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Ortovox Direct Voice

Ortovox Direct Voice Avalanche Transceiver User Manual

Model: Direct Voice

1. INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

The Ortovox Direct Voice Avalanche Transceiver is an essential safety device designed for emergency search and rescue in avalanche terrain. It features integrated voice navigation to guide users through the search process, enhancing efficiency and reducing stress during critical situations. This manual provides detailed instructions for the proper use, maintenance, and care of your Direct Voice transceiver.



Figure 1: Front view of the Ortovox Direct Voice Avalanche Transceiver.

Key Features:

- **Voice Navigation:** Clear spoken instructions in multiple languages (DE, EN, FR, IT, ES, NOR, SV, CZ, NL) guide you through each phase of an avalanche search.
- **Smart-Antenna Technology:** Automatically optimizes the device's transmission and reception for faster victim location.
- **Three-Antenna System:** Provides precise directional and distance indications.
- **Large Graphic Display:** 360-degree real-time display with intuitive symbols for visual guidance.

- **Rechargeable Battery:** Integrated lithium-ion battery for convenience and environmental sustainability.
- **Waterproof:** Designed to withstand harsh winter conditions.
- **Bluetooth Connectivity:** For easy firmware updates and settings management via a smartphone app.
- **Flagging Function:** Marks found victims in multi-burial scenarios.
- **Group Check:** Essential function for pre-tour safety checks.
- **Permanent Self-Testing:** Ensures the device is always ready for use.
- **Automatic Switchover:** Switches from search to send mode in case of a secondary avalanche.

2. SETUP AND PREPARATION

2.1 Charging the Battery

Before first use and regularly thereafter, ensure the internal lithium-ion battery is fully charged. Use the provided USB-C cable to connect the transceiver to a power source. A full charge typically takes several hours. The display will indicate charging status.

2.2 Attaching the Harness

The Direct Voice transceiver should always be worn securely in its included harness, close to your body, under your outermost layer of clothing. This prevents loss during an avalanche and protects it from impact.



Figure 2: The Direct Voice transceiver worn in its chest harness.

2.3 Group Check

Perform a group check before every tour to ensure all transceivers are functioning correctly in both send and search modes. Follow the instructions on your device's display for the group check procedure.

2.4 Firmware Updates (via Bluetooth)

The Direct Voice can be updated via Bluetooth using the Ortovox app on your smartphone. Regularly check for and install updates to ensure optimal performance and access to the latest features.



Figure 3: Updating the Direct Voice transceiver firmware via a smartphone app.

3. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 Powering On and Off

To power on, slide the orange switch to the 'SEND' position. To power off, slide the switch back to the 'OFF' position. Always ensure the device is in 'SEND' mode when traveling in avalanche terrain.

3.2 Switching Between Send and Search Modes

The orange switch on the top of the device controls the operating mode:

- **SEND Mode:** Slide the switch fully forward. The device transmits a signal. This is the standard mode when traveling.
- **SEARCH Mode:** Pull the switch back to the 'SEARCH' position. The device receives signals from other transceivers.

3.3 Avalanche Search Procedure

In the event of an avalanche, switch your transceiver to 'SEARCH' mode immediately. The Direct Voice will

provide voice and visual guidance:

1. **Signal Search:** The device will instruct you to run in 50-meter search strips. Follow the directional arrows and distance indicators on the display.
2. **Coarse Search:** Once a signal is detected, the voice navigation will guide you to move towards the victim, indicating direction and decreasing distance.
3. **Fine Search:** As you get closer (typically under 3 meters), the voice will instruct you to go down to the snow surface and search for the smallest value. This indicates the closest point to the buried victim.
4. **Pinpointing:** Use a probe to pinpoint the exact location of the victim.
5. **Shoveling:** Once pinpointed, begin shoveling to excavate the victim.

Your browser does not support the video tag.

Video 1: Demonstration of the Ortovox Direct Voice avalanche search process.

3.4 Flagging Function (Multi-Burial)

In a multi-burial scenario, once a victim is located and pinpointed, press the flagging button (usually indicated by a flag icon) to suppress their signal. This allows you to search for additional victims without interference. The device will guide you to the next strongest signal.

3.5 Automatic Switchover

The Direct Voice features an automatic switchover function. If the device is in search mode and remains motionless for a certain period (indicating a potential secondary avalanche), it will automatically switch back to send mode to protect the rescuer.

4. MAINTENANCE

4.1 Battery Care

- Charge the battery fully before extended storage.
- Store the device in a cool, dry place.
- Avoid extreme temperatures, which can degrade battery life.
- Recharge the battery periodically (e.g., every 3-6 months) even when not in use to maintain battery health.

4.2 Cleaning and Storage

- Clean the device with a soft, damp cloth. Do not use harsh chemicals or abrasive materials.
- Ensure the device is completely dry before storing.
- Store the transceiver in its protective pouch or harness when not in use to prevent scratches and damage.

4.3 Permanent Self-Testing

The Direct Voice performs continuous self-tests to ensure all critical components are functioning correctly. If an error is detected, a warning will appear on the display and/or via voice output. Refer to the troubleshooting section or contact support if this occurs.

5. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your Ortovox Direct Voice, please refer to the following common problems and solutions:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Device does not power on	Low or depleted battery	Charge the battery fully.
No signal in search mode	Out of range, or no transmitting beacon nearby	Ensure you are within the 50m search strip. Verify other transceivers are in send mode.
Inaccurate distance/direction readings	Interference from other electronic devices (phones, cameras, magnets)	Keep other electronic devices at least 20cm away in send mode and 50cm away in search mode.
Voice navigation not working	Volume too low, or language not set	Adjust volume settings. Check language settings via the Ortovox app.
Device displays an error message	Internal malfunction or critical error	Restart the device. If the error persists, contact Ortovox customer support.

For further assistance, please refer to the official Ortovox website or contact customer support.

6. SPECIFICATIONS

The Ortovox Direct Voice Avalanche Transceiver is engineered for reliability and performance in demanding conditions.



Figure 4: Key features of the Diract Voice transceiver.

Specification	Value
Model Name	Ortovox Diract Voice
Part Number	1141000001
Dimensions (L x W x H)	79 x 120 x 23 mm (3.1 x 4.7 x 0.9 inches)
Item Weight	210 g (7.4 oz)
Digital Search Strip Width	50 meters
Antennas	3
Battery Type	Rechargeable Lithium-ion (3.7 V, 4.97 Wh)
Waterproof	Yes
Connectivity	Bluetooth

Specification	Value
Included Components	Transceiver, Harness, USB-C Cable





Figure 5: Side and back views of the Direct Voice transceiver.

7. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

7.1 Warranty Information

Ortovox products are manufactured to high-quality standards. For specific warranty terms and conditions, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official Ortovox website. Keep your proof of purchase for any warranty claims.

7.2 Customer Support

If you have any questions, require technical assistance, or need to report an issue with your Direct Voice transceiver, please contact Ortovox customer support. You can find contact information and additional resources on the official Ortovox website: www.ortovox.com.