

ROUTINE CALLING

When routine communications are in progress between ship and shore, the shore station is in control, regardless of who made the initial call. In the case of routine ship to ship communications, it is the called ship that controls. Use the lowest power necessary for reliable communications to minimize capture effect (VHF, 1W) unless in distress.

*Routine calling by can be initiated on the dedicated **DSC** channel 70 or MF frequencies. The main difficulty may come when you wish to contact another station but you do not know the MMSI number and you do not carry the means to look it up. The calling may be conducted on Channel 16 (VHF) and 2182 kHz (MF) until advised otherwise. If calling on **Channel 16** or on 2182 kHz, the call should last less than one minute and no routine messages should be passed. If no acknowledgment is received within 5 mins, further attempts should be delayed by at least 15 mins.*

Speaking SLOWLY AND CLEARLY on the channel or selected frequency of choice say:

..... (Name of the called stations, not more than 3x, 1x when conditions are good)

THIS IS (Name of vessel not more than 3x, 2x when conditions are good)
OVER

Once contact has been made, the identifications are only transmitted once. The end of working between stations is indicated by the word

OUT

Example of a vessel calling another vessel:

MADELON THIS IS ALBATROS, ALBATROS

OVER

(If no response, then wait at least 2 minutes to repeat)

ALBATROS THIS IS MADELON

OVER

MADELON THIS IS ALBATROS

GO TO CHANNEL 06

OVER

(communication should follow on one of inter-ships channels, e.g. 06)

ALBATROS THIS IS MADELON

SWITCHING TO CHANNEL 06

OUT

On Channel 06:

MADELON THIS IS ALBATROS *(calling station initiates the communication)*

ALBATROS THIS IS MADELON, GO AHEAD

Communication follows ...

OUT

Example of a vessel calling a marina to request a berth:

EAST COWES MARINA THIS IS ALBATROS, ALBATROS
OVER

(If no response, then wait at least 2 minutes to repeat)

ALBATROS THIS IS EAST COWES MARINA
WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?
OVER

EAST COWES MARINA THIS IS ALBATROS
REQUESTING A BERTH FOR 1 NIGHT FOR SAILING YACHT, LENGTH 17 METRES, BEAM 5
METRES, DRAFT 2.8 METRES
OVER

ALBATROS THIS IS EAST COWES MARINA
PONTOON B, BERTH 10, STARBOARD TO PLEASE SIR
OVER

EAST COWES MARINA THIS IS ALBATROS
ROGER
OUT

Difficulty with Communication

If you receive a call but you are not certain the call is intended for you, do nothing until the call has been repeated and understood. However, if you receive a call that is definitely intended for you, but you are uncertain of the identity of the calling stations, you can reply in the following manner:

STATION CALLING (*name of your vessel*)
THIS IS (*name of your vessel*)
GO AHEAD
OVER

On-Board Communication

When calling another Station on board own ship within territorial waters, use VHF Channels 15 or 17 and 1W power:

..... (*name of your vessel*) CONTROL
THIS IS (*name of your vessel*) ALPHA
..... (info, e.g. Radio check)
OVER

Bridge is the Control, the sub stations are Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, etc.

For example:
ORCA CONTROL
THIS IS
ORCA ALPHA
OVER