

# **MBITR USER NOTIFICATION**

## **AN/PRC-148 (MBITR/ JEM) BATTERY**

**October 2007**

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The AN/PRC-148 (MBITR/JEM) rechargeable battery is listed in FEDLOG as NSN 6140-01-487-1153. A FEDLOG query will result in information that certain vendors other than Thales are authorized providers of MBITR batteries.

Thales Communications Inc. (Thales) has identified performance and safety concerns regarding batteries supplied by companies other than Thales. Thales believes that its batteries are the only batteries that have been tested to the same stringent requirements as the Thales battery, e.g., HALO OPS to 35,000 feet, immersion in saltwater to 20 meters, shipboard certification, aircraft transport certification, HERO, HERP, and HERF. To our knowledge no manufacturer other than Thales has provided such data. Thales and others are currently attempting to acquire access to the test reports that were used to certify non-Thales batteries for use with the MBITR, JEM and VA/ VAA. Thus, the only way to ensure you are getting a tested battery that will properly work with a MBITR/JEM radio is to purchase a Thales battery.

The Thales radios, vehicle adapters, and batteries are designed with software and circuitry which communicate with each other with regard to fuel gauge accuracy, overload, surge and fuse protection, as well as between our chargers and the batteries for the recharging parameters. Our batteries are “smart batteries” that require input and feedback between radio, charger and batteries for safe and efficient performance. Thales uses optimal cells to provide maximum battery life for our radios and which meet DoD battery life specifications. In addition to issues concerning the operability of the radio, there is no assurance that future software versions of the radio and chargers will work with non-Thales batteries.

Moreover, Thales is unable to verify how these batteries will react when being charged in the Thales chargers, the Thales Vehicle Adapter (VA), and other OEM ancillaries. **Any damage to the MBITR/JEM as a result of using a non-Thales battery will void the radio’s warranty.**

**Thales strongly recommends that any non-Thales battery NOT be used with any MBITR/JEM** radios until it is verified that this battery will not harm either the radio/ personnel or adversely affect equipment or system performance. A notice will be posted on the Thales website and distributed to all users as additional information is available. The User communities are also requested to post this notice on their respective websites for maximum dissemination.

Please contact Thales Communications Inc. with any questions or concerns related to this user notice at:  
**Thales Communications Inc.**  
22605 Gateway Center Drive  
Clarksburg, MD 20871  
1-800-914-0303  
[Customer.Support@Thalescomminc.com](mailto:Customer.Support@Thalescomminc.com)  
[www.thalescomminc.com](http://www.thalescomminc.com)



Ensure your battery has the Thales logo and the Thales part number 1600515-X