

AIS CLASS COMPARISON	Class A	Class B/SO	Class B/CS
Transmit Power	12.5 watts (1 W @ low-power)	5 W (2 W @ low-power)	2 W only
Frequency Range	25 kHz bandwidth between 156.025–162.025 MHz		25 kHz bandwidth @ minimum between 161.500–62.025 MHz
Primary Access Scheme	Self-organizing time-division multiple access (SOTDMA) as defined in ITU-R M.1371		Carrier-sense TDMA, non-competing with SOTDMA units
Autonomous Messaging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Message 1–Position Report • Message 5–Static & Voyage Related Data Report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Message 18–Class B Position Report • Message 24A/B–Static Data Report; but, does not include Rate of Turn, Navigation Status, Destination, ETA, Static Draft, or IMO Number data 	
Reporting Rates	Static and voyage related data reported every 6 min.		
	Every 3 min. when @ anchor/moored and ≤ 3 knots (kts)	Every 3 min. when @ anchor/moored and ≤ 2 knots (kts)	
	Dynamic, every 2 s @ >23 kts, 3.33 s @ $>5^\circ$ course change, 6 s @ 14-23 kts or 10 s @ 2-14 kts.	Dynamic, every 5 s @ >23 kts, 15 s @ 14-23 kts or 30 s @ >23 kts)	Fixed, every 30 s, if slot available w/in 4 s
Safety Text and Application Specific Messaging	Receive & transmit		Receive optional, cannot transmit
WGS64 Positioning Source	Internal Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) & connection to the vessel's primary Electronic Positioning Fixing System (EPFS)	Internal GNSS	
Display & Digital Interfaces	Minimal Keyboard Display (MKD) and 2input-output and multiple output interfaces	Display optional, but, at least 1 input-output interface	All optional
Digital Selective Calling (DSC) Channel Management	Dedicated receiver	Time-shared with a TDMA receiver	
Test Certification Standard	IEC 61993-2	IEC 62287-2	IEC 62287-1
Costs	\$2,600-4,000	\$2,000	\$700-1,600

Meters Per Knots @ Each AIS Class Reporting Rate

Speed in knots>>		1	2	3	4	14	23	24	AIS Class
REPORT RATE IN SECONDS (* IF CHANGING COURSE TOO)	2					14.4	23.7	24.7	A
	3.3*	1.7	3.4	5.1	6.8				A
	6*					43.2	71.0		A
	10				20.6	72.0			A
	5							61.7	B/SO
	15			23.1	30.9	108.0	177.5		B/SO
	30			46.3	61.7	216.1	355.0	370.4	B/CS
	180	92.6	185.2	277.8					A/B