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## The how-to magazine of electronics...



October 1982
Volume 2, No. 10


The Zenith Video High-Tech Component System is one of the many systems to choose from in the developing field of component television. See story on page 32. (Photo courtesy of Zenith.)

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By Carl Bentz
A discussion of CATV system operation can provide the service technician with ammunition to solve TV receiver problems more quickly.

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CompuFix: Troubleshooting information at the touch of a key
This recently formed company offers a data base that consists of a history of technical problems and repair procedures for consumer electronic products.

## Servicing HV triplers

By Homer L. Davidson
Because these rectifier units are sealed, conventional diode tests cannot be performed, and other troubleshooting methods are necessary.

## 32 Some proponents of component TV

By Rhonda Wickham, managing editor
Just as audio equipment did in the early ' 50 s, video is heading into the area of components.

## Digital building blocks:

Data selectors, multiplexers, decoders and demultiplexers
By Bernard Daien
These formidable-sounding ICs can be easily understood and used to solve digital problems.

## Dr. Vladimir K. Zworykin: 1899-1982

The man often called the father of television died in July after a lifetime of pioneering work.


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## Next month...

Digital building blocks: Clocking is often misunderstood, but if the clock system does not function properly, the entire digital system will malfunction. This article clarifies clocking and puts the pieces together into a comprehensive whole.

# Future may bring major changes in television 

What might we expect from television in ' 83 ? It's not easy to say. There could be some exciting things happening in the near future for U.S. television. They aren't new as far as worldwide broadcasting is concerned, but they are new for the American audience.
Three-dimensional pictures. The 3D Corporation, a West Coast group, has developed a color separation technique to present the third dimension on our home screen, if we wear the special glasses. Perhaps, if they can work out a number of problems in the technique, a majority of viewers will actually see the effect. Contrary to the glowing reports from some PR firms, the films have not been breathtakingly successful.
Improved audio. More and more attention is being expressed to get better television audio. Once the receiver manufacturers begin to catch on to the need for an improved audio system in the home receiver, perhaps we will hear a wider bandwidth of audio frequencies. Then, with some ingenious work being done by the United States and already in use in Tokyo by NHK Television and in Germany by the ZDF network - we could even receive dual-channel or stereo sound with our pictures. Fine-arts buffs should appreciate a symphony in stereo. Those with international interests will appreciate a chance to hear bilingual broadcasts of news and other program fare.
Second channel displays. Both Japanese and German companies have worked on TV receivers that display two pictures simultaneously. For the sports fans, imagine the pleasure of watching and hearing the big game in color, while being able to keep up with the action (in video) of a not-so-big game being carried on another channel. At the touch of a remote-control button, the two channels may be reversed, allowing the secondary video and audio to be on the primary display - all using only one CRT. Another version uses smaller picture tubes on the side for the second (and even third) channel.
High resolution. The so-called High Definition Television (HDTV) concept will not be introduced to the public in 1983. There are too many problems yet to be solved. The idea, however, should prove interesting when it does come about. Experiments which have been performed with CBS, in cooperation with NHK and other organizations, have shown that an immensely improved picture is possible. New receiver designs are required, as the compatibility with the current NTSC system of transmission is unlikely. Expect the purchase prices to be high.
Information services. Teletext or visual text services may make big news in the near future. In England and Canada, farmers may use their
television (and telephone) to receive a myriad of special information sources in specific data areas. Animal husbandry, all-you-ever-wanted-to-knowabout topics (asparagus, anchovies and assorted agricultural subjects), entertainment, travel - the list could be unending. Current experiments in the United States involve equipment built into the television that stores data for the viewer to select on a page-by-page basis. Results of the experimentation are not showing what the systems people would hope in terms of viewer acceptance, but viewership is extremely limited - perhaps at most 100 sets involved in any particular test system.
Direct by satellite. Depending upon what finally is decided on geosynchronous satellite spacing and frequency allocations, we may be able to see pictures direct from the satellite through the DBS system. There is a great argument in progress as to how such a system will be used. For the consumer, the outlook is somewhat expensive, because a satellite-receiving dish antenna will be required. Most manufacturers are predicting that the receiving systems could be priced in the $\$ 5000$ range. But as with Low Power Television (LPTV), which already has the go ahead, the question of what we will see to be worth the effort is certainly questioned.
Expanded cable services. By the time the cable TV operators are finished expanding their capabilities, they will still not be able to carry all of the proposed cable services. While there was a prediction of some 200 services via satellite, some are already going under. More will follow, as there is not really a market for umpteen movie services, even if they do offer X-rated movies. Stereo audio is being offered by some, requiring that you have an extra outlet installed (for an extra cost, in most cases) for your FM receiver. Then, assuming that some of the problems of FM by cable are worked out, you will perhaps appreciate simulcast-type audio with your pictures, just as you can get with some of the efforts being made by land-based broadcast stations. Text by television is also a possibility, as is 24 -hour news from Turner Broadcast and others. Don't, however, plan on knowing everything about any given subject on the news, as it is played in 20 -minute cycles (or thereabouts) and the result is a very hyped-up newscast, much like local TV news. Perhaps someone will discover the PBS news-in-depth concept one day! And, contrary to advertising promotions by cable, expect more and more advertising on the special cable channels. They have to make ends meet one way or another.
Component Television. Perhaps the idea of the TV tuner next to the easy chair is inviting, but

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how do you watch it that closely. You don't. Instead the picture tube is mounted in an enclosure and placed on the bookshelf across the room, and the audio is offered from a separate stereo system. While the component concept has been around for some time, an assortment of problems held it back until now. Wiring, to connect the display with the receiver, presents some problems with capacitive and inductive effects, not to mention the safe transfer of the $24,000 \mathrm{Vdc}$ potential required for the CRT. The high-voltage system, of course, can be built into the CRT box, to reduce the shock hazard.
Framed picture television. An offshoot of a component TV system would be to hang the picture on the wall in a convenient place. More than 10 years ago, the idea was discussed in one of the popular magazines, but LED for blue were
not available and getting them to switch fast enough to work for television was not possible. LED still present a problem, but something new is out. Unusual shaped CRTs (still small now, but $R \& D$ is under way) and LCD displays (one available in a wristwatch format) with 32,000 picture elements are both on the market. Since 2 -way communications from a small, personal-sized unit via satellite was demonstrated in Canada several years ago, it is time to warn Dick Tracy to look out!
What might we expect to see by television in 1983? About what we're seeing now, unfortunately!


> Carl Bentz
> Technical Consultant


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## Microcomputer interference control hot line opens

Electronic Specialists has opened a toll-free interferencecontrol hot line. The line (1-800-225-4876) is open between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Eastern time, Monday thru Friday for persons with microcomputer interference
control problems. Experienced staff will analyze the situation and make specific recommendations for control of processor or peripheral interference.

## Panasonic to launch new parts distribution system

Panasonic has announced a major project that is expected to cut product parts shipments from overseas to customers by more than two weeks and to substantialby reduce the time needed to process parts orders for regional distribution.
The project includes establishmont of a new national Parts

Distribution Center on the West Coast and the installation of two, computer-controlled, automated parts storage and retrieval systems.
Approximately $86 \%$ of the parts for Panasonic products are sent from Japan by sea. Establishment of the Parts Distribution Center will reduce the transportation time from the shipping point in Japan to each of Panasonic's regional warehouses by up to 23 days, according to David Kurpit, General Manager of the Consumer Parts Division.

## ESE



## ETA elects officers

## for 1982-1983

The Electronics Technicians Association has announced the election of new officers for 1982-1983. The new chairman is Donald Anker, CET, Marshalltown, IA, of Fisher Control Corp.

Other officers include Vice Chairman Grover Harvey, CET,

Indianapolis, Naval Avionics Facility; Secretary Walter Schwartz, Knoxville, TN, NAP Consumer Products; and Treasurer Jesse B. Leach, CET, Lithicum, MD, Lee's TV.

Harvey was also selected as Technician of the Year, ETA's highest award.

## Salaries in service department increase

The average national service manager now receives an annual salary of $\$ 37,073$, according to a survey conducted by Dr. Steven Langer under the sponsorship of the National Association of Service Managers. Similarly, the
average salary of regional service managers is now $\$ 31,425$, of local service managers is $\$ 28,773$, of field service supervisors is $\$ 24,206$, of field service engineers is $\$ 22,212$, of field service representatives is $\$ 19,489$, and of bench service repairmen is \$16,885.

Copies of the 112 -page survey report are available for $\$ 95$ from Abbott, Langer \& Associates, P.O. Box 275, Park Forest, IL 60466. More than 260 companies provided salary information on more than 16,000 service department employees in 12 benchmark jobs.

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## Drifting horizontal frequency RCA CTC78

(Photofact 1628-2)

The color receiver operated correctly for a time before the picture fell out of horizontal lock, showing the familiar diagonal bars instead of the picture. We installed a MAH001 horizontal module and operated the receiver for about four hours. Performance appeared to be normal, so the customer came for it. The CTC78 receiver operated satisfactorily for four days before the horizontal frequency drifted out of lock again.
This time, a rebuilt MAH001 was installed, but the receiver did not operate at all. Next, we installed a MAH001 module that was known to be good, and gave back the receiver to the customer. The television was returned to us shortly, with a report that it worked for about 30 minutes before losing both picture and sound; a new symptom.
A careful visual examination of the horizontal section revealed that another service shop had previously re-soldered many joints in the MAH001 area. Then we remembered several other repairs on similar RCA SCR-sweep chassis that involved bad soldered joints around T401 and T402. Probably the transformer weights contributed to the joint deterioration. Such joints should be re-soldered carefully, making certain the transformer lugs are tinned properly.


We traced the copper wiring on top of MAH001. Between T401 and $T 402$ is lug $R$, and an erratic connection was found there. After this lug and the transformer lugs were soldered carefully, the intermittent was cured.

> Lowell Britt
> Gold Star TV Service Boise, ID

## No high voltage, but boost is normal <br> Admiral 2127P <br> (Photofact 1392-1)

The Admiral chassis had nearnormal boost voltage but no high voltage. Neon-bulb and arc tests showed the flyback high-voltage doughnut had no ac pulses. Therefore, I concluded that the flyback must be defective, and that the yoke, damper circuit and horizontal-output circuit were operating normally.
Unfortunately, the installation of a new flyback did not improve the situation. After many futile tests in the flyback area, I decided to check the grid-drive signal of the horizontal-output tube. The dc grid voltage checked about right when measured by a VTVM. However, scope tests of the sawtooth drive signal proved the frequency was out of tolerance about $200 \%$.

Component tests in the horizontal-oscillator circuit located an open in decoupling filter capacitor C10D (between the oscillator coil and its $\mathrm{B}+$ source). A new filter capacitor restored the high voltage and operation was normal.

The normal boost voltage fooled me because I believed the high voltage and boost voltages always increased and decreased in step.

Samuel Martinez
Bayamon, Puerto Rico
Editor's Note: It is a dangerous oversimplification to think the high voltage and the boost voltage always should rise and fall together, although the 6BK4-type high-voltage regulator operation is based on that assumption. The high-voltage rectifier operates on the positive peak of the flyback ringing pulse, and the damper operates on (and completely removes) the negative peak.

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# Is it the TV or is it the cable? 

By Carl Bentz

Cable television has made impressive strides in the past several years. Much to the chagrin of broadcasters and TV technicians alike, the old systems continue to grow, new systems develop and new cable services seem to continually mushroom. The arguments, pro and con, have shown little change since the beginning of the fast-growing industry. A discussion of CATV system operation can provide the service technician with a better understanding of the CATV system as well as some ammunition to solve TV receiver problems more quickly.
The most common argument in favor of cable television has always been greater program variety. It is true that a common antenna tower using multiple specially designed antennas for each received channel is economically more practical than if every possible subscriber were to erect a support structure for the same reception possibilities. A single tower, properly installed and guyed, can provide the additional height for antenna mounting locations needed for reception of distant channels. To certain limits, the height will allow acceptable viewing from channels
at distances beyond the grade-B contour predictions of the transmitting stations.
Properly designed and maintained equipment at the head-end of the cable system is far more capable of handling lower signal levels from remote channel locations than is the typical receiver tuner, even with an an-tenna-mounted amplifier. With many services available via satellite transmission, it is also more feasible for a single receiving dish antenna. Over a period of time, the subscriber will certainly pay more for the service than stalled
easily exceeds what a subscriber would be capable of receiving with a normal antenna installation. Yet, the CATV system is incapable of delivering all the services that have developed in just the past year. The CATV operator offers his subscriber only those services that are economically feasible, whether they are from standard TV broadcast stations or from satellite sources. More than 100 channels are currently being beamed toward the earth from the many satellites in geosynchronous orbit serving the United States alone. Receiving those additional channels, however, requires the purchase, installation and maintenance of TVRO earthstation antenna systems. To most, the costs of a TVRO system are prohibitive, leaving the CATV systems to continue their growth.
A second argument in favor of the CATV installation in the home is connected with the signal received. If the assumption can be made that the CATV system is operated properly, then the signal level received by the subscriber is nearly constant at typically 0 to 10 $\mathrm{dBmV}(0 \mathrm{dBmV}=1 \mathrm{mV}$ across a $75 \Omega$ load). The AGC system of most TV sets is capable of handling a far greater level range, however. A more constant signal level applied to the receiver may aid in more consistent color quality of the received picture because as the AGC system is required to boost the signal, increased noise will appear in the color information of the signal, producing grainier color. One of the advertising claims of CATV sales people is that installation of cable service will immediately improve the color, but such is not the case.

Color reception is based on two primary factors. First is the quality of the signal. The more consistent signal of greater strength should provide more consistent operation of color circuitry. (not necessarily improved color reception). The quality of the color picture viewed on the set will also depend greatly on the condition of the color circuitry. As receiving sets have improved in the recent past with more dependence upon integrated circuits, fewer problems result. Yet, if the color decoding and matrixing within the TV set are improperly adjusted or
are malfunctioning, the immediate improvement claimed by the salesman is not realistic. Many CATV installations have been made to no avail, because the trial subscriber disconnected from the service, unwilling to pay the expense to have the receiving equipment repaired or adjusted properly. Perhaps at a later date, a new TV set was purchased and the service was subsequently found to be acceptable. The solution, however, to the color problem was not the cable connection.

> Adjacent channel rejection syndrome is a common problem when CATV services are connected.

## Adjacent channel rejection

Other problems may develop when CATV services are connected. The most common is the adjacent channel rejection syndrome. With great wisdom, the FCC assigned channels to cities with a certain amount of frequency separation between the channels. Even in locations where channels 4 and 5 are used, the two channels are separated by 4 MHz of spectrum. Suddenly in systems where all 12 VHF channels are available, the TV is expected to separate adjacently transmitted signals. The inexpensive portables often do not even have the capability of separation of channels even if the adjustments are available. A minor misadjustment is enough to make shadowy figures appear in the background of a viewed program. To most viewers, this is unacceptable, even if they were only willing to pay a minimum amount for the set.
Proper servicing of adjacent channel symptoms requires a sweep generator. Such service is
also more efficiently done if (1) it is done in the home or (2) cable service may be wired into the service shop. Because many technicians are unable to perform the alignment, the shop installation is the better solution, assuming the location will allow cable TV service to be brought in. Some system operators will charge the service organization a premium rate for such an installation, because it is expected that the cable service may also be used as a selling aid in shops where receivers are also offered for sale. Negotiations, however, are often possible.
Other difficulties caused by use of cable are relatively minor, but they do exist. Turret-type tuners, using individual tuning channel strips, have been found without some of the channel strips in place or the strips may be defective. The missing or malfunctioning strip precludes reception on that channel until repair or replacement is made. Many set owners are reluctant to pay the expense for one channel. In addition, the balun on the input to the tuner may be defective. Often a receiver used in a city with major stations will receive enough signal to overcome the failure, yet when the limited signal level of the cable transmission is applied, the level is insufficient to jump the gap. The balun is an inexpensive item, but the typical charges to replace it may be more than the owner wishes to invest.
If the cable system is not always operating properly, additional problems will occur. Problems of consistent impedance matching along the lines leading to a home can cause greater multiple ghosting than with a roof-top antenna. Such ghosting is also possible with a badly adjusted or malfunctioning IF amplifier. The technician will need to verify which source causes the difficulty, preferably before charging his client for a massive service call. Theoretically, the CATV service will be called before the service technician is brought in, to determine whether the set or the cable is the culprit, but the CATV personnel are not always aware of system faults or capable of understanding them. The PR problems caused by typical nontechnical technicians hired by

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CATV operators are great. A mishandled service call by the shop technician can be just as bad.

## Power-supply problems

A common system fault is caused by failing or misadjusted power supply modules in the line amplifiers of the CATV system. The cable lines carry ac, which is converted to dc to operate the transistorized amplifiers. If the regulation of the supply is misadjusted, if a component in the module is out of tolerance, or if the ac voltage is outside the range the regulator is capable of handling, hum bars may appear. Hum bars are usually dark bands that roll upward through the picture, sometimes causing a weaving from side to side as they pass through. As one darkened area reaches midscreen, a second appears at the bottom. Caused by ripple from the power supply, the effect will disappear if the program being televised is monochrome. The rolling is caused by a beating of the 60 Hz power line frequency with the 59.94 Hz factor involved in NTSC television. This is typically noticed in summer when air conditioning causes the power line voltage to drop.
Hum bars are easily isolated to the cable system by simply disconnecting the receiver from the cable system and tuning in even a snowy channel. The rolling effect will disappear, unless it is caused by a set power supply problem. The darkness may indicate the amount of the regulation problem, i.e., the darker the bars, the greater the ripple. At the same time, massive ripple or voltage spikes will appear on the screen as brilliant white lines. A violent buzzing will appear in the sound.
Total cable system failures do occur. However, as the reliability of the local power company improves, and as improvements are made in surge protection for the cable amplifier modules with the addition of standby batteryoperated equipment, such total system failures decrease. Still, cable outages do occur. During total system failures, most subscribers realize that problems beyond their control have occurred, but some will automatically believe that their TV receivers have failed.

## Interference

Cable can also introduce interference that never occurred on a particular receiver until its connection to the CATV system. The illegal CB operator may easily get


Figure 1. A is an unmodulated $C W$ signal. $B$ is the TV signal (modulated carrier). When $A$ and $B$ are applied simultaneously to a nonlinear device, cross modulation occurs.
(IIIustrations courtesy of CREIMMcGraw.HIII.)
into the cable channels and appear on one or more channels both as aural and visual disturbances. Because cable systems are always expanding and contracting due to changing temperatures, connections and bends in the cable materials are subject to cracking or loosening. The leaks that occur allow ingress of any strong RF signal-CB, HAM, Voice of America, local FM, etc. The ways these outside signals affect reception are almost unpredictable.
Another new interference that involves use of CATV reception is the adjacent channel rejection syndrome previously mentioned. While typically blamed on the cable operator, the fault is entirely within the receiver if signal levels are within prescribed acceptable bounds of 0 to 10 dBmV .
Cross modulation of channels is another common interference caused by improper cable operation (Figure 1). The appearance of cross modulation may appear similar to adjacent channel difficulties. It will normally appear on every channel, however, while adjacent channel rejection failure occurs typically on only a few. In adjacent channel problems, a picture usually will be discernable in the background of the desired channel. With cross modulation, diagonal bars (windshield wipers) will move rapidly across the screen. Such interference is the result of one or more channels operating at a higher level than others. In effect, the cable line amplifiers are being overdriven by some channel


Figure 2. Part of a typical cable TV system.
signals with electronic amplifier distortion resulting. The shop technician will be unable to correct the problem and should report it to the cable operator.

Finally, in cable systems where multiple cables are used, with the constant motion of the cable equipment, co-channel interference is possible as leakage from one cable to another occurs. Just as a distant city Channel 5 may appear behind a local Channel 5 during some weather conditions, leakage between the two cables places two typically non-synchronized pictures on the screen simultaneously, with a definite horizontal-lined texture to the picture.

## Cable operation

Essentially, the cable is a very simple concept, but there are a number of areas that may cause problems. Cable should be considered as little more than a super antenna that provides greater reception possibilities than a typical antenna installation. The individual antennas used by CATV operators are normally of a special design for each channel. Multiple antennas may be needed for individual channels with special phasing networks in order to reduce unexpected or calculated interference from even more distant stations. Satellite dishes may also be used for the special services desired from the many available today. Other channels may be created by special generation equipment owned by the cable company, for example, weather and news channels using character generators. All signals to be provided to the subscribers are combined in a network called the headend (Figure 2). Channels received as RF are applied to special units, which may change the actual carrier frequencies, depending upon the requirements of the particular system. Such equipment converts the RF signals to IF frequencies before remixing them to the desired new channels. Bandpass filtering may be used on inputs and/or outputs of such equipment to maintain the appropriate vestigial sideband operation required by the FCC. Video channels from the satellite receivers, local origination sources and data channels are applied to modulator units. Crystal control or crystal-
based phase-lock loop circuitry is commonly used for carrier generation of all the equipment. Their stabilities are excellent, though tolerances are not as strict as for broadcast stations.

After all the channels are created or converted as necessary, they are applied to a combining network of directional coupler devices along with pilot carriers. Such a network allows all the channels to be combined onto a signal cable without interference. RF output levels are adjusted so that
all channels are operating at the same dBmV range, approximately 50 dBmV (which by Ohm's law calculates to approximately 1.2 W of RF power). The pilot carriers provide a reference for AGC control of cable system amplifiers. The combined channel signals leave the head-end on a single coaxial cable on their way to the distribution system.

Coaxial cable presents certain attenuation losses to the RF signal that are frequency dependent as well as temperature dependent.

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| TABLE 4-1 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cable Loss Versus Temperature |  |  |  |
|  | $5^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ | $68^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ | $120{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ |
| Channel 2 | 11.8 db | 12.8 db | $13.4 d b$ |
| Channel 13 | 23.4 db | $25 d b$ | $26.5 d b$ |

The TV signal suffers losses along the cable proportional to both ambient temperature and the frequency of the signal. (IIlustrations courtesy of CREIMCGraw Hill.)
 (C)

(A)


The number of amplifiers that may be cascaded in a cable system depends upon the signal-to-noise ratio of the amplifiers.

The losses at Channel 13 are approximately double those at Channel 2. Because RF is involved, conductor skin effect is also important. Generally, the larger the center conductor of the coax material, the less the loss. Major trunk lines leading to the distribution area are usually 1 -inch or 0.75 -inch outside diameter materials. The " 750 " cable will allow transmission of the signal to approximately 2000 feet before amplification is required. At that point, a "trunk" amplifier is used to make up the loss from the cable leading to it. At intervals of 2000 feet, additional amplifiers are required, unless either of two splitting devices is used-the RF splitter or the directional coupler. When such splitting of the transmission line is required, short spacing of amplifiers is also required to recover the additional losses involved. A splitter divides the signal by half, or attenuates the signal by 3.5 dB . A directional coupler is designed to remove a portion of the signal, attenuated by a specified amount ( 8,12 and 16 dB are typical), with as little effect to the main line as possible.
As the signal progresses through the distribution system, other types of amplifiers are used. A bridging amplifier still provides a main-line output but also provides multiple lines of distribution with increased amplification. These several lines will be "tapped" with multiple-port outlets, to which individual subscriber installations will be attached. Taps are also directional coupler design devices with varying dB attenuation factors that allow the system designer to provide the proper RF level to be applied to the subscriber's set. If a distribution line needs to be "lengthened," the third type of amplifier, a line extender, is used for the needed amplification.
The number of amplifiers allowed within a distribution system is dependent on the signal-to-noise ratio of the amplifier design. In well-established systems, cascades of 35 amplifiers (from the head-end to a subscriber installation) are typical. Many more than that will result in a snowy or grainy quality in the received picture, caused by noise inherently added to the signals by "noisy" components in
the amplifiers. The FCC requires constant periodic checking on signal quality by CATV operators.
Signal quality and level measurements at various points within a system are observed and logged. Spectrum analyzers are used to allow observation of comparative signal levels. System design specifications must be met and maintained.
CATV, then, is a large-scale antenna distribution system. It provides additional channels for the subscriber from off-air,
satellite or local sources. A more constant signal level and quality is provided when all works properly. However, it cannot improve a poor TV receiver; CATV is not a panacea for all reception evils.
For the service shop technician, CATV can present new headaches. Logic and a little knowledge will provide answers to most of those headaches, and a cooperative attitude toward the cable operators and cable system technicians can improve the possibilities of quick repair solutions.

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Needed: Manual or copy for Dynascan picture and pattern generator. Also any slides or transparencies for Sams. Walter J. Fess, Walt's TV, 1620 W. 33 Ave., Denver, CO 88211.

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Chassis C3-19A,B,AL ..... $2107-2$
SANYO
21T66-1/68-1 ..... 2098-1
SEARS
564.42330150/51 ..... 2098-2
564.42101151 ..... 2100-2
564.41810051/52 ..... 2102-2
564.50010150 ..... 2105-3
SONY
Chassis SCC-338B-A ..... 2096-2
Chassis SCC-338E-A ..... 2107-1
TOSHIBA
Chassis TAC8120/170 ..... 2098-3
Chassis TAC8121/122/171/172 ..... 2104-2
ZENITH
SN2311W/2505E/2509P,SV3927E6,SV4503AR2097-2
SN1963W67/973W67 ..... 2108-2
ESET
Quick QuizIn the circuit shown,what dc voltage should bemeasured across thelamp?

1. zero volts
2. +1 V
3. +6.3 V
4. +7 V

(answer on page 59)


## CompuFix:



Since the computer was developed little more than 30 years ago, the total storage capacity available has grown greatly year by year. At the same time, the capacity of wire telecommunications such as the telephone has increased tremendously. Although the total capacity of these electronic marvels has grown by leaps and bounds, their cost has decreased correspondingly.
At the same time, the array of consumer products that contain electronic circuits has broadened, and the complexity of those circuits has grown.

## A data base

A new service has been instituted that responds to the increased information needs generated by the proliferation of new, electronically based consumer products, and that takes advantage of the existence of the vast computer/communications network. Called CompuFix, this recently formed company offers electronic services a data base that consists of a history of technical problems and repair procedures for many different kinds of consumer electronic products, such as TV sets, stereos, VTRs and more. This information on technical problems, according to CompuFix personnel, is based on the direct experience of several selected, highly qualified, independent servicing organizations.
The data in the computer data
base is organized so that anyone using it can quickly and easily arrive at solutions to technical problems by entering the product identification and a description of the symptoms. The response of the CompuFix system is a description of technical procedures to be followed for a specific set of symptoms. Wherever applicable and practicable, the suggested service procedure will refer to specific schematic diagram locations and part numbers.
In addition to the symptom/fix information, the data base will also contain general information regarding product design, performance and principles of operation for consumer electronic products. These data will consist of information supplied by the manufacturers in the form of technical tips, as well as contributions from other qualified servicers and experts in the consumer electronics area. This portion of the systems will be an electronic news journal for users.

## A business service, too

In addition to being a symptom/ fix data base and a repository of
technical tips, CompuFix is intended by its designers to be a business aid to its users. Still under development are the following three business-related applications of the service, which will be offered as separate modules or as an integrated information and business system.
Pricing. This module will consist of general pricing including suggested list prices, crossreferencing of parts and manufacturers, and recommended sources for optimum purchasing. Also included will be pricing for specific technical procedures based on man-hour requirements and mean time to repair. This feature will be offered as an automated costestimating system.
Service Contract Processing. This portion of the information service provides storage and retrieval of service and warranty records for each customer entered. In this way, the service record of a unit under extended warranty is available on a national basis to any dealer who subscribed to the network. Also mass mailings for service solicitation can be produced from the database on demand.

General Business Services. General business services can be provided in the form of processing of accounts receivable, accounts payable, inventory, general ledger, payroll, etc.

## The system

The idea of CompuFix was developed by several owners of large electronics servicing businesses. The president, Sam Fried, is also president of Master Electronics in Omaha, NE. Vice-president is Jim Robison, former president of Electromatic in Portland, OR, who has left that post to devote full time to this venture.
The computer technical aspect of this service is being handled by Logical Systems. That company, as the technical developer, is charged with continued technical development and integration of the information service, including software development, as well as hardware selection, system integration and database management.
The CompuFix system uses a private packet switched network, which is currently connected to approximately 300 cities across the United States and can be accessed at any of its nodes via a local telephone call.

## Using the system

Access to the system will require that the user own or lease a "dumb" computer terminal, personal computer or similar computer interface device, as well as a modem to connect to the telephone lines.
Once the service has been dialed up, the user enters the brand, the chassis and a code that represents the problem that has been encountered. As an example, code 110 covers problems in sound or picture. The terminal screen will then display the repairs that have been made by others when the same problem has been encountered. (See Figure 1.)
As of early June, the data base contained more than 50,000
repairs supplied by a score of TV servicers and is being added to weekly.

The cost of this service is $\$ 100$ per month, which includes 30 repairs, with an additional $\$ 2$ per repair for more than 30 repairs.

For more information on Compufix Electronic Database Services, contact their corporate headquarters at 8601 "I" Street, Omaha, NE 68127, or call 1-402-331-1111.



# Servicing HV triplers 

By Homer L. Davidson

> Most color TV receivers that have solid-state horizontal sweep also use either a tripler or a quadrupler to rectify sweep pulses and provide a multiplied dc high voltage.
> Because these rectifier units are sealed and the individual components are not available for testing, conventional diode tests cannot be performed.
> Instead, other troubleshooting methods, as outlined here, are necessary.


Figure 1 Four original triplers are pictured. From the left, the first is from an Admiral color receiver, the second is from an RCA, the third was taken from a Sylvania (it shows an attempt to stop an arc) and the fourth is from a Zenith television. Dimensions and mountings vary according to models.

A tripler unit in a color TV receiver is a specialized type of rectifier. When horizontal pulses are rectified by a single diode of proper polarity, the de-voltage output is about equal to the peak amplitude. When cascaded, two of
these become a doubler. The first diode develops a dc voltage, then this dc voltage and the input ac pulse is applied to the second rectifier stage.
The dc voltages from both stages are in series to produce twice the
voltage of a single stage. Triplers have three diodes and three filter capacitors that generate three times the dc voltage obtained from one diode and its capacitor Quadruplers have four stages and four times the dc-voltage output.

Triplers are used in the majority of solid-state color receivers. Of course, a quadrupler should not be used to replace a tripler, nor should a tripler be a replacement for a quadrupler. When obtaining a tripler or quadrupler, make certain the specifications match the receiver exactly.
Because of the dc voltage multiplication in these components, arcing is more likely to occur in them than in or around the flyback. Many cases of arcing can be seen as white dots, white lines or other flashes superimposed on the picture. Figure 1 shows the appearance of four typical triplers.
Sometimes arcing can be heard inside a tripler or quadrupler. Of course, use care to avoid shocks. A dry section of garden hose can be used as a stethoscope during these audible tests.
Some tripler defects can reduce the high voltage and blur the picture without disturbing the horizontal-sweep voltages or ruining any horizontal components. Other defects produce serious overloads of the horizontal-output stage, perhaps blowing fuses, tripping breakers or ruining output transistors.
Unfortunately any problems from defective triplers or quadruplers can be intermittent, increasing the difficulties of identifying the problem.
The following case histories have been selected to show several types of defects and how to troubleshoot them. They can serve as examples for similar circuits.

## Blows fuses

After the F800 $1^{1 / 2}$ A fuse blew twice in succession in a Montgomery Ward GA1-12982B (Photofact 1431-3), a 100 W bulb was connected across the fuse holder. The bulb showed high brightness until the horizontaloutput transistor was removed. Then the bulb became dark, showing that the current had been too high in the horizontal-sweep or high-voltage circuits.
Installation of a new horizontaloutput transistor did not solve the problem; the test bulb remained too bright.
Next, all major sweep-circuit loads were disconnected and tested one at a time by applying ac power and observing the bright-


Figure 2 Internal leakage (probably carbonization) in an Admiral tripler removed the focus voltage and overloaded the horizontal-sweep system. Similar leakages often produce hot spots on the tripler case.
ness of the test lamp. (Line power was removed while these temporary changes were made.) The chief remaining suspect was the tripler, which was disconnected at the input terminal marked in. Many of these tripler terminals are covered by silicone material that insulates them. The silicone must be removed before any unsoldering can be done.
After the input wire was removed from the tripler, the test lamp became dark. Installation of a GE-538 universal tripler stopped the fuse blowing and the overload, bringing back good operation.

## Fuse opens after 40 seconds

The Admiral 2M10C chassis (Photofact 1522-1) had sound but no raster. Usually, when the sound is normal (without buzz), the horizontal circuit is working, but within a few minutes F102 (1A) blew. A 100 W light bulb was connected across the F102 fuse holder. Abnormally low dc high voltage was measured and the test bulb was too bright.
With power off, the horizontaloutput transistor was tested by a digital multimeter that has a constant-current diode or transistor-junction voltage-drop test. Both junctions had the proper voltage drop. Reversed test probes
applied to the damper diode again showed correct drop. Also no excessive leakage between the output-transistor collector and ground was measured.

However, when the tripler input wire was disconnected, the testlamp brightness dropped to normal. A new M100 tripler (universal GE-537) was installed and connected. Now, the test lamp glowed with proper dimness. After the test-lamp leads were removed and a new fuse plugged in, the screen lit up with a normal picture.
To clarify the procedure, removal of any components for tests must be done only after the power plug is removed from ac power. After the tests (or after some suspected component is disconnected), the power is restored while brightness of the test lamp is monitored. Normally, the test bulb lights brightly (during charging of the filter capacitors) and then dims down to a moderate glow. Full or half brightness indicates excessive load of some sort, and it must be identified and corrected before the test lamp is disconnected and a fuse installed.
All wires and terminals on the defective tripler were measured to the tripler common ground. A $4 \mathrm{~K} \Omega$ reading was obtained from focus wire to ground (Figure 2). Of


Figure 3 A defective CR214 tripler in a 17FC45-chassis Zenith reduced the high voltage and the Q202 collector voltage. Resistors R232 and R230 should have their resistances tested following any tripler or high-voltage overloads.
course, this proves that leakage or carbonization internally has ruined the tripler.
proper replacement tripler restored normal performance.

After an overload of this type, resistors R232 and R230 (Figure 3)

## Insufficient high voltage

Instead of the normal 27.5 kV , only 8 kV of high voltage was measured in a Zenith 17FC45 chassis (Photofact 1466-3). Sound quality was normal, but there was no raster. Collector voltage of Q202, the horizontal-output transistor, measured only +98 V , although normal voltage is +128 V . The Q202 base drive appeared to be within tolerance.
Although the Q202 junctions checked out in-circuit, the transistor was replaced to eliminate nagging doubts about its condition. Unfortunately the symptoms were unchanged.
When the black wire from the horizontal flyback was unsoldered from the tripler, the Q202 collector voltage rose to normal. This proved the tripler was loading down the sweep circuit and reducing the voltages. Installation of the


Figure 4 Internal arcing was found in the quadrupler of an RCA CTC46A chassis. Check the Photofact listings to be certain a proper rectifier unit is ordered for replacement. Triplers and quadruplers have the same outward appearance.
should be checked to determine whether or not the overload current has changed their ohmic values.

## Low HV with arcing

Sounds of arcing could be heard near the flyback in the RCA CTC46A chassis (Photofact 1278-3) and flashing arcs were noticed in the socket end of the picture tube. When the high-voltage lead was removed from the CRT anode, the circuit breaker tripped.

However, after the flyback lead was disconnected from the quadrupler (Figure 4), the breaker held and a normal $3 / 8$-inch arc could be drawn from the flyback lead. These tests indicated that a defective quadrupler was loading down the sweep.

As you may have guessed already, replacement of the quadrupler with an RCA exact part restored normal high voltage and produced a good picture.

Because there is no easy way to determine whether a dc-voltage multipler unit is a tripler or a quadrupler, you should always check the original part number or specifications. And when the original component is not available, make certain the universal replacement has the desired characteristics.

## Arc lines in the picture

Arc lines in the picture can originate either in the flyback or the tripler. This arcing can be heard sometimes and the sound provides a clue about the origin. However, careful listening often is required because the two components are near each other.

Another good test of a bad tripler or quadrupler unit is to operate the television for several minutes, pull the power plug from the wall outlet and then feel the plastic case of the rectifier unit. Normal triplers operate at room temperature, while shorted ones often feel warm to the touch.

Many flybacks in new models have three diodes inside and these flybacks are more prone to internal arcs.
Arcs can be caused also by a defective or poorly seated CRT anode lead or by a focus control (Figure 5). Sometimes arcs can been seen after the room lights are turned out, or the flyback/tripler area is darkened.

## Loading the horizontal sweep

Low collector voltage of the horizontal-output transistor can be produced by a leaky output transistor or insufficient drive to the output base. Therefore, a low collector-voltage measurement


Figure 5 Spots and lines in the picture, caused by receiver arcing, can originate from the anode lead or the focus control. This thick-film, focus-control wiring (from a CTC46 RCA) generated picture interference from arcs.


Figure 6 These components were removed from color receivers because they arced. At the left is an RCA flyback that has internal diodes which replace a tripler. The tripler (at right) shows carbonization from arcs on one side.
should be followed by scoping the base signal. If the waveform and amplitude are adequate, the output transistor should be checked for leakage. Sometimes an ohmmeter reading taken from collector to circuit ground can prove leakage. If so, the transistor should be removed for more accurate out-of-circuit tests.
The low-collector-voltage symptom was present in a Magnavox T995 chassis. Only +87 V was measured at the collector, but it returned to the proper +114 V when the tripler unit was replaced.

## Erratic breaker tripping

In another RCA CTC46 chassis, the circuit breaker would trip after anywhere from 15 minutes to a full week of operation. After the breaker was disconnected, a 100 W test bulb was connected in place of the breaker and the receiver was placed on a heat run awaiting a brightening of the test bulb.
After it appeared certain that the overload was in the horizontalsweep circuit, the SCRs, flyback and quadrupler were replaced on suspicion, but without stopping the erratic tripping of the breaker.
Finally, operation with a higher line voltage produced arcing of the focus-control assembly (Figure 4). Replacement of the focus assembly permanently stopped the breaker tripping. Although the quadrupler itself was not the problem, the arcing focus control overloaded the quadrupler, which overloaded the breaker, causing it to trip.

## A warm tripler

Always replace any tripler that has audible arcing sounds internally or that feels warm after several minutes of operation. In an RCA


Figure 7 Flybacks that have internal rectifiers seem to have more arcing problems than those without rectifiers. One General Electric EC-A chassis had visible arcing between one winding and the metal framework. Others have failed by developing arcs from one winding to another.

CTC74 chassis, the de voltage at pin 3 of ITR401 trace SCR/diode measured about +28 V , instead of the usual +70 V . No high voltage or raster was obtained.
After several minutes of operation, the tripler was warm to the touch - an excellent indication of a bad tripler. To be certain, we unsoldered the wire from the tripler in terminal and found the ITR voltage had risen to normal. A new tripler brought back the former good operation, and another repair was finished without elaborate testing.

## Constant arcing

Almost constant arcing could be seen and heard around the tripler
component in a Montgomery Ward M25 chassis. After the tripler was pulled up away from the chassis to stop the arcing, the picture was normal. It is sometimes necessary to lift the tripler before the source of the arcing can be seen.
Do not attempt a patch job by application of an anti-arc coating. There are uses for anti-arc, but not here. Instead, replace the defective tripler with an appropriate new one. This television was repaired by installation of a universal GE-521. Universals sometimes require a different mounting, so there must be sufficient room for all leads without producing other arcs.
Two components that were
removed because of arcing are pictured in Figure 6. One is a flyback with internal diodes and the other is a tripler.
Many late-model color receivers (such as the General Electric EC-A chassis) have three highvoltage diodes inside the flyback. In other words, the tripler is built into the flyback. One EC-A developed an arc between one winding and the internal metal framework. Others have arced between two or more internal windings (Figure 7). Of course, replacement is the only remedy.
Sensory tests for arcing in these combination flyback/triplers are about the same as for separate triplers: the molded covering may


Figure 8 This RCA flyback was replaced after arcing sounds were heard coming from it. After the flyback was removed, a cracked area could be seen in the plastic covering of the high-voltage winding. Evidently the internal arcing had damaged the plastic.
feel warm to the touch and internal arcing may be heard in suspected flybacks.

## Shutdown

A significant number of new models have safety circuits that disable the horizontal sweep when excessive high-voltage or HVcurrent is sensed. An RCA CTC86U chassis produced a short burst of sound before all sound stopped. Also, ticking was heard from the horizontal-sweep section, although there was no high voltage or raster.

After the tripler's input lead was
disconnected, a proper small arc could be drawn from the flyback lead, indicating the tripler was loading down the horizontal sweep. Figure 8 pictures leakage evidence in another RCA flyback.
Installing a new tripler solved all problems.

## An unusual problem

In a Coronado TV2-6634A chassis (Photofact 1157-1), arcing was noted in many places, such as around the tripler and the picture tube. A high-voltage measurement revealed excessive 40 kV high voltage. A new tripler was in-


Figure 9 An open capacitor C910 evidently was responsible for excessive high voltage in this Coronado color receiver.
stalled, without any change of symptoms. After some reflection, this replacement seemed inappropriate, because nothing inside a tripler can increase the high voltage.
All horizontal voltages and waveforms were normal, and the flyback resistances checked within tolerance. Finally, C910, (a $0.0025 \mu \mathrm{~F} 10 \mathrm{kV}$ capacitor enclosed in a ceramic sleeve) was suspected of being open. Replacement of C910 brought the high voltage down to 26 kV . I advise using a replacement capacitor from the manufacturer.

## Universal triplers

The majority of triplers can be replaced with a universal type, without difficulties or special problems. In some cases, longer wires and different mounting hardware might be needed to properly mount the tripler.

Use extra care with older chassis that might be equipped with quadruplers. The appearance and mounting of quadruplers and triplers might be similar. However, using a tripler to replace a quadrupler will produce insufficient high voltage. Even worse, using a quadrupler to replace a tripler produces excessive high voltage, which can cause arcs, X radiation and other problems. Check Howard W. Sams Photofacts for the correct universal replacement.

## Tips

After the correct replacement tripler or quadrupler has been mounted, carefully check each wire to be certain it is connected to the correct terminal. When the wiring is not crystal clear, a simple diagram showing the color of leads or the destination should be made before the original defective component is removed. This will minimize errors when the new tripler is wired, which might be days or weeks later.
After normal soldering of each terminal to accomplish proper tinning, a ball of solder should be constructed so no sharp points of wire or solder remain. Finally, place a covering of silicone cement over each connection. These few precautions will minimize arcs or coronas.

ESE1

# Some proponents of component TV 

By Rhonda Wickham, managing editor

This month when we set to the task of pinpointing one most prominent trend in TV development for the coming year, we discovered that there was no one area that we could single out. It seems that the manufacturers are pursuing several technologies. Besides continuing in their never-ending quest for compact chassis, sharper pictures, higher definition, unexcelled color and contemporary designs, manufacturers are increasing the size of the screen or shrinking the complete unit, developing systems that simulate stereo output from mono input, and projecting from in back of, as well as from in front of a screen.
In the late 1940 s and early 1950 s as audio electronic equipment advanced rapidly in sophistication and the availability of program sources increased, audio equipment was broken down into its components so that the audiophile could build a high-fidelity sound system precisely tailored to both his ear and his budget.
It appears that video is now poised on the threshold of that same step. Advances in video circuitry have made high-quality, high-definition video displays possible. Videotape, videodisc, cable and TVRO have dramatically increased the availability of programming, and more is on the way. Much of this new programming is capable of high-fidelity stereophonic sound. In fact, one aspect of the swing to component video is the first steps toward integration of video and audio into a single high-quality sound-andpicture entertainment center within the home.

## Panasonic

Panasonic Company is entering the component television race with their Omni Series System Television. It consists of a color monitor, a video control with synthesizer tuner and a matched speaker system.

CompuFocus picture tubes are
featured in the 19-inch (diagonally) monitor component (model CT9072M). The CompuFocus Video System combines the CompuFocus picture tube with a wide lens for sharp pictures, a tinted glass envelope for better image contrast and use of either a saw filter or a comb filter in the electronic circuitry.

The saw filter used in the system




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## WAVEFORMS

## WAVEFORM MEASUREMENT CONDITIONS

1. Maintain line at 122 V . AC, 60 Hz
2. Switch AFT off
3. Picture, Bright controls at center of rotation
4. Tint, Color adjusted for proper colors and color saturation
5. Receiver tuned to standard color bar (Gated Rainbow) generator


OCTOBER 1982


This schematic is for the use of qualified technicians only, This instrument contains no user-serviceable parts.

## WARNING

For continued safety of this product, parts identified with an (S preceding the replacement part number should be used as replacements for those identified in the shaded areas of the schematic diagrams of this service manual. Use of substitute replacement parts which do not have the same safety characteristics as specified, may create shock, or fire hazards.

For maximum reliability and performance, all other parts should be replaced by those having identical specifications

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NOTE: Numbers In clrcles refer to waveforms. See reverse side.

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This schematic is for the use of qualified technicians only. This instrument contains no user-serviceable parts.

2001



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[^1]eliminates the ghost effect, contributing to a clearer picture, and the comb filter circuitry separates the color and black-and-white signals for better picture detail.
For expanded use with peripheral video equipment, the monitor provides two input jacks for video and two for audio $L / R$, throughout jacks for video and audio $L / R$, as well as a stereo headphone jack and $L / R$ external speaker terminals. When used with a videodisc, the monitor provides 350 lines of resolution. Comb filter for high resolution, ColorPilot and Panabrite sharpness controls all contribute to the sharper picture.
The monitor's audio output is 4 W per channel with $2 \%$ THD from 100 Hz to 10 kHz , with bass, treble and balance controls. The monitor is constructed with $100 \%$ solid-state chassis with a silvertone-finish cabinet.

The video control (model TU1012) contains a quartz synthesizer electronic tuner and connects up to three other video inputs, such as a home computer or videodisc player. The control's
tuner is cable-ready to receive up to 134 channels and 64 unscrambled CATV channels. It provides a snap in/out 16 -function infrared wireless remote control, 4 -mode video switch, three video and audio L/R input jacks, video and audio L/R output jacks, three ac outlets with two switched and one unswitched, and a stereo headphone jack. The video control provides CATV/master antenna connector and VHF and UHF antenna terminals. The unit is built on a $100 \%$ solid-state chassis.

A choice of two matched speakers is available with Panasonic's Omni Series component system. With $2 \%$ THD and 10W capability, both models provide magnetic shields to eliminate TV distortion. The speakers have a bass reflex system designed to enhance stereo TV sound.

Panasonic's Omni series also offers two other systems that incorporate tuners and speakers into the color monitors. They provide add-on capability with multiple audio and video input and output jacks.

## Pioneer

Pioneer Electronic Corporation has introduced two component systems: the Foresight 5000 and 7000. The Foresight 7000 highfidelity component system consists of a 25 -inch color monitor; a video control tuner; a stereo pre/main audio amplifier; a 3-way, 4 -speaker system; a Laserdisc player; an audio-video component cabinet and a color monitor cabinet. The Foresight 5000 is identical to the Foresight 7000 except for the color monitor, which is 19 inches rather than 25 inches, and the color monitor cabinet.
Both color monitors incorporate a comb filter as well as the following circuits that improve the video over conventional TV pictures.
The black, or darkness, level of a video image varies widely with light conditions at the site of the original image pickup. When the contrast of an image is too high, the darker portions of the image tend to get lost in the shadows. The Black Level Stabilizer Circuit


Circle (18) on Reply Card


It's compact, drop-proof and provides 21 color-coded rangesvolts, milliamps, ohms, temperature scale and decibels. A true quality instrument for your portable applications. Tough. accurate, taut-band meter, fuse-protected. Sensitivity 20,000 ohms/volt DC. High-impact case, colored bright orange. Snap action, dualdetent range switch. Range limits: 1000 V DC andAC, 250 mADC , one megohm, $+200^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Battery Test provision. Meter OFF Position. Temperature scale (special probe optional)


WV-547D. Same instrument in impact-resistant carrying case. Handle converts to tilt stand. \$39.95.

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Ploneer Foresight 7000
automatically adjusts the black level. permitting accurate reproduction of the shadow detail.

The higher the velucity of cathode-emitted electron beam, the shorter the irradiation time and the darker the image at a given point. Because a total image is made up of almost countless numbers of particles, overall image detail clarity depends on the accurate irradiation of each. Although ordinary televisions can suffer insignificant edge-blur, the Velocity Modulation Circuit in the Pioneer monitor controls the beam velocity by adding compensation signals to the auxiliary deflection coil.

To display single-frame "still" images on the video screen without jitter, color aberration or other defects, vertical deflection must be eliminated. Achieving this is the key to enjoying one of the capabilities of the noise-free, noncontact optical laser system of LaserDisc. Because the deflection speed of electrons varies with the current that flows in the picture reproduction process, according to the luminance brightness, vertical deflection can result in ordinary sets. The Linear Deflection Circuit prevents thiz by sampling the luminance signal for changes in current and controls deflection accordingly.

When the input luminance signal calls for maximum darkness, the current at the cathode decreases with a corresponding increase in the voltage at the anode. Con-
versely, maximum luminance requires a decrease in anode voltage and an increase in cathode current. If the luminance signals vary too widely, focus voitage stablity may be adversely affected, and deflection speed may become uncontrolled to the extent that overscan results, causing variance in picture size. The Anode Voltage Stabrilizer samples voltage and stabilizes it against such changes.

Other features of the monitor include automatic color temperature, computer memory picture control, feather-touch buttons, multifanction inputioutput facilities, non-glare screen, picture muting and remote control capability.

The 25 -inch model has 400 lines horizontal resolution while the 19 -inch has 350 lines.

The video control tuner (model VC-T700) employs a 127 -channel PLL-synthesized tuning system capable of pinpointing VHF, UHF and CATV channels in your area. Memory tuning allows for initial station tuning to be entirely automatic: As each station is found and tuned to the desired quality, its "address" is entered into the onboard microcomputer and memorized Channel numbers are displayed on the digital readout, and any station may be recalled by using the manual or auto search buttons on the remote-control unit.

In addition to its TV/CATV tuning capabilities, the tuner can also video control your entire audio/video system. Facilities are
provided for selecting LaserDisc, Video-1 and Video-2 inputs and sending them through to your connected color monitor or ordinary television as well as to audio amplification and reproduction equipment.

Interconnection with an ordinary television is possible with the RF out/thru terminal and selector. Stereo audio in/out terminals are available for use with stereo TV multiplex demodulator adapters.

The unit also has a simulated stereo feature for adding ambience to monophonic audio inputs.

## Sanyc

Sanyo Electric has introduced their version of component television in the ProPonent Series. The system basically includes a color monitor (19 inch, measured diagonally), video control system and an audio component system.

The monitor (model AVM-195) offers 360 -line resolution. Five separate processing systems contribute to the sharp picture: automatic contrast limiter, automatic black-level compensator, automatic beam limiter, white temperature compensation circuit and a comb-filter circuit. The monitor also has a built-in 5W-perchannel audio amplifier.

Other features of the monitor include black matrix picture tube with black glass; light power controls; and concealed controls for volurne, sharpness, contrast. tint, color, vertical hold and brightness.

The video control system (model AVT95) is a separate video tuner that provides input capability for integrating signals from VCRs, videodisc players, video games, personal computers, audio sources and cable television. The tuner can accept all 32 VHF and UHF channels as well as 23 cable channels. The full-function wireless remote control has 17 -button digital keyboard tuning for control of the programming.

The video control center has a sound expander circuit that creates a stereo effect from a mono input. Also, a headphone amp with tone controls allows viewing TV with headphones while using the system for records, radio and tape.

The audio component system (System 33) consists of a 25 W -perchannel integrated amplifier (model A33) with moving coil phono inputs; an AM/FM frequency tuner (model T33) with softtouch up/down tuning buttons; a stereo cassette deck (model D33) with switchable Dolby-B/Dolby-C noise reduction; and a lineartracking, direct-drive turntable (model P33) with advanced tangential tracking tonearm. The speakers each offer 6-inch, 2-way design with a 3 -inch tweeter and a passive radiator.

## Sony

Sony has entered the age of high-fidelity television with their intraduction of the Profeel Trinitron Component TV systems. Profeel will be available with two screen sizes in November-a 19 -inch and 25 -inch (measured diagonally).
Contributing to the increased resolution are the Dynamic Picture System, which automatically adjusts contrast levels for constant sharp definition in bright and dark areas; Dynamic Color Circuitry for whiter whites and natural facial tones; Colorpure Filter for improved fine picture detail without color spills or noise; and a Trinitron 1 -gun, 1 -lens picture tube. On the 25 -inch model, a Velocity Modulation Scanning System increases sharpness and resolution.
The access tuner (VTX-1000R) is a cable-ready, frequencysynthesized tuner with a 10 -key touch pad that can instantly call up any VHF, UHF . midband or superband cable channel. The user can go directly from one channel to another simply by pushing the proper channel numbers, or the tuner can be asked to sequentially scan the channels. Preprogramming the tuner will cause the search mode to skip channels that have no broadcasts or that have undesired programming. Along with its over-the-air and cable tuning features, the tuner has a special input and output for cable converters of coded broadeasts and auxiliary audio and video inputs to accept signals for Betamax recorders, home computers video

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# The comb filter: high-fidelity video resolution <br> Fia $A$ coloor vioeo signal compostre <br>  

Fig. C :


Fig. D: COMB FILTER


Fig. C-2: Separated Chroma Signals


Separates Luminance Fig. D.1: Separated Luminance Signals Signals Only


Conventional TV receiver



Pioneer Color Monitor TVM-250

Indistinct picture resolution and "fringing" (cross-color interference) are two of the most serious problems plaguing the conventional color TV set or monitor. They typically result from inferior separation of two entirely different kinds of signals contained in the total, complex video waveform (Figure 1). Those are the luminance signals that determine the relative brightness of an image and cover the wideband of 0 Hz to 4.2 MHz , and the chroma signals that control color and are present in the upper end of the video waveform carrier, centered at 3.58 MHz , with 0.5 MHz plus-minus range. This means that some luminance information is mixed in with the chroma (Figure 2).
Normally, in all but the most expensive, professional-class video monitors, luminance/ chroma-signal separation is achieved by lowpass and bandpass filters respectively (Figure 3). But this results in the cutting off of some of the luminance signals; consequently horizontal resolution is severely limited, and free-line distinctions are lost.
Separate filtering also allows the leakage of some of the remaining chroma signals into the luminance signals (Figures 3A and 3 B ) and vice versa, resulting in the annoying fringing effect, seen at its worst as a vibrating moire-pattern "rainbow" further limiting picture resolution.
To eliminate these problems entirely, many monitors employ a specially developed comb filter (Figure 4), normally found only in extremely expensive, profes-sional-quality video monitors. It electronically "combs" the total waveform to separate the luminance signals (Figure 4A) from the color signals without cutting off any of the former, and without the least trace of leakage of luminance signals into the chroma band (Figure 4B). The result: increased resolution in the color monitor over conventional TV sets (280 lines) or VCRs (250 lines).
(Intormation provided courtesy of Pioneer Electronics.)

games, videodise players and other signal sources.
With the optional multifunctional Express Commander (model RM-705) infrared remote-control unit, all tuning functions can be controlled from anyplace in the room. Profeel users can select from the five signal inputs for VHF/UHF/direct cable, cable converter box or the auxiliary inputs with switching done automatically at the access tuner or by using the remote control.
Inside the Profeel monitcor is a stereo amplifier that will accept multichannel broadcasts when they become a reality or give new dimension to the stereo simulcasts (using a separate FM tuner) that are aired now.
In addition to making standard broadcasts come to life on the monitor, the Profeel picture quality will show the viewer the full potential of multiple-source programming available now and in the future. The system is adaptable to handle such program sources as multichannel and stereo broadcasts, satellite direct, teletext, videotex and interactive communications systems.
The monitor has separate RGB signal input and is capable of 80 -character graphic display, which is twice the character capacity of a conventional television. This proves especially beneficial when the monitor is
used in eonjunction with a homecomputer display.
The 19 -inch monitor is rated to have approximately 340 lines horizontal resolution while the 25 -ineh model has approximately 350 lines.
There is a choice of two dualspeaker systems featuring 2 -way designs. Each system has magnetically shielded woofers that will not interfere with the picture image as well as precision tweeters. Buyers can choose between speakers designed to mount on the side of the Profeel screen or to stand alone.

## Teknika

Teknika Electronics Corporation offers two monitor sizes to match with their component TV system: One is 19 inches (ATV-19) and the other is 25 inches (ATV-25), measured diagonally.
The receiver (ATV-R) serves as a receiver control center. It includes 105 -channel TV capability with VHF (Channels 2-13) and UHF (Channels 14-83), cable midband (Channels A-I) and cable superband (Channels J-W). The receiver contains an FM stereo synthesized


Sony Frofeel System


Teknika ATV-25


Zenith Vrdeo High-Tech Component System
tuner plus a high-quality audio amplifier that maximizes sound capability from either TV or FM broadcasts using the matched 2 -way speakers.
The monitors also offer a microprocessor, infrared, wireless, remote control that enables you to control any video or audio components in the system.
You can direct access television and FM or scan the entire broadcast spectrum using the Autosearch feature. View/Listen can be split if a program is being simulcast. You can see your favorite show and listen to it being broadcast on FM stereo.
The speaker system (ATV-S) includes two speaker elements and an L:C crossover network to ensure high-quality sound. The speaker system is a 2 -way pipe duct bass reflex type with 8 -inch, polyurethane, roll-type woofers and 2 -inch, cone-type tweeters.

## Zenith

Zenith Video is marketing their Video High-Tech Component TV system, which includes a 19 -inch diagonal color video monitor, TV tuner, source selector, stereo audio amplifier and Allegro speaker system.

The component TV monitor (CV1950) is equipped with the TriFocus picture system. It consists of an EFL ${ }^{\circ}$ electron gun with three focusing actions to concentrate the electron beam and produce a smaller spot size. The 3 -in-1, in-line TriFocus system, with RGB guns in horizontal alignment and the lens system focusing voltage patterns minimize electron deviation.
The monitor's color-control system, the Advanced Color Sentry, combines eight picture and color subsystems. The Sentry corrects the picture 30 times each second and changes picture brightness as room light changes. The unit also has an "electronic eye" light sensor that will automatically adjust picture brightness while maintaining proper color and contrast levels. The Color Signal Monitor is an automatic signal adjustment that minimizes oversaturation of color from scene to scene, channel to channel.
Other capabilities of the monitor are dynamic tint stabilizer, blend-
ing chroma, color-level lock, contrast regulator, high-gain color control and color threshold. The tuner (CV510) features quartz control, which allows for tuning accuracy and ease of operation. The advanced microchip circuitry is specifically designed to convert RF TV signals into baseband video and audio information. Electronic quartz precision gives direct pushbutton access to available channels without need for fine tuning. The unit is solid-state.
The expanded channel capability lets you select CATV channels without the need for an external converter (except scrambled programs). With direct-access control, you can select regular VHF and UHF channels and 42 cable channels including 30 midband, superband and hyperband frequencies.
The direct-access keyboard channel selector allows push-button pinpointing or scanning.

The unit also features LED channel display and PLL tuning. In the "Normal" position, the AFC switch automatically locks in broadcast TV signals for troublefree reception. Off-frequency
signals of the type that may be received from auxiliary units, such as videodisc players, video games or CATV and MATV antenna systems, can be pulled in for improved picture performance with the AFC switch in the "Special" position.
The tuner includes an infrared remote control unit, the Computer Space Command 2900, which allows for tuning from anywhere in the room. The keyboard of the unit provides direct access selection, favorite-channel scanning, volume up/down, mute sound and power on/off control.
The Program Source Selector is designed to give you access to the entire range of possibilities with your various audio/video components. The selector allows for connection of up to six audio/video program sources to the color video monitor at one time. You can connect your VCR, videodisc player, video game and home computer, plus selected out-of-home program sources such as cable television, subscription television, regular VHF/UHF or even a satellite system, and you never have to change the connections.

The selector provides low-loss electronic switching of six modulated RF signal sources and direct input of six baseband video/ audio signals from the source to the monitor for viewing. It can even route signals in mono and stereo audio, baseband video or RF from any source to another for recording.
The 2-channel stereo amplifier (CV520) provides a full 20 W minimum continuous RMS power per channel from 20 Hz to 20 kHz into $8 \Omega$ with $0.2 \%$ or less THD. The audio source can be either in monaural or stereo from a broadcast TV signal or an FM receiver.

There are currently several other manufacturers offering component TV systems but information about those systems was not available at the time of this writing. Watch future issues of ES\&T, particularly in our New Products section, for further updates on these new home entertainment systems.

## Esf

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Editor's note: Periodically Electronic Servicing \& Technology presents reviews of books dealing with subjects of interest to our readers. Please direct inquiries and orders to the publisher at the address given in each review rather than to us.

ARRL Antenna Book; American Radio Relay League; 328 pages; $\$ 8$.

The acceptance of this publication is proved by the fact that more than 600,000 copies of previous editions have been sold to radio amateurs, engineers, technicians and students.
The book is divided into three sections. The first seven chapters deal with the principles of antennas and transmission lines, wave
propagation, and the performance characteristics of directive antenna systems. Beginning with Chapter 8, there is a series of chapters in which complete data are given on specific antenna designs for the various amateur frequency bands. The remaining chapters deal with related subjects such as measurements, test equipment and antenna orientation. Finally there is an appendix with a glossary of terms and useful tabulated information.
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# Digital building blocks: Data selectors, multiplexers, decoders and demultiplexers 

By Bernard Daien

Even simple problems in digital logic seem complicated, what with Boolean Algebra, Veith Charts, Karnaugh Maps and other conventional methods of solving such problems. For example, have you ever wondered how each memory word stored in a memory bank with 64,000 different locations can be located via a cable consisting of only 16 wires? Or how it is that many different users can communicate with a computer using only a single telephone line? The means of solving these problems have many applications that are not limited to digital or computing systems. They also find use in control systems and in many analog applications.
If you are interested in discovering how these problems can be solved, simply, quickly and inexpensively, then read this article. It explains, in an easy-to-read style, how you can become an expert in solving many digital problems in just a half hour. And, what you learn will help you to better understand the general field of digital electronics, too.
If you have ever thumbed through a digital circuits Data Book supplied by several IC manufacturers, you have probably noticed circuits listed as data selectors, multiplexers, decoders and demultiplexers. The data for these formidable-sounding ICs usually includes complicated-looking charts and technical terms. Despite this, the ICs themselves are easily understood and simple to apply. These useful circuits deserve considerably more attention in fundamental electronics courses that indicate ICs.
Perhaps the most convincing argument for learning about these
circuits is the fact that they are able to replace very large pieces of circuitry with just one IC. In the process, practically all of the design problems are eliminated. There is no necessity for Veith Charts, Karnaugh Maps, etc. All the user really needs to know is how to read a simple truth table, which shows the output resulting from each of the possible input combinations. Stated simply, if you know what the inputs are, the truth table tells you what the output will be. Conversely, if you know what output you want, the truth table tells you the combination of inputs required.

It should be noted that truth tables are sometimes labeled function tables, but there is one small difference between the two. In one case, positive logic is used; in the other case, it is not assumed. In positive logic, a " 1 " is high, and a " 0 " low. In negative logic, they are inverted. Generally positive logic is used (and understood). Negative logic is infrequently encountered, and when it is, there is some notation, or clue, that it is being used. Negative logic is easily converted into positive logic, for almost all practical purposes, by means of inverters (simple logic blocks frequently used in digital circuitry). So, whether the table is titled truth table or function table, use it; the remarks in this article apply for all practical uses.
The use of inverters is common in digital electronics. Sometimes inversion is called by other names, such as negation or complementation. Thus to invert is to complement or negate. The inversion process is indicated by the use of an overbar, so that A inverted is expressed $\overline{\mathrm{A}}$. This is also described as

A negated, or A complemented.
To avoid further confusion, notice that the circuits in this article also have several different names, depending in part on how we use them. The data selector is also known as a multiplexer and as a data router. The demultiplexer is often called a decoder or a data distributor. These names are accurate descriptions of the functions the circuits can perform.

One thing both of these useful circuits have in common is that the ICs performing these functions are termed Medium-Scale Integrated Circuits (MSI). Less complex circuitry is referred to as SSI (SmallScale Integration), while large and complex integrated circuits are LSI (Large-Scale Integration).
As you will see later in the basic logic schematic for the decoder, this MSI circuit has the equivalent of 165 -input NAND gates, eight inverters and one 2 -input AND gate, with all the necessary interconnections between them included on the chip. Of course, all the logic design for this circuitry has been done by the IC manufacturer. You just plug it in, and it operates.

## What they do

Figure 1A is a basic multiplexer/data selector made up of simple toggle switches. With information (data) coming in on eight lines, we can select any one of the incoming lines and route it through to the single output, by means of the toggle switches. Only one toggle switch can be closed at a time, and there is another switch in series with the common output. When this switch is closed, output can be obtained (enabled). With the switch open, the circuit has no data routed through.


Figure 1B. The elementary switch equivalent of an 8 -output decoder/demultiplexer. This circuit is also known as a data distributor.
Figure 1A. The elementary switch equivalent of an 8 -input data selector/multiplexer.


Figure 2A. An IC multiplexer with terminals labeled.


Figure 2B. An IC demultiplexer with terminals labeled.
output(s), enable and select terminals, shown in Figures 2A and 2B. The multiplexer and demultiplexer shown in the figures have either eight inputs or eight outputs, of which only one is selected. In order to select one, we need three select lines. It should be noted that both multiplexers and demultiplexers are commonly available in TTL and MOS low-cost
versions with 16 lines. They can be had with open collector, totem pole and Tri-state outputs. This family of ICs is quite complete and fits into most existing systems easily. (Of course, a 16 -line circuit would require four select lines.)

What's inside the IC
Figure 3A is the logic diagram of the internals of a type 74154 de-
coder. In this circuit there are 16 output lines and four select lines, hence it is often called a 4 -line-to16 -line decoder. There are two enable terminals, one labeled enable, the other data.
They both perform the same function in the same way. In fact, they are the two inputs to the same AND gate. When both are low, the circuit is enabled, i.e., we can get output. How do we know this? Figure 3B, the truth table for this circuit, shows that for the first 16 horizontal rows, one of the outputs is a " 0 ", but in the lowest three rows, all of the outputs are " 1 s ". Notice that in the lowest three rows, the select (address) lines all have " $x$ " in them, denoting "it doesn't matter what state." Finally, look at the bottom three rows in the Enable and Data columns and you will discover a " 1 " in one or both. Now remember our earlier statement, "when both the enable and the data inputs are low, we can get output".
Stated another way, it doesn't matter what the address (select) lines do; both the enable and the data inputs must be low to get an output. Why then is one column labeled data and one enable? Simple: we can put data into the data input, and ground the enable input, in which case the enable is always at " 0 ". The output will follow the data input, with the output appearing at the terminal (line) selected by the select inputs.
Notice in the truth table of Figure 3B, as the four address bits change, the output changes from line to line accordingly. Looking closely, you will see that the four binary bits ( $\mathrm{A}, \mathrm{B}, \mathrm{C}$ and D ) in the address rows add up to the decimal number 1 for an output on line 1,2 for an output on line 2, etc. By entering the correct address in binary numbers on the four address lines, the corresponding output line is enabled $i f$ the enable and data inputs are both low. By entering data at the data input, with the enable input held low, the output from the selected (addressed) output line will go low when the data input goes low, and go high when the data input goes high. If the enable input goes high, all outputs will go high and stay high, regardless of the data input. Thus we can use the enable input to "shut off" the flow of data.


Figure 3A. A 74154 decoderldemultiplexer schematic.

Truth Table

| INPUTS |  |  |  |  |  | outputs |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| G1 | G2 | 0 | c | B | A | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| L | 1. | L | L | L | L | L. | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H |
| L | L | L | L | L | H | H | L | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H |
| L | L | 4 | L | H | L | H | H | L | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H |
| L | L. | L | L | H | 4 | H | H | H | L | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H |
| L | L | L | H | L | L | H | H | H | H | L | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H |
| L | L | L | H | L | H | H | H | H | H | H | L | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H |
| L | L | L | H | H | L | H | H | H | H | H | H | L | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H |
| L | L | L | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | L | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H |
| L | L | H | 1 | L | L | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | L | H | H | H | H | H | H | H |
| L | $L$ | H | L | L | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | L | H | H | H | H | H | H |
| L | L | H | L | H | 1 | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | L | H | H | H | H | H |
| $L$ | L | H | L | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | 1 | H | H | H | H |
| L | L | H | H | L | $L$ | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | L | H | H | H |
| L | L | H | H | L | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | L | H | H |
| $L$ | L | H | H | H | $L$ | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | L | H |
| L | L | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | L |
| L | H | X | X | $x$ | X | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H |
| H | 1 | x | 'x | $x$ | x | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H |
| H | H | X | X | x | x | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H | H |

$H=$ high level ( 1 ), $L=$ low leve! $(0), X=$ don't care
Figure 3B. A truth table for the 74154 demultiplexer.

If you examine the logic diagram of Figure 3A, specifically the address inputs, you will notice that they go through four inverters, thus providing $\AA$ (A inverted) from A , and $\overline{\mathrm{B}}$ from B , etc. Then the inverted address inputs go through another set of four inverters, which provide A from $\bar{A}$, etc. By this means we have $\mathrm{A}, \mathrm{B}, \mathrm{C}$ and D
available, and also $\overline{\mathrm{A}}, \overline{\mathrm{B}}, \overline{\mathrm{C}}$ and $\overline{\mathrm{D}}$, as shown in the internal labeling of Figure 3A. This will not be repeated in Figure 4A, the data selector, because the circuit is the same and would needlessly complicate the diagram. The balance of the circuitry consists of 16 5 -input NAND gates.
Figure 4 A is the internal logic


Figure 4A. A National Semiconductor data selector/multiplexer, fype DM 7211/8211 schematic.


Figure 4B. The truth table for the DM 7211/8211 data selectod/multiplexer.
diagram for a National Semiconductor data selector/multiplexer, type DM7211/8211. This type of circuit is often referred to as an 8 -line data selector or 8 -line multiplexer for obvious reasons. Figure 4B is the truth table for the same circuit.
The addressing procedure is the same as in the previously described decoder of Figure 3A, and so is the strobe (enable). The strobe must be kept low, otherwise the single output will remain high
regardless of the data input. This data selector is only an 8 -line circuit, and was chosen for simplicity of the logic diagram. It has six inverters for the A, B and C, select line inputs and eight 4-input AND gates, but unlike the decoder, ends up in a 9 -input OR gate, which provides the single output. It is easy to see how the strobe (enable) input to the OR gate works.
The difference between the decoder described earlier and this data selector becomes obvious
when you study the truth table, which now has eight data inputs instead of 16 outputs. The select (address) inputs now select one of the eight data inputs, and the output changes in accordance with the changes in the selected data input.

## Practical applications

One of the most common applications for decoders is in memory addressing. The problem is that memories contain many different locations and each location stores information. It is necessary to immediately gain access to a desired location in order to write data into the memory or retrieve (read) data out of the desired location. Even with a small memory such as one with 256 separate storage locations, we would seem to need 256 wires and consequently 256 pins on the memory IC-a monster! And, of course, we would need a 256 -wire interconnecting cable-another monster. But instead, we can use the scheme shown in the block diagram of Figure 5.
The memory in Figure 5 is a 256 x 8 , which means 256 words of eight bits each. When we address a location in memory, we find that location stores a word of eight binary bits in length. The total capacity of the memory is therefore 2048 bits. We cannot address each individual bit, but we can, and do, address separate words. This is common practice in digital systems, such as microprocessors, in which 8- or 16 -bit words move around on 8 , or 16 parallel wire cables called buses. The problem we are going to solve is to reduce the number of wires needed for memory addressing with the aid of the decoder.
The memory itself is arranged in the form of a matrix, consisting of horizontal and vertical grids. Where a vertical line intersects with a horizontal line, we have the location (address) sought. Two decoders, with 16 -line outputs are connected as shown. Decoder $1^{\prime}$ does the horizontal addressing, while decoder 2 does the vertical addressing. Because these are the usual 4 -line to 16 -line decoders, we only need eight wires for the total inputs to both decoders; i.e., eight lines will provide eight binary select inputs. Thus we can address

256 locations, storing a total of 2048 'bits in the form of 2568 -bit words, with only an 8 -wire address bus. Many memories today incorporate decoders inside the integrated circuit memory, and we then use external decoders to further reduce the number of wires. By this means, we can store large amounts of information and still use relatively few connecting address wires.
Of course we are not limited to memories in this scheme. We also use this method to reduce the number of wires needed in control systems for a large variety of applications where many operations must be supervised via connecting cables.

This is a straightforward application for the decoder, but it is not limited to such obvious applications. As just one illustration of this, let's look at a backward use for the data selector of Figure 4A. Suppose we hook it up as in Figure 6 , with the eight data inputs connected to single-pole, doublethrow toggle switches. Each switch can be connected to the plus side of the power source or to ground. As shown, D0, D1, D2 and D3 are tied to ground by means of the toggle switches; D4, D5, D6 and D7 are tied to plus. The input signals are applied to the select lines, A, B and C. The strobe is tied low (to ground), which permits the circuit to operate continuously.
Now look again at the truth table in Figure 4B. Using it as a guide, let's construct our own table of outputs, for the conditions we have just "programmed" into the data inputs, namely D0, D1, D2 and D3 are low, and D4, D5, D6 and D7 are high. With three binary input


Figure 6. Another way to use the data selector.

| $\mathrm{Celect}_{B}$ Inputs |  |  | D0 | D1 | D2 | $\begin{gathered} \text { Data } \\ \text { D3 } \end{gathered}$ | Inputs D4 | D5 | D6 | D7 | Oatput |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| L | L | L | (L) | L | L | L | H | H | H | H | L |
| L | L | H | $L$ | (1) | L | L | H | H | H | H | L |
| L | H | L | L | L | (L) | L | H | H | H | H | L |
| L | H | H | L | L | L | (L) | H | H | H | H | L |
| H | L | L | L | L | L | L | (H) | H | H | H | L |
| H | L | H | L | L | L | L | H | (H) | H | H | H |
| H | H | L | L | L | L | L | H | H | (H) | H | H |
| H | H | H | L | L | L | L | H | H | H | (H) | H |

Figure 7. A truth table showing outputs for all possible combinations of binary select inputs, with data inputs "programmed" as in Figure 6.

| Select Inputs <br> C B A |  |  | Output |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| L | L | L | L |
| H | H | H | H |
| L | H | L | L |
| H | L | H | H |
| $L$ | L | H | L |
| H | H | L | H |
| L | H | H | L |
| H | L | L | H |

D7

Figure 8. Can you solve this problem with logic gates and binary math? Try solving it with an 8 -line data selector truth table. Notice that the combinations paired by brackets are the inverse of each other. Each binary coded combination of select inputs must provide the output shown. (This problem's truth table solution is actually the same problem solved in Figure 7 presented differently.)
lines, there are eight possible input combinations. What will the output be for each of these output combinations? Let's construct our new table, using the truth table as a look-up table. The result is shown in Figure 7.
The truth table of Figure 4 shows that for each of the select input combinations, only the circled data input matter. All the others are "X" (don't care). Stated another way, only one data input is selected for each combination of the three select inputs.
What is the state of the data input selected? That depends upon the position of the switch connected to that data input. If the switch goes to plus, it's high; if it goes to ground, it's low. The condition of the data input, high or low, is transferred to the output, as each input is selected in turn. As a result, the data inputs ( $0,0,0,0,1,1,1,1$ ), which are D0 through D7 respectively, appear in the same order in the output. (Of course we could have used any other combination of zeros and ones. Try another combination for yourself.)
We are really using the data selector backward, programming the data inputs with highs and lows and applying a binary coded 3 -bit input to the select inputs. At this point, you may well be wondering why.
Suppose you were asked to come up with logic circuitry that could solve the problem in Figure 8. Could you do it? How long would it take? How many logic gates would it take? What means would you use? Boolean Algebra? Veith Charts? Karnaugh Maps? How would you begin?
To solve the problem, all you need is an 8 -line data selector. You don't even need the switches, unless you want the ability to solve different problems. If you intend to solve one problem, as in a vending machine, you merely hard wire the data inputs to plus or ground, and the job is done. No math, no fuss, little time spent, and it's inexpensive. In effect, the data selector makes a novice into an expert logic problem solver.


Dr. Vladimir K. Zworykin (ca. 1910), is widely acclaimed as the father of television. His iconoscope camera tube and kinescope picture tube pioneered modern TV equipment.

TV pioneer Dr. Vladimir Kosma Zworykin died on July 29, 1982, at the Princeton Medical Center, Princeton, NJ, a day short of his 93rd birthday.
Elected an honorary vice president of the RCA Corporation upon
his retirement in 1954, Zworykin was often called the father of felevi-

# Dr. Vladimir K. 

sion. However, he declined the accolade, telling interviewers that hundreds contributed to television's evolvement over many years. He preferred to compare television's development with the building of a ladder, explaining that, as each engineer added a rung, "it enabled the others to climb a little higher and see the next problem a little better."
Father or not, there is no question that the achievement of practical television stems, to a large extent, from Zworykin's pioneering work in the 1920 s and 1930s.

His conception of the first practical TV camera tube, the iconoscope, and his development of the kinescope picture tube formed the basis for almost all important later advances in the field.
As a Russian immigrant, he came to the United States after World War I and worked for Westinghouse in Pittsburgh from 1920 to 1929. It was there that he did some of his early work on television.
But it was not until he teamed up in 1929 with another Russian immigrant,
Gen. David Sarnoff,
later


In 1929 Zworykin demonstrated an early electronic TV receiver using the kinescope picture tube.


An intense scientist and engineer, Zworykin's interests were wide reaching. He is shown here (standing), with Dr. James Hillier, whom he recruited to develop the electron microscope. For his design of the system's vastly improved objective lens, Hillier was elected to the National Inventors Hall of Fame. (photo ca. 1947)

## Zworykin: 1889-1982

president and cnairman of RCA, that his TV work got the management and financial backing that enabled Zworykin and the RCA scientists working with him to develop television into a practical system.

Both men never forgot their first meeting. In response to Sarnoff's question, Zworykin, thinking solely in research terms, estimated that the development of television would cost $\$ 100,000$. Years later, Sarnoff delighted in teasing Zworykin by telling audiences what a great salesman the inventor was. "I asked him how much would it cost to develop TV. He told me $\$ 100,000$, but RCA spent $\$ 50$ million
before we ever got a penny back from television."
Zworykin had left Russia and come to America because he wanted to develop his dream-television. His adopted country treated him well. In 1966, President Lyndon Johnson awarded him the United States' highest scientific honor, the National Medal of Science "for major contributions to the instruments of science, engineering and television, and for his stimulation of the application of engineering to medicine." Including the Medal of Science, Zworykin received 27 major awards and numerous others
from groups throughout the world.


Zworkin (ca. 1940s), holding an early model of the iconoscope, which he developed as the all-electronic eye of the TV camera.


Zworykin (ca. 1980), posing in front of Llavid Sarnoff's portrait. Also a Russian immigrant, Sarnoff was instrumental in bringing Zworykin to RCA, thus providing him the resources to develop electronic television. However, Zworykin credited Sarnoff with having the vision to foresee television as a new form of hore entertainment.

Perhaps because of this interest in communications, his father sent him to the Petrograd Institute of Technology, which awarded him an electrical engineering degree in 1912. At the institute, Zworykin studied under and assisted Professor Boris Rosing, to whom Zworykin credited both his decision to become a scientist and his special interest in television and electronics.
As early as 1906, Rosing believed that the solution to practical television was to be found, not in mechanical systems, but in the
employment of CRTs. Zworykin's iconoscope and kinescope followed this line of reasoning.
In 1912, Zworykin entered the College de France in Paris, where he studied X-rays under the noted scientist Professor Paul Langevin. His studies were interrupted by World War I, and Zworykin had to return to Russia to serve in the Army Signal Corps. After the war, he came to the United States, and became a citizen in 1924. He received a doctorate from the University of Pittsburgh in 1926.
Soon after arriving in the United

States, Zworykin joined the Westinghouse research staff. He began investigations in the field of photoelectric emission and resumed his research in television.
Zworykin became associated with RCA in 1929. He served as director of the Electronic Research Laboratory, first in Camden, NJ, and from 1942 until his retirement, in Princeton, NJ.
In addition to television, Zworykin applied his talents to a broad field of electronics and held more than 120 US patents on developments ranging from gunnery controls to electronically controlled missiles and automobiles.
As a result of Zworykin's research activities, important devices such as various forms of secondary emission multipliers and image tubes were developed and perfected. The Snooperscope and Sniperscope-important military developments in World

Even though he retired in 1954, Zworykin maintained an office in the RCA David Sarnoff Research Center in Princeton, NJ , until he was 91 years old. (photo ca. 1980)

War II-were practical applications of research on infrared image tubes.
Zworykin's intensive study of electron optics directed his interest to the electron microscope. RCA's pioneering in the commercial development of the electron microscope typifies Zworykin's genius - not only his scientific expertise, but his ability to attract and motivate good scientists.
For example, in 1940, he hired a young Canadian graduate student, Dr. James Hillier, to work on the electron microscope. Hillier, who


In the fall of 1980, Zworykin honored the 122nd Technical Conference of the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers with a taped interview of early TV developments and with a brief personal address. He is shown here (center), following his speech, talking to Charles Ginsburg (left), of Ampex, and Frederick Remley, then SMPTE vice president for TV affairs. They are gathered around the Emitron camera that served the BBC from 1936 to 1954, the year that Zworykin retired.
retired in 1977 as executive vice president and chief scientist of RCA, decided to work for RCA because Zworykin recruited him with one question-how long would it take Hillier to build an electron microscope - while other prospective employers engaged Hillier in theoretical discussions or emphasized their good working conditions and fringe benefits. Working under Zworykin's guidance, it took Hillier little more than three months to build the first RCA electron microscope.
Coincidentally, in 1980, just three years after Zworykin was elected to the US National Inventors Hall of Fame for his development of television, Hillier was elected for his work on the electron microscope.
Following his retirement, Zworykin directed a Medical Electronics Center at the Rockefeller Institute in New York. In this capacity, as national chairman of the Professional Group on Medical Electronics of the Institute of Radio Engineers, as founderpresident of the International Federation for Medical Electronics and Biological Engineering, and as member of the board of governors of the International Institute for Medical Electronics and Biological Engineering in Paris, he worked toward the use of electronic methods in medicine and the life sciences.
Zworykin was often asked if,
while working on television, he ever envisioned the worldwide entertainment medium it became. He would reply that he hadn't, and credited Sarnoff with seeing television as a new form of home entertainment. Zworykin would then explain that in his early years he looked upon television as a system that would enable man to see things in places where his eyes couldn't reach. Thus, he was delighted with the first TV pictures of the back side of the moon. And, when he visited the Jet Propulsion Laboratories in California to see the reception of pictures of Mars, he remarked, "This is what television is really for."


In October 1980, Zworykin received a special award from the Eduard Rhein Foundation for his many contributions to fully electronic television. (photo ca. 1970s)

As he grew older, Zworykin curtailed his activities, spending winters in Florida, but never gave up his interest in scientific research. For many years, he was a visiting professor for the Center for Theoretical Studies and the Institute for Molecular and Cellular Evolution of the University of Miami in Florida, and he maintained an office at RCA Laboratories. Even at the age of 91 , he would drive from his home in Princeton to his office in the David Sarnoff Research Center to read from his large collection of scientific journals and reports.
It was in that office, after Zworykin's 85th birthday, that a New York Times reporter asked him: "You've been involved in scientific research for many, many years. When are you going to stop working and really retire?"
A smile gathered quickly on Zworykin's face, and he replied without hesitation, "When I die."

E5S $\mathrm{m}_{\mathrm{m}}$

## Answer to Quick Quiz

(From page 23.)

By Wayne Lemons, CET

Don't become confused by the zener-diode specification. Zener operation occurs only when the zener is reverse biased. If the anode had been grounded, the correct answer would be 1V, because zener action would result. However, when a zener diode is forward biased (as shown with cathode grounded), it has the same action as a conventional power-supply diode, which produces a voltage drop of about 0.7 V across itself. Therefore, the lamp receives all except 0.7 V of the 7 V supply (the sum of voltage drops must equal the source voltage).
The correct voltage is 6.3 V in answer \#3.


Coming soon in


The basics of tape recording, part II (Physical operation of audiocassettes). Although details of components and operation can vary from model to model, the basic functions are identical for all.


## Desoldering units

Automated Production Equipment Corporation has introduced the APE models EX-500, EX-550 and EX- 525 for desoldering printed circuit boards.
Models EX-500 and EX-525 are

self-contained and use a rotary and piston pump, respectively. Model EX-550 is pneumatically operated and uses a transducer to obtain vacuum. The air supply is controlled via a solenoid.

All three units come complete with APE model EX-1000 desoldering handpiece with an improved heater and SCR controller. Vacuum flow is foot-pedal operated, on all units, leaving the operator's hands free.

Circle (50) on Reply Card

## Mini scope

Hitachi Denshi Test \& Measurement Division has introduced the V-509, 50 MHz , dual trace oscilloscope.
The 11-pound mini-portable, with calibrated delayed sweep, offers the field engineer a 12 kV CRT, operation from ac/dc or optional battery pack, plus such unexpected features as single-shot

trigger, variable hold-off, auto focus and full TV triggering.
The V-509 offers a $3^{1 / 2}$-inch rectangular mesh-type CRT with metal-backed P31 phosphor and an internal graticule. The new mini scope has a convenient Channel 1 DVM output. This feature eliminates T -connector cabling and time-consuming cable switching.

## Circle (51) on Reply Card

## Holding fixture

The HPCB-15 assembly aid from OK Machine and Tool Corporation is a " 2 -handed" holding fixture for helping with all types of electronic and mechanical assembly work. The HPCB-15 features two strong alligator clips for reliable holding action plus quick and easy clamping and release. Both clips are mounted in ball joints, and the connecting bar is mounted in a third ball joint. All ball joints may be locked in any position, and the en-

tire assembly is mounted in a heavy cast-metal base to provide stability during use.

Circle (52) on Reply Card

## Electronic packaging/ prototyping system

Bishop Graphics recently introduced a new electronic circuit packaging, repair and prototyping system called E-Z Circuit. Designed for such applications as solid-state digital and linear systems and analog circuitry, the E-Z Circuit product line is ideal for electronic engineers, circuit designers, home hobbyists and experimenters and electronic students who want to build "instant" printed circuit boards, PC board prototypes, or make PC board repairs right on-the-spot.


The E-Z Circuit features pressure-sensitive copper component mounting configurations, donut pads, tape and Cut ' N ' Peel copper sheets for building, modifying or repairing PC boards.

Circle (53) on Reply Card

## Multiplexer

A low cost, 8 -channel add-on oscilloscope multiplexer has been introduced by Global Specialties Corporation.
The model 8001 multiplexer extends the capability of an oscilloscope from one or two channels to eight. This permits a direct comparison of events happening simultaneously and in direct relationship to each other.
Input is via eight BNC connec-

tors and will accept signals of $\pm 5 \mathrm{~V}$ ( $10 \mathrm{p}-\mathrm{p}$ ) with a frequency response that is flat to 12 MHz , -3 db at 20 MHz . Input impedance is $1 \mathrm{M} \Omega$.

Circle (58) on Reply Card

## Portable line monitor

A power line monitoring device, which analyzes power line quality at potential electronic installation sites, is being introduced by Sola Electric, a unit of General Signal.
The monitor will detect and identify all common power problems including high frequency electrical
noise, voltage spikes and drops, longer term high and low voltage conditions and momentary power failures. It also offers a reference chart of typical causes and recommended solutions for the most common power problems detected on the line.
The portable device plugs into any 115 Vac outlet, drawing no

more than 5 W . When a disturbance appears on the line, the unit sounds an audible alarm and lights any of six red LED indicators to identify the power problem.

Circle (54) on Reply Card

## Antenna rotator

Winegard Company has introduced the WR-5000 automatic outdoor antenna rotator.
The WR-5000 features a solid 1 -piece housing that eliminates the possibility of water penetration into the unit. Shaft construction provides easy mast installation.


Casting has a built-in stop for the drive unit support mast.

The drive unit incorporates a powerful de motor for maximum starting torque.

Circle (55) on Reply Card

## Static control samples

A free sample card of static control products is being offered by Charleswater Products.
The samples are suitable for preliminary testing and include high and low density foams, floor mat and tabletop material, nylon and transparent bags, wrist and grounding straps and shunt bars.

Circle (56) on Reply Card

## Fused eyeletting system

Pace's PFP-30 fused eyeletting system permits field repair of damaged or missing plated-thru holes and terminals on PCBs with factory quality.
The PFP-30 permits installation of a variety of hot fused eyelets and funnelets for a broad range of setting conditions. It also eliminates the solder "blowout" problems associated with conventional eyeletting techniques.
The system includes a fused eyeletting machine, tool kit, Cir-


Kit (with pre-tinned/scored eyelets, Trak-Pads, etc.), and a heavy-duty power source.

Circle (57) on Reply Card

## FM traps

Two FM traps, FT-750 and FT-760, are now available from the Winegard Company.
Model FT-760 is a 2 -stage variable FM trap designed to attenuate stations in the FM band 88 to $108 \mathrm{MHz},-26 \mathrm{~dB}$. The trap may be tuned to two different frequencies or the same one.
Model FT-750 is a fixed trap that attenuates the FM band 88 to $108 \mathrm{MHz},-26 \mathrm{~dB}$. Similar to its tunable counterpart, it can be used by the individual homeowner or by a commercial installer at an MATV headend.

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Both traps are enclosed in weatherproof housings and can be mounted on an antenna boom, mast or wall. Both will pass power to operate an antenna-mounted preamplifier from a remote power supply.

Circle (59) on Reply Card

## Soldering iron

A new System 9300 soldering iron has been introduced by Ungar, a division of Eldon Industries. It uses the "ThermoDuric" heating element that heats more efficiently and recovers faster than previous models.
The element is non-magnetic, and the iron conducts static electricity from tip to a grounded wall plug. Both factors help prevent static electricity damage to microcircuits.
Operating temperature of $700^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$

or $800^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ is determined by the heater, which can be quickly changed. Any of five standard Ungar tips can be used with either heater.

Circle (60) on Reply Card

## LCD digital multimeter

The Universal Enterprises DM25 is a $31 / 2$-digit DMM with a basic dc accuracy of $\pm 0.2 \%$ of full scaie. It will measure dc volts from 0.1 V to 1000 V , de cur-
rent from 0.1 mA to 200 mA , ac volts from 1 V to 600 V , and resistance from $1 \Omega$ to $2 \mathrm{M} \Omega$.
The DM25 has a 0.4 -inch display and features such as overload protection on all ranges, fuse protected current and resistance ranges (to protect against excessive overload), automatic zeroing and polarity, and over range

and low-battery indication. An automatic limiter circuit will allow up to 140 Vac to be applied on all OHMS ranges without blowing the fuse.

Circle (70) on Reply Card

## Test kit

TeleMatic's Update Kit (model 10J107) modernizes older test jigs for servicing the increasingly wider range of today's televisions, which require a test jig equipped with a selection of yoke-matching values.
The kit consists of two matching transformers and a yoke assembly, and allows quick selection of nine horizontal and five vertical impedance values. It adapts most 19-inch test jigs for servicing tube, hybrid and solid-state setsdomestic and imported.

Circle (76) on Reply Card

## Function generator

Almost any waveform from 0.001 Hz to 20 MHz can be created by Hewlett-Packard's new HP 3314 A function generator. Waveforms from precise sines,

squares and triangles to arbitrary waveforms can be made with the HP 3314A to meet a variety of signal-source needs.

Features include sine, square and triangle waveforms to 20 MHz ; variable symmetry for ramps and pulses; continuous, gated and swept signals; counted bursts from $\mathrm{N}=1$ to $\mathrm{N}=1999$; and new $1 / 2$-cycle signals.

Circle (75) on Reply Card

## Direct plug isolators

Electronic Specialists has expanded their Isolator line to include units that plug directly into the wall socket. Designed for installations that do not require extension cords, the direct-plug Isolators provide the same equipment interaction isolation and power-line protection as the linecord Isolator series. A convenient

retention screw prevents accidental withdrawal from the wall socket.
Direct-plug Isolators can accommodate a total 1875 W load, with up to 1000 W per socket. A highcapacity spike/surge suppressor is designed into each unit.

Circle (78) on Reply card

## Flameproof resistors

Sylvania ECG has added 17 new flameproof resistors to their line. The new resistors are all $1 / 2 \mathrm{~W}$ types with $5 \%$ tolerance. All additions have values under $1 \Omega$ and are used extensively in wide
varieties of semiconductor equipment

Sylvania ECG flameproof resistors are non-combustible because their metallic resistance element is sandwiched between an inner ceramic core and an outer

ceramic coating. This construction also provides stable resistance to normal operating current despite variations in ambient temperature, humidity or voltage.

Circle (77) on Reply Card

## Dual-time base oscilloscopes <br> Leader Instruments Corporation

 has announced the introduction of two dual-trace, dual-time base 35 MHz oscilloscopes, the LBO-524 and LBO-524L. The units are designed to meet applications in design, testing and service of both analog and digital circuits and equipment.Both oscilloscopes have an 8 x 10 cm PDA CRT that provides sharp, bright displays, even at highest sweep rates. Comprehensive triggering controls, including variable holdoff, alternate triggering and delayed sweep triggered functions, permit stable display for even the most complex signals. A channel-one output is available on the rear-panel to drive other less sensitive instruments, such as a frequency counter with an input level as low as $500 \mu \mathrm{~V}$. The dualtime base permits accurate observation and time interval measurements of complex waveforms.

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The Association of AudioVisual Technicians has announced the publication of the fourth edition of their Annotated Directory of Parts and Services for Audio-Visual Equipment. The purpose of the directory is to assist audio-visual technicians in locating parts service sources and manufacturers for audio-visual equipment and their current parts sources. Many of these sources are no longer the original manufacturer because the brand has been sold, discontinued, or because the manufacturer has moved or is no longer in business.
The price of the directory is $\$ 17.95$ plus $\$ 2$ shipping and handling to AAVT. The non-member price is $\$ 27.95$ plus $\$ 2$ shipping and handling.

> Circle (90) on Reply Card

A new 216-page catalog, published by Tucker Electronics, lists approximately 3800 pieces of reconditioned electronic test equipment and microwave components. Instrument categories include amplifiers, analyzers, bridges, frequency measuring equipment, signal generators, lab standards, meters, scopes, power supplies, recorders and RFI/EMI equipment.
All instruments available for either sale or short-term rental, and all units are reconditioned and calibrated to manufacturer's specifications.

Circle (91) on Reply Card

Desco Industries has released a new 8-page catalog of tools for electronic assembly and repair. This catalog introduces a complete new line of soldering aids with both wood and plastic handles, and
it expands the Desco line from 62 to 85 items.
A new price sheet, effective July 1, 1982, was released with the catalog. The new price schedule has one additional volume-pricebreak column. This new column, for assorted orders of 1000 or more units, will enable distributors to purchase Desco products at close to 1980 prices.

Circle (92) on Reply Card

Pace has released a new catalog of equipment that includes descriptions of Pace rework and repair

systems, desoldering systems, function accessories, work accessories, materials, tools and aids.
The catalog also includes information on Pace's motion picture/ video training courses-"Basic Soldering" (now available in 11 langauges) and "Rework and Repair for Electronics."

Circle (93) on Reply Card

A new 48-page catalog describing the complete product line is available from BP Electronics. The catalog includes test equipment and instruments, intercoms, headphones, video products and accessories, CATV hardware, microphones, audio accessories and speakers for home and auto, CB hardware and accessories, antennas, tools, pocket stereos, and TV replacement parts.

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