SPECIAL AUDIO/VIDEO FEATURES

audio and acoustics: Acoustics for Recording Studios; Broadcast Engineers' Approach to Live Music Pickup

television and video: CATV Today, A Look at the Field; VTR-Cue; plus—Network Coverage of a Tragic Weekend; and, After the Freeze . . . . ?

Broadcast Engineering
the technical journal of the broadcast-communications industry
"DESIGN IT THE BEST YOU KNOW HOW, AFTER WHICH WE WILL PRICE IT"

This was the instruction from Gates management throughout the development of the BC-5P-2 5000 watt AM broadcast transmitter. That this directive became a reality is now history, as 218 of these transmitters now operate world-wide. Several of the design features, responsible for this universal acceptance, are listed below. In preparing this analysis, Gates recognizes that the items it omits could be construed as weak points. Actually, this effort is to cover the points that are of major importance to a buyer who is going to invest several thousand dollars for a 5000 watt transmitter.

**TRANSMITTER SIZE:** A prime objective was to fit the transmitter into the smallest possible room size, while staying within good engineering practice. There was no sensible reason, however, to build it so small that: (1) it is hard to service, (2) it runs hot, and (3) it cannot be 100% self-contained. After all, few things are worse than finding room and protection of life for an outboard high voltage power transformer. BC-5P-2 is 100% self-contained in 3 cubicles, each with its own cooling system. Floor size is 731/2" across and 391/2" front to back. With the 78" height, BC-5P-2 has a total cubage of 135.6, a minimum for both good cooling and serviceability with common sense ease.

**TRI-UNIT COOLING:** The BC-5P-2 features a special 3-cabinet cooling system consisting of blowers, each with 270 C.F.M. air capacity and 1/4 H.P. motor, plus ceiling suction fan. Blowers are shock mounted to assure minimum low frequency noise.

**FULL TEE NET TANK:**
Gates does not stop at the dotted line . . . (below). The

BC-5P-2 has a complete Tee network to guarantee meeting FCC harmonic reduction figures. FCC rules say this reduction is "as measured into a suitable load". Gates DOES NOT interpret a suitable load as an antenna coupler with its own network. The BC-5P-2 must meet FCC harmonic measurements at the transmitter output terminals into a pure resistance dummy antenna. Nothing else!

**POWER AMPLIFIER COMPONENT VALUES:** Lasting power is as important as output power. For this reason, Gates has installed what we firmly believe to be the largest power amplifier component list of any 5000 watt transmitter made. To prove this, we list these values for you to check.

- **Plate Tank Coil:** Edgewound ribbon, Micalex insulated, rotating type for tuning, 1/8" x 1/2" ribbon, silver plated, 20 ampere rating.
- **Tank Vacuum Capacitor:** Jennings Model M voltage 15,000 volts. Current: 21 amperes.
- **Shunt Capacitor No. 1 Tee Network:** Ceramic insulated 5% Mica Type G3 rated at 15,000 volts and 21-27 amperes.
- **First Tee Net Coil:** Edgewound, ribbon Micalex insulated, fixed tapped, ribbon 3/32" x 7/6" silver plated, 15 amperes.

**POWER OUTPUT:** Capable of 5600 watts, the transmitter provides ample margin for losses incurred in directional arrays. The ability to modulate an easy 100% (note easy) is very important. The same modulator tube complement is used in the BC-5P-2 as in the Gates 10,000 watt model and at the same plate voltage.

**TUBE OR SILICON RECTIFIERS:** Gates has both. What should I buy? As silicon rectifiers cost more and must never fail (they are not replaced like a tube) Gates feels that the very best is necessary and demands 3 times voltage and 15 times current safety factors. If the equipment is operator-attended, such as with directionals, tubes might be preferred.

**TRANSFORMERS:** The heart of any equipment. Here, the number is important, as distribution of load has much to do with transformer and transmitter heat, and heat has very much to do with transmitter life. BC-5P-2 has a total of 22 sealed transformers and reactors, sparsely distributed throughout the three cubicles. They are all made for 50 cycle service -- a 20% bonus safety factor for 60 cycle users.

**CABINET RADIATION:** All broadcast transmitters must pass critical cabinet radiation tests to obtain FCC approval. To assure absolute cabinet radiation compliance, the entire RF driver/tank and output network are constructed within an 11 gauge aluminum housing.

---

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From THE Translator Company

the technical journal of the broadcast-communications industry

**Broadcast Engineering**

Volume 6, No. 2 February, 1964

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Circle Item 5 on Tech Data Card

LETTERS

to the editor

DEAR EDITOR:

Mr. Aharran of WAJP asked (in January "Letters to the Editor") if the console pictured in my cartridge rack article of the August issue is a Gates "Dualux." He also outlined a problem which arose when he switched both channels of his console into one output. The console shown in Fig. 1 of the article is a "Gatesway." The switch referred to is the program circuit Normal-Emergency switch, in our console.

I would like to venture a guess that the difficulty Mr. Aharran is experiencing is caused by improper phasing of the program amplifier outputs in his console. If this is the case, a considerable loss of output level and an increase in distortion would occur when both outputs are connected into one line. This can be checked by reversing the output connections of either amplifier.

TERENCE KING
Chief Engineer, Radio Station WAKI Willimantic, Conn.

Thanks for the prompt reply, Mr. King; let's hope your information will "console" Mr. Aharran.—Ed.

DEAR EDITOR:

As chief engineer of station KLSN, first in the nation to broadcast stereo FM using production-made equipment, I read the December issue with interest.

First of all I would like to congratulate you and your staff on one of the most comprehensive coverages of the subject I have seen to date. There is one point, however, in the article, "Phase Checking of Stereo Channels," by Mr. Etkin, which calls for clarification.

The author asserts in a sweeping generalization that when the oscilloscope test is made, an in-phase condition is represented by a diagonal line sloping from lower left to upper right. This, he implies, is a rule-of-thumb to be used under any circumstances.

For reasons of technological and production convenience, a majority of the lower priced scopes are wired with the + - quadrant at the upper left, not the upper right. Thus, a positive DC voltage applied to the horizontal input will produce a left, rather than a right, deflection of the beam. The result is, of course, that a line from upper left to lower right means the equipment is in phase—opposite to the would-be Etkin axiom.

Mr. Etkin may have desired it unnecessary to point this out. Assuming a technician would bother to take sufficient note of his instruments' operation. However, I fear the dominant impulse is to accept as gospel anything one reads in a nationally circulated magazine.

Perhaps the best advice is to paraphrase Socrates, "Technician know thy test equipment!"—PAUL H. DAVIS
Chief Engineer. Station KLSN
Seattle, Wash.
Belden camera cable in WGN-TV's unique "Patch Panel" minimizes switch over problems
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13" consoles

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For complete specifications write CTA8/TU across your letterhead and send it to CONRAC, Glendora, California.

Circle Item 7 on Tech Data Card.
Tektronix waveform monitor for 13" consoles

The Type 527 is a precision test instrument designed for displaying linearity, signal level, and bandwidth of television-signal waveforms.

It offers conventional 2 LINE and 2 FIELD displays... dual inputs which can be used differentially... 3 calibrated time-base rates at 0.125 H/CM, 0.025 H/CM, and 0.005 H/CM, which eliminate the need for time markers.

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February, 1964

Other features include:
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Type 527 MOD 132C Waveform Monitor

Type 527 MOD 132C Waveform Monitor $1110

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Either model is fully compatible with the Conrac CT48/TU Monitor.
At the present time, there are over 600,000 individual subscribers to more than 1200 CATV systems in the United States; and the total is constantly growing. Thus, an audience of at least three million viewers and listeners is a fair estimate.

This audience demands, and gets from a modern system, not only more diversified programming than is normally available to the non-subscriber, but also "Class A" picture and sound on all channels. ("Class A" may be roughly defined as the picture and sound quality available to the big-city resident and, from his local stations.)

**Importance to Broadcasting**

Modern CATV systems provide two major benefits to the TV-FM broadcasting industry. They increase the coverage provided by an individual station and, at the same time, guarantee the best possible signals to their subscribers.

Coverage is extremely important to broadcasting stations since advertising revenues are based on the number of consumers reached. Quality of reception is equally important because both program and advertising presentation must be clear and understandable to hold the viewer's (or listener's) interest.

**The Basic CATV System**

The CATV systems presently in operation in the United States vary greatly in size and complexity. The very smallest may provide as few as three TV channels and serve only 150 subscribers. On the other hand, the largest systems provide up to 12 TV channels (including system originated TV programs of a public service nature and FM) to serve more than 10,000 subscribers.

Large or small, these systems are similar in at least the three respects outlined below.

Each consists of these major sections: 1. **Head-end**—At the control location, signals are either received from various sources or originated and then completely processed for transportation. 2. **Transportation system**—A coaxial cable main trunk and associated electronic equipment carry the processed signals to distribution points. 3. **Distribution system**—Coaxial cable feeder lines and associated electronic equipment deliver the signals to the set(s) of each system subscriber.

Each provides program quantity with picture and sound quality that is normally unavailable to its customers by other means.


---

**Fig. 1. Block diagram of typical crystal-controlled television channel demodulator.**
available equipment being developed by the laboratories of the CATV manufacturers. New items are being currently marketed in each of the major categories: head-end, transportation, and distribution.

Head-End Equipment

Located at the main control center, or "head-end," are several types of equipment. These are all for signal reception and processing, and include: microwave transmitters and receivers, antennas, amplifiers, tuners, monitors, and recording devices.

Microwave

A major factor in the increase of modern CATV coverage is the availability of new wideband microwave equipment. These devices, when combined with VHF demodulating and modulating equipment, enable a CATV head-end location to receive signals from broadcasting stations located hundreds of miles away. TV channel input for the microwave transmitting equipment is provided by a TV demodulator (Fig. 1). The demodulator accepts the output from a conveniently-located VHF antenna and produces video and audio outputs. These are combined in a mixing pad and fed to the input of the microwave transmitter.

The latest video microwave equipment, available for either 6 to 8 kmc or 10 to 13, has exceptionally broad bandwidth (8 mc video) and stability of ±.005%. The devices are compact (due to modular construction), simple to operate, and easy to maintain. They are designed to be self-duplexing for multichannel operation without additional equipment. In addition, each transmitter and receiver has an individual power supply.

The output of the microwave transmitter (Fig. 2) is beamed by a microwave radiator (or "dish") over line-of-sight distances to a receiving antenna. The output of this antenna may be fed to another transmitter for further relaying, or to a TV modulator (Fig. 3) via a video/audio separator, or to both. The TV modulator (a companion piece to the TV demodulator) provides the necessary VHF output for the head-end units. A number of microwave links (sometimes called "hops") may be used to make up a microwave system. Any microwave receiver (Fig. 4) in such a system may be used to feed a CATV head-end.

New wideband microwave equipment enables signals from many previously "out-of-reach" stations to be delivered to a head-end. These additional signals, however, would be useless without equipment which can process up to 12 TV and FM channels for delivery to each system subscriber—without degradation of picture or sound quality.

VHF Channel Processor

Typical of the newer-type processing equipment is a device which completely controls any single VHF channel (2—13) so that adjacent channels on both the high and low bands can be fed to a transportation system (Fig. 5). The basic unit comprises a main chassis with built-in power supply and four modules. The modules are tuner, IF-AGC (intermediate frequency amplifier and automatic gain control), AFC-ASC (automatic frequency and sound control), and a standby carrier oscillator. An additional module, the crystal-controlled converter/amplifier, is selected to provide the particular output channel desired.

Power Supply—A central Solar regulated power supply serves all modules. Additional voltage regulation is provided for the ASC and AGC circuits to ensure better stability.

Tuner—The tuner will receive any one of 12 VHF channels, according to the position of the selector switch. The tuning control circuitry incorporates a balance meter which gives visual indication that the tuner is set to the exact frequency. Automatic frequency control maintains the tuner locked precisely on frequency. A special AGC circuit maintains the best possible noise figure on weak antenna signals and prevents overloading on strong (up to 64,000 microvolts) signals. Finally, the tuner amplifies and changes the received signals to relatively low IF frequencies.

IF-AGC—The high-selective IF amplifier incorporates specially designed traps and filters to eliminate adjacent channel interference. This

Please turn to page 45
ACOUSTICS FOR RECORDING STUDIOS

by Don Davis* — A discussion of procedures to follow and pitfalls to avoid in planning studio facilities for recording and broadcasting.

Webster's unabridged dictionary defines acoustics, in part, as an environment "made . . . to promote hearing." This is the goal sought in the design of a useful recording studio, which requires the environment "to promote hearing" during the act of recording and again for satisfactory playback.

There are four important considerations to any acoustical environment — be it home, church, auditorium, or recording studio. These considerations must be satisfactorily solved or the environment will be regarded as an "acoustical problem." They are:

1. **Quietness** — Noise levels must be sufficiently below the program material to be conveyed as to neither distract from nor interfere with the principal sound.

2. **Proper room shape and size** — The studio must be large enough to satisfactorily handle the desired programs, with surfaces arranged to insure adequate loudness and clarity of the program at the microphone.

3. **Proper reverberation** — The studio must have sufficient reverberation time at low frequencies to allow bass instruments to develop tone, but also have reverberation time at mid and high frequencies short enough to assure clarity of speech.

4. **Proper distribution** — The studio must have proper shape to insure evenness of sound at all microphones.

**Quietness**

In planning a recording studio it must be realized that a noise level greater than 25 db (as measured on the A weighting scale of an ASA standard sound level meter) cannot be tolerated. In view of the extremely high noise levels prevalent today near airports, truck arteries, railroads, and areas of heavy industry, a very careful site survey is important in finding the quietest location possible for a studio, consistent with other requirements. Furthermore, after having located a site judged to be satisfactory, a noise survey should be made to determine how much sound isolation must be incorporated into the building to meet the requirements for quietness. This information allows the architect to specify in detail the transmission loss characteristics the walls enclosing the studio must have.

Awareness of the noise sources around the site also allows maximum effectiveness in planning the arrangement of studios within the building — such as locating the main studio on the far side of the building from a heavily traveled street.

Careful control of the noise within the building must be considered — such as building vibrations from passing trucks, machinery, or railroads, and airborne noises such as ventilation, horns, office machinery, and maintenance crews.

**Room Shape and Size**

The studio must be large enough to handle the number of performers required. Typical specifications call for at least eight square feet of floor space for each performer.

Cubic volumes of studios with regard to the number of performers are shown in Table 1.

Within the requirements of size, room shape is quite important in a studio, particularly where music is to be recorded. Perhaps it would be more accurate to say room shape is important in a negative way — in that cube shapes and ratios of 1:2:3 are to be avoided. Parallel surfaces can give rise to flutter in a studio. Concave surfaces can cause focusing which destroys good distribution of sound within a room. A most desirable ratio of dimensions for a studio would be a ratio of the cube root of two. This separates dimensions by 1/3 of an octave. Unfortunately, this is not a practical ratio for larger studios, as the ceiling height becomes too great.

---

*Regional Sales Mgr., Altec Lansing Corp., Elmhurst, Ill.

Table 1. Cubic Volumes of Studios.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of performers</th>
<th>Studio Volume (in cubic feet)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>12,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64</td>
<td>82,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>128</td>
<td>220,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Fig. 1.** View from the rear of studio A, showing acoustical treatment and layout.

**Fig. 2.** Treatment in studio B includes the resiliently suspended ceiling sections.
Naturally the presence of an audience will alter requirements, as may the instruments (e.g., pipe organs). Excellent ratios used in the past include 3.27:1.45:1.0, 2.4:1.5:1.0, and 3.2:1.3:1.0.

Dr. Leo L. Beranek points out in his book, "Music, Acoustics, and Architecture," that room shape is not important but acoustic narrowness is. If you have a studio with undesirable dimensions the installation of acoustic clouds or panels that alter the acoustical shape of the room may correct, to a great degree, the shape of the other walls.

The shape of the studio, as well as its dimensions, will be instrumental in determining the diffusion, dispersion, and distribution of the sound. To splay one wall even a mere one inch per foot from parallel will substantially reduce standing wave patterns in a studio.

**Reverberation**

Covering one hard, smooth surface with a suitable absorbing material can reduce flutter and excessive reverberation. The placing of absorbing materials in a studio is an art. While the exact amount of absorption required can be precisely calculated, the placement of the material cannot.

In general, it is not necessary or desirable to place absorbing material on both opposing surfaces. One frequent mistake is to put carpeting on the floor and acoustic tile on the ceiling. The result is a horrible fluttering echo between parallel side walls. The carpet acts as sufficient absorption between the floor and ceiling surfaces (while reducing overall noise in the room by muffling foot-falls). The tile on the ceiling could have been placed on one of the two side walls to eliminate the flutter echo.

Generally speaking, the ceiling is the least desirable surface on which to place acoustical treatment, while carpeting is one of the best forms of treatment. These normal absorbing materials—carpets and acoustical tile—do not provide low frequency absorption. Windows, doors, and large thin panels do, however, and the tailoring of the low frequency absorption in a studio is best left to a competent acoustical consultant. As a matter of simple fact, it is usually economical to engage the services of a professional acoustical consultant.

**Proper Sound Distribution**

In the last two years several developments have changed the design philosophy of those involved with recording studios. First of all, very high quality directional microphones, notably the condenser cardioid types, allow most satisfactory recording work to be done in studios hitherto considered too reverberant. Such a microphone provides discrimination between the desired direct sound and the reflected reverberant sound.

The second development is stereophonic recording and broadcasting. Acoustical problems of a special nature arise in the design of studios used for dual microphone pickup. The special nature of the problems arise primarily as a consequence of the difference between binaural and monaural hearing. When we listen with both ears the sounds reaching one ear differ in loudness and phase from those reaching our other ear. These differences enable us to locate the source of the sound with some accuracy and concentrate on that source while ignoring, to a large extent, sounds coming from other directions. If we listen to an orchestra with only one ear we find our ability to discriminate between the direct and the reflected sound is diminished and the room sounds more reverberant and noisy. A monophonic microphone pickup suffers from the same handicap.

In the past, studios have been designed with one-eared listening characteristics in mind. Hence, they have tended to have short reverberation times on the order of 0.5 second at 512 cps and less than 1.0 second at the lowest frequencies. Speech was well served by these measures, but music suffered. Another reason reverberation time was kept short is that one had not only the studio to contend with, but the reverberation time of the listening room as well. If the studio and listening room both had a reverberation time of 0.5 second, the combined result is 0.6 second. Therefore, it has always been felt in the past that, for monophonic recording, the studio reverberation time should be kept quite short. Control rooms should be handled as if they were a typical living room or other listening area.

When recording stereophonically the engineer now has the opportunity to include the room characteristics (if desirable) in the recording and can tolerate much longer reverberation times.

For music, the only criteria that need be followed is that the auditorium have good musical acoustics. Reverberation times can be approximately 1.5 seconds at mid frequencies and often 3 to 4 seconds at low frequencies. Use of extremely wide range, low distortion, omnidirectional condenser microphones allow re-creating in the listening room the direct as well as reflected sound of the original hall. Speech problems can be solved by using directional microphones.

**Testing**

A word might be said here for those who wish to check the characteristics of new studios (to be sure specifications have been met) or studios already in use. It is possible today to test acoustical properties of rooms with great accuracy. The following tests are capable of such accuracy and assure the engineer of his new studio's integrity. They also allow an evaluation to be properly made of the older "problem" studio.

1. Ambient noise levels by frequency—These tests use a precision sound level meter con-

   * Please turn to page 44
C. E., the chief engineer, settled into a chair between the program manager and the sales manager and looked expectantly across the desk at the general manager.

"As you know, C. E., we have been looking for additional programming which can help us expand our market. One possibility that we have been looking for is exploring and perhaps finding additional performance opportunities."

As the general manager paused, C. E.'s mind drifted briefly over his all too recent problems with the new stereo operation—and the fact that his only recent experience with live music was the rather incidental pickup of the football band during half-time.

"P. M. has done some serious exploring and is certain we can have a schedule of pickups with the Civic Orchestra and the University Symphonic Band, the two probably alternating on a weekly schedule. Before going any further though, I think we'd better get an idea of what you will need."

C. E. thought for a moment and his eyes wandered over the display of record jackets decorating one wall of G. M.'s office. "I wish I could give you a pat answer, G. M., but there are just too many things that affect what I'll need. I'm sure we can get the pickup you want—and it seems to me that right there is our first step. I suggest that the four of us get together with a group of records this afternoon to get a feel of what you really want to hear. Then I can do some looking and listening at the pickup locations and give you a pretty good picture of what's involved. G. M. agreed, the group disbanded, and C. E. headed for the record library to select some examples for the meeting.

In this mythical setting, our chief engineer is facing a problem now confronting more and more broadcast engineers. His lack of a definite answer is not a display of indecision. It is evidence of the experienced engineer's ability to recognize the complexity of a problem which may appear very innocent to the more casual. He is also indicating his understanding by recognizing that the problem of live music pickup is not entirely technical, but that the very first consideration might best be described as philosophical.

What, then, are the factors that make live music pickup a complex problem, and which must be considered by those who find themselves confronted with such an assignment? It would be ideal if a single article could provide a simple universal answer to the problem which are inherent in live music broadcasting. Unfortunately, such a simple answer would be misleading. We can, however, analyze the contributing factors—not only to demonstrate the complexity of the problem, but also to hopefully suggest some specific avenues which may be followed to reach a workable solution.

The Philosophical Factor

The philosophical factor might be expressed most simply by asking, "What does the production staff expect to hear?" This question does not primarily relate to the nature of program material, or to a mere consideration of frequency response—although both are unquestionably significant—but rather to the overall character of the presentation.

To establish our perspective, let us follow C. E. to the record library. Here is the music the public is used to hearing. Whether reproduced on the home phono system or through the medium of radio, the products of the recording engineer have set the pace for what is expected in music reproduction. This is certainly no criticism of the record industry, but is simple recognition of the fact that many more
records than concert tickets are sold each year. The character of reproduction carefully engineered into recordings is that which experience indicates the home music listener wants to hear.

Consider, for example, the disc he is playing now. If this character of presentation were expected, C. E. could well submit an estimate of approximately $30,000 for additional equipment—and a requisition for a specially trained mixer to manipulate the new 16-channel console, and mix down the resultant eight-track recording into two appropriate "on the air" channels.

Are we saying that a broadcaster with only a reasonably normal equipment complement cannot hope to produce saleable stereophonic—or even monophonic—reproduction of live music? Certainly not! Consider the next disc, a product of a major record company, recorded at a concert location. This time, however, only a pair of carefully placed matched microphones were used to provide believable stereo reproduction of the entire orchestra, plus one or two additional microphones to properly balance the featured soloists. Despite the contrast with the first disc, the second is also a saleable and convincing presentation of music—and much more in keeping with facilities practical for the broadcaster.

The philosophical factor may be summarized by cautioning that the production requirements must be consistent with practical broadcast facilities and techniques. It is necessary that the production and engineering departments reach an understanding on the character of presentation desired before the technical factors can be properly considered.

Technical Factors

The technical factors are varied, frequently complex, and often stem from causes outside the engineer's control. Any of the factors, which will be briefly discussed here, could well be the subject of a separate article—or, in some cases, an entire volume.

The Physical Location

The physical surrounding is potentially a source of the most difficult and frustrating problems, largely because it is the least under-

stood and almost completely beyond the direct control of the engineer; yet it determines the very nature of the sound available.

The principal elements of room characteristic are implied in the terms "reverberation" and "frequency response." Reverberation relates to the echo or liveness of the room, and is usually described in terms of "reverberation time" (the time during which an echo is audibly sustained). Since high frequency sound is more readily absorbed by draperies, seats, audience, and air, reverberation tends to be of a low frequency effect (Fig. 1).

Frequency response refers to the coloration of sound as it travels through the room. Specific reflections from hard surfaces, reinforcement of tones by reverberation, and the amount of high frequency absorption in the room all contribute to this coloration. A particularly troublesome aspect is that frequency response usually varies throughout the room.

An outdoor location, with no structure surrounding the listening area, tends to minimize some of these effects. There is still sound coloration, however, because of the reflecting structure normally used to help direct sound into the audience area. Extraneous noise and the loss of overall sound energy due to the lack of reflecting surfaces enclosing the listening area must also be considered.

While some of the location peculiarities are characteristic, and usually are desirable to lend authenticity and "presence" to the reproduced program, too much peculiarity can produce serious problems. The effect of over-colored frequency response requires little imagination. Echos and reverberation also play a major part, not only by running notes and phrases together unnaturally, but often by masking the stereo effect through indiscriminate acoustic mixing of what should be locatable sounds.

Except for such measures as carpeting a bare stage, selecting back drop materials, and arranging audience distribution, there is little the broadcaster can do to affect the physical properties of the room. However, he can control the final effect of the room characteristic (Fig. 2) by judicious selection of his pickup tools—a selection which he can make only after becoming familiar with the properties of the room.

To properly explore room properties, it is necessary to recognize a subtle factor in the hearing process. As we sit in a concert hall, the elements which we have outlined are present in varying degrees, but do not destroy our enjoyment of the music. Instead, our ears and brain combine in remarkable fashion to discriminate selectively against some of these elements and allow us to concentrate mainly on those characteristics we wish to hear. If we plug one ear most of this ability is lost, and the undesirable characteristics become very distracting.

The microphone, unfortunately, functions as a single ear. Even if we use two microphones feeding a stereo system, we regain only a small portion of our selective listening ability. In many cases we may expect our pickup tool, the microphone, to seemingly exaggerate the room characteristics, and it becomes important, in exploring the properties of a location, to do at least part of our listening as the microphone does—with only one ear.

The Microphone

Just as room characteristics are basic to the available sound, the
THE VTR-CUE

by Paul Yacich and Edward Tong*

— Principles and design of a device for automatically recording video tape leaders.

Video tape recording might be described as a system of “electronic film.” As in the case of photographic film, a leader is usually furnished for identification and to aid in proper timing. The convenience of precedence and excuse of tradition has led some stations to simply adopt the film industry’s familiar “clapstick” and scribbled titleboard, for use in recording the leader. Others have come up with products of ingenuity and necessity to perform the task.

The SMPTE Proposal

The Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers, in their May, 1961 Journal, published “Proposed American Standard Specifications for Monochrome Video Tape Leader, VTR163.” The American Standards Association has brought this proposed standard before a board, known as the Sectional Committee on Combined Visual-Aural Magnetic Recording for Television. In the business of the committee the proposed standard is known as C98.2 “Specifications for Video Tape Leader.”

The standard proposes a leader which contains the following:

1. Ten seconds of blank tape to be used for threading the machine.
2. Thirty-five seconds of visual alignment signal such as a test pattern or stairstep containing reference black and white levels. Simultaneously a reference-level audio tone of 400 cps, ± 5%.
3. Fifteen seconds of visual identification information containing as a minimum the title, subject, production number, “take” number, recording studio name, and the date of recording. Simultaneously, an aural signal with this same information shall be recorded at the reference level.
4. Ten or more seconds of aural cue signals consisting of 400-cps tone bursts, ½th of a second in duration, at one second intervals; these are to be recorded at reference level to within 2 seconds of program. In addition, a steady 400-cps signal is to be recorded 20 db below reference level beginning with the first tone burst and ending with the last. A visual signal should be recorded during the entire duration of the steady tone. Sync and setup only are to be recorded during the two-second period preceding program. If a visual cue signal (countdown) is used it should appear coincidentally with the tone bursts, which it should identify.

Design Considerations

Through analysis of the proposed specifications, we found the functions during the ten-second cue period to be the most difficult to accomplish manually, with uniformity. Therefore, the major function of our cuing device (Fig. 1) is to automate this time segment. The procedure involves three major steps. First, an accurate 400-cps tone burst at a certain preset level must be switched on for a fraction of a second; this is to occur eight or more times at one-second intervals. Also, another 400-cps tone, 20 db below the tone burst, level is recorded in the time interval between bursts. Thirdly, absence of both signals during the two-second period preceding the program must be assured. We considered the visual countdown of major importance and have incorporated it to identify the specified tone bursts.

In the VTR-Cue, the control of the entire complex sequence has been simplified to operation of one switch (Fig. 2). This switch has
three positions: center off, up for continuous tone, and down to initiate
the countdown sequence.

The numerical indicator used
for visual countdown was the only
type available with large (3½")
numerals, at the time we built the
unit; it extends 12" behind the
panel. However, there are other
readout devices, available now,
which take up less room. For exam-
ple, the manufacturer of the unit we
used now produces a newer model
which employs an internal 90°
mirror. This version is only 5"
depth, making possible a great re-
duction in the size of the cabinet.

Provision for the display and
storage of four camera test charts
.mounted on Masonite) is provided
in the enclosure. This could be
eliminated to further reduce the size.

To assure legibility and uniformity
in our title board, we use fixed slots
which printed title cards are
fitted (Fig. 3).

Circuit Description

Switching

Fig. 4 shows the switching cir-
cuits of the VTR-Cue. When either
S3 or S4 is momentarily pushed to
the cue position, cue-start relay
K3 is energized and latched by a
set of its own contacts. K3 remains
in this state during seconds (posi-
tions) 10 through 1 of stepping
switch K1, since its DC is supplied
through section K1C (shorting-type
contacts). The second set of K3
contacts operates power relay K2
which applies 110 volts AC to the
timing motor and 24 volts DC to
the arm of S1. Keep in mind that
at the end of the previous cycle of
operation the motor was stopped
with S1 in the position shown on
the diagram. Thus, it is ready to
operate K5 and turn on the tone
burst for ½ of a second. K2 also
applies 24 volts DC to K4, the —20
db continuous-tone relay.

After the cam (Fig. 5) has ad-
vanced for ½ of a second, S1 re-
leases K5, terminating the tone
burst and pulling up the armature
of stepping relay K1. The relay does
not step at this time since the spring
loaded armature advances the switch
only on termination of coil current.

Four-fifths of a second later, at the
end of the first second of count-
down, this sequence takes place:
1. K1 is released by S1 and ad-

Fig. 4. Schematic diagram of the switching circuits used in the VTR-Cue.

nances one step.
2. K5 is energized by S1, starts
the second tone burst, and closes the
indicator common circuit to the
6.3 volt AC source.
3. K1A lights lamp 9 in the visual
indicator.

This cycle repeats eight times.
During seconds 2 and 1 preced-
ing program material K1D breaks
the common return of K4 and K5,
disabling both tones. The output
transformer primary is shorted to
ground thus preventing leakage.
The release of K5 also breaks the
common lead of the numerical indi-
cator. The lamps are thereby ex-
tinguished for the last two seconds;
this reminds the switcher to fade,
or cut to black.

Relay K3 is de-energized by K1C
at the beginning of the first second.
K2 is kept closed by K1B until it
is advanced through position 10
(starting) at which time it removes
motor power. K2 also removes volt-
age from K4 and K5 during stand-
by. A synchronous gear-reduction
motor with positive clutch is used
for quick starts and stops.

Oscillator and Power Supply

Almost any audio oscillator cir-
cuit can be used. The one we em-
ploy (Fig. 6) is simple and stable,
employing only three controls. R-1
is adjusted for least distortion, while
tone amplitude is set by R7 and
R8. Low and high voltage power
supplies are simple and straight-
forward. In the B+ supply, V4 pro-
vides adequate regulation.

Operation

In use, the VTR-Cue output is
applied to one of the microphone
inputs of the audio console. We
installed the remote operate switch at
the video tape machine location.
For in-station tapes, we usually omit
the 35-second period of visual and
audio alignment signals called for in
the SMPTE leader. A camera shot
of the title board and a 400-cps
reference tone are recorded for 15
seconds. Then, by switching S3 or
S4 to the "Cue" position, VTR-Cue is put to work to provide the visual and audio cue sequence. At seconds 2 and 1, the video switcher fades to black and the audio operator advances his program mixer during the silence. It is of no consequence if he is too busy to switch or fade the device out, since it is self muting.

Our VTR-Cue has contributed to the production of a professional appearing product. During its three years of use at WDSU-TV, it has eliminated many errors in handling and identifying an ever growing library of videotapes.

### Parts List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C1</td>
<td>270-mfd ceramic capacitor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C2</td>
<td>.1-mfd tubular capacitor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C3, 4</td>
<td>470-mfd ceramic capacitor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C5, 6</td>
<td>.003-mfd tubular capacitor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C7, 9</td>
<td>10-mfd, 25-volt electrolytic capacitor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C8, 10</td>
<td>.005-mfd capacitor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C11, 12</td>
<td>20-mfd, 350-volt electrolytic capacitor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C13</td>
<td>50-mfd, 150-volt electrolytic capacitor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R1</td>
<td>1.5-meg potentiometer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R2</td>
<td>2.2K resistor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R3</td>
<td>470K resistor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R4</td>
<td>910K resistor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R5</td>
<td>1.5K resistor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R7, 8</td>
<td>250K potentiometer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R9, 12</td>
<td>2.7K resistor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R10, 11</td>
<td>10K resistor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R13</td>
<td>4K, 10-watt wire-wound resistor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R14, 16</td>
<td>82K resistor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R15</td>
<td>540K ohm resistor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R17</td>
<td>51-ohm resistor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R18</td>
<td>50-ohm, 25-watt resistor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Note: All resistors are 1/4-watt, 10%, unless otherwise noted.)

| T1   | power transformer, 440 volts CT, 50 ma, 6.3 volts @ 2.5 amps filament transformer, 24 volts, 1 amp |
| T2   | 20-mfd, .005-mfd, .003-mfd, .002-mfd ceramic capacitors |
| C3   | 470-mfd ceramic capacitor |
| CR1, 2, 3, 4| 750-µA, 100 pF, silicon rectifier |
| V1, 2| 12AU7 |
| V3   | 6X4 |
| V4   | OA2 |
| K2, 3, 5| relay, 24 volts DC, two sets form A contacts |
| K4   | relay, 24 volts DC, one set A and one set B contacts |
| K1   | stepping switch, 24 volts DC, 11 positions, 4 sections, one section with bridging-type wiper |
| S1   | miniature switch with roller arm |
| S2   | wafer switch, single arm, two position |
| S3, 4| lever switch, spdt, 3 position with center off, one position spring return, one position locking |
| S5   | toggle switch, dpst |
| F1   | fuse, 2 amp, 3AG |
| M    | motor, synchronous, positive clutch, 10 rpm (Hurst PCRM-10, or equivalent) |
| Indicator | Industrial Electronics Engineers, Inc. Series 80 or 100 one plane assembly, or equivalent |

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  - WTOC Savannah
- **ILLINOIS**
  - WHBF Rock Island
  - WISH Indianapolis
  - KAKE Wichita
- **LOUISIANA**
  - KPLC Lake Charles
  - KALB Alexandria
- ** MASSACHUSETTS**
  - WGBH Boston
  - WCCO Minneapolis
- **NEW MEXICO**
  - KGGM TV Albuquerque
- **OREGON**
  - KVAL Eugene
  - KEZI Eugene
- ** PENNSYLVANIA**
  - WHP TV Harrisburg
  - WPIL Philadelphia
  - WHYY Philadelphia — Educational
  - WDAO Scranton
- ** TENNESSEE**
  - WDCN Nashville
- **UTAH**
  - KUED Salt Lake City — Educational

(Because of space limitations this is only a partial list of the many VR-1100 installations)

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During the past several months, the country has read much about the low standards of television and opinions of Broadcasting's public service ideals. On the fateful twenty-second of November, 1963, an event occurred that shocked the world, and roused many people out of a lethargic "it can't happen here" attitude—John F. Kennedy, President of the United States, was assassinated. The events following this tragedy provided concrete proof of the extremely important role radio and TV play in the lives of every American today.

The efforts of the broadcasting industry have since been recounted in many ways, but our interest is in the technical and organizational phase. To provide BROADCAST ENGINEERING readers with a first-hand account of the vast efforts we asked the networks for their stories.

At 1:32 PM on Black Friday, when the late President Kennedy was struck down, ABC went on alert and remained in that status for over 80 hours. Within minutes, more than 500 news and engineering personnel had been deployed from New York, Washington, D.C., and the network's affiliate WFAA in Dallas. Ten minutes after Elmer Lower, president of ABC News, had mobilized the network on a spot news basis, they were out of the "bulletin" business and well into a program of complete coverage that was to continue for 60 hours on TV and 80 hours on radio. The rapid pace with which events occurred displayed to advantage Broadcasting's true flexibility—only by radio and television could the sorrowing nation keep up with the mounting pace of tragedy and the grim events as they unfolded.

The rapid movement of important persons and others from Washington to Texas, and back again, taxed networks' communications facilities to the utmost. If any lesson was to be learned by the purveyors of instant news, it could only have been the need for more and better means of communication with their men in the field. To the viewing public this difficulty was not apparent, but to the news directors it was a real (perhaps their worst) problem. The rapid arrivals of important people and the widening needs for coverage added to the task.

In keeping with the speed of modern communications, ABC-TV telecast early morning (3:19 to 3:29 AM) messages from British Prime Minister Home, and from Pope Paul. These were transmitted from Europe via satellite Relay and were exclusively aired by ABC-TV.

When the second murder occurred, ABC Radio's Bill Lord gave the eyewitness report, "He's been shot." Then ABC-TV followed with the first TV report of Oswald's death, showing film clips taken at the hospital. The usual role of network affiliate was reversed by WFAA and WFAA-TV in Dallas. Instead of being on the receiving end of the coaxial cable (as is usually the custom), these stations provided most of the technical facilities that helped ABC provide such complete coverage. It is in just such unexpected events as this foul deed that the true capacity of an affiliate is measured.

While the bulk of camera equipment came from the network, some was obtained from affiliates and even nonaffiliates in Washington. D.C. WTTG, the former DuMont station, loaned a field unit to ABC-

*Consulting Editor, Washington, D.C.
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Fig. 2. Ron Cochran and Bob Young in the ABC news studio during broadcast.

TV, and from WJZ-TV, Baltimore, came another; three units came from the network's New York headquarters.

Videotape played a major part in keeping track of events; it is safe to say that without it none of the coverage could have been as complete. In this same way, audio tape was essential to the coverage by radio.

CBS Radio and TV covered the scenes from almost the beginning, with CBS "News Control" at the Graybar Building in New York mastering the coverage of the sad weekend. This network used 300 producers, film personnel, and nontechnical people, plus almost 400 technicians and similar personnel; it took all these to cover the rapidly changing news centers.

During the 55 hours that CBS-TV covered the news from ten cities, a total of 35 live cameras were used. In Washington, it happened to be CBS-TV's turn to provide the Capitol-pool TV coverage, and here they used an additional 28 camera units. CBS had the sorrowful distinction of being the first to announce — unofficially — the death of the President. And at the trade mart in Dallas, CBS-TV affiliate KRLD-TV, had set up a live camera to record the President's originally intended arrival.

An event of such world-shattering significance always calls out the utmost effort from all involved, and it is here that good affiliates are so important. CBS was able to call on stations KNX in Los Angeles, WEEI in Boston, and WCAU-TV...
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Step 3 Flare outer conductor back against the clamping body.
Step 4 Assemble inner connector to the center conductor.
Step 5 Assemble flare ring, O ring, anchor insulator. Thread outer body onto clamping body.

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February, 1964
The nature of this infamous performance and the widely spaced locations of the principal characters made the operation more of a technician's project than a production team operation. The emphasis was on the eye, with the ear in support, alerting the viewer/listener to things the camera could not always show. This required 400 technicians and production personnel, with 44 cameras used in more than 65 locations. NBC had 21 cameras exclusively for its own programs, and 23 more in the network pool. One example of the problems involved was the necessity for rerouting to Washington the chartered 707 that was Dallas bound from New York, so the arrival of the late President's body at Andrews Air Force Base could be covered.

Bill Trevarthen, NBC's VP of Engineering, said that 33 mobile units were used—some of which were hurriedly converted from station wagons and sedans! Mutual, the sole radio-only network, carried the story for 64 hours, feeding all its affiliates as well as more than 100 nonaffiliated stations who requested the live coverage. Charles Ray, vice president in charge of engineering, handled the technical aspects from the network's headquarters in Washington, D.C.

The loss of revenue by American stations who carried the coverage runs into more than $30 million—difficult for some to offset against existing red ink. In contrast, the very fingers that point most vehemently at the alleged shortcomings of radio and television continued throughout to carry paid advertising. In all of these terrible events, radio and TV demonstrated both the maturity of experience and the good taste of sensitive executives who control these powerful voices of democracy.
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February, 1964
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MILAN LEGGETT, Dallas 18, Texas, DA 1-2981

SPARTA-MATIC 200 Tape Cartridge System offers rugged simplicity with proven reliability. Attractive pricing that fits any Broadcasters budget.

200RP record/playback offers transistorized control circuitry for improved toneburst cueing. Compatible with all others, yet priced 20 to 40% less.

200RP STEREO record/playback for full fidelity FM broadcasting. Frequency response ± 2db from 30 to 12,000 cps; wow and flutter under 0.2% RMS.

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Circle Item 16 on Tech Data Card
WHEN THE PROOF-OF-PERFORMANCE FAILS

by Ed Murdoch* — Part Five.

Conclusion of series on troubleshooting a faulty proof; this month, frequency response.

In Part Four, several causes of and cures for distortion were discussed. These were the more common cases including component failure, tube unbalance, and DC problems. Before leaving the subject of distortion, let's look at a few other possible sources. Occasionally a trouble comes along which is quite puzzling at first, yet eventually yields to a simple solution. As an example of this kind of deviltry, consider the following experience.

Several years ago I replaced the 1621 output tubes in a console I was troubleshooting. Before inserting the new tubes I checked them thoroughly for conductance and element leakage, after warming each in the tube tester for about fifteen minutes. The mutual conductance readings of the two tubes matched perfectly — well into the green. However, with these tubes in the amplifier the distortion readings were even worse than with the old, almost worn-out tubes! A scope, connected to the analyzer output, showed the major part of the “distortion” was actually AC hum. I plugged the old tubes in again and found, although the distortion was relatively high, the hum was gone. Checking the new tubes again produced the same indications as before: no element leakage, perfect match, and high emission.

The facts finally penetrated my elephantine skull — the tubes became defective only under the operating conditions in the console. I engaged the services of an accomplice to switch the power supply off at my cue. As the switch clicked I pulled one of the tubes (wearing a heavy garden glove) and jammed it into the tube tester, which was already set for cathode-filament leakage. There it was — a bright orange glow on the short indicator. After a minute or so the glow flickered and died; as far as the tube tester was concerned, the tube had become perfectly good.

I decided to continue the investigation. Out of six spares, four were apparently from the same factory-run, and developed shorts during the above test. The other spare 1621's were older, well matched, had high emission, and passed the “Quick Henry the Glove” test with flying colors. When placed in the amplifier, this pair reduced the distortion from 6% to less than 1%.

Now let's treat briefly a condition which will occur occasionally, and can be maddening for even the experts at times. This condition might be called “selective distortion” — i.e., the distortion at one frequency (or a narrow band of frequencies) is noticeably higher than the average readings for a broad band to either side. This is generally caused by parasitic oscillation which is more likely to occur in a class AB or B stage than in one operating class A. A transformer secondary and associated reactances can go into momentary oscillation, as high peak signal levels cause the grid circuit impedance of the following stage to suddenly decrease from a very high to a very low value. This can result from overdrive; in this case the obvious remedy is to reduce the input signal to the stage (except when other deficiencies make the overdrive necessary). If the amplifier stage is not being overdriven, the usual remedy for parasitic audio oscillation is to connect a low value of resistance — 50 to 100 ohms — in series with each grid, at the tube socket.

The preceding discussion refers to only the general case — other sources of parasitics might not be as easy to locate. Recently, while performing a proof, I ran across distortion which was apparent only in the vicinity of 5 kc; the scope indicated parasitic oscillations at this frequency. The oscillation was quickly isolated to the console, but at this point the job ceased being a picnic and assumed the aspects of a “whodunnit.” Instead of being present only in the output amplifier, the parasitic condition was also found at the output of every preamp in the console. Lengthy troubleshooting indicated that everything was fine — except for the parasitic oscillation that “couldn't be there.”

I was about to tie all the console wires together in various assortments of Boy Scout knots, and set the entire mess on fire with a blowtorch, when I noticed something else that shouldn't be there. A length of two-conductor cable, almost hidden by the main cabling, was draped across a corner at the rear side of a program-bus support. The two conductors were neatly soldered to the program bus.

By crawling all over and under the building, we traced the suspicious wire to another room (duplicate control room) where it connected to a couple of code-practice oscillators. The keying-jacks of these nefarious monsters were con-

*Chief Engineer, WMMB, Melbourne, Fla.

Fig. 1. All added circuits must be isolated.
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February, 1964
Old equipment is just chock full of old parts! Unless adequate maintenance has been performed over the years, (and sometimes even if it has) normal debilitation will cause overall performance to sag—although no single part may be shorted or completely open. One maneuver which will often help improve this type of equipment is to replace, without question, every single filter, bypass, decoupling, and coupling capacitor (Fig. 2) in the amplifier. Small-value oil-filled coupling capacitors should be replaced with mylar-dielectric tubulars. Filters and large bypass capacitors should be replaced with duplicates; replace an electrolytic with an electrolytic, and an oil unit with a similar oil-filled capacitor. Voltage ratings should be observed, especially in the case of electrolytics; and always test the larger capacitors before wiring them into a circuit.

Circuit modification, as a remedy to poor performance in old equipment, should be preceded by capacitor replacement as described above. The extent of modification to be applied will depend on the improvement desired and the basic nature of the equipment. The limiting factor for audio response in old equipment is generally the transformers (Fig. 3). A substantial improvement in response of marginal equipment can be attained by replacing old output and interstage transformers with new, wide-range units. Attention should be directed also to the input transformers of all preamp channels in the console. While it would be rather costly to replace all these transformers, it may be possible to improve their performance with minimum expense. Most input transformers in broadcast equipment are loaded with a resistance across the secondary to

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February, 1964

Circle Item 23 on Tech Data Card
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Show preview, agenda for engineering conference, list of exhibitors, floor plan of exhibit floor, reports from consulting authors, news, prods, and other show information.

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PARALLEL OPERATION OF TV TRANSMITTERS

A DISCUSSION OF SCA SERVICE

DESIGN OF DIRECTIONAL ANTENNAS

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flatten the peak of high-frequency resonance, and to reflect the proper input resistance to the primary winding. In some cases, this peak might be just what is needed to help the following circuits over the hump. However, removal of the loading resistances might upset other circuit conditions. It is therefore necessary to make careful response and distortion measurements before permanently disconnecting the secondary-winding loading resistors.

If the secondary resistors are omitted, it may be necessary to load the primary of the transformer with a resistance equal to the nominal input impedance of the channel. This will preserve the characteristics of the device normally connected to the input for programming purposes. Certain microphones, for example, will not maintain proper frequency response unless loaded. Thus if the secondary no longer reflects the correct load to the primary, a correct match for the microphone must be furnished by a resistor connected across the input transformer primary terminals.

Amplifier frequency response can be further modified by addition of plate-to-plate or plate-to-cathode equalization networks; however, if transformers are severely limiting the frequency response, these circuits may not be very effective. Current feedback taken from the output transformer secondary might assist in making a marginal amplifier "legal," but would probably not flatten the response to "hi-fi" specs. It is a general engineering axiom that application of a worthwhile amount of negative feedback requires an additional stage of amplification. On the other hand, the amplifier may already be using as much feedback as its gain will allow.

This discussion of modification should not be construed as a set of instructions, but merely as a guide. Before any definite steps are taken, the matter must be investigated thoroughly. Familiarize yourself with the circuit in question, as well as practical design theory of amplifiers and associated networks. Even the previously mentioned replacement of an old output transformer is not always as simple as it sounds. Such a change must be approached with caution, since feed-

Fig. 3. An old transformer imposes limits back networks associated with the original transformer may require modification to work properly with the new one—there's always something!

Conclusion
You are probably aware that the treatment in this series connotes a degree of "finickyness" not found in most radio or TV repair shops. Admittedly, some of the troubleshooting techniques will require a good deal of time, work, and patience. Perhaps you will never have to search for a noisy component, or measure the hum voltage of a power supply—but if the need does arise, I sincerely hope the material presented here will be of help to you.
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Circle Item 26 on Tech Data Card

About the Cover

The cover photograph shows the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra in rehearsal with musical director Izler Solomon conducting, while Ozzie Osborn and Tom Wendt of the WFBM Stations make a tape recording for later broadcast. The Cir single microphone is supported high above and to the rear of the conductor's position. The scene is the main auditorium at Clowes Memorial Hall, Butler University, Indianapolis, Ind. The Hall, completed in October, 1963, was built in the memory of the late Dr. George Henry Alexander Clowes, former research director for Eli Lilly and Co. Owned by Butler University and operated on a nonprofit basis, the hall is used for drama, comedy, symphony, jazz, dance, opera, and individual performers or groups. The nine-story Bedford limestone and concrete structure was designed by Evans Wollen, Indianapolis, and John Johansen, New Canaan, Conn. associate architects. Bolt Baranek and Newman, Inc. were the acoustical consultants; a portion of their work can be seen in the acoustical "cloud" complex which is suspended from the ceiling to provide ideal sound conditions.

Credit for excellent cooperation during preparations for shooting the cover photo are extended to: Joseph Quinn, Symphony stage manager; Herman L. Lupe, Jr., lighting technician; Lester McGuire, Clowes Hall stage manager; Ron Languell and Charlie Metcalf, stage assistants. Charlene Hillman and Mary Bates, public relations directors for Clowes Hall and The Indianapolis Symphony respectively, provided essential aid. The color photograph is by Paul Cornelius and Joe Bretthauer.

Broadcast Engineering photographers. — SNS

February, 1964
AFTER THE FREEZE, ...?

At this time it is rather difficult to say whether the FCC's efforts to control, if not limit, the expansion of broadcasting have succeeded. Therefore, it might be of more value to think about what could happen after the last petition is filed by the broadcasters, and examined by the FCC.

**AM Stations**

Let's take a look at AM first. Early in 1962 the FCC declared a "freeze" on the acceptance of AM applications, unless certain requirements were met. This basic ruling was not unreasonable; however, in some cases the requirements were Originaly, if an application was in the FCC's hands on the cutoff date, it would not be accepted—regardless of when the work had begun. Many petitions were filed by aggrieved broadcasters whose costly (in many cases running to thousands of dollars) applications were thereby rendered worthless. The FCC, however, maintained refusal.

The main requirement under the decision states that 25% of either the population or area which is to receive the proposed service must not presently be covered by any station. In some cases this means that a new application could be made acceptable by distorting the proposed antenna coverage so that the serviceless 25% of an area could receive the new service—even though there is no one there to hear it!

Other cases concerned towns with populations of several thousand which had no radio station and did not receive the required 2 mv/m coverage to qualify for primary service from any other station. This ruling applied to towns of over 2,500 population. In the case of cities with fewer than 2,500 people, 0.5 mv/m will suffice, for they are considered nonmetropolitan areas.

Some applications were deemed not acceptable because the area just outside the city limits was served by a 0.5 mv/m signal—nonurban primary service! Since the population within the town (where 2 mv/m is required) did not comprise 25%, FCC requirements could not be met. Thus, towns with a real need for a local station were, and still are, denied service to which they are entitled. Petitions for acceptance on the basis of "needed" service were denied.

The proposed AM Rules are broadened somewhat to take into account financial aspects, which the FCC is not supposed to consider. In this way a relationship would be established between the population of a town and the number of radio stations allowed. One of the proposals was to allow one station for less than 10,000 people, ranging up to seven stations for towns of 1,000,000. The qualifying factor was still to be population, with the 25% requirement used only for nighttime operation. At this time no firm decision has been made. It is a reasonable assumption that whatever the outcome, protests will be filed by current and hopeful broadcasters. The question is: How many will welcome the artificial limitation by the FCC?

So perhaps we should say the freeze is still half on in the AM field. Certainly only those applications that comply with the May, 1962 requirements of 25% coverage of area or population will receive consideration, at present.

Other considerations exercising many broadcasters' minds are high-power operation, and duplication of service on 13 clear channels which were proposed by the FCC many years ago. No grants have been made on these disputed clear channels, some of which were downgraded to improve nighttime service. A number of applications are gathering dust in the FCC's files due to objections from occupants of the "degraded" channels. The only channel that has been so allocated is 770 kc. Through an error a decade or so ago, that channel has been occupied by WABC as Class I occupant, with WOB an official "sub" occupant at night. If the duplication decision is ever put into final execution it will make WABC, the "flagship" of the ABC Network, the only New York national network station not truly clear-channel at night. The implications are obvious. As a preview of night duplication, the WABC situation points to a long and obstructed path the FCC may have to tread if such a decision is forced.

The other part of the clear channel question deals with use of high power, up to 750 kw, on these frequencies. Some applications have been presented to the FCC, but none have been granted; nor have any apparently received very serious consideration. From an engineering point of view there is no reason why such proposals should not be granted. The clear channels can accept the power with no production of troublesome interference. As a matter of fact, high-power operation is common south of the border—often to the dismay of our own broadcasters.

Because the only restriction of power on the clear channels is the lower limit (not less than 50 kw),

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*By John H. Batiison, Consulting Editor, Annapolis, Md.*
there seems to be no reason for denying power increases for these stations—provided adequate precautions are taken to prevent effects of excessively high fields near the antenna.

**FM Stations**

In the field of FM, the situation is more easily defined. The freeze is over and engineering allocation is to be according to distance tables. It seems that many cities that deserve a station, and could have one by considerations of topography and engineering techniques—such as directional antennas—may be denied their only local outlet for civic expression.

Those fortunate applicants whose locations are in the table of allocated cities, have an FM station in their future. If, however, someone else files for the same facility, they are in for a hearing. For the loser, little opportunity exists to file for another facility; no matter how many new frequencies he finds usable by topographical and engineering considerations in the area, it is unlikely that such an application will be granted.

**What Now?**

We can sum up as follows: The AM freeze is still on with no thaw in sight; clear-channel duplication is still theoretically in effect with no action in sight; high-power (750 kw) operations are far from activation; FM is now the only aural service that has freedom of application—provided you choose to operate in a city which has unassigned but allocated channels.

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February, 1964

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Circle Item 27 on Tech Data Cord
Traffic Light System

by Glenn D. Love, Technical Director, CFNB, Radio Atlantic, Fredericton, N. B.

We have been using a scheme that may "soothe the frayed nerves" of other engineers, as it has our own. A "traffic-light" system we have installed allows us to leave the transmitter site, and be assured no functions were left in other than the normal mode.

We assembled two lamps and some circuitry as shown in a small box and mounted the unit below the room light switch near the door. The green lamp lights when everything is normal. The red light indicates some function of the transmitters or associated equipment has been left in the improper mode. The unit can be adapted to a variety of uses; a few are shown here.

CFNB is remotely controlled 24 hours a day. When operation is handled at the transmitter, for maintenance or other purposes, the flashing red light is actuated, preventing us from departing while the studio is without control. The water-cooling system for the dummy load is similarly monitored—if it is inadvertently left on, the red light will flash. Also connected into the light system are the standby transmitter door interlocks, and the over-ride switch on the time delay relay.

This system has helped us avoid many headaches. Previously, there have been many times when many miles from the transmitter site I began wondering whether the situation was all normal. Now, when we switch off the room lights, and see...
the green “go” lamp shine, we know all is well.

Socket Adapters for Input Connections
by Philip Ross, WBNX Radio, Fort Lee, N. J.

With the advent of cartridge tape machines and other devices with high-level, unbalanced audio outputs, a matching problem has arisen. The difficulty is caused by the balanced, high-gain, low Z inputs of most consoles.

Skipping the console preamp stage and applying a signal directly into the grid of the following stage has these three advantages:

1. unbalanced, low-gain, high Z input;
2. full use of mixer control;
3. continued use of preamp stage for microphone or phono. However, printed circuits, disassembling problems, and downtime make this a formidable task.

This tedious undertaking can be avoided by the use of simple plug-in circuit entry devices known as test socket adapters. They are available from at least two manufacturers in 7 pin, 9 pin, and octal versions; all add less than 2" to the seated tube height. The RMA numbered solder lugs, arranged about the perimeter near the top of the adapters, can be used for permanent connection. For instance, the control grids of tube types 5879 and 7543 are available at pin number 1 on the 9 pin adapters. The photo illustrates the use of such an adapter in the tight preamp section of a Gates “Yard.”

These adapters are also invaluable for checking operating potentials and other circuit parameters—without going downside!

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Circle Item 49 on Tech Data Card

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NEWS OF THE INDUSTRY

KPAT Reports on Tape Units
Excellent performance has been cited in the use of the KRS Staat-Broadcaster, a new solid-state multideck broadcast audio tape cartridge unit, at Station KPAT (AM/FM), Berkeley, California. A KRS unit has been operating there 24 hours a day for five months. The multideck system is actually six tape recorders in one package. It uses a continuous loop cartridge which can be reversed, and which can operate a full load of tape (up to 1200 feet) without slippage and associated flutter. Five decks are controlled remotely from the main board of KPAT's control room. The record deck can be controlled at the unit or remotely from the control room, providing flexibility of sources for the recording of spots, themes, and programs. The machine is installed between the KPAT AM transmitters. In the photo, Bob Sampson, KPAT technical supervisor, inserts a cartridge in the recording deck. The patch strip above the unit contains recorder and monitor inputs and monitor output.

Film Center Purchased
Atlas Telefilm, Ltd., of Toronto, Canada, announces that a wholly-owned subsidiary, Festival Cinema, Ltd., has purchased for cash all the assets and business of Film Laboratories, also of Toronto. The plant will continue to rent facilities and supply services to commercial, television, theatrical, and educational film producers, both Canadian and international. The acquisition is in furtherance of announced plans for theater television. Operated successfully for 33 years, the firm was expanded with the growth of television and now has the largest and most complete range of motion picture facilities in North America, east of Hollywood. Included are processing laboratories for color as well as black and white, three fully equipped sound stages, recording studios, dubbing theater, and supplementary facilities from machine shops to makeup.

Under its new ownership, the installation becomes the only full-scale, integrated film-making center, aside from government-owned facilities not available to private producers, which is Canadian-owned and operated.

Camera Tube Warranty Upped
The warranty on four types of television camera tubes has been increased as much as 60%, it was announced by the General Electric Tube Department. The warranty on tubes 55820A and 7293 glass-target broadcasting image orthicons has been increased from 500 to 750 hours. The warranty on types 7629A and 8002A low-light-level magnesium-oxide-target image orthicons has been increased from 75 to 1200 hours. Under the new warranties 100% credit is given up to 50 hours. Subsequent credit is pro-rated according to a new schedule.

Tower Firm Expands
Rohn Manufacturing Co. has acquired an interest in the Vulcan-TV Mast & Tower Co., Inc., of Birmingham, Alabama. Vulcan is a prominent manufacturer of telescoping masts, tubing, TV guy wire, and accessories in the TV and electronics field. They also manufacture playground equipment and lawn furniture. Many items in the TV line now available from Vulcan will also be available from Rohn. The acquisition of Vulcan will give Rohn new manufacturing facilities in the southeast part of the United States and enable them to give better service to customers in that area.

Snow and ice cover this VHF TV transmitting antenna at Copper Mountain, Terrace, B. C. Situated on the mountaintop, this CFTK-TV installation is accessible only by helicopter. Mr. E. J. Frazer, P. Eng., of the firm Hoyles, Niblock and Associates, consultants to the station, took the picture as he approached the remote site. CFTK-TV's rebroadcasting station, CFT - TV - 1, Mount Hays, Prince Rupert, B. C., is also a mountaintop installation.
microphone is basic to achieving the desired reproduction. It is proper selection and use of the microphone which offers the only real control we have over the effects of room characteristics.

For such a vital control element, knowing that a microphone “sounds pretty good back in the studio” is just not enough. It is necessary to understand what elements of control different types of microphones can offer, and to become familiar enough with the characteristics of the location so that we may know what control is needed. Microphone frequency response is important; but the combined effect of microphone response and room characteristics, as altered by all the microphone properties, is the key to final on-the-air reproduction.

For example, a good unidirectional, or often a good bidirectional, microphone can do much toward controlling response coloration caused by sounds reflected from surfaces at various angles around the microphone. The directional microphone can also be of significant help in reclaiming the stereo effect in a very live or reverberant hall. When “tight-micing” is the only solution, it provides a means for separating between different sections of the band or orchestra so that balance may be maintained at the board.

On the other hand, the omni-directional microphone can be a great help in either stereo or mono by preserving some room color in a very dead location.

While microphone placement is well recognized as important to producing a stereo effect, it has other significance. Proper placement with respect to the music source, or the reflecting surfaces behind it, can have much to do with the musical balance. Since the frequency response of the room varies with location, the microphone placement can contribute significantly to the overall reproduced frequency response. The distance between the microphone and the music can offer added control over the amount of room characteristic which is reproduced. With tight-micing, for example, room characteristics may be almost completely eliminated.

We can see that with even the
most basic microphone arrangements—two matched microphones for stereo, or a single microphone for monaural—a judicious choice of the microphone type and placement makes possible a high degree of control over the reproduced effect. Except in very trying locations, incidentally, these basic approaches probably assure the most consistent program quality.

To help visualize how various microphone types can do for us, Table 1 lists key directional properties for the more common pickup patterns shown in Fig. 3. Two points should be considered in using this table: The directional properties are three dimensional (the patterns shown in Fig. 3 are one cross section through a sphere), and the numbers are based on an ideal microphone which exhibits the same directional properties at all frequencies and in all planes through its axis.

To best predict the performance of a microphone, therefore, it is necessary to make sure that its properties are reasonably uniform. To augment the manufacturer’s data, a basic “feel” may be obtained as someone walks around a microphone in a dead studio, while talking at a constant level and maintaining a constant distance. Key factors are the amount of reduction at the null (s), the angle of the null (s), and the change in sound quality as the angle changes.

The Music Source

Physical arrangement of the source is another factor over which the engineer may have only limited control, but it is again important, particularly in producing a believable stereo effect. Physical arrangement of the orchestra or band may also have a significant bearing on the ability to achieve a reasonable musical balance with simple microphone techniques.

The Console

There is no intention to connote an order of importance by considering the console, or board, last. In fact, the board is the very important point at which all of our considerations are put together in one package for presentation.

In the sequence of developing a live music pickup, the ideal approach would be to select the board last—to assure that the board properly complements the desired microphone approach. A board for the basic one- or two-microphone technique could be rather simple. If there were a number of isolated soloists or ensembles, the board could provide for proper microphone coverage of each. If a multiple microphone approach was necessary, the board would allow ample provision for mixing to achieve the proper balance.

Unfortunately, the ideal is often not consistent with economy. When cost limits the choice of the board, ingenuity becomes quite important. A possible approach might be to reconsider the other control elements—such as microphone placement or the number and type of the microphones. Another solution might involve taking soldering iron

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Omni-Directional</th>
<th>Cardioid</th>
<th>Super-Cardioid</th>
<th>Cosine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unidirectional effect¹</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>17 db</td>
<td>23 db</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Front to back reduction (on axis)²</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>infinite</td>
<td>12 db</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Null angle³</td>
<td>180°</td>
<td>126°</td>
<td>90°</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Random energy reduction¹</td>
<td>9.6 db</td>
<td>11.4 db</td>
<td>9.6 db</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effective pickup angle²</td>
<td>360°</td>
<td>132°</td>
<td>114°</td>
<td>90°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 db down</td>
<td>360°</td>
<td>180°</td>
<td>156°</td>
<td>120°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 db down</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
1. Pickup reduction in back hemisphere compared to front.
2. Pickup reduction at 180° compared to 0°. (See No. 3).
3. Angle at which minimum pick up (null) occurs. As with cardioid (see No. 2) reduction at null is theoretically infinite.
4. Reduction in pickup of surrounding sound waves — compared to omni-directional.
5. Included angle at microphone front for 3 or 6 db down at extremes.
in hand and modifying existing equipment, perhaps by adding one or two subchannels to the existing board.

**Summary**

Having looked at some of the important considerations in approaching a live music pickup, let’s rejoin C. E. to see what progress he has made.

Our chief engineer has agreed with the production staff that the objective is a conservative, believable stereo presentation, with frequency response sufficient to lend authenticity to the music and with enough room coloration to suggest the location (but not so much as to conflict with the other objectives). They have selected a simply presented, but well accepted, live concert recording to define the goal.

C. E. has also determined that the pickups will be made with an audience present, and that the average audiences in one hall occupy about two-thirds of the seating, while approximately one-half occupancy is usual in the other.

He has attended a rehearsal of each group and, while he has no good provision for measuring the room characteristics objectively, he devoted himself to extensive listening (partly, we hope, with one ear) at various possible microphone locations. He has also made simple sketches of the hall and the normal physical arrangement of the musical groups. On the sketches he has jotted his notes regarding the characteristics of different microphone locations which he has studied.

Armed with these observations, his own experience with different microphone types (plus more detailed information which he has requested from microphone manufacturers), and comments of acquaintances who are also in the throes of this problem, C. E. is ready to develop tentative plans for approaching his assignment. These plans will be evaluated by listening again at the tentatively selected microphone locations during public concerts of each group.

When the program plans have crystallized and the schedule is at least tentatively established, there is one more step which C. E. should not overlook. We hope that he will go to the trouble of practicing—of recorded dry runs—not only to check out the equipment, but to perfect the setup and operating techniques which will assure the success of his, and your, live music pickup.

---

**Fig. 3. Directional pickup patterns of four popular types of microphones.**

(A) Omni-Directional.
(B) Cardioid.
(C) Super-Cardioid.
(D) Cosine.
Acoustics

(Continued from page 13)

1. Reverberation times by frequency—Here a random noise generator driving a powerful audio amplifier and wide-range speaker system are turned on and off. The decay of the sound produced is measured at 1/3 octave intervals through a sound level meter coupled to a wave analyzer which is interfaced with a high-speed recorder.

2. Reverberation times by frequency—Here a random noise generator driving a powerful audio amplifier and wide-range speaker system are turned on and off. The decay of the sound produced is measured at 1/3 octave intervals through a sound level meter coupled to a wave analyzer which is interfaced with a high-speed recorder.

3. Transmission irregularity curves—Using an interlinked oscillator and graphic level recorder to record the response of a loudspeaker system of known characteristics, you can observe the effect of the room on sounds put into it.

4. Pulse tests for reflection patterns—Photographing (with an oscilloscope and camera) a switched pulse of 10 milliseconds duration, and its subsequent reflections in the studio, on a time base of 10 milliseconds per cm, reveals undesirable reflection patterns and localizes their source.

5. Level searches to check distribution—Using random noise in 1/2 octave bandwidth, the room may be “searched” from wall to wall to determine the standing wave patterns and the distribution of sound in the studio.

6. Transmission loss checks—By using the random noise generator and a loudspeaker system on one side of a wall, and the sound level meter, wave analyzer, and graphic level recorder on the other side, the attenuation of the wall at each frequency can be shown.

In Summary

Following is a checklist of basic points to consider in design:

1. Noise criteria. Noise in a studio

Table 2. Max. Studio Noise Levels.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Octave bands centered on freq. in cps</th>
<th>SPL in db</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>125 250 500 1000 2000 4000</td>
<td>38 30 23 18 15 12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

should not exceed the levels listed in Table 2.

2. Distribution. The design goal is to be able to place the microphones anywhere. Avoid parallel surfaces. Be careful of focusing caused by convergence of nonparallel surfaces.

3. Reverberation. Design for music. Meet other requirements (such as speech) by choice of microphone type and placement. Use isolation screens and absorbent wall panels.

4. Ventilation must handle the necessary capacity, but at low air velocity.

5. Use sound locks for doors.

6. Omit windows.

7. Use quiet and absorbent furnishings: rubber feet on chairs, tables, and other pieces of furniture.

8. Transformer vaults or other heavy electrical equipment.

Special consideration must be given to the design and location of the following rooms and systems in the building housing the studios:

1. Conference rooms
2. Studios
3. Control rooms
4. Offices
5. Switchboard
6. Elevators
7. Equipment rooms
8. Heating and ventilating equipment
9. Generator room
10. Boiler room
11. Rest rooms
12. Telephones
13. Maintenance areas
14. Convergence of every conceivable condition, and know the thrill of their trouble-free performance. We invite you to join these distinguished users and share their exclusive experience. It will be our pleasure to forward details on the complete line of Neumann microphones on request.
CATV

(Continued from page 11)
circuitry assures minimum phase delay for the best reproduction of incoming color and black and white signals. The sync - pulse - reference AGC has a noise clipping circuit which provides constant-output levels not affected by power line or ignition noises. The first action of this AGC helps to minimize flutter caused by airplanes.

AFC-ASC—The automatic frequency control circuitry provides correction voltage for the tuner. Automatic sound control circuitry provides limiting action at relatively low IF frequencies to control the on-channel sound carrier. Once set, the desired relationship between sound and video carriers for the channel is maintained.

Standby Carrier Oscillator—When a station goes off the air, a time-delay device is automatically energized. This unit triggers a crystal-controlled oscillator to provide a replacement carrier after 20 seconds. A warning light indicates that the original station is off the air.

Crystal Controlled Converter/Amplifier—The converter in this unit uses a crystal-controlled oscillator to change the IF frequencies to any desired TV channel. In the event that on-channel conversion (i.e., channel 2 to 2, 9 to 9, etc.) is desired, the converter oscillator is switched out of the circuit. Since the same oscillator is then used for both conversions, co-channel interference cannot be generated internally. An amplifier feeds the converted signal at a one-volt level to dual outputs. These outputs have an excellent match (VSWR 1.2:1) simplifying mixing with other equipment.

Twelve of these units can provide a completely-controlled head-end system from which 12 channels can be fed to individual subscribers without difficulty. In addition to technical advantages, the use of such equipment changes the old “antenna shack,” with its maze of cabling between numerous devices, into an efficient, simple-to-service control center.

Other new CATV head-end equipment includes antennas with higher gain and better directivity, and new solid-state, mast-mounted preamplifiers. The latter are designed for maximum signal transfer from antenna to system, and compensation for down-lead losses without degrading the system noise figure.

Transportation Equipment

The basic material in CATV transportation systems is coaxial cable. Manufacturers are continually improving the cable so that signals may be transported over greater distances with less need for equalization and amplification. New solid-sheath aluminum cables provide lower signal losses than have been possible thus far.

Equalizers

Since several channels at different frequencies are carried on the same cable, and the loss of the cable changes with frequency, variances in level occur. Equalizers compensate for these differences, to maintain the proper relationship between signal levels at each amplifier location. Similar devices must be provided to compensate for temperature-dependent signal losses. Both types of equalizers are now available for all types of cable.

Amplifiers

Amplifiers for transportation systems are also much improved. New distributed amplifiers, which eliminate second and third order beat interference, are available for systems operating in the sub and low TV bands. Transistorized amplifiers (Fig. 6) now being introduced are more compact and easier to maintain. These new amplifiers can be mounted directly on the messenger strand so that they can be located exactly where required. The power consumption is so low that up to 16 units can be fed from a single power supply (the coaxial cable carries power as well as signals). New remote power supplies are now available for these amplifiers. They are mounted within the weather enclosures at pole line locations (Fig. 7).

Distribution System Equipment

CATV distribution systems have been improved by the development of new amplifiers, feeder-line extenders, and tap-off units. The amplifiers permit expansion of existing systems and improve the coverage potentials of new installations.

The new pressure taps are easier to install than older types due to improved mechanical design. An isolation unit of the proper value is screwed into these pressure taps at installation. This assures proper isolation between line and set regardless of tap location on the feeder line. Properly installed, the taps are completely waterproof and provide excellent permanent connection to the feeder line.

The Future

Modern transportation facilities permit the modern American to live in places which until recently would have been isolated from civilization. Unlike the pioneer of yesteryear, he brings his conveniences with him. To many, a TV set is an essential part of a home. Therefore no place should be so remote as to separate the viewer from his favorite programs. Equipment and techniques in CATV keep pace with advances in all other communications fields. Thus, CATV serves as a vital link between the individual broadcasting station and consumers it could not otherwise reach.
NEW PRODUCTS

Elapsed Hour Meters

The Engler Instrument Co., manufacturer of registering and recording instruments, announces several additional models of their Hour Meter. Now available in both AC and DC are two types of reset models: face reset for quick and convenient resetting, and side reset for tamper proof resetting. Both features make it possible to reset the meter to zero from any point.

Circle Item 40 on Tech Data Card

Audio Source

Marconi Instruments announces a fully transistorized audio signal source, Model 2000. With distortion less than 0.05% from 63 cps to 6.3 kc and less than 0.1% from 20 cps to 20 kc, the instrument is designed for use on ultra-low-distortion telephone and audio circuits. Output is 4 volts into a matched 600-ohm load (unbalanced) and a choice of switch-selected output impedances is provided. New construction techniques enable the signal source to be supplied as two separate units comprising the oscillator, Model 2100, and monitored attenuator, Model 2160, in either bench or rack mount. Price of Model 2000 is $745; Model 2100 is $420; Model 2160 is $325.

Circle Item 42 on Tech Data Card

Transistorized RF Dip Oscillator

A portable RF dip oscillator is now available from Waters Mfg., Inc., Wayland, Mass. Trademarked the "Little Dipper," it performs all the functions of a grid dip oscillator, an absorption wavemeter, and—with its built-in audio modulation—a signal generator. Featuring a stabilized MADT transistor RF oscillator covering 2 to 230 mc, the unit has 7 coils (each carrying its own linear scale) and a frequency accuracy of ±3%. The "Little Dipper" uses 1-ke audio oscillator for modulation, and a DC amplifier and meter for detecting and indicating the dip. Price is $129.75.

Circle Item 45 on Tech Data Card

Power Transistor Sockets

Three new transistor sockets have been announced by Industrial Electronic Hardware Corp. The new sockets are made of natural XP Bakelite, vacuum wax impregnated. The contacts are cadmium-plated brass and the thread is formed for a 6-20 screw. The CR steel plate has .104-.110 diameter hole.

Circle Item 42 on Tech Data Card

Magnetic Tape Viewer

A precision instrument which makes visible the data recorded on magnetic tape without damaging the tape has been developed by the 3M Company. The

"Scotch" brand Model 600 can be used to check tape recorder head alignment, track placement, pulse definition, inter-block spacing and dropout areas in computer and instrumentation work. It can also be used to examine and synchronize the audio track on video tape and the pattern of recorded sound on audible-range tapes. It will determine, easily and quickly, whether tools, heads, or guides are magnetized. The viewer requires no exterior chemicals or special preparation. Price is $50.00.

Circle Item 44 on Tech Data Card

Combo VOM/VTM

Triplett Electrical Instrument Co. has announced the availability of a new version of the Model 631 combination volt-ohm milliammeter and vacuum-tube voltmeter. The instrument offers 34 ranges including ten AC/DC volts, 6 DC resistance from 0.1 ohms to 150 megohms, and decibel and output readings in the VOM function. As a VTVM, the device has four ranges including one with 1.2 volts full-scale. The sensitivity, 20,000 ohms per volt on DC ranges, and 5000 ohms per volt on AC. As a VTM, the sensitivity is 11 megohms. The battery operated meter employs a single switch for selecting all ranges. With a full line of accessories available, the meter alone is priced at $69.50.

Circle Item 46 on Tech Data Card

Circle Item 41 on Tech Data Card

Circle Item 41 on Tech Data Card
Stylus Wear Meter

A unique, inexpensive "plug-in" elapsed-time meter from Curtis Instruments permits measurement of actual operating hours and wear on stylus, tape heads, and associated components such as pre-amplifiers and amplifiers. Only 1.81" long x .37" wide x .37" high, the "Indachron" utilizes an electrochemical meter element with traveling electrolyte gap. The elapsed-time meter consists of a plug-in indicator, separate molded zener-diode power supply, and socket plate. Mounting requires only two drilled holes in the panel of the turntable, tape recorder, or amplifier. Time is read directly from calibration marks on the Indachron, which is available in standard scales of 500, 600, and 1000 hours — all with ±3% accuracy. Once the indicator has run its cycle, it can be turned end-for-end and plugged in again, with readings indicating actual hours of use left. Price is $16.45.

Circle Item 47 on Tech Data Card

Triple-Action Tape Head

Michigan Magnetics, Inc., has begun volume production of its triple-action, one component tape recorder head that records, plays, and erases. The all-metal faced head can erase one track at a time or both tracks simultaneously. Its tapered design prevents incorrect insertion of reels or tapes. Modifications can be made to meet any specifications, and both modified and standardized heads are competitively priced. The heads carry a 12-month warranty.

Circle Item 48 on Tech Data Card

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Circle Item 35 on Tech Data Card

February, 1964
Laboratory Oscilloscope

A general purpose 500 kc laboratory oscilloscope is announced by the Scientific Instrument Department, Du Mont Laboratories, Divisions of Fairchild Camera and Instrument Corp. The type 701 oscilloscope features simplified panel controls, maximum drift stability through transistorization, reliability, and precision of measurement. The high-resolution CRT is available with an optional illuminated no-parallax graticule. Sensitivity is 10 mv/cm and stable performance is assured by a silicon transistor output stage which directly drives the CRT deflection plates. Wide-range sweep circuits are calibrated within 3% from 5/sec/cm to 200 ms/cm. Continuous expansion control from X1 to X10 provides precise viewing of any section of the magnified sweep, with the fastest sweep at 10X extended to 1/2 sec/cm. Trigger circuits lock easily on the most complex waveforms. The price is $425.00.

Circle Item 95 on Tech Data Card

Dissipator-Retainer

IERC announces new low cost Thermal-Link retainers for TO-5 and TO-18 transistors. Spring fingers firmly grasp and retain the transistor case, yet allow a smooth press-fit installation. Parts stocking can be economized because one size fits all TO-5 size cases, while one other size fits TO-18 cases. The retainers may be riveted or soldered directly to printed boards, chassis, angle brackets, or overhead heat sinks. They are made of beryllium copper, providing excellent heat conduction from transistors when mounted to a metal chassis or thermal path. Price is 12¢ to 25¢.

Circle Item 96 on Tech Data Card

Silicon Rectifier Replaces 816

A rugged plug-in silicon rectifier manufactured by International Rectifier Corp. fulfills the need for a high reliability device to replace type 816 mercury vapor rectifier tubes. Rated at 7500 volts p.v. and 5100 volts maximum rms, the silicon ST-11 provides a maximum output current of 0.2 amps average at 75° C. This makes it highly suitable in transmitters for radio-TV broadcasting, tele-type, telemetering, as well as airline and police communications. In a rugged package measuring only 4.06" x 1.2" (diameter), the unit provides virtually unlimited life. It can be operated in temperatures from -40° to 140° C, requires no warmup time, and generates a minimum of heat. Units are equipped with a tube base to allow direct insertion into existing tube sockets. The price is $24.75 each; in quantities of 1 to 99, the price is $24.50 each.

Circle Item 97 on Tech Data Card

Direct-Drive Cartridge Unit

A direct tape-drive cartridge unit, designed to eliminate speed differences between machines, also promises reproduction comparable to reel-to-reel units. Automatic Tape Control, developers of the unit, describe it as “one of the greatest advances in the cartridge tape field—the result of more than two years of engineering effort.” The new system completely eliminates drive belts, which are said to be the principal cause of speed differences in cartridge recording and reproduction. Speed accuracy of the new drive system is better than 99.8% and high driving torque allows the use of any length or size of tape cartridge. Wow and flutter are reduced to no more than 0.2% rms. The direct tape-drive system can be provided as a modification to present equipment in the field, because considerable steps were taken to insure compatibility.

Circle Item 98 on Tech Data Card

Conductive Gaskets

A complete line of gaskets made of electrically conductive silicone rubber is announced by Multi-Flex Seals, Inc. Designed for sealing electronic components from stray RF as well as fluid, the gaskets are available in any desired diameter, thickness, or shape. The units will operate over the temperature range of -150° F to +500° F. Basic electrical resistivity is 7 ohm/cm. Since the resistance can be varied from this point upwards, the electrically conductive gaskets can be employed in heating applications.

Circle Item 99 on Tech Data Card

Disc and Tape Cabinet

A combination tape and disc operational storage cabinet is available from Wallach & Associates, Inc. Constructed entirely of steel, the cabinet is divided into three compartments. The first holds thirty individual records in pockets (built in); these can be 7", 10", or 12", or any combination of sizes. The second compartment holds five record albums (78 rpm) or twenty-five lp records in jackets. The third compartment holds twelve tape boxes, for 5" and 7" reels. The cabinet comes complete with 30 pockets, two sets of gummed consecutive numbers, 270 printed catalog cards, and a steel card file box. The price is $26.25; with doors, $33.75.

Circle Item 100 on Tech Data Card
ENGINEERS' TECH DATA SECTION

AUDIO & RECORDING EQUIPMENT

53. ATLAS SOUND—Data sheet describes controlled dispersion sound-column speakers for sound re-enforcement use in applications with feedback problems.

54. AUDIO DEVICES—Set of brochures shows line of magnetic tape, recording accessories, discs, and cutting styli.

55. BROADCAST ELECTRONICS—Line of cartridge equipment is listed in set of catalog sheets.

56. HARTLEY—Full-range magnetic suspension speaker for high-fidelity is described in spec sheet.

57. MILES REPRODUCER—Data sheet provides information on voice-actuated portable recorder.

58. NORTRONICS—Tape head replacement guide provides specs and information for professional applications.

59. QUAM-NICHOLS—Line of coaxial, extended range, and high frequency speakers is listed in brochure.

60. REK-O-KUT—Professional products data sheet covers several pieces of disc-cutting and playback equipment.

61. SAXITONE—Catalog of prerecorded stereo tape gives discount prices; catalogs list recorders and tape.

62. TURNER—Brochure describes broadcast dynamic microphone with adjustable frequency response.

COMPONENTS & MATERIALS

63. CANNON—Catalog describes square miniature jack/panel connectors with rear release system.

64. JOHNSON—Heavy-duty components for RF applications are detailed in catalog.

65. KIRKMAN—Specifications guide helps in selecting the proper relay from large stock.

66. MICON ELECTRONICS—50-page catalog is devoted to lines of 50- and 75-ohm coaxial connectors and devices.

67. ROBINS—Selection of XL connectors for audio and electronics applications is listed in catalog sheets.

68. SEALECTRO—Data sheet describes subminiature recessed bulkhead RF jack.

69. SWITCHCRAFT—Product bulletin details line of jack panel accessories.

70. SYLVANIA—Brochures contain eight typical circuits for NPN germanium alloy transistors and capabilities of PNP epitaxial germanium transistors.

71. TENSOLITE—Technical bulletin describes round conductor flat cable that employs thin high temperature film to bond wires into ultra-compact assembly.

72. WESTINGHOUSE—Specification sheets provide characteristics of tubes in 6148 family of designs.

MICROWAVE DEVICES

73. MICRO-LINK—Set of booklets describe 10.5 to 10.7 kmc and 12.2 to 12.7 kmc business microwave, plus 2500 mc ETV microwave transmission system.

74. SINGER METRICS—8-page short form catalog covers more than 50 noise and intensity meters, associated instruments, and microwave components.

75. RAYTHEON—Closed-circuit television brochure contains data on microwave equipments and auxiliary components.

RADIO & CONTROL ROOM EQUIPMENT

76. McARDLE—Catalog illustrates and details transistorized SCA multiplex tuners.

77. SPARTA—Data sheet describes professional turntables, cabinet units, and equalized turntable preamp.

STUDIO & CAMERA EQUIPMENT

78. AMFEX—Bulletin describes and illustrates compact mobile television recording installation in station wagon.

79. CONTINENTAL ELECTRONICS—Product sheets cover vidicon camera for industrial and educational applications.

80. TELESCRIPT—Illustrated bulletin presents Shibaden 5020 image orthicon tube.

81. TELEVISION ZOOMAR—Catalog cards describe zoom lenses with Zoom Rod control and servo control; information is provided on servo pan and tilt heads with preset and remote controls.

82. TERADO—Bulletin covers relays for TV camera operation, and transistorized power converter for camera and sound equipment.

TELEVISION EQUIPMENT


84. 3M—Periodical "Playback" contains information of interest to engineers and operators working with video tape recording.

85. TELEMET—Spec sheets detail color flying spot scanner and color signal generator.

TEST EQUIPMENT & INSTRUMENTS

86. EICO—32-page catalog shows test instruments, communications equipment, audio components, and tape decks.

87. POLARAD—Technical note describes phase-locked signal generators and spectrum analyzers.

88. SECO—Folder includes specs and prices on latest tube and semiconductor testers.

89. TEXAS CRYSTALS—Catalog has transistorized oscillator circuits and information on how crystals are made with a listing of quartz crystals for frequency control.

TRANSMITTER & ANTENNA DEVICES

90. BAUER—Brochure describes "Log-Alarm" device which records all required parameters of a single transmitter operation, and provides visual and audible alarm system.

91. CO. EL.—Booklets cover broadband dipole TV antennas for VHF and UHF, multiguide slot antennas, directional antennas for 1 kw UHF, wideband FM antennas, VHF and UHF notch diplexers, and filterplexers.

92. FINNEY—FM and TV catalog is on specially cut-to-frequency single channel yagi antennas with either 300 ohm or gamma match for 50 or 72 ohms.

93. JAMPRO—Bulletins cover omnidirectional high-band VHF TV transmitting antennas for tower leg mounting.

94. MOSELEY ASSOCIATES—Bulletin is devoted to 10 watt direct FM exciters with stereo and SCA generators, for replacement or use as low powered educational transmitter.
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Classified

Advertising rates in the Classified Section are ten cents per word. Minimum charge is $2.00. Blind box number is 50 cents extra. Check or money order must be enclosed with ad.

The classified columns are not open to the advertising of any broadcast equipment or supplies regularly produced by manufacturers unless the equipment is used and no longer owned by the manufacturer. Display advertising may be purchased in such cases.

PERSONNEL

Tape Cartridge equipment manufacturer located in Alabama is looking for good technicians who are capable of becoming engineers or engineering technicians. Man wanted must be capable of accepting project and completing it without continuous supervision. He should have mechanical background and as a good knowledge of electronic circuitry. A good working knowledge of circuit testers is es-
cential. Salary commensurate with ab-
ility excellent working conditions with
many areas of advancement for men with
ability and personal drive. Send complete
resume including recent photograph to
Broadcast Engineering, Box 2700.

BROADCAST TECHNICAL
SALES REPRESENTATIVE
Must have knowledge of antenna and transmitters equipment used in TV, radio and microwave broadcasting and understand its function, operating characteristics and maintenance problems. Successful applicant must be marketing ori-


defined and have proven administrative ability. Considerable travel necessary from midwest headquarters to highly reg-
ulated company. This salaried position offers unusual opportunities for rapid ad-

vancement. Write fully in confidence,
stating salary desired, to Broadcast Engi-
neering, Dept. 109.

Sales Trainer

Opportunity for a young man with am-
bition who is willing to work hard for
advancement with a major broadcast equip-
ment manufacturer. You should have a de-
gree or a scientific background with experience in AM, FM or TV station operation and maintenance. If you have a sincere desire to sell broadcast equipment and the patience to
learn how—send resume to Broadcast Engi-
nineering, Dept. 109.

SALES ENGINEER—Broadcast, AM, FM,
TV. Microwave 4 years experience, ex-
107.

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

Commercial Crystals and new or replace-
ment crystals for RCA, Gates, W. E.,
RCA, and Standard holders, repairing, re-
pair, etc. BC-604 crystals. Also A. M.
monitor service. Salesmen's testimonials praise our products and fast service. Edison Electronic Company, Box 96, Temple, Texas.

TRANSMITTING TUBES FOR SALE—
Immediate Delivery on 0076 Power Tetro-
des, at $2.25 each. 3X250F3—$170.
907TL—$35. 4-125A—$22.50. 872A—$5.25.
WANTED: HIGH QUALITY ENGLISH ELECTRIC 6186E—
$840. All tubes are factory new and come with 100 hour warranty, from the largest wholesale
supplier of broadcast tubes. Inquire about our special packages for complete spare tube kits. CALVERT ELECTRON-
ICS, INC., Dept. BE-2 220 E. 23rd St.,
New York 10, N. Y. (212) 9-1340.

Will buy or trade used tape and disc rec-
ording equipment—Amplex, Revere, etc.
Magnecord, Presto, etc. Audio equipment
for sale. Boynton Studio, 295 Main Tuckahoe, N. Y.

RECORDING EQUIPMENT: 2 Ampex professional recorders C-351-2's, 2 used
professional turntables 7-D, C-275's. 1
Control Console including 1 Ampex Mixer
and 2 Ampex Remote Control Units. 2 RCA M244BX Broadcast Mikes. Most of equipment practically new. Used very little. Vested at least $10,000.00 Will sacrifice for $5,000.00. Terms if de-
ired. Kushman and Fuentes, 2801 No. Broad-
stone, Fresno, California.

TRANSMITTING TUBE SALE: Complete
Coaxial-Panasonic 5736—$110. 6623—
$115. 891R—$827. (690B—$800. 1800A—
$825. Write for complete price list. Thor
Electronics, 289 Morris Ave. Elizab-
eth, N. J. 07207.

Fairchild Conax—used three months—
original price $345—will sell for $250.
Also one factory rebuilt Presto I-C Cut-
ting Head—$75. Quilling business. L. W.
Longnecker, 10,35 McKinley, Ossela,
Indiana.

Vertically held 1 inch reel .85
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Direct meter readings of:
- Total Modulation
- SCA Modulation
- SCA Frequencies
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FREQUENCY & MODULATION MONITORS
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- The TBM-3000 is a completely self-contained frequency monitor and the TBM-3500 is a self-contained modulation monitor.
- The 3000 used in conjunction with either the 3500 or 4000 fulfills the FCC requirement for a station monitor.
- The TBM-3500 is completely compatible with FM stereo.

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The TBM-2500 will drive any combination of two monitors including other brands.
- Isolated high and low level outputs.
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- 2 watt output with 1000 µv input.
- Complete with yagi antenna and coaxial cable.
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50% LONGER WARRANTY COVERAGE
for the popular RCA-5820A image orthicon

RCA now gives further assurance of reliability and economy by extending the warranty period on the RCA-5820A from 500 to 750 hours of service. Hours of service are total hours of operation, including time that power is applied to filament or heater.

RCA electron tubes are manufactured to high quality standards and are warranted against defects in workmanship, materials and construction. If a defect is of a latent nature, it normally will reveal itself shortly after the tube is placed into service and RCA will allow adjustment for the RCA-5820A, subject to the terms set forth herein, in accordance with the following:

Full adjustment is allowed for tubes failing within 50 hours of service. Partial adjustment up to 750 hours of service is allowed in accordance with the Adjustment Policy Table which is shown graphically above. Adjustments are limited to claims presented within 1½ years after the tube was shipped by RCA Electronic Components and Devices.

RCA ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS AND DEVICES, HARRISON, N. J.

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