



Ship Radio Licence

Guidance Notes

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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 These notes are designed to help those applying for a Ship Radio Licence. The following notes cover the types of equipment that are licensable, specific requirements that the equipment must meet, radio operators certificates, Accounting Authorities, callsigns, Maritime Mobile Services Identities and other licensing information that applicants need to be aware of.
- 1.2 If the application form is not fully completed it may be returned to you in order to supply the missing details. If you are uncertain about the information required, please contact either the Radio Licensing Centre on 0870 243 4433 or the Agency's Aeronautical & Maritime Section on 020 7211 0215.
- 1.3 The Radiocommunications Agency is responsible for the effective management of the civil radio spectrum in the United Kingdom. Regulation is necessary to ensure that those who use radio equipment can do so without causing or suffering from undue interference.
- 1.4 The regulations governing the use of maritime radio are detailed in the International Radio Regulations, set by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), and the Wireless Telegraphy Act 1949, as amended. It is an offence to install or use any radio equipment on board a UK ship, craft, hovercraft, lightship or any other vessel predominantly moored in UK waters without a radio licence. This includes vessels registered in the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man. A Ship Radio Licence is required even if the transmitting equipment is not in constant use, or if it is used only for distress purposes.

2.0 What the licence covers

- 2.1 The Ship Radio Licence allows the licensee to install and if the relevant Maritime Radio Operators' Certificate of Competence and Authority to Operate is held, use any combination of maritime radio equipment listed below on a specified vessel.
 - Digital Selective Calling (DSC) equipment associated with the Global Maritime Distress & Safety System (GMDSS);
 - MF, HF, VHF equipment;
 - Satellite communications equipment (Ship Earth Stations);
 - RADAR; Search and Rescue Radar Transponders (SARTs);
 - Low powered, on board maritime UHF communications equipment;
 - On board repeater stations;
 - 121.5/123.1 MHz Aeronautical Search and Rescue equipment;
 - 121.5/243 MHz and 406/121.5 MHz Personal Locator Beacons (PLBs), 406 MHz and 1.6 GHz Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacons (EPIRBs).

- 2.2 VHF or VHF/DSC portable radios may only be used where these are not intended to be used on multiple vessels under the cover of a Ship Portable Radio Licence, see Section 3.
- 2.3 The Ship Radio Licence will comprise of a Licence Document, a Licence Terms Booklet and a Licence display disc. The licence will be valid for a period of one year unless surrendered by the licensee or revoked by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry. Once a licence has been issued a reminder will automatically be sent prior to the renewal date.
- 2.4 Licensees will be able to use an unlimited number of VHF and UHF handportables on the vessel identified in the Licence. None of the equipment covered by this licence, including safety equipment such as maritime EPIRBs and PLBs is licensed for use on land. A Licence will be needed even if EPIRBs are the only type of radio equipment carried on board the vessel. VHF/DSC portables are only licensed for use in UK territorial waters.
- 2.5 The equipment is authorised for operation on international maritime frequencies only. Additionally, pleasure craft owners will be able to use Channel M (157.850 MHz) and Channel M2 (161.425 MHz) in United Kingdom territorial waters only. Details of the international maritime VHF frequencies are listed on pages 10 and 11. In order for the equipment to be authorised for use it has to perform in accordance with relevant technical parameters; see Section 4.0.

3.0 Ship Portable Radio Licences

- 3.1 For licensing purposes, a portable radio is defined as a handheld portable VHF or VHF/DSC radio transceiver with an integral antenna and power supply which is not designed to be permanently installed on a vessel and which will be used on a number of different vessels.
- 3.2 A Ship Portable Radio Licence is required to cover portable maritime VHF, VHF/DSC radio equipment or PLBs intended for use on more than one vessel. If you wish to apply for a Ship Portable Radio Licence you should use form RA385.

4.0 Radio equipment conformance requirements

- 4.1 Equipment built to Merchant Shipping Standards: Any radio, radar or navigation equipment Type Approved under the European Marine Equipment Directive has been entirely acceptable for use on all UK vessels since 1 Jan 1999 and will continue to be acceptable for the foreseeable future. Such equipment bears the Wheel Mark.
- 4.2 Equipment Conforming to the Requirements of the European Radio Equipment and Telecommunications Terminal Equipment (R&TTE) Directive: Since 8 April 2000, all new marine radio and radar equipment (apart from equipment with a Wheel Mark) has had to comply with the R&TTE Directive before being placed on the market. Such equipment may be licensed for use on small craft in the UK, provided it meets the relevant UK Radio Interface Requirement.
- 4.3 Such equipment must bear the **CE Mark**, the identification number of a Notified Body (where one has been consulted by the manufacturer as part of the conformity assessment procedure), and where appropriate, the Alert Symbol (which signifies that there may be restrictions on how the equipment may be used or

that the equipment may not necessarily be put into service in all EU States).

The equipment must be accompanied by:

- a) A copy of the Declaration of Conformance to the requirements of the R&TTE Directive (or a simplified Statement of Compliance and information on where the formal Declaration of Conformance may be found).
- b) Information on its intended use, including the countries of the EU in which it is intended the equipment is to be used.**

Equipment, which additionally meets the requirements of any of the European Standards (ETS or EN) or International standards (IEC) listed over, is recommended.

4.4 Equipment previously approved under national type approval arrangements: it has remained permissible to sell equipment Type Approved prior to 8 April 2000 and some may still have been on the market when the R&TTE Directive came into force fully on 8 April 2001. This equipment will have been Type Approved to one or more of the standards listed overleaf and customers are advised to confirm this with the supplier. Nationally Type Approved equipment may continue to be licensed and installed on vessels but, since 8 April 2001, further supplies of such equipment may not be transferred from manufacturers or importers to retailers.

4.5 **UK Radio Interface Requirements applicable to maritime radio equipment for small craft under the R&TTE Directive:** Radio Interface Requirements are high level descriptions of how the spectrum should be used. They typically consist of the requirements related to intentional transmissions in allocated frequency bands. They do not prescribe technical interpretations of the essential requirements of the R&TTE Directive. (Some of the Radio Interface Requirements may be in draft form and are in the process of being published). The documents and a comprehensive list are available on the Agency web site: www.radio.gov.uk

5.0 Vessel callsigns

5.1 A callsign is allocated to the vessel when first issued with a Ship Radio Licence. It uniquely identifies the vessel within the International Maritime Mobile Service. The callsign remains with the vessel for the duration of its life regardless of changes of ownership or even vessel name. However the callsign is surrendered if the vessel ceases to be classed as a UK vessel or is destroyed. Therefore every effort is made to ensure that the callsign remains with the vessel.

5.2 Callsigns cannot be transferred between vessels.

6.0 Maritime Mobile Service Identity (MMSI) numbers

6.1 A Maritime Mobile Service Identity (MMSI) number uniquely identifies a vessel and is only issued to vessels fitted with Digital Selective Calling (DSC) and/or Ship Earth Station (SES) equipment. The UK administration does not issue MMSI numbers to EPIRBs.

6.2 In order to use SES equipment, arrangements must be made with an Inmarsat

Point of Service Activation Entity see Section 20 of these Guidance Notes. An MMSI number is required before the equipment can be commissioned.

- 6.3 If an MMSI has already been issued for use with DSC equipment and subsequently a satellite earth station terminal is installed, a new MMSI will be required and DSC equipment will need to be re-programmed. The Radio Licensing Centre issues MMSIs free of charge as part of a Ship Radio Licence.
- 6.4 The Agency notifies the ITU of all MMSI numbers issued by the UK. MMSIs are also made available to HM Coastguard to assist in Search and Rescue operations.
- 6.5 With the advent of new VHF/DSC portable radios in 2001 the Agency has set aside a unique block of MMSI numbers which will be allocated only to this equipment. This enables HM Coastguard to differentiate between alerts sent from fixed and portable VHF/DSC radio equipment.
- 6.6 If the vessel is fitted with a fixed DSC radio set with a vessel MMSI number allocated and a portable VHF/DSC unit is acquired, the existing MMSI must not, under any circumstances be programmed into the portable radio. The Radio Licensing Centre will allocate a “portable” MMSI number on request. The first four digits of a “portable” MMSI will always be 2359.

7.0 Selective calling (Selcall) numbers

- 7.1 A Selcall number is a code which when programmed into a radio receiver will ensure that the receiver will respond only to calls addressed to it.
- 7.2 Selcall numbers are added to the licence document in addition to the List of Ship Stations published by the ITU. If a Selcall number is required it must be specifically requested on the application form.

8.0 Payment of licence fees

- 8.1 The licence fee is valid for a period of one year. A separate fee is payable for each vessel being licensed.
- 8.2 Before expiry of the Licence the licensee will receive a renewal reminder. If the Licence is allowed to lapse a fresh application will be required. **Warning: it is an offence to use or install maritime radio equipment other than in accordance with the terms of a Licence issued by the Secretary of State.**
- 8.3 Refunds will only be made where there has been an overpayment, duplicate payment or when a licence application has been unsuccessful. Fees may vary from time-to-time and are set by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, with the approval of Parliament.
- 8.4 The current list of payment methods and fees can be found in Section F of the Ship Radio Licence application form.

9.0 Charities' concessionary fee

- 9.1 A concessionary fee for a Ship Radio Licence is available for licensees that meet the following criteria:
 - a) is a charity; and

b) has as its object the safety of human life in an emergency.

9.2 In the regulation, "charity" means a person or organisation which:

a) being subject to the laws of England and Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland, is a charity within the meaning of Section 506(1) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988; or

b) being subject to the laws of the Isle of Man, is registered as a charity under the Charities Registration Act 1989; or

c) being subject to the laws of Guernsey, is a member for the time being of the association of Guernsey Charities; or

d) being subject to the laws of Jersey, is a member for the time being of the Association of Jersey Charities.

9.3 Qualifying charities must provide documentary evidence of the registration according to a) to d) above or give the registered number of the charity at the time of application or renewal. Details of the fee are shown on the application form.

10.0 Other licensing information

Registration

10.1 A vessel does not need to be registered with an official body before an application for a Ship Radio Licence is made. Under normal circumstances, the Radiocommunications Agency is not able to licence vessels registered in countries other than the UK, Isle of Man and Channel Islands.

10.2 When a vessel needs to be registered to comply with the Merchant Shipping (Registration) Act 1993, details may be obtained from The Registrar General, Maritime and Coastguard Agency, Room 2/09A, Spring Place, 105 Commercial Road, Southampton, S015 1EG, Tel 02380 329100, Fax 02380 329252.

10.3 All changes to the Ship Radio Licence details, e.g. change of; ownership of the vessel, owner's address, radio equipment etc. must be notified to the Radio Licensing Centre in writing using form RA367. There is no charge for registering amendments.

10.4 It is advisable to keep the Ship Radio Licence documents with the radio equipment especially if the vessel is taken abroad. Foreign licensing administrations may confiscate the radio equipment where a valid Ship Radio Licence cannot be produced on demand.

10.5 If a bulk application has been made for a number of licences, each will be mailed separately.

Company applications

10.6 Whilst the Agency is able to accept applications where a company is named as the licensee a named contact must also be specified, and will be the first point of contact with the Agency. If the company box is ticked the applicant is declaring that the licensee is a limited company, and a company registration number must be supplied. If the company is not a limited company then another box

should be ticked.

11.0 Maritime Mobile Access and Retrieval System (MARS) database

- 11.1 The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) requires the Agency to collect information about vessels being licensed and what equipment is being used. This information is held on the ITU's Maritime Mobile Access and Retrieval System (MARS) database which is supplied for the use of Port Authorities and Search and Rescue organisations worldwide.
- 11.2 Much of this information is mandatory and for this reason Section B of the application form asks for information such as the tonnage of a vessel, its type and how many people it can carry. The Agency is obliged to supply this information to the ITU and so if it is not completed in full on the application form the Agency will be unable to issue a licence and the application form will be returned to the applicant.
- 11.3 There is some additional information which the ITU records on its MARS database and this is collected in Section F of the application form. This information is not mandatory and a licence can be issued even if it is not supplied. It is anticipated that much of this information is only relevant to larger passenger carrying vessels which routinely sail out of UK territorial waters. An explanation of this additional information follows.
- 11.4 The national telex number and Selcall number should be supplied where these have been issued to the vessel.
- 11.5 Both the General Classification and Individual Classification fields are for codes that identify the type of vessel. A full list of these codes is given in Section 22 of these Guidance Notes.
- 11.6 The nature of service is a code for the type of international correspondence service maintained by the vessel. The codes are as follows:
- CO - a station open to official correspondence only
 - CP - a station open to public correspondence
 - CR - a station open to limited public correspondence
 - CV - a station open exclusively to correspondence of a private agency
 - OT - a station open exclusively to operational traffic of the service concerned
- 11.7 Services available refers to the specific services provided by a station open to public correspondence. The services available are indicated by one or more of the following codes:
- C - radiotelephone calls
 - D - radiotelex calls
 - O - OBS messages (voluntary observing Ship)
 - P - facsimile communications
 - R - radiotelegrams
- 11.8 Hours of service refers to the availability of the public correspondence services offered by a vessel. This should be indicated by one of the following codes:

406 MHz EPIRB REGISTRATION
(Please see Section 13 of these Guidance Notes)

406 MHz EPIRB/PLB REGISTRATION

COSPAS/SARSAT No: (Please leave blank):

TO BE COMPLETED BY EPIRB/PLB OWNER:

Name of vessel

Type of vessel (please tick box)

Merchant Fishing Pleasure
 Rig/Platform

Maximum number of persons carried

MMSI

Callsign

Radio (please tick box):

Inmarsat A B C M
 MF HF VHF VHF/DSC portable
 MF/DSC HF/DSC VHF/DSC

Specify beacon (please tick box):

Device 1	Device 2
<input type="checkbox"/> EPIRB <input type="checkbox"/> PLB	<input type="checkbox"/> EPIRB <input type="checkbox"/> PLB

Beacon manufacturer's name

Beacon type (from the label on the beacon)

Beacon serial no
(from the label on the beacon)

Hex Id (15 characters)
(from the label on the beacon)

Device 1	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Device 2	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

OWNER'S DETAILS

Name

Address

TELEPHONE/CONTACT NUMBERS (must include full STD code)

Owner's home telephone number

24 hour emergency telephone contact number(s)

Alternative contact details

IMPORTANT: The owner should contact the EPIRB REGISTRY if no acknowledgement is received within two weeks.

Contact: The EPIRB Registry, HM Coastguard Southern (Falmouth), Pendennis Point, Castle Drive, Falmouth, Cornwall, TR11 4WZ. Tel: 01326 211 569 Fax: 01326 319 264

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- H24 - continuous service throughout the twenty four hours
- H16 - 16 hour service provided by a ship station of the second category
- H8 - 8 hour service provided by a ship station of the third category
- HX - intermittent service throughout the twenty four hours, or station having no specific working hours (generally applicable to pleasure craft)
- HJ - day service
- HN - night service

12.0 Enquiries

12.1 Enquiries about your application should be made to:

Radio Licensing Centre

P.O. Box 1495
Bristol BS99 3QS

Tel: 0870 243 4433

Fax: 0117 975 8911

Minicom: 0117 921 9550 (For hearing impaired customers ONLY, special equipment is required to use this service).

Website: www.radiolicensingcentre.co.uk

Email: radio.licensing.centre@postoffice.com

Hours of business: Monday-Friday 9am-5pm, answerphone is available outside these hours.

In order to comply with the requirements of the Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act (CPI) 1996, all telephone calls to the Radio Licensing Centre are recorded. If you would prefer to write, please send all communications to the above address.

12.2 Licensees are allocated a unique reference number. This reference should be quoted when making a telephone enquiry and entered clearly on all cheques and correspondence with the Radio Licensing Centre.

13.0 International maritime VHF frequencies table

These are the only international maritime VHF frequencies that may be used. (Details of maritime frequencies in other bands are given in the Ship Radio Licence Terms Booklet issued with the Ship Radio Licence).

Channel designators	Notes	Transmitting frequencies (MHz)		Inter ship	Port operation and ship movement		Public correspondence
		Ship stations	Coast stations		Single frequency	Two frequency	
60		156.025	160.625			X	X
01		156.050	160.650			X	X
61		156.075	160.675			X	X
02		156.100	160.700			X	X
62		156.125	160.725			X	X
03		156.150	160.750			X	X
63		156.175	160.775			X	X
04		156.200	160.800			X	X
64		156.225	160.825			X	X
05		156.250	160.850			X	X
65		156.275	160.875			X	X
06	(1)	156.300		X			
66		156.325	160.925			X	X
07		156.350	160.950			X	X
67		156.375	156.375	X	X		
08		156.400		X			
68		156.425	156.425		X		
09		156.450	156.450	X	X		
69		156.475	156.475	X	X		
10		156.500	156.500	X	X		
70		156.525	156.525	Exclusively for Digital Selective Calling for Distress, Safety and Calling			
11		156.550	156.550		X		
71		156.575	156.575		X		
12		156.600	156.600		X		
72		156.625		X			
13		156.650	156.650	X	X		
73		156.675	156.675	X	X		
14		156.700	156.700		X		
74		156.725	156.725		X		
15	(2)	156.750	156.750	X	X		
75	(4)	156.775			X		

Channel designators	Notes	Transmitting frequencies (MHz)		Inter ship	Port operation and ship movement		Public correspondence
		Ship stations	Coast stations		Single frequency	Two frequency	
16		156.800	156.800	Distress, Safety and Calling			
76	(4)	156.825			X		
17	(2)	156.850	156.850	X	X		
77		156.875		X			
18		156.900	156.900		X	X	X
78		156.925	161.525			X	X
19		156.950	161.550			X	X
79		156.975	161.575			X	X
20		157.000	161.600			X	X
80		157.025	161.625			X	X
21		157.050	161.650			X	X
81		157.075	161.675			X	X
22		157.100	161.700			X	X
82		157.125	161.725		X	X	X
23		157.150	161.750			X	X
83		157.175	161.775		X	X	X
24		157.200	161.800			X	X
84		157.225	161.825		X	X	X
25		157.250	161.850			X	X
85		157.275	161.875		X	X	X
26		157.300	161.900			X	X
86		157.325	161.925		X	X	X
27		157.350	161.950			X	X
87		157.375			X		
28		157.400	162.000			X	X
88		157.425			X		
AIS 1	(3)	161.975	161.975				
AIS 2	(3)	162.025	162.025				

Notes:

1. The frequency 156.300 MHz (channel 06) may also be used for communications between ship stations and aircraft stations engaged in co-ordinated search and rescue operations. Ship stations shall avoid harmful interference to such communications on channel 06 as well as to communications between aircraft stations, ice-breakers and assisted ships during ice seasons.
2. Channels 15 and 17 may also be used for on-board communications provided the effective radiated power does not exceed 1W.
3. These channels (AIS 1 and AIS 2) will be used for an automatic ship identification and surveillance system capable of providing worldwide operation on high seas, unless other frequencies are designated on a regional basis for this purpose.
4. The use of these channels (75 and 76) should be restricted to navigation-related communications only and all precautions should be taken to avoid harmful interference to channel 16, e.g. by limiting the output power to 1W or by means of geographical separation.

14.0 Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacons (EPIRBs) and Personal Locator Beacons (PLBs)

- 14.1 Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacons (EPIRBs) and Personal Locator Beacons (PLBs) are self contained battery operated radio transmitters, the purpose of which is to facilitate search and rescue operations. EPIRBs and PLBs are intended for marine use only and should not be used on land.
- 14.2 There are several types of EPIRB and PLB in use in the United Kingdom; those that operate on the aeronautical distress frequencies 121.5 MHz or 121.5 MHz and 243 MHz and more sophisticated models operating on 406 MHz/121.5 MHz and 1.6 GHz. These last two have a unique identification code, which identifies the vessel to which it has been registered.
- 14.3 It is vital that all 406 MHz/121.5 MHz EPIRBs and PLBs are registered with the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA). The details provide the rescue co-ordination centres with information needed to assist a search and rescue operation. Failure to register an EPIRB will seriously degrade its usefulness to the search and rescue services in the event of an emergency and could even put lives at risk.

406 MHz EPIRBs and PLBs

- 14.4 The details provided in Section E of the Ship Radio Licence application form will be sent to the MCA EPIRB Registry. After having applied for a Ship Radio Licence, should you acquire, or transfer a 406 MHz EPIRB or PLB to another owner and/or vessel, the MCA EPIRB Registry must be notified using the form in the centre of these Guidance Notes. In addition, the Radio Licensing Centre must be advised in writing.

1.6 GHz EPIRBs

- 14.5 1.6 GHz EPIRBs must be registered with the Inmarsat Customer Activation Group (CAG), telephone 020 7728 1372, fax 020 7728 1142. After having applied for a Ship Radio Licence, should you acquire, or transfer a 1.6 GHz EPIRB to another owner and/or vessel, Inmarsat CAG must be notified. In addition, the Radio Licensing Centre must be advised in writing.
- 14.6 An information sheet (RA 258) concerning the safe handling of EPIRBs is available free of charge from the Radiocommunications Agency's library, telephone 020 7211 0211.

15.0 Operator's qualifications

- 15.1 Whilst it is not necessary to hold a Certificate of Competence in order to obtain a Ship Radio Licence, a maritime radio may be operated only by or under the direct personal supervision of a holder of the appropriate Certificate of Competence and Authority to Operate. This is to maintain operational standards and ensure knowledge of current distress, emergency and safety procedures. The certificate holder is required to produce these documents when requested to do so by a person authorised by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

15.2 The minimum Certificate of Competence that is required for use of a ship portable radio is the Short Range Certificate. This certificate covers use of both standard VHF and VHF/DSC equipment under the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System in sea area A1.

15.3 The training and examinations for these certificates are carried out by:

Royal Yachting Association

RYA House

Romsey Road

Eastleigh

Hampshire SO5 4YA

Tel: 023 8062 7400

Further details can also be obtained from the MCA, telephone 023 8032 9100

16.0 United Kingdom telephone calls

16.1 In June 1999 British Telecom ceased providing many commercial maritime services through its coast stations due to a substantial decline in demand.

16.2 These services included the provision of link calls made from a vessel to the UK public telephone network. There are no plans for another organisation to provide this service.

16.3 The Maritime and Coastguard Agency has assumed responsibility for providing maritime safety information and medical link calls previously provided by BT coast stations.

17.0 Foreign calls

17.1 In order to make a call from abroad (including the Channel Islands) using a foreign coast station, the licensee must have first entered into a contract with a Maritime Accounting Authority (MAA) and be able to quote the relevant Accounting Authority Identification Code (AAIC) to the coast station operator.

17.2 Coast stations will hold a copy of the ITU list of ship stations. This gives details of the MAA that the vessel is using as its agent for billing purposes. In turn, that MAA will invoice the licensee, for any call charges incurred. The ship station details will be sent to the ITU for inclusion in their list of ship stations when applying for, or amending a licence.

17.3 Information on MAAs is available from the Agency in information sheet RA390 entitled Maritime Radio Accounting Authorities.

18.0 Visual Signal Letters (VSL)

18.1 VSLs are flags or combination of flags used before radio as a means of identification and communication. A vessel that previously has used VSLs may retain them as its callsign upon application. Where this is required, a formal written application must be made, and included with the application form.

19.0 Amateur radio stations on board UK registered ships

- 19.1 The establishment and use of amateur radio stations on board United Kingdom registered ships is permitted under the Amateur Radio Licence, granted by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry. On board a vessel, the licensee shall:
- a) install, use or make changes to the station only with the written permission of the vessel's master;
 - b) observe radio silence when required by the vessel's master.
- 19.2 The full terms, provisions and limitations with which the licensee shall comply are available from the Agency's Amateur Radio Licensing Section, telephone 020 7211 0160.
- 19.3 It is important to ensure that radio is used correctly. At sea, lives may depend upon this. Consequently, there are severe penalties for not keeping within the law and these include fines, imprisonment and the forfeiture of anything used in connection with the offence. Those convicted of such offences may, in addition, face the revocation of their licence and the suspension of their authority to operate.

20.0 Inmarsat Point of Service Activation (PSA) entities

- 19.1 Details of PSAs are available by contacting Inmarsat's Customer Services Department, telephone +44 20 7728 1020 or Fax +44 20 7728 1142

21.0 Maritime (radio) accounting authorities contact details

A-N-D Group plc - (GBOI, GB05 & GB15)

Tanners Bank
North Shields, Tyne & Wear
NE30 1HJ
Tel: 0191 258 1635
Fax: 0191 296 4484

Cable & Wireless - (GB02) Ship Management Department

East Saxon House
27 Duke Street
Chelmsford, Essex
CM1 1HT
Tel: 01245 702000
Fax: 01245 348972

International Marine Radio Company Ltd - (GB03)

Morley House
Badminton Court
Church Street
Amersham, Bucks
HP7 ODA
Tel: 01494 434000
Fax: 01494 431993

Crescent Marine Services Ltd - (GB04)

Brunswick House
8-13 Brunswick Place
Southampton
SO15 2AP
Tel: 023 8063 9777
Fax: 023 8063 8308
Note: Commercial vessels only

British Telecom - (GB14) Aeronautical & Maritime

Billing
BT Delta Point
PP03A26
35 Wellesley Road
Croydon,
CR9 2YZ
Tel: 020 8666 7694
Fax: 020 8666 4922

Stephenson Clarke Shipping Ltd - (GB16) c/o Ships Electronic Services Ltd

Waterside Court
Neptune Close
Rochester
Kent, ME2 4NZ
Tel: 01634 295500
Fax: 01634 295536
Note: Commercial vessels only

F T Everard & Sons Ltd - (GB17) c/o Ships Electronic Services Ltd

Waterside Court
Neptune Close
Rochester Kent,
ME2 4NZ
Tel: 01634 295500
Fax: 01634 295536
Note: Commercial vessels only

James Fisher Tankerships Ltd - (GB18) c/o Ships Electronic Services Ltd

Waterside Court
Neptune Close
Rochester
Kent,
ME2 4NZ
Tel: 01634 295500
Fax: 01634 295536
Note: Commercial vessels only

Yacht Electronic Services (UK) Ltd - (GB20)

2 Mill Row
Bexley,
Kent,
DA5 1LA
Tel: 01322 556633
Fax: 01322 556634

Peninsular Electronics Limited - (GB06)

Broadquay House

Orpen Park

Ash Ridge Road

Almondsbury

Bristol

BS12 4QD

Tel: 01454 201777

Fax: 01454 205201/617310

GEC-Marconi Communications Systems Ltd - (GB08)**Marconi Marine Division**

Marconi House

New Street,

Chelmsford

Essex

CM1 1PL

Tel: 01245 353221

Fax: 01245 358776

ABB Nera Ltd - (GB11)

20 Imperial Way

Croydon

Surrey,

CR0 4RR

Tel: 020 8686 5701

Fax: 020 8680 8206

Bachmann Marine Services Ltd -(GB12)

Frances House

Sir William Place

St Peter Port

Guernsey

Channel Islands,

GY1 4HQ

Tel: 01481 723573

Fax: 01481 711353

Helexo Co Ltd - (GB13)

31 High Street Colliers

Wood London

SW19 2JE

Tel: 020 8542 4916

Fax: 020 8540 8047

BPI Communications Ltd - (GB21)

Equinox House

Oriel Court

Alton,

GU34 2YT

Tel: 01420 544533

Fax: 01420 544766

Societa Italiana Radio Marittima - (IU02)

Piazzale Giulio Douhet 25

I-00143 Roma EUR,

Italy

Tel: +39 6 59614285

Fax: +39 6 59614284

Telex: 610293 SIRMi

Campagna Generale Telemar - (IU03)

Viale Tiziano, 19

I-00196 Roma

Italy

Tel: +39 6 3221800

Fax: +39 6 3240148

AWA Electronic Services - (AAOI)

78-82 Wyndham Street

Alexandria

NSW 2015

Australia

Tel: +61 2 310 3022

Fax: +61 2 310 3662

SAIT Communications SA - (BE02)

Sait-Radio Holland Group

Chaussee de Ruisbroek 66

B-1190 Brussels

Belgium

Tel: +32 2 370 5334

Fax: +32 2 332 3327

N.B. The associated AAIC codes are shown in italics, alongside the company name.

22.0 Symbols which designate classes of ships

General classifications

FV	Ship of a fishing fleet
GV	Official service ship
MM	Merchant ship
NF	River vessel
NS	Naval ship
PL	Pleasure ship
SV	Rescue vessel
XX	Unspecified

Individual classifications

ACV	Air-cushion vehicle
AUX	Auxiliary ship
AVI	Despatch vessel
BAR	Lighter
BLK	Bulk carrier
BLN	Whaler
BLS	Buoy ship
BTA	Factory ship
CA	Cargo ship
CAB	Coaster
CBL	Cable ship
CGT	Coast-guard
CHA	Barge
CHR	Trawler
CIM	Cement carrier
CIT	Tanker
COA	Collier
CON	Container ship
COR	Corvette
CRO	Cruiser
CTR	Cutter
DES	Destroyer
DIV	Ship used by divers
DMN	Minesweeper
DOU	Customs launch
DRG	Dredger
DRY	Dry cargo
DUN	Ketch
ECO	Training ship
ESC	Escort ship
	Survey ship
FBT	Ferry

FPS	Fast patrol ship
FRG	Reefer
FRM	Weather ship
FRT	Frigate
FRU	Fruit carrier
GEN	General cargo
GOL	Schooner
GRC	Grain carrier
GRF	Floating Crane
GS	Warship
HOP	Hospital ship
HYD	Hydrographic ship
ICE	Ice breaker
ICN	Waste incinerator
INS	Inspection ship
LAN	Lobster ship
LOU	Lugger
MOR	Banker
MOU	Mine layer
MTB	Motor boat
NET	Pollution and surface clearance vessel
NVP	Naviplane
OBO	Ore-bulk-oil carrier
OIL	Oil tanker
OSC	Oceanographic ship
OSV	Ocean-station vessel
PA	Passenger ship
PAQ	Liner
PBE	Livestock carrier
PCH	Barge carrier
PER	Drilling unit
PH	Fishing vessel
PHA	Lightship
PHR	Lighthouse tender
PHS	Fishing guard
PLE	Platform
PLT	Pilot tender
PMP	Firefloat
PMX	Cargo and passenger
PON	Pontoon
PTA	Aircraft carrier
PTH	Helicopter carrier
RAM	Salvage ship

RAV	Supply vessel
ROC	Rock breaker
ROU	RoRo ship
SAU	Rescue vessel
SEC	Stand-by safety vessel
SLO	Sloop
SMN	Submarine
SRV	Patrol ship
THO	Tunny ship
TPG	Liquefied gas carrier
TPO	Ore carrier
TPS	Solvent carrier
TPT	Transport
TPW	Forest-product carrier
TRA	Tramp
TUG	Pusher Tug
TVH	Vehicle carrier
VDO	Launch
VDT	Hydrofoil
VLR	Sailing ship
XXX	Unspecified
YAT	Yacht

24.0 Contacts for further information

General maritime licensing policy enquiries

Inc. Ships, Coastal Station Radio (CSR) application forms, Navigational Aids & RADAR licence processing: contact AMS on 020 7211 0215/0217, e-mail: AMS@ra.gsi.gov.uk

Ship Radio Licence processing enquiries

The Radio Licensing Centre

PO Box 1495
Bristol, BS99 3QS.

Tel: 0870 243 4433

Fax: 0117 975 8911

Website: www.radiollicence-centre.co.uk

For information on Amateur & CB Radio contact the Amateur & CB Section on: 020 7211 0160, e-mail: AMACB@ra.gsi.gov.uk

For general information on Marine Radio Operator's Certificates and the GMDSS contact the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) on 0870 600 6505 or visit www.mcagency.org.uk

For details of the Short-Range Certificate (GMDSS, VHF)

Including where training and courses are available, contact the Royal Yachting Association on 02380 627 400 or visit www.rya.org.uk

For details of the Long Range Certificate, (GMDSS, VHF, MF, HF and satellite communications), Restricted Operator's Certificate and the General Operator's Certificate

contact the Association of Marine Electronic & Radio Colleges (AMERC) on 01539 440 218 or visit www.amerc.ac.uk/

For details about registration of PLBs and EPIRBs

contact the EPIRB Registry on 01326 211 569

For details on Inmarsat satellite communications equipment

contact Inmarsat on 020 7728 1777

For further information about the ITU

visit their website at www.itu.int

The Agency produces information sheets and publications on most aspects of its work.

They are available from the Agency Library on 020 7211 0502/0505, or e-mailing library.ra@gsi.gov.uk or can be downloaded from the Agency's website at www.radio.gov.uk It is also possible to subscribe to the Library (free of charge) and receive updates and new releases; details are available from the above contact options.

