

## USER NOTIFICATION

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

January 2009

The AN/PRC-148 (MBITR/JEM) rechargeable battery is listed in FEDLOG as NSN 6140-01-487-1153 (Thales P/N 1600515-7). A FEDLOG query will result in information that indicates vendors other than Thales are authorized providers of MBITR/JEM batteries listed under an alternate NSN and/or P/N. These alternate vendor batteries are not authorized by Thales for use with Thales products.

Thales Communications Inc. (Thales) has identified performance and safety concerns regarding batteries supplied by companies other than Thales.

The Thales products (radios, vehicle adapters, batteries, chargers) are designed with software and circuitry that communicate with each other with regard to fuel gauge accuracy, recharging parameters, overload, surge and fuse protection. 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 and 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 non-Thales batteries will react when being charged in the Thales chargers, the Thales Vehicle Adapter (VA), and other OEM ancillaries. The AN/PRC-148 will record events that subject the unit to unauthorized product configurations; such as use with an unauthorized battery.

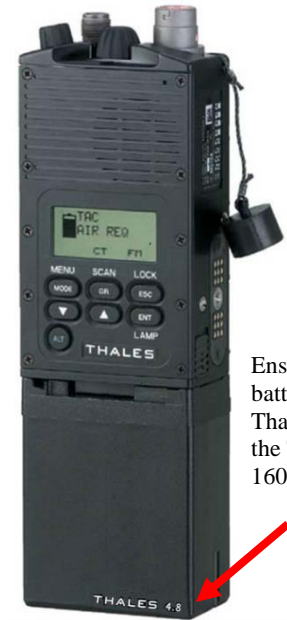
**Damage to the MBITR/JEM as a result of using a non-Thales battery is not covered by the Thales warranty.** In the event a repair is requested on units that have used non-Thales batteries, repairs will be done at current Standard Repair Prices.

Thales batteries are subjected to a series of stringent tests to ensure the safety and efficacy of the battery design meets customer requirements under severe environmental conditions (e.g., altitude, immersion, HERO, etc). To date, Thales has been unable to acquire similar test data to certify alternate battery vendors for use with the MBITR, JEM and VA/ VAA. Thus, the only way a user can ensure they are getting a tested battery that will work properly and safely with a MBITR/JEM radio is to procure and receive the Thales battery under NSN 6140-01-487-1153.

**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.

We encourage all users to report any and all discrepancies with receipt of non-Thales batteries by completing a Product Quality Deficiency Report (PQDR) SF 368, available on our website for download.

Please contact Thales Communications Inc. with any questions or concerns related to this user notice at [customer.service@thalescomminc.com](mailto:customer.service@thalescomminc.com) or call 1-800-914-0303.



Ensure your battery has the Thales logo and the Thales P/N 1600515-x.