

A New Method to Vandal-Proof RF Signs

Also, How to Tell If an Antenna Heater or Other Load Actually Is Active

BY JOHN BISSET

Last column I mentioned that late summer/fall is ideal for outdoor projects. I found another for you to do — or better,

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to delegate to the intern you have in your department. It involves affixing signage to your tower fences more permanently.

Steve Riggs is with Isotrope LLC, a joint venture he and David Maxson formed to provide innovative broadcast and wireless solutions. In my opinion, their first one knocks the ball out of the park.

Tired of seeing expensive warning signs removed, the company distributes the Sign Guardian. Pictured in Fig. 1, this system for mounting signs on chain-link fences is manufactured of heavy-duty nylon 6/6 material. The bolt and nut are made from low-carbon steel zinc alloy so they won't rust or corrode. The device works on standard 2-inch chain-link fence and has been tested and used by several state transportation departments.

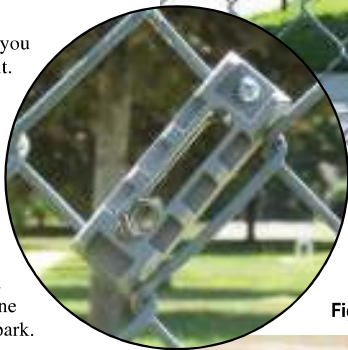
Installation is simple. Slide the Sign Guardian(s) onto the fence and tighten the set screw(s) as shown in Fig. 2. Then mount the sign using the supplied tamper-resistant bolt. It screws into the



Fig. 1: The Sign Guardian clips to a standard chain-link fence, as shown at left.

Fig. 2: Align assemblies at opposing corners of the sign, above.

Fig. 3: A one-way security bit, below, is used to remove the sign.



Figs. 4 & 5: Two sides of the coin.

captured movable nut inside the Sign Guardian using a standard flat-blade screwdriver. Level the sign and then tighten down the bolts. A special bolt removal screwdriver bit is needed to unscrew the bolts, shown in Fig. 3.

The company also offers a version for clamping signs to posts, poles, gates or round tower members.

Front and back shots of the completed job are seen in Figs. 4 and 5. More information can be found at www.rfsigns.com. Steve Riggs is at riggs@isotrope.im.

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