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FURUNO'S ADVANCED, COMPACT "ALL-IN-ONE" VHF RADIOTELEPHONE -- THE FM8800S

Furuno's FM8800S Marine VHF Radiotelephone is a cost-effective, "all-in-one" system combining three vital communications functions -- a 25 W (reducible to 1 W) VHF radiotelephone, Class A DSC modem and CH70 watch-keeping receiver.

As one of the number one suppliers of Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) consoles throughout the world, Furuno's FM8800S is practical, convenient and built with safety in mind. The FM8800S is so advanced, that two of these units are integral components of the latest Furuno GMDSS consoles. This VHF Radiotelephone fully meets the latest GMDSS carriage requirements and other related standards, including IMO, ITU, IEC and ETSI.

Furuno's FM8800S offers simplex/semi-duplex voice communications, with superb voice quality, on all ITU channels in the 155-164 MHz VHF band. For easy readout at a distance, a silver-bright LCD on the front panel indicates the channel number with large, easy-to-read characters. Selecting channels is made easy with the dedicated rotary control and the numeric keypad. Other standard features are instant access to CH16, telephone calls via a PSTN, Dual Watch and Multiple Watch functions, which allow watch of CH16 and other selected channels.

The FM8800S also provides full Class A DSC functions for distress alert transmission and reception, as well as general call formats such as: Individual Telephone, All Ships, Group and Area Call. The FM8800S maintains a constant watch on CH70, even while you are using another VHF channel. Upon receiving an incoming DSC message, the FM8800S activates both audible and visual alarms. An outgoing distress alert can be readily transmitted, but this unit's unique design prevents accidental activation. A distress call attempt is transmitted as five consecutive calls. It is repeated after a random delay of between 3.5 and 4.5 minutes from the beginning of the initial call, until receiving the distress acknowledgement call.

Because this unit is integrated in Furuno's GMDSS consoles and is utilized abroad, the unit integrates ATIS (Automatic Transmitter Identification System) for use in European inland waterways. It automatically transmits the ID number when a communication is over or every 5 minutes while in communication. The ATIS mode and DSC mode are selectable through the menu.

Other advanced features on the Furuno FM8800S include file editing for emergency readiness, and automatic entry of own ship position and time from a GPS navigator. As with all Furuno products, the FM8800S is constructed with commercial grade components that will stand up to the harshest conditions, but is also easy enough to operate for recreational use.

For more information on Furuno's full line of award winning marine electronics, contact: Furuno U.S.A., 4400 N.W. Pacific Rim Blvd., Camas, WA 98607. Phone: (360) 834-9300. Fax: (360) 834-9400. Online boaters can also check out Furuno U.S.A.'s Internet Web site (www.FurunoUSA.com).

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