

Avalanche operations: "Devices not compatible!"

"THE PIEPS DSP Avalanche Transceiver MODEL and THE Motorola GP340 Radio are not compatible. It is possible for the avalanche transceiver to unintentionally switch off or switch over!" This urgent warning to operations personnel **comes** from St. Anton/ Arlberg in Austria.

*"In the Avalanche Commission and the Piste Rescue Service on the Arlberg, we sometimes, SIMULTANEOUSLY, use **Pieps DSP avalanche transceivers** and **Motorola GP340 radios**. We discovered, purely by accident, that the close contact of these two products can have dangerous consequences. When the **Motorola GP340 Radio** and the **Pieps DSP Avalanche Transceiver** come in close contact, the **Pieps DSP** will either switch off or switch from transmit mode to search mode. As the parties at hand have no knowledge of this occurrence, avalanche incidents may evolve into exacerbated life-threatening events,"* says Ferdinand Alber, a St. Anton, Arlberg cable operator. He, also, provides Mountain Rescue Volunteer service at our St. Anton location.



According to the **PIEPS company**, they are aware of the problem, adds the Tyrol expert. The manufacturing company argues that each and every person is responsible for not letting the two devices get too close. *"I doubt whether that can be taken into account when people are buried in an avalanche,"* says Ferdinand Alber from the Tiroler Oberland region.

According to **Peter Veider**, training manager at the Tyrolean Mountain Rescue Team, it would not be a bad idea to observe or test other product combinations along these lines within their own ranks.

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