

RECOMMENDATION ITU-R M.633-3*

Transmission characteristics of a satellite emergency position-indicating radio beacon (satellite EPIRB) system operating through a satellite system in the 406 MHz band

(Question ITU-R 90/8)

(1986-1990-2000-2004)

The ITU Radiocommunication Assembly,

considering

- a) that satellite EPIRBs can be used for distress alerting in the maritime, land and aeronautical environments;
- b) that satellite EPIRBs with common characteristics may be employed in diverse operating environments;
- c) that satellite EPIRBs are one of the prime alerting means in the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO);
- d) that all ships to which Chapter IV of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974, (as amended in 1988) applies, are required by Regulation IV/7.1.6 to carry a satellite EPIRB from 1 August 1993;
- e) that SOLAS Regulation IV/7.1.6 provides for the carriage of a satellite EPIRB operating in the 406 MHz band;
- f) the assured availability of operational Cospas-Sarsat type satellites in orbit until the year 2008 and the planned availability thereafter;
- g) the current and projected availability of the Cospas-Sarsat ground system,

recommends

1 that the transmission characteristics and data formats for a satellite EPIRB operating through a satellite system in the 406 MHz band should be in accordance with Cospas-Sarsat Document C/S T.001 (Issue 3, Revision 5 October 2003 titled Specification for 406 MHz Cospas-Sarsat Distress Beacons).

NOTE 1 – Document C/S T.001 (Issue 3, Revision 5, October 2003) has been provided to the Radiocommunication Bureau Secretariat; a copy of this document can also be obtained free of charge from the Cospas-Sarsat Secretariat (e-mail: cospas_sarsat@imso.org).

* This Recommendation should be brought to the attention of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO) and the Cospas-Sarsat Secretariat.