
Spurious Alerts

Posted by PLN31 - 2009/04/02 15:32

We have 2 XRX units. We bought the first one (XRX V1.4) about 3 years ago and recently we needed a second one. However the new one (XRX ONYX V2.0) is giving spurious information. By placing both units in the same aircraft at the same time we have been able to compare them.

The main problem is as follows...

When traffic gets in range it will initially appear correctly on both units. However, if the XRX believes the traffic is within about +/- 300ft then after a while the new unit will quite often issue a "TRAFFIC ALERT" and the range and relative alt will drop to ZERO. The unit then implies that the traffic is slowly moving away as the range and relative alt start to increase back to the correct values.

While all this is happening the old unit just continues to correctly show the traffic as no threat at the correct height and distance up to 6 miles away (quite often confirmed both visually and by ATC)

In average traffic conditions this results in regular spurious traffic alerts and after a while we find ourselves either starting to ignore them or assuming that the alert is for an aircraft that we can see a few miles away. The latter nearly resulted in an Airprox a couple of days ago.

We have also noted the following...

This behaviour occurs regardless of whether the aircraft's transponder is on or off.

By going to the admin screen and offsetting the internal alt of both units by a few hundred feet we can see that the old unit displays the transponder's alt most of the time however the new unit only displays it occasionally or displays a constant incorrect alt (FL015 seems to be the common one) even if we climb or descend (we are not pressurised!).

The old unit displays the transponder's squawk on the admin screen most of the time however the new unit NEVER displays it. Instead it normally shows random (but persistent) codes or 7777

This has been tried in 2 separate aircraft (identical aircraft both with Garmin 330 transponders) and using OPEN, HIGH WING or LOW WING settings and the results are the same.

The new unit has been EXCHANGED by the supplier and the replacement still exhibits the same behaviour.

We are using the 2 units in exactly the same way - are we doing something wrong? Do we have a faulty batch?

Thanks

Re:Spurious Alerts

Posted by kberna1376 - 2009/07/15 14:21

I am having the same problem with mine. I sent it back once for a defective compass operation. They fixed it, but the spurious alerts continue. I will try it one more time before returning..Ken
