



## INSTRUCTION MANUAL

# VHF MARINE TRANSCEIVER IC-M32

This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the condition that this device does not cause harmful interference.

Icom Inc.



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# SAFETY TRAINING INFORMATION

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Your Icom radio generates RF electromagnetic energy during transmit mode. This radio is designed for and classified as “Occupational Use Only”, meaning it must be used only during the course of employment by individuals aware of the hazards, and the ways to minimize such hazards. This radio is NOT intended for use by the “General Population” in an uncontrolled environment.

This radio has been evaluated for compliance at the distance of 2.5 cm (1 inch) with the FCC RF exposure limits for “Occupational Use Only”. In addition, your Icom radio complies with the following Standards and Guidelines with regard to RF energy and electromagnetic energy levels and evaluation of such levels for exposure to humans:

- FCC OET Bulletin 65 Edition 97-01 Supplement C, Evaluating Compliance with FCC Guidelines for Human Exposure to Radio Frequency Electromagnetic Fields.
- American National Standards Institute (C95.1-1992), IEEE Standard for Safety Levels with Respect to Human Exposure to Radio Frequency Electromagnetic Fields, 3 kHz to 300 GHz.
- American National Standards Institute (C95.3-1992), IEEE Recommended Practice for the Measurement of Potentially Hazardous Electromagnetic Fields— RF and Microwave.
- The following accessories are authorized for use with this product. Use of accessories other than those specified may result in RF exposure levels exceeding the FCC requirements for wireless RF exposure.; Belt Clip (MB-68/74/74N/87), Rechargeable Ni-Cd Battery Pack (BP-224), Li-ion Battery Pack (BP-252) and Alkaline Battery Case (BP-223).



**CAUTION**

**To ensure that your expose to RF electromagnetic energy is within the FCC allowable limits for occupational use, always adhere to the following guidelines:**

- **DO NOT** operate the radio without a proper antenna attached, as this may damaged the radio and may also cause you to exceed FCC RF exposure limits. A proper antenna is the antenna supplied with this radio by the manufacturer or antenna specifically authorized by the manufacturer for use with this radio.
- **DO NOT** transmit for more than 50% of total radio use time (“50% duty cycle”). Transmitting more than 50% of the time can cause FCC RF exposure compliance requirements to be exceeded. The radio is transmitting when the “TX indicator” lights red. You can cause the radio to transmit by pressing the “PTT” switch.
- **ALWAYS keep** the antenna at least 2.5 cm (1 inch) away from the body when transmitting and only use the Icom belt-clips which are listed on page 32 when attaching the radio to your belt, etc., to ensure FCC RF exposure compliance requirements are not exceeded. To provide the recipients of your transmission the best sound quality, hold the antenna at least 5 cm (2 inches) from your mouth, and slightly off to one side.

The information listed above provides the user with the information needed to make him or her aware of RF exposure, and what to do to assure that this radio operates with the FCC RF exposure limits of this radio.

## **Electromagnetic Interference/Compatibility**

During transmissions, your Icom radio generates RF energy that can possibly cause interference with other devices or systems. To avoid such interference, turn off the radio in areas where signs are posted to do so. **DO NOT** operate the transmitter in areas that are sensitive to electromagnetic radiation such as hospitals, aircraft, and blasting sites.

## **Occupational/Controlled Use**

The radio transmitter is used in situations in which persons are exposed as consequence of their employment provided those persons are fully aware of the potential for exposure and can exercise control over their exposure.

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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.
4. "LOCATED AT ....." (your position)
5. The nature of the distress and assistance required.
6. Any other information which might facilitate the rescue.

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## RECOMMENDATION

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**CLEAN THE TRANSCEIVER THOROUGHLY WITH FRESH WATER** after exposure to saltwater, and dry it before operation. Otherwise, the transceiver's keys, switches and controllers may become inoperable due to salt crystallization.

**NOTE: DO NOT** wash the transceiver in water if there is any reason to suspect the waterproofing may not be effective. For example, in cases where the battery pack rubber seal is damaged, the transceiver/battery pack is cracked or broken, or has been dropped, or when the battery pack is detached from the transceiver.



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## FOREWORD

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Thank you for purchasing this Icom product. The IC-M32 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.

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## IMPORTANT

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**READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS** carefully and completely before using the transceiver.

**SAVE THIS INSTRUCTION MANUAL**—This instruction manual contains important operating instructions for the IC-M32.

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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 of personal injury, fire or electric shock.

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## FEATURES

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### **Waterproof construction**

Built tough to withstand the punishing marine environment, the transceiver's submersible construction meets IPX7\* requirements for waterproof protection (1 meter depth for 30 min.).

\* Only when the battery pack and flexible antenna are attached.

### **Dualwatch and tri-watch functions**

Convenient functions which allow you to monitor the distress channel (Ch 16) while receiving a channel of your choice—dual watch; or monitor the distress channel and another channel while receiving a channel of your choice—tri-watch.

### **Large, easy-to-read LCD**

With dimensions of 16(H) × 32(W) mm; 5/8(H) × 1 1/4(W) inch, the IC-M32's function display is easy to read and shows operating conditions at a glance. Backlighting and contrast can be adjusted to suit your preferences.

### **Simple operation**

9 large buttons on the front panel provide user-friendly operation. The independent volume and channel buttons are located on the front panel for convenient one-hand operation.

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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.

**⚠ WARNING! NEVER** hold the transceiver so that the antenna is closer than 2.5 cm from exposed parts of the body, especially the face or eyes, while transmitting. The transceiver will perform best if the microphone is 5 to 10 cm (2 to 4 inches) away from the lips and the transceiver is vertical.

**⚠ WARNING! NEVER** connect the transceiver to a power source other than the BP-223, BP-224, or BP-252. Such a connection will ruin the transceiver.

**DO NOT** use or place the transceiver in direct sunlight or in areas with temperatures below  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $-4^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) or above  $+60^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $+140^{\circ}\text{F}$ ).

**KEEP** the transceiver out of the reach of children.

**KEEP** the transceiver at least 0.9 meters (3.0 ft) away from your vessel's magnetic navigation compass.

**BE CAREFUL!** The transceiver's right-side panel will become hot when operating continuously for long periods.

**BE CAREFUL!** The transceiver meets IPX7\* requirements for waterproof protection. However, once the transceiver has been dropped, waterproof protection cannot be guaranteed because of possible damage to the transceiver's case or the waterproof seal.

\* Only when the battery pack and flexible antenna are attached.

**MAKE SURE** the flexible antenna and battery pack are securely attached to the transceiver, and that the antenna and battery pack are dry before attachment. Exposing the inside of the transceiver to water will result in serious damage to the transceiver.

*For U.S.A. only*

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

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## ◇ 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 calls are prohibited under 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

When your craft is equipped with a VHF FM transceiver, 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. This license includes 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 near the transceiver or be 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.

A current copy of the applicable government rules and regulations is only required to be on hand for vessels in which a radio telephone is compulsory. However, even if you are not required to have these on hand it is your responsibility to be thoroughly acquainted with all pertinent rules and regulations.

**NOTE:** Even though the IC-M32 is capable of operation on VHF marine channels 3, 21, 23, 61, 64, 81, 82 and 83, according to FCC regulations these simplex channels cannot be lawfully used by the general occupational in USA waters.

## ■ Supplied accessories

The following accessories are supplied:

	Qty.
• Flexible antenna.....	1
• Handstrap.....	1
• Belt clip.....	1
• Battery pack.....	1
• Battery charger (with 2 screws).....	1
• AC adapter.....	1

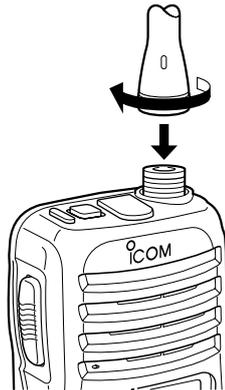
## ■ Attachments

### ◇ Flexible antenna

Connect the supplied flexible antenna to the antenna connector.

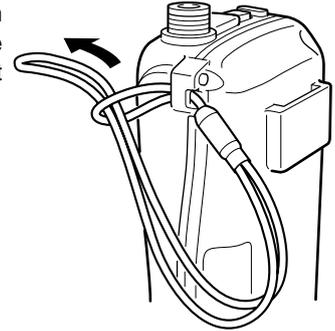
#### CAUTION:

- **NEVER** carry the transceiver by holding the antenna.
- Transmitting without an antenna may damage the transceiver.



### ◇ Handstrap

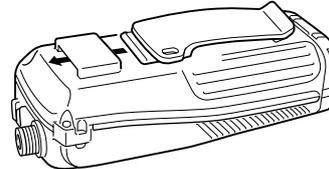
Pass the handstrap through the loop on the side of the transceiver as illustrated at right. Facilitates carrying.



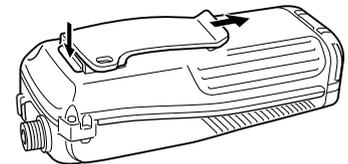
### ◇ Belt clip

Attach the belt clip to the transceiver as illustrated below.

To attach the belt clip



To remove the belt clip



◇ **Battery pack**

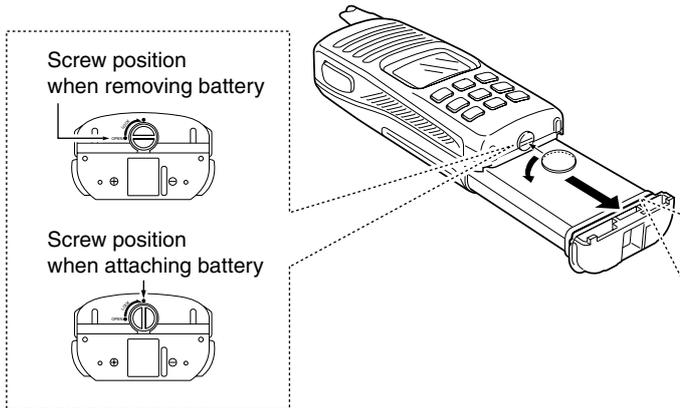
*To remove the battery pack:*

Turn the screw counterclockwise, then pull the battery pack in the direction of the arrow as shown below.

*To attach the battery pack:*

Insert the battery pack in the IC-M32 completely, then turn the screw clockwise.

**NEVER** remove or insert the battery pack when the transceiver is wet or soiled. This may result water or dust getting into the transceiver/battery pack and may result in the transceiver being damaged.

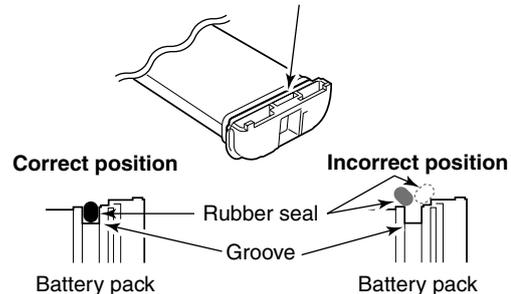


**NOTE:** When removing or attaching the battery pack, use a coin or flat-blade screwdriver to loosen or tighten the bottom screw.

**CAUTION:** When attaching or removing a battery pack, make sure the rubber seal is set in the groove of the battery pack correctly. If the seal is not neatly in the groove it may be damaged when attaching the battery pack. If the seal is damaged, waterproofing is not guaranteed.

**NOTE:** When attaching a battery pack, make sure dust or else does not adhere to the rubber seal. If dust or else is on the seal when attaching a battery pack, the water resistant may be reduced.

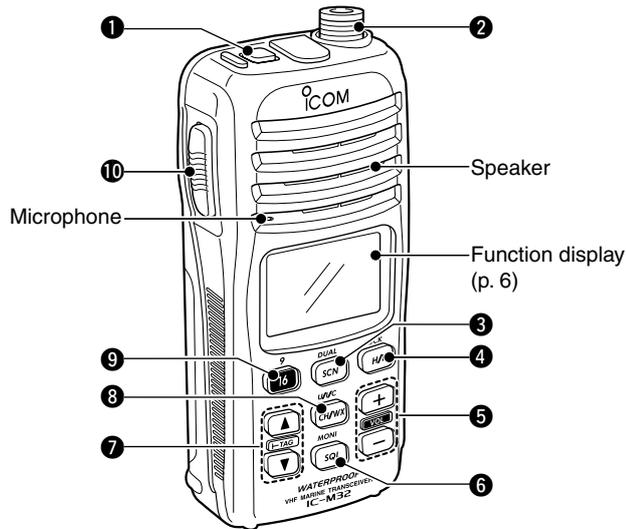
Make sure both the rubber seal (purple) is set to the groove correctly and dust or else does not adhere to it.



# 3

## PANEL DESCRIPTION

### ■ Front, top and side panels



#### ❶ POWER SWITCH [PWR]

Push and hold to turn power ON and OFF.

#### ❷ ANTENNA CONNECTOR (p. 2)

Connects the supplied antenna.

#### ❸ SCAN/DUAL KEY [SCN•DUAL]

- Starts and stops normal or priority scan. (p. 15)
- Enters watch mode when pushed for 1 sec. (p. 16)
- Exits watch mode when pushed during watch operation. (p. 16)

#### ❹ TRANSMIT POWER/LOCK KEY [H/L•LOCK]

- Selects high or low power when pushed. (p. 11)
- Toggles the lock function ON/OFF when pushed for 1 sec. (p. 13)

#### ❺ VOLUME UP/DOWN KEYS [+]/[-]•[VOL]

- Adjusts the volume level. (p. 10)
- After pushing [SQL•MONI], push to adjust the squelch level. (p. 10)

#### ❻ SQUELCH KEY [SQL•MONI]

- Push this key, then adjust the squelch level with [+]/[-]. (p. 10)
- Manually opens the squelch for monitoring the channel while pushed and held. (p. 13)
- While pushing this key, turn power ON to enter the set mode. (p. 17)

**7 CHANNEL UP/DOWN KEYS [▲]/[▼]•[TAG]**

- Selects an operating channel. (pgs. 8, 9)
- Selects the SET mode condition of the item. (p. 17)
- Checks tag channels or changes scanning direction during scan. (p. 15)
- Sets or clears the displayed channel as a tag (scanned) channel when pushed both keys for 1 sec. (p. 15)
- While turning power ON, clears all tag channels in the selected channel group when both keys are pushed. (p. 15)

**8 CHANNEL/WEATHER CHANNEL KEY [CH/WX•U/I/C]**

- Toggles the regular channels and weather channel when pushed. (p. 9)
- Selects one of 3 (or 2\*) regular channel groups in sequence when pushed for 1 sec. (p. 9)
  - U.S.A., International and Canadian\* channels are available.
  - \*Canadian channels are available for the USA version only.
- Push to return to the channel selection before selecting the channel 16 or the call channel with [16•9].

**9 CHANNEL 16 KEY [16•9]**

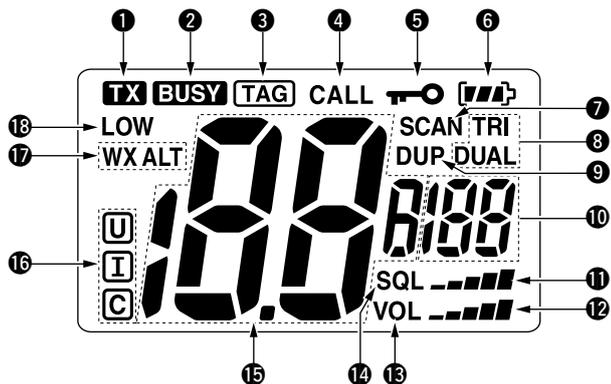
- Selects Channel 16 when pushed. (p. 8)
- Selects the call channel when pushed for 1 sec. (p. 8)
  - Channel 9 is factory default.
- Enters call channel programming condition when the call channel is selected and this key is pushed for 3 sec. (p. 12)
- Exits set mode when pushed during set mode operation. (p. 17)

**10 PTT SWITCH [PTT]**

Push and hold to transmit; release to receive.

### 3 PANEL DESCRIPTION

## ■ Function display



- 1 TRANSMIT INDICATOR** (p. 11)  
Appears while transmitting.
- 2 BUSY INDICATOR**  
Appears when receiving a signal or when the squelch opens. (p. 11)  
“BUSY” blinks while monitoring. (p. 13)
- 3 TAG CHANNEL INDICATOR** (p. 15)  
Appears when a tag channel is selected.
- 4 CALL CHANNEL INDICATOR** (p. 8)  
Appears when the call channel is selected.

- 5 LOCK INDICATOR** (p. 13)  
Appears while the lock function is activated.

- 6 BATTERY INDICATOR**  
Indicates remaining battery power.

Indication	[█ █ █]	[█ █ ]	[█ ]	[ ]
Battery level	Full	Middle	Charging required	No battery

[█ █ █] blinks when the battery over charged.

[ ] blinks when the battery is exhaustion.

- 7 SCAN INDICATOR** (p. 15)  
Blinks while scanning.
- 8 DUALWATCH/TRI-WATCH INDICATORS** (p. 16)  
“DUAL” appears during dualwatch; “TRI” appears during tri-watch.
- 9 DUPLEX INDICATOR**  
Appears when a duplex channel is selected.
- 10 SUB CHANNEL READOUT**
  - Indicates Channel 16 during priority scan, dualwatch or tri-watch. (p. 16)
  - Indicates the SET mode item while in SET mode. (p. 17)
  - Indicates the squelch level while squelch setting. (p. 10)
  - Indicates the volume level while volume setting. (p. 10)

**11 SQUELCH LEVEL INDICATOR**

Shows the squelch level.

**12 VOLUME LEVEL INDICATOR**

Shows the volume level.

**13 VOLUME LEVEL ADJUSTING INDICATOR**

Blinks while adjusting the volume level.

**14 SQUELCH LEVEL ADJUSTING INDICATOR**

Blinks while adjusting the squelch level.

**15 CHANNEL NUMBER READOUT**

- Indicates the selected operating channel number.
- In SET mode, indicates the selected condition.

**16 CHANNEL GROUP INDICATOR (p. 9)**

“U” appears when U.S.A.; “I” appears when International; “C” appears when Canadian channel group is selected.

**17 WEATHER CHANNEL/WEATHER ALERT INDICATORS (p. 9)**

- “WX” appears when the weather channel group is selected.
- “ALT” appears while the weather alert function is activated; blinks when the alert tone is received.

**18 LOW POWER INDICATOR (p. 11)**

- “LOW” appears when low power is selected.
- “LOW” blinks when switching forced low power mode because of a high temperature error or low voltage.

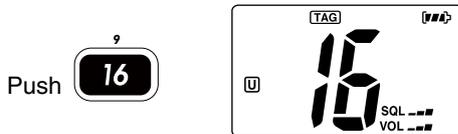
## ■ Channel selection

**IMPORTANT:** Prior to using the transceiver for the first time, the battery pack must be fully charged for optimum life and operation. To avoid damage to the transceiver, turn the power OFF while charging.

### ◇ Channel 16

Channel 16 (Distress channel) is used for establishing initial contact with another station and for emergency communications. Channel 16 is automatically monitored during both du-alwatch and tri-watch. While standing by, you must monitor Channel 16.

- ① Push [16•9] to select Channel 16.
- ② Push [CH/WX•U/I/C] to return to the condition before selecting Channel 16, or push [▲]/[▼] to select the operating channel.



### ◇ Channel 9 (Call channel)

Channel 9 is the leisure-use call channel. Each regular channel group has separate call channels. In addition, the call channel is monitored during tri-watch. The call channels can be re-programmed (p. 12) and are used to store your most often used channels in each channel group for quick recall.

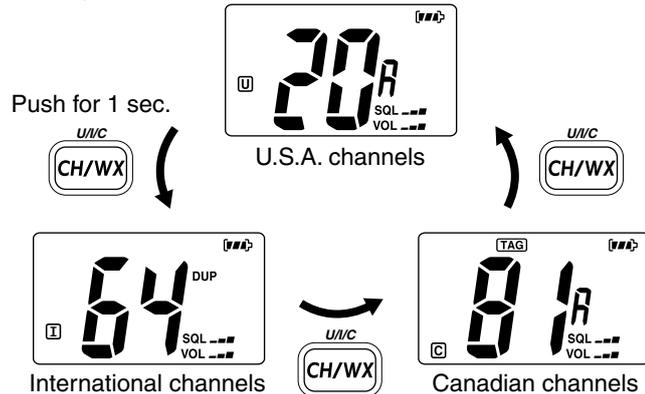
- ① Push [16•9] for 1 sec. to select the call channel in the selected channel group.
  - “CALL” and the call channel number appear.
  - Each channel group may have its own call channel after programming a call channel. See the “Call channel programming” on p. 12 for details.
- ② Push [CH/WX•U/I/C] to return to the condition before selecting Channel 9 (call channel), or push [▲]/[▼] to select the operating channel.



◇ **U.S.A., International and Canadian channels**

There are 57 U.S.A., 57 International, and 61 Canadian channels. These channel groups may be specified for the operating area.

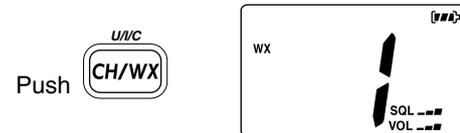
- ① Push [CH/WX•U/I/C] to select a regular channel.
  - If a weather channel appears, push [CH/WX•U/I/C] again.
- ② Push [▲]/[▼] to select a channel.
  - “DUP” appears for duplex channels.
- ③ To change the channel group, push [CH/WX•U/I/C] for 1 sec.
  - U.S.A., International and Canadian channels can be selected in sequence.



◇ **Weather channels**

There are 10 weather channels. They are used for monitoring weather channels from the NOAA (National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration) broadcasts (reception of weather channels possible in USA only).

- ① Push [CH/WX•U/I/C] to select the weather channel group.
- ② Push [▲]/[▼] to select a weather channel.
- ③ Push [CH/WX•U/I/C] to return to the condition before selecting the weather channel group.



✓ **CONVENIENT!**

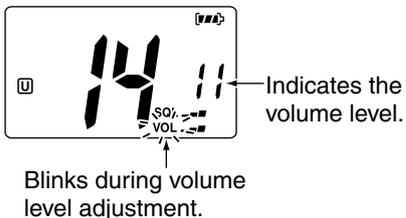
The IC-M32 can detect a weather alert tone on the selected weather channel while in another channel (when the power save function is turned ON) or during scanning. See the “SET mode items” on p. 18 for details.

### ■ Adjusting the volume level

The volume level can be adjusted with [ + ]/[ - ].

➔ Push [ + ]/[ - ] to adjust the volume level.

- “VOL” indicator starts blinking.
- There are 32 volume levels to choose.
- When no key is pushed for 5 sec., the transceiver returns to normal condition.

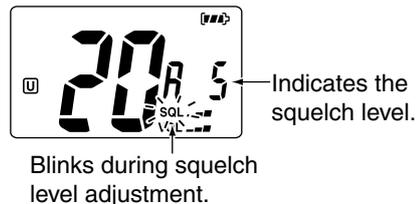


### ■ Adjusting the squelch level

The IC-M32 has a squelch level adjustment, even though there is no control knob for it. In order to receive signals properly, as well as for the scan to function effectively, the squelch must be adjusted to the proper level.

① Push [SQL•MONI], then adjust the squelch level with [ + ]/[ - ].

- “SQL” indicator starts blinking.
- There are 11 squelch levels to choose from: OP is completely open; 10 is tight squelch; 1 is loose squelch level.
- When no key is pushed for 5 sec., the transceiver returns to normal condition.



② Push [SQL•MONI] again to return to normal condition.

#### ✓ CONVENIENT!

The squelch level adjustment key can be selected from [▲]/[▼] and [ + ]/[ - ] with following operation.

- While pushing both [SQL•MONI] and [▲], turn the power ON to set [▲]/[▼] to the squelch level adjustment key.
- While pushing both [SQL•MONI] and [ + ], turn the power ON to set [ + ]/[ - ] to the squelch level adjustment key.

## ■ Receiving and transmitting

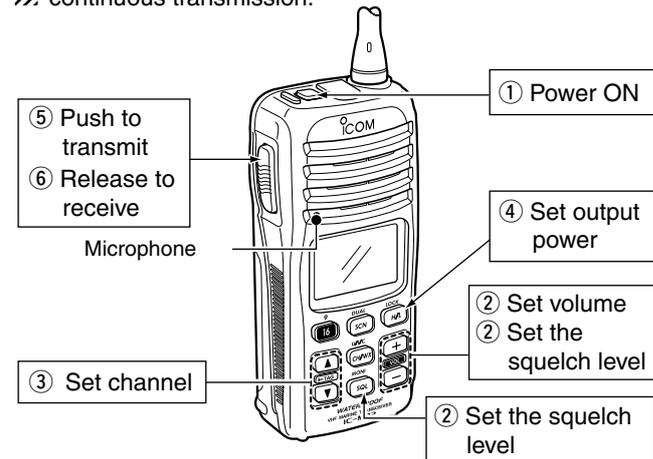
**CAUTION:** Transmitting without an antenna may damage the transceiver.

- ① Push and hold [PWR] to turn power ON.
- ② Set the volume and squelch levels.
  - ➔ Push [SQL•MONI], and push [-] to open the squelch.
  - ➔ Push [SQL•MONI] to stop “SQL” indicator blinking, then push [+]/[-] to set the volume level.
  - ➔ Push [SQL•MONI], and push [+]/[-] to set the squelch level.
- ③ Push [▲]/[▼] to select the desired channel.
  - When receiving a signal, “**BUSY**” appears and audio is emitted from the speaker.
  - Further adjustment of the volume may be necessary at this point.
- ④ Push [H/L•LOCK] to select the output power if necessary.
  - “LOW” appears when low power is selected; no indication when high power is selected.
  - Choose low power to conserve battery power, choose high power for longer distance communications.
  - Some channels are for low power only.
- ⑤ Push and hold [PTT] to transmit, then speak into the microphone.
  - “**TX**” appears.
  - Channel 70 cannot be used for transmission.
- ⑥ Release [PTT] to receive.

**IMPORTANT:** To maximize the readability of your transmitted signal, pause a few sec. after pushing [PTT], hold the microphone 5 to 10 cm (2 to 4 inches) from your mouth and speak into the microphone at a normal voice level.

**NOTE:** The transceiver has a power save function to conserve the battery power. The power save function activates automatically when no signal is received for 5 sec.

**For U.S.A version:** To prevent accidental prolonged transmission, etc., the IC-M32 has a time-out timer function. This timer cuts a transmission OFF after 5 min. of continuous transmission.

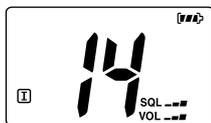


## 4 BASIC OPERATION

### ■ Call channel programming

The call channel key is used to select Channel 9 by default, however, you can program your most often-used channel in each channel group for quick recall.

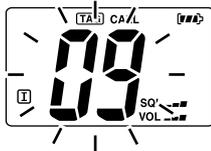
- ① Push [CH/WX•U/I/C] for 1 sec. several times to select the desired channel group (USA, INT, CAN) to be programmed.



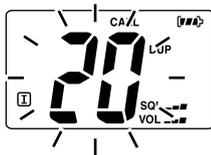
- ② Push [16•9] for 1 sec. to select the call channel.  
• "CALL" and call channel number appear.



- ③ Push [16•9] again for 3 sec. (until a long beep changes to 2 short beeps) to enter call channel programming condition.  
• Call channel number to be programmed flashes.



- ④ Push [▲]/[▼] to select the desired channel.



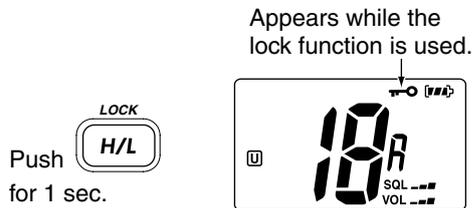
- ⑤ Push [16•9] to program the displayed channel as the call channel.  
• The call channel number stop flashing.



## ■ Lock function

This function electronically locks all keys (except for [+]/[-], [PTT], [SQL•MONI] and [H/L•LOCK]) to prevent accidental channel changes and function access.

- ➔ Push [H/L•LOCK] for 1 sec. to turn the lock function ON and OFF.



## ■ Automatic backlighting

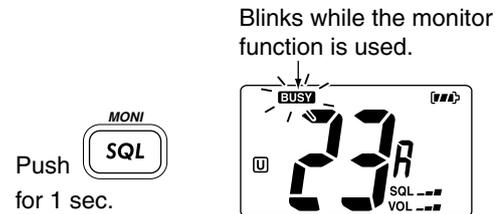
This function is convenient for nighttime operation. The automatic backlighting can be activated in SET mode. (p. 20)

- ➔ Push any key except for [PTT] to turn the backlighting ON.
  - The backlighting is automatically turned OFF after 5 sec. of inactivity.

## ■ Monitor function

The monitor function releases the noise squelch mute. See p. 19 for details of the monitor switch action.

- ➔ Push [SQL•MONI] for 1 sec. to activate the monitor function.
  - "BUSY" blinks and audio is emitted.

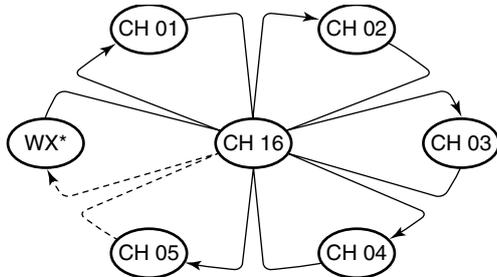


## ■ Scan types

Scanning is an efficient way to locate signals quickly over a wide frequency range. The transceiver has priority scan and normal scan.

In addition, the weather alert and auto scan function is available for standby convenience. These functions can be activated simultaneously, depending on the settings in SET mode. (pgs. 18, 19)

### PRIORITY SCAN



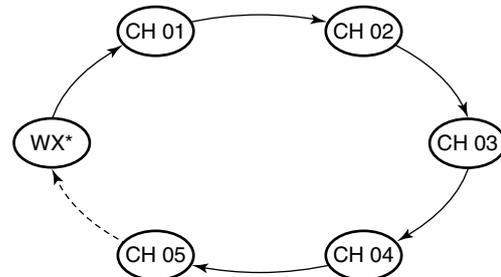
\* Previously selected weather channel when weather alert function is ON

Priority scan searches through all tag channels in sequence while monitoring Channel 16. When a signal is detected on Channel 16, scan pauses until the signal disappears; when a signal is detected on a channel other than Channel 16, scan becomes dualwatch until the signal disappears.

Set the tag channels (scanned channel) before scanning. Clear the tag channels which inconveniently stop scanning, such as digital communications.

/// Choose priority or normal scan in SET mode. (p. 18)

### NORMAL SCAN



\* Previously selected weather channel when weather alert function is ON.

Normal scan, like priority scan, searches through all tag channels in sequence. However, unlike priority scan, Channel 16 is not checked unless Channel 16 is set as a tag channel.

## ■ Setting tag channels

For more efficient scanning, add desired channels as tag channels or clear the tag for unwanted channels. Non-tag channels will be skipped during scanning. Tag channels can be assigned to each channel group (USA, INT, CAN) independently.

- ① Select the desired channel group (USA, INT, CAN) by pushing [CH/WX•U/I/C] for 1 sec., if desired.
- ② Select the desired channel to set as a tag channel.
- ③ Push both [▲] and [▼] for 1 sec. to set the displayed channel as a tag channel.
  - “TAG” appears in the function display.
- ④ To cancel the tag channel setting, push both [▲] and [▼] for 1 sec.
  - “TAG” disappears.

### ✓ Clearing all tag channels in the selected channel group

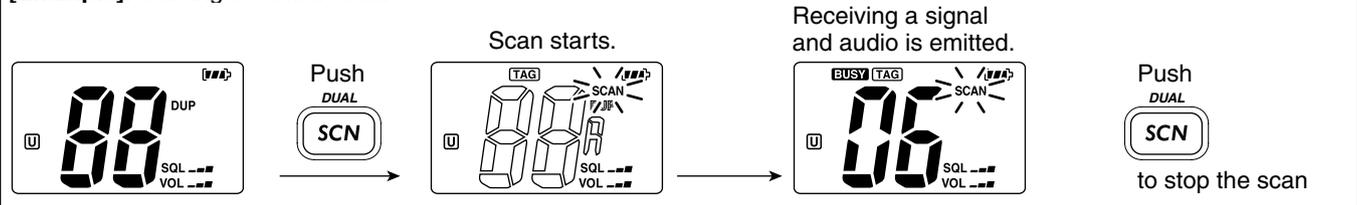
While pushing and holding both [▲] and [▼], turn power ON to clear all tag channels in the channel group.

## ■ Starting a scan

Set the weather alert function, priority scan function, scan resume timer and auto scan function in advance, using SET mode. (pgs. 18, 19)

- ① Select the desired channel group (USA, CAN, INT) by pushing [CH/WX•U/I/C] for 1 sec., if desired.
  - When the weather alert function is in use, select the desired weather channel with [CH/WX•U/I/C] and [▲]/[▼].
- ② Push [SCN•DUAL] to start priority or normal scan.
  - “SCAN” blinks in the function display.
  - “16” appears on the sub channel readout during priority scan.
  - When a signal is received, scan pauses until the signal disappears or resumes after pausing 5 sec. according to scan resume timer setting. (Channel 16 is still monitored during priority scan.)
  - Push [▲]/[▼] to check the scanning tag channels, change the scanning direction or resume the scan manually.
- ③ To stop the scan, push [SCN•DUAL].
  - “SCAN” disappears.
  - Pushing [PTT], [16•9] or [CH/WX•U/I/C] also stops the scan.

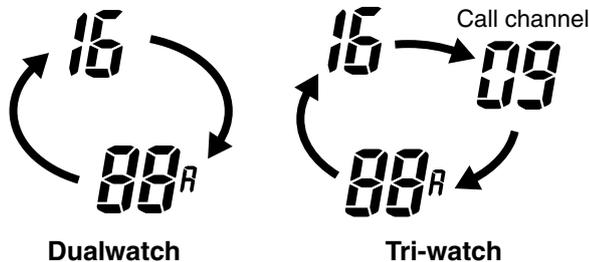
[Example]: Starting a normal scan.



## ■ Description

Dualwatch monitors Channel 16 while you are receiving another channel; tri-watch monitors Channel 16 and the call channel while receiving another channel.

### DUALWATCH/TRI-WATCH SIMULATION

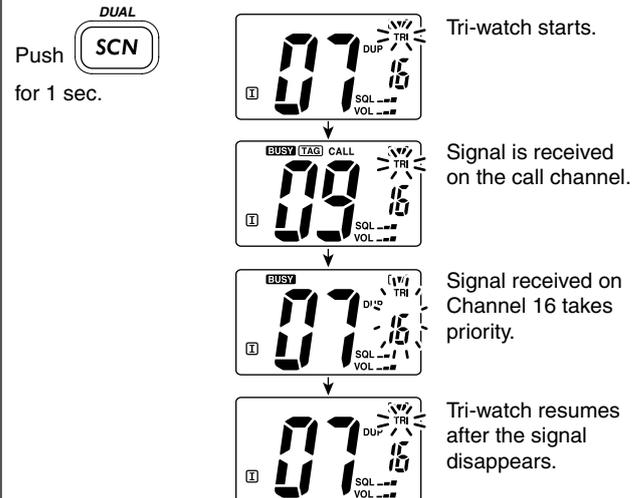


- If a signal is received on Channel 16, dualwatch/tri-watch pauses on Channel 16 until the signal disappears.
- If a signal is received on the call channel during tri-watch, tri-watch becomes dualwatch until the signal disappears.
- To transmit on the selected channel during dualwatch/tri-watch, push and hold [PTT].

## ■ Operation

- ① Select the desired operating channel.
- ② Push [SCN•DUAL] for 1 sec. to start dualwatch or tri-watch (depending on SET mode setting).
  - “DUAL” blinks during dualwatch; “TRI” blinks during tri-watch.
  - A beep tone sounds when a signal is received on Channel 16.
  - Tri-watch becomes dualwatch when receiving a signal on the call channel.
- ③ To cancel dualwatch/tri-watch, push [SCN•DUAL] again.

[Example]: Operating tri-watch on INT channel 07.

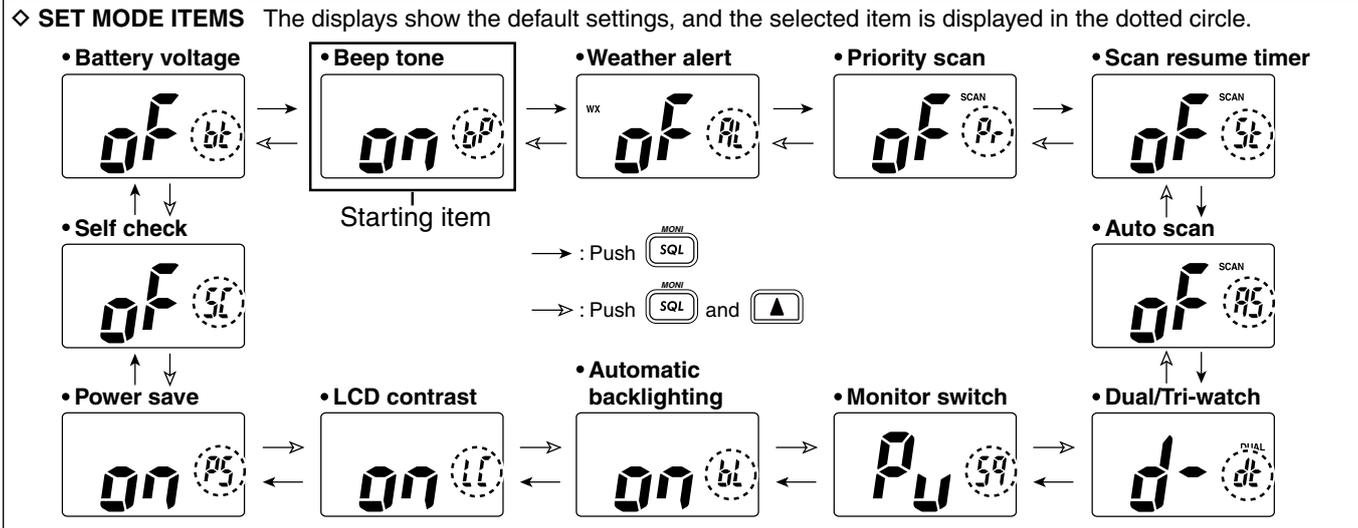


## ■ SET mode programming

SET mode is used to change the condition of 12 transceiver functions: Beep tone function, Weather alert function, Priority scan function, Scan resume timer, Auto scan function, Monitor switch action, Automatic backlighting, LCD contrast selection, Auto power save function, Self check function and Battery voltage indicator.

### ◇ SET mode operation

- ① Turn power OFF.
- ② While pushing [SQL•MONI], turn power ON to enter SET mode.
  - “bp” appears.
- ③ Push [SQL•MONI] or [SQL•MONI] and [▲] to select the desired item, if necessary.
- ④ Push [▲]/[▼] to select the desired condition of the item.
- ⑤ To exit SET mode, push [16•9].

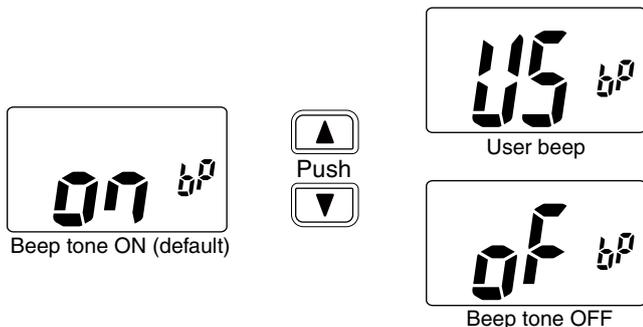


## ■ SET mode items

### ◇ Beep tone function “bP”

You can select silent operation by turning the beep tones OFF, or you can have 2 types of confirmation beeps sound at the push of a switch. When ON is selected, a fixed beep (Pi) sounds, and when US is selected, the preset beeps (e.g. do, re, mi) sound.

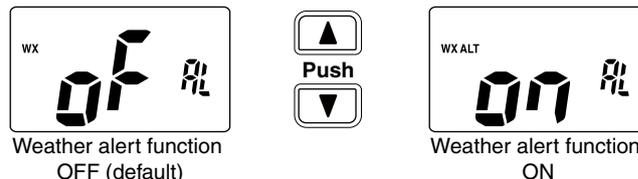
- Beep tone synchronises with the volume level.
- The beeps sound during call channel programming and a weather alert tone indication even if this function is turned OFF.



### ◇ Weather alert function “AL”

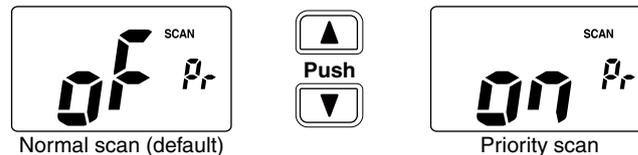
An NOAA broadcast station transmits a weather alert tone before any important weather announcements. When the weather alert function is turned ON, the transceiver detects the alert, the alert indicator (“ALT”) blinks and sounds a beep tone until the transceiver is operated. The previously selected (used) weather channel is checked any time during standby, or while scanning, when the power save function is activated.

- “ALT” appears when the function is set ON.



### ◇ Priority scan function “Pr”

The transceiver has 2 scan types—normal (OFF) and priority (ON) scans. Normal scan searches all tag channels in the selected channel group. Priority scan searches all tag channels in sequence while monitoring Channel 16.

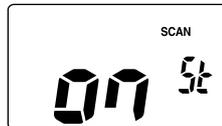


◇ Scan resume timer “St”

The scan resume timer can be set as a pause (OFF) or timer scan (ON). When OFF is selected, the scan pauses until a received signal disappears. When ON is selected, the scan pauses for 5 sec. after receiving a signal and then resumes even if the signal has been received.



Scan resume timer OFF (default)



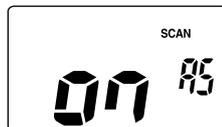
Scan resume timer ON

◇ Auto scan function “AS”

The Auto scan function starts the desired scan automatically when no signal is received, and no operation is performed for 30 sec.



Auto scan OFF (default)



Auto scan ON

◇ Dual/Tri-watch function “dt”

This item selects dual or tri-watch as desired. See p. 16 for details.



Dualwatch function (default)



Tri-watch function

◇ Monitor switch action “Sq”

The monitor switch action cuts off the squelch function temporarily. This switch action contains PUSH (Pu) or HOLD (Ho) settings as shown below.

- Pu (PUSH): After pushing the [SQL•MONI] for 1 sec., the squelch opens and emits audio. The squelch is held open while continuously pushing and holding [SQL•MONI]. (default)
- Ho (HOLD): After pushing the [SQL•MONI] for 1 sec., the squelch opens and emits audio even [SQL•MONI] is released. To close the squelch, push any key.



Push setting (default)



Hold setting

## 7 SET MODE

### ◇ Automatic backlighting “bL”

This function is convenient for nighttime operation. The automatic backlighting turns the backlighting ON when any key except for [PTT] is pushed.

- The backlighting is automatically turned OFF after 5 sec. of inactivity.



Auto backlighting ON  
(default)



Auto backlighting OFF

### ◇ LCD contrast selection “LC”

The contrast of the LCD can be turned ON (high contrast) and OFF (low contrast).



LCD contrast ON  
(default)



LCD contrast OFF

### ◇ Power save function “PS”

The power save function reduces current drain by deactivating the receiver circuit for preset intervals.

- ON : The power save function is turned ON. The power save function will activate when no signal is received, and no operation is performed for 5 sec.
- OFF: The power save function is turned OFF.



Power save ON  
(default)



Power save OFF

◇ **Self check function “SC”**

The self check function checks transceiver conditions by itself, and informs you in case a problem is found. The following items are checked after the power is turned ON, then it switches to operation mode.

- Temperature : Outside of  $-25^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $+65^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;  $-13^{\circ}\text{F}$  to  $+149^{\circ}\text{F}$  (approx.)
- Connected battery voltage
- Water intrusion

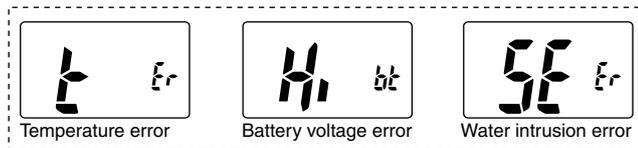


Self check OFF (default)



Self check ON

When error messages as shown below are displayed, see troubleshooting for advice. (p. 29)



◇ **Battery voltage indicator “bt”**

The voltage of the connected battery pack can be turned ON (displayed for 2 sec.) or OFF (non-displayed) after power is turned ON.



Battery voltage indication OFF (default)



Battery voltage indication ON

## 7 SET MODE

**SET MODE LIST**

<b>Function</b>	<b>Indication</b>	<b>Switch</b>
Beep tone function	"bP"	OFF / ON* / US
Weather alert function	"AL"	OFF* / ON
Priority scan function	"Pr"	OFF* / ON
Scan resume timer	"St"	OFF* / ON
Auto scan function	"AS"	OFF* / ON
Dual/Tri-watch function	"dt"	Dual* / Tri
Monitor switch action	"Sq"	Push* / Hold
Automatic backlighting	"bL"	OFF / ON*
LCD contrast selection	"LC"	OFF / ON*
Power save function	"PS"	OFF / ON*
Self check function	"SC"	OFF* / ON
Battery voltage indicator	"bt"	OFF* / ON

\*Default setting

## ■ Battery charging

/// Please refer to the BC-162 instruction manual when charging the BP-252 Li-ion BATTERY PACK with the BC-162 DESKTOP CHARGER.

Prior to using the transceiver for the first time, the battery pack must be fully charged for optimum life and operation.

/// **CAUTION:** To avoid damage to the transceiver, turn the power OFF while charging.

- Recommended temperature range for charging:  
+10°C to +40°C (+50°F to +104°F)
- Use the specified chargers (BC-150, BC-119N and BC-121N). **NEVER** use another manufacture's charger.
- Use the supplied AC adapter for the BC-150. **NEVER** use another manufacture's adapters.

/// **NEVER** connect DC power to the battery case when installing alkaline batteries. Such a connection will damage the transceiver.

## ◇ Recycling information (U.S.A. only)



The product that you have purchased contains a rechargeable battery. The battery is recyclable. At the end of its life, under various state and local laws, it may be illegal to dispose of this battery into the municipal waste stream. Call 1-800-822-8837 for battery recycling options in your area or contact your dealer.

## ■ Battery caution

**CAUTION! NEVER** insert battery pack/transceiver (with the battery pack attached) with wet or soiled into the charger. This may result in corrosion of the charger terminals or damage to the charger. The charger is not waterproof and water can easily get into it.

**NEVER** incinerate used battery pack. Internal battery gas may cause an explosion.

**NEVER** immerse battery pack in water. If the battery pack becomes wet, be sure to wipe it dry BEFORE attaching it to the transceiver.

**NEVER** short the terminals of the battery pack. Also, current may flow into nearby metal objects, such as a necklace, etc. Therefore, be careful when carrying with, or placing near metal objects, carrying in handbags, etc.

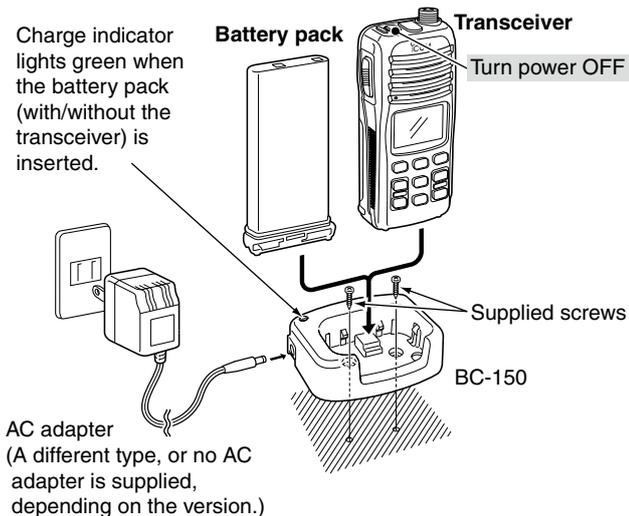
If your battery pack seem to have no capacity even after being charged, completely discharge them by leaving the power ON overnight. Then, fully charge the battery pack again. If the batteries still do not retain a charge (or very little), new battery pack must be purchased.

## 8 BATTERY CHARGING

### ◇ Charging connections

- ① Attach the BC-150 to a flat surface, such as a desk or cabin, etc., if desired.
- ② Connect the AC adapter as shown below.
- ③ Insert the battery pack with/without the transceiver into the charger.
  - The charge indicator lights green.
- ④ Charge the battery pack approx. 8 hours, depending on the remaining power condition.

**DO NOT** charge BP-224 more than 12 hours. Otherwise, BP-224 will be damaged. BP-224 must be charged for 8–12 hours only.



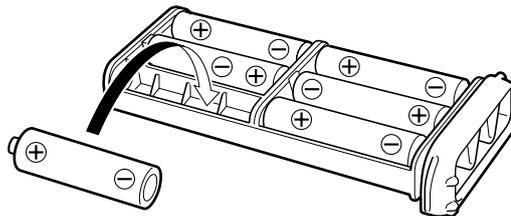
### ■ Optional battery case

When using a battery case attached to the transceiver, install 6 × AA(R6) size alkaline batteries as illustrated below.

- ① Remove the battery case from the transceiver.
- ② Install 6 × AA(R6) size alkaline batteries.
  - Be sure to observe the correct polarity.

#### CAUTION:

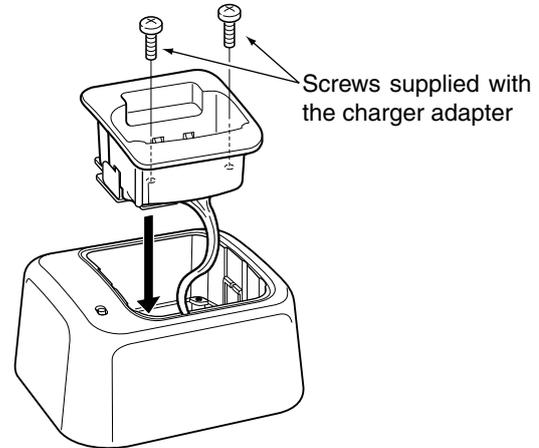
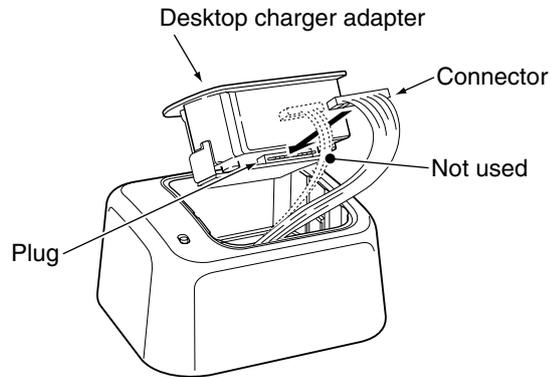
- When installing batteries, make sure they are all the same brand, type and capacity. Also, do not mix new and old batteries together.
- Keep battery contacts clean. It's a good idea to clean battery terminals once a week.



## ■ Optional battery chargers

### ◇ AD-103 installation

- ① Install the AD-103 desktop charger adapter into the holder space of the BC-119N/121N.
- ② Connect the plugs of the BC-119N/121N to the AD-103 desktop charger adapter with the connector, then install the adapter into the charger with the supplied screws.

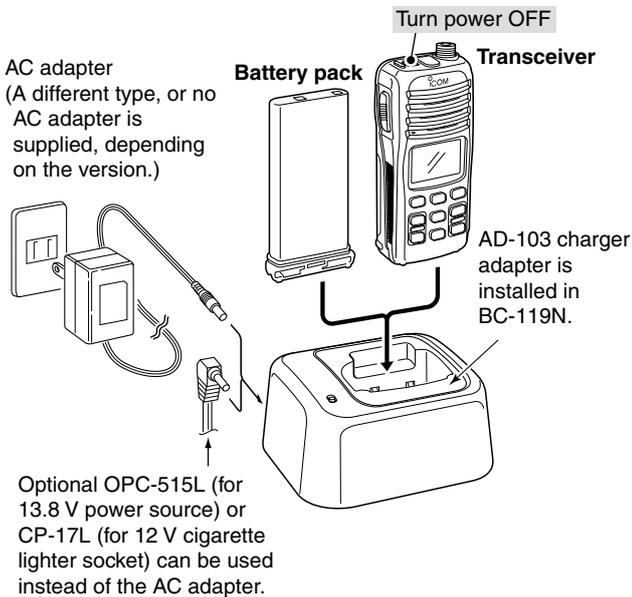


## 8 BATTERY CHARGING

### ◇ Rapid charging with the BC-119N+AD-103

The optional BC-119N provides rapid charging of battery packs. The following are additionally required.

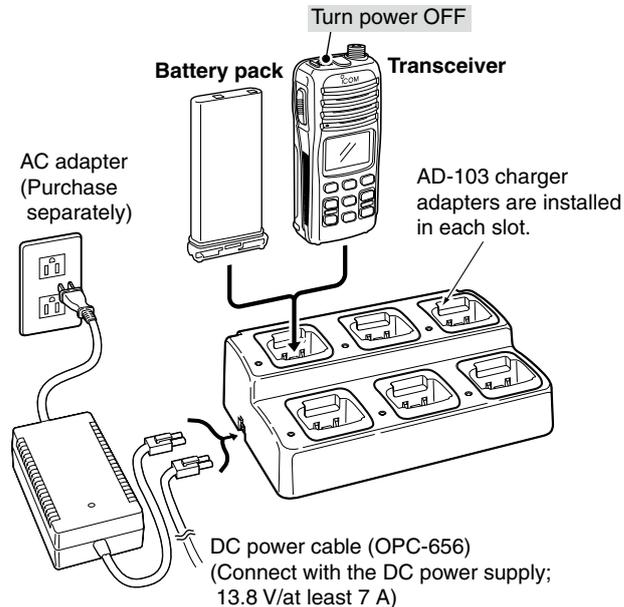
- AD-103 charger adapter
- An AC adapter (may be supplied with BC-119N depending on version) or the DC power cable (OPC-515L/CP-17L).



### ◇ Rapid charging with the BC-121N+AD-103

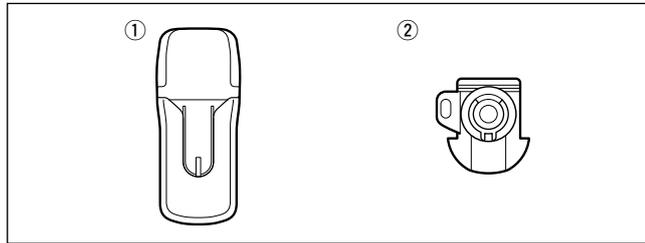
The optional BC-121N allows up to 6 battery packs to be charged simultaneously. The following are additionally required.

- Six AD-103 charger adapters
- An AC adapter (BC-157) or the DC power cable (OPC-656)



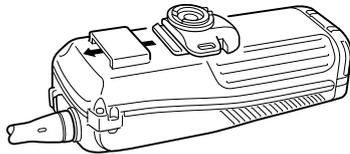
## ■ MB-87 contents

	Qty.
① Belt clip .....	1
② Base clip .....	1

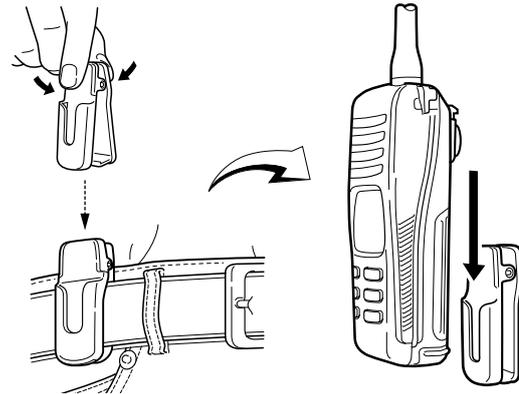


## ■ To attach

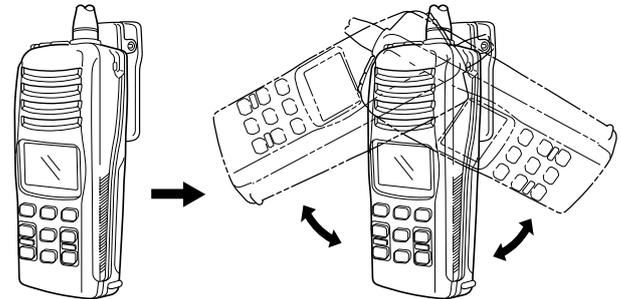
- ① Slide the base clip into the plastic loop on the back of the transceiver as illustrated below.



- ② Clip the belt clip to a part of your belt and insert the transceiver into the belt clip until the base clip fitting into the groove.



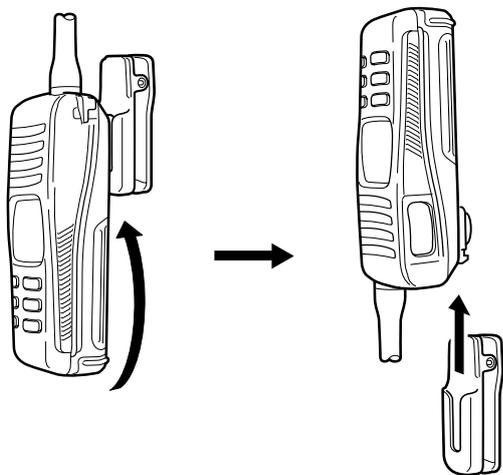
- ③ Once the transceiver is locked in place, it swivels as illustrated below.



## 9 SWIVEL BELT CLIP

### ■ To detach

- Turn the transceiver upside down in the direction of the arrow and pull out from the belt clip.



**CAUTION:**  
**HOLD THE TRANSCEIVER TIGHTLY, WHEN HANGING OR DETACHING THE TRANSCEIVER FROM THE BELT CLIP.**

Otherwise the transceiver may not be attached to the holder or swivelled properly if the transceiver is accidentally dropped and the base clip is scratched or damaged.

PROBLEM	POSSIBLE CAUSE	SOLUTION	REF.
The transceiver does not turn ON.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The battery is exhausted.</li> <li>Bad connection to the battery pack.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recharge the battery pack.</li> <li>Check the connection to the transceiver.</li> </ul>	p. 23 p. 3
No sound from speaker.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Squelch level is too deep.</li> <li>Volume level is too low.</li> <li>Speaker has been exposed to water.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Set squelch to the threshold point.</li> <li>Push [+]/[-] to set a suitable level.</li> <li>Drain water from the speaker.</li> </ul>	p. 10 p. 10 —
Transmitting is impossible, or high power can not be selected.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some channels are for low power or receive only.</li> <li>The battery is exhausted.</li> <li>The battery over charged.</li> <li>The output power is set to low.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change channels.</li> <li>Recharge the battery pack.</li> <li>Verify the battery voltage is correct.</li> <li>Push [H/L•LOCK] to select high power.</li> </ul>	pgs. 8, 9, 30 p. 23 — p. 11
The displayed channel cannot be changed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lock function is activated.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Push [H/L•LOCK] for 1 sec. to cancel the function.</li> </ul>	p. 13
Scan does not start.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“TAG” channels are not programmed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Set the desired channels as “TAG” channels.</li> </ul>	p. 15
No beeps.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beep tones are turned OFF.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Set the beep tones to ON (Fix Beep/User Beep) in SET mode.</li> </ul>	p. 18
Self check error. (Temperature)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The temperature is outside of <math>-25^{\circ}\text{C}</math> to <math>+65^{\circ}\text{C}</math>; <math>-13^{\circ}\text{F}</math> to <math>+149^{\circ}\text{F}</math> (approx)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leave the transceiver at room temperature for a while. Turn the power ON to check if the internal temperature has returned to normal.</li> </ul>	—
Self check error. (Battery voltage)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The connected battery pack's voltage is more than 11 V.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Verify the battery voltage is correct.</li> </ul>	—
Self check error. (Water intrusion)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water has entered the transceiver.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have the transceiver checked at your local distributor or dealer to see whether the transceiver works properly or not.</li> </ul>	—

# 11 VHF MARINE CHANNEL LIST

Channel number			Frequency (MHz)	
USA	INT	CAN	Transmit	Receive
	01	01	156.050	160.650
01A			156.050	156.050
	02	02	156.100	160.700
	03	03	156.150	160.750
03A			156.150	156.150
	04		156.200	160.800
		04A	156.200	156.200
	05		156.250	160.850
05A		05A	156.250	156.250
06	06	06	156.300	156.300
	07		156.350	160.950
07A		07A	156.350	156.350
08	08	08	156.400	156.400
09	09	09	156.450	156.450
10	10	10	156.500	156.500
11	11	11	156.550	156.550
12	12	12	156.600	156.600
13*	13	13*	156.650	156.650
14	14	14	156.700	156.700
15*	15*	15*	156.750	156.750
16	16	16	156.800	156.800
17*	17	17*	156.850	156.850
	18		156.900	161.500
18A		18A	156.900	156.900
	19		156.950	161.550

Channel number			Frequency (MHz)	
USA	INT	CAN	Transmit	Receive
19A		19A	156.950	156.950
20	20	20*	157.000	161.600
20A			157.000	157.000
	21	21	157.050	161.650
21A		21A	157.050	157.050
	22		157.100	161.700
22A		22A	157.100	157.100
	23	23	157.150	161.750
23A			157.150	157.150
24	24	24	157.200	161.800
25	25	25	157.250	161.850
26	26	26	157.300	161.900
27	27	27	157.350	161.950
28	28	28	157.400	162.000
	60	60	156.025	160.625
	61		156.075	160.675
61A		61A	156.075	156.075
	62		156.125	160.725
		62A	156.125	156.125
	63		156.175	160.775
63A			156.175	156.175
	64	64	156.225	160.825
64A		64A	156.225	156.225
	65		156.275	160.875
65A	65A	65A	156.275	156.275

Channel number			Frequency (MHz)	
USA	INT	CAN	Transmit	Receive
	66		156.325	160.925
66A	66A	66A*	156.325	156.325
67*	67	67	156.375	156.375
68	68	68	156.425	156.425
69	69	69	156.475	156.475
70	70	70	Rx only	156.525
71	71	71	156.575	156.575
72	72	72	156.625	156.625
73	73	73	156.675	156.675
74	74	74	156.725	156.725
77*	77	77*	156.875	156.875
	78		156.925	161.525
78A		78A	156.925	156.925
	79		156.975	161.575
79A		79A	156.975	156.975
	80		157.025	161.625
80A		80A	157.025	157.025
	81		157.075	161.675
81A		81A	157.075	157.075
	82		157.125	161.725
82A		82A	157.125	157.125
	83	83	157.175	161.775
83A		83A	157.175	157.175
84	84	84	157.225	161.825
84A			157.225	157.225

Channel number			Frequency (MHz)	
USA	INT	CAN	Transmit	Receive
85	85	85	157.275	161.875
85A			157.275	157.275
86	86	86	157.325	161.925
86A			157.325	157.325
87	87	87	157.375	161.975
87A			157.375	157.375
88	88	88	157.425	162.025
88A			157.425	157.425
		21b	Rx only	161.650
		25b	Rx only	161.850
		28b	Rx only	162.000
		83b	Rx only	161.775
WX channel		Frequency (MHz)		
		Transmit	Receive	
1		RX only	162.550	
2		RX only	162.400	
3		RX only	162.475	
4		RX only	162.425	
5		RX only	162.450	
6		RX only	162.500	
7		RX only	162.525	
8		RX only	161.650	
9		RX only	161.775	
10		RX only	163.275	

\*Low power only.

**NOTE:** Simplex channels 3, 21, 23, 61, 64, 81, 82 and 83 **CANNOT** be lawfully used by the general occupational in USA waters.

## ◇ GENERAL

- Frequency coverage : Transmit 156.025–157.425 MHz  
Receive 156.050–163.275 MHz
- Mode : FM (16K0G3E)
- Channel spacing : 25 kHz
- Power supply requirement : BP-223, BP-224 and BP-252 only
- Current drain (at 7.5 V DC) : TX High (5 W) 1.5 A typical.  
Max. audio 200 mA typical  
Power save 20 mA typical
- Frequency stability :  $\pm 10$  ppm ( $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $+60^{\circ}\text{C}$ )
- Useable temperature range :  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $+60^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;  $-4^{\circ}\text{F}$  to  $+140^{\circ}\text{F}$
- Dimensions : 61 (W)  $\times$  135(H)  $\times$  41(D) mm  
(Projections not included)  $2\frac{13}{32}$ (W)  $\times$   $5\frac{5}{16}$ (H)  $\times$   $1\frac{5}{8}$ (D) inch
- Weight (with BP-224) : Approx. 360 g (12.7 oz)

## ◇ TRANSMITTER

- Output power (at 7.5 V DC) : 5 W (Hi) and 1 W (Low)
- Modulation system : Variable reactance frequency
- Max. frequency deviation :  $\pm 5$  kHz
- Adjacent channel power : 70 dB
- Spurious emissions : Less than  $-68$  dBc

## ◇ RECEIVER

- Receive system : Double-conversion  
superheterodyne
- Sensitivity (12 dB SINAD) : 0.25  $\mu\text{V}$  typical
- Squelch sensitivity : Less than 0.35  $\mu\text{V}$  (at threshold)
- Intermodulation rejection ratio : 70 dB typical
- Spurious response rejection ratio : 70 dB typical
- Adjacent channel selectivity : 70 dB typical
- Audio output power : 0.35 W typical at 10% distortion  
with an 8  $\Omega$  load

**All stated specifications are subject to change without notice or obligation.**

# 13 OPTIONS

## ◇ BATTERY CASE AND PACK

- **BP-223** BATTERY CASE  
Battery case for 6 × AA (R6) alkaline cells.
- **BP-224** Ni-Cd BATTERY PACK  
Voltage : 7.2 V  
Capacity : 750 mAh
- **BP-252** LI-ION BATTERY PACK  
Voltage : 7.4 V  
Capacity : 950 mAh (minimum) / 980 mAh (typical)

## ◇ CHARGERS

- **BC-119N** DESKTOP CHARGER + **AD-103** CHARGER ADAPTER  
+ **BC-145** AC ADAPTER  
For rapid charging of battery packs. An AC adapter is supplied with the charger depending on versions.  
Charging time: approx. 1.5 to 2 hours
- **BC-121N** MULTI-CHARGER + **AD-103** CHARGER ADAPTER (6 pcs.)  
+ **BC-157** AC ADAPTER  
For rapid charging of up to 6 battery packs (six AD-103's are required) simultaneously. An AC adapter should be purchased separately.  
Charging time: approx. 1.5 to 2 hours.
- **BC-150** DESKTOP CHARGER + **BC-147** AC ADAPTER  
Used for regular charging of battery pack.  
Charging time: approx. 8 hours
- **BC-162** DESKTOP CHARGER + **BC-145** AC ADAPTER  
Used for rapid charging of battery pack.  
Charging time: approx. 1 to 2 hours.

## ◇ BELT CLIPS

- **MB-68** BELT CLIP
- **MB-74N** BELT CLIP  
Exclusive alligator-type belt clip.
- **MB-87** SWIVEL BELT CLIP  
Belt clip for swivel type.

## ◇ DC CABLES

- **CP-17L** CIGARETTE LIGHTER CABLE  
Allows to charge the battery pack through a 12 V cigarette lighter socket. (For BC-119N)
- **OPC-515L/OPC-656** DC POWER CABLES  
Allows to charge the battery pack using 13.8 V power source instead of the AC adapter.  
OPC-515L: For BC-119N  
OPC-656 : For BC-121N

Icom optional equipment is designed for optimal performance when used with this transceiver. We are not responsible for the transceiver being damaged or any accident caused when using non-Icom optional equipment.

Some options may not available in some countries. Please ask your dealer for details.



**Count on us!**

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**Icom Inc.**  
1-1-32 Kamiminami, Hirano-ku, Osaka 547-0003, Japan