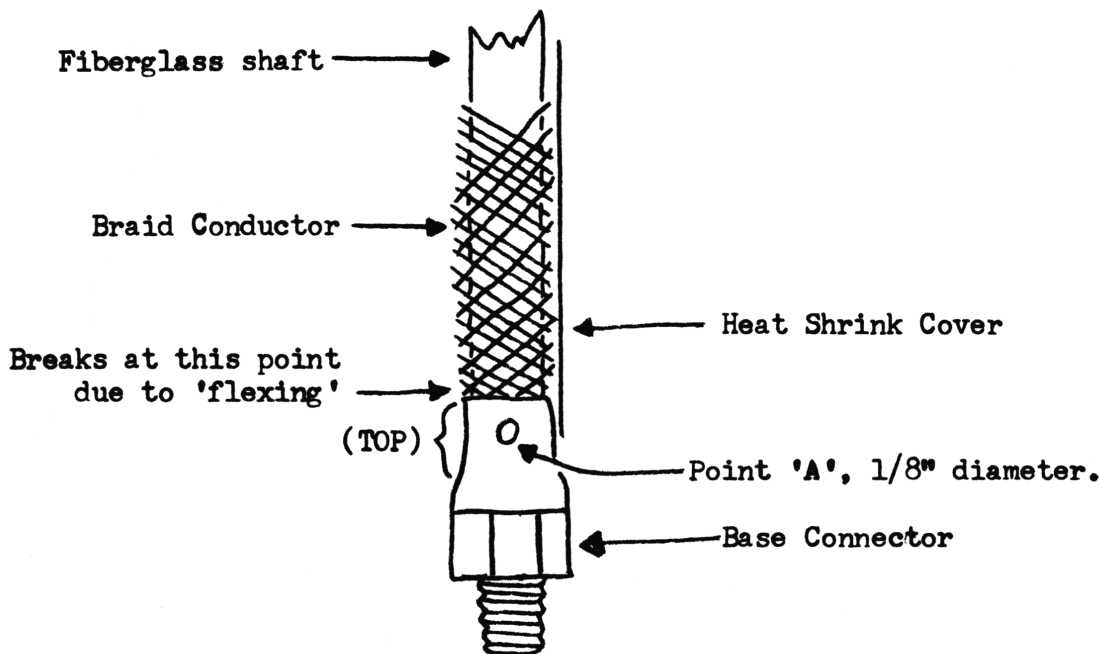


Preventative Maintenance/Repairing those Top-Loaded Whips
by B.W.

Most of the so-called 'Economy Whips' have one common fault. They are epoxied into the base and come loose after being flexed back and forth. I have seen antennas go bad in a week, and people throw them away.

The 'braid' busts after epoxy loosens up and the antenna comes apart. Solution is easy and doesn't cost anything in most situations. Drawing below is for example only -



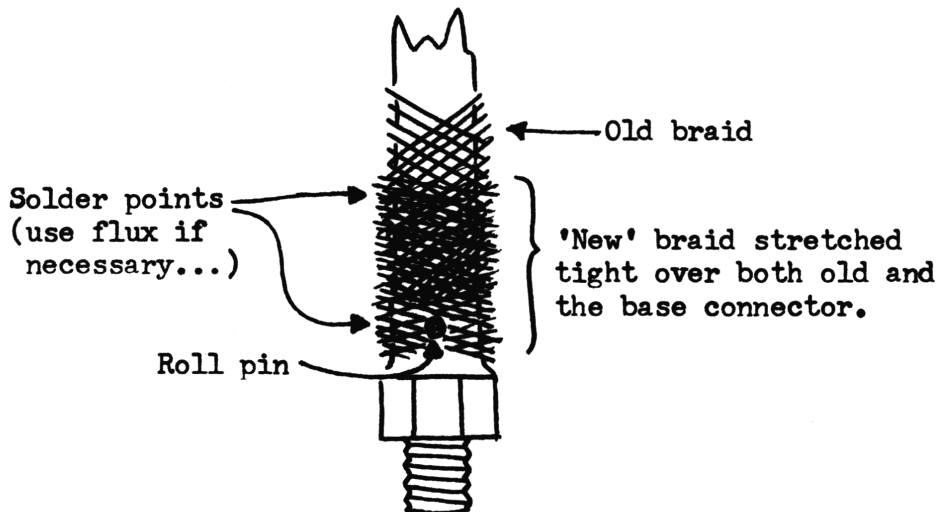
To prevent this flexing movement, drill 1/8" hole in top section and install a roll pin. Will have to file flush with connector, and seal with a rubber sealant compound. THIS IS PROVEN, as do this to every case of antennas I get in.

If whip has come apart, no problem - as long as you have both parts. Follow directions below to the letter and fix it in less than 5 minutes.

1. Strip away about 3" of shrink cover from where rod came out of the base.
2. Obtain 6" of 1/2" diameter heat shrink, slide all the way up rod toward load and tape it temporarily out of the way.
3. Use file and rough up base connector (top section) so solder will adhere readily. Don't forget to clean out the inside also.
4. Obtain 3-4" of outer braid from piece of RG/8 (easiest to find). Don't pull tight, as must be opened up even further to fit over top portion of base connector. When opened up large enough to fit-slide up shaft and secure with tape.
5. Slide rod into base connector, bottom out - drill hole, and insert the roll pin. Don't forget to file flush with base.

P.M./Repair of Ant. (Cont.)....

6. Slide 'new' braid down shaft per drawing and 'solder' in place after stretching tight — a small propane torch may be used to solder with CAREFULLY! See illustration below:



7. Let COOL, - carefully separate a few strands of new braid at junction of base connector and rod. Run a few drops of "Super Glue" in the crack. CAUTION-WATCH OUT YOU DON'T GET ANY ON FINGERS. Look funny walking around with an antenna glued to your thumb!
8. Slide down the heat shrink and cover/shrink the entire repaired area. NOTE: If you haven't cleaned up all the rough edges will split the shrink!

Repairing these sounds like a lot of work, but really isn't! I usually wait until I get 5 or 6 antennas together and do them all in $\frac{1}{2}$ hr. 'Repaired' this way are perfect for motorcycles, as they will mess up one of these in short order-if not 'modified'.

TROUBLE - SPOT
AZDEN PCS2000 (2 Meter Rig)
by M.M.

Trouble: TX Fo off by 100, 200, 300, 400KHz at different frequencies..?
Solution: The 4015 CMOS Shift Register chip in Control Head.....

ICOM 720A; Tx from 1.7 - 30.0MHz
by G.S.

1. Remove top from radio.
2. The board on the middle left side... There is seven modular plug-in's going around board.
3. Second from left plug-in, next to R126 is Blue Wire.- Cut! Radio will now transmit across range.