**MAYDAY - EMERGENCY**

**VHF RADIO PROCEDURE - DSC**

Use when there is imminent and grave danger to life or vessel

- Check radio is switched on at PANEL & SET
- Lift the cover on the red DISTRESS button and press the button through the countdown.
- Wait 15 seconds. Press the transmit button on handset and say SLOWLY:
  1. MAYDAY, MAYDAY, MAYDAY.
  2. THIS IS . . . VESSEL [NAME] - 3 times, Call Sign [CALL SIGN] and MMSI [MMSI].
  3. MAYDAY . . . VESSEL [NAME], Call Sign [CALL SIGN] and MMSI [MMSI].
  4. MY POSITION IS . . . latitude and longitude, or a true bearing and distance from a known point. Don’t guess.
  5. I AM . . . state type of emergency.
  6. I REQUIRE IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE.
  7. THERE ARE (Total Number) PEOPLE ABOARD.
  8. INFORMATION . . . such as availability of life raft, safety equipment, flares fired, etc.
  9. OVER.
- Release transmit button.
- Lift handset, press transmit button and start transmission e.g.
  - Vessel Oscar
  - This is Vessel NAME
  - Confirm E.T.A. at marina
  - Over
- Release transmit button and wait for response.
- When conversation has ended finish with:
  - Vessel Oscar
  - This is Vessel NAME
  - Out
- Return radio to Channel 16.

**PAN PAN - URGENCY**

**VHF RADIO PROCEDURE DSC**

Use for an emergency which is not life threatening

- Check radio is switched on at PANEL & SET
- Send DSC All Ships Urgency alert (selected from your DSC menu system).
- Press the transmit button and say SLOWLY:
  1. PAN PAN, PAN PAN, PAN PAN.
  2. All stations, All stations, All stations.
  3. THIS IS . . . VESSEL [NAME] - 3 times.
  4. MMSI Number . . . [MMSI].
  5. MY POSITION IS . . . latitude and longitude, or a true bearing and distance from a known point. Don’t guess.
  6. I AM . . . state type of emergency.
  7. I REQUIRE URGENT ASSISTANCE.
  8. I HAVE (Total Number) PEOPLE ABOARD.
  9. INFORMATION . . . which is relevant to situation
  10. OVER.
- Release transmit button.
- Listen on Channel 16.
- If you hear nothing repeat the Pan Pan call.

**ROUTINE CALL**

**VHF RADIO PROCEDURE - DSC**

- Check radio is switched on at PANEL & SET
- Check an inter-ship channel is clear.
- Select Individual Call on DSC menu.
- Enter the other vessel’s MMSI, and the channel you wish to use into the DSC alert, and send.
- Wait for acknowledgment from other station.
- When received, check your radio is on the channel you have selected.
- Lift handset, press transmit button and start transmission e.g.
  - Vessel Oscar
  - This is Vessel NAME
  - Confirm E.T.A. at marina
  - Over
- Release transmit button and wait for response.
- When conversation has ended finish with:
  - Vessel Oscar
  - This is Vessel NAME
  - Out
- Return radio to Channel 16.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Channel</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>International Distress, safety &amp; calling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67</td>
<td>UK Small Craft Safety (Coastguard)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06, 08, 72, 77</td>
<td>Inter Ship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11, 12, 14</td>
<td>Port Operations, VTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Bridge to Bridge - Safety</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36, 37 (M1, M2)</td>
<td>Yacht Clubs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62, 63, 64</td>
<td>Coastguard Maritime Safety Information (MSI) / Radio Medical Advice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>DSC Alerts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80</td>
<td>UK Marinas</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### International Phonetic Alphabet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Alpha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Bravo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Charlie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Delta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Echo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Foxtrot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>Golf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>Hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J</td>
<td>Juliet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>Kilo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>Lima</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>Mike</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>Oscar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>Papa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q</td>
<td>Quebec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R</td>
<td>Romeo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>Sierra</td>
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<td>T</td>
<td>Tango</td>
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<tr>
<td>U</td>
<td>Uniform</td>
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<tr>
<td>V</td>
<td>Victor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>Whiskey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>X-Ray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Yankee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Z</td>
<td>Zulu</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **MAYDAY** – following is a message of grave and imminent danger to life or vessel
- **PAN PAN** – Following is a message concerning a danger to a person or a ship, the next level of danger.
- **SECURITE** – Following is a safety message or warning, the lowest level of danger.
- **SEELONCE MAYDAY** – Keep the channel clear for Air-Sea Rescue communications
- **SEELONCE FEE NEE** – this channel is available again.

### Prowords and Meanings

- **Out**
  - This is the end of working to you. The end of work between two stations is indicated by each station adding the word OUT at the end of the last reply.

- **Over**
  - The invitation to reply. The phrase "OVER AND OUT" is never used.

- **Correct**
  - Reply to repetition of a message that has been preceded by the prowords READ BACK FOR CHECK when it has been correctly repeated.

- **Correction**
  - Spoken during the transmission of a message means – an error has been made in the transmission. Cancel the last word or group. The correct word or group follows.

- **In Figures**
  - The following numeral or group of numerals are to be written as figures.

- **All After**
  - Used after the proword ‘SAY AGAIN’ to request a repetition of a portion of a message.

- **All Before**
  - Used after the proword ‘SAY AGAIN’ to request a repetition of a portion of a message.

- **I Say Again**
  - I am repeating transmission or portion indicated.

- **I Spell**
  - I shall spell the next word or group of letters phonetically.

- **Radio Check**
  - Please tell me the strength and the clarity of my transmission.

- **Received**
  - Used to acknowledge receipt of a message i.e. YOUR NUMBER...RECEIVED.

- **Say Again**
  - Repeat your message or portion referred to i.e. SAY AGAIN ALL AFTER...SAY AGAIN ADDRESS etc. To use the word REPEAT is wrong.

- **Station Calling**
  - Used when receiving station is uncertain of the identification of the calling station.

- **This is**
  - This transmission is from the station whose call sign immediately follows.

- **This Proword**
  - Used when replying to the calling station.

- **Wait**
  - If a called station is unable to accept traffic immediately it will reply to you with the proword WAIT.

- **I Read Back**
  - If the receiving station is doubtful about the accuracy of a message it may repeat it back to the sender, preceding the repetition with the prowords ‘I READ BACK’.

- **Wrong**
  - Reply to a repetition of a radio telegram that has been preceded by the prowords ‘I READ BACK’, when it has been incorrectly repeated.

### Mayday Relay Definition
- Transmitted when the station in distress cannot itself transmit a distress signal or when, not in a position to assist a distress message is heard that has not been acknowledged. Make a voice call on VHF 16 to a Coast station / Coastguard. Example
  - MAYDAY RELAY, MAYDAY RELAY, MAYDAY RELAY
  - This is ..., Yacht ..., Name – 3 times MMSI....
  - MAYDAY...Casualty Vessel’s Name
  - Their position is ..., Give Lat & Long etc
  - Types of distress e.g. Yacht sinking
  - They require immediate assistance
  - They have .... (Number) ... Crew on board
  - Over

### Do Not
- Transmit message not authorised by the skipper
- Operate a radio without a licence
- Transmit false or deceptive messages
- Transmit without giving identification i.e. Vessel’s name or call sign/MMSI
- Broadcast a message without expecting reply
- Broadcast unnecessarily

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