued):
 - Allows C/S Type Approval testing with appropriate approval for over the air transmissions
 - Allows manufacturer's in house shielded testing
 - Prohibits confidence testing by sales force or individual users



Test Coordination Requirements

- Coordination Requirements
 - New Fill able PDF Form to submit requests
 - 48 hours - 3 or less beacons (C/S requirements)
 - 30 days – 4 or more beacons (C/S requirements)
 - HQ ACC A8RR - USAF, Civil Air Patrol, other Service, DoD, and State, test, training, and exercise requests including RCC coordination
 - HQ USCG CG-SAR - USCG and USCG Auxiliary test, training, and exercise requests, including RCC coordination
 - NOAA - all other requests for test, training and exercise.
- NOAA is final approval authority for all tests in the U.S.



Beacon Test Points of Contact

NOAA Beacon Test Policy at:

www.sarsat.noaa.gov

(under “What you can do”)

USAF Beacon Test POC:

email ACC.A8RR@langley.af.mil

USCG Beacon Test POC:

email HQS-DG-M-406-TEST-Request@uscg.mil

NOAA Beacon Test POC:

email beacon.test@noaa.gov



Contact Information

ACC/A8RR

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