



Atlantic Coast DX & Contest Group July Challenge Award Criteria

Celebrate the 144th anniversary of the First International Telephone Call between St. Stephen, NB, and Calais, ME, by working on the special event callsign VC9T during July.

Award Period:

July 1 – July 31, 2025

Award Levels:

- Bronze Certificate: Contact VC9T on 3 different amateur radio bands during the award period.
- Silver Certificate: Contact VC9T on any 4 different amateur radio bands during the award period.
- Gold Certificate: Contact VC9T on any 5 different amateur radio bands during the award period.

Historical Background

The Ferry Point International Bridge, a vital border crossing between the United States and Canada, links St. Stephen, New Brunswick, and Calais, Maine. This area shares a rich history dating back to when Canada was a British dominion. On 1 July 1881, the first international telephone call was made between these two cities, marking a milestone in cross-border communications.

Western Union installed the first telephone exchange in St. Stephen in 1879 using Edison's system. Shortly after, Dominion Telegraph installed a competing, incompatible exchange. These companies later merged into Bell Telephone, which established the first international phone lines, including the historic link across the Ferry Point Bridge.

Celebrate this historic event by participating in the July Challenge and earning your certificate through successful contacts with VC9T on multiple bands!