Crimp Connectors

A simple approach to consistency

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Disclaimer

This presentation is not intended to suggest any one method of making coax connectors is significantly better or technically superior to another method.

It will however showcase an industry standard method used for coaxial termination on RG-213 cable.
One thing in common
Require termination of coax cable
Traditional methods used

- **Solder**
- **Crimp**
- **Hydraulic press**
- **Off-shore cables with connectors**
Solder process connectors

- Process has tremendous history
- Endless list of best methods
- Some good methods do exist
- Heat can be the enemy
- Poor quality connectors and coax
- Repeatable quality is questionable
- Production time is dependent on method
Your results may vary
What happens inside

- Heat applied during a manual (solder style) production process can cause problems and change electrical properties within the coax
Commercial grade connectors

- Crimp connectors are industry standard
- Repeatable process with quality results
- Connectors for all cable types
- Tools are inexpensive and easy to use
- Production time is dramatically reduced
- Consistently good end product
- Mechanically very strong
- Clean up RFI issues in your station
Are you ready for a change?
Basic tools for the job

- Get the right tools for the job
- Buy quality crimping & stripping tools
- Investment for the long-term

Klein 63050
High Leverage
Cable Cutter
Crimping Tools

RF Industries
RFA-4005

LMR-400
The Cablematic DXE-UT8000

- DX Engineering tool
- RG-213 and RG-8
- Needs to be modified
- Stock strip is too short
- Blind centre plug must be drilled out
- Blade quality great
Develop cut lengths

- Practice the process
- Develop trim charts
- Use the trim charts
Good quality coax and crimps

Connectors are: SST (silver body, silver barrel with a Teflon centre)
Start the process – Step 1
Step 2
Step 3
Step 4
Extra hands help
Step 5 – applying even heat
The half-way point
Step 6

Only crimp once!

Do not crimp the small raised tail portion
Step 7
Finishing touch
Cosmetic final step

Makita HG1100
Finished product
RFU-507ST on RG-213
Connector wisdom

- Keep the connector assembly process clean
- Remove tiny fragments of braid laying on the dielectric or touching the centre conductor
- Only crimp once
- Do not crimp down the raised tail portion
- Short jumpers are built with first connector still on the cable roll – then cut to length
- Use the best crimp connector you can purchase
- Label your crimp connector inventory
- Make notes so you can repeat your success
Final comments

- Process takes practice to make perfect
- Cablematic tool can be frustrating at first
- Crimp connectors are a very reliable alternative to any solder-on connector process
- RF Industries is the connector line of choice
- These connectors easily take legal limit++ power
- Use the ‘3-layer approach’ for closure on all weatherproof joints with 3M vulcanizing tape as the middle layer
Resources

- BCDX Club website - go to Links page
- [http://www.bcdxc.org/pl259_crimp_on_connectors.htm](http://www.bcdxc.org/pl259_crimp_on_connectors.htm)
- VE7BZ@shaw.ca
The End