



Technician License Course

Chapter 7

Lesson Module 17:

Licensing Regulations:
International Rules & Call Signs



ARRL *The national association for
AMATEUR RADIO*

Amateur Radio - Internationally

International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is a United Nations group to work out agreements.

- ITU divides the world into Regions 1, 2 and 3.
- Continental US hams are in Region 2.

Reciprocal Operating Authorizations

- Many countries allow operation
- Must have your license
- Follow host countries rules and allocations.

International Contacts

- OK unless specifically prohibited
- Must be limited to purposes of amateur radio



Call Signs

Call signs have a prefix and suffix. ITU agreements set up prefixes to be used by countries.

US prefixes are K, N, W, and AA – AL.

Prefix of amateur call signs in US depends on license class.

US has call sign districts: 0 – 9. Techs in CA currently getting KK6 prefixes.



Special Call Signs

Temporary call signs may indicate status of station.

- “Portable” or “Mobile” indicates operation away from QTH. May be given as “/” or “slant” and district number – “portable 6” or “slant 6”
- “Temporary” indicates a change in privilege before new license is received. I.E., “temporary AG”

Special Event call signs may use 1 by 1 format like W6G.

- Apply to Special Event Call Sign Coordinator
- Must give real call sign each hour.

Vanity call signs.

Club call signs.

