



OnStar Systems

CAGC INFORMATION ALERT

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This bulletin has been received from a PSAC member in the perforating industry and is relevant to our members since we use the same style of detonator.

There have been an increasing number of vehicles showing up on location, which are equipped with OnStar. In light of this, we have contacted General Motors Technical Department to be sure we have a clear understanding of how this system works and what impact it will have during a perforating operation.

Technical Specifications

- Mobile Frequency Transmit 824-855 MHz;
- Base Transmit 824-900 MHz;
- Power Output 3 watts maximum with an Odbi antenna

The system works the same as an analog cellular phone. When the key is in the “Off” position the system wakes up for one (1) minute every nine (9) minutes to search for commands (e.g.: door unlock). The system is active in this mode for 48 hours and then shuts down completely.

With the key in the “On” position the system searches more frequently for OnStar commands.

Recommendations

Proposed Alberta Explosives Regulations prohibit the use of a cellular phone within 30 meters of an explosive device. The licensed blaster on site controls a blast zone of 50 meters around the explosive device. Considering the blast zone is 50 meters, no low wattage-transmitting device should be within 50 meters of an explosive device.