

StreetPilot® c550™



navigation and communication

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December 2006

Part Number 190-00642-00 Rev. B

Printed in Taiwan

PREFACE

Thank you for purchasing the Garmin® StreetPilot® c550™.

Manual Conventions

When you are instructed to “touch” something, use your finger to touch an item on the screen.

You will see small arrows (>) used in the text. They indicate that you should touch a series of items. For example, if you see “touch **Where to** > **Favorites**” you should touch the **Where to** button, and then touch **Favorites**.

c550 Tips and Shortcuts

- To quickly return to the Menu page, touch and hold **Back**.
- Touch  and  to see more choices.
- Use the Volume knob on the right side of the c550 to adjust the volume.

Quick Links

- Finding an address: [page 7](#)
- Viewing the Map page: [page 12](#)
- Using hands-free mobile phone features: [pages 14–17](#)
- Using the Garmin Lock™ anti-theft feature: [page 6](#)
- Listening to MP3 files: [page 23](#)
- Transferring files to your c550: [pages 21–22](#)
- Adjusting the volume: [page 6](#)

myGarmin™

Go to <http://my.garmin.com> to access the latest services for your Garmin products. From the myGarmin Web site, you can:

- Register your Garmin unit.
- Subscribe to online services for safety camera information (see [page 34](#)).
- Unlock optional maps.

Return to myGarmin often for new Garmin product services.

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Contact Garmin

Contact Garmin if you have any questions while using your c550. In the U.S.A. contact Garmin Product Support by phone: 913/397.8200 or 800/800.1020, Monday–Friday, 8 AM–5 PM Central Time; or go to www.garmin.com/support/, and click Product Support.

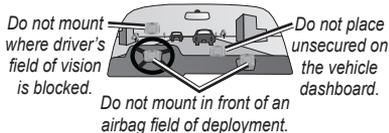
In Europe, contact Garmin (Europe) Ltd. at 44/0870.8501241.



Warnings

Failure to avoid the following potentially hazardous situations could result in an accident or collision resulting in death or serious injury.

- When installing the unit in a vehicle, place the unit securely so it does not obstruct the driver's view of the road or interfere with vehicle operating controls, such as the steering wheel, foot pedals, or transmission levers. Do not place in front of or above any airbag. (See diagram.)



- When navigating, carefully compare information displayed on the unit to all available navigation sources, including information from street signs, visual sightings, and maps. For safety, always resolve any discrepancies or questions before continuing navigation and defer to posted road signs.

- Always operate the vehicle in a safe manner. **Do not become distracted by the unit while driving, and always be fully aware of all driving conditions.** Minimize the amount of time spent viewing the unit's screen while driving and use voice prompts when possible. Do not input destinations, change settings, or access any functions requiring prolonged use of the unit's controls while driving. Pull over in a safe and legal manner before attempting such operations.
- The unit is designed to provide route suggestions. It is not designed to replace the need for driver attentiveness regarding road closures or road conditions, traffic congestion, weather conditions, or other factors that may affect safety while driving.

Battery Warnings

If these guidelines are not followed, the internal lithium-ion battery may experience a shortened life span or may present a risk of damage to the GPS unit, fire, chemical burn, electrolyte leak, and/or injury.

- Contact your local waste disposal department to properly dispose of the unit/battery.
- Do not leave the unit exposed to a heat source or in a high temperature location, such as in the sun in an unattended vehicle on a hot day. To prevent damage, remove the unit from the vehicle or store it out of direct sunlight, such as in the glove box.
- Do not incinerate.
- When storing the unit for a limited length of time, store within the following temperature range: -4° to 140°F (-20° to 60°C). When storing the unit for an extended time, store within the following temperature range: 32° to 77°F (0° to 25°C).
- Do not operate the unit outside of the following temperature range: -4° to 131°F (-20° to 55°C).
- Do not remove or attempt to remove the battery.

WARNING: This product, its packaging, and its components contain chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects, or reproductive harm. This notice is provided in accordance with California's Proposition 65. See www.garmin.com/prop65 for more information.

Important Information

MAP DATA INFORMATION: One of the goals of Garmin is to provide customers with the most complete and accurate cartography that is available to us at a reasonable cost. We use a combination of governmental and private data sources, which we identify in product literature and copyright messages displayed to the consumer. Virtually all data sources contain some inaccurate or incomplete data. In some countries, complete and accurate map information is either not available or is prohibitively expensive.

NOTICE REGARDING WINDSHIELD MOUNTING; SPECIAL NOTICE TO DRIVERS IN CALIFORNIA AND MINNESOTA:

State law prohibits drivers in California and Minnesota from using suction mounts on their windshields while operating motor vehicles. Check your state and local laws and ordinances for similar restrictions. Other Garmin dashboard or friction mounting options should be used. Garmin does not take any responsibility for any fines, penalties, or damages that may be incurred as a result of disregarding this notice or as a result of any other state or local law or ordinance relating to use of the unit. (See California Vehicle Code Section 26708(a); Minnesota Statutes 2005, Section 169.71.)

The California Electronic Waste Recycling Act of 2003 requires the recycling of certain electronics. For more information on the applicability to this product, see www.ecycle.org.

Caring for Your c550

Your c550 contains sensitive electronic components that can be permanently damaged if exposed to excessive shock or vibration. To minimize the risk of damage to your c550, avoid dropping your unit and operating it in high-shock and high-vibration environments.

Cleaning the Unit

The c550 is constructed of high-quality materials and does not require user maintenance other than cleaning. Clean the unit's outer casing (not the touch screen) using a cloth dampened with a mild detergent solution, and then wipe dry. Avoid chemical cleaners and solvents that can damage plastic components.

Cleaning the Touch Screen

Clean the touch screen with a soft, clean, lint-free cloth. Use water, isopropyl alcohol, or eyeglass cleaner, if needed. Apply the liquid to the cloth, and then gently wipe the touch screen.

Protecting Your c550

- Do not store the c550 where prolonged exposure to extreme temperatures can occur (such as in the trunk of a car), because it can cause permanent damage.
- Do not expose the c550 to water. Contact with water can cause this unit to malfunction.
- Though a PDA stylus can also be used to operate the touch screen, never attempt this while operating a vehicle. Never use a hard or sharp object to operate the touch screen or damage may result.

GETTING STARTED

What's in the Box?

c550 unit and vehicle suction cup mount.

FM TMC traffic receiver/12-Volt adapter to provide external power and traffic information.

USB cable to connect the c550 to your computer. Your c550 connects to your computer as a Mass Storage Device (see [pages 21–22](#)).

Dashboard Disk to mount the suction cup mount on your dashboard (see [page 30](#)).

Yellow Sheet that contains your unit's serial number, registration number for registering on Garmin's Web site, and unlock code for future reference.

Looking at Your c550



Step 1: Mounting the c550

Select a suitable location to mount the c550 on your windshield. Clean and dry the selected area of your windshield.



1. Plug the power cable into the power connector on the back of the c550.
2. Place the suction cup on the windshield. Flip the lever back, toward the windshield.
3. Snap the socket on the back of the c550 onto the ball on the end of the suction cup mount.
4. Plug the power cable into a power receptacle in your vehicle. Your unit should turn on automatically if it is plugged in and your vehicle is running.
5. If your power cable has an antenna with suction cups attached, use the suction cups to route the antenna vertically on the windshield.

To remove the c550 from the mount, turn the c550 as far as you can to the right or left. Apply pressure in that direction until the c550 snaps off the mount.

To remove the suction cup mount from the windshield, flip the lever toward you. Pull the tab on the suction cup toward you.

Step 2: Configuring the c550

To turn on your c550, press and hold the  **Power** button on the side of the unit. Follow the on-screen instructions to configure your c550.

Step 3: Acquiring Satellites

Go outdoors to an open area, away from tall buildings and trees. Turn on the c550. Acquiring satellite signals may take a few minutes.

The  bars in the upper-left corner indicate satellite strength. When the bars are green, your c550 has acquired satellite signals; you can find a destination and go to it.

Step 4: Using the c550

- A** Touch to find a destination.
- B** Touch to view the map.
- C** Touch to make a call (when connected to a **compatible mobile phone** with Bluetooth® wireless technology).
- D** Touch to view traffic incidents, when an FM traffic receiver is connected.
- E** Touch to listen to MP3 files loaded on the SD card or c550 drive.
- F** Touch to adjust the c550's settings.
- G** Touch to adjust the brightness of the screen.



Finding Your Destination

The Where to menu provides several different categories for you to use when you search for locations.



1 Touch **Where to**.



2 Select a category.



3 Select a sub-category.



4 Select a destination.



5 Touch **Go**.



6 Enjoy the route!

TIP: Touch  and  to see more choices.

Following Your Route

After you touch Go, the Map page opens with your route marked with a magenta line. As you travel, your c550 guides you to your destination with voice prompts, arrows on the map, and directions at the top of the Map page. A checkered flag marks your destination. If you depart from the original route, your c550 recalculates the route and provides new directions.

Adding a Stop to Your Route

You can add one stop to your route. The c550 gives you directions to the stop and then to your final destination.

1. With a route active, touch **Menu** on the Map page.
2. Touch  **Where to**, and then search for the extra stop.
3. Touch **Go**.
4. Touch **Yes** to add this stop before your destination. Or, touch **No** to make this your new final destination.

Taking a Detour

If a road on your route is closed, you can take a detour.

1. With a route active, touch **Menu**.
2. Touch **Detour**.

The c550 attempts to get you back on your original route, as soon as possible. If the route you are currently taking is the only reasonable option, the c550 might not calculate a detour.

Stopping the Route

1. With a route active, touch **Menu**.
2. Touch **Stop**.

Taking a Better Route

As you approach your destination, the c550 evaluates road options, which may result in a better route. When the c550 finds a better route,  or  is displayed in the right corner of the map. Touch  or  to take the better route.

Adjusting the Brightness

On the Menu page, touch . Touch  to lower the brightness and  to raise it. Touch **OK** when you are done.

Adjusting the Volume

Turn the volume knob on the right side of the unit to adjust the master volume level. To adjust the volume levels for the MP3 player and navigation prompts, from the Menu page, touch  >  **Volume**. Touch  and .

Charging Your c550

- Connect the power cable to the c550 and a power outlet in your vehicle. You may need to start your vehicle.
- Connect the USB cable to the c550 and your computer.
- Connect an optional AC adapter to a wall outlet and the power connector on the back of the c550. Purchase accessories at <http://shop.garmin.com> or contact your Garmin Dealer.

Locking Your c550

1. On the Menu page, touch  >  **System**.
2. Touch the button next to **Garmin Lock**. Touch **OK**.
3. Enter a 4-digit PIN. Touch **Yes** to accept the PIN.
4. Touch **OK**. Drive to a security location, and touch **Set**.

Each time you turn on the c550, enter the PIN or drive to the security location.

What is a Security Location?

You can select any location, such as your home or office, for your security location. If you are at your security location, you do not need to enter a PIN.



NOTE: To unlock your c550 at your security location, the c550 must have acquired satellite signals.



NOTE: If you forget your PIN and your security location, you must send your c550 to Garmin to get it unlocked.

WHERE TO

The Where to menu provides several different categories you can use to search for locations. To learn how to perform a simple search, see [page 4](#).

Finding an Address

- From the Menu page, touch  **Where to?** >  **Address**.
- Select a country and state/province, if necessary.
- Touch **Spell City**. Enter the city, and touch **Done**.
- Select the city in the list.
- Enter the number of the address, and touch **Done**.
- Enter the street name, and touch **Done**.
- Select the correct street in the list.
- Touch the address, if necessary. Touch **Go!** to create a route to this address.

Search Tips

- Touch **Near** to change the search area; see [page 11](#).
- You can search for a postal code. Enter the postal code instead of the city name. (Not all map data provides postal code searching.)

Go Page Options

Touch an item in the search results list to view the Go page.



Touch **Go** to create a turn-by-turn route to this location.

Touch **Show Map** to view this location on the map. If the GPS is off, touch **Set Loc** to select this place as your current location.

Touch **Save** to save this location as one of your Favorites. See [page 10](#).

If a mobile phone with Bluetooth wireless technology is connected, touch  to call this location.

Go Home

You can set a home location for the place you return to most often.

1. From the Menu page, touch  **Where to** >  **Go Home**.
2. Select an option.

Going Home

After you set your home location, you can route to it at any time by touching

 **Where to** >  **Go Home**.

Changing Your Home Location

To change your home location, you must first delete it from **Favorites**:

1. From the Menu page, touch  **Where to** >  **Favorites**.
2. Touch **HOME** > **Edit** > **Delete** > **Yes**.

After you delete your home location, reset it by following the steps in the “Go Home” section above.

Finding Points of Interest

1. From the Menu page, touch  **Where to** >  **Food, Hotels**.
2. Select a category and a sub-category, if necessary. (Touch the arrows to see more categories.)
3. Select a destination.
4. Touch **Go**.

Finding a Place by Spelling the Name

If you know the name of the location you are looking for, you can spell it using the on-screen keyboard. You can also enter letters contained in the name to narrow the search.

1. From the Menu page, touch  **Where to** >  **Food, Hotels**.
2. Touch **Spell Name**.
3. Using the on-screen keyboard, enter letters in the name. Touch **Done**.
4. Touch the place you are looking for, and touch **Go**.

Using the On-Screen Keyboard

When an on-screen keyboard appears, touch a letter or number to enter it. Use the keyboard to spell words just like computer keyboard.



Touch  to enter numbers.

Touch  to delete the last character entered; touch and hold  to delete the entire entry.

Touch  to change the keyboard mode to use diacritical characters or special characters.

Finding Recently Found Places

Your c550 stores the last 50 of your recent finds in the Recently Found list. The most recently viewed places appear at the top of the list. From the Menu page, touch  **Where to** >  **Recently Found** to view your recently found items.

Deleting Recently Found Places

To remove all places from the Recently Found list, touch **Clear**. Then touch **Yes**.



NOTE: When you touch **Clear**, all items from the list are removed. It does not delete the actual place from your unit.

Favorites

You can save places in your Favorites, so you can quickly find them and create routes to them. Your home location is also stored in Favorites.

Saving Places You Find

1. After you have found a place you want to save, touch **Save**.
2. Touch **OK**. The place is saved in  **Favorites**.

Finding Saved Places

1. From the Menu page, touch  **Where to**.
2. Touch  **Favorites**. Your saved locations are listed.

Saving Your Current Location

From the Map page, touch the  vehicle icon. Touch **Yes** to save your current location.

Editing Saved Places

1. From the Menu page, touch  **Where to** >  **Favorites**.
2. Touch the location you want to edit.
3. Touch **Edit**.



4. Touch a button to edit the location:
 - Touch **Change Name**. Enter a new name, and touch **Done**.
 - Touch **Change Map Symbol**. Touch a new symbol.
 - Touch **Change Phone Number**. Enter a phone number, and touch **Done**.
 - Touch **Delete** to remove this item from the Favorites list. Touch **Yes**.

Finding a Place Using the Map

Use the Browse Map page to view different parts of the map. Touch

 **Where to** >  **Browse Map**.

Tips for Browsing the Map

- Touch the map and drag to view different parts of the map.
- Touch  and  to zoom in and out.
- Touch any object on the map. An arrow appears pointing at the object you selected.
- Touch **Save** to save this location to your **Favorites**.
- Touch **Go** to navigate to the selected location.
- If the GPS Mode is off (touch  >  **System** > **GPS Mode** > **GPS Off**), touch **Set Loc** to set your location to the selected location.
- Touch **Back** to return to the previous screen.

Expanding Your Search

1. From the Menu page, touch  **Where to** > **Near...**
2. Select an option:
 - **Where I Am Now**—searches for places near your current location.
 - **A Different City**—searches for places near the city you enter.
 - **My Current Route**—searches for places along the route you are currently navigating.
 - **My Destination**—searches for places near your current route destination.
3. Touch **OK**.



NOTE: Your c550 automatically searches for places near your current location.

USING THE MAIN PAGES

Map Page

On the Menu page, touch  **View map** to open the Map page. The  vehicle icon shows your current location.

To save your current location, touch the vehicle icon, and touch **Yes**.

Touch the text bar to open the Turn List page.

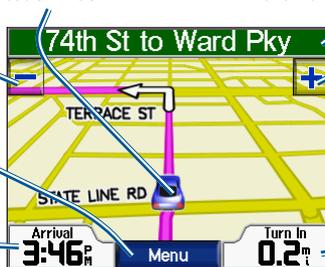
Touch  to zoom out.

Touch  to zoom in.

Touch **Menu** to return to the Menu page.

Touch **Arrival** or **Speed** to open the Trip Information page.

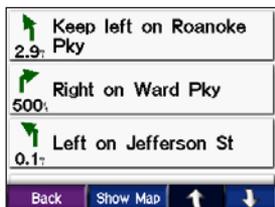
Touch **Turn In** to open the Next Turn page.



Map Page while Navigating a Route



Trip Information Page



Turn List Page



Next Turn Page

Trip Information Page

The Trip Information page displays your current speed and provides helpful statistics about your trip. To view the Trip Information page, touch the **Speed** or **Arrival** field on the Map page.

Resetting Trip Information

If you want accurate trip information, reset the trip information before beginning a trip. If you make frequent stops, leave the c550 turned on so it can accurately measure elapsed time during the trip.

Touch **Reset Trip** to reset the information on the Trip Information page. Touch **Reset Max** to reset the maximum speed.

Turn List Page

When you are navigating a route, the Turn List page displays turn-by-turn instructions for your entire route and the distance between turns. Touch the green text bar on the top of the Map page to open the Turn List page. Touch a turn on the list to view the Next Turn page for that turn. Touch **Show Map** to view the entire route on the Browse Map.

Next Turn Page

When you are navigating a route, the Next Turn page shows the turn on the map and the distance and time left before you reach the turn. To view an upcoming turn on the map, touch the **Turn In** field on the Map page, or touch any turn from the Turn List page.

Touch  and  to view other turns in the route. When you are finished viewing the Next Turn page, touch **Back**.

USING HANDS-FREE FEATURES

Using Bluetooth® wireless technology, your c550 can connect to your mobile phone and become a hands-free device. To see if your phone with Bluetooth technology is compatible with the c550, visit www.garmin.com/bluetooth.

Understanding Bluetooth Technology

Bluetooth® wireless technology establishes a wireless link between two devices, such as your phone and the c550. The first time you use two devices together you must “pair” them by establishing a relationship using a PIN/passkey. After the initial pairing, the two devices can connect automatically each time you turn them on.



NOTE: You might have to set your phone to connect automatically when the c550 is turned on.

Pairing Your Phone

To pair and connect, your phone and the c550 must be turned on and be within 10 meters of each other.

Initiate pairing from your c550 or from your phone. Refer to your phone’s documentation.

To pair using the phone settings:

1. Enable the phone’s Bluetooth component. This might be in a menu called Settings, Bluetooth, Connections, or Hands-free.
2. Initiate a search for Bluetooth devices. This might be located in a menu called Bluetooth, Connections, or Hands-free.
3. Select the StreetPilot c550 from the list of devices.
4. Enter the c550’s Bluetooth PIN (**1234**) into your phone.
5. On the c550, touch and hold **Back** to return to the Menu page.

To pair using the c550 settings:

1. From the Menu page, touch  > **Bluetooth**.
2. Touch the **Add** button next to the “Connections” heading.
3. Enable your phone’s Bluetooth component and enable Find Me/ Discoverable/Visible mode. These settings might be in a Bluetooth, Connections, or Hands-free menu.
4. Touch **OK** on the c550.
5. Select your phone, and touch **OK**.
6. Enter the c550’s Bluetooth PIN (**1234**) in your phone.

When your phone is connected to your c550, you are ready to make phone calls. Touch  to access the Phone menu.

When you turn on the c550, it tries to connect to the last phone to which it was connected.



NOTE: Not all phones support all features of the c550 Phone Menu.

Getting a Call

When you get a call, the Incoming Call window opens.



Touch **Answer** to answer the call.

Touch **Ignore** to ignore the call and stop the phone from ringing.

The internal microphone is in the front of the c550; speak normally. Adjust the volume using the volume knob.

In a Call

After you have made or answered a call, the  **In Call** icon appears. Touch

 to open the In Call page. Touch **End Call** to hang up. Touch **Call Options** for the following options:



- **Touch Tones**—displays a keypad page so you can use automated systems, such as voice mail.
- **Transfer Audio To Phone**—switch audio to your phone. This is helpful

if you plan to turn off the c550, but want to stay on the call or if you need privacy. To switch back, touch **Transfer Audio To Device**.

- **Mute Microphone**—mute the microphone.

Using Call Waiting

When you are on a call and you receive a second call (call waiting), the c550 displays the Incoming Call window. Touch **Answer** to answer the call. The first call is placed on hold.

To switch between calls:

1. Touch  to open the In Call menu.



2. Touch **Switch To**.
3. Touch **End Call** to hang up; this does not disconnect the call on hold.

Phone Menu

On the Menu page, touch  to open the Phone menu. Press **Status** to view the connected phone's signal strength, battery level, and name.



NOTE: Not all phones support all features of the c550 Phone Menu.

Using Your Phone Book

It may take a few minutes for your phone book to be available.

1. On the Menu page, touch .
2. Touch  **Phone Book**.
3. Touch the phone book entry (contact you want to call).
4. Touch **Dial** to call the contact, or touch **Compose** to send an SMS/text message.

Dialing a Point of Interest

1. On the Menu page, touch .
2. Touch  **Food, Hotels.**
3. Search for the location you want to call.
Open the Go page.
4. Touch **Dial** or .



Dialing a Number

1. On the Menu page, touch .
2. Touch  **Dial.**
3. Enter the number, and touch **Dial.**

Viewing Your Call History

Each time your phone connects to the c550, your call history is automatically transferred to the c550. It may take a few minutes to transfer this data to the c550.

1. On the Menu page, touch .
2. Touch  **Call History.**
3. Touch **Missed, Dialed,** or **Received.**
4. The most recent calls are at the top.
Touch a number to call to it.

Calling Home

Enter a phone number for your home location, so you can quickly call home.

Entering Your Home Location and Phone Number

1. On the Menu page, touch .
2. Touch  **Call Home.**
3. If you have not set your home location ([page 8](#)), follow the prompts to set your home location. Touch **Save.**
4. Touch **Yes** to enter a phone number.
5. Enter the phone number, and then touch **Done.** The c550 dials your home phone number.

Calling Your Home

1. On the Menu page, touch .
2. Touch  **Call Home.**
3. The c550 dials your home phone number.

Placing Calls Using Voice Dial

You can place calls by speaking the contact's name.

1. On the Menu page, touch .
2. Touch  **Voice Dial**.
3. Speak the contact name.



NOTE: You may need to “train” your mobile phone to recognize your voice commands. Refer to your phone’s documentation.

Using SMS/Text Messaging

If your phone supports SMS/text messaging using Bluetooth technology, you can send and receive text messages on the c550.

Getting a Text Message

When you get a text message, the Incoming Text window opens. Touch **Listen** to play the text message, **Review** to open your inbox, or **Ignore** to close the window.

Sending a Text Message

1. On the Menu page, touch .
2. Touch  **Text Message**.
3. Touch **Compose**.
4. Select an option to select the text message recipient.
5. Enter the message, and touch **Done**.



NOTE: Messages sent from your c550 do not appear in your phone’s outbox.

Viewing Your Messages

1. On the Menu page, touch .
2. Touch  **Text Message**.
3. Touch **Inbox**, **Outbox**, or **Drafts**.
4. Touch a message.
5. Select an option:
 - Touch  to listen to the message.
 - Touch **Forward** to send this message to another recipient or **Reply** to reply to this contact.

USING FM TRAFFIC

Use an FM TMC traffic receiver to receive traffic information broadcast over the FM Radio Data System. When a traffic message is received, your c550 displays the incident on the map and can change your route to avoid the traffic incident. For coverage areas, refer to the Garmin Web site at www.garmin.com/fmtraffic.



NOTE: The FM traffic receiver and c550 must be in data range of an FM station transmitting TMC (Traffic Message Channel) data to receive traffic information.



NOTE: Garmin is not responsible for the accuracy of the traffic information. The FM traffic receiver simply receives signals from the traffic service provider and shows that information on your c550.



NOTE: You can only access the traffic information if the c550 is connected to an FM traffic receiver.

Avoiding Traffic

The Map page displays  or  when there is a traffic incident on your current route or on the road on which you are traveling.



1. From the Map page, touch  or .
2. Select an item to view details.
3. Touch **Avoid**.

Viewing Traffic Incidents

1. On the Menu page, touch  to display traffic incidents in your area.
2. Select an item to view details.
3. Select an option.



NOTE: You do not need to activate the subscription included with your FM traffic receiver (if it came with one). Your c550 receives traffic data as soon as it acquires satellite signals and receives traffic signals from the traffic service provider.

Traffic Symbols

North American	Meaning	International
	Road Condition	
	Road Construction	
	Congestion	
	Accident	
	Incident	
	Information	

Severity Color Code

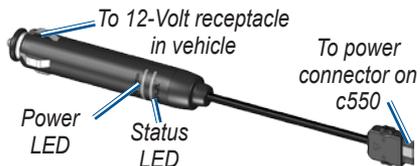
The bars to the left of the traffic symbols indicate the traffic incident's severity:

-  Green = Low severity; traffic is flowing normally.
-  Yellow = Medium severity; traffic is a bit congested.
-  Red = High severity; traffic is heavily congested or stopped.

LED Blink Codes

The green Power LED lights when connected to external power. The Status LED

- Yellow dot-dash flashes: determining which country you are currently in.
- Yellow solid: searching for signal.
- Red solid: momentary sync loss.
- Green solid: normal traffic data.



MANAGING FILES

You can store files, such as MP3s and JPEG image files, in the c550's internal memory or on an optional SD card.



NOTE: The c550 is not compatible with Windows® 95, Windows 98, or Windows Me operating systems. This is a common limitation of most USB Mass Storage devices.

Supported File Types

- MP3 music files (see [page 23](#))
- M3U music playlist files (see [page 23](#))
- JPEG and JPG image files for splash screen (see [page 26](#))
- GPI custom POI files from Garmin's POI Loader (see [page 34](#))
- Maps and waypoints from MapSource®



NOTE: The c550 does **not** support M4A/M4P files.

Loading Files

Step 1: Insert an SD Card (Optional)

To insert or remove the card, press it in until it clicks.



Step 2: Connect the USB Cable

Connect the mini-USB connector to the side of the c550. Connect the larger end of the cable to an available USB port on your computer.



Your c550 and SD card appear as removable drives in My Computer on Windows® computers, and as mounted volumes on Mac® computers.



NOTE: On some operating systems or computers with multiple network drives, the c550 drives may not be displayed. See your operating system's Help file or [page 38](#) to learn how to map the drives.

Step 3: Transfer Files to Your c550

Copy and paste files from your computer into the c550 drives/volumes.

1. Browse your computer for the file you want to copy.
2. Highlight the file, and select **Edit** > **Copy**.
3. Open the “Garmin” drive or the SD card drive.
4. Select **Edit** > **Paste**. The file appears in the list of files on the c550 memory or SD card.

Step 4: Eject and Unplug the USB Cable

When you are finished transferring files, click the **Eject**  icon in your system tray, or drag the volume icon to the **Trash**  on Mac® computers. Unplug your c550 from your computer.

Deleting Files

With the c550 connected to your computer, open c550 or SD card drive/volume. Highlight the file that you want to delete, and press the **Delete** key on your computer's keyboard.



CAUTION: If you are not sure about a file's purpose, do **NOT** delete it. Your c550 memory contains important system files that should **NOT** be deleted. Be especially cautious of files located in folders entitled “Garmin.”

LISTENING TO MP3 FILES

Load MP3 files to the internal memory or SD card; see [pages 21–22](#).

1. On the Menu page, touch .
2. Touch **Browse**.
3. Touch a category.
4. To play the entire category from the beginning of the list, touch **Play All**. To play a specific song, touch the title.
5. Touch **Back** to exit the music page to view other pages, such as the map. Tap  to go to the beginning of the song; touch and hold to skip back. Tap  to skip to the next song; touch and hold to skip ahead. Touch  to stop the song. Touch  to pause the song. Touch  to repeat. Touch  to shuffle. Touch the album art to view details about the MP3 file.



NOTE: The c550 plays MP3 files; it does **not** support M4A/M4P files.

Listening to Your Playlists

Your c550 can play a playlist you have created in an audio program.

1. Using your computer and an audio program, create a playlist of MP3 files. Save the playlist as an M3U file.



NOTE: You may need to edit the M3U file with a text editor, such as Notepad, to remove the path (link) to the MP3. The M3U file should only list the MP3 file names. Refer to the audio program's Help file for instructions.

2. Transfer the playlist and the MP3 files to the c550 or SD drive (see [pages 21–22](#)). The M3U file must be in the same file location as the MP3 files.
3. On the c550, touch  > **Browse** > **Import Playlist**. All available playlists appear.
4. Touch a playlist to start playing the MP3 files. You cannot change the playlist order from your c550.

CUSTOMIZING THE c550

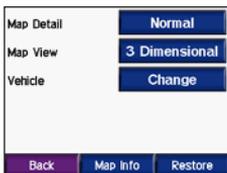
1. From the Menu page, touch .
2. Touch the setting you want to change.



3. Touch the button next to the setting name to change it.

Changing the Map Settings

From the Menu page, touch  >  **Map**.



Map Detail—adjust the amount of detail shown on the map. Showing more detail may cause the map to redraw slower.

Map View—change the perspective of the map.

- **Track Up**—display the map in 2 dimensions (2D) with your direction of travel at the top.
- **North Up**—display the map in 2D with North at the top.
- **3D**—display the map in 3 dimensions (3D) in Track Up.

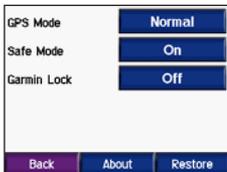
Vehicle—touch **Change** to change the icon used to display your position on the map. Touch the icon you want to use, and then touch **OK**. Download additional vehicle icons at www.garmin.com/vehicles.

Map Info—view the maps loaded on your c550 and their version. Touch a map to enable (check mark) or disable (no check mark) that map.

Restore—restore the original map settings.

Changing the System Settings

From the Menu page, touch  >
 **System.**



GPS Mode—enable and disable GPS and WAAS/EGNOS. See www.garmin.com/aboutGPS/waas.html for information about WAAS/EGNOS.

Safe Mode—turn on or off Safe Mode. When your vehicle is moving, Safe Mode disables all functions that require significant operator attention and could become a distraction while driving.

Garmin Lock—turn on Garmin Lock™ to lock your c550. Enter a 4-digit PIN, and set a security location. For more information, see [page 6](#).

About—display your c550’s software version number, unit ID number, and audio version number. You need this information when you update the system software (see [page 33](#)) or purchase additional map data (see [page 33](#)).

Restore—restore the system settings.

Localizing Your c550

From the Menu page, touch  >
 **Locale.**



To change a setting, touch the button next to the icon.

To change all settings, touch **Change All**. In each screen, touch the button next to the setting you want, and then touch **Next**.

Locale—select your location.

 **Text Language**—change all on-screen text to the selected language. Changing the text language does not change the language of user-entered data or map data, such as street names.

 **Voice Language**—change the language for voice prompts. Languages noted with a person's name are text-to-speech (TTS) voices, which have an extensive vocabulary and pronounce the street names as you approach turns. The pre-recorded voices (those without a person's name) have a limited vocabulary and do not speak names of locations or streets.

 **Time Format**—choose a 12-hour, 24-hour, or UTC time format.

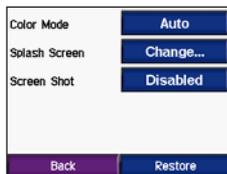
Time Zone—select a time zone or nearby city from the list.

Daylight Saving—set to **On**, **Off**, or **Auto**, if it is available.

 **Units**—change units of measure to **Kilometers** or **Miles**.

Customizing the Display

From the Menu page, touch  >  **Display**.



Color Mode—select **Daytime** for a light background, **Nighttime** for a dark background, or **Auto** to automatically switch between the two.

Splash Screen—select an image to be shown when you turn on the c550. First, load JPEG images. See [pages 21–22](#).

Screen Shot—enable Screen Shot mode. Touch the  camera icon to take a picture of the screen. The picture bitmap file is saved in the **Garmin\scrn** folder on the c550 drive.

Changing the Navigation Settings

From the Menu page, touch  >
 **Navigation.**



Route Preference—select a preference for calculating your route. Select **Faster Time** to calculate routes that are faster to drive but can be longer in distance. Select **Shorter Distance** to calculate routes that are shorter in distance but can take more time to drive.

Vehicle Type—specify your vehicle type to optimize routes.

Avoidances—select (place a check mark by) the road types you want to avoid on your routes. The c550 uses these road types only if alternative routes take you too far out of your way or if no other roads are available. If you have an FM traffic receiver, you can also avoid traffic incidents.

Attention Tone—turn on or off the attention tone.

Restore—restore the original navigation settings.

Bluetooth Technology Settings

From the Menu page, touch  >
 **Bluetooth.**

Connections—select a device to connect to. Select **Add Device** to pair with a mobile phone that has Bluetooth® wireless technology. See [pages 14–17](#). Touch **Change** if you want to connect to a different phone in the list. Select your phone, and touch **OK**.



NOTE: The c550's PIN code (or passkey) is **1234**.

Drop—select the phone you want to disconnect, and touch **Yes**.

Remove—select the phone you want to delete from the c550's memory, and touch **Yes**.

Bluetooth—enable and disable the Bluetooth component. The  **Bluetooth** icon appears on the Menu page if the Bluetooth component is enabled. To prevent a phone from automatically connecting, select **Disabled**.

Troubleshoot—scroll through the list containing compatible devices. If your phone is not in this list, go to www.garmin.com/bluetooth for more information.

Restore—restore the original Bluetooth settings. This will not clear the pairing information.

Adjusting Traffic Settings

From the Menu page, touch  >
 (or ) **Traffic**.



NOTE: You can only access the traffic settings if your c550 is connected to external power and an FM TMC traffic receiver.



NOTE: If your traffic receiver has a trial subscription, it does not need to be activated and you do not need to purchase a subscription until the trial subscription expires.

North American Options

The FM traffic subscriptions that you have are listed and the expiration dates. Touch **Add** to add a subscription.

Non-North American Options

Auto—select which provider to use. Select **Auto** to use the best provider for the area, or select a specific provider to use always.

Search—search for additional TMC traffic providers. To increase the search time, touch **Yes** to clear provider table.

Subscriptions—view the FM traffic subscriptions that you have and the expiration dates. Touch **Add** to add a subscription.

Adding a Subscription

You can purchase additional subscriptions or a renewal if your subscription expires; go to Garmin's FM Traffic Web site at www.garmin.com/fmtraffic.



NOTE: You do not need to activate the subscription included with your FM traffic receiver (if it came with one). The subscription activates automatically after your c550 acquires satellite signals while receiving traffic signals from the pay service provider.

1. From the Menu page, touch  >  (or ) **Traffic**.
2. For Non-North American units, touch **Subscriptions** > **Add**. For North American units, touch **Add**.
3. Write down the FM traffic receiver's unit ID.

4. Go to www.garmin.com/fmtraffic to purchase a subscription and get a 25-character code.
5. After you receive the 25-character code, touch **Next** on the c550, enter the code, and touch **Done**.

The traffic subscription code cannot be reused. You must obtain a new code each time you renew your service. If you own multiple FM traffic receivers, you must obtain a new code for each receiver.

Adjusting the Volume Levels

Turn the volume knob on the right side of the unit to adjust the master volume level. To adjust the volume levels for the MP3 player and navigation prompts, from the Menu page, touch  >  **Volume**. Touch  and .

Restoring All Settings

1. From the Menu page, touch .
2. Touch **Restore**.

APPENDIX

Mounting on Your Dashboard

Use the enclosed mounting disk to mount your unit to the dashboard and comply with certain state regulations.



CAUTION: The permanent mounting adhesive is extremely difficult to remove after it is installed.

1. Clean and dry the dashboard where you are placing the disk.
2. Remove the backing from the permanent mounting adhesive on the bottom of the disk.
3. Place the disk on the dashboard.
4. Remove the clear plastic cover from the top of the disk.
5. Place the suction cup mount on top



of the disk. Flip the lever down (toward the disk).

Resetting Your c550

If your unit locks up (freezes up), press and hold the  **Power** button to turn off the unit. Then turn the unit back on. If this does not help, reset your c550.

1. Place your thumb nail in the groove located under the Garmin logo on the faceplate.
2. Gently pull off the faceplate.
3. Press the **Reset** button.
4. Connect the c550 to a power source using the power cable. The c550 should automatically turn back on and operate normally.



NOTE: If you need to reset your unit often, update the system software. See [page 33](#) for information about updating the software.

Clearing User Data



CAUTION: This deletes all user-entered information.

1. Hold your finger on the lower-right corner of the c550's screen while turning on the c550.
2. Keep your finger pressed until the pop-up window appears.
3. Touch **Yes** to clear all user data.

All original settings are restored. Any items that you have saved are erased.

Avoiding Theft

- To avoid theft, remove the unit and mount from sight when not in use. Remove the residue on the windshield left by the suction cup.
- Do not keep your unit in the glove compartment; thieves know where to look.
- Register your product at <http://my.garmin.com>.
- Use the Garmin Lock™ feature. See [page 6](#).

Changing the Fuse



CAUTION: When replacing the fuse, do not lose any of the small pieces and make sure they are put back in the proper place.

If your unit will not charge in your vehicle, you may need to replace the fuse located at the tip of the vehicle adapter.

1. Unscrew the black (or silver), round end piece and remove it.
2. Remove the fuse (glass and silver cylinder) and replace with a 1A, 3AG, standard blow fuse.
3. Ensure that the silver tip is placed in the black end piece. Screw on the black end piece.



Battery Information

Your unit contains an internal (non-removable) lithium-ion battery. The battery should last up to 8 hours, depending on usage.

The  battery icon in the corner of the Menu page indicates the status of the internal battery. If the icon is not present, the c550 is connected to external power.

Contact your local waste disposal department for information on properly disposing of the unit.

Maximizing the Battery Life

- Turn off GPS Mode ( >  > **System** > **GPS Mode** > **GPS Off**) when you do not need to receive GPS signals, or use **Normal** mode when you do not need to use WAAS or EGNOS.
- Turn the backlight brightness down (on the Menu page, touch ).
- Do not leave your c550 in direct sunlight. Avoid prolonged exposure to excessive heat.

About Satellite Signals

Your c550 must acquire satellite signals to operate. If you are indoors, near tall buildings or trees, or in a parking garage, the c550 cannot acquire satellites.

Go outside to an area free from tall obstructions to use your c550.

When the c550 has acquired satellite signals, the signal strength bars on the Menu page are green . When it loses satellite signals, the bars turn red or disappear .

For more information about GPS, visit www.garmin.com/aboutGPS.

Updating the Software

1. Go to www.garmin.com/products/webupdater to download the WebUpdater program to your computer.
2. Connect the c550 to your computer using the mini-USB cable.
3. Run WebUpdater, and follow the screen prompts. After confirming that you want to perform an update, WebUpdater automatically downloads the update and installs it on your c550.
4. Eject and unplug your c550 (see page 36).

Additional Maps

You can purchase additional MapSource map data from Garmin and load the maps on your c550's internal memory or on an optional SD card.

Also, check www.garmin.com/unlock/update.jsp to see if an update for your map software is available.

To find out the version of the maps that are loaded on your c550, open the Menu page. Touch  >  **Map** > **Map Info**. To enable additional maps, you need your unit ID (see [page 25](#)) and serial number (located near the power connector).

To load maps or waypoints to your c550 memory or SD card, select the name for your c550 drive or SD card drive. Refer to the MapSource Help file for more information about using MapSource and loading maps and waypoints on your c550.

Extras and Optional Accessories

For more information about optional accessories, go to <http://shop.garmin.com> or www.garmin.com/extras. You can also contact your Garmin dealer to purchase accessories.

Safety Cameras

Safety camera information is available in some locations. Check <http://my.garmin.com> for availability. For these locations, the c550 includes the locations of hundreds of safety cameras. Your c550 alerts you when you are approaching a safety camera and can warn you if you are driving too fast. The data is updated at least weekly, so you always have access to the most up-to-date information.

You can purchase a new region or extend an existing subscription at any time. Each region that you purchase has its own expiration date.

Garmin Travel Guide™

Much like a paper travel guide, the Garmin Travel Guide provides detailed information about places, such as restaurants and hotels.

SaversGuide

The SaversGuide® is an optional accessory that is available only in North America. With the SaversGuide preprogrammed SD data card and membership card, your c550 becomes a digital coupon book that notifies you of merchants near your current location where you are eligible for a discount, such as restaurants, hotels, movie theaters, and auto repair shops.

Custom POIs (Points of Interest)

Load custom points of interest (POIs) onto your c550. POI databases are available from various companies on the Internet. Some custom databases contain alert information for points, such as safety cameras and school zones. You will receive a warning if you are

traveling too fast near these custom POIs.

Download the POI Loader at www.garmin.com/extras, and click **POI Loader**. Refer to the POI Loader Help file; press F1 to open the Help file.

To view your Custom POIs, touch  **Where to** >  **Extras** > **Custom POIs**.

To change the proximity alert settings, touch  >  **Proximity Points** > **Proximity Alerts**. Turn on or off the alerts when you approach Custom POIs.

To delete the Custom POIs from your c550, connect your c550 to your computer. Open the **Garmin\poi** folder in the c550 drive or the SD card drive. Delete the file entitled **poi.gpi**.



CAUTION: Garmin is not responsible for the consequences of using a custom POI database or the accuracy of the safety camera or other custom POI database.

Garmin TourGuide™

The Garmin TourGuide allows your c550 to play third-party, GPS-guided audio tours. These audio tours can take you on a route while playing interesting facts about historical sites along the way. As you travel, the audio information is triggered by GPS signals. For more information, go to www.garmin.com/extras, and click **POI Loader**.

To view your Garmin TourGuide files, touch  **Where to** >  **Extras** > **Custom POIs**.

To change the Garmin TourGuide settings, touch  >  **Proximity Points** > **TourGuide**. Select **Auto Play** to hear the complete tour as programmed, **Prompted** to show the speaker icon  on the map when tour information is available during your route, or **Off**.

Technical Specifications

Physical size: 4.4" W x 3.2" H x 2.2" D
(11.2 x 8.2 x 5.6 cm)

Weight: 0.59 pounds (269 g)

Display: 2.8" W x 2.1" H (7.2 x 5.4 cm);
320 x 240 pixels; bright, 16-bit LCD,
with white backlight and touch screen

Case: Not waterproof

Temperature range: 32°F to 140°F
(0°C to 60°C)

Data storage: Internal memory and
optional removable SD card. Data stored
indefinitely.

Computer interface: USB mass storage,
plug-and-play

Charge time: Approximately 4 hours

Power input: 12/24 VDC

Usage: 15 W max. @ 13.8 VDC

Battery life: up to 8 hours depending on
usage



CAUTION: The c550 is not
waterproof.

GPS Performance Specifications

Receiver: WAAS enabled

Acquisition times*:

Warm: <1 sec

Cold: <38 sec

Factory Reset: <45 sec

*On average for a stationary receiver
with a clear view of the sky

Update rate: 1/sec, continuous

GPS accuracy:

Position: <10 meters, typical

Velocity: 0.05 meter/sec RMS

GPS (WAAS) accuracy:

Position: <5 meters, typical

Velocity: 0.05 meter/sec RMS

For a complete list of specifications, see
www.garmin.com/products/sp550, and
click the **Specifications** link.

Troubleshooting

Problem/Question	Solution/Answer
My c550 never gets satellite signals.	Take your c550 outside, away from tall buildings and trees. Remain stationary for several minutes.
My phone will not connect to the c550.	Verify that the Bluetooth field is set to Enabled . Make sure your phone is turned on and is less than 10 meters (about 33 feet) away from your c550. See www.garmin.com/bluetooth for more help.
How do I know my c550 is in USB Mass Storage Mode?	When your c550 is in USB Mass Storage Mode, a picture of a c550 connected to a computer is shown. Also, you should see two new removable disk drives listed in My Computer .
My computer never senses that the c550 is connected.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unplug the USB cable from your computer. 2. Turn the c550 off. 3. Plug the USB cable into your computer and your c550. The c550 automatically turns on and goes into USB Mass Storage Mode.
I cannot see any new removable drives in my list of drives.	If you have several network drives mapped on your computer, Windows may have trouble assigning drive letters to your c550 drives. Follow the steps on the next page to assign (map) your drive letters.
I get a message saying "Unsafe Removal of Device" when I unplug the USB cable.	Eject the drive/volume before disconnecting the USB cable. See page 22 .

Problem/Question	Solution/Answer
<p>How do I assign (map) my c550 drives in Windows?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Turn off your c550. 2. Plug in the USB cable to the c550 and your computer. Your c550 automatically turns on. 3. Click Start > Settings > Control Panel > Administrative Tools > Computer Management > Storage > Disk Management. 4. Click a c550 removable disk drive (either the internal memory or your SD card drive). Right-click your mouse, and select Change Drive Letter and Path... 5. Select Edit..., select a drive letter from the drop-down list, and click OK.
<p>The suction cup will not stay on my windshield.</p>	<p>Clean the suction cup and windshield with rubbing alcohol. Dry with a clean, dry cloth. Mount the suction cup as described on page 2.</p>
<p>My battery gauge does not seem accurate.</p>	<p>Allow the unit to fully discharge and then fully charge it (without interrupting the charge cycle).</p>
<p>The touch screen is not responding to my taps properly.</p>	<p>Calibrate the screen:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Turn the unit off. 2. Press and hold the  Power button for about one minute until the Calibration screen appears. 3. Follow the on-screen instructions.

Important Product Information

Software License Agreement

BY USING THE c550, YOU AGREE TO BE BOUND BY THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE FOLLOWING SOFTWARE LICENSE AGREEMENT. PLEASE READ THIS AGREEMENT CAREFULLY.

Garmin grants you a limited license to use the software embedded in this device (the “Software”) in binary executable form in the normal operation of the product. Title, ownership rights, and intellectual property rights in and to the Software remain in Garmin.

You acknowledge that the Software is the property of Garmin and is protected under the United States of America copyright laws and international copyright treaties. You further acknowledge that the structure, organization, and code of the Software are valuable trade secrets of Garmin and that the Software in source code form remains a valuable trade secret of Garmin. You agree not to decompile, disassemble, modify, reverse assemble, reverse engineer, or reduce to human readable form the Software or any part thereof or create any derivative works based on the Software. You agree not to export or re-export the Software to any country in violation of the export control laws of the United States of America.

Traffic Service End User Subscriber Agreement

The Traffic Service Provider holds the rights to the traffic incident data and RDS/TMC network through which it is delivered. You may not modify, copy, scan, or use any other method to reproduce, duplicate, republish, transmit, or distribute in any way any portion of traffic incident data. You agree to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Traffic Service Provider (and its affiliates) and Garmin Ltd. (and its subsidiaries) against any and all claims, damages, costs, or other expenses that arise directly or indirectly out of (a) your unauthorized use of the traffic incident data or the RDS/TMC network, (b) your violation of this End User Subscriber Agreement and/or (c) any unauthorized or unlawful activities by you in connection herewith.

The Traffic Service Data is informational only. You assume all risk of use. The Traffic Service Provider, Garmin Ltd. (and its subsidiaries), and their suppliers make no representations about content, traffic and road conditions, route usability, or speed.

FCC Compliance

This product has been tested and found to comply with Part 15 of the FCC interference limits for Class B digital devices FOR HOME OR OFFICE USE. These limits are designed to provide more reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation, and are more stringent than “outdoor” requirements.

Operation of this device is subject to the following conditions: (1) this device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and may cause harmful interference to radio communications if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and the receiver.
- Connect the equipment into an outlet that is on a different circuit from the GPS unit.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

This product does not contain any user-serviceable parts. Repairs should only be made by an authorized Garmin service center. Unauthorized repairs or modifications could result in permanent damage to the equipment, and void your warranty and your authority to operate this device under Part 15 regulations.

Industry Canada Compliance

Category I radiocommunication devices comply with Industry Canada Standard RSS-210.

Category II radiocommunication devices comply with Industry Canada Standard RSS-310.

Declaration of Conformity

Hereby, Garmin declares that this StreetPilot c-series product is in compliance with the essential requirements and other relevant provisions of Directive 1999/5/EC.

To view the full Declaration of Conformity, see the Garmin Web site for your Garmin product: www.garmin.com/products/sp550. Click **Manuals**, and then select the **Declaration of Conformity**.



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Part Number 190-00642-00 Rev. B