

Product safety recall: Kongsberg RPT transponders

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We have been passed the attached product information bulletin relating to Kongsberg transponder models RPT316, RPT319 and RPT324 and spare end cap assemblies which we have been asked to bring to Members' attention.

PRODUCT INFORMATION BULLETIN



KONGSBERG

ISSUED DATE: 13 MAY 2005

PRODUCTS AFFECTED: TRANSPONDER MODELS RPT316, RPT319 AND RPT324 & SPARE END CAP ASSEMBLIES

PRODUCT RECALL

It has been identified that there is a possible safety concern on the RPT range of underwater acoustic transponders. The likelihood of a serious product safety incident is considered small, but Kongsberg is advising all customers and users that there is a product safety recall in place for all possible affected products and related spare parts as of this date.

BACKGROUND

The RPT transponder units are designed to incorporate a built-in gas pressure relief valve in the back end caps as an enhanced safety feature. This feature is intended to prevent the build up of an internal product pressure differential in the event of certain rare fault conditions.

After review of a customer feedback we have identified that there is a small possibility that the pressure relief valve on certain RPT units (and related spare end cap assemblies) may not function as designed. The failure of the relief valve to operate as intended may create an increased safety risk under certain rare fault conditions which may allow a gas pressure build up inside the unit:

- Faulty internal battery conditions
- Electrolysis from a sea-water ingress
- Ingress of pressurised helium gas (diving environment)

PROPOSED ACTIONS

All RPT units, and related spare end cap assemblies should be removed from service at the earliest opportunity, and returned to Kongsberg Maritime A.S or Kongsberg Maritime Ltd for test evaluation and possible remedial action for those products affected.

Prior to transporting any RPT products from an offshore site, or from onshore warehouse or storage, please ensure that the following additional safety actions have been performed:

- Follow procedure contained in "RPT transponder pressure relief valve verification and repair" procedure circulated on 18th January 2005.

A copy of this procedure is attached.

Once the safety procedure has been performed on all identified RPT products, please contact KMAS or KML Customer Support department for a Return Material Authorisation (RMA) number. Contact details are provided below. Once the RMA number has been provided, the units should be consigned to KSAS or KML Customer Support Department for evaluation and remedial work if required.

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PRODUCT INFORMATION BULLETIN



KONGSBERG

Kongsberg Maritime Contact Addresses:

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Customer Support Department (Offshore)
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