

MarEng Radio Communication – Unit 1

POSITION

Methods of giving a position

Which method to use:

1. Latitude and Longitude:

- when clear of land, when near a clear coast
- when geographical names may be confusing

Example: 30° 50' N 018° 25' 02 E

Position: Latitude: three-zero degrees five-zero minutes North;

Longitude: zero-one-eight degrees two-five decimal zero-two minutes East.

2. Bearing and Distance:

- when near land or sea mark
- when there is a possibility of charts with different datums being used

Notice that the correct order is **bearing from...distance...**

Examples:

*My position is: **bearing**: one-niner-four degrees true from Cape Fantasia, **distance** one two decimal four miles.*

*Oil clearance operations in position: **bearing** 160° [one-six-zero] degrees from Barwater Pier **distance** four miles (160°; 4 nautical miles).*

3. Reference to a Navigation Mark

- when approaching ports or harbours

Example: *Position: I am approaching / passing / leaving Harmaja lighthouse.*

Using Cardinal Points / North, South, East, West, also Northeast, Southwest etc., example:

*Oil clearance operations **east of fairway** at Helsinki Lighthouse.*

4. By Reporting Points

- in areas where reporting points have been marked on the charts

Example: *I am approaching reporting point number 2.*

NOTE: In a distress, safety or urgency situation the position is always to be transmitted in the form in which it was observed!

NOTE: Bearings and courses are always given in three figures:

Pilot boat is bearing 215° (T) from you.

Buoy 030° on your port bow.

[Pilot boat is bearing two-one-five degrees true from you.]

[Buoy zero-three-zero degrees on your port bow.]

NOTE: Rudder angles in steering orders are given as follows.

Starboard 15! (fifteen, NOT five-one)

Port 20! (twenty)



Education and Culture

Leonardo da Vinci