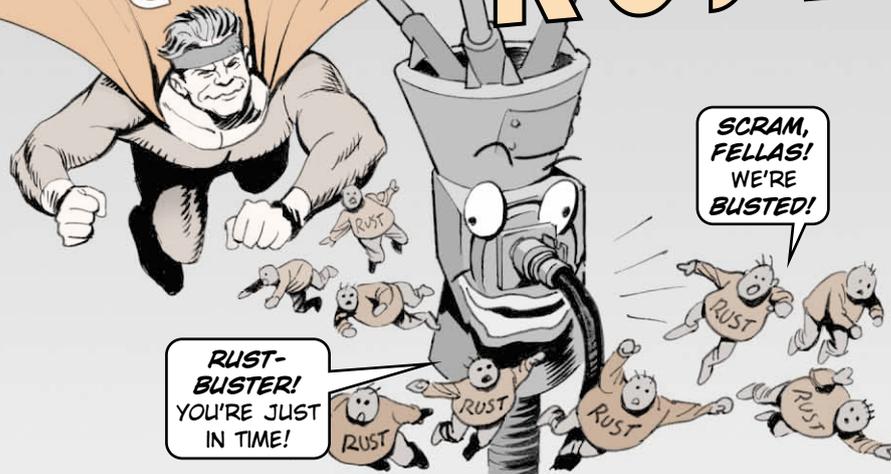


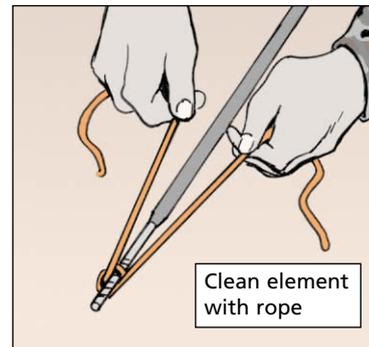
BE A RUST-BUSTER



I CAN GET AWAY IF HE DIDN'T READ HIS PS!



But, first, clean the connecting area of each element with your antenna's guide rope. Loop the rope around the element. Pull back and forth from both ends of the rope. The friction created by the rope cleans the connecting area.



Never use a scouring pad to do this cleaning! Scouring pads wear down the metal and strip the element.



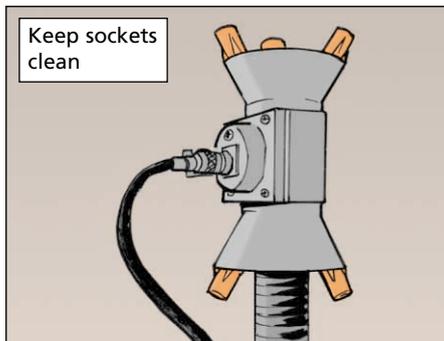
The OE-254 antenna has two places where rust and other types of corrosion can get a foothold—the feedcone sockets and the threads of the antenna sections. The six antenna feedcone sockets catch dirt and moisture that lead to corrosion. So keep them clean with isopropyl alcohol, NSN 6810-00-753-4993, and a swab.

For stubborn corrosion, use a small arms bore brush, NSN 1005-00-903-1296, to scrape out the corrosion. For a better grip and more twisting force, attach cleaning rod handle, NSN 1005-01-113-0321, to the brush.

Just twist the bore brush down into the socket and turn it several times. The stiff fibers loosen corrosion and clean out the grooves.

Finish the job with isopropyl alcohol and a swab.

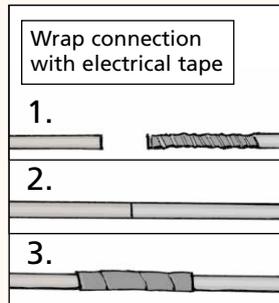
Keep the antenna elements free from corrosion with water-displacing compound, NSN 6850-00-142-9409 (twelve 24-oz aerosol cans) or NSN 6850-00-142-9389 (twelve 16-oz aerosol cans), and silicone, NSN 6850-00-880-7616.



Once the contact areas are clean, spray them with water-displacing compound. Then give them a light coat of silicone compound.

Your element PM will be easier if the elements are attached only hand tight. Elements that are muscled together get damaged when they have to be muscled apart.

Wrap electrical tape, NSN 5970-00-419-4291, around each connection to keep moisture out and corrosion away.



One final tip—before you pack up your antenna's mast sections, make sure they're clean. Too often antennas get packed away in a hurry with dirt and moisture.

