

MMSI Working Group Summary Record

Sponsored by USCG and RTCM's GMDSS Task Force



Time / Date: Wednesday, 17 December 2025, 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM EDT

NAVCEN MMSI website

Location: Virtual Meeting was recorded for notekeeping purposes
Meeting documents available from [MMSI Working Group Repository](#)

1. Welcome, changes to and approval of the agenda

Members were welcome and the agenda was quickly reviewed with no changes.

2. [Summary record](#) and consequential actions from August 6th, 2025 MMSI Working Group meeting, Noting [Action items requiring long term action](#)

Summary record was quickly reviewed with no changes. Long term action items were noted.

3. Action Items from last meeting (updated items in red)

Action Item	Description	Assigned to	Action
48, 52, 55, 69	Transferring MMSI registrations Outside transfers: -FCC restricts transfer from LBR licensees. -Boat US accepts transfers -USPS do not accept transfers. -Shine currently does not accept transfers but is discussing with BOAT US on how to do it. Confirmed that no registrants are recycling (reassigning canceled) MMSIs. Can a MISLE data call that could indicate where MMSI registration were transferred? How can transferred MMSIs be indicated in USCG NAVCEN MMSI allocation list? Discuss process user should follow in determining who holds their registry.		Addressed with Action Item 70 under Agenda 5. Will close in favor of 70.
59, 71	Update on USPS assuming Sea Tow MMSI registrations. Seatow/USPS duplications will need to separately identified: 3423 duplicates found in MISLE. USPS is taking in 26,742 SeaTow registrations Tests with USCG Kearneysville completed. Need to capture late edits to Seatow MMSI registrations. Prepare advisory regarding suspension in updating existing Seatow MMSI registrations	Gene Danko	USPS Seatow MMSI registrations ready to be updated to USCG. Keep open.

63	Consider SC101 standard addressing DSC MMSI and Class B AIS static data reset, including data interfaces. RTCM Standard 10160.0 adopted 21 June, awaiting PGN approval. RTCM 10160.0 with "Radio MMSI and Class B AIS Static Data Access" PGN 130055 has been published.	Joe Hersey	Close.
68	Confirm how maritime radios used by autonomous craft are licensed? Can they be licensed by rule?	Katy Knox	Agenda 4. Close action item, but continue autonomous vessel process on agenda. Long term
70	Clarify processes, terminology and definitions used in MMSI transfer process: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Administrative Change – update of information not changing vessel, owner, or license type (no transfer involved) 2. Agent Change – transfer of license-by-rule MMSI agent and also FCC 3. Ownership Change – Transfer of vessel and/or radio to new owner (MMSI user) 4. Combined Change – Combined administration and ownership changes, including license type change to/from NTIA or FCC 5. Fleet Change – change in fleet ownership of multiple vessels (affects FCC only) 6. Inactive Vs Cancelled MMSI registration no distinction between terms 	Joe Hersey, Ed Thiedeman, Gene Danko, Katie Knox, Mike Brown	Agenda 5
72	Propose terminology to be used by MMSI providers for indicating autonomous vessels in MMSI registration remarks field	Brian Moore, Ed Thiedeman, Ross and Johnny, FCC, and others	Addressed in agenda 4 below Close, superseded by AI 74
73	Begin listing needed updates to MMSI MOA. Include MMSI providers decides to withdraw (Long Term AI 4), handling autonomous vessels.	Joe Hersey and FCC	See Agenda 6

4. Guidance on registering MMSIs for use by autonomous vessels in U.S. waters

- FCC [FCC Notice DA 25-652](#) and FCC request that providers identify autonomous vessels (AVs) in their databases and supply them to the FCC
- Remarks field (120 character): “AV -” or “Autonomous -”; “ROV -”??

In addressing FCC’s request that providers indicate how many autonomous vessel MMSIs they had registered, providers indicated there was no way of knowing for certain while recognizing some had been registered. FCC stated that indicating autonomous use on future registrations and updates to existing registrations would be satisfactory, leaving it up to the providers to decide how best to do this. Joe was asked to host and convene this virtual meeting amongst the three LBR providers on 14 January at 1:30 pm EST.

Autonomous vessels having MMSIs registered are required to have a vessel registration number, which in turn are required to have a hull identification number (HIN) in order to be registered. Updating this process to accommodate MMSI registration of autonomous vessels is left to the Coast Guard to sort out.

5. Clarify processes, terminology and definitions used in MMSI transfer process

- Review listing from Action Item 70

The terminology listed in Action Item 70 was discussed, with items 2 and 3 being the priority and needing the most work. It was unclear how MMSIs could be transferred between owners once contact has been lost with one of the two parties. A new Action Item 76 was established to Agree on what authority is needed from original owner to reassign MMSI

6. Needed updates to MMSI MOA

The following items should tentatively be addressed in the next MOA edition:

- a. Process for termination and registration handover
- b. Address VHF handled MMSIs. Noted that this should be an option, but providers not choosing this option would be restricted from issuing MMSIs to handhelds unless associated with a single vessel.
- c. Clarify requirements for biennial notification of registrants
- d. Address registration terminations and transfers
- e. Review annexed data specifications.
- f. Autonomy
- g. USCG direct read-only data access to the data. Does FCC need this too?

Joe agreed to host a virtual meeting with the providers, including FCC on 18 March 1:30 pm

7. Federal/NTIA MMSI issues

Mike Brown indicated no issues

8. Are notification occurring when MMSI submissions to USCG not being received?

This question was noted. Providers would normally have no way of knowing their updates are not being received, unless they were notified.

9. MMSI duplicate registrations

- MISLE duplicate MMSIs by entity [spreadsheet](#)

Noted without discussion

10. Education and reaching out

BOAT US expressed a willingness to address the MMSI reset issue documented in the new RTCM standard in their own outreach to boaters.

11. Any other matters

- [ITU-R M.585-10](#) (Word) recently completed updated MMSI standard. Changes were not significant and should not affect our work.

12. Action Items for next meeting

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59, 71	<p>Update on USPS assuming Sea Tow MMSI registrations. Seatow/USPS duplications will need to separately identified: 3423 duplicates found in MISLE. USPS is taking in 26,742 SeaTow registrations</p> <p>Tests with USCG Kearneysville completed. Need to capture late edits to Seatow MMSI registrations.</p> <p>Prepare advisory regarding suspension in updating existing Seatow MMSI registrations</p>	Gene Danko	
70	<p>Clarify processes, terminology and definitions used in MMSI transfer process:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Administrative Change – update of information not changing vessel, owner, or license type (no transfer involved) 2. Agent Change – transfer of license-by-rule MMSI agent and also FCC 3. Ownership Change – Transfer of vessel and/or radio to new owner (MMSI user) 4. Combined Change – Combined administration and ownership changes, including license type change to/from NTIA or FCC 5. Fleet Change – change in fleet ownership of multiple vessels (affects FCC only) 6. Inactive Vs Cancelled MMSI registration <u>no distinction between terms</u> 	Joe Hersey, Ed Thiedeman, Gene Danko, Katie Knox, Mike Brown	
73	Begin listing needed updates to MMSI MOA. Include MMSI providers decides to withdraw (Long Term AI 4), handling autonomous vessels.	Joe Hersey and FCC	
74	LBR providers recommend autonomy designation	BOAT US, USPS, Shine	
75	Look for “000” MMSIs in LBR registrations	BOAT US, USPS, Shine Joe	
76	Agree on what authority is needed from original owner to reassign MMSI	BOAT US, USPS, Shine, FCC, Joe	

77	Discuss MOA next edition in separate meeting	BOAT US, USPS, Shine, FCC, Joe	
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13. Scheduling next meeting

Agreed next meeting at RTCM Assembly Ft Lauderdale on 7 or 8 May 2026 hybrid

Attendees

Name	Organization	Email
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