



International Amateur Radio Union Region 1
General Conference - 16th to 21st November 2008 - Cavtat, Croatia



SUBJECT	RS/RST system		
Society	OeVSV	Country:	Austria
Committee:	C3	Paper number:	CT08_C3_46
Author:	Ron Eisenwagner, OE3REB		

The RS / RST system is generally used to describe amateur signals in the classic modes phone and telegraphy, respectively. Whereas nowadays the sound quality of CW signals generally is T9, if one disregards a few and very rare exceptions, R and S vary considerably, depending on technical parameters and the prevailing propagation conditions. Therefore, these values ought to be given as precisely as possible.

Commercial operators, however, use SINPO or just intelligibility (QSA) or readability (QSK). This is why, even in a pile-up, ÖVSV recommends to give realistic reports, and when PC keyboards or automatic keyers are used.

As PCs are ubiquitous in contest operations these days, contest reports tend to be 59 (phone) and 599 (CW), irrespective of the real signal quality and strength. In most cases, such reports have been pre-programmed in the software.

Therefore, ÖVSV suggests deliberations if such "standard reports" (59 and 599) do still make sense and could be eliminated altogether in a contest setting.