

APRIL TECH'S NOTES

Alignment

All parts of the alignment procedure are the same except, omit part 2, and the frequencies that you adjust for, will be the metal stamped or red side markings on the crystal. The two crystals supplied with the kit will give you 27.415mhz and 27.420mhz. Now someone is going to conclude that if a TECH'S CHOICE SSB kit will work on the AM's, then a TECH'S CHOICE AM should work on an SSB. The answer is no it will not and here is why. You have made circuitry changes that cannot be switched back and forth. (Namely the capacitor in the tuning of L-39 and the cross over of the USB and LSB switching).

Let's help each other do a better job.

For those of you that have not discovered the 5x5 Francis whips yet, you probably will have problems with high swr when using the TECH'S CHOICE SSB kit. Most antennas are not designed for broad bands. For those that have discovered this whip already here is some tuning hints. As shipped, it is tuned to the regular 40 and 40 channels below. If you put a spring (such as the Tite-Lok #304) under it, you must trim it off about twice the length that is covered by the cap to keep it tuned to the same frequency. For each 40 channel bank you wish to shift this whips' tuning upward, you need to cut off an additional amount equal to the length covered by the cap. If you take a stock whip and just put a spring under it, it would be tuned to approximately 26.065mhz.

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W-e-l-l, here it is. Several of you have been waiting for the modification for the base units and the 148GTL. We will be covering more of these units that the TC DX modifies. More specifically in the future tech's notes. But the basics are the same. Only the break-in points or component numbers will change.

One great advantage of this DX kit when compared to others is, no longer will you need a test set or frequency generator. Just modify yourself a bench set and select any frequency you want instead of fumbling with a signal generator and frequency counter. Having them drift off frequency while you are trying to make an adjustment is very frustrating. If I could ever give you one piece of advice that would save you time and make your work easier, it would be, "make yourself a test set." You can make it either from a Cobra 142GTL or (if you want a read out too) wait until next month and modify a 2000GTL. If you want something cheaper

and something that will give you even a greater span, modify a Cobra 146GTL or a Uniden PC-244. Combine the switching of a "C" kit with the TC SSB to give you up to 480 channels. (Including side-band 1,440 frequencies) Too, you'll find the zero beat a Plus when it comes to checking a side-band unit. When you make your test set, put it on a 50 ohm load with about a two foot coax. The ambient radiation will be enough to pick up a good strong signal several feet away.

Tech's Notes

In our original plans for these new conversions kits, our sequence of production was to be the TC AM, TC SSB, and the TC DX. Then the C & D kits as a scaled down version of the SSB & DX. On the way to achieving this time schedule, the FCC threw a monkey wrench in the works. They have amended part 97 of the FCC regulations to allow Novice to go voice from 28.300mhz to 28.500mhz. So we had to move the "C" kit forward in our schedule to meet this need. Since the only difference in the "C" kit and the TC SSB kit is the switching, there is no need to repeat the procedure. The switch for the "C" kit is a DPDT center off switch with one of common terminals of one pole clipped.

Note: This kit comes with two crystals. One is for regular CB frequencies. The other might be any of the obtainable frequencies. Before you do anything, determine if these crystals are of the frequency you desire. The frequency stamped in black is the frequency for that crystal on channel 1.

1. Solder the two crystals across the end terminals of the switch, pole to pole.
2. Solder the double trimmer capacitor across the legs of the two crystals on the side where the common terminal has been clipped.
3. Solder the black wire to the point where the two capacitors are joined.
4. Solder the white wire to the common terminal on the other pole. You can parallel as many of these switches as you desire because the center off feature on the switch allows for this. Each additional switch allows you to add two more groups of frequencies.