

## Disabling The Watchman® Oil Level Transmitter

The Watchman® heating oil level sensor uses ultrasound to gauge liquid depth and it uses radio waves to transmit this information digitally to a small plug-in indoor display. The transmitting unit operates every few seconds sending out a burst of radio waves (433MHz.) over a radius of approximately 1000 meters.

Electric Forester has found that these signals adversely affect some people at considerable distances, particularly at night and while sleeping. They affect the depth and quality of sleep and while trying to get to sleep or waking-up when some people can be significantly more susceptible.

The batteries are housed within the copper aerial-tube that sticks up out of the tank unit. They typically last up to 5 years. Disabling the system is readily achieved by firmly gripping and unscrewing the 15mm copper tube being careful not to upset the two ground-plane wires sticking out horizontally. (Prevent water entering the tank unit by putting a piece of plastic secured with a nylon cable tie over it to protect the exposed connections while the tube is not present).

Invert the tube and remove the batteries by gently tapping off the copper end-cap using an adjustable spanner set to just slide along the tube or use another suitably sized drift.

Beware that there is a coil spring on the end of the batteries which can easily be lost when the top pops off. Expect the batteries to fall out. The tube is normally packed with Vaseline® so make sure you have protected your work surface and that you are ready for this eventuality.

Put the spring in a little plastic food bag inside the tube or somewhere safe so you'll be able to find it later. Once the batteries are removed you can replace the tube if you wish. The indoor receiver then becomes redundant and should be unplugged and likewise put somewhere safe.

Note: There will most likely have been a manufacturers plastic label covering the threaded TNC connector at the end of the battery/aerial tube and this may have been torn when the tube was unscrewed. Inspect this for damage and be prepared to replace it with electrical tape if necessary.

If you subsequently wish to reactivate the transmitter, insert 4 x AAA batteries with the +ve contacts placed down most (towards the connector). Repack with Vaseline® and remember to put the spring with its peak towards the last negative battery end under the copper end-cap before tapping it home. Be sure the cap goes the whole way or the spring will not make proper contact with the base of the last battery. Check there is 6 volts between the contacts of the connector and re-screw the tube back onto the tank unit.

Seal the connection with electrical tape if necessary.

-----