

# International distress frequency

## Current frequencies

International distress frequencies, currently in use are:

- 2182 kHz for medium range maritime voice use. The US Coast Guard has said “beginning August 1st, 2013 the Coast Guard would no longer monitor 2182 kHz”,<sup>[4]</sup> as have many other coast guard services.
- Several HF maritime voice frequencies exist for long-distance distress calls:<sup>[5]</sup>
  - 4.125 MHz
  - 6.215 MHz
  - 8.291 MHz
  - 12.290 MHz
  - 16.420 MHz
- 121.5 MHz is the civilian aircraft emergency frequency or International Air Distress frequency. It is used by civilian distress radiobeacons; however, the Cospas-Sarsat system no longer monitors the frequency.
- 243 MHz for NATO military aircraft emergency frequencies
- Marine VHF radio Channel 16 (156.8 MHz) for short range maritime use
- 406 MHz to 406.1 MHz is used by the Cospas-Sarsat international satellite-based search and rescue (SAR) distress alert detection and information distribution system
- 462.675 MHz is a UHF mobile distress and road information calling frequency allocated to the General Mobile Radio Service and used throughout Alaska and Canada for emergency communications; formerly called Orange Dot in the 1960s, “GMRS 675” or Channel 6 on mobile radios today. Its bandwidth can vary between 12.5, 25 and 50 kHz, and is also allocated to Ch. 20 on 22-channel FRS/GMRS “blister pack” radios. It can have a repeater input frequency of 467.675 MHz, and a tone squelch of 141.3 Hz.

## Digital selective calling frequencies

Several maritime frequencies are used for digital selective calling (DSC), and they are also monitored for DSC distress signals:

- 2.1875 MHz
- 4.2075 MHz
- 6.312 MHz
- 8.4145 MHz
- 12.577 MHz
- 16.8045 MHz
- 156.525 MHz, Marine VHF radio Channel 70

## Amateur radio frequencies

- Emergency Centre of Activity (ECO) frequencies informally established by the International

Amateur Radio Union regional organizations (frequencies shown in kHz):

<b>Region 1</b> <b>Europe, Africa</b>	<b>Region 2</b> <b>The Americas</b>	<b>Region 3</b> <b>Asia</b>
3760	3750 or 3985	3600
7110	7060, 7240 or 7275	7110
14300	14300	14300
18160	18160	18160
21360	21360	21360

- Emergency/Disaster Relief Interoperation Voice Channels of the amateur radio Global ALE High Frequency Network:
  - 3791.0 kHz USB
  - 7185.5 kHz USB
  - 10145.5 kHz USB
  - 14346.0 kHz USB
  - 18117.5 kHz USB
  - 21432.5 kHz USB
  - 24932.0 kHz USB
  - 28312.5 kHz USB
- Citizens band (CB) radio (not available in all countries)
  - Emergency channels 9 (27.065 MHz AM) and 19 (27.185 MHz AM)

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