

Procedure for activation of the “Self Test” of 406 MHz beacons

In case of activating the “Self Test” of an Emergency radio beacon, adhere to the instructions of the Manufacturer of the specific beacon.

During a “Self Test” the beacon will actually transmit “a single burst” on the 406 MHz and a short burst on the 121.5 MHz homing frequency. It therefore is advisable to inform the Local Tower PRIOR to the test in relation tot the 121.5 MHz signal burst. Since the 121.5 MHz is no longer received by the satellites there is no danger that a (false) alert will be raised by the Cospas-Sarsat System on the basis of the 121.5 MHz signal.

The “Self Test” transmission on 406 MHz will use a special “inverted” frame synch pattern in the beacon message that will be recognized by the satellite and on that basis will not be processed in the SARP (Search and Rescue Processor) on board the Satellite as would be the case with a real alert.

The message will be recognized by the ground station or Local User Terminal (LUT) as a test signal and will not be distributed to the Mission Control Centre (MCC) or to the RCC.

If the “Self-Test” is properly executed it will not have a negative effect on the Cospas-Sarsat system (Not generate a false alert).

Therefore it is NOT necessary to notify the **Department of Civil Aviation Aruba** of these tests using the “Self Test” mode.

In case of an accidental activation in **life mode**, it is vital that the **Department of Civil Aviation Aruba** is informed immediately.

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