



# International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 2011 Regional Conference – Sun City, South Africa 12 to 19 August 2011



Subject	Ratification of paper VIE10_C3_B12 – Beacon Message		
Society		Country:	
Committee:	C5	Paper Number:	SC11_C5_06
Author:	Michael Kastelic, OE1MCU		

A Sub-working group, under Murray, G6JYB, was actioned to draft some wording for the handbook. This appears below:

## PROPOSED REPLACEMENT SECTION

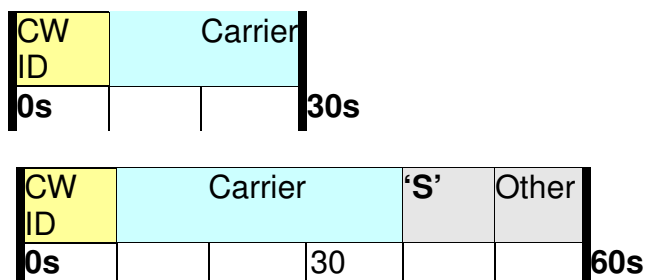
### 11.1.5 BEACON MESSAGE

As beacons are often heard at very low signal levels, together with spurious signals, it is important the message is simple, unambiguous and repeated frequently. It is also necessary to have a period without information (“carrier”) for frequency checking purposes and signal strength measurement; and also to make it easy to distinguish the frequency when using F1A.

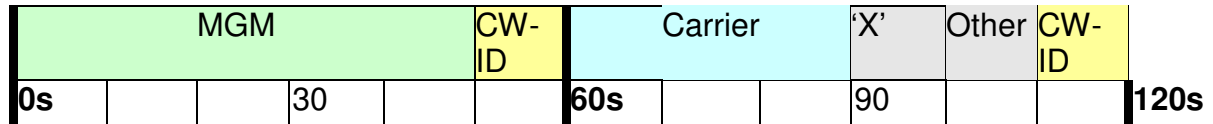
1. For a coordinated beacon, the only essential information in the beacon message is the call sign. The locator or other information is not essential
2. The call sign should be sent in plain CW at least once per minute, not exceeding 60 characters per minute
3. Beacons should include a period of plain carrier of approximately 20-30s, sufficient for frequency checking purposes.
4. For mixed mode beacons, the MGM mode should start on the even minute, whilst the odd minute includes the plain carrier period. Effort should be made to ensure good timing accuracy of the even/odd minutes.
5. It may be helpful to indicate a forthcoming change of mode by a short CW symbol (such as an ‘S’ or ‘X’)
6. For beacons that are MGM only (which should only be exceptions to the other recommendations), then the message should be MGM at the start, followed by the CW ID within a minute period.

Examples of these (with approximate message lengths) are illustrated below:-

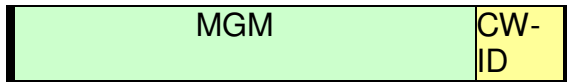
Simple 30 & 60 second Messages



# MGM Mixed Mode



## MGM



A vote was taken on the revised wording.

Against: None

Abstain: None

For: unanimously