

Recreational Aviation Australia Inc.

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OWNERS OF AIRCRAFT FITTED WITH MODE S TRANSPONDERS

Since the introduction of transponders fitted with mode 'S' capability, numerous aircraft have been identified by Airservices Australia as having the incorrect ICAO 24 bit Address configured in the transponder. Many of these aircraft appear to be RA-Aus registered.

The worldwide Mode S system relies on this Address being unique for every aircraft. When it is incorrect there is a chance that it will duplicate the Address of another aircraft which can cause interference and confusion for radars and ATC and may interfere with other dependent systems like TCAS.

A correct Mode S Address issued in Australia will be a 24 bit or 6 digit HEX number in the range 7C0000 to 7F0000. The registration number for the aircraft should not be used as the Mode S Address, for example, "241234" (for aircraft registration 24-1234) is NOT the correct Mode S Address, even though the transponder may allow this to be configured. A registered HEX code must be obtained from CASA by emailing, aircraft.register@casa.gov.au.

In addition, advice from Airservices Australia has confirmed the details they would like displayed in the Flight ID field. This should be programmed as "R" then the last four digit identifiers in the aircraft registration e.g. R1234. This allows Air Services to distinguish the return interrogation as a recreational aircraft and prevents errors being generated in the ATS classification framework.

If you have already been issued with a HEX Address from CASA and programmed the correct Flight ID, please email ops@raa.asn.au the details. RA-Aus will keep a register of the HEX and Flight ID codes so that Operations can assist Airservices with verifying the data upon request.

Yours sincerely,



Neil Schaefer
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