121.5 MHz Phase Out Update

121.5 MHz Satellite Processing Terminates February 1, 2009

Get the Fix... Switch to 406

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2009 Beacon Manufacturers Workshop, St Pete Beach, FL
Overview

- NSARC 121.5 MHz Phase Out Working Group
- Education and Outreach activities
- Response to 121.5 MHz beacons
Outreach

- Air Shows
- AOPA Expos
- CG Innovation Expo
- AOPA articles and survey
- Press Releases, articles, interviews, blogs
- FAA Safety Team (FAAST) Notice

The FAA Safety Team (FAAST) Notice recommend that pilots monitor 121.5 MHz and report any audible alerts to the nearest air traffic control tower. Aircraft owners were also encouraged to consider upgrading to a 406 MHz ELT or at least a PLB.

- FCC Public Notice (14 Jan) reminded users of the termination

- Mass mailings and emails
- Coordination w/ FCC on illegal sales of 121.5 beacons

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Response

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Response

- CG msg to RCCs: Policy for responding to audible 121.5 MHz beacon alerts
- CG & AF guidance: Search planning for audible alerts
- Coordination w/ FAA on detailed reports

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Search Planning for Audible 121.5 MHz Distress Beacon Alerts

Where:
- PFH = point first heard
- PLH = point last heard
- \( d \) = horizon distance for radio reception at a given height of antenna (aircraft altitude)
- \( P_1 \) = Intersect position one
- \( P_2 \) = Intersect position two

Audible Beacon Alert; Geometry for typical case where reporting aircraft passes within reception range of beacon signal
Any Questions???

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Visit Our Website! http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg534

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