

Recommendation ITU-R M.1171-1

(11/2023)

M Series: Mobile, radiodetermination, amateur
and related satellite services

Radiotelephony procedures for routine calls in the maritime mobile service

Foreword

The role of the Radiocommunication Sector is to ensure the rational, equitable, efficient and economical use of the radio-frequency spectrum by all radiocommunication services, including satellite services, and carry out studies without limit of frequency range on the basis of which Recommendations are adopted.

The regulatory and policy functions of the Radiocommunication Sector are performed by World and Regional Radiocommunication Conferences and Radiocommunication Assemblies supported by Study Groups.

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RA	Radio astronomy
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SA	Space applications and meteorology
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SM	Spectrum management
SNG	Satellite news gathering
TF	Time signals and frequency standards emissions
V	Vocabulary and related subjects

Note: This ITU-R Recommendation was approved in English under the procedure detailed in Resolution ITU-R 1.

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RECOMMENDATION ITU-R M.1171-1*

Radiotelephony procedures for routine calls in the maritime mobile service

(1995-2023)

Scope

This Recommendation describes the radiotelephony procedures for routine calls within the maritime mobile service.

Keywords

Routine, calling, GMDSS, radiotelephony, maritime mobile service

Abbreviations/Glossary

RR: Radio Regulations

VHF: Very high frequency

Related ITU Recommendations

ITU-R M.493 – Digital selective-calling system for use in the maritime mobile service

ITU-R M.541 – Operational procedures for the use of digital selective-calling equipment in the maritime mobile service

The ITU Radiocommunication Assembly,

considering

a) that there is a need to describe standard procedures for radiotelephony communication in the maritime mobile service,

recommends

that radiotelephony procedures of routine calls in the maritime mobile service should be performed in accordance with the Annex.

Annex**Section I. Calls by radiotelephony**

1. The provisions of this Section relating to the intervals between calls are not applicable to a station operating under conditions involving distress, urgency or safety.

* This Recommendation should be brought to the attention of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), and the Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T).

Note by the Secretariat: The references made to the Radio Regulations (RR) in this Recommendation refer to the RR as revised by the World Radiocommunication Conference 1995. These elements of the RR will come into force on 1 June 1998. Where applicable, the equivalent references in the current RR are also provided in square brackets.

2. (1) As a general rule, it rests with the ship station's discretion to establish communication with the coast station. For this purpose the ship station may call the coast station only when it comes within the service area of the latter, that is to say, that area within which, by using an appropriate frequency, the ship station can be heard by the coast station.

(2) However, a coast station having traffic for a ship station may call this station if it has reason to believe that the ship station is keeping watch and is within the service area of the coast station.

3. (1) In addition, each coast station should, so far as practicable, transmit its calls in the form of "traffic lists" consisting of the call signs or other identification in alphabetical order of all ship stations for which it has traffic on hand. These calls should be made at specified times fixed in the coast station transmitting schedule shown in the List of Coast Stations and Special Service Stations and at intervals of not less than two hours and not more than four hours during the working hours of the coast station.

(2) Coast stations should transmit their traffic lists on their normal working frequencies in the appropriate bands. The transmission should be preceded by a general call to all stations.

(3) The general call to all stations announcing the traffic lists may be sent on a calling frequency in the following form:

- "ALL STATIONS" not more than three times;
- the words "THIS IS";
- "... RADIO" not more than three times;
- "LISTEN TO MY TRAFFIC LIST ON ... kHz".

In no case may this preamble be repeated.

(4) However, in the bands between 156 MHz and 174 MHz when the conditions for establishing contact are good, the call described in § 3.(3) above may be replaced by:

- "ALL SHIPS";
- the words "THIS IS";
- a call sign or the geographical name of the place as it appears in the List of Coast Stations and Special Service Stations, followed preferably by the word RADIO or by any other appropriate indication (see RR Nos. **19.73** and **19.74**) twice;
- "LISTEN TO MY TRAFFIC ON ... kHz".

In no case may this preamble be repeated.

(5) The provisions of § 3.(3) are obligatory when 2 182 kHz or 156.8 MHz is used.

(6) The hours at which coast stations transmit their traffic lists and the frequencies and classes of emission which they use for this purpose should be stated in the List of Coast Stations and Special Service Stations, subject to notification to ITU by the administration having jurisdiction over the coast station.

(7) Ship stations should as far as possible listen to the traffic lists transmitted by coast stations. On hearing their call sign or other identification in such a list ship stations must establish communication with appropriate coast stations as soon as they can do so.

(8) When the traffic cannot be sent immediately, the coast station should inform each ship station concerned of the probable time at which working can begin, and also, if necessary, the frequency and class of emission which will be used.

4. When a coast station receives calls from several ship stations at practically the same time, it decides the order in which these stations may transmit their traffic. Its decision should be based on