

Heavy Capacity Junction Box
JB8SP/JB8SPT



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Revision History

This section tracks and describes manual revisions for awareness of major updates.

Revision	Date	Description
E	August 19, 2025	Established revision history; updated grounding diagram and warning/note icons

Table i. Revision Letter History



Technical training seminars are available through Rice Lake Weighing Systems. Course descriptions and dates can be viewed at www.ricelake.com/training or obtained by calling 715-234-9171 and asking for the training department.

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1.0 Introduction

The TuffSeal® eight-channel signal trim junction box is used in truck scale installations and can accommodate up to eight load cells. Additional load cells can be connected to the junction box by wiring additional junction boxes to the expansion terminal located on the main board. Both the JB8SP and JB8SPT models can withstand 900 PSI water pressure when correctly installed. Both models have a new Prevent® breather vent. The breather vent inhibits the buildup of pressure caused by sudden temperature or environmental changes. The breather vent should be changed every six months to one year as it will become dirty over time.

Both models will function properly without modification; however, load cell output can be individually trimmed with potentiometers. For more information, see [Section 5.0 on page 12](#).

Transient protection comes standard with the JB8SPT model junction box.



Manuals are available from Rice Lake Weighing Systems at www.ricelake.com/manuals

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Figure 1-1. TuffSeal Truck Scale Junction Box

1.1 Model Designations

The TuffSeal eight-channel junction box comes in two different models. They include:

Part No.	Name	Description
91782	JB8SP	Truck Scale Signal Trim Version
91783	JB8SPT	Truck Scale Signal Trim Version with Transient Protection
173807	JB8SP-FM-8	JB8SP signal trim eight-channel with expansion, FM approved

Table 1-1. Model Designations

1.2 Safety

Safety Definitions:



DANGER: Indicates an imminently hazardous situation that, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury. Includes hazards that are exposed when guards are removed.



WARNING: Indicates a potentially hazardous situation that, if not avoided, could result in serious injury or death. Includes hazards that are exposed when guards are removed.



CAUTION: Indicates a potentially hazardous situation that, if not avoided, could result in minor or moderate injury.



IMPORTANT: Indicates information about procedures that, if not observed, could result in damage to equipment or corruption to and loss of data.

General Safety



Do not operate or work on this equipment unless this manual has been read and all instructions are understood. Failure to follow the instructions or heed the warnings could result in injury or death. Contact any Rice Lake Weighing Systems dealer for replacement manuals.



WARNING

Failure to heed could result in serious injury or death.

Do not install where water may accumulate; this could cause electric shock and damage to the unit.

Do not use if wiring is frayed or worn.

Do not use if the cover is off or the unit has not been sealed properly.

Do not place fingers into slots or possible pinch points.

Do not use this product if any of the components are cracked.

Do not make alterations or modifications to the unit.

Do not remove or obscure warning labels.

Ensure load cells are correctly wired; incorrect wiring could cause damage to the unit.

1.3 Disposal



Product Disposal

The product must be brought to appropriate separate waste collection centers at the end of its life cycle.

Proper separate collection to recycle the product helps prevent possible negative effects on the environment and to health, and promotes the recycling of the materials. Users who dispose of the product illegally shall face administrative sanctions as provided by law.

2.0 Installation

The junction box should be mounted in a location convenient for servicing and away from standing water. Mount the enclosure in a location so that the load cell cable need not be cut, nor length added. Load cell output is temperature compensated for the supplied cable length; altering the length can change the cell's signal output.

Depending on the mounting surface, the enclosure is attached using four pan-head screws, bolts or other suitable fasteners (not included). [Figure 2-1](#) shows the dimensions for mounting the enclosure.

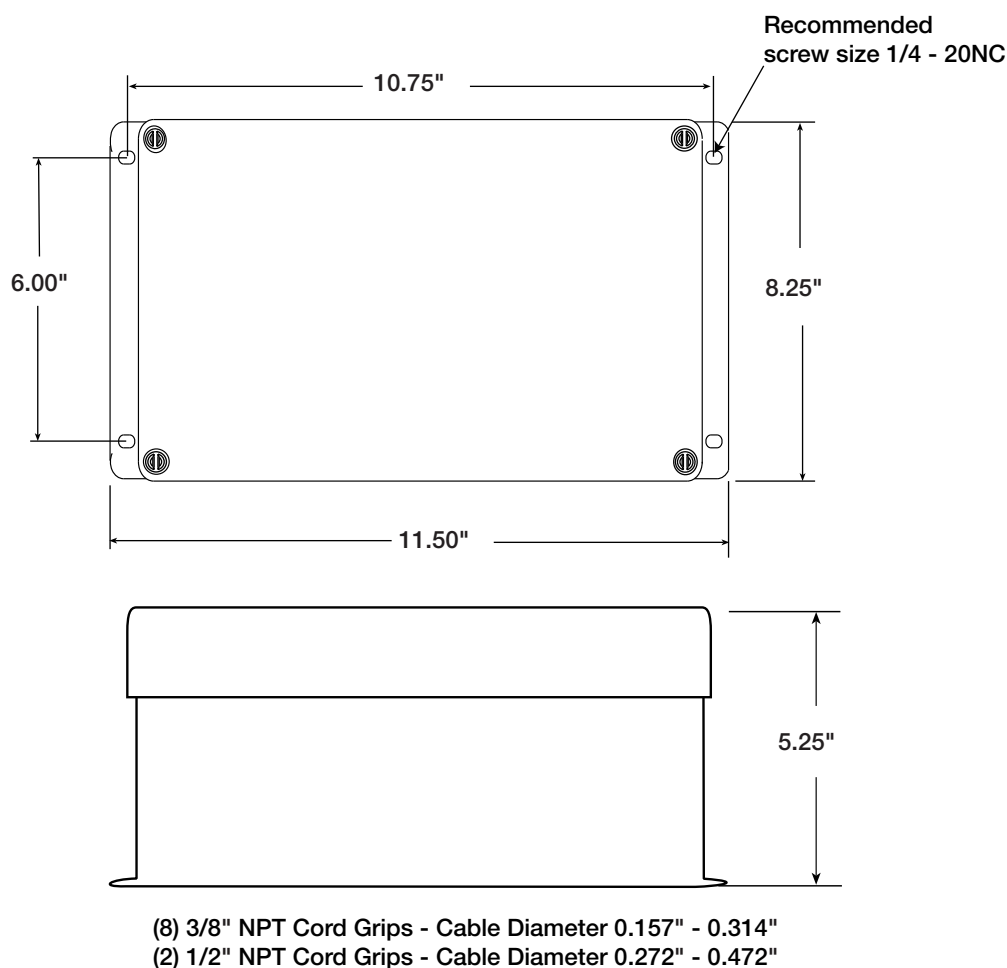


Figure 2-1. JB8SP and JB8SPT Enclosure Dimensions



NOTE: With reducing glands, the cable diameter changes to 0.295 in - 0.353 in.

3.0 Wiring the Junction Box

All TuffSeal junction box models have been designed to connect and trim up to eight load cells per board. However, it is possible to use this box with two, four, six and eight load cell combinations. Use the expansion port on the main board (Figure 3-1), to connect multiple junction boxes in series to accommodate applications that have ten or more load cells.

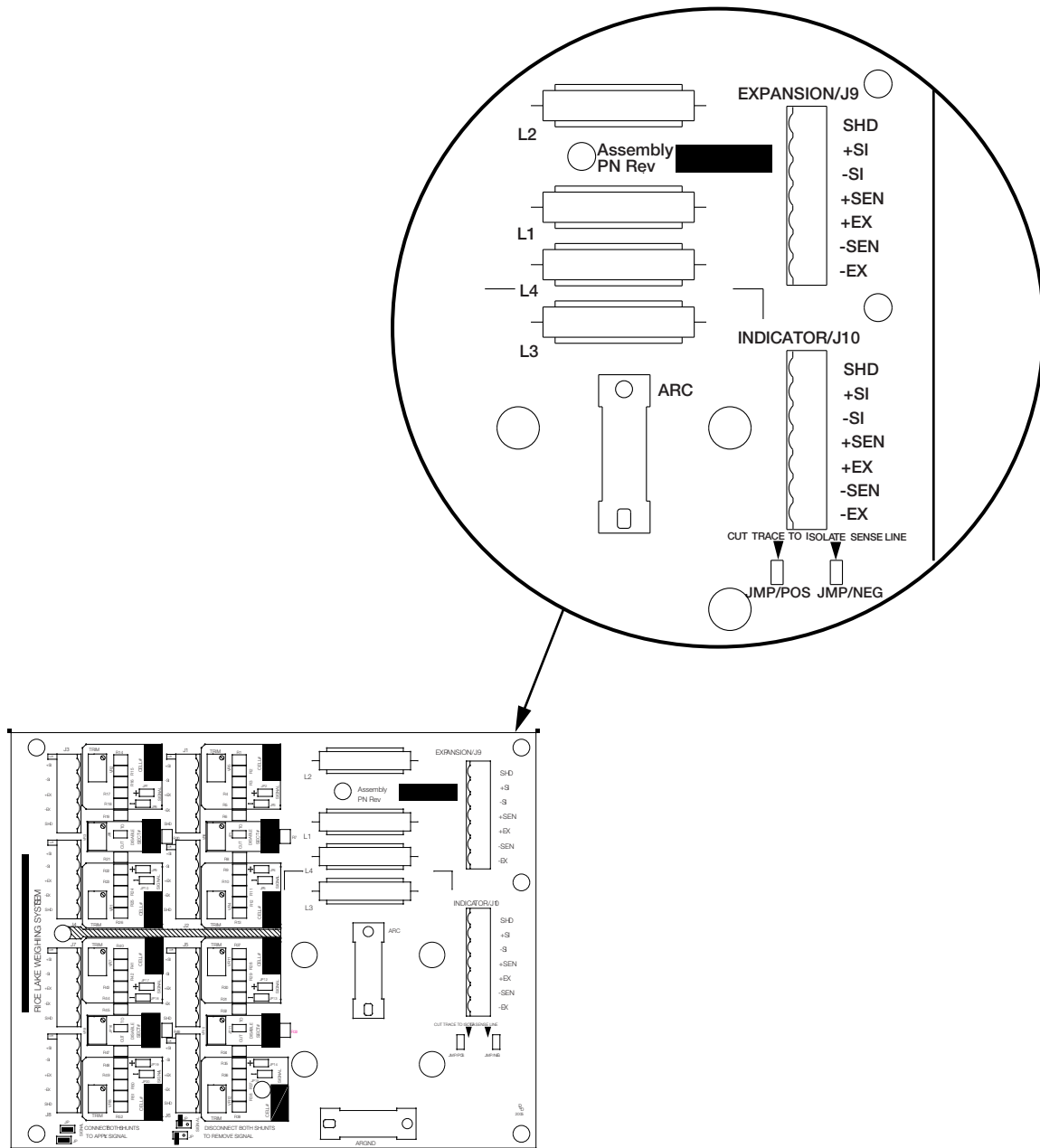


Figure 3-1. Expansion Port Wiring Location

1. After determining the wiring pattern, route the load cell cables through the cord grip assemblies and leave the grips loose until final closure.
2. Before connecting the load cell wires to the terminals, strip the wire insulation back 1/4 in to expose the wire. The pluggable connector will accommodate 12 to 28 gauge wire.
3. To connect the load cell wires to the appropriate connectors, open each pole with a small screwdriver and insert the appropriate wire into the exposed wire opening.

4. Tighten the end screw with the screwdriver to secure each wire into place.
5. Plug the terminal to the appropriate header socket.
6. The indicator terminal is used to connect the main cable to the weight indicator. Determine the indicator's load cell input connections from the operation manual.
7. Run a cable from the indicator terminal into the junction box through the larger cord grip.
8. Make the connections on the indicator terminal using the same procedure as inserting load cell cables to the appropriate connectors.



NOTE: If cables could be exposed to water or other liquids, bend a short downward loop in all cables near the cord grips so any fluids draining down the cables will drip off before reaching the junction box (see [Figure 3-2](#)).

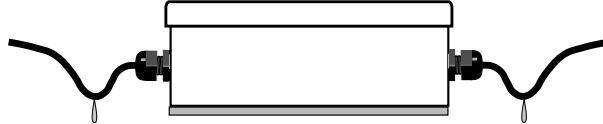


Figure 3-2. Drip Loop Cable

4.0 Transient Board Installation Procedure

The JB8SPT comes standard with transient protection (PN 89894). [Figure 4-1](#) shows where the transient protection board plugs into the main CPU board.

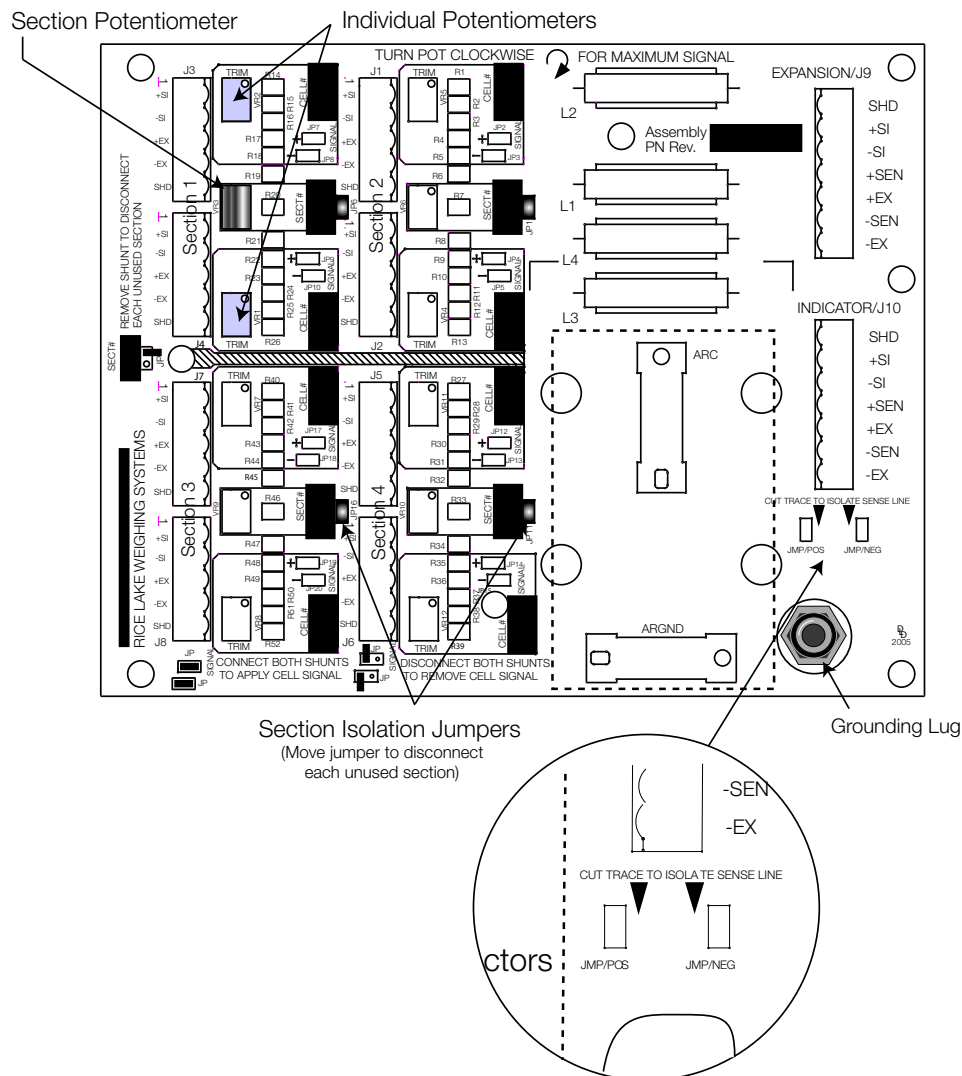


Figure 4-1. TuffSeal Junction Box, Transient Board Location

4.1 Grounding Transient Protection

To ensure proper operation, the JB8SP and JB8SPT must be grounded to protect the junction box from stray voltage and is essential for operation of the DC transient protection incorporated into the junction box.

A ground wire has already been attached to the grounding lug located on the main board and extends out of the junction box cord grip. Securely attach a 10 gauge ground wire to the ground wire that's already coming out of the junction box. The final ground wire connection must be at the AC power supply ground terminal, separate from the truck scale ground.

Figure 4-2 illustrates an example of single point grounding of the junction box and the truck scale.

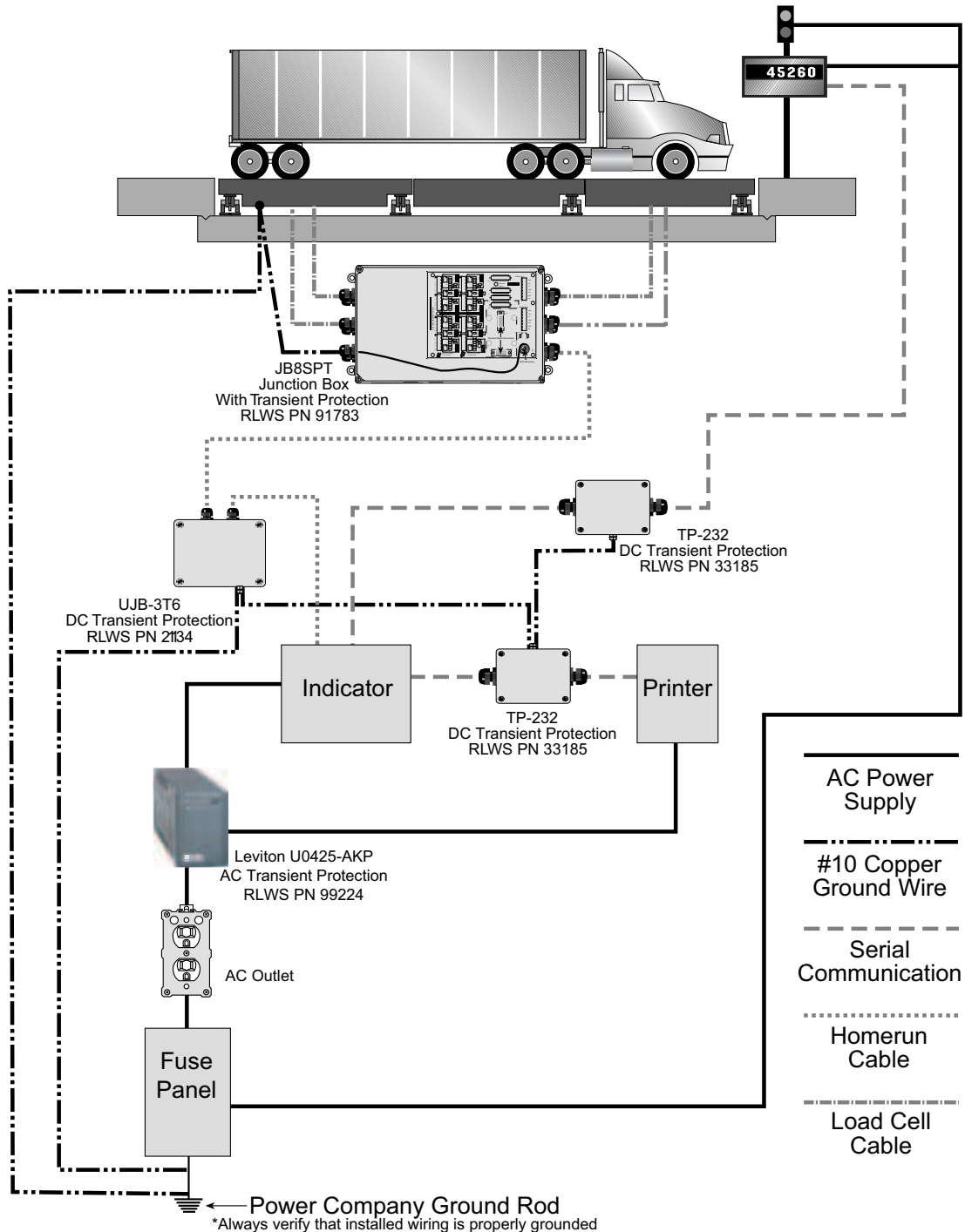


Figure 4-2. Single Point Grounding

5.0 Trimming Procedure

Trimming is a process of equalizing the output from multiple individual load cells. If needed, load cell output can be individually trimmed with potentiometers.

Whenever a substantial amount of trim (more than 7 percent of normal output), seems necessary to equalize output, check for other possible problems. The best trim is always the least amount of trim.

The JB8SP and JB8SPT is a signal trimming device with individual and section trimming potentiometers ([Figure 4-1 on page 10](#)).

Use the following steps to properly trim the JB8SP and JB8SPT junction box.



NOTE: If using two junction boxes with an expansion cable between them, make sure to cut the sense trace on the board that has the homerun cable connected to it (see figure 4-1 on page 5). This ensures sensing out to the furthest junction box within the system. A sic conductor cable must be used between the two junction boxes to ensure proper functioning of sense.

1. Determine the number of load cells needed. When section trimming, it is acceptable to use combinations of load cells other than eight, but the combination must be an even number of cells.
2. Turn all the individual cell and section potentiometers clockwise to give maximum signal output from each section. Make sure to remove all shunt jumpers of the individual cells that are not being used to disable them and ensure the section potentiometer is turned fully.



NOTE: If desired, all the potentiometers can be adjusted 3-5 turns counter-clockwise to allow trim capabilities both positive and negative.

3. Trim by turning potentiometers counter-clockwise to lower output to match lowest value.
4. Remove all weight from the scale and zero the indicator. Place calibrated test weights over each load cell or section. The amount of test weights to be used will depend on the scale configuration; for specific recommendations, refer to the Handbook 44, published by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).
5. Record the value displayed on the indicator after the test weight is placed in turn over each load cell, or over each section. Select the load cell or section that has the lowest value as the reference point. This cell or section will not be trimmed.
6. Place the same test load over each cell or section in turn. Using the corresponding potentiometer, trim each cell or section down to equal the reference point. As load cell corrections are interactive, check zero after every adjustment to avoid zero shift.
7. Check cells or sections again and repeat steps six, seven and eight as needed.

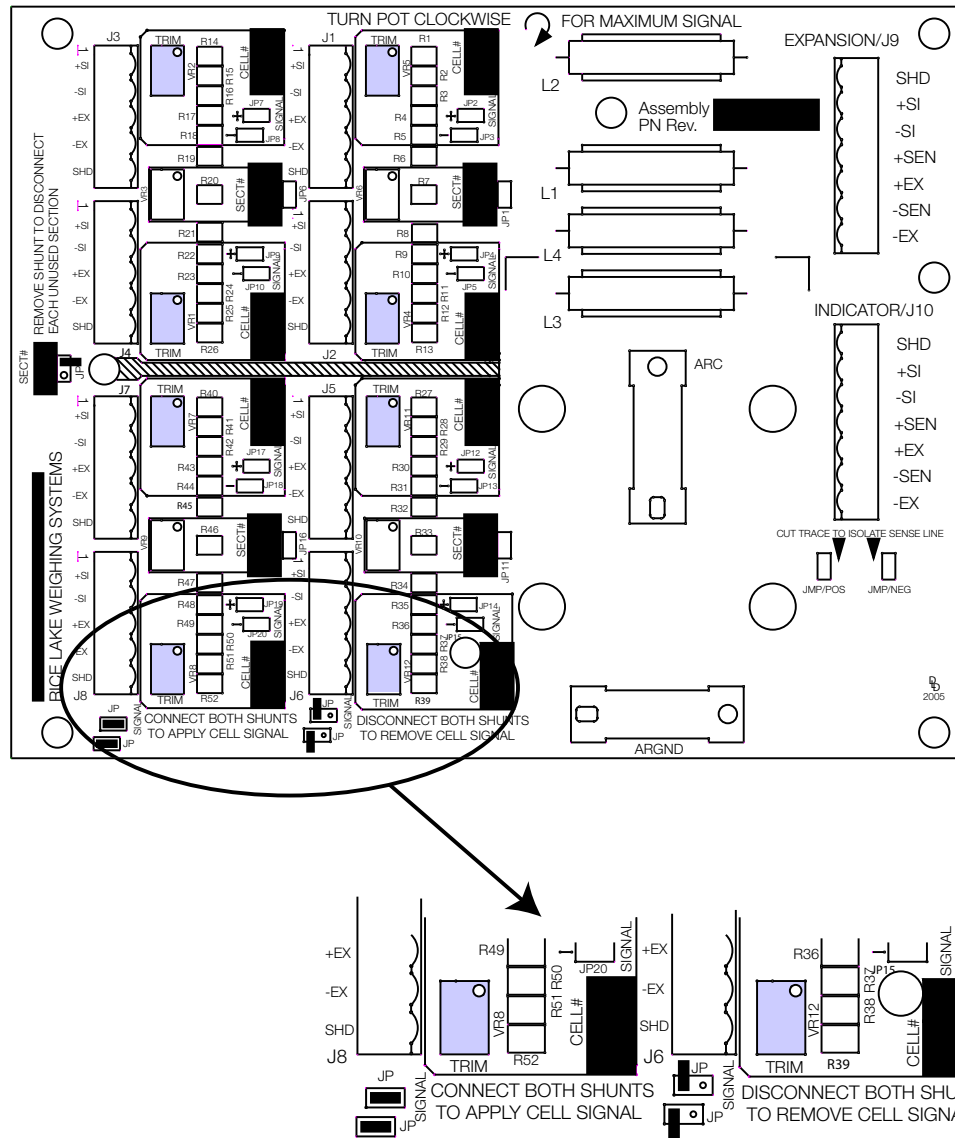


Figure 5-1. Shunt Locations

8. Pull excess cable out of the enclosure.
9. Using a wrench, tighten the nut until the rubber touches the cable completely.
10. Tighten the nut an additional 1/2 turn (180 degrees). To be watertight, each cord grip must be tightened so the rubber sleeve begins to protrude from the hub.
11. Unused hubs must be properly plugged to prevent moisture entry. Extra hole plugs are provided to seal up any unused hubs.
12. Remove the desiccant from the plastic bag, and insert the desiccant bag into the junction box before closing. Inspect the desiccant during normal service and change desiccant as needed.
13. Replace the cover and torque the cover screws in an alternating pattern to 15 in-lb to be certain the gasket is compressed equally in all locations.



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230 W. Coleman St. • Rice Lake, WI 54868 • USA USA: 800-472-6703 • International: +1-715-234-9171