Canada’s 406 MHz ELT Regulation

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by: E. Hitchcock

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Notice of proposed amendment to Canadian Aviation Regulation 605.38

- 605.38 is Canada’s current regulation regarding carriage of ELTs
- Transport Canada, the regulator, has initiated the amendment process regarding 605.38 based on extensive risk assessment work
- The amended regulation will require the carriage of a fixed automatic 406 MHz ELT or an alternate means of compliance that will meet the same level of performance as a 406 ELT (not a PLB or P-ELT)
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Where and when will this happen?

- It is anticipated that the proposed regulations will be published in the *Canada Gazette* Part I for public consultation, late spring or summer 2008.
- Based on availability of product and installation time per unit, it is unrealistic to believe that all of Canada’s civil aviation aircraft will have 406 ELTs installed by 1st of February 2009.
Where and when continued...

- Transport Canada is considering a two year transition period with specific conditions to allow for compliance with the new regulations.
- Effective February 1, 2009 all newly manufactured aircraft coming to Canada as well as resale of used aircraft will need to comply with the new carriage regulations.
- Considerations will be defined for compliance by aircraft operating in remote areas and foreign aircraft coming to Canada.
After thoughts…

- Canadian Registration forms could be added to all emergency beacon packaging
- Marketing of PLBs as P-ELTs and P-EPIRBs is confusing to the public
- Only Canadian coded beacons should be shipped to Canada
- Canada has launched a comprehensive communications strategy to help get the message out about February 2009
Comments and questions to...

Robert Bancroft  
Chief of Personal Aviation & Special Flight Operations & Launch Safety Office,  
General Aviation, Transport Canada  
Government of Canada  
Place de Ville (AARR)  
330 Sparks St. Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0N8  
tel: 613 990 3736  
bancrob@tc.gc.ca