

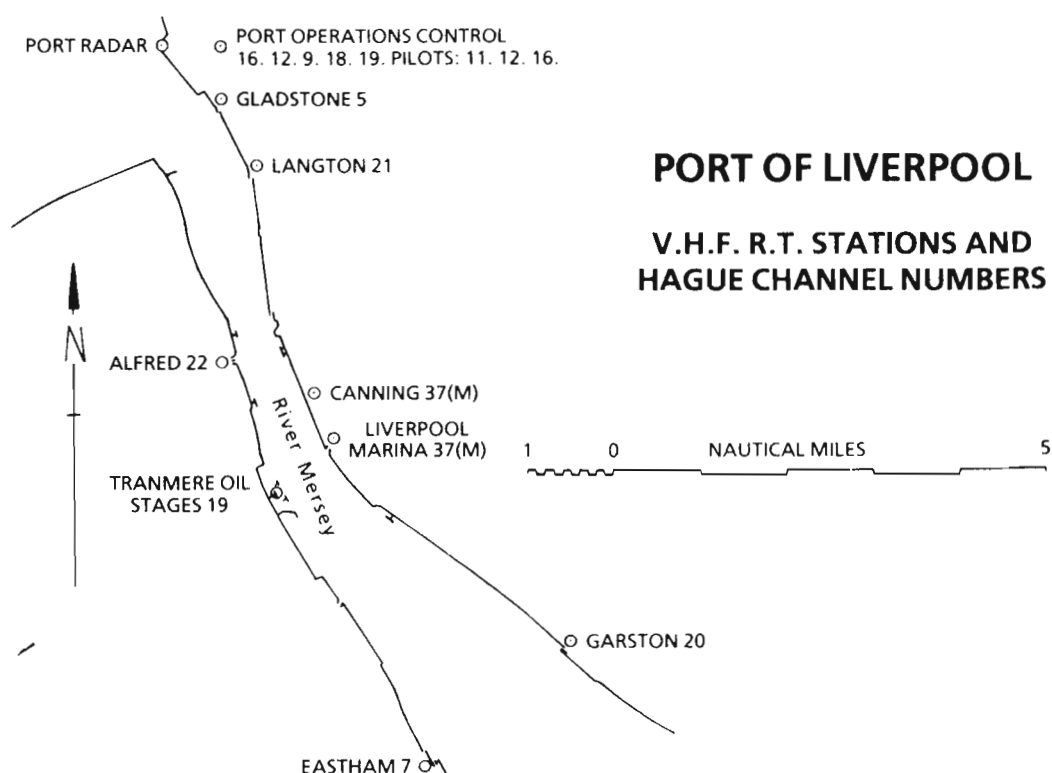
THE MERSEY DOCKS AND HARBOUR COMPANY

NOTICE TO MARINERS

No. 15 - 1993

PORT OPERATIONS R/T COMMUNICATIONS

1. Notice is hereby given that at 1500 hours on the 5th December 1993, the following Port Operations R/T Communications procedures will become effective.
2. Messages on Port Operation Channels must be restricted to the movement and the safety of ships, and in emergency, to safety of persons. Messages of a personal character cannot be accepted.
3. Vessels should establish contact by VHF/RT with the Port Operations Control call sign "MERSEY RADIO" before sailing and inward bound when within the VHF/RT range and not later than when in the vicinity of the Bar Lighted Buoy. Details of procedures are shown in the appendix to this notice (n.b. paragraph 13).
4. **HARBOUR RADAR**
The Liverpool Port Radar situated at the North West Corner of the Royal Seaforth Dock Latitude 53° 27' 56" N. Longitude 03° 02' 22" W., provides radar coverage extending seawards over Liverpool Bay for a radius of 20 miles from the station and in the River Mersey as far south as the approaches to the Manchester Ship Canal. Radar signals are transmitted by Microwave Link to the "Port Operations Control" situated in the Mersey Docks & Harbour Company's new headquarters "Maritime Centre," Latitude 53° 28' 02" N., Longitude 03° 01' 08" W.
Vessels entering or leaving the Port in conditions of low visibility can, on request, be supplied with continuous information of their position whilst navigating in the river or sea channels.
5. A General Situation and Movement Statement, giving all intended movements inwards and outwards for the Port of Liverpool, Eastham, Garston and Cammell Lairds and approximate times at the dock entrance or river basin, together with a list of Local Navigation Warnings in force, latest weather reports and area forecast, is broadcast on Channel 9 at three hours before each high water. This full statement is repeated with any amendments and the disposition of the River Anchorages North and South at two hours before each high water.
Any Local Navigation Warnings Gale Warnings and Amendments to Gale Warnings are broadcast on receipt, on Channel 12.
A full list of Navigation Warnings including Gale Warnings is broadcast on Channel 9 every four hours, commencing at 0000 hours. No separate broadcast of this list is made during the period from four hours before high water to one hour before high water as such warnings are included in the General Situation and Movement Statement.
6. **DOCKING INSTRUCTIONS**
The VHF/RT Stations at the Dock Entrances and Stages are provided to facilitate docking and berthing operations and to provide direct communication between the Dock Master or Stage Master and a vessel. The Range of these stations is limited to a distance of six to eight miles. The positions of these stations are as shown in the sketch plan below.



7. TUG COMMUNICATION

Channels 8 and 10 are reserved for tug communications and should not be used for any other purpose. Due to the heavy working of these Channels, especially at tide time, and in order to minimise interference, vessels and their tugs when communicating to one another on VHF/RT, should, when possible, transmit on reduced power.

8. LARGE VESSELS SWINGING

Vessels of 150 metres or over in length intending to swing in the river should give advance notice of at least 10 minutes to Mersey Radio of their intentions so that Mersey Radio can broadcast on Channel 12 a swinging warning to all ships.

9. Port V.H.F. Radio Telephone Communication System.

Station	Call Sign	Hague Channel Number	Frequency MHz	Remarks	
Port Operations Control Liverpool	Mersey Radio	16	156.80	Calling and Safety Port Operations — Calling and Navigation Port Operations and Routine Broadcasts Port Operations and Radar information A continuous watch is kept on Channels 16 & 12 at Port Operations Control	
		12	156.60		
		9	156.45		
		18	{ 156.90 161.50		
		19	{ 156.95 161.55		
Gladstone Dock Master's Office	Includes Liverpool Landing Stage	Gladstone Dock	5	{ 156.25 160.85	Port Operations and Docking Instructions
Langton Dock Master's Office		Langton Dock	21	{ 157.05 161.65	
Alfred Dock Master's Office		Alfred Dock	22	{ 157.10 161.70	
Tranmere Stage Shell U.K.	Tranmere Stage	19	{ 156.95 161.55	Berthing Instructions	
Associated British Ports Garston Dock Master's Office	Garston Dock	20	{ 157.00 161.60	Port Operations and Docking Instructions	
M.D.C. Canning Brunswick	Canning Dock Liverpool Marina	37	157.85	Berthing Instructions	
Manchester Ship Canal Eastham Locks Office	Eastham Locks	7	{ 156.35 160.95	Port Operations and Dock Instructions	
M.D.&H.C. Pilot Stations					
Point Lynas Pilot Station	Lynas Point	16	156.80	Calling and Safety Ship to Shore (See also Appendix 8(i) Calling and Ship to Shore) Initial Calling (See also Appendix 8(ii))	
		9	156.45		
Liverpool Control Centre	Liverpool Pilot	11	156.55		
		16	156.80		
		12	156.60		

NOTE:— The first frequency of two-frequency Channels is to be used for ship transmission.

10. LOCAL PRIORITY MESSAGES

A vessel which has an urgent message to transmit to Mersey Radio concerning urgent navigation matters and which message should receive priority over normal Port Operations R/T Communications, should indicate the urgency of the message by prefixing the call sign of the Port Operations Control with the spoken word "PRIORITY" i.e. "PRIORITY MERSEY RADIO" repeated three times followed by normal procedure.

11. In special circumstances such as the launch of a vessel or in an emergency such as a wreck, it may be necessary temporarily to establish a patrol for the control of traffic. Vessels will be warned of the existence of any such patrol by Mersey Radio and any such patrol vessels or launches will maintain a listening watch on Channel 12 and communicate with other vessels on Channel 6.

12. CONDITIONS

This service is offered and will be rendered only on the condition that neither the Company nor any of its servants or agents shall be liable to any person whatsoever for loss or damage of any kind whatsoever caused or arising whether as a result of negligence or otherwise or as a result of non availability of the service.

13. This notice should be read in conjunction with the current issue of the General Directions for Navigation in the Port of Liverpool.

14. Notice to Mariners No. 7 of 1987 will hereby be cancelled on the 5th Day of December 1993 at 1500 Hours.

LIVERPOOL.

APPENDIX R/T PROCEDURE

1. METHOD OF CALLING

— Calling sign of station called, not more than three times.

— The words "this is".

— Call sign of station calling, not more than three times.

When contact has been established the call sign may be transmitted only once.

2. REPLIES TO CALLS SHALL BE MADE AS FOLLOWS:—

— Call sign of the calling station, not more than three times.

— The words "this is".

— The call sign of the called station, not more than three times.

3. CHANNELS TO BE USED FOR CALLING AND FOR PREPARATORY SIGNALS

Mersey Radio and ship stations will call on Channel 12. Channel 16 should only be used for distress, urgency or safety communications.

4. CHANNELS FOR REPLY

Calls received on Channel 12 should be replied to on the same Channel, but if calls are received on Channel 16, replies should be on this Channel.

5. INDICATION OF THE CHANNEL TO BE USED FOR RADIO TELEPHONE TRAFFIC

When communication has been established on Channel 12 between a ship and "Mersey Radio", the shore station will indicate the number of the Channel to be used for passing and receiving information if Channel 12 is busy.

6. TIMES

All times in messages should be given in local time i.e. B.S.T. or G.M.T., using the 24 hour notation.

7. R/T DISCIPLINE

To ensure that the full advantage of efficient communication is achieved, strict telephone discipline and attention to procedure, particularly on the calling Channel is imperative. Channel 16 must only be used for establishing contact between ship and shore or ship and ship, and must not be used for the passing of messages except in cases

of distress within Port limits. Channel 12 should be used for establishing contact between ship and shore or ship and ship.

8. SEQUENCE OF R/T COMMUNICATION FOR VESSELS ENTERING THE RIVER MERSEY

(i) Vessels wishing to communicate with the Liverpool Pilotage District Point Lynas Shore Station should call "Lynas Point" on Channel 9. Channel 16 shall only be used in case of difficulty in establishing initial contact.

(ii) Vessels wishing to communicate with the Liverpool Pilot Control Centre should call "Liverpool Pilot" on Channel 11. Channels 16 and 12 should only be used in cases of difficulty in establishing initial contact.

(iii) When within VHF/RT range and not later than when the vicinity of the Bar Lighted Buoy the vessel should establish contact with Mersey Radio on Channel 12 and pass her arrival information on Channel 12 or other Channel indicated on Mersey Radio, watch should be kept on Channel 12 unless instructed to remain on another working channel for Port Operational reasons. A vessel at anchor at the Bar anchorage should keep watch on Channel 16.

(iv) Vessels requiring radar information or assistance will be requested to shift to Channel 18.

(v) Vessels should inform Mersey Radio when they are ceasing to keep a listening watch on Channel 12. If they are shifting to a tug or a dock entrance or Tranmere Oil Stage Channel they should inform Mersey Radio of such intention.

9. VESSEL SAILING FROM THE RIVER MERSEY

Vessels, on sailing from any Stage or Dock, should establish contact with Mersey Radio on Channel 12 and then maintain watch on that Channel unless instructed to remain on another working Channel for Port Operational reasons. Vessels requiring radar information or assistance will be requested to work on Channel 18.

10. PHONETIC ALPHABET AND FIGURE CODE

When it is necessary to spell out call signs, service abbreviations and words, the following table shall be used:

Figure or mark to be transmitted*	Letters to be transmitted	Words to be used	Spoken as**
1	A	Alfa	AL fah
2	B	Bravo	BRAH Voh
3	C	Charlie	CHAR lee or SHAR lee
4	D	Delta	DELL tah
5	E	Echo	ECK oh
6	F	Foxtrot	FOKS trot
7	G	Golf	Golf
8	H	Hotel	Hoh TELL
9	I	India	IN dee ah
0	J	Juliect	JEW lee ETT
Comma	K	Kilo	KEY loh
Fraction Bar	L	Lima	LEE mah
Break Signal	M	Mike	Mike
Full Stop (Period)	N	November	No VEM bar
	O	Oscar	OSS cah
	P	Papa	Pah PAH
	Q	Quebec	Keh BECK
	R	Romeo	ROW me oh
	S	Sierra	See AIR rah
	T	Tango	TANG go
	U	Uniform	YOU ne form or OO nee form
	V	Victor	VIK tah
	W	Whiskey	WISS key
	X	X-Ray	ECKS RAY
	Y	Yankee	YANG key
	Z	Zulu	ZOO loo

*Each transmission of figures or marks is preceded and followed by the words "as a number" or "as a mark" respectively, spoken twice e.g. the number 1959 will read "as a number, as a number, Alfa India, Echo, India, as a number, as a number."

**The Syllables to be emphasized are in capital letters.