

ITU-R

Radiocommunication Sector of ITU

Recommendation ITU-R M.585-7 (03/2015)

Assignment and use of identities in the maritime mobile service

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



Foreword

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Series	Title
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BS	Broadcasting service (sound)
BT	Broadcasting service (television)
F	Fixed service
M	Mobile, radiodetermination, amateur and related satellite services
P	Radiowave propagation
RA	Radio astronomy
RS	Remote sensing systems
S	Fixed-satellite service
SA	Space applications and meteorology
SF	Frequency sharing and coordination between fixed-satellite and fixed service systems
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.585-7*

Assignment and use of identities in the maritime mobile service

(1982-1986-1990-2003-2007-2009-2012-2015)

Scope

This Recommendation provides guidance to administrations for the assignment and conservation of identity resources for the maritime mobile service. The limitations which constrain assignments for ships which utilize the satellite services of the global maritime distress and safety system (GMDSS) are described in this Recommendation.

Annex 1 describes formats for maritime mobile service identities (MMSI) of ship stations, coast stations, aircraft participating in search and rescue operations and other safety-related communications, automatic identification system (AIS) aids to navigation, and craft associated with a parent ship.

Annex 2 describes formats for identification of other maritime devices, such as handheld VHF transceivers with digital selective calling (DSC) and global navigation satellite system (GNSS), AIS-search and rescue transmitter (AIS-SART), man overboard (MOB) and emergency position indicating radio beacon (EPIRB)-AIS.

Annex 3 provides specific guidance to administrations for the assignment, management and conservation of identity resources for the maritime mobile service. This guidance further instructs administrations on methods for the reuse of MMSI assignments, particularly for the reuse of those with three trailing zeroes.

Keywords

MMSI, identities, maritime mobile service

List of Abbreviations

AIS	Automatic identification system
DSC	Digital selective calling
EPIRB	Emergency position indicating radio beacon
GMDSS	Global maritime distress and safety system
MID	Maritime indication digit
MMSI	Maritime mobile service identity
MOB	Man overboard
RCC	Rescue coordination centre
SAR	Search and rescue
SART	Search and rescue transmitter

The ITU Radiocommunication Assembly,

* This Recommendation should be brought to the attention of International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA), International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), International Hydrographic Organization (IHO), International Maritime Organization (IMO) and Committee International Radio Maritime (CIRM).

considering

- a) the need for structured identities for safety and telecommunication purposes in the maritime mobile service;
- b) that the maritime identifier in the maritime mobile service is based on a 9-digit structure;
- c) that the MMSI is one type of nine digit identifier;
- d) that the identities designated for devices for special purposes consist of a second type of 9-digit identifier;
- e) that the unique identity assigned to stations indicated in Annex 1 to this Recommendation should be the MMSI;
- f) that the identities used for other maritime devices for special purposes indicated in Annex 2 to this Recommendation are not necessarily unique and are not MMSI assignments;
- g) the need for all maritime identities to be usable with automated radiocommunication systems;
- h) that the identities assigned to ship stations, coast stations, aircraft participating in search and rescue operations and other safety-related communications, aids to navigation, craft associated with a parent ship, and used for establishing group calls should be of a similar nature;
- i) that it is possible to use the MMSI to establish a telephone call to a ship after routing through the public switched networks to an appropriate coast station;
- j) that the public switched networks in many countries have restrictions on the maximum number of digits that may be dialled or keyed to identify the called ship station and the routing coast station, which would prevent the translation of the complete MMSI directly into a diallable number for the ship that is compliant with Recommendation ITU-T E.164;
- k) that whatever restrictions may be required should, in the interests of the development of automatic shore-to-ship operations, be as few as possible;
- l) that mobile-satellite systems enable the maritime community to participate in or interwork with international public correspondence telecommunication systems on a fully automatic basis, utilizing the identities, naming and addressing scheme;
- m) that the current generation of mobile-satellite systems participating in the GMDSS have signalling and routing characteristics requiring ships using these networks to have an MMSI ending with three zeroes;
- n) that the numbering scheme specified for future generations of mobile-satellite systems participating in the GMDSS will be designed to meet the needs of the international public correspondence service and is unlikely to offer the facility to incorporate any part of the MMSI in a diallable number for a ship,

noting

that all devices referenced in this Recommendation are considered stations as defined in No. 1.61 of the Radio Regulations,

recommends

- 1 that ships complying with the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, as amended, and other ships equipped with automated radiocommunication systems, including AIS, DSC, and/or carrying alerting devices of the GMDSS should be assigned maritime mobile service identities in accordance with the Annex 1 to this Recommendation, as appropriate;