

ADDRESSED SAFETY RELATED MESSAGE (MESSAGE 12)

The addressed safety related message could be variable in length, based on the amount of safety related text. The length should vary between 1 and 5 slots.

Parameter	Number of bits	Description
Message ID	6	Identifier for Message 12; always 12
Repeat indicator	2	Used by the repeater to indicate how many times a message has been repeated. 0-3; 0 = default; 3 = do not repeat any more
Source ID	30	MMSI number of station which is the source of the message.
Sequence number	2	0-3
Destination ID	30	MMSI number of station which is the destination of the message
Retransmit flag	1	Retransmit flag should be set upon retransmission: 0 = no retransmission = default; 1 = retransmitted
Spare	1	Not used. Should be zero. Reserved for future use
Safety related text	Maximum 936	6-bit ASCII as defined in Table 47
Maximum number of bits	Maximum 1 008	Occupies up to 3 slots, or up to 5 slots when able to use FATDMA reservations. For Class B "SO" mobile AIS stations the length of the message should not exceed 3 slots For Class B "CS" mobile AIS stations the length of the message should not exceed 1 slot

The table below gives the number of 6-bit-ASCII characters, so that the whole message fits into a given number of slots. It is recommended that any application minimizes the use of slots by limiting the number of characters to the numbers given, if possible. The probability that a message will be successfully sent and received decreases with each additional slot required:

Number of slots	Maximum 6-bit ASCII characters
1	10
2	48
3	85
4	122
5	156

(Source: [Rec. ITU-R M.1371-5](#))