

AOR AR8600MKII RSSI Connection

A Technical Application Note from Doppler System

October 25, 2008

1.0 Introduction

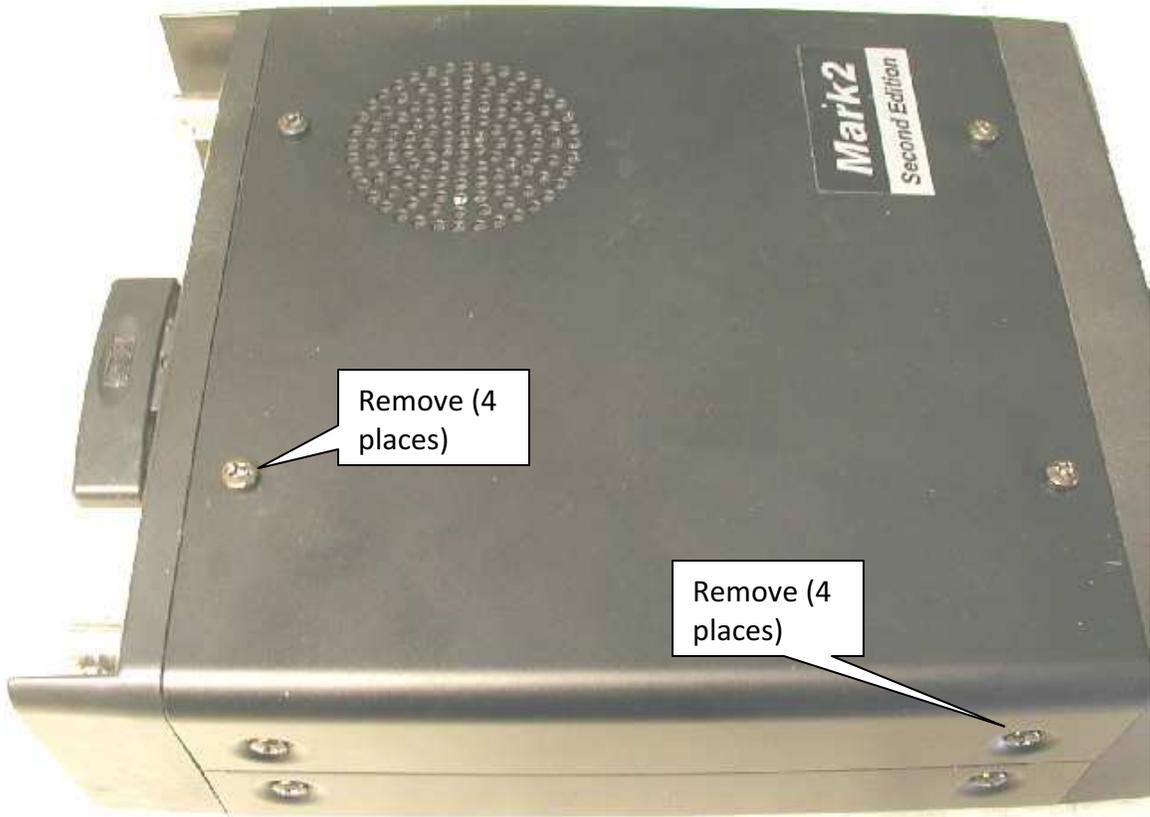
The purpose of this application note is to describe the modification of an AOR AR8600MKII receiver to provide received signal strength indication (RSSI) through the accessory jack on the rear panel for use with various Doppler radio direction finders. The modification consists of soldering a single wire between two internal vias on the radio's printed circuit board. The note also gives directions for making up the cable for connecting the RSSI output to the direction finder.

Note

AOR used pin 5 on the accessory connector to provide the RSSI output for use with their analog signal meter (ASM) which has since been discontinued. Pin 5 was also used on older models of this receiver for other functions as well, so it is best to check the output of this connector before opening the case. Recent models of this receiver have left this pin open although AOR seems willing to install this jumper if requested at the time of order. If you order this receiver through Doppler Systems, the RSSI output will be connected.

2.0 Internal Jumper Instructions

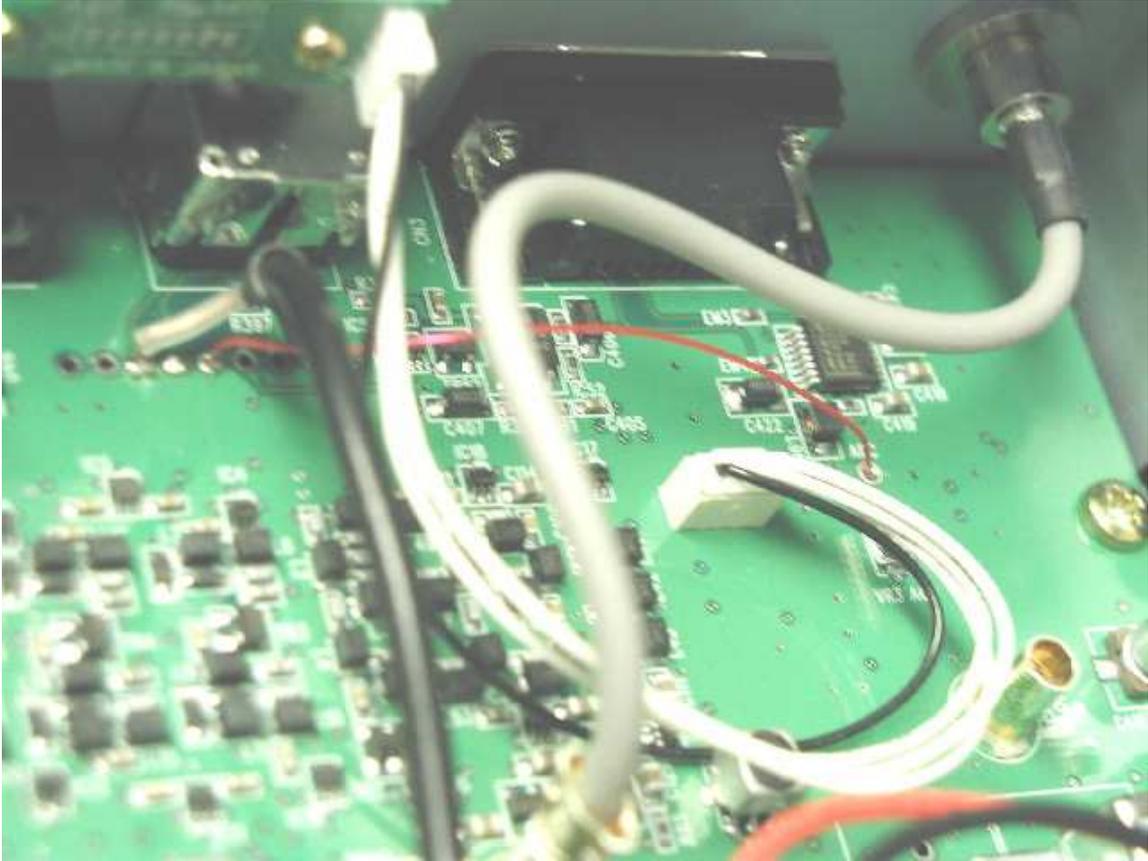
Remove the 8 screws that secure the top cover to the receiver as shown in the following photograph.



Now remove the 6 screws that retain the shield plate as shown. After lifting out the shield plate, unplug the loudspeaker connector.



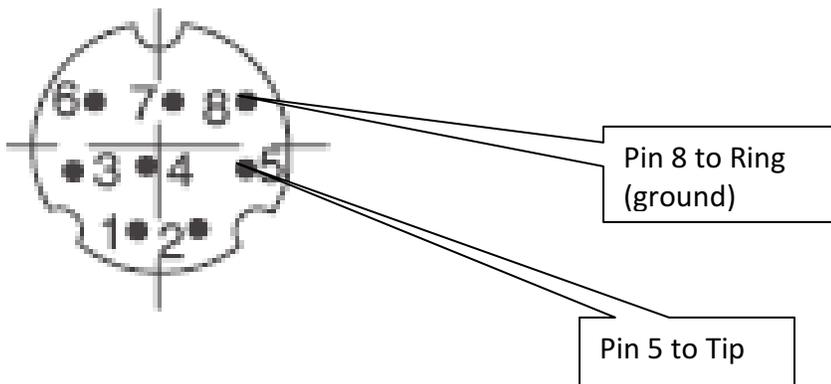
Solder a piece of #26 or #28 gage solid wire between the via marked AGC and the 5th via from the left that connects to the ACC jack as shown below.



Reattach the loudspeaker and reassemble the shield plate and top cover.

3.0 External Connections

You can purchase a set of connecting cables from Doppler Systems (DDF6317) or you can make your own. The accessory connector uses an 8-pin Mini DIN connector. Wire the connector as shown below to a Switchcraft type 750 mono plug for use with a DDF6001 or DDF6002 DF processor.



After reassembling the Mini-DIN connector, you may find that because of the thickness of the rear cover on the AR8600, the mating plug will not mate with the recessed connector pins sufficiently to make a reliable connection. This can be easily corrected by using a single edged razor blade to trim the soft outer protective cover on the plug about 1/8 inch back from the hard plastic insulator as shown below.

