

FINDING A MANUAL FOR A GE MOBILE RADIO (AND WHY THERE IS NO SUCH THING!)

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Every few weeks, someone will post a request on a message board that reads something like this: "I just bought a GE MVP radio, and I need a manual for it. Does anyone have an extra copy they can spare?" The old-timers roll their eyes and mutter, "Here we go, again!" Because such requests are frequent, let's walk through the process with an example, and we'll use the GE Custom MVP as our guinea pig.

First and foremost, we must get the Combination Number from the radio's dataplate. In our hypothetical case, we learn that the number is **CT35AAU88AL**.

The first step is to go to the GE Publication Index **PI-11000-6**, here:

www.repeater-builder.com/ge/lbi-library/pi-11000-6.pdf

Scroll down to the listing for Custom MVP, and note that there are two documents shown there, PC08 and PC15. Back out of the Publication Index and find **PC08**, here:

www.repeater-builder.com/ge/product-code-indexes/index-pc08-custom-mvp-mobiles.pdf

We can quickly see that the third digit in our Combination Number, a 3, which represents the power level, does not appear in the examples on the first page of PC08, so let's back out and find **PC15**, here:

www.repeater-builder.com/ge/product-code-indexes/index-pc15-5-watt-custom-mvp-mobiles.pdf

Now, we're getting somewhere! Using **PC15**, we can decipher the Combination Number as follows:

C = Front Mount
T = 12 VDC power, negative ground
3 = 1 to 7 watts RF power
5 = 25 kHz channel spacing
A = Single frequency capability
A = 1 TX frequency and 1 RX frequency
U = Channel Guard equipped
88 = 450 to 470 MHz
A = +/- 5 ppm stability
L = 5 watt low power industrial model

Okay, now we know what model radio we have, so let's see what documents are needed to put together a manual for this particular radio. Using the matrix in **PC15**, the list is pretty straightforward:

Combination Manual	LBI-30163
Installation Manual	LBI-30164
Transmitter Manual	LBI-30393
Receiver Manual	LBI-30151
Systems Manual	LBI-30148
Channel Guard Manual	LBI-30370 or LBI-31128

We find that the transmitter manual, LBI-30393, is merely a cover sheet that lists three more LBIs:

Description & Maintenance Manual	LBI-30394
Exciter Manual	LBI-30060
Power Amplifier Manual	LBI-30395

Likewise, we find that the receiver manual, LBI-30151, is a cover sheet that lists four more LBIs:

Description & Maintenance Manual	LBI-30152
RF Assembly and IF Filter Manual	LBI-30032
Oscillator-Multiplier Manual	LBI-30147
IF-Detector Manual	LBI-30049

As you can see from this exercise, there is no "one manual" for any GE radio; each is unique to the specific radio model, band, power, features, and optional equipment. Our MVP example requires 13 separate LBIs to make up a service package. Fortunately, all of the required LBIs are available in the GE LBI Index database.

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