



HELMET HEADSETS FOR ATVs

Eric Shilling, Mechanical Engineering Technician

INTRODUCTION

All terrain vehicles (ATVs) are more widely being used for recreation management, wildland firefighting, and other forest management activities. Use of the standard Forest Service Bendix/King radios, while wearing a motorcycle helmet, requires the use of a helmet headset. A number of helmet headsets are available from motorcycle accessory suppliers, but none are designed specifically to be used with the Bendix/King EPH series VHF radios that Forest Service employees use.

San Dimas Technology and Development Center (SDTDC) has built a prototype adapter that can solve the problem. The adapter (see figure 1) was made from parts available from Bendix/King and the local Radio Shack or electronics supply house. The parts used for the adapter are enumerated in the parts list on page two. The adapter utilizes a push-to-talk switch that's attached to the handle bar for safely transmitting while riding. The prototype was built using two ear pieces for the helmet. Field units may consider one ear piece depending on their needs. A wiring schematic for the adapter is included on page three (see figure 2). This Tech Tip also identifies sources for purchasing helmet headsets and the components needed to build an adapter with the remote switch.



Figure 1.—Photo Of Headset Adapter And Bendix/King Radio.



PARTS LIST

These are the parts SDTDC used to build the prototype adapter:

- ChatterBox Full Face Headset with Microphone (HJC40)
- ChatterBox Headset Extension Cord (HJC40)
- ChatterBox Push-to-Talk Switch (HJC90)
- Bendix/King Adapter (LAA0602)
- Radio Shack Coiled Microphone Cable - 4 conductors (278-356)
- Radio Shack 1/8" Stereo (3-conductor) Jack (274-249)
- Radio Shack 1/8" Mono (2-conductor) Jack (274-251)
- Radio Shack Momentary (normally open) Push Button Switch (275-1571)
- Radio Shack Project Box (RSU 11907680)
- Radio Shack Universal Clip (270-033)

SUPPLIERS OF MOTORCYCLE HELMET HEADSETS

Chatterbox Headsets and Intercoms

888-452-2269

(<http://www.hjc-chatterbox.com>)

J&M Corporation

1415 S. Cherry Avenue

Tucson, AZ 85713-1997

Tel: 800-358-0881

Fax: 520-624-6202

Web: <http://www.jmcorp.com>

E-Mail: audio@jmcorp.com

(J&M will also build an interface to use their helmet headsets with Bendix King radios.)



A wiring schematic for the adapter is shown in figure 2. Unless the reader is skilled at soldering small circuits, the job should be done professionally at a radio repair shop.

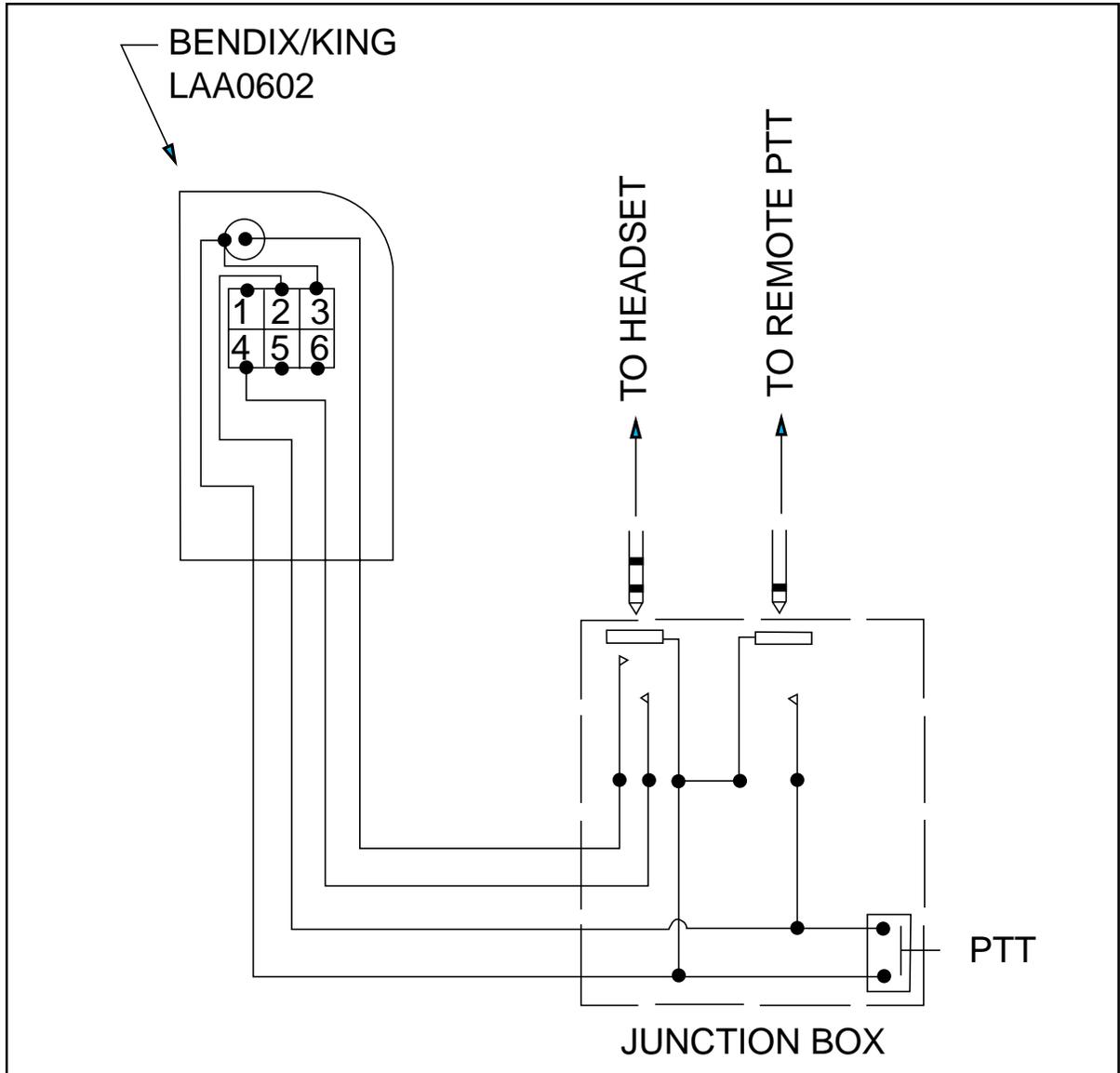


Figure 2.—Wiring Schematic For Adapter.



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