LowPro™₃ Category II Beacon Bracket Installation Instructions

Compatible with ACR Electronics beacon model number RLB-36 & RLB-37.

The LowPro™₃ beacon bracket is designed to perform two functions for RLB-36 & RLB-37 beacons:
1. Provide a secure mounting location for the beacon.
2. Deactivate the beacon's water activation function.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN
Please read the following instructions in their entirety to be sure that you understand them before beginning the installation process.

SELECTING MOUNTING LOCATION
The selection of a mounting location will vary from vessel to vessel. Beacons should be protected from outside influences while being readily accessible at all times in the event of an emergency.

Category II brackets are designed to hold the beacon securely in place. The beacon must be manually deployed. The bracket can be mounted on a vertical flat surface with beacon antenna up or on a horizontal flat surface facing skyward. This location must be easily accessible in order to manually deploy the beacon or to perform the required maintenance and functionality tests. Typical locations include near the helm station or just inside the companionway door.

The location selected must be sufficiently rigid to support the weight of the total installation.

Hazards to avoid when selecting a mounting location:
- Vibration
- Exposure to the elements
- Possibility of impact from hatches, gear, or personnel
- Harmful vapors
- Exhaust
- Harsh chemicals
- Locations that can be obscured by foreign articles on a temporary or permanent basis.

Visually inspect the area surrounding the mounting bracket installation site for hidden hazards or obstacles that may have been overlooked during the location selection. If there is any doubt as to the ready accessibility to the beacon at all times or if any condition may appear to be questionable, conduct a complete and thorough investigation before final approval of the installation.
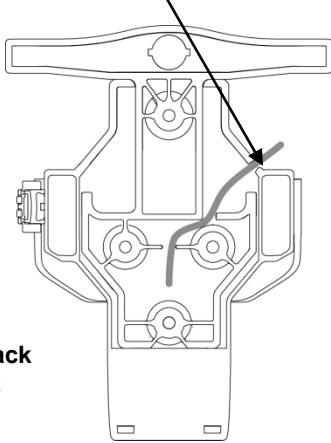
⚠️ **CAUTION:** Category II brackets must be mounted in a protected location that is easily accessible should it be necessary to abandon ship. The LowPro™₃ can be mounted on a vertical surface with the beacon antenna pointed skyward or a horizontal surface with the beacon face up. Avoid mounting locations that subject the bracket to breaking waves. Avoid mounting locations that do not provide protection from harmful UV rays of the sun. The bracket must be mounted facing inboard to avoid being lost overboard due to impacts of breaking waves, personnel or loose gear.

NOTE: When selecting the beacon bracket location, be sure to consider the requirement for four screw holes to secure the bracket, plus one hole for the NMEA cable for connection between an external GPS and the beacon, if connecting the beacon to an external GPS receiver.

⚠ **CAUTION:** Keep this beacon a safe distance away from all magnetic sources. Magnet safe distance is 4.6ft (1.4m), including the distance from stereo speakers.

NMEA cable

View of back of bracket

INTERFACING THE GPS OPTICAL HEAD OF A BEACON TO AN EXTERNAL GPS RECEIVER

The NMEA interface cable should be routed through the hole in the upper right corner of the bracket, as viewed from the back of the bracket. Refer to the illustration. The owner must use the ACR supplied head and wires attached to it and splice it into the output cable supplied or bought for the GPS unit.

Use the following as guidelines for your external GPS settings:
1.) Set your GPS receiver at 4800 Baud and active sentence GPGGA.
2.) Make sure you set to NMEA 0183 (version 1.5 or above).
3.) Do not WAAS-enable your external GPS. See the ACR Electronics website, Frequently Asked Questions section, for a discussion about enabling versus disabling WAAS.

The positive data out of the GPS receiver must be spliced to the **black wire with white dashes** (positive data in) on the GPS interface cable received with the beacon. The ground out of the GPS receiver must be spliced to the **solid black wire** (ground) of the GPS interface cable that was included with the beacon.
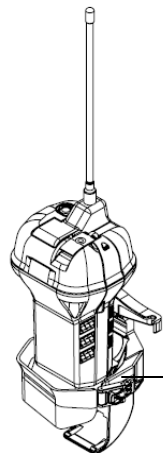
The green LED on the GPS interface optical head should start blinking intermittently if the GPS receiver is on and downloading positional data.
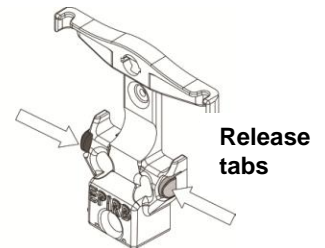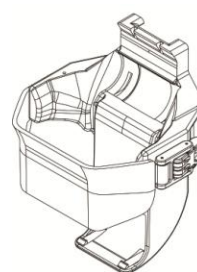
MOUNTING THE BRACKET

The LowPro$_3$™ Category II bracket has four pre-drilled screw holes to use for securing the bracket to a flat surface.

1.) Remove the beacon from the bracket. While holding the assembly, lift the white latch to release bracket strap pressure from the beacon. Slide the beacon up and out of the bracket.
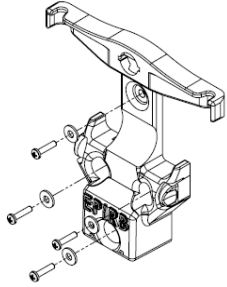
Lift up

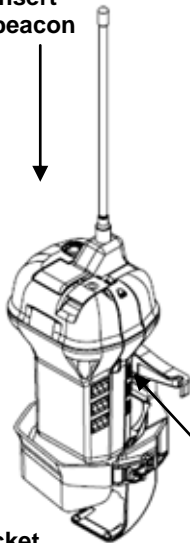**Open white latch**

Release tabs

2.) Separate the two sections of the LowPro™₃ bracket. On either side of the bracket are release tabs. Simultaneously depress both tabs to separate the dark blue bracket from the white mounting block.

3.) Mark placement of the screw holes. The white mounting block can be held in place to mark the holes, or you can use the mounting template provided.

4.) Screw the white mounting block in place. Use a minimum of ½" long, pan head #8 stainless steel fasteners (not included). Use washers (not included). Be sure to confirm that screws will not contact any wires or plumbing before drilling pilot holes.

INSTALLING THE BEACON

Insert beacon

1.) If not already open, open the dark blue portion of the LowPro™₃ bracket by pulling the white latch away from the body of the bracket. This releases the bracket strap that secures the beacon in the bracket.

2.) Insert the beacon inside the blue bracket, lanyard inward. Confirm that the beacon is correctly seated in the bracket, then secure the beacon by closing the bracket strap by using the latch. The beacon is correctly seated when: a) the yellow lanyard roll faces the bracket and rests in the concave part of the bracket, and b) the two notches on the bottom of the beacon are resting in the two "prongs" on the foot of the bracket.

3.) Snap the beacon/blue bracket assembly onto the white mounting block.

⚠️ **CAUTION:** Do not secure the beacon to the bracket or vessel with the lanyard. Only use lanyard after deployment.

Concave area

Bracket foot

CUSTOMER SUPPORT INFORMATION

1.) For general product support information, returns or battery replacements, please contact ACR Technical Service:

Email: service@acrartex.com Tel: +(954) 981-3333 Fax: +(954) 983-5087	Address: Technical Service ACR Electronics, Inc. 5757 Ravenswood Road Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312-6645 USA

2.) For a battery replacement center near you, please visit www.acrartex.com.

3.) For how to return equipment to ACR for repairs or battery replacement:
Visit www.acrartex.com or contact ACR using email, fax or telephone (detailed above).
Explain why you want to return the equipment, give your contact information, your equipment description.

LIMITED WARRANTY

This product is warranted against factory defect in material and workmanship for a period of one year from date of purchase or receipt as a gift. During the warranty period ACR Electronics, Inc. will, at its option, repair or replace the unit at no cost to you for labor, materials or return transportation. For further assistance please contact our Technical Service Department at ACR Electronics, Inc., 5757 Ravenswood Road,   Fort   Lauderdale,   FL   33312-6645.   Email: service@acrartex.com, Fax: +1 (954) 983-5087, Telephone: +1 (954) 981-3333

This warranty does not apply if the product has been damaged by accident or misuse, or as a result of service or modification by other than the factory. Except as otherwise expressly stated above, the COMPANY MAKES NO REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, AS TO MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, OR ANY OTHER MATTER WITH RESPECT TO THIS PRODUCT. The Company shall not be liable for consequential or special damages.

In order to place the warranty in effect, the accompanying registration card must be returned to us within ten days of purchase.
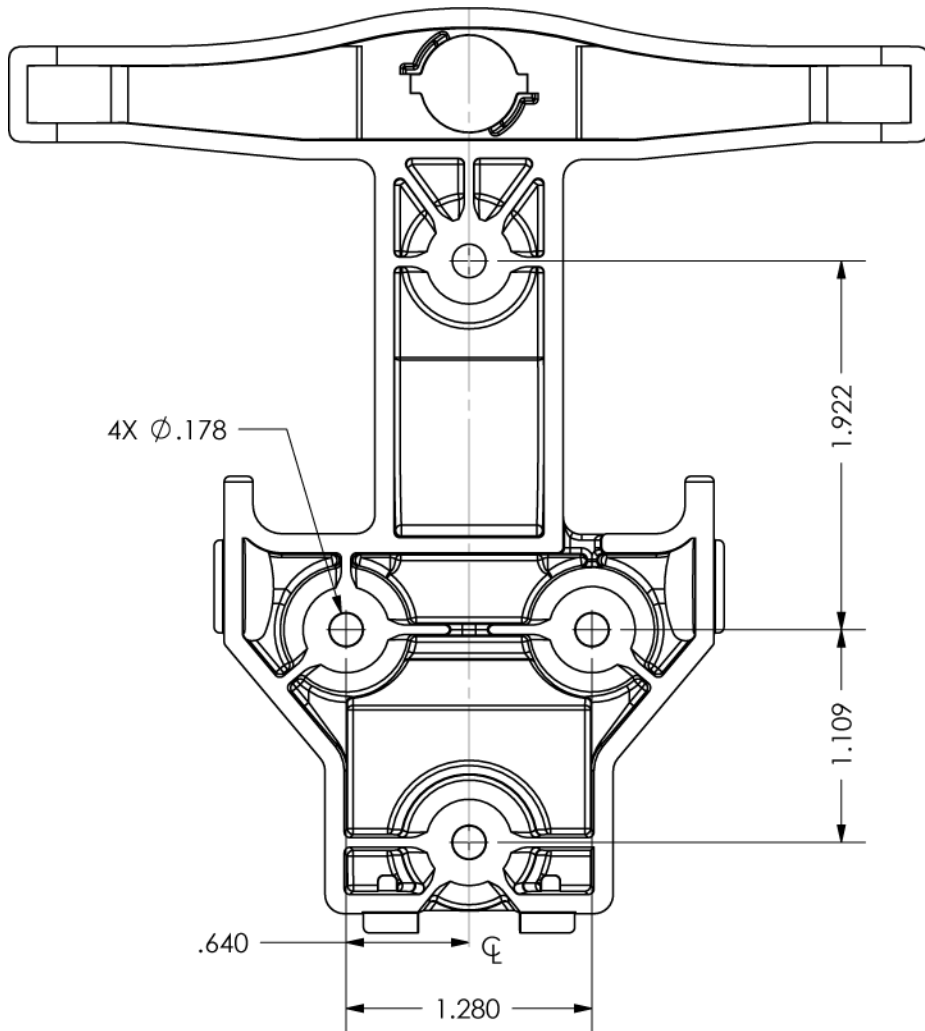
If you have questions regarding the contents of the instructions, please contact our Technical Service Department at ACR Electronics, Inc., Telephone +1 (954) 981-3333. Please be ready to provide the technician with the page number you wish to discuss.

ACR Electronics diligently works to provide high quality product support information, however, despite best efforts, information is subject to change without notice, and omissions and inaccuracies are possible. ACR cannot accept liability for manual contents. To ensure that you have the most recent version of the Product Support Manual, please visit the ACR website at www.acrartex.com.

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4X Ø.178

1.922

1.109

.640

1.280

SCALE 1=1 (in.)
1=25.4 (mm)

0   1   2   3   4

Please Note: If mounting template is obtained from the ACR website, any electronic media, or from a photocopy, please verify the dimensions of the scale shown with actual measuring device. Duplicate templates may not be of true 1:1 scale. Any deviation should be considered when using mounting template.

LowPro™$_3$ Mounting Template