



HELP-PLB

What Is Austral's HELP- PLB ?

HELP- PLB is a complimentary service provided for Austral full members who have an AMSA registered, land based 406MHz satellite **Personal Locator Beacon** as an additional "remote area safety" device, along with their HF radio.

Austral members who walk away from their vehicle to bush walk, mountain climb, fossick for gems or prospect for gold, are at potential risk of unintended injury or a medical episode that potentially prevents them from getting back to their vehicle and HF radio - to activate the Austral H.E.L.P. (4357) emergency call system.

A compact PLB, strapped to your belt, while away from your vehicle is a worthwhile and cost effective solution in the above situation.

Austral does not sell or market any specific brand/model of Personal Locator Beacons; only highlighting the added potential benefit of having one whilst traversing rural and remote areas.

What's the connection between AMSA, a HF radio and a PLB ?

The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) state that two-way communication via a mobile/satellite phone or radio is the most effective means of communication when in a distress situation:-

- Instant confirmation that the call has been received by emergency services;
- Ability to communicate position, nature of distress, required assistance;
- Emergency services can adequately scale the response assets according to required assistance;
- Ability to provide updates on the situation and also receive advice until emergency services arrive.
- If two-way communications are not available, then a distress beacon should be activated in situations of grave and imminent danger. This equates to when you feel you are facing a life threatening situation. This is a personal decision that is different for everybody.

HELP- PLB and AMSA Search & Rescue

Austral's role in conjunction with **HELP-PLB**, is where Austral members register their 406 MHz PLB, along with Austral contact details, and note that they carry a HF radio in their vehicle (see attached).....

- potentially enables AMSA to attempt to establish HF radio contact via an Austral incident responder using the Austral base network; or
- make a request to Austral to share any recent GPS or voice sched location data that we may have; which
- may add important information for AMSA in determining a search and rescue action plan.

It will be incumbent on Austral members, who subscribe to this service, to routinely update their position each day whilst traveling in rural and remote areas for obvious reasons; via the Austral methods described above.

AMSA 6 Form:- <https://www.amsa.gov.au/forms/406-mhz-distress-beacon-registration-form?page=6>
On-Line Registration Link:- <https://www.beacons.amsa.gov.au/>

(Disclaimer - Austral Safety Net Inc. can not guarantee any search and rescue outcomes associated with HELP - PLB)

A 406 MHz Personal Locator Beacon (PLB) can summon help if you can't get back to your HF radio to call the Austral H.E.L.P. (4357) system.

Austral **HELP-PLB** may be used to assist AMSA in search and rescue scenarios

- Include Austral contact details when registering your 406 MHz PLB with AMSA
- This may assist AMSA in confirming who you are and last known location.
- Important ! ...log your GPS position often with Austral when remote area travelling.



Austral Safety Net Inc.
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(A not-for-profit club)

For more information:-
Phone:- 07 2101 3456
E-mail:-
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Launch Version 1.0 February 2019



406 MHz Distress Beacon Registration (Australian coded beacons only)

In Australia you do not need to use this form if you register on-line at
www.amsa.gov.au/beacons

This is the preferred method of registration

This form is to be used for registering 406MHz Distress Beacons that are coded with Australian codes.

Registration is Free

If you have a beacon coded with a foreign country code, or if you do not know what country code has been used, please contact the Beacon Registration Section:

Email: ausbeacon@amsa.gov.au

Phone: +61 2 6279 5766 or 1800 406 406

Fax: International +61 2 9332 6323
Local 1800 406 329

Post: Beacon Registration Section
Australian Maritime Safety Authority
GPO Box 2181 Canberra City ACT 2601

Information contained in this form is critical to your safety and to successful search and rescue (SAR) response:

- You may use this form to register a maritime distress beacon (EPIRB), an aviation distress beacon (ELT) or a personal locator beacon (PLB).
- When entering information, you must include details in the following sections:
 - Distress Beacon details;
 - Owner/Operator details;
 - 24 Hour Emergency contact details;
 - Retailer details; and
 - Vessel, vehicle or aircraft details.

On-line registration: www.amsa.gov.au/beacons

Definitions

ELT - Emergency Locator Transmitters are distress beacons that are fixed in aircraft.

EPIRB - Emergency Position-Indicating Radio Beacons are for maritime use and designed to float upright in water.

PLB - Personal Locator Beacons may be used as personal distress beacons in all environments. They are not designed to float upright in water but may be carried to supplement a vessel's EPIRB.

PRIVACY STATEMENT

The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) collects this information for the purpose of assisting search and rescue operations through the registration of your beacon or your MMSI. AMSA collects this information in accordance with its functions under the *Australian Maritime Safety Authority Act 1990*. The information may be passed to other government agencies assisting in search and rescue operations. AMSA will use your contact details, including your email address and mobile phone number, to prompt you to update your registration details and for other purposes related to maintaining your registration. Failure to provide the information may result in delays processing your registration. To contact us, or for more information on how to access or correct your personal information, how to make a privacy complaint, or how your information may be used or disclosed, refer to the contact details shown on this form.



406 MHz Distress Beacon Registration

(Australian coded beacons only)

Please Note: **Mandatory fields are marked with an***
Other fields are optional, but will greatly assist with the coordination of a search and rescue response

Reason for registration

New registration Updated information (eg. Change of address)

Replacement of beacon (Beacon to be deregistered) →

Distress beacon details

15 character unique identification (hexadecimal ident.)*										Checksum	
Manufacturer*					Model*					Beacon Unit Serial No.	

Beacon battery expiry date

Owner/operator details

Name*		Postal address*			Postcode*
Home phone^	Work phone^	Mobile/other phone^	Email address		

^ At least one phone number must be provided

Emergency contacts (mandatory)

If possible, please supply up to 3 names (eg family, friend, neighbour); of which, one person must be contactable at all times. These people will be contacted if the beacon is activated.

	Contact 1*	Contact 2	Contact 3
Name			Austravel Safety Net Inc. (HF radio network)
Home phone^			07 2101 3456
Work phone^			AMSA priority voice mail service
Mobile^			

^ At least one phone number must be provided for each contact

Retailer details ie: where you purchased the beacon (see receipt for details)

Name*	Business address
Phone	Email address

Vessel details (if applicable)

Name		Callsign	Registration No.	
MMSI		DWT (tonnes)*	Length (metres)*	
Home port	Type of vessel (owner's description)*	Inmarsat No.	Other satellite mobile No.	
Type of radio fitted/carried		Other equipment		Maximum No. of persons on board:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MF/HF <input type="checkbox"/> VHF <input type="checkbox"/> 27MHz <input type="checkbox"/> Handheld VHF		<input type="checkbox"/> AIS Class A <input type="checkbox"/> AIS Class B		No. of liferafts

Vehicle details (if applicable)

Make and model*	Year*	Registration No.*	Colour*
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Aircraft Details (if applicable)

Aircraft registration/tail number*	Make/type (use ICAO abbreviation if known)
Type of aircraft (owner's description)*	Satellite and/or mobile phone number used in aircraft