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AC NO: 20-87

DATE: 5/7/73

ADVISORY CIRCULAR

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

SUBJECT:

AIRBORNE HOMING AND ALERTING EQUIPMENT FOR USE WITH EMERGENCY LOCATOR TRANSMITTERS

- 1. <u>PURPOSE</u>. This advisory circular sets forth the availability of recommended basic characteristics for airborne homing and alerting equipment for use with emergency locator transmitters (ELT).
- 2. <u>DEFINITIONS</u>. Airborne homing and alerting equipment for use with ELTs. These devices are divided into three categories as follows:
 - a. <u>Category A.</u> The homing equipment covered by this category comprises a homing adapter which provides steering information and which can be connected to an airborne communication receiver.
 - b. <u>Category B.</u> The homing equipment covered by this category comprises a complete airborne homing system. It contains a fixed frequency receiver operating on 121.5 and/or 243 megahertz and provides an alerting signal when the signal from an ELT is detected and provides steering information to the source of the signal.
 - c. Category C. This is an airborne alerting and search receiver operable on either batteries or an aircraft power supply. It is a fixed frequency receiver on 121.5 and/or 243 megahertz. It contains a device to signal an alert if a signal from an ELT is detected and may provide signal strength indications for build and fade search procedures.
- 3. AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS. RTCA Special Committee 124 has developed a new type document which is neither a Minimum Performance Standard nor a Minimum Operational Characteristic. This document sets forth the recommended basic characteristics for special airborne radio receiving equipment for the detection of emergency locator transmitter signals and homing devices. Its title and document number are:

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Recommended Basic Characteristics for

Airborne Radio Homing and Alerting Equipment for use with Emergency Locator Transmitters (ELT) DO-154

Copies of this document may be obtained from:

RTCA Secretariat
Suite 655
1717 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
Price \$6.00

Payment may be made either in cash or by check or money order payable to Radio Technical Commission for Aeronautics. Please refer to the document number, DO-154, or to the title, or both.

C. R. MELUGIN, JR.

Acting Director, Flight Standards Service

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION Washington, D.C. 20591

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