Remote Antenna Kit Instructions Please Read Carefully!

This antenna provides for improved reception and better range than the standard antenna. The antenna is designed for either vertical or horizontal mounting. The threaded base and included nut provide for simple installation into any metal or plastic enclosure.

Select Location

For best reception, vertical orientation is preferred. Select a mounting location that is away from metal, motors or other dense metallic objects. Note that the antenna is jointed an may be mounted such that it can bend down and out of the way for easier handling.

It is best to mount the antenna into its final location before soldering the coax to the decoder.

Cable Preparation

The antenna connects to the AirWire decoder through a 9 inch length of coax cable. The cable can be cut to length. However, be sure to leave sufficient cable to reach to the decoder. Do not splice on standard wire. Only high quality, low loss coax, suitable for 900MHz operation, can be used to lengthen the cable.

The braided shield must not come in contact with the insulated center conductor. Use the technique shown to solder the coax to the decoder.

Strip about ½ inch of insulation from the end of the coax. Carefully unbraid the insulation to free the center conductor. Twist the braid together and tin. Trim the tinned end to remove any frayed strands.

Stip about ¼ inch of insulation from the center conductor.

Connecting the Cable To Decoder

TM3 is where the coax connects to the board. Remove the standard antenna by heating the solder pad and gently lifting the antenna when the solder melts. Leave the solder in the hole. Apply a bit more solder to the top of pad closest to the edge of the board which is the ground pad.

The easiest way to attach the coax is to solder the shield to the surface of the ground pad. Then bend the center conductor down and solder it to the surface of the other pad. Do not use too much heat or you risk melting the insulation. The side view of the decoder illustrates the attachment method. It is not to scale.

Inspect to insure no solder bridges and no melted wire. A bridge or a shorted center conductor will not damage the decoder but the reception range will be severely limited.

