



VKS-737 Radio Network

A division of the Australian National 4WD Radio Network Inc.

Established 1993

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How to contact the RFDS via VKS-737 Base Stations in the case of an emergency.

Note:
The term VKS-737 Base Station in this document refers to both dedicated VKS-737 Base Stations and joint VKS-737 / RFDS Base Stations.

To contact the Royal Flying Doctor Service in an **Emergency** via the VKS-737 Radio Network you require a suitable, type approved, HF transceiver fitted with [VKS-737 frequencies](#) and have Selcall capability.

An Emergency Call is when you may need medical assistance from an RFDS Doctor.

Important Notes:

- This service is available in cases of genuine emergencies as defined in the Radiocommunications Act No. 174 of 1992 to all licensed HF users holding a current VKS-737 Licence Authority [Refer Note 3](#).
- Calls to RFDS via VKS-737 Base Stations are made using Selcall. The RFDS Emergency Call Facility "Red Button" is NOT available to contact RFDS via VKS-737 Base Stations
- Emergency Calls to the RFDS can be made via any VKS-737 Base Station using all VKS-737 frequencies.
- The first two selcall digits indicate the VKS-737 Base Station through which the call is to be made i.e. 06 – Adelaide, 08 – Alice Springs, 81 – Charleville, 75 – Meekatharra, 89 – Stawell etc.
- The last two selcall digits indicate the RFDS base i.e. 11 – Jandakot, 14 – Cairns, 17 – Port Augusta etc.

How to Contact the RFDS on VKS-737 frequencies using Selcall

1. Select the most suitable frequency for the base you are trying to contact (dependent upon distance & time of day). A list of base station frequencies appears on Page 2.
2. If using a tapped whip antenna ensure that the antenna tap matches the frequency selected on the radio. If using an automatic tuning antenna, press the "tune" button on the radio before proceeding.
3. Send a Selcall to the **Beacon Test** (four long beeps) of the relevant base as listed on Page 2.
4. If you receive a poor or weak Beacon Revertive, or no revertive, try another frequency or another base.
5. If you receive a good Beacon Revertive send a Selcall to the number listed on Page 2 for the RFDS base you wish to contact.
6. If your selcall is successful you will hear six short beeps, a telephone dial tone, and then the ringing tone of the base being called.
7. An Operator will respond and ask you for your name, callsign and the nature of your emergency.

[Ensure you give the operator your Name, your VKS-737 Callsign, your Selcall Number, the Base you are calling through and the frequency you are calling on.](#)

This is very important should communications be lost and the operator needs to re-establish contact with you.

Emergency HF radio contact to RFDS using Selcall via VKS-737 Bases

VKS-737 Base Station VKS-737 / RFDS Base Station	Beacon Test	To Call RFDS Jandakot (All WA)	To Call RFDS Broken Hill	To Call RFDS Cairns	To Call RFDS Charleville	To Call RFDS Mount Isa	To Call RFDS Port Augusta
Adelaide 1	0699	0611	0612	0614	0615	0616	0617
Adelaide 2	9699	9611	9612	9614	9615	9616	9617
Alice Springs 1	0899	0811	0812	0814	0815	0816	0817
Alice Springs 2	9799	9711	9712	9714	9715	9716	9717
Cairns 1	7799	7711	7712	7714	7715	7716	7717
Carnarvon	7499	7411	7412	7414	7415	7416	7417
Charleville	8199	8111	8112	8114	8115	8116	8117
Charters Towers 1	8099	8011	8012	8014	8015	8016	8017
Charters Towers 2	9599	9511	9512	9514	9515	9516	9517
Meekatharra	7599	7511	7512	7514	7515	7516	7517
Mount Isa	8299	8211	8212	8214	8215	8216	8217
Newcastle	6899	6811	6812	6814	6815	6816	6817
Perth	0599	0511	0512	0514	0515	0516	0517
St Marys	0799	0711	0712	0714	0715	0716	0717
Stawell	8999	8911	8912	8914	8915	8916	8917

VKS-737 Frequencies

Channel 1: 5455kHz	Channel 2: 8022kHz	Channel 3: 11612kHz	Channel 4: 14977kHz	Channel 5: 3995kHz	Channel 6: 6796kHz	Channel 7: 10180kHz
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Notes:

- Emergency Calls** to RFDS can be made via any VKS-737 Base Station using frequencies listed above.
- Calls to RFDS are dealt with as normal incoming telephone calls for assistance.
- Callers should be aware that possession of a radio enabled to transmit on VKS-737 or other frequencies for which they do not hold a current valid Licence or Licence Authority is an offence under Sections 46 & 47 of the Radiocommunications Act 1992.**