

GENERAL RADIO SERVICE SOLVES SURVEYORS'  
COMMUNICATION PROBLEMS

General Radio Service offers the Surveyor an economical and efficient means of communication on or off the job, in or out of his office - person to person.

This issue carries several inserts and advertisements about this new means of person to person radio communication. To give the reader an idea of what this is all about, the following excerpts are taken from an article by David S. Simmonds of Simmonds and Sons Ltd., in the April, 1962 issue of "Gam!"

"Of particular significance is the date of April 1st, 1962 - this was the day when 2-way radio communication became legal in Canada for the private citizen. This new service, known as General Radio Service, has been authorized by the Department of Transport, and is of considerable importance to large segments of the public, because of its impact on private, professional, and business life."

"The new General Radio Service is essentially a medium by which private citizens may communicate by means of 2-way radio, with large use foreseen among any whose activities take them beyond established means of communications."

"The regulations governing the use of the General Radio Service are simple and straightforward. The operation of the equipment is readily understood. The benefits obtained from having your own medium of direct communication are obvious. So here are the facts!

Department of Transport Regulations

- (a) Each equipment performing a General Radio Service must be licensed. A licensed station may be operated in any craft or vehicle, or at fixed location, or while carried on the person. The license fee is \$3.00 per equipment for a three-year period.
- (b) Licenses may be issued to individuals over the age of eighteen years.
- (c) No test or proficiency certificate in Radio is required to obtain a license.
- (d) Certain regulations governing method and content of communication are included and full information on these details may be obtained through your local Department of Transport Office."

"The General Radio Service in Canada is a parallel service to Citizens Band which has been available in the United States for some time. However, certain basic differences are important."

"Firstly, the Department of Transport Radio Standards Specification 136 authorizes the use of nineteen radio frequency channels in the 27 megacycle range, with careful controls on frequency stability of approved equipments. The U.S.A. band includes 23 channels."

"Secondly, the qualifications governing the approval of equipments used in the Canadian General Radio Service are more stringent than the corresponding specifications allowed for Citizens Band in the U.S.A. thereby assuring the Canadian user of equipment of satisfactory quality to perform efficient service and guaranteeing the Canadian user a reliable medium of communication."

"Thirdly, a license will only be granted by the Department of Transport when the equipment you obtain is on the approved list (those equipments fully approved by Department of Transport may be readily identified by merely contacting your local Department of Transport office)."

### Range

"It is not possible to define specifically the exact range of equipment in the General Radio Service. In metropolitan areas, it may be assumed that 10 to 15 miles range is quite normal. In rural areas this may be extended to 20 miles or more, dependent upon the terrain. However, across water it is quite normal for the effective range to be in the neighbourhood of 30 miles - a significant range for the low cost involved!"

### Simple Operation

"Most approved equipments are simple to operate. After turning on the set, the user merely mentions his assigned call letters and names the call letters of the station which he is calling. Fortunately, our Department of Transport has approached this new service with excellent planning, wise engineering preparation, and proper licensing procedures. It is indeed gratifying to note that even the hand held 'walkie-talkie' type of unit must comply with these stringent Department of Transport regulations, thereby assuring the Canadian citizen of a communications service which is reliable and satisfactory."