

## Life-saving signals

To be used by ships, aircraft or persons in distress

**Keep on board to conform to the new regs. (Solas V/29)**

### Search and rescue unit replies

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



Orange smoke flare

Or



Three white star signals or three light and sound rockets fired at approximately 1 minute intervals.

### Shore to ship signals

■ Safe to land here



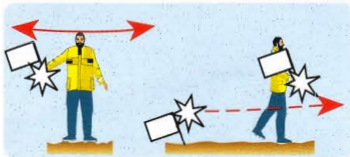
Vertical waving of both arms, white flag light or flare

Or



Morse code signal 'K' by light or sound

■ Landing here is dangerous. Additional signals mean safer landing in direction indicated.



Or

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

S: ●●●

Morse code signals by light or sound

R: ●—●

Land to the right of your current heading

L: ●—●●

Land to the left of your current heading

### Surface to air signals

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

Note: Use International Code of Signals by means of lights or flags or by laying out the symbol on the deck or ground with items which have a high contrast to the background.

### Air to surface replies

■ Message Understood



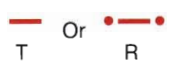
Drop a message



Rocking wings



Flashing landing or navigation lights on and off twice



Morse code signal by light

■ Message Not Understood – Repeat



Straight and level flight



Circling



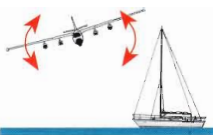
Morse code signal by light

### Air to surface direction signals

■ Sequence of 3 manoeuvres meaning proceed to this direction



1. Circle vessel at least once



2. Cross low, ahead of vessel rocking wings



3. Overfly vessel and head in required direction

■ Your assistance is no longer required



Cross low, astern of vessel rocking wings

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

### Surface to air replies

■ Message Understood – I will comply



Change course to required direction

Or



Morse code signal by light

Or



Code and answering pennant "Close Up"

■ I am unable to comply



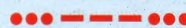
Note: Use the signal most appropriate to prevailing conditions  
Morse code signal by light

Or



International flag 'N'

### International distress signals



Morse code SOS by light or sound

Mayday by radio

