

Federal Communications Commission

§ 2.303

Class of station	Composition of call sign	Call sign blocks
Personal radio	3 letters, 4 digits, or 4 letters, 4 digits.	KAA0001 through KZZ9999, WAA0001 through WPZ9999, KAA0001 through KZZ9999.
Personal radio, temporary permit	3 letters, 5 digits	KAA00000 through KZZ99999.
Personal radio in trust territories.	1 letter, 4 digits	K0001 through K9999.
Business radio temporary permit	2 letters, 7 digits	WT plus local telephone number.
Part 90 temporary permit	2 letters, 7 digits	WT plus local telephone number.
Part 90 conditional permit	2 letters, 7 digits	WT plus local telephone number.
General Mobile Radio Service, temporary permit.	2 letters, 7 digits	WT plus business or residence telephone number.

NOTE: The symbol 0 indicates the digit zero.

¹ Ships with transmitter-equipped survival craft shall be assigned four letter call signs.

² See § 2.303.

³ A 3 letter call sign now authorized for and in continuous use by a licensee of a standard broadcasting station may continue to be used by that station. The same exception applies also to frequency modulation and television broadcasting stations using 5 letter call signs consisting of 3 letters with the suffix "FM" or "TV".

⁴ Plus other identifying data as may be specified.

[34 FR 5104, Mar. 12, 1969; as amended at 54 50239, Dec. 5, 1989]

EDITORIAL NOTE: FOR FEDERAL REGISTER citations affecting § 2.302, see the List of CFR Sections Affected in the Finding Aids section of this volume.

§ 2.303 Other forms of identification of stations.

(a) The following table indicates forms of identification which may be used in lieu of call signs by the specified classes of stations. Such recognized means of identification may be one or more of the following: name of station, location of station, operating agency, official registration mark,

flight identification number, selective call number or signal, selective call identification number or signal, characteristic signal, characteristic of emission or other clearly distinguishing form of identification readily recognized internationally. Reference should be made to the appropriate part of the rules for complete information on identification procedures for each service.

Class of station	Identification, other than assigned call sign
Aircraft (U.S. registry) telephone	Registration number preceded by the type of the aircraft, or the radiotelephony designator of the aircraft operating agency followed by the flight identification number.
Aircraft (foreign registry) telephone	Foreign registry identification consisting of five characters. This may be preceded by the radiotelephony designator of the aircraft operating agency or it may be preceded by the type of the aircraft.
Aeronautical	Name of the city, area, or airdrome served together with such additional identification as may be required.
Aircraft survival craft	Appropriate reference to parent aircraft, e.g., the air carrier parent aircraft flight number or identification, the aircraft registration number, the name of the aircraft manufacturer, the name of the aircraft owner, or any other pertinent information.
Ship telegraph	When an official call sign is not yet assigned: Complete name of the ship and name of licensee. On 156.65 MHz: Name of ship. Digital selective call.
Ship telegraph	Digital selective call.
Public coast (radiotelephone) and Limited Coast (Radiotelephone).	The approximate geographic location in a format approved by the Commission.
Public coast (radiotelegraph)	Coast station identification number.
Fixed	Coast station identification number.
Fixed: Rural subscriber service	Geographic location. When an approved method of superimposed identification is used, QTT DE (abbreviated name of company or station).
Land mobile: Public safety, forestry conservation, highway maintenance, local government, shipyard, land transportation, and aviation services.	Assigned telephone number.
Land mobile: Industrial service	Name of station licensee (in abbreviated form if practicable), or location of station, or name of city, area, or facility served. Individual stations may be identified by additional digits following the more general identification.
	Mobile unit cochannel with its base station: Unit identifier on file in the base station records. Mobile unit not cochannel with its base station: Unit identifier on file in the base station records and the assigned call sign of either the mobile or base station. Temporary base station: Unit designator in addition to base station identification.

<i>Class of station</i>	<i>Identification, other than assigned call sign</i>
Land mobile: Domestic public and rural radio	Special mobile unit designation assigned by licensee or by assigned telephone number.
Land mobile: Railroad radio service	Name of railroad, train number, caboose number, engine number, or name of fixed wayside station or such other number or name as may be specified for use of railroad employees to identify a specific fixed point or mobile unit. A railroad's abbreviated name or initial letters may be used where such are in general usage. Unit designators may be used in addition to the station identification to identify an individual unit or transmitter of a base station.
Land mobile: Broadcasting (remote pickup)	Identification of associated broadcasting station.
Broadcasting (Emergency Broadcast System)	State and operational area identification.
Broadcasting (aural STL and intercity relay) ...	Call sign of the broadcasting station with which it is associated.
Broadcasting (television auxiliary)	Call sign of the TV broadcasting station with which it is licensed as an auxiliary, or call sign of the TV broadcasting station whose signals are being relayed, or by network identification.
Broadcasting (television booster)	Retransmission of the call sign of the primary station.
Disaster station	By radiotelephony: Name, location, or other designation of station when same as that of an associated station in some other service. Two or more separate units of a station operated at different locations are separately identified by the addition of a unit name, number, or other designation at the end of its authorized means of identification.

(b) Digital selective calls will be authorized by the Commission and will be formed by groups of numbers (0 through 9), however, the first digit must be other than 0, as follows:

- (1) Coast station identification number: 4 digits.
- (2) Ship station selective call number: 5 digits.
- (3) Predetermined group of ship stations: 5 digits.

(c) Ship stations operating under a temporary operating authority shall identify by a call sign consisting of the letter “K” followed by the vessel’s Federal or State registration number, or a call sign consisting of the letters “KUS” followed by the vessel’s documentation number. However, if the vessel has no registration number or documentation number, the call sign shall consist of the name of the vessel and the name of the licensee as they appear on the station application form.

[28 FR 12465, Nov. 22, 1963, as amended at 40 FR 57675, Dec. 11, 1975; 41 FR 44042, Oct. 6, 1976; 42 FR 31008, June 17, 1977; 44 FR 62284, Oct. 30, 1979]

Subpart E—Distress, Disaster, and Emergency Communications

§2.401 Distress messages.

Each station licensee shall give absolute priority to radiocommunications or signals relating to ships or aircraft in distress; shall cease all sending on frequencies which will interfere with hearing a radiocommunication or sig-

nal of distress and except when engaged in answering or aiding the ship or aircraft in distress, shall refrain from sending any radiocommunications or signals until there is assurance that no interference will be caused with the radiocommunications or signals relating thereto; and shall assist the ship or aircraft in distress, so far as possible, by complying with its instructions.

§2.402 Control of distress traffic.

The control of distress traffic is the responsibility of the mobile station in distress or of the mobile station which, by the application of the provisions of §2.403, has sent the distress call. These stations may, however, delegate the control of the distress traffic to another station.

§2.403 Retransmission of distress message.

Any station which becomes aware that a mobile station is in distress may transmit the distress message in the following cases:

- (a) When the station in distress is not itself in a position to transmit the message.
- (b) In the case of mobile stations, when the master or the person in charge of the ship, aircraft, or other vehicles carrying the station which intervenes believes that further help is necessary.