MALTA

1. REGULATIONS

1.1 General

Nil.

1.2 EPIRBs

- EPIRBs installed or used from on board ships subject to the SOLAS Convention are regulated through an individual radio licence issued in accordance with the Electronic Communications (Regulation) Act (Cap. 399 of the Laws of Malta) as per the following link:

- EPIRBs installed or used from on board ships which are not subject to the SOLAS Convention are regulated by the General Authorisations (Radiocommunications Apparatus) Regulations (S.L.399.40 of the Laws of Malta), in particular the “Thirty-Third Schedule” as per the following link:

1.3 ELTs

ELTs are required to be installed on aircraft operated for Commercial Air Transport under Regulation (EU) 965/2012 Part-CAT-.IDE.A and H.

1.4 PLBs

The installation or use of PLBs are regulated by the General Authorisations (Radiocommunications Apparatus) Regulations (S.L.399.40 of the Laws of Malta), in particular the “Thirty-Third Schedule” as per the following link:

All PLBs should be integrated with a Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) and coded with the Maltese country code 256 by using the Serial Standard Location Protocol only. PLBs can never replace a mandatory carriage of an EPIRB on board a vessel or an ELT on board an aircraft.

1.4.1 National Beacon Regulations for Serial-Coded PLBs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Administration</th>
<th>For Terrestrial Applications</th>
<th>In Maritime Environment</th>
<th>On Aircraft</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Malta</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Refer to S.L.399.40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Similar information is available in the new table on the Cospas-Sarsat website (www.cospas-sarsat.int) with the status indication in colors (Y = green, allows / N = red, not allowed / Restrictions = amber (see comments) and with the note that the national beacon regulations can be found on the Cospas-Sarsat website in document C/S S.007).

2. **BEACONS CODING METHODS**

2.1 **EPIRB Coding Methods**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country Code</th>
<th>USER PROTOCOLS</th>
<th>LOCATION PROTOCOLS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maritime User</td>
<td>Serial User</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MMSI</td>
<td>Radio Call Sign</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>215, 229</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>248, 249, 256</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.2 **ELT Coding Methods**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country Code</th>
<th>USER PROTOCOLS</th>
<th>LOCATION PROTOCOLS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Serial User</td>
<td>Aviation User</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aircraft Operator Designator and Serial Number</td>
<td>Aircraft 24-bit Address</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>248</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ELT Coding Protocols follow the ICAO Annex 10 standard recommendations and are also in line with Cospas-Sarsat instructions.

For long messages the protocols used are decided by the ELT coders.

For short message format the protocol used is the registration marks of the aircraft. In case there is more than one ELT, the coding denotes the number of ELTs on board as part of the protocol.

2.3 **PLB Coding Methods**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country Code</th>
<th>USER PROTOCOLS</th>
<th>LOCATION PROTOCOLS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Serial User</td>
<td>User Location</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PLB with Serial Number</td>
<td>PLB with Serial Number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>256</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. **LIST OF BEACON MODELS TYPE APPROVED BY ADMINISTRATION**

Not applicable
4. **BEACON TESTING REGULATION**

- **EPIRBs:** Not applicable.
- **ELTs:** ELT maintenance is performed following OEM’s recommendations. The maintenance tasks are inserted in the Aircraft Maintenance Programme approved by TM CAD.
- **PLBs:** Not applicable.

5. **POINT OF CONTACT FOR BEACON MATTERS (CODING, REGISTRATION AND TYPE APPROVAL)**

The points of contact for beacon matters are:

- **EPIRBs:** Transport Malta (Merchant Shipping Directorate)
- **ELTs:** Transport Malta (Civil Aviation Directorate)
- **PLBs:** International Beacon Registration Database (IBRD)

Updated point of contact details for administrations are available at: https://www.cospas-sarsat.int/en/contacts-pro/contacts-details-all.

6. **BEACON REGISTRATION**

6.1 **Regulation**

**ELTs:**

Registration is done on AITP-M05 Appendix IV, as filled out and signed by the aircraft owner/operator: [http://www.transport.gov.mt/aviation/aircraft/airworthiness/airworthiness-forms](http://www.transport.gov.mt/aviation/aircraft/airworthiness/airworthiness-forms)

The information from the cards is entered into our database and sent to RCC Malta.

**EPIRBs:**

All owners of maritime satellite EPIRBs (intended to be used on board Maltese registered ships) must contact the Merchant Shipping Directorate within Transport Malta (TM) in order to register their equipment by completing a registration form, and if applicable, apply for an MMSI.

If a vessel has been assigned with an MMSI for the VHF DSC radio, the same identity should be programmed in the EPIRB. A ship may only be assigned one Call Sign and one MMSI.

Once the EPIRB is programmed, the programming certificate should be sent to Transport Malta in order for the related details to be included in the National Database.

**PLBs:**

PLBs should be coded with the Maltese country code 256 and registered in the Cospas-Sarsat International Beacon Registration Database (IBRD) directly by the beacon owners.
6.2 Forms

**EPIRBs:** Registration is done through this form:

https://www.transport.gov.mt/include/filestreaming.asp?fileid=3468

**ELTs:** Registration is done on AITP-M05 Appendix IV filled up and signed by the aircraft owner/operator: [http://www.transport.gov.mt/aviation/aircraft/airworthiness/airworthiness-forms](http://www.transport.gov.mt/aviation/aircraft/airworthiness/airworthiness-forms)

**PLBs:** Not applicable.

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