

ARTICLE 19

Identification of stations

Section III – Formation of call signs

19.45 § 21 1) The twenty-six letters of the alphabet, as well as digits in the cases specified below, may be used to form call signs. Accented letters are excluded.

19.46 2) However, the following combinations shall not be used as call signs:

19.47 a) combinations which might be confused with distress signals or with other signals of a similar nature;

19.48 b) combinations in Recommendation ITU-R M.1172-0 that are reserved for the abbreviations to be used in the radiocommunication services. (WRC-15)

19.49 (SUP - WRC-03)

19.50 § 22 Call signs in the international series are formed as indicated in Nos. **19.51** to **19.71**. The first two characters shall be two letters or a letter followed by a digit or a digit followed by a letter. The first two characters or in certain cases the first character of a call sign constitute the nationality identification⁴.

19.51 *Land and fixed stations*

19.52 § 23 1)

– two characters and one letter, *or*

– two characters and one letter followed by not more than three digits (other than the digits 0 and 1 in cases where they immediately follow a letter).

19.53 2) However, it is recommended that, as far as possible, the call signs of fixed stations consist of:

– two characters and one letter followed by two digits (other than the digits 0 and 1 in cases where they immediately follow a letter).

⁴ **19.50.1** For call sign series beginning with B, F, G, I, K, M, N, R, W and 2, only the first character is required for nationality identification. In the cases of half series (i.e. when the first two characters are allocated to more than one Member State), the first three characters are required for nationality identification. (WRC-03)

- 19.54** *Ship stations*
- 19.55** § 24
- two characters and two letters, *or*
 - two characters, two letters and one digit (other than the digits 0 or 1), *or*
 - two characters (provided that the second is a letter) followed by four digits (other than the digits 0 or 1 in cases where they immediately follow a letter), *or*
 - two characters and one letter followed by four digits (other than the digits 0 or 1 in cases where they immediately follow a letter). (WRC-07)
- 19.56** (SUP - WRC-07)
- 19.57** *Aircraft stations*
- 19.58** § 25
- two characters and three letters.
- 19.59** *Ship's survival craft stations*
- 19.60** § 26
- the call sign of the parent ship followed by two digits (other than the digits 0 or 1 in cases where they immediately follow a letter).
- 19.61** *Emergency position-indicating radiobeacon stations*
- 19.62** § 27
- the Morse letter B and/or the call sign of the parent ship to which the radiobeacon belongs.
- 19.63** *Aircraft survival craft stations*
- 19.64** § 28
- the complete call sign of the parent aircraft (see No. **19.58**), followed by a single digit other than 0 or 1.
- 19.65** *Land mobile stations*
- 19.66** § 29
- two characters (provided that the second is a letter) followed by four digits (other than the digits 0 or 1 in cases where they immediately follow a letter), *or*
 - two characters and one or two letters followed by four digits (other than the digits 0 or 1 in cases where they immediately follow a letter).

19.67 *Amateur and experimental stations*

19.68 § 30 1)

- one character (provided that it is the letter B, F, G, I, K, M, N, R or W) and a single digit (other than 0 or 1), followed by a group of not more than four characters, the last of which shall be a letter, *or*
- two characters and a single digit (other than 0 or 1), followed by a group of not more than four characters, the last of which shall be a letter.⁵ (WRC-03)

19.68A 1A) On special occasions, for temporary use, administrations may authorize use of call signs with more than the four characters referred to in No. **19.68**. (WRC-03)

19.69 2) However, the prohibition of the use of the digits 0 and 1 does not apply to amateur stations.

19.70 *Stations in the space service*

19.71 § 31 When call signs for stations in the space service are employed, it is recommended that they consist of:

- two characters followed by two or three digits (other than the digits 0 and 1 in cases where they immediately follow a letter).

⁵ **19.68.1** In the case of half series (i.e. when the first two characters are allocated to more than one Member State), the first three characters are required for nationality identification. In such cases, the call sign shall consist of three characters followed by a single digit and a group of not more than three characters, the last of which shall be a letter. (WRC-07)