

TO BE DISPLAYED BESIDE RADIOTELEPHONE
SAFETY AND DISTRESS RADIOTELEPHONE PROCEDURES
SAFETY AND DISTRESS RADIO MESSAGES SHALL BE MADE ON CHANNEL 16 (156.8MHz, VHF) OR ON FREQUENCY 2,182 kHz, MF.

TP 9878E
 Name of ship.....
 Call Sign.....

RECEPTION OF SAFETY MESSAGES

Any message which you hear prefixed by one of the following words concerns SAFETY
MAYDAY Indicates that a ship, aircraft or other vehicle is threatened by grave and imminent danger and requests immediate assistance.
 (Distress)

PAN PAN Indicates that the calling station has a very urgent message to transmit concerning the safety of a ship, aircraft or other vehicle, or the safety of a person.
 (Urgency)

SÉCURITÉ Indicates that the station is about to transmit a message concerning the safety of navigation or giving important meteorological warnings.
 (Safety)

If you hear these words, pay particular attention to the message and call the master or the officer on watch

DISTRESS TRANSMITTING PROCEDURES

To be used only if **IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE** is required

USE PLAIN LANGUAGE WHENEVER POSSIBLE. If language difficulties are likely to arise use Tables 2 and 3 below, sending the word **INTERCO** to indicate that the message will be in the International Code of Signals. Call out letters as in Table 1. Call out numbers figure by figure as in Table 1

To indicate **DISTRESS**:

1. If possible transmit the **ALARM SIGNAL** (i.e. two-tone signal) for 30 seconds to one minute, but do not delay the message if there is insufficient time in which to transmit the Alarm Signal
2. Send the following **DISTRESS CALL**:
 Mayday Mayday Mayday. This is . . . (name or call sign of ship spoken three times).
3. Then send the **DISTRESS MESSAGE** composed of:
 Mayday followed by the name of call sign of ship;
 Position of ship;
 Nature of distress;
 And, if necessary, transmit the nature of the aid required and any other information which will help the rescue.

TABLE 1

Phonetic Alphabet and Figure Spelling Tables
 (May be used when transmitting plain language of code)

Letter	Word	Pronounced as	Letter	Word	Pronounced as
A	Alfa	AL FAH	N	November	NOVEM BER
B	Bravo	BRAH VOH	O	Oscar	OSS CAH
C	Charlie	CHAR LEE or SHAR LEE	P	Papa	PAH PAH
D	Delta	DELL TAH	Q	Quebec	KEH BECK
E	Echo	ECK OH	R	Romeo	ROW ME OH
F	Foxtrot	FOKS TROT	S	Sierra	SEE AIR RAH
G	Golf	GOLF	T	Tango	TANG GO
H	Hotel	HOH TELL	U	Uniform	YOU NEE FORM or OO NEE FORM
I	India	IN DEE AH	V	Victor	VIK TAH
J	Juliett	JEW LEE ETT	W	Whiskey	WISS KEY
K	Kilo	KEY LOH	X	X-ray	ECKS RAY
L	Lima	LEE MAH	Y	Yankee	YANG KEY
M	Mike	MIKE	Z	Zulu	ZOO LOO

NOTE: The syllables to be emphasized are Bold Faced

Figure	Word	Pronounced as	Figure	Word	Pronounced as
0	NADAZERO	NAH-DAH-ZAY-ROH	6	SOXISIX	SOK-SEE-SIX
1	UNAONE	OO-NAH-WUN	7	SETTESEVEN	SAY-TAH-SEVEN
2	BISSOTWO	BEEES-SOH-TOO	8	OKTOEIGHT	OK-TOH-AIT
3	TERRATHREE	TAY-RAH-TREE	9	NOVENINE	NO-VAY-NINER
4	KARTEFOUR	KAR-TAY-FOWER	Decimal	DECIMAL	DAY-SEE-MAL
5	PANTAFIVE	PAN-TAH-FIVE	point	STOP	STOP
			Full Stop	STOP	STOP

NOTE: Each syllable should be equally emphasized

TABLE 2

Position in code from the International Code of Signals

- (1) **By bearing and Distance from a Landmark**
 Code Letter A(Alfa) followed by a three-figure group for ship's **TRUE** bearing from landmark:

 Name of landmark:
 Code letter R (Romeo) followed by one or more figures for distance in nautical miles.
- or**
- (2) **By Latitude and Longitude**
Latitude
 Code letter L(Lima) followed by a four-figure group: (2 figures for Degrees, 2 figures for Minutes) and either - - N (November) for Latitude North, or S(Sierra) for Latitude South
Longitude
 Code Letter G(Golf) followed by a five-figure group;
 (3 figures for Degrees, 2 figures for Minutes) and either - - E(Echo) for Longitude East, or W(Whiskey) for Longitude West

TABLE 3

Nature of Distress in Code from the International Code of Signals

Code Letters	Words to be transmitted	Text of Signal
AE	Alfa Echo	I must abandon my vessel
BF	Bravo Foxtrot	Aircraft is ditched in position indicated and require immediate assistance
CB	Charlie Bravo	I require immediate assistance .
CB6	Charlie Bravo Bravo	I require immediate assistance. I am on fire .
DX	Delta Soxisix	I am sinking .
HW	X-ray Hotel	I have collided with surface craft.
	Whiskey	surface craft.

Answer to Ship in Distress

CP	Charlie Papa	I am proceeding to your assistance
ED	Echo	Your distress signals are understood
EL	Echo	Repeat the distress position.

NOTE: A more comprehensive list of signals may be found in the **International Code of Signals.**

EXAMPLES OF DISTRESS PROCEDURE

1. Where possible, transmit **ALARM SIGNAL** followed by spoken words Mayday Mayday Mayday. This is . . . (name of ship spoken three times, or call sign of ship spelt three times using TABLE 1) Mayday . . . (name or call sign of ship) Position 54 25 North 016 33 West I am on fire and require immediate assistance.
2. Where possible, transmit **ALARM SIGNAL** followed by spoken words Mayday Mayday Mayday . . . (name of ship spoken three times, or call sign of ship spelt three times using TABLE 1) Mayday . . . (name or call sign of ship) Interco Alfa Nadazero Unaone Pantafive Ushant Romeo Kartefour Nadazero Delta X-ray"(Ship) in Distress Position 015 Degrees Ushant 40 miles I am sinking."
3. Where possible, transmit **ALARM SIGNAL** followed by spoken words Mayday Mayday Mayday. . . (name of ship spoken three times, or call sign of ship spelt three times using TABLE 1) Mayday . . . (name or call sign of ship) Interco Lima Pantafive Kartefour Bissotwo Pantafive November Golf Nadazero Unaone Soxisix Terrathree Terrathree Whiskey Charlie Bravo Soxisix. "(Ship) in Distress Position Latitude 54 25 North Longitude 016 33 West I require immediate assistance. I am on fire".