

Re: Dissect capacitor to see if it's the source of a leak?

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Source: <http://sci.tech--archive.net/Archive/sci.electronics.repair/2007-01/msg01483.html>

- *From:* Jim Land <RrrrFfffTttt(NO)@(SPAM)hotmail.com>
 - *Date:* Thu, 25 Jan 2007 04:10:04 -0000
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Yukio YANO <yano@xxxxxxx> wrote in
[FIUth.797812\\$R63.487719@pd7urf1no:](mailto:FIUth.797812$R63.487719@pd7urf1no:)">news:[FIUth.797812\\$R63.487719@pd7urf1no:](mailto:FIUth.797812$R63.487719@pd7urf1no:)

Jim Land wrote:

It's not a good idea to dissect electrolytic capacitors. They have nasty chemicals inside them.

Gee what is YOUR definition of "nasty chemicals" !!!
Sodium Borahydride maybe ?

From Wikipedia entry on Electrolytic capacitors:

Safety

The electrolyte is usually boric acid or sodium borate in aqueous solution together with various sugars or ethylene glycol which are added to retard evaporation.

*** Care should be taken to avoid ingestion of or eye contact with the electrolyte, and any areas of the body where skin contact has occurred should be washed in good time.

*** It is important to follow safe working practice and to use appropriate protective equipment, notably gloves and safety glasses, when working with the electrolyte.

*** Some very old tantalum electrolytics, often called "Wet-slug", contain the more hazardous sulfuric acid, however most of these have corroded away by now.

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(emphasis added)

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