

RECOMMENDATION ITU-R M.492-6*

**OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES FOR THE USE OF DIRECT-PRINTING
TELEGRAPH EQUIPMENT IN THE MARITIME MOBILE SERVICE**

(Question ITU-R 5/8)

(1974-1978-1982-1986-1990-1992-1995)

Summary

The Recommendation provides in Annex 1 operational procedures for the use of direct-printing telegraph equipment in communication between a ship and a coast station in the selective ARQ-mode on a fully automated or semi-automated basis and to a number of ship stations or a single ship in the broadcast FEC-mode. It also specifies interworking between equipments in accordance with technical characteristics given in Recommendations ITU-R M.476 and ITU-R M.625. Appendix 1 contains procedures for setting up of calls.

The ITU Radiocommunication Assembly,

considering

- a) that narrow-band direct-printing telegraph services are in operation using equipment as described in Recommendations ITU-R M.476, ITU-R M.625 and ITU-R M.692;
- b) that an improved narrow-band direct-printing telegraph system providing automatic identification and capable of using the 9-digit ship station identity is described in Recommendation ITU-R M.625;
- c) that the operational procedures necessary for such services should be agreed upon;
- d) that, as far as possible, these procedures should be similar for all services and for all frequency bands (different operational procedures may be required in frequency bands other than the HF and MF bands);
- e) that a large number of equipments complying with Recommendation ITU-R M.476 exist;
- f) that interworking between equipments in accordance with Recommendations ITU-R M.476 and ITU-R M.625 is required, at least for a transitional period,

recommends

- 1 that the operational procedures given in Annex 1 be observed for the use of narrow-band direct-printing telegraph equipment in accordance with either Recommendation ITU-R M.476 or ITU-R M.625 in the MF and HF bands of the maritime mobile service;
- 2 that when using direct-printing telegraphy or similar systems in any of the frequency bands allocated to the maritime mobile service, the call may, by prior arrangement, be made on a working frequency available for such systems.

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

ANNEX 1

Operational procedures**1 Mode A (ARQ)**

1.1 Methods used for setting up narrow-band direct-printing telegraph communications between a ship station and a coast station in the ARQ-mode should be on a fully automatic or semi-automatic basis, insofar that a ship station should have direct access to a coast station on a coast station receiving frequency and a coast station should have direct access to a ship station on a coast station transmitting frequency.

1.2 However, where necessary, prior contact by Morse telegraphy, radiotelephony or other means is not precluded.

1.3 Through connection to a remote teleprinter station over a dedicated circuit or to a subscriber of the international telex network may be achieved by manual, semi-automatic or automatic means.

NOTE 1 – Before an international automatic service can be introduced, agreement has to be reached on a numbering plan, traffic routing and charging. This should be considered by both the ITU-T and the ITU-R.

NOTE 2 – Recommendations ITU-R M.476 (see § 3.1.5) and ITU-R M.625 (see § 3.8) make provision for automatic re-establishment of radio circuits by rephasing in the event of interruption. However, it has been reported that this procedure has, in some countries, resulted in technical and operational problems when radio circuits are extended into the public switched network or to certain types of automated switching or store-and-forward equipments. For this reason, some coast stations do not accept messages if the rephasing procedure is used.

NOTE 3 – When a connection is set up in the ARQ mode with the international telex network via a coast station, where practicable the general requirements specified in ITU-T Recommendation U.63 should be met.

1.4 When, by prior arrangement, unattended operation is required for communication from a coast station to a ship station, or between two ship stations, the receiving ship station should have a receiver tuned to the other station's transmitting frequency and a transmitter tuned or a transmitter capable of being tuned automatically to the appropriate frequency and ready to transmit on this frequency.

1.5 For unattended operation a ship station should be called selectively by the initiating coast or ship station as provided for by Recommendations ITU-R M.476 and ITU-R M.625. The ship station concerned could have available traffic stored ready for automatic transmission on demand of the calling station.

1.6 At the "over" signal, initiated by the calling station, any available traffic in the ship's traffic store could be transmitted.

1.7 At the end of the communication, an "end of communication" signal should be transmitted, whereupon the ship's equipment should automatically revert to the "stand-by" condition.

1.8 A "free channel" signal may be transmitted by a coast station where necessary to indicate when a channel is open for traffic. The "free channel" signals should preferably be restricted to only one channel per HF band and their duration should be kept as short as possible. In accordance with Article 18 of the Radio Regulations and recognizing the heavy loading of the frequencies available for narrow-band direct printing in the HF bands, "free channel" signals should not be used in future planned systems.

1.9 The format of the "free channel" signal should be composed of signals in the 7-unit error detecting code as listed in § 2 of Annex 1 to Recommendation ITU-R M.476 and § 2 of Annex 1 to Recommendation ITU-R M.625. Three of these signals should be grouped into a block, the middle signal being the "signal repetition" (RQ), the first signal of the block being any of the signals VXKMCF TBOZA and the third signal of the block being any of the signals VMPCYFS OIRZDA (see Recommendation ITU-R M.491). These signals should be indicated in the ITU List of Coast Stations.

Selections of new signals should preferably be chosen to correspond to the first two digits of that coast station's 4-digit identification number. If this is not possible because the characters needed are not listed above, or if this is not desired because this combination is already in use by another coast station, it is preferred that a combination of characters be selected from those listed above in the second part of each row, i.e. TBOZA for the first signal and OIRZDA for the third signal of the free channel block. The signals in the block are transmitted at a modulation rate of 100 Bd and the blocks are separated by pauses of 240 ms. For manual systems this "free channel" signal should be interrupted either by a period of no signal or by a signal or signals, that would enable an operator to recognize the "free channel" condition by ear. An aurally recognizable signal, e.g. a Morse signal, may be used alone as the "free channel" signal in manual systems. At least 8 blocks of the 7-unit signal should be transmitted before interruption.

1.10 In the case of single frequency operation, as described in Recommendation ITU-R M.692, the free channel signal should be interrupted by listening periods of at least 3 s.

1.11 General operational procedures for setting up calls between ship stations and between ship stations and coast stations are given below and specific procedures are given in Appendix 1.

1.12 Manual procedures

1.12.1 Ship to coast station

1.12.1.1 The operator of the ship station establishes communication with the coast station by A1A Morse telegraphy, telephony or by other means using normal calling procedures. The operator then requests direct-printing communication, exchanges information regarding the frequencies to be used and, when applicable, gives the ship station the direct-printing selective call number assigned in accordance with Recommendation ITU-R M.476 or ITU-R M.625 as appropriate, or the ship station identity assigned in accordance with the Preface to List VII A.

1.12.1.2 The operator of the coast station then establishes direct-printing communication on the frequency agreed, using the appropriate identification of the ship.

1.12.1.3 Alternatively the operator of the ship station, using the direct-printing equipment, calls the coast station on a predetermined coast station receive frequency using the identification of the coast station assigned in accordance with Recommendation ITU-R M.476 or ITU-R M.625 as appropriate, or the coast station identity assigned in accordance with the Preface to List VII A.

1.12.1.4 The operator of the coast station then establishes direct-printing communication on the corresponding coast station transmit frequency.

1.12.2 Coast station to ship

1.12.2.1 The operator of the coast station calls the ship station by A1A Morse telegraphy, telephony or other means, using normal calling procedures.

1.12.2.2 The operator of the ship station then applies the procedures of § 1.12.1.1 or § 1.12.1.3.

1.12.3 Intership

1.12.3.1 The operator of the calling ship station establishes communication with the called ship station by A1A Morse telegraphy, telephony, or by other means, using normal calling procedures. The operator then requests direct-printing communication, exchanges information regarding the frequencies to be used and, when applicable, gives the direct-printing selective call number of the calling ship station assigned in accordance with Recommendation ITU-R M.476 or ITU-R M.625 as appropriate, or the ship station identity assigned in accordance with the Preface to List VII A.

1.12.3.2 The operator of the called ship station then establishes direct-printing communication on the frequency agreed, using the appropriate identification of the calling ship.