



Troubleshooting Tips

Duct Hunter And Live Tracer Traceable Rodders

In some instances, a buried utility is difficult to locate for reasons such as extreme depth of pipe, extreme length of pipe, material of pipe, extremely dry soil, outdated locating equipment, crowded surrounding utilities, common utility grounds, etc. Jameson traceable rodders are not guaranteed to solve every conceivable locating challenge. The experience of the user plays the largest role in achieving a successful locate.

If user cannot locate rod signal, **perform the following checks:**

1. Verify transmitter and receiver have batteries installed with adequate charge level.
2. Verify transmitter and receiver are set to the same frequencies.
3. Verify receiver is not set in "sonde" mode.
4. Once confirmed, follow either test method below to **inspect for a defect in the rod or ferrule:**

Test Method 1 (preferred): Use a digital multi-meter to check continuity of wire inside the rod. Connect one probe to rear end ferrule (1/4" rod and larger) or the contact lug on the canister (1/8" and 3/16"), and the other probe to the tip end ferrule. If continuity is good (usually less than 30 Ohms), traceable rodder is functioning properly.

Test Method 2: If a multi-meter is not available, perform an alternate continuity test instead. Pay out 75-100 feet of rod and make a large loop on the ground. Connect the red clip of your transmitter to the rear end ferrule (1/4" rod and larger) or the contact lug on the canister (1/8" and 3/16"), and the black clip to the tip end ferrule. Attempt to trace rod with receiver. If trace is successful, the Duct Hunter is functioning properly. If your transmitter has a resistance readout (in Ohms), verify Ohm value is very low (usually less than 30 Ohms.) This will also indicate traceable rodder is functioning properly.

(Note: A traceable rodder is simply a continuous copper wire. It is an accessory to your locator set. Failures in the field are usually due to locating equipment error, inexperience, or extreme environments. Tests in Step 4 above will indicate if a legitimate defect is present, such as a loose ferrule bond that fails to contact copper wire inside rod, or a wire breakage inside rod.)

5. If Test Methods in Step 4 fail, try replacing either or both of the end ferrules and re-testing. Follow repair instructions exactly. Otherwise, if your traceable rodder is still under warranty, contact Jameson Customer Service for a Return Material Authorization (RMA.) Jameson will remedy the product under the terms of the warranty as applicable.
6. If Test Methods in Step 4 pass, you may try the following tips for improved locating in general:
 - a. Use the highest frequency available on the transmitter

- b. Use the highest power setting on the transmitter, and choose a frequency below 45 kHz.
- c. Drive the ground spike deeper, use a longer ground spike, and/or pour water around the ground spike.

Jameson, LLC
1451 Old N. Main St.
Clover, SC 29710
800-346-1956
sales@jamesonllc.com