

## MARINE RADIO EMERGENCY CARD OF INSTRUCTIONS

### THE DISTRESS CALL AND DISTRESS MESSAGE

#### (DISTRESS CALL)

MAYDAY MAYDAY MAYDAY

THIS IS

{Boat Name}, {Boat Name}, {Boat Name}

#### (DISTRESS MESSAGE)

MAYDAY THIS IS {Boat Name} CALL SIGN

Items to include in the distress message

Position

- Latitude & Longitude or
- Bearing in degrees and distance in nautical miles from a KNOWN GEOGRAPHICAL POINT

Nature of the distress call

Type of assistance required

Any other information which may assist rescue operations

OVER

### EXAMPLE OF A DISTRESS CALL AND DISTRESS MESSAGE

#### (DISTRESS CALL)

(Assume the vessel in distress is named ALPHA)

MAYDAY, MAYDAY, MAYDAY

THIS IS

ALPHA, ALPHA, ALPHA

#### (DISTRESS MESSAGE)

MAYDAY THIS IS ALPHA (CALL SIGN)

POSITION 30 NAUTICAL MILES DUE SOUTH OF TUGELA MOUTH

I HAVE STRUCK A SUBMERGED OBJECT AND AM SINKING

REQUIRE IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE

WILL FIRE DISTRESS FLARES AT INTERVALS

FIVE PERSONS ON BOARD

OVER

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### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF A DISTRESS MESSAGE

(Assume the vessel responding to the distress signal is named BETA)

MAYDAY

ALPHA THIS IS BETA, BETA, BETA

RECEIVED MAYDAY

OVER

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### ORDER OF PRIORITY OF COMMUNICATIONS IN THE MARITIME MOBILE SERVICE

1. Distress calls, distress messages and distress traffic (MAYDAY)
2. Urgency Communications (PAN PAN) – Note, this signal may also be used to prefix a message concerning urgent medical assistance
3. SAFETY communications (SECURITE') – For example, advising other seafarers of the position of a floating log that that could cause a problem if struck by a passing vessel etc.
4. OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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### PHONETIC ALPHABET

#### LETTERS

(A) ALPHA	(F) FOX-TROT	(K) KILO	(P) PAPA	(U) UNIFORM	(Z) ZULU
(B) BRAVO	(G) GOLF	(L) LIMA	(Q) QUEBEC	(V) VICTOR	
(C) CHARLIE	(H) HOTEL	(M) MIKE	(R) ROMEO	(W) WHISKY	
(D) DELTA	(I) INDIA	(N) NOVEMBER	(S) SIERRA	(X) X-RAY	
(E) ECHO	(J) JULIET	(O) OSCAR	TANGO	(Y) YANKEE	

#### NUMBERS.

(0) ZERO	(2) TWO	(4) FOUR (FOWER)	(6) SIX	(8) EIGHT
(1) ONE	(3) THREE	(5) FIVE (FIFE)	(7) SEVEN	(9) NINE

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VESSEL NAME	
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CALL SIGN	
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OWNER INFORMATION: Name, Address, Contact details

## MARINE RADIO EMERGENCY CARD OF INSTRUCTIONS

### RESTRICTIONS DURING DISTRESS COMMUNICATIONS

Maintain silence	<b>SEELONCE MAYDAY</b>	Issued by VESSEL IN DISTRESS and/or STATION CONTROLLING DISTRESS TRAFFIC
	<b>SEELONCE DISTRESS</b>	Any other station wishing to impose silence

#### **SEELONCE MAYDAY**

DURBAN RADIO / ZSD

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### CONCLUSION OF DISTRESS OPERATIONS

Issued by the CONTROLLING STATION

#### **MAYDAY**

ALL STATIONS, ALL STATIONS, ALL STATIONS

THIS IS DURBAN RADIO, DURBAN RADIO, DURBAN RADIO

TIME 17H00

ALPHA

**SEELONCE FEENEE**

OUT

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### DISTRESS PHASE COMPLETED OR WELL UNDER WAY

When the initial distress phase has been completed and rescue operations are well underway, RESTRICTED working on the Distress channel may be allowed by the controlling station by the use of the expression **PRUDONCE**. The message broadcast would take a similar form to that above, with the phase SEELONCE FEENEE being replaced with PRUDONCE.

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### TRANSMISSION OF SAFETY MESSAGES

Announced on the Distress and Calling channel (CH16), and then broadcast on a working channel.

If message is less than 1 min, it may be transmitted on Channel 16.

#### **SECURITE, SECURITE, SECURITE**

ALL SHIPS, ALL SHIPS, ALL SHIPS

THIS IS

DURBAN RADIO, DURBAN RADIO, DURBAN RADIO

NAVIGATION WARNING TO FOLLOW ON CHANNEL 6.

GO UP AND STAND BY

The warning would then be transmitted on channel 6 after a suitable pause to allow other stations to switch to that channel. Note: channel 6 is only used as an example!