

Mating Microwave Connectors

Proper Procedure for Mating Microwave Connectors



1. Engage the two mating interfaces with slight pressure.
2. Hold the body of the male connector and turn only the coupling nut.
 - The coupling nut will engage the threads of the female connector.
3. Continue turning only the coupling nut.
 - The outer conductors will engage and align the connectors to each other.
 - Then the center conductors will engage.
 - Then the outer conductors (reference planes) will come together and the coupling nut will quit turning.
4. Use a torque wrench to apply the proper torque to complete the mating.

When the proper procedure for mating microwave connectors is followed, no rotational torque is applied to the center conductors. If the body of either connector is rotated, this is improper and can apply a rotational torque to the center conductor. All Southwest Microwave connectors have the center conductor rigidly captured to the outer housing. The center conductor captivation is, in most cases, accomplished with a high temperature plastic bead. This bead provides high axial retention at extended temperatures, but does not provide for any rotational resistance. Therefore proper mating is strongly recommended.

