# **RV AWNING REPAIR NOTES**

A&E AWNINGS MODEL 974 Manufactured by Fiamma

Dometic WeatherPro and "OASIS" are made by Fiamma USA at (407) 672-0091 (Closed until ???)

Email: Service@FiammaUSA.com PARTS: http://www.fiammausa.com/products/products.asp

Front Door Awning – 2004 Itasca "Horizon" | Same as: Fiamma Oasis Model#: F45i

Dometic Product#: 958303538 | Electric Serial#: 9308216

Model#: 974EN56.100R Additional Numbers: F7017323 A04 Serial#: 40398690

On my 2004 Itasca Horizon 40AD shown above, the awning over my entry door failed to retract. The problem was that the hard "D" shaped motor shaft stripped out the softer "pot metal" end on the awning roller. (My motor was ok.) And with no parts available on the market, I elected to fix the problem myself by cutting an access corridor in the plastic cover plate, then drilling a hole in both the outer shaft and the motor shaft, and then I used a "compression pin" for 30 cents.... plus 2 hours of my time. And when I was done, I think Fiamma should have designed it this way! Here's a link to my post on www.IRV2.com:

http://www.irv2.com/forums/f101/one-lucky-fix-a-and-e-oasis-electric-entry-door-awning-for-30-cents-model-974-a-349014.html#post3693945

# **POSSIBLE PART HOUSES:**

Schwalm RV Parts: Riverside, CA Ask for Jerrimy or Wess 951-405-8010 http://www.schwalmparts.com/

Call PPL: **1-800-755-4775** for parts

PPL Service Advice: http://www.pplmotorhomes.com/parts/rv-awnings/rv-awning-parts.htm

PPL ONLINE PARTS ORDERING SYSTEM For A&E Dometic (Fiamma):

http://www.rvdealership.com/rvdstore/index.aspx?CustomerNumber=885555

Laurelhurst Distributors (Chris), ORDERS: 503-232-2686 Service: 503-236-2679; 14 SE 56th Ave, Portland OR 97215 Factory RV Surplus, 1631 W Bristol St, Elkhart, IN 46514 Parts: Tammy (574) 262-3327

https://www.factoryrvsurplus.com/contact.php

RV Parts Country, KY: https://www.rvpartscountry.com/crm.asp?saved=1&mk=kojllj8lme-10643

\_\_\_\_

7/11/2017 Forum Post: IRV2:

http://www.irv2.com/forums/f101/one-lucky-fix-a-and-e-oasis-electric-entry-door-awning-for-30-cents-model-974-a-349014.html#post3693945

### **HOW TO REPAIR AN A&E AWNINGS MODEL 974**

Manufactured by Fiamma

My awning had a stripped-out "D-Shaped, Cap Roller Tub. (See #7 in diagram below.) And now that parts are unavailable for the foreseeable future, I think this FIX is your only option to repairing your door awning with this type of problem.

SOLUTION: Just go to your local hardware store and buy a 30 cent "Compression Pin" that measures 3/4"L x 5/32"Round; and use it to pin the stripped Cap Roller to your "D-Shaped" shaft of your motor.

Note: Dometic mislabeled my part as Part# 3108710.108, when the good part # is 3310300.000. ...But that doesn't seem to matter these days since can't find these parts anywhere in the USA, and Fiamma is not making parts for their Oasis 45i Model -- which Fiamma OEM'd to Dometic when the RV was built.

It took me 2 hours to figure everything out, but with these tips you can probably get the job done in 1.5 hours.

- 1) First, mark the proper location of your awning so you can return it to this same position later. I used a piece of black tape and place somewhere on awning base plate and run over the edge to the side wall of the coach. Then cut the tape in the middle. This tip will help you re-align the awning and find the 2 mounting holes for reassembly.
- 2) Slide the entire awning just far enough to reach the back mounting screws for the motor... that attaches to the end cap roller. Then unscrew the front mounting screw. Cut the wires. Drill out a small rivet holding the bottom portion. (Later you can use a small screw and some glue when you re-install.)
- 3) Take a long strip of duck-tape and wrap it around the scissor arms of the awning... and then pull on the tape to relieve the tension off the left side you are working on.
- 4) Pry the motor and PVC Plate away from the awning end. ... And peak inside the female-end-cap of the awning. If it's round inside then this is why your awning will not retract... and you will see the motor drive spin.

What happens is that the hard motor shaft eventually shears-off inside "D-Shape" or "Square" shape inside the female-end-cap.

- 5) So now we want to "Pin" the motor shaft to the female-end-cap aka "Cap Roller Tube" -- the way it should have been designed in the first place, if you ask me!
- 6) You now need to modify (cut away) a small portion of the PVC Plate. This is molded piece that is attached to the motor with 3- screws. And the portion of PVC material you want to cut away will create a "keyhole corridor" so you can insert a compression pin when you re-assemble this part to the motor.

To do this, you should mark off a 3/8" area in the front (facing forward) area, just below the mounting screw hole... and all the way to the center. (See picture.) Use as gig saw and file. The soft PVC is easy to cut.

This where your compression pin is going fit through the PVC Plate... into a 5/32" hole... that you are going to drill through the female-cap-end and the motor shaft.

7) Reassemble the Plate to the Motor, but first insert the **hard to get to, backside, rear screw,** into the rear hole, but don't tighten just yet. When the motor is realigned, tighten the front screw, then the back screw.

\*\*\* With the motor shaft and female-cap-shaft now visible through the "keyhole" you just made in the PVC Plate: use a 1/8" drill (or 4/32") bit to drill a hole through both the female-end-cap pot metal and the hard motor shaft.

Now use a 5/32" drill bit to make a "clean hole". (Note: You need a good quality "steel" drill bit to avoid wobble. And you need a "clean" hole so the compression pin will not wiggle loose later.)

OPTIONAL: Disassemble entire assembly again... and drill a 1/4" hole on the opposite side of the PVC Plate so you can knock the pin out in the future, should you ever need to do that. Then re assemble.

8) Cut  $\sim 1/8$ " off the end of the 3/4" long -- 5/32" compression pin. This is because you only need 9/16" to 5/8" compression pin to join the motor shaft to the female-cap-end. And if you leave the pin too long it will hit the plastic housing... and you don't want that to happen.

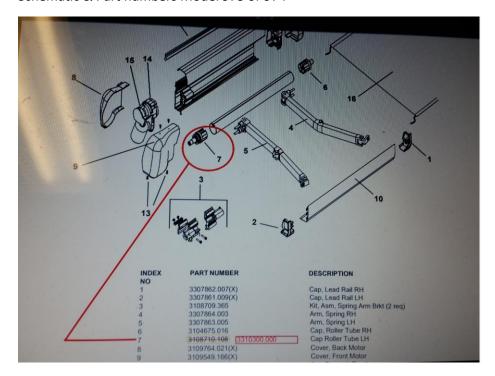
Now you need align the compression pin so you can press it into the hole. I used a small drill bit to hold the hollow pin. This allowed me to steady it so I could start one end of the pin into the hole. Then you can use a nail set or Phillips Head screw driver to pound the pin into the hole. (Note: If you have trouble getting the pin started, compress one end with some pliers.)

... And now you are almost done! Reassemble wires. Then test for awning retraction. ...BUT DON'T PLAY with the awning motor by moving in-and-out fast. This is NOT good and may overheat the motor or worse brake something you will regret. So contain your excitement and be happy with just a couple exercising passes... while you use silicon spray to lube up the swing arms and joints.

Congratulations! You just dodged another RV bullet!

# **PICTURES APPEAR BELOW**

Schematic & Part numbers Model 973 or 974



Forum Update: 7/11/2017

### MORE INFORMTATION

Fiamma built your entry door awning, not Dometic or A&E.

To answer your question, you will find 2 different part numbers. Fiamma will have their part numbers and A&E Dometic will have a completely different set.

To find good schematics for your awning, download the Fiamma Parts zip file located on the the Fiamma USA website. However, when ordering in the USA from RV suppliers/Distributors, if that ever becomes possible again, you will need to know the A&E Dometic "Oasis" Part Numbers.

NOTE: The only place I found my Dometic Model Number was on the literature that came with my RV. ...And the labels I found on the awning mounting plate belonged to Fiamma USA.

In my case, my label said "F45i", which is a Fiamma model number; and it said "Oasis", which is a Dometic product name now called A&E Dometic.

To make matters worse, Fiamma USA is closed down indefinitely. So at this time you can't go to them for parts, like you once use to. ...Still, I'm not sure you would found your part with Fiamma, because most of the parts for older RVs are no longer being made. And Fiamma USA is where the RV Suppliers get their parts.

Note: Fiamma is bigger in Europe and Australia, but I think there is only a slim chance you can find parts looking there. But if anyone finds a good source for Fiamma/A&E Dometic Awning parts, please let us all know.

This is what I recommend you do before you begin your awning repair project:

- 1) Go to the Fiamma USA website to obtain schematics for your Fiamma model number, based on the sticker found after you open the awning. On Fiamma USA's website you will find clear schematics and Fiamma Part Numbers. Fiamma Inc. Download
- 2) Next, go to the Laurelhurst Distributor website <u>Laurelhurst Distributors</u> and click on the "Parts Breakdown" button. Then find your Awning section and on to your A&E Dometic model number. There you find a poorly visible schematic, but they will have A&E part numbers.

Laurelhurst is located in Portland, OR. Call 503-232-2686. And I have had good success working with them. But like PPL Parts you are better off giving the parts service person part number to check stock. (Parts people are not big chatter boxes so I recommend you have your ducks-lined-up before you call. (Note: Some suppliers have some old stock still on their shelves, but not much is left. Motors and their female mates are nowhere to be found.)

3} Start calling RV supply stores to see you you can replace your broken parts.

In my case, you need to know the Female-End-Cap Roller Tub-LH part that I needed was improperly listed by Dometic as Part#3108710.108. Rather, I think the correct part number is 3310300.000, but here again, I could not find stock anywhere.

The good news is that I saved \$150 and fixed it myself (as detailed above) in one day, which turned out to be a better way to go anyway!

Note: In June-2017, Fiamma USA was shut down by a terrible tragedy. I won't go into any details. ...We can only hope the company and the families involved find a way to recover.

In closing, be gentle with your awning. It's the last one you will ever have. And I mean that quite literally, since there does not seem to be any replacement parts out there.

It also would be of great benefit to all of us to find a replacement motor source. Which should be possible and the motor should cost less than \$100 if that source can be found? Further, I bet the original manufacture is an Italian company, because every car window motor I have replaced was made in Italy.

98655-131: Left Hand Roller Gear - Suit Fiamma™ F45 S / F45 Ti / F45 i Awnings

https://www.caravansplus.com.au/catalog/product\_i nfo.php?products\_id=12792



https://www.rvpartsexpress.com.au/fiamma-f45-s-presto-fix-end-cap-d48mm-roller-98655-131.html

#7 In Dometic Diagram for Model #973/974 Oasis Awning Part # 3108710.108 (Square drive shaft inside) Part#: 3310300.00 (D-shape drive shaft inside)







PLASTIC drive on the end of the motor. (Part#: 3310300.000)

Fiamma, Presto Fixed End Cap Part#: 98655-131

Fiamma, LH Motor: Part#: 98655-965