

IR 2021 - UK Interface Requirement 2021

**VHF Transmitters and Receivers for use at Coast
Stations in the Maritime Mobile Service**

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Section 1

References

- 1.1 EN 301 929 – Electromagnetic compatibility and Radio spectrum matters (ERM); VHF transmitters and receivers as Coast Stations for GMDSS and other Applications in the maritime mobile service
- 1.2 EN 300 338 – ETSI Telecommunications Standard – Electromagnetic Compatibility and Radio Spectrum Matters (ERM); Technical characteristics and methods of measurements for equipment for generation, transmission and reception of Digital Selective Calling (DSC) in the maritime MF, MF/HF and/or VHF mobile service.
- 1.3 EN 300 086 – Electromagnetic Compatibility and Radio Spectrum Matters (ERM); Land Mobile Service; Radio equipment with an internal or external RF connector Intended primarily for analogue speech.
- 1.4 EN 300 113-2- Electromagnetic compatibility and Radio spectrum Matters (ERM) Land Mobile Service; Radio equipment intended for the transmission of data (and or speech) using constant or non constant envelope modulation and having an antenna connector; Part 2; Harmonised EN covering essential requirements of article 3.2 of the Radio Equipment Directive (Directive 2014/53/EU).
- 1.5 OF 18 Ofcom Coastal Station Radio information booklet.

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 VHF transmitters and receivers for use at coast stations in the Maritime Mobile 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, in order to be installed or used in the UK, the equipment must meet the minimum requirements specified in this UK Interface Requirement for the stated equipment types and for the stated frequency bands. Nothing in this UK Interface Requirement shall preclude equipment from being placed on the market in the UK that complies with the 'essential requirements' specified in Directive 2014/53/EU.
- 2.4 The requirements given in the main body of this UK Radio Interface Requirement will apply to the licensing of VHF transmitters and receivers for use at coast stations in the Maritime Mobile 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 VHF transmitters and receivers for use at coast stations in the Maritime Mobile 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 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 VHF transmitters and receivers for use at coast stations in the maritime Mobile 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 VHF transmitters and receivers for use at coast stations in the Maritime Mobile Service in the UK. Table 3.1 contains the relevant equipment parameters. These taken together with the 'essential requirements' detailed in Article 3.2 of Directive 2014/53/EU constitute the minimum requirements for VHF transmitters and receivers for use at coast stations in the maritime Mobile Service within the UK. Nothing in this UK Interface Requirement shall preclude equipment from being placed on the market in the UK that complies with the 'essential requirements' specified in Directive 2014/53/EU.
- 3.4 The technical parameters specified in the UK Radio Interface Requirement are applied to achieve the desired level of compatibility within the VHF transmitters and receivers for use at coast stations in the Maritime Mobile 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 VHF transmitters and receivers for use at coast stations in the Maritime Mobile Service spectrum by making clear the assumptions that are made in planning the use of the VHF transmitters and receivers for use at coast stations in the Maritime Mobile 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 requirements for the use of: CSR (Coastal Station Radio) operating in the 156 MHz - 163 MHz band

Mandatory (1-10)		
1	Frequency band	156 MHz to 163 MHz in accordance with Of 18
2	Radiocommunication Service	Maritime Mobile Service
3	Application	Maritime communications
4	Channelling	For international channels in accordance with ITU Radio Regulations Appendix 18: G3E, G2B (DSC Ch 70) with 25 kHz channel spacings. For non-international channels: 25 kHz, 12.5 kHz, 6.25 kHz, channel spacings are permitted subject to availability.
5	Modulation / Occupied bandwidth	See above
6	Direction / Separation	N/A
7	Maximum Transmit Power / Power Density	Maximum e.r.p. shall not exceed 25 Watts
8	Channel access and occupation rules	N/A
9	Authorisation regime	Ofcom licence
10	Additional essential requirements	International Channels shall be in accordance with the relevant section of the tables in Of 18. A relevant Maritime Operator's Certificate and Authority to Operate is required for these channels. Channels not licensed shall be disabled. It shall not be possible for the operator to unblock or disable channels.
Informative (11-13)		
11	Frequency planning assumptions	N/A
12	Planned changes	N/A
13	Reference	ITU Radio regulations, EN 301 929, EN 300 338, EN 300 086, and Of18.
14	Notification	2010/513/UK
15	Remarks	None

Section 4

Additional performance parameters

(informative)

None specified

Section 5

Contact details

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Section 6

Document history

Version	Date	Changes
1.0	04 Jan 2001	Published
2.0	21 Jul 2005	Rebranded to Ofcom format
3.0	Dec 2011	Revised channel access for CSR (UK) only
4.0	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