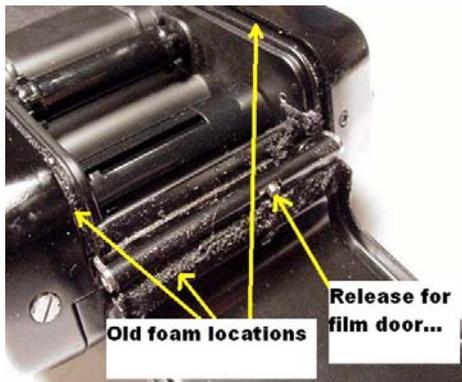


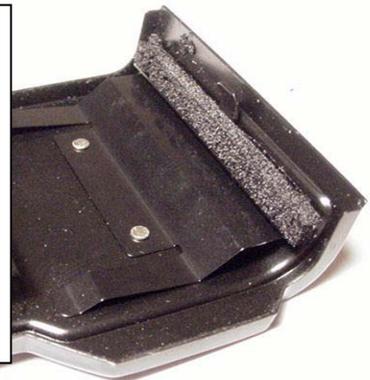
## ProSeal Instructions for Contax 137 MA SLR

Please read these instructions **completely** before you start. Knowledge strengthens confidence, and like most jobs, this is better done right the first time. I think you'll find it rewarding and fun, and I've tried to keep things as easy and logical as possible. This is a very popular and well-designed SLR, and the job you're doing now is very important in repairing one of its most common problems.

Here are some things you may need: (1) a safe surface to work on—I like to use a piece of cardboard about 1.5' by 1.5', but you can work on fiberboard, newspaper or anything else handy—the important thing is to protect the surface beneath you. (2) Denatured Alcohol or Naphtha (cigarette lighter fluid is the same thing) for a solvent. (3) 2 or 3 paper towels. (4) some toothpicks or your bamboo tool—if you have access to a wooden cuticle stick, this is a handy tool. (5) a safety razor blade, hobby knife, or small scissors. (6) a small screwdriver (7) a pair of tweezers. Now, let's take a look inside your camera:



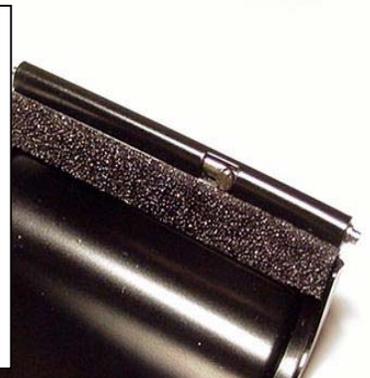
As you look inside the hinge area, you'll see a small screw there and old foam everywhere. Slide it downward, and you'll be able to remove the film door. Removing your film door will make it much easier to clean and replace the old seal material. To the right, you will see the old foam at the latch end.



Left: you can see I am dripping solvent on the old foam. I will use my bamboo tool and bits of paper napkin or towel to clean the old foam and adhesive from the hinge end and the latch end. To the right, you can see how the door will look when it is clean.



Left: you can see I am cleaning the edges of the film door with a piece of paper towel and solvent. It is important to do this, because you do not want the old foam to ruin your new seals. To the right you see I have installed the new hinge end seal piece. Lick the adhesive side to give more time to position.



Above you see I have cleaned the film door well, and I have installed the new hinge end seal. Here are the two pieces of foam you will need to cut for the film door: Hinge end seal—from 2mm thick foam, cut a piece 42.5mm x 4.5mm. For the latch end seal, cut a piece of 2.5mm foam 44mm x 4mm. Please remember to lick the adhesive side of the foam after you remove the backing paper. This will

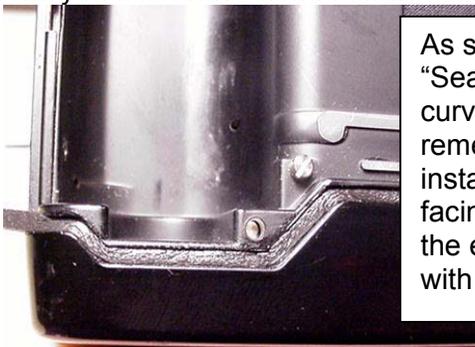
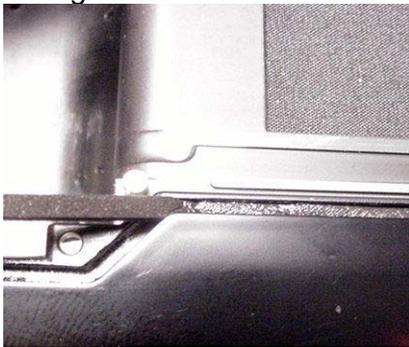
give you more time to position the seal pieces as you assemble them. When your saliva is dry (maybe 30 minutes), you can press them down again.



Left: Using a bit of paper towel and solvent, I begin to clean the long thin body slots using the thin end of my bamboo tool. Be careful not to push old material into the film counter reset pin. You can see it beneath the letters "MA" on the top plate. Right: I begin to install the "Seal Strip."



Above you see I am cleaning the long thin body slots. Use the thin end of the bamboo tool, a bit of paper towel and solvent. This will take a few passes to clean completely. Do not push old material into the film frame counter reset pin. You will see it below the initials "MA" on the top cover (in the slot). When all is clean, repeat this for the bottom slot. Then using the thin end of the bamboo tool, begin to push the "Seal Strip" into the channel. It needs no adhesive. Sidewall pressure will hold it indefinitely. Install with the coated (slick) side facing outward, and do not let the strip twist or turn as you install it. You will come to some bends in the channel as you near the latch end. Simply follow through them with the "Seal Strip" as you see I have done below:

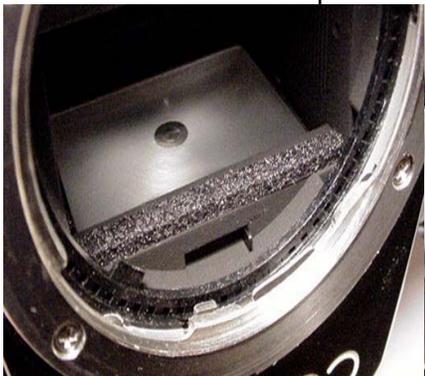


As shown, I have designed the "Seal Strip" so that it will follow any curve or contour perfectly. Just remember to not let it twist as you install it, and keep the coated side facing outward. When you reach the end of the channel, simply trim with small scissors.

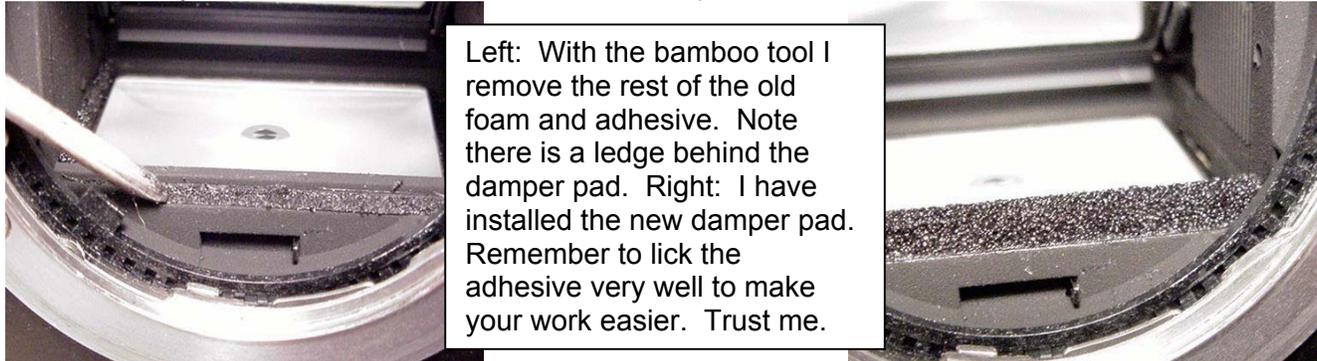
Once this is complete and the seals on the film door have dried, you may reinstall the film door. Slide the pin down and position the film door in the hinges and then allow the pin to move back up.

### ~~The Mirror Damper~~

Some people are apprehensive about this, but you should not be. This camera's damper pad is not difficult to remove nor replace. Let's take a look at some images I've made for you:



In the first image above, you can see the old damper pad. It may still look ok, but it probably isn't. In the middle image, you can see how I use the tip of a hobby knife (like an X-Acto knife) to carefully remove the old pad. Tilt the camera so that anything you remove falls away from the focus screen and out the lens opening. In the final image, you see how things look after I have made the first pass with the hobby knife. I have removed most of the old pad. Now, look below:



Left: With the bamboo tool I remove the rest of the old foam and adhesive. Note there is a ledge behind the damper pad. Right: I have installed the new damper pad. Remember to lick the adhesive very well to make your work easier. Trust me.

In the first frame above, you will see I am cleaning the old pad and adhesive off with the bamboo tool. Please do not obsess about getting it perfectly clean. You can not use solvent here because you can ruin your focus screen too easily, so just work slowly and carefully and remove the best you can. Take your time...it is not a race. The second frame shows the new pad installed. The new pad is cut from the 2.5mm thick foam. The length is 38mm and the width is 3mm. The secret to success is to **lick the adhesive side of the pad well so it will not stick before you get it placed where you want it to be.** After your saliva has dried (maybe 30 minutes), you can lift up the mirror and use it to press the pad down. Below is an image showing how I do this (on a Pentax camera, but the method is the same).



Simply lift the mirror up gently to meet the newly installed damper pad and press against it. Easy? Yes it is, and you will also provide uniform pressure so that your pad will be installed correctly, just like a pro would do it. Some people tell me they worry about replacing the damper pad, but that wasn't so bad, was it?

Guess what? You're finished, and your camera is back to "like new" condition and ready to enjoy again.

#### ~~NOTES~~

These instructions were given to you as an accompaniment to a general seal kit, or for any of several reasons. If you have not read my general light seal replacement instructions first, I think it would be a good idea to read them. You should be able to easily cut your own seal pieces from my seal material, using methods described in my general kit instructions. Your camera is a fine precision instrument, and the materials you are using have been carefully tested to be compatible with its design. You should **never** use inferior seal materials as a substitute.