CCS Technical Documentation
RH-3 Series Transceivers

Troubleshooting – Antenna

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Contents

Troubleshooting - Antenna

This troubleshooting guide addresses potential failures that will affect antenna performance of the RH-3/RH-3P phone, and discusses methods for correction of these failures.

Whip Antenna

Visual Quality Requirements

Following are the minimum acceptable visual quality standards of the RH-3/RH-3P whip assembly. This information may be used as an inspection guideline.

- No physical crack or any mechanical defects.
- No oil, dirt or particles are presented on parts.
- Button parting line (flash or offset) less than 0.1 mm.
- Color match to code Nokia Jonathan Gray (GY7999).
- Wire tube must completely cover the NiTi wire. No uncovered NiTi wire can be seen from the tube side.
- No wire burr greater than 0.1 mm can be seen from the stopper.
- Check if the proper printing is present (can be found on the plastic cap).
- The button must be perpendicular to the tube. This can be interpreted as maximum of 5°.

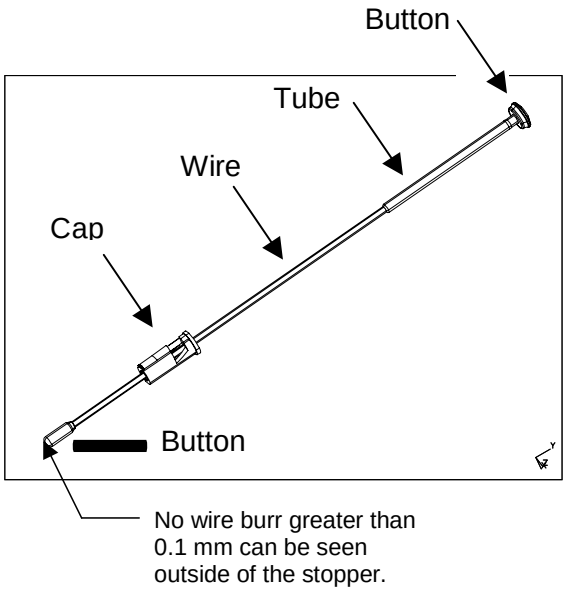

Figure 1: Whip Assembly

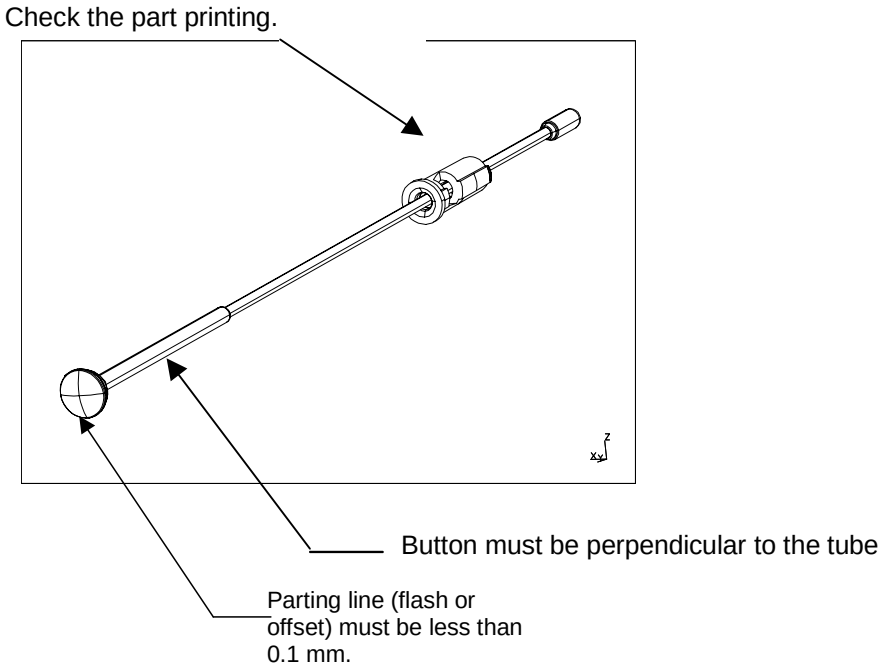

Figure 2: Whip Assembly

PIFA Antenna

Visual Quality Requirements

Following are the minimum acceptable visual quality standards of the RH-3/RH-3P PIFA antenna assembly. This information may be used as an inspection guideline.

- Gloves must be used when handling antennas. Do not touch radiator with bare hands.
- Maximum burrs of any metal part must be less than 0.01 mm, except for burrs on radiator resulted by antenna tuning.
- General parting lines, or flash lines (including gate) must be less than 0.20 mm.
- No visual crack or any mechanical defects.
- Proper marking must present.
- No oil, dirt, or particles are present on parts.
- Radiator must be aligned with plastic housing.
- GPS antenna contacts must be inside the plastic housing.
- Radiator must be flat and no warp.

- All pins must be at same level.
- Check if proper printing is present.

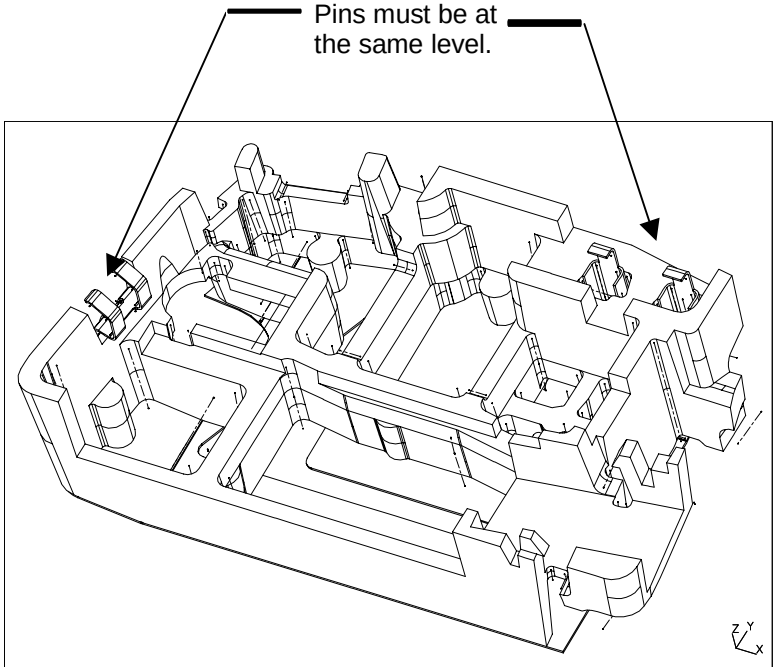

Figure 3: PIFA Module showing antenna feed pins

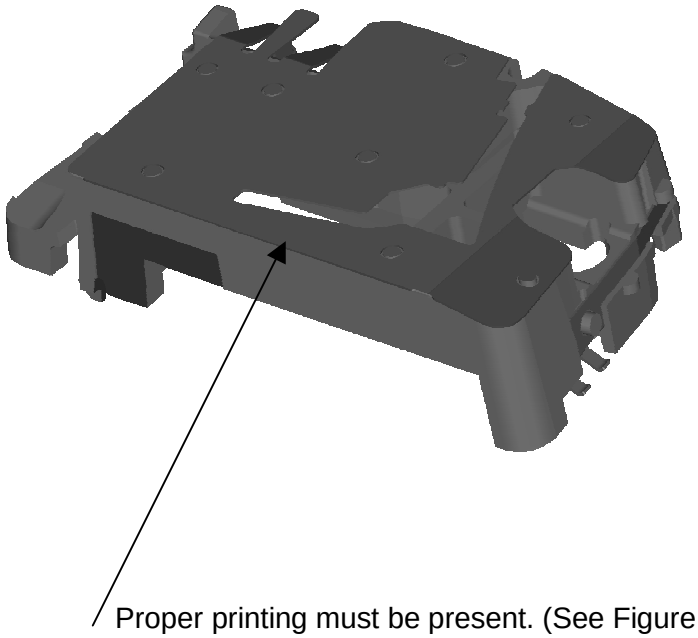

Figure 4: PIFA Actual Element

Failures and Corrective Measures

Appearance of Phone

Figure 5: Front of RH-3/RH-3P handset

Figure 6: Back of RH-3/RH-3P phone, whip retracted and whip extended

Note in Figure 6 that when the whip is properly installed that the cap clicks into the D-cover when the whip is fully retracted.

Antenna Position into D-cover

Internal antenna and whip are assembled into D-cover as shown in Figure 7. Whip must be inserted prior to inserting internal antenna

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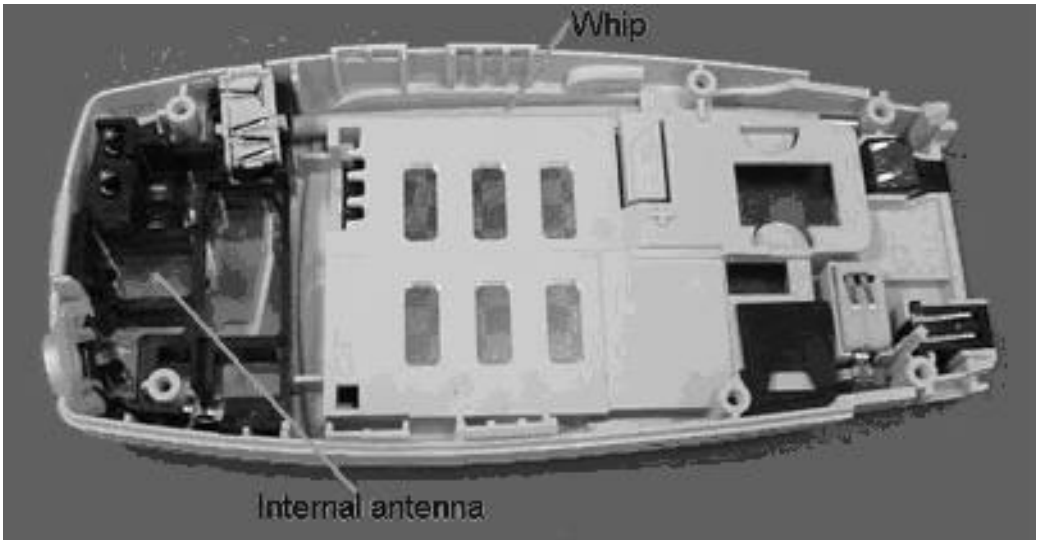

Figure 7: RH-3 D-cover assembly

If the internal antenna is missing, install one. If the radiator looks obviously damaged, then replace the internal antenna.

If no internal antenna is installed, the antenna gain will be degraded by more than 25 dB.

If the whip is missing, then remove the internal antenna, install a whip and reinstall the internal antenna.

Internal Antenna

RH-3/RH-3P internal antenna shown in Figure 8 has a metal sheet (main antenna radiator) and a metal strip (GPS antenna) attached to a plastic carrier (Models 2285 and 2270 only).

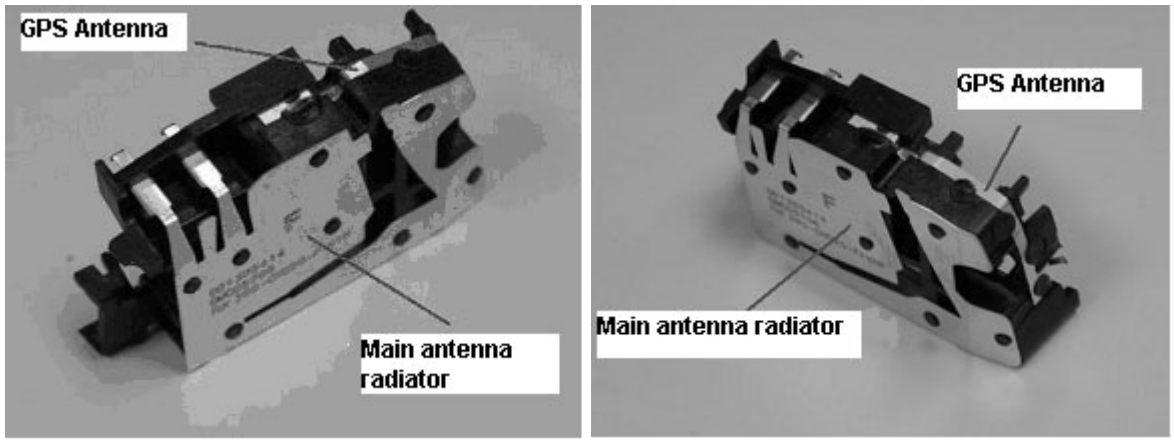

Figure 8: RH-3/RH-3P internal antenna from two different view angles

Damaged RF Feed or Ground Pins

Both main and GPS antennas have pins (spring clips) that should properly touch the PWB. Positioning of these pins is shown in Figure 9.

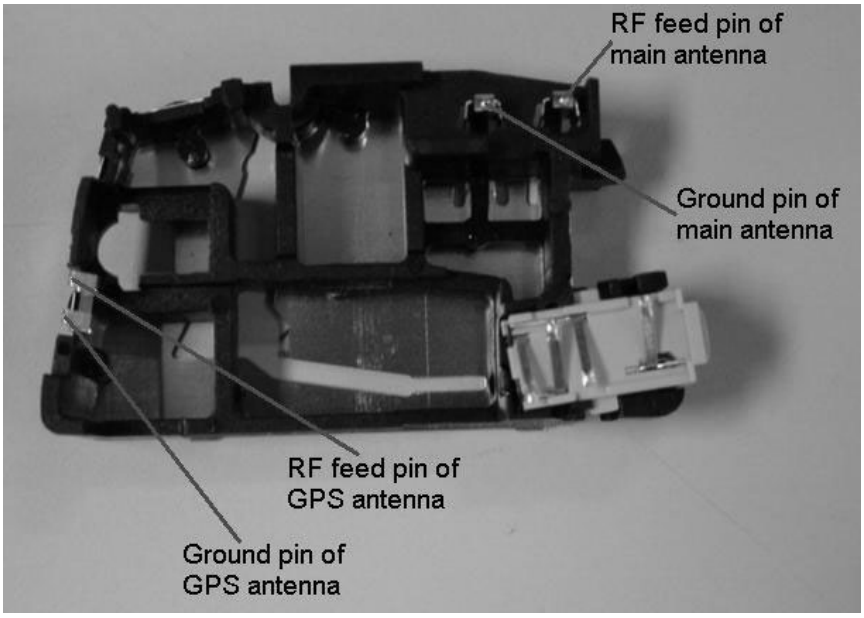

Figure 9: Back view of RH-3/RH-3P internal antenna

If either the RF feed pin or ground pin are broken, or bent such that either pin will not touch the PWB, then the internal antenna must be replaced. If the springs for the RF or ground pin appear damaged, then the internal antenna must be replaced.

If the RF feed pin of main antenna doesn't touch the PWB, then the antenna gain will degrade by more than 25 dB and GPS antenna will be detuned. If the ground pin of main antenna doesn't touch the PWB then the antenna gain may degrade about 5 to 10 dB and GPS antenna will be detuned.

If the RF feed pin of GPS antenna doesn't touch the PWB, then the GPS antenna gain will degrade by more than 20dB. If the ground pin of GPS antenna doesn't touch the PWB, then the GPS antenna gain may degrade more than 5dB.

Wrong Internal Antenna Installed

The RH-3/RH-3P and RH-17 antennas share the same mechanical interface with the D-cover. So either antenna can be installed in either phone. However, there are three important differences between RH-3/RH-3P and RH-17 internal antennas:

1 Models 2285 and 2270 RH-3/RH-3P antenna have a GPS strip (antenna) while the RH-17 antenna does not

2 The slot pattern is very different between the two antennas; and

3 RH-3/RH-3P and RH-17 antennas are marked on their radiators with "F" and "H" respectively. See Figure 10.

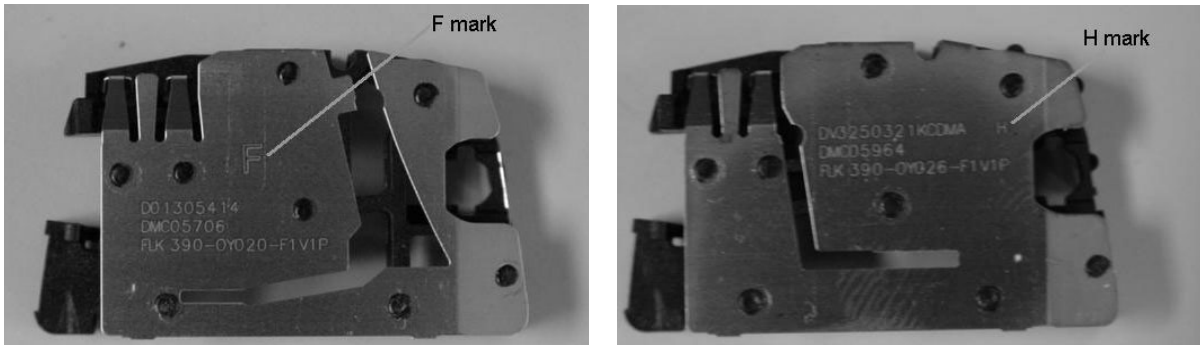

Figure 10: Top views of internal antenna (RH-3 at left; RH-17 at right)

Installing the RH-17 antenna in the RH-3/RH-3P phone will not be compliant with Nokia's FCC submission, as RH-17 is a single-band antenna (no PCS) and it doesn't have a GPS antenna.

If the wrong antenna is installed, install the correct one.

If the slot in the radiator has a significantly different shape, then the correct internal antenna must be installed. Be aware that the shape of the slot can vary slightly. The length of the horizontal slot and the opening of the vertical slot can vary by few millimeters, because the antennas are tuned for each batch of plastic frames. If there is any other obvious damage to the radiator (dents, corrosion), then the antenna should be replaced. If the pin gets stuck or has excessive friction in the plastic tube/guiding feature, then the spring will not work properly, and the antenna should be replaced.

Obstructed RF Feed and/or Ground Pads for the Main and GPS Antennas

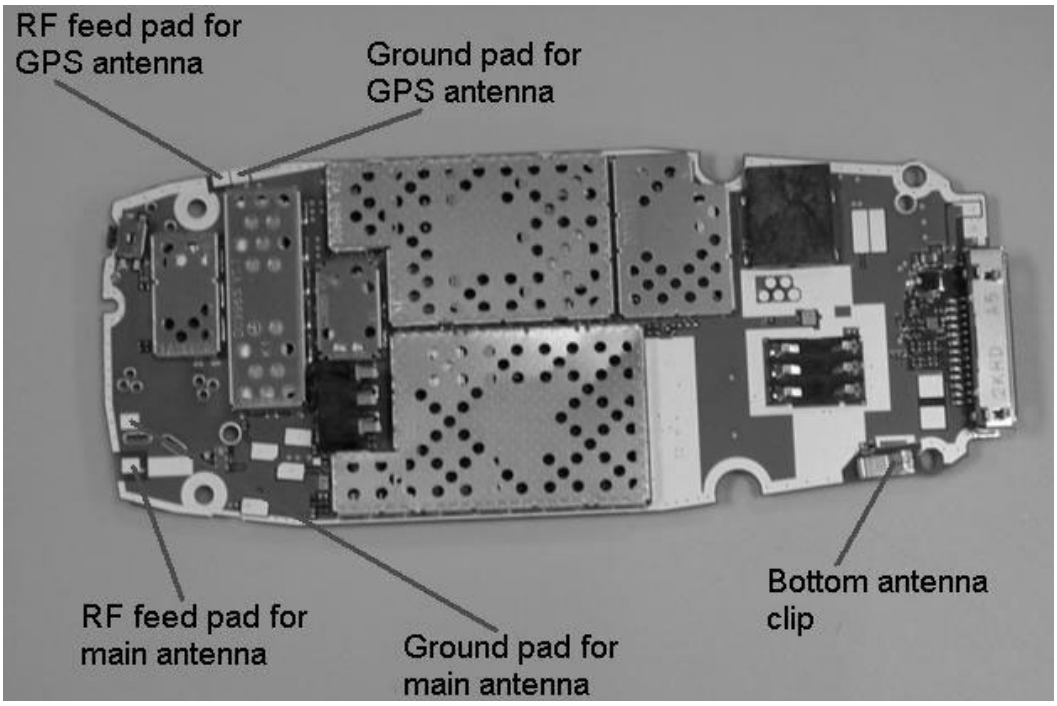

Figure 11: PWB layout of RF feed and ground pads, and bottom antenna clip

If the any of RF feed or ground pins are obstructed, removed, or covered, then the RF pin will not touch the PWB and the antenna performance will degrade. See the antenna per-

formance degradation section if any pin doesn't touch the PWB.

If corrosion is present or the pad is missing, then most likely the PWB and the phone needs to be replaced. If either pad is obstructed or covered, the pad should be cleared and/or cleaned.

Broken or Missing Bottom Antenna Clip

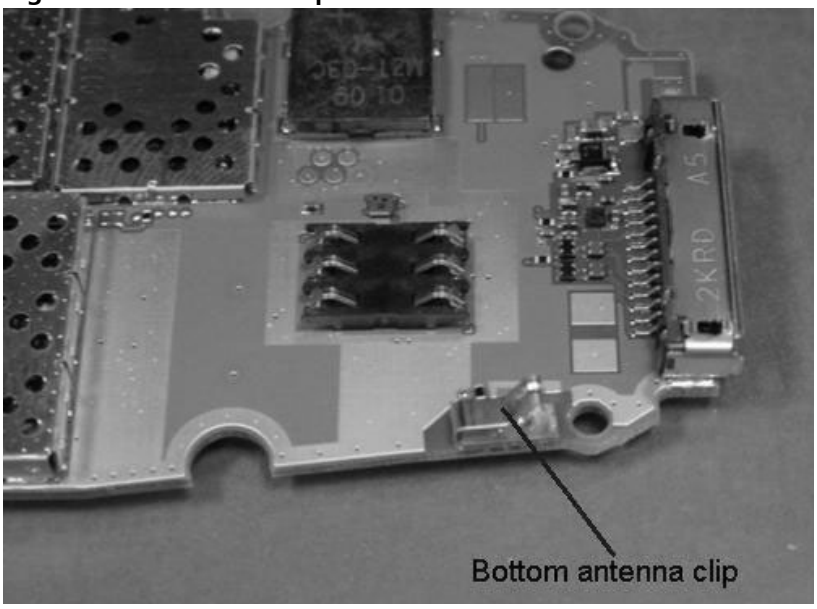

Figure 12: Bottom antenna clip

If the bottom antenna clip does not contact the whip stopper, when the whip is fully retracted, the internal antenna gain will degrade by about 4-5dB at Cell band and 3-10dB at PCS band when whip is retracted. If the antenna clip is installed backwards, is damaged, or is missing, then install a new bottom antenna clip in the correct position.

Obstructed Whip Stopper

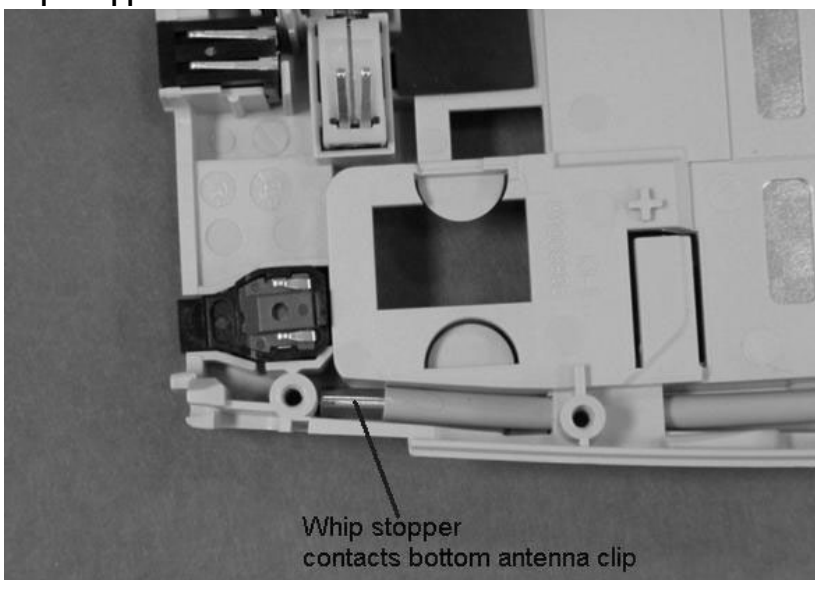

Figure 13: Whip stopper as shown when the whip is fully retracted

If the whip stopper is corroded or blocked by the whip straw, then the whip assembly needs to be replaced. If the whip stopper is obstructed or dirty, then the obstruction

and/or dirt needs to be removed. If the whip stopper doesn't properly contact the bottom antenna clip, then the internal antenna gain will degrade by about 4-5dB at Cell band and 3-10dB at PCS band when whip is retracted.

Grounding of Display Frame

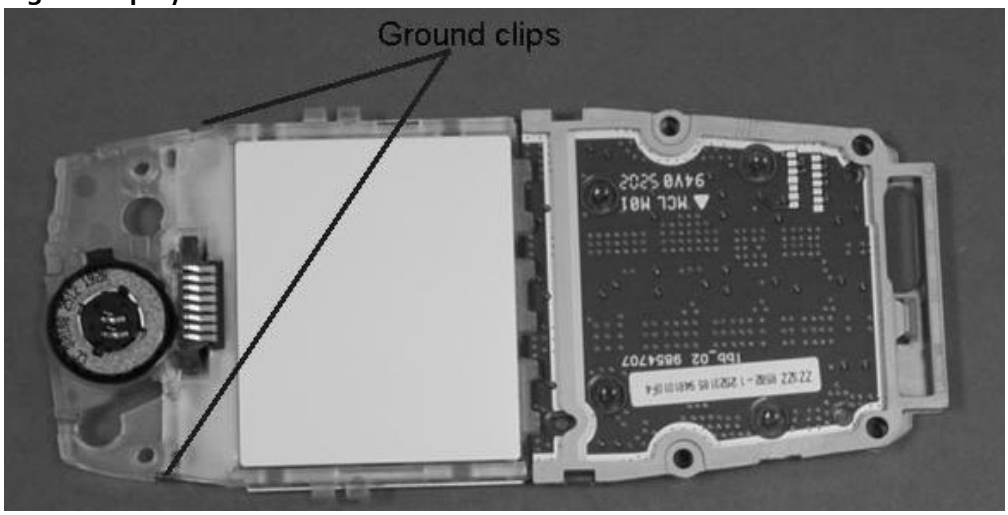

Figure 14: Back view of display assembly

Note that the display frame is grounded to the PWB through the two ground clips. The grounding of the display frame will impact the radiation performance of the phone. If the clips are not touching the PWB, or are corroded or obstructed, then the display frame should be replaced.

The following figures show the contact between the display frame ground clips and the PWB in greater detail.

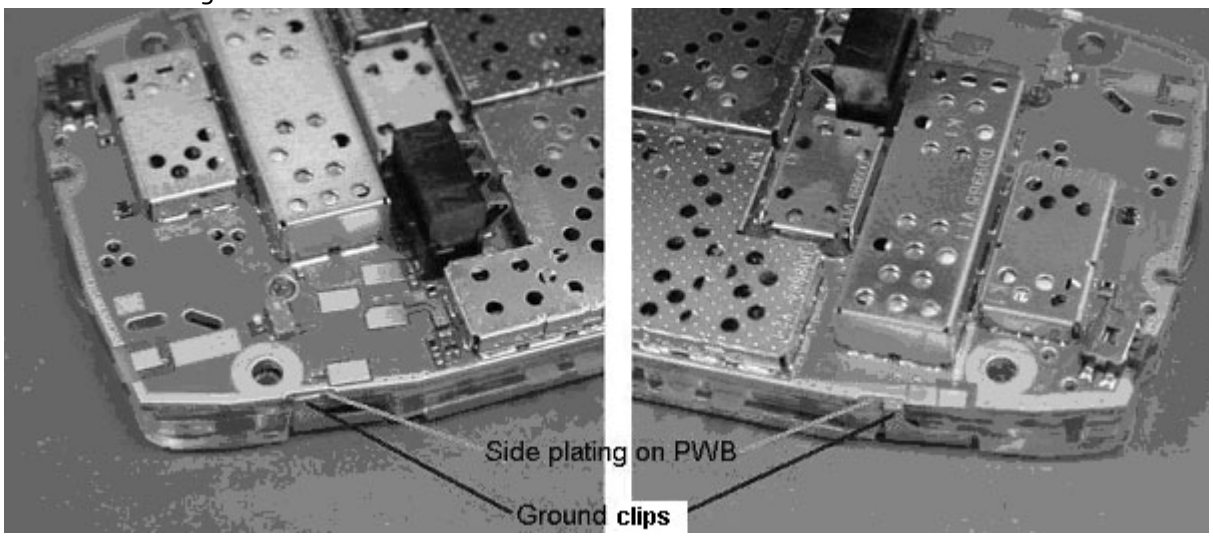

Figure 15: Contacts of display frame clips with side plating of PWB

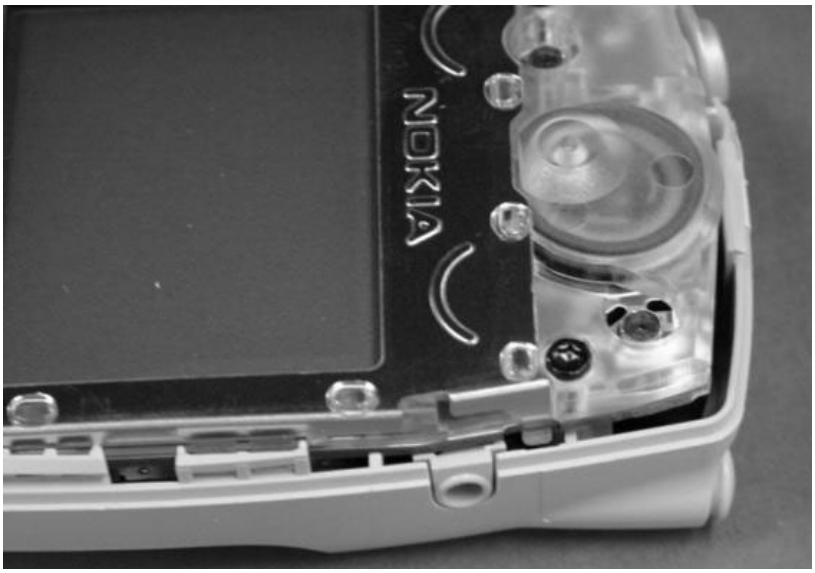

Figure 16: View of display ground clip in assembled phone with A-cover removed

Misinstalled Whip

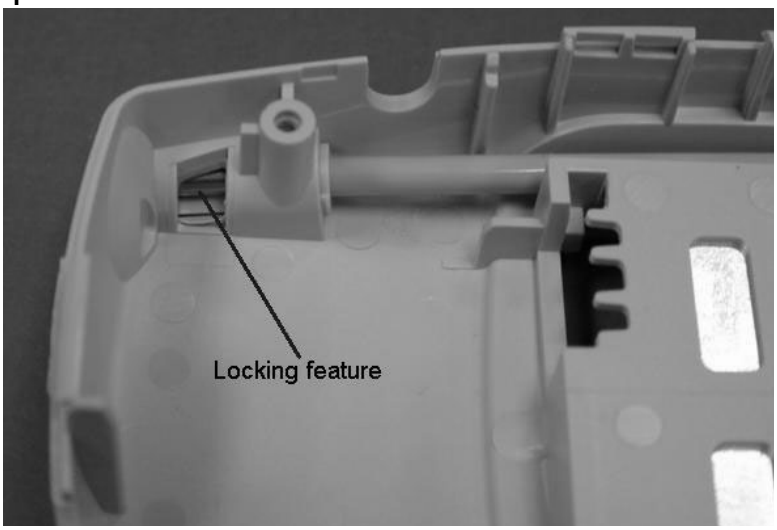

Figure 17: Locking feature for whip

The whip is locked into the D-cover when the internal antenna frame is installed. There is a feature in the plastic frame of the internal antenna that interlocks with the locking feature of the whip. The whip plug has the locking feature, and also has a key that is designed to make it difficult to install the whip plug with the wrong rotation. If the whip plug does get installed with the wrong rotation, then the whip will not be visible as seen through the locking feature as shown in Figure 17. In this case, if the whip cannot be removed, then the D-cover assembly will need to be replaced. Otherwise, simply replace the whip.

Damaged Whips

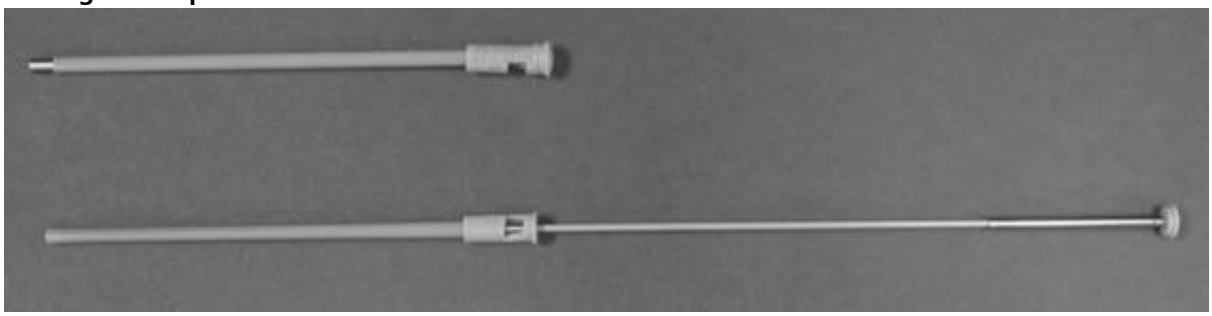

Figure 18: Whip stand-alone in retracted and extended positions

The above figure shows what the whip should look like when it is retracted and extended. If the whip is damaged, simply use another.

Detuning Circuit for Bottom Antenna Clip

Figure 12 shows the bottom antenna clip. The detuning circuit is right next to the bottom antenna clip. If the detuning circuit is not installed properly, then the internal antenna gain will degrade by about 4-5dB at Cell band and 3-10dB at PCS band. The detuning circuit consists of a 1nH coil inductor. If the inductor is missing, then install one.

Testing CDMA Antenna

Calibration Factors

Defining AMS RF coupler CPL-8 calibration numbers will be conducted in the test adapter MJF-28. The calibration numbers will be obtained by utilizing a phone with known RF and antenna performance. Each test adapter should only require a single calibration on PCS1900 and GPS bands at used test frequencies. Additional calibrations should only be needed if the test adapter is substantially modified (reassembled, changed parts, dropped, etc.).

Calibration Factor for PCS1900 frequency

Transmitter of the phone with known output power and antenna performance will be turned on at the maximum output power (all bits up) by using call box. The transmitted power will be measured on the RF connector and through coupler at CDMA PCS channel 1175. The difference between the transmitted and received powers will be used as the calibration number (path loss on Cell band including coupler, cable, and attenuator path losses) for the coupler on Cell band.

Nominal value for power measured at RF connector is 23 dBm. Coupler path loss is normally ~17...18 dB at PCS band. If 10 dB attenuator and cable with ~1 dB loss is used, total path loss is 28...29 dB and measured power would be from -5 to -6 dBm [23 dBm - (28...29 dB)]. However path loss has to be measured separately for every coupler since path losses vary depending on used setup, cables, and attenuator.

Measurement Procedure for Cell800/PCS1900 phones

1 The phone will be placed display up in the test adapter MJF-28 with its whip retracted.

2 The phone's transmitter will be turned on at PCS band on CDMA mode channel 1175 at maximum output power (nominal 23 dBm at RF connector).

3 Measure the RF power with CPL-8 coupler. This will represent the internal antenna to RF coupler measurement.

4 Turn the phone's transmitter off.

5 CDMA antenna test fails measured power is outside test limits

Min Measured power + coupler, cable and attenuator path loss	**Nominal**	**Max** **Measured power + coupler, cable and attenuator path loss**
20,0 dBm	23 dBm	26,0 dBm

Testing GPS Antenna (Models 2285 and 2270)

Calibration Factor for GPS

GPS test mode 3: GPS receiver will be fed with CW signal. With -110 dBm signal level on RF connector [(-110 dBm + cable loss) at signal generator output] GPS receiver should report C/No ratio of 35 dBHz. Reported C/No figure will be recorded with signal fed to RF connector. C/No value will be read with coupler engaged. GPS signal level must be increased until same C/No value is recorded. The difference between the CW signal levels at the generator will be used as the calibration number (path loss on GPS band including coupler, cable, and attenuator losses).

Nominal coupler path loss at GPS band is 14...17 dB. If 10 dB attenuator and cable with 1 dB loss is used total path loss is 25...28 dB. Signal level at generator output has to be -85...-82 dBm [-110 dBm -(-25 dB...-28 dB)]. However path loss has to be measured separately for every coupler since path losses vary depending on used setup, cables, and attenuator.

Measurement Procedure for GPS Antenna

1 The phone will be placed display up in the test adapter MJF-28 with whip retracted.

2 CW Signal generator will be turned on [with power -110 dBm + coupler, cable, and attenuator path loss at GPS band] fed to RF coupler.

3 Read reported C/No figure with test mode 3 three to four times to see if it is stable.

4 GPS Antenna test fails if C/No value is outside test limits

Min	**Nominal**	**Max**
31,0 dBHz	35,0 dBHz	38,5 dBHz