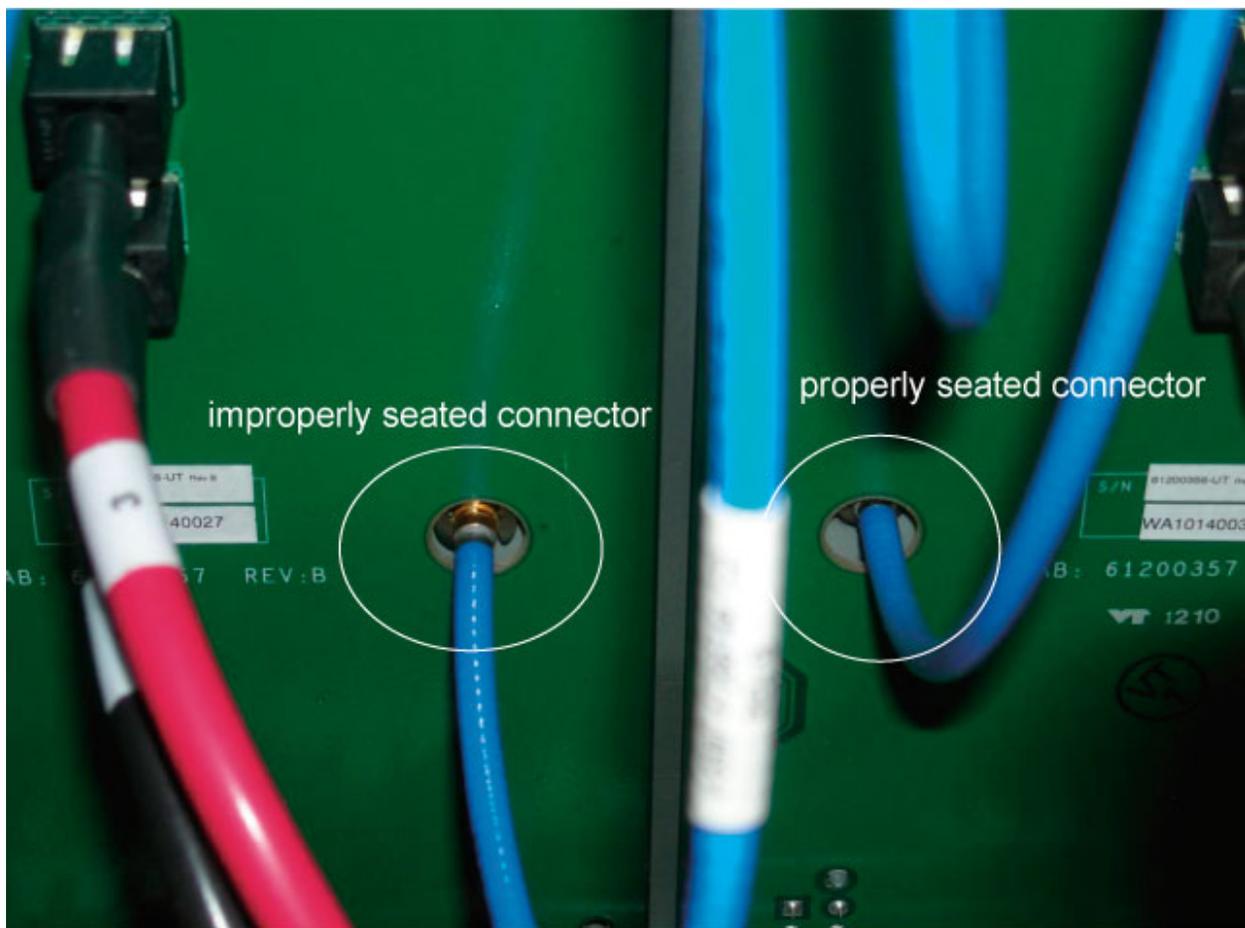


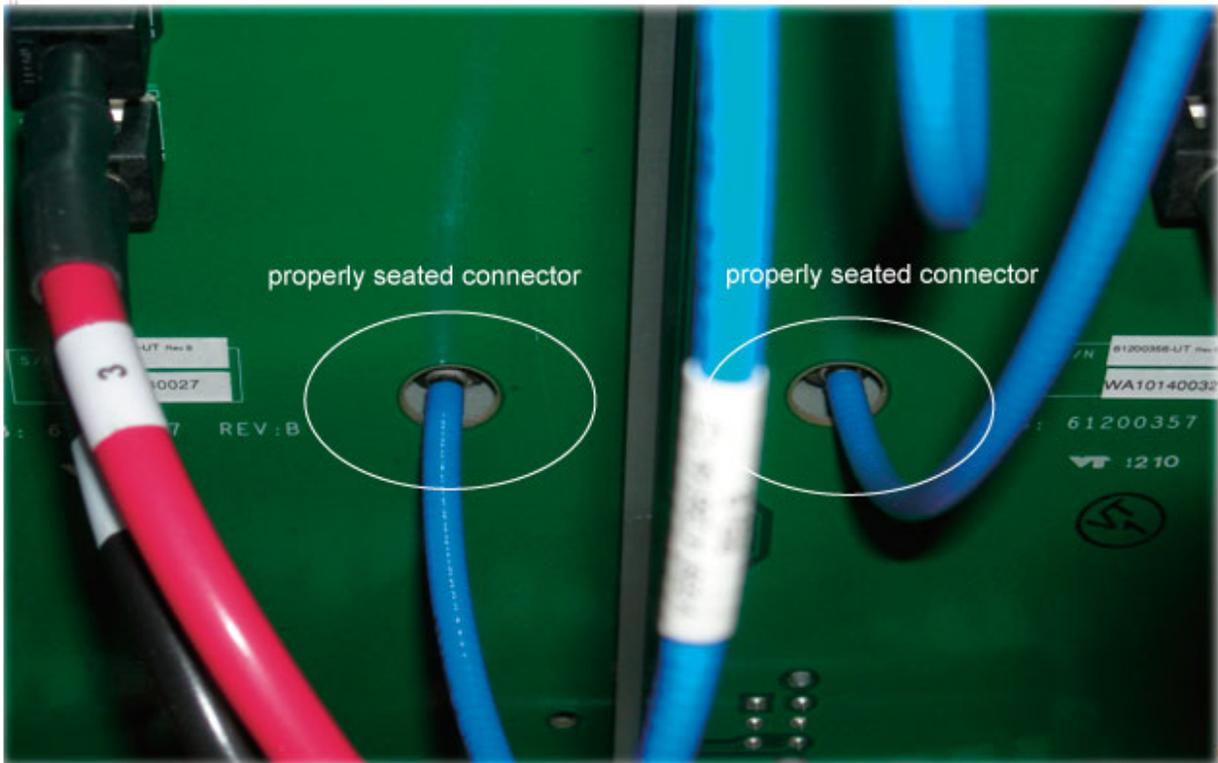
## Technical Service Bulletin 100721

### Blind Mate RF Connector Seating in Paragon LDMOS

Changing to the new LDMOS based driver amplifiers in the Paragon HPA, also requires a change to the RF interconnect. The new LDMOS driver amplifiers now plug in (both DC and RF) to their respective backplanes. The RF connectors used are identical to the ones used for years in the Affinity product line. These connectors consist of a fixed connector on the amplifier module, and a “floating” connector in the HPA backplane. Careful mechanical engineering was performed to ensure these connectors would always mate and seat when a module was plugged in. The floating connectors are actually spring-loaded to help provide compliance with mechanical tolerances. We have seen a few cases where plugging in a module resulted in a mis-alignment of some of these connectors, leaving the RF portion of the amplifier either disconnected or partially connected. A careful inspection of these connectors should be done anytime an amplifier is inserted into a cabinet. The picture below shows a properly seated connector, on the right, and an improperly seated connector, on the left.



As can be seen, the improperly seated connector (at the end of the blue RF cable) is “pushed back” as it has ridden up on the fixed connector on the RF amplifier module. This is usually easily remedied by grasping the blue cable and wiggling it in a slight circular motion until the connector “finds center” and the spring loading causes it to seat properly. The picture below shows the same two connectors now properly seated.



This must be checked upon installation of these amplifiers both in production and on site to ensure proper connectivity and operation.

Here at Comark, we are constantly striving to improve the satisfaction of both our new and existing customers. Continually working to improve the reliability of the installed fleet of Comark transmitters in the field is another way in which we demonstrate our commitment to you, our valued customer.

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