What is the difference between an EPIRB, ELT and PLB?

**EPIRB - Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacons**

EPIRBs are used in ships and boats and are designed to float upright using the water plane as a reflector to more efficiently get the signal to the satellite. For this reason they have ballast built in and need to be a certain minimum size to ensure they float correctly. Their size and weight make them impractical for use by bushwalkers.

EPIRBs are commonly confused with PLBs (Personal Locator Beacons – see below). Whilst they are both distress beacons they are intended for different purposes.

**PLB - Personal Locator Beacon**

Location devices for bushwalking, trekking and other land-based user are called Personal Locator Beacons or PLBs. These are small, lightweight, rugged units that can fit in your pocket.

**ELT - Emergency Locator Transmitters**

ELTs are designed for aviation and are larger, generally fixed units in aircraft that are automatically activated when an aircraft crashes. Again they are not suitable for personal use as they are too large and heavy.

Call Karera today on (02) 4355 1599 or visit www.karera.com for EPIRBs, PLBs, GPS equipment, vehicle tracking, satellite phones and two way radios.

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