



EASA Safety Information Bulletin

SIB No.: 2008-58R1
Issued: 17 December 2008

Subject: Unintended 8.33 kHz / 25 kHz Channel Spacing Switching

Ref. Publication: Garmin Service Advisory No.:0822 dated 03 June 2008

Description: Garmin has published the referenced advisory document (attached as page 3 of this bulletin) to inform owners and operators of aircraft equipped with Garmin non-WAAS GNS 400 and GNS 500 units that an issue has been identified, whereby audio reception may become garbled.

After adjusting the standby frequency to different channel spacing than the one currently used, e.g. change to 25 kHz channel spacing frequency for standby while listening on an 8.33 kHz channel, the active receiver will be erroneously set to the new pre-selected, not activated channel spacing. This could lead to disturbance because of possible reception of the adjacent channels. In the opposite case the reception signal quality is reduced, resulting in poor receiving audio quality. The transmitter is not affected by this deficiency and will always operate in the selected mode.

After reviewing the available information, EASA concurs with the Garmin advisory and fully supports the recommendations (paragraph "immediate action required") contained therein. This SIB is published to ensure that all owners and operators of affected aircraft, registered in European Union Member States or associated countries, are aware of these recommendations.

Garmin has recently developed a solution for the described deficiency, introduced with Software Service Bulletin (SW SB) 0844 for GNS 400 units and SW SB 0845 for GNS 500 units, both dated 14 November 2008.

Applicability: All aircraft that have Garmin non-WAAS GNS 400 Series (GPS 400, GNC 420, GNC 420A, GNS 430, GNS 430A) units installed with main software version 5.03, and all aircraft that have Garmin non-WAAS GNS 500 Series (GPS 500, GPS 500 TAWS, GNS 530, GNS 530 TAWS, GNS 530A, GNS 530A TAWS) units installed with Main Software Version 6.03.

These units are known to be installed on, but not limited to, Part 23 certificated aircraft.

Contacts:

For further information on the available modifications, contact Garmin Europe Product Support, Telephone +44 (0)87 0850 1243, Facsimile +44 (0)23 8052 4004, or www.garmin.com.

For any other question, contact the Airworthiness Directives, Safety Management & Research Section, Certification Directorate, EASA; E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu.



SERVICE ADVISORY

NO.: 0822

TO: All Garmin Aviation Service Centers
DATE: 03 June 2008
SUBJECT: Non-WAAS GNS 400/500 Series COM Receiver Frequency Tuning

AFFECTED PRODUCTS

All non-WAAS GNS 400 Series units with main software version 5.03 and all non-WAAS GNS 500 Series units with main software version 6.03 configured for 8.33 kHz COM frequency channel spacing are affected.


NOTE

8.33 kHz COM frequency channel spacing is only used in Europe and is not approved for use in the United States.

DESCRIPTION

Garmin has identified an issue, whereby the GNS 400/500 COM receiver may become garbled.

IMMEDIATE ACTION REQUIRED

If the COM standby frequency is changed or if the COM receiver has poor or garbled reception press the COM Flip-flop key () twice to resolve this issue.

RESOLUTION

Garmin will correct this issue in GNS 400 Series Main Software Version 5.04 and GNS 500 Series Main Software Version 6.04.

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