

Disposal of Old Emergency Beacons (ELT, PLB, EPIRB)

At the end of a beacon's service life (ELT, PLB, EPIRB), it must be disposed of carefully to prevent false alerts. False alerts could divert limited search-and-rescue resources from a real emergency, putting other lives at risk.



Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT)
- for use on aircraft



Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB) - for use on vessels



Personal Locator Beacon (PLB) - for personal use (mainly on land, but under certain conditions at sea and aviation also)

If you decide to dispose of an old, unneeded beacon you need to be careful to take certain steps:

1.

Do NOT merely toss the beacon in a garbage or rubbish bin!

Over time the casing and electronics could degrade, possibly causing the beacon to begin transmitting a false alert from, for example, a garbage heap.



2.

You must have the battery removed!

Beacon batteries contain chemically-aggressive substances which could be hazardous to the environment and cause injury. Always handle batteries in accordance with manufacturer instructions and local disposal regulations.

3.

You must have the beacon clearly labeled on the outside that it has been deactivated!

This is important so that no one mistakenly tries to use it in a real emergency.



4.

You must update your information in the registration database of the Civil Aviation Directorate of the Republic of Serbia!

It is necessary to complete the Form for Registration of Radio Beacons and forward it to the CAD. Among other necessary information, it is important to state the reason for the disposal of the radio transmitter (sale, destruction, theft, loss or disposal).

Note: When possible, the components of your old beacon and old beacon batteries should be recycled at an appropriate recycling facility. For more specific advice, consult the beacon manufacturer using contact information in the user manual.