

3 Inch Field-Adjustable Turns Ratio Isolation Transformer (IsoT) Printable instructions for use at antenna feed. (V.2023.03.30)

This transformer is designed for tuning a 160m L/FCP using method B from "Taming the Exasperating Inverted L" on k2av.com. It also supports the 80m and 40m dual- and tri-banding of 160m L/FCP detailed on k2av.com. If you have not read the "Taming" and "Field Adjustable IsoT" articles on k2av.com, please do so. *Make sure the date above matches the date at k2av.com/FieldAdjIsoT.pdf*. If not, destroy this copy and print k2av.com/FieldAdjIsoT.pdf from the web site. The web site article and pdf is updated from installer experience. This printed text is only intended as a copy/reminder for use up a ladder at the IsoT site, not as a permanent reference document. *Highlighted text indicates tests and branches in the procedure or points out various issues and warnings.*

DO NOT SUBSTITUTE OTHER CORES. These pages *only apply to a T400A-2 (or Micrometals T400-2D)* #2 powdered iron core (4" diam, 1.3" thick, red on 3 surfaces and gray on one). *Do not use T400-2 (0.625" thick), multi-core stacks, other core materials/sizes, to avoid various issues.*

WHILE TESTING USE THE SPECIAL COAX JUMPER between analyzer and IsoT *with clip lead connecting the jumper shield to shack feedline coax shield*. See k2av.com/SpecialJumper for illustration and text. Using the special jumper ensures your adjustments account for the effect of the aerial's vertical wire inducing RF common mode current (CMC) on the feedline shield.

Before measurements, coax and connections all the way from transmitter to FCP/aerial wire should be final ready-to-TX-for-contests-and-DX, except for jumper to RF analyzer and the shack coax center conductor unconnected at the IsoT. Then R+jX seen by feed coax will match R+jX seen by RF analyzer. Induction effect can be seen and measured by R+jX change with clip connected and then disconnected.

Unsatisfied with amount of induction-caused change? It can cause noise on RX, RFI and hidden RF loss. Reduce induction before IsoT field adjustment. Reducing induction will change the starting R0, F0 values, likely requiring different turn and length adjustment. There is a simple fix if coax length is near or less than a physical 1/4 wave (130 feet, 40m) or less from IsoT to first encountered ground (frequently a grounded dwelling entry lightning arrestor). Insert a *designed-for-160* ferrite CMC block at antenna side of grounding. Or construct one from <http://k9yc.com/2018Cookbook.pdf> *Use only K9YC specified materials according to his instructions.*

DO NOT USE SWR TO ADJUST WINDING TURNS RATIO - USE R and X. Use an RF analyzer showing resistance and *signed* reactance. Best to use graphic display of both R and $\pm X$ like "R,X" display on Rig Expert graphic analyzers. The "X" line crossing 0 on the graph gives a sharply defined $X=0$ frequency (*F0*) to accurately measure R0 (RF resistance at frequency where reactance is zero). F0 and R0 are required to accurately determine any antenna or turns adjustment. If you need to, borrow or purchase an appropriate instrument, or enlist an owner to assist.

MAKE MEASUREMENTS AT COAX SIDE OF IsoT AT ANTENNA FEED POINT. Use intended final coax and wire connections shack to FCP/aerial other than special jumper at IsoT. *To measure with an RF analyzer in the shack, you will need total coax lengths IsoT to analyzer to be a *measured* *exact* *electrical* half-wave multiple at F0 to measure in the shack.* Otherwise, R and X are transformed and unusable without advanced knowledge, procedures, equipment and software. Some analyzers come with these. Consult manufacturer's documentation on "calibration".

DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT REMOVING MULTIPLE TURNS AT SAME TIME by extrapolating from initial R+jX readings at the IsoT coax jack. *Unwinding an IsoT turn or changing the horizontal wire's length can change F0 and R0 in a non-linear manner, defeating in-advance extrapolations. Transformers have been ruined trying to do everything at once, needing a complete rewind to repair.* Carefully follow procedure below, *one turn at a time*. Your QTH FCP/IsoT/aerial *system* is unique. Unwinding an IsoT turn may or may not change F0. Reducing horizontal wire length may or may not change wire end capacitance to surroundings, effecting R0. *WE CANNOT RELIABLY PREDICT the exact R+jX variance ** YOUR** turn and horizontal wire changes will generate at **YOUR UNIQUE** QTH. Remove only one turn at a time, remeasure and recycle through the "Adjust" procedure if needed.*

18:22 Turns IsoT, ~38Ω:50Ω Field Adjustable ~34Ω or ~42Ω:50Ω

Start

Connect Aerial/FCP to IsoT in the manner and location you intend to keep. Connect RF analyzer graphing R,X to IsoT output using special jumper, with clip lead clamped to body of shack coax connector. **Other than special jumper at IsoT, coax shield connections all the way from transmitter to IsoT should be in the final operating configuration.** Test whether degree of R,X change is acceptable first measuring with clip-lead on the shack coax shield, then off. **If unacceptable, remedy before any adjustment of the IsoT.** See k2av.com/FieldAdjIsoT for expanded text and illustrations.

Confirm $X=0$ at desired center frequency (F_0). If $X=0$ not close enough, adjust far end drooper/horizontal wire, re-graph R,X. Repeat as needed. Measure R at F_0 (R_0). If $48\Omega \leq R_0 \leq 52\Omega$, **you are finished.** **Otherwise...**

If $R_0 < 48\Omega$, record this R_0 value and "12". **You may only use turn schemes (1)(2) for entire procedure.** Adjust turns **only in the Aerial/FCP (A) winding**

If $R_0 > 52\Omega$, record this R_0 value and "13". **You may only use turn schemes (1)(3) for entire procedure.** Adjust turns **only in the coax feed (O) winding.**

Adjust

Unwind **one** turn only. Fold, do not coil or cut excess now. Re-graph R,X. Record R_0 /turn scheme. **If now $48\Omega \leq R_0 \leq 52\Omega$,** go to [Clean Up X]

IF turn unwind has taken R_0 too far, and/or you would rather have the prior value, unfold wire and rewind the turn, re-graph R,X to confirm prior R_0 . **Go to [Clean Up X].** **Otherwise,** you have gone as far as you can on a 3 inch core. **Go to [Clean Up X].**

Clean Up X

Removing folds may move $X=0$ point. **If you are still close enough to F_0 ,** you are finished. **Otherwise** adjust far end drooper/horizontal wire, re-graph R,X. Repeat as needed. **If still $48\Omega \leq R_0 \leq 52\Omega$,** you are finished.

18:22 Ratio IsoT Turns Scheme Diagram, Covers Range 32Ω-40Ω : 50Ω

1 2 3 4

O A O A O A O A O O A O A O A O O A O A O A O O A O A O A A

AA = Aerial/FCP Winding Turns OOO = Coax Winding Turns

<- Aerial Wire, Coax Center Connections FCP, Coax Shield Connections ->

As Originally Wound 18:22 Ratio, Roughly 38Ω transformed up to 50Ω:

(1) Four OO turn pairs skip an A turn to create 18:22 turn winding

Remove A end turn only, OR O end turn only for additional turns ratios:

(2) A This end-turn removed for 17:22 ratio, roughly 34Ω to 50Ω

(3) O This end-turn removed for 18:21 ratio, roughly 42Ω to 50Ω

"A" turn removed: 40. "O" turn removed: 1.

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17:23 Turns IsoT, ~31Ω:50Ω Field Adjustable ~27Ω or ~35Ω:50Ω

Start

Connect Aerial/FCP to IsoT in the manner and location you intend to keep. Connect RF analyzer graphing R,X to IsoT output using special jumper, with clip lead clamped to body of shack coax connector. **Other than special jumper at IsoT, coax shield connections all the way from transmitter to IsoT should be in the final operating configuration.** Test whether degree of R,X change is acceptable first measuring with clip-lead on the shack coax shield, then off. **If unacceptable, remedy before any adjustment of the IsoT.** See k2av.com/FieldAdjIsoT for expanded text and illustrations.

Confirm $X=0$ at desired center frequency (F_0). If $X=0$ not close enough, adjust far end drooper/horizontal wire, re-graph R,X. Repeat as needed. Measure R at F_0 (R_0). If $48\Omega \leq R_0 \leq 52\Omega$, **you are finished.** **Otherwise...**

If $R_0 < 48\Omega$, record this R_0 value and "12". **You may only use turn schemes (1)(2) for entire procedure.** Adjust turns **only in the Aerial/FCP (A) winding**

If $R_0 > 52\Omega$, record this R_0 value and "13". **You may only use turn schemes (1)(3) for entire procedure.** Adjust turns **only in the coax feed (O) winding.**

Adjust

Unwind **one** turn only. Fold, do not coil or cut excess now. Re-graph R,X. Record R_0 /turn scheme. **If now $48\Omega \leq R_0 \leq 52\Omega$,** go to [Clean Up X]

IF turn unwind has taken R_0 too far, and/or you would rather have the prior value, unfold wire and rewind the turn, re-graph R,X to confirm prior R_0 . **Go to [Clean Up X].** **Otherwise,** you have gone as far as you can on a 3 inch core. **Go to [Clean Up X].**

Clean Up X

Removing folds may move $X=0$ point. **If you are still close enough to F_0 ,** you are finished. **Otherwise** adjust far end drooper/horizontal wire, re-graph R,X. Repeat as needed. **If still $48\Omega \leq R_0 \leq 52\Omega$,** you are finished.

17:23 Ratio IsoT Turns Scheme Diagram, Covers ~27Ω,~31Ω,~35Ω:50Ω

1 2 3 4

O A O A O O A O A O O A O A O O A O A O O A O A O A

AA = Aerial/FCP Winding Turns OOO = Coax Winding Turns

<- Aerial Wire, Coax Center Connections FCP, Coax Shield Connections ->

As Originally Wound 17:23 Ratio, Roughly 31Ω transformed up to 50Ω:

(1) Six OO turn pairs skip an A turn to create 17:23 turn winding

Remove A end turn only, OR O end turn only for additional turns ratios:

(2) A This end-turn removed for 16:23 ratio, roughly 27Ω to 50Ω

(3) O This end-turn removed for 17:22 ratio, roughly 35Ω to 50Ω

"A" turn removed: 40. "O" turn removed: 1.

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