

RECOMMENDATION ITU-R M.1172*

**MISCELLANEOUS ABBREVIATIONS AND SIGNALS TO BE USED
FOR RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS IN THE MARITIME MOBILE SERVICE**

(1995)

The ITU Radiocommunication Assembly,

considering

- a) that there is a need to describe miscellaneous abbreviations and signals to be used in the maritime mobile service,

recommends

- 1 that the use of miscellaneous abbreviations and signals for radiocommunications in the maritime mobile service be in accordance with Annex 1.

ANNEX 1

**Miscellaneous abbreviations and signals to be used
for radiocommunications in the maritime mobile service****Section I. Q Code****Introduction**

- 1 The series of groups listed in this Annex range from QOA to QUZ.
- 2 The QOA to QQZ series are reserved for the maritime mobile service.
- 3 Certain Q code abbreviations may be given an affirmative or negative sense by sending, immediately following the abbreviation, the letter C or the letters NO (in radiotelephony spoken as: CHARLIE or NO).
- 4 The meanings assigned to Q code abbreviations may be amplified or completed by the appropriate addition of other groups, call signs, place names, figures, numbers, etc. It is optional to fill in the blanks shown in parentheses. Any data which are filled in where blanks appear shall be sent in the same order as shown in the text of the following tables.
- 5 Q code abbreviations are given the form of a question when followed by a question mark in radiotelegraphy and RQ (ROMEO QUEBEC) in radiotelephony. When an abbreviation is used as a question and is followed by additional or complementary information, the question mark (or RQ) should follow this information.
- 6 Q code abbreviations with numbered alternative significations shall be followed by the appropriate figure to indicate the exact meaning intended. This figure shall be sent immediately following the abbreviation.
- 7 All times shall be given in Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) unless otherwise indicated in the question or reply.
- 8 An asterisk * following a Q code abbreviation means that this signal has a meaning similar to a signal appearing in the International Code of Signals.

* This Recommendation should be brought to the attention of the International Maritime Organization (IMO).

Abbreviations Available for the Maritime Mobile Service

A. List of Abbreviations in Alphabetical Order

Abbreviation	Question	Answer or Advice
QOA	Can you communicate by radiotelegraphy (500 kHz)?	I can communicate by radiotelegraphy (500 kHz).
QOB	Can you communicate by radiotelephony (2 182 kHz)?	I can communicate by radiotelephony (2 182 kHz).
QOC	Can you communicate by radiotelephony (channel 16 – frequency 156.80 MHz)?	I can communicate by radiotelephony (channel 16 – frequency 156.80 MHz).
QOD	Can you communicate with me in ... 0. Dutch 5. Italian 1. English 6. Japanese 2. French 7. Norwegian 3. German 8. Russian 4. Greek 9. Spanish?	I can communicate with you in ... 0. Dutch 5. Italian 1. English 6. Japanese 2. French 7. Norwegian 3. German 8. Russian 4. Greek 9. Spanish.
QOE	Have you received the safety signal sent by ... (<i>name and/or call sign</i>)?	I have received the safety signal sent by ... (<i>name and/or call sign</i>).
QOF	What is the commercial quality of my signals?	The quality of your signals is ... 1. not commercial 2. marginally commercial 3. commercial.
QOG	How many tapes have you to send?	I have ... tapes to send.
QOH	Shall I send a phasing signal for ... seconds?	Send a phasing signal for ... seconds.
QOI	Shall I send my tape?	Send your tape.
QOJ	Will you listen on ... kHz (<i>or</i> MHz) for signals of emergency position-indicating radiobeacons?	I am listening on ... kHz (<i>or</i> MHz) for signals of emergency position-indicating radiobeacons.

Abbreviation	Question	Answer or Advice
QOK	Have you received the signals of an emergency position-indicating radiobeacon on ... kHz (<i>or</i> MHz)?	I have received the signals of an emergency position-indicating radiobeacon on ... kHz (<i>or</i> MHz).
QOL	Is your vessel fitted for reception of selective calls? If so, what is your selective call number or signal?	My vessel is fitted for the reception of selective calls. My selective call number or signal is ...
QOM	On what frequencies can your vessel be reached by a selective call?	My vessel can be reached by a selective call on the following frequency/ies ... (periods of time to be added if necessary).
QOO	Can you send on any working frequency?	I can send on any working frequency.
QOT	Do you hear my call; what is the approximate delay in minutes before we may exchange traffic?	I hear your call; the approximate delay is ... minutes.
QRA	What is the name of your vessel (<i>or</i> station)?	The name of my vessel (<i>or</i> station) is ...
QRB	How far approximately are you from my station?	The approximate distance between our stations is ... nautical miles (<i>or</i> kilometres).
QRC	By what private enterprise (<i>or</i> state administration) are the accounts for charges for your station settled?	The accounts for charges of my station are settled by the private enterprise ... (<i>or</i> state administration).
QRD	Where are you bound for and where are you from?	I am bound for ... from ...
QRE	What is your estimated time of arrival at ... (<i>or</i> over ...) (<i>place</i>)?	My estimated time of arrival at ... (<i>or</i> over ...) (<i>place</i>) is ... hours.
QRF	Are you returning to ... (<i>place</i>)?	I am returning to ... (<i>place</i>). or Return to ... (<i>place</i>).

Abbreviation	Question	Answer or Advice
QRG	Will you tell me my exact frequency (<i>or</i> that of ...)?	Your exact frequency (<i>or</i> that of ...) is ... kHz (<i>or</i> MHz).
QRH	Does my frequency vary?	Your frequency varies.
QRI	How is the tone of my transmission?	The tone of your transmission is ... 1. good 2. variable 3. bad.
QRJ	How many radiotelephone calls have you to book?	I have ... radiotelephone calls to book.
QRK	What is the intelligibility of my signals (<i>or</i> those of ... (<i>name and/or call sign</i>))?	The intelligibility of your signals (<i>or</i> those of ... (<i>name and/or call sign</i>)) is ... 1. bad 2. poor 3. fair 4. good 5. excellent.
QRL	Are you busy?	I am busy (<i>or</i> I am busy with ... (<i>name and/or call sign</i>)). Please do not interfere.
QRM	Is my transmission being interfered with?	Your transmission is being interfered with ... 1. nil 2. slightly 3. moderately 4. severely 5. extremely.
QRN	Are you troubled by static?	I am troubled by static ... 1. nil 2. slightly 3. moderately 4. severely 5. extremely.

Abbreviation	Question	Answer or Advice
QRO	Shall I increase transmitter power?	Increase transmitter power.
QRP	Shall I decrease transmitter power?	Decrease transmitter power.
QRQ	Shall I send faster?	Send faster (... words per minute).
QRR	Are you ready for automatic operation?	I am ready for automatic operation. Send at ... words per minute.
QRS	Shall I send more slowly?	Send more slowly (... words per minute).
QRT	Shall I stop sending?	Stop sending.
QRU	Have you anything for me?	I have nothing for you.
QRV	Are you ready?	I am ready.
QRW	Shall I inform ... that you are calling him on ... kHz (<i>or</i> MHz)?	Please inform ... that I am calling him on ... kHz (<i>or</i> MHz).
QRX	When will you call me again?	I will call you again at ... hours on ... kHz (<i>or</i> MHz).
QRY	What is my turn? (<i>Relates to communication.</i>)	Your turn is Number ... (<i>or according to any other indication.</i>) (<i>Relates to communication.</i>)
QRZ	Who is calling me?	You are being called by ... (on ... kHz(<i>or</i> MHz)).
QSA	What is the strength of my signals (<i>or</i> those of ... (<i>name and/or call sign</i>))?	The strength of your signals (<i>or</i> those of ... (<i>name and/or call sign</i>)) is ... 1. scarcely perceptible 2. weak 3. fairly good 4. good 5. very good.

Abbreviation	Question	Answer or Advice
QSB	Are my signals fading?	Your signals are fading.
QSC	Are you a low traffic ship station?	I am a low traffic ship station.
QSD	Are my signals mutilated?	Your signals are mutilated.
QSE*	What is the estimated drift of the survival craft?	The estimated drift of the survival craft is ... (<i>figures and units</i>).
QSF*	Have you effected rescue?	I have effected rescue and am proceeding to ... base (with ... persons injured requiring ambulance).
QSG	Shall I send ... telegrams at a time?	Send ... telegrams at a time.
QSH	Are you able to home with your direction-finding equipment?	I am able to home with my direction-finding equipment (on ... (<i>name and/or call sign</i>)).
QSI		I have been unable to break in on your transmission. <i>or</i> Will you inform ... (<i>name and/or call sign</i>) that I have been unable to break in on his transmission (on ... kHz (<i>or</i> MHz)).
QSJ	What is the charge to be collected to ... including your internal charge?	The charge to be collected to ... including my internal charge is ... francs.
QSK	Can you hear me between your signals and if so may I break in on your transmission?	I can hear you between my signals; break in on my transmission.
QSL	Can you acknowledge receipt?	I am acknowledging receipt.

Abbreviation	Question	Answer or Advice
QSM	Shall I repeat the last telegram which I sent you (<i>or</i> some previous telegram)?	Repeat the last telegram which you sent me (<i>or</i> telegram(s) number(s) ...).
QSN	Did you hear me (<i>or</i> ... (<i>name and/or call sign</i>)) on ... kHz (<i>or</i> MHz)?	I did hear you (<i>or</i> ... (<i>name and/or call sign</i>)) on ... kHz (<i>or</i> MHz).
QSO	Can you communicate with ... (<i>name and/or call sign</i>) direct (<i>or</i> by relay)?	I can communicate with ... (<i>name and/or call sign</i>) direct (<i>or</i> by relay through ...).
QSP	Will you relay to ... (<i>name and/or call sign</i>) free of charge?	I will relay to ... (<i>name and/or call sign</i>) free of charge.
QSQ	Have you a doctor on board (<i>or</i> is ... (<i>name of person</i>) on board)?	I have a doctor on board (<i>or</i> ... (<i>name of person</i>) is on board).
QSR	Shall I repeat the call on the calling frequency?	Repeat your call on the calling frequency; did not hear you (<i>or</i> have interference).
QSS	What working frequency will you use?	I will use the working frequency ... kHz (<i>or</i> MHz) (<i>in the high frequency bands normally only the last three figures of the frequency need be given</i>).
QSU	Shall I send or reply on this frequency (<i>or</i> on ... kHz (<i>or</i> MHz)) (with emissions of class ...)?	Send or reply on this frequency (<i>or</i> on ... kHz (<i>or</i> MHz)) (with emissions of class ...).
QSV	Shall I send a series of Vs (<i>or</i> signs) for adjustment on this frequency (<i>or</i> on ... kHz (<i>or</i> MHz))?	Send a series of Vs (<i>or</i> signs) for adjustment on this frequency (<i>or</i> on ... kHz (<i>or</i> MHz)).

Abbreviation	Question	Answer or Advice
QSW	Will you send on this frequency (<i>or on ... kHz (or MHz)</i>) (with emissions of class ...)?	I am going to send on this frequency (<i>or on ... kHz (or MHz)</i>) (with emissions of class ...).
QSX	Will you listen to ... (<i>name and/or call sign(s)</i>) on ... kHz (<i>or MHz</i>), or in the bands .../ channels ...?	I am listening to ... (<i>name and/or call sign(s)</i>) on ... kHz (<i>or MHz</i>), or in the bands .../ channels ...
QSY	Shall I change to transmission on another frequency?	Change to transmission on another frequency (<i>or on ... kHz (or MHz)</i>).
QSZ	Shall I send each word or group more than once?	Send each word or group twice (<i>or ... times</i>).
QTA	Shall I cancel telegram (<i>or message</i>) number ...?	Cancel telegram (<i>or message</i>) number ...
QTB	Do you agree with my counting of words?	I do not agree with your counting of words; I will repeat the first letter or digit of each word or group.
QTC	How many telegrams have you to send?	I have ... telegrams for you (<i>or for ... (name and/or call sign)</i>).
QTD*	What has the rescue vessel or rescue aircraft recovered?	... (<i>identification</i>) has recovered... 1. ... (<i>number</i>) survivors 2. wreckage 3. ... (<i>number</i>) bodies.
QTE	What is my TRUE bearing from you? <i>or</i> What is my TRUE bearing from ... (<i>name and/or call sign</i>)? <i>or</i>	Your TRUE bearing from me is ... degrees at ... hours. <i>or</i> Your TRUE bearing from ... (<i>name and/or call sign</i>) was ... degrees at ... hours. <i>or</i>

Abbreviation	Question	Answer or Advice
QTE (cont.)	What is the TRUE bearing of ... (<i>name and/or call sign</i>) from ... (<i>name and/or call sign</i>)?	The TRUE bearing of ... (<i>name and/or call sign</i>) from ... (<i>name and/or call sign</i>) was ... degrees at ... hours.
QTF	Will you give me my position according to the bearings taken by the direction-finding stations which you control?	Your position according to the bearings taken by the direction-finding stations which I control was ... latitude, ... longitude (<i>or other indication of position</i>), class ... at ... hours.
QTG	Will you send two dashes of ten seconds each (<i>or carrier</i>) followed by your call sign (<i>or name</i>) (repeated ... times) on ... kHz (<i>or MHz</i>)? or Will you request ... (<i>name and/or call sign</i>) to send two dashes of ten seconds each (<i>or carrier</i>) followed by his call sign (<i>and/or name</i>) (repeated ... times) on ... kHz (<i>or MHz</i>)?	I am going to send two dashes of ten seconds each (<i>or carrier</i>) followed by my call sign (<i>or name</i>) (repeated ... times) on ... kHz (<i>or MHz</i>). or I have requested ... (<i>name and/or call sign</i>) to send two dashes of ten seconds each (<i>or carrier</i>) followed by his call sign (<i>and/or name</i>) (repeated ... times) on ... kHz (<i>or MHz</i>).
QTH	What is your position in latitude and longitude (<i>or according to any other indication</i>)?	My position is ... latitude, ... longitude (<i>or according to any other indication</i>).
QTI*	What is your TRUE course?	My TRUE course is ... degrees.

Abbreviation	Question	Answer or Advice
QTJ*	What is your speed? <i>(Requests the speed of a ship or aircraft through the water or air respectively.)</i>	My speed is ... knots (<i>or</i> kilometres per hour <i>or</i> ... statute miles per hour). <i>(Indicates the speed of a ship or aircraft through the water or air respectively.)</i>
QTK*	What is the speed of your aircraft in relation to the surface of the Earth?	The speed of my aircraft in relation to the surface of the Earth is ... knots (<i>or</i> ... kilometres per hour <i>or</i> ... statute miles per hour).
QTL*	What is your TRUE heading?	My TRUE heading is ... degrees.
QTM*	What is your MAGNETIC heading?	My MAGNETIC heading is ... degrees.
QTN	At what time did you depart from ... (<i>place</i>)?	I departed from ... (<i>place</i>) at ... hours.
QTO	Have you left dock (<i>or</i> port)?	I have left dock (<i>or</i> port).
	<i>or</i> Are you airborne?	<i>or</i> I am airborne.
QTP	Are you going to enter dock (<i>or</i> port)?	I am going to enter dock (<i>or</i> port).
	<i>or</i> Are you going to alight (<i>or</i> land)?	<i>or</i> I am going to alight (<i>or</i> land).
QTQ	Can you communicate with my station by means of the International Code of Signals (INTERCO)?	I am going to communicate with your station by means of the International Code of Signals (INTERCO).
QTR	What is the correct time?	The correct time is ... hours.
QTS	Will you send your call sign (<i>and/or</i> name) for ... seconds?	I will send my call sign (<i>and/or</i> name) for ... seconds.
QTT		The identification signal which follows is superimposed on another transmission.