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## 8558 and 9350 Whip Top Life Expectancy

### 1. Background.

The design of these whip tops has now been in use for over 8 years. Accumulated experience has shown that after prolonged use under driving conditions where significant sustained flexing over a wide arc of the whip occurs the whip will ultimately become unserviceable. The problem is likely to be found most often where a spring is not used between the whip top and antenna base section.

From the low demand for replacement whips it is evident that this process typically takes many years but in the most extreme conditions earlier failure may occur.

The mode of failure is for the whip to become increasingly high impedance resulting in apparent tuning problems of the antenna, especially at lower frequencies. Even where the antenna still tunes, the efficiency of the system can be reduced significantly.

### 2. Symptoms.

Type 8558 antennas with unserviceable whip tops will generally present with "Tune Fail" indications on the transceiver. If the degradation is in early stages the antenna may have intermittent tune failures. The symptoms are most likely to be greater at low frequencies.

Type 9350 antennas with unserviceable whip tops may present with "Tune Fail" indications on the transceiver at frequencies below 3.5MHz. Tuning above these frequencies may be quite satisfactory but signal strength (transmitted and received) will be lower than for a fully functional system.

### 3. Test.

Where any doubt exists, the following test for continuity should be made.

Measure the DC resistance from whip threaded stud to whip metal top cap. If this is less than 10 ohms, the whip is functional.

If the DC resistance is greater than 10 ohms, then measure the resistance from the threaded stud to a point on the antenna approximately 20mm below the metal top cap. Use a sharp probe pushed through the epoxy coating into the braid below. If this is less than 10 ohms, the whip is functional, if greater than 10 ohms, then the whip is unserviceable and should be replaced.

Codan recommends testing whip top continuity wherever antenna performance is suspect, or every 6 months for whips under severe operating conditions.

#### 4. Remedy.

A new design fibreglass is available and the preferred remedy is to replace any unserviceable fibreglass whip with one of the new design.

##### 8558

Warranty on most 8558 antennas was one year and therefore virtually all 8558 antennas are out of warranty. In recognition of this late advice regarding whip top life expectancy, Codan has extended warranty (on the fibreglass whip component) to three years from date of original purchase. The replacement whip will be provided free of charge for whip tops within this extended three year warranty period.

The part number of the whip for the 8558 is 78-23007-005.

##### 9350

Warranty on 9350 may be one year or three years depending upon whether the antenna was registered. Codan has extended warranty (on the fibreglass whip component) to three years from date of original purchase irrespective of whether the antenna was registered or not. The replacement whip will be provided free of charge for whip tops within the three year warranty period.

The part number of the whip for the 9350 is 78-23007-003.

#### 5. Maximising whip life.

The life of fibreglass whips can be maximised by always using a spring between the antenna base unit and the whip. (Use Part Number 08-03604 for type 8558 and Part Number 08-05140-001 for type 9350.)

If customers require assistance in checking whips they should contact their nearest Codan Dealer. If unsure of where the nearest assistance is located, contact Codan directly -

For Europe, Africa and the Middle East	Codan (UK) Customer Service Phone +44 1252 741 300 (24hr, 7 days)
For Australia	Codan (Adelaide) Customer Service Phone 1800 671 991 (24hr, 7 days)
Any other location	Codan (Adelaide) Customer Service Phone +61 8 8305 0431 (24hr, 7 days)