

# UK Interface Requirement 2025

**Shipborne Automatic Identification System in the  
VHF Band of the Maritime Mobile Service**

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# Contents

Section		Page
1	References	3
2	Foreword	4
3	Minimum equipment requirements for operation within the UK	5
4	Additional performance parameters	7
5	Contact details	8
6	Document history	9

## Section 1

# References

- 1.1 Recommendation ITU-R M. 1371 - Technical characteristics for a shipborne automatic identification system using time division multiplex access in the VHF maritime mobile band.

## Section 2

# Foreword

- 2.1 The Radio Equipment Directive (Directive 2014/53/EU) was implemented in the United Kingdom (UK) by the Radio Equipment Regulations 2017. In accordance with Articles 8 and 7 of Directive 2014/53/EU, this UK Interface Requirement contains the requirements for the licensing and use of a universal shipborne automatic identification system using time division multiple access in the specified frequency bands.
- 2.2 Nothing in this UK Radio Interface Requirement shall preclude the need for equipment to comply with Directive 2014/53/EU.
- 2.3 It is required by the Wireless Telegraphy Act 2006 that no radio equipment is installed or used in the UK except under the authority of a licence granted by or otherwise exempted by regulations made by Ofcom. It is a condition of such a licence or exemption regulations as appropriate that the equipment must meet the minimum requirements specified in this UK Interface Requirement for the stated equipment types and for the stated frequency bands.
- 2.4 The requirements given in the main body of this UK Radio Interface Requirement will apply to the licensing of a universal shipborne automatic identification system using time division multiple access in the VHF band of the maritime mobile service.
- 2.5 This UK Radio Interface Requirement will be revised as necessary, for example to follow:
  - i) current technology developments for reasons related to the effective and appropriate use of the spectrum in particular maximising spectrum utilisation; and
  - ii) changes to the available spectrum allocated for a universal shipborne automatic identification system using time division multiple access in the VHF band of the maritime mobile service.
- 2.6 All UK Radio Interface Requirements notified under Directive 2015/1535/EU will be published and will be made available free of charge from the Ofcom web-site at <http://www.ofcom.org.uk>
- 2.7 Further information on this UK Radio Interface Requirement can be obtained from the technical enquiry contact given at the back of this document.

### Section 3

# Minimum equipment requirements for operation within the UK

- 3.1 The minimum requirements in this document are made for reasons related to the effective and appropriate use of the radio spectrum, in particular maximising spectrum utilisation.
- 3.2 This UK Radio Interface Requirement gives a high-level description of how the spectrum in the UK is used for a universal shipborne automatic identification system using time division multiple access in the VHF band of the maritime mobile service. It does not prescribe technical interpretation of the 'essential requirements' of Directive 2014/53/EU.
- 3.3 This UK Radio Interface Requirement therefore stipulates the necessary equipment parameters for the licensing of a universal shipborne automatic identification system using time division multiple access in the VHF maritime mobile band in the UK. Table 3.1 contains the relevant equipment parameters. These together with the 'essential requirements' detailed in Article 3.2 of Directive 2014/53/EU constitute the minimum equipment requirements for a universal shipborne automatic identification system using time division multiple access in the VHF maritime mobile band within the UK.
- 3.4 The technical parameters specified in the UK Radio Interface Requirement are applied to achieve the desired level of compatibility within the VHF maritime mobile band and with other radiocommunications services, whilst promoting enterprise, innovation and competition.
- 3.5 This UK Radio Interface requirement provides the necessary technical information which facilitates access to the VHF maritime mobile band spectrum by making clear the assumptions that are made in planning the use of the VHF maritime mobile band spectrum in the UK. It is not the intention of this UK Radio Interface Requirement to duplicate or impose any additional 'essential requirements' of the Directive 2014/53/EU on products. Any specified parameters within this document are for the purpose of identifying product options and not as a national de facto product requirement.

**Table 3.1: Minimum equipment requirements for Shipborne Automatic Identification System in the VHF Band of the Maritime Mobile Service**

1	Frequency band (or bands)	156 MHz – 163 MHz
2	Radio service	Maritime Mobile Service
3	Application	Maritime Navigational Aids, Automatic Identification System (AIS) and Radar Licence
4	Channelling modulation	25 kHz GMSK/FM Modulation index 0.5 for 25kHz spacing Modulation index 0.25 for 12.5kHz spacing Only G2B(DSC) on 156.525 MHz
5	Maximum transmit power limit	12.5 W maximum carrier power
6	Channel occupation rules	N/A
7	Duplex type/separation	N/A
8	Licensing Regime	Maritime Navigational Aids, Automatic Identification System (AIS) and Radar Licence
9	Additional essential requirements	The channels and parameters shall be in accordance with the relevant sections of the ITU Radio Regulations Articles 5, 19, 30-33, 50-54, 57-58, Appendices 13-16 and 18. The equipment shall be in accordance with Recommendation ITU-R M.1371
10	Frequency planning assumptions	N/A
11	Reference	Recommendation ITU-R M.1371
12	Remarks	N/A
13	Notification Number	2000/250/UK

## Section 4

# Additional performance parameters

### (informative)

- 4.1 IEC 61993 – Maritime navigation and radiocommunication equipment and systems – Automatic identification systems (AIS) – Part 2: Class A shipborne equipment of the universal automatic identification system (AIS) – Operational and performance requirements, methods of test and required test results.
- 4.2 IEC 62287 – Maritime navigation and radiocommunication equipment and systems – Class B shipborne installation of the universal automatic identification system (AIS) using VHF TDMA techniques.
- 4.3 IALA GUIDELINES on the UNIVERSAL AUTOMATIC IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM

## Section 5

# Contact details

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## Section 6

# Document history

Version	Date	Changes
1.0	01 Feb 2002	Published
2.0	21 Jul 2005	Rebranded to Ofcom format
3.0	January 2018	Replaced R&TTE Directive 1999/5/EC and Directive 98/34/EC with Radio Equipment Directive and Directive (EU) 2015/1535 respectively. Minor editorials