

References:

- a. Maintenance Procedure Card 583042.0
- b. Rescue and Survival Systems Manual, COMDTINST M10470.10F

The following is provided in response to concerns about the subject PEPIRBs that have been distributed throughout Auxiliary operational communities.

The Maintenance Card is a great tool to use to keep this very important piece of equipment in good condition so it will be there for you when you need it. Please print it out and use it.

<http://cgauxsurfaceops.us/documents/PPE/PLBMPCard.pdf>

Make the following configuration change to all in-service and in-stock PEPIRBs and new PEPIRBs received from the manufacturer: Attach a 2-inch by 2-inch piece of velcro hook tape to the PEPIRB battery. Do not cover the battery expiration date. Self-adhesive velcro hook tape is available from numerous sources. This task is Item 1 on the Maintenance Procedure Card as a 'build-up procedure' to be accomplished prior to putting the PEPIRB in service.

It has been brought to our attention that water intrusion into the antenna storage well may lead to signal degradation under certain conditions. In order to mitigate this, after activation, boat crew members shall make every effort to keep the PEPIRB out of the water, the antenna and antenna storage well as dry as possible, and the PEPIRB oriented so that the antenna has an unobstructed view of the sky. This is achieved by attaching the PEPIRB to the helmet, hood or survival vest/PFD (hence the velcro) and routinely checking to ensure water has not collected in the antenna well.

Correct PEPIRB registration with NOAA is critical. Check with who ever issued you the PEPIRB to ensure that it has been registered. If it hasn't than PEPIRB registration can be done on line at:

<http://www.beaconregistration.noaa.gov> .

Questions concerning your PEPIRB can be directed to your regions OTO or DIRAUX Office.

The purpose of this piece of equipment is to save you and your crew when everything else has gone wrong so obviously it should be treated with the care and the importance it deserves.