

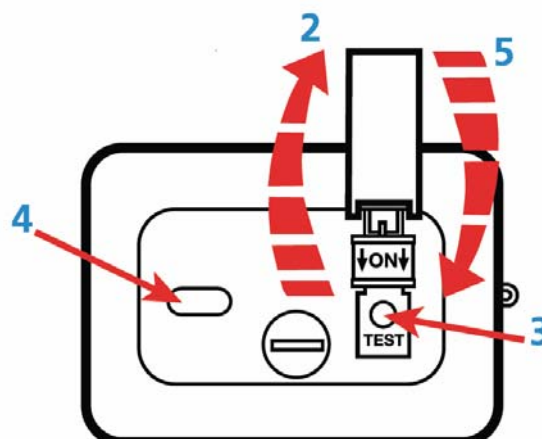
SAFETY ALERT - TECHNICAL No. 50

EPIRB PRECAUTIONARY SAFETY ALERT

EPIRB manufacturer GME have issued a precautionary safety alert concerning 406MHz EPIRBs produced between Jan. 2005 and June 2010. The models at risk are GME MT400, MT401, MT401FF, MT403FF/FG, MT 403/G and MT406G. In a small number of instances, the EPIRBs have failed their self-test sequence indicating they may not work in a real emergency. GME require owners to check at risk EPIRBs immediately using the test below.

Test Procedure

1. Remove the beacon from the bracket. Keep the antenna well clear of metallic objects during testing.
2. Lift the cover marked 'LIFT'.
3. Briefly press then release the yellow 'TEST' button.
4. The unit will give a double beep and flash of the strobe light to show it is functioning correctly.
5. Close the switch cover and press firmly into place until it clicks.
6. Return the beacon into the bracket.



In the unlikely event of a beacon failing to produce a positive self-test result, owners should immediately contact either the point of purchase; the UK distributor, Sartech; or the GME hotline:

Sartech (UK distributor)
Email: info@sartech.com
Phone: +44 1737 372670
Fax: +44 1737 772795
<http://www.sartech.co.uk>

GME Hotline
Email: mtfail@gme.net.au
Phone: +61 (0)2 8867 6000

GME strongly recommends that all EPIRBs are tested at regular intervals (approximately monthly or prior to an extended voyage). Self-test instructions are printed on the beacon's front panel; they are also detailed in the owner's instruction booklet.

Note: Batteries should be replaced approximately every 5 years irrespective of whether the beacon flashes its light when you press the test button. You do need to check the beacon service date and get the battery changed on time; this will ensure the unit will operate in an emergency, and will have enough remaining battery life to keep working until you are rescued. You should contact a GME factory-certified service centre to arrange battery replacement and servicing.