Information Notes for
Hong Kong Radio Amateurs' Examination and
Amateur Morse Test

1. Introduction

1.1 In Hong Kong, any person who wishes to establish, maintain and operate an amateur station must first obtain an Amateur Station Licence (ASL) issued by the Communications Authority (CA). For the purpose of operating licensed amateur radio equipment without possessing any amateur radio equipment, a person may apply to the CA for an Authority to Operate (ATO) instead of an ASL. To qualify oneself for application for an ASL and/or ATO, a person may demonstrate through examination that he / she possesses the necessary knowledge to establish, maintain and operate an amateur station properly.

1.2 The Hong Kong Radio Amateurs' Examination (HKRAE) and Amateur Morse Test (AMT) are conducted by the CA. The HKRAE and AMT are respectively a written examination and a Morse code proficiency test. They are open for application by any persons and may be taken separately. Successful candidates in HKRAE are eligible for the application for ASL and/or ATO.

1.3 The CA continues to recognise the results of the radio amateurs' examinations conducted by the City & Guilds of London Institute and the HKRAEs and AMTs conducted by the Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education (Tsing Yi).

1.4 Relevant information concerning the operation of amateur radio stations in Hong Kong is given in the following annexes -

Annex A	Operation of Amateur Radio Station in Hong Kong
Annex B	Sample of Amateur Station Licence, Sample of Authority to Operate, and related documents
Annex C	Explanation Notes on Licence Conditions and Schedules to an Amateur Station Licence
Annex D	Equipment for Amateur Station

2. Details of HKRAE

2.1 HKRAE will be held twice a year, usually in April and October. An announcement to invite application will normally be issued about 3 months in advance and posted on the website http://www.ofca.gov.hk.

2.2 HKRAE consists of 100 multiple choice questions printed in Chinese or English. Each question is provided with 1 correct answer and 3 incorrect answers. Candidates are required to select the correct answers. Each question carries one mark. The passing mark is 50 marks. The syllabus of HKRAE, a sample of examination questions and suggested reading materials are given in **Annex E, Annex F and Annex G** respectively.

3.   Details of AMT

3.1   AMT will normally be conducted once every two months.   An announcement to invite application will normally be made about 6 weeks in advance and posted on the website http://www.ofca.gov.hk.

3.2   AMT consists of (a) a receiving test and (b) a sending test.   A candidate needs to pass both tests to pass AMT.   There are two classes of AMT (i.e. 5 words per minute and 12 words per minute).   A candidate is allowed to take either one of the two classes of AMT at a time.   A sample of the AMT paper is given in **Annex H.**

3.3   Details of the two classes of AMT are shown below:

5 Words per Minute

| Type of Test | Length of Test (No. of words or groups) | Duration of Test | Sending | | Receiving |
			Max. No. of Corrections Allowed	Max. No. of Uncorrected Errors	Max. No. of Errors Allowed
Plain language	about 15 words with 5 letters per word	3 minutes	3	0	3
5-character code groups	12 groups (5 letters per group)	3 minutes	2	0	2
5-figure code groups	6 groups (5 figures per group)	1½ minutes	1	0	1

(The test will not include punctuations, accented letters or other symbols.)

12 Words per Minute

| Type of Test | Length of Test (No. of words or groups) | Duration of Test | Sending | | Receiving |
			Max. No. of Corrections Allowed	Max. No. of Uncorrected Errors	Max. No. of Errors Allowed
Plain language	about 36 words with 5 letters per word	3 minutes	4	0	4
5-character code groups	24 groups (5 letters per group)	3 minutes	4	0	4
5-figure code groups	10 groups (5 figures per group)	1½ minutes	2	0	2

(The test will not include punctuations, accented letters or other symbols.)

3.4 In the receiving test, candidates will hear the test message in Morse codes and they must copy the received message on the answer sheets provided by the examiner. A short interval will be given for candidates to review the received message.

3.5 In the sending test, candidates will be required to send the test message provided by the examiner in Morse codes at the specified speed. A conventional manual telegraph key (also known as Morse key) and an audio tone generator will be provided for the sending test. Candidates may use their own keys (e.g. conventional manual Morse key, paddles Morse key, semi-automatic Morse key, etc.) and audio tone generators. A short interval will be given to each candidate to adjust the keys and to warm up before the test. The test messages sent by the candidates will be audio recorded for record purposes.

4. Examination Guide

4.1 All candidates are advised to read the "Guide to Hong Kong Radio Amateurs' Examination / Amateur Morse Test" at **Annex I** carefully before submitting their applications.

5. Notification of Results

5.1 For HKRAE, candidates will be notified of the examination results individually by post within 21 working days from the date of the examination. As regards AMT, candidates will be notified of their test results after the test.

6. Appeal

6.1 Any appeal in connection with the HKRAE and AMT should be made **in writing** within 7 working days from the date of notification of the examination result. Appeal should be given in writing and sent to the Support Services Subsection of the Office of the Communications Authority, whose contact information is given in paragraph 7 below. The candidate concerned shall provide in the appeal letter his / her name and candidate number. Late appeal or verbal appeal will not be considered.

7. Enquiry

7.1 Enquiries about this information note should be addressed to the Support Services Subsection, whose contact information is given below:

Support Services Subsection,
Office of the Communications Authority,
20/F, Wu Chung House,
213, Queen's Road East,
Hong Kong.
Tel: 2961 6265
Fax: 3155 0944
E-mail: support_services@ofca.gov.hk