

RECOMMENDATION ITU-R M.1171*

**RADIOTELEPHONY PROCEDURES IN THE
MARITIME MOBILE SERVICE**

(1995)

The ITU Radiocommunication Assembly,

considering

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

recommends

- 1 that radiotelephony in the maritime mobile service should be performed in accordance with Annex 1.

ANNEX 1

Section I. Introduction

§ 1. Radiotelephone stations should, as far as possible, be equipped with devices for instantaneous switching from transmission to reception and vice versa. This equipment is necessary for all stations participating in communication between ships and subscribers of the land telephone system.

§ 2. (1) Stations equipped for radiotelephony may transmit and receive radiotelegrams by means of radiotelephony. Coast stations providing such service and open for public correspondence shall be indicated in the List of Coast Stations.

(2) To facilitate radiocommunications the service abbreviations given in Recommendation ITU-R M.1172 may be used.

Section II. Calls by Radiotelephony

§ 3. 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.

§ 4. (1) As a general rule, it rests with the ship station 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.

* 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.

§ 5. (1) In addition, each coast station shall, 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 shall be made at specified times fixed by agreement between the administrations concerned 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 shall transmit their traffic lists on their normal working frequencies in the appropriate bands. The transmission shall 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:

- "Hello all ships" or CQ (spoken as CHARLIE QUEBEC) not more than three times;
- the words THIS IS (or DE spoken as DELTA ECHO in case of language difficulties);
- "... Radio" not more than three times;
- "Listen for 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 § 5.(3) above may be replaced by:

- "Hello all ships" or CQ (spoken as CHARLIE QUEBEC), once;
- the words THIS IS (or DE spoken as DELTA ECHO in case of language difficulties);
- "... Radio", twice;
- "Listen for my traffic list on channel ...".

In no case may this preamble be repeated.

(5) The provisions of § 5.(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 shall be stated in the List of Coast Stations.

(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 they must reply as soon as they can do so.

(8) When the traffic cannot be sent immediately, the coast station shall 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.

§ 6. 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 shall be based on the priority (see RR No. S53.1 [No. 4441]) of the radiotelegrams or radiotelephone calls that the ship stations have on hand and on the need for allowing each calling station to clear the greatest possible number of communications.

§ 7. (1) When a station called does not reply to a call sent three times at intervals of two minutes, the calling shall cease.

(2) However, when a station called does not reply, the call may be repeated at three-minute intervals.

(3) In areas where reliable VHF communication with a called coast station is practicable, the calling ship station may repeat the call as soon as it is ascertained that traffic has been terminated at the coast station.

(4) In the case of a communication between a station of the maritime mobile service and an aircraft station, calling may be renewed after an interval of five minutes.

(5) Before renewing the call, the calling station shall ascertain that the station called is not in communication with another station.

(6) If there is no reason to believe that harmful interference will be caused to other communications in progress, the provisions of § 7.(4) above are not applicable. In such cases the call, sent three times at intervals of two minutes, may be repeated after an interval of not less than three minutes.

(7) However, before renewing the call, the calling station shall ascertain that further calling is unlikely to cause interference to other communications in progress and that the station called is not in communication with another station.

(8) Ship stations shall not radiate a carrier wave between calls.

§ 8. When the name and address of the administration or private operating agency controlling a ship station are not given in the appropriate list of stations or are no longer in agreement with the particulars given therein, it is the duty of the ship station to furnish as a matter of regular procedure, to the coast station to which it transmits traffic, all the necessary information in this respect.

§ 9. (1) The coast station may, by means of the abbreviation TR (spoken as TANGO ROMEO), ask the ship station to furnish it with the following information:

- a) position and, whenever possible, course and speed;
- b) next port of call.

(2) The information referred to in § 9.(1) above, preceded by the abbreviation TR, should be furnished by ship stations, whenever this seems appropriate, without prior request from the coast station. The provision of this information is authorized only by the master or the person responsible for the ship.

Section III. Method of Calling, Reply to Calls and Signals Preparatory to Traffic when Using Calling Methods Other than Digital Selective Calling

A. Method of Calling

§ 10. (1) The call consists of:

- the call sign or other identification of the station called, not more than three times;
- the words THIS IS (or DE spoken as DELTA ECHO in case of language difficulties);
- the call sign or other identification of the calling station, not more than three times.

(2) However, in the bands between 156 MHz and 174 MHz when the conditions for establishing contact are good, the call described in § 10.(1) above may be replaced by:

- the call sign of the station called, once;
- the words THIS IS (or DE spoken as DELTA ECHO in case of language difficulties);
- the call sign or other identification of the calling station, twice.

(3) When calling a VHF coast station operating on more than one channel, a ship station calling on a working channel should include the number of that channel in the call.

(4) When contact is established, the call sign or other identification may thereafter be transmitted once only.

(5) When the coast station is fitted with equipment for selective calling in accordance with Recommendation ITU-R M.541, and the ship station is fitted with equipment for receiving such selective calls, the coast station shall call the ship by transmitting the appropriate code signals. The ship station shall call the coast station by speech in the manner given in § 10.(1) (see also Annex 2 to Recommendation ITU-R M.257).

§ 11. Calls for internal communications on board ship when in territorial waters shall consist of:

- a) From the master station:
 - the name of the ship followed by a single letter (ALFA, BRAVO, CHARLIE, etc.) indicating the sub-station not more than three times;
 - the words THIS IS;
 - the name of the ship followed by the word CONTROL;