



## INSTRUCTION MANUAL

# VHF MARINE TRANSCEIVER **IC-M601**



Icom Inc.

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## FOREWORD

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Thank you for purchasing this Icom product. The IC-M601 VHF MARINE TRANSCEIVER is designed and built with Icom's state of the art technology and craftsmanship. With proper care, this product should provide you with years of trouble-free operation.

We want to take a couple of moments of your time to thank you for making the IC-M601 your radio of choice, and hope you agree with Icom's philosophy of "technology first." Many hours of research and development went into the design of your IC-M601.

### ◇ **FEATURES**

#### ○ *Built-in DSC meets ITU Class D requirement*

An independent receiver continuously watches Ch. 70, while using another channel. Further, a single antenna connector allows VHF and Ch. 70 operation, thus simplifying installation. The 10-keypad allows simple and efficient operation of the DSC emergency functions, vital for your safety at sea.

#### ○ *Superior receiver performance*

The IC-M601 has excellent receive specifications of more than 75 dB for spurious response, and intermodulation

rejection. With such high level performance, received calls are remarkably clear and free from noise. The powerful audio output from the front facing speaker further increases the clarity of received calls.

#### ○ *Optional COMMANDMIC (2 systems are connectable)*

The optional COMMANDMIC provides a 2nd and 3rd station capability and an intercom function. With slim dimension and sizable LCD, the COMMANDMIC offers ease and convenience of operating the radio from remote locations such as the cockpit or tower up to a max. 21 m\* from the IC-M601.

\* Requires use of optional OPC-999 extension cables.

#### ○ *Large LCD with dot matrix characters*

The large dot-matrix display is designed for optimum readability in any lighting condition. With the extra large font, the channel number is maximized on the display and other information can be easily read.

#### ○ *Rugged waterproof construction*

The IC-M601 including the supplied (HM-137)/optional (HM-134) microphone has effective waterproofing equivalent to JIS waterproof grade 7\*.

\* 1 m/30 min; except cables.

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## IMPORTANT

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**READ THIS INSTRUCTION MANUAL CAREFULLY** before attempting to operate the transceiver.

**SAVE THIS INSTRUCTION MANUAL.** This manual contains important safety and operating instructions for the IC-M601.


**CLEAN THE TRANSCEIVER AND MICROPHONE THOROUGHLY WITH FRESH WATER** after exposure to water including salt water, otherwise, the keys and switches may become inoperable due to salt crystallization.


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## EXPLICIT DEFINITIONS

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WORD	DEFINITION
 <b>WARNING</b>	Personal injury, fire hazard or electric shock may occur.
<b>CAUTION</b>	Equipment damage may occur.
<b>NOTE</b>	If disregarded, inconvenience only. No risk or personal injury, fire or electric shock.

 Versions of the IC-M601 which display the “CE” symbol on the serial number seal, comply with the essential requirements of the European Radio and Telecommunication Terminal Directive 1999/5/EC.

 This warning symbol indicates that this equipment operates in non-harmonised frequency bands and/or may be subject to licensing conditions in the country of use. Be sure to check that you have the correct version of this radio or the correct programming of this radio, to comply with national licensing requirements.

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## IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

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If your vessel requires assistance, contact other vessels and the Coast Guard by sending a distress call on Channel 16.

### ***USING CHANNEL 16***

#### **DISTRESS CALL PROCEDURE**

1. "MAYDAY MAYDAY MAYDAY."
2. "THIS IS ....." (name of vessel)
3. Your call sign or other indication of the vessel (AND 9-digit DSC ID if you have one).
4. "LOCATED AT ....." (your position)
5. The nature of the distress and assistance required.
6. Any other information which might facilitate the rescue.

Or, transmit your distress call using digital selective calling on Channel 70.

### ***USING DIGITAL SELECTIVE CALLING (ch 70)***

#### **DISTRESS CALL PROCEDURE**

1. While lifting up the switch cover, push and hold [DISTRESS] for 5 sec. until you hear 5 short beeps change to one long beep.
2. Wait for an acknowledgment from a coast station.
  - Channel 16 is automatically selected.
3. Push and hold [PTT], then transmit the appropriate information as at left.

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## INSTALLATION NOTES HM-134 TEMPLATE

**1****2****3****4****5****6****7****8****9****10****11****12****13****14**

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## PRECAUTION

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**⚠ WARNING! NEVER** connect the transceiver to an AC outlet. This may pose a fire hazard or result in an electric shock.

**NEVER** connect the transceiver to a power source of more than 16 V DC or use reverse polarity. This will ruin the transceiver.

**NEVER** cut the DC power cable between the DC plug and fuse holder. If an incorrect connection is made after cutting, the transceiver may be damaged.

**NEVER** place the transceiver where normal operation of the vessel may be hindered or where it could cause bodily injury.

**KEEP** the transceiver at least 1 m away from the ship's navigation compass.

**DO NOT** use or place the transceiver in areas with temperatures below  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  or above  $+60^{\circ}\text{C}$  or in areas subject to direct sunlight, such as the dashboard.

**AVOID** the use of chemical agents such as benzine or alcohol when cleaning, as they may damage the transceiver surfaces.

**BE CAREFUL!** The transceiver rear panel will become hot when operating continuously for long periods.

Place the transceiver in a secure place to avoid inadvertent use by children.

**BE CAREFUL!** The transceiver, HM-137 and optional HM-134 employ waterproof construction, which corresponds to JIS waterproof specification, Grade 7 (1 m/30 min.). However, once the transceiver or microphone has been dropped, waterproofing cannot be guaranteed due to the fact that the case may be cracked, or the waterproof seal damaged, etc.

## ◆ PRIORITIES

- Read all rules and regulations pertaining to priorities and keep an up-to-date copy handy. Safety and distress calls take priority over all others.
- You must monitor Channel 16 when you are not operating on another channel.
- False or fraudulent distress signals are prohibited and punishable by law.

## ◆ PRIVACY

- Information overheard but not intended for you cannot lawfully be used in any way.
- Indecent or profane language is prohibited.

## ◆ RADIO LICENSES

### (1) SHIP STATION LICENSE

You must have a current radio station license before using the transceiver. It is unlawful to operate a ship station which is not licensed.

Inquire through your dealer or the appropriate government agency for a Ship-Radiotelephone license application. This government-issued license states the call sign which is your craft's identification for radio purposes.

### (2) OPERATOR'S LICENSE

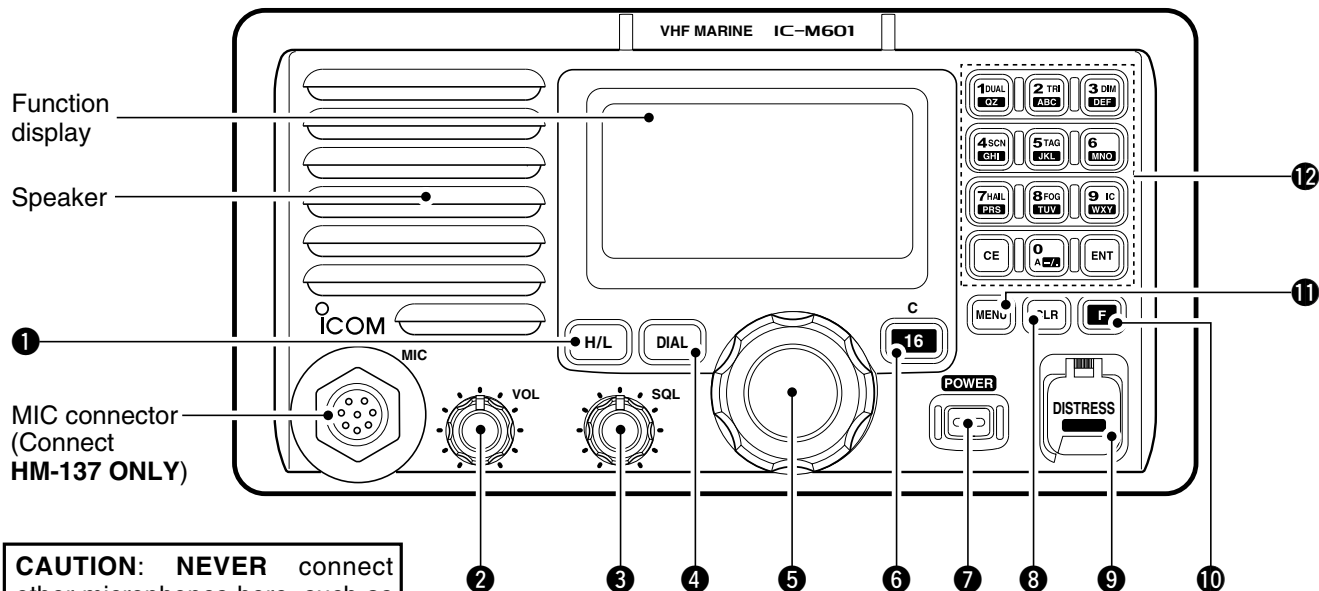
A Restricted Radiotelephone Operator Permit is the license most often held by small vessel radio operators when a radio is not required for safety purposes.

The Restricted Radiotelephone Operator Permit must be posted or kept with the operator. Only a licensed radio operator may operate a transceiver.

However, non-licensed individuals may talk over a transceiver if a licensed operator starts, supervises, ends the call and makes the necessary log entries.

Keep a copy of the current government rules and regulations handy.

## ■ Panel description



**CAUTION: NEVER** connect other microphones here, such as the optional HM-134, may cause damage to the transceiver.



## ❶ TRANSMIT POWER SWITCH [H/L]

- ➡ Toggles high or low power when pushed. (p. 10)
  - Some channels are set to low power only.
- ➡ While pushing this switch, some switches perform secondary function.

## ❷ VOLUME CONTROL [VOL] (p. 10)

Adjusts the audio level.

## ❸ SQUELCH CONTROL [SQL] (p. 10)

Sets the squelch threshold level.

## ❹ DIAL SWITCH [DIAL] (p. 9)

- ➡ Exits from Channel 16 or call channel when pushed momentarily. (p. 8)
- ➡ While pushing [H/L], push to select one of 2 regular channels in sequence. (p. 9)
  - International and U.S.A. channels are available for regular channels. (depends on version)

## ❺ CHANNEL SELECTOR [CHANNEL] (p. 10)

Rotate [CHANNEL] to select the operating channels, set mode contents, etc.

## ❻ CHANNEL 16/CALL CHANNEL SWITCH [16•C]

- ➡ Selects Channel 16 when pushed. (p. 8)
- ➡ Selects call channel when pushed for 1 sec. (p. 8)
  - "CALL" appears when call channel is selected.
- ➡ Push for 3 sec. to enter call channel programming condition when call channel is selected. (p. 11)
- ➡ While pushing [H/L], enters channel comment programming condition. (p. 11)
- ➡ While turning power ON, enters set mode when pushed and held. (p. 37)

## ❼ POWER SWITCH [POWER]

Push to turn the transceiver power ON or OFF.

## ❽ CLEAR SWITCH [CLR]

Push to cancel the entered function.

## ❾ DISTRESS SWITCH [DISTRESS] (p. 18)

Transmits distress call when pushed for 5 sec.

## ❿ FUNCTION SWITCH [F]

- After pushing, activates the secondary functions.
  - "F" appears when a secondary function can be accessed.

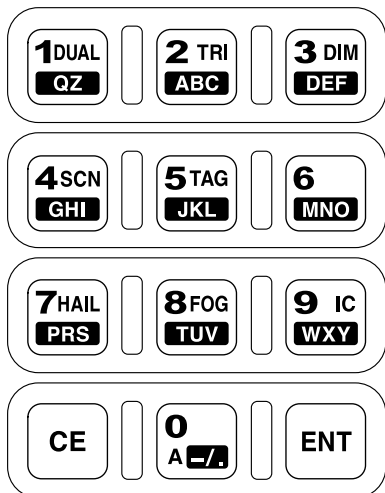
## ⓫ DSC MENU SWITCH [MENU] (p. 16)

- ➡ Toggles the DSC menu ON or OFF when pushed.

## 2 PANEL DESCRIPTION

### ⑫ KEYPAD

- Inputs numeral for channel number input, etc.
- Inputs numeral and alphabet (some symbol) for channel comment input.
- After pushing [**F**], turns the secondary function ON or OFF.
  - [3 DIM] is necessary to rotate [CHANNEL] after pushing.
  - Most of secondary function (except [5 TAG], [8 FOG]) can be cleared or cancelled when push [CLR] (ⓐ).



- Number input: '1'
- Comment input: '1,' 'Q,' 'Z,' 'q,' 'z' or space
- After pushing [**F**], turns the **DUALWATCH** function ON or OFF. (p. 13)



- Number input: '2'
- Comment input: '2,' 'A,' 'B,' 'C,' 'a,' 'b' or 'c'
- After pushing [**F**], turns the **TRI-WATCH** function ON or OFF. (p. 13)



- Number input: '3'
- Comment input: '3,' 'D,' 'E,' 'F,' 'd,' 'e' or 'f'
- After pushing [**F**], push this switch and rotate [CHANNEL] to adjust the brightness of the LCD and switch backlight.



- Number input: '4'
- Comment input '4,' 'G,' 'H,' 'I,' 'g,' 'h' or 'i'
- After pushing [**F**], starts or stops the **SCAN** function. (p. 15)

**Count on us!**

**< Intended Country of Use >**

☐ GER ☐ FRA ☐ ESP ☐ SWE  
☐ AUT ☐ NED ☐ POR ☐ DEN  
☐ GBR ☐ BEL ☐ ITA ☐ FIN  
☐ IRL ☐ LUX ☐ GRE ☐ SUI