
I have a small but growing collection of the Namiki/Pilot Silvern pens, I love these pens for their balance and good looks-aided by the inset nib. However, I have had bad luck with the problem of ink seepage around the nib, since my grip is such that my forefinger touches the tail of these nibs. The first leaky nib I sent out to Pilot, they replaced it under warranty but took months to return the pen.

I was really frustrated when I took out this second pen from storage and brought it back into rotation after a year, the previously sound nib was now slowly leaching out ink. This time I decided to take the matter in my hand. The reason for the leak is the failed sealing between the nib and the section. The Nib is glued to the section. Failed glue allows ink to trap in the capillary space between the nib and section and slowly leaches out from there, staining the fingers.

I slid a 1 mil brass shim sheet carefully underneath the nib, starting from the tail, to break the glue bond. making sure that the bond was broken, I also slid a narrow strip of the sheet from the front so that the area there could also be freed.



Once I was sure that the nib is reasonably free, I pried one side of the nib out from one side:



This action freed the body of the nib and i could separate the nib and feed, you can see the patchy glue work:



Glue remains on the nib

and section:







The nib underside cleaned off the debris:



The section cleaned, it was difficult to remove the thin film of adhesive used by Pilot.



Side grooves for the nib:





I asked in the repair forum about a suitable glue to reattach the nib (Pls read the update in the last portion) and I got a

recommendation for GS Hypo cement. It is not a product available locally, I bought it form a HK based seller and had to wait approx 20days for it to arrive, I applied a thin layer of the glue with its "precision" applicator. waited for 15seconds and slid the nib onto the section and wiped the excess glue off with a cotton swap soaked in Isopropyl alcohol. Since this was a time critical operation, I could not take photos of the glue application and nib refitting stage. Take care not to apply excessive glue, take care not to get

glue onto the feed, it will be a disaster.

Nib fitted and excess glue wiped off(yesterday evening after work):







I left the pen alone for 24 hours, allowing the glue to cure fully, fill tested the pen today eveing and so far so good, no leaks.





I think it is an easy enough job for a careful DIY person. I thank Stan for telling me the basics of how the nib is put together and the encouragement to do this myself, however at that time I had decided to send the nib to Pilot rather than do it myself.

I hope these photos will give a better idea of how to go about, for the next person facing the same problem.

Best

Hari

Update:

The initial repair with the Hypo glue failed in three days of use. I used the brass shim technique to separate the nib again(came off real easy, cleaned the shell thoroughly and this time I used two part epoxy 24Hrs setting:Araldite.

I applied the epoxy evenly, slightly in excess since it is quite thick, carefully reinserted the nib, the excess epoxy beaded up nicely around the nib tail edges. I allowed the excess glue to slightly stiffen(wait 1/2 hour) and wiped this excess off with a wet rag. I let the nib sit for 48hours for the epoxy to cure fully and have been using the pen for the last one week which included one air travel journey. No leaks!

Thanks!

Hari

First posted on FPN on Dec 21, 2011. Link:

http://www.fountainpennetwork.com/forum/topic/210524-inset-nib-on-the-namiki-silvern-removing-and-re-sealing/