

Radio Interference

Problem: Our 1992 Excella 1000's radio has an irritating static buzz in it, which renders it mostly useless. It is located in the overhead above the couch on the front wall of the trailer. The power converter is located at the bottom of that same wall behind the couch. Can you suggest a hopefully simply cure for this?

Answer: RF interference can be picked up either through the radio antenna (radiation) or on the power source lines. Knowing how it is getting into the radio will help to determine the source. Disconnect the radio antenna and see if the interference level significantly drops.

Is the interference present when you are hooked to shore power and charging the battery? Converters can generate high-level interference depending on the type being used. Try turning off the converter or disconnect the trailer from shore power.

A loose connection can cause an arc, which can cause an interference signal. A defective circuit breaker that is not making a solid connection or needs to be reset can cause a buzzing signal. A self-healing circuit breaker being triggered by an overload or just burned can generate RF signals.

To find this you will have to do some trouble shooting by turning off various devices.

Fortunately, it will be easy to know when you have isolated the cause.