



**UK Radio Licence Interface Requirement 2026
for VHF radiotelephone equipment for general
communications and associated equipment for Class
“D” Digital Selective Calling (DSC)**

(Version 1.0)

98/34/EC Notification Number: 2000/251/UK

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References

- EN301 025 European Norm - Electromagnetic compatibility and Radio spectrum Matters (ERM); Technical characteristics and methods of measurement for VHF radiotelephone equipment for general communications and associated equipment for Class "D" Digital Selective Calling (DSC).
- RA 290 Radiocommunications Agency Coastal Station Radio Information Sheet

1. Foreword

- 1.1 The Radio Equipment and Telecommunications Terminal Equipment Directive 99/5/EC (R&TTE Directive) was implemented in the United Kingdom (UK) on the 8 April 2000 by The Radio Equipment and Telecommunications Terminal Equipment Regulations 2000, Statutory Instrument 2000 No. 730. In accordance with Articles 4.1 and 7.2 of Directive 1999/5/EC, this UK Radio Interface Requirement contains the requirements for the licensing and use of VHF radiotelephone equipment for general communications and associated equipment for class “D” Digital Selective Calling (DSC).
- 1.2 Nothing in this UK Radio Interface Requirement shall preclude the need for equipment to comply with Directive 1999/5/EC.
- 1.3 It is required by the Wireless Telegraphy Act 2006 that no radio equipment is installed or used in the UK except under the authority of a licence granted by or otherwise exempted by regulations made by the Secretary of State. It is a condition of such a licence or exemption regulations as appropriate that the equipment must meet the minimum requirements specified in this UK Radio Interface Requirement for the stated equipment types and for the stated frequency bands.
- 1.4 The requirements given in the main body of this UK Radio Interface Requirement will apply to the licensing of VHF radiotelephone equipment for general communications and associated equipment for class “D”DSC.
- 1.5 This UK Radio Interface Requirement will be revised as necessary, for example to follow:
 - i) current technology developments for reasons related to the effective and appropriate use of the spectrum in particular maximising spectrum utilisation; and
 - ii) changes to the available spectrum allocated for VHF radiotelephone equipment for general communications and associated equipment for class “D”DSC.
- 1.6 All UK Radio Interface Requirements notified under Directive 98/34/EC will be published and will be made available free of charge from the RA Information and Library Service and/or the RA web-site. The addresses for both the Library and the web-site are given on the back cover of this document.
- 1.7 Further information on this UK Radio Interface Requirement can be obtained from the technical enquiry contact given on the back of this document.

2. Minimum Equipment Requirements for Operation within the UK

- 2.1 The minimum radio requirements in this document are made for reasons related to the effective and appropriate use of the radio spectrum, in particular maximising spectrum utilisation.
- 2.2 This UK Radio Interface Requirement gives a high level description of how the spectrum in the UK is used for VHF radiotelephone equipment for general communications and associated equipment for class “D” DSC. It does not prescribe a technical interpretation of the ‘essential requirements’ of Directive 1999/5/EC.
- 2.3 This UK Radio Interface Requirement therefore stipulates the necessary equipment parameters for the licensing of VHF radiotelephone equipment for general communications and associated equipment for class “D” DSC. Table 2.1 contains the relevant equipment parameters. These together with the ‘essential requirement’ detailed in Article 3.2 of the Directive 1999/5/EC constitute the minimum equipment requirements for VHF radiotelephone equipment for general communications and associated equipment for class “D” DSC within the UK.
- 2.4 The technical parameters specified in the UK Radio Interface Requirement are applied to achieve the desired level of compatibility within the VHF radiotelephone equipment for general communications and associated equipment for class “D” DSC Service and with other radiocommunications services whilst promoting enterprise, innovation and competition.
- 2.5 This UK Radio Interface Requirement provides the necessary technical information which facilitates access to the VHF radiotelephone equipment for general communications and associated equipment for class “D” DSC Service spectrum by making clear the assumptions that are made in planning the use of the VHF radiotelephone equipment for general communications and associated equipment for class “D” DSC Service spectrum in the UK. It is not the intention of this UK Radio Interface Requirement to duplicate or impose any additional ‘essential requirements’ of the Directive 1999/5/EC on products. Any specified parameters within this document are for the purpose of identifying product options and not as a national product requirement.

Table 2.1: Minimum Equipment Requirements

Frequency Range	Licence Class & Radio Service	Additional Requirements	
156MHz to 163MHz	Ship Radio Licence. Maritime Mobile Service.	The channel plan, parameters, classes of emission and operation shall be in accordance with the relevant sections of the ITU Radio Regulations Articles S5, S19, S30-S33, S50-S54, S57-S58, Appxs S13-S16, S18. National channels shall be in accordance with the relevant section of the tables in RA290. Channels not licensed shall be disabled. It shall not be possible for the operator to unblock disabled channels.	

Channel Spacing	Class of Emission	Maximum carrier Power	Additional Requirements
25 kHz	G3E G2B (DSC)	25W	Licensed use of this equipment is dependent on the operator holding the relevant operator's certificate and Authority to Operate or the operator being under the direct personal supervision of a holder of the relevant operator's certificate and Authority to Operate. Authorisation on National channels (RA 290) is dependent on a related Coastal Station Radio licence.

Annex A Additional Performance Parameters (Informative)

- A.1 Reference standard EN 301 025 contains additional performance parameters and limits that the Radiocommunications Agency assume are fulfilled for VHF radiotelephone equipment for general communications and associated equipment for Class "D" Digital Selective Calling (DSC) for the maritime mobile service when planning and managing the radio spectrum in the UK.

Document history

Draft	Date	Changes
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Radiocommunications Agency

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