



INSTRUCTION MANUAL

VHF MARINE TRANSCEIVER

IC-M304



Icom Inc.

FOREWORD

Thank you for purchasing this Icom radio. The IC-M304 VHF MARINE TRANSCEIVER is designed and built with Icom's state of the art technology and craftsmanship. With proper care, this radio should provide you with years of trouble-free operation.

We hope you agree with Icom's philosophy of "technology first." Many hours of research and development went into the design of your IC-M304.

◇ **FEATURES**

- *Large 2-digit Channel with scrolling comment*
- *New Force5Audio™ speaker*
- *Built-in DSC meets RTCM SC101 requirement*
- *Submersible construction*
- *Favorite channel function*
- *AquaQuake water draining function*

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IMPORTANT

READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS carefully and completely before using the transceiver.

SAVE THIS INSTRUCTION MANUAL — This instruction manual contains important operating instructions for the IC-M304.

EXPLICIT DEFINITIONS

WORD	DEFINITION
 WARNING!	Personal injury, fire hazard or electric shock may occur.
CAUTION	Equipment damage may occur.
NOTE	Recommended for optimum use. No risk of personal injury, fire or electric shock.

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.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

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 opening the key 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 listed above.

NOTE FOR U.S.A. VERSIONS

A WARNING STICKER is supplied with the transceiver.

To comply with FCC regulations, this sticker must be affixed in such a location as to be readily seen from the operating controls of the radio as in the diagram below. Make sure the chosen location is clean and dry before applying the sticker. (p. 32)

EXAMPLE



RADIO OPERATOR WARNING (Depends on the country)



Icom requires the radio operator to meet the FCC Requirements for Radio Frequency Exposure. An omnidirectional antenna with gain not greater than 9 dBi must be mounted a minimum of 5 meters (measured from the lowest point of the antenna) vertically above the main deck and

all possible personnel. This is the minimum safe separation distance estimated to meet all RF exposure compliance requirements. This 5 meter distance is based on the FCC Safe Maximum Permissible Exposure (MPE) distance of 3 meters added to the height of an adult (2 meters) and is appropriate for all vessels.

For watercraft without suitable structures, the antenna must be mounted so as to maintain a minimum of 1 meter vertically between the antenna, (measured from the lowest point of the antenna), to the heads of all persons AND all persons must stay outside of the 3 meter MPE radius.

Do not transmit with radio and antenna when persons are within the MPE radius of the antenna, unless such persons (such as driver or radio operator) are shielded from antenna field by a grounded metallic barrier. The MPE Radius is the minimum distance from the antenna axis that person should maintain in order to avoid RF exposure higher than the allowable MPE level set by FCC.

FAILURE TO OBSERVE THESE LIMITS MAY ALLOW THOSE WITHIN THE MPE RADIUS TO EXPERIENCE RF RADIATION ABSORPTION WHICH EXCEEDS THE FCC MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE EXPOSURE (MPE) LIMIT. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE RADIO OPERATOR TO ENSURE THAT THE MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE EXPOSURE LIMITS ARE OBSERVED AT ALL TIMES DURING RADIO TRANSMISSION. THE RADIO OPERATOR IS TO ENSURE THAT NO BYSTANDERS COME WITHIN THE RADIUS OF THE MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE EXPOSURE LIMITS.

Determining MPE Radius

THE MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE EXPOSURE (MPE) RADIUS HAS BEEN ESTIMATED TO BE A RADIUS OF ABOUT 3M PER OET BULLETIN 65 OF THE FCC. THIS ESTIMATE IS MADE ASSUMING THE MAXIMUM POWER OF THE RADIO AND ANTENNAS WITH A MAXIMUM GAIN OF 9dBi ARE USED FOR A SHIP MOUNTED SYSTEM.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREWORD	i
IMPORTANT	i
EXPLICIT DEFINITIONS	i
IN CASE OF EMERGENCY.....	ii
NOTE FOR U.S.A. VERSIONS	ii
RADIO OPERATOR WARNING (Depends on the country)	iii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	iv
PRECAUTIONS.....	v
1 OPERATING RULES	1
2 PANEL DESCRIPTION	2–4
■ Front panel	2
■ Microphone	3
■ Function display	4
3 BASIC OPERATION	5–9
■ Channel selection	5
■ Receiving and transmitting	7
■ Call channel programming	8
■ Channel comments	8
■ Microphone lock function	9
■ Display backlighting.....	9
■ AquaQuake water draining function	9
4 SCAN OPERATION	10–11
■ Scan types	10
■ Setting TAG channels	11
■ Starting a scan	11
5 DUALWATCH/TRI-WATCH	12
■ Description	12
■ Operation	12

6 DSC OPERATION	13–27
■ MMSI code programming	13
■ MMSI code check	13
■ DSC address ID	14
■ Position indication	15
■ Distress call	16
■ Transmitting DSC calls	17
■ Receiving DSC calls	24
7 SET MODE	28–30
■ Set mode programming	28
■ Set mode items	29
8 CONNECTIONS AND MAINTENANCE	31–34
■ Connections	31
■ Supplied accessories	32
■ Antenna	32
■ Fuse replacement	32
■ Cleaning	32
■ Mounting the transceiver	33
■ Optional MB-92 attachment	33
■ Optional MB-69 installation	34
9 TROUBLESHOOTING	35
10 CHANNEL LIST (U.S.A. Default)	36
11 SPECIFICATIONS AND OPTIONS	37–38
■ Specifications	37
■ Options	38
12 TEMPLATE	39

PRECAUTIONS

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

CAUTION: Changes or modifications to this device, not expressly approved by Icom Inc., could void your authority to operate this device under FCC regulations.

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 3.3 ft (1 m) away from the ship's navigation compass.

DO NOT use or place the transceiver in areas with temperatures below -4°F (-20°C) or above $+140^{\circ}\text{F}$ ($+60^{\circ}\text{C}$) 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 (except cables) and hand microphone employ waterproof construction, which corresponds to IPX7 of the international standard IEC 60529 (2001). However, once the transceiver 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.

Radio license for boaters

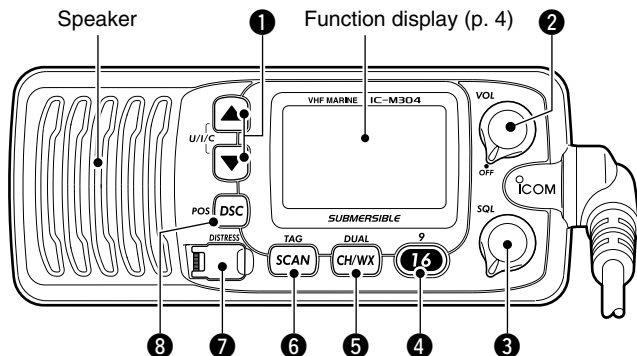
For U.S.A. only:

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 permits recreational boaters to have and use a VHF marine radio, EPIRB, and marine radar without having an FCC ship station license. Boaters traveling on international voyages, having an HF single sideband radiotelephone or marine satellite terminal, or required to carry a marine radio under any other regulation must still carry an FCC ship station license. For further information, see the FCC Ship Radio Stations Fact Sheet.

For International customers:

Please check your local Marine license regulations.

■ Front panel



① CHANNEL UP/DOWN KEYS [▲]/[▼]•[U/I/C]

- ➔ Selects the operating channels, Set mode settings, etc. (pgs. 5, 6, 28)
- ➔ While pushing and holding [SCAN], push to adjust the brightness of the LCD and key backlight. (p. 9)
- ➔ Selects one of three channel groups in sequence when both keys are pushed. (p. 6)
 - U.S.A., International and Canadian channels are available.
- ➔ While turning power ON, push and hold both keys to activate the AquaQuake function. (p. 9)

② POWER/VOLUME CONTROL [VOL] (p. 7)

Rotate to turn the transceiver power ON and OFF and adjusts the audio level.

③ SQUELCH CONTROL [SQL] (p. 7)

Rotate to set the squelch threshold level.

④ CHANNEL 16/CALL CHANNEL KEY [16•9]

- ➔ Push to select Channel 16. (p. 5)
- ➔ Push and hold for 1 sec. to select call channel. (p. 5)
 - “CALL” appears when the call channel is selected.
- ➔ Push and hold for 3 sec. to enter call channel programming condition when the call channel is selected. (p. 8)
- ➔ While pushing and holding [CH/WX], push to enter the channel comments programming condition. (p. 8)
- ➔ Push to move the cursor forward. (p. 8)
- ➔ While turning power ON, push to enter Set mode. (p. 28)

⑤ CHANNEL/WEATHER CHANNEL KEY [CH/WX•DUAL]

- ➔ Selects and toggles the regular channel and weather channel when pushed momentarily. (p. 6)
- ➔ Push and hold for 1 sec. to start Dualwatch or Tri-watch. (p. 12)
- ➔ Push to stop Dualwatch or Tri-watch when either is activated. (p. 12)
- ➔ Push to move the cursor backward. (p. 8)

Count on us!

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