



GUIDELINES ON THE ALLOCATION OF CALL SIGN TO THE AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE

These Guidelines on the Allocation of Call Sign to the Amateur Radio Service ("Guidelines") sets out the guidance regarding the allocation of call signs in respect of amateur radio services. These Guidelines serve as guidance and information only to the interested parties and the general public and may be subject to change. These Guidelines should not be relied on as legal advice or regarded as a substitute for legal advice.

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INTENT

The intent of this document is to provide guidance on the allocation of call sign in respect of the amateur radio service ("**Amateur Radio Service**") and to ensure that the efficient allocation of resources is in line with the Communications and Multimedia Act 1998 and the requirement of the International Telecommunication Union ("**ITU**").

INTRODUCTION

1. Pursuant to Article 19 of the Radio Regulations ("**Radio Regulations**"), all radiocommunication transmissions shall be capable of being identified by identification signals or by other means. For a radiocommunication station that is opened to the international public correspondence and capable of causing harmful interference beyond its national boundary as in the case of the Amateur Radio Service, the station shall carry a call sign in conformity with the International Call Sign Series allocated to the administration by the ITU. The ITU clearly defines the formation of call signs for the Amateur Radio Service in Section III of Article 19 of the Radio Regulations.
2. These Guidelines describe the formation and allocation of call sign to the Amateur Radio Service in Malaysia.

FORMATION OF THE AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE CALL SIGN

3. According to Appendix 42 of the Radio Regulations, the ITU has allocated the prefixes 9MA to 9MZ and 9WA to 9WZ call sign prefixes to Malaysia for all stations that are opened to international public correspondences and other stations that are capable of causing harmful interference beyond the Malaysian boundary.

4. According to Article 19 of the Radio Regulations, the call sign for an Amateur Radio Service may be formed by, among others, two (2) characters and a single digit (other than 0 or 1) followed by a group of not more than four (4) characters, the last of which shall be a letter. The format for allocation of the call sign for a station in the Amateur Radio Service in Malaysia would be:

9	M	D1	L1	L2	L3
---	---	----	----	----	----

or

9	W	D1	L1	L2	L3
---	---	----	----	----	----

where:

9M, 9W: national prefixes as allocated by ITU

D1: any digit 2 to 9

L1, L2, L3: any alphabet A to Z (Example: 9M2RUZ)

ALLOCATION OF CALL SIGN FOR AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR STATION IN MALAYSIA

Six Characters Call Sign

5. In Malaysia, an amateur radio operator station (“**Amateur Radio Operator Station**”) operated by an individual Amateur Radio Operator will be allocated with a six (6) characters call sign. Pursuant to the Communications and Multimedia (Technical Standards) Regulations 2000 (“**TSR Regulations**”), there are three (3) categories of Amateur Radio Operators, as follows:

- a. Class A;
- b. Class B; and
- c. Class C,

all of which require the relevant certification as provided under the law.

6. The allocation of the call sign for Class A, Class B and Class C are shown in Table 1.

Category	Call Sign ¹	Geographical Area
Class A	9M2L ₁ L ₂ L ₃	Peninsular Malaysia ²
	9M6L ₁ L ₂ L ₃	Sabah and Wilayah Persekutuan Labuan
	9M8L ₁ L ₂ L ₃	Sarawak
Class B	9W2L ₁ L ₂ L ₃	Peninsular Malaysia
	9W6L ₁ L ₂ L ₃	Sabah and Wilayah Persekutuan Labuan
	9W8L ₁ L ₂ L ₃	Sarawak
Class C	9W3L ₁ L ₂ L ₃	Nationwide

Table 1: Malaysian Amateur Radio Operator Station Call Sign for Individual for Class A, B and C

¹ L₁L₂L₃ shall represent any alphabet A to Z

² Johor, Kedah, Kelantan, Melaka, Negeri Sembilan, Pahang, Perak, Perlis, Pulau Pinang, Selangor, Terengganu, Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur and Federal Territory of Putrajaya

Assignment of Call Sign to Amateur Radio Operator

7. The assignment of the call sign is subject to MCMC's discretion in performing its powers and functions as the regulator of the communications and multimedia industry. The assignment of the same (made to the Amateur Radio Operator Station) will be based on Table 1 above.
8. The usage of the assigned call sign is permissible within Malaysia. However, any communications outside of the geographical area as stipulated in Table 1 above ("**Geographical Area**") must adhere to the amateur radio handbook ("**Amateur Radio Handbook**") which provides basic information on the various aspects of amateur radio operation published by MCMC or any amendment hereafter.
9. The same call sign will be assigned to the Amateur Radio Operator Station in the event of a re-application of an apparatus assignment ("**AA**") through an application under regulation 24 of the Communications and Multimedia (Spectrum) Regulations 2000 ("**Spectrum Regulations 2000**") or a variation to the address of the Amateur Radio Operator Station (within the validity period of the AA). For AA application process, please refer to the Guidelines for Apparatus Assignment published by MCMC.
10. A new call sign will not be assigned for temporary placement of an Amateur Radio Operator Station. In this regard, an Amateur Radio Operator Station shall transmit using the same call sign. If the temporary placement assigned is outside of the Geographical Area, an Amateur Radio Operator must adhere to the Amateur Radio Handbook as described in paragraph 8 above.
11. Change of the assigned call sign is not allowed except for the case of an upgrade from Class C to Class B or Class B to Class A. Under such circumstances, a new call sign will be assigned and the previous call sign will be automatically cancelled.

12. A Malaysian citizen, who holds a valid licence to operate an Amateur Radio Operator Station issued by a foreign authority, may apply for a Malaysian call sign. The applicant may be assigned with a Malaysian call sign subject to the equivalent Malaysian standard, class and reciprocity arrangement established with the foreign country concerned. The assigned call sign is subject to approval by MCMC in accordance with the applicable laws.

Five Characters Call Sign

13. Subject to paragraph 14 below, any new application for an AA in respect of an Amateur Radio Operator Station will not be assigned with a five (5) characters call sign.
14. Any application for an AA being made pursuant to regulation 24 of the Spectrum Regulations 2000 that is made in respect of an Amateur Radio Operator Station that is currently assigned with five (5) characters call sign (i.e. 9M2L₁L₂, 9W2L₁L₂, 9M6L₁L₂, 9W6L₁L₂, 9M8L₁L₂, 9W8L₁L₂) is not subject to paragraph 13 above, and the Amateur Radio Operator Station may continue to use the assigned five (5) characters call sign upon such application being approved in accordance with the law.
15. In the event that an Amateur Radio Operator Station that is assigned with the five (5) characters call sign fails to apply for the AA in accordance with regulation 24 of the Spectrum Regulations 2000, a new six (6) characters call will be assigned accordingly, subject to the successful application of the AA in accordance with the provisions of the law.
16. The assignment of a five (5) characters call sign can be changed to a six (6) characters call sign via an application to vary the AA (based on the relevant regulatory requirements and procedures specified under the law), subject to the AA still being valid.

CALL SIGN FOR OTHER PURPOSES

17. For amateur radio clubs, repeaters, gateway, radio beacon, contest, experimental station operations and special events [i.e Jamborees On The Air (JOTA), Island On The Air (IOTA) and etc.], the call sign shall be assigned according to the format as shown in Table 2 below:

Event/Purpose	Call Sign	AA Duration
Amateur Radio Club	9M4CL ₁ L ₂	Up to 60 months
Amateur Radio Repeater	9M4RL ₁ L ₂	Up to 60 months
Amateur Radio Beacon	9W4BL ₁ L ₂ /9M4BL ₁ L ₂	Up to 12 months
Experimental	9W4EL ₁ L ₂ /9M4EL ₁ L ₂	Up to 12 months
Amateur Radio Gateways	9W4GL ₁ L ₂ /9M4GL ₁ L ₂	Up to 12 months
Special Event	9M4L ₁ L ₂ L ₃	Subject to the period of the event (which is to be specified by the applicant when making an application) with a maximum period of 12 months
Contest	9M4D ₁ L ₁ L ₂	
Light House	9M4LL ₁ L ₂	
Sprately Islands	9M0L ₁	

Table 2: Malaysian Amateur Radio Service Call Sign for Other Purposes

Notes:

1. L₁L₂ shall represent any letter A to Z
 2. D₁ shall represent any number either 4, 5, 7 or 9
 3. For Special Event, MCMC may assign the call sign format as it deems necessary to facilitate special event requirements
18. MCMC may assign a call sign as deemed appropriate for DXing contest in accordance with the call sign for Contest as specified in Table 2 above. However, the usage of the call sign is restricted during the contest only. The application for DXing contest is restricted to an Amateur Radio Operator Station that is assigned with a valid AA and is operated by an Amateur

Radio Operator that holds an Amateur Radio Operator Certificate (“**AROC**”) for Class A only.

19. The call sign that has been assigned for purposes of a Special Event or Contest as specified in Table 2 above shall only be used during the validity period of the AA that has been issued in respect of the same. Once the validity period of the said AA has expired, the call sign assigned can be re-assigned to another AA applicant based on a first come first serve basis.
20. The assignment of the call sign for the categories of Amateur Radio Beacon, Experimental and Amateur Radio Gateways as referred to in Table 2 above shall be in accordance with the AROC held by the relevant Amateur Radio Operator.
21. For transmission from Spratly Islands, the applicant shall obtain the approval to enter Spratly Islands from Majlis Keselamatan Negara (“**MKN**”) before a call sign application can be considered by MCMC. The approval letter by MKN shall be submitted together with the AA application to MCMC.

RESTRICTED CALL SIGNS

22. The combination of certain letters in a call sign may generate unacceptable words such as 9M2SEX or words that sound indecent such as 9M2AQR or words that can cause confusion with the Q code series, reserved by the ITU for other services are restricted. The restricted call signs which are listed in Table 3 below will not be assigned.

Prefix 9M2	Prefix 9M6	Prefix 9M8	Prefix 9W2	Prefix 9W3	Prefix 9W6	Prefix 9W8	Prefix 9W4	Prefix 9M4
9M2AQA to 9M2AQZ	9M6AQA to 9M6AQZ	9M8AQA to 9M8AQZ	9W2AQA to 9W2AQZ	9W3AQA to 9W3AQZ	9W6AQA to 9W6AQZ	9W8AQA to 9W8AQZ	na	na
9M2ASS	9M6ASS	9M8ASS	9W2ASS	9W3ASS	9W6ASS	9W8ASS	na	na

Prefix 9M2	Prefix 9M6	Prefix 9M8	Prefix 9W2	Prefix 9W3	Prefix 9W6	Prefix 9W8	Prefix 9W4	Prefix 9M4
9M2QAA to 9M2QZZ	9M6QAA to 9M6QZZ	9M8QAA to 9M8QZZ	9W2QAA to 9W2QZZ	9W3QAA to 9W3QZZ	9W6QAA to 9W6QZZ	9W8QAA to 9W8QZZ	na	na
9M2SEX	9M6SEX	9M8SEX	9W2SEX	9W3SEX	9W6SEX	9W8SEX	9W4SEX	9M4SEX
9M2SOS	9M6SOS	9M8SOS	9W2SOS	9W3SOS	9W6SOS	9W8SOS	9W4SOS	9M4SOS
9M2GOD	9M6GOD	9M8GOD	9W2GOD	9W3GOD	9W6GOD	9W8GOD	9W4GOD	9M4GOD
9M2XXX	9M6XXX	9M8XXX	9W2XXX	9W3XXX	9W6XXX	9W8XXX	9W4XXX	9M4XXX

Table 3: Restricted Call Signs

23. Notwithstanding the call signs listed in Table 3 above, MCMC has the discretion to undertake the followings in the event a call sign is interpreted as unacceptable or indecent:

- (a) cancel any call signs already assigned and assign a new call sign; or
- (b) not to assign such call sign.

SUSPENSION, CANCELLATION AND RE-ASSIGNMENT OF CALL SIGN

24. In the event that the AA issued for purposes of an Amateur Radio Service has expired, and the Amateur Radio Operator has not made any application pursuant to regulation 24 of the Spectrum Regulations 2000, the call sign assigned in respect of the same shall be automatically suspended. Under such circumstances, if the Amateur Radio Operator wishes to continue using the same call sign, an application for the AA shall be made under regulation 21 of the Spectrum Regulations 2000, and MCMC may consider to assign the same call sign, provided that the said application is made within five (5) years from the expiry of the AA.

25. In the event that no application for the AA has been made by the Amateur Radio Operator within the five (5) years from the expiry of the AA and the said person wishes to operate again as an Amateur Radio Operator, the said person would be required to undertake the relevant examination for purposes of certification as an Amateur Radio Operator (in accordance with the law). Once successfully certified, the said person may apply for the same call sign previously assigned, but the same will be subject to the availability of the said call sign when the relevant application is being made to MCMC.
26. An Amateur Radio Operator may upgrade his or her existing class AROC i.e. from Class C AROC to Class B AROC or Class B AROC to Class A AROC in accordance with the relevant provisions under the TSR Regulations. Once the new Class AROC is obtained, the Amateur Radio Operator shall apply for a new AA in respect of the new Class AROC and a new call sign following the new Class AROC will be assigned accordingly. The previous call sign assigned will be made available accordingly after five (5) years from the expiry date of the AA of the previous Class AROC.
27. In case of the demise of an Amateur Radio Operator, the call sign assigned will be suspended and made available after five (5) years from the expiry date of the AA being held.
28. The suspended or cancelled call sign under these Guidelines may be made available to new applicants after a period of five (5) years after the expiry date of the AA assigned previously.

FOREIGNER AND RECIPROCAL CALL SIGN

29. A visiting foreign Amateur Radio Operator, who holds a valid Amateur Radio Service licence or assignment, issued by the authority of his or her country, may submit an AA application for assignment of a reciprocal call sign for use during the period of the applicant’s visit in Malaysia as follows:

Category	Reciprocal Call Sign	Geographical Area
Class A	9M2/home country call sign	Peninsular Malaysia ³
	9M6/home country call sign	Sabah and Wilayah Persekutuan Labuan
	9M8/home country call sign	Sarawak
Class B	9W2/home country call sign	Peninsular Malaysia
	9W6/home country call sign	Sabah and Wilayah Persekutuan Labuan
	9W8/home country call sign	Sarawak
Class C	9W3/home country call sign	Nationwide

Table 4: Foreigner and Reciprocal Call Sign

30. The reciprocal call sign will be assigned based on the principle of reciprocity.
31. The list of reciprocal countries that have reciprocity with Malaysia is as stated in the Guidelines for Amateur Radio Service in Malaysia published by MCMC. The list of reciprocal countries will be updated periodically if there is any additional country which has a reciprocal agreement with Malaysia.
32. The reciprocal call sign can be assigned for a period of up to twelve (12) months, subject to the length of stay and validity of the passport and/or visa of the applicant.
33. MCMC may consider for the applicant to convert its reciprocal call sign to a Malaysia call sign after one (1) year.

³ Johor, Kedah, Kelantan, Melaka, Negeri Sembilan, Pahang, Perak, Perlis, Pulau Pinang, Selangor, Terengganu, Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur and Federal Territory of Putrajaya

EFFECTIVE DATE

34. These Guidelines come into effect on 24 July 2023 and hereby supersede the previous Guidelines published on 26 March 2015.
