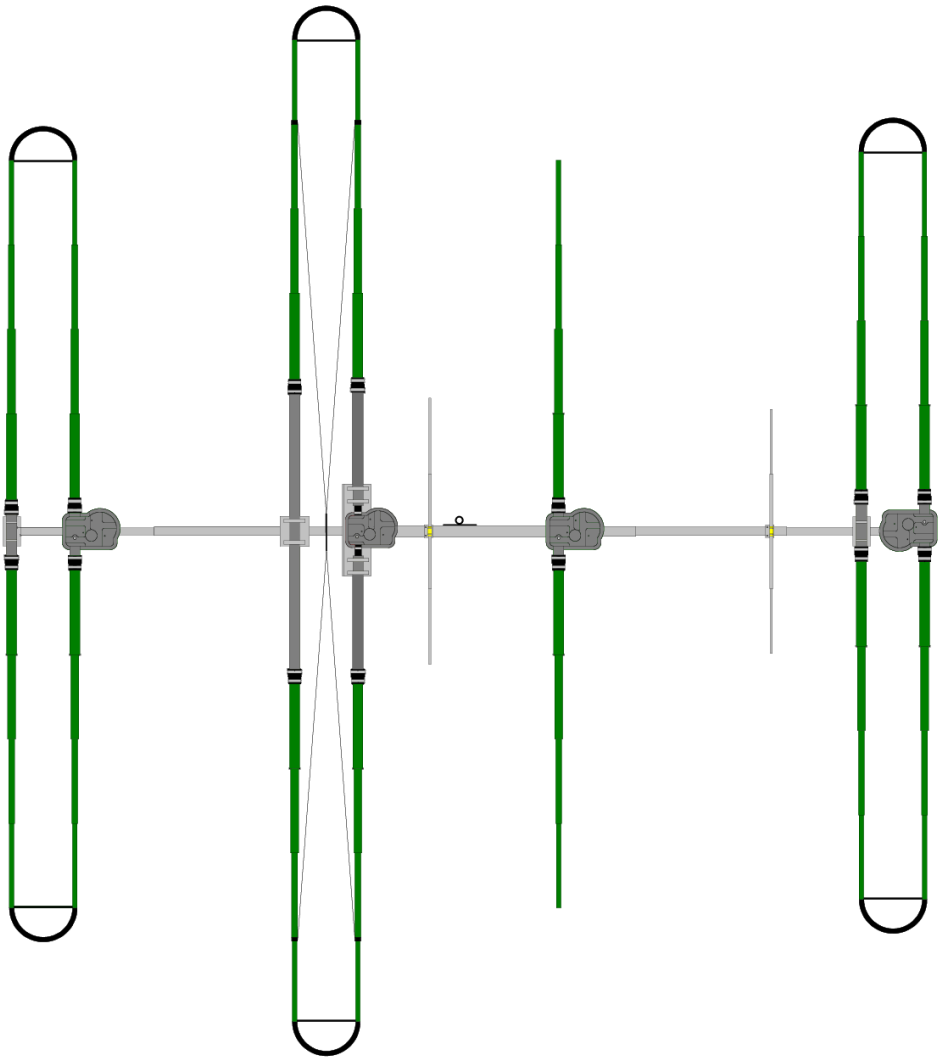
steppIR
COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS

DB36 Yagi Assembly Manual



This assembly manual is intended to be printed in full COLOR. If the manual is printed in black and white, many important details could be lost.

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DB36 Yagi Specifications

Specifications	DB36 Element Yagi
Boom length	36 ft / 11.1 m
Boom outside diameter	1.75 in—2.50 in / 4.45 cm—6.35 cm
Longest element	49 ft / 14.94 m
Turning radius	26 ft / 8.0 m
Weight	160 lb / 72.8 kg
***Projected area**	28.59 sq ft / 2.66 sq m
Wind rating	100 mph
Adjustable elements	4
Power Rating	3000 watts continuous
Feed points	1
Frequency coverage	6.95—54 MHz (3.5-4, 5.3 MHz, & 6.95—54 MHz
Control cable	16 conductor shielded, 22 AWG 80m option—24 conductor

Frequency	DB36 Gain, dBi	DB36 Front to rear, dB
80M Dipole	1.35	NA
40M	7.2	21
30M	8.2	18
20M	9.27	21.5
17M	9.88	26.5
15M	10.21	27.1
12M	10.43	21.1
10M	10.65	11.0
6M	12.75	27.4

*Projected area is the total perpendicular surface area measured in square feet/square meters, that is exposed to wind. To calculate wind load you always take the largest projected area whether that is from the perspective perpendicular to the boom or perpendicular to the elements. In the case of SteppIR Yagi's, the maximum projected area will always be the sum of the surface area's perpendicular to the Yagi elements. This calculation is a constant number and will not change regardless of EIA specification changes. Do not mistake this projected area calculation as anything more than a datapoint to present to your structural engineer, tower manufacturer or rotator manufacturer so that they can determine what is necessary for your application.

When sizing an antenna to a tower, many factors need to be taken into consideration including, but not limited to: projected area of antenna in square feet or square meters, weight of the antenna and other items on tower, turning radius, element lengths, antenna height, location exposure category, locations three-second gust wind-speed, locations maximum radial ice loading.

Improper specification of an antenna or rotator to a tower can result in product failure, injury or death. SteppIR is not an expert on tower or rotator sizing and for this reason will never offer any recommendation – this specification process is meant for industry professionals such as a structural engineer, tower manufacturer or rotator manufacturer. Please do not attempt to self-specify our products – the information provided by SteppIR is to be utilized by industry professionals only and we will not accept any liability for improperly specified antenna/tower/rotator applications.

Tech Support: www.steppir.com/support ● Tel: 425.453.1910 ● support@steppir.com

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SteppIR - Why Compromise?

The SteppIR antenna was originally conceived to solve the problem of covering the six ham bands (20m, 17m, 15m, 12m, 10m and 6m) on one tower without the performance sacrifices caused by interaction between all of the required antennas.

Yagi's are available that cover 40 meters through 10 meters by using interlaced elements or traps or log periodic techniques, but do so at the expense of significant performance reduction in gain and front to back ratios. With the addition of the WARC bands on 30m, 17m and 12m, the use of interlaced elements and traps has clearly been an exercise in diminishing returns.

Obviously, an antenna that is precisely adjustable in length while in the air would solve the frequency problem, and in addition would have vastly improved performance over existing fixed length Yagi's. The ability to tune the antenna to a specific frequency, without regard for bandwidth, results in excellent gain and front to back at every frequency.

The patented folded dipole loop elements on the DB36 allow for outstanding performance on 40m and 30m with element lengths that are 40% shorter than a full sized Yagi—at the expense of only 0.3dB of gain!

The SteppIR design was made possible by the convergence of determination and high tech materials. The availability of new lightweight glass fiber composites, Teflon blended thermoplastics, high conductivity copper-beryllium and extremely reliable stepper motors has allowed the SteppIR to be a commercially feasible product.

The current and future SteppIR products should produce the most potent single tower antenna systems ever seen in Amateur Radio! We thank you for using our SteppIR antenna for your ham radio endeavors.

73 and good DX!

John Mertel

John Mertel
President/CEO
WA7IR

READ THIS BEFORE YOU BEGIN INSTALLATION

You have ordered you SteppIR Antenna and are waiting for delivery. What do you do in the meantime?

1. Go to the SteppIR web site at https://consumer.steppir.com/support/files/ and download the latest manual for your antenna, and also the Operators Manual for the controller. Look for any new or updated documents that may pertain to your antenna, and also look for instructional videos at: https://consumer.steppir.com/support/tech-support-videos/
2. Read the manuals from cover-to-cover ---TWICE! Don't just read them –Study them, so you are familiar the terminology used about the antennas and have a good idea of how the antenna is assembled and where the various parts go.
3. As you go through the manuals make notes of any instructions you may not clearly understand, then call or email for clarifications. It is better to have it all sorted out before you start assembly. We don't mind answering your questions beforehand.
4. Now, wait for notification your antenna is being shipped.

Your antenna has arrived! What is the first thing to do?

1. If the antennas is to arrive on Wednesday----DO NOT plan an antenna party for Saturday
2. Even if you plan to install the antenna weeks later, the first thing to do is to unpack the antenna and do a complete inspection. Make sure nothing is missing or has been damaged in shipment.
3. Do a complete inventory of every part, nut and bolt. Yes it takes time, but it also allows you to notify SteppIR if anything is missing and allow time to get it to you before you start assembly of the antenna. There is nothing more frustrating than realizing that something is missing, just hours before you want to install the antenna.
4. Go back to the SteppIR website and download the latest manual. SteppIR constantly is improving and adding to the manual, so even though your paper instruction manual is going to have all the data you need, it makes sense to check for the latest updates online. This is especially true If you purchased the antenna and a period of time has passed between arrival and install dates.
5. Take the controller and power supply out of their wrappings and connect them. The controller does not have to be connected to the antenna in order to familiarize yourself with it. In fact, it is best to get familiar with the controller when it is not connected to the antenna. Turn on the controller and read through the Operators Manual again while operating the controller in all it modes. Go through the menus so you know what each does and how to navigate through the various menus and functions.
6. When you have finished working with the controller be sure the display indicates "Elements Home" and the controller has been turned OFF. When the controller is connected to the antenna and the controller is turned back on the next time, it will immediately tune to whatever position the controller was left in last time you were using it, so you want to be sure that position is HOME.

READ THIS BEFORE YOU START INSTALLATION (continued)

7. Once the antenna is completely assembled and ready to mount on the antenna tower, use an antenna analyzer, if you have one, to test resonance of the antenna.. If you don't have an analyzer, try to borrow one. It will save you a lot of time and worry. Check the antenna on each band for some sign of resonance within the frequency range. Leave the antenna on the default frequency and tune the analyzer to see where the dip occurs. It will be somewhere below the lower band edge on each band with the antenna 3 or 4 feet above the ground on sawhorses. Also, don't expect to see a 1:1 SWR here, just look for a good indication of resonance.
8. DO NOT put the antenna up onto the tower until you are positive it is working correctly—this is what these tests are helping you determine. Err on the side of caution.
9. Once it has been determined this part of the antenna is working correctly do the following: Select the lowest band and establish the dip condition by tuning the analyzer. Do not touch the analyzer again. Retract the elements and then reselect the same band. The antenna should come back to very near the same setting. Do this 2 or 3 times on each band. Also, try going from the band being tested to any other band and back again and observe that the antenna comes back to the same resonant point. Now you know the antenna is tuning correctly from band to band and is consistent.

DB36 Bill of Materials

Item	Description	Qty
	Antenna box (61” x 13’ x 10”)	
10-1013-02	Telescoping Pole, 18 foot 4 section **(in pole box)**	14
21-6040	Splitter, 6" 3-1/2mm, Stereo Male to Two RCA Female	1
60-1006-22	QUICK DISCONNECT, 1-1/2" to 1-1/4", Fernco	14
10-1059-01	Polyolefin heat shrink 1.5” x 6”	28
10-1059-21	Polyolefin Heat Shrink 1.1” x 6”	14
70-2036	Connector Junction Box, DB36 and MIR with 80m Dipole	1
70-3000-11	33V, 3.03A 100watt, Power Supply w/Cord	1
70-3405-01	EHU, DB36 Driven	1
10-1501-23	Cover for Black EHU, With countersunk drain hole	1
70-3420-01	EHU, 20m Passive	1
70-3422-01	EHU, 40m Passive w/ Terminal lug Assembly	2
70-6010-01	Adapter, 25pin Dsub Field Splice	1
	Flash Drive - Instruction Manual	1
	Sweep box (32” x 24” x 7”)	
72-0010-61	Kit, 65' 4 Conductor Cable and 32" Coax Seal	1
72-0018-31	Kit, 39' Element Truss, 2E, 3E, DB18/18E/36/42 end Elements	2
72-0028-01	Kit, 80m Dipole Hardware Bag 1	1
72-0028-11	Kit, 80m Dipole Hardware Bag 2	1
72-0030-61	Kit, Sweep Hardware	3
72-0100	Box, DB36 Hardware	1
72-0102	Box, DB36, Saddle	1
72-0104	Misc. Parts, DB36	1
72-1002	Kit, DB36 - 6m Hardware	1
10-1153-01	Poly Sweeps (100psi)	6
10-1511-01	Sweep Diverter	12
10-1059-21	Polyolefin Heat Shrink 1.1” x 6”	12

DB36 Bill of Materials (continued)

Item	Description	Qty
	Sweep box (32” x 24” x 7”) continued	
10-1503-21	Fiberglass rod, 3/8" x 31-3/4" long, black	6
10-1605-12	Element Support Plate, 49 ft element	1
10-1608-01	Element Return Plate	3
21-7002-01	Dacron double braided poly rope, 3/16"	95
21-8002	Phillystran, 2100i	30
70-1015-11	EST return tube, 1-3/4" x 12", fiberglass (DB style)	2
70-2030-11	DB style mounting plate with foam mounting guide	3
10-1610-23	Boom to Mast plate 11" X 1/4"	2
70-3003-01	Balun Switch Box, 80m, 4:1	1
	Boom box, boom is prebuilt; (72” x 8” x 8”)	
70-6001-01	DB 6m passive element	2
10-1054-02	Truss Support, 30m/40m, 36"	3
10-1202-01	DB style aluminum boom section, 1-3/4" x 72"	2
10-1202-11	DB style aluminum boom section, 2.00" X 72"	2
10-1202-21	DB style aluminum boom section, 2"-1/4 x 48"	2
10-1202-32	DB style aluminum boom section, 2-1/2" x 72"	1
10-1203-21	reinforcing sleeve, 2" x 10" - 2-1/4" boom section	2
10-1618-41	boom truss mast, 1-3/4" x 48", for DB36 Yagi	1
10-1630-11	Aluminum reinforcing sleeve, 2" x 3", DB36, DB42	4
10-1630-21	Aluminum reinforcing sleeve, 2" x 12", DB36, DB42	1
70-2025-33	64" x 3/4" CPVC tube with foam sealing ring and rubber coupler	2
70-2028-01	EST extension, 66-3/8", with aluminum reinforcing ring	2
70-2029-01	EST extension, 60-3/4", with aluminum reinforcing ring	2
70-2025-13	CPVC tube, 49" x 3/4", with coupler	6
70-2025-23	CPVC tube, 39-7/8" x 3/4", w/o coupler	6

STAINLESS STEEL FASTENERS PRIMER

From time to time, we get complaints from customers regarding galling of stainless steel fasteners.

Here is an excerpt from the Industrial Fastener Institute's Standards Book: *Thread galling seems to be the most prevalent with fasteners made of stainless steel, aluminum, titanium and other alloys which self-generate an oxide surface film for corrosion protection. During fastener tightening, as pressure builds between the contacting and sliding thread surfaces, protective oxides are broken, possibly wiped off and interface metal high points shear or lock together. This cumulative clogging-shearing-locking action causes increasing adhesion. In the extreme, galling leads to seizing - the actual freezing together of the threads. If tightening is continued, the fastener can be twisted off or its threads ripped out.*

During minor galling, the fastener can still be removed, but in severe cases of galling, a strong bond between the bolt and nut can prevent removal of fasteners. Unfortunately, little is known on how to control it, but here are two ways to minimize this effect: *Decreasing installation RPM speed will cause less friction and decrease heat generation. Lubrication used prior to assembly can dramatically reduce or eliminate galling. Recommended lubricants should contain higher amounts of molybdenum disulfide, such as graphite which is very commonly used as a solid lubricant or special anti-galling lubricants sold by chemical companies.*

We provide an anti-seize compound stick called "Thread Magic" with all of our antennas and **strongly encourage** you to use it to reduce the aggravation of galling. Nylock nuts are no exception—apply the anti-seize on fastemers that use Nylock nuts as well. The Thread Magic stick is fantastic and is good for all metal fastener use—and, you can get plenty of anti-seize on the fastener without getting it on your hands!

Turn-of-nut tightening of nuts to bolts is recommended where torque values are not named, with metal to metal connections. Turn the wrench/socket until it is flush with the material it will seat against and snug-tightened, and then turn approximately 2/3 of a rotation past that point. When in doubt use common sense to ensure the fastener is not too loose, or not too tight—both positions can cause issues. On all connections, check the tightness 30 minutes or more later to ensure no creeping has taken effect.

Contrary to popular belief, galling of stainless steel is not a symptom of a "cheap" fastener - it is prevalent in all types of stainless steel, aluminum and titanium fasteners. You can be assured that the stainless steel fasteners we provide with our products are manufactured of very high quality.

Save yourself a lot of grief and always use a thread lubricant when working with stainless steel fasteners.

ASSEMBLY NOTES

Before beginning assembly of this antenna, please read the manual in it's entirety to familiarize yourself with the task at hand. Doing so will eliminate potential confusion.

Be sure to do an inventory of your parts as soon as possible after receipt of the antenna, and well before your intended installation date - this way we can get you the parts required before it's too late.

When doing inventory on the parts, we recommend you divide the items needed for each of the separate steps. It will make handling and organization of the parts a much easier task!

A large, cleared flat area is recommended for assembly of an antenna of this size and complexity. Typically, an area 40 ft x 50 ft would be ideal. We recommend using sawhorses or sturdy tables when installing the boom. By having the boom elevated, it is easier to ensure that the elements are level. Rubber or Nitrile gloves are recommended when applying the anti-seize to the stainless steel fasteners or the aluminum boom sections.

If you do not have room near the tower to assemble the antenna, we suggest you find a place that you can put the antenna together in it's entirety and then disassemble as needed for transportation to the tower area.

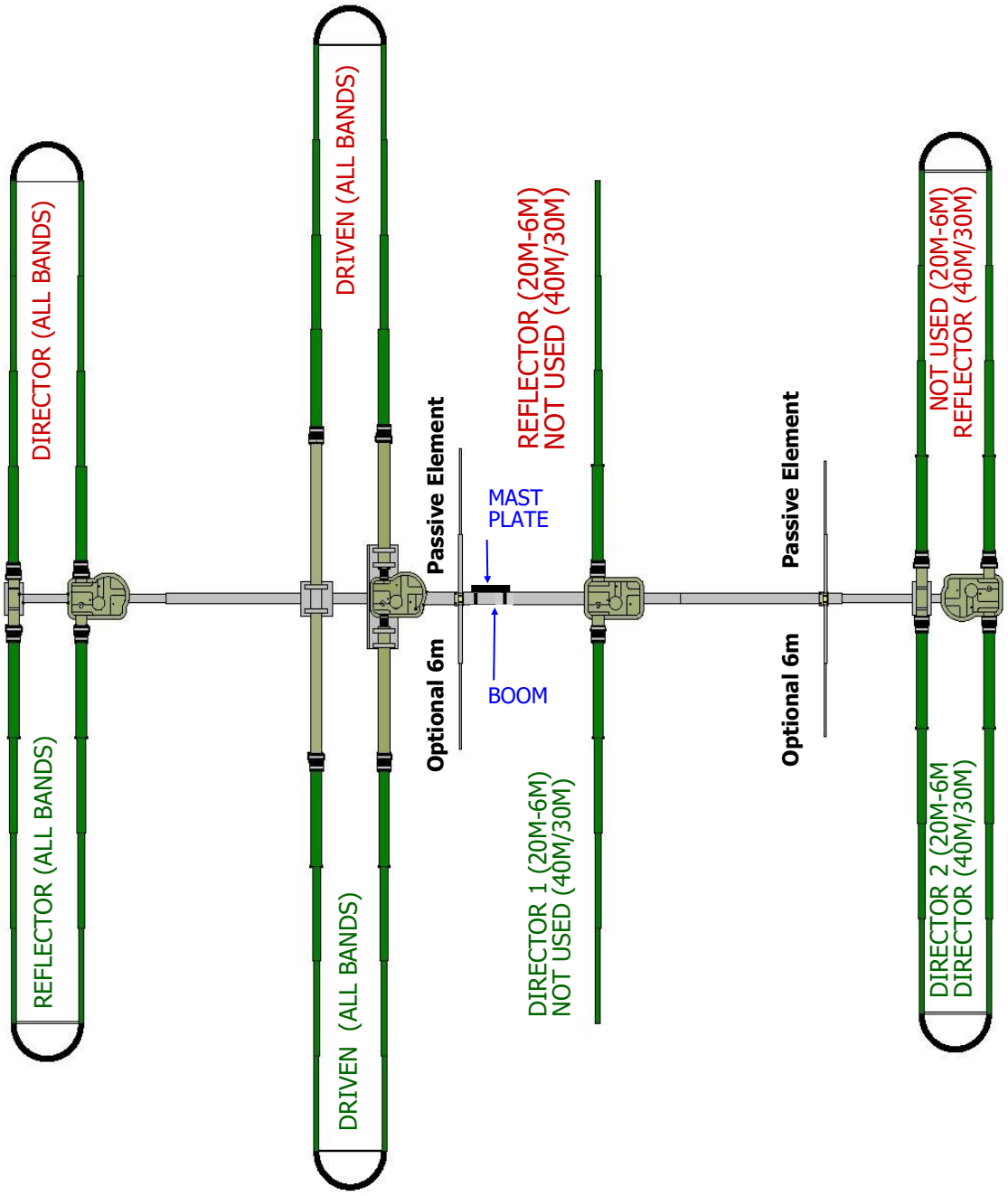
Be sure to refer to the DB36 configuration drawing on the following page so that you can fully understand how the antenna operates. In addition, the configuration drawing identifies EHU placement, which is important as you progress in your installation of the antenna.

Use of a level for adjusting the Element Housing Units (EHU's) is highly recommended. This is a surprisingly accurate and consistent method. Simply place the level on the mast plate, and adjust each element accordingly.

Be sure to use the anti-seize compound supplied to prevent the galling of the stainless steel fasteners. If you do not use the anti-seize, count on issues with the hardware galling. Heat is one of the primary culprits with galling, so if you use a ratchet, steady speed as you tighten will help minimize galling. We have found that when the anti-seize is applied to the bolt portion of the hardware, it will eliminate any galling issues.

DB 36 ELEMENT CONFIGURATION GUIDE

REVERSE DIRECTION (180 deg)



FORWARD DIRECTION (Normal)

BOOM LAYOUT

Our boom pieces are all drilled on a very precise drill press. This ensures that all the bolts are snug when assembled. It is always better to be too tight than too loose. In rare cases, you may need to run through the bolt holes with a 1/4" drill bit so the bolts will fit. Always apply an anti-seize lubricant to stainless steel bolts that are using stainless steel nuts. This will prevent the two from galling together. Galling of stainless steel is common and has nothing to do with the quality of the material. Refer to the galling information in the BEFORE YOU BEGIN section of this manual.

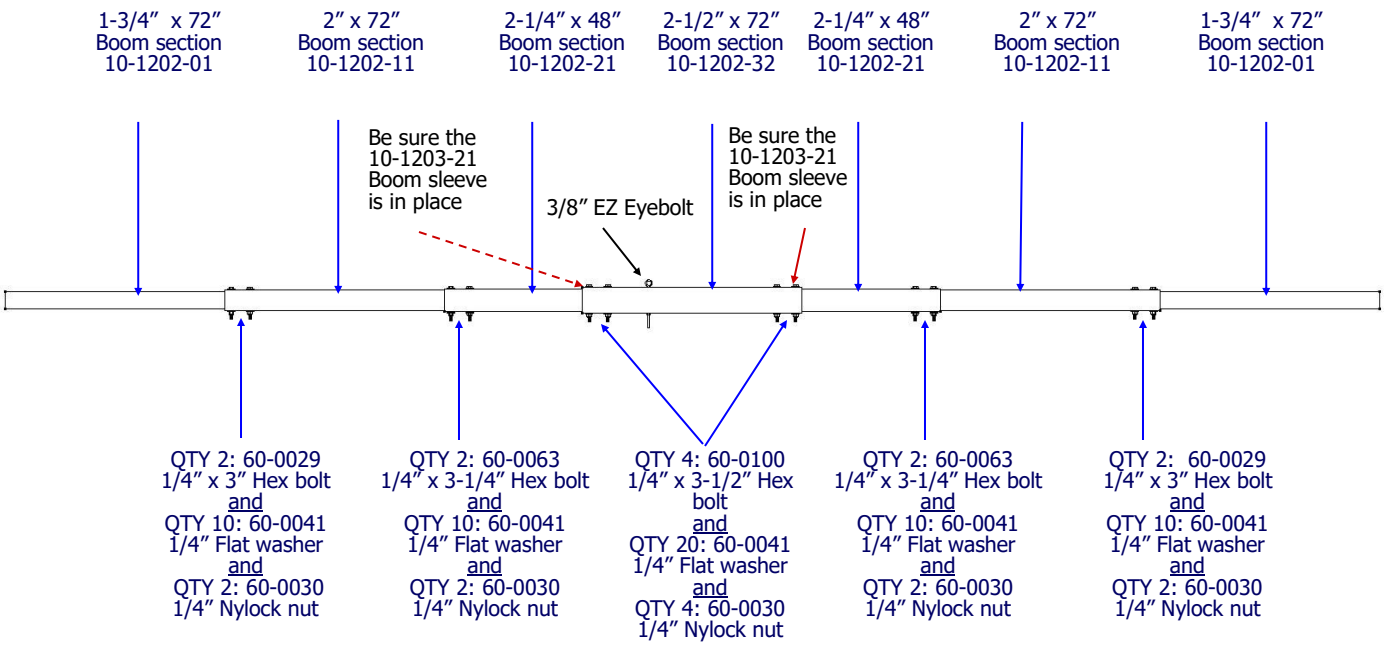
Each bolt has a specific length for the particular tubing it is holding together. It is important that the shank of the bolt is engaged in the tubing, since that is the strongest portion of the bolt. Use 5 washers per bolt to secure the bolt as shown in figure 1.02 on the following page.

Apply a thin film of a lubricant such as Anti-seize (included) or Noalox (not included) to the male engagement area of the aluminum boom sections. Failure to do so may cause the tubes to seize inside each other. Match the boom pieces as shown below and slide each boom piece together until the pre-drilled holes align.

Secure the correct bolts and washers onto the boom as shown in figure 1.01. Repeat this for each section until the boom is completely assembled

Secure the 3/8" eyebolt as shown in figure 1.03. This eyebolt is part of our EZ-Eye system, which helps to level the boom and also assists in keeping the boom from shifting during high winds.

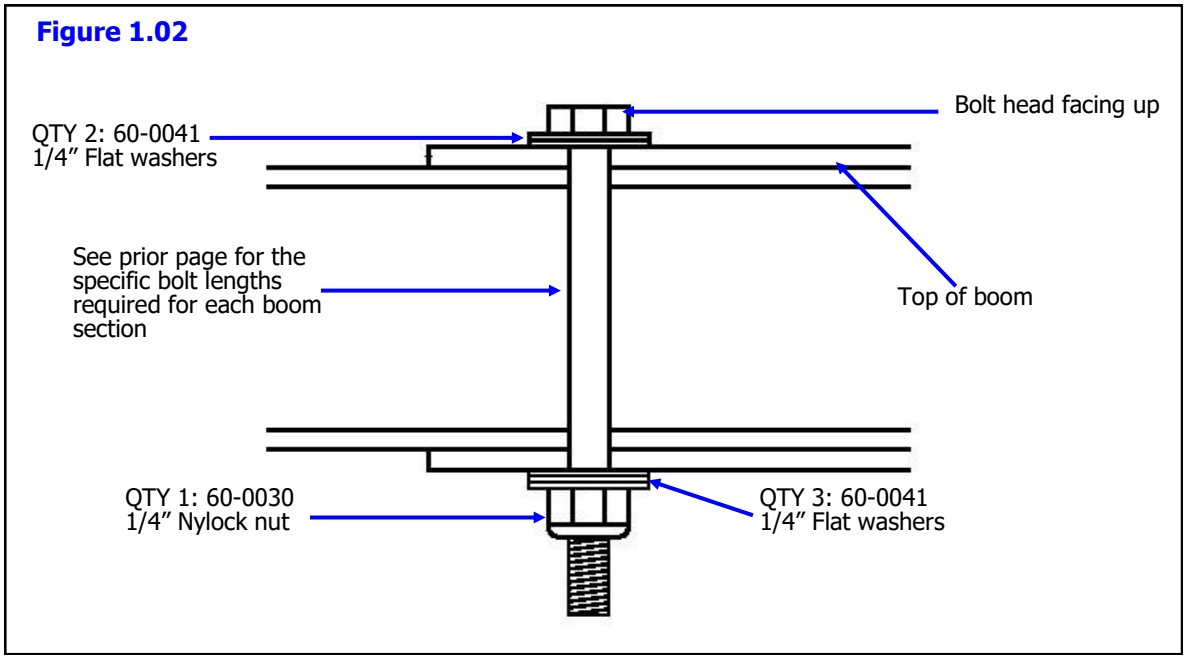
FIGURE 1.01



BOOM BOLT / EZ-EYEBOLT DETAIL

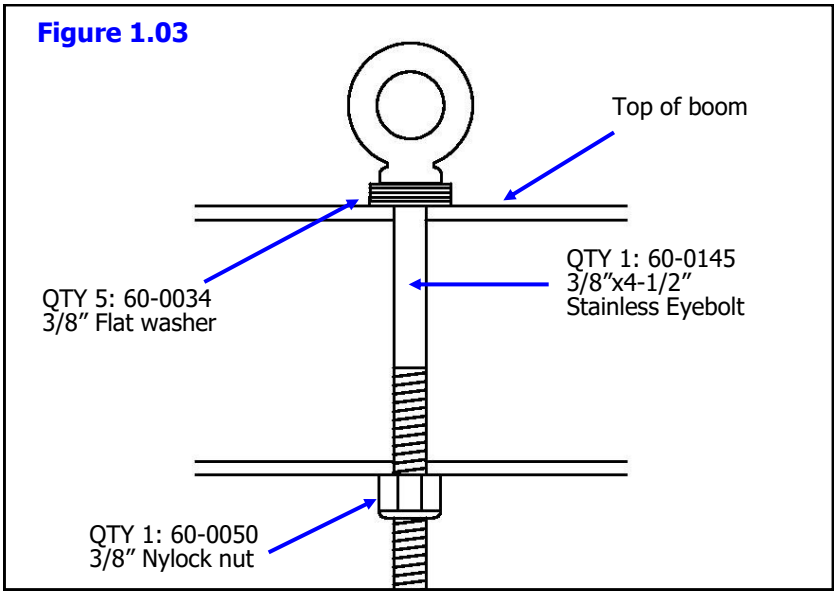
When securing the eye-bolt and boom bolts to the boom, install the eye and the head of the bolts on the same side of the boom, so that they will be facing upwards when the boom is secured to the tower. The 1/4" boom bolts require 5 washers, as shown below in figure 1.02.

Figure 1.02



When securing the EZ-Eyebolt to the boom, five 3/8" flat washers (PN 60-0034) are used as a spacer as shown in figure 1.03. If the shank of the eyebolt is too tight to "screw in", you may need to slightly enlarge the hole using a drill.

Figure 1.03



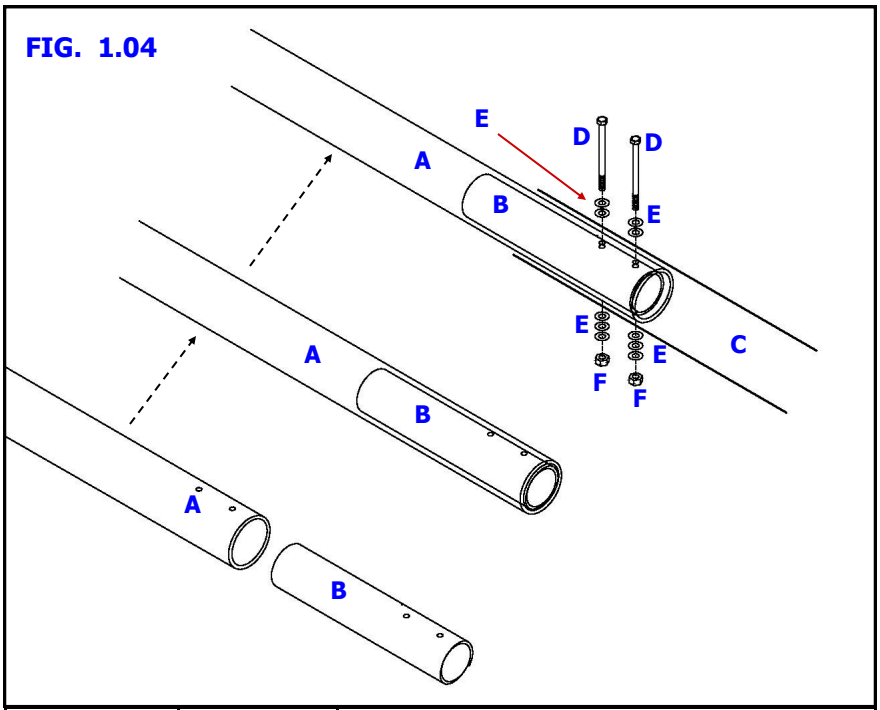
BOOM REINFORCING SLEEVE

The DB36 utilizes a boom reinforcing sleeve, located at the junction point where the 2-1/4" boom sections mate with the 2-1/2" boom section. This action effectively doubles the wall thickness at this critical location.

Locate the 2" x 10" boom reinforcing sleeve (PN 10-1203-21) and apply a thin coating of anti-seize or other lubricant to the sleeve so that it will slide inside the 2-1/4" boom without seizing. Slide the boom reinforcing sleeve into the 2-1/4" portion of boom as shown in figure 1.05. Align so that the holes in the boom reinforcing sleeve match with the holes in the 2.25" portion of the boom as shown in figure 1.06.

Apply Noalox to the outside of the 2-1/4" boom piece and slide into the 2-1/2" boom piece as shown in figure 1.07. Insert the 1/4" x 3-1/2" hex head bolts (PN 60-0100) bolts through the 3 pieces (2-1/2" boom, boom reinforcing sleeve & 2-1/4" boom) along with the 1/4" washers (60-0041). Thread the 1/4" Nylock nuts (PN 60-0030) onto the bolts and tighten firmly as shown in figure 1.08. Repeat for the other side of the 2-1/2" boom. Figure 1.04 shows this procedure in a step-by-step sequence.

FIG. 1.04



Key	Part #	Description
A	10-1202-21	2-1/4" x 48" Boom section
B	10-1203-21	2" x 10" Boom sleeve
C	10-1203-31	2-1/2" x 72" Boom section
D	60-0100	1/4" x 3-1/2" Hex head bolt
E	60-0041	1/4" Flat washer
F	60-0030	1/4" Nylock nut

FIG. 1.05

FIG. 1.06

FIG. 1.07

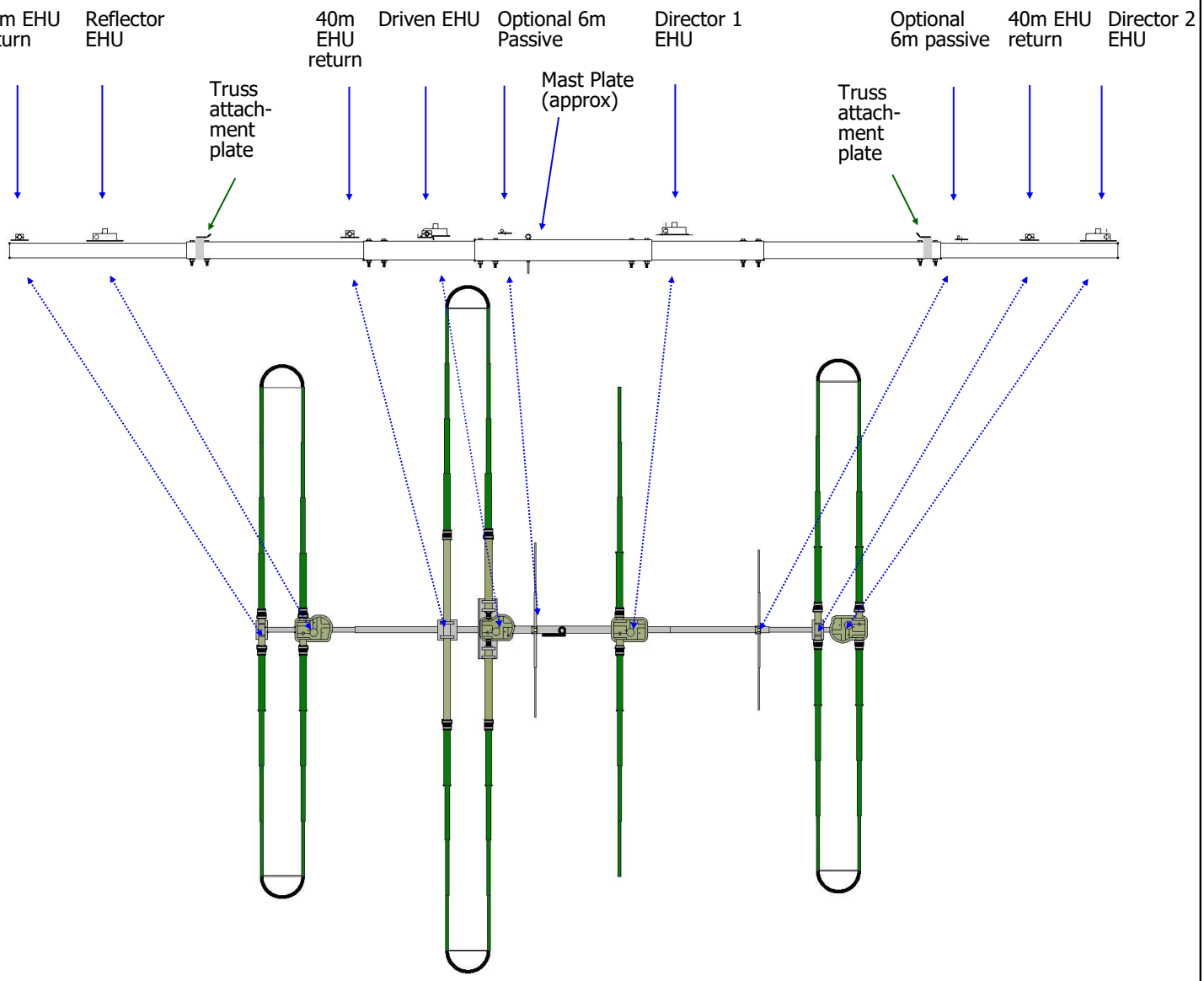
FIG. 1.08

ELEMENT HOUSING UNIT (EHU) PLACEMENT

The diagram in figure 2.01 below shows the placement of the element housing units (EHU's) for the DB36 Yagi. In addition, the optional 6m passive elements are shown along with the mounting brackets for the boom truss. Refer to the following page for actual placement measurements.

When you are facing the boom portion of the mast plate, the orientation will always be with the reflector to the left of the mast plate and the directors to the right of the mast plate. We refer to all drawings in this manual with that in mind.

FIG. 2.01



EHU CENTER-T0-CENTER SPACING MEASUREMENTS

It is critically important that the center-to-center spacing is correct when assembling your SteppIR DB36 Yagi. Use figure 2.02 for placement of each of the elements. Start from the left (reflector) edge of the boom and measure from there.
As you assemble each of the element housing units (EHU's), refer to this drawing. We recommend this sequence:

1. Secure the element mounting plates to the boom using the saddles and fasteners (be sure to use anti-seize on all stainless steel fasteners). Tighten enough to hold them in place, but loose enough so you can move the mounting plates for final tightening.
2. Wire the EHU's and secure them to the element mounting plates (don't forget the gasket!). The mounting plate itself acts as the lid for the DB36 EHU's, with the exception of the 49 ft Driven element.
3. Measure your center-to-center lengths, level the mounting plates and firmly tighten. The center of the element is the center of the fiberglass tube that extends from the EHU.
4. Re-measure all of your lengths and correct if needed. Take your time, get it right.

All of this is covered in greater detail in this manual, but it's important to understand the proper flow BEFORE you start—it will save a lot of time.

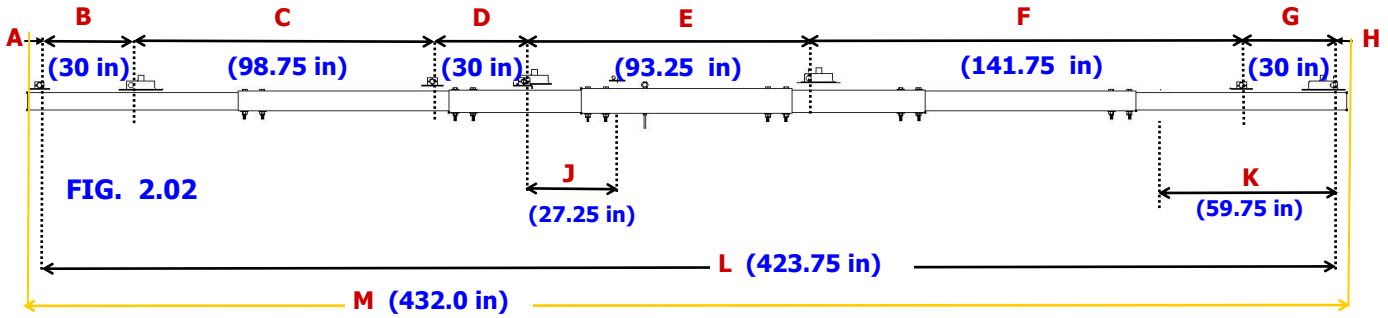


FIG. 2.02

KEY	Start measurement at center-point of:	Finish measurement at center-point of:	Measurement distance between points
A	*Boom edge	Loop return (REF)	3.875 inches
B	Loop return (REF)	Reflector EHU	30.0 inches
C	Reflector EHU	Loop return (DRV)	98.75 inches
D	Loop return (DRV)	Driven EHU	30.0 inches
E	Driven EHU	Director 1 EHU	93.25 inches
F	Director 1 EHU	Loop return (DIR2)	141.75 inches
G	Loop return (DIR2)	Director 2 EHU	30.0 inches
H	Director 2 EHU	Edge of boom	4.375 inches
J	Driven EHU	Optional 6m passive 1	27.25 inches
K	Optional 6m passive 2	Director 2 EHU	59.75 inches
L	Loop return (REF)	Director 2 EHU	423.75 inches
M	Boom edge*	Boom edge*	432.0 inches

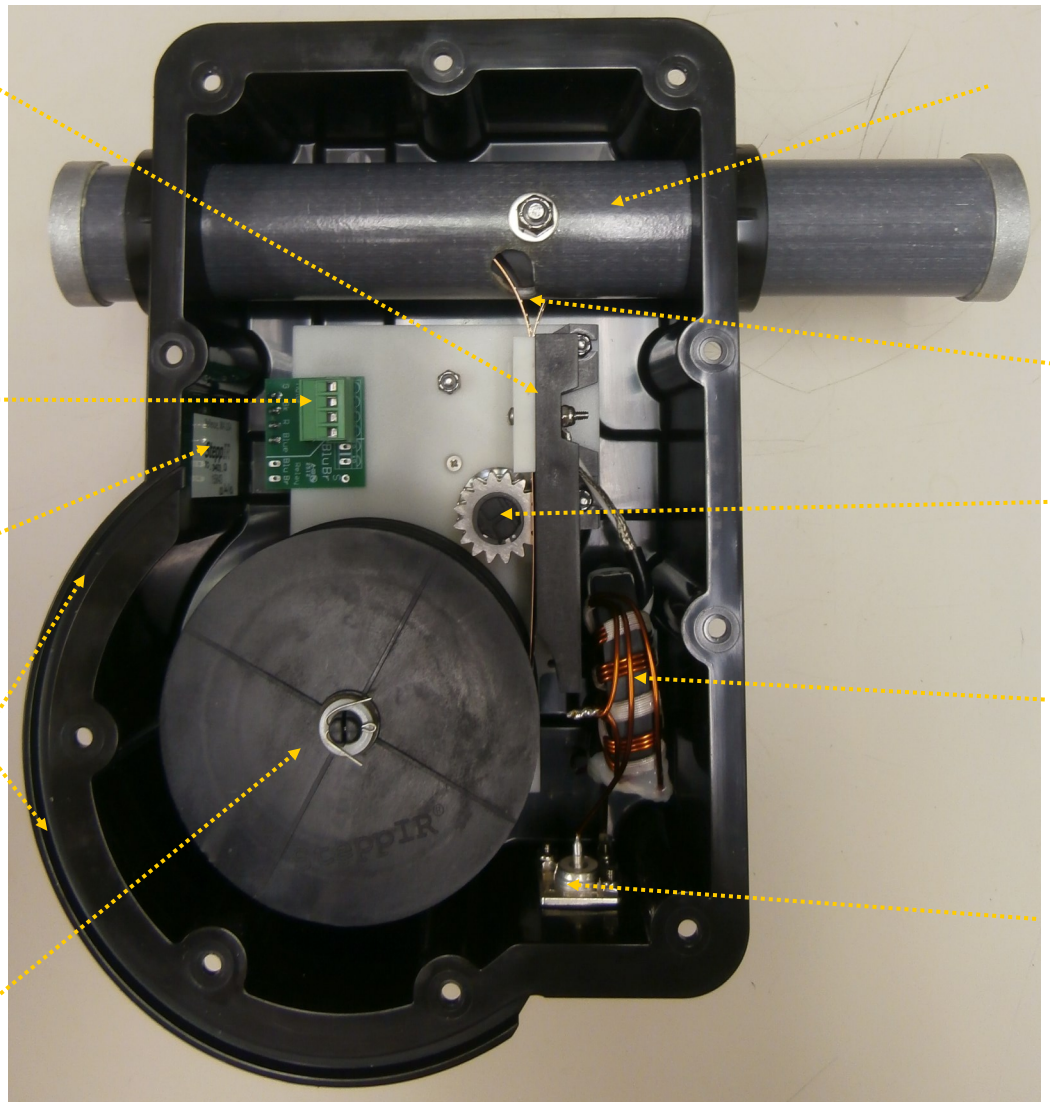
*There is no center-point measurement at the boom edge—place the ruler literally on the edge of the boom

ELEMENT HOUSING UNIT (EHU) WIRING OVERVIEW

Figure 2.10 gives an overview of the inside of a SteppIR EHU. Wiring of each EHU will be covered in detail on the following pages.

NEVER ATTEMPT ANY WIRING WHILE THE ELECTRONIC CONTROLLER IS CONNECTED TO THE CONTROL CABLE. Even if the power is turned off of the controller, damage can occur. This is the number one cause of antenna installation failures, so please be sure to heed the advice.

FIG. 2.10



MOUNTING THE EHU's ON THE BOOM (continued)

EHU WIRING

Make certain you have the correct length control cable for the EHU you are preparing. Trim approximately 1.5 inches of the outer jacket of the control cable (4 wire) as shown in figure 2.11. Remove the shield material, the support thread and cut the ground wire off. Attach electrical tape at the end of the trimmed control cable jacket as shown in figure 2.12. Remove 0.25 inches of the insulation from each of the individual 22 AWG wires, leaving bare copper. Tinning of the copper wire ends with solder is not required but may be helpful in keeping the ends together while attaching the control cable wires. Figure 2.12 shows the control cable should look like when you are finished with the trimming. Dip each of the copper wires into dielectric grease before inserting into the terminal plug. Figure 2.13 shows what the connector protector will look like. Optionally, you may use the dielectric grease on the male pins inside the terminal header. A common problem is reversing the wiring sequence—pay close attention that the wires are correctly positioned as shown in figure 2.15.

The terminal header assembly consists of the terminal header and the terminal plug as shown in figure 2.15. The plug is shipped loosely attached to the header. Remove this plug when wiring and firmly plug back in when completed. Double and triple check that the plugs are firmly connected . Follow the wire sequence in figure 2.15 for each EHU. *Be careful to ensure that there are no bare wires protruding out from the terminal clamps.*

The wiring sequence for each EHU is also imprinted on the PCB that the terminal header is mounted on (located inside the EHU). Pay no attention to the second row of imprinted text, these pins are for use in the manufacturing of the board itself and are of no use to you. Figure 2.14 shows a blue line crossing out the text in question. The yellow circle shows the correct wiring sequence.

FIG. 2.11

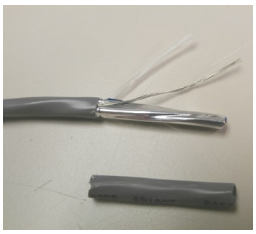


FIG. 2.12

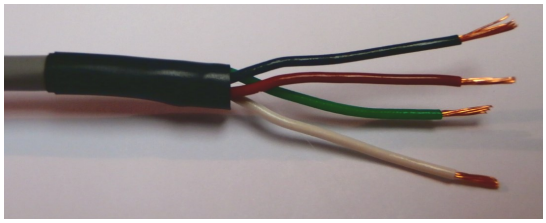


FIG. 2.13

FIG. 2.14

4 Pin Header Wiring Sequence

BLACK	RED	GREEN	WHITE

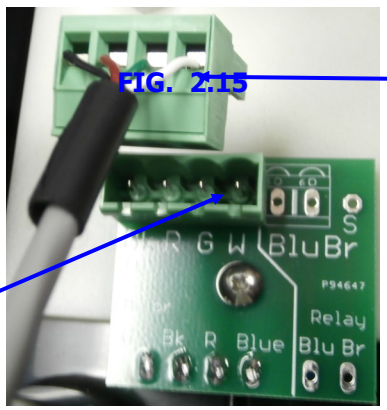


FIG. 2.15

65' of 4 conductor wire is included with the antenna. You can trim the runs of wire later, but at this stage cut the wire into the following lengths: 21' for the Reflector, 9' for the Driven, 11' for Director #1, 24' for Director #2

MOUNTING THE EHU's ON THE BOOM (continued)

EHU WIRING (continued)

Check to be sure the terminal plug is firmly inserted into the terminal header.

Lay the control cable wire inside the wire tray of the EHU as shown in figure 2.16. This trough acts as a strain relief so that the cable will not be pulled out of the EHU. It is a good idea to leave a small amount of slack between the plug and the point which the trough starts as shown in figure 2.17.

Using the coax seal and cut into 1 inch strips as shown in figure 2.18. You will need three strips. The remainder can be used to seal the driven element SO239 connectors, should you wish to.

Apply coax seal on top of the control cable and work it around the cable and on top of the cable tray as shown in figure 2.19. This will help keep water from entering into the EHU. Apply the coax seal to the 2 remaining sections of the wire tray as shown in figure 2.20. This picture has extra coax seal on each point so it is visible in the photo—in reality, try to create a surface that is as flat as possible at each point.

Repeat wiring and coax seal preparation for each EHU. When finished, the EHU's will be secured to the aluminum element mounting plates. This is covered in detail in the next chapter.

When preparing individual EHU's, this is a good time to dry fit the telescoping poles to the EST's that protrude out of the EHU— it may be necessary to sand the telescoping pole butt-ends to ensure they fit into the EHU. Once you have a successful fit, mark the telescoping poles to correspond with the EHU in question so they are not mixed up later.

FIG. 2.16

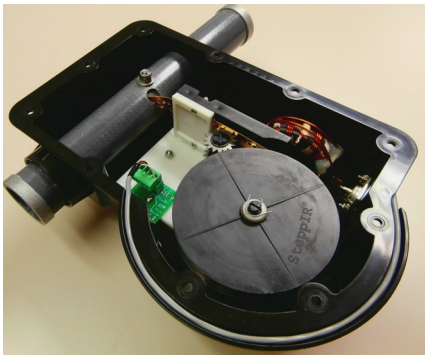


FIG. 2.17

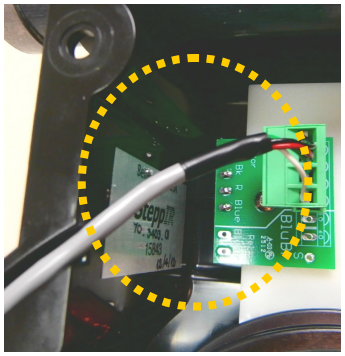


FIG. 2.18

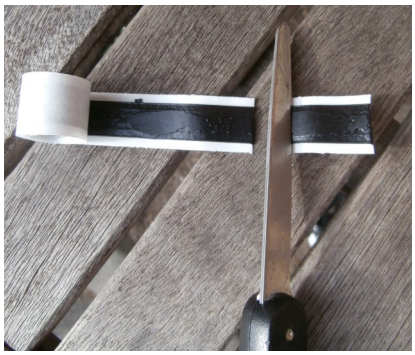


FIG. 2.19

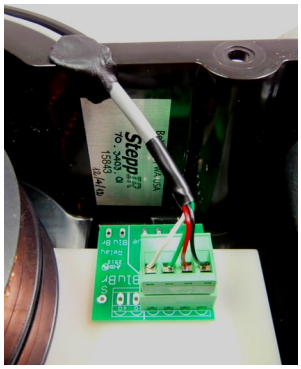
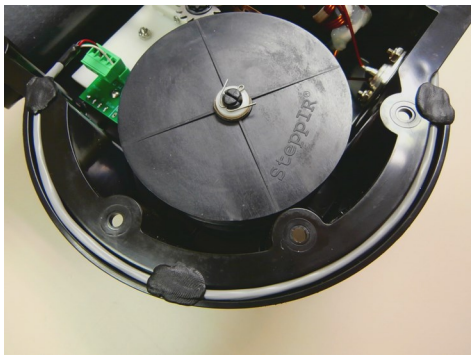


FIG. 2.20



DRIVEN ELEMENT EHU & RETURN TUBE ASSEMBLY

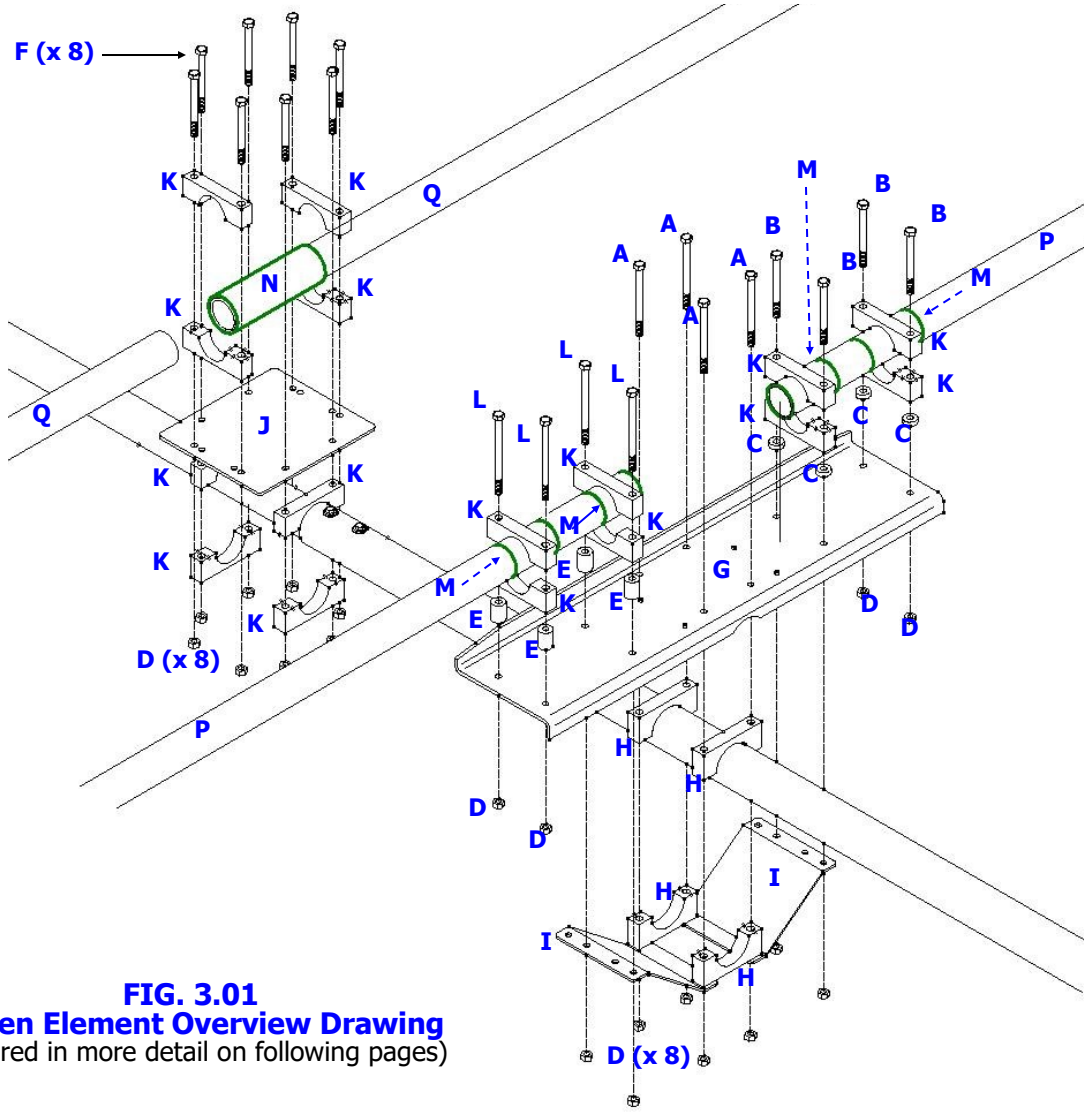


FIG. 3.01
Driven Element Overview Drawing
(Covered in more detail on following pages)

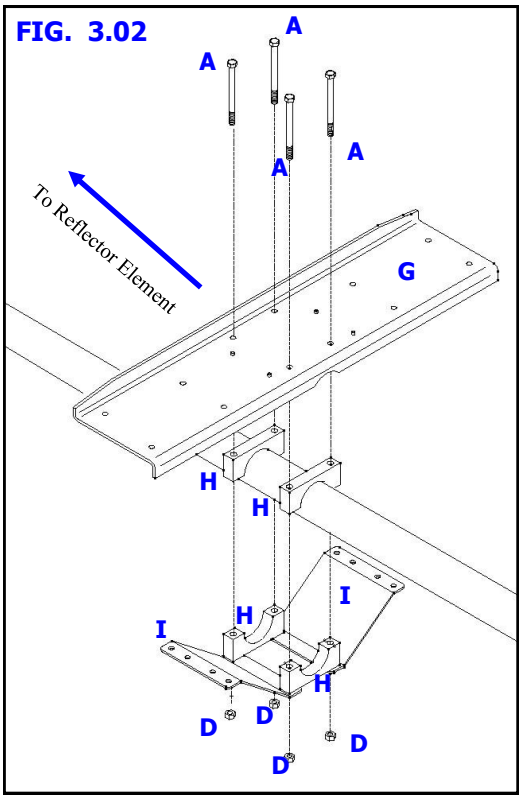
Key	QTY	Part Number	Description	Key	QTY	Part Number	Description
A	4	60-0066	5/16" X 4" Hex head bolt	I	2	10-1606-01	Reinforcing plate
B	4	60-0114	5/16" x 3-3/4" Hex head bolt	J	1	10-1608-01	Element return plate
C	4	10-1613-11	1/4" Aluminum spacer	K	16	10-1601-22	2" Aluminum saddle half
D	20	60-0046	5/16" Nylock nut	L	4	60-0115	5/16" x 4-1/2" Hex head bolt
E	4	10-1613-01	1" Aluminum spacer	M	4	10-1601-11	2" x 3" Stress relief tube (insert on OD of fiberglass EST)
F	8	60-0065	5/16" x 3-1/2" Hex head bolt	N	1	10-1630-21	2" X 12" Stress relief tube (insert on OD of fiberglass EST)
G	1	10-1605-11	Element mounting plate	P	2	70-2029-01	1-3/4" X 60-3/4" EST tube
H	4	10-1601-32	2-1/4" Aluminum saddle half	Q	2	70-2028-01	1-3/4" x 66-3/8" EST tube

ATTACH THE ELEMENT MOUNTING PLATE—DRIVEN

The DB36 Driven loop element is 49 feet in length. The other two loop elements (REF& DIR 2) on the DB36 are 39 feet in length. There is a reason for this— by having the middle loop element 49 feet, it electrically makes the two end elements perform as if they are 49 feet in length too. This is the basis for one of the SteppIR patents and is fundamental in the outstanding performance the DB36 delivers on the 40m and 30m bands while being 40% shorter than a full sized Yagi on those bands.

The construction of the Driven element is the most complex portion of the DB36 installation process. To make life easier for the installer, we have divided this procedure into four separate sections.

Figure 3.02 shows the items required for installing the element mounting plate for the Driven element. Detailed instructions follow. Note that the KEY letters referenced match up to the ones in figure 3.01.



Key	QTY	Part Number	Description
A	4	60-0066	5/16" X 4" Hex head bolt
H	4	10-1601-32	2-1/4" Aluminum saddle half
D	4	60-0046	5/16" Nylock nut
G	1	10-1605-11	Element mounting plate
I	2	10-1606-01	Reinforcing plate

ATTACH THE ELEMENT MOUNTING PLATE—DRIVEN (continued)

Refer to Chapter Two for center-to-center measurements. Locate the element mounting plate (PN 10-1605-11) and insert four 5/16" x 4" hex head bolts (PN 60-0066) through the plate as shown in figure 3.03. Remove any protective sleeve that may be on the plate. Insert two of the 2-1/4" aluminum saddle halves (PN 10-1601-32) onto the hex head bolts and place on top of the boom on the 2-1/4" section as shown in figure 3.04. The upward lip of the mounting plate should be facing towards the Reflector side of the boom as shown in figure 3.05. Securing the element mounting plate with a clamp is highly recommended, especially if there is only one person doing this step. Figure 3.06 shows the clamp in place with the upward lip of the mounting plate facing the Reflector side of boom.

Figure 3.08 shows how the two reinforcing plates (PN 10-1606-01) will be positioned underneath the element mounting plate. Place two of the 2-1/4" aluminum saddles onto the 5/16" x 4" hex head bolts, follow with a reinforcing plate on the bottom of each saddle. Attach four 5/16" Nylock nuts (PN 60-0046), but leave loose. Be sure to apply anti-seize on each stainless steel fastener. Note that the outward side of the reinforcing plates have not yet been fastened. This will be covered in a later step.

Figure 3.09 shows the completed element mounting plate attached to the boom. The clamp has been removed for clarity, we recommend you keep it in place until later in the assembly process.

FIG. 3.03

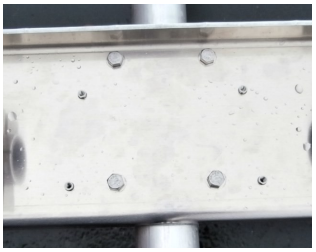


FIG. 3.04

FIG. 3.05

FIG. 3.06

FIG. 3.08

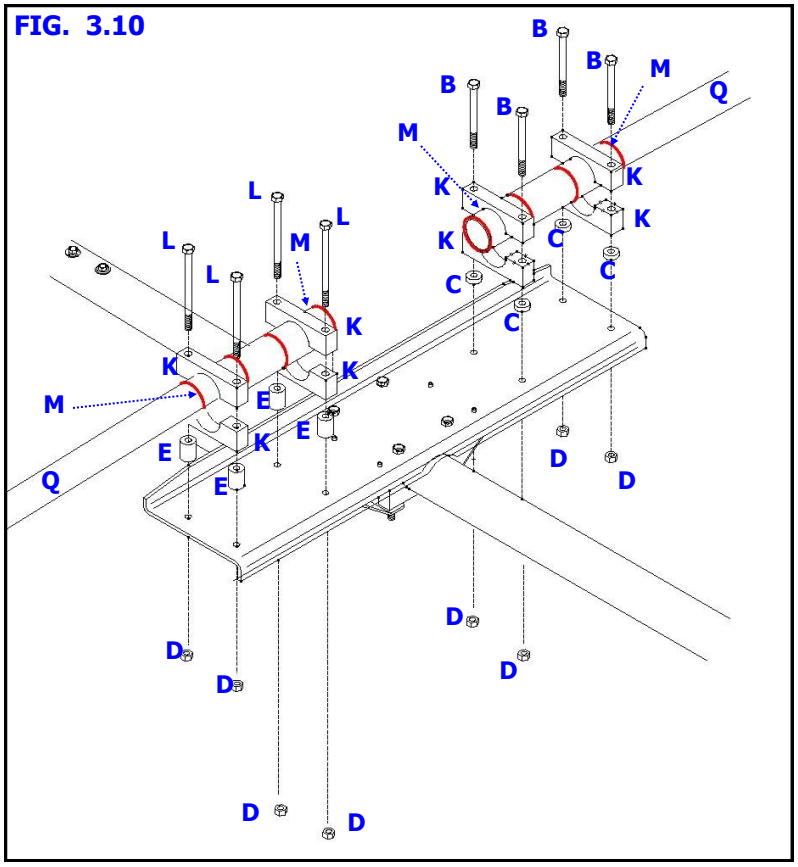
FIG. 3.09

ELEMENT SUPPORT TUBE (EST) MOUNTING - OVERVIEW

Figure 3.10 shows the detail for attaching the element support tubes (EST's) to the Driven element mounting plate.

Note the stress relief tubes shown in figure 3.10—they are outlined in red to show their placement. These tubes are placed on the outside diameter (OD) of the 1-3/4" fiberglass EST tube to keep the saddles from crushing when the aluminum saddles are secured in place. This will be covered in more detail later in this section.

FIG. 3.10



Key	QTY	Part Number	Description
L	4	60-0115	5/16" x 4-1/2" Hex head bolt
E	4	10-1613-01	1" Aluminum spacer
B	4	60-0114	5/16" x 3-3/4" Hex head bolt
C	4	10-1613-11	1/4" Aluminum spacer
D	8	60-0046	5/16" Nylock nut
K	8	10-1601-22	2" Aluminum saddle half
M	4	10-1601-11	2" x 3" Stress relief tube
Q	2	70-2029-01	1-3/4" x 60-3/4" EST tube

PREPARE MOUNTING PLATE FOR ATTACHING THE EST's

All of the SteppIR EHU's have a "diverter" inside them to direct each half of the copper-beryllium strip in the correct direction. The Driven element on the DB36 is quite a bit longer than the normal loops, so a different diverter system must be employed. This is the reason why the Driven element has 3/4" CPVC tubing coming out each side, with the tubes being offset from each other as shown in figure 3.11. The EST tubes on each side of the element need to be level with each other, so different sized aluminum spacers are used to accomplish this.

Locate four 1" aluminum spacers (PN 10-1613-01). These are used on the "high" or closest side of the EHU when facing the boom with the reflector to your left as shown in figure 3.12. Using two 2" aluminum saddles halves (PN 10-1601-22), insert the 5/16" x 4-1/2" hex head bolts (PN 60-0115) through the saddle halves and insert the 1" aluminum spacers onto the hex head bolts. Attach this assembly to the element mounting plate by inserting the thread ends of the hex head bolts as shown in figure 3.13. Loosely thread on the 5/16" Nylock nuts (PN 60-0046). Repeat for the second assembly.

Locate four 1/4" aluminum spacers (PN 10-1613-11). These are used on the "low" or furthest side of the EHU when facing the boom with the reflector to your left as shown in figure 3.14. Using two 2" aluminum saddles halves (PN 10-1601-22), insert the 5/16" x 3-3/4" hex head bolts (PN 60-0114) through the saddle halves and insert the 1/4" aluminum spacers onto the hex head bolts. Attach this assembly to the element mounting plate by inserting the thread ends of the hex head bolts as shown in figure 3.15. Loosely thread on the 5/16" Nylock nuts (PN 60-0046). Repeat for the second assembly.

Note that when the inner saddle pairs are mounted (the ones closest to the EHU), the hex head bolts will also need to be inserted through the top portion of the reinforcing plate as shown in figure 3.15.

Figure 3.16 shows the completed assembly.

FIG. 3.11

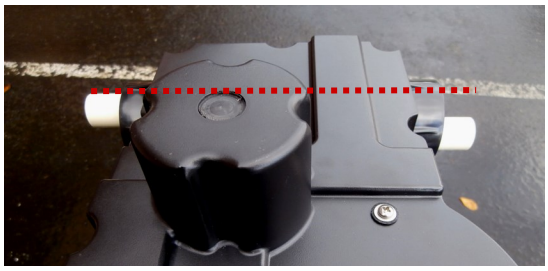


FIG. 3.12

FIG. 3.13

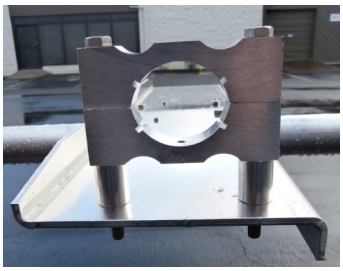


FIG. 3.14

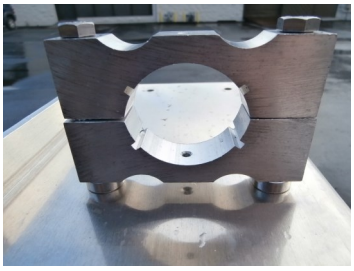


FIG. 3.15

FIG. 3.16

ATTACH THE ELEMENT SUPPORT TUBES—DRIVEN

Locate the 1-3/4" x 60-3/4" element support tube (PN 70-2029-01). Slide the first 2" x 3" stress relief sleeve (PN 10-1601-11) onto the element support tube (EST). Using a tape measure, position the reinforcing sleeve so that the top edge of the sleeve is 5-5/8 inches from the edge of the EST that does NOT have the reinforcing ring already attached on the edge, as shown in figure 3.20.

Slide the second reinforcing sleeve onto the EST tube, so that it is flush with the EST tube and the slotted portion of the reinforcing sleeve faces downward as shown in figure 3.21. The slotted portions on each of the two reinforcing rings should be aligned so that they are in the same downward position. Using a tape measure, mark 1/2" from the flush edge of the EST tube as shown in figure 3.22. Repeat for the EST for the other side of the EHU. Figure 3.23 shows the prepared EST.

Insert the end of the EST that has the reinforcing sleeves on it through the 2" saddles located on the mounting plate. Position the EST so that the mark you made 1/2" from the edge of the EST is now lined up with the edge of the forward saddle, and the other reinforcing sleeve is centered on the rear saddle as shown in figure 3.24. Tighten the saddles to no more than 7 ft lb. Be sure the slotted portion of reinforcing sleeves are pointing downward.

Position the EHU so that the center-point of the element is 162-5/8 inches from the left edge of the boom as shown in figure 3.25. Place a level in-between the two ends of the EST's as shown in figure 3.26 and when level, tighten the saddles firmly. Figure 3.27 shows the prepared EST's ready for the EHU to be mounted.

FIG. 3.20

FIG. 3.21

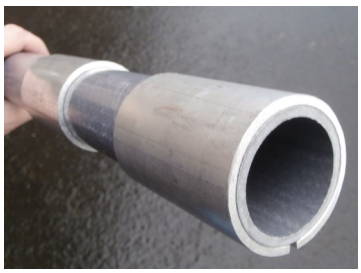


FIG. 3.22

FIG. 3.23

FIG. 3.24

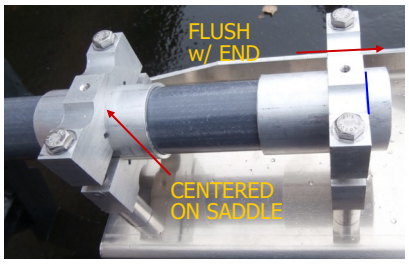
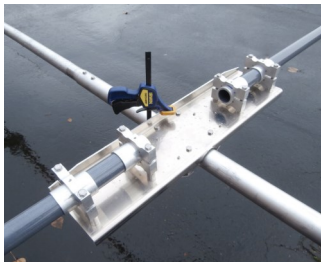


FIG. 3.25

FIG. 3.26

FIG. 3.27



SECURE THE DRIVEN ELEMENT EHU TO THE MOUNTING PLATE

The Driven element EHU (PN 70-3405-01) is different from the rest of the EHU's because there is a plastic lid that needs to be installed before attaching the EHU to the mounting plate. The other EHU's all utilize the mounting plate itself as the lid.

The Driven EHU must be wired before placing the lid on it and the coax seal needs to be in place as covered earlier. Be sure to remove and discard the foam protector that is shrink wrapped to the EHU before the lid is secured. Failure to do so could lead to catastrophic failure. Figure 3.31 shows the foam protector pad *before* it is removed from the EHU.

There are a total of ten #10 screws used to fasten the lid. Six of these screws (4 machine and 2 flathead) utilize the Nylock nuts, and will be positioned with the threads pointing upward as shown in figure 3.30. The remaining four #10 machine screws are used to attach the Driven EHU to the element mounting plate and will be covered in more detail in the next step.

Place the gasket material so that it aligns with the holes in the EHU lid as shown in figure 3.30. Place the EHU on top of the gasket and using ONLY the six #10 x 3/4" screws, #10 Nylock nuts and #10 flat washers, fasten the lid to the EHU. There must be a washer between the top of the EHU flange and the Nylock nut. Be sure that the control cable wire is cleanly positioned inside the molded wiring trough. Tighten each nut, being sure that they are tight enough to compress the foam gasket but not so tight they will crack the plastic flange on the EHU.

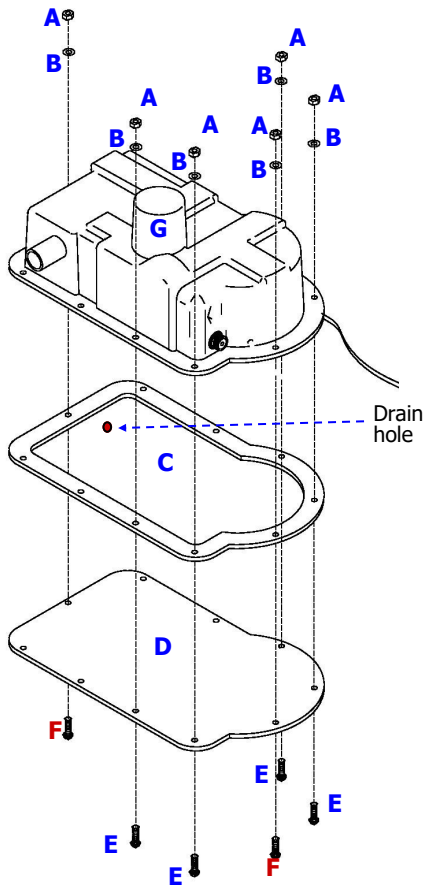
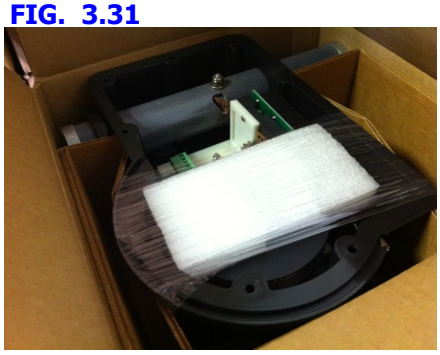


FIG. 3.30

FIG. 3.31



Key	QTY	Part #	Description
A	6	60-0019	#10 Nylock nut
B	6	60-0018	#10 Flat washer
C	1	10-1502-12	EHU gasket
D	1	10-1501-23	EHU lid w/drain hole
E	4	60-0017	#10 x 3/4" machine screw
F	2	60-0017-10	#10 x 3/4" Flat head screw
G	1	70-3405-01	Driven EHU

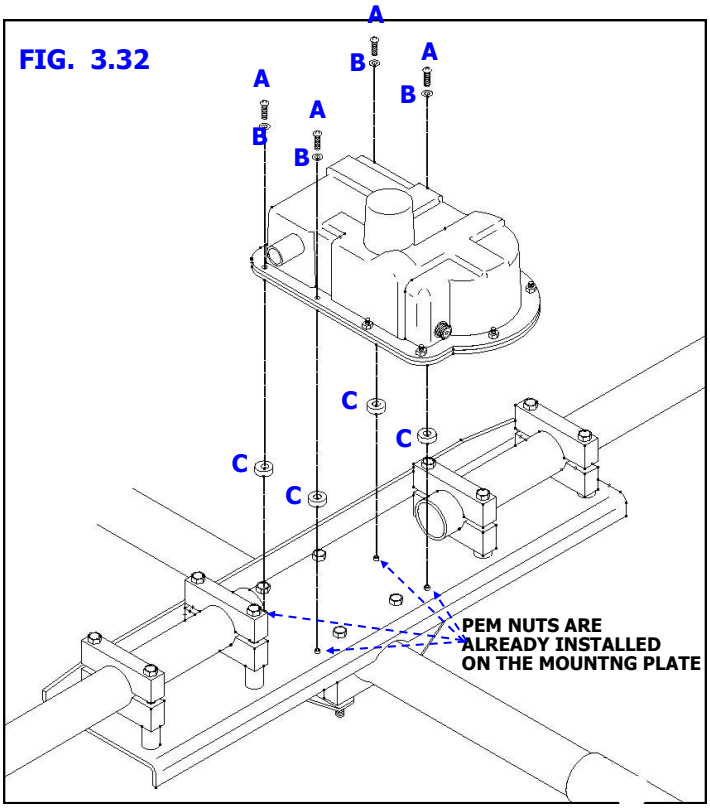
SECURE THE DRIVEN EHU TO THE MOUNTING PLATE (continued)

Place the EHU as shown in figure 3.32. Be certain the four 1/4" aluminum spacers (PN 10-1613-11) are positioned over the PEM nuts, between the element mounting plate and the EHU lid as shown in figure 3.33. The aluminum spacers protect the PEM nuts and elevate the EHU above the bolt heads that are holding the mounting plate to the boom.

When the EHU is placed on top of the spacers, the plastic EST tube that protrudes out of the EHU should be roughly aligned with the center of the EST extension tube as shown in figure 3.34.

Insert the #10 x 3/4" machine screws (the ones with the locking strip as shown in figure 3.35) with the threads pointing downward. Be certain that there is a #10 flat washer between the top flange of the EHU and the head of the machine screw. Align with the PEM nuts and tighten each screw. Do not over -tighten or you could potentially crack the mounting flange on the EHU.

FIG. 3.32



Key	QTY	Part #	Description
A	4	60-0101	#10 x 3/4" Machine screw with locking strip on threads (figure 3.35)
B	4	60-0018	#10 Flat washer
C	4	10-1613-11	1/4" Aluminum spacer

FIG. 3,33

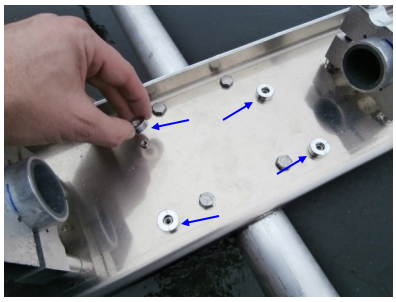


FIG. 3.34

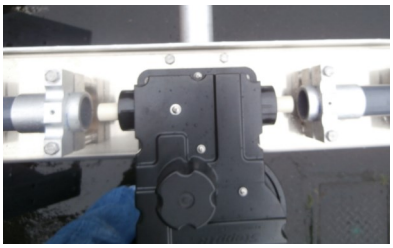


FIG. 3.35

INSTALLING THE CPVC INNER GUIDE TUBES

All of the looped elements have inner guide tubes. The DB36 Driven element utilizes a different method for attaching the inner guide tubes than the two 39 foot end loops (reflector and director) due to it's extra length.

There are three sections to the inner guide tube as shown in figure 3.40. In this chapter, you will be working with the first section of the tube (PN 70-2025-33). We recommend you wait until just before the telescoping poles are attached later in this manual before gluing the remaining sections. This will keep you from potentially tripping over them while the rest of the antenna is being assembled. ***When gluing the 3 pieces together, be sure you do NOT put any glue inside the coupler—only apply glue to the outside diameter of the tubing.***

Locate the section of the guide tube that has the pre-installed foam centering rings and the black rubber coupler on it (PN 70-2025-33). The foam centering rings have a slot in them as shown in figure 3.41. It is important that these slots are facing upward when inserting into the element support tube (EST). The slots are used as vents to assist in preventing condensation from forming internally. Because you will not be able to see that the slots are indeed pointing upward once the guide tubes are in place, we recommend you mark the correct position on the opposite end of the guide tube as shown in figure 3.42. Insert the inner guide tube into the EST as shown in figure 3.43 and continue to push until the black rubber coupler is protruding slightly as shown in figure 3.44. Figure 3.45 is a cutaway drawing to give you a visual perspective during this process.

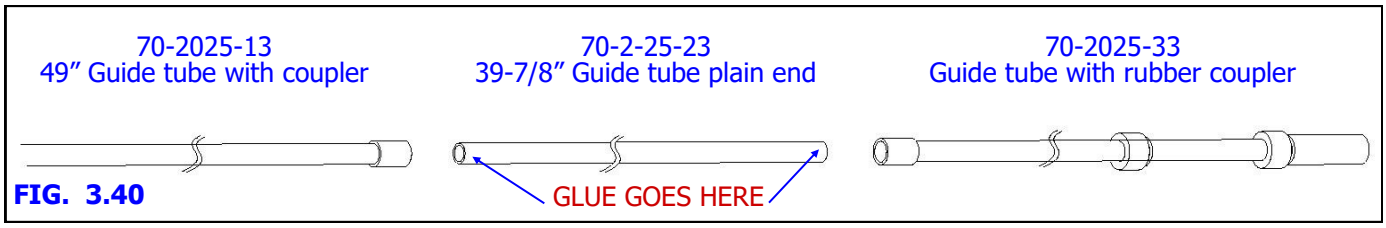


FIG. 3.40

FIG. 3.41

FIG. 3.42

FIG. 3.43

FIG. 3.44

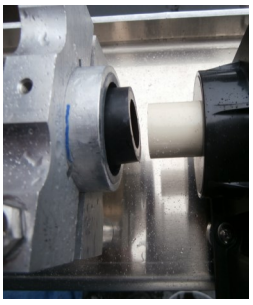
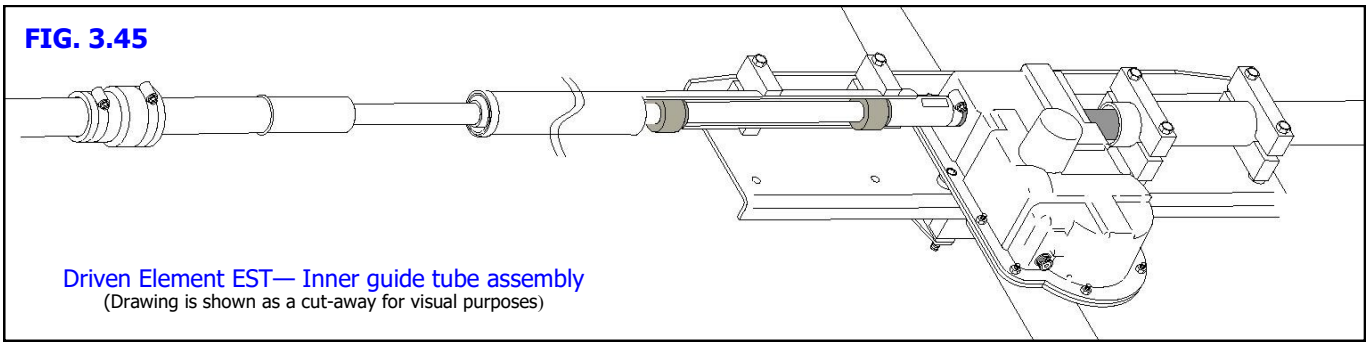


FIG. 3.45



INSTALLING THE CPVC INNER GUIDES (continued)

Insert the #16 Stainless steel hose clamp (PN 60-5000-15) onto the CPVC tube as shown in figure 3.46. Position the black rubber coupling until it is aligned with the CPVC tube and then slide the hose clamp onto the rubber coupling.

Grip the end of the guide tube that is protruding out of the EST and rotate the tube as needed while pushing the guide tube in until the black rubber coupler fully rests against the EHU wall as shown in figure 3.47. The hose is fully attached when the the black edge of the hose is snug against the EHU outer wall. Position the hose clamp so that its edge is touching the EHU and tighten firmly as shown in figure 3.48. Wait 20 minutes and then tighten it again to guard against cold flow of the black rubber hose material. Repeat for the other side of the EHU.

Figure 3.49 shows the completed inner guide tube assembly. Figure 3.50 gives you an idea of how far out the CPVC inner guide tubes will extend when glued together. This is why we recommend you wait until much later in the process to complete the guide tube assembly.

FIG. 3.46

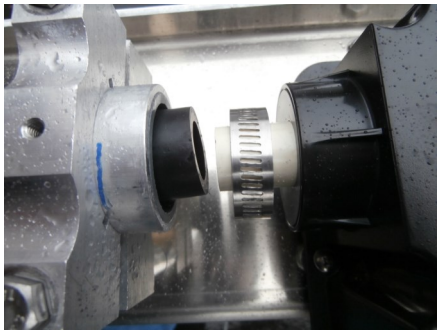


FIG. 3.47

FIG. 3.48

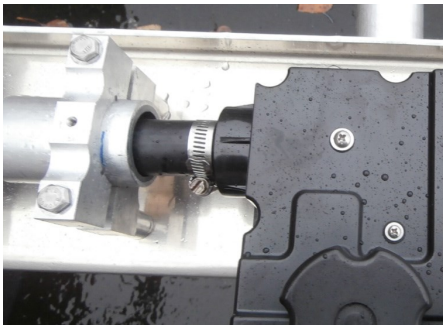


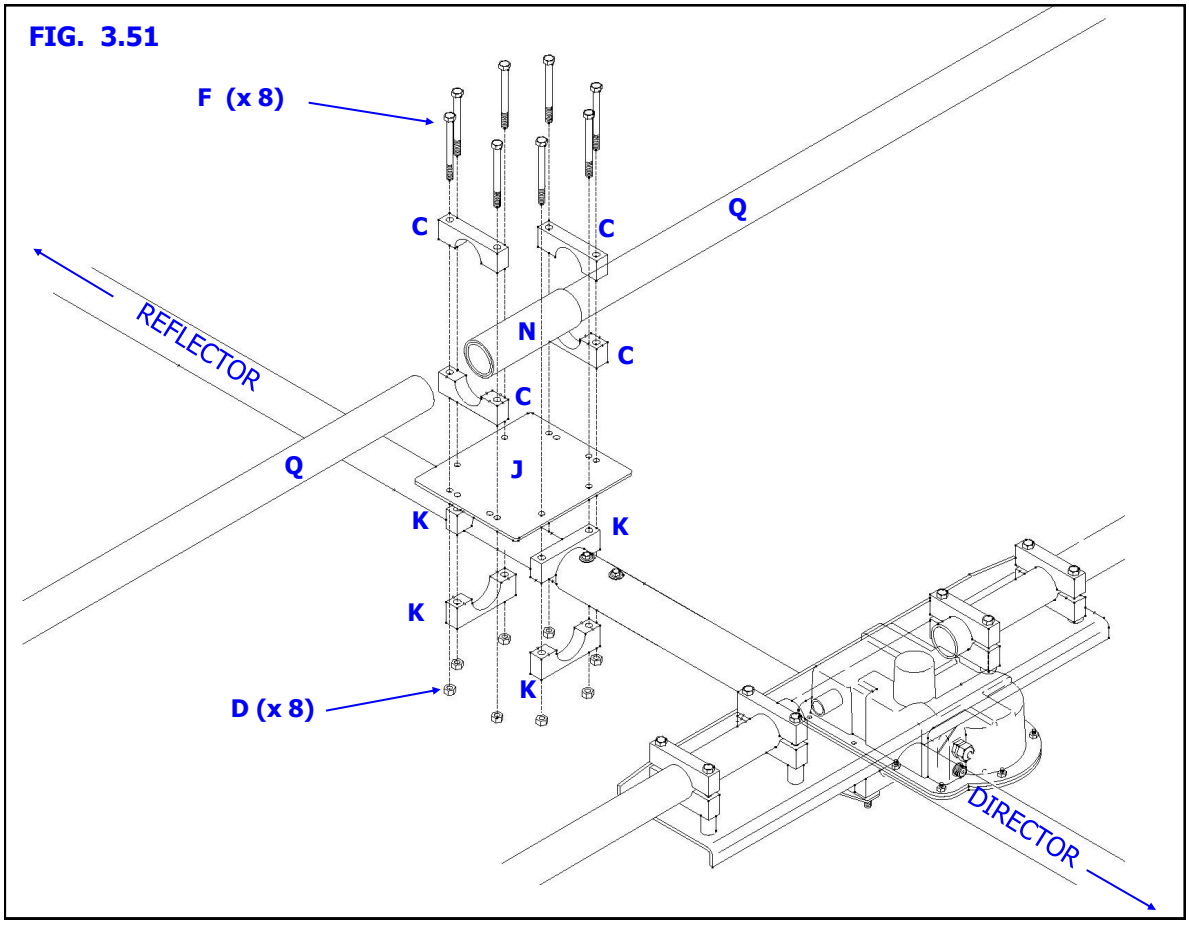
FIG. 3.49

FIG. 3.50

RETURN TUBE ASSEMBLY—DRIVEN

Figure 3.51 shows an overview of the return tube assembly for the Driven element.

FIG. 3.51



Key	QTY	Part Number	Description
F	8	60-0065	5/16" x 3-1/2" Hex head bolt
D	8	60-0046	5/16" Nylock nut
K	8	10-1601-22	2" Aluminum saddle half
N	1	10-1630-21	2" x 12" Slotted aluminum sleeve
Q	2	70-2028-01	1-3/4" x 66-3/8" EST return tube
J	1	10-1608-01	Element return plate

RETURN TUBE ASSEMBLY (continued)

Install the element return mounting plate (PN 10-1608-01). Use four of the 2" aluminum saddles (PN 1601-22), 5/16" x 3-1/2" hex head bolts (PN 60-0065) and 5/16" Nylock nuts (PN 60-0046) as shown in figure 3.52. Tighten the nuts, but leave loose enough to adjust for the center-to-center measurement. Again using four of the 2" aluminum saddles, 5/16" x 3-1/2" hex head bolts, and Nylock nuts, loosely install the return tube saddles as shown in figure 3.53.

Insert the stress relief sleeve (PN 10-1630-21). Be sure that the sleeve is protruding out approximately 2.25 inches away from the aluminum saddle edge on each side as shown in figure 3.54. Be sure to position the slotted portion of the stress relief sleeve so that if faces downward as shown in figure 3.55.

Measure 30 inches from the center-point of the Driven EHU to the center-point of the element return tube as shown in figure 3.56. Level the return bracket assembly as shown in figure 3.57 and tighten the saddle bolts firmly. Do not forget to use anti-seize on all stainless steel fasteners, and also remember to install a set screw into each saddle pair (one set screw per saddle pair).

FIG. 3.52

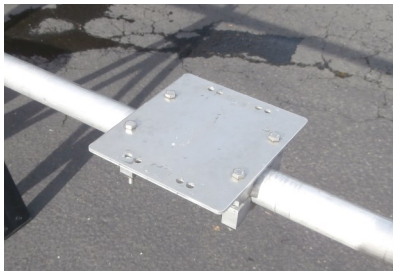


FIG. 3.53

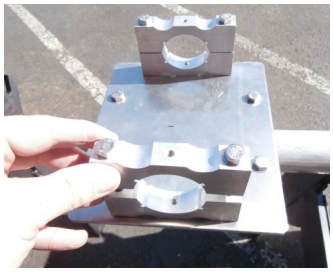


FIG. 3.54

FIG. 3.55

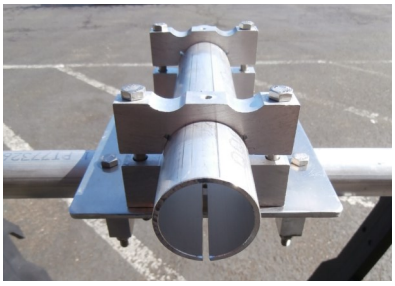


FIG. 3.56

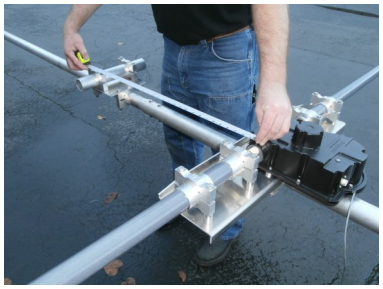


FIG. 3.57

RETURN TUBE ASSEMBLY (continued)

Locate the 1-3/4" x 66-3/8" element support tube (PN 70-2028-01). Measure 6 inches from the flush end of the element support tube (EST) and mark with a felt pen as shown in figure 3.58. Repeat for the other EST.

Insert the flush end into the stress relief sleeve as shown in figure 3.59. Position the EST so that the mark you made is flush with the sleeve as shown in figure 3.60. Repeat for the other EST. Be sure that the sleeve is centered on the return plate. The end of the sleeve should be 2.25 inches from the aluminum saddle on each end of the return plate as shown in figure 3.61. Tighten the saddles to a maximum of 7 ft lb (9.5Nm). This is very important. The aluminum saddles can crush the fiberglass tubes if the saddles are too tight.

Figure 3.62 and figure 3.63 show the completed Driven element. It is a good idea to place the EST's on sawhorses as shown in figure 3.64. This will stabilize the boom as you continue with construction of the antenna.

FIG. 3.58

FIG. 3.59

FIG. 3.60

FIG. 3.61

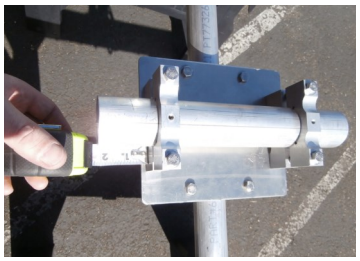


FIG. 3.62

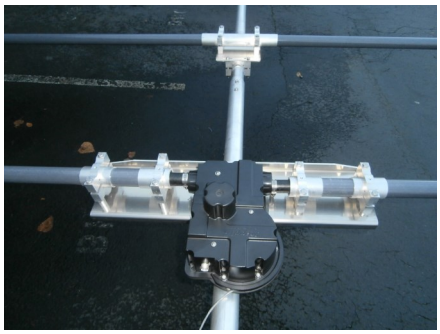


FIG. 3.63

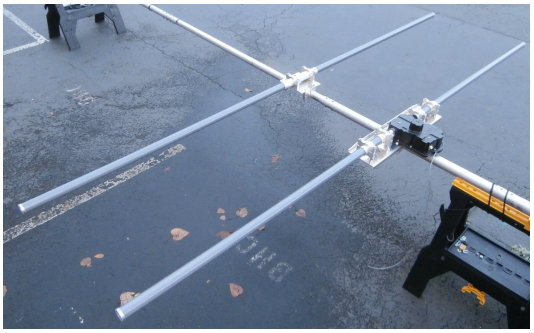
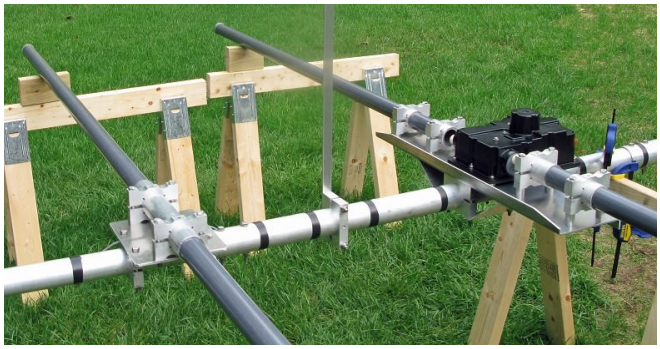


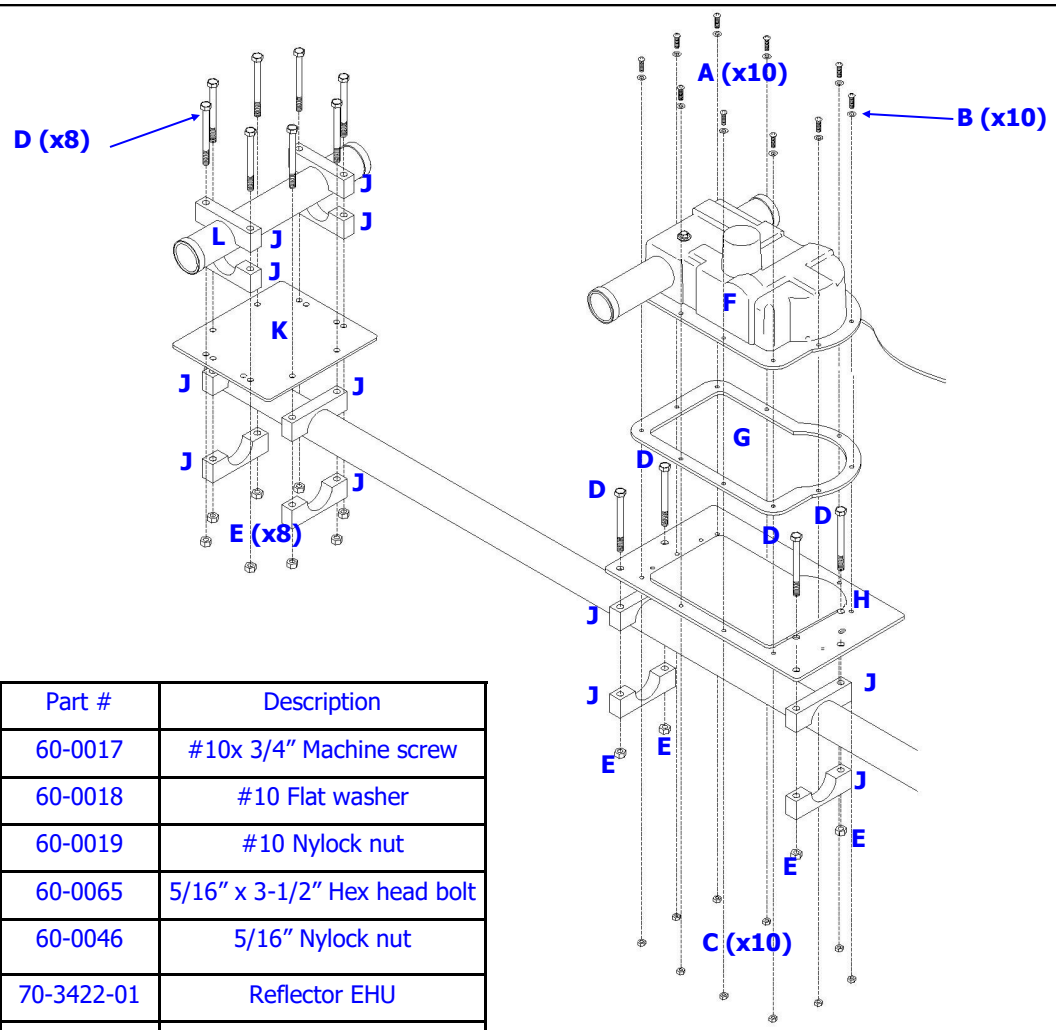
FIG. 3.64



REFLECTOR EHU OVERVIEW DRAWING

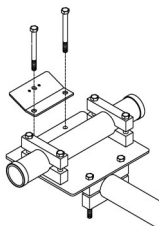
Figure 4.01 shows an overview of the Reflector EHU assembly, which is covered in more detail on the following pages.

FIG. 4.01



Key	QTY	Part #	Description
A	10	60-0017	#10x 3/4" Machine screw
B	10	60-0018	#10 Flat washer
C	10	60-0019	#10 Nylock nut
D	12	60-0065	5/16" x 3-1/2" Hex head bolt
E	12	60-0046	5/16" Nylock nut
F	1	70-3422-01	Reflector EHU
G	1	10-1502-12	Element housing gasket
H	1	70-2030-11	EHU mounting plate
J	12	10-1601-03	1-3/4" Aluminum saddle half
K	1	10-1608-01	Element return plate
L	1	10-1015-11	Element Return tube

WARNING!
Extra bracket used in this section if installing the 80m dipole. Refer to the 80m dipole instructions for further detail.



RETURN TUBE ASSEMBLY—REFLECTOR

Install the element return mounting plate (PN 10-1608-01). Use four of the 1-3/4" aluminum saddles (PN 10-1601-03), 5/16" x 3-1/2" hex head bolts (PN 60-0065) and 5/16" Nylock nuts (PN 60-0046) as shown in figure 4.01. Tighten the nuts, but leave loose enough to adjust for the center-to-center measurement. Again using four of the 1-3/4 aluminum saddles, 5/16" x 3-1/2" hex head bolts, and Nylock nuts, loosely install the return tube saddles as shown in figure 4.02.

Insert the element return tube (PN 10-1015-11) as shown in figure 4.03. Be sure that the return tube is protruding out approximately 2.25 inches away from the aluminum saddle edge on each side, as shown in figure 4.04. Tighten the saddles to a maximum of 7 ft lb (9.5Nm). This is very important. The aluminum saddles can crush the fiberglass tubes if the saddles are too tight. DO NOT put a set screw in the aluminum saddles that are used on the fiberglass return tube material.

Measure 3-7/8" from the left edge of the boom to the center-point of the return tube as shown in figure 4.05. Level the return bracket assembly as shown in figure 4.06 and tighten the saddle bolts so that the return plate cannot move, but leave loose enough for center-point to center-point measurement in the next portion of the instructions. Do not forget to use anti-seize on all stainless steel fasteners, and also remember to install a set screw into each saddle pair (one set screw per saddle pair).

FIG. 4.01

FIG. 4.02

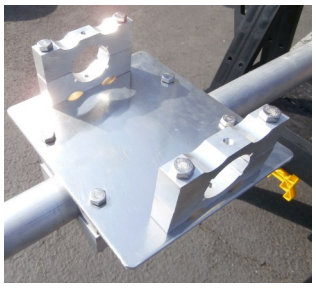


FIG. 4.03

FIG. 4.04

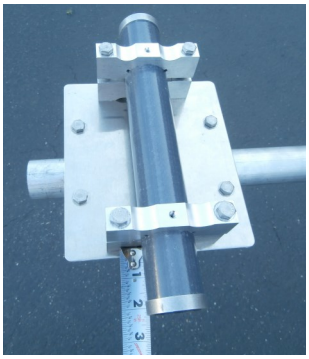


FIG. 4.05

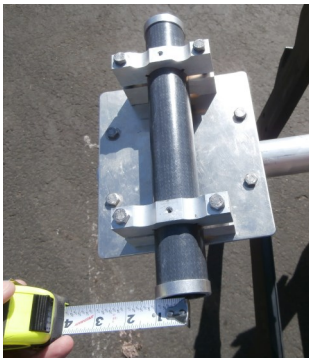
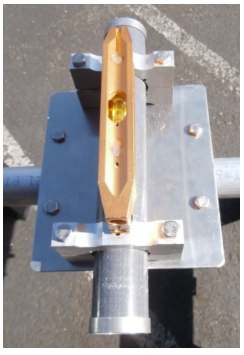


FIG. 4.06



MOUNT THE REFLECTOR EHU ONTO THE BOOM

Refer to the center-to-center measurements in Chapter Two when installing each of the EHU's and mounting plates to the boom. The EHU should already be wired before placing it on the EHU mounting plate. Position the EHU mounting plate (PN 70-2030-11) and align the 1-3/4" aluminum saddle halves (PN 10-1601-03) as shown in figure 4.10. Insert the 5/16" x 3-1/2" hex head bolts (PN 60-0065) and thread on the 5/16" Nylock nuts (PN 60-0046). Insert a set screw on the exposed side of the aluminum saddle. Tighten, but allow the mounting plate to be loose enough for adjusting the center-to-center measurement. Be sure to use anti-seize on all stainless steel fasteners.

Place the EHU gasket (PN 10-1502-01) onto the mounting plate as shown in figure 4.11. Note that only the Driven element has an independent lid, the rest of the EHU's use the element mounting bracket as the "lid". Align the gasket with the holes on the mounting plate. Place the Reflector EHU (PN 70-3422-01) onto the mounting plate as shown in figure 4.12 and attach using the #10 x 3/4" machine screws (PN 60-0017), #10 flat washers (PN 60-0018) and #10 Nylock nuts (PN 60-0019) as shown in figure 4.13. Be sure that the flat washer is between the machine screw head and the EHU housing as shown in figure 4.14 . Tighten the Nylock nuts enough to compress the gasket material but do not over tighten or you can crack the plastic EHU housing.

Measure the proper distance from the center-point of the return tube to the center-point of the element (30.0 inches) as shown in figure 4.15. *(A tip from Adam Blackmer K7EDX, former SteppIR operations manager— use the mold spline located on the EHU housing as a place to hold your tape measure edge when measuring center -to-center as shown in figure 4.16.* Level the EHU as shown in figure 4.17 and tighten the aluminum saddles firmly. Figure 4.18 shows the completed Reflector EHU and return tube.

FIG. 4.10

FIG. 4.11

FIG. 4.12

FIG. 4.13

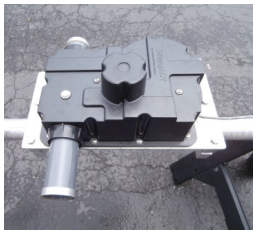


FIG. 4.14

FIG. 4.15

FIG. 4.16

FIG. 4.17

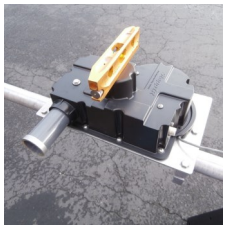
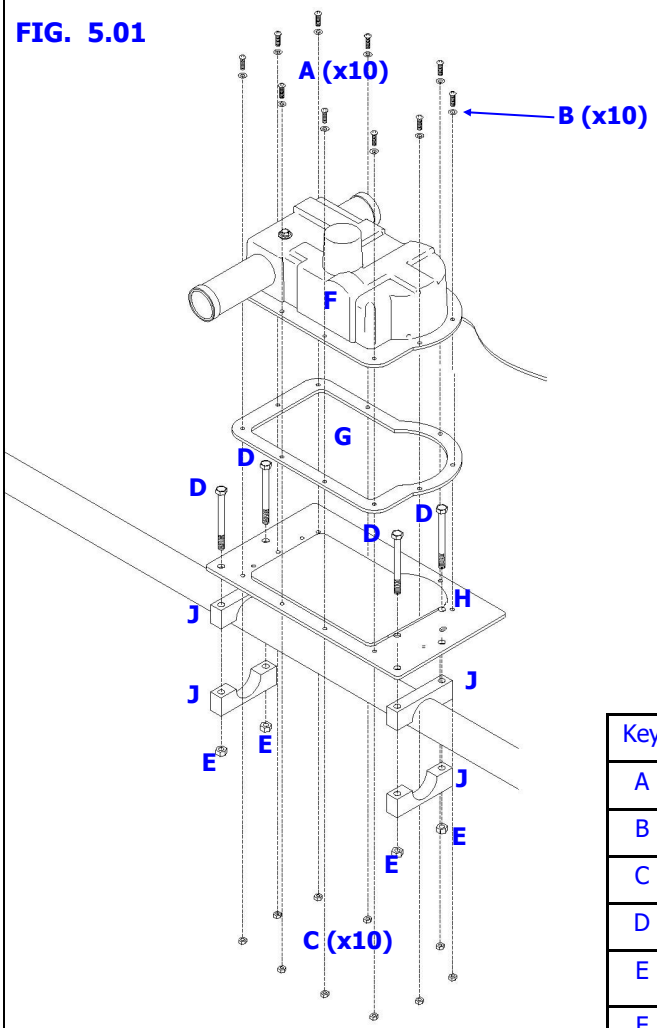


FIG. 4.18

DIRECTOR ONE EHU OVERVIEW DRAWING

Figure 5.01 shows an overview of the Director 1 EHU assembly, which is covered in more detail on the following pages.

FIG. 5.01



Key	QTY	Part #	Description
A	10	60-0017	#10x 3/4" Machine screw
B	10	60-0018	#10 Flat washer
C	10	60-0019	#10 Nylock nut
D	4	60-0114	5/16"x 3-3/4" Hex head bolt
E	4	60-0046	5/16" Nylock nut
F	1	70-3420-01	Director 1 EHU
G	1	10-1502-12	Element housing gasket
H	1	70-2030-11	Element mounting plate
J	4	10-1601-32	2-1/4" Aluminum saddle half

MOUNT THE DIRECTOR 1 EHU ONTO THE BOOM

Refer to the center-to-center measurements in Chapter Two when installing each of the EHU's and mounting plates to the boom. The EHU should already be wired before placing it on the aluminum mounting plate.

Position the EHU mounting plate (PN 70-2030-11) and align the 2-1/4" aluminum saddle halves (PN 10-1601-32) as shown in figure 5.02. Insert the 5/16" x 3-3/4" hex head bolts (PN 60-0114) and thread on the 5/16" Nylock nuts (PN 60-0046). Insert a set screw on the exposed side of the aluminum saddle. Tighten, but allow the mounting plate to be loose enough for adjusting the center-to-center measurement. Be sure to use anti-seize on all stainless steel fasteners.

Place the EHU gasket (PN 10-1502-01) onto the mounting plate as shown in figure 5.03. Align the gasket with the holes on the mounting plate. Place the Director 1 EHU (PN 70-3420-01) onto the mounting plate as shown in figure 5.04 and attach using the #10 x 3/4" machine screws (PN 60-0017), #10 flat washers (PN 60-0018) and #10 Nylock nuts (PN 60-0019) as shown in figure 5.05. Be sure that the flat washer is between the machine screw head and the EHU housing as shown in figure 5.06 . Tighten the Nylock nuts enough to compress the gasket material but do not over tighten or you can crack the plastic EHU housing.

Measure the proper distance (93.25 inches) from the center-point of the Driven element to the center-point of the Director 1 element. *(A tip from Adam Blackmer K7EDX, SteppIR operations manager— use the mold spline located on the EHU housing as a place to hold your tape measure edge when measuring center-to-center as shown in figure 5.07).*

Level the EHU as shown in figure 5.08 and tighten the aluminum saddles firmly. Figure 5.09 shows the completed Reflector EHU and return tube.

FIG. 5.02

FIG. 5.03

FIG. 5.04

FIG. 5.05

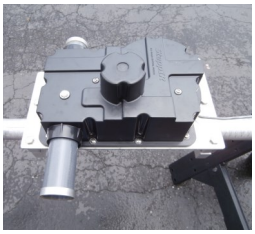


FIG. 5.06

FIG. 5.07

FIG. 5.08

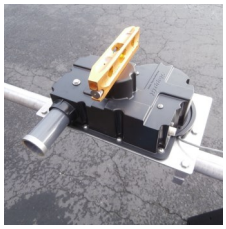
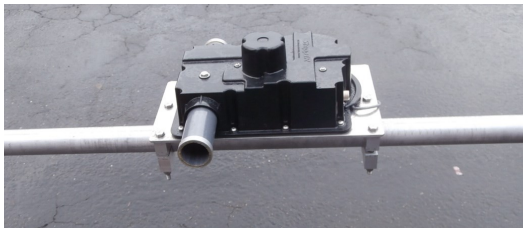


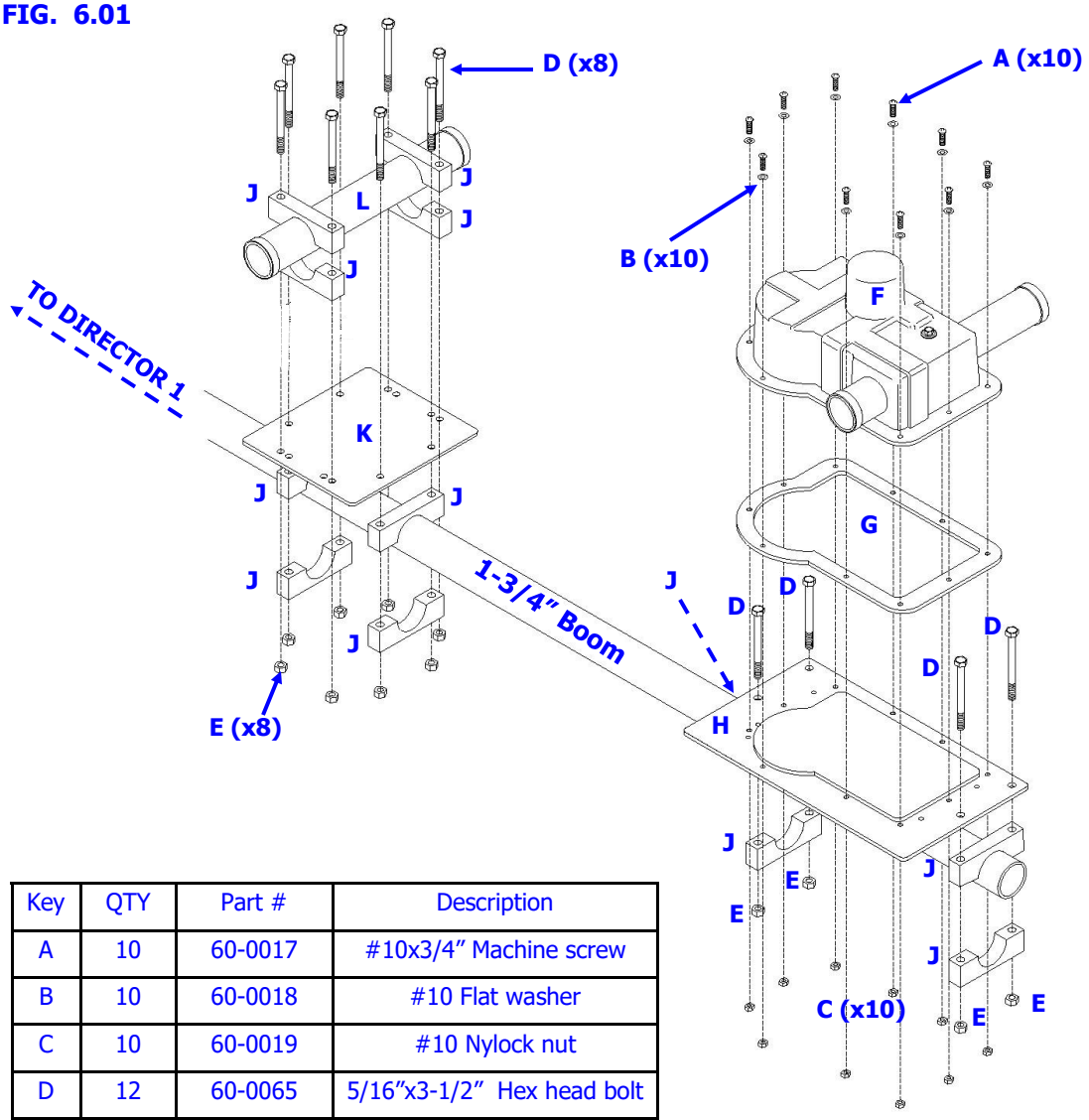
FIG. 5.09



DIRECTOR 2 EHU OVERVIEW DRAWING

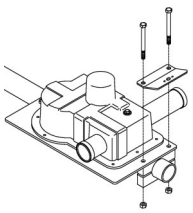
Figure 6.01 shows an overview of the Director 2 EHU assembly, which is covered in more detail on the following pages.

FIG. 6.01



Key	QTY	Part #	Description
A	10	60-0017	#10x3/4" Machine screw
B	10	60-0018	#10 Flat washer
C	10	60-0019	#10 Nylock nut
D	12	60-0065	5/16"x3-1/2" Hex head bolt
E	12	60-0046	5/16" Nylock nut
F	1	70-3422-01	Director 2 EHU
G	1	10-1502-01	Element housing gasket
H	1	70-2030-11	EHU mounting plate
J	12	10-1601-03	1-3/4" Aluminum saddle half
K	1	10-1608-01	Element return plate
L	1	10-1015-11	Element Return tube

WARNING!
Extra bracket used in this section if installing the 80m dipole. Refer to the 80m dipole instructions for further detail.



MOUNT THE DIRECTOR 2 EHU ONTO THE BOOM

Refer to the center-to-center measurements in Chapter Two when installing each of the EHU's and mounting plates to the boom. The EHU should already be wired before placing it on the EHU mounting plate. The director 2 mounting plate is mounted backwards of the other three EHU mounting plates.

Position the aluminum mounting plate (PN 70-2030-11) and align the 1-3/4" aluminum saddle halves (PN 10-1601-03) as shown in figure 6.02 . Insert the 5/16" x 3-1/2" hex head bolts (PN 60-0065) and thread on the 5/16" Nylock nuts (PN 60-0046). Insert a set screw on the exposed side of the aluminum saddle. Tighten, but allow the mounting plate to be loose enough for adjusting the center-to-center measurement. Be sure to use anti-seize on all stainless steel fasteners. Figure 6.03 shows the mounting plate attached to the boom.

Place the EHU gasket (PN 10-1502-01) onto the mounting plate as shown in figure 6.04. Align the gasket with the holes on the mounting plate. Place the Director 2 EHU (PN 70-3422-01) onto the mounting plate as shown in figure 6.05 and attach using the #10 x 3/4" machine screws (PN 60-0017), #10 flat washers (PN 60-0018) and #10 Nylock nuts (PN 60-0019) as shown in figure 6.06. Be sure that the flat washer is between the machine screw head and the EHU housing as shown in figure 6.07 . Tighten the Nylock nuts enough to compress the gasket material but do not over tighten or you can crack the plastic EHU housing.

Measure the proper distance from the center-point of the element to the right edge of the boom (4.375 inches) as shown in figure 6.08. Be sure to check your center-to-center measurements from the Director 1 EHU to the Director 2 EHU (171.75 inches). Level the EHU as shown in figure 6.09 and tighten the aluminum saddles firmly.

FIG. 6.02

FIG. 6.03

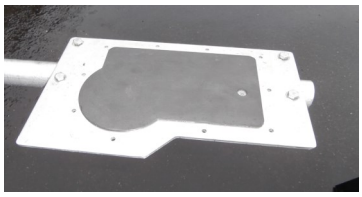


FIG. 6.04

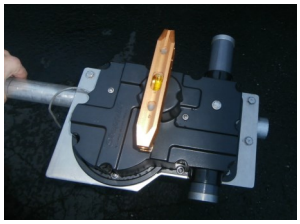
FIG. 6.05

FIG. 6.06

FIG. 6.07

FIG. 6.08

FIG. 6.09



RETURN TUBE ASSEMBLY—DIRECTOR 2

Install the element return mounting plate (PN 10-1608-01). Use four of the 1-3/4" aluminum saddles (PN 10-1601-03), 5/16" x 3-1/2" hex head bolts (PN 60-0065) and 5/16" Nylock nuts (PN 60-0046) as shown in figure 6.10. Tighten the nuts, but leave loose enough to adjust for the center-to-center measurement. Figure 6.11 shows the return tube mounting bracket attached to the boom. Again using four of the 1-3/4 aluminum saddles, 5/16" x 3-1/2" hex head bolts, and Nylock nuts, install the return tube saddles as shown in figure 6.12. The saddles should remain loose, with the Nylock nuts threaded on just a couple of turns as shown in figure 6.13.

Insert the element return tube (PN 10-1015-11) as shown in figure 6.14. Be sure that the return tube is protruding out approximately 2.25 inches away from the aluminum saddle edge on each side, as shown in figure 6.15. Tighten the saddles to a maximum of 7 ft lb (9.5Nm). This is very important. The aluminum saddles can crush the fiberglass tubes if the saddles are too tight. DO NOT put a set screw in the aluminum saddles that are used on the fiberglass return tube material.

Measure 30" from the center-point of Director 2 as shown in figure 6.16. Level the return bracket assembly as shown in figure 6.17 and tighten the saddle bolts firmly. Do not forget to use anti-seize on all stainless steel fasteners, and also remember to install a set screw into each saddle pair (one set screw per saddle pair).

Figure 6.18 shows the completed Director 2 EHU and return assembly.

FIG. 6.10

FIG. 6.11

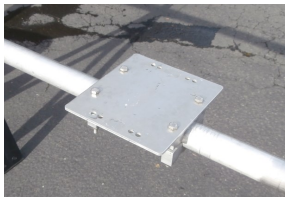


FIG. 6.12

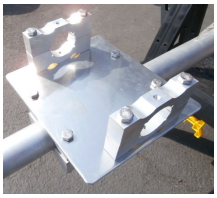


FIG. 6.13

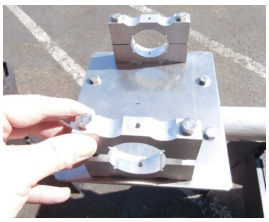


FIG. 6.14

FIG. 6.15

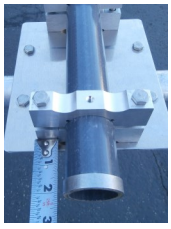


FIG. 6.16

FIG. 6.17

FIG. 6.18

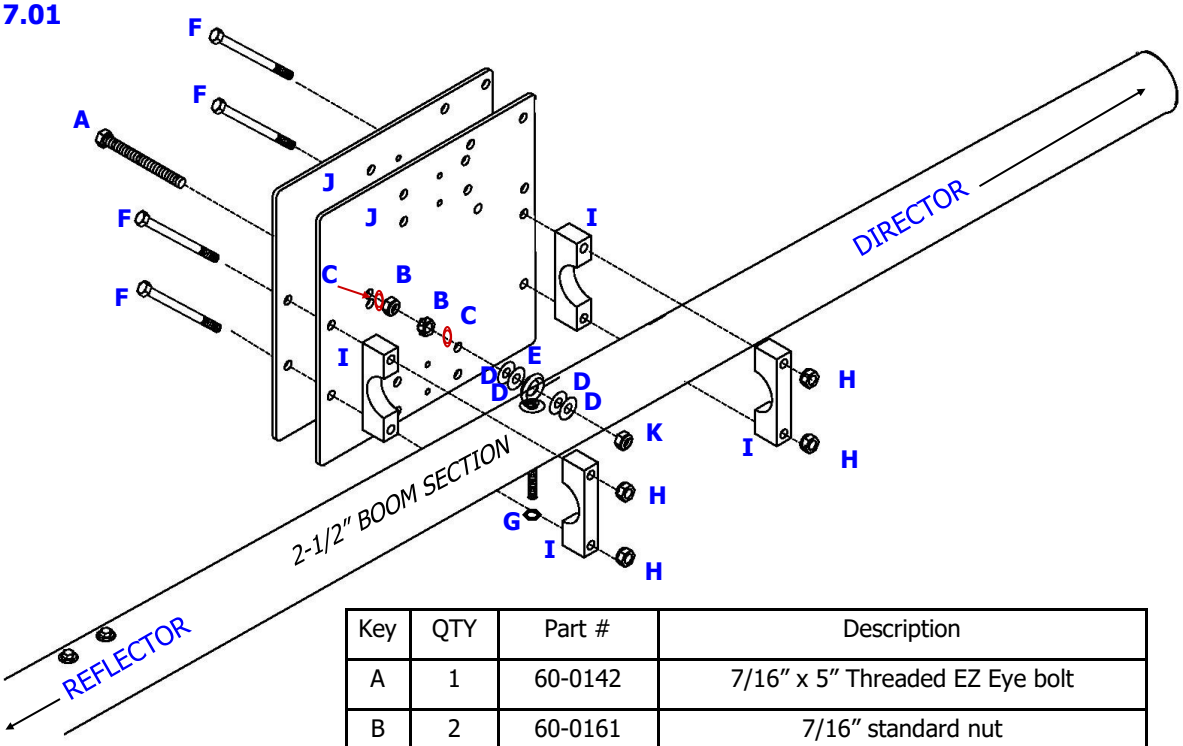
MAST PLATE ASSEMBLY OVERVIEW

When attaching the mast plate, use clamps or cord to secure the boom in place onto the sawhorses or whatever structure you are using to support the boom. By doing this, you are "locking" the boom into a level position, which will make the leveling of the mast plate much easier.

The DB36 employs a special system, called the EZ-Eye, for both mounting and leveling the boom. The EZ-Eye is also used in preventing the boom from shifting during high winds.

Figure 7.01 shows an exploded drawing of the boom and mast plate assembly, along with the EZ-Eye system. This parts explosion is a useful referral tool as you complete the steps in this section.

FIG. 7.01



Key	QTY	Part #	Description
A	1	60-0142	7/16" x 5" Threaded EZ Eye bolt
B	2	60-0161	7/16" standard nut
C	2	60-0160	7/16" Lock washer
D	4	60-0144	7/16" Galvanized washer
E	1	60-0145	3/8" Stainless steel EZ Eyebolt
F	4	60-0115	5/16" x 4-1/2" Hex head bolt
G	1	60-0050	3/8" Nylock nut
H	4	60-0046	5/16" Nylock nut
I	4	10-1601-41	2-1/2" Aluminum saddle half
J	2	10-1610-23	11-1/2" Aluminum mast plate
K	1	60-0143	7/16" Nylock nut

ATTACH THE MAST PLATE TO THE BOOM

Locate the 7/16" X 5" threaded bolt (PN 60-0142). LIBERALLY apply anti-seize to this bolt as shown in figure 7.02. Note there is lubricant applied to four sections of the bolt. If you do not do this, the bolt will likely gall. For information on galling, see the Preamble section of this manual.

To be sure your mast plate is oriented properly, refer to figure 7.03. When looking at the boom (meaning that you can visually SEE the boom with the mast plate behind it) as it is mounted on the mast plate, these 4 holes should be on the upper right side.

Insert the 7/16" x 5" threaded bolt through the two identical mast plates (PN 10-1610-22) as shown in figure 7.04. Secure with the 7/16" standard nut (PN 60-0161) and 7/16" lock washer (PN 60-0160) as shown in figure 7.05. Tighten firmly.

Thread the second 7/16" standard nut onto the bolt until there is approximately 3/4" of clearance between the two standard nuts as shown in figure 7.06.

FIG. 7.02

FIG. 7.03

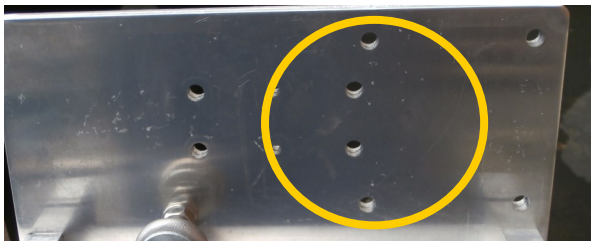


FIG. 7.04

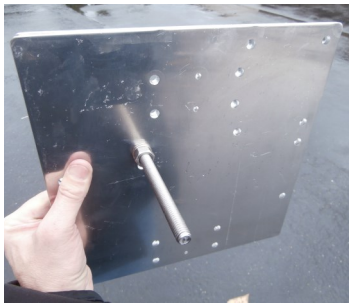
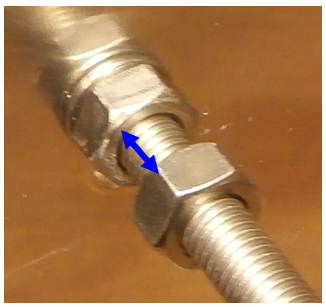


FIG. 7.05

FIG. 7.06



ATTACH THE MAST PLATE TO THE BOOM (continued)

Slide the 5/16" x 4-1/2" hex head bolts (PN 60-0115) into the mast plate, and place the first half of the 2 inch aluminum saddles (PN 10-1601-61) onto the bolts as shown in figure 7.07. Place two 7/16" lock washers (PN 60-0160) and two 7/16" galvanized washers (PN 60-0144) onto the EZ-Eye threaded bolt in the orientation shown in figure 7.08, BEFORE inserting the threaded bolt into the EZ-Eye. Position the mast plate to the boom, sliding the 5" threaded bolt through the eyebolt as shown in figure 7.09.

Attach the other half of the 2" aluminum saddles and thread on the 5/16" Nylock nuts (PN 60-0046). Tighten the nuts until the boom is snug, but you can still rotate it. Place the remaining two 7/16" flat washers onto the threaded bolt as shown in figure 7.10. Insert a 7/16" Nylock nut onto the 7/16" x 5" threaded bolt as shown in figure 7.11. Tighten the Nylock nut until it is resting near the galvanized washers as shown in figure 7.12.

Use a short level as shown in figure 7.13 and attach a wrench on each of the 3/8" "leveling" nuts as shown in figure 7.14. Adjust the nuts as needed to level the boom to the mast plate. When the mast plate is level with the boom, tighten all of the nuts firmly. Be sure that the 7/16" lock washers have been compressed properly during the tightening process. Install the set screws in the saddles as shown in figure 7.15. Only the exposed half of the saddles will require a set screw. Figure 7.16 shows the completed mast plate assembly.

FIG. 7.07

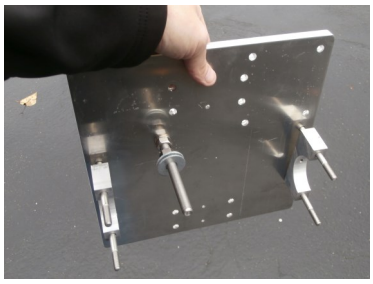


FIG. 7.08

FIG. 7.09

FIG. 7.10

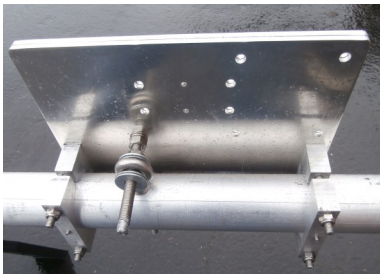


FIG. 7.11

FIG. 7.12

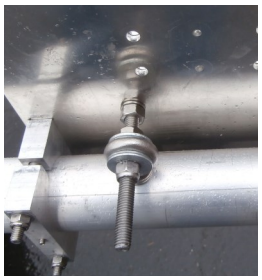


FIG. 7.13

FIG. 7.14

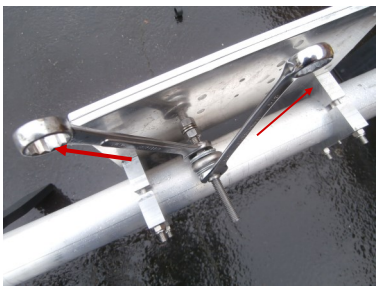
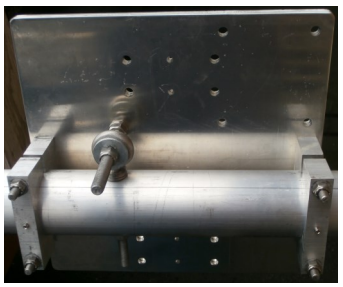


FIG. 7.15

FIG. 7.16

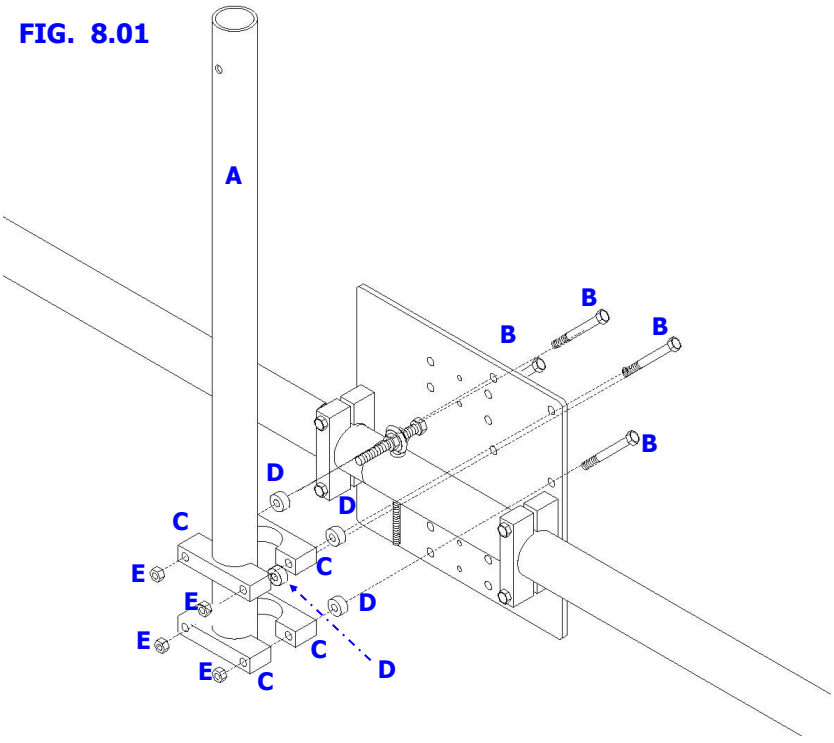


ATTACH THE BOOM TRUSS MAST TO MAST PLATE

Review figure 8.01. Insert four of the 5/16" x 4" hex head bolts (PN 60-0066) so the threads of the bolts are on the boom side of the mast plate as shown in figure 8.02. Insert the 1/4" aluminum spacers (PN 10-1613-11) onto the hex head bolts, followed by the first half of the 1-3/4" aluminum saddle (PN 10-1601-01) as shown in figure 8.03. Position the truss mast (PN 10-1614-41) so that it is resting on the aluminum saddle, then slide the other half of the saddle onto the hex head bolts. Thread on the 5/16" Nylock nuts (PN 60-0046) for the left side of the saddles (when facing the boom), as shown in figure 8.04. The hex head bolts on the right side of the saddles (circled in yellow) are used to install the connector junction box. .

Install the connector junction box on the saddles so that the lid of the junction box opens from the bottom as shown in figure 8.05. Note that there are more details on the connector junction box installation in Chapter Nine. Holding the connector junction box in place, insert the 5/16" Nylock nuts onto the hex head bolts. Turn the truss mast until the upper hole is perpendicular to the boom. Now tighten the 5/16" nuts fully. Figure 8.05 shows the completed truss mast assembly.

FIG. 8.01



Key	QTY	Part #	Description
A	1	10-1618-41	48" Boom truss mast
B	4	60-0066	5/16" x 4" Hex head bolt
C	4	10-1601-01	1-3/4" Aluminum saddle half
D	4	10-1613-11	1/4" aluminum spacer
E	4	60-0046	5/16" Nylock nut

FIG. 8.02

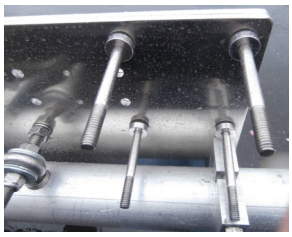


FIG. 8.03

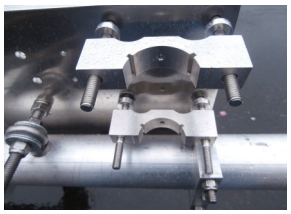


FIG. 8.04

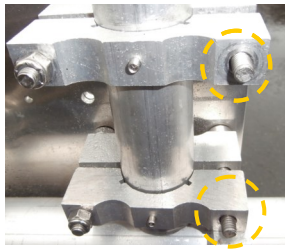


FIG. 8.05

PHILLYSTRAN TRUSS

At the top of the boom truss mast, install the 5/16" x 3" bolt and all the 5/16" and 3/8" washers to attach the two 5/16" turnbuckles as shown in Figure 8.10. Install the 5/16" Nylock nut (PN 60-0046) at the end of the the 5/16" x 3" bolt. Tighten the 5/16" nut so that the turnbuckles are snug against the washers but still can move up and down. Figure 8.11 shows the Phillystran layout with appropriate fasteners. This drawing will be helpful when working through the following section.

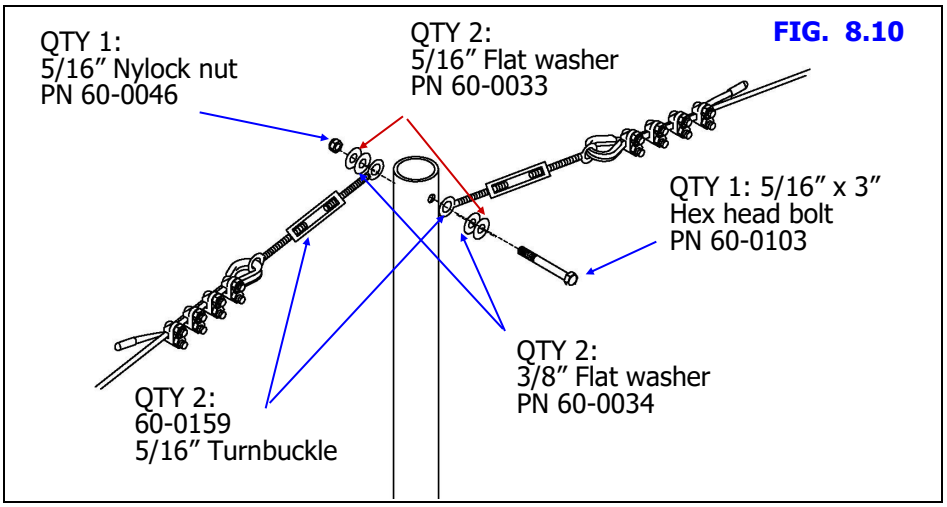


FIG. 8.10

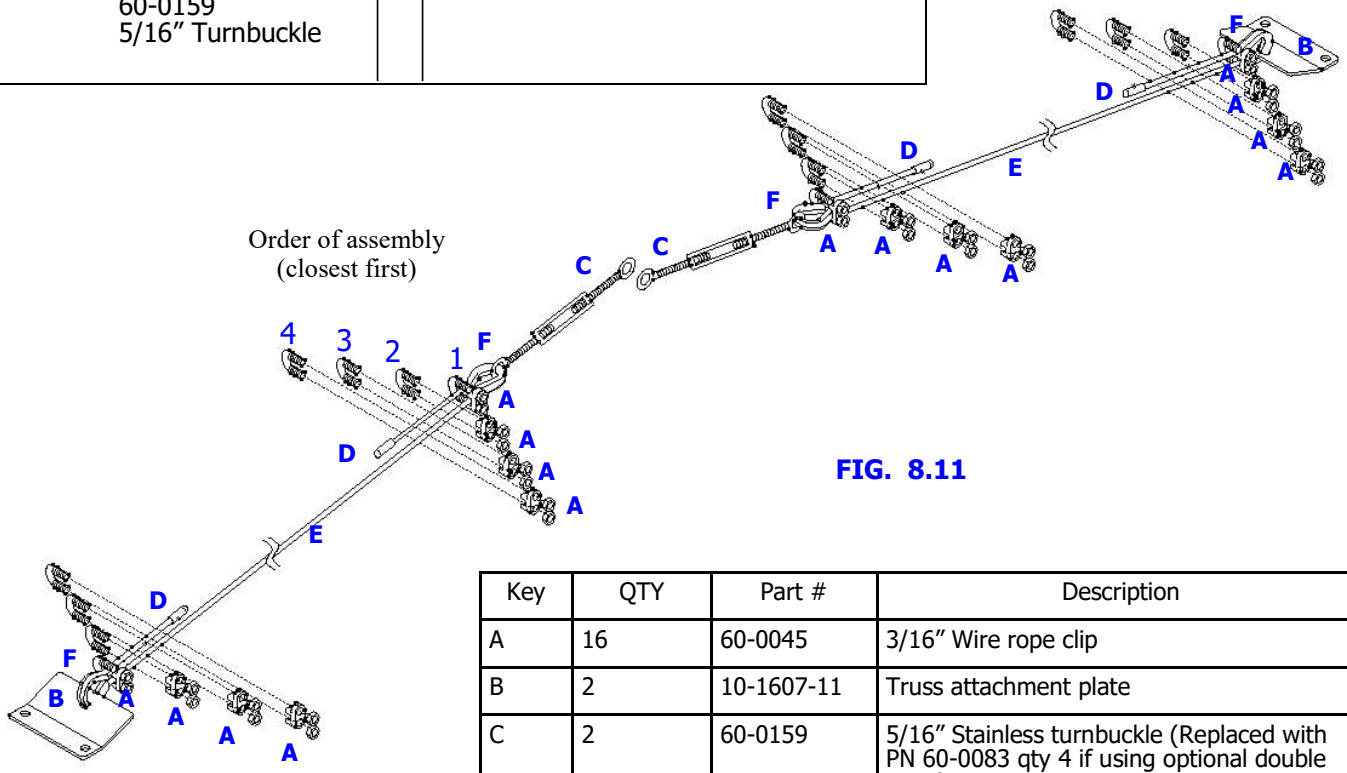


FIG. 8.11

Key	QTY	Part #	Description
A	16	60-0045	3/16" Wire rope clip
B	2	10-1607-11	Truss attachment plate
C	2	60-0159	5/16" Stainless turnbuckle (Replaced with PN 60-0083 qty 4 if using optional double truss)
D	4	60-0044	Phillystran end cap
E	30 FT	21-8002	Phillystran 2100I (trim as you go)
F	4	60-0048	3/16" Wire thimble

PHILLYSTRAN TRUSS (continued)

When securing the Phillystran truss cable, the rule of "don't saddle a dead horse" applies. You must be certain that the saddle portion of the wire clip is on the longer or "live" side of the Phillystran, and the U-bolt section is on the "dead" or (short) side of the Phillystran. Because of this, how you thread the Phillystran through the thimble is important. The lengths of the Phillystran are different on each side of the truss. It is best to "trim as you go", that way you can minimize the opportunity for error.

Locate the truss attachment plate (PN 10-1607-11) and connect to the boom using two 2" aluminum saddle halves (PN 10-1601-22), two 5/16" x 3-1/2" hex head bolt (PN 60-0065) and two Nylock nuts (PN 60-0046). The saddle set for the truss attachment plate goes in between the two bolts of the portion of the boom that transitions from 2" to 1-3/4" as shown in figure 8.12. Position the saddle so that it is about 1/4" from the hex head bolt closest to the mast plate as shown in figure 8.13.

When preparing the Phillystran truss, you will need to bring the Phillystran from below the thimble so that the "dead" side is facing towards the sky. Insert the 3/16" thimble (PN 60-0048) into the middle hole on the truss attachment plate as shown in figure 8.14. Loop the Phillystran around the thimble until approximately 8" of the Phillystran is on the "dead" side as shown in figure 8.15. Figure 8.16 shows how to position the two pieces of Phillystran cable into the wire clip saddle. Position the first of the four wire clips (PN 60-0045) so that the wire clip is as close to the thimble as possible, as shown in figure 8.17. Tighten the wire clip, alternating between each nut so that the tightening force is evenly distributed. Hold each portion of the Phillystran in place while tightening, to ensure that a good mate is formed between the two cables. Wait 20 minutes and tighten some more, as cold-flow of the plastic usually occurs. A great way to do the initial tightening is to use a 7/16" deep socket and hand turn, as shown in figure 8.18. This allows you to get pretty tight and in good position on the two cables before doing the final tightening. Position the next wire clip approximately 1 inch behind the first wire clip and tighten accordingly. Repeat with the remainder of the wire clips as shown in figure 8.19.

Locate the plastic end cap (PN 60-0044) and push it onto the end of the Phillystran as shown in figure 8.20. Secure the Phillystran pieces and the cap at the end of the wire clips with electrical tape. Repeat the above steps for truss on the opposite side of the boom after attaching the Phillystran to the boom truss mast.

FIG. 8.12

FIG. 8.13

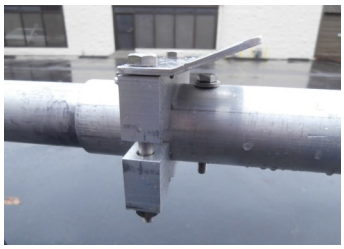


FIG. 8.14

FIG. 8.15

FIG. 8.16

FIG. 8.17

FIG. 8.18

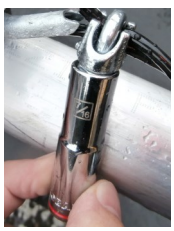


FIG. 8.19

FIG. 8.20

ATTACH THE PHILLYSTRAN TRUSS TO THE BOOM TRUSS MAST

First install the 5/16" Turnbuckles onto the boom truss mast as shown in figure 8.10.

When attaching the Phillystran material to the turnbuckle located on the truss support mast, the rule of "don't saddle a dead horse" still applies. You must be certain that the saddle portion of the wire clip is on the longer or "live" side of the Phillystran, and the U-bolt section is on the "dead" or (short) side of the Phillystran. Locate the 3/16" galvanized thimbles (PN 60-0048) and pry the end apart so that it will slide over the eye portion of the turnbuckle. When the thimble is attached, be sure to bend the ends back so that it cannot fall off. Unwind the turnbuckle so that approximately 3/8" of threads are still inside the frame, as shown in figure 8.20. The slack is needed so that you can appropriately tighten the Phillystran once secured to the turnbuckle.
When preparing the Phillystran truss, you will need to bring the Phillystran from below the thimble as you did on the other end of the truss. Loop the Phillystran around the thimble until the Phillystran is as tight as possible. Leave approximately 8" of the Phillystran on the "dead" side as shown in figure 8.21 and trim with a utility knife.

While holding the Phillystran so that it remains tight, position the first of the four wire clips (PN 60-0045) so that the wire clip is as close to the thimble as possible as shown in figure 8.22. Repeat with the remainder of the wire clips as shown in figure 8.23 - tighten all of the wire clips, alternating between each nut so that the tightening force is evenly distributed. Hold each portion of the Phillystran in place while tightening, to ensure that a good mate is formed between the two cables. At a later time (at least 20 minutes), check each nut again, as cold-flow of the plastic usually occurs. Position the next wire clip approximately 1 inch behind the first wire clip and tighten accordingly. Locate the plastic end cap (PN 60-0044) and push it onto the end of the Phillystran as shown in figure 8.24. Secure the Phillystran pieces at the end of the wire clips with electrical tape.

Repeat for the other side of the boom. When both sides are finished, use two adjustable wrenches, one to hold the eye stationary and the other to turn the frame of the eyebolt as shown in figure 8.25. Place a level on the boom as shown in figure 8.26. When the boom is level, tighten the nuts on each end of the frame of the eyebolt so that the eyebolt cannot adjust accidentally once the antenna is in the air. As a secondary measure, weaving wire through the eyebolts and the frame can also prevent the eyebolts from loosening, as

FIG. 8.20

FIG. 8.21

FIG. 8.22

FIG. 8.23

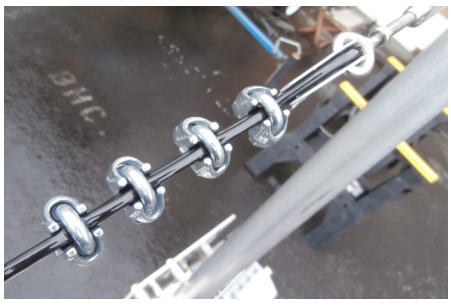


FIG. 8.24

FIG. 8.25

FIG. 8.26

FIG. 8.27

MOUNT THE CONNECTOR JUNCTION BOX ONTO BOOM

The connector junction box is the "hub" for all wiring. It has a hinged cover, which allows for easy access inside. Having pluggable connections makes it much easier to access wiring. An added feature is the inclusion of a 25 pin female connector located on the inside of the connector junction box. This makes it convenient to do antenna testing at the install site, as opposed to having to go all the way inside the ham shack to access the electronic controller.

The connector junction box attaches to the saddle bolts used for mounting mast onto the mast plate as shown in figure 9.02. Position the junction box mounting plate onto the 5/16" hex head bolts and attach the 5/16" Nylock nuts. The hinged cover needs to open from the bottom, as shown in figure 9.03.

.

FIG. 9.02

FIG. 9.03

WIRING THE CONNECTOR JUNCTION BOX

Every electrical function is routed through the connector junction box. There are seven junction connections, each of which consists of a female header that is attached to the circuit board inside the box, and a male plug for each as shown in figure 9.10. When we ship the connector junction box, the plugs will already be attached to the female headers and will need to be removed for wiring as shown in figure 9.11. Figure 9.12 shows the connector junction box with the plugs removed.

The table below identifies each of the connector junctions inside the connector junction box and provides notes for each connection. Also shown is the optional 80m Dipole (J6) wiring—if you do not have the 80m Dipole, DISREGARD the J6 plug.

Note: Figure 9.14, figure 9.15 and figure 9.16 will follow this page. Figure 9.14 shows detailed wiring information for each of the connector junctions inside the box. Be sure to dip each of the exposed wires into the included connector protector before inserting into the terminal strip inside the junction box. Figure 9.15 shows in detail the diagram for connecting the 16 wire control cable to the P1 and P2 plugs inside the junction box. Figure 9.16 shows the wiring for the optional 80m Dipole kit.

- When routing wires through the cover of the junction box, **DO NOT** seal around the wires. The channel is left open to allow any condensation collecting in the box to escape.
- Don't forget to relieve strain from your cables in the junction box. This can be done by using a zip tie on the inside of the box to prevent the cables from pulling out.
- Use dielectric grease (included in the box) to protect each bare conductor. Apply the grease to the plug/header connection as well.
- We recommend using a small zip tie through the hole next to the junction box's latch to keep it permanently closed. Do this **AFTER** final wiring and testing.

FIG. 9.10

FIG. 9.11

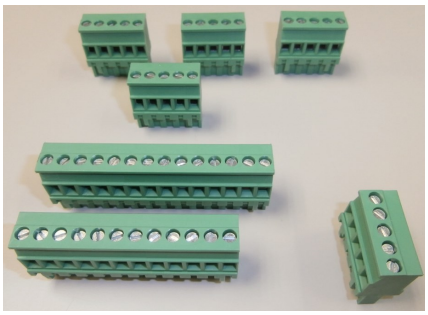
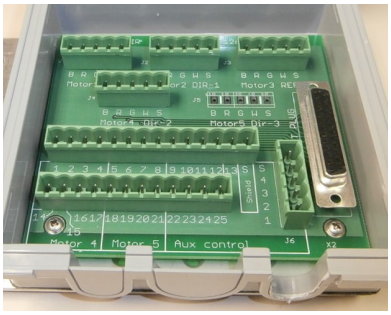


FIG. 9.12

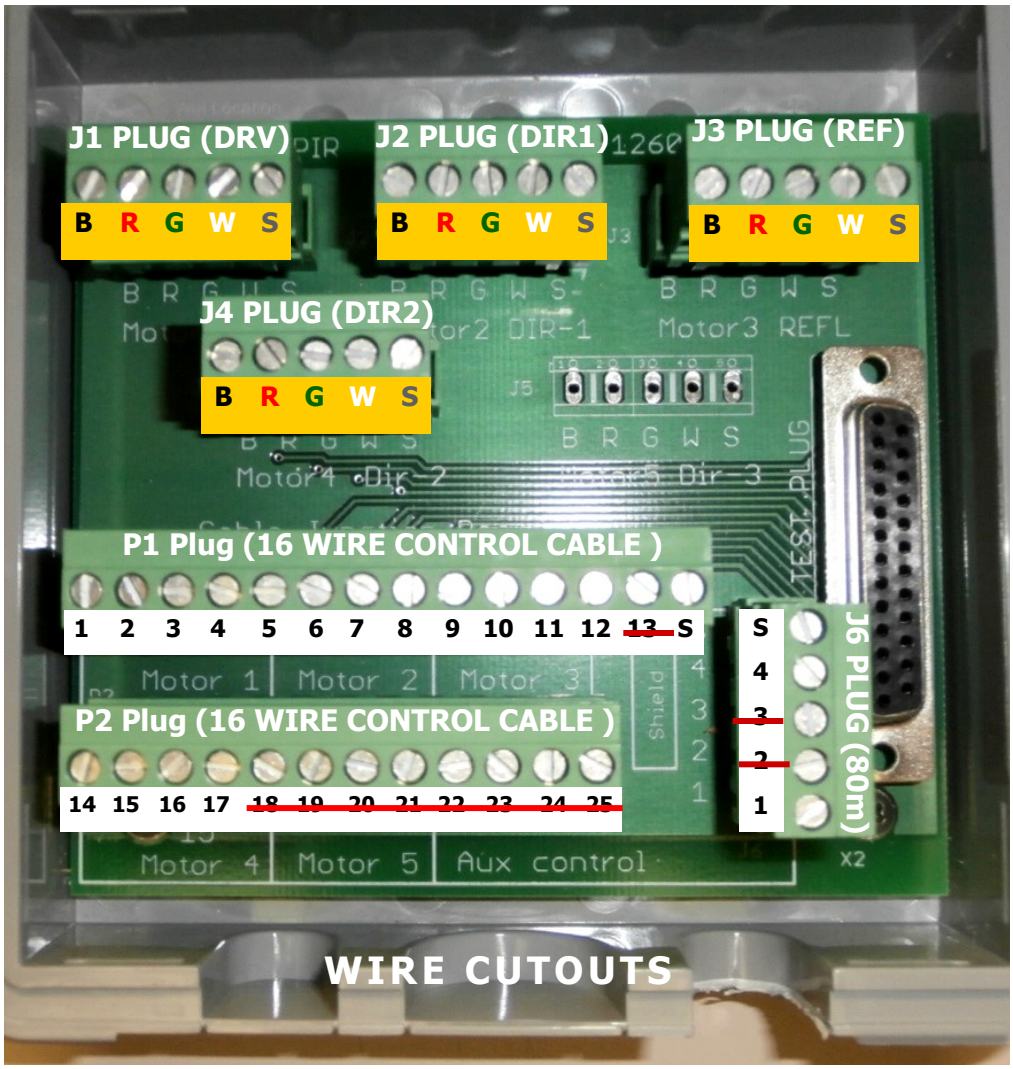


ID	Cable Routed From:	Installation Notes
J1	DRIVEN ELEMENT	4 wire control cable, plus shield wire (all wires used).
J2	DIRECTOR 1	4 wire control cable, plus shield wire (all wires used).
J3	REFLECTOR	4 wire control cable, plus shield wire (all wires used).
J4	DIRECTOR 2	4 wire control cable, plus shield wire (all wires used).
P1	CONTROL CABLE FROM HAM SHACK	The first 12 wires of the 16 the conductor cable used, plus the shield wire.
P2	CONTROL CABLE FROM HAM SHACK	ONLY pins 14, 15, 16 and 17 are used on the P2 junction. The rest are NOT USED.
J6	80m DIPOLE **(optional)**	4 wire control cable; the green and red wire need to be trimmed and taped; Black goes to pin 1, pin 2 and 3 are not used, white goes to pin 3, shield goes to shield (S);

WIRING THE CONNECTOR JUNCTION BOX (continued)

CONNECTOR JUNCTION BOX LAYOUT

FIG. 9.14



4 wire control cable key

BLACK	RED	GREEN	WHITE	SHIELD

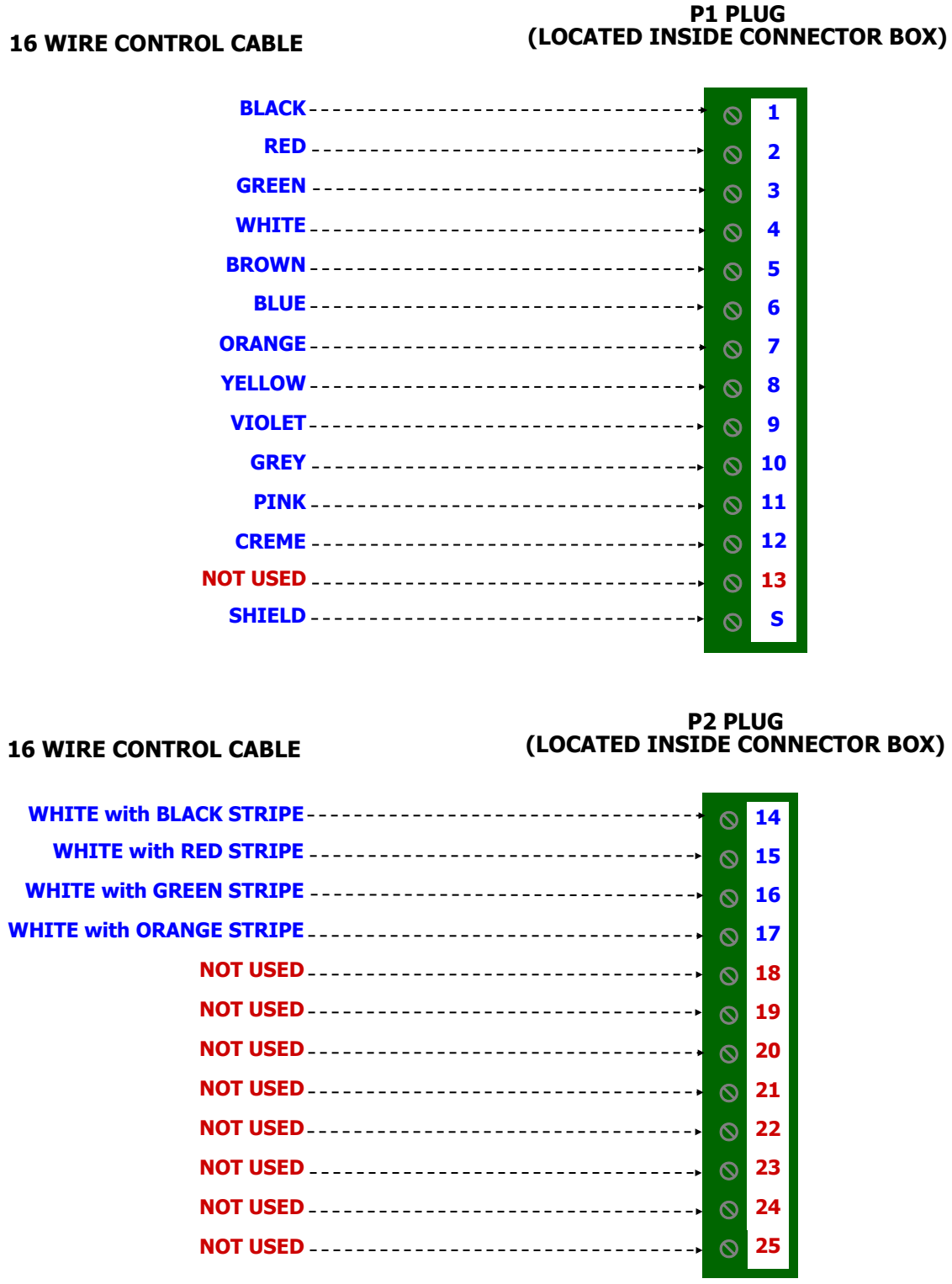
OPTIONAL
80M Dipole (J6)

SHIELD	S	⊘
WHITE	4	⊘
NOT USED	3	⊘
NOT USED	2	⊘
BLACK	1	⊘

WIRING THE CONNECTOR JUNCTION BOX (continued)

CONNECT THE 16 WIRE CONTROL CABLE TO THE JUNCTION BOX

FIG. 9.15

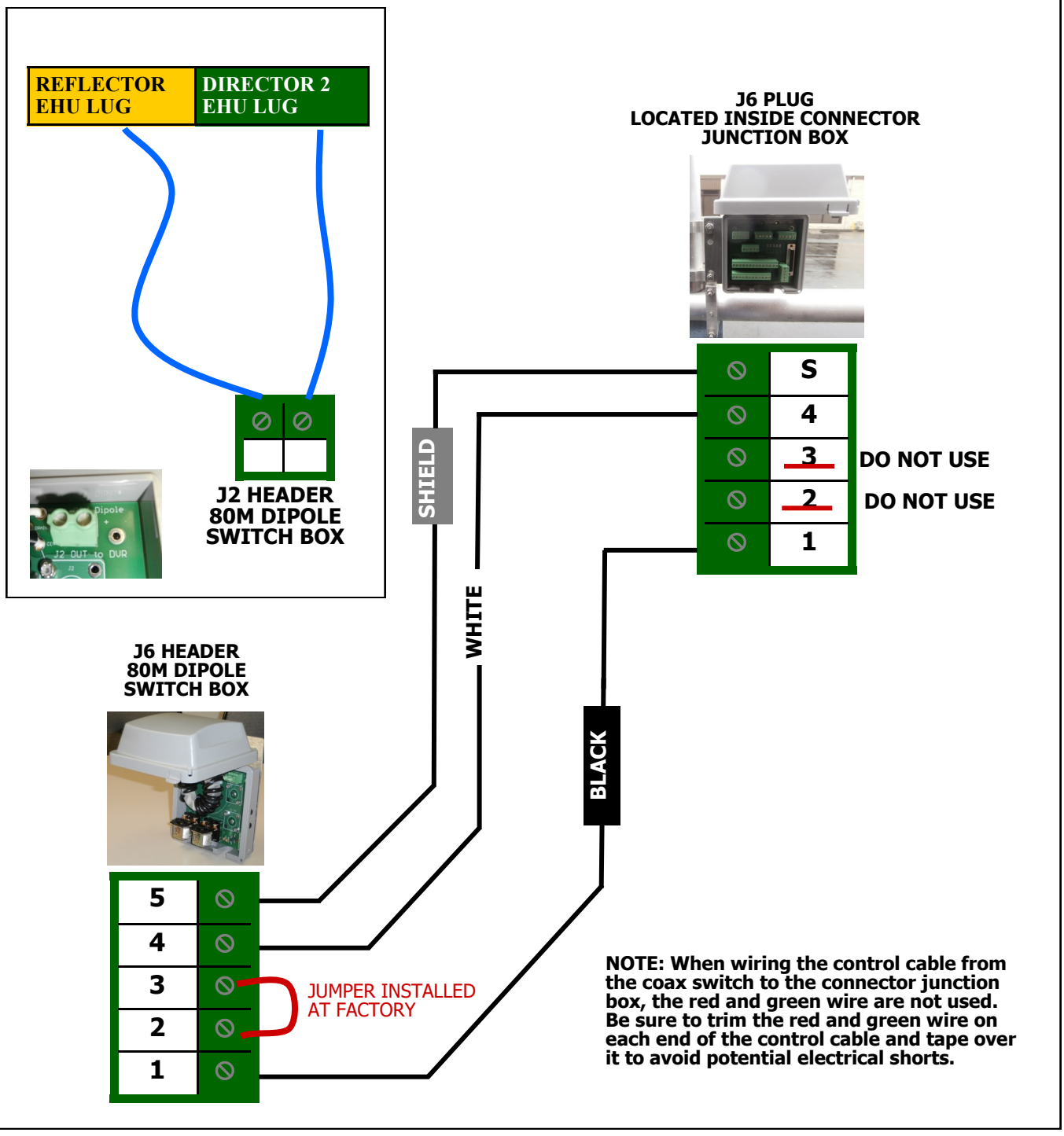


WIRING THE CONNECTOR JUNCTION BOX (continued)

80M DIPOLE WIRING SCHEMATIC

(Refer to consumer.steppir.com/support/files for DB36 dipole instruction manual)

FIG. 9.16



WIRING THE CONNECTOR JUNCTION BOX (continued)

PREPARING THE CONTROL CABLE

1. Strip the jacket and aluminum shielding off of the control cable as shown in figure 9.20, approximately 2.75" from end of control cable, being careful not to damage the individual wires.
2. Strip the plastic insulation off of each of the control cable wires, approximately 0.25" in length should be bare wire.

CONNECTING CONTROL CABLE TO THE DB25 FIELD SPLICE

The DB25 Field is a convenient solder-less connection that mates the control cable to the SteppIR controller. Follow the steps below to connect it to your control cable.

1. Apply the provided dielectric grease to the exposed copper portion of each wire.
2. Connect each wire to the appropriate terminal and tighten using a flat head screwdriver. Note that the terminals may be closed by default. If so, turn the terminal screw ccw ~10 turns to open it before inserting the wires. Consult the table on the next page for the correct wiring sequence.
3. Position the control cable between the cable clamp halves as shown in figure 9.23.
4. Tighten the two pan head screws until the cable is snug, but do not over-tighten.
5. Thread the two thumb screws into the connector face as shown in figure 9.23.
6. Apply dielectric grease to the pins fo the 25 pin connector.
7. Plug the DB25 splice into the back of the controller and twist the thumb-screws to secure it.

FIG. 9.20

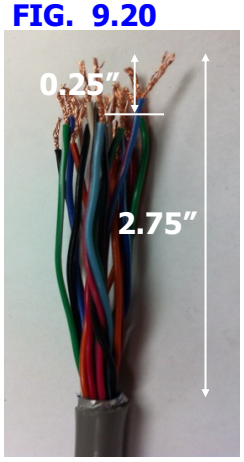


FIG. 9.21

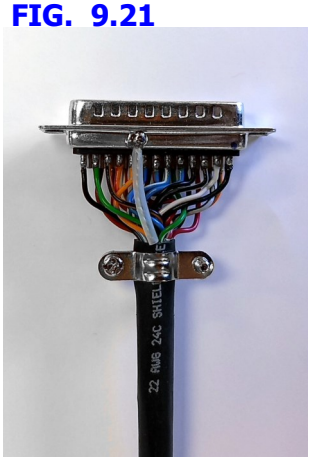


FIG. 9.22

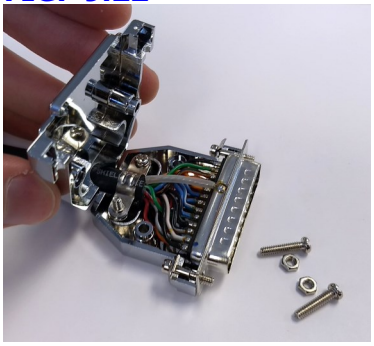
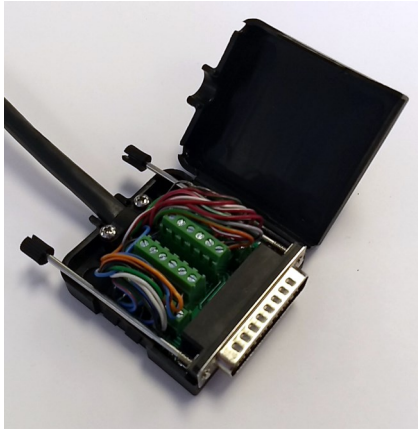


FIG. 9.23

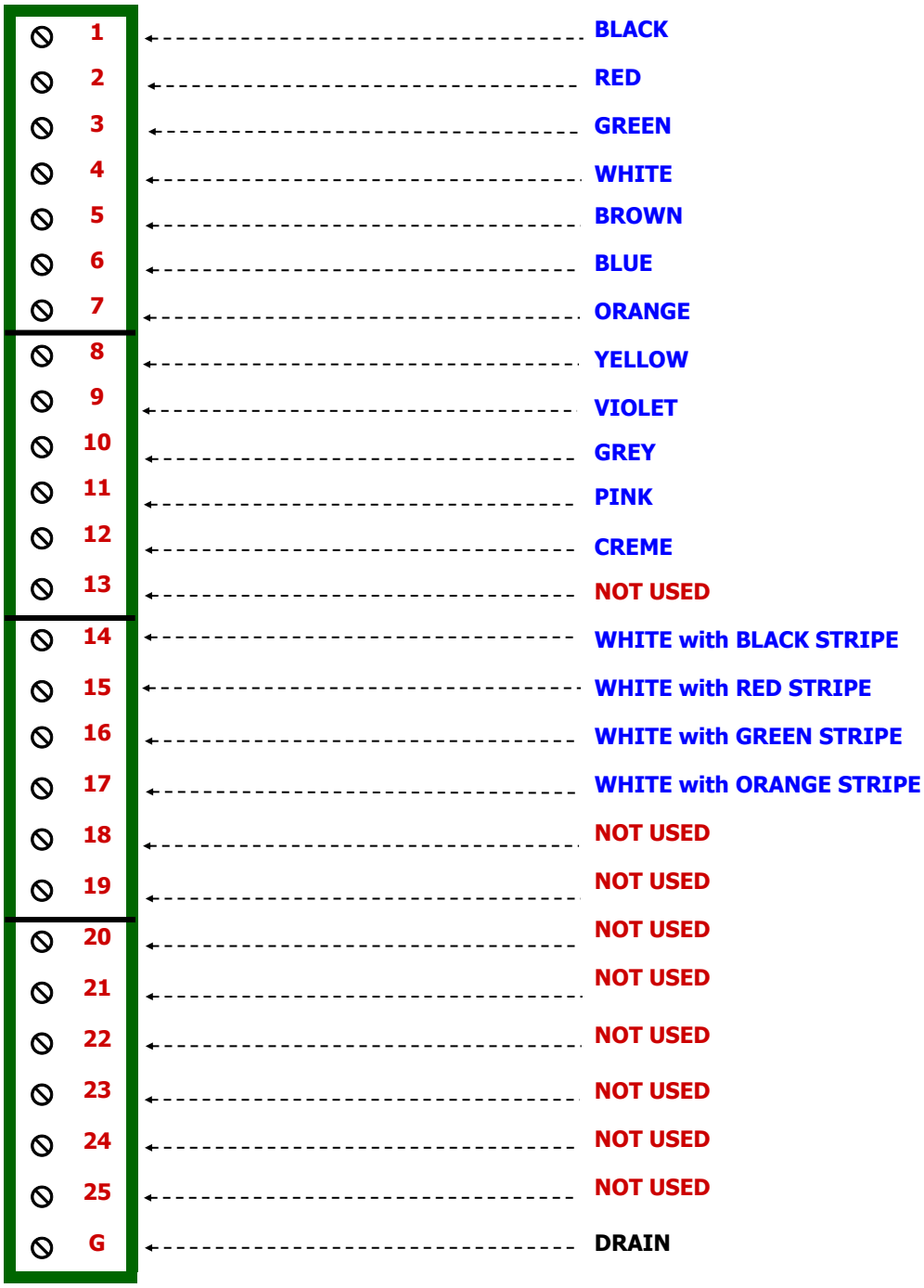


WIRING THE CONNECTOR JUNCTION BOX (continued)

CONNECTING CONTROL CABLE TO DB25 FIELD SPLICE (continued)

FIG. 9.24 **25 PIN DSUB FIELD SPLICE TERMINAL STRIPS**

16 WIRE CONTROL CABLE—DB36 NO 80m option
(If you have the 8om dipole option, refer to the separate manual)

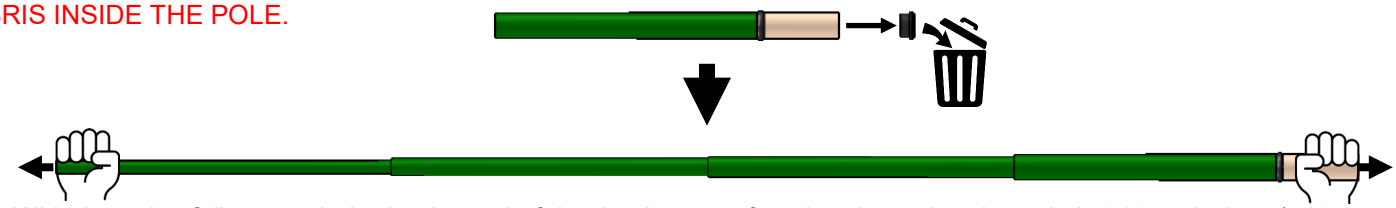


Note: If you are wiring the control cable yourself using a 25 pin connector and backshell instead of using the above dSub field splice, use the same pin numbers shown above. For the 25 pin connector installation, you would solder the ground wire to the case of the 25 pin connector and then put the backshell on.

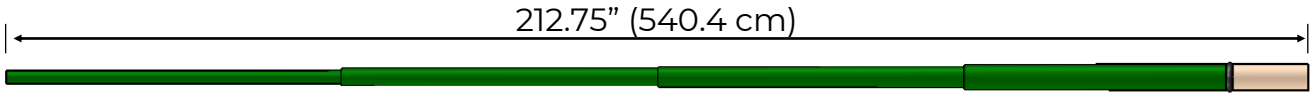
CHAPTER TEN
SECTION 10.0

PREPARING THE TELESCOPING POLES

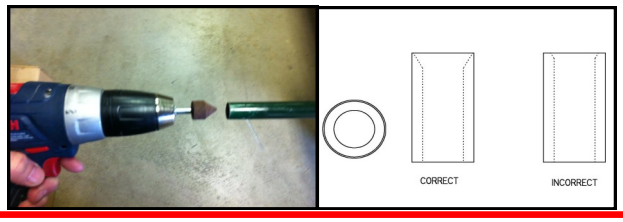
1. Extend the telescoping poles (PN 10-1013-02) to full length by firmly locking each section of the pole in place. A good methodology is to position each half of the joint so that they are several inches apart (while still within each other), and then pull quickly and firmly. Do this for each pole. There are rubber plugs inside the base section of each telescoping pole. These make it easier for handling, but they MUST BE REMOVED BEFORE ASSEMBLY. VERIFY THE FOAM INSERT IN THE PLUG HAS NOT MADE ITS WAY DOWN THE POLE AND THAT THERE IS NO OTHER FOREIGN DEBRIS INSIDE THE POLE.



2. With the poles fully extended, trim the end of the tip element of each pole so that the pole is 212.75 inches (540.4 cm) from the tip of the pole to the butt end, as shown below. ONLY trim the poles used for the 40/30 loops—if your antenna has 20m-6m straight elements, those should not be trimmed (must have a length of at least 213.1"). Use a hack saw, pipe cutter, or similar cutting blade that is suitable for fiberglass. Be sure that you cut the pole perpendicular to the length of the pole so that it is as "square" as possible.

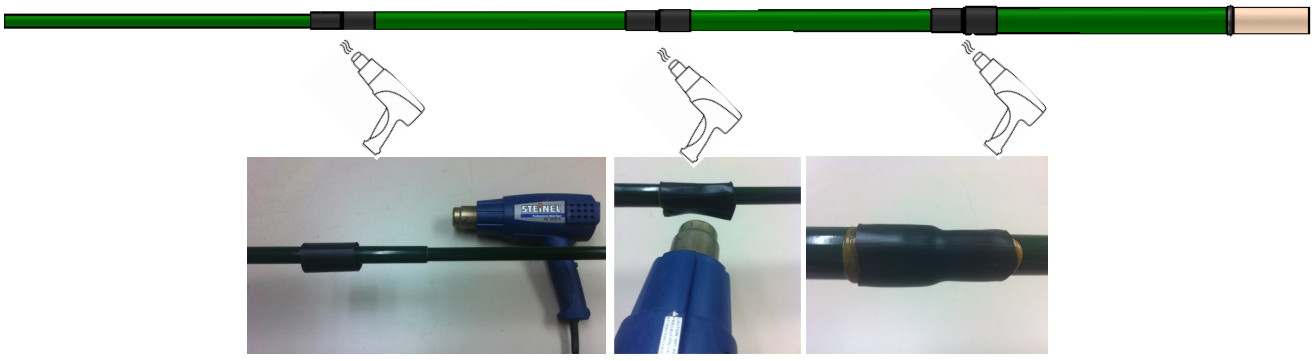


3. Using the conical drill bit, chamfer the tips of the 40/30 poles as shown below. The image below shows the proper angle to chamfer to. Clean out the interior of the fiberglass poles after chamfering it.



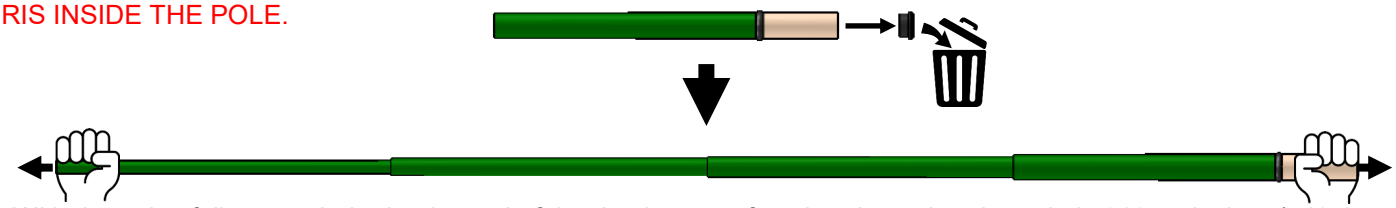
LOOK INSIDE OF THE TELESCOPING POLE TO VERIFY NOTHING IS BLOCKING IT. YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO SEE LIGHT AT THE OTHER END IF THE POLE IS KEPT STRAIGHT. DEBRIS INSIDE THE TELESCOPING POLES CAN LEAD TO FAILURE OF THE EHU.

4. Each telescoping pole uses 3 polyolefin heat shrink pieces 1.5" x 3" (PN 10-1059-01), one covering each joint after it has been pulled tight. Once finished, the seal is secure and waterproof. This product requires a heat gun for activation of the adhesive.
5. When positioning the heat shrink, place it so that the joint of the telescoping pole is centered in the middle of the heat shrink.
6. Using a heat gun (hair dryers will NOT work), apply heat evenly around the entire area of heat shrink. Note: there are 4 blue colored lines imprinted on the tubing. The joint is considered done being heated and waterproof when the lines change color to a yellowish green. Each line needs to change color to ensure even adhesion temperatures.
7. The heat shrink will want to slide as it is heated so wear gloves and reposition the heat shrink to keep it centered on the joint as needed. Caution: The heat shrink will be HOT, wear insulated gloves!



PREPARING THE TELESCOPING POLES

1. Extend the telescoping poles (PN 10-1013-02) to full length by firmly locking each section of the pole in place. A good methodology is to position each half of the joint so that they are several inches apart (while still within each other), and then pull quickly and firmly. Do this for each pole. There are rubber plugs inside the base section of each telescoping pole. These make it easier for handling, but they MUST BE REMOVED BEFORE ASSEMBLY. VERIFY THE FOAM INSERT IN THE PLUG HAS NOT MADE ITS WAY DOWN THE POLE AND THAT THERE IS NO OTHER FOREIGN DEBRIS INSIDE THE POLE.



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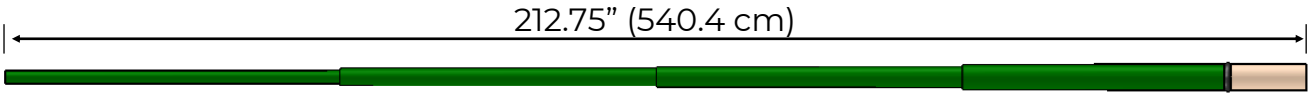

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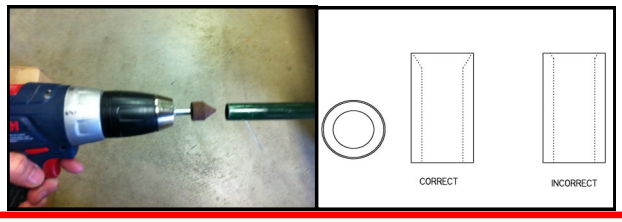

LOOK INSIDE OF THE TELESCOPING POLE TO VERIFY NOTHING IS BLOCKING IT. YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO SEE LIGHT AT THE OTHER END IF THE POLE IS KEPT STRAIGHT. DEBRIS INSIDE THE TELESCOPING POLES CAN LEAD TO FAILURE OF THE EHU.

4. Each telescoping pole uses 3 polyolefin heat shrink pieces 1.5" x 3" (PN 10-1059-01), one covering each joint after it has been pulled tight. Once finished, the seal is secure and waterproof. This product requires a heat gun for activation of the adhesive.
5. When positioning the heat shrink, place it so that the joint of the telescoping pole is centered in the middle of the heat shrink.
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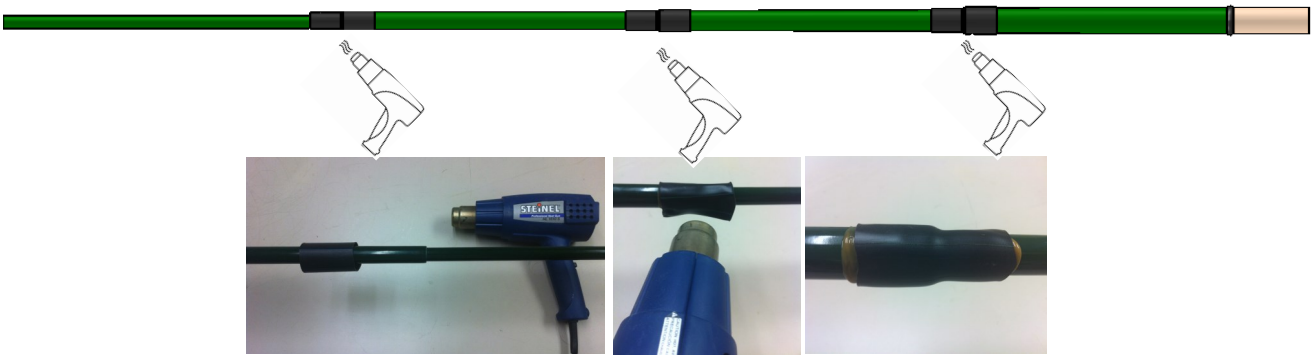
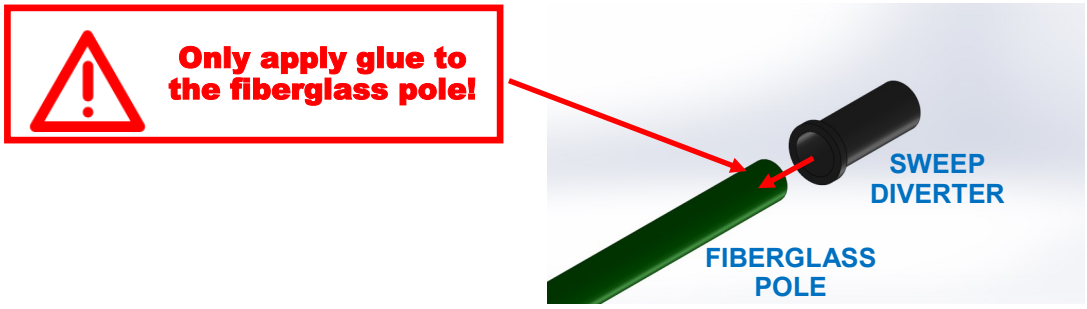
7. The heat shrink will want to slide as it is heated so wear gloves and reposition the heat shrink to keep it centered on the joint as needed. Caution: The heat shrink will be HOT, wear insulated gloves!

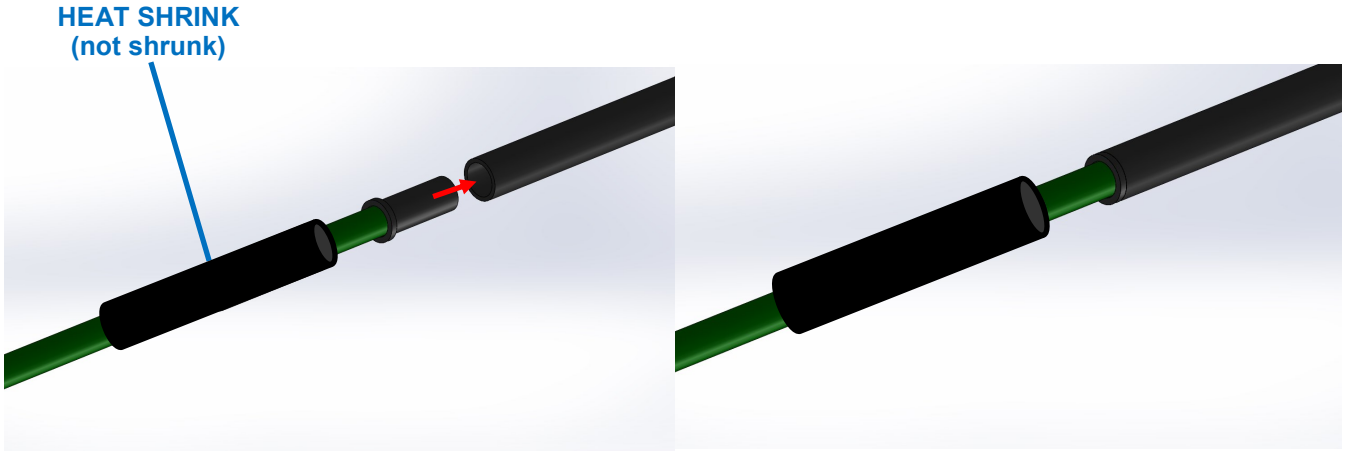


ATTACHING SWEEPS AND DIVERTERS TO FIBERGLASS

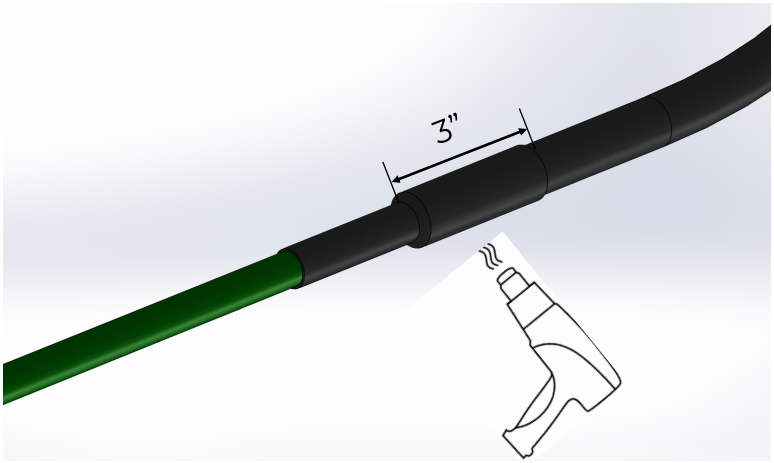
8. Use the glue kit (PN 72-0009-03) from the glue/tape kit to attach the sweep diverters (PN 10-1511-01) to the tips of the fiberglass telescoping poles. ONLY APPLY GLUE TO THE FIBERGLASS. Slowly rotate the sweep diverter as you slide it onto the pole to let the glue cover the most surface area possible. MAKE SURE THE SWEEP DIVERTER IS PUSHED AS FAR DOWN ONTO THE FIBERGLASS POLES AS POSSIBLE. The sweep diverter should be oriented in the same way as shown in the figure below, with the flanged edge towards the rest of the pole. Be sure the glue has dried completely before moving onto the next steps.



9. Put a piece of polyolefin heat shrink 1.1” x 6” (PN 10-1059-21) onto the telescoping pole, leaving the diverter clear. It should be down on the pole far enough that it doesn’t interfere with fitting the diverter into the sweep.
10. Insert the fiberglass pole, with the sweep diverter on it, into the sweep as far as possible. DO **NOT** GLUE THE SWEEP DIVERTER INTO THE SWEEP. Reposition the heat shrink to cover the joint.



11. Shrink the polyolefin sleeve over the joint as described on step 6 on the previous page; LEAVE AT LEAST 3” OF HEAT SHRINK ON THE SWEEP SIDE OF THE JOINT. **Be EXTREMELY careful not to overheat the poly sweep, you will deform or kink the material if too much heat is applied** (if this occurs you will need to undo your work and replace the poly sweep).
12. Remember, the heat shrink will want to slide as it’s heated. Reposition it as it cools to make sure the joint is fully covered. The heat shrink will be hot; wear insulated gloves.



ATTACHING SWEEP COUPLERS TO SWEEP TUBES

- Refer to figure 12.06 during the following steps for an overview of the assembly process.
- Each of the sweep coupler halves (PN 10-1155-01) will have a notch in the mold on one side marked with silver sharpie. IT IS CRITICAL THAT THESE NOTCHES ARE POINTING TOWARDS THE SWEEPS OR THEY WILL NOT WORK PROPERLY. See figure 12.07 for the location of the mark. Be certain that each half of the coupler has the mark facing the sweep tube!

13. Place the coupler halves over the heat shrink on the sweep side of the joint. The flange on the diverter should still be visible through the heat shrink, as well as the edge of the sweep material. The non-marked side of the coupler should be placed as close to the edge of the sweep material as possible, without overhanging, as shown in the cutaway in figure 12.08 where the sweep diverter is highlighted in blue.

14. Insert four of the 6-32 x 2" socket head screw (PN 60-0186) with washer (PN 60-0016). Place the screws so that the threaded portion of the screw is facing downward. BE SURE THAT THE DRAIN HOLES FOR THE PLASTIC SWEEP TUBE ARE POINTING DOWNWARD BEFORE INSTALLING THE COUPLERS.

15. Apply anti-seize to the threads and screw the Nylock nuts on. Tighten using a 5/16" wrench/socket to turn the nut and the provided 5/64" Allen Key to hold the screw. Tighten enough so that the clamp is held in place on the sweep/heat shrink. Final tightening will happen once the fiberglass spreader is installed.

16. Repeat the previous steps on the other side of sweep tube.

FIG. 12.06

Key	QTY	Part Number	Description
A	6	60-0186	Screw, 6-32 x 2", 18-8 Button Socket CS
B	6	60-0014	Nut, 6-32 Nylock
C	4	60-0016	Washer, 6-32, Flat
D	1	10-1503-21	Fiberglass Rod, 3/8" x 31-3/4" long, black
E	2	10-1155-01	Sweep Clamp, SCH-160 Clamp Half
F	1	10-1153-01	Poly Sweeps (100psi)
G	1	10-1013-02	Telescoping Pole, 18 foot 4 section
H	1	10-1059-21	1.1" x 6" polyolefin heat shrink

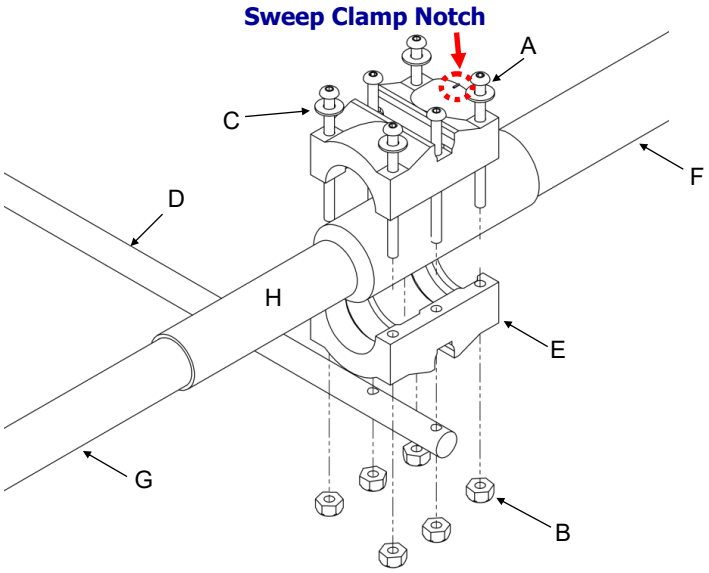
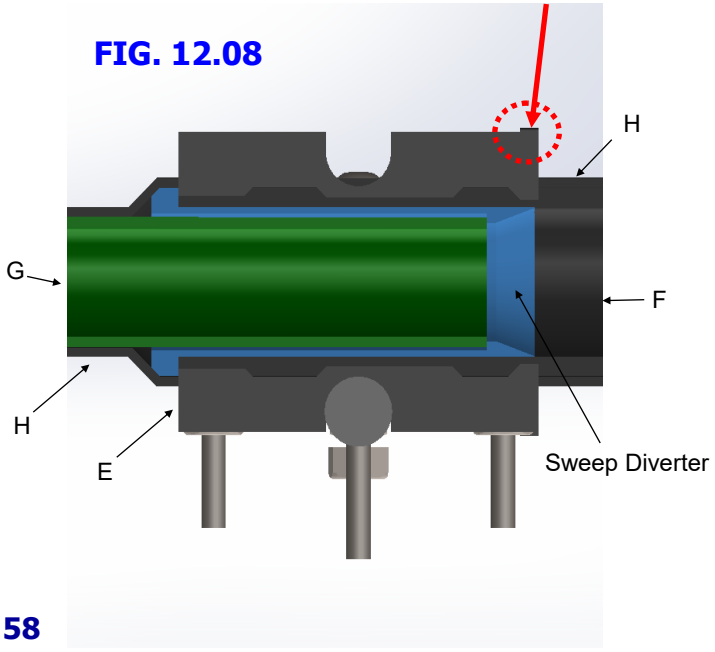


FIG. 12.07

FIG. 12.08



MOUNTING THE FIBERGLASS SPREADERS

17. Mount the black fiberglass sweep spreaders (PN 10-1503-21) to the sweep couplers. There is a concave mounting area on each side of the plastic couplers. Position the fiberglass spreader so that the holes align with the clam shell couplers as shown in figure 12.10. When installing the fiberglass spreader, you will want the spreader to be underneath the plastic coupler as shown in figure 12.11. The spreaders will be longer than the couplers on each side of the loop. This is done on purpose to ensure plenty of fiberglass material is on each side of the screw.
18. Insert 2qty 6-32 x 2" socket head screw (PN 60-0186) through each of the coupler halves and the fiberglass rod. This screw must be placed so that the Nylock nut (PN 60-0014) is resting on the fiberglass material and the screw head are resting inside the concave groove on the top of the sweep coupler. Refer to figures 12.10 and 12.11 for detail. The screws are longer than necessary so that you can get the nut on in the initial stages.
19. Tighten the Nylock nuts firmly. Be sure to use anti-seize on these screws or they will likely gall and have to be replaced.
20. Repeat the previous steps on the other side of sweep tube.

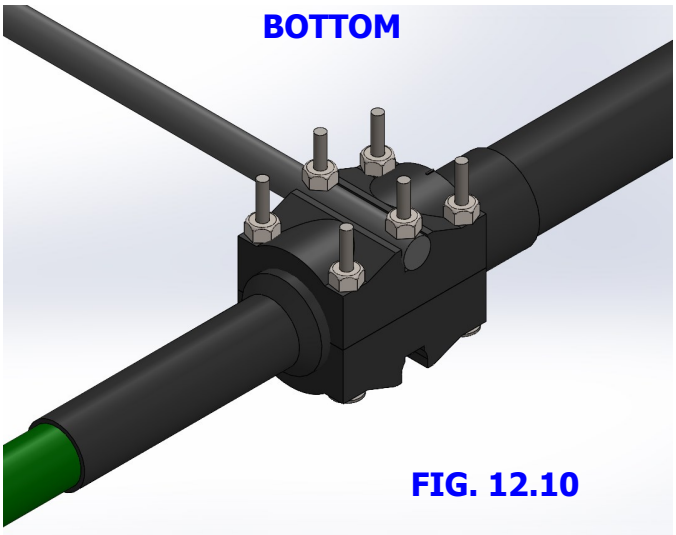


FIG. 12.10

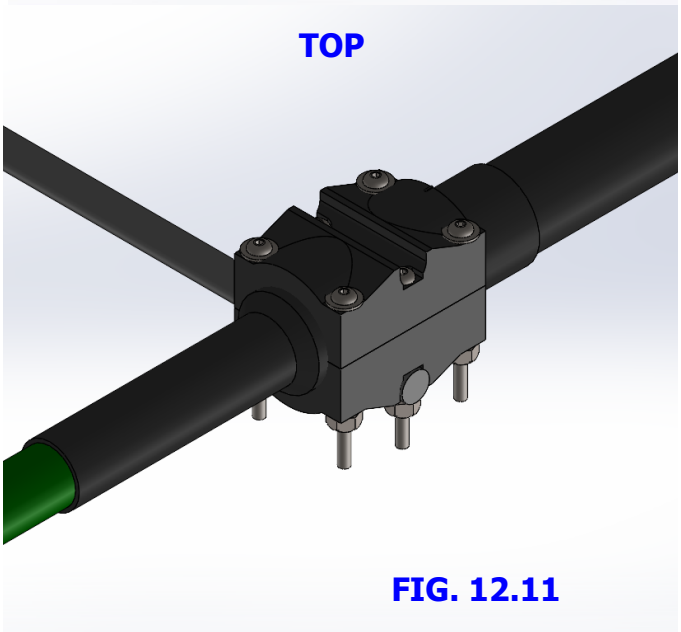


FIG. 12.11

21. Finish tightening the four screws on the outside corners of the plastic coupler. Tighten evenly, in an automobile X type pattern as shown in figure 12.14. If you do not tighten evenly, you may break the fastener. Once the outsides are firmly tight, tighten the two screws that hold the fiberglass spreader in place. Figure 12.15 shows the suggested method for tightening the screws.
22. When completely tightened, THE SWEEP COUPLER HALVES SHOULD HAVE GAP OF ABOUT 5/16" – 3/8", as shown in figure 12.16. This gap is not critical as the coupler is mostly to keep the spreader in place properly. IT IS BEST TO LET THE SCREWS SIT FOR A WHILE (15-30MIN) AND TIGHTEN IN INTERVALS IN ORDER TO ALLOW THE PLASTIC CLAMP MATERIAL TO RE-FORM. This also will reduce the chance of snapping a screw.
23. Figure 6.17 shows the completed sweep—repeat the process for each sweep.

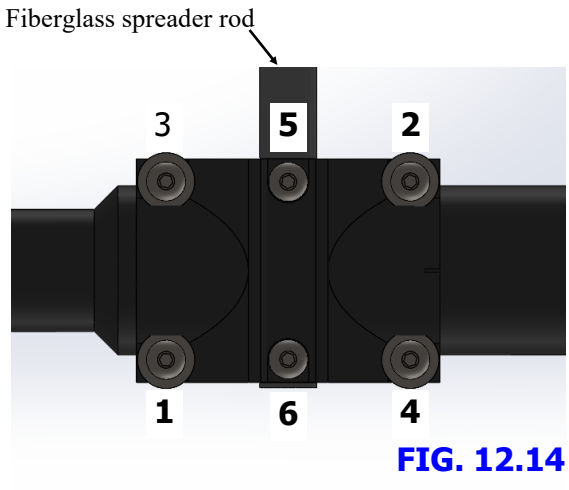


FIG. 12.14

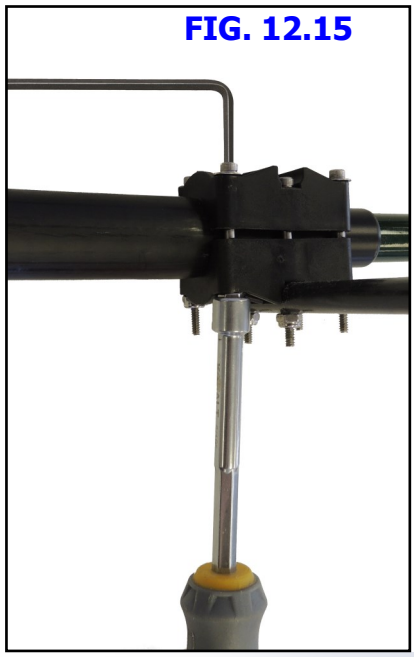


FIG. 12.15

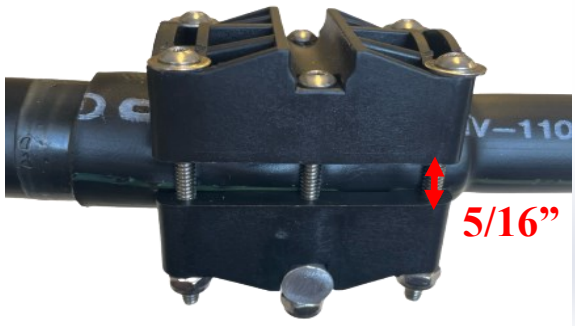


FIG. 12.16

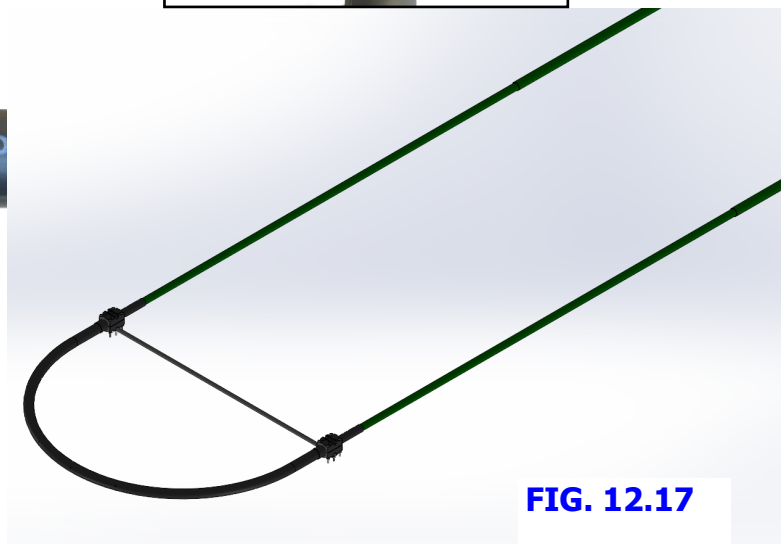


FIG. 12.17

PREPARE THE CPVC INNER-GUIDE TUBE & DIVERTER CONE

The 40/30 loops on the DB36 Yagi use a plastic tube and a diverter cone located inside the telescoping pole, to guide the copper strip out of the EHU. The plastic tube is off-white and is made of CPVC. There are 3 pieces that make up the guide tube assembly: The diverter cone (PN 10-1509-02), the 39-7/8" section of 3/4" CPVC with no coupler (PN 70-2025-23) and the 49" section of 3/4" CPVC with a coupler attached to one end (PN 70-2025-13). The guide tube is not needed on the return side of the loop. Figure 11.01 shows the three pieces in the assembly.

The smaller diameter end of the diverter cone is glued to one end of the 39-7/8" CPVC tube as shown in figure 11.02 . Use the supplied glue and applicator as shown in figure 11.03. Apply the glue evenly around the outside diameter of the tube. Be sure you get even coverage all the way around the tube. Cover about 3/4" of an inch deep as shown in figure 11.03. Firmly push the 39-7/8" CPVC tube into the diverter cone end as shown in figure 11.04. Let the glue dry at least 20 minutes before moving it.

Apply glue evenly around the outside diameter of the 39-7/8" CPVC tube as shown in figure 11.05. Apply approximately 3/4" deep as per prior step. Locate the 49" CPVC tube (PN 70-2025-13) with coupler, as shown in figure 11.06. Push the 39-7/8" tube firmly into the coupler as shown in figure 11.07.

Repeat above instructions for remaining guide tube assembly's (two per standard 40/30 loop, four total).

WARNING: Do not apply glue to the inner "female" portion of either the diverter cone or coupler. The glue applied to the outside of the tube is sufficient to bond the two pieces, and will prevent potential for damaging obstructions being formed by dried glue.

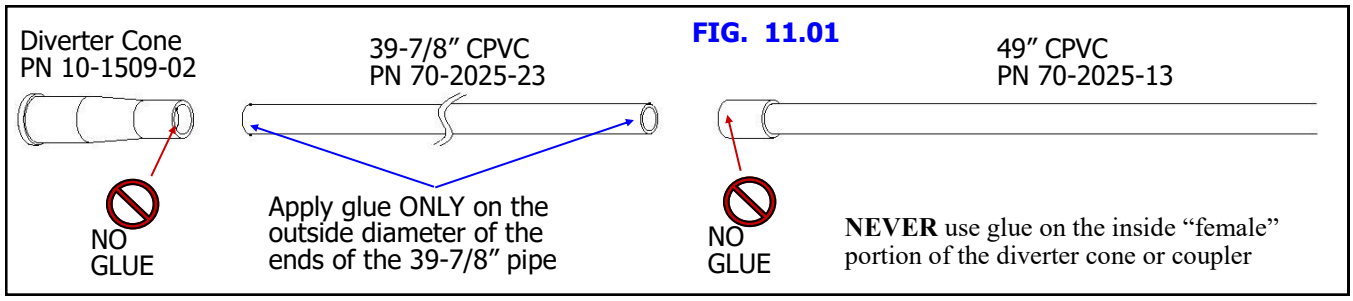


FIG. 11.01

FIG. 11.02

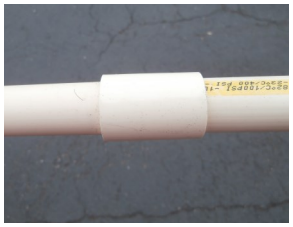
FIG. 11.03

FIG. 11.04

FIG. 11.05

FIG. 11.06

FIG. 11.07



SECURING THE ELEMENT SUPPORT TUBE (EST) TO THE EHU

When the CPVC inner guide tubes are completed, they will need to be inserted into the butt end of the telescoping poles. Figure 11.10 below shows the EHU placement for the Reflector element, the procedure is the same for the Director 2 element (but not the same for the driven element). The parts required in the table below are shown for director 2 and the reflector EHU.

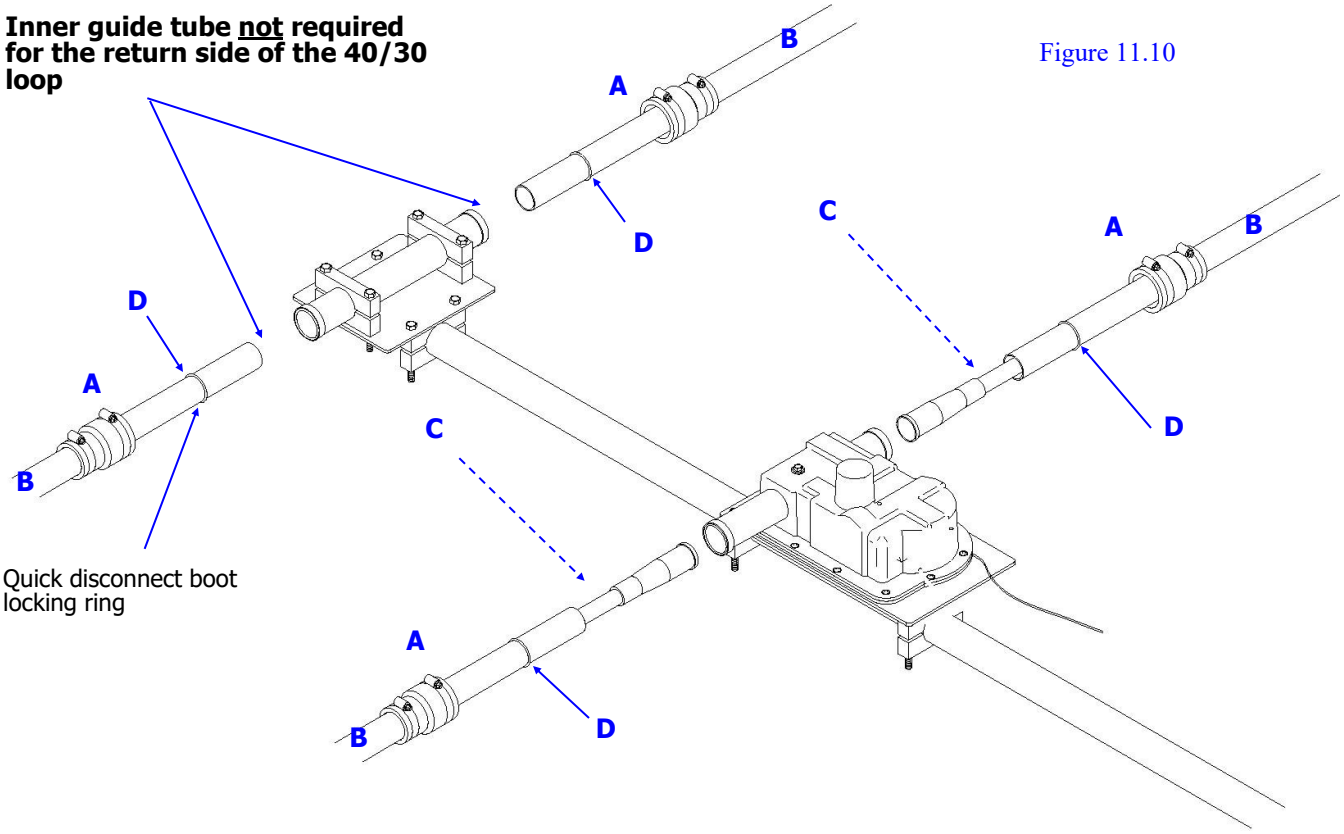


Figure 11.10

Key	QTY	Part #	Description
A	4	10-1006-22	Quick disconnect boot
B	4	10-1013-02	Telescoping pole
C	2	NA	Inner guide tube assembly consisting of diverter cone , 39-7/8" and 49" CPVC Plastic tube, glued together. They are only used on the EHU side of the 40/30 loop
D	4	NA	Quick disconnect boot locking ring (these are molded into the base section of each telescoping pole and are used to keep the pole from sliding out of the quick disconnect boots in high wind situations)

SECURING THE ELEMENT SUPPORT TUBE (EST) TO THE EHU (continued)

When attaching the telescoping fiberglass poles to each of the EHU's, special care must be taken to ensure that the rubber plugs that are in the base section of each pole are removed before placing the telescoping poles onto the EHU. **Failure to remove these plugs will result in catastrophic failure of the EHU**. Figure 11.11 shows how the plug is in place for shipping purposes. Each end of the DB36 boom has a 40/30 loop for use on 40m as well as the 49 ft loop Driven element, for a total of three elements on 40m/30m . These loops were prepared earlier in the installation process and should look like the one shown in figure 11.12. Be sure to put your quick disconnect boot (PN 10-1006-22) onto the pole before inserting into the EHU.

The CPVC inner guide tube is inserted into the EHU side of the loop assembly as shown in figure 11.13. A close up view of this assembly is shown in figure 11.14. The guide tube is not required for the non-EHU side of the loop (commonly called the return tube). Insert the guide tube so that the edge of the diverter cone is flush with the base of the telescoping pole as shown in figure 11.15. Slide the pole base and guide tube into the EHU tube until it bottoms out firmly as shown in figure 11.16. There may a small portion of unpainted pole protruding. This is OK as it is shielded from the sun by the quick disconnect boot. There is a raised area called a locking ring that is molded onto the base section of each of the telescoping poles. These are there so that the quick disconnect boot cannot "slide" off in the event of high winds. Figure 11.16 shows the locking ring. Align the telescoping pole on the return tube side of the loop. Insert the end firmly into the return tube as shown in figure 11.17.

Before tightening the quick disconnect boots, twist the base sections of the telescoping poles until the loop portion of the element is as level as possible, as shown in figure 11.18. Chapter Twelve shows this leveling process in greater detail, specifically figures 12.29, 12.30 and 12.31 . Tighten the quick disconnect boots firmly. Wait 20 minutes and tighten again—the flexible material will tend to cold flow initially. It is also a good idea to do a final tightening of all the quick disconnect boots and all fasteners as a last step before mounting the antenna onto the tower mast. Repeat above steps for the other half of the loop. The installation pictures below represent the Reflector element. Repeat the above steps for Director 2. The instructions are exactly the same with the exception of the orientation of the EHU and return tube.

FIG. 11.11

FIG. 11.12

FIG. 11.13

FIG. 11.14

FIG. 11.15

FIG. 11.16

FIG. 11.17

FIG. 11.18

INSTALLING THE TRUSS SUPPORT MAST

The great advantage of telescoping fiberglass poles are that they are both flexible and extremely strong. This is a significant advantage for such adverse weather situations as high winds, icing or snow accumulation. The only negative to this, is because of the flexibility, there is a slight natural "droop" at the element ends. This droop has no impact whatsoever on performance, but some people do not care for the look. On the DB36 Yagi, it is more pronounced because the Director 1 element is a straight telescoping pole, which droops less than the 40/30 loop elements on either side of it. For aesthetics purposes only, we offer the optional 40/30 loop end truss kit, which allows for the leveling of the Reflector and Director 2 loop elements to the same latitude as the rest of the elements. This makes for a better overall profile for the Yagi. These trusses do not have any impact on load bearing.

The 40/30 loop truss is *REQUIRED* for the 49 ft Driven element. It is an option that can be purchased for the Reflector and Director 2 elements, but the mechanics of installing each are the same. The loop truss kit allows for the leveling of the elements to the same latitude. This makes for a better overall profile for the Yagi. These trusses do not have any impact on load bearing, they are used for aesthetic improvement only. With the 39 ft element truss, a 1-3/4" aluminum saddle (PN 10-1601-03) is used to secure the truss mast to the boom. With the 49 ft element truss, 2-1/4" aluminum saddles (10-1601-32) and 5/16" x 3-3/4" bolts (60-0114) are used. With this exception, all other steps are identical. The Director 2 element is shown below for instructional purposes but the methodology will be the same for each of the three loops.

The truss mast needs to be mounted so that it is centered on the halfway point between the EHU center-point and the return tube center-point. The overall length between the two center-points is 30 inches, so the halfway point is 15 inches. Make a mark on the boom 15 inches between the two center-points as shown in figure 12.01. Locate the truss support (PN 10-1054-01) and two 1-3/4" aluminum saddle halves (PN 10-1601-03). Place the saddles so that the edge of the saddle is on the edge of the mark as shown in figure 12.02. This will ensure that the support is indeed on the centerpoint. Insert two of the 5/16" x 3-1/2" hex head bolts (PN 60-0065) and secure with 5/16" Nylock nuts (PN 60-0046). Remember to use anti-seize on the stainless steel fasteners. Level the support before tightening as shown in figure 12.03.

Attach each of the 4 inch stainless steel turnbuckles (PN 60-0083) using the 1/4" x 1-1/4" hex head bolt (PN 60-0110), two of the 5/16" stainless steel flat washers (PN 60-0033) and 1/4" Nylock nuts (PN 60-0030) as shown in figure 12.04 and figure 12.05. The stainless steel washers are both positioned between the eye of the outside turnbuckle and the Nylock nut as shown in figure 12.06.

FIG. 12.01

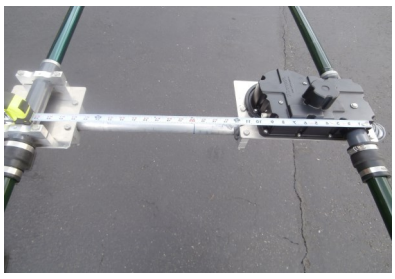


FIG. 12.02

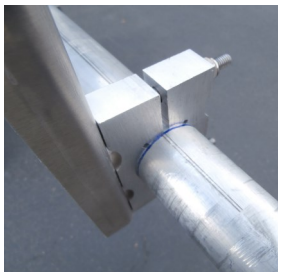


FIG. 12.03

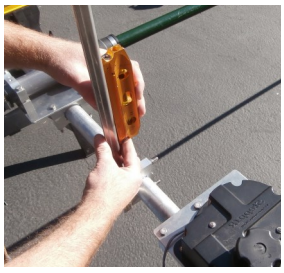


FIG. 12.04

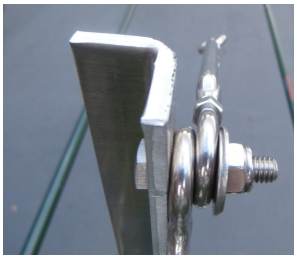


FIG. 12.05

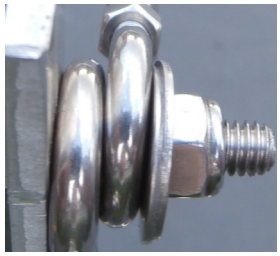


FIG. 12.06

ATTACH THE TRUSS COUPLERS

There are two pieces to the truss couplers (PN 10-1510-01) as shown in figure 12.10. The couplers are mounted on each side of the loop, located at the outer joint of the telescoping poles as shown in figure 12.11. The truss coupler butts up against the edge of the polyolefin heat shrink.

There are nut trays molded on one side of the truss coupler as shown in figure 12.12. These are handy for holding the #6 Nylock nut (PN 60-0014) when tightening, but you will need to position your finger over the nut to keep it from spinning when you thread on each of the #6 x 7/8" pan-head machine screw (PN 60-0014-01) as shown in figure 12.13. Only the outer four holes of the truss coupler are used for attaching it as shown in figure 12.14. Note that the top portion of the coupler (the portion facing skyward) has a hole, but this is also not used as shown in the second picture of figure 12.14. Align the truss coupler so that it is parallel to the telescoping pole and tighten each nut.

The Dacron truss cord is provided in a single piece and will need to be trimmed as you progress with the installation of the end trusses. Thread the Dacron cord through the truss coupler, leaving approximately ten inches of truss cord as shown in figure 12.15. Tie four half-hitches and leave approximately four inches of leader as shown in figure 12.16. Figure 12.17 shows the proper way to tie a half-hitch. When finished, apply electrical tape so that the leader of the Dacron rope is secured to the truss line as shown in figure 12.18.

FIG. 12.10

FIG. 12.11

FIG. 12.12

FIG. 12.13

FIG. 12.14

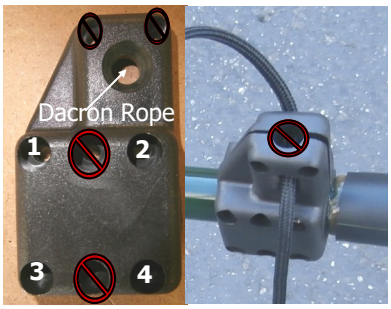


FIG. 12.15

FIG. 12.16

FIG. 12.17

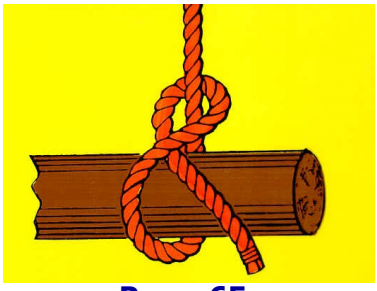


FIG. 12.18

ROUTING THE DACRON TRUSS CORD

Before inserting the cord through the eyebolt of the 4" turnbuckle, unthread each eye so that there is approximately 3/8" thread remaining in the frame of the turnbuckle portion, as shown in figure 12.20. Locate the 1/8" thimble (PN 60-0158). Spread the thimble apart enough to slide on to the eye of the turnbuckle. When the thimble is through the eyebolt, bend the tips of the thimble back as close to each other as possible, as shown in figure 12.21.

Thread the Dacron truss cord through the eye of the turnbuckle and around the 1/8" thimble as shown in figure 12.22. Pull the truss cord back down to the truss coupler on the opposite side of the loop. Insert the Dacron cord through the truss coupler (refer to prior page for instructions), pulling the cord tight so that there is no slack on either side of the cord. The procedure for securing the Dacron truss cord on this end of the loop is exactly the same as the truss coupler you prepared initially.

At this point of the installation of the 40/30 loop element truss, it is important to assemble the truss couplers and Dacron truss cord on the other side of the EHU. Because of the significant torque generated by leveling of the elements, there needs to be equal force applied on each side as shown in figure 12.23.

When the 40/30 loops on each side of EHU have both been prepared, attach two 1/8" galvanized wire clips (PN 60-0157) on each side as shown in figure 12.24. Position the first wire clip as close as possible to the tip of the thimble. Position the second wire clip an inch behind the first. Be certain that the rope is "stacked" one on top of the other as shown in figure 12.25. Tighten the wire clips firmly.

FIG. 12.20

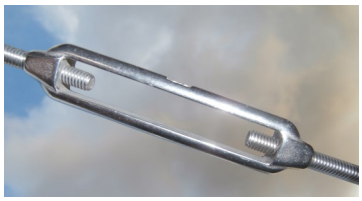


FIG. 12.21

FIG. 12.22

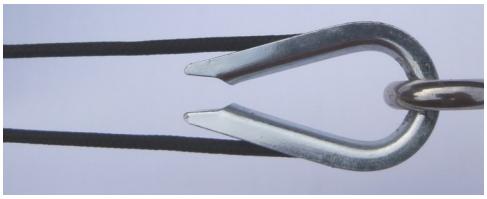


FIG. 12.23

FIG. 12.24

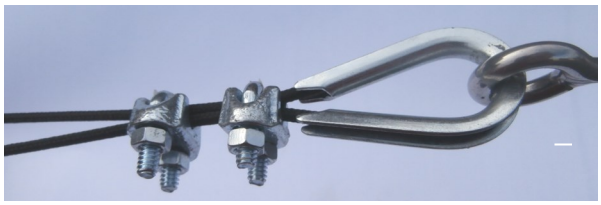


FIG. 12.25

ROUTING THE DACRON TRUSS CORD (continued)

When leveling the elements, use two adjustable wrenches as shown in figure 12.26. The wrench that is placed on the thimble is held stationary, while the wrench that is on the frame of the turnbuckle is rotated. Adjust each turnbuckle a few turns at a time until the elements are level.

Be careful not to raise the elements so that the tips are above the EHU—this can cause water to drain into your EHU during rainfall. When the elements are at the desired position, tighten the nuts on each end of the turnbuckle frame as shown in figure 12.27. Be sure to do this with ALL turnbuckles, as this will prevent the turnbuckle from unwinding. As a secondary measure, we recommend looping rope or wire through the eye and frame of the turnbuckle as shown in figure 12.28.

In addition to the leveling of the elements, it is also important to ensure that the loops at the tip of the telescoping poles are parallel to the boom. The best method for this is to loosen the quick disconnect boots on the telescoping poles and twist the base of the pole until the loops are parallel to the boom. Figure 12.29 shows a loop that is not parallel. Figure 12.30 shows the loop being adjusted. Figure 12.31 shows the level and parallel half of the 40/30 element.

When the position of the loops are as desired, tighten the quick disconnect boots firmly. Wait 30 minutes and tighten again.

FIG. 12.26

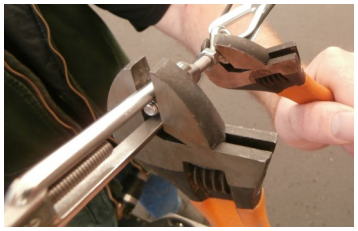


FIG. 12.27

FIG. 12.28

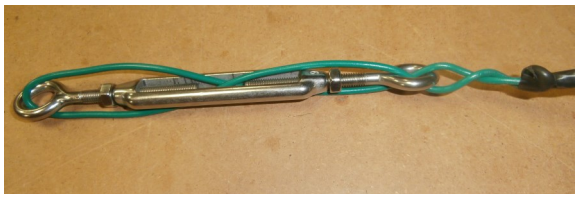


FIG. 12.29

FIG. 12.30

FIG. 12.31

6M PASSIVE ELEMENT KIT

While the DB36 has a 4 element 6m Yagi that is standard, the spacing is a bit wide so gain is compromised and there is reduced front-to-rear. For the average 6m user, this configuration works just fine, with gain of 4.0 dBi and front-to-rear of 1.78 dB. Adding the 6m passive elements creates a high performing 6 element Yagi, with gain of 12.75dBi and front-to-rear of 27.4dB. As with any fixed length element, there is a limit to the effective frequency range— you can expect the 6m passive elements to function well in 50.00 MHz to 50.400 MHz frequency range, but there will be no 180 degree or bi-directional mode when operating on 6m. In addition, you will need to rotate it like a traditional Yagi for this band only.

Refer to the center-to-center measurements in figure 13.05 on the following page for placement of each 6m passive element, or in Chapter Two of this manual. For D1A the proper measurement is 27.25 inches center -to-center from the Driven element. For D2A the proper measurement is 59.75 inches center-to-center from Director 2.

The passive element consists of three sections of polished aluminum—a single 58" long x 1/2" OD center piece with plastic insulator, and two 36" long x 3/8 OD sections that telescope into each side of the 1/2" OD aluminum. The 1/2" aluminum has slotted ends, so that a stainless steel hose clamp can secure the two sections firmly together.

Using a measuring tape as shown in figure 13.02, measure the 3/8" aluminum pieces and mark with a permanent ink pen at the length required for the 6m passive element as shown in table 13.01. Telescope the 3/8" aluminum sections into each end of the 1/2" aluminum section. Place the stainless steel hose clamps (PN 60-6000-60) over the slotted portion of the joint as shown in figure 13.03. Tighten enough to hold the pieces in place but loose enough to adjust if needed. Measure the overall length of the 6m passive element (refer to table) as shown in figure 13.04. If the element is the required length, tighten the stainless steel hose clamp firmly on each side.

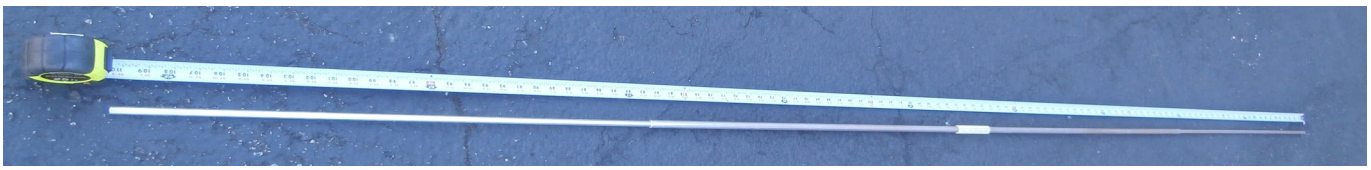
FIG. 13.01

6m Passive element	Total Element length	3/8" Aluminum length to reach total length (per side)
D1A	112 inches / 284.5 cm	27 inches / 68.58 cm
D2A	105 inches / 266.7 cm	23.5 inches / 59.70 cm

FIG. 13.02

FIG. 13.03

FIG. 13.04



6M PASSIVE ELEMENT KIT (continued)

Using kit 72-1002 and 2 sets of kit 70-1001-91, locate the 6m mounting plate (PN 10-1019-31). Using the 1 inch U-bolts (PN 60-0001) as shown in figure 13.06, place the 6m passive element on top of the 6m mounting plate with the slit in the plastic sleeve pointing downward. Position the plastic insulator so that it is centered between the two U-bolts. Tighten using the 1/4" Nylock nuts (PN 60-0030). Be careful not to over-tighten or you will crack the plastic insulator.

D1A (112" Overall Length)

Position two 2-1/2" aluminum saddle halves (PN 10-1601-41) on the boom and insert two 5/16" x 3-3/4" hex head bolts (PN 60-0114). Attach the 6m mounting plate with the bolt holes for the aluminum saddles facing towards the Reflector element as shown in figure 13.07. This mounting orientation is the same for D1A and D2A. Secure with 5/16" Nylock nuts (PN 60-0046) but leave loose enough for leveling and center-to-center spacing of the element as shown in figure 13.05 and Chapter Two.

D2A (105" Overall Length)

Position two 1-3/4" aluminum saddle halves (PN 10-1601-03) on the boom and insert two 5/16" x 3-1/2" hex head bolts (PN 60-0065). Attach the 6m mounting plate with the bolt holes for the aluminum saddles facing towards the Reflector element as shown in figure 13.07. Secure with 5/16" Nylock nuts (PN 60-0046) but leave loose enough for leveling and center-to-center spacing of the element as shown in figure 13.05 and Chapter Two.

Place a level on each 6m passive element as shown in figure 13.08. When the elements are level and the center-to-center measurements are correct, tighten the aluminum saddles. Be sure to use anti-seize on the stainless steel fasteners.

FIG. 13.05

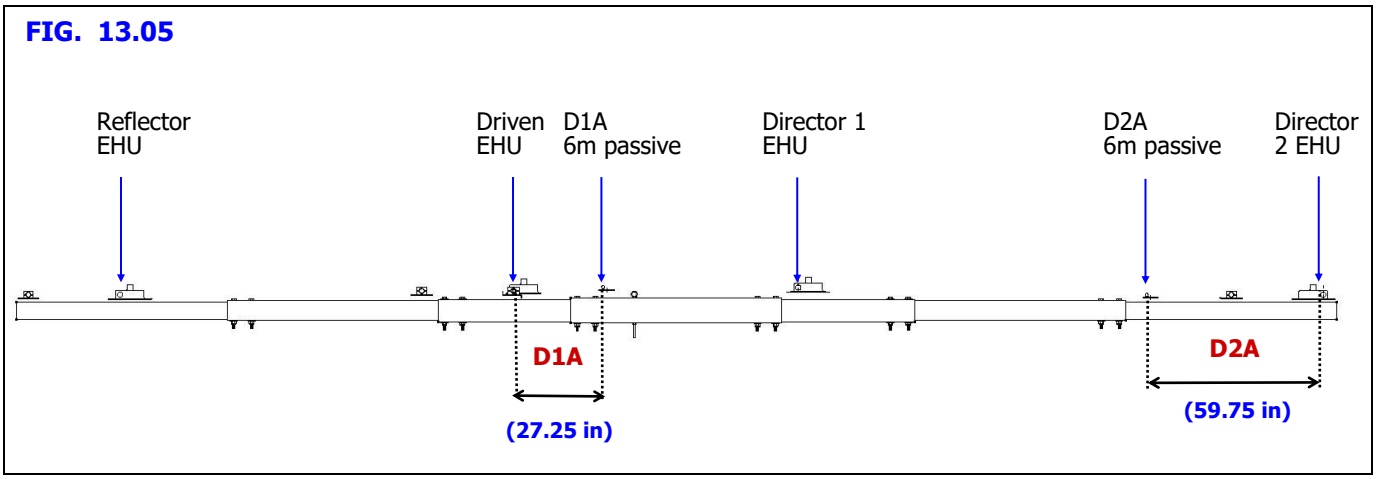


FIG. 13.06

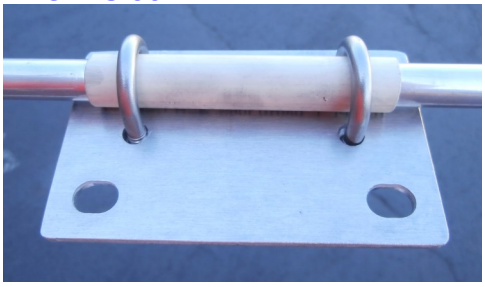


FIG. 13.07

FIG. 13.08

SECURE THE CABLES ONTO THE BOOM

When the antenna assembly is completed, the last step before attaching the DB36 Yagi to the tower mast is the securing of cable and coax to the boom. Note that in many cases, the taping of the control cable may be the last step, done after the antenna is mounted on the tower. The most important aspect of the taping task is to be certain that **NO** control cable or coax is resting against a sharp edge. The most notable sharp edges occur when routing past an aluminum saddle, mast or mounting plates and even the threads on the stainless steel fasteners. AVOID these sharp edges! If you are routing the cable and find that you cannot avoid a sharp edge, take measures to put something between the cable and the sharp edge. In addition, be careful not to over-bend or kink any of the cables. Figure 14.01 shows an example of taping around a potential edge -hazard—in this case, the boom bolts.

There are several ways to secure the cables to the boom. The method used most of the time is to apply electrical tape. We have provided you with enough electrical tape to secure the cables to the boom. When using electrical tape, be sure to cut the tape with scissors. Do not pull the tape off until it severs, this can damage the tape. When done wrapping the electrical tape, leave a small flap on the edge of the cut end, for easier removal should the need occur at a later date. Approximately two wraps of electrical tape are sufficient for most control cable, three wraps for coax jumpers. As a general rule, applying tape approximately every two feet is adequate.

Other methods include the use of tie-wraps. Be careful when using tie-wraps! Be sure to purchase high quality, UV rated tie-wraps that are recommended for cable. Most of the standard off the shelf tie-wraps are not properly rated and will become brittle and may fail within a short period of time. Do not pull the tie wraps too tight, some brands have sharp edges and can actually damage the cable over time if pulled too tight.

When securing the cable to the boom, try to keep the cable at the bottom of the boom. The boom acts as a shield from the sun and can prolong the life of the cable. Our cable is outdoor UV rated, but it never hurts to err on the side of caution.

When taping cable that terminates at a terminal connection, such as the connector junction box or coax switch housing, be sure to leave some excess cable before taping, to avoid unnecessary stress being placed on the cable connection. Figure 14.02 shows good routing methods, with the control cable exiting out of one of the connector junction box conduit plugs and the three EHU cables exiting out the other conduit plug.

We recommend you label each of the control cable wires and the coax jumpers. The best place to label them is at the point nearest the connector junction box or the coax switch box. Labeling now will help out significantly should you need to disconnect your antenna at some point in the future. Figure 14.03 shows a connector junction box with labeled control cable. Note the tie wrap placed on the control cable as it exits the connector junction box—this is a great way to make your own strain relief, coupled with leaving slack in the cable itself when you tape it.

Excess control cable can either be coiled up and taped to the boom or trimmed to length. If you decide to trim the control cable to length, be sure you don't make it too short! Do not trim the coax cables.

FIG. 14.01

FIG. 14.02

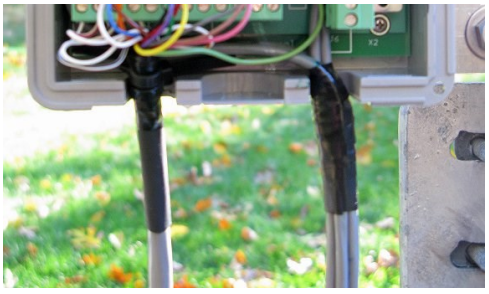
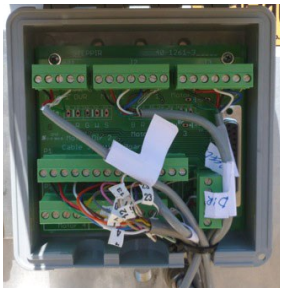


FIG. 14.03



MOUNT THE DB36 ONTO THE TOWER MAST

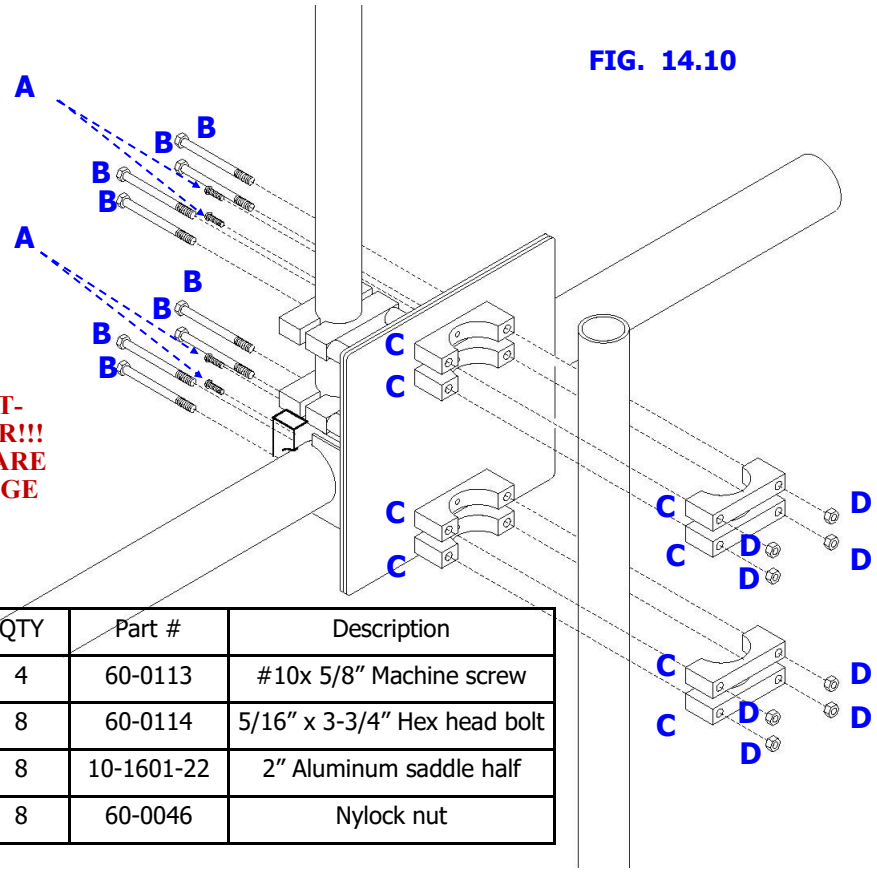
There are many different methods and mechanisms that are used in the course of attaching an antenna to its final resting spot. The most common method by far for a Yagi antenna is to mount it on a tower, with a mast fixed in place at the top of the tower. That is the assumption with these instructions. In a best case scenario in terms of ease of access, the antenna is being mounted on a tilt-over, crank-up tower or a crank-up tower that nests at the fairly traditional 21 ft. A Yagi often times is mounted at the top of a fixed-tower, high up in the air, where someone is strapped to the tower awaiting the antenna by means of gin-pole and transmission line or a crane/bucket lift. With this in mind, the mast plate is set up on the DB36 so that the mating process from mast plate to tower mast is made as easy as possible.

The tower mast connection uses four sets of aluminum saddles to attach the antenna to the tower mast as shown in figure 14.10. In most cases the tower mast is 2 inches in diameter, but occasionally the mast size may be different, depending on the customers situation. SteppIR offers saddle sizes in 1-3/4", 2", 2-1/4", 2-1/2" and 3". Since the vast majority of installations of the DB36 will be utilizing the standard 2 inch saddles, that is the verbiage used in the instructions that follow.

The 2 inch aluminum saddle halves (PN10-1601-22) are held in place using 5/16" x 3-3/4" hex head bolts (PN 60-0114) and 5/16" Nylock nuts (PN 60-0046) as shown in figure 14.10. The first half of the aluminum saddles rest against the mast plate and are held firmly to the mast plate using #10 x 5/8" machine screws (PN 60-0113), which insert through the mast plate and thread into the portion of the aluminum saddle nor-

FIG. 14.10

NOTE: BE SURE THE ANTENNA IS TESTED AND ALL ELEMENTS ARE WORKING CORRECTLY BEFORE ATTACHING THE DB36 TO THE TOWER!!! INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO TEST ARE LOCATED ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE



Key	QTY	Part #	Description
A	4	60-0113	#10x 5/8" Machine screw
B	8	60-0114	5/16" x 3-3/4" Hex head bolt
C	8	10-1601-22	2" Aluminum saddle half
D	8	60-0046	Nylock nut

MOUNT THE DB36 ONTO THE TOWER MAST (continued)

Figure 14.11 shows the four #10 x 5/8" machine screws inserted through the mast plate (each pair is circled in yellow). Figure 14.12 shows the a saddle halves mounted on the mast plate with the holes of the saddles aligning with the holes of the mast plate. This is critical, especially when the mating of the mast to the mast plate is being done while on top of a tower! Figure 14.13 shows the 5/16" hex head bolts inserted through the mast and the saddles. Figure 14.14 shows the antenna mast connected to the completed antenna mast. Remember to insert and tighten the set screws for the saddles.

The antenna is now nearly ready for mounting onto the tower mast.

FIG. 14.11

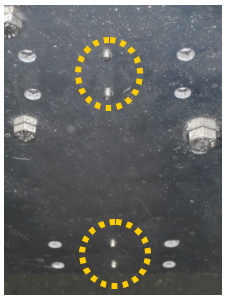


FIG. 14.12

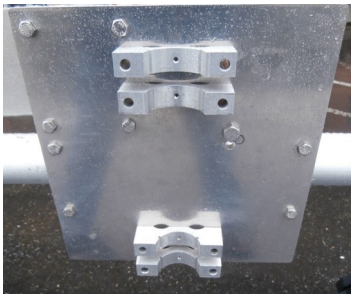


FIG. 14.13

FIG. 14.14

LAST STEPS:
IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU PERFORM EACH OF THESE STEPS BEFORE ATTACHING THE ANTENNA TO THE TOWER MAST

1. Connect the controller to the control cable and extend the elements simultaneously all the way out to the 40m band. Have someone listen as the copper strip extends outward into the support tubes. Ideally, having one person per element works best.
2. As the motors extend the copper strip, they start out moving very slowly, and then ramp up to full speed. There should be an accompanying hum for this that should never sound harsh, or choppy.
3. If there are any obstructions stopping the copper strip from making it's way out, you should notice a significant sound that will not be confused with the smooth motor sound. Listen for any significantly loud "clicks", scraping sounds or anything that sounds out of the ordinary.
4. If there is something that outright stops the copper strip from extending or retracting, you will get a harsh sound as the motors try to keep going but the tape is stuck.
5. If any of these "bad" sounds occur, try to locate the area where the problem is happening and investigate. Repeat these steps again. If all is OK, proceed to step 6.
6. Check all fasteners on the antenna to be certain that they are tight. This may seem redundant, but the time to discover a loose fastener is NOW, not when that part it was supposed to hold falls out of the sky.
7. Be sure that you have set-screws in all the saddles, where applicable. Be sure they are tightened.
8. Check all the quick disconnect boots to be sure they are as tight as possible and are in the correct position relative to the EHU and the telescoping poles.
9. Check all wiring and coax jumpers to ensure that they are secured to the boom and that they are not resting against any sharp objects.
10. If you have any of the optional trusses, be sure your turnbuckles are locked in place and that the loop element or boom is level.
11. Check to be sure that the elements are level with the boom— a level antenna looks much better when suspended in the air than one that is not!
12. Get the DB36 Yagi on that tower so you can work some good DX!

TROUBLESHOOTING TIPS

SteppIR antennas are all powered by stepper motors, hence the name. Stepper motors function by rotating the shaft a specific number of "steps" per revolution. The SDA 100 is simply counting the steps, of which for each step sequence there is a known length that the antenna is adjusting. If for some reason the antenna gets out of calibration, the method for recalibrating is pretty simple. When you press the calibrate button, the controller retracts each element until it assumes it is "home", and then keeps retracting the stepper motors for a period of time to ensure that there is no question that the elements have indeed been homed. At that point, the controller sends the elements back out to the exact frequency they were at when the calibration function started. That is why in calibration mode you will hear the antennas make a loud growling sound towards the end of the retracting—the elements are homed but the stepper motors keep right on going for a while longer before sending the elements back out.

It is important to note that if a problem arises with the elements, such as an obstruction that is impeding the path of the copper strip, the SDA 100 controller will not recognize this, so just because the controller is showing the proper length for any given band, there may still be an issue. Even though the controller may indicate that the copper strip is moving, in a troubleshooting situation it very well may not be. The controller does not have much say in the indicating of a problem—it's job is to simply get the elements to the right length. This is why we have come up with the following information for you to review when having issues:

The antenna is out of calibration—this is something that happens from time to time and is not a problem at all. Whenever you suspect a problem the very first thing that should be done is a calibrate. It is always a good idea to calibrate the antenna if you are having trouble. It is best to set the DB36 to 20M before doing the calibrate function. You only need to calibrate once. To be certain that the antenna was indeed out of calibration, check the SWR before you calibrate and check it again after you calibrate to see if there are any improvements. If the SWR is unchanged, the antenna was in calibration and is not the issue.

The lengths of the antenna are incorrect— Using the "Cause/Effect" theory, generally the first place to look for trouble is the last place you have been. Using this line of thinking, if there is a problem with your antenna, we need to be sure you are using the factory default lengths for your controller. Regardless of whether you think you have done anything that could change the lengths, as a second step in troubleshooting (the first being the simple calibration of the antenna), be sure to reset the factory default lengths.

The SDA 100 electronic controller has a defective or intermittent driver chip—It only takes a momentary short to damage a driver chip. The problem with driver chips, is that a blown driver chip or a damaged driver chip that has not failed outright can act a lot like a damaged EHU. What we don't want you to do, is jump to conclusion on an EHU issue, only to spend time and money taking your antenna down and find out that it was a driver chip problem, or some other issue with the controller in the first place. Taking the time to troubleshoot and repair a controller is **MUCH** easier than taking down an antenna to repair an EHU.

With that in mind, the following are steps for checking the voltage between the pin pairs that feed the motor windings. This information is critical to our technical support staff and you can save a lot of time by having this data available before contacting us. Instructions as follows:

With the DB-25 connector removed from the back of the controller, measure the voltage between the pin pairs that feed the motor windings. For example, pins 1 & 2 and 3 & 4 when referring to the driven element. The other elements pin pairs are listed in the troubleshooting guide These are the same pairs you use to check the resistance of the motor windings**. Be very careful not to short the pairs together or touch any other pins in the process, or you can potentially damage the controller driver chips.**

With the controller power plugged in, you should read approximately 3.5 VDC across each pin pair. At this point, change bands using the controllers band change button. As an example, switching from 20m to 10m generally gives a long enough run to get a good reading. You should be reading on your volt-ohm meter approximately 20 to 25 VAC using a 24 volt power supply. To check the next pin pair, you can then change bands back to 20m and so on through the wire pairs. If you have significantly different values at any point in the test process, you can be reasonably certain that you have a damaged driver chip for that element. Please

TROUBLESHOOTING TIPS (continued)

be aware that in some cases, we have seen driver chips partially damaged, causing them to work part of the time. This can be confusing in the test process.

If you do not have the optional 25 pin dSub splice assembly (see Chapter Five, Section 5.2) when measuring the voltages, a suggestion would be to use a bare 25pin dsub to plug into the SteppIR controller and then insert a paper clip to penetrate the pin hole. Usually about .75" long will do the trick. One paper clip being longer than the other also helps. Again, be careful NOT to short the pins. Even if the controller is turned off, there is always voltage going to the pins with a SteppIR controller. We do this to "lock" the stepper motors, and minimize the need to calibrate the antenna on a regular basis.

The Director or Reflector element is not tuning, or tuning intermittently—This could be a defective control cable, controller driver chip or a defective EHU. If you have already tested for these potential issues and to verify if the EHU is actually tuning, follow these steps:

1. Go to "Create/Modify" in setup mode and apply enough power to get a good SWR reading.
2. Select the Reflector element and change its length about 15-inches and see if you see a difference in SWR. It doesn't matter if the SWR improves or gets worse as long as it changes. This indicates the element is tuning.
3. Select the Director element and repeat the above steps. If the SWR changes the element is moving.

If the EHU looks like it is not moving and you have already done all of the wiring checks in this section, contact our technical support department for further instructions.

STEPPIR COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS

5 YEAR LIMITED PRODUCT WARRANTY

(as of May 22, 2023; Prior to that date warranty is 2 years)

Our products have a limited warranty against manufacturers defects in materials or construction for five (5) years from date of shipment. Do not modify this product or change physical construction without the written consent of Fluidmotion Inc, dba SteppIR Communication Systems.

This limited warranty is automatically void if the following occurs: improper installation, unauthorized modification and physical abuse, customer misuse or damage from weather events or natural disasters that are outside of the stated survivability of the product. For wind damage, proof of winds beyond 100 mph must be presented. Lightning or near-lightning events are not covered under this warranty. Driver chip module replacement is not covered under this warranty. This warranty is not transferrable.

SteppIR Communication System's responsibility is strictly limited to repair or replacement of defective components, at SteppIR's discretion. SteppIR will not be held responsible for any installation or removal costs, costs of any ancillary equipment damage or any other costs incurred as a result of the failure of our products.

In the event of a product failure, a return authorization is required for warranty repairs. This can be obtained at www.steppir.com. Shipping instructions will be issued to the buyer for defective components, and shipping charges to the factory will be paid for by the buyer. SteppIR will pay for standard shipping back to the buyer. The manufacturer assumes no further liability beyond repair or replacement of the product.

Modification of this product is not authorized and may cause product failure, injury or death.

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