

# Terrestrial radio communication

*Through its facilities at Portishead Communications Centre and the coast radio station network, BT has developed radio communications to provide a comprehensive range of services for ships all around the world.*

The three main forms of communications via radio are radiotelephone, radiotelex and Morse. Three specific radio ranges are employed. The long-range service provides worldwide links over high frequency (HF) radio from Portishead. From the coast stations around our shores, medium-range services are available up to 200 miles from the UK on medium frequency (MF) and short-range services for up to some 40 miles via very high frequency (VHF).

With a staff of over 100 radio officers, Portishead provides the world's shipping with a 24-hour communications service, 365 days a year. Most of our staff have seagoing experience and all understand the problems related to communicating at sea. Although operating with highly sophisticated technical resources, they pride themselves on their personal service. It is their understanding and commitment which has made Portishead the global byword in maritime communications expertise.

Portishead is now the world's largest and busiest facility of its kind, using the most advanced technology to provide a service which literally spans the world.



## **When it's time to talk**

When it comes to telephony, BT offers versatile services which have steadily evolved to meet the needs of international customers both on land and at sea. These include:

- A full operator service for call connection, advice and support
- Flexible charging facilities
- Automatic ship-to-shore radiotelephone (Autolink RT explained on page 6)