



Radiocommunication Bureau (BR)

Circular Letter
CM/24

20 October 2015

To Administrations of Member States of the ITU

Subject: **ITU maritime services database – Identities for handheld VHF transceivers with digital selective calling and global navigation satellite system**

References:

- **Circular Letter No. CM/15 dated 14 September 2006**
- **Circular Letter No. CM/17 dated 15 January 2008**
- **Circular Letter No. CM/18 dated 28 November 2008**
- **Recommendation ITU-R M.585-7**

I wish to inform administrations that the structure of the ITU maritime services database and the associated software have been further modified in order to incorporate information concerning the **“assignment of identities for handheld VHF transceivers with digital selective calling and global navigation satellite system”**, based on the request of the ITU-R Working Party 5B meeting in July 2015.

The registration and the consequent retrieval of information concerning these devices via the ITU Maritime mobile Access and Retrieval System (MARS) may facilitate search and rescue operations in case of emergencies (especially outside national borders by Maritime Rescue Coordination Centres).

In order to allow for the submission of this additional optional information, the relevant notification forms were revised as attached in Annexes 1 and 2. Detailed explanations, concerning the fields to be notified are provided in Annex 3 (see also <http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-R/terrestrial/mars/Pages/ShipStationsSubmissionofdata.aspx>).

The change made to these forms, with respect to the previous one, is the addition of Field 34 (Identities for handheld VHF transceivers). As a consequence, these forms cancel and replace the previous notification forms annexed to the BR Circular letter CM/18 dated 28 November 2008.

You may wish to note that the ITU’s Maritime Mobile Access & Retrieval System (MARS) website has also been duly amended so as to permit for the search and retrieval of the recorded data.

The Bureau remains at the disposal of administrations for any further information and clarifications that may be needed in respect to these matters. The contact person is Mr M. Das, telephone: +41 22 730 5007, fax: +41 22 730 5785, e-mail: brmail@itu.int.

François Rancy
Director

Annexes: 3

Distribution:

- Administrations of Member States of ITU
- International Maritime Organization



**ANNEX 1
NOTIFICATION FORM
(SHIP STATIONS)
Radio Regulations (RR) Article 20**

AC.*	Action Code	<input type="text"/>
1.*	Ship (Vessel) Name	<input type="text"/>
2.**	Call Sign	<input type="text"/>
3.	Selective Call Number(s)	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
4.**	MMSI Number	<input type="text"/>
5.	Inmarsat Number(s)	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
6.	NTLX Number	<input type="text"/>
7.*	Notifying Administration	<input type="text"/>
8.	Territory or Geographical Area code	<input type="text"/>
9.	Life Boats	<input type="text"/>
10.	Radio Beacons (EPIRBs)	<input type="text"/>
11.	General Classification	<input type="text"/>
12.	Individual Classification	<input type="text"/>
13.	Nature of Service	<input type="text"/>
14.	Services Available	<input type="text"/>
15.	Service Hours	<input type="text"/>
16.	Telegraph transmission frequency bands	<input type="text"/>
17.	Telephone transmission frequency	<input type="text"/>
18.	Accounting Authority Identification Code (AAIC)	<input type="text"/>
19.	AAIC used for Inmarsat	<input type="text"/>
20.	Owner Name	<input type="text"/>
21.	Ex Ship-Name	<input type="text"/>
22.	Ex Call Sign	<input type="text"/>
23.	EPIRB Identification code	<input type="text"/> (Either the MMSI or MID+Call sign)
24.	Vessel Identification number	<input type="text"/>
25.	Gross Tonnage	<input type="text"/>
26.	Emergency Contact Person ashore	(Name & Address)
27.		(Phone)
28.		(Telefax/Email)
29.	Alternative 24-hour emergency telephone number	<input type="text"/>
30.	Capacity for persons on board	<input type="text"/>
31.	Ship's radio installation	<input type="text"/>
32.	EPIRB HEX ID CODE (one or multiple). <i>Separate occurrences with comma (,)</i>	<input type="text"/>
33.	MMSI assigned to craft associated with a parent ship (one or multiple). <i>Separate occurrences with comma (,)</i>	<input type="text"/>
34.	Identities for handheld VHF transceivers (one or multiple). <i>Separate occurrences with comma (,)</i>	<input type="text"/>

* Mandatory fields
 ** Either one or both of the items is to be provided.

TPR/NAV_2

October 2015

Please provide information for all the fields, even if they are not indicated as mandatory.



ANNEX 2
DATA ELEMENTS FOR ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION
(SHIP STATIONS)
Radio Regulations (RR) Article 20

Field	Field Name	Field Length (Max.)	Occurrences (Max.)	Total field Length (Max.)
AC*	Action Code	1	1	1
1*	Ship (Vessel) Name	50	1	50
2**	Call Sign	7	1	7
3	Selective Call Number(s)	6	2	13 (12+1 comma separator)
4**	Maritime Mobile Service Identity (MMSI) Number	9	1	9
5	Inmarsat Number(s)	13	8	111 (104+7 comma separators)
6	NTLX Number	5	1	5
7*	Notifying Administration	3	1	3
8	Territory or Geographical Area code	3	1	3
9	Life Boats	2	1	2
10	Radio Beacons (EPIRBs)	9	1	9
11	General Classification	2	1	2
12	Individual Classification	3	2	7 (6+1 comma separator)
13	Nature of Service	2	2	5 (4+1 comma separator)
14	Services Available	5	1	5
15	Service Hours	3	1	3
16	Telegraph transmission frequency bands	5	1	5
17	Telephone transmission frequency bands	4	1	4
18	Accounting Authority Identification Code (AAIC)	4	1	4
19	AAIC used for Inmarsat Communications	4	1	4
20	Owner Name	200	1	200
21	Ex Ship-Name	50	1	50
22	Ex Call Sign	7	1	7
23	EPIRB Identification code	10	1	10
24	Vessel Identification number	7	1	7
25	Gross Tonnage	7	1	7
26	Emergency Contact Person ashore (Name & Address)	200	1	200
27	Emergency Contact Person ashore (Phone)	30	1	30
28	Emergency Contact Person ashore (Telefax/Email)	30	1	30
29	Alternative 24-hour emergency telephone number	30	1	30
30	Capacity for persons on board	4	1	4
31	Ship's radio installation	100	1	100
32	EPIRB HEX ID CODE	15	15	239 (225+14 comma separators)
33	MMSI assigned to craft associated with a parent ship	9	10	99 (90+9 comma separators)
34	Identities for handheld VHF transceivers	9	10	99 (90+9 comma separators)

TPR/NAV_2

* Mandatory fields

** Either one or both of the items is to be provided.

October 2015

Please provide information for all the fields, even if they are not indicated as mandatory.



ANNEX 3
Detailed explanations, concerning the fields to be notified
(SHIP STATIONS)

Field	Field Name	Field information	Remarks												
AC* (mandatory)	Action Code	Upon receipt of a notification, this code indicates the action to be performed by the BR :	A – add a new station M – modify particulars of an existing station S – suppress an existing station												
1* (mandatory)	Ship (Vessel) Name	Self-explanatory	Maximum length of 50 characters. No accented characters to be used												
2** (mandatory, if <u>no MMSI</u> (Field 4) is notified)	Call Sign	Call signs in the international series are formed as indicated in RR provisions 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 identification	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>RR Number</th> <th>Permitted formations</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>19.55</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>XXAA-XXZZ</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>XXAA2-XXZZ9</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>XL2000 - XL9999 (L = Second character is a Letter)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>XXA2000 - XXZ9999</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	RR Number	Permitted formations	19.55			XXAA-XXZZ		XXAA2-XXZZ9		XL2000 - XL9999 (L = Second character is a Letter)		XXA2000 - XXZ9999
RR Number	Permitted formations														
19.55															
	XXAA-XXZZ														
	XXAA2-XXZZ9														
	XL2000 - XL9999 (L = Second character is a Letter)														
	XXA2000 - XXZ9999														
3	Selective Call Number(s)	When stations of the maritime mobile service use selective calling devices in accordance with Recommendations ITU-R M.476-5 and ITU-R M.625-3, their call numbers shall be assigned by the responsible administrations	First character to be either an S or T followed by five digits (from 0 to 9)												
4** (mandatory, if <u>no Call Sign</u> (Field 2) is notified)	Maritime Mobile Service Identity (MMSI)	Maritime mobile service identities are formed of a series of nine digits which are transmitted over the radio path in order to uniquely identify ship stations operating in the maritime mobile service or the maritime mobile-satellite service.	The format MIDXXXXXX where in the first three digits represent the Maritime Identification Digits (MID) and X is any figure from 0 to 9. The MID denotes the administration having jurisdiction over the ship station so identified.												
5	Inmarsat Number(s)	Inmarsat ship earth station identities or numbers are recorded as given by the Administrations.	Tenth (10th) character (shaded) can be either one of the following symbols: - or / The - symbol defines a range (e.g.) 426456788-98 The / symbol to be used when last two or 3 digits differ (e.g.) 426456788/793												
6	NTLX Number	National Telex Number.	No longer used												
7* (mandatory)	Notifying Administration	One or Three character symbol designating an Administration responsible for the registration of the ship.	Any governmental department or service responsible for discharging the obligations undertaken in the International Telecommunication Convention and the Radio Regulations												



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Field	Field Name	Field information	Remarks																								
8	Territory or Geographical Area code	One or Three character symbol designating the Territory or Geographical area	A Country Geographical Area which does not have full responsibility for its international relations																								
9	Life Boats	Number of life boats	Indicates the number of lifeboats on board fitted with radio apparatus																								
10	Radio Beacons (EPIRBs)	<i>Emergency Position-Indicating Radio Beacon</i> A station in the mobile service the emissions of which are intended to facilitate search and rescue operations.	Symbols used in this field are: <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%;">A</td> <td style="width: 50%;">EPIRB operating on 2 182 kHz</td> <td style="width: 10%;"></td> <td style="width: 30%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>B</td> <td>EPIRB operating on 121.5 MHz</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>C</td> <td>EPIRB operating on 243 MHz</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>D</td> <td>EPIRB operating on 156.525 MHz</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>E</td> <td>Satellite EPIRB operating in the band 406-406.1 MHz</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>G</td> <td>SART operating in the band 9 200-9 500 MHz</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	A	EPIRB operating on 2 182 kHz			B	EPIRB operating on 121.5 MHz			C	EPIRB operating on 243 MHz			D	EPIRB operating on 156.525 MHz			E	Satellite EPIRB operating in the band 406-406.1 MHz			G	SART operating in the band 9 200-9 500 MHz		
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11	General Classification	Ships (including any other device carrying a ship station) are classified by means of a two-letter general classification symbol	Symbols used in this field are: <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;">FV</td> <td style="width: 35%;">Fishing industry</td> <td style="width: 15%;">OF</td> <td style="width: 35%;">Offshore</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GV</td> <td>Service vessels</td> <td>PL</td> <td>Pleasure / Leisure</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MM</td> <td>Merchant</td> <td>SV</td> <td>Rescue</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NF</td> <td>Inland waterways</td> <td>XX</td> <td>All other activities</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NS</td> <td>Naval</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	FV	Fishing industry	OF	Offshore	GV	Service vessels	PL	Pleasure / Leisure	MM	Merchant	SV	Rescue	NF	Inland waterways	XX	All other activities	NS	Naval						
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MM	Merchant	SV	Rescue																								
NF	Inland waterways	XX	All other activities																								
NS	Naval																										
12	Individual Classification	Ships (including any other device carrying a ship station) are also classified by means of a two or three-letter individual classification symbol	The meaning of each symbol used is given in the link below: Symbols which designate individual classes of ships																								
13	Nature of Service	The nature of service includes the classification as regards the type of international correspondence service maintained by the station	Symbols used in this field are: <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%;">CO</td> <td style="width: 90%;">a station open to official correspondence exclusively;</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CP</td> <td>a station open to public correspondence;</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CR</td> <td>a station open to limited public correspondence;</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CV</td> <td>a station open exclusively to correspondence of a private agency;</td> </tr> <tr> <td>OT</td> <td>a station open exclusively to operational traffic of the service concerned</td> </tr> </table>	CO	a station open to official correspondence exclusively;	CP	a station open to public correspondence;	CR	a station open to limited public correspondence;	CV	a station open exclusively to correspondence of a private agency;	OT	a station open exclusively to operational traffic of the service concerned														
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(SHIP STATIONS)

Field	Field Name	Field information	Remarks												
14	Services Available	The specific services provided by a station open to public correspondence in the maritime mobile service	<p>Symbols used in this field are:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>C</td> <td>radiotelephone calls</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D</td> <td>radiotelex calls</td> </tr> <tr> <td>O</td> <td>OBS messages (voluntary observing ship)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>facsimile communications</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R</td> <td>radiotelegrams</td> </tr> </table>	C	radiotelephone calls	D	radiotelex calls	O	OBS messages (voluntary observing ship)	P	facsimile communications	R	radiotelegrams		
C	radiotelephone calls														
D	radiotelex calls														
O	OBS messages (voluntary observing ship)														
P	facsimile communications														
R	radiotelegrams														
15	Service Hours	Hours of service	<p>Symbols used in this field are:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>H24</td> <td>continuous service throughout the twenty-four hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>H16</td> <td>16-hour service provided by a ship station of the second category</td> </tr> <tr> <td>H8</td> <td>8-hour service provided by a ship station of the third category</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HX</td> <td>intermittent service throughout the twenty-four hours, or station having no specific working hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HJ</td> <td>day service</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HN</td> <td>night service</td> </tr> </table>	H24	continuous service throughout the twenty-four hours	H16	16-hour service provided by a ship station of the second category	H8	8-hour service provided by a ship station of the third category	HX	intermittent service throughout the twenty-four hours, or station having no specific working hours	HJ	day service	HN	night service
H24	continuous service throughout the twenty-four hours														
H16	16-hour service provided by a ship station of the second category														
H8	8-hour service provided by a ship station of the third category														
HX	intermittent service throughout the twenty-four hours, or station having no specific working hours														
HJ	day service														
HN	night service														
16	Telegraph transmission frequency bands	Frequency bands used for radiotelegraphy transmissions	<p>Symbols used in this field are:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>S</td> <td>frequency bands used in the maritime mobile-satellite service</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W</td> <td>bands between 110 and 160 kHz</td> </tr> <tr> <td>X</td> <td>bands between 415 and 535 kHz</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Y</td> <td>bands between 1 605 and 4 000 kHz</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Z</td> <td>bands between 4 000 and 27 500 kHz</td> </tr> </table>	S	frequency bands used in the maritime mobile-satellite service	W	bands between 110 and 160 kHz	X	bands between 415 and 535 kHz	Y	bands between 1 605 and 4 000 kHz	Z	bands between 4 000 and 27 500 kHz		
S	frequency bands used in the maritime mobile-satellite service														
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17	Telephone transmission frequency bands	Frequency bands used for radiotelephony transmissions	<p>Symbols used in this field are:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>S</td> <td>frequency bands used in the maritime mobile-satellite service</td> </tr> <tr> <td>T</td> <td>bands between 1 605 and 4 000 kHz</td> </tr> <tr> <td>U</td> <td>bands between 4 000 and 27 500 kHz</td> </tr> <tr> <td>V</td> <td>bands between 156 and 174 MHz</td> </tr> </table>	S	frequency bands used in the maritime mobile-satellite service	T	bands between 1 605 and 4 000 kHz	U	bands between 4 000 and 27 500 kHz	V	bands between 156 and 174 MHz				
S	frequency bands used in the maritime mobile-satellite service														
T	bands between 1 605 and 4 000 kHz														
U	bands between 4 000 and 27 500 kHz														
V	bands between 156 and 174 MHz														
18	Accounting Authority Identification Code (AAIC)	An accounting authority must be registered with their Administration. Each accounting authority will be allocated a discrete Accounting Authority Identification Code (AAIC) by the registering Administration.	Refer to ITU-T Recommendation D.90												



ANNEX 3
Detailed explanations, concerning the fields to be notified
(SHIP STATIONS)

Field	Field Name	Field information	Remarks
19	AAIC used for Inmarsat Communications	Different to the AAIC notified in Field 18 above	Refer to ITU-T Recommendation D.90 and D.95
20	Owner name	Self-explanatory	
21	Ex Ship-Name	Self-explanatory	
22	Ex Call Sign	Self-explanatory	
23	EPIRB Identification code	The identification code of the EPIRBs	Either the MMSI of the ship or a combination of MID + Call sign of the ship
24	Vessel Identification number	IMO number or national registration number	
25	Gross Tonnage	In digits, rounded to the closest whole number	Total enclosed space or internal capacity of a vessel
26	Emergency Contact Person ashore (Name & Address)	As given by Administration	Name and Address of emergency contact person ashore
27	Phone Number	As given by Administrations and prefixed with country destination code	Telephone number of emergency contact person ashore
28	Fax Number/Email	As given by Administrations and prefixed with country destination code	Telefax number/Email address of emergency contact person ashore
29	Alternative 24-hour emergency telephone number	As given by Administrations and prefixed with country destination code	Alternative 24-hour emergency telephone number of contact person ashore
30	Capacity for persons on board	In digits	Total number of passengers and crew
31	Ship's radio installation	Brief description of radiocommunication equipment on board a vessel	e.g.: Inmarsat A, B, C, M, VHF, digital selective calling (DSC) , etc...
32	EPIRB HEX ID CODE (one or multiple)	To be used exclusively to notify <u>one or multiple</u> Hex Id codes	The <u>ONLY</u> characters accepted are 0 to 9 and A to F . <i>Separate occurrences with comma (,)</i>



ANNEX 3
Detailed explanations, concerning the fields to be notified
(SHIP STATIONS)

Field	Field Name	Field information	Remarks
33	MMSI assigned to craft associated with a parent ship (one or multiple)	This numbering format is only valid for devices on board craft associated with a parent ship. A craft may carry multiple devices which would be identified by the MMSI assigned to the craft. These devices may be located in lifeboats, life-rafts, rescue-boats or other craft belonging to a parent ship.	The format 98MIDXXXX where the digits 3, 4 and 5 represent the MID and X is any figure from 0 to 9. The MID represents the administration having jurisdiction over the call identity for the craft associated with a parent ship. <i>Separate occurrences with comma (,)</i>
34	Identities for handheld VHF transceivers (one or multiple)		The format 8MIDXXXXX where the digits 2, 3 and 4 represent the MID and X is any figure from 0 to 9. The MID represents the administration having jurisdiction over the call identity for the craft associated with a parent ship <i>Separate occurrences with comma (,)</i>

Notifications should be addressed to:

The Director of Radiocommunication Bureau-ITU, Place des Nations
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Email: brmail@itu.int