

Mayday and Pan-Pan Script Card

A Marine Radio SRC revision prompt for distress, urgency, DSC follow-up, and spoken call order.

Mayday voice structure

Use Mayday only for grave and imminent danger requiring immediate assistance.

- Mayday, Mayday, Mayday.
- This is vessel name repeated three times, then call sign or MMSI if needed.
- Mayday vessel name, position, nature of distress, assistance required, persons on board, other useful information, over.

Pan-Pan voice structure

Use Pan-Pan for urgency: a serious situation that is not immediate grave danger.

- Pan-Pan, Pan-Pan, Pan-Pan.
- All stations or named station, repeated as appropriate.
- This is vessel name, position, nature of urgency, assistance or advice required, intentions, over.

DSC and channels

Channel choice is a common source of dangerous mistakes.

- Channel 70 is for DSC alerts, not voice.
- Voice distress and urgency follow-up normally starts on Channel 16 unless instructed otherwise.
- Keep a listening watch and avoid blocking distress traffic.

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