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# PRESS RELEASE

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## **Signal Engineering, Inc. wins US Air Force Personal Locator Beacon Production Contract**

Signal Engineering, Inc., a San Diego based engineering designer and manufacturer of satellite transmitters/receivers and survival radios was awarded a competitively procured U.S. Air Force (USAF) Contract for production of an advanced Personal Locator Beacon (PLB) to replace the aging AN/URT-33 as part of the survival equipment issued to USAF aircrew. This PLB was developed under a successfully completed USAF contract awarded to Signal Engineering in 2006. The development and production contracts were sponsored by the 77 Aeronautical Systems Group (AFMC), Brooks City-Base, Texas.

The beacon will provide Search and Rescue (SAR) Satellite Aided Tracking capabilities in addition to multiple homing signals to assist in the location and rescue of downed aircrew. The PLB contain a GPS receiver which provides accurate beacon location information that is relayed to SAR forces through a low earth orbit satellite system called COSPAS/SARSAT and other Geostationary and Polar Orbiting Satellites.

The qualifications of the Signal Engineering team were demonstrated by their past performance on the USAF development contract awarded in 2006 and the development of similar survival equipment for the U.S. Navy (AN/PRC-149 and AN/URT-140). Signal Engineering will produce 54 production representative First Article PLBs and other accessories which will then undergo a rigorous set of First Article Tests to prove its production readiness. Following First Article approval, production options under the awarded contract can then be exercised by the USAF for quantities ranging up to an estimated 15,000 to 18,000.