

CONNING, HELM & ENGINE ORDERS

General Rules

1. Only the person who has the Con can give conning, helm or engine orders
2. The CO can take the Con anytime by giving a conning, helm or engine order
3. If in doubt, ask the CO if they have the Con
4. Compass directions always are given using three numbers, (e.g. Course of 110 is 1-1-0)
5. Helm orders are always spoken in whole numbers, (e.g. Port 15)
6. Speed is given using two number, (e.g. Speed 12 is Speed 1-2)

Order Sequence

Order

Repeat

Report

Acknowledge

Conning Orders

Conning Orders are used for course alterations of less than 10⁰

Direction + Course to steer = Conning Order

Course alteration of 272 to 280

OOW: (*order*) "Starboard Steer two eight zero"

HELMSMAN: (*repeat*) "Starboard Steer two eight zero"

HELMSMAN: (*report*) "Course two eight zero, Sir/Ma'am"

OOW: (*acknowledgement*) "Very good"

Note: The direction is not required but it is common practice to use it when making a course alteration between 5-10⁰.

Helm Orders

Helm orders are used to change course by more than 10⁰

Standard Helm = 15⁰ and

Double Standard Helm = 30⁰

Direction + Rudder angle = Helm Order

Example**OOW: (order)** "Port fifteen"**HELMSMAN: (repeat)** "Port fifteen"

Applies 15° of port helm, once the rudder angle indicator displays the ordered helm then reports

HELMSMAN: (report) "Fifteen of port wheel on, Sir"**OOW: (acknowledgement)** "Very good"

To decrease the amount of Helm during a Course alteration use the words "Ease to"

Example**OOW:** "Port fifteen"**HELM:** "Port fifteen"

Applies 15° of port helm, once the rudder angle indicator displays the ordered helm then reports

HELMSMAN: "Fifteen of port wheel on, Sir/Ma'am"**OOW:** "Very good"**OOW:** "Ease to five,"**HELMSMAN:** "Ease to Five,"

Slowly turns the wheel to 5° of port helm, once the rudder angle indicator displays the ordered helm then reports

HELMSMAN: "Five of Port wheel on Sir/Ma'am,"**OOW:** "Very Good,"**Midships**

Midships is the order to bring the rudder to 0°

Midships is used when an incorrect order or action is taken and is always followed by either a Conning order, Helm order or the order Steady (see below)

Example**OOW:** "Midships"**HELMSMAN:** "Midships"**HELMSMAN:** "Wheel's amidships, Sir/Ma'am"**OOW:** "Very good, "

Steadying Helm on New Course

Example

OOW: "Midships"

HELMSMAN: "Midships"

HELMSMAN: "Wheel's amidships, Sir/Ma'am"

OOW: "Very good, Steady"

HELMSMAN: "Steady, One Three Seven,"

OOW: "Very Good, Steer One Three Seven,"

HELMSMAN: "Steer One Three Seven,"

Executes the order and reports once the Ship is on course

HELMSMAN: "Course One Three Seven Sir/Ma'am,"

OOW: "Very Good,"

Counter Helm

Counter Helm is a helm order given in the opposite direction of a previous helm order to stop the ship's turn faster, this order is given several degrees before the ship head reaches the desired course.

Example

OOW: "Midships"

HELMSMAN: "Midships"

HELMSMAN: "Wheel's amidships, Sir/Ma'am"

OOW: "Port fifteen,"

HELMSMAN: "Port fifteen,"

HELMSMAN: "Fifteen of port wheel on, Sir/Ma'am"

OOW: "Very Good, Midships"

HELMSMAN: "Midships"

HELMSMAN: "Wheel's amidships, Sir/Ma'am"

OOW: "Very Good, Steer One Three Seven,"

HELMSMAN: "Steer One Three Seven,"

Executes the order and reports once the Ship is on course

HELMSMAN: "Course One Three Seven Sir/Ma'am,"

OOW: "Very Good,"

Engine Orders

Speed + Direction + Engine = Engine Order

Speed	Direction	Engine
Slow Half Full Speed Stop	Ahead or Astern	Both engines = both engines Port = port engine only Starboard = stbd engine only

Example

OOW: "Half ahead both engines"

QM: "Half ahead both engines."

QM: "Both engines half ahead set, Sir/Ma'am"

OOW: "Very good"

Opposed Engine Orders with Helm

Example

Helm Order + Engine 1 Order + Engine 2 Order

OOW: " Starboard fifteen, Half ahead port, slow astern starboard, "

QM: " Starboard fifteen, Half ahead port, slow astern starboard, "

QM: " Fifteen of starboard wheel on, Port engine half ahead, starboard engine slow astern, Sir/Ma'am"

OOW: "Very good"

Setting Speed

Example

OOW: "Set speed One Two"

QM: "Set speed One Two"

QM: "Speed One Two Ahead Set, Sir."

Miscellaneous Order

Check Telegraphs

Check Telegraphs is used to report the state of the engines

Examples

OOW: "Check Telegraphs,"
QM: "Port Half ahead, starboard stopped, Sir/Ma'am,"

Passing Through a Cardinal Point

When the ship passes through a cardinal point the helmsman makes a report.

This can be done using the Cardinal point or degrees.

Examples

Helmsman: "Ship's Head Passing through South, 15 of Port wheel on Sir/Ma'am,"

Helmsman: "Ship's Head Passing through one eight zero, 15 of Port wheel on Sir/Ma'am,"

Passing the Con

To give or receive the Con the following sequence must be followed

The OOW passing the con gives the following Information

Passing: Course Steered, Speed rung on, Current Engine Configuration, "You Have the Con,"

Receiving: Repeat Course Steered, Speed Rung, Engine configuration "Rank Last Name, I Have the Con,"