International Code Signal Letters

Letter	Flag	Meaning
A Alfa		I have a diver down; keep well clear at slow speed. With three numerals, azimuth or bearing.
B Bravo		I am taking in, or discharging, or carrying dangerous goods. (Originally used by the Royal Navy specifically for military explosives.)
C Charlie		Affirmative. With three numerals, course.
D Delta		Keep clear of me; I am maneuvering with difficulty. With two, four, or six numerals, date.
E Echo		I am altering my course to starboard.
F Foxtrot		I am disabled; communicate with me.

G Golf	I require a pilot. When made by fishing vessels operating in close proximity on the fishing grounds it means: "I am hauling nets". With four or five numerals, longitude. (The last two numerals denote minutes and the rest degrees.)
H Hotel	I have a pilot on board.
I India	I am altering my course to port.
J Juliet	I am on fire and have dangerous cargo on board: keep well clear of me, or I am leaking dangerous cargo.
K Kilo	I wish to communicate with you. With one numeral, I wish to communicate with you by; 1) Morse signalling by hand-flags or arms; 2) Loud hailer (megaphone); 3) Morse signalling lamp; 4) Sound signals.
L Lima	In harbor: The ship is under Quarantine. At sea: You should stop your vessel instantly. With four numerals, latitude. (The first two denote degrees and the rest minutes.)
M Mike	My vessel is stopped and making no way through the water.

N November	Negative.
O Oscar	Man overboard (often attached to the man overboard pole on boats).
P Papa	The Blue Peter. <i>In harbor:</i> All persons should report on board as the vessel is about to proceed to sea. <i>At sea:</i> It may be used by fishing vessels to mean: "My nets have come fast upon an obstruction".
Q Quebec	My vessel is "healthy" and I request free pratique.
R Romeo	The way is off my ship. With one or more numerals, distance in nautical miles.
S Sierra	I am operating astern propulsion. With one or more numerals, speed in knots.
T Tango	Keep clear of me; I am engaged in pair trawling. With four numerals, local time. (The first two denote hours and the rest minutes.)

U Uniform		You are running into danger.
V Victor	X	I require assistance. With one or more numerals, speed in kilometers per hour.
W Whiskey		I require medical assistance.
X Xray		Stop carrying out your intentions and watch for my signals.
Y Yankee		I am dragging my anchor.
Z Zulu		I require a tug. When made by fishing vessels operating in close proximity on the fishing grounds it means: "I am shooting nets". With one or more numerals, time (UTC). (The first two denote hours and the rest minutes.) (Origin of the phrase 'Zulu Time'.)

* N and C together (No and Yes) is used as a distress signal.

International Code Numbers

Number	International Code Signal	NATO (<u>Custom Order</u>)	Russian (<u>Custom Order</u>)
0 Zero		+ + + +	
1 One			
2 Two			
3 Three			
4 Four			
5 Five			



NATO Signal Flags

Signal	Flag	Meaning
First Substitute		Repeat of the first flag in the hoist
Second Substitute		Repeat of the second flag in the hoist

Third Substitute	Repeat of the third flag in the hoist
Fourth Substitute	Repeat of the fourth flag in the hoist
ANS	Code/Answer
CORPEN	Course Pennant
DESIG	Designation
DIV	Division
EMERG	Emergency

FORM	Formation
FLOT	Group
NEGAT	Negation
PORT	Port
PREP	Preparatory
INT	Question
SCREEN	Screen

SPEED	Speed
SQUAD	Squadron
STBD	Starboard
STATION	Station
SUBDIV	Subdivision
TURN	Turn

Storm Warning Flags

