

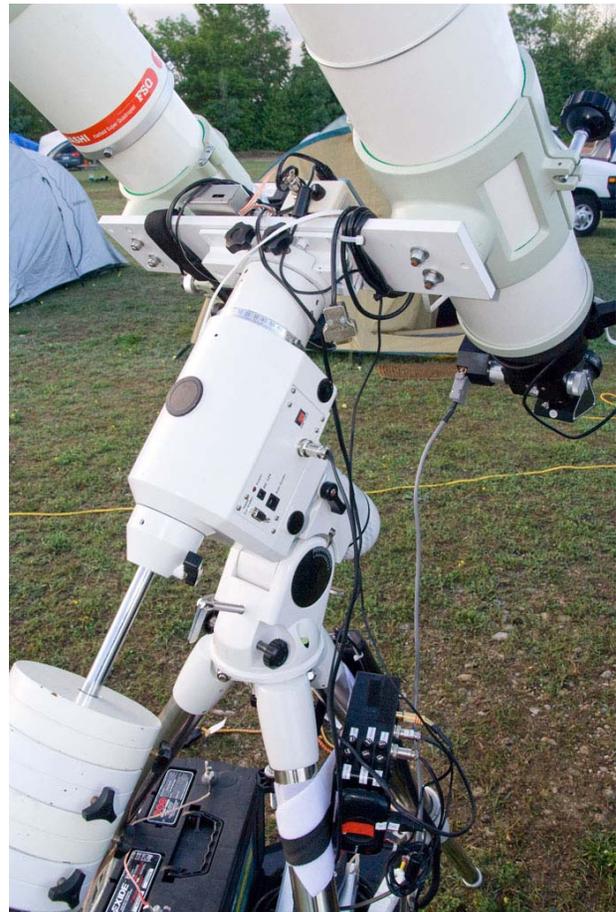
EQ6 Power Plug Modification

Like most mounts, that us folks of average financial means can afford, the power plug is a frequent cause of heart ache. Fortunately, it is fairly easy (and inexpensive) to remedy.

I prefer to use "Military Style" plugs with a threaded locking ring. The contact pins and sockets have a large surface area and make a good, firm electrical contact. These plugs are also referred to as "MIC Plugs" (microphone).

These plugs can be found in most well stocked electronic component retail stores (A1 Electronics, Sayal, etc.). On-line retailers that sell Mode Electronics (a distributor) components will also have them.

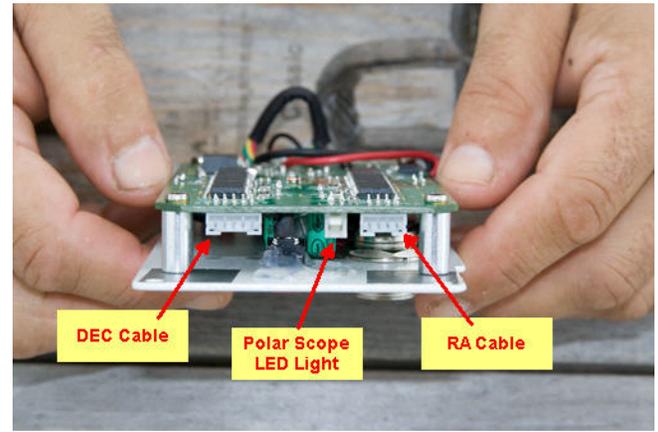
You will also need to make a power cord that has the matching female plug:



Start by removing the 4 panel screws.

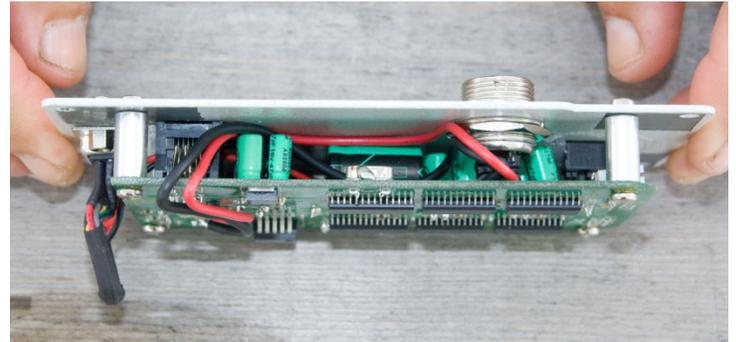


You will find 3 cables attached (RA & DEC motors and LED light for Polar Scope) to the circuit board attached to the inside of the panel plate. Label these cables and then unplug them.



Now look at the circuit board and determine where there is space for the new connector to be located. The EQ6 mounts have been around for a while but I cannot be certain that all versions can have the plug at the same location which is why I am NOT providing dimensions.

The photo to the right shows what it will look like when you are finished installing the plug and are ready to reinstall the cover plate.

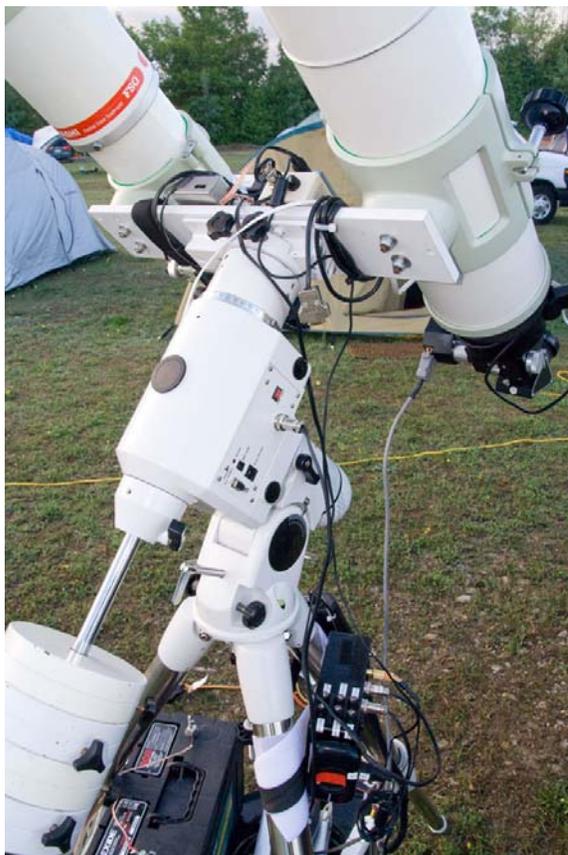
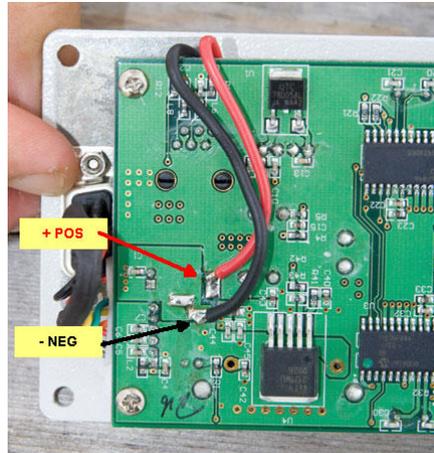


Now separate the circuit board from the plate (4 screws) and drill a hole for the new plug. The plug that I used needs a 5/8" hole. The plate is steel so make sure:

- Use a good quality drill bit
- Clamp the plate down. Ideally, use a drill press and clamp the plate to the drill platform. If you have only a hand drill, clamp it to your work bench and place a piece of scrap wood underneath.
- It will take a fair amount of pressure to drill though. Don't let the drill spin too long as the plate will become very hot and burn the paint job.

Determine the proper length of wire that you will need to run from the back of the new chassis connector and solder those wires to the connector before mounting the connector to the plate. This photo shows the polarity I used:

Now solder the wire leads from the chassis connector onto the circuit board. This photo shows the solder locations:



All that is left now is to remount the board to the plate and reinstall the plate onto the mount.

Now you can enjoy uninterrupted use of this fantastic mount!