

# DISTRESS SIGNALS

Wave both arms vertically

Hoist 'V' at yardarm

Hoist anchor ball over any 'flag' up forestay

Use handheld flare to pinpoint precise position at night or in dull conditions

Parachute flare for use at long range offshore

White flare - collision warning

Handheld orange smoke to pinpoint precise position in bright conditions

Floating orange smoke

Signal Morse **S O S** by sound or light

Fire rocket vertically

If windy fire 15° downwind

**NEVER fire a parachute flare if a helicopter is approaching.**

**NEVER fire into the wind**

In low cloud fire at 45°

Orange smoke for use by day - especially in strong sunlight

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# LIFE SAVING SIGNALS

## Search and Rescue Unit Replies

You have been seen, assistance will be given as soon as possible.

Orange smoke flare

Three white star signals or three light & sound rockets fired at approx. 1 minute intervals.

## Shore to Ship Signals

**Safe to land here**

Vertical waving of both arms, white flag, light or flare

**Unsafe to land here. Additional signals mean safer landing in direction indicated**

Horizontal waving of white flag, light or flare. Morse **S**. Putting one flag, light or flare on ground and moving off with a second indicates direction of safer landing.

R • — • Land to your RIGHT

L • — • • Land to your LEFT

## Surface to Air Signals

Message	International Code of Signals	ICAO Visual Signals
I require assistance	V	••• — V
I require medical assistance	W	• — W
No or Negative	N	— • N
Yes or affirmative	C	— • — • Y
Proceeding in this direction		↑

## Air to Surface Replies

**Message understood**

Drop a message    Rocking wings    Flashing landing or navigation lights twice

**Any one of:**

MORSE by light

T —

R • — •

**Message NOT understood - Repeat**

Straight and level flight    Circling

**Any one of:**

MORSE signal RPT by light

• — • • —

## Air to Surface Direction Signals

Sequence of 3 manoeuvres meaning proceed in this direction

1 Circle vessel at least once

2 Cross low ahead of vessel rocking wings

3 Overfly vessel and head in required direction

## Surface to Air Replies

**Message understood - I will comply**

Morse code by light

Code & answering pendant "Close Up"

**I am unable to comply**

Morse code by light

International flag N

Your assistance is no longer required

As a non preferred alternative to rocking wings, varying engine tone or volume may be used.

Cross low astern of vessel rocking wings

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