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## ACR PLB-425

# ACR ResQLink View PLB 425 Personal Locator Beacon User Manual

MODEL: PLB-425 | BRAND: ACR

## 1. Introduction and Overview

The ACR ResQLink View PLB 425 is a buoyant personal locator beacon designed to transmit an SOS distress signal with GPS position to search and rescue forces worldwide. This device is essential for enhancing safety during hiking, boating, camping, climbing, RVing, and all outdoor adventures, especially in remote areas without cellular service. It operates on the 406 MHz emergency distress signal with a 121.5 MHz homing signal, requiring no subscription for emergency activation.

The ResQLink View features a digital display for clear status updates, multi-constellation GPS (Galileo & GPS) for accurate positioning, and both LED and Infrared strobe lights for visual signaling to rescuers.

## 2. Key Features

- **SOS Distress Signal:** Once activated, an SOS distress signal with GPS position is sent directly to Search and Rescue forces worldwide using the 406 MHz Emergency Distress Signal with 121.5 MHz Homing Signal. No subscription is required for this emergency service.
- **Compact and Durable Design:** Small, rugged, and lightweight, this personal locator beacon is buoyant and includes various attachment clips (belt clip, oral inflation tube clip, straps, and lanyards) for increased wearability.
- **Non-Emergency Testing:** Send pre-canned non-emergency self-test and GPS test messages to multiple contacts via text message (SMS) and email with a customized message using the optional 406Link testing subscription.
- **Global Coverage:** Utilizes the 3 satellite constellations of COSPAS-SARSAT, ensuring your distress message reaches Search and Rescue agencies worldwide without the need for a rescue monitoring center.
- **Visual Signals:** A bright LED Strobe light and an Infrared Strobe light provide multiple visual signals to rescuers, aiding in nighttime or low-visibility conditions.
- **Digital Display:** Provides real-time feedback on device status, GPS coordinates, and battery life.

## 3. Setup

### 3.1 Registration

Before using your ResQLink View PLB 425, it is mandatory to register the device with the appropriate national authority (e.g., NOAA in the United States). Registration ensures that search and rescue personnel have access to your emergency contact information and vessel/personal details in the event of an activation. Failure to register may delay rescue efforts.

### 3.2 Battery Information

The device comes with 1 Lithium Metal battery included. The battery has a life of 28 hours during continuous operation after activation and a shelf life of 5 years from the date of manufacture. Always check the battery expiration date on the device.

### 3.3 Attachment Options

The ResQLink View PLB 425 includes several attachment accessories to ensure it can be securely carried and easily accessible in an emergency:

- **Belt Clip:** For attaching to a belt or backpack strap.
- **PFD Oral Inflation Tube Clip:** For securing to a Personal Flotation Device.
- **Attachment Strap:** For versatile mounting options.
- **Adhesive Skins:** For semi-permanent attachment to flat surfaces.

Ensure the device is attached in a location where the antenna can be deployed easily and has a clear view of the sky when activated.

## 4. Operating Instructions

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### 4.1 Self-Test

Regular self-tests are crucial to ensure your PLB is functioning correctly without initiating an actual distress call. The ResQLink View allows for both a basic self-test and a GPS self-test.



Figure 1: ACR ResQLink View PLB 425 with key features highlighted.

1. **Deploy Antenna:** Unclip and extend the antenna to a 90-degree angle, pointing towards the sky.
2. **Initiate Self-Test:** Press and hold the 'TEST' button (often marked with a 'T' or checkmark) for approximately 1 second.
3. **Observe Indicators:** The device will perform a diagnostic check. The digital display will show 'TEST PASS' and the LED indicator will flash green. If a GPS test is performed, it will also indicate GPS acquisition.

4. **Important:** Do not hold the antenna during a self-test, as this can interfere with the signal.

Your browser does not support the video tag.

*Video 1: This video demonstrates how to perform a self-test on the ACR ResQLink 400 and 425 series Personal Locator Beacons. It shows the steps for deploying the antenna, pressing the self-test button, and observing the LED indicators and digital display for a successful test.*

## 4.2 Emergency Activation

Only activate your PLB in a genuine life-threatening emergency. False alarms can divert critical rescue resources.

1. **Clear View of Sky:** Ensure the PLB has an unobstructed view of the sky for optimal GPS signal acquisition.
2. **Deploy Antenna:** Unclip and extend the antenna to a 90-degree angle, pointing towards the sky.
3. **Activate:** Slide the protective cover away from the 'ON' button (often marked with a power symbol). Press and hold the 'ON' button for 2 seconds until the red LED flashes and the display shows 'GPS ACQUIRING'.
4. **Maintain Position:** Keep the PLB in an upright position with the antenna pointing towards the sky. Once GPS is acquired, the red LED will turn green, and the display will show your coordinates and '406 SENT!'.
5. **Do Not Turn Off:** Do not turn off the beacon until rescue personnel have arrived and instructed you to do so.

Your browser does not support the video tag.

*Video 2: This video provides a step-by-step guide on how to activate the ACR ResQLink 400 and 425 series Personal Locator Beacons in an emergency situation. It covers antenna deployment, pressing the activation button, and what to expect on the digital display.*

## 4.3 Deactivation

To deactivate the beacon after an emergency or accidental activation:

1. **Press and Hold:** Press and hold the 'ON' button for 3 seconds. The device will power down.
2. **Stow Antenna:** Once deactivated, fold the antenna back into its secured position.
3. **Report Accidental Activation:** If activated accidentally, immediately contact your national search and rescue authority to report the false alarm.

## 5. Maintenance

Proper maintenance ensures the reliability of your ResQLink View PLB 425:

- **Regular Self-Tests:** Perform monthly self-tests to verify operational readiness.
- **Battery Replacement:** The internal battery is not user-replaceable. It must be replaced by an authorized service center when it expires or after an emergency activation. Refer to the battery expiration date on the device.
- **Cleaning:** Clean the device with a damp cloth. Do not use harsh chemicals or abrasive cleaners.
- **Storage:** Store the PLB in a cool, dry place, away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- **Inspection:** Periodically inspect the device for any signs of damage, cracks, or corrosion. Ensure the antenna is free from obstruction and the protective cover for the activation button is intact.

## 6. Troubleshooting

If you encounter issues with your ResQLink View PLB 425, consider the following:

- **Self-Test Failure:** If a self-test fails (e.g., no green LED, error message on display), ensure the antenna is fully deployed and you have a clear view of the sky. If the issue persists, contact ACR customer support or an authorized service center.
- **No GPS Acquisition:** During a GPS test or activation, ensure the device has an unobstructed view of the sky. Obstacles like dense foliage, buildings, or being indoors can prevent GPS signal acquisition.
- **Battery Low/Expired:** If the battery indicator shows low power or the expiration date has passed, the battery must be replaced by an authorized service center.
- **Physical Damage:** Any physical damage to the casing, antenna, or buttons may compromise the device's waterproof integrity and functionality. Do not attempt to repair it yourself; contact an authorized service center.

## 7. Specifications

| Specification              | Value                                       |
|----------------------------|---|
| Item Weight                | 5.3 ounces                                  |
| Product Dimensions         | 4.52 x 2.03 x 1.49 inches                   |
| Item Model Number          | PLB-425                                     |
| Batteries                  | 1 Lithium Metal battery required (included) |
| Display Size               | 1 Inches                                    |
| Battery Life (Operational) | 28 Hours                                    |
| Voice Command              | Buttons                                     |
| Special Feature            | Waterproof                                  |
| Connectivity Technology    | GPS   |
| Map Type                   | Satellite, Worldwide                        |

## 8. What's in the Box

Your ACR ResQLink View PLB 425 package includes:

- ACR ResQLink View PLB 425 Unit
- Belt Clip
- PFD Oral Inflation Tube Clip
- Attachment Strap
- Adhesive Skins



Figure 2: The ResQLink View PLB 425 shown with its various attachment accessories.

## 9. Warranty and Support

The ACR ResQLink View PLB 425 comes with a **5 Year Limited Warranty**. For warranty claims, technical support, or service inquiries, please contact ACR customer service. It is recommended to register your product to facilitate warranty service and receive important product updates.

For additional resources and contact information, visit the official ACR website: [www.acrartex.com](http://www.acrartex.com)