simy
Emergency Beacons

RTCM

ETSI

Manuel d'utilisation

Balise de détresse Homme à la mer

My-AIS©

Français - English - Deutsch - Español

www.simy-beacons.com

Table of contents

Congratulations

You have just acquired a My-AIS© emergency beacon by SIMY™. We would like to thank you for your purchase and hope the product will be to your full satisfaction.

My-AIS© is a new-generation "Man Overboard" emergency beacon, stemming from cutting-edge technological research in the field of maritime safety. Fitted with compact and high-yield electronics, and with a new long-range helical antenna, the My-AIS© beacon sends your GPS position and distress message to your surroundings. This beacon alerts nearby ships equipped with AIS "chart-plotter" receivers. Coastal search and safety stations who receive the signal will also be alerted; they will be sent your distress message and position so they can organise a search mission at sea.

Entirely designed and produced in France, the My-AIS© beacon was created with the aim of becoming the smallest and most high-performance beacon in the world. It can be easily integrated in even the thinnest and lightest life jackets on the market, and does not hinder crew movement on board.

It is simple and intuitive, with a robust design. My-AIS© complies with international and maritime standards in force, including ETSI EN 303 098 V1.2.1, RTCM 11901.1, and IEC 61108-1.

Syrlinks is one of the largest space telecommunication system designers and manufacturers (Rosetta-Philae space probe), and has been designing emergency satellite-operated beacons for several years now (Cospas-Sarsat, Argos). The company has put all its know-how and experience into making My-AIS© very compact, high-performance and reliable. Integrated into your life jacket, My-AIS© provides safety and serenity during your leisure and nautical activities.

For further information and to discuss our products, our contact details can be found on **www.simy-beacons.co.uk**.

Introduction

The contents of this user guide comply with the product and were updated prior to printing. Syrlinks reserves the right to make any required changes within this user guide, even partial ones, without prior notice. Previous versions of SIMY guides are available and can be downloaded from the following websites: **www.simy-beacons.co.uk**.

This guide was drafted with utmost care. Nonetheless, Syrlinks cannot be held liable should there be any mistakes or omissions. This also applies for any damage resulting from the use of information contained in this guide.

Warnings

Before integrating My-AIS© into your life jacket, make sure you read through the entire guide carefully so as to become familiar with how the beacon works (Self-Test, integration into the jacket, placing the attachments on the jacket for automatic activation, deactivating the beacon in the event of mishandling or a false alert).

The My-AIS© beacon is an alert device that must only be used in the event of a real emergency and imminent danger.

My-AIS© contains magnetic components used to activate the beacon (a small magnet was fitted into the cap). To ensure the beacon works properly, keep it away from all magnetic field sources (powerful magnets, loud speakers, speakers, etc.).

My-AIS© is a "man overboard" emergency beacon. It uses the AIS-MOB technology. The alert sent out by the beacon is a local alert and its range is between 5 and 10 nautical miles, depending on how rough the sea is. Ships fitted with AIS mapping (chart-plotting) receptors alone, or coastal safety stations located within the beacon's scope of operation will receive the emergency signal emitted by the beacon.

My-AIS© is not a person or object localisation system, and must not be used as such.

My-AIS© must only be used in the event of an emergency and real danger. Activating the beacon otherwise than in an emergency may lead to fines or a lawsuit against the user who voluntarily triggered a false alarm.

If the beacon is set off by accident (sound and light signal), deactivate it immediately and promptly inform the at-sea search and safety authorities.

The beacon's batteries can withstand an emergency signal lasting at least 24 hours, and will hold for 7 years after purchase. After the date marked on the label at the back of the beacon, please contact SIMY's Customer Service department for full reconditioning of the beacon (battery change) and recommissioning of the product.

My-AIS© is a watertight product, with specific batteries that cannot be purchased in major retail stores. Never try to open the beacon up yourself. Any attempt to open up the beacon will cause the immediate forfeit of the warranty, and SIMY cannot be held responsible in such cases.

Battery life and beacon operation can be tested by pressing the "self-test" button. If the self-test is carried out more than once a month, battery life will be reduced and the beacon's performance will no longer be guaranteed.

Important : If the beacon is deactivated after a long period of activity (more than 30 minutes), the battery must be replaced so as to guarantee nominal function the next time it is activated. Please contact SIMY's Customer Service department if this occurs, to arrange for battery renewal.

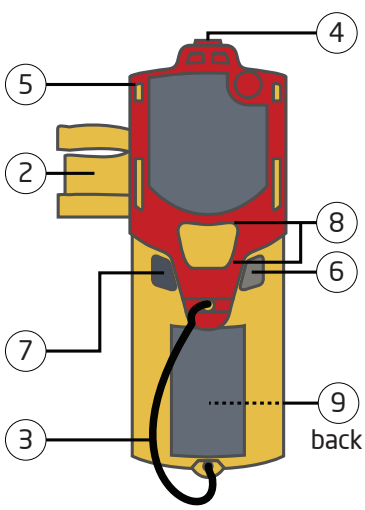
My-AIS© contains a GPS receiver. Never obstruct the area marked on the beacon, so the GPS position can be detected properly.

My-AIS© works thanks to low-power radio waves, only when the beacon has been activated. Never touch the antenna when the beacon is activated.

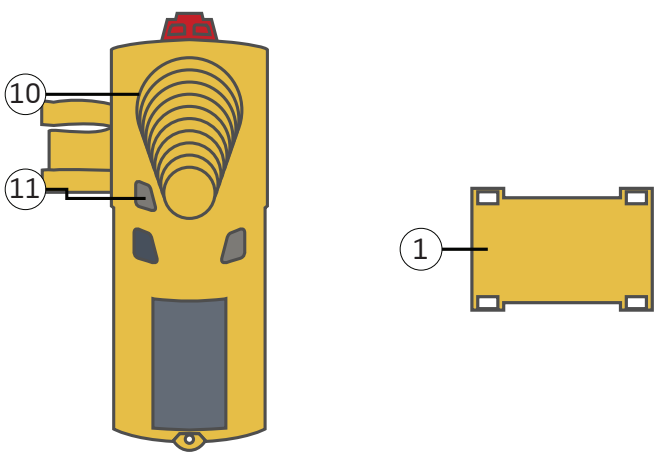
My-AIS© contains a helical spring antenna, folded up under the antenna cap. Once activated, be sure to keep the product about 30 cm away from your head and close/protect your eyes. Once deployed, the antenna measures about 14 cm high.

My-AIS© is a beacon used only to send a local alert a few nautical miles away. This beacon is not an EPIRB (Cospas-Sarsat).

Overview of My-AIS©

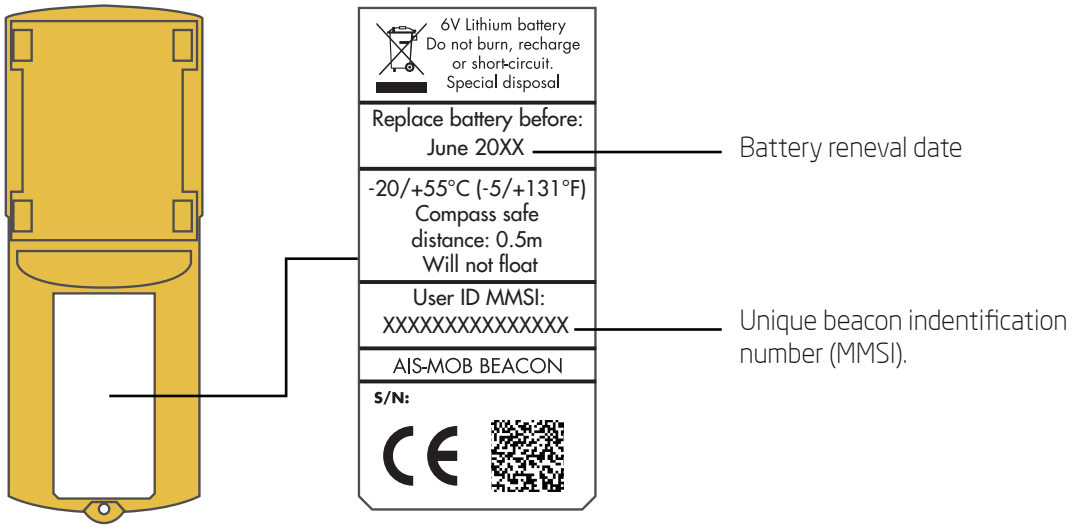


Beacon prior to activation



Beacon following activation
(cap ejected, antenna deployed)

1- Strap clip
2- Mouthpiece clip
3- Gaskets (small ropes)
4- Arming button
5- Antenna cap
6- Off and self-test button «OFF/TEST»
7- LED (white/red/green flash)
8- GPS area
9- Rear label
10- Deployed antenna
11- ON bouton
And this user guide.



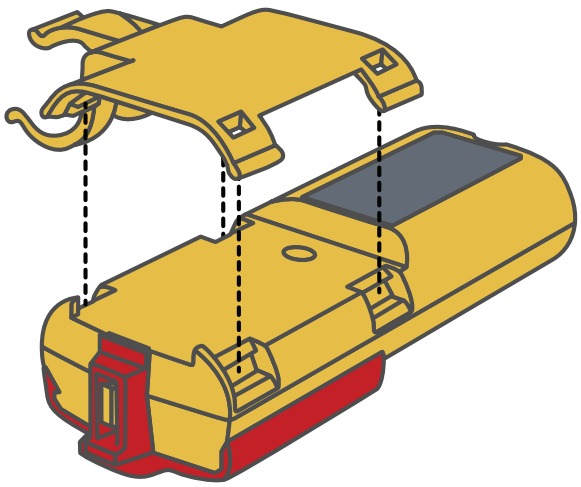
Installing the beacon in your life jacket

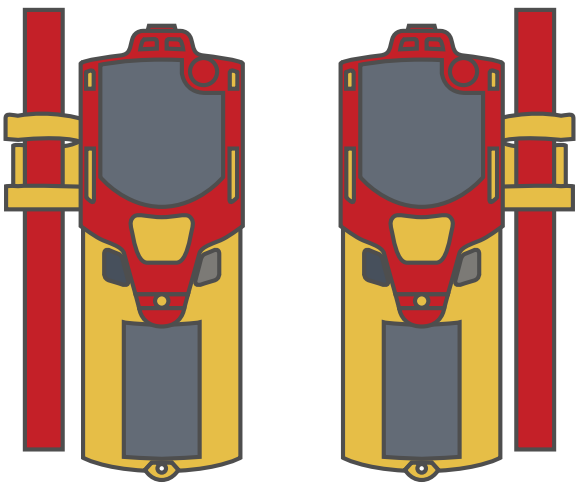
The My-AIS© beacon can be attached to the life jacked in two different ways:
- using the "mouthpiece" clip,
- using the "strap" clip.

Attaching the beacon using the "mouthpiece" clip

The mouthpiece is pre-assembled in the factory and clipped to the beacon prior to packaging. Depending on where the mouthpiece is on your life jacket, you can attach the mouthpiece on the left or right.

Once the mouthpiece clip has been attached, check that the 4 attachment points are affixed to the beacon. Insert the beacon's mouthpiece clip around your jacket's mouthpiece. The beacon is now attached.

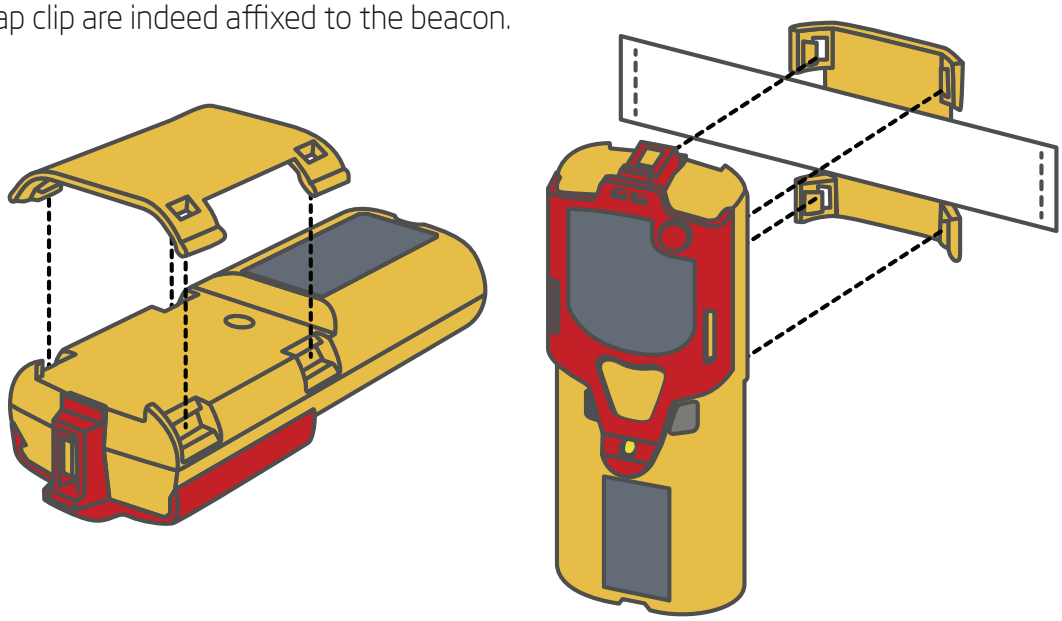




Can be mounted on the left or right

Attaching the beacon using the "strap" clip

Detach the mouthpiece clip from the beacon. Take hold of the strap clip and slide the fastening strap between the strap clip's attachment points. The strap can be placed horizontally or vertically compared to the clip, depending on your jacket's design.
Then attach the strap clip to the back of the beacon. Check that the 4 attachment points on the strap clip are indeed affixed to the beacon.



How to activate your beacon?

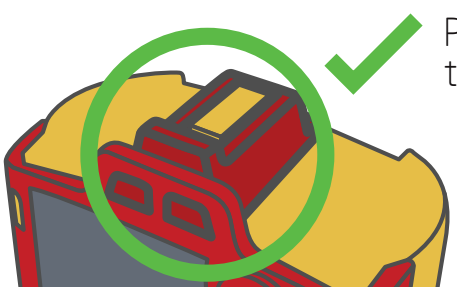
Caution: never activate the beacon if you are not in distress.
My-AIS© can be activated manually or automatically.
When the beacon is activated manually, it is done so independently from the life jacket. You, or the beacon user, must activate it in the event of an emergency.

Manual activation

There are two stages to manual activation:

Initial state of the beacon

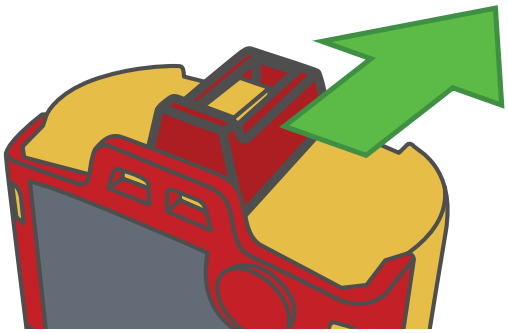
When the beacon is not being used, the arming clip must face the front so as to block the antenna cap.



Position the clip facing the front.

Arming the beacon

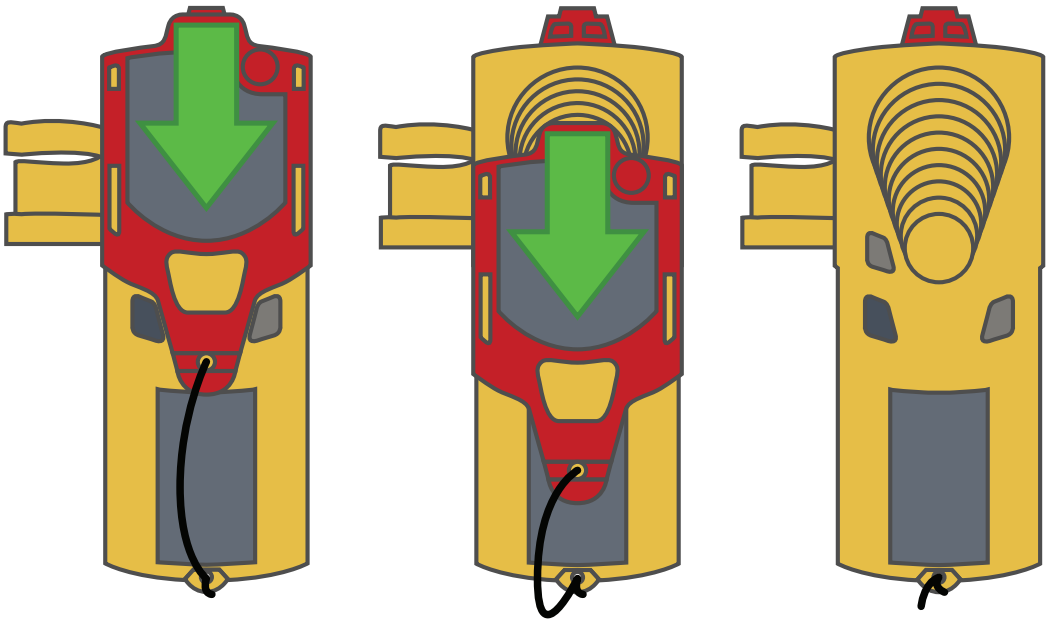
When the beacon is not being used, the arming clip must face the front so as to block the antenna cap..



Position the clip facing the back.

Activating the beacon

To activate/trigger the beacon, slide the antenna cap downwards. The cap is then ejected and the antenna is deployed. The beacon is activated and the emergency signal is sent out.



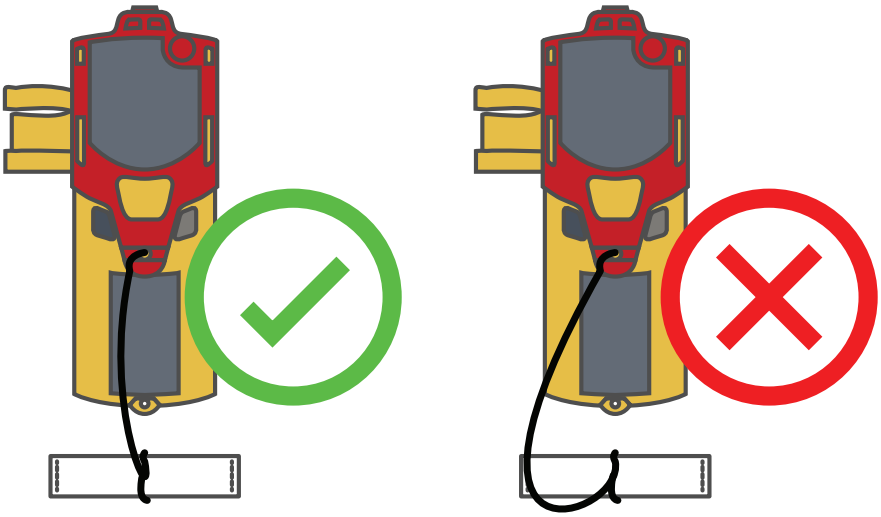
Important: Five seconds after activation, an initial signal (buzzer) will sound for two seconds. The white signalling LED will then flash slowly for twelve seconds. You can switch the beacon off during this time if it was activated involuntarily or by accident.
After those twelve seconds, the beacon will send out a radio wave AIS-MOB emergency signal.

Use in "automatic trigger" mode

To use the beacon in "automatic trigger" mode, following the instructions below:
1. Place the beacon on your life jacket using the strap clip or mouthpiece clip (see page 18-19);
2. Attach one end of the gasket in the hole provided on the beacon's cap;
3. Attach the other end of the gasket to a strap located towards the bottom of the jacket. The gasket must be taut and placed in vertical alignment with the beacon;
4. Arm the beacon and close the jacket.

Caution: Before closing your jacket, position the arming clip facing upwards (cap blocked) to avoid accidentally triggering the beacon when you close your jacket. The gasket must be taut, but not too much to prevent it from being triggered at the wrong moment when you arm the beacon once fitted onto the jacket and once the jacket has been folded.

In a man overboard situation, the jacket will inflate in just a few seconds. The gasket will become taut and will make the cap slide downwards.
The cap will be ejected after sliding for about one centimetre and the beacon will start to emit its distress signal.



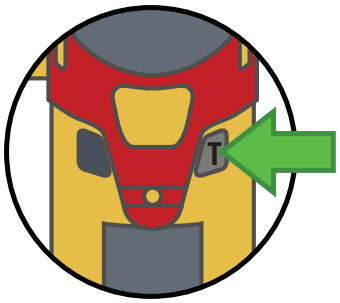
What happens when the beacon is in operation?

The buzzer emits a sound signal as soon as an AIS-MOB message has been sent by the beacon. The beacon sends 8 AIS-MOB messages per minute.

When activated:
- The Flash LED flashes 3 times every 2 seconds;
- The red LED flashes twice every 2 seconds, so long as the GPS position has not yet been detected by the beacon;
- Once the GPS position has been detected, the red LED will stop flashing;
- If the GPS position was lost, the red LED will flash again once every 2 seconds until the GPS signal has been recovered.

Deactivating your beacon

At any time after the My-AIS© has been activated, you can cancel its activity by holding the "T" button down for a long time.



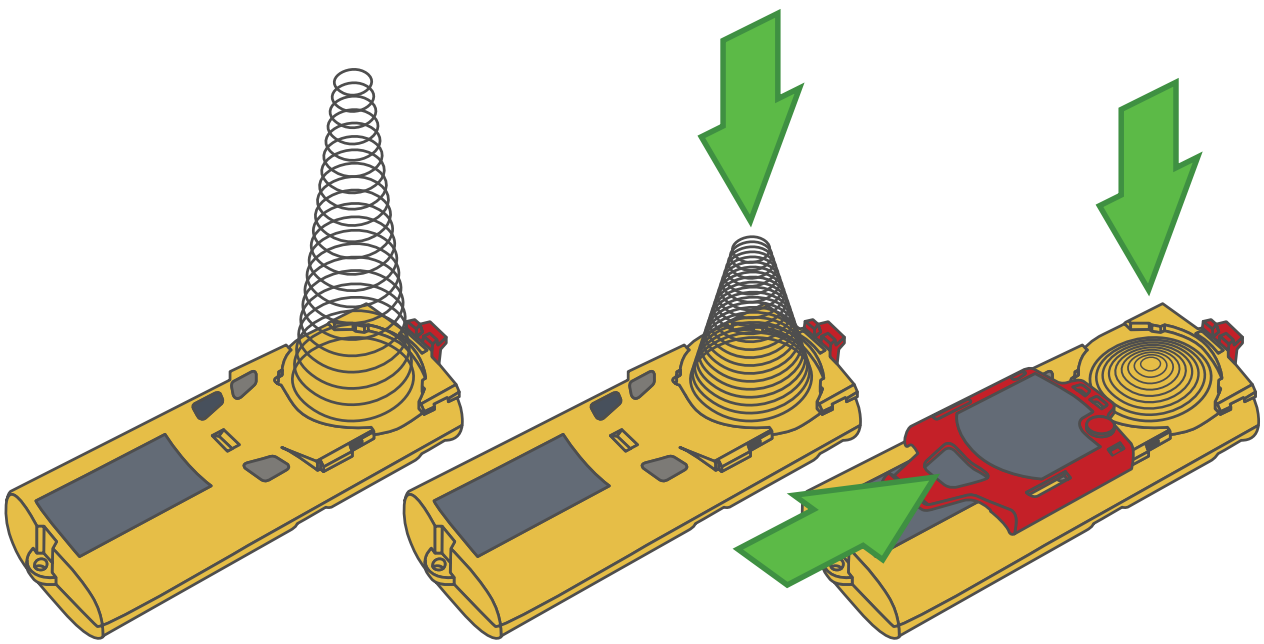
Important: Stay pressed down for at least 3 seconds, until the red LED flashes 5 times. As soon as the red flashing starts, you can remove your finger and the beacon will switch off. The distress signal will no longer be emitted.

Replacing the antenna under the cap

If the beacon was activated by mistake, and after having switched it off, please follow the instructions below to fold the antenna back and put the beacon's cap back on:

1. Push the antenna vertically downwards;
2. Keeping the antenna flat and folded away, lift the cap towards the top of the beacon so it goes back to its initial position;
3. Disarm the beacon by blocking the cap with the arming clip.

Caution: As there is an activation magnet in the beacon's cap, it may reactivate once the cap is put back into place. If this happens, hold down the OFF/TEST button until the red LED flashes 5 times, then release the OFF/TEST button.



SELF-TEST

Remember to regularly test your My-AIS© beacon using the OFF/TEST self-test button.

Short test

To begin the test, press once on the OFF/TEST button. Five seconds will pass and the buzzer will sound. The red LED will flash for one second and the test result will appear in the form of a green, orange or red colour signal.

After a short time, the beacon will give off a flash that indicates battery life:
- **Green flash:** good remaining battery life;
- **Orange flash:** the battery must be replaced within 3 months by SIMY's Customer Service department;
- **Red flash:** the battery no longer works, contact SIMY's Customer Service department to arrange for the battery to be replaced.

Caution: do not run the test more than once a week to preserve battery life.

Full test

The full test ensures the My-AIS© beacon can detect the GPS position and emits a trial AIS-MOB signal. To run the test, make sure the beacon is placed outside, with a clear view of the sky.
To launch the full test, hold the OFF/TEST button down. The beacon will emit a first beep lasting one second, and the LED will light up red. Once the red LED has switched off, release the OFF/TEST button

The full test sequence will then start:
- The red LED flashes every two seconds until the GPS position has been found. Finding the GPS position may take up to 5 minutes, depending on visible satellites;
- Once the GPS position has been found, the red LED will stop flashing;
- An AIS signal made up of 8 messages is then sent out, accompanied by 8 beeps. If you have an AIS receiver, "MOB-TEST" will appear on the mapping system, along with an MMSI number.

Once the Full Test is finished, My-AIS© will emit a series of flashes and sounds, providing you with the test results. Possible combinations are as follows:
- **One GREEN flash:** the GPS and AIS work properly. Everything is OK;
- **One ORANGE flash and a beep:** Everything works properly but the battery needs replacing within 3 months after the test;
- **One RED flash and a beep:** the GPS and AIS work properly but the battery must be replaced immediately;
- **Two RED flashes and a beep:** the GPS no longer works, the beacon cannot be used;
- **Three RED flashes and a beep:** the entire beacon (GPS + AIS) no longer works. The beacon cannot be used.

The beacon can be switched off at any time during the full test.
To do so, hold down the OFF/TEST button until the red LED flashes 5 times, then release the button and the beacon will switch off.
Caution: The full test must not be run more than once a month, so as not to deteriorate battery life.

SIMY warranty

Your My-AIS© beacon is under warranty for a period of two years from the date of purchase, and is guaranteed for any manufacturing defects (parts and labour).

If you observe a malfunction in your beacon (namely during the SELF-TEST), please contact SIMY's Customer Service department (www.simy-beacons.com). Proof of purchase may be required. During the contractual warranty period, SIMY may repair or replace your beacon, depending on the type of failure observed.

Only send your product back to SIMY if requested to do so and once you have been provided with a return number by SIMY's Customer Service department.

Postage fees for returning the product are to be covered by the customer. Fees for sending the fixed or replaced beacon back to customers are covered by SIMY.

The warranty does not apply in the following cases:
- attempt to open the product;
- damage to the plastic casing proving unusual usage of the beacon;
- deterioration of the helical antenna caused by the antenna being deployed and folded back
  multiple times;
- loss of beacon parts (caps, arming clips, beacon attachment clips);
- any other abnormal use of the beacon, not recommended in this guide (deep immersion causing watertightness failure, etc.).

European declaration of conformity

Syrlinks declares that this My-AIS© beacon complies with all essential standards and other applicable provisions set out in 1999/5/EC standards. The declaration of conformity is available on **www.simy-beacons.co.uk**.

Specifications

EN 303 098 V1.2.1
IEC 61108-1
RTCM 11901.1

Operating temperature	-20°C to 55°C
Storage temperature	-20°C to 55°C
Compass safe distance	0.5m
Water immersion	IP67

Model	MY-AIS
Size	115x40x22mm
Weight	95g

Frequency	AIS1, 161.975MHz / AIS2, 162.025MHz
Tx Power	1W EIRP
Data rate	9600bps
Modulation	GMSK
Synchronization	UTC
Messages	1: User ID, Position, COG, SOG 14: User ID, «MOB ACTIVE» / «MOB TEST»
Range	5 to 10 nautic miles typical

Receiving channels	72
Frequency	L1 - 1575.42MHz
Sensitivity - Tracking, Reacquisition	-163dBm, -159dBm
Position update	Every 20 seconds
Position accuracy	<2.5m autonomous

Type	6V Primary Lithium, non-rechargeable
Operating time	Minimum 24hours at -20°C
Battery life	Replace batery before the date given on the backside label. Contact SIMY customer service for changing battery after activation.

Note: Specifications are subjet to change without prior notice.

My-AIS©

The world's smallest AIS-MOB device

La plus petite balise AIS-MOB au monde

Ideal for compact Life Jackets
Idéal pour les gilets de sauvetages compacts

50% Smaller & Lighter
50% plus petite et légère

New long-range radio antenna
Nouvelle antenne longue portée radio

Manual or Automatic Activation
Activation manuelle ou automatique

72-Channel GPS
GPS 72 canaux

Strobe LED Beacon
LED flash de signalisation

Battery life : 7 years
Durée de vie des piles

Sound alert when activated (to avoid false alerts)
Alerte sonore à l'activation (évite les fausses alertes)

gency Beacons

www.simy-beacons.com

Made by Syrlinks