



Cleaning HotLine/Vector/Nexus/Envoy Power Connectors

The Comrex HotLine, Vector, Nexus and Envoy all use an external 5 volt DC power supply. That voltage is fed through an over-voltage protection network into the logic circuitry of the codec. It is necessary to maintain a fairly constant voltage, and the "health" of the DC power plug and jack are important

If the power jack on your HotLine or Nexus has the letters "SWC" visible from the back of the unit, we would like to see it replaced. The newer power jacks are black, have no lettering, and offer a better fit to the power plug. If you have one of the "SWC" jacks, contact us.

Otherwise (or if you own a Vector or Envoy), you will probably find that a little cleaning will cure any intermittent operation. The most durable cleaning process is a two step operation. First, squirt a little solvent-type cleaner (such as Caig Labs CaiKleen 41 or Chemtronics Electro-Wash PX) into the power plug. Then insert the plug into the jack on the codec, and rotate the plug to wipe the contacts. Note that we do *not* suggest spraying the cleaner into the jack! Now remove the plug and squirt a little Caig Labs DeoxIT into the plug, and repeat the wiping process.

The first step does the actual cleaning. The DeoxIT is a contact preservative that greatly extends the time between needed cleanings. Many broadcast stations and professional audio houses keep it around for cleaning console switches.

If the power connection still seems to be intermittent, there may be a problem in the power cord or plug, and the supply should be replaced. If the plug fits loosely into the power jack, the jack has likely been "sprung out of shape," and must be replaced.

For several years, we have been routinely installing in-line power connectors on Vectors and Envoys. These plugs and jacks have gold-flashed contacts, with a good deal of "wipe" when they are plugged and unplugged. If you send a Vector or Envoy with the older barrel connectors to us for upgrades, we will install the in-line versions automatically at no cost. If you have a HotLine or Nexus that you would like to be similarly upgraded, contact us for information.

For further help, call Comrex Tech Support at 800-237-1776, or email tecchies@comrex.com .