Part 80 Report and Order (FCC 16-119) Updates

Andy Leimer
Equipment Authorization and Compliance Branch

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Engineering and Technology
Laboratory Division
Part 80 Report and Order

Report and Order (FCC 16-119)
- §80.7 Standards updated and expanded

EPIRBS
- Required to send location data when activated
- EPIRBs that operate only on 121.5/243 MHz and do not operate on 406 MHz is prohibited
  - 121.5 MHz satellite service ended in 2002 but was used by international aircraft flyover rescues
- Class A, Class B, Class S, or INMARSAT-E EPIRBs will no longer be certified
  - Class A, B, & S: 121.5/243 MHz, phased out
  - Inmarsat-E 1646 MHz beacons, INMARSAT satellite service discontinued
- One year transition period for certification
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Satellite Emergency Locator Beacons (SENDs)

- § 25.301 RTCM standards for reliability of tracking

AIS Search and Rescue Transponders (AIS-SARTs)

- International standards
  - Class A & B require USCG approval
AIS Aids to Navigation (ATONs) – send AIS messages (name and location)
  – Used for lighthouses and buoys
  – FCC certification is optional
  – Waiver required for IEC 62320-2 (Not in rules)
  – USCG approval required
  – Grant is similar to AIS
  – Grant condition: This device is an AIS-ATON.
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- VHF and DSC usage expanded
  - Permitted to operate on shore beaches and piers

- VHF Digital Small Message Services (VDSMS)
  - Short range digital messaging
  - Channel limitations: § 80.364(b)
    - Use nor permitted on or adjacent to safety and security channels
    - Include in User’s manual
  - RTCM standard: check for new emissions designators
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The US / EC Mutual Recognition Agreement on Marine Equipment (July 1, 2004)

AIS requires EC Accrediting Body Certificate
- “Wheelmark” and a USCG Approval Number (Issued by EC Notification Body) on the Label Exhibits
Part 95 PLBs

Land use: 406 MHz COSPAS/SARSAT

- New standards and technical requirements
  - G1D emission
  - One year transition period for certification
- Testing must be done at approved COSPAS/SARSAT facility
- New device labeling requirements for NOAA registration
  - One year transition period for certification
  - USCG approval required
Part 95 MSLDs

Maritime Survivor Location Devices

- Facilitate rescue of person in vicinity of vessel
- New standards
- Operate on phased out satellite frequency of 121.5 MHz or VHF emergency frequencies or AIS frequencies
  - Minimum of at least one of these frequencies
- Testing required at ISO/IEC accredited lab
- USCG approval required
Questions and Answers

Thanks!