Beacon Two-Way Communications Update

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Topics

- **Two-Way Communications (TWC) activities**

- **Key TWC Elements being Discussed**

- **Upcoming Events (JC-38)**

- **U.S. SARSAT Program Perspective**

- **Questions**

Two-Way Communications (TWC) activities

- **Correspondence Working Group (CWG)**

  - **Regular meetings before and after EWG-6/2024 to advance the work**

- **C/S Experts Working Group on TWC (EWG-6/2024)**

  - **Held 12-16 FEB 2024 in Antalya, Türkiye**

  - **Significant progress made across most elements; progressed draft TWC Operational Concept and High-level Requirements (C/S R.02X)**

  - **New questions identified for addressing**

- **C/S Experts Working Group on MEOSAR Coverage (EWG-2C/2024)**

  - **Noted from EWG-6/2024 that TWC coverage analysis was desired; a revised EWG-2C Terms of Reference was approved at Council (CSC-70)**

Key TWC Elements Being Discussed

- **Question/Answer/Instruction (Q/A/I) Dataset Development**

  - **Participants continued defining the initial question set and the dataset management process**

  - **Will continue this work at the Joint Committee in June**

- **Beacon message structure**

  - **Definitizing beacon message structure to address emerging decisions**

- **Interface Requirements - Internal/External interface devices**

  - **Identifying the minimum internal beacon interface requirements**

  - **Establishing external beacon interface guidelines/requirements**

  - **Document the agreed TWC beacon interface guidelines/requirements**

C/S Joint Committee (JC-38) topics

- **Further develop the TWC Operational Concept and High-level Requirements (C/S R.02X)**

- **EWG-2C to meet following JC to begin addressing TWC coverage**

- **Work to finalize the TWC rotating field message structure and bit assignments**

- **Discuss and reach agreement on internal interface, external interface, and/or hybrid interface functionality and associated requirements**

The U.S. SARSAT Program is evaluating the TWC internal / external interface capabilities, considering:

- Internal only interface functionality advantages/disadvantages

- External only interface functionality advantages/disadvantages

- Hybrid interface functionality advantages/disadvantages

- Typical operating modes and risk assessments, including Cyber/IA

- External link performance and compatibility

- Sustainability concerns (e.g., external device OS/App update processes, beacon/App compatibility, Q/A/I dataset compatibility, etc.)

- User education and familiarization

Questions?

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