

Earth Grounding Of Command Station - CS2B Model

Static electricity, coupled into your EasyDCC System, can result in erratic operation. If you ever notice that the moment you touch the faceplate or sometimes a plug-in throttle fascia plate, the Command Station resets, freezes or sometimes has odd characters on the display. That is being caused by static electricity.

In many cases, this only occurs during certain times of the year. In other cases it occurs all the time due to carpeting and air conditioning.

Whatever the cause of the static, it is a good idea to earth ground the Command Station. This usually means running a wire between the Command Station and a metal cold water pipe or other known good earth ground.

The best location to attach the earth ground is located on the back of the Command Station. In the lower right corner (looking at the back of the command station) is a nut that fastens the board to the metal standoff. The hole through for the mounting post is connected to the ground of the Command Station power supply.



Create a loop of wire, #18AWG or #20AWG. Loosen the nut, place the wire under the nut and then tighten. The other end of the wire goes to your earth ground.

A spade lug attached to a loop of wire makes for a neat and professional connection.

However you make the connection, be sure and tighten the nut securely. A loose connection will not help.

With an earth ground connection, the problems with static discharges into your EasyDCC System are greatly reduced. However, it isn't perfect and on really dry days, when you can draw an inch long arc between your finger and a door knob, your system could still be impacted. If this happens, just hit the Command Station reset button to clear the fault and restart the system.



Note: Early versions of the Command Station may have painted the back of the metal plate completely. For best results, there must be a patch of bare metal on the rear of the command station around the hole to which the grounding wire is attached. If you find this clear patch of metal missing, remove the circuit board and scrape the paint from around the hole on the backside of the metal plate. Then reassemble and tighten all nuts and screws to insure a tight bond from the metal plate, to the circuit board and finally to the added ground wire.