Repairing BSF8 SPORTident units

Summary

If you need to repair SPORTident units at short notice or can't afford to get them repaired by SPORTident, then it is possible to repair them yourself provided you have a little experience with soldering (and soldering equipment).

This document describes how to open up the units, do some basic repairs and then close them up again. **THIS WILL PROBABLY VOID ANY WARRANTY YOU HAVE.**

What can be repaired

Battery replacement is the most common reason for wanting to open up a BSF8 unit. It is also possible to obtain replacement beepers and LCD screens.
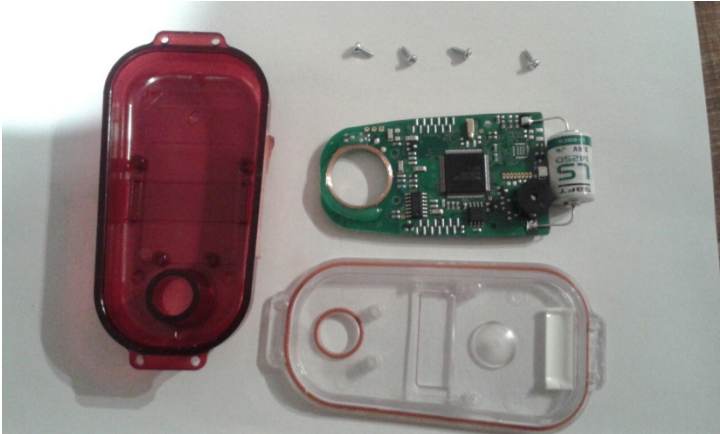
Procedure

1. Carefully use a strong, thin blade (e.g. long blade on a Swiss Army knife) to try to separate the two halves of the case at one of the tabbed ends, at the tab. Try at the other end if that doesn't work and gradually turn the blade to open up the case.
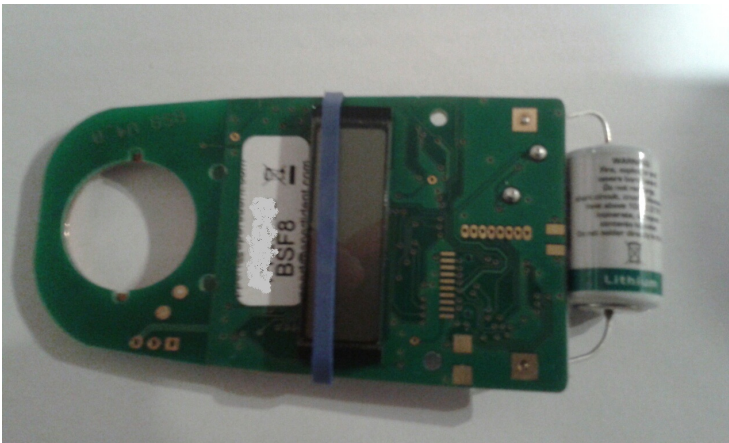

2. Carefully open up the case – if you don't want to replace the o-ring, then try to keep it in place by pressing on it with the blade. Otherwise pull it out and remove any silicon gel attached to it and the case.

3. Unscrew the circuit board and put the 4 screws somewhere safe. Hopefully you now have the case in two parts (with or without the large o-ring), the motherboard and 4 screws.

4. The display LCD seems to just sit on a couple of rubber mounts. It has to be positioned in just the right spot to work, so if you aren't replacing it, secure it now so that you don't have to re-position it later. I just used a rubber band for this, but I'm sure there is some whizz-band doo-dah I could have used.

5.   Now remove the old part – note the polarity of the item you are removing. You will probably need to use a soldering iron for this (unless replacing the screen).
6. Trim any leads on the replacement part to be the same length as the part just removed.
7. Install the new part – soldering required again for battery and beeper replacements.
8. Test that the unit beeps and the display works.
9. Remove any band that is holding the screen in place.
10. Install the new o-ring if you are replacing it.
11. Run a small amount of silicon around the o-ring. I used Parfix all-purpose silicon sealant.
12. Snap the case closed.
13. If you replaced the battery, update the battery replacement date using SI-Config. As at 16th August 2015 this functionality didn't exist in SI-Config+.