

## GUERNSEY COLLEGE - Maritime Studies

### VHF/DSC INFORMATION SHEET - Guernsey Coastguard, Alderney Coastguard, Sark Port Control

#### **(a) Guernsey Coastguard** - formerly St Peter Port Radio

**Channel 16** - Distress, Safety and Calling channel

**Channel 67** - Safety Channel - used for navigation warnings, Radio Direction Finding (RDF) **and as a supplement for Channel 16.**

**Channel 20** - Guernsey Coastguard working channel - call direct on this channel unless urgent

**Channel 62** - Link Call channel only. This service may be discontinued soon - UK Stations have already ceased Link Calls.

**Channel 12** - Port Control channel - harbour control & ship movements. Call 'Port Control' direct on this channel and **always use low power.**

**Channel 80** - Beaucette Marina - call direct 'Beaucette Marina'.  
St Peter Port Marina - call direct but limited use at present

**DSC** - MMSI No. 002320064 - calls Guernsey Coastguard direct.

**Guernsey Coastguard listening 24 hours on all channels except 80**

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#### **(b) Sark Port Control**

**Channel 13** - Sark Port Control - listening summer only & limited hours. Call Guernsey Coastguard as alternative if necessary. (Note: Ch 13 is also an 'Intership' Channel and 'Bridge-to-Bridge' Channel)

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#### **(c) Alderney Coastguard** - formerly Alderney Radio

**Channel 16** - as Guernsey Coastguard but limited hours.

**Channel 74** - Alderney Coastguard working channel - call direct on this channel unless urgent - limited hours.

**DSC** - MMSI No. 002320196 - calls Alderney Coastguard direct. Listen out before calling. Call on working channels whenever possible.

**USE CHANNEL 16 AS SPARINGLY AS POSSIBLE**

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### Short Range Certificate (SRC) - Operator's Fact Sheet

**RANGE** - Ship to ship - approx. 15 miles

Ship to Coast Radio Station (CRS) - approx. 35-50 miles  
(Dependent on aerial height, power output & installation)

**DUAL WATCH** - monitors two channels - one channel being 16.

**POWER OUTPUT** - Maximum power allowed is 25w. Low power also available - essential for Port Operations

**AUTHORISATION** - Department of Trade & Industry and administered by the Office of Communication (Ofcom)

**SIMPLEX/DUPLEX** - Simplex uses one aerial, Duplex uses two.

**REQUIRED on BOARD** - Ship Licence and detail, Operator's Cert (SRC), List of Channels.

#### **Channels Used -**

**Distress, Safety & Calling** - CH 16, CH67, CH70 (Digital only - no voice)

**Intership**- CH 06, 08, 72, 77 plus others also used for additional purposes - eg CH13 used as 'Bridge to Bridge' communication on large ships

**Port Operations** (Port Control) - CH12 for St Peter Port, CH14 for St Helier VTS. Call direct on working channel and **always use Low Power**

**Coast Radio Stations (CRS)** - Ch 20 for Guernsey Coastguard, Ch82 for Jersey Coastguard, Ch 74 for Alderney Coastguard. Call direct on working channel - or by DSC

#### **Procedures -**

**Control**; by CRS or ship being called by another ship

**Unanswered calls**: Wait & try again after 3 minutes

**Unidentified Calls**: wait for further call then use 'Station Calling'

**Prohibited Messages**: bad language, music etc.

**Phonetics**: standard use required - *alpha, bravo* etc.

**Calls - Intership**: Called station in control and states the channel to use.

**Port Operations**: address as 'Port Control' and use low power

**Digital Calls on CH70 (no voice)** to contact another station.

*John Frankland*