

Removing the Sony APR 5003-V Power Supply

message 102 from Cary (April 2, 2004)

It *is* the work of the devil to remove the power supply. If you have one of those handy little stands, its easier. You can spin the machine upside down quite easily. The easiest way is to

1. Remove the bottom panel
2. Lower the back panel
3. Unplug the cables on the rear of the supply.
4. Lower the front panel and remove the 4 mounting screws.
5. Slowly slide the supply out stopping about 1/2 way out.
6. Remove the two cables attached to the supply (Capstan reference and power).
7. Slide the supply the rest of the way out.

Scott, Steve, am I missing anything? It's been awhile.

If you don't have a stand, this is a bit harder to do.

You can get the supply out without taking the bottom panel off, but it's much harder to plug the cables back in this way.

The big drawback to the design, is its virtually impossible to run the power supply outside of the machine for troubleshooting purposes. In the factory, I had a set of extension cables which allowed me to run the supply while it was still connected to the machine. Those cables are long gone. I still think I have the passive load that we used to torture test the power supply after the NBC burnout, but it's lacking the proper connectors to actually make it useful.

When Sony took over MCI, the first thing they did was to make the products as hard as possible to service. I'm sure this was not a conscious decision, but the Japanese designers never thought much about ease of service. Building products cheaper was their goal. Even their higher priced items such as the Oxford R3 and the DMXR100 take more time to disassemble than to troubleshoot and fix. I guess all manufacturers are guilty of this. Has anyone ever tried to fix a damn Mackie? These days, most products are built like this. It has certainly made Sony Service a high yield profit center. This is another beef I have with Sony. Service should be a break even business for a manufacturer, not a profit center. Sony charges customers \$180 an hour with a 4 hour minimum for field service. They would also mark up part prices as much as 1000%. This pretty much eliminated most modest recording studios from their customer list. Especially APR owners.

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