PRACTICAL

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## 



Lets face it - an immediate success, the HY40 is here to stay HY40 means Hybrid Power, power neatly locked away inside an Intregrated Circuit. Power the modern way, simply mount only five additional components on a printed circuit board (all of which are supplied with the HY40). Power not only for Hi-Fi, power for Groups, for public address, for industry, power for all.
HY40 is HI-FI POWER ILP are POWER PROUD
In addition to the P.C. board and manual supplied with the HY40 we now include the five remaining components, at minimal cost, needed to complete the assembly of a High Performance Power Amplifier.
By merely combining two HY 40s with a Stereo Preamplifier (2 x HY5) and simple Power Supply (PSU45), premium quality stereo may be obtained for a very modest outlay.
The free manual supplied with the HY40 gives clear, easy build instructions for Power Supply; volume, bass, treble and balance controls, together with inputs for Ceramic and Magnetic Pick-ups, Tape, Tuner and Auxiliary functions.
Internally the HY40 is based on conventional and proven circuit techniques developed over recent vears.


OUTPUT POWER British Rating 40 WATTS PEAK, 20 watts RMS continuous.
LOAD IMPEDANCE 4-16 ohms INPUT IMPEDANCE 22 Kohms at 1Khz.
INPUT SENSITIVITY 300 mV for maximum output.
VOLTAGE GAIN 30 db at 1 KHz . FREQUENCY RESPONSE 5 Hz $60 \mathrm{KHz}+1 \mathrm{db}$.
TOTAL DISTORTION less than $1 \%$ (typical $0.1 \%$ ) at all output powers.
SUPPLY VOLTAGE $\pm 22.5$ volts D.C.
SUPPLY CURRENT 0.8 amps maximum.
PRICE: including comprehensive manual, P.C. Board and FIVE EXTRA COMPONENTS:
MONO $£ 4-40$ STEREO $£ 8-80$ all post free.

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Simply by adding volume, treble, bass potentiometers and only three stabilizing capacitors, wh ich are supplied, your HY5 is complete and ready for use.

The HY5 provides equalization for almost every conceivable input. This years developments in equalization technique enables precise correction for both output voltage and frequency response for any crystal or ceramic cartridge. Yet another feature of the HY5 is its inbuilt stabilization circuit, allowing it to be run off any unregulated power amplifier supply.

The HY5 contains a balance circuit which, when linked by a balance control to a second HY5, forms a complete stereo preamplifier.

Specifically and critically designed to meet exacting $\mathrm{Hi} \mathrm{-Fi}$ standards, the HY5 combines extremely low noise with a high overload capability. When used in conjunction with the HY40 and PSU45 forms a completely integrated system.

INPUTS
Magnetic Pick-up (within $\pm 1 \mathrm{db}$
RIAA curvel 2 mV
Tape Replay (external components
to suit head!. 4 mV .
Microphone (flat) 10 mV
Ceramic Pick-up lequalized and compensatable) $20-2000 \mathrm{mV}$ variable.
Tuner (flat) 250 mV
Auxiliary 1250 mV
Auxiliary $22-20 \mathrm{mV}$.
OUTPUTS
Main Pre amp output 500 mV . Direct tape output 120 mV
active tone controls
Treble +12 db
Bass $\mp 12 \mathrm{db}$.
INTERNAL STABILIZATION Enables the HY5 to share an unregulated supply with the Power Amplifier.
SUPPLY VOLTAGE
15-25 volt.
SUPPLY CURRENT
5 mA approx.
OVERLOAD CAPABILITY
better than 28 db on most sensitive input infinite on tuner and auxl.
OUTPUT NOISE VOLTAGE 0.5 mV .

PRICE
Mono $£ 3$ - $60 \quad$ Stereo $£ \mathbf{~} \mathbf{7 - 2 0}$

POWER SUPPLY PSU45


The PSU45 is specifically designed to supply. simul. taneously, your HY40 (in mono or stereo format) and one or two HY5s.

Spec.
PSU45 +22.5 volts, 2 amps simultaneously.

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| 100 V | $0.331 / \mathrm{F}$ | 9 p | 25 V | $10 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 7p |
| loov | $0.47 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 10 p | 25 V | $100 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 9 p |
| 100 V | $0.681 / \mathrm{F}$ | 15 p | 25 V | $220 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | $11 p$ |
|  |  |  | 25 V | $170 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 14 p |
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| 250 V | $0.033 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | $6 p$ | 35 V | $220 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | $14 p$ |
| 250 V | $0.047 / 1 \mathrm{~F}$ | 6p | 100 V | 10 LF | 8 p |
| 250 V | 0.068 l F | $6 p$ | 100 V | $22 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 9 p |
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## SYSTEMS ARE 6O!

PRivate constructors have become accustomed to using integrated circuits, singly or in small quantities, in all manner of circuits. In many instances, though, it could be argued that the use of i.c.s is not really justified-that a few discrete semiconductors could be employed satisfactorily for the same purpose This will always be a debatable point.
Still it has to be admitted that small projects do not adequately demonstrate the actual or potential capabilities of i.c.s. Their unique features are better exploited when they are used in quantity to make up some extensive and complex system: a system such as would be extravagant in the extreme-if even practic-able-were discrete components to be used throughout.

Another expansive era in d.i.y. electronics beckons Already the imagination and ambition of both designer and constructor have been released from many old inhibitions, imposed by visions of frightening circuit complexity, enormous size of the final assembly, and cost. The sky will be the limit, or nearly so, in the future.

At this juncture it is right to pause and recognise that many constructors are quite happy to indulge in their hobby just to the extent of the more popular and relatively modest projects, whether based on discrete or integrated devices. Such needs will always receive our careful attention and be properly catered for in P.E.

On the other hand, we are sure that amongst our readers there are quite a number who would welcome the opportunity to tackle a project of somewhat larger proportions, from time to time. We hope therefore to present on occasion some special advanced design that offers the constructor a chance to take full advantage of i.c.s and build an item of equipment of a more ambitious nature than hitherto. As a start, we introduce this month the P.E. Digi-Cal-the first high speed calculator designed specially for the constructor

Small desk calculators are a major growth area in the electronics industry. In this field we witness some most remarkable scaling-down in physical size, due to the adoption of large scale integration techniques. At present l.s.i. is exclusively for equipment manufacturers. Thus the home constructor cannot as yet (if ever) expect to match size for size the smaller of these commercial calculators. This is of course a basic fact that has to be faced in other branches of electronics also.

Yet, when all is considered, this is no very serious limitation. There are countless needs that do not demand an instrument capable of being carried in the vest pocket! Wherever much calculating work is regularly encountered, at home, school, or business, the Digi-Cal will amply pay for the small area of table or desk it occupies.
F.E.B.

## CONSTRUCTIONAL PROJECTS

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Our August issue will be published on Friday, July 14

[^3]

## 

## BY R.W.COLES



Whave all become familiar with the host of mechanically operated calculating machines, typified by the supermarket cash-register, which have been with us for many years. The ingenious mechanisms used in these machines can even be coaxed to perform multiplication or division in a simple way, but they are not up to the standard required for general mathematical problems, and have never made much of an inroad into this sphere, where the slide-rule has reigned supreme until very recently.
With the advent of the digital computer employing transistors, and later, integrated circuits, it was soon recognised that it would be possible to build small computers on the lines of mechanical calculators, which would give much simpler operation and a more versatile problem solving capability.

We are now witnessing the heyday of the offspring of the computer/ mechanical calculator marriage, and the numbers of small electronic problem solvers becoming available is increasing dramatically every year, bringing big-system electronics to many desk corners.

## AMATEUR CONSTRUCTORS

Up to now there has not been an electronic calculator design suitable for amateur constructors, despite the availability of all the necessary integrated circuits. This is mainly due to the fact that the know-how accumulated by the manufacturers of commercial calculators is very, jealously guarded, and, to the uninitiated, calculator circuitry does seem quite complex.

Digi-Cal sets out to redress this situation, being designed specifically for home construction and simplified as far as possible without sacrifice of performance. Digi-Cal is a fast flexible tool for performing calculations required in the home, school or laboratory. It can be built using basic techniques and requires no access to expensive test equipment such as oscilloscopes. The prototype was built entirely on the kitchen table!

DECIMAL PLACE SELECTORused to set required number of decimal places in answer. Must not be moved during calculation

ARITHMETIC
KEYSselects program to be carried out

AUTOMATIC SQUARING KEYused to square contents of entry contents
register

ENTER
CONSTANT KEY-
stores contents of entry register for later recall

NUMERAL KEYSused for entering numerals


ENTRIES UP TO SIX DIGITS WITH FLOATING DECIMAL POINT CAN BE MADE, ANSWERS ARE PRODUCED UP TO EIGHT DIGITS LONG WITH THE DECIMAL POINT IN ONE OF FOUR PRESELECTED POSITIONS

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## EMPLOYS READILY AVAILABLE <br> TTL INTEGRATED CIRCUITS THROUGHOUT

## OPERATIONS USING A CONSTANT

When operation with a constant is required the constant is entered in the entry register in the normal way, except that it must be positioned with the decimal point in the proper place, and then the EK key is pressed to store the constant for future use. When the constant is required the white K key is pressed, which instantly recalls the stored number to the entry register ready for use. The constant remains in store until replaced or the machine switched off.

The following examples will show just how simple Digi-Cal is to use and how useful it can be to solve a wide range of problems encountered in all walks of life.

## FIGURE ENTRY



## EXAMPLE ONE

CHAIN CALCULATION
$\frac{(14 \cdot 35+2 \cdot 6+200) 0 \cdot 58}{9 \cdot 8}$
SET DECIMAL PLACES


DISPLAY


## EXAMPLE ONE

This example shows how a simple arithmetical problem can be easily solved using Digi-Cal.

First the number of decimal places required in the answer is set on the decimal place selector. The first number is then entered by pressing the appropriate keys. The add key is then depressed and then the equals key to enter the first number into the calculator. The next number is then entered and added to the previous one by simply pressing the equals key. Similarly with the third number.

We now wish to multiply this total by 0.58 so the multiply key is pressed, 0.58 is entered and the equals key completes the multiplication. The divide key is then pressed, 9.8 is entered and a final press of the equals key completes the calculation.

## EXAMPLE TWO

OPERATION USING CONSTANT STORE
\& $789.50+3 \%$


## EXAMPLE TWO

This second example illustrates the use of the stored constant. We wish to add $3 \%$ of 789.5 to 789.5. The calculation required is thus $789.5+$ $(0.03 \times 789.5)$. The number 789.5 is used twice, so to facilitate the calculation it is stored so that it will not have to be entered twice.

Of course, since pounds and pence are involved it is natural to set the number of decimal places to 2 . The number 789.5 is then entered but the EK key is pressed before the add and equals keys. The multiply key is then depressed and 0.03 is entered. The equals key then gives $3 \%$ of $789 \cdot 5$. Pressing the add and the $K$ key followed by the equals key adds the stored number ( 789.5 ) to the previous answer to give the final answer.

## PRINCIPLES OF OPERATION

Digi-Cal is built entirely of gates and flip-flops, and operates in a similar manner to the large computers which compile gas bills or calculate wage checks. The main difference is that whereas a large business or scientific computer can be programmed and reprogrammed with ease, Digi-Cal and similar calculators are fixed programme machines, the programme being established at the construction stage.

Another basic difference is that while a large computer performs all its calculations in binary arithmetic, Digi-Cal uses a combination of binary and decimal working known as Binary Coded Decimal arithmetic.

In Binary Coded Decimal (B.C.D.) each decimal digit (e.g. a six or a nine) is represented by a separate group of four binary digits (i.e. 0110 and 1001 respectively). Four binary digits have sixteen possible combinations, but to encode decimal data only the first ten of these are utilised, the other six combinations are redundant and represent invalid data if they should occur.

Representing decimal data using these four bit (bit means binary digit) groups is quite different from their representation using straight binary code as can be seen in the following example:

| Decimal | 362 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Straight binary | 101101010 |
| B.C.D. | 001101100010 |

Binary Coded Decimal operation is used in DigiCal because it eliminates a good deal of the conversion circuitry which would be required if straight binary code were to be used for the arithmetic operations, since the input and output data must be in decimal to make it simple for the average user.

## B.C.D. ARITHMETIC

Adding in straight binary is very simple and follows the following rules:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& 0+0=0 \\
& 1+0=1 \\
& 0+1=1 \\
& 1+1=0, \text { carry } 1
\end{aligned}
$$

With B.C.D. working. a complication arises because although the rules given above do apply when adding individual bits within the group of four digits, as soon as the value of those four digits exceeds nine (not fifteen as in straight binary) a carry has to be generated which is added into the next higher group of four B.C.D. digits. To add 16 and 29 together using B.C.D. we proceed thus:

## DECIMAL

B.C.D.

| 1 | 6 |
| :--- | :--- |
| 2 | 9 |
| 1 | 4 |
| 4 | 5 carry 1 |

In Digi-Cal all arithmetic operations can be broken down to the simple processes described above, and the way that this is achieved in practice can be seen by referring to Fig. 1.2 which is the simplified block diagram of the heart of Digi-Cal.

## SYSTEM OPERATION

As each key is pressed the numbers are coded into B.C.D. and then enter the Entry (E) register from the right, one after another. When the required entry has been completed the addition is initiated by pressing the "equals" key which starts the programme sequence.

The $Z$ register is first cleared of any data it may contain and then the entire contents of the $E$ register are transferred in parallel to it ( $6 \times 4,24$ bits). It is at this stage of the sequence that Digi-Cal appears in Fig. 1.2.


Both numbers are positioned ready for addition, and to implement this the $A$ register and the $Z$ register are clocked ten times with a burst of ten pulses from the control circuits. Each of the ten pulses presents two new B.C.D. numbers to the adder, which produces a sum and stores a carry if necessary.

When the next pulse arrives the previous answer is shifted into the far end of the A register, so that after the complete addition the first answer is stored in the right-hand location of the A register, and the last answer in the left-hand location, as they should be. In a nutshell then, Digi-Cal carries out parallel B.C.D. but serial decimal addition.

## OTHER OPERATIONS

Subtraction is carried out in exactly the same way as addition except that the number to be subtracted is converted to its complement (i.e. each digit subtracted from nine) form before the addition takes place.

Multiplication and division are carried out by performing successive additions and subtractions respectively, and several additions to the basic circuit of Fig. 1.2 are necessary to achieve this. A more complete circuit of the arithmetic section of Digi-Cal is shown in Fig. 1.3. As can be seen, a counter, a comparator and a complementer have been added, along with a number of new interconnections.

## MULTIPLICATION

To perform a multiplication the multiplicand is transferred to the $Z$ register from the $A$ register which is then cleared. The multiplier (stored in the E register) is compared with the contents of the counter which is connected to count each complete ten digit addition.

Additions are started by supplying batches of ten clock pulses to the $A$ and $Z$ registers, and this continues until the counter has counted up to the same number as is stored in the E register, whereupon the comparator indicates equality and stops the clock.

The contents of the A register will now be found to be the original contents added to itself the number of times specified by the multiplier, in other words the product of the two numbers.

## DIVISION

To perform division, with the dividend in the $A$ register and the divisor in the $E$ register, first the divisor is transferred to the $Z$ register and then the subtractions are started, each one being counted on the counter. When the contents of the A register go negative (determined by the fact that the borrow store is set at the end of a subtraction the clock is stopped and the quotient will be found to be the content of the counter minus 1 .

The minus 1 nuisance is neatly disposed of by presetting the counter to 999999 instead of 000000 before counting takes place, the counter therefore automatically counting the number of necessary subtractions minus 1. Finally the quotient stored in the counter is transferred to the A register.

## PROGRAMMING AND CONTROL

Up to now the circuits which actually control all the arithmetic and "housekeeping" operations have been ignored, but of course these circuits do have a lot of work to do and are quite extensive.

In Digi-Cal the programme is of the wired diode type, each programme being divided up into a series of time periods (eight steps for add and subtract, and sixteen for multiply and divide). Each programme is enabled when the appropriate arithmetic function is selected, and is started by the equals key.

During any one time step, any of the available programme functions can be performed, depending on whether or not a diode is wired in, and this gives a great deal of flexibility in the finer details of the programme which can be extended or altered at will.

The serial additions or subtractions are carried out at very high speed, the clock frequency being in the region of 1 MHz , but the programme steps are performed more slowly. making the programme circuits less critical of wire lengths and board layout. The clock pulses themselves are produced by a board housed in the arithmetic section. this board itself being controlled by the programme.

## CONSTRUCTION

All the logic used in Digi-Cal is housed on removable boards, the critical arithmetic section on Shirehall DL109 cards, and the display, keyboard and programme on Veroboard panels.

The simple power supplies and regulators are built on a home-etched printed circuit board, the output voltages being five volts for the TTL integrated circuits and 20 volts for the seven segment display.

The keyboard modification to the basic "Contil" case is made with an extra Mod-2 front panel and some $\frac{3}{3}$ in plywood.
Next month: Construction of main chassis and power supplies, and bulk Component List for the complete project



BY FRANKW. HYDE


Docking of the Soyuz II and the orbiting scientific station Salvut
(picture: Novosti)

## SALYUT TWO

The Soviet Union are moving forward with their programme for a successor to the Soyuz II and it is expected that a new space laboratory will be launched this year.

It would seem that the design of the new vehicle is more sophisticated and advanced than the American counterpart. This has emerged from the special talks that have beca taking place regarding the standardising of docking procedures. ladeed, there has been agreement on a plan for an Apollo vehicle to carry out a docking experiment with a Salyut vehicle by 1975.

The docking device common to both vehicles will be some 3 metres long, 1.5 metres in diameter and weigh about 2,000 kilogrammes.

The procedure to be adopted is that the Salyut laboratory will first be launched and stabilised in orbit. A day later the crew will set off in a Soyuz vehicle and make their rendezvous. After a lapse of two or three days an Apollo vehicle will attempt a docking with the special device. There is therefore the prospect that three Russian and three American astronauts will orbit the earth together for several days.

The details for the programme are not yei finalised but it could be that both teams will leave the station and return to their respective countries.

No information is at the moment available about the vehicle in preparation but presumably it is much the same as the Soyirs-Salyut combination of 1971. It consisted of three parts, the service module, the work area and module, and the transfer tunnel. It is to the transfer tunnel that the vehicles come to dock. The scientific experiments are also carried out there.

The equipment contained in the tunnel includes temperature control. an environmental control system, a sleeping bag with temperature control, general control panels and other scientific equipment. Mounted on the outside of the vehicle are antennas. ion counters, a beacon light, television camera, spherical tanks with air, the solar panels and a telescope for astrophysical studies.

The working compartment houses the more important equipment. I his section is of two diameters. the end nearest the access tunnel being about two metres in diameter which opeas into a four metre diameter section. The reserves of food and the life support systems are housed here.

Also contained in the larger area are the cooking facilities, power systems. radio and television telemetry, attitude controls, control panels and work areas. There are also the scientific experiments for biology and medical studies together with photographic apparatus.

These ships are crammed with equipment and in spite of there being some 20 portholes they are mostly occupied by some sensing device or other.

The combination of Soyuz-Salyut weighs approximately 20 tons. It is about 22 metres long with a maxinum diameter of just over 4 metres.

## NEW WORLD METEOROLOGICAL PROGRAMME

The proposed large scale investigation of the vast energy complexes in certain areas of the world will make use of the techniques of the last decade. The area to be covered is the tropical Atlantic ocean and the adjacent regions of Latin America and Africa. This will enclose a rectangle of more than 260 million square kilometres. This is the tropical region where hurricanes breed.

The resources of satellites. ships. balloons, aircraft will be used with the earth stations of the network to feed computers with continuous data. It is hoped that some better understanding of the area will be acquired.

Recent satellite pictures have shown formations which need study for they seem to indicate the manner in which these great turbulences are formed. The sun sucking vast quantities of water into the atmosphere helps to provide the driving force which controls the world wide weather.

A smaller area of something of the order of one million square kilometres near Dakar will also be subject to an intense observation.

Model showing the Soyuz II linked up with Salyut (picture: Novosti)


OVER the past few years, toy and working-model manufacturers have made increasing use of the miniature permanent magnet motors originating in the Far East. These "minimotors" are also generally available for model makers and come in two or ihree frame sizes.

Almost all of them are designed to work from a 1.5 or 3 volt batery and draw around 0.5 ampere when stalled. Looking at these ingeniously made motors one may think of many things to do with them, but not until one has tried something in particular do their shortcomings come to light.

## SHORTCOMINGS

The author came face to face with some of these shortcomings when attempting to construct a rotatable indoor television aerial. The motive power to rotate the Yagi array was to be derived from an old electric toy crane drive which used a minimotor with a reduction gear train.

Applying 1.5 volts to this motor caused it to run at a high speed when lightly loaded but it stalled when faced with turning the aerial via a belt drive. Applying 3 volts produced a very good windmill, but very little hope of stopping the aerial in any desired direction.

Something had to be done to reduce the speed of the motor on one hand whilst retaining the high torque provided by the 3 volt supply. Before going on to describe the booster which was designed to do the job, it is worthwhile to consider just why the little motor behaved as it did.

## D.C. PERMANENT MAGNET MOTORS

Electromagnetic motors function because of the interaction of two magnetic fields. In the case of a permanent magnet motor, one field is provided by the permanent magnet and the other by the current flowing in the armature windings. The geometry of the motor is such that the force developed between the two magnetic fields drives the armature around and produces the desired rotating action.

All very well, but how fast will the motor turn and how much torque (twisting force) will it produce?

To understand this, one needs to consider what happens inside the motor when a battery is connected to the armature. A circuit is made from battery positive, through one of the brushes to the armature windings, then returning to battery negative via the other brush.

The circuit has resistance and so initially a current flows given by

$$
I=\frac{\text { Battery volts }}{\text { Total circuit resistance }}
$$

Remember the armature has not yet moved, and so the starting torque is determined by the size of the standstill current which in turn depends upon the circuit resistance and the volts applied.


A photograph of the upper side of the Veroboard panel showing the heatsink mounted on TR4

## BACK E.M.F.

Once the motor begins to turn, however, the picture changes, for the movement of the armature windings through the permanent magnetic field causes a voltage to be induced in the armature in opposition to the battery voltage.

The effective voltage is now the difference between these two and the motor reaches a steady speed when the voltage difference drives a current through the armature resistance just big enough to produce the load torque required. No-load requires a small torque, a small current, and a small voltage difference, therefore a high speed is to be expected.

Applying a load slows the armature, increases the voltage difference and causes a bigger current to flow to meet the load. The speed/load characteristic of such a machine is a steadily drooping curve as shown by Fig. 1. Since the minimotors under consideration have a large resistance for their voltage, a sharply drooping load curve results.

Pushing up the applied volts certainly increases the maximum torque but it also makes the no-load speed very high. If the load varies, large variations in the speed must be expected. Thus we have arrived at the inherent disadvantage of these motors: poor speed control and limited starting torque.

## ONE SOLUTION

As the armature generated voltage is directly related to armature speed (being zero at standstill), if one could separate this voltage from the armature resistance drop and measure it, one would have a direct means of measuring the speed of the motor.

Knowing the motor speed, a circuit can be designed to constantly monitor it and vary the armature current to keep it steady. Such a "closed loop" system can provide good speed control together with good torque. In fact, by using a supply voltage well in excess of the motor's rated armature voltage, a maximum torque several times normal maximum can be produced.

The circuit to be described uses the well known Wheatstone Bridge measuring system but it has been specially adapted to work from only 4.5 volts and control low voltage motors.

## WHEATSTONE BRIDGE

As mentioned earlier, the booster is based upon a Wheatstone Bridge balancing circuit, see Fig. 2. The motor is connected between terminals Y and Z and is represented by $R_{a}$, the armature resistance, and $E_{i}$, the armature e.m.f.

The bridge function is to separate $E_{a}$ from the armature resistance drop $I_{a} \times R_{a}$. Remember, what appears between terminals $Y$ and $Z$ is $E_{a}+\left(I_{a} \times\right.$ $R_{i 1}$ ). Applying the Wheatstone principle, if $R_{3} / R_{i 2}$ is made equal to $R_{1} / R_{\mathrm{i}}$ then there will be no voltage between X and Y due to the current $I$.

However, when $E_{i}$ appears due to the armature rotation, this is not balanced out by the bridge and a proportion of it can be measured between $X$ and Y. Since this voltage is directly proportional to $E_{i}$, it is also directly proportional to the motor speed.

## THE BOOSTER CIRCUIT

Fig. 3 shows the complete circuit diagram of the Minimotor Power Booster.


Fig. 1. The speed/load characteristic of a permanent magnet motor


Fig. 2. The Wheatstone Bridge method of measuring the armature e.m.f.


Fig. 3. The complete circuit of the minimotor power booster

For applications where motor current exceeds 1 A , use transistor type 2N3054 for TR4.

Diodes D1 and D2 ensure that the comparator has sufficient voltage under all conditions and they pass the full motor current. D3 guarantees the motor will run to standstill when the reference voltage is zero. No special precautions are necessary in construction although short wiring is always to be recommended in high gain amplifiers.

Fig. 4 shows the layout of the components on the Veroboard panel. The preset potentiometer VR2 may be replaced by a potentiometer if variable speed control is required, as mentioned earlier.

## CAUTION

Finally a little word of caution. Whereas no damage will be done to the motor, which is made to produce more than its normal power for short periods, sustained overloads will cause overheating and maybe damage. As a general guide, if the motor does not become hot on continuous load or spark excessively at the brushes, it is unlikely to be damaged.

## P.E. GEMINI

## REPRINTS AVAILABLE

Readers who missed the articles on the "P.E. Gemini " Dual Purpose Stereo Amplifier, published in November 1970 to March 1971, can obtain them in reprint booklet form.
The price of this 32 -page booklet is 55 p, including postage. Orders for copies, with P.O. or cheque made payable to IPC Magazines Ltd., should be addressed as follows:

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Fig. 4. The layout of the components on the Veroboard panel

Mounting TR4 on a substantial heat sink is a worthwhile precaution for a general purpose booster. dissipate more heat as the supply voltage is increased. motor current can thereby be produced in TR4 with only a small offset between $E_{\mathrm{a}}$ and the reference.

By this action the motor e.m.f. $E_{i}$ and hence the speed is tied closely to the wanted speed set on VR2.

## SPEED CONTROL

The motor used by the author was a 1.5 volt type. If a 3 volt motor is to be controlled, two diodes in series should replace D4 if full speed is required. Again, in the author's model, speed was to be preset. If the constructor requires a variable speed drive, VR2 is simply changed to a normal potentiometer and mounted conveniently.
The supply voltage is not important provided that it is 4.5 volts or more. Be cautious however not to use too high a voltage, because TR4 will have to


EYALAN DOUELAS

THE electronic organ has passed through more design stages than any other instrument. Many of these were arbitrary since the results are subjective and the requirements of tonal synthesis were not properly understood. With the exception of electro-mechanical generators, all methods used discrete components until the advent of integrated circuits. Printed circuit boards further extend the opportunities for compactness and the last hurdle has now been overcome-the generation of all frequencies from one master oscillator.

This technique enables an organ to be tuned by one control and, since the methods used to derive the required frequency scaling consist of gates, bistables and multivibrators, it becomes possible to vary the tuning within the octave to suit different temperaments-mean tone, just intonation, Werckmeister's, equal temperament, etc. The tuning accuracy is much greater and by employing sufficient binary digits, both this and tonal synthesis can be extended beyond the limits attainable with conventional techniques.
At the outset it must be understood that these advantages are only possible because of microcircuit techniques.
ln this article we shall look at digital methods of complete frequency generation from a single oscillator, tonal synthesis and keying control.

## SINGLE OSCILLATOR SCALING SYSTEM

The problem of full frequency generation from a single tone source is to find a way to divide the master oscillator frequency by the intervals of a tonal scaling system. The most usual case is that of equal temperament, in which the frequency ratios of any two adjacent notes are in the relationship $1: 12 \sqrt{ } 2$; or 1.05946 . It is at once obvious that this could not be obtained by a bistable system, it is an irrational number and must be only an approximation. But how good must the approximation be?
One way of solving it is to divide the master oscillator frequency by 196 and then multiply by 185, which is a close approximation to the required value. Any standard organ would be based on C for the top note. Therefore all lower C's can be derived directly from this by bistable division, leaving 11 circuits for the remaining notes of the top octave. Fig. I shows the master oscillator entering a divide by 196 multivibrator. As is well known, RC multivibrators readily lock onto an injected frequency even if their free-running frequency is slightly different.


The output from this circuit now enters a frequency comparator circuit and compares with a divide by 185 multivibrator; the resultant frequency is now B in the equal tempered scale, from which all lower B notes are derived by bistable division in the normal way. Should the division ratios tend to drift, the comparator device holds them to the accuracy required. So to cover the range of notes, there must be a chain of multivibrators and bistables.

## TONAL SYNTHESIS

In this, the N. E. Reckwell system, the highest required frequency is set by the demanded accuracy of tonal synthesis. This will be appreciated from Fig. 2 which shows the sampling of an imaginary waveform. Here, the process is additive and the closer the sampling points, the greater the realism.

It has been established that 48 such points will give the maximum realism, this corresponding to 48 harmonics in a normal complex wave system, which is hardly ever attained-certainly not over the whole compass. If 48 points are to be used, then the top frequency must be that of the highest note times 48 , for example, top C $4 \mathrm{ft}=4,186 \mathrm{~Hz}$, therefore $48 \times$ $4,186=200,928 \mathrm{~Hz}$.

Although it is at once obvious that we can thus provide top C $2 \mathrm{ft}(8,372 \mathrm{~Hz}$ and above), there would not be the same number of sampling points; and this is rational, since most of these would be far
above audibility, although it is known that beats between audible and inaudible frequencies do occur and do modify high pitched tones to some extent.

## DIGITAL CONVERSION

So far we have provided an array of frequency sources. but these can be used to cover full tonal synthesis by digital conversion. Looking again at Fig. 2, we see that sampling points are represented by digital representation of level in the form of 8 bit words to which are assigned binary code numbers.


Fig. 2. 48 point sampling process in digital notation

If a $C_{1}$ key is depressed, the frequency synthesiser will energise a ring counter which will repeatedly produce an output of $C_{1} \times 48$ into a diode storage matrix where all the amplitude increments are stored in binary form. If all are connected for this note, 6 bit signals corresponding to the stored digital words will appear at the output at a rate of $48 \times \mathrm{C}_{1}$ words per second, thus the sampling rate is the same but the actual frequency will vary according to the key selected. The number of diodes connected will be controlled by the stops, which operate gates connecting the composite frequency outputs to the keying system.

## KEYING CONTROL

In conventional keying, attack, hold and decay are usually provided by rather crude RC time constant circuits, unless the orgatn if of the free-phase type with independent oscillators where these allributes can be individually determined for each note. However, it is generally conceded that if the rate of attack is equal to the duration of about 7 periods of the frequency in question, the audible effect is like that of an 8 ft organ pipe.

In the digital system a one-shot multivibrator having a period of 7 cycles is used in conjunction with a shift register to provide a series of logarithmic steps simulating the rise in sound level, the
sustained part of the signal (i.e. as long as the key is held down) and a somewhat similar decay so that the sound does not stop abruptly.

The shift registers are operated from the ring counters which assign the chosen frequencies to the diode matrix gates, and are so arranged that each count shifts a digital word one position to the right; this corresponds to an amplitude division by two, hence by using any desired number of register stages, the amplitude is decreased in steps to zero level. Although this decay is in step form, the ear hears them only as a smooth release of the tone, as seen in Fig. 3.

## CONVERSION

Subsequent to the control of the required number of notes played (e.g. a chord), a summing amplifier adds all the sisnals from the decay circuits and since they are still in digital form, they must be turned into an audio signal by a digital to analogue converter. The input to this consists solely of step functions, which will have a high-frequency component; this may be left in to simulate wind noise which of course is a component of all organ flue pipes, and without which true synthesis is not possible.

Many modifications to the basic principles outlined are possible as, for example, exhibited in the N. E. Rockwell organ system which is used in the Allen organ.

## PHILIPS SYSTEM

The next system to be looked at is the one devised by N.V. Philips. of Eindhoven, Holland, This is a digital organ generator which produces frequencies by a subtractive method-rejecting a certain number of pulses from a series of pulses.

The number to be rejected will be $21 / 12$ times the number of input pulses. Twelve such circuits will then form a tempered octave, but because of the irrational divisor the output pulses will be spaced



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Photograph of the Allen console which uses the Rockwell organ system. This measures about $4 \frac{1}{3} \mathrm{ft}$ in length


Philips' digital organ generator
10. Pulse trains obtained by halving the master oscillator frequency (suitably reduced by division) correspond successively with the binary numbers $0.1,0.01,0.001$, etc. and provide the material for making up the binary numbers between 1 and 10 with the required accuracy (no deviation greater than 0.05 per cent $=1 / 2.000=1 / 2^{11}$, hence 11 binary numbers). If the freauency 1 is note $C$, then A is formed by adding the following pulse trains:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& 1 \\
& 0 \cdot 1 \\
& 0 \cdot 001 \\
& 0 \cdot 00001 \\
& 0 \cdot 000001 \\
& 0 \cdot 0000001 \\
& 0 \cdot 000000001 \\
& \hdashline 1 \cdot 101011101
\end{aligned}
$$

Other notes can be formed in a similar way. but it hats been found easier to form the note by subtraction from the binary 10 of the primary frequency. The $A$ just mentioned is equal to $1 \cdot 1010111010$ which is equal to $10-0 \cdot 0101000110$.

This month's cover picture was photographed in the "Bird's Nest" pub in the Kings Road, Chelsea, London.

## INDEX

An Index for Volume Seven (January 1971 to December 197I) is now available price IOp inclusive of postage.

## BINDERS

Binders for P.E., with a special pocket for storing booklets and data sheets, are available price $f 1$, including postage and packing. State Volume Number required.
Orders for Indexes and Binders should be addressed to Binding Dept., IPC Magazines Ltd., 68, Great Queen Street, London, W.C. 2.


A selection of readers' suggested circuits. It should be emphasised that these designs have not been proven by us. They will at any rate stimulate further thought.
This is YOUR page and any idea published will be awarded payment according to its merits.

## LOGIC PROBE

AS the number of constructional projects employing i.c.s is increasing, this simple logic probe may prove invaluable to fault finding in such circuits. It consists of a 932 (or 944) DTL i.c. and a 6 V 006 A lamp, see Fig. 1.

As only half of the i.c. is used it is possible to salvage a partially functional device which would otherwise have little value in circuit construction.

The probe, Fig. 2, can be constructed on a ballpoint pen barrel. In operation the lamp will light when a " 1 " logic level is detected, and will be extinguished when a " 0 " level is detected. If a continuously pulsed input is applied the lamp will glow dimly.

Any of the inputs may be used as shown, except for inputs 4 and 11 which require a silicon diode in series with the probe lead.
A. Meldrum,

Fife,
Scotland.


Fig. 1. Circuit details of the logic probe


Fig. 2. Constructional details of the probe

BATTERY CHARGER PROTECTION


Fig. 1. Battery protection circuit diagram

AbatIERy charger, consisting of nothing more than a transformer and a bridge rectifier, was found to be non-operational and enquiries showed that the output connections had been accidentally reversed.

As explanations about two conducting diodes in series and no current limiting resistance just do not register with everyone. I decided on the modification shown in Fig. 1. I don't say it's completely foolproof, but it can anticipate most of the common evils perpetrated by the non-technical.

The normal charger transformer and bridge circuit is broken by two relay contacts, one in the a.c. supply to the bridge RLA1 and one in the d.c. output line from the bridge RLA2. The relay coil, diode D5 and lamp LP2 (acting as a ballast resistor) are wired in series and then connected across the output of the charger, see Fig. I.

If the charger is plugged into the mains with the output leads shorted together nothing happens because the relay contacts have not closed and there is no a.c. supply to the bridge; neither pilot light will light. If next, the charger is connected to the car battery the wrong way round nothing will happen because the diode in series with the relay coil prevents it from energising; neither lamp lighting.

Only by connecting the charger to the battery the right way round will the relay pull-in and the pilot lamp LP2 light to indicate that the battery is connected correctly. Having connected the battery correctly, the relay is energised and allows a.c. to flow to the bridge via RLA1; LP1 will now be illuminated. When both lamps LP2 and LPI are illuminated it indicates that the charger is functioning correctly.

The relay used can be any type which will pull-in at six volts, and has two "make" contacts capable of handling the output charging current to the battery. Ideally, the relay coil current should be 300 mA , or as near to the current required by the pilot bulb LP2 in series with it as possible. Likewise, the diode D5 in series with the lamp is not critical; choose one that has about double the current capacity required, and will stand approximately 50 V peak inverse voltage.
G. Read,

Southampton,
Hants.


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OPTIMISM IN THE AIR

ATTENDANCE at the giant IEA exhibition at Olympia was expected to be somewhat down. This will surprise few people, although optimism for the trading future was up, even in the face of all the trouble on the railways and the docks.

As I reported in this column last month, the Paris Components Show, first trade barometer of the year, showed an upward trend in confidence.

After Paris I visited Denmark to get a line on Danish sentiment. industry leaders I met all admitted that 1971 was a bad year but the universal opinion was that this year will see the furnround.


The Danes are doing well in electronics through being very very good in comparatively narrow sectors of the industry. A country of less than five million people cant be good in every sector and to get to a viable operational size in world markets the Danes have had to go for big exports. The two top instrument companies, Brüel and Kjær and Radiometer, both export over 95 per cent of their production. Don't underestimate the Danes. They are good engineers in their specialities and know how to sell.

The U.K. is a big investor in Denmark with Rank owning Rank-Arena the big producers of Danish radio and television, and EMI owning the largest chain of radio retailing outlets. And UK-Danish electronic imports and exports have greatly expanded during the past five years.

Overall, I find my many inputs of information, not only from the U.K. but also from Europe, almost universally optimistic.

## BRAVE EXPERIMENT

Seminex, the first seminar and exhibition organised specially for the semiconductor industry was a brave experiment which deserved a better fate than to be hit by the rail dispute which strongly affected attendance. Even though the event must be counted as a qualified suchcess, its organiser, Evan Steadman. is not letting the grass grow under his feet.

As soon as Seminex was over he mailed a questionnaire to all and sundry. He honestly admitted it could have been better. Could he kindly have comments and supgestions?

Evan Steadman is a go-getter not particularly noted for humility. But he is determined to make Seminex an event on the British exhibition calendar and is now planning to take Seminex on tour to the European mainland and, perhaps, even further afield. We wish him well.

## COMMUNICATION 72

Another brave experiment, well patronised by the industry, is Communication 72 held at Brighton over the three days June 13-17.

It has the full support of the Electronic Engineering Association and the Department of Trade and Industry in bringing in three trade missions from overseas who are showing the British communication industry in action as well as sitting in at the Brighton seminar and looking at the exhibition. Each mission consists of about 15 senior officials from abroad, all users of radio and data systems. The Conference organisers are IPC Electrical and Electronic Press Ltd.

Communication 72 is yet another example of the trend towards smaller, more specialist exhibitions. But the traditional giant shows are taking a long time to die.

## NEW ON THE SCENE

Two businessmen are about to re-emerge with a new commercial image. First, ex-Avo sales director John Minister should make a success of Risso Electronics Ltd, which is just moving off the ground as a new competitor in the busy instrument market.

Russo (what about "The Risso Sign means Happy Metering" for a slogan?) has just won its first major contract from a public corporation for a multi-range meter. The producton line is already in action. Russo has also designed a range of panel meters.

Secondly, Keith Harris, ex-marketing director of Keyswitch Relays, comes up as a new force in the relay business. This, I understand, will be a marketing operation of a nature as yet undisclosed but
while being reticent about his new business venture he is nevertheless full of confidence for the future.

## THE TAKEOVER TRAIL

One of the fascinations of the industry is its dynamism, not only in technology but also in its business structure. After every big merger there is a spawning of little companies. Lots of people don't like working for the big corporations and, more often than not, after a big merger there is an inevitable "shake out" of what is loosely termed middle management, men who are willing and in some cases anxious to strike out on their own

But it works the other way, 100 , with plenty of smallish companies seeking the shelter (with a cash handout) of a larger grouping. And, of course, a move in this direction can make a lot of sense, especially if the product lines are complementary.

The group to watch for real finesse in acquiring complementary companies is Rascal whose chairman and managing director, Ernie Harrison, has a keen nose for this sort of thing.

Mum's the word during negotiaions but yet another company, whose name may be announced before this column is printed, is about to join the Racal Group. It will be the third Racal acquisition in less than twelve months and my guess is that it won't be the last this year.

## INSTRUMENTS TRAVAIL

The UK has no instrument compans in the world class and by this I mean companies like HewlettPackard or Tektronix. Many leaders in the industry regret this, especially as instrument sales have been stagnant now for three or four years.

The solution would be in regrouping into larger units but though there have been discussions on the possibility, no common ground of agreement has been found.

The differences have centred on who is to be the nucleus company There are plenty of possibles but while all are prepared to be the nucleus, none are willing to be the satellites. And can you really blame them?

Meantime, one British instrument company at least is marketing, under its own brand, instruments made in Japan and Sweden to name but two countries who are getting a share of the British market which rightly should go to our own manufacturing units.

It's time these differences were resolved.

# More on LOGICAL  

THE short series of articles Logical Radio Control published earlier this year (reprints and back numbers are not available) has provoked much correspondence, some of which has been published in Readout. Some of the more general questions with the author's replies are given here together with further details on the Decoder module.

## SYNC PULSE GENERATOR

Does one need to use the F9601 retriggerable monostable? Can an alternative circuit he used and could a substitute be found from the Texas SN74 range?

Many alternative forms of sync generator are possible, some being quite economic. Having regard to the convenience of fitting only one i.c., its reliability and the question of noise immunity, the retriggerable monostable technique is recommended.

Excessive noise. for example, interference from a servo-motor, must not be allowed to give spurious sync pulses leading to complete breakdown of control.

If the specified i.c. cannot be obtained conveniently the SGS type Tl18DI can be used. This is a direct replacement type and is available from

Quarndron Electronics (Semiconductors) Ltd., Slack Lane, Derby DE3 3ED, price $£ 2 \cdot 70$.

The Texas SN74122 may be used by comparing the manufacturers" information and changing connections accordingly. This unit is priced $£ 1 \cdot 44$.

## INTERFACE UNITS

Can the Coder 2B output be used to switch the modulator of a transmitter and if not can you suggest a circuit?

In general the output voltage of an integrated circuit unit is either a minimum of 2.4 V in the high or logical "l" state or is a maximum of 0.4 V (typically 0.2 V ) in the low or logical " 0 " state.

The most convenient and definite interface stage is one using a silicon npn transistor (e.g. 2N3704); this is held in the "off" condition by a logical " 0 " output of 0.4 V . which is less than the "turn on" voltage $V_{\text {be }}$ of 0.6 V . In the logical " 1 " state the transistor is turned on and an additional resistor R 1 , as shown in Fig. 1 (of value greater than 500s), to prevent overloading the i.c.) is used to supply adequate bias current to bottom or saturate the transistor.


Fig. 1

(a)

Fig. 2

(b)

Fig. 2

In the case of a transmitter with a positive supply (with respect to earth) the units are connected as shown in Fig. 1.

In the "off" state the collector of TRI rises to the voltage of the transmitter supply (say +12 V ) and when "on" or bottomed is at approximately $+0 \cdot 2 \mathrm{~V}$. Therefore. TRI acts as a supply switch, with a loss of $0 \cdot 2 \mathrm{~V}$ and may be used to control either the r.f. output stage or preferably, the modulating transistor or stages, avoiding difficulties of r.f. decoupling and pulse shaping.

The selection of TRI (Fig. 1) ensures that:
(a) The maximum current rating $(800 \mathrm{~mA}$ for 2 N 3704 ) is not exceeded by the load of the controlled stage, including the charging current of the electrolytic capacitors used for decoupling.


Fig. 4
(b) The maximum collector open circuit voltage $\left(\mathrm{V}_{\text {in }}=50 \mathrm{~V}\right.$ for 2 N 3704 ) is not exceeded bearing in mind that an undecoupled inductive load, such as the r.f. "tank" coil, produces collector voltages several times that of the supply. R.F. decoupling capacitors $(0.1$ to $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F})$ should be fitted where shown at C1, C2.

## USUAL DESIGN

A usual design for simple transmitters is shown in Fig. 2a where the r.f. output $n p n$ transistor is in series with a pnp switching transistor driven from an audio multivibrator circuit. In this case the action of TRI, when cut off, is to allow modulation, but when "on," TR2 is bottomed giving full unmodulated r.f. output. This is a convenient method of
interfacing, necessitating only that an inversion, using one transistor or a gate, is used in the receiver, so that zero modulation corresponding to a coder pulse, produces a positive going input to the decoder.

The value of resistor $R 2$ is chosen to bottom TR2. If TR2 has a nominal "gain" of say 50 and normally passes 50 mA to the load, a base current of approximately 2 mA is necessary to ensure bottoming.

For a 12V supply

$$
\begin{aligned}
R_{\mathrm{z}} & =12-\left(V_{\mathrm{ce}\left(\mathrm{TR}_{1}\right)}+V_{\mathrm{be}\left(\mathrm{TR}_{2}\right)}\right) \times \frac{1,000}{2} \mathrm{ohnss} \\
& =12-(0.7+0.3) \times \frac{1,000}{2} \mathrm{ohms} \\
& \simeq \frac{11,000}{2} \simeq 5,500 \mathrm{ohms}
\end{aligned}
$$

or to the nearest preferred value $-5 \cdot 1 k \Omega$.


Fig. 5

In cases where the transmitter uses a negative supply the circuit shown in Fig. 2b should be used. Here TRI (npn) is turned on by a logic "l" as before, providing a bias current via R2 to saturate TR2 (pnp) which should be selected as before, to perform the required switching action, bearing in mind that the effective supply to TR2 is the transmitter supply voltage plus the logic supply.

## DECODER

Do the Decoder outputs go high after the pulses and remain high until the next clear pulse?

For purposes of illustration only Fig. 3 shows the internal functions of an SN7472 JK master-slave flip-flop. The units used in the article are the dual


Fig. 6


Fig. 7
version of this unit, i.e. two inside one integrated circuit package, and the preset input is not available.
Though apparently very complicated, they are simple to use necessitating only a knowledge of this simplified truth table:

| Before Clock <br> inputs |  | After Clock pulse <br> Q output |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| J | K |  |
| 0 | 1 | 0 |
| l | 0 | 1 |

The $\overline{\mathrm{Q}}$ output is the inverse of the Q output and the sequence of operation is

1. Isolate slave from master;
2. Enter and gate information to master;
3. Disable AND gate inputs;
4. Transfer information from master to slave.

Also, preset (which sets Q to 1) and the clear (which sets ${ }^{<} \overline{\mathrm{Q}}$ to 1 ) inputs operate on negative-going signals.

## FLIP-FLOP RING

Consider a "ring" of any number of such flip-flops connected as shown in Fig. 4 with each $Q$ output connected to the next J input and $\overline{\mathrm{Q}}$ output to K inputs.

When power is applied the units may take up any random position but a subsequent clear pulse will set $Q$ outputs to 0 and all $\bar{Q}$ outputs to 1. Any subsequent clock pulse will not change the situation since each J input "sees" a " 0 " from the $Q$ output of the preceeding stage and similarly the $K$ input is a " 1. ."
From the truth table the output cannot change: if however a preset pulse is applied to only one unit making its $Q$ output a "l" as shown in Fig. 5 a subsequent clock pulse will cause the next flip-flop to change state since its " $J$ " input sees a " 1. " The flip-flop that was preset will also change back to a $\mathrm{Q}=0$ output since its J input "sees" a " 0 ."
Further clock pulses will cause successive flip-flops to change state and back again so that the " 1 " (shown shaded) moves round the ring of $Q$ outputs.

The $\mathrm{Q}=1$ or high output of an individual flipflop can be identified therefore with a particular clock pulse and only when, say, number 3 clock pulse is present, will the corresponding number 3 flip-flop output be high.

As mentioned in the article, the flip-flop output is high for the duration of the clock pulse and for the brief and defined period of inter-clock pulse "gap" of $\frac{t}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ millisecond. The flip-flop output is integrated to give a d.c. level dependent upon the duration of the pulse; the small additional "gap" period is included in this, appearing as a small constant d.c. level off-set by initial adjustment of the servo. Any small time-by-time variation of the inter-clock pulse gap (say $5 \%$ of 0.5 ms ) is insignificant with respect to the cycle time of about 25 ms .

## REVERSED OUTPUT

To avoid the necessity of providing a preset pulse, after the clear and prior to the train of clock pulses (particularly since low-cost i.c.s with multiple ftipflops such as the SN7473 do not have a preset input) the ring of flip-flops is arranged as shown in Fig. 6 with the input and output connections of one flipflop reversed.

Since the "J" input of the following unit now sees a " 1 " from the $\bar{Q}$ output, it changes state on the first clock pulse. The "reversed" flip-flop also changes state since its J input sees a 1 from the $\overline{\mathrm{Q}}$ output of the "last" flip-flop.

Further clock pulses cause the " 1 " to move round the ring of Q outputs as before (shown in Fig. 7). Subsequent to the "last" flip-flop changing state, the "reversed" flip-flop will change back to the initial condition.
The "reversed" flip-flop is used therefore to store the necessary " 1 ." The normal flip-flop Q outputs correspond to the clock pulse-channel outputs as before except that the $\overline{\mathrm{Q}}$ output of the "reversed" flip-flop can be used as explained in the article, using gates, to provide a channel output.
In the wiring pattern in Fig. 20 (January 72 issue) a double reversal appears in error. To correct this the connections to pins 8 and 9 of IC2 (at the bottom centre) should be reversed.

# arpy numeric IISPLIUS wanulume 

## Light Emitting Diade Displays

The alpha-numeric display devices considered so far in this series (gas discharge and filament types), have utilised basic principles which have been known for many years and which have been employed for other purposes before their incorporation in display systems.

This month is concerned with the brand new technology of solid state semiconductor light emitters and the incorporation of this technology into readout devices.

## SEMICONDUCTOR LIGHT EMISSION

Silicon and germanium are well known as semiconductors, but they are by no means the only substances which bear this label, and it was while investigating the properties of some of the more exotic members of the family that it was discovered that certain semiconductors have the property of emitting radiation when a current flows through them.


Each segment in this device is made up of four light emitting diodes (Guest International)

The first practical device to result from this research was the gallium arsenide (GaAs) diode. which, when forward biased, emitted infra-red radiation.

This type of device found many uses in speechlink and beam-breaking equipment, and has been featured several times in this magazine.

The radiation from L.E.D.s is monochromatic, that is, it has a single frequency or colour, and, since it is in the infra-red range, the radiation from a GaAs diode is not visible to the naked eye and is therefore unsuitable for display purposes.

Further research produced a diode using gallium arsenide phosphide (GaAsP) which emitted light in the red portion of the visible spectrum, making it ideal for incorporation in readout devices, and it is diodes of this type which will be dealt with in this article.

A very informative account of the exact mechanism involve in L.E.D. structures was contained in the article on Electroluminescence in the December 1971 issue, and it is beyond the scope of this article to delve any further into this aspect of the subject.

## DECREASING PRICES

The fact that L.E.D.s are made in the same way as other semiconductor devices such as transistors and integrated circuits means that they are set fair for mass production by basically standard methods, and already the explosion of these new indicators into the display market is beginning.

Prices, which were prohibitively high only a couple of years ago, are now dropping rapidly in the same way that i.c. prices did, and within a year or two there is little doubt that L.E.D. indicators will have the lion's share of the display market.

## CONSTRUCTION OF L.E.D. DISPLAYS

Alpha-numeric readouts using L.E.D.s employ numbers of square or oblong emitting areas arranged either as a "dot matrix" or a "bar matrix." They are normally laid out on a single slice of semiconductor material, the whole chip being enclosed in a package like an integrated circuit, except that the packaging compound is transparent rather than opaque.


Fig. 5.1. Forward characteristic of a typical L.E.D. compared with a silicon diode


Fig. 5.2. Basic circuit arrangement for a sevensegment L.E.D. indicator. The switches shown would normally be replaced by the output stage of an i.c. decoder/driver

Because L.E.D. readouts are made by manufacturers specialising in other semiconductor devices it is a logical step to include some or all of the decoding and driving electronics for the display inside the same package as the L.E.D.s in the form of an i.c. chip. This is a possibility not open to other display technologies, and it is a very important advantage which, no doubt, will eventually be exploited to the full.
Perhaps the most striking advantage of these new devices is their small size, character height commonly being in the region of only $\frac{1}{4}$ in, making it possible to enclose up to six separate digits in a single dual-in-line package, for example.
Other advantages include very long life; freedom from catastrophic failure; compatibility with all types of drive circuitry; and most important, the ability to be run from a wide variety of supply voltages from 2 V upwards.

## DRAWBACKS

Of course, there are a few drawbacks, the small physical size quoted above as an advantage can be a disadvantage for displays which are to be read from more than a few feet away. Large L.E.D. arrays are not practical in integrated form due to the large area of semiconductor which would be necessary, and these devices are not likely to be competitive when character height exceeds $\frac{1}{2}$ in.
The monochromatic red colour, whilst ideal for calculators and measuring instruments is undesirable in such applications as film annotation where certain emulsions have a blind spot in this region of the spectrum. It is worth mentioning that this colour problem has been overcome by using a different semiconductor, and both green and amber displays have been produced in the laboratory, but as yet the price of these devices is higher than equivalent red light types.

## DEVICE CHARACTERISTICS

A single L.E.D. behaves in a similar way to the silicon and germanium components which have become so familiar.
lts forward characteristic is shown in the graph of Fig. 5.1, where it is compared with that of a silicon diode. As can be seen, the only difference is in the voltage at which it begins to conduct, being typically 1.6 V for an L.E.D. as against 0.8 V for a silicon device.
In a practical display a single L.E.D. is used for each bar or dot of the matrix, though in the larger seven-bar types it is necessary to use two (or sometimes more) L.E.D.s in series for each bar which


These L.E.D. indicators from Mullard (type 185CQY) show an alternative method of packaging to the normal D.I.P. type
gives an apparent doubling of the forward voltage necessary for conduction to typically $3 \cdot 2 \mathrm{~V}$.
To drive an L.E.D. display it is only necessary to insert a resistor in series with each separate element to limit the current to the desired value (usually between 5 and 10 mA ). The circuit arrangement for a single digit using a seven segment device is shown in Fig. 5.2. In practice the switches shown would be replaced with the output drivers of a seven segment decoder such as the SN7447 discussed last month.

## LIMITING RESISTOR

The value of the resistor required can be worked out very easily by working out the voltage across it and dividing it by the required current. The voltage across the resistor is equal to the supply voltage minus both the voltage across the L.E.D. (1.6 or 3.2 V as discussed earlier), and any saturation voltage of the switch (around 0.2 V for the SN 447 i.c.).

For example, if the desired current is 5 mA and each bar of the display consists of a single diode. with an available supply voltage of 5 V the value of $R$ is found as follows: -

$$
\begin{aligned}
R & =\frac{V_{\mathrm{CC}}-V_{\mathrm{ILDD}}-V_{\mathrm{CL}(\mathrm{sai})}}{I_{\mathrm{LED}}} \\
& =\frac{5 \cdot 0-1 \cdot 6-0 \cdot 2}{5} \text { kilohms (where } I_{\mathrm{ILED}} \text { is in } \\
& =\frac{3.2}{5} \text { kilohms }
\end{aligned}
$$

Thus $R=640$ ohms ( 620 ohms preferred value could be used).


Fig. 5.3. Circuit arrangement for a common cathode type L.E.D. indicator. Also shown are the output stages of two types of driver i.c.s. the Monsanto MSD101 and MSD102


Fig. 5.4. The internal circuit of an L.E.D. indicator using a $5 \times 7$ matrix of diodes. The external components show how a particular diode is illuminated though the switching in a real system would be done electronically

## COMMON CATHODE

The seven bar indicator just considered had a common connection to all seven diode anodes, the single pin used to carry this common lead being connected externally to the positive supply. It is equally possible to have a common cathode connection which is taken to the negative supply, an arrangement which is suited to a new generation of decoder/drivers which have emitter follower outputs and resistors included in the packige, see Fig. 5.3.

## DIODE ACTION

The fact that an I..E.D. is not just a light source but also a semiconductor diode can be used to great advantage where time sharing of a display is necessary, since the diode action can be used as part of the logic of the driving circuitry.
This feature is especially useful in the dot matrix L.E.D. indicators which employ a $5 \times 7$ array of separate emitters with only five plus seven separate connections, five column wires and seven row wires (Fig. 5.4).
This type of indicator can display all letters and symbols as well as the numerals and in a practical system each dot of the matrix is controlled by a complex decoder called a "Read Only Memory" or R.O.M. The elements of the matrix are addressed either a row at a time or a column at a time, at a rate fast enough to eliminate flicker, a particular I..E.D. being "ON" if both its row connection and its column connection are switched on simultaneously.

The same system could be used with filament lamps, but a moment's reflection reveals that each lamp in the matrix would require a diode in series with it to isolate it from the other lamps; with L.E.D.s the diode is inherent in their construction, resulting in a very simple array.

## IMPROVED FORMAT

The seven segment format is very easy to fabricate using L.E.D. technology but it does offer rather stylised numerals which can be ambiguous under difficult reading conditions. The reason for this possible ambiguity is the lack of redundancy in the simple format, all the bars used for a particular figure being absolutely vital for accurate interpretation.
A classic example of this lack of redundancy causing trouble can be envisaged when, for example the readout of a digital-voltmeter has an indicated reading in which the last digit is alternating rapidly between a four and a five, due perhaps to noise on the signal.
With discrete character displays (e.g. cold cathode tubes) this alternation can be easily detected and an accurate reading deduced, but with the seven segment indicator the four and five can be integrated by the observer's eyes to give an apparent reading of nine, which is too far from the correct reading for comfort.

Even worse errors can be produced if for any reason one of the bars of the format becomes permanently illuminated or extinguished, as the result of a fault.
The dot matrix format on the other hand has a great deal of redundancy built in, and even with several dots out of action a readable display is still possible. Unfortunately dot marix displays are both expensive and unnecessarily difficult to drive when only a numerical readout is required. As an answer to this problem a new format has been used in the Hewlett Packard HP 5082-7300 series of indicators, which is really a compromise between a dot and a bar matrix.
As can be seen in Fig. 5.5 the display is still based on a "square 8 " format, but in this indicator each bar is made up of dots which can be separately illuminated to give a highly readable and pleasing display with the minimum of complexity. These indicators are unique in also having the decoder/ driver i.c. chip inside the package, only four line B.C.D. inputs being presented to the indicator from the external circuitry.
The actual decoder used in the package will of course be more complicated than a simple seven segment type, but even so the savings involved compared with a $5 \times 7$ matrix full alpha-numeric indicator are considerable.


This photograph shows the large size and good readability of the Hewlett-Packard HP5082-7300 series indicators


## PRACTICAL DEVICES

The H.P. 5082-730 series of indicators cost in the region of $£ 8$ at the moment, which is rather too expensive for amateur use, and this price barrier is also present with the $5 \times 7$ alpha-numerics which are currently priced at about $£ 10$ each (without decoder). This does not mean that L.E.D. displays are completely excluded from amateur projects because several types of seven segment L.E.D. devices are available at much lower unit cost, and the slight extra cost of even these examples over, say, an incandescent device, can sometimes be justified by the better performance of the L.E.D. types.

Some examples of L.E.D. indicators suitable for amateur use are shown in the photographs.

Next month: Practical display systems using L.E.D. indicators.

# IMARKEI place 

Items mentioned in this feature are usually available from electronic equipment and component retailers advertising in this magazine. However, where a full address is given, enquiries and orders should then be made direct to the firm concerned.

## RHYTHM BOXES

A custom designed MOS nitride integrated circuit has been designed by SGS/ATES for use in rhythm boxes in electronic organs.
The design was developed especially for Eminent and Solina of Holland, makers of high class organs. The research department of Eminent and a professional drummer looked after the musical part. For the electronic part the Eminent engineers worked closely with the SGS MOS design team in Italy

The resulting rhythm boxes are sold under the trade name "Rithmix" either as built-in optional accessories or as independent units.

The MOS rhythm generator consists of eight different pattern configurations selectable externally by simple pushbuttons. Each pattern can trigger the reproduction of the sounds of up to 12 different percussion instruments.
complete musical simulations, also reduces costs and the overall size of the unit.

The range of rhythm boxes available includes, in addition to the simple foot-operated start-stop types, a version presenting an even more far reaching innovation whereby the speed of the rhythm automatically follows the speed of the player.

## PIEZO ELECTRIC LIGHT

Some time ago we published a report from Europe in which the reporter mentioned a mains operated gas lighter installed in most kitchens in France. This report created a considerable amount of interest and we are still receiving letters a year later.

Ideal for the Home. Industry and Camping, we have now received details of a new piezo gas igniter from Germany which is guaranteed for ten years, does not use any flints, requires no battery and is not mains operated.

Called the Junkers Piezo Gas Igniter, the "gun" works on the principle that if a sudden force is applied at the interfaces of various crystals, an electric charge is formed. This charge is sufficient to ignite all fuel gases, including natural gas.

When the spring loaded trigger is pulled it releases an impact pin which deforms the piezo crystal

No more worries about whether the matches have been left where young children can get at them and cause havoc?

## OPEN TO THE CONSTRUCTOR

The do-it-yourself electronic enthusiast and the small user of electronic components can now take advantage of the large range of components stocked by GSPK (Sales) Ltd., which have only until now, been available to the trade.

They have now issued a new catalogue containing a full range of components available through mail order or from their premises at Harrogate. The price of the catalogue is 10 p to cover postage.

Copies of the catalogue can bc obtained from GSPK (Sales) Ltd., Hookstone Park, Harrogate, Yorkshire HG2 7BU.

## DISPLAY MODULES

The Codicount range of counting, storage and digital display modules from Contraves Ltd., has been produced to meet the broad requirements of general purpose counting.

The range is claimed to provide designers of control consoles and panels with a "building brick" system which relieves them of logic design responsibility, facilitates rapid updating during development and does not require rack mounted hardware.

The system provides ten variations


Rhythm unit designed by SGS/ ATES

The sounds which they generate form an accompaniment for the organist, providing him with such rhythms as march, swing, rock. slow rock, cha-cha-cha, samba, bossa nova, or with a combination of these. A counter, integrated in the device. driven by an external adjustable oscillator, can sequentially scan the selected pattern to generate the various rhythms.

Although the idea of rhythm accompaniment is not new, the novelty of the current product lies in the use of the most advanced semiconductor technology, which. while it offers improved and more


Codicount storing and display module
and causes a voltage discharge of approximately 20 kV to appear at the end of the "gun barrel". The end of the "barrel" can be likened to the car spark plug and the voltage appearing at the centre electrode jumps the gap to the barrel wall. It is this 20 kV spark, having a pulse duration of only 50 microseconds, that ignites the gas.
The price of the Junkers Gas Igniter seems to depend where the purchase is made, and varies from t2 to $i 240$ each. The one we tried was obtained from Servitronix Ltd., 572 Kingston Road, Raynes Park. SW20 8DR; price $£ 2 \cdot 25$.

Junkers Piezo Gas Igniter
and is TTL compatible. Employing i.c.s. the modules have good frequency response, high reliability and freedom from noise problems, the +5 V logic supply terminal on each module being decoupled from line -noise by a tantalum capacitor.

The supply voltages required for the Logic System is +5 V at 21 mA to 105 mA and +250 V at 2.2 mA for the readout display.

Further details of the Codicount range of counting, storing and display modules can be obtained from Contraves Industrial Products Ltd.. Time House, Station Approach, Ruislip, Middlesex HA4 8LH.



The results from the X-ray equipment are produced as a detailed picture on this cathode ray lube viewing unit

Studies of conventional X-ray techniques have shown that only one hundredth of the information potentially available from the radiation of X-rays is actually realised on the photographic plate.

The difficulties mentioned above are compounded in brain examination since the dense bone tissue of the skull completely surrounds the soft tissue of the brain so that variations in bone thickness completely obliterates details of the brain tissue.

This patented equipment has been under evaluation at Atkinson Morley Hospital, Wimbledon during the last six months. The Department of Health and Social Security is considering installing two of these machines at other hospitals in the near fiuture.

This is the control unit of the installation at the Atkinson Morley Hospital


## NEWS BRIEFS

## The Open University

A
NEW development in the Open University's activities is the provision of Posi Experience Courses. These courses are designed for people in all kinds of employment who would benefit from further education or training but who cannot be released from work to take conventional courses.

As with undergraduate courses, tuition will be through correspondence material, supplemented by television and radio programmes, use of computer terminals. home experiment kits, tutorials, and summer schools. Courses will generally run for one year or less, and start January 1973

Open University certificates will be awarded on completion of the courses.

The first five courses are: Biological Bases of Behaviour, Computing and Computers, Electromagnetics and Electronics, Reading Development, and Reformation Studies

## Electromagnetics and clectronics

The aim of the course is to provide a good understanding of the scientific bases of electronic circuit design. It is intended for people in industry, government establishments, hospitals, etc., who find they have a need for electronics. even if they do not intend to proceed to higher level courses. Little prior knowledge of electronics or electromagnetics is required, but the course does assume a background of scientific or technical education beyond GCE "O" level.

A good deal of electronic experimentation at home will be involved, centred round a cathode ray oscilloscope, a signal generator and other apparatus and components loaned to students.

Copies of the Post Experience Courses prospectus and application forms may be obtained from The PostExperience Student Office, The Open University, P.O. Box 76. Bletchley, Bucks.

## New Course for Teachers

ANew main course in engineering science and technology is planned by Edge Hill College of Education. St. Helens Road, Ormskirk. Lancs. Entitled Science and People, this course is aimed at providing intending teachers with a knowledge of the principles and practice of modern technology

It is hoped it will also appeal to suitably qualified men and women in industry who wish to enter the teaching profession.

The three year course commences in September, 1972 and leads to the Certificate of Education. Details of admission procedure are available from the Admissions Secretary.

## British Amateur Electronics Club

T
He seventh annual B.A.E.C. exhibitıon will be held on July 22 to July 29 next at the Shelter in the centre of the Esplanade, Penarth, Glamorgan at 7 p.m. every night. This year the club is exhibiting various projects made by members which should make this exhibition more interesting than before.

## Gerry Brown oniffint

## ART-IN A WORD

Difficult though it may be to accept, we are probably all sensation seakers of one kind or another. In the old times people were wont to get their kicks from the consultation of oracles and inspection within the depths of such things as crystal balls or tea leaves. To some degree, anyway. the random nature of such aids almost certainly held the most yalid reason for their success: indeed, this is likely to be the secret of their attraction even now.

However, today we witness the availability of more varied and "way-out" sensations plus an attendant increase in would-be participants to appreciate them. Remember the demand, a couple of years ago, for those quaint little blocks of glass-like plastics containing a number of (seemingly, lit-from-theair) randomly flashing neon lamps? And how about those ever popular collections of Victoriana composed of countless bits of glass suspended from the ceiling and gently tinkling a coolness into the still air of a hot summer evening?

Undoubtedly, the ready-made interest factor is that unpredictable ingredient inherent in randomly produced material or events, one, in fact. which is currently providing the basis for many new art-forms.

One area, in particular, specialises in the production of "unique" forms of both music and prose, relying on computer programs to mould random material according to formalised laws for the specific discipline. This is a field of programming I must confess to indulging in myself, and one which it is tempting to replicate, in part at least, in the form of real-time hardware.

In case you have a yen to build something of this nature. Fig. I.. shows just the "bare bones" of a scheme designed to generate random words. It doesn't, of course, include (as a program might do) rules for ordering the occurrence of consonants or vowels, and, indeed, harsh economy dictates a total word length of only four letters.

The hardware model suggested employs one white-noise generator per letter channel which is


Fig. 1
periodically gated, by a clock pulse. into a register having a maximum count of 26 for the letters of the alphabet. The count : i.e., letter, held in each register, following a clockpulse, is decoded into a form suitable for driving a 16 -segment filament type readout and subsequently displayed.

This, possibly crass, waste of electronics may not be your particular idea of a "hang-up." but then it is fairly innocuous and (if you take the trouble to jot down every word) might just write you a sonnet or two!


## PICTURE IF YOU WILL

On a different tack, but interesting none-the-less, is a clever new device just given birth by some workers in Albuquerque. U.S.A. It constitutes an unusual way of storing images, and functions in a fashion similar to that of liquid crystal devices employing the nematic phase.
The main difference is that it doesn't use liquid crystals. The prototype device consists of a thin slice of electro-optic ceramic plate coated (on one side) with a photoconductive film with the two sandwiched between a couple of transparent electrodes.
Prior to use, the device must be initially exposed to light (from the film side) while a potential is applied between the electrodes. If, following this, the image from a photographic negative is projected on to the film side, and the voltage applied once again, a latent image will be stored by the ceramic.
This image can be subsequently reproduced simply by illuminating the device from the film side; the electrodes at such times must not be energised, otherwise the image
could be erased. Actual erasure takes place by re-exposing to light while the voltage is applied, and in this way continues countless images can be stored again and again.

The principle Cerampic, as the device is called, employs for its operation is one which relies upon the formation of ferro-magnetic domains having different orientations within the ceramic plate.

Variation in the orientation constitutes the difference in the areas of contrast in the stored image. This, seemingly, controls the amount of light scattering produced by the material; thus, bright parts of the image seem to be formed by domain orientations aligned with the direction of incident light, while darker areas are produced by alignments which scatter more of the light away.
Since this remarkable material can be switched on and off at fairly high rates, it would appear, like liquid crystals, to be a serious contender in the race to produce picture-frame television. Even if it never gets that far, it is sure to provide sufficiently good resolution for such things as document transmission and copying by wire.

## NO SHHH......!!

In the last On the Fringe under the heading "Occultaphonics" I mentioned a device which could be put together to produce white-noise. Unfortunately, the circuit, shown in the accompanying figure at that time, did not include a Zener diode. This component, vital to the operation of the device, is now shown in Fig. 2.
Some Zeners are a bit reluctant to generate electrical "hash." so you may well need to try a few before finding the ideal.


Fig. 2


# CAIIRECORO 

There are times when it is Impossible to answer a call at the door. The "Callercord" will answer callers and record messages on magnetic tape.

## BY J. BECKER

the control circuit. In this machine a similar effect is achieved by breaking connection with the input part of the control circuit when the bell switch is used. To keep the number of wires from the door to a minimum, the connection between the input control and the door is made using the same wires that feed the external speaker. This can be seen in the block diagram of Fig. 1.

The bell switch SI is a push to make and break type with one side in series with the speaker leads. When connection with the control circuit input is broken, it passes a pulse through to a bistable gating circuit. This only allows one pulse through and then closes to prevent further pulses from disrupting the rest of the circuit, and will not open again until the control circuit has completed its cycle.

As the gate closes, a pulse initiates a delay (Delay 1) before anything else happens, so that there is time for someone to answer the door personally if they wish to do so. At the end of the delay, two relays are operated. Relay RLA switches the external speaker LSI out of circuit with the control input and across to relay RLB which switches the speaker leads into circuit with the PBM recorder (Tape Recorder 1) and also causes it to play back its pre-recorded message.

## AUTOMATIC REWIND

There is a choice of ways to make the PBM recorder play back the same message each time it is needed. It is of course possible to record the same message over and over again onto a whole spool of tape, but the prospect of doing this each time the message has to be changed is a little daunting, and there is also the problem of the control circuit selecting the right moment at which to switch on the RCM recorder (Tape Recorder 2). Another method is to use an endless loop of tape, switching over to the RCM recorder at a point determined either by

time or by a physical method such as using a contact switch or a photoelectric sensor. The endless loop system was in fact experimented with, but was eventually rejected because of the problem of ensuring reliable loop transport plus the fact that the "Parrot" has a spool drive which would need adapting to pull the tape across the heads.

The method finally chosen uses a spool of tape which is rewound automatically after playing the message, thus allowing for repetition and length variation as required. Automatic rewinding initially presented another problem, for the "Parrot" has a

Fig. 1. Block diagram of Callercord


| Resistors |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| R1 | 47k $\Omega$ | R46 | 8-2k $\Omega$ |
| R2 | $4.7 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R47 | 8.2k $\Omega$ |
| R3 | $4.7 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R48 | $8 \cdot 2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R4 | $3 \cdot 3 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R49 | 8.2k $\Omega$ |
| R5 | 8.2k $\Omega$ | R50 | 8-2k $\Omega$ |
| R6 | 8.2k $\Omega$ | R51 | $2 \cdot 2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R7 | $3 \cdot 3 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R52 | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R8 | $4.7 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R53 | $220 \Omega$ |
| R9 | 10ks ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | R54 | 47k $\Omega$ |
| R10 | $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R55 | $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R11 | $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R56 | 10k $\Omega$ |
| R12 | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R57 | 10k $\Omega$ |
| R13 | 18k $\Omega$ | R58 | 1kS |
| R14 | $2 \cdot 2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R59 | 1kS |
| R15 | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R60 | 18k $\Omega$ |
| R16 | $220 \Omega$ | R61 | 10k $\Omega$ |
| R17 | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R62 | $2 \cdot 2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R18 | $18 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R63 | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R19 | $120 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R64 | $220 \Omega$ |
| R20 | $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R65 | 68 k , |
| R21 | 22k $\Omega$ | R66 | 1kS |
| R22 | 22ks | R67 | $18 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R23 | 22k $\Omega$ | R68 | 10k $\Omega$ |
| R24 | 22k $\Omega$ | R69 | $120 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R25 | 22k $\Omega$ | R70 | $220 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R26 | 22k $\Omega$ | R71 | $680 \Omega 1 \mathrm{~W}$ |
| R27 | 22k ${ }^{\text {2 }}$ | R72 | $5 \cdot 6 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R28 | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R73 | $270 \Omega$ |
| R29 | $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R74 | $470 \Omega$ |
| R30 | $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R75 | 68』 1W |
| R31 | $2 \cdot 2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R76 | $12 \Omega \quad 2 \frac{1}{2} W$ |
| R32 | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R77 | $33 \Omega 1 \mathrm{~W}$ |
| R33 | $220 \Omega$ | R78 | $33 \Omega 1 \mathrm{~W}$ |
| R34 | $47 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R79 | $120 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R35 | 1kS | R80 | $22 \Omega 1 \mathrm{~W}$ |
| R36 | $18 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R81 | $4 \cdot 7 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R37 | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R82 | 220k $\Omega$ |
| R38 | 10k $\Omega$ | R83 | 220ks |
| R39 | 10ks2 | R84 | 4.7ks |
| R40 | $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R85 | $4.7 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R41 | $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R86 | $27 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R42 | $8 \cdot 2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R87 | 27kS |
| R43 | $8 \cdot 2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R88 | 10k $\Omega$ |
| R44 | $8 \cdot 2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R89 | $22 \Omega$ |
| R45 | $8.2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R90 | $4 \cdot 7 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| All $10 \%, \frac{1}{4}$ W carbon |  |  |  |

Capacitors

| C1 | $0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| C 2 | $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ |
| C 3 | $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ |
| C 4 | $47 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ elect 6 V |
| C 5 | $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ |
| C | $470 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ elect 6 V |
| C 7 | 0.01 |
| C 8 | $320 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ elect 6 V |
| C 9 | $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ |
| C 10 | $10 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ elect 6 V |
| C 11 | $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ |
| C 12 | $32 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ elect 450 V |
| C 13 | $32 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ elect 450 V |
| C 14 | $2,000 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ elect 25 V |
| C 15 | $470 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ elect 6 V |
| C 16 | $100 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ elect 12 V |
| C 17 | $470 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ elect 6 V |
| C 18 | $470 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ elect 6 V |
| C 19 | $470 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ elect 6 V |
| C 20 | $470 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ elect 6 V |
| C 21 | $0.68 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ |
| C 22 | $0.68 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ |
| C 23 | $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ |
| C 24 | $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ |
| C 25 | $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ |

## Potentiometers <br> VR1 $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ carbon linear <br> VR2 $\quad 2.5 k \Omega$ carbon linear

Transistors

| Transistors |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| TR1 | BC109 | TR14 | BC109 |
| TR2 | BC109 | TR15 | BC109 |
| TR3 | BC109 | TR16 | BC109 |
| TR4 | BC109 | TR17 | 2N2102 |
| TR5 | 2N2102 | TR18 | BC109 |
| TR6 | BC109 | TR19 | BC109 |
| TR7 | BC109 | TR20 | BC109 |
| TR8 | 2N2102 | TR21 | BC109 |
| TR9 | BC109 | TR22 | 2N2102 |
| TR10 | BC109 | TR23 | BC109 |
| TR11 | BC109 | TR24 | BC109 |
| TR12 | 2N2102 | TR25 | 2N3055 |
| TR13 | BC109 | TR26-TR30 | BC109 (5 off) |

Diodes

| D1-D6 | IN914 (6 off) |
| :--- | :--- |
| D7-D8 | OA A1 (2 off) |
| D9 | BY100 |
| D10-D13 | BYX22/200 (4 off) |
| D14 | BZX61/C6V2 |
| D15 | BZY88/C6V2 |
| D16 | OA91 |
| D17 | BZX61/C5V6 |
| D18-D20 | IN914 (3 off) |
| D21-D22 | BZY88/C3V3 |
| D23-D25 | OA91 (3 off) |

Relays
RLA/RLB 6-12V, 185 ohms, 4 sets of changeover contacts, type PC4 (2 off)

Transformer
T1 230 V Primary, $6.3 \mathrm{~V}+6.3 \mathrm{~V}$ secondary. Hygrade Filament transformer

## Solenoid <br> X1 12 V Solenoid, thrust type operation

## Counter

X2 12V, four figure electromagnetic counter

## Switches

S1 Press to make and break
S2 Single pole 8-way rotary switch
S3 Single pole 10-way rotary switch
S4 D.P.D.T. mains toggle
S5 S.P.S.T. toggle
S6 S.P.S.T. toggle

[^4]mechanical rewind control. This works by rocking a double-ended motor on a pivot, one spindle driving forwards, and after rocking over, the other driving backwards. By slightly modifying the motor bracket and attaching a solenoid, automatic wind and rewind were easily achieved.

With the solenoid switched on. Recorder 1 drives forward, and backward when off. The supply line is switched over to relay RLB from RLA and is the power line to activate the solenoid. Thus when relay RLA is on, RLB has control of the direction of Recorder 1. To prevent the tape message being heard in reverse, RLB also switches off the loudspeaker during rewind.

The point at which Recorder I switches into reverse is determined by another delay circuit (Delay 3) preset by an external switch to suit the length of message and initiated by the ending of Delay I. At
the end of Delay 3, RLB is turned off, so switching Recorder 1 to rewind, and Recorder 2 to record the incoming message, and at the same time switching off the external speaker.

## ADDITIONAL DELAYS

Ideally the machine should sense the right moment at which to switch off Recorder 2. This could be done by sensing the pause after the caller has finished speaking, but it could be subject to error, either because of the caller hesitating too long between sentences, or because of possible noises from the street. Consequently, switching off is achieved by again using an externally preset time delay (Delay 2) which is usually preset to give about 40 seconds of recording time, though it can be set to give other times if necessary. For the sake of con-

Fig. 2. Control circuitry of Callercord
venience this delay is also started by the ending of Delay 1.
At the end of Delay 2, several things happen. Relay RLA is switched off, so switching off the power to the recorders and solenoid. Although Recorder 1 has by this time rewound the tape, it still has its motor on. While the motor is unable to turn and is drawing maximum current, it will come to no harm during the short time that this condition prevails. Relay changeover also means that the speaker leads are also switched back into circuit with the control input, and the call counter, which clocks up incoming calls, is disconnected.

The ending of Delay 3 initiates a fourth delay circuit (Delay 4) which allows a short pause and then sends the open signal to the gate. The cycle is now complete, and the circuit is ready to receive the next caller.

## NEON INDICATORS

All of the various processes in the control chain are indicated by five neon lamps. Besides providing a visual check-out for correct functioning of the stages, they facilitate delay time settings.

## CONTROL CIRCUIT ACTION

The start pulse is derived in a very simple manner as seen in the control circuit of Fig. 2. The base of TRI is taken to earth via the leads of the external speaker, so holding TRI off. In series with the speaker is placed a switch which is normally closed. The same press switch has two normally off contacts which are in series with the door bell. On pressing the switch, the bell is rung and the base of TRI is disconnected from earth.

When this happens, the base of TRI is made positive through $R 1$ and a negative going collector

voltage is passed as a pulse via Cl to the bistable circuit, so triggering it into its opposite state. The negative going voltage change of TR3 is inverted by TR4 and this drives the monostable circuit (Delay 1) into its quasistable state with TR7 collector negative going. The voltage change is inverted by TR9 and is passed as a pulse to trigger the monostable. Delay 2. The transistor TR13 then conducts thus turning on relay RLA.

The voltage change of TR7 is also inverted by TR 14 and passed as a pulse to trigger Delay 3 monostable, so turning on relay RLB. When TR 16 reverts to its stable state, TR 18 ceases to conduct; this relay switches off. When TRII reverts to its stable state, TR13 ceases to conduct, turning off relay RLA. This second voltage change of TR11 is inverted by TR19 and triggers Delay 4

As TR21 stabilises, it passes a pulse to TR3 reverting the bistable gate to its original state. The control circuit is then receptive to the next start pulse.

## VARYING THE DELAY TIME

The switching time of the delay circuits 2 and 3. may be changed by controlling the charge rate of the respective timing capacitor by switching in resistors. With Delay 3 fine control is achieved by using a variable resistor in series with the switch $\$ 3$.

## PULSE SUPPRESSION

The diodes that are used with the relays, solenoid. and recorder motors are vital to the smooth functioning of the control circuits, for at the moment of switching off a coil, a back e.m.f. is developed which by feeding back along the power line could influence

other circuits, and in the case of the monostables and bistable, could be large enough to trigger them into their opposite states.

## POWER SUPPLIES

The main power supply (Fig. 3) has the transformer secondary windings connected to give 12.6 V a.c. which is rectified and smoothed, and the resulting d.c. supplies the stabilising circuit which has its output voltage set at 11 V . The 11 V supplies the relays, solenoid and counter, and is also sub-divided and dropped to give 6.2 V for the transistor circuits, -3.3 V for the tape amplifiers, -3.3 V for the motor of Recorder 1 , and as a convenience, a switchable $-1 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~V} /-4 \mathrm{~V}$ to allow Recorder 2 to move slowly for recording, and fast for rewinding.

Something not foreseen was the fact that the nomi-
nal rectified voltage of about 18 V with no load, drops down to about 13.5 V under full load. This is due mainly to distortions occurring in the a.c. waveform from the transformer secondary windings, and partly due to the impedance of the transformer and rectifiers. As the stabilising circuit needs a voltage drop of at least 2 V across it to give adequate stabilising, the output voltage has been set at IIV to allow for the full load condition. If a 15 V transformer had been available, then the stabilised voltage would have been set at 12 V . However, this is not an important point as the solenoid does not need to have an accurately controlled supply, and the IIV fed to the 12 V relays is still within their operating range of 8 V to 17 V .
Next month: Full constructional details for the Callercord.


Fig. 3. Power supplies and relay contact inter-wiring

# PRTENTE RETOM 

## IIMPROVIIIG POWER AMPLIFIERS

TRANSISTOR power amplifiers for broadcast transmitters normally use output stages with a pair of transistors working in "pushpull'. The transistors can be biased into class $A, A B$ or $B$ and the type of bandwidth required is usually 1.5 MHz to 30 MHz .

In British Patent 1257550 the Marconi Company Ltd. explain how the design requirements for a transformer to couple balanced transistors to an unbalanced aerial are mutually conflicting. Some factors dictate a large transformer with a large number of turns while other factors dictate a small transformer with a small number of turns.

The Marconi patent is directed 10 a transmitter power amplifier with an auto-transformer having a centre tapped primary winding. The output transistors are connected in push-pull to feed the centre tap and in addition a conventional transformer is used, the secondary winding of the autotransformer being connected to the primary of this conventional transformer and the output taken from its secondary.

By using an auto-transformer a much lower leakage inductance may be achieved than with a conventional transformer for the same power handling requirements. Closer matching of the output impedance of the transistors may

## BP 1257550



Fig. 1a


Fig. 1b
also be oblained. The use of a conventional transformer provides the necessary function of impedance transference and conversion from a balanced to an unbalanced load.

Fig. 1a shows such a circuit compared with its equivalent in Fig. 1b. The power transistors TR1 and TR2 feed the centre-tapped auto-transformer T1 which in turn feeds the conventional transformer T2 coupled to the aerial. The capacitances of C2, C3 and C4 are, in part, formed by stray capacitances and in part by capacitors.

As the equivalent circuit Fig. 1b shows (L1, 2 and L3, 4 being the leakage inductances of the autotransformer and the conventional transformer respectively), the arrangement functions as a lowpass filter with a top cut-off equivalent to the highest frequency transmitted. The capacitances and inductances require careful selection but the overall advantages can be low leakage despite high power handling and good conversion from balanced to unbalanced load. There will also be tight coupling between the push and pull sides of the windings and isolation of the load from the transistor supply voltage.

## NEON ROYELTY

P
LANS for an attractive recreational device of the type that is sometimes written off as "a gift for someone who has everything" are to be found in British Patent 1257 288, in the name of Roger Saunders.

The idea is to envelope neon lamps in a block of transparent plastics with the circuitry for periodically illuminating them in a block of opaque plastics. See Fig. 1.

It is perhaps not generally recognised that if sufficient neon lamps are flashed in a complicated sequence, the psychological effect can be that the flashing is nonperiodic and non-repetitive. By hiding the circuitry and batteries in opaque plastics, the layman is even more confused.

Saunders illustrates eight neon lamps and four cells buried in acrylics. In the simple circuit diagram given (see Fig. 2), the neons are shown all paralleled
across the battery of cells. Each neon is bridged by a capacitor and the pairs of paralleled neons and capacitors are each in series with a resistor. The neons can be divided into groups and, for instance, in one group be connected across capacitors of one value $(0.22 \mu \mathrm{~F})$ and in the other group be connected across capacitors of another value ( $0.47 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ ). In each of these two groups different value resistors are used (e.g. 5.6, $7 \cdot 5,8 \cdot 2$ and 10 megohms).

Where the triggering voltage of the neons is 86 volts the inventor suggests a battery voltage of 90 volts. Battery life may well be several years with the low current requirements of the neons.

Certainly not a world-shattering technical breakthrough, but a worthwhile addition to the currently fashionable range of useless but attractive functional objects.


Fig. 2




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Probably cne of the cheapest ways for an amateur to obtain transistors is to buy a pack of "unmarked, untested transistors" and test them himself. This is useful for experimental work in which a large number of transistors is required which need not conform to a particular stringent specification.

This automatic transistor selector is designed to test batches of such transistors quickly and simply; it also tests diodes, since an inoperative transistor can frequently be used as an excellent diode.

The device to be tested is plugged into a transistor holder; the selector indicates by lighting lamps whether it is a pnp, npn, or a diode with anode at collector socket, or diode with anode at emitter socket. The logic functions required to ascertain these properties are performed by TTL logic i.c.s in the SN 74 N series.

It seems possible that with additions to its circuitry the selector could perform more complex tests to separate transistors with a particular. frequency response or gain.

## TESTING PRINCIPLES

The tests applied are shown in Fig. 1, assuming of course that lead connections are established. Transistors are tested by biasing them as shownin a common-emitter mode logic circuit-and feeding in a test signal. With a pnp transistor, if A is at about +4 V then C should be driven to about 0 V ; if A is at about 0 V then C should be at about +4 V . The same is true of an npn transistor in its circuit.

For the diode test, a square wave of alternately 0 V and +4 V is applied to $\overline{\mathrm{B}}$. A diode in the test socket with its anode in the collector terminal, and


In both Figs. 1c and 1d, both $B$ and $\bar{B}$ lines are floating

its cathode in the emitter terminal, will conduct only when $\bar{B}$ is positive relative to $B$ and $C$ will be at $0 V$. A diode the other way round will conduct only when $\bar{B}$ is negative relative to $B$ and $C$ will be at a steady 4 V .

## WORKING LOGIC CIRCUIT

The complete circuit diagram of the unit is shown in Fig. 2.

The timebase for the test waveform is derived from a Schmitt triggered multivibrator formed by half of ICI. This circuit, a clock pulse generator, is very reliable, simple to construct using only two external components, and produces an output designed to be compatible with TTL circuits and variable from 10 MHz down by changing the value of Cl. It is possible to use other oscillators, but they must produce a very square wave or the transistor under test may be triggered differently from the remaining logic circuitry, producing a false result.

The output of the clock pulse generator (labelled A in Fig. 2) is fed to one half of an SN7474N-dual edge-triggered type D flip-flop-arranged to divide by two. The true and inverted outputs of this flip-flop, called $B$ and $\bar{B}$ in the diagrams, are used to bias the emitter and collector terminals of the transistor under test. The output of the oscillator is supplied as a test signal to the base of this transistor.

As B changes the transistor is biased as shown in Fig. 1 for testing $p n p$ and $n p n$ transistors and diodes. Thus the waveform appearing at $C$ contains all the necessary information about the device under test. This is amplified by TRI so that it is acceptable to TTL inputs. The truth table (Table 1) shows what the voltage ( $\bar{C}$ ) at the collector of TRI should be when different devices are tested. The truth table shows the logic states 0 and 1 representing $0 V$ and +4 V respectively.


Fig. 2. Circuit diagram of logic transistor and diode identifier

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$1000 \mathrm{mF} 12 \mathrm{~V} 17 \mathrm{p} ; 25 \mathrm{~V} 35 \mathrm{p} ; 50 \mathrm{~V} 47 \mathrm{p}$; 100 V 70
$2000 \mathrm{mF} 6 \mathrm{~V} 25 \mathrm{p} ; 25 \mathrm{~V} 42 \mathrm{p} ; 50 \mathrm{~V} 57 \mathrm{p}$.
 5000 mF 6V 25p; 12 V 42 p ; 25V 75p; 35V 85p; 50 V 95 p .
CERAACIC, 1pF to $0.01 \mathrm{mF}, 4 \mathrm{p}$. Silver Mica 2 to 5000 pF , 4 p . PAPER 850V-0.1 $4 \mathrm{p}, 0.513 \mathrm{p} ; 1 \mathrm{mP} 15 \mathrm{p} ; 2 \mathrm{mP} 150 \mathrm{~V} 15 \mathrm{p}$ $500 \mathrm{~V}-0.001$ to $0.054 \mathrm{p} ; 0.15 \mathrm{p} ; \quad 0.258 \mathrm{p} ; 0.4725 \mathrm{p}$. 8 ILVER MICA. Clone tolarance $1 \%$. \& $2-500 \mathrm{pF} 8 \mathrm{p}$; $560-$
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W iskra high stability carbon film—very low noise-capless construction. iW Mullard CR25 carbon film-very small body size $7.5 \times 2.5 \mathrm{~mm}$ Power


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0.5 watt $5 \%$ Iskra resistors 5 off each value $4.7 \Omega$ to $1 \mathrm{M} \Omega$

E12 pack 325 resistors $\mathbf{6 2 4 0}$. E24 pack 650 resistors $\mathbf{6 4} 70$.

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Carbon track $5 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ to 2 Mn , log or linear (log $\downarrow \mathrm{W}$, lin $\frac{1}{2} W$ ).
Single, 12p. Dual gang (stereo), 40p. Single D.P. switch 24 p.

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Linear: $100,250,500 \Omega$ and decades to $5 \mathrm{M} \Omega$. Horizo
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Sub-miniature 0.1 W each. Miniature 0.25 W op each.
Sub-miniature $0.1 \mathrm{~W}, 5$ p each. Miniature 0.25 W , 6p each.
TRANSISTORS


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| RECTIFIER |  |  |  | SIGNAL |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| BYI27 | 1250V | IA | 12p | OABS |
| BZV10 | 800V | 6 A | 25p | OA90 |
| BZYI3 | 200 V | 6 A | 20p | OA91 |
| IN400\| | 50 V | IA | 7p | OA202 |
| IN4004 | 400 V | 1A | 8p | $\|\mathrm{N} 4\| 48$ |
| IN4007 | 1000 V | IA | 12p | BAll4 |

BRUSHED ALUMINIUM PANELS
$12 i n \times 6 i n=25 p ; \quad 12 i n \times 2 \frac{1}{2} i n=10 p ; 9 i n \times 2 i n=7 p$

SLIDER POTENTIOMETERS
$86 \mathrm{~mm} \times 9 \mathrm{~mm} \times 16 \mathrm{~mm}$, length of track 59 mm
SINGLE TOk , $25 \mathrm{k} \Omega, 50 \mathrm{k} \Omega, 100 \mathrm{k} \Omega, \log$ or lin
DUAL GANG 10k $\Omega+10 k \Omega$, etc, log or lin
Knob for above
18 gauge panel 12 in $\times$ in with slots cut for use with slider pots
18 gauge panel 12 in $\chi$ in with slots cut for use with slide
Grey or matt black finish, complete with fixings for 4 pots.

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 $0.015 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.022 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.033 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 3 \mathrm{p}, 0.047 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.068 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 4 \mathrm{p} .0 .15 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 6 \mathrm{p} .0 .22 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 7 \mathrm{p}$ $160 \mathrm{~V}: 0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.015 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.022 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.033 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.047 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.068 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 3 \mathrm{p} .0 .1 \mu \mathrm{~F} 3 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{p} .0 .15 \mu \mathrm{~F} 4 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{p}$. $0.22 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 5 \mathrm{p} .0 .33 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 6 \mathrm{p} .0 .47 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 7 \frac{1}{3} \mathrm{p}$. $068 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 11 \mathrm{p}$. $10 \mu \mathrm{~F}, ~ 13 \mathrm{p}$

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$250 V$ P.C. mounting: $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.015 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.022 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 3 \mathrm{p} . \quad 0.033 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.047 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.068 \mu \mathrm{~F}$, $31 \mathrm{p} .0 .1 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 4 \mathrm{p} .0 .15 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.22 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 5 \mathrm{p} \cdot 0.33 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 61 \mathrm{p} .0 .47 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 8 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{p} .068 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 11 \mathrm{p}, 1.0 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 13 \mathrm{p}$. $1.5 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 20 \mathrm{p} .22 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 24 \mathrm{p}$

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$(\mu \mathrm{F} / \mathrm{V}): 10 / 12,50 / 12,100 / 12,200 / 12,5 / 25,10 / 25,25 / 25,100 / 25$
5p each.

VEROBOARD

| OARD | 0.1 | 0.15 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $2 \frac{1}{2} \times 3 \frac{1}{4}$ | 22p | 16p |
| $21 \times 5$ | 24p | 24p |
| $34 \times 34$ | 24p | 24p |
| $37 \times 5$ | $27 p$ | $27 p$ |
| $17 \times 21$ | 75p | 571 P |
| $17 \times 3$ | 100p | 78p |
| $17 \times 5$ (plain) | . | 82p |
| $17 \times 3 \frac{1}{2}$ (plain) | - | 60 p |
| $17 \times 2 \frac{1}{2}$ (plain) | - | $42 p$ |
| $2 \frac{1}{2} \times 5$ (plain) | - | 12p |
| $2 \frac{1}{2} \times 3 \frac{1}{2}$ (plain) | - | $11 p$ |
| Pin insertion tool | 52p | 52p |
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| Pkt. 50 pins | 20p | 20p |

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Standard screened $18 \mathrm{p} \quad 2.5 \mathrm{~mm}$ insulated Standard insulated $12 \mathrm{p} \quad 3.5 \mathrm{~mm}$ insulated Stereo screened $\quad 35$ p $\quad 35 \mathrm{~mm}$ screened Standard socket $\quad 15 \mathrm{p} \quad 2.5 \mathrm{~mm}$ socket
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2 pin, 3 pin, 5 pin $180^{\circ}, 5$ pin $240^{\circ}, 6$ pin
Plug 12p. Socket 8p.
4 way screened cable, 15 p/metre

BATTERY ELIMINATOR
9 V mains power supply. 5ame size as PP9 battery.

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VAl05SS 15p; VAl066S 15p; VA1077 15p; R53 £l.35
COMPACT CASSETTES-IN PLASTIC LIBRARYBOX
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650
LARGE (CAN) ELECTROLYTICS

| $1600 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 64 V | 74 p |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| $2500 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 40 V | 74 p |
| $2500 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 50 V | 58 p |
| $2500 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 64 V | 80 p |
| $2800 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 100 V | $\mathrm{t3.00}$ |

HIGH VOLTAGETUBULAR CAPACITORS— 1,000 VOLT

| $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 10 p | $0.047 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | $13 p$ | $0.22 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 20 p |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $0.022 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 12 p | $0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 13 p | $0.47 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 22 p |

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IOHF to $1,000 \mu F E I 2$ Series Values 4 p each.

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12 volt only--state pos. or neg. earth. Supplied with illustrated assembly and fitting instructions.
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Can be built in an evening and fitted in 15 minutes. Spare snapion connectors for coil, etc. Call in for a demonstration. S.A.E. all enquiries please. Ready built unit, guaranteed 5 years- $\mathbf{~} 9.95+35 p$ P \& P.
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## ELECTRONICS DESIGN ASSOCIATES 82 BATH STREET, WALSALL WSI 3DE



Fig. 3. Suggested circuit layout on Veroboard

## COMPONENTS . . .

## Resistors

| R1 | $330 \Omega$ | R4 $15 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| R2 | $15 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R5 $15 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R3 | $2.2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | All $\pm 10 \%$, 1 W carbon |

Transistors
TR1 BC108
TR2 to TR5 2N1305 (4 off)
Integrated Circuits
IC1 SN7413N
IC2 to IC4 SN7474N (3 off)
IC5 SN7400N
Miscellaneous
C1 $3 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ elect 10 V
LP1 to LP4 6 V 40 mA
B1 6V battery
Veroboard 0.1 in matrix 5 in $\times 2 \frac{1}{2}$ in

## DECODER

The value of $\overline{\mathrm{C}}$ for each state of the testing waveforms A and B are stored in the flip-flops D, E, F, G in IC3 and IC4. (The SN7475N quad flip-flop is not suitable as it is not edge-triggered and its clockinputs are joined in pairs).

When A goes positive, and the value of B changes. either $D$ or $F$ will be clocked; when A goes negative, and the other flip-flop in 1 C 2 follows B , then either E or $G$ will be clocked. This arrangement involves fewer extra i.c.s than one which tries to decode A and B. The inputs of these storage flip-flops are interpreted by ordinary 2 -input NAND gates in IC5 according to the truth table. The particular functions chosen make it impossible for the selector to indicate that it is testing a transistor and a diode simultaneously.

The outputs from 1C5 operate lamps indicating the sort of device placed in the test socket, through buffer transistors TR2 to TR5. It may well be found that the SN7400N seems able to light the lamps directly, but is not recommended due to the risk of overloading the gates. Two SN7440N circuits, replacing the SN7400N, could pass the current

without harm if preferred, so making the extra buffers unnecessary.

## PRACTICAL LAYOUT

The circuit is easily built on a piece of 0 .lin matrix Veroboard, as shown in Fig. 3. This diagram shows the complete layout as seen from the top component side. The copper strips should be broken where indicated. Then those wire links which occur under IC2 and IC4 should be made.

The integrated circuits can be soldered to the board at this stage, and also the resistors.

Next all the link connections shown should be made. It is easiest by far to use single-core, plastic sleeved wire for this. Alternatively the connections could be made with 22 s.w.g. tinned copper wire and separate sleeving.

Finally, the connection wires leading to the battery and bulbs and then the transistors can be soldered in. The prototype was not fitted in a box and the bulbs were consequently just soldered onto the wires, but this is of course a personal preference.

The test socket used, fitted directly onto the board as shown in Fig. 3, but it had four sockets and the two corresponding to the base of a transistor were first soldered together. The socket could be fixed on the outside of a case and joined to the appropriate points on the board by three wires if desired.

## POWER SUPPLY

A 6 volt battery seems the ideal power source for the transistor selector, but any adequately smoothed supply of 500 mA at 5 V would be suitable. The unit takes about 60 mA quiescent current so the battery should be disconnected by a switch when not in use.

Table 1: TRUTH TABLE OF THE LOGIC DETECTOR

| A | $\bar{A}$ | $\mathbf{B}$ | $\bar{B}$ | Entry |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| into |  |  |  |  |
| flip-flop |  |  |  |  |$\quad$| State of $\overline{\mathbf{C}}$Transistor <br> npn <br> nnp |
| :---: | | State of $\overline{\mathbf{C}}$ |
| :---: |
| for Diode |
| Cathode to |
| c |

Note : x indicates insignificant state

It will be noticed that the 6 V bulbs are considerably under-run at less thar 5 V . It was found, however that their indication was still quite clear (since they are always full on or full off) so the provision of 5 V bulbs or a separate 6 V power supply (which would involve a design change in the output stages) was not thought worthwhile.

## TESTING

To test the unit when it is built, the power supply is connected. None of the lamps should stay on (but one might flicker once as the circuits start operating). Check that the appropriate pins of all the i.c.s are connected to the power supply. Place a diode in the test socket; one of the "diode" lamps should light. If it does not, check the operation of the circuit from the multivibrator on. (The multivibrator may be slowed by connecting a much larger capacitor in parallel with Cl.) When the selector has been made to operate properly with a diode, a transistor may be tried on it. Short circuits caused by solder runs are the most likely cause of a fault.

Only one light should come on at a time, and it should not flicker. A flickering lamp indicates a poorly decoupled power supply, an exhausted battery or a faulty connection. Two lamps should not normally both light at the same time. If they do the fault is probably in the wiring supplying IC5. If the wrong lamp lights, one of a number of faults may be responsible and the whole circuit should be checked starting with ICI.

It is probably worthwhile trying out this tester on known transistors and diodes to ascertain correct functioning.

## Pollits ailsing

VERSATILE LIGHT EFFECTS UNIT (June 1972)
In Fig. 5 the connections for the base and emitter of TRI and TR4 should be reversed.

## CHARGER POWER UNIT (June 1972)

The mains connections shown in Fig. 1 must be strictly adhered to. In Fig. 2, mains line should be the connection to FSI; neutral to S1b. Reversal of these connections could result in live mains potential appearing at SK2.

## FOR RAPID SERVICE <br> GARLAND BROS. LTD DEPTFORD AROADWAY, LOWDON, SE8 AQW

| TRANSISTORS |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ACI27 | 17p | BF×29 | 38p |
| ACI 28 | $18 p$ | BFX84 | 25p |
| ACI76 | 12p | BFX88 | 30p |
| AC187 | 28p | BFY50 | $21 p$ |
| ACI88 | 27p | BFY51 | $21 p$ |
| ACYI9 | 23p | BFY52 | 22p |
| ADt49 | 47p | MATIOO | 15p |
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| AF1 27 | 19p | 0 C 45 | $12 p$ |
| AFI78 | 67p | 0 C 71 | $11 p$ |
| AFI79 | 66p | $\bigcirc \mathrm{O} 72$ | 12 p |
| AFI80 | 45p | OC75 | 20p |
| AF239 | 32p | OC200 | $27 p$ |
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| BCIOB | $11 p$ | OCP7I | 42 p |
| BC109 | $11 p$ | STI40 | 15p |
| BC147 | 12p | STI41 | 23p |
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| BF195 | 14 p | ${ }_{2} \mathrm{~N} 3819$ |  |
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| OA47 | 7 7p | BYZ12 | 221p |
| OA90 | $7 \frac{1}{}{ }^{\text {P }}$ | IN400\| | $8_{p}$ |
| OA91 | 6 p | IN4002 | 7 p |
| OA202 | 10 p | 1 N 4003 | 8 p |
| BY 100 | 15p | IN4004 | 9 p |
|  |  | IN4005 | $12 p$ |
|  |  | ZENERS |  |
|  |  | 2 to 33 voles. |  |
| BRIDGE RECTIFIERS |  |  |  |
| $\begin{array}{lll} 40 \text { P.I.V. } & 1.5 \mathrm{~A}, \\ 50 \mathrm{p}, & 200 & \text { P.I.V. } \\ 2 \mathrm{~A}, 50 \mathrm{p} & \\ \hline \end{array}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 400 \mathrm{~mW},: 5 p \\ & 1.5 \mathrm{~W}, 22 \frac{1}{9} p \end{aligned}$ |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

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Valve and Transistor Data book th edition, 75p
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Single, D. P. switch 24 p
Tandem, less swirch, 40
$5 \mathrm{kS}, 10 \mathrm{k} \Omega, 25 \mathrm{~kg}, 50 \mathrm{~kg}, 100 \mathrm{k} \Omega$
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$$
\begin{array}{lll}
2.2 \mathrm{pF} & 500 \mathrm{~V} & \mathrm{~S} / \mathrm{M} \\
3.3 \mathrm{pF} & 500 \mathrm{~V} & 5 / \mathrm{M}
\end{array}
$$

$\begin{array}{ccccc}3.3 \mathrm{pF} & 500 V & 5 / \mathrm{M} & 7 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{p} & 0 \\ 5 \mathrm{pF} & 500 \mathrm{~V} & \mathrm{~S} / \mathrm{M} & 7 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{p} & 0 \\ 10 \mathrm{pF} & 125 \mathrm{~V} & \mathrm{P} . \mathrm{S} & 5 \mathrm{p} & 0 \\ 10 \mathrm{pF} & 500 \mathrm{~V} & \mathrm{~S} / \mathrm{M} & 7 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{p} & 0 \\ 15 \mathrm{pF} & 125 \mathrm{~V} & \mathrm{P} . \mathrm{S} & 5 \mathrm{p} & 0 \\ 15 \mathrm{pF} & 500 \mathrm{~V} & \mathrm{Cer} & 4 \mathrm{p} & 0 \\ 18 \mathrm{pF} & 500 \mathrm{~V} & 5 / \mathrm{M} & 7 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{p} & 0 \\ 22 \mathrm{pF} & 125 \mathrm{~V} & 0 .\end{array}$
.
yard

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## NEWS BRIEFS

## Into the Light

ANOTHER Company announces its move into that "most exciting field for the next decade", optical electronics. FR Electronics of Wimborne, Dorset, was formed in 1963 as a division of Flight Refueiling. First specialising in the manufacture of reed switches. FR Electronics has since expanded its interest in timers, special relays, and a.c. controllers. Now the Company is moving into this newest emerging market with a broad range of opto devices, including visible light sources and infra-red emitters, solid state detectors, optical coupled isolators, and digital readout displays.

In the main. FR Electronics will be marketing devices manufactured by other firms, but they have entered into an agreement with Opto-Electronics of Dallas. Texas, U.S.A. to manufacture this American Company's products under licence.

## Computer-Aided Design

THE second conference and exhibition on computer aided design CADEX 72 was held at Southampton University during April. The joint organisers were, as in 1969. The Institution of Electrical Engineers and the Electronics Engineering Association.

Foremost among the exhibitors were Redac Software Ltd, who specialise in design services for the electronics industry. Computer Programmes (Software) are provided for use in customers computers, bringing a powerful design tool to the aid of any establishment with suitable computer facilities. The programmes cover: logic simulation, so that an inter-connected system can be adjusted and modified until satisfactory operation is achieved. Circuit Analysis, of large networks. Circuit Layout for Printed Circuit Board Design and for microelectronics. Key feature of this software is its use of interactive graphics to ensure that the optimum results are achieved by the interaction of the designer with the computer via a light pen.
Computer-Aided Design (CAD) is not only a tool for the electronics industry. This was emphasised by the exhibit of DA Computer Services (part of an international engineering organisation involved in the design and construction of industrial installations for manufacturing industries). This firm provides a similar service for mechanical and structural engineers. The design of gear wheels, the layout of pipe systems, calculation of stresses in beams and frames, are some typical examples of the engineering programmes supplied.
Automated draughting systems are an essential part of CAD. Flatbed plotters can draw complex wiring diagrams or P.C.B. artwork masters in minutes, from data stored in a computer. Calcomp Lid. demonstrated their latest model, the 7800 flatbed system which can ink write on paper or mylar, and scribe or cut on two layer films.
The Ferranti Interactive Freedcraft System produces input data for controlling automatic draughting machines or numerically controlled machine tools. It uses a "digitiser" to convert graphical or pictorial information into digital form for computer input. This operates on an electro-magnetic system of position measurement, offers no drag to manual movements, and gives the operator complete freedom to follow complex curves or irregular shapes smoothly and accurately.
Many CAD users require access to remotely located computers, and so it was no surprise to see the Post Office in attendance. Circuits for computing data transmission are provided by the Post Office and a number of different services are offered, via the public telephone network. the Telex System, or by telegraph private circuits.


## Camera Shutter Tester

In many cases, exposure errors can be accredited to camera shutterfaults, even in expensive professional cameras. Variations of time, as much as 50 per cent, can be measured from 1 millisecond $(1 / 1,000)$ to 10 seconds.

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A broadband add-on pre-amplifier that will extend the input sensitivity of a low cost oscilloscope by a factor of ten.

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Part 2 of the P.E. Digi-Cal
commences constructional details.

## All in the August Issue of



August issue on sale July 14

# Repidaris <br> A SELECTION FROM OUR POSTBAG 

Correspondents wishing to have a reply must enclose a stamped addressed envelope. We regret we are unable to guarantee areply on matters not relating to articles published in the magazine. Technical queries cannot be dealt with on the telephone.

## Fit for the mind

Sir,-With reference to Mr D. Bollen's letter on "Brainwave Reinforcement" I find that I must strongly disagree with the points he raised.

Firstly, he declares that Mr Brown's idea does not work. Well, I built the circuit and (although not exactly as described in the article) obtained a reasonable degree of success.

Secondly, Mr Bollen says alpha waves are produced by all normal persons. In fact, approximately 20 per cent of the "normal" persons do not produce alpha waves at all.
And finally he says that the subject must have his eyes closed and his mind blank to produce these waves. If Mr Bollen had watched the BBC programme Horizon he would have seen. a young boy being taught how to prevent epileptic fits by CONCENTRATING on a row of lights and lighting successive bulbs by alpha wave production.

I hope all the other readers of Mr Bollen's letter have not been discouraged from building Mr Brown's very interesting idea. K. Reed, Northumberland.

## Malter of opinion

Sir,-On reading my May issue of P.E. I was very interested in the book review of "Guide to Printed Circuits" by G. J. King.

I am in complete disagreement with your reviewer's findings.

I have read every one of Mr King's books both published under his name and his Nom-de-plume and I thought that this book was his best practical book by far. The information on printed circuit substitutes was alone worth the cost of the book. The description of soldering and de-soldering methods was practical and informative.

Your reviewer forgot that a soldering iron is the basic tool of the enthusiastic amateur and the better the tools we have the better the finished job contrary to the opinions of Mr Lewis, (was it not) I consider that this is a must for the serious constructor and is a worth while contribution to the literature of the subject.

I have no connection with Mr King and I have never met or seen him.

D Fisher. Middlesex

## Required by law

Sir.-Having been a caravanner for some 20 years, I was particularly horrified to read Mr L. Musworth's suggestion in the Ingenuity Unlimited pages of your April edition of P.E.

The heavy duty flasher units that one buys for use on caravans and trailers have an extra terminal, which is connected to an extra warning lamp, which, when mounted within view of the towing vehicle's driver, flashes only when the load of a third (trailer flashing indicator)
lamp is connected in parallel to the lamps of the towing vehicle.

This warning lamp or an audible system is required by law, and must indicate that the filament of the trailer's flasher is not open-circuit. It is not enough to know that volts are being sent to it, by connecting an indicator lamp in parallel with the trailer flasher filament.

The other drawback with the circuit is that the vehicle's flasher unit is used in series with the front and rear flasher lights, which are returned to earth at the respective sockets. This then would necessitate connecting an extra "live" lead from the fuse box (at the front of most vehicles), to an auxiliary set of relay contacts.

This circuit is, however. superfluous, as it still breaks the law. I am afraid that all this means that one must buy the correct itemwhatever the price!!!

> W. A. Rawcliffe,
> Teddington.

## Curbon Ieads

Sir.-With reference to the letter from Mr H. D. Briggs, in the May issue of Practical Electronics. I am well aware that the majority of modern cars are fitted with carbon string h.t. leads. My own car is fitted with such leads and has run on the "Scorpio" system for over 12,000 miles without any trouble whatsoever. Trouble will only occur if the leads are in poor condition. and if this is the case they should be replaced whatever system used.

I sympathise with his concern for the reliability of car electronics, but he isn't likely to get any useful opinion from a car electrician. Most of these have no knowledge of electronics beyond that required to change a bulb.
D. S. Gibbs.

NOTE: We regret that due to a printer's omission, the formula at the end of Mr G. A. Cozens' letter last month was not complete. The last line should read:

$$
R=\frac{R 3}{R 4} \times R 2
$$

## BACK NUMBERS WANTED Anyone who can supply the undermentioned are asked to communicate directly with the reader.

January, February, March, April and July, 1971
Mr. A. M. Cash, 5, Codrington Road, Bristol, BS7 8ET.

January, March, April, May, June, August, September and October 1968 Mr. A. L. de Bles, P.O. Box 811, Maseru, Lesotho, S. Africa.

February 1969
Mr. N. Ley, 78, Limeside Avenue, Rutherglen, Glasgow.

## September 1965

Mr. A. Copsey, 1, Ashwood Gardens, Gildersome, Leeds.

## April 1966

Mr. R. D. Morrison, Dalkeith, Woodham
Road, Woking, Surrey.

## March 1972

Mr. D. Lawrence, 8, Stringers Drive, Radborough, Stroud, Glos.
June to August, November and December 1971
Mr. J. B. Corben, 14, Wricklemarsh Road, Blackheath, London, SE3 ONF.

We regret that back numbers of Practical Electronics can no longer be supplied. We will try to publish announcements of readers' requirements (without a guaranteed date) free of charge.

## November 1970 to February 1971

 Mr. R. A. Scholey, 36, Burlingham Avenue, West Kirby, Wirral, Cheshire, L48 8AP.
## November, December 1971 and January 1972

Mr. J. E. Barnett, 18, Swindell Road, Pedmore, Stourbridge, DY9 OTL.

December 1964, February, March 1965, December 1966, June 1968
Mr. E. Somerville, 2, Hillcrest Place, Kilwinning, Ayrshire.

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## Typical Project 60 applications

| System | The Units to use | together with | Units cost |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Simple battery record player | 2.30 | Crystal PU. 12 V battery volume control. etc | ¢4.48 |
| Mains powered record player | 2.30. PZ.5 | Crystal or ceramic PU volume controletc. | £9.45 |
| 12 W RMS contınuous Sine wave stereo amp. for average needs | $\begin{aligned} & 2 \times 2.30 \text { s, Stereo } 60, \\ & \text { PZ.5 } \end{aligned}$ | Crystal. ceramic or mag PU.FM Tuner, etc | £23.90 |
| 25 W. RMS continuous sine wave stereo amp using low efficiency (high performance) speakers | $\begin{aligned} & 2 \times 2.30 \text { s, Stereo } 60, \\ & \text { PZ.6 } \end{aligned}$ | High quality ceramic or magnetic P U.. FM Tuner, Tape Deck. etc. | £26.90 |
| 80 W ( 3 ohms ) RMS continuous sine wave de luxe stereo amplifier. ( 60 W . RMSinto 8 ohms) | $2 \times Z .50 \text { s, Stereo } 60$ <br> PZ.8, mains transformer | As above | £34.88 |
| Indoor $P$ A. | Z.50, PZ.8, mains transformer | Mic., guitar, speakers. etc. controls | £19.43 |
| F.M Stereo Tuner ( $£ 25$ ) \& A.F.U. Filter Unit ( $£ 5.98$ ) may be added as required. |  |  |  |

The phase lock loop principle was used for receiving signals from space craft because of its vastly improved signal to noise ratio. Now. Sinclarr have applied the principle to an F.M. tuner with fantastically good results. Other original features include varicap diode tuning. printed circuit coils, an I.C. In the specially designed stereo decoder and squelch crrcuit for silent tuning between stations. In terms of a high fidelity this tuner has a lower level of distortion than any other tuner we know. Stereo broadcasts are received automatically as the tuning control is rotated, a panel indicator lighting up as the stereo signal is tuned in. This tuner can also be used to advantage with most other high fidelity systems.
SPECIFICATIONS-Number of transistors: 16 pius 20 in I.C. Tuning range: 87.5 to 108 MHz . Capture ratio: 1.5 dB . Sensitivity: $7 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ for lock-in over full deviation. Squelch level: $20 \mu \mathrm{~N}$. Signal to noise ratio: $>65 \mathrm{~dB}$. Audio frequency response: $10 \mathrm{~Hz}-15 \mathrm{KHz}$ ( $\pm 1 \mathrm{~dB}$ ). Total harmonic distortion: $0.15 \%$ for $30 \%$ modulation. Stereo decoder operating level: $2 \mu \mathrm{~V}$. Cross talk: 40 dB . Output voltage: $2 \times 150 \mathrm{mV}$ R.M.S. Operating voltage: 25-30 VDC
Indicators: Stereo on : tuning. Size: $93 \times 40 \times 207 \mathrm{~mm}$.

## Stereo 60 Pre-amp/control unit



Designed for Project 60 range but suitable for use with any high quality power amplifier. Again silicon epitaxial planar transistors are used throughout, achieving a really high signal-to-noise ratio and excellent tracking between channels. Input selection is by means of push buttons and accurate equalisation is provided for all the usual inputs.
SPECIFICATIONS-Input sensitivities: Radı - up to 3 mV . Mag. p.u. 3 mV : correct to R.I.A.A curve $\pm 1 \mathrm{~dB}: 20$ to 25.000 Hz . Ceramic p.u. - to to 3 mV : Aux -up to 3 mV . Output: 250 mV . Signal to noise ratio : better than 70 dB . Channel matching: within 1 dB . Tone controls: TREBLE +12 to
-12 dB at 10 KHz : BASS +12 to -12 dB at 100 Hz . Front panel: brushed aluminium with black knobs and controis. Size: $66 \times 40 \times 207 \mathrm{~mm}$.
A.F.U. High \& Low Pass Filter Unit

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$\operatorname{sen}^{3}$

For use between Stereo 60 unit and two $Z .30 \mathrm{~s}$ or $Z .50$ s. and is easily mounted. It is unique in that the cut-off frequencies are continuously varrable, and as attenuation in the rejected band is rapid ( $12 \mathrm{~dB} /$ octave), there is less loss of the wanted signal than has previousiy been possible. Amplitude and phase distortion are negligible. The A.F.U. is suitable for use with any other amplifier system. Two filter stages - rumbie (high pass) and scratch (low pass). Supply voltage - 15 to 35 V . Current 3 mA H.F. cut-off ( -3 dB ) variable from 28 KHz to 5 KHz . L. F. cut-off ( -3 dB ) variable from 25 Hz to 100 Hz . Distortion at 1 KHz ( 35 V . supply) $0.02 \%$ at rated output. Size: $66 \times 40 \times 90 \mathrm{~mm}$.

The 2.30 and $Z .50$ are of advanced design using sticon epitaxial planar transistors to achieve unsurpassed standards of performance. Total harmonic distortion is an incredibly low $0.02 \%$ at $15 \mathrm{w}(8 \Omega)$ and all lower outputs. Whether you
SPECIFICATIONS (Z. 50 units are interchangeable
Power Outputs
2. 3015 watts R.M.S. into 8 ohms using 35 volts 20 watts R.M.S. into 3 ohms using 30 volts.
2.5040 watts R.M.S. into 3 ohms using 40 volts

30 watts R.M.S. into 8 ohms using 50 volts.
Frequency response : 30 to $300,000 \mathrm{~Hz} \pm 1 \mathrm{~dB}$.
use $Z .30$ or $Z .50$ amplifiers in your Project 60 system will depend on personal preference, but they are the same size and may be used with other units in the Project 60 range equally well.

## with 2.30 s in a/l applications).

Oistortion: $0.02 \%$ into 8 ohms.
Signal to noise ratio: better than 70 dB unweighted Input sensitivity: 250 mV into 100 Kohms (for 15 w into $8 \Omega$ )
For speakers from 3 to 15 ohms impedance.
Size: $14 \times 80 \times 57 \mathrm{~mm}$.

## Power Supply Units



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|  |  | 500 mA |  |
|  |  | 1A |  |
|  |  | 5 A | - |
|  |  | 15 A | 2 |
| 3 |  | 30A | 2. |
|  |  | 20 V d.e | 2. |
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| 10 mA | £2.00 | (1t Met |  |
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