

# PART 1

## FOREWORD

### ADVANCE NOTICES

In order that mariners may have advance knowledge of proposed changes to existing facilities to be provided, additions, deletions and changes to such facilities under the jurisdiction of the Fisheries and Oceans Canada are listed hereunder. Effective dates of changes and dates for the commissioning of new facilities are, however, extremely hard to forecast owing to difficulties in obtaining materials and subject to provision of necessary funds. Every effort will be made to amend dates as far in advance as possible. In every case of changes to facilities and commissioning new facilities, an appropriate Notice to Mariners will be issued.

1) In a move to reduce congestion and to improve monitoring and response capabilities, Pacific Region MCTS Centres changed working frequency from VHF Channel 22A (157.1 MHz) to VHF Channel 83A (157.175 MHz). Channel 22A will continue to be available at some centers but will no longer be monitored continuously.

2) *Global Maritime Distress and safety system (GMDSS)*

**VHF/DSC service on the Pacific Coast is now operational at all Pacific MCTS Centres.** Canadian Coast Guard MCTS Centres will continue to monitor CH 16 for distress, urgency, safety and calling purposes for the foreseeable future.

3) *Important Safety Notice concerning VHF/DSC*

After having received a distress, urgency or safety broadcast announcement on VHF/DSC Channel 70 the VHF/DSC equipment will automatically switch the DSC radio to VHF Channel 16 for the subsequent voice announcements. Mariners who are required by the *VHF Practices and Procedures Regulations* to monitor a specific VTS sector frequency should return the radio to the appropriate working frequency after determining, on Channel 16, the impact of the VHF/DSC alert broadcast announcement on their vessel's' operations.

It has been determined that vessels maintaining a listening watch on a VTS sector frequency, per the requirements of the *VTS Zones Regulations* may, if navigating in congested waters, temporarily discontinue DSC watchkeeping on VHF/DSC Channel 70 until the required maneuver has been completed.

Vessels inadvertently or accidentally transmitting a distress/urgency/safety broadcast on VHF/DSC must cancel the distress/urgency/safety broadcast on VHF Channel 16. Intentionally sending a false distress alert carries penalties under both the *Canada Shipping Act* and the *Radiocommunication Act*.

VHF/DSC equipment must be programmed with the correct Maritime Mobile Service Identity (MMSI) numbers (reference Radio Station licensing and MMSI numbers section in Part 4, also reference section 2 for the MCTS Centres' MMSI numbers).

4) *The Commercial Public Correspondence Service*

The cessation of the Canadian Coast Guard commercial public correspondence service has commenced as of December 31, 1999, in **selected areas**, based upon the demand for the service and the availability of alternate service delivery methods.

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**IT IS EMPHASIZED THAT THE CANADIAN COAST GUARD WILL  
CONTINUE TO PROVIDE DISTRESS AND SAFETY SERVICES**  
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## 5) *Automatic Identification System (AIS)*

### **Installation of AIS shore base equipment at MCTS Centres in Western Canada.**

☉ The Canadian Coast Guard's Marine Communications and Traffic Services (MCTS) have installed Automatic Identification System equipment at selected radio sites associated with MCTS Centres across Canada.

☉ In Western Canada, Comox, Tofino and Victoria MCTS Centres have been designated for testing purposes. The AIS equipment is in "**Operational on Test**" Status and mariners must not expect AIS service from these sites. Therefore mariners may receive a Base Station Report (msg 4) or observe on their AIS display an AIS ICON identifying a shore base station. If you need more information contact the above MCTS Centres.

Additional information regarding the implementation of the National AIS infrastructure will be provided as required.

## 6) *Information on Withdrawal of INMARSAT-A services by INMARSAT Ltd.*

Mariners should take note of the following information provided by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in MSC Circular 1076.

Inmarsat-A is the original analogue service provided via the Inmarsat satellites and was first introduced in 1982. The last type-approval by Inmarsat for a new model of maritime Inmarsat-A ship earth station (SES) was granted in 1991. No new Inmarsat-A SES models have been type-approved since then.

Although Inmarsat-A SESs are approved for fitting in ships as part of their GMDSS equipment, the communication capabilities provided by Inmarsat-A SESs are now provided more efficiently and effectively by other types of digital Inmarsat terminals, and the number of Inmarsat-A terminals that remain in use on board ships is declining rapidly.

Bearing in mind the efforts being made by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) to promote the more efficient use of spectrum and the requirement for Inmarsat Ltd. to hand back to the ITU the Country Codes used for Inmarsat-A services before 2009, Inmarsat Ltd. is planning to launch new satellites within this time frame which will not be able to support Inmarsat-A services.

Inmarsat. Ltd had formerly indicated that 5-years notice would be given for the withdrawal of **Inmarsat-A** services and has now informed the Organization that these **services will be withdrawn on 31 December 2007**.

Mariners should thus plan accordingly in order to ensure maritime communications requirements for their particular vessel are addressed beyond this date.

## 7) *Discontinuation of 121.5/243 MHz Distress Beacon Monitoring by the COSPAS-SARSAT Satellite Constellation.*

Cospas-Sarsat is the international organization that operates a series of satellites in low altitude and geostationary orbits for search and rescue. In response to recommendations from the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the Council of Cospas-Sarsat announced at its October 2000 meeting in Laval, Québec that it will be phasing out satellite processing of distress beacons operating in the 121.5/243 MHz range and encouraging users to **adopt 406 MHz beacons by 2009** at the latest, as this is when the switch-over will be completed.

Three types of distress beacons are in use: emergency locator transmitters (ELTs), used on aircraft; emergency position indicating radio beacons (EPIRBs), used on vessels; and personal locator beacons (PLBs), used by land-based personnel.

The impact of this change should be negligible aboard Canadian vessels as there are no 121.5 MHz marine EPIRBs that have a valid technical acceptance certificate (TAC) under the *Radiocommunication Act*. Therefore, it is illegal for anyone to sell or fit such an EPIRB in Canada or aboard a Canadian vessel. Only those Cospas-Sarsat EPIRBs transmitting on 406 MHz are approved for use in Canada and these units will not be impacted by this change in satellite detection.

➤ The use of 406 MHz distress beacons over the 121.5/243 MHz distress beacons will minimize the problems with false alerts being received by rescue coordination centres. Since its inception in 1982 the Cospas-Sarsat System has provided distress alert information which has assisted in the rescue of over 18,865 persons in 5,317 distress situations.

Mariners are encouraged to fit float-free EPIRBs and **register** their Cospas-Sarsat 406 MHz EPIRBs free-of-charge with the Canadian Beacon Database by telephone 1 800 727-9414, by facsimile 613-996-3746, or on the web at [http://www.nss.gc.ca/site/cospas-sarsat/emergencyBeacon\\_e.asp](http://www.nss.gc.ca/site/cospas-sarsat/emergencyBeacon_e.asp)

**IMPORTANT !  
DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER YOUR EPIRB  
IT COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE**

➤ *Discontinuation of INMARSAT 'E' EPIRB monitoring service since December 1, 2006.*

➤ Inmarsat announced that they discontinued their monitoring service of INMARSAT ' E ' EPIRB distress alerts as of **December 1, 2006**. Mariners should check with INMARSAT for exchange of any currently held INMARSAT ' E ' EPIRBs. Further, mariners should only purchase and fit COSPAS-SARSAT 406 MHz EPIRBs from now on.

8) ➤ **Pre-Arrival Information Report (PAIR) - SEE SECTION 4**


**CANADIAN MARITIME MOBILE SAFETY AND PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE COMMUNICATION FREQUENCIES**

The frequencies listed below are those in general use by ships in Canadian waters for intership communications and for ship/shore communications with MCTS Centres operated by the Canadian Coast Guard.

Part 2 of this publication contains individual listings for MCTS Centres operated by the Canadian Coast Guard, giving details of the communication and special services provided to ships.

Frequencies		Channel	Type of Emission	Remarks
Ship kHz	Coast kHz			
	490		F1B	NAVTEX Service (French)
	518		F1B	NAVTEX Service (English)
2040			J3E	Intership (vessels other than fishing and towing)
2054	2054		J3E	Public correspondence
2182	2182		J3E	International distress and calling.
2187.5	2187.5		G2B	Distress, safety & calling (DSC)
2318			J3E	Intership (fishing vessels).
2340	2458		J3E	Public correspondence
2366			J3E	Intership (other than fishing vessels).
2638			J3E	Intership (shared with U.S. vessels)
2738			J3E	Intership (shared with U.S. vessels)
3023	3023		J3E	International SAR On-Scene (Aircraft /Vessels)
4071	4363	403	J3E	Public correspondence
4125	4125		J3E	Distress and Safety including Search and Rescue (Aircrafts/vessels)
4177.5	4177.5		F1B	Narrow Band Direct Printing (NBDP)
4207.5	4207.5		F1B	Alerting frequency (DSC)
5680	5680		J3E	International SAR On-Scene (Aircraft /Vessels)
5803	5803		J3E	Distress & calling (Athabasca & Mackenzie Inland waterways)
6215	6215		J3E	International distress and calling
6267	6318.5		F1B	Radioteletype
6268	6268		F1B	Narrow Band Direct Printing (NBDP)
6312	6312		F1B	Alerting frequency (DSC)

Frequencies		Channel	Type of Emission	Remarks
Ship kHz	Coast kHz			
8291	8291		J3E	International distress and calling
8376.5	8376.5		F1B	Narrow Band Direct Printing (NBDP)
8414.5	8414.5		F1B	Alerting frequency (DSC)
12290	12290		J3E	International distress and calling
12520	12520		F1B	Narrow Band Direct Printing (NBDP)
12577	12577		F1B	Alerting frequency (DSC)
16420	16420		J3E	International distress and calling
16695	16695		F1B	Narrow Band Direct Printing (NBDP)
16804.5	16804.5		F1B	Alerting frequency (DSC)

Frequencies		Channel	Type of Emission	Remarks
Ship MHz	Coast MHz			
156.25	156.25	05A	F3E	Vessel Traffic Services
156.3		06	F3E	Intership safety and International SAR On-Scene (Aircraft/Vessels)
156.525	156.525	70	G2B	Exclusively for digital selective calling (DSC) for distress, safety and calling
156.55	156.55	11	F3E	Vessel Traffic Services and Pilotage
156.575	156.575	71	F3E	Vessel Traffic Services
156.6	156.6	12	F3E	VTS/Ports Operations/Pilotage
156.65	156.65	13	F3E	Bridge to Bridge navigational traffic
156.7	156.7	14	F3E	VTS/Ports Operations/Pilotage
156.725	156.725	74	F3E	Vessel Traffic Services
156.8	156.8	16	F3E	International distress, safety and calling
	161.65	21B	F3E	Weather & NOTSHIP broadcasts
156.925	156.925	78A	F3E	Intership for Fishing vessels
157.100	157.100	22A	F3E	Ship and Canadian Coast Guard liaison
 157.175	157.175	83A	F3E	Public Correspondence
157.3	161.9	26	F3E	Public Correspondence
	161.825	84	F3E	Public Correspondence
157.225	162.400	WX2	F3E	Weather & Notices to Shipping broadcasts
	162.475	WX3	F3E	Weather & Notices to Shipping broadcasts
	162.55	WX1	F3E	Weather & Notices to Shipping broadcasts

#### Notes Reference VHF

- (a) "A" following a channel number means Simplex Operation on the ship station transmitting frequency.
- (b) "B" following a channel number means ship stations receive only the higher coast station transmitting frequency.

**GENERAL INFORMATION ON MCTS CENTRE LISTINGS**

- (1) Frequencies enclosed in brackets are in MHz. Other frequencies are in kHz.
- (2) **Receiving frequencies printed in bold type are continuously monitored by MCTS Centres.**
- (3) The numbered areas mentioned in the remarks column of centers providing communications and special services are shown on the Marine Weather Forecasts maps, and are listed in detail under the heading “Weather Forecast Areas” in Part 5.
- (4) Frequencies for which the J3E single sideband modes of emission are shown in the MCTS Centre listings are designated by the carrier frequencies. The assigned frequencies are 1.4 kHz higher than the carrier frequencies listed. (This note also applies to the medium and high radiotelephone frequencies listed in the “Canadian Maritime Mobile Safety and Public Correspondence Communications Frequencies” section).

**Legend for MCTS Centre Listings**

BC	Broadcast
C	Continuously Operating Radiobeacon
CMB	Continuous Marine Broadcast
DF	Direction Finding
F1B	Radioteletype
F3E	Radiotelephony, Frequency Modulation
G2B	Phase modulation, digital information, automatic reception
H+	This symbol followed by a number indicates minutes past the hour
J3C	Facsimile - Single-sideband, Suppressed Carrier
J3E	Radiotelephony Single-sideband, Suppressed Carrier
MCTS	Marine Communications and Traffic Services
MMSI	Maritime Mobile Service Identity Numbers
NAVTEX	Reference Part 4 for NAVTEX ID Codes
NBDP	Narrow Band Direct Printing
SC	Ship Control (Bridge Operations)
SS	Ship/Shore – is an indicator for ship to shore communication and shore to ship communication
TS	Time Signals
UTC	Indicates Coordinated Universal Time. (For practical purposes, UTC is equivalent to GMT)
*	Indicates that on this frequency, facilities are available for connecting ships directly to the commercial telephone system on shore
#	Indicates that broadcasts are made simultaneously on these frequencies
◆	VHF Direction-Finding service is available
↻	Indicates change or addition since last complete Edition

**TELEPHONE/FACSIMILE/TELEX DIRECTORY**

<i>SERVICE</i>	<i>TELEPHONE NUMBER</i>	<i>FACSIMILE NUMBER</i>	<i>TELEX NUMBER</i>	<i>ANSWER BACK CODE</i>
<b>MCTS CENTRE</b>				
COMOX, B.C. (VAC)	250-339-3613 866-823-1110	250-339-2372		
INUVIK, NU (VFA)	867-777-2667	867-777-2851		
PRINCE RUPERT, B.C. (VAJ)	250-627-3081	250-627-3070		
TOFINO, B.C. (VAE)	250-726-7777 250-726-7716	250-726-4474		
VANCOUVER, B.C. (VAS)	604-775-8919	604-666-8453	043-52586	CGTC VAS VCR
VICTORIA, B.C. (VAK)	250-363-6611	250-363-6556		
<b>CVTS OFFSHORE</b>				
VANCOUVER, B.C.	604-666-6011	604-666-8453	04352586	CGTC VAS VCR
<b>NORDREG CANADA</b>				
☉ IQALUIT, NU	867-979-5724	867-979-4264	063-15529	NORDREG CDA
<b>JOINT RESCUE COORDINATION CENTRE</b>				
VICTORIA, B.C.	250-363-2333 1-800-567-5111			
TRENTON, Ont.	613-965-3870 1-800-267-7270	613-965-7190	066-2282	

**REGIONAL OFFICE ADDRESSES - (Covering the Pacific coast and Western Arctic)**

Regional Superintendent

Marine Communications and Traffic Services  
Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
Canadian Coast Guard  
Pacific Region  
Institute of Ocean Sciences  
PO Box 6000, 9860 W. Saanich Road  
**SIDNEY BC V8L 4B2**

Telephone: 250-363-8922  
Facsimile: 250-363-8929



\*Regional Superintendent  
Marine Communications and Traffic Services  
Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
Canadian Coast Guard  
Central and Arctic Region  
520, Exmouth Street  
**SARNIA ON N7T 8B1**

Telephone: 519-383-1937  
Facsimile: 519-383-1991

**Note: Sarnia is a 10 digit dialing area**

**REGIONAL NOTICES TO SHIPPING (NOTSHIPS) ISSUING AUTHORITIES**

Fisheries and Oceans Canada,  
Canadian Coast Guard  
Vancouver MCTS  
Suite 2380, PO Box 12107  
555 West Hastings Street  
**VANCOUVER BC V6B 4N6**

Telephone: 604-666-6011  
Facsimile: 604-666-8453

**Note: Vancouver is a 10 digit dialing area**

Fisheries and Oceans Canada,  
Canadian Coast Guard  
Inuvik MCTS Centre  
P.O. BOX 2659  
**INUVIK NT X0E 0T0**

Telephone: 867-777-2667  
Facsimile: 867-777-2851

**\*Services provided in English and French**