Small Vessel VHF DSC Installation Check List


The VHF DSC requires inter-connection or interfacing to a navigation position device for proper DSC operation.

Install the equipment or existing equipment using manufacturer installation manuals.

1. DSC Requirements:
   A. MMSI # maritime mobile service identity. If you don’t have one you can acquire it on line from one of the following organizations: SeaTow, Boat US, FCC and Power Boat Squadron. --- --- --- --- --- --- --- --- --- 9 digit.

   B. Inter-connection or Interface requirements. These are found in the equipment specifications and install sections of equipment manual. If manual is not available contact Manufacturer on the Internet FAQ with model number of equipment. Request the type interface, color code of wire and polarity for talker and listener.

1-a. NAVIGATION DEVICE. GPS-AIS or Sat compass. TALKER:
   a. RS-232 yes or no
      Wire color code High.---------------------
      Or terminal pin Ground.------------------
      Shield .--------------

   OR

   b. RS-422 yes or no
      Wire color code High ---------------
      or terminal pin Low ----------------
      Shield ---------------

2-a. RECEIVER VHF DSC Radio LISTENER:
   a. RS-232 yes or no
      Wire color code High ---------------
      Or terminal pin Ground ---------------
      Shield ---------------

   OR
b. RS-422 yes or no
   Wire color code High -------------------
   Or terminal pin Low -------------------
   Shield -------------------

ALERT ALERT ALERT
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Stop here if the talker and listener are not compatible. i.e. RS-232 talker and RS-422 listener or
RS-422 talker and RS-232 listener. IF you don’t have a match consult a Marine Electronics Dealer for
installation. A mis-match will damage both equipments.

3-a. Purchase a 3 pole terminal (small) block. 2 to 3 inch pak of tie wraps. Velcro adhesive tabs. For the installation. (radio schack ,hardware store or marine store.)

2. DSC Installation :
   A. Using your terminal device connect the Talker to the Listener following color code or terminal pin from the check list. RS-232 to RS-232 or RS-422 to RS-422.
   B. Use your equipment manual and install your MMSI # and verify navigation information in VHF receiver.
   C. Use your velcro adhesive tabs and tie wraps to secure wires and terminals. Velcro on the terminal block allows them to be removed for service.

3. Test your equipment for voice and DSC operation with a local Sea Tow, C.G. or a second operational DSC radio…

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