SEMAPHORE

The Semaphore flag signaling system is an alphabet signaling system based on the waving of a pair of hand-held flags in a particular pattern.

The flags are held, arms extended, in various positions representing each of the letters of the alphabet. The pattern resembles a clock face divided into eight positions: up, down, out, high, low, for each of the left and right hands (LH and RH) six letters require the hand to be brought across the body so that both flags are on the same side.

One way to visualize the semaphore alphabet is in terms of circles:

- first circle: A, B, C, D, E, F, G;
- second circle: H, I, K, L, M, N (omitting J);
- third circle: O, P, Q, R, S;
- fourth circle: T, U, Y and 'annul';
- fifth circle: 'numeric', J (or 'alphabetic'), V;
- sixth circle: W, X;
- seventh circle: Z

In their first circle, the letters A to C are made with the right arm, and E to G with the left, and D with either as convenient. In the second circle, the right arm is kept still at the letter A position and the left arm makes the movements; similarly in the remaining circles, the right arm remains fixed while the left arm moves. The arms are kept straight when changing from one position to another.

	Phonetic Alphabet	Semaphore		Phonetic Alphabet
A	ALPHA pronounced AL FAH		E	ECHO pronounced ECK OH
В	BRAVO pronounced BRA VOH		F	FOXTROT pronounced FOKS TROT
С	CHARLIE pronounced CHAR LEE	▲	G	GOLF pronounced GOLF
D	DELTA pronounced DELL TAH		н	HOTEL pronounced HOH TELL

	Phonetic Alphabet	Semaphore		
Е	ECHO pronounced ECK OH			
F	FOXTROT pronounced FOKS TROT			
G	GOLF pronounced GOLF			
Н	HOTEL pronounced HOH TELL			

	Phonetic Alphabet	Semaphore		Phonetic Alphabet	Semaphore
I	INDIA pronounced IN DEE AH		R	ROMEO pronounced ROW ME OH	i
J	JULIET pronounced JEW LEE ET		S	SIERRA pronounced SEE AIR RAH	
к	KILO pronounced KEE LOH		Т	TANGO pronounced TANG GO	
L	LIMA pronounced LEE MAH		U	UNIFORM pronounced YOU NEE FORM	
М	MIKE pronounced MIKE	i	V	VICTOR pronounced VIK TAH	
N	NOVEMBER pronounced NO VEM BER	()	W	WHISKEY pronounced WISS KEY	
0	OSCAR pronounced OSS CAH		X	X-RAY pronounced ECKS RAY	Ŕ
Р	PAPA pronounced PAH PAH		Y	YANKEE pronounced YANG KEY	Ť,
Q	QUEBEC pronounced KEH BECK		Z	ZULU pronounced ZOO LOO	

Source: Semaphore Flag Signaling System (<u>http://www.anbg.gov.au/flags/semaphore.html</u>)