

Responsible Actions with ELT exchange units and or replacements

Dated 23 January 2015

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A recent incident involving an Aircraft that crashed in Raglan showed a shortcoming in dealing with change of ELT's. As a result of the Engineer not advising RCC of the change of Hex # the aircraft crashed with an unregistered ELT. As a consequence RCC were unable to identify the ELT to determine if it was a false alert or a real alert. This led to unnecessary time delays and phone calls. I was able to identify whom I had sent the subject ELT to but again, I had not been advised of the Tail # involved.

INCIDENT Time Line

26/12/14 01:48 utc - ELT Alert received
26/12/14 01:51 utc – called previous registered owner of exchange ELT
26/12/14 02:01 utc – Called Lloyd Klee, located paper work that possibly indicates the ELT with HEX ID of alert may have been placed in a/c ZK-MBY by xxxxx Ltd. Gave me phone number of engineer.
26/12/14 02:11 Called the engineer. He is out of NZ and couldn't provide any assistance or contacts in NZ who could assist.
6/12/14 02:25 utc Called North Comms to obtain the aircraft rego and or PIC details from incident RCC0753/14 (crashed aircraft - Raglan) to see if the information correlates with this incident. Transferred to Police Officer on scene, xxxxx who advised the crashed a/c rego is ZK-CNI a Piper Cherokee
26/12/14 02:32 Call to xxx xxx Home number - no answer. Details from 406 rego on ZK-MBY Entering in search details on MBY returned contact details associated with a/c ZK-RVC
26/12/14 02:33 utc - Call to xxx xxx cell - 027 xxxxxxx Spoke first to xxx who then passed me to xxx. They are in Auckland and the aircraft ZK-RVC (last flown last Friday) is at the private strip at 202C x. While on phone located emails dated 23/12/14 indicating the ELT had been changed in RVC but with a different HEX ID (C00C56EC000029D) to that of the Alert.
26/12/14 02:40 utc - Call to AUMCC to see when last detected and also the number of hits at the original detection
26/12/14 02:45 utc - AUMCC called back. One hit only (no detections since) plus only one data point received by the satellite.
26/12/14 03:44 utc - No further detections and only one data point detected. Taking no further action.
26/12/14 04:17 utc - Unknown what a/c the ELT alert is associated with
26/12/14 22:51 utc - Call back from Police with the HEX ID. C00C56E8F00029D. This ELT was located in the crashed a/c ZK-CNI

Summary, A totally unacceptable and an avoidable situation. Hours of time wasted by RCC

To improve the situation, I wish to make it mandatory for any exchanged Kannad unit to advise RCC via email to

406registry@maritimenz.govt.nz and also CC the owners email address so that if there are any issues, RCC can follow up directly with the owner

You need to advise RCC

The Tail # ZK-

The Owner (if known)

Delete Hex xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Replaced with xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

If you wish to advise me at the time of order (as many of you do) I need the tail # that the exchanged unit is going into then I will undertake the advice to RCC for you and CC you that advice.



Lloyd Klee