

## ARTICLE 19<sup>Note 1</sup>

### Identification of stations

#### Section II – Allocation of international series and assignment of call signs

**19.28A** § 11A 1) For the purpose of the supply of identification signals, a *territory* or *geographical area* shall be understood to mean the territory within the limits of which the station is located. For mobile stations, it shall be understood to mean the territory within the limits of which the responsible administration is located. A territory which does not have full responsibility for its international relations shall also be considered as a geographical area for this purpose.

**19.28B** 2) In all documents of the Union where the terms *allocation of call sign series* and *assignment of call signs* are to be used, they shall be used with the following meaning:

Identification means	Terms used in these Regulations
International series of call signs (including maritime identification digits (MIDs) and selective call numbers)	Allocation to the administration of a Member State (see definition in No. 1002 of the Constitution)
Call signs (including maritime identification digits (MIDs) and selective call numbers)	Assignment by any administration to stations operating in a territory or geographical area (see No. 19.28A)

**19.29** § 12 1) All stations open to international public correspondence, all amateur stations, and other stations which are capable of causing harmful interference beyond the boundaries of the territory or geographical area in which they are located, shall have call signs from the international series allocated to its administration as given in the Table of Allocation of International Call Sign Series in Appendix 42.

**19.30** 2) As the need arises, ship stations and ship earth stations to which the provisions of Chapter IX apply, and coast stations, coast earth stations, or other non-shipborne stations capable of communicating with such ship stations, shall have assigned to them maritime mobile service identities in accordance with Section VI of this Article. (WRC-07)

**19.31** 3) It is not compulsory to assign call signs from the international series to stations identified by maritime mobile service identities or which are easily identified by other means (see No. 19.16) and whose signals of identification or characteristics of emission are published in international documents.

**19.31A** 4) Means shall be provided for uniquely identifying mobile stations operating in automated terrestrial or satellite communication systems for the purposes of answering distress calls, for avoiding interference and for billing. Identification of the mobile station by accessing a registration database is satisfactory, provided that the system can associate the mobile station calling number with the particular mobile station user. (WRC-03)

*Note 1: any provision of this Article having indication “(WRC-07)” in the end of the provision enters into force as from 1 January 2009*

**19.32** § 13 Should the available call sign series in Appendix 42 be exhausted, new call sign series may be allocated according to the principles set out in Resolution 13 (Rev.WRC-97) relating to the formation of call signs and the allocation of new international series.

**19.33** § 14 Between radiocommunication conferences, the Secretary-General is authorized to deal with questions relating to changes in the allocation of series of call signs, on a provisional basis, and subject to confirmation by the following conference (see also No. 19.32).

**19.34** § 15 The Secretary-General shall be responsible for allocating maritime identification digits (MIDs) to administrations and shall regularly publish information regarding allocated MIDs.

**19.35** § 16 The Secretary-General shall be responsible for allocating additional maritime identification digits (MIDs) to administrations within the limits specified, provided that it is ascertained that the possibilities offered by the MIDs allocated to an administration will soon be exhausted despite judicious ship station identity assignment as outlined in Section VI. (WRC-03)

**19.36** § 17 Each administration has been allocated one or more maritime identification digit (MID) for its use. A second or subsequent MID should not be requested<sup>2</sup> unless the previously allocated MID is more than 80% exhausted in the basic category of three trailing zeros and the rate of assignments is such that 90% exhaustion is foreseen. (WRC-03)

**19.37** § 18 The Secretary-General shall be responsible for supplying series of selective call numbers or signals (see Nos. 19.92 to 19.95) at the request of the administrations concerned.

**19.38** § 19 1) Each administration shall choose the call signs from the international series allocated or supplied to it; and shall notify this information to the Secretary-General together with the information which is to appear in Lists I, IV and V. These notifications do not include call signs assigned to amateur and experimental stations. (WRC-07)

**19.39** 2) Each administration shall choose the maritime mobile service identities of its stations from the maritime identification digits allocated to it and notify this information to the Secretary-General for inclusion in the relevant lists, as provided for in Article 20.

**19.40** 3) The Secretary-General shall ensure that the same call sign, the same maritime mobile service identity, the same selective call number or the same identification number is not assigned more than once and that call signs which might be confused with distress signals, or with other signals of the same nature, are not assigned.

**19.41** § 20 1) When a fixed station uses more than one frequency in the international service, each frequency may be identified by a separate call sign used solely for this frequency.

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**19.35.1** (SUP - WRC-03)

<sup>2</sup> **19.36.1** In no circumstances may an administration claim more MIDs than the total number of its ship stations notified to ITU divided by 1 000, plus one. Administrations shall make every attempt to reuse the Maritime Mobile Service Identities (MMSI) assigned from earlier MID resources, which become redundant after ships leave their national ship registry. Such numbers should be considered for reassignment after being absent from at least two successive editions of List V of the ITU service publications. Administrations seeking additional MID resources must meet the criteria of having notified all previous assignments, in accordance with No. 20.16. This criteria applies only to MMSIs in the basic category and to all MIDs assigned to the administration. (WRC-07)

**19.42** 2) When a broadcasting station uses more than one frequency in the international service, each frequency may be identified by a separate call sign used solely for this frequency or by some other appropriate means, such as announcing the name of the place and frequency used.

**19.43** 3) When a land station uses more than one frequency, each frequency may, if desired, be identified by a separate call sign.

**19.44** 4) Where practicable, coast stations should use a common call sign for each frequency series<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>3</sup> **19.44.1** By “frequency series” is meant a group of frequencies each of which belongs to one of the different bands between 4 000 kHz and 27 500 kHz that are allocated exclusively to the maritime mobile service.