

July 2012

SLOT TECH MAGAZINE

Slot Machine Technology for the International Casino & Gaming Industry

FORT HALL
CASINO

Slot Tech Magazine

PLUS-JCM's UBA Part 1
Quick & Simple
Slot Machine Repairs #87
TechFest 25 (Las Vegas) Review

\$10.00

CASINO LED LIGHTING

MADE in the USA by Kiesub Electronics

**Save \$\$ on Energy • Replace Old Lighting Technologies
Quick Return on Investment • LEDs Last up to Five Years!**

**LED Edge-Lit Panels, LED Signs, Cove & Under-Counter LED Lighting Strips
All manufactured in our Las Vegas UL-approved facility.**

- Simple, fast plug & play installation
- No modifications needed
- Metal brackets for durability
- Rebates from the Power Company
- Refurbish your old machines in minutes
- LEDs make your graphics glow!



Replace hot, unreliable fluorescent and incandescent bulbs with cool, energy-saving LEDs



Available in custom sizes and shapes, brightness levels, and colors. Bright, consistent illumination

LED REPLACEMENT KITS

GAME KING UPRIGHT as low as \$89.00

S2000 as low as \$99.00

SLANT TOP GAME KING REEL
as low as \$85.00

SLANT TOP VIDEO POKER
as low as \$69.00

NEW! Replace costly & unreliable fluorescent and neon fixtures



COVE LIGHTING STRIPS
and accent lighting



KIOSK LIGHTING PANELS
Custom panels make your graphics glow!



UNDER-COUNTER LIGHTING
Great for bars, food service areas, & display cases

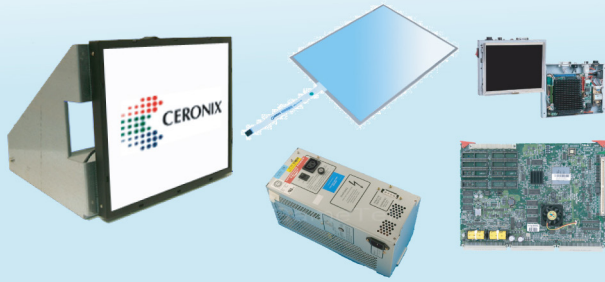
Kiesub Electronics engineers, designs and manufactures all of our LED Lighting products.
Contact us to request a demo or with your custom design.

KIESUB ELECTRONICS

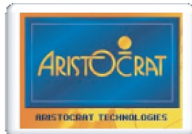
Contact Mike Johnsen, Director of Manufacturing (702) 733-0024 Fax (702) 733-0026
www.kiesub.com mikej@kiesub.com

CasinoTech

INDUSTRIAL MONITORS



Parts & Service For:



Free warranty Service for all Ceronix LCD and CRT Monitors

Low cost out of warranty service on LCDs and CRTs

Expedited Services available

Service Info for all Ceronix Monitors

CRT Chassis Boards, Touch Screens, and Controllers

Low Cost replacement LCD and CRT Monitors

Retrofit LCD monitors

LCD Panel Repair and Backlight Replacement

Player Tracking System Displays, Touch Screens, and Backlights

Cold Cathode Fluorescent Lights for Panels and Slot Lamps

Now Repairing Select Power Supplies



Don't spend money on replacing your broken power supplies! We are now able to help you out with some of your more popular power supplies from IGT and Aristocrat.

Authorized Ceronix Service Center

P: 702.736.8472 P: 281.255.2884 F: 702.920.8678
981 Empire Mesa Way - Henderson, NV 89011

SALES@CASINOTECH.COM
www.CASINOTECH.com

PATRIOT GAMING & ELECTRONICS INC.

PATRIOT GAMING & ELECTRONICS, INC. is focused on providing the gaming industry with a wide variety of products, alternatives, low cost solutions, and unprecedented service.

Our expanding inventory has over 15,000 different new and used gaming parts to choose from. Paired with our ability to buy and sell used gaming devices and parts, we have everything you need, when you need it.



PATRIOT SERVICE

SERVICE PROGRAMS

Flat Rate Repairs
Reconditioned Products
On-Site Maintenance
Pick-up & delivery Services

REPAIR SERVICES

LCD / CRT Monitors
Game Boards
Power Supplies
Bill Validators
Ticket Printers

90 day warranty on all repairs

WARRANTY SERVICES

TransAct
JCM

Authorized service center for Ceronix & Wells Gardner

PATRIOT
WEST
WEST COAST HQ

702.556.1337 **PHONE**
219.922.6466 **FAX**

PATRIOT
MIDWEST
CORPORATE HQ

866.867.5666 **PHONE**
219.922.6466 **FAX**

PATRIOT
EAST
EAST COAST HQ

702.556.1337 **PHONE**
219.922.6466 **FAX**

WWW.PATRIOTGAMING.COM

Slot Tech Magazine Editorial Opinion

Page 4-Editorial

Page 6-It's a Writing Pen! No, it's an SPC2 RAM Clear Tool!

Page 12-TechFest 25 Review

Page 13-Slot Tech Training at Ft. Hall Casino

Page 14-Quick & Simple Repairs #87

Page 18-The Name of the Game-JCM's UBA-Part 1 of 2

For Subscriptions - See the website @ slot-techs.com



Randy Fromm

Open Letter to Gaming Commission:

Your slot shop's ability to perform component-level repairs can have a profound effect on your casino's bottom line. Many electronics repairs can be made quickly and cheaply if the parts are available to your slot techs. Unfortunately, many slot shops are crippled by regulations that require ALL vendors to obtain a (sometimes costly) license to do business with your casino.

I recognize that the impetus for this regulation is that the casino cannot do business with any entity that is not squeaky clean. However, the upshot of this licensing prerequisite is that casinos often have to purchase complete (read "expensive") replacement assemblies because the discrete components or integrated circuits (usually with a cost of just a dollar or two, often less) required to effect the repair are unavailable through any of your licensed suppliers. As wonderful as it is to have a full-line supplier like Suzo-Happ or Patriot Gaming, they simply cannot stock the plethora of components required to fix everything down to the component level.

Some casinos work around this requirement by allowing some "outside" purchases, placing a strict limit on what can be purchased (and from whom) and with a low dollar limit (such as \$100-\$300/month). Purchasing a handful of capacitors and transistors from a reputable electronics distributor such as Kiesub Electronics, MCM Electronics or Mouser Electronics (or dozens of others) doesn't expose your casino to anything except a more efficient slot department and higher profit. Clearly this low dollar limit precludes any sort of "criminality" just as nobody counterfeits one-dollar bills.

With all due respect to your vigilance and duty, I am begging you, Mr. or Ms. Commissioner, to consider a modification to your regulations that will allow your slot department to become much more efficient through the purchase of electronic components from reputable (but otherwise unlicensed) sources.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Randy Fromm
Publisher-Slot Tech Magazine

Randy Fromm's Slot Tech Magazine

Editor

Randy Fromm

Technical Writers

James Borg, Vic
Fortenbach, Chuck
Lentine, Craig Nelson,
Kevin Noble, Pat Porath

Slot Tech Magazine is published
monthly by
Slot Tech Magazine
1944 Falmouth Dr.
El Cajon, CA 92020-2827
tel.619.838.7111 fax.619.593.6132
e-mail editor@slot-techs.com
Visit the website at slot-techs.com

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Domestic (North America)

1 year - \$60.00

2 years - \$120.00

International

1 year - \$120.00

2 years - \$240.00

Subscribe online at
slot-techs.com

Copyright 2012 under the Universal
Copyright Convention. All rights re-
served.

**TechFest 26
Detroit, MI
Motor City Casino**

Nov. 6-8, 2012

- **Cold Cathode Replacement Lamps (for every slot machine in the world)**
- **Player Tracking System CCFLs, Touch Screens and LCDs**
- **Bonus Screen CCFLs ("L" shape, "U" shape and Straight) Also LCDs (6.4" and 7")**

Single Cold cathode lamp assemblies for: IGT NexGen & Bally Iview Player Tracking Systems and WMS Bonus screen 6.4" LCD, also Konami bonus screen 7" LCDs ("L" shape CCFL and "U" shape CCFL)

Single RAW cold cathode lamps for all slot machine LCD sizes (10", 15", 17", 19", 20", 22", 26", 28", 32", 36" and more) used in all slot Manufacturers' games (Aristocrat, Atronic, Bally, IGT, Konami, WMS (Williams), also Cadillac Jack, Aruze, MultiMedia Games, Ainsworth, VGT & Novomatic

Dual cold cathode lamp assemblies for: Atronic 17" LCD & Konami 17" LCD, & WMS 19" LCD & Konami CCFL Edge-Lit Belly Glass

Triple cold cathode lamp assemblies for: WMS 17" and 18" LCDs

For IGT

#8500 - Single cold cathode lamp assembly for IGT 6.2 inch LCD

#8610- Protective Mylar sheet W/ copper tape attached for 6.2" Hitachi LCD in IGT NexGen

#8570-6.2 inch Hitachi LCD #TX16D11VM2CAA with 4 wire touch screen for IGT NexGen

FOR BALLY

#8650 - Single cold cathode lamp assembly for Bally IView player tracking system 6.2 inch "IDW" LCD

#8680 -- Single cold cathode lamp assembly for Bally IView player tracking system 6.2 inch "IDW" LCD

#9890 – 5 wire touch screen for Bally IView 6.2 inch Hitachi LCD

#8950- 5 wire touch screen kit for Bally Iview 6.2 inch "IDW" LCD

#1240 – 6.2" Hitachi LCD \$TX16D11VM2CCA

FOR KONAMI

#9780-"L" shape cold cathode lamp assembly for 7 inch AU Optronics LCD

#8550 – "U" shape cold cathode lamp assembly for 7 inch Sharp LCD

#1010 – 7 inch AU Optronics LCD #C070VW02 for bonus screen

#1250 - 7 inch Sharp LCD #LQ070T3AG02 for bonus screen

FOR WMS (Williams)

#8520- Triple cold cathode lamp assembly for WMS slot machine with an 18" LCD monitor

#9300- Single RAW cold cathode lamp for WMS games with 19 inch LCD monitor

#8490 - 6.4" "LG" LCD #LB064V02 for bonus screen (does **NOT** come with touch screen)

Contact our distributors or contact us at pacificillumination@gmail.com



SUZO  HAPP





Slot Tech Feature Article



It's a Writing Pen! No, it's an SPC2 RAM Clear Tool!



By Vic Fortenbach

RAM clearing an SPC2 board is a challenge that increases depending on where the SPC2 board is mounted. Inside older Aristocrat slot machines, some SPC2 boards are mounted on the left side wall near the main door hinge. Other boards are mounted way in the back, behind the florescent fixture in the top of the cabinet. No matter where the SPC2 board is mounted, it seems like you need multiple hands to complete the RAM clear.

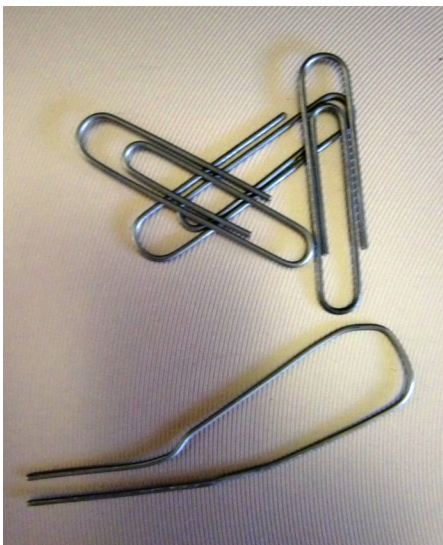
The most popular way to RAM clear the SPC2 board is to use a paper clip as the RAM clear tool. A small sized paper clip is reformed into two, closely spaced, parallel prongs. The prongs fit into the RAM clear

holes on the SPC2 board. It's not very elegant but it gets the job done. Other slot technicians use a Wiha chip extractor tool to RAM clear the SPC2 board. While Wiha tool is obviously intended to remove chips, it can also be used to RAM clear the SPC2 board since the end is forked and shaped with two small prongs. The prongs on the end don't really fit into the RAM clear holes like a paper clip does, but if held tightly against the SPC2 board RAM clear holes, the RAM clear can be completed.

I have used both the paper clip and the Wiha chip tool to RAM clear the SPC2 board. While both tools have their positives and negatives, I thought there had to be a better way to complete the RAM clear. I looked at all the tool catalogs for a tool that would work, only to be disappointed. Since there was no true SPC2 RAM clear tool that was easy to use and easy to hold, the only option was to make one. The parts that I used are not exotic and can be purchased at Wal-Mart and Home Depot or Lowe's. This SPC2 RAM clear tool that you can make is not some hokey looking homemade tool; it looks professional, and does the job, easily.

In the process of creating this tool, I had five specific design features I wanted to incorporate. The first and most important was the size and shape. You have to be able to hold on to it (unlike the paper clip); the size and shape of a ball point pen would be perfect. The second factor is loss prevention. A pocket clip is a must so the tool can clip to your shirt pocket. This also makes it easily assessable. The third feature is safety. I wanted nothing sharp that can poke and hurt anyone. Many times I have placed the paper clip "tool" in my front pocket and bent over, only to have the paper clip prongs stab me. The fourth feature of the SPC2 tool is that it has to be hands free; the tool should stay connected to the SPC2 ram clear holes in the PCB without falling out. Having the tool connected to the SPC2 board holes and not having to hold onto it makes removing power from the SPC2 board easier. The fifth feature is that it has to look cool.

With the features defined, I came up with the perfect solution; modify a click-able ball point pen. The pointed end of the pen where the ball point sticks out had to be plastic since the end point needs to be cut or ground off



Personalize Your Promotions

- Direct promotions to your most valuable players
- Enhance players' experience through personalized promotions
- Tailor rewards programs to both carded and non-carded players



PromoNet[®]
couponing made easy

The Only Intelligent Promotional Couponing Solution
for both Carded and Non-Carded Players



FutureLogic[®]
group of companies

futurelogic-inc.com/promonet



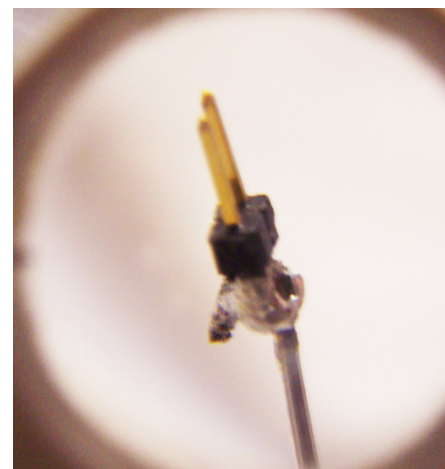
to make the end opening larger. I went to Wal-Mart and chose a Paper Mate Profile 1.4B click-able pen. These pens are available in packages of two for about two dollars. I wanted to keep the click function of the pen intact so the two (sharp) pins used to RAM clear the SPC2 board would retract and not cause a safety hazard. I disassembled the pen by unscrewing the top click part. The pen looks like the middle part would unscrew, but it's the top section with the pocket clip that unscrews. On my pen, the top part was screwed on very tight; I had to use pliers to unscrew the top. Be careful not to damage the plastic pocket clip when unscrewing the top.

With the pen disassembled, I removed all the parts, including the pen's cushy grip (it just slides off). As I mentioned, the point end of the pen needs to be removed. Be sure to remove the spring from inside the pen; it's not attached to the ink cartridge. Using the shop grinder, I ground down 3/8 of an inch of the plastic from the point end of the pen, leaving a plastic lip to hold the cushy grip.

Next, I needed the actual prongs that will be used to RAM clear the SPC2 board. I found and removed a two-pin header from a non-working Bally Pro-slot 6000 logic board. This two-pin header is actually two straight gold-plated pins with a black plastic base. The Bally logic board has several of these two-pin headers that are used for option jumpers. I found that a JCM UBA CPU board also has this same two-pin header that can be used as well. These

headers are pretty common on other logic boards so there should be no problems finding one. When removing the two-pin header from the logic board with a soldering iron, use caution not to overheat and melt the plastic base of the two pin header, melting the plastic base will cause the pins to be misaligned or fall out.

The center actuator is the part that replaces the long ink cartridge. I reformed a large paper clip to be completely straight. At one end I bent a very small "U" shaped hook. This hook will make it easier to attach the header to the straightened paper clip. The two pin header will be soldered to the U-shaped end. The two-pin header solders easily to the paper clip end, but because the header is so small, it will move around when trying to solder to it. Use some tape to hold the header to the workbench top. This makes it easier to solder the wire to the header. When you solder the header to the paper



clip, it's important to keep everything straight and in line. Once the header has been soldered to the paper clip end and cooled, this becomes the header wire. Cut the header wire to 4 3/8 inches long end to end counting the pins of the header. Compare the inside dimensions of the ground down pen end to the header size. The header must fit inside the pen and slide easily; it must not be a tight fit. Most likely the plastic base part of the header and your soldering job will be too large. The header base and wire can be filed along with the solder to make a smooth looking round con-



Trusted. Reliable. 3M.

3M™ MicroTouch™ Touchscreens and Controllers

The gaming machines on your casino floor rely on **3M MicroTouch touchscreens and controllers** to help provide 24/7 operation and up time.

Leading game machine manufacturers have made 3M MicroTouch touchscreens and controllers the “gaming touch standard” due to their strong track record for performance.

Casino operators rely on manufacturer-recommended 3M MicroTouch replacement parts for “plug and play” integration and the assurance that 3M products “just work” out of the box.

3M Touchscreens are readily available from these authorized gaming distributors. Visit www.3m.com/touch for more information



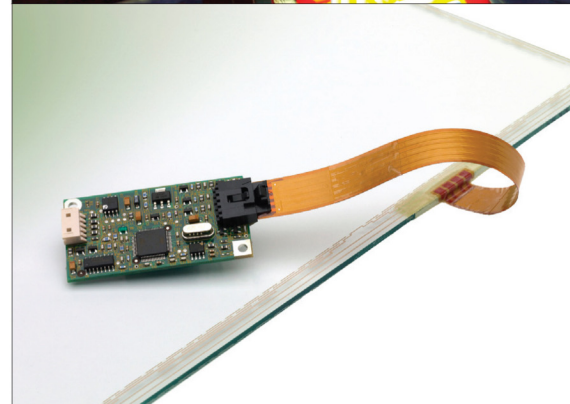
Don't have time to clean slot machines?

3M™ High Air Flow Electrostatic Filters (HAF-E) have been specially designed to help reduce the amount of certain air-borne contaminants such as smoke, dust, dirt, debris, and carpet fibers from entering the air intakes on slot machines, vending machines, arcade games, ATMs, kiosks, and computers.



3M™ HAF-E filter after three months use in typical casino setting.

By using the HAF-E filter, you will maximize equipment uptime, reduce maintenance time and cost, and spend less time cleaning.



3M



nection. If part of the wire hook you bent is sticking out from the base of the header, trim or file it off. The header wire must completely fit smoothly and slide inside the pen case. When filing the plastic base for size, don't file too much of the plastic base as it still has to hold the two pins securely. Check to make sure the two-pin header wire slides easily, in and out of the pin with no binding.

The click action of the retractable part of the pen uses a spring at the end of the ink cartridge. Since we have ground down the pen end, this spring has to be relocated. The new place for the spring is in the middle area of the pen. The Paper Mate pen case is reduced in its center area to a smaller size, which is perfect area for the spring. Moving the spring to this location will provide the new click action for the two-pin header. Two new "spring stops" will have to be created. The new spring stop has to have a small enough hole to allow the straightened paper clip to slide through it, but not the spring. A 4-40 hardware nut fits into the pen perfectly. The nut has the required hole for the header wire but it is not large enough for the spring. The nut is sized to allow it to wedge horizontally into the small area of the pen case. The size of the nut needs to be loose for assembly, but the nut must NOT slip past the middle part. This is one of the spring stops.

Assemble the nut, spring, and second nut onto the header wire as shown. Two solder blobs will have to be added to the header wire. I know the solder blobs are

not the best looking, but when the SPC2 tool is assembled you will not see them. Solder sticks very well to the paper clip. The first solder blob is attached to the header wire at 3 7/8 inches, when measured from the header end; the second blob is at the opposite end of the header wire (See picture of the completed header wire). Once everything has cooled, slide the header wire into the pen case. The first nut will stop at the part of the pen case that is reduced.

Some trial and error may be necessary. You may have to reform the end solder blob so it does not bind inside the top part of the pen. The blob has to be large enough so the header wire will not slide into the pen cap. Look inside the pen cap to judge the size of the solder blob you have to create.

After you have assembled the tool, check the click action. If the two-pin header just moves in and out of the pen casing without clicking and staying "locked," the paper clip wire is too long or the solder blob is not correctly placed. The visible part of the two pin header can be adjusted by making the header wire longer

or shorter. If you need to make the wire longer you will need to start off with a new straightened paper clip.

With this tool, it is much easier to clear a SPC2 board, not to mention the looks I get from the other technicians when I use my "pen" to RAM clear an SPC2 board.

Parts List

1 – Paper Mate 1.4 B Profile

Click Pen - Wal-Mart

1 – Large Paper Clip

1 – 2 Pin header – from old logic board

**2 – 4-40 Hardware Nuts –
Lowes, Home Depot**

- Vic Fortenbach

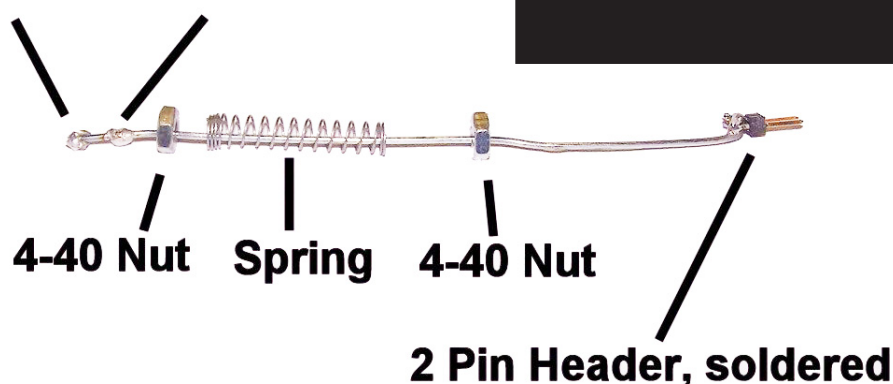
vfortenbach@slot-techs.com

For schematic diagrams, software, drivers, service manuals and much, much more, visit the Slot Technical Server at slot-tech.com.

For batch downloads, use FTP.

**FTP to slot-tech.com
username=Slot Tech
Password=kxkvi8**

Solder Blobs





RIDE WITH THE

WINNER

AND OPTIMIZE YOUR CASH MANAGEMENT.



ICB 2.5



PayCheck 4
PRINTER



iVIZION

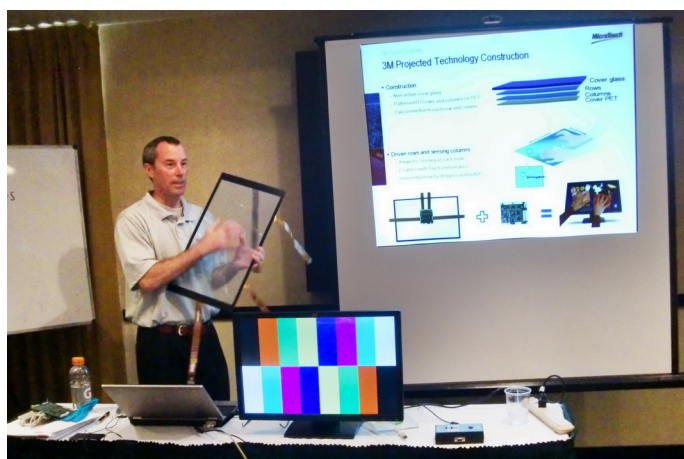
There are a lot of horses in the race, but it's easy to see why JCM Global and their customers stand together in the winner's circle. JCM has the discipline of a jockey, the vision of a trainer and the speed of a thoroughbred, and that's why JCM had over 80 percent ship share of all new gaming openings in 2011.

For more information visit JCMGlobal.com.





Slot Tech Events-TechFest 25 Las Vegas, Nevada



Mark Roberts (3M Touch Systems)



Eagle Mountain Casino's homeboys Tou Cha, Herman Ecobiza, Dustin Pagua, Mike Hensley and Lisandro Sandoval pause for a group photo before heading home after the event.



**Dan Petersen
JCM**

Yep! There are more pictures of happy slot techs this month. TechFest 25 was held in Las Vegas. We had an excellent turnout, especially considering that this was an "overflow" event due to a sold-out TechFest in December 2011. President Obama was in town and although he didn't stop by to see me personally, Air Force One did fly 1000 feet directly over my head upon his departure as





Slot Tech Training at Ft. Hall Casino, Idaho

the venue is located near the airport just 3/4 of a mile from the departure end of runway 25R. I was outside at the time. Dang, that is one shiny aircraft! It really was a pretty awesome thing to see.

TechFest 25 was the usual good time all-around (this was Las Vegas, after all), with special thanks to Eagle Mountain Casino and Tachi Palace Casino for sending five slot techs each to the event. Also a shout-out and danke schön to Österreich Lotterien GMBH (the Austrian Lottery) for sending Michael Grotzl and Markus Pesendorfer all the way from Vienna, Austria. This was their second time attending TechFest as they attended TechFest Austria in 2008. Twenty-nine slot techs from a dozen properties attended TechFest 25.

TechFest 26 is scheduled for Motor City Casino in Detroit, Michigan, November 6-8, 2012

My Own Private Idaho

Through some schedule juggling and coordination with Colista Farmer, Slot Manager for the Fort Hall, Bannock Peak and Sage Hill Casinos, I was invited to train the following week at the Ft. Hall Casino near Pocatello, Idaho. It's just a day's drive from Las Vegas to southern Idaho (some sections are posted at 80 MPH so you can imagine how fast people actually drive-not that I am admitting anything, mind you).

The weather was awesome and the slot techs that work there

(we had 15 in the class) are really a pleasure to know. We covered the usual mix of component-level repair, concentrating mostly on Power Supply repair and LCD monitor repair.

If you are interested in sponsoring training at your casino, feel free to contact me. -

Randy Fromm

619.838.7111

editor@slot-techs.com



July 2012





Quick & Simple Repairs #87

By Pat Porath

IGT Denomination Touch Pad Not Working

First off I thought I had heard that a keypad needed to be replaced, not a touchpad so I grabbed an Oasis Sentinel II keypad and headed to the game. What the? The keypad looked fine, I tested it and it worked OK. I asked again over the radio what needed to be replaced. The denomination touch pad. Ah, OK. These are very easy and simple to replace. Of course, power off the game, remove the two small screws that hold the metal bracket in place, remove the touch pad cover, then remove the touch pad board from the glass. There is only one connector on the board. Simply remove the old denomination sticker from the original and put it on the replacement. One of the four denoms wasn't working before the replacement. It didn't matter where you touched, the thing just would not work. After replacing the denomination

touch pad board, it worked perfectly. These are multi-denomination IGT S2000s that have four different denomination selections that can be made right at the game.

UBA Error in a Spielo Game

I received a call that a Spielo game had a bill acceptor error that wouldn't clear. When I arrived, the JCM UBA transport assembly was reseated and made kind of a funny noise when it was cycling. The cashbox was removed, the area was inspected for any foreign material (such as a torn bill) then it was reinserted. The transport assembly was removed from the game, opened up, inspected and closed. Nothing unusual was found in that area either. With the unit removed from the game, I looked at the top area of the bill acceptor housing. Located on an optic was a very small torn piece of printer paper, just small enough to cause an error. After the tiny piece was removed and the transport assembly put back in the game, it cycled normally. When the slot door was closed a blank ticket

was tested to make sure the bill acceptor grabbed it properly, which it did. The bill acceptor was working once again.

Repairs After Three Main Power Interruptions

We had a couple of moderate thunderstorms roll through our area and had three power interruptions within a 24 hour period. The first was a bit after midnight during which the main casino power went off for a few seconds then came back on. The second was around 4:30am with the third occurring around 9:30am. The gaming floor was a mess.





WE SEE OPPORTUNITY IN THE MIDST CHANGE.

COME TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT

G2E

THESE ARE CHALLENGING TIMES FOR OUR INDUSTRY. YOU HAVE TO KEEP UP TO GET AHEAD. That's where G2E 2012 comes in. It's the only place you'll get the broad picture and the down-to-earth details. The only place that delivers the latest information, hottest topics, most valuable networking and essential education. And the only place to be if you're serious about making it through the tough times.

OCTOBER 1-4, 2012

**THE SANDS EXPO & CONVENTION CENTER
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA**

OCTOBER 1—iGAMING CONGRESS, SECURITY &
SURVEILLANCE INSTITUTE, LEADERSHIP ACADEMY,
ADVANCED GAMING INSTITUTE, SOCIAL MEDIA BOOTCAMP

OCTOBER 2-4—EXHIBITS AND CONFERENCE

WWW.GLOBALGAMINGEXPO.COM

global ^{G2E}
gaming
expo



An American Gaming Association Event

Organized by

 Reed Exhibitions



The previous shift stated that they had started off with around 23 games down. When I arrived, I received a list of 11 that were still down. This was before the last power interruption at 9:30am. At the time of the last power failure, I happened to be working on a Konami game trying to figure out a denomination display failure error. When the main casino power went off for a few seconds then came back on, my co-worker and I were like “The heck with it, might as well wait to repair anything else until the storm passes.”

Repairs were mostly normal ones such as power supplies, LCDs, RAM clears, and such. A few of the Ainsworth games needed to have their main power supplies replaced, some of the WMS WAGEnet and IGT SBX games needed to be rebooted, a couple of WMS Bluebirds needed a RAM clear. A few LCDs needed to be replaced on different manufacturers of games. A few power supplies were replaced in Bally CineReel and or Cinevision games. A flash board had died in an IGT Wolf Run Party game which had to be ordered (The game flash board connects to the top of the main game processor board, it could also be called a piggyback board).

On the Konami denomination display error, I looked at game options, I tried a

couple of reboots, and boards were reseated. I was unable to clear the error. The following day, I asked a co-worker what in the world was with that denom display error. I learned that a RAM clear was done without clearing everything, the one cent denomination was selected, then it was good to go. On a few stepper WMS Bluebirds (CPUs without the hard drive) were the game has physical reels and a small LCD on the bottom, a few of the LCDs were black. A simple reboot or two of the game and they were working again. If the text doesn't appear on the first try, try another reboot. I've run into a few of them where on the third reboot, the LCD would come back to life. In a nutshell, all techs worked their butts off to get the floor looking good again after not two but three main power failures within a 24 hour period.

WMS Monopoly Topper, Totally Dark

I had a WMS Monopoly topper on a game that was totally dark. None of the light bulbs nor the LCD had any power at all. Maybe the main power cable that runs to the top part of the game came loose? The outer part of the topper was removed and the LCD was removed to see what was going on. It appeared the power cable was in place and snug and the upper power switch was in the ON position. I

checked below to make sure the cable was plugged into a receptacle, which it was. Could a fuse be blown? Located near the 110v input power cable is a fuse holder. I disconnected the power cable from the power supply and looked at the fuse. Since it was a small ceramic type (non-explosive) you can't tell by looking at it. A multi-meter has to be used to check for continu-



ity. After verifying that the fuse was bad (open), it was replaced. It was replaced with the same rating fuse, the IEC power cable was plugged back in, then the upper power switch was turned ON. The topper lit up beautifully. For some odd reason the topper had simply blown a fuse. Now the game was working properly once again.

IGT AVP 3.5, No Game Power

While taking a walk around the gaming floor, I noticed a game that looked like it was shut off for no reason. What the heck, why wasn't it documented in our log book? Why wasn't there a work order for it? Why didn't the previous shift tell me why it was shut off? To my surprise, right after opening up the door on the game I noticed that the main power switch was still



in the ON position so my assumption was totally wrong (I make my share of mistakes, no doubt). Nobody had turned the game OFF, it just died. At some point, power failed to keep the game running but secondary power remained ON because the Oasis display was lit up. My first thought was the failure of either the AC power supply or the DC power supply. The Alternating Current power supply has the 110v power outlet we use to power our Oasis Sentinels. The Direct Current power supply gives the voltage needed for the game such as the 24vdc ticket printer. I turned the power switch ON and OFF a few times to see what would happen and the numerous interior LEDs on boards would only flash for a fraction of a second, then go black. This failure also pointed me toward the

direction of a bad power supply. First the AC supply was swapped with the game next door, then the DC. No difference was noticed when the AC supply was swapped but when the DC power supply was exchanged, the game lit right up. It started the boot up process right away. A spare was grabbed to replace the bad unit and now both games are back up and running.



- Pat Porath
pporath@slot-techs.com

NEURON
Electronics, Inc.

- APPROVED SUPPLIER FOR:

BALLY

ARISTOCRAT / CDS

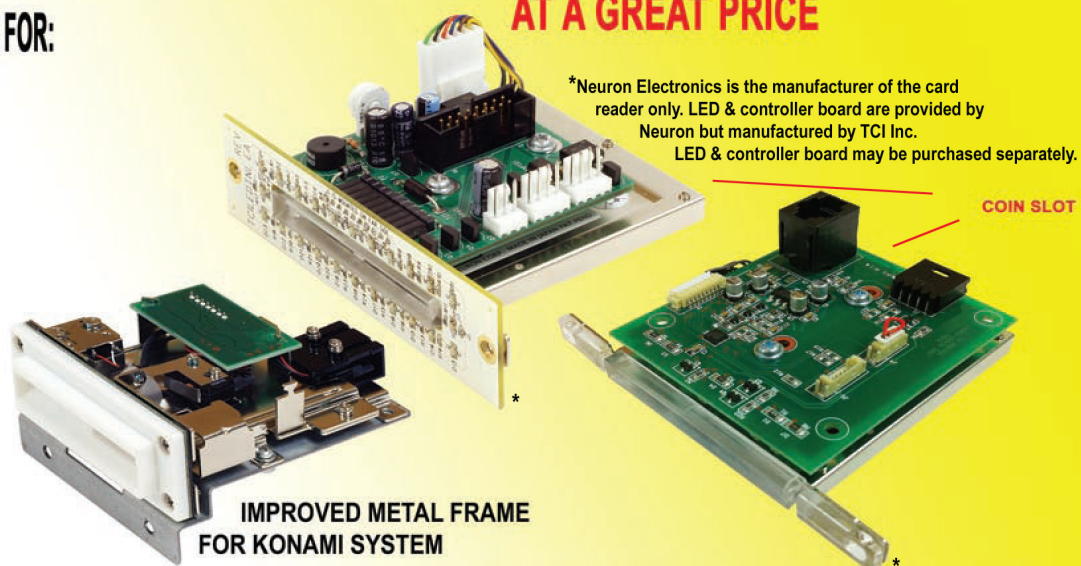
MIKOHN

SPIELO

IGT (IMPROVED DESIGN)
COIN SLOT

- 1 YEAR WARRANTY

- MADE IN JAPAN



IMPROVED METAL FRAME
FOR KONAMI SYSTEM

8541 WELLSFORD PL, SUITE E, SANTA FE SPRINGS CA 90670
(562)789-1322 - www.neuron-usa.com - mario@neuron-usa.com



The name of the game in any casino is without a shadow of a doubt, money. It's the blood that flows through its veins. Without this precious commodity, a casino could just pack it in, close its doors and die permanently.

What good is having an attractive looking and sounding slot machine? What good is having a super game on it? What good is having a queue of people waiting to play on it, if nobody can insert any money into it? I'd say it would be pretty useless and it might as well be switched off.



Fig. 1 Coin Comparator

The Name of the Game

By James Borg

Technology has come to the rescue, once again, as it has brought about more ways than one of feeding cash into a hungry slot machine. The oldest method in the book of inserting money into a slot machine is by means of a coin. This could be the currency of the casino's country or the casino could have its own customized tokens, bearing the equivalent in value to the actual currency. Typically 10c, 25c or higher can be used. Once these are slotted into the machine (and accepted) they are registered as credits by means of a clever piece of equipment called a Coin Comparator, as shown in Fig 1. In simple terms, a coin (or token) is inserted as a reference into a holder and all the coins entering the coin comparator are compared, using different parameters, to this reference slug. If the coins entering the unit match the reference, they are accepted, otherwise, they will be rejected. Simple, straightforward, and effective. They did have their limitations but overall, these comparators did their job efficiently and without any major hassle.

However, for many casinos, the days of the coin are long gone, making room for more advanced technology with the introduction of bill validators. A bill validator (AKA bill acceptor) scans currency by means of optic and magnetic sensors. The scanned 'image' is compared to the signature held in the validator's pre-programmed memory and the currency is then accepted into the cashbox or rejected back accordingly. Their built-in high-tech avoids casinos ending up with their cashboxes full of counterfeit money.

Venues that have kept both the coin comparators and also upgraded to bill validators could then boast of having slots with two sources of inputting cash. If the coin comparator went FUBAR, then there was always the bill validator option, or vice versa, which



Fig. 2 UBA Bill Acceptor Head

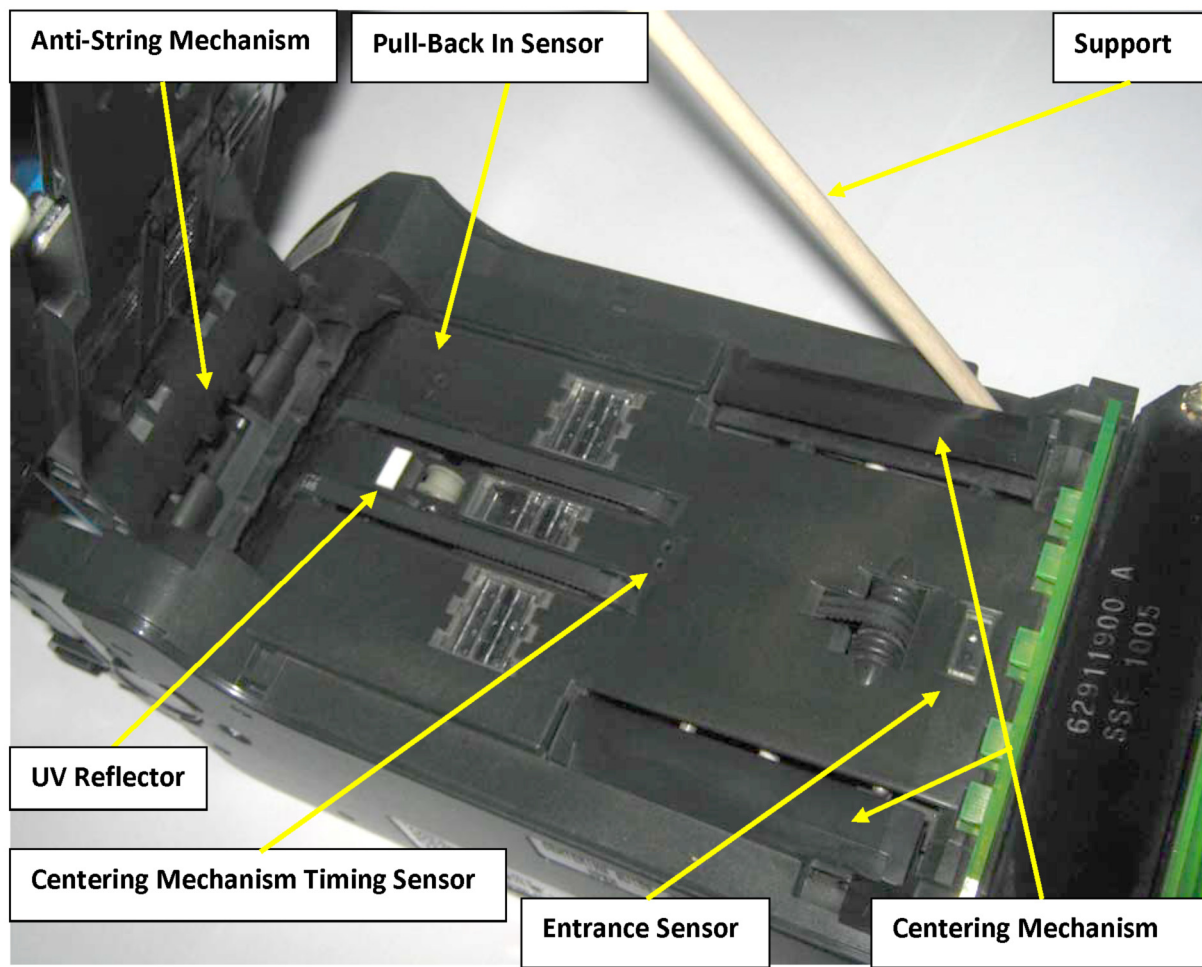


Fig. 3 Bottom Bill Path

meant a client could then carry on playing, without loss of revenue for the casino. However, not having a machine accepting coins, for any reason whatsoever, would put the coin community off, especially if their budget consisted of only a handful of coins. The procession of going round machine after machine while holding a bucket of coins and religiously inserting a coin or two, in every machine passed by (in the eternal hope the next one played would be the lucky one) would come to an abrupt end.

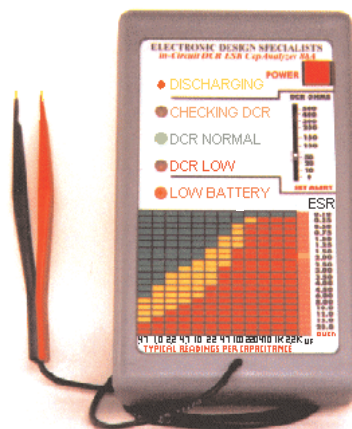
Cashless systems were

eventually introduced, as well as Ticket-In-Ticket-Out (TITO) systems. There was

just no stopping the various options so money can find its way into slot machines.

Repair Monitors, Power Supplies, Gameboards?

Check any Electrolytic Capacitor *In-Circuit* with 100% Accuracy in 3 Seconds---GUARANTEED*



Automatically discharges capacitor

Checks DCR with alerts for shorts

Measures DCR to 500 ohms

Measures ESR from 0.1 to 20 ohms

Checks caps from .47uF to 2200uF

Beeps one to five beeps for quality

Three-color chart for good-fair-bad

*range 0.47uF - 2.2K uF 90-day money-back guarantee

Portable, Easy to Use, Inexpensive, Highly Recommended by leaders in the industry. **CapAnalyzer 88A** by EDS, Inc.

At your favorite distributor, or call 561-487-6103 or www.eds-inc.com



Without doubt, even though cashless systems and TITO have become very popular, the bill validator still remains tops.

A common bill validator is one by JCM: Japan Cash Machine. Founded January 11, 1955, over the years, they have developed the bill acceptors currently found in many new slot machines, the UBA (Universal Bill Acceptor), which followed its predecessor, the WBA (World Bill Acceptor). These bill acceptors are very popular and reliable, provided proper care and maintenance is given to them. Of the many features the UBA boasts, automatic centering and anti-stringing technology are perhaps two of its most interesting. The

UBA's weight is about 4kg. It can be powered by either 12v or 24v. The latter requires a 24v to 13.5v conversion board. In use at 12v, this unit consumes approx 1.6 Amps, while at 24v, it consumes approx 1 Amp. In standby mode, the consumption is that of 300mA and 150mA respectively.

Normally, UBA acceptors are followed by a number, for example, 10, 11, 14, 24 and 25. These numbers simply mean 8 Meg Flash Memory, 8 Meg EPROM, 16 Meg Flash - USB compatible - SS configuration, 16 Meg Flash - USB compatible - SU configuration, and 16 Meg EPROM - USB compatible - SU configuration, respectively.

Brilliant, efficient and effective as it might be, it will be, however, totally useless if it doesn't operate properly. Preventive maintenance is a must for these units to keep them running in top gear. Having a customer attempting to input currency repeatedly into a slot machine, will eventually put anybody off playing on that particular game. As much as a client would love to try 'lady luck' on that particular game, frustration will undoubtedly prevail. If the person is particularly superstitious, comments like: "The machine is obviously showing me it will not pay out by not accepting my money. It doesn't like me today, so I'll go on another machine." Unfortunately, I've actually heard comments similar to these

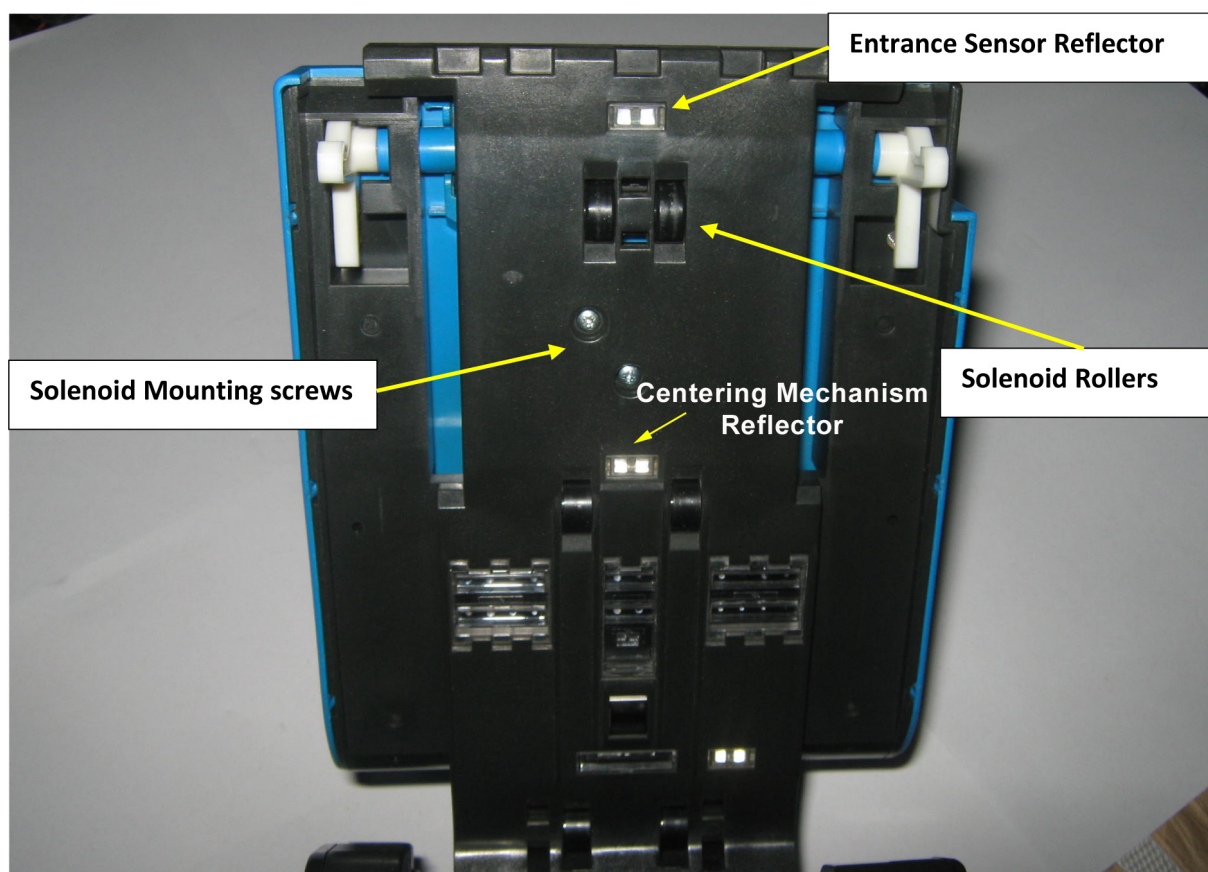


Fig. 4 Top Guide



myself on more than one occasion, and they can be quite annoying, especially if I know for a fact that that particular acceptor has been recently serviced. Out of pure curiosity, just lifting the lid would usually show half the lenses blinded by cigarette ash. Wonder of wonders why the poor thing wouldn't accept the currency. It's a shame how certain types don't seem to recognize the difference between an ashtray and a bill acceptor but that's a different story altogether.

The frequency of these babies needing some TLC depends on the number of bills inserted over a given time and on their natural habitat. In a clean environment, months could pass before another cleaning session is required. In a dusty and smoking zone, the rate of cleaning has to be more frequent.

It is very important that no form of alcohol is used during the process, unless it's Isopropanol alcohol (C₃H₈O), and this is only to clean the wheels and the belts, BUT NOT THE LENSES. Applying alcohol or solvents to the transparent lenses will eventually make them go cloudy, which will impair the amount of light going through them. Alcohol hurts the equipment and might even make it end up working less efficiently, reducing its acceptance in a drastic way once the

'maintenance' has been carried out. Just using soapy water is more than enough and is highly recommended. The belts, rollers, bill path and the lenses can be 'washed.' 'Washing' doesn't mean immersing the lot in a bath but just wiping down gently the concerned areas with a damp cotton bud (Q-tip) or a soft, lint-free cloth.

Lifting the lever to raise the upper guide (see figure 3) exposes the bill path, along with the belts, optics, and everything else concerned to make this bill validator work smoothly. Please note that the upper guide does not stay up on its own so

either hold it with your hand or insert a support to keep it open. Should this come down suddenly, damage might occur (even to your fingers). The bottom lenses and rollers can easily be cleaned, as well as the UV reflector, which is situated at the back. Some rollers need more cleaning than others and care must be exercised not to damage these in the process. The use of metal objects (such as screw drivers) to scrape off material stuck to these rollers isn't recommended at all. The same applies for the parts in the upper guide.

Compact as it might seem,

Casino City's Worldwide Gaming Exchange

Buy & Sell Your Gaming Equipment Online!

Domestic and international online marketplace for buyers and sellers of slot machines, parts, supplies – *everything* on the gaming floor!



- Showcase your inventory to industry professionals 24/7!
- Save time and save money!
- Sign up today – it's FREE

WorldwideGamingExchange.com

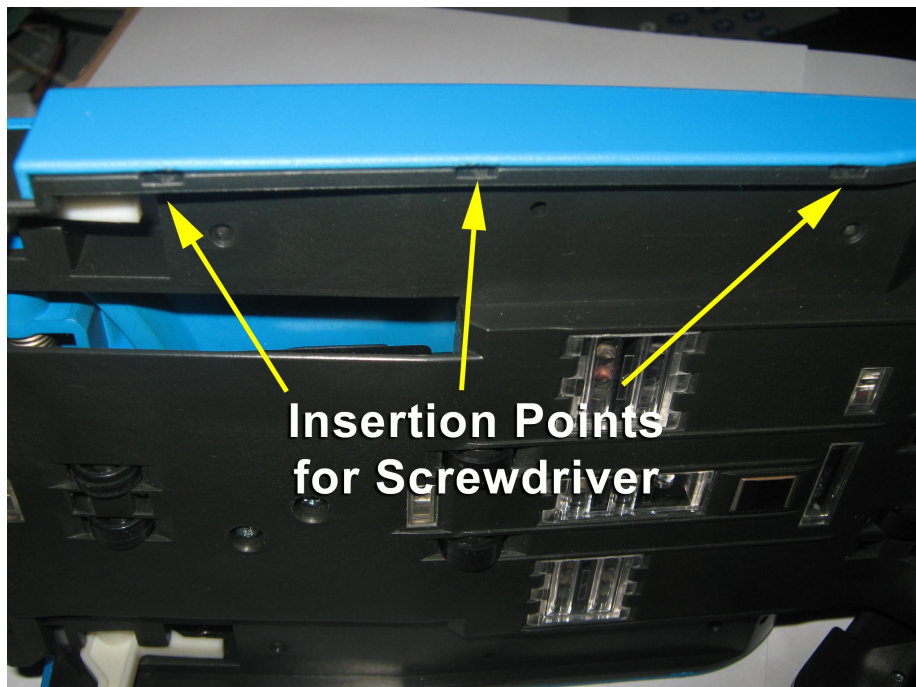


Fig. 5 Insertion points for screw driver

the top guide is bursting with versatile components inside, all of which have their particular important function (see figure 4).

General cleaning and wiping down is all well and good but at times, it is just not enough and the acceptor has to be stripped down to pieces. This can be done in two steps. There's the top part (simple) and then there's the bottom part, which is more complex to dismantle. The top cover is easily removed by sliding a small flat screwdriver in the areas shown in figure 5.

A similar set of tabs is also found on the other side. Once all the points have been released,

the blue cover can then come away, exposing the upper electronics board (see figure 6).

The upper electronics board needs to be removed by unscrewing the six mounting screws. The solenoid connector, shown in the picture with the red wire, needs to be unplugged before the board can be lifted gently back.

- James Borg
jborg@slot-techs.com

Part 2 Cont. Next Month



International
brand
GAMING

Bringing
leading
gaming
brands
together

Quixant

E
ELEKTROSIL
Ideas. Solutions. Products.

ECP
Elite Casino Products, Inc.

Microcoin
GBA Global Bill Acceptors
AstroSystems Ltd

SPECIALIST OEM
SOLUTION PROVIDER

sales@internationalbrandgaming.com
SALES +44 (0) 1865 600030
www.internationalbrandgaming.com



"I can help you bring down the cost of casino electronics repairs"

Randy Fromm

Buying Replacement Units!

Is your casino totally self-sufficient in repairing monitors, power supplies, bill validators and ticket printers or are you throwing away hundreds or thousands of dollars purchasing replacement units? While it is not exactly a "hidden" cost to your department, some slot managers simply accept the price of replacements as the "cost of doing business" while it progressively nibbles away at the casino's bottom line. **IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE THIS WAY.**



"OK. You asked and I listened. My new tech class eliminates obsolete CRT monitor repair and the associated monitor repair lab. In just four or five days, your slot techs can learn to repair Power Supplies, LCD Monitors, Ticket Printers, Bill Validators and more. It's easy and it's fun." - Randy Fromm



In truth, most electronic repairs are pretty easy. Often, it's just a matter of testing and replacing a small handful of inexpensive, off-the-shelf electronic components. Sometimes, it's just one. For example, it costs less than 25 cents in parts to repair the most common failure in Bally power supplies. The entire process takes about five minutes.

LET ME SHOW YOUR SLOT TECHS THE QUICK AND EASY WAYS TO REPAIR CASINO ELECTRONICS

You will see an immediate savings to the casino, starting with the in-house repairs that will be performed during the class!



About Randy Fromm: I am the publisher of Slot Tech Magazine. First published in 2001, Slot Tech Magazine is a monthly trade journal focusing on casino slot machine repair. I have been repairing electronics for the gaming industry since 1972. I really enjoy what I do and I love showing others how easy it can be. ***No previous knowledge of electronics is required.***

For more information, including course offerings and complete pricing information, please visit the website at slot-techs.com

Slot Tech Magazine 1944 Falmouth Dr. El Cajon, CA 92020-2827
tel.619.838.7111 fax.619.593.6132

ADD SOME
CELEBRATION & EXCITEMENT
to your casino floor!

SUZO  HAPP

CELEBRATION VIDEO TOPPER



This innovative topper design creates a new level of excitement on your casino floor and stimulates additional game play!

Topper interfaces into the SAS line to detect a hand pay signal from the slot machine and triggers a "Celebration Event" including ANY or ALL of the following:

- Confetti launcher throws out bursts of confetti
- Loud celebration alarms or music through built-in speakers
- Standard or customizable videos on 15.6" LCD
- Flashing multi-color RGB LEDs on both sides of LED
- Event Modules that raise and lower event attraction modules, such as LED tubes, flashers, etc.

Call Us Today for More Information on this Unique and Exciting New Product!



SUZO-HAPP GROUP

1743 Linneman Road Mount Prospect, IL 60056
2015 Helm Drive Las Vegas, NV 89119
Phone 847-593-6130 | Fax 847-593-6137
Toll Free Phone 888-289-4277 | Toll Free Fax 800-593-4277

suzohapp.com