

TECHNICAL BULLETIN TB06-2020

Jotron EPIRBs have been issued new Cospas-Sarsat TAC numbers (Approval numbers) which require new Software to be used when programming.



Dealers/Distributors: Please download TronLink, EPIRB v.4.2.0 (or newer), available from [our web](#) as soon as possible!

Jotron EPIRBs are supplied precoded with “Serial protocol” and Cospas-Sarsat approval number (TAC). Due to limitations in individual allocated serial numbers on approved Beacon models with GPS, Tron 60S/GPS and Tron 40 VDR Float Free Capsule have been assigned with new Cospas-Sarsat approval (TAC) numbers when serial numbers exceed these serial numbers:

EPIRB model	Old TAC Number	New TAC number	From serial number	When
Tron 40VDR	185	318	16385	September 2019
Tron 60GPS	222	334	16385	~March 2021
Tron 60S	222	334	40000	~March 2021

The TAC numbers are both printed on the labels on the EPIRBs, and coded into the EPIRBs using our programming software.

For some time, we have had available both the old PR40 and newer TronLINK EPIRB software on our website. **From December 1st 2020, we will remove the old PR40 from our website and you MUST download v.4.2.0 (or newer) of TronLink, EPIRB from [our website](#)** since the older software cannot program the new Cospas-Sarsat TAC numbers!

Please see below information on what occurs when programming Tron 60GPS and Tron 40VDR before and after serial number 16383:

Serial number on label	Serial number encoded	C-S Approval number (TAC)		label		Comment
		Tron 40VDR	Tron 60GPS	Tron 40VDR	Tron 60GPS	
16382	16382	185	222	TAC=185	TAC=222	PR40 or TronLink EPIRB
16383	16383	185	222	TAC=185	TAC=222	
16384	0					NOT ALLOWED
16385	1	318	334	TAC=318	TAC=334	TronLink EPIRB, v.4.1.0 or higher
16386	2	318	334	TAC=318	TAC=334	

So for serial number of 16385 and higher, the labeled serial number on the unit and the encoded are not the same, but can easily be found by adding 16384 to the encoded serial number.

See example below showing the difference between the last Tron40VDR coded with Cospas-Sarsat approval no 185 (TAC no), and first coded as no 318. Note that on the programming report the actual serial number of the EPIRB is shown on line 3, and actual coded Serial ID is shown on the second redline marking below.

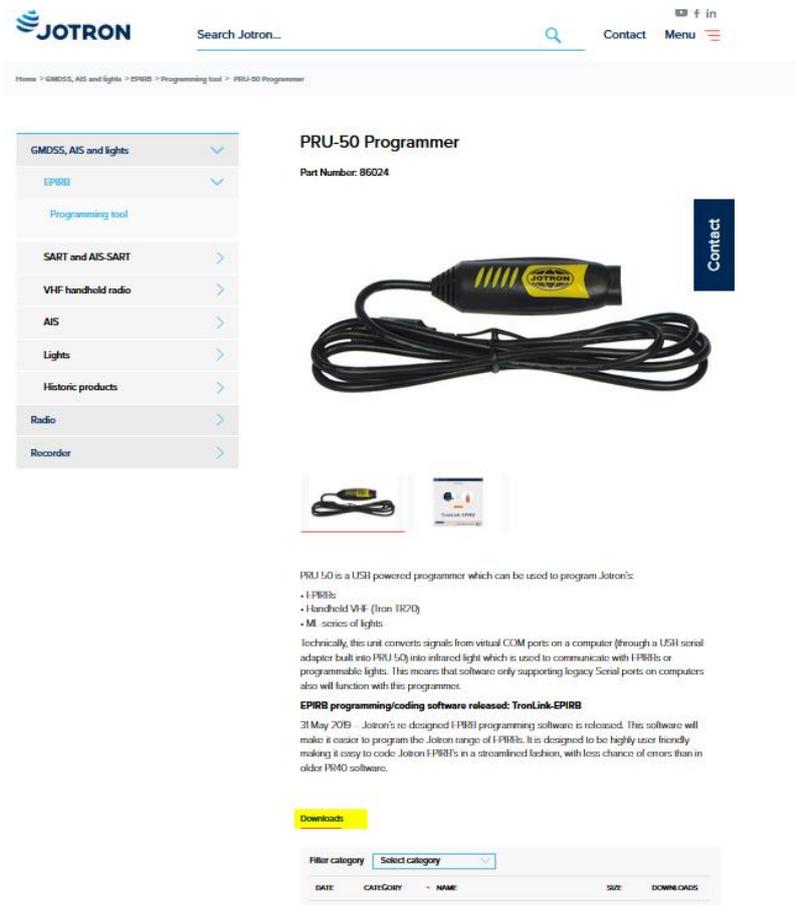
Tron 40VDR Programming Report	Tron 40VDR Programming Report
Beacon serialno: 16383 Bracket serialno: 1122 Country code: 258 Protocol: Serial std. location 406 Hex message: FFFE2F90262E7FFF7FDFF92F15B783E0F66C	Beacon serialno: 16385 Bracket serialno: 1122 Country code: 258 Protocol: Serial std. location 406 Hex message: FFFE2F90264F80017FDFF9BF093783E0F66C
Battery Expiry: FB-40 Bracket type: FB-40 Checksum: F594C	Battery Expiry: 08 2022 Bracket type: FB-40 Checksum: AB4E3
Serial std. location Hex Code, UIN: 204C5CFFFEFFBFF Serial ID: 16383 Cospas/Sarsat appr: 185 Category: Epirb	Serial std. location Hex Code, UIN: 204C9F0002FFBFF Serial ID: 1 Cospas/Sarsat appr: 318 Category: Epirb
Vessel Information Radio call sign: MY CALL Hull ID number: Vessel name: TEST <small>Former vessel name: TE ST</small> IMO number: Additional info:	Vessel Information Radio call sign: AA Hull ID number: Vessel name: TEST IMO number: Additional info:
Miscellaneous Data Replaces beacon: ----- 121.5 MHz homing: Sweep down 121.5 Morse code: V	Miscellaneous Data Replaces beacon: ----- 121.5 MHz homing: Sweep down 121.5 Morse code: V
Programming data Program version: 4.1.0 Jotron dealer no: 1 Programming station: Tjodalyng Programmed by: mads-l Date: 2019 Sep 13	Programming data Program version: 4.1.0 Jotron dealer no: 1 Programming station: Tjodalyng Programmed by: mads-l Date: 2019 Sep 13

Below table shows Tron 60S before and after serial number 40000:

Serial number on label	Serial number encoded	C-S Approval number (TAC)	label	Comment
39998	39998	222	TAC=222	PR40 or TronLink EPIRB
39999	39999	222	TAC=222	
40000	40000	318	TAC=334	TronLink EPIRB, v.4.2.0 or higher
40001	40001	318	TAC=334	

For EPIRBs without GPS like Tron 60S, the labeled serial number on the unit and the encoded will still remain the same, but it is still same importance to use latest TronLink, EPIRB software to get correct the Cospas-Sarsat Approval number (TAC) encoded into the EPIRB.

Software is available on our website in “Download” section under PRU-50 programmer available for Jotron Dealers/Distributors:



Home > GMDSS, AIS and lights > EPIRB > Programming tool > PRU-50 Programmer

PRU-50 Programmer
Part Number: 86024

PRU 50 is a USB powered programmer which can be used to program Jotron's:

- EPIRBs
- Handheld VHF (Iron 1K20)
- M1 series of lights

Technically, this unit converts signals from virtual COM ports on a computer (through a USB serial adapter built into PRU 50) into infrared light which is used to communicate with EPIRBs or programmable lights. This means that software only supporting legacy Serial ports on computers also will function with this programmer.

EPIRB programming/coding software released: TronLink-EPIRB

31 May 2019 - Jotron's re designed EPIRB programming software is released. This software will make it easier to program the Jotron range of EPIRBs. It is designed to be highly user friendly making it easy to code Jotron EPIRBs in a streamlined fashion, with less chance of errors than in older PIMO software.

Downloads:

DATE	CATEGORY	NAME	SIZE	DOWNLOADS

<https://jotron.com/product/pru-50-programmer/>

Jotron urge all Dealers/Distributors who sell/install/program our EPIRBs to distribute this letter and information within their own organization.

Should you have any questions related to the information given in this Bulletin, please contact Jotron Support Dept at support@jotron.com

This Bulletin replaces the TB03-2019 Tron 40VDR new C-S approval (TAC)

Jotron Support Dept,
Larvik, November 2020