

US man faces fine for disrupting airport satellite (Update)

August 9 2013

A New Jersey man faces tens of thousands of dollars in fines after regulators say he interfered with a satellite system at one of the nation's busiest airports while masking his whereabouts from his employer.

The Federal Communications Commission said Gary Bojczak admitted he installed a jamming device in his company-owned pickup to thwart his employer's GPS.

Bojczak surrendered the jamming device after his vehicle was stopped at Newark Liberty International Airport in August 2012.

The FCC said the jamming device interfered with a new system that enhanced navigation signals that used GPS data to aid aircraft approaching, departing and on the ground. The system was undergoing testing at the time and was put into full service the following month.

The FCC notice on the proposed penalties, issued in the beginning of August, described Bojczak's conduct as "particularly troubling" because it interrupted the testing and calibration of a critical air navigation system.

Bojczak faces nearly \$32,000 in fines after the FCC found he unlawfully operated an illegal GPS jammer and interfered with authorized communications.

He was given 30 days to either pay the full fine or challenge the

decision.

An FCC spokesman could not immediately say Friday whether Bojczak he was appealing the decision.

© 2013 The Associated Press. All rights reserved.

Citation: US man faces fine for disrupting airport satellite (Update) (2013, August 9) retrieved 20 September 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2013-08-fine-disrupting-airport-satellite.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p>
--