

# TracVision R6ST Installation Guide

These instructions explain how to install the TracVision R6ST satellite TV antenna system on an RV or motor coach. Complete instructions on how to use the system are provided in the *User's Guide*.

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## Installation Steps

1. Inspect Parts and Get Tools...3
2. Plan the Installation...4
3. Remove the Restraints...5
4. Mount the Antenna...6
5. Wire the Antenna...7
6. Wire the Receiver...8
7. Connect Power...9
8. Mount the Receiver...10
9. Test the System...11
10. Educate the Customer...12

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## Who Should Install the System?

To ensure a safe and effective installation, KVH recommends that a KVH-authorized technician install the TracVision R6ST system. To find a technician near you, please visit [www.kvh.com/wheretogetservice](http://www.kvh.com/wheretogetservice). If you purchased the product and decide to install it yourself, please see the enclosed warranty statement for warranty implications.

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## Related Documentation

The following additional documents are provided with the TracVision R6ST system:

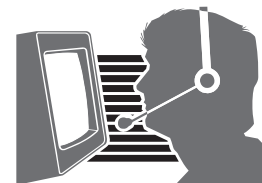
<u>Document</u>	<u>Description</u>
User's Guide	Complete operation, setup, and troubleshooting information
Product Registration Form	Details on registering the product with KVH
Warranty Statement	Warranty terms and conditions
Contents List	List of every part supplied in the kit

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## Technical Support

If you need technical assistance, please contact KVH Technical Support:

Phone: +1 401 847-3327  
E-mail: [techs@kvh.com](mailto:techs@kvh.com)



# 1 Inspect Parts and Get Tools

- a. Unpack the box and ensure it contains everything shown on the Contents List. Save the packaging for future use.

**IMPORTANT!**

Always lift the antenna by the baseplate and never by the radome or any portion of the internal antenna assembly (see [Figure 1](#)).

- b. Carefully examine all of the supplied parts to ensure nothing was damaged in shipment.
- c. Gather all of the tools and materials listed below. You will need these items to complete the installation.

- Phillips and flat-head screwdrivers
- 7/16" open-end wrench
- Silicone sealant, RTV, or equivalent
- Construction adhesive suitable for the roof
- 5/8" - diameter hole saw
- Augat IT1000 crimp/strip tool (KVH P/N 19-0242)
- Eight 1/4" fasteners (optional, see ["Mount the Receiver" on page 10](#))
- Fasteners suitable for mounting the antenna to the roof
- RF modulator (if necessary, see ["Wire the Antenna" on page 7](#))

- d. Peel off the extra serial number label (taped to the antenna) and affix it to the appropriate box on red Activation Card (see [Figure 2](#)).

Figure 1 TracVision R6ST Antenna

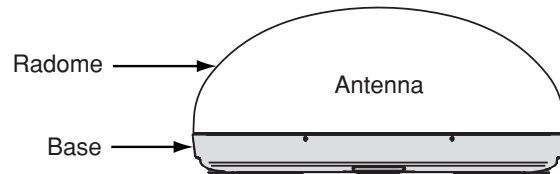


Figure 2 Activation Card

**TracVision® Activation**

Before you can start enjoying satellite TV, the TracVision receiver must be activated.

To activate your receiver, please follow the steps below:

1. Call KVH's Activation Department at:  
**1-866-551-8004**  
(24 hours a day, 7 days a week)  
You will need to provide the KVH Activation Department representative with a credit card number and the following KVH serial numbers:  
Receiver Serial Number      Antenna Serial Number  
(If purchased as part of a complete antenna system)  
R [XXXXXXXX]      A [XXXXXXXX] ← Affix Serial Number Here  
Installer: Please place antenna serial number in box above.
2. The KVH representative will provide you with 4 ID numbers necessary for activation. Enter these in the boxes below:  
Access Card Number      Receiver ID Number  
[ ]      [ ]  
Hughes Serial Number      Model Number  
[ ]      [ ]

Please save this card for future reference.  
You will need these numbers whenever you call DIRECTV.

54-0008-04, rev. D

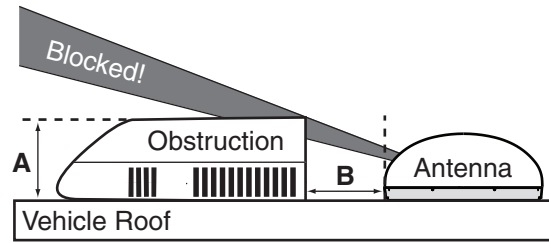
# 2 Plan the Installation

Before you begin, consider the following installation guidelines:

- Minimize blockage. The antenna needs a clear view of the sky to receive satellite TV. Using the table in [Figure 3](#) as a guide, mount the antenna a suitable distance away from obstructions on the roof, such as air conditioners.
- Ensure the mounting surface is flat and strong enough to support the 28-lb antenna. When placed on the mounting surface, all three mounting plates must lay flat against the roof (within 7/16") to avoid warping the base and damaging the antenna.
- The antenna must be mounted on the centerline of the vehicle with the antenna's cable connector facing the rear of the vehicle.
- Be sure to mount the antenna near enough to the receiver to allow you to connect the 28-ft. coax cable, while still maintaining sufficient slack in the cable. If you need to use a longer coax cable, use an RG6 (75 ohms) cable that does not exceed 80 feet in length.
- Once you've chosen a location for the antenna, identify a safe location nearby for the 5/8" cable access hole in the roof. Make sure you will not drill into any existing wires or aesthetic structures inside the vehicle.
- When choosing a location for the receiver, find a dry, well-ventilated area inside the vehicle away from any heat sources. Also be sure the front panel of the receiver will be easily accessible to the user.

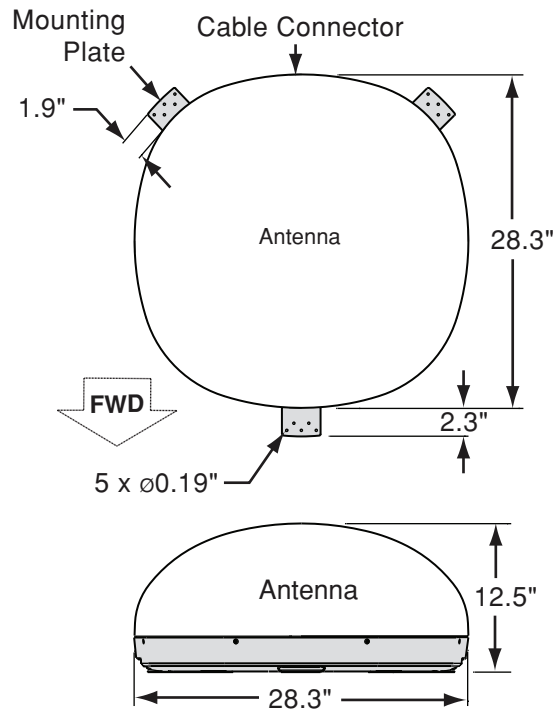
**NOTE:** You can install the receiver in a cabinet - the receiver RF remote does not require line-of-sight.

Figure 3 Blockage from Obstruction



Obstruction Height (A)	Min. Distance from Antenna (B)
8"	8"
10"	13"
12"	19"
14"	24"
16"	30"

Figure 4 Antenna Dimensions



# 3 Remove the Restraints

- a. Carefully carry the antenna to the roof of the vehicle.
- b. Using a Phillips screwdriver, remove the four 1/4"-20 screws on the bottom of the antenna's base at the locations shown in [Figure 6](#). Save these shipping restraints for future use.

**IMPORTANT!**

Be sure to remove all 4 shipping restraints. The antenna will not work with these restraints still installed.

*NOTE: Once you have removed the shipping restraints, handle the antenna unit carefully. Improper handling might damage the unit.*

Figure 5 Carrying Antenna to Roof



Figure 6 Shipping Restraint Locations (Bottom View)

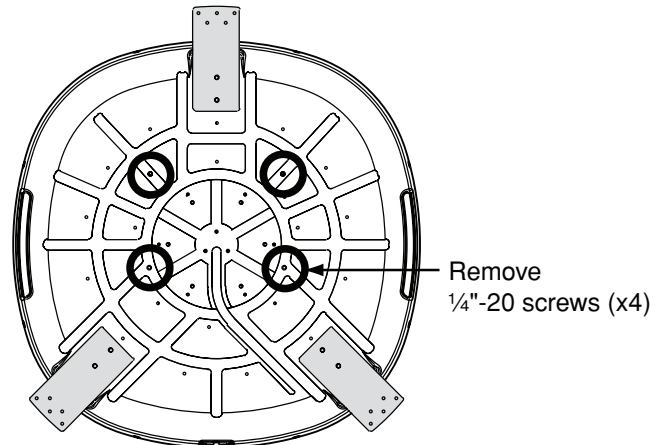
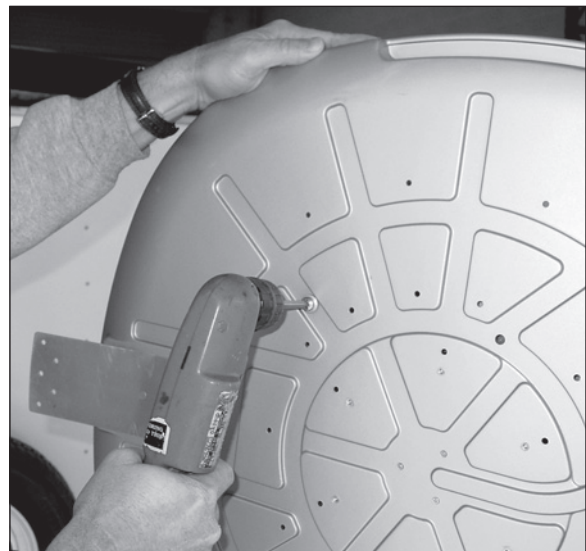


Figure 7 Removing the Shipping Restraints



# 4 Mount the Antenna

- a. Apply appropriate construction adhesive to the bottom of the antenna's three mounting plates across all of the holes.
- b. At the mounting location you chose earlier, place the antenna on the centerline of the roof so that the front mounting plate faces the front of the vehicle and the cable connector faces the rear of the vehicle (see *Figure 8*).
- c. Attach the three antenna mounting plates to the roof using 15 fasteners appropriate for the roof's construction.

**IMPORTANT!**

Due to the variation in RV roof construction, consult with the RV manufacturer to determine the safest fastening method.

- d. Seal all fasteners with silicone sealant or equivalent.

Figure 8 Antenna Orientation

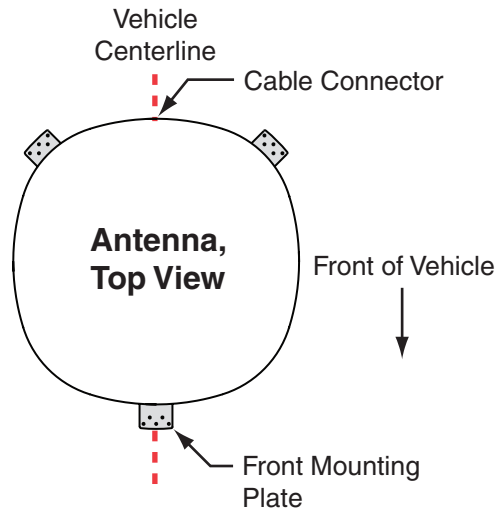


Figure 9 Attaching/Sealing the Mounting Plates



# 5 Wire the Antenna

- a. At the location you chose earlier, use a 5/8" hole saw to cut out a cable access hole in the vehicle's roof. Smooth the edges of the hole to protect the cable.
- b. Connect the RG6 antenna cable (the end with the rubber sealing boot) to the antenna. Hand-tighten, then tighten with a 7/16" wrench for 1/4 turn (see [Figure 10](#)).
- c. Slide the rubber sealing boot up the cable until it covers the connector. This boot will help protect the connector from the elements.
- d. Route the other end of the antenna cable down through the roof access hole and into the vehicle. Later, you will connect this end of the cable to the receiver.

**IMPORTANT!**

Do not kink the cable. Maintain a bend radius of at least 3 inches.

- e. Leave an adequate service loop - approximately 8" of slack - in the antenna cable for easy serviceability.
- f. Seal the cable access hole with a liberal amount of silicone sealant (or equivalent) to protect against leakage.
- g. Install the clamshell ventilator over the cable access hole. The clamshell's opening should face the rear of the vehicle. Secure in place with appropriate fasteners (see [Figure 11](#)).

Figure 10 Antenna Cable with Rubber Sealing Boot

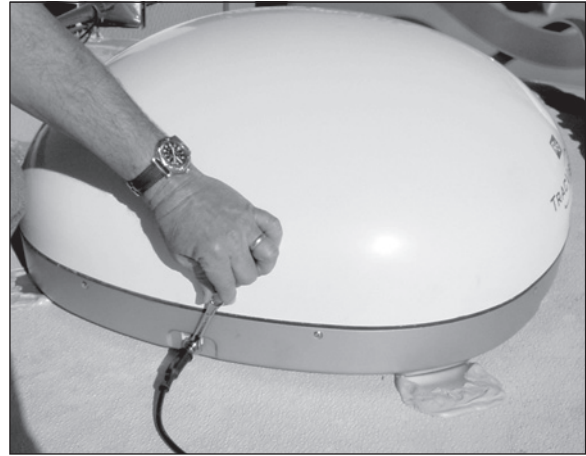


Figure 11 Clamshell Ventilator Mounting

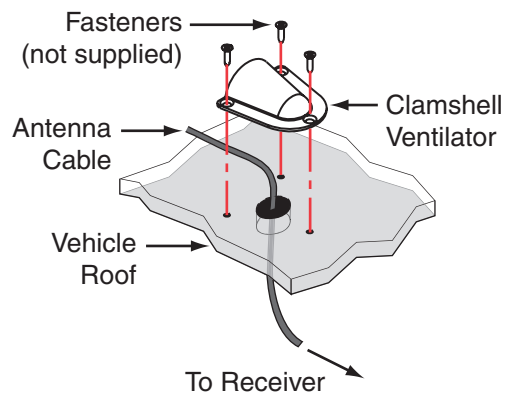


Figure 12 Antenna Installed



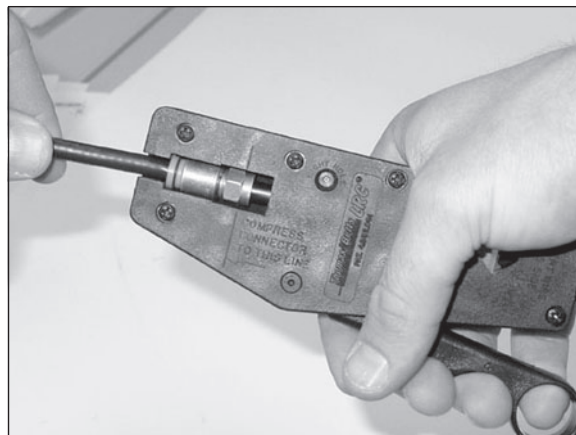
# 6 Wire the Receiver

- a. If you cut the antenna cable, use an Augat IT1000 tool to attach a Snap-N-Seal® F-connector to the end of the connector (see [Figure 13](#)).

**IMPORTANT!**

Do not use a screw-on, push-on, or twist-on connector. Low-quality connectors will degrade the system performance and KVH's warranty does not cover repairs resulting from the use of such connectors.

Figure 13 Augat Tool

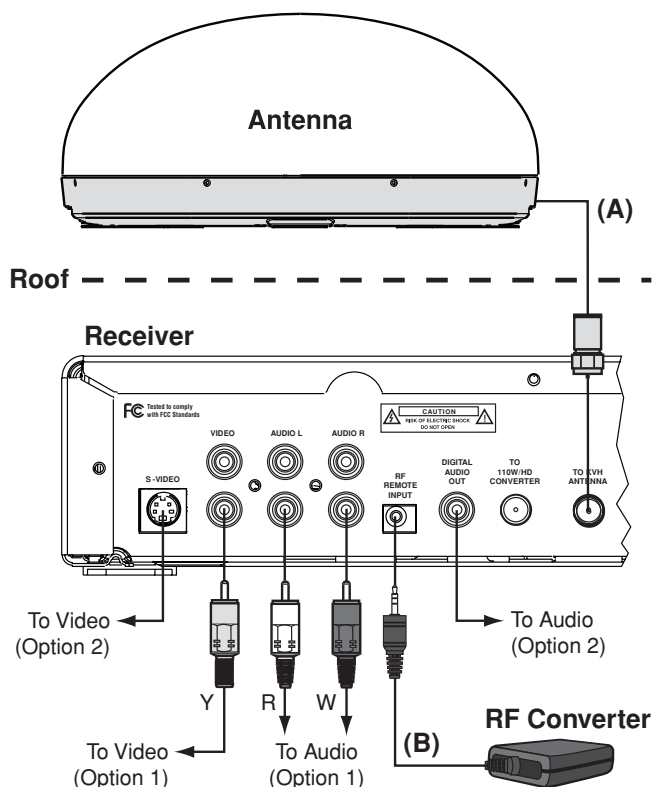


- b. Connect the antenna cable (A) to the "To KVH Antenna" jack (see [Figure 14](#)).
- c. Connect the RF converter cable (B) to the "RF Remote Input" jack.
- d. Connect the receiver to the TV's video input. Choose one of the following options:
  - Option 1 - RCA-type jack (cable included)
  - Option 2 - S-Video jack
- e. Connect the receiver to the TV's audio input. Choose one of the following options:
  - Option 1 - RCA-type jacks (cables included)
  - Option 2 - Digital audio jack

*NOTE: For details on connecting additional receivers, refer to the User's Guide.*

*NOTE: If the TV has only a coaxial input, you will need an RF modulator (KVH P/N 19-0475).*

Figure 14 Receiver Wiring



# 7 Connect Power

The receiver requires 10-16 volts DC (VDC) power input supporting 60 watts (5 amps @ 12VDC).



## CAUTION

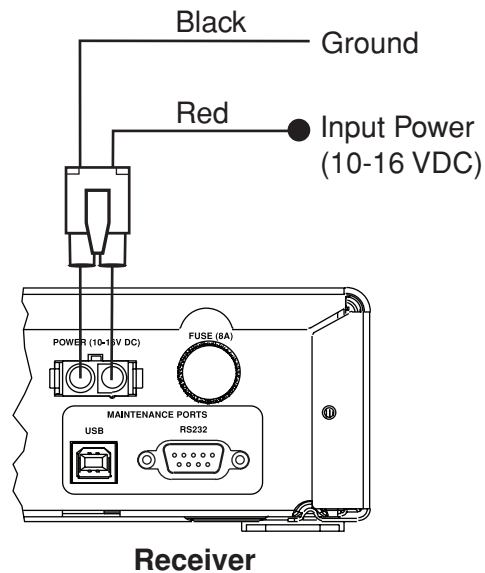
For your own safety, shut down vehicle power before you connect the wires.

- a. Before you connect the power wires, turn off vehicle power and test the circuit to ensure no power is present.
- b. Connect the individual power wires to a dedicated 12 VDC circuit. Connect the negative (black) wire to ground (power return), and connect the positive (red) wire to clean +12 VDC vehicle power.

*NOTE: If vehicle power fluctuates or is noisy, KVH recommends that you use an AC/DC power supply (KVH P/N 72-0206-01) to provide stable power to the receiver.*

- c. Plug the other end of the wires into the "Vehicle Power" jack on the rear panel of the receiver (see [Figure 15](#)).

Figure 15 Receiver Power Wiring



# 8 Mount the Receiver

- a. If you wish to mount the receiver, attach the two mounting brackets to the sides of the unit using three #2-56 screws. Simply screw these fasteners into the vent slots (see [Figure 16](#)).

**IMPORTANT!**

To avoid overheating, do not block the upper vents of the receiver.

- b. If you are using the mounting brackets, secure the brackets to the mounting surface using appropriate 1/4" fasteners (not supplied).

*NOTE: Be sure to leave enough slack in the connecting cables (service loop) for easy serviceability.*

- c. Place the RF converter at least 3 feet away from the receiver. If it is too close to the receiver, the remote control might not operate properly. Also avoid placing the RF converter behind a metal surface or in an area surrounded by metal.
- d. If desired, mount the RF converter using the supplied Velcro fasteners.
- e. Insert two AAA batteries (supplied in the kit) in the remote control's battery compartment (see [Figure 18](#)).

Figure 16 Receiver Brackets

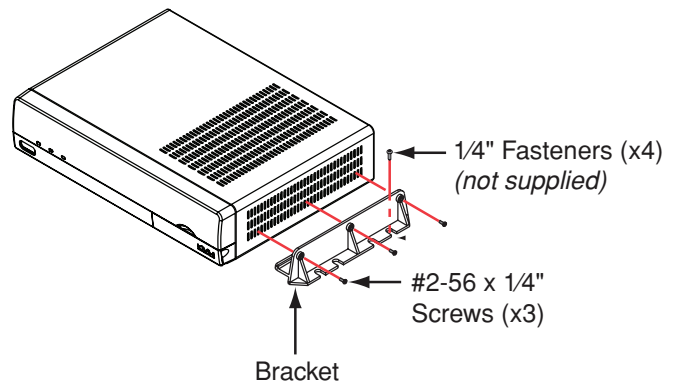
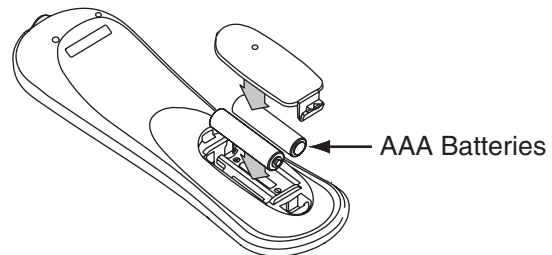


Figure 17 RF Converter



Figure 18 Remote Batteries



# 9 Test the System

Now that you have installed the TracVision R6ST system, you need to turn the system on and verify that the antenna works properly.

- a. Ensure the antenna has a clear view of the southern sky.
- b. Apply power to the TV, receiver, and the TracVision R6ST system.
- c. Turn on the power switch on the front of the receiver (see [Figure 19](#)).
- d. Wait while the antenna searches the sky for the satellite. Within a few minutes, all three status lights on the front of the receiver should be lit green.

*NOTE: If all three status lights are not lit green, refer to the User's Guide for troubleshooting information.*

- e. A progress bar will appear on the TV, indicating that the receiver is downloading the program guide (see [Figure 20](#)).

*NOTE: The receiver might take up to one minute to load the program guide.*

- f. Once the program guide is loaded, verify that you can view the DIRECTV preview channel (channel 100).

Figure 19 Receiver Status Lights

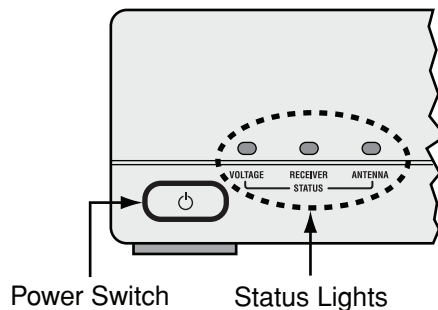
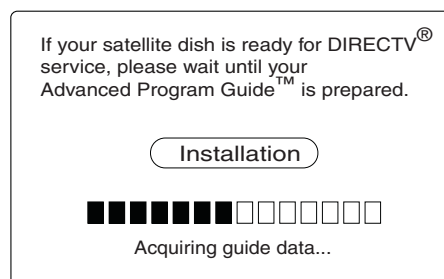


Figure 20 Program Guide Progress Bar

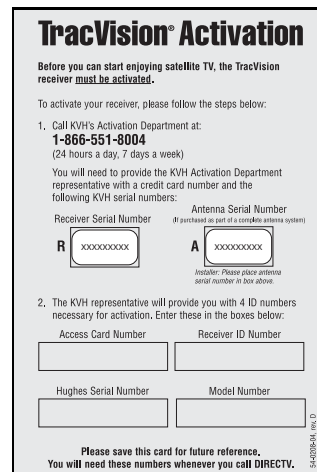


# 10 Educate the Customer

Be sure to give the manuals to the customer and explain how to use the product. The customer also needs to know the following:

- Keep the radome installed on the antenna at all times. The radome protects the antenna's internal moving parts from wind, rain, and debris.
- The owner needs the red Activation Card to activate the receiver. The receiver must be activated before it can receive satellite programming.
- The antenna must have a clear view of the southern sky to receive satellite TV. Common causes of blockage are trees, buildings, bridges, overpasses, and mountains. The TracVision R6ST system will not work inside a garage.
- Heavy rain or snow might temporarily interrupt reception.
- To ensure optimum reception, keep DewShield™ set to AUTO. The DewShield electronic dew elimination system prevents dew from forming on the antenna (moisture weakens satellite signals).
- The antenna should be cleaned regularly. Dirt buildup on the radome can affect satellite TV reception.
- The owner needs to register the system for product warranty validation. Refer to the Product Registration Form for details or visit: [www.kvh.com/register](http://www.kvh.com/register).
- The vehicle must be located within the selected satellite's coverage area in order to receive its satellite TV signals. To view satellite coverage maps, visit: [www.kvh.com/footprint](http://www.kvh.com/footprint).
- Refer to the *User's Guide* for complete operation instructions.

Figure 21 Activation Card



**TracVision® Activation**

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You will need to provide the KVH Activation Department representative with a credit card number and the following KVH serial numbers:  
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Installer: Please place antenna serial number in box above.
2. The KVH representative will provide you with 4 ID numbers necessary for activation. Enter these in the boxes below:  
Access Card Number:   
Receiver ID Number:   
Hughes Serial Number:   
Model Number:

Please save this card for future reference. You will need these numbers whenever you call DIRECTV.

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Figure 22 Blockage Example

