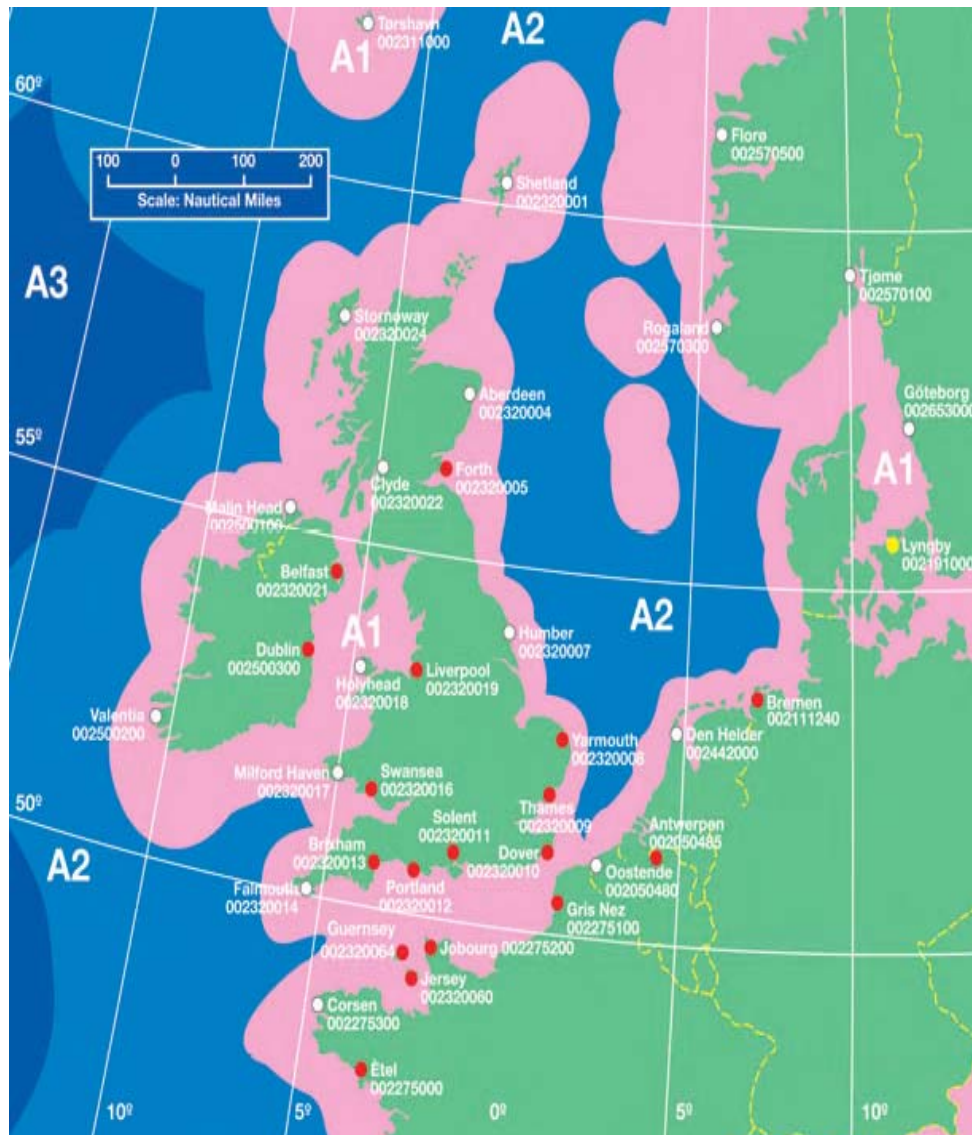


## GMDSS trading area as per Solas convention



**Area A1.** Within range of VHF coast stations with continuous DSC alerting available (about 20 - 30 miles).

**Area A2.** Beyond area A1, but within range of MF coastal stations with continuous DSC alerting available (about 150 miles).

**Area A3.** Beyond the first two areas, but within coverage of geostationary maritime communication satellites (in practice this means Inmarsat). This covers the area between roughly 70 deg N and 70 deg S.

**Area 4.** The remaining sea areas. The most important of these is the sea around the North Pole (the area around the South Pole is mostly land). Geostationary satellites, which are positioned above the equator, cannot reach this far.