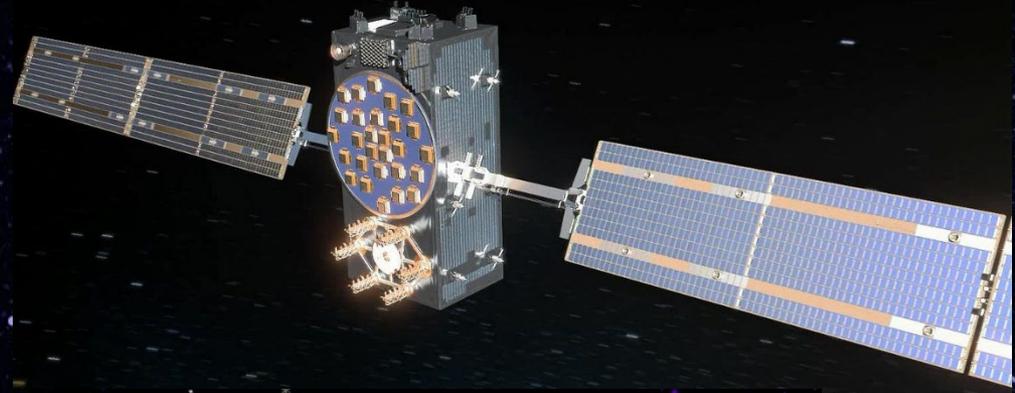


# Beacon Manufacturers Workshop

13 May 2022



## PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF THE 2022 SURVEY OF BEACON MANUFACTURERS

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# Preliminary Results of the 2022 Survey of Beacon Manufacturers

## 2022 Survey - Participants

- conducted by the Cospas-Sarsat Secretariat since 1991, annually
- **42** beacon manufacturers participated in the 2022 survey
- geographical distribution of participating manufacturers:
  - Europe: **33%**
  - North America: **30%**
  - Rest of the World: **37%**

# Extended 2022 Survey Questionnaire

- Better structured and more detailed survey form:
  - detailed beacon types and categories
    - ELT: (AF) / (AD) / (AP) / (S), ELT(DT)
    - EPIRB: FF, Non FF, VDR
  - questions about the source of navigation data (ELTs)
  - questions about production volumes and plans for new beacon types: SGBs, ELT(DT)s, RLS
- Web-based survey form submission method
  - 38% of submissions
  - future automation of data collection and processing
  - higher reliability of data collection and processing

# 2022 Survey Web-Based Forms

<https://www.cospas-sarsat.int/en/documents-pro/beacon-manufacturer-survey-2022>



The screenshot shows the COSPAS-SARSAT website interface. At the top left, the logo reads "COSPAS-SARSAT.INT PRO" with the tagline "INTERNATIONAL SATELLITE SYSTEM FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE" and "406™ DISTRESS ALERTING SERVICE". To the right is the "COSPAS-SARSAT" logo. Further right are language options for "Français" and "Русский", a Facebook icon, and a "COSPAS-SARSAT REGULAR" button. A red navigation bar contains the following menu items: "SYSTEM", "BEACONS", "DOCUMENTS", "MEETINGS", and "CONTACT LISTS", each with a dropdown arrow. The main content area features a text link: "If you require a PDF version of this form, please find it here: [https://www.cospas-sarsat.int/images/cospas\\_sarsat/pdf\\_uploads/2022-B-mans-Survey-Form.pdf](https://www.cospas-sarsat.int/images/cospas_sarsat/pdf_uploads/2022-B-mans-Survey-Form.pdf)". Below this is a large grey rectangular placeholder. At the bottom of the page, the title "2022 Survey of Cospas-Sarsat 406 MHz Beacon Manufacturers" is displayed.

## 2022 Survey Submission Methods

- email : 57%
- web : 38%
- other (phone) : 4%



## 2022 Survey Highlights

# 207,218

beacons produced Worldwide in 2021

3.1% increase from 2020

# 2022 Survey Highlights

## Distribution of Beacon Manufacturers

by Annual Production Volumes in 2021 and 2020 (\*)

Annual production	Count of manufacturers in 2021	% to Total in 2021	Count of manufacturers in 2020	% to Total in 2020
"0" production	3	7.1%	9	19.1%
1-499 units	16	38.1%	16	34.0%
500-999 units	4	9.5%	5	10.6%
1000-5000 units	14	33.3%	11	23.4%
> 5000 units	5	11.9%	6	12.8%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>100.0%</b>



\* 500, 1K, 5 K thresholds - as requested by BMW 2020

# 2022 Survey Highlights

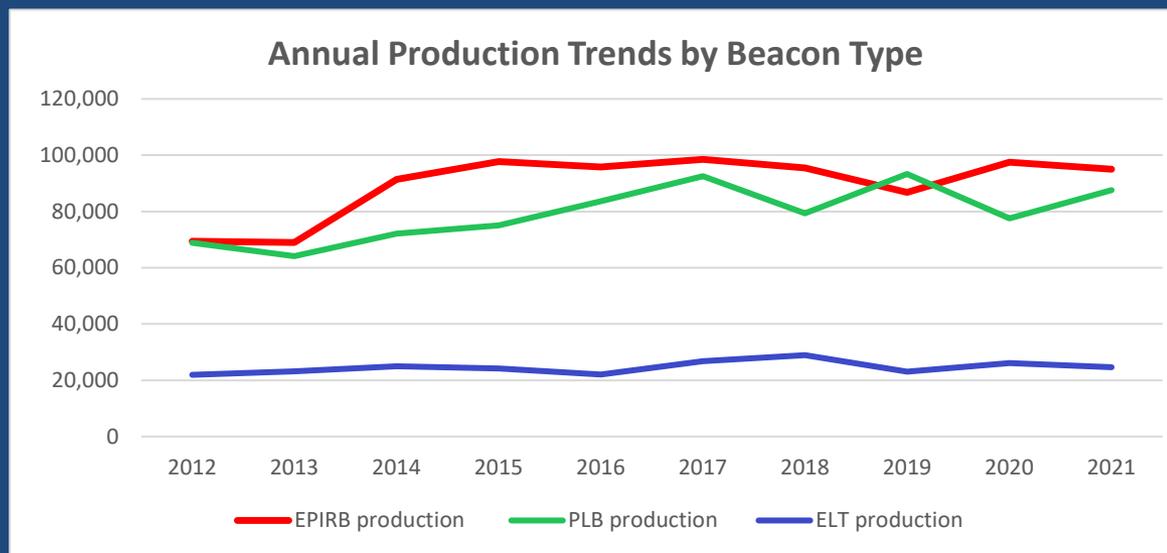
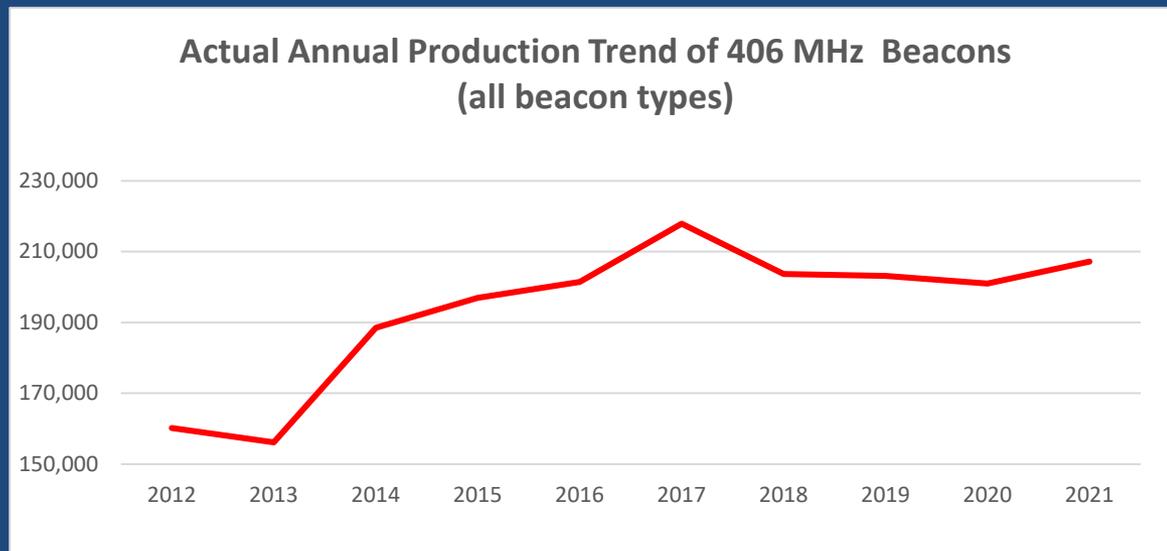


## Annual Production

- 2021: **207,218** beacons produced globally (+3.1% vs 2020)
- 2020: ~ 201,000 (-1%)
- 2019: ~203,000 (- 0.3%)
- 2018: ~204,000 (- 6.5%)
- 2017: ~218,000 (+ 8.4%)
- 2016: ~201,000 (+ 2.3%)
- 2015: ~197,000 (+ 4.5%)
- 2014: ~189,000 (+ 20.7%)
- 2013: ~156,000 (- 2.5%)
- 2012: ~160,000 (+ 2.2%)

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- 10-year average annual production growth :  
**+4,500 units (+ 3% p.a.)**



## 2022 Survey – Detailed Beacon Distribution

Beacon type	2021	% of Total Beacon Type	% of Global Production Total
	Global Production, units		
<b>Total ELTs , Including:</b>	24,656	100%	11.9%
- ELT(AF)	16,566	67.2%	8.0%
- ELT(AP)	937	3.8%	0.5%
- ELT(AD) and ELT(S)	7,153	29.0%	3.5%
- ELT(DT)	0	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Total EPIRBs, including:</b>	94,959	100%	45.8%
- EPIRB Float Free and EPIRB VDR	41,252	43.4%	19.9%
- EPIRB Non-Float Free	53,707	56.6%	25.9%
<b>Total PLBs</b>	87,603	100%	42.3%
<b>Total of Global Production for all beacon types</b>	207,218	100%	100.0%

Beacon manufacturers indicated that in 2021 they produced about 1,600 FGB RLS-enabled beacons, and there was no production of SGBs.

## 2022 Survey - Location Protocol Beacons

Beacon Type	Production of LP-beacons, units	Ratio of LP-beacons to all beacons produced, %	Ratio to all LP-beacons, %
EPIRBs	79,267	83.5%	43.1%
PLBs	87,294	99.6%	47.5%
ELTs	17,333	70.3%	9.4%
<b>All 406 MHz Beacon Types</b>	<b>183,894</b>	<b>88.7%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

An estimated **1,484,000** LP beacons were in use at the end of 2021, which corresponds to 76 % of all beacons deployed worldwide

(73% - in 2020, 70% - in 2019, 63% - in 2018, 59% - in 2017)

## 2022 Survey – Navigation Data Source (ELTs)

ELT category	EXT Nav	EXT+INT Nav	INT Nav
ELT (AF)	12,004	1,763	
ELT (AP)		338	
ELT (S) and ELT(AD)			3,228
ELT (DT)			
<b>All ELT categories</b>	<b>12,004</b>	<b>2,101</b>	<b>3,228</b>

# Estimated Global Beacon Population

- About **1,949,000** beacons were in use at the end of **2021** (using the assumed-replacement-period estimation method)
- Annual change in global beacon population: **~ +2.7%**
- Production in 2021(**~207,000**) was higher than in 2011 (**~157,000**)
- Estimates obtained with the alternative method ( the Registration Rate method) indicates that in 2021 global beacon population could have reached **2,959,000** units.

# Estimates of Beacon Population as Function of the Assumed Beacon Life Cycle

**Analysis of Beacon Life Cycle Reported by Beacon Manufacturers and Estimated Global Population**

Beacon Type	Historical modelling assumption, years	Median life cycle based on survey of 2022 (2021/2020 /2019/2018), years	Weighted* life cycle Based on survey of 2022 (2021/2020/2019/2018), years
EPIRB	10	10 (10/8/9/8)	10(8/9/9/9)
PLB	10	10 (10/9/8/8)	8 (8/8/7/7)
ELT	10	15(12/15/15/10)	17(18/19/16/17)
ALL beacon types	10	10 (10/10/10/10)	10(9/9/9/9)
Estimated Global 406-MHz beacon population in 2021	~ <b>1,949,000</b> ("10-10-10" assumption)	~ <b>2,223,000</b> ("10-10-12" assumption)	~ <b>2,090,000</b> ("10-8-17" assumption)

Note: \* Weighted life cycle (WLS) was calculated with the formula:

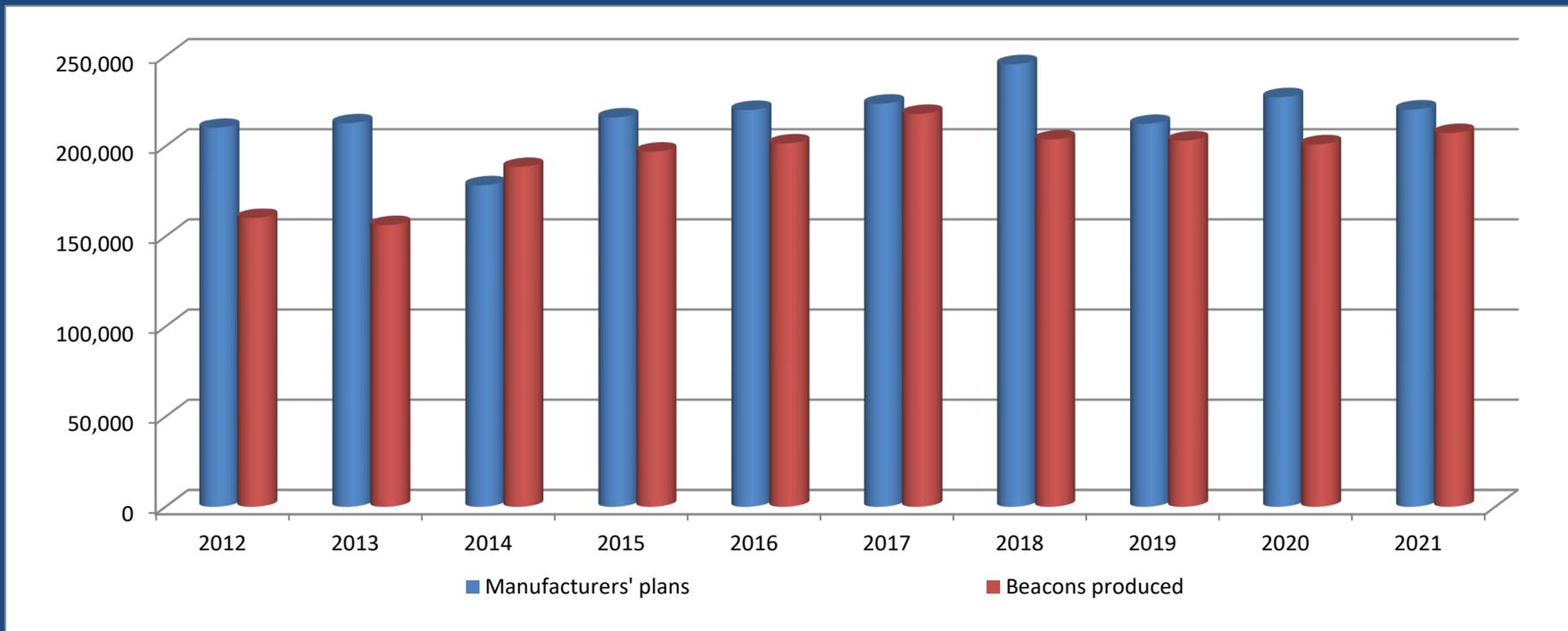
$$WLS = \sum (L_i \times W_i) / \sum W_i, \text{ where:}$$

- $L_i$  is the beacon life cycle reported by the  $i$ -th beacon manufacturer for a beacon type,
- $W_i$  (weighting factor) is the annual production volume of a beacon type, as reported by the  $i$ -th beacon manufacturer.

## Manufacturers' Production Plans for 2022

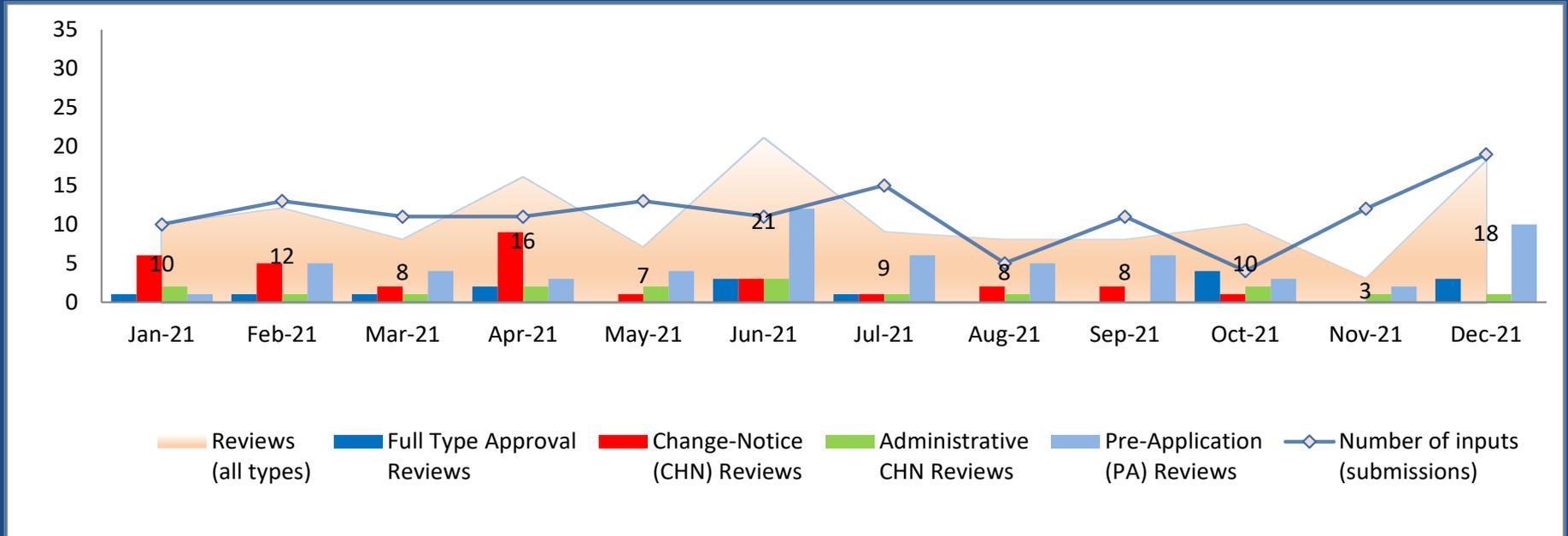
- For 2022, beacon manufacturers plan to produce over **265,000** new beacons (+28% over the actual 2021 production volume), including:
  - 107,000 new EPIRBs,
  - 27,000 new ELTs,
  - 131,000 new PLBs.
- Beacon manufacturers indicated their 2022 plans to produce about 25,000 FGB RLS-enabled beacons and 100 FGB ELT(DT)s . There are no SGB production plans.
- Based on the beacon manufacturers plans for **2022**, an estimated global population of 406 MHz beacons at the end of 2022 could reach: **2,053,000 units** (using the assumed-replacement-period estimation method; likely higher using the registration-rate method)

# Comparison of Beacon Manufacturers' Plans vs Actual Annual Production



Beacon Type	Manufacturers' Plans for 2021	Actual Production in 2021	Actual over Forecast Discrepancy, %
All beacon types	220,300	207,200	-6.0%

# Type Approval Activity in 2021



In 2021, the Secretariat performed 135 reviews of type-approval submissions, including:

- 16 submission for full type approvals,
- 32 change notices (“technical”) submissions;
- 17 submissions for administrative change notices,
- 61 previews of re-application submissions .

# Type Approval Applications - Pre-application Consultations

- Pre –application consultations are highly recommended when:
  - beacons with novel or non-standard features,
  - beacons with customer-specific non-standard operating scenarios,
  - special-use (LoC) beacons,
  - beacons with known non-compliances,
  - new beacon types ( e.g., SGBs, ELT(DT)s ),
  - CHNs for modifications not covered by Section 6,
  - application for two or more models,
  - beacon with TCXO from a new TCXO manufacturer,
  - new beacon manufacturers;
  - other circumstances, when a pre-test advise and recommendation from the Secretariat is needed

# Type Approval Applications - Pre-application Consultations

- Objectives of pre-application/pre-test consultations:
  - familiarization with the beacon design and features, intended operating scenarios, modes of operation
  - define the applicable standards
  - pre-application check of documentation and technical data items
  - define a need for a case-specific test setup/procedures
  - define a scope of type-approval testing

**For more information...**

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