

Vega

The Vega has GPS, GSM/GPRS, RF technology and emergency button built into the unit

GPS – Global positioning system – gives accurate position of device when its outdoors. GPS does not work indoors.

GSM/GPRS – Mobile phone technology – Lets the unit communicate with the server and used to get a rough location of device. Also allows speech between Vega and monitoring centre/carer

RF – Radio frequency – Allows the Vega to know it is close to the base unit. Has a range of around 50mts. depending on the type of building it's located in. Normally when the device sees the base it shuts down the GPS and GSM to conserve battery life.

Emergency button – Red button on right hand side of device. Can be pressed when help is needed. This button can be disabled or be set as silent. Needs to be pressed for 2 seconds before it will activate.

Alerts

The Vega can alert in 3 ways.

- 1- Pressing the red button
- 2- Out of Geo safe zone. A geographical safe zone can be set for the Vega. If the device goes outside this zone it will send an alert. This safe zone is a minimum of 250 metres square, it cannot be smaller than this. More than one Geo safe zone can be set up per device.
- 3- Out of RF zone. The device can be set up so that if it does not see the base in a set time frame it will send an alert. This can work in 2 ways.

Example 1 – the device is set to activate if it cannot see the base on a 24 hr basis. The wearer leaves the house/nursing home and the device loses contact with the base (this can be up to 50mts away) then it will send an alert.

Example 2 – the device is set to see the base between 18:00 and 8:00. If the person wearing the device does not arrive home before 18:00 then an alert is sent. Of course if they leave the house within this timeframe then an alert will also be sent.

The length of time the device takes to send an alert depends on what state it is in.

If it is near the base and the red button is pressed then it needs to wake up the GSM before it can communicate with the monitoring centre. This can take a minute or more.

If it is away from the base then the GSM is already active and the alert will be quicker.

If using the RF zone then it will wait a minute after losing contact with the base before starting the GSM. An out of RF Zone could take up to 3 minutes from the time the device

loses contact with the base before the alert is received at the monitoring centre. This can be shortened by not letting the GSM shut down when it sees the base but this affects the battery life as it is using more power with the GSM on.

Battery

There is a battery pack which is clipped onto the Vega which then charges the device. This battery pack is charged on the base or if a base is not being used then the mains charger can be plugged directly into the battery pack.

A blue light comes on at the top of the battery pack when it is charging. When this light goes out then the battery pack is fully charged.

When the battery pack is then clipped onto the Vega to charge the Vega then this light comes on again. The Vega is fully charged when the blue light goes out again. This can take up to 2 hours or more for a full charge.

How long the battery in the Vega lasts depends on how the device is used.

If the wearer is only out of the house for 2 hours per day then it will last 3 days.

If the wearer is out of the house for 6 hours per day then it will last 2 days.

If they are out for longer periods of time or if calls are made from the device then the battery will run down quicker.

The device is fully operational when it is being charged. The battery pack could be left on the unit if the wearer leaves the house and it will function as normal.

A low battery warning can be sent by text message or email to a carer.

What will prevent the Vega from working.

Flat battery – if the device has no power then of course it cannot work.

No mobile coverage – the device depends on mobile coverage to communicate with the server/monitoring centre. If it has no coverage then it cannot send an alert or update its position.

When it's away from its base the device will update its position automatically (assuming it has mobile coverage) every 4 minutes. When in alert this is done every minute.