
RADIO OPERATOR WARNING



WARNING

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 VESSEL MOUNTED SYSTEM.

5.7. RF EXPOSURE REQUIREMENTS [RSS-102]

The criteria listed in the following table shall be used to evaluate the environmental impact of human exposure to radio-frequency (RF) radiation.

TABLE 1—LIMITS FOR MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE EXPOSURE (MPE)

Frequency range (MHz)	Electric field strength (V/m)	Magnetic field strength (A/m)	Power density (mW/cm ²)	Averaging time (minutes)
(A) Limits for Occupational/Controlled Exposures				
0.3–3.0	614	1.63	*(100)	6
3.0–30	1842/f	4.89/f	*(900/f ²)	6
30–300	61.4	0.163	1.0	6
300–1500 .....	.....	.....	f/300	6
1500–100,000 .....	.....	.....	5	6
(B) Limits for General Population/Uncontrolled Exposure				
0.3–1.34	614	1.63	*(100)	30
1.34–30	824/f	2.19/f	*(180/f ²)	30
30–300	27.5	0.073	0.2	30
300–1500 .....	.....	.....	f/1500	30
1500–100,000 .....	.....	.....	1.0	30

f = frequency in MHz

* = Plane-wave equivalent power density

NOTE 1 TO TABLE 1: Occupational/controlled limits apply in situations in which persons are exposed as a consequence of their employment provided those persons are fully aware of the potential for exposure and can exercise control over their exposure. Limits for occupational/controlled exposure also apply in situations when an individual is transient through a location where occupational/controlled limits apply provided he or she is made aware of the potential for exposure.

NOTE 2 TO TABLE 1: General population/uncontrolled exposures apply in situations in which the general public may be exposed, or in which persons that are exposed as a consequence of their employment may not be fully aware of the potential for exposure or can not exercise control over their exposure.

Calculation Method of RF Safety Distance:

$$S = PG/4\pi r^2 = EIRP/4\pi r^2$$

- Where:
- P: power input to the antenna in mW
 - EIRP: Equivalent (effective) isotropic radiated power.
 - S: power density mW/cm²
 - G: numeric gain of antenna relative to isotropic radiator
 - r: distance to centre of radiation in cm

$$r = \sqrt{PG/4\pi S}$$

5.7.1. Test Data

Antenna Gain Limit specified by Manufacturer: 9 dBi

⁽¹⁾ Lowest Frequency (MHz)	Measured Peak RF Conducted Power (dBm)	Calculated EIRP (dBm)	Exposure Condition	Calculated Minimum RF Safety Distance r (cm)*
156.025	32.74	41.74	General Population	78

* The minimum separation distance between the antenna and bodies of users are calculated using the following formula:

RF EXPOSURE DISTANCE LIMITS: $r = (PG/4\pi S)^{1/2} = (EIRP/4\pi S)^{1/2}$
 Power Density for General Population Use = $S = 0.2 \text{ mW/cm}^2$

$$r = (EIRP/4\pi S)^{1/2} = (14928/(4\pi(0.2)))^{1/2} = 77.09 \text{ cm}$$

Evaluation of RF Exposure Compliance Requirements	
RF Exposure Requirements	Compliance with FCC Rules
Minimum calculated separation distance between antenna and persons required: 78 cm	Manufacturer' instruction for separation distance between antenna and persons required: 300 cm
Antenna installation and device operating instructions for installers (professional/unskilled users), and the parties responsible for ensuring compliance with the RF exposure requirement	Please refer to User's Manual for details.
Caution statements and/or warning labels that are necessary in order to comply with the exposure limits	Please refer to Page iii of User's Manual for RF Exposure Information.
Any other RF exposure related issues that may affect MPE compliance	None