



**TELEMEDICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICE (TMAS) TO BE TRANSFERRED TO
MRCC/MRSCs**

In accordance with the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue, 1979 (SAR Convention), ILO Convention No. 164 on Health Protection and Medical Care (Seafarers) and IMO circular MSC/Circ.960, the Telemedical Assistance Service (TMAS), formerly referred to as Radio Medical, is part of the maritime search and rescue (SAR) services in which health care authorities also participate in Finland.

In Finland the Border Guard, the Finnish Maritime Administration and the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health have agreed on the transfer of the TMAS forwarding service in 2009 from Turku Radio to the command and control centres for rescue operations (MRCC and MRSCs). The Border Guard launched a new TMAS-related forwarding service on 1 July 2009 and Turku Radio continues to forward calls until the end of 2009. From 1 January 2010 the forwarding service is provided solely by the MRCC and the MRSCs.

Vessels may contact either the MRCC or one of the MRSCs which provides instructions or forwards the call to a designated emergency medicine physician on call. Contact should preferably be taken by satellite equipment or mobile phone but the MRCC/MRSCs also maintain watch on GMDSS (see GMDSS Master Plan and other publications, such as Admiralty List of Radio Signals Vol. 5).

MRCC/MRSC contact information:

General number for TMAS	+358 (0) 2041000
MRCC Turku	+358 (0) 2041001
MRSC Helsinki	+358 (0) 2041002
MRSC Vaasa	+358 (0) 2041003

The MRCC/MRSCs also maintain watch on VHF channel 16, 14 (working channel), 70 (DSC) and the MF frequency 2 187.5 kHz (DSC).

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For further information
please contact: MRCC Turku, phone 0718720100

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