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| **U.S. Radiocommunications Sector**  **Fact Sheet** | |
| **Working Party:** ITU-R WP5B | **Document No:** USWP5B36-xx |
| **Reference:**  Document 5B/435 Annex 3.5 | **Date:** 09 February 2026 |
| **Document Title:** Preliminary Draft Revision of Recommendation ITU-R M.1080-0 | |
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| **Purpose/Objective:**  The purpose of this proposal is to elevate the status of the document and forward to Study Group 5. | |
| **Abstract:**  ITU-R M.1080 will allow all secondary radios onboard a ship to be distinguished from the primary radio. This recommendation was revised was opened for revision at the May 2025 WP5B meetings. No additional changes are anticipated. | |

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| **Radiocommunication Study Groups** | A blue logo with a black background  Description automatically generated |
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| Source: 5B/435 Annex 3.5  Subject: Use of MMSI 10th digit to disable DSC alarming | **Document: USWP5B36-xx** |
| **Date: 09 February 2026** |
| **English only** |
| United States of America | |
| Preliminary Draft Revision of Recommendation ITU-R M.1080-0  **Digital selective calling system enhancement for multiple equipment installations** | |
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**1 Introduction**

This recommendation was revised during previous 5B meetings. No additional changes are expected. This contribution proposed to elevate the document status and send it to SG5.

**2 Summary of changes**

Upgrade the document status to Draft.

**3 Attachment**

The following attachment contains the proposed changes to Recommendation ITU-R M.1080-0. The proposed change is highlighted in blue.

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| **Radiocommunication Study Groups** |  |
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| Sources: Document 5B/TEMP/161  Subject: Recommendation [ITU-R M.1080](https://www.itu.int/rec/R-REC-M.1080) | **Annex 3.5 to Document 5B/435-E** |
| **18 December 2025** |
| **English only** |
| **Annex 3.5 to Working Party 5B Chair’s Report** | |
| DRAFT REVISION OF RECOMMENDATION ITU-R M.1080 | |
| **Digital selective calling system enhancement for multiple equipment installations** | |

(1994-202X)

The ITU Radiocommunication Assembly,

*considering*

*a)* that Recommendation ITU-R M.493, § 5.2 has recommended that the X10 digit of the DSC address always be the figure 0 and is reserved for future use;

*b)* that a need has arisen for multiple DSC radios to be installed on a single vessel;

*c)* that various administrations only issue one MMSI according to Recommendation ITU-R M.585 to any vessel;

*d)* that if only a single MMSI is assigned to a vessel with multiple DSC radios a conflict results when radios with the same MMSI all respond simultaneously;

*e)* that the X10 digit in the DSC address be reserved for ship owners and installers to assign as required in accordance with this Recommendation for multiple installations on a vessel;

*f)* that the capability in § *e)* allows for an additional level of selective calling within the vessel itself which solves the problem stated in § *d)*;

*g)* that the capability in § *e)* allows ships having multiple DSC radio installations to avoid all radios alarming whenever a DSC call is received, and alarms and audible indications on every radio having to be individually manually silenced;

*h)* that the optional capability in § *e)* can be implemented in a manner that will not derogate the normal functioning of other DSC operations or create incompatibilities with older DSC equipment where this capability is not employed,

*recommends*

1 that where there is a need for multiple installations of DSC equipment on a vessel, that they use equipment designed with an expanded address as defined in Annex 1.

ANNEX

**Technical characteristics of an enhancement of the digital  
selective calling system address for multiple radio   
equipment installations on the same vessel**

**1 General**

**1.1** All DSC sequences must utilize all technical characteristics as outlined in Recommendation ITU-R M.493 except as noted in this Annex.

**1.2** Implementation of the expanded address is optional. The content of the last address digit should be the number 0 if this Recommendation is not implemented. In such cases, this equipment has three possible ways to treat calls received with X10 not equal to zero. These are:

‒ decode the tenth digit, ignoring that X10 has a non-zero value and acknowledge the call with the tenth digit set to the same non-zero value (this method will also comply with equipment designed in accordance with this Recommendation);

‒ ignore the tenth digit and acknowledge the call with the tenth digit set to zero, the expected value. It should be noted that in this case the acknowledgement is routed to the primary installation aboard the vessel;

‒ decode the tenth digit and since the tenth digit was expected to be set to zero, reject the call.

**2 Technical format of the enhanced address**

**2.1** In order to take advantage of this Recommendation, the X10 digit must be user programmable. The address of the DSC station should be in accordance with § 5.2 of Recommendation ITU-R M.493 Annex 1 except for the following:

**2.1.1** That the X10 digit be user programmable and the manufacturer should set this digit to zero as a default for shipment.

**2.1.2** That the X10 digit be used to differentiate various radio installations installed on the same vessel.

**2.1.3** That the X10 always be set to zero on the primary radio installation, i.e. the radio installed at the position from which the ship is normally navigated.

**2.1.4** That optionally, users can set the X10 to any number 1 to 9 for additional radio equipment installed on the same vessel for making routine calls. It should not be possible for the user to accidentally set the X10 digit to a non-zero value. This can be accomplished by prompts so that the user clearly understands that this action will change the tenth digit of the address.

**3 Audible alarms**

3.1 Radio equipment programmed with the X10 digit to any non-zero[[1]](#footnote-1) digit should disable audible DSC alarms and audible indications and their associated automated procedure as described in Recommendation ITU-R M.493. Audible indication and audible alarms from DSC calls individually addressed to an MMSI having X10 as a non-zero digit should not be disabled.

3.2 Radio equipment programmed with an MMSI with the X10 digit equal to zero should not disable the audible DSC distress and urgency alarms and their associated automated procedure.

1. If a DSC radio with a non-zero 10th digit initiates a distress and urgency call, the 10th digit should be forced to 0 until the distress and urgency-related automated procedures is completed. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)