

Failure of Minkota 12v trolling motor auto-pilot compass/sensor board

Two years ago I had the worst possible start to a fishing trip in Weipa when our Minkota RT55 Electric motor would not turrel left or right when operating the foot control.

At the end of the frustrating, first afternoon fishing session we set up a temporary “camp” workshop to resolve this potentially catastrophic problem with the electric. After all, when fishers encounter “issues” that interfere with their fishing it is quite amazing how these things become a raging priority & obstacles/challenges are dealt with or are overcome.

This was one such instance where all stops had to be pulled out. Fishing in Weipa without an electric is not an option.

After much testing and trialling, we come up with the following solution, which allowed us to fish for 17 days with an electric that had all its features except the autopilot..., which in the scheme of things was the least of our worries.

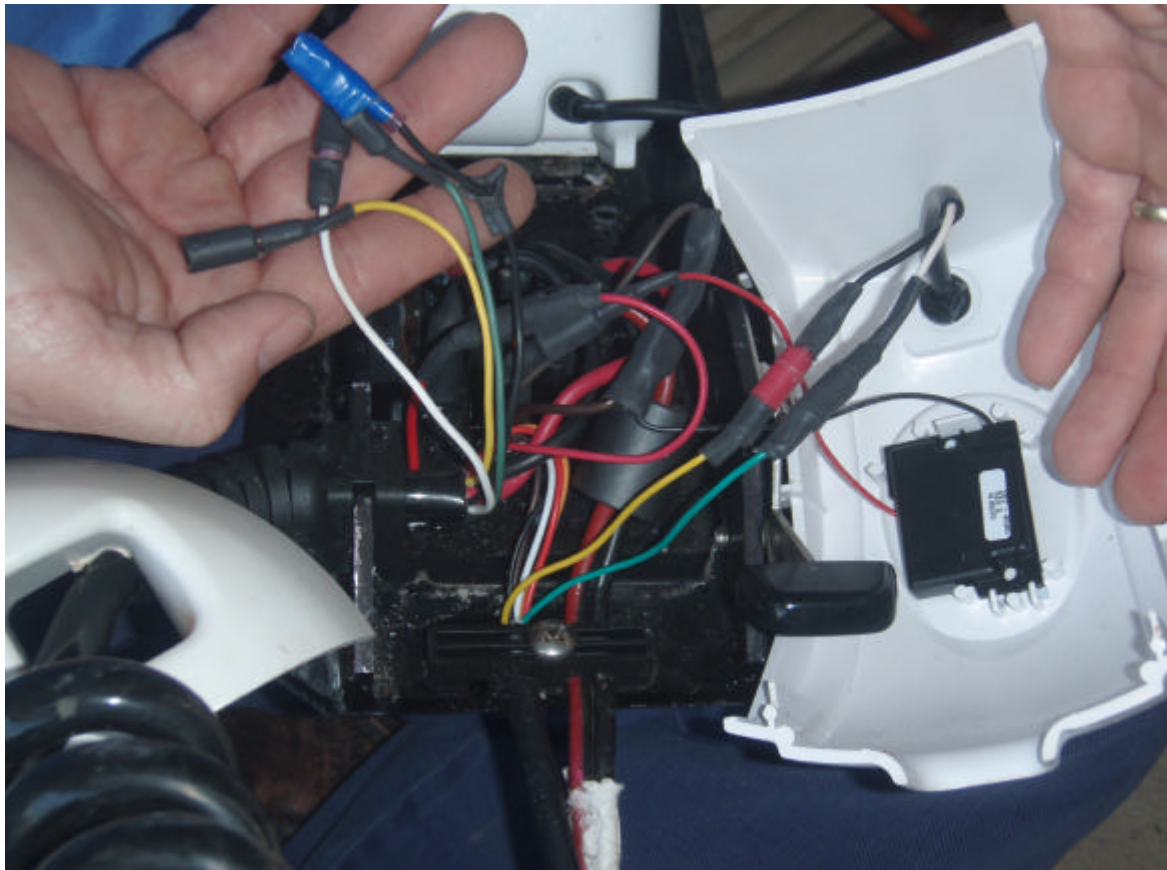
Obviously once back in Gladstone Blair replaced the compass & associated sensor board under warranty.

Refer to the Minkota wiring diagram & you will see how the auto-pilot compass/sensor board was bypassed to achieve left & right operation of the electric.

2. At the mother board , disconnect the green wires at “A” & white wires at “A1” . Connect the green wire from the foot control board cable to the white wire of the steering motor cable. Eg connect wire “A” to wire “A1”

3. At the mother board , disconnect the yellow wires at “B” & black wires at “B1” . Connect the yellow wire from the foot control board cable to the black wire of the steering motor cable. Eg connect wire “B” to wire “B1”

4. Refer to photograph showing this bypass connectivity. Note it is a good idea to tape the loose conductors as can be seen.....so no shorts occur.



Hope this helps.....if ever needed.

Enjoy fishing today for tomorrow.

Peter Stoneley (ANSA Qld President)