



3M™ PELTOR™ ComTac™ VIII Headset

Headset Basics

Question

What is included with the ComTac VIII?

Answer

ComTac VIII is shipped with foam ear cushions attached to the earcups, a user instruction and 2 x AAA batteries (ARC attachments, gel cushions, boom mic windscreen are not included).

Question

Is it available in headband only?

Answer

Yes. There is not a neckband version. ARC attachments are available as an accessory (Part No: P3ADG47-F SV/2)

Question

Can the headband be transitioned to ARC and back to headband?

Answer

Yes, it can be transitioned to ARC attachment and back into the headband configuration.

Question

Does the ComTac VIII have a folding headband?

Answer

No, the ComTac VIII has a non-folding headband to help increase comfort, especially when worn under a ballistic helmet.

Question

Can I use with dual hearing protection?

Answer

All ComTac headsets have a feature called “Earplug Mode”. Environmental listening, radio volume, and voice prompts are boosted in Earplug mode to help maintain auditory situational awareness when used in combination with earplugs. It is intended to be used ONLY when the user is wearing properly fitted, in-the-ear hearing protection under the headset. Earplug mode is turned off when the headset is powered off.

Question

Can the comms mic be moved to right side for left-handed shooters?

Answer

The comms mic on the ComTac VIII has been designed to accommodate left-handed shooters without the need to move the comms mic to the right earcup.

Question

Can the headset be plugged into an aircraft intercom system?

Answer

It depends on the aircraft. ComTac headsets with the 4-pin plug (U-174 NATO style plug with the single comm, single download -47 models) download can be used with a U94 PTT and will work with many military aircraft.

Question

Is the ComTac VIII water resistant?

Answer

Tested in accordance with MIL-STD 810H. ComTac VIII is designed to withstand brief, shallow water immersion, including saltwater, meaning that once removed from water the headset will power on and function. Please note, however, that water saturation may affect performance. If the headset needs to be used immediately, drain as much water from the headset earcups and mic windscreens as possible.

Question

Can the headset be immersed in saltwater?

Answer

The ComTac VIII is also salt water survivable, but extra care should be taken to help prevent potential corrosion related to salt. Salt crystal formation inside the speaker and mics may occur and can reduce headset performance if the headset is not properly maintained after saltwater immersion.

Question

What is the best way to allow my ComTac headset to dry?

Answer

Remove the ear cushions and foam liners while positioning the earcups outward to help maximize air flow.

Question

Should I clean and perform routine maintenance on my ComTac headset?

Answer

Yes. See the care and maintenance section of the user instruction for care and maintenance guidelines.

Question

Why do some headsets have red rings on the cable download connector?

Answer

The connector on single download, multi-comms headsets utilizes red rings, whereas single comm downloads have black rings. Note: A single download, multi-comms headset (-92 models) requires a multi-comms push-to-talk (PTT).

Mission Audio Profiles (MAP)

Question

What is MAP?

Answer

The ComTac VIII offers two modes for environmental listening: Classic and Advanced. Classic Mode is the same mode that all previous versions of ComTac headsets have used. When in Classic Mode, the volume control increases or decreases ambient sounds picked up by the environmental microphones. ComTac VIII also offers Advanced Mode as a unique way of delivering environmental sounds to the user via Mission Audio Profiles or MAP. When in the Advanced Mode, a press of the “volume control” changes the headset to one of 5 Mission Audio Profiles. The five profiles are Observation, Patrol, Conversation, Comfort, and Ambient Listening OFF. The MAP function provides an advanced ambient/environmental listening mode that allow access to a variety of gain settings, but with frequency shaping, to enhance auditory performance in five conditions.

Question

Does the headset default to Advanced Mode?

Answer

Yes. The headset is shipped in Advanced Mode. The user must access the menu to change from Advanced Mode to Classic. See the user instructions for details.

Question

What is the difference in the 5 MAP settings?

Answer

Observation:

Highest volume and widest frequency response to maximize hearing when the user is still (overwatch, hide spot, stop to listen, etc.).

Patrol:

High volume with reduced high frequencies to limit sounds such as footsteps on gravel, grass moving under feet, equipment moving on body.

Conversation:

Emphasizes the frequencies important for face-to-face communications.

Comfort: Low volume and narrow frequency response to be used when in noise for long periods of time (tactical vehicle, air transport) where ambient/environmental listening is not prioritized over communications and overall comfort.

Ambient/Environmental Listening OFF:

ComTac VIII features the capability to turn the ambient/environmental listening function off, while not powering down the headset. This may be beneficial in high noise environments where the least amount of outside sound is desired to help with communication.

Soundscape

Question

What is Soundscape, and what are the benefits?

Answer

Soundscape automatically increases radio and voice prompt volume in high, continuous noise, and reduces radio static. Soundscape helps to promote speech intelligibility in continuous noise and removes the need for the operator to manually have to adjust radio and voice prompt volume.

Question

Does the headset default to Soundscape?

Answer

No, the headset is shipped with Soundscape off by default. Users must access the advanced menu to turn the Soundscape feature on.

NOTE: For Soundscape to automatically increase the radio volume, the user must access the menu and change the radio volume setting from low (default) to automatic. See the user instructions for details.

Earplug Mode

Earplug mode boosts environmental listening, comms volume and voice prompts to help compensate for additional attenuation when earplugs are worn under the headset as dual protection. With Earplug Mode, it is possible to increase the attenuation with dual hearing protection while maintaining a degree of auditory situational awareness.

Question

Does the headset default to Plug Mode?

Answer

No. After properly fitting the passive earplugs, the user can activate plug mode by pressing and holding the + button for seven seconds, until an audio message says: “ear plug mode”. NOTE: by turning off the headset, the earplug mode is also turned off. See the user instructions for details.



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