

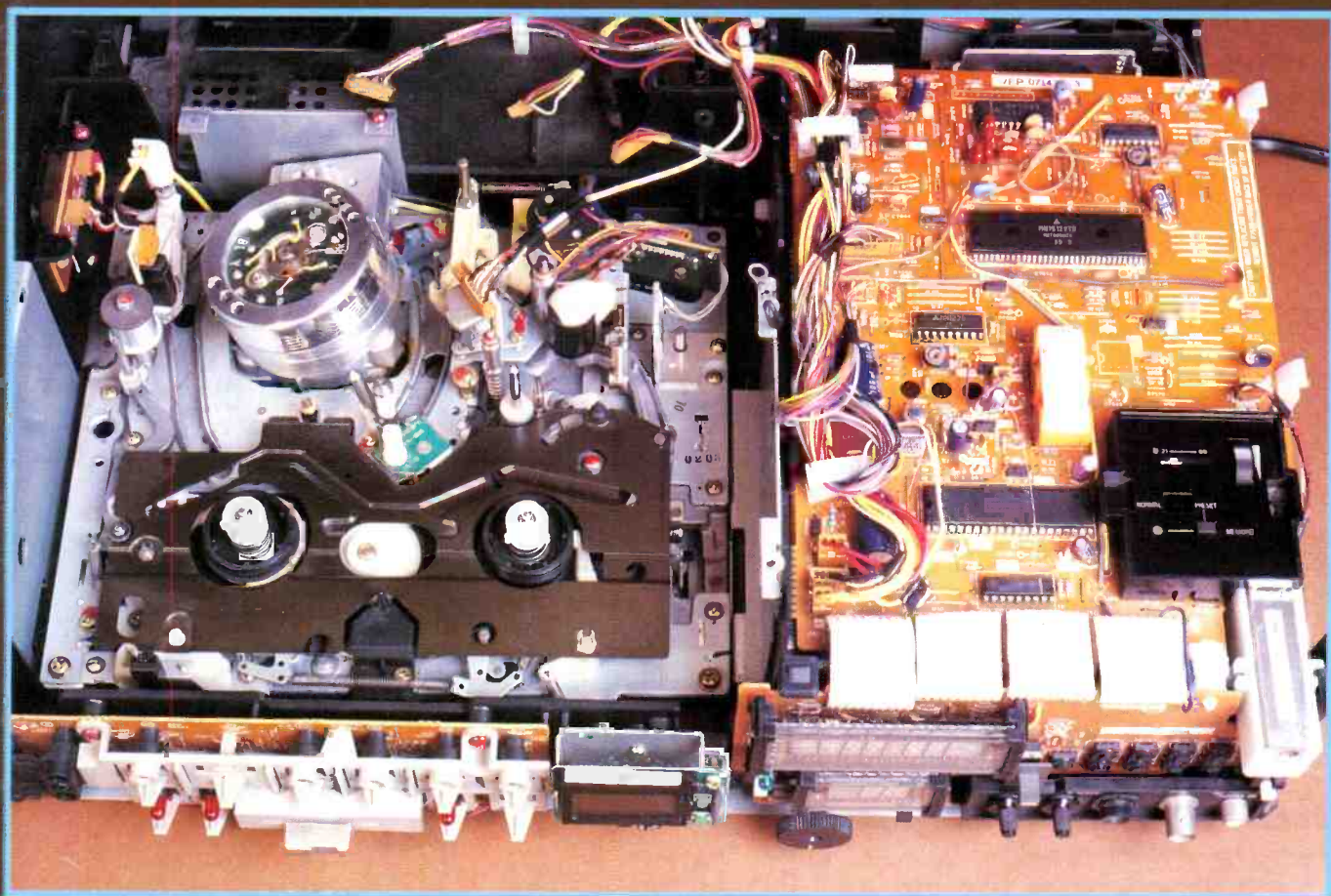
NOVEMBER 1991

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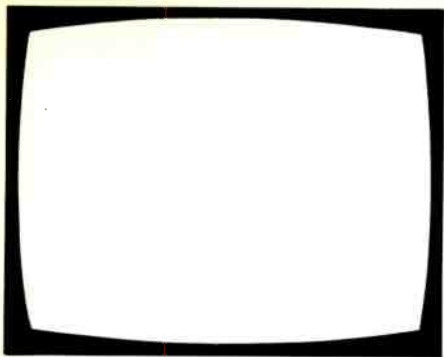
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TELEVISION

November
1991

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On sale October 16th

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QUERIES

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

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- 13 Leader**
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- 18 A Neptune 171** *John C. Priest*
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OUR NEXT ISSUE DATED DECEMBER WILL
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AAV32	9p	BD332	40p	BT779	140p	TP117	50p	OA47	10p	PCF801	110p	AN7145	195p	ICL7195	650p	LM3909	80p	STK436	490p	STK7226	800p	TA7310	100p
AC107	40p	BD332	40p	BU100A	130p	TP121	37p	OA36	10p	PCF802	80p	AN7150	210p	ICL7612	90p	LM3911	160p	STK437	500p	STK7308	410p	TA7312	110p
AC125	30p	BD362	60p	BU104	80p	TP121	46p	OA91	10p	PCF806	115p	AN7154	180p	ICL7660	240p	LM3914	160p	STK439	550p	STK7309	450p	TA7313	120p
AC126	30p	BD370	30p	BU105	80p	TP122	47p	OA200	10p	PCF200	100p	AN7156	200p	CM7555	60p	LM3915	160p	STK441	680p	STK7310	550p	TA7314	210p
AC127	30p	BD370	30p	BU108	100p	TP125	47p	OA202	10p	PCL81	65p	AN7158	240p	CM7556	60p	LM3916	160p	STK443	740p	STK7311	440p	TA7315	200p
AC128	30p	BD370	30p	BU109	80p	TP125	47p	OA202	10p	PCL81	65p	AN7158	240p	CM7556	60p	LM3916	160p	STK443	740p	STK7311	440p	TA7316	200p
AC128K	40p	BD433	28p	BU110	110p	TP127	56p	IN.4001	31p	PCL84	60p	AN7222	300p	KA2101	100p	M50115P	320p	STK459	60p	STK7358	650p	TA7324	200p
AC141K	45p	BD434	30p	BU111	140p	TP120	30p	IN.4002	31p	PCL85	80p	AN7254	150p	KA2102	100p	M50119P	520p	STK460	720p	STK7402	660p	TA7325	90p
AC152K	45p	BD435	31p	BU124	30p	TP131	30p	IN.4003	31p	PCL86	80p	AN7256	250p	KA2206	150p	M50120P	650p	STK461	620p	STK7403	400p	TA7326	200p
AC176	22p	BD436	28p	BU126	30p	TP132	30p	IN.4004	31p	PCL87	80p	AN7258	250p	KA2207	150p	M50121P	650p	STK462	780p	STK7404	880p	TA7327	200p
AC167K	25p	BD437	28p	BU180	150p	TP141	90p	IN.4005	31p	PLP200	110p	AN7131	90p	KA2209	125p	M50130P	650p	STK465	720p	STK7408	880p	TA7328	250p
AC187	25p	BD438	36p	BU184	100p	TP142	90p	IN.4006	31p	PL36	120p	AN7140	250p	KA2210	230p	M50131P	650p	STK466	720p	STK7410	1200p	TA7329	250p
AC187K	25p	BD439	40p	BU204	75p	TP145	85p	IN.4007	47p	PL82	80p	AY3-1015	200p	KA2211	230p	M50132P	650p	STK467	550p	STK7411	1200p	TA7330	250p
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AMSTRAD VCR7000	Reference 150280	£1.50	NATIONAL NV322, NV600, NV688, NV777, NV788	IDLER UNIT	VXP0463	£3.00	AMSTRAD VCR 7000	REEL MOTOR	£17.00		
AKAI VS1-2, VS4-5, VS15 VS1-2, VS4-5, VS15 V9700 VS125, 126, 155, VS165, 240, 244, VS245, 247, 248, VS250, 512, 515, 516	FF-REW IDLER T-UP IDLER IDLER IDLER ASSY	M1327773 BV327815 BV321979 MZ366960J2	NV333 NV333, NV366 NV333, NV366 NV333, NV3000 NV333, NV2000, NV3000 NV7800 NV333, NV2000, NV3000 NV333 NV366 NV370, NV430, NV730, NV830, NV850, NV870, NV87, NV810, NV812, NV818 NV370, NV430, NV870, NV730, NV830, NV850 NV730 NV2000, NV3000 NV2000, NV3000 NV2000, NV3000 NV7000, 7200, 7800 NV7000, 7200, 7800 NV8400, NV8600, NV8610, NV8620 NV8600, NV8610, NV8620 NV8620 NV600 NV621-25, NV640-45	IDLER ARM IDLER UNIT PLAY IDLER ACTION GEAR LOADING GEAR INTERMEDIATE GEAR CAM GEAR IDLER ARM IDLER ARM CAM GEAR IDLER UNIT IDLER UNIT IDLER UNIT CAM GEAR ACTION GEAR IDLER UNIT CLUTCH IDLER UNIT PLAY IDLER CLUTCH IDLER PULLEY UNIT	VXL0997 VXP0401 VXP0433 VDG0016 VXP0325 VXG0017 VXG0158 VXL0997 VXP0521 VDG0200 VXP0581 VXP0331 VXP0329 VDG0069 VDG0016 VXP0344 VXP0343 VXP0245 VXP0243 VXP0343 VXP0488 VXP0767	£3.60 £0.75 £3.00 £0.60 £2.00 £0.65 £1.00 £3.60 £1.70 £1.20 £2.50 £1.20 £1.20 £1.00 £0.60 £1.00 £5.50 £1.20 £1.20 £5.50 £3.50 £5.80	FERGUSON & JVC PU 45979, 3V16, 3V22, HR3300, HR3660 PU 55371V, 3V35, 3V36, 3V38, 3V39, 8943, 8944, HRD110, HRD120, HRD121, HRD225 PU 46414, 8904, 8922, HR3300, HR3320, HR3330, HR3360, HR3600, HR3660 PU 51381V, 3V39, 3V39, 8930, HR7200, HR7300 PU 58635V, 3V58, 3V59, 3V64, 3V65, 8950, 8951, FV10B, FV11R, FV12L, FV13H, FV20B, FV21R, FV22L, HRD170, HRD180, HRD230, HRD370, HRD430 PU 58636W, 3V58, 3V59, 3V64, 3V65, 8950, 8951, FV10B, FV11R, FV12L, FV13H, FV14T, FV20B, FV21R, FV22L, HRD170, HRD180, HRD230, HRD370, HRD430, HRD530 3V43, 3V44, 3V45, 3V48, 3V53, 3V54, 3V55, 3V56, 3V57, 8945, 8947 8948, HRD140, HRD150, HRD455, HRD565, HRD725, HRD755, HRP50, R73AF	CAPSTAN MOTOR CAPSTAN MOTOR DRUM MOTOR REEL MOTOR CAPSTAN MOTOR REEL MOTOR REEL MOTOR LOADING MOTOR MOTOR REEL SPOOLING MOTOR REEL SPOOLING MOTOR REEL TAKE-UP GEN	£21.00 £19.50 £19.50 £29.00 £18.00 £8.00		
FERGUSON 3V16-22 3V16-22 3V23, 3V29-30, 3V31-32, 3V35 3V23 3V29-30, 3V31-32, 3V35-36, 3V38-39, 3V49 3V29-30, 3V31-32 3V35-36, 3V38-39, 3V49 3V35-36, 3V38-39, 3V49 3V58-59, 3V64-65, FV10-11, FV12-13, FV14 3V42 3V42, 43, 48, 53, 56 3V42, 43, 48, 53, 56	T-UP IDLER T-UP IDLER REEL IDLER RDLLER ASSY T-UP IDLER T-UP CLUTCH REEL IDLER T-UP CLUTCH IDLER ARM CLUTCH ASSY CLUTCH ASSY T-UP CLUTCH SUPPART CLUTCH	PU47752 PU49280 PU48967 PU49042A 51402 PU51380 PU55374 PU55373 PU58645 PU55822 PU57658 PU56043-1-4 PU56044-1-5	£4.50 £6.30 £3.00 £4.00 £1.45 £2.60 £2.85 £2.25 £2.50 £13.50 £11.50 £2.80 £2.80	ORION VH200-201 VH555-700, VH844-900, VH1000-1500, VH1800, VP200, VH530 VH535-630, VH635-640, VH893-1440, VH2500- 2600, VH2700-4010, VH5010	IDLER IDLER	850A200004 850A200005	£3.50 £6.50	MITSUBISHI 288P02801, HS300, 301, 302, 310 288P02806, HS303, 304, 320, 330, 700 288P03401, HS303, 700	MOTOR REEL SPOOLING MOTOR REEL SPOOLING MOTOR REEL TAKE-UP GEN	£33.50 £31.50 £21.00	
FISHER FVHP520, FVHP530 FVHP615 FVHP615 FVHP840 FVHP905, 906, 908, FVHP910, 916 FVHP975, 990, 999, FVHP5000, 5100	FF-REW PULLEY COMP. IDLER ASSY GEAR IDLER ASSY REEL T-UP ASSY GEAR IDLER ASSY IDLER	H1638531 F11430420400300 F11430490400900 F11430410400900 F11430490402400 F11430420400700	£1.00 £3.30 £5.50 £6.50 £6.20 £5.20	PHILIPS DV464, VR6462, VR6463, IDLER VR6660, VR6860 VR6460, VR6520, 6920 DB532, VR6542, VR6843	IDLER IDLER ARM REEL IDLER	52220334 40340162	£2.50 £1.70 £7.50	NATIONAL MYN 135V5L, NV332, NV333, NV340, NV366 VEMO212, NV730NV770	REEL MOTOR MOTOR REEL GEN	£13.50 £30.00	
GOLDSTAR IDLER	435038A	£2.50	SANYO VHR110, VHR1300, VHR1500 VTC5000, VTC5150 VTC9100, VTC9300 VTC9300 VTCM10-20 VHR2100, VHR2300 VTC5000, VTC5150 VTCM10	IDLER IDLER FF-REW IDLER IDLER FF RDLLER ASSY REEL DRIVE PULLEY IDLER PULLEY PULLEY	850A200004 1430741T20001 1430551T01400 1430547T00200 1430662T10350 6130374899 143-0-662T-01201 143-0-662T-10350	£3.50 £5.00 £3.00 £1.20 £5.00 £5.20 £5.50	SONY VH651, VCG681, VCG685 VCG700, VCG7700 VC381, VC383, VC386, VC381, VC9100, VC9300, VC9500, VC9700 VC300, VC387, VC481, VC482, VC483, VC496, VC571, VC585 VC780-781, VC785-787, VC793-VCT72	IDLER PLAY IDLER KIT IDLER IDLER REEL IDLER	NPLYV0107GEZZ NPLYV0041 + NDA1V1007 NIDL0005GEZZ NIDL0006GEZZ NPLTV0111GEZZ	£6.15 £5.00 £1.50 £1.50 £7.00	
HITACHI VT11-33, VT63-64, VT14, 17, 19, 38, 57, VT86, 88 VT120-220 VT8000-8300, VT8500-8700 VT8000-8300, VT8500-8700 VT8000-8300 VT8500-8700 VT9300-9500 VT9300-9500 VT9300-9500 VT11-33, VT63-64	FF-REW IDLER PLAY IDLER CLUTCH ASSY CLUTCH ASSY FF-REW IDLER PLAY IDLER FF-REW PULLEY FF-REW IDLER PLAY IDLER IDLER IDLER IDLER FF-REW IDLER	6886971 V-6861482 6879515 6886824 6413663 6414221 6383531 8681471 6861482 681505 687043 6886971	£1.50 £3.20 £7.50 £7.50 £3.60 £0.80 £3.30 £3.20 £3.00 £3.80 £1.50	SHARP VC381, VC383, VC386, VC381, VC9100, VC9300, VC9500, VC9700 VC300, VC387, VC481, VC482, VC483, VC496, VC571, VC585 VC780-781, VC785-787, VC793-VCT72	IDLER IDLER IDLER IDLER REEL IDLER	NPLYV0107GEZZ NPLYV0041 + NDA1V1007 NIDL0005GEZZ NIDL0006GEZZ NPLTV0111GEZZ	£6.15 £5.00 £1.50 £1.50 £7.00	SONY C6 C7 SL-C5, SL-C7 SL-C6	IDLER KIT ASSY IDLER ASSY REW PULLEY REW PULLEY	A 6706391 X 36533100 A-6706-348-B A-6706-391-A-B	£3.50 £3.80 £4.00 £3.00
HIMARI VXL3, VXL20	REEL IDLER	40000009	£1.50	SAISHO VR1100, VR1200, VR1200HQ, VR1600, VR2500, VR3300, VR3500, VR3600	CLUTCH	850A20000	£6.50	SAMSUNG VT510-511, VT520-610, VT611-616, VT620-621- 626 VT510-511, VT520-610, VT611-616, VT620, 621, 626	IDLER WHEEL IDLER COMPLETE	65224704220 69000250330	£1.50 £4.50
ITT VR3905, VR3906 VR3906 VR3913, VR3943	T-UP IDLER REEL IDLER REEL IDLER	PU51402 PU55374 PU48967	£1.45 £2.85 £3.00	SONY 6V MOTOR 9V MOTOR 12V CW MOTOR 12V CCW MOTOR 13.2V CW MOTOR 13.2V CCW MOTOR			£2.00 £2.00 £2.00 £2.00 £2.90 £2.90	CASSETTE DC MOTORS			
JVC HR330, 3660, 4100 HR7200, HR7600, HR7650, HR7655 HR7200, HR7600 HR7650, HR7655, HR7700 HR3300, 3660, 4100 HR7200, 7600, 7650 HR7655, HRD110, HRD120-121, HRD225 HRD110, HRD120-121, HRD225 HRD110, HRD120-121, HRD225	T-UP IDLER SML T-UP CLUTCH REEL IDLER RDLLER ASSY T-UP IDLER LRG T-UP IDLER T-UP CLUTCH IDLER ARM	PU49280 PU53462A PU48967 PU49042A PU47752 PU51402A PU55373 PU55374-3-8	£6.00 £3.00 £3.00 £4.00 £4.50 £1.45 £2.25 £2.85	SAMSUNG MONO HEAD STEREO HEAD MINI HEAD AUTO REVERSE HEAD			£0.90 £1.50 £2.30 £2.60	CASSETTE TAPE HEADS			
MATSUI VX730, 735, 750, 755, VX810, 820, 880, 990	CLUTCH	850A00005	£6.50	SONY C6 C7 SL-C5, SL-C7 SL-C6	IDLER KIT ASSY IDLER ASSY REW PULLEY REW PULLEY	A 6706391 X 36533100 A-6706-348-B A-6706-391-A-B	£3.50 £3.80 £4.00 £3.00	CASSETTE TAPE HEADS			
MITSUBISHI HS306, 307, 318, 319, HS410, 710	GEAR ASSY	Reference 522P00201	£6.25	SONY C6 C7 SL-C5, SL-C7 SL-C6	IDLER KIT ASSY IDLER ASSY REW PULLEY REW PULLEY	A 6706391 X 36533100 A-6706-348-B A-6706-391-A-B	£3.50 £3.80 £4.00 £3.00	CASSETTE TAPE HEADS			
				SHARP RMDTV 1008GEZZ, VC200, VC381, VC384, VC385, VC386, VC483, VC3900, VC8381, VC9100, VC9300, VC9500, VC9700 RMDTV 1007GEZZ, VC387, VC483, VC486, VC585 RMDTV 1010GEZZ, VC300, VC402, VC471, VC477, VC481, VC482, VC486, VC496, VC500, VC571, VC581, VC582, VC583, VC584, VC5F3, VC8481, VC8581	REEL MOTOR MOTOR REEL GEN	£13.50 £30.00	SONY BHF 1100D, SLC7	CAPSTAN MOTOR	£25.00		
				SHARP RMDTV 1008GEZZ, VC200, VC381, VC384, VC385, VC386, VC483, VC3900, VC8381, VC9100, VC9300, VC9500, VC9700 RMDTV 1007GEZZ, VC387, VC483, VC486, VC585 RMDTV 1010GEZZ, VC300, VC402, VC471, VC477, VC481, VC482, VC486, VC496, VC500, VC571, VC581, VC582, VC583, VC584, VC5F3, VC8481, VC8581	REEL MOTOR REEL MOTOR REEL MOTOR	£13.50 £16.50 £16.00	SONY BHF 1100D, SLC7	CAPSTAN MOTOR	£25.00		
				SHARP RMDTV 1008GEZZ, VC200, VC381, VC384, VC385, VC386, VC483, VC3900, VC8381, VC9100, VC9300, VC9500, VC9700 RMDTV 1007GEZZ, VC387, VC483, VC486, VC585 RMDTV 1010GEZZ, VC300, VC402, VC471, VC477, VC481, VC482, VC486, VC496, VC500, VC571, VC581, VC582, VC583, VC584, VC5F3, VC8481, VC8581	REEL MOTOR REEL MOTOR REEL MOTOR	£13.50 £16.50 £16.00	SONY BHF 1100D, SLC7	CAPSTAN MOTOR	£25.00		
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				SHARP RMDTV 1008GEZZ, VC200, VC381, VC384, VC385, VC386, VC483, VC3900, VC8381, VC9100, VC9300, VC9500, VC9700 RMDTV 1007GEZZ, VC387, VC483, VC486, VC585 RMDTV 1010GEZZ, VC300, VC402, VC471, VC477, VC481, VC482, VC486, VC496, VC500, VC571, VC581, VC582, VC583, VC584, VC5F3, VC8481, VC8581	REEL MOTOR REEL MOTOR REEL MOTOR	£13.50 £16.50 £16.00	SONY BHF 1100D, SLC7	CAPSTAN MOTOR	£25.00		
				SHARP RMDTV 1008GEZZ, VC200, VC381, VC384, VC385, VC386, VC483, VC3900, VC8381, VC9100, VC9300, VC9500, VC9700 RMDTV 1007GEZZ, VC387, VC483, VC486, VC585 RMDTV 1010GEZZ, VC300, VC402, VC471, VC477, VC481, VC482, VC486, VC496, VC500, VC571, VC581, VC582, VC583, VC584, VC5F3, VC8481, VC8581	REEL MOTOR REEL MOTOR REEL MOTOR	£13.50 £16.50 £16.00	SONY BHF 1100D, SLC7	CAPSTAN MOTOR	£25.00		
				SHARP RMDTV 1008GEZZ, VC200, VC381, VC384, VC385, VC386, VC483, VC3900, VC8381, VC9100, VC9300, VC9500, VC9700 RMDTV 1007GEZZ, VC387, VC483, VC486, VC585 RMDTV 1010GEZZ, VC300, VC402, VC471, VC477, VC481, VC482, VC486, VC496, VC500, VC571, VC581, VC582, VC583, VC584, VC5							

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it's in a

PHILIPS

HERGUSON

SANSUI

NIKKA

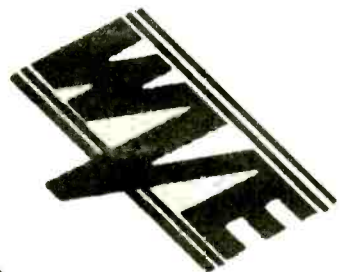


GRUNDIG



Saisic

to name but a few - disgustingly large amounts of parts are in stock



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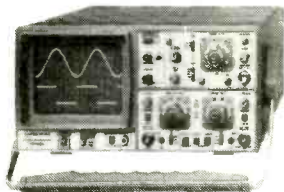
YES

HOW TO INCREASE YOUR PROFITS, IMPROVE YOUR SERVICE, WITH COST EFFECTIVE TEST EQUIPMENT.

HAMEG OSCILLOSCOPES

HAMEG are Europe's top selling DUAL TRACE OSCILLOSCOPES. Select from four superb models. All, with the exception of the HM 1005, incorporate a useful COMPONENT TESTER. Size - all models - 285mm x 145mm x 380mm. Clear display 8cm x 10cm. Mains supply: 110/220/240V AC 50/60Hz. All supplied with 2 PROBES, a COMPREHENSIVE MANUAL and a 2 YEAR WARRANTY.

HM203-7 20MHz STANDARD



SPECIFICATION

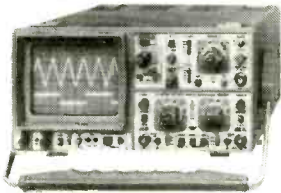
- * 2 Channels
- * Bandwidth: DC - 20MHz
- * Sens: Ch.1, Ch.2, 1mV/cm
- * Timebase: 0.1s - 20ns/cm
- * Triggering: DC - 40MHz
- * Active TV - Sync - Separator
- * Variable hold-off
- * Trigger LED indicator
- * Calibrator: 1KHz Square wave
- * Component tester
- * Plus many features

Price £338.00 + £59.15 V.A.T. FREE Specialist Carrier Delivery

SPECIFICATIONS

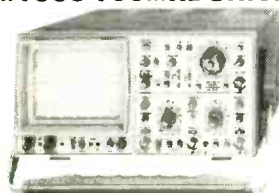
- * 2 Channels
- * Bandwidth: DC - 60 MHz
- * Sens: Ch.1, Ch.2, 1mV/cm
- * Timebase: 2.5s - 5ns/cm
- * Triggering: DC - 80MHz
- * Active TV - Sync - Separator
- * After delay trigger
- * Sweep delay
- * Delay line
- * Trigger LED indicator
- * Calibrator: 1KHz & 1MHz Sq. Wave
- * Component tester

HM604 60MHz UNIVERSAL



Price £610.00 + £106.75 V.A.T. FREE Specialist Carrier Delivery

HM1005 100MHz UNIVERSAL 3 CHANNELS - UP TO 6 TRACES



SPECIFICATION

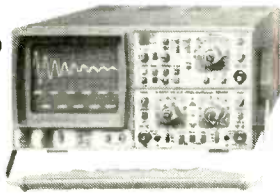
- * 3 Channels
- * Bandwidth: DC - 100MHz
- * Sens: Ch.1, Ch.2, Ch.3, 1mV/cm
- * Timebase A: 2.5s - 5ns/cm
- * Timebase B: 0.2s - 5ns/cm
- * Triggering DC - 130MHz
- * After delay trigger
- * Delay line
- * Trigger LED indicator
- * Overscan LED indicator
- * Active TV - Sync - Separator
- * Calibrator: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

Price £792.00 + £138.60 V.A.T. FREE Specialist Carrier Delivery

HM205-3 20MHz DIGITAL STORAGE

SPECIFICATION

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



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B.K.'s CRT TESTER REJUVENATOR



Tests and rejuvenates blue, green and red guns separately. Fitted with delta and P.I.L. sockets. Compact size 120 x 65 x 60mm. Supply 240V AC

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- * High accuracy.
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- * LCD display.
- * 8 ranges.
- * Accuracy $\pm 0.5\%$.
- * Full scale ± 1 digit.
- * Inc. protective case.

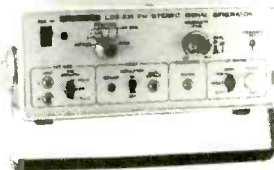
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At last! A generator specifically designed for testing and fault finding on FM stereo and monaural VHF receivers including stereo multiplex circuits.

FEATURES

- * Carrier frequency 100 \pm 1MHz (adjustable).
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- * Pilot signal 19KHz \pm 2Hz.
- * L & R separation over 50dB.
- * External Modulation 50Hz - 15KHz.
- * Pre-emphasis 50µs, 75µs & off.
- * Comprehensive test lead set included.
- * Mains powered.
- * Size: 80 x 200 x 250mm.



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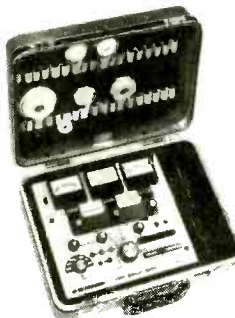


Light weight, easy-to-grip high-impact plastic handle with arc-over protection and no need of extra equipment. An indispensable item in your TV service kit. Measures up to 40kV DC with safety and the greatest of ease. Entirely self-contained. Connect the lead clip to chassis and probe tip to the check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

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The number one CRT Test Instrument. Over 5000 U.K. Television engineers wouldn't be without it.



* All CRT's checked identically, including all in-line and one gun types * Tests all three guns of colour CRT's simultaneously under actual operating conditions (model 490) * Exclusive multiplex technique (model 490) * Measure true dynamic beam current that actually passes through G1 aperture to screen * Measures all shorts and leaks - preserving more CRT's * Tests focus electrodes lead continuity finding faults that other testers miss * Uses most powerful restoration method known with minimum danger to CRT * Rejuvenated CRT's guaranteed as new for two years * Obsolescence proof - perpetual set up chart updated and new adaptors developed * Tests and rejuvenates VDU's and oscilloscope tubes * A range of over 40 CRT base adaptors available * Increase profit * Pays for itself in months.

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Model 490 Tri-dynamic three meter instrument inc. 6 common adaptors..... £446.00 + £78.05 V.A.T.
Without adaptors..... £393.00 + £68.77 V.A.T.
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TC402-C VHF & UHF

FEATURES

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



Price £259.00 + £45.33 V.A.T.

TC90 VHF-UHF- SAT.



FEATURES

- * Five bands:
 - Low VHF: 45-110MHz
 - High VHF: 110-300MHz
 - Hyper VHF: 300-470MHz
 - VHF: 470-862MHz
 - Satellite: 950-1750MHz.
- * Digital display for direct frequency readout.
- * Signal measurement VHF/UHF 20µV to 3V.
- * Signal measurement satellite -70dBm to -10dBm.
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- * Fully portable with sturdy carry case.

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

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

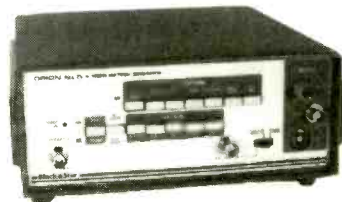
More than 50 pattern combinations can be selected, including those for testing static and dynamic divergence, video amplifier linearity, colour purity, general colour performance, focus etc.

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FEATURES

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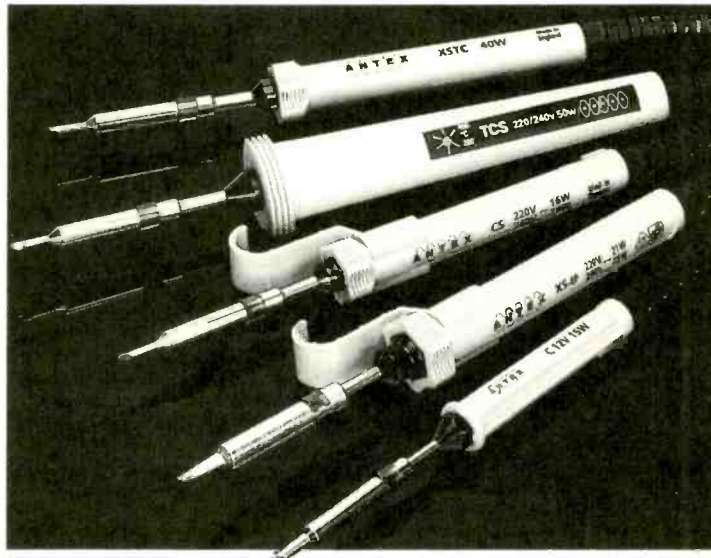
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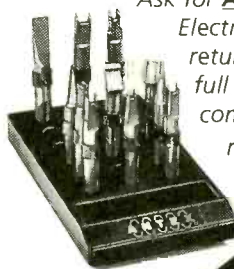
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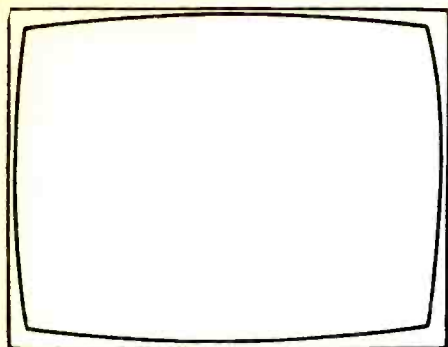
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	STK2250	800P
	STK3062	650P
	STK4121	690P
	STK4131	650P
	STK4132	690P
	STK4133	690P
	STK4134	690P
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250P	25A-726	25P	25B0548	40P	25C-1345	30P	25C-2238	60P	25D-523	150P
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350P	25A-798	55P	25B-568	40P	25C-1403	250P	25C-2440	70P	25D-613	70P
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COVER PHOTO

This month's cover photograph shows a Panasonic NV777 VCR with the covers removed. See servicing article on page 28.



**REED BUSINESS
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What did you tape last night?

Despite the fact that the VCR has been a standard item of domestic equipment for many years now little was known about owners' use of their machines for time-shifting until recently, when BARB (the Broadcasters' Audience Research Board) started to check on playback viewing. Since the ability to time-shift programmes is one of the basic advantages provided by the VCR, it's surprising to find how little use is made of it. BARB's research reveals that there is now measurable taping with four out of five networked programmes, while only one per cent of UK viewers appear to make use of the time-shift facility. In the four weeks to September 1st only eleven programmes had playback audiences that exceeded 900,000. They included three movies and five episodes of *Coronation Street*. Time-shifting added about two per cent to the various networks' viewers, which works out at about half an hour a week per viewer. The terrestrial channels and satellite TV attract what time-shifting there is evenly, films and soaps being the main items that are time-shifted. The public is certainly being rather unenterprising in its use of the VCR. Is this possibly to do with the problems that so many people have in setting their timers? Or is it that so many people simply switch on and watch what comes? Whatever the answer is, it appears that VCRs are used almost entirely for viewing bought/hired tapes. This being so it's strange that playback-only machines never caught on. Perhaps the price differential was not enough to make such machines an attractive proposition. This unimaginative use of video could be bad news for the prospects of CD-I and CD-TV as mass-market products.

At the Funkausstellung

The main interest at the 1991 Berlin Consumer Electronics Show was HD-TV and those 16:9 aspect-ratio sets. HD-TV will not be with us for some years, as the authorities and broadcasters continue to argue about what standard to adopt. But those expensive 16:9 sets are due to start appearing in the shops any day now – though in very small quantities at first. It seems that the public showed little interest in 16:9 TV at the Funkausstellung. Is this so surprising? To this observer at least, the 16:9 screen looks not so much a larger one as a screen with the top and bottom chopped off. A small, shall we say slim-line, screen in fact. If this is the public's perception of wide-screen TV, its future must be in some doubt. Japanese manufacturers seem to be taking to the 16:9 format however – a number of working 16:9 camcorders were on show.

At a special press presentation Thomson showed a prototype HD-MAC decoder the size of a standard VCR. The company is developing a set of eleven chips to reduce the size of the decoder. It will use SGS-Thomson 0.8 micron technology and should be available to setmakers by late 1993, at a price of around £1,900. By 1997 a futher chip set using 0.5 micron technology should be available, enabling a decoder to be fitted into a 16:9 receiver neatly.

Faraday

Last month saw, on September 22nd, the two hundredth anniversary of the birth of Michael Faraday who, amongst many other things, discovered the principle of the electric generator and motor. His father was a blacksmith who died when Faraday was thirteen. He was thus forced to leave school and seek work, taking up an apprenticeship with a bookbinder. The crucial break came when, at 22, he was hired by Sir Humphry Davy, director of the Royal Institution of Great Britain and famed as the inventor of the miner's lamp. At this time Faraday was self-taught and without any qualifications: he was within a few years to become Britain's foremost analytical chemist however. An early discovery was stainless steel – the rustless razor. In 1820, at the age of 29, he read of the discovery that a wire carrying an electric current would deflect the needle of a compass. His subsequent work in this field led him, in 1831, to lay down the laws of electromagnetic induction. Three years later he discovered the laws of electrolysis, which led to the electroplating industry. Ten years after that he linked magnetism and light, showing that a magnetic field could rotate the plane of polarisation of a light beam – the Faraday effect. These and other innovative work were great achievements: just how do you achieve such successes with so few clues? It seems that it was through a long process of patient research – observation and experimentation. That he managed it all with negligible mathematic knowledge might perhaps give those of us who always falter when it comes to maths just a little reassurance. . .

Equivalents

Following an appeal to readers earlier this year we were able to publish a number of VCR and TV equivalents lists. While they covered a lot of ground there's much additional information of this sort that would be helpful to readers. Comprehensive equivalents lists for TV sets/chassis and video equipment have been published by Mauritron Technical Services, 8 Cherry Tree Road, Chinnor, Oxfordshire OX9 4QY and Technical Information Services, 76 Church Street, Larkhall, Lanarkshire ML9 1HE.

The BBC Debate

The Home Secretary Kenneth Baker intends to produce next year a discussion paper setting out various possible options for the future of the BBC, whose Royal Charter runs out in 1996. The declared aim is to consult with the public and to look into all aspects of the services provided by the BBC, its finances and how it should operate. In an address to the Royal Television Society Mr. Baker commented that "there is clearly a role for public service broadcasting, but that role will have to be defined more explicitly". Since the role of the BBC is perfectly clear, one can't help suspecting that what he really means is that it should be curtailed. There are danger signals ahead.

The Video Bench

Steve Beeching, T.Eng.

We find that communications with dealers are poor at the best of times. Some of them could do with a kick up the backside for assuming that engineers are psychic. Telepathetic, yes possibly, but not psychic.

A Couple of Nicam VCRs

The fault report with a JVC HRD860 Nicam/hi-fi sound VCR that came in the other day read "audio E-E fault". Neither Darron nor I could find an audio fault, so we contacted the dealer. His engineer explained that it was a peculiar audio fault that sounded a bit like an echo and was somewhat "ambient" – like talking with one's head in a bucket.

No fault was found until some time later when we were wandering through the audio selector switches. The hi-fi/normal/mix button selects hi-fi left and right or normal or both. What's more on this model it functions with E-E monitoring as well as during playback. Demodulated Nicam audio and normal f.m. are mixed, the "ambient effect" being due to the time difference between the two channels.

Another HRD860 came in with a definite Nicam fault. The audio was very distorted, with a lot of background hiss. It sounded like an off-tune m.w. radio receiver.

No fault with the data or clock signals could be seen and all the crystal frequencies were correct. The DA converter

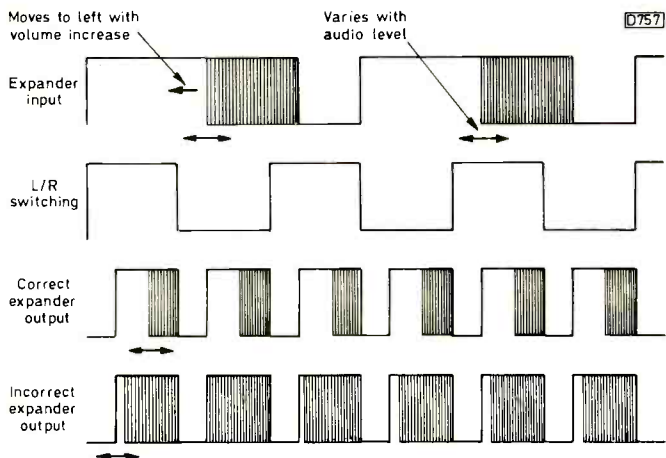


Fig. 1: Expander chip waveforms, JVC Model HRD860.

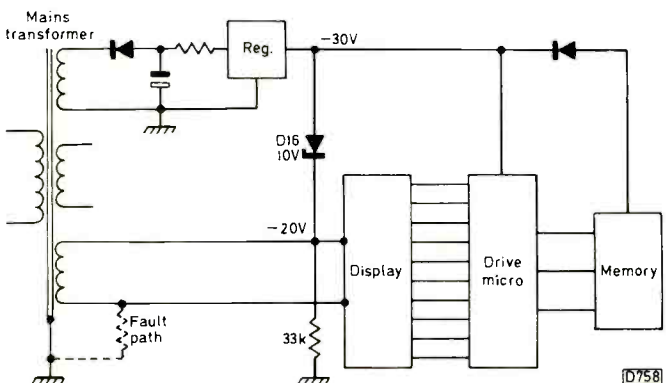


Fig. 2: Simplified circuit to show the cause of the problem with a JVC Model HRD500.

chip was replaced, but this made no difference. As I had to get the machine back to the dealer, a new panel was fitted and aligned.

When a bit of time was available later that month a more detailed investigation led me to the expander chip. Its inputs and outputs were checked with the scope locked to the L/R switching signal. Fig. 1 shows the input, the L/R switching and the correct and incorrect output waveforms. The data signal starts at the right-hand side of its "window" and moves to the left with increasing volume. On average the audio leaves the data about half way through. The output from the faulty expander filled the window however. As a result the DA converter was overloaded. It was the expander chip that was faulty of course.

HRD500 Power Fault

A peculiar problem with a JVC HRD500 had Darron perplexed for some time. Replacement of the timer/display PCB had been requested. The symptoms were a dim display with R5, a fusible 220Ω resistor in the -30V power supply, going open-circuit. Damage was also sustained by the 10V zener diode D16 in the timer and tuning memory circuit and the -30V supply regulator transistor Q1. The dealer and Darron had replaced these items.

The problem and the failures suggested a severe overload on the -30V supply. Since D16 is linked to the display the latter could have been at fault. After fitting three or four more fusible 220Ω resistors, a couple of zener diodes, a new memory chip and a replacement display we were getting nowhere.

On one occasion the machine ran all right for a whole day – until we reassembled the power unit in the VCR, when the display dimmed and another 220Ω resistor went open-circuit. Ah, I hadn't mentioned that the fault was intermittent, had I? It's so common these days that I forget.

We made a small drawing of the power supply circuit, see Fig. 2, in order to try to make sense of the situation. It was soon obvious that for D16 to be involved the loading had to be in the fluorescent display, but this had been replaced. A d.c. resistance check then showed that the a.c. supply for the filament, normally a high-resistance path, measured 40Ω to chassis when the power unit was moved. The cause of the trouble was a faulty mains transformer, a new one providing a complete cure.

Had the dealer managed to obtain a complete (and expensive) timer/display PCB from JVC it wouldn't have helped!

A Two-speed Model

A dual-speed JVC VCR came in because there were noise bars instead of thin lines in the cue and review modes. The dealer's engineers had replaced a chip in the f.m. preamplifier section but this hadn't helped.

We quickly traced the cause of the problem to a non-operational LP video head which produced noise instead of an f.m. carrier. It would have been easy to assume that the output from the head was f.m., except that the envelope didn't vary when the tracking was altered by judicious application of a finger to the head drum.

The heads had been changed previously because of a hi-fi audio fault. Unfortunately we had to fit another new drum to prove that the heads weren't defective. The cause of the elusive fault was in the lower drum: a new assembly and alignment put matters right. I didn't delve into what exactly had failed however.

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90615002	I.C. Z800 CPU	2.925	31800901	Commodore A2000 I.C. 8566 VIC PAL	17.95	60120030	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Paper Feed Motor	15.76
C128 KIT1	Commodore C128 Update ROM Kit	19.18	31801201	Commodore C128 I.C. 8530 MPU	5.34	60120048	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Carriage Motor	14.11
CBM128DIGD	Commodore C128D Introductory Guide	1.20	31802701	I.C. 8565 VIC PAL	12.82	60120001	Commodore 1526 MPS802 Mains Transformer	12.00
CBM128IGD	Commodore C128 Introductory Guide	4.22	31807101	"Fat Agnus" A500 I.C. 8371	31.71	60120317	Commodore 1526 MPS802 F.P.C. Cable	0.98
CBM128SGD	Commodore C128 Users Manual/Systems Guide	3.67	31807201	A500 I.C. Gary 5719	6.24	60121049	Commodore MPS1200 Instruction Book	4.71
CBM1351	CBM 1351 Mouse for C128/D/64C	27.92	31807502	5000 I.C. Gary 5719	3.60	60206513	MPS1200 Instruction Book	4.71
CBM1530	Commodore 1530 Datasheet	34.09	31809902	Commodore A2000 I.C. Buster	3.00	60206513	MPS1200 Monitor Book CM20213A03	1.50
DIAG 1541	Commodore 1541 Diagnostic Kit	48.77	31811901	"Read This First" Guide	0.07	60212178	Commodore 1901 Switch Mode Transformer	11.65
DIAG 1571	Commodore 1571 Diagnostic Kit	48.77	31992601	Amiga 500 Users Guide & DOS Manual	5.83	60212237	Commodore 1901 Monitor Lead	2.00
FB354D	"Disdrive" 3.5" Internal for A500	42.00	32012288	Key Plungers	1.15	60214090	Commodore 1081/1084 Power Transformer	17.35
IEEEE/IEEE	Commodore IE/EE to IEEE Interface Lead	15.60	32530201	Commodore 1540, 1541 I.C. 2364-130 ROM	3.93	60214152	Commodore 1081 Bracket/Holder 40430737	2.29
MAN1900	Commodore MPS1000 Users Manual 319795-03	4.51	32530301	Commodore 1540, 1541 SX64 I.C. 2364-131	3.58	60217006	Commodore 1900M Monitor to Computer Lead	3.93
MAN1520	Commodore 1520 Users Manual	1.20	32532002	PC40 Version 4 MS-DOS Manual	20.96	60217108	Commodore 1900M LPT TH-1577/2535	9.21
MAN1541	Commodore 1540, 1541, 1541B User Manual	1.00	32550202	C64 Bottom Case (Old Style) Brown 90150303	5.55	60217108	Commodore 1900M Mains Transformer	22.90
MAN157071	Commodore 1570, 1571 Users Manual	1.32	32611401	Commodore C64 Keyboard	0.79	60217109	Commodore 1900M Deflection Coil Assy	8.41
MAN1701	Commodore 1701 Users Manual	1.51	32616602	Keyboard (New Style)	18.50	60217117	Commodore 1900M CRT Socket	0.13
MAN84C	Commodore C64C Users Manual	0.53	32616603	Commodore A500 KB Encoder IC40L 6571-036	8.13	60220006	Commodore A108-S Control Cover Flap	4.74
MAN801	Commodore MPS801 Users Manual	7.20	32819102	Adaptor to connect 1530 to C16 and C-4	1.22	603030550	Commodore 1530 Top Case Japan	1.58
MAN802	Commodore MPS802 Users Manual	6.50	34005001	Commodore 1541 II Power Supply Unit	25.24	60303056	Commodore Datasheet Ltd Japan	2.66
MAN803	Commodore MPS803 Users Manual	2.81	34005002	Commodore Datasheet Ltd Taiwan 32017008	0.75	60303096	Commodore 1530, 1531 DO Motor (990020)	0.24
MANC-4	Commodore C-4 Users Manual	0.50	34003103	Commodore 1541 Top Case Taiwan	1.73	60401007	Commodore 1540, 1541 Motor Control PCB PY117	12.43
MANC16	Commodore C16 Users Manual	2.35	35330301	Commodore 1541 Base Taiwan	1.94	60401005	Commodore 154/41 Stepper Motor QY145A	0.00
MANC64	C64 Users Manual	0.30	35340102	PC40 Version 4 MS-DOS Manual	6.38	60403006	Commodore 8250 Head Assembly	30.00
MANDPS1101	Commodore DPS1101 Users Manual	3.55	35340102	Commodore 1541 Base Taiwan	1.94	60405011	Commodore 1570, 1571 D/Drive Motor Assy	27.93
PROGREFC-4	Programmers Reference Guide C-4	2.07	38020501	Commodore 1540, 1541 Base Taiwan	6.38	60406003	Commodore Micro Switch YFUF2530E14	4.72
PROGREFC64	Commodore C64 Programmers Ref Guide	0.50	38026701	Commodore A2088 I.C. PAL RAM Decoder	2.56	64LITEGUN	Commodore 654C Lite Gun	9.00
SMAN1520	Commodore 1520 Service Manual	5.02	38026701	Commodore A2088 I.C. PAL RAM Decoder	2.56	845175201	Commodore PC30 Keyboard	4.40
SMAN153031	Commodore 1530/1531 Service Manual	7.76	38070801	Commodore A2088 I.C. FDC 9288	11.17	90122501	Commodore 1515, 1525 Transformer	9.60
SMAN1541	Commodore 1540/1541 Service Manual	6.22	38071401	Commodore A2088 I.C. FDC 9288	5.91	90122601	I.C. 2324A Character ROM	3.51
SMAN170102	Commodore 1701/1702 Service Manual	15.00	39076201	Commodore A2000 Basic Manual	97.17	90122601	I.C. 2364 Basic ROM	4.20
SMAN64CADD	Addendum 64C Service Manual	0.57	39076201	Commodore PC10/20/40 Ser. 1 & 2 Keyboard	5.00	90122703	I.C. 2364 Kernall ROM	3.93
SMAN801	Commodore MPS801 Service Manual	5.24	39076201	I.C. 41256-15 D-RAM 256K	5.90	90122905	Commodore 1540, 1541 ROM (1540 Upgrade)	4.36
SMAN803	Commodore MPS803 Service Manual	8.00	39076201	I.C. 41464-18 D-RAM 256K	3.29	90123001	Commodore 1540, 1541 SX64 I.C. 2564	20.96
SMANAS00	Amiga 500 Service Manual	9.99	39076201	25-Pin Female D Connector PCB Mounting	1.96	90143501	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
SMANC-4	Commodore C-4 Service Manual	4.58	39076201	Ribbon 847001310	4.16	90143501	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
SMANC128	Service Manual C128	19.27	39076201	Transformer PCB Assembly	40.00	90143501	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
SMANC128DADD	Addendum C128/D Service Manual	7.68	39076201	Head PCB Assembly 848001107	6.17	90143501	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
SMANC16	Commodore C16 Service Manual	6.31	39076201	Carnier Clutch	0.25	90143501	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
SMANC64	Commodore C64 Service Manual	6.27	60101001	LF Motor Assembly 847001015	10.00	90143501	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
SMANMPS100	Commodore MPS100 Service Manual	14.20	60101122	Dot Sensor Unit	24.61	90150501	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
SWMANC-4	Commodore C-4 Integrated Software Manual	6.69	60101167	Motor Assembly 848001014	24.61	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
TECRPFC10/20	Tech Ref Manual PC10/20 Series III	11.25	60101185	Reduction Gear	8.89	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
0628PAL	Upgrade PAL (Sold with kit only)	1.14	60101185	Printer Head Unit 847001200	19.26	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
15400903	Commodore 1540, 1541 Transformer	10.58	60101185	Tractor Right Unit	3.60	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
154001403	Commodore 1540/41 Top Case 25118501	7.64	60101198	Tractor Left Unit	0.35	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
154001501	Commodore 1540, 1541 Base	3.32	60101198	Switch 847003155	10.12	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
154002402	Commodore 1540, 1541 Test Demo Disk	5.58	60101198	Idle Pulley 847001045	50.00	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
2236RN	Ribbon (Alt Type)	2.67	60101203	I.C. 2732 Eprom 840910400	2.378	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
25075401	Commodore 1570 LED Assembly	0.28	60101203	Commodore MPS803 Head Assy P8 U23300301	5.35	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
25100041	Commodore 1541C, 1570 Top Case	3.32	60102007	Commodore MPS803 OR Motor Assy U23014001	13.58	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
25100042	Commodore 1541C, 1570 Base	4.46	60102007	Commodore MPS803 Transformer Assembly	12.00	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
25105312	64C Power Supply Unit (90 Day Warranty)	22.50	60102027	Commodore MPS803 PCB Assy Complete	18.00	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
25111602	Power Socket 7-Pin Din	0.81	60102032	Commodore MPS803 PCHP Harness Assy	3.61	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
25124901	Commodore SM64 Users Manual	4.72	60102032	Commodore MPS803 On/Off Switch	2.736	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
25145301	Top Case	1.27	60102034	Commodore MPS803 Base U2344001	5.32	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
2515401	Bottom Case	1.11	60102036	Commodore MPS803 Front Cover U23048001	1.752	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
25150101	Keyboard	18.28	60102037	Commodore MPS803 Top Case U23049001	6.12	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
25152702	C64, C128, I.C. 8701 Clock Gen	1.45	60102075	Commodore MPS803 Motor Assy B.P. 483518	11.26	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
25152709	I.C. 8701 LG	1.45	60102075	Commodore MPS803 Master Assy U23029001	10.02	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
25153502	I.C. 8360 NTSC/PAL 25153501	13.62	60102075	Commodore MPS803 Stepper Motor	12.00	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
25153602	I.C. 8501 CPU	5.61	60102075	Commodore MPS803 Blower Cover U23047001	7.08	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
25158701	On/Off Switch/Rocker	1.37	60102075	Commodore DPS1101 Hammer Unit	23.68	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
25161401	Power Socket 4-Pin Din Square	0.58	60102075	Commodore DPS1101 Pulse Motor Unit	26.82	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
25164003	I.C. 8529B SPI 3Mhz Tri Port Buf	1.87	60102075	Commodore DPS1101 Selection Sensor Unit	3.04	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
25164102	I.C. 8700-010 PLA	0.02	60102075	Commodore DPS1101 Linear Motor Unit	64.36	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
25169701	C64 RF Modulator 251025-01	10.00	60103009	Commodore DPS1101 Serial I/F PCB Unit	27.15	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
25171501	I.C. Memory Controller	8.43	60103009	Commodore DPS1101 Carriage P.C.B. Unit	167.99	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
25179101	Commodore C16 Bottom Case	0.90	60103009	Commodore DPS1101 I.C. 8651AH	29.02	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
25185301	Commodore 1570, 1571 I.C. R3W Hybrid	12.65	60103009	Commodore DPS1101 I.C. 8651AH	29.02	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
25191101	RF Modulator	9.73	60103020	Commodore DPS1101 Printer Ribbon 02703	1.84	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
25191301	I.C. Kernall & Base ROM	6.30	60103024	Commodore DPS1101 Mask ROM	4.83	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
25191602	C64C RF Modulator 251916-03	3.95	60103033	Commodore DPS1101 I.C. PC99	3.06	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
25196601	Commodore 1551 Test/Demo Disc	1.93	60103044	Commodore DPS1101 I.C. 8651AH	29.02	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
25209201	Commodore 1571 Drive Assembly	45.36	60103044	Commodore DPS1101 I.C. 8651AH	29.02	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
25212501	Commodore A1000 8361 Agnus 48-Pin Din	20.98	60103047	Commodore DPS1101 I.C. 8651AH	29.02	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
25212602	A500 I.C. Denise 8362, 252126-01	15.31	60103047	Commodore DPS1101 I.C. 8651AH	29.02	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
25212702	A500 I.C. Paula 8364 RT 252127-01	25.11	60103050	Commodore DPS1101 I.C. 8651AH	29.02	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
31015704	C-4 Power Supply Unit (31015703)	15.60	60103050	Commodore DPS1101 I.C. 8651AH	29.02	90151001	Commodore 1551 I.C. 6523	1.57
31038901	Commodore C128/D I.C. 8722 MMU	8.11	60103065	Commodore DPS1101 I.C				

A Look at Chopper Power Supplies

J. LeJeune

In my youth it was my lot to have to design chopper power supplies for use with cable TV systems. Ah well, everyone has some cross to bear! The basic idea of the switch-mode power supply, to give the arrangement its correct name, is a good one. In a "conventional" multi-voltage power supply, especially where some current demands are over 250mA, a lot of power is lost and consequently heat is generated where voltages are dropped using large power resistors. A series regulator is also wasteful in terms of dissipation.

Switch-mode power supplies of recent design have all been of the shunt type, with a transformer used to provide from individual windings the rails required in the equipment. Each winding can be optimised for the load it has to supply, and all the windings are interlocked by tight coupling to the core of the transformer. This arrangement provides regulation of all the supplies derived from the transformer in one go, and can also be used to provide mains isolation.

Cable Network Supplies

With a cable TV network the repeater amplifiers are powered via the signal-carrying coaxial cable. A static regulator at each amplifier is inefficient, and the number of repeaters that can be powered from any one point is seriously reduced when static regulators are used. Say the repeaters require a 20V supply. A 65V d.c. supply can be sent with the signal via the cable and quite a large voltage drop can be tolerated before the regulation with repeaters at the extremities of the system suffers. Use of a simple passive regulator will throw away 45V at say 200mA, resulting in a loss of 9W. In addition to this disadvantage it's not a good idea to use d.c. with cable networks because electrolysis at connectors results in high corrosion rates. So 65V a.c. is used with on-board rectification. This gives us $65 \times 1.4 = 91V$ d.c. to play with. Conventional 50Hz transformers with an input voltage selector at the primary and low-voltage secondaries can of course be used with such a system. But switch-mode power supplies with their high efficiency are more advantageous. Fewer injection points are needed, with a cost saving, and no input voltage selection is necessary. There's also a weight saving, which is important with equipment that has to be mounted on walls or up poles. This weight saving is brought about by the use of ferrite-cored transformers, which can be employed with the h.f. operation of a switch-mode power supply – the transformers are also smaller.

Basic Series Chopper Circuit

Early switch-mode power supply designs used in TV chassis such as the Thorn 3000/3500 were of the series type, supplying a single stabilised output. If other, lower, voltages were required they had to be "dropped" from the stabilised line (see Fig. 1). This defeated the primary usefulness of the system, so the series-type chopper power supply soon ceased to be used where more than one stabilised rail was needed.

We'll briefly outline the operation of the arrangement shown in Fig. 1. Chopper transistor Tr1 is switched on and off by a variable mark-space ratio squarewave drive

waveform. When the load increases, the output voltage will tend to fall. This is sensed by the comparator, which adjusts the chopper drive. Tr1 is thus switched on for a longer period during its on/off cycle, increasing the supply to the load. Inductor L1 acts as the energy reservoir for the system. When Tr1 is switched off, the voltage at its emitter swings negatively and the efficiency diode D1 conducts. This clamps the feed end of L1 at chassis potential and the stored energy supplies the load.

Shunt Circuit with TDA4600

In a TV set several rails with widely different voltage and power requirements have to be provided. These can be supplied by a shunt-mode chopper circuit. As an example we'll consider the very common arrangement based on the TDA4600 control chip: Fig. 2 shows the circuit as used in the Mark III version of the Ferguson TX9 chassis.

The mains input is fed to a standard bridge rectifier (D62-5) which produces some 350V across its reservoir capacitor C140. This supply feeds the primary winding of the chopper transformer T1. The earthy end of this winding is connected to chassis via the chopper transistor Tr62. Drive for the base of Tr62 is provided by the TDA4600 chip IC57. As Tr62 is switched on and off, so the d.c. supplied to the primary of the transformer is chopped. This chopped d.c. looks like a.c. to the transformer, and a simple transformation from the primary to the secondary windings provides, after rectification, the stabilised output rails. One might be tempted to accept this simplistic view as being all there is to switch-mode power supply operation. If only it was that simple!

The cycle of events is rather more complicated. When Tr62 is switched on, current flows in the primary winding of T1. Because Tr62's load is inductive, the current flowing in the primary winding will rise relatively slowly, not instantaneously as it would if the load was resistive. The reason for this is that the transformer's core will be magnetised as current flows in the primary winding. Because the flux is changing (increasing), an opposing current is set up. The net result is the production of a current ramp waveform. As the current increases, so does the flux in the core. If this was to continue unchecked the core would eventually saturate. Before this happens Tr62 is switched off, interrupting the current flow. With nothing to maintain it, the flux now collapses quickly, producing a reverse current flow in the windings coupled to the core. As a result D67, D69, D70 and D71 conduct, charging their respective reservoir capacitors. Tr62 is subsequently

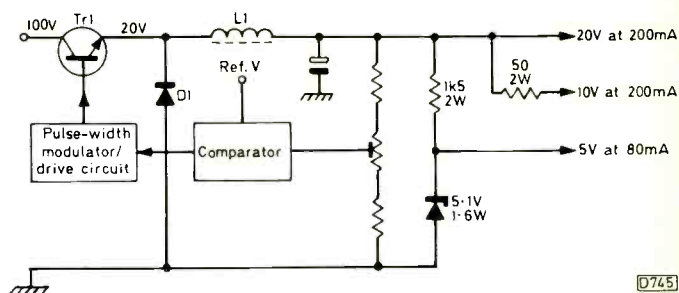


Fig. 1: Basic series chopper arrangement, which provides a single stabilised output.

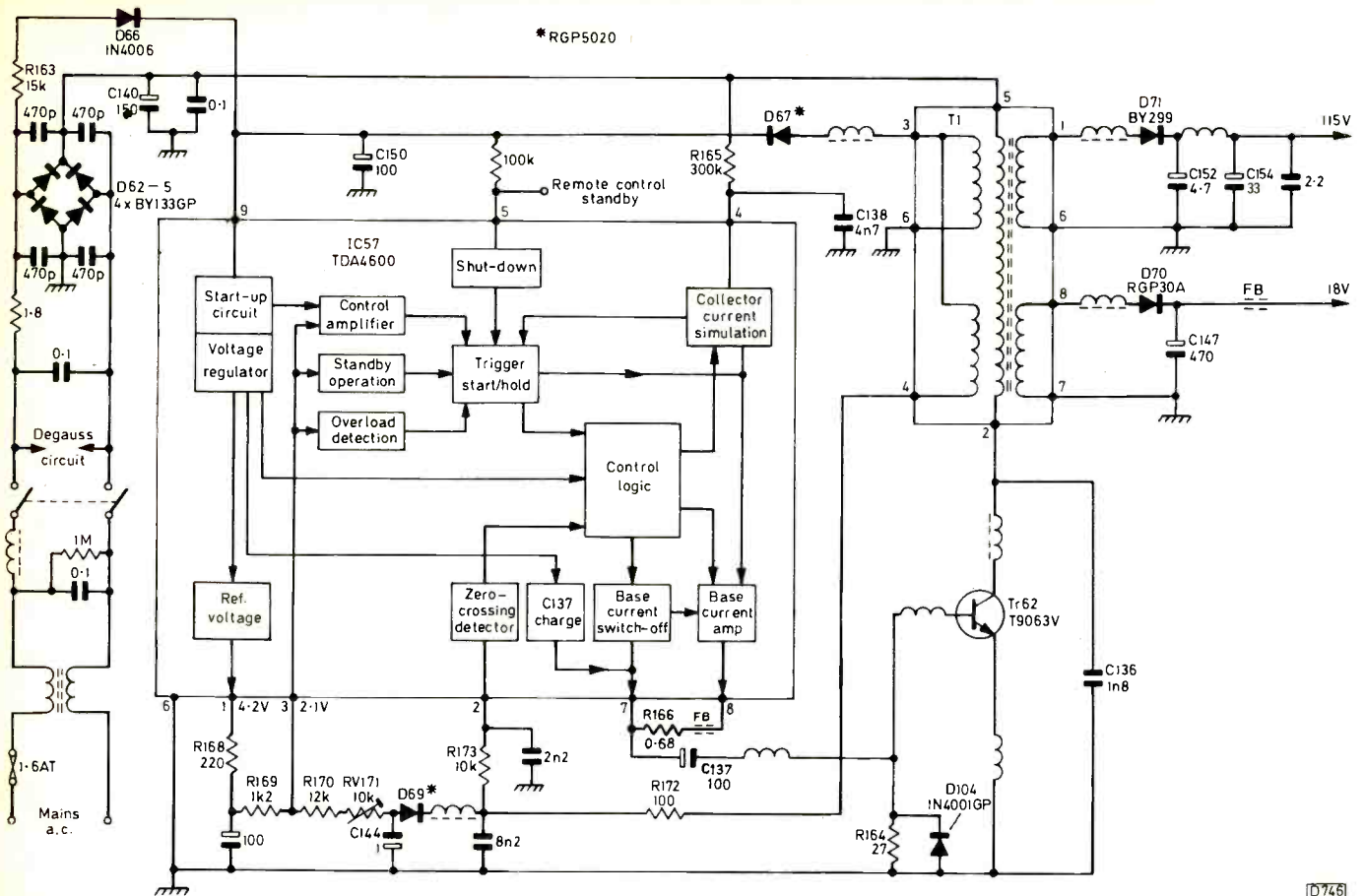


Fig. 2: The shunt chopper circuit with TDA4600 control chip used in the Ferguson TX9 Mk. III chassis.

switched on again by the chip and the cycle is repeated. IC57 controls the on/off switching cycle by sensing the transformer's output and the a.c. conditions within it.

At switch-on there's no supply from D67 at the chip's supply pin 9. To get things going D66 charges C150 from the mains supply via R163. Because of R163, the voltage across C150 rises slowly. When the voltage at pin 9 of the chip rises to 7.5V, short pulses are delivered to the base of Tr62 so that it conducts briefly once each cycle. The object of this exercise is to provide a supply for D67, which conducts to increase the voltage across C150. When this voltage reaches 12.5V D66 is reverse biased, IC57 has its normal operating voltage and the chopper supply is fully operational. In other words a soft-start action has been provided.

Regulation depends on the voltage at 3 of IC57. An internal voltage regulator produces a reference voltage of 4.2V at pin 1, which is linked to pin 3 via R168 and R169. The winding between pins 3 and 4 of the transformer provides feedback for regulation purposes. D69 rectifies the output from the feedback winding, developing across C144 a negative voltage that's proportional to the power supply outputs. This voltage is fed to pin 3 of the chip via RV171 and R170, backing off the positive voltage from pin 1. The resultant voltage, about 2.1V, is sensed by the logic in the chip and is used to adjust the conduction time of Tr62. As an example, if the output from T1 is excessive D69 will provide a greater negative potential across C144 and the internal logic will shorten the on time of Tr62 accordingly.

Pin 2 of the chip receives an a.c. input from the same reference winding, via R172/3. This pin feeds a zero-crossing detector which senses the point at which the feedback waveform passes through zero. The significance of this relates to the fact that D70/71 conduct when Tr62

switches off, transferring the energy stored in T1 to the load. As the flux in T1 collapses, the feedback waveform passes through zero. This is the point at which Tr62 must be switched on again. The zero-crossing detector tells the control logic in the chip to do this.

The supply's frequency of operation is not locked to the line frequency. In normal service it free runs at between 18-23kHz.

Whilst Tr62 is conductive pin 4 of IC57 is open-circuit. C138 then charges from the 350V rail via R165. When Tr62 is cut off by the drive at pin 7, pin 4 is earthed and C138 is discharged. Thus there's a sawtooth waveform at pin 4. This serves two purposes. Since Tr62 is a power device it has a low current gain in the region of 20-30. As Tr62's collector current increases, its gain falls and a greater base drive is required to hold it saturated. This is achieved by using the rising ramp voltage at pin 4, after amplification, to provide a rising current drive ramp at pin 8. In addition, protection in the event of an overload on one of T1's secondaries is achieved by sensing the amplitude of the ramp waveform at pin 4: should its peak-to-peak amplitude reach 4V the control logic reduces the width of the drive pulse at pin 8. A short-circuit across the 115V line will reduce the base drive on/off time further.

Fault Finding

Thus the time-constant of C138 and R165 determines the maximum current passed by the chopper transistor. Should the value of either of these components alter, Tr62 could be subjected to a current overload. This sort of trouble can occur when an unsuitable type of resistor is used in the R165 position: it should be a metal-glaze resistor with a working voltage of 500V. In many designs two resistors in series are used in this position. R166 at

pin 8 sets Tr62's maximum base drive current. Problems have been experienced with this small wirewound component – check it should Tr62 fail for no apparent reason.

Failure of Tr62 is usually catastrophic, as a result of punch-through between its collector and base. Thus 350V appears at pins 7 and 8 of the chip which dies. C137 generally suffers and R164 and D104 will also be damaged.

When repairing a power supply that's been damaged in this way it's as well to check that the base drive from the chip is o.k. before replacing Tr62 and applying the mains supply. Use a 4.5V battery to simulate the action of the transformer's reference winding – connect its positive terminal to chassis and its negative terminal to the anode of D69. Then use a bench power supply to provide 12V at pin 9 of the chip. A short train of pulses should be seen at pin 8 as the chip tries to get Tr62 going. The pulses will not be present for long as there's no zero-crossing information at pin 2 – the chip thinks the start-up has been aborted, which of course it has.

Though IC57 provides comprehensive protection this is insufficient to prevent destruction of Tr62 when components in its collector circuit are defective. The snubber capacitor C136 is included to delay Tr62's collector voltage rise time at switch off, thus reducing the dissipation in Tr62. Should the value of C136 change or T1 have shorted

turns Tr62 will be rapidly destroyed, with the previously mentioned trail of destruction amongst its base circuit components. C136 and T1 are best checked by substitution. It can be expensive in terms of silicon to track down failure here.

Hum Cancellation

Hum reduction is a feature of most switch-mode power supplies. With the circuit shown in Fig. 2, any ripple on the 350V line will be reflected in the d.c. feedback to pin 3. Thus the mark-space ratio of the chopper transistor's base drive waveform will be modulated to compensate. Connecting pin 5 to chassis gives remote control standby operation.

Safety

A final word about safety. Since the d.c. supplied to a chopper circuit is usually derived from a bridge rectifier connected directly across the mains input, it follows that circuitry on the primary side of the chopper transformer is at peak mains potential. Thus care should be exercised when fault-finding and carrying out repairs. An isolation transformer helps, but there are still some hefty voltages present at considerable power.

A Neptune 171

John C. Priest

One of these 12in. monochrome portables, of East European origin, came in recently with the complaint that it went off after a quarter of an hour. When we put it on the bench and switched it on we immediately got a picture and sound. Half an hour later it showed no sign of going off, so we put it on one side to play to itself while more urgent (and profitable) matters were dealt with. It ran quite happily without fault for three days. I was considering the possibility of a faulty mains socket when the picture and sound went, leaving a slightly noisy raster.

Test Procedure

By the time the back had been removed the fault had of course cleared. So after spending a short while checking for dry-joints in the area of the tuner and its 30V supply the set was once more put to one side. Some time later I noticed that the screen had blacked out. Turning up the volume showed that the sound was still present, so attention was turned to the line output and driver stages. The main semiconductor devices here were first checked and found to be o.k. Then the line output transformer was checked for continuity of the windings and dry-joints. Everything was in order.

Voltage checks showed that the 10.9V l.t. supply was not present at the collector of the line output transistor though it was present at the anode of the efficiency diode D406. This diode had measured o.k. both in circuit and out, but a replacement brought the set back to life. The original had rather smeary markings which were difficult to make out, possibly DYP-071 350R. Anyway, a BY223 fitted the heatsink and print and as this device stands up to the demands of the Philips G11 chassis we felt that it should be all right in a small mono portable TV set.

While tracing the cause of the fault we had established

that the TBA950 sync/line generator chip U251 was producing a line-frequency squarewave output at pin 2. When the raster was restored however there was a distinct lack of line sync. We found that the sync waveform from the labelled pin of the i.f. module was not present at the TBA950 end of the series resistor. All the chips in this set have sockets, so the quickest check was simply to plug in a new TBA950. Fortunately this cleared the fault. The original trouble about which the customer had complained, the loss of signals, turned out to be due to a lazy BF970 oscillator transistor in the tuner.

Background Information

This is a solidly built little portable. Its robust PCB is held in a metal frame that slides horizontally into the black, wedge-shaped cabinet. The simple l.t. bridge rectifier plus series regulator power supply is fed from a substantial mains transformer that's mounted in the middle of the PCB and supported by two screws through the bottom of the cabinet. The u.h.f. tuner and i.f. module are mounted to the right of the chassis, the line output transformer is to the left, the six-position channel selector switch unit is along the front left-hand edge of the chassis while the tuning potentiometers are in the centre, behind a small flap. The contrast, brightness and volume/on-off rotary controls are to the right. Component layout is uncluttered and the circuitry uncomplicated, so repair of these sets should present no problems.

The set that came in was less than a year old. A few years ago a couple of imported sets with a similar chassis but with a mechanical u.h.f. tuner and the controls mounted at the top of the white cabinet came in. They were of Czechoslovakian manufacture, but this latest set gave no clue as to its origin other than a couple of production labels inside with Cyrillic script – all the other markings were in English.

You will probably meet a number of similar sets sold, under various names, by mail-order companies, mini-markets and discount shops.

TV & VIDEO SPARES

TELETEXT PANELS

GEC — C2285, C2287, Text Conversion Kit £15.00
 IFT — Compact B, D & Mono Print 13, 14-20" Text Conversion Kit £15.00
 MULLARD VM6103 £10.00
 POST PACKING FOR ABOVE £2.50

PHILIPS SPARES

G11 6 POS touch tune channel selector (replaces old type) £14.00 p.p. £1.80
 MANUALS 2B, (CP9) £3.50, CTX-1, CTX-S, CFT £2.50, KT4, K40, 3A £4.50, 2A £10.50, KT3 £12.00 p.p. MANUALS £1.80
 BACK UP BATT. 2.4V £3.80, 1.2V £2.60 p.p. 80p
 K30, KT4, CTX-EHT Lead £3.20 p.p. £1.00.

THORN/FERGUSON SPARES

9000 Series IF/Decoder tested £10.00 p.p. £2.80.
 TX10 Focus control £8.50 p.p. £1.80.
 TX9/10 Remote & tuning 1515N £5.00 p.p. £1.80.
 TX9/10 Remote & tuning 1508A (incl. SAA5012) £2.50 p.p. £1.80.
 TX9/10 Remote & tuning 1536 (incl. SAA5012, SI-471) £3.50 p.p. £1.80.
 TX10 Stereo Audio Board £3.50 p.p. £2.50.
 TX90 Mains TX £23.00 p.p. £2.80.
 TX100 Chopper TX £22.80 p.p. £2.50.
 TX90 14" Chassis Untested complete £20.00 p.p. £4.50.

IC SELECTION

AN5521	£3.80	SAA5020	£5.80	STR5804	£8.50	TDA2578	£3.80	TDA3653B	£3.20
AN5900	£2.20	SAA5030	£6.80	STR6020	£5.80	TDA2579	£3.80	TDA3654	£3.20
BA6238A	£4.80	SAA5040	£6.80	TA7680AP	£5.80	TDA2581	£2.20	TDA4442	£6.80
CN802	£4.80	SAA5050	£11.80	TA7681P	£5.80	TDA2582	£2.80	TDA4500	£5.80
FR107	£7.20	SAA5231	£5.80	TA7688P	£6.80	TDA2593	£1.50	TDA4501	£7.80
HA1121H	£2.80	SAB3035	£6.80	TBA120	£1.20	TDA2594	£3.80	TDA4502A	£13.50
HA11423	£2.10	SAB3037	£5.80	TDA750	£2.20	TDA2595B	£3.80	TDA4503	£5.80
HA5138SP	£11.80	SAH1032	£4.50	TDA920	£2.20	TDA2600	£6.80	TDA4505	£6.80
LA4445	£3.80	SAH1039	£2.20	TDA950	£2.20	TDA2611A	£1.90	TDA4600	£3.85
LA7800	£1.80	SI-470/471	£4.00	TA270	£1.80	TDA2640	£3.20	TDA4601	£2.80
LA7520	£7.20	SI-486	£3.20	TA280	£6.80	TDA2653A	£3.20	TDA4610	£6.80
LA7801	£3.50	SI-490	£3.80	TDA3035T	£2.40	TDA2654	£5.70	TDA5510	£5.80
LA7800	£2.80	SI-1430	£1.80	TDA3037	£1.90	TDA2655B	£6.60	TDA5850	£2.80
M29381	£7.80	SI-1432	£1.40	TDA3044	£2.90	TDA2670	£2.20	TDA5853	£7.90
M4908B1	£14.80	SN762260DN	£1.80	TDA1082	£4.80	TDA2680	£3.80	TDA8180	£6.80
M4918B1	£9.80	SN76705	£9.80	TDA1170	£2.20	TDA2690	£3.80	TDA8190	£3.80
M494	£9.80	STK5325	£6.80	TDA1180	£2.20	TDA2780	£6.80	TDA9403	£3.80
MC13020P	£5.80	STK5332	£6.80	TDA1190Z	£2.20	TDA3100	£4.20	TDA9503	£3.80
MDA2061	£7.80	STK5338	£6.80	TDA122P	£5.70	TDA3300	£6.80	TDA9513	£4.80
MDA2062	£2.80	STK5339	£6.80	TDA1270	£2.80	TDA3301	£7.50	TEA1000	£2.20
ML237	£3.80	STK5421	£6.80	TDA1670A	£3.20	TDA3330	£6.80	TEA1014	£3.50
ML238	£6.80	STK5422	£8.50	TDA1701	£3.80	TDA3500	£6.80	TEA1039	£1.20
ML206	£4.80	STK5471	£6.50	TDA1720	£3.20	TDA3510	£9.80	TEA2018A	£2.80
MIN15425	£14.50	STK5481	£7.80	TDA1870	£6.80	TDA3540	£2.50	TEA2165A	£3.80
SAA1024	£5.80	STK5482	£6.80	TDA1908	£2.80	TDA3541	£3.50	TMS1000211	£3.80
SAA1025	£5.80	STK7908	£6.80	TDA1944	£3.20	TDA3600A	£5.80		
SAA1124	£3.50	STK7348	£10.80	TDA1950	£5.50	TDA3562A	£5.80	TMP47C432AP	£13.50
SAA1250	£3.80	STR441	£7.80	TDA2040	£7.80	TDA3565	£3.80	S189	£1.50
SAA1251	£8.40	STR450	£6.80	TDA2150	£3.20	TDA3566	£5.80	TMP47C434N-3555	£16.80
SAA1292	£13.20	STR451	£5.80	TDA2270	£2.80	TDA3571	£4.80		
SAA1293 02	£8.80	STR451	£5.80	TDA2310	£6.80	TDA3576	£13.50	TMP47C434N-3559	£5.80
SAA13027	£5.80	STR451	£5.80	TDA2348	£5.80	TDA3640	£4.20	TDA2000	£8.50
SAA5000	£2.80	STR5412	£5.80	TDA2576A	£3.80	TDA3650	£8.30	UIC3844N	£4.95
SAA5010	£5.80	STR5003	£4.50	TDA2577	£4.80	TDA3651	£4.20	UPC1378	£1.90
SAA5012	£5.80	STR54041	£10.80	TDA2577A	£4.80	TDA3653A	£3.80	UPC1394	£3.80
IC p.p. 80p								UPC1420	£8.60

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FIDELITY ZX500	£15.50	PHILIPS 320	£23.80
HINARIH T4, C45	£24.80	PHILIPS G6	£8.80
HITACHI CP11455 1456, 1476, 1491	£28.80	PHILIPS G9	£12.80
HITACHI CP12174 7678	£28.80	PHILIPS K13	£13.80
HITACHI P/N 2433752	£21.80	PHILIPS K30	£31.80
IFT Compact B.110	£19.80	PHILIPS CTX-E, S	£24.80
IFT Compact B.110	£17.80	PHILIPS K14, 40	£22.40
IFT Compact B.90	£22.80	PHILIPS 2A	£23.80
IFT Compact B.110 FST	£19.80	PHILIPS 3A, 2B	£23.80
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IFT CVC 800, 801, 803	£24.00	SANYO CTP132, 80P Chassis	£39.80
IFT CVC100, 1206, Picos	£18.50	SONY KV1882	£34.50
IFT CVC1150, 1175	£22.80	SONY KV20926	£60.00
IFT CVC1200, 1201, Mini 2	£18.50	SONY KV2704	£43.80
IFT CVC1204	£11.50	THORN 1900 01, 1612, 13, 1712	£24.80
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Teletopics

VIDEOPHONES

Could the videophone, enabling callers to see each other, become one of the next mass-selling consumer electronic products? Quite possibly, since Amstrad aims to start selling videophones by September 1992. The price will be all important of course – at this stage Amstrad is unwilling to suggest a firm figure but something in the £250 to £500 range seems likely. Development is being undertaken by Amstrad in conjunction with GEC Marconi, who will be responsible for the data-compression system used. The units will have an in-built camera and a flip-up, 3 × 4in. colour display. They will work via an ordinary telephone socket, providing “extremely acceptable” picture quality.

BT has estimated that by 1995 the European videophone market will be worth £1.7bn a year. It has developed prototype videophones for use with integrated services digital networks (ISDNs) – BT charges £400 to instal an ISDN socket and an annual rental of £360. This should ensure a higher quality picture than with an ordinary telephone line. The units have a 9 × 4in. display with a 4in. built-in camera above. Price could be anything from £2,000 to £5,000, but is expected to fall dramatically as the service develops. Possible features include a switch to give self-viewing and another to remove viewing access.

Various other phone/video products have been developed by BT. One is a PCB for slotting into a personal computer. This, with an associated, separate camera, would result in much improved picture quality using the computer's monitor. Another is videophone multipoint, which would enable a number of videophones linked via a 64kbit/sec line to be used simultaneously for group discussions etc. So that the speaker is in view, the cameras are voice-operated.

The Cable Television Association reports that cable TV companies throughout the UK are connecting in the region of two thousand telephone lines a month and that the figure is accelerating. The number of telephone lines linked via cable TV networks now stands at over 11,500. A report by CIT Research suggests that by the year 2000 700,000 households and 100,000 businesses in the UK will take their telephone lines via cable TV networks, representing ten per cent of the telecommunications market with revenues of some £1.35bn a year.

CHANNEL 5

ITC engineers have been investigating the possible Channel 5 coverage and the implications of the new channel for domestic video equipment. It's expected that subject to international clearance six additional transmitting sites will be used, bringing the total to 31. Coverage would be increased to 73 per cent of the population and many localities would be able to have local programming. Under the terms of the 1990 Broadcasting Act, the Channel 5 operator will be responsible for retuning equipment affected by the Channel 5 transmissions. It's expected that some 2.4m VCRs will have to be retuned.

TRADE NEWS

Annual UK production of TV sets by Japanese manufacturers is expected to reach 4m this year and rise to 6.8m in 1995. VCR production is expected to rise from

1.7m this year to 2.9m in 1995. Last year the UK had a TV receiver trade surplus of £271m.

Thomson Consumer Electronics has received an order for 30,000 BBC Select decoders. Production of Thomson's cheaper VCRs is to be moved from Berlin to Singapore (see Singapore Briefing, page 882 last month). TCE plans to open a new plant for the production of up-market VCRs in Germany later next year. As with the Berlin plant, which will now produce exclusively for JVC, the new plant will be a joint venture with JVC.

Philips has signed preliminary DCC technology licensing agreements with Sanyo, Sharp, Yamaha and Tandy.

Wizard Distributors, Empress Street Works, Empress Street, Manchester M16 9EN (telephone 061 872 5438) has been appointed official distributor of spares for Loewe Opta products to trade customers throughout the UK. A similar agreement has been reached with Sakura Ltd. for the supply of satellite receiver components. Wizard has also added computer spares to the range of parts available for Schneider equipment.

NEBS has introduced a new two-part form to simplify service and repair paperwork. It acts as an invoice and customer receipt and enables a record of work done/required and parts supplied etc. to be kept clearly. There are also service call cards. These well laid out forms could be very helpful for smaller firms. For details contact NEBS Business Stationary, Sovereign Way, Chester West Park, Chester CH1 4QU (telephone 0244 390 222).

VIDEO STILL CAMERA SYSTEMS

Fuji has developed, mainly for professional use, a still video camera system that records 21 400,000-pixel images on an 8Mbit memory card, using data-compression technology. The card can be plugged into a computer workstation where the images can be manipulated. Fuji admits that the resolution is not up to conventional photographic quality but points out that it is adequate for many commercial applications, such as desk-top publishing, and has the advantage of image processing flexibility. The data-compression chips were developed jointly by Fuji and Toshiba. Images can also be printed, displayed on a TV screen or transmitted over an ISD network. The camera is due to be launched next year in the Japanese and North American markets at an equivalent price of around £2.875. Fuji intends to pursue a five-ten year programme of further development.

Canon is to set up a High Street print service for users of its Ion disc still video cameras. It hopes that at least a hundred outlets in the UK will be able to provide the service by the end of next year. The cameras have not sold well to date – some 3,500 have been bought in the UK. They store up to fifty images on a 2in. disc. Image quality is similar to that of a Polaroid print.

SATELLITE TV

BSkyB, which is still losing around £1.6m a week, has added a sixth channel to its services. The Comedy Channel is scrambled and is available to subscribers to one or both of the BSKyB film channels. According to the *Financial Times*' satellite monitor there were some 62,000 dish installations during August. BSKyB claims that its services are now available to over 2.4m households in the UK, with a total of some 1.64m individual dish installations.

Amstrad has added a PAL/D2-MAC receiver to its range. Model SRD600 has a suggested price of £499 with a 60cm dish. The company showed a combined TV/satellite receiver/decoder and various VCR/satellite receiver combinations at the Berlin Consumer Electronics Show.

Amstrad has now sold nearly two million dish installations and claims 86 per cent of the UK market and 50 per cent of the European market.

Fujitsu has developed a chipset that reduces the number of i.c.s required to process the Japanese MUSE HD-TV signals from some 100 to 31. Using a number of processors to manipulate individual frames simultaneously reduces the number of memory chips required. Fujitsu claims that the chipset enables the price of MUSE receivers to be reduced by about £6,500. Toshiba/Motorola and Sanyo/LSI Logic are amongst other groups working on the development of MUSE chipsets.

CD-I LATEST

Philips has confirmed that its Compact Disc Interactive system is to be launched in the USA this autumn. The player, Model CDI901, will have a list price of \$1,000 but will probably sell for around \$800. It's expected to be available in some 1,000 outlets and will be supported by interactive kiosks and trained in-store demonstrators. There will be a catalogue of over 50 CD-I titles at the launch. GoldStar is developing a low-cost CD-I player that's expected to be available next year at around \$500.

Philips and Kodak have now finalised their Photo CD standard and will begin marketing Photo CD players next summer.

LASER DISC NEWS

According to the European Laser Disc Association sales of Laser Disc players in France and Germany should have reached the 75,000 mark by the end of the year. The disc catalogue in both languages now has some 400 titles – a further 150 titles are due for release shortly.

HD-TV CONFERENCE

The HDTV 92 conference and exhibition are to be held at the Business Design Centre, Islington Green, London N1 on December 9-10th 1991. HDTV 92 is concerned with "the business of high definition and new television systems", primarily from the software/studio/programme maker point of view. The attendance charge for the two days is £499.38 inclusive of VAT. Contact Meckler Ltd., 247/9 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London SW1V 1HQ (telephone 071 931 9985) for further details.

TV NEWS

Philips has announced its first 16:9 aspect ratio, 100Hz field rate TV set in the UK. Model 8906 has a price tag of £3,500 which includes the Philips Home Cinema audio system. Amongst the set's features are a movie-expand system to enlarge 4:3 pictures to 16:9, an 86cm tube, a colour-transient improvement circuit, a Nicam decoder, detachable speakers, PIP, Fastext and two scart, three S video and a phono audio socket. In addition Philips is to introduce three 4:3 aspect ratio TV sets with 100Hz field scanning and Nicam sound in the 59, 66 and 79cm screen sizes.

Nokia introduced a novel remote control handset called the TV mouse at the Berlin Consumer Electronics Show. It relies on the action of a small internal ball bearing that moves as the unit is tilted to the left, right, upwards or downwards or is held straight. As the bearing moves, light from IR diodes is blocked. This triggers, in conjunction with simplified button operation, the required commands. The unit also controls Nokia's VCRs. It will be available in the UK with a new range of stereo TV sets at the end of the year.

Two new ranges of c.r.t.s have been announced by Philips. The Cineline range has the 16:9 aspect ratio and will be produced in 36, 32 and 28in. screen sizes. The tubes are designed for 1,250-line scanning and have the new Philips DAF (dynamic astigmatism and focusing) gun for correct focusing over the entire screen area. They have Invar masks and Philips' own black matrix system. Philips' enhanced black matrix system and Invar masks are also a feature of the 4:3 aspect ratio Black Line S range. Its new Polygon overlapping electron gun system gives a sharp, clean spot.

ASTRA 1B

Problems with Astra 1B have been traced by the satellite manufacturer's engineers to malfunctioning chips in the on-board attitude control system. The craft is now being controlled from Astra's Betzdorf Satellite Operations Centre.

VIDEO NEWS

A large number of camcorders have been launched this autumn. One interesting technical development is digital signal processing. In the Sony CCD-TR105 for example the output from the CCD image sensor is fed to a gain controlled amplifier and then to an AD converter, after which matrixing, white balance, aperture and gamma correction, are carried out in digital form under the control of a microcomputer. DA conversion then gives analogue luminance and chrominance outputs to feed to the record section of the camcorder. Sony claims that this digital signal processing makes possible the camcorder's compact, lightweight design and high-quality performance. Other features are hi-fi stereo sound; six times variable-speed power-zoom and a full-range autofocus system with macro facility; manual override controls for focusing and shutter-speed adjustment up to 1/4,000 of a second; backlight compensation; a one-page digital superimposer (titles can be stored and displayed in a choice of eight colours, with scrolling and background reverse); insert edit and edit search, with an external connection for a Sony edit controller; high-quality playback capability of Hi-8 recorded tapes; and a black fader for smoother scene changes. All this in a 630g camcorder for £800 including case and accessories.

Hitachi's two new lightweight Video 8 camcorders, Models VM-E23 and VM-E25, also employ a digital signal processor (DSP). The claim is that by integrating most of the image processing into a single DSP chip space is saved, reliability is improved and picture quality is enhanced. Auto white balance and auto iris are also digitally controlled. The VM-E23 has a ×64 digital zoom, a ×8 optical zoom, five fast shutter speeds and a program auto-exposure system. It weighs 830g and has a price tag of £800. The VM-E25 has a twist-and-shoot mechanism and hi-fi stereo sound. It weighs 760g and has a suggested price of £900.

Sony's CCD-TR705 is a palmcorder that features Hi-8 technology. It has a 440,000-pixel image sensor and hi-fi stereo sound. The shutter speed can be adjusted down to 1/10,000 of a second. Sensitivity is two lux and extensive user controls are provided. A newly-designed tape stabiliser mechanism to reduce jitter uses a special tungsten tape guide between the supply reel and the drum. Associated with this the drum geometry has been changed, with a lower drum window incorporated to improve tape-to-head contact and output. There are full edit facilities and a credit-card sized IR handset to control playback.

recording and zoom – a hold switch prevents accidental operation. The camcorder weighs 800g and has a suggested price of £1,000.

Panasonic's NV-S5 is a lightweight (680g without battery and tape) VHS-C camcorder with a digital image stabiliser and various digital effects including still picture, strobe and mirror – this gives kaleidoscopic picture effects. Suggested price is £900.

Canon's two Slimline Video-8 camcorders, Models UC10 and UC20, use the new lightweight MC-5LT chassis (weight 165g). The UC10 has a 320,000-pixel and the U20 a 470,000-pixel 1/3in. image sensor. At 580g the UC10 costs £800 while the 710g U20 with hi-fi stereo sound has a suggested price of £950.

Mitsubishi's two VHS-C palmcoders, Models CX1 and CX4, both weigh less than 600g and feature six-event settings for specialised shooting situations. The CX1 is priced at £700. The CX4, which has a twin gyro image stabiliser that senses movement along the horizontal and vertical axes, has a suggested price of £850.

Nikon's NV3100 Video-8 camcorder weighs just 590g and is priced at £800. Features include a $\times 6$ zoom, LP operation and remote control. The VN7000 adds Hi-8 picture quality. It weighs 790g and has a suggested price of £1,000.

Akai has launched two lightweight VHS-C camcorders that feature its Intelligent HQ picture enhancement system. Both models weigh 750g. Model PVS-C20 has a price tag of £650 and Model PVS-C40 a suggested price of £750.

Philip's new camcorders include the VHS-C Model VKR6870 and the S-VHS-C Model VKR9010 which has hi-fi stereo sound and LP operation. Both are priced at £800.

Two new S-VHS-C camcorders, Models NV-S7 and NV-S9, have been announced by Matsushita in Japan. They have a digital image stabiliser plus digital zoom, strobe and snapshot recording, still mix and wipe, hi-fi stereo sound and a new 360,000-pixel 1/3in. image sensor. No details of a European launch have been released.

CD Player Casebook

Reports from Mike Leach, Alfred Damp, Michael W. Bliss and P.J. Roberts

Kenwood DP710

This machine came in a few months ago because it wouldn't read the discs. Since the turntable spun too fast the diagnosis was a faulty laser unit. A new unit was ordered, but a complete deck assembly with a different type of laser unit – it appeared to be a Sony KSS150A – was supplied because the original type is no longer available. Fitting it cured the problem, and the machine was returned to the customer.

It came back recently, again because it wouldn't read the discs. This time the turntable wouldn't spin at all. A quick inspection once more led me to the laser. With no disc in the machine there was very little focus coil movement. As the focus drive waveforms were o.k. I suspected the new laser. But with the machine turned upside down and a disc in the tray the player worked normally! It seemed that the coil found it easier to focus on the disc in the upside-down position. The trouble is that it carried on working correctly when the machine was turned upright again. I've now got to convince Kenwood that the laser unit is faulty.

In cases like this it's sometimes possible to lubricate very slightly the pivot around which the focus coil moves up and down. But it's not possible with this type of laser as the coil has no pivot as such – it moves up and down by what appears to be thin rubber attached to the coil. Presumably in this case the rubber was too springy, thus slowing the focus coil action with the result that there was no focus.

M.L.

JVC CAE21LBK

This JVC midi system had been a problem – a big problem. It came to me after two new laser units (type Optima 4), an 80-pin YM3805 signal processor chip and various other bits had been fitted elsewhere. The complaint was that it wouldn't read discs, which it certainly wouldn't. The disc rotated extremely fast while the sled assembly sped to the outer edge of the disc then returned. That was it. I pressed the open/close button and the disc almost flew out of the tray.

My first thoughts related to the signal path. Maybe there was no r.f. signal? I connected the scope to the r.f. test

point and saw that the eye pattern started to appear then disappeared as the turntable sped faster. I assumed that the r.f. section was o.k., though I could have been wrong. The laser power was o.k., and the bit of r.f. waveform that was present was of the correct amplitude.

Servicing these players is no joke. As with most modern-day players/midis, the leads aren't long enough for the board to be taken out for servicing. All in all it was a bit of a struggle. Anyway, scope checks around the tracking servo (I knew that the machine was focusing all right) lead me in the right direction. Adjusting the tracking gain and offset controls made no difference at all to the tracking waveform. At the emitters of Q801/2 the tracking drive was low. Checks were then carried out around the YM3805 signal processor. Everything seemed to be in order apart from the voltage at pin 21, the TRHD signal. This pin should have been at 4.9V but was low at 1.5V.

The TRHD output from the YM3805 chip helps to generate the tracking error signal. It's fed to the base of Q803 in the tracking servo via a 10k Ω resistor. The voltage at the base of this transistor should have been $-1.1V$, but was 1.5V, thus upsetting the tracking servo. R827 (100k Ω) links Q803's base to the $-12V$ rail. It was found to be open-circuit under load! When removed and checked it read 98k Ω , which seemed to be near enough, but when checked in situ it gave an open-circuit reading. Fitting a replacement restored normal operation. M.L.

Hinari DK100

The symptoms with this player were the same as those with a DK200 reported by V.W. Cox in the September Casebook, i.e. at switch on the arm slammed against the outer stop. In this case R122 (1 Ω) was open-circuit.

M.W.B.

Sony CDP-M20

Only noise came from the audio outputs. Checks showed that the EFM was correct and that the signals arriving at the DA converter chip IC10 were apparently correct. So

IC10 was replaced. As this made no difference we had to assume that the data fed to IC10 was incorrect. Checks were then made around the digital signal processor and 16Kbit RAM chips. Replacing the RAM restored normal operation. **A.D.**

Philips CD104/304

These machines use double-sided PCBs with holes that are copper plated to link the two sides. This through-hole plating can go open-circuit, causing all sorts of problems. The most common is that the machine won't read the TOC or play. I've found that the best thing to do is to push through a length of 22 SWG TCW whilst heating the solder that's visible on the ground plane side of the linking hole, then cut and solder both ends.

Other problems I've had with these players have been as follows: thickened lubricant on the disc clamp and turntable spindle; worn turntable height adjustment screw

(carbon screw); dry-joints on the voltage regulators; a build-up of debris under the turntable motor's rotor; and dry-joints on the servo and decoder PCBs.

Other faults have been caused by power supply problems. Hum on sound (both channels) occurred when the -18V supply was high while sound distortion (both channels) occurred when this supply went low. The 12V supply going high resulted in skipping during the first part of any track. Thus a quick check on the power supply outputs can save you a lot of time that might otherwise be spent chasing wild geese.

On one occasion a fault was caused by very fine breaks in some of the PCB tracks leading to the microcomputer chip.

We've found that the laser units used in these models seldom fail. So if a player that refuses to work comes in, don't straight away condemn the laser unit.

These are very good quality, well-built players: it's well worth spending money on keeping them going. **P.J.R.**

Satellite TV Notes

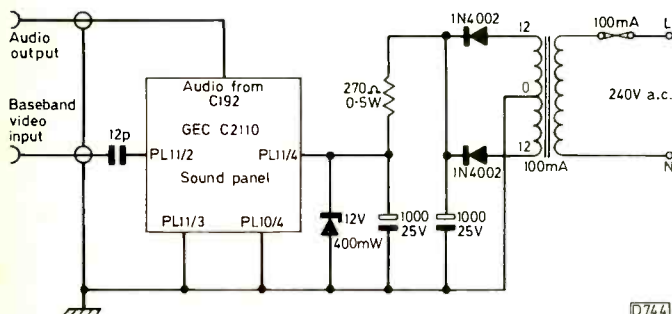
S. Pearson

Some satellite TV channels, for example the French TV5 channel via Eutelsat II-F1 at 13°E, have a mono sound carrier at 6.6MHz or thereabouts. This is something that the Amstrad SRD400 satellite TV receiver can't handle. Using a short-wave receiver I discovered that such audio subcarriers are present at the receiver's baseband video output socket. Thus a simple sound i.f. adaptor can be made to add to the receiver for reception of these "non-standard" sound channels.

A suitable sound i.f. adaptor can be provided very simply by using the sound panel from a scrap GEC C2110 series chassis – other sound i.f. panels could no doubt be used in a similar manner. Fig. 1 shows the connections required to the GEC C2110 panel and the power supply circuit used in the prototype. The satellite receiver's video output signal is loosely coupled to the sound panel's input via a 12pF capacitor. Coils L198 and L199 on the panel can be tuned to the required frequency by ear. P199 (panel PC471) sets the audio output level.

On the prototype unit I removed the audio amplifier chip IC181 and took the demodulated audio output via C192 (0.1µF) to a VCR's audio input socket. Alternatively you could leave IC181 on the panel and connect an external speaker to it. I found one puzzling problem with the former approach – perhaps someone could throw some light on it.

If the Amstrad SRD400's baseband video output is



0744

Fig. 1: Use of the sound panel from the GEC C2110 series chassis as an i.f. adaptor to obtain extra sound channels with a satellite TV receiver.

connected to a VCR the picture flickers like mad when viewed via the machine's r.f. modulator, though recordings made in this way are fine – I've tried this with three different VCRs. The adaptor is being used with a Goodmans/Daewoo VCR which has switched sockets for the baseband inputs instead of the more usual switch on the front panel. I solved the problem by feeding the satellite receiver's r.f. output to the VCR's aerial input socket with the sound adaptor connected to the audio input socket. It works with this particular VCR as the video and audio inputs are independently switched.

Two-satellite Dish Alignment

To simplify dish alignment to either Eutelsat or Astra I cut two small nicks in the dish's bracket, near the large securing nut, using a hacksaw. This enables the dish to be realigned simply by lining up the saw cuts by eye. Obviously the elevation angle also has to be changed slightly, but this can be done using the bracket's elevation scale. These notes apply to the standard 60cm dish.

General Points

Finally I'd like to raise some general points on the subject of satellite TV.

- (1) There seem to be two types of F connector available, with different centre hole diameters – a small hole for RG59 coaxial cable or a large hole for low-loss coaxial cable. I feel that to avoid a mismatch where the cable enters the connector it's important to use one with the correct diameter hole. The inner dielectric of the cable should be a close fit through the hole and lie flush where exposed at the front of the connector. It's not unknown for installers to use the wrong type of F connector for the cable being used.
- (2) A rubber boot that covers the F connector completely is now available from RS components.
- (3) If you find it difficult to drive cable clips into a problem wall without destroying no end of clips, or mashing the cable, try drilling 5mm holes in the wall, plugging them with short lengths of 6mm wooden dowel, then driving the clips into the plugged holes. Clips can in this way be fixed to high spots on old stone walls. This avoids the cable being forced into the recessed mortar joints, with sharp kinks being made in it.

TV Fault Finding

Reports from Philip Blundell, AMIEIE, Ian Bowden, Steve Cannon, Alan Smith, Michael Dranfield, Ed Rowland, Paul Hardy and Stephen Leatherbarrow

Grundig T55-340 (CUC3400 Chassis)

Several of these sets have come to us dead and tripping. So far the causes have been: the set-h.t. control R637 intermittently or permanently open-circuit; D666 (BYV16) short-circuit; D664 (BA159) short-circuit; or IC686 (78M05) short-circuit. **P.B.**

Philips GR1-AX Chassis

There was no picture or sound, but the remote-command received LED flashed when the handset was tried. A quick check showed that the 95V output from the chopper power supply was low at 10V. I next made a few resistance checks on the power supply outputs and found that a reading of 60Ω was obtained across the +9 (10V) supply. The culprit was the sound chip, but although disconnecting the chip removed the short the symptoms remained the same.

A quick read through the circuit description was called for. In order to start the power supply requires 15V across D6613, which is a BYX79C15 zener diode. There was only 10V because D6613 was leaky. A new zener diode and sound chip restored normal operation. **P.B.**

Grundig CUC44XX/46XX

Models with teletext have a dealer facility that puts the station identification on all the time – it's normally on for only a few seconds at channel change. The procedure isn't given in the instruction book, but customers seem to find it by accident. To remove the permanent station display identification, switch to TV then to reveal with the remote control handset. To bring it back on, repeat the process. **P.B.**

Philips CTX Chassis

This set suffered from line tearing. It was much worse in the VCR position. The dealer had already changed the TDA2577 chip and the VCR switching components T7374, D6374, etc. As the tearing varied with the picture content I homed in on the sync separator section. C2378 (1μF) had dried up. **P.B.**

B and O 7702

The complaint was of intermittent loss of colour. It would tend to disappear more regularly with a high-brightness scene and a fairly high setting of the contrast control. When the fault was present, very weak, flickering inverse-phased chroma could be seen on the screen. The reason for this link was a very slight reduction in height with increased beam current: this resulted in a change in the width of the field flyback pulses that are taken from the deflection PCB via the field blanking circuit 70TR11/10 etc. to pin 28 of the TDA3300 colour decoder chip 70IC1. If the height control was adjusted in one direction the colour would come and go. The cause of the fault was the chip itself – it should work correctly with a wide range of pulse widths. **I.B.**

Salora 15L37

This set had a very dark picture. The colour level appeared to be normal but the luminance was low. We traced the luminance signal to pin 36 of the TDA3301B decoder chip

IF01, where it's clamped and level-shifted before emerging at pin 34. The signal level at pin 34 was very low. A check on the components connected to this pin led us to the 220Ω preset PF01 which was open-circuit. Replacing this preset restored the amplitude of the luminance signal. **I.B.**

Sony KVM2511 (AE1 Chassis)

On occasions this set wouldn't come out of standby. The exact symptoms were as follows. On selecting standby the red LED lit but when a programme was selected to power the set the LED went out but the set didn't come on. Now these sets have a standby set-h.t. preset which in some cases was apparently misadjusted during production. We checked the h.t. when the set was up and running and found that it was correct at 135V. But when standby was selected the h.t. rose to 143V. When we attempted to power the set again the protection circuits sensed the increased h.t. voltage and shut the set down. After turning the set off completely at the on/off switch and waiting a couple of seconds the set could be switched on again and worked normally. We then set the standby set-h.t. control for 135V in the standby mode, after which everything was o.k. We've had to do this with several sets since then. **S.C.**

Philips K40 Chassis

This set came to us with a note to say that it destroyed line output transistors. Sure enough the BU508A was short-circuit collector-to-emitter, so a replacement was fitted and the set was switched on. As the picture and sound came up we put it on soak test. Whilst I was working on something else I heard the squeal of an overloaded power supply. Yes, it was the K40 and the line output transistor had failed again. We were going to have to maintain close observance whilst it was running on test to see whether there were any clues before the transistor failed again. We also decided to fit the higher rated BU508V, which would probably handle the fault condition better and give us a bit more time to watch for any clues.

With the set running on test we watched it like a hawk. After a short while the picture shifted to the left and the width reduced drastically. I dived for the on/off switch and managed to save the new transistor, but where was the fault? We replaced C2161 and C2163 in the line output transistor's collector circuit – they've given us trouble before – but this time they weren't guilty. We did discover however that the fault could be instigated by knocking the set or tapping the chassis. Dry-joint time, but none could be found in the line output stage. What about the line driver stage? This is on the bottom power supply panel, and when this was removed an obvious cracked and dry-joint was found on the line driver transformer. Resoldering it cured the problem. We have had this problem with quite a few sets from various manufacturers, but the usual symptom is intermittent loss of the picture. **S.C.**

Ferguson 41P3 (IKC2 Chassis)

When this three-month old set was switched on the standby light lit but the power supply was tripping. A check on the 107V h.t. rail at test point BP50 showed that it was at 50V-75V between trips. On the assumption that

the cause of the trouble was heavy loading in the line output stage a check was made around the line output transformer and associated components. This revealed that the BA157 180V rectifier DL11 was short-circuit. In addition the associated series surge limiting safety resistor RL11 was open-circuit. This of course removed the short-circuit diode from the load; funny, I thought, the set trips when no current is drawn from the 180V rail! Anyway after replacing these two components the set still tripped out because I'd forgotten to reconnect the scan coil plug – it had been removed to get at RL11. **M.Dr.**

Binatone Colortron 01/9014

A very common fault with these 14in. colour portables is failure of the line output transformer – it usually burns out in a big way! Be sure to get the right one when ordering a replacement. Two types were fitted. They can be identified by the numbers, CF82 or CF65A. The two are interchangeable but give different focus voltages depending on the type of tube fitted. If you fit the wrong one the result will be a blurred picture. **M.Dr.**

Logik/Ferguson TX90 Chassis

The complaint was of a snowy picture. Tuner I thought, but on going through the channels I found that some were still tuned in. Perhaps children had pressed the tuning buttons? I retuned channels 1-4, but when these were re-selected they had disappeared. Further checks showed that channels 1-8 couldn't be stored in memory, though channels 9-16 would store o.k. Tuning and memory are handled by the M293B1 chip IC902 on the left-hand subpanel. As the 25V memory supply voltage was correct a new chip was fitted. This cured the problem. **M.Dr.**

Fidelity AVS2000

The fault report read "stuck on channel 8". This was true, but there was no audio either. The middle fuse (1A) of the three attached to the side of the record deck had blown. This fuses the bridge rectifier on the audio panel. Lifting R379, the feed to the 12V regulator, proved that the fault was due to the bridge or the audio output chips. The bridge was innocent, but both IC4 and IC5 were short-circuit. Two new TDA1908As and a new fuse restored normal operation. Stuck on ch.8 was of course due to there being no 12V supply to the M104B1 chip. **A.S.**

Philips CF1 Chassis

The problem with this 14in. colour portable was field collapse, accompanied by sound from a foreign radio station. This indicated that there was an i.f. fault as well. A look at the circuit diagram showed that the field timebase and i.f. sections of the receiver are both supplied from the same source. Tracing back revealed that R3583 (1 Ω) was open-circuit. **E.R.**

Salora J Chassis

This set was dead with the h.t. filter resistor RB713 open-circuit and the two Ipsalo transistors TB700/1 short-circuit. These items were replaced and after resoldering several suspect joints, including one that, at CB712, looked as if it could possibly have been responsible, I switched the set on. The on/off switch had to be pressed several times before the set would come on, then after about half an hour the two transistors failed again. At this point I rather

belatedly decided to consult Nick Beer's article on the J chassis (December 1989). As a result CB712, CB726, RB703 and RB705 in the Ipsalo transistors' base drive circuits were replaced. RB705 was difficult to locate as it was designated CB705 on the PCB! Two new transistors and a filter resistor then had the set working normally. **E.R.**

Ferguson TX9 Chassis

Intermittent loss of colour was the fault with this set. I dived in and changed the TDA3560 colour decoder chip, the delay line and the crystal, but this didn't cure the fault. Scope checks around the chip with colour bars present proved inconclusive. Oscillator adjustment in accordance with the instructions in the manual didn't produce the desired effects: the colour didn't lock very well and was very weak. I eventually found that the delay line balance control RV67 didn't do what it's supposed to do. On removal it was found to be open-circuit. Replacing it provided a cure. **P.H.**

Philips K30 Chassis

A colleague had spent some time on this set, trying to cure permanent tripping. He'd proved that there was an a.c. load on the power supply by disconnecting the drive to the line output transistor. In this condition the power supply would drive a 100W bulb. The line output transformer's secondary windings had been disconnected one at a time, and the line output transistor and transformer had been replaced. After such a thorough investigation there was very little left to check. Disconnecting the scan coils made no difference. Changing the flyback tuning capacitor C1567 (8.2nF, 1.5kV) got the set working – it was open-circuit. The original line output transformer was refitted, but it had met its Waterloo. **P.H.**

Philips KT4 Chassis

This set was dead. Having got the power supply out I carried out some cold checks. T7182 (BC547) in the standby circuit was open-circuit. **P.H.**

Ferguson TX10 Chassis

We've had this fault several times recently. You find that the picture is blanked except for the final inch or so at the right-hand side, where the picture content is correct. A check on the RGB h.t. line, which is normally at 205V, will produce a low reading of typically 55V. A scope check will show excessive line-rate ripple on this supply. The cause is the relevant reservoir capacitor, which is C726 (22 μ F). **S.L.**

Hitachi CPT1471 Mk 1

The complaint was of tripping and going dead, accompanied by ticking or arcing noises. This was caused by the usual power supply problems. A kit is available, including the STR6020 power supply chip, the field chip feed/supply transistor etc. After fitting these items the set gave us new symptoms. Although the power supply was now working well the field scan was accompanied by text lines and the flyback blanking was very poor. The field generator and driver stages, also the line oscillator and blanking circuits, are all within the LA7801 chip. Replacing this restored normal operation. It presumably died during the power supply's failure. **S.L.**

Letters

TIME WASTERS

While reading through some back issues I came across a correspondence on repair charges. It seems to me that we've been our own worst enemy in this respect. My particular concern is with time wasters. We've all had them, and there will always be people (you can't call them customers) who want something for nothing. Many TV/video repair advertisements offer a 24-hour service, free estimates, free call-out etc. No wonder that time wasters think nothing of calling out two or three different firms for quotations. They assume that we've nothing to lose. After all, repairing TV sets and VCRs can't be that difficult, otherwise why would so much free service be on offer? Can we blame the time wasters for thinking in this way?

But TV and video servicing to a high standard involves dedication, a lot of head-scratching, and technical know-how that has to be constantly up-dated. Just stop and think about your job. Is it really as the public seems to see it? Of course not. So let's get with it and start respecting ourselves and valuing our craft as it deserves.

My business was also guilty of offering too much free service. Yes, the phone never stopped, but detailed analysis of all calls over a six months' period showed that there was a very high percentage of time wasters. They represented a substantial loss in terms of wasted time, effort and money. Each and every time waster stops productive, profit-making work and often prevents calls on likely paying jobs because you're over-booked.

No matter how busy or slack we are our policy now is to make a fixed charge to cover time, petrol etc. when called out for fault assessment and a repair estimate. If our estimate is accepted however we don't make the call-out charge. These conditions are made clear on the phone before a call is booked in. We've found that this policy enables us to avoid time wasters as far as possible. Our overheads have been substantially reduced – yet the phone is as busy as before.

We're in business to make a living. Yes, job satisfaction is important, but it should be considered as a bonus, not a reason for running a business. If in doubt, ask your bank manager!

If you think that by carrying on with a free this, free that policy you are on to a winner, be prepared for the public to regard TV/video servicing as a low-grade job.

So let's get with it. There's plenty of work out there. Stop throwing your hard-earned knowledge away and don't worry about the cowboys. They never live long – let them have the time wasters.

*John Edwards,
Bromley, Kent.*

WORKSHOP MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

It's not very often in this day and age that one is able to applaud good service, but the service we have had from a software firm is second to none. It relates to a complete workshop management program. We purchased the original one in February, and although it was good we felt that with a few additions/modifications it could be even better. The firm not only accepted our suggestions but added a few new ideas of their own and sent these to us. The result is a program of outstanding quality at a

price that's well within the means of any good workshop.

Just a little about what the program does. After booking in an item the program takes the repair through all its stages and finally keeps a record in the archive file until you decide either to dump it for good or to file it outside the system on a monthly disc. It can search its record by job number, make of unit or customer's name. Repair details stored include parts ordered/received/fitted, the engineer concerned, when the unit was collected/delivered and miscellaneous information such as "scratched cabinet" or "loose back cover", things it might be useful to be able to refer back to at a later date. The program can automatically send out up to ten standard letters that incorporate the job no., title, name and address – this is very useful for getting overdue items collected. It lists repairs still to be looked at as well as parts to order and to be fitted. A menu-driven system controls the data to disc to back-up and archives. The old records can be taken out and put on to separate discs so that the records for say only the last three months are current, giving more efficient back-up. A complete job card, label, customer receipt and invoice are provided. Without doubt the program is a great asset to a repair department.

I have no connection with the authors of the program other than as a customer and have nothing to gain from singing its praises, but I do feel that the service I have been given deserves wider acknowledgement. The firm concerned is TBR Software, 369 Chepstow Road, Newport, Gwent (telephone 0633 282 556). I came to hear of it through the pages of *Television*.

*Geoff Fardon, Station Television,
Llanelli, Dyfed.*

THANKS

I'd like to thank the many readers who wrote in following my reminiscences in "Fifty Years in Radio and TV". Without their letters we would not have known for example about the true origin of the two-pin plug, the spot where Blumlein fell or the true meaning of H2S (though I still like mine better!). I'm sure everyone understands that they were only the personal recollections of someone as fallible as the next man, and who like most people never had the time to keep a diary. As well as sparking off memories in us old-timers, I hope they entertained the younger generation of readers who perhaps have never changed a valve, ridden behind a steam locomotive or endured the "Crazy Gang" live!

It was a change to write hindsight. In the past foresight was needed. It took two months at least to get a piece from the pen to the newsagent's shelf, and at times inspired guesswork was required when definite information on latest developments was hard to obtain. Fortunately we were right most of the time! 's good to see that today's contributors are as forward looking and our readers as hawk-eyed as ever!

*Harold Peters,
Lowestoft, Suffolk.*

BEOVISION CORNER

In the September issue Paul Glazebrook asked for information on removing teletext lines with the B and O 3400 series 323X chassis. There's an official modification for this, to add the extra field flyback blanking circuit shown in Fig. 1. Take the input from the collector of 2TR8, at the bottom centre of board PCB3. Mount the added components at the top right-hand side of the board. The

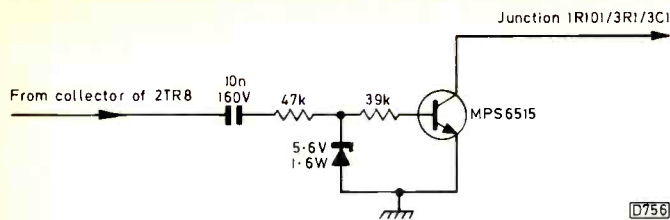


Fig. 1: Extra flyback blanking circuit for the B and O 3400 series 323X chassis to remove teletext lines.

blanking pulse is injected in the control-grid circuit of the 12HG7 luminance output pentode.

Can anyone supply part of the convergence drawer for a B and O 5000 type 3905 colour set? It's the larger part with the speaker grille finish, part no. 3131095. Alternatively I would take a complete drawer. It's required to complete restoration of the set. I'd gratefully pay for parts and postage.

C.R. Taylor, 8 Echo Barn Hill,
Kendal, Cumbria LA9 5NA.

OCR SCANNER TIP

A Panasonic Model FX-RS505 OCR scanner just out of guarantee got worse and worse and finally read nothing – it's a device to read printed text and pictures into a computer. I couldn't see anything obviously wrong when I opened it up for a visual check and to look for any adjustments. So there loomed the prospect of an expensive repair and a long wait. I then noticed that the mirror which slopes upwards was covered with an almost imperceptibly fine film of dust. Carefully cleaning it provided a complete cure.

There was nothing in the manual about cleaning this mirror. The mind boggles at the likely cost of sending the scanner to the repair agents via the shop just to clean this item.

John de Rivaz, B.Sc. (Eng.), AMIEE,
Porthuowan, Cornwall.

SAGA OF A G11

Here's a little story for those of you who think, like me, that they can do G11s blindfolded. The phone rang and a worried voice said "I've got a bit of a problem with my television". When I called on the customer I found that I'd misplaced my 4BA nut spinner, so I had to use my neon screwdriver on the three back bolts. I should have taken that as an omen.

With the back off I swung open the power panel and was confronted with a red 470µF h.t. reservoir capacitor. Sharp intake of breath. "Who did the last repair then?" "It's gone wrong only once in the past – my son-in-law who works for BT fixed it by soldering a dry-joint. This time I took the back off because the set was whistling and soldered that bit (pins 15 and 16 on the dynamic correction panel). After that it went bang."

I told him that it would have to go back to the workshop, and explained about the damage that can occur when the 470µF capacitor is a red one – the BU208A and TDA2600 ruined and a star-shaped hole in the tube neck. Seeing the look of horror on his face, I softened the blow by checking the BU208A. As it was all right I told him that the capacitor, having lasted all these years, was unlikely to be faulty but would nevertheless have to be changed to prevent damage during my three-months' guarantee period.

Back at the workshop I found that I'd run out of G11 capacitors – we don't keep much of the old stuff now. I could get one next day from NEC however. It arrived on time but when I removed the red one I found that the two VDRs (015 and 017) had burnt out against the can. Both mains fuses had blown, two of the bridge diodes had gone short-circuit, both thyristors were leaky and two resistors (R19 and R53) had burnt up. Due to a crack in the board there was no h.t. adjustment.

After replacing these items I wound up the mains input slowly using a variac. This showed that there was field collapse. A new TDA2600 gave me a raster with pincushion distortion – the BD238 EW modulator driver transistor had succumbed. Having done all this I was stuck with a noisy push-button channel selector unit. At my age I should know better than to say "this won't take long"!

John Hopkins,
Felixstowe, Suffolk.

HELP WANTED

I've been repairing TV sets and VCRs as a hobby for about five years and would like to start a servicing career. The trouble is that being nineteen and self-taught, with only limited qualifications, it's difficult to find an employer who is interested. If anyone would be prepared to take me on as a trainee technician would they please write to the address below.

Robert Ingleby, 8 Gilbert Mead,
Hayling Island, Hants PO11 0RE.

Can anyone supply a service manual or circuit diagram for a Commodore 1901 colour monitor? It may be of Samsung manufacture. Also does anyone have information or connection details for the MA1043LR clock module made by NS Electronics (National Semiconductors)?

John Walker, Eng. Tech., 14 Leamside,
Leam Lane Estate, Gateshead NE10 8NT.
091 469 0157.

Can anyone supply an AN239 chip for the Panasonic TC275G colour receiver?

Roy Goodall, 15 Bainbridge Road,
Bolsover, Derbyshire S44 6UD.
0246 827 365.

Has anyone in the Lancashire/Yorkshire area an Hitachi 17FHP22 tube or a set with a good one in it? I'm in the process of restoring an old CSP680.

H. Keighley, 117 Bradford Road,
Riddlesden, Keighley, Yorks BD20 5JH.
0535 603 012.

Can anyone supply a circuit diagram/manual for the Alba CTV10, also a working push-button channel selector unit?

Irving Finch, Engineering Faculty,
Luton College of Higher Education,
Park Square, Luton LU1 3JU.
0582 34 111, ext. 249 or 0582 576 693 (home).

Can anyone suggest how to get an Amstrad PC CM colour monitor to work with an Atari 520 S1FM?

Steven Postgate, 10 Newman Close,
Wittering, Peterborough PE8 6EF.

Servicing the Panasonic NV777/788

Nick Beer

Amongst the various VCRs that have been marketed by Panasonic in the UK these two are a bit special. They are very similar, though by no means identical, top-of-the-range models dating from 1983-4. The NV777 was the first to appear: its features include front loading, an eight-event timer, infra-red remote control, reverse play and variable-speed slow motion. The later NV788 has the additional benefit of two-speed operation. While the LP quality is not as good as that with the NV730, a later machine that was on the market simultaneously for a short while, it's certainly better than that with the NV688, Panasonic's first consumer dual-speed model in the UK.

The mechanisms are a cross between the NV366 and the NV7200 series, with slight modifications. Anyone familiar with these mechanisms will soon find themselves at home with the NV777 and NV788.

Points to note

The NV788 has index searching, which means that there's an extra head at the front centre of the direct-drive unit. It inserts itself in the cassette cutout at this point when a cassette is loaded and is known as the MR head. The annoying thing is that the lead to the head, which is plugged at only the system control PCB end, is fed to the top of the mechanism through the large loading belt. Thus belt replacement involves undoing the PCB and all the lead retainers, then unplugging the lead, passing it through the old belt and threading it through the new one before this is fitted.

The still/slow performance is good. The still lock controls are accessible without removing covers. There's a small rubber strip on the right-hand side of the machine (viewed from the front): when this is removed the controls can be adjusted through the exposed hole.

At this stage of their life these machines, particularly the NV788s, will have begun to get a bit noisy. The reel motors tend to tick and buzz and the mains transformer can also buzz loudly when old. The power supply circuits are straightforward and, in our experience, have been very reliable.

Dismantling

The top cover is held on by four screws, one at each corner. With this removed you can take out the screening can by slackening the red screws and sliding it off. The heads can then be cleaned.

The front of the machine is clipped as well as being held by screws across the top. To remove the front you first have to take off the metal bottom plate, which is held by brass-coloured screws. Doing this allows the clips across the bottom of the front to be undone.

After removing these three items the cassette carriage can be taken out. Undo the four red securing bolts, one at each top corner, taking care of the earthing leads that will now be free. The small PCB mounted in the right-hand corner, over the mechanism, will also have to be removed – it's secured by three red screws. Lay it on the adjacent PCBs, with foam or something similar between for safe operation. If you want to remove the carriage completely, for example to replace mechanical parts, undo the multipin

connector at the rear right-hand side. To run the mechanism with no tape or carriage, leave this plug connected, lift the carriage out and tip it upside down on to a piece of foam placed over the adjacent timer/presetter PCB. If you now insert a cassette into the carriage, bottom side up of course, the machine will run as the photosensors are on the side of the carriage and the emitter is in the machine. Note that in the rewind mode the machine will cut out if the take-up reel is not spun by hand, as this is where the reel-rotation sensor is situated.

One uncommon feature of these machines is that when the cassette carriage is removed you see a metal plate that's mounted over the reel drive and brake mechanisms beneath, with only the two reel turntables protruding. To replace the idler, brake band etc. this plate has to be removed. It's secured by two circlips, one large and one small one. The latter is usually damaged when it's removed, so it is useful to stock some spares. If you use the Panasonic VUD kit you'll find that all relevant circlips are included. Use of small circlip pliers helps to avoid damage. Remember to refit this plate before refitting the carriage.

Mechanical Servicing

Mechanical servicing follows the procedures for the NV333/366/7000/7200. We'll deal here with replacement of the parts included in the Panasonic 1,000-hour maintenance kit, which was reviewed by Ian Bowden in the October 1988 issue, and some other commonly required replacements. The kit is type VUD4090KIT.

Video Head Replacement

To replace the video heads, part no. VEH0201 for the NV788 and VEH0177 for the NV777, remove the single bolt that secures the discharge angle on top of the drum, then the two bolts that hold the upper and lower drum together. The drum connections are via flying leads from the lower drum to a PCB on the upper drum. There are quite a lot of leads in the NV788: although the colours are marked to show where the leads go, it's wise to draw a diagram before you start – the letters, K for black etc., are not all obvious. Take care when soldering the leads, which vary in length, as they are easy to damage and there are no spares – a new DD unit will be the unfortunate consequence of broken leads, unless you dare trying to take the unit apart and run in a new lead!

The heads are quite expensive and do fail. Very good rebuilds are available from MCES Ltd, 15 Lostock Road, Davyhulme, Manchester M31 1SU. Unfortunately however there's a tendency for the drum to become burred, which means that it's not suitable for rebuilding. This is caused by excessive back tension or poor tapes. These factors also cause excessive audio/control head wear, which has been a problem with some of these machines. The back tension should be checked and, if necessary, reset whenever one of these machines comes into the workshop.

Back Tension

The back-tension specification is the usual 25-30g, measured with a Tentelometer half way through a three-

hour tape. For good noise suppression and quality in the trick modes the back tension should be set near the top of the specified range, i.e. typically at 28-30g. Don't fall into the trap of setting it higher than this in order to get better results. Doing this is quite unnecessary: the trick is to adjust the back-tension post landing position carefully then compensate by adjusting the soft-brake band. This will give you correct back tension and trick-mode operation.

The Audio/control Head

Audio/control head wear is comparatively common, especially with the NV788, and as just mentioned is made much worse if the back tension is excessive. The deck needs to be fairly clear for head replacement. Though it's not essential to remove the cassette carriage, life is made a lot easier if you do – and anyway you'll probably be replacing the idler etc. at the same time. The head has the usual three-screw mount. The centre screw is threaded into the base of the head assembly and so needn't be removed until the head is taken out. The rearmost screw (left-hand side viewed from the front) is the counterspring holder: it's best to remove this one last. The foremost, right-hand side screw is threaded into the mechanism and thus has to be removed – it's best to do this before the counterspring one.

After removing it the tilt screw can be fitted to the new head. First note the approximate protrusion into the head so that the new head will be roughly aligned when fitted. Then fit the new head, ensuring that the indentation at the front fits over the pip, about which it pivots, on the mechanism. Fit the azimuth screw, roughly in place, then fit the counterspring screw to the correct tension, i.e. don't over compress the spring. Finally align the head using a standards tape. Align the tilt carefully in order to prevent tape-path crinkling – watch the tape travel around the adjacent guides and posts.

Idler Replacement

Idler replacement is a bit more involved and tricky than one would like. Remove the top and bottom covers, then the front and the cassette carriage. The metal plate has to come out next. Remove the retaining circlip at the top of the take-up spool, after which the spool can be pulled off – take care not to lose any washers underneath it. Next remove the reel motor underneath in its plastic frame. This is done by taking out the three brass bolts/screws that hold it. At this point take a careful look at the idler from underneath: note the position of the spring at the rear of its arm. Use a screwdriver blade to move the nylon lever to

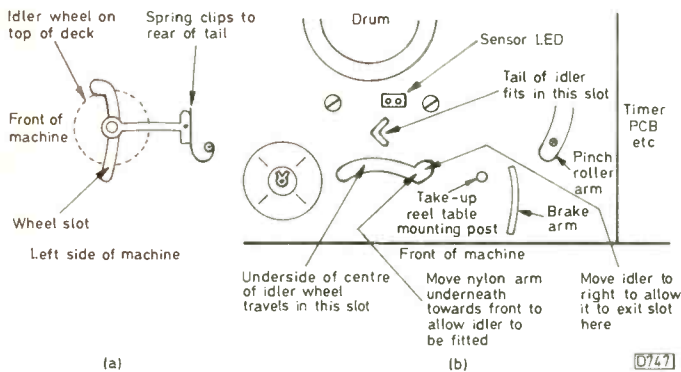


Fig. 1: Replacing the idler. (a) Underside of the mechanism (simplified) showing the nylon arm and spring positions when fitting the idler. Machine is on its left-hand side. (b) A simplified view of the upper side of the mechanism, with the take-up reel table and the idler removed.

next month in

TELEVISION

● SERVICING THE FINLUX 1000 CHASSIS

The sets in the Finlux 1000 series have been on the go for a good number of years now. Apart from a couple of points they have proved to be very reliable. This means that any problems that do occur can be difficult to handle due to engineers' lack of familiarity with the chassis. Fortunately the circuitry is straightforward, so that servicing is reasonably simple. Steve Cannon provides general guidance plus a faults list. Armed with this, you should have no difficulties when a 1000 chassis comes along.

● SATELLITE TV RECEIVER PROJECT

Charles Murray, I.Eng., AMIED, G0MIA, has so far designed two satellite TV receivers. It's a good way of coming to grips with the requirements of satellite TV reception! Next month he describes his Mk 2 receiver. The tuner/i.f. block is bought in of course – it's an Astec unit. The rest of the receiver uses just a few i.c.s. Construction is on two PCBs. As the receiver is intended for use in exploring and monitoring satellite TV it doesn't offer hi-fi stereo or video outputs for a VCR etc.

● FIVE DECADES OF STEREO TV!

The BBC launched its Nicam 728 TV plus stereo sound service on August 31st this year. However the Corporation has been experimenting with stereo sound transmission since the Fifties! Keith Hamer and Garry Smith fill in the history and provide a technical specification for the Nicam 728 system.

● SERVICING THE FISHER FVH-P520

This popular VHS machine dates from 1982-3. Features include freeze frame and wired remote control. John Coombes provides a run-down on fault-finding procedures.

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the front of the machine, carefully unhook the spring then, from above, move the idler towards the space vacated by the take-up spool along its slot. The idler's tail can now come through the expanded slot and the idler will come out.

Fit the replacement in the reverse order, ensuring that you place the spring correctly on the idler's tail. See Fig. 1.

Capstan Motor

The capstan motor is a direct-drive unit. Note that the part number is given incorrectly as VEM0165 in the mechanism photograph in the manual for the NV777. The correct part no. is VEM0164. The capstan motor is quite pricey but rarely fails. Capstan servo problems can be caused by dry-joints or breaks on the small PCB for the FG circuit at the base of the capstan motor.

Mode Switches

The mode switches are very reliable and align in the standard manner, notch to notch in the eject mode.

Belt Replacement

Apart from the previously mentioned problem with the large loading belt in the NV788, belt replacement is straightforward. The kick-pulley belt (part no. VDV0138) simply fits over pulleys at either end and should be removed first and fitted last. To replace the large loading belt (part no. VDV0135) you have to remove the DD unit connector at the drum end (unlike the NV7000/7200/7800 where you have to ferret around the loom, tracing it back

FAULTS LIST

The following is a list of the main troubles we've had with these machines.

(1) Low sound level or poor h.f. response. The audio/control head in these machines tends to wear out. Part nos. are VBR0061 for the NV777, VBR0067 for the NV788. The fault is particularly noticeable with the NV788 in the LP mode, since the head-to-tape speed is slower. After replacing the head, check the back tension and audio bias.

(2) Poor or noisy rewind/fast forward. This is usually due to a faulty idler (VXP0463) or reel motor (KFN56FB8A).

(3) Tape remaining counter reads four hours with certain three-hour tapes. You can't correct this fault – it's a design quirk!

(4) Squeaks in play. The squeak stops when pause is selected. This is usually due to a noisy pinch roller. Replace it and clean the tape path. Also lubricate the reel shafts with a very small amount of thin oil.

(5) As (4) but continues in pause. Suspect a noisy discharge angle (VXA1584).

(6) Goes into play then immediately returns to stop. Large loading belt (VDV0135) faulty. It's worth replacing all three belts at the same time.

(7) Noisy picture during or following trick-mode operation. Check the head switching relay(s) by substitution.

to the PCB end) and the small plastic belt cover which is secured by a single bolt. This belt has to be taken off the intermediate loading pulley before the small loading belt (VDV0122) can be replaced. Therefore the best policy is to remove all three belts and fit them in the following order: small loading, large loading and kick pulley.

Pinch Roller

To replace the pinch-roller arm (roller only part no. VXP0518), first remove the cassette carriage, then the cassette blinder release bracket. The arm is held by a single circlip about the centre pivot. Take care not to over-stretch and damage the spring.

Impedance Roller

A single nut secures the impedance roller in the usual manner. Take care to ensure smooth travel of the tape over it when it's aligned. Also take care not to lose the roller's inner sleeve when removing the old one. The replacement will usually be plastic, unlike the original metallic version.

Brake Band

The brake band clips into the back-tension lever at one end and is bolted through its slot at the other end. See the previous notes about adjustment. For correct back tension the right-hand edge of the washer under the head of the bolt usually needs to just cover the inner edge of the right-hand side of the slot in the band – anyway this is a good starting position for adjustment.

(8) Loses timer and clock information during a power interruption. Replace the back-up battery (VSB0004). When this is fully charged it should give a reading of approximately 4.25V, falling to 4.07V after 48 hours' discharge. An eight-hour charge should allow a 48-hour discharge. When fully charged the battery will last for 72 hours on average. The battery, usually consisting of three NiCd cells, is on the timer PCB.

(9) Doesn't accept a cassette/other loading problems. Replace broken or dirty cassette up and down switches on the side of the cassette carriage.

(10) Machine is affected by mains-borne noise, e.g. when a fluorescent light is switched on or off. The unit then for example enters the stop mode. If this hasn't been done during production, add a 1 μ F, 50V electrolytic capacitor between pin 9 of IC7505 (positive lead) and chassis (negative lead), on the print side of the board. The component is C7552, part no. ECEA1HS010.

(11) Remote control unit doesn't work. The remote control units are straightforward and all the usual advice applies, i.e. check batteries, LEDs etc. as necessary. The only stock fault is failure due to the legs of the ceramic resonator (CSB420) fracturing, usually as a result of the unit being dropped once too often.

(12) Various Y/C faults, e.g. unlocked colour. As these machines have aged, dry-joints have become quite common on the Y/C board (the lower PCB, beside the bottom of the mechanism). Try resoldering suspect chassis connections, the flying leads and the large hybrid chips on this board. Also check relay contacts.

What a Life!

Donald Bullock

"My wife accidentally upset a little fairy last night Mr. Bollard" said the hesitant young man at the door. "Can you have a look at it?"

I followed him out to his car. As he stopped I touched his elbow. "Look, it might just be me" I said, "I feel a bit odd today. Every day come to that. I don't quite..."

A Saisho CT141X

He took a Saisho CT141X colour portable from the boot and handed it to me. "It went in there" he said, pointing to a slot near the tube neck.

I eyed him closely. "The fairy went in there because your wife upset him, or maybe her?" I asked. "And you want me to coax her out. Is that it?"

"I'm talking about washing-up liquid" he said. "My wife upset some into the set. We'd like you to see what you can do."

"I don't feel too optimistic" I said "but I'll have a go. I hope it's kind to my hands." Laughing at my little joke, I took the set back to the workshop.

The liquid must have gone in some while before since the chassis looked quite dry and some of the jumpers were corroded. The STR50103 power chip was soapy, so I took it out, cleaned it and compared its resistance readings with a new one. Shedding a tear I fitted the new one. Before doing so I cleaned this part of the panel and got to work with the hairdryer. Then I checked the bridge rectifier diodes and found that one of them was short-circuit. In went a new BY127. The 5-6Ω, 5W surge limiter next door had laid down its life in sympathy, so this was also replaced.

The Switch On

Feeling uncertain if not actually afraid, I crouched back and switched the set on. It came to life but there was no field scan. The obvious thing to do was to replace the UPC1378H field output chip IC402. This restored the raster but there was a sizzling from the tube base panel, followed by a whisp of smoke. It was damp. I discarded the tube's socket, cleaned up the panel, fitted another socket and tried again. This time there was a picture of sorts, but with no sync and flaring, distorted colour. The huge 48-legged UPC1420CA chip IC401 contains the colour decoder and the sync and timebase generator stages. After cleaning this area of the panel I fitted a replacement. This restored the sync but did nothing for the colour.

So it was now a question of checking through the chroma circuit. My Mastercare manual is a rather poor photocopied affair with no waveforms. Nevertheless I found that the waveform at pin 5 of IC401 looked decidedly dodgy. This pin feeds the 2SA733 chroma delay line driver transistor Q602. A check showed that the latter had a collector-base leak, but the colour was still far from right when it had been replaced. Further time-consuming checks revealed corrosion across C609's leadout wires. It's a 2-2μF, 50V electrolytic that decouples pin 4 of the chip. Cleaning the board and fitting a new capacitor restored the

colour, and in fact the picture was now of excellent quality. However the time I'd spent on the set was out of all proportion to any charge I could make. I replaced the back and put the set on soak test (ha ha!).

An hour later there was field collapse. After withdrawing the chassis and switching the set on again the raster was back. I searched for a dry-joint around the new field output chip. The joints looked satisfactory, but I did some resoldering here and there. All now seemed to be well, so I returned the set to the soak test bench and got on with the next job.

Dead Ferguson FV31R

This was a Ferguson FV31R VCR that was dead – its mains fuse had come to a violent end. The cause was failure of the BA159 start-up supply rectifier DP11. When I replaced it the machine sprang to life. It's a flimsy model with panels that have those nasty little resistors tacked all over the print side. A never-soldered one was dancing about loose inside the case. A free bonus, I supposed. The screws that secure the top panel to its frame are minute, almost watch screwdriver jobs. So are the top cover fixing screws. An unattractive recorder to work on, though the results are excellent: after recording and playing back bits of live television I had, on one occasion, to press the pause button to check that I was in fact watching a recording and not a live transmission.

A Call from Greeneyes

As I finished the FV31R Greeneyes gave me a call on the intercom.

"First, can I give your old brown suit to the jumble? Secondly I've just phoned Davey Ruggles about some little glass tables. Thirdly he's got a TV that needs repair. He's coming round."

"No, o.k. and blast" I replied.

I gave the Saisho another glance. Field collapse, so I opened it up and started off once more. When the little service switch was wiggled sideways the field scan was restored. I pirated a similar switch from another set, fitted it, and got a solid raster. I was growing tired of the Saisho, the fairy and the hesitant young man. In fact I was getting hungry and had a slight headache. The screwdriver boxed up the set with minimal help from me and I put it back on soak test.

Davey Ruggles' TX10

Then Davey Ruggles' van pulled into the drive, its tyres down to the canvas. He pulled a Ferguson set from amongst the mats on board and we put it on the bench. I opened it up to see the TX10 chassis, with the focus control cracking up as they do. There was a set under the bench just like Davey's. I'd had to tell its owner that the tube had gone, so he'd left the body with me for spares. In no time I'd fitted its focus control in Davey's set. Having set up the picture I took the set back to the van. Couldn't really charge for that.

As Davey left I saw that the Saisho's raster had once more collapsed. No amount of violence towards the cabinet would get it back up, so I told the set what I thought of it and took it apart again. When I switched the set on the raster was all right. Twenty minutes later it collapsed. It took me quite a time to establish that the set did this consistently when boxed up but behaved perfectly when it was out of its cabinet. I put it aside as Mrs. Ruff

came in with her Akai VS112EK VCR.

"Sometimes it just wouldn't start up, Mr. Billhook" she said. "At other times it worked perfectly for weeks. Then old Pukey had a go and now it won't work at all."

"Who's old Pukey?" I asked.

"The lodger of course" she said. "If he's messed it up he's out."

As I put the machine on the bench I heard something rattling inside. When I took the bottom off I found that the drive mechanism had been got at. The securing plate, with its microswitch, had been taken off and among the bits adrift were two large white channelled cogs, a pair of smaller ones, a couple of shaped metal pieces and a couple of plastic mouldings. I also found a few circlips and a pair of coiled springs about an inch long.

I studied the manual and followed the well-illustrated procedure for reassembling it all. At the end I'd the two springs left over and the mechanism jammed as the machine began to initiate. After puzzling for an hour over where the two springs should go I telephoned Akai. I was told that they should be curled around inside the channels in the underside of the two smaller gear-loading cogs. Having done this I set up the timing and found that the machine worked well – sometimes. At other times it seized half way through loading. I was back with the original fault.

Akai knew about this when I contacted them again. The fault arises as the machines age. The large plastic cogs get tired and misshapen and then sometimes prevent operation. They are surprisingly cheap from Akai. Fitting replacements completed the job.

When Mrs. Ruff returned I told her that the time her machine had taken to be put right would have to be reflected in the charge, which would be enough to buy several bottles of Spanish whisky. At this her eyes narrowed. She paid up and, clutching the machine, made for the door. "Start packing Pukey" she muttered.

I turned to the dreaded Saisho and took a more careful look at the circuit. The field drive comes from the large UPC1420CA chip I'd replaced at the start of the saga. Pins 21-24 are associated with the vertical deflection. So I resoldered these four legs, boxed the set up and put it on test again.

End of the Saisho Saga

It was still working merrily next day when the young man returned, this time with his wife. I showed them the picture, which was excellent, and told them that the charge would be £45.

"Lotta money" she said. "We won't bother. Crubbs Foodstore has new colour sets for ninety five quid. Put it as it was". And off they went.

I limped back to the house and found that Greeneyes was on the phone. She turned to me as I went in.

"There's someone on the phone who's upset a cup of coffee into their portable TV" she said. "Smoke came out of the back before it went bang. They don't want to spend much on it. Want to know if you'll see whether it's worth doing."

I pulled a face and patted the air in front of me. "I'm not quite myself at the moment. When I've simmered down I'll tell you why I want to become a traffic warden."

Greeneyes mentioned Davey. "What did you charge him?" she asked.

"Nothing" I said, "he's an old friend and needs all he's got for some new tyres on his van. It's his living." Then I noticed that we were sitting around a large new mat. On top of the original.

"From Davey" said Greeneyes.

"But you didn't need a mat" I said, "you wanted a couple of glass tables."

"I saw his tyres too – oh, and I gave him that old brown suit you didn't want."

Video Output Circuits

George Wilding

The main factors that limit the h.f. response of a video output stage used to be quoted as collector load resistance and total output shunt capacitance, though the response could always be boosted by including precise-value peaking coils. Nowadays you are more likely to find reference to the time taken to charge or discharge the total output capacitance, or the time taken by the tube's input capacitance to do the same.

HF Response

This different way of putting things highlights three aspects of circuit action. First, that despite a tube being a voltage-controlled device the drive source impedance must be low enough to enable the input capacitance to charge and discharge very rapidly in response to h.f. changes in the waveform. Secondly that the charge and discharge times may not be the same, which is true unless steps are taken to equalise them. Thus the h.f. response may be asymmetrical. Thirdly that the value of the output stage's load resistor is not the sole factor in establishing the top h.f. response. In other words the output waveform rise and fall times may be dissimilar, something that can be especially unwanted with data displays etc.

Fig. 1 illustrates this effect. It shows a basic video output transistor which is assumed to be biased to the mid-point of its characteristic. Thus the leading edge of a negative-going step input waveform will reduce the collector current and increase the collector voltage because of the reduced voltage across the load resistor. This cannot occur instantaneously however because there is always some stray collector-chassis capacitance present. As a result, the shape of the amplified and inverted output waveform is rounded instead of being a step – the new potential reached at the collector following the negative-going step input depends on the time taken by the shunt capacitance to charge. When the input step waveform is positive-going the shunt capacitance is discharged via the transistor instead of being charged via the load resistor. Once more the output waveform is curved instead of being a step, but this time the curve is of much shorter duration because the transistor's impedance is much less than that of the load resistor.

Thus the rise time of the output waveform is determined by the time-constant of the load resistor and the shunt capacitance while the fall time is determined by the transistor's impedance (plus the emitter resistance) and the shunt capacitance. Clearly if the pulse duration is less than

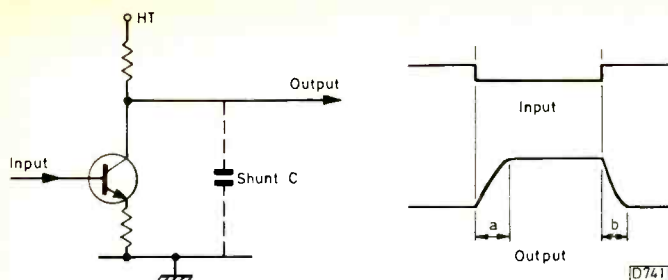


Fig. 1: Basic class A video output stage circuit, showing the effect of the load shunt capacitance with a squarewave input. When the transistor is switched off, the shunt capacitance has to charge via the load resistor, producing the lengthy output rise time *a*. When the transistor is switched on, the shunt capacitance is discharged via the much lower resistance of the transistor and its emitter resistor. Thus the output waveform fall time *b* is much less than the rise time *a*.

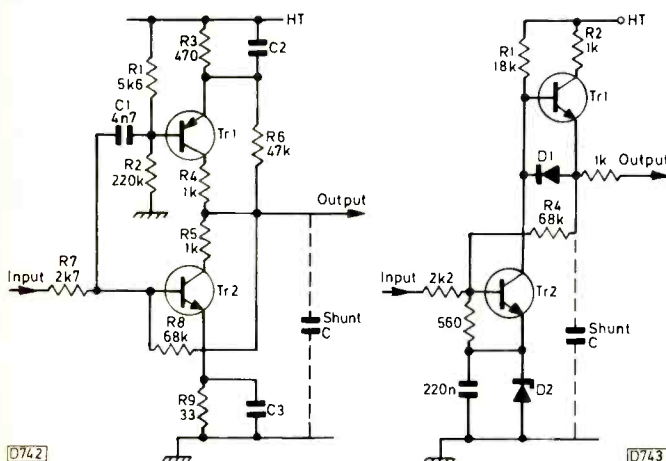


Fig. 2 (left): Basic complementary-symmetry video output stage circuit.

Fig. 3 (right): Class A video output transistor stage with an emitter-follower transistor added to reduce the output waveform's rise time with a squarewave input.

either time-constant the shunt capacitance will begin to charge/discharge before the previous charge/discharge has been completed. If the pulse repetition frequency is high, the output waveform will be a poor reflection of the input waveform.

Circuit Techniques

Various output stage circuits have been devised to reduce and equalise the shunt capacitance charge/discharge times, also to provide other advantages such as reduced transistor dissipation and improved tolerance to power supply variations.

The usual approach is to use a pair of output transistors connected across the supply, with the top one charging the output capacitance while the lower one discharges it. NPN transistors may be used in both positions or a complementary pair of pnp/npn transistors can be used. Fig. 2 shows an example of the latter arrangement. The lower transistor Tr2 has d.c. input coupling while the input signal is a.c. coupled to the base of the upper transistor Tr1 by C1.

Complementary-symmetry Circuit

Tr2's collector load is provided by R4/Tr1 with R6 in parallel. R4 and R5 also limit the power dissipation of the transistors and provide protection against tube flashovers.

The values of the emitter resistor decoupling capacitors C2 and C3 are selected to provide compensation, i.e. by being relatively small in value negative feedback is introduced by the emitter resistors at the lower and medium frequencies, reducing the gain at these frequencies to improve the overall linearity. The ratio of R8 to R7 determines the overall negative feedback and thus the stage gain, and also improves the stage's tolerance to h.t. variations. The base of Tr1 is forward biased by R1/2. C1 couples mainly the higher frequencies and transients to the base of Tr1. Though both transistors operate mainly as class A amplifiers, with high-amplitude h.f. signals the operation veers towards class B. Overall power dissipation with this circuit is much better than with a single-transistor stage.

Two NPN-transistor Circuit

Use of a pair of npn transistors in a circuit such as that shown in Fig. 3 is a rather more common arrangement. Here Tr2 is a conventional class A amplifier but the value of its load resistor R1 is much higher than with a single-transistor circuit. This is made possible through the use of Tr1 as an emitter-follower to discharge the output capacitance when the signal at the collector of Tr2 is positive-going. R2 is included simply to reduce the dissipation in Tr1. With a positive-going input at the base of Tr2 the output capacitance is rapidly discharged via D1, Tr2 and D2.

Emitter-follower Output

A third way of improving and equalising the h.f. response is to take the entire output from an emitter-follower stage. Though an emitter-follower has less than unity gain its low output impedance means that the current gain is high, while removal of the output capacitance from the load resistor of the previous voltage-amplifier stage means that a much higher load resistor value can be used here. This more than compensates for the voltage loss introduced by the emitter-follower and markedly improves the h.f. performance.

Causes of Shunt Capacitance

Various factors contribute to the output capacitance seen by a video output stage. These include each drive lead in a ribbon type connector. Lead capacitance to chassis can be taken as being about 10pF, while that between adjacent leads is about 6pF. Thus a very significant improvement in the capacitive loading is obtained by mounting the output transistors on the c.r.t.'s base panel. Cross-lead capacitance has in practice far less effect than this figure suggests however, since if two adjacent leads carry identical signals the capacitance is nullified. With RGB amplifiers the output voltage difference between any two stages ranges from zero to about thirty per cent of the peak-to-peak value on many scenes. Thus the effective capacitance between adjacent leads is no more than about a third of the nominal value.

Input Capacitance

Because the input capacitance of a common-emitter transistor amplifier is high – it's largely determined by the transistor's collector-base feedback capacitance, and varies with gain – a low-impedance drive is required. This is quite a complex matter and is fortunately taken care of by i.c. designers in modern TV sets.

Choosing a Digital Multimeter

Part 2

David Botto

Last month we took a brief look at digital multimeter operation, types of DMM and basic characteristics. Time to consider the various features offered by DMMs so that an informed choice can be made.

Most hand-held DMMs use a liquid crystal display (LCD) for the readout, with seven-segment numbers. Some early models had LCD panels that became dim and hard to read after a year or so as the display changed from black to a dirty, unreadable grey. In time some segments failed to light at all. The LCD technology used with today's DMMs has improved however and fading is no longer a problem with good-quality meters. But before purchasing a DMM with an LCD panel it's important to check that the digits are jet black: you can then be reasonably sure that it will stay like this for many years. An advantage with an LCD panel is that lots of function annunciators can be included in the readout.

Bench DMMs may use an LCD display panel, LEDs or a vacuum fluorescent display.

How Many Digits?

How many digits do you need? This is the question most often asked by the first-time DMM buyer. A 3.5 digit display means that the meter has a maximum reading, or count, of 1999. Until quite recently this was the accepted standard for TV/video/microcomputer repair work. It's fine for outside servicing.

Greater accuracy and resolution are preferable on the bench, where the long-suffering TV/video/microcomputer engineer has to struggle with the latest state-of-the-art equipment. A DMM with at least a $3\frac{2}{3}$ (maximum reading 3000) or a $3\frac{3}{4}$ (3200-4999 counts) display is better.

The reason for this is simple. Suppose you are measuring 1.856V with a 3.5-digit DMM on its 2V range. The reading you'll get is 1.856V. But if you wished to measure 2.051V you would have to switch up to the 20V range, where the reading you'd get would be 2.05V, which is not such an accurate result. With a 3200 count DMM however the 2V range becomes 3.2V and 2.051V reads out as that.

A 4.5 digit meter has a maximum readout of 19999, ten times the resolution with a 3.5 digit meter. Personally I feel that for normal TV/video/microcomputer work a $3\frac{3}{4}$ -digit meter has at the present time sufficient accuracy.

Resolution is the smallest increment of change that a DMM can indicate on a particular range. For example the smallest change in value a 3.5-digit meter can read on its 2V range (a.c. or d.c.) is 0.001V. With a 4.5-digit meter the resolution is ten times greater, i.e. 0.0001V. On the 2k Ω range a 3.5-digit meter has a resolution of 0.001k Ω , i.e. 1 Ω .

Sensitivity is the smallest voltage change that a DMM can indicate on its lowest range. For example a 3.5-digit DMM whose lowest range is 200mV has a maximum sensitivity of 0.1mV or 100 μ V. With a 4.5-digit meter on the same range the sensitivity is 0.01mV or 10 μ V.

Accuracy

It's no good having a DMM with lots of digits if you can't rely on its accuracy. Looking at a 1.9998V readout is of no

help if the actual voltage is 2.0004V. DMM accuracy is quoted as an error percentage ($\pm X$ per cent). This is where construction quality and stability are important. But as with any piece of electronic gear, calibration accuracy tends to drift with age.

Since the d.c. voltage supplies in modern TV sets and video equipment must be set to a high standard of accuracy, for TV/video/microcomputer servicing you need a well-designed, robust instrument with an accuracy of at least ± 0.5 per cent. Unless critical circuit voltages are spot-on, equipment won't work properly – if at all.

DMMs are rated to measure accurately at a specified room temperature – around 23°C. Most however will work accurately over a fairly wide temperature range.

A high-performance, quality instrument is generally guaranteed to retain its specified accuracy for at least a year. After that it's necessary for the maker or a specialist firm to recalibrate the DMM. You'll notice that most manufacturers of low-cost DMMs don't specify long-term accuracy.

Some DMMs do however retain their accuracy. Twelve years ago I bought an inexpensive DMM from Tandy. This instrument has lived a hard and busy life. Despite this it has retained its specified ± 0.8 per cent accuracy.

Ranges

D.C. voltage ranges of 200mV to 1kV with a.c. voltage ranges of 200mV to 750V are essential for TV/video/microcomputer servicing. Ability to measure a.c. and d.c. up to a maximum of at least 10A is also a requirement.

E.H.T. up to 40kV can be measured with an e.h.t. probe plugged into the DMM. I prefer to use a separate, specialised e.h.t. probe with its own built-in meter however. These are available from Heathkit, B & K Precision Test Instruments and Beckman Industrial. When high voltages are measured with an e.h.t. probe plugged into a DMM, damage can be done to both the DMM and the engineer should the earth lead become disconnected from chassis. So be warned. E.H.T. is the one thing that can wreck an otherwise apparently indestructible DMM.

It's useful to have a bar graph (analogue) scale. With this the TV/video engineer has the best of both worlds – analogue and digital displays on the same multimeter. The bar graph display can be used for nulling and peaking measurements – then, if desired, a final accurate measurement can be made with the digital readout. Before buying your DMM, check that its bar graph has a fast update – a 20 per second rate is good. A slow update bar graph is useless for many measurements. Updating is handled by a microcomputer within the DMM. It may also enable the DMM to change ranges (not functions) without the need for manual switching. Decide for yourself whether or not you need a bar graph display.

RMS Measurements

For some applications a DMM that measures true r.m.s. is desirable. It's more expensive to manufacture however, so the price rises accordingly. The r.m.s. (root mean

square) value of a sinewave is obtained by multiplying the peak current by 0.707 – see Fig. 1(a). The average value of a sinewave is 0.637 times the peak value. The majority of DMMs respond to the average value but are scaled to give the r.m.s. value readings. Such instruments are known as average-sensing or average-responding DMMs. They respond to a much narrower band of frequencies, typically 40-500Hz, than a true r.m.s. meter. When an a.c. waveform is more complicated – see Fig. 1(b) – or consists of several different harmonics – Fig. 1(c) – it becomes more difficult to measure.

Crest factor is the ratio of peak signal value to r.m.s. value, and defines the limits within which a true r.m.s. meter will measure accurately. A true r.m.s. DMM responds to higher frequencies than an average-sensing instrument, perhaps to 20kHz.

Plenty of complex a.c. waveforms are present in TV/video equipment. If your servicing is all done in the workshop an oscilloscope can be used to give an easy reading of the value of such waveforms. But it's often convenient to be able to measure r.m.s. values directly with a DMM. If you decide that true r.m.s. measurement is a must, bear in mind that this will add quite a bit to the price.

Features

A DMM that's able to measure frequency enables you to check line drive and other signal frequencies in TV receivers quickly. You'll also be able to check the various critical frequencies in VCRs, camcorders and CD players.

If you decide that frequency measurement is a feature you require, be sure to obtain a DMM with an upper limit of at least 20kHz, preferably higher – some DMMs measure up to 10 or 20MHz.

When used with a special probe some DMMs provide temperature measurement. You can thus check transistor and component temperatures without burning your fingers. If the meter you select doesn't have temperature ranges you can buy an adaptor/probe that turns it into a temperature meter.

Data hold freezes the reading displayed when a button is depressed. Reading hold is a similar feature. Peak hold

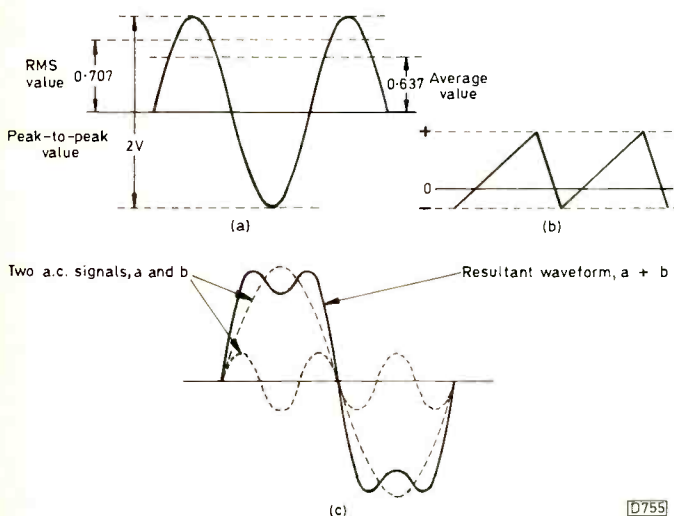


Fig. 1: The average, r.m.s. and peak-to-peak values of a sinewave signal are shown at (a) and apply with both voltage and current measurements. Most DMMs respond to the average value but are calibrated for r.m.s. values. Non-symmetrical waveforms, for example (b), or those that consist of several harmonics, e.g. (c), are more difficult to measure.

METER SUPPLIERS

Avo/Megger: Megger Instruments Ltd., Archcliffe Road, Dover, Kent CT17 9EN. Tel. 0304 202620.

Beckman Industrial: Beckman Industrial Ltd., Astec Building, High Street, Wollaston, Stourbridge, West Midlands DY8 4PG. Tel. 0384 442 394.

BK Precision: Canadian Instruments and Electronics Ltd., The Bass Building, Widdowson Close, Blenheim Industrial Estate, Bulwell, Nottingham NG6 8WB. Tel. 0602 770 075.

Cirkit: Cirkit Distribution Ltd., Park Lane, Broxbourne, Herts EN10 7NQ. Tel. 0992 444 111.

Fluke/Philips: Philips Test and Measurement, Colonial Way, Watford WD2 4TT. Tel. 0923 240 511.

ITT: RS Components Ltd., PO Box 99, Corby, Northants NN17 9RS. Tel. 0536 201 234.

Metex: East Cornwall Components, 119 High Street, Wem, Shropshire SY4 5TT. Tel. 0939 32 689.

Micronta: InterTan UK Ltd., Tandy Centre, Leamore Lane, Walsall WS2 7PS. Tel. 0922 710 000.

Solex/Soar: Analogue Numeric Devices Ltd., 25 Swannington Road, Cottage Lane Industrial Estate, Broughton Astley, Leicestershire LE9 6PD. Tel. 0455 283 486.

retains the highest value obtained during a measurement that involves varying voltage or current levels.

A min-max function enables you to hook the DMM to the equipment under test and attend to other matters while the meter automatically stores the highest, lowest and true average (mean) of all its readings. This function is available with the Fluke Model 83, the B & K Model 2912 and the Beckman Industrial Model DM97. It's handy when dealing with intermittent faults.

Many DMMs contain a piezoelectric buzzer that gives audible continuity checks. There's a cheerful beep when the resistance being checked is less than about 100Ω. This is a great help when PCB tracks are being checked for breaks and lead destinations are being traced, since you don't have to look at the DMM.

Nearly all DMMs feature auto-polarity, which means that if you reverse the leads on a d.c. voltage or current range the meter indicates the value with a minus sign prefix.

Some DMMs now have inductance ranges. The Solex SM666 for example measures inductance values between 20mH and 20H.

A notable development is the Tandy Voice Meter which was reviewed in the February 1991 issue. This 3½-digit instrument not only displays the measured value but also announces it in a clear voice.

Guarantee

Check the guarantee period before making your purchase. DMMs are reliable, but failure outside a short guarantee period would be disastrous. DMM guarantees range from ninety days to three years, with parts and labour warranty.

Safety

Virtually all modern DMMs have protection against damage by accidental overloading. Since most DMMs are housed in a moulded plastic case an electric shock from the meter itself is unlikely, but make sure that the test input

sockets are recessed so that you won't place a finger on an unused socket and get a nasty shock. The test prods should have a finger protecting guard at the business end and a moulded plug, often angled, at the socket end.

If the internal high-energy fuse in a DMM blows as a result of an accidental overload, be sure that the replacement is of the correct type and rating. If it isn't and the meter is again overloaded it could be damaged, with possibly internal arcing, fire, an explosion and an electrical shock hazard for the user.

The Choice

For the TV/video/microcomputer service engineer who works mostly at the bench a good-quality, hand-held DMM with plenty of functions and ranges and at least a 3 $\frac{2}{3}$ - or 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ -digit display is a suitable choice. Such a DMM is relatively expensive, but the money is not wasted: it should be a profitable long-term investment.

Table 1: Digital multimeter specifications.

All meters have an LC display, a continuity test, overload protection and battery operation unless otherwise indicated. Prices exclude VAT.

Avo

M2004: Hand-held meter with 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ -digit display. Autoranging; bar graph; diode test; d.c. accuracy 0.7 per cent; one current range (10A). £108.

M2005: As M2004 plus 3mA-10A a.c./d.c. ranges and range hold. 0.5 per cent d.c. accuracy. £116.50.

M2006: As M2004 plus data hold and 300 μ A-10A a.c./d.c. ranges. 0.25 per cent d.c. accuracy. £156.

M2007: As M2004 plus peak hold. 0.1 per cent d.c. accuracy. £212.50.

M2008: As M2007 plus true r.m.s. reading. £247.50.

M2036: Bench meter with 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ -digit display. Autoranging; 300 μ A-15A a.c./d.c. ranges; bar graph; diode test; data, peak and range hold; true r.m.s. reading; 0.05 per cent d.c. accuracy. £355.

M2037: As M2036 plus decibel measurements. £378.

M2042: As M2037 less autoranging and data, range and peak hold but with 300 Ω -300M Ω resistance ranges and 3mA-20A a.c./d.c. ranges. £525.

M801: Hand-held meter with 3.5-digit display. Diode test; d.c. accuracy 0.5 per cent. £64.

M806: Hand-held meter with 3.5-digit display. Autoranging; bar graph; 200mV-600V a.c. ranges; diode test; data and range hold; temperature measurement; d.c. accuracy 0.5 per cent. £89.

TD20: Probe meter with 3.5-digit display. Autoranging; 2V-500V a.c. ranges; data hold; d.c. accuracy 0.5 per cent. £61.60.

Beckman Industrial

HD153: Hand-held meter with 3.5-digit display. Autoranging; diode test; audible read-out tone; logic test; range hold; d.c. accuracy 0.25 per cent. £129.95.

For the outside engineer a wide variety of reasonably-priced 3.5-digit meters are available. It's best to get one that has the widest possible range of functions. Examples are the Beckman Industrial DM27XL, the Cirkit TM175 and the B & K 388HD.

Table 1 is included to provide a guide to DMMs suitable for TV/video/microcomputer servicing. It lists only a relatively small number of the excellent DMMs that are now available – if every DMM was included the table would take up many pages of this issue. Before buying a DMM, get a copy of the manufacturer's product brochure.

In conclusion I hope that this article has given you a reasonable understanding of the basics of DMM operation and the factors to consider when making a choice.

Thanks are due to Megger Instruments, Sue Round of Beckman Industrial, B & K Precision Test Instruments, Philips Test and Measurement, Louise of InterTan UK and Solex International for supplying technical information, catalogues and photographs.

4410B: Hand-held meter with 4.5-digit display; diode test; true r.m.s. reading; d.c. accuracy 0.07 per cent. £245.

360B: Bench model with 3.5-digit display. Diode test; 20 Ω range measures 0.01 Ω ; true r.m.s. reading; d.c. accuracy 0.1 per cent; temperature measurement. £286.

850: Hand-held meter with 4.5-digit display. Diode test; frequency measurement; data hold; true r.m.s. reading; d.c. accuracy 0.05 per cent. £185.

DM27XL: Hand-held meter with 3.5-digit display. Capacitance measurement; diode test; logic test; frequency measurement; transistor test; full annunciator set; d.c. accuracy 0.5 per cent. £79.

DM71: Probe meter with 3.5-digit display. Autoranging; diode test; data and touch hold; no current ranges. £42.

DM78: Pocket-size meter with 3.5-digit display. Autoranging; diode test; no current ranges; d.c. accuracy 0.7-2 per cent. £24.50.

DM97: Hand-held meter with 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ -digit (4000 count) display. Autoranging; bar graph; capacitance measurement; diode test; logic test; frequency measurement; data and peak hold; min-max; full annunciator set; d.c. accuracy 0.3 per cent. £95.

B&K Precision

2911: Hand-held meter with 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ -digit (3999 count) display. Autoranging; bar graph; diode test; temperature measurement with optional probe; d.c. accuracy 0.5 per cent. £59.

2912: As 2911 plus capacitance and frequency measurement; peak and data hold; min-max. D.C. accuracy 0.3 per cent. £89.

377: Compact test bench with 3.5-digit display. Diode, transistor and logic tests; capacitance and frequency measurement; temperature measurement with optional probe; d.c. accuracy 0.5 per cent. £57.

388HD: As 377 plus current measurement to 20A. Slightly larger case. £73.

2802B: Probe meter with 3.5-digit display. Autoranging; diode test; data hold; no current ranges; d.c. accuracy 0.7 per cent. £34.

2860: Ruggedised hand-held meter with 3.5-digit, 0.8in. display. Diode test; 500V a.c./d.c.; d.c. accuracy 0.5 per cent. £57.

2833: Bench model with 4.5-digit display. Mains powering via adaptor. Diode test; frequency measurement; peak and data hold; decibel measurements; d.c. accuracy 0.05 per cent; no continuity test. £212.

2704: Hand-held meter with 3.5-digit display. Diode and transistor tests; capacitance measurement 1pF-20µF; resistance measurement 200Ω-2,000MΩ; temperature measurement with optional probe; d.c. accuracy 0.5 per cent. £54.

2703: As 2704 less transistor test and capacitance measurement. D.C. accuracy 0.8 per cent. £34.

2907: Hand-held meter with 3.5-digit display. Logic test; capacitance measurement; peak hold; true r.m.s. reading; d.c. accuracy 0.1 per cent. £139.

2906: As 2907 less peak hold, capacitance measurement and true r.m.s. reading but with transistor test and temperature added. D.C. accuracy 0.25 per cent. £90.

2905: As 2906 less logic test and temperature measurement. D.C. accuracy 0.5 per cent. £74.

2940: Hand-held meter with 4.5-digit display. Diode test; data hold; frequency measurement; d.c. accuracy 0.05 per cent. £141.

2945: As 2940 plus true r.m.s. reading and temperature measurement. £221.

Cirkit

TM115: Hand-held meter with 3.5-digit display. Diode and transistor tests; d.c. accuracy 0.5 per cent. £28.91.

TM135: Hand-held meter with 3.5-digit display. Diode and transistor tests; capacitance and temperature measurement; d.c. accuracy 0.5 per cent. £39.96.

TM175: Hand-held with 3.5-digit display. Logic, diode and transistor tests; capacitance and frequency measurement; d.c. accuracy 0.5 per cent. £49.99.

TM5315B: Hand-held meter with 3.5-digit display. Diode test; d.c. accuracy 0.8 per cent. £17.38.

TM5365: Hand-held meter with 3.5-digit display. Diode, transistor and logic tests; capacitance and frequency measurement; d.c. accuracy 0.5 per cent. £32.96.

TM5375: Hand-held meter with 3.5-digit display. Diode test; frequency measurement; d.c. accuracy 0.5 per cent. £31.96.

Fluke (Philips)

45: Bench meter with 5-digit fluorescent readout. Dual display; diode test; data and touch hold; min-max; decibel measurements; frequency measurement; true r.m.s. reading; RS232 interface; d.c. accuracy 0.02 per cent. Mains powered with optional rechargeable battery. Temperature measurement with probe. £499.

73: Hand-held meter with 3¾-digit display. Autoranging; bar graph; d.c. accuracy 0.7 per cent. £85.

75: As 73 plus range hold, diode beeper and autoranged mA ranges; d.c. accuracy 0.5 per cent. £112.

77: As 75 plus touch hold. D.C. accuracy 0.3 per cent. £125.

83: Hand-held meter with 3¾-digit display. Autoranging; bar graph; diode test; data, range and touch hold; capacitance and frequency measurement; min-max; conductance measurement to 100,000MΩ; temperature measurement with probe; d.c. accuracy 0.3 per cent. £179.

85: As 83 but d.c. accuracy 0.1 per cent. £199.

87: As 85 but 4.5-digit display plus true r.m.s. reading, special analogue pointer and peak min-max. £269.

ITT

MX547: Bench model with 3¾-digit (4000 count) display. Mains powered. Autoranging; data and peak hold; full annunciator set; true r.m.s. reading; temperature measurement; d.c. accuracy 0.1 per cent. £269.

MX570: Hybrid analogue (moving-coil) and digital meter with 3¾-digit (4000 count) display. Autoranging; diode test; data, range and peak hold; full annunciator set; d.c. accuracy 0.5 per cent digital, 2 per cent analogue. £165.

Metex

M818B: Hand-held meter with 3¾-digit display. Autoranging; bar graph; diode test; data hold; frequency measurement; true r.m.s. reading; d.c. accuracy 0.5 per cent. £65.50.

M3630B: Hand-held meter with 3.5-digit display. Bar graph; capacitance measurement; diode and transistor tests; d.c. accuracy 0.3 per cent. £64.50.

M4650B: Hand-held meter with 4.5-digit display. Bar graph; capacitance measurement; data hold; diode and transistor tests; frequency measurement 0-200kHz; d.c. accuracy 0.5 per cent. £88.50.

Micronta (Tandy)

22-164 Voice Meter: Hand-held meter with 3⅔-digit display. Autoranging; diode test; full annunciator set; d.c. accuracy 0.8 per cent. £79.95 inc. VAT.

22-165: Probe meter with 3.5-digit display. Autoranging; data hold; full annunciator set; no current ranges. £24.95 inc. VAT.

22-194: Hand-held meter with 3.5-digit display. Diode and transistor tests; capacitance measurement; d.c. accuracy 0.8 per cent. £59.95 inc. VAT.

Soar

ME530: Hand-held meter with 3.5-digit display. Autoranging; diode test; full annunciator set; d.c. accuracy 0.35 and 0.5 per cent. £51.

ME4040: Hand-held meter with 3¾-digit display. Autoranging; bar graph; diode test; data hold; full annunciator set; frequency measurement; d.c. accuracy 0.3 per cent. Mains powering via ADP adaptor. £109.

Solex

SM666: Hand-held meter with 3.5-digit display. Diode and transistor tests; inductance and capacitance measurement; full annunciator set; d.c. accuracy 0.5 per cent. £79.

The above list is only a selection from various ranges to indicate the variety of DMMs available.

VCR Clinic

Reports from Philip Blundell, AMIEE, Ed Rowland, John Edwards, Mick Dutton, Graham Richards, S. Da Costa, E.M. Beddow, Roger Burchett and Nick Beer

Philips VR6185 (later 5V version)

How's this for a saga! The machine came in from another dealer with the complaint that it was dead. There was no clock, no signals were present and there was no deck activity. But the power supply was working. A check showed that the Wickman fuse on the family board was open-circuit, but replacing it didn't change any of the symptoms. Checks were carried out around the P8051A-H1-2-D2 syscon chip. Its supplies were present, the reset worked and the clock oscillator was o.k., but it gave no output. So a replacement was ordered. With this fitted the deck initialised but there was gibberish on the display and none of the keys worked. A new TMP47C870N chip cured that. We'd no playback colour however. As the paint seals on the H-PLL control had been broken it was reset as per the manual. Finally all was well! I kept the machine for a few days on test however, just to be on the safe side. **P.B.**

Grundig VS310

The symptoms here were that FI flashed on the display and the machine wouldn't take in a cassette. A check can be made on the cassette-in switches at connection 3 of plug L12. The voltage here should be 5V until the switches close, when it should drop to zero. But the voltage never rose above 1V. A new M722AB1 chip was required. **P.B.**

Philips VR2334

I've had this fault on three of these machines now. The deck doesn't initialise and there's no clock display. With the first one that came along I temporarily fitted a new A630 panel. This proved that the fault was here. Scope checks showed that pin 38 (bus data in/out) of the 8050 chip was being held down. The chip had an internal leak. **P.B.**

NEC N831

When the covers of this NEC machine were removed I found a JVC HRD120 (Ferguson 3V35). Lucky that. The problem was no record or playback colour. A quick run round with the frequency counter showed that all the oscillators were running at the correct frequency. So why was the colour-killer operating? The colour/monochrome switching line was at mono because the colour/mono/test switch was leaky! **P.B.**

Philips VR6548

This model is a Sharp clone. Until this one came in the only problem I've had with these VCRs has been with the cassette tray – the symptom is intermittent failure to accept a cassette. Fitting the modified tray switch kit, part number 4822 214 32583, usually puts matters right. This particular machine also seemed to stall the loading motor at odd times. The cause was a faulty mode control switch, part no. 4822 276 12482. **P.B.**

Sanyo VTC5150

Fast forward and rewind were o.k., but when play was selected the tape would lace up then, after a few seconds,

unlace. The fact that the loading motor continued to run after the tape was fully laced drew attention to the after-load switch. It closed but the contacts were oxidised. A squirt of Electrolube cleared the trouble. **E.R.**

Mitsubishi HS307

We don't know whether this trade has a patron saint. If so he wasn't in a very benign mood when this machine came along. The complaint was that it sometimes failed to record the sound. We removed the plugs on the audio/control head and hard-wired the leads to the panel. This cured the problem and we thought that was it. Two days later however the customer rang to say that although the sound was now being recorded it became distorted after an hour. The machine would then stop playing. A check showed that after an hour the capstan speed became erratic. The capstan motor would then stop altogether, after which the machine would work only in the rewind mode. Freezing the MN6168MBB chip IC4A1 got the capstan motor running again and a replacement chip restored normal operation. Luckily we obtained one from a scrap machine, as the customer made it plain that he wouldn't pay for attending to a fault that wasn't present when the machine came in initially. Now how do you argue with that? **E.R.**

Matsui VX800

The symptoms were slow rewind and fast forward, also tape chewing in the play mode. We initially suspected the clutch/idler assembly, but while running through the mechanical operations without a tape in we noticed that in the play mode the reel motor didn't rotate. A check showed that there was only 0.5V across its terminals. The culprit turned out to be the 2SD1246 transistor Q2022 which was short-circuit base-to-emitter. It forms a low-resistance chassis return for the motor, which instead was relying on a couple of low-value resistors that are in parallel with the transistor. **J.E.**

Mitsubishi HS-B20

Playback and the tape functions were o.k. but there was no E-E picture or sound. Channel selection was shown on the display and the tuning indicator searched normally for a station to lock to, but as none was found the search continued in vain, the monitor's screen remaining blank. A check on the voltages around IC101 in the i.f./a.g.c. can showed that pin 2 was at a much lower voltage than its normal 5V. So the a.g.c. wasn't working and the signal was cut off. The cause was the 0.1 μ F, 35V tantalum capacitor C105 which was leaky. **J.E.**

Matsui VX880

This machine would accept a cassette then almost immediately eject it, after which it would switch off. We noticed that during the attempt to load the tape the cassette-in symbol flickered on then, as the tape was ejected, off. The after-load leaf switch mounted on the carriage was o.k. We then made a careful study of the action of the mechanism during the cassette loading

operation. This showed that the leaf switch is activated by a lever driven by the side-mounted rotary cam, which in turn driven directly by the loading motor. The lever pressed the leaf switch home all right but immediately returned back a small way so that the switch went open-circuit again. During the loading process the motor spun normally, but as soon as the cassette reached the bottom the motor reversed by about three revolutions. A meter connected across its terminals showed no reverse voltage when this occurred, thank goodness. A new loading motor cured the problem. **J.E.**

Saisho VR3600/Orion VCR-MD3

This machine cut out after a short while, i.e. it returned to standby, and wouldn't accept a cassette. I noticed that there was no sign of any jog from the loading mechanism, and when I tried to advance it by hand it was as solid as a rock. When the gearing on the tape transport was stripped down I saw that the master cam gear had disintegrated. After fitting a replacement and rebuilding the mechanism the machine ran smoothly. **G.R.**

Panasonic NV370

The E-E picture was half white and half black, i.e. there was hum on vision. C1102 (2,200 μ F) in the power supply was open-circuit. The playback picture was only slightly affected. **G.R.**

Hitachi VT410

The complaint was of vertical black and white bars instead of a picture during the first fifteen minutes of playback. On test we found that a tap on the panel would clear the fault. The signal appeared to be getting lost within IC202, but a replacement made no difference. We then found that connecting a scope probe to pin 14 of IC203 would remove the black and white bars, leaving snow on the screen. It seemed that the f.m. demodulator wasn't operating correctly and that as a result the dropout compensator was working overtime, causing instability in the form of the bars. Replacing IC201 cured the fault but it was impossible to prove which part of the chip was defective. **M.D.**

Philips VR6467

When a tape was being played there was no sound or vision, just a blank screen. This was due to absence of the 10V supply at the head amplifier panel. Transistor 7607 (BC328) was open-circuit. **M.D.**

Panasonic NV370

The picture was o.k. with some tapes but with others there was rolling and a small white bar was visible at the bottom of the screen. Playback of the machine's own recordings was o.k. except for the white bar. After a lot of deck realignment we established that the fault was being caused by the drum assembly. The rotor base at the bottom had shifted slightly out of position, so that the pole switching was incorrect. Slight adjustment by loosening the hex nut in the base and realigning it put matters right.

All was now o.k. except for cue. When this was selected the machine ran in the cue mode but when the button was released it still ran in the cue mode though the cue sign disappeared from the display. The AN3822 capstan chip was faulty, pin 17 being virtually open-circuit when a check

was made between here and chassis.

A common problem with these machines is a dew indication. Touching the dew sensor on the deck with the tip of a hot soldering iron for about 20-30 seconds usually provides a lasting cure. If the dew indication is erratic however the sensor is at fault. **S.DaC.**

Amstrad VCR4600 Mk II

The report over the telephone was "not rewinding". In due course I took the top off and saw a spotless mechanism – would that they all were! The machine worked perfectly when it had warmed up. It was left overnight then sometimes failed to respond to any deck command, including eject, though the display changed to show the appropriate symbol.

On this machine the mode switch is operated via a bell crank and levers. Cleaning and greasing cleared the fault. A linkage like this is asking for trouble as there are too many points of friction and potential wear.

A few months later the mode switch itself started to play up, giving no rewind or fast forward. **R.B.**

Grundig VS310

Warble on sound was the complaint with this machine, which had already been somewhere else for repair. When we tested it the sound was indeed poor. We were told that the capstan belt and motor had been replaced. After checking that the power supply voltages and ripple levels were o.k. we removed the chassis screws and hinged it out so that we could watch the flywheel and belt running. There was a noticeable vibration with the belt, which looked new but didn't seem to be as tight as one would expect. When a new, original Grundig belt was fitted everything was all right. The old belt had a lot more stretch than the new one and was obviously not a proper Grundig spare. The usual fault with these belts is that they split and break, maybe due to the hard rubber of which they are made. **E.M.B.**

Mitsubishi HS-B30

This machine had been playing around for some time. A couple of calls had been made but nothing amiss had been found. Eventually we saw what was happening. The drum motor would slow to the point where line lock was lost on the TV set. When the wires that connect the drum motor to the servo panel were moved normality was restored. We removed the drum motor and found that the connector plug hadn't been pushed home fully. Refitting it restored normal operation. **E.M.B.**

Panasonic NV-M10

This camcorder was accused of not focusing. Indeed on test the image from the camera head was very strange. The centre could be focused fairly well manually, but it was as if a special-effects filter was fitted – the edge of the image was severely defocused. In addition the unit made no attempt to auto-focus. The cause of the auto-focus fault was that the lens focus ring moved much too freely: the bracket that holds the auto-focus motor and its gearing to the side of the lens was bent, so the gear wasn't contacting the focus ring. The bracket is made of very thin aluminium. A faulty lens was the cause of the focus fault. Putting two and two together I came to the conclusion that the unit had been dropped. **N.B.**

ECONOMIC DEVICES 32 TEMPLE STREET, WOLVERHAMPTON, WV2 4AN

1560H	3.72	25C1583	0.34	AN2140	2.40	BC207	0.19	BDX54B	0.33	BU126	1.10	HA1196	7.43	MC1330P	1.98	SAS560T	5.42	STR1906	4.78	TBA970	3.86	TD4440	1.95
1565R	3.72	25C1617	3.89	AN235	4.65	BC2129	0.26	BDX63A	2.09	BU204	1.58	HA13001	1.58	MC1330P	1.56	SAS570T	5.42	STR440	4.78	TBA970	12.65	TD4440	3.18
17052	4.50	25C1678	1.98	AN236	3.33	BC213L	0.10	BDX63A	2.09	BU205	1.58	HA13001	1.58	MC1330P	1.56	SAS570T	5.42	STR440	4.78	TBA970	6.19	TD4450	4.75
17053	3.60	25C1680	0.21	AN240	1.11	BC213L	0.10	BDX63A	2.09	BU205	1.58	HA13001	1.58	MC1330P	1.56	SAS570T	5.42	STR440	4.78	TBA970	5.78	TD4450	1.95
17074	3.50	25C1810	2.06	AN241	1.71	BC225	0.40	BDY61	1.18	BU207	1.65	HA13403	0.88	MC1357P	2.15	SAS660	1.93	STR454	4.96	TCA290A	2.39	TD4460	5.99
17089	3.45	25C1815	0.20	AN245	5.89	BC237	0.10	BF115	0.39	BU208	1.12	HA1342A	11.86	MC1358P	1.48	SAS660	2.97	STR50103A	4.96	TCA420A	2.16	TD4460	7.79
17127	2.50	25C1826	0.69	AN253	1.80	BC238	0.10	BF117	0.66	BU208	2.35	HA1354	12.25	MC14493P	3.99	SAS670	3.13	STR620	0.16	TCA440	0.16	TD4490	14.20
17376	1.58	25C1829	3.35	AN260	3.85	BC238B	0.08	BF118	0.67	BU208A	1.12	HA1357	2.75	MC14493P	3.99	SAS670	3.96	TG610V	0.67	TCA450	0.09	TD4640	2.78
1N4001	0.04	25C1875	4.50	AN272	7.92	BC238B	0.25	BF121	0.25	BU209	2.96	HA1358	1.91	MC14493P	3.99	SAS670	3.96	TG610V	0.67	TCA450	0.09	TD4640	2.78
1N4002	0.04	25C1883	4.50	AN272	7.92	BC238B	0.25	BF121	0.25	BU209	2.96	HA1358	1.91	MC14493P	3.99	SAS670	3.96	TG610V	0.67	TCA450	0.09	TD4640	2.78
1N4003	0.05	25C1921	1.37	AN301	5.26	BC294	0.50	BF127	0.13	BU226	1.07	HA1374A	2.88	MC1458P	1.58	SBA750	5.18	TG610V	0.67	TCA460	0.67	TD4670S	6.35
1N4004	0.05	25C1923	0.30	AN302	3.99	BC300	0.30	BF137	0.29	BU326A	0.99	HA1377	1.59	MC3340	1.40	SDA2006	10.17	TG644V	0.97	TCA700	2.25	TD4890	3.24
1N4005	0.05	25C1929	2.35	AN305	8.88	BC301	0.35	BF153	0.58	BU406	1.49	HA1388	1.87	MC5192	19.50	SDA2010	10.18	TG644V	0.97	TCA700	1.60	TD4913	3.15
1N4006	0.05	25C1942	2.17	AN315	2.46	BC302	0.53	BF154	0.26	BU406D	1.24	HA1389	2.05	MC7724CP	3.49	SDA2112Z	12.96	TG650V	1.47	TCA830S	2.38	TD01613S	1.22
1N4007	0.06	25C1959	0.20	AN316	4.95	BC303	0.48	BF157	0.33	BU407	1.24	HA1392	4.35	MC2106	1.56	SC2684A	1.25	SG613	2.21	TG655	0.87	TCA890	5.44
1N4145	0.03	25C1957	0.95	AN317	7.16	BC307A	0.13	BF158	0.18	BU412	5.29	HA1392	4.26	MC2106	1.56	SC2684A	1.25	SG613	2.21	TG655	0.87	TCA890	5.44
1N4448	0.05	25C1953	1.93	AN320	5.47	BC308A	0.11	BF159	0.18	BU425A	1.67	HA1394	2.65	ME0411	0.75	SG629	8.27	TG659	4.22	TCA910	1.65	TEA1009	1.85
1N5401	0.11	25C1962	1.93	AN321	2.25	BC309	0.17	BF160	0.31	BU500	1.53	HA1397	2.75	ME0411	0.75	SG629	8.27	TG659	4.22	TCA910	3.30	TEA1010	3.00
1N5402	0.13	25C1969	1.79	AN322	7.62	BC317A	0.13	BF167	0.38	BU508A	1.50	HA1398	2.55	ME102	0.28	SH1630HD	2.62	TG13V	4.95	TCA90E	2.93	TEA1205P	4.93
1N5403	0.18	25C1983	1.32	AN327	5.37	BC327	0.09	BF173	0.34	BU535E	1.53	HA1406	2.07	ME902	0.45	SK22F104	12.65	TG14V	2.42	TCA90E	3.50	TEA2106A	5.52
1N5404	0.10	25C1985	0.60	AN340P	1.53	BC328	0.11	BF177	0.55	BU608	1.54	HA1452	0.85	ME4200	2.06	SK2530A	2.50	SKE4F106	3.00	TG191V	1.25	TD3F900P	6.72
1N5406	0.16	25C2009	0.63	AN355	1.65	BC337	0.09	BF179	0.55	BU608	1.54	HA1452	0.85	ME4200	2.06	SK2530A	2.50	SKE4F106	3.00	TG191V	1.25	TD3F900P	6.72
01814	0.24	25C2029	1.15	AN360	1.50	BC338	0.12	BF179	0.36	BU806	0.98	HD3870Z-A23	4.76	MJ2501	3.30	SKE4F208	1.07	TG191V	1.00	TD6361N-DS	5.25	TC45	0.55
15545	0.10	25C2028	2.11	AN370	3.95	BC368	0.17	BF180	0.36	BU807	0.55	HD3870Z-A75	5.77	MJ2000	2.37	SKE4F206	0.85	TG934V	1.34	TD1001B	1.34	TC47	0.77
15566	0.18	25C2063	0.99	AN511	3.43	CC400	0.69	BF181	0.32	BU825A	1.95	HD3870Z-A75	5.77	MJ2000	2.37	SKE4F206	0.85	TG934V	1.34	TD1001B	1.34	TC47	0.77
15921	0.10	25C2078	1.10	AN5120N	4.50	CC441	0.39	BF182	0.34	BU848	0.68	HD3870Z-A75	5.77	MJ2000	2.37	SKE4F206	0.85	TG934V	1.34	TD1001B	1.34	TC47	0.77
2N2129A	0.29	25C2073	2.73	AN512	5.08	CC454	0.36	BF183	0.39	BU848	0.68	HD3870Z-A75	5.77	MJ2000	2.37	SKE4F206	0.85	TG934V	1.34	TD1001B	1.34	TC47	0.77
2N3053	0.35	25C2085	1.66	AN520	5.04	CC460	0.45	BF184	0.39	BU848	0.68	HD3870Z-A75	5.77	MJ2000	2.37	SKE4F206	0.85	TG934V	1.34	TD1001B	1.34	TC47	0.77
2N3054	0.99	25C2086	1.30	AN521	2.71	CC461	0.47	BF185	0.39	BY128	0.13	H181002	9.50	MJ231	0.99	SL1310	3.14	TG964	2.40	TD1010	1.10	TP121	0.40
2N3055	0.75	25C2141	1.30	AN512	5.08	CC462	0.51	BF184	0.14	BY127	0.03	BY127	0.03	H181002	9.50	MJ231	0.99	SL1310	3.14	TG964	2.40	TD1010	1.10
2N3442	1.16	25C2166	0.98	AN5613	4.20	CC463	0.30	BF195	0.14	BY133	0.15	HM6231	12.30	MJ237B	1.95	SL414	3.69	TG7027	4.80	TD1028	2.45	TP132	0.75
2N3702	0.10	25C2216	0.69	AN5630	3.95	CC478	0.32	BF196	0.14	BY164	0.64	HM6232	7.20	MJ238	5.65	SL432A	3.44	TG7050	1.74	TD1034B	2.42	TP137	0.56
2N3703	0.18	25C2233	1.20	AN5701N	1.66	CC479	0.41	BF197	0.24	BY176	0.93	HM6251	5.69	MJ233	3.30	SL439	2.47	TG7051	1.74	TD1035	2.47	TP137	0.56
2N3705	0.15	25C2236	0.69	AN6250	1.75	CC532	0.28	BF198	0.15	BY179	0.85	HM1103	2.49	MJ234	4.49	SL439	2.47	TG7051	1.74	TD1035	2.47	TP137	0.56
2N3706	0.16	25C2278	0.67	AN630	4.54	CC547	0.10	BF200	0.37	BY187	0.79	HM9032	1.05	MM5314N	8.99	SL480	7.24	TG7060AP	0.71	TD1036	2.68	TP295A	0.46
2N3707	0.11	25C2314	0.87	AN6310	4.54	CC547	0.10	BF200	0.37	BY187	0.79	HM9032	1.05	MM5314N	8.99	SL480	7.24	TG7060AP	0.71	TD1036	2.68	TP295A	0.46
2N3711	0.16	25C2335+Kit	7.00	AN621	5.62	CC640	0.10	BF218	0.36	BY189	1.76	HT4207	11.99	MM5318N	3.11	SL9018	8.32	TG7069	3.13	TD1044	2.19	TP29C	0.63
2N3717	1.55	25C2551	0.29	AN6341	2.22	CC649	0.10	BF224	0.17	BY198	1.62	IC2H21	1.20	MM5369N	2.01	SL918A	8.07	TG7070P	1.68	TD1047	3.25	TP29D	0.75
2N3772	1.55	25C2665	4.65	AN6355	16.00	CC650	0.12	BF237	0.65	BY207	0.17	K2Q101	1.00	MM53874AN	1.20	SN16861AN	0.82	TG7072P	1.68	TD1048	3.25	TP29E	0.69
2N3719	1.61	25C2570	0.46	AN6531	0.95	CC656	0.13	BF240	0.18	BY208	1.86	MC581N	6.58	MM541N	1.98	SN16861AN	0.82	TG7072P	1.68	TD1048	3.25	TP29E	0.69
2N3813	0.40	25C2577	1.50	AN6561	2.71	CC657	0.13	BF240	0.18	BY208	1.86	MC581N	6.58	MM541N	1.98	SN16861AN	0.82	TG7072P	1.68	TD1048	3.25	TP29E	0.69
2N3814	0.25	25C2578	5.24	AN6562	0.68	CC658	0.10	BF245	0.59	BY210-400	0.35	L200CV	1.27	MM1435XV	13.20	SN29171N	7.19	TG7089P	7.50	TD1082	4.51	TP30C	0.40
2N3904	0.53	25C2671	0.62	AN6610	1.18	CC659	0.10	BF245B	0.10	BY210-60	0.49	LY1201	0.75	MM1455	14.04	SN29171N	6.66	TG7092P	9.94	TD1190	1.27	TP31A	0.38
2N4101	1.63	25C288A	1.85	AN7111	1.14	CC660C	0.20	BF246A	2.67	BY223	1.98	LA1201	1.56	MP1192	15.55	SN29171N	6.66	TG7092P	9.94	TD1190	1.27	TP31A	0.38
2N4240	2.68	25C3153	3.40	AN7115	2.52	CC635	0.22	BF225	0.20	BY224-600	4.95	LA1230	1.16	MP2794	9.04	SN29272	11.95	TG7100P	3.99	TD1190Z	1.27	TP31C	0.54
2N4444	2.85	25C372	1.40	AN7145	2.17	CC637	0.24	BF256	0.25	BY225	0.15	LA1231	3.04	MP2794	9.04	SN29272	11.95	TG7100P	3.99	TD1190Z	1.27	TP31C	0.54
2N4925	0.99	25C373	3.16	AN7146	9.90	CC638	0.24	BF257	0.24	BY227	0.15	LA1231	3.04	MP2794	9.04	SN29272	11.95	TG7100P	3.99	TD1190Z	1.27	TP31C	0.54
2N5282	0.50	25C383	1.33	AN7151	2.37	CC639	0.19	BF258	0.30	BY228	0.60	LA1363	1.05	MP6570	0.48	SN29267	4.55	TG1225P	0.87	TD1270	3.74	TP33A	0.63
2N5294	0.50	25C388	0.83	AN7152	2.70	CC640	0.24	BF259	0.30	BY229-600	1.20	LA1364	0.82	MP654A	0.22	SN292708N	7.71	TG1242P	2.34	TD1327A	6.93	TP33A	0.89
2N5296	0.55	25C394V	0.81	AN7158	2.67	CC634	0.55	BF262	0.57	BY229-800	0.90	LA1365	0.70	MP6545	0.15	SN292728N	5.75	TG1242P	2.34	TD1327A	6.93	TP33A	0.89
2N5297	0.50	25C403C	0.60	AN7120	0.80	DD115	0.36	BF263	0.57	BY225	0.51	LA1365	0.70	MP6545	0.15	SN292728N	5.75	TG1242P	2.34	TD1327A	6.93	TP33A	0.89
2N5298	0.61	25C458	0.19	AN7223	4.99	DD116	0.70	BF271	0.34	BY296-600	1.12	LA1387	1.28	MP6542	0.15	SN29273	6.						

Long-distance Television

Roger Bunney

There was a steady decline in Sporadic E propagation during August, with infrequent openings, particularly towards the end of the month. The 7th was perhaps the most active day, with signals from North America in evidence. During mid-August the Perseids meteor shower caused considered press comment. It had its moments for Meteor Scatter enthusiasts, with signals reaching as high as Band III. The MS displays were evident in the night sky: I witnessed a particularly brilliant burn-up, with the meteorite streaking across the sky as a white slash of light. Tropospheric propagation, helped by true summer weather conditions and stable high-pressure systems, gave a lift to both reception and flagging spirits! The collated SpE log for the UK is as follows:

- 5/8/91 RAI (Italy) ch. IA; JRT/HTV (Yugoslavia) ch. E3.
- 6/8/91 RAI IA; TVE (Spain) E2, 3; +PTT (Switzerland) E2, 3; NRK (Norway) E2; DR (Denmark) E3.
- 7/8/91 TVE E2, 3, 4; TVE-2 E2; RAI IA, B, C; C+ (Canal Plus) L2, 3, 4; +PTT E2, 3; DR (Denmark) E3; JRT E4; MTV (Hungary) R2; CST (Czechoslovakia) R1, 2; SVT (Sweden) E2, 3, 4; NRK E2, 3, 4; TSS (USSR) R1, 2, 3; RUV (Iceland) E3, 4; ARD (West Germany) E2; RTP (Portugal) E3. In addition Band III SpE was noted and Simon Hamer received unidentified North American signals on chs. A2 and 3.
- 8/8/91 TVE E3; RAI IA, B.
- 9/8/91 TVE E3; RAI IA; NRK E2.
- 10/8/91 SVT E2, 3; TSS R1, 2; NRK E2, 3; DR E3; TVE E3.
- 11/8/91 RAI IA, B; JRT E3, 4; MTV R1, 2; C+ L2, 3; TSS R1, 2; DR E3; NRK E2, 3; TVP (Poland) R1, 2.
- 12/8/91 CST R1; DR E3; NRK E3.
- 13/8/91 RAI IA, B; C+ L2, 3; TVE E2, 3; ARD E2, 3; ARD E3; TVP R1, 2; TSS R1-7 (the Band III signals logged by Simon Hamer); JRT E3, 4; EPT (Greece) E3; RTSH (Albania) IC; MTV R1-4.
- 14/8/91 +PTT E2; TVE E2; SVT E2.
- 15/8/91 TVE E2, 3, 4.
- 16/8/91 TVE E2; RAI IA, B; JRT E3; SVT E3.
- 17/8/91 +PTT E2, 3; ARD E2; TVE E2; JRT E3; RAI IA, B; TSS R1; DR E3; TVR (Rumania) R2.
- 18/8/91 TVE E2, 3; C+ L2; ARD E2, 3, 4; ORF (Austria) E2a; RAI IA; JRT E3; NRK E2, 3, 4; SVT E2, 3, 4; TSS R1; CST R1; RUV E4.
- 20/8/91 ARD E2; TVE E3; RAI IA.

- 22/8/91 CST R1; JRT E3; TSS R1, 2; RAI IA; TVE E2, 3; C+ L2.
- 23/8/91 CST R1, 2; JRT E3; TVE E3.
- 24/8/91 RAI IB; +PTT E2, 3, 4; C+ L2; ORF E2a, 4; ARD E2, 3, 4; NRK E2; CST R1, 2; SVT E2; RUV E4; TVP R1; TVR R2.
- 25/8/91 TVE E2, 3.
- 26/8/91 TVE E2; RAI IA.
- 29/8/91 RAI IA; TVE E3.

August 8th was the most active day for MS reception, while auroral activity was present on the 8th, 9th, 12th and 13th. On the latter date reflection occurred at up to Band III. Tropospheric propagation gradually improved from the middle of August, when there was a stationary high-pressure system with hot days and clear nights. From the 14th there was tropospheric reception from West Germany, the Benelux countries and France on most days. The most dramatic reception occurred during late August/early September, when extensive loggings were made of German, Danish and Scandinavian stations in Band III and at u.h.f. In the south west reception was mainly from Spain and Ireland.

David Glenday spent a caravan holiday in a pine-forested valley in Scotland during August. Despite 1,000ft hills all round he managed to receive Band III signals from Norway. So don't give up, wherever you happen to find yourself! Mark Baldwin in Northampton received TVE-1 ch. E11 Montanech (45kW) and a weak signal from Zamora ch. E37 (160kW) via tropospheric ducting on the 10th - an excellent catch so far north. Of relevance to F2 reception, Robert Copeman writes that the identifications RTQ-0 and WIN Queensland are now being used by DDQ-0.

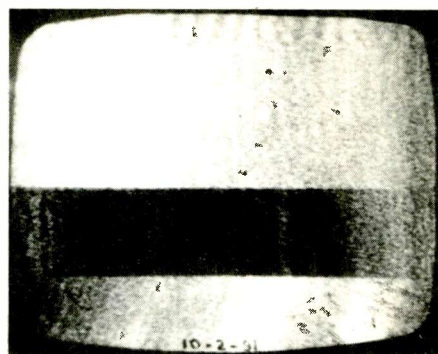
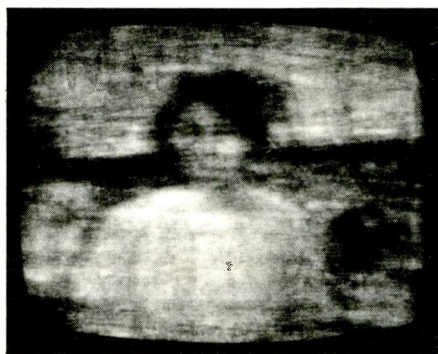
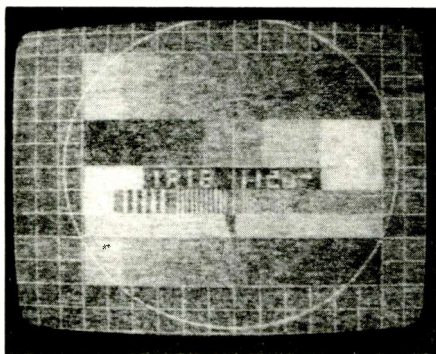
My thanks to the following for sending in reception logs and reports: David Glenday, Arbroath; Peter Schubert, Rainham; Roger Fussell, Torpoint; Simon Hamer, Powys; Cyril Willis, King's Lynn; Mark Bladwin, Northampton; Brian Renforth, Newcastle; and Brian Williams, Penarth.

News Reports

Poland: Apparently a 2,120ft high radio/TV tower near Lodz, 72 miles west of Warsaw, collapsed during renovation work. The tubular structure with 85 sections weighed 420 tons.

UK: Star TV, which is aimed at an "all-black" audience, has been given a ten year licence by the ITC and should be available, primarily via cable networks, from next April. LWT is to provide facilities and training.

Denmark: The government has given Kanal Danmark the go-ahead to form a third network. The Copenhagen-based private station will work with five other existing



Left: A weak Iranian (IRIB) test pattern received by Ian Waller via Intelsat VA F11 at 63°E. This was a low on the horizon signal. Centre: Thailand TV received by Anthony Mann in Perth, Western Australia, showing smudgy multi-path propagation. Right: An unidentified ch. E2+ test pattern received via F2 propagation by Ryn Muntjewerff in Holland. Any ideas?

commercial stations to offer both national and regional advertising.

Japan: NHK at present provides a one-hour daily HD-TV service, known as Hi-Vision. A full-time HD-TV service is to be started when the BS-3b satellite comes into operation. Programmes will be supplied by NHK and commercial broadcasters.

Latvia/USSR: Some four and a half million people in Riga, Tbilisi and Moscow can now receive via satellite three scrambled West European channels. The decoder required is made by Jerrold and costs about £1 a month to rent. The systems hope to be profitable by 1993.

Italy: Tele Piu's three-channel pay-TV service, which started in early July, has proved to be a great success. The encryption system, which involves a complete management service for invoicing, repairs etc., has been provided by the Dutch company Irdeto.

India: The FUBK test pattern is now being used in India: Delhi ch. E4 carries the identification "CH04 DELHI".

Miscellany

The Jersey Post Office has issued a commemorative stamp set featuring satellite services. There are two 20p and two 26p stamps. The 20p ones feature oceanography and Earth resolution, the 26p stamps meteorology (Meteosat) and telecommunications (Olympus). Issued on March 19th, the attractive "Europa 91" set is still available from the Jersey Post Office, Dept 304, Postal Headquarters, St. Helier, Jersey JE1 1AB, Channel Islands. The price is £1.47 including postage – add a further 50p for air-mail postage overseas. Cheques should be made payable to The Treasurer of the States.

In his Technical Topics column in the RSGB journal *Radio Communication* Pat Hawker mentions a new type of lamp bulb developed by Philips. The QL Lamp will also be marketed by GE-Thorn and Sylvania. Its significance from the radio angle is that it works by r.f. induction. Discussions on the operating frequency have suggested 2-65MHz, though consideration of 6, 13 and 27MHz have been suggested in the USA and 13-56MHz has already been used. One can only speculate on the harmonic problems that could arise with 27MHz bulbs – $2 \times 27\text{MHz} = 54\text{MHz}$, Band I centre! I shudder at the thought of the house mains wiring acting as a giant radiating aerial.


Interference has always been a prime concern of DXers. In recent times the increasing use of baby alarms, walkie-talkies and other low-power devices operating in the 49-82-49-98MHz band has led to the loss of ch. R1. In theory the output from such devices should not exceed 10mW, but in my experience the output levels from some units provide a coverage with a radius of up to a mile. Radio amateurs have noticed that some devices operate outside the allocated band – the Tomy Walkabout baby alarm for example was measured at 51.035MHz.

In a recent issue of *Six News* Chris Gore, G3WOS, mentions extremely high-level hash experienced, especially on wet and windy days, at 50MHz. Using a portable radio he traced the cause to an electric pole that supplied a water pumping station. No, not a cracked insulator: a mains wire insulation had broken down and was arcing to an insulator wire tie. Chris also tells of intermittent high-level 50MHz radiation that was traced to a house one and a half miles away. The interference disappeared when the doorbell was pressed, a light was switched on or the phone was answered. Its cause was a burglar alarm mains on/off switch. The current pulse produced by pressing the doorbell etc. stopped the burglar alarm switch arcing – oddly enough at 50MHz.

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We're always interested to hear from others about their radio/TV interference problems.

Satellite TV

Olympus is now back in position at 19°W and has resumed normal operation. It left orbit on May 29th, following error commands from the Fucino uplink station. This was a dramatic rescue by British Aerospace.

Following its launch on August 14th, the Intelsat VI F5 craft at 36°W has been under test. It has 38 C band and ten Ku band transponders.

Super Channel is transmitting a daily one-hour US news service provided by the Consumer News and Business Channel (CNBC), also a breakfast time news package from the same source prepared for the European market. CNBC hopes to rival CNN in providing news services to Europe.

The music channel MTV plans an expansion to three channels by the end of 1993, using video compression to provide the three channels via a single transponder.

Book Review

The fourth edition of *Ku-Band Satellite TV, Theory, Installation and Repair*, by Frank Baylin and Brent Gale, has been published by Baylin Publications, Boulder, Colorado, USA. The emphasis is definitely on the practical side, with a mass of photographs and drawings – even going into detail on installing a large dish in deep snow! This edition has additional contributions by that well-known hacker John McCormac. It has been considerably expanded and is pretty well up to date.

The first parts of the book cover the basics and general theory of satellite launching, downlinks, path loss and

orbits. It then deals in considerable depth with the hardware – dishes, feedhorns, polarisers, LNBS, cables, actuator drive systems, receivers, demodulation and scrambling/decoding. There's a very long and in-depth treatment of system installation, both large and small: footings, alignment of polar and horizon mounts, distribution systems and interference are all covered. I was particularly interested in a discussion of the polyrod lens feed system and a section on retrofitting Ku-band hardware in a C-band feed, something I've experimented with and achieved some success. At the end of the book there are several appendices, notes on test equipment, lots

of footprints, a glossary of terms, a list of useful addresses and technical data.

The book has 3,432 pages in an 8.5 × 11 in. format and weighs 21 lb. Considering the amount of information it contains, the book represents extremely good value at £23 including UK mainland postage (add a further ten per cent for air mail in Europe and twenty per cent for air mail elsewhere around the world). I can honestly recommend it. Orders should be sent to J. Vincent Technical Books, 24 Riverside Gardens, Purley, Reading, Berks RG8 8BX. Telephone or fax 0734 414 468. If ordering from outside the UK, ensure that any draft is drawn on a London bank.

Ferguson/Thorn Rental TV Models/chassis

Alexander Allan

Following the video equivalents listing in the August issue, mainly relating to Ferguson/JVC/Thorn rental VCRs, readers may find the Ferguson/Thorn rental TV chassis/model listing in Table 1 helpful. The three-figure numbers have a prefix number that indicates the rental chain. These are 5 for DER, 8 for Radio Rentals and 7 for Multibroadcast, Focus and TVVC. Thus the 5170 is a DER set using the TX9 chassis and is more or less identical to the 8170 and 7170. The TX100 range was not customised for the rental market and thus retains the Ferguson or Ultra model numbers. Two trial models fitted with the TX100 chassis, the S7971 and S7981, were extensively tried out by the rental companies in selected regions. This list includes models from 1979 to October 1980.

It would be interesting to have similar listings for other brands. I recently had a Solavox CTV set in and had trouble finding an equivalent ITT remote control handset,

and I'm totally confused by the number of VCRs that use say Sharp or Sanyo mechanisms.

Although I have only recently joined the league of self-employed, I have to endorse Steve Beeching's views on the trade (Letters, March). Try obtaining information on say an Ericsson personal computer (an on-going problem of mine) and you begin to see the way in which the technology is going and the approach to providing information and spares. On the subject of computers, many publications suggest that it's not worthwhile trying to repair a faulty power supply as the unit is cheap and easy to replace. At say £50 plus VAT I suppose a replacement is cheaper than the cost of undertaking diagnosis and repair. But where do you get them from? I was told by one supplier that PSUs are not available to the public for safety reasons. They are a lot safer than the floating chassis used in today's CTV sets!

Table 1: Thorn rental models/chassis

Model	Chassis	311	TX10	22D1	TX100	3760	TX9	6013	TX10	37100	TX9
101	9900	757	9000	22D2	TX100	3763	9600	6019	TX10	37101	TX9
102	9900	773	9000	22D3	TX100	3764	9600	6021	TX9	37103	TX9
111	9900	776	9600	22G1	TX100	3765	TX10	6023	TX9	37140	TX90
112	9900	778	9000	22G2	TX100	3787	TX10	6031	TX9	37141	TX90
132	9600	782	9600	22G3	TX100	3768	TX9	6053	TX9	37340	TX10
133	9600	784	9600	2251	TX100	3769	TX9	6070	TX9	37341	TX10
134	9600	785	9600	2261	TX100	3780	TX9	6071	TX9	37350	TX9
142	9600	14C1	TX90	2323	TX100	3781	TX9	6076	TX9	37351	TX9
143	9600	14C2	TX90	2343	TX100	3785	TX10	6083	TX10	37360	TX9
144	9600	16A1	TX90	2353	TX100	3788	TX10	6093	TX9	37361	TX9
170	TX9	16A2	TX90	2422	TX100	3789	9600	6103	TX10	37370	TX10
171	TX9	16A3	TX9	2423	TX100	3790	TX9	6116	TX9	37600	TX9
190	TX9	1764	9600	2433	TX100	3791	TX10	6121	TX9	37650	TX10
202	9000	1765	9600	2452	TX100	3792	TX9	6144	TX10	37850	TX10
203	9600	1785	TX10	2453	TX100	3793	9600	6170	TX90	37953	TX10
204	9600	1791	9600	2463	TX100	3795	TX10	6171	TX90	37963	TX10
213	9600	1796	9600	26D1	TX100	3796	TX10	6175	TX90	C28*	9000
221	9000	1798	9600	26D2	TX100	51A2	TX100	6213	TX9	C30E*	9000
232	TX10	1799	9600	26D3	TX100	51A3	TX100	66B2	TX100	C43*	9600
233	TX10	20A1	TX100	3722	9000	51A4	TX100	66B3	TX100	1C26	9600
242	9600	20A2	TX100	3734	9600	51A5	TX100	6603	TX10	1C31	9600
243	9600	20C3	TX100	3736	9600	59B2	TX100	8154	9600	3C40E	9900
244	9600	20E1	TX90	3737	9600	59B3	TX100	37041	TX9	3C47E	9600
262	TX9	20E2	TX90	3740	9000	59B4	TX100	37060	TX10	MC01	TX90
271	TX9	20G1	TX100	3742	9000	59B5	TX100	37063	TX10	MC05	TX90
272	TX9	20G2	TX100	3743	9600	59H5	TX100	37081	TX9	S7971	TX100
273	TX9	20G3	TX100	3747	9600	5164	9600	37090	TX9	S7981	TX100
282	TX10	22B1	TX100	3755	TX9	6003	TX10	37093	TX9		
283	TX10	22B2	TX100	3757	9900	6004	TX10				
289	TX10	22B5	TX10	3758	9900	6012	TX10				

* With prefix 5, 7 or 8.

THE SATELLITE BOOK

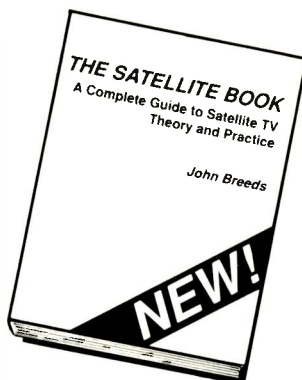
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East-West Modulator Circuits

Joe Cieszyński

For the last fifteen years or so east-west correction in colour TV receivers has generally been carried out using some form of diode modulator. In the following article we'll examine the operation of this type of circuit, list the common faults encountered and outline fault diagnosis routines.

In the design of deflection coils there has always been a degree of trade-off between spot quality and deflection geometry. Since spot quality cannot be improved by external means, correction for pincushion distortion has been a traditional requirement in TV sets. It was simple to achieve the necessary correction in a monochrome set by using permanent magnets. This can't be done in a colour set because the magnets would interfere with the colour purity. In the first generation of colour sets a transductor was used to provide pincushion correction, modulating the line scan at field frequency and the field scan at line frequency.

The introduction of in-line gun colour tubes, along with precision made scan coil assemblies, removed the need for north-south correction and virtually eliminated the need for convergence correction. The price however was an increased amount of east-west (EW) distortion. By the time that the 30AX tube had been introduced scan coil construction had advanced to the stage where self-convergence was possible, but the EW distortion had increased to about eight per cent. These new coils on the other hand had the desirable effect of providing optimum spot quality over the entire screen area in addition to self-convergence and NS correction. Further advances in tube/yoke design have meant that external EW correction is required only with 110° tubes.

Scan Current Modulation

It's appropriate indeed to use the term modulator to describe the circuit employed for EW correction in modern sets, since the circuit amplitude modulates the 15,625Hz line scan waveform with a parabolic 50Hz waveform – Fig. 1 gives an impression of this. Fig. 2 illustrates the need for this modulation: it shows a pincushion distorted raster of

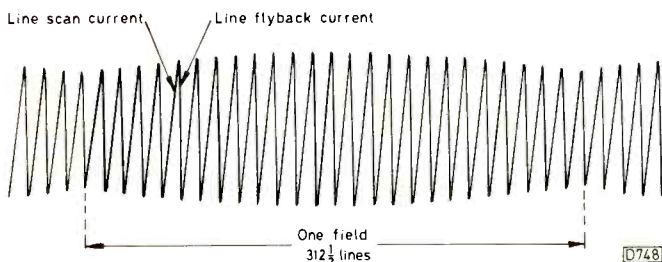


Fig. 1: Line scan current amplitude modulated by a field-frequency parabola.

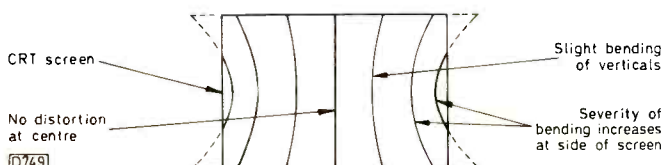


Fig. 2: Correct width raster with east-west (pincushion) distortion.

correct width in relation to the c.r.t.'s screen. From this diagram you can see that the requirement is to reduce the line scan current during the earlier and later parts of each field scan.

The modulator is driven by a circuit that incorporates components to shape the sample waveform obtained from the field output stage. It includes EW adjustment controls and a width control. Modulation itself occurs in the line output stage, where critically tuned LC circuits are switched by the modulator's power diodes. The idea is to vary the impedance of the line scan current path, but to do this only during the line scan period, not during the flyback. If the line flyback current were to be modulated, the line output stage tuning would be modulated with adverse effects on the e.h.t. (unless this is generated elsewhere).

Several versions of the diode modulator and driver have been used over the years, though the basic elements of the circuit have remained the same. We'll look at the three basic versions of the modulator in the order in which they appeared in TV sets.

Low-voltage Diode Modulator

A basic "low-voltage" two-diode modulator circuit is shown in Fig. 3. The two coils L1 and L2 on the line output transformer and the external coils L3 and L4 form a balanced bridge. It's because of this that L4 is known as the EW bridge coil. In a monochrome receiver the bottom end of L3 would be connected directly to chassis and the scan current would flow via L3, C2, L5 and L1. The inclusion of L4, with the varying potential across C4, has the effect of varying the impedance of the scan current path and hence the scan current itself.

The current that flows in a coil depends, amongst other things, on the voltage across the coil. In this case the voltage across L3 is the sum of the h.t. voltage and the voltage across C4. The latter has two components, a d.c. voltage A and a 50Hz parabola B, as shown in the diagram. Varying the d.c. voltage across C4 affects the overall line scan current and thus the width. So this d.c. voltage is the width control voltage. If it's increased the voltage across L3 and the width are reduced. As the voltage across C4 falls that across L3 is increased and so is the overall picture width.

It's easy to see how modulation takes place. At the start and end of each field scan the parabola is at its maximum amplitude, so the voltage across L3 is at minimum. The reverse is the case at the centre of the screen. Altering the peak amplitude of the parabola affects the degree of scan current modulation.

So far so good. One might at this point be forgiven for wondering why the diodes are necessary. Why not simply stick with altering the impedance of the scan current path as described? The fact is however that we don't want to modulate the e.h.t. and any other supplies derived from the line output transformer. So the action of the line flyback must be isolated from the modulator. This is where the diodes come in.

Detailed, in-depth analysis of the operation of this circuit can become quite an involved business. Basically however the action of the diodes is to steer the scan current

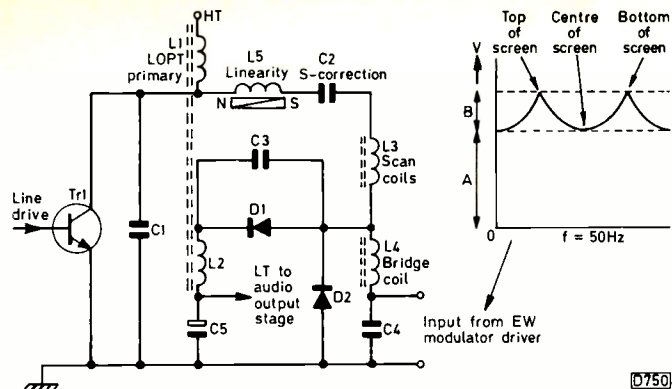


Fig. 3: Basic low-voltage, two-diode EW modulator circuit.

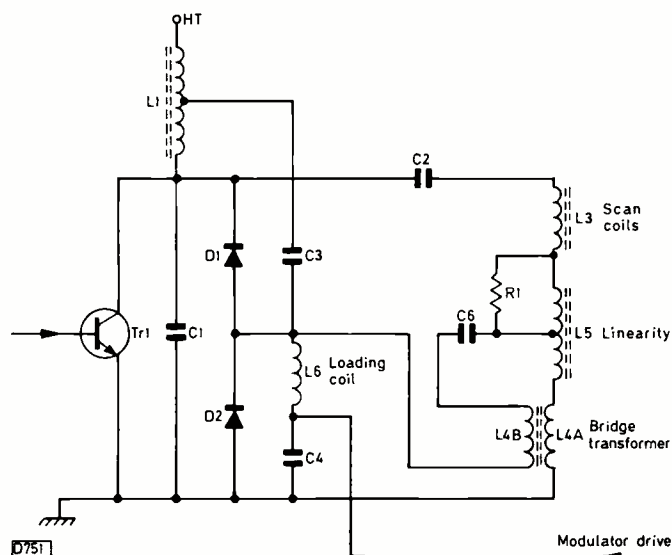


Fig. 4: Basic high-voltage, two-diode EW modulator circuit.

through either L4 or L2, depending on the width setting, and the flyback current through C1 and a combination of C3 and C5, again depending on the width. C1 and C3 have critical values, because their reactances relate to those of L1, L3 and L4. Suffice it to say that the steering action of the diodes not only ensures correct amplitude modulation of the line scan current but also prevents modulation of the flyback by ensuring that the reactance and tuning of the line output transformer remain constant. In a monochrome set C1 forms a resonant circuit with L1 and L3 to tune the line flyback. The EW modulation parabola can't be switched off during flyback, but the resonance conditions can be adjusted by the action of the diodes to maintain the tuning.

The i.t. voltage that's developed across C5 is more than just a by-product of the circuit action. C5 is responsible for balancing the bridge. The voltage across it is produced by the rectifying action of D1 and D2. Without a load, this voltage could build up to the point where the diodes would be permanently reverse biased: the circuit would then cease to work. A load resistor could be connected across C5 to provide a discharge path, but a more efficient approach is to use the voltage across C5 as a supply rail. In our example it's shown as being used to supply the audio output stage. This is simply because to maintain circuit operation the discharge current needs to be of the order of 1A.

The circuit shown in Fig. 3 is called a low-voltage diode modulator because the diodes operate at the scan voltages and are thus relatively low-voltage devices. An advantage

of this circuit is that the damping effect of C5 removes any ringing, leaving a clear raster. In addition the tuning characteristics of the circuit are such that it lends itself to being driven by a switch-mode power supply operating at line frequency.

High-voltage Diode Modulator

Fig. 4 shows the basic "high voltage" two-diode modulator circuit. The term high-voltage relates to the fact that D1 acts as an efficiency diode across the line output transistor Tr1. Thus its voltage rating must be much higher than that of D2 and both diodes in Fig. 3.

The circuits shown in Fig. 3 and Fig. 4 are basically very similar: to aid comparison, where components perform the same task they have been given the same reference numbers. The drive applied across C4 is the same as that in the low-voltage circuit, and to all intents and purposes the circuit operation is the same.

The best way to analyse the high-voltage circuit is to look at each difference and examine why it has been made. The first thing to note is that C3 is no longer in parallel with D1 but is connected to a centre tap in the line output transformer's primary winding. This compensates for the transformer's stray capacitance, which would otherwise unbalance the bridge, causing modulation of the e.h.t. Tapping L1 replaces L2 (Fig. 3): each half of the primary winding forms one arm of the bridge. From the a.c. point of view, C3 is still effectively across D1.

Another improvement to the raster shape introduced with this circuit relates to the S-correction and the linearity control. The passive correction components C2 and L5 are fully effective only at the centre of the field scan. Because of the c.r.t. geometry, there's still slight distortion at the top and bottom of the screen. Adding C6 and tapping L5 provides modulated S-correction and linearity, giving the required correction. C6 and the lower section of L5 come into effect only at the start and the end of the field scan.

The bridge coil in Fig. 3 is replaced in Fig. 4 with the bridge transformer L4A/B. This change is necessary only when the line output stage is driven by a line-frequency switch-mode power supply. In this case the conduction of Tr1 cannot be easily controlled – the chopper transistor's conduction period takes priority. Because of this the switching of D2 may be delayed, giving rise to raster distortion. The bridge transformer L4 corrects for this. I should point out that this change would be necessary in the low-voltage circuit if it was driven from the power supply – also that circuit designers in general prefer to use a separate, conventional line drive circuit rather than taking the drive from the chopper circuit (the trend has been to use higher-frequency chopper circuits, which are of course more efficient).

Loading coil L6 is necessary to maintain the critical tuning of the balanced bridge circuit.

The main advantage of the high-voltage circuit over the low-voltage version is that there's no need for a high current drain (from C5). This means that the circuit is more efficient. Unfortunately the omission of C5 means that the circuit is prone to ringing, so the setmaker may have to add damping resistors.

Three-diode Circuit

Fig. 5 shows the basic three-diode high-voltage circuit, which combines the advantages of the two previous circuits, i.e. because of the action of C5/D1/D2 it's not prone to ringing, it provides modulated S-correction and

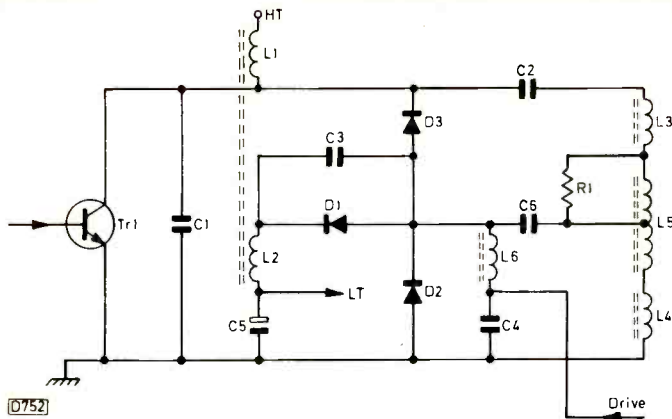


Fig. 5: Basic high-voltage, three-diode EW modulator.

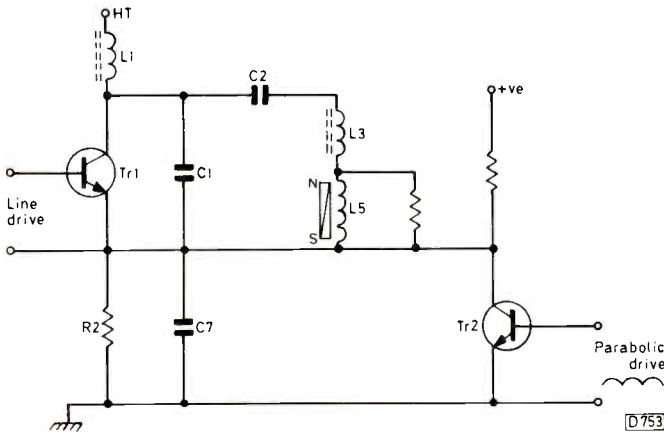


Fig. 6: Simple EW modulator circuit that can be used when the e.h.t. is not generated in the line output stage. C7 is a filter capacitor.

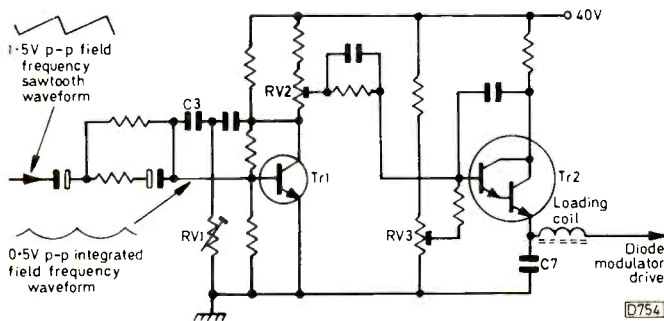


Fig. 7: Typical EW modulator control/driver circuit. C7 corresponds with C4 in Figs. 3-5.

linearity, and can if required be driven by a switch-mode power supply without the need for a complex bridge transformer (the three-diode arrangement overcomes the switching problems.) The main problem with the circuit shown in Fig. 3 was the large discharge current required from C5: the discharge rate is much less with the three-diode modulator.

Simple Modulator

In some chassis, such as the Ferguson TX10, the e.h.t. is generated in the switch-mode power supply. When this is done the line output stage simply provides scan drive. The provision of EW modulation is a much simpler matter since we no longer need to worry about the e.h.t. being modulated. Fig. 6 shows how EW modulation can be applied. The usual S-correction (C2), linearity coil and flyback tuning (C1) components are included. Scan current

amplitude depends on the modulator transistor's collector voltage. Increasing the d.c. voltage at the base of Tr2 reduces its collector voltage. Thus Tr1 conducts more heavily and the width is increased. Superimposing a field parabola on the d.c. at the base of Tr2 modulates the scan (and flyback) current.

Driver Circuit

Fig. 7 shows a simple EW modulator control/driver circuit. Tr1 with the CR networks in its base circuit acts as a Miller integrator to convert the incoming field-frequency sawtooth waveform into a parabola suitable for EW correction. A field-frequency sawtooth waveform can be obtained from a low-value resistor connected in series with the field scan coils, on the earthy side. RV1 affects the phase shift introduced by C3/RV1, thus applying tilt to the parabola. The effect of this on the raster is to provide greater correction at one end of the field scan than at the other, compensating for c.r.t./yoke tolerances. RV1 is usually called the EW phase control. The amplitude of the parabola is determined by the EW amplitude control RV2.

Drive for the modulator is provided by the low-power amplifier Tr2 (not necessarily a Darlington transistor). The bias applied to this transistor by RV3 sets the width. Thus the output at Tr2's emitter is a parabola that sits on a d.c. potential. With the circuit shown in Fig. 6, where the driver is directly connected to the line output transistor, the output parabola would have to be inverted.

Common Fault Conditions

Perhaps the most common problem in EW modulator circuits is dry-joints. The transformers and coils used are of relatively large size. This, combined with the fact that the components run quite warm, often results in the joints cracking after three-four years. As soon as the smallest fracture occurs, the high voltages at the terminals produce arcing. At the very least this will result in a burnt PCB.

Once that arcing has done its work the modulator will normally cease to function. The result will be a narrow raster with pincushion distortion. Repairing damage of this sort is usually not difficult, but it's advisable to resolder all joints in the power area of the modulator – you generally uncover a number of potential dry-joints in the process.

When a burn-up has occurred at an inductor terminal it's advisable to inspect the component visually as in some instances the heat and back-e.m.f.s in the open-circuit winding can damage it. In most cases a damaged coil will be discoloured. When this is noticed the component should be replaced even though the raster can be set up correctly. Since the diode modulator is a critically tuned circuit, if a winding has gone partially short-circuit due to overheating the tuning will inevitably alter. Even though the circuit may appear to function, unwanted transients can occur, resulting in intermittent destruction of the driver transistor or modulator diodes.

In many cases the viewer continues to watch his set when a dry-joint has developed, even though the width has reduced and the picture is distorted. He may even ignore the smoke signals coming from the rear of the set! As one customer explained to me a few years ago, "well the smoke stopped after a few minutes, so we were able to watch the rest of the programme". In such an event it will be necessary to test the diodes and the driver transistor for shorts and leakage. In addition, examine the inductors and carry out a visual inspection of the carbon resistors, looking for black or non-existent ones.

Another common problem is failure of the driver transistor. The symptom will be either an excessively wide raster or a narrow one, depending on whether the transistor has gone short- or open-circuit respectively. In either case the raster will have pincushion distortion.

In most cases the transistor goes short-circuit between its collector and emitter. Unless the transistor is a peculiar Darlingtong type, there are usually several equivalents that can be used. In many cases the driver is a pnp transistor, something that should be borne in mind when faced with an unknown transistor and no service information.

Faulty Modulator Diodes

When a modulator diode goes short-circuit the symptoms will vary, depending on the type of modulator (low- or high-voltage) and which particular diode has failed. In general one of two things will happen: the power supply will go into the trip condition or the width will be at one of its two extremes.

If you have a set that's tripping or blowing fuses, check the modulator diodes not only for shorts but also for high-resistance reverse leakage. Also beware of the diode that breaks down only under load. Such a component may give perfectly good readings when checked with a test meter but will fail in operation, causing a power supply overload. If you decide to fit a substitute type diode, ensure that its ratings are high enough. Other characteristics may be important. Just because a certain type of diode is used in one chassis it doesn't follow that it will function for long in a different chassis - remember that there are low- and high-voltage modulators. As an example, the BYX71 was widely used in older receivers but its rating is such that it

cannot replace something like a BY223, which looks identical, or the much smaller but higher rated BY228.

Defective Capacitors

The capacitors used in diode modulator circuits seldom give problems. If a capacitor does fail it's essential to use the correct type and value otherwise the critical tuning will be lost and the bridge will be unbalanced. Fitting the correct type often means ordering it from the manufacturer or his official distributor, as the capacitors can have obscure values and very high voltage ratings. Don't fit a near equivalent. I've come across a number of receivers in which this has been done: the result is regular failure of the driver transistor and in a few cases this continual failure leads to the associated inductor melting.

Should you encounter a receiver in which the driver transistor fails regularly for no apparent reason, and you've replaced the usual culprits such as the inductors and diodes, it's reasonable to suspect that the value of a capacitor has changed. Also be on the lookout for changed value resistors, though these are usually conspicuous as a result of their changed colour.

Fault Diagnosis

Where there's raster distortion but the width is at neither extreme, the cause of the fault may be in either the modulator itself or the driver circuit. As a general rule if the raster is affected when the pincushion and width controls are adjusted the cause of the fault is likely to be in the modulator. Faults in the wave-shaping section of the control circuit are rare as it's a low-power signal circuit.

AN236	£2.30	SIK2025	£7.00	STR2013	£4.50	BU407	£0.55	2SC538	£0.35	BELT KITS	SI 8000/8080	£1.89			
AN5010	£2.95	SIK2028	£5.00	STR2015	£3.80	BU407D	£2.40	2SC681	£0.20	V31V2SV55	£0.90	LOADING BELTS			
AN5256	£2.85	SIK2029	£5.00	STR4902	£5.80	BU408	£0.80	2SC683	£1.15	V58300	£1.45	JVC FER3V29	£0.30		
AN5510	£2.85	SIK2038	£9.00	STR5410	£4.50	BU408D	£0.88	2SC741	£0.00	VC14600	£2.00	JVC FER3V35	£0.35		
AN5521	£2.70	SIK2129	£6.10	STR6020	£4.50	BU426	£1.00	2SC742	£1.00	VC14600	£1.45	HITACHI VT11	£0.30		
AN5135	£2.40	SIK2145	£10.00	STR6066	£4.50	BU426A	£1.05	2SC828	£0.20	3V22-3V00	£1.40	HIVACHI V79300	£0.38		
AN5248	£2.40	SIK2155	£10.00	STR4090K	£3.65	BU508A	£0.05	2SC840	£0.15	3V23	£0.60	PINCH ROLLERS			
AN7120	£2.25	SIK2230	£4.90	STR5013A	£3.25	BU508D	£0.85	2SC901A	£0.50	3V29-3V30	£1.85	V58900/9800	£2.50		
AN7143	£2.45	SIK2240	£8.50	STR50113	£4.89	BU526	£0.78	2SC998	£0.60	V512/3.10	£2.50	V512/240.512	£2.50		
AN7168	£2.40	SIK2250	£7.60	STR50233	£6.50	BU536	£1.90	2SC1030	£1.05	V518/240.516	£2.50	10H/250V	£0.34		
BA308	£2.10	SIK3041	£4.71	STR54041	£3.00	BU560D	£1.25	2SC106E	£1.75	HINARI VXL8-9	£1.75	V5125-240.512	£2.50		
BA308E	£2.10	SIK3042	£4.90	STR58041	£4.80	BU560F	£1.75	2SC1105	£1.10	VT11/1733	£0.90	VCR4500/4600	£2.50		
BA5102	£2.30	SIK3044	£5.75	TA7070	£1.19	BU560G	£1.95	2SC1142	£2.45	V15000	£1.10	VCR7000	£3.00		
BA5402	£2.30	SIK4024-2	£3.80	TA7130	£3.70	BU560H	£3.25	2SC1185	£3.00	VT8000	£0.50	3V00/3V02	£2.50		
BA5609	£1.75	SIK4026	£5.00	TA7205	£0.89	BU560J	£1.10	2SC1190	£1.08	VT9300	£0.45	3V29-3V32	£2.50		
HA1124	£1.45	SIK4026-2	£7.10	TA7282	£2.48	BU560K	£1.20	2SC1413	£2.30	V164/65/86	£1.50	3V48/1V10/VV14	£2.50		
HA1137	£1.50	SIK4028-2	£6.80	TA7604	£2.39	BU560L	£1.45	2SC1429	£1.25	HR3300/HR3660	£1.40	FVHP15/300	£3.00		
HA1377	£1.80	SIK4060	£5.80	TA1205	£0.40	BU560M	£2.90	2SC1445	£0.80	HR3300	£0.80	VCR9000	£2.50		
HA1225	£1.80	SIK4121	£5.80	TA1209	£0.40	BU560N	£1.05	2SC1507	£0.30	HR7700	£1.80	V161/920	£2.50		
HA1423	£1.80	SIK4121-2	£7.00	TA1209A	£0.48	BU560P	£1.05	2SC1577	£1.00	HR110/125	£1.80	V18000/9000	£2.50		
HA1714	£1.80	SIK4151-2	£4.40	TA6800	£0.49	BU560Q	£1.00	2SC1678	£1.12	HR3300/HR3660	£1.40	HR3300/9800	£2.50		
HA1715	£2.10	SIK4151-2	£7.00	TA8520	£1.00	BU560R	£4.80	2SC1682	£1.45	VN333	£1.45	HR7220/6550	£2.50		
HA12017	£1.18	SIK4152-2	£10.00	TA8540	£0.85	BU560S	£2.00	2SC1682	£1.90	VN730	£1.45	HE1150/725	£2.50		
HA13001	£1.85	SIK4161-2	£8.50	TA6560	£2.82	BU560T	£1.50	2SC1875	£2.50	VN2000	£1.40	HS200/304/700	£2.50		
HA13002	£1.85	SIK4171-2	£9.10	TA6839	£0.70	BU560U	£3.10	2SC1875	£0.70	VN2000	£1.50	HS906/400/710	£2.50		
LA1402	£2.05	SIK4172-2	£15.50	TA10503	£1.20	BU560V	£1.15	2SC1913	£1.85	VN7000	£0.90	NV100/340/700	£2.50		
LA4445	£2.15	SIK4182-2	£10.00	TA1002	£1.85	BU560W	£1.50	2SC1920	£1.90	NVG7100	£0.70	NVG7/12/18	£3.00		
LA4460	£1.65	SIK4191-5	£1.00	TA1011	£1.00	BU560X	£0.58	2SC2141	£0.55	VC39	£1.15	VH2020/2024	£3.00		
LA4906	£2.50	SIK4191-5	£1.00	TA1012	£1.05	BU560Y	£1.80	2SC2141	£1.10	VC39/39A	£1.15	VH1100/2300	£2.50		
LA4510	£2.50	SIK4231-2	£16.00	TA1010A	£1.00	BU560Z	£0.80	2SC2486	£2.10	VCR3000	£1.35	VTC5000/5000	£2.50		
LA5555	£2.05	SIK4311	£8.80	TA1015	£1.05	BU560AA	£0.25	2SC2591	£2.90	V67000/7500	£2.40	VC381/8300	£3.00		
LM1011N	£2.85	SIK4332	£4.00	TA1018	£2.08	BU560AB	£2.45	2SC2639	£1.20	V69000/9000	£1.70	VH481/8300	£3.00		
LM1111	£2.85	SIK4336	£6.15	TA1029	£2.40	BU560AC	£1.05	2SC2639	£1.20	V69000/9000	£1.70	VH481/8300	£3.00		
LM1318	£2.85	SIK4337	£6.00	TA1035T	£1.00	BU560AD	£0.50	2SC2639	£1.20	SLC5/6-7	£1.30	SLC5/6-7	£3.00		
LM1405	£2.85	SIK4362	£7.20	TA1037	£1.80	BU560AE	£0.35	2SC2639	£1.20						
MS106P	£1.80	SIK4432	£9.00	TA1034	£2.20	BU560AF	£1.95	2SC3178	£1.95	REPLACEMENT VIDEO HEADS					
MS152L	£1.50	SIK4437	£9.00	TA1047	£1.20	BU560AG	£1.20	2SC3178	£1.95	JVC/FERG 3HS5V	£6.40	8 PIN	£0.05	IC SOCKETS	
MS198L	£1.50	SIK4483	£9.00	TA1054M	£1.82	BU560AH	£0.85	2SC3178	£1.95	JVC/FERG 3HS5V	£6.40	14 PIN	£0.05	22 PIN	£0.14
MS50115	£2.85	SIK4833	£8.50	TA1059	£0.80	BU560AJ	£0.20	2SC3178	£1.95	JVC/FERG HRD70/210-FV10TV20	£20.15	16 PIN	£0.07	24 PIN	£0.15
MS5433L	£2.85	SIK4843	£7.50	TA1060	£1.75	BU560AK	£0.10	2SC3178	£1.95	JVC/FERG HRD110/3V64	£16.08	18 PIN	£0.10	26 PIN	£0.17
SI4A01	£1.40	SIK4873	£11.00	TA1065	£3.80	BU560AL	£0.20	2SC3178	£1.95	JVC/FERG HRD140/160/150	£17.49	20 PIN	£0.12	40 PIN	£0.20
SI4A41	£1.20	SIK4873	£11.00	TA1070	£0.88	BU560AM	£0.70	2SC3178	£1.95	JVC/FERG HRD175/755-3V43/53	£36.00				
SIK011	£3.70	SIK4913	£12.20	TA1170	£0.88	BU560AN	£0.70	2SC3178	£1.95	JVC/FERG HRD180/3V59	£22.43				
SIK015	£4.90	SIK5134	£5.80	TA1190	£0.99	BU560AO	£0.07	2SC3178	£1.95	JVC/FERG HRD180/3V59	£22.43				
SIK035	£3.75	SIK5135	£5.80	TA1210	£1.25	BU560AP	£0.07	2SC3178	£1.95	AKAI V32/35	£115.00				
SIK043	£3.00	SIK5324	£5.80	TA1410	£2.00	BU560AQ	£0.06	2SC3178	£1.95	AKAI V32/35	£115.00				
SIK056	£1.20	SIK5325	£5.80	TA1518	£2.35	BU560AR	£0.07	2SC3178	£1.95	AKAI V32/35	£115.00				
SIK050	£1.00	SIK5331	£5.00	TA1560A	£0.99	BU560AS	£0.15	2SC3178	£1.95	AMSTRAD VCR 4600 PCF2	£12.00				
SIK076	£3.50	SIK5332	£2.50	TA1472	£0.99	BU560AT	£0.25	2SC3178	£1.95	AMSTRAD VCR 9000 PCF1	£12.00				
SIK078	£3.50	SIK5333	£10.00	TA2002	£0.75	BU560AU	£0.18	2SC3178	£1.95	AMSTRAD 3HS5R/7000	£12.48				
SIK080	£3.50	SIK5338	£5.00	TA2004	£0.90	BU560AV	£0.20	2SC3178	£1.95	FISHER FVHP6/0 615/715	£14.85				
SIK082	£3.50	SIK5339	£7.00	TA2005	£0.90	BU560AW	£0.30	2SC3178	£1.95	GOLDSTAR GHV122/1245	£18.99				
SIK084	£3.50	SIK5341	£4.60	TA2006	£0.70	BU560AX	£0.28	2SC3178	£1.95	HITACHI VT117/1819	£24.50				
SIK086	£3.50	SIK5362	£8.15	TA2009	£1.85	BU560AY	£0.38	2SC3178	£1.95	HITACHI VT171/1819	£24.50				
SIK0929	£3.50	SIK5451	£5.00	TA2030	£0.85	BU560AZ	£0.48	2SC3178	£1.95	HITACHI VT8500/9300	£12.65				
SIK0035	£3.50	SIK5461	£8.50	TA2161	£3.00	BU560BA	£0.25	2SC3178	£1.95	AKAI TAKE UP IDLER	£4.25				
SIK0039	£4.10	SIK5471	£4.60	TA2270	£2.65	BU560BB	£1.40	2SC3178	£1.95	AKAI TAKE UP IDLER	£4.25				
SIK0040	£3.50	SIK5481	£4.50	TA2320	£1.80	BU560BC	£1.40	2SC3178	£1.95	MTI HS306 412 IDLER	£5.20				
SIK0049	£3.50	SIK5482	£4.00	TA2340	£1.00	BU560BD	£0.42	2SC3178	£1.95	MTI HS306 318 GEAR	£7.15				
SIK0050-2	£4.40	SIK5730	£0.00	TA2577	£1.70	BU560BE	£0.48	2SC3178	£1.95	SHARP VC81 IDLER	£3.10				
SIK0059	£2.20	SIK5325A	£8.00	TA2581	£1.30	BU560BF	£0.30	2SC3178	£1.95						
SIK0060	£2.20	SIK5715	£6.00	TA2582	£1.30	BU560BG	£0.28	2SC3178	£1.95						
SIK0080	£2.20	SIK7217	£5.80	TA2590	£1.85	BU560BH	£0.48	2SC3178	£1.95						
SIK0435	£2.20	SIK7308	£4.50	TA2591	£1.75	BU560BI	£0.28	2SC3178	£1.95						
SIK437	£3.00	SIK7309	£4.70	TA2606	£1.65	BU560BJ	£0.28	2SC3178	£1.95						
SIK439	£3.00	SIK7314	£4.50	TA2607	£1.65	BU560BK	£0.28	2SC3178	£1.95						
SIK441	£3.00	SIK7404	£4.50	TA2622	£0.70	BU560BL	£0.28	2SC3178	£1.95						
SIK457	£3.00	SIK8050	£8.80	TA2653	£0.40	BU560BM	£0.28	2SC3178	£1.95						
SIK459	£3.00	SIK8050	£8.80	TA2653	£0.40	BU560BN	£0.28	2SC3178	£1.95						
SIK461	£3.00	SIK8310	£16.00	TA2654	£0.40	BU560BO	£0.28	2SC3178	£1.95						
SIK465	£3.00	SIK8310	£16.00	TA2654	£0.40	BU560BP	£0.28	2SC3178	£1.95						
SIK465	£3.00	SIK8310	£16.00	TA2654	£0.40	BU560BQ	£0.28	2SC3178	£1.95						
SIK465	£3.00	SIK8310	£16.00	TA2654	£0.40	BU560BR	£0.28	2SC3178	£1.95						
SIK465	£3.00	SIK8310	£16.00	TA2654	£0.40	BU560BS	£0.28	2SC3178	£1.95						
SIK465	£3.00	SIK8310	£16												

Where the width is at one extreme and you're uncertain as to whether the cause of the fault lies in the driver or the modulator a simple test usually works.

If the width is excessive and the driver transistor is not short-circuit, remove the transistor and switch the set on. If the width comes in it means that the driver transistor is being turned on excessively by a fault in the drive circuit. If on the other hand the width remains at maximum, the cause of the fault is in the modulator and is more than likely to be a defective diode.

If the width is at minimum and the driver transistor is not open-circuit, switch off and place a shorting link across the transistor's collector and emitter. Switch on and observe the raster. If the width increases, the fault lies in the driver circuit. If it remains at minimum the fault is in the modulator.

TEST CASE

347

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

Real Technician was not in a particularly good mood this nippy autumn morning. He'd used his holiday entitlement, the workload was building up steadily and Service Manager was becoming more testy and irritable by the day. TV and video faults seemed to be getting more complex and obscure, and the customers more demanding. Nor had the descriptions of faults, written at the counter, become any better. This one just said "running away"! RT looked at it closely. It stood quite still on the awaiting-repair rack. Resisting the urge to write "tested, didn't move, returned as received" in the work-done space he carried it off to his bench with a jaundiced air.

It was a Toshiba VCR, Model V81B. RT loaded his Walt Disney test tape without enthusiasm. Rabbits and wizards, chipmunks and wise owls rushed to and fro across the screen, screeching at each other in even more squeaky tones than they generally do in cartoons, their images broken up by mistracking bars. The tape spools were turning much faster than usual, as if the machine was in the forward-search mode. It wasn't though, because the sound wasn't muted. RT pressed the rewind key to put the machine into reverse search. The result was a still picture, broken by a mistracking bar, with the tape now stationary. Anticipating auto shut-down, RT pressed the stop key and went to find the service manual.

When a tape is running too fast the likelihood, it seemed to RT, is that the capstan is turning too quickly, a perfectly reasonable assumption on the face of it. So RT turned to

the servo block diagram in the manual and studied it carefully. He discovered that the output from the capstan FG generator passes through an amplifier in IC502 before entering the main servo chip IC501. Knowing that lack of an FG feedback signal usually has the effect of increasing the motor speed, he started by examining the FG waveform. It was correct at the output from the preamplifier and at the input (pin 5) of IC501. Waveform 13, the capstan speed control signal from pin 15 of IC501, also looked like that shown in the block diagram.

RT had to turn to the circuit diagram to obtain information on the d.c. conditions in the servo. Here he discovered that the voltage applied to the motor, at the emitter of Q534, should be 6.79V. RT's little meter, hooked to this point, gave a reading of 6.85V. Could a capstan motor fail in such a way that it ran at twice the correct speed, or more, when the applied voltage was approximately right? It seemed unlikely, especially as this is no fancy direct-drive electronic motor - it's a cylindrically shaped brush type. Even if the motor wasn't running too fast because of an internal reason, why wasn't the servo reducing the supply voltage and current? RT was at a loss. Could it be that the control track pulses were not being read from the tape to control the motor? No, the motor drive voltage was normal. Could it be that... his eye reverted to the monitor screen, where two squirrels were chasing an owl - at normal speed! No noise bars, normal sound track pitch. The wretched machine had put itself right. RT measured the capstan motor voltage again: it was 6.82V, very little different from before, when the tape was whizzing through. What could have caused the original symptom then? See next month for the answer and another item in the test case series.

ANSWER TO TEST CASE 346 - page 898 last month -

It's a fact that chroma faults in VCRs are rare: the colour processing circuits run cool and lead a quiet life. Last month's story related to a Sony VHS machine with noisy, grainy colour in playback, though the luminance playback was fine.

If for any reason the playback chroma signal level is low the result is not colour desaturation: the a.g.c. system ensures that the colour burst amplitude, and with it the amplitude of the chroma signal itself, is held at the correct level over a wide variation in off-tape signal strength. High chrominance noise level usually indicates low signal level at the input to the colour processor chip. So the place to be with the oscilloscope probe is at the 627kHz low-pass filter which separates the luminance f.m. and the colour-under signals, at the output from the playback preamplifiers. Failure here would most likely be due to the filter itself, which of course is not used in the record mode.

The playback envelope signal from the heads was fine. A clear, sharp signal could be traced through the low-pass filter (L802). At the input (pin 5) to the processor chip IC801 however the signal was weak and noisy. The coupling capacitor C808 was virtually open-circuit. A replacement saved the day.

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AN7116 £1.20	HA11235 £3.10	LA4507 £2.70	MB3731 £3.25	MSL9378RS £3.50	STK1409 £3.00	TA7630P £2.70	TD1A190P £3.00	TD3A400 £2.60	UPD4066 £1.95	25D1512 £0.35
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AN7160 £6.00	HA11713 £8.90	LA6358 £5.00	MC14001BCP £1.10	MSL9378RS £3.50	STK1441 £5.00	TA7630P £2.70	TD1A190P £3.00	TD3A400 £2.60	UPD4066 £1.95	25D1512 £0.35
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AN7415 £1.40	HA1388 £4.00	LM1036N £3.70	ML237 (BT16018) £3.50	MSL9378RS £3.50	STK1441 £5.00	TA7630P £2.70	TD1A190P £3.00	TD3A400 £2.60	UPD4066 £1.95	25D1512 £0.35
AN7420 £3.20	HA1392 £3.00	LM1112CN £3.30	ML238B £7.50	MSL9378RS £3.50	STK1441 £5.00	TA7630P £2.70	TD1A190P £3.00	TD3A400 £2.60	UPD4066 £1.95	25D1512 £0.35
AN7818 £1.60	HA1394 £4.00	LM13600 £5.00	ML283 £4.00	MSL9378RS £3.50	STK1441 £5.00	TA7630P £2.70	TD1A190P £3.00	TD3A400 £2.60	UPD4066 £1.95	25D1512 £0.35
BA328 £1.00	HA1397 £5.40	LM1360N £1.50	ML926 £4.50	MSL9378RS £3.50	STK1441 £5.00	TA7630P £2.70	TD1A190P £3.00	TD3A400 £2.60	UPD4066 £1.95	25D1512 £0.35
BA1320 £1.50	HA1398 £3.50	LM1894N £5.75	ML926 £4.50	MSL9378RS £3.50	STK1441 £5.00	TA7630P £2.70	TD1A190P £3.00	TD3A400 £2.60	UPD4066 £1.95	25D1512 £0.35
BA1332 £1.00	HA1406 £2.00	LM317T £1.00	ML926 £4.50	MSL9378RS £3.50	STK1441 £5.00	TA7630P £2.70	TD1A190P £3.00	TD3A400 £2.60	UPD4066 £1.95	25D1512 £0.35
BA3018 £1.50	HA1457 £2.10	LM324 £0.80	ML926 £4.50	MSL9378RS £3.50	STK1441 £5.00	TA7630P £2.70	TD1A190P £3.00	TD3A400 £2.60	UPD4066 £1.95	25D1512 £0.35
BA318 £2.50	HA14219 £2.70	LM339 £0.80	ML926 £4.50	MSL9378RS £3.50	STK1441 £5.00	TA7630P				

A.Z. ELECTRICS

Stock items despatched by return

Access & Visa Accepted

TDA8180 ORIGINAL		£9.50	
TRANSISTORS	BD244	BU406	£0.90
BC184	BD244C	BU406D	£1.50
BC212	BD278A	BU407	£1.50
BC213	BD434	BU426A	£1.00
BC214A	BD508	BU500	£1.00
BC214B	BF195	BU508A	£1.00
BC214L	BF196	BU508AF	£1.00
BC237	BF197	BU508D	£1.00
BC238	BF198	BU508E	£1.00
BC307	BF199	BU507	£0.75
BC308B	BF244	BU109	£0.95
BC327.25	BF259	BU111AF	£1.95
BC328-40	BF422	BUW84	£1.65
BC337	BF458	BUX84	£0.60
BC372	BF459	SD12659	£0.75
BC392	BF469 BF471	T9064V	£2.28
BC441	BF725	TI110	£0.45
BC461	BF771	TI112	£0.45
BC547	BF472	TI229	£0.30
BC548	BF870 BF472	TI300	£0.45
BC549	BF870	TI301	£0.30
BC557	BU108	TI32	£0.30
BC559H	BU126	TI41	£0.27
BC639	BU208	TI42C	£0.40
BC640	BU208A	TI47	£0.38
BD131	BU208D	TI47.91A	£1.00
BD132	BU208T	ZTR604	£0.55
BD137	BU208T	ZTX650	£0.70
BD237	BU208T		
BD238	BU208T		
BD243B	BU236A		£1.00
BD243C			£1.00

DIODES AND THYRISTORS			
BA157	BY206 (BY96R)	DA91	£0.20
BR100	BY206	OT112	£2.20
BR101	BY210.800 BYV96	RG155G	£0.55
BR103	BY210.800	RG155J	£0.45
BR303	BY227	RG155K	£0.35
BRV56	BY228	RG155L	£0.70
BT116	BY229	RH1	£1.30
BT128P	BY250	RM11C	£0.45
BT129P	BY260	SG264	£8.50
BT151 800R	BYV96D	SG613	£12.00
	BYV96E	SKB 02	£0.60
BY126	BYW96E	SKB 08	£1.20
BY127	BYX10	SKB2 02	£0.90
BY133	BYX51600	SKB2 08	£1.40
BY164	BY2506	SK1 02	£0.60
BY164/SKB2 02	IN4001	SK1 1M15	£0.65
	IN4002	SK2 02	£0.75
BY179	IN4004	SK2 03/04	£1.30
BY179 SK2 08	IN4005	SK4 F1 04	£0.45
BY184	IN4006	SK4 F1 06	£0.45
BY189	IN4007	SK5 F3 10	£2.20
BY190	IN4148	SR2M	£0.75
BY190	IN5408	T9053V	£1.40
BY223	KBLO8	T9064V	£2.28

ASK FOR SEMICONDUCTORS NOT LISTED

VIDEO HEADS

AMSTRAD		
3HSSR-VCR7000 (Saisno/Orion)		£18.00
PSF1-VCR4500.5200.9000		£15.00
PSF2-VCR4600.4700		£15.00
PSF3-VCR6000		£21.50

FERGUSON		
3HSSV-2 Head universal		£7.50
3HSSVA-3V42.44.45.46 etc		£20.00
3HSS4VB-3V32.HR7655		£25.00
3HSS4VC-3V48.HRD565		£26.00
3V48.58.59.65.FV10.11.12.13.14.20.21.26		
And most other Fergusons	POA	

HITACHI		
3HSSHA-VT8000.9000 series		£17.00
3HSSHB-VT11.33 etc		£17.00
10082-VT120.220		£29.00
10081-VT130.135		£30.50

PANASONIC		
3HSSU-2 Head universal		£7.50
3HSSU1N-NV100.370.380/Philips VR6460		£11.00
3HSSU2N-NV230.470.480.G9.10.11.15PX		£21.00
3HSSUN-NV430.460		£16.00
3HSS3N-NV77.330		£18.50
3HSS4NB-NV730		£26.00
3HSS4NA-NV366		£24.00
NV30.33.40.45.46.130. & most other Panasonics	POA	

SANYO		
3HSSSY-VHR1100.1110.1300		£20.00
3HSS3SY-VHR1500		£34.00

SHARP		
3HSSSP-VCR9000.9500.9700.381.481.482.483.486 etc		£17.00
3HSSSPB-VC581.583.651.670 etc		£17.00
VC7000.8000 series (Brass)		£42.00

OTHER MAKES		
Alba 4000, Goldstar 8000, Sentra 8000. 1000	Solavox	£22.50
Fisher FVHP510.520.530.615.710 etc		£18.00
Fisher VBS7000.9000 etc		£25.00
Hinari VXL2.4.3.20.25		£18.00
Hinari VXL5.6.20H		£15.00
Mitsubishi HS306.710		£30.00
Orion VC150.VH1.2.3 etc		£18.00
Saisno VR100.805.705.805.905		£18.00
Samsung Universal 2 Head		£24.25
T o s h i b a		
V71.73.74.75.81.82.83.84.85.87		£20.00
Toshiba V93		£21.00

ASK FOR VIDEO HEADS NOT LISTED

The above heads are new.

BELT KITS			
Belt Kits for most models are stocked. Some examples are:			
AKAI			
VS1.2.5	1.20		
VS4.6.9.15	1.10		
Ask for models not listed.			
AMSTRAD			
TVR1 2.3. VCR4600. 4700.5200	1.90		
Ask for models not listed.			
FERGUSON/JVC			
3V00.3V16.3V22 etc.	1.60		
3V29.3V30	1.20		
3V35.36.38.39	1.10		
3V42.43.44.45.48.53.54. 55.57	1.00		
Ask for models not listed.			
Loading belts on certain models also available.			
FISHER			
FVHP520.530	1.00		
FVHP615.620.622.710/711/ 715/716/720.721.725.830/ 840	1.00		
FVHP905.906.907.908/910/ 911.915.916	1.20		
GRUNDIG			
VS400/410.440/450	1.10		
460	0.65		
VS180.200.220.262	2.20		
265.267	2.20		

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

NEW LINES

LOPT Hitachi CPT1476	£18.00
LOPT Hitachi CPT2276 etc	£19.00
LOPT Matsui 1440	£18.00
Tripp Grundig CUC2401 etc	£17.00

LINE OUTPUT TRANSFORMERS

Decca 100	9.50
ITT CVC20	12.50
ITT CVC25.30.32	9.50
ITT Compact 80 Series 110	16.75
ITT Compact 80 Series 90	19.75
ITT CVC45	18.00
ITT 1109F	14.00
ITT CVC1204	11.50
ITT CVC800/1/3	21.50
ITT CVC1100	16.50
ITT CVC1150.1175	20.00
ITT 6325	18.50
ITT 3546	18.50
ITT 1200.1	20.00

Other ITT transformers available

Fidelity all models up to 20" ZX3000	10.50
Fidelity Panel for ZX2000	1.00
Fidelity 22" ZX3000	24.50
Hinari CT4.5 & TVA1	14.75
Philips KT3	12.95
Rank Bush T20A	11.50
Thorn TX100 Green Spot 110	16.75
Ferguson TX90 LOPT	17.75
Ferguson 3V35/36 Mains Transformer	23.00
Ferguson 3V44/44.45 Mains Transformer	18.85
Sony - Please state model for price	
Universal Tripler	4.75
Universal Tripler with focus unit	9.50
Decca 120/130 series tripler	8.50
Thorn TX10 Focus Unit Kit	9.00

Hitachi and Matsui LOPTs in stock

VIDEO MOTORS

REEL MOTORS		
Ferguson 3V29.30		£20.00
Ferguson 3V58.59.65.FV10.11.12.13. 14.20.21.22		£17.25
Ferguson FV260		£14.50
Hitachi 8000.8300.8500		£8.50
Sanyo VTC5000.5150.5400.5300.6500		£7.50
Sharp VCR3000.9500 etc. Original		£15.00
Panasonic NV333.366 Original		£13.20
All other Panasonics		POA
CAPSTAN MOTORS		
Ferguson 3V35.36 Original		£22.50
Ferguson JVC (Mechanical models)		£20.00
Hitachi VT11 Original		£30.00
Hitachi VT33 Original		£32.00
Hitachi VT64 Original		£19.75
Hitachi VT8000 series Original		£34.50
Hitachi VT9000 series Original		£34.50
Sharp VC7000 series Original		£30.50

VS310.315/320.380/ 385	2.40
Ask for models not listed.	
HITACHI	
V111/147/19/33.34/35/ 38/39.88	1.30
NV3000.8500	1.00
VT9300.9500.9700	1.00
Ask for models not listed.	
PANASONIC	
NV230.250.280.370.380	1.60
430.450.460.465.485.630/ 810.830.850.870.890	1.60
NV300.330/332.333/430	1.60

Replacement of plastic pulley on a number of Sharp Reel Motors with the above metal pulley gives better rewind/FF performance.



IDLER ASSEMBLIES

FERGUSON		
Take up Clutch (Mechanical models)		£5.00
3V29.30 Take up Idler		£2.00
3V29.30 Take up Clutch		£2.85
3V29.30 Reel Idler		£3.00
3V35 Reel Idler		£2.85
3V35.36.38.39 Take up Clutch		£1.80
3V58.59.64.65.FV10.11.12.13.14 Idler Arm.		£1.80
Clutch Assembly 3V44.45.48.49.52.53. 54.55		£14.00
Clutch Assembly 3V42.43		£14.00

FISHER		
FVHP615.905.910. Idler Assembly Original.		£5.00
FVHP615 Gear Idler Assembly		£4.35
FVHP905.910 Gear Idler Assembly		£5.00
FVHP520.530 Idler		£3.00
FVHP520.530 Pulley		£0.70

HITACHI		
VT11.33 etc. Original Idler Arm		£2.50
VT11.33 etc. Idler Replacement		£1.75
VT9300.9500 etc. Play Idler		£3.65
VT9300.9500 etc. F/F Idler		£2.95
VT9300.9500 etc. Idler		£2.95
VT8000.8500 etc. F/F Rew Idler		£2.95
VT800.8500 etc. Play Idler Assembly		£3.00
VT8000.8500 etc. FF Rew Pulley		£0.70
VT11.33 etc. Clutch Assembly		£8.00

PHILIPS		
VR6460.6920 Idler Arm (Original)		£3.00
DV464.6462.6463.650 etc. Idler Mod. Kit		£4.50
VR6542.6843 Reel Idler		£6.50
VR6542 Reel Drive Pulley		£7.75
VR6843 Reel Drive Pulley		£9.50
PANASONIC (All Original)		
NV370 Idler Arm Unit VXP0521 Gen		£3.00
NV8600.8610 Play Idler VXP0243		£0.95
NV332.777.788 Idler Unit VXP0463		£3.00
NV600.688 Idler VXP0515		£3.00
NV333.366 Idler Arm 2 Unit VXL0997		£10.50
NV840.8600.8610 etc. VXP0245		£0.95
NV333.366 etc. Idler VXP0401-NV700.7200. 7800 Idler VXP0344		£0.90
NV2000.3000 Play Idler VXP0331-		
NV2000.3000 Idler Unit VXP0329		£1.10
Back Tension Bands		From £1.50
All Panasonic Maintenance Kits		POA

QUOTE PANASONIC PART No FOR PARTS NOT LISTED

SANYO		
Idler VHR1100.1300.1500		£5.50
Idler VHR2100.2300.2500.2700		£5.50
Reel Drive Pulley Unit VTC5000.5150.6500		£5.00
Idler Roller Assembly VTC5000.5150.6500		£2.25
SHARP		
Idler VC9300.9500 etc.		£1.75
Idler VC481.581 etc.		£1.95
Idler (original) VC9300.481.581 etc.		£3.50
Idler Assembly (original) VC651.681.685		£6.50
Idler Assembly (original) VC780.781.785.787. 793.VCT72		£6.50

AMSTRAD		
4500.4600 MOD KIT INCLUDES PINCH ROLLER AND IDLER CLUTCH		£5.00
Limiter Post Assembly		£1.75
Makes & Models: Hinari VXL4. Matsui VX730.735.735A.755.770. 800A.810.820.		

AN3215K	£4.50	AN7172K	£2.95	HA11713	£3.50	LA4178	£2.75	PLLO2A	£5.00	STK5325	£6.75	TA7628P	£1.95	BF991	£1.20
AN3122K	£2.95	AN7173K	£3.50	HA11714	£3.50	LA4180	£1.95	SAA1124	£2.50	STK5332	£3.50	TA7640AP	£1.30	BF999	£0.50
AN3202K	£4.95	AN7178	£2.50	HA11715	£3.50	LA4182	£1.95	SAA5000	£3.50	STK5337	£7.25			BF956	£0.20
AN3821K	£5.95	AN7470	£2.20	HA11716	£4.75	LA4183	£2.20	SAA5042	£8.00	STK5338	£4.50	TC91068P	£4.95		
AN3822K	£6.95	BA1335	£2.50	HA11717	£4.75	LA4190	£1.75			STK5421	£6.50	TD1010A	£1.40	BU208A	£1.00
AN5010	£3.95	BA1355	£2.20	HA11724	£8.00	LA4201	£1.60	STK301A	£3.95	STK5451	£3.30	TD1011	£1.40	BU208D	£1.30
AN5011	£3.95	BA5102A	£2.50	HA11727	£8.50	LA4260	£2.30	STK401A	£4.50	STK5471	£3.50	TD1015	£1.50	BU326A	£1.20
AN5030	£4.50	BA5115	£2.50	HA11736	£6.50	LA4261	£2.30	STK441C	£2.75	STK5481	£4.25	TD1170S	£1.50	BU407	£0.70
AN5033	£5.25	BA5204	£2.20	HA11744	£5.95	LA4270	£2.75			STK5491	£4.25	TD15106	£4.35	BU408	£0.95
AN5071	£1.20	BA5402A	£2.50	HA11745	£7.50	LA4280	£2.95	STK0029	£4.75	STK5720	£4.25	TD15110	£3.60	BU426A	£0.50
AN5155K	£3.95	BA5406	£1.50	HA11745NT	£7.50	LA4420	£1.50	STK0039	£4.75	STK5725	£4.25	TD15150S1	£3.95	BU426F	£0.70
AN5150	£5.50	BA5408	£2.20	HAHA11747A	£7.50	LA4422	£1.50	STK0040	£6.25	STK5730	£4.25	TD1515A	£2.50	BU500	£1.50
AN5151N	£6.50	BA6104	£2.20	HA11747AN1	£7.50	LA4440	£2.50	STK0049	£6.50	STK6732	£11.75	TD1522	£1.95	BU508A	£1.00
AN5256	£2.20	BA6109	£1.60	HA11749	£4.25	LA4445	£2.20	STK433	£5.25	STK7308	£9.95	TD1770A	£2.95	BU508D	£1.00
AN5265	£1.75	BA6122	£2.20	HA11750	£5.00	LA4446	£2.20	STK435	£5.50	STK7309	£11.50	TD2002	£0.80		
AN5410	£3.95	BA6124	£2.50	HA12002	£1.95	LA4460	£1.80	STK437	£5.50	STK7348	£4.95	TD2003	£0.95	2N3055	£0.50
AN5435	£2.20	BA6208	£1.95	HA12003	£2.20	LA4461	£1.80	STK443	£8.95	STK7404	£6.95	TD2004	£1.95	2N3373	£1.50
AN5436	£2.20	BA6209	£1.95	HA12045	£3.25	LA4465	£2.30	STK457	£7.50	STK8050	£9.50	TD2005	£1.95		
AN5510	£2.75	BA6218	£1.95	HA12016	£3.75	LA4466	£2.30	STK459	£7.50	STK8250	£9.95	TD2006	£1.50		
AN5512	£2.95	BA6219	£2.20	HA13001	£1.90	LA4500	£2.50	STK463	£9.50	STK8260	£12.50	TD2020	£1.50		
AN5515	£2.20	BA6229	£2.20	HA13007	£4.50	LA4505	£2.80	STK465	£9.95			TD2030	£1.50		
AN5521	£1.95	BA6238A	£1.95	HA13119	£2.50	LA4508	£2.50	STK468	£7.25	STR370	£5.20	TD2510	£3.95		
AN5610N	£5.50	BA6239A	£2.20	HA13118	£2.75	LA4510	£1.75	STK1060	£9.95	STR381	£5.20	TD2600	£6.00		
AN5615	£2.95	BA6302A	£1.80	HA13403V	£5.50	LA4520	£1.50	STK1070	£9.75	STR410	£5.20	TD2611A	£1.30		
AN5620X	£3.50	BA6304	£1.75			LA4570	£2.75	STK2028	£7.50	STR440	£5.20	TD2633A	£3.50	2SR528	£0.60
AN5622	£3.20	BA6305	£1.95	KA2101	£1.95	LA6358D	£1.20	STK2029	£6.50	STR831	£5.20	TD3050	£5.50	2SR529	£0.60
AN5635N	£3.75	BA6328	£2.20	KA2206	£1.75	LA7031	£2.60	STK2038	£9.50	STR841	£5.20	TD3051	£4.50	JVC FERGUSON HRD 7655/3V32/8942	£27.00
AN5700	£1.75	BA6411	£2.20	KA2212	£1.20	LA7032	£2.95	STK2040	£9.50	STR845	£5.20	TD3051	£4.50	PANASONIC VEH 0121	£8.50
AN5701	£1.20	BA7005	£2.20	KA2261	£1.20	LA7042	£2.80	STK2125	£6.75	STR850	£5.20	TD3051	£4.50	PANASONIC VEH 0218	£14.00
AN5750	£3.75	BA7023L	£2.50	KA2284	£1.20	LA7520	£3.25	STK2129	£6.95	STR851	£5.20	TD3056	£3.90	PANASONIC VEH 0287	£21.00
AN5753	£1.95	BA7751AL	£1.95			LA7800	£1.50	STK2139	£8.00	STR854	£5.20	TD3056	£3.90	PANASONIC VEH 0287 (original)	£21.00
AN5900	£2.20			LA1130	£2.50	LA7801	£1.50	STK2155	£9.50	STR855	£5.20	TD3056A	£4.50	PANASONIC VEH 0286	£21.75
AN6130N	£2.50	EX8341	£4.50	LA1135	£2.50	LA7806	£2.50	STK2230	£6.50	STR855	£5.20	TD3056A	£4.50	PANASONIC VEH 0177	£21.50
AN6136	£1.95			LA1140	£2.20	LA7808	£2.75	STK2240	£9.50	STR1096	£4.95	TD44501	£4.50	PANASONIC VEH 0174	£25.00
AN6247	£1.75	HA1196	£1.75	LA1150	£1.75	LA7820	£2.75	STK2250	£9.50	STR2005	£5.95	TD44503	£4.50	PANASONIC VEH 0174 (original)	£32.00
AN6250	£1.50	HA1197	£1.80	LA1170	£1.75	LA7830	£2.20	STK3041	£6.50	STR2010	£6.20	TD44510	£3.95	PANASONIC VEH 0174	£25.00
AN6310	£5.50	HA1199	£1.50	LA1185	£1.60	LA7831	£2.50	STK3042	£6.50	STR2013	£6.20	TD44510	£3.95	PANASONIC VEH 0267	£37.00
AN6326N	£3.50	HA1338	£2.95	LA1330	£1.50			STK3044	£6.75	STR3115	£5.95	TD4A060	£2.75	PANASONIC VEH 0267 (original)	£25.00
AN6327	£3.50	HA1339A	£3.50	LA1231N	£2.00	LB1403	£1.50	STK3062	£6.75	STR3125	£5.50	TD4A800-2	£2.50	PANASONIC VEH 0210	£35.00
AN6328	£3.50	HA1363	£1.20	LB1405	£1.50	LB1405	£1.50	STK3065	£6.95	STR4211	£4.50	TD4A800-2D	£2.50	PANASONIC VEH 0252	£29.50
AN6330	£2.95	HA1372	£3.50	LA2400	£1.50	LC7363	£3.75	STK3102	£6.75	STR4211	£4.50	TD4750	£4.95	PANASONIC VEH 0252 (original)	£35.00
AN6332	£4.75	HA1377	£2.20	LA1385	£1.95	LB1416	£1.50	STK3152M	£9.50	STR5015	£6.20	UPC5750	£1.95	SAMSUNG Most Models	£19.50
AN6340	£3.75	HA1388	£2.95	LA1460	£2.75	LB1640	£2.20	STK4017	£7.50	STR5412	£5.20	UPC5750	£1.95	SANYO VHR 1100	£22.00
AN6342N	£2.50	HA1392	£2.20	LA2000	£1.75	LB1649	£2.50	STK4025	£6.50	STR620	£5.20	UPC1025H	£2.30	SANYO VHR 3100/3200	£24.00
AN6344	£4.75	HA1394	£2.50	LA2100	£2.95			STK4121H	£6.95	STR5103A	£4.50	UPC1188H	£2.75	SHARP VC 6300/7300 original (BRASS)	£14.00
AN6346N	£3.75	HA1396	£3.75	LA2200	£1.75	LC7137	£4.50	STK4122H	£5.95	STR54041	£5.20	UPC1191V	£1.20	SONY DSR 35	£17.50
AN6358N	£3.95	HA1399	£2.50	LA2400	£1.50	LC7363	£3.75	STK4131H	£5.75	STR58041	£5.20	UPC1230H	£2.50	SONY DSR 36	£17.50
AN6357N	£4.95	HA1399	£2.50	LA3101	£1.75	LC7800	£2.75	STK4132H	£6.75			UPC1237H	£1.20	TOSHIBA V31/33/9600	£18.50
AN6359N	£5.50	HA1122W	£2.95	LA3160	£0.95	LC7815	£2.95	STK4141H	£7.50	TA7193P	£4.00	UPC1241H	£1.95	TOSHIBA V71/87	£18.50
AN6360	£2.50	HA11211	£2.30	LA3161	£1.20			STK4141V	£7.50	TA7205AP	£1.00	UPC1263C	£2.30		
AN6362	£4.50	HA11215A	£2.20	LA3201	£0.95			STK4142H	£7.30	TA7217AF	£1.60	UPC1277H	£2.50		
AN6371	£3.25	HA11219	£1.75	LA3210	£0.85	LM1303N	£1.50	STK4151H	£7.50	TA7222AP	£1.30	UPC1288V	£2.50		
AN6387	£5.50	HA11221	£2.20	LA3220	£1.50	LM3914N	£2.75	STK4152H	£7.95	TA7229P	£3.25	UPC1288V	£2.75		
AN6392	£1.50	HA11233W	£2.50	LA3300	£1.60	LM3915N	£2.75	STK4161H	£7.95	TA7230P	£1.50	UPC1318AV	£2.75		
AN6610	£1.80	HA11225	£1.95	LA3301	£1.30			STK4162H	£8.95	TA7232P	£1.95	UPC1335V	£2.75		
AN6671K	£4.95	HA11226	£4.50	LA3310	£2.75			STK4171H	£8.95	TA7233P	£2.50	UPC1363C	£2.75		
AN6676	£5.50	HA11227	£2.20	LA3350	£1.30	M5218L	£1.95	STK4172H	£8.95	TA7240A	£2.95	UPC1364C	£4.20		
AN6677	£4.95	HA11235	£1.95	LA3361	£1.20	M5218P	£0.95	STK4181H	£8.95	TA7242AP	£2.95	UPC1373H	£1.20		
AN6678	£1.50	HA11244	£2.95	LA3370	£2.50	M5104L	£3.20	STK4181H	£8.95	TA7250BP	£2.95	UPC1387C	£1.95		
AN7106K	£2.50	HA11251	£2.50	LA3376	£2.20	M51358P	£1.75	STK4192H	£9.50	TA7251BP	£2.95	UPC1391H	£1.50		
AN7106K	£2.50	HA11401	£2.80	LA3600	£1.50	M51393AP	£4.50	STK4332	£4.50	TA7270P	£2.50	UPC1403CA	£6.75		
AN7143	£2.50	HA11423	£2.20	LA4030	£2.50	M51397AP	£5.50	STK4352	£5.90	TA7271P	£2.50	UPC1420CA	£5.20		
AN7147	£2.50	HA11540	£2.95	LA4032P	£1.95	M51397AP	£5.50	STK4793TV	£9.50	TA7280P	£2.95	UPC1420CA	£5.20		
AN7148	£2.30	HA11580	£5.25	LA4032P	£1.90	M51521L	£1.90	STK4803	£8.50	TA7281P	£2.75	UPC1420CA	£5.20		
AN7149N	£2.50	HA11701	£3.50	LA4100	£2.20	M51522L	£1.50	STK4833	£3.50	TA7281P	£2.75	UPC1420CA	£5.20		
AN7156N	£2.50	HA11703	£4.50	LA4101	£1.00	M51543L	£1.75	STK4843	£8.50	TA7281P	£2.75	UPC1420CA	£5.20		
AN7161	£3.50	HA11704	£5.20	LA4102	£1.40	M54544L	£2.75	STK4853	£9.50	TA7299P	£2.95	UPC1420CA	£5.20		
AN7166	£3.70	HA11705	£5.95	LA4110	£1.75	MB3712	£1.50	STK5211	£6.75	TA7317P	£1.50	UPC1420CA	£5.20		
AN7168	£2.75	HA11706	£3.75	LA4115	£1.70	MB3730	£2.20	STK5314	£6.75	TA7607AP	£2.70	UPC1420CA	£5.20		
AN7169	£2.95	HA11710	£3.75	LA4160	£2.20	MB3731	£2.75	STK5315	£6.75	TA7609P	£2.70	UPC1420CA	£5.20		
AN7171K	£3.50	HA11711	£6.50	LA4170	£1.75	MB8941	£5.75	STK5324	£6.75	TA7611AP	£2.20	UPC1420CA	£5.20		

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HITACHI VT717/1719	£32.00
HITACHI VT35/39	£34.00
JVC FERGUSON PV 31332G	£8.50
JVC FERGUSON PV 31332L	£8.50
JVC FERGUSON HRD 18D 230/3V59	£39.00
JVC FERGUSON HRD 72	

UNIDEN SATELLITE RECEIVER Brand new, units (model 8008) £60.00 ref 60P4R (no remote controls)
SPECTRUM +2 COMPUTER Built in data recorder, 128K, psu and manuals £59.00 ref 59P4R
SPECTRUM +3 COMPUTER Built in disc drive, 128K, psu and manuals £79.00 ref 79P4R
AMSTRAD CPC464 COMPUTER No manuals but only £79.00 ref 79P5R (including monitor)
AMSTRAD CPC6128 COMPUTER Again no manuals but only £149.00 ref 149P4R
AMSTRAD GT65 Green screen monitor £49.00 ref 49P4R
HIGH POWER CAR SPEAKERS. Stereo pair output 100w each. 4ohm impedance and consisting of 6 1/2" woofer 2" mid range and 1" tweeter. Ideal to work with the amplifier described above. Price per pair £30.00 Order ref 30P7R.
2KV 500 WATT TRANSFORMERS Suitable for high voltage experiments or as a spare for a microwave oven etc. 250v AC input £10.00 ref 10P93R
MICROWAVE CONTROL PANEL. Mains operated, with touch switches. Complete with 4 digit display, digital clock, and 2 relay outputs one for power and one for pulsed power (programmable). Ideal for all sorts of precision timer applications etc. £6.00 ref 6P18R
FIBRE OPTIC CABLE. Stranded optical fibres sheathed in black PVC. Five metre length £7.00 ref 7P29R
12V SOLAR CELL. 200mA output ideal for trickle charging etc. 300 mm square. Our price £15.00 ref 15P42R
PASSIVE INFRA-RED MOTION SENSOR. Complete with daylight sensor, adjustable lights on timer (8 secs - 15 mins), 50' range with a 90 deg coverage. Manual override facility. Complete with wall brackets, bulb holders etc. Brand new and guaranteed. £25.00 ref 25P24R
 Pack of two PAR38 bulbs for above unit £12.00 ref 12P43R

VIDEO SENDER UNIT Transmit both audio and video signals from either a video camera, video recorder or computer to any standard TV set within a 100' range! (tune TV to a spare channel) 12V DC op. £15.00 ref 15P39R Suitable mains adaptor £3.00 ref 5P191R

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MINIATURE RADIO TRANSCEIVERS A pair of walkie talkies with a range of up to 2 kilometres. Units measure 22x52x155mm. Complete with cases. £30.00 ref 30P12R

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CAR STEREO AND FM RADIO Low cost stereo system giving 5 watts per channel. Signal to noise ratio better than 45db, wow and flutter less than 35%. Neg earth. £25.00 ref 25P21R

LOW COST WALKIE TALKIES. Pair of battery operated units with a range of about 150'. Our price £8.00 a pair ref 8P50R

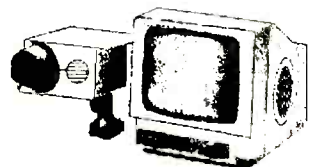
7 CHANNEL GRAPHIC EQUALIZER plus a 60 watt power amp! 20-21KHZ 4-8R 12-14v DC negative earth. Cased. £25 ref 25P14R

NICAD BATTERIES. Brand new top quality. 4 x AA's £4.00 ref 4P44R 2 x C's £4.00 ref 4P73R, 4 x D's £9.00 ref 9P12R, 1 x PP3 £6.00 ref 6P35R

TOWERS INTERNATIONAL TRANSISTOR SELECTOR GUIDE. The ultimate equivalents book. Latest edition £20.00 ref 20P32R

CABLE TIES. 142mm x 3.2mm white nylon pack of 100 £3.00 ref 3P104R Bumper pack of 1,000 ties £14.00R

VIDEO AND AUDIO MONITORING SYSTEM



£99.00

Brand new units consisting of a camera, 14cm monitor, 70 metres of cable, AC adaptor, mounting bracket and owners manual. 240v AC or 12v DC operation complete with built in 2 way intercom. £99.00 ref 99P2R

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FM BUG Built and tested superior 9v operation. £14.00 ref 14P3R
COMPOSITE VIDEO KITS. These convert composite video into separate H sync, V sync and video. 12v DC. £8.00 ref 8P39R
SINCLAIR C5 MOTORS 12v 29A (full load) 3300 rpm 6"x4" 1/4" O/P shaft. New. £20.00 ref 20P22R

As above but with fitted 4 to 1 inline reduction box (800rpm) and toothed nylon belt drive cog £40.00 ref 40P8R
SINCLAIR C5 WHEELS 13" or 16" dia including treaded tyre and inner tube. Wheels are black, spoked one piece poly carbonate. 13" wheel £6.00 ref 6P20R, 16" wheel £6.00 ref 6P21R

ELECTRONIC SPEED CONTROL for c5 motor. PCB and all components to build a speed controller (0.95% of speed). Uses pulse width modulation. £17.00 ref 17P3R
SOLAR POWERED NICAD CHARGER. Charges 4 AA nicads in 8 hours. Brand new and cased £6.00 ref 6P3R

MOSFETS FOR POWER AMPLIFIERS ETC. 100 watt mosfet pair 2SJ99 and 2SK343 £4.00 a pair with pin out info ref 4P51R. Also available is a 2SK413 and a 2SJ118 at £4.00 ref 4P42R
12 VOLT BRUSHLESS FAN 1/2" square brand new ideal for

boat, car, caravan etc. £5.00 ref 5P206R

ACORN DATA RECORDER ALF503 Made for BBC computer but suitable for others. Includes mains adapter, leads and book. £15.00 ref 15P43R

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PHILIPS LASER. 2MW HELIUM NEON LASER TUBE. BRAND NEW FULL SPEC £40.00 REF 40P10R. MAINS POWER SUPPLY KIT £20.00 REF 20P33R READY BUILT AND TESTED LASER IN ONE CASE £75.00 REF 75P4R. SOLDER 22SWG resin cored solder on a 1/2kg reel. Top quality. £4.00 a reel ref 4P70R

600 WATT HEATERS Ideal for air or liquid, will not corrode, lasts for years. coil type construction 3"x2" mounted on a 4" dia metal plate for easy fixing. £3.00 ea ref 3P78R or 4 for £10.00 ref 10P76R

TIME AND TEMPERATURE MODULE A clock, digital thermometer (Celsius and Fahrenheit (0-160 deg F) programmable too hot and too cold alarms. Runs for at least a year on one AA battery. £9.00 ref 9P5R

Remote temperature probe for above unit £3.00 ref 3P60R
GEARBOX KITS Ideal for models etc. Contains 18 gears (2 of each size) 4x50mm axles and a powerful 9-12v motor. All the gears etc are push fit. £3.00 for complete kit ref 3P93R

ELECTRONIC TICKET MACHINES These units contain a magnetic card reader, two matrix printers, motors, sensors and loads of electronic components etc (12"x12"x7") Good value at £12.00 ref 12P28R

JOYSTICKS Brand new with 2 fire buttons and suction feet these units can be modified for most computers by changing the connector etc. Price is 2 for £5.00 ref 5P174R

GAS POWERED SOLDERING IRON AND BLOW TORCH Top quality tool with interchangeable heads and metal body. Fully adjustable. runs on lighter gas £10.00 ref 10P130R

CAR IONIZER KIT Improve the air in your car! clears smoke and helps to reduce fatigue. Case required. £12.00 ref 12P8R

6V 10AH LEAD ACID sealed battery by yuasa ex equipment but in excellent condition now only 2 for £10.00 ref 10P95R

12 TO 220V INVERTER KITs supplied it will handle up to about 15w at 220v but with a larger transformer will handle 80 watts. Basic kit £12.00 ref 12P17R. Larger transformer £12.00 ref 12P41R

VERO EASI WIRE PROTOTYPING SYSTEM ideal for designing projects on etc. Complete with tools, wire and reusable board. Our price £6.00 ref 6P33R

MICROWAVE TURNABLE MOTORS. Ideal for window displays etc. £5.00 ref 5P165R

STC SWITCHED MODE POWER SUPPLY 220v or 110v input giving 5v at 2A, +24v at 0.5A, +12v at 0.15A and +90v at 0.4A £6.00 ref 6P59R

HIGH RESOLUTION 12" AMBER MONITOR 2v 1.5A Hercules compatible (TTL input) new and cased £22.00 ref 22P2R

VGA PAPER WHITE MONO monitors new and cased 240v AC. £59.00 ref 59P4R

25 WATT STEREO AMPLIFIER c. STK043. With the addition of a handful of components you can build a 25 watt amplifier. £4.00 ref 4P69R (Circuit dia included).

MAINS FANS Small type construction. Approx 4"x5" mounted on a metal plate for easy fixing. New £5.00 5P166R

POWERFUL IONIZER KIT. Generates 10 times more ions than commercial units! Complete kit including case £18.00 ref 18P2R

MINI RADIO MODULE Only 2" square with ferrite aerial and tuner. Superhet. Req's PP3 battery. £1.00 ref 8D716R

HIGH RESOLUTION MONITOR 9" black and white Phillips tube in chassis made for OPD computer but may be suitable for others £20.00 ref 20P26R

BARGAIN NICADS AAA SIZE 200MAH 1.2V PACK OF 10 £4.00 REF 4P92R, PACK OF 100 £30.00 REF 30P16R

CB CONVERTORS Converts a car radio into an AM CB receiver. Cased with circuit diagram. £4.00 ref 4P48R

FLOPPY DISCS, Pack of 15 3 1/2" DSDD £10.00 ref 10P88. Pack of 10 5 1/4" DSDD £5.00 ref 5P168R

SONIC CONTROLLED MOTOR One click to start, two click to reverse direction, 3 click to stop! £3.00 each ref 3P137R

FRESNEL MAGNIFYING LENS 83 x 52mm £1.00 ref BD827R

LCD DISPLAY. 4 1/2 digits supplied with connection data £3.00 ref 3P77R or 5 for £10.00 ref 10P78R

ALARM TRANSMITTERS. No data available but nicely made complex transmitters 9v operation. £4.00 each ref 4P81

TRANSMITTER RECEIVER SYSTEM Originally made for nurse call systems they consist of a pendant style transmitter and a receiver with telescopic aerial 12v. 80 different channels. £12.00 ref 12P26R

CLAP LIGHT. This device turns on a lamp at a finger 'snap' etc. nicely cased with built in battery operated light. Ideal bedside light etc. £4.00 each ref 4P82R

ELECTRONIC DIPSTICK KIT. Contains all you need to build an electronic device to give a 10 level liquid indicator. £5.00 (ex case) ref 5P194R

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ONE THOUSAND CABLE TIES 175mm x 2.4mm white nylon cable ties only £5.00 ref 5P181R

PC MODEMS 1200/75 baud modems designed to plug into a PC complete with manual but no software £18.00 ref 18P12R

ASTEC SWITCHED MODE POWER SUPPLY 60mm x 165mm (PCB size) gives +5 at 3.75A, +12 at 1.5A, -12 at 0.4A. Brand new £12.00 ref 12P39R

VENTILATED CASE FOR ABOVE PSU with IEC filtered socket and power switch. £5.00 ref 5P190R

IN CAR POWER SUPPLY. Plugs into cigar socket and gives 3.4, 5.6, 7.5, 9, and 12v outputs at 800mA. Complete with universal solder plug. £5.00 ref 5P167R

CUSTOMER RETURNED switched mode power supplies. Mixed type, good for spares or repair. £2.00 each ref 2P292R

DRILL OPERATED PUMP. Fits any drill and is self priming. £3.00 ref 3P140R

PERSONAL ATTACK ALARM. Complete with built in torch and vanity mirror. Pocket sized, req's 3 AA batteries. £3.00 ref 3P135R

POWERFUL SOLAR CELL 1AMP 45 VOLT only £5.00 ref 5P192R (other sizes available in catalogue)

SOLAR PROJECT KIT. Consists of a solar cell, special DC motor, plastic fan and turntables etc plus a 20 page book on solar energy! Price is £8.00 ref 8P51R

RESISTOR PACK. 10 x 50 values (500 resistors) all 1/4 watt 2% metal film. £5.00 ref 5P170R

CAPACITOR PACK 1.100 assorted non electrolytic capacitors £2.00 ref 2P286R

CAPACITOR PACK 2. 40 assorted electrolytic capacitors £2.00 ref 2P287R

QUICK CUPPA? 12v immersion heater with lead and cigar lighter plug £3.00 ref 3P92R

LED PACK .50 red leds. 50 green leds and 50 yellow leds all 5mm £6.00 ref 8P52R

WASHING MACHINE PUMP. Mains operated new pump. Not self priming. £5.00 ref 5P18R

IBM PRINTER LEAD. (D25 to centronics plug) 2 metre parallel £5.00 ref 5P186R

COPPER CLAD STRIP BOARD 17" x 4' of 1" pitch 'vero' board £4.00 a sheet ref 4P62R or 2 sheets for £7.00 ref 7P22R

STRIP BOARD CUTTING TOOL. £2.00 ref 2P352R

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SPEAKER GRILLS set of 3 matching grills of different diameters 2 packs for £2.00 (6 grills) ref 2P364R

50 METRES OF MAINS CABLE £3.00 2 core black precut in convenient 2 m lengths. Ideal for repairs and projects. ref 3P91R

4 CORE SCREENED AUDIO CABLE 24 METRES £2.00 Precut into convenient 1.2 m lengths. Ref 2P365R

TWEETERS 2 1/4" DIA 8 ohm mounted on a smart metal plate for easy fixing £2.00 ref 2P366R

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6 1/2" 20 WATT SPEAKER Built in tweeter 4 ohm £5.00 ref 5P205R

5" X 3" 16 OHM SPEAKER 3 for £1.00 ref CD213R

ADJUSTABLE SPEAKER BRACKETS Ideal for mounting speakers on internal or external corners, uneven surfaces etc. 2 for £5.00 ref 5P207R

PIR LIGHT SWITCH Replaces a standard light switch in seconds. Light operates when anybody comes within detection range (4m) and stays on for an adjustable time (15 secs to 15 mins). Complete with daylight sensor. Unit also functions as a dimmer switch! 200 watt max. Not suitable for fluorescents. £14.00 ref 14P10R

WINDUP SOLAR POWERED RADIO! FM/AM radio takes NICAD batteries complete with hand charger and solar panel 14P200R

240 WATT RMS AMP KIT Stereo 30-0-30 psu required £40.00 ref 40P200R

300 WATT RMS MONO AMP KIT £55.00 Psu required ref 55P200R

ALARM PIR SENSORS Standard 12v alarm type sensor will interface to most alarm panels. £16.00 ref 16P200R

ALARM PANEL 2 zone cased keypad entry, entry exit time delay etc. £18.00 ref 18P200R

35MM CAMERAS Customer returned units with built in flash and 28mm lens 2 for £8.00 ref 8P200R

STEAM ENGINE Standard Mamod 1332 engine complete with boiler piston etc. £30 ref 30P200R

TALKING ALARM CLOCK What more can we say?? £14.00 ref 14P200R

12V & 6V 2A CASED BENCH SUPPLY Also includes a lead acid charger pcb plus space inside for a 6v 10AH battery. £7.00 ref 7P31R

IEC MAINS CABLE WITH 13A PLUG Standard 2 metre lead 2 for £3.00 ref 3P141R

OZONE FRIENDLY LATEX Ideal for holding wires PCB's etc in place easy to peel off when set. 250ML tube. £2.00 ref 2P370R

TELEPHONE HANDSETS Brand new units with subminiature 'bug' style microphone. 2 sets for £3.00 ref 3P142R

SOUND OPERATED LIGHTS Ideal for beside the phone at night etc. battery operated and cased. Inbuilt time delay. £3.00 ref 3P143R

AC STEPDOWN CONVERTER 240v ac to 110v ac 1000 watts, cased. Suitable for resistive loads only! £2.00 ref 2P371

CURLY CABLE 6 core extends from 8" to 6 feet. Fitted with 9 way D type at one end. £3.00 for 4 ref 3P144R

PROJECT BOX Black plastic 5 1/2" x 3 1/2" x 1" screw on lid. 2 for £2.00 ref 2P372R

HEX KEYBOARD Same size as above box 2 for £2.00 ref 2P373R

CHOC BLOCK PACK 100 2way connectors ideal for spares box £2.00 ref 2P374R

SHAVER SOCKETS Unleashed prrfs but only £2 for 10! ref 2P375R

MINI MONO AMP 3 watt 12 volt dc amplifier built on a 2"x3" PCB £1.00 ref BD495R

TELEPHONE EXTENSION LEAD 5 metres long with new style plug one end socket the other. White £2.00 ref 2P375R

PLUG IN POWER SUPPLY Designed to plug into shaver socket, cased complete with lead and 3.5mm plug. Our price is 6 for £2.00 ref 2P376R

3 WAY 13A MAINS ADAPTER Standard domestic units with unsleeved pins 4 for £2.00 ref 2P377R (ideal for workshop etc)

SOLAR CELL Amorphous silicon 100mm x 60mm x 1.87v 153mA £4.00 ref 4P93R

SOLAR CELL 3 feet by 1 foot!! 12v Amorphous silicon £40 callers only please!

35MM CAMERAS Customer returns so may need slight attention. Built in flash and motor drive. £6.00 each ref 6P60R

CAMERA FLASH UNITS Ideal for multi flash photography etc. 3 units for £10.00 ref 10P101R

DISC DRIVES 5 1/4" 720K Mitsubishi £35.00 ref 35P6R

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 LOEWE CIC 420 FERGUSON 3V59
 THORN 8930 (3V30) FERGUSON 3V65
 THORN 8941 (3V31) FERGUSON FV11
 THORN 8942 (3V32) FERGUSON FV12
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Wiltsgrove Ltd has 14000sq ft of wholesale floor area which includes TV, video spares counter, engineering dept & test bench. Facility with showroom area of brand new & used stock of TV's & video's on display.

So from direct loads of ex rental & B grade & new branded stock of TV's & video's.

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Also mailing list to keep you posted.

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SPARES

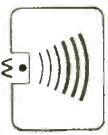
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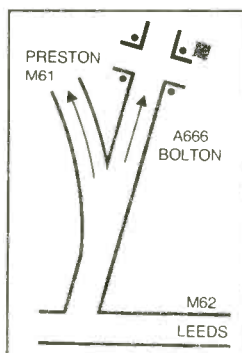
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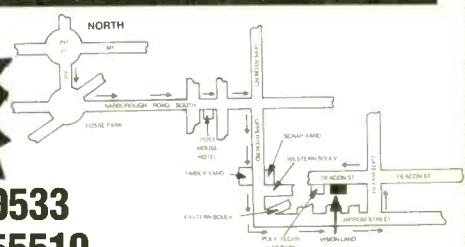
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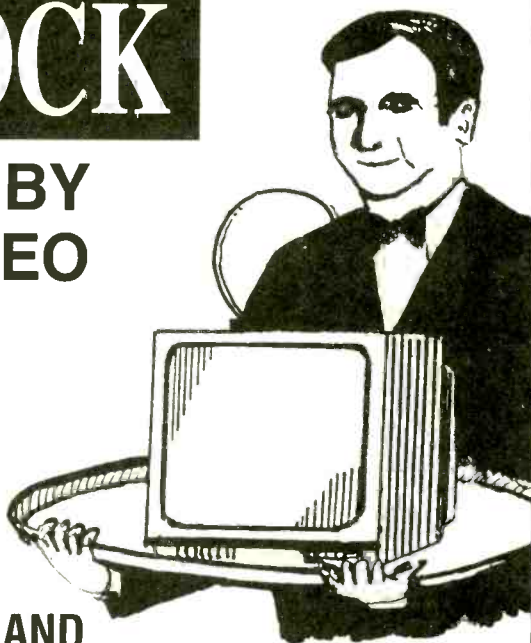
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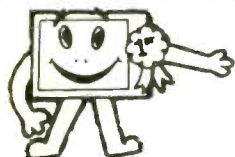


West Midlands T.V. & Video Wholesale

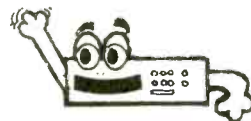
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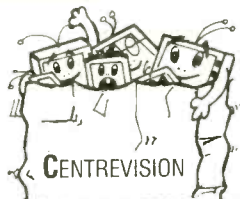
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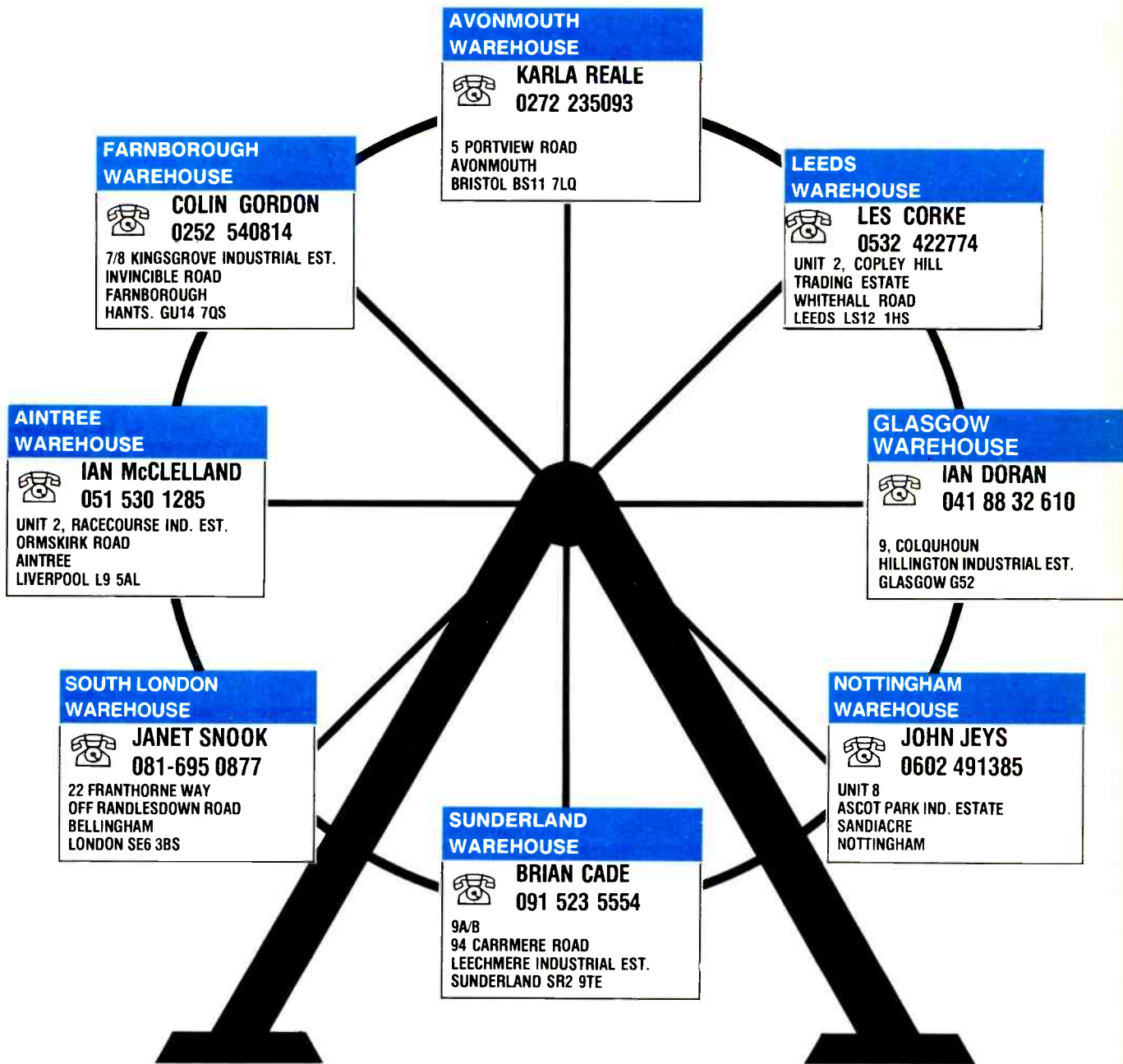
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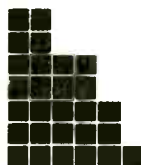
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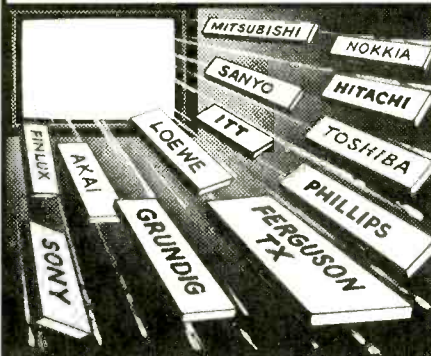
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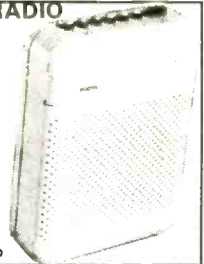
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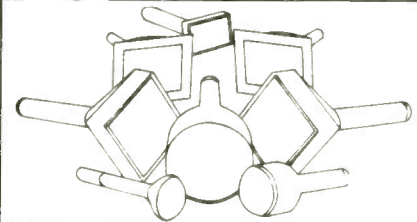
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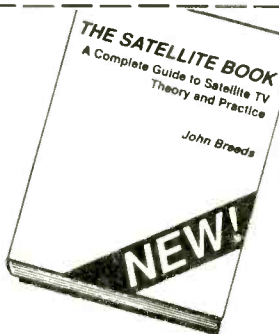
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Line Amplifiers

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Armstrad Sat. to Mast	2.73

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Munge 10 x 50 x 1/8" Bolt	per 100 14.00

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