

Tracking Devices Tips

FCC Certification

In general, U.S. Federal Communications Commission (FCC) certification is required for any electronic device that can oscillate above 9 kHz. Manufacturers must make sure that their products will not interfere with other products or cause risk and harm to the public. All electrical devices must be tested and fulfill the emission requirements to receive FCC certification. If manufacturers sell products without the appropriate approval, they will receive a monetary fine and their products will be recalled.

Teams purchasing a tracker must be aware if the tracking unit requires a FCC certificate or equivalent. The manufacturer or seller should abide by these rules also and require that the consumer has a certificate or will acquire one.

FCC Operator Licensing

The FCC has three primary frequency bands designated for unlicensed operation. Unlicensed means the operator of the radios does not need to file directly with the FCC to use the radio or frequencies. The three frequency bands used for this in the U.S. are the 900 MHz, 2.4 GHz and 5.8 GHz. Government rules and regulations may change year to year.

For introductory rocketry, it is recommended to use an electronic tracking device that does not require licensing.

Popular tracking devices for high-power rockets:

<https://wildmanrocketry.com/collections/receiver>

<https://wildmanrocketry.com/collections/transmitter>

<https://www.featherweightaltimeters.com/featherweight-gps-tracker.html>

<http://eggtimerrocketry.com/home/eggfinder-gps-tracking-system/>