



# EPIRB PRECAUTIONARY SAFETY ALERT

## BACKGROUND

Standard Communications Pty Ltd designs and manufactures a range of Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacons (EPIRBs) that are marketed globally under the GME brand.

As a result of market place feedback Standard Communications Pty Ltd has become aware of a small number of instances where GME EPIRBs have failed the self test procedure. A consequence of such failure may mean the EPIRB will not operate in an emergency situation.

## INVESTIGATION

Subsequent testing and investigation in the company's Sydney engineering laboratory, identified a microprocessor malfunction that effectively shuts the beacon down, hence the self test failure.

Detailed analysis has shown that the failures have occurred in EPIRBs manufactured in the 2005 – 2010 period; to date the overall failure rate remains low, never the less as a responsible supplier of safety at sea equipment, Standard Communications Pty Ltd has in consultation with National Maritime Authorities voluntarily elected to publish this precautionary safety alert.

## MODELS IMPACTED

**GME MT400, GME MT401, GME MT406G, GME MT401FF, GME MT403/G and GME MT403FF/FG**

GME EPIRBs manufactured between January 2005 and June 2010 have been identified as being at risk. None the less, **GME strongly recommends that all EPIRBs** are tested at regular intervals (approximately monthly or prior to an extended voyage).

