

## MarEng Radio Communication – Unit 1

### OTHER IMPORTANT EXPRESSIONS

In ordinary English we use expressions like:

The fairway is 23 metres **deep**. The mast is 9 metres **high**.

In radio communication we use the following expressions:

**First a noun** denoting quantity or unit of measurement **and after that the numbers**.

For example:

**Depth**      *Fairway depth is: 6m. (six metres)*

**Distance**    *Distance to scene of accident is 120 [one-two-zero] miles. (120 nautical miles)*

**Draught**    *My draught forward is: 7.2 [seven decimal two] metres.  
(7.2m)*

**Height**      *Height of seas in the area is three metres... (3m)*

**Speed**       *My speed is 15 [one-five] knots. (15 knots)*

**Temperature**            *Temperature is 23 [two-three] degrees Celsius. (23°)*

**Tonnage**                    DWT/deadweight tonnes  
                                  NRT/net tonnes  
                                  GRT/gross tonnes

*My tonnage is 30,000 [three-zero-thousand] gross tonnes.  
(30,000 tonnes)*

#### VHF frequency

*Ohima Maru, this is Bravery. Change to VHF channel 72 [seven-two]. Over. (VHF 72)*

#### Visibility to one mile

*Visibility at Helsinki Lighthouse is 500 [five-zero-zero] metres.  
(500m)*

#### Visibility over one mile

*Visibility is 1.5 [one-decimal-five] miles. (1.5 nautical miles)*

**Weight**                    kilograms/kilograms  
                                  tonnes/metric tonnes

#### Wind speed

*Wind is Force 10 [one-zero]. (Indicating the Beaufort scale)*

*Wind is 23m/s [two-three metres per second].*

*Wind is 18 [one-eight] knots.*

## DATE AND TIME

**Time** UTC/universal time coordinated  
local time

Time is given in UTC at sea, before entry to a port, harbour or other terminal facility.  
Time is given as local time inside a port, harbour or other terminal facility.

*Time: 1500 [one-five-zero-zero] UTC.*

### **Notice how coast radio stations give date and time at the end of messages:**

*Pan-Pan Pan-Pan Pan-Pan.*

*This is Scheveningen Radio, Scheveningen Radio, Scheveningen Radio.*

*Following received from DIANA 5 call sign PDQE.*

*Message reads: Engine troubler in position 3 miles north of Northhinder lightvessel... Need immediate tug assistance.*

*Date and time: 010138 UTC Scheveningen Radio.*

01 = date: first day of the month

0138 = time: one thirty eight a.m. (in the morning)