

SERVICING.VIDEO.SATELLITE.DEVELOPMENTS FREE 32-PAGE CATALOGUE


Servicing the Philips CP90 Chassis Modern Vision IF Strips • DX-TV Consumer Electronics at Las Vegas Repair Guide to LED Clock Radios ICC7 Chassis Faults - Test Report VCR Clinic - TV Fault Finding


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# Vol. 43 No. 5 <br> Issue 509 

On sale FEBFUARY 17th

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## COVER PHOTO

This month's cover photograph shows the Philips CP90 chassis - see servicing article on page 336

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## TELEORSUOL

## Japanese Gloom

We have for so long watched with awe the development of the Japanese consumer electronics industry that the idea of it being in considerable difficulty takes a while to sink in. But the fact is that in both its domestic and export markets the industry is in trouble. There are signs of this everywhere now. NEC for example has just withdrawn from VCR manufacture. It will contirue to supply VCRs, but these will be made by Sanyo on an original equipment manufacturer (OEM) basis. Distribution will be limited to NEC's 6,000 affiliated distributors in Japan. This might offer some minor relief for Sanyo, which recently announced its first dividend cut in twenty two years. Last July Sanyp forecast a 36 per cent fall in pretax profits: by mid-December the forecast decline had been increased to 73 per cent. Matsushita, Sony and just about every other Japanese consumer electronics manufacturer have been reporting similar results. The situation of smaller manufacturers is probably that much worse. Shintom, a medium-sized electronics manufacturer whose main business is the production of VCRs on an OEM basis for others to apply their brand names - recently closed one of its VCR assembly plants (outright closure of a factory is rare with listed Japanese companies). In the case of Shintom, some 90 per cent of production is exported. But the drop in the Japanese domestic VCR market is alarming: from a peak of 7.15 million units to an estimated 4.3 m in 1992, with a further decline expected this year. With VCR market penetration rates of over 80 per cent in Japan and the USA, sales prospects are poor and production capacity is grossly excessive. In the third quarter of last year alone Japanese VCR production fell by over 20 per cent.
You don't have to be a genius to understand what has gone wrong. With any market, saturation is eventually achieved. Couple this with the fact that economic downturns are a fact of life and sooner or later trouble arises. But it looks as if the Japanese consumer electronics industry became mesmerised by its own success, generating the same sort of false optimism that drove the property market in the UK in the late Eighties. There was of course always hope that new products would come along to keep things going. But there are few products that have the potential of hi-fi, the personal stereo, the TV receiver and the video. The Las Vegas Consumer Electronics Show reported on in a later page revealed many interesting new systems and products, but somehow they don't seem to have the same universal appeal as those just mentioned.
The extraordinary thing really was the VCR boom. In the history of consumer products there can have been few that took off so rapidly. It undoubtedly led to unrealistic sales projections and the installation of the excessive production capacity that was to have met this demand.
There were other factors that fuelled the growth of Japanese production capacity in the Eighties. This column has always felt that relatively low interest rates in Japan was one such factor. Most commentators dismissed this view. Not so they said, the Japanese success was due to the development of new manufacturing techniques. These must have played a part, but it's interesting that a special paper just released by the Bank of Japan, Corporate Business under Economic Adjustment, states that "much of the apparent improvement in Japanese companies' financial performance in the last decade was a reflection of cheap finance rather than improved efficiency". The report casts doubt on the theory that Japanese industrial competitiveness was mainly a result of the flexibility and efficiency of Japanese factories.
It comes to something when that giant amongst Japanese consumer electronics manufacturers Matsushita decides to send about five hundred members of its staff to work with local retailers, visiting their customers at home to find out what would encourage them to spend more. One wonders what they discovered. The step was taken last November, after Matsushita had reported a 65.6 per cent drop in pre-tax profits for the half year to September.

# Teletopics 

## NEW VHS FORMAT

JVC has announced a new VHS format, W-VHS. The W stands for wide, which according to JVC signifies (a) the worldwide penetration of VHS, (b) the ability to handle wide-screen ( $16: 9$ ) high-definition pictures and (c) the development of a wide range of applications for VHS! According to JVC over 400 million VHS units have been produced since the system was launched in Japan in 1976: now various developments such as wide-screen pictures and improved-definition TV systems call for an enhanced video format.

W-VHS has the following features: (1) Compatibility with Japanese Hi-Vision broadcasts, including 16:9 recording and playback. (2) Compatibility with future broadcasting systems such as EDTV-II (Japan), ATV (USA) and HD-MAC (Europe). (3) The ability to record simultaneously, and playback likewise, two high-quality conventional TV programmes or accept inputs from two cameras simultaneously to produce 3-D images. (4) Compatibility with the existing VHS and S-VHS formats. Technical details are scarce at present, but W-VHS uses baseband, two-track parallel recording, the colour signal being time compressed. HD-TV signals are split into two separate components for recording on the twin tracks. This two-track system, using metal tape, also gives the system the ability to record two separate conventional video signals simultaneously. A picture quality improvement circuit uses a noise-reduction system called temporal emphasis, and there's a cross-jitter compensation circuit. The standard audio system is f.m. stereo, though PCM digital sound is an option. Drum diameter is 62 mm , speed $1,800 \mathrm{r} . \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$. Tape speed is $33.4 \mathrm{~mm} / \mathrm{sec}$.

JVC plans to launch the first W-VHS machines in Japan in the autumn, at a price equivalent to slightly over $£ 3,000$. They will be able to play VHS and S-VHS recordings.

JVC's announcement of the W-VHS format is part of an effort to push HDTV, which has had very limited success in Japan to date. As a second contribution to encouraging HDTV JVC has announced a lower-priced MUSE receiver, again to be launched in the autumn. It uses a newly developed decoder with fewer i.c.s. The selling price is expected to be around the equivalent of $£ 6,750$.

## NEURAL CAMCORDER

The main feature of Sharp's new 8 mm camcorder, Model VLN1H, is its Neuro auto-exposure system. Sharp says that the system has been taught how to identify and adjust to thirty different lighting conditions, selecting the optimum exposure. Other features include a $\times 12$ zoom, four fast shutter speeds with a top speed of $1 / 10,000$ th sec, a $16: 9$ mode, 3lux low-light capability, viewfinder menuing, a fader, a digital signal processor and remote control. Suggested price is $£ 550$.

## SATELLITE TV

December seems to have been a good month for satellite TV installations, with BSkyB and the Financial Times Satellite Monitor putting the figure at 120,000 . According to manufacturers the equipment shortage is now over. Both Amstrad and Pace claim significant sales increases. There continues to be disagreement over the total number of
installations, with Continental Research which runs the FT Monitor and BARB which produces the official TV ratings issuing figures that vary by around 300,000 . This is not too surprising: there is no exact count of sales or of disconnections, while the end of the old BSB transmissions has further complicated the situation.

The EBU has moved its entire programme exchange network from Eutelsat I-F5 to Eutelsat II-F4, at the same time increasing the number of transponders leased from two to four. Eutelsat has also announced that Deutsche Bundespost Telekom, France Telecom and the Swiss PTT have agreed to go ahead with the Europesat 1 project, which will transmit fourteen DBS TV channels.

Supervision Ltd., Tower Works, 2 Globe Road, Holbeck, Leeds LS11 5QG (0532 444 195) has launched a complete range of satellite receiving equipment and accessories under the brand name Apollo. The first two products, both nonIRD receivers, are the 120 -channel stereo model SR 1800 and the SR 1900 which has 199 -channel capacity and provision for dual LNB inputs. Initially aimed at the export market, deliveries of the UK manufacturerd receivers started in February.

The Swedish Microwave XL800 triple-band LNB, which has the exceptionally low noise figure of 0.8 dB maximum, is available from exclusive supplier Satellite Solutions (UK) Ltd., 35 Quarry Park Close, Moulton Park, Northampton NN3 IQB (0604 670 900). It covers the FSS, DBS and Telecom bands over the range $10 \cdot 95-12 \cdot 75 \mathrm{GHz}$, the gain being typically 55 dB (maximum variation over the bandwidth $\pm 2 \mathrm{~dB}$ ). As industry-standard connectors are fitted the LNB can be used for system upgrading.

Satellite Solutions is also distributing the new Philips STU909 multi-standard satellite receiver which has a 2 GHz tuner, 120 preselections divided between 32 satellites and automatic $16: 9$ widescreen switching. It can receive D2MAC, PAL and SECAM, with ten selectable mono sound channels and three selectable stereo channels. D2-MAC processing includes digital hi-fi sound with the option of picture blanking during radio reception. There's an on-board Eurocrypt decoder/reader and a decoder scart that can be used with virtually all PAL/SECAM descramblers. Frequency range is $950-2,000 \mathrm{MHz}$ and the threshold carrier-to-noise ratio 7 dB . Three scart sockets, audio phono and S-VHS connectors and inputs for two LNB inputs are provided. All three types of polariser can be used with the STU909.

## IN BRIEF

The Independent Television Commission will be moving to 33 Foley Street, London Wl this summer. The ITC's staff, including its twelve national and regional offices, has been reduced to 190. . AT\&T in the USA has developed a system that enables subscribers to receive interactive video signals via standard telephone lines for services such as placing orders and responding to advertisments. It's regarded as a transitional technology to provide such services before installing fibre-optic cables. . . Amstrad's technical director Bob Watkins, who joined the company in 1976 and oversaw many of its major products during the Eighties, has left to become group managing director of Binatone, heading the company's UK and Hong Kong operations. . . Dixons and Currys have announced that a potential danger due to overheating can occur with Matsui Model 2580 25in. receivers supplied between May 1989 and May 1991. A modification will be carried out free of charge by Mastercare Ltd. who can be contacted by owners on freephone 0500234558.

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# VCR Clinic 

Reports from Philip Blundell, AMIEIE, Stephen Leatherbarrow, Eugene Trundle, Brian Storm, Nick Beer, Michael Dranfield, Roger Burchett, John Edwards, Chris Avis, Jeff Herbert and Graham Richards.

## GEC V4007

This Philips clone had the classic one broken/clogged head symptom. A scope check at the f.m. out test point (pin 3 of plug L6) confirmed that there was no f.m. output from video head one. Cleaning the heads a few times produced no improvement so, as a rough check on the head preamplifier, I injected a signal at pins VK1 and 2 and was surprised that there was again no head 1 output. So the heads were blameless this time! A check through the signal path then brought me to C 2001 ( 22 nF ) which was open-circuit. Ninety nine times out of a hundred it's the heads that are at fault, but beware of the one in a hundred!
P.B.

## Toshiba DV90

This machine would play a tape but there was no display and no signals were tuned in during E-E operation. The d.c.d.c. converter was inoperative because ZL62 (ICP-NIO) was open-circuit.
P.B.

## Sharp VC651H

This machine didn't record. I decided to follow the signal path through the AN 3215 K video signal processor chip IC201 - the signal enters and leaves at several points. All was well up to pin 19, but there was no output at pin 21 (TP203). The chip itself proved to be faulty, but fitting a replacement revealed another problem - the video heads were badly worn. Some days you just can't win.

It's quite common with this and related machines to find that the sound is being recorded only intermittently. The cause is usually dry-joints on the audio board. You have to unsolder this from the main panel in order to work on it. To complete the job we also solder the wires directly to the erase head.
S.L.

## Akai VS22

We've had our fair share of these nice machines in recently because of no results. The cause is invariably failure of one of the transistors on the power supply panel. I strongly recommend fitting only exact replacements, otherwise problems can arise. The numerous small electrolytics on this panel regularly fail, producing various symptoms such as dead with localised transistor overheating or display o.k. but no power up. We've had C6 causing interference/patterning and $\mathrm{C} 20(100 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 16 \mathrm{~V})$ causing no power up. Our policy is to remove and test all the electrolytics on this board. It saves time in the long run as you avoid bounces.

After doing this recently with two of these machines and successfully repairing the power supplies we found that they would both load tapes normally but neither the drum nor the capstan motor operated. There was no rewind or fast forward drive either. In both cases the BU2735AS chip IC503 was the cause.
S.L.

## Hitachi Capstan Bearings

We've had a lot of trouble recently with gunged-up capstan bearings in Hitachi VCRs. A VTM720 would squeal on
rewind and would intermittently unlace at odd intervals: the upper capstan bearing was dirty and tight. The same thing with the same effects occurred with a VTM622E. It's not difficult to dismantle the motor to clean and lubricate the upper bearing. Use very thin oil - as much as a gnat might put in his chamber pot.
E.T.

## Sanyo VHR4350

A couple of these machines developed intermittent loss of drum servo phase lock - the effect is similar to that of dirty heads, but it drifts in and out of the picture. Check the internal jointing and plug/socket connections to the drum motor's PG coil. You have to dismantle the upper and lower drum assemblies to get at the stator PCB.
E.T.

## Philips VR502

After running for about fifteen minutes this machine lost all TV programmes - it was as if the aerial lead had been pulled out. We found that the voltage at pin 11 of the tuner was being pulled down from within the tuner. A suitable voltage fed to pin 11 from a bench power supply showed that 22 mA was being sunk inside the tuner. A new tuner restored normal operation.
E.T.

## Sanyo VHR3300

The audio/control head stack used in this and similar models wears at a relatively fast rate - we've replaced many of them. Signs of failure are: sound level fluctuation; tape fussiness with respect to servo lock with a machine's own recordings; and intermittent miscounting by the tape counter. The only cure is a replacement $A C E$ head assembly.
E.T.

## Pioneer VR727/Philips VR6870

Failure of C2011 in the chopper power supply has been mentioned on a number of occasions. Another, nastier failure in the same area occurs when the 6.8 V reservoir capacitors C2032 and C2033 dry up. They are both $680 \mu \mathrm{~F}$, 16 V . The symptoms are several: the machine may take minutes or hours to come to life after being switched on; all segments in the fluorescent display may light up; or there may be intermittent or no sound in the E-E and playback modes.
E.T.

## Sharp VC681

When this machine finds a blank portion of tape it switches into the video search mode and quickly skips through until it comes to the next recording. It then reverts to the play mode. We had one of these machines that would remain in the search mode however: the only way to stop it was to press the play button.

The blank detector circuit is centred around the $\mu \mathrm{PC} 393 \mathrm{C}$ chip IC701. It works by detecting the off-tape line sync pulses. All was well at Q701's collector, but although the signal at pin 3 of IC701 changed when a recording was found the signal at pin 1 didn't change. As replacing IC70I
made no difference it seemed that R7106 and R7107 at pin 2 , the operational amplifier's non-inverting input, were faulty. But their values were spot on. With no faulty component present we could only conclude that the circuit had gone out of tolerance, perhaps due to age. So a modification was called for. After some consideration we decided that the fault could be cured by reducing the voltage at pin 2 by 0.2 V . The modification consisted of adding a $470 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ resistor in parallel with R7107. A good soak test showed that this had cured the fault.
M.Dr.

## Amstrad VCR9000

This machine had no E-E or playback sound. A check at pin 6 of IC701 showed that its 8 V supply was missing, though there was voltage at the other end of R735. This resistor was o.k., the cause of the problem being that C721 $(100 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 10 \mathrm{~V})$ was short-circuit. We fitted a replacement rated at 16 V .
M.Dr.

## Samsung VI730

As the $1.2 \Omega, 0.5 \mathrm{~W}$ protection resistor (FR101) for the STK5333 voltage regulator was open-circuit the machine was dead. The cause of the failure was a loose fuse clip in the mains plug. The machine had stopped in the partially laced condition.
R.B.

## Philips VR6542

This machine has a Panasonic deck and suffers from the same mode-switch problems as Panasonic models. R.B.

## Panasonic NVF65

This Nicam stereo hi-fi deck wouldn't stop when search tuning, though if you tried tuning in the opposite direction the machine would usually (but not always) lock on a station. So checks were made for sync low and a.f.c. defeat switching at the pins of the demodulator pack. Normally when tuning the a.f.c. defeat voltage changes from 4.5 V to 0 V . In this case it remained at 2.5 V all the time. The MN12C261D front panel memory chip IC7502 is directly responsible for this and proved to be the culprit, a replacement curing the fault.
B.S.

## Panasonic NVJ47

The mechanism was erratic to say the least: a lot of movement but rarely reaching the play position without sighing to a halt and shutting down. The cause of the problem seemed to be the capstan stator. It had very little torque and emitted strange whistling noises intermittently. When the capstan rotor was removed to gain access to the stator we found that the soldering to the stator coils could have been better. In fact resoldering the stator coils and the Hall i.c.s cured the trouble.
B.S.

## Panasonic NVJ42

The search tuning fault with this machine was no lock in either direction. Sync low and a.f.c. defeat were normal but because there was no a.f.c. feed from pin 6 of the plugin demodulator pack the front panel microcontroller chip had no information to work on. Pin 6 of the demodulator pack proved to be the cause of the problem: it was opencircuit to the demodulator pack plug itself. Fitting a new socket cured the problem.

## JVC HRD110/Ferguson 3V38/9

This machine would shut down after attempting to lace up. A new loading bell was fitted but made no difference. The cause of the fault was iraced to the after-load leaf switch unit which is mounted close to the loading motor - one of the contacts had broken off.

## Ferguson 3V35/JVC HRD120

As the thermal fuse in the mains transformer's primary winding was open-circuit this machine was dead. Fortunately the pin-outs on the PCB are accessible. So to avoid the cost of a new transformer we added a 250 mA fuse externally, soldering it across the pins in place of the internal fuse. The machine then worked well.
J.E.

## Hitachi VT17

Motorboating on sound during playback was caused by relay RL401 on the audio PCB. Removing the plastic cover and cleaning the contacts provided a cure.
J.E.

## Sharp VCA113HM

When play was selected the picture appeared for a few seconds in the pause mode then the machine went into the stop mode. The pinch wheel had fallen down its shaft because its internal grip had broken. A new pinch wheel assembly (part no. MLEVF0281GEZZ) cured the problem. J.E.

## GEC V4005

This Hitachi clone (VT63/4) suffered from an intermittent very loud knocking noise when playing or recording. Not the capstan bearing this time - too loud anyway - but a worn reel pulley on its pinion. A new clutch base assembly provided a complete cure.
N.B.

## Fisher FVHP520

The cause of low reel torque can be difficult to find on these machines. We've found that it's usually due to reel spool tyre wear. Cleaning with alcohol and drying will prove the point.
N.B.

## Susumu XR1

The cause of tape chewing in this Clydesdale supplied machine was a faulty reel idler. It's Panasonic part no. VXP0521. Willow Vale list it and a number of other spares for this model - the mechanism is similar to that used in the Panasonic Model NV370.

There was a second fault however - very poor playback picture quality because of poor screening around the head amplifier. The cause was that some idiot hadn't secured the upper PCB behind the mechanism - the screws were nowhere to be seen and the board was being held down by the lid! It has a spring contact to earth the plate.
N.B.

## Logic VR950/Samsung VI611

This machine wouldn't play or record - the arms didn't lace up because the pin had dropped out of the sector gear. As a result it didn't move when the main cam did. A new sector gear was installed and the pin, found loose in the mechanism, was fitted into it. The old gear was faulty - the hole for the pin had become enlarged.
N.B.

## JVC HR7200/Ferguson 3V29

This oldie had no colour playback with known good recordings and no drum lock or chroma with its own recordings no prizes for spotting the connection. The fault could be instigated and cleared by touching anywhere on the bottom PCB. We eventually found the dry-joint on one leg of C347, which is connected to one leg of IC402. The leg had a very fine ring around it.
N.B.

## Osaki VCR33

It didn't take long to find the cause of the fault in this machine - tape chewing due to a faulty reel idler. But the fact that the Panasonic mechanism it uses is similar to that in the NV370 may be of interest since the appropriate VUD kit or individual components are easy to obtain. Don't use the Panasonic pinch roller though - a Sharp unit from Willow Vale will do. The rest of the machine is not of Panasonic origin. The whole lot looks very similar to the Susumu XRI which was marketed by Clydesdale.
N.B.

## JVC HRD565

There was intermittent loss of r.f. vision, the symptom being a black raster with weak vision floating through. Wiggling either r.f. lead would instigate the fault or cure it. When I'd dismantled the r.f. modulator/amplifier I found that there was a break in the print between the input plug's vision pin (screened lead) and its first connection about 1.5 in . away inside the modulator.
N.B.

## Panasonic NV870

The only sign of life was an occasional flicker from the display. There was less than 1 V on the Reg 5 V rail due to a $10 \Omega$ short to chassis. Several plugs, sockets and links later I reached the operation display board and found that the earthed leg of C6512, which decouples the supply to IC6503, was pushed against the positive leg of the Reg 5 V decoupler C6502, behind the digitron. With the leads apart life was restored to the machine. But no channels could be tuned or memorised for several minutes, after which this fault would suddenly clear. The AN5033 tuning chip was temperature-sensitive.
C.A.

## Panasonic NV370

The E-E picture was marred by fine horizontal lines that varied with the tuning. A.G.C. decoupler C7(12 on the tuner/i.f. panel was open-circuit.
C.A.

## Baird 8940/JVC HR7350

No erase or recorded sound prompted a gleeful leap on to the erase head connector, only to find that it had already been bypassed and removed. The cause of the problem was that the bias oscillator was receiving no supply voltage in the record mode because switching transistor Q10 was not being turned on. Its base bias resistor had risen in value from $5 \cdot 6 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ to $53 \mathrm{k} \Omega$.

## Panasonic NVG40

The playback and E-E pictures were intermittent, but the owner said that the machine worked fine on its side! Tapping anywhere on the top main board affected the fault, so I scoped the video signal at input pin 3 of the
luma/chroma subpanel. It was constant here, but at output pin 1 it fluctuated as the panel was flexed. When the subpanel was removed I saw that there were cracks around pins 1 and 2 . Resoldering them provided a more permanent remedy that gravity!
C.A.

## Panasonic NVL25

Very intermittent servo lock caused us a few problems with this machine. It would play all right for hours then, suddenly, the capstan motor would rapidly speed up, causing sound distortion. At the same time the drum speed would go way off lock, the result on the picture being like loss of line hold. The fault would last for about ten seconds after which everything returned to normal as suddenly as the fault had appeared. After much head scratching and component changing we found that the cause of the fault was the STK5392 regulator chip in the power supply. When the fault condition was present the regulated 5 V rail rose to 6.2 V and became unsmoothed with h.f. pulses on it. Because of the very intermittent nature of the fault it took several days of testing and probing to find the cause. J.H.

## Panasonic NVJ35

Playback was perfect, but when record was selected the machine would run for a few seconds then return to the stop mode. L4002, the choke in the 1.t. feed to the audio bias oscillator, had gone open-circuit because a solder blob inside the oscillator transformer T001 had provided a short to chassis. When L4002 had been replaced and the solder blob had been removed the record function worked normally. A microcontroller chip pin monitors the bias oscillator: if no oscillation is detected the deck is returned to the stop mode.
J.H.

## Panasonic NVJ40

No full tape width erase was the trouble with this machine. The symptom was blue and red patterns with new recordings because the chroma from the previous recording wasn't being erased. The cause of the fault was simple. The full width erase head plugs in. During manufacture one pin had bent over when the plug was inserted and thus failed to make contact. With these later type $G$ decks the erase voltage is fed via a ribbon cable across the top of the cassette housing, along with the end sensor supply. J.H.

## Sentra VX8400HQ/Alba VCR5000X

Tuning drift is a common problem with these machines. Change D101, preferably to a TAA550 i.c. If you still have problems, remove the glue/gunge from around C133/4/5, also around R158/9/60. The glue becomes slightly conductive, causing erratic drifting - sometimes on one or two channels only!
G.R.

## Hitachi VT430

The mains input PCB had to be repaired because of damage caused by mains-borne lightning. This got the machine working, but in the play and E-E modes there was a blank raster. Replacing Q3301 - we used a BC640 - restored the playback luminance but we now had weak E-E. Scope checks proved that the i.f./demodulator and p-in-p modules were o.k. The video was traced to pin 7 of the LA 7016 chip IC1501, but there was very little output at pin 4. Replacing this chip cleared the final fault.
G.R.

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## Panasonic NVM3B

This one was o.k. until you switched it off! All the normal functions worked: play, record etc. were fine. But at switch off things went seriously wrong. It would eventually switch off, but after several attempts R20 $(2 \cdot 2 \Omega, 1 \mathrm{~W})$ would burn out. This resistor is in the 12 V supply to the loading motor drive chip IC6004. By connecting an ammeter in series with the supply we found that at switch off the current drawn by the loading motor was greatly in excess of the normal value. Hence the burn out of R20.

The clue was the fact that the excess current was the cause of the unit shutting down: it triggered the excesscurrent circuit in the power supply. The cause of the problem was an open-circuit link-through from one side of the PCB to the other. As a result the syscon micro was robbed of its supply when switch off was attempted. It reacted by driving the loading motor hard in the unload direction. The moral is that when extraordinary symptoms are present, look for all possible clues. In this particular case the clue was provided by monitoring the micro's 5 V supply.
D.C.W.

## Sharp VCC10P

The colour was erratic in the camera mode, with bent verticals and intermittent picture roll. Playback was o.k. The customer said that if you hit the camera the fault cleared. And it did! The cause of the trouble was a dry-joint on the camera video board, where the sync subpanel is connected. It took rather longer than it should have done to find the dry-joint, because a touch almost anywhere produced the fault.
D.C.W.

## Philips VKR6830/JVC GRC7E

The customer complained of no functions, and indeed absolutely nothing worked. An internal inspection showed that the cause of the problem was a common one - water! Why don't they tell us they got it wet? Carefully cleaning the operation PCB restored most of the functions, but after a short period they ceased. There was a further contaminated area on the MDA PCB. Except for these two areas everything else had been spared the flood effect.

I always give equipment that has suffered in this way an extended test run. This hopefully avoids the possibility of a further failure. As a general rule, if the fault produces various unexplained symptoms look for an ingress of liquid. When asked, the customer invariably "remembers" the circumstances of the accident!
D.C.W.

## Canon VME70E

This camcorder had been dropped. There was only slight cabinet damage, the complaint being of tape chewing. The cassette housing had suffered slightly, but this responded to some metal work. The mechanism seemed to work all right, at least without a tape. When a tape was inserted and the play button was pressed pictures were obtained. No incorrect tape path effects were apparent. The record mode also worked correctly.

I left the machine running in the LP play mode and got
on with some other work. Shortly afterwards a scrunching sound from the direction of the VME70E drew my attention. The tape had ridden up the capstan shaft and was about to jam against the guides - I managed to get to the stop button just in time. After some observation it became clear that the fault occurred only at the start of transport when a rewound cassette was laced up and moving. I subsequently found that the cause was the fact that both helical-wrap guide pole securing screws were loose. Tightening them and checking the tape path for correct operation cured the fault. Both screws loosened by a fall? Well I never!
D.C.W.

## Ferguson 3C03/JVC GRC7E

The reported fault was no record or playback colour. E-E colour was o.k. The customer said that it happened after "winter storage". Unfortunately the fault is quite common with this model: it's unfortunate because of the high cost of IC10, which is almost always the cause of the problem. Check carefully around ICl 0 on the YC PCB for other possible causes, but be prepared to replace ICIO. After replacing it a complete chroma set-up is advisable. D.C.W.

## Sony ACP88

This worldwide camcorder charger/power supply unit is quite expensive to replace but is eminently serviceable. This one was dead, with fuse F101 (1.25A) black. Not surprisingly the 2 SC 3457 chopper transistor Q101 was shortcircuit all ways round, but the cause was a dry-joint on the reservoir capacitor C105 - the big black one. Its positive connection had obviously been arcing.
N.B.

## Sanyo VMD3P

You may recall that I wrote about failure of the silver-can, surface-mounted electrolytic capacitor in position C4011 in the system control circuit in this model. More recently this type of capacitor has been failing everywhere. With this particular machine there was loss of vision in the pause/cue and review modes because C1095 ( $10 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ ) had fallen in value. When all the other capacitors of the same type were checked I found that the vast majority of them were physically leaking. I ended up replacing the lot in the VCR section. Imagine the problems that this will cause if the trouble is widespread, with electrolyte leaking all over the densely packed PCBs. And they smell awful when you heat the area with an iron!
N.B.

## Sanyo VMD6P

This camcorder came to me from Australia (some reputation, eh?). The problem was that a cassette was jammed inside and the loading motor could be heard running. When I dismantled the unit (watch the plugs and sockets which connect the assemblies to the cases) I found that two out of the four loading gears mounted on the loading motor bracket had damaged or missing teeth. A new set of four gears was fitted. I've since had several others in with the same problem.
N.B.

# Modern TV Receiver Techniques 

Last month we saw how the transmitted signal is converted by the tuner to a constant, lower intermediate frequency. The next step is to demodulate this signal in order to recover the original "baseband" sound and vision signals.

The purpose of the filtering and selectivity incorporated in the tuner is mainly to avoid interference and spurious effects arising from the use of the superhet technique - there would be no need for image and $n \pm 4$ rejectors if there were no local oscillator signal for these transmissions to beat with. The receiver's main selectivity and bandpass characteristics are provided after the tuner, in the form of an i.f. filter that has a well-defined and closely-specified response curve. The response curve is especially critical with terrestrial transmissions because one of the sidebands is severely curtailed to save precious spectrum space in the broadcast bands. Vestigial sideband (v.s.b.) transmission is universal with a.m. broadcast TV.

## The IF Filter

The required i.f. filter bandpass characteristics can be provided by using a fairly complex combination of $\mathrm{L}, \mathrm{C}$ and R elements, either in the form of a "lumped" circuit block or by spreading the necessary acceptors, rejectors and traps throughout an i.f. amplifier that consists of several discrete component stages. These were the techniques used prior to the advent of the SAW (surface acoustic wave) filter. Aligning such an i.f. amplifier is now largely a lost art, like setting up the convergence with a delta-gun tube. Modern sets all use a SAW filter: it provides the required band shaping without any need for adjustment, setting up or operating power, can be mass produced, and comes in a tiny, cheap package.

The construction and operating principle of a SAW filter is shown in Fig. 1. The substrate consists of a slice of piezoelectric material similar to that used in a ceramic filter. A transducer printed on one end converts the incoming electrical signal into an acoustic one. This mechanical vibration is propagated across the surface of the substrate like the ripples in a pond. Some of this mechanical energy is intercepted by a second transducer at the output end, being recoverted in the process to an electrical signal. Maximum output is obtained when the pitch of the comb-like transducer electrodes matches the half wavelength of the acoustic surface wave. As the input frequency varies so the efficiency of the SAW couling varies, giving peaks and troughs in the response - a bandpass characteristic. Dampers prevent reflection of the acoustic waves at each end.

## Response Curve

The most important characteristic of a SAW filter is its response curve. Fig. 2 shows a typical one for system I. The main passband is about 6 MHz wide, centred on 36 MHz and providing at least 40 dB of rejection to signals outside the passband - in practice these consist of adjacent channel transmissions that pass easily through the relatively broadband tuner.

The crucial points in the response curve are noted in Fig. 2 , the main one being the placement of the vision carrier $(39.5 \mathrm{MHz}) 6 \mathrm{~dB}$ below the peak of the response. With a
v.s.b. transmission the lower sideband of the vision r.f. signal is largely suppressed at the transmitter, causing an imbalance in the modulation energy received: with video signals up to 1.25 MHz there are two sidebands while for the higher transmitted video frequencies, corresponding with the fine picture detail, there is only one sideband. If this "lop-sided" spectrum was presented to the vision demodulator the low-frequency luminance components would be emphasised in its output to the detriment of the picture. The falling response of the i.f. filter at frequencies above the 39.5 MHz carrier (remember the sideband mirroring effect introduced by the superhet system) balances the signal energy fed to the demodulator and equalises the frequency response of the system as a whole.

Another critical frequency is that of the sound carrier, 33.5 MHz with system II. As Fig. 2 shows, the response at this frequency is about 20 dB down from the peak level. This ensures that the sound carrier is too weak to cause mischief by beating with the chroma subcarrier at $35 \cdot 1 \mathrm{MHz}$ - otherwise there would be coarse patterning on the picture at 1.6 MHz - and that the sound carrier is always below the level of the vision signal, whose negative-going amplitude modulation takes it to a very low point on picture highlights. So long as this condition is fulfilled there is no significant amplitude (i.e. vision) modulation of the intercarrier sound signal (see later), which is extracted as a beat product of the vision demodulator. Frequency modulation is used for the audio signal, and to prevent it being amplitude modulated by the vision it sits on a little "shelf" at one side of the SAWF's response curve.

The other two frequency markers on the curve shown in Fig. 2 are at the rejection notches for the main out-of-band carriers anticipated: adjacent channel vision at 31.5 MHz and adjacent channel sound at 41.5 MHz . These are both attenuated by about 55 dB . Don't be mislead by the logarithmic


Fig. 1: Internal construction of a SAW filter.


Fig. 2: SAWF response curve for system I.


Fig. 3: Vision i.f. amplifier and demodulator arrangement for terrestrial TV reception (a.m. vision).
scale $(\mathrm{dB}): 55 \mathrm{~dB}$ represents about $500: 1$ and the 20 dB sound carrier point about 10:1. The insertion loss of the SAWF is about 20dB, so that 0 dB in Fig. 2 can be taken as -20 dB in the overall scheme of things. This loss is made up by the i.f. amplifier's gain.

## Group Delay

Any circuit through which a modulated vision carrier passes, especially one that provides selectivity, must have a reasonably linear phase response: any phase change that occurs with the signal sidebands should be proportional to the frequency deviation from the carrier, so that all signal components, regardless of frequency, arrive at the demodulator simultaneously. Time errors greater than 100 nsec cause visible preshoots or overshoots on the picture. Errors much smaller than this upset teletext decoding.

Group delay characteristics are specified by the broadcasting authorities for each transmission system and are built into the SAWF.

## Dual SAWFs

In sets that incorporate a Nicam decoder special attention is given to the phase-modulated Nicam sound carrier, which with system I is spaced at 6.552 MHz from the vision carrier, representing an i.f. of 32.948 MHz . For this furpose a special "quasi-parallel" SAWF is available: it has one input transducer and separate output transducers for the vision and sound carriers. The vision channel response curve differs from the standard type in that it falls steeply in the region of the sound carriers. In the sound channel there are two quite narrow response curves: one embraces both sound carriers and is centred on $33 \cdot 2 \mathrm{MHz}$, the other one being sharply tuned to 33.95 MHz . We'll return to this when we come to the sound circuits.

## IF Amplifier

The vision i.f. amplifier itself is a very straightforward wideband amplifier that generally works with a balanced (push-pull) in put from the SAWF. It has high gain, typically 60 dB over three or four stages, the gain being controllable over a wide range by automatic gain control (a.g.c.). The latter is based on detection of the amplitude of the demodu-
lated sync pulse tips since these represent maximum carrier power (with negative-going vision modulation peak white represents minimum carrier amplitude and the sync tips maximum carrier amplitude). The a.g.c. loop ensures that changes in the r.f. signal level affect only the noise content of the picture, not the contrast.

The i.f. amplifier's output is balanced. It goes three separate ways, as shown in Fig. 3: to a synchronous demodulator, to a carrier reference signal generator and to an a.f.c. demodulator.

## The Synchronous Vision Demodulator

Synchronous demodulators work on the principle of closing a switch once per carrier cycle and storing the signal sample thus obtained in a reservoir. This is the sample-and-hold principle much used in analogue electronics. In practice because a balanced input is applied to the detector there are two switches which are closed on alternate half cycles of the carrier, giving full-wave signal demodulation.

We need a reference pulse train to control the switches. It's derived from a "tank" coil that's tuned to the 39.5 MHz carrier frequency and is driven by an amplitude-limited sample of the signal: the limiting ensures that the phase and amplitude of the reference signal thus generated are unaffected by the modulation itself. Squaring the 39.5 MHz sinewave produced by the tank coil produces the required switch control pulses.

The smoothed outputs from the switches represent the recovered baseband video signal complete with the chroma information and, where applicable, the 6 MHz intercarrier sound signal.

## AFC

For automatic frequency control (a.f.c.) a d.c. voltage that's proportional to any tuning drift is required. It can then be added to the varicap bias voltage applied to the tuner to produce the necessary correction. Tuning is exactly right when the vision carrier is spot on at 39.5 MHz . The a.f.c. voltage is obtained from a second synchronous demodulator whose reference signal input is in quadrature with that applied to the vision synchronous demodulator, i.e. there's a $90^{\circ}$ phase difference, equal to a quarter cycle of the carrier.


Fig. 4: Internal arrangement of a typical vision i.f./demodulator chip with major peripheral components.
between the two reference signals. It's generated by a second LC tuned circuit.

Because of this $90^{\circ}$ phase shift the a.f.c. demodulator's switches should close when the vision carrier is passing through zero. Any difference from zero represents a tuning drift. As the carrier frequency departs from 39.5 MHz because of tuning drift, the a.f.c. demodulator produces an output that indicates by its polarity the direction of drift and by its amplitude the degree of drift. This output is fed back to the tuner's varicap control system to provide the required correction.

Because of the very stable broadcast carriers a.f.c. is not required with frequency-synthesis tuning. It's used with satellite TV systems to compensate for slight LNB local oscillator drift. A.F.C. is particularly helpful where the r.f. signal comes from the modulator in a VCR, computer or a video games system: in such cases drift is a real possibility.

## RF AGC

As the TV set's input signal steadily increases the i.f. gain is reduced to compensate. Initially the gain of the r.f. amplifier in the tuner is held at maximum, minimising the receiver's noise level. When the i.f. a.g.c. voltage exceeds a preset level, corresponding to an r.f. input signal level of 23 mV , a control voltage is produced for the tuner and is converted to a reducing current for the pin diode attenuator inside the tuner (see last month). This is done to prevent the risk of cross-modulation in the tuner's r.f. amplifier, something that can occur when the stage is overloaded. The receiver's noise level is irrelevant when such a high signal input is present.

## Typical IF Chip

Let's tie up this section by taking a look at the operation of a typical commercial i.f. amplifier/demodulator chip, see Fig. 4. The balanced output from the SAWF is applied to pins $I$ and 16 , where it's fed to a three-stage amplifier with over 60 dB of a.g.c. To maintain the best signal-to-noise ratio the a.g.c. is applied sequentially, starting with the final (pre-demodulator) stage where the signal amplitude is
largest. The capacitor between pins 2 and 15 decouples the d.c. feedback loop within the chip.

The LC circuit connected to pins 8 and 9 forms a tuned load for the reference signal amplifier, which feeds switching signals to the synchronous demodulator. The a.f.c. synchronous demodulator is tuned to the carrier frequency by the LC circuit between pins 7 and 10 . Its output at pin 5 forms a high-impedance current source that's converted to a control voltage by an external resistor.

The differential outputs from the vision demodulator are converted by the video preamplifier to a positive-going composite video output at about 2.5 V peak-to-peak. This buffered output appears at pin 12. A white-spot inverter operates with the video preamplifier: it takes over-modulation (noise) spikes and clamps them at mid-grey level: because of the high selectivity of the carrier reference circuit this type of synchronous vision demodulator is particularly sensitive to pulse and spike interference.

Further feeds from the video preamplifier go to the a.g.c. detector. An important item here is the noise inverter/protection circuit which limits the video signal amplitude in the presence of noise, preventing false a.g.c. action when impulsive interference is present. The capacitor connected to pin 14 is the a.g.c. reservoir capacitor: the parallel RC network provides critical damping of the a.g.c. loop. The tuner a.g.c. output is produced at pin 4, the onset of its action being governed by the voltage applied to pin 3 .

## FM Vision Demodulator

Frequency modulation is used for the vision signal with satellite TV transmissions. The i.f. and demodulator circuits are broadly similar to those we've been considering with the following main differences: first the SAWF has a broad response, about 27 MHz , with a centre i.f. of typically 480 MHz (see Fig. 5); secondly the vision demodulator is an f.m. type that's immune to amplitude and pulse modulation once the input signal level exceeds a certain threshold. Most vision f.m. demodulators use the phase-locked loop (PLL) principle - see block diagram shown in Fig. 6.

The principle of the PLL demodulator is simple. A linear voltage-controlled oscillator (VCO) free-runs at the second


Fig. 5: SAWF response curve tolerance for sateliite TV reception, based on a second i.f. of 480 MHz : the actual response must fall within the shaded area.


Fig. 6: Block diagram of a PLL vision demodulator for f.m. video signals: the performance, especially with lowlevel signals, depends largely on the time-constant of the loop filter.
i.f., say 480 MHz . Its output forms one input to a phase detector. The other input is the frequency-modulated vision carrier. The phase detector's output, which is an error signal (the difference between the two inputs), is used to steer the

VCO which thus faithfully tracks the vision carrier deviations. As a result the error voltage, after suitable low-pass filtering, is a facsimile of the modulating signal, i.e. the video waveform complete with the sound carriers and, where applicable, the teletext data.

Any fixed-level intervals in the video signal (porches, sync pulses, peak-white captions etc.) produce spot frequencies in the f.m. vision channel. These could cause interference to other services. To prevent this the carrier is kept on the move, frequency wise, by adding an energy-dispersal waveform to the video signal before modulation. It takes the form of a triangular wave that's locked to the field scanning rate. Thus the whole video waveform sits on a ramp. So the first post-demodulator process required is to clamp the video signal to a fixed voltage once per TV line to prevent shading effects from the top to the bottom of the picture.

## Integration

The i.f./demodulator arrangement shown in Fig. 4 is nowadays often incorporated in a large "jungle" chip along with the sound i.f. demodulator, the line and field timebase generators and/or the colour decoder. Similarly in a satellite TV receiver the i.f. and vision f.m. demodulator chip is incorporated in a complete screened module that contains the tuner: the downlead from the LNB is connected to one end, the baseband video signal emerging at the other. Tuning instructions are fed to pins somewhere around the middle! Manufacturers treat it as a black box, the internal details of which are seldom given in service literature.

# Servicing the Philips CP90 Chassis 

Richard Newman

The Philips CP90 chassis first appeared in 1987. There were versions to drive small and larger-screen tubes, with and without remote control and also with or without teletext. Most of the circuitry is on one main panel, the exceptions being the plug-in teletext board and the soldered-in i.f./sync module. Tuning, volume, brightness, colour and remote control are handled by a single microcomputer chip whose type varies with the features incorporated in the particular model.

The following servicing notes are intended to be used in conjunction with the official Philips circuit diagrams (code numbers 482272715737 and 4822727 15968). Particular attention is paid to the SOPS (chopper) type power supply and the control section: the rest of the circuitry follows conventional lines.

## Power Supply

The power supply is the heart of any receiver and is where most of the breakdowns usually occur. On the primary side the SOPS circuit is similar to that used in the 2A chassis (see December 1992 issue of Television) - the same fault-finding procedure can be adopted. The component reference numbers are different however, and the modifications don't apply (they are already incorporated). The circuit is shown in Fig. 1.

If the BUTIIAF chopper transistor $\operatorname{Tr} 7677$ has failed Philips recommend that D6674 in its base circuit should be changed to type BYD33J. I also change D6675, fitting a BYD33J here as well. Also check transistors $\operatorname{Tr} 7673$ and
$\operatorname{Tr} 7674$ and the associated diodes.
C2679 can go short-circuit and in this event usually takes D6679 with it. Use a good-quality 1 nF capacitor rated at 2 kV as a replacement. If a set comes in with many faulty components in the power supply pay attention to the chopper transformer T5763 which suffers from dry-joints. These should be dealt with as a matter of course. Occasionally the transformer itself can fail.

Once all suspect components have been replaced, disconnect the line output stage from the power supply by unplugging connector M6, which is by the line output transformer. Connect a dummy load ( 60 W bulb) across the h.t. reservoir capacitor C2696 with a meter set to read 100 V in parallel. Connect the mains input to the set via a variac, switch on and slowly increase the voltage fed to the set. At around 70 V the lamp should start to glow. Slowly advance the input to about 100 V while watching the meter. With this input the meter should read 95 V and the reading should not change when the input from the variac is increased further.

If the power supply doesn't start up at around 70 V , switch off and recheck components on the primary side of the circuit, also the zener diodes connected to the gate of thyristor Ty6696. If the h.t. voltage doesn't stabilise, or the supply shuts down at around 100 V , check the circuit around the CNX62 optocoupler. The power supply will also shut down if the set h.t. control R3700 is advanced too far, so try adjusting it.

Once the h.t. line is correct at 95 V the dummy load and meter can be disconnected and plug M6 refitted. If the power supply then shuts down, suspect a fault in the line


Fig. 1: Power supply circuit, remote control version. See text for differences with the non-remote control version.

## output stage.

There's some interesting circuitry concerned with the standby function on the secondary side of the SOPS transformer. Overvoltage protection is provided by thyristor Ty6696 in conjunction with the four zener diodes that are connected to its gate. These diodes will conduct should an overvoltage condition occur, firing the thyristor and shutting down the power supply. It follows that if any of these diodes should fail the power supply will shut down. It's thus worth checking them if the set won't start up.

When the standby command is given the microcomputer chip switches on Tr 7727 and D6727. Thyristor Ty6726 will then conduct, acting as a rectifier. As a result the voltage at pin 10 of the SOPS transformer rises from 8.5 V to around 11.5 V . This voltage is fed to Tr 7730 to maintain the 6 V supply to the microcomputer chip and to D6730 to supply the optocoupler and the error detector transistors $\operatorname{Tr} 7701 / 2$. The 11.5 V also increases the base bias applied to Tr 7702 . Thus the light output within the optocoupler is increased and the feedback to $\operatorname{Tr} 7673 / 4$ cuts off the chopper transistor $\operatorname{Tr} 7677$ for a longer period. All other outputs from the SOPS transformer then fall to well below their normal level.

In normal operation a pulse from pin 3 of the line output transformer is fed to D6733 which produces the 8.5 V supply across C2703. This is fed to $\operatorname{Tr} 7730$ to provide the 6 V rail. In this condition D6730 is reverse biased and the optocoupler and $\operatorname{Tr} 7701 / 2$ receive their supply from the rectifier circuit D6694/C2694.

A problem that sometimes occurred with early remote control sets consisted of a buzz in the standby mode. Its
cause was the fact that the 22 V supply to the audio output stage didn't fall sufficiently because of incorrect switching of thyristor Ty 6726 which, in this event, should be replaced.

## Line Output Stage and EW Correction

These sections of the receiver are conventional. The only components that may cause problems are C2619 ( 1.5 nF ) and C2610 ( 8.2 nF ). Failure of either of these may result in the demise of the BUTllAF line output transistor Tr7619. Fit a good-quality 2 kV capacitor as a replacement.

C2495 ( 33 nF ) going open-circuit will affect the beam limiter, the result being low contrast.

It's good practice to resolder the connections to the line output and driver transformers which both seem to suffer quite badly from dry-joints.

## Sync/IF Module

This module provides line and field drive outputs, also transmission identification and sandcastle pulse outputs. It's not considered to be serviceable, a complete unit being available from Philips. If the can is opened however you'll find that standard components are used, so some repairs can be carried out. In practice because of the awkwardness of repairing the module in situ and the labour involved it's probably cheaper to replace the complete unit.

When checking for loss of line drive first make sure that the 22 V start-up voltage from the power supply is present at pin 12. If not, check F1690 ( 400 mAT ). If this has blown the

## CP90 CHASSIS MODEL LIST

Philips<br>14CE1200/05B<br>14CE1201/05B<br>14CE1201/05W<br>14CE1500/05B<br>15CE1010/05B<br>15CE1210/05B<br>15CE1210/05L<br>15CE1210/05W<br>15CE 1518/05B<br>17CE1230/05B<br>17CE1530/05B<br>17CE1538/05B<br>17CE1630/45B<br>21CE1051/05B<br>21CE1059/05B<br>21CE1250/05B<br>21CE1251/05B<br>21CE1259/05B<br>21CE1550/05B<br>21CE1551/05B<br>21CE1557/05B<br>21CE1557/05Z<br>21CE1558/05B<br>21CE 1559/05B<br>\section*{Pye}<br>27KE1112/05L<br>27KE1115/05L<br>37KE1022/05B<br>37KE1025/05B<br>38KE1102/05B<br>38KE1185/05B<br>43KE1312/05M<br>43KE1315/05M<br>43KE1385/05M<br>52KE1510/05M<br>52KE1512/05M<br>52KE1515/05M<br>52KE1585/05M

audio output chip could be faulty - this is also supplied by the 22 V rail. During normal running the module receives a 13 V supply at pin 8 . This is derived from the line output transformer.

## The Control Circuit

The microcomputer chip used in remote control sets is a Toshiba type TMP47C432. It's fairly well known that this suffered from static problems - replacements are now supplied with a metal shield. It's very important when replacing this chip to check the programme code stamped on the device. With a non-text or standard text set the programme code is 8188 . With a Fastext set the programme code is 8189 . Either type can be fitted to a non-text set, but with text sets the correct type must be fitted - failure to do this will result in no text at all. The Philips part number for the 8188 version is 482220972038 , for the 8189 version it's 482220987305.

Loss of tuning memory and the personal preference
settings is usually caused by a faulty back-up battery.
Tuning drift on the higher channels only with early modets was cured by the following production change. Wire link 9636 replaced with a BYD33D diode, anode to D6638. Wire link 9868 replaced with a 1 N4148 diode, anode to the 12 V line. D6106 replaced with a wire link. R3833 changed to $1.8 \mathrm{M} \Omega$. R3912 changed to $1.2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$. R 3106 replaced by a $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ resistor fitted between the cathode of D6106 and the base of $\operatorname{Tr} 7106$. An extra $1 N 4148$ diode added between pins 36 and 38 of IC7840, with its cathode to pin 36.

No remote control functions can be caused by photodiode D6960 being dry-jointed. The following TDA3047 chip IC7960 is basically a limiter and pulse squarer. Its output pin 9 is connected directly to the microcomputer chip. When the remote control unit is operated a pulse train should be clearly visible on a scope connected to this point.

As with most Philips TV sets, the microcomputer chip is able to give simple error codes should a fault develop within the control system. A list of these codes is given at the back of the service manual.

## Other Circuits

The other main items on the PCB are the TDA3561A colour decoder chip, the TDA8190 intercarrier sound/audio output chip and the BD939F field output transistors $\operatorname{Tr} 7571 / \operatorname{Tr} 7573$. These circuits are conventional. A problem with early receivers was buzz on sound. It was cured by fitting 6 MHz ceramic filter modification kit part number 4822310 27563. Intermittent loss of sound can be caused by a faulty headphone socket.

The RGB output stages and blanking are on the c.r.t. base. If the problem is intermittent colours, check for dryjoints here.

## Non-remote Control Versions

With non-remote control versions the power supply is much simplified. The standby circuitry and the 6 V supply rail are deleted and only one transistor, TR7701, acts as error detector and optocoupler driver. The microcomputer control chip is type HAll484. It performs only the tuning operation, volume, brightness, colour and contrast being set by ordinary controls. Some models are not equipped with a scart socket, so the circuitry around the chroma and audio chips is further simplified. The rest of the circuitry is the same as that in remote control sets.

Fig. 2: Simple main panel layout diagram.


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# The Las Vegas Consumer Electronics Show 

George Cole

This year's January Consumer Electronics Show (CES) at Las Vegas was the largest ever, reflecting the efforts by the international consumer electronics industry to come up with new products that will revive the market. While some of the products on display, such as Panasonic's electronic budget and cheque writer, were of mainly novelty interest, there was much of significance to see in such fields as multimedia and video systems. Over 1,700 exhibitors took part and the displays in the various hotels and exhibition halls covered around 905,000 square feet.

## Interactive Multimedia

Many computer, video and games companies believe that the days of the TV couch potato are numbered. They claim that people want to be more actively engaged when watching the television screen. As a result a plethora of multimedia systems that allow users to interact with the TV display were on show.

Existing home multimedia systems are CD based - the discs store photographs, video, graphics, text and animation as well as sound. Users can decide what information on the disc they want to see and hear. The Philips' Compact Disc Interactive (CD-I), Kodak Photo CD and Commodore CDTV are examples. Several more interactive systems were revealed at the CES, including one developed by 3DO, a consortium of companies that includes Matsushita (Panasonic), Time Warner, AT\&T and Electronic Arts.

3DO aims to establish an international standard for home multimedia - its strategy is based on JVC's success in making VHS the world standard for home video. 3DO itself will not be producing either hardware or software, though some of the member companies will. Instead it will license the technology. Hardware companies won't have to pay for the licence to produce 3DO equipment (though 3DO will presumably ensure that all products are up to standard). In some cases 3DO will pay towards engineering and marketing costs. An $\$ 8,000$ developer's kit contains various production tools. Software companies will be charged around $\$ 3$ for every disc distributed.

## 3DO Hardware

3DO showed an interactive multiplayer (IM) produced by Panasonic. It uses a 32-bit ARM60 RISC (reduced instruction set - computer) processor which was developed by a consortium that includes Acorn Computers, Apple and VLSI Technology. This provides far more processing power than the 16 -bit processors used in the current generation of

CD-I and CDTV players. The IM also has two custom built graphics animation processors that are claimed to be fifty times faster than existing PC and video games machines. There are chips for video processing, digital sound and data flow, twenty four direct memory access (DMA) channels and a memory management unit to allow fast data interchange. The machine uses a multi-task operating system known as Opera, and has a double-speed CD-ROM drive for faster access time and data transfer, doubling the transfer rate from the standard CD $150 \mathrm{kbytes} / \mathrm{sec}$ to $300 \mathrm{kbytes} / \mathrm{sec}$.

The IM provides full-screen, full-motion video at 30 frames/sec (the US standard), though the first players will use a software-based compression system called Compact Video - this is another name for Apple's QuickTime 1.5, which enables Apple computers to play digital video clips and sound. Later machines will have an MPEG-based fullmotion video plug-in cartridge.

It's also possible to feed in an analogue video signal, digitise and manipulate it, then convert it back to analogue form for copying on to tape. No details of how this is done have been released. The IM plays audio, Photo and Interactive CDs.

The IM demonstrations were very impressive, with plenty of fast graphics and clever animation, but most of these were from a hard disc that ran on a powerful Apple computer. There were also problems when running Photo CDs.

## Launch Plans

Around eighty software developers now support 3DO. The company says that the first IM will go on sale in the USA this autumn, priced at the equivalent of around $£ 470$. This seems to be a rather optimistic time scale however in view of the development work that still has to be done. The system certainly won't reach Europe until well into next year at the earliest. Even so the arrival of 3DO must concern Philips, which is still trying to establish CD-I as the world standard home multimedia system. The next eighteen months or so should be very interesting.

## LaserActive

Pioneer, Sega and NEC showed a hybrid system called LaserActive. It's a cross between CD-ROM, CD-I and the LaserDisc. Up to 540 Mbytes of data plus an hour of fullmotion analogue videc with f.m. stereo sound are stored on a 12 in . disc. Pioneer says that the system has several advantages over CD-based systems, including better quality video. While systems like CD-I divide their 540 Mbytes of


Pioneer's LaserActive hybrid disc system.


Virtual Vision's Sport personal projection TV system.
data between an interactive program and the sound, pictures, text and graphics, the LaserActive disc can use its 540 Mbytes of data storage for interactive purposes alone, the picture and sound storage being separate.

A CD-I disc can store around 7,000 photographic images without sound while a LaserActive disc can hold 108,000 images plus an hour of sound - in addition to the interactive data program. The digital data is stored at the l.f. end of the recorded bandwidth, followed by the two stereo sound channels and the analogue video as the frequency rises (the bandwidth is $0-14 \mathrm{MHz}$ ).

In many ways the LaserActive disc is an extension of the LaserDisc digital audio system used in the NTSC areas of the world. This adds pulse-code modulated digital sound to analogue sound and pictures.

The LaserActive player is a massive machine weighing 19.81b. It plays a wide range of optical discs. The basic player handles 3 in . and 5 in . audio CD and CDV discs and 8 and 12 in . LaserDiscs. There are three optional packs:
(1) The Mega LD pack plays LaserActive Mega-LD discs, CLV and CAV discs, and enables the user to play Sega's 16-bit games cartridges and CD-ROMs.
(2) The LD-ROM pack plays 8 in . and 12 in . LaserActive LD-ROM discs, CD plus graphics discs, also NEC's Turbo graphics games CD-ROM discs etc.
(3) The karaoke pack plays karaoke laser discs.

LaserActive is due to be launched in Japan this summer. The first player will cost the Japanese equivalent of $£ 470$ while the packs and LaserActive discs will be priced at around $£ 30$ and $£ 52$ respectively. No UK release data has been suggested.

## VIS

Tandy's video information system (VIS) was launched in the USA last November. The first VIS player, the Memorex MD2500, plugs into a domestic TV set and stereo system and is operated via a remote control handset. VIS dises store a mixture of text, sound and pictures, but there's no fullmotion video. The operating system is called Modular Windows - it's a variant on the Microsoft Windows 3.1 system. VIS machines won't play Windows software however.

The advantage of using Modular Windows is that it's cheaper and easier for software companies to develop material for VIS as well as Windows. Tandy says that some of the first VIS titles were created using a low-end 286 PC!

The VIS deck plays audio CDs and VIS discs and
includes an EEPROM cartridge for saving games points and information. The MD2500 has r.f., phono composite video and $S$ terminals, a headphone jack, phono audio output sockets and a DIN connector for a wired remote control handset. Video resolution ranges from $320 \times 200$ to $640 \times$ 400 pixels. There are at present around fifty VIS titles, mostly children's programmes, electronic encyclopaedias and how-to discs. The VIS player costs the equivalent of around $£ 467$ in the USA - again no decision has been taken on a possible UK launch.

## CD-I FMV

Motorola showed its full-motion video (FMV) cartridge for the CD-I system. It was a pre-production type that stuck out from the back of the CD-I player - the production version will be flush mounted. The chip set used in the cartridge is known as the MCD250 MPEG full-motion video decoder. It decodes at up to $5 \mathrm{Mbits} / \mathrm{sec}$, with $10 \mathrm{Mbits} / \mathrm{sec}$ transfer rates, and provides refresh for 4Mbytes of video DRAM. It can also convert video sequences between PAL and NTSC. There are five display modes - play, still frame, frame advance, slow motion and scan, the output being in digital RGB form with 24-bit colour.

Motorola has also developed the MCD210 video decoder and system controller which can decode and display two channels of video graphics simultaneously, and the MV44200 triple eight-bit video DA converter.

## Video

Virtual Vision's Sport, a personal projection TV system, attracted the crowds. It lets users watch large-screen TV images through a pair of lightweight eyeglasses. The system is based on the "head-up" technology used by fighter pilots. Sport consists of a pair of glasses with built-in stereo earphones: weight is just 140 g . There's a wire link between the glasses and a beltpack that weighs 1 kg . This pack includes a TV tuner with a 15 in . retractable aerial and a Nicad battery that provides a playing time of around three hours. Video and stereo sound input sockets are provided so that signals can be fed in from a VCR, camcorder or other video source. There's also an optional radio link.

The system works in the following way. The user watches the image through his/her dominant eye. Virtual Vision says that the other eye can be closed, because the brain gives priority to the image viewed by one's dominant eye, though the image will seem to appear in front of both eyes. The display device inside the glasses is a thumbnailsized active-matrix colour LCD. A reflective lens which bounces the image from the video display so that it appears to be focused $8-15 \mathrm{ft}$ away - the company refers to this as a virtual image - is mounted just below the dominant eye's normal field of vision.

I tried the eyeglasses and watched images from a camcorder. The results were rather disappointing, with lowresolution images and poorly-focused pictures. The idea is a good one but more work needs to be done to improve the system. Sport goes on sale in the USA later this year at the equivalent of around $£ 600$.

Mitsubishi showed a more conventional TV receiver, though the CS40FXI at the equivalent of around $£ 3,333$ is no ordinary set. It is the world's first mass-produced 40 in . model, whose features include twin speakers, a remote control operated graphic equaliser, PIP and on-screen programming. The CS40FX1 has a specially designed scan-dium-oxide tube and weighs 265 lb .

Sharp's VLHLIOOU is a Hi-8 camcorder with a 4 in .


Sharp's ViewCam modeI VLHL 100U, an innovative Hi-8 camcorder design, incorporates a 4 in. colour $L C D$ monitor and a variable-angle rotation system to get avay from the limitations imposed by a simple singleeye viewfinder.
colour LCD screen whose variable-angle rotation system enables the monitor and lens to be rotated for shooting at various angles. The monitor can even be swivelled through $180^{\circ}$, allowing the user to record himself using an infra-red controller. Other features include a x8 zoom, hi-fi stereo sound, digital picture effects including snapshot and strobe, a digital image stabiliser system and "neuro" auto-exposure. The latter is claimed to work better than conventional autoexposure systems. Size of the VLHLIO0U is $7.8 \times 3 \times$
5.8 in ., weight 1.91 b . Frice is the equivalent of around £1,466.

Gemstar, maker of the VideoPlus timer system, announced that 44 companies representing 90 per cent of the world's VCR manufacturers have now licensed VideoPlus technology. The companies include Amstrad, Ferguson, Hitachi, JVC, Mitsubishi, Panasonic, Sanyo, Sharp, Sony and Toshita. Over seven hundred newspapers and magazines around the world print the PlusCodes. According to Gemstar more than fifty per cent of the VCRs designated for the UK market in 1993 will have VideoPlus built in.

## TV Allowance

One of the most popular video accessories was TV Allowance, a unit that enables parents to control how much TV their childrer watch. The unit, which looks like a large calculator, is wired to the TV set's mains cable. A master code controls the system: it's used by the parents to allocate each child's viewing time (the unit can be used for up to four children). Each child is given its own personal code. Whenever the child keys in his/her code to watch, the subsequent time is deducted from the allowance - this is shown on an LCD screen. When the allowance has been used the mains power is switched off. A child can also be "in credit" and have this time carried over to the next week. The inventor claims that the code is virtually unbreakable and that the unit can withstand rough treatment. In fact during tests the only unit which broke down was one that was hit with a baseball bat by a frustrated child!

Now is the winter of our discontent in the Test Case workshop. We are surrounded, dominated and bunged up solid with TV sets that won't go wrong: a Ferguson with a blue picture once in a green moon; a B and O with a sound crackle that no one's ever heard; a triple-bounced Tatung that. legend has it, cuts out at eight o'clock every evening; and so on. The hunt was on for a set with a real fault: Dylan won the fight for a Sony TV receiver on whose label it said "no picture".

This KV2252UB (PE3 chassis) had, after eight years of sterling service, developed its first fault. When it was put on the bench and switched on it really did produce the symptom described. The sound appeared to be o.k., and the rustle of e.h.t. was heard. Dylan wiped the dust from the neck of the picture tube, switched out the workshop lights and peered at the rear end of the tube. The three heaters were alight. Good! The stage was set for a straightforward, text-book diagnosis and repair session, wasn't it?

A good start was made by checking the tube's electrode voltages. The e.h.t. was certainly present, and the first anode (or G2 as Sony call it) supply was correct at 500 V . Dylan thought he'd found the cause of the trouble when he discovered that the focus voltage was also around 500 V , but this is normal with tubes of this type. It was the cathode voltages that were wrong. All three were way above the normal 140 V operating level. So Dylan retreated into the RGB
amplifiers on the C (tube base) panel. He found that the 200 V supply was present: but there were low voltages, and no signals, at the RGB inputs to the panel. Another step backwards then with the scope and the meter, to board D where the TDA3562A colour decoder chip IC301 lives.

A luminance input was present at pin 8 and a chroma input at pin 4, but there were no RGB outputs at pins 13, 15 and 17 respectively. So the signals were getting snagged up within the colour decoder chip. Resisting the temptation to fit a replacement, and all the while keeping a beady eye on the soak-testing sets around him, Dylan settled down to check the conditions at the chip's pins. He started at brightness control pin 11, where he found that the voltage could be varied over the range quoted in the manual by adjusting the user control. The same situation was present at contrast control pin 6. Then cur man remembered this particular chip's fussiness about the correct shape of the sandcastle pulses at pin 7.

These pulses originate at pin 17 of the TDA2578A timebase generator chip IC551. When checked - at pin 7 of IC301 - they were seen to be correct with respect to shape and timing. Nor were they lacking in in amplitude. Dylan moved to data blanking pin 9, where the condition was correct at 0 V . There were no discrepancies at the text/data input pins 12, 14 and 16. Dylan's gloom deepened. This was supposed to have been an easy repair, wasn't it?

Dylan consulted two other technicians who suggested that a further check be made on the sandcastle pulses, also to check that the field timebase was running. These checks were carried out to no avail: the sandcastle pulses were correct, and the field t:mebase was throbbing away happily. Dylan came to the conclusion that the only thing left was to change IC301. Was this the right course of action? Was the chip faulty? Answer on page 350 .

# Satellite Notebook 

Nick Beer

There's an oddity about the signal from the transponder used by UK Gold. I wouldn't like to say whether it's just plain weak or whether it has an odd offset, but ever since the clamour to get customers tuned in to this very popular channel I've had no end of complaints about poor signals in relation to those from other Astra 1B transponders. All the installations concerned have had problems - low-gain or high-noise LNBs, or dishes slightly off beam - but nonetheless UK Gold has looked much worse than the other channels. I've seen cases where Tele 5 , the next channel down with the same polarisation, has been slightly sparkly but UK Gold has been CCIR grade 2 or worse! Has anyone else noticed this?

## Sparkly Signals

I've had a number of installations in the last few weeks where the higher Astra 1B channels have been very sparkly - all the 1 A channels have looked fine and the lower 1 B channels have been passable. The fact is that the problem has always been present, but with the launch of UK Gold it's now one of which the customer is aware.

## Noisy LNBs

In most cases the complaints have been with older systems where the receiver threshold is not good - the B and O SAT LX and RX for example (not the current, superb SAT LM). Despite the use of a Fuba 85 cm dish with electromagnetic polarisation and a 1.3 dB maximum noise figure LNB there are problems. Is it perhaps that the Fuba LNBs were chosen on the basis of their l.f. noise performance, or is it that they've all become noisy? Installing an 0.8 dB noise figure LNB has in every case cleared the trouble. I've made a point of measuring the output level, which in each case was o.k. - 86 dBu , as specified on the case of the LNB. These have been the main systems that have given us this trouble, but I've also had problems with a couple of Salora installations. With these the problem has been cleared by using a $1 \cdot 1 \mathrm{~dB}$ LNB as rebuilt by MCES.

## Manhattan LNBs

I've recently been introduced to the Manhattan LNB by the local (Exeter) branch of Eurosat. This device was suggested when I was specifying a fixed system for use with the Eutelsat II F2 satellite. I selected the 0.8 dB version and the installer was, to say the least, enthusiastic about the results - I was too when I checked them. The LNB has better performance than the 0.8 dB Sharp unit I've been using with the same kit for motorised installations.

I took advantage of this experience when dealing with the previously mentioned problem of LNBs with noisy h.f. performance. The results obtained are excellent, and the price of the unit isn't bad either - $£ 59$ plus VAT trade for the 0.8 dB version, $£ 69$ for the 0.7 dB version. On the specification sheets so far, the 0.8 dB types have had a figure of 0.7 dB at the top of the band, with 0.8 dB only at 10.95 GHz .

## Progress

LNB technology really is amazing. I remember only a
few years ago being impressed by the first LNB I came across with a noise figure of less than 2 dB !

## Teleclub

I note that the encryption used by the Swiss/German pay TV film channel Teleclub (der kino kanal) has been changed to Nagravision, as used by Premiere. We get quite a few enquiries about decoders for this service, possibly because of the pornography content. It's interesting that with the previous encryption system you could get a pretty good idea of what was going on when certain Sony TV sets were used with the colour turned up. So I'm told, anyway!!

## Customer Difficulties

Whilst on the subject of scrambling, a recent incident comes to mind. A call came in that a customer, known to be troublesome, had lost tuning on a number of channels. His receiver is a Ferguson SRV1. There were several possibilities - loss of one polarisation due to a receiver or LNB failure, loss of Videocrypt channels due to the connector, trouble from the capacitor in the tuner, etc. There was a suspicious note at the bottom of the card however - the customer complained that he'd never had an instruction book. As he'd had the system for over two years this seemed odd to say the least, especially as we make sure that all customers have an instruction book which they invariably lose. He'd not said anything the previous week when I'd called because of a complaint that his system was "dead", only to find that he'd dropped the handset and put the batteries back the wrong way round!

Having created a scene in the shop when he booked the call he repeated the performance when I called at the house. On checking through the channels I found that they were all tuned in, and told him so. He then started reading channel numbers from a list, saying that they weren't tuned in. No. 3 for instance. We went there and found scrambled Sky Movies. He didn't have a subscription to any channel, so I explained the situation - that the channel was tuned in but as he'd not paid a subscription he couldn't get a picture. "Well I'm not paying you any money until you tune it up!"

I then went through the 32 channels, one by one, explaining what was what and why. He insisted that what his neighbour had told him was true, that we were conning him by not tuning in channels.

Later that afternoon his neighbour appeared in the shop, wanting to know why his poor, elderly neighbour had been fobbed off and was being treated so badly by us conmen. I had to go over everything with a display receiver and answer his questions. In the end he thanked me and even asked about a problem with his own set.

## The Sadelta TC90 SSM

We've recently purchased another signal-strength meter for satellite TV service work. It seemed sensible to have one that included the TV/f.m. and CATV bands, and the Sadelta TC90 appeared to fit the bill well. After enquiries with several suppliers we eventually obtained one from BK Elec-
tronics, Southend.
The meter is well presented, in a black carrying case, though the poorly written or translated instruction book is a bit of a let down. It has built-in rechargeable lead-acid batteries, so you can top them up. The ranges are standard, from v.h.f. radio $45-110 \mathrm{MHz}$ to satellite TV at 950 $1,750 \mathrm{MHz}$ (first i.f.). Satellite signals can be measured in the range -70 dBm to -10 dBm , v.h.f. and u.h.f. signals from $20 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ to 3 V . The monitor loudspeaker can be used on the latter bands for station identification etc.

The unit can power an LNB. There's an audible finder tone that can be very helpful in avoiding the need to look at the meter when searching. Also ideal for searching is a sweep that scans the band at high speed within a given selected i.f. range. A digital LCD provides the i.f. readout, an analogue meter being used for strength measurements.

The meter scale is easy to read. A correction chart is
provided to compensate for tuner nonlinearity - its use should not be overlooked. During the few weeks that I have been using the unit I've been well impressed with it and would recommend it without hesitation. It has been a hit in the workshop and a local installer/engineer is keen to get one. BK Electronics, Units 1 and 5, Comet Way, Southend-on-Sea. Essex SS2 6TR can supply it at $£ 499.80$ plus VAT.

## Correction

There was an error in the last Satellite Notebook (January). Under the heading Ferguson SRV1/Pace SS9000 the RS part number for the $2 \cdot 2 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ electrolytic should have been quoted as 108-081, not 116-830. The latter will do but the former, being a higher thermal stability device $\left(>105^{\circ}\right)$,

## Reports from Mike Leach, Nick Beer and Philip Blundell, AMIEIE

## Crown CD80R

There were several faults listed on the job ticket. First, that the machine would only intermittently read the TOC. Then, that when it finally did read the disc the left and right channels would go off independently. And finally that the machine would sometimes switch off and go back to the stop mode. We didn't have the circuit diagram for this particular model but noticed that relay RL101 could be heard clicking during some of the fault conditions. The machine's performance improved when this relay was changed, but the TOC readout was still intermittent. The cause of this fault was traced to dry-joints around the h.f. amplifier and decoder sections. When these had been attended to the machine worked quite well. After inspecting the main panel I'd advise anyone undertaking the repair of one of these machines to have a good solder up around the regulators as well.
M.L.

## Marantz CD54

The customer's complaint about this rather smart player was of intermittent no functions. I ran the machine for several minutes and found that it would eventually stop, after which none of the controls on the front panel had any effect on its operation. Several boards are mounted on the front panel. One of these has several beefy transistors on it. All were dry-jointed. They were QY05, QY06, QY07 and QY08. A good solder up restored normal operation.
M.L.

## Akai ACM370L

A new laser assembly had been fitted to this midi system. It worked all right for several months and then started to play its old tricks again - reading discs intermittently and playing only some tracks. The customer reported that track four of some discs couldn't be played while with some other discs the machine wouldn't play beyond track two. It all depended on the length of the disc. The laser whistled constantly while the player tried to find a particular track. Basically there was a mechanical fault: the sled mechanism would travel only so far after which it came to a halt.

The cause of the fault was traced to a faulty rack that drives the laser assembly via a series of cogs from the loading/sled motor. It serews on to the laser assembly at two points and after some time can crack at the screw holes. As a result is becomes slightly warped and is unable to travel it's full distance when driven slowly, i.e. in the play mode. A replacement rack cured the fault.

I don't think that this item is listed as a spare part. The service manual shows it as item number 22 on the exploded view but 1 couldn't find a part number. Presumably a whole CD mechanism assembly has to be ordered. Check with Akai. My spare part same from a scrap machine in the workshop. M.L.

## Philips 70CD555

For $C D$ problems such as failure to read the TOC etc., before dismantling the set to get at the CDM2 try pressing the $C D$ decoder board in the centre, then try again. If you are lucky the CD player will now work. Remove the decoder board and check for dry-joints on the wire links soldered to the component side - the dry-joints will be on the print side. It's worth a try: removing the CDM2 is almost a morning's work!
P.B.

## Toshiba Computer CD Unit

This unit, from a local college, had no make or model markings on it though their engineer assured me that it was of Toshiba manufacture. It was a CD player, with audio outputs, and a parallel interface for use with computers.

The unit was dead and the 2AT, 20 mm input fuse on the board and the one in the fuseholder accessed from the back were both black. The cause was a short-circuit bridge rectifier, which was replaced, but a hole had been blown in the side of the inrush current suppressor that's in series with the live input to the bridge. This was found to be a $10 \Omega, 3$ A device that I was able to obtain from RS Components.

Interesting to see the far superior mechanical build quality of this unit in comparison with domestic ones - and the use of a switch-mode power supply.

[^1]
# Long-distance Television 

Roger Bunney

Prolonged high-pressure systems, with associated fog, produced several lengthy periods of enhanced tropospheric propagation during December and cheer to DXers. Reception included Band III and u.h.f. signals from central Europe. Sporadic E reception was less than wonderful, but there was early morning F2 layer reception from the Middle East on the 20th! The collated SpE log for December is as follows:

| 8/12/92 | DR (Denmark) ch. E3. |
| :--- | :--- |
| 12/12/92 | TVE (Spain) E2, 3: DR E3. |
| 13/12/92 | RAI (taly) IA: TVE E3. |
| 14/12/92 | NRK (Norway) E2, 3; DR E3; TVE E2, 3. |
| $15 / 12 / 92$ | SVT (Sweden) E2, 3; NRK E2. 3; CIS R1. |
| 19/12/92 | TVE E2, 3. |
| $31 / 12 / 92$ | TVE E3. |

Luckily Roger Fussel (Torpoint) tuned across ch. E2 at 0845 GMT on the 20th and logged Arabic signals. Initially there were script and appropriate dress. At 0850 there was a "shaded card" with captions, the signal fading at 0900. This was almost certainly Dubai.

## Tropospheric Openings

But it was tropospheric reception that brought cheer to December. There were several openings. A minor lift on the 10th produced TVE ch. E7 in the south west. Conditions were much better on the 14/15th, when many Band $11 I$ and u.h.f. signals were received from Germany, Denmark and the Benelux countries. Highlights were CST (Czechoslovakia) ch. R10) and the ch. E48 UK forces SSVC outlet in Germany. After a lull there was more dramatic reception over the 21/22nd. Simon Hamer logged YLE-1 (Finland) ch. E6, a suspected Faroe Islands ch. E6 signal, TVP (Poland) ch. R8, Norwegian NRK/TV2 and Swedish SVT1/TV2 signals. The best tropospheric opening occurred on the 26 th through to the 29 th. This produced very intense signals from across Europe. Apart
from the more usual signals from France, Germany and the Benelux countries, ORF (Austria) chs. E8 and 32, TVP (Poland) and CST (Czechoslovakia) chs. 29, 30 and 35 were noted, along with signals from Sweden and Norway There was a weak opening on the 30th, bringing us to 1993 when signals from the nearer Continental countries were received on the 2 nd and 3 rd .

Our thanks to Simon Hamer (Powys), Brian Williams (Penarth), Roger Fussel (Torpoint). Cyril Willis (King's Lynn), Frank Lumen (Ayr), David Oliver (Birmingham) and Dave Glenday (Arbroath) for sending in logs and reception reports.

Finally congratulations to Simon Hamer who was recently heard over the air from Radio New Zealand discussing, via a phone-in, various aspects of DXing, Radio St. Helena and the UK Christmas!

## News Items

Sri Lanka: According to a press release sent to us by Bandula Gunasekera the Telshan service should by now have begun, with ch. E3 and E4 transmitters operating in parallel with ch. E21 and E26 transmitters.
Portugal: Because the Angolan government allows transmission of only state-provided film the Portuguese SIC network has developed with IBM a digital compression system that enables telephone lines to be used for sending back dramatic footage from the crisis-ridden former Portugese colony.
Poland: TV services are on the increase, with several private stations now in operation. Nowa Telewizja Warzsawa is running a commercial entertainment channel that serves four million people in a forty mile radius of Warsaw.
Swaziland: There are plans for a second channel. The present service operates from 1800-2230 hours weekdays and 1600-2330 at the weekends, spilling over into South Africa and Mozambique. Fifteen per cent of the programmes are locally produced, the others being imported.
Radio Amateurs: There are now 8250 MHz band operators throughout Spain. Israel now allows Class A operators to use $50-52 \mathrm{MHz}$ and Class B operators to have part use of the band.

## Satellite TV

UK Gold is seeking partners to start a pay-TV channel that would begin operations some time after 1994. Intelsat has realigned the main platform on the 502 satellite at $21.5^{\circ}$ to give improved Ku band links with SNG units in Somalia.


Left: Can anyone identify this ch. $R 1$ signal received by Ryn Muntjewerff? Centre: An unusual test pattern received via
Intelsat 601 at $27.5^{\circ}$ W. Right: An example of satellite TV reception by Andrew Sykes, Halifax, using an 80 cm dish and
an LNB with a $1 d B$ noise figure.

The uplink is cross-strapped into a global C band downlink for reception by broadcasters throughout the world. Intelsat is negotiating for the launch of the first two of its new series 8 craft by Ariane during 1996.

A new Earth station to look out for is the North Miami International Teleport, which should become operational at any time. Six dishes with sizes up to 13 m will be used, operating between the Americas and Europe and the Middle East plus Africa.

China has purchased a used US Spacenet-1 C band $(4 \mathrm{GHz})$ satellite which is to be moved from $120^{\circ} \mathrm{W}$ to $115^{\circ} \mathrm{E}$ for communications and TV purposes. It can carry twenty four C band and twelve Ku band TV channels, though there's doubt about whether all the transponders are still functional.

The new RTL-2 test pattern can now be received from Eutelsat II F2 at $13^{\circ} \mathrm{E}$. Programme transmissions are awaited - delay has been caused by investigations being carried out by German media authorities into the operators CLT Luxembourg and the Kirch Group.

The frequencies to be used by Astra 1 C will run from transponder 33 at 10.964 GHz horizontal to transponder 48 at 11.185 GHz vertical. Astra 1D will have transponders 49 at 10.714 GHz horizontal to 64 at 10.835 GHz vertical.

Finally a cheap 95 cm mesh dish fitted with a 1.2 dB noise figure Ku band LNB is available from Amstrad trade outlets. Single packs cost $£ 80$ plus VAT - there are quantity discounts.

## Interference

European standards are being laid down for minimising radiation, particularly from computer equipment. Increasingly in radio and communications publications one sees reference to EMC (Electro-Magnetic Compatibility), which in general refers to living with and using electronic equipment whilst minimising interference problems.

## The Choke Current Balun

Over the years I've mentioned information provided by Pat Hawker in his Technical Topics column in Radio Communication since it often has relevance to TV-DXing. In his January 1993 column Pat provides practical information on choke current baluns. Many of us make our own Band I aerials, with a dipole (balanced) to which we connect coaxial cable (umbalanced). Use of coaxial cable with a balanced aerial element can result in interference pick up, the most critical point being the section of coaxial cable nearest to the dipole connection since this is where interference can be induced in the cable screen. The problem can be greatly aggravated if the installation is close to a radio amateur or CB operator, particularly where a wideband aerial amplifier with bipolar transistor(s) is used. If the coaxial downlead runs close to a TV cable system trunk it’s possible for this to lead to pick up on the coaxial cable screen.

Choke current baluns can be used to reduce or eliminate signal currents flowing via the screen. Try one at the dipole end initially, then if necessary add one at the receiver input. Previously a large ferrite ring has been used, with the thinner coaxial cable wound round it, seven to eight turns being typical. This is difficult to arrange with an external installation since the foroid will need to be weatherproofed and plugs/sockets will introduce a loss. One answer is a weatherproof box from Fringe Electronics: it's a preamplifier case with ample room for a toroid.

The choke current balun described in the previously mentioned Technical Topics column consists of a series


## 11 Kent Road, Parkstone, Poole, Dorset BHI2 2EB

 Tel: 0202738232 Fax: 0202716951of ferrite beads whose internal diameter is sufficient for them to be slid over the coaxial cable. Beads with a quarter or half inch internal diameter are available. There are also two types of ferrite material, type 77 (manganese-bronze) for below 10 MHz and type 43 (nickel-zinc) for use above 10 MHz . Select six or seven beads of the appropriate type and slide them over the cable. Use heat-shrink sleeving to hold them in place they have to be in contact with each other. It's preferable to cover the sleeving since the Sun's UV radiation will dry it out, causing it to crack. The beads should be available from shops that stock amateur radio equipment. Alternatively write for details of ferrite selection and prices to Ferromagnetics, PO Box 577, Mold, Clywd CH ? 1 AH , including an s.a.e. with stamp.

## RSGB Guide to EMC

The RSGB has recently published The Rudio Amateur's Guide to EMC by Rotin Page-Jones, G3JWI. This excellent book deals in a completely non-mathematical way with interference causes, effects, tracing and elimination. It includes detailed information on a vast range of filters available commercially or for making oneself, also typical measurement data, aerials, cables, measuring equipment and so on. Though the book is primarily intended for those who run an amateur transmitter, the advice throughout also relates to domestic and DX receiving equipment. The book has 120 pages and is very good value at $£ 6.50$ plus $£ 2$ postage in the UK, $£ 3.50$ overseas. It’s available from RSGB Sales, Lambda House, Cranborne Road, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 3JE.

## Test Report: Beckman AM12 Multimeter

David Botto

The Beckman Industrial AM12 is an analogue-type multimeter housed in an attractive high-impact shock-resistant case with a handy tilt stand. It weighs 500 g including the batteries and measures $175 \times 125 \times 50 \mathrm{~mm}$. The mechanical and electrical design comply fully with the American UL1244 and VDE 0411 standards, which are tough. No design can provide complete protection against misuse of course, but Beckman state that the AM12 was designed with safety in mind.

The AM12 is not powered from the circuitry under test and incorporates recently patented developments in solidstate technology.

In my view, expressed in these columns on many occasions, the best type of multimeter for TV/video servicing is a digital one. Why then this review of an analogue meter? Because I still meet many engineers who say that they prefer to use an analogue meter. They like the positive swing of the needle. For such engineers the AM12 could well be their choice.

## Basic Features

The heart of the meter is a balanced bridge circuit that uses field-effect transistors to drive the movement. An imbalance in the circuit caused by the applied test voltage unbalances the bridge, the result being that the meter movement produces a reading.

This circuitry along with the switching and other components gives the AM12 the advantage of being able to make a wide range of measurements with an extremely high input impedance $-10 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ on all the d.c. voltage ranges except the 300 mV range where it's $3 \mathrm{M} \Omega$.

Dual-f.e.t. circuitry and a $2 \mathrm{~A} / 250 \mathrm{~V}$ fuse provide further protection against overloads. The meter is powered by three batteries, a PP3 and two pencil-type 1.5 V AA batteries.

The internal construction is of a high standard, with the main components mounted on a top-quality phenolic PCB. Four recessed input test sockets on the panel provide insulation, protecting the user from shock due to accidental contact. The test leads have shrouded jacks and finger guard rings at the business end. It's easy to overlook this sort of detail when choosing a multimeter. Bear in mind though

that under certain circumstances voltages over 25 V or even less can be dangerous.

A gently flashing green LED warns you that the meter is on, and a little picture shows the position of the electronic bridge zero adjustment knob. At first I thought that the LED might be distracting, but it isn't. The advantage of the flashing light is that it catches your eye when the meter is not in use, prompting you to switch off to conserve the batteries.

The required range is selected by a positive-click, 24position rotary switch. Although the switch contacts form part of the PCB they look as if they will stand up to repeated use. Clearly labelled d.c./ohms switch positions make range selection simple. Reading the a.c. settings is a little difficult however because of the red lettering used.

The AM12's jewelled-pivot $44 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ meter has $4.5 \mathrm{in} .90^{\circ}$ arc scales. Being nicely damped, the needle is rock-steady in use. Multi-coloured range scales, an antiparallax mirror and the knife-edge pointer make it easy to read off the measured values. Large black figures on the ohms scale help to reduce eye strain when carrying out resistance measurements. The six ohms ranges give the AM12 an exceptionally wide coverage of resistances, from $0 \cdot 1 \Omega$ to $1,000 \mathrm{M} \Omega$. I found that the open-circuit voltage across the test prods was 0.871 V on the $\mathrm{x} 1 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ range: it measured between 1.567 V and 1.554 V on the other five resistance ranges.

Table 1 provides a brief electrical specification for the Circuitmate AM12. Table 2 lists test measurement readings made with precision standards. The readings were identical with negative d.c. voltages.

Beckman Indusirial state that the rated accuracy is $\pm 2.5$ per cent on the d.c. voltage ranges and $\pm 3.5$ per cent on the a.c. voltage ranges. My tests confirmed these claims. A

## Table 1: Electrical specification.

D.C. voltage ranges: $0.3 \mathrm{~V}, 1.2 \mathrm{~V}, 12 \mathrm{~V}, 30 \mathrm{~V}, 120 \mathrm{~V}$, $300 \mathrm{~V}, 1.2 \mathrm{kV}$. At centre zero $\pm 0.15 \mathrm{~V}, 0.6 \mathrm{~V}, 15 \mathrm{~V}, 60 \mathrm{~V}$, $150 \mathrm{~V}, 600 \mathrm{~V}$. Accuracy $\pm 2.5 \%$. Input impedance approximately $10 \mathrm{M} \Omega, 3 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ in the 0.3 V range.
A.C. voltage ranges: $3 \mathrm{~V}, 12 \mathrm{~V}, 30 \mathrm{~V}, 120 \mathrm{~V}, 300 \mathrm{~V}$, 1.2 kV r.m.s.; $8.4 \mathrm{~V}, 33 \mathrm{~V}, 84 \mathrm{~V}, 330 \mathrm{~V}, 840 \mathrm{~V}, 3.3 \mathrm{kV}$ peak-to-peak. Accuracy $\pm 3.5 \%$ at $50 \mathrm{~Hz}, \pm 5 \%$ at 3 MHz . Input impedance $1 \mathrm{M} \Omega, 2.5 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ in the 3 V range.

Decibels: -10 dB to +63 dB at a.c. ranges.
Current: $0-12 \mathrm{~A}$ a.c.; $0.1 \mu \mathrm{~A}, 0.3 \mathrm{~mA}, 3 \mathrm{~mA}, 30 \mathrm{~mA}$, $300 \mathrm{~mA}, 12 \mathrm{~A}$ d.c.

Resistance: $0-1 \mathrm{k} \Omega, 0-10 \mathrm{k} \Omega, 0-100 \mathrm{k} \Omega, 0-1 \mathrm{M} \Omega, 0-$ $10 \mathrm{M} \Omega, 0-1,000 \mathrm{M} \Omega$. Accuracy $\pm 2.5 \%$.

Scales: Nine including one for a.c. r.m.s., two for a.c. peak-to-peak, one for $\pm$ d.c. V/A (centre null) and one for 12A a.c.

Operating temperature range: $25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\left(75^{\circ} \mathrm{F}\right)$. Less than $4 \%$ additional error over the range $4^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\left(25^{\circ} \mathrm{F}\right)$ to $50^{\circ}\left(130^{\circ} \mathrm{F}\right)$.
tolerance of $\pm 2.5$ per cent represents a reading of between 19.5 V and 20.5 V when measuring 20 V d.c. The AMI2 read 19.995 V , which is good for an analogue meter.

The accuracy on the resistance ranges - this is extremely important for servicing work - is well within the specification of $\pm 2.5$ per cent, i.e. almost spot on. This is one of the many advantages of using an electronic multimeter instead of a mechanical type.

The peak-to-peak a.c. voltage ranges are ideal for service work. A special d.c. voltage scale allows you to set the pointer to a central null position, while the special dB scale enables you carry out dB measurements ( $0 \mathrm{~dB}=1 \mathrm{~mW}$ at $600 \Omega$ ).

When making d.c. voltage or current measurements a switch selects either positive or negative d.c. polarity. For a.c. or resistance measurements this switch has to be in the positive position. An auto-polarity circuit to efiminate the need for this switch would have been better - it's not particularly difficult to include this circuitry in an electronic meter - but this would have increased the cost of the AM12.

## On the Bench

The AM12 proved to be surprisingly easy to use. Its pointer didn't drift off zero, which is a problem I've had with some electronic multimeters. The 30 V d.c. range is excellent for checking voltages in the signal path circuits of TV sets and VCRs, its $10 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ input impedance minimising circuit loading. The large, clear scales are a joy to read this will be much appreciated by service engineers whose sight is not quite what it once was.

The xl resistance range is effective for diode checks, but the ohms test voltage applied does not always allow incircuit resistor checks.

## Conclusion

Personally I'd always recommend a digital rather than an analogue meter. But if an engineer prefers to purchase an analogue meter I'd say that the Circuitmate AM12 is an excellent choice. The price is very reasonable at $£ 41$ plus VAT. The meter is available from Wavetek Ltd., Astec Building, High Street, Wollaston, Stourbridge, West Midlands DY8 4PG (0384 442 394).

My thanks to Wavetek for loan of the review instrument.
Table 2: Test measurements.

| Precision standard | AM12 |
| :--- | :--- |
|  |  |
| +2V d.c. | +1.99 V |
| +3V d.c. | +3 V |
| +5V d.c. | +4.99 V |
| +8.5 d.c. | +8.5 V |
| +12V d.c. | +12 V |
| +20V d.c. | +19.95 V |
| +24 V d.c. | +23.8 V |
|  |  |
| 18 V a.c. | 17.7 V a.c. |
| 34 V a.c. | 33.8 V a.c. |
| 240 V a.c. | 240 V a.c. |
|  |  |
| $47 \Omega$ | $47 \Omega$ |
| $100 \Omega$ | $100 \Omega$ |
| $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| $330 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | $330 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| $1 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ | $1 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ |
| $10 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ | $9.99 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ |

# Next Month in TELEVISION 

## LOWDOWN ON THE IKC2 CHASSIS

The Thomson-designed IKC2 chassis has been used ôver the past two-three years in mid-range Ferguson models: LeJeune describes the main features," in particular the operation of the power supply, and provides fault-finding guidance - with coverage of some common breakdowns and notes on "how to deal with complaints about poor audio performance.

## EFFECT OF DISH SIZE

The most common complaint with Astra reception is of sparklies. To see whether increased dish size helps with this problem lan Martin conducted experiments"with a number of "different types and sizes of dish.

ELECTROLVTIC CAPACITOR ESR METER Although the er capacitance value of an electrolytic capacitor may be correct an increase in its effective series resistance (ESR) will mean that it "is unable to function correctly, the result being fault ymptoms of various sorts depending on circuit position. Ray Porter presents a simple meter design to enable the ESR values of PCB-mounted electrolytics to be measured.

## A DAY AT THE THICK END

Chris Watton on'a typical day in the workshop, with àn assortment of TV and video jobs.
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# Repairing LED Clock Radios 

## Part 1

lan Rees

Millions of clock radios have been bought. Many of them, built down to a price, have not been reliable and find their way to the workshop soon after the guarantee expires. Because of their low retail price most shops and service departments turn them away as uneconomical to repair. Provided fault diagnosis is rapid however they can be turned around profitably. I find them a welcome break from hi-tech TV sets and VCRs.

As most of them are based on i.c. manufacturers' recommended circuits they follow similar lines. A few extra bells and whistles are added as sales gimmicks - lights, autodimmers or musical alarms for example.

Before getting too deeply involved take a careful look at the connections and component dressing. Pay particular attention to vertically mounted resistors or diodes with bare leadouts: they can get pushed over, shorting out other components.

## Power Supplies

LED clock radios that use a common-cathode display have a power supply circuit similar to that shown in Fig. 1. The mains transformer has a thermal ( F ) that's embedded deep in its windings. Thus in the event of a blown fuse a complete transformer is required. The fuse can fail for no apparent reason - possible causes in such cases are shorted turns in the transformer or a faulty fuse.

Diodes and reservoir/smoothing capacitors fail with monotonous regularity. The diodes in particular are often of poor quality. They are likely to be substandard, with no maker's marking being visible. The set may still work with a leaky or shorted diode in its power supply. A nasty situation can arise if the diode in the battery back-up circuit is faulty. The PP3 battery, if fitted, can heat up and burst with a loud bang, spewing out its contents. The thermal fuse will sometimes fail before this happens. Check for this condition by seeing whether a voltage is present at the battery connector with no battery in place. Note the $1 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ resistor in parallel with the diode - its presence may result in erro-
neous readings with a high-impedance meter. No back-up is generally caused by a snapped wire at the PP3 connector.

If you fit a new transformer, run the set and note the temperature rise with your hand. As a guide, a transformer connected to the mains off load for fifteen minutes will not feel warmer than one fitted to a set on load. Any rapid temperature rise should lead to an investigation. The transformer is a safety component, so a genuine manufacturer's spare should be used - they are seldom expensive items.

In the design shown in Fig. 1, with a two-diode full-wave rectifier circuit used to produce a negative supply, the centre-tap of the transformer provides a positive supply. Sets that incorporate a cassette deck use the more familiar bride rectifier arrangement.

The series regulator transistor is switched on by supplying base bias from the clock chip's snooze or alarm output via an isolating diode. The manual override comes from the function switch. A.M. only radios may not incorporate stabilisation. A very common cause of not being able to turn the radio off is the ceramic capacitor between the regulator transistor's base and collector being leaky - use a Mylar type as a replacement. Alternatively the transistor may be short-circuit. This same capacitor can be responsible for (wait for it!) the clock ticking intermittently, waking sleepers in the early hours. Occasionally the zener diode or its decoupling capacitor will be found to have gone shortcircuit, the result being no radio or alarm output - the same symptoms will be caused by the transistor being opencircuit. Tuning drift, especially on v.h.f., can be traced to failure of this circuit to stabilise.

The $1,000 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ reservoir and smoothing capacitors tend to dry out. This gives hum problems etc. Failure of the $220 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ capacitor in the clock supply will result in no or a dim, flickering display. Make sure that the voltage rating is high enough when fitting replacements. As a result of cost cutting by manufacturers, or lack of quality control, you of ten find 10 V working components for example fitted where a 16 V type would be appropriate.

If time stands still don't blame Dr. Who. Check the small


Fig. 1: Typical clock radio power supply circuit with a common-cathode LED display.


Fig. 2: Typical power supply circuit used with duplex-type displays.

10 nF ceramic capacitor across the 50 Hz clock feed: a scope connected across this supply should display a sinewave with the tops cut off.

The common-cathode display has been superseded by a duplexed arrangement. This runs cooler and seems to be more reliable. The power supply circuit used is similar - see Fig. 2 - but with extra diodes to feed a half cycle alternately to the display through the $220 \Omega$ series resistors. You can quickly identify the type of display used by looking at the edge connections. With a common-cathode display nearly all the thirty plus pins will be connected to the LEDS: with the duplexed arrangement there are far fewer connections with plenty of blank pins.

## Clock Circuits

Fig. 3 shows a typical common-cathode clock circuit. The dedicated i.c. incorporates functions that are selected by links during manufacture. Several problems can arise because links are omitted or dry-jointed. If, in the UK, the $50 / 60 \mathrm{~Hz}$ link is not connected the clock will lose about a minute in every hour.

When time problems are reported I soak test the unit over several days. Locked to the 50 Hz mains supply a clock is not as accurate as a crystal circuit and may suffer from tran-
sient interference. An i.c. that gains time is rare - 1 have never been able to confirm a fault where this was reported. Careful questioning of a customer to discover whether the unit may have been disconnected because of a mains interruption etc. can clear up a few problems. Without mains synchronisation the on-board oscillator can gain or lose several minutes in an nour. One customer who read on the bottom of the set that it had to be disconnected when not in use pulled the plug on going to work and reconnected it on his return.

Early clock chips (LM8361, MM5387 etc.) required an external RC phase-shift oscillator running at 50 Hz to maintain operation during mains supply interruptions. A small preset potentiometer was used to set the oscillator to 50 Hz on battery back-up with the mains supply disconnected. Poor timekeeping with mains operation could often be traced to a faulty oscillator or a sync feed resistor that had gone high in value. Newer chips need no setting up and incorporate the oscillator. Without battery back-up the i.c. will produce flashes to indicate an interruption.

Clock chips that require more than one link for $12 / 24-$ hour operation give some odd displays when the links are missing or dry-jointed.

A small $0.0068 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ Mylar capacitor connected to pin 32 of the LM8363 chip can cause faulty timing or display faults if


Fig. 3: Simplified clock circuit.
it or its feed resistor is faulty.
With some older clocks the life of a PP3 battery is as short as an hour. With later ones the battery will last a day or two. An interesting fault that causes short battery life occurs when a supply diode on the clock side becomes leaky, allowing the battery to light the display dimly.

## Function Faults

Function faults occur for several reasons. Apart from the chip, which is fairly reliable, any problem relating to incorrect display functions should direct attention to the switch setting circuits. To operate any i.c. function one or more connections have to be made at the same moment.

Consider for example the alarm set mode in Fig. 3. When the alarm set push-button is pressed the associated diode is forward biased and is thus connected to the fast and slow push-buttons. A leaky diode in this position will result in the alarm set mode being selected when the time set pushbutton is pressed. It's a simple problem that is common with this type of set. The small ceramic capacitors connected across the set switches often leak. As a result the time runs at the wrong speed. This is one of the most common faults.

Fig. 4 shows a variation on this arrangement. Pull-down diodes are used in this circuit to prevent the set buttons applying a voltage to the relevant i.c. input pins otherwise than when required. Those inputs we want to select have their associated pull-down diodes switched out by the function switch, which is often incorporated with the wavechange switch.

Several different types of set switches will be found depending on the price of the unit. Many use a PCB with the complete switchbank etched on it. Each switch has a convex, sprung metal contact that's arched over the print. The contact assembly is held in place by Sellotape, which stretches during the assembly process. After a time the tape relaxes and moves back. As a result the contacts are pulled out of registration. The buttons will then be either perma-

## ANSWER TO TEST CASE 363

## - SEE PAGE 341 -

Loss of the picture in a set fitted with the TDA3562A colour decoder chip can be a very difficult fault to diagnose. It's a fine chip but it's amongst the fussiest, demanding exactly correct conditions at the sandcastle pulse input and in the RGB amplifiers, which form part of an automatic grey-scale correction feedback loop. As Television Ted said, it would shut down at the drop of a hat.

Dylan had done a good job with his tests up to the point where he ran out of ideas. Though he'd not gone deeply into the RGB amplifiers, where this sort of fault often originates (with the chip in disagreement with what it sees coming back at sampling pin 18), in this case the trouble didn't lie here either. Nor was the chip itself guilty, except perhaps of pernicketiness. For the problem lay with its supply at pin I. There should have been 12 V at this point. In fact the voltage was 13.2 V , with rather more hash and ripple present than there should be on a supply line.

The supply comes from the 2SD795A series regulator transistor Q655, which receives about 14.5 V from a rectifier fed from a winding on the chopper transformer. This transistor was faulty, probably leaky, a replacement restoring correct operation.

Meanwhile the soak-testing TV sets continued to behave impeccably.


Fig. 4: Set switch circuit with pull-down diodes.


Fig. 5: Common-cathode display segment connections. Pins 1 and 34 are the -ve input (an extra indicator LED dot on the right-hand side may be connected to pin 34 in some displays).


Fig. 6: Duplex display segment connections - $a$ and $b$ half-cycle -ve input. Twelve-hour display.
nently on or will not work when pressed. When you dismantle the PCB you'll see the problem. Clean up with contact cleaner, dry off then apply some new tape deftly, i.e. without stretching. Some of the convex contacts lose their springiness and remain down.

Switches of the rubber type can become intermittent in operation. You may find that they are either coffee impregnated or have lost their carbon faces. In the former case I clean with contact cleaner. Some ingenuity is required with the latter condition. Provided there's no sideways movement of the button, graphite from a soft pencil rubbed on the face of the contact works. A more satisfactory repair in the event of a new part not being available is to glue a circle of kitchen foil on to the carbon face. Convenient round sections can be made by using the type of hole-punch used for ring-binding paper. It's possible to transplant contacts from scrapped remote control units.

Leaky transistors can be a problem with functions selected by touch-sensitive plates, e.g. snooze and sleep in Fig. 3.

If you use an isolation transformer you may find that the touch sensors won't work: the hum induced when the plate is touched is insufficient to turn the transistor on. Touch plates that have been linked together by the use of wet wipe across the surface of the casing will malfunction. It will take a considerable time for the film to evaporate. The action of
insensitive touch plates can be improved by connecting the frame of the mains transformer to the negative side of the radio supply.

## Alarm Problems

The cause of no alarm operation can be easily traced by triggering the alarm and tracing the output from the i.c. A misleading fault is where the alarm isn't triggered or triggers for only a brief moment. Before pulling the i.c., make sure that the alarm-off mode isn't being selected by a faulty ceramic capacitor, switch or transistor.

Some sets will trigger when time and alarm or alarm and time are brought together; others will go off only when time is brought up from behind the alarm setting. Most LCD clocks will trigger only when time is brought up from behind and is released about a minute before the alarm setting, allowing it to move on to the alarm setting by itself. Few sets will trigger unless at least an hour separates the time and alarm positions before they are brought together.

The alarm tone can be generated within the chip or externally. The rasping buzz tone comes from the alarm output. All types can be modulated with the one-second pulses used to flash the colons. Musical tunes are generated by a separate i.c. of the type often found in greetings cards.

## LED Displays

Failure of one or more segments in a LED display calls for careful tests if lengthy removal of the i.c. or display is to be avoided. The pins are likely to be hand soldered to a ribbon cable. This gives plenty of scope for dry-joints and solder shorts to be present. PCB tracks are often of poor quality. Careful examination of the print between the ribbon and the i.c. may save a lot of time. Handle the ribbon cable with care: it's likely to be brittle and easily broken at its joints if flexed several times.

Most displays have similar pin connections. Fig. 5 shows a common-cathode display as seen from the front with the connections facing forwards. The individual segments are numbered to correspond with the pin numbering from left to right. Where a segment fails to come on it's useful to be able to light it in order to check whether the display or its drive is at fault. A flylead connected via a $470 \Omega$ series resistor to the Vdd supply can be used to light individual segments by touching the relevant pin.

Fig. 6 shows the connections to a duplexed type display. The first two pins a and bare common to the segments shown prefixed $a$ and $b$ respectively. The remaining pins are numbered $1-32$ as before. As a quick check for missing segments with a display of this type short pins a and b. This should light the complete display. Thus any faulty segments will be obvious. Unlike the common-cathode type of display, combinations of segments will remain unlit if a pin is disconnected. Should one of the supply diodes fail all the associated a or b prefixed segments will remain unlit.

Phantom segments can be seen if the display mask isn't tight against its PCB. Otherwise suspect a leaky latch in the i.c. Extra segments alight may be caused by short-circuited pins. Display dimming may be provided by either a switched resistor in series with the supply or a transistor and LDR (light dependent resistor). If the series resistor burns out there will be total loss of the display. A dry-jomted LDR etc. will have the same effect or alternatively the display may be dim and not vary with the ambient light.

When fitting a new display make sure that you get it the right way up: it's very easy to wire one in back to front, especially when it's mounted upside down.

## BACK COPIES

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## The Nikkai Baby 10 A Problem Solved

It's a safe bet that many frustrated service engineers have one or more of these widely sold colour receivers gathering dust on the awaiting spares shelf while the 12 V regulator ( 1 C 402 ) becomes extinct. After three months on Willow Vale's waiting list (the situation is the same with other suppliers) I decided to look for an alternative device.

As the input voltage to IC402 is less than 14 V an ordinary regulator can't be used - because of the higher voltage drop across it (yes, you've discovered that too!). RS Components stocks a range of regulators with a very low voltage drop however, less than IV. The best one for the Baby 10 is type LT1084CP-12, RS stock no. 657-943, which has a similar case to the BU508A and is rated at 5 A . In theory you could use the cheaper 3A version, but with a typical current of 2.6 A it runs very hot. I believe that the cooler 5A version is worth the extra cost. 1 also decided to abandon the PCB-mounted heatsink in favour of the larger area provided by the rear of the metal chassis frame.

If a suitable hole is drilled to the left of the line output transformer, viewed from the rear, the replacement regulator can be mounted on the inside of the frame - with the usual insulation and neatsink compound of course - then wired to the original connection points on the board. The original Nikkai replacement regulator kit included a hefty diode that has to be wired in series with the regulator's output and mounted beneath the PCB "because the set won't work properly without it". The purpose of this diode is not clear to me, but I fit one anyway. Without the original hearsink there's plenty of room to mount it above the PCB. It also has to be generously rated (a IN5401 will fry!) - the $200 \mathrm{~V}, 6 \mathrm{~A}$ RS type $26 \mathrm{l}-823$ is suitable.

This modification has proved to be efficient, reliable, readily available and cheaper than the original Nikkai kit. It also runs cooler - and has reduced the temperature of a few customers.

Chris Avis

## ECONOMIC DEVICES 32 TEMPLE STREET, WOLVERHAMPTON, WV2 4AN





## Boing! Leap inside for a few Spring Surprises!




AMPLIFIED UHF/VHF/FM AERIAL


## 9 BAND RADIO RECEIVER

Order Code B11EC Frequency Coverage FM 875:508.5MHz MW 522.1620 kHz LW 150.281 kHz SW $14.5 .5 . \mathrm{MHz}$ SW3 7.17 .7 MMH SW. 9.45 .9 9MHz SWS 11. 45 -11.95MH SW6 17.45-18 06 MHz Uses 2xAA balls Size $170 \times 60 \times 30 \mathrm{~m}$


Compact receiver ccvering FM, MW, LW and 6 SW bands $(19,25,31,41,49 \& 60 \mathrm{~m})$. Built in ferrite rod + telescopic aerial. Tuning LED, earphone skt. I
Great spec. at a low, low price!

## JUMBO DOT MATRIX DISPLAY

Order Code LM225


Hitachi $640 \times 200$ dot matrix LCD for PC's. WP's, and industrial equipment. Module size $270 \times 150 \times 13 \mathrm{~mm}$. Display area $239 \times 104 \mathrm{~mm}$. Dot size $0.32 \times 0.46$; pitch $0.35 \times 0.49$. Has on board $16 \times$ H[61100 \& $4 \times$ HD61103 chips. With comprehensive data. Reduced from £39.50

Welcome to our 1993 Spring Supplement, presented FREE with your favourite monthly magazine. In it's 32 pages you'll find a mix of regular lines and surplus goods - a Super Selection of Spring Special Offers! So browse through the Bargains - but please remember some items are only available in limited quantities, so don't delay - Order today by phone, fax, post or in person - see page 30 for full information. We look forward to serving you soon.

* This brochure contains only a fraction of our stock - see page 30 for details of our other publications!


You've probably seen in the press the much hailed personal phone has been a dismal flop - with 3 different systems and the restraints imposed on its use meant it had little practical value. Failure seemed inevitable - but there's a silver lining to every cloud and its an ill wind that blows nobody any good, etc, etc ... we've purchased some of the goods with more to follow.

## ZONEPHONE

 TERMINAL28956 These were the units screwed to various buildings throughout the UK which you stood next to whilst making a
phone call witti your incredibly useful phone call witt your incredibly useful
handset! Too bad it you weren't in range (99.9\% of the UK wasn't!) but it was a nice toy while it lasted. There was a lot selling lechnology involved, and we're selling these at probably about $1 \%$ or
$2 \%$ of their real cost! So what do you get and outputs are taken 102 min PCB
Wor your money?
Well, a lot of case tor a start - in the
outer steel case (a) $480 \times 300 \times 150 \mathrm{~mm}$
$\begin{aligned} & \text { with fibreglass aerial case on top } \\ & \text { (b) } 250 \times 160 \times 75 \mathrm{~mm} \text { there's another }\end{aligned}$
$\begin{aligned} & \text { (b) } 250 \times 160 \times 75 \mathrm{~mm} \text {. there's another } \\ & \text { steel case (c) } 325 \times 245 \times 130 \mathrm{~mm} \text { and }\end{aligned}$
inside this there's a plastic box (d)
$200 \times 15 \times 75 \mathrm{~mm}$.
(a) contains a metal surface mounting
13A socket and a BT line socke:
(b) has 2 whip aerials 200 mm long
terminated in PL259 plugs?
(c) contains $8 V$ 3.8Ah sealed lead acid
battery, mains transformer (10V 2A Sec).
mains filter and a plethora of plugs and
$\begin{aligned} & \text { sockets mounted on top }-3 \text { BNC and } \\ & 2 \times 9 \text { pin ' } D \text { ' type, also } 2 \text { fuseholders, a }\end{aligned}$
lead with 13Aplug and another lead with
BT plug, and a power on/ of toggle.
$\begin{aligned} & \text { Screwed to the inside of the lid is a } \\ & \text { PCB } 250 \times 160 \text { with lots of nice bits. }\end{aligned}$
$64180 \mathrm{CPU}, 27 \mathrm{C} 256$ EPROM, 5256-15 256 k
RAM $\times 3$, LM2940, LM317T, BD680 $\times 2$,
3.6 V AA size lithium cell in holder, about
etc. You're getting great value for
money here!)
$\begin{aligned} & \text { (d) contains the } T x / R x \text { panel } \\ & 170 \times 135 \mathrm{~mm} \text {. Lovelybit }\end{aligned}$
surface mount - about 20 chips. Inputs
sockets.
There's another panel the same
size in this box. with lots of
programmablees - $2 \times$ TMS77C82
77 CO . TMS320MC10FNL $16 / 32$ bitsignal
processor. LM2984 triple 5 V output
regulator and another 10 chips, 4
And that's about it!
$\begin{gathered}\text { COMPLETE } \\ 28956 \\ \text { \& } 17.95\end{gathered}$
$\begin{gathered}\text { CASE } \\ 28985 \\ \text { fl2. } 95\end{gathered}$

## LOGAG PROEE

 CMOS etc. Logic state displayed in light and sound. Pulse enlargement capability allows pulse delection down to 25 ns Supplied with comprehensive instruction manual Order Code Y132

Sutable for displaying the logic state of each gate of TTL.
 Inpul Z: 1 M . Max input freq: 20 MHz

## VERSATILE TIMER UNIT


$\mathbf{2 5 4 3 8 0}$ Here's an interesting bit of kit, In a white 2 part ABS case $145 \times 85 \times 75 \mathrm{~mm}$ is a timer PCB $142 \times 70 \mathrm{~mm}$. Mains is applied directly to the board and the seemingly unnecessarily complicated timer ( 4 chips where one would do) enable times from 1 min to 2 hrs (can be extended). There are 2 heavy dufy relays with 10A contacts, a piezo sounder and MBC indicator. The unit, made by Energy Conservation Systems was designed to switch off lights. Supplied with original instructions + some useful data and ccts from our technical
$\mathbf{E 4 . 9 5 1 0 0 + 2 . 4 0}$
Add VAT to quantity prices
CDCK MODULE
Z2741D 4 digit 13mm LED display and clock on PCB $78 \times 35 \mathrm{~mm}$, made by National, type MA1002-1 Supplied with a data sheet. $£ 2.00$


## DISK DRIVE DEAL

Knockout price on 5.25 " double sided 360 k PC compatible drives, brand new by Copal, model F5022. Standard 42 mm high. Full info supplied
?

## Atari 2600 Games Console <br>  <br> These popular consoles are complete, refurbished units with

 joystick, power supply, TV lead and games cartridge (Centipede). L- 9
## SCOOP PURCHASE OF HIGH QUALITY MONITORS!!



29128 These brand new and boxed high resolution video composite monochrome monitors made by Thompson model no VM3102VA have a $12^{\prime \prime}$ amber non-glare CRT and 35 MHz video bandwidth. Resolution is an incredible 1000 lines at centre. Scanning frequency 15.725 kHz horizontal, $50-60 \mathrm{~Hz}$ vertical. Composite video input, -ve sync ( $0.6-2.5 \mathrm{~V} p-\mathrm{p}$ ) (not RGB). There is also an audio input and internal amplifier and speaker. 220-240V ac operation. Smart two tone grey case. Overall size 336 wide $\times$ 290 high $\times 300 \mathrm{~mm}$ deep. Video and audio inputs on phono sockets. Supplied with full circuit diagram and instruction manual.


# AMSTRAD tancame *2 Control Paddles GX4000  *TV lead <br> *Burnin' Rubber Cartridge *Power Supply *Instruction Books 



Super games console that never really hit the big time - but it's a beautifully made piece of kit with loads of features, originally selling for around $£ 100$ - and the cartridges were $£ 25$ !

The console itself measures $250 \times 160 \times 40 \mathrm{~mm}$ and has a myriad of inputs and outputs to cater for most devices. Inputs: 2 paddles with 9 pin D sockets (supplied), also 15 way D skt for analogue joysticks and 6 way aux modular socket for light pen/gun etc. Outputs are 8 pin RGB monitor skt; SCART skt, UHF output to phono skt; and a stereo sound 3.5 mm jack socket. It can be powered by the AC adaptor supplied (11V@ 500 mA ) or 5 V from MMI2/CM14 monitors.
Inside the plastic case, the PCB $205 \times 147 \mathrm{~mm}$ contains a wealth of goodies: Z 80 A CPU in socket, AY-3-8912 sound chip, 168 pin dedicated chip, UM1234 UHF modulator, games cartridge socket, 7805 on a heatsink + a dozen transistors.

## EXCEPTIONAL VALUE AT £29.95 NOW REDUCED $\mathcal{E} \mathbf{1}, 95$ TO JUST



See pages 8 \& 9 for details of Software for use with this machine


Brand new full spec base unit, keyboard, mouse and manual (no monitor) Standard PC1640 with 640k RAM and $2 \times 5.25$ " disk drives, only being sold so cheaply because we have no monitors to go with them. Actually worth more as spares (work it out - keyboard $£ 25,2$ disk drives $£ 50$, case $£ 20$, motherboard $£ 25$, mouse $£ 5$ ) but as they're taking up lots of room and we haven't the time or space to take them all apart, you $\rightarrow \infty \rightarrow \infty$ gain an absolute bargain!

## Y 136 C INSULATION TEST UNIT

Intended for use with the M260 and M266 clamp ammeters, but now they are no longer available - however instructions are included to use with almost any digital meter


[^2]
# CABINET SPEAKERS <br>  

Z9121 Dark veneered wood finish， size $330 \times 217 \times 116 \mathrm{~mm}$ ．Single wide range 4R speaker．Max total output 20 watts music power．Ideal as extension speakers for kitchen， workshop，etc．Only £12．95 per pair．
HEADPHONES


H8 Excellent quality Adastra stereo headphones with boom milcrophone．Freq．response $20-20,000 \mathrm{~Hz}, 32 \mathrm{R}$ Impedance． Microphone 600 R ． 2 m leads fited with 3.5 mm plug for mic， and 3.5 mm plug＋adaptor for headphones．Padded earpleces and leatherette headband．
ONLY 59.95

## Viewdata Terminal／Modem



Tandata TD1100 alphanumerlc Viewdata／Prestel Adaptor． These units were used with a home banking system．The console was hooked up to your TV and telephone line．and by using the standard qwerty keyboard with seperate numeric keypad，you could access your account．The well styled black and grey case $300 \times 180 \times 75 / 40$ has a 75 key keyboard connected Inside by a DIL plug to the maln PCB．This has mounted on tit the modem sub－panel＋ 3 relays，UM 1286 Astec colour modulator with sound，＋SAA5020，5050， 5070 SY6504，68B10，MCM51101P45， $2 \times 2114$ \＆ 2732 EPROM all in sockets，as well as over 20 other LS and linear chlps， translstors etc．There＇s a back up nicad battery and a regulated power supply．On the rear panel is an onfoff rocker swith，UHF output socket，printer skt（15 way D），and cassette DIN socket for recording data．
There are 3 leads attached； 4 m long mains lead with 13A plug， 4 m long BT lead with old－style plug，and a 3 m long TV co－ax lead．
All in all，a versatle，usefut compact unit elther to use as it is or for the parts within．The component value alone is over £60 so you can see what a bargaln this is－it even comes with a photocopled handbook！！
Order Code z8983．The whole unit as described for Just £12．95


2345 Optical Shaft Encoder．Made by sharp．Ideal wherever the position or speed of a rotating shaft needs to be know－ie machine tool control，robotics elc．Supplied with comprehensive data sheet．Size of module $46 \times 33.5 \times 20 \mathrm{~mm}$ ； size of disc 28 mm dia．Bush with grub screw will take a 4 mm dia shatt．Disc has 96 slots．DP £48 18 ． Our Price ．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．C8．50 Data sheet avalable separately 30p

## CABLEVISION CALAMHY II：

Seems like Visionhire became a bit over－ stocked on their cablevision consoles we＇ve just purchased a quantity of these superb brand new units which contain some great electronics and as ever can offer them at an absolute BargainPrice！！
Two tone brown case（dimensions as shown）contains PCB $192 \times 195 \mathrm{~mm}$ with easily removed UHF modulator made by Labgear（Sound and Vision）；video pre－ amp；stabilized power supply and all the decoding circuitry（ 9 transistors and TBA673 chip）．
On the front of the case is a cable／off air switch and 5 push buttons（ 4 channels and on／off mains switch）．There are 4 cables coming from the rear（these alone are worth what we are asking for the whole thing！）－ 2 m mains lead， 1.5 m 8 core screened cable with 9 pin plug， $2 m$ video in lead with coax plug and $2 m$ video out lead with coax socket．As you would expect from a company like Visionhire， everything is top quality．The case can easily be utilised for other purposes－the dark brown inserts on the front are both easily removable，if required．Please note the low price we are asking in no way reflects their true worth－they＇re taking up a lot of space，so we need to shift them quickly！！

[^3]
T128C
VIDEO ENHANCER
JAB86
A stereo sound and picture enhancer destgned to mprove picture and sound qualty when recording from tape to tape or from camera to tape． via phono sockets．Requires an external 12 Vdc 100 mA power supply． Audio trequency range $\quad . . . .100 \mathrm{~Hz}-1 \mathrm{kHz}$ $V$ video frequency range $100 \mathrm{~Hz}-1 \mathrm{kHz}$
$0.5 \mathrm{MHz}-5 \mathrm{MHz}$
Audio gain
Audio gain adjust
40 Bmin 8dB nor
2008 min
Scoop purchase of all remaining stocks！Selling just for the parts value－although they are brand new and boxed，there is a design fault－a black bar across the screen when in use．Normal cat price £23．95

## CLEARANCE <br> PRICE <br> £8．95

INSTRUMENT CASE


28989 Superb heavy duty steel Instrument case finlshed in light grey $426 \times 290 \times 78 \mathrm{~mm}$ with 4 plastlc screw on foet．This was an solan repeater for use on a data network and although the contents have been removed（before being used） the font and back panel reman，the formor haing 4 biong red LED＇s and the latter a fused，suppressed IEC mains Inlot orlott DP rocker swith and $2 \times 15$ way eock mains inlet way IDC skts with a short $2 \times 15$ way D sockets folned to 16 way IDC skts with a short length of rlbbon cable．Ther＇s a 60mm circular cut－out for a speaker on one side and mounting pillars in the base．Just look around and see the price this type of high quality case normally cosis！－somewhere around the £ $30-£ 40$ mark－then compare it to our low，low price－ Just $£ 9.95$

##  <br> 

 ロロロロ ロローッロロロ25216 Tandata＂Homedeck＂．These are later verslons of 28863 and are（a）smaller and（b）remote controlled．The two tone gray case is $270 \times 110 \times 28 \mathrm{~mm}$ and has a full qwerty keyboard and seperate numerlc keypad．Inside，on the PCB are a few components to transmit the data via 2 IR LED＇s to the recelver．The unlt is powered by a PP3 battery．Super value at just $\mathbf{8 3 . 0 0}$

## MEMORY

16k static RAM＇s by Motorola

## MCM2016－35 MCM2018－35

Either type：
4 for $£ 2.00$
$100+0.35 ; 1 k+0.30$


Z5288D Metal detector panel $185 \times 115 \mathrm{~mm}$. This is the complete PCB from an expensive ( $\mathbf{5 8 0 +}$ ) "treasure detector" just add wire coll and meter to make a working unlt. Circult uses 15 transistors and 3 IC's. There are 5 pots and a rotary switch. Detailed Info supplled. £12.95

## STEREO CASSETTE PLAYER

25405 High qually heavy duty all metal construction stereo cassette player mechanism. probably intended for continuous back ground muslc. This is a lovely blt of klt - starts playing as soon as a cassette is inserted. Has fast forward, rewind and eject keys. It's bi-directional, and the sensing circuit automatically reverses the tape at the end. Has a Canon motor and works off 12 V DC. Great value at $£ 4.95$.

## FLASH UNITS

Z4100 Flash Untt. Found a few more of these compact but powerful units. Complete and new, they were intended for Installation In a cainera body, so have no case. Slze $57 \times 30 \times 17 \mathrm{~mm}$ overall inc flash tube and reflector. Min $3 \vee$ relay on board. Only $£ 2.75$

## ZZZZAPPPP

22819 The 'Revenger' key chaln. 24 sounds to zap all your enemles! Supplled complete with batteries. Only $£ 1.50$

VISTEL UNITS - Can't sell these at any price, so are breaking them down and selling the parts as shown:
29120
Keyboard. 105 keys on PCB $385 \times 192 \mathrm{~mm} .18$ $6 \times 4 \mathrm{~mm}$ cased LED's - 16 red, 1 each yellow and green. Also 7 LS chips and $8279 \mathrm{C}-2$. Output to 26 way IDC socket. Great value at $\mathbf{\Sigma 1 0 . 0 0}$

Z5465 Modem PCB $197 \times 127 \mathrm{~mm}$. Contains input socket for phone and output lead and plug to BT skt. 2 Omron G4D relays - 1 -3.6V, 1 5V, both with DPCO contacts; $2 \mathrm{G4K} 5 \mathrm{~V}$ SPCO types. Other parts include TIP $126,3 \times 2.2 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ poly caps, ULN2003, LSO4, $2 \times 2 \mathrm{~N} 2222$ etc. $£ 4.00$

25466 Display - 40 character single line filuorescent type M40SD02CA by Futaba. Mounted on PCB with driver chips $£ 3.00$

25487 Power Supply panel - torroidal transformer with 2 outputs feeding regulator circuitry - $2 \times 78$ T05 regs on heatsinks Also mains DP rocker switch and IEC chassis plug and socket Great value at $\mathbf{£ 4 . 0 0}$

25468 Main PCB $320 \times 200 \mathrm{~mm}$ with many great parts $3 \times 27128$ EPROMS, 8085A $\mu$ processor, 8251, 3x8255, EF7190, $4364,6264,6818$ + 16 linear/logic chips. There's also a 4.8 V 100 mA Memopac Ni-cad, xtals, plugs, sockets etc. Only LB .00

Or buy the complete case unit with handbook for just £35.0011

25499 UM1233 Astec UHF modulator, brand new, full spec. Currently being sold for around $£ 6.00$

## OUR PRICE £2.00

25427 Tachometer. Here's a nice little unit at a fraction of its true worth - made by Transicon Inc, this will give an accurate voltage lor any given speed. Gradient $1.55 \mathrm{~V} / 1000 \mathrm{RPM}$. Only ع8.00
25500 Telephone handset in pale grey with black 4 core lead No plug $\mathbf{E 2 . 0 0}$
Z5488 9V stereo cassette deck mech. Record/replay and erase heads, 6 push buttons - fwd, rev, play, rec, pause and stop. Only £2.95

25487 Mabuchi hi-torque 9 V cassette motor 35 mm dia $\times 25 \mathrm{~mm}$ Only £1.00; Box of 200 £65
22852 TEK 22025 tap active delay line. 14DIL package, pins are labelled Vcc, G. 1. 2, 3, 4, IN \& OUT (like Boums DL6300 series their price 3.94) Our Price 2 for £1.00; $100+0.25$

Z2724 Printer mechanism by Epson (M262?), 40 col on 75 mm wide paper. Eelieved new, but no further data. $\mathbf{£ 4 . 0 0}$
Over 100 different component packs are listed in our "Yellow Pages" Bargain List! Here are two new ones: MYLAR CAPACITOR PACKS
K901 A good variety of the small 50 and 100 V types - nearly all values in the E12 series from 0.001 to $0.082 \mu \mathrm{~F}$. Pack of $200 £ 3.50$

K902 A selection of larger values, all 50 V from 0.1 to $0.47 \mu \mathrm{~F}$. Pack of $50 £ 2.00$

## GAMES PADDLE

Z5435 New boxed games controller paddles type PD1 for use with the Amstrad GX4000, 464+ and 6128+. Our price £3.95

$\mathbf{7 5 2 0 0}$ Spirly Burner. Very usetul in sclence labs or for the home experimenter. Chromed steel container 93 mm diax 48 mm high has absorbent material covered in wire mesh. Adjusiting lever allows varlations in temperature. Complete with 70 mm dia dish for heating substances Ir . Only $£ 2.50$

Multiband Radio
This compact plece of equipment $200 \times 95 \times 50 \mathrm{~mm}$ comes in an attractive metallic grey case with controls on top - timing or/off and volume, squelch The telescopic aerial extends to 500 mm and can be rotated in any direction. The 3 wavebands are

1) CB, channels, $1-80$
2) TV1 $54-87 \mathrm{MHz} \&$

FM 88-108 MHz
3) AIR $108-145 \mathrm{MHz}$ \&

PB 145.176 MHz
The large $3^{\prime \prime}$ full range speaker delivers 280 mW of undistorted power There is an earphone jack and DC adaptor jack. The unit is powered by $4 \times A A$ cells. All this er hnology for just ........ $£ 17.9510+11.90$ Order Code


10-BAND RECEIVER
B118CA
A compact 10-band radio recelver covering FM, LW, MW and cven short wave bands. A bulli-In fertite bar antenna recelves the MW and LW transmissions and the telescoplc rod aritenna recelves FM and SW transmissions. The tuning LED gints when a strong signal is present.
Frequency coverage:

| FMA | $88-108 \mathrm{MHz}$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| MN | $530-1600 \mathrm{kHz}$ |
| LW | $150-270 \mathrm{kHz}$ |
| SN1 | $4.75-5.10 \mathrm{MHz}(60 \mathrm{~m})$ |
| SN2 | $5.85-6.20 \mathrm{MHz}(49 \mathrm{~m})$ |
| SN3 | $7.10-7.50 \mathrm{MHz}(41 \mathrm{~m})$ |
| SN4 | $9.45-9.90 \mathrm{MHz}(31 \mathrm{~m})$ |
| SN5 | $19.50-11.95 \mathrm{MHz}(19 \mathrm{~m})$ |
| SN6 | $15.10-15.55 \mathrm{MHz}(19 \mathrm{~m})$ |
| SN7 | $17.45-18.00 \mathrm{MHz}(16 \mathrm{~m})$ |
| PIWer | $3 V d C 150 \mathrm{~mA}(2 \times$ AA batterles $)$ |
| Dims | $160 \times 78 \times 35 \mathrm{~mm}$ |



## MULT-BAND RECEIVER

A compact 4-band radlo recelver with PLL synthesised tuning, auto frequency scan, LCO frequency olsplay, clock, alarm and 20 programmable frequency memorles. AM/FM/LW and $5 W$ recelving. The tuning LED tights when a strong signal is present.

| Fiequency coverage: |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| AM | $531-1602 \mathrm{kHz}$ |
| Fin | $87-108 \mathrm{MHz}$ |
| L'N | $146-281 \mathrm{kHz}$ |
| SN | $5.95-15.60 \mathrm{MHz}$ |
| Power | $4 \times \mathrm{AA}$ batterles (nol supplied) |
| Dims | $195 \times 40 \times 120 \mathrm{~mm}$ |
| P-ice ..................................... $£ 34.95 \quad 3+22.72$ |  |

#  pring Supplement <br> Tef (0703) 236363 Fax (0703) 236307 

All the goods on this page are from lllV Systems - a major US manufacturer of opto product. All new, full spec devices at our usual low, low prices!

(A) OPTOCOUPLERS


| CODE | PART | VOLTS | CTR\% | NOTE | E2 PK 100+ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | NO | (RMS) | MIN |  | 01 |  |
| 22773 | 4N35 | 2500 | 100 |  | 10 | 12 |
| 22775 | CNY1711 | 3000 | 63 |  | 10 | . 12 |
| 22777 | CNY33 | 1770 | 20 |  | 10 | . 12 |
| 22779 | CNY47 | 2000 | 20 |  | 10 | . 12 |
| 22780 | CNY47A | 2000 | 40 |  | 10 | 12 |
| 22782 | CNY51 | 4000 | 100 |  | 10 | 12 |
| 22783 | H11A2 | 1060 | 20 |  | 10 | 12 |
| 22788 | H11A3 | 1770 | 20 |  | 10 | . 12 |
| 22790 | H11A520 | 4000 | 20 |  | 10 | . 12 |
| 22791 | H11A550 | 4000 | 50 |  | 10 | . 12 |
| 22792 | H11AA2 | 1770 | 10 | D | 6 | . 20 |
| 22793 | H11AGI | 4000 | 300 | A | 6 | . 20 |
| 22794 | H11AVI | 4000 | 100 |  | 10 | 12 |
| 22795 | H11AVIA | 4000 | 100 | B | 10 | . 12 |
| 22796 | H11AV3 | 4000 | 20 |  | 10 | . 12 |
| 22797 | H11AV3A | 4000 | 20 | B | 10 | . 12 |
| Z2800 | H11D4 | 1770 | 10 |  | 10 | . 12 |
| Z2822 | H11F2 | 1770 |  | C | 10 | 12 |
| 22826 | H11J3 | NO INFO |  |  | 20 | . 06 |
| Z2835 | MCT2 | 1060 | 20 |  | 10 | . 12 |

Notes: A:CMOS CTR 1mA
B: GULLWING
C: FET - NO OTHER DATA
D: AC INPUT
K845 Mixed pack containing many of the above, plus others in quantities too small to list. 25 for $£ 2.95$

| (ii) Darlington |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| CODE | PART | VOLTS | CTR\% | E2 PK100+ |  |
|  | No | (RMS) | MIN | QT |  |
| 22771 | 4N30 | 1060 | 100 | 8 | 13 |
| 22772 | 4N31 | 1060 | 50 | 10 | . 10 |
| 22778 | CNY35 | 1060 | 10 | 10 | . 10 |
| 22781 | CNY48 | 1500 | 600 | 6 | . 6 |
| 22798 | H1182 | 1770 | 200 | 8 | . 13 |
| 22799 | H1183 | 1700 | 100 | 8 | . 13 |
| 22823 | H11G1 | 2500 | 1000 | 4 | .25 |
| 22824 | H11G3 | 1500 | 200 | 8 | . 13 |
| 22825 | H11G46 | 4000 | 500 | 6 | . 16 |
| 22831 | MCA230 | 2500 | 100 |  | 13 |
| 22832 | MCA231 | 2500 | 100 | 8 | . 13 |
| Z2835 | MCA255 | 2500 | 200 | 6 | . 16 |

$K 846$ Mixed pack containing many of the above, plus
others in quantities 100 small to list. 25 for $£ 3.95$

| (iii) Triac/SCR |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| CODE | PART NO | VOLTS (RMS) | $\operatorname{Itr} m A V b$ MAX | NOTE £2PACK $100+$ |  |  |
| 22774 | 4N39 | 1060 | 14200 | S | 6 | 16 |
| 22776 | CNY30 | 1770 | 11200 | S | 6 | 16 |
| 22783 | GE3009 | 7500 | 30 | T | 6 | 16 |
| 22784 | GE3010 | 7500 | 15 | T | 6 | 16 |
| 22785 | GE3012 | 7500 | 5 | T | 6 | 16 |
| 22786 | GE3021 | 7500 | 15 | T | 6 | 16 |
| 22836 | MOC3009 | 7500 | 30 | T | 6 | . 16 |
| 22837 | MOC3011 | 7500 | 10 | T | 6 | . 16 |
| 22838 | MOC3012 | 7500 | 5 | $T$ | 6 | . 16 |
| 22840 | MOC3021LP | 7500 | 15 | TP |  | 16 |
| Note: $S=$ SCR $\quad T=$ Triac $\quad P=$ Surface mount pins K847 Muxed pack containing many of the above, plus others in quantuties too Small to list. 20 for $£ 3.95$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| (iv) Schmitt |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| CODE | PART | VOLTS | ItrmA |  | £2PACK $100+$ OTY |  |
|  | NO | (RMS) | (MAX) |  |  |  |
| 22827 | H11i2 | 2500 | 10 |  | 3 | . 35 |
| Z2828 | H11L3 | 2500 | 5 |  | 3 | . 35 |
| Z2830 | H1IN1 | 3750 | 3 |  | 3 | . 35 |

(B) (i) PHOTOTRANSISTORS,

## INFRA RED

All are in TOI 8 hermetically sealed cases CODE PART ImA $\quad \mathrm{mW} / \mathrm{cm}$

| All are in TO18 hermetically sealed cases. |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| CODE | PART | $\operatorname{Im} A$ | $\mathrm{mW} / \mathrm{cm}$ | 2.2 PK | 1004 |
|  | NO |  |  | QTY | 100 |
| 22766 | TDET800W | 0.3 | 5 | 10 | 10 |


(iii) Bargraph Displays with Driver

Replacements for conventional meters. A combined 10 elemen ED array and chip. Supplied with data and application sheet. CODE PART NO PRICE Z2762 TSM39147 8 green, 2 red linear driver $\begin{aligned} & \text { Z2763 } \\ & \text { TSM3916 }\end{aligned}$ 22763 TSM3916 10 red VU driver . 13.00 priced 92 . Order code 72841 page booklen is avalable priced $\mathbf{\Sigma 2}$. Order code $\mathbf{Z 2 8 4 1}$

(C) LED BLOCKS

CODE PART SIZE MATRIXCOLOUR PRICE 22759 TFB (MM)
25469 TFB358C 35 5X8 YELLOW 1.60

TFB3458C 35 5X8 GREEN 160 22760 TFB3758A 35 5X8 HERED 1.60 Z5470 TFB3758C 35 5X8 HERED $\begin{array}{llllll}22761 & \text { TFBS357A } & 51 & 5 \times 7 & \text { YELLOW } & 1.80\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{llllll}Z 5471 & \text { TFB5357C } 51 & 5 \times 7 \text { YELLOW } 1.80\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{llllll}Z 5474 & \text { TFB5457A } & 51 & 5 \times 7 & \text { GREEN } & 1.80 \\ \mathbf{Z 5 4 7 5} & \text { TFB5457C } 51 & 5 \times 7 & \text { GREEN } & 1.80\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{llllll}\text { Z5475 } & \text { TFB5457C } & 51 & 5 \times 7 & \text { GREEN } & 1.80 \\ \text { Z5478 } & \text { TFB5757A } & 51 & 5 \times 7 & \text { HE RED } & 1.80\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{lllll}25479 & \text { TFB5757C } & 51 & 5 \times 7 & \text { HE RED } \\ & 1.80 \\ & \text { TFE RED } & 1.80\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{lllll}Z 5472 & \text { TFB5388A } 58 & 8 \times 8 & \text { YELLOW } & 3.50\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{llllll}\text { Z5473 } & \text { TFB5388C } & 58 & 8 \times 8 & \text { YELLOW } & 3.50 \\ \text { Z5476 } & \text { TFB5488A } & 58 & 8 \times 8 & \text { GREEN } & 3.50\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{lllll}\text { Z5477 } & \text { TFB54888C } & 58 & 8 \times 8 & \text { GREEN } \\ & 3 \times 8 & \text { GREEN } & 3.50 \\ \text { Z5480 } & \text { TFB5788C } & 58 & 8 \times 8 & \text { HE RED }\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{llll}\text { Z5480 } & \text { TFB5788C } 58 \quad 8 \times 8 \quad \text { HE RED } & 3.50 \\ \text { The suffix } A \text { or } C \text { to the part number indicates common }\end{array}$ The suffix $A$ or $C$ to the part number indicates common anode and common cathode respectiveley.

1 off and pack prices in bold type include VAT; qty prices in light type don't please add at the current rate. Thank you.

LED's
Z2091 Red 5 mm square, Liton type LTL9223A. Pack of 12 £1.00; $100+0.038 ; 1 k+0.03$
Z2098 Red $7 \times 2.55 \mathrm{~mm}$ rectangular by Senior type SE6511D. Pack of $12 \mathbf{£ 1 . 0 0 ; ~ 1 0 0 + 0 . 0 3 8 ; ~ 1 k + 0 . 0 3 ~}$
Z2095 Red 5 mm square with rounded corners by Phillips type HR44DL. Pack of $12 £ 1.00 ; 100+0.038 ; 1 k+0.03$
22096 Clear infra red $4.5 \times 1.5 \mathrm{~mm}$ rectangular, Honeywell type 8406. Pack of $8 £ 1.00 ; 100+0.06 ; 1 k+0.04$

Z2097 Red $5 \times 2 \mathrm{~mm}$ rectangular by Gl, type MV57123. Pack of $12 £ 1.00 ; 100+0.038 ; 1 k+0.03$

Traffic Light LED modulos. Plastic moulding $15 \times 10 \times 7.5 \mathrm{~mm}$ that have $2 \times 3 \mathrm{~mm}$ LED's mounted in them. Ideal for railway modellers etc.
Z2855 Red and Orange
Z2856 Red and Green
22857 Green and Yellow
All the same price - any mix, 10 for $£ 2,00$
Z5501 Panel $71 \times 27 \mathrm{~mm}$ with dual 7 seg LED + red and green rect LED's. Pack of 10 £2.00
25502 Another, this time with a dual and single 7 seg LED + red and green rect LED's. Pack of $\mathbf{8} \mathbf{\Sigma 2 . 0 0}$

$\mathbf{2 2 7 2} 40$ character $\times 1$ line LCD by Optrex (Japan). High quality double height display with 192 character ROM; Other characters can be displayed by generation in RAM. Other features include cursor with control, blink character. scroll display, read and write display data, single +5 V supply, data and power inputs by one 16 pin $005^{\prime \prime}$ SIL socket. pin outs control, easily interfaced with other Optrex displays, contrast omplete with teraced with either 4 or 8 bit uP's. Supplied arrays measuring $3.2 \times 10 \mathrm{~mm}$ : Display size $170 \times 17.5 \mathrm{~mm}$ arrays measuring $3.2 \times 10 \mathrm{~mm}$ Display size $170 \times 17.5 \mathrm{~mm}$
Module size $220 \times 40 \mathrm{~mm} \quad$ DP over $£ 50.00$ Our Price $£ 15.00$
PRICE REDUCED TO £7.50!!
$2548920 \times 2$ dol matrix display by Toshiba, type TLC501 with 2xHD44 100 \& HD44780A00 chips on board. Fitted with 14 pin IDC type plug. PCB $115 \times 37 \mathrm{~mm}$. $£ 7.00$

25460 Epson dot matrix display type EG2401A. Display area $139 \times 39 \mathrm{~mm}$. Overall size $178 \times 69 \mathrm{~mm}$. No data at present $£ 15.00$

25458 Epson 20 character $\times 8$ line LCD, model EA-Y-20080AT, with backlight. This is the same spec (apart from the size) of our Z4372. Overall size $140 \times 95 \mathrm{~mm}$. Dispaly area $83 \times 63 \mathrm{~mm}$. Supplied with comprehensive data. $£ 25.00$

Z5459 Futaba 16 character $\times 2$ line vacuum fluorescent display, type 162-BY-01Z. Supplied with pin out. Next month's 'Guardian' will have some driver circuits shown. Only $£ 2.50$

## PIR SENSOR



22700 PIR sensor. Extremely neat basic sensor (no electronics) In plastic moulding $33 \times 28 \times 30 \mathrm{~mm}$. Supplled with dirculis and lois of information. Has 10 m range. $164^{\circ}$ angle of

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SURFACE MOUNT LED's


These LED's are in a SOT23 package ( $2.9 \times 1.1 \times 1.4 \mathrm{~mm}$ )

| CODE | PART NO | COLOUR | SPEC |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 22671 | TFS056 | Red | $1.6 \mathrm{mcd} @ 10 \mathrm{~mA}$ |
| Z2672 | TFS059 | Green | $1.6 \mathrm{mcd} @ 10 \mathrm{~mA}$ |
| 22673 | TLMP6301 | Orange | $0.5 \mathrm{mcd} @ 10 \mathrm{~mA}$ |
| Z2674 | TLMP6311 | Red | $1.6 \mathrm{mcd} @ 10 \mathrm{~mA}$ |
| 22675 | TLMP6401 | Yellow | 0.5 mcd @ 10 mA |
| 22676 | TLMP6411 | Yellow | $1.6 \mathrm{mcd} @ 10 \mathrm{~mA}$ |
| Z2677 | TLMP6501 | Green | 0.5 mcd @ 10 mA |
| 22678 | TFS021 | Red/Green | 0.5 mcd @ 10mA |
| 72679 | TLMP6802 | Red/Yellow | $1.6 \mathrm{mcd} @ 10 \mathrm{~mA}$ |
| 22680 | TLMP6803 | Red/Orange | $1.6 \mathrm{mcd} @ 10 \mathrm{~mA}$ |
| 22681 | TLMP6811 | Red/Green | $1.6 \mathrm{mcd} @ 10 \mathrm{~mA}$ |
| KS106 | mixed pack o | containing m | above types for |

## MINIATURE LED's

These LED's have axial leads

| These |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| CODE | PART NO | COLOUR | SPEC | E2 PACK | $100+$ | $1 \mathrm{k+}$ |
| Z2691 | TFSO65 | Red 1.8 mm | $2.8 \mathrm{mcd} @ 10 \mathrm{~mA}$ | 10 | .10 | .07 |
| Z2692 | TFSO66 | Red 1.8 mm | $2.8 \mathrm{mcd} @ 10 \mathrm{~mA}$ | 10 | 10 | .07 |
| Z2693 | TFSO68 | Green 1.8 mm | $4.5 \mathrm{mcd} @ 10 \mathrm{~mA}$ | 10 | 10 | .07 |

## STANDARD LED's

| These LED's have radial leads |  |  | SPEC | £2 PACK | 1004 | 1k+ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| CODE | PART NO | COLOUR |  |  |  |  |
| 22682 | MV6052 | Red 5 mm | $0.7 \mathrm{mcd} @ 20 \mathrm{~mA}$ tinvundiffused | 25 | . 045 |  |
| 22683 | SL35091G | Orange 3 mm | 16 mcd @ 10 mA | 16 | . 06 | . 04 |
| 22684 | HLMP3850 | Yellow 5 mm | 150 mcd @ 20mA untint/undiffused | 12 | . 075 | . 05 |
| 22685 | HLMP3950 | Green 5 mm | 150 mcd @ 20 mA untinvundiffused | 12 | . 075 | . 05 |
| Z2686 | TLMP7413 | Yellow 5 mm | 150 mcd @ 20mA untinvundiffused | 12 | . 075 | . 05 |
| 22687 | TLMP7513 | Green 5 mm | 150 mcd @ 20 mA untinv/undiffused | 12 | . 075 | . 05 |
| 22688 | TLMP7313 | HE Red 5mm | 150 mcd @ 20mA untinVundiffused | 12 | 075 | . 05 |
| 22689 | LST712L | Orange/Green 5 mm | 4mcd@20mA milky/diffused | 10 | . 09 | 06 |
| 72690 | XC5549R | Red 5mm | 4mcd@ 10mA tinted/undiffused | 30 | . 04 | . 025 |
| Z2694 | TLMP5401* | Yellow $5 \times 2 \mathrm{~mm}$ | 4 mcd @ 20mA tinted/undifusied | 15 | . 055 | 035 |



These excellent quality 1.5 mm Led's are housed in a $6.2 \times 5 \times 2.4 \mathrm{~mm}$ package with built in resistor for 5 V operation (add 470R resistor for 12 V ). Avallable in Green (DP \{1.73) or red (DP £1.16)
red (DP 1.16$)$
22135 Red.
22136 Green


72481 PC mntg packaged red LED - mounts at right angles to PCB. $10.5 \times 8 \times 3.9 \mathrm{~mm}$. LED is 3 mm . Ore type 9301A. Pack of $10 £ 1.00100+0.05: 1 k+0.04$
21934 Stackable red LED
$6 \times 3.5 \mathrm{~mm}$. Pack of 10 for E 1.00


Z1846 2 pairs of infra red emitter/ receiver SDP8406/8506 by Honeywell with comprehensive data. by Hon

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22122 Vactel Type VTL 10DI-IR emitter and detector can be removed trom the plastic housing if required. An extremely cheap version of TIL 100 /TIL38!
Pack of 8 .
$\varepsilon 1.00100+0.101 k+0.07$
Pack of 8 .............................. $\mathbf{E 1 . 0 0}$
$\mathbf{z 1 7 4 3}$ TIL 143 Opto slotted switch. $100+0.10 \quad 1 k+0.07$
These have cropped 21743 TIL143 Opto slotted switch. These ha leads and some are ex-equip, but are all working.
Price


72434 Dual 7 seg LED . ype TDDR5250 by TFK. Red common anode 13 mm diglt height. DP 1.14. Our spectal low price (we have 10000 to clear) 2 for $81.00 ; 100+0.25$; $1 k+0.18$
22435 Single 7 seg LED 10 mm high diglt. Type LN514RK. Common cathode. 4 for $£ 1.00 ; 100+5.15: 1 k+0.10$


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22362 MS 463 M 0.6" common cathode 4 alglt multiplexed digital clock use. Supplied with pin out. ONLY $£ 1.50$

21637 LCD Display - Direct drive $31 / 2$ digit with 'LO-BATT $1: 27 \mathrm{~mm}$ high digits Op voltage $4-12$ RMS if 32 Hz type Consumes only $25 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ with all segments on Trade price $£ 797$ each Supplied with data, but no edge connector Prices ... $\mathbf{E 1 . 0 0} 25+0.65100+0.50$

221194 digit LCD 12.5 mm high with $10 w$ oattery and clock s*mbol Complete with edge connector.
Prlce ............. ..... .............. $£ 1.5025+0.95100+0.65$
241158 digit 127 mm high LCD and holder These are 14 segment devices allowing alphanumeric display Normally 22432 LCD 8 diglt 10 mm high. Single sided 36 way edge connector. Only $£ 2.00100+1.00 \quad 1 k+0.80$

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22655D Clock or $31 / 2$ diglf LCD with 40 way connecior. $i 2.7 \mathrm{~mm}$ character height like H1331CC. DP 4.70. Our price $\mathbf{\Sigma 2} .00$


22658 LED module. An Interestling little PCB $50 \times 35 \mathrm{~mm}$ that hias mounted on it a 7 diglt 7 segment red dilsplay, and a plastic moulding under which are 3 surface mount LED's, one each red, yellow and green. On the back of the PCB is a SED 5031 M chip. Offered without info as present, although we are working on It. Belleved to have been the display on a moblle phone. Only 81 each

22659 LCD module. Probably Intended for use in mobile phones. Size $44 \times 28 \mathrm{~mm}$. One row of 10 digits + a load of Japanese characters. Uses $2 \times \mathrm{OKI}$ M5259 chips. No other data (yot) $\mathbf{\text { 2 }}$.50


2509616 character $\times 1$ line Very similar to our Z1814 but slightly larger character $-6.3 \times 315$ ( $8 \times 5$ dots). Type LCDM16166 by Refac. Supplied with data. Uses Hitachı HD44780A00 chip.
Price ..................... 8
25352D Densitron alphanumeric LCD module 40×1 character type H2572HT. Farnell's price 29.28 - Superdeal Price: $\mathbf{£ 9 . 9 5}$

25425D LCD module LMO68L 40×2. Vlewing area $154 \times 16 \mathrm{~mm}$ with bullt in driver. ©8.50

25423D Large LCD graphics module by Hltachl, type LM225 $640 \times 200$ dot $238 \times 108 \mathrm{~mm}$, overall size $270 \times 149 \mathrm{~mm}$. Looks the same as LM236 for which we have data (supplied). Bult in driver. Needs controller. $£ 40.00$

25424D Graphic module LCD by Hitachi type LM212. Vlowing area $240 \quad 26 \mathrm{~mm}$. Overall size $270 \quad 63 \mathrm{~mm}$. Similar to LM211 but narrower, for which we have data (supplle6). ©20

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This pack contains 134 fonts for the Adobe Type Manager. This pack requires Windows 3.

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£17.00
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SHAREWARE PACK 12 (Windows True Type Fonts 2)
This pack contains about 90 True Type fonts. This pack requires Windows 3.1.

SHAREWARE PACK 13 (Archivers)
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This pack contains a large number of file and program archivers (compressors). There are also many utilities specific to archivers and also some source code. Includes: Lha; Pkzip; Pak; Zoo; Arj; Splint; Zoox; Zzap; Looz; Shez; Zip Chunker; Zip-Kit 9; Arcmaster; Diet; Sllm; Pkzmenu; Noah; Lhmenu; Lhasrc; Lhx; Sez; Okumura; Ziptv; Nabob; Lzexe; Unizexe; Compack; and Pklite.

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C2.50
22310 AX400F-X091. PC mounting reed relay 10.5 mm high $\times 32.5 \times 13 \mathrm{~mm}$. 5 V coil SP break contact. $\quad \mathbf{5 0 p} 100+0.32$ $1 \mathrm{k}+0.25$
Z2164 PCB relay with SPCO contacts rated BA, 250ac. 24 V coil. Fuliy enclosed, size $27.5 \times 25.8 \times 11$ on 0.1 pitch, made by Zetter. Operating range $15 \mathrm{~V}-30 \mathrm{~V}$.

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25206 Super transformer for rallway and oner modellers Mains primary, secondary 16 V 3 A . Size $50 \times 55 \times 60 \mathrm{~mm}$ high 61 mm FC. Great value for money only $£ 3.00 \quad 100+2.00 \quad 1 \mathrm{k}$ 1.50

24369 Very useful 18VA mains transiormer with $0-6,0-6$ secondary, each at 9VA giving $6 \mathrm{~V} /{ }^{\prime} 3 \mathrm{~A}$ or 12 V /a $11 / 2 \mathrm{~A}$. PCB mounting $65>52 \times 28 \mathrm{~mm}$.
Excellent value
ع2.50
$100+140$
24212 Mains transformer - 0-110-120-240V primary secondary 9-0-9V 2A and 20V 2A. Size $100 \times 75 \times 60 \mathrm{~mm}$. Price
$\varepsilon 3.00$
22305 Neat 6VA PCB mounting low profile mains transformer $53 \times 44 \times 22 \mathrm{~mm}$. Primary $0-120 \mathrm{~V}$, $0-120 \mathrm{~V}$. Secondary $0-15 \mathrm{~V}, 0-15 \mathrm{~V}$, each at 0.2 A . DP $£ 8.33$
$52.50100+1.80$
22306 6VA PCB mounting mains transforme $43 \times 36 \times 36 \mathrm{~mm}$. Primary $0-120 \mathrm{~V}, 0-120 \mathrm{~V}$, Secondary $0-12 \mathrm{~V}$ $0-12 \mathrm{~V}$ each at 0.25A. DP $£ 6.09$.

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$\times 133$ C $\quad 1.2 \mathrm{~A} / \mathrm{H}$
$\mathrm{X} 134 \mathrm{D} \quad 1.2 \mathrm{~A} / \mathrm{H}$
$\begin{array}{lll}1120 & 0.85 & 0.62 \\ \mathbf{5 0} 99 & 0.72 & 0.55\end{array}$ £0 $99 \quad 0.72 \quad 0.55$ $\begin{array}{lll}£ 2.20 & 1.76 & 1.20\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{lll}\mathbf{£ 2} .30 & 1.82 & 1.23\end{array}$


## A123 NI-CAD CHARGER

Neat attractlve instrument will charge 4 different sizes of battery: AA, C, D and PP3 elther singly or in any combination. Charge tlme 7-8hrs for AA, 14-16 hrs for others. Test faclily 10 check If battery needs charging. Size $210 \times 100 \times 50 \mathrm{~mm}$ PRICES $6.9510+4.12$

## LITHIUM BATTERIES

The popular 'coin' type, now available at excellent prices. Individually blister packed Qty prices exclude VAT

## CR2016 $£ 1.0010+0.66$ CR2025 $£ 1.0010+0.66$ CR2032 $£ 1.0010+0.66$



2307 Lithium battery $1 / 2$ AA size, PC mounting $3.7 \mathrm{~V}, 0.85 \mathrm{Ah}$ ndividual $y$ boxed with instructions CP §457

Our price e2.50
21720 Lithium Manganese coin cell. Extremely thin, just $1.6 \mathrm{~mm} \times 20 \mathrm{~mm}$ dia. model 2016. Normally f 1.67


72450 Tadiran AA size battery 3.6 V PC mounting. Date code 6/89. DP on these is 5.17. Our price $\$ 2.00 \quad 25+1.50 \quad 100+$ 1.20 22452 Lithlum battery - Inorganic type by Tadiran, type TL5104. A size, 3.6V PC tabs. Date code 06/88 £1.70

Z2453 As above, but type SL360, date code 4/87. £1.50


22451 Tadiran 0.5AA stze battery, 3.6V PC mnig. Date code 8/86. DP 4.58 Our price $£ 1.7525+1.35100+1.05$

22719 Lithium battery. Varta type 6201 3V 1500 mAh PC mntg 60 mm long $\times 11.2 \mathrm{~mm}$ dia. DP $6.00+$ Our Price $£ 2.00$

22720 Lithium battery Vidor G06/53. 3V 1400 mAh PC mntg 50 mm long $\times 15 \mathrm{~mm}$ dia. Individually boxed. DP $6.00+$ Our Price $\mathbf{c 2 . 0 0}$
$Z 2721$ Lithium battery 11 mm long $\times 12.5 \mathrm{~mm}$ dia. 3V 160 mAh PC mntg. DP 3.73. Our Price $\mathbf{1 1 . 2 0}$

Add VAT to quantity prices


22349 Nlcad battery packs. Brand new. Intended for use in
 20nephones 16.1 mm dla $\times 28 \mathrm{~mm}$ in a plastlc housing easily 0.45 Ah , size 16.1 tag connections. DP 89.92 removed. Solder tag connections.
Our price $£ 2.00100+1.00 \quad 1 \mathrm{k}+0.70$


24216 Much sought after 4.8 V 150mA batteries with PCB mounting tags on 25 mm pitch. Battery size $25 \times 16$ dia. Ideal for paralleling. Some corrosion.
Prices reduced to


1830 Satt 40 RF310 back up Nicad battery PC mounting on $0 \times 225 \mathrm{~mm}$ centres. Rated 3.6 V . $10 \mathrm{mAH}(20 \mathrm{~mA})$. Overall aize $76 \times 28 \times 8 \mathrm{~mm}$
Price


24150 AA Ni-cads at a price never betore seen!. Pack of 8 in a bugh plastic case (ex-mobile radio) $56 \times 63 \times 33 \mathrm{~mm}$. Either use as 10V battery pack or remove and use cells individually. Please ote these batteries are ex-equip and may have damaged cases, and the odd cell within may be faulty. Only $\mathbf{£ 1 . 6 0}$ per pack; $25+$ 1.10; $100+0.80$

34149 As above, but $84 \times 66 \times 33 \mathrm{~mm}$. Cells are same diameter as AA, but 73 mm tong. Each cell rated 1.25 V 900 mA . $\mathbf{\Sigma 3 . 5 0}$


25329 A set of 5 NI -Cad button cells 23diax5mm jolned together In series in an L shape (easily split into singles) giving out $6 \vee$ @ 250 mA . Removed from new equipment. DP E4. Our Price $11.50 ; 100+0.80$.

$270092.4 \mathrm{~V} 4 \mathrm{~A} ~ 2$ cell ' D ' size nicad stack by SAFT Only $\$ 5.00$
29131 12V 24Ah sealed lead acid battery by Dryfit. Not new, but only used for about a year and kept carefully maintained. Size $125 \times 166 \times 175 \mathrm{~mm}$. DP 59.33 Our Price $\mathbf{£ 3 0 . 0 0}$

## 1 Ast CRE ENWELD ${ }^{27}$ Park Road Southampton S01 3TB pring Supplement



AA12531 Swith mode PSU by Astec partlally cased $160 \times 104 \times 45 \mathrm{~mm}$ overall with $160 \times 100 \mathrm{~mm}$ Eurocard PCB. Inputs and outputs are on colour coded flying leads. Input $115 / 230 \mathrm{~V} 50 / 60 \mathrm{~Hz}$. Outputs: $+5 \mathrm{~V} @ 5 \mathrm{~A}:+12 \mathrm{~V} @ 0.15 \mathrm{~A}$. Total vattage 50 W .
£6.95; $25+5.43 ; 100+4.53$
Converston Kll
K725 This klt converts the AA12531 PSU Into a much more versatlle supply, giving +5V @ 2.5A; +12V @2A; -12V @ 0.1 A and $-5 \mathrm{~V} @ 0.55 \mathrm{~A}$. Complete set of parts and full instructions £3.50 instructions only (K726) £1.00


BM41012 Superb switch mode PSU made by Astec. Enclosed case $175 \times 136 \times 65 \mathrm{~mm}$ with swltched and fused IEC mains Inlet. $160 \times 80 \mathrm{~mm}$ PCB with output plns extended to external connector. Input $115 / 230 \mathrm{~V} 50 / 60 \mathrm{~Hz}$. Outputs: $+5 \mathrm{~V} @ 3.75 \mathrm{~A}$; $+12 \mathrm{~V} @ 1.5 \mathrm{~A} ;-12 \mathrm{~V} @ 0.4 \mathrm{~A}$. Total wattage 65 W £14.95; $25+11.70 ; 100+9.75$


Z9109 Although these PSU's are boxed and look in excellent condition. we don't belleve they are brand new However they are all full spec working unlts made by Source Electronics Lid. model HSE250-30 and offered at a cost substantially below the market price. The unts are fully cas $\theta$ d and measure $380 \times 125 \times 65 \mathrm{~mm}$. Standard mains input A. Maximul outputs: +5 V i $30 \mathrm{~A},+12 \mathrm{~V}$ @ 8A and -12 V @ A. Maximum total wattage is 250 watts. These wolld cost around $£ 200$ from a distributor - Our price £24.95.


## Farnell NO55P Power Supplles

We've taken dellvery of these popular suppiles from several different sources, and now have the following models avallable. All are swltch mode $115 / 230 \mathrm{~V}$ Input rated 55 watts max. Size of cased units $182 \times 112 \times 55 \mathrm{~mm}$, uncased size $160 \times 100 \times 40 \mathrm{~mm}$.

Z5304 Model 326. cased. Outputs: +5V 3A; +12V 0.1A; -12 V 0.1 A. Price $£ 12.95$

Z5334 Model 314. Outputs: $+5 \mathrm{~V} 3.5 \mathrm{~A} ;+12 \mathrm{~V} 3 \mathrm{~A}-12 \mathrm{~V} 1 \mathrm{~A}$. Price $\{14.95$

## SWITGH MODE POWER SUPPLY BONANZA

## 7 different models, all offering excellent value for money!

Z5504 197×98mm PCB 50 watt unit: +5V 5A;+12V 1A; -5V 0.5A; -12V 1A. £9.95

Z5503 126×76mm PCB. 30 watt unit: +5V 4A; -5V 1A. £4.95

Z5505 $205 \times 102 \times 45 \mathrm{~mm}$ uncased unit rated 120 W . $+5 \mathrm{~V} 6 \mathrm{~A} ;+12 \mathrm{~V} 2 \mathrm{~A} ;-12 \mathrm{~V} 1 \mathrm{~A}$. Also has a number of leads attached, one with a 15 way D socket, and a small PCB with LM339 and other bits on it. $£ 14.95$

25506 Cased unit $205 \times 112 \times 58 \mathrm{~mm}$ by Source Electronics Lid, model HSC $90-3090$ watts. +5 V 10A; +15V 1.5A; -15V 1.5A £12.95

Z5507 Cased unit $266 \times 126 \times 65 \mathrm{~mm}$ by Hitron, model no HSC125-44. 125 watts: +5 V 8 A ; +24 V 2.5 A ; +12V 1.5A; -12V 0.5A. £17.95

Z5508 Cased unit for monitor $205 \times 130 \times 60 \mathrm{~mm}$ by Source Electronics Ltd, model HSL80-47. Rated 80 walts. $+70 \mathrm{~V} 0.9 \mathrm{~A} ;+6.3 \mathrm{~V} 0.7 \mathrm{~A} ;+15 \mathrm{~V} \quad 1 \mathrm{~A} ;-15 \mathrm{~V} 0.4 \mathrm{~A}$. £16.95

29133 Cased unit $380 \times 128 \times 75 \mathrm{~mm}$ rated 500 watts by Source Electronics Ltd, model SAX500-02. +28V 16A; +5V 6A, also + and - sense. Super robust unit. £39.95


Two versions of this usetul fully screened, cased PSU which is $207 \times 65 \times 50 \mathrm{~mm}$ and made by PGC. IEC mains inleVoutlet on one end of case, outputs on llying leads. These have been removed from pub/club gaming machines for upgrading - all are tested working units. It's useful shape makes it ideal for slotting into computer cases etc.
29112 Outputs $+5 \mathrm{~V} 5.5 \mathrm{~F} ;+12 \mathrm{~V} 1.5 \mathrm{~A}_{i}-5 \mathrm{~V} 0.3 \mathrm{~A}_{;}-12 \mathrm{~V} 0.3 \mathrm{~A}$ \& $£ 11.95100+$ 5.50
${ }_{6.00}^{29113}$ Outputs $+5 \mathrm{~V} 5 \mathrm{~A} ;+12 \mathrm{~V} 2 \mathrm{~A} ;-5 \mathrm{~V} 0.3 \mathrm{~A} ;-12 \mathrm{~V} 0.3 \mathrm{~A} £ 12.95 ; 00+$


29114 This is a super unit $168 \times 110 \times 50 \mathrm{~mm}$ in its steel case Again, removed from gaming machines and tested before despatch. Std mains input. Outputs: $+5 \mathrm{~V} 3 \mathrm{~A} ;+12 \mathrm{~V} 3 \mathrm{~A} ;-5 \mathrm{~V} 05 \mathrm{~A}$ : +12 V 0.3 A . Excellent value at
£12.50
$100+$ 5.75


25258 Switch mode PSU made by Tamura Corporation. Board $195 \times 100 \mathrm{~mm}$ with outputs on PCB pins. Input $120 / 240 \mathrm{~V}$ ac; Outputs: +5 V @ 7.5A; +12V © 1.25A (2A peak): -12V @ 0.1 A. All this for Just £12.95

25410 Skynet boxed unlt $200 \times 108 \mathrm{~mm}$ PC8 with flying leads or input (115/230V) and outputs - $5 \mathrm{~V} @ 7 \mathrm{~A}: 12 \mathrm{~V}$ @ 3.5 A : 12V@0.75A £14.95

## DC-DC CONVERTERS



25406D High efflelency step down power regulator module by SGS. This is a GSR400 type, as listed by Farnell at £41.11 each. Output is 7V @ 4A from a DC input of 10-46V. Possible uses include battery charger, or put two together and use 24 V lorry battery to power car equlpment. Our special price - just \&5.75 each.


Two 5 watt regulators PCB mounting. DC-DC converters These are encapsulated in a $51 \times 51 \times 10 \mathrm{~mm}$ package with output pins on 0.1 pitch. These are ex-equip but guaranteed. D 1059.75 .
Z1893 Input $48 \mathrm{~V}(43-52 \mathrm{~V})$, output 5V 1A.
Price
Price.
c2.50 $100+1.00$
21894 input 48 V (43-52V), output 12 V 420 mA
$\mathbf{E 2 . 5 0} 100+1.00$


2660 Astec switch mode PSU type AA7271. This small PCB just $50 \times 50 \mathrm{~mm}$ will accept 8 -24V Input and give a stable 5 V dc overioad protection, thermal cut-out olrcult provides current overioad protection, thermal cut-out and exceilent filtering. Offered at a remarkably low price. Price 55.00

## Z8E90 DC-DC CONVERTER BOARD

These panels $220 \times 195$ require 50V DC input for 5 V 19.5A output. Inputs and outputs on DIN41612 connector. These brand new panels made by STZ are now being offered at Just: Prices 57.95 25+5.20 100 +3.89

Z2646 Batac BC345 $76 \times 50 \times 25 \mathrm{~mm}$ with solder tags one end Unusual one, thls. Input 48 V 2 ADC , output 46 V 2.7 A AC 60 Hz . $\mathbf{\Sigma 5 . 0 0}$

## Power Supply Parcel

K506 This one's an absolute gem! Contains a selection of conventional and switch mode power supplies, including AA12531, Z660 Z5307/ 8 Z5226/7 + lots more! Parcel of 10 originally selling for $£ 40+$
PRICE E25.00

## SAM POWER SUPPLY $\varepsilon$ MODULATOR



29111 Never heard of the SAM Coupe Computer? Well, the holding company SAMCO went bust, and now someone is trying to resurrect it - but the liquidators were anxious to tum piles of stock into cash, so we purchased all remaining stocks of the Astec made PSU's and can offer them at an amazing price! Inside the $170 \times 150 \times 70 \mathrm{~mm}$ grey and black vented case is a linear power supply ( 240 V ac in $5 \mathrm{~V} 2 \mathrm{~A} \& 12 \mathrm{~V} 0.1 \mathrm{~A} \mathrm{dc}$ out) PLUS power supply ( 240 Vac in, SV 2 A \& 12 V 0.1 A cc out) PLUS UM1286 UHF colour TV + sound modulator! There are 3 leads 2.2 m phono to co-ax; 2 m mains \& 1.9 m output lead fitted with a 6
pin DIN plug. All brand new stock. All this for just
£9.95
SPECTRUM +3 PSU


Brand new product - our scoop purchase of these linear power units enable you to buy at less than one third the normal price! Attractively cased in a black vented plastic case $155 \times 102 \times 70 \mathrm{~mm}$, they have a 1.3 m mains lead and an output lead 2 m long fitted with a 6 pin DIN plug. Input: $220 / 240 \mathrm{~V} \mathrm{ac}$. Output: +5 V @ 2 A ; +12V@ 0.7A; -12V @ 50mA. 29110

# $\mathbf{E 9 . 9 5}{ }^{10}$ 

Z5404 Stabilized power supply panel $140 \times 85 \mathrm{~mm}$. AC Input is rectifled and smoothed and is taken via a couple of regulator translstors and a relay to a 12 way terminal block. Probably 24V. Only $£ 2.25$

$\mathbf{2 5 4 3 9}$ Nice chunky 'plug-in' power supply ( 240 V mains). Well made unit $85 \times 68 \times 60 \mathrm{~mm}$. Complete with 2 m lead with 2.5 mm power plug. Output 13V dc @ 1.5A. Ideal as battery charger et.c Superdeal Price
$54-95$
$100+2.40$

25278 Plug in wall type 24 V ac 100 mA output on 2 m lead ع1.75 $100+1.10$

Z5279 Plug in wall type switchable non-regulated 3-6-8V 100 mA . Comes complete with multiway reverslble splder fead (woth 98p on Its own!) Special Price $22.00 \quad 100+1.25$

Z5413 Plugg in power supply giving 7.5 V 600 mA on the end of a 2 m lead with a 2.5 mm power plug. $\mathrm{E2.50} 100+1.80$

2975 PSU Malns Input via 13A bullt In plug. Output 14V 600 mA AC. Case $92 \times 57 \times 52 \mathrm{~mm} \mathbf{~} \mathbf{5 3 . 5 0}$

25292D Power one' power supply. Conventional unlt, 120/240V Input, output 15V © 1.5A fully stablilzed. Part enclosed size $123 \times 102 \times 54 \mathrm{~mm}$. Comprahensive data suppiled \$10.00

Z5293D Power One' power supply. Conventlonal unlt. $120 / 240 \mathrm{~V}$ Input, outputs +5 V @ 2 A ; + or -12 V @ 0.4 A : -5 V @ 0.4 A . Each output uses a 723 regulator and has a preset for adjus ing votage. With data $£ 14.50$

The other liem is a high qually 12 V 2 A power supply kit with current IImit protection. This comprises a ready bullt PCB you Just need to add the power transisiors supplled. It comes with a full clrcult and instructions, but you'll need a 16 V transformer and a heal sink. Order Code Z5298 Price $£ 3.50$

Z5413 KRP PCB mounting power source $90 \times 65 \times 23 \mathrm{~mm}$. 220 V around 30.00 Our price $\mathbf{\Sigma 5 . 0 0}$

Also a wide range of regular power supplies from $£ 3.20$ for a basic plug-in $3-12 \mathrm{~V} 300 \mathrm{~mA}$ unit to a $0-24 \mathrm{~V} 5 \mathrm{~A}$ bench supply at $£ 90$. Details in main Catalogue

## KITS-KDTS-KKI

## CARALARM RT

K693 A sophisticated little circuit built on to a screen printed, etched, drilled and tinned PCB $75 \times 35 \mathrm{~mm}$. Ideal kit for the less experienced constructor. All parts and full instructions included.

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K647 9V FM transmitter kit. PCB $58 \times 21 \mathrm{~mm}$. All parts and Instructions to build thls transmitter that operates cn 88108 MHz and has a range of up to 1 mlle . Powered by PP3 bartrery. $\mathbf{~} 6.95$


K648 Sub min FM transmitter. PCB only $33 \times 15 \mathrm{~mm}$. All parts K648 Sub min FM ransmiter. PCB only $33 \times 15 \mathrm{~mm}$. Al par is
and Instructions to bulld this transmiter that operates on 88108 MHz . Powered by a single watch cell (supplled). $\mathbf{~ 6} .95$
These kits are not licensable in the UK

UGKT UP YOUR LAYOUT
K692 Super deal for mo rdellers - we supply a malns power supply, 100 miniature lamps for wiring Into your rallway layout or dolls house, and 100 m of flex. Clicults and detalls of how to wirs up the lamps in serles/parallel are prived. Everyhing for jusi £19.95


MODEL RALLWAY CONTROL AND SWITCHING UNIT This ready buill versatile plece of equipment aliows:

* Full for ward and reverse control of tralns using regulated and smoothed supply (1.5A)*
Requires 3 components (supplled) to be soldered to each panel.
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A malns powered panel $185 \times 105 \mathrm{~mm}$ contains all electronics All voltages are fully stabilized and both Input and output are fused.

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Supplied uncased with clrcuit and wiring dlagram. (SAE for free copy.)

Sulable black ABS plastic case $\mathbf{\Sigma 3 . 5 0}$
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Z4190 Disk drive power supply kit Ideal for powering single $3.5^{\prime \prime}$ or $5.25^{\prime \prime}$ drive. Mains input, stabilized smoothed outputs, 12 V 1 A and 5 V IA. Simple, easy to assemble kit with full instructions, a an excellent price $\$ 5.95$

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z5463 Clearout of brand new 2732-20 EPROM's. All in original tubes. Just look at these prices!
$75 p$ each; Tube of $15 £ 7.50+$ VAI;
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Extreme lightness and compactness, combined with simplicity of operation makes the C-Scope CS550 a worthy companion offering a combination of quality and exceptional value.

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The C-Scope CS770 has always been a firm favourite wiih metal detectorists because of its excellent performance for a reasonable price. The variable discrimination permits the user to select the desired level of
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## SWTCHMODE POWER SUPPLY HANDBOOKK탠um



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Ewitch mode power supplies have a reputation for being complex. difficult to design and to work with. Thls book peels away much of the mystery by explaining the design principles and function of every part of a supply, from input filters to the arcane rite of high frequency transformer design. Mathematics Is kept to a necessary minimum at all stages. Also Included are some very usatul complete power supply designs. This is an extremely heipful text if you are considering designing your own swlich mode or are In the business of repaling them.

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Similar to the above text except that linear power supplies are covered in more detall. Thls book focus on more of an overview of technlques, components used, now devices such as the IGBT, also Included are example drcults that can be adapted for many designs. Excellent reference work for engineers, techniclans and hobbylsts.

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Dictionary of Computer Terms

## GREENWELD ${ }^{27}$ Park Road Southampton 5013 3TB Spring Supplement '93 <br> 

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$150 \times 240 \mathrm{~mm}, 500$ pages, hard cover, publlcation date 1990. Julio Sanchez and Marla Canton.
£44.95 Order Code: MH114
If you have ever written programs on any of the 18M PC/PS2 series computers, you will probably have noticed a lack of Instant reference texts. This book is the answer. It contains a wealth of technical data, subroutines, system descriptions, processor and coprocessor data including the 486. video havdware, etc. Everything a PC programmer will need to know.

## w-DOS Batch File Programming 3rd Edition

$190 \times 240 \mathrm{~mm}, 400$ pages, hard cover, Includes software publication date 1890.
Ranny Richardson.
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Batch file routines tend to be a rather neglected area of sottware as far as most PC users are concerned. Thls book gous along way In redressing batch file under utlisation, by provided many usefut ulilities on a $5.25^{\circ}$ disk and a clear gulde to ereative batch fle programming. A batch file need not longer be an Irksome litte plece of Code, one has to write to run various programs; but a usetul utility program in its own right.

| MS-DOS One Step at a Tlme |  |  | BP327 <br> N.Kantaris <br> 128 Pages |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
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PRICE: $\mathbf{E 7 9 . 9 5}$


X424 Selector switch for changing TV input signal. Inpu via co-axial sockets. Output via 1 m flying lead. Fixing by screws or adhesive


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Connects up to:
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CAMCORDER LENS
ing 0.6 X Precision ground reversible camcorder lens providing $0.6 X$
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caps. F46 to M49 adaptor ing and leatherette pouch. Lens diameter: 40 mm .


CAMCORDER LENS KIT
Two precision ground camcorder lenses providing 1.6 telephoto and 0.5 X wide angle magnification. F46, 52 mm and 57 threads on each lens. Supplied with lens caps and leatherette pouch. Lens diameter: 56 mm .
Price ....................................... £49.95 2+ 32.47


T1280 VIDEO ENHANCER/AUDIO MIXER
A 3-channel stereo video sound mixer with a bullt-In Video anhancer, specificlally designed for video dubbling. The audlo input from the cameraNCR, mic and music sources can be mixed at will, with overall output conrolled by a master silder. The video enhancer will clean up the plcture on older recordings. Powered by an external 12Vdc power supply (not supplied). Complete with all connecting leads and adaptors. PRICES: Ú39.95 5+ 24.79


MX350 3-channel portable stereo video sound mixer. Inputs from camera audio, stereo microphone and music source. Output to video recorder controlled by master volume. Earphone monitor socket. Powered by internal battery or external power supply. Supplied complete with 4 connecting leads and a 6.35 mm stereo adaptor.
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130 H VIDEO PROCESSOR
A compact and styllsh video processor for miling down video and audto signals with a varlety of additional effocts. The processor has two AV Input channeis with phono and S-VHS inputs and two AV outpuis with phone and S-VHS outputs. In addition two mic inputs and a stereo music Input are provided. The controls over the output mix are:
Mic, musle and AV sound levels with masier level
VIdeo stabllity, tint and colour controls
*Video enhance and detall controls

- Channels A to $\mathbf{B}$ audlo and video crossfade
- Video stgnal Insert
- Colour fade in and out with duration control
- AV fade with duration control. Fade 10 black or white
- Tint Invout control linked to level fader
- Plcture wipe facility with invout control

Operating system PAL
Video Inputs/outputs IVp-p,75R
Fade duration 1 10 6 seconds
Power 12Vdc 300ma
Dims $355 \times 220 \times 61 \mathrm{~mm}$
PRICES: $£ 199.952+154.10$

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## 

WHY DO YOU NEED A BATTERY DISCHARGER/TESTER FOR YOUR VIDEO POWER PACK?

You probably don't if you've never experienced one of the following symptoms:

1. Premature loss of power once too often when shooting Videos.
2. Missed the scene that you've been longing for, Just because of a dead battery.
3. Getting less and less running time out of your batteries 4. Walted hours for a battery to recharge, but only found out thatif lasted only for a fow minutes.
4. Spending too much meney in buying new batteries.
5. Carying more batteries than you needed because none of them was in peak condition.

These common battery problerns originate from what is called "MEMORY EFFECT", which is coused by repeated incomplate discharge/recharge cycles. What really happens is that when a Nickel Cadmium battery is repeatedly recharged without being fully discharged, the battery's capacity to accept a full charge diminishes with each recharge cycie. Hence the resultant operating time becomes shorter and shorter. The solution to ints problem is to always fully discharge your camcorder batterles before charge. The "NICADOY" does this safely, quickly and completely. It revitalizes camcorder batterios suffiering form the "MEMORY EFFECT" symptoms. With the -NICADOY" you can also partorm checks on your battery packs any time, anywhere. So no more contusion trying to ingure out which battery has been charged and which one hasn'l.
UNIVERSAL CHARGER/DISCHARGER
TOSOE


Introduction
The EL300 is a dual purpose camcorder battery fast charger and battery retresher, with both functions carrled ou automatically. Once the camcorder battery has been inseried into the EL300 it will be discharged to a preset level pitor to recharging. This process prevents the memory effect present In ni-cad batterles which significantly reduces the us eful life of batterles.
The EL300 may also be used as a power supply adaptor for powering camcorders. instructions for use

1. The EL300 requires 12-16Vdc to operate. This can be provided from a car cigar lighter socket using the lead provided or from an external adaptor (not supplled). When using an external adaptor switch the EL300 Into normal charge mode, the quick charge mode will damage the adaptor
2. Select the approprlate voltage for the battery being charged.
3. Insert the battery into the correct place in the carriage, according to battery type and contact positlon.
4. Select quick or normal charge mode. in normal charge mode a 1000 mAh battery will be charged in approximately 1 hour, in quick charge mode this time is reduced to approximately 20 minutes
5. Apply power to the EL300, battery charging will begin muct ind touch the "retresher start" panel.
When using the EL300 as a power supply
6. Select the approprlate output voltage socket. Polarty or entation should match that of your equipment.
WARNING Incorrect voliage or polarity ortentation may damage your equipment.
7. Power up the EL300 from your car cigar lighter socket using the lead provided.
8. Switch on your equipment.

## Specification

Operating voltage
Charge current
Refresh current
Battery types
Supply voltage
Supply current
Dimensions
Price .......

12-16Vdc (car battery) or 12 Vdc 800 mA adaptor. Normal 1A, Qulck 2A. 0.5 A $6 \mathrm{~V}, 7.2 \mathrm{~V}, 9.6 \mathrm{~V} \mathrm{Ni}$-Cad battery pack 6V. 7.2V.9.6V 1.4A max $160 \times 80 \times 43 \mathrm{~mm}$
£19.95 $5+13.96$


TOBOB CAMCORDER BATTERY CHARGER KIT
A universal camcorder battery charger/power supply kit consisting of the charger, cigar Hjhter socket connecting lead. camcorder power lead, 4 adaptor plugs and a pouch Compatible with the majority of $6,7,2$ and 8 V camcorde batterles.
PRICE: $\mathbf{1 2 2 . 9 5} 5+14.20$


TO\&O CAMCORDER BATTERY AUTOCHARGER
A universal camcorder battery aunocharger capable of charging a wde range of batterles $6,7.2$ and 9 V . To batterises can be cosecutivaly charged in approximately 3 hours elther at home via the AC acdaptor or in the car va the OC power lead. Auto cut-off prevents overcharging.
Charging method: Constant voltage with current IImitung
Charge current Charge current $6 \mathrm{~V}, 7,2 \mathrm{~V}, 9,6 \vee \mathrm{~N}$-cad pack ( Sony NP-22,NP-55.NP-77, JVC and Olympus typlcal) Operating voltage $\quad 220 / 240 \mathrm{Vac}$ or $12-15 \mathrm{Voc} 1.5 \mathrm{~A}$ Dims $\quad 153 \times 150 \times 63 \mathrm{~mm}$ PRICE: E44.95 $^{3+26.77}$

## NEW CAMCORDER

## BATTERIES

Top quality Uniross rechargeable Ni -cad and sealed lead acid camcorder batteries for all popular models.


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PRICE: $830.00 \quad 5+22.25$


VP30


VP22H
VP30 12V 2300 mAh sealed lead acid
PRICE: £31.00 5+23.50
VP22H 6V 1700mAh NI-Cad
PRICE: £27.50 5+21.00


VP522 12V 1500 mAh Ni-Cad
PRICE: £40.00 5+29,95
VP520 12V 1500mAh NI-Cad
PRICE: $£ 45.005+34.95$
We have a sheet available showing which model takes which battery.


TOssB TRIPOD
Table top carncorder/camera tripod. Fully adjustable for angle Folds down to a small size for storage in the camcorder bag. PRICE: $£ 10.95$ 5+7.12


## TO90 TRIPDD

Camera/vieo tripod with sturdy 3-section legs with collect locks, 2-way pan-head with lift elevator and rubber shoes for non-silp. scuff tree use
Helght $45.5+(1.16 \mathrm{~m})$
Packed helght $15+(0.38 \mathrm{~mm})$
Welght 0.75 kg
PPRICE: $\varepsilon 12.95$ 10+8.42
Add VAT to quantity prices


TOSOD TRIPOD
Vieo tripod with sturdy 3-section legs and additional radlal brackets for greater stablilty. The helght precision 2 -way panhead is fluld damped and Incorporates two lateral safety hooks, a quick release platform and spirlt level. The gear drlven centre colurnn has a friction controlled action and folding crank. Adjustable, splked feet.
Helght $61+(1.55 \mathrm{~m})$
Packed helght $24.5+(0.62 \mathrm{~m})$
Welght 1.8 kg
PRICE: £44.95 5+29.22
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# 27 ) CR Spring Supplement ring 



PIR SPOTLIGHT
Twin spotight PIR security lamp. The PIR detector and the lampholders fully adjustable for aim. The detector contalns a photo cell which prevents daylight operation.

| Sensor range | $110^{\circ}$ tan shaped. 20m |
| :--- | :--- |
| Max load | 300 W incandescent |
| Auto reset time | 5 sec 1018 min (adjustable) |
| Power | $220 / 240 \mathrm{Vac} 50 \mathrm{~Hz}$ |
| Price ................................... $£ 17.95 \quad 6+11.67$ |  |



INFRA RED SECURITY
HALOGEN FLOODLIGHT
MS900 Superbly styled floodlight with low power consumption. Yhe high intensity halogen tube with a 2000 hour life provides much more Illumination than conventional food lamps.

Decorative wall mountable styling.
Simple hard wiring installation.
Seperate angle adjustment between motion
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Detection pattern: $50 \times 60 f$ and $100^{\circ}$
Mde temperature operating range $-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to $+50^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.
Daylght sensor for auto shut off during daytime. Manual override with existing wall switch.
110/220/240V ac operation,
Supplled with comprehensive instructions.
Price


## L140 AUTOSENSOR LANTERN

Polycarbonate bodled outdoor coach lamp with a bullt-in dayilght sensor which allows the lamp to switch on at dusk and off at dawn. Protected against weather to IP23. Maximum bulb size: 60W.
Height 360 mm
Power 220/240Vac 50 Hz
PRICES: $£ 14.9510+10.05$


141 PIR COACH LAMP
Polycarbonate bodied outdcor coach lamp with a bullt-In PIR atector. The detector is fully adjustabie for angle and has on' time adjustment. A photo-cell prevents daylight operation Protected agalnst weather to IP23. Maximum bulb size 60 W . Hekght 330 mm
Power 220/240Vac 50 Hz
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## Add VAT tc quantity prices



PIR LIGHT/ALARM
L122L
Battery powered PIR light/alarm In a compact. free standing or wall mounting case. A sllide switch on the side controls the function of the unit between manual on. off, auto light and auto light plus atarm. A light sersor prevents dayight operation.
Detection range
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { Power } & 4 \times \text { C cells } \\ \text { Dims } & 138 \times 113 \times 65 \mathrm{~mm} \\ \text { Price } . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . ~ & \Sigma 12.95 \\ & 5+8.42\end{array}$

## NIGHT SECURITY SENSOR



ES36 This PIR (passive infra-red) detector reacts instantly to body heat and will activate lighting up to 600 W when any person enters the detected zone. After a preset time it turns off. Detection range $110^{\circ} \times 12 \mathrm{~m}$ long. Mounting angle adjustable $15^{\circ}$ from vertical and $\pm 20^{\circ}$ horizontal. Lighting adjustable from 5 secs to 10 minutes. Daytime lighting controllable. 230 V operation, 600 watts max. Size $110 \times 75 \times 85 \mathrm{~mm}$.
Prices .......................................... £29.95 $10+23.32$


NIGHT SECURITY SENSOR
Swivel mounted passive infra red sensor for the detection of booy heat. The mounting arrangement allows horizontal and veritcal swivel of $180^{\circ}$, aliowing difflcult to reach areas to be covered by the beams. A bult-in adjustable photo detector covered by the bears. A bulit in adustabled on alerion. prevents daylight operation. Adjustable timed on period Provided with a walk test LED.
Detection range $\quad 200^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (fan shaped) 15 m Auto reset time $\quad 9$ secs to 10 mins (adjustable) Lighting load

2 kW incandescent.
1 kW fluor escent
Power
$\mathbf{8 2 6 . 9 5} 6+17.52$


PORTABLE PIR ALARM
F601B
Pocket size portable PIR detector with dual function sounder: two tone chime as an annunciator or a loud 90dB warble as an alarm, Self-contalned operation frm $3 \times A A$ batterles (not supplied), Iow battery is Indicated by an LED in the front panel. Supplied with ball-swivel wall mounting.
Detection ranga $\quad 8 \mathrm{~m}(25 \mathrm{ft})$
Detection angle $\quad 80^{\circ}$ horlzontal $\times 20^{\circ}$ vertical
Power $3 \times A A$ batterles
Exit delay time 30 seconds
Al.to reset time 1 minute
Dins $\quad 105 \times 68 \times 44 \mathrm{~mm}$
Price ....................................... £10.95 5+7.12


PIR ALARM
F601A
Self contalned portable/wall mounting PIR sensor and alarm IR sensor has a $88^{\circ}$ detection arc with a 10 m detection range. The bult-|n powerful plezo siren sounds on detection. Intelligent waik test and mode verification functions. User programmable securty code. Operates from $3 \times A A$ batterles (rot supplled).
(not supplled)
Power
Power
Dims
Price
$88^{\circ} .10 \mathrm{~m}, 12$ beams in 2 layers $3 \times$ AA batterles
$115 \times 70 \times 36 \mathrm{mmF} 601 \mathrm{~B}$ SC906 $\mathrm{C28.95} \quad 3+18.82$

## CREENWELD ${ }^{27}$ Park Road Southampton SO1 3TB Spring Supplem Tel fo703223353 Fax (107031) '939307



F853 PIR ALARM KIT
A compact kit, Ideal for small home Instaliations, garages. caravans, trucks, trallers, boats etc. The ktt contalns a combined PIR and alarm hox, 3 magnettic reed switches. compact siren and power supply. instruction manual and fixing crews suppiled. An alkaline r"P3 can be added for power fallure protection $\quad 100 \mathrm{~m}^{2}$ $\begin{array}{lr}\text { Exit delay } & 100 \mathrm{~m}^{2} \\ \text { Entry delay } & 2.5 \text { mins }\end{array}$ Entry delay
Alarm reset time $\quad 12 \mathrm{~V} \mathrm{dc}$ or AC adaptor
Power
$\begin{array}{lr}\text { Power } & 12 \mathrm{~V} \text { dc or } \mathrm{AC} \text { adaptor } \\ \text { Size } & 140 \times 90 \times 56 \mathrm{~mm} \text { (alarm panel/PIR) }\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{lll}\text { SIZO } \\ \text { PRICES: } & \text { 29.95 } & 3+31.89\end{array}$


OOOR ANNUNCIATOR
T072B
Self contained wall mounting or free standing door annunctator. Requires no external contacts, switches reflectors etc. Two tone chime sounds three times when the beam is broken. Requires tour AA batteries (not supplied).
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { Sensing distance } & 5-7 \mathrm{~m} . \\ \text { Dims } & 150 \times 92 \times 67 \mathrm{~mm}\end{array}$
Price
$\mathbf{8 6 . 9 5 \quad 1 0 + 4 . 5 1}$
Add VAT to quantity prices


MISSAGE RECORD AND PLAYBACK
TOT2A ANNUNCIATOR
A stand alone PIR message annunclator on which your own message, up to 20 secs long can be recordecionto a microchip and played back every tine someone is detected by the P|R. Message can be slowed or speeded as required, and can be overwitten at any Ilme. but will be losi when power is switched oft. Size $136 \times 92 \times 46 \mathrm{~mm}$. Power $4 \times A A$ cells or extemal 6 V PRICES: $229.954+19.70$

* Autcmatically switches light on when you enter the room, and off when you leave.
* Flashes the lights on and off rapidly when an intruder is detected.
* Switches the lights on and off at random periods while you are out or on holiday.
* Also acts as a conventional light switch. F602 The PIR1000 is an automatic, hands free light swich it turns the light on automatically when you enter the room by detecting you body heat and comparing it

ryom the light will gradually dim over 12 seconds and finally switch off. This avoids any potential hazard from the room suddenly being plunged into darkness. In addition to its main function as an automatic light switch the PIR1000 effers. manual override, in which it will perform like any croinary light switch, security function in which it will act as an alarm, flashing the light on and off and auto function which will act as a burglar deterrent, switching the light on and oft at random tumes for random periods, simulating cocupancy of the house
The PIR1000 offers convenience, safety, energy savings and security in one package. Frice
£27.95 5+21.24

A. 370 Gold coloured horn with fixing plate Emits high powered wailing note of varying pitch. Output $115 \mathrm{~dB}(\mathrm{~A})$ at 3 m . Power 12 V DC, 15 A . 130 mm dia $\times 160 \mathrm{~mm}$. 1 €0 cycles per minute.
Prices .......................... $£ 9.9510+8.06 \quad 25+645$


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T071D
Two part wireless doorbell. The transmitter is mounted ty the front door and the recelver can be mounted or carried ip to 6m (50 feet) away. Provided with self-adhesive pads and orews for () away. Provided with self-adheslve pads and crews for mounting (If required). Transmitier requires a PP3 battery, recelver requires two AA batteries
Dims:
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { Transmilter } & 112 \times \neq 0 \times 30 \mathrm{~mm} \\ \text { Recelver } & \mathbf{9 3 \times 7 0 \times 3 0 \mathrm { mm }}\end{array}$
Price. $93 \times 70 \times 30 \mathrm{~mm}$
$\mathbf{£ 1 2 . 9 5} \quad 10+8.42$


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Ks10 Siren 12 V DC. very loud.
Black plastic body 50 mm dia $: 42 \mathrm{~mm}$ with metal bracke Prices..... ....................£6.95 $10+5.70 \quad 25+4.56$

A375 High power siren in all cream plastic. Waterproof heavy duty model. Continuous scream or 160 cycles per Trnute Extremely loud, $120 \mathrm{~dB}(\mathrm{~A})$ ar 6 m . Power $6-12 \mathrm{~V}$, 1.5 A . Horn $200 \times 115 \mathrm{~mm} \times 234 \mathrm{~mm}$ deep. Prices .....................£27.50 $3+19.60 \quad 10+15.68$


A379 Extremely high powered piezo electric siren which emits an earpiercıng, warbling sound. White plastic body, with mounting bracket. Internal IC curcuitry. 300 mm leads. Fiequency .......... . . ............................ 2.5 kHz approx Output. ................ . ........... $100 \mathrm{~dB}(\mathrm{~A})$ at 1 m tyo

#  <br> <br> Supplement <br> <br> Supplement <br> <br> Tel (0703) 236363 Fax (0703) 236307 

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## CLOCKS

(a) Quartz movement


V1101 Kienzle Model W716. Facility for hour. minute and second hand Takes single AA cell. Typ current $80 \mu A$ Accuracy within $1 \mathrm{sec} /$ day Size $58 \times 50 \times 16 \mathrm{~mm}$ weight without battery 26 g . Spindle length: $12 / 15 / 21.5 \mathrm{~mm}$ ( $\mathrm{h} / \mathrm{m} / \mathrm{s}$ ).
Prices .... £3.50 $10+2.34 \quad 25+187 \quad 100+1.50$


DIGITAL CLOCK
Y137w Large LCD digltal alarm clock with snooze control and LCD Illuminating light. The snooze controi sllences the alarm for 7 minutes before re-sounding 11 . Compact and easy to use. Baterias included.

| Batreries inciuded. | $2 \times$ AAA baterias |
| :--- | :--- |
| Power | $95 \times 65 \times 68 \mathrm{~mm}$ |
| Oims |  |
| Price | .......................................99 |



Y137S
COUNTDOWN TIMER Simple to use electronlc countdownal alarm sounds when minutes countdown capabik. Hendreds of appications from the set perlod has timed ous. Free standig spring clip and process control to the kitchen. Free standing. spring clip and magnetic mounting.

| Timing period | 18 hours 59 minutes |
| :--- | :--- |
| Power | Po09H button cell |
| Price ..................................... $£ 4.25 \quad 10+2.76$ |  |



COUNTDOWN TIMER
Y137T
Large digit electronic countdown timer with 19 hours. 59 minutes countdown capablity. The internal alarm sounds when the set period has timed out. 19 mm LCD dispiay. Hundreds of applicatlons from process control to the kitchen. Spring clip or magnetle mounting.
Timing perlod
19 nours 59 minutes
firing AAA battery
Price E6.70 $10+4.36$


Y137N DIGITAL THERMOMETER
Dual Dual channel inside/cutside comparalve and one on a 3 m ous display. Dual thermocouple, one intern with Velcro strips supplied.
PRICES: $\mathbf{~ 1 2 . 5 0 ~ 5 + 7 . 5 0 ~}$

DIGITAL CLOCKTIMER Y137U Free standing 'digltal clock with buili-in timer. The timer functions initlally as a countdown timer, counting down from up to 23 hours 59 minutes and then sounding the alarm. immedlately the alarm sounds the timer switches to count-up immedialely alarm sounded. A mode. Indlcating the perlod since the alarm sounded. A
separate count-up timer function is provided for general separate count-up timer
timing. Battery provided.

| tining. Battery provided. |  |
| :--- | ---: |
| Dims | $87 \times 82 \times 45 \mathrm{~mm}$ |
| Power | $1 \times$ AAA battery |
| Price ..................................... $59.50 \quad 10+6.1$ |  |



Y137V
2-CHANNEL DIGITAL CLOCK
Y137V Large LCD digltal alarm clock with two Independent alarm functions. The LCD displays time, day and date and alarm status. Compact and easy to use. Batteries included.
Power $\begin{array}{ll}\mathrm{£} 10.95 & 10+7.11\end{array}$
Price


V1017 Stopwatch - this sports timer has an amazing number of features at an exceptionally low price
$\star$ Hours. mins, secs.
$\star$ Day, date, month
$\star \quad 1 / 100$ th sec chrono with lap/ split control.

- 4 year calendar
* Beep alarm with chime and snooze.
* 30 sec correction for synchronization.
* 12 or 24 hour display.
* Will count to 23:59:59
* Complete with instructions (you'll need them!)

See our main Catalogue for details of clock accessories - hands, dials, chapter rings, pendulums etc


MAXMMIN THERMOMETER
Y137R
Dual channel inside/outside thermometer with digltal clock The in-bullt memory can record Inside or outside minimum and maximum temperatures and a temperature alert will sound and alarm If the temperature rises to or falls to a preset level Free standing or can be mounted to a wall with the selfFree standing or can be mounted attery included.
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { adhesive pad or bracket provided. Battery in } \\ \text { Temperature range } & -50 \text { to }+50^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\end{array}$

| Temperature range | -50 to $+50^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Resolution | $1^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ |
| Power | AA battery |
| Price ......................................... $\mathbf{£ 1 2 . 9 5} 5+8.42$ |  |



DIGITAL THERMOMETER/CLOCK
Y 1370
A dual sensor dilgital thermometer for comparative temperature measurement, for example inside/outside temperature. The themometer will dilsplay temperature in ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ or ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$, and Includes a digltal clock. The remote sensor can be mounted up to 3 m away from the unit. The backilt LCD display makes It Ideal for in-car use. Battery supplled.

| Temperature range | -50 to $+70^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Power | $1 \times \mathrm{AAA}$ battery |
| Dims | $107 \times 25 \times 13 \mathrm{~mm}$ |
| Priee | $\mathbf{~} 8.50 \quad 10+5.52$ |

Price $107 \times 25 \times 13 \mathrm{~mm}$


AQUARIUM THERMOMETER
Y137P A dual sensor dighal thermometer deslgned for comparative measurements between water and room temperafure. The external sensor can be atrached to the glass within the tank with the sucker provided. The internal sensor measures room temperature. The thermometer can be atrached to the temperalure. The thiles provided
Temperature range $\quad-5010+70^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$
Temperature range $\quad \mathbf{5 0}$
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { Resolution } & 0.1^{\circ} \mathrm{C} \\ \text { Power } & \text { P009H bution cell } \\ \text { Price ........................................ } \mathbf{\Sigma 7 . 9 9} 10+5.18\end{array}$


## CHIEVER

ITaths set


## A06 ACHIEVER

Age 11-16, Kay Stage 3-4
Contents: 30 cm folding rule; Beam compass $+3.5^{\prime \prime}$ pencil; Set Squares; 2 Shape templates; Ple Chart template; Angle measure; Sharpener; Eraser; Strong moulded box PRICES: $\mathbf{8 8 . 9 9} 12+5.10$

A new range of drawing Insirumenis trom Geometrix and Wertgate.



GX001 Geomath - an Ingenious all-purpose drawing Instrument. Combines 30 cm ruler with alpha-numeric stencll, protractor, $45^{\circ} \& 60^{\circ}$ set squares, Gellipses and 6 clrcles Made in clear high Impact styrene. Overall size $322 \times 89 \mathrm{~mm}$. $\mathbf{E 2 . 5 0} \quad 10+1.76 \quad 25+1.41$


GX003 Anglemaster. Clever plasilc combining 30 cm rule \& protractor
$C 2.99 \quad 10+2.13 \quad 25+1.71$

## The Ultimate Laser Copy Paper

After trying dozens of different papers to obtain the best possible copy quality, we've found a superb paper from one of the larger paper merchants. It's called Huntsman Silk, and its 115 gm weight just oozes quality. You need to see and feel it to appreciate its worth, so ask for a sample sheet if you're interested in buying some.
HS115A 50 Sheets $£ 2.50$
HS115B 200 Sheets $£ 8.00$
HS115 Ream of 500 sheets $£ 16.00$
(See overleal for cheaper copy/laser paper)

## SPECIAL OFFERS FROM HELIX

A range of 'Clearance Lines' offering super value for money on top quality product


A24 Amjassador Maths set - Padded zip case with pule, 2 set squares, protractor, stencil, compasses, sharpener, eraser, black \& blue bâll pens, 4 felt tips and a pencil + free
OUR PRICE $£ 5.50$


R55 Wedge Pencil Case - Great for younger children! 2 shape templátes, 2 letter stencils. 5 tell tips, pencil, eraser and sharpener all in a colourful clear zip casel
OUR PRICE $£ 2.20$


A01 Mini malhs sel-clear zip pencil case with rule, protractor, pencil, rubber and sharpener
OUR PRICE 99P


A30 Car Pencil Tin $180 \times 75 \times 20 \mathrm{~mm}$
OUR PRICE 99P


Q86 Small maths set - colourful rule, 2 sel squares, protractor, and a pair of compasses. OUR PRICE 99P

R08 Magic Pencil Box amaze your friends - a box within a box makes things disappear
OUR PRICE £1.99

$-7$


Y93021 Helix erasers. Good quality rubbers in blue, yellow and red, each $50 \times 23 \times 10 \mathrm{~mm}$. In boxes of 36 for $£ 3.95$

Add VAT to quantity prices

## BULK BUYS

One of our suppliers is overstocked on some goods - so if you buy in quantity, we can pass these savings on to you! AT55 Self coiled telephone extension lead, extends to 5 m . White. $£ 2$ each, but buy 12 for $£ 10+$ VAT, or 48 for $£ 35+$ VAT

P1740 Co-ax splitter. 87p each, but buy 50 for $£ 22+$ VAT or 250 for $£ 82+$ VAT


Black plastic briefcase by Helix, model W89 - many uses, e.g. samples, documents, tools, hobbybox, sewing box - even sandwiches! Size $400 \times 270 \times 90 \mathrm{~mm}$. Comfortable carrying handle and secure fastenings. Original selling price £9.99
£3.95


## CREENWMED 27 Park Road Southampton S01 3TB Tee (0703) 236353 Fax (0703) 236307



## 28

(a) Paper \& Labels

80 gsm high grade copier paper, sold in reams (500 sheets)


Envelopes

| Code | Description | $1+$ | $10+$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| A701 | A3 size $420 \times 297 \mathrm{~mm}$ | $£ 9.95$ | 5.73 |
| A702 | A4 size $297 \times 210 \mathrm{~mm}$ | $£ 3.70$ | 2.31 |

## Laser Copler Paper

A high quality paper giving excellent results with all laser printers. Price per ream. A703 A4 size $297 \times 210 \mathrm{~mm} \quad £ 4.50 \quad 3.30$ ABCABCABC

COPIER LABELS
A4 Coplerfaser labels selvedge (margin round all 4 sides for coplers that won't copy edge to edge) 100 sheets to a box.

(c) Pads and Rolls

A721 Shorthand notepad, spiral bound $8 \times 5^{\prime \prime}$. 80 sheets ( 160 pages)
1+40p; 12+0.22; 144+ 0.18
A725 Adding machine rolls. Standard $21 / 4 \times 21 / 4^{\prime \prime}$. Sold in cases of 20 rolls.
1+ £4.75; 5+ $3.36 \quad 25+2.68$
A721 Fax Roll. Standard for most makes of machine. 210 mm wide $\times 30 \mathrm{~m}$ long (equivalent to 100 A4 sheets) 12.5 mm tube. Reduced Price:
E2.95; $12+1.80 ; 72+1.68$.

## Memo Pads

A4 feint ruled 80 sheets.

| HII | A4 $297 \times 210$ | $1+$ | $10+$ | $\mathbf{2 5 +}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $47 . p$ | 0.30 | 0.24 |  |  |

Plain pads of 80 sheets.
HTT AS 210× 148
Pack of $1010+25$ $\begin{array}{lll}\mathbf{E 2 . 5 8} & 1.65 & \mathbf{2 5 +} \\ \mathbf{E 1 . 5 3} & 0.08 & 0.78\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{lll}\mathbf{\Sigma 1 . 5 3} & 0.88 & 0.78\end{array}$
(a) White

PER $100 \quad 1000$ HENO1 $89 \times 152 \mathrm{~mm} 70 \mathrm{gsm}$ gummed C6, $114 \times 162 \mathrm{~mm} 80 \mathrm{~g}$ self seal HEE DL. $220 \times 110 \mathrm{~mm} 80 \mathrm{~g}$ self seal HGS DL, $220 \times 110 \mathrm{~mm} 80 \mathrm{~g}$ self seal window
Window
C5, $229 \times 162 \mathrm{~mm} 90 \mathrm{~g}$ self seal pocket
C4, $325 \times 230 \mathrm{~mm} 90 \mathrm{~g}$ self seal pocket
HENOS C4, $324 \times 229 \mathrm{~mm} 90 \mathrm{~g}$ seif seal pocket


A4 Transparent Pockets
Open at the top and multipunched to fit most files.
Pack of 100 £4.40; 10 2.81
Adhesive Tape
A731 1" wide clar adhesive tape, polypropylene 30 micron
60p; $12+0.36 ; 72+0.29$
A735 2" wide buff packaging tape, polypropylene 30 micron.
£1.30; $12+0.83 ; 36+0.66$

## Ballpoint Pens

Low cost ball pens with ventillated caps, in 3 popular colours:

Code Description
HPE01 Black 10 for $£ 1 ; 100+0.06$
HPE02 Blue 10 for £1; 100+ 0.06 HPE03 Red $\quad 10$ for $£ 1 ; 100+0.06$ HPE50 Box of 50, any assortment $£ 3.95$ also fine point:

| HPED4 | Black | 10 for $£ 1.00$ | $100+0.06$ |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| HPE05 | Blue | 10 for $£ 1.00$ | $100+0.06$ |
| HPEOS | Red | 10 for $£ 1.00$ | $100+0.06$ |
| HPE55 | BOX of 50 any assortment $£ 3.95$ |  |  |

Flip Chart Markers


Add VAT to quantity prices


[^4]2129 Scrap block -90 $\times 90 \times 90$ cube glued on one edge contalning 1000 sheets of recycled paper, $\mathbf{\Sigma 2 . 2 0} \quad 20+157$


Graphic Techniques
Ginter Hugo Magni A leading International designer shows the quickest, most effelent ways to prepare brillant Illustrations, layouts, and mechanicals for printing. Magnus also provides practical information on materials and equipinent. Including now reproduction and printing processes. Students and expertenced deslgners allke will proft from the wealth of information in thls book, which includes some techniques original with the author.

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| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| ce. 95 | P.Bridgewater |  |
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Peter Bridgewater created thls Introduction to hls crath to be the book he had always wanted to be able to buy when he was a student. A brillantly llustrated, practical gulde for students of design and professlonals allke.

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| :--- | ---: |
| c9.95 | M. Aeaumont |
| $279 \times 216 \mathrm{~mm}$ | full colour |
| Covering simple typographical terminology and type |  | Brian Lewls describes different tectniques and Individual methods of approaching and developing illustration skilis.



Altrushing and Spray Painting Manual
lan Peacock
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'A complete and up-to-date gulde to the art and teciniques...will be of immense value to every modeller'.Model Boats
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AP103
Photo-Retouching
$\begin{array}{lll}88.95 & \text { full colour } 216 \mathrm{~mm} & \text { Breckon } \\ 128 \text { Pages }\end{array}$
Breft Breckon reveals all the mysteries of airbrush handiling and materials.

Lots more Stationery and Graphic Products in our main Catalogue duplicate and hardback cash books, pens, pencils and markers, drawing boards and templates


[^5]
## 1993 CATALOGUE

Our main Catalogue, 164 pages of regular products is available now for just $£ 2$ UK/BFPO, $£ 4$ overseas. Amongst the many new items this year are a greatly expanded car equipment section, 7 pages devoted to graphic and stationery supplies featuring goods from Staedtler, Helix and Kuretake amongst others; a radio, TV and tape section with personal stereos, $C D$ players and mini-TV's from Casio; a large increase in the space devoted to Security \& Surveillance with many new PIR products; a much bigger video section with lots of camcorder accessories; no less than 17 pages of books, and the complete range of metal detectors from C-Scope, including a kit available only from us. So don't delay, Order today - there's a space on the Order Form overleaf.

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Please use the Order Form on page 29. Single prices and packs of components with the price shown In bold Include VAT - buik or quantity prices exclude VAT which must be added at $17.5 \%$ or the current rate. If different. Payment Is accepted by cash (sellotape coins to card). Mint GB postage stamps, PO, cheque, Giro transfer, Transcash, forelgn curtency bank notes, Access, Visa and Connect. We also accept book and record tokens for any goods and gift vouchers from any of the national chain stores. Add postage at the standard rate of $£ 2.75$ per order or $£ 9.50$ for next day dellvery for any quantly of goods. Next day dellvery applies to credit card and cash orders providing the goods required are in stock. Alluw clearance ilme for large cheques.

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Most orders are despatched within a day or two, but some may be delayed beacause of temporary non-avallability of goods. If this is golng to be more than a week, we will advise you.

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| :--- | :--- |
| At the address above ( |  |
| (0703) 236363 (Ansaphone outside normal |  |
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| year) |  |
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# CREENWNLD ${ }^{27}$ Park Road Southampton SO1 3TB Spring Supplemnent '93 



## G205A TIE CLIP MICROPHONE SYSTEM

A partable diversity receiver with tone squelch and noise reduction circuitry. The antemna $\mathrm{A}-\mathrm{B}$ indicators indicate the switch in channels as the performer moves about. The belt-clip transmitter has an intermediate mute position on the on/off switch to eliminate switch-on pop. Output from the receiver is via a 6.35 mm unbalanced socket. Note: the receiver is 12 Vdc powered. Recommended power supply: P007D
PRICE E175.00 $2+132.66$

## G205B GUITAR TRANSMITTER SYSTEM

A portable diversity receiver with tone squelch and noise reduction circutry. The antenna A-B indicate the switch in channels as the performer moves about. The belt clip transmitter has an intermediate mute position on the onfoff switch to eliminate switch-on pop. Input is via a short lead fitted with a 6.35 mm plug. Output from the receiver is via a 6.35 mm unbalanced socket. Note: the receiver is 12 Vdc powered. Reccmmended power supply: P007D.
PRICE: $£ 175.002+132.66$

## G205 HAND HELD MICROPHONE SYST EM

A portable diversity receiver with tone squelch and noise reduction circuitry. The antenna $A-B$ indicators indicate the switch in channels as the performer moves about. The microphone has an intermediate mute position on the on/off switch to eliminate switch-on pop. Output from the receiver is via a 6.35 mm unbalanced socket. Note: the receiver is 12 Vdc powered. Recommended power supply: P007D. PRICE: $£ 190.002+144.72$

## Add VAT to quantity prices



## G206 DIVERSITY SYSTEM

A professional diversity radio mic system consisting of a hand held radio mic and a 19+ rack mounting (or free standing) receiver. The receiver has balanced and unbalanced outputs, LED bargraph audio out indicators, antenna A-B indicators and output gain control. The microphone features a high sensitivity cardiod capsule and special noise absorption parts to eliminate switch shock and handling noise.
PRICE: $£ 399.00 \quad 2+308.00$

## G206A DUAL CHANNEL SYSTEM

A professional dual channel radio mic system consisting of two hand held radio mics and a $19+$ rack mounting (or free standing) receiver. The receiver has unbalanced outputs, LED bargraph audio out indicators, gain and squelch controls for each of the channels. The microphones feature high sensitivity cardioid capsules and special noise absorption parts to eliminate switch shock and handling noise. PRICE: $£ 435.002+335.00$

## Speciflcations

Receiver
Frequency response
$\mathrm{S} / \mathrm{N}$ ratio
RF sensitivity
De-emphasis
Power
Transmitter
Frequency response
RF power
Modulation
Spurious emissions
Power (

G206B SINGLE CHANNEL SYSTEM
A professional single channel radio mic system consisting of a hand held radia mic and $19+$ rack mounting (or free standing) receiver. The receiver has unbalanced outputs, LED bargraph audio output indicators, gain control and squelch controls. The microphone features a high sensitivity cardioid capsule and special noise absorption parts to eliminate switch shock and handling noise.
PRICE: $£ 229.002+174.20$


## 27 sist CRE ENW ELD 27 Park Road Southampton S01 3TB lement '93 pring

# 6 STUNNING METER OFFERS!! 



10MS2 MULTIMETER

NORMAL SELLING PRICE 天120.00!! Y 130
Y 130 A $\subset .95$

AC volts $\qquad$
$\qquad$ $0-400 \mathrm{~m}-40-40-400-750 \mathrm{VaC} \pm 1 \%$ DC volts $\qquad$ $-400 \mathrm{~m}-4-40-400-1000 \mathrm{Vdc} \pm 0.5 \%$ AC current $\qquad$
$\qquad$ 0-40m-400-10Aac $\pm 2 \%$ DC current $\qquad$ . $0-400$
$0-40-400 \mathrm{~m}-10 \mathrm{Adc} \pm 1 \%$ Resistance (Y130 ONLY) $. . . . . .0-10 \mathrm{k}$ $0-10 \mathrm{k}-65 \mathrm{kHz}$ TL level ( 5 V ) Frequency (Y130 ONLY) .i.i. Temperature (Y130A ONLY)
.............. $165 \times 78 \times 35 \mathrm{~mm}$


AC voltage: Auto Manual. DC voltage: Auto $.0-200 \mathrm{~m}-2-20-200-1000 \mathrm{Vdc} \pm 0.7 \%$ Manual. .....0-300m-3-30-300-1000Vdc $\pm 0.7 \%$ AC current. DC current Resistance: Auto Manual $0-300-200-2 \mathrm{k}-20 \mathrm{k}-200 \mathrm{k}-2 \mathrm{M} \mathrm{M} 2 \pm 0.8 \%$ Franual . 0 - $-300-3 \mathrm{k}-30 \mathrm{k}-300 \mathrm{k}-3 \mathrm{M}-30 \mathrm{M} \Omega 2 \pm 0.8 \%$ Frequency.

## Y123AC

3.75 digit 25 mm LCD display (2999 count) with 40 point bargraph
True RMS measurement
True RMS measurement
Auto/manual ranging
$20 \mathrm{~A} \mathrm{ac} / \mathrm{dc}$ measurement capability
Frequency measurement
Memory mode for relative measurement Data hold
Diode test
Full overload protection
 AMAZING DEAL $£ 39.95$

10M $\Omega \quad$ Order Code M818B

* 40 point analogue bargraph display
$\star 3.75$ digit 17 mm LCD display
* Autoranging voltage and resistance
* High and low frequency ranges
$\star$ True RMS AC voltage and current
$\star$ Diode and continuity test
- Data hold switch
$\star$ Built and tested to IEC 348
$\star$ Fully shrouded test leads


## SPECIAL PURGHASE!!

In our 93 Cat at $£ 75$ ! Now offered at less than half price!


Battery, instruction manual and carying case included.

AC volts
DC volts.
AC current. DC current. Resistance. Frequency Dims..

$0-40-400-750 \mathrm{Vac} \pm 1.5 \%$ $0-400 \mathrm{~m}-4-40-400-1000 \mathrm{Vdc} \pm 0.5 \%$ $.0-4 m-40 m-400 m-2-10 \mathrm{Aac} \pm 1.5 \%$ $.0-4 m-4 m-400 m-2-10 A d c \pm 1.5 \%$ $0-4 \mathrm{~m}-40 \mathrm{~m}-400 \mathrm{~m}-2-10 \mathrm{~A}$ dC $\pm 1.2 \%$
$. .0-4 \mathrm{k}-40 \mathrm{k}-400 \mathrm{k}-4 \mathrm{M}-20 \mathrm{M} \Omega \pm 0.8 \%$ $0-4 \mathrm{k}-40 \mathrm{k}-400 \mathrm{kHz} \pm 2 \%$ $.187 \times 87 \times 34 \mathrm{~mm}$

10A PANEL METER
Z5335 Very smart panel meter by Hobart, brand new and boxed. $72 \times 72 \mathrm{~mm}$, scaled 0-10A AC (can be used on DC - readings will be approx $20 \%$ low). Moving Iron model no D72SD. List Price 12.51


* 19 ranges
* $31 / 2$ digit 12 mm LCD display
$\star$ Signal injector function
$\star$ Diode test
* Fuse protection
$\star$ Automatic polarity and zero - Test leads with 4 mm plugs Battery and instruction manual included.
OUR BIGBEETT SELLING INSTRUMENT!! SUPERDEAL PRICE $\varepsilon 16.95$
$10 \mathrm{M} \Omega$
MX190



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## What a Life!

## Donald Bullock

Quite a lot of jobs came in last weekend. So on Monday morning, bright and early, I breezed off towards the workshop, determined to make good headway.

As I got there the Reverend Goode's ancient chariot swung into the drive and out he struggled. So did his young curate, the Reverend Blande. Between them they brought in a television set and a VCR.
"The Curate's picture rolls, my son" boomed the Reverend. Then he turned to Curate Blande, who handed me the recorder. "I think it's the valve, my son" he piped, pointing at the TV set. "The vicar's video doesn't record properly."

Then they beamed at me, patted my shoulder and clambered into their wagon. As they left they passed old Mr. Simper, who was bringing his TV set along in a pram.
"Everything's deep purple Mr. Bugner" he whined. "It can't be much, 'cos we're old age pensioners and the wife's got housemaid's knee and gout. So we'll let you do it."

## Then the phone rang. I answered it.

"This is Reginald Rongun, Mr. Butt. I've accidentally dropped my old video recorder down the stairs. Pop me a letter into the post to say it's finished, will you?"'
"Bring it in with $£ 20$, Mr. Rongun, then we'll assess the damage and give you a quote. If you say no we retain the deposit for our trouble."

The phone spluttered and went dead. All we had to think about now were the three jobs that had just come in - and the mountain that had built up last week. Steven settled down to the backlog and I pulled the Revered's VCR on to the bench.

## The Akai DX4

It was an Akai DX4. While it played all right the recordings made on it were distorted and pulled for five seconds in every fifteen. It was the same in the SP and LP modes. With this type of trouble the first thing I do is to give the machine a thorough clean, paying particular attention to the tape path, the heads, the idler and the pinch wheel. But the fault was still present after I'd done this. I then checked the mechanics, particularly the back tension. This didn't improve matters at all, so I studied the deck with my illuminated magnifier. I soon saw a thin trace of deposits that my original clean hadn't cleared on the audio/control head. My spirit cleaner wouldn't shift it, and in fact removing it was no easy task. It was only as I finished that I saw the wellsucked acid drop stuck amongst the wiring. I gave the machine a final test, pronounced it o.k. and replaced the casing.

## TV Sets

Time to look at the Curate's TV set. It was a Toshiba 140R4B colour portable. He'd attached a note which said that after an hour the picture went small, distorted and rolled, and the set growled. So I switched it on, flung a blanket over it and put it aside.

I then put Mr. Simper's set on the bench. It was an 18 in . Zanussi, Model 20ZA374-16B, BS700 chassis. We don't
get many of these and the sight of it frightened me. The sound was all right but sure enough the screen was bright purple, which meant that the green gun was asleep.

Checks on the tube base panel suggested that the red, green and blue output transistors were all right, so I moved back to the TDA3301B colour decoder chip. As the voltages here were haywire I fitted a replacement. This made no difference. A more careful examination of the tube base panel then showed that the green output transistor's collector connection was loose in its soldered joint. Remaking this restored the green output but the picture was uncertain. I took off the panel and carefully cleaned and reflexed the side-contact connections to the tube. This resulted in a good, stable picture.

Just as I boxed up the Zanussi the Curate's Toshiba started to twist and writhe. It also groaned in sympathy. When I pulled off the back the picture became normal. So I played the hairdryer on to the PCB. The fault eventually returned, but no amount of freezing or flexing would alter it. I decided to dust off the board completely before studying it for hairline cracks or dry-joints.

After a search I found the half-inch dry paintbrush I use for this purpose. I switched the set on again and brushed away amongst the components. Perhaps I'd find a clue to the cause of the trouble whilst tidying up the chassis. The 2SC3715 line output transistor Q404 has no heatsink in this model: it's free-standing, and leant forward a little as I brushed around in. Immediately the picture twisted and writhed. I found that by moving the transistor to and fro I could control the set's antics. So I switched off and studied the joints under the transistor carefully. They appeared to be perfect. Then I tried, gently, lifting the transistor's legs one by one out of their holes. The base and collector leads held firm, but the emitter lead lifted out easily, leaving its solder blob looking intact. Cleaning it off and resoldering cured the trouble.

As I put the back on again the reverend gentlemen returned and gathered up their equipment.
"Good work Donald" boomed the Reverend. "You'll go to heaven I'm sure."
"Good work Donald" piped the curate. "You'll go to, er, heaven I'm sure."

I looked at them earnestly. "But not yet awhile, I hope?"

## A Nikkai Portable

My next caller was Mrs. Pysener. Shifty and sallow, she eyed me carefully as she handed me a Nikkai colour portable. It had a silver-grey cabinet with a black back, but nowhere could I see a model number.
"Rolls" she said. "And I might as well tell you that Gumboils have had a go at it. Kept it for a month, said they couldn't get spares, charged me a fortune then kicked me out they did. I don't want none 'o that with you. I'm an old age pensioner, and my husband's got Anne Joiner."

There was an excellent picture but, as she said, it was rolling. I opened up the set and saw that just about every component in the field timebase had been unsoldered and replaced. My confidence dropped from its usual low to zero minus. I didn't have a circuit diagram and could see no sign of a field hold control. Automatic field hold circuits are not amongst my favourites. I made my way around the field timebase as best I could, looking for anything amiss, and gradually got the feeling that I'd had a set like this before, with the same fault. I pondered, then turned the front of the set towards me. It sat there on its well recessed and invisible plinth. Now what was it that I knew but couldn't recall?

Still looking at the front of the set I crouched down so that my eyes were level with the front of the hidden plinth. The rims of three thumb-edge knobs could just be seen Two of them adjusted the colour and brightness. When I stroked the third one the picture stopped spinning. Yes, I'd had the same palaver before with a similar set and had been fooled again. Gumboils had also been fooled. I put the set back together again and reflected on the time I'd spent on it. And I remembered the time when I had a good memory. I wish I could remember where it went.

## Microwaves and Mice

Since Steven's microwave course with Jim Garrod on the Isle of Wight we've been fairly busy with repairs. Last week we had two microwave ovens in, a Zanussi and a Tatung so they were from totally different parts of the globe. When we opened them up we found in each the skeleton of a mouse. Both had met their ends by getting themselves across the mains input. There were other similarities. In both cases there were a few tiny maggots in the debris of the skeleton and some odd-looking beetle things - blunt and grey-brown, as big as houseflies.

Steven couldn't see how the mice could have got into either of the ovens. There simply wasn't any access. We came to the conclusion that they must have got in during factory assembly.

## The Amigo A500

Finally does anyone know anything about the Amigo A500 computer? I don't. Jamie, my eleven year old son,


The latest thing in hi-tech mousetraps?
had one given to him on his birthday. It's developed a fault: there's brightness but nothing else on the screen and the power light doesn't come on. What can it be? He's blaming a chip that he calls Fat Agnes, but it's all Greek to me. I peeped into the keyboard and frightened myself to death
"When I was his age" I said to Greeneyes "I had a windup metal fire engine for my birthday. It was called the Electronic Miracle, the electronics being two torch bulb headlights which I often broke. My father would moan about this but was at least able to mend the thing - and he was a cobbler! How times have changed.

## RECESSION - RECESSION - TIRES - TIRES

 HEY LOOK, its 1993 and the recession is still with us - so why not contact J.J. Components to increase your profits on Idler tires? EXAMPLE: $10 \times$ Sharp tires cost $£ 1.80+P \& P+V A T$. That repairs 10 videos each at $£ 20$ - Totals to $£ 200$.

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# Expertise at MCES 

## Nick Beer

A recent visit to Manchester Colour Engineering Services (MCES) at Davyhulme to see their operations was particularly interesting. I've used the company's services for many years and have always found them to be nothing short of excellent - and keenly priced.

MCES has concentrated on repairs that no one else attempts on a commercial scale. Without the know-how built up by those at MCES the repair of tuners, modulators and video heads would neither be practical nor economically viable. Others have tried and failed, through not having the right approach and/or methods. But having the necessary expertise and equipment is not enough to ensure a marketable service, i.e. one that meets a trade demand at an appropriate price. MCES has managed to do this through its excellent research and detailed knowledge of the consumer electronics industry.

With its new video heads MCES provides a product rather than a service. In this field it has much competition: success has been achieved through applying the same standards as with repairs - quality materials and attention to detail.

## The Tour

I was taken on a conducted tour of the building by managing director John Ayriss who was familiar with the tasks being carried out at each workstation and the need for them. There are in every area jigs that have been purposely designed and built in-house. As no one else provides such repair services no one else makes the equipment required. We thus find control boxes that switch inputs and outputs between tuners/modulators, test equipment and monitors. There's standard equipment as well of course - sweep generators, monitors, scopes etc. - and in addition some equipment that's not commonplace in servicing workshops. Such applications have been discovered and developed by MCES. John Ayriss was able to carry out as well as explain the operations being undertaken at every point - often using jigs he had himself designed. Clearly he's no average MD!

I was continually struck by the fact that a standard service regime is applied no matter what the particular fault with an item sent for repair. For example all the electrolytic capacitors in Grundig i.f. cans are replaced and known likely dry-joints are resoldered. Instead of simply rectifying found faults, units are brought up to a standard which ensures that they won't fail again. Quite often, as with certain LNBs, this results in a unit with a superior performance, reliability and capability than the original.

## Tuner and Modulator Repairs

Tuners and modulators all go through standard servicing procedures based on experience of fault conditions built up over a number of years. Once a unit is connected to a power supply, tuning voltage where appropriate, a generator and a monitor its alignment is checked and set. The output from a tuner is fed to a monitor and viewed using off-air signals reliance is not placed solely on what the test equipment tells you. The unit is tested for mechanical intermittencies under these conditions - by means of a series of sharp taps!

A weak point with modern tuners and modulators is the built-in socket. On an average unit the mounting is best
described as flimsy, with the centre pin often simply wave soldered to the PCB. MCES replaces broken sockets with a strong, solid altemative, making a very strong mechanical bond between the socket and the case.

## VCR Drums

Many have questioned the wisdom of fitting new heads to video drums. The need seems to be less these days since very reasonably priced new drums are readily available both from third-party manufacturers such as MCES and the original manufacturers. The price of Panasonic heads has fallen dramatically for example. One has to be careful however. Using third-party drums of inferior quality can be a false economy - their life can be appallingly short, with the result that frequent replacement is required, while the alignment quality can be poor, necessitating extensive deck realignment for correct performance to be achieved. Apart from anything else short life can create bad feeling with customers. The benefits of fitting new heads are greater with complex assemblies that have more than the standard two heads.

The re-heading process starts with the stripped drum being thoroughly cleaned using an ultrasonic bath. Some drums are not suitable for rebuilding of course - those with digs or scratches or those that are heavily burred. In such cases MCES can usually supply an equivalent drum.

The replacement heads are obtained from the original equipment manufacturer rather than being generic replacements. This fact, in conjunction with the highly accurate alignment that follows, means that the end product is as good as the original. MCES also stocks drum spares such as relay pins and leads. These are again obtained from the original manufacturer. Some items such as small PCBs are salvaged from damaged drums, enabling a drum with a problem in this area - a crack in the PCB for example - to be rebuilt.

## Head Tip Alignment

When it comes to the processes used to align the head chips on the drum one really begins to appreciate the magnitude of the investment that has been made by MCES. Two large alignment jigs dominate the video head laboratory. The older one, which cost MCES $£ 33,000$, allows both height and the projection to be aligned. The newer one, which represents an investment of $£ 60,000$, carries out projection alignment only but is much faster.

The experts at MCES carry out projection alignment with consummate ease. Monitors show the head in incredible detail, using camera microscopy. The drum to be aligned is clamped on a turntable with the microscope camera lenses diametrically opposite each other at each side of the head. Each image of the tip is fed to a separate monitor along with vertical and horizontal cursors. Digital readout counters are used for each of the three alignment adjustments.

All this enables MCES to claim with confidence that they never supply damaged heads. With this degree of precision monitoring damage of even tiny proportions is immediately evident. When alignment has been completed and the heads have been boxed they are inductance tested using HewlettPackard equipment that cost $£ 9,500$.

Head projection alignment starts with the tips being
moved out of view of the camera lenses so that these can be focused on the drum surface. At this point the projection counter is zeroed. The head tip is then brought back into view - this is the reason for using a turntable - and focused using a vernier adjuster. Correct tip projection beyond the rim of the drum, $45 \mu \mathrm{~m}$, is indicated by the use of a moire (interference) pattern: this occurs when the relative focus of the drum surface and tip projection are correct. The turntable then brings the second head round for alignment in the same way.

The next process is $180^{\circ}$ differential adjustment. This ensures that the two heads are positioned on the drum exactly opposite each other diametrically, to within $1 \mu \mathrm{~m}$. The vertical cursors are used for this purpose, the heads being moved so that they sit within the tramlines.

The third adjustment is for head height. Height difference is established by first setting one head's lower edge to the horizontal cursor on one monitor. The opposite head is then brought round, the height counter is zeroed, and the lower edge of the head is focused by moving the lens to align it with the same cursor. This movement is indicated on the height counter. The difference between the heads is kept to within $0.2 \mu \mathrm{~m}$, the pair being to within $5 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ of the $0 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ reference.

The laboratory has a large collection of reference drums from the manufacturers. These represent, for each part number, what research has proved to be the manufacturer's average in terms of tip height and projection. This allows MCES to work to the standard thus established. The extremely close tolerances employed by MCES mean that minimal realignment is required when the drum is fitted in the VCR - assuming that a good quality head was previously fitted and that it was correctly aligned. Naturally checks should be carried out to see whether adjustment is required. MCES produced a head height wall chart (No. 3) in 1990 detailing the importance of height alignment. It was distributed to all customers at the time but is unfortunately no longer available.

Once the heads have been correctly positioned, one side at a time, using the micrometer jig and checking with the monitor and counter to confirm correct alignment, they are locked in place with a single screw while still in the jig. They can then be rechecked.

## New Drums

The production of new video head drums follows the same process as the latter part of re-heading. New drums obtained from Japan have new head tips inserted and aligned. The same checks are made in the box.

## Guarantee

MCES provides a 12 -month guarantee with both new and re-headed drums. Drums returned with damaged heads are not covered however. Such damage is caused by clumsy fitting and can be clearly seen using the MCES equipment described above. MCES offers to replace damaged head tips at half price.

## LNB Rebuilding

Virtually all the LNBs rebuitt by MCES are of Marconi origin. So this is the process we "ll describe here. MCES can however repair various standard LNBs: the range includes Maspro and Nokia, all Marconi types, NJRC, Continental and Amstrad. A great deal of thought and research went into designing the LNB rebuilding process. The result is units that


One of the head-tip alignment jigs.
have greater gain and lower noise than the originals, also a closer tolerance figure and better reliability.

MCES currently receives over 800 units a week for rebuilding - yes, 800 ! They are first stripped and the PCB is cleaned. The case is usually stripped and resprayed and the gasket is disposed of.

PCBs are manually cleaned to remove what can be a lot of corrosion - the result of weathering, water ingress and damage from varıous sealants. Cleaning in an ultrasonic bath follows - any badly damaged boards are discarded. A computer running PCB -test software is next engaged to diagnose any PCB problems, which are then rectified.

Lower noise figure, higher gain f.e.t.s (three) are then fitted at the front end. MCES has worked in close collaboration with Marconi and other LNB manufacturers to secure the right parts for the job - most are not available through normal/traditional outlets and require infra-red reflow soldering to ensure consistent results.

## Reassembly

Since we are dealing with microwave devices reassembly is not just a matter of popping the PCB into the case and screwing it up. Case shape and internal volume tolerances affect the operation of the unit - not least the local oscillator frequency. A specific internal bolt tightening sequence is required to ensure correct seating of the mouldings. Strategically placed pieces of foam add to the accuracy.

The original gasket rightly comes in for criticism from MCES, which has designed its own larger, more flexible type. It's not the absolute ideal, says John Ayriss, but the silicone rubber tube type he would prefer to use simply couldn't be made to the high standard required at an acceptable cost. When you consider the results of pressure tests with the version that is used this seems to be a minor point.

The case and gasket are compressed for sealing at a force of 12.5 p.s.i. The LNBs are then tested for leakage, measurement being in e.c.s per hour. This test takes about 14 seconds and is the equivalent of the LNB sitting in two feet of water for an hour. Whilst 1 was present randomly selected units showed 0.00 c.c. For this test the LNB is placed on the jig by means of a probe inserted into the feedhorn. Furness Controls manufacture the test equipment used for measuring leakage - gas companies use it extensively and it cost MCES a modest $£ 1,600$. The jig to interface this equipment with LNB testing was designed by MCES. Another example of the company's ability to adapt equipment for its own special requirements.


One of the LNB gain and noise measurement systems.

## Alignment

The next process is local oscillator adjustment - this is set to the very close tolerance of $-1 \mathrm{MHz},+1.5 \mathrm{MHz}$. MCES points out that the tolerance of the original local oscillator setting is not at all close - units received for repair vary wildly. One does experience this, particularly with the blue-cap type, when aligning a receiver's i.f. offset to match the LNB - switch LNBs a few times and see how much adjustment is required. The fact that MCES sticks to a close tolerance standard means that when the customer receives LNBs back some alignment/tuning and i.f. offset adjustment may be required.

## Ferguson ICC7 Chassis Fault Notes

Alex Mason

The ICC7 chassis is of Thomson design and is used in several current Ferguson models. We have had the following faults to date. Note that the LED mounted on the front control panel shines red for standby, green for go. It can be seen from the rear of the set with the chassis out and can help a lot when fault finding. Another point is that you can't use a bulb as a dummy load for the chopper power supply in place of the line output stage because the chopper circuit requires a 13 V supply that's derived from the line output transformer and won't run unless this is present.

Dead set, no light from the LED: Check the voltage at supply pin 16 of the TEA2261 chopper control/driver chip IP01. If low at 1.6 V the BA157 rectifier diode DP28 is short-circuit.

Dead set, LED shines red: First check whether the $0 \cdot 1 \Omega$ surge limiter resistor RP62 in the 24 V rectifier circuit is open-circuit. The most common cause of a dead set however is failure of the TDA8178F field output chip IF01. Disconnecting IF01 won't prove that it's faulty: some sets will run when it's disconnected, others won't.

## Gain/Noise Measurement

LNBs are tested for gain and noise figure at four spot frequencies across the band - a Hewlett-Packard noise measurement system is used. With spares backing, the cost of each of the three equipped benches is around $£ 90,000$. The idea is first to confirm that the unit performs to the broad specification MCES requires. LNBs are then classified by gain and noise figures as $A$ or $G$ types - A-type devices are supplied south of Stoke on Trent, G-type devices north. Both types are within specification, the subdivision ensuring that equal results are obtained from the Astra satellite's different footprint field strengths.

## Testing

Every unit is run for a minimum of twenty hours in one of the numerous test bays in the MCES workshop before being released to the customer. This ensures that, as with MCES's other products, the rebuilt LNBs have an assured quality and reliability.

## In Conclusion

The MCES philosophy is to provide a service of the highest standard: this is achieved by careful design of its own processes, using them to a high standard and phenomenal quality control. This doesn't mean that there are never any complaints. According to John Ayriss there's a return rate of one per cent of which over fifty per cent are faultless or have been damaged by the customer - he quotes as an example a 'faulty on fitting' video head with a damaged tip and a finger print on the drum around it.

A visit to MCES confirms its commitment and professionalism.

Dead set, no LED light, power supply tripping: Check whether DP17 (BA157) is short-circuit. This rectifier produces the error voltage for pin 6 of IP01.

Dead set, LED red for about ten seconds then no light: Scope the line drive waveform at pin 39 of the TA8659 colour decoder/timebase generator chip IV01. If o.k. next check at the base of the BSR51 line driver transistor TL17. If there's no waveform here or a low-amplitude one check whether TL17 is short-circuit, also diodes DF16 (BA157) and DL18 (1N4148). DF16 is in the field output stage: when it goes short-circuit the 24 V line rises to 65 V before the set shuts down.

Top foldover: Check the 65 V rail. If it's sitting at 32 V either DL09 (BA157) is leaky or IF01 (TDA8178F) is faulty.

Field collapse: Check whether surge limiter resistor RLIl ( $15 \Omega$ ) is open-circuit and/or rectifier DL11 (BA157) is short-circuit. These components are in the 200 V rectifier circuit - this supply is used by the field driver stage as well as the RGB output stages. If they are o.k. IF01 (TDA8178F) has probably failed.

No NS correction: Check for -26.8 V at the emitter of TG38 or TG84 (both type BD137). If this supply is missing check whether RG87 (2.2年) is open-circuit or TG84 is short-circuit or leaky. These components are mounted on the NS correction panel that sits at the right-hand side of the chassis.

# TV Fault Finding 

Reports from Philip Blundell, AMIEIE, Nick Beer, J.S Ruwala, Keith Cummins, C.R.Taylor, Brian Storm, Eugene Trundle, J.R.Cutts, Richard Newman, Mike Leach, J.K. Potts, Steve Cannon and Paul Hardy

## Decca/Tatung 160 Series Chassis

Picture rolls when hot said the report with this set. Sure enough only a few seconds with the hairdryer were needed before line lock was lost. Beside the TDA4503 chip we found a tower of ceramic capacitors connected in parallel, giving a total value of $2,400 \mathrm{pF}$. Fitting the correct $2,700 \mathrm{pF}$ Suflex type capacitor in position C113 restored temperature stability.
P.B.

## Hitachi CP14P216 (G7P Mk. 2 Chassis)

The picture on this colour portable would occasionally blank out, leaving a white raster. C711 was dry-jointed - it’s by the line output transformer.
P.B.

## Philips G11 Chassis

For no line driver operation on a cold morning check that the line drive coupling capacitor C 3110 hasn't dried up. P.B.

## Philips CTX Chassis

If one of these sets comes in dead check whether R3394 or R3395 is open-circuit. These $27 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ resistors are rated at 2.5 W .
P.B.

## Grundig Remote Control Handsets

When a customer brings in a remote control unit for reassembly and you find yourself faced with the task of establishing the correct home for 29 press-buttons without another one to compare it with, you'll be glad if you have a Konig remote control book. The nice people at Konig have detailed where the buttons go on most Grundig handsets. This may apply to other makes as well.
P.B.

## Panasonic TX2 (Alpha 1 Chassis)

This set was dead because the 2 SD965R standby switching transistor Q802 in the power supply was short-circuit. N.B.

## Ferguson TX9 Chassis

The line frequency was incorrect - just lines across the picture. When the hold control was adjusted the best that could be achieved was an incorrectly phased picture with a bar down the centre. If the phase control was then adjusted line lock was lost again. A new TDA9503 timebase generator chip (IC54) restored correct operation.
N.B.

## B and O 7702 (7XXX Chassis)

The original fault with this set was that it would sometimes be dead with no standby LED display. A colleague had called to see it but on that occasion the fault wouldn't put in an appearance. So he resoldered the e.h.t. transformer and various other connections that can cause problems. Now the fault was permanent. The cause of the trouble was a dry-joint
at pin 1 of the standby transformer T 2 - one of the primary connections. Open-circuit windings are quite common with these transformers, espectally where dry-jointed connections to the pins have been allowed to arc.
N.B.

## Grundig CUC120 and CUC220 Chassis

A Grundig Model A7400 (CUC220 chassis) came in with a field fault. When it was very cold there was lack of field scan at the bottom of the screen - the top was o.k. There was no foldover at the bottom. The cause of the fault was C 2768 on the deflection PCB being rather less than the specified $100 \mu \mathrm{~F}$.

Two different deflection PCBs were used in these chassis. One has a TDA. 1770 field output circuit, the other one using a TDA2655B chip. We've had field distortion with the TDAI770 circuit on a number of occasions, the causes having been the chip itself, D2761 (SKE4G1/04) or R2761 (6.8』, 0.75W).
N.B.

## Sony KV2704

The customer's complaint was that the set didn't always start when it was switched on - he would have to operate the switch several times before the set would come on. Resistors R605 and R606 were both o.k., but the h.t. was low at only 80 V . The cause of the fault was traced to C623 $(33 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 250 \mathrm{~V})$.
J.S.R.

## Philips CP90 Chassis

There was only half an inch of field scan, in the centre of the screen. The voltages around the field output transistors were all o.k. and the drive from the TDA 2579 chip was correct. Chassis retum resistor R3582 (3.3S) was opencircuit.
J.S.R.

## Sony AE1 Chassis

This set could be tuned in perfectly but you couldn't store the channel. As soon as the preset button was pressed the picture would be lost Replacing the M58655P chip IC003 made no difference. I then discovered that there was only -14 V instead of -33 V at pin 2. Coil L807 was open-circuit (the -14 V was coming via a $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ resistor in parallel with the coil). Incidentally the M58655P is an expensive device the latest quote I had was $£ 17.10$ plus VAT.
J.S.R.

## Sony KVX2521U (AE1 Chassis)

This set failed with a violent flash on the screen and an ominous fizzing noise. When I powered it via a variac and an isolating transformer it tried to start then cut out. I was relieved to hear the rustle of collapsing e.h.t.: at least the line timebase seemed to be o.k. While manipulating the variac I noticed a small, twinkling spark beneath the power transformer T601. Its removal didn't reveal anything imme-
diately obvious, but when I examined it with an eyeglass I discovered that there were dry-joints where the windings are connected to pins 17 and 18, with traces of charring. Pin 17 isn't connected to anything external: it's a tie point for separate sections of the transformer's primary winding. When I'd tidied up this little mess, including sleeved joints, I refitted the transformer. A soak test proved that everything was now o.k.
K.C.

## Matsui 1460

To start with the set was dead, with open-circuit mains and supply fuses. Checks showed that the STR451 power supply chip was short-circuit between pins 1, 2 and 3. the SR2M avalanche diode was short-circuit and the 2SD869 line output transistor was low-resistance between its base and emitter. When these items had been replaced the set was powered up. It came on with normal field scanning but there was reduced width and line foldover at the left-hand side of the screen.

After checking the scan-correction circuit I found that the scan coils were arcing to the tube at the top left. Examination of the scan coils after removing them showed that the insulation had burnt with the result that the line scan coils were shorting to each other. In the past I've had noisy coils and open-circuit tag connections to windings: this is the first time I've had windings shorting to each other and arcing to the tube.
C.R.T.

## Panasonic TC21M1R (Z4 Chassis)

We've had two of these sets in recently with the same fault, a slow but sure increase in brightness, culminating in uncontrollable brightness with flyback lines. When the first one came in we carried out checks on the RGB output stage and c.r.t. first anode supplies but found no variations here. A check on the grid network on the c.r.t. base panell however showed that R380 ( $680 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ ) was open-circuit. In both cases removal of this resistor showed that one end had not been properly inserted through the PCB .
B.S.

## Panasonic TX25T2 (Alpha 2 Chassis)

We've had a batch of these sets in recently with the same complaint - dead with no power supply operation. The cause of the fault was in each case that D851 (C2408M) was either short-circuit or leaky. It provides the 160 V supply for the line output stage.
Incidentally does anyone know of a cure when these sets lose the channel 0 or 1 tuning memory, in all cases the tuning memory being reset to 00 ?
B.S.

## Panasonic TXC74 (Alpha 1 Chassis)

After about twenty minutes the top of the picture would brighten and drop down about two inches, badly distorting the field scan as it did so. We could find nothing amiss in the field drive and output stages despite extensive tests. So attention turned to the scan coils which are unfortunately bonded to the A59EAK00X01 tube and are not available separately. Fortunately a local dealer was able to supply a tube from a scrapped set. Carefully removing this and fitting it to the faulty set solved the problem.
B.S.

## Mitsubishi CT2531 (Euro 4 Chassis)

Here was a case of gross deception by a TV set! The picture was covered with black dots and dashes - not unlike the
"darklies" you see on satellite TV displays. They led us to investigate the tuner and i.f. departments first. At high brightness levels however the interference changed to a woodgrain pattern. This led us to suspect a beat effect between the line scan rate and the switch-mode power supply oscillator, and so it was. There was a dry-joint at pin 3 (earth) of IC902, the 12 V regulator in the power supply.
E.T.

## Pioneer SD26

If the power supply section of this set doesn't work, possibly squealing, squawking or ticking, with bizarre waveforms in the chopper drive and output stages, check the $2,200 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ electrolytic capacitor C852.
E.T.

## Hinari CT11

The fault with this set was tripping. It came to life (minus the tuning voltage) when any one of the plugs from the front panel was disconnected from the main PCB. We then discovered that if the base of transistor Q17 was disconnected the set would work normally. Not having the circuit diagram we don't know what this transistor does for a living, but we've since had several of these sets with the same fault. They seem to work happily without Q17 being in operation.
J.R.C.

## Sony KV1820UB

This one came in as a dead set. Because of its age we were in some doubt as to what the condition of the tube would be, but we decided to have a go at repairing it. A check in the power supply showed that the chopper transistor Q607 and the two resistors R628 and R639 in series with its emitter were all open-circuit. We replaced these items, using a BU208A in the Q607 position, then went straight to the line output stage tuning capacitor $\mathrm{C} 813(0.016 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 1.5 \mathrm{kV})$ which was o.k. The gate-controlled switch line output device was also o.k. The $330 \mathrm{pF}, 1.5 \mathrm{kV}$ capacitor C 901 , which is connected across it, was open-circuit however. When this was replaced normal operation was restored - with, I might add, an excellent picture.
J.R.C.

## Rediffusion 365138 (SP2 Chassis)

The complaint with this set was "a line down the screen and no colour'. I'd not come across one of these sets before and didn't have the circuit diagram. It appears to use a Sharp chassis. I found that the fault could be cleared by tapping around the line oscillator and eventually discovered that C605 was dry-jointed.
R.N.

## Philips G90AE Chassis

This set would shut down with a ticking noise from the power supply. We found that the PCB around R3668 (150) ) was scorched while $\operatorname{Tr} 7652$ (BC557C) was leaky. After fitting replacements I checked the set and found that although the h.t. was correct at 95 V R3668 was still under stress, while under certain conditions the verticals were ragged. A scope check on the h.t. line showed that there was a lot of noise. The h.t. reservoir capacitor C2630 $(47 \mu \mathrm{~F})$ was' warm, a replacement finally putting everything right. R.N.

## Philips FL1.0 Chassis

I sometimes think that the protection circuits in modern sets cause more trouble than the circuits they are supposed to
protect! This nearly new set was no exception. The power supply was in the protection mode. Scope checks suggested that the problem was in the EW correction circuit but this turned out to be o.k. The cause of the trouble was that T7542 in the protection circuit was leaky. We've now had this fault twice.
R.N.

## Philips 2B Chassis

Another 2B set with the power supply stuck in standby. This one could be made to function only when the gate of thyristor 6727 was disconnected. While checking around the standby control circuit I eventually discovered that D6729 had reverse leakage. The set worked normally when this diode was disconnected at one end. It actually feeds the mute circuit, to prevent plops in the standby mode. Sufficient voltage was being passed back via the diode to trigger the thyristor and put the supply into the standby mode. R.N.

## Tatung TUV9731 (170 Series Chassis)

The problem with this 21 in . text set was no tuning from cold. When it had warmed up a bit the tuning would start to work and a normal picture would appear. In the fault condition there was no tuning voltage: the 33 V supply was present at pin 17 of the SAB3035 tuning chip but there was no tuning output at pin 15 . The chip itself turned out to be o.k., the culprit being the associated 4 MHz crystal X001. I used a replacement from a Ferguson satellite TV receiver that was looking rather unwell after mains transformer failure (it uses the same chip and crystal). When this crystal had been fitted the set worked perfectly whether cold or warm.

## Samsung Cl3312Z

There were signs of a burn up in the line output stage. After replacing various componentts here we switched on. A loud bang and a bright flash from two of the resistors we'd replaced woke us up. The set continued to work, but the picture was oversized and there would occasionally be arcs from the two resistors previously mentioned. A check on the h.t. produced a reading of 157 V at the minimum setting. The manual specifies 125 V at D 821 . The cause of this high voltage was that R 807 had increased in value from $11 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ to $19 \mathrm{k} \Omega$. A replacement restored normal operation.
M.L.

## Panasonic TX1752 (U5 Chassis)

The complaint with this set was that there was no picture for thirty minutes after switch on. It then worked perfectly. On the bench we found that this was so - there was no luminance. A lot of time was wasted freezing and testing components in this area. To cut a long story short. the cause of the fault turned out to be hardly visible dry-joints on the pins of the line output transformer. Resoldering provided a complete cure.
J.K.P.

## Panasonic TX24A1 (Alpha 2W Chassis)

This set had an overloaded power supply: it was squealing and the h.t. line was very low at only 25 V . A fault in the line output stage was suspected, and indeed disconnecting the supply to it and connecting a dummy load in its place produced the correct h.t. voltage. No obvious shorts could be found, and the line output transistor seemed to be fine. So the line output transformer was suspected - we've had it fail on a few occasions in this chassis. Before replacing it
however we thought it a good idea to fit a néw output transistor, just in case. When checked out of circuit the old transistor gave the same readings as the new one. But they do give odd readings - about $100 \Omega$ across the base-emitter junction, presumably because of an internal resistor. Anyway after fitting the new 2SD 1441 the set sprang to life, with the correct h.t. voltage etc. This didn't provide a complete cure however. According to the set's owner it went off again an hour after being returned.

It came back with the same symptoms - low h.t. and squealing. When another 2SD1441 line output transistor had been fitted the set worked all right, and once again the old transistor compared perfectly with a known good one. I assumed that the cause of the fault was base-emitter junction breakdown, but why? - with the internal resistor you can't check the junction in the normal manner. Tracing the base print connection back to the line driver transformer solved the problem: the chassis side of the winding was dryjointed. Resoldering the transformer connections provided a complete cure.
S.C.

## Panasonic TC21R1 (Alpha 2 Chassis)

"Colour fault" it said on the job card. When I switched the set on I was surprised to see running through the picture the horizontal green and magenta bars you get when the reference oscillator is misadjusted. So I adjusted the trimmer, C637. This altered the frequency but the oscillator wouldn't lock.

To set the oscillator, pin 11 of IC601 must be shorted to chassis. As many an engineer knows, when you do this the effect is as described above.

Now what component is connected between this pin and chassis? Something that could perhaps become leaky? Who said a 10 nF ceramic capacitor? Full marks to that person. Yes, the 10 nF ceramic capacitor strikes again in yet another position. C642 was the culprit, a replacement soon restoring colour to everyone*s cheeks.

These little items seem to be everywhere in Panasonic sets, just waiting to become faulty and give the unwary service engineer a real headache. As I've said before, if in doubt check your 10 nFs . A faulty one usually measures between $100 \Omega$ and $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$. But the force used to get the capacitor out can resulh in the short disappearing, thus adding to the confusion.
S.C.

## Sony KV2096

The line output transistor was short-circuit and the 1.25 A fuse had blown. As no obvious faults were found these items were replaced. At switch on the transistor instantaneously went short-circuit, the power supply making no attempt to trip. $\$$ removed the transistor and checked the h.t. voltage, using a 60 W bulb as a load. It was correct at 115 V . The line drive was then checked. There seemed to be plenty of oomph, though the waveform was misshapen due to the absence of the line output transistor. The flyback tuning capacitor and the various protection capacitors around the line output stage were next checked but no faults could be found. Changing the line output transformer finally provided a cure.
P.H.

## Ferguson 16A2 (TX90 Chassis)

This set had terrible field linearity. The cause was the 68 V zener diode D137 between the collector of TR 105 and chassis - it was leaky. This zener diode is not present in the smaller-screen versions of the chassis.
P.H.

# Battle with a Solavox VCR 

"It won't play at all now" complained the lady owner, "and it had been going so well." The machine was a Solavox Model NCVR5000. When I unscrewed the case the machine looked like certain Sentra and Alba models, and I noticed a familiar Panasonic 777-type reel idler.

I loaded a cassette and, guess what? - the machine played perfectly. So I left it playing while I sorted out another machine. When I returned to it the test tape was almost at the end. I pressed rewind and left it running, but it stopped sooner than I expected. This time the tape was right at the end. Thinking that I must have selected fast forward by mistake, I pressed rewind again. Nothing happened. I ejected the cassette, loaded a different one and pressed the fast forward button. As the tape wound forwards normally I stopped it and once more selected rewind. The machine had other ideas however: it still wound forwards!

## Fault Finding

I managed to borrow a service manual from Vic down the road. It bore the model number VCR-30DAP but no brand name. The "servo-logic" PCB is under the PIF (tuner/i.f.) PCB on the right-hand side. After consulting the "U501 logic circuit" I eyed with suspicion the PU4310 reel motor drive chip IC606, which is near the rear heatsink. I decided to start at the other end however and stuck my digi meter across pins 7 and 8 (see Fig. 1) of the large MN1522-0231 microcontroller chip IC601.

As expected, in fast forward I got a positive voltage at pin 8 with respect to pin 7. In rewind however there was a positive voltage at pin 7 with respect to pin 8 but it was only about 2 V instead of the 3.8 V shown on the circuit diagram. When I checked from pin 8 to chassis in this mode the reading was over IV instead of zero or 0.1 V .

I disconnected the $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ resistors R636 and R64I that apply bias to the KTC1815 polarity switching transistors Q609 and Q610 and checked the voltages again in both

## Dave Mackrill

modes. This time the voltages at pins 7 and 8 were normal, the appropriate pin being pulled up to the positive supply line voltage by R663 or R664 when the other one is taken to zero or 0.1 V by the switching action of the chip.

Q609 is obviously leaky I thought as I unsoldered and removed it. But no, it was o.k. Maybe something was wrong with Q610 then. It tested o.k. however. I refitted the transistors, reconnected R636 and R641 and then unsoldered the control pins 2, 4, 6 and 8 of the reel motor drive chip IC606. This made no difference. Lots of other tests on components and sections of the circuitry were then carried out, proving conclusively that IC606 was blameless. I finally removed C606 $(0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F})$. Bingo! It had a $7 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ leak. I then checked C 607 which read 17 nF instead of $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ on the capacitance meter.

To be on the safe side both capacitors were replaced with nice new $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 350 \mathrm{~V}$ types. Fast forward and rewind were then o.k. but a bit sluggish. So a new reel idler was fitted. A deck service completed the repair.

## Chewed Tapes

This was not to be the end of the story however. A fortnight later the machine was back with two damaged tapes. Why always two? I checked fast forward and rewind, and the take-up torque in the play mode. As the latter seemed slightly weak the idler was again changed. This improved matters a bit, but I was still not happy.

Suspecting the reel motor, I noticed that it was a special "fat-looking" type. The day was saved however when I discovered that the manual mentions a "reel motor current" (torque) adjustment. So I connected the meter's positive lead to TP601 and its negative lead to TP602, i.e. across the $1 \Omega$, IW reel motor and drive circuitry current sampling resistor R644 on the servo-logic PCB, put the machine in the still mode and adjusted R649 for a reading of 190 mV .

This must be a sort of "quiescent current" state. At last I


Fig. 1: Reel drive circuitry used in the Solavox Model NCVR5000.
was rewarded with good take-up torque plus powerful fast forward and rewind. Potentiometer R649 is at the right-hand edge of the board and can be tweaked without removing the tuner/i.f. panel.

Presumably the reel motor had been a bit tired after all the excitement, though its spindle seemed free enough. Or perhaps its commutator had become sooty. So I made a note to warn the owner that a replacement motor might be needed before very much longer.

As the two damaged tapes were new I cut out the mangled
sections, unwound the tape back to the take-up spool leaders and respliced them. The lady was pleasantly surprised to get them back, albeit with labels attached warning that they were no longer three-hour cassettes.

Editorial note: The Mauritron Technical Publications Video Recorder and Camcorder Equivalents book MTP-143 lists the following equivalents of the Solavox NCVR-5000: Nikkai NVR-500RC: Sentra GX8000; Alba VCR3000X, VCR4000X and SVC7414.

## Letters

## CUSTOMERS WE COULD DO WITHOUT

I seem to get more than my fair share of customers with silly or unusual requests. Here are some examples.

The phone rang and I answered it. "Do you repair videos?" a voice said. "We do, what make is it sir?" "VHS" he replied. When I tried to explain that VHS is a system, not a brand, he just replied "well it says bloody VHS on the front" and put the phone down.

A customer came into our shop and bought two 3.15A fuses. He came back ten minutes later and demanded a refund. When I asked why, he placed two blown fuses on the counter and said "they're faulty - they keep blowing". I pointed out that fuses do tend to blow when there's a fault. He said something I dare not type and left the shop.

A customer came into the shop, looked around and approached the counter. When I said "good morning, sir, can I help you?" he replied "do you sell radio paint?" I stood there and thought why me? but replied "I'm sorry sir, we don't have any in stock". The customer thanked me, left the shop, stopped, turned around and came back in. "Do you know anyone who might have some?" This was too good to miss, so I sent him to the butcher's down the road. I learnt later that he'd gone there and asked for some purple radio paint.

A customer bought a pair of headphones and returned next day complaining that there was no sound. When I asked him how he was using them he placed them on his head and held the 3.5 mm jack plug up, saying "there - it still doesn't work".

I was serving in the shop one day when a rather scruffy bloke came in, walked up to the counter and said "do you have any Calor gas portable TVs for my caravan?" When I told him I didn"t he asked "well have you got a car exhaust centre piece for my hot-air balloon?" I tried to explain that he was in the wrong shop but he threw a fit and left.

Radio paint came back on another occasion. He pointed at a short-wave radio on display and said "they're Japanese, aren't they?" When I confirmed that they were he asked"can they receive foreign English?" "Yes" I said. "do you want to buy one?" He said no and promptly left, never to be seen again.

I keep thinking why me?!
P.J. Roberts.

Fishponds, Bristol.

## COULD DO BETTER

What's wrong with our industry? Last week I had occasion to send away to Akai UK Lid. for some parts. The order was sent on the appropriate letterhead paper with clear instructions as to the parts required and the customer's cheque for
the correct amount. I waired and waited, then phoned and was assured that the parts would be sent on receipt of the order. Then lo and behold a letter came from Akai to say "sorry, but we don't supply members of the general public". Result, one angry technician and one very irate customer.

When I enquired further I was told that the letterhead was printed by a computer and not a printer. I explained that I'd bought the computer for business use to save me money and time. Therefore I print my own letterheads, photocopy them and save god knows how much. Not good enough said Akai. Moral, don't believe that a computer will save you money, or that ordering parts is easy, quick and efficient.

Another thing I've noticed is that when phoning about or ordering the cheaper ispecial offers) ranges of spares or test equipment all too often you can't get them. A recent encounter was with Willow Vale. I phoned about a capacitance meter at $£ 32 \cdot 50$, order code 12168 . "Yes" I was told, "we've eight in stock." So I hot-footed it over to Reading, with the cash in my hot, grubby fingers. When I got there half an hour after phoning I was told not only that they didn't have any but that they don't sell them! I was offered one at $£ 82$.

Tut, tut, boys! It wasn't the first time, in dealings with many firms, that this sort of thing has happened.
D. Maitland Hill, DMH Electronics.

Basingstoke, Hants.

## ANY SUGGESTIONS?

You've published several informative articles (e.g. September 1992) on removing and replacing surface-mounted devices. I can't however recall having seen anything on removing conventional components from plated-through-hole (PTH) PCBs. I'na involved in servicing car radio-cassette players and it's a problem I come across quite often.

One way to remove say a DIL chip is to remove the solder from the holes, around the component legs. I've tried desoldering braid, an Oryx pump and a combined pump and soldering iron of the type supplied by Willow Vale. They all work quite well - sometimes! If the solder is removed at the first attempt all is well. If not, repeated applications fail to remove the solder cleanly. I've tried using extra flux (RS 555-869, which is very good for normal purposes) but this often makes matters worse. I intend to try using a hot-air tool, which I feel will be successful where the device concerned is mounted so that it can be heated without damaging other components.

This won't however provide solutions to two of the most intractable problems I come across when working on some Philips car radio-cassette players (22DC681 for example). It's often necessary to replace lamps in these. This involves removing the front, vertically-mounted PCB from the main, horizontally mounted PCB. There are many interconnections between the two - the front unit contains the LC display and push-buttons and is very difficult to remove. It's not possible to use a hot-air tool here as there are plastic parts that would



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be damaged in the vicinity. The connecting pins are of square section: the problem is in getting the solder from between the four corners of the square and the hole. The job would be easier if the pins were a loose fit in their holes. But they are usually a fairly tight fit.

The other problem is removal of the output chips, which are mounted on a plastic frame before insertion into the PCB. This frame spaces the leads accurately and makes fitting them into the board easy, but the frame fits right down on to the PCB, effectively blocking the plated-through holes. This makes it difficult to remove solder from the other side because air can't enter. When a pump is placed on the other side and its plunger is released the latter rises only very slowly, as air leaks in. There isn't enough "suck" to remove the solder.

I'd be very interested to hear from anyone who has solutions to these problems - ones that give good, clean results and don't require investment in expensive equipment. G. Davies, Geoff Davies Radio, Rughy, Warwicks.

## THOSE BRASS BUSHES

With reference to Chris Watton's note on Sharp/Orion decks (December issue, page 96), the brass bushes are available from Willow Vale Electronics (stock no. 27998KT) and cost around 80 p . The kit comes with a black washer and knurled brass bush. As the bush is a loose fit on the motor shaft I use a very small amount of fast-drying Araldite to secure it. I always replace the bush and fit a new reel idler (genuine type only) and find that this provides a one hundred per cent cure with no comebacks. The bush will fit Orion/Sharp/Amstrad and any other similar decks.
S.J. Caine, S.JC Electronics,

Chippenham, Wilts.

## AN UNUSUAL FAULT

A customer recently brought us a Boots Model CTV1410 (Tatung 160 chassis) with a most unusual fault. The picture geometry was correct from top to bottom but was cone shaped between the sides of the screen, absolutely symmetrical and with straight sides. The picture width at the top was almost correct, but at the bottom it was only half the width of the screen.

All the waveforms in the line and field output stages were correct. We replaced various capacitors in the line output stage, more in desperation than anything else, to no avail. When contacted Mr. Tatung thought that it might be the scan coils, but admitted that he didn't know. Nor did I. Eventually, while showing a visiting engineer the fault, the set emitted a fizzing sound and a dark brown smell! The picture corrected itself except for a slightly ragged right-hand edge and an unlocked frame. The line output transformer was cooking, a new one solving the problem.

As this was such a strange performance I thought others might like to know about it.
P. D'Alquen, D'Alquen and Blackburn.

Pickering, N. Yorkshire.

## POLARISER MODIFICATION

The bit about the ITT Nokia SAT1 100 modifications in the muary Satellite Notebook caught my eye. I've just modified receiver as follows. By placing a low-value resistor in s with the 17 V d.c. applied to the LNB, horizontal chanwere received all right. So a relay, powered by the ser signal, was used to short out the resistor, making all

[997
Fig. 1: Simple polarisation modification for the ITT Nokia SAT1100.
channels available from the handset. I used P0 for vertical polarisation, P4 for horizontal. Fig. 1 shows the circuit.
Mark Adlington,
Sawtry, Cambs.
Nick Beer comments: A simple and effective idea. The design lacks regulation, and in production terms has the disadvantages of the mechanical unreliability introduced by the relay and the heat dissipation introduced by the resistor. But as a personal modification it's great!

## A BBC B COMPUTER FAULT

Thank you for Arthur Rumbelow's article on the BBC Model B computer (January). The following power supply fault I had recently may be of interest to others. At power up the computer sometimes just beeped continuously, with all the LEDs flickering. Eventually the fault became so bad that my son demanded action! On investigation I found that in the fault condition all the power supply lines were low. The cause of the fault was C 9 in the power supply going low in value. It's mounted next to a resistor that runs quite warm, so the fault could become a common one as these power supplies age.
Paul Hardy,
Reading, Berks.

## CAMCORNER

With reference to the problem with a Ferguson GRC7/Ferguson 3C03 described by David Woodnott (January), JVC have available a Focus Helicoid Kit for this model. Its cost is very small compared to that of a new lens. If the focus assembly of a lens is crossthreaded because of impact damage it's not good practice to reverse the situation by further application of force. The focus drive is very light, and damage to the focus assembly threads often causes intermittent lens jamming.
Steve Beeching,
Newark, Notts.

## CAMCORDER BATTERY PROBLEMS

I was very interested in the Test Case 361 (January) reference to failure of an auxiliary 6 V supply to operate a camcorder. Early last year I purchased a Panasonic NVS5B palmcorder in a bit of a rush for a particular purpose. Many others will know what I am about to say - that the batteries are a pain in the er. . . neck. It says quite clearly " 6 V DC batt operation" on the base of this camcorder, under the model number, and at the rear where the battery clips on it says "DC IN 6 V " - I feel sure that this refers to the d.c. input socket from the mains power pack. Neither of the two camcorders that I have had (one was exchanged because of a fault) will operate with a 6 V supply however. As a nicad battery let me down I purchased and fully charged a 6 V 7 Ah lead-acid battery but was again thwarted.

On investigation 1 found that the camcorder requires something like $6 \cdot 1 \mathrm{~V}$ to operate, consuming about $1 \cdot 1 \mathrm{~A}$ in the record mode. By monitoring the voltage ( 7.2 V ) produced by

| AN3215K | ${ }^{\text {c }}$ 4.50 | AN7163 | 95 | La3210 | ¢0. 95 | M83730 | £2.20 | STK5337 | 97.25 | tap27aiap | £2.50 | TEA1017 | 22.75 | 2N3055 | 50 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A | ¢2. 95 | - | ¢3.70 | LA3370 | 52.50 | 33731 | $£ 2.75$ | K53 | 94.50 | TA7280P | £2.95 | TEA1039 | 20 | 2 N 3 | 50 |  |
| AN3312 | $¢_{52} 9.95$ | AN7168 | ${ }^{2} 275$ | LA3375 | $\mathrm{c}_{5} 50$ | MB8841 | ¢5.75 | K54 | ¢6.50 | TA72811 | ¢2.75 | TEA1042 | 83.75 | 2N3819 | 20. 30 |  |
| AN3331K | ${ }_{5} 5.75$ | AN7171K | ¢4.75 | LA4108 | ${ }_{5}^{2} 2.20$ |  |  | K54 | ${ }_{5}^{56.50}$ | ${ }_{\text {TA7317 }}^{\text {TAR99 }}$ | E1.50 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { TEA } 1060 \\ & \text { TEA } 1061 \end{aligned}$ | E2.20 |  |  |  |
| AN3792 | E2.95 | AN7172K | $\underline{29.95}$ | La413? | ¢1.95 | SAA11 | E. 50 | STk54 | 55.50 | TA7607A | $\underline{22.20}$ | TEA1080P | $\underline{E 2} .50$ | 254769 | ¢1. 95 | Difler chies |
| AN3821K | ¢5.95 | 4N7173K | ${ }^{\text {¢3. }} 50$ | LA4145 | ${ }^{\text {¢1.70 }}$ |  | E. 50 | STK5481 | ¢5.95 | TA7609P | 82.70 | TEA2018A | £1.95 | ${ }_{2 S A 111}$ | ${ }_{\text {co }} 9.75$ | ONDON W2 1LE |
| An38220 | ${ }^{\text {¢6\% } 6.95}$ | AN7178 | ${ }_{51}$ | La4160 | ${ }_{c} 2.20$ | sal504? | £8.00 | STK5482 | ${ }^{\text {¢ }} 5.95$ | TA7611AP | ${ }_{51} 9.20$ | UPC575C | £1.00 | 2SA1186 | ${ }_{9} 9.95$ |  |
| AN5010 | ${ }^{265} 595$ | AN7420 | ${ }_{\text {¢1 }}$ | La4162 | ${ }_{¢ 1.75}$ | STA301A | ¢3.95 | STK5730 | ¢11.75 | ${ }_{\text {TA76760AP }}^{\text {TA }}$ | ${ }_{\text {¢ }}$ | UPC 1025 H | 7) 30 | 2SA1232 | $\underline{2} .60$ | 8 92 |
| AN | ¢3. 95 | BA5 | ¢. 20 | LA | $¢_{11.95}$ | $4^{4} \mathrm{C}$ | $\underline{\square} .75$ | STK7308 | 85.50 |  |  | UPC11981 | $\begin{aligned} & \frac{£ 2.75}{£ 1.20} \end{aligned}$ | 2SAA 265 | \% 3.40 | ax: 071-262 06 |
| ANS033 | ع5. 25 |  | £2.95 | LA4 | ${ }_{81} 2.20$ | 0029 | ¢4.75 |  | 84.95 | TC9106BP | [5.50 | PC1 | £1.60 | $2 \mathrm{SA13}$ | \%325 |  |
| AN5135K | ¢3.95 |  | 81.95 | LA | £1.75 |  | ¢6. 25 | STK7404 | E6.95 | TDA |  | H | ${ }_{5} 9.50$ | ${ }_{2}$ SA1303 | ${ }^{93} 80$ | EO |
|  |  | BA | $\underline{2} .20$ |  | ¢2.30 | STK0049 | E6. 50 |  | . 50 | TDA | E1.40 | UPC 1241 H | ¢1. 95 | ${ }_{2 S A 1306}^{2 S A 1307}$ | ${ }_{6} \mathbf{c} 0.95$ |  |
|  |  | BA6239A | $\underline{¢} .20$ | L44261 | ¢2. 30 | 433 | £5.25 |  | ¢8.95 | TDA1015 | ¢1.50 | UPC1263C | 52.30 | ${ }_{2 S A 1516}$ | $\cong .50$ |  |
| ANS | ${ }_{\text {c1. }}^{12}$ |  |  | LA42670 | ${ }_{¢ 2}$ |  | ¢5.50 | STR450 | ¢12.50 | TDA170N | c1.50 | UPC1277H | c. 50 |  |  | HTACHI VT11/14/33 |
| AN541 | $\ldots 3.95$ | BA7005 | ¢2.20 | L44280 | $\underline{\% 2.95}$ | STK443 | 88.95 | STR454 | [6.75 | TDA | $\xi^{5} .50$ |  |  |  |  | HiTACHI VT8000/9000 ................... $£ 16.00$ |
| A | ¢2 | BA7751AL | ${ }_{¢ 1.95}$ | La4 | $\underline{52.50}$ | STK457 | ¢7.50 | STR | £6.75 | TDA1510S1 | ${ }_{\xi} .95$ | UPC | ${ }^{\text {² }}$ |  | ${ }_{80.60}$ | H-SACHI VT7/17/19 ........................ $£ 32.00$ |
|  |  | HA1 | 1.50 |  | 50 | STK459 | c7. 75 | STR456 | ¢6.75 | TDA15 | $\underline{92} 50$ | UPC136 | £2.75 | 2 SB6 | ¢0. 60 | HITACHI VT35/39 ......................... 34.00 |
| AN | $\underline{22} 20$ | HA | £2.95 | LA4 | ${ }_{51} 2.20$ |  | ¢9 | STR1229 | ¢5.70 | TDA | ${ }_{3}{ }^{2} 50$ | UPC136 | 84.20 | ${ }^{258633}$ | ¢1.35 | IVC/FERGUSON PV 31332G .............. $£ 8.50$ |
| ANS | $\underline{2} .95$ | HA | ¢2. 20 | La4 | ¢1.80 |  |  | 18 | ${ }_{86} 26$ | TOA5180 | ${ }_{5}^{51.95}$ | UPC136 | $\underline{2} .95$ | 2586 | ${ }^{2} 0.65$ | JVC/FERGUSON PV 31332L |
|  | ${ }^{4} 4.50$ | HA1388 | $\underline{8.95}$ | LA | ¢1.80 | STK1060 | E7 |  | ¢6. 23 |  | ${ }^{2} 1.95$ | UPC137 | ${ }^{11} 20$ | 258 | 1 | NC/FERGUSON HRD 180/230/3V59 |
| AN | $\ldots .95$ | HA | ${ }^{\text {c2 } 20}$ | La | $\sum 2.30$ |  |  | STR2005 | ¢5.95 |  | ${ }^{10} 80$ | UPC |  |  |  | 00 |
|  | ¢3 |  | 5 |  | ¢2. 30 | STK2028 | E7. 50 |  | c6. 2 m | TDA | ¢0.95 | UPC | ç 75 | 2 SB | $\underline{7} .95$ | CFERGUSONHRD 250 - $£ 35.00$ |
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|  |  |  | ¢8.00 |  | \%. 75 | STK304 | ¢6. | STR11006 | ${ }^{\text {cf. } 20}$ | DA | £4.50 | BD244C | ${ }^{\text {co }}$. 50 | 2SC1 | c0.95 | PANASONIC VEH 0267 (original) ............... $£ 37.00$ |
| N632 | ¢2. 95 | HA | ${ }^{18} 7.50$ |  | ${ }^{\text {ct }}$ 4. 95 | STK3044 | ¢5.75 |  | ¢5.50 | toA25 | ¢3. 50 | BD607 | 50.95 |  | 1.20 | PANASONIC VEH 0210 |
|  |  | HA11747A | ¢7. 50 |  | $\underline{52} 8$ | STK3062 | ${ }_{6}^{6} .75$ |  | Es. 20 | TDA26 | ¢6.00 | 80 | ${ }^{\text {E0. }}$ ¢ 95 |  | 1.00 | PANASONIC VEH 0252 . $\quad$. ${ }^{\text {a }}$ |
|  | E4 |  | £7.50 |  | E. | STK 3082 ii | ¢6.95 |  | ${ }^{\text {cse }}$ | J ICA2611A | £1. |  | ${ }^{2} .65$ |  | 9 | PANSONIC VEF 0252 (original) ............... $£ 35.00$ |
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a fully-charged $6 \mathrm{~V}, 1.8 \mathrm{Ah}$ battery I was able to establish that the camcorder shut down at just over 6 V . A check with a nicad battery, discharging it through a fixed wire resistance at the same current $(1 \cdot \mid \mathrm{A})$, showed that it took about fifteen minutes for the output voltage to drop from 7.2 V to 6.1 V , the camcorder's cut-off point. The voltage then stayed at 6 V for just about the length of time that it should have done. Had one been able to reduce the camcorder's cut-off voltage to say 5.9 V then, all things being equal (temperature, battery properly discharged/charged and so on), it would have been possible to get a full 45 minute recording with the battery supplied instead of the ten minutes that was all I was able to get. In view of this wouldn't it have been better to specify a 7.2 V nicad battery instead of a 6 V one?

With any type of battery for which there is a stated Ah discharge rate, surely if it won't give the stated voltage while delivering the stated current for the stated time it shouldn't claim to be able to do so?

A further point with nicad batteries is the so-called memory effect, caused by topping up the charge after a short period of use. The instruction on my spare battery states "fully discharge before recharging". To me this suggests that the battery should be discharged using a suitable bulb until this fails to glow. With my Panasonic camcorder however the automatic mains charger/power supply, which has a built-in automatic discharge and recharge feature, has 5.62 V as the quoted discharge point, which I wouldn't call anywhere near "fully discharged". So who is right?

I resolved my battery problems by purchasing another 6 V 7 Ah lead-acid battery, connecting the two batteries in series then using a regulator to supply 7.2 V , which is the starting point with a charged nicam battery. The lead-acid batteries can discharge to approximately 9 V before the regulator action fails. This has enabled me to spend all day filming without having to worry about battery failure. If I need to do so I can recharge direct from my car cigar lighter. The only problem is the extra weight I have to carry, but this can be put down whilst filming.

I would welcome other people's views on these points. John F.J. Kendall,
Herne Bay, Kent.


Can anyone supply a scrap Ferguson 1790 chassis or alternatively the sound demodulator can (part no. 06D0-214002)? Roger Burchett, 12 Ormonde Road, Hythe, Kent (0303 267 969).

Wanted, Philips VR2022/05 VCR, working or non-working. G. Angelini, 853 Govan Road, Glasgow G51 3DL (041 445 2663).

Wanted, TV coin-operated meter boxes, preferably Smiths or Coinmechs, $\mathfrak{£ l}$ or at least 50 p type, or any other make as long as they are supplied with keys. G.H. Jones, Einion Electrics, Bridge Street, Llanfair Caereinion, Powys SY21 0RZ (0938 810 539).

Can anyone supply the transcoder that plugs into the back of the Pye/Philips 20VR22 VCR to enable it to be used with remote control? Barry J. Carleton, 0624824646 daytime. 0624833702 evenings.

Can anyone supply new or secondhand a front panel (operation panel) for the Amstrad SRX200 satellite TV receiver? The Amstrad part no. is 240068 - it's apparently no longer available. Philip Pick, Sight and Sound, 1 Stonewall Cottage, Hill Top Farm, Caythorpe Heath, Caythorpe, Lincs NG32 3EU (0400 73448).

Required, an oil-filled LOPT for the Murphy V310 dating from circa 1957. N.F. Plant, 3 Arthur Moody Drive, Carisbrooke, Newport, Isle of Wight (0983 520 087).

Can anyone supply Module CMR800 (the r.f./i.f. unit) for the ITT Model 1600/1? Also loan of a manual for the set would be appreciated. V. Jeremy, 7 Tai Penyard, Penyard, Methyr Tydfil, Mid-Glamorgan, S. Wales.

Wanted: Circuit diagram or other service information for the Network 14FRE colour portable. E.J. Edwards, FFF, 7 Field House, 2A Low Wood Road, Birkenhead, Merseyside L41 2SR. 0516475156.

Wanted: A service sheet or photocopy of the manual for the Sony Model KV2782 multistandard TV set. Will pay reasonable price. D. Benyon, Marshland View, St. Anne's Hill, Bude, Cornwall EX23 0LT. 0288353373.

Can anyone supply a rear cover for a Philips G6 set Model G25K502 or similar - and perhaps some salvaged parts? Brian Renforth, 174 Helmsley Road, Sandyford, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE2 IRD.

Wanted: 50 MHz bandwidth oscilloscope. G. Cannon, 16 St. Cuthbert's Road, Holy Cross, Wallsend, Tyne and Wear NE28 7JF. 091 2620712.

Can anyone supply a front control panel - on/off switch, tuning, etc. - for the Rediffusion Mk 4 chassis type 564058 (teletext)? H.S. Downing, 16 Mayfield Crescent, Lower Stondon, Henlow, Beds SG 16 6LF. 0462850244.

Has anyone a circuit diagram for the Akura CX10 colour TV receiver? D.J. Long, 15 Wellholme, Brighouse, W. Yorkshire HD6 4AF.

Wanted: Circuit diagram for a Philips PM3225 oscilloscope and a line output transformer for the Hinari TV-VCR Model VTV200. G. Howes, 5 The Firs, Worlingham, Beccles, Suffolk NR34 7DP. 0502713942.

Has anyone a stock of LOPTs for the Panasonic U3 chassis? Roger Burchett, 12 Ormonde Road, Hythe, Kent CT21 6DN. 0303267969.

Does anyone know of a source of remote controls and/or AV adaptors for Philips V2000 series VCRs? S. Sheppard, 12 Bedford Road, Harrow, Middx HA1 4LZ. 0818635150.

[^6]

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