



## Beyond the Dive: Emergency Communications for Professional Diving Teams



This month, N9BO introduces a ham Radio & Emergency Communications Workshop, delivered in Bangkok, designed for dive professionals, liveaboard operators, supervisors, and public safety teams, bridging the gap between underwater operations and surface command-and-control.

This workshop draws directly from real-world emergency communications practice, including amateur radio operations used in disaster response, maritime operations, and degraded-infrastructure environments: the same contexts where dive operations often continue despite system failures.

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## Communications Are Part of the Dive Plan

Liveaboards at sea. Remote islands. Offshore dive sites. Storms and power outages. For many dive professionals, operating beyond mobile phone coverage is routine, not exceptional. Yet when something goes wrong, communications are often the weakest link in otherwise well-run dive operations.

For professional dive operations, communications are not a luxury: they are a safety system.

Whether you are managing a liveaboard itinerary, supervising shore-based training, coordinating surface cover, or responding to an incident, the ability to communicate reliably when phones don't work is *critical*.

At N9BO, we treat communications as part of the dive system itself, integrating surface coordination, redundancy, and contingency planning into professional dive operations.

- ◆ Operate safely beyond cell-phone coverage using satellite phones (satphone)
  - Maintain surface coordination on liveaboard diving boats and remote sites
  - Deploy and understand Emergency Position-Indicating Radio Beacons (EPIRBs – 406 MHz) for vessel- and diver-level distress alerting
  - Support emergency response until help arrives
  - Understand VHF, UHF, HF, and amateur (ham) radio fundamentals
- ◆ Integrate comms into incident management and emergency procedures

This workshop addresses a reality many dive professionals already face: you are often off the grid, whether you planned to be or not.





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## Your Mission Starts Here

Dive operations don't stop because communications fail; but outcomes often depend on how well teams adapt.

This workshop is designed to give dive professionals practical, usable communications awareness, not to turn them into radio technicians. The emphasis is

on decision-making, redundancy, and operational use, applicable to both recreational and public safety diving environments.

It is equally relevant whether you:

- Lead recreational dives from boats or liveboards
- Manage dive centres in remote regions
- Supervise professional or training operations
- Support emergency or public safety responses

Below is what to expect.

## 1 Who Should Attend?

- ✓ Dive instructors and Divemasters
  - Liveaboard crew, managers, and cruise directors
  - Technical and expedition divers operating remotely
  - Public Safety Divers, Supervisors, and Tenders
  - Military, police, NGO, and disaster-response personnel
- ✓ Dive centre owners responsible for emergency planning

No prior radio experience is required. This workshop is suitable for both divers and surface-support personnel.

Note: Priority registration is reserved for those currently serving in frontline roles.

## 2 What You'll Learn

The workshop covers essential concepts for safe and resilient dive operations:

- ◆ Emergency communications fundamentals (VHF / UHF / HF / DMR)
  - Why amateur radio remains critical when phones and internet fail
  - Practical communications discipline for dive ops and liveboards
  - Incident coordination and message handling
  - Integration with Emergency Action Plans (EAPs)
- ◆ Equipment considerations for boats, dive centres, and supervisors

The workshop also places these systems in context with tools already familiar to dive professionals, including marine VHF radio operations (Channel 16 for distress, safety, and calling, and Channel 70 for DSC alerts), as well as satellite communications commonly used by liveboards and expedition teams (*Thuraya*, *Iridium*, and *Inmarsat*).

Participants will learn when each system is appropriate, their limitations, and how amateur radio fits into a layered, redundant communications plan for dive operations beyond reliable cellular coverage.

The focus is on what works in real life, not theory.

### **3 Why This Matters for Tourist Dive Operations & Public Safety Diving Teams**

Reliable communications support every level of professional diving, from recreational operations to public safety missions.

For recreational and technical dive professionals:

- ◆ Improved emergency preparedness on boats and remote sites
- Better coordination during lost diver, injury, or evacuation scenarios
- Reduced reliance on fragile commercial networks

For ERDI and public safety diving operations:

- Command, control, and coordination
- Operating in degraded or hostile environments
- Interoperability with civil protection and SAR assets

This workshop complements training such as:

- [ERDI Public Safety Diver](#)
- [ERDI Supervisor](#)
- [ERDI Incident Command](#)
- [Dive centre Emergency Action Planning \(EAP\)](#)

### **4 Limited Seats – Operational Focus**

To ensure meaningful interaction and scenario-based discussion, seats are limited. Priority access is given to:

- ◆ Active dive professionals
- Liveaboard diving boats and remote-operations personnel
- ◆ First responders and government-affiliated teams

Private and civilian applicants are welcome, subject to availability.

### **5 Be Ready When You're Off the Grid**

Most dive professionals already operate beyond reliable cell coverage: they just don't always plan for communications failure.

This Bangkok-based workshop provides the awareness, mindset, and tools to keep dive operations coordinated when conventional systems stop working, whether you're offshore, remote, or responding to an emergency.

Because when the signal drops, professionalism is what keeps the operation running.

Be the dive professional who brings everyone home.  
Stay connected. Stay operational. Train with N9BO.

**Reserve Your Seat – Emergency Comms Workshop  
for Dive Professionals (Bangkok)**

Yours in diving,  
**The N9BO Team**

♥ Explore. Protect. Dive with Purpose.

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