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FCC Element 1 - Marine Radio Operator

1. What is a requirement of all marine transmitting apparatus used aboard United States vessels?

- **Only equipment that has been certified by the FCC for Part 80 operations is authorized .**
- Equipment must be type-accepted by the U.S. Coast Guard for maritime mobile use.
- Certification is required by the International Maritime Organization (IMO).
- Programming of all maritime channels must be performed by a licensed Marine Radio Operator.

Note:

Marine transmitting apparatus used aboard United States vessels must be certified by the FCC for Part 80 operations to comply with U.S. law; this requirement is distinct from Coast Guard approval, IMO standards, or operator licensing, which do not authorize equipment.

2. What transmitting equipment is authorized for use by a station in the maritime services?

- Transmitters that have been certified by the manufacturer for maritime use.
- **Unless specifically excepted , only transmitters certified by the Federal Communications Commission for Part 80 operations .**
- Equipment that has been inspected and approved by the U.S. Coast Guard.
- Transceivers and transmitters that meet all ITU specifications for use in maritime mobile service.

Note:

Transmitters used in maritime services must be certified by the Federal Communications Commission for Part 80 operations, unless specifically excepted.

3. Small passenger vessels that sail 20 to 150 nautical miles from the nearest land must have what additional equipment?

- Inmarsat-B terminal.
- Inmarsat-C terminal.
- Aircraft Transceiver with 121.5 MHz.
- **MF-HF SSB Transceiver.**

Note:

Small passenger vessels operating 20 to 150 nautical miles from land require an MF-HF SSB transceiver to fulfill long-range communication requirements beyond the range of VHF radio.

4. What equipment is programmed to initiate transmission of distress alerts and calls to individual stations?

- NAVTEX.
- GPS.
- **DSC controller .**
- Scanning Watch Receiver.

Note:

The DSC controller is programmed to initiate distress alerts and calls to individual stations.

5. What is the minimum transmitter power level required by the FCC for a medium-frequency transmitter aboard a compulsorily fitted vessel?

- At least 100 watts, single-sideband, suppressed-carrier power.
- **At least 60 watts PEP.**
- The power predictably needed to communicate with the nearest public coast station operating on 2182 kHz.
- At least 25 watts delivered into 50 ohms effective resistance when operated with a primary voltage of 13.6 volts DC.

Note:

FCC regulations mandate a minimum transmitter power of 60 watts PEP for medium-frequency transmitters on compulsorily fitted vessels; this fixed requirement distinguishes it from other power levels or variable operational guidelines.

6. Shipboard transmitters using F3E emission (FM voice) may not exceed what carrier power?

- 500 watts.
- 250 watts.
- 100 watts.
- **25 watts.**

Note:

FCC maritime regulations limit F3E (FM voice) transmitters on shipboard VHF radios to a maximum carrier power of 25 watts.

7. Which commercial radio operator license is required to operate a fixed-tuned ship RADAR station with external controls?

- A radio operator certificate containing a Ship RADAR Endorsement.
- A Marine Radio Operator Permit or higher.
- Either a First or Second Class Radiotelegraph certificate or a General Radiotelephone Operator License.
- **No radio operator authorization is required.**

Note:

No radio operator authorization is required because operating a fixed-tuned ship radar with only external controls does not necessitate a commercial radio operator license under FCC regulations.

8. When is a Marine Radio Operator Permit or higher license required for aircraft communications?

- When operating on frequencies below 30 MHz allocated exclusively to aeronautical mobile services.
- When operating on frequencies above 30 MHz allocated exclusively to aeronautical mobile services.
- **When operating on frequencies below 30 MHz not allocated exclusively to aeronautical mobile services.**
- When operating on frequencies above 30 MHz not assigned for international use.

Note:

A Marine Radio Operator Permit or higher license is required for aircraft communications when operating on frequencies below 30 MHz that are not exclusively allocated to aeronautical mobile services.

9. Which of the following persons are ineligible to be issued a commercial radio operator license?

- **Individuals who are unable to send and receive correctly by telephone spoken messages in English.**
- Handicapped persons with uncorrected disabilities which affect their ability to perform all duties required of commercial radio operators.
- Foreign maritime radio operators unless they are certified by the International Maritime Organization (IMO).
- U.S. Military radio operators who are still on active duty.

Note:

Applicants for a commercial radio operator license must demonstrate the ability to correctly send and receive spoken messages in English; those who cannot are ineligible.

10. What are the radio operator requirements of a passenger ship equipped with a GMDSS installation?

- The operator must hold a General Radiotelephone Operator License or higher-class license.
- The operator must hold a Restricted Radiotelephone Operator Permit or higher-class license.
- The operator must hold a Marine Radio Operator Permit or higher-class license.
- **Two operators on board must hold a GMDSS Radio Operator License or a Restricted GMDSS Radio Operator License, depending on the ship's operating areas .**

Note:

Passenger ships with GMDSS installations require two operators holding a GMDSS Radio Operator License or a Restricted GMDSS Radio Operator License, based on the ship's operating areas, to ensure continuous distress and safety communications.
