

## Marine Notice No. 38 of 2013

*Notice to all Shipowners, Fishing Vessel Owners, Agents, Shipmasters, Skippers, Fishermen,  
Yachtsmen and Seafarers*

### Care and maintenance of EPIRBs

The Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport wishes to remind vessel owners, operators, masters and skippers of some precautions to help ensure the effective operation of Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacons (EPIRBs).

All EPIRBs and associated mounting brackets fitted to Irish vessels should be inspected and tested in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and relevant statutory requirements. The Hydrostatic Release Unit (HRU), where fitted as part of an EPIRB installation, must be replaced prior to its expiry date. EPIRB batteries should be replaced by an authorised agent prior to expiry. The lanyard attached to an EPIRB must not be tied to its bracket or to any part of a vessel. The purpose of the lanyard is to attach an EPIRB to a liferaft or to a person in the water.

It is mandatory to register EPIRBs with the appropriate authority, (see Marine Notice 13 of 2012 below), and changes to registered beacons must also be notified.

The following links and Marine Notices are relevant:

Link to download: [EPIRB registration form](#)

Link to download: [Ship Radio Licence application form](#)

[No. 13 of 2012](#) - *Irish Ship Radio Licence and EPIRB databases – Data confirmation, updating and correction,*

[No. 25 of 2010](#) - *Personal Locator Beacons (PLB) Registry,*

[No. 41 of 2009](#) - *Coding and Servicing of 406MHz Satellite EPIRBs (Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacons),*

[No. 25 of 2006](#) - *Changes in requirements for ships subject to SOLAS, Chapter IV, concerning the maintenance of EPIRBs, and*

[No. 8 of 2006](#) – *Registration and Care of COSPAS-SARSAT 406 MHz EPIRBs Installed on Irish Vessels.*

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