Tech Note for XX14g Altitude Bearing, #8954

Q: The XX14g altitude bearing is making contact with the right side panel which causes images in the field to 'jump' or shift during electronic tracking. Is there a fix for this?

A: Ideally there should be no contact between the optical tube's right altitude bearing hub and the right side panel; rather, there should be a small gap of at least a millimeter or two. If you can not discern a gap, or if you experience jumpy tracking motion in the altitude direction, we recommend installing the included thin plastic spacer strips on the base. They will add the necessary space to prevent the unwanted contact.

Simply place a strip on each side edge of the base's front panel before attaching the side panels as described in the complete product manual. If you are going to be disassembling the base frequently for transport or storage, you may want to glue the plastic strips directly to the front panel so they won't drop off and accidentally get left behind. Use epoxy to glue the rough side of the plastic strip to the front panel (for better adhesion), leaving the smooth side to contact the side panel.

If you have already assembled the base and are not encountering any tracking jumpiness or contact between the altitude bearing and base side panel, you do not need to install the plastic spacers.

Please refer to IN423 "Spacer Shims for #8954 Orion® SkyQuest™ XX14g GoTo Truss Tube Dobsonian Base" for additional information.