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| 4018 | 89 |
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| 4022 | 88 |
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| 4025 | 19 |
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| 4029 | 99 |
| 4030 | 50 |
| 4031 | 205 |
| 4032 | 100 |
| 4033 | 145 |
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| 4037 | 100 |
| 4038 | 108 |
| 4039 | 320 |
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A 5 -digit frequency counter for 1 Hz to 99999 Hz with a 1 Hz
sampling rate. Readout does not count visibly or flicker due to display blanking
display blanking
c24.05*
Printed circuit board
f24.05
f.
.

- This kit \& PCB are at $8 \%$ VAT (all others are $12 \frac{1}{2} \%$ )


## TAPE NOISE LIMITER

Very effective circuit for reducing the hiss found in most tape
recordings. All kits include PCBs
Standard tolerance set of components
Superior tolerance set of components
£2.96
£ 3.76

## ENVELOPE SHAPER WITHOUT VCA (P.E. Oct. 75)

Provides full manual control over attack, decay, sustain and release functions, and is for use with an existing voltage Component set

## ENVELOPE SHAPER WITH VCA (P.E. Apr. 76)

This unit has its own voltage controiled amplifier and has full manual control over attack, decay. sustain and releas functions.
Component set (incl. PCB)

TRANSIENT GENERATOR (P.E. Apr. 77)
An envelope shaper, without VCA. having the usual attack decay, sustain and release functions. and in addition it also provides a Repeat Effect enabling a synthesiser to be banjo.
Component set
Printed circuit board

## WA VEFORM CONVERTER

Slightly modified from a circuit published in "Elektor". Converts a saw-looth wavetorm into four different wavelorms: sine-wave mark-space saw-tooth, regular triangle form, and squarewave Component set lincl. PCB but excl. sw/s)

VOLTAGE CONTROLLED FILTER (P.E. Dec. 74)
Part of the P.E. Minisonic now released as an Independent
kit for use with other synthesisers. Component set (incl. PCB) (Order as Kit 65-1)

## RING MODULATOR (P.E. Jan. 75)

Part of the P.E. Minisonic now released as an independent
tit lor use with other synthesisers.
Component se: (inct. PCB) (Order as Kit 59-1) $£ 5.50$
NOISE GENERATOR (P.E. Jan. 75)
Part of the P.E. Minisonic now released as an independent
klt for use with other synthesisers.
Component set (incl. PCB) (Order as Kit 60-1) E3.64
SOPHISTICATED POWER SUPPLIES
A wide range of highly stabillsed low noise power supply kits

MICROPHONE PRE-AMP (P.E. Apr. 77)
Component set (incl. PCB)
£. 3.82
VOICE OPERATED FADER (P.E. Dec. 73)
For automaticaliy reducing music volume during home-movie shows.
Component set (inct. PCB)

DYNAMIC RANGE LIMITER (P.E. Apr, 77)
Automatically controls sound output to within a prese level.
Component set (incl. PCB)
£4.58

EXPORT ORDERS are welcome, though we advise that a current copy of our list should be obtained before ordering as it also shows Export postage rates. All payments must be cash-with-order, in Sterling and preferably by International Money Order or through an English Bank. To obtain list send 50p.

## AND OTHER PROJECTS

PHOTOGRAPMS in this advertisement show two of our untes containing some of the P.E. prolects built from our kits and
PCBS The cases were built oy ourselves and are not for sale. though a small seiection of other cases is available.

LIST-Send slamped addressed envelope with all U.K. requesis for tree list giving fuller detalls of PC8s. kits and other components.
OVERSEAS ERquiries for list Europesend 20p: other countries-send 50 p.


## KIMBER-ALLEN

## KEYBOARDS AND CONTACTS

Kimber-Allen Keyboards as required for niany published circuits. The manufacturers claim that these are the finest moulded plastic keyboards available. All octaves are C to C , the keys are plastic, spring-loaded. fitted with actuators, and mounted on a robust aluminium frame. 3 Octave ( 37 notes)
4 Octave (49 notes)
5 Octave ( 61 notes) £25.50

Contact Assemblies (gold-clad wirel for use with the above keyboards (1 required for each note):

Type GJ: Single-pole change-over
Type GB: 2 pairs of contacts, each pair normally open
each $25 \frac{1}{1}$ p each $28 \frac{1}{2} p$ each $37 \frac{1}{2}$ p each $46 \frac{1}{2}$ p each $58 \frac{1}{2}$ p
Type GE. 4 pairs of contacts, each pair normally open Type GH: 5 pairs of contacts, each pair normally open
Type 4PS: 3 pairs of contacts plus single-pole changeover
Printed Circuit Boards for use with GJ. GB and 4PS contacts (thus eliminating much interwir ing) are available. Details in our lists

## RHYTHM GENERATOR

15-Rhythm Tempo, Timing and Logic control unit (excl. sw's but incl. PCB)
10-Instrument Effects circuits
PCB for Effects circuits
Power Supply incl. PCB

## 128-NOTE TUNE-PROGRAMMABLE SEQUENCER

## (P.E. Nov/Dec 77)

Enables a voltage controlled synthesiser to automitically play pre-programmed tunes of up to 32 pitches and 128 notes long. Programs are keyboard initiated and note length and rhythmic pattern are externally variable. (Please use order codes quoted in brackets.)

Main Circuit (Nov) excl. sw's (KIT 76-1)
Power Supply (KIT 76-3)
Trigger Inverter and Alt. Output (KIT 76-2)
PCB (as published) for k
CB (as KITS 76 for KITS 76-1 \& 3 (PCB 76A)
P.E. STRING ENSEMBLE (PE Mar-July 78)

The new keyboard string-instrument synthesiser
Basic component sets:
Power Supply (KIT 77-1)
Tone Generator (KIT 77-2)
Chorus Generator (KIT 77-4)
Chorus Generator (K1T 77-4)
Printed Circuit Boards:
Double-sided PC8 for Power Supoly, Tone Generator \& Diode Gates with most of the Matrix wiring as printed tracking (PCB 77L/R) £18.40
PCB for Chorus Generator (PCB 77C)
PCB for Voicing System (PCB 77D)

FORMANT SYNTHESISER (Elektor 1977/78)
Very sophlisticated music synthesiser for the advanced constructor who puts performance before price. Details in our lists.

OISCOSTROBE (P.E. Nov. 76)
4 -channel light-show controlter giving a choice of sequential, random, or full strobe mode of operation.

Basic componem set
Printed circuit board
BIOLOGICAL AMPLIFIER (P.E. Jan./Feb. 73)
Multi-function circuits that, with the use of other extema equipment, can serve as He-detector, alphaphone, cardiophone etc.

Pre-Amp Module Components set (fncl. PCB)
Basic Output Circulis--combined component set with PCBs, for alphaphone, cardiophone, frequency
meter and visual feed-back lampdriver circuits.
66.59
$\mathbf{E} .75$

## 10\% OISCOUNT VOUCHER (PE7/1)

TERMS: Correctly costed, C.W.O.. U.K. orders over $\mathbb{E} 50$ goods value. Valld until end of month on cover of P.E. This voucher must accompany order.




## TWIIE He.e. wurwirtras



## Supertester 680R

 (illustrated)- $20 \mathrm{k} \Omega / \mathrm{V}, \pm 1 \%$ fsd on d.c. $4 \mathrm{k} \Omega / \mathrm{V}, \pm 2 \%$ fsd on a.c. * 80 Ranges - 10 Functions * $140 \times 105 \times 55 \mathrm{~mm}$


## $£ 32.00$ + VAT

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## Supertester 680G

* $20 \mathrm{k} \Omega / \mathrm{V}, \pm 2 \%$ fsd on d.c. $4 k \Omega / V, \pm 2 \%$ fsd on a.c.
- 48 Ranges - 10 Functions
- $109 \times 113 \times 37 \mathrm{~mm}$


## $\mathbf{£ 2 4 . 5 0 + V A T}$

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## Microtest 80

* $20 \mathrm{k} \Omega / \mathrm{V}, \pm 2 \%$ fsd on d.c. $4 \mathrm{k} \Omega / \mathrm{V}, \pm 2 \%$ fsd on a.c.
* 40 Ranges - 8 Functions
* Complete with case only $93 \times 95 \times 23 \mathrm{~mm}$


## $£ 16.60$ + VAT

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All I.C.E. multimeters are supplied complete with unbreakable plastic carrying case, test leads, etc. and a 50-plus page, fully detailed and illustrated Operating and Maintenance Manual Now available from selected stockists. Write or phone for list, or for details of direct mail-order service.


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 베탸=ITONE Rotating Baffles 시페턐IS Speaker Cabinets

Send for our 104 page full-colour catalogue and 16-page price list, for $£ 2.00$, which is refunded against your first order value £25.00.

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All you want for ChristmasLeave this page open where it will do the most good!
You know, almost as well as we know, where to go $t 0$ get the components a home projects constructor needs to pursue his hobby.
Either your nearest Lekrokit dealer. Or direct from Lektrokit by mail order.
Because Lektrokit offer the most comprehensive range of breadboarding and testing devices on earth.
Trouble is, the nice people who might give you Lektrokit for Christmas probably haven't the faintest idea what we-or even you-are on about
So just tick the items you'd particularly like for Christmas. And then leave this page open in a strategic place!

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FROM £3.25, inc p \& p and VAT
Hole for hole, top value! Lektrokit breadboards are modular, so they can be linked together to form any size. With a pitch of $0.1^{\prime \prime}$, even the smallest breadboard-217L-can accept 8, 14, 16 or 18 pin Dil sockets. You just take a component, choose a hole, and push it in.

| Model | No. | Contacts | Price, each |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| $217 L$ | 170 | $£ 3.25$ | $\square$ |  |
| $234 L$ | 340 | $£ 5.75$ | $\square$ |  |
| $248 L$ | 480 | $£ 6.65$ | $\square$ |  |
| $264 R$ | 512 | $£ 6.65$ | $\square$ |  |
| 264 L | 640 | $£ 8.32$ | $\square$ |  |

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## Lektrokit <br> Super Strip SS2

ONLY \& 11.05 inc $p$ \& $p$ and VAT
Super Strip accepts all DIP's-as many as nine 14-pin at a time-and/or TO-5's and discrete components With interconnections of any solid wire up to 20 AWG.

Super Strip has 840 contact points, combining a power/signal distribution system with a matrix of 640 contacts in groups of 5 . Distribution system has eight bus-bars, each with 25 contact points.

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Lektrokit IC Test Clips
ONLY £3.08 inc $p$ \& $p$ and VAT
Ten models to fit all DIP sizes. Test clip grips IC's without slipping or shorting between pins-makes testing IC's on boards easier, aids removing and inserting DIP's without damage. Each IC pin can be brought up to a convenient contact post for hooking test leads or probe connections.

lek

## High quality audio modules for Stereo and mono

## S450

STEREO
FM TUNER
ohase lock-loop
£23.24
$+121 \% \%^{24} \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{AT}}$

| FREQUENCY RANGE | 88-108 Mhz |
| :---: | :---: |
| SENSITIVITY | $3 \cdot 0 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ |
| BANDWIDTM | 250 kHz |
| SPURIOUS REJECTION | 50 dB |
| SELECTIVITY $\pm 400 \mathrm{kHz}$ | 55 dB |
| AUDIO OUTPUT (22.5 kHz | 100 mV |
| STEREO SEPARATION | 30 dB |
| SUPPLY REQUIREMENTS | 20 to 30 V ( 90 mA max) |
| AERIAL IMPEDANCE | 75 hmms |
| OIMENSIONS | $240 \mathrm{~mm} \times 110 \mathrm{~mm} \times 32 \mathrm{~mm}$ |

The 450 Tuner provides instant programme selection at the touch of a bution ensuring accurate tuning of 4 pre-selected stattons, any of which may be altered as often as you choose. simply by changlng the settings of the pre-set controls Features Include FET input stage. Varl-Cap diode luning. Switched AFC LED Stereo Indicato

## Stereo 30 <br> COMPLETE AUDIO CHASSIS <br> f19.18 <br> 

| OUTPUT POWER | 7 Watts RMS |
| :---: | :---: |
| LOADIMPEDANCE | 8 ohros |
| TOTAL HARMONIC DISTORTION | Less than $5 \%$ (Typically -3\%) |
| FREQUENCY RESPONSE | 50 Hz to $20 \mathrm{kHz} \pm 3 \mathrm{dBs}$ |
| TONE CONTROL RANGE | $\pm 12 \mathrm{dBs}$ al 100 Hz and 10 HHz |
| SENSITIVITY | 190 mV tor full output |
| INPUT IMPEDANCE | 1 M ohms |
| TRANSF ORMER REQUIREMENTS | 22 V.A.C. rated at IA |
| DIMENSIONS <br> (Less controls and panel) | $200 \mathrm{~mm} \times 130 \mathrm{~mm} * 33 \mathrm{~mm}$ |

The Siereo 30 comprises a complete stereo pra-ampither, power ampliflers and power supply. Thls, with only the addition of a transformer or overwind will produce a high qually audio unif sultable for use with a wide range of inpute l.e. high quality ceramic plek-up, stereo tuner, stereo tape dech etc. Simple to instali, capable of producing realiy firat class results, this unll is supplied with full instructions, black fromt panet, hnobs, main switch, fuse and fuse holder and univerat mounting brackets.

| A. 30 | OUTPUT POWER | 25 Watts RMS |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | SUPPLY | $30-50 \mathrm{~V}$ |
| AUDIO | LOAD IMPEDANCE | 8-16 ohms |
| AMPLIFIER | TOTAL HARMONIC DISTORTION | Less than $\mathbf{~} 1 \%$ (Typlcally -06\% |
| MODULE | FREOUENCY RESPONSE | $20 \mathrm{~Hz} 1030 \mathrm{kHz} \times 2 \mathrm{dBs}$ |
| 25 Watte RMS | SENSITIVITY | 250 mV for full outpui |
| £4.69 + | MAX. HEAT SINK TEMPERATURE | $90^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ |
| + $121 \%$ Vat | DIMENSIONS | $103 \mathrm{~mm} \times 64 \mathrm{~mm} \times 15 \mathrm{~mm}$ |

## MPA30

MAGMETIC CARTRIDGE PRE-AMPLIFIER

## Enioy the quality of a

magnelic cartridge with you
existing ceramic equipment using
the MPA 30 which is a high quall
amplifier enabling magnetic cartridges exist for the use of ceramic cartridges only.

## ENSITIVITY

 EQUALISATION INPUT IMPEDANCE SUPPLY
## PA12

## STEREO

The PA 12 Stereo Pre
Amplifier chassis is designed and recommended to use with the AL 20/30 Audio Ampllfier Modules, the PS12 power supply and the and Treble controls. Complete with tape output.
FREQUENCY RESPONSE $\quad 20 \mathrm{~Hz}-20 \mathrm{hHz}(-3 \mathrm{~dB})$
BASS CONTROL
TREBLE CONTROL TREBLE CONTROL INPUTIMPEDANCE INPUT SENSITIVITY CROSSTALK
SIGNAL/NOISE RATIO OVERLOAD FACTOR
-.......
 TAPE OUTPUT IMPEDANCE DIMENSIONS $\pm 12 \mathrm{~dB}$ at 60 Mz .
ANCE $\pm 14 \mathrm{~dB}$ at 10 kH
1 Meg . ohm $\frac{1 \mathrm{Meg}}{300 \mathrm{mV}}$ $\frac{-60 \mathrm{~dB}}{-65 \mathrm{~dB}}$ $\frac{-65 d \mathrm{~d}}{ \pm 20 \mathrm{~dB}}$ $\frac{ \pm 20 \mathrm{~dB}}{25 \mathrm{Khms}}$ $452 \mathrm{~mm} \times 84 \mathrm{~mm} \times 25 \mathrm{~mm}$

## PS12 POWER SUPPLY MODULE

Power supply for AL20A-30A,
PA12, S450 etc.
Transiormer T538.
Input A.C. Voltage 15-20V. Output D.C. Voltage $22-30 \mathrm{~V}$ approx. (Dependent upon input.)
Output Current 800 mA
maximum.
Dimensions $60 \times 43 \times 26 \mathrm{~mm}$.


## f1.50

## +12\% \%VAT + 35p p\&p.

## BP124 SIREN ALARM MODULE

American Police screame
powered from any 12 volt supply into 4 or 8 ohm speaker
Ideal for car burglar alarm.
freezer break-down, and
other security purposes.

## ONLY £3.50 <br> $+8 \%$ VAT $+35 p p \& p$

## MA60 HI-FI AMPLIFIER KIT

Build you own top quality amplifier, save yourself pounds. The MA60 hit comprises the following 81-klts modules, $2 \times$ AL60 amps, $1 \times$ PA 100 pre-amp, $1 \times$ SPMB0 stab. power supply, 1 \& BMT80 transf. giving 17 watts RMS per channel STEREO. Al modules covered by the BI-PAK satistaction or money back guarantee. Price $£ 32 \cdot 00+\$ 21 \%$ VAT $+62 p \mathrm{p} \& \mathrm{p}$.

## TC60 KIT

A beautifully designed genulne TEAK WOOD veneered cabinet to put the professional touches to your home built amplifier. Full set of parts Incl. Front \& Back Panels, Knobs, Chassis, Fuses, Sockets, Noen, etc. Ideal for the MA60. Size: $425 \mathrm{~mm} \approx 290 \mathrm{~mm} \approx$ 95 mm . $19.95+\mathbf{8 2 \%} \%$ VAT $+\mathbf{1 6 p p A p}$

## TRANSFORMERS

T538 For use with S. 450 AL30A MPA30
Order No. 2036
Price: $\mathbf{E 3} \mathbf{2 0}+550$ p4p $+\mathbf{1 2 1} \%$ VAT Order No. $2035 \quad$ Price: $\mathbf{c 3} \cdot \mathbf{2 0}+55 p$ p4p $+\mathbf{1 2 1} \%$ VAT
T2050 For use with Stereo 30 Price: $\mathbf{c 3 \cdot 2 5}+55 p$ psp $+\mathbf{1 2 1} \%$ VAT
Order No. 2050 Price: $\mathbf{c 3} \cdot \mathbf{2 5}+55 p \mathrm{ps}$ p $+\mathbf{1 2 1} \%$ VAT
Order No. 2050
BMT80 For use with AL60 SPMM80 Order No. 2034 Price: $\mathbf{\varepsilon s . ~} 40+86 p p \& p+12 \% \%$ VAT BMT250 For use with AL250
Order No. 2035


DEPT. PE1, P.O. Box 6, Ware, Herts.

## High quality audio accessories from BI-PAK



OUTPUT POWER
LOAD IMPEDANCE
TOTAL HARMONIC DISTORTION
FREOUENCY RESPONSE丰1dB
SENSITIVITY
MAX HEAT SINK TEMP.
DIMENSIONS

50 Watts R.M.S. 8-16 ohms
05\%. Max. (Typically 02\%) $25 \mathrm{~Hz}-20 \mathrm{kHz}$

45 deg. C
$192 \times 89 \times 49 \mathrm{~mm}$

Introduced to fulfill the demand for a fully protected power amp., capable of driving high quality speaker systems at up to 50 w .. Introduced to fulfill the demand for a fully protected power amp., capable of driving high quality speaker systems at up to 50 w .,
with distortion levels below $05 \%$. Ideal for domestic use, Discos, P.A. systems, electronic organs etc. The generously rated comwith distortion levels below 05\%. Ideal for domestic use,
ponents ensure continuous operation at high output levels.


| AC INPUTS |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| SPM $120 / 45$ | $40-48 v$ |
| SPM120/55 | $50-55 v$ |
| SPM $120 / 65$ | $60-65 v$ |
| OUTPUT CURRENT | $2.5 A$ |
| RIPPLE | 1A 100 mV |
|  | $2 A 150 \mathrm{mV}$ |

SPM 120 is a fixed voltage stabiliser available with an output voltage of either $45 \mathrm{v}, 55 \mathrm{v}$, or 65 v . Designed primarily for use in audio applications, the stabiliser which provides output currents up to 2.5 A ., operates direct from a mains transformer requiring only the addition of 2 Electrolytic capacitors to complete the s/c protection.

## GE100 Mk2.

10 CHANNEL
EQUAIISER
£20.00
$+12 \frac{1}{2} \%$ V.A.T
P. $\&$ P. 35 p


| Control Range | $\pm 12 \mathrm{~dB}$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Dynamic Range | 110 dB |
| Maximum Output | +15 dB |
| Frequency Response | $30 \mathrm{~Hz}-20 \mathrm{KHz}( \pm 1 \mathrm{~dB})$ |
| Power Supply | $15-0-15 \mathrm{v}$. |
| Voltage Handling Input | $3 \vee$ R.M.S. |
| T.H.D. | $005 \%$ |

Only $155 \mathrm{~m} \times 65 \mathrm{~mm} \times 50 \mathrm{~mm}$ Including the $10 \times 10 \mathrm{~K} 1 / \mathrm{h}$ slider potentiometers and knobs which are mounted on a board positioned above the circuitry. In the frequency range of 31 Hz to 20 KHz you can cut and boost $\pm 12 \mathrm{~dB}$ with the 10 sliders, each of which has its frequency marked on the circuit board. The GE100 has numerous uses including mixers, PA. systerns and discos. It will also greatly improve the sound reproduction of your existing audio equlpment. Power Supply for GE100, o/d SG30 £3.80.

## VPS30

REGULATED VARIABLE
STABILISED POWER SUPPLY
£7.60

## $+8 \%$ V.A.T. P. \& P. 35p



| AC Input Maximum | 25 v |
| :--- | :--- |
| Voltage Regulation | $2 \cdot 30 \mathrm{~V}$ |
| Regulated Current | $0-2 \mathrm{~A}$ |
| Incorporating short circuit protection |  |

This NEW versatlie Regulated Varlable Stabilised Power Supply with short clrcuit protection and current limiting. is a must for all electronics enthusiasts. It Incorporates adjustable voltage from $2 \mathrm{v}-3 \mathrm{~N}$, with a current limising range of $0-2 \mathrm{~A}$. With this module there is no need to build a separate power supply for each of your projects, with the simple addition of a transformer (o/d 2033). O-1 ma (o/d 1310 or 1305 ), plus a suitable shunt, a voltmeter (o/d 1311 or 1306 ), a 470 ohm pot ( $0 / \mathrm{d} 1896$ ), a 4 K 7 pot ( $0 / \mathrm{d}$ 1899), it can be used again and again as a self-contained bench, power supply, eliminating the use of batteries and thus saving E¢'s!

## PA200

STEREO
PRE-AMPLIFIER
£16.55
$+12 \frac{1}{2} \%$ V.A.T
P. \& P. 40 p

The PA200 Is basi
AL250 amplifiers.

## HEADPHONES

A top quality headphone with cushioned earpads and headband. Separate balance/volume controls. Stereo
or Mono switch. Impedance: 8 ohms. Frequency: 30or Mono switch. impedance: 8 ohms. Frequency: 30 -
$18,000 \mathrm{~Hz} \mathrm{o} / \mathrm{n} 884 . \mathrm{EB} .70 .+12 \frac{1}{8} \%$ V.A.T. p\& 70 p . A brilliant compromise between price and performance. Superb stereo reproduction for the newcomer to Hi-fi. Impedance 8 ohms. Frequency:
$30-15,000 \mathrm{~Hz}$. ofn 885 . $£ 4.40 .+12 \$ \%$ V.A.T. p\&p 50p.

## HI-FI ACCESSORIES

Parallel Tracking GRODV KLEEN
The very latest in automatc record cleaning. Designed to suit all modern single play decks. Simple to fit, it is extremely efficient. Complete with two types of
base and three height extensions. $0 / \mathrm{n} 8101$. $£ 3.68$. base and three height
$+8 \%$ V.A.T. p\& 35 p .
Casserte Tape Editing Kh
Enables cassette tapes to be edited and joined easily, quickly and accurately. Kit comprises: Tape Splicer ${ }^{\prime}$
$(3.2 \mathrm{~mm}) .2$ Precision Tape Cutters. Tape Piercer. 9 Self-adhesive Labels. Reel of Splicing Tape. 3 Winders and ramovers and instructions, all in
handy wallet. o/n 811. $\mathbf{2}, 40 .+$ V.A.T. D\& 035 p . GROOV-STAT
GROOV-STAT
The BIB Groov-Stat static reducer neutralises the The BIB Groov-Stat static reducer neutralises the
static charge on records and other plastic surfaces. static charge on records and other plast
$0 / n 8103$. $5.45 .+8 \%$ V.A.T. p\&p $35 p$.
Cassetie Head Cleaner
Essential for cleaning of tape heads, capstans and rollers. Pack contains Tape Head Applicator and tape head polisher tools. Plus bortle of special formula cleaning fluid and full instructions. o/n 832. E0.56. +

| FREQUENCY RESPONSE | 20 Hz to $20 \mathrm{kHz} \times 1 \mathrm{d8}$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| TOTAL HARMONIC DISTORTION | Less than 1\% (Typically $\mathbf{~ 7 0 \% )}$ |
| SENSITIVITY 1. TAPE <br> INPUTS 2. RADIO TUNER <br>  3.MAGNETIC P.U. | $100 \mathrm{mV} / 100 \mathrm{~K}$ ohms for an $100 \mathrm{mV} / 100 \mathrm{~K}$ ohms output $3.5 \mathrm{mV} / 50 \mathrm{~K}$ ohms 500 mV |
| EQUALISATION | Within $\pm 1 \mathrm{~dB}$ from 20 Hz to 20 kHz |
| BASS CONTROL RANGE | $\pm 15 \mathrm{dBs}$ at 75 Hz |
| TREBLE CONTROL RANGE | $+10-20 \mathrm{dBs}$ at 15 kHz |
| SIGNAL/NOISE RATIO | Better than 65dBs (All inputs) |
| INPUT OVERLOAD | Better than 2dBs (All inputs) |
| SUPPLY | 35 to 706v |
| DIMENSIONS | $300 \times 90 \times 33 \mathrm{~mm}$ (les s controls) |

## ADAPTORS

$A C-D C$ enablos a large range of batiery Sowered radios, recordders.
 Universal plug incorporated. of 137. E3.95. +12 \% V V.A.T. p\&p 35 p . OC-OC tor use in all cars, boats atcic. with pos, or nag. eant for a
regulated output of 6.2 .5 or 9 volis DC at 1 A max. For radios.


## CROSSOVER NETWORKS

2-WAY channels for high and low frequencies to correct speakers
high to tweeters, low to woofers. Complete with instructions. Frehigh to tweeters, low to wooters. Complete with instruction
quency $3,000 \mathrm{~Hz} .0 / \mathrm{n} 1904: £ 1.10 .+12 \frac{1}{2} \%$ V.A.T. $\mathrm{p} \& \mathrm{p} 35 \mathrm{p}$.
2-WAY for 8 ohm speakers up to 30 watts. Frequency: .3 KHz . o/n
1905 . $\mathrm{f} 1.65,+12+\%$ V.A.T. p\&p 350 . 1905. £1.65. $+12 \frac{1}{2} \%$ v.A.T. p\&p $35 p$.

3-WAY for 8 ohms speakers up to 30 nats. Frequency: 800 Hz and
4.5 KHz o/n $1906 . \mathrm{C} 2.95 .+12 \%$ V.A.T. p\& 35 p .

## CASES

TEAK 30, $32 \times 23 \times 8 \mathrm{~cm}$, designed mainly for use with our stereo 30

TEAK $60,42 \times 29 \times 9 \mathrm{~cm}$, for use with AL60/MK60 Audio Kit. Useful for the home constructor requiring an amplifier sleeve
back panel. o/n $140 . £ 7.00 .+12 \frac{3}{3} \mathrm{~V}$. A. T. p\&p 85 p .

## METERS

Miniature Balance \& Tuning Meter
MIniature moving-coil meter for stereo balance Miniature moving-coil meter for stereo balance
indicator, tuning indicator for FM or similar Robust construction. Sensitivity $100-0-100 \mathrm{MA}$. Dimensions: $23 \times 22 \times 26 \mathrm{~mm}$ $\mathrm{o} / \mathrm{n} 1318$. £ $1.95+8 \%$ V.A.T. p\& $p 35$ p.
Balance and Tuning Meter
Clear view edgewise meter. Centre zero
application. Sensitlvity; 100-0-100UA application. Sensitivity: $100-0-100 \mathrm{UA}$
Dimensions: $45 \times 22 \times 34 \mathrm{~mm}$. o/n 1319 £2.00. $+8 \%$ V.A.T. $p \& p 35$ p.

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Moving coil, for accurate level indication for tape secorders, amill withstand five times rated value struction - will withstand five times rated value.
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V.A.T. p\& 35 p .

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Highly sensitive, high-grade desk or hand mike suitable for use with lead with moulded standard jack plug. Complete with desk stand lead with moulded standard jack ptug. Complete with desk stand Omnidirectional. Impedance: 5,000 ohms. Freq. response: 100 at
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$\begin{array}{ll}107 & \text { FM Indoor Aibbon Aerial } \\ 193 & 3.5 \mathrm{~mm} \text { Jack plug to } 35\end{array}$
 5 pin DIN plug to 3.5 mm . Jack connected
to pins $3 \& 5.85^{*}$ to pins 38.5 . Length 1.5 m . Jack connected
5 pin DIN plug to 3.5 mm . 5 pin DIN plug to 3.5 mm . Jack connected
to pins 184 . Length 1.5 m Car aerial extension Screened insulated tead. Firted plug \& skt.
AC mains connecting lead for cassette recorders $\&$ radios. 2 metres
5 pin DIN phono plug to stereo 5 pin DIN phono plug to stereo
headphone jack socket $2+2$ pin DiN plugs to stereo jack socke with attenuation network for stereo
headphones. Length 0.2 m
Car stereo connector. Variable geometry plug to fit most car cassette, 8 grack
cantidge \& combination units. Supplied with inline fused power lead and instructions. ¢0.85* £1.10* £0.68 f1.05* 6.6 m Coiled Guitar Lead Mono Jack Plug to Mono Jack Plug BLACK 3 pin DIN plug to 3 pin DIN plug. Length 1.5 m
5 pin DIN plug to 5 pin DIN plug. 5 pin DIN plug to Tinned open end. Length 1.5 m 5 pin DIN plug to 4 Phono Plugs. 5 pin DiN plug to 4 Phono Plugs.
$\begin{aligned} & \text { Al colour coded. Length } 1.5 \mathrm{~m} \\ & 5 \text { pin DiN plug to } 5 \text { pin DiN socket. Length } 1.5 \mathrm{~m} \\ & \mathbf{£ 0 . 8 0 ^ { * }}\end{aligned}$ 5 pin DIN plug to 5 pin DIN socket. Length 1.5 m image. Length 1.5 m DiN plug mirror

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Connected pins 385 . Length 23 cm 5 pin DIN socket to 2 phono plugs. Connected pins 38.5 . Length 23 cm
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## * 4 mixing units

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+ 6 mixing inputs $+£ 2.50$ Carr \$ 3 set of bass/treble controls
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## A POINTLESS EXERCISE?

REGULAR readers and particularly constructors will no doubt be quick to notice a change in component designations this month. For some time we have been looking at the way we do things and considering possible improvements. This being the first issue of Volume 15 it seems like a good time to make the changes.
We have been looking at international standards, at what is common in industry, and our own style, and have decided to drop the decimal points from component values. On page 64 you will find an explanation and some examples of how the system works just in case you are not familiar with it.

One point we should make is that many companies appear to have gone half way with this system; we will use it for all component values and the $\Omega, F$ or H will be omitted in all cases. This change helps us as much as anyone; by using the new designations our production of drawings is quicker and "pointless": values are less prone to printing or drawing errors. The system is now widely accepted and many component suppliers recognise or use
it and employ the differences brought about e.g. the use of nanofarad values for capacitors.

At this stage we are not planning any immediate further changes in style but your views on the use of boxes for resistors and capacitors would be appreciated for future consideration. For the present we will continue with our "BS alternative" symbols, at least they make it easier to read a circuit diagram.

## IS ELECTRICITY THE ANSWER?

Once again our technical editor Mike Abbott has taken a look at developments allied to electronics and gives a glimpse into the future. A few months ago he was looking at energy from the oceans-now it's use of that power in electronic vehicles. The article brings out two important points:

1. There are probably many more modern electric vehicles in use than we realise.
2. The electric vehicle may not save us from pollution of the atmosphere as many have suggested.
The first of these points means that we are probably further along the development curve than the "man in
the street" realises-this may be due to the almost total lack of in-depth interest shown by the motoring press. However, it does appear that we must continue to wait for the full development of new batteries before we see large scale production of electric cars for the private motorist.
The second point might prove to be invalid but it does underline the fact that simply because a new system is clean and efficient it does not follow that we can afford to forget any possible changes it may cause. This point is particularly valid in the area of electronics and thankfully there are many individuals and bodies that act as a sort of "doomwatch" and place such possibilities in the public eye.

It is quite possible that electric vehicles will enhance our environment but this should not be accepted willy-nilly just because many believe it to be true. We are all in favour of development but it is essential to try to realise the total ramifications of the goal. Our old friend the microprocessor will have much to answer for if some of the predictions are true, wide-spread unemployment being the worst shot fired at it so faronly time will tell.

Mike Kenward

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## Technical Queries

We are unable to offer any advice on the use or purchase of commercial equipment or the incorporation or modification of designs published in Practical Electronics.

All letters requiring a reply should be accompanied by a stamped, self addressed envelope and each letter should relate to one published project only.

Components are usually available from advertisers; where we anticipate supply difficulties a source will be suggested.

## Back Numbers

Copies of most of our recent issues are available from: Post Sales Department, IPC Magazines Ltd., Lavington House, 25 Lavington Street, London SE1 OPF, at $75 p$ each including Inland/Overseas p \& p.

## Binders

Binders for PE are available from the same address as back numbers at $£ 2.85$ each to UK addresses, $£ 3.45$ overseas, including postage and packing, and VAT where ap-
propriate. Orders should state the year and volume required.

## Subscriptions

Copies of PE are available by post, inland or overseas, for $£ 10.60$ per 12 issues, from: Practical Electronics, Subscription Department, Oakfield House, Perrymount Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex RH 16 3DH.

Cheques and postal orders should be made payable to IPC Magazines Limited.


${ }^{1}$N PART ONE we dealt with the structure of the preamplifier, delay block and summers, presenting them all in a block diagram to which we will refer many times. In this part we shall deal with the clock system and both input/ output low pass filters with their associated switching techniques.
In Fig. 2 we can see the filter and clock control layout. As mentioned earlier both inputs and outputs low pass filters are electronically identical. The clock and filter main controls are arranged into banks of $3 \times 4$ pushbuttons. On the front panel the top four are the input filter cut off frequency con-
trols, the second row determines the clock frequencies and hence their respective delay times. The third row determines the output filter cut off frequencies.

At the bottom of the panel are five jack sockets, on the extreme left and right are the input and output sockets from the processor. The middle three are specially provided sockets designed for footswitch remote control. These quite simply bypass the three slider switches on the sloping section of the front panel. This remote control capability will prove very useful for guitar work.


Fig. 8. Circuit diagram of clock system


Fig. 9. Clock system p.c.b.


Fig. 11. Circuit for input and output low pass filters



Fig. 12. Low pass filter p.c.b.


Fig. 13. Component layout


A completed board (Board 3)

## CLOCK SYSTEM

Fig. 8 shows the complete circuit diagram of the clock system, block 5 on the main block diagram. The design incorporates a CD 4046 phase locked loop device of which only the voltage controlled oscillator is used. A triangle wave oscillator is constructed on ICs 7 and 8 both of which are common 741 op-amps. IC10, also a 741 type, acts as a buffer/summer device incorporating the following functions:

> Modulation Depth (VR9) Modulation Offset (VR8)

Here the required effect can be selected as a variable level by means of VR8 for Vibrato/Phaser, position A (S7) or fixed by means of R33/34 for reverb effects; position B (S7).

The VCO from the CD4046 chip provides the various, continuosly adjustable frequencies (by means of VR10) which are required to drive the delay block. This i.c. as most of the other components associated with this block, is mounted on the p.c.b. shown in Figs. 9 and 10.

## SWITCHED FREQUENCIES

Connected across pins 6 and 7 are a series of individually switchable timing capacitors which determine the frequencies of the VCO. If no delay buttons are depressed the unit is set in a preset VCO frequency mode with a corresponding delay of 4 ms . The buttons must be depressed singly and individually since no switch latching assembly is used. Similar reasoning applies to the low pass filters.

When no cut off frequency is selected the system is tuned to cut off at 20 kHz . For details of frequency/delay settings see Table 1.

The input to the VCO via pin 9, is connected to the triangle oscillator/driver circuit. Thus triangular wave modulation is applied to the VCO when required. When using the CD4046 CMOS chip take the standard precautions.

## LOW PASS FILTERS

Fig. 11 shows a complete circuit diagram of the low pass


Showing board assemblies using mounting pillars

(Above) Showing control panel component numbering. Note the outrider presets on Main Board 1. (Right) Perspective view of Boards 2 to 4 which consists of the clock system sandwiched between the input and output filters. (Below) End view. Note neat umbilicals.

filters. Both filters have cut offs at $10 \mathrm{kHz}, 5 \mathrm{kHz}, 2 \mathrm{kHz}$ and 500 Hz . However when no buttons are depressed the cut off frequency is defined at 20 kHz .

By definition a wave filter is one having a single transmission band extending from a minimum frequency up to some cut off frequency which is not infinite. The filter frequencies are adjusted by means of a series of pushbutton switches and corresponding capacitors. These are connected in the order depicted in the circuit (Fig. 11) where all the switch sub-sections (S8, b, c, etc.) are ganged together. This applies to both the input and output filters. It is highly recommended to use close tolerance capacitors in order to achieve accurate cut offs (not less than $\pm 3 \%$ ).

Figs. $12 / 13$ shows the component side and the original artwork used by the authors to construct the processor.

Both input and output filters are stacked to form a sandwich with the clock board in the centre. This will be referred to as the pushbutton control module. All constructional details will be given in the next part of the series.

The vertical board in the photograph is the main board which was fully described in part one. The three horizontal boards comprise the pushbutton control module, the top and bottom boards being the input and output filters and the central one being the clock board.
Next Month: VU driver, p.s.u. and switch control module.


## NOVA CHAIR

This single seater, anechoic chamber type chair, has been designed to offer a comfortable and very suitable centre for listening to binaural recordings and transmissions. The designers claim that traditional stereo is also enhanced.


An existing hi-fi system is all that is needed to drive the chair's pair of high power transducers, continuous handling capacity 60 W .

Full details from Sound Seating Systems, Tape City Limited, 13 The Market, Wrythe Lane, Carshalton, Surrey, SM5 1AG. (01-644 4455).

## LEVEL CONTROLLER

A new electronic liquid level controller, the 61FGP from Farnell Electronics, offers two alternative modes of operation: control of levels between high and low level probes; single point level control around a single, fixed probe.

These controllers can be used for controlling levels in tanks, reservoirs, sewerage plants and mixing plants, and can also be used for flow detection in pipes and channels.

The low voltage ( 8 V a.c.) applied to the probes ensures inherent safety and, being an alternating voltage, eliminates electrolytic corrosion of the probes.


Apart from the probes the unit is completely self-contained and is housed in a plugin module allowing easy replacement.

Output is a single changeover relay with contacts rated at 230 V a.c. 5 A , which is sufficient to directly control solenoid valves and/or small motors.

A special version, the 61FGPH, is capable of sensing liquids with a very high specific resistance such as condensed water in boiler systems or distilled water.
The price of the 61FGP is $£ 14.45$ plus VAT and post and packing. For further details contact, Farnell Electronics, Canal Road, Leeds.

## BREADBOARD PLUS

Carel Components have just announced that a sheet of Stahler-Graphics, used in the design and layout of prototype printed circuits, will be supplied free with each of the three types of Stahler breadboards.


The Stahler Graphics produced on translucent vellum allow the designer to see the location of parts on both sides of the breadboard simultaneously. Also, with the help of a simple rubber, the material lends itself to making quick and easy corrections. Once satisfied with the layout, the designer can drill the holes and pads on the circuit board using the coordinate locations as a guide.

Extra sheets together with a comprehensive range of breadboard components are available from Carel Components, 40-44 The Broadway, Wimbledon, London SW 19 ISQ.

## STAND UP AND BE COUNTED

These strange looking devices are sockets which offer easy mounting of seven segment displays. They do away with using a holder on a piece of circuit board and then mounting the whole assembly behind a front panel with screws.

Very simply, they go straight down onto a board, near the edge, then, after a 90 degrees turn, present a socket to the front panel.


The configuration shown will accept displays made by Monsanto, Texas, HewlettPackard, Fairchild, Litronix. Another configuration is available to cope with displays where the sockets run vertically.

They come in units to hold from one to five displays, at about $£ 2$ each, in packs of ten.

Full details from Astralux Dynamics Limited, Brightlingsea, Colchester, Essex CO7 OSW. Telephone, Brightlingsea 2571.

## PROM ERASER

The Prombox 12 is a new ultraviolet eraser which can handle up to 12 proms. Its erase time is variable from five to 50 minutes in five minute steps. A sliding tray carries the proms on conductive foam. It has "Mains On" and "Tube On" indicators and a safety interlock switch which prevents the tube being switched on while the tray is open. Complete instruc-

tions are supplied and the unit is fitted with two metres of flex plus a mains plug. Price, inc. VAT, p\&p, and insurance, is $£ 59.00$.

Available from GP Industrial Electronics Ltd., Skardon Works, Skardon Place, North Hill, Plymouth, PL4 8EZ. (0752 28627).

## NIPPON DISPLAYS

Plasma display panels, l.e.d.s and fluorescent indicator panels made by Nippon Electric are available from sole UK agents Lock Distribution. Lock are also suppliers of electronic components and microprocessor equipment.

Their plasma displays are gas discharge devices with an orange neon colour. Display voltages required are $145-155 \mathrm{~V}$ a.c. Logic supplies are +5 V and -12 V .


Panels made range from simple two digit 7 segment units to one with a 256 character capability ( 32 digit $\times 8$ line), using a $5 \times 7$ dot matrix unit.

Not only are alphanumeric characters easily readable but many other patterns or ideograms are possible as is shown in the photograph.

The panels are designed to give life expectancy of 100,000 hours or longer with no discernable variation in brightness.

Lock Distribution, Neville Street, Oldham, Lancs. OL9 6LF (061-652 0431).

## KEYBOARD CONSOLE

The recently introduced lightweight, vacuum formed keyboard console from Vero Electronics is supplied in kit form and comprises a black ABS enclosure, anodised

aluminium cover plate, self adhesive feet and all the necessary fixings. The console will house individual keys or a standard keyboard as required.

The price of the unit (code 75-2867G) is £7.15 including VAT and it is available from Vero Electronics Limited, Industrial Estate, Chandler's Ford, Eastleigh, Hampshire. (04215 2956)

## TV ACCESSORY

The CM 7042 Combiner, available through high street TV dealers has been specifically designed to overcome the inconvenience of having to disconnect the TV aerial to plug a video game into the aerial socket everytime the game is used.


Using the CM7042 the aerial and game can both be permanently wired to the TV and either signal selected by means of a two way switch.

## P.C.B. JIG

This useful jig for holding p.c.b.s or panels when fitting or soldering components can be adjusted to hold boards up to 280 mm in length. When fitted in position the workpiece can be rotated and locked in any position.


The unit which is supplied in an easily assembled kit form costs $£ 11.00$ including VAT and $p \& p$. For further information contact Precision Petite Limited, 119A High Street, Teddington, Middlesex, TW 11 8HG.

## SUBMINIATURE LAMPHOLDERS

These new 100 series subminiature lampholders are intended for use with IMO subminiature Tl flanged base flament lamps which are available in voltage ratings from 1.25 to 28 V

The $1 \frac{3}{4}$ series is a larger version of the 100 series and accepts IMO T1 $\frac{3}{4}$ flanged base filament lamps. Voltage ratings for the latter extend from 1.35 to 48 V and should be ordered separately.


Wide ranges of lens colours for both types of lampholder are available in transparent or translucent materials.

Both types of holders can be supplied in either earthed or insulated forms.

Large numbers of these lampholders may be fitted into a small panel area where high mounting density is required.

A unique pressure pad system on the centre contact ensures excellent contact pressure between lamp and lampholder, even under the most arduous vibration conditions.

Small quantity orders are referred to one of IMO's franchised distributors.

IMO Electronics Limited, 349 Edgware Road, London W2 IBS (01-402 7333).


## PUT IT AWAY-NEATLY

She's holding a "Cord Tidy", a moulded plastic frame designed to carry electric cable ( 50 metres), or clothes line, kite cord, tow rope, even sheets for sailors.

There are two holes in the frame for temporary or permanent wall mounting.

The recommended VAT inclusive price is $£ 1.49$, and the "Cord Tidy" is being launched on the British market this autumn by the Ariel Group of Nottingham.

## LCD DMMs

Two new digital multimeters from Fluke International are suitable for both field and laboratory applications.
The 8010 A and the 8012 A both incorporate liquid crystal displays of $3 \frac{1}{2}$ digits, and have six functions with 31 current, voltage and resistance ranges. These include a conductance function, which enables noise-free leakage measurements of up to 10,000 megohms and permits the measurement of transistor beta; true r.m.s. measurement on all a.c. ranges; autoranging; autopolarity; and a diode test facility. The basic d.c. accuracy is +0.1 per cent of reading plus one digit, a specification which holds for one year at 23 $\operatorname{deg} \mathbf{C} \pm 5 \mathrm{deg} \mathbf{C}$, while the instrument's 3 dB bandwidth to 200 kHz permits accuracy to be specified to 50 kHz .

An important feature of the new instruments is that they are protected against transient overloads of up to 6 kV , and 600 V applied to their current terminals.

The main differences between the two instruments is that the 8010A has a high current range of 10 A , while the 8012 A has two lowresistance ranges of 20 ohms and 2 ohms, with a resolution of 0.001 on the 2 ohm range. Additionally, the 8012 A incorporates a front panel control which enables the nulling of test lead resistance.


Another feature of the new models is the Y8008 "touch-hold" probe. This enables the user to concentrate full attention upon the probe tip when making delicate measurements: once the test point is contacted, a button on the probe can be pressed which "freezes" the instrument's LCD until the button is released.

The price of the 8010A is $£ 159.00$ and the 8012A is $£ 199.00$; both prices exclude VAT and post and packing. For further information contact Fluke International Corporation, Colonial Way, Watford, Hertfordshire WD2 4TT.

## CATALOGUES

The latest edition of Ace Mailtronix catalogue which is now available covers a wide range of components, kits, tools, test equipment and audio accessories. The company will also supply any R.S. item subject to a minimum order of $£ 2.00$.

Another service offered by Ace is for special components. They will quote a price for any item not covered by their catalogue


## GENERAL PURPOSE SCOPE

The OS253 is the second new instrument in the Gould Advance 25 Series of generalpurpose oscilloscopes. While offering the user a low-price 12 MHz dual-channel oscilloscope the OS253 maintains a useful and versatile specification.

The vertical amplifiers feature $2 \mathrm{mV} / \mathrm{cm}$ sensitivity with d.c. ground and a.c. coupling, sum and difference of the two channels with channel 2 inversion and X-Y modes. Horizontal sweep rates are fully adjustable over 18 ranges from $0.5 \mu \mathrm{~s} / \mathrm{cm}$ to $0.2 \mathrm{~s} / \mathrm{cm}$, with an X5 expansion giving a fastest sweep rate of
$100 \mathrm{~ns} / \mathrm{cm}$ with no loss of accuracy.
Triggering is a.c. coupled from an internal or external source, positive or negative slope and variable manual level control. Bright-line operation is available to give a trace in the absence of signal or when the selected level is outside the range of the input signal.

Additional facilities include d.c. coupled Zmodulation input, calibrator output and a front-panel trace-rotate control.

For further information including the price contact Gould Instruments Division, Roebuck Road, Hainault, Essex.
and can obtain many transistors and i.c.s given a reasonable time scale.

The cost of the catalogue is 30 p which is refundable with an order of $£ 5.00$ or over. For further information contact Ace Mailtronix Ltd., Tootal Street, Wakefield, West Yorkshire, WF15 JR.

## GREENWELD

Also available is the new Greenweld catalogue which has been increased in both size and content with a new test gear section featuring digital multimeters and oscilloscopes. To cater for schools, colleges and many constructors who prefer to buy their components in bulk, quantity prices for many components are quoted.

The price of the catalogue is 30 p plus 15 p for p\&p from Greenweld, 443 Millbrook Road, Southampton SO1 0HX.

## DORAM

In the new Doram catalogue the kit, tool, audio and test equipment ranges have all been extended whilst the component side has now been discontinued.

The kits, many of which can be purchased ready built, are rated using one, two or three stars depending on their ease of construction. Also included in this range are N.S. kits which require no soldering and are therefore ideal for the complete beginner to electronics.

The catalogue can be obtained, by sending 25 p to cover p\&p, from Doram Electronics Limited, P.O. Box TR8, Wellington Road, Industrial Estate, Wellington Bridge, Leeds.

## BI-PAK MODULES

Bi-Pak have recently introduced five new modules in their audio range; a low distortion 50W power amplifier (AL120), a stereo preamplifier (PA200) which is a variation of the popular PA100, a ten channel graphic equaliser (GEI00 MKII) with a frequency range of 31 Hz to 20 kHz and a stabilised power supply (SPM120) which is available with a fixed output voltage of either $45 \mathrm{~V}, 55 \mathrm{~V}$ or 65 V and an output current variable up to 2.5A.


The fifth module is the VPS30 power supply (shown above) which is a regulated, variable power supply with both short circuit protection and current limiting. The unit only requires a suitable shunt, transformer, meter and two potentiometers for a complete bench p.s.u. The output voltage is adjustable from $2 \mathrm{~V}-30 \mathrm{~V}$ with current limiting available from 0-2A.

Bi-Pak, Dept. PE11, P.O. Box 6, Ware, Herts.

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volume the ever changing signal from the plant．
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## REMINDER

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A selection of readers' original circuit ideas. It should be emphasised that these designs have not been proven by us. They will at any rate stimulate further thought.

Why not submit your idea? Any idea published will be awarded payment according to its merits.

Articles submitted for publication should conform to the usual practices of this journal, e.g. with regard to abbreviations and circuit symbols. Diagrams should be on separate sheets, not inserted in the text.

Each idea submitted must be accompanied by a declaration to the effect that it is the original work of the undersigned, and that it has not been accepted for publication elsewhere

THE attraction of the thermometer about to be described is its economy in the use of components, its simplicity in design, and its easy calibration.

Section A of the circuit shows a high performance reference voltage circuit, whose output changes by something less than 1 mV , for an input change from 10 V to 30 V .

Now the Zener used is a 5.6 V type, and if a similar circuit were used to oppose the output, but had eight silicon diodes, which would be $8 \times 0.7 \mathrm{~V}=5.6 \mathrm{~V}$, in place of the Zener diode, then the voltage output from the latter device would be dependent on the temperature coefficient of the forward biased diodes as shown in Section B, and as this coefficient is a Kelvin constant
which is equal to approximately 0.0024 V per $\mathbf{C}^{\circ}$, and as eight diodes are used, then there is a hefty change of 0.0192 V per $\mathrm{C}^{\circ}$. These can be encapsulated in epoxy resin prior to any calibration.

The prototype circuit was designed to read betweetı $-5^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, through zero, to $+40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\left(24^{\circ} \mathrm{Ft} \cdot 104^{\circ} \mathrm{F}\right)$, and the scale of a $50 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ meter, which was to hand, was calibrated accordingly. This was not very difficult, as the meter needle swing of $90^{\circ}$ lent itself admirably to the nine main divisions required for the scale. The final scale reading $-5^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to $+40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ f.s.d.

To calibrate the thermometer after its completion, a little dodge is used, a shunt is placed across the meter such that it reads only half of the finalised value, and it
is considered that the scale reads from $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to $100^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ during the calibration.

With the probe in a thermos of melting ice, VR2 is adjusted for zero meter reading (this is a balancing act ensuring that both outputs are the same at freezing). The second stage is to adjust VR1 for f.s.d. whilst the probe is immersed in boiling water, check again and re-adjust if required.
Finally VR2 is adjusted to read the zero mark on the scale, i.e. advanced one division with respect to $-5^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, whilst retesting the calibration for freezing point, with $R_{m}$ out of circuit.
J. D. Berryman,

Basildon.

## A SIMPLE THERMOMETER



## AUTO TAPE SWITCH



WHEN using a cassette recorder for recording ASCII data a large amount of tape is wasted during non-data transmission periods. Commercial systems use stepper motors and block memory transfer systems to combat tape wastage; these systems are expensive to implement so an alternative system was devised as shown.

The 64 bit shift register provides approximately 1 second delay at a 50 baud rate, the shift register clock pulses are obtained by dividing the UART clock by sixteen in IC6; the audio signal for recording is obtained by gating the UART
clock and the shift register output.
During non-data periods the UART data output is high, IC3 and 4 are enabled via the inverter (IC5a) and count at the bit rate to a count of 72 . Upon reaching 72 the tape motor is switched off and the count input to IC3 is inhibited by the NOR gate.
When serial data is available from the UART the low outputs will cause IC3 and 4 to reset, the tape motor switches on and stays on for the duration of the data plus approx 72 bits to allow the data to be clocked through the shift register.

When using higher data rates the length
of the shift register must be increased to allow time for the motor to reach governed speed, the terminal count of the counter must also be increased to correspond to the length of the shift register plus the number of bits in the code group.
By omitting the NOR gate at the output of the shift register, and using a heavy duty relay circuit, this same system could be used for automatic printer operation.
A. Glover,

Braunston,
Northants.

## TVALERTS

THIS circuit provides a fair simulation of three well-known TV series call signs: Z-Cars, Kojak, Red Alert (of Starship Enterprise) and a pulsed tone of no particular source. The sounds, perhaps with further amplification, are suitable for adding realism to games or stage productions.

The tones are produced by coupling together two square wave oscillators based on 555 timer i.c.s, the one producing a low frequency square wave which is doctored in various ways to modulate an audio frequency. A threepole four-way rotary switch selects the call sign and a push switch applies power to the circuit to operate the chosen signal. Diode D1 in the low frequency oscillator circuit ensures a 1:1 mark to space ratio-about two seconds on and off. Adjustment of VR1 and VR2 are required to obtain the intended tones. A dual 555 timer has been used to simplify circuitry. The circuit will operate off a PP6 battery.
M. Plant,

Nottingham.

[ EPT]

| ALERT | SWITCH STATE |
| :--- | :--- |
| Z-CARS | A.B.C.D.E.F ALL OPEN |
| KOJAK | A.B CLOSED |
| RED ALERT | A.B CLOSED <br> C.D CLOSED |
|  | A.B CLOSED <br> PULSED <br>  $\mathbf{E , D}$ CLOSED |
| E.F CLOSED |  |

## TOPS AND TAILS



HJAVE you ever noticed that the TTL i.c. 7447 that most of us use to drive 7 -segment displays, gives sixes without tops and nines without tails? On the other hand my calculator does put the tops and tails on and this set me wondering how hard it would be to generate them.

A glance through the manufacturer's catalogue revealed that the $\mathbf{7 4 1 4 3}$ counter gave the desired display: which is fine if you want a counter; and the

74247 would do the job exactly: but few retailers stock any TTL beyond 74199.

I began to think that I should have to decode the 4 -line BCD input int 10 lines with a 7442, or use several gates, just to detect the input of a 6 or 9 , but when I examined the segments lit for the other numbers I found a far simpler solution.

All that is needed is to force segment ' $a$ ' on when the BCD ' 2 ' bit is true, and to force segment ' $d$ ' on when the BCD
' 8 ' bit is true. This adds the tops and tails without changing any of the other numbers; and it can all be achieved with a mere 7402 quad NOR i.c.! The circuit is shown above.
The "test" and "blanking" facilities of the 7447 will still work correctly and the circuit can still be multiplexed between several digits if required. But bewarel The 7402 can only drive 5 -volt l.e.d.s.

Terry Froggatt,
York.

## KETTLE WHISTLE

THIS circuit was developed to detect when an electric kettle of the type which does not switch itself off was boiling. It does this in a very simple way, making use of a piece of 0.1 in pitch Veroboard of any convenient size with alternative strips connected to form two interlacing grids. This is placed close to one of the vents in the lid of the kettle, where it detects the steam from the boiling kettle.

When the copper strips are dry they open circuit the base of TR1 causing its collector to be high which turns on TR2 resulting in its collector being low and shorting DI cathode and TR3 base to zero volt line which results in the emitter of TR3 and hence the supply to TR4 and 5 being at zero. Therefore TR4 and 5 which form an astable multivibrator will cease to oscillate and there will be no output from LS1. However, when the kettle boils the steam will condense on the grids of X1 causing it to develop a resistance in the order of 15 kilohms

which will result in base current flowing in TR1 which will turn on, the collector of which falls turning TR2 off, its collector rises and is clamped at about 2.23 V by D1; this results in a voltage of about 1.4 V at TR3 emitter hence a supply to

TR4 and 5 resulting in the multivibrator oscillating and a whistle tone being emitted.
R. Wilds,

Aylesbury,
Bucks.

# ADSR EN VE SHAPER D.J.STEPHENSON 

FOR synthesis of the natural amplitude/time envelopes of conventional musical instruments, the common Attack-Sustain-Release (ASR) shapers are insufficiently accurate, and lack percussive effects at short attack settings. These shortcomings are overcome by using the Attack-Decay-Sustain-Release (ADSR) envelope shaper.

This unit incorporates a low cost voltage controlled amplifier, so that any existing VCA (which would otherwise have been required) can be used elsewhere. Fig. 1 shows the block diagram.

At short attack and decay times, percussive sounds can be generated on closing S1. At longer attack times a sort of touch sensitive playing technique can be acquired when keyboand triggered. At maximum settings of attack, decay and release the cycle will take several seconds to complete, thus producing incredible sound effects with imaginative inputs. Realistic envelopes for a wide range of conventional musical instruments can also be synthesised.

## ATTACK PERIOD

Referring to Fig. 2, closing the switch contacts S 1 causes the inverter output IC1a to fall sharply; this isolates the release pot VR4 via IC2d, and because of the differentiating action, of C1 and R3, drives a momentary negative going spike to IC1b. This sets the bistable formed by crossstrapped nand gates IC1b IC1c, and turns on IC2a. Providing the contacts S 1 remain closed, IC2c is also on, and a charging path is established for C2 via VR1 (the attack time). The rising voltage across ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} 2$, after buffering by the voltage follower IC4, is applied to one of the comparator inputs of IC3. The limit to which this voltage can rise is fixed by the divider R6, R7 which holds the positive reference at half the supply voltage.

## DECAY PERIOD

At the instant when C 2 voltage reaches half of Vcc , the comparator switches over and drives the output towards ground. This resets the bistable and:
(i) turns IC2a off which breaks the charging circuit.
(ii) turns IC2b on which starts the decay action.

Capacitor C2 now discharges at a rate, set by VR2 (decay time) down to a voltage determined by VR3 (sustain level).

## Attack

Decay

## Sustain

# Release 

## SUSTAIN PERIOD

A stable condition now exists, during which C2 voltage remains fixed at the sustain level for as long as S 1 contacts remain closed.

## RELEASE PERIOD

When S1 contacts are released, the inverter output goes high, turning on IC2d which then discharges C2 from its sustain level down to a minimum set by R5. The rate of discharge is controlled by VR4 (the release time).

## ANTI-LOCK UP

At first, IC2c may appear superfluous, but if not included a "circuit jam" could occur under the following conditions: If S1 contacts are released before C2 has charged up to the comparator threshold voltage, potential division at some settings or VR1 and VR4 would occur because IC2a and IC2d would both be on simultaneously. IC2c ensures this cannot happen by isolating the two potentiometers on premature key release.

## SUPPLY MODIFICATIONS

The release potentiometer is returned to the junction of R5 and VR3 which lies at 2 V positive rather than ground, because of the reluctance of IC4 output to sink lower than 2 V on single supply operation. This techique eliminates the


Fig. 1. Block diagram
time delay IC4 would introduce while C2 was charging to 2 V .

For installation into synthesisers with a dual balanced power supply the lock-up protection is not necessary, and with the added advantage of an extended tracer voltage starting from OV instead of 2 V , the following modifications are given:

Leave the circuit as shown connected between the OV line and the positive line, but
(a) replace R5 with shorting link
(b) change R4 to $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$
(c) connect pin 4 of IC4 to the negative line.

This allows IC4 to act as a true voltage follower sinking to within a millivolt or so of the voltage across C2, which would have a minimum value of OV .

## VOLTAGE CONTROLLED AMPLIFIER

The ADSR envelope voltage is available at the output of IC4. One output is used directly as a d.c. envelope tracer, Fig. 4, the other output is amplitude controlled by preset VR5 and after passing through the non-inverting summing amplifier IC5, is applied to the gate of the junction FET (TR1). IC6 is a class A amplifier used in the inverting mode. The FET in conjunction with R16 form the "input resistance" and R10 the feedback resistance. As the envelope voltage varies, the effective resistance of the FET varies and consequently the amplifier gain. Unfortunately, the gate parameters of junction FETs are notoriously unpredictable both in their control ratio and their voltage "bandwidth". Both of these variables can be compensated for by the following:

Fig. 2. Circuit diagram of the envelope shaper



Fig. 3. VCA output amplitude against time


Fig. 4. Envelope tracer output


Fig. 5. Stripboard layout

Fig. 6. Interwiring diagram


## COMPONENTS

## Resistors

| R1 | $10 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| R2, R3 | $1 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ (2 off) |
| R4 | $18 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R5 | $4.7 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R6, R7 | $22 \mathrm{k} \Omega(2$ off $)$ |
| R8, R9, R16 | $120 \mathrm{k} \Omega(3$ off $)$ |
| R10 | $680 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R11, R12, R13 | $100 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ (3 off) |
| R14, R15 | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ (2 off) |

## Capacitors

C1 $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ mylar
C2 $\quad 4.7 \mu \mathrm{~F} / 25 \mathrm{~V}$ Electrolytic
C3 $1 \mu \mathrm{~F} / 25 \mathrm{~V}$ Electrolytic
C4 $47 \mu \mathrm{~F} / 25 \mathrm{~V}$ Electrolytic
C5 $0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ Polyester

## Potentiometers

| VR1, VR4 | $2.2 \mathrm{M} \Omega \operatorname{lin}$. (2 off) |
| :--- | :--- |
| VR2 | $1 \mathrm{M} \Omega \operatorname{lin}$. |
| VR3 | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega \log$. |
| VR5, VR6 | $100 \mathrm{k} \Omega \operatorname{lin}$, horizontal preset (2 off) |

## Semiconductors

| IC1 | 74 COO (CMOS) Quad 2 input |
| :--- | :--- |
|  | Nands |
| IC2 | 4016 (CMOS) Quad Bilateral |
| switches |  |
| IC3, IC4, IC5, IC6 | 741 Operational amplifiers (4 |
| TR1 | off) |
|  | 2 N3819 or similar |

## Miscellaneous

0.1 in matrix Veroboard 36 strips $\times 50$ holes Veropins or component wire offcuts
Strip of 28 soldercon pins
4 potentiometer knobs
S1 s.p. push-to-make switch (if required)

(a) VR5 which adjusts the output swing of IC5 and hence the FET gate swing.
(b) VR6 applies some d.c. to the adder IC5, and hence controls the operating region of the swing.

Both these controls can be adjusted to suit any particular FET.
The maximum gain of the VCA can be set by the feedback resistor R10 since gain is approximately:

## $\frac{R 10}{R 16}$

Although $680 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ is used in the prototype (for a maximum gain of 15 dB ) the value can be altered to individual requirements, for the purposes of level setting. This VCA can be built as a separate module for other synthesiser applications (i.e. tremolo, if driven by a slow speed oscillator). It is very cheap to construct and effective in use; circuit layout is not critical.

## CONSTRUCTION

Construction is straightforward using the component layout Fig. 5 . The 741 i.c.s can be directly soldered, but the two CMOS i.c.s should be fitted last to avoid static damage.


Soldercon pins are recommended for these, rather than direct soldering. The junction FET TR1 is susceptible to damage by overheating, so swift soldering is advised. Potentiometer connections are given in Fig. 6.

A case was considered unnecessary as the potentiometer would be remotely mounted on a synthesiser front panel and the module fixed elsewhere within the system. Screened wire should be used to connect the input and output if leads over a couple of inches prove necessary on installation. The switch, S 1, can be a single pole push-to-make of a paralleled keyboard contact bus. Alternatively some form of automatic switching could be devised for repetitive uses, such as a slow speed astable.

## SETTING UP

Apply an audio waveform to the input and connect the output to an audio amplifier. Set VR1 and VR3 to maximum and VR2 and VR4 to minimum. Adjust VR6 until audio is just heard when S1 contacts are open and back off very slightly. Adjust VR5 to give a smooth attack from zero to maximum volume when S1 is closed. This trimming procedure should be repeated a few times to get the best results.

When set up, envelopes similar to Figs. 3 and 4 should be obtained depending on control settings.

## Strictly

## by K. Lenton-Smith

Mention of Signetics' TDA 1008 in the September issue seems to have been the signal for a number of letters from readers asking for assistance. Incidentally, this device is available from franchised Signetics distributors: Gothic Electronic Components, PO Box 301, Beacon House, 8 Hampton Street, at Birmingham B19 3 JU is one firm that can supply the i.c. at the prices mentioned in September's edition. In case of price changes before we publish, prospective purchasers should ring Gothic on 021-2365060.

## PEDAL CLAVIER

I have 'been asked if the TDA 1008 would be suitable for a pedalboard, which I assume is to be used by an organist reader who practices at home on a piano. Most separate pedal units use a single RC oscillator, so that the clavier is monophonic. This point is of no consequence to the average light organist, of course, but the serious performer sometimes needs to play more than one pedal at a time.

In this respect, the TDA 1008 will provide polyphony, but rather expensively: the point here is that a full set of 12 divider/keyers must be used, plus a top octave synthesiser, to provide even one octave of frequencies. The TDA 1008 is provided with five keying inputs, so that the 12 devices will service a five octave manual. Thus, half of the keying inputs will not be employed if this generator system is used with a 30 or 32 note pedal clavier.

Despite this wastage, the flexibility of the envelope control afforded by this device would still make it a good choice. Alternatively, a top octave synthesiser might be followed by strings of 7493 TL 4-bit binary counters-along the lines of the P.E. 'Joanna'-to provide the required pitches. Though perhaps a cheaper method yet still polyphonic, keying would be more complex and probably need to be based on diodes.

Even for home practice use, the output stage should be rated at 10 W at least, as the signal will often be a sustained sine wave after it has been through stop filters.

## STOP SWITCHING

Another reader is building a very comprehensive organ with three manuals, 30 note pedal and 50 stop tabs. His dealer had designed the circuitry but, when asked if thumb pistons could be incorporated, gave his opinion that relay switching would give rise to considerable noise. As the aim is to
simulate a cathedral organ faithfully, even to double touch, such switching interference would be intolerable.

There seem to be two possible avenues to explore here. The first would be inexpensive reed switches, using a mechanical system. A number of small permanent magnets could be attached to an extension rod behind the thumb piston, each with its associated reed switch nearby. Operating the thumb piston would thus close all the reed switches simultaneously. Apart from cost saving, no additional power supply would be required and there should be no noise problem because the contacts keep clean in their hermetically-sealed glass tubes. The magnet should approach the switch at a point which is off-centre for the most positive result. Reed switches can be operated by placing them in the centre of a coil wound with, say, 40 guage enamelled copper wire and of a suitable length to match the glass tube. Whilst this does not require a heavy current, returning to electro-magnetic methods might reintroduce switching noise.

The other approach would be to use some form of electronic switch. Many types of switching are satisfactory only for square wave signals distorting other signalsand, as stop switches often carry complex wave signals, the choice here is critical. Devices which could be useful in this respect are Mullard's TDA 1028 and 1029: both are op. amps connected as impedance convertors.

TDA 1028 is a quad op. amp., each section having two switchable inputs, whilst TDA 1029 is a dual op. amp each with four switchable inputs. Both i.c.s. are of the $16-$ pin di.i.l. type with input currents independant of switch positions and outputs shortcircuit protected. Mullard have designed these devices for switching from stereo to quadrophony, or four-channel signal 3ources. Both require a single supply of +6 V to +23 V and cost $£ 3.00$ at the 1-24 rate,

In both cases, eight signal inputs can be accepted, but switching is ganged electronically so that several devices might be required for combination switching: earthing out a given pin alters the mode. The basic switching for each device is relatively easy to visualise in principle, but I would suggest close study of the relative data sheet to see how either device might be used with the reader's particular project.

## OPTO IDEAS

Light dependent resistors have never been as inexpensive as one could wish, whilst there is always the bother of fitting both the light emitting diode and the light dependent resistor into a light-tight box. Such a combination is often used in electronic music for "chopping", tremulant or for swell control.

The $\mathbf{B \times 5 0 4}$ Opto Isolator is a four lead encapsulated device, looking similar to a small bridge rectifier. It contains both l.e.d. and photocell and is well worth the 25p asked by Progressive Radio of Liverpool (whose advertisements appear in this magazine). Polarity of the pins is indicated on top of the device and it should be noted that the cell is sensitive in this respect.

Another component oddity is the light activated thyristor-available from Proops Brothers of Tottenham Court Road. Supplied on a small printed circuit board with its associated gate to cathode resistor, the G.E. L9F will switch 1.6 A r.m.s. at up to 50 V by means of a pulse of light. The device costs 50 p and might be used to switch in a rhythm unit by means of a keying pulse applied to a lamp. This "latching relay" will require a manual switch off, however, as is normal with thyristors and d.c. supplies.

## 8' PEDAL

The owner of a Hammond M-100surely one of the best of Hammonds small organs, but sadly now out of productionrecently remarked that it would be nice to have the choice of either $8^{\prime}$ or $16^{\prime}$ pedal, as on the Hammond T series.

The $M$ series organs used tone wheels throughout, the pedal generators employing a very strange shaped disc to provide a complex tone. Against this, the $T$ series use bistable divider stages fed from other parts of the organ, so there is no problem in supplying two pitches for the pedal.

However, by applying full-wave rectification to a $16^{\prime}$ signal it should be possible to provide $8^{\prime}$ pitch. With power supply units for example, the secondary winding of the mains transformer supplies a.c. at 50 Hz , full wave rectification converting this to 100 Hz to make it easier to smooth. I have in mind using an op. amp. with single supply and some form of output level adjustment so that both $8^{\prime}$ and $16^{\prime}$ signals are matched. As yet, this scheme has to be tried and tested but I will report on the outcome in due course as there may be other readers with $M$ series organs and ' $T$ ' leanings.

## GIVE THEM THE BIRD

In the late autumn, flocks of migrating starlings often use the same rallying points year after year and become a complete nuisance owing to the noise and mess they create.

Some humans are driven to distraction by pop: on this basis I would suggest that British Rail considers using cascaded frequency doubling techniques to beam supersonic versions of the worst of the Top Twenty at high power levels across the station roof. It should frighten the life out of the birds!


## FRANK W. HYDE

## PROPOSED VERY LARGE RADIO TELESCOPE BY INDIA

A large radio telescope which would be built by international co-operation between India and the developing nations, was described by Prof. Menon at the conference of the European Physical Society. Prof. Menon is adviser on electronics to the Indian government. He was formerly head of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research in Bombay and well known for his activity in the advancement of Science in India.

The new telescope is based on a proposal put forward some two years ago by a distinguished radio astronomer Prof. G. Swarup who returned to India after a long period of research in the United States. He was responsible for the large telescope built in Ootacamund in South India.

The new telescope will be nearly four times the length of the Ootacamund installation. It is proposed that its activities will be centred on the use of the Lunar Occultation method of study. Data is obtained by this method when the Moon passes between the telescope and the source. This provides a means of detailed study of hundreds of radio galaxies within the range of the telescope. It will be possible to study the fine structure of the radio emission.

## FINE RESOLUTION

Under these conditions the resolution could range between 0.1 and 1 second of are at metre and decimetre wavelengths. Though it is in fact possible to obtain resolutions of this order in long baseline interferometers these are only really effective at frequencies of one centimetre or less. With the addition of this new telescope it would be possible to obtain corroborative data of great value.

The new Radio Telescope will be a parabolic cylinder two km in length and 50 m wide. It is to be built on the equator, making maximum use of the rotation of the Earth in order to increase the area from which to collect data. This poses the problem of its place of erection. Three areas only qualify: Africa, Indonesia and South A merica.

The cost of the telescope is estimated to be about eight million dollars with a further two million dollars for equipment. This is a small cost compared with the benefits to be obtained not only in technical and scientific knowledge but also in the expertise afforded the developing countries that are associated with the venture.

Profs. Menon and Swarup have already visited Tanzania, Nigeria and Kenya to enlist support. They are of the opinion that the telescope could be started in about a year and that it could be ready for operation in four years. The next step after this would be to add a 14 km by 8 km interferometer which could be ready two years later

## MARS AND LIFE

It is now two years since the Viking missions to Mars began their active search for life on the planet. During the intensive research over those years there have arisen two schools of thought as to the presence of life; one that contends that the apparent life is in fact the result of inorganic chemical processes, the other postulates that the biological explanation was the most likely. It does now seem that the leaning is toward the biological explanation although it would seem that a final decision needs another Mars visit.
That the biological life was taken to Mars by the mission is ruled out because of the report by the Com mittee on Planetary Biology and Chemical Evolution. The report says that the possibility of the effects of the oxidants and ultra violet radiation together with absence of organic compounds on Mars suggests that microbial life could not be supported. This is based on the examined strata. It is also pointed out that the majority of any micro-organisms would not have survived the journey to Mars.

## SPACE DEBRIS

The number of satellites and other vehicles in local space continues to increase. While some will stay intact for periods varying from a few years to several million years it is inevitable that before long a collision will occur. This situation has been highlighted by D . Kessler and B. Cour-Palais from the Johnson Space Centre. They expect the first major collision to occur during the next 10-20 years. This would produce a band of small fragments all round the Earth in 50 years. At the present time there are more bodies heavier than a gramme than there are natural meteorites in a band 100 kilometres above the Earth. If this situation continues it will mean the zoning of Earth Space to avoid collisions and maintain effective communication

There would appear to be the need for im posing a definite limit to the life and condition of bodies sent into space. It would of course be possible to do this by controlled be-entry or perhaps better still to gather up sufficient "dead" units and send them toward the Sun. One could of course consider a special vehicle as a space refuse collector. However it is a matter now to be seriously considered before the increasing number of launchings take the problem to alarming proportions.

## NOBEL PRIzE

A Nobel prize has gone to Arno Penzias and Robert Wilson for the discovery of the cosmic microwave background. It seems a pity that Dicke, Roll, Peebles and Wilkinson were not included since they in fact were the original discoverers. It is true that when Penzias and Wilson first heard the background hiss they could not understand its origin nor had they known of work of Dicke and his team, though they were near neighbours in their respective laboratories.

## FOUR HUNDRED MILLION YEARS AGO

Four hundred million years ago the Moon was nearer to the Earth. This has been determined from the growth ridges on the shell of fossil cuttle fish. Now the length of the lunar month known to vary, and indeed a figure is given for this by astronomers. It can be shown that during the past few thousand years the Moon has been receding from the Earth at the rate of 5.8 cm a year.
The changes in the ridges of the cuttle fish shell suggest that a greater variation of up to 17 times that figure was the norm 400 million years ago. It is also the case that this could have varied by a factor of three. It has been generally accepted by astronomy and other disciplines that evolution tended to be more rapid when the Moon was closer to the Earth, since the tidal forces were greater. This implies that the Moon was closest to the Earth about a billion years ago.
Lunar geology makes it virtually impossible for the Moon to have been closer at that time Thus the orbit must have been slower, at a time of 400 million years ago. This has been set out in a paper by Peter Khan and Stephen Pompea of Colorado State University in a letter to Nature.

## SHUTTLE ENGINE

The recent tests of the Shuttle Main Engine (SSME) have now made it possible to give a firm date for the first test launch of the shuttle. This is now 28 September 1979. The Space Shuttle is launched by a combination of two solid fuel boosters and three liquid hydrogen/liquid oxygen main engines. The boosters fall away after two minutes and descend by parachute for recovery. The main engines carry the vehicle into orbit but just before it reaches orbit the main fuel tank is jettisoned to fall into the Indian Ocean.


CINCE the microprocessor has made home computing a reality a lot of effort has gone into creating cheaper peripherals. The household television can be transformed into a visual display unit (VDU), and inexpensive bulk storage can be realized by use of a cassette tape recorder. Unfortunately no readily available hard copy device exists in most households, which can be adapted, and yet there is a definite need for some way of permanently recording text and programs.

Commercially available printers and printer systems are usually very expensive, but a recent arrival on the printer scene wis the aluminium foil printer, which costs significantly less, especially if bought without its associated electronics.

This series of articles will describe the electronics and software required to turn this stand-alone printer into a microcomputer compatible printing system.

The system will accept ASCII code (American Standard Code for Information Interchangel, and will be capable of printing 64 different characters and symbols at a rate of around 100 characters per second. The printer can print 40 columns (i.e. 40 characters per line) onto a special metallized paper, one roll of which should be good for around 6,800 lines.

The components to build the -24 V power supply and interface come to around $£ 35$, and the print-head mechanism is a further $£ 55$. Whilst this is a considerable sum for a hobbyist's project, it is still cheap compared to commercially available hard copy systems of similar capability.

The project itself is very interesting as it involves using the constructor's own microcomputer system to run software that will control the interface electronics. The electronics in turn control the action of the electromechanical/thermal printer. In short it's got a bit of everythingl

40 COLUMN,
$5 \times 7$ DOT MATRIX, ELECTROSENSITIVE FOIL PRINTER.

The software enables the printer to print out the contents of your microcomputer memory in one of two ways. Firstly, if the memory contains text (for example a program listing in mnemonic form), and the stored characters are in ASCII code, then the locations will be read sequentially and printed directly.

If, however, it is required to perform a memory dump, that is to print the actual hexadecimal contents of memory locations, then the software will convert the contents of the memory into their corresponding ASCII code and then print them. The relevant memory address will be placed at the start of each line. The front cover picture gives examples of both modes.

Part 1 will look at the printer itself and then give an overall view of the printer system. Following parts will describe the operation and construction of the interface, the -24 V power supply, general mechanical construction, and the software and system testing.

THE PRINTER
The printer produces characters based on a $7 \times 5$ dot matrix. The printing head is comprised of a vertical column of seven electrodes, which when pulsed cause dots to be etched onto the metallized paper. The paper is basically black, but is covered by a very thin layer of aluminium, and the pulsing of the electrodes melts the aluminium allowing the black paper to show through as a dot (see Fig. 1.1).

By pulsing various combinations of the seven electrodes as they horizontally traverse the paper, characters can be formed (see Fig. 1.2).

To maintain even spacing between the columns of dots, the electronics controlling the pulsing of the electrodes must be synchronized to the movement of the printing head. This is realised by using a gear wheel, driven by the printer motor, to induce a sinusoidal wave in a pick up coil (see Fig. 1.3). Obviously any variation in the speed of the head will be "paced" by the generated waveform.

A short time after the head has started to move, a reed switch on the printer closes. This indicates when the head is in a position to accept printing pulses. The switch opens again just before the head finishes its horizontal traverse.

This reed switch is energised by a fixed magnet whose effect on the reedris normally inhibited by a shield plate. When the printer is in a position to print, a cam pushes the shield plate aside leaving the magnet free to switch the reed. Fig. 1.4 shows the printer sequence.

The source of mechanical movement in the printer is a 24 V d.c. motor; this drives the magnetic pickup tooth-wheel. and a mangle gear via reduction gearing. The mangle gear drives the print head using a wire system. The cam to actuate the reed shield plate is incorporated onto the same shaft. To enable the printer to produce characters, the printer's elements must be used in the following way:

The motor must be switched on and off at the correct times, to traverse the print head and to operate the reed.

The reed switch closing must enable printing. The opening of the switch is used to switch the motor off.

The pickup coil waveform must be used to synchronize the pulsing of the electrodes.

The electrodes must be pulsed in the correct combinations at the right time to produce characters.

## THE PRINTER SYSTEM

Fig. 1.5 shows a block diagram of the major parts of the system and their interconnecting signals.

The microcomputer system presents 6 bits of ASCII code (which is sufficient to encompass the characters we are concerned with) to the interface along with the print command $(\overline{\mathrm{PC}})$ signal to initiate the printing of a line. The DATA REQ signal from the interface informs the microcomputer system when the printer is ready for another character.

The action of the microcomputer system is (a), to initiate printing ( $\overline{\mathrm{PC}}$ active), then (b), to sequentially present the required characters to the interface when requested to do so,

[ET1]
Fig. 1.3. A toothed wheel completes the permanent magnet's flux circuit. Teeth produce flux pulses; flux pulses produce e.m.f. pulses

 EG13

Fig. 1.1. The point contacts formed by the print-head electrodes cause concentrated points of heat which vapourise the metal film


Fig. 1.2. The character generator ROM remembers the electrode pulsing sequence for each character called up

Fig. 1.4. Printer sequence. A reed switch, operated by a permanent magnet, provides feedback for the sequence control


(10)

Fig. 1.6. Character generator
until a line has been printed.
The interface has to convert the ASCII character codes into the $7 \times 5$ matrix previously mentioned and drive the electrodes in the correct combinations to produce characters. This operation must be synchronised to the movement of the printing head. This is done using the pickup coil waveform.

The printer system requires $+5 \mathrm{~V},-24 \mathrm{~V},-12 \mathrm{~V}$ and OV supply rails. But as CMOS logic is used and the 5 V current requirement is low (typically 70 mA ) this can be obtained from the microcomputer's 5 V supply. The -24 V supply is used to drive the printer motor and the electrodes (via drive circuits on the interface) and is required to supply an average current of about 200 mA . The -12 V supply is required as a "Vgg." supply rail by the printer's MOS character generator chip. A Zener diode will be sufficient for this requirement.

## CHARACTER GENERATOR

The function of the interface is to receive ASCII data from the microcomputer and convert it to $5 \times 7$ matrix pulses capable of driving the printer electrodes. It must also take care of the timing and synchronisation of this operation.

The heart of the interface is the character generator chip, the 3257. The following, along with Fig. 1.6 and Fig. 1.7. describe its operation.

Within, the character generator chip is a 2240 bit read only memory organised as 64 character "cells", each having five columns of 7 bits. The ASCII code presented to the inputs AO to A5 will select the character "cell". The clock pulses entering the divide by 7 counter sequentially select the five columns of the character "cell", then outputs them from pins 01 to 07 . It is useful to note at this stage that outputs 01 to 07 remain inactive (high) unless chip enable (CE) input is active (high).

Fig. 1.8. ASCII characters available (Fairchild)


After the five columns have been clocked out and the character has been printed, output 01 to 07 all go high (inactive) for two further clock pulses. This is to give spacebetween characters. It is during that time that the counter out (CO) output goes active (high) indicating that the character generator chip is ready to receive the next ASCII character from the microcomputer. The characters available and their configuration are shown in Fig. 1.8.

## CLOCK CIRCUIT

Before we see how the rest of the interface is built around the character generator chip, it is worth looking at the clock circuit separately.

When the motor is running the gearwheel and pickup coil generate a sine wave of around 1 V peak to peak. The pickup coil/clock circuit (Fig. 1.9) filters this waveform and then amplifies it using a CMOS NAND gate with feed-back. A CMOS Schmitt trigger (MM74C14) converts the amplifier output to a clean rectangular wave.

As the period of this waveform is obviously dependent
Fig. 1.10. Interface circuit diagram


EO 18
Fig. 1.9. Clock generator (amplifier) circuit
upon the operation of the printer, it is used to clock the interface circuit and thus synchronize its operation with the printer.

## INTERFACE

The rest of the interface circuitry operates as follows:
The computer activates PRINT COMMAND ( $\overline{\mathrm{PC}}$ ). This sets the motor flip flop (see Figs. 1.10, 1.11, 1.12), the motor starts, the print head traverses and the pickup coil generates


E621]


Fig. 1.11. Print sequence starting up waveforms for various points in the circuit

Fig. 1.12. Print sequence finishing waveforms

the sine wave which is converted to clock pulses.
When the print head is in a position to print, the reed closes. The resulting change of level is presented to the SYNC flip flop and clocked through on the next clock pulse.

SYNC FFQ going to 1 frees the character generator chip from its reset state.

SYNC FFO going low enables the data request gate, which requests data from the microcomputer, allowing the software to deactivate print command ( $\overline{\mathrm{PC}}$ ).

The microcomputer presents the ASCII character to the character generator chip inputs via the non-inverting CMOS buffers.

The character generating chip sequentially outputs the five matrix columns to the electrode drivers over the next five clock pulses.

During the sixth and seventh time periods, the character generator chip's outputs $01-07$ remain inactive (high) to allow intercharacter spacing to occur.

For the duration of the seventh clock period the character generator counter output (CO) goes high. As the "Data Request" gate is enabled its output also goes high. Signalling to the microcomputer that the interface is ready for another character.

At the end of the seventh period, the character generator's internal divide by seven counter returns to its original state. It is now ready for the next character which the computer will have already presented to the interface.

The next seven clock pulses will clock out this character plus two spaces. DATA REQ will cause another character to be presented; this will also be printed and so on until the end of the line.

As soon as the software decides that the last character of a line has been printed, the computer outputs an ASCII


APPROX 100 ms .

COMPONENTS . . .

## Resistors

| R1-R3, R6-R8, |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| R11-R18, R34-R47, R55 | 10k (29 off) |
| R4 | 330k |
| R5 | 100R |
| R9, R19, R58 | 1 k (3 off) |
| R10 | 33k |
| R20-R26 | 4k7 (7 off) |
| R27-R33 | 2kO (7 off) |
| R48-R54 | 470 P (7 off) |
| R56, R57 | 2k7 (2 off) |
| R59 | 2k2 |
| R60 | 330 R |
| All $\frac{1}{4}$ W 5\% |  |

## Capacitors

C1, C10
1 On polyester ( 2 off)
C2, C8
C3, C4, C13-C15
C5
C6
C7. C9
C11,C18
C12. C19
C16
C17
$4 \mu 7 / 16 \mathrm{~V} \operatorname{tant}$ (2 off)
100 n disc ceramic (5 off)
10 n disc ceramic
$47 n$ polyester
100 n polyester ( 2 off )
$10 \mu / 63 \mathrm{~V}$ electrolytic (2 off)
$470 \mu / 16 \mathrm{~V}$ electrolytic (2 off)
$1 \mu / 63 V$ polyester
$4700 \mu / 63 \mathrm{~V}$ electrolytic

## Diodes

| D1-D4 | ZS174 (4 off) |
| :--- | :--- |
| D5 | $13 V 400 \mathrm{~mW}$ Zener |
| D6 | 11 V 400 mW Zener |
| D7 | 1 N472A 12 V Zener |

## Transistors

TR1-TR7, TR15
TR8-TR14
TR16
BC212 (8 off)

TR17 2N4037 2N3053

TR18 TIP42

## Integrated Circuits

IC1 MM74C14N
IC2 MC14013CP
IC3 MC14001CP
IC4 MC14011CP*
IC5 MM74C221N
IC6 MC14050BCP
IC7 3257ADC Character Generator (Fairchild)
*Must not be a B series (buffered O/P) device

## Miscellaneous

14 pin di.i.l. socket ( 4 off)
16 pin di.i. socket (4 off)
24 pin d.i.I. socket (1 off)
Panel mounting mains fuse holder (1 off)
Mains d.p.s.t. switch (S1)
2-pole 3-way switch
Mains neon indicator
Stripboard $95 \times 228 \mathrm{~mm}$, and $63 \times 63 \mathrm{~mm}$ (1 off each)
Mains cable grommet ( 1 off)
240 V transformer with $0-25 \mathrm{~V} \mathrm{sec}$ (4VA min)
Printer: Matsushita type 245/L/40 (Datac Ltd)
Box of electrosensitive paper (4 rolls)
Clamp for C17 ( 35 mm )
15 -way plug (free) and socket (chassis mounting), capable of at least 2 amps

Fig. 1.13. Mains reset waveforms
"space", character. When decoded by the character generator chip this does not cause any electrode action. The system remains in this mode outputting spaces until the switching of the REED signifies the "mechanical" end of the line. When this transition is clocked through the SYNC flip flop, the motor flip flop is reset via Mono-2. The character generator chip is held in the reset state by SYNC FFO and the "Data Req" gate is inhibited.

If another line has yet to be printed, the software allows the printer to settle, then reactivates print command and the process is repeated.

## MAINS RESETS

At switch-on the motor flip flop is required to be in the reset position so that the motor does not continually run. This is realised by the RC combination charging up at the positive transition input of Mono-2. When the voltage on the B input goes over the threshold, a reset pulse will be sent to the motor flip flop.

However, if for some reason the print head was in the middle of its traverse when power was switched on, resetting the motor flip flop would leave it stuck, and cause erroneous printing when operation started.

Mains Reset-2 generates a pulse which lasts much longer than the period before Mains Reset-1 generates its reset pulse. If the head is positioned midway, the reed will be closed (Reed $=1$ ). This will enable the "Mains Reset" gate, allowing the Mains Reset-2 pulse to set the motor flip flop despite the Mains Reset-1 pulse (see Fig 1.13): The head will traverse until it is in its correct position and the circuitry resets itself due to the closing of the REED in the normal way.

## INTENSITY OF PRINT

Intensity can be controlled by varying the burn time of the electrodes. The electrodes are driven by the counter-


The P.E. Microprinter is shown here with the $\mathbf{Z 8 0}$ based Micros system
generator chip outputs 01-07. These outputs are strobed active, by Monostable-1 pulsing the chip enable input (CE). By adjusting VR1 the "active" time for 01-07 can be varied, hence the burn time, and print intensity can thus be controlled.
As the bulk of the circuitry has now been described, the full components list is included in this part of the article.

Well, if you found detailed explanation of the circuitry heavy going, you will be relieved to hear that Part 2 will deal with the more basic driver circuits, power supplies and construction.


## MICRO' EXTENSION

ONE of Commodore's microprocessor distributors, G.R. Electronics of Newport, Gwent, have announced several major extensions for the Commodore Kim 1 microcomputer.
Kim 1, which is manufactured by MOS Technology, a division of Commodore Systems, sells for less than $£ 150$ and is a ready-to-use microcomputer requiring only a POWER SUPPLY (price £27) to be fully operational. The new extensions, however, make the system more versatile, giving more peripherals, larger memory, and ready-made software.
A Video Board, designed by G.R. Electronics, allows KIM 1 to use a domestic television set as a visual display unit, with a capacity of 16 lines of 64 characters. (Available at $£ 150$ ).

Memory can be expanded with the addition of the new Memory Plus Board, which contains 8 K bytes of RAM, and has provision for up to 8 K of EPROM. (G.R. Electronics are now supplying a 240 volt power unit which has been specially designed for the KIM 1). (The price for the Memory Plus Board is $£ 199$ ).
Input to the basic KIM 1 system is by a key-pad which allows hexadecimal code and control functions to be keyed in. Although any standard ASC11 keyboard can be connected, G.R. Electronics have introduced a pocket terminal which can be plugged into the KIM I system for easy input of data. The terminal is a hand-held communica-
tions unit and allows input of the full ASCII characters set from its 40 dual purpose keys. (Price £240).

Now available is a wide range of powerful software for the KIM 1. To help the system run more efficently, a series of systems software packages are now available from G.R. Electronics. An Assember/Disassember/Editor called the MICRO-ADE package allows the user to program in mnemonic instructions rather than in machine code, and also offers several features to facilitate programming.

An information retrieval package gives the KIM with cassette tape peripherals some sophisticated file handling capabilities. G.R. have also developed a mailing list program for business use called HELP, available at $£ 12$.

In addition to these, a chess playing program is available as is PLEASE, a package which incorporates a number of games and demonstration programs. The average price for the software is $£ 12$.


by Mike Abbott

## ELECTRIC CHARIOT RACE

T's hard to think of ingenuity as a resource in the way that oil is to the Middle East, or copper is to Central Africa, but surely it is, and Britain has it. So it's nice to see some encouragement, because although ingenuity doesn't run out like oil, it could well stagnate due to lack of incentive or reward.

Lucas Industries (who are heavily engaged in electric vehicle development), in association with the Institute of Mechanical Engineers, are launching a $£ 2,000$ challenge to the amateur and professional engineer alike, to design a manned electric vehicle. The idea being, to see whose machine can transport its driver the farthest in two hours, powered only by two standard Lucas 12 V batteries.

The competition is in two parts; the first asks entrants for design submissions, and the best will be awarded prizes. Then the prizewinners, together with other entrants whose design concepts are approved by the judges, will be invited to construct their vehicles and prove them in competition during a distance"trial which forms the second part of the challenge.

The winner of the second (Application) Section will be the entrant whose vehicle travels the greatest distance in a two hour period according to the rules, and the outright winner of this section will receive a $£ 1,000$ prize.

Before you decide whether to electrify a pram, tricycle, or build your own contraption, the lure of the prizes should be felt.
(1,000-Outright winner
$£ 100$ Highest placed four (or more) wheeled vehicle
$£ 100$-Highest placed three wheeled vehicle
£100-Highest placed entrant under 18 years' of age receiving full time education
£125-Leader at 60 minutes
The trial will take place during the summer or Autumn of 1979 at a venue in the Midlands.

The closing date for Design Section submissions will be February 1, 1979, and the closing date for Application Section submissions will be July 1,1979 . Some extracts of the rules which apply are listed below:
(1.4) The battery pairs may be used in series or in parallel or alternately
(1.5) Regenerative braking will be permitted.
(1.7) The maximum dimensions of the vehicle to be powered by the Battery will be 4 ft wide $\times 8 \mathrm{ft}$ long.
(1.9) The vehicle will have a minimum of three wheels.
(1.10) In the interests of fairness, driver weight will be a minimum of 10 stone. Where a driver weighs less, provision must be made on the vehicle for carrying sand ballast.
(1.11) Each vehicle shall be fitted with an effective mechanical braking device on no less than one wheel.
(1.14) Those who wish to compete as a team can do so merely by nominating a "team leader" who will become the entrant for administrative purposes. Prizes will be awarded to the first person named on the application form.
(2.6) Vehicles will be propelled by no means other than The Battery and no re-charging except by means of regenerative braking will be allowed during the competition.
(2.9) All entries shall submit to scrutiny before the contest to ensure the rules are observed, and all drivers will present themselves to be "weighed in".
(2.11) The judges, at their discretion, shall be able to award penalties (deduct laps) or disqualify competitors for dangerous driving, bumping and/or obstruction.

Details from: How Far Can You Travel? Lucas Industries, Great King Street, Hockley, Birmingham B19 2XF.

## SUBSTITUTE 741

Two new operational amplifiers, NE/SE535 and 538, from Mullard, are high slew rate plug-in alternatives for 741 types. The 535 features a guaranteed unity gain slew rate of $10 \mathrm{~V} / \mu \mathrm{s}$ with 2 mV maximum offset voltage whilst the 538 features $40 \mathrm{~V} / \mu \mathrm{s}$ minimum with 2 mV offset. These figures show improvements in slew rates of 30 times, and 120 times respectively over the slew rate of a standard 741.

The 535 and 538 also offer the attraction of improved input characteristics, such as lower offset voltages and offset current, as well as higher input resistances. The 535 is internally compensated for unity gain whilst the 538 is internally compensated for gains of five or larger.

Both amplifiers are short circuit protected, feature an offset null capability, and have large common mode and differential voltage ranges.

## WHEN THE BLOOD FLOWS

THE incidence of heart disease and subsequent heart failure among males in their early thirties, and among women in general is increasing at an alarming rate. A by-product of our modern age.

Medical science is largely unable to prevent people from developing heart trouble but once a condition is known there is a great deal that can be done. Open heart surgery, for example, is now a well-practised and fairly common form of treatment.

One of Britain's leading heart surgeons is Mr Bryn T. Williams, Consultant Cardiothoracic surgeon to the Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery at St Thomas' Mospital in London. This Cardiothoracic unit performs between seven and nine open heart operations each week, with remarkable success. For coronary artery surgery the mortality rate can be as low as 2 per cent whilst around 85 per cent of patients recover completely (without side effects), and are able to resume their full-time employment within two to three months.

Open heart surgery can be a lengthy business. Replacing a valve, for example, takes approximately three hours, whilst the more complicated by-pass graft operation can last for up to five hours. During this type of operation, the measure of bloodfiow in the by-pass graft is vital. For this, most hospitals use purpose-designed flow meters.


Mr Bryn Williams also uses a Scopex single beam oscilloscope. together with an electromagnetic flow probe which he has designed in conjunction with a colleague Mr C. A. Barefoot. The Scopex oscilloscope indicates the quality of the bloodflow by signalling peaks and troughs. It also signals reverse flow which indicates any abnormal situation. The flow meter shown in the picture measures bloodflow in $\mathrm{ml} / \mathrm{min}$.

To provide an indication of the success, or otherwise, of the operation the Williams-Barefoot probe is inserted in the patient's chest and remains in place whilst the patient recovers in the intensive care unit. Thus Mr Bryn Williams and his team can accumulate valuable data on long-term bloodflow in grafts. The Williams-Barefoot probe is removed from the patient without re-operation.

The Scopex instrument used by Mr Bryn Williams at St Thomas' is the model 4S6-LS single beam oscilloscope with a sensitivity range of $10 \mathrm{mV} / \mathrm{cm}$ to $50 \mathrm{mV} / \mathrm{cm}$ ( 16 range timebase) and accuracy of $\pm 5$ per cent. The 4 S6-LS has been tailored to meet the needs of low frequency applications; the trigger circuit will perform reliably down to 1 Hz .


THE electronic version of this well known game uses nine light emitting diodes laid out in the usual noughts and crosses format. On each side of the playing board there is a touch keypad. When a touch switch on either keypad is pressed its corresponding l.e.d. on the board will be illuminated. The l.e.d. will either, flash (indicating a cross) or remain static (indicating a nought). There is an l.e.d. over each keypad to indicate which keys are for the noughts and which are for the crosses. A touch switch is also fitted on the front panel to reset the board after each game.

## COMPONENTS . .

## Resistors

| R1-R10,R41-R49 | 10M (20 off) |
| :--- | :--- |
| R11-R19, R31-R40 | $4 \mathrm{K7}(20$ off $)$ |
| R20-R30 | $470(10$ off $)$ |
| R50, R53 | $1 \mathrm{~K}(2$ off $)$ |
| R51, R52 | $47 \mathrm{~K}(2$ off $)$ |

## Capacitors

C1, C2 $4 \mu 716 \mathrm{~V}$ tant (2 off)

## Transistors

TR1-TR21 BC108 (21 off)

## Semiconductors

IC1-IC10 CD4011 (10 off)

## Miscellaneous

11 off l.e.d. TIL209
1 off battery holder
4 off PP7 battery
1 off s.p.s.t. switch
1 off $162 \times 97 \times 40 \mathrm{~mm}$ case (RS type 507-737)
Holders for i.c.s (if req).

## CIRCUIT DESCRIPTION

The complete circuit diagram of the Noughts and Crosses game is shown in Fig. 1. The ten i.c.s used in the game are CMOS CD4011 quad, two input NAND gates which are cross coupled in pairs as bistable multivibrators to form eighteen memory elements. Nine memories (IC1 to IC5) are used for the "crosses" and another nine memories (IC6 to IC10) are used for the "noughts".

The input to each memory element is connected to a pad on the keyboard together with a 10 megohm resistor which is connected to the supply rail. When a player touches a keypad the input of that particular gate is grounded and the output of the memory element is switched low, turning off its respective transistor (TR1 to TR18). As the transistor turns off its collector voltage rises and the corresponding l.e.d. on the playing board is turned on.

The astable multivibrator formed by TR20 and TR21 produces a square wave output which repeatedly switches TR19 causing D10 (the indicator above the "cross" keypad) to constantly flash. When TR19 pulses its collector voltage and the emitters of TR10 to TR 18 also pulse, turning the transistors (TR10 to TR18) on and off and causing the l.e.d.s turned on by the "cross" keyboard to flash.



Fig. 1. Complete circuit diagram of the Noughts and Crosses Game

[EA3
Fig. 2. P.c.b. layout for the front panel


Fig. 3. P.c.b. layout for the memory boards (two of these boards are required)


Fig. 4. P.c.b. layout for the l.e.d. board


Fig. 5. Component overlay for memory board (crosses)


Fig. 6. Component overlay for memory board (noughts)


Fig. 7. Component overlay for l.e.d. board

Fig. 8. P.c.b. layour for I.e.d. driver board


Fig. 9. Component overlay for l.e.d. driver board


## CONSTRUCTION

The complete game has been designed to fit onto five p.c.b.s and these are shown together with their respective component overlays in. Fig. 2 to Fig. 9.

When all the p.c.b.s have been etched, tinned and drilled the components can be mounted and soldered into position. It is recommended that i.c. holders are used to prevent the CMOS devices from being damaged during soldering. The eleven l.e.d.s should have their leads cut to $\frac{1}{4}$ in before they are soldered into position.

After the five boards have been wired together the l.e.d. board can be mounted underneath the front panel p.c.b. as shown in the photograph. The two boards are held in position by two pieces of 20 s.w.g. tinned copper wire which are soldered to the centre touch switches of both keypads. These wires pass through the two holes drilled in the l.e.d. board and are then bent at right angles and soldered to the wires from R6 and R45.

The two memory boards and the l.e.d. driver board are mounted into two slotted guides fitted at the bottom of the case with the battery holder located alongside them.

After the boards have been mounted into the case and the front panel fitted into position the game is ready for use.

## POIIIS AREINE

## POWER SUPPLY UNIT (October 1978)

The maximum output voltage and current of the supply depends on the transformer and heatsinking. For 2A 30V continuous operation T1 should be a 2A d.c. (post rectification and smoothing) rating, and 25 V a.c. output.
It should be stressed that the higher quality 44 V type of 741 should be used for IC1-3 (not the 741C).

R10 should be connected to the line connecting the positive side of C3 and the cathode of D5 etc. and not to the negative output terminal as shown. This is correct on the p.c.b.

R18 should be $33 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ and the equation relating to current metering should read $\left.R_{y}=\frac{(1 \text { f.s.d. } \times 0.3}{1}-R_{m}\right)$ ohms for I f.s.d. full scale. (This value is up to the constructor). The equation for $R_{x}$ is for 30 V f.s.d.

S1 is the mains on/off switch, and S2 the meter changeover switch. The fuse should be on the mains side of S1 and is a 1A "Slo-Blo" type.


This pulse generator is capable of providing output waveforms with known characteristics over a wide range of frequencies and pulse widths: The unit has independent control over both the pulse width and repetition frequency and is ideal for slowing down the operation of circuits to allow tests to be carried out using a conventional multimeter.


In this new series R. W. Coles takes a general look at home computers together with the main types of peripherals and software currently available.


Many owners of hi-fi cassette or reel-to-reel tape recorders cannot use their machines to full creative capacity for want of a good mixer. This simple design will enable many options as it will accept both. line and dynamic microphone inputs over three channels for a stereo image.

## PRACTICAL




In the fight against noise and exhaust pollution, electric vehicles can surely make a contribution, but what effect would they have on the national fuel bill? Shall we ever see electric cars, and is anything being done in the UK?

## COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

When fossil fuel runs out do we return to horses (whose pollution was a danger to public health in their day), or do we pin our hopes on electric vehicle development?

Your daily "pinta" has probably been arriving with the aid of an electric milk float for a long time now, and when you look at electric vehicles you tend to think of other "half-pint" machines, such as the forklift truck and the golf-course buggy. It is therefore tempting to think that battery-electric power is more suitable for small vehicles, starting with toy cars and working up to milk floats, and that advancing technology will in time allow bigger vehicles to go electric. This is wrong! The common denominator is not size, but predictability of terrain and route, and for this reason we shall most likely see electric buses swishing past before we see electric cars. And more probably still, electric delivery vans. There are a number of electric vans on London's roads already (see News Briefs, February 1978).

Heavily involved in electric commercial vehicle development is Joseph Lucas Ltd., whose first such van was a converted Bedford CA pick-up. Powered by standard polypropylene starter batteries, the van gave sufficient initial data on performance in traffic, and electrical drive systems, to allow the design of the traction motor and control system used in two British Leyland 250 JU vans, the next conversions to take place. They were used for further testing only, since the battery packs occupied the loading floors.

In 1974 the decision was taken to build a considerable number of development vehicles to be put into service with fleet operators, and when the concept for the trials had been determined, willing operators were found. There had to be mutual understanding here, since development vehicles by definition have shortcomings, if only at the outset, and these could lead to
embarrassing disappointments. Assurances that problems will be ironed out can quickly wear thin, resulting in the test vehicle being left forgotten.

In this new generation of converted Bedford CF vans, engines, gearboxes, radiators, and much ancillary equipment gave way to electric motors, controllers, combustion heaters and battery units in the two new models. In the CF1 and CF2, higher rated rear axles and road springs from the standard CF range of parts were substituted.

In the CF2 version the batteries are accessible only from within the vehicle, but the CF1's batteries are withdrawn on a sliding tray (see photo) for exterior access. Both these models of CF van had battery packs occupying about 10 per cent of the loading floor, and so a CF3 conversion was embarked on, in which the batteries (all 1 tonne of them) could fit under the floor, and which also used the improved drive technique developed on an electric taxi (of which more later). The diagram of Fig. 1 shows the CF3 layout and the position of the Morse Hyvo chain reduction system employed.

The CF3 specification is:
Acceleration $0-48 \mathrm{k} . \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{h}$. in 14 sec .

$$
48-64 \text { k.p.h. in } 10 \mathrm{sec} .
$$

Top speed $80+$ k.p.h.
Min. working range 112 km .
Range at constant 48 k.p.h. 224 km .
Motor: 216 V d.c. 37 kW ( 50 bhp ) series wound.
Speed: $4,600 \mathrm{rpm}$ at 80 k.p.h.
Controller: Lucas designed SCR chopper.
Power Pack: Thirty-six 6V lightweight lead-acid traction batteries in series. 12 V type for remaining vehicle electrics.
Braking: Regenerative braking is brought into operation by initial brake pedal movement. The kinetic energy of the vehicle


Developed by Lucas, this nifty sliding tray battery pack
(photographs courtesy of Lucas)

You would never know the difference-not, that is, until the CF began to roll. No smoke, no noisel


Pull up the loading floor of a CF3 and this is what you've got. Motor and chain reduction drive system in foreground; battery pack towards the front of the vehicle
drives the motor as a generator which puts charge back into the batteries, and this loading causes braking. Maximum braking effort from this is around 20 per cent $g$ (sufficient for normal circumstances). The system drops out below 6 k.p.h. The conventional servo assisted brakes remain, powered by an electric vacuum pump. The "engine braking" effect found on conventional vehicles is simulated by controlled amounts of regenerative braking when the accelerator pedal is released.

Fig. 1. The Lucas CF3 electric van layout


Other manufacturers of electric vans are Crompton Electricars, who produce a 2 tonne payload vehicle of minimal 37 k.p.h. speed capability, effective range of up to 64 km , and powered by a 35 kW 26 V motor. Harbilt Electric Vehicles Ltd. who produce an urban service van with an 80 km range, capable of speeds up to $53 \mathrm{k} . \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{h}$. Its 72 V series wound motor is controlled by Cableform's Pulsomatic Mark 10 thyristor controller. The payload is 409 kg , which according to the specification includes the driver, so presumably only seven stone weaklings get the job.

The Crompton Electricars FL85/36 2 tonnes electric delivery van
(courtesy
Crompton Electricars)


One would be surprised if Chloride were not mentioned. Their efforts in conjunction with Chrysler have produced a battery electric 1.7 tonne urban delivery van. The proof of the pudding is in the eating, and this vehicle, called the Silent Karrier is employed on a strictly commercial basis in London, Birmingham and other big cities by Fleet operators. Chloride say about the Silent Karrier: "Lets explode the myth once and for all that electric vehicles have to crawl along the kerb", and with a vehicle that can travel at 72 k. p.h. they stand a reasonable chance.

Based on the Chrysler Dodge KC 6055 chassis and powered by Chloride's high energy density batteries (with single-point topping up), Silent Karrier has acceleration comparable with diesel vehicles. It has a range up to 80 km minimum powered by a 37 kW 160 V motor (compound). Armature and field currents are controlled independently, and of course regenerative braking is included. Fig. 2 shows the Silent Karrier's layout.


The Silent Karrier in service, jointly developed by Chloride, Chrysler UK and N.F.C.

## ELECTRIC BUS

Of course we have had electric buses before now; you don't have to be very old to remember the trolley-buses, and recall their twanging wires and spritely acceleration. It could all come back (without the twangs), for the beginnings have been realised by Chloride's Motive Power Projects Group in the shape of the Silent Rider, pictured right. The first Silent Rider which started carrying passengers some while ago, was developed in cooperation with Greater Manchester.P.T.E. (Passenger Transport Executive). It cannot claim to be the first battery powered bus, since they ran in the 1920's, but it does use today's technology and has a place in the future.

The body is a Seddon aluminium alloy shell with steel subframe, on a modified Seddon RU33 chassis. The batteries are Chloride's tubular $330 \mathrm{~V} 329 \mathrm{Ah} / 5 \mathrm{~h}$ motive power type, and with nearly four and a half tonnes of them, someone at the depot must be glad they have single-point topping up. How does that work? Well, the cells are of sealed construction such that when distilled water is introduced through a tube in the cell top, the electrolyte level rises to meet the tube, thus cutting off further inflow. A vacuum pump sucks distilled water from the reservoir and distributes it to each cell in the battery pack. These batteries have a life of 1,600 cycles, and have to drive a 72 kW series wound motor, with another 1 kW shunt motor to force air cool it. The controller to handle all this is a thyristor pulse width system capable of keeping its hair on for five minutes at $1,000 \mathrm{~A}$. It can manage 300A continuously and has a current limit set to 800A. Again, the controller features regenerative braking.

All this adds up to a bus with a maximum speed of $64 \mathrm{~km} / \mathrm{h}$ and an acceleration on the level of $1 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{s} / \mathrm{s}$. Chloride are the first to admit that these characteristics, coupled with a range of 64 km and maximum gradient of 1 in 8 , are not those of a bus which will totally replace the diesel alternative. But survey figures reveal that the average speed of buses engaged in city centres (the target area for Silent Rider) at peak times is only 13.7 k.p.h. Also, approximately 45 per cent of the fleets are used for less than 7 hours in every 24 , and when in use 90 per cent of those which pass through the town centres, cover less than 64 km .

Manufacturers are not keen to divulge circuit details, but Fig. 4 shows the basic principle of the Sevcon controller. It can be seen how the current in SCR 1 is interrupted in order to switch it off at the appropriate point in the cycle. Figs. 5(a) and 5(b) show the current multiplication effect produced by the thyristor controller.

The specially designed d.c. motor is capable of a peak power output of 160 kW , and increased efficiency is achieved by a split


Chloride Silent Rider


Fig. 3. The Chloride Silent Rider electric bus layout
pole design with laminated yoke (see Fig. 6). Extra inductance is supplied by series chokes. Thermistors are strategically positioned to activate the involute cooling fan motor, and if overheating occurs, shut off power completely to the drive motor.

The non-drive end of the motor shaft is fitted with a tachogenerator, which apart from providing speed indication, applies a small feedback voltage to the controller for control of acceleration and maximum speed. Final drive to the $6 \cdot 21: 1$ single speed, rear axle couples via a prop shaft with two rubber bonded universal joints. Fig. 8 shows the discharge characteristics of the Chloride battery pack, and Fig. 7 shows the performance of the drive motor.

Fig. 4. Basic circuit of original Sevcon controller used in Silent Rider



Graphs supplied by Chloride for Silent Karrier show how the performance of an electric vehicle can compare with its diesel counterparts



Fig. 6. Advantages of split pole system

Fig. 5 (left). Chopped waveforms produced by the SCR system

Fig. 7. Drive motor performance curves

| SPEEDIN RPM | VOLTS | EFFICIENCY\% | $\underset{\mathrm{kW}}{\text { POWER }}$ | torque ft. lb . $\qquad$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 90 | 160 | 1500 |
| 3000 |  | 80 | 150 | 1500 |
|  |  | 70 | 160 | 1400 |
|  |  |  | 130 | 1300 |
|  | 400 |  | 120 | 1200 |
|  |  |  | 110 | 1100 |
| 2000 | 300 |  | 100 | 1000 |
|  |  |  | 90 | 900 |
|  | 200 |  | 80 | 800 |
|  |  |  | 70 | 700 |
|  |  |  | 60 | 600 |
| 1000 |  |  | 50 | 500 |
|  |  |  |  | 400 |
|  |  |  | $30$ | 300 |
|  |  |  | 20 | 200 |
|  |  | 1 | 10 | 100 |
|  |  | $\checkmark$ | 0 | 0 |
| $0 \quad 1002003004005006007008009001000$ MOTOR CURRENT (AMPS) |  |  |  |  |



Fig. 8. Discharge characteristics of Chloride battery pack used in Silent Rider (Photographs and diagrams courtesy of Chloride)

## MIDI-BUS

Back in 1975, the RAC officially observed the Lucas midibus as it became the first battery electric vehicle to be driven non-stop between two major English cities. The Lucas-modified Seddon Pennine 4 midi-bus, travelling at an average of $48 \mathrm{k} . \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{h}$. did the depot to depot run between Birmingham and Manchester, all 148 km , on one charge (although favourable influencing factors undoubtedly prevailed). Like other electric vehicles, its purpose in life is that of clocking up miles doing for real what it was intended to do, as an evaluation exercise.

Its composite light alloy/glass fibre body can accommodate 34 passengers. A 360 V d.c. CAV 97 kW motor developing 130 b.h.p. sits in the centre of the chassis to drive a conventional prop' shaft, and is controlled by the Lucas developed solid state SCR chopper. There is a pack of 60 batteries on board, producing 360 V and the bus has a range of 181 km under ideal conditions, but is more than adequate for Manchester's congested Centreline service of 64 km of intensive stop-start operation. Acceleration is from 0 to 48 k.p.h. in 15 seconds, with the vehicle laden to its gross weight of 9.87 tonnes. Unladen, the bus can sweep along at a brisk 80 k.p.h. Winter passengers are warmed by the front and rear paraffin heaters, and have the benefit of the bus being warmed up before going into service.
The Lucas Electric Midi Bus between operations on Manchester's Centreline service


## PERSONNELCARRIERS

On a smaller scale are the three electric personnel carriers by Lucas, based on the Bedford CF van. The electric pullman is a luxury passenger vehicle for up to eight people, who gain entry through rear doors, and sit in a comfortable "horseshoe" seating arrangement. This vehicle has been used for transporting visitors to and from motor shows in London and Paris.

The Limousine is similar, but fitted with bench seats on both sides, capable of seating four people each (three with the folding armrests down). The luxury Crewbus takes up to nine passengers in individual seats positioned diagonally to face the front.


An Electric Limousine is seen outside the Hilton Hotel


The Lucas Electric Taxi


## ELECTRIC TAXI CAB

A dilemma which faces any would-be manufacturer of electric vehicles, is that of deciding which course to steer in terms of the vehicle's origin. If you design a vehicle specifically to be electric. you can take advantage of so much that will increase the range and performance, such as styling for low wind resistance, using low friction transmission and bearing arrangements, constructing out of lightweight materials, etc. but all this will result in a custom vehicle of tremendous expense in low volume production. Low volume production doesn't become high volume production until you really start selling, and at the
"kick-off" price not many people will buy. A vicious circle!
The alternative is to find the nearest suitable vehicle already in production, and modify it to become electric. You end up with batteries in less convenient positions, and performance characteristics derated by weight and other factors less important to i.c.e. (internal combustion engine) vehicle design criteria, but at least more people can afford to purchase it, and that's the name of the game!

Nevertheless, as an exercise Lucas, in conjunction with David Ogle Ltd., purpose built an electric taxi. The design of the taxi was based specifically on the requirements of an electric vehicle, modified only to meet the regulations which apply to London cabs by the Public Carriages Office of the Metropolitan Police. See below, left.

The electric taxi achieved a drive system efficiency of some 10 per cent better than the Lucas CF Type vehicles, and has a range of 160 km in heavy traffic conditions. Its length is about one metre shorter than the conventional London taxi-cab, but it is considerably heavier with batteries. The design included an inventive transmission system, which incorporates a two-stage Morse HY-VO chain drive mechanism giving a total reduction of $5 \cdot 63: 1$. A short quill shaft between the reduction chain drives provides some shock absorption between the road wheels and the motor. This system proved so successful that, with a little rearranging it was made possible to include it in the electric CF vehicles.

The electric cab has front wheel drive and can turn full circle in 8.5 m . There is a 12 V auxiliary battery for the normal electrical system and the low tension supply to the controller, and this is kept charged by a converter unit powered by the traction batteries. A combustion heater is used to warm the inside of the taxi, but when the roads are clear you may not be inside it long enough to get cold, for the vehicle can manage a speed of 96 k.p.h.

## ELECTRIC CARS

It would have been a misnomer to call this article "Electric Cars", because in this particular domain of the electric vehicle front there is least to report on. The limitations imposed by a machine of battery-electric propulsion are precisely those which would be least tolerated by the private motorist. That is, the short range, aggravated by the absence of widespread recharging facilities available for public use; and the lack of space within such a vehicle, which might otherwise only demote it to "second car" or "commuter car" were it not for the high capital cost involved.

How far we must be from substantial battery-electric roadside refuelling facilities, when you realise that today's five pump petrol station can dispense power at a rate equivalent to Battersea Power Station.

In Amsterdam an imaginative electric car system has been put into operation, called the "Amsterdam White Car Scheme" which is intended to partially alleviate the noise and pollution problems which all cities suffer from. The cars, designed by Luud Schimmelpennink, look rather like upright ice cream kiosks on wheels, and four of them can be parked in the space occupied by one conventional car.

Electric cars can of course be found elsewhere, but are so often for fun only, such as "buzzing" around holiday villages, etc. A company recently engaged in the production of leisure resort electric cars was Electraction Ltd. who produced "Rickshaw" pictured across. It is powered by 12 lightweight 6 V batteries, with thyristor control over a $7 \cdot 5 \mathrm{~h} . \mathrm{p}$. motor. There is a sliding battery pack at the rear, and its role in life becomes clear when you read the list of accessories. It has a surfboard rack; golf club carriers, and what is described as ample picnic basket space.

Another vehicle from the same manufacturer is Tropicana, a rugged two-seater sports car with a maximum speed of 58 k.p.h. and a range of 95 km . It can climb a 1 in 5 gradient, and has virtually the same electrical system as the Rickshaw. At the time of writing this article the company went into receivership, leaving the future of these fun cars rather uncertain, although it seemed possible that they might continue to be manufactured by another company.


Top: Rickshaw

Above: The Tropicana 2-seater electric sports car (Courtesy Electraction Ltd)

An Amsterdam White Car

## HYBRID VEHICLE

Primitive electric. vehicles existed before 1890; so when you consider the time it took to evolve from the early flying machines to the hardware which puts men on the moon, maybe we should all be bouncing to work inside electromagnetic bubbles by now.

The range problems to be overcome with battery powered vehicles are put into perspective when you realise that if the present lead-acid battery was made ten times better, it would still
be twenty-five times worse than petrol!
One solution, being investigated by an electronic engineering company, Lee-Dickens Ltd., is the "series hybrid" vehicle. It might sound like a lunatic formula for perpetual motion to say that there is a generator charging the batteries as the car goes along, but it makes good sense. The Lee-Dickens racing car being used as a test bed for the hybrid principle, has revealed that a petrol primary engine of a mere 500 cc capacity can achieve short bursts of up to $1,600 \mathrm{cc}$ performance.

Imagine you are driving a $1,600 \mathrm{cc}$ i.c.e. vehicle, cruising along at 50 k.p.h. when you have to slow down to turn right. Soon you are up again to $50 \mathrm{k} . \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{h}$. for a while, until your foot is hard down on the accelerator to overtake a bus. Finally, you hit the brake pedal as the lights turn red: A typical urban (or suburban) sequence of events. Only once did you really need the full $1,600 \mathrm{cc}$ pulling power, and the rest of the time the engine rev's were going up and down repeatedly.

A 500 cc engine could cope with the mean demand of these rather typical conditions, and if coupled to a generator, the surplus power could be "dumped" into storage batteries whilst the vehicle was idle or cruising. When overtaking (or climbing a hill), many minutes of high energy would be drawn from the batteries to give effective $1,600 \mathrm{cc}$ performance from the electric motors. With the small primary engine constantly working at optimum r.p.m., remarkable efficiency can be achieved, particularly in conjunction with regenerative braking. A hybrid mini, converted by a retired Dorset engineer, is claimed to have managed 100 miles on one gallon of petrol, and that's without the assistance of a sophisticated electronic.controller.

Lee-Dickens opted for the racing car because this vehicle, which is based on the conventional Terrapin single seater, would be uncomplicated by lights, horn, heater, licencing, or even a handbrake. Intrac, as it is called, is at present geared for hillclimb and short sprint circuits, and compared to its BMCengined counterpart has proved viable, with better traction and weight distribution. Indeed Intrac weighs 27 kgms ( 60 lbs ) less.

Improved weight distribution stems from the elimination of a large heavy engine, mechanical transmission and differential unit, achieved through both drive wheels having their own motor (Lucas CAV type), each capable of producing a peak of 11.8 h.p., giving maximum power at 4,000 r.p.m.

Individual controllers for each motor, working from a single accelerator pedal, can give the ability to balance the power to each drive wheel when cornering. For extra drive, the Intrac motors are safely pressed to four times their rated power for up


Photograph shows Intrac (courtesy of Lee-Dickens Ltd.), the series hybrid racing car with a wheelbase of 200 cm ( $\mathbf{6 f t}$. 7in.). Fascia instrumentation includes Motor/Road Speed, Motor Brushgear Temp, Transistor' Heatsink Temp, and Mean Power/Mileage. The motors drive fixed 4:1 reduction duplex chain drives running dry
to three minutes, and are force cooled by fans and an airscoop.
In the original controller width modulated pulses of 44 V were generated at a repetition rate of 250 Hz , and limited to 200A. Cascaded Darlington power transistors (2N3055) were used in the drive circuitry, which simplified control techniqes and allowed continued running at reduced power in the event of a transistor failure. Emitter equalising resistors provided a voltage feedback to the timing portion of the control unit to limit the maximum mean current to each motor even when working into stall load. Voltages developed across the two motors could also be measured differentially so that loss of adhesion on one drive wheel could be detected for power withdrawal or adjustment.

Attempts to increase the performance capability of Intrac, using much higher power (and very expensive) transistors, proved unsuccessful, leaving Lee-Dickens to reluctantly concede to thyristor control. Consequently Intrac was fitted with Sevcon's latest controller, allowing development of new design twin disc motor to get ahead. At least transistor control had been explored.

The four 12 V 96 Ah batteries used in Intrac each have a maximum discharge capability of 385A for three minutes, and are charged by a constant voltage source through a step-down transformer. This is powered by the on-board petrol/electric generator working at $240 / 50 \mathrm{~Hz}$. The batteries can thus be charged directly from the mains, and mains powered test equipment can operate from the vehicle itself.

Lee-Dickens are keen to produce a road car which can demonstrate (perhaps by a tour of Britain) that electric cars can out-perform and outrange milk floats. The Microdot town car, designed by William Towns (who designed the Aston-Martin Lagonda) was considered suitable for conversion, subject to a position being found to accommodate the generator set without spoiling weight distribution and other characteristics. The alternative to this is, as always, to build a vehicle specifically for the job.

Intrac's next test bed, a rolling road at Warwick University, will provide computer data for further development, the results of which will help shape their hybrid electric car of the future.

## WIDER CONSIDERATIONS

Like a capacitor, the Earth has been trickle-charging it's oil deposits throughout the ages, but now the "load" of Man's mechanisation is discharging it rapidly. The universe is not short of energy, it is energy! But the question is, in what form is it available, and from where? If we switch from fossil fuel to mains, electricity to power a large portion of road vehicles, can the demand be met from this new quarter?

Figures presented by experts in the field indicate that the drop in electricity demand in England and Wales during the early hours each morning (Summer or Winter) should accommodate the overnight charging needs for at least a 50 per cent electrification of delivery type vehicles. In fact, the consequent costeffective improvement from round-the-clock load factor balancing would benefit all electricity consumers. Not all recharging would necessarily be done overnight, however, and the power stations would still have to burn more fuel to produce this extra electricity whenever it was required.

Do electric vehicles actually consume less energy per mile than their i.c.e. counterparts, when you equate their fuel consumption to the same units? A test to establish a comparison of this nature was conducted by Joseph Lucas Ltd., whereby an electrified Bedford CF van was run on the same test route as a petroleum powered version, separated by some hundred metres of so. Four laps along a stretch of roads considered to present typically urban driving conditions were covered, totalling 86 km , with an average speed of about $29 \mathrm{k} . \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{h}$. The conventional vehicle made no cold starts in the test, which gave it more
favourable odds than in real conditions. Even so, the electric vehicle showed a slight advantage, with a consumption of $1.46 \mathrm{kWh} / \mathrm{km}$ related to crude oil at the refinery, over a consumption of $1.53 \mathrm{kWh} / \mathrm{km}$ of crude oil for the i.c.e. vehicle. Certain assumptions had to be made, such as, that the energy content for a gallon of petrol is 45 kWh , with a refinery efficiency of 87 per cent for its production; and for the electric vehicle, a refinery efficiency for the production of the fuel oil used in power stations of 97 per cent. The conversion factors used are of course subject to variation, as indeed are many electric and i.c.e. vehicles in their efficiency of fuel consumption, but a guide is achieved. The general concensus of opinion is that, overall, the difference is negligible. As far as electric vehicle owners and operators are concerned, the savings are made on servicing and maintenance, and as far as the country is concerned, battery power facilitates independence from diminishing fossil fuel.

It is interesting to note that data provided by the Transport and Road Research Laboratory points to a larger ultimate energy consumption from the use of advanced lead-acid battery powered vehicles than that of today's inefficient i.c.e. machines, that is, when you lump together all energy expenditure inclusive of manufacture. The bar graph compares the alternatives for propulsion and their respective energy requirements for an assumed 25 million car and light goods vehicle fleet in the year 2025.


Fig. 9. Energy requirements for a 25 m car and light goods vehicle fleet, inclusive of manufacture, in the year 2025

Electric vehicles are not without their hazards either, with attention drawn, by the manufacturers, to the fact that hydrogen can form an explosive mixture with oxygen over a wide range of concentrations. Therefore, precautions in design are required, as both running and charging produce hydrogen. Although the gas is reluctant to ignite from heat alone, the danger of pockets of hydrogen forming in a vehicle employing brush motors and contactors is self evident. And in the evolutionary context, who is to say that in a civilisation mobilised by battery-electric transportation, the new danger to the atmosphere is no longer aerosol propellant, but the build-up of hydrogen?

Attention is also drawn to other dangers which may accompany the electric traction era (if there is to be one), such as the possibility of accidents involving pedestrians due to the silence of these vehicles, perhaps through sudden reversing. The presence of an inadequately screened (or tampered with) controller might prove fatal to someone dependent on medical micro-electronics such as a cardiac pacemaker.

A new generation of vehicles of this kind might also be accidentally victimised through legislation as a result of a lack of appreciation of some subtle operating feature, by the powers that be. An example suggested is militation against regenerative braking because it retards one axle only, or because its effect is not constant for a given pedal pressure at all speeds.

## AUXILIARY DEVELOPMENTS

Efforts in battery, charger and motor development are widespread now, with the result that the state of the art is "nudging" forward continuously. Even companies like Sinclair (of calculator fame) are taking an interest in the field. The company would reveal no more than that they are at a very infant stage in the development of a new type of d.c. motor for electric vehicles, which they hope will offer greater efficiency than the conventional type.

Another recent development is the transcalent semiconductor (utilising inherent heat pipes) which might be employed to carry heat from the controller devices to the vehicle chassis.

A more promising development by far is the sodium sulphur battery, because it has nearly emerged from the uncertainty stage of development to gain an accepted influence in calcula-
tions for the future, and has the kind of high energy density which will award electric vehicles greatly improved capabilities.

These new batteries employ relatively cheap and plentiful chemicals housed in a tubular cannister, and have the curious combination of solid electrolyte with liquid electrodes. These electrodes are molten at the operating temperature of $350^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and have to be separated by a special ceramic material. The sodium sulphur battery will give an electric vehicle a range of up to three times that of a lead acid powered one.

Conventional methods, and their governing economics, gain formidable momentum; and it is therefore not surprising that the electric vehicle is undergoing a slow birth, but despite this, the birth is taking place, which is very encouraging, particularly as the added weight of such new techniques as the sodium sulphur battery have yet to be felt.

Readers requiring a reply to any letter must include a stamped addressed envelope.
Opinions expressed in Readout are not necessarily endorsed by the publishers of Practical Electronics.

## Standards

Sir-Your otherwise excellent article in the October edition of P.E. is likely to cause great confusion amongst students of electrical engineering. I refer of course to "Impedance" by Messrs. Bailey and Whitaker which has obviously been written in the pure mathematics context.

It has long been accepted that in electrical terms the complex number " i " is given the symbol "j" in order to avoid confusion with the use of " i " for small a.c. current values. Perhaps you would like to correct this error for the benefit of those of us that teach this particular topic in colleges of further education.

Whilst writing I would also like to comment on the use of non-standard circuit symbols in P.E. Students are usually taught to B.S. 3939 as these are the symbols used in examinations set by City \& Guilds of London. In particular the resistor and logic symbols are likely to cause confusion and I would only hope that the technical press could adopt the B.S. standards in the very near future. I would add that nearly all the service data for British radio \& television equipment conforms to B.S. 3939. Why not let P.E. start the ball rolling in 1979? I feel sure that this move would score 10 out of 10 as far as the student readership is concerned.
R. A. Bravery,

Brighton, Sussex.

I believe it is important to appreciate that the methods of circuit analysis which we are treating are really just an application of the theory of complex numbers to electronics. As this theory can also be applied to many other. branches of science and engineering I think it is a good idea to present it separately from the arcane terminology and methodology adopted
by electrical engineers: " $j$-operators", "phasors" (beam us up Scottie?) and similar oddities.

If students are horrendously confused by this approach I think it is an indication of pedagogical failings; surely after all, if you are going to teach people to use complex numbers in electronics then you should make it clear what you are really doing so that they can apply the theory to other situations. Further, I believe that it is better to make simple mathematics and physics based texts accessible, rather than the somewhat strange electrical engineering treatments.

Many of the same comments apply to your suggestions about logic symbols. In particular, though standardisation may be desirable, if you fanatically avoid exposure to heterodox symbols are students going to be able to understand such eclectic combinations as

as my bookshelf provides on a random sampling?

As far as drawing little boxes to signify resistances, I find it difficult to believe that any self-respecting amateur will use one of these instead of the time honoured squiggle. The new symbol is awkward to draw and a fine example of change for its own sake. I wonder if the people responsible had to find some change to implement in order to justify their existence, or whether they enjoy fomenting rebellion, trouble and discontent. I fully support P.E. in their ignoring of this silly regulation.

To return to the subject, I am glad Mr. Bravery found the article "otherwise excellent" and trust that the need he felt for the global substitution of " $j$ " for " $i$ " did not appreciably hinder his enjoyment of it.

Toby Bailey.
(For new P.E. standards see page 64)

## Postal Automation

Sir-I was very sorry indeed to read the comments under "Postal Automation" (Industry Notebook, October) which continued the errors of others in misrepresenting the facts.

The proportion of letters posted into offices with mechanised equipment is in excess of 17 per cent and even more pass through offices equipped with machinery.

A further 13 offices, some in major cities, are now in various stages of being equipped; when these are fully in operation the proportion of letters posted into mechanised letter offices will then be 40 per cent with many more passing through en route to their destination. When equipment now being manufactured is installed over the next two years the number of mechanised letter offices will rise to 48 , handling 60 per cent of posted mail.
The programme to mechanise the postal service is planned for completion in the mid1980s but the aim is to improve on this timetable if at all possible.

What is absolutely essential to the success of the programme is the fullest use of postcodes by everyone and it is an act of public service to encourage this practice both by example and exhortation. That is one easy way for everyone to help us hold down prices and improve efficiency, an end desired by all inside and outside the Post Office.

Peter H. Young,
Director, Public Relations, Post Office.

# Semiconductor UPDATITE FFATURNF: TMS 4164 AM 9511 AD 590 R.W. Coles 

## THANKS FOR THE MEMORY

We have heard a lot lately, via the mass media, about the microprocessor "chip" and the far reaching effect it is going to have on all our lives. Less emotive, but in my view equally revolutionary, are the giant strides being made in semiconductor memory technology. Micros are helpless without memory, yet the more they get of it, the more powerful they become, and it seems silly not to acknowledge this fact when discussing the so called "microprocessor revolution".

Only a few years ago, computer memories used tiny ferrite magnetic cores to store each bit, and memory arrays were stitched together in a manner which called for manual dexterity and a lot of skill. These memories were expensive, and if you had a 4 K -word main store on your machine, that was considered a big memoryl In the early 1970's, semiconductor memories began to replace magnetic cores, and now core memory is used only in military and other special applications. The first really successful semiconductor RAM was the PMOS 1103 which had a 1 K bit capacity and was infernally awkward to drive. This was followed by the 4 K bit NMOS chips which are in wide use today. More recently, we have seen the 16 K bit RAM which in some applications can be used as a plug-in replacement for the 4 K chips to quadruple memory size. The 16 K chip has proved so popular that even today the demand for them outstrips the supply.

You can see from the foregoing that each new chip generation means four times the memory, and so now we eagerly await the 64 K device. We will not have to wait long. Already, Texas Instruments and Mostek have unveiled their respective contenders for the 64 K crown, and it won't be long before others do the same.

The 64 K RAM has a special magic of its own. Most micros such as the 8080 or the 6800 use a sixteen bit address bus, and $2^{16}$ $=64 \mathrm{~K}$. In other words, with just eight sixteen pin di.i. packages you can give a microprocessor all the memory it can handle, and with that much memory even a modest micro will be able to run the most sophisticated software so far obtainable. But that's not all, as the memory chips have grown in capacity, so they have become
easier to use. The new Texas 64 K RAM, the TMS 4164, has taken this to the limit by requiring only a single 5 volt supply and yet having a lower power requirement than its 16 K predecessor. At the moment the 4164 is expensive, but it seems likely that in a few short years it will be inexpensive enough to take a giant part in the "microprocessor revolution".
Thanks for the memory, Texas!

## SPEEDY SUMS

Doing useful arithmetic with a micro is not as easy as some people may have you believe. There is a world of difference between the basic 8 bit add and subtract instructions in most microprocessor chip instruction sets, and the floating point arithmetic we expect a packaged microprocessor system to handle via the keyboard. The difference is usually made up with a large software program known as a Floating Point Arithmetic Package which may need several kilobytes of memory. This sort of package can be obtained separately for most micros, and also comes as a standard feature of a BASIC interpreter or other high level language package. Trouble is, these floating point arithmetic routines are slow, taking perhaps 5 ms for a multiplication and over 100 ms to sort out SIN x. This may not sound too bad, but anyone who has done any BASIC programming will know that having to wait for a sophisticated program to deliver the goods is a perfectly normal part of the job. Of course, having to wait may not be a problem for some applications, but in others, particularly those which respond to events in real time, spare time is just not available.

If you don't want to stuff your memory with a slow old floating point package, or if you are building a system which needs to do sums quickly, what you need is an AM 9511 from A.M.D. This new wonder-chip does all the work in hardware in a fraction of the time taken by software, e.g. multiply- $200 \mu \mathrm{~s}, \mathrm{SIN} x-2 \mathrm{~ms}$. It'll work on 16 and 32 bit fixed point numbers and 32 bit floating point numbers with a range of plus or minus $2.7 \times 10^{-29}$ to $9.2 \times 10^{18}$. You tell it what to do with single byte instructions, and in addition to normal arithmetic you get square roots, common and natural logs, sine cosine, tangent, and
their inverses together with fixed-tofloating point and floating-to-fixed point conversion routines.
Believe it or not, they manage to cram all of that into a single 24 pin package!

## ABSOLUTE WINNER

Imagine a two terminal sensor device in a tiny TO18 can, which you can wire up in series with a battery and a microammeter to make a thermometer which has a scale factor of exactly 1 microamp per degree absolute (deg K).


AD590 in a digital thermometer
Useful? Well, you have just imagined the AD 590 from Analog Devices, which is now available at a very reasonable price in this country. The new device owes its amazing accuracy and repeatability to the use of laser trimming, and it seems certain that its performance will make it a perfect replacement for thermistors and thermocouples for many applications. Trimming is carried out at $298 \cdot 2$ deg $\mathrm{K}(25 \mathrm{deg} \mathrm{C})$ to give an output current of 298.2 microamps. Three calibration accuracies are available (Suffix J, K, L) with the AD 590 L being best at $\pm 1$ degree. The family will run from a 4 to 30 volt supply rail, and can provide a remote sensing facility, thanks to their current outputs which are not affected by cable voltage drops.

By teaming the AD 590 with an AD 580 voltage reference and a digital panel meter, you can make an excellent thermometer which can be scaled in Celsius, Fahrenheit, or Kelvin, by the appropriate selection of fixed resistors.


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MK 14 including optional RAMI/O and Extra RAM.


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## More memory - and peripherals!

Optional extras include:

1. Extra RAM1-256 bytes.
2. 16-line K $A M I / O$ ) device (allowed for on the $P^{\prime}(\mathrm{CB})$ giving further 128 bytes of RAM
3. L.ow-cost cassette interface module - which means you can use ordinary tape cassettes/ recorder for storage of data and programs.
4 . Revised monitor, to get the most from the cassette interface module. It consists of 2 replacement PROMis, pre-programmed with sub-routines for the interface, offset calculations and single step, and singleoperation data entry.
4. I'ROM programmer and blank PROMs to set up your own pre-programmed ded icated applications.
All are available now to owners of MiK 14.

## A valuable tool-and a training aid

 As a computer, it handles operations of all types - from complex games to digital alarm clock functioning, from basic maths to a pulse delay chain. Programs are in the Manual, rogether with instructions for creating your own genuinely valuable programs. And, of course, it's a superb education and training aidproviding an ideal introduction to computer technology:
## SPECIFICATIONS

-Hexadecimal keyboard $\bullet$-digit, 7 -segment LED display $\bullet \times 512$ PROM, containing monitor program and interface instructions -256 bytes of RAM $\bullet 4 \mathrm{MHz}$ crystal -5 V regulator $\bullet$ Single 8 V power supply $\bullet$ Space available for extra 256-byte RAM and 16 port I/O - Edge connector access to all data lines and I/O ports

## Free Manual

Every MK 14 kit includes a Manual which deals with procedures from soldering techniques to interfacing with complex external equipment. It includes 20 sample programs including math routines (square root, etc), digital alarm clock, single-step, music box, mastermind and moon landing games, self-replication, general purpose sequencing, etc.

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2. When the input to a gate is unconnected the tester will indicate an open circuit.
3. Any narrow pulses which could pass undetected are displayed by an l.e.d. that changes state (from on to off or vice versa) with each input pulse.

## CIRCUIT DESCRIPTION

The complete circuit diagram of the Logic Circuit Tester is shown in Fig. 1.


Fig. 1. Complete circuit diagram of the Logic Circuit Tester
TR1 and TR2 act as an inverting buffer to reduce loading on the gate to which the probe is connected and D1 indicates if a valid logic level is present on the input, If the input is at logic level 0 (about 0.3 V ) TR2 will be turned off and TR1 turned on, so that no current will pass through D1. Similarly, if the input voltage is higher than about 2.55 V [Vcc-(Vbe of TR1 + about 1.75 V across D1)], corresponding to a valid logic 1, TR1 will be off and TR2 on.

If the input voltage is anywhere between these two limits then both TR1 and TR2 will be on and D1 will light to show an incorrect or open circuit input.

The input state is indicated by the use of half a 7476 dual J-K flip flop. If the "clear" input (pin 3) of the 7476 is 0 the "Q" output (pin 15) will be the inverse of the "preset" input. D3 which is connected directly to this output lights when the probe is at logic 1. TR3 acts as an inverter to drive D2 which lights to indicate a 0 input.

The other half of the 7476 is used to display pulses; if the " $J$ " and " $K$ " inputs (pins $9 \& 12$ ) are 1 then the " $Q$ " output (pin 11) will change state once for every complete pulse on the "clock" input, even if it is too short to produce a visible change in D2 and D3. The current consumption of the whole circuit is only about 20 mA and its power is obtained from the 5 V supply of the circuit being tested.

## CONSTRUCTION

The prototype unit was constructed using the printed circuit board layout shown in Fig. 2 with the component overlay shown in Fig. 3.

The finished unit was mounted into a diecast case which was drilled as shown in Fig. 4.


Fig. 2. P.c.b. layout for the Logic Tester


Fig. 3. Component layout for the Logic Tester

After the p.c.b. has been soldered and mounted into the case the four l.e.d.s can be fitted into the case top and wired to the board. Labelling for the l.e.d.s is shown in Table 1.

| Table 1 |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| D1 | Open Circuit |
| D2 | Zero |
| D3 | One |
| D4 | Pulsed Input |

The probe which can be made from a piece of plastics tube 8 mm dia. (e.g. a balipoint case) should have a small brass contact fitted in the end. Before fixing the contact into position the input lead should be soldered to it.

Finally the probe can be mounted into the case and Araldited into position.

## COMPONENTS

| Resistors |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| R1, R2 |  |
| R3, R5, R6, R8 | 33 k (2 off) |
| R4 | 500 (4 off) |
| R7 | 3 k 3 |
| All iW $5 \%$ carbon | 1 k |

## Semiconductors

| TR1. TR3 | BC212 (2 off) |
| :--- | :--- |
| TR2 | BC182 |
| IC1 | 7476 dual J-K flip flop. |
| D1-D4 | TIL209 (4 off) |

## Miscellaneous

2 off crocodile clips (insulated) 1 red, 1 black
Diecast box $89 \times 35 \times 30 \mathrm{~mm}$ RS type 509-923

It may be necessary to alter the values of some of the 500 Ohm resistors used to limit the l.e.d. currents so that all



Fig. 4. Case drilling details
I.e.d.s shine equally brightly; this is particularly likely if different coloured l.e.d.s are used.

## USING THE LOGIC TESTER

To operate the logic tester, the power leads are connected using crocodile clips to the +5 V and OV lines of the circuit to be tested. D1, D3 and possibly D4 will then light. When connected to a correct logic level D1 will go out and D2 or D3 will indicate the input's state. If the input is oscillating with a mark/space ratio of about 1 then D2, D3 and D4 will light. If D4 changes state without any visible alteration to D2 and D3 then a narrow pulse has been detected.

The tester is also useful in detecting wiring errors in logic circuits as a single gate input, if unconnected, to any output, will float at about 2 V and so D1 will indicate it as not connected. However, it must be remembered that some devices such as a flip flops have several gate inputs internally connected to the same pin, and such multiple inputs will, if not connected, float at a somewhat higher voltage and cannot be distinguished from a valid logical 1 .

## MORE TO THE POINT NEW COMPONENT STANDARD FOR P.E.

Apart from current constructional series this issue sees the commencement of a new house style of assigning component values. This means that in future large numbers of zeros and decimal points will be avoided.
With resistance, inductance and capacitance values the reductions

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{p}(\text { pico }-) & =10^{-12} \\
\mathrm{n}(\text { nano }-) & =10^{-9} \\
\mu(\text { micro }-) & =10^{-6} \\
\mathrm{~m}(\text { milli }-) & =10^{-3} \\
\mathrm{k}(\text { (kilo }-) & =10^{3} \\
\mathrm{G}(\text { miga }-) & \left.=10^{6}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

will replace the decimal point where appropriate.
To illustrate this some typical component changes are given:

|  | Now | Before |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Resistance | 3 k 9 | $3.9 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
|  | 1 M 5 | $1.5 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ |
|  | 470 | $470 \Omega$ |
|  | $2 \Omega 2$ | $2.2 \Omega$ |
|  |  |  |
|  | $680 \mu$ | $680 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ |
|  | Capacitance | $4 \mu 7$ |
|  | 470 n | $4.7 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ |
|  | 47 n | $0.47 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ |
|  | 4 p 7 | $0.047 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ |
|  |  | 4.7 pF |
|  | 3 H 4 |  |
|  | 800 m | 3.4 H |
|  | 2 m 6 | 800 mH |
|  | 1 m | 2.6 mH |
|  |  | 1 mH |



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| Type | Voltage | Curent | [ | p/p | Type | Voltage | Current | £ | 日/o |
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|  | $6+6$ | 1.64 EACH | 2.60 | 70 p | 80FE24 | $24+24$ | 1.5A EACH | 4.50 | 100p |
|  | 6+6 | 3A EACH | 3.10 | 70p | 50FE28 |  |  |  |  |
|  | $6+6$ | 4 A EACH | 3.60 | 85p | 60FE28 | $28+28$ $28+28$ | 1.1 A EACM | 3.10 <br> 3.60 | 70p |
| 06 FEO9 08FEO9 20FEO9 50 FEO9 60FEO9 | 9+9 | 0.3A EACH | 1.50 | 50p | 80FE28 | $28+28$ | 1.4 A EACH | 4.50 | 100p |
|  | $9+9$ | 0.54 EACH | 1.80 | 50p | 20FE30 | $30+30$ | 0.35A EACH | 2.60 | 70p |
|  | 9+9 | 0.754 EACH | 2.00 | 60 p | 50 FE 30 | $30+30$ | 0.75A EACH | 3.10 | 70 p |
|  | $9+9$ | 1 AEACH | 2.60 | 70p | 60 FE 30 | $30+30$ | 1 EACH | 3.60 | $85 p$ |
|  | $9+9$ | 2.54 EACH | 3.10 | 70p | 80 FE 30 | $30+30$ | 1.2A EACH | $4.50 \mid$ | 1000 |
|  | $9+9$ | 3A EACH | 3.60 | 85p |  |  |  |  |  |
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|  | $12+12$ | O. 8 A EACH | 2.60 | 70p |  |  |  | 3.40 | $70 p$ |
|  | $12+12$ | 2A EACH | 3.10 <br> 3.60 | $70 p$ 850 | 60FE30 | 0-12-15 $24-30$ | $2 A$ | 3.70 | 85p |
|  | 12+12 $12+12$ | 2.5A EACH 3A EACH | 4.50 | 100p | 80FE30 | $0-12-15$$24-30$$0-245$ |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 3A | 4.50 | 100p |
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|  |  |  |  |  | FE15 |  | 1 A EACH | 3.10 | 700 |
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| 12 FE 20 | $20+20$ | O.2A EACH <br> $0.25 A$ | 2.00 | 60p | 60FE28 | 28-0-2 | 1 A EACH | 3.60 | 100p |
| 2 OFE20 | $20+20$ | 0.25A EACH <br> $0.5 A$ | 2.60 | 70p | 60FE30 | 30-0-30 | 1A EACH | 3.60 | 100p |
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Most of the "greats" in electronics started their businesses in their garage at home or in other non-business premises. Hewlett and Packard started their partnership in a garage in the USA. Tom Jermyn in the UK started part time manufacture in his garage. Honeywell UK started in a room in London over a pub. Arthur William Stapleton, who died recently, mourned by the whole industry, started his business in a poultry shed. That was way back in 1922 but it was not until ten years later that he registered his company as Advance Components Ltd., later to become Advance Electronics and since 1974 two divisions of Gould Inc., USA.

Stapleton's speciality both before and after the 1939-45 war was low-cost signal generators. Good knock-about instruments, never claiming to be in the top class but always in demand and giving years of service. You saw them everywhere, in professional laboratories as well as in radio dealers' workshops. When I first met him he had some 300 staff, all of whom he knew by name. He stimulated interest by running staff competitions and used to hand out fivers from his own wallet to meritorious performers on the shop floor. One big happy family.

I am not saying that today's Gould Instrument Division is better or worse, only that it must be different in character if only because of a vigorous product policy, leadership by new-style business-school trained professionals, efficiency the top priority for survival in a fiercely competitive market. But I doubt if it is a happier ship than when Stapleton was at the helm.
Nearly all the top men in the industry 1 have had the privilege of meeting; some of them millionaires, tell me that the best time of their lives was not the ultimate success but the early struggle to achieve it. Nostalgia? Rubbish? Take your choice.

## Carve-up

All the big companies are now busy planning their positions as far ahead of the mid 1980s. The Americans and the Japanese are consolidating their markets in Europe by establishing new operations or forming joint ventures with European-based companies. The Japanese and the Europeans in their turn are starting up, buying in, or getting into bed with companies in America.

This is especially true in microcircuits. I note that Motorola and Harris are both said to be doing deals with French companies, Thomson CSF and Matra respectively, new elements in technology exchange, possibly in manufacture and marketing, too. The fear of trade protection (banning or restricting imports) encourages the Americans and Japanese to move more positively into Europe- to be on the inside, to become, in effect, a British or French or German company, just as Standard Telephones \& Cables and other US ITT companies in the UK are regarded as purely British in trade terms and are in fact run by British management with British workers and enjoy all the subsidies for setting up new plants in depressed areas.

New anxieties are now being expressed on the impact of imported colour TV tubes in Europe. Latest figures are that 47 per cent of all colour tubes used in Europe are of foreign manufacture, mainly from Japan. This, clearly, is a threat to the European tube manufacturers and the possibility of import restriction is very real. So the Japanese would like to establish their own plants in Europe but this, of course, represents an internal threat to established European manufacturers. Readers will recall that Hitachi wanted to start a plant in Britain but permission was refused. This sort of struggle is destined to continue.

## The 64K Race

The 64 K Random Access Memory (RAM) market is already hotting up. Hard on the heels of Texas Instruments now comes news that Mostek is second in the field with production samples for the trade. The Mostek device is pin-compatible with the TI product but claims a faster access time although at the expense of higher power dissipation. There is also news of a 64 K RAM built in-house at IBM and already being used in the 8100 Information System, though this RAM is apparently not being offered in the open market.

The 64K RAM was, of course, supposed to be the way into the market for the new British i.c. company INMOS. After the initial flurry of excitement of the first announcements, further stimulated by wellpublicised litigation in the United States to prevent Mostek "trade secrets" being exploited in Britain by former Mostek employees, everything has gone relatively quiet.

Except, that is, for an extended interview with INMOS founder-member lan Barron published in the IEE journal "Electronics and Power". Barron does not preclude the possibility that INMOS may one day be in
the 64 K RAM business but he is wisely. non-commital on the proposed product range, only that it will "achieve the complexity level necessary for the 64K RAM". This, of course, leaves everything wide open, perhaps as it should be for a company still virtually on the drawing board and some two years away from production, and even that assessment could be optimistic.

## Scanner Saga

The goiden year for the EMI Scanner, which revolutionised medical diagnosis, was 1975 when turnover on thelr great product was $£ 20: 4$ million, showing a profit of $£ 9.2$ million. By 1977 turnover had shot up to a magnificent $£ 93.2$ million on which profit, as a percentage of turnover, had slumped to $£ 14.7$ million, but still a useful gain. Cut-backs in US medical spending depressed turnover to $\mathbf{£ 6 6 . 5}$ million in 1978 with an accompanying loss of $£ 13.2$ million. So in the last two years with a turn-over of $£ 160$ million the profit has been a miniscule $£ 1.5$ million, less than 1 per cent.

After EMI's big initial breakthrough the competition got to work and there are now plenty of rival products. As EMI sales are nearly all overseas the company had to set up a world-wide and costly service network to support the Scanner in the field. Then came the US cut-backs in spending plus the natural attraction in the USA of buying a locally made machine.

But EMI could still reap a rich harvest from claimed patent infringements, especially by wealthy US competitors. EMI is said to hold some 500 patents on the Scanner and if successful in the courts there could be substantial arrears of royalties due some time in the future. Meantime, the US sales slump is to some extent offset by greatly increased sales elsewhere in the world and the new EMI 7070 System, said to be the most advanced machine ever, should help Scanner sales back into the black.

## Videotex

France, as chauvinistic as ever, is going, her own way with Viewdata (now known as Prestel in the UK). They are to call their system Videotex, as is the Bell Canada system, and it is scheduled for market trials in 1980 and a full service by $1982 / 83$. Will Videotex be the odd-man-out in Europe as was the French Secam CTV system in the 60 s and the 819 -line system before that?

## Car Electronics

A few years ago the idea of putting computers into production cars was open to question. Now, it seems, that the inroads of electronics to this area could contribute to 10 per cent of car cost by the 1980s and 30 per cent by the year 2000 . In the U.S. models of the 1980s are expected to incorporate computerised engine control and this will inevitably appear in European models.


Copies of Patents can be obtained from: the Patent Office Sales, St. Mary Cray, Orplngton, Kent Price 95p each

## SCREEN HEATER AERIAL

In BP 1520 030, B.S.H. Electronics (Manchester) Ltd. suggest simple circuitry for enabling the heating element of an electrically heated motor car window to be used as a radio aerial. This is not a new idea, but according to the patent, previously proposed solutions have relied on large aircored chokes between the element and the car d.c. supply to provide a low resistance path for the d.c. power and a high impedance path for the radio signal to avoid loss of signal strength and reduce interference breakthrough. One disadvantage attributed to past designs is that the chokes degrade signal strength due to coil capacitance.

The allegedly new idea is described and sketched in the patent and preferred circuit component values suggested. Essentially the heating element 5 is connected to the car battery and car radio aerial input by means of a "black box" blocking circuit which can be sold as an accessory. The d.c. battery input 2 is routed to the connector 3 for the heater 5 via choke 7 and coils 9

bridged by a pair of ceramic filter capacitors 8. The aerial 6 connects direct to heater terminal 3.

In use heating current flows unimpeded from the car battery to the heating element via the choke and coils which provide a low impedance path to d.c. At the same time radio signals received by the heating ele-
ment 5, and which are in phase at terminals 3 , flow to the radio aerial input. The coils 9 provide a high Impedance blocking path for r.f. thereby preventing loss of signal strength. The coils 9 , along with the filter capacitors and choke 7 , prevent interference from the heating power circuit reaching the radio aerial.

It is suggested that a number of tuned inductance-capacitance circuits can be connected in series between the aerial terminal and earth, each circuit being tuned to a frequency in the middle of a different broadcast band, e.g. VHF FM, AM MW and AM LW. Each circuit thus presents a high impedance in its own tuned band.
It is also suggested that the choke 7 may be wound from twenty turns of 10 s.w.g. wire on a pot core of 36 mm diameter and 23 mm height, the winding of the core airgapped to give an optimum inductance of between 60 to $100 \mu \mathrm{H}$ and a current rating of 10 A . The filter capacitors 8 may be $1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ ceramics and between 10 and $25 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ tantalum electrolytics. The coils, 9 , may be formed by bifilar winding of 18 turns of 19 s.w.g. wire on a pot core of 30 mm diameter and 19 mm height with no air gaps to give an inductance of around 2 mH .

## LOG POT

Indesit of Turin Italy in BP 1497418 patent a potentiometer with a logarithmic function which, the company claims, is far easier to manufacture than a log pot of conventional type. Conventionally a non-linear law is obtained by distributing the resistive material of the potentiometer in a, nonuniform manner or by varying its geometrical cross section. Indesit claim to achieve a reasonably accurate logarithmic law from a linear potentiometer by loading its output with an additional fixed resistor.

Indesit start from the premise that an ideal logarithmic potentiometer should have a resistance variation $R$ plotted against the position of the wiper, the resistance $R$ being proportional to:

$$
y=\frac{a^{k x}-1}{a^{k}-1}
$$

Where $x$ is the position of the wiper represented as a percentage of its total range of movement, and $a$ and $k$ are two

prefixed constants, Figs. 1 and 2 show how an additional resistor 6 is bridged between the pot wiper and one of its two other terminals. In each case the output is attenuated. The transfer function between output $\left(V_{u}\right)$ and input $\left(V_{i}\right)$ is equal to:

$$
\frac{x}{1-c x(x-1)}
$$

Where $x$ is again the wiper position and $c$ is the ratio between potentiometer and additional resistances.

Clearly the manner of choosing the constant $c$ is the essence of the invention and a string of calculation steps are given. One suggested value is $c=16$. Fig. 3 shows graphically the ideal logarithmic curve $A$, and a compromise curve B obtained with the circuit of the invention after selection of the constant as $c=16$.

Also shown is a curve $C$ obtained from a commercially available logarithmic potentiometer. Clearly curve B (of the invention pot) does not have the discontinuities present in curve $C$ (conventional log pot).

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to 3.5 mV ; distorion < $.005 \%$ at 30 dB overioad 20 kHz . Following this stage is the flat gain/balance stage to bring tape, tuner. erc. up to power amp. signal F.E.T. muting. No controls are fitted. There is no provision for tone controls. CPR 1 size is $130 \times$ $80 \times 20 \mathrm{~mm}$. Supply to be $\pm 15$ volts.

## MC 1 -PRE-PRE-AMPLIFIER

Suitable for nearly all moving-coil cartridges. Sensitivity $70 / 170 \mathrm{uV}$ switchable on the p.c.b. This module brings signils from the now popular low output moving-coil carrridges up 103.5 mV (typical signal required by most pre-amp disc inputs). Can be powered from a $\$ V$ battery or from
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## REG 1 - POWER SUPPLY

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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 0.31 | 2N2219A | 0.39 | 2N3438 | 0.65 | 2N4064 | 1.35 | 2N5248 | 0.44 | 40411 | 3.10 |  |  |  |  | 1 | 0.17 |  | 0.15 | BD244C | 0.87 | bF13 | 0.44 | BFY50 | 0.27 | - | 0.70 |
| 2N698 | 0.49 | 2N2220 | 0.39 | 2 N 3440 | 0.75 | 2N4074 | 2.65 | 2N5294 | 0.44 | 40594 | 0.87 | BC | 0.13 | 8C1 | 0.13 | BC214 | 0.18 | BC55 | 0.14 | BD245A | 0.69 | BF184 | 0.41 | BFY5 | 0.27 | JJE2855 | 1.65 |
| 2N699 | 0.58 | 2N2221 | 0.25 | 2 N 3441 | 0.92 | 2 N 421 | 0.27 | 2N5295 | 0.44 | 40595 | 0.98 | 8C1478 | 0.13 |  | 0.15 | BC214LB | 0.18 | BC55 | 0.1 | B0245C | 0.85 | 8F185 | 0.37 | BFY5 | 0.27 | MPF3055 | . 05 |
| 2N706 | 0.30 | 2N2221A | 0.25 | 2N3442 | 1.45 | 2 N 4122 | 0.27 | 2N5298 | 0.44 | 40673 | 0.80 | BC148 | 0.13 | BC182LA | 0.15 | BC2141C | 0.18 | BC559 | 0.15 | BD | 0.72 | BFI | 0.1 | BFY9 | 1.35 | MPF102 | 0.33 |
| 2N7064 | 0.30 | 2N2222 | 0.25 | 2N3638 | 0.17 | 2 N 4123 | 0.19 | 2N5298 | 0.44 | 40669 | 1.30 | 8C1488 | 0.13 | BC182LB | 0.15 | BC237 | 0.15 | BCY70 | 0.21 | BD246 | 0.93 | BF195 | 0.15 | BR101 | 0.56 | MPF103 | 44 |
| 2N708 | 0.30 | 2 N 2222 A | 0.25 | 2N36384 | 0.17 | 2N4124 | 0.19 | 2N5447 | 0.16 | AC126 | 0.48 | BC148C | 0.13 | BC183 | 0.12 | 8C238 | 0.13 | 8CY71 | 0.25 | BD433 | 0.44 | BF19 | 0.16 | 8RY39 | 0.55 | MPF104 | 0, 4 |
| 2N718 | 0.30 | 2 N 236 | 0.27 | 2N3702 | 0.14 | 2 N 4125 | 0.19 | 2N5448 | . 16 | AC127 | 0.48 | BC149 | 0.15 | BC183 | 0.12 | BC23 | 0.13 | BCY72 | 0.18 | BD434 | 0.46 | BF19 | 0.18 | BSK19 | 0.35 | MPS 105 | 0.44 |
| 2N718 | 0.54 | 2N2369 | 0.27 | 2N3703 | 0.14 | 2N4126 | 0.19 | 2N5449 | 0.20 | AC128 | 0.48 | BC149C | 0.15 | BC183B | 0.13 | BC238C | 0.13 | 8011 | 0.88 | 80435 | 0.46 | BF19 | 0.1 | 85×20 | 0.35 | MPSA05 | 0.27 |
| 2N720 | 0.85 | 2 N 2646 | 080 | 2N3704 | 0.14 | ${ }_{2} \mathrm{~N} 4284$ | 0.38 | 2 N5457 | 0.38 | AC151 | 0.43 | BC157A | 0.15 | BC183 | 0.13 | BC239 | 0.16 | 8013 | 0.55 | B0436 | 0.46 | BF199 | 0.19 | BSK21 | 0.35 | MPSAOB | 0.27 |
| 2N722 | 0.45 | 2N2647 | 1.55 | 2N3705 | 0.14 | 2N4286 | 0.22 | 2N5458 | 0.35 | AC152 | 0.54 | BC158A | 0.15 | 8C1831 | 0.15 | BC239 | 0.11 | 8013 | 0.7 | BD43 | 0.55 | BF22 | 0.22 | BU104 | 180 | MPSA12 | 0.44 |
| 2 N 727 | 0.50 | 2N2903 | 1.60 | 2N3706 | 0.14 | 2N4287 | 022 | 2N5459 | 0.32 | AC153 | 0.59 | BC158B | 0.15 | BC183LA | 0.15 | BC257 | 0.18 | 80135 | 0.40 | 80438 | 0.55 | BF225 | 0.2 | $8 \cup 105$ | 1.55 | PSA14 | 0.33 |
| 2N914 | 0.38 | 2N2904 | 0.31 | 2N3707 | 0.14 | 2N4288 | 0.22 | 2N5460 | 0.65 | AC153K | 0.59 | BCi59A | 0.17 | 8C183LB | 0.15 | BC258 | 0.19 | 80136 | 0.40 | B0529 | 0.49 | BF244 | 0.3 | BU12 | 1.08 | MPSA55 | 0.27 |
| 2N | 0.33 | 2N2904 | 0.31 | 3708 | 0.12 | 2N4289 | 0.22 | 2N5484 | 0.37 | AC176 | 0.70 | BC1598 | 0.17 | BC183LC | 0.15 | BC259 | 0.19 | 8 D 13 | 0.41 | 8053 | 0.55 | BF 244 | 0.3 | BU20 | 2.20 | MPSA56 | 0.27 |
| 2N91 | 0.38 | 2N2905 | 0.31 | 2N3709 | 0.12 | 2N4347 | 2.20 | 2N5485 | 0.40 | ACI76 | 0.54 | BC160 | 0.38 | BC184 | 0.12 | 8C300 | 0.43 | 80138 | 0.41 | 8053 | 0.7 | BF 24 | 0.4 | BU20 | 2.4 | 2008 | 2.45 |
| 2N918 | 0.45 | 2N2905 | 0.31 | 2N3771 | 2.16 | 2N4348 | 2.65 | 2N5486 | 0.40 | AC187 | 0.69 | BC161 | 0.38 | BC184B | 0.13 | 8C301 | 0.43 | B0139 | 0.43 | BD53 | 0.70 | BF245 | 0.4 | BU20 | 2.70 | 2010 | 2.15 |
| 2 N 929 | 0.37 | 2N2906 | 0.25 | 2N3772 | 2.20 | 2N4918 | 0.65 | 2N5490 | 0.64 | AC187 | 0.65 | BC167 | 0.13 | BC184 | 0.13 | 8C302 | 0.37 | 80140 | 0.43 | 8053 | 0.74 | BF25 | 0.3 | $8 \cup 20$ | 2.70 | $1 \mathrm{P}^{298}$ | 0.49 |
| 2 N 929 A | 0.37 | 2N2906 | 0.25 | $2 N 3773$ | 3.15 | 2N4919 | 0.70 | 2 NS 492 | 0.64 | AC188 | 0.54 | 日C1678 | 0.13 | BC184L | 0.15 | 8C303 | 0.54 | 80181 | 1.90 | BD538 | 0.71 | F258 | 0.3 | ME040 | 02 | 29 C | 0.65 |
| 2 N 930 | 0.37 | 2N2907 | 0.25 | 2N3819 | 0.36 | 2N4820 | 0.83 | 2N5494 | 0.65 | AC188 | 0.65 | BC168A | 0.13 | BC184L6 | 0.15 | BC307 | 0.16 | 80182 | 2.20 | BD539 | 0.60 | 8F259 | 0.3 | ME040 | 02 | IP30A | 0.54 |
| 1930 | 0.95 | 2N2907A | 0.25 | 3820 | 0.39 | 2 N 4921 | 0.54 | 2N5496 | 0.67 | A 0181 | 1.00 | BC168 | 0.13 | BC184LC | 0.15 | BC307 | 0.16 | 80183 | 2.35 | B054 | 0.60 | 8F336 | 0.4 | MED404 | 0.17 | IIP30C | 0.70 |
| 2 N 1711 | 0.30 | 2N2923 | 0.17 | 2N3821 | 0.96 | 2 N 4922 | 0.60 | ${ }^{2 N 6027}$ | 0.64 | A0162 | 1.00 | BC168 | 0.13 | 8C212 | 0.15 | ${ }^{8 C 307}$ | 0.15 | 8018 | 0.95 | BDx1 | 1.32 | - 533 | 0.4 | ME0412 | 0.22 | IP31A | 0.54 |
| 2N1889 | 0.30 | 2N2924 | 0.17 | 2 N 3900 | 0.28 | ${ }_{2}$ N4923 | 0.75 | 2N6107 | 0.45 | AF108 | 0.60 | BC169 | 0.13 | BC212 | 0.15 | BC308 | 0.15 | 8023 | 0.46 | BDX18 | 1.90 | 8F338 | 0.5 | ME041 | 0.22 | IP31C | 0.72 |
| 1890 | 030 | 2N2925 | 0.19 | V3901 | 0.30 | 2N4924 | 1.15 | 2N6108 | 0.55 | AF109 | 0.52 | 8C169 | 0.13 | BC2128 | 0.15 | BC308B | 0.16 | BD236 | 0.44 | BDY20 | 1.10 | 8FR39 | 0.30 | ME4001 | 0.16 | TIP32A | 0.59 |
| $N 1893$ | 0.30 | 2N2926 | 0.17 | 2N3903 | 0.20 | 2N5086 | 0.30 | 2N6109 | 0.55 | BC107 | 0.16 | BC177 | 0.22 | BC2121 | 0.18 | BC309 | 0.16 | ${ }^{80237}$ | 0.44 | BDY5 | 1.90 | BFR4 | 0.29 | ME4002 | 0.16 | IP32C | 0.6 |
| 2N2102 | 0.50 | 2N3053 | 0.25 | 2N3904 | 0.18 | 2N5087 | 0.30 | 2N6111 | 0.49 | BC107A | 0.16 | BC177 | 022 | BC212LA | 0.18 | 8C309 | 0.16 | 80238 | 0.44 | BDY5 | 2.10 | FR41 | 0.30 | ME400 | 0.16 | TIP41 | 0.76 |
| 2 N 2192 | 0.58 | 2N3054 | 0.12 | 2N3905 | 0.18 | 2N508 | 0.30 | 2N6121 | 0.41 | BC107 | 0.16 | BC177 | 0.25 | BC21218 | 0.18 | BC309 | 0.15 | BD239 | 0.44 | 8 F 115 | 0.39 | BFR79 | 0.30 | ME4101 | 0.11 | IIP41C | 0.97 |
| 2193 | , 5 | 2N3055 | 5 | 3906 | 0.18 | 2N5089 | . 3 | 2 N 6122 | - | BC108 | 0.16 | ${ }^{8 C 178}$ | 0.22 | BC213 | 0.15 | BC327 | 0.22 | 80238 | 0.59 | 8 F 160 | 0.33 | BFRB | 0.30 | ME4102 | 0.11 | IP42A | 0.86 |
| 2 N 2193 A | 0.52 | 2 N 3390 | 0.50 | 2 N 4031 | 0.55 | 2N5190 | 0.65 | 2N6123 | 0.48 | BC108A | 0.16 | BC178 | 0.25 | BC213A | 0.15 | BC328 | 0.20 | BD240A | 0.99 | BF161 | 0.65 | BFR8 | 0.30 | ME4103 | 0.11 | IPE2C | 1.08 |
| 2N2194 | 0.42 | 2N3391 | 0.40 | 2 N 4032 | 0.65 | 2N5191 | 0.75 | 2N6124 | 0.45 | 8 BCl 08 | 0.15 | BC178 | 0.35 | BC2138 | 0.15 | 8C337 | 0.20 | BD240C | 0.59 | BF167 | 0.37 | BFK29 | 0.34 | ME4104 | 0.11 | TIP2955 | 0.70 |
| 2N2194A | 045 | 2N33914 |  | 14035 | 0.12 | 2NS192 | 0.80 | 2N6125 | . 0.5 | BC108C | 0.17 |  | 0.25 | 8C213C | 0.15 | ${ }^{\text {a }}$ C38 | 0.23 | 8 C 241 | . 15 | BF173 | 0.37 | BFX ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 0.34 | MEE101 | 0.22 | P305 | 0.59 |
| 2N2195 | 0.40 | 2N3392 | 0.17 | 2 N 4037 | 0.60 | 2N5193 | 0.75 | 40361 | 0.55 | BC109 | 0.16 | 8C179A | 0.25 | 8C213L | 0.17 | BC547 | 0.13 | BD241C | 0.65 | BF177 | 0.27 | 8F) $\times 84$ | 0.30 | ME6102 | 0.22 | TIS34 | 1.05 |
| 2N2195 | 0.40 | 2N3393 | 0.17 | 2N4058 | 0.22 | 2N5194 | 0.80 | 40362 | 0.55 | BC109B | 0.17 | 8C1798 | 0.25 | BC2134A | 0.17 | BC547A | 0.13 | BD242A | 0.55 | BF178 | 0.27 | EF $\times 85$ | 0.38 | MJ2955 | 1.35 | TIS42 | 0.50 |
| 2N2217 | 0.55 | 2N3394 | 0.17 | 2N4059 | 0.17 | 2N5195 | 0 | 40363 | 1.45 | 8C109C | 0.18 | 8C179C | 0.26 | BC213LB | 0.17 | BC5478 | 0.13 | $80242 C$ | . 6 | BF179 | 0.33 | FX8 | 0.30 | JE340 | 0.6 | IS43 | 0.47 |
| 2N2218 | 0.35 | 2N3395 | 0.19 | 2N4080 | 0.22 | 2N5245 | 0.37 | 40408 | 0.82 | BC140 | 0.30 | BC182 | 0.12 | BC2131C | 0.17 | BC. 548 | 0.13 | BD243A | 0.65 | 8F180 | 0.37 | BFX87 | 0.35 | MJE370 | 0.62 | TIS90 | 0.22 |
| 2N2218A | 0.38 | 2N3396 | 0.19 | 2N4061 | 0.1 | 2N5246 | 0.38 | 40409 | 0.82 |  | 0.32 | 8C182A | 0.12 | 8C214 | 0.77 | 8C549 | 0.1 | 80243C |  | BF181 | 0.37 | BFX88 | 0.3 | MJE371 | 0.86 | TIS91 | 0.2 |



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| AAY32 | 0.42 | BCY72 | 0.13 | -MPSU06 | 0.46 | 1 N916 0.07 | 7407 | 0.40 |
| AAZ 13 | 0.18 | BCZ11 | 9.50 | -MPSU56 | 0.49 | 1 N 40010.06 | 7408 | 020 |
| AAZ 15 | 034 | 8D 115 | 0.45 | NE555 | 0.45 | 1 N 40020.06 | 7409 | 0.20 |
| AAZ17 | 0.27 | 80121 | 1.20 | NKT401 | 200 | 1 N 40030.07 | 7410 | 0.16 |
| AC107 | 0.60 | BD 123 | 1.20 | NKT403 | 1.73 | 1 N 40040007 | 7412 | 0.26 |
| AC125 | 0.20 | BD 124 | 1.30 | NKT404 | 1.73 | 1 N 40050.08 | 7413 | 0.32 |
| AC126 | 0.20 | 8 C 131 | $0 \cdot 35$ | OA5 | 0.95 | 1 N4006 0.08 | 7416 | 0.32 |
| AC127 | 020 | 80132 | 0.38 | OA7 | 0.55 | 1 N 400700.09 | 7417 | 0.32 |
| AC128 | 0.20 | BD135 | 0.34 | OA10 | 0.60 | 1N4009 0.06 | 7420 | 0.17 |
| AC141 | 0.25 | BD136 | 0.34 | OA47 | 0.14 | IN4148 006 | 7422 | 0.20 |
| ACl4iK | 0.35 | BD137 | 0.35 | OA70 | 0.30 | IN5400 0.13 | 7423 | 0.32 |
| AC142 | 0.20 | BD138 | 0.40 | OA79 | 0.30 | $1 N 54010.13$ | 7425 | $0 \cdot 30$ |
| AC142K | 0.30 | BD139 | 043 | OA81 | 0.30 | 154400.04 | 7427 | 0.30 |
| AC176 | 0.20 | BD140 | 0.44 | OAB5 | 0.30 | $15920 \quad 0.07$ | 7428 | 0.43 |
| AC187 | 0.20 | BD144 | 2.00 | OA90 | 0.08 | $15921 \quad 0.07$ | 7430 | 0.17 |
| AC188 | 0.20 | BD181 | 1.10 | 0 O991 | 0.08 | 2G301 $\quad 1.00$ | 7432 | 0.30 |
| ACY17 | 0.85 | BD182 | 1.18 | OA95 | 0.08 | 2G302 1.00 | 7433 | 0.36 |
| ACY18 | 0.80 | BD237 | 0.40 | OA200 | 0.09 | 2G306 1.10 | 7437 | 0.32 |
| ACY19 | 0.75 | BD238 | 0.55 | OA202 | 0.09 | 2 N 4041.00 | 7438 | 0.32 |
| ACY20 | 0.70 | BDx10 | 0.91 | OA211 | 1.00 | 2N696 0.25 | 7440 | 0.18 |
| ACY21 | 0.75 | BDX32 | 2.00 | OAZ200 | 1.00 | 2N697 0.25 | 7441 AN | 0.85 |
| ACY39 | 1.50 | BDY20 | 1.25 | OAZ201 | 1.00 | 2N698 0.30 | 7442 | 0.72 |
| AD149 | 0.70 | BDY60 | 1.50 | OAZ206 | 1.00 | 2 N705 $\quad 1.20$ | 7447AN | 0.90 |
| AD 161 | 0.45 | BF115 | 0.25 | OAZ2D7 | 1.00 | 2N706 0.15 | 7450 | 0.18 |
| AD 162 | 0.45 | BF152 | 0.18 | $0 \mathrm{OC16}$ | 2.00 | 2N708 0.20 | 7451 | 0.18 |
| AF 106 | 0.45 | 8F153 | 0.20 | OC2O | 2.50 | 2 N 930 O | 7453 | 0.18 |
| AFI14 | 0.35 | BF154 | 017 | OC22 | 2.50 | 2N1131 026 | 7454 | 0.18 |
| AFI15 | 0.35 | BF159 | 0.23 | OC23 | 2.75 | 2N1132 0.26 | 7460 | 0.18 |
| AF 116 | - 035 | BF160 | 0.16 | OC24 | 3.00 | $\begin{array}{ll}\text { 2N1302 } & 0.35\end{array}$ | 7470 | 0.35 |
| AF117 | 0.35 | 8 F 167 | 0.20 | OC25 | 0.90 | 2 N 1303 O | 7472 | 0.33 |
| AF139 | 0.40 | 8F173 | 0.20 | OC26 | 0.90 | 2 N1304 0.45 | 7473 | 0.36 |
| AF186 | 1.20 | BF177 | 0.24 | OC28 | 2.00 | $2 \mathrm{~N} 1305 \quad 0.45$ | 7474 | 040 |
| AF239 | 0.45 | BF178 | 0.24 | OC29 | 2.00 | 2N1306. 050 | 7475 | 0.54 |
| AFZ11 | 2.75 | 8F179 | 0.25 | OC35 | 1.50 | 2N1307 0.50 | 7476 | 0.40 |
| AFZ12 | 2.75 | BF180 | 0.30 | OC36 | 1.50 | 2N1308 0.55 | 7480 | 0.55 |
| ASY26 | 0.40 | BF181 | 0.30 | OC41 | 0.80 | 2 N 13090.55 | 7482 | 0.75 |
| ASY27 | 0.40 | BF182 | 0.30 | $0 \mathrm{OC42}$ | 0.75 | 2N1613 O25 | 7483 | 0.90 |
| ASZ15 | 1.25 | BF183 | 0.25 | 0 O 43 | 2.25 | 2N1671 1.50 | 7484 | 1.00 |
| ASZ16 | 1.25 | BF184 | 0.25 | OC44 | 0.60 | 2N1893 0.25 | 7486 | 0.35 |
| ASZ17 | 1.25 | BF185 | 0.25 | OC45 | 0.55 | $2 \mathrm{~N} 2147 \quad 1.75$ | 7490 | 0.52 |
| ASZ20 | 1.50 | -BF194 | 0.09 | $0 C 71$ | 0.55 | 2N2148 1.65 | 7491AN | 0.80 |
| ASZ2 1 | 2.00 | -BF195 | 009 | OC72 | 0.55 | 2N2218 025 | 7492 | 0.60 |
| - AU110 | 1.70 | -8F196 | 0.10 | OC73 | 1.00 | 2N2219 024 | 7493 | 0.60 |
| -AU113 | 1.70 | -BF197 | 0.12 | OC74 | 0.65 | 2N2220 0.18 | 7494 | 0.80 |
| - AUY 10 | 1.70 | BF200 | 0.27 | $0 C 75$ | 0.65 | 2 N 222100.18 | 7495 | 0.72 |
| -BA145 | 0.13 | -BF224 | 0.20 | $0 \mathrm{C7} 6$ | 0.55 | 2 N 2222 0-18 | 7496 | 0.80 |
| -8A148 | 0.13 | BF244 | 0.28 | $0 \subset 77$ | 1.20 | 2 N 2223 2.75 | 7497 | 3.00 |
| BA154 | 0.09 | BF257 | 0.24 | OC8 1 | 0.65 | 2N2368 017 | 74100 | 1.50 |
| BAIS5 | -0.10 | BF258 | 0.26 | OC812 | 1.20 | 2N2369A 0.21 | 74107 | 045 |
| BA156 | 009 | BF259 | 0.32 | OC82 | 0.65 | 2N2484 $\quad 0.20$ | 74109 | 0.70 |
| BAW62 | 0.05 | 8F336 | 0.30 | OC83 | 0.65 | 2N2646 0.55 | 74110 | 0.50 |
| BAX13 | 0.06 | BF337 | 0.30 | OC84 | 0.65 | 2N2904 0.25 | 74111 | 0.70 |
| BAX 16 | 0.09 | BF338 | 0.31 | OC122 | 1.50 | 2N2905 025 | 74116 | 1.75 |
| BC107 | 0.12 | BFS2 1 | 3.96 | OC123 | 1.75 | 2 N 2906 0-21 | 74118 | 1.00 |
| 8 C 108 | 0.12 | BFS28 | 2.23 | OC139 | 2.25 | $\begin{array}{ll}2 \mathrm{~N} 2907 & 0.21\end{array}$ | 74119 | 1.50 |
| 8 Cl 109 | 0.13 | -BFS61 | 0.20 | OC140 | 2.75 | - 2 N 2924 0-21 | 74120 | 0.83 |
| ${ }^{8 C 113}$ | 0.12 | - BF598 | 0.20 | OC141 | 3.25 | -2N2925 0.22 | 74121 | 040 |
| - BC114 | 0.13 | BFW 10 | 0.65 | OC170 | 1.00 | *2N2926 0.14 | 74122 | 0.60 |
| -BC115 | 014 | BFW 11 | 0.65 | OC171 | 1 -00 | $2 \mathrm{~N} 3053-2.25$ | 74123 | 100 |
| *BC116 | 0.15 | 8FX84 | 0.22 | OC200 | 1.50 | $\begin{array}{ll}2 N 3054 & 0.50\end{array}$ | 74125 | 0.55 |
| -8C117 | 0.17 | 8F×85 | 0.23 | OC201 | 1.75 | $2 \mathrm{~N} 3055 \quad 0.70$ | 74126 | 0.55 |
| ${ }^{\text {BCl1 }} 18$ | 010 | 8F×87 | 0.21 | OC202 | 1.75 | 2N3440 0.60 | 74128 | 0.60 |
| 8C125 | 0.16 | BFX88 | 0.21 | OC203 | 1.75 | 2 N 34410080 | 74132 | 0.70 |
| *C126 | 0.20 | BFY50 | 0.26 | OC204 | 2.50 | 2N3442 1.10 | 74136 | 0.55 |
| - ${ }^{\text {C } 135}$ | 0.14 | BFY51 | 0.28 | 0 C 205 | 2.50 | 2 N 35250080 | 74141 | 0.80 |
| - BC 136 | 0.15 | BFY52 | 0.26 | OC206 | 2.50 | 2N3614 1.50 | 74142 | 2.30 |
| -8C137 | 0.15 | BFY64 | 0.26 | $0 \mathrm{OC2} 9$ | 1.75 | -2N3702 0.11 | 74143 | 2.50 |
| -8C147 | 0.09 | BFY90 | 1.25 | OCP71 | 1.25 | -2N3703 0.13 | 74144 | 2.50 |
| BC148 | 008 | 8S $\times 19$ | 0.21 | ORP12 | 0.75 | -2N3704 0.13 | 74145 | 0.90 |
| ${ }^{8} \mathrm{8C149}$ | 0.09 | 8Sx20 | 0.20 | -R2008B | 1.75 | -2N3705 0.13 | 74147 | 2.00 |
| *C157 | 0.09 | BSx21 | 0.20 | -R2009 | 2.25 | -2N3706 0.13 | 74148 | 1.75 |
| -8C158 | 0.08 | BT106 | 1.25 | -R20108 | 1.75 | -2N3707 0.13 | 74150 | 1.60 |
| -BC159 | 0.10 | BTY79/4 | 3.19 | T1C44 | 0.30 | 2N3708 0.10 | 74151 | 0.85 |
| - BC 167 | 0.12 | -8U205 | 1.75 | T1C2260 | 1.20 | 2N3709 013 | 74154 | 1.75 |
| BC170 | 0.11 | *BU206 | 2.25 | T1L209 | 0.20 | 2N3710 010 | 74155 | 0.85 |
| BCill | 0.10 | - BU208 | 2.00 | -T1P29A | 0.41 | 2N3711 0.10 | 74156 | 0.85 |
| BC 172 | 0.10 | 8Y100 | 0.45 | -T1P30A | 0.44 | 2N3771 1.75 | 74157 | 0.75 |
| BC173 | 0.12 | BY126 | 0.14 | T1P31A | 045 | 2 N3772 2.00 | 74159 | 2.10 |
| BC177 | 0.15 | $8 Y 127$ | 0.15 | T1P32A | 0.48 | 2N3773 3.00 | 74170 | 2.30 |
| 8C178 | 0.14 | BZX61 | 0.18 | T1P33A | 0.69 | $\begin{array}{ll}2 N 3819 & 0.36\end{array}$ | 74172 | 4.40 |
| 8C179 | 0.16 | Series |  | T1P34A | 0.73 | 2 N 382000.45 | 74173 | 140 |
| BC182 | 011 | BZY88 | 013 | T1P41A | 0.63 | $2 N 3823 \quad 0.55$ | 74174 | 1.50 |
| BC183 | 0.10 | Series |  | T1P42A | 0.70 | -2N3866 0.72 | 74175 | 0.90 |
| BC184 | 0.11 | CRS 1/05 | 0.45 | T1P2955 | 067 | -2N3904 $0 \cdot 13$ | 74176 | 1.10 |
| 8 C 212 | 0.13 | CRS 1/40 | 0.60 | T1P3055 | 0.56 | *2N3905 0.13 | 74178 | 1.25 |
| BC213 | 0.12 | CRS $3 / 05$ | 0.45 | - T1S43 | 0.45 | -2N3906 00.13 | 74179 | 1.25 |
| 8C214 | 0.15 | CRS3/40 | 0.75 | *ZS140 | 0.25 | -2N4058 014 | 74180 | 1.15 |
| BC237 | 0.09 | CRS $3 / 60$ | 0.90 | - 25170 | 0.21 | -2N4059 0.10 | 74190 | 1.50 |
| 8C238 | 0.12 | GEX66 | 1.50 | - 2 S178 | 0.54 | $\cdot 2 \mathrm{~N} 4060 \quad 0.12$ | 74191 | 1.50 |
| BC301 | 0.25 | GEX541 | 1.75 | - ZS271 | 0.23 | -2N4061 0.12 | 74192 | 1.35 |
| ВС303 | 0.24 | GJ3M | 0.75 | ${ }^{-} \mathrm{ZS} 278$ | 0.57 | $\begin{array}{ll}-2 \mathrm{~N} 4062 & 0.13\end{array}$ | 74193 | 1.35 |
| BC307 | 0.10 | GJ5M | 0.75 | -2Tx107 | 0.11 | -2N4124 0.15 | 74194 | 1.25 |
| - BC 308 | 0.10 | GL7M | 0.75 | -2TX108 | 0.10 | -2N4126 0.15 | 74195 | 1.00 |
| -8C327 | 0.20 | GMO378A | 1.75 | -21x109 | 0.12 | -2N4286 0.20 | 74196 | 1.20 |
| - BC328 | 0.18 | - KS100a | 0.45 | -2Tx300 | 0.12 | - 2 N4288 022 | 74197 | 1.10 |
| -8C337 | 0.18 | MJE340 | 0.80 | -21x301 | 0.13 | -2N4289 024 | 74198 | 2.25 |
| -8C338 | 0.17 | MJE370 | 1.17 | -21x302 | 0.15 | -2N5457 035 | 74199 | 2.25 |
| BCY30 | 1.00 | MJE371 | 0.61 | -21x303 | 0.17 | -2N5458 0.35 | -76013N | 1.75 |
| 8 CY 31 | 1.00 | MJE520 | 0.52 | -27x304 | 0.19 | -2N5459 0.35 |  |  |
| 8CY32 | 100 | MJE521 | 0.55 | - $27 \times 311$ | 0.12 |  |  |  |
| BCY33 | 0.90 | MJE2955 | 1.25 | -2TX314 | 0.20 | INTEGRATED |  |  |
| 8 Cr 34 | 0.90 | MJE3055 | 0.75 | -27x500 | 0.13 | CIRCUITS |  |  |
| BCY39 | 3.00 | -MPF102 | 0.30 | -27x501 | 0.14 | 740000.16 | Plugs in soc |  |
| BCY40 | 1.00 | -MPF103 | 0.30 | -27x502 | 0.16 | $\begin{array}{ll}7401 & 0.16 \\ 7402 & 0.16\end{array}$ | -low profi 8 pin DIL |  |
| BCY42 | 0.25 | -MPF104 | 030 | -21x503 | 0.17 | 740200.16 | ${ }^{8}$ Pin DIL | 0.15 0.15 |
| BCY43 | 0.25 | - MPF105 | 0.30 | -21x504 | 0.20 | 7403 - 0.16 | ${ }^{14} \mathrm{Din} \mathrm{OIL}$ | 0.15 |
| BCY58 | 0.16 | - MPSA06 | 0.24 | -21x531 | 0.20 | $7404 \quad 0.17$ | 16 pin OIL | 0.17 |

[^3]

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8.45" $\times 1.5^{\prime}$
DIP-BOARD
$8.45^{\circ} \times 1.5^{\prime \prime}$
DIP-BOARD.
VO Dip-Board
24-way plug-in. 24-way
EURO EURO Dip-Board. $3.75^{\prime \prime} \times 2.5^{\prime \prime} 31 p 5^{\prime \prime} \times 3.75^{\prime \prime} \ldots .50 p$
EURO Board $\ldots . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .89 p$ $0.15^{\prime \prime}$ matrix, copper clad $3.75^{\prime \prime} \times 2.5^{\prime \prime} 36 p 5^{\prime \prime} \times 2.5^{\prime \prime} 50 p$
$3.75^{\prime \prime} \times 3.75^{\prime \prime} 50 p 5^{\prime \prime} \times 3.75^{\prime \prime}$ 67p $8.45^{\prime \prime} \times 1.5^{\prime \prime} 53 p$
 PIN INSERTION TOOLS
NO PIT for $0.040^{*}$ No PIT 1 for $0.040^{\prime \prime}$ pins
$10.1{ }^{\text {" }}$ matrix)................ No PIT5 for $0.052^{\prime \prime}$ pins
(0.15" matrix).......... SPOT FACE CUTTER
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## BOXES

High impact polystyrene light grey top, dark grey bottom section.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Type | $L$ | W | H |  |
| $2514 F$ | 100 | 5025 | $£ 1.64$ |  |


| 2516 G | 100 | 50 | 40 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 518 H | 120 | 6540 | £1. | 520J $150 \quad 8050$ E2.35 522K 18811060 £3.13

VEROBOX CASES
Constructed from ABS material light grey top \& dark grey bottom ear panels. internal guides for PC boards.

| Type |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1237J | 154 | 40 | 85 | $\mathbf{£ 2 . 5 6}$ |
| 1238D | 154 | 60 | 85 | $£ 2.82$ |
| $1239 K$ | 154 | 80 | 85 | $\mathbf{£ 3 . 3 8}$ |
| $1410 J$ | 205 | 40 | 140 | $£ 3.53$ |
| 14110 | 205 | 75 | 140 | $£ 3.96$ |

## SLOPING FRONT PLASTIC CASES

 The 1798 K has white top and grey bottom section. the 2523 e has light grey top and dark grey bottom section.Both have anodised aluminium panels.
$\begin{array}{lllcll}\text { Type } & \text { W } & \text { H1 } & \text { H2 } & \text { D } & \text { Price } \\ 1798 \mathrm{~K} & 171 & 38 & 75 & 121 & \text { ¢4.19 }\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{llllll}2523 E & 220 & 52 & 100 & 156 & \text { E6.36 }\end{array}$
19* CARD/FRAME CASE SYSTEM
accepts plug-in modules and standard European size circuit boards.
Light blue with natural anodised aluminium end Can be rack mounted.
Type Item
3842F End plate angles (pr.
220.71 N
$3843 \mathrm{~A} 8^{\prime \prime}$ Module
$3844 \mathrm{G} 4^{\text {a }}$ Module.
$\begin{array}{ll}3845 \mathrm{~B} & 2^{\prime \prime} \text { Front panel } \\ 3846 \mathrm{H} & \text { I }^{\prime \prime} \text { Front panel }\end{array}$
3979 K Board for mod
1034E Veroboard clad
1041J DIP-board....... 0267H 31-way plug 0258C 31-way socke EUROCARD CONNECTORS 28760 64-way plug,
2874 C
64-way sackel $\qquad$
44.00 N
83.05 N
1.02 N

| 97pN |
| :--- |
| 1.39 |

$\begin{array}{r}\text { \&1.39 } \\ \hline \mathbf{E} 1.42\end{array}$
. .21 .42
. .83 .59
$.97 p \mathrm{~N}$
61.06 N
2.47N
4.48 N

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tapped at 12,15,20.24V ... $\subset 4.60$ GP501 50V 1A $19.25,33.40 \mathrm{~V} \ldots \ldots . . \mathrm{C4.30}$ GP502 50V $2 A$
GP601 60 V 1A
tapped 24, 30, 40
apped $24,30,40.48 \mathrm{~V}$........ $\mathbf{£ 6 . 7 0}$
$50 T 5250 \mathrm{~V} 2 \mathrm{~A}$
tapped $25,45 \mathrm{l}$
Pri/sec shield.

## PRINTED CIRCUIT

MATERIALS
COPPER CLAD BOARD
$300 \times 150 \mathrm{~mm}$
SABP 85p; Fibreglass... Double sided SABP UNCLAD SRBP $300 \times 150 \mathrm{~mm} . . . . . . . .$. $\mathrm{C1.65}$ Lab grade 100 gm pack Positiv-20 Aerosol 75 c With instructions..... Decon with spare tip Decon wlth sp
73.0063 .00

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OR SMALL

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SOTS2A SOV 2A (110/120V pri) lapped 25.45 V

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 cti 17VIA
charger duty tapped at 9 V ... $\mathbf{C 2 . 9 5}$
charger duty tapped at 9 V ... $\mathbf{C 3 . 2 5}$ CT4 17 V 4 A charger duty ... $\mathbf{C 3} .85$ GT1 $6.3 \mathrm{~V} 1.5 \mathrm{~A} \ldots \ldots \ldots . . . . . . . . . .22 .45$

## RELAYS MINIAT

TYPE
 PC socket type 940 Ordinary wiring skt. W40........ 88p Mounting strip 6 posn. R40... 26p PIGMY MAINS RELAY 3 CO
10 amp 6 V 29 n .12 V 110 n .24 V 475 n . 4 all d.c. ....................each £2.30

| CONNECTORS |  |  | EDGE CONNECTORS Gold flash contacts |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| OIN | Plug | Socket | 0.1" 24 way $£ 1.06 ; 32$ way $£ 1.29$; 36 way £1.65. |
| 4 way | 13p | 15p |  |
| 5 way $180^{\circ}$ | 14p | 10p | PHONO |
| 5 way $180^{\circ} \mathrm{PC}$ | - | 12p | Single socket $5 p$, plug 6p |
| 5 way $240^{\circ}$ | 15p | 15p | Quad socket 13p |
| 6 way | 16p | 12p | Plugs in: blk, red. yellow or grey. |
| Full range avaliable from 2 way. |  |  | SEE CURRENTPRICE |
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Multiple - $1 \mathrm{p} / 8$ way DS $16 A 1$ - 8
99p 2p/4WOS 16A2-4 E1.08
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[^3]:    Open daily to callers: Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
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