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EZ Dock Repair Instructions

In the event that a dock section or other polyethylene accessory should become damaged, it is possible to heat weld a cracked or cut area. For repair a dock or lift section should be completely drained. The portion of the polyethylene to be repaired should be cleaned from any dirt or other substances which may have gotten on the affected area.

Tools

1. Small tipped soldering iron of approximately 40 – 80 watts
2. Drill with ¼” bit
3. Propane torch
4. File
5. Air compressor – low pressure
6. #10 sheet metal screw
7. Screw driver

Material

1. Polyethylene repair sticks

Repair

The process of repair of any polyethylene section starts with pre-heating the soldering iron. Once the soldering iron is hot, push the tip in between the sides of the crack or hole. It is important that the tip penetrate through the full thickness of the material. The object is to bring the material to a state of flux so that it will bond to itself when hot. If the gap is too wide to bridge with the existing material, use the polyethylene repair stick to supply additional material to fill the gap. The process of melting and pushing together should continue until the full thickness and length of the damaged area has been filled. Once the crack or cut area has been filled the small propane torch or the file can be used to smooth out any ridges or bumps that remain.

To determine if the repaired area is air tight, use the compressor to compressed air into the section's vent hole which is located on one end just ½” below the top edge. Put 1 – 2 pounds of air into the section and then close the vent with the #10 sheet metal screw. After 30 minutes, remove the screw; and listen to hear air escaping which indicates the section held pressure. If the section did not hold pressure, reapply the pressure and closely listen for any air leaks around the repaired area. When the area that is leaking is found, repair as in the instructions given above.

After the repair is accomplished, remove the #10 sheet metal screw so the section will be able to equalize pressure with changes in temperature.