

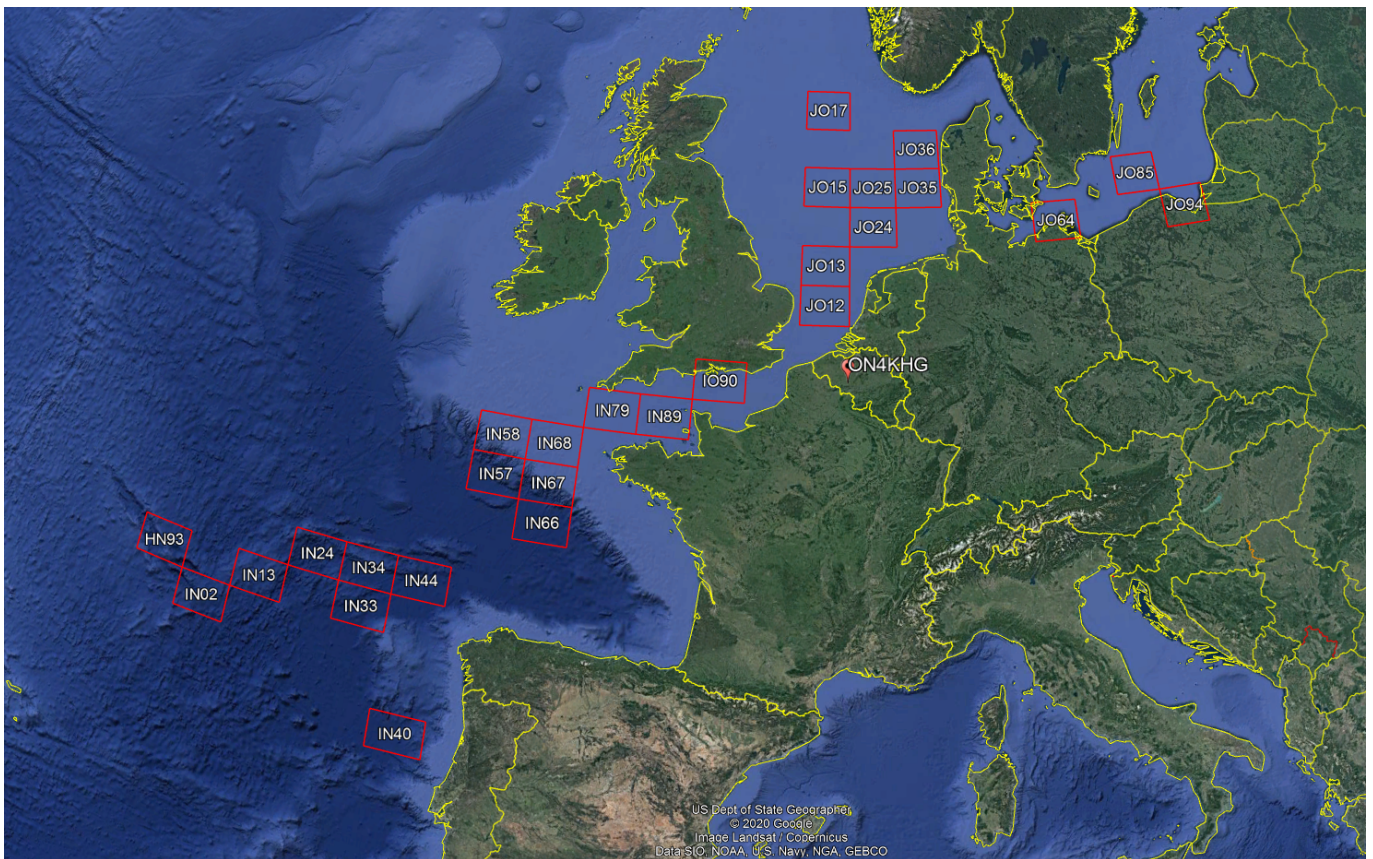
UT1FG/MM (Yuri) – 144 MHz

Update dating 23/11/2020 (see also original post of 06/01/2019 below)

These last weeks, Yuri was again on the seas !

Thanks to the kind support of a few PA and DL hams, Yuri operates now with 150W on 144 MHz. **The whole VHF DX community should be grateful for that support !** It allows every interested ham to work even more new “wet” squares !

Looking back at all the wet squares I have worked so far on 2m thanks to the operations of Yuri, it looks like this (Tropo and MS) :



However, the antenna used by Yuri is a “tiny” 5 elements that holds on a 80 cm long boom, as you can see on the pictures below (click on the pictures to enlarge). This is a dual band VHF/UHF antenna with a gain of 5 dBi on 144 MHz.



It is amazing to see how such a setup can produce FB MS reflections at 2000 km+, and how the tropo coverage extends far away too. In this regard, the uncluttered and flat surroundings, the sea, is quite helpful..

A 25 sec MS reflection (mode FSK441) from UT1FG/MM received by Bernd, DF2ZC (J030RN) at +/- 2000 km :

http://on4khg.be/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Mon_2011_16_045300.wav

A 2 sec one received here at my station when Yuri was in HN83XL (2112 km far away) :

MSHV 144 MHz version 2.29 64-bit

File Options Palette Mode Decode Band Help

CPU 1-4: 2%

Time T Width dB Rot DF Message Freq

Time	T	Width	dB	Rot	DF	Message	Freq
170500	15.8	160	0	26	-51	* G4YIL ZT1BG MM G YTL UE1FG/	1378
170500	15.3	40	0	26	-51	N M'N OX EO	1593
170500	15.4	40	0	26	-51	G8YIL UT9F ?	1464
170500	15.5	60	0	26	-51	G4YIL UT1BGS0	1378
170500	15.6	100	0	26	-51	/O W4YIL UT1FG/MO 8?	1378
170500	15.7	220	0	26	-51	UP1F /M* G4YIL UT1BG MM G YTL UE1FG/ 8	1248
170500	16.1	60	0	26	-51	M '4YIE QT FG/L	1421
170500	16.2	60	0	26	-51	G4YX0#UV1V8MO	1593
170500	15.8	160	0	26	-51	* G4YIL ZT1BG MM G YTL UE1FG/	1378
170500	15.1	40	0	26	-51	N W /EO/ Z	1378
170500	15.2	1440	1	46	-54	E ZUIN7/MM K4XXO UT1FG/MM G4YIL UT1F /MM G4YIL	1248
170500	16.8	60	0	26	-51	/O84Y9 I ?	1507
170400	24.1	40	0	26	-142	IN*1K? . X	1679
170400	24.3	160	2	26	-43	*!RL /W! O , O ,SK UK BW	1291
170400	24.6	100	2	26	-80	! !3 2 VO V EEFN2!	1593
170400	24.8	60	0	26	142	L , B? 4 7V124	1378

ON4KHG JO10 USB 144.365.300 F

ADD TO LOG TO RADIO: UT1FGMM RX RPT: 26

LOCATOR: HN83XL DBNA LOOKUP ADD

Hot A: 248° Azimuth: 256° Elevation: 0° Dist: 2112 km

MONITOR R1: R2:

17 Nov 2020 17:06:38

S Limit def=1 -3 dB ZAP

DF Tol def=400 +/- 150 Hz

Sh SWL TX RPT: 26

TX/RX 30 s QRG: 391

RXF TX FIRST TX SECOND

GEN MSG AUTO IS ON

UT1FGMM ON4KHG

UT1FGMM ON4KHG 26 26

UT1FGMM ON4KHG R26 R26

KHG RRRRR

KHG 73 73

CQ ON4KHG

CQ 391 ON4KHG

..But the sea is not always that flat !



Yuri at its operating position :



Thanks again to Yuri and the supportive team behind him. Well done !

Post of 06/01/2019

Yuri, UT1FG is often active as **UT1FG/MM** on 144 MHz. He operates from the ship "Goldeneye", a bulk carrier sailing under Cyprus flag. On the QRZ.com page of Yuri, one can see the ship.

The Goldeneye has left San Lorenzo in Argentina on 8/12/2018 with Riga (Latvia) as destination. Yuri has been active during the travel from several "wet" squares on 144 MHz. I have been lucky enough to work him when he was in IN66, J012, J025 and J036. Three of them were new #. The mode Yuri used was FT8. One likes FT8 or not is another discussion ! I wanted to know the full (6 digits) locators where Yuri was when I worked him.



Provided the latitude / longitude position of the ship can be received by costal stations receiving AIS (Automatic Identification System) frames emitted by the boats (161.975 and 162.025 MHz), it is quite easy to derive the QRA locator. I describe here the way I proceeded.

I go the either vesselfinder.com or marinetraffic.com. One has sometimes a more recent position than the other or vice-versa. The AIS frames contain the latitude and longitude of the ship ; these are broadcasted on the above mentioned frequencies. Once received by a costal AIS station that reports the received positions of the ships to vesselfinder or marinetraffic over the internet, one can retrieve the latitude and longitude of the ship. Below is an example with marinetraffic. Look for "Goldeneye" on the top right when accessing the website and you will get this if you select the Goldeneye from Cyprus, i.e. [CY] (click on picture to enlarge) :

GOLDENEYE

[Create notifications for this Vessel](#)
Fleet controls:
[Add to Fleet](#)
[Suggest updated values](#)

<p>IMO: 9637131 MMSI: 210764000 Call Sign: 5BZD3 Flag: Cyprus [CY] AIS Vessel Type: Cargo</p>	<p>Gross Tonnage: 23433 Deadweight: 35949 t Length Overall x Breadth Extreme: 179.89m x 30.04m Year Built: 2014 Status: Active</p>
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Voyage Info
Companies at Destination

For full access [Try Voyage Data](#)

<p>AR SLO ATD : 2018-12-08 05:41 LT (UTC -3)</p>	<p>LV RIX ETA : 2019-01-06 19:00 LT (UTC +2)</p>
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Past Track
Route Forecast

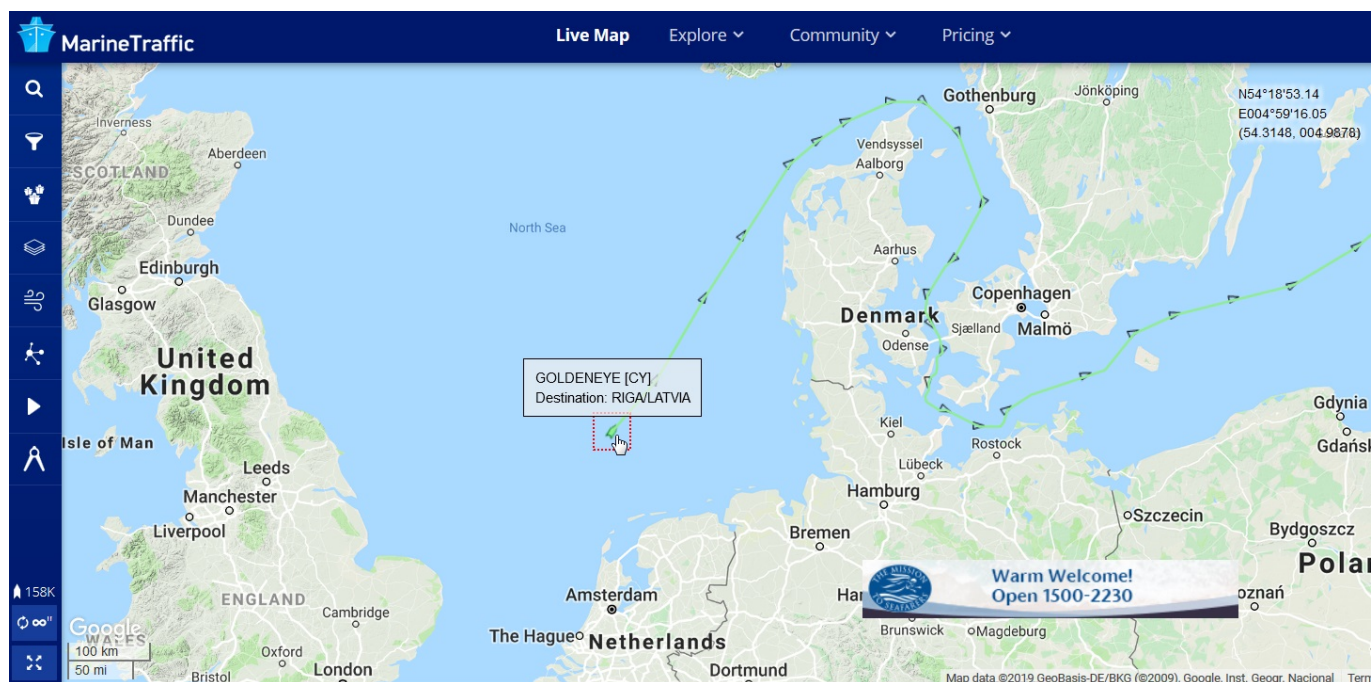
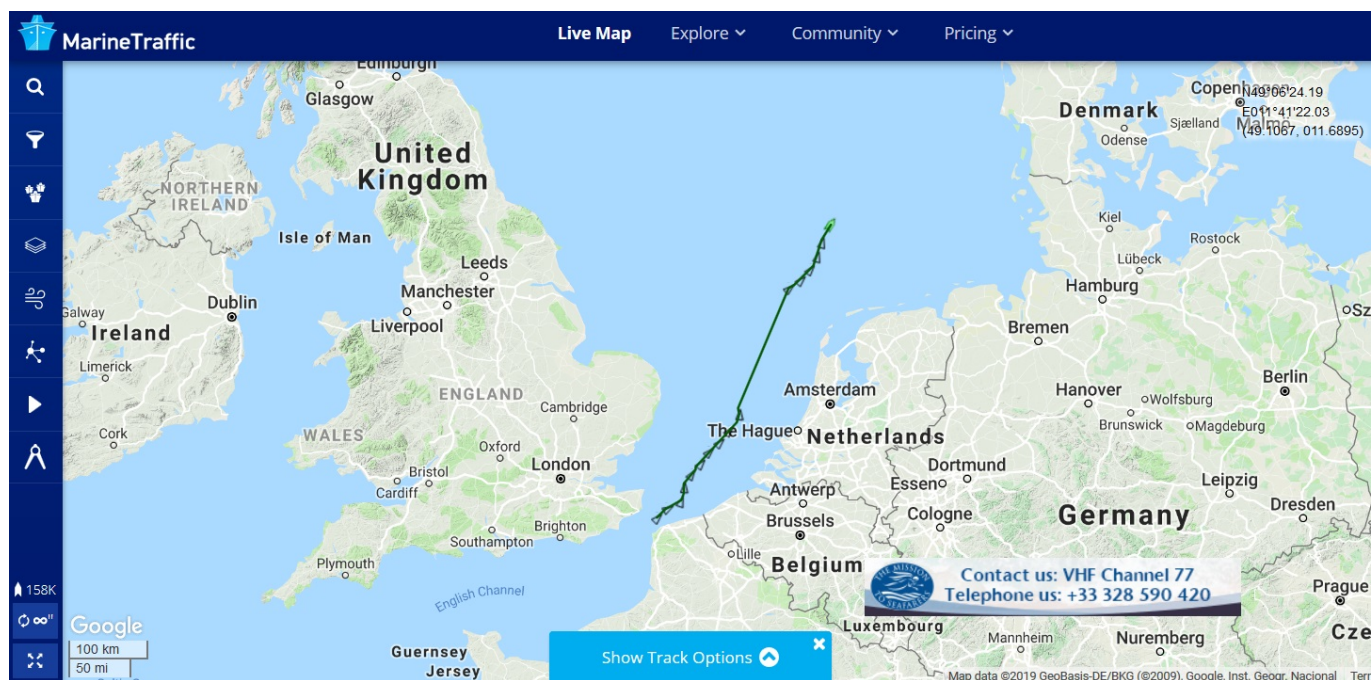
© JACQUES GAUTHIER
MarineTraffic.com

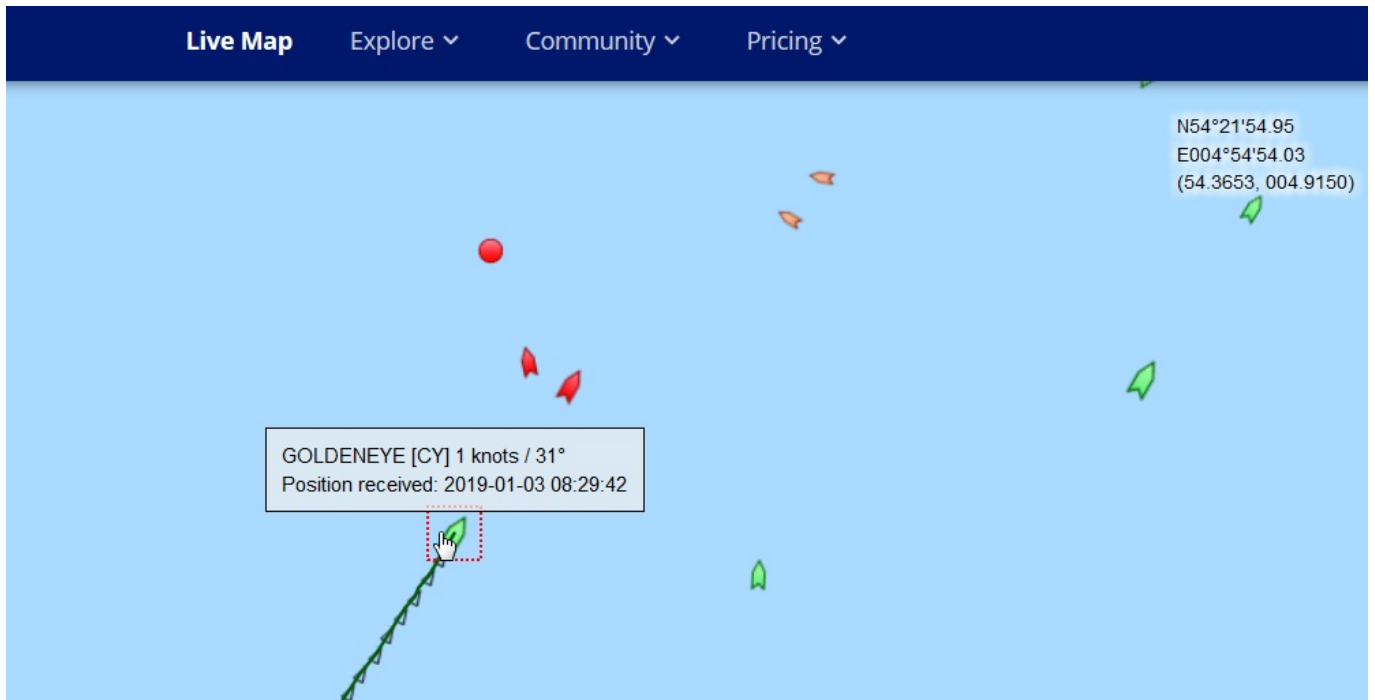
<>

Upload a photo
Ship Photos: 11

Distance Travelled ●●●●●

From there, you can see the latest position of the ship, its past track and even its forecasted route.





On the top right of the picture above, one can see the latitude and longitude of the ship, expressed both in DD and DMS. Feeding an online QRA locator calculator (e.g.

Degrees-minutes-seconds format:			
Latitude:	N	54	° 18 ' 04 "
Longitude:	E	4	° 51 ' 21 "
<input type="button" value="Convert"/>			
Decimal format:			
Latitude:	54.30126	°	Positive: North, negative: South.
Longitude:	4.85585	°	Positive: East, negative: West.
<input type="button" value="Convert"/>			
QTH locator:			
Locator string:	J024kh		
<input type="button" value="Convert"/>			
<input type="button" value="Get current location"/>			

www.giangrandi.ch) with these data and one get the QRA locator of the ship. In the present case, it was in J024KH. Again, this is possible provided the ship is under the coverage of a coastal AIS receiving station. Otherwise, satellite

positioning of the ships is also possible but this is a paying service !

End of January 2019, on his way from Estonia to Brazil, Yuri has activated again wet squares on 144 MHz. Yuri is transmitting with **20W** into a **5 elements antenna**. Hereby a screenshot from J035 :

WSJT-X v2.0.0 by K1JT

File Configurations View Mode Decode Save Tools Help

Band Activity					Rx Frequency				
UTC	dB	DT	Freq	Message	UTC	dB	DT	Freq	Message
145945	11	0.2	2191	~ CQ ON8SV JO20	145030	-10	-0.2	1877	~ CQ UT1FG/MM
150000	-17	0.1	1751	~ CQ PA5RH JO22	145119	Tx		1544	~ <UT1FG/MM> ON4KHG
150000	-6	-0.1	1880	~ DL1VPL <UT1FG/MM> -03	145120	Tx		1544	~ <UT1FG/MM> ON4KHG
150015	14	0.1	1048	~ CQ ON4WX JO20	145130	-9	-0.2	1882	~ UT1FG/MM JO35
150015	12	0.2	2191	~ CQ ON8SV JO20	145145	Tx		1544	~ <UT1FG/MM> ON4KHG
150030	-2	-0.1	1877	~ <DL1VPL> UT1FG/MM RRR	145200	-8	-0.1	1878	~ ON4KHG <UT1FG/MM> +06
150030	-10	0.1	2034	~ ON8SV PA3FMP JO22	145215	Tx		1544	~ <UT1FG/MM> ON4KHG R-08
150045	14	0.1	1048	~ CQ ON4WX JO20	145245	Tx		1544	~ <UT1FG/MM> ON4KHG R-08
150045	10	0.3	2192	~ CQ ON8SV JO20	145315	Tx		1544	~ <UT1FG/MM> ON4KHG R-08
150100	-15	0.1	2016	~ ON8SV PA3FMP JO22	145330	-16	-0.1	1866	~ <ON4KHG> UT1FG/MM RRR
					145345	Tx		1544	~ UT1FG/MM <ON4KHG> 73
					145400	-11	-0.1	1883	~ <ON4KHG> UT1FG/MM 73
					145415	Tx		1544	~ 73 TNX JO35
					145445	-6	0.2	1868	~ <UT1FG/MM> DF1JC
					150100	-13	-0.1	1873	~ <DL1VPL> UT1FG/MM 73
					150130	-13	-0.1	1872	~ UT1FG/MM JO35

CQ only Log QSO Stop Monitor Erase Decode Enable Tx Halt Tx Tune Menus

2m **144,174 000** Tx 1544 Hz Hold Tx Freq Rx 1866 Hz Report -16 Auto Seq

DX Call: UT1FG/MM DX Grid: JO35px Az: 19 638 km Lookup Add

2019 jan 30
15:04:05

Generate Std Msgs Next Now Pwr

- <UT1FG/MM> ON4KHG Tx 1
- <UT1FG/MM> ON4KHG -16 Tx 2
- <UT1FG/MM> ON4KHG R-16 Tx 3
- UT1FG/MM <ON4KHG> RRR Tx 4
- 73 TNX JO35 Tx 5
- CQ ON4KHG JO10 Tx 6

FT8 Last Tx: 73 TNX JO35 0/15 WD:20m

Many thanks to Yuri for activating all these wet squares !