

GUIDE FOR OPERATORS OF RADIOTELEPHONE STATIONS IN SMALL VESSELS



Hang this card near your radio equipment

DISTRESS PROCEDURE

TO BE USED ONLY IF YOUR VESSEL IS IN GRAVE OR IMMINENT DANGER.

Transmit in the following order on **2182, 4125, 6215, 8291, 12290, 16420 kHz**
(or **VHF Ch 16** or **27.88 MHz** as appropriate)

1. The **RADIOTELEPHONE** (2 tone) **ALARM SIGNAL** (if fitted) } Alarm Signal
2. **MAYDAY MAYDAY MAYDAY** } Distress Call
 This is (Repeated 3 times)
 (name of your vessel) (call sign)
3. • **MAYDAY** } Distress Message
 - The name or other identification of your Vessel
 - Particulars of your position in Degrees and Minutes of Latitude and Longitude or in relation to a well-known Geographical Feature
 - The nature of Distress and the kind of assistance desired
 - Any other information to aid rescuers (This should include the number of persons on board.)

If no answer is received, repeat the distress call and message particularly during the silence periods on the other distress frequencies or any other available frequency on which help may be obtained.

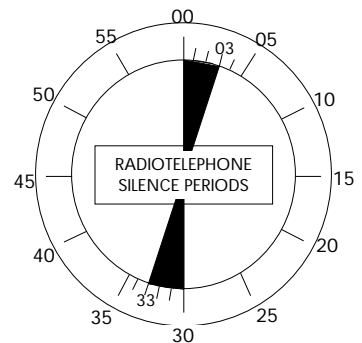
NOTE: When the "Distress" Call is not fully justified, the Urgency Call "PAN PAN" (repeated 3 times) should be used to indicate that a very urgent message follows concerning the Safety of a Vessel or a Person.

Except for **DISTRESS CALLS** and **MESSAGES**, all Transmissions on International Distress and Calling frequencies **2182, 4125** and **6215** and **VHF Channel 16**, and International Distress and Safety frequencies **8291, 12290** and **16420 kHz** must cease for three minutes commencing on the hour and at thirty minutes past the hour.

NOTE: The frequency 2182 kHz is the International Distress and Calling Frequency. Ship stations fitted for operation on 2182 kHz should keep the maximum watch practicable on this frequency at all times while the vessel is at sea.

All Australian coast stations operated by Telstra Maritime Services maintain a continuous watch on 2182, 4125 and 6215 kHz and VHF channel 16. 8291 kHz is continuously monitored by Perth, Darwin, Townsville, Sydney and Melbourne Radio. 12290 kHz is monitored by Sydney and Perth Radio between the hours of 7am and 7pm local time daily. 16420 kHz is monitored by Perth Radio between the hours of 7am and 7pm local time daily.

Vessels operating in the 27 MHz Inshore Boating Radiocommunication Service should monitor the distress frequency 27.88 MHz for the maximum time practicable.



**Your Life and the Lives of Your Crew and Passengers may depend on your Radio
KEEP IT IN GOOD WORKING ORDER**

Refer to "Handbook for Radiotelephone Ship Station Operators" for further information and guidance regarding Operating Procedures and Practices to be observed by Australian ships.