

# Connector Preparation Instructions

For CR & FXL<sup>®</sup> 1873 (1-5/8") B-Series Connectors

## Tools Required:

- PT Series Prep Tool (eg. FXL /CR 1873 PT)
- 60 mm (2-3/8 inch) Wrenches for tightening 1873 connectors
- Hacksaw for cutting cable (32 teeth / in. recommended)
- #18 Masonry String
- Pliers (for removal of dielectric using string method.)
- Drill (min 18 volt XRP or equivalent)

## Tips for use of FXL/CR 1873 PT:

- Straighten cable as much as practicable.
- **ALIGN THE TOOL WITH THE CABLE.**
- Wipe excess jacket residue from the end of the cable after cutting.
- Don't start then stop spinning the tool during the coring process. Keep the tool spinning the entire time.
- Start the tool turning before engaging the blades with the end of the cable.
- Don't stop the tool spinning in mid core
- Don't force feed the tool. Allow it to do the work.
- Let the tool feed onto the cable. Don't force or push too hard.
- If you experience problems coring, be sure all blade screws are tight.

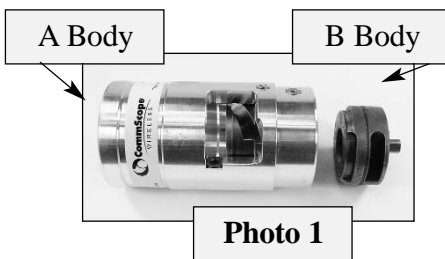


Photo 1

**Note:** Use safety equipment. Always wear appropriate eye protection.

**Step 1:** Photo #1 shows the two halves of the coring tool. To core the cable, assemble the two halves of the tool and use a high torque, low speed power drill (photo 1A). Core the cable until it bottoms out at its positive stop and no more material is exiting from the tool.



Photo 1A

## NOTE:

This tool is to be used with the FXL 1873 PE

**IMPORTANT:** Confirm proper center conductor length by comparing to connector back nut barrel (Photo 1B) or gauge on the front of the coring tool as shown. (See Photo 1C)



Photo 1B



Photo 1C

**Note:** Remember to keep coring tool clean.

**Note:** If jacket skating occurs, use a fingernail to remove jacket remnants.



Photo 2

**Step 2:** Slide the connector back nut onto the cable. The front end of the connector back nut should be flush with the leading edge of the outer conductor. Next separate the A-body of the coring tool from the B-body (ie. the flaring tool) to flare the outer conductor. (See photo 2) The use of a power drill is highly recommended for this operation. The cable has been properly flared when there is a slight chamfer on the center conductor. (See photo 2A)

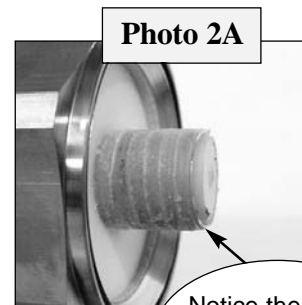


Photo 2A

Notice the slight chamfer on center conductor



Photo 3

**Step 3:** Carefully remove the dielectric material from the center conductor using #18 gauge masonry string (Photo 3). Score through the dielectric foam using back and forward sawing motion until the string cuts through the foam dielectric to the center conductor. The cleaned end of the dielectric material should be even with the flared portion of the outer conductor.

**Note:** the foam must be cut 360 degrees around the center conductor (you may need to reposition the string two or three times.) Then carefully grasp the center conductor foam with a pair of pliers and twist the foam until it begins to peel off the center conductor.

**Step 4:** Push the connector front nut onto the prepared cable end. Mate the connector front nut to the back nut (see Photo 4.)



Photo 4

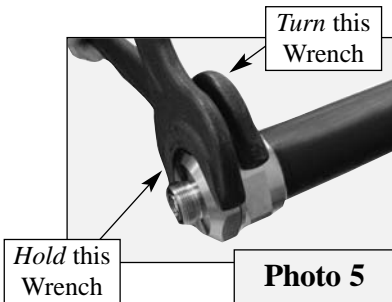


Photo 5

**Step 5:** While holding the front nut stationary, turn the back nut by hand, to tighten the connector as tight as possible before using wrenches. (See Photo 5)

**Step 6:** Continue to tighten the connector with the wrenches until metal to metal contact is reached.

**Important:** During the tightening process, make sure that the front nut doesn't turn. Tighten the connector until you achieve a positive stop and the O-ring completely disappears and you achieve metal-to-metal contact between the back nut and the front nut. (See Photo 6)



Photo 6

## Removing the Connector:

- I. Loosen the back nut of the connector and remove the front nut.
- II. The back nut can be removed by two preferred methods:
  1. Using wrench or set of wrenches, tap the back nut off of the cable (see photo 7)
  2. Using a straight screwdriver, bend the flared outer conductor towards the center conductor, then remove the back nut.

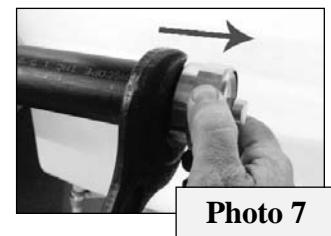


Photo 7

**NOTE:** Once the connector is removed, the cable must be re-prepared from the beginning. The connector can then be reinstalled.

- I. Inspect the O-rings in the connector for any damage. If they are not damaged, then the connector can be re-used.