



Yacht Communications, Radar & Safety

GMDSS - Short Range Certificate update

This half-day course is aimed at yachtsmen who hold a VHF restricted operator's certificate and wish to update it to the GMDSS VHF-Short Range Certificate.

Pre-course study is recommended and knowledge of the phonetic alphabet: -

A lfa	B ravo	C harlie	D elta	E cho	F oxtrot
G olf	H otel	I ndia	J uliet	K ilo	L ima
M ike	N ovember	O scar	P apa	Q uebec	R omeo
S ierra	T ango	U niform	V ictor	W hiskey	X -ray
Y ankee	Z ulu				

The course is supported by a comprehensive set of course notes covering all related subjects which will be given out at the start of the course.

Students will learn: -

- ◆ How to operate a VHF-DSC transceiver
- ◆ How to make routine, safety, urgency and distress calls using DSC
- ◆ Basic understanding of Navtex, EPIRB and SART

Topics covered: -

- ▶ Regulations & procedures
 - Ships licence and operator's certificate
- ▶ Overview of GMDSS
 - Sea areas, MMSI and equipment
- ▶ Distress, Urgency, Safety and Routine calls using DSC
 - Procedure for making distress, urgency, safety and routine calls
- ▶ Use VHF equipment in practice
 - Based on ICOM & Standard Horizon marine VHF-DSC radio
- ▶ Navtex, EPIRBs and SARTs

The equipment used during the course including an ICOM IC-M501 VHF, ICOM DS-100 DSC unit, NASA NAVTEX receiver and Pains Wessex EPIRB and SART. The equipment used is of the type you would install on a yacht.

Candidates must bring along their old VHF certificate, a current passport size photograph of themselves and a cheque made payable to RYA for £22 or can be paid by credit/debit card.

There will be a short assessment towards the end of the course. Candidates will be sent their VHF-SRC operator's certificate from the RYA.