



SERVICE NOTICE

From: Bob Haase, Aviation Product Support Manager, Garmin International
Re: Software Update for Garmin Mode S Transponders
Date: August 27, 2004

Today, Garmin is providing a software update (v3.06) for its GTX 330, 330D, 33 and 33D Mode S transponders. The company has issued mandatory service bulletins, requiring aftermarket customers and OEMs to install the v3.06 software on these products. The v3.06 software update supersedes all previous updates related to FAA Airworthiness Directive 2004-10-15, which addresses a potential air-to-air safety issue between GTX 330/330D-equipped aircraft and those installed with various TAS, TCAD and TCAS I equipment.

AD 2004-10-15 lists a potential safety issue in which Garmin's Mode S transponders may intermittently suppress an air-to-air interrogation from aircraft using certain collision-avoidance systems. While pilots flying with respective Garmin equipment will see nearby aircraft via TIS, it is possible that they may not be "visible" to certain traffic-awareness systems in nearby aircraft. Garmin equipped aircraft remain appropriately "visible" within the normal operating range of FAA Terminal and ARTCC RADAR.

The AD specifies corrective action, including installation of the software update at a certified repair center. Garmin encourages its customers to contact their avionics dealer or the company's field-service engineering staff with any questions or concerns regarding the AD.