



Radio Operator Certificate and Callsign Rules (PIB 46)

Issue 19 | August 2023



Table of contents

1. Introduction.....	4
1.1. Contents.....	4
1.2. Disclaimer	4
1.3. Changes.....	4
1.4. Clarification and Corrections	4
1.5. Amendment History.....	5
2. General	7
2.1. Purpose of this Public Information Brochure	7
2.2. Introduction	7
2.3. Scope.....	8
2.4. Authorities	8
2.5. Responsibilities	9
2.6. Client Record.....	9
2.7. Photographs.....	9
2.8. Reissue of Operator Certificates of Competency	10
2.8.1. Historic Qualifications	10
2.8.2. Certificate Reissue	10
2.9. Residency	10
2.9.1. Amateur Operator Certificates.....	10
2.9.2. Maritime Operator Certificates	10
2.10. Fees.....	11
3. Amateur.....	12
3.1. Introduction	12
3.2. Callsigns.....	12
3.2.1. Permanent Callsigns	12
3.2.2. Temporary Callsigns	12
3.3. Club Stations	13
3.4. Deceased Persons (Silent Keys)	13
3.5. Visiting Amateur Radio Operators	14
3.5.1. Visits up to 90 days.....	14
3.5.2. Visits exceeding 90 days	14
3.6. General Amateur Operator’s Certificates.....	14
3.7. International Amateur Radio Operator Qualifications	14
3.7.1. Harmonised Amateur Radio Examination Certificate (HAREC)	14
3.7.2. Reciprocal Agreements.....	15
4. Maritime.....	16
4.1. Introduction	16
4.2. Callsigns.....	16

4.2.1. Four Letter Callsigns (ZMAA – ZMWZ).....	16
4.2.2. Callsigns for ZM2000 – ZM9999	16
4.2.3. Callsigns for VHF-Only Equipped Vessels	16
4.3. Vessel Safety Information	16
4.4. Transfer of Ships Callsigns.....	17
4.5. Maritime Mobile Service Identity (MMSI)	17
4.6. Radio Telex Number (RTN).....	17
4.7. Maritime Ship Radio Licence.....	17
4.8. Maritime Radio Operator’s Certificates.....	17
4.9. International Radio Operator’s Certificates.....	18
4.10. Examination Syllabi for Operator Certificates	18
4.10.1. General Amateur Operator’s Certificate	18
4.11. Maritime Operator’s Certificates.....	18
4.11.1. GMDSS (SOLAS Convention) Certificates.....	18
4.11.2. GMDSS (non-SOLAS Convention) Certificates	18
4.11.3. Non-GMDSS Operator’s Certificates	19
5. APPENDIX A: New Zealand Callsign Series (ZK, ZL and ZM)	20
6. APPENDIX B: New Zealand Operator’s Certificates.....	25
7. APPENDIX C: Maritime Vessel Safety Form.....	26

1. Introduction

1.1. Contents

This Public Information Brochure, Radio Operator Certificate and Callsign Rules (PIB 46), specifies the requirements for the issuing of Radio Operator Certificates and Callsigns. These rules are provided to enable Approved Persons to issue certificates of competency as provided by section 22 of the [Radiocommunications Regulations 2001 \(the Regulations\)](#).

Approved Persons, being Approved Radio Examiners, are required to comply with these rules when issuing Radio Operator Certificates and Callsigns.

1.2. Disclaimer

The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (the Ministry) makes no warranty, express or implied, nor assumes any liability for any loss suffered, whether arising directly or indirectly, due to sole reliance on the accuracy or contents of this Public Information Brochure (PIB 46).

1.3. Changes

Radio Spectrum Management (RSM) may change, delete or add to, or otherwise amend information contained in this document from time to time to reflect evolving policies, technologies and services. Changes to this document will be notified through the 'Radio Spectrum Management Business Update' e-newsletter that is emailed to those who subscribe. The changes are also notified in the news section on the RSM website www.rsm.govt.nz.

1.4. Clarification and Corrections

RSM will provide clarification of the information contained in this document when requested and would appreciate receiving suggestions for its improvement or advice relating to inaccuracies or ambiguity to these Radio Operator Certificate and Callsign Rules. Such matters may be emailed to rsmlicensing@mbie.govt.nz. Correspondence received will be acknowledged, investigated and appropriate action taken.

ISSN 1175-6748

1.5. Amendment History

Issue	Date of effect	Description of Amendment
01	January 2007	First edition
02	February 2007	Updated document
03	March 2007	Updated document
04	November 2007	Updated document
05	January 2008	Updated document
06	March 2008	Updated document
07	May 2008	Updated document
08	July 2009	Updated document
09	March 2010	Updated document allowing examiners to upload information to SMART (now known as the Register of Radio Frequencies)
10	May 2010	Updated to show photograph requirements from Department of Internal Affairs
11	December 2010	Inclusion of ZLZ Callsign series
12	February 2011	Updated requirements as per section 2 (f). Updated pages in Appendix 3
13	June 2011	Restructure of section 2 and removal of restrictions in allocating E, X, and Y amateur callsigns
14	May 2013	Major update
15	May 2013	Minor update to Amateur residency
16	August 2013	Updates to: Amateur temporary callsigns and reciprocal agreement, changed review date of VHF only callsigns
17	December 2014	RSM branding and terminology changes
18	July 2016	Maritime Certificate updates and clarification of amateur callsign policy
19	August 2023	Add callsign series for VHF. Inclusion of abbreviations and terminology. Update of sections to reflect RRF changes.

1.6. Abbreviations and terminology

Abbreviation	Meaning
Approved Person	The term Approved Person includes Approved Radio Engineers, Approved Radio Certifiers and Approved Radio Examinators.
Approved Radio Examiner (ARX)	A person authorised to examine the competency of persons wishing to obtain radio operator's certificates of competency; issue certificates of competency to competent persons; issue callsigns; access the online Register of Radio Frequencies for the purposes of maintaining operator certificates and callsign record.
GAOC	General Amateur Operator's Certificate
MGOC	Maritime General Operator's Certificate
MROC	Maritime Restricted Operator's Certificate
MLROC	Maritime Long-range Operator's Certificate
MSROC	Maritime Short-range Operator's Certificate
MGROC	Maritime General Radiotelephone Operator's Certificate
MRROC	Maritime Restricted Radiotelephone Operator's Certificate
MVOC	Maritime VHF Operators Certificate
IRR	International Radio Regulations: Document issued by the ITU containing all the rules for the use radio communications services and radio frequencies.
ITU	International Telecommunications Union
RRF	Register of Radio Frequencies
the Act	Radiocommunications Act 1989
The Ministry	The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment
The Regulations	Radiocommunications Regulations 2001

2. General

2.1. Purpose of this Public Information Brochure

This Public Information Brochure, Radio Operator Certificate and Callsign Rules (PIB46) document (the Rules) outlines the requirements of the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (the Ministry), to be followed when issuing operator's certificates of competency and callsigns.

These Rules include the regulatory aspects that an Approved Radio Examiner (ARX) must consider when undertaking activities associated with issuing of radio operator's certificates of competency and callsigns.

Approved Persons must have regard to relevant information contained in sources such as the:

- International Radio Regulations (IRR)
- European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT)
- International Maritime Organization (IMO).

These Rules may change from time to time and apply to new or modified certificates of competency or callsigns issued in accordance with the Rules current at the time of issue.

Changes to the Rules may apply to certificates of competency or callsigns issued prior to those changes. It is the responsibility of Approved Persons to ensure they are familiar with the current version of this document published on the Radio Spectrum Management (RSM) website www.rsm.govt.nz.

Should there appear to be a conflict between these rules and another PIB, or for other matters requiring clarification, please email rsmlicensing@mbie.govt.nz.

2.2. Introduction

The Ministry's radio spectrum management role includes:

- identifying social, economic, and technology impacts on the radio spectrum
- establishing competition policies for spectrum use
- establishing and managing the regulatory aspects governing spectrum use
- planning spectrum allocation
- managing radio and spectrum licensing functions
- mandating technical planning requirements for spectrum use
- managing the New Zealand government's radio spectrum international treaty obligations
- managing the spectrum in the radio licensing regime

In relation to these roles, the Ministry requires that a radio operator's certificate of competency must be issued in accordance with the requirements of [section 24 of the Regulations](#).

The issuer of a radio operator's certificate of competency can include a Ministry employee or an Approved Radio Examiner external to the Ministry.

All radio operators' certificates issued under the Regulations are held in the online [Register of Radio Frequencies \(the Register\)](#)

2.3. Scope

These rules provide the key principles and information to assist ARXs to issue radio operator's certificates of competency, conduct radio operator's examinations, and issue callsigns. As this document describes the minimum requirements, in many cases more detailed research may be required.

These rules cover the Amateur and Maritime radiocommunication services in the radio operator regime.

(Note – The Aeronautical radio operator regime is administered by the [Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand \(CAA\)](#))

Not all radio operators' certificates of competency or callsigns for these services can be issued by an Approved Person external to the Ministry. Where an operator's certificate or the allocation of a callsign falls outside the scope of the Rules, the operator's certificate or callsign must be issued by the Ministry.

While this PIB is primarily for the guidance of ARXs, it also contains information useful to radio operator's certificate and callsign holders.

Certificate or callsign use in accord with historic use may be continued until circumstances require alternate arrangements to be made.

Under national law and international agreements, operators of radio transmitters in the amateur and maritime services are required to hold a relevant radio operator's certificate of competency, and to use a callsign for identification purposes. These requirements are prescribed by way of licence conditions, particularly in the context of General User Radio Licences (GURL) relating to these services.

Under sections 22A and 28(3) of the Regulations, the Ministry has the authority to appoint persons, known as Approved Radio Examiners (ARXs), to issue certificates of competency and to conduct examinations. Such persons are granted ARX status in one or more categories (amateur or maritime).

2.4. Authorities

The qualification and audit requirements for persons seeking to become an ARX are specified in [Requirements for Approved Radio Examiners \(PIB 45\)](#) available at www.rsm.govt.nz.

ARXs have privileged access to client records in the Register for the purposes of managing certificates of competency and callsign records. ARXs must maintain client privacy and not use client information for any other purposes.

Certificates of competency are required for various uses as determined by the Regulations.

It is important to note that the "Certificates" and "Callsigns" modules in the Register will not prevent an ARX creating records that are not in accordance with their approval. An ARX must, at all times comply with this PIB and their individual approval letter, regardless of any flexibility available through the Register.

Except as expressly provided for in these rules, an ARX only has authority to grant certificates of competency and allocate callsigns in the service (amateur or maritime) for which they have been given written approval by the Chief Executive of the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment.

ARX's do not have authority to revoke any certificate of competency. The revocation of a certificate of competency can only be done by the Manager RSM Licensing and Technical.

2.5. Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of ARXs to reasonably satisfy themselves as to the identity of persons applying for a certificate of competency. A passport, birth certificate or other legal document providing full name and date of birth must be sighted, and the reference recorded as an event on the Certificate of Competency record in the Register record.

In accordance with the IRR requirement to prevent the fraudulent use of certificates, examinations are to be carried out in person either by an ARX or an examination supervisor so that the identity of the examinee can be confirmed.

An ARX may decide on their own method for retaining papers for audit purposes; A copy of examination question papers with the marked answer sheets, for "successful" candidates may be scanned and uploaded to the Register client record as an Event, 'Certificate of Competency Notes', 'Marked Examination Questions', or the original examination documents must be retained for a minimum period of five years.

Unless otherwise stated, an ARX may only amend or release a client's callsign record with the agreement of the client, or the client's legal representative. It is the responsibility of an ARX to reasonably determine this authority (and to upload any papers of proof into the Register).

While some callsigns have been permanently reserved by RSM, ARX's should not allocate callsigns that are likely to create confusion, or cause offence.

2.6. Client Record

Persons seeking a certificate or callsign must have a current client record in the Register. An ARX can add a client record in the Register via the Create Client option.

Alternatively, a new client can [be created](#) by clicking on the "Create an Account".

Legal entity status applies as prescribed in [Legal entities for the purposes of the Radiocommunications Act 1989 \(PIB 47\)](#).

2.7. Photographs

A Passport style photograph is required for Amateur and Maritime certificates. This photograph must be uploaded to the certificate record in the Register. Where a certificate is being reissued the candidate must supply an updated photograph if their previous certificate is more than five years old.

Photographs for a certificate must be less than six months old, full facial, with no hat, no sunglasses, as per the [Department of Internal Affairs passport style requirements](#).

When uploading a photo to the Register the image file must:

- Be less than 6 months old
- Show a face, head and shoulder shot, looking directly at the camera
- be between 500 kB and 3MB in size

- have an aspect ratio (width : height) between 0.7 and 0.9, e.g. the aspect ratio of a 400px by 500px photograph is equal to $400\text{px} \div 500\text{px} = 0.8$
- be in full colour and jpg or jpeg format.

2.8. Reissue of Operator Certificates of Competency

2.8.1. Historic Qualifications

There are a number of valid certificate records that were issued by the Ministry where the certificate is not recorded in the Register. An ARX can obtain these certificate records from:

- The 'Unpublished list of certificate of competency holders' is available, contact RSMlicensing@mbie.govt.nz for assistance; or
- The Register as a scanned copy of the original application and associated paperwork uploaded in the Files notes. All clients in this category have their address recorded as 'Stout St'.

An ARX may reissue these certificates on RSM's behalf in the service corresponding to their approval, i.e. an Amateur ARX can reissue an amateur certificate and a Maritime ARX can reissue any maritime certificate.

The physical details of the certificate holder must be updated and a photo meeting the requirements in 1.6 must be uploaded.

The examiner must note in the remarks field that this is a reissue of a certificate and include that original certificate number and the date it was first issued, e.g. Re-Issue of Operators Certificate GOC AKG9999 issued 03.12.1999. These original certificate details can be obtained from the RSMlicensing@mbie.govt.nz.

2.8.2. Certificate Reissue

An ARX may issue a fresh certificate on request from a certificate holder. Before issuing the certificate, the ARX must ensure that the certificate record is up to date and contain a photograph that is less than five years old.

2.9. Residency

2.9.1. Amateur Operator Certificates

Only natural persons who are New Zealand citizens or New Zealand residents may be granted a New Zealand General Amateur Operator's Certificate (GAOC). Applicants under working visa valid for more than 1 year, might be granted a certificate with expiration date on visa expiration but must be referred to the RSM Licensing Manager.

An ARX must be satisfied that an applicant for a GAOC is a New Zealand citizen or a permanent New Zealand resident. A New Zealand birth certificate or passport is sufficient to confirm citizenship. Otherwise, a candidate must produce a New Zealand resident permit. A copy of the resident permit and passport must be uploaded to the Event Summary on the certificate record in the Register.

2.9.2. Maritime Operator Certificates

New Zealand citizenship or residency is not a requirement for the issue of maritime operator certificates prescribed in the International Radio Regulations.

2.10. Fees

An ARX may charge fees for conducting examinations, issuing radio operator certificates of competency, allocating callsigns, and maintaining such records in the Register.

3. Amateur

3.1. Introduction

This section covers the allocation of Amateur station callsigns and the Amateur radio operator certificates.

3.2. Callsigns

New Zealand Amateur callsigns are issued to amateurs who normally operate amateur radio stations in New Zealand under the [General User Radio Licence for Amateur Radio Operators \(GURL\)](#). This excludes visiting amateur radio operators operating under the relevant clauses of the GURL.

Amateur callsigns are to be allocated from the applicable series in Table 1 of Appendix A.

Amateur callsigns consist of the prefix “ZL”, and a numeric character (between 0 and 9), and one to six alpha characters.

3.2.1. Permanent Callsigns

Amateur¹ radio operators and club stations are entitled to one primary and one secondary callsign. While secondary callsigns may have particular application to “holiday homes” or “contests”, there is no restriction on their use in this context.

Permanent ZL7 Chatham Islands callsigns can only be issued to Chatham Island residents. The ARX must be reasonably satisfied that the applicant is resident on the island for more than 90 days per annum.

3.2.2. Temporary Callsigns

Up to two temporary callsigns may be allocated to an amateur or club; however, only one of these callsigns may be a single letter callsign, i.e. ZL3W.

The number of single-letter callsigns available in the series ZL1, ZL2, ZL3, ZL4, ZL5, ZL7, ZL8, and ZL9 are limited.

Excluding ZL10 to ZL100 callsigns, temporary callsigns may only be allocated for a minimum period is 3 months and up to a period not exceeding 12 months.

If the callsign is from ZL10 - ZL100 series, the allocation duration must be between 3 days and 3 months.

A “stand-down” period of six months applies to the reallocation of temporary callsigns to the same amateur or club. However, the callsign may be reallocated for further 12-month period without stand-down after the current allocation period has ended, provided the ARX receives at the time of the application evidence to the ARX’s satisfaction that a temporary callsign is being used on a regular basis.

Amateurs and club stations may use “ZM” rather than “ZL” as a prefix during contests and other commemorative events.

¹ An Amateur must hold a GAOC or equivalent operator certificate.

3.2.2.1. Antarctica and New Zealand Offshore Islands

An ARX must be reasonably satisfied that Amateur callsign applicants for Antarctica (ZL5), Chatham Islands (ZL7), Kermadec Islands (ZL8), or Sub-Antarctic Islands (ZL9), have a genuine intention to visit these areas. Other than the Chatham Islands, applicants must produce the necessary authority or permission to land and establish an amateur radio station.

3.2.2.2. Five or six letter callsigns

Temporary callsigns may be issued with 5 or 6 alpha characters for special events (e.g. ZL2ABCDEF).

3.2.2.3. ZL10 to ZL100 callsigns

This callsign series is reserved for use by amateurs and clubs to commemorate their anniversary of operation. These callsigns are allocated for a period not exceeding 3 months. For example, the holder of ZL2ZZ celebrating 40 years in amateur radio may be allocated the callsign ZL40ZZ.

3.2.2.4. ZL6 callsigns

This callsign series is reserved only for special purpose amateur communications. These callsigns may only be issued by an ARX with written approval from NZART.

3.3. Club Stations

For the purposes of establishing a club station callsign record, the named trustee must hold a GAOC.

Club station trustees may authorise the use of the suffix "XT" with the club's permanent callsign for the purposes of instructing and training prospective amateur operator candidates in practical on-air operating procedures. Provided they are directly supervised at all times by an amateur; candidates may take an active part in general communication, operate transmitter controls, and engage in calling and signing off procedures. A log of contacts made under a candidate's name using the XT callsign, must be kept by the trustee for 1 year after the last contact is made by a candidate.

3.4. Deceased Persons (Silent Keys)

Upon notification of the death of an amateur to RSM, the callsign will be reserved for 12 months to allow reallocation to a family member. If the callsign has not been taken up by a family member within 12 months, the callsign will be available for general allocation.

Notification of the silent key must be in writing with supporting evidence e.g. a letter, or email together with a copy of a death notice, a cemetery record, or a death certificate. An ARX may themselves source this information from newspapers or appropriate online databases.

ARX's should be sensitive to the feelings of the person they are communicating with when requesting proof of bereavement.

The ARX must notify RSM of the silent key so that the callsign is not printed in the NZART Callbook. If an ARX releases a callsign, the notification and supporting evidence must be uploaded as an event on the client record in the Register.

3.5. Visiting Amateur Radio Operators

3.5.1. Visits up to 90 days

Persons visiting New Zealand who hold a current amateur certificate of competency, authorisation or licence issued by another administration, may operate an amateur station in New Zealand for a period not exceeding 90 days, provided they comply with the relevant clauses of the [GURL for Amateur Radio Operators](#).

3.5.2. Visits exceeding 90 days

Visiting amateur radio operators wishing to operate in New Zealand for a period exceeding the 90 days permitted under the GURL must apply in writing to the RSM Licensing Manager and include:

- evidence of competency (certificate and or licence),
- a current contact address,
- a copy of the photo page of their passport,
- a residential address while in New Zealand,
- the start and end dates of the visit.

3.6. General Amateur Operator's Certificates

A person who meets the requirements of the general amateur operator's certificate as prescribed in the [Radiocommunication Regulations 2001](#) may be granted a GAOC. A person may meet these requirements by passing an approved² Amateur radio examination.

3.7. International Amateur Radio Operator Qualifications

Amateur radio operators who have immigrated to New Zealand may have their international radio amateur qualification recognised for the purpose of operating under the GURL for Amateur Radio Operators. The ARX must be satisfied that the qualification, as detailed below, is fit for the purpose of issuing a permanent New Zealand amateur callsign.

3.7.1. Harmonised Amateur Radio Examination Certificate (HAREC)

A valid HAREC Certificate issued by countries participating in the CEPT Recommendations TR61-01 and TR61-02 reciprocal recognition arrangements is recognised for the purposes of operating amateur radio equipment in accordance with the GURL for Amateur Radio Operators.

² A New Zealand HAREC examination approved for use by RSM.

3.7.2. Reciprocal Agreements

New Zealand also has reciprocal arrangements with other non-CEPT countries, and will recognise their amateur qualification in accordance with the following table:

Table of Countries with which New Zealand has reciprocal licensing arrangements

Country	Qualification
Australia	Amateur Operator's Certificate of Proficiency (Advanced)
Japan	First Class Amateur Radio Operator
	Second Class Amateur Radio Operator

4. Maritime

4.1. Introduction

This section covers the allocation of ship station callsigns and maritime radio operator's certificates.

4.2. Callsigns

Maritime callsigns are to be allocated from the applicable series in Appendix A - Table 3.

Callsigns consist of the prefix "ZM", and two alpha characters; or four numeric characters (between 2000 and 9999) or an alpha character plus four numeric characters.

4.2.1. Four Letter Callsigns (ZMAA – ZMWZ)

Four letter callsigns are only available to commercial ships that are required to be registered in Part A of the New Zealand Register of Ships.

Applications for four letter callsigns must be made to the RSM Licensing Manager at rsmlicensing@mbie.govt.nz. If required, a Maritime Ship radio licence can be issued by RSM.

4.2.2. Callsigns for ZM2000 – ZM9999

ZM2000 – ZM9999 callsigns are available for commercial³ ships including those that are entitled to be registered in Parts A or B of the Register under the Ship Registration Act 1992.

4.2.3. Callsigns for VHF-Only Equipped Vessels

Currently, only Coastguard New Zealand, through their [Coastguard Boating Education Service](#), can issue callsigns for VHF-only equipped vessels and handheld VHF radios. This provision will be periodically reviewed in consultation with the maritime industry and Maritime New Zealand to determine if it still remains fit for purpose.

4.2.4. Aids To Navigation (AtoN)

AtoNs are only issued by RSM directly. Applications for AtoNs or MAtoNs must be made to the RSM Licensing Manager at rsmlicensing@mbie.govt.nz.

4.3. Vessel Safety Information

A completed "Vessel Safety Information" form, as prescribed in [Appendix C](#), must be uploaded to the Event Summary on the licence or callsign record in the Register when registering a callsign. This should be completed by the vessel owner and uploaded to the Register record by the ARX.

A fresh copy of this form is required to be uploaded in the Register when the vessel ownership changes.

It is recommended that vessel owners keep this information up to date through an ARX.

³ As defined in Maritime Rules Part 21: Safe Ship Management Systems

4.4. Transfer of Ships Callsigns

Callsigns issued under a Maritime Ship radio licence are attached to the licence record. If the vessel changes owners and the licence is transferred to the new owner, the callsign will transfer with the licence and remain with the vessel.

Callsigns issued under the [GURL for Maritime Purposes](#) are attached to the client's record in the Register. If the vessel changes owners, [the callsign can be transferred](#) to the new owner with the approval of the existing client. If the callsign is not transferred, then the new boat owner must obtain a new callsign.

A VHF callsign may be retained when a VHF only vessel subsequently installs MF/HF equipment.

4.5. Maritime Mobile Service Identity (MMSI)

A MMSI number is automatically assigned by the Register when a Maritime ship radio licence or callsign record is created.

A Satellite MMSI (Inmarsat) number is automatically assigned by the Register when a Maritime ship radio licence or callsign record is created and the "INMARSAT Satellite Communications Equipment Fitted?" check-box is ticked.

A MMSI number is transferred when the radio licence or the callsign record is transferred as in 3.4 above.

4.6. Selective Call Number (SCN)

A SCN number is automatically assigned by the Register when a Maritime ship radio licence or callsign record is created and the "Selective Call Number Required?" check-box is ticked.

4.7. Maritime Ship Radio Licence

If a vessel owner wishes to obtain an individual Maritime Ship radio licence for international voyaging, or other reasons, the owner or an ARX (on their behalf) can apply online in the Register. At the time of application, the annual radio licence fee must be paid.

4.8. Maritime Radio Operator's Certificates

A person who has meets the requirements of the maritime radio operator's certificates as prescribed in Article 47 of the International Radio Regulations may be granted a New Zealand Maritime operator's certificate. A person may meet these requirements by passing a Maritime radio course and examination as prescribed in section 4.11 Maritime Operator's Certificates.

4.9. International Radio Operator's Certificates

Maritime radio operator's certificates issued by other administrations in accordance with Article 47 of the International Radio Regulations will be recognised for the purposes of operating maritime stations within the New Zealand territorial limits.

4.10. Examination Syllabi for Operator Certificates

4.10.1. General Amateur Operator's Certificate

The examination syllabus and requirements for the GAOC is prescribed in CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-02 (HAREC).

4.11. Maritime Operator's Certificates

4.11.1. GMDSS (SOLAS Convention) Certificates

The requirements for these GMDSS operator's certificates are specified in Table 47-1 of the International Radio Regulations.

4.11.1.1. Maritime General Operator's Certificate (MGOC)

The mandatory minimum training requirements, including examination syllabus, are prescribed in the IMO publication: Model Course 1.25 - General Operator's Certificate for the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (2015 Edition).

4.11.1.2. Maritime Restricted Operator's Certificate (MROC)

The mandatory minimum training requirements, including examination syllabus, are prescribed in the IMO publication: Model Course 1.26 - Restricted Operator's Certificate for the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (2015 Edition).

4.11.2. GMDSS (non-SOLAS Convention) Certificates

The requirements for these GMDSS operator's certificates are specified in Resolution 343 of the International Radio Regulations

4.11.2.1. Maritime Long-range Operator's Certificate (MLROC)

The examination syllabus and requirements for the MLROC is prescribed in ECC Recommendation (10) 03 Harmonised CEPT Examination Procedures for the Long Range Certificate (LRC) for non-SOLAS Vessels.

4.11.2.2. Maritime Short-range Operator's Certificate (MSROC)

The examination syllabus and requirements for the MSROC is prescribed in CEPT/ERC/Recommendation 31-04 Harmonised CEPT Examination Procedures for the Short Range Certificate (SRC) for non-SOLAS Vessels.

4.11.3. Non-GMDSS Operator's Certificates

The non-GMDSS Operator's Certificates below may continue to be used for the purposes they were issued for. However, it should be noted that eventually they will be phased-out in favour of the GMDSS operator certificates detailed in sections 4.11.2.1 and 4.11.2.2.

4.11.3.1. Maritime General Radiotelephone Operator's Certificate (MGROC)

Applicants must have successfully completed the Maritime Restricted Radiotelephone Operator's Certificate. When completed they may continue with the following:

Format: Written paper and oral exam	Total marks	Pass mark
Section A		
20 short answer or multi-choice questions covering the elementary principles of radiotelephony and narrow band direct printing	40 (2 per Q)	30
Section B		
A practical and oral examination covering the operation, adjustment and simple maintenance of shipboard radio apparatus carried out on a suitably equipped ship or training establishment	40	30
Section C		
An oral examination on the IRR or British Admiralty publications with particular reference to maritime safety information and channels, frequencies and charges for public correspondence	20	15
TOTAL	100	75

4.11.3.2. Maritime Restricted Radiotelephone Operator's Certificate (MRROC)

The examination syllabus is based on the Radio Handbook, Your guide to marine communication by Maritime New Zealand.

Format: Written paper and/or oral exam	Total marks carried	Pass mark
Two questions requiring detailed answer on distress, safety and urgency procedures.	One question carries 15 marks and the other 10	A minimum of 12 and 8 points respectively is required
One question relating to the phonetic alphabet	3	No minimum required
24 short answer or multi-choice questions	72 (3 per question)	No minimum required
TOTAL	100	70

4.11.3.3. Maritime VHF Operator's Certificate (MVOC)

This certificate is administered by the Coastguard Boating Education Service. The course and qualification is based on NZQA unit standard 19491.

5. APPENDIX A: New Zealand Callsign Series (ZK, ZL and ZM)

Table 1 - ZK Series

NZ	Sub-series	Purpose	Who can allocate
ZK	0	Reserved	RSM
ZK	1 – 9	Amateur – AREC (Notes 2 & 3)	NZART ARX
ZK	A 20 – 9999	Aeronautical Land	RSM
ZK	D 20 – 9999	NZ Defence Force	NZDF ARX
ZK	F 20 – 9999	Fixed	RSM
ZK	M 20 – 9999	Land Mobile	RSM
ZK	A – Z	Fixed, Mobile and Broadcasting	RSM
ZK	AA – AZ	Reserved	RSM
ZK	AB – BZ	Reserved	RSM
ZK	CA – CZ	Cook Islands (Note 1)	N/A
ZK	DA – DZ	NZ Defence Force	NZDF ARX
ZK	EA – MZ	Reserved	RSM
ZK	NA – NZ	Niue Island (Note 2)	N/A
ZK	OA – SZ	Reserved	RSM
ZK	TA – TZ	Tokelau Islands (Note 3)	N/A
ZK	UA – ZZ	Reserved	RSM
ZK	AAA – ZZZ	Registered Aircraft	CAA ARX

Table 1 Notes:

1. The use of the ZKC series by the Cook Islands will be phased out as an IRR callsign series allocation of E5A to E5Z has now been made to the Cook Islands.
2. The use of the ZK2 and ZKNA-NZ series by Niue will be phased out as an IRR callsign series allocation of E6A to E6Z has now been made to Niue.
3. The sub-series ZK3 and ZKTA-TZ are allocated to Tokelau.

Table 2 - ZL Series

NZ	Sub-series	Purpose	Who can allocate
ZL	0 A – Y	Amateur – Temporary Callsigns	RSM
ZL	0 – 9Z	Reserved	RSM
ZL	1 A – Y	Amateur – Temporary Callsigns	Amateur ARX
ZL	1 AA – YZ	Amateur	Amateur ARX
ZL	1 AAA – YZZ	Amateur	Amateur ARX
ZL	1 AAAA – YZZZ	Amateur	Amateur ARX
ZL	2 A – Y	Amateur – Temporary Callsigns	Amateur ARX
ZL	2 AA – YZ	Amateur	Amateur ARX
ZL	2 AAA – YZZ	Amateur	Amateur ARX
ZL	2 AAAA – YZZZ	Amateur	Amateur ARX
ZL	3 A – Y	Amateur – Temporary Callsigns	Amateur ARX
ZL	3 AA – YZ	Amateur	Amateur ARX
ZL	3 AAA – YZZ	Amateur	Amateur ARX
ZL	3 AAAA – YZZZ	Amateur	Amateur ARX
ZL	4 A – Y	Amateur – Temporary Callsigns	Amateur ARX
ZL	4 AA – YZ	Amateur	Amateur ARX
ZL	4 AAA – YZZ	Amateur	Amateur ARX
ZL	4 AAAA – YZZZ	Amateur	Amateur ARX
ZL	5 A – Y	Amateur – Antarctica Temporary Callsigns	Amateur ARX
ZL	5 AA – YZ	Amateur – Antarctica Temporary Callsigns	Amateur ARX
ZL	5 AAA – YZZ	Amateur – Antarctica Temporary Callsigns	Amateur ARX
ZL	5 AAAA – YZZZ	Amateur – Antarctica Temporary Callsigns	Amateur ARX
ZL	6 A – Y	Amateur - NZART	Amateur ARX
ZL	6 AA – YZ	Amateur – NZART	Amateur ARX
ZL	6 AAA – YZZ	Amateur – NZART	Amateur ARX
ZL	6 AAAA – YZZZ	Amateur - NZART	Amateur ARX
ZL	7 A – Y	Amateur – Chatham Islands Temporary Callsigns	Amateur ARX
ZL	7 AA – YZ	Amateur – Chatham Islands	Amateur ARX
ZL	7 AAA – YZZ	Amateur – Chatham Islands	Amateur ARX
ZL	7 AAAA – YZZZ	Amateur – Chatham Islands	Amateur ARX
ZL	8 A – Y	Amateur – Kermadec Islands Temporary Callsigns	Amateur ARX

NZ	Sub-series	Purpose	Who can allocate
ZL	8 AA – YZ	Amateur – Kermadec Islands Temporary Callsigns	Amateur ARX
ZL	8 AAA – YZZ	Amateur – Kermadec Islands Temporary Callsigns	Amateur ARX
ZL	8 AAAA – YZZZ	Amateur – Kermadec Islands Temporary Callsigns	Amateur ARX
ZL	9 A – Y	Amateur – Sub Antarctic Territories Temporary Callsigns	Amateur ARX
ZL	9 AA – YZ	Amateur – Sub Antarctic Territories Temporary Callsigns	Amateur ARX
ZL	9 AAA – YZZ	Amateur – Sub Antarctic Territories Temporary Callsigns	Amateur ARX
ZL	9 AAAA – YZZZ	Amateur – Sub Antarctic Territories Temporary Callsigns	Amateur ARX
ZL	10 – 100	Amateur - Temporary Commemorative Callsigns	Amateur ARX
ZL	A – C	Fixed, Mobile and Broadcasting	RSM
ZL	DA – DZ	NZ Defence Force (Note 1)	NZDF ARX
ZL	E – Y	Fixed, Mobile and Broadcasting	RSM
ZL	Z	Licences to Supply	RSM
ZL	AA – ZZ	Fixed, Mobile and Broadcasting	RSM
ZL	AAA – ZZZ	Fixed, Mobile and Broadcasting	RSM

Table 2 Note:

The series ZLDR (1 to 1000) is allocated to international public protection and disaster relief (PPDR).

Table 3 - ZM Series

NZ	Sub-series	Purpose	Who can allocate
ZM	0	Amateur – Special Purposes	RSM
ZM	1 – 9 (all alpha suffixes)	Amateur – Special Events	N/A
ZM	2000 – 9999	Licensed Commercial Ships (Note 1)	Maritime ARX
ZM	A 2000 – 9999	GURL Ships	Maritime ARX
ZM	D 2000 – 9999	NZ Defence Force	NZDF ARX
ZM	E 2000 – 9999	GURL Ships	Maritime ARX
ZM	F 2000 – 9999	GURL Ships	Maritime ARX
ZM	G 2000 – 9999	GURL Ships / Individual Licensed Ships (Note 2)	Maritime ARX
ZM	H 2 – 999	Coast Stations	RSM
ZM	O 2000 - 9999	GURL VHF Ships	Coastguard ARX
ZM	P 2000 - 9999	GURL VHF Ships	Coastguard ARX
ZM	Q 2000 – 9999	GURL VHF Ships	Coastguard ARX
ZM	R 2000 - 9999	GURL VHF Ships	Coastguard ARX
ZM	S 2000 – 9999	GURL VHF Ships	Coastguard ARX
ZM	T 2000 – 9999	GURL VHF Ships	Coastguard ARX
ZM	U 2000 – 9999	GURL VHF Ships	Coastguard ARX
ZM	V 2000 - 9999	GURL VHF Ships	Coastguard ARX
ZM	W 2000 – 9999	GURL VHF Ships	Coastguard ARX
ZM	X 2000 – 9999	GURL VHF Ships	Coastguard ARX
ZM	Y 2000 – 9999	GURL VHF Ships	Coastguard ARX
ZM	Z 2000 - 9999	GURL VHF Ships	Coastguard ARX
ZM	AA – CZ	Licensed Registered Commercial Ships (Note3)	RSM
ZM	DA – DZ	Individually Licensed NZ Defence Force	NZDF ARX
ZM	EA – WZ	Licensed Registered Commercial Ships (Note3)	RSM
ZM	AAA – CZZ	Reserved	N/A
ZM	DAA – DZZ	NZ Defence Force	NZDF ARX
ZM	EAA – ZZZ	Unregistered Aircraft	CAA, ARX, RSM

Table 3 Notes:

- Commercial ships⁴ including those that are entitled to be registered in Parts A or B of the Register under the Ship Registration Act 1992.

⁴ As defined in Maritime Rules Part 21: Safe Ship Management Systems

2. ZMG series callsigns are auto-generated by the Register where no callsign preference is made. ZMG callsigns cannot be reallocated by ARX's.
3. Ships that are required to be registered in Part A of the Register under Part 1 6(1) of the Ship Registration Act 1992.

6. APPENDIX B: New Zealand Operator's Certificates

Table of current New Zealand operator certificates:

Certificate Types	Known as
General Amateur Operator's Certificate	GAOC
Maritime General Operator's Certificate	MGOC
Maritime Restricted Operator's Certificate	MROC
Maritime Long-range Operator's Certificate	MLROC
Maritime Short-range Operator's Certificate	MSROC
Maritime General Radiotelephone Operator's Certificate	MGROC
Maritime Restricted Radiotelephone Operator's Certificate	MRROC
Maritime VHF Operators Certificate	MVOC

7. APPENDIX C: Maritime Vessel Safety Form

Vessel Safety Information			
Name of Owner:		Emergency Contact Name:	
Address:		Emergency Contact Relationship:	
Phone:		Emergency Contact Address:	
Mobile:		Emergency Contact Phone:	
EMAIL:		Emergency Contact Mobile:	
Vessel Name:		Nr of engines:	
Type:	Power Boat Launch Trailer Sailor Yacht RIB Dinghy Kayak PWC (DELETE THOSE NOT APPLICABLE)		
Make:		Model:	
Equipment carried:	MF/HF (SSB) VHF (Fixed) VHF (Handheld) GPS (Fixed) EPIRB Fire extinguisher RADAR FLARES CHART PLOTTER Life jackets (DELETE THOSE NOT APPLICABLE)		
Hull Construction:	FIBREGLASS ALUMINIUM STEEL WOOD GLASS/PLY FERRO COMPOSITE RUBBER PLASTIC OTHER (DELETE THOSE NOT APPLICABLE)		
Length:	Metre		
Engine Type:	Outboard Inboard TWIN, DIESEL PETROL (DELETE THOSE NOT APPLICABLE.)		
	HP: _____ Max Speed (knots): _____ Ancillary engine HP: _____		
Where and How kept:	Trailer at home: Trailer Registration Number: _____ Trailer at: _____ Marina: _____ Mooring: _____		
Colour:	Hull: _____	Deck/Cabin: _____	Hard top? Yes / No (DELETE THOSE NOT APPLICABLE)
	Trim: _____	Canopy: _____	
	Sail: _____	Rig: _____	
		Sail: _____	