

		<b>OPERATION PROCEDURES</b>
<b>10</b>	RBC Ref No. 57.5.1	COMMUNICATION

- Sidmouth Lifeboat call sign is - ‘Sidmouth Lifeboat’
- Other call signs used are
  - Base station - ‘Sidmouth Boathouse’
  - Launch vehicle - ‘Sidmouth Tractor’
  - Shore crew using handheld - ‘Sidmouth Shore crew’
  - Crewman gone ashore - ‘Sidmouth Crewman’
- Solent Coastguard operating channel is ‘0’. All communication should be transmitted on this channel unless otherwise directed by the co-ordinating authority, except for the initial call to Solent to be made on ‘16’.
- The first transmission must always be to the co-ordinating authority: reporting in and instructions taken.
- In-house communication should be transmitted on channel ‘31’ whilst a watch is kept on ‘0’.
- Crew going ashore or when transferred to a casualty vessel must use handheld radios, generally channel ‘31’ unless otherwise directed.
- Mobile phone must be switched on and should be used only as a secondary means of communication.
- Radio watch should be kept by a nominated member of shore crew and a record of transmissions taken. The main station base set should be used due to its much greater range.
- The radio operator is responsible for checking and maintaining the radio log.
- Should contact with the co-ordinating authority be lost the following steps can be taken;
  - Report to base station
  - Try contact with coastguard on channel ‘16’
  - Call base station on mobile phone
  - Call Coastguard on mobile phone
- Standard protocols should be used at all times.

- Mayday should be transmitted on channel '16'