

Re: 26XX Snap-in dock

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Couldn't load any of the pictures, but it sounds like a neat idea.

--

Shane

"Steve L." <stevelischynsky@solectron.com> wrote in message
news:f95b7f42.0407050745.79edd10e@posting.google.com...

> I got annoyed with hooking up the power and antenna cable every time.

> So I looked at putting together a snap-in dock that has it's own

> connector for all of the pins including the coax antenna as a DIY

> project.

>

> Being an engineer for telco equipment, I design electronic hardware for

> a living. But it was a challenge to make this thing small enough to

> fit the bean bag and use off-the-shelf components as much as possible,

> include a snap in lock feature and retain Garmin's adjustable base. It

> took a few months, off and on, to figure out how to do this.

>

> I built one as a DIY'er. Here are some CAD shots and photos.

>

> <http://img78.photobucket.com/albums/v330/slischyn/5a54bc83.jpg>

> <http://img78.photobucket.com/albums/v330/slischyn/1823fd91.jpg>

> <http://img78.photobucket.com/albums/v330/slischyn/e6a88bc9.jpg>

> <http://img78.photobucket.com/albums/v330/slischyn/Unsnapping.jpg>

> <http://img78.photobucket.com/albums/v330/slischyn/d987922f.jpg>

> <http://img78.photobucket.com/albums/v330/slischyn/Bean bag and base.jpg>

>

>

> I've been using this for about a week now. I find I use the GPS more

> since it is so easy to just snap it in. It powers up by itself as soon

> as it is snapped in and uses the external antenna that I have

> permanently mounted on my roof. I remove it by squeezing on the spring

> locks and lifting up- only takes a second. I used to put a hat or

> magazine on the gps for quick stops to hide it, but now I just unlock

> it and either hide it or put it in my jacket pocket.

>

> The base part of the dock stays with the vehicle. The power cable and

> external antenna are always plugged into this base. The GPSr mount

> part of the dock is always attached to the GPSr. The power and coax

> cable run from this mount to the GPSr and are always plugged in.

>

> Having some experience with it, I think I can move the speaker to the

> dock, including the DR connector and maybe a headphone jack. This

> would get rid of the huge lighter and speaker adapter that Garmin has

> and would make it only a 2 wire cable running to a standard lighter

> plug. It would also make it easier just to get rid of the lighter plug

> and hard wire the power cable into the vehicle. I'll start re-doing

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> the CAD model to see if this is even do-able and maybe build a second
> one.
>
> I thought I'd share this project with you to see what you think. I
> think Garmin should have offered this in the first place.
>
> Steve L.