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TV CAMES for' 77


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TV PROJECTION systems

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And thinking ahead, about what's around the corner, that's what SBE is all about.

## Radio－Electronics

THE MAGAZINE FOR NEW IDEAS IN ELECTRONICS

## SPECIAL FEATURES

39 TV Games
They range from ping－pong to elaborate simulations of skeet shooting and tank warfare，R－E reports on all the systems you can get today．by Fred Blechman

44 Projection TV－1976－＇77
Big color pictures in your living room are available now．Here＇s a special report on the systems and who makes them．by Robert Gerson

CB RADIO
56 Theft－Proof CB Installation
How to install CB in your car and keep the rip－off artists away．by Herb Friedman

## BUILD ONE <br> OF THESE

54 Expand Novis Calculator
Add square root，memory，constant and percent by Howard F．Stearns

68 Anti－Theft Alarm Circuits
Part II：More circuits to help keep your car from being stolen．by R．M．Marston

71 Build Electronic Roulette
It＇s a fun game that＇s easy to assemble and entertaining to use．by Barton Evans，Jr．

## HIGH－FIDELITY

34 Equipment Report
Heath AR－1615 preamplifier kit．
51 Car Stereo Systems
An expert view of the many great sound systems you can have in your car．by Fred Petras

59 R－E Lab Test Report
Nakamichi 600 cassette deck
65 R－E Lab Test Report
Heath AD－1305 equalizer kit

## COMPUTERS

22 Komputer Korner
Part III： 8080 instruction set．by Tim Barry


## ON THE COVER

TV games are fun，frustrat－ ing，entertaining and educa－ tional．The Fairchild game shown on the cover is differ－ ent from most in that it can have new games added to its repertoire．The cover photos were provided by Fairchild Camera and Instr See a full report on the latest games starting on page 39.

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# looking ahead 

## From game to IVD

As many a lover has learned, what starts out as an innocent little game can end up as something very sophisti-cated-and serious. Now the "video game" industry is learning this lesson, and (to badly mix a metaphor) has discovered it has a tiger by the tail.

It's estimated that perhaps as many as $3,000,000$ video games were sold in 1976most of them of the innocent "paddle-and-ball" or tennis variety. These attach to the television set's antenna terminals, and they're fun-and after a while they tend to get monotonous. You could call them gadgets and they sell as low as \$29.95 if you're a sharp shopper. But they've pried the lid off Pandora's box, and your home TV set may never be the same. (See our roundup of TV games in this issue of RadioElectronics.)

The first of the "secondgeneration" video games are beginning to appear. These are home versions of coinoperated arcade games-tank games, space exploration games, race games, target games. But still games. The third generation, scheduled to appear shortly after New Year's Day, will have outgrown the "game" label. Nobody really knows what to call them, but "interactive video devices" or IVD will do until someone thinks up a catchy name.

These are the microproces-sor-based devices, which will make possible an entirely new type of home electronic product. Programmed by cartridges containing ROM (readonly memory) IC's or audio cassettes, they'll convert the home TV set into a Professor Quiz with multiple-choice questions for students, a draw-ing-board for color sketches by the artistically inclined, an Answer Man for those with complex questions-in short, the TV set will become the display panel for a home minicomputer. These IVD's are expected to start in price
below \$150, with program cartridges running anywhere from about eight dollars to $\$ 20$. The first cartridges will program the units for complex and sophisticated games, but later ones are expected to abandon the game approach completely for home problem-solving. And don't be surprised if you have an electronic typewriter keyboard in your home to let you ask your television set important questions-perhaps before the year is out.

Another interesting variation on the IVD theme may be in the works-cable TV "games." Warner Communications, one of America's biggest CATV operators, recently purchased a controlling interest in Atari, a major video game producer. Planners at Warner indicate they may eventually add "game" channels to the cable. These might permit home-tohome game competition with a two-way cable system, or eventually even such sophisticated pursuits as chess games with a central CATV computer, or access to a time-shared computer to solve a wide variety of problems, courtesy of your home IVD. At last you can talk back to your TV set.

## Home VTR race

You can also interact with your TV-in a way-via a home video recorder. Four different (and mutually incompatible) home videocassette recorders are now on the market in Japan. Two of them-Sony Betamax and Sanyo's V-Cord II-are now available in at least some areas of the U.S. A third system is expected to be marketed soon by Quasar, a fourth by one of Japan Victor's subsidiaries in the United States. Sony's Betamax, the most widely distributed unit, plays or records for one hour per cassette. The Sanyo V-Cord has a cassette that operates for one hour in the conventional mode, or two hours by skipping every other field of the TV picture. The Quasar machine gets 100 minutes and JVC has two-hour playing time.

Why is playing time so important? Because these machines are being promoted as "time-shift" devicesequipped with timers, they can do your viewing for you, record programs while you're away from home, or while you're watching another show. Then you can view the program you missed at your convenience.
Is one hour enough? Sony says it usually is. Its competitors say no. Just in case, Sony has developed a new version of its Betamax machine which will get two hours' recording and playing time out of the same 492-foot reel of cassette tape which now gives only one hour. The seeming miracle was accomplished by cutting tape speed in half, reducing track width by half and using a new head and an associated change in electronic circuitry.

## VTR tape economy

Because of the changed situation in videotape, l've revised the table that was first printed here in Aug. 1975, ranking the various home and industrial video recorders in order of economical tape usage. In the table below, the systems marked with an asterisk (*) are not in production.

## Speed Tape tt./

| System <br> \# Betamax | Speed <br> (ips) | Tape <br> Width |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 2-hr. |  |  |  |
| hour |  |  |  |

The Betamax two-hour system is still developmental but could come this year. The LVR is a longitudinal 28-track system being developed in Germany and the U.S. by the German
tape firm BASF. MagTape is the discarded RCA home videocassette system. Cartrivision shot briefly across the U.S. horizon before its backers went bankrupt; it's a skip-field system. V-Cord II is listed twice in the table, in the standard mode (one hour per cassette) and in the skip-field mode (two hours). EIA-J Type-I is the standard Japanese endlessloop cartridge recorder. Figures are approximate and are computed from manufacturers' specs.

## Wired cities

Although most of the talk about the "wired city" of the future has been heard in the U.S., the Japanese seem to be doing more about it. The first Japanese wired city is now in experimental operation in a suburb of Tokyo, and the second-which will use fiber optics instead of coaxial ca-ble-is scheduled for operation by 1979 or 1980.

The Tokyo-area system serves about 300 families in a 12,000-apartment project, Tama New Town. In addition to supplying off-the-air TV, it includes pay TV, a local studio in the project, facsimile newspapers, teletext on-screen information, a "request service" for still pictures and other information, a two-way educational channel which permits children to watch the instructor, ask and answer questions by voice line.

The second project, near Osaka, will be more elaborate, with 29 channels into homes, five in the other direction. Among its features will be a service whereby viewers can order videotapes transmitted into their homes; facsimile request service for documents from libraries; cashless shopping in which the subscriber inserts his credit card into a special machine in the apartment; reservation service for hotels, airlines, beauty parlors and clinics.

## DAVID LACHENBRUCH CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

## GOT MODULARITIS？



## Suffering from module cross reference chart fatigue？YOU think modules are expensive to stock and tough to repair？WE both know modular TV＇s are here to stay．

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The sets are loaded with plug discon－ nects and modules have abundant clear component and test point markings．

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We＇re making it our business to make your business easier．
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TELEVISION

## new etimely

## NESDA elects Pershing president

Over 200 delegates, representing more than 2,000 members of the National Electronic Service Dealers Association (NESDA), met at the Palacio del Rio in San Antonio, TX, last August 16, for the 1976 Annual Convention.

Everett Pershing, Burbank, CA, was elected President for the 1976-77 term. He is the owner of Pershing Radio \& TV, a sales and service firm that has been in business since 1935

Mr. Pershing was NESDA Senior VicePresident last year, and earlier was Vice President of the 9th Region of NESDA, which includes California, Nevada, Arizona and Hawaii. He was Chairman of the Electronics Hall of Fame in 1975-76, and has held every office in the California State Electronics Association, from local association president to two consecutive terms as President of the state association.

Other officers elected at the San Antonio convention are: Senior Vice President, Kurt Wertheim, Kurt's Furniture, San Antonio, TX; Secretary, John McPherson, Mac's TV, Yorktown, VA; Treasurer, Jack Kelley, Sage \& Sand TV, Litchfield Park, AZ. Last year's president. Leroy Ragsdale of Ft . Smith, AR, will fill the Executive Committee position of Immediate Past President.

Regional Vice Presidents are: Region 1. Charles Yung, Jr., New Caanan, CN; 2. Warren Baker, CET, Albany, NY; 3. Walter Cooke, CET, Hampton, VA; 4. Herschel Lawhorn, CET. Perry, GA; 5. Dave Garwacki, CET, Toledo, OH; 6. George Simpson, Ft. Worth, TX; 7. Keith Knos, CET, Liberal, KS; 8. Tom Thomas, CET, Pueblo, CO; 9. Bill Lawler, Los Angeles, CA; 10. Bob Villont, CET, Tacoma, WA.

## Direct vision and LED display

 combine in new aviator's helmetA new helmet-mounted symbolic display makes it possible for a pilot to see symbolic information superimposed on his normal view while he looks in various directions. He can thus receive directives or advisory information without having to look straight ahead or down at instruments.

The unit includes a standard flying helmet with modified visor, a prismatic optical system, an LED array, a microelectronic assembly mounted inside the top of the helmet and a lightweight cord to connect to data and power sources in the cockpit.

The LED array contains 460 point elements, arranged in a $20 \times 23$ matrix. The elements are at $0.01 \mathrm{inch}(0.3 \mathrm{~mm}$ ) pitch, enabling a large variety of stationary and moving symbols to be generated and displayed.

The helmet manufactured by MarconiElliott Avionic Systems, Ltd., is being tested by the Navy at Point Mugu, CA.

## A. Christ, J. Homay, R. Graham are Gernsback Award winners

Radio-Electronics makes an award annually to the most deserving student in each of eight leading home-study electronics schools. The Hugo Gernsback Memorial Award, named after the founder of this magazine who throughout his lifetime worked for the encouragement and development of electronic knowledge among the youth, is a check for $\$ 150$.

Through the generosity of two test equipment manufacturers, it has been possible to add a second and third award. The second prize winner each month receives a B \& K model 280 Digital Multimeter and the third winner on RCA WV529 Service Special VOM.
Winner for this month is A. H. Christ. Originally from Syracuse, New York, he now works for General Electric in an area of Alaska so remote that he has an APO Seattle address. He reports that the nearest city is Anchorage, 1400 miles back on the mainland.

Christ, a veteran of four years in the Marine Corps during World War II, has been employed at General Electric for 25 years. In 1972 he started working on a new job in the Field Programs Department and has worked on his Alaskan island ever since. General Electric encourages its employe s, through the G-E Individual Developme program, to study an ap-
proved course to improve their job skills. As part of this program, Mr. Christ enrolled in Electronics Technical Institute.

A. H. ChRISt

Given his work location, he is well pleased with his home-study program in electronics. "ETI courses are ideal for anyone working at a remote site. I have found the courses fairly priced, interesting and comprehensive". He plans to continue his training. "One is never too many years too young to learn and I have derived enough knowledge from Digital Electronics and Advanced Electronics that I'm looking forward to Communications and practical information for on-thejob training."

Mr. Christ is a widower. His two daughters have families of their own and continued on page 12


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# new etimely 

 continued from page 6he reports that his son Ronald, who will soon graduate from high school, spends a great deal of time on the air with his Citizens band rig.
Runner-up is Joseph E. Homay, of Easton, PA, who receives a B \& K digital multimeter. After graduating from high school, he enrolled in the Warren County, NJ. Vocational and Technical School where he studied electronics technology. He completed the course in 1970.
He then decided to enlist in the U.S. Navy to take advantage of the excellent training programs available to servicemen. After boot camp he was assigned to the Basic Electricity and Electronics School, which was followed by Electrician's Mate School and Motion Picture Projector School. While on sea duty, Homay continued his training. He enrolled in the United States Armed Forces Institute and completed the Fundamentals of Radio and Radio Servicing course.

Homay is now employed as a maintenance technician for the American Can Company, which makes thermoformed plastics in its Easton plant. "Much of my work involves the installation and maintenance of solid-state equipment used to control production temperatures precisely", he says. "Exceedingly aware of the servicing problem we faced, I enrolled in Electronics Technical Institute's Advanced Solid-State Electronics course."


JOSEPH E. HOMAY

Homay reports, "This course was superb in relation to the actual working conditions of semiconductors in equipment and the configurations used to achieve ultimate system control. It has strengthened my trouble-shooting techniques and has exposed me to the finer points of testing and maintaining solidstate equipment. This course has been valuable to me in the position I hold with the company."

Mr. Homay feels that, with all the advances in electronics technology, he's got to keep learning. "I saw the chance and I took advantage of it. Thank you, ETI, for all your help-l'll be back!'

Third prize goes to Robert Graham, Jamaica, New York. He first became interested in electronics as a boy in Charlotte. NC. While still in high school, he enrolled in his first Radio and Television Servicing home-study course and began repairing radio and television receivers


ROBERT GRAHAM

Soon after, he decided there was a better future in communications. "I made a survey of courses given in communications by several schools", he says, "and found the course offered by Electronics Technical Institute the best. I enrolled in the school and completed the FCC Communications course.'

## Organized service dealers <br> Survey their own numbers

Service Shop magazine made a survey of the electronics service dealers who attended the 1976 National Electronic Service Dealers Association convention in San Antonio. TX, with the idea of determining the size and average value of their sales and service departments.

The survey indicates that the NESDA members in attendance had an annual service department volume (including parts sales) of $\$ 227,000$ and that their products sales (CB's, TV's, radios and audio products) approximated $\$ 114,700$ per dealer. Incidentals and other lines brought the average gross volume in 1975 to $\$ 373,296$.

The survey also discovered that service shops operated by NESDA members are larger than the national average. The service dealers surveyed employed just under seven technicians per shop-two and one-half times the national average of 2.8. The dealers sampled also employed an average of 4.3 sales and clerical people per shop.

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## GREAT TV GAME

I enjoyed your article "Build This Grea*: TV Game" in the June, July and Augus*: 1976 issues of Radio-Electronics. I used the author's ideas to build a similar unit There are some errors in the schematic that other readers may be interested in. Also, I came up with some modifications that can easily be made to the circuit.

The schematic appeared on pages 36 and 37 of the June issue. The errors are as follows: IC5-b pin-4 also connects to IC13-a pin-3. The output of IC5-d (pin 13) is listed as being connected to, among others, IC18 pin 3. This is incorrect. Change IC18 pin-3 to IC13 pin-13. Another error is in the output connection of IC14; pin 8 is listed as being connected to IC18 pin-9. This should be changed to IC18 pin-10. The collector of Q1 should also connect to IC4 pin-8. The output of IC13-b is pin 9. The 510 -ohm resistor on the output of IC13 pin-7 is R37.

As far as the modifications are concerned, there are three. First, to automatically enable the paddle only after the ball crosses the center line or after it hits the bumper, rather than having control of the


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paddle during the entire duration of ball travel across the screen, do the following: Delete the connection between IC10 pin-9 and IC12 pin-5. Also delete the connection between IC10 pin-12 and IC12 pin-13. Add two 7400 IC's and wire as shown in Fig. 1.

The bumper can be made smaller by grounding pin 5 of IC24 and parallel R68 with a 100 K resistor (or change R68 to 80K.) The bumper can also be made randomly transparent to the ball. but always visible on the screen, by removing the +5 volts from pin 4 of IC25 and wiring the unused half of IC10 as shown in Fig. 2.
J. E. ROHEN

Apalachin, NY

## MORE ON TV GAMES

Many readers of the June, July, and August 1976 issues, who followed the Great TV Game story, might be interested to know of two recent changes: joystick paddle controllers are now included as standard items (replacing the rotary potentiometers), and the price has been reduced to $\$ 129.50$ including the custom case and power supply.

A new low-priced version called Econ-O-Kit is also available at $\$ 57.50$. It's based on the same design and identical PC board as the one featured in the construction article.

Readers can obtain more information by sending $\$ 1.00$ (refundable with purchase) for an information packet to Visulex Corporation, Box 4204, Mountain View, CA 94040.
DAN PICHULO
Visulex
Mountain View, CA

## PHOTO PROJECTS

I commend you and the publishers of Radio-Electronlcs for the formidable efforts presented month after month with do-it-yourself projects that can perform outstanding feats of wizardry. With all this outstanding talent, I would like to see a few projects that would assist thousands of persons like myself who are interested in photography.

The first is an enlarging analyzer/ calculator for color printing. Many are on the market for $\$ 100$ and up but I am sure something could be built for much less that would be as (if not more) accurate than commercial units.

The second project I would like to see is a reasonably priced voltage stabilizer (150-200 watts) for printers and enlargers. Another would be some method of checking shutter speed and strobe light outputs.

The photography business is becomcontinued on page 20

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With its optional Programmer, this Computer TV system allows you to program your set for an entire evening's viewing. The top bank of 8 keys 1 accesses the static NMOS RAM and turns the on-screen clock display into a computer CRT readout which allows you to see your "program" as you enter it through the bank of 12 keys below the programmer panel. The selected time appears in the first four digits of the clock display, the channel number appears in the last two. First, enter the time at which you want the set to change channels. Next, enter the channel number you want. Then the memory takes over. While you sit back and relax, the Programmer automatically changes to the right channel at the right time. You can program up to 32 channel changes within two 12/24-hour periods!
Those two programming periods add extra versatility. Program the first for your daytime viewing schedule, the second for evening shows. Or, program the first for week nights, the second for weekends. You can even preselect the programs young children can watch - once the programmer is engaged, the manual keyboard is disconnected and can only be reactivated by the remote control or by pressing the correct button on the programming panel.
You can even program the set to return to manual operation at a preselected time, then resume automatic operation at another time. When the last program you want to see is over, the set can be programmed to switch to an empty channel This will cause the screen to go blank and the on-screen readout to flash on and off indicating that it is time to turn the system off with the front panel pushbutton or optional remote control.

## Convenient Remote Control

The optional wireless remote control 2 lets you adjust volume, turn the set on or off, adjust tint, activate the digital readout, scan up or down through the preselected channels, and turn the optional programmer on and off - all at the touch of a button. This wireless remote control has improved circuitry for greater range and reliability and is the best we've ever offered.

## Random Access Tuning

The $3 \times 4$ keyboard 3 lets you instantly choose any of up to 16 preselected stations - up to 24 with the optional eight channel accessory. Switch from VHF to UHF, up or down, in any sequence, and be tuned in instantly without switching through empty channels. Up and down
buttons on the keyboard also let you scan all the preselected stations.

## Automatic Antenna Rotor Control

A Heathkit exclusive! With the optional antenna rotor control 4, you can program the GR-2001 to automatically rotate your outdoor antenna system as it changes from one channel to another, for optimum reception on every channel. No special knobs to turn, no buttons to push. You can select up to eight separate antenna headings with up to three stations per heading. It's perfect for areas where stations are in widely separated locations.

## Superb Color and Sound.

The TV set itself contains dozens of circuit refinements and improvements designed to give you the best picture and performance you've ever seen. The Automatic Gain Control circuit, for example, has been significantly improved to better resist airplane flutter. And since you build it yourself, you can be assured of a set that is free of mass production "glitches" that show up all too often in other sets now on the market. Other improvements are listed below.

## Separate Audio IF Stage

The audio circuitry is probably the finest on any commercial set in the world. The sound signal has its own separate IF stage 5 to dramatically reduce the "buzz" caused by the picture carrier modulating the sound. You can hear the difference especially if you use the output jack to connect the GR-2001 to your stereo system. The built-in wide-range speaker offers excellent fidelity as well. It's one of the first sets ever to give you real hi-fi sound from a TV!

Phase-Locked-Loop Horizontal and Vertical Hold Circuits
New phase-locked-loop horizontal and vertical oscillators 6] "lock-in" on any channel for a picture that's rock-steady and stable. There are no conventional vertical and horizontal hold controls because you never need them! There are no align-

ment problems either, so you get consistently excellent pictures year after year.

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The GR-2001's 25" (diagonal) ultra-rectangular picture tube 7 provides one of the brightest, sharpest pictures in the world. The tube is fully shielded to maintain outstanding color purity by eliminating stray magnetic fields.

## Easy To Assemble

Though the GR-2001 is one of our more complex kits, the average person shouldn't have any difficulty in assembling it. A step-by-step illustrated manual will lead you through assembly right up to troubleshooting and testing. And if you do happen to need assistance, help is only a phone call away. A complete staff of Technical Consultants will answer all your questions. We won't let you down.

## GR-2001 Specifications

Deflection: Magnetic $90^{\circ}$.
Focus: Electrostatic.
Convergence: Magnetic.
Antenna Input Impedance: VHF: $300 \Omega$ balanced or $75 \Omega$ unbalanced. UHF: $300 \Omega$ balanced.
Picture IF Carrier: $\mathbf{4 5 . 7 4 \mathrm { MHz } \text { . }}$
Sound IF Carrier: 41.25 MHz .
Color IF Subcarrier: 42.17 MHz .
Sound IF Frequency: 4.5 MHz .
Video IF Bandwidth: 4.08 MHz at 6 dB down.
Hi-Fi Output: Frequency Response: $\pm 1$ $\mathrm{dB}, 50 \mathrm{~Hz}$ to 15 kHz .
Output Voltage: Greater than 1.0 V RMS. Audio Output: $4 \Omega$ or $8 \Omega, 2$ Watts.
Power Requirement: 110 to 130 Volts $A C$, $60 \mathrm{~Hz}, 200$ Watts.
Kit Net Weight: 146 lbs .
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LETTERS
continued from page 16
ming more and more dependent on electronics and I feel that Radio-Electronics and its contributors would assist readers greatly if these and other photography projects were published

How about it? Would some of you out there in your basement/garage laboratories design some of these projects and submit it to Radio-Electronics. Lots of us out here would appreciate it. Thanks.
DANIEL A. MARCEK. SR
Nashua, NH

## CLASS G

I have just read the article on Class-G amplification that appeared in the August 1976 issue. I thought it was not only interesting, but well written and informative.

Regarding the possible confusion between Classes A, B, C, D, E, F, and S. Class $G$ seems a satisfactory name, since the multivoltage mode of operation does differ from other modes or classes. However. I hope that various manufacturers will use some restraint and not start naming their amplifiers Class H , Class Z , etc., when they have only minor circuit differences from others. I hope also that they will not try to make class definitions their own trademarks. Either of these will only add confusion to the field.
FREDERICK H. RAAB
Burlington, VT

## CLASS-G REPLY

Thank you for your letter. As a matter of fact, Hitachi, wisely or not, has decided to call their circuit a "Series E" circuit rather than Class G, which they had at first proposed when I discussed this new, efficient circuit with them some months ago. Mr. Sampei, who originated the practical circuits used, was evidently aware of the conflict between Class E and his own circuit innovation, but the sales department of Hitachi prevailed, and Series E it will be. This change was made too late for inclusion in my article in Radio-Electronics.

You are quite right in saying that classes of amplification should not be assigned with utter abandon.
LEN FELDMAN
Contributing Hi-Fi Editor

## LONG DISTANCE TV

I need help in selecting a TV booster. The area that I live in (Melbourne) is 60 miles to the nearest TV station with additional stations located in Miami and Tampa some 150 miles away. Standard TV boosters amplify too much noise and adjacent channel interference, so I think that I need a "tuned" or switched type of booster. Has any reader of Radlo-Electronlcs found any method of getting in such long distant stations with reasonably good picture quality? Does anyone know of a manufacturer that makes a switchable TV booster?
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## KGMPUTE KZRNEH

TIM BARRY

WF PREVIOUSLY DISCLSSEI) THE DAIA TRANS. fer and arithmetic/logic instructions that can be performed by the 8080 . This month we conclude this presentation with a discussion of the transfer of control and processor control instruction groups. (You may wish to refer to the two previous columns for an explanation of some of the features mentioned and the notations used to represent various register groups, data types, and data transfers.)

## Transfer of control instructions

Any instruction that is used to transter the execution of the program from where it is currently executing to another place in memory is considered to be a member of this group. Transfers of control can be considered to be either returning or non-returning: A non-returning transfer. once executed. has no way of knowing the memory address that it was transferred from because it does not save the address of the nevt instruction to be executed prior to executing the transfer. A returning transfer, on the other hand, saves the address of the next instruction where the program is executing before the transfer is executed. This saved address can be used later in the program to return control to the

place in the program where the transfer occurred. A non-returning transfer is usually called a program jump or a program branch. A returning transfer is usually called a subroutine call. The transfer of control back to a returning transfer is usually called a subroutine return.

Transfers of control-whether jumps. calls or returns-can be considered to be either conditional or unconditional. Unconditional transfers are executed whenever they are encountered. regardless of the state of the processor flags. Conditional transfers are executed based upon the state of internal processor flags. If the specified condition is met. the transfer takes place. If the condition is not met, the instruction is ignored and execution continues on (i.e. Jump if zero, call if no carry, etc.). Different processors have different flags, and hence different conditional instructions. However, all computers will have some conditional instructions. because this is the feature that allows the processor to respond to the results of tests and operations performed by the arithmetic/ logic unit.

The 8080 offers both returned and unreturned transfers of control. The unreturned transfers are called jump instructions. the returned transfers are called call instructions. and the returns to the addresses saved by returned transfers are called return instructions. These transfers are all available in both conditional and unconditional forms. In addition. there is one indirect unconditional transfer instruction (PCHL) and a group of special truncated unconditional subroutine calls (RST).

The returning transfer-of-control instructions executed by the 8080 save the return address in the area of memory addressed by the stack pointer. Before the transfer is executed, the program-counter address where execution is to return is pushed into the top two locations of the stack. When a return is executed. the contents of the top two locations of the stack are popped into the program counter, thereby transferring control to that location.

This is a very convenient way to handle subroutine return addresses, but it requires us to pay careful attention to the stack operations performed by the rest of the program. We have other program operations that can push and pop data using the stack. If these operations don't match properly. the stack pointer may not be pointing to the correct return address when a subroutine return is executed. When this happens. something other than the intended return address is placed into the program counter. This results in the execution of a "return to random address" instruction, usually followed immediately by a dramatic change in program execution. To avoid this problem. you must always make sure that data is taken out of the stack in the reverse order that it is put into it. It also means that the last subroutine called continued on page 24

## How．．the difital do－ityourseif railocheck



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coninued from page 22
must be the first one returned. The number of unreturned subroutine calls that have been executed prior to the first return being executed is called subroutine nesting. When you hear a programmer say that his program is "nested four deep" at some point. he means that four subroutines have been called and none have executed returns. Keeping track of subroutine nesting and data transfers with the stack is called baluncing the stack, and it is essential to correct program operation.

In addition to balancing the stack, you must be sure that no program operations inadvertently modify the contents of the stack. This can happen when the stack nesting causes it to overlap with other assigned program storage. It can also happen when some routine that transfers data into memory gets out of control and overruns into the stack area. To avoid these problems, it is best to locate the stack in an area of memory that is not used by any other portion of the program. If this is not possible, you must compute stack usage based on nesting and stack use and allocate an area among the rest of your program storage for stack use. The stack is a very powerful feature, but it must be used with care to avoid problems.

## Unconditional transfers of control

This group of 8080 instructions is executed whenever they are encountered during program execution


A gourmet's delight of practical "how 10 " facts, including description of "8080" instruction set. How to manipulate " 8080 ' stack. Flow charts. Source listings. Routines for multiple precision operation. Programming time delays for real time applications. Random number generators. Completely assembled floating point math program. Input/output processing for basic $1 / O$ programming through interrupt processing. Code, numeric conversion routines. Real time programming. Search/sort routines. Plus many more finger-lickin' goodies.

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## JMP Addr

peration Performed: Addr $\mathrm{r}_{0-15} \rightarrow \mathrm{PC}_{0-15}$ The 16-bit address included with the instruction is loaded into the program counter.

CAIL. Addr
Operation Performed: $\left(\mathrm{PC}_{8-15}\right) \longrightarrow[S P-1]$
$\left(\mathrm{PC}_{0.7}\right) \rightarrow[\mathrm{SP}-2]$
Addr ${ }_{0.15} \rightarrow \mathrm{PC}_{0.15}$
$(S P)+2 \rightarrow S P$
The address of the next instruction to be executed after the subroutine returns is pushed onto the stack. Then the 16 -bit address included with the instruction is loaded into the program counter.

RET
Operation Performed: $[\mathrm{SP}] \rightarrow \mathrm{PC}_{0-7}$
$[S P+1] \rightarrow \mathrm{PC}_{8-15}$
$(S P)+2 \rightarrow S P$
The contents of memory addressed by the stack pointer are popped into the program counter, transferring control to that location.

PCHL
Operation Performed: (HL) $\rightarrow$ PC
The contents of the HL register are transferred into the program counter. (This instruction was also included as a datatransfer instruction.)

RST L
where $L$ is an integer in the range $0-7$.
Operation Performed: $\left(\mathrm{PC}_{8.15}\right) \longrightarrow[S P-1]$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \left(\mathrm{PC}_{0.7}\right) \longrightarrow[S P-2] \\
& 8^{*} \mathrm{~L} \xrightarrow{\longrightarrow} \mathrm{PC}_{0.15}
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
(\mathrm{SP})+2 \rightarrow \mathrm{SP}
$$

The RST instruction is actually a call instruction which is hardware defined to call a fixed block of memory locations. Upon execution, a RST instruction behaves exactly as a subroutine call to the location $8^{*} \mathrm{~L}$. Thus the instruction RST I would be equivalent to CALL 8. A transfer initiated by a RST instruction is returned using a return instruction. exactly like any other subroutine call. The RST instructions are provided so that an external device can interrupt the 8080 and provide a single-byte instruction to transfer to a device-service routine.

## Conditional transfers of control

The 8080 provides a wide selection of conditional transfer instructions. The state of the four ALU flags (carry. zero, sign, and parity) can be used to determine the execution of jumps. calls or returns. The condition code symbols used to represent these various flag conditions are as follows:

Symbol Condition Tested
Z Transfer if zero
NZ Transfer if not zero
C Transfer if carry
NC Transfer if no carry
P Transfer if sign flag is plus
M Transfer if sign flag is minus
PE Transfer if parity flag is even
PO Transfer if parity flag is odd
A conditional transfer is formed by adding the appropriate character prefix ( J for jump. ( for call. or R for return) to the condition symbol. Jump if parity even would thus be continued on page 30


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TC-100/ST

# Advanced Electronics 

# Should your career in electronics go beyond 

There is no doubt television repair can be an inter ing and profitable career field. TV ryaair, however, is only one of the many career areas in the fast growing field of electronics.

As an indication of how career areas compare, the consumer area of electronics (of which TV is a part) makes up less than one-fourth of all electronic equipment manufactured today. Nearly twice as much equipment is manufactured for the communications and industrial fields. Still another area larger than consumer electronics is the government area. That is the uses of electronics in such areas as research and development, the space program, and others.
Just as television is only one part of the consumer field, these other fields of electronics are made up of many career areas. For example, there are computer electronics, microwave and satellite communications, cable television, even the broadcast systems that bring programs to home television sets.
As you may realize, career opportunities in these other areas of electronics are mostly for advanced technical personnel. To qualify for these higher level positions, you need college-level training in electronics. Of course, while it takes extra preparation to qualify for these career areas, the rewards are greater both in the interesting nature of the work and in higher pay. Furthermore, there is a growing demand for personnel in these areas.
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CREI gives you a choice of specialization in 14 areas of electronics. You can select exactly the area of electronics best for your career field. You can specialize in such areas as computer electronics, communications engineering, microwave, CATV, television (broadcast) engineering and many other areas of modem electronics.

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CREI programs
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for training of veterans and servicemen under the G.I. Bill.
me 0.1. Dof.

model 100 audio response plotting system and general purpose sweep/tone burst/pulse generator consists of two sine/square/triangle function generators, pulse generator, frequency counter and peak amplitude measurement sections. It is primarily intended to generate a frequency response plot on an X.Y recorder or scope.

Time base generator offers symmetrical or independent control of the positive and negative sides of the ramp providing a duty cycle of $.7 \%$ to $99.3 \%$. Frequency range is .0035 Hz to 100 kHz . Amplitude is 15 Vpp into 500 ohms with $\pm 5 \mathrm{VDC}$ offset. The time base output drives the $X$ axis of an $X \cdot Y$ recorder.

Audio sweep generator provides manual frequency adjustment or $\log /$ /inear sweep of 20 Hz to 20 kHz . Blanking mode produces zero reference line on $X$-Y recorder or tone burst. Amplitude is 15 Vpp into 500 ohms or 10 Vpp into an 8 ohm speaker.

Pulse generator frequency range is .0035 Hz to 525 kHz . Pulse wideth is adjusted independent of frequency from 4 seconds to 40 nanoseconds. Outputs are complimen. tary TTL.

Peak amplitude measurement section measures internal or external signals from mike to power amp level. Amplitude output drives $Y$ axis of $X$ - $Y$ recorder.

Frequency counter is 6 digit, line triggered, and reads either internal or external. Sensitivity is 50 mv peak at 20 kHz .

Dimensions: $8 \times 14 \times 3$. Warranty: 1 year. 5525, stock to 30 days.

1894 Commercenter $W,{ }^{2} 105$
San Bernardino, $C_{i} 92408$


KOMPUTER KORNER
continued from page 24

JPE. call if sign is minus would be CM. and so on.

J(COND) Addr
Operation Performed: If (COND) is
true, then
Addr ${ }_{0.15} \rightarrow \mathrm{PC}_{0.15}$.
otherwise
$(P C)+3 \mapsto P C$
If the condition code specified is true. transfer to the location specitiod by the 16 -hit address included with the instruction. Otherwise, continue execution with the next instruction.
(COND) Addr
Operation Performed: If (COND) is
true, then $\left(\mathrm{PC}_{8-15}\right) \rightarrow[\mathrm{SP}-1]$
$\left(\mathrm{PC}_{0.7}\right) \rightarrow[\mathrm{SP}-2]$
Addr ${ }_{0.15} \rightarrow P_{0-15}$
$(S P)-2 \longrightarrow S P$.
otherwise
$(P C)+3 \longrightarrow P C$
If the condition code specified is true. the address of the next instruction to be executed upon return is pushed onto the stack and control is transferred to the focation specified by the 16 -hit address included with the instruction. Otherwise. continue execution with the next instruction.

## R(COND)

Operation Performed: If (COND) is true, then [SP] $\rightarrow \mathrm{PC}_{0.7}$
$[\mathrm{SP}+1] \rightarrow \mathrm{PC}_{8-15}$ $(S P)+2 \rightarrow S P$. otherwise $(P C)+1 \mapsto P C$ If the condition code specified is true. the top elements of memory as addressed by the stack pointer are popped into the program counter. transferring program execution to that location. Otherwise. continue execution with the next instruction.

## Processor control instructions

Computers provide a small group of instructions that can be used to control the operation of the actual CPU hardware. These instructions are concerned with enabling and disabling the computer's interrupt facility. setting up $1 / 0$ device priority, halting and resetting the processor and so on. These instructions are not used often, but it is important to understand their operation for those times when you witl need them and want to use them.

The 8080 has four precessor-control instructions. These instructions include an instruction that does nothing (often needed. believe it or not), a computer-halt instruction. and instructions to enable and disable the processor's response to interrupts

## NOP

(1)

The NOP operation does nothing. It is present in the instruction set to allow you to delete operations when debugging, leave space for program additions and provide a fixed execution time interval for use in program timing loops.

HIT
(1)

# "FERRET'I TV MINI-ANALYZER FOR FAST STEP-BY-STEP TROUBLE SHOOTING 

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GENERATOR SECTION
CROSS-HATCH


LINEARITY ADJUSTMENT
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## DOT PATTERN



## CONVERGENCE ADJUSTMENT

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The HLT operation causes the processor to halt execution．Halting the processor should be done with care，since once halted it can only be restarted by a hardware reset or an interrupt．If the processor interrupt structure is disabled and you halt it．you lose．Gener－ ally，the processor should never be halted．If you can＇t find something useful for it to do． turn the computer off and save the energy．

## FI

（1）
The El instruction is used to enable the 8080 （o）accept interrupts from external devices．It is important to remember that one of the 8080＇s hardware characteristics is that it disables the interrupt facility when it acknowledges an interrupt．You must there－ fore include an El instruction somewhere in your device－service routine if you want to be able to process further interrupts．

## 1）I

## （1）

The D！instruction is used to disable the acceptance of interrupts from external devices．It is used primarily to lock－out inter－ rupts during time sensitive sections of code． In this case．the time required to service the interrupting device could introduce errors into the program．This type of condition is seldom encountered．and you should use the DI instruction with caution．Anytime you have the interrupts disabled there is the possibility that data will be lost when a device interrupt request is denied．

This article concludes a presentation of the 8080＇s instruction set．We have now studied the 8080 from both a hardware and a solt－ ware standpoint．We can now start to examine actual programming techniques and digital systems using the 8080 ．


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Illegal New Jersey CB gear confiscated by authorities

More than $\$ 10,000$ worth of illegally used $C B$ radio equipment was seized last July 22 in a crack－down on illegal Citizens band operators in the northern New Jersey area．The United States Attorney for the District of New Jersey，John L． Goldstein．United States marshalls，ac－ companied by agents of the FCC from Maryland，Pennsylvania and New York， simultaneously executed seven search warrants in Waye，Parsippany，Troy Hills． Upper Saddle River．Wayne，Patterson and Whippany，seized the equipment and closed down the stations．

Among the violations with which the operators were charged were transmis－ sion on unauthorized frequencies．which． Goldstein said，jeopardized police，fire， rescue and aircraft communications，as well as interfering with legitimate CB users．government radio use．public and special industries radio services and even $A M / F M$ and television reception．

Federal law provides penalties up 10 $\$ 500$ per day．per offense，for violation of FCC Rules and Regulations．and one year＇s imprisonment and a $\$ 10.000$ fine for unlicensed use．R－E

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－ 8 Digit Display elımınates the need for overflow．no memorizıng of first 2 most sig－ nıficant digıts．
－Operates from both AC and DC power sources．FC． 50 is capable of operation from 12 volt DC source such as auto battery with optional cigar lighter attachment． Permits CB frequency checks directly in vehicle．（Other accessories available for complete CB servicing）
－New LSI（Large Scale Integration）frequency counter circuitry provides precise accuracy in servicing and greater re ability at lower cost to you $\$ \$ 19050$

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For additional information，contact your B\＆K－PRECISION distributor for our comprehensive brochure describing the operation of the Model 1040 CB Servicemaster and the CB Service Center－or write us for your free copy．


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## equipment

 reports
## Heathkit AP-1615 Stereo Preamplifier


 hould monimally divore and add negligible novee to the amplified venal. The preamp mustaho be veratile vale it o the whtheng center hetween the inpul soures. power amplitier and tape recorder mputh Heath: AP-lots meen the ere requirements nieds in an attrathe how-tont package
Execpt for the power trantormer and related parts. connectorn and witcher, ali

herard kil anembll N call and atter wome whlering practice a heember whuld be able (1) do a reammate juh

The AP-Ihls.s in divided mite hiree detinct vection the phomo input tage. a high-level preamp sage and the headphone filker amplitier. Input vighals trom the turntable are bowated by a low-nome 1734 meseated
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 "A739 if is wed anty fir the two phomo mput preition on the fromt-panel viblomk iwtich. Fior wher ignal wures, the input su thro wage in grounded.
Stabilization and frequency chatateristion of the phono preame are controlled hy the teedhack components. The feed hack network hapes the frequence revpome to within $\pm 0.5$ dB of the RIAA equaliathom charaterentu
 mallowls for rated IS wh R RIS) winput. The input impedance is compried of 65 pt If capacitance and 47 . 6 Mo ohm revistance.
Second in the vignal chan o the bughelevel cominured on pase 3i



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EQUIPMENT REPORTS
cominued from page 34
preamp that gets its input from the phono preamp．or TAPE MOV AUX TUNER or TAPF Dus connectors．The signal passes through the BAI AVCE and voit＇uF controls on the way to the base of the first transistor Comple－ mentary NPN－PNP output iransistors are used in a heavily degenerated configuration known for its low noise and distortion．Three series diodes form the bias network across the iwo base－emitter junctions of the output tran－ sistors．The inherent no signal DC idling current of this arrangement minimizes crossover distortion．

The stage has a sensitivity of 180 millivolis and has a voltage gain of 9.2 set by the ratio of two feedback resistors．This accounts for the amplification needed to produce the 1.5 － volt raled output

Next is the headphone filter／amplifier． similar in design to the intermediate stage． This stage uses a current sink for the collector load at the input of its complementary output transistors for high open－loop gain．Both the preamp output connector and the headphone front－panel connector are driven through current－limiting resistor networks．

The headphone filter／amplifier uses an RC network in its feedback path to create an active filter when selected by the front－panel switches．Filter characteristics are maximally flat Butterworth responses．The high－cut（low pass）tilter is $3-\mathrm{dB}$ down at 7 kHz and reduces disc scratch．tape hiss．and FM1 bach－ ground noise．Rumble．record warp．and roon vibrations are attenuated by the low－ cut tiller with a $3-\mathrm{dB}$ corner at is Hz

## comimued on page 80

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Now assembling, testing and modifying circuits is as easy as pushing in - or pulling out - a lead IC's. LED's transistors, resistors. capacitors . . virtually every kind of component connect and interconnect instantly via long-life. nickelsilver contacts No special patch

| MODEL | $\begin{aligned} & \text { NO OF } \\ & \text { TIEPOINTS } \end{aligned}$ | 14-PIN DIP CAPACITY | $\begin{aligned} & \text { SUGG } \\ & \text { LIST. } \end{aligned}$ | other FEATURES |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| PB.6 | 630 | - | \$15.95 | $\text { kit - } 10 \text { mirute }$ <br> assembly |
| PB. 100 | 760 | 10 | 19.95 | Kit - with larger capactly |
| P8. 101 | 940 | 10 | 29.95 | 8 distribution buses, higher capacity |
| PB. 102 | 1240 | 12 | 39.95 | Large capacty moderate pr.ce |
| PB. 103 | 2250 | 24 | 59.95 | Even Iarger capacity onk $27 c$ pel te-pont |
| PB-104 | 3060 | 32 | 79.95 | Largest capacity lowest price Det tie-point |
| P8-203 | 2250 | 24 | 75.00 | Built-1 $1 \%$-lequ lated 5 V IA low. ripple powel supply |
| PB-203A | 2250 | 24 | 120.00 | As above olus separate z emp +15 V and -15 V able regulated outputs |

Manuracturer ssuguested list
Prices and spectications subiect to change wivithout notice
cords or jumpers needed - just lengths of ordinary \#22-30 AWG solid hookup wire.
Circuits go together as quickly as you can think them up. And parts are re-usable so as your junk box builds, you build more and more projects for less and less money.

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DLIRING 1975．THE MARKET FOR FLEECTRONIC TOYS GAMES AND amusements expanded abruplly into one of the most exciting and potentially profitable segments of the consumer electro－ nics industry．This was due largely to the success of the home video－game．introduced by Magnavox in 1972 under the Odvsev name．Atari．a leader in the coin－operated video game field．introduced Pong through Sears and Roebuck stores in 1974
Now video games are hitling the home markel in a big wav． with some indusiry officials estimating sales of 12 million units annually bv 1980 ！It＇s no wonder that over 40 firms are manufacturing completely ready－to－operate home video－ games for use with television receivers．and several others are offering kits or plans to build your own．

## FCC regulations

A black cloud hovering over this potentially lucrative market．however．is the Federal Communications Commis－ sion．Home TV games are essentially miniature television transmitters whose video output ideally should be connected directly into the video input circuitry of the receiver being used to display the game．Unfortunately．most TV sets don＇t have a video input jack．and adding one requires a qualified technician．（See Radio－Electronics．August 1976 issue．page 57．for how this can be done）．For this reason readv－made TV games designed for home use contain a low－powered video modulated RF transmitter usually operating on Channels 2
through 6 of the VHF TV．band This TV signal is fed to the amenna terminals of the TV receiver through a switch that disconnects the regular TV antenna during game play．The FCC requires that these games－considered a Class－1 TV Device under Part II．Paragraph 15．Subpart H．of the FCC Rules and Kegularions－nol emit more than 15 microvolis－per－ meter of RF energy．Vany of the designs submitted for approval under these reguiations radiated between 40 and 80 microvolts－per－meter！Furthermore．the Regulations have no provision for approval of a separate video－modulated oscilla－ tor－the entire game musi be submitted and approved as a unit．Even the antenna switch must satisfy FCC isolation requirements（at least $60-\mathrm{dB}$ attenuation）to prevent the game signal from＂leaking＂out the TV antenna and being broad－ cast all over the neighborhood！

With game interference complaints on the increase．the FCC is taking an even harder look at their approval specifi－ cations．and may soon tighten them further It doesn＇t take much imagination to see the threat this places on the manu－ facturers．At this time．many units still have not received FCC approval and they may not legally be announced．advertised or sold before such approval．Violators are being aggressively dealt with by the FCC．Doing any of the following may cause interference 10 nearby television sets and is against FCC regulations：using longer－ihan－supplied twin lead wires from Comparison charl on pages 40 \＆ 41 rexi comimues on page 42

| COMPARISON CHART－VIDEO GAMES AND KITS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| manufactuaner OR DISTRIBUTOR | GAME NAME OA MODEL | 薮 |  |  |  |  | paodiesmplayers |  |  |  |  | Ball |  | scorimg |  | sepve |  |  | rowen |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { MOTES } \\ & \text { hemarks } \end{aligned}$ |
|  |  |  | 爰 |  |  |  |  |  | $\left.\right\|_{\mathbf{\circ}} ^{\mathbf{\circ}}$ | $\left.\begin{array}{\|c\|c} \underset{\sim}{心} \\ \underset{\sim}{3} \end{array} \right\rvert\,$ | 号 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| AOVANCEO ELECTRONICS <br> P．O．B0X 133 <br> CORVALLIS．OR 97330 | POMG |  | － | 1 | 4 |  | － | － |  |  | （1） | － | － | － |  | － |  | － |  | － |  | （1） | 5 | （1）（2）（3）（4）（5）（7） |
|  | Antialmeraft 182 |  | － | 2 | 2 |  | － | － | （6） |  |  |  |  | － |  |  | － | － |  | － |  | （1） | 8 | （1）（3）（3）（1）（3） 7 |
|  | Jaws． 28 SPACE RACE |  | － | 2 | 2 |  | － | － |  |  | － |  |  | $\bullet$ |  |  | － | － |  | － |  | （8） | 8 | （1）（2）（3）（4）（5）（7） |
| ```ADVANCEO MICRDCDMPUTER PRODUCTS P0 80× 17329 IRVINE, CA 92713``` | 6 TV GAMES ON ONE CHIP |  | $\bullet$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1 | （2） |
|  |  |  | － | 6 | 2 |  | － |  |  |  | （1） | － | － | － |  | － | － | （9） |  | （10） | $G$ | （1） | 70 |  |
| allied leisuab indust．．inc． 245 W．7th PLACE <br> hialeam，fl 33014 | the Name of the game a | － |  | 6 | 4 | － | － |  | － |  | － |  | － | － |  | $\bullet$ | － | － | ， |  | （11） |  | 98 |  |
|  | the name of the game mil | － |  | 4 | 2 | $\bullet$ | － |  | － |  | － |  |  | － |  | $\bullet 1$ | － | － | ， |  | （11） |  | 78 |  |
| amcor，los amgeles，ca （ADDAESS UNKNOWN） | table mooel | － |  | 1 | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | （8） | 495 |  |
|  | bab mooel | － |  | 1 | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | （3） | 495 |  |
| APF ELECTRONICS，inc． 444 MADISON AVE NEW YOAK．NY 10022 | TV FUN（앙 （MODEL 401） | － |  | 4 | 2 |  | － |  | － |  |  | － | － | － |  | － | － | （2） | － | － | $G 1$ | － | ${ }^{69}$ |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { ARS SYSTEMS } \\ & \text { P.O. BOX } 1922 \\ & \text { SUNNYVALE.CA } 94088 \end{aligned}$ | basic ti pang pong |  | － | 1 | 2 |  | － | － |  |  | （1） |  |  |  | － | － |  |  |  |  | （5） | （1） | （12） | （1）（10） |
| ATARI．INC． <br> COMSUMER DIV 1195 BORAEGAS DR． SUNNYVALE．CA 94086 | c． 100 PONG ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ | $\bullet$ |  | 1 | 2 | $\bullet$ | － |  | － |  |  |  | － | $\bullet$ |  | － | － | － | － | － | am， |  | 80 |  |
|  | c． 140 SUPER PONG ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ | － |  | 4 | 2 | － | － |  | － |  |  |  | － | － |  | － | － | － | － | － |  |  | 90 |  |
|  | c． 160 POMG Doubles | － |  | 1 | 2 | － | － |  | － |  |  |  | － | － |  | － | － | － | － | － | E1 |  | 80 |  |
| BROAOMOOR COL YMPIC INT＇LI <br> 26 CENERAL PLACE <br> JERICHO，NY 11753 | foun Pray | － |  | 2 | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | － |  |  |  |  | － |  |  | （1） | 199 |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { CAL KIT. INC. } \\ & \text { PO \& OX } 870 \\ & \text { SEBASTOPOL.CA } 95472 \end{aligned}$ | Ping．pongtronics |  | － | 4 | 2 |  |  | － | － |  |  | － | － |  |  | （12） | － | （12） | － |  | （5） | （3） | 55 | （2）（1） |
| CHANNEL MASTER <br> ELLENVILLE NY 12428 | CHALLENGER | － |  | 4 | 2 |  | － |  |  |  |  |  |  | － |  |  |  | － |  |  | 61 |  | 80 | DID NOT REPLY toinouiay |
| COLECD IMOUSTRIES，INC． 945 ASYLUM AVE HARTFORD．CT 06105 | 6090 TELSTAATM | － |  | 3 | 2 |  | － |  | － |  |  |  | － | － |  | － | － |  | － | － | 01 | － | 60 | （9） |
|  | TELSTAATM Classic | － |  | 3 | 2 |  | － | － | － |  |  |  | － | － |  | － | － |  | － | － | 0.1 | － | 70 | （9） |
| CONTINENTAL MICROSYSTEMS．INC． 11347 VANOWENST <br> NORTH HOLIVWODD．CA 91609 | vasb bang | － |  | 4 | 2 |  | － |  |  | － | － | － | － | － |  | － | － | － |  | － | 01 |  | 10 | （9） |
|  | vacc bang | － |  | 4 | 2 | － | － |  |  | － | － | － | － | － |  | － | － | － |  | $\bullet$ | 61 |  | 90 | （9） |
|  | vaccs bamg | － |  | 6 | 4 | － | － | ， |  | － | － | － | － | － |  | － | － | － |  | － | mos |  | 110 | （9） |
| DYN <br> 3095 NW 77h AVE MIAMI．FL 33122 | padole．foum | － |  | 4 | 2 |  |  |  |  |  | － |  |  | － |  |  |  |  |  |  | 61 | － | 19 |  |
|  | PAdDLE．SIX | － |  | 6 | 2 |  |  |  |  |  | － |  |  | － |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 124 |  |
| Enterprex intermatiomal corp． 1231 NORTH BROADWAY LOS ANGELES CA 90012 | APOLLD 2001 | － |  | 4 | 2 |  | － | － |  | － |  | － | － | － |  | － | － | － | － | － | 6 | － | 90 | （9） |
| ENTEX <br> 1016 E BURGROVE <br> CARSON．CA 90746 | TELE．PDNG | － |  | 3 | 2 |  |  | － | － |  |  |  | － |  | － | － | － | － | － |  |  | － | 85 |  |
| executive games．inc． DORCHESTER MA 02124 | iv temmis | － |  | 3 | 2 |  |  |  |  |  | － |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | － | － |  | － | 69 | DID NOT REPLY <br> TO INOUIAY |
|  | face－off | － |  | 2 | 2 |  | － | － |  |  | － |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 90 |  |
| FAIRCHILD CAMERA A INST．CDRP． CDNSUMER PAODUCTS GROUP 4001 MIRANDA AVE <br> PALOALTD，CA 94303 | vioeo enter <br> TAINMENT SYSTEM | － |  | 26 | 2 | － |  |  |  |  | － |  |  | － |  |  |  | － |  |  | ${ }^{88}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { under } \\ & 150 \end{aligned}$ | （13）（14） |
| fantasia 1098 RANDOLPH AVE RAHWAY，N J 07063 | fantasia 101 | － |  | 4 | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | － | － |  |  |  |  |  |  | 61 |  | 59 | DIO NOT REPLY TO INQUIRY |
| FIRST DIMENSION CDRP． 708 BERRY RD NASHVILLE TN 37204 | VIDED SPOATS ${ }^{\text {TM }} 76$ | － |  | 4 | 2 |  | － | ， | － |  |  | － | － | － |  |  |  |  |  |  | 61 |  | 69 | （9） |
|  | VIDEO SPORTS ${ }^{\text {TM }}$／6C | － |  | 4 | 2 | － | － | － | － |  |  | － | － | － |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 19 | （9） |
|  | VIDES SPORTS ${ }^{\text {TM MAAKIV }}$ IV | $\bullet$ |  | 3 | 2 | － | － | － |  | － |  |  | － | － |  |  |  | － | － | － | NS |  | 79 |  |
|  | M00EL FD 3000w | $\bullet$ |  | 6 | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | － |  |  |  | － | － | － | － |  |  | 129 | （15） |
| FRIED TRAOING CD． 167 CLYMERST BRDDKLYN，MY 11211 | ghamada | － |  | 4 | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $G$ |  | 79 | DID NOT REPLY TOINOUIRY |
| GLOBAL VIDED IMOUST．LTO． 1818 WESTLAKE AV NOATH SEATTLE WA 98：09 | challenge | － |  | 1 | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | － |  |  | （B） |  | 50－diagonal scheen |
| HEATH CDMPANY <br> BENTDN HARBDR．MI 49022 | GO 1380 SPORTSCREENTM |  | － | 6 | 2 |  | － | － |  | － |  | － | － | － |  | － | － | － |  | （16） | $G 1$ | （8） | 50 | （16）（17）（9） |
| I．E．A． COWNSVIEW ONTARIO．CANADA | teletainment II | － |  | 1 | 2 |  |  | － | － |  |  |  | － |  |  |  | － |  | － |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { INTERFAB } \\ & \text { 27963 CABOT RO } \\ & \text { LAGUNA NIGUEL, CA } 92677 \end{aligned}$ | tiv tennis |  | － | 4 | 2 |  | － | － | － |  | （12） |  | － | － |  | － | － | － |  | － | （5） | （c） | （19） |  |
| IMTERNET LOS ANGELES IADORESS UNKNOWNI | concert hall iv | － |  | 4 | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 19 | TELE－MATCH UNDER Paivate label |
| intersiate indust．，INC I11 SOUTH WAShington blvo MONDELEIN，IL 60060 | Telematch 400 | － |  | 4 | 2 |  | － | － | － |  |  | － | － | － |  | － | － | － | － | － | 01 | － | 70 | （3） |
|  | TElematch 1700 | － |  | 4 | ${ }^{2}$ |  | － | － | － |  |  | － | － | － |  | － | － | － | － | － | G |  | ${ }^{90}$ | oifferent case（9） |
| JADE CD． 2007 W CARSON TDARANCE．CA 90501 | VİEO GAME KIt |  | － | 5 | 2 |  |  | － | － |  |  | － | － | － |  | － | － | － |  | － | （5） | （3） | （18） | 4 SOUNOS 3 PROW＇S |


| COMPARISON CHART - VIDEO GAMES AND KITS (Continued) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| mANUFACTUAER OA DISTRIBUTDA | GAME HAME DR MODEL |  |  |  |  |  |  | paodies/players |  |  |  |  |  |  | balt |  | scorime |  |  | serve |  |  |  |  | Howen |  | 을$\stackrel{y}{3}$$\underline{3}$ |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { motes } \\ \text { MEMAAKS } \end{gathered}$ |
|  |  | 浐 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{array}{\|l} \hline 8 \\ \hline \frac{8}{2} \\ \hline \frac{1}{2} \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \stackrel{\text { x }}{\stackrel{4}{3}} \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $$ | 产 |  |  |  |
| JAMES ELECTRONICS PO B0X 822 BELMONT, CA 94002 | PGOFESSIONAL VIOEO GAME |  | - |  | 4 |  | 4 |  |  | - | - |  |  | - | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - | - |  |  | - | (5) | (8) | (19) | IC'S ASSEMBLEOTO PCB ANO PRE-TESTEO |
| KENDALE TECHNOLOGY B14 PONCE DE LEON BIVD CORAL GABLES, FL 33134 | KEN.TECH 3000 | - |  |  | 3 | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 100 | DIO NOT REPLY TO INOUIAY |
| tloyd's <br> l80 RARITAN CENTER PKwy EDISON NJ 08817 | monte vemde | - |  |  | 6 | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | - |  | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | - | 100 | DID NOT REPLY TOINQUIAY |
|  | Horas | - |  |  | 6 | 7 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | - | , |  | 100 |  |
| 1TA <br> 9615 CDZYCAOFT <br> CHATSWOATH. CA 91311 | homemachine | - |  |  | 4 | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | - |  |  |  |  |  |  | - |  |  |  | (B) | 1995 | IOID NOT REPIYTO INOUIAYIFREESTANDINGSELF.CONTAINEOUMITS. ADDON GAMEMODULES P $\$ 200$ EACH. |
|  | attache case model | - |  |  | 30 | , |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | - |  |  |  | (1) | 3000 |  |
| macmavox <br> 1700 magnavox way FORT WAYNE. IN 46804 | oorssere 100 | - |  |  | 2 | 2 |  |  | - |  | - |  |  |  | - |  |  |  | - | - |  |  | - |  | - | - | - | - | 60 |  |
|  | $00 \mathrm{YSSEY}{ }^{200}$ | - |  |  | 3 | 2 |  |  | - |  | - |  |  |  | - |  |  | - |  | - |  |  | - |  | - | - | - | $\bullet$ | ${ }^{80}$ |  |
|  | OOYSSEY ${ }^{\text {cos }} 300$ | - |  |  | 3 | 2 |  |  | - |  | - |  |  |  | - | - | - |  |  | - |  |  | - |  | - | - | - 61 |  | 70 | (9) |
|  | 00rssere 400 | - |  |  | 3 | 2 |  |  | - | - | - |  |  |  | - | - | - |  |  | - |  |  | - |  | - | - | - |  | 100 | (21) (12) (3) |
|  | ODYSSEY ${ }^{\text {c }} 500$ | - |  |  | 4 | 2 | - |  | - | - | - |  |  |  | - | - | - |  |  | - |  |  | - |  |  | - | Ti |  | 130 | (21) (9) |
|  | MDOEL A 305 | (20) |  |  | 3 | 2 | - |  | - |  | - |  |  | - | - | - | - |  |  | - |  |  | - | - |  | (20) |  | (8) | 500 | (9) ITMTM GAME BUILTM |
| toy cos <br> (AODRESS UNKNOWN) | phaser battle | - |  |  | 1 | , |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | T |  | 40 |  |
| MWCROLECTRONIC SYSTEMS CORP. ONE ELECTRONICS COURT MAOISON MEIGHTS, MI 48071 | RICOCHETM | - |  |  | 4 | 7 | - | - | - |  | - |  |  | - | - | - | - |  |  | - | - | - | - |  | - | - | - 1 | - | 100 | (9) $\begin{gathered}\text { OIO NOT REPLY } \\ \text { TO WOULAY }\end{gathered}$ |
| ```MORSE 101 10 fosterave BROOKLYN NY 11236``` | ELECTROPNONIC SUPER.PRO | - |  |  | ${ }_{5}$ | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | - | - | -61 |  | 99 | OIO MOT REPLY TOINOUIRY |
| NATIONAL SEMCOMDUCTOR CONSUMER PRODUCTS DIV 1177 KERN AVE SUNAYVALE CA 94086 | aoversary | - |  |  | 3 | 7 | - | - | - |  |  | - |  | - |  | - | - |  |  |  | - | - | - |  |  | - | ms |  | ${ }^{9}$ | (23) |
| PHONE MATEINC 325 MAPLE AVE TORRANCE CA 90503 | zonk | - |  |  | 4 | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | ${ }_{6}$ |  | 99 | DGO NOT REPLY <br> TO INQUIRY |
|  | zonk | - |  |  | 6 | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 119 |  |
| DUADTRONICS <br> (ADDRESS UNKNOWN) | MOOEL 0476 | - |  |  | 4 | $?$ | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $G$ | - | 80 |  |
| RADIO SHACK 2617 WEST SEVENTH ST FORT WOATH TX 76107 | TV SCDREB0arotm | - |  |  | 4 | $?$ | - | - | - |  | - |  |  | - | - | - | - |  |  | - | - | - | - |  | - |  | - G1 | - | 100 | (2) Same as ricochet |
| RADOFIN ELECTRDMICS 10 E ENGLEHARD AVE AVENEL, N H 07001 |  | - |  |  | 4 | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | - |  |  |  |  |  | - | - |  |  |  |  |  | $G 1$ |  | 50 | DID NOT REPLY TD IMOUIAY |
| ```SHARK ELECTRONICS ITD 19W S4TH ST \[ \text { NEW YOA', NY Y } 10036 \]``` | mecca | - |  |  | 4 | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $G$ |  | ${ }^{39}$ | oid not reply TO INOUIRY |
| SOUTHWEST TECHNICAL PRDOUCTS 219 WEST AHAPSODY SAN ANTONIO TEXAS 18216 | SPACE WAR GAME |  | - |  | 1 | 2 |  |  | - |  | - |  |  | - |  |  |  |  | - |  | - |  |  |  | - |  | (5) | (1) | 3950 | VIDEO OUPPut oniy |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { TDKYDPHDENIX, INC } \\ & 375 \text { SYIVAN AVE } \\ & \text { ENGLEWOOO CLIFFS. N J } 07632 \end{aligned}$ | MULTI HOME VIDEO games | - |  |  | 4 | 2 |  | - | - |  | - |  |  |  | - | - | - |  |  | - | - | - | - |  | - | - | - 1 | - | ${ }_{80}$ | (23) |
| UMISOMIC PRODUCTS CORP. 1115 BROADWAY <br> NEW YORK. N Y 10010 | tourmament 1000 | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 99 | DIO NOT REPLY TO ImaUIRY |
|  | TOUR MAMENT 2000 | - |  |  | 6 | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | - |  |  |  | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $G$ | - | ${ }^{119}$ |  |
|  | TOUANAMENT 3000 | - |  |  | 6 | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 169 |  |
| UNIVE RSAL RESEARCH LABS, INC. 2501 UNITEOLANE <br> ELK GROVE VILIAGE, IL 60001 | VIOEO ACTIOM IIATM | - |  |  | 3 | 4 |  |  | $\bullet$ |  | - |  |  |  |  |  | - |  |  | - |  | - | - |  |  |  |  | - | 299 |  |
|  | VIOEO ACTIOM IIITM | - |  |  | 3 | 4 | - |  | - |  | - |  |  |  |  | - | - |  |  | - |  | - | - |  | - | - | , | - | 199 | (25) |
|  | VIOEO ACTIOWIUTM | $\bullet$ |  |  | 4 | 4 | - |  | - |  | - |  |  |  |  | - | - |  |  | - |  | - | - |  | - | - | - |  | 100 | (25) (26) |
|  | VIDEO Action game table | - |  |  | 4 | 4 |  |  | - |  | - |  |  |  |  | - | - |  |  | - |  | - | - | - |  | - |  | (8) | 475 | (23) (38) |
|  | VIDED ACTION ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ FACT | (27) |  |  | 1 | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | - |  |  | - | - | - |  | 300 | (20) |
| VIDEDMASTER <br> AMERICAN CONSUMER ELECTRONICS <br> 2' OAEWSTER RD <br> CORNWALL.NY 12518 | vIoEomaster ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ RALIY | - |  |  | 4 | 2 |  |  | - |  | - |  |  |  |  | - |  |  | - |  | - | - |  |  | - |  |  |  | 70 |  |
|  | VIDEOMASTERTM OLYMPIC | - |  |  | 1 | 2 |  |  | - |  | - |  |  |  |  | - |  |  | - |  | - | - |  |  | - |  |  |  | 100 |  |
|  | VIoEomastertM G000 | - |  |  | 6 | 2 |  | - | - |  |  | - |  |  |  | - | - |  |  | - |  | - | - |  | - |  | 61 |  | 150 |  |
| VISULEX <br> P0 0 80 4204 <br> MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA 94040 | SUPER SMASH |  | - |  | 2 | 2 |  | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | - | - |  |  | - |  | - | - |  |  | - |  |  | (19) | (2) COMPLETETNFOIN (7) AUEUSULYAND ISSUES OF RAOIO. (12) ELECTRONICS |
| (1) bulloer determines player controls <br> (2) IC'S \& PC boardos offered see text <br> (3) SCORES UP TO 99 POINTS EACH <br> (4) 7 MORE PONG OPTION PLANS $\$ 7$ EXTRA <br> (5) oiscreteics useo see text <br> (6) SWitches arf used fde player conthols <br> (7) FORAOVANCEDBUILDERS ONIY <br> (8) FCC Approval not hequired SEETEXT <br> (9) three different sounos seetext |  |  |  | 10$(11)$$(12)$$(13)$$(14)$15$(16)$111$(18)$$(19)$ |  |  | POWER SOURCE IS BUILDER'S OPTION <br> GI OA MPS CHIP USED <br> options available. see text <br> replaceable cartrioges program <br> ELAPSED TIME DISPLAYED <br> BOUNOARIES AOJUSTABLE <br> RIFLE AVAILABLE EARLY 1977 <br> WRES DIRECTIY TD HEATHKIT IV'S <br> DRAWS POWER FRDN TVSET <br> seE TEXT |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | CR | opro | OCES |  |  |  |  | $38$ | GAME BUILTIN TO COLOR TV SET WALL CENTER CONTROL TENNIS-DOLBLES SWITCH SOUND THRUTV RIFLE INCI UOED Variable robot skill roáo race game included educational game INCLUDES 2 CARTAIDGES |  |  |  |  |  |  |

the antenna switch to the TV: connecting the twin lead from the antenna switch to any television antenna or cable TV outlet: or attaching loose wires to your TV antenna terminals when the antenna switch is connected to your TV.

## The kit builder

The necessity of FCC approval affects the consumer by cutting down the number of available choices-but there are still plenty to choose from and they are quickly and easily attached to the TV. legally. For the hobbyist or experimenter. however. who likes to "roll his own" from plans or a kit. the problem is that no units are sold in kit form with oscillator parts. The instructions might show a modulated oscillator circuit. however. and the builder finds himself in a dilemma: Readily available circuits in radio handbooks show typical VHF oscillators that he can build from easily obtained standard parts-but if he does so. he may be violating FCC regulations regarding transmission frequency or allowable radiated energy. It takes relatively sophisticated test equipment and procedures to assure compliance with FCC requirements.
(without the peripherals) is more expensive than the dedicated IC. but is far more flexible and versatile. It can be programmed to perform innumerable functions-it can even play chess! A dedicated IC is limited to a particular set of instructions that are established when it is made. Because of the wide-ranging capabilities of the microprocessor. a broad spectrum of game complexities can be introduced to the user.

A number of manufacturers are taking a "let's wait and see" attitude before committing themselves heavily to this largely-seasonal market. RCA and Rockwell International. usually in the forefront of new consumer electronic devices. have apparently chosen to watch others fight it out this year in the marketplace while they keep some exotic designs on the back burner under tight wraps. Fairchild. however. has taken the proverbial bull by the horns and bypassed current dedicated IC's to jump right into a system built around their F8 microprocessor! In Fairchild’s Video Entertainment System. programming will be done by slip-in cartridges to be issued regularly-kind of a "game-of-the-month" plan.


A way out of this dilemma is offered by ATV Research (13th and Broadway. Dakota City. NE 6873i). They offer the model PXV-2A Pixe-Verter transistorized oscillator in kit form for $\$ 8.50$ postpaid. This kit has been on the market for over 10 vears with a perfect record for not causing interference when properly assembled in a metal box (or within existing shielded equipment) and operated according to the instructions. It is built on a printed-circuit board that contains a foil outputinductor: the builder selects operation on TV Channels 2 through 6 by tapping into the appropriate turn of this printedcircuit coil with a jumper.

A home-made antenna switch could also violate FCC regulations. If you are looking for a switch that has a very low insertion loss and meets the $60-\mathrm{dB}$ isolation requirement of the FCC. consider the one made by Manu-Tronics. Kenosh. Wisconsin. This switch is sold by Atari dealers as a game accessory and is also available from Sears Roebuck as an Extra Antenna Switch. catalog No. 6-99726. \$9.95.

## Technology

While a few die-hards (mostly kit manufacturers or plan sources) still use individual IC's. most game manufacturers this vear used dedicated $1 C^{\prime}$ s-IC's designed specifically to perform game functions. General Instruments (GI). National Semiconductor (NS). MOS Technology. American Microsystems Inc. (AMI) and some others offer dedicated IC's. But many industry observers feel that the demand for these games will dwindle unless more variety and sophisticated game formats are offered. Enter the microprocessor. ideally suited for this purpose!

The microprocessor. really a minicomputer on a chip


It seems probable that the market for the higher-priced but much-more-challenging microprocessor units will grow. while the present-day units will end up in toy departments.

## Comparison chat

The Chart shows many features of the video games that were surveved. A blank space in the chart does not necessarily mean that game does not have the listed feature. since information on some units was very limited. Since the terminology associated with these games may be new to many readers. explanations of some of the column headings are in order.

Number of Games: In the original Odysser TV game. plastic overlays fit over the TV screen to establish playing boundaries. and 12 games could be plaved. All the units in this survev. however use electronic borders for each game. Some borders may be off the screen. or not displayed. but they are there electronically. Most units offer a variety of games by just operating a switch. This sets the circuitry for the appropriate borders. paddles. hall and scoring sequence for the selected game. Some games are identical. but manufacturers assign them different names: for example, 2-plaver Handball seems to be identical to Squash: 1-player against the machine may be called Solitaire. Robot. Pelota. Automatic. I-player Handball or Cybernetic-mode! Similarly. Target Shoot and Rifle are the same.

Number of Players: This is intended to mean the number of people who have individual controls. On some games. although 4 paddles may appear on the screen. they move in pairs and only two controls are available-these are listed as 2player games.

Color Display：All games can be used on either color or black－and－white TV receivers or monitors．Some．indicated by a dot in this column．produce a color display on a color TV． This may be colored borders，paddles and hall．or different colored scoring digits．or different colored playing fields．or a ＂light show＂between games（Atari）．or a rainbow color pattern（Video Action）．or some combination of these．
Paddles／Players：Promotional literature uses the term ＂plavers＂almost interchangeably with＂paddles＂and＂bats＂． On this chart．this refers to the controlled images．Confusion arises here because some new games actually display shaped figures on the screen．such as a shark．diver．fish．tennis player．racing car．tank or airplane．The majority of games． however．simply display small rectangles that are usually called paddles．To make the game easier for beginners paddle size on some games is controllable and may be made larger to make a＂hit＂less difficult．A dot in this column means the game either has a switch or a potentiometer available to the plavers to change paddle size－internal adjustments are not considered．
or marker to be moved by the players after each miss）and later units used marks or bars on the screen to indicate score． Most units now display the score for each player in digital numbers on the screen－some continuouslv，others only after a miss．Constant on－screen digital scoring is the most practical unless it takes up too much of the playing field．If the scoring appears outside the playing boundaries as it does on the Interliab unit．it poses no problem．Usually 15 is＂game＂．after which the paddles disappear and the ball randomly bounces around the court until a resfit button is pushed．

Serve：Most units serve the ball automatically．The hall is served to one of the players at the start of a game and is re－ served after a miss to the one that last missed．Some games are strictly manual serve－you press a button to serve the ball：this allows you to take time nut or to keep score if scoring is not automatic．Some games have a switch to allow you to select manual or automatic serve

Automatic Play：This is a desireable feature for two reasons：It permits you to sharpen your skill with practice and it allows you to play aganst the game when you don＇t have a


All games offer vertical paddle control with either a knoh that turns．or a slide－lever－both of which．of course．are potentiometers．The more sophisticated games provide a means of controlling horizontal movement as well．and some of these offer a joystick to allow control of both vertical and horizontal movement together！

The lower－priced games have all the controls and switches on a single console．so the plavers must be right at the console to play．Wired－remote controls are simply controls at the end of cables allowing the plavers to be nore confortable and relaxed－they can even play from an easy chair．Wireless remote controls may be offered in the future

Ball Control：Even some of the most inexpensive games． because of the flexibility of the IC．offer switches to control ball speed and deffection to make the game tougher as you become more skilled．Normally．the paddles return a hit ball at some angle（called＂english＂by the ad men）unless it is hit with the center of the paddle．in which case it is returned straight back．This gives the player a degree of control in trying to outplay the opponent．A dot in the Deflection Variable column means that the game has a switch to change these return angles．
Some games have circuits that cause the ball to speed－up automatically after a certain number of＂hits＂in a volley．The Interfab unit has a random！variable speed－the ball can speed up at any time．for anv single shot－which is most realistic．A dot in the＂Speed Variable＂column means that either the ball speed changes automatically in some manner． or the players can control the speed with a switch or a pot．

Scoring：Early units used manual techniques（a scoring dial

playmate．In this mode．you play against the machine＇s usually－infallible electronic brain－so you＇ll probably lose！ Some games have a control to adjust the skill level in automatic play．If you build a kit．you can make the machine sluggish（see Interfab text）so you have a chance to win．A few units allow you to set up the machine controls so it will play a game against itself－which is interesting to watch and great for demonstration purposes if vou＇re selling these games．

Sound：Virtually all the units provide sound through a built－in speaker rather than through the TV audio．This allows you to turn the TV audio off completely．so there is no hum or background noise．Also．games with built－in sound will ＂heep＂while they＇re turned on．even if the TV is turned off． so there＇s no need for a game pilot light．Since most of the games are battery－operated．this can be important．Some games have different sounds for the ball hitting a houndary． the ball hitting the paddle．and the paddle missing the ball．

Monitor Built－In：Commercial units and some expensive home units have the video game connected directly to a video monitor，thus eliminating the need for FCC approval since the video is not modulating an RF output．One company．Magna－ vox．offers a 19 －inch color TV with a video game built－in！ Heath has avoided the necessity for FCC approval by providing instructions for its Sportscreen game to be wired directly into any solid－state Heathkit TV．thus using the TV as a video monitor．

FCC Approved：A blank in this column does not mean the FCC has rejected the game．When the information in this chart was compiled．many units were still pending approval and some had still not applied for approval．Some manufac－
continued on page 84


> A new twist has been added to television in the form of large-screen projection systems for the home. Here's a look at the systems that are currently available
 der for the concumer market by industry experts as recently as three vears ago the big-screen home television projector has swept past the video tape recorder and the videodise to become todays hottest new product.

An estimated 20.000 to 30.000 hometype television projection svstems were sold in 1975. though admittedly the bulk of them went into taverns. discos and the like. Indications are that upwards of 50.000 will he sold in 1976 as the developing industry gears up to a claimed 100.000 -unit annual production rate. With retail list prices averaging in the $\$ 1.000-\$ 2.000$ range it's ohvious that projection television is quickly moving into the big leagues.

## Early Projection TV

This is the second go around for video

## ROBERT GERSON

projectors. Home video projectors came on the market at the verv start of the current televicion craze in 1946. Most used the Protelgram 2.25-inch projection tube made by North American Philips to throw a somewhat murkey picture on a then-giant 25 -inch screen. The screen was giant compared with the 7.10 and 15 -inch direct-view sets available at the time. The price for those projectors was about the same as is heing charged today. that is in the $\$ 900$ to $\$ 1.500$ range. Incidentally. the prices for the small-screen monochrome direct-view sets. $\$ 300$ to $\$ 1.000$ for name brands. was about what the current-model color TV sets bring. Output of projection TV models peaked in 1948 at 18.500 . North American Philips announced it was doubling tube production for 1949. hut
it needn't have bothered. That year the direct-view 19 -inch picture tube hecame available in quantity for the first time and demand for the projection sets dwindled to virtually nothing.

From then until 1971. when Advent announced plans to market a home projection unit for $\$ 2.500$. video projectors existed as high-priced ( $\$ 15.000$-andup) curiosities relegated to use in theatres and at conventions. Experimental hig-screen television sets were to be found in the research lahs of most major television manufacturers. Among the more interesting were Zenith's three-laser projector (ahandoned hecaluse of enormous power consumption) and Sonvs eight-foot computer-controlled lighthulh displav. Both units were shown late in 1968.

While the Advent projector revived interest in home projectors, it was


GIANT SCREEN TV models VM－1（left），VM－2 （right rear），and VM－3（right＇ront）．


SONY model KP－4000
considered to be too expensive for consumer use and its trio of special Schnidt optical projection tubes were not deemed suitable for mass produc－ tion．The start of the current market growth can be traced to the 1972 demonstration by Sony of a projector using a single high－output Trinitron as a light source．This was followed in 1974 by a demonstration by Shannon Com－ munications of New York of a svstem that threw an acceptable（in a darkened room）picture on a seven－foot screen using a special lens mounted on a stan－ dard Sony Trinitron color television．

That opened the flood gates．By the end of the vear a dozen companies had entered the field－some were dedicated pioneers planning to help write a new chapter in the history of television． others quick－dollar artists．Units avail－ able ranged in price from $\$ 2.750$ for the


PROJECTION ELECTRONICS model 351－SI


CONTROLS．Advent model 750

Advent to the $\$ 19.95$ a mail－order house charged for a plastic lens mounted in a cardboard box that．the marketer said． should be placed in front of an upside－ down television set．

## Today＇s systems

Today more than two dozen compa－ nies are known to be active in home video projectors，and there may be an equal number of local svstem huilders． All of the models on the market todav use light－amplifying Kodak or $3 \dot{M}$ screens．Except for the higher priced projectors that use three cathode rat or Schmidt optical tubes（one for each color）．virtually all the units use stan－ dard color television sets as the picture source．

The most expensive of the latter is Theatervision from Worldwide Enter－ tainment Svstems．Inc．The complete


MUNTZ ELECTRONICS


PRCJECTION LENSES，Advent model 750
svstem is housed in a furniture－styled highboy and uses mirrors and lenses to direct the light from the conventional receiver located in the base to the top－ mounted screen．The less costly versions have a lens mounted on the front of a television recejver and a separate screen． The quality of the picture provided by the two－piece models varies from acceptable to terrible．

The coming of the home video projector age has created both a black market in the sale of television sets and concern about safety at the Food and Drug Administration．Television manu－ facturers and importers have generally refused to sell receivers directly to projector marketers．They say their sets weren＇t designed for such use and caution that operating them in cabinets without adequate ventilation could be dangerous．They also don＇t like the idea

| Company | Model | Pieces | $\begin{gathered} \text { Screen Size } \\ \text { (in.) } \end{gathered}$ | Picture Source | Retail | Comments |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Advent Corp. <br> 195 Albany St. <br> Cambridge, MA 02139 | VideoBeam 1000A | 2 | $52 \times 69$ | 3 tubes, Schmidt optics | \$3.995 up |  |
|  | VideoBeam 750 | 2 | $41 \times 60$ | 3 tubes, diffraction op. | 2.495 | Remote control |
| Glant Screen TV, Inc. 308 N. Minn. St. New UIm. MN 56073 | VM-1 | 2 | $32 \times 40$ | TV set | 1.995 | Floor standing |
|  | VM-2 | 1 | $32 \times 40$ | TV sel | 1.995 | Floor standing |
|  | VM-3 | 2 | $32 \times 40$ | TV set | 1.695 | Ceiling or Floor |
|  | VM-4 | 2 | $32 \times 40$ | TV set | 1.995 | Wireless Remote |
| Creative Oplics 6733 Variel Ave. Canoga Park. CA 91303 | Tele-D Theatre | 1 | $32 \times 40$ | 15" Sony remote | 2.950 | 'Teledimension" depth effect |
| Cygnus Video Systems 5750 Rymark Court Indianapolis. IN 42650 | CV-1750 | 2 | $32 \times 40$ | 17''Sony | 1.399 |  |
| Electrohome Lid. <br> 809 Wellington St. N Kitchener, ON. Canada | VideoBeam 750 | 2 | $41 \times 60$ | 3 tubes, diffraction op. | 3.500 | Same sel as Advent |
| General Equipment Corp. 1401 N. Kraemer Blvd. Anaheim, CA 92806 | - | 1 | $32 \times 40$ | 17" Zenith | 1.995 |  |
|  | - | 1 | $41 \times 60$ | 17" Zenith | 2.595 |  |
| Global Video Ind. 1818 Westiake Ave. N. Seattle. WA 98109 | BB7600 | 1 | $30 \times 40$ | 17" Zenith remote | 1.995-2.295 | Rear projection |
| Keyser Video Inc. 2537 Wilmington Pk. Dayton. OH 45419 | Eye-Beam KVI-1 | 2 | $32 \times 40$ | 13' Toshiba | 1.495 | Ceiling mount |
|  | Eye-Beam KVI-2 | 1 | $32 \times 40$ | 13"' Tosniba | 1.595 | Console |
|  | Eye-Beam KVI-3 | 1 | $32 \times 40$ | 13" Toshiba | 3.495 | Includes VTR |
|  | - | - | $40 \times 54$ | - | - | Optional screen |
|  | - | - | $60 \times 80$ | - | - |  |
| Melody Music Co. 2286 Fowler St. <br> Fi. Myers, FL 33901 | Cine Vision | 1 | $32 \times 40$ | 15" Sharp or MGA | 1.195 |  |
|  | - | 1 | $32 \times 40$ | 15" Sony remote | 1.295 |  |
|  | - | 1 | $32 \times 40$ | none | 895 | kit |
| Miaml Projection TV 304 N.E. 79 St. <br> Miami. FL 33138 | - | 2 | $32 \times 40$ | none | 325 | kit |
|  | - | 2 | $32 \times 40$ | 13' Toshiba | 725 |  |
|  | - | 2 | $60 \times 84$ | 3 tubes \& lenses | - |  |
| Muntz Electronics <br> Van Nuys. CA 91406 | Earl Muntz Signature | 1 | $32 \times 40$ | 15" Sony remote | 1,395 |  |
| New Products Co. 27 Devon Court Maple Shade. NJ | 501 -C | 2 | $35 \times 40$ | single tube | 1.595 | Ceiling mount |
|  | 501-B | 2 | $35 \times 40$ |  | 1.795 | Floor model |

that most sets used for projection have their yoke leads reversed to provide the required inverted picture. All of this. they say. voids the terms of the factory warranty. Projection companies get around this. however, by buying from understanding distributors, reps and retailers who agree in advance to look the other way when a modified set is brought in for a warranty repair.

For the Food and Drug Administration. the problem is more serious. The agency's Bureau of Radiological Health (BRH) is disturbed by reports that some projector companies are increasing the high-voltage supply to the picture tube to generate a brighter picture. This. and other modifications. BRH fears, could cause some sets to emit X-radiation in excess of Federal standards. Also start-

ing to worry about the effects of modifications are the Federal Communications Commission. which enforces standards for incidental RF radiation emissions, and Underwriters' Laboratories. which certifies receivers for compliance with salety standards.
Of the companies active in the field today only two-Sony and Canada's Electrohome-are also active television manufacturers. and even their role is limited. Sony admits it's doing little more than maintaining a presence in the market. while Electrohome is acting as a supplier and marketer for Advent. But this may be temporary. Admiral and Magnavox have video projector development efforts underway and may demonstrate them before the year is out. Zenith is known to have supported

DIRECTORY OF HOME PROJECTION－TV SYSTEMS

| Company | Model | Pleces | $\begin{gathered} \text { Screen Size } \\ \text { (in.) } \end{gathered}$ | Picture Source | Retail | Comments |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Projecta－Vision，Inc． 444 Brickell Ave Miami．FL 33131 | － | 2 | $34 \times 40$ | 15．RCA | 1.495 | Larger screens avallable |
| Projection Electronics Co． 306 N．E． 79 St． <br> Miami，FL 33138 | 351－SI | 2 | $50^{\prime \prime}$ diagonal |  | 1.295 |  |
| Projection Systems Inc． 517 Van Houten Ave． Passaic．NJ 07055 | PSI Cinevision | 2 | $75 \times 100$ | 3 tubes，Schmidt | 4.995 |  |
|  | － | 2 | － | 3 tubes，diffraction | 1，200－1．300 |  |
| PM Systems Corp． 3303 Harbor Blva． Cosia Mesa．CA 92626 | Cinema IV | 1 | $27 \times 36$ | 15＂Sony | 1.795 |  |
|  | Cinema IV Mod．CR | 1 | $32 \times 40$ | 15＂Sony | 1.995 | Folding－screen |
| Shannon Communications 49 E ．68th St． <br> New York．NY 10021 | － | 2 | $52 \times 69$ | TV set | － |  |
| Sony Corp．of America 9 W．57th St． <br> New York．NY 10019 | KP－4000 | 1 | $24 \times 32$ | special 12＂Sony | 2.500 |  |
| Spectra－Vue 395 South Pitcher St． Kalamazoo，MI 49006 | 1200 |  | $30 \times 40$ | TV set |  | Ceiling mount aval． |
|  | 2000 |  | $40 \times 54$ |  |  | Remote Control |
|  | 4000 |  | $54 \times 72$ |  |  |  |
|  | 5000 |  | $60 \times 80$ |  |  |  |
| Sunyet TV，Inc． 21630 McNichols Rd Detron？．MI | － | 2 | $40 \times 40$ | single tube |  | Expandable screen |
| Superscreen TV Inc． <br> 101 Park Ave． <br> New York．NY 10017 | － | 1 | $32 \times 40$ | TV set |  |  |
|  | － | 2 | $32 \times 40$ | TV set |  |  |
| Tandom Enterprises 2323 Bluemound Rd Waukesha．WI 53186 | VP－2 | 2 | $32 \times 40$ | 13 ＇Quasar | 1.595 |  |
|  | － | 2 | $32 \times 40$ | $13^{\prime}$ Quasar | 1.795 | Video input |
| Tape Head Co． 665 S．State St Salt Lake City．UT 84111 | TLB－1000 | 2 | n．a． | nore | 400 | Kıt |
| Tele－Theatre Lawrenceburg．IN 47025 | － | ！ | $30 \times 40$ | 12＂Sony | 1．695－3．495 |  |
|  | － | 2 | $42 \times 56$ | n a． |  |  |
| Video－1 Inc． 1401 Brickell Ave． Miami，FL 33131 | Magna－Video | 1 | $32 \times 40$ | 13＇Toshıba | 2．000－2．500 |  |
|  | － | 2 | $52 \times 69$ | 13＂Toshiba | 2.600 |  |
| Worldwide Entertainment Systems 1148 Taft St． <br> Rockville，MD 20850 | WES－76．77． 78 | 1 | $32 \times 40$ | 15＂Sony | 1，295－1，995 |  |
|  | Stereovision | 1 | $32 \times 40$ | 15＂Sony | 2.495 | Stereo sound |
|  | Megavision | 2 | $41 \times 60$ | 15＂Sony | 2.695 |  |
|  | － | 2 | 8 －ft．diag | 3－tube Schmidt | 3.495 |  |

research on the manufacture of an inex－ pensive plastic Fresnel lens that．if it works．could cut the price of a two－piece projection system in half．

## Future trends

There is a general feeling in the industry that a conventional picture tube will never prove to be an adequate picture source for a projector．and research on more esoteric systems continues．General Electric is working on a low－cost version of the Ligh Valve projection tube now used in professional projectors．Hughes Aircraft has pro－ duced a liquid crystal television cockpit display for fighter planes and is now trying to adapt the device for use as a video projector light modulator．In Florida．William Glenn who heiped


SUPER LENS Irom Miami Projection TV has a 12－inch local length and an aperture of 12．8．It comes $\$ 195.00$ with mounting ring．
develop G－F＇s Light Valve is attempt－ ing to make a solid－state projector using
a charge－coupled device to deform a thin membrane that in turn would refract a beam of light．The principle is the same as that used in the Light Valve and Swiss－made Eidophor projectors that refract light off an oil laver modulated by an electron heam．

Of course by the time any of the more promising new systems is ready for market we may already have giant flat－ screen video systems using one of the light－emitting diode displays．gas－ discharge or electro－luminescent panels now being worked on in laboratories around the world．One thing seems likel！though．With all the effort and money being expended．giant－screen video will be as commonplace as pock－ etable television hefore the end of the next decade．

R－E

Last month. part 1 discussed single- and dual-slope analog-to-digital conversion techniques.

This month. we look at the voltage-tofrequency converter and discuss how voltage. current and resistance measurements are made using an analog-to-digital converter.

## The V-F converter

As the name implies, this converter produces a frequency directly proportional to voltage. A simple digital frequency-counter may then be used for the counting and display circuits

The V-F converter is a wide range. highly linear. voltage controlled oscillator (VCO). A typical dynamic range for the VCO might be 10 Hz to 100 kHz . or 10.000 to 1 . Figure 7 shows a block diagram of a converter designed to cover such a range linearly. The hasic blocks consist of an integrator, a widerange but not linear VCO. a clock (oscillator) of known frequency to serve as a time reference. a logic circuit that generates a pulse of precisely known width for each cycle of the VCO. and a precision switched voltage reference source that. upon command from the logic circuit. generates a pulse of precise amplitude for the duration of the logic signal. The polarity of the unknown voltage must be opposite to that of the voltage reference.

When a negative unknown voltage is applied to the input. the output voltage of the integrator begins to increase. The frequency generated by the internal VCO then begins to increase also. As the VCO begins to generate signals. the logic circuit begins to generate switching signals. These pulses. produced by the voltage reference source and the logic circuit. are of precise amplitude and width. Each pulse therefore. represents a well * Manager Design Engineering. Heath Co., Benton Harbor. MI
defined amount of energy
The output of the integrator is a functorn of the average of the total energs at the input So long as the average encrgy in the pulses is less than that in the unknown voltage. the output voltage of the integrator continues to rise. If the total energy in the pulses is greater than that in the unknown voltage. the output voltage of the integrator decreases. And. os course, if the energy of the pulses is exactly equal to the energy in the unknown signal. then the output voltage of the integrator remains at the voltage which causes the VC( to generate pulses at a given rate.

Calibrating this converter consists of adjusting either the width or the height of the pulse so the generated frequency is directly related to the unknown voltage. The $V(C)$ frequency is now directly proportional to the voltage applied to the input of the integrator.
and therefore mav be measured with a digital frequenes meter.

One advantage of this form of analog-todigital conversion is its ability to reject nome liirst. the integrator itself provider a sifable amount of filtering. as it acts as a low-pass filter. Second. the gate interval (tine) of the digital frequeney neter may be made equal to an integral multiple of the period of an interfering signal. and so average out any noise. In other words, the frequency meter itself can act as an integrator. The normalmode rejection to line frequency interference is exceptionally high.

A second advantage is also due to the integrating feature. As a true integrator. the total number of output pulses represent. the area contained under the curve of a varying input signal over the gate interval. For example. the area under a curve must be


FIG. 7-BLOCK DIAGRAM OF A VOLTAGE-TO-FREQUENCY CONVERTER. The converter balances when the energy contained in the precise pulse generated by the pulse width logic and the relerence voltage ( $E_{\text {qEF }}$ ) is exactly equal and opposite to the energy in the unknown signal ( $E_{\mathrm{x}}$ ). The amount of balancing energy is regulated by controlling the frequency of the pulses.


FIG．8－BASIC DC VOLTMETER USING A／D CONVERTER AS THE MOVEMENT，and a high－ impedance input bufter with an input voltage divider．Resistance values shown should yield a 10 － megohm input impedance and a voltmeter with full－scale ranges from 100 mV to 1,000 volts．


FIG．9－THE AC INPUT CIRCUIT FOR A DIGITAL MULTIMETER．Compensating capacitors have been added to the voltage divider of Fig． 8 to extend operation into the 10 to $50-\mathrm{kHz}$ range．The operational rectilier is used with DMM＇s to ellminate the low－voltage conversion errors of the simple AC rectifiers used with the analog type of meter．
measured．One common method of doing that is to plot the variable either by hand or on a strip－chart recorder and then count the number of squares contained under the curve．A second method is to use an inte－ grating voltmeter．The $\mathrm{V}-\mathrm{F}$ converter fits this application well．The only change from the voltmeter described earlier is that the gate interval of the digital frequeney counter is now controlled by the user．To mathe the measurements，the user counts pulses from the V＇F converter over the desired period． The displayed number on the digital counter represents the area under the curve．
A third reason for the popularity of this converter is its adaptability to a digital counting instrument．There are no require－ ments for special werrange circuits．etc．For some time the V－F converter also repre－ sented the thtinate in accuracy：however，the dual－slope converter has taken this lead at the moment．

The basic analog－to－digital converter is not a complete DMM（digital multimeter）．any －more than a simple D（ analog meter move－ ment is a VOM．Other circuits must be added to provide the functions of ranging．$A C$ to I）（ conversion，current measurement，and resistance measurement．Many of these circuits are common to those used with the analog multimeter hut a lew of them take on special aspects when they are applied to the DMM．

## DC voltage measurement

I）C voltage measurement is relatively
simple if an A D converter with the autopo－ larity or polarity indication is available．Fig． 8 shows the simple addition of a precision voltage divider and a high input impedance unity－gain amplifier．The precision voltage divider reduces high voltages oo they match the allowable input range of the converter． The input amplifier must have a high enough input impedance not to load the divider．have low noise，high gain stability and low drift，if this is not taken care of by an auto zero circuit．

The voltage divider usually presents an input impedance of either one or 10 megohms．It must have high precision．which can be obtained with precision resistors． hybrid circuits（frequently employed when the divider accuracy exceeds $0.25^{\circ}$ or so）or a trimmed valtage divider when the utmost accuracy is desired．The hasic valtage range of the converter dictates the minimum range of the DMM，unless an amplifier with gain is placed before the converter．Mos converters have a sensitivity of either one volt or 100 millivolts．

## $A C$ voltage measurements

AC voltage measurements start with the voltage divider．Many DMM＇s use the same voltage divider for the AC and DC measure－ ments．AC use requires the divider to be compensated for stray capacitances．which may be shunting the divider string．The capacitive division ratio must be the same ratio as the resistive ratio，or the division differs as the measurement frequency is
increased．Such a compensated divider is shoun in Fig． 9.

Atro shown in Fig． 9 is the buffer amplitier and an example of an $A(10$ I）（ converter． This circuit is called the operational rectifier． The AC signal is fed to an operational amplitier．On positive half eycles．leedback to the－input of the amplifier is made through DI and RI．The gain is determined by the ratio of RI to R4．The forward voltage drop of the diode is effectively eliminated by the high open－loop gain of the operational amplifier．This high gain allows the output to slew rapidly，driving the diode into conduc－ tion．Once it conducts，the output amplitude is controlled by R1 and R4．The output signal from the rectifier is tiltered by RS and C2 to provide a steady D（ signal for the $A / D)$ conmerter．On negative half cyeles，the feed－ back path is provided by D2 and R2： however．no voltage is contributed to the output．R3 provides D（ stability during no－ signal conditions．The handwidth of this converter depends on the bandwidth of the operational amplitier．

## Current measurements

Current is usually measured in the DMM by the same technique as in analog meters－ by shunts．The DMM has an advantage over the simple VOMI，as the shunts often have a lower voltage drop．permitted by a voltmeter of $1(4)$ millivolts full scale．Shunts are used for both AC and DC measurements．As with many other sections of the DMAN．the accuraty requirements for some of the components becomes much greater than required with a VOM．In the analog multi－ meter．a 1 fourrent shunt may have been quite adequate．With a DMM．shunt toler－ ance may need to be nearer $0.1^{r}$ ．

An alternative to IDC eurrent neasurement by wunts is shown in Fig．10．This current measuring technique is a sort of inverse of the potentiometer method of measuring voltage－no voltage drop is required to make the meanurement．as no current is required to measure voltage by the potentiometer tech－ nique．

The unknown current is applied to the summing junction the upper or minus terminal in Fig．10）of a high－gain opera－ tional amplifier．Negative feedhack keeps this ierminal near zero soltage．To maintain this zero voltage at the terminal when current is applied．the amplitier output voltage has to generate through the reedhack resistors a second current equal to the current at the input．This output volage dactually the voltage drop across the feedback resistor）is therefore directly proportional to the current at the summing junction．so the A［） converter can be made to read directly in terms of current．

With this form of measurement．the input imperlance is extremely low．as the current applied to the input simply flows on through the feedback resistor，and there is no voltage drop

The disadvantage is that the measurement circuit must be able to supply a current equal to that being measured．The circuit therefore becomes impractical bevond a few hundred milliamperes．A second limitation is that the technique is applicable to D）（ measurements only．

## Resistance measurements

Tre conventional analog multimeter usual－


FIG. 10-AN OPERATIONAL CURRENT-TO-VOLTAGE CONVERTER FOR DC measurements with a DMM. Circuit provides a near-zero voltage drop across the input terminals and offers almost no impedance to the current being measured. The resistances shown would yield full-scale values of 100 A ( $1,000 \mathrm{ohms}$ ), 1 mA ( 100 ohms ) and 10 mA ( 10 ohms ) for a converter with 100 mV basic sensitivity.


FIG. 12-CONSTANT-CURRENT SOURCES. a-Posilive current source using a PNP Iransistor. b-Constant-current source using an N-channel junction FET and an operational amplifier.
ly applies an internal voltage to an internal resistance and the external unknown resistance in series. The meter has a specially calibrated nonlinear sate, which converts the voltage across the unknown resintance to a resistance reading. Nonlincar scales are very difficult to convert into digital readings: therefore a different technique is emploved in the DMM. A constant-current source generate the test signal to be passed through the unknown resistance. A constant current of known value develops a voltage across the unknown resistor directly proportional to its
resistance. The voltage is measured and displayed as resistance. Such a measurement system is shown in Fig. 11. The circuits used for the constant-current source may be cither discrete (Fig. 12-a) or the operational type (Fig. 12-b).

The constant-current resistance measurement technique has a few special characteristics. First. the open-circuit voltage is rather high. often a few volts. Unless specially designed. they forward-hias semiconductor junctions. Second. as the current ranges must be the same number of decades as the resist-


FIG. 11-RESISTANCE MEASUREMENT with a DMM. The $1-\mathrm{mA}, 100-\mu \mathrm{A}$ and $10-\ldots \mathrm{A}$ current sources give full-scale resistance ranges of 100 ohms, 1,000 ohms and 10,000 ohms with a 100 . mV converter.
ance ranges the high-resistance ranges use low currents. A small current charging a capacitance takes time: high resistance ranges tend to be slow responding. These types of meters are used most often with upper limits at about 20 megohms.

## Auto-ranging

One of the more desirable features of the DMM is almost hands-free operation in comparison to its analog partner. The autoranging DMM is even easser to use. Special circuitry is added to the consentional DMM to sequence the instrument until the displa! is all but oserranged. The techniques for attoranging vars, and involve both electronic and electromechanical methods. Generally. the instruments do not autorange high current ranges. but provide the user with two shunts. for example, then autorange the voltmeter about the selected shunt.

## Specifications

There would seem to be little to specify on the digital multimeter once the functions. ranges. and accuracies are known. Unfortunately. unlike the simple analog multimeter. the DMM is specitied extensively. Mans of the variations from DMM on DMM are the subtly specified nuances that make all the difference to the user when the instrument is on the bench.
io be comimued

## World's Largest Radome



NOT A NEW TYPE OF CHANDELIER for a Texas mansion, but the world's largesi radome, lo be carried atop the US Air Force E.3A airborne warning and control system. This 30 lool diameler libergiass and aluminum assembly, which houses large antennas on the E-3A, is shown undergoing static load tests at Boeing, the E-3A prime contractor. The hundreds of rectangular pads are attachment points for hydraulic jacks that simulate-under laboratory conditions-the aerodynamic loads on the radome in llight. Loads during the tesis produced more than 12 militon inch-pounds of pitching moment. An identical radome assembly is undergoing fatigue testing, which will simulate 80 years of stresses (lour times IIs design life). During that lest the radome, which revoives six times a minute when in use, will undergo a simulated 40 million revolutions.

# What＇s New In Car Stereo 

## There＇s something for everybody－component systems for the audiophile，kits for the do－it－ yourselfer，and even combination units that include CB

IF ALI IHE MANIFACTURFRS OF AI JOMO bile sound equipment placed all of their products on view in one huge display． here is what vou would notice：
－Most of the equipment is de－ signed for in－dash mounting
－Much of it is smaller than a year or two ago．
－The proportion of car players with radio facilities is bigger by far than before．
－More combinations now feature FM stereo reception in addition to mono FM．
－More deluxe models are avail－ able than previously．
－The number of cassette players has increased tremendously．and the ratio of cassette to cartridge models is increasing accord－ ingly．
－CB is＂invading＂the automobile in a significant way．
－＂Big sound＂has captured atten－ tion and is being reflected in car players with greater amplifier power．a variety of add－on power boosters／amplifiers and bigger and better speakers．
－Audio－component－type car sound equipment is now a real－ ity．
The trend to in－dash equipment has been developing steadily．Todays in－ dash car stereo units with adjustable control shafts and standardized face plates are easy to install：virtually anyone with＂do－it－vourself＂leanings can handle a plaver．radio or plaver／ radio installation．Some companies claim that over 75 percent of equipment buvers are capable of installing it them－ selves．Sanvo（I200 West Artesia Blvd．． Compton．CA 90220）．for example． touts an EZ Install line of auto stereo products．＂For exceptionally easy in－ dash installation on over 80 percent of all cars without the need for extra mounting hardware．＂Audiovox（150 Marcus Blvd．．Hauppauge．NY 11787） provides consumers with a large chart showing all the cars that can be fitted with in－dash Audiovox players．and 18

## FRED PETRAS

steps of a typical in－dash installation．
In－dash installations are neater look－ ing than＂hang－ons．＂They are far less obtrusive．especially in cars with limited


MOTOROLA model TC877AX．
dash－area．They are far less likely to be ripped－off because of the time and effort required to do so．And in－dash installations can also be a matter of good economic sense：some insurance companies will not insure under－dash． hang－on car stereo equipment．


## MOTOROLA model TC876AX．

Reflecting the overall technology ad－ vances and spinoffs from efforts to produce compact in－dash stereo equip－ ment．are the new small－sized plavers and combinations．An example is a new cassette unit．Sanvo model FT4（O）．mea－ suring $4 \frac{1}{4}$－inches deep by 7 －inches wide and 2 －inches high．It is for under－dash． glove compartment or hump mounting． Another example－for in－dash mount－ ing－is the model 605．from J．I．L．$(737$ West Artesia Blvd．．Compton．CA 90220）．a cassette player／radio combi－ nation measuring $51 / 2$－inches deep by 7 － inches wide and $13 / 4$－inches high．A third
example is the Fulmer（ 260 Monroe Ave．．Memphis．TN 38103 ）model 5300. a cartridge plaver／radio combo for in－ dash mounting．It measures $41 / 4$－inches wide by $61 / 2$－inches deep and $11 / 4$－inches high．

Helping manufacturers produce com－ pact multi－function car sound equip－ ment are smaller sized tape mech－ anisms．Gone are the king－size，giant－ flywheel models．These have been replaced by mini－units with highly effi－


ROYAL SOUND model RS－2500．
cient tape drives．Also aiding them is the dial－in－tape－door sustem developed by Tenna Corp．（1920）Cranwood Pkwv．． Cleveland．OH 44128）that reduces space requirements substantially．Many manufacturers are using this approach．

In the early davs of auto sound．the average car owner had a radio in the dash and a hang－on cartridge plaver under the dash．Today．the majority of car owners have combination tape


## J．I．L．model 517.

plaver／radios usually installed in－dash． But hang－on types are also available． their continuing popularity related to their size－far smaller than in the past
and they're easy to remove.
Along with a greater demand for player/radio combinations. consumers have been getting on the FM bandwagon and buving combinations that feature not only mono FM. hut also stereo FM reception.

The trends to more combination sets and to units offering FM -stereo reflect a greater sophistication of today's musicoriented car owner who wants music in all formats. Inherent in that sophistication is also his willingness to buy better


SONY model TC-24FA.
quality combinations to get the best sound from tape or radio program sources. This applies especially to indash equipment since it is less likely to be pilfered than an under-dash model. Manufacturers. recognizing these facts. have come through admirably. Several are producing tape/radio combinations selling for over $\$ 200$. In fact. one company. Becker Autoradio ( 756 Burr Oak Drive. Westmont. II. 60559), has a cassette plaver/radio combination priced at $\$ 844$ !

## Cassette vs. Cartridge

While it has not taken over the car plaver field. the cassette is certainly making inroads into the province of the cartridge plaver. At the moment. over a third of all car plavers sold are cassette models. By this time next vear. the figure will be close to 50 percent according to industry forecasters. But have no fear about the availability of cartridge equipment: no one is seriously expecting it to be nudged into oblivion by the cassette, popular as the cassette is.

While the cassette has been around for several vears in the automotive field. its initial track record was pretty bad. Wow-and-flutter was exceedingly high. tape mechanisms jammed and tape tracking was often erratic. In essence. the cassette was not technologically ready. Today it is, and car sound buffs are rushing to buy. The general feeling is that the cassette is every bit as good as the cartridge as a car sound medium and has more to offer in terms of convenience. primarily in "instant" program selection. There's also another angle: while both the cartridge and cassette offer recording capability in home equipment. the cassette is the easier recording format. Many cartridge car player owners who figured they could make their own tapes at home for use in their cars have been disillusioned by the
difficulty of recording their own cartridges. Some cartridge car plaver owners have switched to cassette players in their latest cars, and have abandoned their cartridge recorders in favor of cassette models to easily make tapes for both home and car use.
Additionally. many music buffs have found that they have a broader variety of commercially recorded tapes in cassette form. While the cartridge has the edge in terms of the latest rock-androll hits. the cassette wins hands down in terms of various other types of music. especially classics and easy-listening type music.
One company. Sanyo. recognizing the potential of the cassette as a music recording medium, has brought that


## SANYO model FT415.

capability into the car. Its new in-dash model fT415 cassette/radio combination priced at $\$ 150$ offers stereo recording from its FM stereo radio. Further. the unit can be used for monophonic dictation recording while on the go. It features a locking pause control as part of the recording system. Clarion (5500 Rosecrans Ave.. Lawndale. CA 90260) also offers mono recording capability via microphone in an under-dash cassette recorder/stereo player. model 812 priced at $\$ 154.95$.

Up until fairly recently, the cartridge had it all over the cassette relative to tape handling. Slip the cartridge in and it would play all the way through. Slip a cassette in and you would have to flip it at mid-play. Today many cassette plavers feature automatic reversewhich eliminates cassette handling at mid-play. And as time goes on. you'll see this feature in a bigger percentage of players coming into the market. For example. TZL. İnternational (2020 West 16th St.. Broadview. II. 60153) (a new company in the car sound field) introduced four cassette plavers in the Evadin brand name as its initial line, all


EVADIN model CR-3000.
featuring automatic reverse.
The cassette is also finding favor with owners of compact and mini-cars. both domestic and foreign. where space is at a premium. Several companies offer what they call "short" chassis. that extend into the dash by as little as $41 / 8-$ inches (Inland Dynatronics. Inc.. IIO Horizon Blvd.. South Hackensack. NJ 07606) (model AXT-885).

## CB

Several million auto owners have in the past few years involved themselves with CB. And more are getting involved every day. In fact. industry seers are predicting that the day is not far off when CB will be part of every new car's standard equipment. rather than as an option.

Since $C B$ is such a natural for a car. in the same league as a car radio or stereo plaver. it was merely a matter of time


BOMAN model CBRT-8800.
before auto sound equipment makers hit on the idea of combining $C B$ with tape plavers and car radios. The threeway combination is now available in perhaps a dozen brands. Prices are in the $\$ 300$ to $\$ 420$ range. (You can expect to see some at about $\$ 250$ in the near future.)

The CB combos come in both underdash and in-dash models. with the latter favored by theft-conscious car owners as far less likely to be stolen. (And far more likely to be insurable.) While the sets are usually a bit bigger than tape plaver/radio combinations. they can generally be fitted into most of today's new cars.

J.I.L. model 606CB.

Two companies-Audiovox and Clar-ion-have three-way in-dash CB combinations under what they call the "component separates" approach. Audiovox offers the consumer the option of mounting the separate cable-connected
transceiver electronics section out of sight hehind the dash．under the seat or on the fire wall．Clarion additionally offers the option of mounting the sepa－ rate unit in the car＇s trunk．

At press time．several companies revealed they were working on sepa－ rable CB／tape／radio combinations． Some will be introduced early in 1977.

Notable among the under－dash CB combinations is a dual－function unit from Xtal（ 8749 Shirley Ave．．North Ridge．CA 91324）．model XCB－9 priced at $\$ 300$ ．In addition to 23 －channel trans－ ceiver facilities．it also has automatic reverse cassette tape playback plus cassette recording capability．

## More power

Along with a desire for better quality and more sophisticated car stereo equip－ ment．today＂s drivers are after＂hig sound＂from such equipment．Looking at our total－industry display of car stereo products closely you would tind many attempts by equipment makers to fill that demand．

First off．you would find several companies selling car plavers or combi－ nation plaver／radios with 50 to 100 percent more amplitier power than traditional units．A typical auto player or combination has three to four watis－ per－channel of amplifier power．This is plenty for the average listener driving the average car．However．if you own a hig station wagon or van．or just like your music played at window－rattling levels，you can find a number of models with power of 8 watts－per－channel or more．Examples are the Craig（921 West Artesia Blvd．．Compton．CA 90220） Powerplay series with 12 watts－per－ channel：Sanvo models $1(K) 1$ and $1(1), 3$ with 8 watts－per－channel：Panasonic（1 Panasonic Way．Secaucus．NJ（07（094） model CQ－1851 with 15 watts－per－


PANASONIC model CQ－1851．
channel and Clarion model 423 C with 8 watts．Further．as the concept of more power is advertised by manufacturers and talked about by music／sound bulfs． you＇ll see more compranies providing high－powered car stereos．

At least twelve companies are hand－ ing car owners the option of stepping up the power of their car stereo equipment via add－on power boosters or powered speakers．Essentially．a power booster is a small amplifier that hooks into your car stereos system and raises its iotal amplifier power by as much as 25 watts－
per－channel or more．Unfortunately． there is no consistency in the presenta－ tion／advertising of these devices．with some companies not specifying the actual output in watts but instead saving ＂Increases the power of any player 10 times！＂or＂Four times more power＂． etc．Some even use ancient．discarded and meaningless terminology such as ＂peak power．＂The units sell for $\$ 30$ on up to over $\$ 100$ ．
Medallion（P．O．Box 1903．Kansas City．MO 64141）．Kraco（505 East Fuclid Ave．．Compton．CA 90224）． Magnadyne（P．O．Box 5365． 20545 South Belshaw Ave．．Carson．CA 90749）．Comm Industries（One Gateway Center．Newton．MA 02158 ）and Tenna are among companies giving car stereo owners a chance to heef up their sound via amplified speakers．These consist of deluxe car speakers with heavy magnet structures and high power－handling capability．piggy－backed by small am－ plifiers rated up to 40 watts－per－chan－ nel．They generally sell in the $\$ 70$ to $\$ 100$ per pair range．
The great majority of companies selling car players allso sell speakers． While most have been selling speakers at low．medium and high prices．a look at their product lineups today shows they are also selling big sound models to go with high－powered players or power boosters．
Further．some component speaker manufacturers such as Jensen（4310） Trans World Rd．．Schiller Park．IL 60176）．Utah（1124 East Franklin St．． Huntington．IN 46750）and Altec（ 1515 South Manchester Ave．．Anaheim．CA 92803），are pushing the develonment of car speakers that offer true hi－fi sound． Jensen＇s latest achievement is a three－ way oval－shaped auto speaker dubbed ＂Triaxial．＂It combines a woofer． midrange and tweeter in one assembly．

## Component systems

On a par with the debut of CB as an important part of the revolution taking place in auto sound is audio－compo－ nent－type car stereo．It is．essentially．an off－shoot of the move to bigger sound and more audio power in the car．It is also part of todav＇s auto owner＇s desire for quality sound that is an off－shoot of his quest for better sound from his home audio equipment．

At this writing there are two deluxe component－type auto stereo systems available．One comes from Audio Mobile（189：McGraw Ave．．Irvine．CA 92714）and consists of a stereo preamp／ equalizer．a 25 watt－per－channel ampli－ fier．and four speakers－two $61 / 2$－inch or 10－inch woofers（for rear deck mount－ ing）and two 4 －inch dome tweeters（for up－front mounting）．This svstem sells for $\$ 388$ ．Any existing car player．radio or combination can be fed into the Audio Mobile component svstem．To be
available from the firm in 1977 will be a deluxe cassette plaver／AM／FM／FM－ stereo tuner with Dolby noise reduction circuitry．for use with the above svstem． It is expected to sell for about $\$ 300$ ．The amplifier has a total harmonic distortion （THI））rating of 0.3 percent from 20 Hz 1020 kHz .20 watts－per－channel．and the preamp＇s signal－to－noise ratio is greater than 68 dB ＂with typical gain settings．＂ （In listening to the Audio Mobile system installed in a car．I was impressed not only with the quality of sound but the visceral．gut－shaking physical aspect of it．

A second component－type auto sound system comes from a combination of two companies．The stereo cassette plaver priced at $\$ 275$ is made by Nakamichi（220 Westhury Ave．．Carle Place．NY 11514）．The amplified speak－ er systems priced at $\$ 398.50$ a pair are


NAKA MICHI－ADS car stereo system．


ADS model 2002 speaker system．
made by ADS（ 64 Industrial Way． Wilmington．MA 01887）．The casselle player features Dolby noise reduction circuitry and its preamplifier section provides volume．balance and tone controls．The two－way speaker systems measuring about $7 \times 4^{1 / 4} \times 4^{1 / 2-i n c h e s . ~}$ each have three power－amplifiers built into them．Two amplifiers are for the woofer．one for the tweeter．

The Nakamichi－ADS ensemble has double－duty potential．With the aid of two AC power adaptors（total price． $\$ 129.50$ ），it can be used as an indoor system for use in weekend cottages． vacation hotels or motels．and else－ where．（The system is quickly de－ tachable from the car．A special case for casy carrying is being developed．）
Several other companies make audio－ component－type auto sound products． Four amplifiers are available under the Linear Power brand name（Shmegg Electronics． 113 Grenoble．Folsom．CA 95630 ）．They have power outputs rang－
comimued on page 90

# Add 4 Functions to NOVUS 850 

With the simple addition of switches, you can convert your 4-function Novus 850 calculator to 8 functions



HOW THE 8-FUNCTION NOVUS LOOKS: The $m$ has been left off the memory store and recall; o switch is barely visible on the side.

PROBABL. y becausf. of production eco. nomics. National Semiconductor uses the MM5738 IC in the Novus 850 fourfunction calculator. This 1 C actually has eight functions. (A fifth function. auto squaring. is accessible in the 850 but they don't even mention it in the operating instructions!)

The remaining three functions. memory. constant and percent (plus display turn-off). may be used by adding switches to the kevboard as shown in the photograph. Access to a National MOS 1C' book or an MM5738 data sheet will help. Thus, for less than $\$ 14$ (on sale) and a couple hours work. you can have an eight-function calculator.

No added active circuitry is required. only the five normally-open switches made from relay contacts. (Miniature push-button switches will work if they're small enough to fit.) The connections (see Fig. 1) are:

MM5738

## Pin

| Function | Key | Numbers |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Memory Store | MS | 19 and 22 |
| Memory Recall | MR | 19 and 23 |
| Constant | K | 19 and 4 |
| Percent $(\times 0.01)$ | $\%$ | 18 and 24 |
| Display Reset | D 12 and 13 |  |

Pins 12 and 13 of the integrated circuit are connected on the printedcircuit board and must be separated to allow the battery-saving 16 -second display shutoff circuit to function. Cut away $1 / 1$-inch of copper from around pin 13 with a razor blade. The In switch may be omitted from your calculator. if desired. because pressing any of the keys automatically restores the display (resets timer).

Note that the Ms. Mk and $k$ keys are common on pin 19 of the 1 C . This helps in the construction. Four holes are drilled through the control panel in the clear area between the power switch and the $\div$ key. Plastic or metal rivets. inserted from the inside. make suitable key buttons. If screw's are used as pushbuttons. Teflon tubing must be placed over them or else they may bind on the threads. Fig. 2-a shows how the switches are made: Fig. 2-b shows how the bus is insulated for the $\%$ key.

Epoxy is the best way to attach the spring contacts to the panel underside. Hold and mask the contacts with masking tape until the epoxy sets. Bare AWG 14 bus wire is used for threc of
the fixed contacts. For the $\%$ key, first insulate the bus wire at this key with tape and then roll a relay contact around the taped wire. Solder a wire to the protruding end of the contact and anchor it with epoxy.

The construction will be smoother if the following sequence is used:

1. Drill holes.
2. Letter panel.
3. Epoxy spring contacts to panel.
4. Insert buttons.
5. Mount bus wire (epoxy) with plastic blocks on each end.
6. Wire.

Be careful not to overstress the spring contacts when inserting the push buttons.


FIG. 2-DETAIL OF THE SWITCHES.


SWITCH INSTALLATION IN THE 850；the wiring job is reasonably simpie．

The o key is located on the side of the 850 next in the power jack．This is convenient hecause the pushbutton may be depressed while holding the calcula－ tor

Remembering how to use the extra functions will come with experience． Excellent examples are given in the MM $\leq 738$ data sheet．Automatic squar－ ing is simple：enter the number．press $x$ and then $=$ ．For instance．if you square 5．you get 25 ．Now if you press＝again． you get 25 squared．625．Each time $=$ is pressed．the number on the display is squared：not the first entry．

Storing a number in memory is also simple．Merely enter a number and press ms．（The $M$ was not used on the panel marking．）Then press Cf to clear the display．The number is recalled by pressing sik．


FIG．1－SIMPLE ADDITION of switches con－ verts the Novus 850 to 8 －functions．

The wey simply moves the decimal over two places to the left．Since it converts a percentage number to the fraction．the same function may be accomplished by either dividing by 100 or by multiplying by 0.01 ．So essentially the＂key reduces four operations to one．

The number entered after pressing either $\times$ or $\div$ is stored as a constant independently of the memory．There－ fore pressing K in a subsequent calcula－ tion repeats either $\div \mathrm{k}$ or $\times \mathrm{k}$ ．depend－ ing on how it was entered initially as a constant．A constant．once entered as limes or divide－by may be changed to the wher function or to plus simply by pressing the desired function kev $(x, \div$ or + ）before the $k$ function．

The calculation does not work on subtraction of a constant．Entering－ changes the sign of the entered number $t 0$ minus when $k$ is pressed．and subse－ quent pressing of $k$ adds the constant in the negative direction．

R－E

# PROTECT YOUR CB- 

# theft-proofinstallations 

## A look at installation techniques for your mobile CB rig that provide maximum protection against thieves

HERB FRIEDMAN

police now estimate that a professional thiti needs less than 20 seconds to remove a CB transceiver from a dashboard installation. Even if the vehicle is equipped with an alarm system, the thief is in and your transceiver is out before anyone realizes someone's alarm is howling.

Many anti-theft devices have appeared in the CB marketplace, all of which promise to protect your transceiver. In most instances these anti-theft devices become an integral part of the transceiver, so the thief steals both the rig and the mounta crowbar pops any mount off the dash quickly and efficiently.
It has been suggested that a CB'er simply not call attention to his car by using a removable antenna-when the car is parked the antenna is removed. Great idea. except that for the rather expensive motor-driven telescopic whip that disappears into the fender when not in use. there is no "removable" antenna that delivers anywhere near the performance of the standard 108 -inch whip or the 48 -inch trunk mounted antenna. You give up a lot of performance when you use a removable antenna.

But if you're willing to remove the antenna, why not work the other way round and remove the transceiver leaving the antenna permanently connected. No one can steal a transceiver that isn't there. The advantage to this arrangement is that you can use a high-performance antenna and lose nothing in the way of performance and yet maintain maximum security.
The easiest way to make the transceiver readily removable is to use a slide-mount device similar to those used for tape players and add-on FM stereo radios. But before we get to the transceiver, let's get the antenna on the car.

## Antenna Installation

The most effective antennas are the full-length whip and the "short" (about 48 -inches) trunk-lip mounted whip. Since the mount for the 108 -inch whip requires drilling holes in the vehicle's body. or the use of a bumper mount. the no-holes trunk-lip mount has become. more-or-less. the most popular CB car antenna.
The trunk-lip mounts from the well known manufacturers have a U-shaped bracket that wraps itself around the lip of the trunk. As shown in Fig. 1, the center of the U-bracket is indented so the coaxial transmission-line also wraps around the trunk lip in such a manner the cable is neither deformed nor damaged. This might appear to be a small thing deserving of no attention because it is expected. In fact. however. cheap imported copies of these better known antennas look almost identical except that the wrap around U-bracket doesn't have the indent for the transmission line. The transmission-line is


FIG. 1-INDENTED SHANNEL prevents damage to the transmission Hne when the trunk is closed.
simply passed behind the U-bracket where it gets deformed on the very first closing of the trunk. A deformed transmission line can increase the standing-wave ratio (SWR).

Almost all the "shortened" or loaded-type antennas must be tuned for minimum SWR at the antennas mounting location. An adjustment that's good for the side of the trunk is probably not correct for the center of the trunk lip.

The antenna is usually adjusted for minimum SWR by loosening a screw at the bottom of the antenna and making small incremental adjustments of the antenna height until the SWR is minimum. As shown in Fig. 2, a hex key, always provided with the antenna, is required for most antennas. It's best to be suspicious of any antenna using an ordinary machine screw for the SWR adjustment as it is easily susceptible to tampering.

After the antenna is installed. simply drop the cable into the trunk until the transceiver is installed.


FIG. 2- SWR ADJUSTMENT is accomplished by varying the height of the antenna. Hex key supplied with antenna is used lor this purpose.

## Transceiver installation

All mobile transceivers. and a few of the combination base and mobile models, come supplied with some form of mounting bracket. You can very casily install the transceiver by simply fastening the bracket to the dash with a couple of screws. You can also have the transceiver stolen in less time than it took you to secure the two screws. The only transceiver that can't be stolen is one that isn't there, and the slide-mount installation is becoming more popular as insurance companies refuse to pay off on stolen CB's.

The slide mount generally used for CB transceivers is the same model used for tape players and FM-stereo radio addons. Unlike the tape players, however, where all connectionsspeaker, battery and ground wires-are provided for the tape player, the regular slide mount doesn't make provision for the transmission line and you have to) remove the antenna cable before removing the transceiver. Some FM-stereo radio slidemounts have internal make-break connections for the FM antenna: these have been upgraded with RG-58/U cable and coax connectors for $C B$ use. The problem here is that the discontinuity in the transmission line caused by the slidemount contacts increases the system SWR and the contacts have caused a few intermittent problems. But you do get the advantage of a fast make-break connections for transceiver removal: so if a small RF-output loss is of no concern, go ahead and use the CB slide-mount. (CB mounts are often twice the price of the tape player version of the same mount.)

Going one step further, one slide-mount model has been provided with a fixed coaxial-jack on the back of the section that gets mounted to the dash. Another great idea gone wrong! It moves the coax connector up from the rig to the top of the mount. In many instances, the cars air-conditioning ducts get in the way and there's no way any connection can be brought into the dash-mounted section. Better check your car's installation area and mounting situation before investing


FIG. 3-SLIDE MOUNT is secured to the mounting bracket supplied with the transceiver.

-
FIG. 4-RELIABLE CONNECTIONS are attained by unsoldering the wires supplied with the slide mount and soldering the wires from the transceiver directly to the terminals on the alide mount.
in this relatively expensive mounting device.
The individual sections of some slide-mounts are available separately. This is ideat if you want your CB to do double or triple duty. You can order either the dash or equipment mounting sections. This allows you to install the dash section in two or more vehicles or boats and you need only one transceiver section. In this way, the transceiver will fit into all your vehicles and you don't have to pay for the unnecessary mounting sections.

Figure 3 shows how a transceiver fits to a slide mount. In Fig. 4 the transceiver is wired to the slide-mount terminals. If you look carefully at Fig. 4 you can probably see an extra wire from the transceiver to the mount's terminal-strip. The external speaker output from the transceiver has been connected to one of the terminals. For better sound quality, one of the car's stereo speakers has been connected to the matching dash-mounted section. When the transceiver is slipped into the slide-mount. the car speaker will serve for CB providing a much cleaner sound. If your car doesn't have an extra speaker, you can install a separate component speaker exclusively for the CB. Any of the "communications" speakers or even one of the speakers and enclosures used for car stereos can be used.

Secure the dash section of the slide-mount as shown in Fig. 5. While nuts and holts are suggested and preferred as mounting hardware because of air conditioning ducts it's often impossible to reach behind the dash. If the ducts get in your way and you're not inclined to dropping half the dash to mount the CB. use No. 10 or No. 12 sheet-metal screws with an internal starwasher between the screw and the dash.

## Hook up

Connect the positive and ground wires from the car's electrical system to the slide mount-and a speaker wire if you've used an external speaker-and then route the transmission line from the trank. The object is to bring the coax out


FIG. 5-STATIONARY SECTION of silde mount is secured under the dash using sheet metal or machine screws.


FG. 7-TRANSMISSION LINE should be just long enough to reach the transceiver. Excess should be ieft in trunk, not under the dash where it can get tangled with the driver's foot.
from under the carpet or firewall shield near the transceiver so there's no possibility of the gas/brake foot getting snagged in the coax.

Whether you have to remove the rear seat to get the coax from the trunk into the passenger compartment, or whether you can pass the coax directly into the compartment, depends on the particular type and model car you own. If you have a late model General Motors car, you will probably have to remove the rear seat. You will find there's no real wiring channel-the wires from the rear lights are simply enfolded in a plastic shield. Just follow the shield to the passenger compartment and run the coax under the carpet adjacent to the transmission hump.

Ford Motor cars also usually require the removal of the rear seat. Run the coax up to the front by following the wiring for the tail lights which is inside a wiring channel. A short snake is usually required for passing the wire through the channel. If there's an obstruction in the channel, you'll have to snake the coax under the carpet.

Chrysler cars are often the easiest to wire as you can usually pass the coax from the trunk directly into a wiring-channel running along the left side of the car. As shown in Fig. 6,


FIG. 6-TRANSMISSION LINE is run from trunk to passenger compartment in wiring-channel under the door saddle.


FIG. 8-MICROPHONE BRACKET should be mounted so that the microphane cable does not Interfere with the driver's foot.
removal of a left door saddle exposes a front-to-rear wiring channel concealed beneath the carpet. Just lay the coax in the channel all the way to the fender wall kick plate. Remove the plate and fish the wire up to the firewall and over. to the transceiver. You must cross over the pedals so make certain the coax is tied up and away from the gas and brake pedals.

If you have excess coax after making the run to the front, pull the excess back into the trunk. You should have just enough wire up front to reach the CB or slide mount, as shown in Fig. 7. Loops or coils of coax near the right foot leads to an accident. There should be no possibility of the driver's foot getting tangled in the coax.

Finally, install the transceiver and connect an SWR meteras shown in Fig. 8-between the transceiver and the coax Adjust the antenna for minimum SWR. If you can, also check for approximately 3 to 4 watts RF output to be sure the rig is working correctly. Remove the SWR meter, connect the coax to the transceiver and the rig is ready for use.

Figure 9 shows the completed installation. Note the microphone bracket is positioned so the microphone cable hangs down on the passenger side of the transmission hump, there are no loose wises near the driver and the transceiver controls can be reached by both the driver and passenger. A safe, convenient and theft-proof installation.

# Radio－Electronics Tests Nakamichi 600 Cassette Deck 

## LEN FELDMAN

CONTRIBUTING HI－FI EDITOR

ALI ONF HAS TO IOO IS IAKF A（GOOD D．OOK AI Nakamichi＇s new model or（O）Stereo Cassente Deck to realize that here is something that is a bit different from the norm for this cate－ gory of product．But the full impact of that difference cannot be appreciated until vou have had a chance to work with the unit．as we did in our laboratories over the past several davs．Physically，the deck is quite a departure from Nakamichi＂s earlier state－of－ the－art cassette deck models／（K）and 700）． each of which was fairly hulkv in size．Each of those higher priced models featured sepa－ rate record and playback heads whereas the new 6010 ．according to literature provided hy the company．sets out to prove just how well a two－headed machine can do if its heads and electronics are designed properly and with painstaking care．The wedged shape of the model $O(1)$ afford control panel visibility and access that is unequalled in either the table top or front－loading formats．

Figure 1 is an overall view of the Nakam－ ichi 600 ．While too small in width to be accommodated in a standard 19 －inch rack． Nakamichi recently introduced a miniature sized rack that can hold the $6(0)$ ，along with the new companion model 610 preamplifier and model 620 power amplifier all in a vertical or upright position．

The tape cassette compartment at the left of the panel provides easy access to heads for cleaning and pops up when the STOP／FJFCT button is depressed．Because it is not com－ pletely protected by a glass or plastic window．a dust cover is supplied（not shown） that fits over the entire front panel when the machine is not in use．A three－digit tape counter and RFWIND－MFMORY button are located above the compartment while below are six piano－key mechanically operated transport controls including RE（ORI）．REWIND． STOP／：JECI．PLAY FAST f（ORWARI）and PAISSE． It is necessary to depress the stop button
before switching from one tape motion to another，and both RECORD and PLAY buttons must be depressed simultaneously to hegin recording．The patsi button．however． permits the user to cue up levels．before recording actually commences．


The（wo recording level meters at the upper right have the same expanded scale （from -45 dB to +7 dB ）as those found on Nakamichi＇s higher priced model 1000 and the Dolby calibration point corresponds to 0 dB on these meters（ 200 nanowebers－per－ meter）and is marked on their face（see Fig． 2）．A close up view of the control section at the lower right is shown in Fig．3．Rotary controls include a MASIER recording level control．individual channel Re：Cori）II．viti． controls and an ourpur level control．The seven tiny pushbuttons at the top take care of mowter on／off switching．TAPF bias and equalization selection，actuation of a built－


## MANUFACTURER＇S PUBLISHED SPECIFICATIONS：

Frequency Response： 40 to $18,000 \mathrm{~Hz}, \pm 3 \mathrm{~dB}$（ SX or EX tapes）．Signal－To－Noise Ratio：Better than 60 dB ，weighted，RMS，referenced to 0 dB ；Better than 68 dB ， weighted，RMS，referenced to $3 \%$ THD with IM suppressor．Total Harmonic Distor－ tion： $1.5 \%$ at $0 \mathrm{~dB}, 400 \mathrm{~Hz}$（SX or EXII tape）．Wow－and－flutter：Less than $0.12 \%$ weighted，peak．Erasure：Better than $60-\mathrm{dB}$ below saturation level．Separation： Better than $35 \mathrm{~dB}, 1 \mathrm{kHz}, 400 \mathrm{~Hz}$ ．Cross－talk：Better than $60 \mathrm{~dB}, 1 \mathrm{kHz}, 0 \mathrm{~dB}$ ．Bias Frequency： 105 kHz ．Input Sensitivity： 60 mV for 0 dB recording level．Output Level： 580 mV （output level at maximum， 0 dB ）．Power Consumption： 15 －watts maximum Dimensions： $153 / 4 \mathrm{~W} \times 6.7 \mathrm{H} \times 9.33$－inches $D(40 \times 17 \times 23.7 \mathrm{~cm})$ ．Weight： 14.3 pounds（ 6.49 kg ）．
in $400-\mathrm{Hz}$ test Tovf，an mpx filter．Dot By is and $O$ I and what Nakamichi calls an IM suppression circuit about which we shall have more to say shortly．What appear to be twelve more＂buttons＂at the center of the control area are in reality tiny plastic rubber plugs ：hat cover up screw－driver adjustments for setting up optimum bias and recording sensitivity for tape types other than Nakami－ chi＇s own EX and SX lape for which the machine is calibrated at the factor：．Four more plugs can be removed to adjust the working parameters of the upecial $1 \mathbf{M}$ suppressor circuit which is also tape－ dependent．Nakamichi warns against cus－ tomers attempting to alter these factory settings unless they are equipped with

suitable test equipment and technically com－ petent to perform these critical adjusiments． Since Nakamichi＇s EXII tape is fairly close in its characteristics to other better quality low－ noise high－output ferric tapes and their new SX tape is．in effect，a ferric replacement for chrome tapes．good results should be obtaired when using other similar tapes even without readjusting all these control set－ lings．

The rear panel of the Nakamichi model on is shown in Fig． 4 and contains only the usual line INPUI and IIAF ol TPI＇I jacks plus a combination IDIN connector and a tiny slide switch which is＂locked＂in the 120 vol I position．since this machine can be witched to 220 －volt operation for overseas use．Also visible is a hlock or signal－flow diagram screened on the sloped surface behind the front panel．

## Laboratory measurements

A summary of our usual cassette deck measurements will be found in Table I and can be compared with published specifica－ tions shown elsewhere．Frequency response， using Nakamichi EXII and SX tapes exceeded published specifications by far． extending from 30 Hz to 21.2 kHz in the case

# Herb Laney's a tough-minded optimist. <br> <br> How about you? 

 <br> <br> How about you?}

Herb takes his future seriously. Without worrying about it. He knows his CIE training is giving him valuable skills in electronics. Skills a lot of people will be glad to pay for. And that's good reason for all the optimism in the world. How about you?


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## Why it pays to build skills and know-how.

One of the things that got Herb interested in electronics is that electronics seems to be something just about everybody needs. Almost everywhere you look these days in a business office ... a
manufacturing plant ...a
department store . . . a doctor's office . . a college . . . even your own home you'll find all kinds of electronic devices.

That spelled "opportunity" to Herb. Plus he liked the idea of having a set of skills that might lead to jobs in places as different as a TV station . . . a hospital . . . an airport . . a petroleum refinery.

But what Herb liked most about electronics is that it's just plain interesting. Even though it takes time and effort to learn. the subject is so fascinating it culmost doesn't seem like "studying" at all!

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of the EXII tape and from 28 Hz to 21.0 kHz for the SX tape (see Fig. 5). Note that our signal-to-noise measurements are made with no weighting filter added but are referenced to the $3 \%$ total harmonic distortion point.


Wow-and-flutter were an exceptionally low $0.05 \%$ WRMS or $0.09 \%$ RMS unweighted. All of which brings us to the subject of total harmonic distortion and, as we promised. a brief explanation of Nakamichi's amazing new IM suppression circuit. As you can see from our results in Table I, distortion up to and including $a+3 \mathrm{~dB}$ recording level is normally quite low and typical of good quality tape and cassette decks working together. As most readers realize. if one records at higher levels than these, tape saturation causes distortion to rise rapidly. This is especially true of cassette decks, where record equalization is such that to achieve good frequency response, one quickly reaches tape saturation particularly at high frequencies.
Nakamichi reasoned that each tape has a particular magnetization characteristic and therefore its "lack of linearity" can be measured and can be expected to be fairly consistent for that kind of tape. In a complex 8 -stage equalization circuit, Nakamichi developed a network that "shifts" gain at a predetermined level in such a way as to compensate for the "squashing" of the signal by the effects of tape saturation. Thus, the IM suppression works on playback ONLY. What's more, if it is calibrated correctly, it will even reduce distortion (BOTH IM and THD) on over-recorded tapes made on other machines. The other stages in the 8 -stage system perform some neat phase compensation tricks with playback signals-so neat, in fact. that this is the first machine we have ever encountered (open reel or cassette) in which we could record a squarewave and have it play back still looking remarkably like a squarewave. Try doing that on any tape machine you now own-you may be in for a surprising disappointment. A complete explanation of the operation of the 1 M suppression circuit would take a sixteen-page pamphlet to fully explain.* What concerned us, in testing the model 600, was to find out whether it actually does work. As a worstcase example, we recorded a 1 kHz signal at a level of +5 dB . When we played this test tone back and measured THD, we obtained a reading of $3.5 \%$, using SX tape. Punching in the Im suppress button, we watched the distortion reading settle down to $1.8 \%$. Mind you, this was tape that already had the distorted recording on it! Readers may pounce upon us at once and suggest that some sort of filter (which rolls off harmonics) is introduced during playback. Not so! Response is just as flat out to 20 kHz or so whether or not you depress the Im SUPPress button.

TABLE I
RADIO-ELECTRONICS PRODUCT TEST REPORT
Manufacturer: Nakamichi Research, Inc.
Model: 600
CASSETTE TAPE DECK MEASUREMENTS
FREQUENCY RESPONSE MEASUREMENTS
Frequency response standard tape $(\mathrm{Hz}-\mathrm{kHz} \pm \mathrm{dB})$
Frequency response, $S X$ tape $(\mathrm{Hz}-\mathrm{kHz} \pm d B)$
DISTORTION MEASUREMENTS (RECORD/PLAY)
Harmonic distortion @-10 VU (1 kHz) (\%)
Harmonic distortion @-3 VU (1 kHz) (\%)
Harmonic distortion @ 0 VU (1 kHz) (\%)
Harmonic distortion @ + $3 \mathrm{VU}(1 \mathrm{kHz})(\%)$
SIGNAL-TO-NOISE RATIO MEASUREMENTS
Standard tape. Dolby off (dB) (unweighted)
Standard tape. Dolby on (dB) (unweighted)
SX tape. Dolby off (dB) (unweighted)
SX tape, Dolby on (dB) (unweighted)

## MECHANICAL PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS

Wow-and-flutter (\%, WRMS)
Fast wind and rewind time, C60 (seconds)
COMPONENT MATCHING CHARACTERISTICS
Microphone input sensitivity ( mV )
Line input sensitivity ( mV )
Line output level (mV)
Phone output level (mV)
Bias frequency ( kHz )


TRANSPORT MECHANISM EVALUATION
Action of transport controls
Absence of mechanical noise
Tape/head accessibility
Construction and internal layout
Evaluation of extra features, if any
CONTROL EVALUATION
Level indicator(s)
Level control action
Adequacy of controls
Evaluation of extra controls
oVERALL TAPE DECK PERFORMANCE RATING

In utter disbelief, we decided that this needed additional investigation. We therefore used our spectrum analyzer to examine the distortion components (harmonics) of the recorded $I \mathrm{kHz}$ signal with and without the IM suppression feature switched in. In the sweep of Fig. 6, we see the large fundamental

peak ( 1 kHz ) at center screen. Note that the third harmonic ( 3 kHz ) is some $35-\mathrm{dB}$ down. or roughly $1.78 \%$. With the same signal from the same tape being played. we depressed the im suppress button. The results are shown in Fig. 7. Note that the third harmonic contribution to THD is now down some -45 dB , which corresponds to around $0.56 \%$, an improvement of 3-to-1 in third harmonic distortion! Interestingly, the fourth harmonic has actually gotten somewhat larger with the introduction of the IM suppression circuit, but since, in both Figs 7 and 8, it is substantially below the 3rd harmonic contribution, its net contribution to audible distortion in both cases may be considered negligible compared to the obvious lowering of third harmonic with the activation of the IM suppression circuit.

Having become convinced of the effectiveness of the IM suppression circuit in reducing THD, we returned to our distortion analyzer and plotted THD as a function of recording level (of a 1 kHz tone) with and without the IM suppression in the circuit. The results are shown in the graph of Fig. 8 and speak for themselves. Suddenly, headroom has been improved to $a+7.5 \mathrm{~dB}$ from $\mathrm{a}+6 \mathrm{~dB}$, if one uses the $3 \%$ overall THD point as a reference. In effect. the dynamic range has been improved by that hard-to-come-by 1.5 dB but, more important, those inadvertent moments of VU meter needle-pegging that most recordists run into from time to time are now not going to render a recording useless during playback.

## TABLE II

RADIO－ELECTRONICS PRODUCT TEST REPORT
Manufacturer：Nakamichi Research，Inc．
Model： 600

## OVERALL PRODUCT ANALYSIS

| Retail price | $\mathbf{\$ 5 0 0 . 0 0}$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Price category | Medium－high |
| Price／performance ratio | Excellent |
| Styling and appearance | Superb |
| Sound quality | Excellent |
| Mechanical performance | Very good |

Comments：It is obvious that when Nakamichi set out to design this marvellous little cassette deck，the emphasis was on superb electronics and tape head superiority．The target suggested retail price obviously prevented them from incorporating such＂luxury＂ features as electronically controlled transport functions（found in their models 700 and 1000）．The most worthwhile feature found in this deck is the IM suppression circuit that adds substantially to the headroom of any tape when it is properly calibrated for that tape．The action almost defies scientific reasoning，but take it from us，it actually works．It is also clear that Nakamichi sought to deliver a two－head machine that does as well（or nearly as well）as their three－headed more expensive models insotar as frequency response and signal－to－noise ratios are concerned．In this they have succeeded remarkably．Because the deck is part of new series that Nakamichi calls their Recording Director series（it now includes a matching sloped or wedge shape preamplifier and a simılarly configured power amplifier），certain basic features which one has come to expect on almost any high－quality cassette deck，such as microphone inputs and line／mic mixing are missing，appearing instead on the matching model 610 preamplifier．Purchased by itself，only line input recording is possible and one would have to provide other means（such as a mic mixer preamplifier）if one wishes to record＂live＇＂sounds．In view of the remarkable IM suppression circuit（which，in our view．is misnamed since it reduces harmonic distortion on playback as well as IM），the absence of any peak indicators is not a serious drawback，since recording＂into the red＂is no longer as serious a recording error as it would be without the IM suppression circuit．Alone，the 600 is certainly worth its price．Used with the matching 610．it＇s a miniature recording studio that looks great and operates superbly．

## Summary and listening tests

The effect of the IM suppression circuit is clearle discernible on recorded test tones as well as on recorded musical material that has
been deliberately recorded on the high side of the level meter indications．Obviously，if recording pratice is such that levels are maintained at or below 0 dB in all instances．

vou wll not be able to hear any audible reduction in distortion．However．it＇s ex－ tremelv comforting to know that if we do over－record occasionally，the tape need not be relegated to the wastebasket but can be resurrected by means of Nakamichis novel development．Incidentally．it should be clear from our description that an over－recorded tape plaved on any other machine will still have the basic distortion that＇s impressed onto the tape since the correction only takes place Juring plarback of such tapes on the model o6．But．to counter that disadvantage． consider this．A tape that is over－recorded on any other machine can be played back with lower distortion on this machine（providing． of course，that it is the type of tape for which the IM suppression calibration－controls have been idjusted）．Our overall comments con－ cerning this product will be found in Table II．along with our overall analysis．

R－E
＊Copres of Technical Bulletin $=6$ ．explaining the operation of the IM suppression circuit in greater detail may be obtained by writing to Nakamichi Research，Inc．，at 220 Westbury Ave．，Carle Place．NY 11514.

# Radio－Electronics 

## Tests Heath AD－1305 Equalizer

RHCY VINIHRESTIN GRAPHIC FQI＇ALITIRS HAS prompted many high－fidelity component manufacturers to design and produce these handy add－on devices．The most elaborate of these may contain as many as twenty or more separate frequency controls that pernit adjustment of frequency segments as narrow as one third ol an whive．Others offer ten controls per channel for octave－by－octave
frequency response adjustment，while the least elaborate of these hi－fi accessory units settle for five controls per channel，each control covering a range of approximately two octaves．

The Heath AD－I305 fits in this last cate－ gory．Shown in Fig．1，the AD－13＊）has twin cets of slide controls，each of which has a mechanical detent or stop at its mid－position

## MANUFACTURER＇S PUBLISHED SPECIFICATIONS：

Input Impedance： 100 K ohms．Output Impedance： 100 ohms．Rated Output： 1.5 volts RMS．Overload： 5 volts RMS．Signal－to－Noise Ratio： $90-\mathrm{dB}$ below 1.5 volts．Total Harmonic Distortion： $0.05 \%$ from 20 Hz to 20 kHz at 1.5 －volts output．IM Distortion： $0.05 \%$ at 1.5 －volts output．Separate Frequency Control Ranges： $30-125 \mathrm{~Hz}, 125-$ $500 \mathrm{~Hz}, 500 \mathrm{~Hz}-2.000 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{kHz}-8 \mathrm{kHz}, 8 \mathrm{kHz}-32 \mathrm{kHz}$ ．Overall Gain（Controls Flat）： 0 dB ．Response of Filters： 12 dB －per－octave．Dimensions： $17 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~W} \times 4^{7 / 32} \mathrm{H} \times 8$－ inches deep．Shipping Welght： 11 lbs．Price：$\$ 119.95$（available only in kit form）．

that corresponds to a liat response．Each quintet of controls handles one channel of the stereo pair．Mounted between these control arravs are two 2 －position loggle switches one of which is a tape monitor switch that permits you to substitute corre－ sponding rapt out and ripl in jacks on the AD）－1305 if you have used up such facilities
on your amplifier or receiver to connect the AD-1305), while the other switch hypasses the equalizer and permits instant comparisons between equalized and unequalized sounds. A power on/off pushbutton at the left of the panel and a power light indicator complete the front-panel lavout.
A close-up view of a portion of the rear panel is shown in Fig. 2. In addition to the inplit. OHIPUF. FAPF MOX and rape ol'r pairs of phono-tip jacks. there are swifehid and UNSWIIGHED Convenience AC receptacles and a line rust. It should be noted that the rape O'r jacks of the AD-1305. as arranged in this unit. provide a flat response signal. In other words. the tape out signal comes before any equalization. Thus, while a normal connection via the tape monitor jacks on vour receiver or amplifier would enable vou to equalize reproduced or played-back music from any program source (by simply choosing the monitor position of the front-panel control on your amplifier or recejver). such a connection would not permit you to preequalize program material that vou wish to record onto vour tape. For such applications. the AD )-1305 would have to he re-installed between vour program source and the line inputs to your tape recorder. Then. for playback. you would have to restore original connections to the tape monitor jacks on your amplifier or receiver.

## Internal layout

Removal of the top cover of the AD-1305 (ours was supplied fully wired by the factory) reveals an excellent circuit layout consisting of a primary circuit hoard that contains the active stages of the device. and individual vertically mounted $p$ © hoards that contain the slide potentiometers and the LC filter components. Each of these latter boards has its own metal shield cover to prevent stray magnetic hum fields from reaching the inductors. The power transformer is also completely shielded in its own compartment at the lower right (see Fig. 3). (We removed the top cover for the purposes of this photo.) Although we were not supplied with a construction manual for the AD-1305, judging by the completed unit. even a novice kithuilder would have no trouble assembling this product. We would estimate that an experienced kit-builder could complete the job in under 8 hours whereas a newcomer to electronic kit building might require up to 12 hours or so.

## Circuit description

A partial schematic of the AD-1305 circuit is shown in Fig. 4. Only one channel is shown since the opposite channel is identical. Of particular interest are the frequency control circuits. Signals from the input amplifier are coupled to the base of Q7 and through C101 to each of the five frequency controis. Each control consists of a potentiometer that is center-tapped. plus a series circuit consisting of a capacitor. coil and resistor. The center tap of each control is grounded so that when the control is set to its center position, hoth ends of the series circuit are grounded and the circuit has no effect.

As the control is moved to the boost side. the series circuit is connected to the inverting input at the base of $Q 8$ of the equalizer amplifier. This results in a voltage gain at the resonant frequency (determined by the series inductance and capacitance in each frequency control circuit). As a control is moved to

the attenuate side. that circuit is connected to the non-inverting input at the base of Q7. This presents a low impedance lo ground for the signal that results in reduced gain at the resonant frequency. The series resistor in each resonant circuit limits the possible voltage attenuation at the resonant frequency to a maximum of 12 dB .

Transistors Q7. Q8. Q9. Q10. Q11 and Q12 and associated circuitry form a discretedevice operational amplifier with full complementary symmetry output. Switch SW202. when thrown to the rone flat position. connects input and output terminals logether.
bypassing the equalizer circuits entirely.

## Laboratory measurements

Some of the more important performance measurements we made on the AD)-1305 are summarized in Table I. Our enthusiasm regarding the low distortion observed at rated output across the entire audio band from 20 Hz to 20 kHz does not really tell the entire story. Often. equalizers of this type measure low in distortion when all controls are set that. but tend to show increased distortion when the slide controls are pushed towards the hoost settings. In the case of the


## TABLE I

RADIO－ELECTRONICS PRODUCT TEST REPORT
Manufacturer：Heath Company
Model：AD－1305
GRAPHIC EQUALIZER PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS
Rated output．reference（volts）
Output voltage at overload
THD at rated output． 20 Hz
THD at rated output． 100 Hz
THD at rated output． 1 kHz
THD at rated output， 20 kHz
IM distortion，rated output（V）
$\mathrm{S} / \mathrm{N}$ re：rated output
Frequency response（ $\mathrm{Hz}-\mathrm{kHz}, \pm \mathrm{dB}$ ）（filters set to flal）
Frequency control ranges
EVALUATION OF CONTROLS，
CONSTRUCTION AND DESIGN
Action of controls and switches
Design and layout
Ease of servicing
OVERALL EQUALIZER PERFORMANCE RATING

R－E
Evaluation
Excellent
Superb
Superb
Superb
Superb
Excellent
Excellent
Excellen Good

Falr

Excellent
Excellent
Very good

AD－1305 we actually measured somewhat lower distortion figures than those tabulated when all controls were at their maximum boost position and input level was reduced so that the output remained at the rated 1.5 － volts RMS．

As can be seen from the scope photo of Fig． 5 ．the control range is approximately $\pm 12 \mathrm{~dB}$
at center frequencies within each two－octave control segment（vertical scope gain is 10 dB － per－division and horizontal sweep is from 20 Hz to 20 kHz ．logarithmic．so that distances per octave are equal across the scope face）． Since overload does not occur until an output of 10 volts is reached（far better than the Heath claim of 5.0 volts）．even if the input

TABLE II

## RADIO－ELECTRONICS PRODUCT TEST REPORT

Manufacturer：Heath Company
Model AD－1305

## OVERALL PRODUCT ANALYSIS

| Retail price | $\$ 119.95$（Kit） |
| :--- | :--- |
| Price category | Low |
| Price／performance ratio | Very good |
| Styling and appearance | Excellent |
| Sound quality | Very good |
| Mechanical pepformance | Excellent |

Comments：The Heath AD－1305 equalizer more than meets its published specifications，which is no real surprise．Heathkits have always been conservatively rated because the manufacturer must take into account the fact that the units will be assembled by a great variety of people．many of whom have no previous experience with electronic product assembly．
Of more fundamental importance is the question of the function and acequacy of the product in terms of its purpose．Five－band equalization is the minimum that is required to provide more effective tonal tailoring than can be achieved with simple tone controls．In fact．given the interaction between adjacent band controls evidenced by the AD－1305．there are now some amplifiers and receivers on the market which，with the aid of a third，midrange tone control over and above the usual bass and treble controls，can achieve virtually the same combinations of overall response as are possible with the AD－1305．Its chief virtue is its ability to alter the response at the frequency extremes．something that cannot normally be done with conventional tone controls without also seriously altering mid－frequency response．
Some of the more elaborate equalizers on the market also feature an overall gain conirol that permits the user to readjust overall gain（after equalization）to unity．This control insures against possible overload（no problem in the case of the AD－1305， since it is immune to overload even up to 10 －volts output）and also to make more meaningful＂A－B＂comparisons of equalized and unequalized sound．Without such a control，audible change in level tends to influence the listener and can mask the true effects of equalization settings selected．Certainly，for the modest price of the AD－ 1305．Heath has come up with excellent specs and about as much circuitry as could be had for that price．Our real question is whether or not they would have been better off to offer a somewhat more elaborate unit（perhaps with octave－by－octave equalization，which would require ten slide controls per channel），even if that meant charging a somewhat higher price for the unit？Even at this level of sophistication． however，it beats anything you can do with simple bass and treble controls you might now have on your central component in your hi－fi system．

level were as high as 1.5 volts and all slide controls were set to their maximum boost positions．the output level would be approxi－ matelv 6.0 volts at the center frequencies of each of the bands so boosted．or well below the overload point．

The signal－to－noise ratio of the AD－1305 equalizer is great enough so that it is not likely to add any audible background noise to even the best component sustems provid－ ing a reasonable match of input levels is maintained between it and the other compo－ nents．It should be mentioned that if users happen to own a separate preamplifier and a separate power amplifier．the equalizer may be connected between them．too．Since most power amplifiers sold for hi－ti use generally have input sensitivities of between 0.75 and 1.5 volts for full rated output．a good match and no danger of overload of the equalizer would result from that alternate hook－up arrangement．

In order to give readers some idea of the type of overall response curve that can be achieved with this equalizer．we set the controls to the arbitrary positions shown in Fig．I and applied a sweep－frequency from 20 H to 20 kHz to the input．We recorded the overall response with our spectrum analyzer．The resultant curve is shown in the scope photo of Fig．6．While there is some

overlap of action hetween adjacent－hand filters．the overall curve trend follows that of the positions of the five control knobs in Fig． 1．Where adjacent filters are set in opposite directions that is．lowest two ortaves require boest while the next wo sectaves require cut． for example）．the amount of boost and cut mav have to be slightly exaggerated so that the two ations don＇t tend to cancel each other out in the region of common frequen－ cies of both filters．

Our overall product summary．together with comments regarding the Heath AD－ 1305 will be found in Table ！！．R－E

# Anti-Theft Devices 

# PART II. Practical circuits you can build and connect to any vehicle with a 6- or 12-volt electrical system for protection against thieves 

R. M. MARSTON

last month. in part i of rhis articte we discussed various types of automotive anti-theft devices and presented a few practical circuits you can build.

This month's concluding part presents the rest of the practical circuits.

## Auto-turn-oft alarm

A weakness of the circuits shown is that since car horns and their associated components are not designed to withstand continuous long-period operation, these components may be damaged if the alarm sounds for too long. Fig. 8 shows how the Fig. 6 circuit can be modified so that the horn and lights turn off automatically after four minutes or so. thus minimizing the possibility of horn damage.

Here, RYI energizes and self-latches in the same way as the Fig. 6 circuit. As contacts RYI-1 close, the full battery voltage is applied across the Q1-Q2. RY2 network. At the moment that power is applied. CI is fully discharged and behaves like a short, so the base and collector of QI are effectively shorted together. Relay RY2 is immediately turned on via the Q1-Q2 Darlington emitter-follower and the horn and lights operate.
As soon as power is applied to the circuit. CI starts to charge up via RI. and the voltage across the coil of RY2 starts to decay exponentially towards zero. After a delay of about four minutes, this voltage falls so low that RY2. horn and lights turn off. Relay RYI remains on, however, until the system is turned off via the key switch. so the vehicle remains immobilized via its breaker points.
The Fig. 8 circuit is shown as for use on negative ground vehicles. The circuit can be modified for use on positive ground vehicles by reversing the polarities of D1 and D2, and by reversing the supply connections to the RYI driving network. as shown in Fig. 9.

## Pulsed alarm

A minor snag with the circuit in Figs. 8 and 9 is that since it gives a monotone" form of horn operation, its owner
is unlikely to be able to recognize the sound of his own vehicle and will tend to check his own vehicle whenever he hears any horn sound. This snag is


FIG. 8-IMPROVED MICROSWITCH-ACTIVATED alarm/immobilizer turns horn and lights off after 4 minutes. Circuit is for vehicies with $-\mathbf{V}$ ground electrical systems.


FIG. 9-IMPROVED MICROSWITCH-ACTIVATED alarm/immobilizer for vehicies with $+\mathbf{V}$ ground electrical systems.


FIG. 10-MODIFIED MICROSWITCH-ACTIVATED alarm/immobilizer gives distinctive pulsed operation of horn and lights, but turns them off after 4 minutes. Circuit is for vehicles with $-V$ ground electrical systems.


FIG. 11-MODIFIED MICROSWITCH-ACTIVATED alarm/immobilizer for vehicles with $+\mathbf{V}$ ground electrical systems.


FIG. 12-VOLTAGE-SENSING circuit can be used to replace the RY1 drive-network in the - V ground alarm electrical systems.
overcome in the circuit shown in Fig. 10. This circuit pulses the horn and lights for 4 seconds on and for $11 / 2$ seconds off repeatedly for about four minutes under the alarm condition. thus producing a very distinctive warning signal.
The Fig. 10 circuit is similar to the circuit shown in Fig. 8 except that RYI is driven by a simple pulse generator formed from Q1 and a type CD4001AE COS/MOS digital IC. Here, the IC is wired as a buffered-output gated asta-ble-nultivibrator with unequal on and off times. The gating is controlled by time-delay network R1-Cl. The on time of the relay (approx. 4 seconds) is controlled by R3-D3 and the off time (approx. 1.5 seconds) is controlled by R4-D4. Note that capacitor C2 is nonpolarized. The pulse generator turns on and activates RY2 and the horn and lights as soon as RYI turns on, but turns off again automatically after about four minutes via the RI-CI time-delay network.

The circuit shown in Fig. 10 is for use on vehicles fitted with negative ground electrical systems. The circuit can be modified for use on positive ground vehicles by reversing the polarities of D1 and D2, and by reversing the supply connections to the RY2 driving network as shown in Fig. 11.

## Voltage-sensing alarm

Figure 12 shows the practical circuit of a voltage-sensing type of alarm that can be used in place of the simple RYI driving network described in the earlier circuits. Circuit operation relies on the fact that a small but sharp drop occurs in battery voltage whenever a vehicle courtesy light, etc., is turned on. This sudden drop in voltage is detected and made to operate RYI. The system has the advantage that the alarms' pick-up can be attached directly to the vehicles battery, rather than to a number of microswitches.

The operation of the Fig. 12 circuit is fairly simple. Here, voltage divider RI-R2-R3 is wired across the vehicles supply lines. The output of this divider is connected directly to the inverting (pin-2) terminal of an open-loop type $741 \mathrm{op}-\mathrm{amp}$. The output of the divider is also connected via a simple (R4-C1-R5) time-delay or "memory" network to the non-inverting (pin-3) terminal of the opamp. A small 'offset' voltage can be applied between the input terminals of the op-amp via trimmer R6.

Suppose, then, that this offset control is adjusted so that the pin- 2 voltage is fractionally higher than that of pin-3 under steady-voltage conditions, and that under this condition the output of the op-amp is driven to negative saturation. If now a small but abrupt fall occurs in the supply voltage, this fall is transferred immediately to pin-2 of the op-amp but does not immediately reach
pin-3 because of the time-delay or memory action of Cl . Consequently. pin-2 briefly goes negative relative to pin-3, and as it does the output of the op-amp is driven briefly to positive saturation, thus giving a positive output pulse. This pulse is used to charge C2 via DI, and C2 energizes RYI via Q1. Q2 and R8. As the relay energizes, contacts RYI-I close and cause the relay to self-latch. Contacts RY|-2 close and immobilize the vehicle via the CB points.

Note that the above circuit responds only to sudden drops in potential. and is not influenced by absolute values of battery voltage. Thus, leaving the car lights on or off, etc.. has no influence on the operation of the alarm system.

The Fig. 12 circuit is intended for use on negative ground vehicles and can be used directly in place of the RYI network in any of the circuits shown in Figs. 6, 8 or 10 . The circuit can be modified for use on positive ground vehicles by using the connections shown in Fig. 13, and can then be used directly
sensitive to small shifts in battery voltage. The best way of finding the right setting for R6 is as follows.

First, remove the courtest lamp and replace it with one with half of the original current rating. Now adjust R6 just past the point where the alarm fails to operate when the lamp goes on. and then turn R6 back a fraction so that the alarm only just operates via the courtesy light. Finally, replace the original courtesy lamp. Reliable operation should then be obtained.

## Intallation

The alarm systems that we have described are all designed to be turned on and off via an externally-mounted switch. There are three different approaches that can be used in installing this switch.

The best and most reliable approach is to use a key switch to turn the alarm system on and off. This switch should be secured to the outer bodywork of the car in a clearly visible position close to the drivers door. The switch should be


FIG. 13-VOLTAGE-SENSING circuit for vehicles with $+\mathbf{V}$ ground electrical systems.
in place of the RYI network in any of the circuits shown in Figs. 7, 9 or 11.

When installing the circuit in a vehicle, R6 must be adjusted so that the alarm turns on reliably when the courtesy light goes on, but is not excessively
mounted so that its face is vertical and rain does not run into its mechanism. The switch should also be positioned so that its wiring is not vulnerable to road dirt or to potential car thieves. The best position is on the upper wing or fender.
where the bodywork also forms part of the vehicles engine compartment. The idea of mounting the switch in a very prominent position is that potential thieves will readily see that the vehicle is protected by an alarm device and will be detered from trying to steal it.
An alternative solution to the switch installation problem is to use a simple toggle switch. Mount the switch in a carefully concealed position on the outside of the vehicle. The weakness of this system is that a potential thief simply has to watch the owner enter the vehicle in order to discover the location of the concealed switch.

A third and rather elegant (but expensive) solution to the problem is to use some kind of short-range remote controlled electronic switch. Ultrasonic and light-activated switched are not very suitable for this type of application, but radio and inductive-controlled switches are. If there is enough reader interest, we'll publish some suitable inductive-controlled circuits in a future issue of Radio-Electronics.
Once the alarms master on/off switch has been fitted, the next installation job is to fit suitable microswitches to activate the system. As already mentioned, two suitable switches are already fitted to most vehicles and are used to operate the dome or courtesy light. It is worth filting additional switches to the rear doors and essential to fit them to the trunk and hood if full anti-theft protection is to be obtained. Note that if your vehicle is fitted with a voltage-sensing type of alarm system, these microswitches must be made to switch a lamp or similar kind of current load. The higher the load current used, the more reliable will be the operation of the alarm circuit. The microswitches can all be wired in parallel and a single load used.

Finally, when the installation is complete. give vour system a complete functional check. When conducting this test. try not to disturb anyone.

## Second Comstar satellite tests super high frequencies

The second Comstar domestic communications satellite went into synchronous orbit July 22, adding nearly 3,000 voice channels to the present facilities. The satellite carries 24 transponders, each with a capacity of at least 1,200 highgrade voice channels. Vertical and horizontal polarization effectively double the number of channels for the antenna system. The satellite's principal beam is directed to the continental United States; three spot beams cover Hawaii, Alaska and Puerto Rico.
Comstar II carries a super-high-frequency radio beacon package, designed to make tests on frequencies near 19 and 28 GHz . These are being used by Bell and GTE laboratories for gathering data on signal propagation at these frequencies, with a view to their future use.

R-E
lasers that translate the electrical impulses into infrared light at a wavelength of 0.82 microns. Average power into each fiber is about 0.5 milliwatts. A modulator circuit associated with each laser can turn it on and off completely at a 44.7 megabit rate (nearly 50 million times a second). A silicon "avalanche" photodetector converts the light pulses to electrical signals at the receiving end of each fiber.

Signals in these low-foss cables can be carried at least four miles without regeneration. The first applications are therefore expected to be between telephone switching centers in metropolitan areas, where duct space for cables is at a premium and distances are likely to be less than four miles. Later, long-distance communication is envisaged, with the signals being regenerated at regular intervals along the line as is now done in the transcontinental microwave relays.

## Western Electric now making optical transmission lines

A pilot production line for the manufacture of fiber lightguides for lightwave transmission systems is already in operation at Western Electric in Atlanta, GA. A prototype lightwave communications system is currently being evaluated.

The optical cables are made from ex-tremely-pure silica glass, with losses of only 10 dB-per-mile. (Light passes through 500 feet of lightguide with the same toss it would have going through an ordinary window pane.) Twelve of the hair-thin fibers are formed into a flat ribbon, and a dozen of these ribbons are enclosed in a cable of 144 conductors. This haff-inch diameter cable can carry the equivalent of 50,000 telephone voice channels.
Electrical signals are fed into each of the guides by gallium-aluminum-arsenide

# Build Electroni Roulette <br>  

## This electronic roulette game has a stationary wheel and uses discreet LED's to simulate a spinning effect

## BARTON EVANS, Jr.

"All WORK and no play makis the elec. tronic hobbyist dull and irritable" wrote an ancient sage whose identity has since been lost. Now you can break up the monotony in your electronic life with your own home electronic roulette wheel. Obviously to be used for entertainment only, as gambling for money is illegal in most states, this project will give a truly random roulette run without requiring an elaborate casino-type wheel. After constructing this roulette wheel and studying the rules of play, you will be able to host your own roulette party.

## Theory of operatlon

The circuit (see Fig. 1) consists of three basic elements: the 5 -volt power supply, the 500 Hz to 1 Hz decliningfrequency oscillator, and the counting/ decoding logic.

The power supply is a simple $200-\mathrm{mA}$ supply built around an LM340 5-volt regulator $I C$ and a bridge rectifier module.

The oscillator is designed to run at 500 Hz while C3 is shorted and then slow down as the charging C3 slowly cuts off Ql, which controls the rate of charging current to C4. Capacitor C4 in turn discharges through unijunction transistor Q2 which is the oscillating element. The output is taken from the base of Q2 and fed to the counter/ decoder logic.

The counter/decoder consists of two SN7493 4-bit binary counter 1 C 's and three SN74154 one-in-sixteen decoders. The 7493 's are wired to count to 256. although they are reset after every 38 counts. The outputs of the first counter (bits 0-3) are fed to all three decoder
inputs. Bits 4 and 5 from the second counter are fed to the enable inputs (pins 18 and 19) of the decoders to turn each on during the proper interval. For example, for counts $0-15$, IC5 is enabled and IC6 and IC7 are disabled by feeding bits 4 and 5 to IC5 unaltered. During counts 16-31, bits 4 and 5 will be " 1 " and " 0 " respectively and are fed to the enable inputs of IC6. Finally, during counts $32-37$, bits 4 and 5 will be " 0 " and "I" and are thus fed to IC7. As the count increases, one by one the outputs of IC5. 6, and 7 go "low" and sink current through the LED's which then light. When the count reaches 37 (roulette number " 00 "). the counter is reset to 0 .

Note that only one current limiter resistor (R6) is required for all 38 LED's since only one LED is ever on at one time.

## Construction

A printed circuit board is highly recommended. The artwork (half-size) is provided (see Fig. 2) as well as a parts location diagram (Fig. 3) for a $150 \times 200$ mm board. While the prototype used a single-sided board, purists will want to eliminate the dozen or so jumpers with a double-sided board. The cost of the blank will, of course, be greater.
After etching and drilling the board, install all resistors and capacitors. Next, firmly screw down ICl for good heat transfer. IC's 2 to 7 should be either directly soldered or mounted in Molex ${ }^{(8)}$ connectors to maintain the low profile.
Note that among any batch of MV5024 LED's there is a varying length of leads as well as a difference in plastic lens size. Choose your three shortest

LED's and mount them $120^{\circ}$ apart on the board, using a temporary spacer made of cardboard (see Fig. 4). Note the polarity of the LED's: the small post with the chip on it is the cathode and must face toward the center of the printed circuit board. If the height of CI is greater than the flanges of the LED's. remount it below the board.

After the first three LED's are in place, insert several more, invert the board on a flat surface and gently tap them until their lenses rest against the surface. This will insure that all LED's are mounted at the same height. Solder


## LAYOUT OF PARTS on the PC board.

one lead of each, check for alignment. and solder the other lead. Repeat this process until all LED's are in place. Be careful not to overheat the printed circuit pads.

Mount the line cord. switch. and power transformer in the base of the cabinet (see photos). Using the printed circuit artwork as a guide. carefully locate and drill the 38 holes for the LED's. Also cut a hole in which to

mount a small plastic roulette wheel, available from your local game store. PVC liquid vinyl makes an ideal adhesive for this purpose. Using spacers, mount the circuit board at a height such that the LED's will protrude as much as possible through the cabinet top while at the same time not cause interference with other board-mounted components. Mount the spin button wherever convenient, being careful to avoid interference with other parts.


UNIT WITH PC BOARD REMOVED.

## Testing

When first turned on, C3 will charge, causing one "spin" cycle to take place. If this does not occur, check the 5 -volt supply if no LED is lit. If an LED is lit, but no oscillation is taking place, check the installation of Q1 and Q2. The LED moving light should rotate counterclockwise. Each time the SPIN button is depressed, the oscillator will instantly return to maximum frequency and not begin to slow until the button is released. A spin takes $20-30$ seconds.


FIG. 2-PRINTED CIRCUIT BOARD shown hali-size.


FIG．3－PARTS PLACEMENT shown from component－side of board．LED anodes connect to common bus．

## TABLE 1－ODDS

a．Any single number（ 38 ways）
b．Two adjacent numbers（ 57 ways）
c．Three numbers in a row（ 12 ways）
d．Four numbers in a square（22 ways）
e．Five numbers（1，2，3，0，00）（1 way）
f．Six numbers in two adjacent rows（11 ways）
g．1st，2nd，3rd twelve
h．1st，2nd，3rd column
i．Odd／Even
j．Red／Black
k．1－18／19－36
I．Line between $1 \mathrm{st} / 2$ nd or $2 \mathrm{nd} / 3$ rd twelve
$m$ ．Line between $1 \mathrm{st} / 2 \mathrm{nd}$ or $2 \mathrm{nd} / 3$ rd column

Pays
35 to 1
17 to 1
11 to 1
8 to 1
6 to 1
5 to 1
2 to 1
2 to 1
1 to 1
1 to 1
1 to 1
$1 / 2$ to 1
$1 / 2$ to 1

## Playing roulette

A standard roulette＂layout＂is shown in Fig． 5 with one of each of the various types of bets indicated．（A nicely printed layout should have been included with the toy roulette wheel purchased．）All players place their bets on the locations of their choice until the＂croupier＂or banker，calls：＂les jeux sont fait．＂or＂no more bets．＂

As indicated by the call－out letters in Fig．5．bets may be placed on：
a．one number：place chip on that number；
b．two numbers：place chip on line between any two adjacent num－ bers；
c．three numbers：place chip on the outside line next to three numbers in a row；
d．four numbers；place chip on the


Fig．4－LED detail and mounting


FIG．5－THE ROULETTE＂LAYOUT．＂Discs indi－ cate positioning of chips for the＂bets，＂as described in the text．
intersecting lines between four numbers in a square；
e．five numbers：may be bet only on 1，2，3，0，00；
f．six numbers：place chip on point at the end of two adjacent three－number rows；
g．first，second or third iwelve；
h．first，second or third column；
i．odd／even；
j．red／black（rouge／noir）；
k．1－18／19－36；
l．two twelves；
$m$ ．two columns．
After betting is finished the spin is started and no one may touch any chips on the table．When the spin stops，the croupier calls the winning number， points to it on the layout，and removes all losing bets．Winning bets are then paid to their owners according to the odds in Table I．from the most signifi－ cant to the least significant odds．The croupier leaves the player＇s bet on the table while he pays him．The player may then elect to retrieve it or＂let it ride＂for the next play．

R－E

# 1976 ANNUAL INDEX 

## JANUARY 1976-DECEMBER 1976

Abbreviations: (C) Construction; (D) Department; (ER) Equipment Report; (LTER) Lab Tested Equipment Report; (F) Filler; (SC) Service Clinic

## A

AKG P8E Cartridge (LTER)
Nov 81
All About Digital Multimeters (Gilmore) Nov 45, Dec 48 All About Function Generators (Gilmore) May 40, Jun 56 All About Probes (Gilmore) Jan 44, Fob 50, Mar 81 All About SWR \& CB Performance (Friedman) Oct 82 AM (see listing under High Fidelity) AM Stereo (Maynard)

Oct 51
American Technology A TC-10 Color Pattern
Generator (ER)
May 24
Amplitier (see listing under High Fidelity)
Antennas (see listing under associated subject-CB, TV, Radio, MATV)
$\begin{array}{lr}\text { Anti-Theft Devices (C) (Marston) } \\ \text { ASCII To Baudot (C) (Smith) } & \text { Nov 56, Dec } 68 \\ 51\end{array}$

## Audio (eee High Fldelity)

Automotive
Anti-Theft Devices (C) (Marston) Nov 56, Dec 68 Car Stereo Systems (Petras) Ignition System, Build For Your Car (Pace) (C) 51
Tach 8 Overspeed Alarms (C) (Marston)
Oct 45, Apr 37

## B

| B \& K 510 Transistor Tester (ER) | Oct 36 |
| :--- | :--- |
| B \& K 1040 CB Servicemaster (ER) | Jun 16 |
| B \& O 4000 FM Receiver (LTER) | Aug 55 |

Baudot To ASCII (C) (Smith) Apr 57
Biofeedback Thermometer (C) (Waite \& Brown) Feb 33
Build
Anti-Theft Devices (C) (Marston) Nov 56, Dec 68 Clock. Gas-Discharge. Alarm (C) (Emeraid) Nov 67 Computer
$\begin{array}{lr}\text { ASCII To Baudot (C) (Smith) Mar } 51 \\ \text { Baudot to ASCH (C) (Smith) } & \text { Aprl } 57 \\ \text { Calculator. Expand Novis (C) (Stearns) Dec } 54\end{array}$
Data Terminal, Pocket (C) (EdWards)
Jan 29, Feb 60
8080 Micro. Dyna-Micro (C) (Titus)
May 33, Jun 41, Jul 48
Digicolororgan (C) (Meyer)
Fuse, 10- $\mu s$ Electronic (C)
Gas Sensor, A (C) (Lewart
Gas Sensor, A (C) (Lewart) (Waite \& Brown) Mar 48 Ignition System. Solid-State For Your Car Jul 46
Mindpower: Alpha (C) Jul 38, Aug 50, Sep 49 Music Synthesizer. Portable III (C) (Simonton)
Overspeed Alarms, For Your Car (C) (Marston) 46
Roulette. Electronic (C) Apr 37, Oct 45
Roulette, Electronic (C) (C) (Tyler) 71
Stopwatch, Electronic
Telephone Dialer, Automatic (C) (Wilson a
Funderburk)
Thermometer, Biofeedback (C) (Waite \& Brown)
Timer. Digital Countdown (C) (Baumgras) 80 TV Game, Great (C) (Pichulo) Jun 35, Jul 56, Aug 57 C

| Calculator. Expand Novis | Dec 54 |
| :--- | ---: |
| Calibrating Frequency With Your TV (Robbins) | Sep 74 |
| Car Stereo Systems (Petras) | Dec 51 |
| CB (also see Tet Equipment) |  |
| All about SWR \& Performance (Friedman) | Oct 82 |
| Accessorles |  |
| Roundup. New \& Unusual (Scott) | Nov 40 |
| Antennas |  |
| For Your Car (Friedman) | Sep 41 |
| Selecting (Scott) | Jan 52 |
| Selecting Base Station (Scott) | Jul 32 |
| Equipment Roundup. Transcievers (Friedman) |  |
| Frequency Synthesizers (Scott) | Jen 33 |
| Future Of (Friedman) | Oct 41 |



Delayed Sweep Scopes. How \& Why (Glaze) Oct 80 Digicolororgan (C) (Meyer) Oct 61
Digital Clock Kit Roundup (Blechman) Aug 33, Sep 45 Digital Countdown Timer (C) (Baumgras) Aug 43, Sep 80
Digital Reverb For Today's Hi-Fi Systems (Feldman) Jui 43
Digital Time Delay System For Concert Hall Sound (Feldman)

Sep 57
Digital TV Remote Control (Wilson) Jan 58

| $E$ |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Empire 2000Z Cartridge (LTER) | Sep 68 |
| EPA Micro-68 Computer (ER) | Jun 18 |
| Equalizer (see listing under High Fidelity) |  |
| Equipment Report |  |
| American Technology ATC-10 Color Pattern |  |
| B \& K 510 Transistor Tester | Oct 36 |
| B \& K 1040 CB Servicemaster | Jun 16 |
| EPA Micro-68 Computer | Jun 18 |
| Heath AR-1615 Preamplifier Kit | Dec 34 |
| Hewlett-Packard 3476A Digital Multimeter | May 30 |
| Hickok 334 DMM | Feb 68 |
| Hickok 380 Series Frequency Counters | Oct 32 |
| Hickok 440 Curve Tracer | Feb 30 |
| Jerrold L-200 Levelite | Feb 20 |
| Microcomputer Associates Jolt Microcomputer |  |
|  | Jun 30 |
| Philips PM3225 Scope | Oct 34 |
| Sencore CB41 Automatic CB Performance | Tester |
|  | Sept 26 |
| Sencore DVM-32 Digital Multimeter | Fob 20 |
| Tele-Matic KP-710 | Mar 24 |
| Texas Instruments LCM-1001 Microprocessor |  |
| Learning Module | Sep 29 |
| Vector P173 Wiring Pencil | Mar 30 |
| Vector P180 Slit is Wrap Wiring Tool | Sep 28 |
| Evaluating Color TV Recelvers (Prentiss) | Mar 59 |
| $F$ |  |
| 555 IC Timer Circuits (C) (Scott) |  |
| Fab 40, Mar 62 | Sep 63 |


| 4 Channel (see Ouadriphonic under High Fidelity) |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| FM (eee listing under High Fidelity) |  |
| FM Tuner Standards, New (Feldman) | Feb 43 |
| Frequency Counters (see Ilsting under Test Equipment) |  |
| Fuji FX C-60 Tape (LTER) | Apr 53 |
| Functlon Generators ( Equipment) |  |
| Fuse, Build $10 \mu \mathrm{~s}$ Electronic (C) (Waite \& Brown) |  |
|  |  |
| Future Of CB (Friedman) | Jan 68 |
| C |  |
| Games, TV (see listing under Television) |  |
| Garage Door Openers, Installing (Stral) | Apr 50 |
| Gas-Discharge Alarm Clock (C) (Emerald) | Nov 67 |
| Getting Started in CB Servicing (Steckler) | Jan 22 |
| H |  |
| Harman-Kardon Citation 16 Power Amplifier (LTER) <br> Apr 54 |  |
| Heath AD-1305 Equalizer Kit (LTER) | Dec 65 |
| Heath AR-1615 Preamplifier Kit (ER) | Dec 34 |
| Heath Modulus AN-2016 (LTER) | Mar 33 |
| Heath Modulus Power Amplifier AA-1506 (LTER) |  |
|  | Mar 36 |
| Helectronix L-15 Pulse-Sweep Function Generator <br> (ER) <br> Nov 32 |  |
| Hewlett-Packard 3476A Digital Multimeter (ER) | May 30 |
| Hickok 440 Curve Tracer (ER) | Feb 30 |
| Hickok 380 Series Frequency Counters (ER) | Oct 32 |
| Hickok 334 DMM (ER) | Fob 68 |
| Hickok 217 Semiconductor Analyzer (ER) | Sep 30 |
| High Fidelity Ampilfier |  |
| Class-G High Efficiency (Feldman) | Aug 47 |
| Heath Modulus Power Amplifier AA-15 (LTER) | $\text { Mar } 36$ |
| Harman-Kardon Citation 16 (LTER) | Apr 54 |
| Car Stereo Systems (Petras) | Dec 51 |
| Cartridge |  |
| AKG P8E (LTER) | Nov 81 |
| Empire 20002 (LTER) | Sep 68 |
| Shure M24H (LTER) | Ocl 69 |
| Castette |  |
| Hitachi D-3500 Deck (LTER) | Aug 53 |
| Nakamachi 600 Deck (LTER) | Dec 59 |
| Reel-To-Reel. Elcaset (Feldman) | Oet 48 |
| Recorder, Yamaha TC-800GL (LTER) | Feb 55 |
| Sansui SC-3000 Deck (LTER) | Jun 50 |
| Digital Time Delay System For Concert Ha (Feldman) | Sound Sep 57 |
| Equalizer |  |
| Heath AD-1305 Kit (LTER) | Dec 65 |
| FM |  |
| B $\& 04000$ Receiver (LTER) Tuners. New Standards (Feldman) | Aug 55 <br> Feb 43 |

Four Channel (see Quadrifonic under High Fidelity)
Integrated Amplifier
Luxman L-100 (LTER)
Jan 42

## Preamp

Crown IC-150A (LTER)
Heath Modulus AN-2016 (LTER)
Heath AR-1615 (ER)
Phase Linear 2000 (LTER)
Nov 78

Quadriphonic
CD4 Demodulator, Marantz CD-400B (LTER)
What's Wrong With 4-Channel (Friedman) Mar 76 Radio

AM Stereo (Maynard)
Oct 51
Receiver
JVC S-300 Stereo (LTER)
Lafayette LR-2200 (LTER)
Sep 66
Marantz 2325 (LTER)
Pioneer SX-1250 (LTER)
Sansui 9090 (LTER)
May 50
May 56
May 56
Jui 51
Jul 51
Feb 52
inear Phase Response (Feldman)
May 43 Mystery Ot The Failing Tweeters (Feldman) Oct 58
Tape
Fuji FX C-60 (LTER)
mproved Noise Reduction For (Feldman)
Understanding Specs (Feldman) $\quad$ Mar 69
Tape Deck
Tandberg 10XD (LTER) Jul 48
Testing Gear (Feldman)
Tuner
Sansui TU-9900 (LTER) Oct 70
Turntables
Drive Systems (Feldman)
(Friedman) Jan 49
Hitachi D-3500 Cassete Tape Deck (LTER) Aug 53
Improved Noise-Reduction For Tapes (Feldman)
Nov 76
Industrial Voltmeters (Darr) Sep 84
Inside 30-Channel MATV Systems (Wolf) Apr 40
installing Garage Door Openers (Stral)
Apr 50

## $J$

Jerroid L-200 Levelite (ER) Feb 20
Jolt 4K RAM Module (ER)
Nov 30
JVC S-300 Stereo Receiver (LTER)

## K

Komputer Korner (see Hsiling under Computer)

## L

Lafayette LR-2200 Receiver (LTER) May 50 Letters (D) Jan 14, Feb 18, Mar 14, Apr 14, May 14, Jun 14, Jul 14, Mug 16, Sep 14, Oct 14,

Linear Phase Response (Feidman) May 43
Looking Ahead (D) Jan 4, Feb 4, Mar 4, Apr 4, May 4 Jun 4, Jul 4, Aug 4, Sep 4, Oct 4, Nov 4, Dec 4 Loomis, Pioneers Of Radio (Shunaman) Fab 103 Low Voltage DC Power Supplies (SC) (Darr) Jun 62

LTER (Lab Tested Equlpment Report)
Crown IC-150A Preamplifier
Empire 20002 Cartridge
Fuji FX C-60 Tape
Harman-Kardon Citation 16 Pop 68
Marman-Kardon Citation 16 Power AmplitierApr 53
Meath Modulus System AN-201 3
Heath Modulus Power Amplifie! AA-1506
Hitachi D-3500 Cassette Tape Deck
NC S-300 Siereo Receiver
Luxman L-100 Integrated Amplifier
Luxman L-100 integrated Amplilier
Marantz 2325 Stereo Receiver iLTER
Marantz 2325 Stereo Receiver iLTER
Phase Linear 2000
Pioneer SX-1250
Sansul TU-9900 Tune
Sansui TU-9900 Tune
Sansui M2-3000 Deck
Thure M24H Ca
Yamaha TC-800GL Cassette Recorder
Luxman L-100 Integrated Amplifier (LTER) Mar 33 Mar 36 Aug 53
Sep 86 Sep 56
May 50 May 50
Jan 42 Jan 42 Jan 40 May 56 Jun 48 Jui 51 Feb 52 Oct 70 Jul 48

## M

Make Graphs Work For You (Gottlieb) May 60 Marantz CD-400B CD-4 Demodulator (LTER) Jan 40 MATV (see listing under TV)
Microcomputer Associates Jolt Microcomputer (ER) 30

Microphones In Pro Sound Systems (Black) Jul 53 Mindpower:Alpha (C) Jul 37, Aug 50, Sep 49, Oct 77 MITS Computer Convention Jul 40
More Bits \& Pieces (SC) Nov 86
Music Synthesizer, III (C) (Simonton) Jan 46
Mystery Of The Falling Tweeters (Feldman) Oct 58

## N

Nakamichı 600 Cassette Deck (LTER) Dec 65 New \& Timely (D) Jan 6, Feb 6, Mar 6, Apr 6, May 6 Jun 6, Jul 6, Aug 6, Sep 6, Oct 6, Nov 6. Dec 6
New CB Test Gear (Darr)
Apr 33
New Literature (D) Jan 80, Feb 87, Mar 89, Apr 79

New Products (D) Jan 76, Feb 84, Mar 86, Apr 74, May 78, Jun 74, Jui 72, Aug 76. Sep 96, Oct 98,
Nov 94, Dec 83
Non-Linear Systems FM-7 Frequency Meter (ER)
Noy 34

Oscllloscope (see listing under Test Equlpment)
Output Transistor Failure (SC)
Aug 63

P

PA
Microphones
In Pro Sound Systems (Black)
Jul 53
Phase Linear 2000 Preamp (LTER)
Jun 48
Philips PM3225 Oscilloscope (ER)
Oct 34
Pioneers of Radio
Loomis (Shunaman)
Feb 103
Pioneer SX-1250 Receiver (LTER) Jul 51
Pocket Data Terminal (C) (Edwards) Jan 29, Feb 60 Preampllier (see listing under High Fidelity)
Probes (see Itsting under Test Equipment)
Projection TV (see Hsting under Television)
a
Quadriphonic (eee listing under High Fidellty)

## R

Reader Questions (see listing under Service)
Redio (see listing under CB)
Redio (see lisuing under High Fidelity)
Radio (see AM, and FM under High Fidellity)
REACT-What's it All About (Shunaman) Jan 61
Receiver (see Isting under High Fidelity) Record Care Breakthrough (Feldman) Mar 41 Record (see listing under High Fidelity) Reel-To-Reel Cassette, Elcaset (Feldman) Oct 48 Reverberation (see listing under High Fidelity) RFI and How To Cure it (SC) Darr Dec 76 Roulette. Electronic. Build (C) Dec 71
$S$
Sansui 9090 Feceiver (LTER) Feb 52

Sansui SC-3000 Cassette Deck (LTER) Jun 50
Sansul TU-9900 Tuner (LTER) Oct 70

Scope (see Oscllloscopes listed under Test Equipment)
Selecting \& Installing TV Antennas (Kluge) Sep 60 Selecting CB Base Station Antennas (Scott) Jul 32 Sencore CB-41 Automatic CB Performance Tester Sencore DVM-22 Digital Multimeter (ER) Feb 20 Serial Interface For TVT II (Colle) Apr 60
Service (also see Service Clinic)

## Notes (F)

Reader Questions (D) Jan 64, Feb 45, 88 Jan 88 Mar 31.61, 68, 74, 97, Apr 64, May 87,
Jun 61, 63, Jul 64, 92, Aug 65, 100.' Sep 56, 59, 82, 92, 117, Oct 60, 88, 107, Noy 8
Step By Step Troubleshooters Guide
Feb 63, Jun 59, Jul 59, Aug 60,
Shure M24H Cartridge (LTER) Oep 77, Oct 95
Speakers (eee listing under High Fidelliy)
State Of Solid State (Savon)
Feb 22, May 69, Jul 26, Jul 42, Aug 28, Sep 36
Step By Step Troubleshooters Gulde (see Ilsting under Service)
Stereo (see High Fidelly)
Stopwatch. Build Electronic, II (C) (Tyler) Feb 57

T

Tach \& Overspeed Alarms (C) (Marston)
Apr 37
Televiaion (also see Service, Step By Step Troubleshooters Guide, Test Equipment)
Television
Antennas
Selecting \& Installing (Kludge) Sep 60
Calibrating Frequency With Your (Robbins) Sep 74 Digital Remote Control (Wilson)
Evaluating Color Receivers (Prentiss)
Games (Blechman)
Games. Build This Grea! (C) (Pichulo)

MatV

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\text { Inside } 30 \text {-Channel Systerns (Wolf) } & \text { Apr } 40 \\
\text { Understanding Accessories (Roy) } & \text { May } 37 \\
\text { Projection-1976-77 (Gerson) } & \text { Dec } 44
\end{array}
$$

VIR Color Correction From Camera To Pix (Kenfield)

Nov 83
Tandberg 10XD Tape Deck (LTER) Jui 49
Tape (see listing under High Fidelity)
Tape Deck (see listing under High Fidelly)
Tape Recorder (see listing under High Fidelity)
Tele Matic KP-710 Color Picture Tube Tester (ER) Mer 24

Telephone Dialer, Automatic, Build (C) (Wilson ${ }^{8}$ Nov 48
Funderbunk)
Test Equipment
Calibrating Frequency With Your TV (Robbins)

C8
B \& K 1040 Servicemaster (ER) Jun 16
New Gear (Darr) Apr 33
Sencore CB-41 Automatic Performance Tester
(ER)

Color Generator
American Technology Corp. ATC-10 (ER)
Curve Tracer Hickok 440 (ER)

Feb 30
Digital Voltmeter
All About (Gilmore)
Hickok 334 (ER)
Sencore DVM-32 (ER)
Noy 45
Feb 68
Frequency Counters
Hickok 380 Series (ER) Oct 32
Function Generator: All About (Gilmore) May 40, Jun 56
Melectronix L-15 Pulse-Swbep (ER) Nov 32
Oscllloscopes
Delayed Sweep. How \& Why (Glaze) Delayed Sweep. How \& Why (Glaze) Oct 80
Phillips PM-3225 (ER)

## uitimeter

Hewlett-Packard 3476A Digital (ER) May 30
Picture Tube Tester Tele-Matic KP-710 (ER) Mar 24
Probes
All About (Gilmore) Jan 44, Feb 50, Mar 81
Television Signal Indicator Jerrold L-200 Levelite (ER) Feb 20
Transistor Tester B 8 K 510 (ER)

Oct 36
oltmeters (also see Digltal Voltmelers,
Multimetars)
Industrial (Darr) Sep 84
Testing Mi-Fi Gear (Feldman) Jun 45
Texas Instruments LCM 1001 Microprocessor Learning
Module (ER)
Theft-Proof CB instaliation (Friedman) Dec 56
Tools
Vector P173 Wiring Pencil (ER)
Vector P180 Slit N Wrap Wiring Tool (ER) $\begin{aligned} & \text { Mar } 30 \\ & 28\end{aligned}$
Transistor Output Failure (SC) Aug 63
Tuner (see listing under High Fidelity)
Turnembles (see llating under High Fidelity)
Turn:able Drive Systems (Feldman) Jan 49
Turnsables For Today's Hi-Fi Systems (Friedman)
Twedters (see Speakers under High Fideilty)
12-Milion Volts (Shunaman)
U
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { Understanding Tape Specs (Feldman) } & \text { Mar } 69 \\ \text { Understanding MATV Accessories (Roy) } & \text { May } 37\end{array}$

## V

Videadisc-Videotape 1976 (Gerson) Jun 38 VIR Color Correction From Camera To Pix (Kenfield) Nov 83
Vectar P173 Wiring Pencil (ER) Mar 30
Vecter P180 Slit N Wrap Wiring Tool (ER) Sep 28
Voltmeters (see Ilsting under Test Equipmant)
w
What's Wrong With 4 Channel (Friedman) Mar 76
Woofers (see Speakers under High Fidelity)

## $X-Y-Z$

Yamaha TC-800GL Cassette Recorder (LTER) Feb 55

## R-E's Service Clinic

# RF interference 

Causes and cures

JACK DARR<br>SERVICE EDITOR

THIS ISN'T A NEW SUBJECT: IVE WRITTE about it several times before. However. it could be useful to look up some of the old tricks that we used to use; they're still very handy. The subject is assorted radio-frequency interference ( RFI ) as well as TVI. If you know how, you can identify the thing causing the interference and locate the source. There are two basic kinds.

One is random noise or hash. This can be due to defective pole hardware on the AC lines, arcing due to a broken insulator, and so on. This causes a harsh roaring or buzzing sound in radios. The characteristic symptom in TV is "two lines of dots" across the screen, like a


FGG. 1
$120-\mathrm{Hz}$ hum-bar. Anything breaking down on the AC line will normally are over on both positive and negative peaks of the voltage. This is where we get the $120-\mathrm{Hz}$ characteristic. If you have something in your own shop that causes this. like an antiquated fluores-
of pure random noise; so, they have some RF energy in practically all bands. This drops off as the frequency goes up. The AM broadcast band is worst, the low VHF TV channels will be affected, but the high band TV channels often won't be, at least not quite so badly. UHF is normally not bothered by this.

## Locating the source

The interference has an odd characteristic, one we can use to find the source. All you need is an automobile radio. Set it to about 800 kHz , preferably on a dead spot. Now, drive around the area where the interference was reported. You'll hear the typical roar and buzz. Look for a place where the noise gets louder. Then, tune the radio back and forth around 800 kHz . If it is now covering more of the dial. you're getting closer. Keep looking and tuning. When you find a place where the noise comes in loudly from one end of the AM band to the other, you're very near the source!

This is more accurate than trying to use the amplitude of the noise as a clue. This noise travels along AC power lines, and it is often hard to find a peak in the amplitude. However, when you get to a place where it covers the whole dial. you're close. Out in the country you may have to do quite a bit of driving and tuning, for this hash can run a long


FIG. 2
cent lamp, you can place a scope probe down alongside the line cord and see a pattern like the one shown in Fig. 1. The glitches on each peak are actually bursts
way along the wires.
That's one type of interference. If the interference shows up as "fine wiggly lines" in a TV picture, this indicates that


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WAHL CLIPPER CORPORATION originators of practical cordless soldering －Sterling．IIIInois 61081 •（815）625－6525 ＂Manufacturing Excellence Since 1919 CRCLE 61 ON FREE INFORMATION CARD
the cause is some type of RF signal．It may or may not be modulated．If it is， the modulation will make the pattern vary．This will usually affect several houses in an area．Find one of the houses reporting severe interference．If they have a directional outside antenna with a rotator，turn the antenna until you get the strongest moise signal．Note the direction，and draw a line on a city map or rough sketch of the area．
Now，find another house as far away as possible with the same interference． Find another bearing and draw another line．At the point where the lines cross， there is the source of the interference． （See Fig．2．）You may have to repeat this test at a third place to get a better pinpoint，but in most cases two bearings will do．
If directional antennas aren＇t avail－ able，use a small antenna on a short piece of mast（Aluminum is preferred， especially after you＇ve had to lug it a little way）．Use a portable TV or even a TV field－strength meter to get the bear－ ings．This technique doesn＇t require a big antenna：a 4 or 5 element Yagi does nicely．

Once you get a fix on the location，go there and probe the area with the car radio．portable TV，etc．You can get an idea of the source from the area．If it＇s industrial，it could be something like an old model radio－frequency heating de－

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vice. etc. These machines should not radiate interference if they are working properly. By the way, these will often show a $60 / 120 \mathrm{~Hz}$ characteristic if they are using raw AC on the plates of the tubes. as some of the older models did. Contrary to popular belief, arc-welders radiate surprisingly small amounts of RFI. though they're often suspected!
This type of RFI will usually be continuous. If the interference is not continuous but only in short bursts, it could be coming from a radio transmitter. Police radios. etc., working in the $30-40-\mathrm{MHz}$ band. particularly those near the $40-\mathrm{MHz}$ end. will often be picked up by older TV sets. This is direct pickup by the TV set's IF, and not a fault of the radio transmitter! (Ask me how I know! I live on a highway.) CB radios, both base and mobile, can cause interference if they radiate harmonics that fall in some TV channels. Channel 2 will pick up the second harmonic. and Channel 5 will pick up the third harmonic.

## The cure

This is quite simple to clear up. Locate the CB station and install a lowpass filter on the transmitter output. The J. W. Miller Co. has a new line of these: they are all plug-in or screw-in. The C-$511-\mathrm{T}$ is a plug-in type. with SO-239 connectors on each end. It will not

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attenuate the CB signal. but has an 80dB attenuation for 54 MHz . A high-pass filter can be used on the antenna input of the TV' set: this could be a C-512-T which is 300 -ohm with screw terminals. This could help to eliminate police radio interference and also reduce some ignition interference from the older cars.

With the tremendous increase in highly sensitive audio amplifiers. we are now getling RFI complaints from them. too. The cause is the same: the highly sensitive input stage of the amplifier simply detects the RF signal. It becomes audio and goes sailing on through the amplifier. Curing these is much simpler: you can do it right in the home. Just add an RF filter to the amplifier's input. or output. It is possible to get RF pickup on long speaker lines. This pickup can feed back into the amplifier chassis and be detected. There are plug-in filters for this. 100. Miller's C-505-R with standard phono jacks and plugs for the inputs. and C-506-R for the outputs. Home intereom systems are also vulnerable. The same technique and filters can be used. This will work with mono, stereo or quad. although you need one filter for each speaker line.

In a situation where noise could be coming from any one of four or five houses, there is a quick way of finding out. Monitor the interference and pull cominued on page 8?

2. -2 II on Amencans rave $n$ gn
Dicod pressure $B u^{\prime} 50$ percen! of Dood pressure Bu' 50 Dercen
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## EQUIPMENT REPORTS

cominued from page 37
In either the PH-I or PH-2 phono positions. the SEIFCTOR switch enables the low-cut filter regardless of the front-panel filter switch.

Turn-on transients are suppressed by a 10 second time-delay circuit. Transients from sources energized earlier or at the same time as the preamp are blocked by the circuit. A relay contact shorts the output of the amplifier to ground until a three transistor circuit responds to the increasing potential on a capacitor. At the end of the 10 second initialization interval, the relay is actuated.

The tape monitor function allows simultaneous monitoring of source matrotial as well as amplification of the low-level source teeding the recorder. High level inputs such as from a tuner are routed directlv through to the tape outpul connector into the recorder input terminals. The front panel lapt von switch breaks the connection between the first and second amplifier sections so they can be used separately.
Stereo tapF Dub input and output jacks on the panel facilitate temporary patching in of a tape recorder or other high-level source without groping for rear-panel connectors. One of the six lever switches is assigned to this operation. The IAPF our connectors are similar to the lapt wow connectors hut they are mounted on the front-panel.

The oltipl'T DEFFat switch grounds the output connector and disconnects the preamp output. $1+R$ is the last of the switches. It parallels the left and right channels at the input to the high-level preamp for monaural

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output. The rAPE MON and TAPE. DL'B switches are after the $1+k$ function and cannot be switched to monaural.
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Frequency response between the high-level input and the preamp output jacks is $\pm 0.2$ dB from 20 Hz to 20 kHz . Harmonic and intermodulation distortion is under $0.05 \%$ over the frequency range at 1.5 -volt output. Input overload levels are 100 mV at $\mid \mathrm{kHz}$ at the phono inputs and 10 volts at the highlevel inputs.

The Heathkit AP-1615 is priced at \$129.95 and measures $17.5 \times 8.1 \times 4.5$-inches. It weighs 9 pounds and is finished neatly with oiled walnut end panels.

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SERVICE CLINIC
continued from page 79
the main $A C$ switch. If this has no effect on the noise. that house is eliminated. If you find a case where hardware noise is apparently the cause, notify the power company and they will almost always take care of it.

A portable transistor radio is fine for close checking of areas after the general area has been found. These are all mildly directional due to the loop antennas. TVI can also be chased with these if you can get one that picks up TV sound signals and/or short wave frequencies. The same "all the way across the dial" check can be used. To get a more accurate reading of the actual noise amplitude. plug an "output meter" (AC voltmeter with capacitor in series) into the earphone jack of the radio. The meter readings will give you a better idea of exactly where the noise is the strongest.

I've told you what you can do in cases of RFI and TV1. Now l'll tell you something you cant do. You can't get the TVI out of the modern small haircare appliances. like the hot-air combs, hair-driers. detangling combs. and so on. These are driven by miniature brush-type DC motors. fed through a
cominued on page 91
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# new products 

More information on new products is available from the manufacturers of items identified by a Reader Service num－ ber．Use the Free Information Card following page 94.

MICROPHONE MIXER，model M677，adds six additional low－impedance balanced microphone inputs to a sound system．Specifications include：frequency response，$\pm 2 \mathrm{~dB}$ from 30 Hz to $20,000 \mathrm{~Hz}$ ；equivalent input noise，-128 dBv ． 300 to $20,000 \mathrm{~Hz}$ noise bandwidth at full gain； equivalent input hum－and－noise．$-125 \mathrm{dBv}, 30$ to $20,000 \mathrm{~Hz}$ noise bandwidth at full gain；distor－ tion less than $1 \%$ THD at 1.000 Hz ；low－cut filters，-6 dB at $1,000 \mathrm{~Hz}$ typical．


The new M677 mixer can be powered from the nominal $28-30$－volt DC output of the attached master mixer or from a Shure A67B battery power supply．Measures $11 \frac{3}{8} \times 7 \times 2^{1 / 2}$ inches，weighs $3-3 / 4$ pounds and sells for \＄181．20－Shure Bros．，Inc．， 222 Hartrey Avenue． Evanston．IL 60204.
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TUNER SUBBER AND PATTERN GENERATOR． The Ferret model SG 785 is a multi－functional instrument，indispensable for efficient trouble－ shooting and adjustment of all color and black and white TV＇s．Speeds service by pinpointing troubles accurately and quickly in the tuner．IF video and picture sections of the TV receiver


The VHF／UHF section of the Ferret allows direct substitution of the TV＇s tuner for fast． positive localizing of front－end trouble it tunes channels 2 through 83 with standard $40-\mathrm{MHz}$ output Switching is provided to select internal or external tuners．The generator section produces stable patterns for use in converging the pix tube It has a pattern of 20 vertical and 16 horizontal lines switchable to 320 white dots on a black background．

The crystal－controlled digital circuitry assures complete accuracy of both the vertical and horizontal frequencies．Accuracy is better than $.005 \%$ with no change when switching to the TV signal．Output from the generator may be coupled through the funer section or directly to the IF－video－stages．Resolution is limited only by the picture quality of the TV receiver．Output of the generator is DC．decoupled and safe for direct connection to transistors or IC＇s of the receiver The SG 785 operates from 105－125 volts， $50-60 \mathrm{~Hz}$ ．The unit weighs 5 pounds－ U．X．L．Corp．， 2245 Pitkin Ave．，Brooklyn．NY 11207
CIRCLE 86 ON FREE INFORMATION CARD
ELECTRONIC SIREN，model M17．is a high－ powered electronic siren that is audible at well over a mile in still air．comparable in level to emergency vehicle sirens．The 30 －watt 8 －ohm speaker produces a $125-\mathrm{dB}$ signal and can be used indoors or outdoors．An optional outdoor speaker in a tamperproof housing is also avalla－ ble


The sound is extremely painful 10 human hearing indoors．Optional 18 －volt DC power supply features plug－in charger，tapered charg－ ing circuit and 18 －volt sealed lead－acid re－ chargeable battery．The basic siren is $\$ 102.00$ and includes the high－powered sirer driver and indoor／outdonr speaker．The power supply and tamperproof speaker is additional．－Mountain West Alarm Supply Company， 4215 North 16th Street．Phoenix，AZ 85016.
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FREQUENCY COUNTER．The model WB－752A is designed for making frequency measure－ ments between 10 Hz and 50 MHz in audio． video．CB，ham radio and other communications equipment．A unique feature of the counter is its 1 kHz audible sidetone with separate on／otf volume control．The tone is valuable in modulat－ ing single－sideband transceivers tor carrier－ frequency measurement．The counter has a selectable input sensitivity of either 10 or 100 mV ：the lower sensitivity is valuable when considerable noise is present with the signal


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TV GAMES
continued from page 43
turers. with their own test facilities and enough electronic experience to assure their designs would meet FCC approval. chose to freeze their designs early and file for FCC approval later.

Some units. as noted. don't need FCC approval if they are hard-wired to the video display

Price: As with any new consumer item, prices are high at first. then drop. Calculators and digital wrist-watches are good examples of recent electronic devices that went through radical price adjustments in a short time after consumer acceptance. The fierce competition in the video game field can be expected to create drastic excursions in pricing. especially just before and after Christmas.

The prices shown in this column are the lowest prices quoted by any of the various sources used for this article. and should just be used as a guide. Some units at the high end of the price scale will have to reduce their prices to be competitive. and as production is increased-or a design breakthrough is incorporated into their production-others will drop their selling prices.

In regard to kit prices, it's best that you write for a current price list and order form. In most cases. shipping and tax must be added to the prices shown.

R-E

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SYSTEM 5000 includes all components, 2 time eetting switches, and complete assembly and programpming manuals. Switches for additional functions and relay are not included but are availabje as options. Cese not included. Specify blue or green display.

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OOR POWER FAALURE
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6 JUMBO AED LED'S BEHIND RED FILTER LENS WITH CHROME RIM SET TIME FROM FRONT VIA HIDOEN SWITCHES - $12 / 24$ H. TIME FORMAT STYLISH CHAACOAL GRAY CASE OF MOULDEO HIGH TEMP. PLASTIC OPTION OL WE INPUT CIACUITAY - TWO WIAE NO POLARITY MOOK-UP TOP NAL CONNECTION TO 日LAVK DISPLAY USo When Koy Off in Car. Ete. KIT ${ }^{\# 2} 2001$
COMPLETE

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## 6 Digit-LED Clock-Calendar-Alarm Kit

This is a complete, lop of the line, Kit for the person that wants the best. Some of the many feature:s and options are: $12 / 24$ time 28-30-31 day calendar, alternates time $(8 \mathrm{sec})$ and date ( 2 sec ) or can display time only and date on demand, 24 hr alarm - 10 minute snooze, alarm set indicator, $50 / 60 \mathrm{HZ}$. line operation or use with Xtal time base (\#TB-1), built in OSC for batlery back-up / AC failure, Aux timer. Larae digits
Kit \#70018 6-.4" Digits Man 64 \$39.95
Kit \#7001C 4-. $6^{\prime \prime}$ Digits \& 2-.3" (seconds) \$42.95

Kits are complete (less cabinet) including PC boards, power supply, IC socket, 9 switches, 16 transistors and all parts required for above features and options (Ideal fit in Cabinet I above).

| 60 HZ . <br> XTAL TIME BASE KIT | PRINTED CIRCUIT BOARDS for CT-7001 Kits sold separately with assembly info. PC Boards are drilled Fiberglass, solder plated and screened with component lavout. Specify for \#70018 or \#7001C (Set of 2 \} $\$ 7.95$ |
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| Will enable Digital Clock or Clock-Cal. Kits to operate from 12VDC. Uses MM5369 and 3.58 MHZ XTAL. Req 5.15VDC/2.5 MA 1"x2" PC Board. Easy 3 wire nookud Accuracy: + 2 PPM | JUMBO DIGIT CLOCK KIT <br> A comolete Kit (less Cabinet) featuring: six.$^{\prime \prime}$ digits, MM5314 IC, $12,24 \mathrm{Hr}$, time, $50 / 60 \mathrm{MZ}$., Plug Transformer, Line Cord, Switches, and all Parts. <br> [Ideal Fit In Cabinet II] <br> Kit 5314-5 <br> '1995 $2 / 38$. |
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## NEW PRODUCTS

continued from page 83

The instrument uses a $10.000-\mathrm{MHz}$ crystal to ensure the accuracy of the 10-, 100-, and $1.000-$ ms gate signals and logic control. A six-state IC counter feeds into a readout of six 0.3-inch seven-segment LED's. The frequency, decimal point, and range (either MHz or kHz ) are all displayed automatically. A signal lamp indicates when the signal is sufficiently strong to be counted and indicates when the higher-sensitivity input is required. An overflow lamp indicates a signal that exceeds 1 MHz when using the 1 -second fixed gate.
The BNC input is compatible with most standard broadband oscilloscope probes. When measuring transmitter or transceiver AM frequencies, the counter is positioned near the transmitter and a one-meter cable attached to the input serves as a pickup antenna. The
counter can also be attached directly to a transmitter or transceiver with a directional coupler and dummy load.


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ing from 15 to 125 watts-per-channel and are priced from $\$ 70$ to $\$ 400$.

Clarion is marketing a combination equalizer/booster amplifier, model 100 $E Q B$, at $\$ 110$, with 15 watts-per-channel.
Uher of America (621 South Hindry Ave.. Inglewood. CA 90301) provides owners of their models CR-124. 134 and 210 portable stereo cassette lape recorders a chance to use them as the nucleus of a car stereo component system with the aid of a new powered car mounting bracket priced at \$195-the model CR200 Stereomatic. The power bracket is supplied in two parts: a 25 -watt-perchannel amplifier for mounting anywhere in a car (including trunk) and a combination matte-black finish preamplifier and mounting bracket to accommodate the front-loading cassette.

Available as either a kit for the do-ityourselfer or completely assembled is a component-lype system from the Jandy


THE JANDY CORPORATION markets the model 6000 power amplifier (top), the model 3001 power amplifier (lower right) and the model 4000 control console (lower left) in either kitform or completely assembled.
Corporation (2001 North Buena Vista. Burbank. CA 91504). Thev offer a control console and two power amplifiers. The model 4000 control console contains bass. treble and midrange controls, a hiss filter. power switch and headphone jack and is priced at $\$ 47.50$ completely assembled and $\$ 32.50$ for the kit version. The model 6000 companion stereo power-amplifier delivers 30 watts-per-channel and is priced at $\$ 79.50$ assembled and $\$ 49.50$ in kit form. For those that are interested in less power. they also offer the model 300115 watts-per-channel power-amplifier for $\$ 49.50$ assembled and $\$ 36.50$ in kit form.

For the do-it-yourselfer. Heath (Benton Harbor. Ml 49022) offers a car stereo FM tuner in kit form for $\$ 69.95$. plus a power amplifier kit at $\$ 29.95$.

The foregoing are some examples of the component-type equipment you'll be seeing more of as the concept of true hi-fi sound in a car is accepted and adopted. If ever vou dreamed of having the kind of top quality sound you experience in the home in your car, now is the time to trade in the dream for the reality.

R-E

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SERVICE CLINIC
cominued from page 8?
full-wave bridge rectifier connected right across the AC line. These are highspeed motors and they radiate a tremendous amount of interference. In fact. you can lay one on the bench. turn it on. and pick up the noise without taking the scope probes off the hook!
I have worked on one of these units for the last 8 months. Tre tried every kind of known noise suppression device on it. and so far I have made absolutely no progress. Writing to the maker produces a condescending letter that says "As you know. small electrical appliances sometimes generate some interference!" A-Men! At one time. I had two $40-\mu \mathrm{F}$ electrolytic capacitors (something like twice the size of the unit itself) right across the motor with zero results. I wouldn't say that all of them do this. I will say that all of them that I have seen do. and I have seen quite a few. If anyone has a practical cure for this. I think he could make some money out of it. (Let me know: I'll buy the first one!


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Free Information Number Page

| 30 | Allison dutomotise ....................... ....89 |
| :---: | :---: |
| 70 | Apine ..................... ........... . ... ........ XT $^{\text {a }}$ |
| 76 | American tudioport .......... . ...... . .. 24 |
| 33 | American Pechnology ............. .... .... 37 |
| 5 | AP Products ....... .......................... .. . 81 |
| 78 | B\&K-Div. of Dy nascan ............. . .32-33 |
|  | CIt-Clereland Institute of Electronic, <br> (t1).6.3 |
| 19 | (obra-Dir. of I)ymasan ...... (iner IV |
| 13.14 | Continemal Specialties ... .2 ... ... .. .. . 38.88 |
|  | Cowan Publishing ..... ..... .. .... .. ........ .xt, |
|  | CREI-I)iv. of Wc(iraw-Ilill Continuing <br> Fducation .......................... ...........26.29 |
| 65 | Cybersyotems ..... ........................... ... 78 |
| 79 | Dana labs ........................................ 84 |
| 31 | Detta Products ......... ........... . ....... ..... 37 |
| + | Digital Concepts ...... ....................... 84 |
| 1 | Fastern Industrien (Gemiv).... .......... .. 90) |
| 27 | Fimmend Scientilic ........... ......... . ... 112 |
| 67 | EICO |
|  | E\&I Insiruments ................................ 83 |
|  | ERIC.Flectronic Meavurement ... ........ 41 |
| 47 | Fimpire Scientific .............................. 12 |
| 11 | Enterprise Development ......... ........2? |
| 6 | Fidelity Sound |
| 84 | (\% Electronics.................................. 87 |
| 3 | Greneral Flectric |
| 10.62 | Grantham Schoul of Ellectronics.. .. 79.א6 <br> GiFE Sylvania-Consumer Renewal |
| 22 | Hal Communications ..........................81 |
| 100 | Heath .......................................... IX-14 |
| 77 | Hichok Electrical Instruments ............ 23 |
|  | IM1S Associates ............................... .2? |
| 59 | Indiana Ilome Study Institute.......... . . 2 ? |

39 International Crystal Mfg..................... 78 ISCFI (Y)
National Canmera Suppls 31
National Radio Invtitute (NRI)-I)is.Center$x-11$
$x$
81 Optoclectronics .....  $\mathrm{K}=$
PAIA Electronics .....  .34
PIS Electronice .....  x ?
Radatron..35
RCA Distributor \& Special Products
Rye Induatriey ..... 41
II.W. Sams ..... 13.36
SBF.2
28292
echnical Product .....  .17「АН Bmak68.6924linplett ...................................... . Ciser It61Weller-Xcelite-IDis. of Cooper Industries
AARKL:T (FNTER
American Surplus Trading ..... 48
American [sed Computer ..... 11)2
AIV Research ..... 110
Babylon Flectronic ..... 47
Karel Barta. ..... 42
CFR Avoocialer ..... 42
Consunmertronics48
.48
64 ..... I 111ommand Productions
Devtronix Organ Promlucts ..... 42
74 Digi-Ke! ..... (1) 10
Fair Radio Sales ..... 48
5316
35,36,37 Jannes ..... 115.108 .119
Kemit Electronics ..... 42
Iablence ..... 102
I akeside Industries ..... lin)
Meshsa ..... (lik)
Minj Micro Mart
116
.42
Mouver Electronic ..... 110
Vewman Computer Exchange ..... 92
Vexus Trading104
Poly Pak ..... 111
Ouent .....  .48
Ruple-Songer Flectronic ..... 107
solid state Salew ..... 112
Surplus Center ..... 105
Manker lín94
Trintronics LimitedI rumbell48
TV Tech ..... 106
Vialley $W$ ..... 98



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The kit includes a 5316 Nat. Clock Chip 4 Flourescent Display tubes and all other components except as follows:
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Transformer for AC operation

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6 Digit LED Alarm Clock \& Elapsed Timer Kit available at this value anywhere $\$ 17.95$ Complete

Features: 5375AB Nat. Clock Chip 6-Fairchild .50" Displays, AC or DC, Freeze Feature, Timer, 12 Hr w/24 Hr. Alarm
The kit contains P.C. Boards, Xformer, and EVERY Part required for Clock and all options except Cabinet or Crystal Time Base for DC operation.

| Clock Cases |  | Crystal Time Base Kit $\$ 4.95$ complete |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
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| Piexiglass (Choice BI. Whi, Blue, Smoke | \$3.00 | P.C. Board \& all components. |

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 Split Time $\$ 29.95$ complete Taylor TimeThe kit contains: Tie latest Technology MOS Chip \#7205, a 3.2768 Mhz Crystal and all components equired except 3 -AA cells C power requirement.
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