

# Auxiliary Control Panel Replacement Instructions

For these Aux. Panels-[71903](#), [71904](#), [71905](#), [71906](#), [71907](#), [71908](#)

## Fiber Optic System (obsolete)

The fiber optic auxiliary control panel consists of a control panel, panel housing and fiber optic cables. The auxiliary control panel operates by reflecting light from the emitter/detectors (located on the control head) when a button is pushed. The reflected light causes the control head to activate the appropriate spa function (jets or light).

**Note:** All 1998 and 1999 spas that are still utilizing the fiber optic auxiliary panel system and are exhibiting a failure mode should be upgraded using the Auxiliary Panel Retrofit Kit found on the [Hot Spring Main Controls](#) page.

## Low Voltage System (2000-Current)

The auxiliary control panel consists of a control panel and cord. The auxiliary control panel is an electronic system that sends a low voltage signal to the control box whenever a button (jets or light) is pushed. The low voltage signal causes the control head to activate the appropriate spa function (jets or light).

### Tools Required:

- \* Metal Putty Knife (or similar thin, metal blade)
- \* Bathroom Grade Silicon Sealant
- \* Medium Phillips head screw driver
- \* Electrical tape
- \* 15' – 20' of string

**Before you begin:** Disconnect power to the spa and remove the equipment compartment door.

## Removal

### General Removal Instructions

1. Disconnect power to the spa.
2. Ensure the water level is below the auxiliary panel.
3. Using a very thin bladed screwdriver, gently pry around the edges of the bezel until the bezel can be lifted and removed.
4. Using a very thin feeler gauge, gently pry around the edges of the auxiliary panel until one edge of the panel can be raised.
5. Gently lift the auxiliary panel out of the shell. Do not damage the gasket. If the gasket is damaged or stretched, it will need to be replaced.
6. Access the back of the spas main control head. Disconnect the ribbon cable from the back of the control head.
7. On pre-2000 model spas, due to the fact that the RJ-11 connector will not pass through the aux panel housing, it may be necessary to cut off the RJ-11 connector in order to remove the auxiliary panel from the spa.
8. The auxiliary panel may now be removed.
9. Reverse the above instruction to reinstall the auxiliary panel or follow the instructions that come with the auxiliary panel kit.

### 1998 – 2000 Model Spas

1. Remove the two screws holding the control panel to the spa.
2. Pull and hold the control panel away from the spa, being careful not to damage the attached ribbon cable.
3. Carefully remove the back cover from the control head.
4. Disconnect the auxiliary panel cable from inside the control head and allow the cable to drop inside the equipment compartment.
5. Temporarily place the control head back into the opening.

### 2001 - Current Model Spas

1. Access the Control Box Assembly.
2. Unplug the Auxiliary Panel Cable from the Control Box Assembly.
3. Inside the equipment compartment locate the end of the auxiliary panel cable, use 2 inches of tape and cover the barb to prevent it from snagging. Then tie the string to the end of the cable. This string will be used to pull the new cable through later.

4. Make sure the water line is well below the bottom of the auxiliary panel.
5. Using the metal putty knife, gently pry around the edges of the auxiliary panel bezel. Remove the bezel from the spa.
6. Using the metal putty knife, gently pry around the edges of the auxiliary panel face (see Figure 1).
7. Lift the auxiliary panel out of the shell.
8. Remove and discard the gasket (if applicable).
9. Carefully pull the cable that is attached to the auxiliary panel out of the spa through the "butter dish".
10. Remove the string from the end of the cable. Allow enough string to prevent it from falling back into the spa through the "butter dish".

## Installing the New Auxiliary Panel

1. Use 2 inches of tape to cover the barb at the end of the cable on the new auxiliary panel.
2. Tie the string that is coming out of the "butter dish" to the end of the new auxiliary panel cable.
3. Carefully pull the string back through from the equipment compartment.

### 1998 – 2000 Model Spas

1. Carefully lift the control panel out of the spa.
2. Pull the auxiliary panel cable through the control panel opening and connect it to the control panel.
3. Replace the back cover on the control panel.
4. Carefully place the control panel back in the opening and secure it with the screws.

### 2001 – Current Model Spas

1. Plug the Auxiliary Cable into the Control Box Assembly.
2. Re-install the Cover of the Control Box Assembly.
3. Apply power to the spa and verify the operation of the auxiliary panel.
4. Use a rag or sponge to remove any excess water located in the "butter dish".
5. Clean (i.e. remove any silicone present) and dry the entire perimeter of the inside edge shown in the figure below
6. Apply an even ¼" bead of Bathroom Grade Silicone
7. Sealant where shown in the figure below
8. Slide the excess cable back through the cable output hole in the "butter dish", insert the auxiliary panel into the "butter dish", and snap it into place.
9. Wipe any excess silicone off the auxiliary panel face.
10. Position the snap bezel over the auxiliary panel and snap it into place.
11. Verify the operation of the spa functions.