



Improving the air con flow to RV8 driver's feet

RV8 owner John Anthistle had always been unimpressed with the airflow from the Air Conditioning to the driver's foot well and decided to investigate further. He has devised a simple improvement that can be easily reversed.

John explains that he has "always felt the

poor flow of 'conditioned' air was a cause of the rather warm driver's foot well in an RV8. I had assumed that this was due to the lengthy run of the small diameter hose behind the fascia but, although this is certainly a contributor, the outlet also seems quite restrictive.

This takes the form of a neat black plastic moulding tucked behind the transmission



tunnel kick-panel (the one with the interior light) which not only reduces the effective hose diameter but additionally forces the air to deviate considerably. This moulding is a push fit into the light-grey cross-facia hose and also onto its mountings - the backs of the pads that carry the Velcro-like fasteners for the forward end of the kick-panel.

Removing the moulding certainly produces an increased flow from the hose and it is a simple matter to push a short extension hose – about 90mm in length - over the existing one. I used a 25mm inside diameter plastic hose from a garden water-barrel feed.

This hose can then be terminated with a 135 deg plastic 'elbow' as used on small diameter, solvent-fix domestic plumbing pipework, positioned by the steering column and pointed at the driver's ankles. As it rests on the top of the kick-panel it does not require additional securing. The flow is still not fantastic but a considerable improvement, plus it emerges in a better position and its precise direction can be adjusted by twisting the extension hose".

Nic Houslip notes "significant lack of cool air in the foot well may be due to the need for re-gassing. If the gas is low, the temperature of the air and thus its cooling ability will be significantly reduced. Air conditioning systems probably need re-gassing every 2-4 years for maximum efficiency and one of the biggest culprits is gas "leak out" caused by not using the system as the compressor seals harden with age and lack of use. Best practice is to use the air con all the time."



New Extension Hose and Elbow

See our earlier article on re-gassing the RV8 aircon system contributed in June 2013 by David Allen. [RV8NOTE378](#)

< Original Outlet – pulled from its mountings for clarity