

## 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  $10^0$

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- $10^0$ .*

### Helm Orders

Helm orders are used to change course by more than  $10^0$

Standard Helm =  $15^0$  and

Double Standard Helm =  $30^0$

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,"