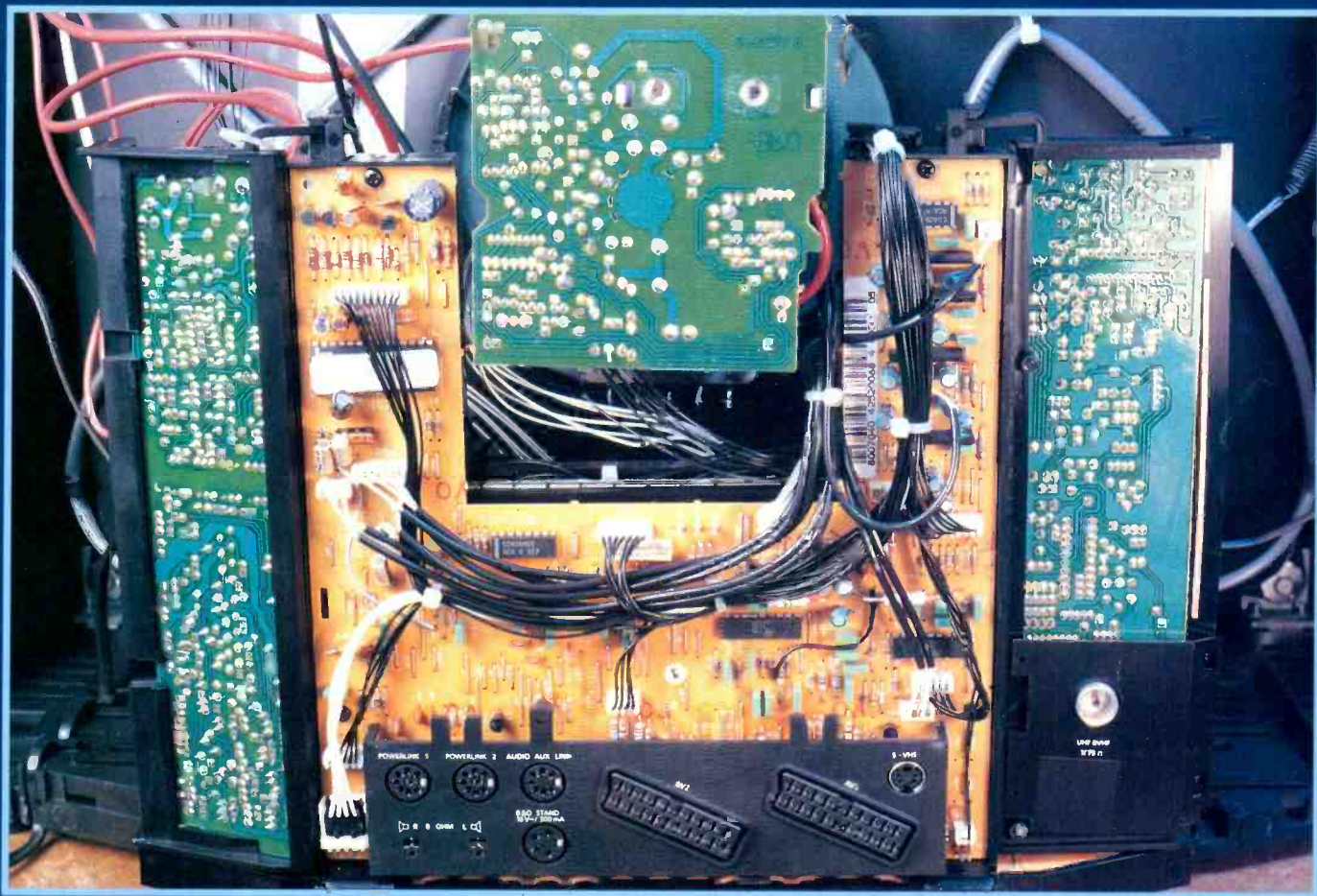


SEPTEMBER 1991

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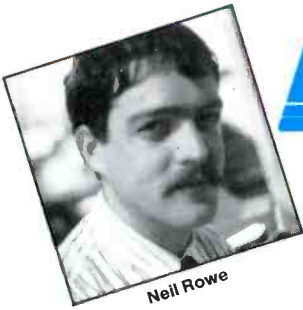


**The B and O 39XX Series Chassis
Satellite Dish Alignment Meter
Electronic Stethoscope Testing
Sony's Mini Audio Disc System
Periswitch Test Report•DX-TV
VCR Clinic•TV Fault Finding**



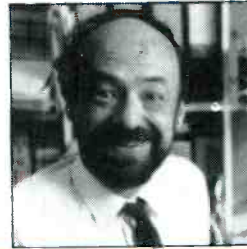
THE FACES BEHIND THE TELEPHONES

WVE AT MANCHESTER



Neil Rowe

For
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Sansui**
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0734-876444



Mike Molloy



Peter Jones

Grundig
Phone Stan Perkins
0734-876444

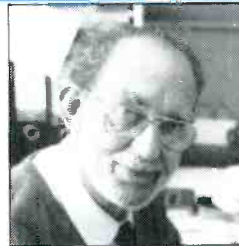


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Samantha Thomas

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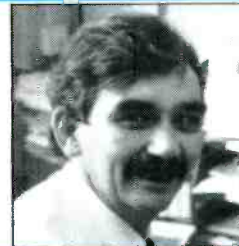


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Joyce Williamson

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GEC
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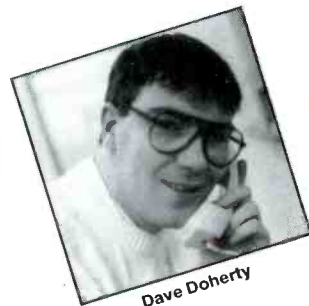
Eddie Sloan

Amstrad, Akai, Fisher, Mitsubishi,
Moulinex, JVC, Nat Panasonic, Pion-
eer, Matsui, Goldstar, Saisho,
Salora, Sony, Toshiba, Yamaha and
many others.

Phone Mike Curtis
0602-870789



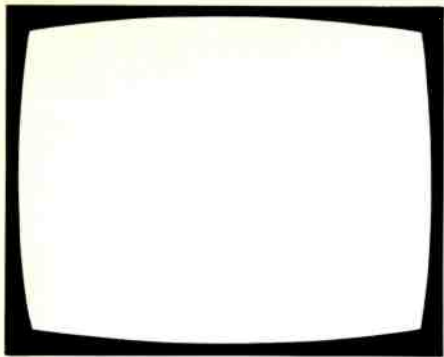
Jan Skarratt



Dave Doherty

**MANCHESTER
OFFICE**
061-682 1415

Willow Vale Electronics Ltd



TELEVISION

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INDEXES AND BINDERS

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QUERIES

We regret that we cannot answer technical queries over the telephone nor supply service sheets. We will endeavour to assist readers who have queries relating to articles published in *Television*, but we cannot offer advice on modifications to our published designs nor comment on alternative ways of using them.

this month

- 785 Leader**
- 786 Letters**
- 790 Long-distance Television** *Roger Bunney*
DX conditions and reception and news from abroad. Maxview distribution amplifiers reviewed.
- 793 Meter Precautions** *George Wilding*
Meter readings can be misleading, depending on the circuitry being checked. Some points to watch out for.
- 794 Satellite Dish Alignment Meter** *Mark Stevenson*
This meter was designed to overcome the deficiencies with a commercial model. It's battery powered and demodulates the sound signal to give certain satellite identification.
- 795 Next Month in Television**
- 796 CD Player Casebook**
Reports from Mike Leach, V.W. Cox and Ronald Aranha.
- 798 Teletopics**
News, comment and developments.
- 800 VCR Clinic**
Reports from Philip Blundell, AMIEIE, Ian Bowden, Chris Avis, Ed Rowland, Eugene Trundle, J. Edwards, Nick Beer and John C. Priest.
- 802 The New BBC Identification Symbols** *Keith Hamer and Garry Smith*
The inside story of how the BBC's identification symbols came to be changed earlier this year.
- 804 The B and O 39XX Series Chassis** *Nick Beer*
As usual with a new chassis from B and O, there are many interesting innovations. An account of set operation, the power supply and powerfail system, the timebase generator section, the use of menus and other features.
- 808 Fifty Years in Radio and TV, Part 9** *Harold Peters*
Retirement proved to be less of a problem than expected. Before and after the great day.
- 809 Electronic Stethoscope Testing** *P.J. Ratcliffe*
Dealing with intermittent faults is always a problem. P.J. Ratcliffe found that checking for noise is a great help, hence the electronic stethoscope.
- 810 What a Life!** *Donald Bullock*
More strange customers and helpful tips.
- 814 TV Fault Finding**
Reports from Philip Blundell, AMIEIE, Ed Rowland, Richard Flowerday, John C. Priest, Stephen Leatherbarrow, Michael Dranfield, Steve Cannon, Roger Burchett and J.K. Carter.
- 816 Sony's Mini Disc Format** *George Cole*
Technical details of the latest audio format. The discs can be erased and re-recorded.
- 818 Test Report: The Periswitch Link Unit** *Eugene Trundle*
This useful item has been designed to simplify video equipment interconnection, providing automatic switching between sources.
- 820 Service Briefs**
Official guidance on Samsung VCRs.
- 822 Test Case 345**

OUR NEXT ISSUE DATED OCTOBER WILL
BE PUBLISHED ON SEPTEMBER 18

AAY32	9p	BD332	40p	BTY79	140p	TIP117	50p	OA47	10p	PCF801	110p	AN7145	195p	ICL7106	650p	LM3909	80p	STK436	490p	STK7226	800p	TAT310	100p
AC107	40p	BD361	60p	BU100A	110p	TIP120	37p	OA90	10p	PCF802	80p	AN7146	210p	ICL7611	90p	LM3911	160p	STK437	500p	STK7308	410p	TAT312	120p
AC125	30p	BD362	60p	BU100B	80p	TIP122	47p	OA47	10p	PCF803	110p	AN7147	195p	ICL7680	200p	LM3914	160p	STK438	580p	STK7309	450p	TAT313	110p
AC126	30p	BD363	60p	BU100C	100p	TIP124	57p	OA47	10p	PCF804	110p	AN7148	195p	ICM7555	240p	LM3916	270p	STK439	580p	STK7310	410p	TAT314	210p
AC127	30p	BD364	60p	BU101	100p	TIP125	47p	OA202	10p	PC181	65p	AN7168	260p	ICM7556	80p	LM3916	270p	STK440	740p	STK7311	410p	TAT315	240p
AC128	35p	BD410	50p	BU109	80p	TIP126	57p	IN.914	2p	PCL82	80p	AN7178	260p	ICM7556	80p	LM3916	270p	STK457	740p	STK7356	450p	TAT317	240p
AC128K	40p	BD433	28p	BU110	110p	TIP127	57p	IN.4001	3p	PCL86	60p	AN7222	300p	ICM7556	80p	LM3916	270p	STK459	560p	STK7358	680p	TAT320	200p
AC141K	45p	BD434	28p	BU111	110p	TIP128	57p	IN.4002	3p	PCL86	60p	AN7223	300p	ICM7556	80p	LM3916	270p	STK460	560p	STK7359	680p	TAT321	200p
AC141K	45p	BD435	31p	BU124	60p	TIP131	30p	IN.4003	3p	PCL86	60p	AN7256	250p	ICM7556	80p	LM3916	270p	STK461	620p	STK7404	400p	TAT325	200p
AC176	22p	BD436	30p	BU126	65p	TIP132	30p	IN.4004	3p	PCL80	80p	AN7310	90p	ICM7556	80p	LM3916	270p	STK463	780p	STK7406	800p	TAT330	250p
AC167K	22p	BD437	28p	BU140	100p	TIP141	90p	IN.4005	3p	PFL200	110p	AN7317	90p	ICM7556	80p	LM3916	270p	STK465	720p	STK7408	880p	TAT336	250p
AC187	20p	BD438	30p	BU146	100p	TIP142	90p	IN.4006	3p	PFL200	110p	AN7319	90p	ICM7556	80p	LM3916	270p	STK467	720p	STK7414	250p	TAT341	250p
AC187K	40p	BD439	40p	BU204	75p	TIP145	65p	IN.4007	4p	PL82	60p	AN7319	90p	ICM7556	80p	LM3916	270p	STK469	500p	STK7554	1000p	TAT343	250p
AC188	25p	BD440	40p	BU205	70p	TIP146	90p	IN.4148	2p	PL84	60p	AY3-1015	290p	ICM7556	80p	LM3916	270p	STK563	480p	STK7561	700p	TAT357	400p
AC188K	40p	BD441	40p	BU206	100p	TIP147	100p	IN.5400	9p	PL95	80p	AY3-1350	450p	ICM7556	80p	LM3916	270p	STK563	480p	STK7563	950p	TAT358	200p
AC189K	40p	BD442	40p	BU207	100p	TIP148	100p	IN.5401	9p	PL95	80p	AY3-1350	450p	ICM7556	80p	LM3916	270p	STK563	480p	STK7563	950p	TAT359	200p
AC189K	40p	BD443	40p	BU208	100p	TIP149	100p	IN.5402	9p	PL95	80p	AY3-1350	450p	ICM7556	80p	LM3916	270p	STK563	480p	STK7563	950p	TAT360	200p
AC189K	40p	BD444	40p	BU209	100p	TIP150	100p	IN.5403	9p	PL95	80p	AY3-1350	450p	ICM7556	80p	LM3916	270p	STK563	480p	STK7563	950p	TAT361	200p
AC189K	40p	BD445	40p	BU210	100p	TIP151	90p	IN.5404	8p	PL504	120p	AY3-8910	360p	ICM7556	80p	LM3916	270p	STK563	480p	STK7563	950p	TAT362	200p
AD149	40p	BD535	38p	BU208AT	90p	TIP295	42p	IN.5403	8p	PL506	120p	AY3-8912	400p	ICM7556	80p	LM3916	270p	STK563	480p	STK7563	950p	TAT363	200p
AF125	50p	BD536	38p	BU209AT	80p	TIP304	42p	IN.5404	8p	PL506	120p	AY3-8912	400p	ICM7556	80p	LM3916	270p	STK563	480p	STK7563	950p	TAT364	200p
AF127	50p	BD537	38p	BU210AT	80p	TIP305	42p	IN.5405	8p	PL506	120p	AY3-8912	400p	ICM7556	80p	LM3916	270p	STK563	480p	STK7563	950p	TAT365	200p
AF139	30p	BD538	40p	BU225	190p	TIS44	15p	IN.5406	12p	PY81	100p	AY3-8912	400p	ICM7556	80p	LM3916	270p	STK563	480p	STK7563	950p	TAT366	200p
AF239	30p	BD543	50p	BU226	190p	TIS61	15p	IN.5407	12p	PY81	100p	AY3-8912	400p	ICM7556	80p	LM3916	270p	STK563	480p	STK7563	950p	TAT367	200p
BA145	10p	BD545	50p	BU312	120p	TIS90	15p	IN.5408	12p	PY500A	190p	AY3-8912	400p	ICM7556	80p	LM3916	270p	STK563	480p	STK7563	950p	TAT368	200p
BA148	10p	BD546	50p	BU326	75p	TIS93	15p	IN.5409	12p	PY500A	190p	AY3-8912	400p	ICM7556	80p	LM3916	270p	STK563	480p	STK7563	950p	TAT369	200p
BA145	10p	BD575	40p	BU406	75p	TK1010	88p	SKE4F2/06	80p	LED's		BA402	60p	LA1150	150p	M5320P	100p	STK1060	760p	STK7600	450p	TAT372	200p
BA157	12p	BD576	40p	BU406B	85p	TK1010	88p	SKE4F2/06	80p	LED's		BA402	60p	LA1150	150p	M5320P	100p	STK1060	760p	STK7600	450p	TAT373	200p
BB105B	38p	BD577	40p	BU407	85p	TK1010	88p	SKE4F2/06	80p	LED's		BA402	60p	LA1150	150p	M5320P	100p	STK1060	760p	STK7600	450p	TAT374	200p
BC107	8p	BD678	40p	BU407D	80p	VN66AF	115p	SR2M	60p	GREEN	5p	BA514	160p	LA1201	75p	M5324P	200p	STK1070	940p	STK7629	420p	TAT375	200p
BC108	8p	BD679	40p	BU408	75p	VN66AF	115p	SR2M	60p	GREEN	5p	BA516	160p	LA1201	75p	M5324P	200p	STK1070	940p	STK7629	420p	TAT376	200p
BC108	8p	BD680	40p	BU408A	85p	VN66AF	115p	SR2M	60p	GREEN	5p	BA516	160p	LA1201	75p	M5324P	200p	STK1070	940p	STK7629	420p	TAT377	200p
BC109	8p	BD681	40p	BU409	85p	VN66AF	115p	SR2M	60p	GREEN	5p	BA516	160p	LA1201	75p	M5324P	200p	STK1070	940p	STK7629	420p	TAT378	200p
BC109C	8p	BD682	45p	BU426A	70p	TK1010	88p	SKE4F2/06	80p	RED	5p	BA516	160p	LA1201	75p	M5324P	200p	STK1070	940p	STK7629	420p	TAT379	200p
BC118	11p	BD705	50p	BU500	100p	TK1010	88p	SKE4F2/06	80p	RED	5p	BA516	160p	LA1201	75p	M5324P	200p	STK1070	940p	STK7629	420p	TAT380	200p
BC140	20p	BD707	50p	BU500A	75p	TK1010	88p	SKE4F2/06	80p	RED	5p	BA516	160p	LA1201	75p	M5324P	200p	STK1070	940p	STK7629	420p	TAT381	200p
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BC142	20p	BD711	50p	BU508D	80p	TK3001	16p	20PIN	12p	RED	5p	BA516	160p	LA1201	75p	M5324P	200p	STK1070	940p	STK7629	420p	TAT383	200p
BC143	20p	BD736	50p	BU508DF	115p	TK3002	16p	22PIN	12p	RED	5p	BA516	160p	LA1201	75p	M5324P	200p	STK1070	940p	STK7629	420p	TAT384	200p
BC147	8p	BD826	50p	BU526	75p	TK3003	24p	24PIN	12p	RED	5p	BA516	160p	LA1201	75p	M5324P	200p	STK1070	940p	STK7629	420p	TAT385	200p
BC148	8p	BD827	50p	BU526	75p	TK3003	24p	24PIN	12p	RED	5p	BA516	160p	LA1201	75p	M5324P	200p	STK1070	940p	STK7629	420p	TAT386	200p
BC157	8p	BD899	50p	BU608	150p	TK5001	13p	20PIN	12p	RED	5p	BA516	160p	LA1201	75p	M5324P	200p	STK1070	940p	STK7629	420p	TAT387	200p
BC159	8p	BD901	50p	BU626	150p	TK5001	13p	20PIN	12p	RED	5p	BA516	160p	LA1201	75p	M5324P	200p	STK1070	940p	STK7629	420p	TAT388	200p
BC160	8p	BD903	50p	BU650	150p	TK5001	13p	20PIN	12p	RED	5p	BA516	160p	LA1201	75p	M5324P	200p	STK1070	940p	STK7629	420p	TAT389	200p
BC171	10p	BDX32	100p	BU801	80p	TK5003	18p	20PIN	12p	RED	5p	BA516	160p	LA1201	75p	M5324P	200p	STK1070	940p	STK7629	420p	TAT390	200p
BC172	10p	BDX33	100p	BU806	75p	TK5004	25p	24PIN	12p	RED	5p	BA516	160p	LA1201	75p	M5324P	200p	STK1070	940p	STK7629	420p	TAT391	200p
BC177	10p	BDX68	80p	BU807	70p	TK5004	25p	24PIN	12p	RED	5p	BA516	160p	LA1201	75p	M5324P	200p	STK1070	940p	STK7629	420p	TAT392	200p
BC178	14p	BDX73	100p	BU808	70p	TK5004	25p	24PIN	12p	RED	5p	BA516	160p	LA1201	75p	M5324P	200p	STK1070	940p	STK7629	420p	TAT393	200p
BC179	14p	BDW24	55p	BU903	130p	2N696	24p	20PIN	12p	RED	5p	BA516	160p	LA1201	75p	M5324P	200p	STK1070	940p	STK7629	420p	TAT394	200p
BC182	7p	BDW33	50p	BU920	130p	2N697	22p	20PIN	12p	RED	5p	BA516	160p	LA1201	75p	M5324P	200p	STK1070	940p	STK7629	420p	TAT395	200p
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BC194	7p	BF152	35p	BU111AF	70p	2N914	28p	20PIN	12p	RED	5p	BA516	160p	LA1201	75p	M5324P	200p	STK1070	940p	STK7629	420p	TAT400	200p
BC194	7p	BF157	30p	BU112	80p	2N930																	

LINEAR IC's		2N435 340p		2SA1315 100p		2SC945 20p		2SC1855 85p		2SC2502 200p		2SC104 1650p		2SC3787 100p		2SD 921 320p		2SD-1273 100p		2SD 1455 320p	
DA4503	300p	2N435	340p	2SA1315	100p	2SC945	20p	2SC1855	85p	2SC2502	200p	2SC104	1650p	2SC3787	100p	2SD 921	320p	2SD-1273	100p	2SD 1455	320p
DA4505	300p	2N448	510p	2SA1316	80p	2SC950	40p	2SC1866	50p	2SC2509	80p	2SC3105	3600p	2SC3789	75p	2SD 923	360p	2SD 1275	160p	2SD 1457	220p
DA4510	300p	2N459	190p	2SA1317	30p	2SC959	225p	2SC1861	40p	2SC2616	125p	2SC3112	35p	2SC3790	120p	2SD 946	120p	2SD 1276	200p	2SD 1459	120p
DA4512	200p	2N465	600p	2SA1318	30p	2SC980	120p	2SC1865	70p	2SC2629	90p	2SC3114	40p	2SC3795	200p	2SD 947	100p	2SD 1277	190p	2SD 1468	60p
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DA4520	400p	2N501	200p	2SA1325	30p	2SC987	60p	2SC1872	20p	2SC2652	30p	2SC3121	80p	2SC3802	200p	2SD 954	50p	2SD 1284	200p	2SD 1475	200p
DA4521	400p	2N506	200p	2SA1326	30p	2SC988	60p	2SC1873	20p	2SC2655	30p	2SC3122	80p	2SC3803	200p	2SD 955	50p	2SD 1285	200p	2SD 1476	200p
DA4522	400p	2N511	200p	2SA1327	30p	2SC989	60p	2SC1874	20p	2SC2658	30p	2SC3123	80p	2SC3804	200p	2SD 956	50p	2SD 1286	200p	2SD 1477	200p
DA4523	400p	2N516	200p	2SA1328	30p	2SC990	60p	2SC1875	20p	2SC2661	30p	2SC3124	80p	2SC3805	200p	2SD 957	50p	2SD 1287	200p	2SD 1478	200p
DA4524	400p	2N521	200p	2SA1329	30p	2SC991	60p	2SC1876	20p	2SC2664	30p	2SC3125	80p	2SC3806	200p	2SD 958	50p	2SD 1288	200p	2SD 1479	200p
DA4525	400p	2N526	200p	2SA1330	30p	2SC992	60p	2SC1877	20p	2SC2667	30p	2SC3126	80p	2SC3807	200p	2SD 959	50p	2SD 1289	200p	2SD 1480	200p
DA4526	400p	2N531	200p	2SA1331	30p	2SC993	60p	2SC1878	20p	2SC2670	30p	2SC3127	80p	2SC3808	200p	2SD 960	50p	2SD 1290	200p	2SD 1481	200p
DA4527	400p	2N536	200p	2SA1332	30p	2SC994	60p	2SC1879	20p	2SC2673	30p	2SC3128	80p	2SC3809	200p	2SD 961	50p	2SD 1291	200p	2SD 1482	200p
DA4528	400p	2N541	200p	2SA1333	30p	2SC995	60p	2SC1880	20p	2SC2676	30p	2SC3129	80p	2SC3810	200p	2SD 962	50p	2SD 1292	200p	2SD 1483	200p
DA4529	400p	2N546	200p	2SA1334	30p	2SC996	60p	2SC1881	20p	2SC2679	30p	2SC3130	80p	2SC3811	200p	2SD 963	50p	2SD 1293	200p	2SD 1484	200p
DA4530	400p	2N551	200p	2SA1335	30p	2SC997	60p	2SC1882	20p	2SC2682	30p	2SC3131	80p	2SC3812	200p	2SD 964	50p	2SD 1294	200p	2SD 1485	200p
DA4531	400p	2N556	200p	2SA1336	30p	2SC998	60p	2SC1883	20p	2SC2685	30p	2SC3132	80p	2SC3813	200p	2SD 965	50p	2SD 1295	200p	2SD 1486	200p
DA4532	400p	2N561	200p	2SA1337	30p	2SC999	60p	2SC1884	20p	2SC2688	30p	2SC3133	80p	2SC3814	200p	2SD 966	50p	2SD 1296	200p	2SD 1487	200p
DA4533	400p	2N566	200p	2SA1338	30p	2SC1000	60p	2SC1885	20p	2SC2691	30p	2SC3134	80p	2SC3815	200p	2SD 967	50p	2SD 1297	200p	2SD 1488	200p
DA4534	400p	2N571	200p	2SA1339	30p	2SC1001	60p	2SC1886	20p	2SC2694	30p	2SC3135	80p	2SC3816	200p	2SD 968	50p	2SD 1298	200p	2SD 1489	200p
DA4535	400p	2N576	200p	2SA1340	30p	2SC1002	60p	2SC1887	20p	2SC2697	30p	2SC3136	80p	2SC3817	200p	2SD 969	50p	2SD 1299	200p	2SD 1490	200p
DA4536	400p	2N581	200p	2SA1341	30p	2SC1003	60p	2SC1888	20p	2SC2700	30p	2SC3137	80p	2SC3818	200p	2SD 970	50p	2SD 1300	200p	2SD 1491	200p
DA4537	400p	2N586	200p	2SA1342	30p	2SC1004	60p	2SC1889	20p	2SC2703	30p	2SC3138	80p	2SC3819	200p	2SD 971	50p	2SD 1301	200p	2SD 1492	200p
DA4538	400p	2N591	200p	2SA1343	30p	2SC1005	60p	2SC1890	20p	2SC2706	30p	2SC3139	80p	2SC3820	200p	2SD 972	50p	2SD 1302	200p	2SD 1493	200p
DA4539	400p	2N596	200p	2SA1344	30p	2SC1006	60p	2SC1891	20p	2SC2709	30p	2SC3140	80p	2SC3821	200p	2SD 973	50p	2SD 1303	200p	2SD 1494	200p
DA4540	400p	2N601	200p	2SA1345	30p	2SC1007	60p	2SC1892	20p	2SC2712	30p	2SC3141	80p	2SC3822	200p	2SD 974	50p	2SD 1304	200p	2SD 1495	200p
DA4541	400p	2N606	200p	2SA1346	30p	2SC1008	60p	2SC1893	20p	2SC2715	30p	2SC3142	80p	2SC3823	200p	2SD 975	50p	2SD 1305	200p	2SD 1496	200p
DA4542	400p	2N611	200p	2SA1347	30p	2SC1009	60p	2SC1894	20p	2SC2718	30p	2SC3143	80p	2SC3824	200p	2SD 976	50p	2SD 1306	200p	2SD 1497	200p
DA4543	400p	2N616	200p	2SA1348	30p	2SC1010	60p	2SC1895	20p	2SC2721	30p	2SC3144	80p	2SC3825	200p	2SD 977	50p	2SD 1307	200p	2SD 1498	200p
DA4544	400p	2N621	200p	2SA1349	30p	2SC1011	60p	2SC1896	20p	2SC2724	30p	2SC3145	80p	2SC3826	200p	2SD 978	50p	2SD 1308	200p	2SD 1499	200p
DA4545	400p	2N626	200p	2SA1350	30p	2SC1012	60p	2SC1897	20p	2SC2727	30p	2SC3146	80p	2SC3827	200p	2SD 979	50p	2SD 1309	200p	2SD 1500	200p
DA4546	400p	2N631	200p	2SA1351	30p	2SC1013	60p	2SC1898	20p	2SC2730	30p	2SC3147	80p	2SC3828	200p	2SD 980	50p	2SD 1310	200p	2SD 1501	200p
DA4547	400p	2N636	200p	2SA1352	30p	2SC1014	60p	2SC1899	20p	2SC2733	30p	2SC3148	80p	2SC3829	200p	2SD 981	50p	2SD 1311	200p	2SD 1502	200p
DA4548	400p	2N641	200p	2SA1353	30p	2SC1015	60p	2SC1900	20p	2SC2736	30p	2SC3149	80p	2SC3830	200p	2SD 982	50p	2SD 1312	200p	2SD 1503	200p
DA4549	400p	2N646	200p	2SA1354	30p	2SC1016	60p	2SC1901	20p	2SC2739	30p	2SC3150	80p	2SC3831	200p	2SD 983	50p	2SD 1313	200p	2SD 1504	200p
DA4550	400p	2N651	200p	2SA1355	30p	2SC1017	60p	2SC1902	20p	2SC2742	30p	2SC3151	80p	2SC3832	200p	2SD 984	50p	2SD 1314	200p	2SD 1505	200p
DA4551	400p	2N656	200p	2SA1356	30p	2SC1018	60p	2SC1903	20p	2SC2745	30p	2SC3152	80p	2SC3833	200p	2SD 985	50p	2SD 1315	200p	2SD 1506	200p
DA4552	400p	2N661	200p	2SA1357	30p	2SC1019	60p	2SC1904	20p	2SC2748	30p	2SC3153	80p	2SC3834	200p	2SD 986	50p	2SD 1316	200p	2SD 1507	200p
DA4553	400p	2N666	200p	2SA1358	30p	2SC1020	60p	2SC1905	20p	2SC2751	30p	2SC3154	80p	2SC3835	200p	2SD 987	50p	2SD 1317	200p	2SD 1508	200p
DA4554	400p	2N671	200p	2SA1359	30p	2SC1021	60p	2SC1906	20p	2SC2754	30p	2SC3155	80p	2SC3836	200p	2SD 988	50p	2SD 1318	200p	2SD 1509	200p
DA4555	400p	2N676	200p	2SA1360	30p	2SC1022	60p	2SC1907	20p	2SC2757	30p	2SC3156	80p	2SC3837	200p	2SD 989	50p	2SD 1319	200p	2SD 1510	200p
DA4556	400p	2N681	200p	2SA1361	30p	2SC1023	60p	2SC1908	20p	2SC2760	30p	2SC3157	80p	2SC3838	200p	2SD 990	50p	2SD 1320	200p	2SD 1511	200p
DA4557	400p	2N686	200p	2SA1362	30p	2SC1024	60p	2SC1909	20p	2SC2763	30p	2SC3158	80p	2SC3839	200p	2SD 991	50p	2SD 1321	200p	2SD 1512	200p
DA4558	400p	2N691	200p	2SA1363	30p	2SC1025	60p	2SC1910	20p	2SC2766	30p	2SC3159	80p	2SC3840	200p	2SD 992	50p	2SD 1322	200p	2SD 1513	200p
DA4559	400p	2N696	200p	2SA1364	30p	2SC1026	60p	2SC1911	20p	2SC2769	30p	2SC3160	80p	2SC3841	200p	2SD 993	50p	2SD 1323	200p	2	

IDLERS & PULLEYS REPLACEMENTS			
AMSTRAD		Reference	
VCR7000		150280	£1.50
AKAI			
VS1-2, VS4-5, VS15	FF-REW IDLER	M1327773	£4.50
VS1-2, VS4-5, VS15	T-UP IDLER	BV327815	£6.00
V9700	IDLER	BV321979	£6.00
VS125, 126, 155, VS165, 240, 244, VS245, 247, 248, VS250, 512, 515, 516	IDLER ASSY	MZ368960J2	£11.00
FERGUSON			
3V16-22	T-UP IDLER	PU47752	£4.50
3V16-22	T-UP IDLER	PU49280	£6.30
3V23, 3V29-30, 3V31-32, 3V35	REEL IDLER	PU48967	£3.00
3V23	ROLLER ASSY	PU49042A	£4.00
3V29-30, 3V31-32, 3V35-36, 3V38-39, 3V49	T-UP IDLER	51402	£1.45
3V29-30, 3V31-32	T-UP CLUTCH	PU51380	£2.60
3V35-36, 3V38-39, 3V49	REEL IDLER	PU55374	£2.85
3V35-36, 3V38-39, 3V49	T-UP CLUTCH	PU55373	£2.25
3V58-59, 3V64-65, FV10-11, FV12-13, FV14	IDLER ARM	PU58645	£2.50
3V42	CLUTCH ASSY	PU55822	£13.50
3V44	CLUTCH ASSY	PU57658	£11.50
3V42, 43, 48, 53, 56	T-UP CLUTCH	PU56043-1-4	£2.80
3V42, 43, 48, 53, 56	SUPPORT CLUTCH	PU56044-1-5	£2.80
FISHER			
FVHP520, FVHP530	FF-REW PULLEY	H1638531	£1.00
FVHP615	COMP. IDLER ASSY	F11430420400300	£3.30
FVHP615	GEAR IDLER ASSY	F11430490400900	£5.50
FVHP840	REEL T-UP ASSY	F11430410400900	£6.50
FVHP905, 906, 908, FVHP910, 916	GEAR IDLER ASSY	F11430490402400	£6.20
FVHP975, 990, 999, FVHP5000, 5100	IDLER	F11430420400700	£5.20
GOLDSTAR			
IDLER		435038A	£2.50
HITACHI			
VT11-33, VT63-64, VT14, 17, 19, 38, 57, VT86, 88	FF-REW IDLER	6886971	£1.50
	PLAY IDLER	V-6861482	£3.20
	CLUTCH ASSY	6879515	£7.50
VT120-220	CLUTCH ASSY	6886824	£7.50
VT8000-8300, VT8500-8700	FF-REW IDLER	6413663	£2.80
VT8000-8300, VT8500-8700	PLAY IDLER	6414221	£3.60
VT8000-8300, VT8500-8700	FF-REW PULLEY	6383531	£0.80
VT9300-9500	FF-REW IDLER	8681471	£3.30
VT9300-9500	PLAY IDLER	8681482	£3.20
VT9300-9500	IDLER	681505	£3.00
	IDLER	687043	£3.80
VT11-33, VT63-64	FF-REW IDLER	6886971	£1.50
HINARI			
VXL3, VXL20	REEL IDLER	40000009	£1.50
ITT			
VR3905, VR3906	T-UP IDLER	PU51402	£1.45
VR3906	REEL IDLER	PU55374	£2.85
VR3913, VR3943	REEL IDLER	PU48967	£3.00
JVC			
HR330, 3660, 4100	T-UP IDLER SML	PU49280	£6.00
HR7200, HR7600, HR7650, HR7655	T-UP CLUTCH	PU53462A	£3.00
HR7200, HR7600, HR7650, HR7655	REEL IDLER	PU48967	£3.00
HR7700	ROLLER ASSY	PU49042A	£4.00
HR3300, 3660, 4100	T-UP IDLER LRG	PU47752	£4.50
HR7200, 7600, 7650, HR7655, HRD110, HRD120-121, HRD225	T-UP CLUTCH	PU55373	£2.25
HRD110, HRD120-121, HRD225	IDLER ARM	PU55374-3-8	£2.85
MATSUI			
VX730, 735, 750, 755, VX810, 820, 880, 990	CLUTCH	850A00005	£6.50
mitsubishi			
HS306, 307, 318, 319, HS410, 710	GEAR ASSY	Reference 522P00201	£6.25

IDLERS & PULLEYS REPLACEMENTS — Cont.			
NATIONAL			
NV322, NV600, NV688, NV777, NV788	IDLER UNIT	VXP0463	£3.00
NV333	IDLER ARM	VXL0997	£3.60
NV333, NV366	IDLER UNIT	VXP0401	£0.75
NV333, NV366	PLAY IDLER	VXP0433	£3.00
NV333, NV3000	ACTION GEAR	VVG0016	£0.60
NV333, NV2000, NV3000	LOADING GEAR	VXP0325	£2.00
NV7800			
NV333, NV2000, NV3000	INTERMEDIATE GEAR	VXG0017	£0.65
NV333	CAM GEAR	VXG0158	£1.00
NV366	IDLER ARM	VXL0997	£3.60
NV370, NV430, NV730, NV830, NV850, NV870, NVG7, NVG10, NVG12, NVG18	IDLER ARM	VXP0521	£1.70
NV370, NV430, NV870, NV730, NV830, NV850	CAM GEAR	VVG0200	£1.20
NV730	IDLER UNIT	VXP0581	£2.50
NV2000, NV3000	IDLER UNIT	VXP0331	£1.20
NV2000, NV3000	IDLER UNIT	VXP0329	£1.20
NV2000, NV3000	CAM GEAR	VVG0069	£1.00
NV2000, NV3000	ACTION GEAR	VVG0016	£0.60
NV7000, 7200, 7800	IDLER UNIT	VXP0344	£1.00
NV7000, 7200, 7800	CLUTCH	VXP0343	£5.50
NV8400, NV8600	IDLER UNIT	VXP0245	£1.20
NV8610, NV8620			
NV8600, NV8610, NV8620	PLAY IDLER	VXP0243	£1.20
NV8620	CLUTCH	VXP0343	£5.50
NV600	IDLER	VXP0488	£3.50
NVG21-25, NVG40-45	PULLEY UNIT	VXP0767	£5.80
ORION			
VH200-201	IDLER	850A200004	£3.50
VH555-700, VH844-900, VH1000-1500, VH1800, VP200, VH530	IDLER	850A200005	£6.50
VH535-630, VH635-640, VH893-1440, VH2500-2600, VH2700-4010, VH5010			
PHILIPS			
DV464, VR6462, VR6463	IDLER	52220334	£2.50
VR6660, VR6660			
VR6460, VR6520, 6920	IDLER ARM	40340162	£1.70
DB532, VR6542, VR6843	REEL IDLER		£7.50
SANYO			
VHR110, VHR1300, VHR1500	IDLER	1430662T14730	£5.00
VTCS5000, VTCS5150	FF-REW IDLER	1430741T20001	£3.00
VTCS9100, VTC9300	IDLER	1430551T01400	£1.20
VTCS9300	FF ROLLER ASSY	1430547T00200	£2.20
VTCS10-20	REEL DRIVE PULLEY	1430662T10350	£5.00
VHR2100, VHR2300	IDLER	6130374899	£5.00
VTCS5000, VTC5150	PULLEY	143-0-662T-01201	£5.20
VTCS10-20	PULLEY	143-0-662T-10350	£5.50
SHARP			
VC651, VC681, VC685	IDLER ASSY	NPLYV0107GEZZ	£6.15
VC7300, VC7700	PLAY IDLER KIT	NPLYV0041 + NDA1V1007	£5.00
VC381, VC383, VC386, VC8381, VC9100, VC9300, VC9500, VC9700	IDLER	NIDL0005GEZZ	£1.50
VC300, VC387, VC481, VC482, VC483, VC496, VC571, VC585	IDLER	NIDL0006GEZZ	£1.50
VC780-781, VC785-787, VC793-VCT72	REEL IDLER	NPLTV0111GEZZ	£7.00
SAISHO			
VR1100, VR1200, VR1200HQ, VR1600, VR2500, VR3300, VR3500, VR3600	CLUTCH	850A20000	£6.50
SAMSUNG			
VT510-511, VT520-610, VT611-616, VT620-621-626	IDLER WHEEL	65224704220	£1.50
VT510-511, VT520-610, VT611-616, VT620, 621, 626	IDLER COMPLETE	69000250330	£4.50
SONY			
C6	IDLER KIT ASSY	A 6706391	£3.50
C7	IDLER ASSY	X 36533100	£3.80
SL-C5, SL-C7	REW PULLEY	A-6706-348-B	£4.00
SL-C6	REW PULLEY	A-6706-391-A-B	£3.00
CASSETTE DC MOTORS			
6V MOTOR			£2.00
9V MOTOR			£2.00
12V CW MOTOR			£2.00
12V CCW MOTOR			£2.00
13.2V CW MOTOR			£2.90
13.2V CCW MOTOR			£2.90
CASSETTE TAPE HEADS			
MONO HEAD			£0.90
STEREO HEAD			£1.50
MINI HEAD			£2.30
AUTO REVERSE HEAD			£2.60

VIDEO MOTORS			
AMSTRAD			
VCR 7000	REEL MOTOR		£17.00
FERGUSON & JVC			
PU 45979, 3V16, 3V22, HR3300, HR3660	CAPSTAN MOTOR		£21.00
PU 55371V, 3V35, 3V36, 3V38, 3V39, 8943, 8944, HRD110, HRD120, HRD121, HRD225	CAPSTAN MOTOR		£19.50
PU 46414, 8904, 8922, HR3300, HR3320, HR3330, HR3360, HR3600, HR3660	DRUM MOTOR		£19.50
PU 51381V, 3V39, 3V30, 8930, HR7200, HR7300	REEL MOTOR		£26.50
PU 58635V, 3V58, 3V59, 3V64, 3V65, 8950, 8951, FV10B, FV11R, FV12L, FV13H, FV20B, FV21R, FV22L, HRD170, HRD180, HRD230, HRD370, HRD430	CAPSTAN MOTOR		£29.00
PU 58636W, 3V58, 3V59, 3V64, 3V65, 8950, 8951, FV10B, FV11R, FV12L, FV13H, FV14I, FV20B, FV21R, FV22L, HRD170, HRD180, HRD230, HRD370, HRD430, HRD530	REEL MOTOR		£18.00
3V43, 3V44, 3V45, 3V48, 3V53, 3V54, 3V55, 3V56, 3V57, 8945, 8947, 8948, HRD140, HRD150, HRD455, HRD565, HRD725, HRD755, HRP50, R73AF	LOADING MOTOR		£8.00
mitsubishi			
288P02801, HS300, 301, 302, 310	MOTOR REEL SPOOLING		£33.50
288P02806, HS303, 304, 320, 330, 700	MOTOR REEL SPOOLING		£31.50
288P03401, HS303, 700	MOTOR REEL TAKE-UP GEN		£21.00
NATIONAL			
MYN 135V5L, NV332, NV333, NV340, NV366	REEL MOTOR		£13.50
VEM0212, NV730, NV770	MOTOR REEL GEN		£30.00
SANYO			
4-529V-10800 (RM11), VTC5000, VTC5150	REEL MOTOR		£6.30
SHARP			
RMOTV 1008GEZZ, VC200, VC381, VC384, VC385, VC386, VC483, VC3300, VC8381, VC9100, VC9300, VC9500, VC9700	REEL MOTOR		£13.50
RMOTV 1007GEZZ, VC387, VC483, VC486, VC585	REEL MOTOR		£16.50
RMOTV 1010GEZZ, VC300, VC402, VC471, VC477, VC481, VC482, VC488, VC496, VC500, VC571, VC581, VC582, VC583, VC584, VC5F3, VC8481, VC8581	REEL MOTOR		£16.00
SONY			
BHF 11000, SLC7	CAPSTAN MOTOR		£25.00
CASSETTE HOUSING			
FERGUSON & JVC			
3V38, 3V39, 8943, 8944, 8951, 3V35, 3V36, HRD110, HRD120, HRD121, HRD225			£24.00
3V42, 3V43, 3V44, 3V45, 8945, 8947, HRD140, HRD141, HRD150, HRD455, HRD725			£24.00
8948, 8950, FV10B, FV12L, FV13H, FV14T, FV20B, FV21R, FV22L, HRD230, HRD430, HRD530			£24.00
3V58, 3V59, 3V64, 3V65, FV11R, HRD170, HRD180, HRD370			£24.00
VIDEO LAMPS			
UNIVERSAL VIDEO LAMPS 12V 60mA (300mm WIRES)			£0.30
PANASONIC VIDEO LAMPS			£0.50
SONY FLYBACK TRANSFORMERS			
Part No.	Models		Price
1-439-216-00	KV-2002E, 2010E, 2200E, 2015, 1820E, 2010SE, KV-2012ME, 2016ME, 2015ME, 2010ME		£14.00
1-439-256-11	KV-2704EC, 2704UB, 2704ET, 2704E(A), 2704E		£40.00
1-439-286-21	KV-2215UB, 2217UB, 2215E1, 2215FE, 2212EX, 2215ET		£30.50
1-439-289-21	KV-2705F, 2705FE, 2705UB, 2705E, 2706UB, 2720EC		£40.00
1-439-303-00	KV-2064EC, 20P51, 2082ME7, 2056EC, 2060SA, KV-2062E(ESP)		£22.75
1-439-311-00	KV-1440AEC, 1440AS MK2, CPS-14CD3, CPV-14CD2, KTX-1350NF, KTX-1430UB		£22.00
1-439-332-21	KV-2756, 2730EC, 2730FE, 2764EC, 2752UB, 2752F		£30.00
1-439-333-00	KV-1882EC, 1882UB, 1882F, 1882CH, 1882AEB, 1882AM, KV-1882ME3, 1882HK, 1882AS, 16TR1, 882EC(PS), 1770R		£21.50
1-439-363-21	KV-19HT1A, 19FX1MT, 18G2, 1602M7, 1602GE, ADM-16B, KV-2092UB, 2096UB		£22.00
NATIONAL LINE OUTPUT TRANSFORMER			
TLF 146-11B			£19.00
TLF 155-42F			£25.00
TLF 14568F			£26.00
TLF 14567F			£26.00
TLF 14715F			£27.00
TLF 14749B			£20.00
NATIONAL TRANSFORMERS			
TLF 6609B			£23.00
HITACHI TRANSFORMERS			
2434274			£20.00

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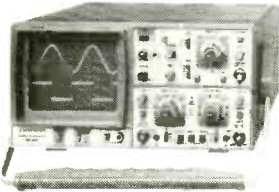
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HM203-7 20MHz STANDARD



SPECIFICATION

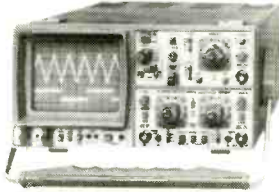
- * 2 Channels
- * Bandwidth: DC - 20MHz
- * Sens: Ch.1, Ch.2, 1mV/cm
- * Timebase: 0.1s - 20ns/cm
- * Triggering: DC - 40MHz
- * Active TV - Sync - Separator
- * Variable hold-off
- * Trigger LED indicator
- * Calibrator: 1KHz Square wave
- * Component tester
- * Plus many features

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SPECIFICATIONS

- * 2 Channels
- * Bandwidth: DC - 60 MHz
- * Sens: Ch.1, Ch.2, 1mV/cm
- * Timebase: 2.5s - 5ns/cm
- * Triggering: DC - 80MHz
- * Active TV - Sync - Separator
- * After delay trigger
- * Sweep delay
- * Delay line
- * Trigger LED indicator
- * Calibrator: 1KHz & 1MHz Sq. Wave
- * Component tester

HM604 60MHz UNIVERSAL



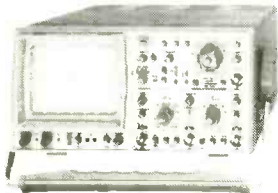
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HM1005 100MHz UNIVERSAL

3 CHANNELS - UP TO 6 TRACES

SPECIFICATION

- * 3 Channels
- * Bandwidth: DC - 100MHz
- * Sens: Ch.1, Ch.2, Ch.3, 1mV/cm
- * Timebase A: 2.5s - 5ns/cm
- * Timebase B: 0.2s - 5ns/cm
- * Triggering DC - 130MHz
- * After delay trigger
- * Delay line
- * Trigger LED indicator
- * Overscan LED indicator
- * Active TV - Sync - Separator
- * Calibrator: 1KHz & 1MHz Sq. Wave

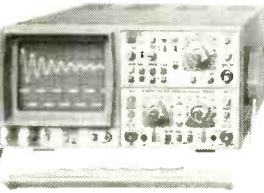


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SPECIFICATION

- * Digital Storage
- * Analogue real time (Same as 203-7)
- * Bandwidth: DC - 20MHz
- * Sens: Ch.1, Ch.2, 1mV/cm
- * Timebase Digital: 5s-1µs/cm
- * Triggering DC - 40MHz
- * Active TV - Sync - Sampling
- * Max sampling rate: 2 x 20MHz
- * Memory: 2 x 2048 x 8 Bit
- * Dot joiner
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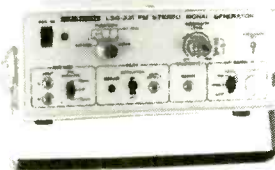
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FEATURES

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- * Comprehensive test lead set included.
- * Mains powered.
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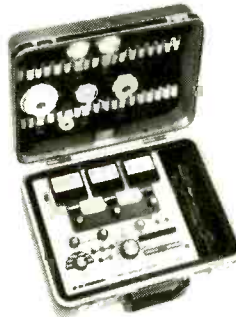
Light weight, easy-to-grip high-impact plastic handle with arc-over protection and no need of extra equipment. An indispensable item in your TV service kit. Measures up to 40kV DC with safety and the greatest of ease. Entirely self-contained. Connect the lead clip to chassis and probe tip to the check point, read the meter for voltage.

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Prices

- Model 490 Tri-dynamic three meter instrument inc. 6 common adaptors..... £446.00 - £78.05 V.A.T.
- Without adaptors..... £393.00 - £68.77 V.A.T.
- Model 480 Single meter instrument inc. 6 common adaptors..... £334.00 - £58.45 V.A.T.
- Without adaptors..... £281.00 - £49.18 V.A.T.

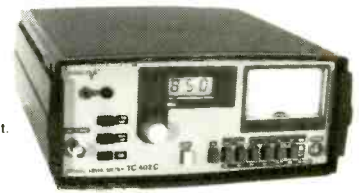
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TC402-C VHF & UHF

FEATURES

- * Three bands:
 - Low VHF: 45-110MHz
 - High VHF: 110-300MHz
 - UHF: 470-862MHz
- * Digital display for direct frequency readout.
- * Built-in monitor loudspeaker AM/FM.
- * Signal measurement from 20µV to 100mV.
- * Powered by eight 1.5 AA batteries.
- * Fully portable with sturdy carrying case.

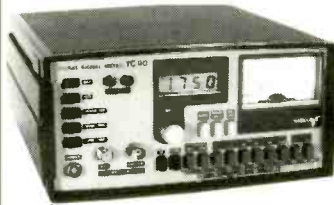


Price £259.00 + £45.33 V.A.T.

TC90 VHF-UHF-SAT.

FEATURES

- * Five bands:
 - Low VHF: 45-110MHz
 - High VHF: 110-300MHz
 - Hyper VHF: 300-470MHz
 - VHF: 470-862MHz
 - Satellite: 950-1750MHz.
- * Digital display for direct frequency readout.
- * Signal measurement VHF/UHF 20µV to 3V.
- * Signal measurement satellite -70dBm to -10dBm.
- * Audible indication of satellite signal level.
- * Built-in-monitor loudspeaker AM/FM (not satellite).
- * Powered by rechargeable battery (complete with charger 220/240V AC).
- * Fully portable with sturdy carry case.



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The Orion is a compact, bench instrument offering a wide range of patterns and facilities at a truly low cost.

In addition to a switchable sound carrier facility which allows use with the majority of PAL TV systems, the Orion provides highly flexible RGB outputs, ensuring compatibility with most video monitors.

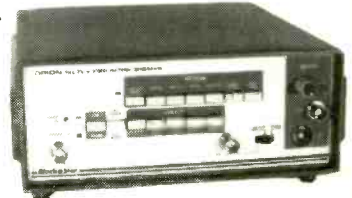
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A separate video input to modulate camera signals; fully variable RF and video output levels facilitating AGC testing; trigger output allowing easy triggering of difficult oscilloscope waveforms; external sound modulation input via DIN connector for frequency response testing of TV sound systems; adjustable wide frequency coverage of VHF and UHF TV bands.

Just some of the features making the Orion Pattern Generator an indispensable tool in the manufacture, test, and servicing of televisions, and computer and video monitors.

FEATURES

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- * 5.5MHz, 6.0MHz, 6.5MHz Sound Carriers.
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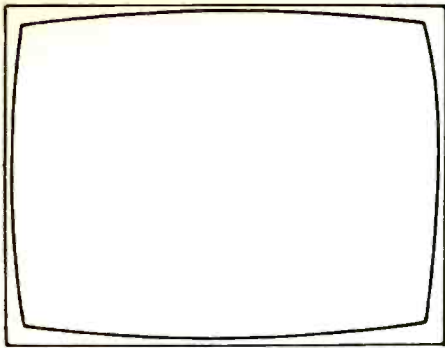
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		STR490	8.95	TDA3654A	3.95	Sharp C1410	24.95	BC639	10	BC639	10	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50
		STR4211	4.50	TDA4500	3.95			BC639	10	BC639	10	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50
		STR5412	4.95	TDA4501H	5.95			BC639	10	BC639	10	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50
		STR40090	8.95	TDA4503E	6.50			BC639	10	BC639	10	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50
		STR50020	7.95	TDA4505E	4.50			BC639	10	BC639	10	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50
		STR50103A	6.50	TDA4600 2D	2.95			BC639	10	BC639	10	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50
		STR54041	9.95	TDA4601	3.50			BC639	10	BC639	10	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50
		STR55041	6.95	TDA4601DIL	4.75			BC639	10	BC639	10	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50
		STR58041	6.95	TDA4810 (Genuine)	8.50			BC639	10	BC639	10	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50
		STR6020 (KIT)	5.95	TDA9503	3.75			BC639	10	BC639	10	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50
		TA7222P	2.95	TEA1014A	3.95			BC639	10	BC639	10	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50
		TBA120U	1.95	TEA1039	2.95			BC639	10	BC639	10	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50
		TBA820M	1.75	TEA2018A	2.95			BC639	10	BC639	10	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50
		TDA1035T	2.95	TDA1170S	1.95			BC639	10	BC639	10	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50
		TDA1037	2.75	TDA1510	1.95			BC639	10	BC639	10	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50
		TDA1044	2.95	TDA1512	3.50			BC639	10	BC639	10	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50
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		TDA1512	3.50	UPC1378H	3.95			BC639	10	BC639	10	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50
		TDA1515	4.50	UPC1394C	2.95			BC639	10	BC639	10	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50
				UPC1420CA	8.50			BC639	10	BC639	10	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50
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								BC639	10	BC639	10	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50
								BC639	10	BC639	10	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50
								BC639	10	BC639	10	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50
								BC639	10	BC639	10	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50
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								BC639	10	BC639	10	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50
								BC639	10	BC639	10	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50
								BC639	10	BC639	10	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50
								BC639	10	BC639	10	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.50	Ferguson 3V42/55	19.5



TELEVISION

Thumbs Up or Down?

An interesting controversy over TV broadcasting prospects in the UK has been going on in the pages of *The Independent* recently. It was started by Steven Barnett of the Henley Centre who put forward the view that "the multi-channel TV revolution is a myth", hyped up in order to get lenders to invest in the new services. He supported his contention that the basic four-channel system has survived intact and will continue to account for the major share of the public's viewing for the foreseeable future by pointing to the failure of cable TV to persuade households to subscribe in any appreciable numbers and satellite TV's limited success to date, with BskyB still running up considerable losses. According to Mr. Barnett, Henley Centre research suggests that thirty per cent of the population would watch less television if they had more money. Watching television is, apparently, something that we do largely when we've nothing better to do. If this is indeed the case, the idea of adding more and more channels is simply going to result in bigger and bigger losses.

More optimistic views were put forward by John Clemens, chairman of Continental Research, which carries out the satellite TV monitoring for the *Financial Times*, and Peter Bowman, director of Carat Research. Mr. Clemens pointed to the accuracy of his organisation's forecasts to date and went on to say that its present longer-term forecast is that by 1997 over nine million homes in the UK, some forty per cent of all households, will be able to obtain multi-channel TV via either cable or dish, with a slower increase thereafter. He suggests that there will be adequate funds to support around fifteen channels by the year 2000. Mr. Bowman drew attention to the fact that the new channels are focused on sizeable subgroups, for example sports, music or film devotees, and do not seek to attract the highest possible audiences.

This more sanguine approach sounds reasonable, but there are nevertheless other factors that give rise to some concern. For example TVS has just revealed that its bid to retain its S.E. England franchise was just over £45m a year. That's a substantial sum by any reckoning, and prompts the question whether TVS, assuming that it succeeds with its bid, will be viable. Its profit projections are based on further cost cutting and an assumption that advertising will grow substantially – by 11.7 per cent between now and the end of 1993, and at a compound annual rate of 5.7 per cent between 1993 and 1997. On this basis it predicts a profit of £1.1m in 1993, a pretty miserable return even if all goes well. An analyst suggests that a loss of £20m in 1993 is more likely. Considering that TVS is in a loss situation to start with, the outlook doesn't seem to be particularly promising and prompts the question of what the ITC would do if a contractor went bust?

The announcement that W.H. Smith is to withdraw from TV, selling its interests for £45m to a consortium that consists of Canal Plus, ESPN and Générale d'Images, adds further substance to the view that TV is going to be a tricky business in the Nineties. W.H. Smith's £45m represents an appreciable loss on an investment estimated to have been as high as £80m. It's noteworthy that the consortium consists of French and US companies. Similarly most of the money going into cable TV is coming from abroad. Do foreigners know something that we don't about the future of TV in the UK? Or could they be trying to apply to the UK policies based on their own domestic markets, policies that might turn out to be inappropriate? They might feel that at bottom it's possible to run channels cheaply by churning out pap. Who'd watch it? Well if the worst came to the worst there perhaps wouldn't be much choice, just pap, pap and more pap. The situation is not unknown elsewhere.

But it's possible to overdo the pessimism. A well-run broadcaster offering a quality service should have no great difficulty in making a success of its business. The Nineties are clearly going to be a more difficult time for everyone than the previous decade however, and the recent changes in the way in which TV broadcasting is run are not going to make them any easier.

Jasmine Bligh

The death of Jasmine Bligh on July 21st severed a link with the earliest days of TV broadcasting in the UK – she was the BBC's first female announcer when regular transmissions from Alexandra Palace started on November 2nd, 1936. She started a stage career at the age of seventeen and subsequently replied to a BBC advertisement for female television "hostess-announcers". The BBC received 1,122 applications, out of whom Jasmine Bligh and Elizabeth Cowell were selected. There were no autocues or prompts back in 1936: Jasmine had to learn 400 words a day to say directly to the camera. Pay was £350 a year, plus a dress allowance that included two evening dresses which had to be worn after 6 p.m.! Jasmine entered fully into the pioneering spirit of early TV, taking a great interest in outside broadcasts. She is remembered in particular for her comment "hello, remember me?" when she was the first to appear on the screen at the restart of TV broadcasting in 1946.

Publishing Changes

Some important changes to *Television's* publishing arrangements have come into effect this month. They affect in particular the advertising side. We have been moved from IPC Magazines Ltd. to Reed Business Publishing Ltd. in Sutton, Surrey – both firms are subsidiaries of Reed International, so there has been no change in the magazine's ownership. The main reason for the change is to consolidate the firm's publishing activities in the electronics field – we have joined a group that publishes such well-known titles as *Electrical and Radio Trader*, *Electronics Weekly* and *Electronics World + Wireless World*.

EDITOR

John A. Reddihough

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COVER PHOTO

This month's cover photograph shows the B and O 39XX chassis. See article on pages 804-7.

Letters

GRANADA/GEC EQUIVALENTS

There were inaccuracies in the list of Granada TV receiver equivalents (July) regarding GEC produced models. First, the reference to the GEC 2295 is incorrect: the GEC C2295H was based on the Tatung 160/161 series chassis. Secondly we are not aware of any Granada variants of our Models C1657H/C1658H which were manufactured in 1984/5. Thirdly our records show (up to 1985) the following information regarding Granada sets and the nearest GEC models and Hitachi chassis from which they were derived:

<i>Granada</i>	<i>GEC</i>	<i>Chassis</i>
C14BA1	C1405H	Hitachi NP84 Mk 1
C20VA1	C2026H	GEC PIL chassis
C22VA1	C2236H	GEC 20AX chassis
P22VA3	C2260H	GEC 20AX chassis
C20XA1	C2067H	Hitachi NP81CQ
C22XA1	C2267H	Hitachi NP81CQ
C20XA5	C2069H	Hitachi NP81CQ text
C22XA5	C2269H	Hitachi NP81CQ text
C20AA4	C2087H	Hitachi NP83CQ text
C22AA4	C2287H	Hitachi NP83CQ text

The above list covers only the models that are most likely to be encountered. It is important that those in the trade are aware of the following points:

(1) Although a Granada model may be based upon a particular GEC or Hitachi chassis this doesn't imply that the service information for these chassis will cover all the circuitry in the Granada variants. This is because Granada often required additional features, and changes to or replacements of complete areas would be made during production. For example the C14BA1 has RGB inputs, a feature not included with the GEC C1405H on which it was based. Granada models were very rarely just "badge variants".

(2) When receivers were supplied to Granada the appropriate service information was also supplied. This information was and still is the property/Copyright of Granada Ltd. For this reason we at GEC/Hotpoint do not have any facilities to supply service information or technical assistance on Granada models. All copies of Granada service data carry a note stating that the information is the company's property.

(3) The best advice we can offer is to obtain a copy of the manual for the nearest equivalent model – via component suppliers, please! – and study the set carefully before repair.

As a rule the above models are relatively trouble free and easy to repair if the correct approach is adopted. In general, unless you happen to be really lucky any attempt to repair an unfamiliar piece of equipment without the relevant service information will result only in frustration and failure.

*S. McManus, Technical Dept. (GEC Radio & TV),
Hotpoint Ltd., Celta Road,
Peterborough PE2 9JB.*

FINLUX 1000 CHASSIS

Finlux UK recently issued a modification for the 1000 series chassis. The recommendation was to modify the scan

coil plug by soldering two rivets to the pins, thus strengthening the joints which in a few sets had caused concern by becoming dry-jointed and thus overheating. I wonder whether this suggestion has actually cured the problem however. On two occasions I've subsequently had to replace the plug/socket because of arcing inside. I rather suspect that this was the cause of the problem in the first place: when the pins get hot as a result of arcing the soldered joints will deteriorate, as happens with so many other sets.

Several different faults can occur when this plug is faulty, i.e. intermittent very high e.h.t., flashovers that blow the line output transistor, and intermittent line tearing.

*Domanic Watton,
Wrangle, Boston, Lincs.*

VIEWDATA TECHNOLOGY

In connection with Roy Baines' article (June) on viewdata terminals and systems I'd like to add some information on the public switched telephone network (PSTN). In the early days of communications CCITT conducted subjective tests with telephone circuits, using people of different nationalities. It was found that the minimum telephone channel bandwidth required for someone to be able to identify someone else's voice is 4kHz. It was also found that the human ear is most sensitive at 800Hz–1kHz if you happen to be American. I note that the latter has been adopted.

The reason for using modulation, FSK in this case, is the same as with any transmission system – to get information (the modulating frequency) from A to B on a carrier wave (the carrier frequency). With viewdata the modulating frequency is ten bits on the data input line and the carrier frequencies are 1,300Hz, 2,100Hz, 450Hz and 390Hz, all audible as they have to be within the PSTN bandwidth.

The two main forms of distortion from which the signals suffer are attenuation and group delay effects. Equalisers are used with higher bit rates. They are usually incorporated within the modem. So far, 9-6kbit/sec is being used.

Dialling can be LD (loop disconnect) or DTMF (dual tones, multiple frequency). The former is ten impulses per second while the latter is as fast as one can press individual digits. The choice of LD or DTFM depends on the type of exchange to which one is connected.

*J. Tharnee,
Bicester, Oxon.*

SATELLITE RECEPTION PROBLEMS

With reference to R.N. Baker's problem with his Amstrad satellite TV receiver I believe, like S.K. Guy, that the problem is caused by a mismatch at the receiver end of the cable. The fact that the problem doesn't arise with Ferguson and Sakura receivers seems to be conclusive proof.

J.A. Glenton's original letter, concerning the testing of coaxial cables, seems to indicate that some mismatching could still be involved. Certainly standing waves seem to be in evidence. One difficulty in designing terminations at the frequencies concerned is in maintaining a purely resistive impedance across the band: if the impedance has a reactive component, this will result in a frequency-dependent mismatch. A perfect cable, perfectly terminated, is not frequency conscious for any parameter other than transmission loss, which increases with frequency. We don't however live in a perfect world!

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SMANMPS100	Commodore MPS100 Service Manual	6.27	60101001	Ribbon 847001310	4.16	60121040	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	4.46
SMANPC+4	Commodore C+4 Integrated Software Manual	0.69	60101122	Transformer PCB Assembly	40.09	60121041	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	2.40
TECRFC10/20	Teach Ref Manual PC10/20 Series II	11.25	60101167	Ham PCB Assembly 848001107	6.17	60121042	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	3.00
0628PAL	Upgrade PAL (Sold with kit only)	19.64	60101185	Carrier Clutch	0.25	60121043	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	2.40
154000903	Commodore 1540, 1541 Transformer	10.58	60101189	LF Motor Assembly 847001015	4.80	60121044	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	2.40
154001403	Commodore 1540, 1541 Top Case 25118501	7.64	60101194	Dot Sensor Unit	24.61	60121045	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	2.37
154001501	Commodore 1540, 1541 Base	3.32	60101198	Motor Assembly 848001014	8.99	60121046	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	1.42
154002402	Commodore 1540, 1541 Test Demo Disk	5.58	60101199	Reduction Gear	3.60	60121047	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	0.92
2236RN	Ribbon (All Types)	2.67	60101157	Unit Head Unit 847001200	19.26	60121048	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	9.00
25075401	Commodore 1570 LED Assembly	0.28	60101203	Tractor Right Unit	3.60	60121049	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	2.76
25100041	Commodore 1541C, 1570 Top Case	3.32	60101204	Tractor Left Unit	0.35	60121050	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	5.35
25100042	Commodore 1541C, 1570 Base	4.46	60101213	Ribbon Carrier Unit 848001160	10.12	60121051	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	12.82
25124901	Power Socket 7-Pin Din	0.81	60101323	Switch 847035155	3.60	60121052	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	6.24
25145301	Commodore SX64 Users Manual	4.72	60101326	Idle Pulley 847001045	50.00	60121053	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	3.60
25145401	Bottom Case	1.11	60101345	I.C. 2732 Eprom 840910400	2.378	60121054	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	14.92
25150101	Keyboard	18.28	60102004	Commodore MPS803 CR Motor Assy U23014001	13.536	60121055	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	0.07
25152702	C64, C128 I.C. 8701 Clock Gen	1.45	60102007	Commodore MPS803 Transformer Assembly	12.00	60121056	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	1.15
25152709	I.C. 8701 L6	1.45	60102022	Commodore MPS803 PCB Assy Complete	18.00	60121057	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	3.93
25153502	I.C. 8380 NTS/CPAL 25153501	13.62	60102027	Commodore MPS803 PCB Assy Complete	3.61	60121058	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	3.58
25153602	I.C. 8501 CPU	5.61	60102032	Commodore MPS803 PCB Assy Complete	2.736	60121059	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	20.96
25158701	On/Off Switch Rocker	1.37	60102036	Commodore MPS803 PCB Assy Complete	1.752	60121060	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	5.55
25161401	Power Socket 4-Pin Din Square	0.58	60102037	Commodore MPS803 PCB Assy Complete	6.12	60121061	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	0.79
25164003	I.C. 85298 SP1 3MHz Tri Port Buf	1.87	60102078	Commodore MPS803 PCB Assy Complete	11.26	60121062	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	2.87
25169701	C64 RF Modulator 251025-01	2.02	60102085	Commodore MPS803 PCB Assy Complete	10.92	60121063	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	9.00
25171501	I.C. Memory Controller	8.43	60102124	Commodore MPS803 PCB Assy Complete	12.00	60121064	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	2.76
25179101	Commodore C16 Bottom Case	0.90	60103007	Commodore MPS803 PCB Assy Complete	0.35	60121065	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	5.35
25183301	Commodore 1570, 1571 I.C. R3W Hybrid	12.65	60103009	Commodore MPS803 PCB Assy Complete	10.12	60121066	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	12.82
25191101	RF Modulator	9.73	60103018	Commodore MPS803 PCB Assy Complete	26.82	60121067	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	0.28
25191301	I.C. Kernal & Basic ROM	6.30	60103020	Commodore MPS803 PCB Assy Complete	3.04	60121068	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	2.66
25191602	C64C RF Modulator 251916-03	3.95	60103024	Commodore MPS803 PCB Assy Complete	64.36	60121069	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	1.73
25202901	Commodore 1551 Test/Demo Disc	1.93	60103033	Commodore MPS803 PCB Assy Complete	167.99	60121070	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	1.04
25212501	Commodore A1000 8361 Agnus 48-Pin Din	45.36	60103041	Commodore MPS803 PCB Assy Complete	36.326701	60121071	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	6.38
25212602	A500 I.C. Demis 8362, 252126-01	20.99	60103044	Commodore MPS803 PCB Assy Complete	38020501	60121072	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	5.88
25212702	A500 I.C. Paula 8364 R7 252127-01	15.31	60103047	Commodore MPS803 PCB Assy Complete	16.71	60121073	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	1.40
31015704	C-4 Power Supply Unit (31015703)	16.60	60103052	Commodore MPS803 PCB Assy Complete	1.84	60121074	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	3.32
31038901	Commodore C128/D I.C. 8722 MMU	8.11	60103055	Commodore MPS803 PCB Assy Complete	4.83	60121075	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	10.00
31041602	C128 Power Supply Unit	35.00	60103056	Commodore MPS803 PCB Assy Complete	3.06	60121076	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	3.32
31065101	Commodore 1570, 1571 I.C. WD177000	11.17	60103057	Commodore MPS803 PCB Assy Complete	4.14	60121077	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	0.98
31250302	A500 Power Supply Unit	60.37	60103058	Commodore MPS803 PCB Assy Complete	11.17	60121078	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	5.00
31250501	Commodore A500 Top Case	6.33	60107007	Commodore MPS803 PCB Assy Complete	3.32	60121079	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	

R.S. Porter points out that there can be re-reflection towards the load if the source impedance is wrong. Perhaps this, along with individual cable characteristics, accounts for some of the variations shown in Mr. Glenton's table of results. I also agree with Mr. Porter's point that connecting two cables in series does not change the impedance but increases the overall loss.

Mr. Glenton's second letter, with its comments on losses associated with poor satellite TV installations, makes interesting reading. I'm sure that many installers have no idea that such subtleties are involved. But hasn't this always been the case? I recall an aerial installer whose main tools consisted of a beaten-up pair of sidecutters and a small screwdriver. He cut lashing cables and tightened nuts with the sidecutters and stripped coaxial cable with his teeth . . .

Returning to Mr. Porter's letter, I'm sure that he's hit the nail on the head in pointing out that multiple reflected signals suffer greater cable attenuation than the original direct signal. The longer the cable run, the greater the attenuation of the reflections so that the effects of a mismatch become less significant. I suspect that this effect is non-linear. Since f.m. is used for satellite TV transmissions, capture effect may also be involved, such that when the reflected signal falls to 12dB or more below the direct signal its effect will be insignificant. This could account for the "magic" extra twenty feet of cable that appears to cure (or should I say mask?) the Amstrad problem consistently.

In another letter Mr. Gadsby mentions loop systems for the hard of hearing. When I worked in the trade twenty years ago a kit (I forget who made it) was available. It consisted of a matching/isolating transformer, a wirewound potentiometer and fixings. Drive to the transformer was taken from the TV set's loudspeaker connections. The potentiometer was set so that a single loop around the room provided sufficient volume from a hearing aid when the speaker volume was right for those with normal hearing. As Geoff Darby points out in his letter, safety was an important consideration: while the kit instructions didn't suggest it I nevertheless rewired the TV set in use with a three-core mains cable and connected the earth lead to the transformer's secondary winding that fed the external loop. I felt that this "belt and braces" approach minimised the risks involved. Most of the loops I installed were fed from Dynatron TV sets: older readers will recall that these had splendid veneered cabinets of the kind you just can't buy nowadays – except as a separate item of furniture to house your TV set and VCR. Consequently I was always anxious when drilling into the inside of the cabinet to mount the loop transformer – it wasn't a good moment for the family dog to come and investigate!

*Keith Cummins,
Holbury, Hants.*

HITACHI NP84 Mk 2 CHASSIS

Stephen Leatherbarrow mentions a couple of problems with the GEC Models C1407/8 (Hitachi NP84 Mk 2 chassis) in the July TV Fault Finding section. They call for some clarification. The sound "gurgling" problem normally occurs only with copy-protected tapes, where the additional sync pulses on the tape cause the TDA4503 chip to unmute. Usually a slight increase in value of the resistor mentioned (R702), to say 82k Ω or 100k Ω , should help, though the problem is not considered to be a common one with this chassis. We don't recommend fitting a potentiometer as difficulty with mounting and unreliability with age could cause further problems for the

unwary in the future. The original design should also be adhered to for safety reasons.

Steve didn't mention the symptom when the sandcastle pulses in these sets are lost or distorted. Not loss of colour, as some might expect, but partial or complete picture blanking.

*S. McManus, Technical Dept. (GEC Radio & TV),
Hotpoint Ltd., Celta Road,
Peterborough PE2 9JB.*

MORE ON IR TESTING

Since camcorders can see infra-red radiation, a camcorder can be used to provide a quick test for infra-red emission from a remote control handset. But imagine the boss's reaction should you requisition one as test gear! A phototransistor connected to a meter switched to the ohms $\times 10$ range is cheaper, but not so much fun. Alternatively a solar cell with a meter switched to the 500 μ A range works well: an IR emitter a centimetre from the detector is much "brighter" than room lighting, and the low-frequency output pulses are clearly seen.

*John Jolley,
Prescot, Merseyside.*

REVIEW MODE TAPE TANGLING

Test Case 342 (June/July) about a tape tangling problem with a Panasonic NV370 VCR reminded me of a similar problem we had with an NV333 that worked normally in all modes except reverse search. In this mode the tape tended to lift from the drum near the exit pole, and occasionally produced a tape wrecking loop.

Various things were tried, including thoroughly cleaning then polishing the drum assembly with metal polish. This improved things a little, but reverse search was still not up to standard and, as the age of the machine precluded drum assembly replacement, a different solution was sought.

It was noted from the circuit diagram that IC6006 controls the supply to the reel motor, providing around 6V in review and 13V in rewind. So what was required was a higher control voltage at pin 3 during reverse search. A suitable source voltage can be obtained from relay RY1 which is used to reverse the direction of the capstan motor. In reverse search one of the normally-open contacts is switched to 14V. We connected this point to chassis via a 10k Ω potentiometer and connected the slider via a diode and a 1k Ω resistor to pin 3 of IC6006. This enabled the torque applied to the take-up spool to be adjusted, while viewing in the review mode, until full drum contact was achieved. All danger of loops being formed is also removed. In our particular example we found that increasing the voltage across the reel motor to 9V provided enough torque to cure the problem.

While this is perhaps not an ideal solution to the problem it has nevertheless given us some satisfaction in getting a bit more service out of an otherwise good machine without having to disable the reverse search function.

*Alan Oxtan,
Frodsham, Cheshire.*

ANOTHER SATELLITE TV PROBLEM

Can anyone suggest a solution to a problem that occurs with two types of satellite TV receivers we know of, the Maspro SRE90 and Uniden 8008, used with a Sky decoder? Even when all other channels are perfect,

including the weaker German ones on both satellites, sparklies persist on the Movie Channel and Sky Sports. Even with readings of $80\text{dB}\mu\text{V}$ plus on the Maspro signal-strength meter ($75\text{dB}\mu\text{V}$ is adequate with other receivers) no amount of skew etc. can remove them. Is it possible that these receivers have a compatibility problem with the Sky decoder? If so, how come that the Sky Movies Plus channel is perfect? Any advice would be greatly appreciated.

*Larry Smith, Ftsat,
Rhyl, Clwyd.*

THE DOWNMARKET END

One of the older Nikkai models came in a little while back with the complaint that the picture and sound would disappear after some time. Simple enough I thought, just tuning drift.

When I exposed the PCB my eyes were immediately drawn to a large power diode beautifully soldered on the print side of the board. Sheer curiosity led me to refer to the circuit diagram to see what it did. But it wasn't there! Further investigation revealed the reason for this. It was bridging two points, firmly connected by print, at earth potential. Now I wonder who did that?

I then went on to the main business and changed the 33V zener diode. This naturally made no difference at all to the fault. So I wondered about the a.f.c. and checked the voltages around the TA7680AP chip. All seemed to be well here. The a.f.c. worked beautifully, but was unfortunately not able to cope with the drift. I next checked the tuning supply from the line output stage. It was as steady as a rock.

I then went to where I should have gone in the first place and monitored the tuning voltage at the tuner. It varied alarmingly. Having run out of ideas I squirted some freezer on the zener diode, which turned out to be heat sensitive. When a ZTK33B was fitted normal operation was restored. I still think about that one. My data didn't suggest that there was anything special about the original zener diode.

For me at any rate it will probably have to remain one of life's little mysteries. Some time ago I concluded that I was seriously in need of a refresher course, but I've left it a little late. My wife and I are desperately trying to retire. Known affectionately as "Aggie", my wife has for many years been fighting a long list of ailments. But I fear that not everyone will want a crumbling Victorian pile, situated in a road known locally as "Bankruptcy Alley". To be fair the shop has been good to us during our stay, so perhaps there is hope.

*E.G. Kempshall, 109 Portland Road,
Hove, East Sussex BN3 5DP.*

VINTAGE OB

I well remember the vintage OB mentioned by Roger Bunney in his August issue column, also a later hook-up on January 6th 1954. Using a modified R1132 receiver I was able to pick up the v.h.f. intercom from Warren Street water tower, Lenham, Senate House London and of course Wrotham. Communication with Wrotham was lost two minutes before the programme was due on air, then Johnie came on all out of breath - the circuit breaker in the main building had tripped! The relay equipment was housed in a small building close to the base of the v.h.f. aerial mast.

My first sound receiver was the *Wireless World* adaptor.

I used it to pick up the reopening of the TV service on June 7th 1946. For vision a Responsor unit with rebuilt front end from W.T. Cocking's book and a 6in. green tube produced the first viewable pictures on July 12th 1947. It had a total of 26 valves. The Alexandra Palace signal was pretty weak here three hundred feet below the North Downs.

*Clement E. East,
Wrotham, Kent.*

HELP WANTED

Can anyone suggest how to remove teletext lines with a B and O 323X TV set? They spoil an otherwise excellent picture.

*Paul G. Glazebrook, 26 Beech Road,
Rushmere, Ipswich IP5 7AN.
0473 624 517.*

Can anyone supply a service manual and front fascia panel (not cracked!) including buttons for the Ferguson 3V29, also any dead or dying Ferguson/JVC VCRs from the 3V29 onwards?

*Dave L. Hills, 86 Netherhampton Road,
Salisbury, Wilts.*

Can anyone supply an SPI cartridge for the Bang and Olufsen record deck used in the Beogram 900? The part is no longer available from B and O.

*P. Cracknell, 22 Hungate,
Beccles, Suffolk NR34 9TT.
0502 712 428.*

I have a mono Displat unit which runs o.k. on 12V d.c. What must I do to use it as a monitor with the composite video from my computer?

*Alan Brown, 14 Ashby Drive,
Rushden, Northants NN10 9HJ.
0933 312 358.*

Can anyone supply a service manual or circuit diagram for an Escort EDM1111A digital multimeter?

*John A. Hanley, 306 Thornaby Road,
Thornaby-on-Tees, Cleveland TS17 8PJ.*

Can anyone supply any servicing information for the Wallis 30kV power supply used with the LKB Tachophor 2127 system?

*Greg Strange, I. Eng., G81WJ, 12 Bronington Avenue,
Bromborough, Wirral, Merseyside L62 6DT.*

As a collector I'd be interested in purchasing any of the following: (1) Early colour TV sets, especially prototypes, dual-standard models or other unusual types. (2) V2000 format VCRs, especially second generation models, portables and Bang and Olufson models. (3) Any reel-to-reel video equipment or tapes, especially Akai 1/4 or 1/2in. machines with colour.

*M.J. King, Crowfield Cottage, Stone Street,
Crowfield, Ipswich, Suffolk IP6 9TA.
0449 79 366.*

Does anyone have any interface information for the Grundig V1F-E1 remote control unit used with the 2×4 Super VCR? Any information on the chip (type C0P420HPX/N) would also be of help. Intended use is with a 3V30 VCR.

*A.M. Elford, 62 Goodlands Vale,
Hedge End, Southampton.*

Long-distance Television

Roger Bunney

There were several good Sporadic E openings during June. A number of signals from Arabic Band I transmitters were received in the UK during the period and on the 15th the m.u.f. reached Band III. I still feel that there is less SpE reception during periods of high solar activity, but this is merely my personal view based on experience of 28 SpE seasons. Would anyone care to comment on this?

Apart from a slight lift on the 5th, tropospheric reception has been virtually non-existent. Auroral activity was noted on this same day, with Band I and III signals (mostly unidentified) received during the evening phase. There have been no reports of unusual reception following the large solar flares on June 5th.

The general SpE log looks impressive, but many openings were neither intense nor long lasting:

- 5/6/91 RAI (Italy) ch. IA; NRK (Norway) E2.
- 6/6/91 TVE (Spain) E2, 3, 4; TVE-2 E2; RAI IA; +PTT (Switzerland) E2, 3; RTP (Portugal) E2, 3; TSS (USSR) R1.
- 7/6/91 TVE E2, 3, 4; RAI IA.
- 8/6/91 TVE E3; RAI IA.
- 9/6/91 NRK E2; TVE E2, 3, 4; RAI IA; JRT/HTV (Yugoslavia) E3.
- 10/6/91 TVE E2.
- 11/6/91 TVE E2, 3, 4; RTP E3; +PTT E2.
- 12/6/91 TVE E2, 3, 4; TVE-2 E2; RAI IA; ARD (Germany) E2.
- 13/6/91 ERT (Greece) E3; HTV E3; TVA (Italy) IA; C+ (France) L2, 3.
- 15/6/91 TVE E2, 3, 4; TVE-2 E2; RTP E3; RAI IA, B; TVA IA; C+ L2, 3, 4; +PTT E2, 3; HTV E3, 4; RTM (Morocco) E4; TVP (Poland) R1, 2; DR (Denmark) E3, 4; CST (Czechoslovakia) R1, 2; MTV (Hungary) R1, 2; TSS R1-7 inclusive; SVT (Sweden) E2; NRK E2; RTSH (Albania) IC; JTV (Jordan) E3; RUV (Iceland) E2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7; also unidentified N. American signals on chs. A2, 3 at 1730 BST.
- 16/6/91 ARD E2, 3; HTV E3, 4; RAI IA, B; TVE E2, 3, 4; TVE-2 E2; C+ L2, 3, 4; ORF (Austria) E2a; +PTT E2; ERT E3; CST R1, 2; TSS R1, 2, 3; YLE (Finland) E3, 4; NRK E2, 3, 4; SVT E2, 3, 4; RUV E4; TVR (Rumania) R1; MTV R1; Dubai E2; JTV (Jordan) E3.
- 17/6/91 TVE E2, 3, 4; RTP E3; C+ L3; ARD E2; RAI IA; +PTT E2; TSS R1, 2; TVR R2; TVR-2 R2.
- 18/6/91 CST R1; TSS R2; +PTT E2, 3; TVE E2, 3, 4; HTV E3; ERT E3; RAI IA; TVA IA; NRK E2, 3, 4; SVT E2; TSS R1, 2, 3; RUV E4.
- 19/6/91 TVE E2, 3, 4; RTP E2, 3; TSS R1, 2.
- 20/6/91 TVE E2, 3; +PTT E3; C+ L2; RAI IA, B; HTV E3, 4; ERT E3; JTV E3; CST R1, 2; SVT E2, 3, 4; TVP R2; TSS R1, 2, 3; YLE E4; TVA IA; PTB (Italy) E3.
- 21/6/91 TVE E2, 3, 4; RAI IA, B; TVA IA; HTV E3; ARD E2; ERT E3; TVR R2; NRK E2, 3, 4; SVT E2, 3, 4; CC (Italy) E2.

- 22/6/91 TVE E2, 3, 4; TVE-2 E2; RTP E3; RAI IA, B; TVA IA; SVT E2, 3; NRK E2, 3, 4.
- 23/6/91 TVE E2, 3, 4; RAI IA, B; TVA IA; ORF E2a, 4; HTV E4; +PTT E4; ERT E3.
- 24/6/91 TVE E2, 3.
- 25/6/91 TVE E3, 4; RAI IA, B; TVA IA; C+ L2.
- 26/6/91 TVE E2, 3, 4; HTV E3.
- 27/6/91 TVE E2, 3, 4; +PTT E2; RAI IA; TSS R1, 2.
- 28/6/91 TVE E2, 3, 4; TVE-2 E2; RTP E2; C+ L3; ARD E2; +PTT E2; RAI IA, B; TVA IA; YLE E3; TSS R1, 2; NRK E2, 3, 4; SVT E2, 3, 4.
- 29/6/91 RAI IA, B; TVE E2, 3; C+ L2; ERT E3; HTV E3.
- 30/6/91 RAI IA, B; TVE E2, 3, 4; C+ L2; HTV E3, 4; MTV R1, 2; ARD E2; TVR R2; RTSH IC; TSS R1-5 inc.; Italian station with "RC" logo at lower right-hand side E2.

My thanks to David Glenday (Arbroath), Garry Smith (Derby), Roger Fussell (Torpoint), Tim Anderson (St. Leonards), Simon Hamer (Powys), Cyril Willis (King's Lynn), Peter Schubert (Rainham) and George Gaskin (Gibraltar) for sending in reception reports.

Tim Anderson's reception of Dubai ch. E2 at 0835-0910 on the 16th was quite remarkable, with the signal reaching P3 quality and teletext pages being shown – one of the UAE flag and another showing the outline of the UAE. Tim comments that in view of the frequency of its reception TVA (Tele Valle Aostata, Italy) must be using increased power.

Simon Hamer's reception of RUV on the 15th included a ch. E2 relay station and the Band III chs. E6 and 7 with the *Black Adder* programme, subtitled. At 1730 on the same day Simon received unidentified signals on chs. A2 and 3.

Several unidentified Italian Band I private stations were seen during the month, with logos like "CC", "2" and "Antenna" in the lower right-hand corner, all on ch. E2.

News Items

Poland: By May nearly four hundred applications had been received from those wishing to set up independent broadcasting stations. It's likely that West European style band allocations will be adopted.

Czechoslovakia: Several aspiring broadcasters have applied for TV licences. It's likely that u.h.f. channels used for relaying Soviet TV to Russian army units will be used. Several v.h.f. radio services have been approved and should be in operation by Christmas.

Baltic countries: Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia are seeking broadcasting independence.

OIRT: A decision to dissolve the East European broadcasting organisation OIRT was taken at its 25th Assembly in Budapest earlier this year. By January 1st, 1994 the Prague-based OIRT is expected to have merged completely with the EBU.

Gibraltar: Decisions have been taken to revamp GBC. Local news and features produced during weekdays only will be slotted into the BBC's TV World Service, which will come via a satellite feed and then be encrypted. Thus viewers will in future require a decoder and have to pay a subscription.

Yugoslavia: OTV Zagreb now has its own teletext service. The FUBK test pattern used carries the identification "OTV OTV 1".

Israel: A terrestrial PAY-TV service called TELEPUI is

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loss of power. As a result NHK and JSB are sharing one transponder instead of three.

The USSR is to launch a major satellite telecommunications system called "Energy" in the autumn of 1992. It will include facilities for five TV channels. TV capacity will be increased to over thirty channels when the system is expanded in 1997.

The Middle East Broadcasting logo is currently being radiated at 11.554GHz, with horizontal polarisation, from Eutelsat II F1 at 13°E. Its service is due to start in late summer.

The new high-powered Intelsat K craft will have sixteen 54MHz bandwidth transponders, giving it 32 TV channel capacity. Due to come into operation in early 1992, its coverage will extend from central Europe to the US mid-west, touching South America. Orbital position will be 21.5°W and the power will allow dish sizes down to 1.8m to be used.

Turner International is looking into the possibility of taking over the Super Channel operation. CNN is to set up more offices in Africa.

Protel Satellite Systems Ltd., 295-297 Ballards Lane, North Finchley, London N12 8NP (telephone 081 445 4441) has introduced at £42.95 plus VAT a new lower-noise (1.2dB) LNB which is a direct replacement for the Marconi Blue Cap LNB used with the Amstrad satellite TV system. This should overcome problems with sparklies and improve picture quality.

For Disposal

Geoff Chadwich of Wirral, Cheshire has for disposal free to a good home an Australian 13-channel turret-tuned TV set manufactured by Philips. He can be contacted on 051 644 0815. Collect or pay for carriage and packing. Geoff is on the lookout for reasonably priced radar equipment, dead or alive.

Maxview Signal Boosters

The Maxview range of aerial equipment was expanded earlier this year. It now includes an attractive range of omni-directional active aerials for indoor or outside installation. Though intended for u.h.f. use, an additional add-on rod extension gives operation at v.h.f.

Perhaps of greater interest to readers is a range of indoor distribution amplifiers with a single wideband input and either one, two, three or four amplified outputs, the bandwidth being 40-860MHz. The units are for 220/240V a.c. mains operation, unswitched. An unusual feature is an integral gain control (six turn carbon track) with a range of typically 20dB. Overall gain depends on the number of outputs - 22dB, 10dB, 8dB and 6dB respectively for the one, two three, and four output versions. Thus the adjustable gain for the four-output amplifier is -14dB to 6dB for all outputs.

Measurements carried out on a sample three-output amplifier confirmed the information in the specification. Noise is quoted as typically 3dB. Inputs and outputs are conventional 75Ω unbalanced of course. When I dismantled the unit I found that there's a cool running mains transformer: the power supply is connected to the main amplifier strip by twin wires. As the amplifier is a completely screened and soldered up module it was not possible to examine its internal construction. It appears to be of the usual hybrid transistor type with resistive splitting for the outputs. The unit is housed in a brilliant white high-impact resistant case measuring 5.75 × 3 × 2.5in. It comes

being introduced. When fully operational it will consist of three channels: Tele+1 with movies and entertainment, Tele+2 with sports and Tele+3 with documentaries and cultural programmes. Encryption is to start next summer.

Spain: As an amendment to a previous publication the Benelux DX Club reports that the powers of several transmitters have been altered as follows: Alicante (Aitana) TVE-1 ch. E3 60kW; Coruna (Santiago) TVE-2 ch. E2 50kW; Vizcaya (Sollube) TVE-1 ch. E4 71kW; Zaragoza (La Muela) TVE-1 ch. E3 50kW; Madrid (Navacerrada) TVE-1 ch. E2 500kW. These are all e.r.p.s.

Satellite TV

In the early hours of May 29th the Olympus satellite at 19°W wobbled and attitude control was lost. As the satellite swung away from Earth its battery charging power was reduced - a solar panel had already been lost in January. The satellite then started to drift at about 5° a day, out of control and rotating once every 90 seconds. At the time of writing this the satellite has passed over the eastern horizon. An attempt will be made by the high-powered NASA Madrid ground station to regain control when the satellite reappears in the west. Services carried include RAISAT and BBC TV.

Apparently the Astra 1B satellite at 19°E went into a spin at 1056-1231 GMT on June 4th, cycling over a three minute period. There are rumours that 1B has a solar array fault which has resulted in a loss of nearly a quarter of its power. A loss of power also seems to have occurred during the period 1658-1805 GMT on May 23rd with Astra 1A's transponder 7. Solar cell problems have also been reported with the Japanese BS3a satellite, resulting in a 25 per cent

with screws for wall mounting.

Clear connection instructions are provided, but problems could arise. The illustrations show a standard u.h.f. aerial and an omni-directional f.m. aerial joined together via a small Y-shaped combiner. Maxview can provide a suitable v.h.f./u.h.f. diplexing filter but purchasers may be tempted to use an inexpensive oriental wideband combiner. This would create difficulties because the u.h.f. signals would be picked up on both aerials and would be mixed in the wideband combiner, causing distortion – ghosting, signal loss, teletext errors etc. –

Meter Precautions

George Wilding

Connecting the negative lead of a test meter to chassis using a crocodile clip is handy when making voltage checks. With most analogue meters however – this doesn't seem to apply with digital meters – the red lead is the negative one on the resistance ranges. As a result, if you clip the black (positive) lead to chassis when making resistance checks in situ the results will often be much less accurate than they need be and will suggest that leaks are present where in fact there isn't any leakage.

The reason for this is that when a point fed from a positive supply line via a low-value resistor is checked the meter's negative output will forward bias the supply rectifier and thus place the low source impedance of the power supply – say the secondary winding of a chopper, mains or line output transformer – across the circuit being checked. Then again, applying the meter's negative output to the collector of an npn transistor can result in the base-collector junction being forward biased, the reading then being affected by the transistor's low-impedance base circuit. In either case the degree of error will of course depend on the total resistive path and the meter's current output.

Thus for accurate in situ resistance checks when using an analogue meter with circuitry having positive supply lines the meter leads must be reversed with respect to their connections when making voltage checks. Since fault diagnosis often calls for a mixture of voltage and resistance checks, and testing across non-earthed components virtually necessitates the use of prod terminations to both leads, there is a very strong case for using prod terminations at all times.

Another problem arises when checking for an open-circuit bridge rectifier diode. Unless the diodes can be isolated from the supply transformers' winding, by disconnecting a plug or lifting a fuse (see Fig. 1), checking across any diode results in the meter also being applied across another one. Thus if the meter is connected across diode A it will also be connected via the very low resistance of the winding across diode B, and vice versa. Individual tests across A and B would therefore suggest that both are in order through one could be open-circuit. Similarly,

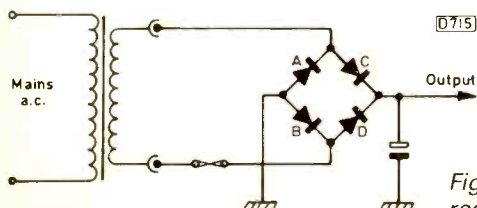


Fig. 1: Basic bridge rectifier circuit

because of the lack of filtering at the inputs. It's less likely that v.h.f. radio reception would suffer from such effects.

The amplifiers are sold in clear blister packs and come complete with a coaxial connecting lead and coaxial plugs as appropriate to the version, e.g. the three-output version has four plugs. The units do not provide a supply for a mast-head amplifier.

I was impressed with the sample unit which worked well and was stable across the whole v.h.f./u.h.f. bandwidth. For further details contact Maxview Aerials Ltd., Setchey, King's Lynn, Norfolk (telephone 0553 810 376).

when checking the resistance of one of the two diodes in a full-wave mains rectifier circuit with an earthed centre tap in the transformer's secondary winding, one diode must be isolated from the other.

When testing resistors for value change or capacitors for leakage the prods must be applied in both directions so that any d.c. linked pn junction is reversed biased one way round.

When carrying out voltage checks around transistors, readings that are close to those given on the circuit diagram generally mean that the transistor is operating correctly, that the associated resistor values are within tolerance and that there is no leakage in associated capacitors. There are occasions however when a fault condition exists though the voltages remain within tolerance.

Notable examples are with transistors used as emitter-followers or as i.f. amplifiers, since in both cases the collector feed will be via a very low-value resistor – in fact there is generally no decoupling resistor at all with an emitter-follower.

In i.f. circuits decoupling resistors with values as low as 10Ω can be found. Thus the total resistance in the collector circuit, i.e. the coil/transformer winding resistance plus that of the resistor, may be negligible. As a result, a big change in collector current will produce only a very small change in collector voltage, which is always at or marginally below the supply rail voltage. The base voltage is generally provided by a potential divider network or, in the case of an emitter-follower, a d.c. feed from the preceding stage. With both arrangements there's a high degree of base voltage stability. Say that after some years' use the low-wattage, low-value emitter resistor falls in value. The emitter voltage will be slightly reduced, increasing the net forward base-emitter bias voltage and thus the emitter current. Voltage checks will indicate that the collector voltage is at or marginally below the rail voltage, the base voltage is correct while the emitter voltage is only slightly below the correct figure, i.e. all three voltages are about right. Nevertheless the forward bias is greater than it should be and the transistor is not working at its normal d.c. operating point.

An increase in the value of the emitter resistor will reduce the forward bias applied to the transistor, but once again the voltage readings may suggest that everything is working normally.

In both cases, depending on the degree of the shift from the correct operating point, the gain with small-amplitude inputs could be reduced while the peak of the positive- or negative-going excursions of high-amplitude inputs could drive the transistor towards the non-linear extremities of its transfer characteristic, thus introducing signal cramping and distortion. The sorts of things that you can get as a result are sync pulse crushing and/or a non-linear grey scale.

A correct understanding of meter readings is essential for successful fault finding.

Satellite Dish Alignment Meter

Mark Stevenson

Early in 1989, prior to the launch of the Astra 1A satellite, my boss and I attended a seminar on how to sell and install satellite TV dishes. We concluded that whilst the installation principles were similar to those that apply with u.h.f. aerials there would be problems with dish alignment. An accuracy of $\pm 0.5^\circ$ was quoted – and any chance of being able to see the transmitter mast was definitely out! To be able to set the dish correctly we decided that an inclinometer and a signal-strength meter would be required, the former to set the elevation and the latter to set the azimuth and peak both settings. An order was subsequently sent off, and both items arrived about two months before we had any receiving equipment to sell or install.

Two Years On

Two years or so later the inclinometer lies unused beneath the van seat: the dishes we install come with an elevation scale stamped on them and this is good enough for rough vertical alignment. The meter on the other hand has proved to be invaluable in saving both time and our sanity. How some so-called “engineers” manage to fit dishes by having one person watch the TV set and shout to the other one up a ladder I do not know and never will. Despite its usefulness however the meter has certain shortcomings. As it’s powered from the receiver, the dish, cable and receiver have to be installed before any alignment can be done, wasting time. It’s fiddly to use,

requiring constant adjustment to the gain and reset controls. But its main problem is that it cannot tell one satellite from another, or even satellites from sunrays. On one memorable occasion we had to wait for an hour while the sun moved far enough from Astra for the meter to be able to tell one from the other.

Advantages of the New Design

The meter described in this article was designed and built to overcome these problems. Since it’s powered by its own batteries it doesn’t require the complete cable run to be installed before the dish can be aligned. Once the initial setting up has been done all you need to do with the meter is to switch in a preset for the satellite in question. Its main advantage however is that it demodulates the 6.5MHz sound channel, so that the satellite can be identified from the sound heard.

Circuitry

Since the circuit is straightforward we won’t give a full description of its operation. The tuner/demodulator module was taken from an old Alba receiver. A tuner/demodulator from another source could be used, the only limitations being that it should be a positive a.g.c. type that will work with a 10V supply.

A 10V regulator is incorporated because otherwise a fall in the battery voltage has quite a dramatic effect on the

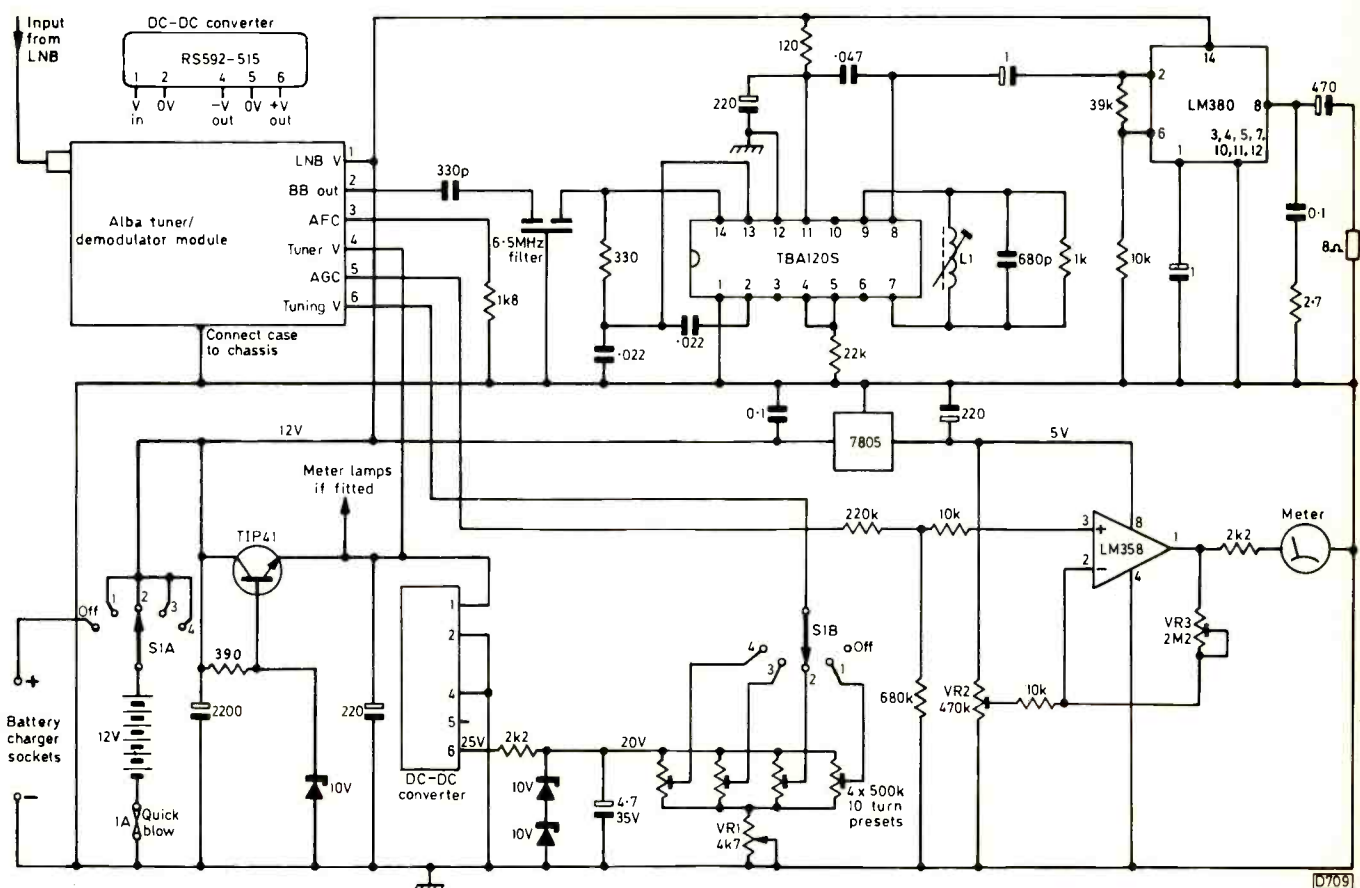


Fig. 1: Circuit diagram of the dish alignment meter. The electrolytics are all 16V unless otherwise indicated.

a.g.c. voltage, turning the whole thing into an expensive battery meter. Operation at 10V gives a reasonable battery life without affecting the tuner unduly. The d.c.-d.c. converter used is an RS type, stock code 592-515. It's designed to step up the voltage from 12V to 15V, but in this application it's used to provide a stabilised 20V supply for the tuning presets. This is quite enough to be able to tune to the top Astra 1B channels.

The 6.5MHz ceramic filter (NEC part no. 61105031) used at the input to the TBA120S audio demodulator chip was obtained from SEME, who tell me that they have it in stock. The demodulator coil L1 is not critical. I found that any appropriate coil would give some audio output but the type specified gives the best output. It consists of fifteen turns (± 1 turn) 0.5mm apart wound on a 3mm former with a ferrite core. The demodulator's input is taken from the tuner's baseband output. This arrangement works well enough and no additional filtering or amplification is required, keeping things simple. The audio output from the demodulator chip is coupled by a $1\mu\text{F}$ capacitor to the LM380 chip. I used this simply because I had one in stock: any similar type can be used, with the speaker chosen to suit. You could fit a headphone socket to prevent traffic noise masking the sound from the internal speaker. An LM358 chip is used as the a.g.c. amplifier. It was taken from the same Alba receiver that provided the tuner/demodulator module. This type should be used as it will run from a single 5V supply rail – other operational amplifiers may not.

The 12V battery is a Dryfit sealed lead-acid type rated at 1Ah. As the meter and LNB have a consumption of about 500mA it will give two hours' continuous use. A second 6V battery could be connected in series with the supply to the LNB via a switch to enable the polarity switching with Marconi type LNBs to be checked, but this is an expensive option.

VR1 in series with the tuning presets acts as a fine tuning control to compensate for variations with different LNBs. It's rarely needed. The number of presets could be more or less as required.

The meter is not critical. Any 50 or $100\mu\text{A}$ moving-coil type could be used to suit the case adopted. I used a case from Maplin. It's very reasonably priced and has a matching shoulder strap. Order numbers are YU98G and JR03H.

Alignment

The only real alignment required is to set the gain and remove the a.g.c. offset. Connect the meter to a dish that is already set up for Astra. Switch on and tune one of the presets to Sky News. If the sound is faint and cannot be improved by adjusting L1, try adding or subtracting one turn until good sound is obtained. Set VR3 to the quarter travel point, i.e. about $450\text{k}\Omega$. Then adjust VR2 until the meter reads about seven eighths of f.s.d. Turn the dish away from Astra then adjust VR2 until the meter reading falls almost, but not quite, to zero. Turn the dish back to Astra and use VR3 to return the meter reading to seven eighths of f.s.d. You may have to go through this procedure two or three times as the presets interact. Once set up however there's no need for further adjustment. You could then replace VR2 and VR3 with fixed-value resistors.

It's recommended that audio tuning is done with Astra. Some sound will be heard with other satellites but it won't be very clear because of the different carrier frequencies used. It should be good enough to be able to identify the

next month in

TELEVISION

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Next month's issue comes with a free cover-mounted magnifying lens. Just the thing for checking printed tracks and solder joints and reading circuit diagrams with small print. Also included with the issue is the latest East Cornwall Components catalogue.

● WHICH DIGITAL MULTIMETER?

There's a vast range of digital multimeters on the market today, from sources all over the world. How do you choose one of these essential servicing tools? In a two-part article starting next month David Botto surveys the field, describes meter operation and features and discusses meter selection to suit particular needs.

● ADDING A SCART CONNECTOR

K. Weevil describes an interfacing circuit which enables a Scart socket to be added to many older sets that don't have video/audio input/output facilities. Providing an RGB link gives much improved results compared to a u.h.f. modulation/demodulation process.

● SERVICING THE SAISHO VR1200

This popular VCR is also included in the Matsui range, as Model V820. Ed Rowland provides a servicing guide.

● THE PHOTO CD FORMAT

The Photo CD format has been developed by Philips and Kodak as a means of storing photographs on disc and viewing them using a TV set as a monitor. It uses a mix of film, video, CD and computer technologies. George Cole describes the system, which is due to come to the market in the latter half of 1992.

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station however – except with the Marco Polo satellite which will provide no sound because of the MAC encoding.

In Conclusion

Assuming that a tuner/demodulator module is available the cost of the meter, including the case and battery, should not exceed £50. Most of the parts are standard,

inexpensive items that are readily available.

This may not be a state-of-the-art design but it's easy to use, works well and is even sensitive enough to show the loss along a long run of cable. Try it with just a 1m fly lead as used when tuning in the dish, then at the end of a 20m cable run. Even with RG6 cable the signal indication on the meter almost disappears. The design is simple and can easily be built on Veroboard. The principle I follow when building such items is KISS – Keep it Simple Stevenson!

CD Player Casebook

**Reports from Mike Leach,
V.W. Cox and Ronald Aranha**

Pioneer PDX540

This player read the discs all right but wouldn't play. When I selected one of the disc's outer tracks the laser/sled assembly wouldn't move. All that it did was to chirp and whistle at me. Similar faults have been described in these pages before. Often the cause is a worn or faulty sled motor. In this case however the cause was a faulty TA7256 tracking drive chip (IC17)

M.L.

Aiwa DX700

This player is part of a midi system. The reported fault was failure to play. As the laser wouldn't focus on the disc properly there was no TOC reading. Also the turntable motor wouldn't rotate. I've had dry-joint problems with similar machines on previous occasions so I adopted a highly technical approach: I had a good prod around with Big Bertha, my large, insulated fault-finding screwdriver. Suddenly the machine sprang to life. It wasn't just a case of dry-joints however, it was rather more serious. On looking at the board carefully I noticed that there was cracked print around the various test points. It seemed that the holes drilled in the board to accommodate the test points had been slightly too small. Thus when the test points had been inserted automatically they had cracked the print. The piece of print that appeared to be causing my problems was around test point 10. Linking the print around this test point cured the problem, after which the player worked extremely well.

M.L.

Denon DCD300/600

Skipping and jumping is a problem we've had on several occasions recently with these machines. In each case slippage of the sled belt has been the cause, producing erratic movement of the sled assembly. We find that the belt becomes severely stretched. Now every one of these machines that comes in for repair gets a new sled belt irrespective of the reported fault. The sled belt is part no. 4230044023, the loading belt part no. 4230044007.

M.L.

Yamaha CDX810

This attractive up-market machine suffered from various faults. It read discs intermittently, wouldn't search properly, would occasionally skip and jump, and would drop out of play into the stop mode. On one of the rare occasions that it did play I was able to check the r.f. eye pattern which was very poor. Each of the diamond shapes in the waveform was indistinguishable from the next one. It jumped and stopped, and I was beginning to suspect the laser unit. I pressed play again and the waveform was this time perfectly o.k., the disc playing correctly. When an outer track was selected however the waveform once more

deteriorated. The cause of the problem was not the laser but the crimped connections on the laser plug, at the PCB end. They were in very poor condition. The faults cleared when I hardwired these connections to the plug. I found that the r.f. waveform was now clear but the laser power had been set way over the top. When it was reset and a new turntable motor had been fitted the machine once again performed as well as it looked.

M.L.

Hinari DK200

The customer said he heard a clunk after which the player had stopped. We saw that the arm was being driven over completely to its stop. Examination showed that R212 in the 12V feed was open-circuit while IC103 (L272) was in a very miserable state. Replacement of both items restored normal operation.

V.W.C.

Sony CDP-H300

This player came in as part of Sony's portable music system type FH-E626. When we loaded test disc YEDS18 and selected play we heard lovely sound from the speakers. After some time however there was only distorted sound from both channels. Application of freezer to the TDA1543A DA converter chip IC222 restored normal sound. A replacement cured the problem.

R.A.

Sony FH-B7CD

This new music system has an edit facility that enables you to dub into a tape without losing the tracks at the end of the tape. When a disc was inserted into the CD player section there was no sound from the speakers except for an occasional "khur khur" noise. The digital signal processor/CLV servo chip is IC202, type CXD2500Q. We connected the scope to its data port and noticed that the signal waveshape changed from time to time. A few bursts of freezer on IC202 restored correct sound. Fitting a replacement had to be done with great care as it's an 80 pin SMD chip. This restored normal operation.

R.A.

Sony D55T

This is a Discman with an a.m./f.m. tuner built in. The card said "no results". We connected a 9V supply, loaded a disc and pressed play. There was no response and we noticed that the LC display was blank. The 5V supply reached the CXP5024H-003Q system control chip IC801 but there were no auxiliary supplies from the d.c.-d.c. converter. Now pin 30 of IC801 is the power controller port and there was no change here. Replacing IC801 restored normal operation.

R.A.

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Teletopics

BROADCASTING NEWS

The BBC formally starts broadcasting with Nicam stereo sound on BBC-1 and BBC-2 from the end of August – the first programme will be from the Royal Festival Hall on August 31st, on BBC-2. Seventy three per cent of the British population will be able to receive the Nicam stereo TV sound from ten main BBC transmitters and their 402 relays. BBC Television is committed to extending the service throughout the country, and over the next four years four further main transmitters are to be modernised, increasing the stereo sound coverage to eighty four per cent of the population. These transmitters are Divis (1992), Rowridge (1993), Tacolneston (1994) and Bilsdale (1995). On the programme side it's the BBC's intention to broadcast as much material as possible with Nicam sound.

The European Commission's recently published draft directive on satellite TV broadcasting seeks to commit broadcasters and the European consumer electronics industry to common objectives, in particular the adoption of the D2-MAC system for all future satellite TV stations, leading to HD-MAC at a later date. The directive would require approval by the governments concerned and the Commission hopes that it will come into effect early next year. The broadcasters and industry have been arguing about the terms of the directive for over six months however, while the UK government has already attacked the proposals. Sticking points include whether to make D2-MAC mandatory, the position of the current PAL satellite transmissions, and the receiver features that would become obligatory – whether all sets would have to incorporate a D2-MAC decoder or whether a baseband socket would be sufficient, making sets "D2-MAC ready". The saga of the directive seems set to run for some while yet.

Channel 4 will introduce PDC (programme delivery control) this autumn. The system uses codes in the teletext signal to enable a VCR to identify the start and end of a programme the user wishes to record. This makes timer setting much simpler and means that the VCR will make the recording correctly even when the programme time has been altered. The VCR has to include PDC circuitry of course – several models were announced at the spring shows. Programme schedules broadcast in advance as teletext pages will incorporate programme identification codes that the user can select and store using a remote control handset and an on-screen cursor.

A similar system called VPS (video programming system, see *Television* May 1986, page 450) has been in use in Germany, Austria and Switzerland for about six years. It was rejected in the UK since the programme code occupies a complete teletext line, which was considered to be wasteful, and prior to a recent change in the law programme recording was strictly speaking illegal. The similar TP (text programming) system first introduced by Grundig provides user programme selection for recording but doesn't overcome the problem of transmission time changes. PDC, which is an EBU standard, is a more efficient method of including the programme codes within the teletext lines. It was adopted by Channel 4 with the approval of BREMA. Channel 4 has been able to introduce this system first because it uses a computerised programme schedule system to control the transmission of commercials throughout the network.

According to the *Financial Times* satellite monitor, a

further 64,000 satellite TV installations were carried out in June, doubling the number over the twelve-month period. The figure for July was 55,000 – some 1.7m households now have access to satellite TV.

VIDEO HD-TV STANDARD

Hitachi, Matsushita and Sony have agreed on an HD-TV standard for VCR use. It's been developed for use with the Japanese MUSE HD-TV system but could be adapted for use with other standards. Signal compression has been rejected as a means of reducing the bandwidth required. Instead, two other techniques are employed. First the drum speed is doubled to 3,600 r.p.m. Secondly the video signal is divided into two components and recorded by two heads simultaneously as a luminance/chrominance time-division multiplex. Sixteen-bit PCM is used for the two- or four-channel digital audio signal. The cassette, which uses half-inch metal-particle tape, has a playing time of three hours. The three firms are to propose to the IEC (International Electrochemical Commission) that the system be adopted as a world standard. A ten-chip set will be developed for use in the VCRs, which it is hoped will be on sale within two years. The Japanese state broadcasting system NHK is at present broadcasting an hour of HD-TV daily. This is to be increased to eight hours later in the year.

AUDIO NEWS

An agreement has been reached between US recording companies and consumer electronics firms over digital audio tape systems. Under its terms a royalty payment on all equipment, tape and disc sales would be made to a government administered fund. The necessary legislation would have to be passed for the agreement to come into effect. A similar arrangement may be proposed in Europe.

Philips has announced that Matsushita (Panasonic) is a co-licensor of the DCC (digital compact cassette) system, which is to be introduced next year.

CHIPPERY

Sanyo Electric and US semiconductor manufacturer LSI Logic have agreed to undertake joint development of a sophisticated chip set to handle Japanese MUSE HD-TV signals. The aim is to reduce from forty to between six and ten the number of chips required for signal processing, cutting the decoder PCB size by three-quarters and halving its cost. The MUSE decoder is expected to be in production in the latter half of 1992.

NEC has developed a video compression system for videoconferencing use. It consists of three chips capable of compressing a 90Mbit/sec data stream to 64kbit/sec and meets the ISO H261 specification. The CPU chip incorporates 1.13 million transistors on a 13×15.5mm die. To achieve the necessary operating speed static instead of dynamic RAMs are used with the processor.

ITT Semiconductors has developed a chip for decoding captions for the hard of hearing. The CCD3000 is capable of handling all TV display functions, works with NTSC, PAL or SECAM transmissions and is compatible with ITT's Digi 2000 system.

TRADE NEWS

Nokia Consumer Electronics has established an in-house service department at its Swindon headquarters (Bridgemoor Close, Westmead, Swindon SN5 7YG) to handle repairs and spares for ITT Nokia, Salora and Luxor

products. Service back-up had previously been provided by a subcontractor, Hoopwell Ltd. The move follows the creation of a centralised service and spares operation at Bochum, Germany, ensuring fast delivery of spares to Nokia companies throughout Europe. The Nokia service department telephone numbers are 0793 511 636 for spares, 0793 512 856 for service and technical (2-5 p.m.).

A correction is required to our note last month about Sentra Electronics Ltd. It's the spares and service division of Sentra that's now trading as ASJ Electrotechnik, to whom orders and cheques etc. should be made out. Address and telephone number as last month.

Modification details are available from ASJ Electrotechnik for reception difficulties with the Sentra SX1000 and Channel Master 6010 satellite receivers when used with the Astra 1B satellite.

Still no news of a UK spares supplier for Loewe Opta products. Those who need to contact Loewe Opta GmbH should write to the firm at Industriestrasse 11, Postfach 220, D-8640 Kronach, Germany. The spares telephone no. is 010 49 926 199 700 - but there are no English speakers available.

TAPE FORMAT TRANSFER

Flintdown Channel Five Television Ltd., 339 Clifton Drive South, Lytham St. Annes, Lancashire FY8 1LP (telephone 0253 725 499 or 712 011, fax 0253 713 094) offers a tape transfer service for those who have video material stored on obsolete tape formats, transferring the material to modern video tape and cassettes such as VHS, S-VHS and Lin. Betacam SP. The company maintains a range of videotape recorders that were long ago discontinued, including Philips N1500 and N1700 machines, Hitachi half-inch reel-to-reel, IVC 1in. and quad 2in. models.

SERVICE ENGINEER SHORTAGE?

Roger Warren, senior lecturer at the Hastings College of Arts and Technology, has warned that a serious shortage of service engineers in the consumer electronics field is in prospect. Over the past three years there has been a fifty-sixty per cent drop in the number of students in his area taking the City and Guilds 224 courses. He has even had to cancel a satellite TV servicing course. Bad conditions and poor pay are suggested as reasons for the continuing decline in the number of people employed in the servicing industry. The increased reliability of consumer electronics products is another factor of course.

VIDEOPHONE SYSTEM

GPT has announced that it will launch a videophone in time for the start of the proposed pan-European videophone service in 1993. The price is expected to be between £1,000 and £2,000. It will be based on the company's videoconferencing system, which is to the ISO H261 specification, and will use the two 64kbit/sec digital lines provided by BT's ISDN-2 service.

AERIAL NEWS

A new omnidirectional indoor aerial from Maxview, the Omnivision, provides coverage of the u.h.f. bands plus v.h.f. radio. It comes with a separate amplifier that provides a variable gain of up to 26dB. Suggested retail price for the combination is £45, which includes various accessories. For further details apply to Maxview Aerials Ltd., Common Lane, Setchey, King's Lynn, Norfolk PE33 0AT (telephone 0553 810 376).

Manufacturing arrangements for the Astra version of the

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Squarial, which uses phased-array technology, are close to being agreed. It will be 45cm square, 45mm deep and have an efficiency of 72 per cent, about ten per cent higher than an equivalent dish. One of the problems with the Squarial has been the manufacturing tolerances, which with some dimensions have to be of the order of a thousandth of an inch.

New rules on satellite dishes came into effect on July 31st, subject to local conservation area etc. restrictions. The plan for two dishes per home without planning permission, proposed when Sky Television and BSB were separate, has been withdrawn. The latest regulations allow one dish of diameter up to 70cm provided it doesn't project above the highest part of the roof. To meet reception needs in some areas a 90cm dish is permissible. A 45cm dish can be chimney mounted provided it doesn't project above the top.

UNIVERSAL HANDSET

Cullam Ltd., Technology House, Stanton Harcourt Road, Eynsham, Oxford OX8 1TH (telephone 0865 882 100, fax 0865 882 110) has introduced a multi-purpose remote control handset that can be simply programmed to operate almost any IR controlled equipment. Known as the Scholar, the unit has a suggested retail price of £39.95 including VAT. It's programmed direct from existing handsets, retains its memory while the batteries are changed and offers up to 192 commands. Cullam is shortly to introduce a Nicam unit, the Interpreter, that upgrades existing TV sets and VCRs for Nicam stereo via a hi-fi system.

CASSETTE VCR SERVICING COURSE

Microforge Ltd., 339 Clifton Drive South, St. Annes-on-Sea, Lancashire FY8 1LP (telephone 0253 725 499, fax 0253 713 094) has produced a domestic VCR servicing course on seven separate cassettes. The programme is detailed and uses animated diagrams, graphics, spectrum analysis and oscillograms etc. to illustrate VCR operation. Each cassette is accompanied by additional printed notes with many diagrams and pictures. The seven cassettes cover VCR systems overview, servo systems, colour record systems, frequency modulation, VHS/S-VHS/Video-8, component video and VCR faults respectively.

The series has been made in conjunction with the Department of Trade and Industry and Aston University. Each cassette with its printed notes sells for £39: a discount is available if more than one part of the programme is ordered at the same time.

VCR Clinic

Reports from Philip Blundell, AMIEE, Ian Bowden, Chris Avis, Ed Rowland, Eugene Trundle, J. Edwards, Nick Beer and John C. Priest

Philips VR6362

The cassette would eject when play was selected. A check on the error memory showed that the capstan tacho signal was missing, though the capstan was seen to turn a few times when the cassette went in. The cause of the trouble was no supply to the tacho amplifier as C2206 on board P607 was short-circuit. **P.B.**

Grundig VS540

This machine came in with a cassette, which hadn't been inserted correctly, jammed inside. Now normally the machine would attempt to load the cassette for a few seconds then go to eject, but this didn't happen. Instead the machine kept trying to take in the cassette. After extracting the cassette I found that everything was fine if the cassette was inserted correctly, the problem occurring only when it was inserted incorrectly. After a break I noticed that the time was wrong. This was reset but a few minutes later I saw that the clock had stopped. It was then a simple matter to check the clock chip and find that it wasn't oscillating. A new PCF8583 was required. This cured both problems. The system controller uses the clock chip as a time reference: as the clock wasn't running, it wasn't timing the tray operation and sensing the jammed cassette lift. **P.B.**

Fujitsu General VGX625B/Panasonic D deck

"Speckly picture" was the fault noted on the card. I'd never seen a VCR like this one before, but when the top had been removed I recognised the Panasonic D deck. Things were all right once the heads had been cleaned, but why had this been necessary? A check on the back tension revealed that it was too high at 60g. The cause of the trouble was revealed when I inserted my Scotch E240 tape and tried forward and reverse search. There was too much friction between the lower drum and the tape, so the tape was buckling at the rotating guides.

Due to the cost of a new lower drum the machine will probably be written off. But we have a lot of machines that use the Panasonic D deck out on rental and have been changing rather a large number of lower drums. So we've been checking the back tension on all our machines. The normal playback tension should be around 40g when checked with a Konig tension cassette. With a large proportion of the machines the back tension has been 60g or more. Hopefully we will have reduced our need for lower drums by resetting the tension before the wear has become excessive. **P.B.**

Ferguson FV41

If pause or a search mode was selected when the machine had been running for a few hours the picture would roll. A check on the video signal showed the reason for this: in these modes there was a field sync pulse only on alternate fields. The pseudo-V sync pulse that's used in these trick modes is generated by the servo microcomputer chip and is fed to pin 28 of the luminance processing chip IC26. Even when the fault was present the 50Hz pseudo-V signal was correct. Checks around IC26 showed that the supply voltage was high at 6.4V instead of 5V. A small regulator

circuit in the servo area of the main PCB produces this 5V supply from the U7 8V line. The regulator circuit isn't the same as that shown in the provisional circuit diagram. We found that the faulty component was the 2.7V zener diode DT53 which had nearly 4V across it. **I.B.**

Hitachi VT17

The operate button LED said that the machine was on but there were no functions and no clock display. The NiCad backup battery should read 2.5V: this one read 2.5Ω! It had also killed the 10V regulator transistor Q1795. A new NiCad battery and 2SC2030 transistor restored normal operation. **C.A.**

Ferguson 3V53/JVC HR-D755

The owner complained about "fine net curtains" across the playback picture after ten minutes or so. He was right. Scope checks narrowed the source of the noise to the MSM6989RS delay chip IC2, which obligingly cleared the fault when it was frozen. We had some difficulty obtaining a replacement. Eventually we found that Thorn EMI Home Electronics had it in stock. **C.A.**

Sharp VC831H

The playback sound from prerecorded tapes was very low and muffled. The machine wouldn't record any sound at all, though the erase was o.k. As head cleaning produced no improvement a replacement was fitted. This cleared up the trouble completely. **E.R.**

Sharp VC582

When the cue (forward search) mode was selected the tape would stop moving, the deck reverting to the stop mode. The same shutdown sequence would occur during playback when a blank section of tape was encountered – the machine is designed to "search past" these, triggered by cessation of the off-tape control track pulses. The cue command came from pin 29 of the control microcomputer chip correctly. Further checks showed that C753 (100μF, 16V) in the reel motor drive circuit was short-circuit. **E.T.**

JVC HR-D110/Ferguson 3V38

This machine had a fault that was unusual to say the least: playback was o.k. but the machine's own recordings played back with erratic servo lock. If the machine was stood on end it made good recordings! There are two capstan FGs in this design, one in the motor and one on the belt-driven flywheel. The bracket that supports the bottom of the flywheel shaft had become somewhat bent. As a result the FG printed coil had moved away from the capstan, reducing the FG output at TP402 to 0.2-1.1V. **E.T.**

Tatung VRH8350

This particular Tatung machine is made by Akai. It would intermittently shut down to stop during play or record –

except when it was being watched in the workshop! An old scope was finally left hooked to two key points. Just before the machine went to stop we saw that the reel sensor pulses faded away slowly to zero. Changing the reel-sensor optocoupler and the cassette LED, which is in series with the coupler's sender diode, seems to have cured the problem as we've heard no more. **E.T.**

JVC HR-D750

The complaint was of diagonal blue lines on red backgrounds in the picture: it was received with some scepticism in the workshop. Sure enough, on test the reproduction of reds was flawless, even with the Madonna tape that accompanied the machine for the purpose of demonstration. We had to get the TV set, a JVC one at that, before we could sort this one out. The cause of the trouble was interaction between the TV set and the VCR, and was cured by physically separating them by a foot or two. The effects produced by this sort of radiation interference can vary tremendously with different combinations of VCR and TV receiver. **E.T.**

No Record with Camcorders

One of our customers made himself an elaborate and excellent battery belt for his camcorder. Its only problem was that the machine cut out each time he went to record! All the other functions worked however. You get the same sort of thing with worn-out batteries and with inadequate bench PSUs used to test camcorders. The reason for this is that the machine's current consumption is at maximum just after the record button is pressed: the camera section is then powered, the loading and head motors are running and sometimes the auto-focus motor is also operative. Current consumption can exceed an amp, much more than in the other modes, and the power source must be able to supply this with little drop in voltage.

The total resistance introduced by our friend's battery belt, contributed by several feet of thin wire, the connections, plugs and sockets, probably added up to an ohm or so, enough to lose a volt or more when entering the record mode. We found that the voltage at the camcorder dipped below the auto-cut circuit's threshold point, whereupon the machine promptly shut down again. **E.T.**

Sanyo VEMS1P Camcorder

The dew indication was almost always present in the viewfinder. As a result, all functions except eject were inhibited. Perhaps surprisingly, dew sensors go high-resistance when moist: the problem here was simply a dry-joint at one of the sensor's terminations. **E.T.**

Hitachi VT130/150

This machine accepted a tape all right and fast forward/rewind worked. When play was selected however the drum rotated and the machine laced up but there was no capstan rotation. So stop was initiated and the machine unlaced. Slight flexing of the servo panel would enable the machine to enter the play mode but after the slightest movement it would shut down. Much time was spent checking the voltages around the servo chip (IC601) whilst trying to flex the panel in an effort to note any changes in the readings in the go/no go states. This didn't work so I decided to let the machine shut itself off then carry out checks, hoping that it was still in the fault condition. There

should be a 4.43MHz signal at pin 32 of IC601. This was missing. I traced it back to pin 27 of IC301 on the luminance panel, where it was also missing. Slight movement of IC301 made it come and go. Resoldering IC301 provided a complete cure. **J.E.**

Panasonic NV-G40

The playback picture was clean and noise free but without colour. A recording played back on another machine proved that the fault was present in the playback mode only. The playback r.f. chroma is applied to the YC panel at pin 32. It was present here, though indistinct and of low amplitude. More alarmingly it sat on a d.c. potential of 3.32V. If the feed from the head amplifier was disconnected the d.c. potential disappeared. We found that it was present at pin 13 of the chroma hybrid chip IC801 (part no. VEFH04A). The same potential was present at pin 11 of the i.c. on the hybrid module, these two points being coupled by a capacitor which was apparently short-circuit. A new hybrid chip restored the playback colour. **N.B.**

Panasonic NV-MS50

This camcorder wouldn't play or record. The customer mentioned that he'd scraped it against a wall and wanted the marked case parts replaced. The symptoms were identical to those with an exhausted battery except that the viewfinder didn't show the appropriate indication, i.e. the unit would lace but then immediately unlace. With the covers off the reason for this was soon obvious – the drum didn't spin. This was in turn caused by the fact that the hi-fi audio rotary transformer's stator, which in these small units is mounted above the drum, fouled the latter because its bracket was bent. Further investigation showed that the tripod mounting bush was cracked in half. More than just a scrape I fear! **N.B.**

NEC N9077

This machine was brought into the workshop with the complaint "can't tune out radar interference". Radar at Squires Gate is a major problem in this area, making chs. 35/36 almost unusable in some parts of the Fylde. In this case however radar was not the cause of the problem. The white dashes across the screen were longer than the familiar radar blips and didn't have the characteristic repetition frequency. In fact the problem was caused by tape drop out as the drop-out compensation circuit wasn't doing its job.

A look at the circuit suggested that VR204 controlled this function, but a couple of experimental tweaks had no noticeable effect on the fault. There's no circuit description in the manual, and the function of IC1202, which precedes VR204, is not shown on the circuit diagram. It's identified in the parts list as a "PAL IH CCD", i.e. a one-line delay CCD chip. Pin 12 of the LA7323 luminance processor chip IC1201 feeds pin 6 of IC1202. IC1202's output, at pin 4, goes to VR204 via an emitter-follower (Q209) and a filter (FL202). VR204 feeds back to pin 10 of the LA7323 chip via another emitter-follower (Q208) and a coupling capacitor (C208). The waveform at TP207/8 didn't look much like that shown in the manual and didn't vary when VR204 was adjusted. As Q208/9 and C208 checked o.k. I decided to order and fit a replacement line-delay chip. This was a mistake – it was the LA7323 chip that was the cause of the problem. **J.C.P.**

The New BBC Identification Symbols

Keith Hamer and Garry Smith

Followers of our articles will know that from time to time we delve into the archives to present various BBC test cards, identification symbols and clock captions used in days gone by. Our first article on the subject appeared in the May 1978 issue of *Television*, when we reviewed unusual BBC globe symbols and test cards. This time we're going about things the opposite way in featuring some of the very latest on-screen identification graphics.

Previous Changes

Major changes to BBC on-screen graphics were introduced on February 16th, 1991. Previously the last overhaul of the BBC-1 identification had been on February 18th, 1985 when the mechanical globe symbol, which had been used in various forms since 1963, was changed to a fully digital display. BBC-2 changes were introduced in March 1986, when the traditional "2" was changed to a written "TWO" symbol. The identification captions for both networks had remained largely unchanged since then.

Call for Something New

In 1988 BBC-2 controller Alan Yentob made it clear to BBC Presentation that he didn't like the red, green and blue TWO identification. In fact he hated it! So plans were started to alter the BBC-2 image. Meanwhile the world of BBC-1 seemed set to continue rotating for some time to come.

By the late Eighties ideas about "market forces", "reorganisation", "rationalisation" and, worse still, "competitive tendering" were becoming current at the BBC Television Centre. While the BBC's Graphic Design department had traditionally been responsible for designing and producing the various identification symbols, it now faced competition from outside design agencies.

Planning the Changes

In June 1988 Pam Masters left Channel 4 and became head of Presentation at the BBC. She had started her career there, moving to Channel 4 in 1981 to become head of Presentation with responsibility for its on-screen appearance and identification. The design consultancy Robinson Lambie-Nairn devised Channel 4's logo, and it was perhaps not surprising that the same company was commissioned by the BBC to update its TV identifications, no doubt much to the disappointment of the BBC staff who had devised all previous BBC identifications with great success and a high degree of professionalism. What could we expect from Lambie-Nairn?

In recent years the company has designed the logos used by Channel 4, Scottish Television, Anglia Television and the French TF1 network. Remarkably similar identification symbols have been devised – they either look like bits of plastic that hurtle around the screen, or they seem to be made of shiny stainless steel. Such patterns are fine for some organisations, but surely not for the BBC. Throughout the world various graphic designers have chosen to use this style for television logos, as a result of which there's a great deal of similarity.

In 1988 we discussed over lunch with Pam Masters and

Graphic Design Manager John Aston at the Television Centre the fine tradition of the various BBC identification symbols. We mentioned to our hosts that the BBC had used a globe of some description since the Thirties, and suggested that it would be a terrible break with this tradition to discontinue the BBC-1 globe symbol. To support our view we produced photographs and videos from our extensive archives. As events unfolded last February, we needn't have worried too much about this. The first hint that we received about changes to the BBC-1 globe came in December 1990. A tip-off from Television Centre advised us that the new symbol was being viewed for the first time, behind locked doors and under strict security. The new BBC-1 symbol was indeed to feature a globe – but only just! For the first time ever the symbol was not going to include any sort of "BBC" identification: it would simply feature a large figure "1" in the centre of a swirling expanse of sea and land. Oh dear! That didn't sound too encouraging, but at least there was going to be a globe.

The Changeover

The final transmission of the BBC-1 digital globe symbol and the familiar clock caption occurred at closedown on February 16th, at around 0145. There was a brief mention from the continuity announcer that a new identification symbol would appear at the start of programmes later that day. We were given a hint as to what the new "1" would look like when Test Card F appeared for about ten seconds after closedown. On the extreme left (see the accompanying photograph) there was the new BBC identification, in sloping boxes with short white lines below. To the far right there was the new-style "1". Several people at the Television Centre were, with ourselves, left wondering why there was such a large space in the identification. Perhaps someone at the BBC knows the reason for this unusual gap: at the time of writing this we are still in the dark!

Test Card F was again transmitted, at some length, prior to the start of the Open University programmes at 0640 on BBC-1 and 0650 on BBC-2. The OU programmes started on time and we were to discover that the work of the graphic designers had even extended to this area which, it seemed, hadn't changed much for centuries! But there was still no sign of the new BBC clocks and symbols. We had to wait until 0900 for the new BBC-1 clock to appear, prior to a Gulf News report. It was shown for only a few seconds but was clearly a pleasing design that was certainly different from any other clock caption. There was just one nagging doubt. What would the BBC show during a national emergency or ahead of some really awful news story? The clock seems too colourful for use on such sombre occasions.

The New BBC-1 Globe

The official unveiling of the new BBC-1 globe symbol was due to be carried out by Philip Schofield and Sarah Greene at 0905, during the children's programme *Going Live!* It appeared for a few seconds just prior to the start of this programme however. And what a colourful symbol it



Photo 1: The BBC-1 globe. Australia appears twice but where are Europe and Africa?



Photo 2: The BBC-1 clock caption is superimposed on a strange psychedelic map.

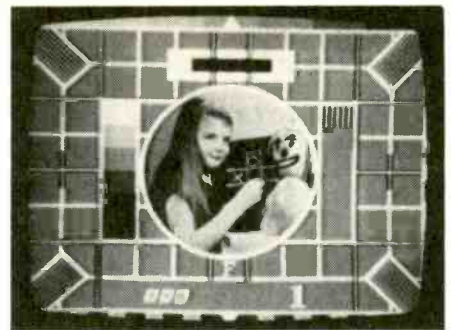


Photo 3: Test Card F with the new BBC identification and a strange space between it and the 1 or 2.

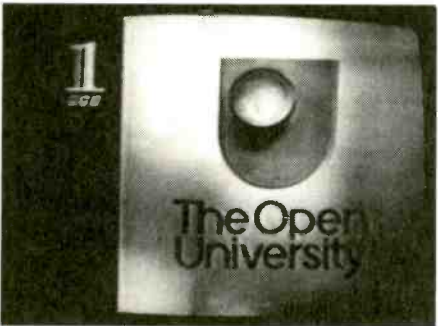


Photo 4: Part of the animated Open University sequence on BBC-1.



Photo 5: The OU identification caption as radiated on BBC-2.



Photo 6: BBC-2 identification with the 2 covered with blowing satin.

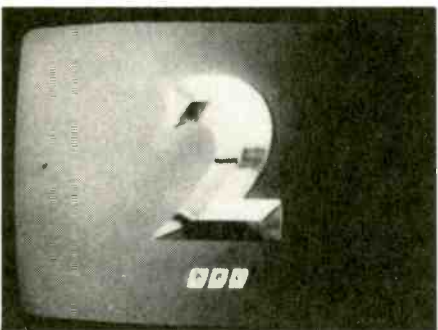


Photo 7: The 2 identification here takes on a stainless-steel appearance.

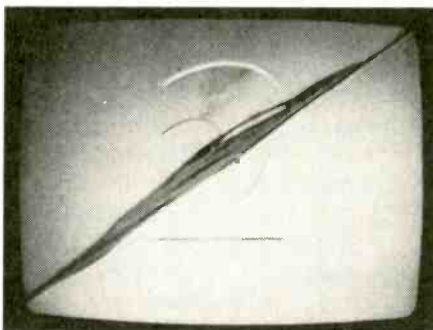


Photo 8: This 2 has a small river or satin rip across it.

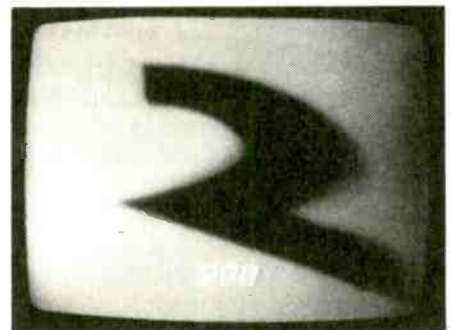


Photo 9: Here we have a rotating and silhouetted 2.



Photo 10: The 2 here seems to have a 3-D effect.



Photo 11: A 2 that's illuminated by neon lights.

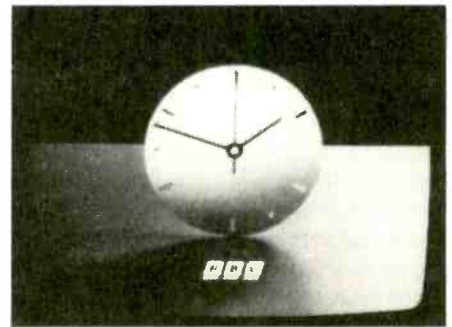


Photo 12: The new and extremely elusive BBC-2 clock.

turned out to be! Perhaps, as with the clock, a little too colourful for use during national emergencies. Incidentally the overall colour scheme is officially known as "BBC-1 Indigo".

Two traditions are embodied in this new symbol: the globe idea and the BBC corporate logo (the latter had been absent when executives first viewed the caption last December). But where on earth (quite literally) are the

continents of Europe and Africa? For some odd reason Australia appears twice in some instances. The Americas are also there, but apart from a vague outline there's very little sign of Europe and Africa. Just when these large landmasses should appear they seem to be swallowed up in a mysterious black hole. It has been suggested, perhaps rather unkindly, that Australia is featured twice in readiness for the BBC to be snapped up by some TV-

hungry Aussie entrepreneur when the Royal Charter expires in 1996.

BBC-2's New Look

BBC-2's new look was due at 1445, following the close of the OU programmes. Would the symbol consist of cheap and cheerful children's plastic playing bricks shooting across the screen? Fortunately it didn't. Instead, the bold figure 2 appeared in the place of the familiar TWO symbol. Then, without any warning, a jet of blue paint hurtled towards the 2, splattering it completely. For paint connoisseurs, the colour is actually "BBC-2 Viridian" rather than blue! Certainly the new symbol differs from any of its predecessors. This wasn't all however: there isn't just one BBC-2 symbol but a whole selection of them, some of which are shown in the accompanying photographs. They are generated from two laserdiscs which can produce no fewer than forty identification symbols, one of which includes part of Test Card F. Each BBC-2 symbol is accompanied by some rather unusual but soothing radiophonic-style music. The

new BBC-2 clock caption first appeared during the closedown sequence.

Regions and the Graphics Review

The BBC Regions haven't been overlooked in this updating process. BBC Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland each have a vague outline map of their particular area on all programme menus and trails.

The authors now publish a quarterly, 20-page publication entitled *TV Graphics Review* for those interested in test cards and logo designs. It includes photographs and articles on test cards, the accompanying music, identification symbols and general TV graphics used throughout the world over the past seven decades. It's available at an annual subscription of £7 from HS Publications, 7 Epping Close, Derby DE3 4HR (telephone 0332 513 399). If anyone has available photographs or videos of early identification symbols and test cards we'd like to hear from them. We would also be pleased to hear from anyone with recordings of BBC test card music from the Fifties and early Sixties.

The B and O 39XX Series Chassis

Nick Beer

For convenience we are referring to the group sets described in this article as the 39XX series. To date there have been four models as follows: L4500, L5500, LX4500, LX5500, MX3500 and MX5500. An M in the model number indicates monitor styling. L only models are basic sets. Bang and Olufsen's set identification system has never been very clear, what with model and type numbers but no chassis numbers. Model L4500 is listed as type 393X, Model L5500 as type 391X, Model LX4500 as type 392X, Model LX5500 as type 390X, Model MX3500 as type 316X and Model MX5500 as type 326X. Having got that out of the way we'd like to say that the basic chassis used is an extremely interesting one.

The 25 and 28in. LX sets are, as with previous models having the same prefixes, traditional looking sets with speakers at each side of the glass-plate covered c.r.t.* The speaker frets and glass plate fit flush to the top of the set however rather than to an escutcheon as in previous models. This means that the standby indication has had to be moved. It's now a bi-coloured LED in the right-hand top corner above the c.r.t. The same LED is red for standby and green when the set is on. A power indicator is required because the chassis has no on/off switch, also because the picture as well as the sound can be muted via the handset and the sets can run in an audio-only mode. In previous sets that had an audio-only mode (for hi-fi playback) there was a LED indicator showing two arrowheads.

Apparently some viewers have found the closeness of the standby/on LED to the tube distracting. The indicator mustn't be blocked or covered as this contravenes safety approval requirements. A series resistor can be added to limit the brightness. I must say that we've never found this to be a problem with our customers.

Operation of the Set

The only controls on the set are a channel step forward button and a reset button. These are beneath the tube, to the right. There's an array of sockets at the rear – two scart

sockets, an S socket for S-VHS VCR use (Y and C inputs), two power link sockets (see later), a motorised stand socket and audio auxiliary/link sockets.

The sets come with the now standard Beolink 1000 handset, which is more than just a remote control unit. Within the set there's a transceiver rather than a remote control receiver. This enables it to work with the Beolink 5000 and 7000 handsets. Remote transcription is not new with B and O gear: hi-fi systems have been able to communicate with master control panels for some years, but this is the first TV chassis to have this feature. It will not work with the MCP5500/6500 master control panels however.

One thing to remember is that these sets will come on only with the TV command, unlike earlier sets that used the Beolink 1000 handset and would respond to the channel number buttons. A couple of useful additions to the features available via the handset are separate sound and vision mutes and resets. Picture mute is useful when calling up an on-screen menu. To select the individual functions, prefix the command with "sound" or "picture" as appropriate.

As with earlier sets frequency rather than channel tuning is used. The conversion table was included with my previous article (April 1989) on the 37/38XX LX00/02 series. This mode is selected by pressing the "goto" key, typing in the figure then pressing "store" twice. Search tuning is by pressing either channel step key in place of the digits. Each channel location can be given an identification header by pressing "goto" six times then using the step and fast forward/rewind keys to select and move along the characters. There's no need to code a location specifically for VCR r.f. use – any location can be used.

Although the sets have fifty locations only the first 45 can be used as the final five are reserved for future and/or link use. This is more than sufficient of course.

When the set is connected to a Beosystem 6500 hi-fi installation, VX4500 or VX5000 VCR the tuning (VCR only) and clock data are dumped, obviating the need for separate setting of the other units. There are one or two

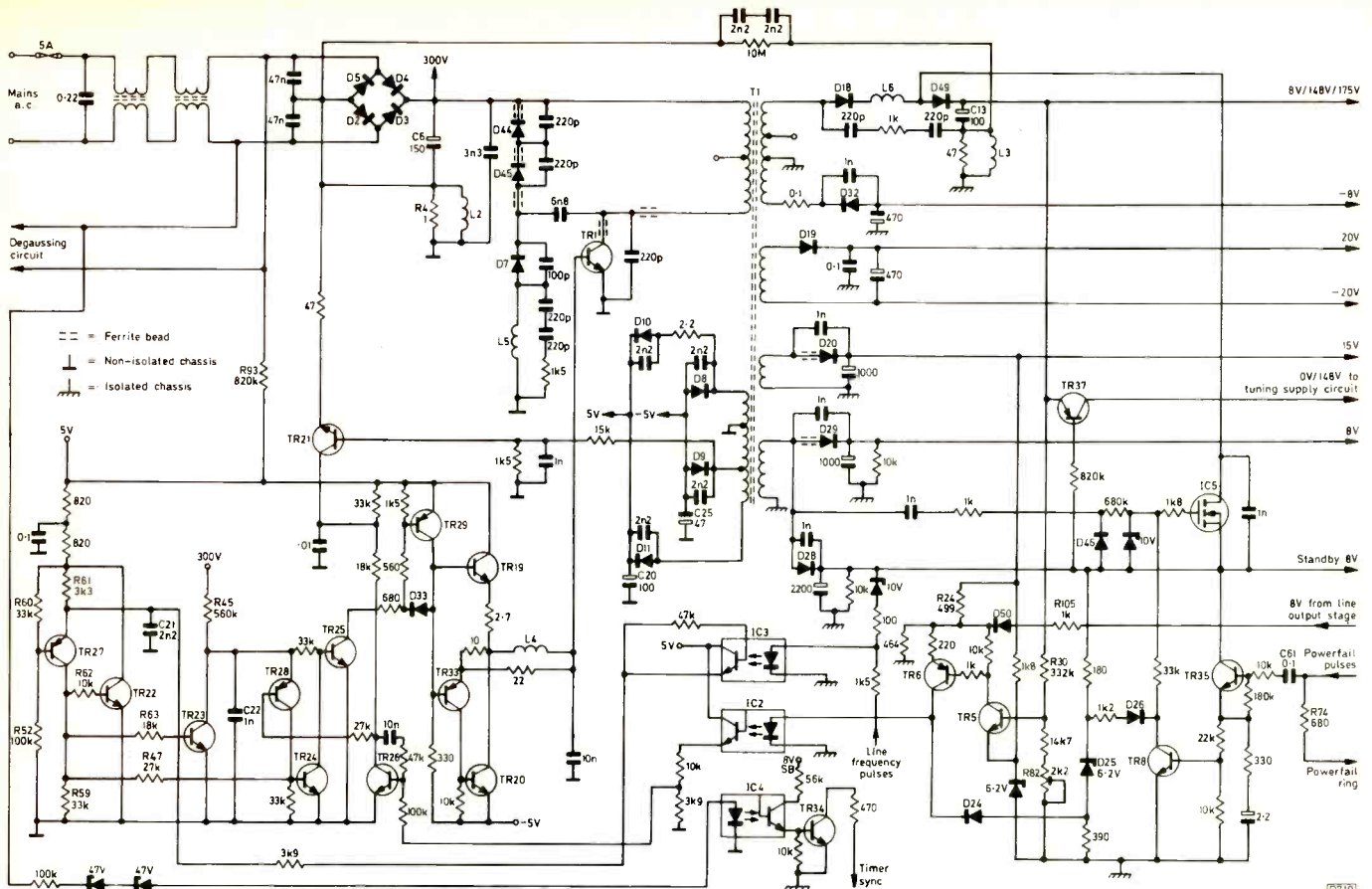


Fig. 1: Circuit diagram of the chopper power supply.

anomalies however. VX5000s with 1.5 software will not dump, and Master 6500s need software 1.4 to prevent the clock resetting to Monday at each dump.

Power Supply Circuit

It's essential to understand the operation of the power supply when any work is done on these sets. The circuit is shown in Fig. 1.

A start-up supply is fed to the oscillator and driver stages via R93. The oscillator, which runs at about 32kHz, i.e. approximately twice the line speed, is formed by TR27 and TR22 with C21 as the timing capacitor. The voltage at the base of TR27 is fixed by the potential divider R60/R52. When the voltage across C21, which charges via R61 etc., is higher than the voltage at its base TR27 will switch on, in turn switching on TR22. C21 is then discharged via TR27/R62/TR22, and when the voltage across it has fallen sufficiently the two transistors switch off. The oscillator's pulse output, developed across R59, drives the ramp generator circuit. This consists of the switching transistor TR23 and C22 which charges from the 300V supply via R45. The ramp forms one input to the pulse-width modulator stage consisting of TR28 and TR24. TR25 acts as a buffer through which the pulse-width modulated drive signal is fed to the push-pull driver stage that consists of TR29, TR33, TR19 and TR20. Note that the driver stage is operated from +5V and -5V lines.

The p.w.m. drive is applied to the base of the BUT12 chopper transistor TR1 via L4. When this transistor conducts, current flows via the primary winding of the chopper transformer T1 to the reservoir capacitor C6. When the drive waveform cuts TR1 off, the field established in the transformer collapses and current flows in the secondary windings. Rectifiers D18/19/20/28/29/32

provide various supplies. The width of the chopper drive pulse is determined by feedback from the error detector/amplifier circuit TR5/6 via isolating optocoupler IC2 and TR26 which sets the bias at the base of TR28.

TR28 thus receives a ramp waveform at its emitter and a feedback bias at its base. It conducts when the voltage at its emitter exceeds that at its base. TR24 is then switched on. When TR23 discharges C22, TR28 and TR24 switch off.

Excessive loading is detected by R4/L2 which are connected in series with the negative side of the mains bridge rectifier's reservoir capacitor C6. TR21 switches on when there's excessive voltage across R4/L2, in turn reducing the bias at the base of TR28. This reduces the chopper drive. The circuit also provides protection during the start-up procedure, before the power supply's output voltages stabilise and the feedback circuit takes over.

In the standby mode the field-effect transistor IC5 switches on. As a result, the h.t. voltage falls to 8V: all other outputs from the power supply are reduced to a fifteenth of their normal running value. IC5 is controlled by TR35 and TR8, which are off in standby. The powerfail signal, which is not present in the standby mode, is used to switch TR35 and TR8 on. We'll return to the powerfail action in a minute. Because of the large back-e.m.f. that's created by this dumping action, an usually complex snubber network is required. It consists of D7/D44/D45 and the associated components. TR37 switches off in standby, removing the supply to the tuner.

In the TV mode the error detector transistor TR5 samples the 148V line via R30. The supply for TR5/6 is obtained from a rectifier connected to a winding on the line output transformer, the feed being via R105 and D50. This arrangement provides anti-breathing compensation. In the standby mode the feedback is via D24 and D25 from the 8V line - the voltage at the anode of D24 is 1.6V.

In the audio only mode the h.t. line is unloaded and rises to about 175V. There is no supply via R105 and D50 to TR5/6 which are instead fed from the 15V line via R24. In this condition the 15V supply determines the feedback.

Line flyback pulses are coupled to the power supply oscillator via optocoupler IC3 to provide synchronisation. This is done to avoid picture disturbance.

The other optocoupler in the power supply, IC4, is used to synchronise the built in clock with the mains frequency. The teletext clock is not used in these sets to provide the "time" feature. To synchronise the two clocks, select "time, text, store, store" with the 1000 handset. When the set is connected to other B and O audio or video equipment with suitable software the clock is, like the tuning, dumped and synchronised between units.

Powerfail System

The powerfail circuit detects excess loading on the various supplies and operates in a ring manner. Fig. 2 shows the arrangement of the powerfail loop. A 4-4V peak-to-peak 50Hz squarewave output from pin 10 of the master microcomputer chip IC13 should return to pin 13 of this chip. If it's missing or badly distorted the set won't start and a powerfail message will appear. The set won't start because, as we have seen, the powerfail signal is used to switch on TR35 in the power supply.

In the event of a powerfail fault, make load checks on the various supply lines. The reset button on the front of the set must be pressed after each failed start-up when there's a powerfail fault. This resets the microcomputer chip. If you don't do this you may continue to look for a fault long after it has been put right.

Timebase Generator Section

The timebase generator arrangements are interesting. Fig. 3 shows a block diagram. The line oscillator is in IC2 while the field oscillator is in the TDA8432 deflection processor chip IC5. This chip contains an I2C bus interface and DAC to decode line frequency, line phase, field geometry and interlace/non-interlace commands.

Composite video to provide sync pulses passes to IC2 via the still-display module. This is used to ensure that stable menus are displayed on the screen whether the deflection is synchronised or not. Without this module no-signal noise would disturb the line oscillator, the result being unstable/tilted menus. The circuitry on the module scans to check for noise in the sync part of the composite video signal. Strong noise brings a transistor switch into operation to short the module's output to chassis. As a result the line oscillator runs freely but stably.

The set is designed to operate with either interlaced or non-interlaced field deflection. In the non-interlaced mode, lines from odd and even fields are superimposed. This mode is used for static displays such as teletext. A 4013 D-type bistable chip is used to adjust the field sync for the two modes. Switching between them is automatic but can also be manually controlled via the 1000 handset by using "shift, 7". This could be convenient when, for example, using the set as a computer monitor.

On-screen Menus

On-screen displays are used in both the viewing and service modes. We can't deal with viewer operation of the set in any depth here - that would call for an article three times the length of this one! In addition to on-screen

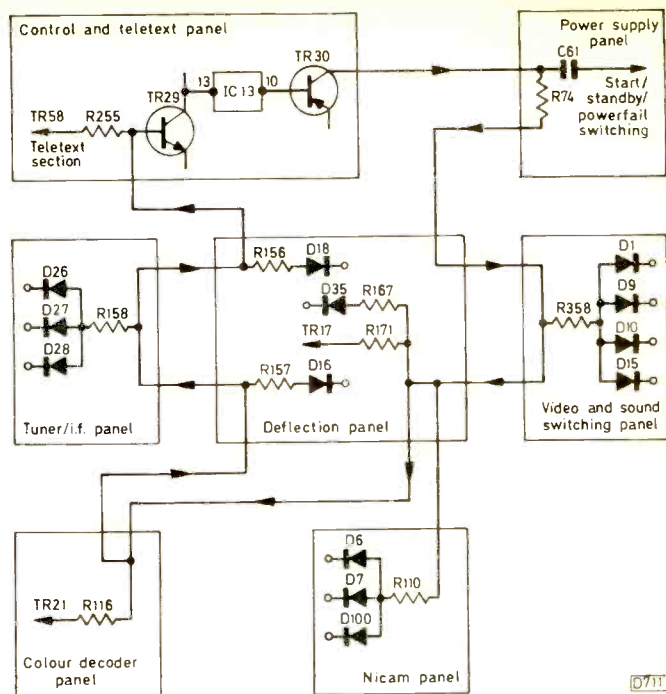


Fig. 2: The Powerfail loop.

indicators for all level settings, both audio and video, the "shift, text" command brings up a system map which, in block diagram form, illustrates the TV set and the units connected to its various sockets. This screen also allows the set to be switched to respond to timer commands from the auxiliary socket, thus obviating the need for a "link" transceiver in the TV room in a link system. The set can produce this display from data fed via pin 8 of the scart interconnecting leads.

The exact shift-text command depends on the mode in which the receiver is working - "TV, shift, text" in the TV mode, "text, shift, text" in the teletext mode and "Vtape, shift, text" in the video mode. The set knows when a VX-type VCR is connected to the auxiliary two scart socket: it displays "VTAPE1 on AUX2". As it also knows that it has a scart input and that a decoder could therefore be connected the display adds a + symbol to illustrate this possibility.

"Shift, text" from the teletext mode allows teletext programming of a VX5000 VCR if one is connected.

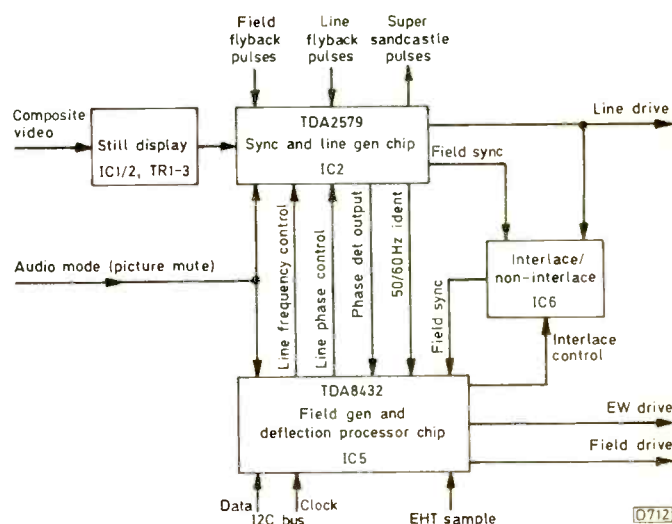


Fig. 3: Block diagram of the timebase generator section.

"Shift, text" in the video mode brings up the main video menu when a VX5000 is connected. Don't confuse the uses of "shift, text" between modes.

Service Mode

To enter the service mode, bring the set on from standby with the service link shorted out. Open the link when the set comes on. The link consists of a two-pin plug whose pins can be squeezed together easily with the fingers: it's plug P48 on the AV socket module. The first menu that appears in the service mode is "type serial no.", i.e. the set's type and serial number. This information is obtained from the system control memory. As a result, if a memory chip is faulty the panel has to be returned to B and O in order to maintain the electronic tagging.

The next two menus, "picture set-up" and "geometry", will probably be the most frequently used ones. The procedure is as with all B and O menus. Use "FFW" and "REW" to select the option, which will turn red to highlight the cursor position, then press "play". With the alignment menus, when an adjustment is selected from the list the menu, except for the adjustment and its value, disappears from the screen.

The "TV variant" menu tells you the set's standard/system. You can alter the display but not the set's capabilities.

The next menu is "error message". This indicates the reason for failure, e.g. powerfail or an I2C bus device failure. In this latter case there are error codes as follows:

- 02 = production computer
- 22 = text generator (6IC8) fault
- 40 = nicam port expander (8IC3) fault
- 42 = picture DAC (2IC5) fault
- 80 = audio control (5IC1) fault
- 84 = A2 stereo decoder (1IC7) fault
- 8C = deflection processor (10IC5) fault
- C0 = citac chip (1IC4) fault
- 44 = PIP input selector 12IC10 fault
- 2E = PIP output control chip 12IC9 fault.

When the fault has been dealt with the error display must be cleared. Otherwise if a new fault occurs it won't be registered. "Error clear" is an option on this menu.

A final menu, obtained by selecting "TV, shift, text, 0, 0, play", provides mainly production data. There is one useful piece of information here however, the EPROM software version.

Features and Options

The text decoder is a FLOF type employing three i.c.s. It has three modes of operation. Pressing "text" gives access to four stored pages, MEM1-4, which are selected with the step keys. Pressing "text" a second time selects fastext, keys 1-4 acting for the four colours. From text, selecting "goto" gives traditional text operation by page number. There's an option to record text with vision, for example when subtitles are used.

An integral satellite TV receiver, the LM SAT, can be fitted inside the cabinet. It's an incredibly small module that fits at the bottom, to the right of the main chassis. The Beolink 1000 handset will control it without modification, as it does the LX and RX satellite TV receiver units.

A nicam decoder can be fitted. The same circuit is used as in the VX5000 VCR and the 77XX series chassis. It can be demuted by putting a high on pin 20 of 8IC2. The circuit

mutes when one in a hundred parity bits is missing. It will demute only when fewer than one in four hundred parity bits is missing.

Power Link Sockets

A couple of 8-pin DIN sockets, Power Link 1 and Power Link 2, enable the set to be connected to B and O's active speakers with displays.

Stands and Brackets

There's a comprehensive range of stands and brackets. It includes motorised swivel stands and bases, the latter for shelf mounting. You turn the set by selecting "picture" then using the left and right "step" keys as required. Switching to standby returns the stand to the centre parallel position. When the set is switched on from standby the stand automatically moves to a preset viewing position. This preset position is stored by moving the stand to the required position then selecting "picture, store, store". Ensure that all picture parameters have been preset to the required levels first.

Miscellaneous Points

Finally, some miscellaneous points. The line shift control is a three-position switch on the c.r.t. base panel. UK sets have the A2 stereo decoder. If a software upgrade is required, 6IC5 will have to be replaced. The S-VHS socket is selected by "shift, 9" on the system map menu. Picture-in-picture is an option. Note that several electrolytic capacitors are drawn the wrong way round in the circuit diagram – they're connected to negative supply lines.

Servicing Notes

Failure of the chopper transistor TR1 (see Fig. 1) has been a problem with a few sets. Fit only a replacement obtained from B and O, with a dab of white paint on it. When TR1 fails the mains fuse blows. The cause can be the transistor itself or incorrect triggering due to transients on the mains supply. If you are unfortunate you may find that the fault has resulted in destruction of the print between the chopper and the pre/driver transistors and damage to these transistors. A modification has been introduced in the control circuit, as follows: remove R63; disconnect the track to the base of TR23 as close as possible to the transistor; fit R63 (18k Ω part no. 5011344) on the copper side of the panel, from the base of TR23 to the side of R47 that faces link J35. This modification is incorporated in all sets that have serial numbers above 08676072.

Intermittent sound muting when the picture is at predominantly black level can occur with early software. Upgrade to 2.1 software, part no. 8341713. This fault seems to have occurred in particular with sets that incorporate a satellite TV tuner.

On the satellite TV side there's an option to fit a "positioner" to drive a motorised dish. Apparently there have been problems with certain positioner motors in cold weather, when the current has been too high. There is now a modified "piggyback" transformer for the module.

Acknowledgement

My thanks to B and O's Hans Rackman who has been running some excellent courses on this chassis at Gloucester.

Fifty Years in Radio and TV

Part 9

Harold Peters

Television receiver manufacture, retailing and servicing have, over the last half century, fully stretched just about everyone who got involved. I was no exception. So I was worried by the prospect of suddenly stopping at retirement. Too many of my colleagues had failed to survive the transition. Fortunately I was allowed to do so gradually, with first a four-day week then just three. This helped a lot. Nevertheless all sorts of thoughts pass through your mind during the final year, mainly because at last you have time to reflect. You appreciate how the character of the business has changed over the years, and how the complexity and greater reliability of modern equipment have turned servicing into work for specialists. Broadcasting has ceased to be run by a band of dedicated enthusiasts, becoming managed and cost-effective. TV itself has come to be taken for granted. There are not many left in the trade who can recall when there was no TV at all.

I began to feel that there was not a lot left to write about. It seemed that the days when you could knock up a little service aid, write it up for the magazine and have it avidly accepted had gone. But had they? The last twelve months of active service turned up some surprises. In fact the year was to prove as eventful as the previous fifty. It got off to a shaky start for me. I must have tried to pack the work of five into my three working days: but the thyroid couldn't take it and I had a job to hold a screwdriver still. Just as I was beginning to feel sorry for myself I read one of Les's columns and discovered that Tiny Tim was suffering too. At least my problem was as easily controlled as with a.g.c., by adjusting my pituitary "feedback circuit". I bought an electric screwdriver to help until my hand steadied down, and carried on.

One night, on the way home, I installed a package deal consisting of a VCR and a teletext TV set. The daughter of the house let me in, and when I'd completed the installation I showed her in detail how the combination worked. Then her parents turned up and explained that she was totally deaf, though by lip reading she'd understood everything I'd said. The VCR was to be used to record her favourite programmes for weekend viewing when she got back from residential school. "Pity the subtitles don't come out on the tape" they said. This bothered me and I spent some time on the problem, the outcome being a small one-transistor mixer panel to add behind the TV set's scart output and an article on *Recording Teletext Subtitles* that you may have read.

Satellite TV

Then there was the Wembley Satellite Exhibition. 1988 saw the emergence of pro-Astra and pro-BSB groups, the latter further dividing into the D-MAC and D2-MAC camps. It needed two articles to straighten that out, one to recap on the mess that space TV had got itself into and the other to try to explain in a simple manner the "conditional access" aspect of MAC broadcasting. Writing this latter article decidedly worried me. I couldn't see any of our customers putting up with the rigmarole of conditional access. Then Rupert Murdoch dropped his bombshell by announcing that his four Astra channels would be clear, mostly free and all in PAL.

At the time I felt that the Murdoch approach was the right one, since viewers have always been reluctant to pay any more for TV than the original asking price for the set. It's strange that since the late Forties the price of a monochrome set has remained at around £70, and that the price of a basic, medium-sized colour set has remained at around £300 for the last twenty-one years. I can think of no other item that's defied inflation in this way. People just don't want to pay more. As if to strengthen this belief of mine, the original Norwich cable system pulled the plug at about the same time "on economic grounds". Satellite TV could not be ignored however, and we maintained a team to cope with the existing and hoped-for future demand.

Changes

By now VCRs had reached the stage where a basic model preselected four programmes, had remote control and one-touch recording. Because no two were alike, and many of the instruction manuals arrived from the Far East via Scandinavia, suffering from double translations, we had to produce our own abridged instructions. TV sets were, to a lesser extent, also becoming harder to tune in, different models using different digital arrangements, and to make matters worse they tended to have black buttons on a black surround beneath the screen. To use them you had to get so close to the c.r.t. that the picture dazzled you and you pressed the wrong ones. There were two big clangers: Computer Controlled Teletext, which was neither wanted nor understood, and the Flat Square Tube, which only Sony had really mastered and had to be run at reduced drive to prevent high beam currents damaging the shadowmask. Tubeless TV sets with liquid-crystal displays came along, in small screen sizes, and performed with varying degrees of indifference. The last valve in the set, the c.r.t., was going to take some shifting despite the fact that CCD sensors had taken over from tubes in camcorders.

Viewing habits were changing. The soap operas that used to fill the gaps between prime-time programmes started to lead the ratings. Subsequently *Crossroads* was killed off, and ITV started to stay on all night. Repeats were the order of the day, with oldies like *Steptoe* and *Faulty Towers* still head and shoulders above 1988's output. Even the 405-line *Face to Face* and *Hancock* recordings held up well against the latest offerings.

Retirement

My reflections were making me feel sorry for the gang I was about to leave. I was dreading the arrival of my last day at work. Traditionally it has been an excuse to have a do, but in my case a guardian angel did its stuff. Our senior lady clerk, one of the longest serving members, was to retire a few weeks before me, so Roy gave us a combined "night to remember" while I still had seven weeks to go. This cushioned the impact that the last day can have on someone who has enjoyed his work. But when the last day comes you still have to clear your bench and do the rounds, shaking hands. Again the guardian angel took a hand: there was an almighty thunderstorm that flooded our four phone lines with service calls. It happened to be finals at

Wimbledon. I was in the way and caded a lift home in one of our service cars that was going to a call out.

They say that you feel dreadfully aimless and depressed on the first Monday of your retirement, but it didn't happen that way. There was plenty to do around the house, and I had this to write. Then I drew my pension and for the first time in fifty years the contribution flowed in the reverse direction! It was high summer, and the dog needed a walk.

It was not until several months later that I felt the door had finally clang shut behind me. I had gone back to the "old firm" and saw a different world. The lads were struggling with surface-mounted components, Astra was up and running and, in the magazine, Les was reporting difficulty in finding a buyer for his business. Pye colleagues who had gone to Croydon found themselves faced with a second factory closure.

Then down came the Berlin Wall and the Germans dropped MAC like a hot brick, spreading PAL into eastern Europe instead. Not the best time to launch BSB, but they went ahead. During the BSB trial period Granada wired up the Lancashire village of Waddington for multi-channel TV. The conclusions drawn from this six-week experiment were that although the technology was

wonderful it was the entertainment that counted most. It was ever thus: colour took off only when duplication gave us *Coronation Street* etc. in colour, and it was entertainment software that floated VHS to the top.

It's now 1991 and history is being made faster than the pen can write. The Broadcasting Act, more inept even than Pilkington, disbanded the IBA and paved the way for sponsorship and takeovers. Deregulation goes ahead despite it being the cause of the collapse of decent TV in Australia and New Zealand. You would think that manufacturers, bitten by the BSB affair, would think twice about putting dubious innovations into production, yet five contenders offer different ways of doing home digital recording. As Ruskin said, "change is certain, progress is not".

It's not all gloom however. The old firm still needs as many engineers, though they tend to specialise, and youngsters still come into the business. How on earth do they begin, when there is so much more to learn? When I started in the Thirties you had to master only three golden rules to be set for life: $I = E/R$ nine times out of ten; no man can solder without flux; and what goes up must come down. Come to think of it, in the shed in the garden they still apply to this very day.

Electronic Stethoscope Testing

P.J. Ratcliffe

Diagnosing the cause of intermittent faults can be a very time-consuming process. The empirical trial and error method of resoldering dry-joints and testing connectors depends on a certain degree of luck. Often it's successful. Those of us who firmly believe in there being a specific physical cause for all faults should however be able to arrive at a definite diagnosis, i.e. track down the cause to a particular item by testing. Doing this can involve the use of a mixture of tests and equipment. Jobs differ considerably: to illustrate the technique described here we'll take a particular example.

A 16in. Grundig Super Color Model 1510GB came in with a line timebase fault. After the smoking rectifier had been replaced we ran the set for two hours, during which it worked perfectly. On switching on from cold the next day however the line sync and colour had gone, producing a scrambled, jittery picture. Opening the set and adjusting the line hold control restored correct operation and the set was then given a further twelve-hour test run. The following day the same problems reappeared. We opened up again and flexed the line oscillator module, which is mounted on an edge connector. Picture lock was restored when this module was wiggled.

A check was then made on the voltages at the connector pins. We found that the voltage at pin 13 differed with the two conditions. It was 1.1V when operation was correct and zero when the fault was present. To start with we suspected the physical condition of the connector, so this was cleaned and tightened. Unfortunately the fault was still present.

We removed the module and traced the connections across the board, looking for obvious dry-joints and checking the values of resistors as we proceeded. When the module was replaced the fault was still there.

Our next suspicion was that a component was noisy. Our difficulties related to the intermittent nature of the fault and the fact that the digital multimeter didn't respond fast enough when we clipped the leads to a component then

flexed it slightly. Overcoming this problem called for ingenuity, so out of sheer determination to find the exact cause of the fault I used an audio amplifier and headphones, with a d.c. bias at the input (a 1k Ω resistor as used with electret microphones), clipping test leads to the components in the paths where the fault lay.

One component, R408 (3.3M Ω), was found to be very noisy when the board was flexed. When it was unsoldered and tested the noise was much less. We fitted a replacement however and tried again. The fault persisted. The only other thing left was the associated printed track. When the board was flexed towards the copper clad side the fault disappeared. If the penny had dropped I'd have realised at the start that the copper track was suspect.

Close inspection didn't reveal the slightest break. When the noise amplifier was connected to two points on the copper track associated with R408 and the output node however the noise crackle as the board was flexed was obvious. The input voltage rose from 0V to 2.5V.

The conclusion we reached was that a hairline fracture was present in the printed circuit track routed near a rectangular hole in the board, where the vertical plastic retaining clip passes through. Having located the cause of the fault by using this "electronic stethoscope" technique we were able to use the digital meter to measure the fault precisely. The resistance varied from 0.3 Ω to 100 Ω when cold, changing to a complete open-circuit as the board was flexed. A piece of wire soldered in parallel across the length of the faulty track cured the problem.

When using this technique for fault finding with microprocessor circuitry I use a low-voltage amplifier, with a low sensor current, to avoid possible damage to CMOS devices. With an intermittent fault the machine code generally crashes. Since the electronic stethoscope is so useful, the next problem is to include the amplifier facility within the digital multimeter (or vice versa) and fit a headphone socket, thus minimising the number of items of test equipment required.

What a Life!

Donald Bullock

I got up bright and breezy the other day, ready for all the work likely to come my way. "First of all" I said to Greeneyes "I'm nipping down to my chalet to type a letter, then I'm going into the workshop. Tread warily if you're in that direction. The sets will be flying out so fast you could be in danger."

I typed the letter on my Amstrad PCW9526, but when I tried to print it the cog and belt arrangement that moves the head across the page faltered and shuddered loudly as the printer initiated. This went on for twenty seconds or so then the printer appeared to work normally, except that the paper remained blank. The striker thing that clouts the letters didn't seem to be coming to them far enough. Faint printing became visible as the letter progressed, but it was garbled. By the end of the letter the printing was better and made sense. I tried printing it again immediately. This time it was better but still not right. It took four attempts before the result was satisfactory.

One of my customers nearby has an identical machine. So to prove that the fault was in the printer I tried with his. It was.

I returned in time for the arrival of Quiet Norman Glutton. He was carrying an Hinari CT16 colour portable. Now Norman's a short squat man with a passion for eating. When I'd taken the Hinari from him he pulled out a large pork pie and a penknife and set about it. By the time he'd finished it I was into his set and he quietly departed.

The set had a raster but wouldn't tune, neither did the volume control work. I looked at the manufacturer's circuit diagram, which is nicely laid out, and saw that the control arrangements are centred around the M50433B-501S microcomputer chip IC101 and the associated M58658P EAROM chip IC102. A small MN1280M5 chip IC103 appears to provide a reset action for IC101. A quick check on IC103 revealed that it was short-circuit. So was D110 at its input. Before replacing these items I checked the 2SC1815 5V regulator transistor Q656. Just as well, for it too had expired. When I'd replaced these items I connected a meter to IC103's output pin and switched on. The voltage was only 2.3V instead of 5V. This pin is connected to pin 11 of IC101 via a filter circuit. As the filter components were o.k., IC101 was indicted. A new one restored the set's tuning ability but its memory, like mine, was impaired. This directed me to the memory chip IC102. As there's no voltage table for this one the only thing I could do was to fit a replacement. This cured the memory problem and the set produced an excellent, crisp picture.

In spite of their cheap price and their initial strangeness, to me anyway, I've come to like these little 10in. sets and have managed to repair all the ones that have come my way - which is quite a lot. The picture quality is impressive.

In the fullness of time Quiet Norman returned to collect his set.

"Hi, Norman. How are you?" I greeted him.

"Hungry Don" he replied, and out came his knife and a steak and kidney pie.

An Unknown Grundig

The next job in the workshop was a Grundig v.h.f./u.h.f. monochrome portable. It was dead, except that the tube's

heater was alight. I'd never seen one of these sets before and didn't have a circuit diagram. The obvious thing to do was to check the h.t. voltage. As this seemed to be healthy I moved on to the line output stage. The line output transistor was o.k. so I got my Hameg HM203-6 scope with component tester, a handy device once you get used to the shapes it conjures up, and checked the diodes in the line output stage. It soon sniffed out a short-circuit diode (D384). After fitting a replacement I switched on and waited expectantly for a raster to appear. But it didn't.

I was in danger of running out of steam now, and peered around the panel searching for ideas. Standing erect in the centre of the panel there was what looked like a coiled spring wearing a ferrite bead collar. I wondered what it was doing. There was a trace of solder at its top and, looking more closely, I saw that there was a pitted blob of solder on top of the nearby transistor TR382. This transistor looked like a BD238, with a metal back that projected above it. The pitted blob matched the solder on the spring, so I reunited the two. The set sprang to life and behaved itself on soak test. Another success.

The Amstrad Printer

I decided to have a go at my PCW9512 word processor printer, and assembled it all together on the bench. After setting it printing I watched it drub and falter away for twenty seconds before it started to print, apparently normally, though nothing appeared on the paper. When I directed hot air from a hairdryer on to the printing head mechanism it started, within half a minute, to print properly. I turned off the heat and the printing grew fainter. After a few lines it disappeared.

I thought that perhaps a mechanical coupling had loosened, or the mechanism was dry and stiff. So I carefully opened it up, examined it for anything obvious and gave the mechanism a good squirt with Servisol switch cleaner. Then I reassembled it and tried again. It was no better, and when I tried it again later I found that it would no longer accept a sheet of paper. When I used the keyboard to ask it to print, a message on the screen declared that the printer was active - a severe overstatement! Willow Vale tell me that Amstrad no longer offers any service backup on these machines. So it looks as if I'm stumped. Any ideas anyone?

Mrs Squinter's Toshiba

Then Mrs Squinter called with another portable, this time a 14in. Toshiba 145R7B.

"Hello Mr. Butcher" she cried, giving me a wink. "I wish you hadn't gone to Spain the other week. We upset some water into this set whilst you were there and took it to Snoddies. They fitted a new tube base panel or something. It works, but it's nothing like as good as it was. We've taken it back twice, but they say it's all right."

The picture wasn't very special. Rather as though the tube was a bit low - on the dull and bleary side. I took the back off and sure enough the tube's base panel had been replaced. I made for the first anode supply potentiometer on the line output transformer and saw that it had been adjusted. I turned it up even higher to increase the brightness, and since the picture lacked bite I adjusted the focus control too. To my surprise it changed the brightness rather than the focusing, so I turned the set off and felt the line output transformer to see if it had a temperature. It hadn't.

As I'd varied the focus control setting I decided to check

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1580H	3.72	25C1583	3.40	AN2140	2.40	B0207	0.19	BDX54B	0.33	BU126	1.40	HA1196	7.43	MC1330P	1.98	SAS560T	5.42	STR1096	4.78	TB970	3.60	TD4440	3.18
1585R	3.72	25C1617	3.89	AN235	4.65	BDX212B	0.26	BDX63A	0.29	BU204	1.50	HA1300	1.63	MC1350P	1.56	SAS570T	5.42	STR490	12.65	TB990	1.98	TD4442	5.14
1705Z	1.96	25C1674	1.98	AN236	3.33	CC213L	0.10	BDX63A	1.96	BU205	1.15	HA1305	2.26	MC1351P	1.25	SAS570S	1.95	STR440	6.18	TC2A70S	3.47	TD4500	4.75
1705Z	5.61	25C1741	0.21	AN240P	0.99	CC214	0.40	BDY20	1.98	BU206	1.27	HA1306	7.06	MC1352P	1.40	SAS580	2.85	STR450	5.77	TC2A70S	1.05	TD4500	1.92
1707A	9.30	25C1810	1.75	AN241	1.75	CC238	0.10	BDY81	1.18	BU207	1.65	HA1340	11.65	MC1357P	2.15	SAS590	3.33	STR450A	2.99	TC2A70A	2.39	TD4510	5.99
3708R	3.70	25C1825	0.69	AN245	1.80	CC238	0.10	BDY81	1.18	BU207	1.65	HA1340	11.65	MC1357P	2.15	SAS590	3.33	STR450A	2.99	TC2A70A	2.39	TD4510	5.99
7127	2.50	25C1826	0.69	AN253	1.80	CC238	0.10	BDY81	1.18	BU207	1.65	HA1340	11.65	MC1357P	2.15	SAS590	3.33	STR450A	2.99	TC2A70A	2.39	TD4510	5.99
17376	1.58	25C1829	3.35	AN260	3.85	CC238	0.25	BF118	0.67	BU208A	1.12	HA1367	2.75	MC1497	7.10	SAS670	3.96	TG016V	1.09	TC6A60	2.25	TD4570	2.75
1N4001	0.40	25C1875	4.50	AN272	7.50	CC251A	0.31	BF121	0.25	BU208B	2.06	HA1368B	2.45	MC145118CP	1.10	SAS670	2.21	TG021V	0.40	TC6A60	3.05	TD4720S	6.35
1N4002	0.05	25C1893	3.85	AN295	7.63	CC294	0.50	BF123	0.13	BU209	1.75	HA1398	1.95	MC1458P	5.18	SBA750	1.61	TG036	0.67	TC6A60B	2.60	TD48190	1.50
1N4003	0.06	25C1921	1.37	AN301	2.45	CC300	0.38	BF127	0.13	BU226	2.55	HA1374	2.88	MC15428BPC	2.15	SC94203	3.75	TG037	2.11	TC4730	6.50	TD4830	3.24
1N4004	0.05	25C1923	0.30	AN302	0.30	CC301	0.34	BF137	0.29	BU232A	0.99	MT777	1.59	MC1712	3.88	SDA2006	17.10	TG044V	0.97	TC4750	2.25	TD4850	1.56
1N4005	0.05	25C1929	2.35	AN305	8.88	CC302	0.53	BF153	0.58	BU406	1.24	HA1388	1.87	MC3340	1.40	SDA2010	20.50	TG045	1.20	TC6A800	1.60	TD49513	3.15
1N4006	0.06	25C1942	2.17	AN315	4.46	CC303	0.48	BF154	0.26	BU406D	1.24	HA1388B	2.05	MC5192	18.50	SDA21122	11.77	TG049	1.45	TC6A803S	2.38	TD49613	1.22
1N4007	0.06	25C1959	2.20	AN316	4.46	CC304	0.13	BF157	0.33	BU407	0.54	HA1389	2.69	MC7724CP	3.49	SG264A	1.25	TG052V	0.87	TC6A80	5.44	TD6101	7.24
1N4148	0.03	25C1957	0.95	AN318	7.16	CC309A	0.11	BF158	0.18	BU412	5.29	HA1392	2.22	MC9106-56	1.56	SG613	9.27	TG058	4.95	TC6A90	2.04	TD6102	4.93
1N4448	0.05	25C1953	1.93	AN320	5.47	CC317A	0.13	BF159	0.18	BU426A	1.67	HA1394	3.19	MC9220P	1.25	SG628	9.27	TG059	4.22	TC6A910	1.65	TD6109	1.65
1N5401	0.11	25C1962	1.93	AN321	2.25	CC318	0.09	BF160	0.31	BU500	1.53	HA1397	2.75	MC9411	0.75	SG633	9.00	TG063V	1.25	TC6A940	0.82	TD61014	3.00
1N5402	0.13	25C1969	1.79	AN322	7.62	CC319	0.09	BF161	0.36	BU500A	1.50	HA1398	2.55	ME6002	0.28	SI6H30D	27.87	TG013V	4.95	TC6A90E	2.93	TD61205P	4.93
1N5403	0.18	25C1963	1.32	AN337	5.37	CC337	0.07	BF173	0.34	BU536	1.53	HA1406	2.05	ME6102	0.28	SK2E2V404	1.25	TG014V	2.42	TC6A900	3.95	TD6218A	2.16
1N5404	0.10	25C1985	0.60	AN340P	1.53	CC338	0.12	BF177	0.55	BU608	1.54	HA1452	0.85	ME9002	0.45	SK2E2304	0.73	TG016V	1.02	TD3F900P	6.51	TC106M	0.67
1N5408	0.16	25C2009	0.34	AN355	1.65	CC368	0.17	BF178	0.40	BU705	2.67	HA1457	2.23	ME9290	2.06	SK4E4F06	0.30	TG017V	1.25	TD3F900P	6.37	TC04	0.72
1N914	0.04	25C2029	1.15	AN362	1.50	CC441	0.39	BF179	0.36	BU806	0.80	BU806S	0.98	MC4870-42	2.99	MEM4950	2.50	SK4E4F06	0.07	TG019V	1.00	TD636N-DS	5.25
15555	0.18	25C2030	0.91	AN370	3.43	CC454	0.30	BF180	0.37	BU810	0.63	BU820	0.67	MC4870-42	2.99	MEM4950	2.50	SK4E4F06	0.07	TG019V	1.00	TD636N-DS	5.25
15551	0.18	25C2063	0.91	AN5111	3.43	CC454	0.30	BF181	0.37	BU810	0.63	BU820	0.67	MC4870-42	2.99	MEM4950	2.50	SK4E4F06	0.07	TG019V	1.00	TD636N-DS	5.25
15521	0.10	25C2078	1.10	AN5120N	4.50	CC460	0.42	BF182	0.32	BU824	0.98	BU824A	1.95	MC38750A-4	8.53	MCJ000	2.37	SK4E4F210	0.99	TG030V	1.49	TD1003A	4.77
2N2219A	0.29	25C2073	2.73	AN5132	5.08	CC462	0.51	BF183	0.39	BU834	0.50	BU840	0.50	MC4881A05	14.12	MJE2955	0.83	SK4E4F310	1.36	TG051	8.07	TD10105A	2.02
2N3053A	0.35	25C2085	1.65	AN5250	5.04	CC463	0.30	BF184	0.43	BU835	0.59	BU835A	0.59	MC4881A10	14.60	MJE3055	0.49	SK4E4G104	0.54	TG054V	3.99	TD10106A	2.02
2N3054	0.99	25C2091	1.80	AN5256	4.40	CC478	0.32	BF185	0.37	BU836	0.99	BU836	0.99	MC4881A15	15.30	MJE3055	0.49	SK4E4G104	0.54	TG054V	3.99	TD10106A	2.02
2N3055	0.75	25C2101	1.37	AN5260	2.20	CC480	0.28	BF186	0.41	BU842	1.14	BU842	1.14	MC4881A20	16.20	MJE3055	0.49	SK4E4G104	0.54	TG054V	3.99	TD10106A	2.02
2N3056	1.16	25C2166	0.87	AN5613	4.20	CC482	0.28	BF195	0.14	BU131	0.13	HM6231	9.30	MCJ232B	1.20	SL1414	3.69	TA7027	8.40	TD10111A	1.36	TD112	0.40
2N3702	0.10	25C2216	1.69	AN5630	3.65	CC546	0.08	BF196	0.08	BF196	0.08	BF196	0.08	MC6232	7.20	ML2378	1.95	SL432A	3.44	TA7050	1.74	TD10128	2.45
2N3703	0.18	25C2233	1.20	AN5701N	1.66	CC547	0.08	BF197	0.24	BY176	0.54	HM6232	5.69	ML2378	1.95	SL432A	3.44	TA7050	1.74	TD10128	2.45	TD112	0.40
2N3705	0.15	25C2236	1.19	AN6250	1.75	CC549	0.10	BF198	0.17	BY179	0.85	HM7103	2.97	ML923	3.30	SL471	4.45	TA7054	2.55	TD1035T	1.70	TD7295	0.94
2N3706	0.14	25C2278	1.14	AN6300	4.40	CC560	0.19	BF199	0.17	BY182	1.05	HM9032	4.00	ML923	3.45	SL480	7.24	TA7060AP	2.77	TD1036P	2.64	TD7295A	0.46
2N3707	0.16	25C2310	1.14	AN6310	4.40	CC560	0.19	BF199	0.17	BY182	1.05	HM9032	4.00	ML923	3.45	SL480	7.24	TA7060AP	2.77	TD1036P	2.64	TD7295A	0.46
2N3711	0.16	25C2335+KIT	1.10	AN6340	5.62	CC562	0.13	BF210	0.37	BY200	0.85	MC3870A53	6.77	MCJ4122	1.45	MC3870A53	6.77	MCJ4122	1.45	MC3870A53	6.77	MCJ4122	1.45
2N3711	1.55	25C2551	7.29	AN6341	2.22	CC562	0.13	BF210	0.37	BY200	0.85	MC3870A53	6.77	MCJ4122	1.45	MC3870A53	6.77	MCJ4122	1.45	MC3870A53	6.77	MCJ4122	1.45
2N3712	1.55	25C2552	4.65	AN6363	16.00	CC569	0.10	BF237	0.65	BY207	1.07	IC4281	1.00	MM5369N	3.10	SL16861AN	0.82	TA7027P	2.57	TD1047	3.25	TD10505	0.66
2N3713	1.55	25C2570	4.65	AN6363	16.00	CC569	0.10	BF237	0.65	BY207	1.07	IC4281	1.00	MM5369N	3.10	SL16861AN	0.82	TA7027P	2.57	TD1047	3.25	TD10505	0.66
2N3717	1.61	25C2575	4.65	AN6363	16.00	CC569	0.10	BF237	0.65	BY207	1.07	IC4281	1.00	MM5369N	3.10	SL16861AN	0.82	TA7027P	2.57	TD1047	3.25	TD10505	0.66
2N3819	0.40	25C2577	1.34	AN6551	0.89	CC637	0.24	BF241	0.17	BY210-400	0.18	MC3870	1.92	MM5841N	6.93	SN29715N	6.04	TA7027P	7.50	TD1060	2.80	TD110	0.40
2N3823	1.17	25C2578	6.54	AN6552	0.68	CC638	0.24	BF241	0.17	BY210-400	0.18	MC3870	1.92	MM5841N	6.93	SN29715N	6.04	TA7027P	7.50	TD1060	2.80	TD110	0.40
2N3904	0.50	25C2671	0.91	AN6610	1.18	CC638	0.24	BF241	0.17	BY210-400	0.18	MC3870	1.92	MM5841N	6.93	SN29715N	6.04	TA7027P	7.50	TD1060	2.80	TD110	0.40
2N4101	1.33	25C288A	3.85	AN7111	1.14	CC639	0.29	BF246A	0.67	BY223	1.68	LA1201	0.75	MM1455	14.04	MC29715N	6.04	TA7093P	3.99	TA9190	1.27	TD110	0.40
2N4240	2.68	25C3153	1.20	AN7115	2.12	CC640	0.55	BF255	0.20	BY224-600	4.95	LA1210	1.56	MM1912	5.07	SN29722	11.95	TA7093P	1.61	TD11902	4.28	TD132A	0.39
2N4444	1.66	25C3272	1.40	AN7145	2.17	CC615	0.36	BF256	0.16	BY226	0.15	LA1230	3.14	MM2734	4.00	SN29723AN	14.46	TA7100	0.71	TD1200	3.51	TD132B	0.46
2N4905	9.99	25C373	1.16	AN7146	9.90	CC616	0.70	BF257	0.34	BY227	0.20	LA1231	3.04	MM2734	4.00	SN29723AN	14.46	TA7100	0.71	TD1200	3.51	TD132B	0.46
2N5293	0.50	25C383	0.83	AN7158	0.83	CC637	0.24	BF258	0.37	BY228	0.73	LA1232	3.28	MM2734	4.00	SN29723AN	14.46	TA7100	0.71	TD1200	3.51	TD132B	0.46
2N5296	0.55	25C394V	0.45	AN7158	2.67	CC637	0.24	BF258	0.37	BY228	0.73	LA1232	3.28	MM2734	4.00	SN29723AN	14.46	TA7100	0.71	TD1200	3.51	TD132B	0.46
2N5297	0.50	25C403C	0.60	AN7216	0.80	CC633	0.53	BF263	0.57	BY229-800	1.28	LA1363	1.05	MM65670	0.48	SN29720B	4.17	TA7124P	2.34	TD12170	3.74	TD133A	0.89
2N5298	0.61	25C458	0.19	AN7223	4.99	CC636	0.36	BF271	0.34	BY235-600	1.23	LA1385	1.53	MM65670	0.48	SN29720B							

TV Fault Finding

Reports from Philip Blundell, AMIEIE, Ed Rowland, Richard Flowerday, J.C. Priest, Stephen Leatherbarrow, Michael Dranfield, Steve Cannon, Roger Burchett and J.K. Carter

Philips K40 Chassis

When this set was switched on from cold there would sometimes be no picture or sound while the power supply would emit a squealing noise because the over-voltage crowbar was operating. If the line output stage was disconnected and a dummy load was substituted the voltages would be normal and the crowbar wouldn't operate. A weak arcing noise from the line output transformer could be heard when the fault occurred, and for a short time before the crowbar operated there would be interference to neighbouring TV sets. We suspected a flyback tuning fault, so the tuning capacitors were checked using a bridge. C2163 (9·1nF, 2kV) was found to be open-circuit.

If you have a similar problem with a 3A chassis set suspect the same cause. In this case however the relevant capacitor has a value of 8·2nF and a different circuit reference number. **P.B.**

Grundig CUC52 Chassis

This set was dead because the power supply relay didn't pull in, but instead of the usual standby display there was gibberish. The 29504-003-42 tuning module is used in this particular set, and the SC84203 was permanently in reset. C2358 (0·1μF) was leaky. **P.B.**

Ferguson TX99 Chassis

The customer complained that the picture usually disappeared shortly after switch-on, though the set would sometimes run all evening without trouble. We put the set on soak test but it ran all day without the fault showing up. Next day we switched on and within minutes the picture had disappeared, the sound continuing. Removal of the back cover while the fault was present showed that the c.r.t.'s heaters were out. This was due to dry-joints on the line output transformer: resoldering restored normal operation. **E.R.**

Philips 2A Chassis

When the set was first switched on there was intermittent squealing from the line timebase. It ceased once the set had been running for a few minutes. Resoldering the line output transformer pins provided a complete cure. **E.R.**

Ferguson TX10 Chassis

This set was dead with the line output transistor TR831 and the chopper transistor TR701 short-circuit and the d.c. fuse FS702 (1·25A) shattered. We assumed that the line output transistor had failed first taking the other items with it. So two new transistors and a new fuse were fitted and the set was switched on. Lovely. Up come the sound and raster, and apart from the tube being a bit low everything seemed to be o.k. We switched off in order to refit the chassis and rear cover, then switched on again. There was a quiet "phut" and the set went dead. This time the line output transistor was intact but the chopper transistor had shorted, blackening FS702. At this point we decided to examine the line output stage, looking for dry-joints. Sure enough, several of the output transformer's pins were

found to be in need of attention. When we were satisfied that all was well in this area we fitted a new transistor and fuse and switched on once more. A bright flash from FS702 heralded the demise of the chopper transistor and despair began to set in.

There was only one thing to do, ring our old friend Jack who lives in Manchester. He spent quite a few years with the Thorn group and there's not a lot he doesn't know about Ferguson sets. When I told him of my problem he said "yes, you'll probably find that R724 has gone open-circuit – if so it's a pint you owe me". He was right. R724 was open-circuit and a replacement cured the fault. It's a 1·2kΩ resistor that provides a load at the drive output from the TDA2582 chopper control chip IC801. **E.R.**

ITT Digi-3 110 Chassis

The customer's complaint was that this set "kept going off, now dead". The line output transformer, a common problem with this and other ITT chassis, had been replaced by a field technician a month or so previously. When the set came into the workshop we found that the chopper transistor was short-circuit. This was replaced and the set was put on soak test. After a while the picture and sound disappeared and a loud humming noise came from the set. The new chopper transistor had failed. We eventually found that the culprit was C714, which decouples the start/run l.t. supply to the non-isolated section of the power supply. It was going open-circuit intermittently. **R.F.**

Ferguson ICC5 Chassis

This set would trip three items then shut down completely, as it's supposed to do under overload conditions. We disconnected the various supplies obtained from the line output transformer in an attempt to isolate the cause of the overload but had no luck. Replacing the transformer itself cured the fault. **R.F.**

TDA4600/4601 Power Supplies

If a chopper transistor in a set that uses a TDA4600 or TDA4601 chopper control chip has gone short-circuit always check the high-value resistor(s) connected to pin 4 of the chip. If this has gone high in value or open-circuit a replacement transistor will bite the dust immediately at switch on. Check the rectifier diodes and surge limiting resistors as well. They may have been damaged by the transistor. **R.F.**

Saisho CT206

If the set is dead with no channel LEDs lit and the fuses are o.k., check the 5V supply. The small transformer bolted to the side of the chassis has an internal thermal cutout which cannot be reset. The transformer's a.c. output feeds rectifier D170 (DSF10B) and regulator IC105 (L78M05) via circuit protector ICP101 (N5). Although the rectifier and regulator have given trouble the more usual cause of lack of the 5V supply is a duff circuit protector.

If the set is dead and the LEDs are lit, check the ceramic 5·6Ω, 5W surge limiter resistor R501. It will go open-circuit

if any of the bridge rectifier diodes D501-4 are faulty but the more usual cause is failure of the STK50103 chopper chip IC501. When this item has to be replaced the R2M diode D508 should be changed at the same time. Under order code MASTR50103AKIT CPC supply a kit that consists of the chip, the resistor and an SR2M diode.
J.C.P.

Hitachi NP81CQ Chassis

A case of intermittent loss of colour, with the action of the colour control being very coarse, was caused by failure of C718. This 2,200 μ F, 16V electrolytic is the reservoir capacitor for the 12V supply derived from the line output transformer.
S.L.

Amstrad CTV2000

This set suffered from reduced height with a degree of foldover. The field output stage is conventional, using a pair of transistors that are fed from a high-voltage supply. The supply decoupler C720 (4.7 μ F, 160V) was open-circuit.
S.L.

Sony KV27RXTU

This set led us a merry dance, the fault symptom being a snowy picture. The obvious items were checked or replaced, including the tuner, but the fault persisted. We then disconnected the a.g.c. feed to the tuner and instead fed a variable voltage to the a.g.c. pin. The idea was to prove whether the fault was in the a.g.c. circuit. As the picture continued to be snowy at any voltage setting the a.g.c. circuit was eliminated. The cause turned out to be the SWAF, SWF101. When we replaced this we obtained a nice, clean picture.
S.C.

Sharp DV1600

For a dead set with the standby light only on, check the 10 μ F, 100V capacitor C715 in the power supply – you'll find that it has dried up. As space is very limited it's best to get the correct replacement from Willow Vale.

For intermittent tripping into standby, check for a dry-joint at the collector of the 2SD869 line output transistor.
M.Dr.

Samsung CI3312Z

The fault with this 14in. portable was intermittent loss of colour on changing channel. It was cured by replacing the 8.8MHz reference oscillator crystal X501. Unfortunately the manual gives no information on how to set up this circuit. The correct procedure is as follows. Short together pins 1 and 6 and pins 21 and 22 of IC501, then set CV01 for floating, locked colour. Finally remove the shorts.
M.Dr.

Matsui 2580

This set was tripping out. It needed a new BU508A line output transistor as the old one had never been fastened on to its heatsink. At switch on the picture appeared without EW correction: the EW loading coil L901 then melted. The cause of this was a dry-joint on one of the EW modulator diodes. A replacement coil was obtained from Mastercare and fitted. The EW correction was now right but the picture needed a slight adjustment to its height. Now this chassis is a digital one that uses the ITT Digi chip

set, so no board adjustments are possible. To enter the service mode you hold down the service switch inside the set and press the channel button on the remote control unit. Press the full button to select from the on-screen menu the adjustment required. For height, press the volume up/down button. To store, press normal then standby.
M.Dr.

Sony KV2217UB (YE2 Chassis)

If you are faced with intermittent colour or poor ident after replacing the line output transformer in one of these sets, increase the value of the 220pF capacitor C390 on board A. 470pF usually works but you may have to use up to 680pF for correct working under very cold starting conditions.
M.Dr.

Hitachi NP6C Chassis

Over the years we've had many of these sets in for repair, especially the portables. The usual fault is intermittently going dead or failure to start from cold. To cure the latter, change C914, C916 and C919 to 4.7 μ F, 63V. For intermittently going dead when switched on fit a 2SC1815 transistor in position TR908 and a 2SA562 transistor in position TR909.

Next comes the bit that will give these sets another ten years of trouble-free life and is possibly the biggest cause of intermittent faults. You'll find oxidised print under the solder of the high-wattage resistors in the power supply - R908, R909, R918, R924 and R935. Use a solder sucker to remove the solder from the legs. This will reveal a black patch to which you can't resolder. Some emery cloth should be used to rub the print, restoring it to nice shiny copper, then resolder the resistors back in circuit. Don't even think of just heating up the old joint and applying more solder: it won't work.

After replacing transistors TR908/9, which form an electronic trip, check the trip operation by shorting together pins 2 and 4 of CP902 with the set switched on. It should go dead. Switch off, wait thirty seconds or discharge C932, then switch back on. Everything should work again.
M.Dr.

Vega 342

Field collapse with this Russian made portable is usually caused by failure of the 4,000 μ F scan coupling capacitor C11A. It's a tag-ended radial electrolytic that's held to the chassis by a clip – a white wire from the scan coils goes to it. On the circuit diagram the lead from connection 16 on the timebase board Y2 is shown as going to "R52 volume control". This is actually the connection to the scan coils and then to chassis via C11A. All very confusing at a first glance. Full marks to Kevin at Technical and Optical Equipment (London) Ltd. for sorting me out on this one.
R.B.

Sony KV6000

My Sony KV6000BE developed loss of colour – it could be restored briefly by rapid rotation of the colour control. I hoped that the cause would simply be a defective potentiometer but it wasn't of course. A non-too-hopeful inspection then revealed that the capacitor soldered across the print side of the adjacent board, looking like an afterthought, was dry-jointed. I'm not in the trade and would like to claim this one for the dabblers!
J.K.C.

Sony's Mini Disc Format

George Cole

Next year will be an interesting one in the consumer electronics market since four new formats are due to appear in high street stores, CD-Interactive, Photo CD, the digital compact cassette and, the latest to be announced, Sony's Mini Disc. Sony first released details of the Mini Disc (MD) at the end of May. It's a system that stores up to 74 minutes of digital sound on a 2.5in. magneto-optical (MO) disc. The discs are erasable and can thus be used like audio tape, i.e. they can record, playback, erase and re-record sound. Many newspaper reports have portrayed the MD as a threat to the compact disc. It's basically designed for the portable audio market however, and in this context is more a challenger to audio-tape formats. MD could nevertheless in the long term turn out to be a rival to the compact disc.

Basic Specification

The MD is stored in a caddy that measures $72 \times 68 \times 5$ mm. This provides protection against dust and damage. Sony says market research has shown that users prefer to carry small discs around in a caddy. Disc and caddy are half the weight of an analogue audio cassette.

The MD stores two-channel digital stereo sound which has been compressed by a factor of five. Frequency response is 5-20,000Hz and the dynamic range 105dB. The audio signal conforms to the CD standard, i.e. 16-bit linear with a sampling frequency of 44.1kHz. Also like CD, the MD format uses eight-to-fourteen modulation (EFM) and cross-interleaved Reed-Solomon error correction (CIRC). The intention is to incorporate the Serial Copy Management System (SCMS), an anti-copy arrangement, as with the DAT format. Sound quality is described as "near CD quality". The disc speed is 1.2-1.4m/sec and, like all CDs, the disc rotates at a constant linear velocity.

Four new technologies are used in the MD system: an ATRAC audio compression system; an MO overwrite system; a dual-function type of laser; and a shock-proof system based on the use of i.c. memory. We'll look at each of these in turn.

The ATRAC System

ATRAC stands for Adaptive Transform Acoustic Coding. It's five times more efficient than the coding system used by the CD and DAT formats. A real-time digital recording system such as the one used by the CD format is wasteful because data is used even when there's no signal present. With the CD format sixteen bits of data are used every 0.02msec regardless of whether or not there's anything to record.

The ATRAC encoder on the other hand takes a snapshot of the audio every 20msec (see Fig. 1), each snapshot consisting of approximately 1,000 samples. These undergo a complex mathematical process known as Fourier Transform (FT) analysis, enabling non-sinusoidal waveforms (like digital pulses) to be broken down into signal components that vary in frequency, amplitude and phase. The various signals are analysed, and only those that are above a level specified by the FT algorithms are encoded.

These algorithms are based on psychoacoustic research

into human hearing, and rely on two effects, the threshold of hearing and masking. Fig. 2 shows the threshold of human hearing. As you can see, the ear is most sensitive at frequencies around 3kHz. Since signals below this threshold can't be heard they are not encoded. The effect of masking is shown in Figs. 3 and 4. The soft sound A in Fig. 3 is audible. But if soft sound A is mixed with a louder sound B of similar frequency it will be pushed below the hearing threshold and thus doesn't need to be encoded - see Fig. 4.

Fig. 5 illustrates the ATRAC encoding/decoding process. Incidentally the digital compact cassette (DCC) system, which puts digital audio on to normal-sized cassettes, also uses these effects. With DCC however the sound spectrum is divided into 32 sub-bands which are analysed in real time.

Recording and Playback

MO discs have been used mainly in the computer industry, for storing data: their erasability means that data can be changed and updated. Large amounts of data can be stored in such discs. It's held in the form of magnetic flux reversals in the magnetic recording layer. The

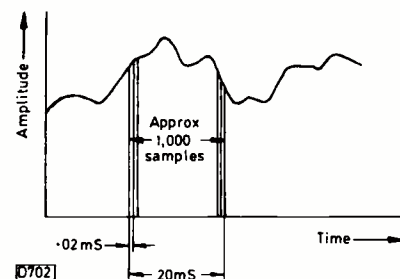


Fig. 1: ATRAC waveform sampling.

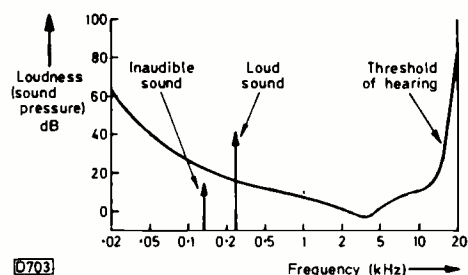


Fig. 2: The threshold of hearing. Only sounds that are above the threshold can be heard.

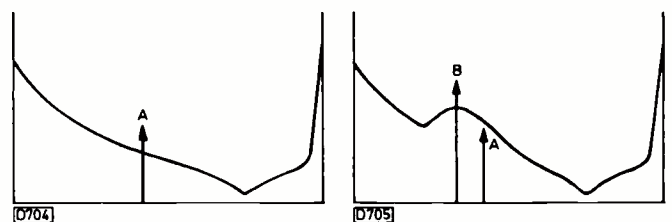


Fig. 3 (left): Soft sound A is audible.

Fig. 4 (right): The masking effect. Loud sound B at a close frequency to soft sound A distorts the threshold of hearing, so that the soft sound is no longer audible and is in consequence not recorded.

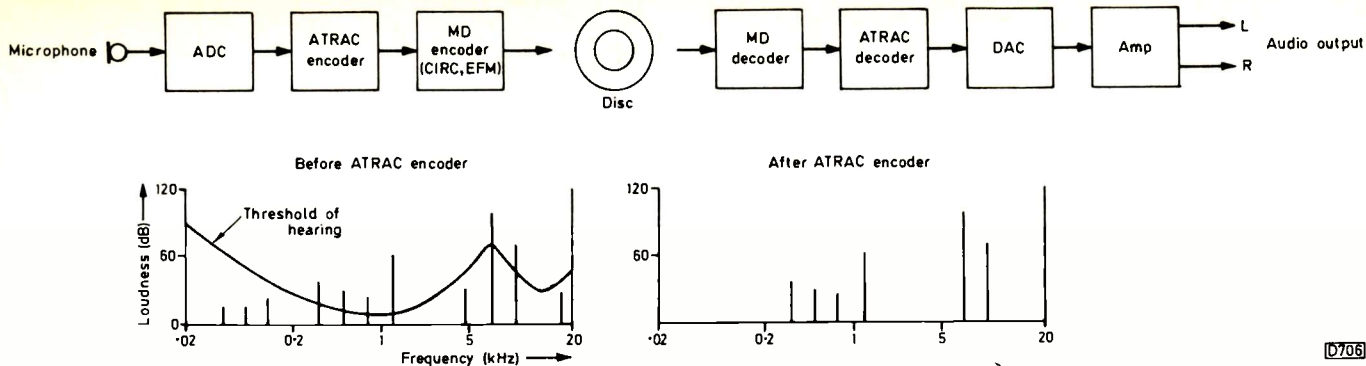


Fig. 5: The ATRAC encoding and decoding processes. The graphs show the filtering effect.

orientation of the flux's north pole, i.e. whether it points upwards or downwards in the recording layer, is used to represent a binary one or zero.

With a conventional MO system the disc sits above a drive magnet which bathes it in a constant magnetic field. Heat from a high-power laser is used to raise the temperature above the magnetic layer's Curie point, i.e. the point at which coercivity is lost. By using the digital signal to modulate the laser beam, i.e. switch it on or off, the magnetic field can be used to change the polarity of the recorded bits.

MO systems use the Kerr effect for playback: it twists the reflected beam from a polarised light source, i.e. the laser, either clockwise or anticlockwise depending on the bit's polarity.

Some conventional MO recording systems use a low-power laser for playback and a high-power one for recording. Others use a two-step system in which the disc is rotated in a powerful magnetic field while being heated by a high-power laser: recording takes place during a second rotation. Both methods use a lot of power and the disc tends to get rather warm.

The Mini Disc's magnetic layer consists of a terbium/ferrite/cobalt mixture however. Its polarity changes when a coercive force of just 80 oersteds is applied, around a third of the force required with a conventional MO disc. Thus less power is required and over-heating is avoided. The MD's overwrite system carries out erasure and recording during a single rotation of the disc: the laser power is held constant while the digital signal modulates the magnetic field (see Fig. 6).

The laser used with the MD system can read both conventional compact discs and Mini Discs. This means that software producers can use existing CD production plants to make MD titles. An 0.5mW laser is used to read

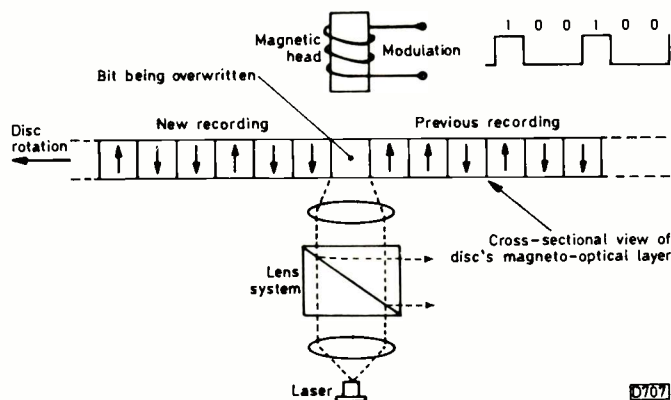


Fig. 6: The over-writing record process.

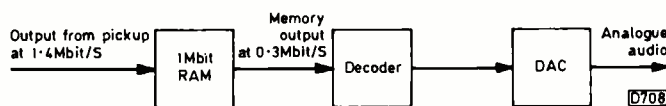


Fig. 7: Use of i.c. memory to provide shock-proofing.

both types of disc, with a beam splitter to direct the reflected light on to two photodiodes.

With an MD one photodiode will receive more light than the other depending on the direction of polarisation. The two electrical signals produced by the photodiodes are subtracted, a positive or negative result representing a zero or one reading.

Compact discs are also read by varying the amount of light received by the two photodiodes. In this case when the laser light falls on a smooth part of the disc most of it is reflected back, less light being reflected when the beam strikes a pit. The signals are summed, the difference representing the binary number.

Shock-proof System

Contrary to popular belief, conventional portable CD players are not designed for use when jogging. With nearly all of them, skipping and muting occurs under these conditions as the laser mistracks.

The MD format uses a "shock-proof" system to overcome this deficiency. Fig. 7 shows how it works. Although the off-disc data transfer rate is 1.4Mbit/s, for playback the ATRAC decoder needs a data rate of only 0.3Mbit/s. Thus the data can be stored before it reaches the decoder. A 1Mbyte RAM that stores three seconds of music is used for this purpose. The RAM acts as a buffer or "dam". Thus provided the laser's mistracking lasts for less than three seconds there's time to relocate the lost position before the listener notices anything. This is possible because address information is assigned every 13ms, the



A prototype Mini Disc player and a prerecorded disc.

system using this information to find the correct position.

The shock-proof system certainly works. In one demonstration the player was dropped on to a cloth-covered table from a height of eighteen inches without interruption to the playback sound. In theory a disc could be removed from the player and, provided it was replaced within three seconds, the sound would continue normally. It's likely that the system will be improved even further as the cost of RAM chips falls.

Prospects

The MD will face stiff competition from analogue and digital compact cassettes. You can buy a quality personal stereo system for less than £20 today. MD players will initially cost around £300, while the price of the discs has yet to be announced. Prices will fall however, and the MD

offers several advantages compared with tape systems. In the longer term better compression techniques could result in improved sound quality with the Mini Disc, which could even store text, graphics and pictures. The MD could even begin to challenge the conventional compact disc. Some suggest that the CD is here to stay, and that magneto-optical disc systems will never become competitive with tape from the price point of view. But then some people predicted that the Walkman tape player would be a commercial flop. Sony nevertheless went on to sell over sixty million Walkman units and revolutionise the way some people listen to their music!

Acknowledgement

Thanks are due to Eric Kingdon of Sony UK for his assistance in the preparation of this article.

Test Report: The Periswitch Link Unit

Eugene Trundle

The Scart, Peritelevision or Euroconnector system has been with us for over eight years now. Though it doesn't provide many of the features it should have done it's nevertheless a useful means of interconnecting TV, video and satellite TV equipment. To realise its full potential a hi-hi stereo VCR must be connected via AV links, while all the advantages of MAC TV are thrown away unless the satellite TV receiver's outputs are fed to the main TV set in RGB form and the high-quality audio is passed to good amplifiers and loudspeakers.

Even with ordinary VCRs and satellite TV tuners connection via the Scart system has many advantages. It avoids patterning due to "carrier clash" around channel 36, gives better sound and vision quality, avoids the need for tuning and the errors and quality loss associated with this, and forestalls the risk of interference from the proposed

Channel 5 terrestrial TV transmitters. The Scart system also has the advantage that it carries control and switching commands for automatic selection of the AV or RGB mode in the TV set.

There are two reasons why the Scart link is not used to its full potential in many homes. One is that dealers and manufacturers have not promoted it very well – even MAC receivers were supplied without Scart connecting leads. The other is that as the number of Scart-equipped black boxes in use has increased it has become more difficult to interconnect them whilst maintaining all record/playback/viewing/listening options. Many switch boxes and splitters have been marketed to assist with such problems.

Principle of the Periswitch

Using a "truth table" based on likely viewer behaviour, it's possible to design an automatic switch box that's driven purely by the presence or absence of status voltages and video signals in the Scart system. It can be devised to route video and sound signals and to switch the TV set between its internal tuner, AV and RGB sources. This is what the Periswitch does. The basic concept is that if you key play on the VCR you want to watch and hear a videotape playback, that if you switch on a satellite TV receiver you do so to see a programme, and that if the VCR and satellite TV box are in stop/standby and the TV set is on you're watching a terrestrial TV programme. Thus the Periswitch needs no remote control or front-panel keys and switches: it works unobtrusively and can be hidden away.

Use Possibilities

While maintaining this principle, the switch-box design takes into account the following possibilities: that you might want to watch terrestrial TV while recording a satellite TV programme or vice versa; that you might want to see two pictures at once with a picture-in-picture receiver; that there are radio programmes on satellite carriers; and so on.

The Periswitch caters for the following options:

- (1) Watching video playback only.
- (2) Watching a terrestrial TV broadcast while recording a terrestrial broadcast.

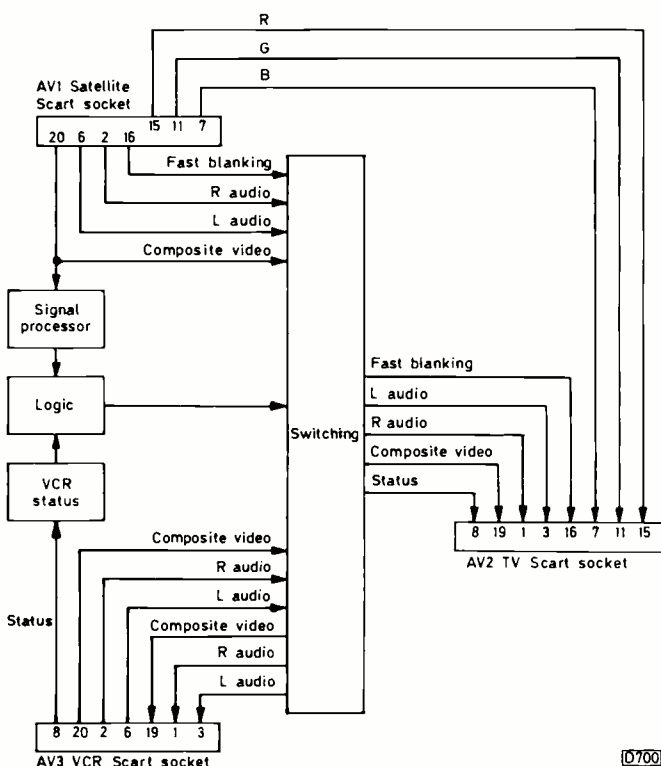


Fig. 1: Simplified block diagram of the Periswitch.

- (3) Watching a satellite TV transmission.
- (4) Watching a satellite TV transmission while recording it.
- (5) Watching a satellite TV transmission while recording a terrestrial TV broadcast.
- (6) Watching a terrestrial TV broadcast.
- (7) Listening to a satellite radio programme and, if wished, recording it.
- (8) Recording a satellite transmission without monitoring it.
- (9) Using a PIP VCR in the record or monitor modes.
- (10) Watching video playback with a satellite receiver or computer left on.

Full wideband stereo capability is maintained in all directions with the sound paths, and the satellite input port accepts both composite video and RGB feeds which are passed to the TV set intact – RGB is not relevant with VCRs of course. Optionally available adaptors enable a camcorder or computer to be used as a signal source instead of a satellite receiver. Even VCRs without Scart connectors – most of them will be over six years old now – can be used with AV adaptors, but for full versatility it's necessary to find a status indicator such as a PLAY 12V line.

Physical Features

The Periswitch was not designed to be visible: it's generally hidden behind the VCR or TV set. The presentation is plain black, the box being 260 × 120 × 40mm with three 21-pin sockets on its rear face. There's a fair-sized fibreglass PCB inside, with three 16-pin i.c.s and about 150 discrete components on it. The mains power unit is a separate block with a moulded on three-pin plug. Electronically the box consists of a series of logic switches, signal amplifiers and buffers. Fig. 1 shows the arrangement in block diagram form and Fig. 2 shows hook-ups.

The package comes with three Scart connector leads, a comprehensive instruction book and a one-year guarantee. The latter is extendable to five years for a fee of £20 plus VAT. Six types of optional lead adaptors are available for camcorders and VCRs without Scart ports.

Practical Test

In use in my living room I found that the Periswitch did all that was claimed for it, with automatic switching between satellite, VCR and terrestrial TV, steered entirely by the existing remote control handsets. It's very

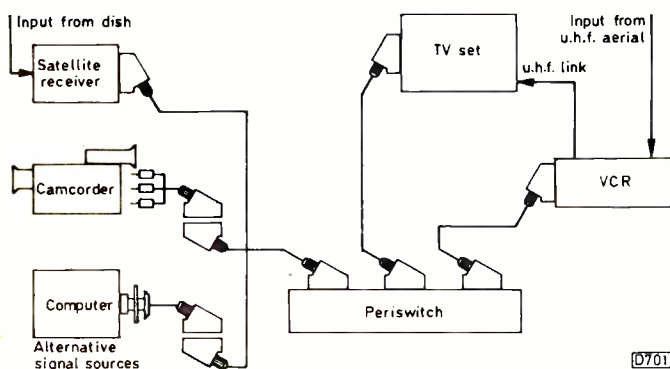


Fig. 2: Possible Periswitch hook-ups.

convenient to be able to get the programme you want at the touch of a single remote control key. As far as I could tell, the switching is transparent so far as the signals that pass through are concerned, whether they are L/R audio, composite video or, most important, RGB from MAC TV. I tried all the viewing/recording/routing options described above and found that they all worked as specified.

On then to the workshop and stock room, where there's a wide variety of TV sets, VCRs and satellite tuners, to check the Periswitch's compatibility. I found that in general the Periswitch worked with all Scart-equipped gear, with just a few exceptions as follows.

Some of the first TV sets to be equipped with Scart sockets had to be manually switched to AUX operation. Some later and current sets won't relinquish the AV mode manually once forced into it by the Scart status symbol, e.g. when recording satellite TV and attempting to watch BBC/ITV. This can be cured by snipping pin 8 in the TV set's Scart connector, but the TV set will then have to be switched into and out of the AV mode using the remote control handset, as with some of the early Scart-equipped sets. Note that snipping the lead to pin 8 doesn't affect the Periswitch's automatic signal switching.

Early Astra satellite receivers without a standby switch were intended to be left switched on and tuned in permanently. Thus they keep the Periswitch in the satellite mode – the status here is controlled not by a "flag" but by the presence or absence of a video signal. Selecting an empty s.h.f. channel in most cases (but not quite all!) flips the system back to terrestrial TV reception.

All the Scart-equipped VCRs I tried worked happily with the Periswitch, as did the four types of Marco Polo satellite TV tuner. I hooked a Nicam VCR to a stereo (non-Nicam) TV set via the Periswitch and obtained both broadcast and playback stereo. An additional output port for audio hook-ups, ideally in two phono form, would have been useful.

As a final test I fed test patterns and audio tones through the Periswitch. No loss of quality or frequency response – up to 4.5MHz for video and 20kHz for audio – could be detected.

The Periswitch is not designed for use with the Y/C video connection system used by S-VHS VCRs, even where the signals pass through Scart pins as some manufacturers arrange. Though the Periswitch is unable to keep luminance and chrominance signals separate it does not impair the bandwidth when used with high-band recording systems, thus retaining many of the benefits of S-VHS and Hi-8 video.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the Periswitch design is clever. It has many advantages in convenience of use and the maintenance of picture and sound quality. Many users will feel that it's worth the £99.95 (including VAT) price tag, which typically represents eight per cent or less of the cost of the TV/video equipment used with it. The odd operational snags I encountered with old and non-standard equipment were generally easy to overcome, and the manufacturer has an advisory service that can be called upon. Substantial discounts from the retail price are of course available to bona fide dealers and spares account holders. Overseas readers should note that the Periswitch can be used with signals of any TV standard.

The Periswitch is available from Hoopwell Ltd., Unit B9, Larkfield Trading Estate, Larkfield, Maidstone, Kent ME20 6SW. Telephone 0622 882 285, fax 0622 882 287.

Service Briefs

– Samsung VCRs

The following information on Samsung VCRs has been compiled from recent Samsung Service communications. Notes on CD players, microwave ovens and TV receivers were included in our August issue, see pages 730-1.

Models VI510 and VI520

If the unit returns to stop after a few seconds' use, check for the presence of reel pulses at connection 132 in the syscon section. Suspect a faulty reel sensor, DN6838.

If the machine laces but the drum and capstan don't rotate then the emergency mode is entered, suspect switch B in the cassette housing. It's the switch in the centre, part no. 63569 700 330.

If the clock/counter runs backwards, check the voltage at pin 40 of the uPD7538 chip on the timer PCB. If the voltage is high, replace the chip; if it's low, suspect Q3.

If the drum runs too fast, check the FG pulses at C28 in the servo section. If the pulses are missing suspect the drum motor; if they are present suspect IC2.

Suspect Q2 in the timer circuit if the clock runs fast when the machine is in operation but is all right in standby.

If the machine laces immediately after a tape is inserted then enters the emergency mode the alignment of the front loading motor is incorrect.

For no colour or capstan lock, check whether the 50Hz signal is present at pin 5 of IC4. If incorrect replace the AN6342 chip in the YC circuit.

No E-E 12V in stop but present in record, D3 in the syscon section is faulty.

If the machine won't switch on or off, check the power switching signal at connection 43 – should be high for on, low for off. If this is o.k., suspect the MP9432 chip in the syscon section.

Failure of Q5 will remove the 5V, -24V and 50V supplies. The usual cause of its failure is leakage in C7, C12, C13 or C14.

For poor reset/erratic functions/unstable drum servo change the value of C3 in the regulator circuit to 2,000 μ F, 16V.

Only genuine Samsung idlers should be used in these machines, otherwise jamming in one position will occur because of incorrect arm moulding. The motor pulley and the drive surfaces of the supply and take-up spools should be thoroughly cleaned when the idler is replaced.

The original reel motor is no longer available. A new deck plate must be used with the replacement type supplied in order to provide mounting holes for the motor. Part nos. are: motor 64769 052 081; idler spring 66674 601 830; two screws 67004 100 810; deck plate 66120 100 610. An M4 nut and M3 \times 8 bolt are also required, otherwise the post to attach the capstan bracket to the new deck plate will be too short: use the nut to space the post and the bolt to fix it.

Models VI611, VI616, VI621 and VI626

Note that not all the following items relate to every model.

For patterning on E-E signals and therefore recordings when the signal strength is low, check for ripple on the 12V supply to the tuner (pin BU). If ripple is present, add a 470 μ F capacitor from pin BU to chassis. Otherwise, the

machine uses syscon panel 3005 004 023B with single-sided print. Proceed as follows. Cut the earth return as shown in Fig. 1, taking care not to cut the earth connection to pin 12 of plug CNG. Re-route the lead to CN-K04 (tuning voltage and supplies) in front of the loading chips down the right-hand side of the machine. Realign vision i.f. transformer T101 and the a.f.c. transformer T102. Finally, if fitted remove the earth lead from the print side of the syscon PCB to the mechanism.

For poor picture search, first clean the pinch roller thoroughly. If still poor after this check with a scope at pin 10 or 11 of the BA6303 chip IC0211 in the servo section during search. The 75Hz squarewave should be sitting on a d.c. voltage of 0.1-0.2V and be of 3.3-3.5V amplitude. If the d.c. voltage is too high but corrects itself after 10-15 minutes or when the chip is heated, try the following modification before replacing the chip: add a 47k Ω resistor between pin 7 of IC0211 and the 5V rail; change C0231 to 0.01 μ F ceramic and C0232 to 0.47 μ F polyester.

For poor audio/sound-on-vision/high-pitched buzz for ten minutes after switch-on, only when the a.f.c. is switched on, add a 3.3 μ F or 4.7 μ F capacitor (16-50V) between the junction of C0402 and R0404 and chassis (negative lead to chassis).

The reset circuit was modified during production, see Fig. 2. Q614, C615 and D614 were added on a sub-panel, C608 was changed to 1nF 50V and a 47k Ω resistor replaced D605. Pin 1 on the sub-panel goes to pin 32 of IC0602, pin 2 to pin 49 and pin 3 to pin 52.

If the machine works all right but when switched off the power and channel LEDs stay on, the KSA634H transistor Q2 in the regulator circuit is short-circuit. Part no. 62149 101 150.

To improve the quality of recordings, remove C0308 and change the value of C0364 from 220pF to 150pF.

If there's no record colour but playback is o.k., check at pin 6 of IC0303. The d.c. voltage should be -0.2V and the waveform must have a peak-to-peak amplitude of 8V. If the conditions are incorrect, replace C0347 (56pF).

Replace the audio/control head (part no. 64079 503 052) if playback is o.k. but the machine won't record the CTL track.

For intermittent colour with a timer recording, replace VR0313 (20k Ω , part no. 61243 110 014) and set up the chroma circuit.

Two different reel motors have been used, with different

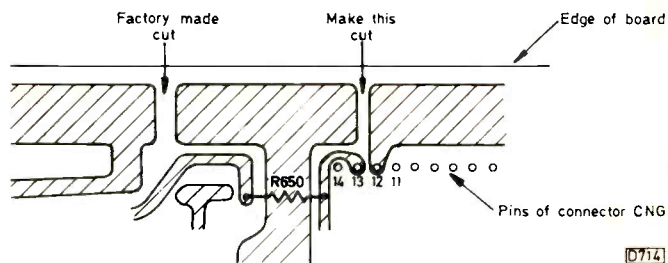


Fig. 1: Syscon panel 3005 004 023B (VI611 series models) modification for E-E/record patterning.

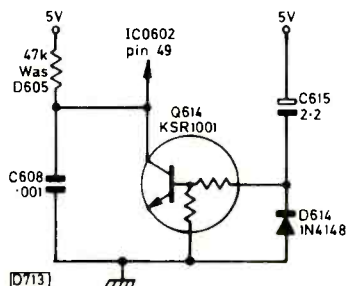


Fig. 2 (left): Reset circuit modification, VI611 series machines.

idler springs. The Sankyo JPA1B05 motor is part no. 64769 052 080 with spring 66674 601 820; Sankyo motor JME1B91 is part no. 64769 052 081 with spring 66674 601 830.

Models VI710, VI711 and VI730

Note that not all the following points apply to every model.

If the 50Hz signal at pin 10 of the main microcomputer chip IC801 is poor replace wire link W605 with a 100k Ω , $\frac{1}{8}$ W resistor and add a 10nF capacitor from pin 10 to chassis.

Failure of the remote control handset to transmit can be due to a high-resistance or open-circuit IR diode. Part no. 62309 112 030.

In the event of intermittent tuning for ten seconds after power-on and no signals displayed on a TV monitor for two minutes, the channel indicator being o.k., add a 220nF capacitor between the tuner's BU and VT pins and a 1nF capacitor between the tuner's clock line and chassis. Applies with tuner ECU5883PLC.

Tuner ECU5883PLE can be responsible for inability to tune or excessive patterning on channel 40, 43, 46 or 50.

For failure to erase due to the bias oscillator not starting, solder the leads directly to the erase head, i.e. remove the plug and socket. Also change Q0501 to type KSD1008Y, part no. 62149 310 431.

Chroma patterning occurs when the oscillator block L0504 fails. A short in L0504 results in a burn-up. Peaking coil L0503 then develops shorted turns, the result being ripple on the REC 9V supply. Both items should be replaced therefore. Oscillator blocks supplied by Samsung have a 12k Ω resistor between pins 4 and 8 instead of 6.8k Ω . To improve reliability, solder the leads directly to the erase head. Some VI730 machines were modified in production, with the 12k Ω resistor fitted across the print: this resistor should be removed if a block of the modified type is fitted. If Q0501 has failed, always solder the leads from the block to the erase head directly to prevent a recurrence.

For no tuning, replace link W627 with a 1k Ω resistor.

Two different types of TV/Aux switch have been fitted. The type with six evenly-spaced pins is part no. 63510 102 72; the type with eight pins, six bunched, is part no. 63519 102 071.

With older boards replacement of IC201 (SD3624A) results in LP operation only. To cure, link pins 26 and 27 with solder.

The a.g.c. voltage requirement varies with different tuners. With the SEM type ECC2885PLE the range should be 4.7V \pm 0.1V; with the Sharp VTSA-1SZ3PL the range should be 5.3V \pm 0.1V.

Ensure that the correct type of capstan motor is ordered when a replacement is required – the pulley sizes differ. Type VCM4730AL is part no. 64769 052 025; types VCM4730BL and R4322-74382A are part no. 64769 052 015.

The mains transformer part nos. differ. With the VI710 and VI711 the part no. is 63379 600 070; with the VI730 the part no. is 62869 190 203.

To cure a popping noise during load/unload, remove C119 from the Main A PCB – it's in the collector circuit of Q109.

The part no. for the mode switch on its own is 63599 016 057.

If the bottom edge of the tape gets creased at the supply impedance roller, remove the washer at the bottom of the assembly, beneath the spring.

For no E-E sound change R130/1 from 10 Ω to 3.3k Ω : these resistors are in the PB 5V switching circuit.

For intermittent tape ejection when play is selected, change the value of R611 from 330k Ω to 100k Ω .

Background whistle on sound with recordings can be cured by adding a wire link from pin 4 of CN401 to the tuner earth lug land on the Main A PCB.

Buzz on sound can be removed by redressing the lead from CN703 to CN602 (clock PCB to syscon PCB).

Whistle on sound can be removed by redressing the lead from CN402 to CN701 (clock PCB to Main A PCB) away from the upper Main B PCB.

For whistle on LP record or playback sound cut the wire link between pin 24 of IC0501 on the Main B PCB and the print near VR3303. If this link is not fitted, check for and remove the earth wire between the mechanism and the point on the Main B PCB where the insulation sheet is fixed.

Switching between the SP and LP modes can be caused by low amplitude CTL pulses: at pin 7 of IC203 the pulses should be 0.96V peak-to-peak in the SP mode and 0.8V peak-to-peak in the LP mode. If the pulses are incorrect, suspect a misaligned (zenith and height) or worn CTL head.

Failure to switch on or eject occurs when the case of C702 (22 μ F) shorts pin 3 of IC701 to chassis. C702 is on the print side of the function timer PCB.

Models VI750 and VI770

For inability to search tune with location one (jumps to location two) press the store button then search on channel one.

The wow performance can be improved by carrying out the following modifications: change R246 to 220k Ω , R247 to 8.2k Ω , R248 to 150k Ω , C239 to 100nF and C240 to 2.2nF. Finally, add a 47k Ω resistor between the base and emitter of Q217 in the servo section.

Models VI770 and VI790

If no or only some functions are working, the 30V supply is low or missing. Replace Q903 (part no. 62149 301 751) and ZD901 (part no. 62129 502 002).

An incorrect combination of microcomputer, clock and memory chips IC501, IC102 and IC103 can result in no communication between them and a number of symptoms. The types were changed during production, the change involving other circuit modifications. If the clock and memory chips are not correct, stations will not be stored.

Model VI910

If a machine with syscon PCB SVS866 cuts out while playing, check the PG pulses at pin 32 of the servo chip. The correct amplitude is 800mV peak-to-peak. If you find that the amplitude is excessive at 2V peak-to-peak check R35 on the syscon PCB – it should be 22k Ω but might be 56k Ω .

There are some incorrect part nos. in the service manual. Correct ones are as follows: d.c. socket 63334 104 021; mains transformer 63379 600 046; D1, type 2KBP02, 62169 901 080.

Models VI8220/1

Shutting down during playback can be caused by ripple at the servo chip IC201's FG input. Add C234 (22nF) between the junction of C226 and R234 off pin 56 of IC201 to chassis.

Models VI8220/5

For black spots on the edge of the playback picture carry out the following modification: change R0368 to 220 Ω , R0340 to 330 Ω , C0334 to 27pF and L0306 to 27 μ H. These components are all on the Main B PCB.

Model SX7230

To improve the preset tracking change the value of C202 on the servo PCB to 82nF (part no. 61507 121 581).

General information

Some useful semiconductor device equivalents are as follows:

uPC1524 = HA11745	A143 = KSR2001
uPC1534 = HA11744	A144 = KSR2004
uPC1536 = HA11741	C143 = KSR1001
	C144 = KSR1004

TEST CASE

345

Each month we provide an interesting case of TV/video servicing to exercise your ingenuity. These are not trick questions but are based on actual practical faults.

It's easy to become nonchalant about TV and video servicing. This is especially so when you find yourself faced with a symptom you've seen, or think you've seen, scores of times. When the usual treatment fails to cure the trouble the result can be a fit of frustration and pique. So it was with a JVC HRD140 VCR that appeared on the Test Case workbench. Its trouble, as described by the owner, was that when asked to play it would click and whirr and, after five seconds, shut down. Now this is a very common symptom with the HRD140 and associated models. It's usually because a slipping loading belt prevents completion of the loading cycle. So we changed the loading belt and cleaned and lubricated the shafts of the underdeck loading pinions before we even switched on.

At switch on loading took place in the usual way and the loading motor stopped when it was complete. There was no movement of either the capstan or the tape reels however: the tape was then smartly retracted into the cassette and the syscon went into the alarm mode. The engineer went into the alarm mode too. From the moment he'd pressed the play key the drum motor's speed had risen steadily to a high-pitched whine, which only now started to die away.

There are four little circuit protectors in the power supply in this machine. When one of them goes open-circuit all sorts of odd symptoms can occur. On this

occasion however all four were intact, so an experiment was tried. Since the drum had started to run out of control during the lace-up, it was restrained with a finger. This produced a wobbly semblance of a picture on the monitor before the machine once more shut down. Thus it seemed that the primary cause of the trouble was excessive drum speed. Attention was therefore turned to the drum servo and drive circuits.

The early form of digital drum servo used in this machine is generally reliable and trouble-free. So the first check that was made was on the supply to the drum motor - 12V at pin 3 of CN2. It was correct. The servo error voltage is generated in IC402 on the servo board and is then amplified in IC404. Voltage checks in this area were made difficult by the fact that the machine shut down within a few seconds of starting to play, but we easily established that the supplies to the two chips were correct. As this is a digital servo, a clock pulse drive is required. It's derived from the 4.43MHz crystal in the chroma section of the machine. This waveform enters IC402 at pin 9: a scope check here showed that it was present and correct.

What next? In some circuits it's difficult to know which way the error voltage should move to drive the motor faster, so a check on this was not conclusive, especially as the automatic shut-down barely gave the meter time to settle before it was all over. There is one point however that should have been checked at the outset, long before wandering into the servo section. Had this been done the cause of the fault would have been diagnosed quickly and easily. What was it? Where should the scope probe have been parked? Answer next month.

ANSWER TO TEST CASE 344 - page 746 last month -

The Sony KV2204 that was the subject of last month's test case now stands resplendent in the window of Tower Road Television, with a three-month guarantee and a price tag so outrageous for such an old set that we cannot mention it here! You will recall that it had been fitted with a replacement Trinitron tube in the workshop, after which it showed nothing but a green raster despite the fact that its three guns were correctly biased and fed with R, G and B video drive signals.

All Trinitron tubes have convergence electrodes at the top end of the gun assembly. They are used to deflect the outer (red and blue) beams, and carry a potential similar to that at the first anode. The few hundred volts difference is set for correct convergence of the beams by the H-STAT control in the HV block. In this vintage of the Trinitron tube, the e.h.t. connector is a "double" type with the convergence voltage conveyed by the inner conductor and the e.h.t. by the outer one. These separate voltages are coupled to a special coaxial-cavity socket in the tube's bowl.

Unless the rubber-capped connector is applied to the tube carefully all the beams land on the green phosphor stripes. This is what had happened, the cause of the trouble simply being misapplication of the connector. When Service Manager replaced the cap he got it on correctly!

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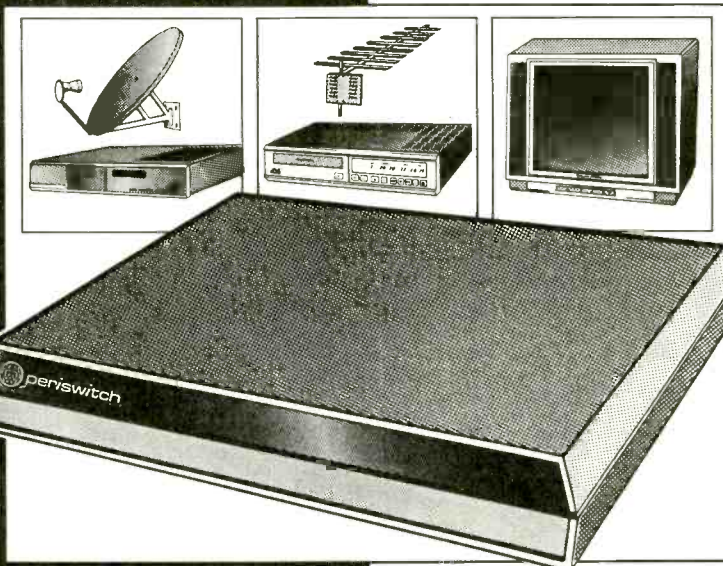


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See test report on page 818

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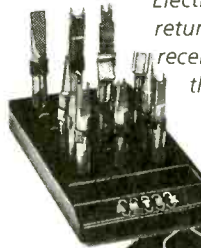
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12	£2.95	BA6219	£2.20	HA13001	£1.90	LA4500	£2.50	STK463	£9.50	STK8260H	£12.50	TD2007	£1.50	2SA1186	£3.95
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21	£2.20	BA6238A	£1.95	HA13119	£2.50	LA4508	£2.50	STK1050H	£7.25	STR370	£5.20	TD2009	£1.50	2SA1264	£2.95
10N	£4.50	BA6239A	£2.20	HA13118	£2.75	LA4510	£1.75	STK1060	£7.95	STR371	£5.20	TD2010	£1.50	2SA1489	£2.95
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30	£1.75	BA6411	£2.20	KA2212	£1.20	LA7032	£2.95	STK2048H	£9.75	STR442	£5.20	TD2015	£1.30	2SB775	£1.80
01	£1.20	BA7005	£2.20	KA2261	£1.20	LA7042	£2.80	STK2125	£6.75	STR451	£5.20	TD2016	£1.30	2SB863	£2.95
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53	£1.95	BA7751AL	£1.95	LA1130	£2.50	LA7800	£1.50	STK2139	£8.00	STR454	£5.20	TD2018	£1.30	2SC1403A	£4.50
20	£2.20			LA1135	£2.50	LA7801	£1.50	STK2155	£9.50	STR455	£5.20	TD2019	£1.30	2SC1561A	£2.60
30N	£2.50	EX8341	£4.50	LA1140	£2.20	LA7808	£2.50	STK2230	£6.50	STR455	£5.20	TD2020	£1.30	2SC1413A	£2.60
47	£1.75	HA1196	£1.75	LA1150	£1.75	LA7820	£2.75	STK2240	£9.50	STR457	£5.20	TD2021	£1.30	2SC1815	£1.20
50	£1.50	HA1197	£1.80	LA1170	£1.75	LA7830	£2.20	STK3041	£6.50	STR457	£5.20	TD2022	£1.30	2SC1913	£1.10
10N	£3.50	HA1199	£1.50	LA1185	£1.60	LA7831	£2.50	STK3042	£6.50	STR1996	£4.95	TD2023	£1.30	2SC1969	£1.75
126N	£3.50	HA1338	£2.95	LA1230	£1.50	LA7831	£2.50	STK3042	£6.50	STR2005	£5.95	TD2024	£1.30	2SC2166	£1.00
127	£3.50	HA1339A	£3.50	LA1231N	£2.00			STK3062	£5.75	STR2010	£6.20	TD2025	£1.30	2SC2235	£0.40
28	£3.50	HA1367	£3.50	LA1363	£1.20	LB1403	£1.50	STK3082H	£6.75	STR2013	£5.20	TD2026	£1.30	2SC2335	£1.20
28	£2.95	HA1372	£3.50	LA1365	£1.50	LB1405	£1.50	STK3102H	£6.75	STR3115	£5.95	TD2027	£1.30	2SC2570	£0.50
AN6332	£4.75	HA1377	£2.20	LA1385	£1.95	LB1416	£1.50	STK3125	£5.75	STR3125	£5.95	TD2028	£1.30	2SC2580	£2.75
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AN6344	£3.75	HA1396	£2.20	LA2000	£1.75	LB1649	£2.50	STK4025	£6.50	STR6020	£5.20	TD2031	£1.30	2SC2688	£2.80
AN6346N	£3.75	HA1396	£3.75	LA2200	£1.50	LC7137	£4.50	STK4121H	£6.95	STR50020	£6.20	TD2032	£1.30	2SC2689	£2.80
AN6356N	£3.85	HA1397	£2.50	LA2400	£1.50	LC7363	£3.75	STK4121H	£6.95	STR50103A	£6.20	TD2033	£1.30	2SC2690	£2.80
AN6357N	£4.50	HA1398	£2.50	LA3101	£1.75	LC7800	£2.75	STK4121H	£6.95	STR50404	£5.20	TD2034	£1.30	2SC2691	£2.80
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AN6360	£2.50	HA11211	£2.20	LA3161	£1.20			STK4141H	£7.50	STR58041	£5.20	TD2036	£1.30	2SC2693	£2.80
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AN6387	£5.50	HA11221	£2.20	LA3220	£1.50	LM3914N	£2.75	STK4152H	£7.50	TA7217AP	£1.60	TD2039	£1.30	2SC2696	£2.80
AN6562	£1.50	HA11223W	£2.50	LA3300	£1.65	LM3915N	£2.75	STK4161H	£7.95	TA7222AP	£1.30	TD2040	£1.30	2SC2697	£2.80
AN6610	£1.80	HA11225	£1.95	LA3301	£1.30			STK4162H	£7.95	TA7229P	£3.25	TD2041	£1.30	2SC2698	£2.80
AN6671K	£4.95	HA11226	£4.50	LA3310	£2.75			STK4171H	£8.95	TA7230P	£3.25	TD2042	£1.30	2SC2699	£2.80
AN6765	£2.50	HA11227	£2.20	LA3350	£1.30	MS218L	£1.95	STK4171H	£8.95	TA7232P	£1.95	TD2043	£1.30	2SC2700	£2.80
AN6876	£1.50	HA11235	£1.95	LA3361	£1.20	MS218P	£0.95	STK4181H	£8.95	TA7233P	£2.50	TD2044	£1.30	2SC2701	£2.80
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AN240P	BA4402	£1.90	L7824	£0.95	M10748N	£2.00	MM748CN	£2.00	STK4392	£7.00	TA7245	£4.50	TDA1044	£2.50	TDA2611A	£1.00	UA7810	£2.00	25C2958	£2.50
AN253P	BA4403	£2.75	L7905	£0.80	M10748N	£2.00	MM748CN	£2.00	STK441	£10.50	TA7267P	£4.80	TDA1044	£2.50	TDA2640Q	£3.50	UA7815	£2.00	25C2979	£3.00
AN3821K	BA5102	£2.45	L7912	£0.80	M29381	£1.10	MPD4069C	£1.10	STK459	£11.00	TA7270P	£2.50	TDA1044U	£1.50	TDA2652A	£2.75	UAA1008DP	£2.00	25C3153	£3.40
AN3822	BA5204	£2.75	L7915	£0.80	M4908B1	£1.20	MPD45148C	£3.00	STK461	£14.50	TA7271P	£3.25	TDA1057	£2.00	TDA2653	£2.75	UC38445	£5.00	25C3402	£0.40
AN5015	BA524	£3.00	L7918	£0.80	M4918 BB1	£1.50	MPD451066	£11.00	STK465	£12.00	TA7274	£2.60	TDA1082	£3.50	TDA2653A	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25C3519	£4.60
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AN5265	BA6104	£2.50	L8185	£2.60	M50459-012P	£6.20	M50459-012P	£6.20	STK5325	£6.50	TA7281P	£2.75	TDA1170S	£1.20	TDA2653D	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25C458	£0.20
AN5510	BA6109	£1.80	L8201	£0.95	M50560-01P	£2.70	M50560-01P	£2.70	STK5331	£6.00	TA7299P	£3.00	TDA1180	£1.80	TDA2653E	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25C479	£2.50
AN5512	BA6124	£2.75	L8235	£2.50	M51014L	£1.95	M51014L	£1.95	STK5332	£3.50	TA7302	£1.30	TDA1180P	£3.00	TDA2653F	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1047	£2.75
AN5521	BA6154	£2.50	L8260	£1.75	M51164	£1.40	M51164	£1.40	STK5333	£12.00	TA7303	£1.10	TDA1190P	£3.00	TDA2653G	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1051	£1.80
AN5730	BA6208	£2.75	L8403	£3.75	M51366P	£5.00	M51366P	£5.00	STK5338	£6.00	TA7310	£1.75	TDA12170M	£4.10	TDA2653H	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1138	£0.85
AN5750	BA6209	£2.50	L84160	£1.90	M52181P	£1.50	M52181P	£1.50	STK5361	£6.25	TA7312	£1.75	TDA1365	£4.90	TDA2653I	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1159	£0.75
AN5760	BA6219	£1.95	L84210	£1.90	M51393	£4.25	M51393	£4.25	STK5421	£6.50	TA7313	£1.90	TDA1412	£1.00	TDA2653J	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1207	£0.75
AN5900	BA6222	£3.10	L84220	£1.00	M51513	£10.00	M51513	£10.00	STK5422	£5.50	TA7313AP	£1.40	TDA1470	£5.00	TDA2653K	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1273	£1.00
AN6326	BA6229	£1.85	L84350	£1.50	M51515L	£3.10	M51515L	£3.10	STK5434	£5.50	TA7314	£2.00	TDA1501A	£3.20	TDA2653L	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1275	£1.30
AN6332	BA6238A	£1.95	L84360	£3.50	M51516	£4.00	M51516	£4.00	STK5451	£5.30	TA7323	£3.25	TDA1501B	£3.20	TDA2653M	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1288	£1.60
AN6341	BA6239	£3.75	L84370	£2.50	M51903L	£3.50	M51903L	£3.50	STK5471	£5.25	TA7325	£2.00	TDA1510A	£3.20	TDA2653N	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1338	£0.85
AN6344	BA6259	£3.00	L84370	£2.50	M52131	£3.10	M52131	£3.10	STK5476	£6.00	TA7325P	£1.50	TDA1510B	£3.20	TDA2653O	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1391	£4.20
AN6346	BA6301	£2.00	L84400	£1.90	M52184	£3.10	M52184	£3.10	STK5481	£5.00	TA7328	£2.00	TDA1512	£1.00	TDA2653P	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1397	£3.75
AN6346	BA6302A	£1.80	L84402	£2.20	M52314	£1.10	M52314	£1.10	STK5482	£5.20	TA7335	£1.50	TDA1515A	£2.50	TDA2653Q	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1398	£2.25
AN6359	BA6304	£1.70	L84425	£2.00	M54519P	£1.00	M54519P	£1.00	STK5720	£7.00	TA7335P	£4.20	TDA1520	£3.95	TDA2653R	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1426	£4.50
AN6360	BA6305	£1.75	L84440	£0.70	M54543L	£1.75	M54543L	£1.75	STK5730	£5.25	TA7342	£2.10	TDA1670A	£2.50	TDA2653S	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1453	£1.60
AN6362	BA6361	£0.90	L84460	£1.80	M54544L	£1.85	M54544L	£1.85	STK6962	£3.20	TA7343	£1.75	TDA1701	£3.00	TDA2653T	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1455	£201730
AN6367	BA7001	£1.90	L84482	£2.10	M54548L	£4.50	M54548L	£4.50	STK6972	£6.00	TA7350	£2.10	TDA1770A	£3.00	TDA2653U	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1496	£4.00
AN6612	BA718	£1.80	L84813	£2.75	M58478P	£4.75	M58478P	£4.75	STK7216	£6.10	TA7358	£1.50	TDA1870A	£2.60	TDA2653V	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1497	£2.60
AN6651	BA728	£1.10	L8492	£1.70	M58655P	£6.50	M58655P	£6.50	STK7308	£5.75	TA7607	£3.50	TDA1905	£1.40	TDA2653W	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1497-02	£5.95
AN6671K	BA7767S	£5.00	L84422	£1.30	M58639	£8.00	M58639	£8.00	STK7309	£7.00	TA7607AP	£2.40	TDA1908A	£1.75	TDA2653X	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1497-06	£5.95
AN6677	BT16018	£3.50	L84440	£2.70	M708	£5.50	M708	£5.50	STK7348	£5.00	TA7609P	£2.70	TDA1908B	£1.75	TDA2653Y	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1500	£3.50
AN6894	HA1125A	£3.50	L84445	£1.25	M8159	£4.75	M8159	£4.75	STK7358	£3.20	TA7614	£2.50	TDA1950	£2.50	TDA2653Z	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1512	£0.95
AN6912	HA11223	£3.75	L84450	£1.70	MA150E	£2.20	MA150E	£2.20	STK7358	£5.50	TA7628P	£2.40	TDA2002	£1.40	TDA2653AA	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1517	£2.30
AN7111	HA11225	£2.16	L84461	£1.80	MB3106	£1.00	MB3106	£1.00	STK7728	£4.75	TA7629	£4.00	TDA2003	£1.30	TDA2653AB	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1520	£0.35
AN7112	HA11225	£3.75	L84500	£2.70	MB3730	£2.75	MB3730	£2.75	STK7728	£4.75	TA7629P	£2.75	TDA2004	£1.70	TDA2653AC	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1521	£1.00
AN7116	HA11235	£3.10	L84507	£2.70	MB3731	£3.25	MB3731	£3.25	STK7728	£4.75	TA7630P	£2.00	TDA2005	£1.70	TDA2653AD	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1522	£3.70
AN7143	HA1124A	£1.75	L84570	£2.20	MC13002P	£5.00	MC13002P	£5.00	STK7728	£4.75	TA7640	£2.00	TDA2005S	£1.95	TDA2653AE	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1523	£1.00
AN7148	HA11414	£1.70	L84522	£2.20	MC1310	£1.25	MC1310	£1.25	STK7728	£4.75	TA7640P	£2.70	TDA2006	£1.80	TDA2653AF	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1524	£1.00
AN7158	HA11701	£3.10	L84527	£1.95	MC1330P	£2.55	MC1330P	£2.55	STK7728	£4.75	TA7641	£2.50	TDA2007	£2.40	TDA2653AG	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1525	£1.10
AN7160	HA11713	£3.90	L846358	£5.00	MC14001BCP	£1.10	MC14001BCP	£1.10	STK7728	£4.75	TA7642	£2.50	TDA2008	£1.10	TDA2653AH	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1526	£1.10
AN7169	HA11714	£3.80	L847016	£2.50	MC140938C	£1.10	MC140938C	£1.10	STK7728	£4.75	TA7643	£2.50	TDA2009	£1.10	TDA2653AI	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1527	£1.10
AN7171K	HA11715	£3.20	L847096	£4.00	MC14426P	£2.20	MC14426P	£2.20	STK7728	£4.75	TA7644	£2.50	TDA2010	£1.10	TDA2653AJ	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1528	£1.10
AN7205	HA11747A	£12.75	L847210	£3.10	MC14429P	£2.20	MC14429P	£2.20	STK7728	£4.75	TA7645	£2.50	TDA2011	£1.10	TDA2653AK	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1529	£1.10
AN7213	HA11749	£7.00	L847305	£6.90	MC14479P	£5.50	MC14479P	£5.50	STK7728	£4.75	TA7646	£2.50	TDA2012	£1.10	TDA2653AL	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1530	£1.10
AN7218	HA11750	£5.10	L847309	£3.75	MC14511BCP	£2.00	MC14511BCP	£2.00	STK7728	£4.75	TA7647	£2.50	TDA2013	£1.10	TDA2653AM	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1531	£1.10
AN7220	HA12005	£3.80	L847507	£4.00	MC14516BCP	£2.00	MC14516BCP	£2.00	STK7728	£4.75	TA7648	£2.50	TDA2014	£1.10	TDA2653AN	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1532	£1.10
AN7222	HA12017	£2.00	L847520	£3.25	MC1458UPC1458	£1.95	MC1458UPC1458	£1.95	STK7728	£4.75	TA7649	£2.50	TDA2015	£1.10	TDA2653AO	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1533	£1.10
AN7223	HA12026	£2.00	L847800	£1.50	MC14626P	£2.20	MC14626P	£2.20	STK7728	£4.75	TA7650	£2.50	TDA2016	£1.10	TDA2653AP	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1534	£1.10
AN7224	HA2413	£1.20	L847801	£1.25	MC2359	£1.10	MC2359	£1.10	STK7728	£4.75	TA7651	£2.50	TDA2017	£1.10	TDA2653AQ	£2.75	UC3845	£5.00	25D1535	£1.10
AN7225	HA13001	£1.80	L847820	£1.90	MC2622C	£														

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2372	BF459	SD12659	£0.75
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2441	BF471	TIP110	£0.45
2461	BF472	TIP112	£0.45
247	BF472	TIP29	£0.30
248	BF870	TIP30	£0.45
249	BU108	TIP31	£0.30
2559B	BU126	TIP32	£0.30
639	BU208	TIP41	£0.27
640	BU208A	TIP42C	£0.40
131	BU208D	TIP47	£0.98
132	BU208E	TIP791A	£1.20
137	BU208T	ZTR604	£0.55
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179	IN4002	SKE25/02	£0.75
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179 SK2 06	IN4005	SKE4F1/04	£0.45
84	IN4006	SKE4F1/06	£0.45
89	IN4007	SKE5F3/10	£2.20
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90	IN5408	T9053V	£1.40
223	KBL06	T9064V	£2.28

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FUSION			
SSV-2 Head universal		£7.50	
SSVA-3V42, 44, 45, 46 etc		£20.00	
SS4VB-3V32, HR7655		£25.00	
SS4VC-3V48, HRD565		£26.00	
13, 14, 20, 21, 26			
1 most other Fergusons	POA		
ACHI			
SSHA-VT8000, 9000 series		£17.00	
SSHB-VT11, 33 etc		£17.00	
82-VT120, 220		£29.00	
81-VT130, 135		£30.50	
JASONIC			
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JSU1N-NV100, 370, 380/Philips VR6460		£11.00	
JSU2N-NV230, 470, 480, G9, 10, 15PX		£21.00	
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JS3N-NV777, 330		£18.50	
JS4NB-NV730		£26.00	
JS4NA-NV366		£24.00	
330, 33, 40, 45, 46, 130, & most			
Philips	POA		
IYO			
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ISSY-VHR1500		£34.00	
IRP			
ISSP-VC9300, 9500, 9700, 381, 481, 483, 486 etc		£17.00	
ISSPB-VC581, 583, 651, 670 etc		£17.00	
000, 8000 series (Brass)		£42.00	
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i 4000, Goldstar 8000, Sentra 8000, D	Solavox	£22.50	
er FVHP510, 520, 530, 615, 710 etc		£18.00	
er VBS7000, 9000 etc		£25.00	
ri VXL2, 4, 3, 20, 25		£18.00	
ri VXL5, 6, 20H		£15.00	
ubishi HS306, 710		£30.00	
n VC150, 180, VH1, 2, 3 etc		£18.00	
h VR1100, 605, 705, 805, 905		£18.00	
isung Universal 2 Head		£24.25	
s h i b a			
73, 74, 75, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 87		£20.00	
iba V93		£21.00	

ASK FOR VIDEO HEADS NOT LISTED

above heads are new and replacements.

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Hitachi VT64 Original		£19.75	
Hitachi VT8000 series Original		£34.50	
Hitachi VT9000 series Original		£34.50	
Sharp VC7000 series Original		£30.50	
MODE CONTROL MOTORS			
Ferguson 3V42, 43, 44, 45, 48, 49, 52, 53		£6.00	
Ferguson 3V58, 59, 65, FV10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 20, 21, 22, 26		£4.50	
IDLER ASSEMBLIES			
FERGUSON			
Take up Clutch (Mechanical models)		£5.00	
3V29/30 Take up Idler		£2.00	
3V29/30 Take up Clutch		£2.85	
3V29/30 Reel Idler		£3.00	
3V35 Reel Idler		£3.00	
3V35, 36, 38, 39 Take up Clutch		£2.85	
3V58, 59, 64, 65, FV10, 11, 12, 13, 14 Idler Arm		£1.80	
Clutch Assembly 3V44, 45, 48, 49, 52, 53, 54, 55		£14.00	
Clutch Assembly 3V42, 43		£14.00	
FISHER			
FVHP615, 905, 910, Idler Assembly Original		£5.00	
FVHP615 Gear Idler Assembly		£4.35	
FVHP905, 910 Gear Idler Assembly		£5.00	
FVHP520, 530 Idler		£3.00	
FVHP520, 530 Pulley		£0.70	
HITACHI			
VT11, 33 etc. Original Idler Arm		£2.50	
VT11, 33 etc. Idler Replacement		£1.75	
VT9300, 9500 etc. Play Idler		£3.65	
VT9300, 9500 etc. F/F Idler		£2.95	
VT9300, 9500 etc. Idler		£2.95	
VT8000, 8500 etc. F/F Rew Idler		£3.00	
VT8000, 8500 etc. Play Idler Assembly		£3.00	
VT8000, 8500 etc. F/Rew Pulley		£0.70	
VT11, 33 etc. Clutch Assembly		£8.00	

Many other belt kits in stock. Examples are Alba, Funai, GEC, Goldstar, Granada, Grundig, Hinari, ITT, Mitsubishi, NEC, Orion, Saisho, Samsung, Schneider, Sony, Tensai etc.

NEW LINES			
Universal Video Head Pulser		£16.00	
Video Idler Spring Kit		£5.95	
Video Washer and E Clip Kit		£5.00	

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ITT CVC25/30/32	9.50
ITT Compact 80 Series 110	16.75
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ITT CVC45	18.00
ITT 1109F	14.00
ITT CVC1204	11.50
ITT CVC800/1/3	21.50
ITT CVC1100	16.50
ITT CVC1150/1175	20.00
ITT 6325	18.50
ITT 3546	18.50
ITT 1200/1	20.00

Other ITT transformers available

Fidelity all models up to 20" ZX3000	10.50
Fidelity Panel for ZX2000	1.00
Fidelity 22" ZX3000	24.50
Hinari CT4/5 & TVA1	14.75
Philips KT3	12.95
Rank Bush T20A	11.50
Thorn TX100 Green Spot 110	16.75
Thorn TX90 Mains Trans	18.85
Ferguson TX90 LOPT	17.75
Ferguson 3V35/36 Mains Transformer	23.00
Ferguson 3V44/44/45 Mains Transformer	18.85
Sony - Please state model for price	
Universal Tripler	4.75
Universal Tripler with focus unit	9.50
Decca 120/130 series tripler	8.50
Thorn TX10 Focus Unit Kit	9.50

VIDEO MOTORS

REEL MOTORS			
Ferguson 3V29/30		£20.00	
Ferguson 3V58, 59, 65, FV10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 20, 21, 22		£17.25	
Ferguson FV260		£14.50	
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Sharp VC9300, 9500 etc. Original		£15.00	
Panasonic NV333, 366 Original		£13.20	
All other Panasonics	POA		
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All Panasonic Original	POA		
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Ferguson/JVC (Mechanical models)		£20.00	
Hitachi VT11 Original		£30.00	

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Hitachi VT33 Original	£32.00
Hitachi VT64 Original	£19.75
Hitachi VT8000 series Original	£34.50
Hitachi VT9000 series Original	£34.50
Sharp VC7000 series Original	£30.50
MODE CONTROL MOTORS	
Ferguson 3V42, 43, 44, 45, 48, 49, 52, 53	£6.00
Ferguson 3V58, 59, 65, FV10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 20, 21, 22, 26	£4.50
IDLER ASSEMBLIES	
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Take up Clutch (Mechanical models)	£5.00
3V29/30 Take up Idler	£2.00
3V29/30 Take up Clutch	£2.85
3V29/30 Reel Idler	£3.00
3V35 Reel Idler	£3.00
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Clutch Assembly 3V44, 45, 48, 49, 52, 53, 54, 55	£14.00
Clutch Assembly 3V42, 43	£14.00
FISHER	
FVHP615, 905, 910, Idler Assembly Original	£5.00
FVHP615 Gear Idler Assembly	£4.35
FVHP905, 910 Gear Idler Assembly	£5.00
FVHP520, 530 Idler	£3.00
FVHP520, 530 Pulley	£0.70
HITACHI	
VT11, 33 etc. Original Idler Arm	£2.50
VT11, 33 etc. Idler Replacement	£1.75
VT9300, 9500 etc. Play Idler	£3.65
VT9300, 9500 etc. F/F Idler	£2.95
VT9300, 9500 etc. Idler	£2.95
VT8000, 8500 etc. F/F Rew Idler	£3.00
VT8000, 8500 etc. Play Idler Assembly	£3.00
VT8000, 8500 etc. F/Rew Pulley	£0.70
VT11, 33 etc. Clutch Assembly	£8.00

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ITT Compact 80 Series 90	19.75
ITT CVC45	18.00
ITT 1109F	14.00
ITT CVC1204	11.50
ITT CVC800/1/3	21.50
ITT CVC1100	16.50
ITT CVC1150/1175	20.00
ITT 6325	18.50
ITT 3546	18.50
ITT 1200/1	20.00

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Fidelity Panel for ZX2000	1.00
Fidelity 22" ZX3000	24.50
Hinari CT4/5 & TVA1	14.75
Philips KT3	12.95
Rank Bush T20A	11.50
Thorn TX100 Green Spot 110	16.75
Thorn TX90 Mains Trans	18.85
Ferguson TX90 LOPT	17.75
Ferguson 3V35/36 Mains Transformer	23.00
Ferguson 3V44/44/45 Mains Transformer	18.85
Sony - Please state model for price	
Universal Tripler	4.75
Universal Tripler with focus unit	9.50
Decca 120/130 series tripler	8.50
Thorn TX10 Focus Unit Kit	9.50

VIDEO MOTORS

REEL MOTORS			
Ferguson 3V29/30		£20.00	
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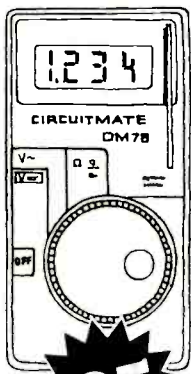
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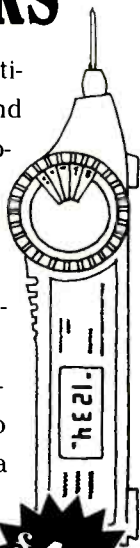
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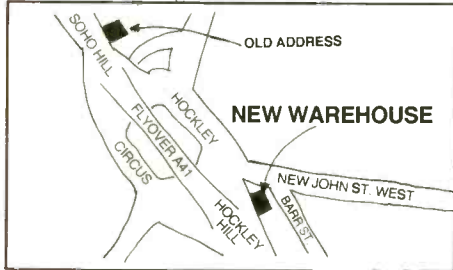
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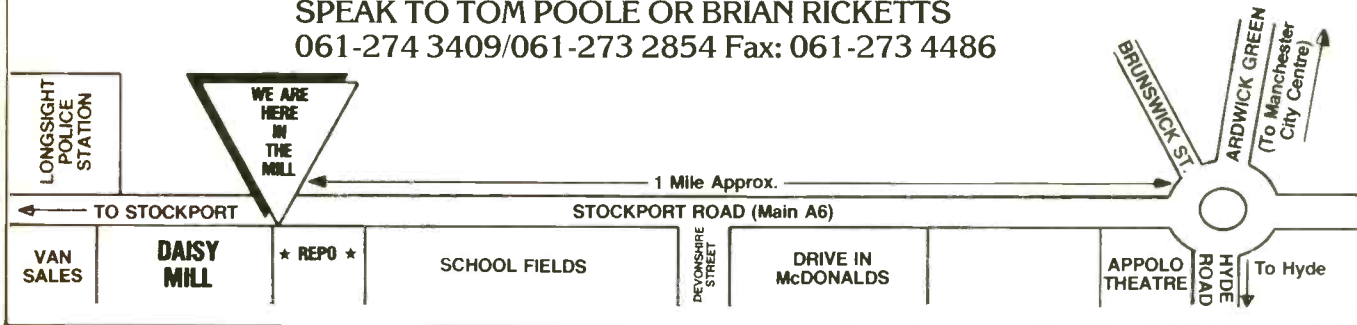
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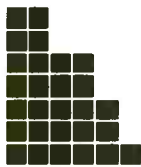
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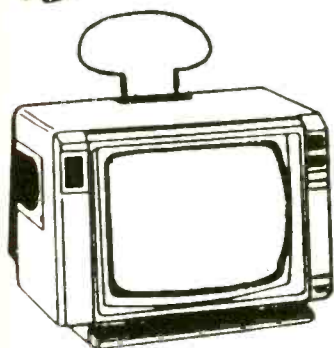
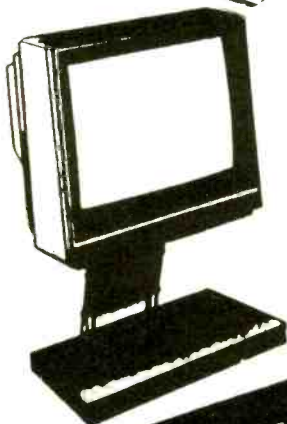
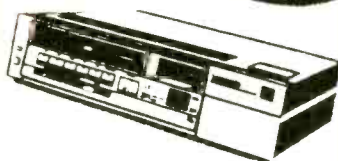
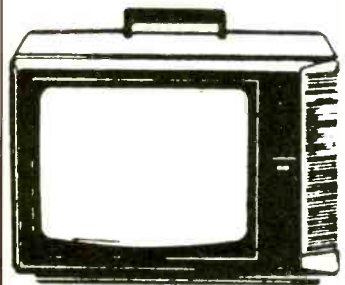
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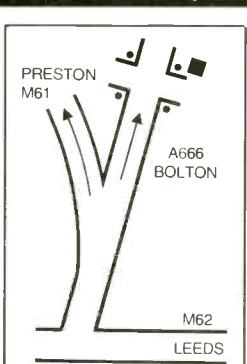
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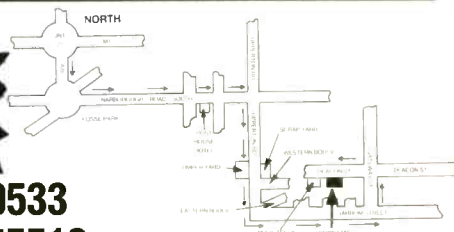
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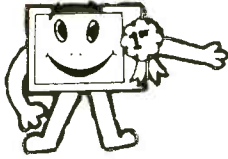
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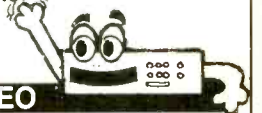
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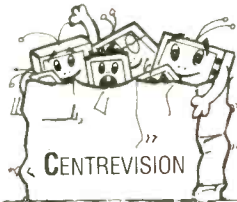
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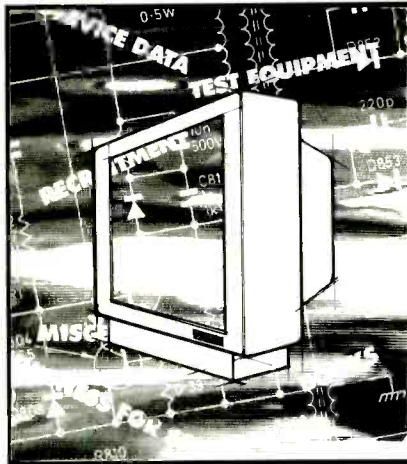
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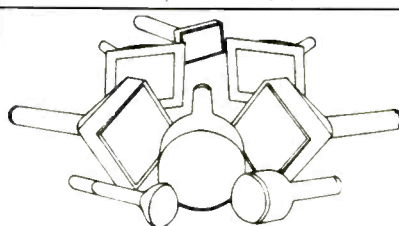
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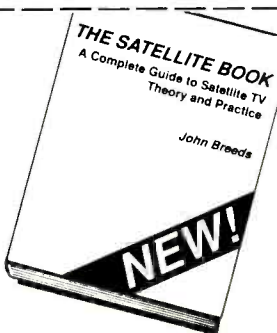
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