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**Icom Introduces First Marine VHF Radio with Intuitive Soft-Key Interface**

**BELLEVUE, WA** – Icom America, an industry leading provider of marine communication products, introduces the new IC-M424 fixed-mount radio, the world’s first active noise cancelling fixed-mount VHF with Class D DSC. Offering superior performance in a compact package, the M424 features Icom’s new soft-key user interface for simple operation and Class D DSC for maximum safety at sea.

“Our goal at Icom is to design intuitive, easy-to-use products that won’t require an owner’s manual to operate,” says David McLain, National Marine Sales Manager for Icom America. “We
succeeded with the M424. The radio’s soft-key user interface is easy to use and provides faster access to radio functions with fewer button pushes than a traditional menu-driven interface.”

The M424 provides critical safety features including DSC, which allows users to send an emergency message at the push of a button. When used in conjunction with the new Icom MA-500TR Class B AIS transponder, pleasure craft and fishing boats can track the location of nearby commercial vessels and fleet members and communicate with other boats in emergency situations without having to manually input the vessel’s MMSI number.

“Icom always puts safety first,” McLain says. “With our new operating system, the M424 accomplishes this goal. Your Icom radio is the next best piece of equipment you could have onboard besides your life jacket.”

Popular features include 25W of power, an external 10W loudspeaker output for received audio and built-in PA, IPX7 waterproof rating, and AquaQuake™ to remove water from the protective speaker grill and allow audio to be heard clearly. The M424 also is compatible with the new Icom COMMANDMICIV™ (HM-195) command and control, which shares the same soft-key user interface as the M424 for easy operation.

“Using the new COMMANDMICIV™ in conjunction with the M424 is like getting a second onboard radio at minimal cost,” McLain says. “The COMMANDMICIV™ does everything the
M424 does utilizing the same antenna, and doubles as an intercom. It can be used to control all functions of the M424 remotely – including all DSC functions.”

Available in early 2012, the M424 has a minimum advertised price (MAP) of $299. Like all Icom marine VHF radios, the M424 includes a 3-year waterproof warranty. The COMMANDMICIV™ is priced at $199 (MAP) and also includes Icom’s standard 3-year warranty.

http://www.icomamerica.com

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*As of January 2012, this device has not been approved by the Federal Communications Commission. This device may not be sold or leased, or be offered for sale, until approval of the FCC has been obtained. 10278