

Connector Saver, what's that?

RF connectors have to be designed and manufactured with tight tolerances to guarantee that they have the lowest possible insertion loss and best return loss. Unfortunately these tolerances deteriorate in use when cables are connected and disconnected multiple times. Most RF-SUISSE product have SMA connectors for RF connections and in most of the manuals you will find a sentence which recommends the use of connector savers. What is a connector saver and why do we recommend it?

SMA connectors are high quality connectors (if not made from a company without RF knowledge) and are available for frequencies up to 26GHz. Additionally they have reasonable prices and are small. The connectors we use for our product line are at the top with their guaranteed maximum insertion specification of 100. This means that you can screw on a connector 100 times before the return loss will deteriorate below the specified value. 100 times isn't a lot, especially if the connector is used for a radio where the antenna is frequently detached or on a signal generator used for testing purposes.

Adding an adapter between the SMA connector of the equipment and the cable will significantly increase the lifetime of the connector! If both sides have a specified maximum insertion of 100 times the adapter can be exchanged 100 times which will allow you to make a change 100x100 or 10,000 times.

For lower frequency applications where BNC is normally used we still use SMA connectors and provide SMA to BNC adapters. For higher frequencies SMA to N or SMA to SMA adapter are recommended.



SMA to BNC



SMA to SMA

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