



Australian Government

**Assessment Requirements for MARC059
Transmit and receive information by
marine VHF radio within Australian
Territorial Waters**

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Modification History

Release 1. This is the first release of this unit of competency in the MAR Maritime Training Package.

Performance Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence in this unit must be relevant to and satisfy all of the requirements of the elements and performance criteria on at least one occasion and include:

- accurately and consistently using very high frequency (VHF) equipment to send and receive messages and signals under normal and emergency situations according to international and national VHF radio regulations/standards
- applying the principles of marine radio and digital selective calling (DSC) to accurately transmit and receive messages, including distress calls
- cancelling an inadvertent distress alert or call
- carrying out radio communications in compliance with the relevant sections of the maritime provisions of the Radio Regulations adopted by the World Radiocommunication Conference (as amended), including Chapters VII and IX
- communicating effectively with other stations by using standard voice procedures, the phonetic alphabet, push to talk (PTT) switch and common radio terminology
- deploying an emergency position indicating radio beacon (EPIRB)
- documenting communication problems
- proper housing, securing and automatic release of float-free EPIRB
- reading and interpreting regulations and procedures
- sending and receiving distress alerts, and urgency and safety announcements by DSC
- sending, acknowledging and relaying distress, urgency and safety communications by voice using recognised format
- setting up VHF equipment for use, including selecting the channel, adjusting transmitter power level, adjusting squelch and using dual watch facility
- using correct procedures for transmitting and receiving signals using VHF equipment.

Knowledge Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence in this unit must be relevant to and satisfy all of the requirements of the elements and performance criteria and include knowledge of:

- Australian maritime search and rescue (SAR) system, including satellite distress beacons
- available radio services, including:

- automated weather stations
- DSC
- public communications
- scheduled broadcasts (skeds)
- SAR
- EPIRB frequencies:
 - 406 MHz
 - 121.5/MHz (homing)
- marine VHF repeater stations
- methods of communicating vessel position
- organisations with which radio communication may be conducted, including:
 - coast stations
 - fishing organisations and co-operatives
 - limited coast stations
 - private shore stations, including boating clubs
 - state/territory police forces
- principles of, and procedures for, marine VHF radio communications
- procedures for transmitting and decoding the phonetic alphabet
- purpose of monitoring the VHF Channel 70 used for DSC, including an awareness of the procedures used in making a DSC distress alert, urgency and safety announcement
- radio communication, including:
 - distress, urgency and safety communications
 - normal vessel-to-shore service (ship-to-shore)
 - normal vessel-to-vessel service (ship-to-ship)
- sections of relevant regulations related to marine VHF radio communications
- VHF radio calling, replying and relaying procedures.

Assessment Conditions

Assessors must satisfy applicable regulatory requirements, which include requirements in the Standards for Registered Training Organisations current at the time of assessment.

As a minimum, assessment must satisfy applicable regulatory requirements, which include requirements in the Standards for Registered Training Organisations current at the time of assessment.

Assessment processes and techniques must be appropriate to the language, literacy and numeracy requirements of the work being performed and the needs of the candidate.

Practical assessment must occur in a workplace, or assessment must occur via an online radio simulator or simulated VHF radio communications activities and exercises covering a range of normal and emergency communication situations that are typically experienced on a vessel.

Simulations and scenarios may be used where situations cannot be provided in the workplace or may occur only rarely, in particular for situations relating to emergency procedures and adverse

weather conditions where assessment would be unsafe, impractical or may lead to environmental damage.

Resources for assessment must include access to:

- a range of relevant exercises, case studies and/or simulations
- documentation, such as legislation, regulations, codes of practice, workplace procedures and operational manuals, including:
 - Marine Radio Operators VHF Handbook
 - Radiocommunications (Maritime Ship Station – 27 MHz and VHF) Class Licence 2001
 - Radiocommunications Act 1992
 - relevant state/territory legislation – for carriage requirements
- VHF transceiver equipment – either fixed or handheld, or approved personal computer (PC)-based simulator, which includes a DSC facility.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guide can be found in VetNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=772efb7b-4cce-47fe-9bbd-ee3b1d1eb4c2>