

Calling for help using a VHF Radio

DSC RADIO

If the boat or a person is in grave and imminent danger and immediate assistance is required.

Always ensure that your DSC radio set has your current position entered into it.

Note that this may be done automatically if your radio is interfaced with a GPS set.

- ⇒ **Option 1** (sends an undesignated distress signal)
- ⇒ Lift the cover on the red SOS button & press the button for at least 5 seconds.
- ⇒ Wait 15 seconds and send a Mayday using voice as laid out on the attached card.
- ⇒ **Option 2** (sends a designated distress signal)
- ⇒ Lift the cover on the red SOS button & press the button momentarily.
- ⇒ Follow the menu instructions and select the type of emergency.
- ⇒ Lift the cover on the red SOS button & press the button for at least 5 seconds.
- ⇒ Wait 15 seconds and send a Mayday using voice as laid out on the attached card.

As DSC radio sets vary in the way they are set up and used, always ensure that you have studied the manual carefully. The radio will not operate correctly unless you have correctly programmed your MMSI number into it.

VHF RADIO PROCEDURES

If the boat or a person is in grave and imminent danger and immediate assistance is required.

- ⇒ Check that your radio is switched on and high power setting is selected.
- ⇒ **Select Channel 16**
- ⇒ **Press the transmit button**, and say slowly & clearly:
 - ⇒ **Mayday, Mayday, Mayday**
 - ⇒ **This is ...** (repeat the name of your boat 3 times)
 - ⇒ **Mayday, This is...** (name of your boat said once)
 - ⇒ **My position is...** (use latitude and longitude, or a true bearing and distance *from* a known point.
.....If you don't know, don't guess.
 - ⇒ **I am ...** (sinking, on fire, etc.)
 - ⇒ **I require immediate assistance.**
 - ⇒ **I have...** (number of people on board and any other useful information—drifting, flare fired etc.)
 - ⇒ **Over** - this means please reply
 - ⇒ **Now release the transmit button** and listen for a reply
 - ⇒ **Keep listening on Channel 16 for instructions**
 - ⇒ **If you hear nothing then repeat the distress call.**

Calling for help using a telephone

Dial 112 or 999

Ask for **Coast Guard**

The operator will ask you a number of questions which you should answer as clearly as possible.

The sorts of questions they are likely to ask are;

- ⇒ Exact location of incident or people who need assistance. This may include noticeable landmarks or other features.
- ⇒ Your telephone number
- ⇒ Details on the incident itself, the number of people involved, nature of incident, type of injuries etc.