

Recomendation for Public Safety Use

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Hello GPS Experts!

I have been following this group for a little while and would like to tap into your collective knowlege.

I am a member of a volunteer ambulance service and am looking for a good GPS receiver for my service's use. Some of the features I am looking for are:

- Unit should power up and display coordinates with applicable updates while moving. I am not really interested in a map, although I will consider units with a map as long as coordinates are displayed without having to change the screen/view.
- Easy to operate. Members may not be familiar with unit's operation. They will be trained, but since it will only be used on occasion it should be somewhat "dummy-proof". You know how it is, you don't use it all the time, you forget how.
- Vehicle mounted with external antenna and hardwired power supply, but can be removed with minimal fuss and used portable with built-in antenna and battery supply. The power and antenna connectors should lock in place and not able to vibrate loose.
- Durable. Weatherproof would be nice, but not required.
- A nice balance between readable screen and physical size. It should be able to be read quickly and accurately, but not too large so it can't be used portable.
- Stable firmware.
- Firmware Upgradable by computer interface.
- Supported by the manufacturer (not ignored after a year or less of production)
- Computer interface with standard communication protocol. I don't really care what it is as long as it is a standard interface like serial or USB.
- We will spend more to meet more of the above needs, but cost is a consideration obviously.

All suggestions welcome!

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Thank you

-Ben
Acton EMS