**Offshore Special Regulation 4.19 – PLB registration**

**PLBs to be registered to the actual boat when racing**

A submission from Sten Edholm, Special Regulations Sub-Committee

**Purpose or Objective**

To propose a mandatory registration of PLBs in races

**Proposal**

**New text**

5.01.1.i Fitted with a PLB unit, as with other types of EPIRB, should be properly registered with the appropriate authority. PLB shall generally be registered to a yacht and the Race Organizer shall demand a list of which individuals that are using each PLB when racing. In case there are individual crew members that carry personal PLB, these shall also be reported to the Race Organizers Office.

**Current Position**

5.01.1.i Fitted with a PLB unit (as with other types of EPIRB, should be properly registered with the appropriate authority.

**Reason**

There are boats that have a complete set of PLBs for all crew members that come and go during races. These PLBs should all be officially registered on the boat to the appropriate authority and also individually registered at the Race Organizers Office on the crew list for each race.

There are however also individual sailors that have personal PLB and bring them for racing. These PLB should for each race be registered at the Race Organizers Office to maintain control if a PLB is activated during the race and the appropriate MRCC is alerted by the PLB.

This follows recommendations from the US Sailing Report on the Rambler accident at Fastnet Race 2011.