



Short Stop in Electric Downriggers

The short stop feature in electric downriggers is designed to automatically retrieve the flash weight, shutting off the motor when the weight comes out of the water. The downrigger must be grounded to the boat for this feature to function. It accomplishes this by using the downrigger cable as the ground in the power supply. The user momentarily lifts “up” on the switch, engaging the motor. (The switch automatically defaults/returns back to the neutral position.) The ground is being picked from the boat through the water and to the downrigger cable. Plastic insulators are used where the weight attaches to the downrigger cable acting as an endpoint for ground. When the insulators come to the top of the water level, they cut off the ground to the motor, and the motor shuts off automatically.

To check to see if the shortstop feature is functioning correctly, follow the steps below:

(NOTE: the use of steel cable is required – Short Stop will not function with monofilament or braided line as the cable.)

- Step 1.** Take a jumper wire from the negative of the power source to which the downrigger is attached, and make contact with the downrigger cable on the spool.
- Step 2.** Momentarily lift “up” on the control switch to activate the downrigger. (The switch should return back to the neutral position.) The downrigger should continue to run automatically until contact is lost with the jumper wire on the downrigger cable.
- Step 3.** If it does not work in the way described in **Step 2**, remove the motor housing cover and make contact using the negative jumper wire from the power source with green wire coming from the circuit board and running to the motor (low speed downriggers) or to the gear case cover (high speed downriggers). While making contact, momentarily lift “up” on the switch to activate the motor. The motor should continue to run as long as contact with the jumper wire is maintained. If it works at this point perform the following checks:
 - A.** Check the green wire for good contact.
 - B.** Check the reel set screw for good contact with the reel shaft.
 - C.** Check the reel set screw for good contact with the downrigger cable. The first three wraps of downrigger cable go over the set screw to ensure good contact and performance.
- Step 4.** If the short stop still does not function, replace the control board.