

# UK Interface Requirement 2031

**Radar Beacons (Racons) (3GHz and 9GHz) in the Maritime  
Radionavigation service**

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# Contents

Section	Page
1 References	3
2 Foreword	4
3 Minimum equipment requirements	5
4 Additional performance parameters (Informative)	7
5 Contact details	8
6 Document history	9

## Section 1

# References

- 1.1 Recommendation ITU-R M.824 - Technical parameters of radar beacons (racons).

## Section 2

# Foreword

- 2.1 The Radio Equipment Directive (Directive 2014/53/EU) was implemented in the United Kingdom (UK) by the Radio Equipment Regulations 2017. In accordance with Articles 8 and 7 of Directive 2014/53/EU, this UK Interface Requirement contains the requirements for the licensing and use of Racons (3GHz and 9GHz) in the maritime radionavigation service in the specified frequency bands.
- 2.2 Nothing in this UK Radio Interface Requirement shall preclude the need for equipment to comply with Directive 2014/53/EU.
- 2.3 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 Ofcom. 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 Interface Requirement for the stated equipment types and for the stated frequency bands.
- 2.4 The requirements given in the main body of this UK Radio Interface Requirement will apply to the licensing of Racons (3 GHz and 9 GHz) in the maritime radionavigation service.
- 2.5 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 Racons (3 GHz and 9 GHz) in the maritime radionavigation service.
- 2.6 All UK Radio Interface Requirements notified under Directive 2015/1535/EU will be published and will be made available free of charge from the Ofcom web-site at <http://www.ofcom.org.uk>
- 2.7 Further information on this UK Radio Interface Requirement can be obtained from the technical enquiry contact given at the back of this document.

### Section 3

# Minimum equipment requirements for operation within the UK

- 3.1 The minimum requirements in this document are made for reasons related to the effective and appropriate use of the radio spectrum, in particular, maximising spectrum utilisation.
- 3.2 This UK Radio Interface Requirement gives a high level description of how the spectrum in the UK is used for Racons (3 GHz and 9 GHz) in the maritime radionavigation service. It does not prescribe technical interpretation of the 'essential requirements' of Directive 2014/53/EU.
- 3.3 This UK Radio Interface Requirement therefore stipulates the necessary equipment parameters for the licensing of Racons (3 GHz and 9 GHz) in the maritime radionavigation service in the UK. Table 3.1 contains the relevant equipment parameters. These together with the 'essential requirements' detailed in Article 3.2 of Directive 2014/53/EU constitute the minimum equipment requirements for Racons (3 GHz and 9 GHz) in the maritime radionavigation service within the UK.
- 3.4 The technical parameters specified in the UK Radio Interface Requirement are applied to achieve the desired level of compatibility within the maritime radionavigation service and with other radiocommunications services, whilst promoting enterprise, innovation and competition.
- 3.5 This UK Radio Interface requirement provides the necessary technical information which facilitates access to the maritime radionavigation service spectrum by making clear the assumptions that are made in planning the use of the maritime radionavigation 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 2014/53/EU on products. Any specified parameters within this document are for the purpose of identifying product options and not as a national de facto product requirement.

**Table 3.1: Minimum equipment requirements for Racons (3 GHz and 9 GHz) in the maritime mobile service**

1	Frequency band (or bands)	2900 MHz – 3100 MHz or 9300 – 9500 MHz
2	Radio service	Maritime radionavigation service
3	Application	Maritime Navigational Aids, Automatic Identification Systems (AIS) and Radar Licence. In the case of a Navigational Aid licence, licensing is subject to successful frequency co-ordination.
4	Channelling modulation	QON
5	Maximum transmit power limit	50 W (17dBW)
6	Channel occupation rules	N/A
7	Duplex type/separation	N/A
8	Licensing Regime	Maritime Navigational Aids, Automatic Identification Systems (AIS) and Radar Licence.
9	Additional essential requirements	The bandwidth occupied by the emissions shall be maintained wholly within the band allocated to the service.
10	Frequency planning assumptions	N/A
11	Reference	Recommendation ITU-R M.824
12	Remarks	N/A
13	Notification Number	2000/254/UK

**Section 4**

# Additional performance parameters

**(informative)**

IALA Recommendation R-101 on Marine Radar Beacons (racons)



## Section 5

# Contact details

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## Section 6

# Document history

Version	Date	Changes
1.0	04 Jan 2001	Published
2.0	21 Oct 2004	Rebranded to Ofcom format
3.0	January 2018	Replaced R&TTE Directive 1999/5/EC and Directive 98/34/EC with Radio Equipment Directive and Directive (EU) 2015/1535 respectively. Minor editorials