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# sports Radar



n Roger started pitching for his little team, he was just another player. And n was no better than anybody elses.

months later a small miracle took place. was the best pitcher on the team and ast ball that was the most powerful in his -and all thanks to his father.

er's success came from a radar gunme type device used by police to catch ing motorists.

### SCRAMBLED EGGS

minute Roger's father was able to clock n's pitching speed, Roger was subconsly given a daily challenge of pitching and faster to beat his previous speed. ore he practiced, the better he got.

er's father paid \$2,000 for the radar gun. his upper class neighborhood, it wasn't nusual for a father to spend that kind of to help his son.

### SPEEDING CITATION

irge manufacturer of radar-type security es saw what Roger's father had done and at there was a definite need to produce a ost radar unit designed exclusively for the

company, Solfan Systems, developed ports Radar gun-a major breakthrough jectile speed detection as well as elecradar circuitry.

ing the doppler effect of radar and ed-lock-loop circuits, Solfan has develthe Sports Radar gun that compares to the most sophisticated of police radar that cost \$2,000.

### **OVERLAND EXPRESS**

e Sports Radar gun is held in your hand pointed toward the pitcher. You turn it on, s the ready button, and point the gun. The will ignore the moving arm of the pitcher will lock in on the moving ball. The radar would then follow the ball for approxily ten milliseconds and the built in compuneasures and computes the speed and es the reading on the display. The gun ters the speed to the exact mileage within half miles per hour.

The gun can be mounted on a tripod so that the person taking the measurements can also catch the ball.

Just point the gun and read the results.

In tennis, the speed of the serve can be measured by aiming the gun at the person serving. You can also use the unit by yourself by setting the unit on a tripod and measuring the speed from behind.

### WORKING AND PLAYING

Aside from its extreme accuracy and advanced electronics, the unit is priced to meet the budget of every sports-minded athlete or parent. It's only \$149.95 complete.

You can measure the speed of baseballs, soccer balls, tennis balls, golf balls, hockey pucks, downhill skiers, radio controlled model airplanes or anything that moves-even automobiles.



The speed is flashed on the large LED display and is shown in miles per hour.

The unit accepts two commercially available 6-volt lantern batteries which you can purchase locally or from JS&A for only \$2 each. The batteries will last for weeks with normal

### SUCCESS AND GOOD THINGS

The unit comes in a sports blue color and weighs 38.4 ounces, exclusive of batteries. It's rugged, well built and designed to endure the typical use and abuse it would normally receive.

We urge you to test this exciting new product during our 30-day free trial. Order the Sports Radar gun. When you receive it, measure your child's pitching speed. Test it on your own tennis serve. See how knowing your speed will actually improve it as you try to out perform your previous record fast pitch or serve. Then decide if the Sports Radar gun doesn't make a very exciting addition to your sports equipment.

### ONE FOR THE MONEY

If you are not convinced that the Sports Radar gun is something that you'll use constantly to help improve your game, return it for a prompt and courteous refund, including your \$3.50 postage and handling. You can't loseand chances are your son will at least have the most popular new product in the neighborhood.

To order one for your test, simply send your check for \$149.95 plus \$3.50 for postage and handling to JS&A Group, Inc., at the address shown below. (Illinois residents please add 5% sales tax.) Credit card buyers may call our toll-free number below. If you wish to buy a set of two six-volt batteries, simply add \$4.00 to

We'll then send your unit, the batteries (if you order them from us), a 90-day limited warranty and complete easy-to-understand instructions.

Radar electronics for the sports enthusiast is now a reality. Watch your game improve by ordering your Sports Radar gun at no obligation, today.

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# Sabtronics gives you DMM and Frequency Counter kits with more features, better performance and incredibly lower prices

Model 2010A Bench/Portable DMM:

Features: 31/2 digit LED display • 31 measurement ranges 6-Functions • 0.1% Basic DCV accuracy • Touch-and-hold capability • Hi-Lo Ohms • 40 Hz to 40 kHz frequency response • Auto Zero, Auto Polarity • Overload protected • Overrange indication • Single chip LSI logic • Laser-trimmer resistor network and ultra-stable band-gap reference for better long term accuracy • Built-in NiCd battery charging circuit.

Brief Specifications: DC Volts  $100\mu V$  to 1000V in 5 ranges; AC Volts  $100\mu V$  to 1000V in 5 ranges; DC Current  $0.1\mu A$  to 10A in 6 ranges; AC Current  $0.1\mu A$  to 10A in 6 ranges; Resistance  $0.1\Omega$  to  $20M\Omega$  in 6 ranges; Diode Test Current  $0.1\mu A$  to 10A in 3 ranges; Linux invadance,  $10M\Omega$  on ACImA in 3 ranges; Input impedance,  $10M\Omega$  on AC and DC volts; Power requirement, 4.5 to 6.5 VDC (4 "C" cells) or optional AC adapter/





### Model 2015A Bench/Portable DMM: \$89.95 kit

Same features and specifications as Model 2010A except with large, 0.5" LCD 3½ digit display.

### **Optional Accessories:**

#AC-115, AC adapter/charger \$7.95 #THP-20, Touch and Hold Probe \$19.95 #NB-120 NiCd Battery Set \$18.75

### Model 8610A Frequency Counter:

Features: 8-digit LED display • 10 Hz to 600 MHz guaranteed frequency range (5 Hz to 750 MHz typical) • 3 Gate times • 10 MHz TCXO Time base • Auto decimal point • Overflow indicator • Leading zero blanking • Resolution to 0.1 Hz • Built-in charging circuit for NiCd batteries.

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Even though it costs less than \$125 to build, the triggered oscilloscope contains some rather nifty features. For example, a reference display of the zero volt DC level. To find out more and to get started building your own, turn to page 39.



MULTI-LINGUAL VOICE SYSTEM from Votrax can talk to you in seven languages. To find out what other speech synthesizer equipment is available, turn to page 44.



IF BANDPASS FILTER provides satellite TV receiver with the required selectivity. To find out the other missing components of the receiver, turn to page 47.

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What you get is a precision crafted unit that features single-chip LSI logic, laser trimmed resistor network and a stable band-gap reference element for better long term accuracy. Basic DCV accuracy is 0.1%. The Model 2035A gives you 32 measurement ranges over 6 functions and the Model 2037A an additional two temperature ranges.

### First in features. First in price.

Both models feature touch-andhold capability with the optional probe - its so convenient, you'll wonder why the expensive models haven't got it yet! And twoterminal input for all measurement functions - this eliminates lead switching and makes your job easier. The Model 2037A even has a built-in temperature measuring circuit with a -50°C to + 150°C range (-58°F to +302°F) and is supplied complete with the sensor

probe. Of course, auto zero, auto polarity and overload protection are standard. And you get 200 hour operation from a single 9V transistor battery. A low battery indicator warns you of the last 20% of battery life. The large, crisp LCD readouts allow easy viewing even in bright sunlight.

Assembling either kit is simple with our easy-tofollow, step-by-step instructions. And the built-in calibration references allow you to calibrate the unit any time, any place.

We've even eliminated difficult inter-connect wires. All parts mount on the PC board. The only wires you solder are the two battery-snap leads,

### Biggest value in small **DMMs**

We are so sure that the Model 2035A and 2037A are the best values available that we offer a money-back guarantee. Examine either unit in your own home for 10 days, and if you are not convinced that it is the best value for your money, return it in its original condition for a prompt and courteous refund of the purchase price (less shipping and handling). Order yours today! Use the convenient order form or call

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### BRIEF SPECIFICATIONS:

DC VOLTS: 100µV - 1000V, 5 ranges AC VOLTS: 100 µV - 1000V, 5 ranges DC CURRENT: 0.1µA - 2A, 5 ranges AC CURRENT: 0.1µA - 2A, 5 ranges Hi-OHMS:  $0.1\Omega$  -  $20M\Omega$ , 6 ranges Lo-OHMS:  $0.1\Omega$  -  $20M\Omega$ , 6 ranges TEMPERATURE: -50°C - + 150°C (-58°F - + 302°F), 2 ranges (Model 2037A only). SIZE: 3.5''W. x 6.6''L. x 1.6"H. WEIGHT: 11 oz. (excl. battery) OVERLOAD PROTECTION: 1000V DC or ACpeak all voltage ranges; 250V DC or ACpeak all Ohms ranges; 2A/250V

fuse all current ranges.

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Model 2035A Hand-held Multimeter kit(s) @ \$74.95 each	\$
_ Model 2035A Hand-held Multimeter assembled @ \$99.95 each	\$
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# looking ahead

leodiscs heat up: A traditional rivalry has been buried ne interest of videodisc standardization. CBS and RCA, litional rivals in the battles over color-TV systems, phoraph record speeds, and bitter competitors in broadting and records, have finally gotten together on someg. CBS has taken out a license to press discs for the A SelectaVision grooved capacitance disc system, this scheduled to go into nationwide marketing early in 1 (See Radio-Electronics, March 1980). CBS's pressing ration is scheduled to be on stream in 1982. In the antime, RCA will custom-press videodiscs for CBS.

I from Japan: Mighty Matsushita Electric finally got ing on videodiscs, too, after more than a year of indeci. Matsushita scrapped its own mechanical Visc-O-Pac em to officially embrace the grooveless capacitance (video high density) system developed by its subsid-Japan Victor Corporation. Matsushita said both comes would produce players and seek to have VHD estabdas the Japanese and world standard. Although both and Selecta Vision operate by reading variations in acitance, they are incompatible. Not only is one grooveand the other grooved, they use different modulation ems and RCA's revolves at 450 rpm while JVC's spins 30 rpm.

Illowing the Philips-MCA optical system, now on the ket, and RCA's announcement, VHD becomes the third ndard" to be announced for the consumer market. All companies are wooing other TV receiver and record ufacturers as licensees for their respective systems. In J.S., Zenith—the largest TV manufacturer—is getting most attention. There's a feeling that if it opts for the system, the battle is over. If it chooses either of the rs, the consumer market will be saddled with multidards.

another VCR: If you think that videodisc standards nuddled, how about those for videocassette record-In addition to fast-, medium- and slow-speed Beta and formats, BASF is about to introduce its LVR (Linear p Recorder), using 8-mm tape. Toshiba says it will mars own LVR (Longitudinal Video Recorder) using 1/2-inch ss-loop tape. Now along comes another—a neating little seven-pound attache-case portable VCR that quarter-inch cassettes resembling audio cassettes. ng time per cassette currently is 30 minutes, but is duled to be stepped up to a full hour. The unit is made pan by Funai Electric, and is expected to be imported the U.S. by Technicolor as both a consumer and edunal-institutional product. Price in the U.S. is targeted nder \$1,000," double the prospective price of Toshi-LVR.

Commerce Department and the American television try have finally paid off in South America, as the NTSC system makes a clean sweep of the six Andean coun-Colombia was the last country in the group to opt for American-developed system, following Venezuela's e of the system. Just before Venezuela's commitment, for chose the American system. The other countries

are Bolivia, Chile, and Peru. Some of them won't be color-casting for quite a while. But South America's two biggest countries are lost to NTSC. Brazil colorcasts in the German-developed PAL color on a 525-line television system. Argentina, which has not officially chosen a color system, probably will add PAL to its 625-line system, largely as a result of its extensive imports of German color equipment for last year's World Cup soccer matches. Argentina's neighbors Paraguay and Uruguay are still uncommitted.

Subscription TV: First it was pay cable. Now over-the-air subscription TV is beginning to make the kind of impact its proponents have forecast for 35 years. Although there are only six stations broadcasting the special no-commercial service, and they had a total of 400,000 subscribers at the start of this year (as compared with nearly 6,000,000 paycable subscribers), rapid growth is seen, and manufacturers are hurrying to set up plants to build decoders. Some familiar names are getting into the act: Magnavox and Zenith are preparing to make the units, along with Canada's Electrohome, and CTS Knights, Oak, and Blonder-Tongue, the latter three already in production, as well as Consumer Technology. Up to a million decoders are expected to be installed this year, at \$125 and up. The simplest decoders merely unscramble the pay picture and are rented for a fixed monthly fee.

Dishes and captions: The old-line catalog and retail chain, Sears Roebuck, is gradually coming into the forefront of consumer-electronics technology. This month, Sears is scheduled to begin marketing captioning decoders for TV viewers with impaired hearing; they're manufactured by Sears affiliate Sanyo Manufacturing Co. ABC and NBC each is scheduled to offer five hours of programming with captions encoded in the vertical interval; PBS will provide 10 hours. Captioning will be handled by the new National Captioning Institute, which will get a royalty on each decoder and special TV decoding receiver sold. Decoders initially will be priced at \$250. The IC's for the decoders are being made by Texas Instruments. Sears, meanwhile, is holding talks with Comsat about possibly handling subscriptions and providing receiving installations for its proposed direct-to-home pay-TV system, which Comsat hopes to propose formally to the FCC this month.

Talking IC's: What's the hottest thing on the drawing boards in the semiconductor industry? Probably voice-synthesis and voice-recognition IC's. Everybody's working on special IC's to recognize and answer commands. One of the most interesting—and probably one of the first in the consumer field—is expected to be the talking automobile dashboard, considered a potential safety device. An imaginary conversation between driver and dashboard: "How's the gasoline?" "You've got about two gallons, enough to get 40 miles." "What about the oil pressure?" "It's OK." "Tune the radio to 96.2 and mute the commercials." "Yes, sir—and, by, the way, you're exceeding the speed limit by five miles per hour."

DAVID LACHENBRUCH CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

## **APRIL NEWS AROUND THE WORLD**

# FIBER SONICS

Warszaw——Polish scientists, following research designed to produce an inexpensive equivalent to fiber optics for use in the audio ranges, have announced the discovery of fiber sonics. They have discovered that certain tubular materials, consisting of interiors transparent to sound and skins opaque to sound, can actually transfer sound from one end to another over lengths of several dozen meters through a series of internal reflections. Research group head Tomski Edisinski completed his successful first trial using a garden hose and two funnels, following over 800 unsuccessful trials using such lavish materials as sausage casings stuffed with cheese, prune-whip filled soda straws, and 10-meter-long filter cigarettes.

# FIBER PHONICS

Moscow——Russian scientists, claiming they had discovered "fiber sonics" years ago, but abandoned it due to a shortage of garden hose, today responded to the Polish announcement of fiber sonics with their own announcement of fiber phonics. Fiber phonics, instead of relying on the internal reflections of a carrier medium, takes advantage of the transmission capabilities of a suitably stressed elastic fiber. Initial tests involving two tin cans and a string were expanded to four tin cans and two strings for stereo; work on six tin cans and three strings has been delayed pending advances by Soviet medical technologists in grafting together the heads of one-and-a-half dogs.

### NOPE SCOPE

Eugene——Oregon oscilloscope manufacturer Whobet-Packers today announced a major breakthrough in low-price oscilloscopes. Their surprising new no-trace oscilloscope offers response and bandwidth specifications reaching into the several Gigahertz region. Offering a 5-inch undergraduated display with illuminated ridicule, this new scope is slated to sell in the "under-\$100" area (just outside Enid, Oklahoma). Compared to single-trace, dual trace and multiple-trace scope, a company spokesman described this new no-trace scope as the ultimate in simplicity. "There's not a trace of confusion" sez he.

### SOLDERLESS CAKE

No Haven———Solderless breadboard manufacturer Condimental Special Tease has again denied rumors of the development of solderless raisin, rye, and whole-wheat breadboards, while announcing plans to create an international breadboard shortage, resulting in a breadboard crisis, mandatory rationing, and wholesale price increases to an unaffordable level. Warned that price increases might dampen sales because of inflationary influences on available discretionary dollars, a company spokeswoman said "The peasants have no bread? Let them eat cake!" This announcement was quickly followed by the firing of the spokeswoman, abandonment of the planned price increases, new contracts for workers at the company's Bastille plant, and the announcement of a new line of inexpensive solderless cake boards.

# PICO COMPUTERS

Austin——Taxless Instruments has announced a new level of miniaturization resulting in an under-three-hundred-dollar home computer, complete with keyboard and voice synthesis capabilities, small enough to fit on the head of a pin. Company miniaturization director V. Pryss, wearing a cloth over his head, explained to newsmen that only two problems remain before the new computer can be introduced to the public. First, keyboard entry seems to be a problem with the tiny, quarter-pinhead size keyboard. Second, they can't remember which pinhead they left it on. Meanwhile, several newsmen in the garden reported hearing a small voice crying "Help me! Help me!"

### BUS STRUCTURES

Rainyvale——The California District Federal Court has ruled on the level of integration in integrated circuits, found it inadequate, and will enforce mandatory bussing beginning immediately. The judge in the case denied taking payoffs from wealthy IEEE Bus Company executive Carmen Getitt, claiming they were campaign contributions only.

# ONE-CHANNEL STEREO

Parma——Ohio inventor Emma R. T. Sullivania has announced stereo for one ear. The new advance is said to require only one amplifier, one speaker, and is compatible with everything from current television audio to old 78-RPM records. Called Emma Naural after its inventor, the new advance is not expected to be commercially available in Parma until sometime in the next millenium.

# CALCULATOR POCKET

Salerno———Fashion-designer Coochy has attacked what he finds as a major disadvantage to the pocket calculator. "Putta the dumma thing inna yor pocketta anna you no see what she says," complains Coochy. The answer is in his new line of shirts with transparent calculator pockets, including cutouts for keyboard access. The fashion world has acknowledged this as another Coochy coup.

MARTIN BRADLEY WEINSTEIN

# Is this any way to treat a \$139 multimeter?

rough world of industrial even a precision test can get treated like dirt. ll the ruggedness and ity you can get in a DMM

find these qualities and e Fluke line of low-cost ur DMM's have been om towers, stepped on, and y construction equipment. ve survived because we never s on quality, even on our ced, six-function Model ubleshooter at \$139 U.S. a close look at a low-cost m Fluke and you'll notice ntweight construction that to the hard knocks of life.

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# Everybody's making money selling microcomputers. Somebody's going to make money servicing them.

New NRI Home Study Course Shows You How to Make Money Servicing, Repairing, and Programming Personal and Small Business Computers



eems like every time you turn around, omebody comes along with a new omputer for home or business use. nd what's made it all possible is the mazing microprocessor, the tiny little hip that's a computer in itself.

Using this new technology, the idustry is offering compact, affordable amputers that will handle things like ayrolls, billing, inventory, and other ibs for businesses of every size... permit household functions including udgeting, environmental systems antrol, indexing recipes, and more and thousands of hobbyists are already where, experimenting and developing leir own programs.

# **Growing Demand for Computer Technicians**

This is only one of the growth ctors influencing the increasing portunities for qualified computer thnicians. The U.S. Department of bor projects over a 100% increase in 5 openings for the decade through 185. Most of them *new* jobs created by he expanding world of the computer.

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# Other Opportunities in Electronics

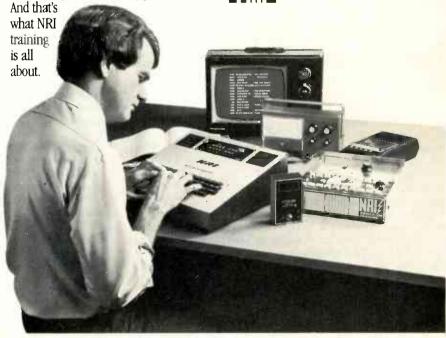
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# RADIO-FI ECTRONICS

# satellite tv news

### International bird watching

A high percentage of the mail generated by the current series of articles on satellite TV in Radio-Electronics asks about receiving direct satellite-relayed reception from Europe, South America, and so on. It is possible. It is no more difficult than receiving the U.S. or Canadian domestic satellites, provided that you make a few minor adjustments to your equipment, and are ready to accept slightly inferior pictures.

One of the most interesting targets is the Russian Statsionar-4 satellite positioned over the Atlantic at 14° west (longitude). Statsionar-4 has at least six operating transponders: 3,695 MHz, 3,745 MHz, 3,795 MHz, 3,845 MHz, 3,895 MHz, and 3,945 MHz. The polarization is horizontal and audio is carried on a 7.5 MHz subcarrier. The apparent footprint-signal level is in the 19 dBw region on a global beam, which means that this satellite is receiveable throughout all of Europe and Africa and west to an imaginary line drawn north by south from Chicago to New Orleans. All of South America is included in that coverage.



RUSSIA'S STATSIONAR-4 SATELLITE located at 14° west can be received well even on an 8-foot dish with a 150° Kelvin LNA as this photo shows. The edge of visibility (i.e., where the horizon cuts off for the satellite) in the U.S. is roughly along a line drawn from Chicago to New Orleans. Statsionar 8, to be located at 25 degrees west, will push the western edge of visibility to the eastern slope of the Rockies. If you go fishing for this one, remember the time-zone difference; Moscow signs off at around 10 PM their time most nights (although test patterns continue to be broadcast).

Within that coverage region a ten-foot dish, 150° Kelvin LNA and a tuneable receiver with a 11-13 dB noise figure should insure high-quality reception. It won't be in color however, because Russia employs the SECAM color system. That satellite is but one of approximately ten the Russians expect to have operational before this year is out, so that they can relay television worldwide by the start of 1981 using their own network of geostationary satellites.

Can American (or Canadian) DOMSAT's (domestic satellites) be received outside of North America? Yes, in some cases. Canadian ANIK satellites have sculptured antenna patterns favoring Canada; but reception south of the Mason-Dixon line without big antennas (20 feet in diameter or bigger) is poor. U.S. DOMSAT's have a bigger area to cover (Alaska to Puerto Rico, Maine to Hawaii) so there is more spillover than with ANIK birds. Bermuda, the central and western Caribbean, virtually all of Central America, and the shoreline regions of South America bordering on the Caribbean are all capable of receiving

U.S. DOMSAT's. But along with those coverage edges big antennas (20 to 30 feet in size) are required and with bigger antennas comes added expense.

The same people who refuse to grant private terminals permission to view their signals are quick to point out that, under international law, the U.S. (and Canadian) DOMSAT's are only licensed to serve their respective countries and that legally you are not supposed to set up a terminal in Caracas or Bogota in order to pirate U.S. satellite signals outside U.S. borders.

ROBERT B. COOPER, Jr.

### Cable TV companies selling homesat

Scientific-Atlanta has shifted its marketing strategy for the Homesat subsidiary it created last year. Now cable-TV companies will be selling the small TVRO earth stations to individual families within certain geographical regions. Originally, Homesat sold directly out of Scientific-Atlanta's home office. The first major cable-TV firm to hook into the deal is Tele-Communications Inc., which will sell Homesat equipment in the western states area, where that company operates many cable-TV systems. Meanwhile the increasing number of competing firms that sell earth-station equipment to families (such as Gardiner Communications' StarScan, Avcomm, Channel One) continue to work out their own distribution means.

### Satellite news notes

KRON-TV, an NBC-TV affiliate in San Francisco, is the first Bay Area TV station to set up its own Washington D.C. news bureau. The staff there beams news reports affecting Californians back home each evening via satellite, thus giving the newscast a Washington report with a local touch. WOR-TV New York Channel 9—with its hefty line-up of sporting events and movies—is now a round-the-clock superstation via Eastern Microwave which sends the signal around the country aboard RCA Satcom on Transponder 17.

C-SPAN (Cable-Satellite Public Affairs Network), which carries live coverage of debates from the House of Representatives, is adding other Capitol Hill and political features. C-SPAN recently transmitted highlights of a Republican political caucus in Texas; and starting this year, there's an arrangement with Close-Up Foundation that will involve the presentation of high-schoolers interviewing Washington figures during the traditional school excursions to the Nation's Capitol. Those interviews will be beamed to schools around the country to be used as supplements in social studies, government, and civics classes.

Sony, which makes equipment for the Japanese direct-to-home-satellite experiment, is looking at the U.S. and could introduce components or entire systems when direct-broadcasting satellites arrive here. Currently the 12-GHz experiment in Japan involves earth terminals costing about \$350 each.

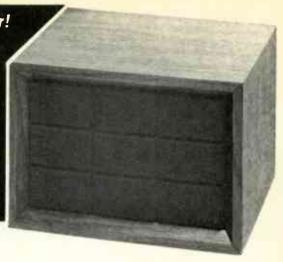
Political commercials via satellite! It's a possibility for this fall's campaign if a plan by John Blair & Co. materializes. Blair, a leading media company, has been experimenting with sending commercials directly to local TV stations via satellite links and hopes to have a system in place nationwide by this Autumn so that quickly up-dated commercials could be sent out. One obvious kind of commercials are the paid political announcements that are now usually air-freighted to TV stations; the satellite process could speed up their timeliness by a day or more.

GARY H. ARLEN

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# w Cost Computerized urglar Alarm System ome - Office - Business

The Guardex 8000 Alarm System is walnut grained and disguised to look like a small stereo speaker ( $6\frac{3}{4}$ "  $\times$   $9\frac{3}{4}$ "  $\times$  8") and weighs less than  $6\frac{1}{2}$  pounds.

### **NO INSTALLATION**

plug the Guardex 8000 alarm system in, make several le control adjustments to suit your particular building and rks! There are no other wires to run. This totally self-cond burglar alarm can completely seal off every square inch surface of your building. It protects doors, windows, and most alarms miss...your roof, walls and floors.

### DW CAN ONE SMALL COMPUTER PROTECT MY WHOLE BUILDING?

dex 8000 Alarm System works on the principle of audio dex 8000 Alarm System works on the principle of audio imination. This, put simply, is the process of electronic-perarating normal everyday sounds, such as voices, teles, etc. from break-in type noises such as breaking glass, g metal, or forcing a door open. The Guardex 8000 proone story homes and offices up to 2000 square feet and commercial buildings up to 10,000 square feet. The dex 9300 with wireless remote sensor capability is availfor multi-story homes and offices or single story with than 2000 square feet. Call the factory for more detailed

### TURNS ON LIGHTS AUTOMATICALLY

the first break-in type sound is detected, the system will ntly turn on lights, radio, or other electronic equipment you have plugged into the back of the alarm. These lights her equipment will remain on for a period of five minutes, automatically turn off

### **POWERFUL ELECTRONIC SIREN**

Guardex 8000 alarm is equipped with a loud built-in siren. ring the five minute period the lights or other electronic ment has been activated, a second break-in sound is ded, (it can be only a second or two after the first break-in d) the built-in siren will start blasting for 90 seconds. At the of approximately 90 seconds the siren will shut off and the listens again. If another break-in sound is heard, the will come on for another 90 seconds. If no other break-in d is detected, the siren will stay off and at the end of the minute period the lights will shut off and the alarm inly resets.

ear control panel ins two standard AC receptacles for a table spot lights, radio, etc.; nals for connecting nal outside siren and up battery (not ded); entry delay time rol and sensitity control.



### **EXIT AND ENTRY DELAY**

The Guardex 8000 alarm has a built-in exit delay allowing you approximately one minute to lock up and leave the building before the alarm is armed. When you enter your building you may find that just your normal entering sounds activate the siren. You may delay it from starting for up to 30 seconds by turning up the siren entry delay control.

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Burglars rarely cut power. However, to give you total protection from a burglar and possible power failure, our alarm has provisions for a battery back-up. (Batteries not included). 12 volt lantern batteries are available at most hardware stores.

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It was electronics time in Las Vegas. The 1980 Winter Consumer Electronics show had arrived and more than 65,000 retailers and distributors jammed the convention center to capacity, while previewing the products that will soon be available to us. Much of what was shown was conventional—those everyday products that are the staples of the consumer electronics industry. But here and there, the spotlight shone on the exceptional.

I'd like to take just a few moments of your time for a look at these exciting products.

A flat-screen TV prototype from Sinclair. It will not be available this year, but the unit demonstrated was a working model. It fortells a whole new world of television. I believe the prototype unit I saw may finally introduce those large-screen, hang-on-the-wall color sets that have been so consistently predicted over the years and have, to date, not appeared.

"The Source" is the name of a time-shared computer service. Connect your home computer to your phone via a modem and with a local phone call you can now dial up all kinds of advanced programs, daily news, and wire-service features that you can select with key words of your choice. It makes your terminal a part of a nationwide communications network that will permit you to talk or send mail to any other terminal for as little as \$2.75 per hour. It provides a buying service that lets you order merchandise, charge it to your credit card, and have it delivered to your door. It's an information service with endless possibilities. And there's much, much more; but that will be the subject of a complete article in a future issue.

Quasar presented a talking microwave oven. Again it's a prototype, but obviously represents the start of a whole wave of talking appliances, from wristwatches and calculators to you name it.

And then there are the TV's you talk to—actually command. "Tell" it to switch on and it will. Tell it to change channel and it will. And it's custom-tailored to your voice—no one else can operate the remote. Panasonic and Toshiba showed these.

How about a Sharp TV that lets you watch nine channels at the same time on a single 25-inch color screen. Oh, you can snatch frames too. And Toshiba showed a four-channel-on-one-screen set too. Of course, it will probably be less expensive to buy multiple individual sets, but what a beautiful example of technology.

Satellite TV? Out in the parking lot, and not officially a part of the show, was a \$7500 earth station for satellite TV reception. In a truck with the antenna on the tailgate it was available for sale. The owner got his idea from the satellite-TV series currently running in Radio-Electronics.

Last, but not least, was Kenwood's FM stereo receiver. It has a CRT display that shows you every station on the air in your area; displays call signs and frequencies; measures signal strength, multipath distortion, and just about everything else you could possibly want. It is several years away from production, but if there had been one piece of equipment that! would have been allowed to cart out of the show, that FM tuner would have been my choice.

The next CES show is in Chicago in June and I just can't wait to get a look at that one.

ally Steckler
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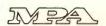
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GX-376

### **AC OUTLET CHECKER**

The AC outlet checker described by William D. Kraengel, Jr., in the August 1979 issue has a serious shortcoming which may Jull its users into a false sense of security. All neon-lamp outlet testers of that type will indicate whether the neutral and grounding conductors are at the same potential, but none of them will measure the actual quality of the ground.

It is imperative that the grounding (green or bare wire) conductor be able to carry the full fault current, which would be 15 or 20 amperes in a residential receptacle. To do that, the resistance to ground must be less than 8 ohms on a 15-ampere circuit, or 6 ohms on a 20-ampere circuit. Mr. Kraengel's tester will indicate a satisfactory ground connection even if the ground resistance is up on the kilohm range.

I recommend that all users of the simple neon-lamp receptacle testers perform a simple added check: De-energize the circuit, and measure the resistance between the grounded (wider slot) terminal and the ground ing (round hole) terminal on a receptacle that has passed the neon-lamp test.

That resistance should be less than 10 ohms. It would be a good idea to measure the resistance between the grounding terminal on the receptacle and a known good ground, such as a water pipe or a ground rod; that resistance should be a few ohms at most.

One last word about ground quality: Some ground clamps that are sold in handyman and department stores are of inferior quality, being made of aluminum with a copper or brass plating. Don't use them! The safest, most durable grounding system uses copper ground rods (or a buried copper water-pipe network) with copper ground clamps and copper wire. I have discovered many faulty grounding systems where the clamp used to connect the load center's ground wire to the ground rod was made of aluminum, and had been eaten away completely by galvanic corrosion. **ERIC LEMMON** 

### VIDEODISC SYSTEMS

I have been reading your articles on the two major videodisc systems, as well as

updates and letters from other readers. I myself have managed to order a Magnavision optical system machine through the aid of a friend

My concern is that a potentially beneficial invention, such as this, may be totally lost in the shuffle, or be greatly delayed in production, because of the useless haggling over different and entirely incompatible systems.

Many articles have stated: "Let the public decide." I would certainly agree with that. The problem is that the various companies are stacking the decks so that the public's decision will not be based upon the merits of a particular system but on the software available. Magnavision/MCA has Paramount, Universal, and Warner Brothers films, for example, while RCA has MGM and 20th Century Fox. Isn't that familiaror have we forgotten about the quad situation when Columbia and RCA were incompatible? Everyone lost, including the consumer-perhaps especially the consumer!

Perhaps we could learn a better lesson from the videocassette "war" now going continued on page 22

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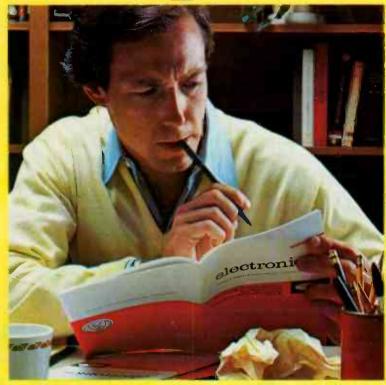
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Pattern shown on oscilloscope screen is simulated.

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RADIO-ELECTRONICS

on. True-there are different systems, but when software is made available it's produced in both formats: Beta and VHS. That way, the buyer can select a recorder for its recording abilities rather than being penalized because of which pre-recorded mate-

Along those lines, I see no reason why the two videodisc systems can't exist side by side. Those who want only movies, and a less expensive machine, can buy an RCA system. Those who want (or need) the extra features that Magnavision/Philips provides (such as freeze frame, lectures, art gallery tours, etc.) can buy that format, and would be willing to pay extra for the extra features. But the movies and other entertainment items should be available for both systems. A buyer could then truly decide upon which system he needs. As things stack up now, I would have to buy one player to see Jaws and a different one to see Star Wars

Should this become a software war, rather than a hardware one, the public has shown, in the way it has ignored quad, that it will throw up its hands and bypass the whole thing. And that would be a shame. WILLIAM RADFORD-BENNETT Washington, D.C.

### **TEXTRONIC TEST EQUIPMENT**

Off and on in your magazine, I have noticed requests for technical data for Textronic and related test equipment. I have located the Air Force technical order numbers for some of the more common oscilloscopes and preamps on the surplus market, and have listed them below. To obtain those, individuals should write to the Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. for information on price and availability.

### Oscilloscopes:

Tex. RM35 T.O. No. 33A1-13-76
Tex. RM35A T.O. No. 33A1-13-177
Tex. 535 T.O. No. 33A1-13-76
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CHARLES BROWN

### **EINSTEINIAN IMPOSSIBILITIES**

Having made a list of extensive impossibilities in Einstein's special theory of relativity, I notice that Dr. Howard Mark's letter (October 1979 issue) mentioned an Einsteinian notion that is one of my evidences: relativity of simultaneity.

Mark states: ". . . events simultaneous to one observer cannot be simultaneous to (a moving) observer." By "events" he means, for instance, flash-emissions of light at two spots (A' and B') in the moving reference system and equidistant from the "moving" and "rest" observers (M' and M respectively).

Resulting flash-beams are received simultaneously by M but non-simultaneously by M' because M' moves closer to one (from B') and farther from the other (from A'). Einstein could not explain how the beams could be received nonsimultaneously by M' in his reference system (say a train) because that would mean the beams had unequal or variable velocities coming from each direction along the train. So he assumed that the emissions occurred "nonsimultaneously" in the train. Purporting that one flash (at A') occurred later than the other (at B') he could insist that the beams had equal or constant velocities.

Inspect Einstein's logic closely: As M and M' coincide, M judges that the flash at A' occurs (with the flash at B'). It did not yet occur according to M' but occurs later, after M' moves farther to the right of M. Meanwhile, according to M, the beam has already passed A', having traveled along the train to some spot to the right of A'; observers in the same train with M', stationed between A' and that spot cannot have helped notice! Einstein's logic proves to be a physically impossible self-contradiction. Relativity of simultaneity is physically impossible.

ANTHONY HANS KLOTZ Long Island, NY

### **OUTBOARD CONVERTERS**

Can you tell me something about the availability of "outboard converters" as mentioned in the review of the Electra BC-220 scanner on page 35 of the September 1979 Radio Electronics? Any information about the purchase or construction of such converters would be greatly appreciated. Also, any information about improving reception on the Aircraft Band (118-136 MHz) would also be very helpful.

Your magazine is the finest in its field. Keep up the good work! J. P. MAGUIRE Wappingers Falls, NY

Converters are available both as kits and factory-wired units from several domestic manufacturers:

Hamtronics, Inc., 65 Moul Rd., Hilton, NY 14468:

Vanguard Electronic Labs, 196-23 Jamaica Ave., Hollis, NY 11423;

VHF Engineering, 320 Water St., Binghamton, NY 13901;

Hermes Research and Development Co., 3997 Elkcam Blvd SE., St. Petersburg, FL 33705:

Janel Laboratories, 33890 Eastgate Circle, Corvallis, OR 97330;

Advanced Receiver Research, Box 1212, Burlington, CT 06013.

We have been advised by the Electra Company (Cumberland, IN 46229) that the BC-220 aircraft performance has been improved since our evaluation sample was tested. They assure us that customers should find no trouble receiving stations in the 118-136 MHz frequency range. In any case, sensitivity on weak signal reception may be improved with the addition of a preamplifier available from virtually all of the converter manufacturers above. - Robert B. Grove

# DMMs from Keithley. Call

vour nearest distributor. ALABAMA Huntsville PIONEER 205/837-9300 ARIZONA Phoenix METERMASTER 602/243-4111 Tempe JENSEN TOOLS, INC. 602/968-6231 CALIFORNIA Los Angeles METERMASTER 213/685-4340 Palo Alto METERMASTER 415/968-0313 San Diego METERMASTER 714/560-4841 CONNECTICUT Middletown EIL/MANCIB DIVISION 203/346-6646 FLORIDA Orlando PIONEER 305/859-3600 Palm Bay EIL INSTRUMENTS, INC. 305/725-8300 ILLINOIS Chicago METERMASTER 312/593-8650 PIONEER 312/437-9680 INDIANA Indianapolis PIONEER 317/849-7300 MAINE Burington EIL/MANCIB DIVISION 617/272-9450 MARYLAND Baltimore PIONEER 301/792-7500 Gaithersburg PIONEER 301/948-0710 Timonium EIL INSTRUMENTS, INC. 301/252-1260 MICHIGAN Ann Arbor PIONEER 313/455-9090 Livonia PIONEER 313/525-1800 MINNESOTA Minnetonka PIONEER 612/935-5444 NEW JERSEY Fairfield AMPOWER 201/227-7720 **NEW YORK** INSTRUMENT MART 516/487-7430 Long Island EIL INSTRUMENTS, INC. 516/231-6333, New York ADVANCE 212/687-2224 Rochester AMPOWER 716/377-1020 NORTH CAROLINA Greensboro PIONEER 916/273-4441 OHIO Cleveland PIONEER 216/587-3600 Dayton PIONEER 513/898-7166 OREGON Portland WESTCON, INC. 503/283-0132 PENNSYLVANIA Philadelphia PIONEER 215/674-4000 EIL INSTRUMENTS INC. 215/357-7733 Pittsburgh PIONEER 412/782-2300 TEXAS PIONEER 214/386-7300 Garland METERMASTER 214/271-5671 Houston METERMASTER 713/988-5555 QUALITY INSTRUMENT LABS, INC. 713/524-0528 VIRGINIA Alexandria EIL INSTRUMENTS, INC. 703/354-4330



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u 0.5% DCV gives With all the hand-held DMMs around these days, it can be tough to pick the one that's best for you. Some are just too basic; others have a lot of high-priced frills that you may not want. Our Model 130 Digital Multimeter makes that choice a lot easier because it was designed with your needs in mind. Accurate. The 130 is five times more accurate than many comparably priced analog VOMs, and it also compares a bigger favorably with other, more expensive hand-held DMMs. Its basic 0.5% DCV accuracy is probably as much as you'll need outside of lab situations, so you don't have to pay for more you want. That's long term accuracy—only one calibration outside of lab situations, so you don't have to pay for more than adjustment is required, once a year. ntrols, and lighter Rugged. We built the 130 to be tough enough to take it in real-world situations. The case is 2.5mm (.100") thick and made of high strength, impact resistant plastic. The LCD window is tough, scratch-resistant polycar-

strength, impact resistant plastic. The LCD window is tough, scratch-resistant posture. The handsome faceplate is designed for maximum legibility and ease of use—all ranges and functions are color-coded and clearly marked.

components are on a single PC board that's mounted to the faceplate, permitting the vital electronics t" free of the backing and protecting them from jolts. Yet the whole unit weighs a mere 283g (10 oz.) of the lightest units around.

use. Our 15mm (0.6") LCD display is 60% larger than that of many other pocket DMMs. Both nd function are easily selected with one hand—no complicated pushbuttons. And a rear panel mountw lets you use the 130 while it's mounted to a stand or special holder, even without taking it out of its d carrying case.

nd that's no fluke. precision components and user-oriented design are built right in to the 130. Full overload pro-Keithley quality. Like all Keithley products,

a 10A current range, auto zero and auto polarity round out the list of standard features. And a full accessories expands its capabilities to 40kV, 200A and 700MHz. But the real measure of Keithley value we give you all this performance at a sensible price.



# equipment reports

### Beckman Instruments Models Tech 300 and 310 Digital Multimeters



CIRCLE 101 ON FREE INFORMATION CARD

BECKMAN INSTRUMENTS, INC. (2500 HARBOR Blvd, Fullerton CA 92634) has been making test instruments and precision components of many kinds for a long time. They're now making a complete line of digital multimeters. One pair of almost twin meters are designed and priced especially for electronic technicians and hobbyists in all fields. These are the models Tech-300 and Tech-310. A 10-ampere current range and a built-in continuity function are provided on the 310, but otherwise they're almost identical. The readout is a highly legible 3.5 digit liquid crystal display.

The Tech-300 has a total of 27 ranges for seven functions, while the Tech-310 has 27 ranges, plus an additional 10-ampere current range. The functions and ranges are selected using the function/range switch. (You can't say "controls" because there is only one.)

Each function and range is very plainly marked, and the knob is recessed to avoid accidental damage. So are the special banana jacks along the bottom. Those are of the protected type, so that no bare metal is exposed when the test-leads are plugged in. The test leads, by the way, are very rugged-looking and the probes have protective collars on the end to keep fingers out of things.

Both meters measure DC volts on 5 ranges from 200 mV up to 1500 V with an accuracy of 0.25% for the Tech-310 and 0.5% for the Tech-300. AC volts are measured on the same ranges except for the top one which is 1,000 volts RMS. The accuracy of the AC voltage measurements is 0.75% for the Tech-310 and 1.5% for the Tech-300. Alternating and direct current are measured in 5 ranges (6 ranges on the Tech-310) from 200 microamps to 2 amps with the Tech-300 and 10 amps with the Tech-300 ohms to 20 megohms. All are low-power ohms with a maximum in-range voltage of 250 mV.

For diode/transistor testing, a special range is used, marked with a diode symbol. That applies up to 2.0 volts across the junction. If the junction is reverse-biased, OL appears on the display indicating circuit condition. Re-

verse the test leads and if the junction is good, you'll read the actual voltage drop across the junction on the 2-volt scale with a resolution of 0.1 mV. The current flowing is limited to 5 mA by a constant-current source. That protects transistors from damage. Junctions may be tested in-circuit with as little as 200 ohms shunt resistance.

A special continuity test that Beckman calls Insta-Ohms is used in the Tech-310 on all ohms ranges. Continuity tests have been difficult on conventional DMM's. With this new feature, if you touch the test leads to a circuit and the resistance is anything less than twice the range chosen, an ohms (omega) symbol will appear instantly in the upper left corner of the display. It tells you that the circuit does have continuity. A fraction of a second later (1/4 second to be exact) the circuit resistance will appear. (If you're on the 200-ohm scale, you'll see the reading if there's anything below 400 ohms.) If it's more than range, OL appears and you switch to a higher range. The OL is also overrange readout for all other ranges and functions.

Another feature that should also be popular is the battery life. The meters use only a single 9-volt rectangular battery and an average life of 1600 hours or 2 years is claimed for a common zinc-carbon battery (with an alkaline battery, up to 2,000 hours). The low battery indication is a blinking decimal point. When that appears, there is approximately 200 hours of battery life left.

Practically all of the circuitry is contained on a custom-CMOS LSI IC. The CMOS technology accounts for the long battery life. By using the LSI IC, the total count of electronic parts is reduced to less than 40. Each instrument is given a 100-hour burn-in test and complete calibration tests. A one-year warranty is given, which includes calibration.

The high accuracy of those two meters is obtained by the use of special thin-film IC-type voltage divider networks. They are used on all functions. All of the inputs are protected against overload including the resistance ranges, which can withstand up to 300 VDC or RMS AC. The current inputs are protected against overload by a 2-ampere fuse, except for the 10-ampere range on the Tech-310. That input will withstand up to 20 amps for 30 seconds (which should give you plenty of time to "get out of there!")

Accessory probes are available for reading up to 50 kV DC, 200 MHz AC currents up to 1000 amps, with a current-clamp-type probe. Also available are a set of deluxe test leads and two carrying cases. The meter case itself is a tough plastic that is claimed to withstand a drop of 6 feet to a hard surface. It has a retractable bail that is used for a bench-rest, or can be flipped around to make a carrying handle.

The price is quite reasonable for instruments of this quality: \$110.00 for the *Tech-300* and \$140.00 for the *Tech-310*. The Beckman company has a wide reputation for making quality instruments and precision components and

their technology has been put to good use in designing and building these two meters.

We checked our meters out on TV sets and assorted semiconductors, and found them very easy to use and to read in dark places with no problems. Quite a pair of instruments!

### JVC HR-6700U Video Cassette Recorder



CIRCLE 102 ON FREE INFORMATION CARD

THE FIRST BLOW TO THE MOTION PICTURE INdustry was the widespread profileration of home television: Box-office receipts plummeted. Then Hollywood discovered that, rather than a threat, TV was a logical medium to exploit with the made-for-television movies. Now, a new threat appears to have emerged: the home video recorder.

The home video machines are available in two hotly-contested formats: Beta and VHS. At the present time, there seems to be an indication that VHS is winning. We decided to have a look at one of the better VHS machines, the 6700U video cassette recorder from JVC. In addition, JVC offers a matching Vidstar color camera that can turn the video cassette recorder into an instant home movie camera. . . . but more about that later.

The HR-6700U VCR weighs in at 31 pounds, and is a videophile's delight! Handsome in appearance and flexible in performance, the recorder touts a variety of features, many controlled by six microprocessor memories.

Selectable tape speeds provide up to six hours of recording from a standard two-hour T-120 video cassette. Slow motion at ½15 to ½3 normal speed shows no degradation or noise on the signal; and even still playback is available for "freeze-frame" fans!

The secret behind the quality of slow-speed video recording is the recording-head complement. Most competitive recorders use the same heads for recording a variety of speeds. Because of that tradeoff, non-standard speeds suffer distortion. The HR-6700U features six separate recording heads, providing a much higher density of information. Both picture and sound are enhanced using that technique at both slow and normal speeds.

Crosstalk distortion is also minimized by an advanced H-aligned format that allows noiseless double-speed playback in the normal (two-

continued on page 32





y to see why LEADER scopes are now specified more ver. More performance and for less cost ... with immediate ies from over 100 stocking Itors. They also come with it two-year warranty in the y... backed by efficient service depots on the nd West Coasts.

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# 1Hz delayed sweep – \$1,530.

5B is a compact, precision cope at a moderate price. Using 4-inch CRT with parallax-free graticule, it features 5 mV rity and delayed sweep for and measuring complex rms. Also has 120 ns signal rigger hold-off and x-y on at full sensitivity.

### MHz with signal delay -\$1,100.

0 combines a 11.7 ns rise time nV sensitivity and 120 ns signal

delay lines. Has single shot triggering, X10 sweep magnifier and bright, sharp PDA CRT. Triggers to 50 MHz.

### 20 MHz dual and single trace -\$835., \$610.

LBO-508A and LBO-507A give you versatility at low cost. Rise time is 17.5 ns with 1 M $\Omega$  (35 pFd) input impedance. Automatic or external triggering, X5 sweep magnifier, 10 mV/cm sensitivity and add/ subtract modes.



Oscilloscopes, frequency counters, function generators, video and audio instruments ... a LEADER instrument for almost every need.

# 20 MHz battery/ac portable -\$950.

LBO-308S provides lab performance and high reliability in field service applications. Sensitivity is 2 mV with a complete set of triggering controls and 18 sweep ranges to 0.1 µs/div. with X5 magnifier. Compact, lightweight with 3-inch rectangular, internal graticule CRT. (Optional 2 hour internal battery pack is recharged during ac operation, \$75.00.)

### Two-year warranty. Evaluation units.

A history of high reliability permits LEADER to provide a generous 2-year warranty...backed by factory service depots on the East and West Coasts. A free, trial use of LEADER instruments

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- our 40-page catalog
- the name of your nearest "Select" distributor
- additional information

### 10 MHz with 1 mV sensitivity -\$645.

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When Quality Counts



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CIRCLE 43 TO BE CONTACTED BY LOCAL DISTRIBUTOR

ALOG CIRCLE 3 ON FREE INFORMATION CARD

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JW-1-W	WHITE WIRE	\$14.95
JW-1-Y	YELLOW WIRE	\$14.95
JW-1-R	RED WIRE	\$14.95



### RIBBON CABLE ASSEMBLY SINGLE END

26 AWG Rainbow Coded flat cable.

SE 14-24	WITH 14 PIN DIP PLUG 24 LONG (609MM)	\$3.55
SE 14-48	WITH 14 PIN DIP PLUG 48" LONG (1218MM)	\$4.25
SE 16-24	WITH 16 PIN LONG DIP PLUG 24" LONG (609MM)	\$3.75
SE 16-48	WITH 16 PIN LONG DIP PLUG 48" LONG (1218MM)	\$4.45



### JUST WRAP REPLACEMENT ROLLS

R-JW-B	BLUE WIRE	50 ft. Roll	\$2.98
R-JW-W	WHITE WIRE	50 ft, Roll	\$2.98
R-JW-Y	YELLOW WIRE	50 ft. Roll	\$2.98
R-JW-R	RED WIRE	50 ft. Roll	\$2.98



### DIP PLUG WITH COVER FOR USE WITH RIBBON CABLE

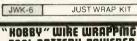
14-PLG	14 PIN PLUG & COVER	\$1.45
16-PLG	16 PIN PLUG & COVER	\$1.59

QUANTITY 2 PLUGS, 2 COVERS



### UNWRAP TOOL FOR JUST WRAP

UNWRAPPING TOOL	\$3 49
	UNWRAPPING TOOL



JUST WRAP KIT



### RIBBON CABLE ASSEMBLY DOUBLE END

	DE 14-2	WITH 14 PIN DIP PLUG - 2"	\$3.75
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22	DE 14-8	WITH 14 PIN DIP PLUG - 8"	\$3.95
23 23 128	DE 14-12	WITH 14 PIN DIP PLUG - 12"	\$4.07
C.	DE 14-16	WITH 14 PIN DIP PLUG - 16"	\$4.12
200	DE 14-24	WITH 14 PIN DIP PLUG - 24"	\$4.15
48	DE 16-2	WITH 16 PIN DIP PLUG - 2"	\$4.15
<b>-</b> = :	DE 16-4	WITH 16 PIN DIP PLUG 4"	\$4 25
Co.	DE 16-8	WITH 16 PIN DIP PLUG - 8"	\$4 35
00	DE 16-12	WITH 16 PIN DIP PLUG - 12"	\$4.47
33	DE 16-16	WITH 16 PIN DIP PLUG - 16"	\$4 52
0.0	DE 16-24	WITH 16 PIN DIP PLUG - 24"	\$4.55
-	DE 24-6	WITH 24 PIN DIP PLUG - 6"	\$6 05
- 3	DE 24-8	WITH 24 PIN DIP PLUG - 8"	\$6.50
	DE 24-12	WITH 24 PIN DIP PLUG - 12"	\$6 90
	DE 24-16	WITH 24 PIN DIP PLUG - 16"	\$7.10
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BW-2630	FOR AWG 26-30			\$19.95		
Use "C" size not included.	NICAD	Batteries,	not	included. Bits		

\$24 95

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BT-2628	BIT FOR AWG 26-28	\$7.95

HOBBY WRAP TOOLS

WSU-30 | REGULAR WRAP | \$6.95 WSU-30M MODIFIED WRAP \$7.95



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14 DIP	14 PIN DIP SOCKET	\$0.79
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24 DIP	24 PIN DIP SOCKET	\$1 49
36 DIP	36 PIN DIP SOCKET	\$2 49
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### PRE-STRIPPED WIRE WRRPPING WIRE

Wire for wire wrapping, AWG-30 (0.25mm) KYNAR\* wire, 50 wires per package stripped 1" both ends.

30-AWG blue Wire, 1" Long	\$ 99	
30-AWG Yellow Wire 1" Long	\$ 99	
30 AWG White Wire 1" Long	\$ 99	
30 AWG Red Wire 1" Long	\$ 99	
30-AWG Blue Wire. 2" Long	\$107	
30 AWG Yellow Wire, 2" Long	\$1 07	
30 AWG White Wire, 2" Long	\$1.07	1
30-AWG Red Wire 2" Long	\$1.07	
30 AWG Blue Wire 3" Long	\$1.16	1
30-AWG Yellow Wire 3" Long	\$1 16	1
30 AWG White Wire 3" Long	\$1 16	1
30 AWG Red Wire, 3" Long	\$1 16	1
30-AWG Blue Wire 4" Long	\$1.23	1
30 AWG Yellow Wire, 4" Long	\$1 23	1
30 AWG White Wire, 4" Long	\$1.23	1
30-AWG Red Wire, 4" Long	\$123	1
30 AWG Blue Wire, 5" Long	\$1.30	1
30-AWG Yellow Wire 5" Long	\$1.30	1
30 AWG White Wire 5" Long	\$1.30	1
30 AWG Red Wire 5" Long	\$1.30	1
30 AWG Blue Wire, 6" Long	\$1.38	1
30 AWG Yellow Wire. 6" Long	\$1.38	ŀ
30 AWG White Wire 6" Long	\$138	1
30 AWG Red Wire, 6" Long	\$1.38	L
	30. AWG. Yellow. Wire 1". Long. 30. AWG. White Wire 1". Long. 30. AWG. White Wire 2". Long. 30. AWG. Slue Wire 2". Long. 30. AWG. Yellow. Wire 2". Long. 30. AWG. Yellow. Wire 2". Long. 30. AWG. Yellow. Wire 3". Long. 30. AWG. Red Wire 2". Long. 30. AWG. Yellow. Wire 3". Long. 30. AWG. Yellow. Wire 3". Long. 30. AWG. Slue Wire 4". Long. 30. AWG. Slue Wire 4". Long. 30. AWG. Slue Wire 4". Long. 30. AWG. White Wire. 4". Long. 30. AWG. White Wire. 5". Long. 30. AWG. Yellow. Wire. 5". Long. 30. AWG. Yellow. Wire. 5". Long. 30. AWG. White Wire. 6". Long.	30 AWG Yellow Wire 1" Long \$99 30 AWG White Wire 1" Long \$99 30 AWG White Wire 1" Long \$99 30 AWG Red Wire 1" Long \$99 30 AWG Red Wire 1" Long \$107 30 AWG Yellow Wire 2" Long \$107 30 AWG Yellow Wire 2" Long \$107 30 AWG Hellow Wire 2" Long \$107 30 AWG Red Wire 2" Long \$107 30 AWG Yellow Wire 3" Long \$116 30 AWG Yellow Wire 3" Long \$116 30 AWG Winte Wire 3" Long \$116 30 AWG Winte Wire 3" Long \$116 30 AWG Yellow Wire 4" Long \$123 30 AWG Yellow Wire 4" Long \$123 30 AWG Yellow Wire 4" Long \$123 30 AWG Winte Wire 4" Long \$123 30 AWG Winte Wire 5" Long \$130 30 AWG Yellow Wire 6" Long \$138 30 AWG Yellow Wire 6" Long \$138 30 AWG Yellow Wire 6" Long \$138 30 AWG White Wire 6" Long \$138



### DIP IC INSERTION TOOLS WITH PIN STRAIGHTNER

Narrow profile, Pin straightener built into tool. Automatic ejector.

INS-1416	14-16 PIN DIP/IC INSERTER	\$3.49

mos, cmos-safe

GROUND STRAP NOT INCLUDED

	14-16 PIN, MÖS CMOS SAFE INSERTER	
MOS-2428	24-28 PIN, MOS CMOS SAFE INSERTER	\$7.95



### TRI-COLOR DISPENSER

WD-30-TRI	TRI-COLOR DISPENSER	\$5.95
R-30-TRI	REPLACEMENT ROLLS	\$3.95

### WIRE DISPENSER

WD-30-B	BLUE WIRE	\$3 95
WD-30-Y	YELLOW WIRE	\$3.95
WD-30-W	WHITE WIRE	\$3.95
WD-30-R	RED WIRE	\$3 95



ď	D131 C113C		
-	R-30B-0050	30-AWG BLUE 50 FT. ROLL	\$1.98
-	R-30Y-0050	30-AWG YELLOW 50 FT. ROLL	\$1.98
	R-30W-0050	30-AWG WHITE 50 FT. ROLL	\$1.98
	R-30R-0050	30-AWG RED 50 FT. ROLL	\$1.98



### 36-40 PIN CMOS-SAFE IC INSERTION TOOL

Aligns bent out pins. Includes terminal lug for attachment of ground strap.

GROUND STRAP NOT INCLUDED

MOS-40 36-40 PIN CMOS SAFE INSERTION TOOL	\$7 95
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### DIP IC EXTRACTOR TOOL

Extracts all LSI, MSI and SSI devices of from 8 to 24 pins.

EX-1	EXTRACTOR TOOL	\$1.49



### HOOK-UP WIRE

HK-18	18 AWG	25 FT.	SOLID CONDUCTOR	\$1	.20
HK-20	20 AWG	25 FT.	SOLID CONDUCTOR	\$	.98
HK-22	22 AWG	50 FT.	SOLID CONDUCTOR	\$1	35
HK-24	24 AWG	50 FT.	SOLID CONDUCTOR	\$1	35
HK-26	26 AWG	50 FT	SOLID CONDUCTOR	\$1	35
SHK-18	18 AWG	25 FT.	STRANDED CONDUCTOR	51	20
SHK-20	20 AWG	25 FT	STRANDED CONDUCTOR	\$	98
SHK-22	22 AWG	50 FT.	STRANDED CONDUCTOR	\$1	35
SHK-24	24 AWG	50 FT	STRANDED CONDUCTOR	\$1	35
CHK.26	26 AWG	50 FT	STRANDED CONDUCTOR	51	35



### 24-40 (MOS-SRFE EXTRACTOR TOOL

Removes 24-40 pin IC's, .600" centers. C-MOS safe. Includes terminal lug for attachment of ground strap.

GROUND STRAP NOT INCLUDED

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### PRB-1 DIGITAL LOGIC PROBE DC to > 50 MHZ 10 Neac, pulse response 120 K ⋒ impedanca Automatic pulse stratching to 50 Msec. Automatic pulse stratching to 50 Msec. Automatic pulse with all logic lamilies 4-15 VDC Range sertended to 15-25 VDC With optional PA-1 adapter Supply Q.V.P. to ± 70 VDC No switches/no calibration PRB-1 DIGITAL LOGIC PROBE PROTOTYPE BOARD (M-100 TERMINALS: 1.020 TEST POINTS: 188 separate 5 point terminals, plus 2 horizontal bus lines of 40 common test points each. SIZE: 61/2" Wide, 5" Long CM-100 MODULAR PROTOTYPE BOARD \$25.95 PROTOTYPE BOARD (M-200 TERMINALS: 630 TEST POINTS: 94 separate 5 point terminals, plus 4 bus lines of 40 common test points each. SIZE: 6" Wide, 31/2" Long. CM-200 MODULAR PROTOTYPE BOARD \$16 45 PROTOTYPE BOARD (M-300, CM-400 CM-300 and CM-400 have two separated rows of five interconnected contacts each. Each pin of a DIP inserted in the strip will have four additional tie-points per pin to insert connecting wires. They accept leads and components up to .032 in. diameter. Interconnections are readily made with RW-50 Jumper Wire. All contact sockets are on a .100 in. square grid (1% in. wide). M-400 CM-300 MODULAR PROTOTYPE BOARD \$9.95 CM-400 MODULAR PROTOTYPE BOARD \$2.45 **MODULAR BUS STRIP** CM-500 is a bus strip to be used in conjunction with CM-300 and CM-400 for distribution of power and common signed lines. Two separate rows of common terminals, grouped into clusters of five. All contact sockets are on a .100 in. square grid. CM-500 MODULAR BUS STRIP \$1.95 CM-500 JUMPER WIRES 50 Preformed wires, from $1 \ensuremath{\mathcal{V}}_2$ to 4 inches, 20 AWG solid wire, white insulation. اللا RW-50 JUMPER WIRES \$2.98 "CLIP AND STRIP" TOOL CAS-130 CLIP AND STRIP THE ABOVE CUT AND STRIP TOOL IS NOT APPLICABLE FOR MYLENE OR TEFLON INSULATION **MINI SHEAR** MS-10 MINI-SHEAR MINI SHEOR IIIITH COLETY THE MS-20 MINI-SHEAR WITH CLIP \$5.95 VACUUM VISE ABS construction, 11/2 in. wide jaws V V-1 VACUUM VISE \$3.49 WIRE WRAPPING KITS WK-2, WK-3, WK-4 WK-2-B WIRE-WRAPPING KIT (BLUE) WK-2-Y WIRE-WRAPPING KIT(YELLOW) \$12.95 WK-2-W WIRE-WRAPPING KIT (WHITE) \$12.95 WX-38 WK-2-R WIRE-WRAPPING KIT (RED) \$12.95 WK-3B (BLUE) WIRE-WRAPPING KIT \$16.95 .. . WK-4B (BLUE) WIRE-WRAPPING KIT \$25.99



### PC BORRD

4 x 4.5 x % in. board, glass coated EPOXY laminate, solder coated 1 oz. copper pads. The board has provision for a 22/44 two sided edge connector. .156 in. spacing. Edge contacts are non-dedicated for maximum flexibility.

The board contains a matrix of .040 in. diameter holes on .100 in. centers. Component side contains 76 two-hole pads.

Two independent bus systems are provided for voltage and ground on both sides of the board.

H-PCB-1 HOBBY BOARD \$4.99

-		
	TERMINAL	BOARD

.062 thick glass coated epoxy laminate. Outside dimensions 6.3 in. x 3.94 in. Not plated.

A-PC-01	TERMINAL BOARD	\$3.45



### PC BOARD

Same specifications as A-PC-01 except matrix pattern is copper plated and solder coated on one side.

A-PC-02	PRINTED CIRCUIT BOARD	\$5.95



### PE BORRD

Same specifications as A-PC-01. Each line of holes is connected with copper plated and solder coated parallel strips on one side.

4- PC-03	PRINTED CIRCUIT FOARD	\$5.95



### PC BORRD

Same specifications as A-PC-01. One side has horizontal copper strips, solder coated. Second side has vertical parallel bars.

- PC-04	PRINTED CIRCUIT BOARD	\$7.95



### PC BORRD

The A-PC-05 features numbered contacts for easy reference along with a numbered matrix for easy hole locations. Made of .062 in. thick epoxy laminate. 4.5 in. x 5 in. Edge Connector Board.

A-PC-05	PRINTED CIRCUIT BOARD	\$5.45
Same as in. x 6.5 in	A-PC-05 except outside dimension. Edge Connector Board.	ns are 4.5

A-PC-06		\$6 95
Same as A	A-PC-05 except outside dimensio Edge Connector Board.	ns are 4.5

in. x 7 in.	Edge Connector Board.	
A - DC -07	DOINTED CIDCUIT DOADD	80.00



### TERMINALS

WWT-1	SLOTTED TERMINAL	\$4 98
WWT-2	SINGLE SIDED TERMINAL	\$2 98
WWT-3	IC SOCKET TERMINAL	\$4 98
WWT-4	DOUBLE SIDED TERMINAL	\$1 98

### \$4.95

 SUCHU	WIII	SHICIA	LLIF

WIRE WRAPPING KIT WK-5

BW-630, WSU-30M, CON-1, EX-1, INS-1416, TRS-2, MS-20, 14, 16, 24 and 40 DIP sockets, WWT-1, WD-30-TR1, H-PCB-1.

WK-5 WIRE-WRAPPING KIT \$74.95

14C 20	

### TERMINAL INSERTING TOOL

For inserting WWT-1, -2, -3 and -4 terminals.

INS-1	INSERTING TOOL	\$2.49



### P.C. B. TERMINAL STRIPS

TS- 4	4-POLE	\$1.39
TS- 8	8-POLE	\$2 19
TS-12	12-POLE	\$2.99



### **MODULAR TERMINAL STRIPS**

TS-6MD	2-POLE	\$1.79
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### PC CARD GUIDES

TR-1	IF-1 CARD GUIDES	
	QUANTITY - ONE PAIR (2 PCS.)	



### PC CARD GUIDES & BRACKETS

TRS-2	GUIDES & BRACKETS	\$3.79
	QUANTITY - ONE SET (4 PCS.)	



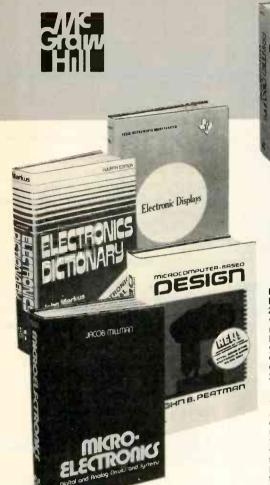
### PC EDGE CONNECTOR

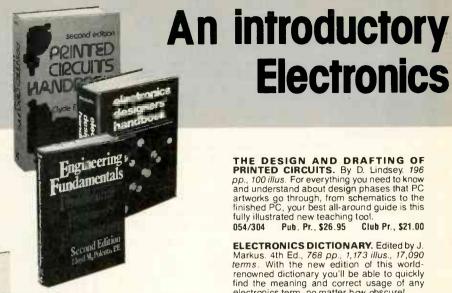
44 pin, dual read-out, .156 in. spacing, wire-wrap-

-	CON-1	P.C. EDGE CONNECTOR	\$3

MINIMUM ORDER \$25.00. SHIPPING CHARGE \$2.00, N.Y. CITY AND STATE RESIDENTS ADD TAX

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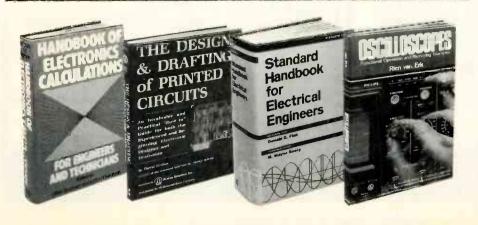
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### **EQUIPMENT REPORTS**

continued from page 24

hour) mode as well as triple-speed playback in the six-hour mode.

Picture stability has always been a problem in video recording; as speed fluctuates, so does the synchronization signal. The new JVC recorder incorporates a microcomputer-controlled timer that works in conjunction with a fast-response capstan servomechanism to lock on to those synchronizing signals; that prevents the annoying flopover so frequently associated with home recorders.

For recording off the air, a built-in VHF/ UHF solid-state tuner is operated manually or by microprocessor memories. Unattended, the machine will record six programs on different channels up to a week in advance; or at the same time every day-or at different times on different days! Now that's flexibility!

A dual-mode auto-search counter allows the user to program the recorder to stop at "0000" in rewind, or to stop where the recording began-whether in fast forward or rewind.

A remote-control accessory allows the operator to shift speeds from the comfort of his viewing position. But to use the convenience of the many automatic features, he may allow the machine to do his speed thinking for him. The HR-6700U senses the speed format of the tape that has been loaded and automatically switches to the correct speed.

When the owner desires to watch TV, he merely switches off his recorder; the antenna will be automatically connected to the television receiver. The tuner portion of the recorder is a presettable 12-channel VHF/UHF tuner with channel-lock provision. Input impedance is nominally 75 ohms on VHF, and 200 ohms on UHF.

Video signal-to-noise ratio is better than 45 dB, and horizontal resolution is at least 240 lines; the audio-frequency response is 50-

The optional matching color camera is compact and lightweight, slightly over three pounds, depending upon zoom lens.

The original engineering philosophy was to provide a camera that is as small and lightweight as a standard 8 mm home movie camera—and as easy to operate. A tall order, but JVC seems to have done it! In our test, the video camera came through with flying colors. Focus was sharp; persistence was fast (very little smear from rapid movement), and the camera was not fatiguing to hold and operate.

The operation of the camera couldn't have been simpler: Point and shoot! Zoom and focus are no more awkward than on a quality photographic camera. For the home-movie addict who wants to move up into the electronic age, this is the way to go.

The camera is built around a 0.66-inch vidicon with either a 3× or 6× zoom lens available. It features automatic iris control and through-the-lens viewfinder. Color correction (temperature or white balance) is accomplished electronically without the need of optical filters. Exposure indicators in the viewfinder alert the user whenever there are improper lighting conditions.

A built-in high-sensitivity condenser microphone features a wind screen. While a ten-foot cable is provided, extensions up to 60 feet from the recorder are allowable.

A pistol-trigger switch activates the camera and recorder. A tripod and spotlight accessory may be purchased separately if desired, to be used with the camera.

ecifications for the camera show it to MHz single-carrier frequency multim with 525 lines, 2:1 interlaced. Coleratures are switch selectable among 00, or 6000° K. Video output is I volt 250 line resolution.

und the new JVC video cassette sysmatching camera an impressive per-It is full-featured, innovatively-engiand realistically-priced.

uggested retail list price for the GXor Video Camera is \$850 and the HRidstar Color Video Cassette Recorder . For more information, write to: JVC, neens Midtown Expressway, Maspeth,

### hi Model V-302 Duale Scope



### E 103 ON FREE INFORMATION CARD

EW YEARS AGO A 10-MHz OSCILLOSCOPE ave sufficed for all but the most critical ions. Today's sophisticated technology y making the 10-MHz scope as obsohe older 5-MHz units. Even the welld TV service bench of today is required a scope capable of at least 30 MHz, ly if that service center is expecting to a VCR service agency for most of the brands of units on the market.

the above facts in mind, Hitachi Den-, Tokyo, Japan, has introduced a unit ms to fill the requirements of the TV industry and at the same time is pert home in the other fields of industry the computer field.

Hitachi model V-302 dual-trace scope is at-appearing and professional-looking brushed-metal rim surrounding the ront panel. The panel itself is composed colors, and the colors are arranged to to the user the location of all controls related to each other. For instance, the rea contains the power switch, INTENSIrol, FOCUS control, and the LED pilot

inputs and controls that are related to rizontal (X) and vertical (Y) display ns will be found in the gray-colored seche third color is brown and it contains ger MODE and SOURCE switches, trigger and external TRIG INPUT. That multipanel adds a quality look to the overall ince as well as serving a very useful purr the operator. When shipped, the panel rotective plastic film covering its entire The protective shield may be removed red to remain to prevent the front panel coming soiled from fingerprints, etc. unit supplied came equipped with two bes, each containing a convenient built-

nb hook that adds to the ease of han-

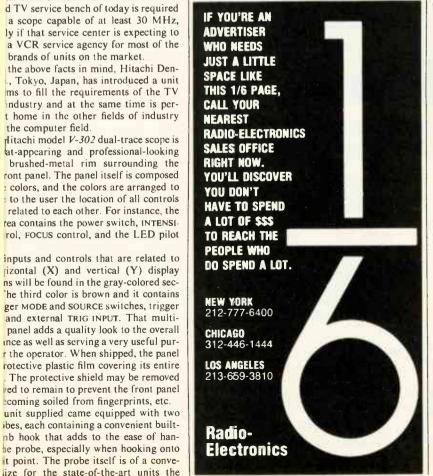
it point. The probe itself is of a conve-

present-day technician is required to troubleshoot. The "clip-on" hook portion may be removed and a miniature-sized needle-tipped test probe is available for point-to-point testing. The normal probes (as supplied) are × 10 low-capacitance types.

The gray-shaded portion of the panel contains the horizontal-display controls. The TIME/DIV rotary switch dominates that section with 19 positions that select sweep speeds ranging from 0.2µs-per-division to 0.2 seconds-per-division in a 1-2-5 sequence. When this switch is placed in the fully clockwise position, the scope is set to operate in the X-Y mode. In that case, the input signal to Channel 1 is displayed on the X axis and Channel 2 signals are presented on the Y axis. To the right of the TIME/DIV switch is the variable sweep control for the timebase settings that are not covered by the preset times on the main switch. When the control is adjusted to the extreme clockwise position, the unit is in the calibrated mode. The horizontal-positioning (centering) control is also in this section. In addition, if the control is pulled outward, the scope is set for a ×10 magnification of the horizontal trace.

The vertical sensitivity is selectable in ten steps over the range of 5mV-per-division to 5 volts-per-division. These ranges are also continuously variable when the vertical gain control is turned from the calibrated position. In addition, by pulling the vertical position knob to the outward position, the gain of the vertical (Y) amplifier is multipled by a factor of 5. Of course, being a dual-trace unit, there are duplicate controls for the second channel. The vertical input has an impedance of 1 megohm

continued on page 34





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shunted by 30 pF. A switch selects AC or DC input, as well as acting as a grounding switch for the input circuitry.

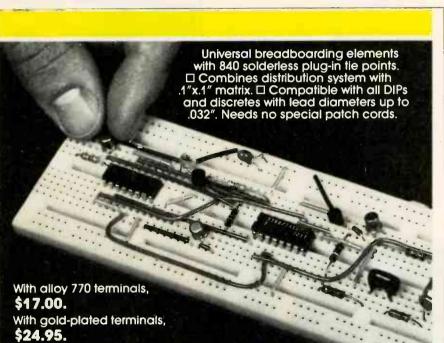
Other features are located in the brownshaded area at the upper right hand corner and the extreme bottom center. The latter is the MODE switch that determines which input signals will be displayed. Aside from the normal Channel-1 or Channel-2 signals being displayed alone or simultaneously, the switch will also algebraically add or subtract the input signals. That feature is particularly useful when comparing phase and voltage relationships of the two input signals, among many other important tests.

The center right-hand portion of the front panel is related to the triggering of the time-base. In that section will be found the LEVEL control; the MODE switch, which selects wheth-

er the scope will be triggered automatically, in the normal manner, or if it is to be used with composite signals such as a TV signal. In fact, like most better scopes today, the MODE switch has positions for TV(+) and TV(-) signals. There is also a SOURCE switch that obtains the trigger pulse from the Channel-1 or Channel-2 inputs, the 60 Hz line, or the external TRIG INPUT jack. The latter is a BNC type.

For calibration purposes there is a 0.5V P-P squarewave signal available on the front panel. It is located at the upper right-hand side of the unit. The amplitude is accurate to within 3% and the frequency is 1 kHz  $\pm 10\%$ .

Another control that is often not found on many scopes is a TRACE ROTATION control. It is useful in eliminating the effects of external magnetic fields and could be called a tilt control as that is the effect of misadjustment.



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**SPECIFICATIONS** 

The rear panel contains an external blanking input jack, a 2-amp fuse (for 90-132V operation) and the AC line cord.

0.5 div internal, 200 mV external 5 MHz to 30 MHz

1.5 div internal 800 mV external

All input connectors with the exception of a common ground jack on the front panel are of the BNC type that allows for quick connection and disconnection of cables and probes. The ground jack is the banana-plug type.

Using this Hitachi scope on the bench is enjoyable. After the short period of time that is needed to become familiar with the location and function of the various controls, the ease of operation was quite noticeable. The patterns displayed were steady, sharp, and showed no signs of blooming. A composite video waveform was used to test the usefulness of the scope. The V-302 came through with flying colors. If your use for an oscilloscope is in the TV and video industry, then you are sure to appreciate the V-302's ability to display a composite waveform.

The operating manual supplied with the scope tested was complete and contained all the material necessary to help you become adept at the operation of the V-302. All controls, input jacks, and adjustments are outlined within the three dozen pages in the manual. In addition, there is a wealth of information and theories that outline the manner-in which the scope can be used to its fullest extent—including the measurement of frequency and time, amplitude, and voltage. Other uses include phase measurements and delays. Some internal operator-adjusted adjustments are also outlined in the manual.

Although many owners of such exotic equipment may be in the habit of making most of their own repairs, one thing lacking from the manual is almost anything relating to service. There is no schematic or any internal layout charts to assist in even minor servicing. While we do not doubt that such informaiton is available, we feel that such equipment should be shipped with a simple service manual at the very least. There is, however, a list of Hitachi Denshi Ltd. offices throughout the world and

continued on page 36

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DC CURRENT AC CURRENT	D ,	D D	D D	D D	D D	D D	D D	D D
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output ... assette tape recorder 
output ... speaker output ... LED output indicator on SOD 
(serial output) line... printer interface (less drivers). Ivoid of 
four 8-bit plus one 6-bit I/O ports \*Crystal Frequency: 6.144 
MHz \* Control Switches: reset and user (RST 7.5) 
interrupt... additional provisions for RST 5.5, 6.5 and TRAP four 8-bit plus one 6-bit I/O ports octystal Frequency: 6.144 MHz octorion Switches: reset and user (RST 7.5) interrupt...additional provisions for RST 5.5, 6.5 and TRAP interrupts onboard ocunter/Timer: programmable, 14-bit binary octorion System RAM: 256 bytes located at F8800, ideal for smaller systems and for use as an isolated stack area in expanded systems...RAM expandable to 64k via S-100 bus or 4K on motherboard.

System Monitor (Terminal Version): 2k bytes of deluxe system monitor (Roman Version): 2k bytes of deluxe system monitor (Roman Version): 2k bytes of deluxe system monitor (Roman Version): 2k bytes of memory monitor ROM located at F800 leaving 6000 free for user RAM/ROM. Features include tape load with labeling...tape dump with labeling...cxamine/change contents of memory insert data...warm start...examine and change all

dump with labeling...examine/change contents of memory ...insert data...warni start...examine and change all registers...single step with register display at each break point, a debugging/training feature...go to execution address...move blocks of memory from one location to another...fill blocks of memory with a constant...display blocks of memory outomatic baud rate selection...variable display line length control (1-255 characters/line)...channelized 1/O monitor routine with 8-bit parallel output for high speed printer...serial console in and console out channel so that monitor can communicate with 1/O ports.

System Monitor (Hex Version): Tape load with labeling...

Examine/change contents of mem-tape dump with labeling...examine/change contents of mem-

tape dump with labeling ... examine/change contents of memory ... insert data ... warm start ... examine and change all

Netronics R&D Ltd., Dept. RE-4

Explorer/85 Level "A" Kit (ASCII Version), \$129.95 plus \$3 p&h.

Explorer/85 Level "A" Kit (Hex Version), \$129.95 plus \$3 p&h.

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Level "B" (S-100) Kit, \$49.95 plus

☐ Level "C" (S-100 6-card expander) Kit, \$39.95 plus \$2 p&h. ☐ Level "D" (4k RAM) Kit, \$69.95 plus \$2 p&h.

plus \$2 p&h.

Level "E" (EPROM/ROM) Kit,
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Hex Keypad/Display Kit, \$69.95

Hex Keypad/Display Kit, \$69.95

registers...single step with register display at each break point...go to execution address, Level "A" in the Hex Version makes a perfect controller for industrial applications and can be programmed using the Netronics Hex Keypad/Display. Hex Keypad/Display



By Netronics

**Specifications** 

Calculator type keypad with 24 system defined and 16 user defined keys. 6 digit calculator type display which displays full address plus data as well as register and status information.

Level "B" Specifications

Level"B" provides the S-100 signals plus buffers/drivers to support up to six S-100 bus boards and includes: address decoding for onboard 4k RAM expansion select-able in 4k blocks...address decoding for onboard 8k EPROM expandecoding for binodra 4k ANN expansion selectable in 4k blocks. .address decoding for onboard 8k EPROM expansion selectable in 8k blocks. .address and data bus drivers for onboard expansion. .wait state generator (jumper selectable) to allow the use of slower memories. ..two separate 5 volit regulators.

Explorer/85 with Level

Level "C" Specifications Level "C" expands Explorer's motherboard with a card cage, motherboard with a card cage, allowing you to plug up to six S-100 cards directly into the motherboard. Both cage and cards are neatly contained inside Explorer's deluxe stee cachinet.

Level "C" includes a sheet metal superstructure, a 5-card gold plated S-100 extension PC board which plugs into the mother-board. Just add required number of S-100 connectors

Level "D" Specifications

Level "D" provides 4k or RAM, power supply regulation, filtering decoupling components and sockets to expand your Explorer/85 memory to 4k (plus the original 256 bytes located in the 8155A). The static RAM can be located anywhere from 60000 to EFFF in 4k blocks.

Level "E" Specifications

Level "E" adds sockets for 8k of EPROM to use the popular Intel 2716 or the TI 2516. It includes all sockets, power supply regulator, heat sink, filtering and decoupling components. Sockets may also be used for soon to be available RAM IC's (allowing for up to 12k of onboard RAM).

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Experimenter's Pak (SAVE \$12.50)—Buy Level "A" and Hex Keypad/Display for \$199.90 and get FREE Intel 8085 user's manual plus FREE postage & handling!

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plus FREE postage & handling!

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□ Intel 8085 cpu User's Manual, \$7.50

Special Computer Grade Cassette Tapes, \$1.90 each or 3 for \$5, postpaid. ☐ 12" Video Monitor (10 MHz bandwidth), \$139.95 plus \$5 p&h.

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sonalized disk operating system—just plug it in and you're up and running!), \$699.95 plus \$5 p&h. Power Supply Kit for North Star Disk Drive, \$39.95 plus \$2 p&h. ☐ Deluxe Case for North Star Disk Drive, \$39.95 plus \$2 p&h. Experimenter's Pak (see above), \$199.90 postpaid. Student Pak (see above), \$319.85 Engineering Pak (see above), \$514.75 postpaid. ☐ Business Pak (see above), \$1599.40 postpaid. Total Enclosed \$
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**EQUIPMENT REPORTS** 

continued from page 34

assistance would most likely be available from one of them. The V-302 is also covered by a 2 year warranty.

The lack of storage space for the line cord hampers the portability of the unit somewhat. Although not a serious problem, it could be solved easily by extending the length of the four bumpers on the rear of the cabinet and winding the cord around them.

In addition, the unit (supplied) had a handle on the top of the cabinet that is centered well and provides a well-balanced grip. One minor problem was noticeable on the bench one that could be solved by the use of a bailtype handle. When the unit sat flat on the test bench, it was difficult to view the screen because of the low-profile of the Hitachi V-302. By tilting the scope upward, the visibility and ease of operation improved dramatically. A bail-type handle could be added, which would also serve as a prop or stand to elevate the front of the unit and therefore add to the operating comfort.

Even though the graticule was not illuminated, the divisions were found to be easy to read and as pointed out earlier, the ease of operation was outstanding.

The V-302 is designed to operate from an AC supply of 100/120/220/240V. The size is listed as  $190 \times 275 \times 400$ mm (7.5 × 10.8 × 15.7 inches) and weights 8.5 kg (18.7 lbs.) Standard equipment supplied include two probes and the operation manual. Price \$945.

One final observation: the miniature-sized probes are extremely handy and do add to the ease of servicing on printed-circuit boards and IC's. There's no doubt that these probes are becoming standard equipment as they make more sense than the older large-sized units.

### The BASIC Programmer's Toolkit for PET Computers

CIRCLE 104 ON FREE INFORMATION CARD

OWNERS OF PET PERSONAL COMPUTERS HAVE been known to collect software from numerous sources. Among this software are utility programs that assist the programmer in writing BASIC language programs. The best utility programs are written in machine language to minimize conflict with the user's program and to execute rapidly. Normally stored on tape, utility programs must be loaded each time they are used. If your computer system goes down for any reason, you must reload the utility program and usually carry out an inconvenient initialization procedure. To have two or more tape-resident utility programs in memory at the same time, you may have to relocate one or more so they don't overwrite each other. The BASIC Programmer's Toolkit is a firmware system that provides a real solution to the PET utility muddle.

The Toolkit is a collection of the most useful utilities programmed into a read-only memory that is always ready to use. The complete set of programs are initialized with a simple SYS command after the PET computer is turned on. The command must be given only once for each time the power is applied. If your system bombs out, or the power goes out temporarily, the Toolkit utilities can be called back into service in seconds. A very handy feature to incorporate into your computer.

The Toolkit has a ten-command repertoire.

ue design adds the Toolkit commands ET's own BASIC-command list. Once tem is initialized, you can't tell where leaves off and the Toolkit takes over, that the added commands cannot be into program statements. The comst consists of: AUTO, DELETE, RENUM-PEND, DUMP, TRACE, STEP, OFF, FIND, and

AUTO command automatically prints nt-line numbers, starting at any legal and increasing by any increment. erases a specified line or block of lines. BER spreads your line numbers apart u have inserted too many lines to allow additions. RENUMBER updates all jump tions in GOTO statements etc.

APPEND command combines two prowithout the gyrations required by most nethods. You load the first program tionally and then append the second. ly requirement is that the line numbers roper sequence. Of course, you can use NUMBER command to prepare programs append operation.

DUMP command lists all the variables arrays, following program execution. ogram runs, the TRACE facility displays numbers of the last six statements exe-STEP is a variation of TRACE that exene statement at a time. OFF disables the and STEP functions.

FIND command searches all program a goup of lines for a specified character ce. It is very useful when you want to particular line that has been moved e of renumbering. It also helps deterf a particular variable name has already sed. FIND displays all lines that include cified reference.

Jly, The HELP command makes short of careless program errors. When the lisplays an error message, typing HELP use the computer to display the line in the error occurred, and, in addition, dise end of the last completed statement in

ell-written instruction manual includes a that contains a more detailed explanaf how the system and its commands All the programs function extremely id the examples in the instruction manuionstrate how seemingly strange things

Toolkit is available in several versions atch the various PET configurations. All the connection of a ROM into the "B" 1096) block of memory. Early PET's not wired with empty ROM sockets, so rresponding Toolkit version consists of a that interfaces to the memory-expansion ctor and to the second cassette port. PET's have the extra sockets, so the able kits consists only of a ROM-no onal memory decoding is required. There to versions for Expandamem and Skyles ry boards, so the Toolkit can be added it hooking into the memory connector y used to interface with the memory-

BASIC Programmer's Toolkit is a proof Palo Alto IC's and is available only at PET dealers. Chip-only versions sell for 5, and the completely-assembled versions Pets, Skyles or Expandamem boards 9.95. The Toolkit is an exceptional, pronally designed PET add-on. Any PET who is serious about BASIC programwould do well to put it at the top of his ing list.

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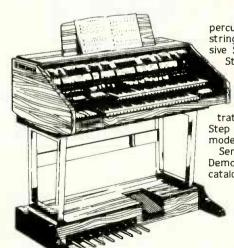


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# RIGGERED SCILLOSCOPE

This easy-to-follow design lets you keep cost low by using a CRT of your choice. Its operational feature is a continuous zero baseline.

### **DANIEL METZGER and DENNIS PERRY**

A TECHNICIAN HAS EXPERIENCED shooting with a calibrated DC ppe, he'll probably want to keep ope probe close at hand most of the he's at the service bench. Tranbase-emitter voltages, collector tion voltages, and IC logic levels checked as easily as power-supply while the operating signals are it. No other instrument provides imultaneous readout of bias and conditions.

) factors have conspired to keep cope probe out of the hands of experimenters. The first is cost, approaches \$200—even for a kit. problem is easily solved by simdesign. The scope described here e built from standard parts for and considerably less if the junk well stocked. Yet it boasts a 2-pandwidth and 10 mV-per-division al sensitivity.

second factor is the annoyingly ent need to lay down the probe, over to the scope, throw the input I from DC to GROUND, check the Dn of the zero-volt baseline, and the switch back to DC. That probhandled by incorporating a circuit rovides a continuous display of the round level at a brightness level than that of the signal display.

### t works

operation of the scope as a whole tunderstood from the block dia-Fig. 1. The vertical attenuator and fier provide a replica of the input, both AC and DC, at the approxiy 100-volt level needed at the depen plates of the CRT. The electronical switch interrupts the signal rounds the amplifier input for approximately 3 ms each 15 ms, thus providing a 1/5 duty-cycle baseline display at a rate of about 60 Hz—too fast for the eye to perceive the flicker.

A separate trigger amplifier is fed from a point ahead of the electronic baseline switch to preserve continuity of sweep triggering. A Schmitt trigger produces squarewaves in sync with the input signal, and a differentiator produces sharp spikes from the edges of the squarewaves. The negative spikes initiate a linear ramp that always starts at the same selected point on the input AC wave-

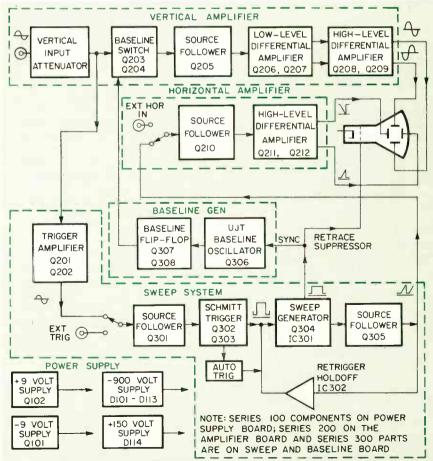


FIG. 1—BLOCK DIAGRAM of the zero-baseline scope. Operation is somewhat similar to a dual-trace scope with the baseline considered as the second trace.

form. That ramp is applied to the horizontal amplifier to produce the calibrated time sweep. A source-follower provides a low output impedance for the ramp, and an op-amp comparator holds off further triggering signals until the ramp voltage returns to zero.

An auto-trigger circuit senses when the Schmitt trigger is not switching and immediately applies a voltage to the ramp genrator commanding continuous ramps, thus providing sweeps for the display of DC voltages.

A UJT baseline oscillator running at approximately 60 Hz is synchronized to the sweep generator to insure that the switching from signal to baseline will always occur during a retrace of the sweep. The baseline flip-flop drives the baseline-switching FET's at the input of the vertical amplifier.

The CRT cathode is operated at -900volts to accelerate the electron beam toward the CRT face. Deflection sensitivity and hence calibration depend upon that voltage, so it is regulated by a string of 180-volt Zener diodes. Vertical and horizontal position and sweep time depend upon the 9-volt supplies, so they are transistor-regulated. The +150-volt supply serves only differential amplifiers, and their inherent common-mode rejection makes regulation of that supply unnecessary. We shall now proceed to a detailed description of each functional block.

Vertical attenuator: Voltage dividers R<sub>A</sub> and R<sub>B</sub> (Fig. 2) reduce the input signal to a maximum of 0.32 volt (8 divi-

### PARTS LIST (Attenuators, Fig. 2)

Resistors 1% tolerance or better, 1/2 watt

R401-806,000 ohms

R402-162,000 ohms

R403, R412-40,200 ohms

R404, R408, R409-1 megohm

R405-604,000 ohms

R406-909,000 ohms

R407-953,000 ohms

R410-402,000 ohms

R411-100,000 ohms

R413—10,000 ohms R414—4,020 ohms

R415\*-9 megohms

### Capacitors

C401-.05 µF, 600 volts, ceramic

C402-100 pF, Mylar

C403, C405-C414, C416\*-6-60 pF

ceramic trimmer

C404, C415\*—10 pF, ceramic

C410-62 pF, mica

C411-250 pF, mica

C412-620 pF, mica

C413-.0022 µF, Mylar

C414-.0062 µF, Mylar

S401-miniature double-pole 3-position toggle switch (Alco MST205T)

S402-3-pole, 6-position rotary wafer switch

R403—2-pole, 6-position rotary wafer switch

Miscellaneous: printed circuit board

Note: Components required for optional ×10 probe

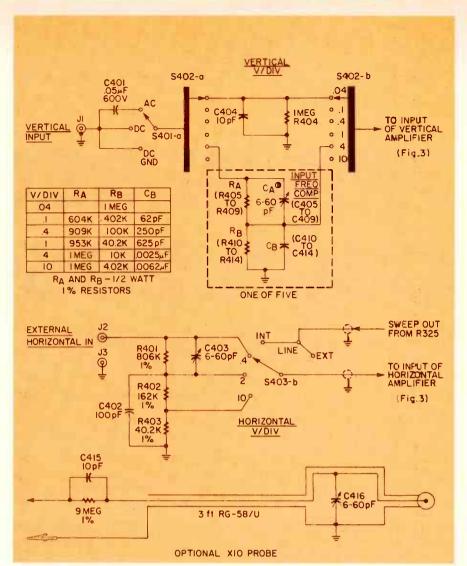
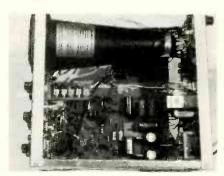


FIG. 2.—THE ATTENUATORS. Components for the vertical attenuator are mounted on a special circuit board. Also shown in the diagram of the optional multiplier probe:

sions at 0.04 volt-per-division) or a minimum of 0.01 volt (1 division at 0.01 voltper-division). Capacitors C<sub>A</sub> and C<sub>B</sub> swamp out stray capacitances to keep the reactive division ratio exactly equal to the resistive division ratio at high frequencies. A1-4-10 step-sequence permits coverage of the 10-mV to 10-voltper-division range with two poles of a standard six-position switch.

Vertical amplifier: The overall gain of the vertical amplifier (Fig. 3) is about 2000 in the full-gain (÷4) position, and about 500 in the calibrated ( $\times 1$ ) position of the vertical variable control. Resistor R201 and D201 provide input protection in the event of accidental overload. Source-follower Q201 and common-base amplifier Q202 form a trigger amplifier with a non-inverting AC gain of about 40 and a high input impedance.

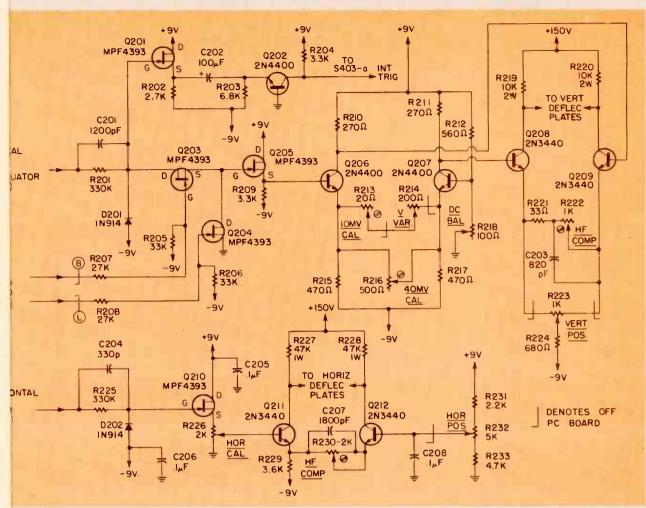
Transistors Q203 and Q204 are switched on alternately by the zero-baseline flipflop (Q307 and Q308, Fig. 4), connecting the base of source-follower Q205 alternately to the signal input and to ground. The stray capacitance of these FET's amounts to about 10 pF, and produces switching transients of about 10 µS duration on the 1-megohm input line.



TOP VIEW of the scope. The amplifier board is beneath the CRT. The power-supply board is at the rear near the transformers mounted on the back panel. The sweep board is up front near the controls. The attenuator board, with its five trimmers, is on a bracket held by the vertical-sensitivity control. Astigmatism control is on rear panel near base of the CRT.

The switching frequency must therefore be held below a few hundred hertz to prevent those transients from being frequent enough to be seen on the CRT display.

Transistors Q206 and Q207 are wired as a variable-gain differential amplifier. Potentiometer R213 is the 10-mV calibrator and sets the gain to four times the indicated vertical sensitivity with R214



SCHEMATIC DIAGRAMS of the vertical and horizontal deflection amplifiers. The latter is tively simple because its response is limited to the sweep frequencies.

num resistance. Pot R216 is the calibrator. It adjusts the indinsitivity with R214 at maximum ce. Pot R218 is the DC balance it sets zero voltage between the itters at zero input in order that control will not shift the vertical

istors O208 and O209 provide a

second stage of amplification, producing a maximum differential output of about 180 volts P-P. Capacitor C203 lowers the impedance between the emitters to track the decrease in impedance between the collectors caused by CRT plate capacitance at high frequencies. Since gain is essentially the ratio of those impedances. C203 tends to preserve

#### PARTS LIST (Amplifiers, Fig. 3)

rs 1/2 watt, 10%, carbon osition, unless otherwise noted 225-330,000 ohms

2700 ohms 3800 ohms

209-3300 ohms

206-33,000 ohms

208-27,000 ohms

211-270 ohms

560 ohms

20 ohms, trimmer, vertical mount 200 ohms, potentiometer

217-470 ohms

00 ohms, trimmer, vertical mount 100 ohms, trimmer, vertical mount

220-10,000 ohms, 2 watts

33 ohms

1000 ohms, trimmer, vertical

1000 ohms, potentiometer 380 ohms

230-2000 ohms, trimmer, vertical

228-47,000 ohms, 1 watt

R229-3600 ohms

R231-2200 ohms

R232-5000 ohms, potentiometer

R233-4700 ohms

Capacitors

C201—1200 pF, Mylar C202—100 µF, 15 volts, radial-lead

electrolytic

C203-820 pF, mica

C204-330 pF, mica

C205, C206, C208—0.1 µF, ceramic disc

C207, 1800 pF, Mylar

Semiconductors

D201, D202-1N914 or similar silicon diode

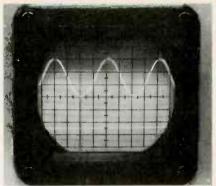
Q201, Q203, Q204, Q205, Q210-MPF4393 or similar N-channel FET (Motorola)

Q202-2N4402 or similar

Q206, Q207-2N4400 or similar

Q208, Q209, Q211, Q212-2N3440 or similar

Miscellaneous: PC or perforated circuit board, hookup wire, mounting hardware, transistor sockets, etc



ZERO-BASELINE DISPLAY permits reading the DC component of this waveform. Scale factor is 1 V/div and the sinewave is 3 volts peak-to-peak riding on a 4-volt DC level.

a constant gain as frequency increases. Because an 820-pF trimmer would be large and unstable, we adjust the associated resistor (R202) to suit the capacitor, instead of vice-versa. Capacitor C203 thus determines the stage gain, and should be altered if necessary to produce a stage gain of about 50.

Horizontal amplifier: This amplifier (Fig. 3) is similar to the vertical amplifier except that the low-voltage differential stage is omitted and the entire gain (about 70) is achieved in the high-voltage stage. The differential output voltage required is about 250 volts P-P because the second (less sensitive) set of CRT deflection plates is used. Bandwidth is about 500 kHz.

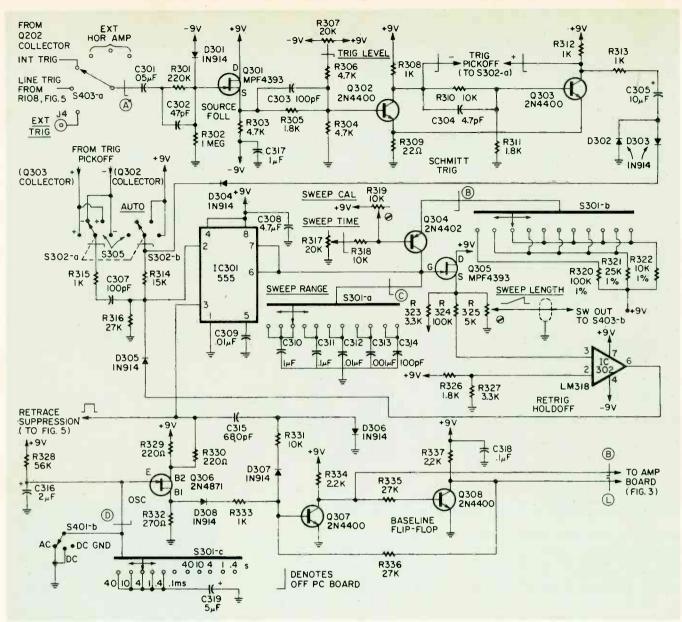


FIG. 4—THE SWEEP and zero-baseline generator circuits comprise the most complex sections of the instrument.

#### PARTS LIST (Sweep and zero-baseline generators, Fig. 4)

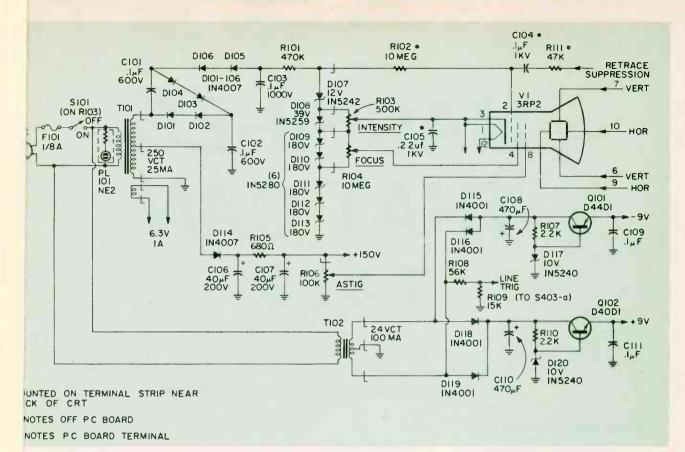
#### Resistors 1/2 watt, 10% unless otherwise noted R301-220,000 ohms R302—1 megohm R303, R304, R306-4700 ohms R305, R311—1800 ohms R307, R317—20,000 ohms, potentiometer R308, R312, R313, R315, R333—1000 ohms R309-22 ohms R310, R318, R331-10,000 ohms R314-15,000 ohms R316, R335, R336-27,000 ohms R319-10,000 ohms, trimmer, vertical mount R320-100,000 ohms, 1% R321-25,000 ohms, 1% R322-10,000 ohms, 1% R323, R327-3300 ohms R324-100,000 ohms R325-5000 ohms, trimmer, vertical mount R326-18,000 ohms R328-56,000 ohms

R332-270 ohms R334, R337-2000 ohms Capacitors C301-05 µF, 600 volts, ceramic disc C302, C304-47 pF, ceramic disc C303, C307—100 pF, ceramic disc C305, C306-10 µF, 25 volts, axial-lead electrolytic C308-4.7 µF, 25 volts, axial-lead electrolytic C309—.01 µF, ceramic disc C310\*—1 µF, Mylar C311\*-0.1 µF, Mylar C312\*—.01 µF, Mylar C313\*—.001 µF, Mylar C314\*\*—100 pF, ceramic trimmer C315—680 pF, ceramic disc C316—2 µF, 25 volts, axial-lead electrolytic C317, C318—0.1 µF, ceamic disc C319-5 µF, 25 volts, axial-lead electrolytic

R329, R330-220 ohms

\*\*Note: In prototype, C314 was made by connecting a 47-pF disc in parallel with a 6-60-pF ceramic trimmer Semiconductors D301-D308-1N914 or similar silicon diode IC301—555 timer IC302—LM318 op-amp (National) Q301, Q305-MPF4393 or similar N-channel FET (Motorola) Q302, Q303, Q307, Q308-2N4400 or similar Q304-2N4402 or similar Q306—2N4871 or similar unijunction transistor S401, S403—see attenuator parts list S301-3-pole, 11-position rotary wafer switch (Centralab PA-10009 or equal) S302-2-pole, 4-position rotary switch Miscellaneous: PC or perforated circuit board, shielded cable, transistor and IC sockets, mounting hardware, knobs,

\*Note: select to keep ratios within ± 1%



-THE POWER SUPPLY is simple and inexpensive to build. The voltage-tripler replaces the ive and dangerous high-voltage power transformer used in many scopes. The string of Zener replaces a high-resistance voltage-divider string.

gger circuits: Source-follower Q301 4) provides the high input imperequired during external triggernd the low driving impedance necesfor good sensitivity of the Schmitt r, Q302 and Q303. The trigger will ite with 0.1 volt P-P input, and trigp to 5 MHz with 0.3-volt P-P in-The edges of the Schmitt-trigger

output (inverted or non-inverted) are coupled through switch S302-a capacitor and C307 to the trigger input of the NE555, IC 301; that is where the negative edges are used to initiate the sweep ramps.

In the DRIVEN mode, the trigger input is held high by the +9-volt supply through R314 and triggering occurs only by nega-

#### PARTS LIST (Power supplies, Fig. 5)

#### stors 1/2 watt, 10% carbon mposition unless otherwise noted

- 470,000 ohms
- -10 megohms
- -500,000 ohms potentiometer with ST switch
- -10 megohms, potentiometer
- -680 ohms
- -100,000 ohms, potentiometer
- 7, R110-2200 ohms
- -56,000 ohms
- -22,000 ohms
- -47,000 ohms

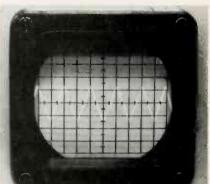
#### acitors

- I, C102-0.1 uF, 600 volts, tubular
- 3, C104-0.1 uF, 1000 volts, tubular -.22 uF, 1000 volts, tubular
- C107—40 uF, 200 volts, axial-lead ectrolytic
- 8, C110-470 uF, 25 volts, radial-lead ectrolytic
- 9, C111—0.1 uF ceramic disc CRT, 3RP2 was used in prototype.
- P1, 3RP1, 3BP1 and 3ACP11 can be ed. See text.

#### iconductors

-D106, D114-1N4007

- D107—1N5242 Zener diode, 12 volts, 500 mW
- D108-1N5259 Zener diode, 39 volts, 500 mW
- D109-D113-1N5280 Zener diode, 180
- volts, 500 mW
- D115, D116, D118, D119-1N4001 D117, D120-1N5240 Zener diode, 10 volts. 500 mW
- Q101-D41D1 (GE) or similar, PNP silicon transistor
- Q102-D40D1 (GE) or similar NPN silicon transistor
- F101-1/8-amp fuse
- PL101—neon pilot-light assembly (NE-2, lamp with 68K resistor)
- S101—SPST switch (part of R103)
- T101—power transformer, 250 volts center-tapped, 25 mA; 6.3 volts, 1 amp. (Stancor PS-8416 or equivalent)
- T102—power transformer, 24 volts centertapped, 100 mA (Stancor P-8395 or equivalent)
- Miscellaneous: Fuse holder, line cord, PC or perforated circuit board, hookup wire, terminal strip, MuMetal shield for CRT, CRT socket, transistor sockets, etc.



SWEEP LINEARITY is evident in this photo of a 500-kHz triangle waveform at 1 mV/div

tive pulses from C307. In the AUTO mode, AC detectors D302, D303, and C306 furnish the positive supply as long as the Schmitt trigger is switching. However, if the trigger remains inoperative for longer than about 150 ms, C306 discharges and R316 pulls the trigger input low, resulting in automatic triggering with no input signal.

Sweep circuit: Transistor O304 is a variable-current source that charges the selected timing capacitor (C310 through C314) at a linear rate depending on the sweep variable control and the selected timing resistor (R320 through R322). Pin 7 of the NE555 automatically discharges the capacitor whenever pin 6 rises to +6volts. A source-follower Q305 buffers the ramp since any current drawn from it would destroy its linearity. Pot R325 reduces the ramp to 4.4 volts, thus providing 11 divisions of sweep to the 0.4 volt-per-division horizontal amplifier.

continued on page 80

# TECHNOLOGY TODAY

# MACHINES THAT CAN TALK

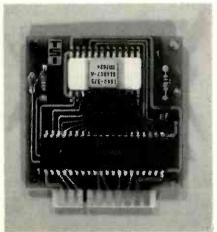
Here's a look at some of the hardware available; what it does, what it costs, and how it's used. You may be surprised how much of it there is, and where.

#### MARTIN BRADLEY WEINSTEIN

LAST TIME WE LOOKED AT THE PROBLEM of how a human voice might be synthesized, from the simplest digitized recording media to the sleeker new equipment (Radio-Electronics, March 1980).

The block diagram (Fig. 1) boils it all down into the most common areas of circuitry (by function) found in the more sophisticated general vocabulary synthesizers. How each function is handled varies widely from manufacturer to manufacturer, and often from product to product. But in some form or another, those elements almost always occur.

Somehow, having actual equipment to look at and talk about (eventually, to listen to) tends to make things easier to understand. So here's a brief review of the equipment available today, plus a peek at early tomorrow.



A TALKING CALCULATOR, the TSI Speech + is a most-handy device.

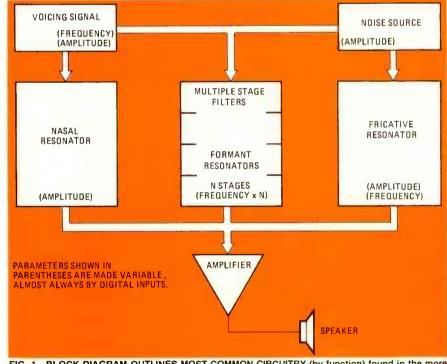


FIG. 1—BLOCK DIAGRAM OUTLINES MOST COMMON CIRCUITRY (by function) found in the more sophisticated general-vocabulary speech synthesizers.

#### Telesensory Systems, Inc.

Speech + (15) is a talking calculator designed for the blind and vision-impaired. In addition to operating as any normal calculator might, it offers the option of having its calculations announced by a built-in, 24-word-vocabulary speech snythesizer.

Telesensory Systems. Inc. (TSI, 3408 Hillview Avenue, P.O. Box 10099, Palo Alto, CA 94304), the manufacturer of

Speech +, offers the board—in English—for \$150. The same vocabulary is available in a small printed-circuit board module (less filters, amplifier, speaker)—in English, French or German—for \$95. And for \$179, two 64-word modules are available: one designed for announcing key hits on typewriter-style keyboards, the other for announcing electronic instrumentation readings.

Those modules contain little more than a custom MOS microprocessor





for TSI by General Instruments, ROM or two. Custom vocabuare available to OEM's interested ge-volume purchases, and to those willing to invest \$200 per word for m coding.

I has also announced a two-chip f custom LSI IC's that can be ed to speech synthesis, as well as tasks, but details are still a few hs away.

t now out from TSI is a special speech snythesizer designed for tors. ("Penthouse, going up.") The tor Voice Module includes cirthat interfaces with the elevator ols, a speech synthesizer with m elevator vocabulary, and the amplifier and speaker.

#### x Division

trax Division of Federal Screws, (500 Stephenson Highway, MI 48084) manufactures what be the broadest line of voice synzers available today.

rting at the top of the pile, the -70 Business Communicator is a -vocabulary computer peripheral ned to tie into from 4 to 64 telee lines. It offers up to 128 seconds eech, translatable into as many as ndividually-addressable variable-

length messages. Voice quality is excellent. That is the kind of voice/speech synthesizer often used with banks, telephone services, and "talking" computer services. Prices vary from under \$10,000 to over \$50.000, depending upon capabilities.

Working our way down the price stream, we find a generalized-vocabulary phonetic (phoneme-based) speech synthesizer capable of speaking English, German, Spanish, Italian, Japanese, French, and Farci. The key to that flexibility is an un-minimized phoneme set, including 122 selectable phonemes; in addition, each 12-bit command word permits 8 levels of inflection, or pitch, and 4 phoneme rates, or duration... yes, you can program it to speak with a



BUSINESS COMMUNICATOR model LVM-70 is a fixed vocabulary computer peripherial from Votrax.

drawl. The ML-1 Multi-Lingual Voice System doesn't come cheap (except, perhaps, comparatively, in terms of value received), with prices between roughly \$6000 and \$8000, depending on configuration, plus \$1500 for the companion keyboard and more for every



MULTI-LINGUAL VOICE SYSTEM, model ML-1, also from Votrax, speaks in seven languages, including Farci.

language after English (standard). It's well worth it, though, where multilingual capabilities are needed in conjunction with a computer, as evidenced by the success of the *ML-1* in schools.

In the \$3500 to \$5000 range, the Votrax VS-6 Electronic Voice System uses 8-bit command words to select 61 phonemes and four levels of inflection; one VS-6 user has reportedly developed a vocabulary of over 300,000 words for it. While priced well beyond most hobby budgets, the VS-6 performs admirably in a number of fascinating applications, including military flight simulators.





AS MANY AS 300,000 WORDS have been developed by one user of the Votrax VS-6 Electronic Voice System.

talking instrumentation, handicapped aids, and talking OCR (optical character recognition) printed copy readers.

Votrax also manufactures the Radio Shack TRS-80 Voice Synthesizer, and includes with it software for a talking blackjack game. The user hears cards shuffling and the banter of a "wise guy" dealer.



RADIO-SHACK SPEECH SYNTHESIZER is a part of their TRS-80 personal computer system and is available as an option.

#### HC Electronics, Inc.

That division of American Hospital Supply Corporation (HC Electronics, Inc., 250 Camino Alto, Mill Valley, CA 94941) manufactures and distributes products for language and speech therapy. Their two speech snythesizers, *Phonic Mirror*® *HandiVoice*® models *HC110* and *HC120*, are actually manufactured for them by Votrax.

The HC110 is a lap-size, flat device designed for young children, the handicapped, or developmentally disabled persons with speech impairments or disabilities. Most of its surface is covered by its 128-key keyboard, itself covered with one of three overlays—words, graphics, or symbols. It is pre-



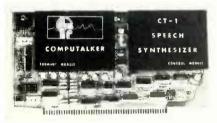
HANDIVOICE HC120 is a portable device for language and speech-therapy applications.

programmed with 373 words, 45 phonemes, 26 letters (the English alphabet), 13 morphemes (standard word prefixes and suffixes), and 16 short phrases like "My name is...", "How are you?", "Would you come here?".

The *HC120*, by comparison, is a physically smaller unit that offers all the capabilities of the *HC110*, plus an additional 520 words, accessed by a 4×4 keyboard and a 3-digit control code.

#### Computalker Consultants

One of the least expensive, though highly capable, speech synthesizers available that is based on phonemes, yet capable of direct parameter control, is the *CT-1 Speech Synthesizer* by Computalker Consultants (P.O. Box 1951, Santa Monica, CA 90406).



HIGH-CAPABILITY CT-1 SPEECH SYNTHESIZER from Computalker is available for the TRS-80, Apple II and S-100 computer systems.

The CT-1 is in the \$425 to \$550 range, depending on software options, and plugs into the S-100 bus. Pre-packaged AC-powered versions for Apple II (CT-1A) and the TRS-80 (CT-1T) are available for \$595.

In the *Direct Parameter Control Mode*, signals modeled after previously-decoded words are used to recreate them. That is obviously a limited-vocabulary approach, but the naturalness of speech is especially high; even the mannerisms of the original speaker are preserved.

The *Phonetic Mode*, by comparison, is phoneme-based, but with a twist. Target values for each phoneme parameter are first located, then a smooothing-calculation performed to calculate parabolic trajectories between them. The result is less mechanical-sounding speech.

The computer hobbyist interested in experimenting with speech snythesis is strongly urged to investigate Computalker.

Also, about a year from now, expect news from Computalker about a totally digital system, replacing their current analog approach. Much of the cost of their current hardware is attributable to precision tuning and calibration of the many analog-circuit sections, a cost that the all-digital approach promises to all but eliminate.

#### **Texas Instruments**

While the TI approach to speech syn-

thesis leads inevitably to fixed vocabulary products (for the time being, at least), their expertise with high-density memories and the economies of high-volume production has yielded a group of products affordable and useful at a general-consumer level.

Speak & Spell<sup>®</sup> (mine cost about \$55), was introduced a couple of years ago. It conducts spelling bees and plays word games, primarily for children. (My wife and I both get a kick out of ours, though we have no children.)

New ROM modules to expand the vocabulary of Speak & Spell have now been introduced. Vowel Power (recommended resale \$15) adds 140 words to help children master vowel sounds in four categories. Two new Super Stumpers modules (also \$15 each) for grades 4–6 and 7–8 add word lists to cover such problems as silent letters, irregular spellings, double consonants, and homonymous spellings.



TEXAS INSTRUMENTS' NEW HOME COMPUTER has a speech-synthesizer accessory available. They also use synthesizers in other products.

The heart of the Texas Instruments approach to speech synthesis is multiple-stage digital filtering and Linear Predictive Coding—a mathematical approach to modeling, analyzing, and synthesizing the human voice. While TI is producing 40,000 to 60,000 synthesizers-on-a-chip each month, their entire production output is currently going into TI products.

Two of those products are their talking Language Translator (about \$300, with \$60 modules to translate English, French, Spanish, German, Chinese, and Japanese) and their new Home Computer. The Solid State Speech TM peripheral (suggested resale \$150) synthesizes a 200-word vocabulary.

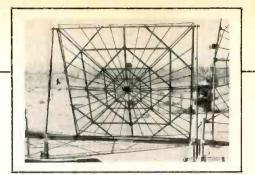
#### Who else?

Lexicon, Craig, Matsushita, and others have all admitted to "looking at" talking products. National Semiconductor has announced a one-chip synthesizer, about which little has reached us. Ohio Scientific offers a speech synthesizer of some description for their Challenger computers, but repeated calls to the company have resulted in no information to date.

Stay tuned. There's no telling who will speak up next.

# JILD THIS

# BACKYARD SATELLITE TV RECEIVER



Conclusion of Bob Cooper's series on operational satellites that are relaying television programs and how we can receive their signals. This story describes receiver-system hardware and how it goes together.

ROBERT B. COOPER, JR.

IE PREVIOUS SIX PARTS OF THIS ARseries, appearing in the August igh October 1979 issues and the ary through March 1980 issues, we developed the background for the ently operational domestic and ELSAT satellite systems that are mitting television via satellite relay rtually every portion of the globe. e January and February issues, we looked closely at the construction is required to build your own lowhome satellite television receiving nal using a special spherical antenna in (February 1980 issue of Radioronics), a single conversion 4-GHz-)-MHz GAAS-FET LNS plus active r package (March 1980 issue of o-Electronics) with an accompany-24-channel frequency-agile tuning

this seventh and final part, we will ribe the 70-MHz IF-to-baseband m, and show you how to reconvert baseband video and audio signals to a standard NTSC-format RF er that can then be tuned in on your dard television receiver.

#### at 70 MHz

part six of this series we deterd the amount of gain required een the 4-GHz feedhorn antenna iving energy from the spherical reor surface, and the baseband deulator operating at 70 MHz. We rmined that between 70 and 90 dB oltage gain is required and that and 20 to 25 dB of that gain should provided by the GAAS-FET LNA (two stages). The amplified signal from the LNA should then drive a similar GAAs-FET active mixer converting our 4-GHz signal down to a more manageable (and comfortable!) 70-MHz IF. The balance of the gain should then be provided by the 70-MHz circuitry.

Getting gain at 70 MHz is so simple that it almost becomes a waste of space here to tell you how to get it. Here are several suggestions:

- 1, You need 50 dB of gain here.
- How you get it is relatively unimportant although if you can keep the noise figure of the IF amplifier at or below 8 dB you will be much better off. (Too high a noise figure here will degrade the carefully created low noise figure from the 4-GHz to 70-MHz mixer.)
- You may not need to build this IF amplifier; it may be lying over in the corner of your shop or down the street.

Virtually all of the pre-1970 era microwave equipment employed a 70-MHz IF strip, usually made up of six to ten tubes operated in cascade or cascode. Typical IF strings have 50 to 90 dB of gain (much more than you need and you'll have to cut it back) and such gear is around in surplus outlets (usually without power supply) for around \$10 an IF strip. Another source for 70-MHz IF gain is a CATV or MATV line amplifier. Typical line amps (the boards are available at local CATV firms, where they are taken out and discarded or sold as junk) have 25 to 30 dB of gain maximum and it will take a pair to get the gain you require.

However, the easiest—and perhaps for the most cheapest—way to get 50 or so dB of IF gain at 70 MHz is to investigate the Motorola AWT-120, a threelead device that operates from near DC to around 300 MHz with 14 dB of gain with an acceptable noise figure. Four of those in series will give you 56 dB of voltage gain at 70 MHz. The AWT-120 is easy to make operate. Of the three leads, there is a ground pin, an input pin, and an output pin. The operating voltage (12 volts regulated) feeds into the output pin through a 330-ohm resistor. You couple into and out of the device through a .01 disc capacitor. Just pop four in a row on a piece of G-10 double sided board and you are in business. The AWT-120 costs around \$6 per device; for \$30 or so you have the full 50+ dB-gain IF strip.

Note however that our gain is spread from near DC to 300 MHz. And all we really want is the 30-MHz-wide spectrum between 55 MHz and 85MHz, centered on 70 MHz. Obviously we need some bandpass filtering in here someplace.

There are sound arguments for placing the 70-MHz bandpass filter *ahead* of the IF strip, and for placing it *after* the IF gain string. Some builders compromise and place it in the center of the string, or between the first and second AWT-120 devices. Briefly, if you place the bandpass filter ahead of the IF gain string, you run the risk of permitting a mistuned (or improperly built) 70-MHz bandpass filter to degrade the noise figure of the system. The bandpass filter will have some loss and that loss be-

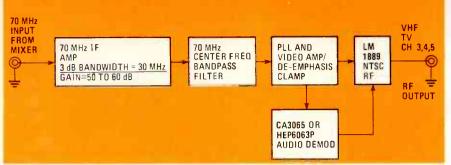


FIG. 1—BLOCK DIAGRAM shows how the 70-MHz signal from the mixer is converted to an NTSC RF output suitable for connection to the antenna terminals of your TV receiver.

comes part of the total system signalto-noise equation. We'll describe a nearly foolproof 70-MHz bandpass filter for you shortly.

If you place the bandpass filter after the IF gain string, you run the risk of amplifying in the IF string undesirable heterodyne-produced products that may sum the desired signals coming out of the 4-GHz-to-70-MHz IF port on the mixer and causing the AWT-120 (or whatever) IF string to go into saturation. One solution is to run the AWT-120 first stage immediately after the 70-MHz IF output from the mixer, then stick in your bandpass filter, and proceed thereafter to amplify the 70-MHz signal in another three stages. We'll leave the final decision to you, noting only that we have placed the 70-MHz bandpass filter at the end of the IF string in the block diagram shown in Fig. 1.

#### Bandpass filter construction

There is no way we can suggest in good conscience that you will be able to construct and tune up this bandpass filter by eye or meter. You will need to run down a good CATV-type sweep generator and marker system to show you where in the spectrum you are tuning, and a detector and display. The sweep system should span the 50-to-100-MHz region as a minimum to align the bandpass filter properly.



70-MHZ IF BANDPASS FILTER is designed to pass a 30-MHz-wide spectrum centered on 70 MHz to provide the satellite-TV receiver with the selectivity required to separate adjacent satellite transponders.

Building the bandpass filter, shown in Figs. 2-a and 2-b, is not complicated, and if you follow the layout shown and mount the device in the Bud box recommended you won't have any problems. The coil forms, wire size, and capacitors (all are 5% dipped micas; don't substitute!) are important. If you change anything in the parts called for, you

have just entered the R and D business and you'll have to recompensate other part valves accordingly. Properly constructed, and aligned, the passband of the IF filter will be from 55 to 85 MHz,  $\pm$  3 dB at the very edges, with less than 1.5-dB insertion loss and a passband ripple of less than  $\pm$  0.5 dB from 60 through 80 MHz.

#### 70 MHz to baseband

The utter simplicity of recovering good quality satellite TV video and audio becomes apparent as you study Fig. 3 (for the video) and Fig. 4 (for the audio). The secret is that you are coming into the field "late;" all of the dozentransistor circuits worked out initially, some three or more years ago, have fallen by the wayside since clever design people such as Taylor Howard of Stanford tackled the project with an eye to reducing every section of the system to its basic required parts.

The 70-MHz IF input, following the 70-MHz IF gain-string, plugs into the input side (left hand side) of Fig. 3. The NE564 phase-locked loop makes a dandy video demodulator for this application, although note that there is this 5% warning:

The 564 is operating at the upper end

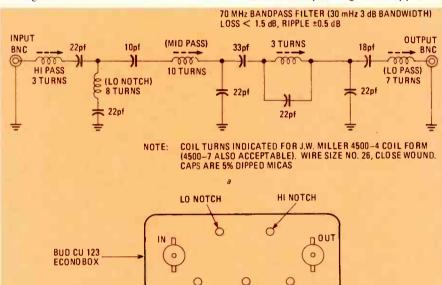


FIG. 2—70-MHZ BANDPASS FILTER is relatively easy to build and is housed in a standard Bud enclosure.

MID

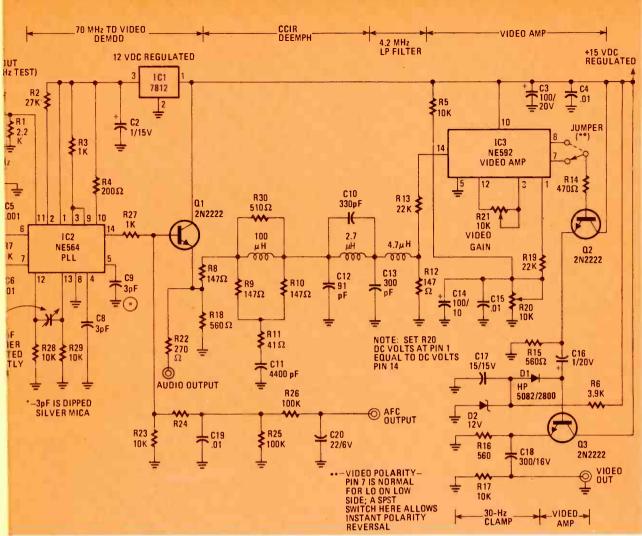
PASS INDUCTORS

LO

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#### PARTS LIST (70 MHz to baseband, video/audio

TAITIO EIGT (TO MILE TO E	rasebana, viacoradoro
Resistors ¼ watt, 10% unless otherwise	C7—1.5 to 8 pF trimmer
specified	C8. C9—3 pF dipped silver mica
R1—2200 ohms	C10-330 pF
R2-27,000 ohms	C114400 pF
R3, R7; R27—1000 ohms	C12—91 pF
R4-200 ohms	C13—300 pF
R5, R17, R23, R28, R29—10,000 ohms	C14—100 µF, 10 volts, electrolytic
R6-3900 ohms	C16—1 µF, 20 volts, electrolytic
R8-R10, R12-147 ohms	C17—15 µF, 15 volts, electrolytic
R11—41 ohms	C18—300 µF, 16 volts, electrolytic
R13; R19-22.000 ohms	C20—22 µF, 6 volts, electrolytic
R14-470 ohms	IC1—7812 voltage regulator, +12 volts
R15, R16, R18-560 ohms	IC2—NE564 phase-locked loop
R20, R21—10.000 ohms, potentiometer	IC3—NE592 video amplifier
R22-270 ohms	Q1-Q3-2N2222
R24-R26-100,000 ohms	D1—HP5082/2800 Schottky diode (Hew-
,R30—510 ohms	lett-Packard)
Capacitors	D2—1N5248 Zener diode. 12 volts
C1, C4, C6, C15, C19—.01 µF ceramic disc	RFC1—100 μH
C2—1 µF, 15 volts, electrolytic	RFC2—2.7 μH
C3—100 µF, 20 volts, electrolytic	RFC3—4.7 μH
C5— 001 uE ceramic disc	



BASEBAND VIDEO/AUDIO SYSTEM recovers video and audio signals from the 70-MHz f the IF strip.

requency range in this applicand you may find that some small tage of the 564's around will not plate properly the video from the carrier. On the other hand the good news), some 564's not onearly 100 MHz. They are chy; several of the newer comreceivers use the same device purpose and thousands of home-receivers have been built using proach.

564 provides video input that is ed by a garden-variety 2N2222. Lat the audio-subcarrier comes emitter of the 2N2222 through hm resistor. We'll talk about reg the audio shortly.

wing the 2N2222 is a CCIR deis network. That's a collection ve devices designed to establish per video baseband curve that the pre-emphasis networks the satellite TV transmitter on nk end. Without that network in u'll get something less than true and will experience other video is. Following the CCIR deis network is a 4.2-MHz lowter network. This is in place to that the 6.2-, 6.8,- or 7.4-MHz audio subcarrier does not get on into the balance of the video circuits. Frequencies above 4.2 MHz in the baseband region do not contribute to the video quality and in fact, if left in, will create high-frequency video noise on your baseband video signal.

Between the second 2N2222 (following the NE592) and the third such stage is a harmless-looking Schottky diodethe HP 5082/2800. That is a clamp diode. You may recall from previous sections that the uplink signals transmitted to the satellites are "frequency dithered" at a 30-Hz rate as a means of dispersing the energy waveform over a relatively wide band (36 MHz if you follow out to the 1% energy levels). That dispersal action was motivated by designers of early INTELSAT systems, who feared they might cause interference to terrestrial microwave circuits operating in the same 3.7-to-4.2-GHz region. Spreading the waveform energy out with the 30-Hz waveform reduces the probability that any appreciable amount of satellite TV downlink energy will get into any terrestrial system. To get rid of the 30-Hz waveform we shove the video into a hard clamp. The Schottky diode is fast and it clamps the 30-Hz waveform to

ground by as much as 40 dB or more. That either eliminates the 30-Hz flicker in the picture or reduces it to the point where it cannot be seen.

There are these caveats and cautions about this portion of the system:

- 1. Use only double-sided board; good quality G-10 board will do.
- Mount the finished board in a container, grounding all the way around on both sides of the board. Place the 15 VDC regulated line on the backside of the board along with power supply bypasses and the 7812 regulator.
- The 70-MHz VCO output test jack is for setting the operating frequency of the PLL to 70 MHz. Adjust the 1.5-to-8 pF trimmer (C7) for 70 MHz (a counter is hand) but you could do it with the TV monitor tuning for best picture).
- Adjust pot R20 off pin 1 of the NE592 for the same voltage on pin 1 as you have on pin 14 of the same device.
- 5. The AFC output shown is not totally applicable to the system you are presently building. As you get more sophisticated in using your home terminal you may wish to add an AFC system later on (as many have) and that brings it out so it is available when you wish to add the feature.

- 6. The output of the NE592 (pins 7 or 8) is selectable for good reason. As long as your local oscillator is driving the 4-GHz-to-70-MHz mixer on the low side (i.e. 4 GHz input frequency minus the VTO-8360 local-oscillator source equals 70 MHz) you will find the video in the proper polarity on pin 8. If you mistune and end up with the local oscillator on the high-frequency side, you'll have to swap the video output lead to pin 7 to re-establish the proper video polarity. A simple switch here will make changing simple.
- 7. The purpose of 10K video-gain pot between pins 12 and 3 on the NE592 is to set your video output level into your NTSC format RF modulator. Simply tune it for best looking picture, through the modulator, on your standard TV set (typically in the 1 volt peak-topeak region if you can look at the level on a scope.)

There is absolutely nothing else to adjust or fiddle with! You have just gone from 70 MHz to relatively complicated FM video to baseband with a minimum of harrassment.

#### **Recovering Audio**

The RCA SATCOM and Western Union WESTAR birds carry their FM audio on either 6.2 or the more common 6.8-MHz subcarriers. When you demodulate the 70-MHz IF signal, the NE564 PLL recovers that higher-frequency baseband component right along with the video. We take it off after the first 2N2222 baseband amplifier and send it on to a second demodulator which is L-C tuned to the 6.2- or 6.8-MHz subcarrier frequency.

Two methods of recovering the audio are presented here. In Fig. 4 we have the basic (Taylor Howard developed) audio demodulator that uses a 2N3565 amplifier, a tuned network designed for either 6.8- or 6.2-MHz, a second 2N3565 amplifier, a (Motorola) HEP6063P demodulator (or RCA CA3065), and finally an audio amplifier. That system has seen thousands of duplications by home builders and it works just fine.

Simply tune L1 and L2 for the desired frequency (6.8- or 6.2-MHz) and then tune L3 for recovery of the audio on that frequency by simply listening on some suitable audio-display system. There is a 50K volume-control pot and those are the only adjustments that are in the system.

Figure 5 shows how to do the same thing for about \$12 for each audio subcarrier desired and perhaps 15 minutes of your time. Several satellite TV enthusiasts in the Indianapolis area, where RCA has a production facility, discovered that the RCA XL-100 audio demodulator (model PM-200) can be fieldmodified with a pair of capacitors to tune not the usual 4.5-MHz subcarrier

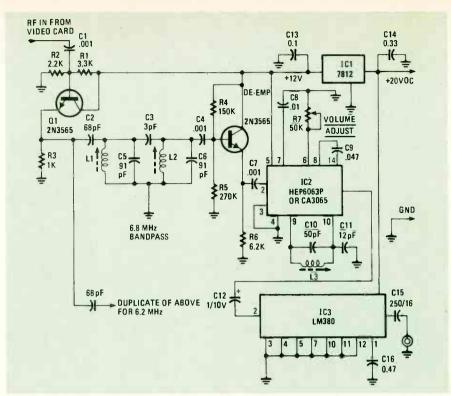


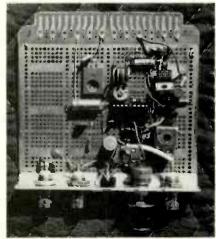
FIG. 4—6.8-MHZ AUDIO DEMODULATOR. Circuit is duplicated for recovering 6.2-MHz audio signal.

channel found in the NTSC system but rather the 6.2- or 6.8-MHz subcarrier found in the satellite system. The PM-200 is a stock replacement item for XL-100 chassis: it is a complete module ready to hook up and operate (RCA's stock number is 130-753). You go into the module and add capacitors C1 and C2 (both 33 pF to hit 6.8-MHz) as shown. Input is through pin 3. As noted, the cost of this module (new, through an RCA parts house) is in the \$12 range.

Once again, recovering the satellite audio is not much of a trick.

#### Modulating to NTSC

Now that you have the baseband video and audio displayed on a colorvideo monitor and audio system, it



RF MODULATOR construction followed by doit-yourself satellite-TV enthusiasts. This module is the RF modulator described in the text using the LM1889 IC device.

would be nice to watch your favorite programming from satellite programs on your TV receiver. In fact, if you are like most of us. you don't own a video monitor in the first place. So let's get the baseband signal back to NTSC format RF

#### PARTS LIST (Audio demodulator, Fig. 4)

#### Resistors 1/4 watt, 10% unless otherwise noted

R1-3300 ohms

R2-2200 ohms

R3-1000 ohms

R4-150,000 ohms

R5-270,000 ohms R6-6200 ohms

R7-50,000 ohms potentiometer

Capacitors

C1. C4, C7—.001 µF

C2-68 pF dipped mica

C3-3 pF dipped mica

C5, C6-91 pF dipped mica

 $C8 - .01 \mu F$ 

C9-.047 µF

C10-50 pF dipped mica

C11-12 pF dipped mica

C12-1 µF 10 volts, electrolytic

C13-0.1 µF

C14-.33 µF

C15-250 µF. 16 volts, electrolytic

C16-.47 µF

Q1, Q2-2N3565

IC1-7812 voltage regulator. +12 volts

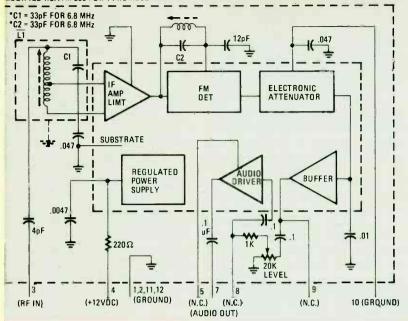
IC2\*-HEP6063P or CA3065

IC3\*-LM380

L1, L2-adjustable RF coil. 3-7 µH (J.W. Miller No. 9051)

L3-adjustable RF coil. 7-14 \(\mu\)H (J.W. Miller No. 9052)

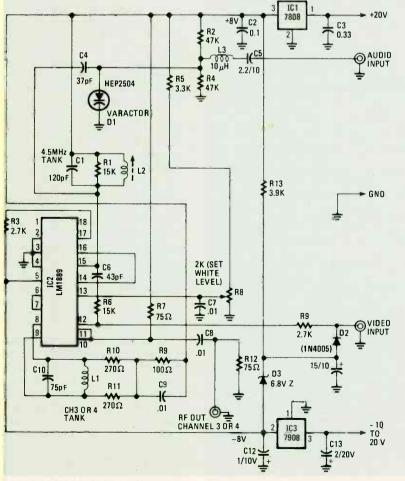
Note: The RCA CA3134GM can replace the CA3065/LM380 combination



—ALTERNATE APPROACH to subcarrier audio detection uses a standard module from an RC seiver.

you own a video-tape recorder, already have a modulator. Simply ect the video output of the satellite ver to the video input jack on the , the AUDIO OUT to the AUDIO IN. switch the VCR to CAMERA INPUT.

Now run a piece of RG-59/U coaxial cable from the output of the VCR to your TV receiver(s). And the satellite signals will appear on the modulated channel determined by the VCR modulator switch (typically Channel 3 or 4).



-NTSC RF MODULATOR for Channel 3, 4, or 5.

If you don't have a VCR, you'll need to build, or buy, your own video RF modulator. The most common RF modulator used by satellite TV enthusiasts is shown in Fig. 6. This system uses the LM1889 IC that is really a miniature TV transmitter disguised as an IC. The LM1889 device (or something very similar) is found in dozens of TV games, VCR modulators, computer modulators, and so on. The 1889 is available from firms such as Poly-Pak, usually for under \$5.00. A complete modulator kit, using the LM1889 is available (model PXP-4500) for around \$25 (ATV Research, 13-B Boardway, Dakota City, NB 68731).

The schematic in Fig. 6 shows what is involved. Coil L2 establishes the 4.5-MHz sub-carrier for the audio in a tuned network and a 2K pot connected to pin two of the 1889 establishes the saturated white level for the video. Although the schematic establishes tuning procedures (off pins 8 and 9 of the 1889) for Channel 3 or 4, many people have also found that the system will function on VHF TV Channel 5 as well, by adjusting the tank circuit accordingly.

A modulator such as this is capable of putting out around 10,000 microvolts of maxium signal (3,000 is more typical). That is more than enough RF voltage to drive through several hundred feet of RG-59/U coaxial cable into, perhaps, as many as a half dozen TV receivers con-

#### PARTS LIST (RF-modulator, Fig. 6)

#### Resistors ¼-watt, 10% unless otherwise specified.

R2, R4—47.000 ohms R3, R9—2700 ohms R5—3300 ohms R7, R12—75 ohms R8—2000 ohms potentiometer R9—100 ohms R10, R11—270 ohms R13—3000 ohms

Capacitors
C1—120 pF dipped mica
C2—0.1 µF ceramic disc
C3—.33 µF ceramic disc

R1, R6-15.000 ohms

C4—37 pF dipped mica C5—2.2  $\mu$ F. 10 volts, electrolytic

C6—43 pF dipped mica C7—C9—.01µF ceramic disc C10—75 pF dipped mica

C11—15  $\mu$ F. 10 volts, electrolytic C12-1  $\mu$ F. 10 volts, electroytic C13—20  $\mu$ F, 20 volts, electrolytic

IC1-7808 voltage regulator, +8 volts IC2-LM1889 TV video modulator

IC3—7908 voltage regulator. -8 volts D1—HEP2504 varactor diode (Motorola)

D2—1N4005 diode

D3—Zener diode, 6.3 volts L1—tank coil, .08µH (3 turns No. 16 wire air-wound 1/4" ID. 3/8" long)

L2—adjustable RF coil. 7—14 μH (J. W. Miller type 9052) L3—10 μH molded RF choke nected to the system through appropriate 75-ohm splitters and taps.

#### Power supply

There is little to be said about the system powering that is not obvious in the schematics. The total power drain will be in the 1/2-ampere range at the master supply level of 20 volts. Regulation, where noted, is very important. Pure DC, well filtered, is very important. Protection of the satellite TV receiver, from line glitches is also very important. If you live in an area where you have erratic AC line service, invest a few dollars in some fast-acting devices so that AC line spikes and surges don't eat up your relatively delicate 4-GHz parts. Saving \$10 on the master power supply may cost you a \$100 GAAs-FET, so use a good, stiff, regulated supply.

SATELLITE TV REPRINTS

A booklet containing reprints of all seven articles in the series on Backyard Satellite TV Receivers by Robert B. Cooper, Jr. is available by sending \$5.50, including firstclass postage, to:

Satellite TV Reprints Radio-Electronics 45 East 17th St. New York, NY 10003

Satellite television has been called the new frontier of electronics. There is little doubt that a proliferation of communication satellites in the geostationary orbit will change the way we perceive ourselves and our world neighbors in the decade ahead. Heretofore we have been able to keep control of our individual nationalistic goals through a flood of programming created largely by our own countrymen. What we have seen of Brazil, for example, or Zambia, have been the views of our own program producers, writers, and actors.

Satellite television is changing all of that: a trickle now, a flood within the next ten years. International satellites (INTELSAT) already in operation are beaming programs from Brazil, Zambia, and dozens of other nations not only to their own citizens but to 40% of the whole globe at a time. Regional satellites with shaped antenna patterns are spilling the programs from India, for example, throughout Africa and the Middle East. A Russian geostationary satellite system called Statsionar is nearing completion so that by 1981 you may sit in your home—virtually any place in North America—and tune in Moscow directly. Those Statsionar satellites can be expected, like Radio Moscow of shortwave fame, to become instruments of their operators, beaming video propaganda over the entire globe.

Satellite receiving hardware is a new, business still struggling between the first \$50,000 INTELSAT receivers and what will become ultimately (perhaps soon) \$1,000 receivers sold through electronic emporiums. By 1990, satellite television will be a household word and \$250 receiving systems will proliferate into every book corner of the

world.

Just as our U.S. television system has shaped and re-shaped the America of the 1940's into the present-day America, so, too, will satellite television shape and re-shape the world of the early 1980's into an entirely different world by the year 2,000; some say perhaps ten years sooner than that.

Until October of 1979, for private individuals to own satellite television receivers here in the United States was something of a misdemeanor. It wasn't clearly illegal, but wasn't approved by law either. Since the FCC decided last October that private satellite terminals did not require a federal license, a marked change has begun in the attitude of electronic hardware suppliers throughout the world. Suddenly there is a marketplace for satellite TV gear—a very large, national and even worldwide marketplace. That FCC decision alone will result in dozens of receiving-system packages entering the marketplace in the year ahead.

As an electronics enthusiast you have a leg up on the rest of your countrymen. You have a head start on this new technology and, for a few years at least, your expertise in that area will make you a special person with special knowledge-and the opportunity either to enjoy it to the fullest, or cash in on a very attractive business opportunity.

Never before in electronics has the sky been the limit. Never before have we had satellite television available. R-E

#### **LEARNING MORE ABOUT** SATELLITE TV

If you are fascinated by the rapid development of satellite television as a worldwide video communications system, some of the following reference materials may be of interest to you

Satellite Study Package-A thorough study of how the satellite system works, what the individual elements of a successful satellite TV receiving system are, how they work, and what they do. Includes a 72-page book written by Bob Cooper that explains in lay terms just what the satellite TV revolution is all about. Includes reference section with dozens of other study materials sourced. Also includes 22 × 35-inch four-color, two-sided wall chart depicting the presently operating international network of geostationary communication satellites, where they are, and what their operational parameters are. Price is \$15 for first class mail delivery in U.S. and Canada, \$20 (in U.S. funds) elsewhere from: Satellite Television

Satellite Seminar-The third in a series of Satellite Private Terminal Seminars; scheduled for mid-June in the San Francisco Bay Area of California. Three days of lectures: classroom instruction taught by leading designers of low-cost satellite TV systems. A combination of "how to do it yourself" featuring the latest state-of-the-art technology and "entering the satellite TV business" sessions. Two early seminars (Oklahoma in August, 1979. Miami, Florida this past February) were total sell outs, so advance registration is a must. For complete details contact: SPTS '80/California, P.O. Box G. Arcadia, Oklahoma 73007.

Technology, P.O. Box 2476, Napa,

CA 94558

Construction Manuals—A series of three manuals describing the construction of (1) the Swan spherical TVRO multi-satellite antenna, (2)

Coleman TD-2 conversion Satellite TV Terminal, and (3) Howard Terminal Receiver. Swan's manual takes you into the satellite TV antenna world for less than \$300-cost for a very effective 10 × 10 foot antenna that features the unique ability to receive up to 9 separate satellites with one antenna in a fixed position. The Coleman TD-2 manual covers conversion of surmicrowave (inexpensive) equipment to satellite TV reception, plus illustrates new low-cost microwave technology for home builders. The Howard Terminal Receiver manual describes 24-channel frequency-agile, double conversion receiver, LNA and feed antenna system that can be duplicated for under \$800. Price per manual is \$30, all three for \$80 (U.S. funds) from Satellite Television Technology, P.O. Box G, Arcadia. Ok. 73007.

Monthly Publication-A "nuts and bolts" monthly publication aimed squarely at explaining the construction of low-cost terminals, satellite operations, and the business of selling and installing private satellite TV terminals. Price for Coop's Satellite Digest is \$50 per year in U.S. and Canada, \$75 (in U.S. funds) elsewhere via first class mail from: Coop's Satellite Digest, P.O. Box G, Arcadia, Ok. 73007.

Circuit Boards-A series of circuit boards are available for virtually all portions of the satellite TV receiver described in this series. Circuit board IF-70A provides the circuit necessary to create your own 70-MHz IF strip as described here, using the Motorola ART-120 device. Circuit board DEMOD-TVRO provides the layout for the 70-MHz-tobaseboard demodulator circuits described in this issue. For price and delivery contact: Robert M. Coleman, RFD 3. Box 58-A. Travelers Rest. SC 29690.

# PORTABLE ELECTRONIC ORGAN

If you don't play a keyboard instrument but would like to learn, you might consider starting out on one of the two simple easy-to-build organs described here. One plays melody; the other also plays chords.

#### I. QUEEN

IS A POPULAR AND SATISFYING HOBdging by the continuing sales of hilipment, FM receivers, tapes and Listening to music is a pleasure, but g your own instrument can be doutisfying and challenging. After exenting with several types of audio tors and construction plans, I coma simple organ that measures 14 X 11/2 inches and plays 21/2 octaves. It single oscillator and can play any y. This instrument was so successat I then constructed a more sophisd model that can play chords as well melody. This one covers 3 octaves. take a look at how to build both

#### ng an organ

amazing how quickly one can learn y an organ, especially with the help oks written for piano beginners. we will give some simple music ther those readers who are not familiar

human ear is a sensitive detector of ency ratios. For example, it easily nizes a ratio of 2:1. The higher ency is said to be one *octave* above ther. Since piano and organ keys cover an extensive range of freses, let's use an octave as a conveinterval of sound. Each octave is d into 12 equal geometric steps, step representing a change of 6%.

keyboard is arranged so that a lan can distinguish and identify a ular key out of the 12 in each The keys are arranged in 2 rows: one with seven white keys, the other with five black keys forming a pair and a trio (See Fig. 1). A letter of the alphabet, from A to G, is assigned to each of the seven white keys. The word "sharp" (written as \$) may be applied to a black key to indicate one step higher. For example, F\$\pm\$ is one step above F. Sometimes it is more convenient to use the word "flat" (shown as \$\ph\$) to indicate a black key that is one step lower. For example, B\$\ph\$ is one step below B. Obviously, A\$\pm\$ and B\$\ph\$ refer to the same black key

keys. Key caps are sold that mate with the key switches.

Radio Shack has sold individual calculator keys, and some stores may still stock them. They are fairly good and can be cemented down on any flat surface.

(Neither of the switches we used are currently available from Poly-Paks or Radio Shack but you are sure to find suitable substitutes if you keep an eye on ads and catalogs from surplus parts dealers. Any SPST pushbutton switch can be used provided it is large enough to be comfortably used in a keyboard. Simply

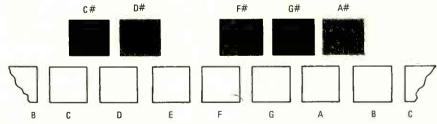


FIG. 1—HOW KEYS ARE ARRANGED on the home-built organ. You can salvage individual keys from an old electronic calculator or purchase them from a surplus parts dealer.

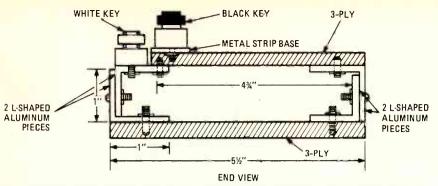
An inexpensive keyboard can be constructed with individual calculator keys, approximately <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>-inch square, that you can take from an old calculator, or purchase from a surplus parts dealer.

Poly Paks for instance has carried switches that are easy to operate, and have low resistance. They come in sets of 4 switches, one of which is a dummy switch without leads. You can remove the inoperative switch and substitute a good one from another set. A set of 4 switches can also be sawed apart to make a group of 2 or 3, which are needed for the black

modify the switch mountings and organ housing to match the switches you use.— *Editor*)

#### **Building the organ**

The top and bottom of the organ are made of three-ply wood, held in place by aluminum supports at the front and rear, as shown in Fig. 2. Two L-shaped lengths of aluminum that are held together with machine screws form each U-shaped support. The aluminum comes in 6-foot lengths and measures 1 inch on each side. It is readily available in hardware stores.



See Fig. 6 for higher tones. Frequencies in Hz.

139

147

156

165

175

185

D

D#

Ε

F

F±

Hz

H<sub>2</sub>

Ηz

Hz

Hz

Hz

TABLE 1

196

208

220 Hz

233 Hz

247 Hz

262 Hz

Hz

Hz

G

G#

Α

A

В

C

FIG. 2—PUTTING THE ORGAN TOGETHER. Drawing shows mechanical cross-section. Keys are mounted so the black ones are higher and farther back than the white ones; as on a piano keyboard.

For a 3-octave range, the length of the organ should be about 18 inches.

Note that the top of the organ is narrower than the bottom. This allows you to use a convenient metal base to mount the white keys right in front. The black keys should be slightly behind and somewhat higher than the white ones. Some types of keys have a flat bottom and are made to be cemented onto any flat surface. The Poly Paks key sets came with No. 2-56 screws extending from the bottom. With No. 2-56 hex nuts, I mounted the sets on a metal strip, since the screws are not long enough to pass through the plywood. Then, the metal strip was mounted on the plywood, with the aid of machine screws. Use a strip about three inches long to hold 3 black keys, and another strip about 21/4 inches long for 2 black keys.

Below each key, drill holes for the leads to pass through to the terminals.

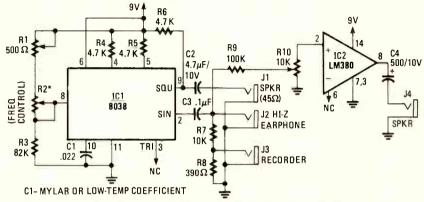
Mount the power and the output jacks, as well as the volume control, on the rear metal panel.

To build either organ model, you must have a frequency meter that can measure to about 100 Hz. It is suggested that you construct the simpler organ first to get the feel of playing music. If you are still enthusiastic about playing, then go for the more difficult organ.

#### Melody organ

In Fig. 3, IC1 is a VCO (Voltage-Controlled Oscillator) whose output frequency varies with the voltage applied to pin 8. The frequency is minimum when the pin is connected directly to the positive (+) terminal of the power supply. As R2 increases, so does the frequency. With a 9-volt supply, the minimum frequency is about 130 Hz.

Oscillator IC1 generates three output waveforms: a sinewave (pin 2), a squarewave (pin 9) and a triangular wave (pin 3). (The latter waveform is not used.) The squarewave output is sufficient to drive a 45-ohm speaker directly at J1. The sinewave has a pleasing tone, and can drive a high-impedance earphone at J2 or drive an external amplifier. An internal amplifier, IC2, is provided however. The output at J3 is greatly attenuated for a tape-recorder.



\*ACTUALLY, R2 IS VARIED IN STEPS AS SHOWN IN FIG. 4 TO CONTROL FREQUENCY

FIG. 3—SIMPLE MONOPHONIC ORGAN plays melodies—one note at a time. Circuif is based on IC1, a voltage-controlled oscillator tuned by the value of resistor R2.

Actually, R2 must be varied in steps for organ music, as shown in Fig. 4. Each resistor is selected to tune to the required frequency when the corresponding switch is closed.

To calibrate the organ, let IC1 warm up and connect a frequency meter at J2. Set  $R_A$  for the lowest tone to be played when  $S_A$  is closed. In the instrument I built, it is the key of F (175 Hz). Now, select  $R_B$  to play the next higher tone when  $S_B$  is closed, and so on up the scale. Table 1 lists the frequencies at the low end of the musical scale.

Each resistance in the series, R<sub>B</sub>, R<sub>C</sub>, R<sub>D</sub>... increases gradually over the preceding resistance. The first four resistors I used are 82 ohms each, the next five resistors are 100 ohms each. Then, there are three 120-ohm resistors, followed by four 150-ohm resistors, etc. At the upper end of the musical scale, the resistors should be about 300 ohms each. Try for a frequency accuracy of about 0.5% or better. If your resistors are in smaller increments-such as 82, 91, 100, 110, etc.you can achieve higher accuracy. To reach a desired value, you can connect two resistors in series. Use terminal strips to hold resistors, or solder them directly to each other and to the keys. Hook the ends of resistors to hold them more securely

Oscillator IC1 is very sensitive to changes in voltage. You must use either a regulated power supply or batteries. If required, R<sub>A</sub> can be used to retune the organ to some extent. The socket of IC1 can easily be mounted on a socket adapter

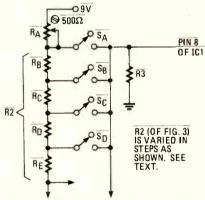


FIG. 4—HOW KEYS ARE WIRED to switch in different resistors to tune the VCO.

#### PARTS LIST FOR MELODY ORGAN

Resistors are 1/4 watt, 5%

R1-500 ohms, potentiometer

R2—calibrating resistors (see text and

Fig. 4)

R3-82,000 ohms

R4-R6-4700 ohms

R7-10,000 ohms

R8—390 ohms

R9-100,000 ohms

R10-10,000-ohm potentiometer

C1—.022 µF, Mylar or low-temperature coefficient

C2-4.7 µF, 10 volts, electrolytic

C3-0.1 µF, disc

C4-500 µF, 10 volts, electrolytic

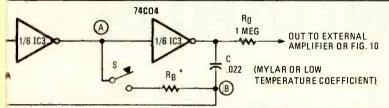
IC1-8038, voltage-controlled oscillator

IC2-LM380 audio amplifier

J1-J4-miniature jacks

Misc.—sockets for audio amplifier, keys (12 per octave), plywood, aluminum supports, hardware (see Fig. 2).

						Osc	illato	or				
		1		2		3		4		5		6
ctave	B C	247 262	C# D	277 294	D♯ E	311 330	F F♯	349 370	G G♯	392 415	A A:	440 466
octave	B	494 523	C♯ D	554 588	D♯ E	622 660	F F♯	698 740	G G#	784 830	A A#	880 932
octave	B	988 1046		1108 1176	D♯ E	1244 1320		1397 1480	_	1568 1661	1	1760 1865



\*RR IS SHOWN IN MORE DETAIL IN FIG. 6 AS A SERIES OF 6 FIXED RESISTORS.

ONE OF SIX OSCILLATORS based on a pair of CMOS inverters. The instantaneous frequentermined by the value of resistor R<sub>B</sub>

#### (See Fig. 6). FROM 0 FIG. 5 S2 **S3** \$4 **S5 S6** R1 R2 R3 R4 **R5** RA

FIG. 6—THE CHORD ORGAN has six monophonic oscillators to cover three octaves. Each oscillator is tuned to six notes selected by the key arrangement shown.

#### **DUTPUT OF** C6 10/10V OSCILLATORS C5 .15 10/10V $(\Omega 8)$ C8 250/10V IC4 LM386 10 K

FIG. 7—SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM of the simple power amplifier used in the chord organ.

#### TS LIST FOR MELODY AND **CHORD ORGAN**

rs are 1/4 watt, 5% K (6 resistors, 1 for each oscillator) alibrating resistors, selected by see Fig. 6 and text) MEG (6 resistors, 1 for each ator) 2 μF Mylar (6 capacitors, 1 for each ator) pair of 74C04 CMOS hex inverters uilding 6 oscillators as in Fig. 5); ets for inverters; terminal strips for tors; and plywood, aluminum,

Shack 276-024). I used a small of PC board to hold the socket of

#### and melody organ

ware, keys, as for organ 1.

organ is superior in several ways: only plays the melody but also plays and contains 3 octaves. It is more with respect to frequency and volte IC's consume less power and are pensive. A disadvantage is that the ting resistors vary over a wide of values, and so are more difficult ct. You may need two or three rs in series to achieve a desired val-1 accurate calibration is desirable errors are more noticeable when by chords.

play chords and melody over three 3, it at first would appear that we 6 oscillators, and this thought is able! However, we can simplify. oscillator is responsible for two nt musical tones (called half-steps), example A and A#. Half-steps are i, if ever, played together. This cuts quired number of oscillators by Inother simplification is to make scillator responsible for its own pps in all octaves. You cannot play ne note in more than one octave.

#### PARTS LIST FOR AMPLIFIER

R11-10,000 ohms, potentiometer, 1/4 watt, 5% C5, C6-10 µF, 10 volts, electrolytic  $C7-0.1 \mu F$ , 10 volts, disc C8-250 µF, 10 volts, electrolytic J5-miniature jack

IC4-LM386

Table 2 shows how six oscillators cover three octaves.

A typical oscillator is shown in Fig. 5. This oscillator is very stable with respect to voltage and temperature. It uses a pair of CMOS inverters operating at 5 volts. One hex inverter such as the 74C 04 can be used to make three oscillators. With R<sub>A</sub> and C fixed, the frequency depends only on R<sub>B</sub>. A larger R<sub>B</sub> means a lower frequency. Of course, the voltage applied to the inverter must remain constant. This oscillator can generate only one frequency at a time. For six different frequencies, you must provide six differ-

#### Calibration

To calibrate the organ, begin with the oscillator 6. Referring to Table 2, select R1 for 1865 Hz when S1 is closed. Then, select a value for R2 to play 1760 Hz when S2 is closed. Next, select R3 to play 932 Hz when S3 is closed, and so on. Similarly, proceed with oscillator 5 and the remainder, observing the frequency meter for correct frequencies. Don't try for an exact frequency in each case, but accuracy should be well within 0.5%. You may need two or even three resistors in series to reach the desired value. Here are the approximate values for the resistors shown in Fig. 6:

Resistor R1 is about 10,000 ohms for oscillator 6; about 12,000 ohms for oscillator 5; 14,000 ohms for oscillator 4, etc. After selecting the value of R1 for any oscillator, the other values in the same series will be approximately as follows:

R2 = .06 R1R3 = R1

R4 = 2 R2R5 = 2 R3

R6 = 2 R4

All the output leads (three leads from each oscillator) are tied together, and the signal is amplified. The simple output stage shown in Fig. 7 can be operated from the same power supply as the organ-either a regulated supply or batteries.

The more complex organ obviously requires more patience and time for proper calibration than does the simpler organ. However, it is well worth the extra effort. R-E

It is a combination of 3 or more simultaneous tones that harmonize and enhance the playing of a melody. The ear is a sensitive frequency ratio detector. The octave (2:1) was mentioned earlier. If you call any note of an organ, 1, and count halfsteps upwards, you can show that the pair, 1 and 3, bear the ratio 9:8. Other pairs (and ratios) are: 1 and 4 (6:5), 1 and 5 (5:4), 1 and 6 (4:3), 1 and 8 (3:2). If the 4 notes; 1, 4, 6, 10, are played, it is called a "seventh chord" and combines the following pairs: 1 and 4, 1 and 6, 1 and 3, 1 and 5. The pair, 4 and 6, plays the same frequency ratio as, 1 and 3, since both have the same interval of 2 half-steps. A "major chord" is played, 1, 6, 10. Many other chords, and variations of them, are played in organ and piano music.

ent values of R<sub>B</sub>, each with its own switch

1980

# CAR STEREO STANDARDS

Until now, makers of car stereo equipment have not had a set of standards and specifications that were meaningful to the consumer. Recently twenty-two manufacturers agreed on these new standards. Others are expected to follow.

#### LEN FELDMAN

CONTRIBUTING HI-FI EDITOR

IF YOU ARE A HIGH-FIDELITY ENTHUSIAST who has considered duplicating the good sound you enjoy at home in your car, truck, or van, you already know that until now there has been virtual chaos in the car stereo marketplace. Twenty watts of power in a car stereo amplifier or complete receiver is, in most instances, not even remotely related to 20 watts of audio power in a home hi-fi system. And a tuner sensitivity of 2.0-µV in a car radio (if quoted at all by the manufacturer) has usually meant sensitivity that is only one fourth as good as that of a home tuner boasting the same 2.0- $\mu$ V sensitivity. As for tapeplaying equipment in automobiles, frequency response, if quoted at all, has provided the prospective purchaser with little or no information as to the fidelity of the product being considered for installation in his or her vehicle.

We can now hope that the situation is about to change. As of this writing, 22 leading car stereo equipment manufacturers have agreed to publish specifications and measurements about their products that will be meaningful and helpful to consumers who want good sound on the road. What follows is some of the background that led to the creation of those new standards and a summary of the standard measurements themselves. Particular thanks are due to Marshall Mack Brown of Craig Corporation, who was in charge of the standards meetings that led to the creation of the new standards, along with Jim Twerdahl of Jensen Sound Laboratories and Don Coleman of Clarion

It took more than 30 years for the home audio component industry to

reach its present level. But in less than five years annual sales of car stereo equipment have actually equalled or surpassed those of home audio equipment. Unfortunately, the rapid growth of car stereo has resulted in many practices that are contrary to high-fidelity philosophy and concepts. Perhaps the most flagrant abuse has been the artificially inflated "power ratings" of car stereo products. (We all remember that battle in home equipment.)

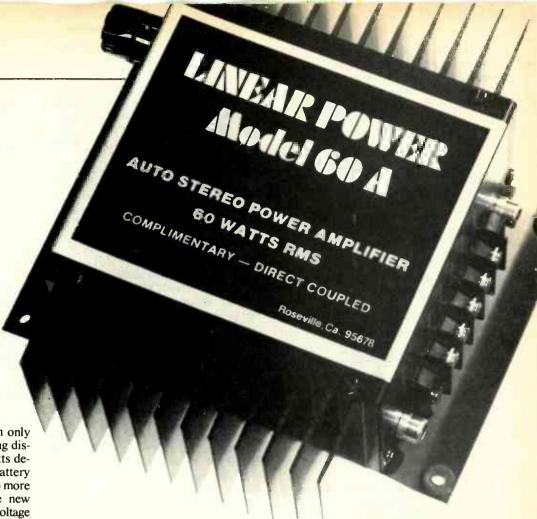
Back in 1974 the Federal Trade Commission formulated a rule that requires all manufacturers of home audio equipment to state the power output of audio amplifiers on the basis of continuous power, with extremes of frequencies at which the rated power can be delivered for a given level of harmonic distortion and into a specified load impedance. Note, however, that the FTC rule applies only to "home" audio equipment. In 1974, car-stereo equipment sales were not significant, and the FTC did not include that category in its rule. Given that loophole, many car-stereo manufacturers began to exaggerate power ratings, omit references to distortion levels, and so forth and so forth. Serious and conscientious audio-equipment makers were caught up in the specification race as well, and were often forced to publish unrealistic figures for their own products, if only to survive in a highly competitive market-

Discouraged, but by no means defeated, those manufacturers (including many in the U.S., and several importers of equipment from abroad) did not give up. More than a year ago, they formed an Ad Hoc Committee of Car Stereo

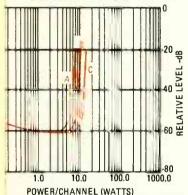
Manufacturers and set about to write and publish their own measurement standards. Seventeen well-known manufacturers and importers participated in the deliberations. Their work has now been completed and, in a letter to all car-stereo manufacturers, they have invited all to endorse and use the specifications as presented. By endorsing the new standards, participating companies agree that by June 1, 1980, all of their printed catalogs, specifications sheets, advertisements, and other literature will present product specifications in accordance with the new standards.

#### Amplifier measurements standards

The new car-stereo standards are divided into three sections. Section I deals with audio power amplifiers (whether supplied as separate components or as part of a car radio) and parallels many of the standards developed for home audio amplifiers by the IHF (Institute of High Fidelity). Six specifications must be presented by a manufacturer in standard format. The format for specifying power output must read: "Power Output: \_\_\_\_ watts per channel minimum continuous average power into \_\_\_\_ ohms, both channels driven, from \_\_\_ Hz to \_\_\_\_ Hz with no more than \_\_\_\_% total harmonic distortion." While that method of presentation corresponds almost exactly to that required for home-audio equipment, the committee had to address itself to one important additional matter. The nominal 12-volt supply in most cars may vary from 11 to 16 volts under driving conditions. Figure 1 shows what happens to the power output of a nominally-rated 10watt-per-channel amplifier over those



mes of supply voltage. With only lts of supply voltage, clipping disn is reached with only 8 watts ded, while with 16 volts of battery y, power output increases to more 12 watts per channel. The new ards call for a standard DC voltage 4 volts to be used when measuring r output of a car amplifier.



—HOW POWER OUTPUT VARIES with voltage. Curve A is for 11-volt supply, B 4.4 volts and C for 16.0 volts.

quency response for a car amplifier be stated as follows: Frequency inse: \_\_\_\_Hz, to \_\_\_\_Hz, ± \_\_\_\_leasurements must be made at a loutput level with the amplifier tered in its rated load impedance. complete car radios (where the fier is inaccessible as a separate ) the "input" maybe considered at the input of the volume control receiver.

signal-to-noise measurements, A"-weighting network is to be that weighting is also called for in IF Amplifier Measurement Stanand the S/N ratio must be quoted with respect to 1-watt output, with an input voltage of 0.5 volts.

Input Sensitivity must be referenced to 1-watt of power output and should be expressed in volts. Here, an option is provided, wherein an additional sensitivity specification may be given for the input voltage required to produce rated output.

A minimum input-impedance specification is called for in the new standards, but that spec is applicable to separate component amplifiers only and is intended to establish compatibility of interfacing between models and brands. It would be stated, simply, in ohms.

The last required amplifier specification is Tone Control Action and the format will be: Tone (Equalizer) Action:

± \_\_\_ dB at \_\_\_ Hz and \_\_\_ Hz. In the case of bass and treble controls, the recommended test frequencies are 100 Hz and 10,000 Hz. For multiband equalizers, the appropriate center fre-

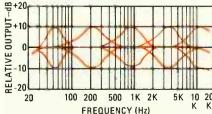


FIG. 2—TONE-CONTROL CURVES can be shown in specs. These curves are typical of those for a five-section equalizer.

quencies should be used in making the measurements. Curves, such as those shown in Fig. 2, may also be presented as an option, but those will most likely be used only for multiband equalizers.

MODEL 60A

SHMEGG ELECTRONICS

#### Standards for FM tuners

The second section of the new standards is concerned with FM-tuner specifications, or the tuner section of a complete radio receiver. Nine separate disclosures are called for. The first of those is Monophonic Usable Sensitivity. It is to be stated in dBf. There has been wide variation in practice in measuring and stating the sensitivity of an FM receiver or tuner. Although it has been common practice to state sensitivity either in dB re:  $1 \mu V$ , or directly in volts (or microvolts), the modern practice of stating the sensitivity in terms of relative power level (expressed in dBf) eliminates ambiguity and enables the consumer to make direct comparisons between products. The ambiguities have been particularly prevalent when it comes to car stereo FM receivers, largely because their antenna input impedance is usually 75-ohms as opposed to the more common 300-ohm input impedance found on home FM equipment.

Figure 3 shows how 2  $\mu$ V, applied to a 75-ohm antenna input impedance, is

actually four times as much *power* delivered to the first stage of the receiver as the same 2 uV would be if connected to a 300-ohm impedance. Looking at it another way, a tuner that boasts a 2-µV

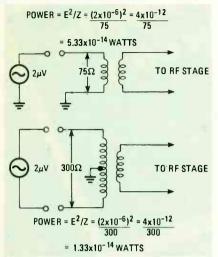


FIG. 2—RECEIVER SENSITIVITY depends on the input impedance of the first RF stage. Equations show relationships.

sensitivity (and fails to mention the fact that this figure applies to 75-ohm inputs) is really only one fourth as sensitive as one which has a 2- $\mu$ V sensitivity but has a 300-ohm input.

Another indicator of tuner sensitivity that must be stated by manufacturers adhering to the new Car Stereo Standard is 50-dB Quieting Sensitivity, in mono. A signal-to-noise capability of 50 dB is generally considered to be the least amount of noise (with respect to signal peaks) that can be tolerated in high-fidelity equipment, whereas the 30-dB S/N figure, often used by car-stereo equipment manufacturers, really amounts to "barely usable" performance. The signal strength required for producing 50 dB of S/N is also to be quoted in terms of power, or dBf.

Frequency response of the tuner section is to be quoted over the range from 30 Hz to 15,000 Hz (the frequency limits of FM broadcasting) with a "plus and minus" dB tolerance required in the reporting format.

Such less familiar tuner characteristics as Capture Ratio (the ability of a tuner to zero in on the stronger of two stations broadcasting at the same frequency), Alternate Channel Selectivity (the ability of the tuner to reject signals that are removed in frequency from the desired station frequency by 400 kHz), Image Response Ratio (the ability of the tuner to reject incoming signals that are above 10.7 MHz the local oscillator frequency), and IF Response Ratio (ability of the tuner to reject incoming radio signals that are broadcast at the tuner's 10.7-MHz IF) are all called for in the new standard and are generally to be measured and reported in a manner consistent with the universally used

IHF/IEEE Tuner Measurement Standard which has been formalized since 1975 (IHF-T-200, 1975).

One additional tuner measurement standard called for in the new Car Stereo standards is actually borrowed from the IHF Amplifier Standard, and is called Maximum Output Voltage. It is to be reported in Volts, from \_ \_ Hz to \_ Hz, with  $\perp$ ohms load. That specification is applicable to tuners, decks, and integrated units provided with line output terminals and is intended to establish compatibility of interfacing between models and brands. The minimum recommended load impedance must also be stated.

The third and final section of the new Car Stereo Standards deals with tape players. Since IHF standards for tape decks have not as yet been established, here the committee had to develop its own interim standards. Six required measurements and specifications are called for.

The first of those is playback frequency response. Tape playback frequency response has probably been one of the most flagrantly exaggerated specifications relating to car stereo tape equipment. As illustrated in Fig. 4, the frequency response shown in curve "A" for one typical tape deck and that shown in curve "B" for an inferior product could both be reported as extending from "30 Hz to 15,000 Hz"—providing that no tolerance in dB accompanies the published statement.

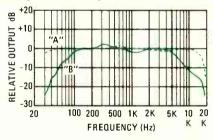


FIG. 4—PLAYBACK FREQUENCY RESPONSE curves for two tape recorders. The one producing curve A is clearly superior.

Clearly, the tape deck represented by the response curve of "B" is able to deliver some output at 30 Hz and some output at 15,000 Hz. That output, however, is some 15 dB lower than the reference level measured at 1 kHz and is therefore all but useless. For that reason, the format for stating tape playback frequency response must be: Frequency Response: \_\_\_\_ Hz to \_\_\_ Hz,



IN-DASH AM/FM/MPX CAR RADIO that includes an 8-track tape player. This model is the RCA AutoSound 12R711.

± dB. The specification must be referred to 1000 Hz as zero reference level and a ±3-dB tolerance is recommended (but not required) in the standard. Units having selectable equalization (e.g. for ferric oxide and chrome or chrome-equivalent tapes) should have frequency response stated for all conditions.

Wow-and-flutter performance of the tape equipment is to be measured using an rms-responding meter with weighted response. The meter is read for random 10-second periods at the beginning, middle, and end of the tape cassette or cartridge, noting the average of the peak readings, but excluding random peaks which do not occur more than twice in any 30-second period. Wow and flutter is reported as a percentage, followed by the notation "wrms" (weighted rms).

To measure stereo separation of car tape equipment, a reference level of 250 nWb/meter tone at 1 kHz is used, recorded on one channel. The opposite channel is played back through a narrow-band filter that includes 1 kHz, and the residual signal is measured. The purpose of the filter is to minimize the masking effect of tape noise, since interchannel leakage (crosstalk) may actually be lower in level than the noise and still be more objectionable.

"A"-weighted signal-to-noise ratio is also to be specified for tape playback devices intended for car use and is to be measured with respect to a 1-kHz recorded signal at a level of 250 nWb/meter, using a 20 Hz to 20,000-Hz bandpass filter.

Finally, the maximum output voltage of the tape deck is to be specified in volts, over the relevant frequency band and with a minimum recommended load also stated. Again, that specification is intended to establish compatibility of interfacing between models and brands, particularly where separate car stereo components (as opposed to all-in-one car stereo units) are used.

While there are certainly many more specifications which might be measured and published for mobile audio products in those three categories of amplifiers, tuner/receivers, and tape players (or combinations of them), it is significant that a group of audio-equipment manufacturers were able to get together, without any government prompting or pressure, to produce meaningful measurement standards. The result of their efforts can only benefit the audio consumer who wishes to have good high-fidelity sound while traveling in a vehicle.

The proposed standards have been printed, and readers wanting to learn more about them may write to Marshall Mack Brown, Chairman of the Ad Hoc Standards Committee of Car Stereo Manufacturers, at Craig Corporation, 921 West Artesia Blvd., Compton, California 90220.



CIRCLE 106 ON FREE INFORMATION CARD

# Nikko Audio EQ-11 Graphic Equalizer

LEN FELDMAN
CONTRÍBUTING HI-FI EDITOR

UC EQUALIZERS HAVE BECOME ONE OF ost popular add-on products in a highy stereo system. By dividing the audioncy spectrum into several segments, a c equalizer permits the user to tailor esponse of the entire system more prethan would be possible using ordinary d treble controls or even bass, midrange eble controls. Until now, most of the zers we have seen featured either five or ten bands per channel, with a few g even more frequency segmentation.

Now Nikko has come up with a graphic equalizer, model EQ-II shown in Fig. 1, that offers six bands of frequency-per-channel, thereby providing a bit more flexibility than that offered by five-band units without increasing the retail price to that of most tenband units.

The all-black front panel of the EQ-II features a POWER on/off switch at the left-hand side, above which is a small, red indicator light that turns on when power is applied to the unit. Nearby, along the lower edge of the panel, are

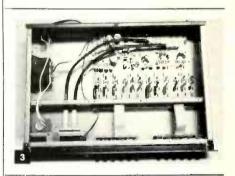
RADIO-ELECTRONICS AUDIO LAB
REALISTA SOUND
PATES

NIKKO AUDIO EQ-II GRAPHIC EQUALIZER

# **EXCELLENT**

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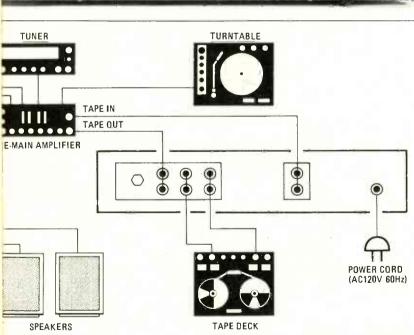
a pair of pushbutton switches. One of these is used to bypass the equalizer when its functions are not required, or for making instant audible comparisons between equalized and unequalized sound. The other switch introduces a tapemonitor circuit that can be used to connect a tape deck, since the tape out/tape in jacks on any associated receiver or amplifier will have been used up by installation of the equalizer.



The wiring of the tape-monitor circuit is such that only preequalized signals can be fed to the line inputs of the connected tape deck. In other words, you cannot use the EQ-II to equalize signals being recorded; only to equalize signals being played back via the tape deck or your other program sources. Above the equalization in/out switch is a small green light that turns on when the EQ-II is "in circuit".

Nikko has chosen to separate the left and right channel slider controls that occupy the rest of the front panel into two separate groups. The alternative approach is to position left and right sliders that have the same center





#### **NUFACTURER'S PUBLISHED SPECIFICATIONS:**

Itrol Frequencies: 40 Hz, 125 Hz, 400 Hz, 1.25 kHz, 4 kHz, 12.5 kHz. Control ge:  $\pm$  12 dB at center frequencies. Rated Output Level: 1.0 volt. Maximum Output el: 4.0 volts. Total Harmonic Distortion: 0.01%. Signal-to-Noise Ratio: IHF "A"-ghted; 100 dB. Frequency Response: 10 Hz to 30 kHz,  $\pm$  1.0 dB. Input Impedance: ohms. Power Requirement: 120 volts 60Hz, 14 Watts. Dimensions:  $16\frac{1}{2}$  W  $\times$  3% 13-inches D. Net Weight: 10.8 lbs. Suggested Retail Price: \$200.00

frequencies in adjacent pairs. Each approach, of course, has its advantages and disadvantages. With all the controls of one channel grouped together, if the user finds that both channels require the same degree of equalization the arrangement on the EQ-II requires that each channel be adjusted separately. When similar center frequencies are paired together, (as on some other equalizers we have tested), the user can adjust left and right sliders with a single finger motion. On the other hand, in most practical situations, with speaker systems placed at different positions in the listening room, in non-identical environments, the likelihood is that the left-channel equalization requirements will differ from those of the right channel, and individual adjustment would be required in any case.

The center frequencies chosen by Nikko for this six-band equalizer are 40 Hz, 125 Hz, 400 Hz, 1.25 kHz, 4 kHz and 12.5 kHz. Spacing is therefore something more than one octave and less than two octaves. The slider controls used to adjust response at each of these center frequencies have well defined detents with approximately a 2-dB step per detent. Sliders are calibrated from 0 (center position) to 10 in both the boost and cut directions of the slider. Those calibration points have no direct correlation to dB of boost or cut, however, since maximum boost or cut is 12 dB.

The rear panel of the EQ-II, shown in Fig. 2, is equipped with a pair of INPUT jacks at the left, a pair of OUTPUT jacks at the center and the previously mentioned TAPE-OUT and TAPE-IN jacks in between. An unswitched AC convenience outlet, rated at 200 watts, is located at the extreme right of the rear panel above the power cord. There are no externally-replaceable fuses on the rear panel.

Figure 3 shows the inside of the chassis of the unit. Note that the single circuit board at the right rear contains no inductors, as such. Instead, gyrator circuits using op-amps with feedback networks are used to create the necessary individual filter circuits required. The entire circuit is well shielded from any induced hum via the front panel and from the small power transformer mounted at the extreme left of the chassis. That careful layout accounts in part for the excellent signal-to-noise ratio that we found. Figure 4 shows how to connect the EQ-11 into a hi-fi system.

#### Lab measurements

Table I summarizes the laboratory measurements made on our sample unit. The exceedingly low distortion levels, measured at midfrequencies as well as at the audio frequency

extremes, were measured with an input signal level of 1.0 volt, which corresponds to the rated output level of the unit (the EQ-II has 0 dB or

#### RADIO ELECTRONICS PRODUCT TEST REPORT TABLE 1

Manufacturer: Nikko Model: EQ-II Equalizer

#### GRAPHIC EQUALIZER PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS

	R-E	R-E
Specification	Measurement	Evaluation
Control range (±dB)	12	Very Good
Center frequencies (Hz)	40,125,1.25K,4K,12.5K	Good
Maximum output level (V)	4.5	Very Good
Harmonic distortion, 1kHz (%)	0.003	Excellent
Harmonic distortion, 20 Hz (%)	0.008	Excellent
Harmonic distortion, 20kHz (%)	0.005	Excellent
S/N ratio, "A"-weighted (dB)	99	Very Good
Frequency response, Hz-kHz, ± 1dB	10-25	Very Good
MATCHING CHARACTERISTICS		
Rated output (V)	1.0	
Input impedance (ohms)	80 K	
Power consumption (W)	12	

#### RADIO-ELECTRONICS PRODUCT TEST REPORT **TABLE 2**

Manufacturer: Nikko Audio

Model: EQ-II Equalizer

#### OVERALL PRODUCT ANALYSIS

Retail price	\$200.00
Price category	Mediům
Price/performance ratio	Very good
Styling and appearance	Excellent
Sound quality	Excellent
Mechanical performance	Very good

Comments: Many audio enthusiasts find that a 10-band (octave-by-octave) graphic equalizer is a bit too much to cope with while some of the low-cost 5-band equalizers don't offer as much control as they feel they need. Nikko Audio has apparently tried to solve that problem by coming up with a six-band graphic equalizer that provides just a bit more control flexibility than do the five-band models available. By resorting to gyrator circuitry, Nikko has managed to keep hum and noise levels as low as those found in much more expensive equalizers; distortion contributed by the device is almost at the vanishing level. The multi-detented settings of each slider control make preferred settings easily repeatable. The incorporation of a tape-monitor circuit means that those owning a receiver with only one tape circuit will not lose that function when connecting the EQ-II. It would have been nice (and not expensive) if Nikko had enabled the user to equalize signals ahead of the tape out circuit instead of only during playback. An overall level control would also have been useful, especially when extreme settings of the sliders are called for. But, all In all, the EQ-II offers good basic equalization facilities at a moderate price.

unity gain, as an equalizer should). Even as one approaches maximum output level, however, distortion remains almost as low until output exceeds 4.0 volts.

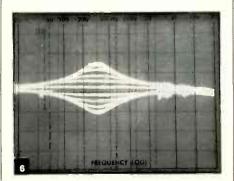


Figure 5 shows the response of the EQ-II with each of its frequency levers alternately moved to the maximum boost and cut positions. Vertical sensitivity for the presentation was 10 dB-per-division while frequency, plotted from left to right, extended from 20 Hz to 20 kHz, logarithmically. Thus, spacings between center frequencies of the various bands are almost precisely equal, between one and two octaves apart.

Figure 6 presents a sequential plot of one of the slider controls (the one having a center frequency of 400 Hz) for each of its eleven detented steps and while the boost and cut for each step, they are very nearly equal.

#### Summary

At its price, the Nikko EQ-II offers a good deal of tonal control flexibility. In listening tests, the unit introduced no noticeable sound coloration when the controls were set to their mid-positions and the EQ light was on. Neither was their any noticeable increase in distortion or noise level when the equalizer was switched into the rest of our test stereo component system. More detailed summary comments, together with our overall product evaluation, will be found in Table II. R-E

# 3½Digit DMM

It to design and build your own DMM? If so, this developtal prototype is a good place to start. You can add feas and select an enclosure and layout to meet your ds.



#### **CARSON CHEN\***

5 HOW AN ACCURATE, INEXPENSIVE git DMM can be built. The DMM signed around a single 3½ digit IC that performs the analog-to-1 conversion function. The specifis of the DMM are shown in Table

erring to the schematic in Fig. 1, age 62) the basic building block of ultimeter is the ADD3501 analogital converter using a pulse-modula-chnique. A 2-volt reference voltage 1 off the LM336 2.5-volt precision nce diode allows for a 1mV resolu-Additional ADD3501 support circonsists of an NSB5388 LED disa DS75492 digit driver, an RA08 or array and an LM340 to regulate cc supply voltage.

voltage measurement: Depending the range selected, the positive or ive DC voltage to be measured is id to the + and - meter probes where applicable, attenuated so that taximum voltage per range equates olts full-scale and applied across the 3501  $V_{IN} + V_{IN} - pins$  (pins 13 and espectively). The ADD3501 then rms a pulse-modulation analog-to-il conversion and digitally displays tumerical equivalent of the analog voltage.

current measurement: In the DC int mode, the meter probes are d in series with the current to be ured. On any range, the DMM is a known resistance in series with current to develop a 2-volt full-scale

ior Applications Engineer, National Semi-

voltage drop. (This voltage drop may be reduced to 200 mV; refer to the last section of this article). The equivalent drop across the current measuring resistor is then converted and displayed by the ADD3501.

Resistance Measurement: As in all multimeters, a current source develops a voltage drop across the unknown resistor being measured. In this case the resistor to be measured is placed across the + and — meter probes and, depending upon the range selected, a constant current is forced through the resistor developing, at maximum, 2 volts full-scale. This voltage is applied to the V<sub>IN</sub>+ and V<sub>IN</sub>— pins of the ADD3501 and converted to its proper digital equivalent displayed as ohms. The current source is designed around two of the op-amps in the LM346 (IC2-a and IC2-b) and transistors Q1 and Q2.

Isolating the current source and analyzing the circuit in Fig. 2, we see that resistor  $R_x$  sets the desired current for a chosen resistance measurement range. It is essential to note that varying resistor

values placed at  $R_x$  must not alter the constant current through  $R_x$ . If this occurs, erroneous resistance readings will be displayed. To eliminate any non-constant current conditions, op-amp IC2-b and transistor Q2 function as follows:

To establish a constant-current source, a constant voltage drop must be maintained across load resistor, R<sub>L</sub>. The closed-loop operation of IC2-b trys to maintain a zero differential input voltage. With V<sub>A</sub> applied to the non-inverting input, point A is forced to  $V_A + V_{BE}$  so that the voltage of point B would equal V<sub>A</sub>. Thus a constant voltage potential is maintained across R<sub>L</sub>. With V<sub>A</sub> constant at point B, the current source remains constant, and varying Rx has no effect on the current source, provided that  $R_x \times$  $I_{\text{SOURCE}}$  is not greater than  $V_{\text{A}} - V_{\text{BE}}$ , so that transistor Q2 is saturated. This nonlinear condition however will not be noticed since  $R_x \times I_{SOURCE} \ge 2V$  will force the ADD3501 to display + OFL. (See Fig.

A change in the V<sub>CC</sub> supply voltage is

#### TABLE 1-SPECIFICATIONS

DC Volts: Accuracy better than ± 1%

Ranges: 2 volts, 20 volts, 200 volts, 2 kV.

Input impedance: greater than 10 megohms on 2-volt range; 10 megohms

on 20-volt to 2-kV ranges.

AC RMS Volts: Accuracy better than ± 1% Ranges: 2 volts, 20 volts, 200 volts, 2kV

(40 Hz to 8 kHz, sinewave)

(40 FIZ to 6 KIZ, 5III

DC Amps: Accuracy better than ± 1%

Ranges: 200 µA, 2 mA, 20 mA, 2 amps

AC RMS Amps: Accuracy better than  $\pm$  1% Ranges: 20  $\mu$ A, 2 mA, 20 mA, 2 amps

Ohms: Accuracy better than ± 1%

Ranges: 200, 2000, 20,000, 200,000 ohms, 2 megohms

drive shaft. On its upper end, the shaft has another gear that engages the large-diameter threading ring.

The threading ring revolves counterclockwise (as you look down at it). The lead guidepost encounters the tape as the rotation brings the post outward and then begins pulling the tape out of the cassette.

The tape coming out of the cassette travels around the video-head drum. At first, the tape being pulled out by the lead post is doubled. But, at intervals, three additional guideposts on the circumference of the threading ring enter the tape loop. These posts hold the outer side of the tape loop away from the video-head drum. The inner side of the loop, however, wraps very closely around the face of the video-head drum. Behind the drum, two fixed guideposts also shape the outside dimensions of the tape loop.

Meanwhile, on the left-hand side of the cassette, a lever—with a guidepost that is also inside the cassette similar to the lead guidepost—has filled out a tapetension arm. That post has also drawn some tape from the supply reel of the cassette.

Near the end of the threading-ring travel, a cam-follower lever moves the tape-tension arm solidly outward. That completes the tape-wrapping procedure around the video-head drum. As shown in the photo, this action also positions the tape so that it can pass the audio-control head properly.

A stopper tab ends the threading-ring travel. Microswitches open the circuit

to the DC threading motor. Toggle levers hold the ring firmly against the stopper. The tape is now in position for any of the RUN modes: PLAY, RECORD. FAST FORWARD, or REWIND.

#### Unthreading or unloading

When the EJECT button is down, the voltage at the DC motor reverses and starts the threading ring revolving clockwise. A few degrees of rotation toggles the cam-follower lever and loosens the tape-tension arm.

Tape could suddenly go slack and create a "spill," but a lever lifts the brake from the takeup-reel turntable. The direction of the reel rotation winds up any slack in the tape as it occurs.

Continuing clockwise, the threading ring unwraps the tape from the videohead drum—exactly the reverse of how it operates in threading the machine. Finally, at the end of the unthreading operation, the cassette-lift mechanism raises the compartment. The cover at the front of the cassette closes, and the cassette can be removed.

#### Tape-loading electronics

Unless you know what happens electronically during the threading sequence, you cannot always determine for certain whether a defect is a mechanical or an electronic fault. Once you are familiar with both sides, troubleshooting can proceed directly.

Several electronic functions must be taken into account during tape loading. Many are safety interlocks that prevent damage to the machine. The basic threading circuits are shown in Fig. 1.

A CASSETTE-IN microswitch operates from a plunger that is activated when the cassette is in the lift compartment and the assembly has been pushed down to latch it. The switch applies 12 volts of regulated DC to the loading-circuit board.

A LOADING-STOP microswitch connects as an interlock between pin 2 of connector CN4001 and pin 3 of CN4002. This switch is located beside the threading ring. It stays closed at all times except when the threading ring reaches its limit (when the tape is loaded). Thus, at the start of tape loading, the switch carries 12 volts from the CASSETTE-IN switch to the threading-control circuits.

With both microswitches closed, 12 volts goes to a *standby-lamp* stage (the circuits are not shown in Fig. 1). An illuminated standby lamp warns the operator to wait until loading is finished before pressing one of the RUN-mode buttons. Some Beta-format machines omit this warning light.

Forward-biased diode D4016 carries 12 volts DC to a charge-up circuit that consists of R4011, R4055 and C4009. This capacitor holds a 12-volt charge even after the voltage is removed; which is what happens when the threading-stop switch opens. The purpose is to keep the threading motor turning an extra moment or so until the threading ring reaches its mechanical-stop pin. That assures complete loading.

Diode D4015, which is also forward-biased, places 12 volts on pin 19 of the threading-logic IC. (In digital logic, that constitutes a logic high on pin 19.) As long as the other input of gate AND-2 sees a logic high, the output is a logic high. Two logic-high inputs to gate AND-3 gives another logic-high output, that inverts in the gate immediately following it.

The logic low from IC pin 21 cuts off transistor Q4003, placing a logic high on the base of Q4010. Because it is an emitter-follower (noninverting), Q4010 delivers a logic high through switch segment S4004-1 to one side of the DC threading motor. Switch-segment S4004-2 grounds the other side of the motor. The threading motor runs.

Now, let's review some of the ramifications of various circuit elements you have encountered along the way. Some of them can, for one reason or another, inhibit the operation of the threading motor.

First, let's start with gate AND-2. To deliver a logic-high output, both gate inputs must be high. However, if certain things malfunction elsewhere in the machine, an automatic-stop system switches a logic-low signal onto this line. A logic-low signal would inhibit gate AND-2, and this would force a logic high at IC pin 21, and, ultimately, a logic high at IC pin 21, and, ultimately,

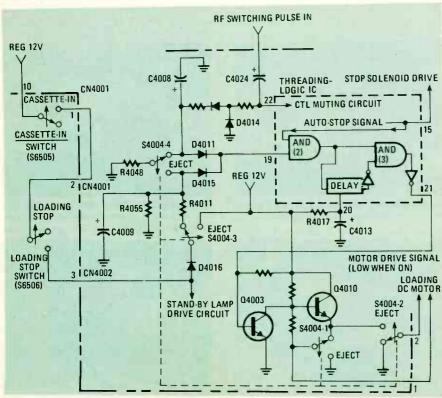


FIG. 1—BASIC THREADING CIRCUIT contains many safety interlocks that prevent damage to the machine during the tape loading process. A microswitch detects when the cassette is in place.

a logic low at the emitter of Q4010. Thus, the threading motor would stop.

Let's look at the delay-logic circuit block shown in Fig. 1. The delay circuit acts as a switch that keeps IC pin 20 normally grounded. This in turn sends a logic low to the delay gate and a normal logic high to gate AND-3.

However, when gate AND-2 applies a logic high to the delay input, it effectively lifts the ground from IC pin 20. Capacitor C4013 begins charging through R4017. If the threading finishes in the usual two or three seconds, the threading-stop switch opens, the output of gate AND-2 goes low and IC pin 20 reverts to ground or zero.

But if something goes wrong and threading has not been completed in ten seconds, capacitor C4013 attains nearly full charge. The delay gate inverts the developed logic-high output from the delay amplifier, sending a logic-low input signal to gate AND-3. A logic-high output thus appears on IC pin 21, which shuts off the threading motor, thus averting excessive tape stress or breakage.

#### Eject or unload

Eject mode is another term for unthreading the tape, returning it to the cassette and raising the cassette-lift mechanism to remove the cassette.

Basically, unthreading can proceed whenever the EJECT button is depressed. Figure 1 shows that Main Eject switch \$4004 has four segments. Switch segments \$4004-1 and \$4004-2 reverse the DC voltage that is applied to the threading motor from Q4010. The motor runs in the opposite direction, and the gearing system now drives the threading ring back clockwise toward the tape-unloaded position.

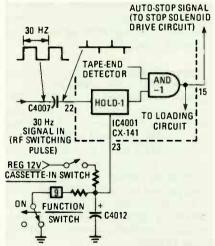


FIG. 2—THREADING LOGIC IC uses 30-Hz signal to verify that the video head drum is rotating.

Switch segment S4004-3 opens the voltage path from switches S6505 and S6506. Switch segment S4004-4 moves to its Eject position and discharges any voltage stored across capacitor C4009.

The turn-on logic for unthreading

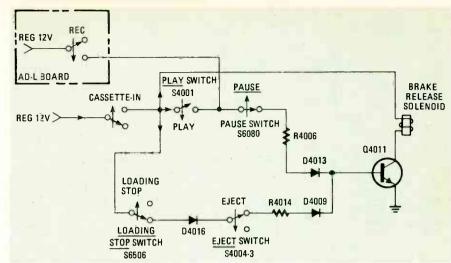


FIG. 3—BRAKE RELEASE ELECTRONICS control the brakes on both the take-up and supply reels. Brakes are released when solenoid is energized.

comes from a safety system. It is important that the takeup reel is operational when the threading ring begins unwinding tape from around the videohead drum. If not, the tape could wad up in the mechanism. Slack tape must be drawn back quickly into the cassette. The takeup turntable depends on the AC motor for its drive, so threading should not begin unless the AC motor is definitely running.

The turn-on voltage (logic) for the unthreading operation comes from this relation-sensing system. The head-switching pulse signal depends on the rotation of the head drum, which is belt-driven by the AC motor. Capacitor C4024, shown in Fig. 1, couples a sample of the switching signal into the threading-logic system.

Doubler diodes D4012 and D4014 rectify the signal Positive DC develops across C4008, forward-biases D4011, and feeds a logic high to pin 19 of the IC. You have already traced through the remainder of the logic that activates the threading motor. Remember, though, that the motor is now turning backwards to unthread the tape.

One type of VCR uses circuits inside the threading-logic IC to verify the video-head drum rotation. See Fig. 2.

Capacitor C4007 couples a sample of the 30-Hz pulse-generator signal to a sample-and-hold stage in the IC. Capacitor C4012 is the charge-holding capacitor. As long as the signal is present, the logic output of the sample-and-hold stage stays high. When this logic-high output is fed to inhibit gate AND-1, it keeps the gate operative and feeding a logic high to gate AND-2 (Fig. 1) through threading IC pin 19.

When the signal ceases, indicating that the AC motor has stopped, C4012 discharges—leaving a logic low at pin 23. The sample-and-hold output goes low. Gate AND-1 inhibits gate AND-2, stopping any threading action. The same logic-low indication appears on the auto-stop signal line, and also trig-

gers a STOP solenoid into action.

Figure 2 shows that other safety shutoffs work through IC4001 and duplicate those shown in Fig. 1.

In Fig. 1, the delay system works for the unthreading operation just as for threading. If the unthreading is not finished in less than 10 seconds, the delay system shuts off the threading motor.

#### Brake-release electronics

During the loading or threading operations, the brakes on both the takeup and supply-reel turntables must be freed. In some VCR's a solenoid controls the brakes; in others, a mechanical link-up provides control. (In the rewind and unthreading modes, individual links manipulate the turntable brakes one at a time.)

Figure 3 shows the brake-release solenoid electronics. When the solenoid is at rest, the brakes are spring-applied to both takeup and supply-reel turntables. When activated, the solenoid releases both brakes. Inserting the cassette and dropping the lift compartment to its latched position turns on the cassette-in switch. This action applies 12-volts DC directly to the solenoid.

The bottom of the solenoid goes to ground through Q4011, but only when the transistor turns on. Figure 3 shows that there are two paths to the base of Q4011. One is via PLAY switch S4001, PAUSE switch S6080, R4006, and D4013. This path turns Q4011 on only when the PLAY pushbutton is down.

The other signal path goes through LOADING-STOP switch S6506, D4016, EJECT switch S4004-3, R4014 and D4009. Inserting a cassette applies DC to this *enable* path to Q4011. Therefore the transistor turns on and the brakes are released.

At the end of threading, switch S6506 opens and the brakes are set again. The same procedure occurs if the EJECT mode is selected; the mechanical linkages control the takeup brake.

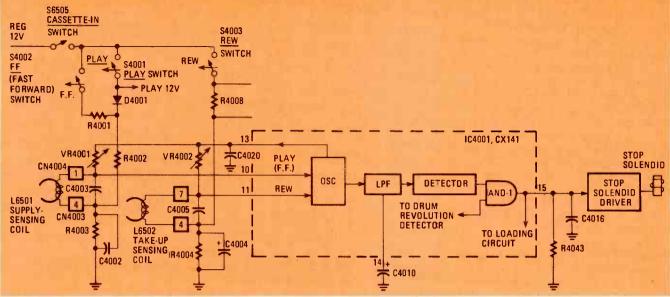


FIG. 4—END-OF-TAPE DETECTOR CIRCUIT uses sensing coils to detect the metallic leaders at both ends of the magnetic tape.

Once the tape has been threaded, both brakes can be released simultaneously by pressing either the RECORD or PLAY buttons (they're labelled FORWARD on some machines).

The braking system is simple, but you must remain aware of it. If a malfunction leaves the brakes set during the threading operation, the machine will shut down when the ten-second safety delay expires. That's because turntable brakes prevent the tape from being pulled out of the cassette.

#### Automatic stop signals

As you already know, due to the load-inhibit operation of gate AND-2 an automatic-stop signal from any stage in the machine can prevent loading or bring it to a halt. Hence, when you set out to troubleshoot a loading problem, you may track the fault to some faraway stage or section.

Now, refer again to Fig. 1, If you're



SENSING COILS detect metallic leaders at both ends of tape to provide an end-of-tape indication that is used to trigger automatic shutoff.

familiar with digital-logic diagnosis and tracing, you know there are two ways to check out inhibit operation of the AND-2 gate.

You can check the top input with a logic probe (or voltmeter). If the input measures logic low, the warning must be coming from elsewhere in the machine, and you troubleshoot there for the fault.

If the inhibit input measures a logic high, the auto-stop signal line is OK, and the fault must lie inside the threading-logic system.

A less-desirable approach can be used: Disconnect the auto-stop line and feed a logic-high input to the inhibit side of gate AND-2. If all is well in the threading system, loading or unloading will start again. (Warning: Do not let the loading continue. The fault located "elsewhere" might cause damage, which is the reason for including the inhibit gate. Track down the trouble that is causing the auto-stop signal (a logic low).

Automatic-stop signals comprise part of the system control network. The threading/unthreading system you just studied is part of the system control, as are the brake release system and all mode pushbuttons. Here are other stages you must investigate when you detect a logic-low signal on the automatic-stop line.

Tape-end detector—Metallic leaders at both ends of the video tape in the cassette indicate end-of-tape. Two coils do the supply sensing. A supply-end sensing arm holds one coil beside the left-side tape path, next to the tape-tension arm. In the PLAY, RECORD. Or FAST-FORWARD modes, this supply-sensing coil triggers automatic shutoff just before tape runs out. A fixed bracket holds the takeup-sensing coil next to the tape path on the right side beside the threading ring. It works the same way, but only during REWIND.

Figure 4 shows the switching that connects the sensing coils. DC from one of the forward-mode switches couples supply-sensing coil L6501 into the feedback loop of an oscillator. The signal from the oscillator is rectified and filtered in the detector, and then

continued on page 91

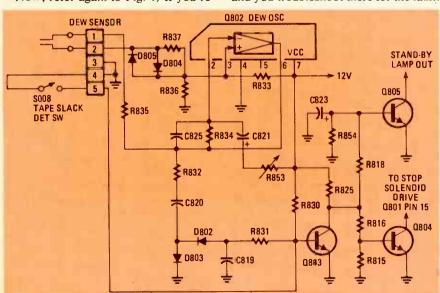
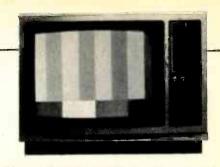


FIG. 5—DEW SENSOR CIRCUIT prevents operation if moisture condenses in the tape transport mechanism. Moisture can seriously damage tape.

# TESTEQUIPMENT

# AFFORDABLE NTSC COLOR-BAR GENERATOR





A precision color-bar generator is desirable when servicing the color circuits of TV receivers and all types of video recorders. This new instrument brings TV-station accuracy to the shop at service-bench prices.

JACK DARR SERVICE EDITOR

UP TO NOW, THERE HAVE BEEN TWO KINDS of TV test equipment: One kind is expensive, accurate and designed for use in TV stations and studios. The other kind is inexpensive, less accurate and made for TV service work. Now, the B&K-Precision Product Group of Dynascan Corp., 6460 W. Cortland St., Chicago, 1L 60635 has come out with an instrument that is accurate enough for use in TV stations and studios and, at the same time, versatile and inexpensive enough to be valuable in the better TV service shops. In fact, the price is a real breakthrough at \$795.

Their new model 1250 NTSC (National Television Systems Committee) Color-Bar Generator will generate the same color-bar patterns used in TV stations with the same accuracy. It will also make four stock convergence patterns and all three color rasters (or any mix of the three). The RF output is on Channel 3 or Channel 4 and is crystal controlled. There is an IF output at 45.75 MHz, also crystal controlled. The sound subcarrier is at 4.5 MHz and may be frequency modulated with either a 1 kHz or 3 kHz audio signal that is generated internally. The audio signal is also available at a jack labelled AUDIO OUT for testing audio equipment, and there is a jack for an external audio input signal.

There is a composite video output that can be calibrated to the standard 1.0 volt P-P negative modulation, or can be varied up to 1.5 volts P-P. This is another standard signal for making many tests on video tape recorders, whether the big studio types or the home units. The video can be modulated by any of the standard patterns. A very accurate 3.579545-MHz

color subcarrier signal is available. All RF and video output impedances are 75 ohms and are equipped with BNC connectors. Audio inputs and outputs are phono jacks.

#### NTSC

Now, just what is an "NTSC color Signal?" Back in the early 1950's there was quite a hassle over two different color-TV systems. One was approved by the FCC and tried out: That was the CBS system which used a color wheel. The other, developed by RCA, was the all-electronic color system, with all of the matrixing done inside the picture tube. Eventually, that was the system chosen.

A national committee was appointed to study the RCA and other systems, and came up with a set of standards for transmitters and receivers. (That committee was the National Television Systems Committee.) In 1953, after some years of testing, deliberation and probably quite a bit of arguing, they selected what are now the NTSC Standards. The color TV systems now in use in Europe—PAL, and the French SECAM—were considered, tested and not chosen.

The NTSC system has worked very well so far; there have been no major alterations since its adoption. One of the headaches was coming up with a system that was fully compatible with black-and-white TV.

The NTSC Standards cover everything—the TV signal transmitted from the station, color modulation, and you name it. Thus, TV station engineers now had a set of standards to go by in setting up their equipment; and receiver

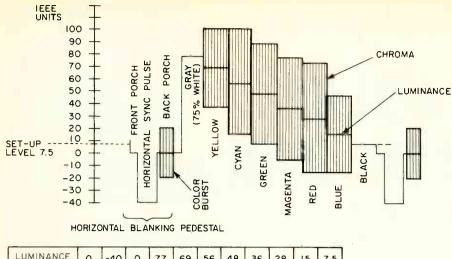
designers used those standards for making color TV receivers.

Now we come to the nitty-gritty: They also specified an NTSC Standard color-bar pattern that could be used in setting up TV cameras, monitors, and color TV receivers as well. There are several of these patterns, intended for use in checking the ability of TV equipment to reproduce the transmitted signal exactly.

At first, only TV stations had generators capable of producing the NTSC pattern. They were big and expensive, so only very few (if any) TV shops had them. Now, we have an NTSC generator that is not only accurate enough for a TV station but also can be afforded by a service shop. Somewhat simpler and less accurate types had been developed for the service shop, but they had some disadvantages, especially if you wanted precision.

#### The NTSC color bars

Let's go into the NTSC color-bar pattern a little more; there's more to it than meets the eve. Figure 1 shows the waveform of one line of the NTSC color-bar pattern. On the screen it looks like an ordinary color-bar pattern, with colors in a different place than we're used to. The first bar is pure white; next, in a logical progression comes yellow, which is nearest to a white. Then comes cyan (bluegreen), green, magenta (blue-red), red, blue, and finally a black bar. It progresses from the brightest color, nearest to white, to the darkest, blue, which is nearest to black. The color signals are carefully controlled both in phase and in amplitude. Each of the colors is fully saturated; that is the difference between the NTSC sig-



LUMINANCE	0	-40	0	77	69	56	48	36	28	15	7.5
CHROMA AMPLITUDE	-	-	40	-	62	88	82	82	88	62	-
VECTOR (FROM B-Y)	-	-1	180°	-	167°	284°	241°	61°	104°	347°	-

Fig. 1—NTSC COLOR BAR waveform for one horizontal line. The waveform is 1 volt P-P and is divided into 140 IEEE units. Note the difference in luminance levels of the different colors and the staircase pattern.

nal and that of lower-priced generators. With lower-priced generators, the color bars are all at the same amplitude, and some are over-saturated.

The NTSC composite video signal is exactly 1.0 volt peak-to-peak. It is divided into 140 equal units, called "IEEF units." At first they were "IRE units" from Institute of Radio Engineers, but when this was changed to IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers), the name of the units was also changed. Note, in Fig. 1, that the zero-reference for the composite video signal is the blanking level—the porches of the horizontal sync pedestal. The tips of the horizontal sync pulses are at -40 IEEE units; the sync pulse is approximately 0.3 volt. Note that the black level is at +7.5 units. That is called the setup level and is the black reference for the picture. Levels of luminance between 7.5 and 100 units produce various shades of gray. The brightest white is 100 units, or 100% and it is equivalent to zero modulation of the composite RF signal. The sync tips are at -40 units, which corresponds to maximum modulation of the RF carrier—hence the strongest signal. The advantage is that the weakest signal-where interference can cause snow—is in the white parts of the picture where snow isn't so easy to see.

Now, we come to the really different part: Note that each color is at a different luminance level. Note also that there is a difference between some colors. That was done so that each color will have precisely the right amplitude (of the chroma carrier) to give it full saturation—no more and no less. Note that the luminance has a "staircase" effect. That is a very important part of it. The staircase is another standard NTSC signal.

As previously mentioned, on the screen

it looks like a-color-bar signal. On the scope it doesn't! Therein lies a major advantage. For example, when you feed the NTSC signal into the antenna you should see an exact duplicate at the video detector output. (Set the scope to display it at exactly 1.0 volt P-P). Feed in a video signal from the model 1250 to the upper channel of a dual-trace scope. (All RF, IF and video outputs may be used at the same time.) If there is any difference between the two waveforms, you have problems in the RF or IF circuits of the receiver. In fact, you can superimpose the two waveforms to make comparison easier. The model 1250 also provides scope trigger signals at vertical and horizontal frequencies, so that the patterns will be steady. Any distortion or poor frequency response, etc, will make the waveforms look different.

#### The -IWQ signal.

If you've ever seen a network color-bar signal (usually switched in by accident!) you've probably seen black and white bars across the bottom. That is another NTSC standard signal, called the "-IWQ." It's composed of equal parts of the signal

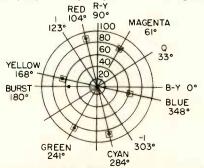


FIG. 2—NTSC VECTORSCOPE graticule. Each color phase produces a dot rather than the familiar "petal."

called -1 (which is chroma at a phase angle of 303° from burst), a fully saturated 100 units white bar and the Q signal (which is chroma at 33° from burst). Both the I and Q signals are at a level of 40 units. The last bar you see at the right is a black signal at the 7.5 unit reference level

The IWQ signal is used mainly in studio phase measurements, in video processors, amplifiers, and similar items. For an eyeball test, the first quarter of the pattern should be black, then you see pure white, then black again for the rest. Transitions between black and white should be sharp.

The NTSC color-bar pattern can also be used for vectorscope analysis. That is the method used in TV stations. The pattern is basically similar to the familiar "flower" pattern, but it has no petals; each color makes a single dot on a vectorscope. Fig. 2 shows a vectorscope ratio graticule for use with the NTSC color-bar pattern. Note the small boxes for each color or combination of colors; each color must fall within its box. If it isn't in the box, there's an incorrect phase.

One novel test is possible with this graticule and the model 1250. The model 1250 will make a pix raster of each primary color—red, blue, or green. You can also use two colors at once to make combinations such as cyan. On the vector-scope only the dots for the color in use will be seen. Very small phase shifts can be detected by this method. Note that the colors, burst, I, Q, etc., are all marked on the graticule.

#### The Staircase

Another NTSC standard pattern that is available with the model 1250 is the "staircase." The reason for the name should be obvious from the waveform. There are actually three different staircase patterns available, each with a different purpose. They are shown in Fig. 3. The pattern in Fig. 3-a is just 5 steps of video luminance without modulation. The screen will show a pattern of vertical bars, starting at left with black and going to white. The steps are 20 IEEE units each. These bars can be used to check for luminance response and linearity. It's the same procedure as with the color bars: Use a comparison pattern on one channel of the scope. All steps in the signal at the video detector must be exactly the same amplitude as the signal from the model 1250. Turn the CHROMA switch on the front panel of the model 1250 off to get this signal.

Figure 3-b shows one of the two modulated staircase patterns. Each step is modulated 20 IEEE units with chroma at burst phase. To get this signal, push the LOW STAIRCASE button. Figure 3-c shows the high staircase—identical but modulated at 40 IEEE units.

What can you do with these two unmodulated staircase signals? You can make

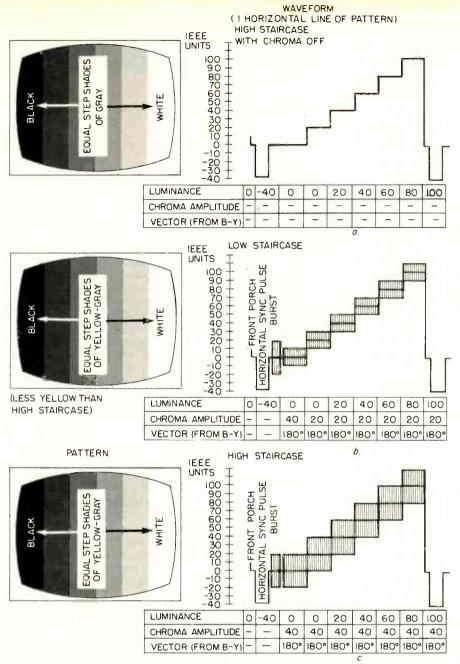


FIG. 3—NTSC STAIRCASE waveforms. The waveform shown in a contains only luminance and produces a series of bars on the picture screen from black to white. The low staircase waveform shown in b contains 20 IEEE unit chroma modulation. The high staircuse waveform shown in c contains 40 IEEE unit chroma modulation. The waveforms shown in b and c are used to measure differential gain.

tests that up to now have been very difficult. They are for differential gain and differential phase. Either of these can cause color distortion. The TV studios use these two signals for checking video processing equipment of all kinds—video monitors, VTR's, etc. Now, with these two waveforms, you can check for these parameters.

Differential gain means that the chroma amplitude should not vary as the luminance is varied. That is done for you automatically: the staircase steps the luminance from zero to maximum; the amplitude of the chroma signal must remain the same as the input. Any variation means that something is wrong in the equipment. The two modulation levels let

you check so you can be sure there is no difference between low and high modulation levels.

The chrome phase must not shift as the luminance is varied from 0 to 100%. If it does, you have differential phase-shift problems. To check that, the staircase pattern is displayed on a vectorscope with chroma modulation. If there is any differential phase shift as the luminance steps up, it will show up as an angular shift of the dot on the graticule. Use both low and high modulation to make sure.

#### On the bench

The model 1250 can be a fast and accurate aid to any kind of service work: color TV sets, VTR's, VCR's, or you name it.

The front panel of the unit is laid out so that switching can be very easy. There are 15 pushbutton switches that are functionally divided into three groups. The NTSC patterns are all selected by the right-hand group, along with the FULL BURST, TOP BURST (that one turns off the burst for only the top fourth of the screen on the color bars and raster patterns: it's used to check the sync), CHROMA, —IWQ, LOW STAIRCASE and HIGH STAIRCASE pushbutton switches.

The next group, from right to left, are the four convergence pattern switches: DOTS, CROSSHATCH, DOTHATCH, and CENTER CROSS. Those are mechanically interlocked with the NTSC switches; if any of those is turned on the other patterns are turned off. Because of interlaced scanning, you may see a small vertical jitter in the convergence patterns. That is normal and won't affect convergence adjustments. It does *not* indicate any problems in vertical sync.

Last, but definitely not least, are the RASTER switches: one for each primary color and a raster ON-OFF switch. The raster ON-OFF switch is interlocked so that it turns off the NTSC or convergence switches that are on. There are three color raster buttons; you can make eight different color rasters with them. All switches off produces black at the 7.5 unit reference level. This is used for adjusting the receiver brightness control. Pure red, green, or blue rasters are for purity adjustments. Red was used in many older sets and some new ones. In some sets with in-line pix tubes, the green raster is for purity. By pushing any two at once you can get the combination of the two colors. Red and green give yellow, and so on. The three pure colors could be handy for checking the guns of a picture tube for equal emission. Pushing all three primaries at once gives you a pure white raster at a 75-unit level.

The IF output can be used for tuner substitution. It has a level of 10 mV with no load, which is ample.

If you use all possible combinations of switching, you can get a total of 28 different patterns! The manual lists them.

For TV and VTR testing, the composite video signal is available through a jack on the front panel. It has a gain control that will vary the level from 0 to 1.5 volts P-P. Turning the control fully counter clockwise until a click is heard sets the output at the standard level of 1.0 volt P-P with the sync negative going. That is the standard video input used for many VTR tests. Any of the patterns can be used to modulate the video signal. You can feed the NTSC color bar signal into a VTR, record it, then play it back to make sure it comes out the same as it went in. If you have sound problems in the VTR, you can feed an RF signal into its tuner, with either of the two audio frequencies as modulation.

continued on page 93

# RADIO-ELECTRONICS

# hobby corner

An inexpensive wide bandwidth preamplifier in kit form that has many applications on your workbench.

EARL "DOC" SAVAGE, K4SDS, HOBBY EDITOR

A WHILE BACK I WAS WORKING WITH SOME low-level RF circuits and discovered that my frequency counter would not pick up those feeble signals. Needing that information, I had two choices. One was to rebuild the counter-input stage to provide more gain. That seemed to be too much trouble so I chose to add a preamplifier.

International Crystal (10 North Lee St. Oklahoma City, OK 73102) has a little two-stage, broadband-amplifier kit that looked good for this application. The BAX-1 has 30 dB to 6 dB gain over a range of 20 Hz to 150 MHz—that was just what my counter needed. I put it together in about ten minutes and temporarily inserted it between the RF circuit and the counter.

The setup worked so well that I started taking the counter cabinet apart to stick the amplifier inside. Fortunately, I decided to try a few more things before wiring it in. Here is what happened.

With the BAX-1 in the input line, my AC voltmeter was much more sensitive. Of course, all measurements were relative instead of absolute but those really weak ones were in there.

The BAX on the output of a little crystal oscillator made an excellent low-power transmitter. Placed between the antenna and a shortwave receiver, it amplified the incoming signals and thus enabled the receiver to pick up weaker signals.

That's just for starters. There is no reason why the BAX can't be used to increase the sensitivity of a microphone. I want to try it on my TV antenna and on the FM in the car. The BAX is quite versatile and, in some applications, should be even better with a tuned circuit or filter before and/or after it. Needless to say, mine hasn't gotten into the counter cabinet yet and probably won't, at least for a good long while.

The BAX-1 (\$6.67 including postage in U.S.A.) contains a circuit board, all parts, and mounting hardware. You can get the kit or build your own from scratch. With International's permission, the circuit is shown in Fig. 1. There is nothing critical about its construction.

In a couple of applications I found that some method was needed to vary the gain (there was too much). Of course, that can 9-15 VDC 330Ω - 330Ω + 2.5μF OUT 2.5μF OUT

be done in several ways; for example: a pot used as a voltage divider at the input, or by varying the bias on a transistor. The easiest way for me was to vary the applied voltage. The BAX-1 specifies 9 to 15 volts but it works fine at much lower voltages, too.

By the way, International has several other interesting little kits that I really want to investigate. If you have used any of them in unusual applications, how about sharing your experiences with me and other readers?

#### **Technical training**

In past columns I have mentioned from time to time the need for the serious hobbyist to learn more than just tinkering will provide. The real pleasure of electronics is found beyond the stage of following "cookbook" building plans (though that is a good place to begin). The satisfaction that comes from experimenting, modifying and, ultimately, designing is hard to beat.

Going beyond the simple matter of just following instructions requires a basic knowledge. Several suggestions have been made for acquiring that base. Among the suggestions was independent study—a method probably most suited to a majority of the hobbyists.

One of the problems with independent study has been finding the right materials. I have told you about study materials from the Heath Company and the American Radio Relay League, among others. Recently, I have discovered some excellent materials from the McGraw-Hill Book Company.

McGraw-Hill publishes textbooks on a

wide range of technical subjects. In the electricity and electronics area, the list goes on and on from servicing to applied mathematics. Of particular interest at this point are a couple of texts that I have had an opportunity to examine quite thoroughly. They are: *Electronics: Principles and Applications* by C. A. Schuler, with its Activities Manual (\$16.00 and \$7.50, respectively) and *Digital Electronics* by R. L. Tokheim, with its Activities Manual (\$8.50 and \$5.75).

As a professional educator, I have examined many textbooks over the years. Those two are near if not at the top in instructional quality. Both are unusually well-written and well-presented. Organization of content, clarity of circuit diagrams, and explanatory text are outstanding. Best of all, from our standpoint, is that those textbooks are as well suited to independent study as they are to classroom use

I recommend either or both of those books, depending upon your interests and needs, for building that base of knowledge which will enable you to get the most from your hobby. If you choose to go that route, I also recommend that you get the corresponding Activities Manual(s). They are not necessary to an understanding of the texts but they will be an additional help.

The Manuals contain specific lab-type activities to illustrate and "nail down" the concepts in the texts. Components that may be needed to carry out the activities are readily available and inexpensive. (You probably have most of them in your junk box.)

It is unlikely that you can find those books and manuals locally. Exact prices and ordering information can be secured from Gordon Rockmaker, Editor in Chief, Electricity/Electronics, Gregg Division, McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1221 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020.

Again, I urge those of you who have not done so to do some studying and enjoy your "work" more!

#### Photo timer

J. D. Miner of Lima, OH has written about adapting a clock module for photographic use. Color processing, as you know, requires several sequential timed steps. Of course you can do that, J.D. It will start at zero and read elapsed minutes and seconds.

Most, if not all, modules have a reset



73



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eapability. Take the National 5316 as an example: Activate the seconds display (pin 32) and then both the slow (pin 33) and fast (pin 34) set. The clock resets to midnight and the display, showing minutes and seconds, starts at zero.

As a matter of fact, the off-the-shelf commerical clocks that I have seen do exactly the same thing. You might make it a little more convenient as a timer by wiring the slow and fast pins to one double-pole switch.

But, J.D., let me pass along another way you may like. Some 25 years ago, when I was deep into photography, I ran across an article in one of the photography magazines about using a tape recorder to time color processing. What I did was to make a tape recording of some favorite music and, at appropriate times, faded to instructions; e.g., "in 30 seconds do thus-and-so. . . . now." Not only did the tape do the timing and free me from watching the clock, but it provided instructions and music to "agitate" by! R-E







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# computer corner

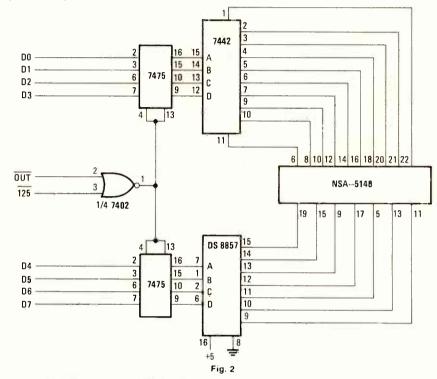
Here's a look at the various ways you can interface a microprocessor to a 7 segment LED display.

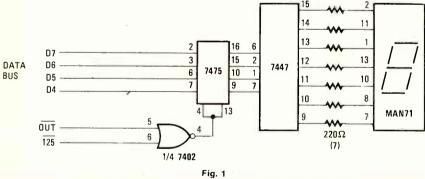
J. TITUS, P. RONY, D. LARSEN and C. TITUS

REGARDLESS OF THEIR APPLICATION, MOST microcomputers need peripheral I/O devices for the input and output of data. The more common output devices include 7-segment displays, 5 × 7 dotmatrix displays, printers and CRT displays.

This month, we'll look at several methods that can be used to interface 7-segment displays, as well as different programs to "drive" such displays that are widely used in electronic games, calculators, point-of-sale (POS) terminals, gasoline pumps, children's toys and taxicab meters.

One of the simplest methods for interfacing a 7-segment display to a microcomputer consists of latching the appropriate data values from the data bus under software control (see Fig. 1). The latch's inputs (7475) are wired to the computer's bidirectional data bus, and the latch's outputs are wired to a 7-segment decoder/driver (7447). The decoder's outputs (current-sinking) are wired to the 7-segment display with 220-ohm current-limiting resistors. When an





# TABLE 1—DISPLAYING A 39 on the two-digit display. /THIS SECTION OF A PROGRAM OUTPUTS THE

/THIS SECTION OF A PROGRAM OUTPUTS THE /BIT PATTERN 00111001 (OCTAL 071, HEX 39) /TO AN OUTPUT PORT EQUIPPED WITH TWO /SEVEN-SEGMENT DISPLAYS.

•	
MVIA	/LOAD A WITH THE FOLLOWING IMMEDIATE
071	/DATA BYTE (HEX 39, BINARY 00111001)
OUT	<b>/OUTPUT IT TO THE TWO SEVEN-SEGMENT</b>
125	/DISPLAYS EQUIPPED WITH LATCHES
•	/CONTINUE WITH THE REMAINDER OF THE
•	/PROGRAM

OUT125 instruction is executed, the content of the 8080's A register is latched by the display interface, and the two BCD numbers represented by D7-D4 and D3-D0 are illuminated on the two displays. The instructions listed in Table 1 cause a "39" to be displayed.

To display a 10-digit number using this method, 10 latches, 10 decoder/drivers, 70 resistors and 10 seven-segment displays will be required. One method of reducing the "parts count" for this interface is to use a device such as the 8255 Programmable Peripheral Interface (PPI) integrated circuit. This device can be used as three independent 8-bit output ports, so it is the equivalent of six 7475 latches. Therefore, two 8255 PPI IC's, along with 10 decoder/drivers, 70 resistors and 10 seven-segment displays would be required in the interface. An obvious disadvantage of this method is the large number of IC's required. However, one advantage is that the software needed to drive this interface is relatively simple. Also, the microcomputer only has to output this information once to the interface for the information to be continuously

displayed. This, of course, is due to the latches or the 8255 IC's in the interface. Thus, the microcomputer can output numeric information once and then go on to perform any other required operations.

Another interfacing method is digit multiplexing. Multiplexing reduces the display-interface electronics (number of parts) to a minimum; however, at the expense of longer and more complex display-driver software. Multiplexing a display consists of enabling or turning on one particular digit with a digit-enable code and providing the BCD numeric information for that digit to a multidigit display interface. In this way each digit is turned on, one at a time, as the actual BCD data for each digit is provided. Multiplexing is usually only used with multidigit displays.

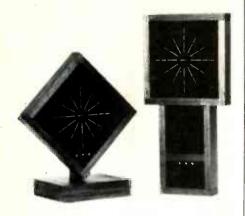
As an example, let's suppose the number "237" is to be displayed on a 3-digit multiplexed display. To display this number the BCD value for the digit "7" would be output to the interface along with the digit-enable code for the righthand display. After a short period (1 µs to 10 us) the BCD value for number "3" would be output along with the digitenable code for the middle digit. Again, after a short delay, the BCD value for the number "2" and the digit-enable code for the left-hand display would be output to the interface. By performing this sequence 50 or more times every second, each digit in the display appears to be on all the time. This display method is used in hand-held calculators. Even though the digits are being turned on and off, it happens too fast for the eye to see. The interface for a 10-digit multiplexed display is shown in Fig. 2.

When an OUT125 instruction is executed, bits D3-D0 of register A determines which one of the 10 digits in the display will be enabled (turned on). Therefore, these 4 bits constitute the digit-enable code. Bits D3-D0 are latched (7475) and are decoded with a one-of-10 decoder (7442). The decoded outputs of the 7442 are wired to the common cathodes of the individual digits in the display. Bits D7-D4 provide the BCD code of the value to be displayed (0-9). These bits are also latched (7475) and are decoded by a 7-segment decoder/driver (DS8857, manufactured by National Semiconductor, Santa Clara, CA).

An additional display method involves the use of an external display controller IC to control the multiplexed display. The Intel Corporation manufactures some of these IC's that are compatible with the 4004/4040, 8080 and 8085; these IC's are the 4269, 8279 and 8279-5. National Semiconductor Corporation also has developed two display controller IC's that can be used with 6-digit displays. One of the devices (the MM74C912) can be used to display 0-9 and the other (the MM74C917) can be used to display hexadecimal numbers. R-E



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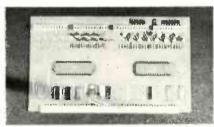
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#### computer products

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PARALLEL INTERFACE, model VPI-1, is an SS-50 bus-compatible board providing four I/O ports to interface keyboard, printers, etc., with CPU's. Two MC6820 peripheral interface adapters, two MC6522 versatile interface adapters or a combination of both give a total of 40 I/O lines (36 of them for input/output, 4 for input only) to hookup to IC power drivers and buffers. The MC6522 has



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two programmable timers that provide for realtime interrupts and waveform generation. Address selection and port selection are DIP-switch or jumper-selectable. Prices: model VPI-1 board, \$32.50, plus \$2.50 per order shipping and handling; documentation, \$5 ppd. Ohio residents add state and local taxes where applicable.-F & D Associates, 1210 Todd Rd., New Plymouth, OH

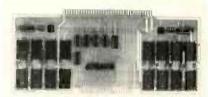
SINGLE-BOARD COMPUTER SYSTEM, Superboard II, is a complete personal computing system on one board. It provides 8K BASIC in ROM; 8K RAM; 6502 microprocessor; user-programmable 53-key keyboard; video display interface, audio cassette interface; machine-code monitor; and I/O ports. Video display provides upper/lower case, graphics and game characters for up to 156 × 256-point resolution. Available options include expander board with 24K RAM, dual minifloppy disc; port adapter for printer or modem;



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and 48-line expansion interface. Also available are an assembler/editor, extended machine-code monitor and complete software library. System is powered by +5-VDC 3-amp supply (not included), and is also available as Challenger 1P complete with case and on-board power supply. Suggested retail prices: Superboard II, \$279; Challenger 1P, \$349.—Ohio Scientific, Inc., 1333 S. Chillicothe Rd., Aurora, OH 44202.

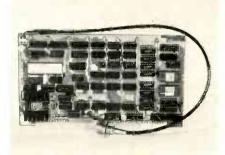
16K EPROM BOARD uses 2708 16K memories compatible with Digital Group 2708 systems. Features 8K or 16K selectability with each 8K memory block jumper to any 8K boundary and



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fully buffered address and data lines. The board comes assembled and ready for EPROM insertion. Price per board, \$99.50; 2708 EPROM's, \$12.50 each.—PEC, 21720 Alcazar Ave., Cupertino. CA 95014.

SS-50 BUS VIDEO BOARD has an 80 imes 24 format with hardware scrolling, X-Y addressable cursor and multiple-character generators that allow user-programmable character sets. The board contains a 2716 EPROM with 128 upper



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and lower case ASCII character set, plus a TMS 2716 socket for optional 128-character set; plus 2K RAM. User can create own graphics for storage on PROM, disc or tape. The board can be used to display up to 256 characters simultaneously, either in inverse or normal mode, at half or full intensity. The board is addressable to any 2K boundary; addressing allows multiple boards at the same address. Available software includes GMXBUG video-based 3K ROM monitor, separate driver routines and a program that lets you create your own characters. Price: \$458.76.-Gimix, Inc., 1337 W. 37th Pl., Chicago, IL 60609.

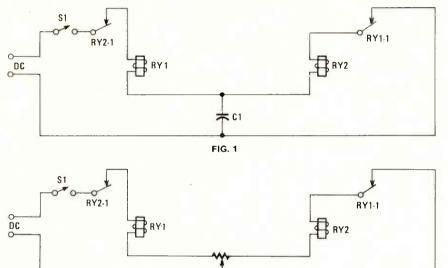
# new ideas

#### **RELAY MULTIVIBRATOR**

AMONG THE EARLIER MULTIVIBRATORS, one of the simpler models was a device using two relays and one or more capacitors and resistors to control the timing cycle and operating frequency. When it comes to small size and speed, all is in favor of the solid-state electronic multivibrator.

current activates relay RY1 and causes its normally closed contacts (RY1-1) to open. When the CT charging current falls below the hold-in rating of RY1, the relay releases and closes contact RY1-1.

At that moment, the coil of RY2 is connected across C1. The capacitor starts to discharge and the discharge current energizes RY2 and causes contact RY2-1 to open. When the discharge current drops below RY2's hold-in current rat-



C1

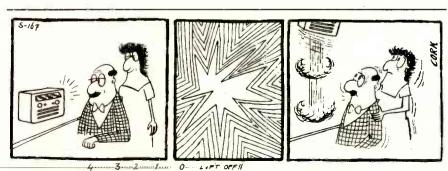
FIG. 2

However, from time to time we may need the simplicity of the relay multivibrator. Most circuits shown in literature use the charging of a capacitor to control the timing and one or more resistors to limit the discharge current so it won't damage the relay contacts. The circuit in Fig. 1 was developed around two relays and a single capacitor to perform the same tasks as the more elaborate circuits.

Circuit operation is as follows: When switch S1 is first closed, the C1 charging

ing, contact RY2-1 closes to start the cycle anew. The multivibrator will switch back and forth between the relays at a frequency governed by the capacitance of C1, the resistance of the relay coils, the applied voltage, and the hold-in current of the relays. As the relays cycle, switching operations can be carried out as needed by auxiliary contacts on either or both relays.

A potentiometer can be inserted between the relays as in Fig. 2 so you can vary the cycling.—J. Ofer



#### **NEW IDEAS**

This column is devoted to new ideas, circuits, device applications, construction techniques, helpful hints, etc.

All published entries, upon publication, will earn \$25 plus a Circuit Board Holder, Standard Base and Tray Base Mount from Panavise Products, Inc. (See photo below.) Selections will be made at the sole discretion of the editorial staff of Radio-Electronics.



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#### **OSCILLOSCOPE**

continued from page 43

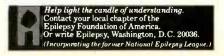
The LM318 op-amp (IC302) is used as a voltage comparator, holding the trigger input of the 555 positive until the timing capacitor has completely discharged. Premature triggering during retrace is thus prevented. The 555 provides a squarewave output at pin 3 that goes to +9 volts while the ramp is rising and drops to ground during retrace and hold-off. That line is capacitively coupled to the CRT grid to suppress the beam except during the sweep.

Baseline generator: The retrace-suppression line is used via R330 to synchronize the zero-baseline oscillator Q306, insuring that the switch from baseline to signal display will always occur at the start of a retrace when the beam is suppressed. For the lower sweep speeds, synchronization requires a slower oscillator, and for that C319 is switched in.

Each time unijunction transistor O306 fires, C316 discharges through R332, setting flip-flop Q307-Q308 through D308 and initiating a baseline sweep. After the baseline sweep (or several sweeps if C316 is not discharged after the first one) pin 3 of the 555 goes low, bringing the base of Q307 low through C315 and D307, thus resetting the flipflop for a series of signal displays.

Power supplies: The power supplies (Fig. 5) are entirely conventional except for the -900-volt tripler. Diodes D105 and D106 charge C102 to the peak negative voltage of the transformer secondary on the negative half cycle. On the positive half-cycle, C102 and the secondary appear in series to charge C101 to twice the peak secondary voltage (negative on top), through D103 and D104. On the next negative half-cycle, C101 and the secondary appear in series to charge C103 to three times the peak secondary voltage through D101 and D102. The drain on that supply is about 200 uA, so the 0.1 µF Mylar filters are quite adequate. Some of those capacitors are used at 20% or so above their rated voltage, but many have been tested at four times rated voltage with no breakdowns. Any string of five to ten Zener diodes adding up to about 900 volts will do for D109 through D113 if 180-volt Zener diodes are hard to find. Capacitor C105 filters out the 60-Hz noise picked up from the power transformer by the CRT heater winding.

We must breakoff our discussion of the oscilloscope's power supplies now and will conclude it next month when we will also go into construction, checkout and calibration. R-E



More information on radio products is available. Use the Free Information Card inside the back cover.

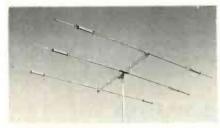
**AMPLIFIED MICROPHONE,**  $model\ T^2M$ , has integral touch-pad encoder, 12-key keyboard and LED display. Other features include preamplified electret element, digital integrated tone genera-



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tor with 3.5795 crystal, and a mixer amplifier with up to 15-dB gain. Power is supplied by 6-0.16-volt DC sources. Mike is housed in rugged shielded plastic, and an 8-foot, 3-conductor cable is included. Suggested retail price; \$105—The Astatic Corp. Conneaut, OH 44030.

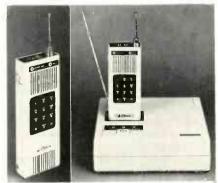
**THREE-BAND ANTENNA,** System Three, is a lightweight antenna designed for 10-15-20 meters, and features low SWR across the entire bandwidth, and a 14-foot  $\times$  4-inch boom length.



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The antenna can survive up 100-mph winds. Direct feed with 52-ohm coax cable or a balun and has a power-handling capability of 2000 watts. Suggested retail price: \$179.95.—Wilson Electronics, P.O. Box 19000, Las Vegas, NV 89119.

CORDLESS REMOTE TELEPHONES, models CP-100S and CP-200S, contain full duplex circuitry and have an effective range of 300 feet. Features include pushbutton number entry, automatic redialing of the last number called, and rechargeable nickel cadmium batteries. Model



CIRCLE 113 ON FREE INFORMATION CARD CP-100S is portable style and CP-200S is phone handset style. Suggested retail price \$269.95.—Cobra Communications, Dynascan Corp., 6460 W. Cortland St., Chicago, IL 60635.

MORSE CODE READER, Morse-A-Word, assembled or kit, is designed for SWL's and amateur radio operators. Accepts audio signals from communications receivers and displays 8 digital characters sequentially. Other features are a 5- to 35-



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word-per-minute code speed, a built-in oscillator and monitor speaker for code practice. The unit measures 7.735 W × 5.75 D × 3.375 inches H, and weighs 4 lb. Suggested retail prices: kit, \$169.95; assembled, \$249.95.—**Microcraft Corp.**, Box 513, Theinsville, WI 53092.

CB RADIO, model PC-100. has a wide range of control functions including volume/squelch, RF microphone gain, clarifier, tone control and ANL. A panel switch provides instant shift to Channel 9.



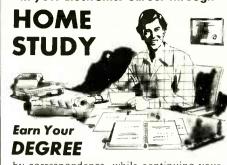
**CIRCLE 115 ON FREE INFORMATION CARD** 

Performance is monitored by a meter reading signal strength and power output, a TX modulation indicator and an RX lamp. Operation is from 13.8 VDC, positive or negative ground. Suggested retail price \$119.95.—NDI, 22125½ S. Vermont, Torrance, CA 90502.

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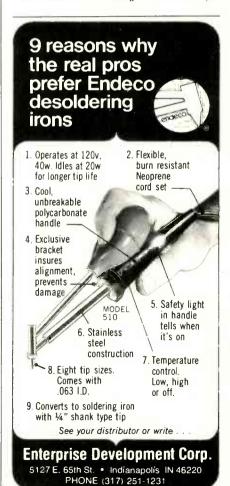


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# RADIO-ELECTRONICS

### service clinic

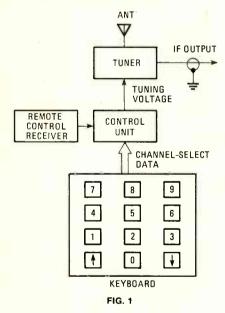
### How to locate faults in the all-electronic tuners

JACK DARR, SERVICE EDITOR

THE ALL-ELECTRONIC TUNER HAS BEEN with us for a while. Now they are beginning to show up on our service benches, too. As with all of the other innovations, we have to devise a method of attack for the problems that are showing up.

The problems are complicated. However, there is an old saying: "All complex circuits are nothing but a lot of simple circuits tied together."

If we look at the schematic of the electronic tuner functionally and rationally, we can get a much better idea of what is wrong and where. Most of the troubles will be the same as in the older mechanical tuners—snow, wrong channels, and so on. Translation: What does the thing do? It tunes in, converts and amplifies the RF TV signal, and makes the IF out of it.



The all-electronic tuners are composed of two major parts—the tuner itself and another unit that controls it. Figure 1 shows a block diagram. The tuner contains no moving parts. The only things that "move" when you change channels are voltages. The control circuit can be fairly simple, ranging from a couple of IC's to generate the voltages, all the way up to the frequency-synthesizer and microprocessor-controlled types. The purpose of the control circuit is to generate the tuning voltage in response to signals from the keyboard.

Understanding that gives us our first handle on the problem. Look at the TV set. What is it doing? If the answer is "nothing", providing just a plain or snowy white screen, then we may have a tuner problem. To make sure, use the old test: Feed the output of a tuner subber into the 1F input and see if the rest of the set works. If so, the problem is definitely in the tuner and we've eliminated a whole lot of things.

The tuner will have the standard stages: an RF amplifier, usually a dualgate FET, a mixer, another mixer, and the oscillator. All tuning will be done with varactor diodes that are controlled by the tuning voltage from the control unit. If the TV set tunes to a wrong channel, or refuses to change channels, the first thing you need to check is that tuning voltage.

Sams, and others, provide us with the other necessity: very complete service data and pinouts on the various circuits. Among that service data is a table of the tuning voltages you should get for the various channels. For example, let's look at the tuner in an RCA CTC-92A chassis. You should read +1.8 volts for Channel 2, +19 volts for Channel 6, +8.5 volts for Channel 7, and +14.6 volts for Channel 11. Punch in the various channels on the keyboard and make sure these voltages are correct; there is a small tolerance. If the tuning voltage is OK but the tuner still doesn't work, then the fault should be in the tuner itself and not in the

Bandswitching is also done by voltages and switching-diodes. Those voltages are also given in table form in the service data. If they prove not to be correct, you have a control-unit problem. Same principle goes for the tuning voltages. If the voltages are correct, the trouble lies in the tuner circuitry.

Since these are tuners, we can use signal-tracing tests to find out which stage is bad, just as we did with the mechanical tuners. Inject a signal into the mixer input. If that produces some kind of picture or at least a reaction, move to the RF input. Easy way: you do not have to make contact with the circuit. For safety's sake, connect a short piece of insulated wire to either lead of an antenna, or to the RF output of a bar-dot generator. Just hold-

ing the insulated end of the wire *near* the input of a stage should radiate enough signal into it to get some reaction.

Many of those units are modular. At first, you would probably be better off simply to replace the suspected module. However, when you're more familiar with them, you could try to locate and replace bad parts since the modules are pretty good-sized with "room to work" and make tests.

A lot of set-makers have come out with very detailed descriptions on how those circuits work, along with servicing hints and check-points—Magnavox, RCA, Sylvania and others among them. Get hold of those descriptions and read up on them. They provide a very valuable source of reference and familiarization material. Service data is absolutely necessary so that you'll know where the test points are for the voltages, etc.

So, I don't see why the new tuners should be any more difficult to service than some of the impossibly-crowded old ones. In many cases, they should be a lot easier! (For our sake let's hope so.) If you use a calm "functional approach:" Look at it and see what it's doing, then look at the service data and see what could make it do that, the new tuners should be much simpler than you'd think at first glance.

### New service center

I've just gotten a notice that PTS Electronics, Inc., has opened a new service center at 1289 Madison Ave., P.O. Box 41043, Memphis, TN 38104. They rebuild tuners, modules, and quite a few other things. That should improve service for people in the Mid-America area. John Postlewaite, General Manager, invites all technicians to visit the new facility and get a first-hand look at the many things they can provide to help us out.

### service questions

### **VERTICAL RASTER LINES**

I'm having a problem with a Zenith model 20X1C38. The set has bright vertical lines in the raster. So far nothing that I've checked or changed has had any effect! Any help would be appreciated— O.B.G., Albuquerque, NM.

continued on page 84

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### TEXAS TUNER SERVICE

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### SERVICE QUESTIONS

continued from page 82

This one has a vaguely familiar look. Quite a while back, I had a similar problem, also in a Zenith of about this vintage. After "checking and changing everything we could think of," I noted that with a probe held near the high-voltage cage the stray pickup waveform showed something odd. If you turn the gain up until you can only see the horizontal part of the waveform (the spike is up and off-screen), note if there are small vertical spikes on it. This is the *scan* part of the waveform. After some nail-biting, we tried changing the flyback and that fixed it!

I've still got the original flyback in a box and to this day I have no idea at all what the defect is! My only guess is that it could be some kind of oddball ringing in one of the windings.

### **ARCING PROBLEM**

When I turn the brightness up on this Admiral model 4H12 chassis, light and dark horizontal streaks show up in the picture. I've checked quite a few things with no luck. Any ideas?—S.L., Massapequa Park, NY.

(I suggested that he do a few things, and check the high-voltage rectifier tube, etc.) Later he wrote:

"I checked all the things you mentioned. While I was working, I happened to touch the degaussing coil socket and it bit me! I disconnected it, and the arcing disappeared. A new degaussing coil fixed it. Thanks!"

Glad to hear he found the trouble. Degaussing coils can do some fantastically funny things.

### MYSTERY STEREO IDENTIFIED

I can't identify this AM/FM stereo that's labeled "2S2," and is made in Taiwan. One source told me it was an Admiral model ST-1000, but Admiral says no. Both the output transistors are shorted, and a diode in one transistor base has exploded. The PC board schematic shows a diode as being a "KB-162" and something else is shown as a 15-ohm resistor. The KB-162 in the working channel tests as a diode, but the 15-ohm resistor looks more like a glass diode. It checks out as a glass diode too, but if it is it's leaky! It has a low front-to-back ratio. Any help will be much appreciated.—J.P., Lewistown, MT.

Without much hope, I looked in my Admiral file and found a 2S2 listed that certainly looks like the minischematic you sent! (Sams Photofact Folder No. 1443-2 shows it.) The output transistors are a complementary-symmetry pair. An RCA SK-3083 replaces the 2SA699A(Q), PNP, and an SK-3054 replaces the 2SC1266A(Q). The bias diode is an SK-3087.

Both the Sams and Admiral schematics show *two* diodes in series in this stage. If the "something" you have checks as a

diode, I'd say that it is one. (Just to double-check on the leakage, lift one end of the transistor and repeat your tests.) Since it has 0.7 volt across it, it is probably a silicon diode. Perhaps an Si and a Ge diode were used in series to obtain the required bias voltage. I once had an amplifier that had one Si and one Ge transistor in the output stages. I replaced them with two Si's; this resulted in quite a lot of distortion. I finally checked and found out what was going on.

### TRANSISTOR SUBS WANTED

I need replacement transistors for a Dynaco model 120 power amplifier. I can't seem to locate them anywhere. I understand Dynaco is out of business. Can you help?—H.K., Akron, OH.

Yes, apparently Dynaco has gone out of business. Sams lists the name but not the address and no Photofacts schematics! However, the RCA SPG-202X *Transistor Guide* shows the 2N3053 as an SK-3024, NPN silicon, TO-39 case; the 2N4037 is an SK-3262, NPN silicon, TO-39 case. The voltage for each is about 90. That should do it.

### **TEXTBOOK ON PICTURE TUBES?**

I'm looking for a textbook on picture tubes that tells how to test and handle them, what instruments to use, etc. Can you give me the name of such a book?— J.O., Richmond, IN.

I'm afraid not. This information is all available from set manufacturers (in their service data), and from picture tube manufacturers such as RCA, GE, Sylvania, etc. The "picture tube characteristics" books show a great deal of data on basing, voltage ratings, specs, etc. You should be able to obtain these books from your local radio-TV supplier.

In order to test picture tubes, you need a picture tube tester! These are manufactured by several companies. The instruction manuals give all the necessary data on how to use them. Suggestion: Try to obtain a Heathkit manual that describes one of this company's better picture tube testers. This manual will usually have a full circuit description and a very well-written explanation.

### WORKS ON JIG, NOT IN SET

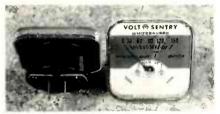
This RCA CTC-46 works on a test jig. Put it back in the cabinet and the vertical output transistors blew out! However, the yoke resistance checks out OK.—J.S., Lakewood, CO.

Well, the vertical output used here is a complementary-symmetry circuit, as used in audio amplifiers. It will withstand an open but a short will damage it. So, you have a short somewhere in the vertical yoke or in the pincushion circuitry. If the yoke resistance seems to be OK, check the pincushion corrector circuitry, looking for possible shorts to ground or to boost. It's bound to be in there somewhere!

### men products

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**VOLTAGE METER,** the *Volt Sentry*, is designed to identify faulty outlets and circuits. It can be plugged into the common outlet to indicate the voltage level. The scale is divided into Normal,



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Brown-Out and Surge. The meter also shows the actual voltage being fed to an appliance plugged into the same outlet. Measures  $2\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$  inches. Price is \$14.95.—Whitesavers Co., 71 E. 13th St., Huntington Station, NY 11746.

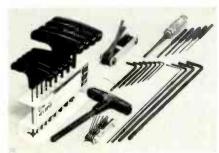
**SOLAR POWERED RADIO,** 3 solar cells operate this 8 oz., 1.5 volt AM radio during daylight hours. By means of a selector switch, the radio can also



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run during darkness from a battery contained in the case. Suggested retail price \$39.95.—Solec International, Inc., 12533 Chadron Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250.

HEX KEYS AND WRENCHES, offers 4 new sizes of short-series standard right-angle hex keys, sizes ½", ½", ½", and two new long-series, sizes 8mm and 10mm. Featured are pouched sets No. LM12 with 12 metric-sized keys and No. SLK17 with 17 short-series keys. The



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wrench line is available in short, long, extra and foot-long series, and includes a wrench that can drive at angles up to 40° with full torque. These products are made of steel, are corrosion resistant and are heat treated for added strength.—

Vaco Products Co., 1510 Skokie Blvd., Northbrook IL 60062.

LED SAMPLER KIT, model EK-2, contains samples of LED indicator lights that can be used in breadboarding or building working prototypes. The kit consists of 28 different LED's and assem-



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blies in 21 styles and 3 colors, including plain, panel-mounted, and PC-board-mounted LED's, and complete assemblies that include current-limiting resistors and protective diodes. Price is \$10 postpaid with check or money order.—Industrial Devices, Inc., 7 Hudson Ave., Edgewater, NJ 07020

AC VOLT/AMMETER, model 30, The Grabber, is a clamp-on handheld instrument designed for fast accurate service checks on electronic equipment. The unit has a one-inch jaw opening, a sin-



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gle range switch, a lock switch for holding readings and an easy-to-read, large dial face. AC ranges are 0-300 amperes in six ranges and 0-continued on page 90

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For applications requiring standard signals, the Model 3010 low distortion function generator is offered. The 3010 generates sine, square, TTL square and triangle waveforms from 0.1Hz to 1MHz in six ranges. An external VCO input is provided for sweep frequency tests. Variable DC offset is included.

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600 volts in three ranges. Insulated test leads are disconnected when model 30 is set for AC current ranges. Optional accessories include a 0-1000 ohms plug-in adapter that is required for measuring resistance. The model can withstand momentary overloads and has an accuracy of 3% in all ranges. Frequency response of voltmeter is flat ± 1% of full scale from 20 to 5000 Hz. Price is \$65.—Triplett Corp., Dept. PR, 286 Harmon Rd., Bluffton, OH 45817.

TOOL KIT, model JTK-24, is a miniature and subminiature tool kit designed for servicing, repair and assembly of precision electronic equipment. It contains more than 120 tools including screwdrivers, nutdrivers, pliers, wrenches, drills, hex keys and many more. These tools are useful for repair of many types of equipment such optical,



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photographic, sound, broadcast and test equipment. Tools come in a 101/2 X 121/2-inch zippered case. Price is \$315.—Jensen Tools, Inc., 1230 South Priest Dr., Tempe, AZ 85281.

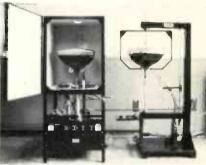
COLOR PATTERN GENERATOR, model 1250, is designed as a test signal source for station CATV as well as for maintenance and troubleshooting of video equipment, It generates the NTSC bar pattern with a -IWQ signal plus a full-screen color bar pattern. Other patterns include a staircase with selectable chroma levels, plus dot, crosshatch, center cross and color raster.



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Model 1250 also produces a 4.5 MHz sound carrier or an external audio signal, and generates RF outputs on either Channel 3, 4, or the standard TV IF frequency. Operating manual is included. Price is \$795.—B & K—Precision, 6460 W. Cortland St., Chicago, IL 60635.

PICTURE TUBE MACHINE, the latest in research and development, enables anyone to rebuild any CRT-color, black and white, 20 mm, foreign or domestic picture tube, in approximately two



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hours. Complete information and literature available.-Lakeside Industries, 4071 N. Elston Ave., Chicago, IL 60618.

DIGITAL PANEL METER, model B500, is a 31/2digit meter containing 13 parts-one IC, 7 passive components and a display. The unit is bipolar, differential and features auto-zero. The input



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range is from 50mV to 1000V. Requires either a 5VDC source or a 115/230 VAC, 47-400 Hz source. It consumes 200-800 mW and its accuracy is  $\pm 0.05\% \pm 1$  digit. The red LED display is 5 inches high. Price is \$49.00.-International Microtronics Corp., 4016 E. Tennessee St., Tucson,

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fed as a DC logic high to gate AND-1. (The other input of gate AND-1 is fed by the drum-rotation detector stage shown in Fig. 2.) A logic-high output goes to IC pin 15 when both detectors are working.

Near the end of the tape, the metallic strip severely loads down the Q of the supply-sensing coil. Oscillation stops, and the detector no longer sends a logic-high signal to the input of gate AND-1. A logic low goes to the autostop signal line and to gate AND-2 shown in Fig. 1.

Besides inhibiting any threading motion, the auto-stop signal triggers a driver stage that activates a STOP solenoid. The result is the same as you get from pressing the STOP pushbutton—tape transport ceases.

Rewind switching connects takeupsensing coil L6502 into the oscillatorfeedback loop. Again, as long as regular tape moves past the coil, the oscillator supplies a signal to the detector and (thus) a DC logic signal to gate AND-1. But when the metallic leader moves alongside the coil, the oscillation is loaded down and stops. A logic low at the input of gate AND-1 places a logic low on the auto-stop signal line.

You have already seen how the drumrotation detector works. If the videohead drum stops spinning, the pulse generator that is a part of the drum immediately stops generating a signal. The sensing stages no longer produce logic high for gate AND-1. Again, a logic low on the auto-sto signal line triggers the STOP solenoid and also (through gate AND-2) inhibits any threading (or unthreading) activity.

Dew sensor—Not all Beta machines include this protective system. It keeps the mechanism from operating if moisture has condensed in the works (that could damage tape seriously). Figure 5 is the diagram of the dew-sensing stage used in one Toshiba model.

The sensor itself is a resistance that decreases in value (generally to below 500,000 ohms) when moisture forms on its probes. The sensor is part of the feedback circuit in a dew-oscillator stage. No oscillation takes place as long as the sensor resistance is high. As the resistance lowers, the feedback becomes sufficient to start the oscillator.

Network R832-C820 feeds the oscillator-output signal to rectifiers D802-D803. Filter capacitor C819 charges to a negative DC value (note the orientation of the diodes). This negative voltage "bucks" to zero the normal logic high that is fed to the base of Q803 through R830.

A logic low at the base of Q803 creates a logic high at the collector,

and then again a logic low at the collector of Q804. We know that a logic low on the auto-stop line to the STOP-solenoid driver causes the solenoid to activate. The same logic low from Q804 goes to gate AND-2 and inhibits the threading system.

In the Toshiba model, the reed switch on the tape-slack detector arm is also connected at the base of Q803. Any slack in the tape closes the switch and plunges the Q803 base to a logic low. Transistor Q803 generates a logic high and transistor Q804 generates a logic low. The STOP solenoid is activated, and threading is inhibited too.

Now that we've examined the electronics, we'll break off this issue in order to give you time to digest what you have learned. Next time we'll take a close look at the electromechanical systems.





**APRIL 1980** 

### stereo products

More information on stereo products is available. Use the Free Information Card inside the back cover.

PHONO CARTRIDGE, model M95HE, is a topof-the-line phono cartridge incorporating a hyperelliptical nude diamond-tip stylus (model N95HE) that provides up to 25% reduction in distortion, and is also used with the model V15 Type



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/V cartridge. The *model M95HE* features an ultra-flat frequency response, light trackability and tracks at between ¾ and 1½ grams. Suggested retail prices: *M95HE*, \$89.50; *N95HE* stylus, \$34.—**Shure Brothers, Inc.**, 222 Hartrey Ave., Evanston, IL 60204.

GRAPHIC EQUALIZER, model GEM-1, is a five-band-per-channel instrument featuring center-



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detented linear controls, three tape-deck switches for record equalization, playback equalization and tape monitor, and a separate power supply for low noise. *Model GEM-1* also uses a system in which the user contours cards for a specific equalization setting. When a card is moved up the faceplate of the unit, all the frequency controls are automatically positioned. Another feature is narrow-bandwidth circuitry for minimum adjacent band interaction. All components are

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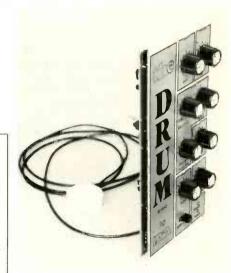
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mounted on a single glass epoxy PC board. Frequency response is 10 Hz to 150 KHz  $\pm$ 0.5 dB. Suggested retail price is \$89.95.—Superex Electronics Corp., 151 Ludlow St., Yonkers, NY 10705.

PERCUSSION SYNTHESIZER, the *Drum 5700*, is a versatile instrument that uses continuously variable controls for pitch modulation—up or down, oscillator waveform mix, noise filter frequency, and oscillator/noise mix. It features modular construction which allows it to configure any size drum set, and numerous rear panel patching and control points which allow multiple cards to be cascaded for a wide range of effects.

Other features include an encapsulated sensor that can be mounted permanently or temporarily to a drum set, and an optional cancel switch that



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disables the synthesizer when not in use. Price is \$59.95 for a kit; assembled units are also available.—PAIA Electronics, Inc., 1020 Wilshire Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK 73116.

DIRECT-DRIVE TURNTABLE, model 650 RC, is an automatic single-play turntable that can be operated in automatic, semiautomatic and manual modes, and has remote-control capability (optional). The turntable features a high-torque DC motor, an ultra-low-mass (ULM) tonearm (with optional ULM cartridge), gimbal suspension, pitch control, cue control, antiskating control and



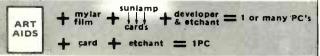
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32XA-1 kit makes 7 PC cards. \$28.00. 32X-1 starter kit makes 2 cards. \$11.50 If not available locally factory order-include \$3.00 shipping, U.S. only. Vector Electronic Co., 12460 Gladstone Av., Sylmar, CA 91342 \$10177

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an aluminum platter. The turntable comes complete with cover and base, and sells for a suggested retail price of under \$400. Optional cartridge, model 55E, \$110; and infra-red remote control, model RC 152, \$79.95.-United Audio Products, 120 So. Columbus Ave., Mt. Vernon, NY 10553.

SPEAKER SYSTEMS, a line of four speakers feature a unique total motor system that results in a higher than normal efficiency for acoustic suspension speakers. The 8-inch 2-way system, model 94-1200, is a lightweight compact speaker rated at 25 watts RMS with a frequency response of 45 to 20,000 Hz. The 10-inch 2-way system, model 94-1300, features a 10-inch woofer and



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wide dispersion and is rated at 35 watts RMS. The 10-inch 3-way system, model 94-1350 (shown), handles a power of 40 watts RMS; the 12-inch 3-way system, model 94-1400, has a 12inch woofer, 41/2-inch midrange, is rated at 45 watts RMS and has a frequency response of 35 to 20,000 Hz. Prices range from \$59.95 to \$99.95.-GC Electronics, 400 So. Wyman St., Rockford, IL

### **COLOR-BAR GENERATOR**

continued from page 71

Even video cameras may be tested with the model 1250. You can switch to an external video input signal by just pulling out the center knob of the RF switch. Feed the camera output signal into the EXT VIDEO IN on the rear panel and you can see the results on a video monitor or color TV set.

Also on the rear panel is a BNC output jack for the 3.579545 subcarrier. A frequency counter can be connected there to check the frequency, or the signal can be used for synchronizing other circuits. The signal is at the 1.0 volt level with no load and is matched for a 75 ohm input impedance.

The model 1250 is an accurate and very versatile piece of electronic equipment for any serious video engineer, technician, or anyone else in the field. It can be used for many tests in CATV and MATV systems, and also for closed-circuit TV systems. Up to now, equipment of such accuracy has been far too expensive for the average TV shop, and also too big to fit comfortably on the service bench.

The model 1250 is only a bit more than 4 inches tall and 17.5 inches wide. The jacks that you will use most often are on the front panel. All of the controls are conveniently arranged, which makes the model 1250 a very easy instrument to operate quickly.

All of the RF and IF signals are crystal controlled for greater accuracy. Each one has its own crystal oscillator for maximum stability. The sync-generator circuitry uses the latest LSI circuit design. A single integrated circuit generates all of the sync signals, again to strict NTSC standards. Even the newer TV receivers, which use a count-down IC to develop the sync signals will work here. Every one of the outputs of the model 1250 may be used at the same time. You could drive a video monitor with the video output and at the same time feed RF signals to a color TV set!

There's one other thing you can do with it, too. If you run into the hypercritical customer who insists that a problem is in his TV set (and you are almost sure that it is either a network goof or a local TV station goof!), you can show him that his set will indeed make the standard patterns and tell him that this is the kind of equipment that the TV station ought to be using!



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### books

RADIO OPERATOR'S LICENSE Q&A MANUAL (Revised Ninth Edition), by Milton Kaufman. Hayden Book Company, Inc., 50 Essex Street, Rochelle Park, NJ 07662. 646 pp. 51/4 × 81/4 in. Softcover \$8.95; cloth \$13.95.

The latest revision of this manual, which has been appearing regularly since 1949, is in complete accordance with the latest FCC Study Guides, the Supplements to the Study Guides, and the latest FCC Rules and Regulations. It's designed to prepare the student to take the radiotelephone examination for Third-Class, Second-Class, and First-Class licenses and for the Radar Endorsement. It contains all the information a student will need to take an examination for any class of radiotelephone operator's license.

The questions in each section are exactly the type of questions to be found in the official examinations, and at various stages sample FCC tests are printed. Questions are followed by clear, concise answers, and in many cases by a discussion of the matter at hand. It is the detailed discussions, accompanied by many diagrams, that make this single volume self-sufficient for the student

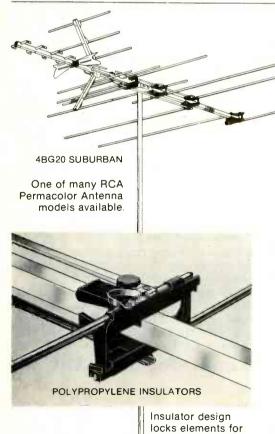
In addition to the elements, there is an extensive section on troubleshooting, which will give the student practice in solving the kind of problems that will be posed in FCC examinations.

THE DESIGN & DRAFTING OF PRINTED CIRCUITS, By Darryl Lindsey. Bishop Graphics, Inc., 5388 Sterling Center Drive, PO Box 5007, Westlake Village, CA 91359. 196 pp. 83/8 × 11 in. Hardcover; \$24.95.

This sturdily-bound book is designed for use in the workshop as well as the library and will remain open at any page to which you turn. Bishop is the world's largest manufacturer of printed circuit design products, and the present volume is an answer to many requests received for a comprehensive single volume on understanding, designing, and creating PC artwork. Both those who are experienced and the beginning electronic designer and draftsperson will find it a valuable "how to" guide.

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School in San Francisco, and has spent over 17 years as a printed circuit draftsman, designer, and PC supervisor in the commercial and military electronics field.

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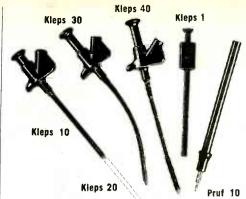
OSCILLOSCOPE APPLICATIONS & EXPERIMENTS, by Edward M. Noll. Howard W. Sams & Co., Inc., 4300 West 62nd St., Indianapolis, IN 46268. 223pp. 51/4 × 83/8 in. Softcover. \$8.95.

For both the neophyte and the advanced technician, this book covers the entire range of oscilloscope application fundamentals and technics. After a chapter on basics there are two chapters dealing with oscilloscope applications in audio, AM/FM receivers, and TV receivers. The fourth chapter emphasizes two-way radio applications, particularly in reference to modulation checks and waveform analysis. The last two chapters go into the dualtrace oscilloscope and applications in digital electronic circuits. Each chapter in the book includes suggested learning experiments. They will aid in developing new skills necessary to make the most effective use of the modern oscilloscope.

HANDBOOK OF ELECTRONICS CALCULATIONS FOR ENGINEERS AND TECHNICIANS, Edited by Milton Kaufman and Arthur H. Seidman. McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1221 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020, 668pp. 6 × 9 in. Hardcover; \$24.50.

Each of the 24 chapters in this handbook is written by an expert in its particular area, and the volume as a whole covers around 500 worked-out problems ranging from microprocessors to thick-film technology. There are over 700 illustrations.

The subjects covered are: Technical math review, DC circuit analysis, AC circuit analysis, Selecting R, L, and C components. Selecting semiconductor devices, audio amplifiers, tuned amplifiers, feedback, oscillators, power supplies, batteries and special skills, op amp applications, digital logic, computer-aided circuit design, analog-to-digital conversion, video amplifiers, microprocessors, transmission lines, filters, antennas, microwaves, communications systems, measurements, and thick-film technology. There are also 23 pages of appendices, and an index. The publishers state that the present volume is the first fully comprehensive electronics handbook that can help you solve the day-to-day problems of electronics engineers and technicians in a practical way



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3A3	1.50	1.70	eFQ7/ECG7	1.15	1.30	8CG7	1.10	1.25
3AW3	1.50	1.70	6GF7A	1.95	2.25	12AU7A/ECC82	1.15	1.30
3CY3	1.60	1.85	<del>6</del> GH8A	1.15	1.35	12AV6	1.10	1.25
3DB3	1.60	1.85	6GM6	1.55	1.80	12AX7/ECC83	1.15	1.30
	1.40	1.60	6GU7	1.55	1.80	12GN7	2.10	2.35
3HA5			EHA5	1.45	1.60	12HG7	2.10	2.35
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### 600 mHz COUNTER



The CT-70 breaks the price barrier on lab quality frequency counters No longer do you have to settle for a kit, half-kit or poor performance. the CT-70 is completely wired and tested, features professional quality construction and specifications, plus is covered by .. one year warranty. Power for the CT-70 is provided by four 'AA' size batteries or 12 volts, AC or DC, available as options are a nicad battery pack. and AC adapter. Three selectable frequency ranges, each with its own pre-amp, enable you to make accurate measurements from less than 10 Hz to greater than 600 mHz. All switches are conveniently located on the front panel for ease of operation, and a single input jack eliminates the need to change cables as different ranges are selected. Accurate readings are insured by the use of a large 0.4 inch seven digit LED display, a 1.0 ppm TCXO time base and a handy LED gate light indicator.

The CT-70 is the answer to all your measurement needs, in the field, in the lab, or in the ham shack. Order yours today, examine it for 10 days, if you're not completely satisfied, return the unit for a prompt and courteous refund.

### Specifications

Frequency range: Sensitivity:

Stability

Input protection: Input impedance:

Power: Gate: Decimal point: 10 Hz to over 600 mHz less than 25 my to 150 mHz less than 150 mv to 600 mHz

1.0 ppm, 20-40°C; 0.05 ppm/°C TCXO crystal time base

7 digits, LED, 0.4 inch height 50 VAC to 60 mHz, 10 VAC to 600 mHz 1 megohm, 6 and 60 mHz ranges 50 ohms, 600 mHz range 4 'AA' cells, 12 V AC/DC 0.1 sec and 1.0 sec LED gate light

Automatic, all ranges 5"W x 1 1/2"H x 51/2"D 1 lb with batteries

### Prices

Weight:

CT-70 wired + tested	99.95
AC adapter	4.95
Nicad pack with AC adapter/charger	
Telescopic whip antenna, BNC plug	
Tilt bail assembly	
CT-70 Kit Form	75.95

### ramseų electronics

BOX 4072, ROCHESTER, N.Y. 14610 PHONE ORDERS CALL (716) 271-6487

Dynamic Bias Class "A" circuit design makes this unit unique in its class. Crystal clear, 100 watts power output will satisfy the most picky fans. A perfect combination with the TA-1020 low T.I.M. stereo pre-amp.

Specifications

- Output power: 100W RMS into 8-ohm 125W RMS into 4-ohm Frequency response: 10Hz 100 KHz
- : less than 0.008%
- S/N ratio: better than 80dB
- Input sensitivity: IV max. Power supply: ±40V @ 5 amp



TA-1000 KIT \$51.95

Power transformer \$15.00 each

### **PROFESSIONAL 10 OCTAVE STEREO GRAPHIC EQUALIZER!!**



Graphic equalizer have been used for years in sound studios and concert arenas but were too expensive to be considered for home use. Now we offer you the facility at an affordable price. This unit can extend your control of your Hi-Fi system by minimizing the non-linearities of the combined speaker/room system contaction fortune as follows: Fantastic features as follows:

- 10 double slide controls for two channels Cut out rumble, surface noise and hiss
- Minimizes speaker/room non-linearities Frequency response from 30Hz to 16KHz
- 10 tone controls plus defeat, monitor and tape
- selector
- Control range ± 12dB in 10 octaves (30Hz, 60Hz, 120Hz, 240Hz, 500Hz, 1KHz, 2KHz, 4KHz, 8KHz,
- Operating voltage 117V 50/60Hz.

FACTORY ASSEMBLED UNIT, NOT A KIT SPECIAL PRICE \$117.00 ea

### SUB MINI SIZE FET CONDENSER MICROPHONE



Specification: Sensitivity: — 65dB ± 3db FEQ. Response: 50 Hz 8 KHz Output Impedance: 1K ohm max Polar Pattern: Omni-directional Power Supply: 1.5V - 10V D. Sound Pressure Level: Max. 1 120dB EM4RP \$2.50 ea. or 2 for \$4.50



### NEW MARK III 9 Steps 4 Colors **LED VU**

Stereo level indicator kit with arc-shape display panel!!! This Mark III LED level indicator is a new design PC board with an arc-shape 4 colors LED display (change color from red, yellow, green and the peak output indicated by rose). The power range is very large, from —30dB to +5dB. The Mark III indicator is applicable to 1 watt - 200 watts amplifier operating voltage is 3V - 9V DC at max 400 MA. The circuit uses 10 LEDs per channel. It is very easy to connect to the amplifier. Just hook up with the speaker output! speaker output!

IN KIT FORM \$18.50

### **MARK II SOUND ACTIVATED SWITCH KIT**



A new designed circuit employed 2 I.C., a DPDT relay with a led indicator. A condensor microphone comes with the kit. The relay can handle up to 200 watts contact to allow to control most things. Just click the finger, the relay will close, the sec-ond click will release it

Sensitivity can be adjusted by an on board trim-pot. Operating voltage 9V D.C.
TY-18
\$8.50 PER KIT

### MARK IV 15 STEPS LED POWER LEVEL INDICATOR KIT

stereo level indicator kit consists of 36 4color LED (15 per channel) to indicate the sound level output of your amplifier from  $-36\text{dB} \sim +3\text{dB}$ . Comes with a well-designed silk screen printed plastic panel and has a selector switch to allow floating or gradual output indicating. Power supply is 6 ~ 12V D.C. with THG on board input sensitivity con-This unit can work with any amplifier from 1W to 200W

Kit includes 70 pcs. driver transistors, 38 pcs. matched 4-color LED, all other electronic components. PC board and front panel.



**MARK IV KIT \$31.50** 

### 30W + 30W STEREO HYBRID AMPLIFIER KI

It works in 12V DC as well! Kit includes 1 PC SANYO STK-043 stereo power amp. IC LM 1458 as pre amp. other electronic parts, PC Board, all control pots and special hea



\$32.50 PER KIT

sink for hybrid. Power transformer not in-cluded. It produces ultra hi-fi output up to 60 watts (30 watts per channel) yet gives out less than 0.1% total harmonic distortion between 100Mz

### BATTERY POWERED **FLUORESCENT LANTERN**

MODEL 888 B



\$10.50 FA

**FEATURES**  Circuitry: designed for operation by high efficient, high power silicon transistor which enable illumination maintain in a standard level even the battery supply drops to a certain low voltage. 9" 6W cool/daylight miniature fluores-

cent tube. 8 x 1.5V UM-1 (size D) dry cell battery Easy sliding door for changing batteries Stainless reflector with wide angle in-creasing lumination of the lantern.



COMPLETED UNIT - NOT A KIT!

OCL pre amp. & power stereo amp. with bass, mid-dle, treble 3-way tone control. Fully assembled and tested, ready to work. Total harmonic distortion less than 0.5% at full power. Output maximum is 60 watts per channel at  $8\Omega$ . Power supply is 24 - 36V AC or DC. Complete unit. Assembled \$49.50 ea Power transformer

### **5W AUDIO AMP KIT**



2 LM 380 with Volume Control Power Suply 6 18V DC ONLY \$6.00 EACH

### PROFESSIONAL PANEL METERS



0-50UA 0-30VDC A B 8.50 ea. 8.50 ea. 8.50 ea. 0-50VDC 0-3400 0-100VDC 9.00 ea

All meters white face with black

Type MU-52E

scales. Plastic cover SPECIAL 0.5" LED SALE ALARM CLOCK MODULE

ASSEMBLEO! NOT A KIT!

Features: • 4 digits 0.5" LED Displays • 12 hours real time format • 24 hours alarm audio output • 59 min. countdown timer • 10 min. snooze control.



ONLY S7.00 EACH SPECIAL TRANSFORMER FOR CLOCK (FREE)

### **DIGITAL AUTO** SECURITY SYSTEM

4 DIGITS PERSONAL CODE!! SPECIAL \$19.95

proximity triggered

voltage triggered mechanically triggered

This alarm protects you and itself! Entering protected area will set it off, sounding your car horn or siren you add. Any change in voltage will also trigger the alarm into action. If cables within passenger compartment are cut, the unit protects itself by sounding the alarm. 3-WAY PROTECTION!

All units factory assembled and tested - Not a kit

### A NEW LED ARRAY AND **DRIVER FOR** LEVEL METERS

This series covers a wide range of level indication uses, output and input voltage, time related change, temperature, light measurement and sound level. The problem of uneven brilliance often encountered with LED arrangements as well as design problems caused by using several units of varying size are substantially reduced. 12 LEDs in one bar:

LED ARRAY GL-112R3 Red, Red, Red GL-112N3 Green, Yellow, Red GL-112M2 Green, Green, Red \$6.50 GI -112G3 Green, Green, Green \$6.50

72.

2 28"



### LED DRIVERS

1R 2406G is an I.C. specially designed to drive. 12 LED. The number of LED is lineally illuminated acto the control voltage input terminal 21 g voltage is 9 12V D.C. S5.35 EACH Operating voltage is 9

### PROFESSIONAL FM WIRELESS MICROPHONE

TECT model WEM-16 is a factory assembled FM wire-less microphone powered by an AA size battery. Transmits in the range of 88-108MHz with 3 transistor circuits and an omni-directional electric condenser. Element built-in plastic tube type case; mike is 6¼" long. With a standard FM radio, can be heard anywhere on a one-acre lot; sound quality was judged very good. -

\$16.50

### FLASHER LED

Unique design combines a jumbo red LED with an IC flasher chip in one package. Operates directly from 5V-7V DC. No dropping resistor neded. Pulse rate 3Hz @ 5V 20mA.

2 for \$2.20

### BIPOLAR LED RED/GREEN

2 colors in one LED, green and red, changes color when reverse voltage supply. Amazing! when reverse voltage supply. Ama 2 FOR \$1.60

### LCD CLOCK MODULE!

 0.5" LCD 4 digits display
 X'tal controlled circuits
 D.C. powered (1.5V battery)
 12 hr. or 24 hr. display
 24 hr. alarm set
 60 min. countdown timer On board dual back-up lights • Dual time zone display • Stop watch function.

NIC1200 (12 hr) \$24.50 EA NIC2400 (24 hr) \$26.50 EA



### MINI-SIZED I.C. AM RADIO

Size smaller than a box of matches Receives all AM stations Batteries and ear phones included

Only \$10.50



### 12 DC MINI RELAY

6V	SPDT	2 AMP	1.30	
2V	SPDT	3 AMP	1.60	
2V	DPDT	2 AMP	2.50	
2V	4PDT	3 AMP	3.50	AAA

LINEAR SLIDE POT

5009 SINGLE Metal Case 3" Long 2 FOR \$1.20



### FLUORESCENT LIGHT DRIVER KIT



With Case Only \$6.50 Per Kit

12V DC POWERED Lights up 8 -15 Watt Fluorescent Light Tubes. for camper, outdoor, auto or boat. Kit includes high voltage coil, power transistor heat sink all other electro nic parts and PC Board, light tube not included!

### SUPER FM WIRELESS MIC KIT - MARK III



EMC-105

This new designed circuit uses high FEQ. FET transistors with 2 stages pre amp. Transmits FM Range (88-120 MHz) up to 2 blocks away and with the ultra sensitive condenser microphone that comes with the kit, allows you to pick up any sound within 15 ft. away! Kit includes all electronic parts, OSC coils, and P.C. \$11.50 PER KIT Board. Power supply 9V D.C.

### PRESS-A-LIGHT SELF GENERATED FLASHLIGHT



because it has none! Easy to carry in pocket and handy to use. Ideal for emergency light. It generates its own electricity by squeezing grip lever. Put one in your car, boat, camper or home. You

### **ELECTRONIC DUAL** SPEAKER PROTECTOR



Cut off when circuit is shorted or over load to protect your amplifier as well as your speakers. A must for OCL circuits.

KIT FORM S8.75 EA

### "FISHER" 30 WATT STEREO AMP



Super Buy Only \$18.50

MAIN AMP (15W x 2) Kit includes 2 pcs. Fisher PA 301 Hybrid IC all electronic parts with PC Board. Power supply ± 16V DC (not included). Powband with (KF 1% ± 3dB). Voage gain 33dB. 20Hz - 20KHz.

### **SUPER 15 WATT** AUDIO AMP KIT

Uses STK-015 Hybrid Power Amp
Kit includes: STK-015 Hybrid IC, power supply with
power transformer, front Amp with tone control, all
electronic parts as well as PC Board. Less than
0.5% harmonic distortion at full power ½dB response from 20-100,000 Hz.
This amplifier has QUASI—
Complimentary class B out-



Complimentary class B output. Output max is watt (10 watt RMS) at 49. ONLY \$23.50 each

### **HICKOK LX303** DIGITAL LCD MULTIMETER



• 3½ digits display • 200 hours 9V battery life • Auto zero; polarity; overrange indication • 100MV DC. F.S. sensitivity • 19 ranges and functions • D.C. volt: 0.1 MV to 1000V • A.C. volt: 0.1 V to 600 V • Resistance: 0.1 $\Omega$  to 20 M $\Omega$  • D.C current: 0.01 A to 100 MA

**OUR PRICE \$71.45** 

### **PUSH-BUTTON SWITCH**



N/Open Contact Color: Red, White, Blue, Green, Black 3/\$1.00 N/Close also Available 50¢ each LARGE QTY, AVAILABLE

**HEAVY DUTY CLIP LEADS** 

10 pairs - 5 colors Alligator clips on a long lead. Ideal for any testing \$2.20/pack

### MANY SOUND DECISIONS!



Solid state sound indicator operating voltage 6V DC 30µA. Small size approximately 3/4"x11/4".

MAMA

Model EB2116 (Continuous) Model EB2126 (Slow Pulse) Model EB2136 (Fast Pulse) S3 60 EACH







"C" SIZE **BATTERY PACK** 

10 C size ni-cd battery in dng pack, gives out 12.5V D.C. 1.8 amp per hour. All fresh code, pull-out from movie cameras. Can be disconnected to use as single c cells. Hard to find \$15.00 per pack of 10 batteries

### **ELECTRONIC ALARM SIREN**



AU-999 \$7.50

COMPLETE UNIT Ideal for use as an Alarm Unit or hookup to your car back-up to make a reverse indicator. Light Output up to 130dB. Voltage sup-ply 6 12V ply 6

### SUB MINIATURE TOGGLE SWITCH

SPST 2 FOR 280 SPDT 2 FOR 3.20 6 AMP 125V AC CONTACT

### TRANSFORMERS

	ALL 117 VOLT	INPUT
30V	4 AMP	\$8.50 EA
36V CT	3 AMP	\$10.50 EA
48V CT	3 AMP	\$10.50 EA
24V CT	3 AMP	\$10.50 EA
24V CT	0.8 AMP	\$2.50 EA
12V CT	0.5 AMP	\$2.50 EA
12V CT	120 MA	\$1.80 E#

### AC POWER SUPPLY

	Wall Type	Transformer	
12V AC	Output	200 MA	\$2,75 E
16V CT AC	Output	100 MA	\$2.10 E
6V DC	Output	120 MA	\$1.90 E/
12V DC	Output	100 MA	\$1.90 E/



ULTRASONIC SWITCH KIT

Kit includes the Ultra Sonic Transducers, 2 PC Boards for transmitter and receiver. All electronic parts and instructions. Easy to build and a lot of uses such as remote control for TV, garage door, alarm system or remote control for TV, garage door, alarm syste counter. Unit operates by 9-12 DC. \$15.50

### COMPLETE TIME MODULE



0.3" digits LCD Clock Module with month and date, hour, minute and seconds. As well as stop watch function!! Battery and back up light is with the module. Size of the module is 1" dia. Ideal for Size of the module is a unaccomment use in auto panel, computer, instrument \$8.95 EACH

### SOUND ACTIVATED SWITCH



All parts completed on a PC Board SCR will turn on relay, buzzer or trigger other circuit for 2 - 10 sec. (adjustable). Ideal for use as door alarm, sound controlled toys and many other projects. Supply voltage 4.5V 9V D.C. 2 for \$3.00 2 for \$3.00

### FM WIRELESS MIC KIT



It is not a pack of cigarettes. It is a new FM wireless mic kit! New de-sign PC board fits into a plastic cigarette box (case included). Uses a condensor microphone to allow you to have a better response in pick-up. Transmits up to 350 ft.! With an LED indicator to signal the unit is on #FMM2 KIT FORM \$7.95

side California utside Calif. (includes Mexico & Canada)

### REGULATED DUAL VOLTAGE SUPPLY KIT

±4 30V DC 800 MA adjustable, fully regulated by Fairchild 78MG and 79MG voltage regulator I.C.



Kit includes all electro-nic parts, filter capaciheat sinks and P.C. board

\$12.50 PER KIT

### SPECIAL SALE AA SIZE NI-CD

RECHARGEABLE SATTERIES LIMITED QUANTITY AVAILABLE

### 4 FOR \$3.60

### **BECKMAN FET** IQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY

Overall size 2" x 1.2" 0-5" characters reflective type.

Model 737-01 — for clock 4 digits with PM, alarm, snooze, colen indicators. Model 739-04 — for panel meter 4

Model 739-03 — for panel meter 31/2 digits with ± sign and over range indicator.

All displays include zeber connectors and front bezel. With data sheets.

Your choice — any model \$7.50 EACH

### 88:88

8.8:8.8 739-04

₹.8:8.8

### POWER SUPPLY KIT

0-30V D.C. REGULATED
Uses UA723 and ZN3055 Power TR output can be adjusted from 0-30V, 2 AMP. Complete with PC board and all electronic parts. Transformer for Power Supply, 2 AMP 24V x 2 \$8.50



0-30 Power Supply \$10.50 each

### I.C. TEST CLIPS Same as the E-Z clips \$2.75

\$2.75 With 20" Long Leads In Black and Red Colors per pair



### SOUND GENERATOR I.C.

Creates almost any type of sound — gun shot, ex-plosion, train, car crash, star war, birds, organ ext. A built-in audio amplifier provides high level output. Operates from one 9V battery, 28 pin dip; we supply the datas. \$2.90 EACH

### **ELECTRONIC SWITCH KIT**

CONDENSER TYPE Touch On Touch Off uses 7473 I.C. and 12V relay \$5.50 each



### 1 WATT AUDIO AMP

All parts are pre-assembled on a mini PC Board, Supply Voltage 6 Supply Voltage 6 9V D.C. SPECIAL PRICE \$1.95 ea.



### LOW TIM DC STEREO PRE-AMP KIT TA-10 20

Incorporates brand-new D.C. design that gives frequency response from  $OHz - 100 \text{KHz} \pm 0.5$ 

frequency response from OHz — 100KHz ±0.5dBt;
Added features like tone defeat and loudness control
let you tailor your own frequency supplies to eliminate power fluctuation!
Specifications: • T.H.D. less than .005% • T.I.M.
less than .005% • Frequency response: DC to 100KHz
±0.5dB • RIAA deviation: ±0.2dB • S/N ratio: better than 70dB • Sensitivity: Phono 2MV 47K/Aux.
100MV 100K • Output level: 1.3V • Max. output: 15V
• Tone control: bass • 10dB @ 50HZ/treble ±1ddB \*\*Tone control: bass ±10dB @ 50Hz/treble ±10dB @ 15Hz \* Power supply: ±24 D.C. @ 0.5A Kit comes with regulated power supply, all you need is a 48V C.T. transformer @ 0.5A

**ONLY \$44.50** 'former



### SOLID STATE **ELECTRONIC BUZZER**

Mini size 1" x ¾" x ¾" Supply voltage 1.5V - 12V deal for Alarm or Tone Indicator



4/80



FORMULA INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING AND HANDLING CHARGES Under \$50,00 purchase | Over \$50,00 purchase

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-			
1	40-TWO WATT RESISTORS, carbo-films, carbons, some 5%ers, (#456)	1.29	80 for 1.30
	50-TERMINAL STRIPS, asst'd solder and screw types, 2 lugs & up, (#334)	1.29	100 for 1.30
Ε		1.29	2 for 1.30
		1.29	20 for 1.30
		1.29	12 for 1.30
1 🗆		1.29	8 for 1.30
		1.29	130 for 1.30
		1.29	80 for 1.30
		1.29	80 for 1.30
		1,29	40 for 1.30
		1.29	2 for 1.30
		1.29	20 for 1.30
1 5		1.29	4 for 1.30
[		1.29	2 for 1.30
		1.29	100 for 1.30
[		1.29	80 for 1.30
1 5		1.29	80 for 1.30
5		1.29	
9		1.29	
		1.29	
1 2		1,29	20 for 1.30 20 for 1.30
là		1.29	
Ιċ		1.29	
Ìò			20 for 1.30
1 5		1.29	8 for 1.30
lс	6-CABLE & PLUG SET, 2 cond. 2.5mm mini plug w/6'polarized cable; (#5737)	1,29	12 for 1.30
ĺ	10-RESISTOR NETWORKS, assorted values in dips and singles, (#5699)	1.29	20 for 1.30
( [	5-ASSORTED EDGE CONNECTORS, mixed 4 & 6 pin, double-sided, (#6362)	1.29	10 for 1.30
-			



### HY-GAIN ONE ARM BANDIT \$14.99

MIKES Take one hand command of your mobile or base jig with Hy Gains One Arm Bandit Mike ON/OFF VOLUME. SQUELCH, CHANNEL SELECTOR, SFEAKER, and DIGITAL DISPLAY are all conveniently located where your fingers do the talking comes with 6 it multi-conductor, belor-coded, coiled cable, ucparatel for easy integration into any type of Fig. Size 40% 20% 10% W. 3 or No. 2009886

(	2-DOUBLE-SIDED PC BOARDS, 3"x12" high quality G-10 glass, (#5694)	1.29	4 for 1.30	
1	60-TUBULAR CAPACITORS, asst'd 100mmf to .1mf to 600 WVDC, (#35A219)	1.29	120 for 1.30	
١	6-MICRO MINI REED SWITCHES, 1" long, for alarms, relays, etc., (#1258)	1.29	12 for 1.30	
l	☐ 10-TANTALUM ELECTROS, asst'd mini, axial, hermetically sealed, (#5848)	1.29	20 for 1.30	
l	□ 50-DISC TYPE CAPS, incl; NPO, hi-Q, mylar, ceramics, asst'd values, (#437)	1.29	100 for 1.30	
l	60-COILS & CHOKES, asst'd RF, OSC, IF, parasitic types, (#35A297)	1.29	120 for 1.30	
l	6-SWITCHCRAFT PHONO JACKS, hi-Q, chasis mounl, teflon base, (#5119).	1.29	12 for 1.30	
l	☐ 30-SUBMINI IF TRANSFORMERS, asst, slug tuned, shielded, (#35A9)	1.29	60 for 1,30	1
ı	40-ADJUSTABLE FERRITE CORES, center cut for hex adjust, (#5701)	1.29	80 for 1.30	
ł	☐ 10-PC TRIMPOTS, screwdriver adjust, assorted values, (#3346)	1.29	20 for 1.30	1
۱	25-4" CABLE TIES, plastic, like Ty-wrap style, (#5217)	1.29	50 for 1,30	1
ı	5-CRYSTALS, may include; CB, ham various shapes and sizes, (#5716)	1.29	10 for 1.30	1
l	3-MICRO SWITCHES, SPST, NO contacts, plunger style, solder tabs, (#5785)	1.29	6 for 1.30	1
l	65-MOLEX SOCKETS, "on-a-strip", for 8-40 pin ICs (#1609)	1.29	130 for 1.30	
l	6-PAIRS 9V BATTERY CLIPS, w/red & black color-coded leads, (#2852)	1.29	12 for 1.30	1
ı	☐ 6-LM340T VOLTAGE REGULATORS, 5 to 24 volts, TO-220, (#5897)	1.29	12 for 1.30	1
ı	☐ 40-POLYSTYRENE CAPACITORS, asst'd values and voltages, (#1052)	1.29		1
l	☐ 15-THERMISTORS, resistors that change with the temperature, (#2048)	1.29	30 for 1.30	1
1	65-14 WATT RESISTORS, asst'd values, metal film, marked, (#5797)	1,29	130 for 1.30	1
1	☐ 10-MODULAR SWITCHES, Centralab "push-on" type, up to 4PDT, (#3150).	1.29	20 for 1.30	1
ı	5-"MOTORS MOTORS", small, high speed, asst'd sizes, 3-6VDC, (#2551)	1.29	10 for 1.30	1
l	50-MICAS asst. sizes-n-shapes, incl. "silvers" too! (#373)	1.29	100 for 1.30	ı
	□ 10-TRANSISTOR SOCKETS, for npn and pnp types, (#3845)	1.29	20 for 1.30	1
l	4-HO88Y VOLTAGE REGULATORS, LM-309, 320, 340's, TO-3, (#3330A)	1,29		1
ı	12-PANEL SWITCHES, assorted slides, rotaries, modulars, etc. (#295)			ı
I	60-RESIST OR SPECIAL, ¼ to 1 watt, carbons, carbo-films, etc. (#35B96)	1.29		ı
ı	65-HALF WATT RESISTORS, asstd. carbons, carbo-films, various values, (#454)		130 for 1.30	ı
ı	15-HUMBUCKER CONTROLS, assorted values. manufacturers dump, (#3807)	1.29		ì
ı	1.POWER TAR TRIAC 100% orime, 400 V 10 A TO-220 (#62.16)	1.29	2 for 1.30	۱

### FLIP-OVER' DIGITAL CLOCK

2 for 115 VAC Operation Built-In Alarm Function With

24 Hour Dial Indicator

34" High White Numerals

92006336

\$699





We honor MASTERCHARCE, VISA, check, and COD (25% down). Order by phone or mail. Minimum order \$2 Please state Cat. No. & description, name & month of magazing. Postage: Canadian; add \$5, Foreign; add \$10 (US funds). Excess will be returned. ERMS: add postage, RATED: Net-30. Phone:(6171 245-3826

552 Summit Ave. Uestfield, NJ, 07090 (201) 654-6008

### MOTION DETECTOR

Completely assembled on circuit board with capacitors
Specs and application notes included—4.95

3¼" X 2.X 1¼" case with mtng tabs/3.00

CRYSTALS—3.579545 MHz 99¢ 6.0 MHz 2.95

JUMBO LED's Green, 7/1.00-Yellow, 7/1.00-Red, 10/1.00 100/13.00 100/13.00 100/9.00 MOUNTING CLIPS—12/1.00

7 SEG Displays (comp. grade) 3"/95¢-6"/1.45 (specify ann. or cath.) AM/FM RADIO CHIP—(#4408) 2.00 or 3/5.00 Complete AM/FM IC-external IF required

DIPPED TANTALUMS .47 µf 35V (1" leads) 10/1.00

SUPER SUB MINI LYTICS

1" rad. leads, by Nichicon)
1000μf 50V (11/4" L × 1/4 W), 75¢ or 10/6.00
47 μf 25V (1/4" L × 1/4" W), 10/\$1.00
400μf 330V (photo flash or laser circuits)-2/1.00

COMPUTER GRADE TWIST LOCKS 3200 µf 50V (ideal for power supplies) 1.00 1000 µf 50V—1.00 1000 µf 185V—2.00

DISCS-.001 1KV 25/1.00, .1 50V 15/1.00

HEAT SENSITIVE SWITCH-4/1.00 self contained unit opens at 150 C

9 DIGIT FLUORESCENT DISPLAY by NEC complete with driving circuitry-2.50

EXTRA LOUD 9V BUZZER-3/2.00

WALL PLUG ADAPTER—5VDC @ 160ma-1.50

6.3V 1.2 Amp Transformer—1.75
MINI AUDIO TRANSFORMERS—3/1.00

DIGITAL MOTION/UNIT COUNTER MODULE (Fairchild) with large 4 digit display & specs-7.00 8035 Microprocessor, 17.00

INTERFACE CHIP-D8243

BRAND NEW ITEM FREQUENCY COUNTER CHIP ICM 7225 IPL

(40 pin), with on board dividers, decoders/drivers. 18.95-specs included

A/D CONVERTER by Datel
ADC-MC8BC-8 bit analog to digital converter,
high speed- 18.00

D/A CONVERTER- DAC- 088C- 8 bit- 12.00 μα 741 OP AMPS (mini-dip) 4/1.00 ZENER DIODES—20V 1 amp 10/1.00

BRIDGES 1½ amp/.50.6 amp/2.00, 25 amp/1.00

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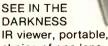
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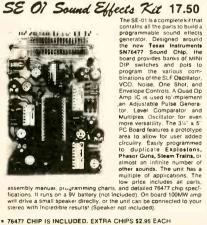
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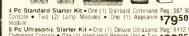


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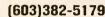
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### Whisper Light Kit

An interesting kit, small mike picks up sounds and converts them to light. The louder the

\$6.95

picks up sounds and converts them to light. The louder the sound, the brighter the light. Includes mike, controls up to 300 W, runs on 110 VAC. Complete kit, WL-1

Tone Decoder
A complete tone decoder on a single PC board. Features: 400-5000 Hz adjustable range via 20 turn pot, voltage regulation, 567 IC. Useful for touchtone burst detection. FSK, etc.

Can also be used as a stable tone encoder. Runs on 5 to 12 volts. Complete kit, TD-1 \$5.95

### Siren Kit

### Car Clock

### The UN-KIT, only 5 solder connections

Here's a super looking, rugged and accurate auto clock, which is a snap to build and install. Clock movement is completely assembled — you only solder 3 wires and 2 switches, takes about 15 minutes! Display is bright green with automatic brightness control photocell — assures you of a highly readable display, day or night. Comes In a satih linish anodized aluminum case which can be attached 5 different ways using 2 sided tape. Choice of silver, black or gold case (specify).

DC-3 kit. 12 hour format DC-3 wired and tested

### Universal Timer Kit

Provides the basic parts and PC board required to provide a source of precision timing and pulse generation. Uses 555 timer IC and includes a range of parts for most timing needs.

UT-5 Kit

### Mad Blaster Kit

Produces LOUD ear shattering and attention getting siren like sound Can supply up to 15 watts of obnoxious audio Runs on 6-15 VDC

MR-1 Kit

Produces upward and downward wail characteristic of a police siren. 5 W peak audio output, runs on 3-15 volts, uses 3-45 ohm

Complete kit, SM-3

60 Hz Time Base
Suns on 5-15 VDC Low current (25ma) 11
in/month accuracy T8-7 Kii \$5.50
\$9.95

Crystals

AC Outlet

DISK CERAMIC. 01 16V disk 20/\$1.00 1 16V 15/\$1.00 001 16V 20/\$1.00 100 pF 20/\$1.00 .047 16V 20/\$1.00

\$1.50

\$5.00

3.579545 MHZ

Calendar Alarm Clock
The clock that's got it all: 6-.5" LEDs.
12/24 hour, snooze, 24 hour alarm, 4

Under Uash Car Ciock

12/24 hour clock in a beautruli plastic case features:
6 | umbo RED LEOS, high accuracy (,001%), easy
3 wire hookup, display blanks with [pintion, and
super instructions. Optional dimmer atuomatically
adjusts display to ambien] light level

DC-11 clock with mig brackel

DM-1 dimmer adapter

Add \$10.00 Assy and Test

Under Oash Car Clock

A completely self-contained, stand alone wideo terminal card. Requires only an ASCII keyboard and TV self to become a complete terminal unit. Features are: single 5V supply, XT AL controlled sync and baud crises (no 860), complete computer and keyboard control of cursor. Partly represented display was scrolling, upper and lower case (optional) and has RS-232 and 20ma loop interfaces on board. Kits scrolling, upper and lower case (optional) and has RS-232 and 20ma loop interfaces on board. Kits include sockets and complete documentation. RE 6416, terminal card kit (add \$60.00 for wired unit). S189-95. Lower Case option.

S189-95. Power Supply. S189-95. S14,95. S14,95. S14,95. S14,95. S189-95. S14,95. S

6.95

### **PARTS PARADE**

### IC SPECIALS

LINEAR

CMOS

4011

4518 5639

\$1.50 \$.45 \$1.00 \$1.00 \$1.00 \$1.25 10/\$2.00 \$.50 \$.50 \$2.95 \$2.95

### 74S00 7447 7475 7490 74196 \$ .50

### SPECIAL \$17.50

### \$13,50

11C90 10116 7208 7207A 7207A 7216D 7107C 5314 5375AB/G 7001

\$ 5.50 \$21.00 \$12.50 \$ 2.95 \$ 2.95 \$ 6.50

### Mini 8 ohm Speaker Approx 2%" diam. Round type for radios, mike etc. 3 for \$2.00

.40 .65 .50

**FERRITE BEADS** With info and specs 6 Hole Balun Beads Sockets

### \$2.00 \$1.75

READOUTS 10/\$2.00 14 Pin 16 Pin 10/\$2.00 FND 359 .4" C C \$1.00 10/\$2.00 FND 507/510 5"C.A 24 Pin 28 Pin 40 Pin MAN 72/HP7730 .33"C.A. 1.00 HP 7651 43"C.A 2.00

### TRANSISTORS

2N3904 NPN C+F 15/\$1.00 2N3906 PNP C+F 15/\$1.00 15/\$1.00 15/\$1.00 15/\$1.00 .4/\$1.00 .5/\$1.00 .4/\$1.00 ..\$1.50 2N4403 PNP C+F 2N4410 NPN C+F 2N4916 FET C+F... 2N5401 PNP C+F... 2N6028 C+F... 2N3771 NPN Silicon 2N5179 UHF NPN Power Tab NPN 40W. 3/\$1.00 3/1.00 MPF 102/2N5484

### 4/\$2.00 3/\$2.00

5.1 V Zener 20/\$1.00 1N914 Type 50/\$1.00 1KV 2Amp 8/\$1.00 100V 1Amp 15/\$1.00

100V Bridge \$1.50 each

### 25 AMP

Mini-Bridge 50V 1 AMP 4 for \$1.00

### Resistor Ass't

Assortment of Popular values - ¼ watt. Cut lead for PC mounting, ½" center, ½" leads, bag of 300 or more.

10 00000 MHZ 5.248800 MHZ Switches Mini toggle SPDT Red Pushbuttons N.O. AC Adapters
Good for clocks, nicad
chargers, all 110 VAC plug
one end
8.5 vdc @ 20 mA \$1.00
16. vac @ 160mA \$2.50
12. vac @ 250mA \$3.00

### 3/\$1.00 Earphones

3" leads, 8 ohm, good for small tone speakers, alarm clocks, etc. 10 for \$1.00

Solid State Buzzers

small buzzer 450 Hz. 86 dB. sound output on 5-12 vdc at 10-30 mA, TTL compatible. \$1.50 Slug Tuned Colls

Small 3/16" Hex Slugs turned coil. 3 turns. 15/\$1.00 15/\$1.00 CAPACITORS

Panel Mount with Leads 4/\$1.00 TANTALUM Dipped.Epoxy 1.5 uF 25V 8/\$1.00 1.8 uF 25V 6/\$1.00 .25 uF 25V 6/\$1.00 ALUMINUM Electrolytic 1000 uF 16V Radial \$.50 500 uF 20V Axial \$.50 150 uF 16V Axial 5/\$1.00 10 uF 15V Radial 10/\$1.00

DC-OC Converter +5 vdc input prod. -9 vdc @ 30ma +9 vdc produces -15 vdc @ 35ma \$1.25

Mini ceramic filters 7 KHz B.W. very sharp \$1.50 ea. 25K 20 Turn Trim Pot \$1.00 1K, 20 Turn Trim Pot \$.50

Trimmer Caps Sprague - 3-40 pf Stable Polypropylene .50 ea.

Mini RG-174 Coax 10 ft. for \$1.00

Ceramic IF Filters

Small 1" diameter ¼" thick crystal mike cartridge \$.75 Coax Connector Chassis mount BNC type \$1.00

Crystal Microphone

9 Volt Battery Clips 5 for \$1.00 Nice quality %" Rubber Grommets 5 for \$1.00 Connectors

Asst of chokes, disc caps. tant., resistors. transistors, diodes, MICA caps etc sm. bag (100 pc) \$1.00 ig. bag (300 pc) \$2.50 price ...75 ea. Leds - your choice, please specify
Mini Red, Jumbo Red, High Intensity Red, Illuminator Red 8/\$1
Mini Yellow, Jumbo Yellow, Jumbo Green 6/\$1

Varactors
Motorola MV 2209 30 PF Nominal cap 20-80 PF - Tunable range .50 each or 3/\$1.00

year calendar, battery backup, and lots more. The super 7001 chip is used. Size: 5x4x2 inches. Complete kit, less case (not available) DC-9 \$34.95

Video Terminal

### Prescaler

Make high resolution audio measurments, great for musical instrument tuning. PL tones, etc. Multiplies audio UP in frequency, selectable x10 or x100, gives 01 HZ resolution with 1 sec. gate time! High sensitivity of 25 mv, 1 meg input z and built-in filtering gives great performance, on 9V battery, all CMOS.

PS-2 kit PS-2 wired \$29.95 \$39.95

### 600 MHz PRESCALER

Extend the range of your counter to 600 MHz. Works with all counters. Less than 150 mv sensitivity, specify -

10 or -100 Wired, tested, PS-1B \$59.95 Kit PS-1B \$44.95

### 30 Watt 2 mtr PWR AMP

Simple Class C power amp features 8 times power gain. 1 W in for 8 out, 2 W in for 15 out, 4W in for 30 out. Max output of 35 W, incredible value, complete with all parts, less case and T-R relay. PA-1, 30 W pwr amp kit \$22.95

TR-1, RF sensed T-R relay kit MRF-238 transistor as used in PA-1 8-10db gain 150 mhz \$11.95

RF actuated relay senses RF (1W) and closes DPDT relay. For RF sensed T-R relay TR-1 Kit \$6.95

### Power Supply Kit

Complete triple regulated power supply provides variable 6 to 18 volts at 200 ma and +5 at 1 Amp. Excellent load regulation, good filtering and small size. Less transformers, requires 6.3 V ra 1 A and 24 VCT. Complete kit, PS-3LT

7915

OP-AMP Special

BI-FET LF 13741 - Direct pin for pin 741 compatible, but 500,000 MEG input z, super low 50 pa input current, low power drain. 50 for only \$9.00

Regulators

\$1.25 \$1.25 \$.50 79MG 7805

\$1.00 Shrink Tubing Nubs
Nice precut poes of shrink size: 1" x ¼"
shrink to ¼" Great for splices. 50/\$1.00

Thermalloy Brand To-220 Heat Sinks Opto Isolators - 4N28 type

Mini TO-92 Heat Sinks \$.50 ea. 1199

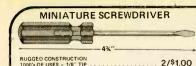
\$1.00 \$1,00 \$1.25

\$1.25

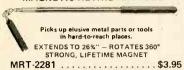
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Molex already precut in length of 7. Perfect
for 14 pin sockets. 20 strips for \$1.00 CDS Photocells
Resistance varies with light, 250 ohms to over 3 mag 3 for \$1.00

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SN7470N .29 SN7472N .29	WWW	G Cromemco	TELEPHONE/KEYBOARD CHIPS  AV 5-9100  AV 5-9200  AV 5-9200  AV 5-9200  AV 5-9200  CMOS Clock Generator  Keyboard Encoder (16 Keys)  AV 5-216  Keyboard Encoder (16 Keys)  7-59  Keyboard Encoder (16 Keys)  7-59  T-59  T-59
SN7401N .20 SN7474N .35 S SN7402N .20 SN7475N .49 S	6N74160N .89 6N74161N .89 6N74162N 1.96 6N74163N .89	Z80-4MHz Single Card Computer	HD0l65 Keyboard Encoder (16 Keys) 7.95 74C922 Keyboard Encoder (16 Keys) 7.95 74C923 Keyboard Encoder (20 Keys) 6.25
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SN7408N .20 SN7485N .89 S SN7409N .20 SN7486N .35 S	5N74167N 1.95 5N74170N 1.59 5N74172N 6.00 5N74173N 1.25	The cord affect of Milit specificing, 16k hybrid at least 2718 PARM, and 15k hybrid at least RAM manage, The antidelesse card to provide an effective of the provide and provi	1CM7208   Seven Decade Counter   19.95     1CM7209   Clock Generator   6.95     NMOS READ ONLY MEMORIES
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CD4007 .25 CD4030 .49 C CD4009 .49 CD4035 .99 C CD4010 .49 CD4040 1.49 C	D4081 .39 D4082 .39 D4093 .99	MAN 3640 Common Cathode-orange 300 99 DL749 Common Cathode-red ± 1 .630 1.49 MAN 4610 Common Anode-orange 300 99 DL750 Common Cathode-red .600 1.49 MAN 4640 Common Cathode-orange .600 99 DL338 Common Cathode-red .110 .35	XR1310P 1.95 XR2209 1.75 XR4212 2.05 XR1488CN 3.85 XR2211 5.25 XR4558 .75 XR1488 1.95 XR2212 4.35 XR4739 1.15 XR1489 1.95 XR2240 3.45 XR4741 1.47
CD4012 .25 CD4042 .99 N CD4013 .49 CD4043 .89 N CD4014 1.39 CD4044 .89 N	CD4098 1.19 MC14409 14.95 MC14410 14.95 MC14411 14.95	MAN 4710         Common Anode-red         400         99         FND30         Common Cathode         250         .69           MAN 4730         Common Cander end ± 1         400         99         FND359         Common Cathode         337         79           MAN 4740         Common Cathode         400         99         FND359         Common Cathode         357         75           MAN 4810         Common Cathode         99         FND303         Common Cathode         500         500         59           MAN 4810         Common Cathode         99         FND303         Common Cathode         500         500         590         590	DIODES
CD4016 .59 CD4047 2.50 N CD4017 1.19 CD4048 1.35 N	MC14419 4.95 MC14433 13.95 MC14506 .75 MC14507 .99	MAN 4840         Common Cathode-yellow         400         99         FND507         Common Anode (FND510)         500         .99           MAN 6630         Common Anode-orange-D.D. 560         .99         5082-7730         Common Anode-red         .300         .99           MAN 6630         Common Anode-orange ± 1         .560         .99         MSP-3400         Common Anode-red         .800         1.50	1N756 3.3 400m 4/1.00 1N4004 400 PIV 1 AMP 12/1.00 1N751 5.1 400m 4/1.00 1N4005 600 PIV 1 AMP 10/1.00 1N752 5.6 400m 4/1.00 1N4006 800 PIV 1 AMP 10/1.00 1N753 6.2 400m 4/1.00 1N4007 1000 PIV 1 AMP 10/1.00
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74C04 .45 74C85 2.49 74C90 1.95 74	4C164 2,49 4C173 2.60 4C192 2.49 4C193 2.49	CA396N 1.30 CA3130T 1.39 DM8865 1.00 MM5314 4.95 MC3022P 2.95 CA396N 3.25 CA3140T 1.25 DM8887 .75 MM5316 6.95 MC3061P 3.50 CA396N 3.25 CA3140T 1.25 DM8887 .75 MM5318 9.95 MC40161P441517.50	1M456 25 40m 6/1,00 1M1184 100 PIV 35 AMP 1.70 1N458 150 7m 6/1,00 1N1185 150 PIV 35 AMP 1,70 1M485A 180 10m 5/1,00 1N1186 200 PIV 35 AMP 1,80
74C14 1.95 74C95 1.95 74 74C20 .39 74C107 1.25 74 74C30 .39 74C151 2.90 74	4C195 2.49 4C922 7.95 4C923 6.25	CA1880T 1.5 CA240TN 59 LED driver 1.50 MM5389 2.95 MC4024P 3.95 CA3881N 2.00 CA360NN 3.50 MM5309 4.95 CT 7001 6.95 MC4044P 4.50	104001   50 PIV 1 AMP   12/1.00   101188   400 PIV 35 AMP   3.00
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LM307CN/H .35 LM340T-8 1.25 L LM308CN/H1.00 LM340T-12 1.25 L LM309H 1.10 LM340T-15 1.25 L	.M747N/H .79 .M748N/H .39 .M1310N 1.95	24 pin LP 38 37 36 49 pin ST 1.59 1.45 1.30 28 pin LP .50 59 58 WIRE WRAP SOCKETS	40409 1.75 PN3567 3/1.00 PN4249 4/1.00 40410 1.75 PN3568 4/1.00 PN4250 4/1.00 40673 1.75 PN3569 4/1.00 2N4400 4/1.00 2N918 4/1.00 MPS3838A 5/1.00 2N4401 4/1.00
LM310CN 1.95 LM340T-24 1.25 M LM311N/H .90 LM358N 1.00 M	M1458CN/H .59 1C1488N 1.95 1C1489N 1.95 M1496N .95	SOLDERTAIL (GOLD) STANDARD 8 pin ww 59 54 49	2W2219A         2/1.00         MPS3702         5/1.00         2W4402         4/1.00           2W221A         4/1.00         2W3704         5/1.00         2W4403         4/1.00           2W222A         5/1.00         MPS3704         5/1.00         2W4409         5/1.00           PN2222 Plastic         7/1.00         2W3705         5/1.00         2W5086         4/1.00
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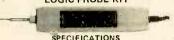


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Input Impedance: 300,000 Ohms. Thresholds: "Lo" 30%Vcc - "Hi" 70%Vcc Maximum Speed: 300 nsec., 1.5MHz Input Protection: ±50VDC continuous 117VAC for 15 sec

Power: 30mA @5V - 40mA @ 15V - 25V max. reverse voltage protected; 36" cable with color coded clips included.

Operating Temp.: 0-50°C.
Dimensions: 5.8L x 1.0W x 0.7D in. (147 x 25 x 18mm) Weight: 30 oz. (85 gm)

LPK-1..... \$21.95/Kit



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14-PIN CLIP	PC-14 PC-16	\$ 4.50 \$ 4.75
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### Jumbo 6-Digit Clock Kit

- Four ,530"ht, and two .300"ht, common anode displays
  Uses MM314 clock chip
  Switches for hours, minutes and hold functions
  Hours assily viewable to 30 feet
  Simulated wainut cas
  IISVAC operation
  I2 or 24 hour operation
  Includes all components, case and wall transformer
  Size: 6% x 3% x 1%

### JE747 ..... \$29.95



- **JE701**
- Bright 300 ht. comm. cathold display
  Use MMS31a clock chip
  Switches for hours, minutes
  and hold modes
  Hrs. essily viewable to 20 ft.
  Simulated valnut case
  118 V AC operation
  12 or 24 hr. operation
  lincl. all components, case &
  wall transformer
  Size: 6 X" x 3-1/8" x 1 X"

### 6-Digit Clock Kit \$19.95

### Regulated Power Supply

Use's LM309K. Heat sink orovided. PC board construction. Provides a solid—1 amp @ 5 volts. Can supply up to ±5V, ±9V and ±12V with JE205 Adapter. Includes components, hardware and instructions. Size: 3½" x 5" x 2"H

JE200.....\$14.95



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- FEATURES:

   Full 8 bit latched output for micro-

 Only +5VDC required for operation

FULL 8 BIT LATCHED OUTPUT—19 KEYBOARD The JESOU Encoder Keyboard provides two separate hexadecimal digits produced from sequential key entries to allow direct prog-ramming to 8 bit microprocessor or 8 bit memory circuits 1464-43) additional keys are provided for user operations with one having

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TTL Open Collector



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JE300 .....\$39.95

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The JE610 62-Kay ASCII Encoded Keyboard Kit can be interfaced into most any computer system. The JE610 KIt comes complete with an industrial grade keyboard switch assembly (62 keys), IC's, sockets, connector, electronic components and a double-sided printed wiring board. The keyboard assembly requires +5V @ 150mA and —12V @ 10mA for operation.

HICKOK

15341

- FEATURES:

   60 Keys generate the full 128 characters, upper and lower case ASCII set

- set

  Fully buffered

  2 user-define keys provided for
  custom applications

  Caps lock for upper case only
  alpha characters

  Utilizes a 2376 (40 pin) encoder
  read only memory chlp

  Outputs directly compatible with
  TTL/DTL or MOS logic arrays

  Easy interfacing with a 16-pin dip
  or 18-pin edge connector

JE610 .... \$79.95

62-Key Keyboard only . . \$34.95

### **LX303 Portable LCD Digital Multimeter**

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### LX303

Digital Multimeter ..... \$74.95

DESCRIPTION
115V AC ADAPTER
PADDED CARRYING CASE
X10 DC PROBE ADAPTER (Up to 10K)
40k V DC PROBE
10 Amp DC Current Shunt

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parts.	
Data Transmission Method	Frequency-Shift Keying, full-duplex (half-duple
	selectable).
Maximum Data Rate	300 Baud.
	Asynchronous Serial (return to mark level require
	between each character).
Seceive Channel Frequencies	2025 Hz for space: 2225 Hz for mark
	Switch selectable: Low (normal) = 1070 space
	1270 mark High = 025 space, 2225 mark
Receive Sensitivity	46 dbm accoustically coupled.
	15 dbm nominal, Adjustable from -6 dbn
	to -20 dbm.
Receive Francency Tolerance	Frequency reference automatically adjusts to
necesso i requestoj rejerance ;	allow for operation between 1800 Hz and 2400 Hz.
Digital Data Interface	EIA RS-232C or 20 mA current loop (receiver )
Digital Data Illigitate	optoisolated and non-polar).
D	
	120 VAC, single phase, 10 Watts
Physical	All components mount on a single 5" by 9

### **TRS-80** 16K Conversion Kit

Expand your 4K TRS-80 System to 16K.

it comes complete with:

8 each UPD416-1 116K Dynamic Rams ) 250NS

Documentation for conversion

TRS-16K \$75.00

• 30 AWG wire • Daisy chain or point-to-point • .025" square posts • Built-in cut off • Includes 50 ft, wire

	<ul> <li>No stripping just wrap</li> </ul>	or slitting	required-
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	to it in the place of the tr	
Part No.	Color	Price
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Part No. R-JW-B R-JW-W R-JW-Y R-JW-R	Red 50 ft. roll	

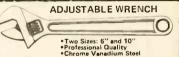
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Vacuum Vise Vacuum-based light-duty vise for small components and assembles. ABS construction. 1%" jaws, 1%" travel. Can be permanently installed.

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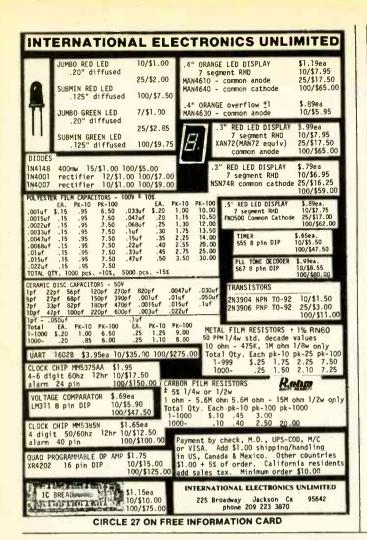
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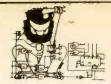
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Easily adaptable on most 1802 systems. quires 12K RAM minimum for Basic and user programs. Cassette version in stock now. ROM versions coming soon with exchange privilege allowing some credit for cassette version.

Super Basic on Cassette

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Fower supply and sockets for all IC's are in-cluded in the price plus a detailed 127 pg. instruc-tion manual which now includes over 40 pgs. of software info. including a series of lessons to

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Compare features before you decide to buy any other computer. There is no other computer on the market today that has all the desirable benefits of the Super Elf for so little money. The Super Elf is a small single board computer that does many big things. It is an excellent computer for training and for learning programming with its machine language and yet it is easily expanded with additional memory, Full Basic, ASCII Keyboards, video character generation, etc.

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The Super Elf includes a ROM monitor for program loading, editing and execution with SINGLE STEP for program debugging which is not included in others at the same price. With SINGLE STEP you can see the microprocessor chip operating with the unique Quest address and data bus displays before, during and after executing in-structions. Also, CPU mode and instruction cycle are decoded and displayed on 8 LED indicators.

An RCA 1861 video graphics chip allows you to connect to your own TV with an inexpensive video modulator to do graphics and games. There is a speaker system included for writing your own music or using many music programs already written. The speaker amplifier may also be used to drive relays for control purposes

Super Expansion Board with Cassette Interface \$89.95

This is truly an astounding value! This board has been designed to allow you to decide how you want it optioned. The Super Expansion Board comes with 4K of low power RAM fully addressable anywhere in 64K with built-in memory protect and a cassette interface. Provisions have been made for all other options on the same board and it fits neatly into the hardwood cabinet alongside the Super Eff. The board includes slots for up to 66 of EPROM (2708, 2758, 2716 or TI 2716) and is fully socketed. EPROM can be used for the monitor and Tlny Basic or other purposes.

A IK Super ROM Monitor \$19.95 is available as an on board option in 2708 EPROM which has been preprogrammed with a program loader/ editor and error checking multi-file cassette read/write software, (relocatible cassette file) another exclusive from Quest. It includes register save and readout, block move capability and video graphics driver with blinking cursor. Break points can be used with the register save feature to isolate program bugs quickly, then follow with single step. The Super Monitor is written with Tiny Basic Cassette \$10.00, on ROM \$38.00, original Elf kit board \$14.95. 1802 software; Moews Video Graphics \$3.50. Games and Music \$3.00, Chip 8 Interpreter \$5.50. subroutines allowing users to take advantage of monitor functions simply by calling them up. Improvements and revisions are easily done with the monitor. If you have the Super Expansion Board and Super Monitor the monitor is up and running at the push of a button.

Other on board ontions include Paratlel Input and Output Ports with full handshake. They allow easy connection of an ASCII keyboard to the nput port. RS 232 and 20 ma Current Loop for teletype or other device are on board and if you need more memory there are two S-100 slots for static RAM or video boards. Also a 1K Super Monitor version 2 with video driver for full capability display with Tiny Basic and a video interface board. Parallel I/O Ports \$\$.85, RS 232 \$4.50, TTY 20 ma I/F \$1.95, S-100 \$4.50. A 50 pin connector set with ribbon cable is available at \$15.25 for easy connection between the Super Elf and the Super Expansion Board.

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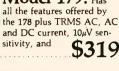
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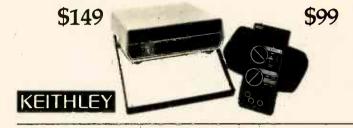
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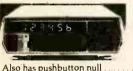
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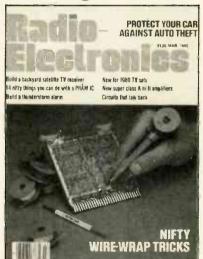
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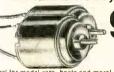


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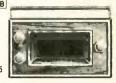
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