

## The Coast Guard Auxiliary

The US Coast Guard Auxiliary was established by Congress on June 23, 1939 as the volunteer civilian component of the Coast Guard. Organized into flotillas, divisions, and districts, Auxiliarists work in all 50 states and territories. Since 9/11, we have been integrated into the Department of Homeland Security and perform a variety of port security functions.

Today's membership is more than 30,000. Training is held at every level from the flotilla to national training schools. Leadership and management training, award programs, and data management systems ensure a high level of professionalism.

Our public education program yearly trains tens of thousands of boaters in seamanship, piloting, rules of the road, and weather, among other topics.

Communications watchstanders handle distress calls at Coast Guard and 2,641 Auxiliary radio stations.

Specially qualified boat crews conduct search and rescue missions using almost 8,000 of their own boats.

Auxiliary pilots and air observers search for boaters in distress, floating hazards, pollution spills, and ice-locked vessels.

In 1996 legislation, the Auxiliary's role was expanded to allow members to assist in any Coast Guard mission, except direct law enforcement and military operations. Thus, Auxiliarists can be found examining commercial fishing vessels, flying in C-130 aircraft, working in Coast Guard offices, and crewing with regulars. The three components of the service, the Active Duty Coast Guard, the Reservists, and Auxiliarists, truly constitute TEAM COAST GUARD.

***The U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is the largest volunteer marine safety organization in the world.***

Coast Guard Auxiliary Telecommunications is for you if:

- You are already an Auxiliarist and are interested in learning more about communications and providing direct support to the Coast Guard.
- You have a communications background and want to use your skills and equipment in service to the country.

Whether already in the Auxiliary or just coming in, we'll provide you with the specialized training and match you with others who share your interests.

Coming on-board is simple. You'll join an Auxiliary flotilla near your home and pass a security/background check. Then, you can move right into communications specialty training.

For more information on any of the Auxiliary's telecommunications programs contact:

**General Information**

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**AUXMON and Rescue 21 Support**

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**AUGCOM and SHARES**

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## National Telecommunications Division



*The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary is actively recruiting new members and existing Auxiliarists who are interested in radio communications. We have opportunities for you that directly support the Coast Guard.*

*Openings are immediate, and we provide the training.*

*You provide the professionalism and the pride.*

## Auxiliary National Radio Activities

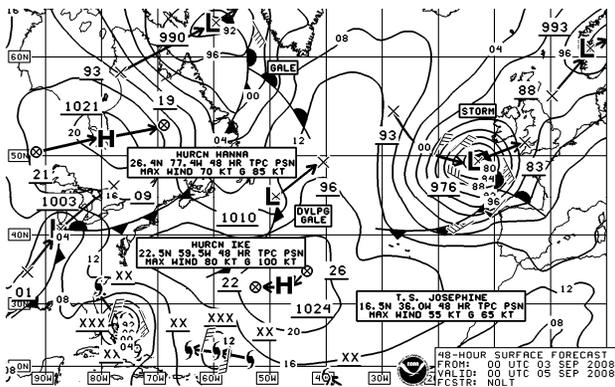
Coast Guard Auxiliary Telecommunications is active on the HF (High Frequency) and MF (Medium Frequency) radio bands. Our important work is recognized by our being assigned government radio channels for our operations.

### Quality Control of Coast Guard Weather Broadcasts (AUXMON)

The United States along with Japan and the United Kingdom make weather broadcasts to mariners at sea. This is controlled by International treaty which requires each country to monitor their broadcasts. For the United States, this quality control monitoring is performed by the Coast Guard Auxiliary through our AUXMON program.

AUXMON stations monitor these weather broadcasts, and immediately report problems to the Coast Guard. Digital and non-digital voice broadcasts are monitored, as are facsimile (fax) broadcasts.

Being receive-only stations, without the need to transmit, your equipment requirements will be minimal. And your commitment is only for 8-hours of monthly monitoring.



A radio facsimile weather map



### Communications Augmentation to the Coast Guard (AUGCOM)

AUGCOM is a contingency program that stands ready to monitor the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS). AUGCOM is activated should the Coast Guard request our support for surge operations. AUGCOM stations are called upon in cases of system failures or the need for additional radio resources.

### SHARES (SHARED RESOURCES)

SHARES is Homeland Security's HF radio system used by government, critical infrastructure, and disaster response agencies to communicate emergency messages when landline and cellular is unavailable. There are over 3,290 SHARES stations. Most of the Coast Guard's SHARES support is provided by the Auxiliary.

### Rescue 21 Network Failures

The Coast Guard maintains a national VHF radio system to provide assistance to maritime stations. Called "Rescue 21", the Auxiliary implements various methods to provide response to local, regional, and national Rescue 21 failures.



Auxiliarists proudly display the Operational Radio Facility emblem as a symbol of their training, expertise, and dedication to the United States

## Auxiliary Local Radio Activities

Local Auxiliary units are involved in communications on a daily basis.

Often, an Auxiliarist is the Watchstander at a search and rescue station, handling telephone calls from the public and dispatching Coast Guard assets to calls for assistance.

Auxiliary communicators also provide services at civic events and emergencies. When not so employed, they are active installing and maintaining our equipment.



Field communications is provided with radio equipped personal vehicles and Auxiliary owned specialized vehicles.

