ARGENTINA

1. REGULATIONS

1.1 General

Nil.

1.2 EPIRBs

Regulatory responsibilities for requiring ships to carry EPIRBs are in Resolution SC No. 3398/99 of the Communications Secretary of the Argentine Republic, Annex:

AMENDMENTS TO MARITIME MOBILE SERVICE REGULATIONS -RESMMA- Decree No. 2174/84 and modifying regulations

CHAPTER III - STATIONS

SECTION 307: EQUIPMENT.

Par. 12. All craft not subject to the Convention that, on account of their characteristics, should be provided with a boat or life raft portable equipment and that have no such equipment to date, may be exempted from this requirement provided that they are supplied instead with a distress radio beacon (EPIRB) with a capability to either:

12.1. Transmit on 2,182 KHz frequency.

12.2. Transmit on 121.5 MHz and 243 MHz frequencies.

12.3. Transmit on 406 MHz frequency (Cospas-Sarsat Satellite System) and on another frequency established for homing radio. Within the national territory, these radio beacons do not require hydrostatic release devices.

12.4. Transmit on the 1.6 MHz frequency band used by the Inmarsat geostationary satellite system, pursuant to the Annex to IMO Resolution A.812(19). EPIRBs referred to in par. 12.1, 12.2 and 12.3 which are not equipped with a hydrostatic release device as provided for in IMO Resolution A.662(16) shall be in force until 31 December 1999.

Par.13. As from 1 June 1999, all EPIRBs to be mounted aboard shall be satellite radio beacons.

13.1. Two radio beacons supplied with a self-release device are suitable for this purpose: the 406 MHz EPIRB that complies with operating standards not below those specified in Annex to IMO Resolution A.810(19), or the EPIRB used by the Inmarsat geostationary satellite system on 1.6 GHz that complies with operating standards not below those specified in Annex to IMO Resolution A.812(19). For craft sailing on transit or operating exclusively within the area covered by a coastal station authorized for the A1 maritime zone, the satellite radio beacon may be replaced by an EPIRB complying with operating standards not below those specified in Annex to IMO Resolution A.805(19).

13.2. Ships having any type of 406 MHz EPIRB aboard prior to 1 June 1999 shall adjust to operating standards not below those specified in Annex to IMO Resolution A.763(18) by 31 December 1999, provided however that they are not required to be fitted with the 121.5 MHz homing radio beacon as stated in par. 2.3.14. - Part A of the above-mentioned Annex.

1.3 ELTs

In AIC (Aeronautical Information Circular) A03/97 of Command of Air Regions (CRA) on regulations on installation of emergency locator transmitters (ELT), establishes the requirements for the all large civil aircraft in the National (Argentine) Territory, hereby provides that:

(1) All large aircraft under national or foreign license that are assigned to Regular and Non-Regular Commercial Air Transportation in national companies and that operate within Flight Information Regions (FIR) in the National [Argentine] Territory, including the Higher and Lower Airspace, should incorporate Emergency Locator Transmitters (ELTs) on 406 MHz and 121.5 MHz on an optional basis during 1996 and on a mandatory basis as from 1 July 1997.

(2) All small aircraft under national or foreign license that are assigned to Regular and Non-Regular Commercial Air Transportation in national companies and that operate within Flight Information Regions (FIR) in the National [Argentine] Territory, including the Higher and Lower Airspace, should incorporate Emergency Locator Transmitters (ELTs) on 406 MHz and 121.5 MHz on an optional basis during 1996 and on a mandatory basis as from 1 January 1998.

(3) All General Aviation aircraft under national license that operate within Flight Information Regions (FIR) in the National [Argentine] Territory, including the Higher and Lower Airspace, should incorporate Emergency Locator Transmitters (ELTs) on 406 MHz and 121.5 MHz on an optional basis during 1996 and 1997, and on a mandatory basis as from 1 July 1998.

(4) Aircraft owners or operators shall register Emergency Locator Transmitters (ELTs) on board their aircraft with the Emergency Locator Transmitter National Registry, National Airworthiness Directorate.

1.4 PLBs

PLBs on Cospas-Sarsat standards are allowed for private or military use in Argentina. However, PLBs are not to replace ELTs or EPIRBS on aircrafts or vessels. According with local rules, manufacturers, distributors and sellers should assure that their items contain attached enough information about the registry obligation and related registry templates. When sold or distributed, local sellers and distributors should send ARMCC all owners' details and the final use of PLBs declared on the registration template. Other situations or special agreements of registry should be complied directly with ARMCC.

1.4.1 National Beacon Regulations for Serial-Coded PLBs

Administration	For Terrestrial Applications	In Maritime Environment	On Aircraft	Comments
	Country Recognises PLB Activations	Country Recognises PLB Activations	Country Recognises PLB Activations	
Argentina	Y	Y	Y	Nil

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 / **R**estrictions = 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

Country Code	USER PROTOCOLS				LOCATION PROTOCOLS						
	Maritime User		Serial User	Radio Call Sign	User Location			Standard Location		National Location	RLS (Return Link Service)
	MMSI	Radio Call Sign	EPIRB with Serial Number	Radio Call Sign	MMSI	EPIRB with Serial Number	Radio Call Sign	MMSI	EPIRB with Serial Number	Serial Number Assigned by Competent Administration	EPIRB with Serial Number
701	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

The National EPIRB Administration (*Comisión Nacional de Comunicaciones - CNC*) is working on the local Beacon Coding Method to be updated in a near future.

2.2 ELT Coding Methods

ELT TYPE	Protocol Type	Coded with	Decision Made by Argentina over those Bits with a National Use and Control Option
Non-Location Protocols	Serial User Protocol	Unique beacon serial number allocated by beacon manufacturer and Cospas-Sarsat type approval certificate number.	Bit 43 set to 1 and C/S Type Approval Certificate number encoded in bits 74 to 83. Bits 64-73 set all to 0s.
		Aircraft operator designator and a Serial number and Cospas-Sarsat type approval certificate number.	Bit 43 set to 1 and C/S Type Approval Certificate number encoded in bits 74 to 83.
		Aircraft 24-bits Address and Cospas-Sarsat type approval certificate number.	Bit 43 set to 1 and C/S Type Approval Certificate number encoded in bits 74 to 83. Quantity of additional ELTs carried on same aircraft and encoded with same 24-bits address, in bits 68-73 in binary code.
	Aviation User Protocol	Aircraft Nationality and Registration Marking.	Aircraft Nationality and Marking format for Argentina civil aircraft is 6 characters long, i.e. LV-XXX or LQ-XXX with X being a letter from A to Z.
	National User Protocol	Encoding data assigned by the 406 MHz ELT National Registration Authority of Argentina.	Bits 40-85, 107 and 109-112 are assigned by National Registration Authority of Argentina upon request.
			Bits 40-85, 107 -132 are assigned by National Registration Authority of Argentina upon request.

ELT TYPE	Protocol Type	Coded with	Decision Made by Argentina over those Bits with a National Use and Control Option
	Test User Protocol	Test beacon data assigned in coordination with 406 MHz ELT National Registration Authority of Argentina for the purpose of conducting beacon tests, demonstrations, type approval tests, training exercises, etc.	Bits 40-85 and 107-112 have to be assigned in coordination with 406 MHz ELT National Registration Authority of Argentina.
			Bits 40-85 and 107-132 have to be assigned in coordination with 406 MHz ELT National Registration Authority of Argentina.
Location Protocols	User Location Protocol	Unique beacon serial number allocated by beacon manufacturer and Cospas-Sarsat type approval certificate number.	Bit 43 set to 1 and C/S Type Approval Certificate number encoded in bits 74 to 83. Bits 64-73 all set to "0"s.
		Aircraft operator designator and a Serial number and Cospas-Sarsat type approval certificate number.	Bit 43 set to 1 and C/S Type Approval Certificate number encoded in bits 74 to 83. Bits 64-73 all set to "0"s.
		Aircraft 24-bits Address and Cospas-Sarsat type approval certificate number.	Bit 43 set to 1 and C/S Type Approval Certificate number encoded in bits 74 to 83. Quantity of additional ELTs carried on same aircraft and encoded with same 24-bits address, in bits 68-73 in binary code.
		Aircraft Nationality and Registration Marking.	Aircraft Nationality and Marking format for Argentina civil aircraft is 6 characters long, i.e.: LV-XXX or LQ-XXX with X being a letter from A to Z.
	Test User Location Protocol	Test Beacon identification data coordinated with 406 MHz ELT National Registration Authority of Argentina for the purpose of conducting beacon tests, demonstrations, type approval tests, training exercises, etc.	Bits 40-85 have to be assigned in coordination with 406 MHz ELT National Registration Authority of Argentina.
	Standard Location Protocol	Unique beacon serial number allocated by beacon manufacturer and Cospas-Sarsat type approval certificate number.	In accordance to document Cospas Sarsat Specification for Cospas-Sarsat 406 MHz Distress Beacons C/S T.001.
		Aircraft operator designator and a Serial number.	
		Aircraft 24-bits Address **NOTE**: Only one ELT with this protocol per aircraft	
	Standard Test Location Protocol	Test Beacon identification data coordinated with 406 MHz ELT National Registration Authority of Argentina while conducting beacon tests, demonstrations, type approval tests, training exercises, etc.	Bits 41-64 have to be assigned in coordination with 406 MHz ELT National Registration Authority of Argentina.
	National Location Protocol	An eighteen bits number and a six bits number allocated by the 406 MHz ELT National Registration Authority of Argentina.	Bits 41 to 58 and bits 127 to 132 have to be assigned by National Registration Authority of Argentina upon request. Bit 110 set to 1 and delta position data is encoded in bits 113 to 126.
	National Test Location Protocol		
Location Protocols	RLS (Return Link Service) Location	See document C/S T.001 for further details.	RLS-capable ELTs are allowed to be coded with the RLS Serial Number Protocol with C/S TAC number and S/N provided by appropriate beacon manufacturers.

3.3 PLB Coding Methods

Country Code	USER PROTOCOLS	LOCATION PROTOCOLS			
	Serial User	User Location	Standard Location	National Location	RLS (Return Link Service)
	PLB with Serial Number	PLB with Serial Number		Serial Number Assigned by Competent Administration	PLB with Serial Number
701	Y	Y		N	Y

4. LIST OF BEACON MODELS TYPE APPROVED BY ADMINISTRATION

Not available.

5. BEACON TESTING REGULATION

All operational 406 MHz Cospas-Sarsat Beacons should be activated only for real or imminent distresses. For testing or training purposes the activation should be authorized by ARMCC following the Cospas-Sarsat National Agency (SASS) orders and regulations. Entities and owners can find all related information on the web (http://www.sass.gov.ar/txt/prueba406.html).

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

Points of contact for beacons matters (coding and registration) are:

- EPIRBs: *Comisión Nacional de Comunicaciones* (CNC),
- ELTs: *Registro Nacional de Radiobalizas de Localización de Emergencia*,
- PLBs: *Servicio de Alerta de Socorro Satelital* - ARMCC

Beacon Database

The Argentine 406 MHz beacon database supports EPIRBs and ELTs. The registration of 406 MHz EPIRBs and ELTs is mandatory by national regulations.

The Argentina Mission Control Centre (ARMCC) performs registration of all Cospas-Sarsat beacons and maintains the 406 MHz beacon database register.

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

7. BEACON REGISTRATION FORMS

Online beacon registration forms (appropriate website address) are not available.

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