

DSC DISTRESS COMMUNICATION FORM

Post this form by each permanently installed radio equipped with DSC

Fill in Items 5, 6, 11 and 13 prior to getting underway.

SPEAK SLOWLY – CLEARLY – CALMLY

1. Make certain your radio and GPS are turned on and the radio is on High Power.
2. Send DSC Distress Call – **press Red Distress Button for 5 seconds.** Wait for a DSC Distress Acknowledgement then shift to VHF Ch 16 or SSB 4125 kHz (USB) for voice instructions.
3. If no DSC Acknowledgement is received Select **VHF Ch 16 or SSB 4125 kHz (USB)**
4. Press microphone button and say: **“MAYDAY - MAYDAY - MAYDAY”**

5. Say: **“This is (Your boat name, MMSI or Call Sign)”**
6. Repeat once: **“MAYDAY (Your boat name)”**
7. **Tell where you are:**
 - a. **Latitude and longitude** _____
 - b. **Navigation Aids or Landmarks nearby** _____
 - c. **Direction and distance to a Prominent Landmark** _____
8. **State the nature of your distress and the kind of assistance required:**

9. **Give the number of people aboard and condition of any injured** _____
10. **Estimate present seaworthiness of your boat.** _____
11. **If time allows - Briefly describe your boat:**
 - a. **Type – (Sail or Power)** _____
 - b. **Length in feet-** _____
 - c. **Hull color-** _____
 - d. **Trim color-** _____
 - e. **Masts-** _____
 - f. **Other Identifying Info-** _____
12. Say: **“I will be listening on Channel 16 or 4125 kHz Upper Sideband ”**

13. Say: **“This is (Your Boat Name, MMSI or Call Sign) OVER”**
14. Release microphone button and **Listen for an Answer.**
15. **Activate 406 MHz EPIRB** by following directions on Beacon Body. Ensure EPIRB remains vertical, antenna pointing upward. Take EPIRB to Survival Craft if abandoning ship.
16. If you do not receive an answer **Repeat Call beginning at Item 3.**
17. If no answer again **Check to see if radio is turned on and VHF is on CH 16, high power or shift SSB to higher emergency frequencies for communications with distant shore stations.**