

# 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 Ch 22A (157.1 MHz) to VHF Ch 83A (157.175 MHz). Ch 22A will continue to be available at some Centres but will no longer be monitored continuously.

### 2) *Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS)*

**GMDSS service availability has been noted on the individual MCTS Centre listings, Part 2.** Canadian Coast Guard MCTS Centres will continue to monitor VHF Ch 16 for distress, urgency, safety and calling purposes for the foreseeable future.

### 3) *Important Safety Notice concerning VHF/DSC*

Upon receipt of a distress, urgency or safety broadcast announcement on VHF/DSC Ch 70, VHF/DSC equipment will automatically switch the DSC radio to VHF Ch 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 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 Ch 70 until the required manoeuvre 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 Ch 16 (page 4-19 refers). Intentionally sending a false distress alert carries penalties under 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 page 1-5 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.

The Canadian Coast Guard discontinued the provision of the commercial radiotelegram service as of December 31, 2007. Provision of the commercial marine telephone service is no longer offered from MCTS Centres on the Pacific Coast of Canada.

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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 equipment at MCTS Centres in Western Canada***

In 2009, the Canadian Coast Guard will be commencing the installation of its AIS system on the Pacific Coast. Installation should be completed by the end of March, 2010.

AIS equipment will be installed at the following MCTS Centres:

Comox  
Prince Rupert  
Tofino  
Vancouver  
Victoria

During the installation period, MCTS Centres will be able to receive dynamic information (position, heading and speed), static information (vessel description) and voyage information as transmitted by the vessel's AIS. The CCG AIS system will be on 'Initial Operational Condition' (IOC) until further advice. 'Full Operational Condition' (FOC) of the system will be promulgated by means of a Notice to Shipping and a Notice to Mariners.

Safety and binary messages services will not be provided until a decision has been made.

6) ***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, Quebec 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 Positioning Indicator 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 Website 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 as of December 1, 2006*

INMARSAT has 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.

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

The frequencies listed below are those in general use by ships in Canadian waters for inter-ship 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	Class of Emission	Remarks
Ship kHz	Coast kHz			
	490		F1B	NAVTEX Service (French)
	518		F1B	NAVTEX Service (English)
2040			J3E	Inter-ship (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	Inter-ship (fishing vessels)
2340	2458		J3E	Public correspondence
2366			J3E	Inter-ship (other than fishing vessels)
2638			J3E	Inter-ship (shared with U.S. vessels)
2738			J3E	Inter-ship (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 (aircraft/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)
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	Class of Emission	Remarks
Ship MHz	Coast MHz			
156.250	156.250	05A	F3E	Vessel Traffic Services
156.300	156.300	06	F3E	Inter-ship 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
156.550	156.550	11	F3E	Vessel Traffic Services and Pilotage
156.575	156.575	71	F3E	Vessel Traffic Services
156.600	156.600	12	F3E	VTS/Ports Operations/Pilotage
156.650	156.650	13	F3E	Bridge to Bridge navigational traffic
156.700	156.700	14	F3E	VTS/Ports Operations/Pilotage
156.725	156.725	74	F3E	Vessel Traffic Services
156.800	156.800	16	F3E	International distress, safety and calling
	161.650	21B	F3E	Weather & NOTSHIP broadcasts
156.925	156.925	78A	F3E	Inter-ship for Fishing vessels
157.100	157.100	22A	F3E	Ship and Canadian Coast Guard liaison (channel unmonitored)
157.175	157.175	83A	F3E	Ship and Canadian Coast Guard liaison
157.225	161.825	84	F3E	Public Correspondence
➔157.275	161.875	85	F3E	Public Correspondence
157.300	161.900	26	F3E	Public Correspondence
161.975	161.975	87B	G2B	AIS-1
162.025	162.025	88B	G2B	AIS-2
	162.400	WX2	F3E	Weather & Notices to Shipping broadcasts
	162.475	WX3	F3E	Weather & Notices to Shipping broadcasts
	162.550	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) Transmit and receive frequencies are listed 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) Pacific regions’ MCTS Centres have changed their working frequency from VHF channel 22A (157.1 MHz) to VHF channel 83A (157.175 MHz). Channel 22A may be available for use at some Centres but is no longer monitored continuously.
- (5) 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

AIS	Automatic Identification System
BC	Broadcast
C	Continuously Operating Radiobeacon
CMB	Continuous Marine Broadcast
DF	Direction Finding
→DSC	Digital Selective Calling
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	Automated Narrow Band Direct Printing Telegraphy Service
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>	<i>MMSI NUMBER</i>
<b>MCTS CENTRE (call sign)</b>					
COMOX, BC (VAC)	250-339-3613 866-823-1110	250-339-2372			00 316 0014
INUVIK, NT (VFA)	867-777-2667	867-777-2851			00 316 0024
PRINCE RUPERT, BC (VAJ)	250-627-3081	250-627-3070			00 316 0013
TOFINO, BC (VAE)	250-726-7777 250-726-7716	250-726-4474			00 316 0012
VANCOUVER, BC (VAS)	604-775-8919	604-666-8453	043-52586	CGTC VAS VCR	00 316 0010
VICTORIA, BC (VAK)	250-363-6611	250-363-6556			00 316 0011
<b>→VTS OFFSHORE</b>					
VANCOUVER, BC	604-666-6011	604-666-8453	04352586	CGTC VAS VCR	
<b>NORDREG CANADA</b>					
IQUALUIT, NU	867-979-5724	867-979-4264	063-15529	NORDREG CDA	

<b>JOINT RESCUE COORDINATION CENTRE (JRCC)</b>			
<i>SERVICE</i>	<i>TELEPHONE NUMBER</i>	<i>FACSIMILE NUMBER</i>	<i>TELEX NUMBER</i>
VICTORIA, BC	250-363-2333 1-800-567-5111	250-363-2944	
TRENTON, ON	613-965-3870 1-800-267-7270	613-965-7190	066-2282

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

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

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 Suite 2380, P.O. Box 12107  
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Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
 Canadian Coast Guard  
 Inuvik MCTS Centre  
 P.O. BOX 2659  
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