

## User Manual



# Personal Locator Beacon (with AIS and RLS)

English

### OWNER DETAILS

Name

Organisation

### CONTACT

Tel.

Email



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# IN CASE OF EMERGENCY



Use only in situations of grave and imminent danger

## MANUAL ACTIVATION



Take great care to keep well clear of eyes and face as the antenna will be released very quickly. Keep at least 30cm (12") clear to avoid possible injury.

- Following activation ensure the antenna is fully released and the unit has the best possible view of the sky for optimal performance.

- If the strobe light does not start flashing, manually switch the PLB3 on by pressing the ON Key



- Always turn off the PLB3 immediately after you have been rescued to avoid interference with other users.
- To turn off the beacon press and hold the TEST/OFF button until the red LED flashes twice.

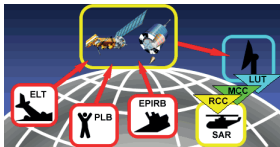
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## 1. ABOUT YOUR PLB3

### 1.1 Cospas-Sarsat System

The basic Cospas-Sarsat concept is illustrated in the adjacent figure. The System is composed of:

- distress radio beacons (ELTs for aviation use, EPIRBs for maritime use, and PLBs for personal use) which transmit signals during distress situations
- instruments on board satellites in geostationary and low-altitude Earth orbits which detect the signals transmitted by distress radio beacons
- ground receiving stations, referred to as Local User Terminals (LUTs), which receive and process the satellite downlink signal to generate distress alerts
- Mission Control Centers (MCCs) which receive alerts produced by LUTs and forward them to Rescue Coordination Centers (RCCs), Search and Rescue Points Of Contacts (SPOCs) or other MCCs



The Cospas-Sarsat System includes two types of satellites:

- satellites in low-altitude Earth orbit (LEO) which form the LEOSAR System
- satellites in geostationary Earth orbit (GEO) which form the GEOSAR System

The new MEOSAR system, which is not yet fully operational (2022), already brings significant advantages to many users in terms of better satellite coverage, faster alerts and improved detectability and is also the basis for the Return Link Service (RLS) on Galileo satellites.

### 1.2 Return Link Service

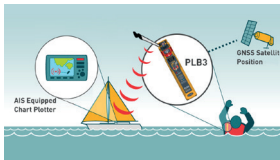
The Galileo Return Link Service (RLS) is a free-of-charge global service available to Cospas-Sarsat RLS compatible beacons. The RLS feature is an indication on the PLB3 that confirms to the User that the distress signal from the PLB3 has been localised by the Cospas-Sarsat system and is being sent to the SAR authorities. It does NOT mean that a search and rescue mission has been launched, but only confirms that the distress alert has been received by the Cospas-Sarsat system and is being routed to the appropriate SAR agencies. The RLS aims to send an acknowledgment to the beacon within 30 minutes following activation (the response may not be received by the beacon for significantly longer). RLS is an optional function and may not be permitted in all countries. The full RLS specification can be found here:

<https://gsc-europa.eu/sites/default/files/sites/all/files/Galileo-SAR-SDD.pdf>

### 1.3 AIS System

AIS systems operate on VHF radio bands and transceivers are fitted to all commercial shipping and an ever growing number of recreational vessels globally. Shortly after activation an AIS Location device will activate an alarm on all AIS equipped vessels within the VHF range alerting them to the fact that a person is in the water needing assistance. Often it is a vessel in the close vicinity of an incident that is able to react and effect a rescue quicker than the emergency services.

Emergency service craft are fitted with AIS receivers allowing them to pinpoint a casualty in the water more precisely than any other system.



## 1.4 Introduction

The rescueME range of products provides the user with the latest technology specifically designed for compact size and ease of operation. Primarily designed for use when permanently attached to a Personal Floatation Device, in the event that you fall overboard, the PLB3 is intended to alert your vessel and plot your location on a suitable AIS equipped chart plotter on other vessels within VHF radio range. At the same time the PLB3 will alert the 406MHz Cospas-Sarsat satellite global emergency system. Equipped with the latest RLS technology, in the event of activation, the PLB3 will indicate that the emergency signal has been received via the satellite system and passed to land based Mission Control Centres to initiate appropriate rescue services. When used on land the AIS is restricted use in conjunction with the 406MHz distress transmission.

**The Galileo Return Link Service allows people in distress to receive automatic acknowledgement that their signal has been received.**

## 1.5 Exposure to RF Energy

This product has been evaluated for compliance with the FCC RF exposure limits given in CFR 47 part 1.307(b) at a distance of greater than 5cm and complies with EN62479 (EU) and RSS-102 (Canada).

## 1.6 Warnings



**Take great care to keep well clear of eyes and face as the antenna will be released very quickly. Keep at least 30cm (12") clear to avoid possible injury.**



**Contains Lithium batteries:**

- store between -30°C [-22°F] to +70°C [+158°F]
- **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO REPLACE THE BATTERIES YOURSELF** unauthorised opening and battery replacement may put your life at risk.
- do not short circuit, incinerate or recharge.



**The battery in your PLB3 should be replaced immediately if it has been activated, or if the test indicator shows the battery as "used", or if the expiry date marked on the unit has been exceeded.**



**Battery replacement must be carried out at an Ocean Signal authorised battery replacement centre using manufacturer supplied battery components.**



**THE PLB3 WILL NOT FLOAT without the floatation jacket and should be attached securely to the life jacket when fitted. The PLB3 is not designed to be operated floating in water. Hold clear of water when activated.**



**This equipment is intended for emergency use only and it should not be used for routine tracking of persons or property, including routine tracking of divers.**



**Operate the PLB3 in open space rather than operating inside a life raft or under any similar cover or canopy.**



**If self-test is performed more frequently than once a month, then battery life may be reduced.**



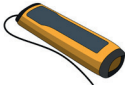


**It is a legal requirement to register your PLB3 with your National Authority.**

## 1.7 What's in the box

1. PLB3
2. Belt/ Webbing attachment bracket
3. Oral Tube attachment bracket
4. Activation Tape
5. Antenna Rewind Tool
6. Attachment Lanyard
7. Activation Slider (Armed) Cover
8. Product Documentation and Quick Start Guide



## 1.8 Spares and Accessories

1.*	733S-04213	Floatation Pouch	
2.	733S-03675	Fittings Kit	
3.	915S-02951	Welded Bladder Installation Kit	

\* The floatation pouch is supplied permanently attached to units sold in Australia and New Zealand to comply with local regulation

## 1.9 NFC and Mobile App.

The PLB3 is capable of connection to devices using Near Field Communication (NFC). NFC technology allows communication between two electronic devices over a distance of 4cm (1.5") or less. The benefit of using NFC in the PLB3 is that the power used for communication comes from the mobile device and not the beacon.

The Ocean Signal mobile App. allows a user to access the PLB3 and see the programmed details and the latest test results giving a clear indication of the beacon's condition.

Download the App. here: Android



iOS



To use the App. simply touch your mobile device to the front of the PLB3 where you see "NFC".

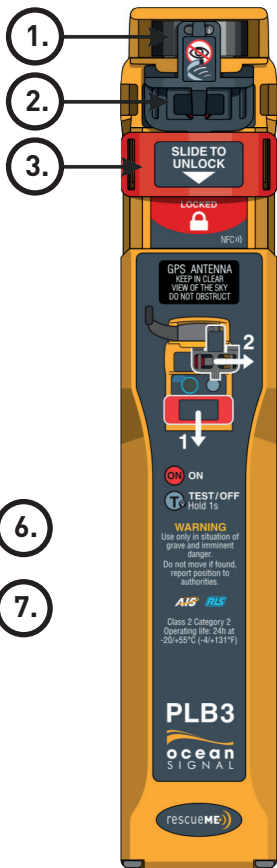
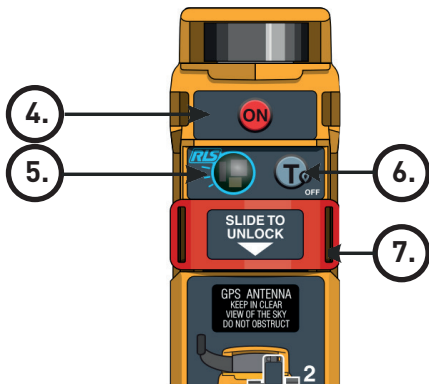




## 1.10 PLB3 Overview

1. Antenna behind activation slide
2. Activation Slide
3. Arming Slide (shown in safe position)
4. ON Key (for manual activation)
5. Strobe and Indicator LED
6. TEST/OFF Key
7. Arming Slide (in armed position)

PLB3 Controls shown  
in activated condition



## 2. OPERATION

- ⚠ WARNING: Use only in situations of grave and imminent danger. Misuse may result in a severe penalty.**

Hold the PLB3 with the antenna standing vertically. Keep the area marked 'DO NOT OBSTRUCT' below the red arming slider in clear view of the sky. Covering this area will interfere with the GNSS reception and position accuracy.



When left on land ensure the antenna is vertical and the area marked 'DO NOT OBSTRUCT' below the red arming slider in clear view of the sky.

When operated in a life raft hold the PLB3 outside of the canopy in clear view of the sky.



When fitted to an inflated life jacket being worn by a person in the water the PLB3 will naturally tend to lay on top of the jacket with the antenna vertical. Should the PLB3 become dislodged from the jacket's oral tube it should be repositioned.

### 2.1 Activation when installed in a life jacket

When correctly packed in a life jacket the PLB3 will activate when the life jacket inflates. Should the life jacket fail to fully inflate, it may be necessary to assist the Activation Slide by pulling on the Activation Tape to fully release the Activation Slide.

### 2.2 Manual activation

- ⚠ Only activate your PLB3 in situations requiring assistance in an emergency. Deliberate misuse of your PLB3 may result in a fine.**

- **To manually activate your PLB3 in an emergency:**  
Slide the red Arming Slide down.  
Slide the grey Activation Slide to the Left or Right.






Take great care to keep well clear of eyes and face as the antenna will be released very quickly. Keep at least 30cm (12") clear to avoid possible injury.












If the PLB3 fails to activate when the slide is removed, press the ON Key until the green LED (blue LED if RLS is enabled) illuminates for 1 second and starts flashing. Release the key.









## 2.3 Optical indications on activation

- The green  LED will illuminate (blue  if RLS is enabled) for 1 second.
- The strobe light  will start flashing.
- Within 30 seconds of activation, the indicator LED will flash indicating AIS transmission.
- Within 1 minute of activation, the indicator LED will flash a quick burst of 5 indicating 406MHz transmission.

### 2.3.1 LED Indications with RLS Enabled

LED	When	Transmit	GNSS	RLS
(x1) 	Every 5 s		Searching	
(x3) 	Once		Fix acquired	
(x5) 	At transmit	406MHz	No Fix	Request sent
(x5) 	At transmit	406MHz	Fix acquired	Request sent
(x8) 	At transmit*	AIS	No Fix	
(x8) 	At transmit*	AIS	Fix acquired	
(x1) 	Every 2.5 s**	121MHz		Reply not received
(x1) 	Every 2.5 s**	121MHz		Reply received
(x1) 	Every 2.5 s			

### 2.3.2 LED Indications for units configured with non-RLS Protocol

LED	When	Transmit	GNSS
(x1) 	Every 5 s		Searching
(x3) 	Once		Fix acquired
(x5) 	At transmit	406MHz	No Fix
(x5) 	At transmit	406MHz	Fix acquired
(x8) 	At transmit*	AIS	No Fix
(x8) 	At transmit*	AIS	Fix acquired
(x1) 	Every 2.5 s**	121MHz	
(x1) 	Every 2.5 s		

NOTE:  
Non-RLS Protocol is usually country specific and is not a user changeable function.

\* The AIS transmissions will show as 8 flashes (1 every 2 seconds) as a sequence repeated once every minute

\*\* The 121MHz Homer will not transmit until after the first 406MHz transmission.

## 2.4 Deactivation

To deactivate your PLB3 after use or if it is accidentally activated, press the TEST/OFF Key until the LED flashes red twice, then release. As long as it is turned off within 30 seconds of activation there is no requirement to contact the authorities (see section 2.7 False Alerts).

## 2.5 AIS message reception

The method in which an AIS message is displayed will depend on the reception equipment being used. AIS enabled plotters will display a target either as a ship or SART target with the PLB3's preprogrammed MMSI number that identifies it as an AIS Location device.

## 2.6 Rewinding the antenna

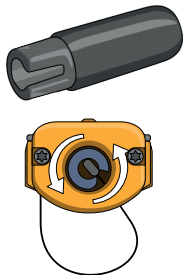


If the PLB3 is activated during this process, turn it off by pressing the TEST/OFF Key until the red LED flashes twice.



Rotating the antenna rewind tool in the clockwise direction will damage the antenna

- Use the Antenna Rewind tool supplied in the box.
- Place the moulded cap of the antenna into the space
- Pass the tool through the round hole in the top of the PLB3 and place over the antenna just behind the cap.
- Rotate the tool anti-clockwise until the antenna is fully wound.
- Hold the tool keeping the antenna coiled  
Do not remove the tool until the slider is in place
- Push the Activation Slider into place
- Release and remove the rewind tool to allow the antenna to rest behind the Activation Slider



**NOTE:** Refer to section 5 when installing in a life jacket regarding attachment of the Activation Tape to the Slider.

## 2.7 False Alerts

If the PLB3 is accidentally activated, it should be immediately turned off. If the unit was active for more than 30 seconds the nearest Coast Guard Centre or Rescue Coordination Centre should be contacted to explain that the PLB3 has been activated in error and there are no follow up rescue actions required. See inside the back cover for information required in the event of a false activation. If appropriate make a call on the VHF radio to announce the same information.

The information that should be reported includes:

- the PLB3 15-Hex ID;
- date, time, duration and cause of activation; and
- location at time of deactivation.

**Note:** In the event of a false activation in the USA call toll free:

1-800 851 3051

## 3. TESTING



Routine testing of your PLB3 once a month is recommended to ensure it is in good working order. Follow the notes below on the frequency that tests are carried out. Remember that each test will reduce the battery capacity slightly and reduce the operation time of your PLB3 during an emergency.

Should a test fail it is advised to repeat the test to confirm failure before returning the PLB3 to Ocean Signal or an approved service agent.
















When carrying out any test the antenna should be extended. If the PLB3 activates during the removal of the antenna retainer, press and hold the Test/Off button until the LED flashes red twice to deactivate. See section 2.6 above for antenna rewind instructions.

### 3.1 Functional test














To test your PLB3 is functioning correctly, press and hold the TEST/OFF Key. The LED will illuminate red  to indicate the key has been pressed, then start flashing. Release the TEST Key now. After a short pause the strobe  will flash and the indicator LED will produce a flash sequence.

The flash sequence indicates the total number of hours that the battery has already been in use, up to the time that the test was initiated.

#### 3.1.1 LED Indications with RLS Enabled

No. of Flashes	Functional Test Pass	Fail
1	0 to 59min  1hr to 1hr 59min 	121.5MHz homer 
2	2hrs to 3hrs 59min 	406MHz power 
3	4hrs to 5hrs 59min 	AIS signal 
4	6hrs to 7hrs 59min 	AIS Power 
5	8hrs to 9hrs 59min 	Battery failure 
6	10hrs + 	No GNSS 

#### 3.1.2 LED Indications for units configured with non-RLS Protocol

No. of Flashes	Functional Test Pass	Fail
1	0 to 59min  1hr to 1hr 59min 	121.5MHz homer 
2	2hrs to 3hrs 59min 	406MHz power 
3	4hrs to 5hrs 59min 	AIS signal 
4	6hrs to 7hrs 59min 	AIS Power 
5	8hrs to 9hrs 59min 	Battery failure 
6	10hrs + 	No GNSS 



Because this test transmits a short burst on the aircraft distress frequency of 121.5MHz, please only carry out this test in the first 5 minutes of each hour.



The battery must be replaced either prior to the expiry date shown on the rear label or after the PLB3 has been activated.



If, during a self test, the LED flashes magenta  or amber  the PLB3 may not have sufficient energy to operate for the specified 24-hour period. Battery replacement is recommended.

**NOTE:** The flash sequence will be repeated after a short pause and then the PLB3 will automatically power off.



**NOTE:** A single AIS transmission will occur during a Functional Test indicating "MOB TEST" on AIS receivers within range.


## 3.2 GNSS Test






This test should only be performed where the PLB3 has a clear and unobstructed view of the sky. This is required to allow the GNSS receiver to acquire a signal from sufficient satellites to allow it to determine a position. Ensure the area marked "GNSS Antenna" is not obstructed.

It is recommended that a GNSS test is carried out at least once every six months to ensure correct operation of the PLB3.

Press and hold the TEST key. The LED will illuminate red  to indicate the key has been pressed, then start flashing. Shortly after, the LED will cease flashing and become a steady red  light. Release the TEST Key now.



During the GNSS test the LED will repeat a short green  flash until either a position fix is obtained or the GNSS test fails.

A successful test will be indicated by long red  followed by a number of green  LED flashes and an unsuccessful test will be indicated by a number of red  LED flashes. The number of flashes indicates the number of GNSS tests remaining [e.g. 7 flashes = 7 tests remaining].

The test result flashes will be repeated after 2 seconds.

If there are 10 or more tests remaining then the LED will flash 10 times only (repeated).

The PLB3 has the capacity to carry out 60 GNSS tests within the lifetime of the battery.

If there are no tests remaining immediately after the current test, the LED will flash green  or red  rapidly for three seconds (not repeated) depending on whether the GNSS test was successful or not, respectively.

When there are no tests remaining, the LED will flash red  rapidly for three seconds (not repeated).

The test can be ended at any time by holding the TEST key for three seconds.

For further information regarding Self Test and Self Test history use the Ocean Signal App. to connect to your PLB3 using Near Field Communication (NFC).

GET THE MOBILE APP.:

Android



iOS



## 4. BEACON REGISTRATION



**It is the owner's responsibility to register this beacon with the appropriate National Authority before operation.**

The preferred method of registration is online. Documentation is provided within the packaging with information regarding registration with the relevant body to comply with the configuration of the beacon.

### 4.1 Advice to owners of Personal Locator Beacons (PLBs).

Registration of 406 MHz satellite PLBs:

- Registration with the National Authority is **mandatory** due to the global alerting system.
- The information provided in the registration card is used for rescue purposes only.
- See below for details on how to register your beacon upon completion of the sales transaction. Before a beacon enters service, it **must** be registered with the National Authority.
- If the beacon is being transferred to a new owner, the current owner needs to inform the National Authority of the name and address of the new owner.
- The subsequent owner of the beacon is required to provide the National Authority with the information as shown in the owner registration card.
- This obligation transfers to all subsequent owners.
- Some National Authorities require periodic renewal. It is the owner's responsibility to ensure registration details are current and valid.

### 4.2 Country Specific Registration information

USA  
NOAA-Sarsat, USMCC, NSOF, E/SP053, 1315 East West Hwy, Silver Spring, MD, 20910  
Fax: (1.301) 8174565, Tel: (1.301) 8174515 (1.888) 2127283  
Email: [beacon.registration@noaa.gov](mailto:beacon.registration@noaa.gov), Web: [www.beaconregistration.noaa.gov/](http://www.beaconregistration.noaa.gov/)

CANADA  
Beacon Registry, CMCC Trenton, 8 Wing Trenton, Box 1000 Stn Forces, Astra, Ontario, K0K 3W0  
Fax: +1 877 406 3298, Tel: +1 800 211 8107 / +1 613 965 7265  
Email: [cbr@sarnet.dnd.ca](mailto:cbr@sarnet.dnd.ca), Web: [www.cbr-rcb.ca](http://www.cbr-rcb.ca)

UK  
Distress & Security Beacon Registry, Pendennis Point, Castle Drive, Falmouth, TR11 4WZ  
Fax: +44 (0) 13 2631 9264, Tel: +44 (0) 20 3817 2006  
Email: [ukbeacons@mcga.gov.uk](mailto:ukbeacons@mcga.gov.uk), Web: [www.gov.uk/406beacon](http://www.gov.uk/406beacon)

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**For other countries visit:** [www.406registration.com/countriesupported.aspx](http://www.406registration.com/countriesupported.aspx)

## 5. LIFE JACKET INSTALLATION

If your rescueME PLB3 is not already installed into a life jacket, please follow the instructions below carefully.

- ⚠ **The following guide is a generic guide to installation of the PLB3 to a life jacket. Although the PLB3 is designed to fit most life jackets, always check with your Life Jacket manufacturer to ensure there are no special fixing instructions for that model.**
- ⚠ **When fitted to a life jacket, to prevent accidental activation, please ensure the clear cover is fitted over the grey slider with enough free length of the activation tape so it will not pull on the slider during normal activity of the life jacket. When carrying the PLB3 please ensure the Arming Slider is in the up position.**
- ⚠ **For installation to life jackets where the bladder is permanently attached to the cover, please see the separate instruction sheet, available from the Ocean Signal website.**
- ⚠ **Once completed the installation should be tested to ensure correct activation takes place. Refer to the life jacket manufacturer for the manual inflation process.**

The PLB3 is activated when the activation slider is pulled from the front of the device by the tension in the tape created by the inflation of a life jacket. Unless the life jacket inflates the PLB3 will not activate.

To activate the PLB3 the activation tape must be wrapped around a substantial part of the life jacket bladder. Many modern life jackets taper towards the neck for comfort and support in the water and correct installation of the PLB3 must ensure that the tape is around the larger part of the bladder rather than a tapered section where expansion may not be sufficient.

Fitting the Oral Tube bracket as low down the Oral Tube as possible usually assists in ensuring the tape is passed around the main section of bladder.







The diagrams above assume that **the life jacket inflation tube is on the left hand side of the jacket (as viewed from the front)**.

If the oral tube is on the right hand side then the PLB3 should be fitted on the other side of the tube.

## 5.1 Remove the Activation Slider

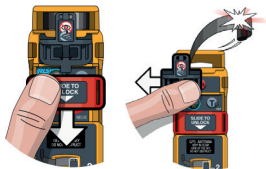


The PLB3 will turn on during this process, make sure it is turned off by pressing and holding the TEST/OFF Key until the LED flashes red twice and release.



Take great care to keep well clear of eyes and face as the antenna will be released very quickly. Keep at least 30cm (12") clear to avoid possible injury.

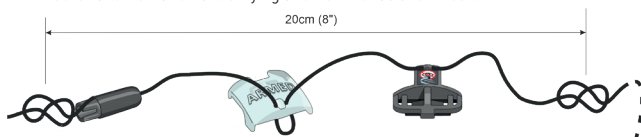
- Slide the red arming tab down.
- Slide the grey slide sideways off the unit.



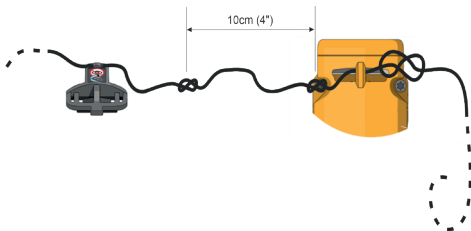
Turn off the PLB3 by pressing the TEST/OFF Key until the LED flashes red twice and release.

## 5.2 Securing the Activation System

1. To prevent accidental loss, use the provided length of cord to tether the Antenna Rewind tool, Activation Slider and Protective cover. Attaching these parts will prevent them falling into the water upon activation and ensure they are available for re-use.
2. Tie a knot in one end of the cord and pass the other end through the Rewind tool, Activation Cover and Activation Slider tying another knot as shown below.



3. Pass the remaining cord through the attachment point on the rear of the PLB3 Antenna housing and tie two more knots to secure.



## 5.3 Attach the tape to the Activation Slider

1. Pass the Activation Tape down through the inner slot in the Activation Slider
2. Pass the Activation Tape up through the outer slot in the Activation Slider
3. Pull the tape through the slider to leave approximately 5cm [2"] free at the end.



4. Pass the other end of the Activation Tape across the underside of the Activation Slider and pull tight to trap the tape to the slider.



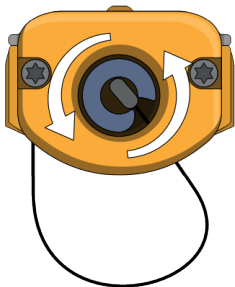
## 5.4 Insert the Activation Slider



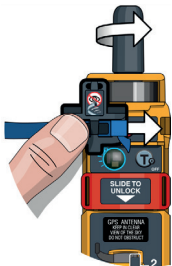
The PLB3 will turn on during this process. Make sure it is turned off as soon as the Activation Slider is in place by pressing and holding the TEST/OFF Key until the LED flashes red twice and release.

Use the antenna rewind tool supplied in the box

1. Place the antenna end cap into the recess
2. Pass the tool through the hole in the top of the PLB3 and place over the antenna just behind the end cap
3. Rotate the tool anticlockwise until fully wound  
Hold the tool keeping the antenna coiled  
Do not remove the tool until the slider is in place



4. Push the Activation Slider into place ensuring the tape lies flat between the slider and the PLB3
5. Release and remove the rewind tool to allow the antenna to rest behind the Activation Slider



Ensure the PLB3 is turned off by pressing the TEST/OFF Key for 2 seconds.

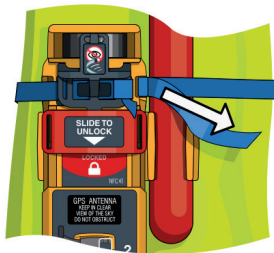
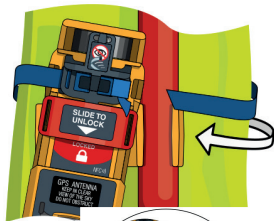
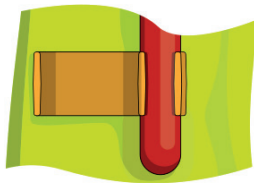


Slide the red Arming Slide upwards to lock the Antenna Slider in place.



## 5.5 Attach the Oral Tube bracket to the Oral Tube

1. Place the Oral Tube bracket as low down the oral tube as possible
2. If there are whistles and lights fastened to the Oral Tube then place them above the PLB3 bracket or attach them elsewhere to the life jacket.
3. Rest the PLB3 on the Oral Tube and pass the free end of the tape around the back of the life jacket bladder taking care not to twist the tape.
4. Pass the tape over the oral tube
5. Feed the tape into the rearmost slot in the side of the PLB3 so that it emerges from the front slot
6. Loop the tape around and into the foremost slot on the side of the PLB3 so that it emerges alongside the inserted tape
7. Pull approximately 25mm (1") of tape through the slots in the PLB3
8. Clip the PLB3 into the Oral Tube bracket taking care not to trap any loose tape
9. Pull the tape tight with the free end of the tape so that the bladder is free to inflate and remains folded in accordance with the life jacket manufacturer's instructions. Do not over tighten the tape
10. Test for tightness by ensuring you can freely insert a finger in between the tape and the bladder.



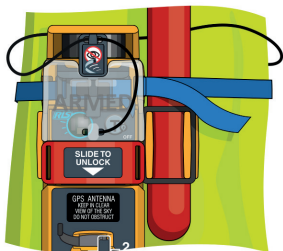
11. Once the PLB3 is fully attached to the life jacket, you are ready to arm the device, by sliding the red arming tab down.



Failure to arm the PLB3 will inhibit the semi-automatic activation of the PLB3 when needed and may STOP the life jacket inflating correctly.



12. A protective cover is provided to protect the PLB3 from accidental activation if the grey slide is knocked or otherwise moved under the life jacket cover. After arming the PLB3, fit the protective cover, then clip the protective cover into the slots immediately adjacent to the arming slider. Make sure that both sides of the cover are clipped in place.



Ensure the PLB3 is securely tied to a fixed point on the life jacket that will NOT inhibit inflation.

Repack the bladder into the cover, ensuring the bladder does not get trapped in the fastening mechanism or tangled up.

## 6. BEACON CONFIGURATION

### 6.1 Pre-configured Beacons

PLB3s are supplied to the user already configured. The configuration details will be clearly marked on the product labels and the packaging. In all cases the user must register the PLB3 with the relevant National Authority using the information supplied on these labels.

Hex ID: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	Check Sum: CHCK
Country: COUNTRY	<b>WILL NOT FLOAT</b>
C/S TAC: CST	RLS: On
AIS Self ID: 97260NNNN	
Serial: XXXXXXXXXXXXX	
Lithium Battery: 6V	
Batt. Expiry: MM/YYYY	
Compass Safe: 1m	
US False Alerts: 1-800-851-3051	




#### Configuration Details

Beacon unique Identification Number  
 Country for which the beacon is programmed  
 Cospas-Sarsat TAC Number  
 RLS On (Enabled) / Off (Disabled)  
 AIS self identification number  
 Unit Serial Number  
 Battery Expiry Date

## 7. APPENDIX





### 7.1 Maintenance and Troubleshooting

Your PLB3 will require little maintenance except periodic cleaning, if required. Always use a damp cloth to clean the case and dry thoroughly.

-  **Do not use solvents or other cleaning fluids as this may cause the plastics to deteriorate.**
-  **Ensure the antenna is free to unwind.**
-  **Should the PLB3 turn on during cleaning, make sure it is turned off as quickly as possible by pressing and holding the TEST/OFF Key until the LED flashes red twice and release.**





### 7.2 Batteries

The PLB3 contains Lithium iron batteries for long operating life. The battery must be replaced either prior to the expiry date shown on the rear label or after the PLB3 has been used, even if only activated for a short period of time. The battery condition can be determined by carrying out the Self Test procedure shown in section 3 of this manual.

-  **Battery replacement must be carried out at an Ocean Signal authorised battery replacement centre using manufacturer supplied battery components.**
-  **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO REPLACE THE BATTERIES YOURSELF**  
**The PLB3 is a life saving device and unauthorised opening and battery replacement may cause the unit to fail upon activation putting your life at risk.**
-  **Store between -30°C (-22°F) to +70°C (+158°F)**
-  **Do not short circuit, incinerate or recharge.**

## 7.3 Decommissioning and Disposal

Care should be taken when disposing of your PLB3 when it is no longer required. It is recommended to remove the battery from the PLB3 by removing the case bottom. It may also be necessary to remove the rear case to facilitate removal.

-  **The PLB3 is not user serviceable and opening the case will invalidate the warranty.**
-  **Once removed the battery and other components of the product should be disposed of following guidelines and laws applicable within the relevant country.**
-  **Do not short circuit, incinerate or recharge the battery.**
-  **Incorrect handling and disposal of batteries may lead to leakage and explosion.**

It is the owner's responsibility to inform the National Authority under which the beacon was registered that the beacon has been decommissioned.

## 7.4 Transport

When shipping your PLB3 the following guidance and regulations should be followed, but you are advised to contact your nearest battery replacement centre or Ocean Signal prior to shipping as regulations may have changed.

- Always pack your PLB3 securely in a stout cardboard carton. Ocean Signal advises that you keep the original packaging in case of return for service.
- For surface transport the PLB3 may be shipped under [Special Provision 188](#).
- For air transport the PLB3 should be shipped as category [UN3091](#) and packed under [IATA packing instruction 970 section II](#). You can carry your PLB3 on aircraft as carry on luggage in accordance with the [IATA regulation 2.3.5.9](#). Confirm regulations with your airline.
- Consult the manufacturer's instructions for information on carrying a life jacket in your luggage on board aircraft.

Safety Data sheets for all Ocean Signal products can be found on the Ocean Signal website:



[www.oceansignal.com/safety-data-sheets/](http://www.oceansignal.com/safety-data-sheets/)

## 7.5 Specifications

### 406MHz Transmitter

Transmit Power	5W Typical
Frequency	406.031 MHz $\pm$ 1KHz
Modulation	Phase $\pm$ 1.1 Radians (16K0G1D)
Encoding	Biphase L
Rate	400 bps

### AIS Transmitter

Transmit Power (EIRP)	1Watt $\pm$ 3dB
Frequency	161.975/162.025MHz $\pm$ 500Hz
Baud rate	9600baud
Synchronisation	UTC
Messages	Message 1 (Position), Message 14 (Status)
Repetition interval	8 messages/minute Message 14 sent twice every 4 minutes

### 121.5MHz Transmitter

Transmit Power (PERP)	25-100mW
Frequency	121.5 MHz
Modulation	Swept Tone AM (3K20A3X)
Modulation Factor	0.85-1.0
Modulation Duty Cycle	>35%
Frequency Stability	$\pm$ 50ppm
Duty Cycle	98%

### Visible Light Strobe

Light Type	High Intensity LED
Light Colour	White
Intensity	>1 candela
Flash Rate	20-30 per minute

### Infra Red Strobe

Light Type	IR LED
Light Colour	850nm
Intensity	7.5mW/sr
Flash Rate	20-30 per minute

### Battery

Type	Lithium/Iron Disulfide (Li/FeS2)
Operating lifetime	>24hours @ -20°C (-4°F)
Lithium Metal Weight (for air transport)	<2g per battery
Replacement Interval	6 years from date of manufacture or 5 years from being placed into service

### GNSS Receiver

Satellite Channels	72 acquisition
Sensitivity	-167dBm
Cold Start Re-acquisition	-148dBm
GPS Antenna	Microstrip Patch

### Environmental

Temperature range (operational)	Class 2 -20°C (-4°F) to +55°C (+131°F)
Temperature range (storage)	Class 2 -30°C (-22°F) to +70°C (+158°F)
Damp Heat (humidity)	40°C (104°F) at 93%
Drop (hard surface)	1m : 6 sides]
Water immersion	>10m (1.0bar) : >60minutes
Thermal Shock	45° into 100mm of water : >1hour

### General

Category / Class (Ref RTCM 11010)	2 / 2
Group (Ref RTCM 11010)	3
Size (Length / Width / Depth)	200mm (7.87") / 36mm (1.41") / 22mm (0.86")
Weight	190g (0.42lbs)



**Environmental**

Temperature range (operational)  
 Temperature range (storage)  
 Damp Heat (humidity)  
 Drop (hard surface)  
 Water immersion  
 Thermal Shock

Class 2 -20°C [-4°F) to +55°C (+131°F)  
 Class 2 -30°C [-22°F) to +70°C (+158°F)  
 40°C (104°F) at 93%  
 1m : 6 sides)  
 >10m (1.0bar) : >60minutes  
 45° into 100mm of water : >1hour

**General**

Category 2  
 Class 2  
 Group 3  
 Size (Length / Width / Depth) 200mm (7.87") / 36mm (1.41") / 22mm (0.86")  
 Weight 190g (0.42lbs)

**7.6 Approvals**

For approval documents see: [www.oceansignal.com/plb3](http://www.oceansignal.com/plb3)

**7.6.1 USA**

! Pending

**7.6.2 Canada**

! Pending

**7.6.3 European Declaration of Conformity**

Hereby, Ocean Signal Ltd. declares that the radio equipment type PLB3 is in compliance with Directive 2014/53/EU.

**Country of Intended Use** (The Country of Intended Use table is an EU requirement only)

Austria	✓	Finland	✓	Latvia	✓	Romania	✓
Belgium	✓	France	✓	Lithuania	✓	Slovakia	✓
Bulgaria	✓	Germany	✓	Luxembourg	✓	Slovenia	✓
Cyprus	✓	Greece	✓	Malta	✓	Spain	✓
Czech Republic	✓	Hungary	✓	Netherlands	✓	Sweden	✓
Denmark	✓	Iceland	✓	Poland	✓		
Estonia	✓	Italy	✓	Portugal	✓		

**7.6.4 UK**

! Pending

**7.6.5 Australia / New Zealand**

! Pending

**PLEASE CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR CURRENT APPROVALS**

## 7.7 Warranty Information

### 7.7.1 Limited Warranty

Your Ocean Signal product is warranted against manufacturing defects in materials and workmanship for a period of 2 years from the date of purchase and in accordance with the following conditions.

Ocean Signal will at its discretion, repair or replace faulty product free of charge excluding the cost of shipping. Proof of purchase from the original purchaser shall be required in order for a warranty claim to be valid. All claims shall be made in writing to Ocean Signal or an approved service dealer or distributor.

Ocean Signal shall not be liable to the buyer under the above warranty:

- for any repairs or modifications carried out on the product using parts that are not supplied or approved by the manufacturer Ocean Signal including batteries and for work carried out other than by Ocean Signal or approved service dealers,
- for any part, material or accessory that is not manufactured by Ocean Signal, the consumer will be covered by the guarantee / warranty offered to Ocean Signal by the manufacturer or supplier of such a component,
- for product which has not been fully paid for,
- for any product supplied by Ocean Signal to a customer under an alternative warranty or commercial agreement,
- for the cost of shipping product to and from the customer.

The Battery is only warranted until the date of expiry and provided the unit is tested in accordance with the information in the user manual as noted by the electronic witness stored within the product.

The following specific item is excluded from this warranty:

- Damage to the antenna

This warranty does not affect your statutory rights.

### 7.7.2 Extended Warranty



**ENTER YOUR PRODUCT DETAILS TO GAIN THE EXTENDED WARRANTY PERIOD**



Apply for free at [www.oceansignal.com/warranty](http://www.oceansignal.com/warranty)

By entering your product details you can add 3 years to the warranty period.  
For full details on extended warranty on this product see [www.oceansignal.com/warranty](http://www.oceansignal.com/warranty).

For further assistance please contact our Technical Service Department.

Email: [info@oceansignal.com](mailto:info@oceansignal.com)

## 8. YOUR BEACON DETAILS



In the event of a false activation please contact the nearest Coast Guard Centre or Rescue Coordination Centre to explain that the PLB3 has been activated in error and there are no follow up rescue actions required.

Information required is:

- the 15 digit HEX ID (UIN) shown above
- the date, time, duration and cause of activation
- the location at the time of de-activation

**ATTACH YOUR REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS HERE FOR SAFE KEEPING**

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CT9 4NN  
United Kingdom

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