



Australian Government
Australian Maritime Safety Authority

GMDSS

Radio Log Book

Marine Order 27 (Safety of navigation and radio equipment)

Name of vessel	IMO number or Official number	Call sign

This log-book covers the period from: / / 20..... to / / 20.....
(DD/MM/YYYY) (DD/MM/YYYY)



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Instructions for keeping the radio log

Marine Order 27 requires a radio log-book to be carried on board vessels subject to the *Navigation Act 2012*. The GMDSS Radio Log Book (the radio log) should be kept in a location close to the radio station.

Pages from this form should be printed as required and kept as a hard-copy.

The log must be available for inspection by an officer appointed under the *Navigation Act 2012* or an authorised official in a country other than Australia, who is carrying out an inspection in accordance with Article X of the STCW Convention.

Notes on maintaining the radio log

The Master must nominate one or more crew members, normally the person/s qualified for distress and safety radio communications, to maintain the radio log and to carry out the tests and checks of the equipment required by Marine Order 27.

The radio log must contain a summary of communications relating to distress, urgency and safety messages. The summary must include dates and times in Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), details of the vessels involved and their positions.

Distress alerts and distress-related communications received as hard copy via INMARSAT satellite systems, NAVTEX or Narrow Band Direct Printing, VHF or MF/HF DSC should be noted in, and kept with, the log. Hard copy weather reports and navigation warnings need not be retained, but their receipt must be noted in the radio log, if not recorded in electronic form.

Electronic records of communications relating to distress, urgency, safety and receipts of weather reports, and navigation warnings, form part of the log, and must be retained and not overwritten.

Details of commercial communications exchanged via GMDSS communications equipment may also be recorded in the radio log.

The radio log should contain a record of important incidents connected with the radio service, for example:

- a. a breakdown or serious malfunction of the equipment;
- b. a breakdown of communications with coast stations, land earth stations or satellites;
- c. adverse propagation conditions, such as ionospheric, static, atmospheric noise or general interference;
- d. serious breaches of radio procedures by other stations;
- e. any incident connected with the radio service, which appears to be of importance to the safety of life at sea..

Tests

Tests and checks of equipment and reserve power at intervals specified by the equipment manufacturer must be entered into the log. A summary of the operational capability of the equipment, together with the names of any station contacted during tests, should be recorded. If any of the radio equipment is found not to be operating satisfactorily, the Master must be notified and details of the deficiencies recorded in the log.

Note: The tests and checks of equipment may include daily, weekly or monthly tests. The operating manuals for the equipment should provide guidance on what tests and checks are recommended.

Batteries

- a. A list of all batteries used as a source of emergency power for the radio equipment must be entered in Annex 1.
- b. Once a month, a full examination of each battery must be made, and a report on the general condition entered in Annex 2. If the batteries have sealed cells, then the general condition of the batteries is to be recorded, and the batteries replaced at the intervals recommended by the manufacturer.
- c. If the batteries are inaccessible, as in an Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS), the batteries are to be replaced at intervals recommended by the UPS manufacturer.
- d. At intervals specified by the manufacturer, the capacity of the batteries should be checked, using an appropriate method (such as a full discharge and recharge, using normal operating current and period (e.g. 10 h), when the ship is not at sea. At sea, assessment of battery condition should be done without significant discharge of the batteries. In the case of GMDSS UPS units, the in-built battery discharge test facilities should be exercised, when the ship is not at sea. If the battery or UPS manufacturer does not specify an interval for a discharge test, the test should be done at least annually.

Inspection of the log

The Master must inspect the log and sign each day's entries.

Keeping of records

The radio log, and associated records, must be kept onboard for at least 2 years.

Particulars of vessel

Name		IMO No. or Official No.
Port of registry	Call sign	MMSI
Sea area(s) in which ship / vessel is certified to operate	Date keel was laid	
Expiry date of current Safety Radio Certificate		

Methods used to ensure availability of radio facilities

Duplication of equipment No Yes

At-sea maintenance capability No Yes

Shore based maintenance No Yes

▼
Details of service company

Name
Address

Name and address of owner (with overall general control and management of the vessel (see section 14 of the *Navigation Act 2012*))

Name
Address

Qualified personnel

Details of the qualified personnel on board

Name	Dates onboard or dates of attachment		Class and number of certificate and date of issue
	From	To	

Name and rank or muster number of designated personnel with responsibility for radio communications during emergencies (see Section B-VIII/2 of the STCW Code)

Name of personnel nominated to carry out appropriate tests and checks and log entries (if different from above)

