Re: Use SMA for Precision 3.5 connector?

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On Sun, 07 May 2006 01:15:37 GMT, "jw" <letron_2000no__spam@xxxxxxxxx>
wrote:

> Greets,
>
> I just bought a used 54122T Oscope system which is supposed to measure
> signals up to 12.5 GHz.
>
> The manual for the test set, where the probe is connected to the scope, says
> to use a APC−3.5 connector to connect the probe to the test set.
>
> More specifically, this is a Precision 3.5mm female−to−female connector.
>
> Is there any reason I could not use a SMA connector here?
>
> Aren't these supposed to be able to nicely pass signals up to 20 GHz or so?
>
> −TIA, jw

That should be OK. In theory, mating with SMA's could wear or distort
the APCs and reduce their precision. At 12 GHz, for this scope, it's
not an issue; it'll never be worse than real SMAs, which are pretty
much invisible at 12 GHz.

On my sampling scopes (Tek 11801's) I always install SMA−SMA
"connector savers" on all the sampling head and trigger inputs to
reduce wear on the real ones. They cost about $10 each.

Working on something fast?

John

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