



homing device in the field. The new standard should apply to new PLB applications. We do not believe that there is a compelling need for PLBs with existing certifications to be retested.

Other changes in RTCM 11010.2 include:

- Revisions to conform with Cospas-Sarsat's frequency plan in the 406.0 – 406.1 MHz band, as set out in Cospas-Sarsat C/S T.012.
- Elimination of provisions which duplicate those in Cospas-Sarsat C/S T.001 and T.007 to prevent overlapping and possibly conflicting requirements.
- Incorporation of technical requirements for the Morse "P" in the 121.5 MHz signal, as required under 46 CFR 95.1402(b).<sup>1</sup>
- Incorporation of provisions in IEC 61108-1 relating to the accuracy of positions generated by an internal navigation device (paragraphs 4.3.1.3.3 and 4.3.1.3.4).
- Provision for a self-test of an internal navigation device, for PLBs so equipped.
- Improved labeling and user manual requirements.
- Incorporation of environmental testing from IEC 60945.

For the convenience of the Commission, we have included suggested revisions to 47 CFR 95.1402 in an appendix.

For the Radio Technical Commission for Maritime Services



R. L. Markle  
President

Enclosure

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<sup>1</sup> With adoption of RTCM 11010.2, 46 CFR 95.1402(b) could therefore be removed.

**Suggested revisions to 47 CFR 95.1402**

Revise 47 CFR 95.1402 to read as follows:

**§ 95.1402 Special requirements for 406 MHz PLBs.**

(a) After [one year from date of publication in the Federal Register], all newly Certificated 406 MHz PLBs must meet the technical and performance standards contained in the Radio Technical Commission for Maritime Services (RTCM) Standard 11010.2 "RTCM Standard 11010.2 for 406 MHz Satellite Personal Locator Beacons (PLBs)," dated July 10, 2008. This RTCM document is incorporated by reference in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a), and 1 CFR part 51. Copies of the document are available and may be obtained from the Radio Technical Commission for Maritime Services, 1800 N. Kent St., Suite 1060, Arlington, Virginia 22209-2109, or online at [www.rtc.org](http://www.rtc.org). The document is available for inspection at Commission headquarters at 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554. Copies may also be inspected at the Office of the Federal Register, 800 North Capitol Street NW., Suite 700, Washington, DC.

(b) *Reserved.*

(c) Before a 406 MHz PLB certification application is submitted to the Commission, the applicant must have obtained certification from a test facility, recognized by Cospas-Sarsat, that the PLB satisfies the standards contained in the Cospas-Sarsat document "Cospas-Sarsat 406 MHz Distress Beacon Type Approval Standard" (C/S T.007). A list of Cospas-Sarsat laboratories is available online at [www.cospas-sarsat.org/Beacons/beaconTypeApprovalLabs.htm](http://www.cospas-sarsat.org/Beacons/beaconTypeApprovalLabs.htm). Additionally, the laboratory or another independent test facility must certify that the PLB complies with the requirements and tests in RTCM 11010.2.

(d) The procedures of Notification by the equipment manufacturer and Certification from either the Commission or designated Telecommunications Certification Body are contained in subpart J of part 2 of this chapter.

(e) An identification code, issued by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the United States Program Manager for the 406 MHz Cospas-Sarsat satellite system, must be programmed in each PLB unit to establish a unique identification for each PLB station. With each marketable PLB unit, the manufacturer or grantee must include a postage pre-paid registration card printed with the PLB identification code addressed to: SARSAT Beacon Registration, NOAA SARSAT Beacon Registration, NSOF, E/SP3, 4231 Suitland Road, Suitland MD 20746. The registration card must request the owner's name, address, telephone number, alternate emergency contact and include the following statement: "WARNING" failure to register this PLB with NOAA could result in a monetary forfeiture order being issued to the owner."

(f) To enhance protection of life and property, it is mandatory that each 406 MHz PLB be registered with NOAA and that information be kept up-to-date. In addition to the identification plate or label requirements contained in §§ 2.925 and 2.926 of this chapter, and those in RTCM 11010.2, each 406 MHz PLB must be provided on the outside with a clearly discernable permanent plate or label containing the following statement: "The owner of this 406 MHz PLB must register the NOAA identification code contained on

this label with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) whose address is: SARSAT Beacon Registration, NOAA SARSAT Beacon Registration, NSOF, E/SP3, 4231 Suitland Road, Suitland MD 20746, or online at [www.beaconregistration.noaa.gov](http://www.beaconregistration.noaa.gov).” Owners shall advise NOAA in writing or online upon change of PLB ownership, or any other change in registration information. NOAA will provide registrants with proof of registration and change of registration postcards.

(g) For 406 MHz PLBs with identification codes that can be changed after manufacture, the identification code shown on the plate or label must be easily replaceable using commonly available tools.