

GMDSS Radio Equipment Test Requirements

The persons responsible for testing radio equipment are listed in Section B of the GMDSS logbook. When the appropriate tests and checks are completed, an entry should be made in the logbook and the operator's signature placed against it.

Frequency of Tests	Checks
Daily	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Test DSC equipment - without radiation of signals i.e. internal test.• Batteries – check voltage and charge as required (on 12V system showing ~13.4V and on 24V system showing ~27V)• Test batteries on and off load. The voltage should not drop by more than 10%.• A successful Diagnostic Test should be carried out on SAT C.• Printer(s) - to ensure adequate supply of paper.
Weekly	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Function test of DSC equipment by a TEST CALL to a Coast Station on VHF/MF(2187.5kHz)/HF.• Test reserve source of energy (when not a battery) e.g. generator.
Monthly	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Check each EPIRB built in test procedure. Make SART live test.• Also check EPIRB and SART for security and signs of damage.• A successful Performance Verification (PV) Test should be carried out on SAT C.• Test survival craft VHF radios (test call on channel 15/17) and check that the reserve primary battery is in date with the seal unbroken.• Inspect all batteries providing energy for any part of the radio installation for security and condition. Also check connections are clean, tight, corrosion free and compartments have appropriate levels. In the case of lead/acid batteries, measure the specific gravity of the electrolyte. Make sure the enclosed space is well ventilated before entrance!• Visual checks of aerial systems for signs of corrosion or damage.