

This communication is written to answer recent questions and eliminate any confusion about the new SOP-OP concerning communications;

* The main purpose of the communications section of the SOP is to give direction on how to communicate with Sector that all under way facilities are accounted for. A complete copy the new SOP-OP is posted at http://uscgaux8er.info/sector_sop_feb2010.pdf Pages 17 to 19 deal specifically with communications.

* All under way facilities are required to call in hourly, under normal conditions, to confirm that operations are normal. Because of the potentially large numbers of under way facilities during busy periods, each Division is required to set up a radio guard, when they have more than one facility operational, to monitor the under way facilities in their Division and make one hourly call to Sector.

* Calls to the radio guard and/or Sector can be made by phone or VHF radio, whichever is available and whichever works best.

* Radio guard personnel must be AUXCOM qualified prior to 01 Aug 08 or TCO qualified after 01 Aug 08.

* Each individual facility is still required to call Sector when they start their mission and when they secure. When calling Sector to start your mission, you will be required to give a brief description, (length, POB, endurance, GAR score and location). Each under way facility is also required to call their radio guard, when a radio guard is active, and inform them when they are underway and when they secure.

* When the radio guard calls Sector each hour, they need to be brief and concise. Assuming normal conditions identify your Division, number of under way facilities, all under way facilities accounted for and operations normal.

This communication is not all-inclusive and is meant to clarify the main points of the SOP-OP. Additional and more detailed information is contained in the SOP. Questions or interpretations of this SOP should be directed to your FSO-OP, SO-OP or DSO-OP.

Rick Schal
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