

Icom IC-910H Low Power Output

by VA3DDN

Symptom:

The radio may not transmit at full power, example up to 100 watts on FM. Increasing the RF power output control has no effect after some point around midway, and RF output may reach only 50 or 60 watts. (note: each case may give somewhat different results, but much lower than specified)

Problem:

The IC-910H is very sensitive to any voltage reduction due to voltage loss in the DC power cable that may reduce the 13.8 vDC power source if measured **at the radio power connector**.

Cause:

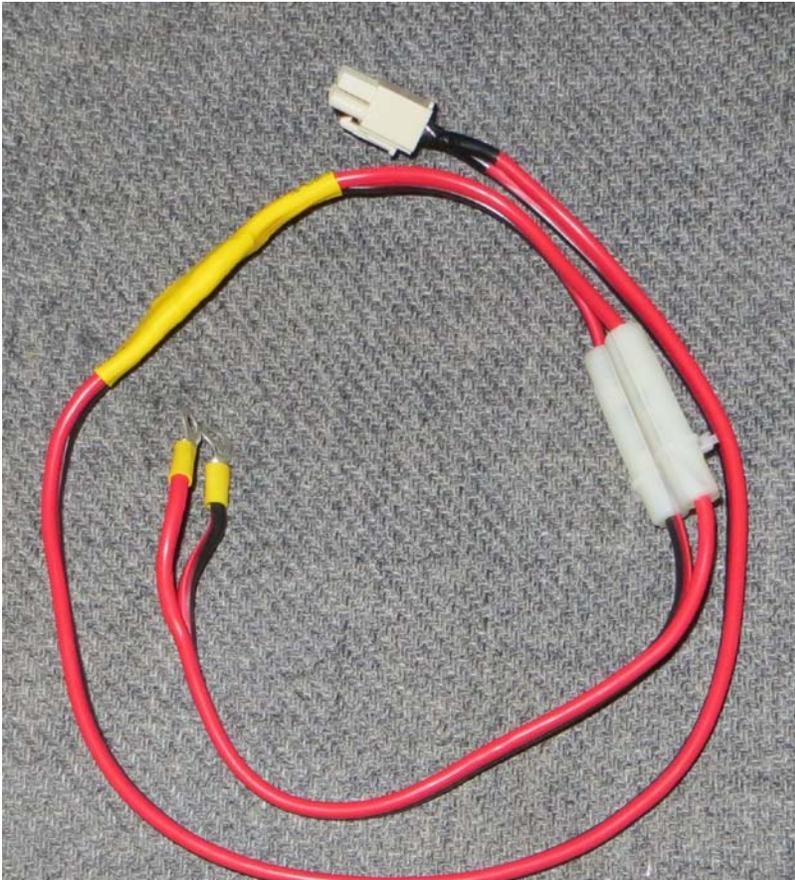
Possible high resistance in the DC power cable connections, or use of an **incorrect DC power cable**.

The factory DC power cable provided by Icom for the IC-910H is the OPC-657A and is **only one meter long!** It is also made from **AWG #10** copper wire and is fitted with 2 - 30 amp in-line fuses.

Check the cable you are using --- if it is not **#10 wire** and/or is longer than 1 meter (39") replace it.

You may have difficulty finding the original Icom part, the OPC-657A.

If so, some ham radio dealers carry the Jetstream JTPC1 replacement DC power cord, that has the correct radio connector plug and is made with **AWG #10** copper wire.



However, it is **too long** at 10 feet, for use with the IC-910A.

I cut mine down to about 39" overall, including splicing in the section with the in-line 30 amp fuse holders.

I cut off about 18" at the fuse holder end, and about 20" at the radio plug end and soldered them together using #10/12 butt splices.

Followed by a tape wrap and heat shrink tubing.

Now my IC-910H easily reaches 100 watts on FM.

Note: May also apply to the IC-9100

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