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## Gontents



Volume 23 No. 1 January 1994

## deatures - Projects

## Bright Spark

A look at practical alternative energy systems which can be built and used by the amateur, plus an answer to the question 'is it worth it?'

## ProgRAM

A ROM emulator saves
reprogramming EPROMs. An ideal time saver for the microprocessor experimenter.

## Logic Pulse Generator

This month's cover board project is yet another useful piece of test equipment for your workbench.

## MotorMate

Test your car's electrics with this useful and versatile continuity tester.

## Bite Detector

Have you ever fallen asleep whilst fishing and lost the big one? This device will wake you up in time to catch it!

## MPU <br> Fundamentals

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Bright Spark


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Single Channel 12 bit ADC
£85

| Typical application | ADC-10 | ADC-11 | ADC-12 | ADC-16 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Oscilloscope |  |  |  |  |
| Voltmeter |  |  |  |  |
| Spectrum analyser |  |  |  |  |
| Audio sampling |  |  |  |  |
| Chart recorder emulation |  |  |  |  |
| Temperature measurement |  |  |  |  |
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## Low cost catalogue from Electromail

Until 31st December, Electromail, the mail order arm of RS Components, is offering its

full colour catalogue at a reduced price of just $£ 2.95$. The three part, 2000 page, catalogue is usually priced at $£ 6.50$ and gives customers immediate access to an extensive range
of over 41,000 RS electronic, electrical and mechanical parts and tools.

Electromail can be contacted on 0536204555.

> Oxford switches to electric transport

The city of Oxford now has an electric bus service, part of the city's move towards creating a better environment. Four buses powered by lead acid batteries are now running a regular service on a

4 km circuit in the city. Each bus carnies up to 18 people and has a top speed of 64 km per hour.

The £125,000 buses are being provided by Southem Electricity and subsidlsed by
the council. They have been designed by International Automotive Design of Worthing in Sussex and should help to reduce the level of nitrogen dioxide pollution in the city centre.

## Mixed technology memory cards from Mitsubishi

Two new series of mixed technology 68 pin PCMCIA version 2/JEIDA version 4 standard memory cards have been launched by Mitsubishi. The two series are firstly a mix of SRAM and Flash and, secondly, a mix of OTPROM and EEPROM.

The SRAM and Flash mixed cards are avallable in mixes up to 2 Mb of total memory. As such they provide ideal solutions to the data and program storage requirements of very small computer systems. The 200ns fast access cards are buffer interfaced and incorporate attribute memory. Programming and data erasing is by software control under the Flash memory and a life of up to 10,000 Flash memory programming cycles can be achieved.

The OTPROM and EEPROM versions are available with 1 or 2 Mb of OTPROM and 64 or 256 Kb of EEPROM, plus decoder ICs. Applications for these cards include multi-function terminals, instrumentation and measurement. The cards feature an 8 bit data length and an access time of 250 ns.

For more information contact Mitsubishi on 0707 276100.


## Safe earth testing

Wall rely on the fact that electrical systems are properly earthed to guarantee their safety, but is the earth wire property earthed? A new device from Manchester based Alpha Electronics allows you to test individual earth resistance in multiple earthed systerns. This can be carried out safely without any need for disconnection. The system is ideal for testing power pylons, grounding grids and lighting protection systems.

The Unilap GEO-X also offers low resistance and two pole measurement with an $A C$ resolution of 0.001 ohms. Automatic frequency control has been incorporated to ensure measurement validity. Microprocessor controlled measurements are presented on a large, high contrast, LCD and may also be downloaded to a PC or printer.

For more information contact Alpha Electronics on 0942873434

## New car alarm from Maplin

Mapilin Electronics has just launched a new towcost car alarm system, which it claims has more features than many more expensive models. The system is easy to fit with a two wire installation and will alarm and protect the vehicle. It is programmed with a remote control code and has a third wire which can be connected to the ignition switch so that the alarm can not be amed while the engine is running.

If the car is broken in to, the alarm will be triggered. A forced entry will tum on an interior light and then any
sudden shock will start the alarm. The alam has a wamaway' feature which is set by pressing the remote control button twice. When the shock sensor is triggered, a warning tone will tell the intruder to back off. If the shock sensor is triggered more than twice within 15 seconds the full alarm will be triggered.

The car alarm kit costs £29.95 and comes with all components, instructions, remote transmitter and waming stickers. It is available from any Maplin shop or by mail order. Maplin can be contacted on 0702 554161.

## Mercury containing copper oxide becomes superconductive

By subjecting a mercury-containing copper oxide to very high pressures, scientists at the University of Houston have caused it to become superconducting at unusually high temperatures above $150 \mathrm{~K}(-123 \mathrm{C})$. Currently, the highest ambient-pressure superconducting transition temperature on record is 135 K . It was measured in the recently discovered compound $\mathrm{HgBa} 2 \mathrm{Ca} 2 \mathrm{Cu} 3 \mathrm{O} 8+8$ by Houston physi-
cist Ching-Wu Chu and co-workers.
When Chu's group subsequently subjected this material to 150 kilobars of pressure (almost 150,000 atmospheres), its transition temperature went up to 153K. The researchers measured a transition temperature of 160 K at 280 kbar . These results show subsequently that superconductivity in such layered cuprates is possible at temperatures researchers could once only dream of.

Because pressurising these superconductors is not technically feasible, Chu's team is seeking to duplicate this transition temperature enhancement effect at ambient temperatures using chemical means. One possible route, for example, is to replace the mercury with other elements that have linear oxygen co-ordination and/or a valence of 3 or less.

## Disk based catalogue simplifies equipment rental

The well known electronic equipment rental company, Livingston Hire, has taken the unusual step of producing its rental catalogue on disk for PC users. This idea should enable users of the company's services to quickly and easity select the equipment they need. The disk also includes up to date details of new products available for rental and new services.

Catalogues on disk is an idea which could catch on! For more information, contact Livingstone Hire on 081 9435151.

## Liuingstan



## New microcontrollers from Mitsubishi

itsubishi has expanded Its 38000 Series range of 8 bit microcontrollers to give a range of devices that should suit the needs of every designer. The 'mix and match' RAM and RAM concept range now incorporates devices carrying between 8 and 48 Kb of ROM, with up to 1 Kb of RAM.

The Series can be divided into three main groups general purpose, VFD and LCD controller types. Features include a simple instruction set with 71 basic instructions, together with ROM, RAM and I/O addresses residing in the same memory map for easy programming. The single chip CMOS microcontrollers boast fast instruction times and the
devices operate from power supplies between 2.5 and 5.5 V , according to type On chip functions include 16 vectored interrupts with up to 7 extemal interrupts and four 8 bit timers, three 8 bit prescalers, plus one USART and between 58 and 74 programmable I/O lines. On some chips, internal AVD converters are also provided offering 8 bit successive approximation conversion, with conversion in 50 clock cycles. The 8 bit DAC is an R2R ladder network with external reference voltage. Clock ratés are up to 6.8 MHz .

For more information on the 38000 Series microcontrollers contact Mitsubishi in Hatfield, Herts, on 0707 276100.

## Quantum, Connor roll out new disk drives

Two leading US manufacturers of disk drives,
Connor Peripherals inc., and Quantum Corp., have
launched a new range of 2.5 and 3.5 in models.

Connor has unveiled 2.1 and 1 Gb 3.5 in drives for use in servers, PAID subsysterns and workstations. The two models, both in the Filepro
range, have average access times of 9 and 9.5 ms and consume 6.6 and 9.6 W whilst idling.

In the 2.5 in notebooksystems market, Connor has unveiled 340, 250 and 170 Mb drives that weigh only $70 z$ apiece. They consume IW while idiling and have average seek times of

12 ms . Shock resistance is higher than in most other drives - 300Gs in a non operating mode.

Quantum, for its part, is sticking to the desktop with an inch-high drive that stores 1.08 Gb . The firm, which unveiled a 2Gb product a few months ago, says that the new member of
its drive family has a 5,400 nom rotational rate and a 9.5 ms average seek time. Power consumption is 7.5 W at a 30 per cent seek level, one of the lowest in the industry, Quantum said. While laling, the power rating is 6 W .

## Multichip module

Redwood Microsystems Inc., of Menlo Park, Califomia, the firm behind these new devices, says the modules are smaller, more accurate and less expensive than regulators normally used to control non-corrosive gases in analytical and medical instruments.

Each module contains a sillcon micromachined sensor, drive electronics, flow
connectors and one of Redwood's patented Fluistors, a new type of microvalve etched in silicon. When combined with Redwood's analogue control boards, the modules facilitate the design of closed-loop proportional controllers that precisely regulate pressures from 0-30 and 0-100psig.

## NEC's fluorescent panel is a world first

NEC Electronics' new chip-in-glass fluorescent indicator panel is the first such display to include the driver ICs on the display substrate. dramatically reducing the module size and the number of lead terminals. Thus the new $128 \times 32$ dot graphics fluorescent indicator panel is $60 \%$ smaller and has just 22 lead terminals, as opposed to 198 for the conventiona! types.

These new displays will be used in applications such as industrial and medical equipment, office automation, alam panels, test instrumentation and data terminals. Applications where smatler size and increased reliability are important.

The display module includes an 8 bit microcomputer, a character generator, power supplies and reset circuitry. The microcomputer
reads, stores and edits the display data, and generates all timing signals. The character generator transforms the microcomputer output into $5 \times 7$ dot patterns. The power supplies change the 5 V module supply into power for the anode, grid and AC for the display filaments.

For more information contact NEC Electronics in Milton Keynes, on 0908 691133.

## Motion computers

$\mathrm{M}^{\circ}$otion computers, designed for specific motors, are changing the face of automation. Faster chips not only provide more accurate moves, but they also generate profiles that are nearly impossible using mechanical means alone. Two such chips, one for servos and another for steppers, are now being marketed.

One chip, actually a chipset, is from Performance

Motion Devices Inc., of Cheimsford, Massachusetts. The DSP-based MC1401, one of the most advanced servo-control chipsets for its price, offers 32 bits of compute power for calculating position, velocity, acceleration, and jerk. Its four builtin profile modes, trapezoidal, velocity-contouring, S-curve and electronic gear - let it generate practically any complex move in real time.

Input features include support for an increment encoder with index pulse, two directional limit switches and a home signal. The chipset
also features a choice of two digital filters - PID and PIVff (velocity feed forward) - and a period register that stabilises the response at low speeds. All filter and profile parameters can be changed on the fly to facilitate multi-axis synchronised motion, based on pulse-width modulation or 160 bit D/A converter compatible motor output signals.

For stepper motors, the new model is the SMC-50, a single-chip microcontroller from Advanced Micro Systems Inc., of Nashua, New Hampshire. The SMC-

## Ground breaking digital video recorder from Samsung

Using green light laser technology, developed by the Russian military, the Korean electronics giant Samsung has designed a revolutionary magnetooptic erasable CD, which has sufficient capacity to store a full length film on a single disk. As a domestic TV recording technology it looks likely to set a new standard which will make obsolete conventional VHS tape systems.

Each side of a standard 13 cm CD will be able to record 55 minutes of video, about 25 Gb of data per side. This is an enormous increase on conventional CDs, which store 600 Mb on just one side. The increased capacity is due to the much smaller track dimensions, made possible because green laser light has a much shorter wavelength than that of the infrared lasers used on standard CDs.

50 calculates up to 50,000 steps per second. It supports full, half and microstep drivers, providing absolute or relative position commands with independent ramping in either direction (accelerating or decelerating).

## Three-in-one cycle computer from Maplin

Maplin has launched a new product which should be of considerable interest to cycle owners. It is a compact multifunction computer which displays time. speed and distance on a $33 x$ 23 mm LCD display. Speed and distance are calculated from the output of a wheel mounted sensor, making allowance for wheel size.

The time function can also be selected to provide a 24 hour clock, a journey timer, or a trip timer. The speed function can be selected to give actual speed, average speed, or maximum speed and the distance function can be selected to give trip distance or total distance.

The system is easily fitted, being provided with a

handlebar mounting base and the main unit can be easily removed for security. The cycle computer can be
obtained from any Maplin shop or by mail order price £19.95. Mapilin can be contacted on 0702554161.

## Prototype superconductor to be built

The US Department of Energy has awarded a major contract for a two year project to an industry team that will build and demonstrate a novel superconducting current limiter prototype device for use by electric utilities.

The DOE, under its Superconductivity Partnership Initiative, will give $\$ 2.3$ million to a collaborative team from General Dynamics Space Systems Division, American Superconductor Corp. and Southem Califomia Edlson Co. The
remaining $\$ 1.1$ million will be provided by the partners. In addition, Los Alamos National Laboratory will receive funding under a separate agreement to provide technical support.

A current limiter protects expensive electrical equipment by momentarily reducing the flow of excessive current caused by short circuits, lightning strikes, or common power fluctuations. Incorporating newly developed high temperature superconducting wire tech-
nology in the prototype current limiter will allow utilities to use smaller, less expensive circuit breakers and fuses, thus lowering their replacement cost.

Southern Califomia Edison Co. estimates it could save $\$ 7.5$ million a year by using the superconducting current limiter in its power grid alone. U.S. utilities potentially could save $\$ 100$ million per year.

## Fast PC based analogue simulation

The new version of the analogue circuit simulation software, SpiceAge, from Those Engineers Ltd is over 55\% faster and is believed to be the fastest Windows based simulator avallable today.
The new version, V2.080, offers users some important new features including a DDE interface (supported by a self running demonstration/batch running utility), extra SPICE compatible MOdels, and even better links to the GESCA schematic entry system. There are also a great many other improvements and additions.

SpiceAge for Windows has been written by British author Graham Baxter and produced by Those Engineers Ltd, a company that has specialised in circuit simulation software
since 1982. It gives users access to a 'lab futl of test equipment', which can be used to test analogue circuit designs. Users can inject signals, and 'probe' for voltages, currents, dilissipatlon, dB gain, phase angle, group delay, and power consumption.

For more information on SpiceAge, contact Those Engineers Ltd on 081906 0155.


## March of the micromachines

Around the world, increasing amounts of money are being spent on the techniques for developing machines with dimensions measured in millionths of a meter.

These micromachines are built using the same techniques employed to construct
integrated circuits. They are made from silicon using lithographic and etching techniques and can contain dozens of minute mechanical components, even microscopic electric motors, as well as electronic circuitry.

So convinced are researchers in the United

States of the future importance of these micromachines, that the govemment, through the Advanced Research Project Agency, has provided significant support for one of the word's leading micromachine research centres, the Microelectronics Center of

North Carolina or MCNC. The MCNC was set up over 13 years ago to develop advanced semiconductor technology. Already it has produced devices for fifteen separate clients, ranging from defence contractors to a high school, and with expenditures starting as low as $\$ 500$.

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## Continued from page 10

## Environmental noise analyser from Castle

Environmental noise is now widely accepted as being one of -the most pervasive and aggravating forms of pollution. To help monitor noise pollutions and provide an analysis of it. Castle Associates of Scarborough has launched a new portable Noise Analyser, the GA122.

This hand held device can perform a wide range of different noise measurements using its built in microphone. It is fully waterproof and features a large 32 character display, which is backlit to allow operation in the dark.

The GA122 nas one megabit of intemal memory for data logging and this is backed up by a lithium battery, which should provide up to five years memory retention. This data can be downloaded to a PC via an RS232 link, and then formatted on the PC to a suitable style and format, using dBdata 4W for Windows, a computer package specifically designed by Castle for the GA122

The GA122 Logging/Integrating Sound Level Meter costs $£ 2,680$ complete with software. For further details contact Castle Associates on 0723584250.


## Capacitors as a source of backup power

Electronics giant NEC has just launched a range of capacitors which have been specifically designed to provide backup power for devices such as random access memory chips.

The new Supercaps family have capacitances as high as 3.1F and are currently available in 5.5 V and 1 IV versions. Since a CMOS system only requires tens of microamps to operate in standby mode, it is thus possible to replace a stand-by battery with a large value capacitor to provide enough power to cover even prolonged power supply failure. Thus, a 256 Kbit RAM can, according to NEC, be supported for 50 hours by a 2.2F Supercap.

Reserve power supplies based on capacitors are easier to implement than battery based supplles. The capacitor simply being connected across the supply with a current-limiting resistor and diode to isolate it from the primary power supply. It is also a lot more reliable, as a capacitor will stand an infinite number of charge/discharge cycles, while a NiCd battery will survive only a few hundred.

For more information on Supercaps contact NEC on 0908 691133.


## New lab power supply from 0 \& $S$

From Cheshunt based O\&S Laboratory Products, comes a new stabilised electronic power supply which provides a voltage range of 0 $30 \mathrm{~V} D C$ continuously variable, together with an amperage range of $0-3 A$. The ranges are
indicated in either analogue or digital display.

The unit is mains powered and comes with a carrying handle to make it easily portable. For further details contact O\&S Laboratory Products on 0992637373.

## Europe and US go for digital broadcasting.

0ver the last eight years, the EEC and Europe's big TV manufacturers, the likes of Philips and Thomson, have invested around $£ 500$ million in the development of high definition television (HDTV). The European development was almed at creating a standard system based on traditional analogue broadcasting technology, an approach followed by the Japanese with even greater investment.

The US govemment and US consumer electronics companies started development of HDTV at a later date than the other two main players, and they also took a different approach. What US developers have done is look at an entirely new way of broadcasting TV images - the use of digital technology. This approach allows TV broadcasting to be merged with computing and telecommunications technologies.

It has been so successful that the European companies and their backers in the EEC have now abandoned their previous proposals in favour of a digital system, similar to that developed in the US. Even the Japanese are now acknowledging that they have made a fundamental mistake and are embarking on a crash development of a digital HDTV system.


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## The Spark of Ingenuity

> People all over the world are becoming increasingly aware of the impact that modern society is having on the environment, an impact which ranges from the effect of vehicle exhaust pollution, to the destruction of the protective ozone layer and global warming, from excessive reliance on fossil fuels, to the problem of excessive noise.


It has to be said that most of the problems we now face with environmental destruction and pollution of one sort or another are directly attributable to a combination of technological development and over population. But it must also be said that they are problems which can be overcome with the aid of human ingenuity and the application of technology.

## Alternative energy to the rescue?

Probably the biggest impact on the environment comes from the enormous use of energy in a modem technology based soclety. Energy for transport, for heating, for powering all the gadgets which we take for granted in our homes and workplace. Energy which we use inefficiently and which comes from mineral resources which are not replaceable.

Inefficiently used fossil energy is a prime polluter, leading to hydrocarbons and CO 2 in the atmosphere, acid rain, etc., but this is something which technology can help to solve. We can create systems which use energy more efficiently, and we can create systems which generate energy using renewable non-polluting resources. So called alternative energy sources.

Some of the most important sources of alternative energy are the wind and the sun and efficiently hamessing these energy sources is a subject which has attracted a lot of research over the last few years. Solar energy systems to have become much more efficient and dropped in price enormously, the same has been true to a lesser degree for wind power. Indeed, the amount of research has been sufficient that both solar and wind power systems are now serious contenders for power generation in many parts of the world, particularly the more remote areas.

In the last decade wind generators have more than doubled in efficiency and their cost has been reduced by a factor of three. Solar energy systems have seen their efficiencies more than quadrupling, and the cost of generating a unit of solar electricity dropping by over $90 \%$.

However, increased efficiency and declining costs have not been sufficient to promote the mass building of solar and wind power plants, and are unlikely to do so for many years to come. The reason is that not all parts of the world are suitable for siting such alternative energy power plants. Also, they require a lot of land on which to place large solar arrays, or windmill farms. This means that they need to be put in remote areas,
far away from the centres of human habitation and thereby incur enormous overheads in both cost and power loss in power transmission between the generating site and the users.

What this means is that the use of altemative energy will be different to the use of more conventional energy. Instead of having large centralised power plants and a national grid of electricity transmission lines, alternative energy power plants will be much smaller and tailored to the needs of the individual or the local community. Every house may have its own wind generator and/or solar panels, power sources which, with good insula-
costing a few hundred pounds can provide enough power for a caravan, or considerably cut down domestic electricity bills. On a smaller scale, these technologies could be used to provide lighting, and limited power, for a garage, garden shed or greenhouse, etc.

There is no reason why we should not all have some form of alternative energy generation system. For a modest outlay we can save money (it takes about ten years to pay back the cost of an altemative energy system, after which all the power it generates is free!), and also do our bit to improve the environment by reducing our reliance upon fossil fuels.

tion and increased efficiency, should be adequate to provide a large percentage of the energy requirements of a household. Indeed, in Denmark, one of the world's leading users of wind power. over $2 \%$ of the national power requirement is already met by home based wind generators.

It is the fact that altemative energy systems are probably best applied on a small scale that makes them of particular interest to the electronics hobbyist. A wind generator or solar
receive over $40 \%$ of Europe's total wind energy potential. Already there are commercial wind farms generating electricity for the National Grid. These can be found in the remoter parts of the UK, in Cornwall, Wales and Scotland, and include one of the largest wind turbines in the world.

So how do we convert wind energy into electrical energy? The answer is, of course, our old friend the windmill. Not the windmills of Don Quixote, Texas ranches, or Dutch paintings, but modem high efficiency designs, based on aerodynamics and computer simulations. Instead of grinding grain or pumping water, these modern windmills are turning high efficiency generators to produce electricity.

The design of a modern windmill, or wind turbine as we should more correctly refer to it, is intended to extract the maximum energy from the wind while at the same time not succumbing to potentially disastrous problems such as vibration. Since the power output from an electrical generator increases in relation to the speed of the shaft's rotation (up to a maximum design level) it is important that the design works at as high a speed as possible in light wind conditions, while at the same time being able to withstand gale force winds.

The wind turbine can have a rotational axis which is either horizontal or vertical. The traditional windmill has a horizontal rotational axis with two or more propeller type blades. Vertical rotational axis wind turbines are much more recent and unfortunately still prone to structural and control problems, and are also less efficlent than the traditional horizontal turbine. The only drawback with a horizontal axis system is that it must always face the wind,

## Electricity from wind.

In a country like Britaln, wind power has to be the primary contender for providing alternative energy. This is a windy country, we
although the traditional use of a wind vane is more than adequate to ensure correct positioning.

The favourite configuration for a modern wind turbine is to have two blades since, this produces the highest rotational speed. The blades have an aerofoil section, much like an aircraft wing, Indeed some of the larger wind turbines look rather like a rotating glider. The ideal design will achieve a balance between maximum lift and minimum drag, with the aim of ensuring stability and a rotational speed which is about ten times faster than the wind speed. They are
also designed to start producing power with wind speeds of just under 4 metres per second, considerably less than the average annual wind speed for any part of the UK.

The mechanical power output from a given turbine is proportional to the square of the blade diameter. This means that a 6 ft diameter turbine will actually produce four times as much power as a 3 ft diameter turbine. However, electrical power output is also proportional to the rotational speed of the turbine. This means that in order to
achieve maximum electrical power output, it is usually necessary to use gearing to increase speed, with consequent power losses due to friction, etc.

The problem with wind is that it is a variable energy source. In still air, even the most aerodynamically efficient turbine will hardly be rotating, whllst in a gale it may be rotating at a dangerously high speed. This means that on all but the smallest wind turbines, some form of control is required to protect the system from darnage in high winds. On large
commercial turbines this contror is provided by a computer, which amongst other things will feather the turbine blades, on small systems some form of manual or automatic clutch mechanism is essential.

## Solar electricity

The big problem with solar energy as a source of altemative electrical power in the UK is that we have so few days per annum of bright sunshine. Modem solar cells will actually generate power output

## The economics of alternative energy <br> $s$ we have aiready seen, the complete system gener- <br> have a reserve of about five to ten days power consump-

ating, storing, and outputting electricity in a usable form is quite complex, irrespective of whether the power is being generated by the sun or the wind. We can divide this system into four components - the generator, the power regulator, power storage and power output inverter. In order to consider the overall cost of a complete system, we need to look at the cost of each of these components.

If we look at designing a power system capable of delivering a mains voltage with a maximum power rating of 100 W for at least seven hours per day, in other words, sufficient to light one medium power light bulb, run a small TV, fridge, computer, etc., then to calculate the cost we need to work backwards, and start with the inverter. A suitable solid state inverter with this sort of rating could be built for about $£ 50$, the major cost being the transformer, Savings can be made if one can be salvaged from other equipment.

The inverter draws its power directly from the batteries and these have to have sufficient capacity to cope with continued power use over periods of no sun or wind. In practical systems this means that the batteries should
tion. We can calculate the total usable capacity for a 12 V battery system as follows:

## $A h=W h \times T / 12 v$

where Ah is the total usable capacity needed in Amp hours at $12 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~Wh}$ is the daily power requirement in Watt hours per day, and $T$ is the storage period in days. In the case of our design requirement of 700 Wh per day and five days reserve, the total usable capacity is 291 Amp Hours.

From this we can calculate the total number of batteries needed using the following formula:

## $N=(A h \times 100 / F) / D$

In the previous equation), $F$ is the full capacity specified for one 12 V battery in Amp hours, and $D$ is the maximum depth of the charge cycle in \%. With the above design requirements, we need 4.412 V lead acid batteries, where each battery has a total capacity of 110Ah and can be discharged to a depth of $60 \%$.

The depth of the charge cycle is important. Batteries used for storage will probably spend long periods on partial charge, with consequent reduction in capacity of

## Silicon solar cells

The majority of commercial solar cells are made from monocrystalline silicon that has been doped with boron. The thin slices of silicon, each about five inches in diameter, which are cut from the monocrystalline block are then exposed, in a furnace at 1500 C , to a gas containing phosphorus. This creates a pn near the surface, between the boron doped substrate and the thin phosphorus doped surface layer. It is this pn junction which gives the slice of silicon its photovoltaic property of converting light into electricity.

After this treatment in the furnace, a network of metal strips is attached to the surface of the slice of silicon. This network forms the contact while a layer of metal on the back of the cell forms the positive contact. An anti-reflective coating is put on the front of the silicon slice which is now a solar cell ready to be mounted into an array.

Another type of silicon used to
on quite dull days, but the power produced will only be a few percent of that produced on a bright sunny day. However, solar cells do have one major advantage over any other altemative energy source of electricity. This is that they are all solid state, with no mechanical components and thus extremely reliable, robust, and compact. Ideal for use
make solar celis is polycrystalline silicon. This is slightly less efficient at converting light into electricity, but is much cheaper to manufacture. It is easy enough to tell the difference between the two types by looking at them. Monocrystalline silicon solar cells have a uniform blue colour, whereas polycrystalline cells will show an irregular pattern, like that seen on a galvanised iron bucket.

There is, in addition, a third type of silicon solar cell which is gaining considerably in popularity, the amorphous silicon cell. Amorphous silicon, containing a smail amount of hydrogen, is deposited on a conductive glass substrate, then doped in a furnace before having the other conductors added. This type of cell is much cheaper to make than the other two types and, although it has a lower efficiency, it can be made in much larger sizes, cells measuring 6 $\times 12$ in are not at all uncommon.

In remote sites, such as unmanned lighthouses and telephone exchanges.

At the moment, there is oniy one real contender for the generation of solar electricity, the silicon solar cell (see box 2). Other types of solar cell under research are based on semiconductors, such as Gallum Arsenide and Cadmium Sulphide. Technologies based on organlc
pigments and an oxygen/hydrogen/watër cycle incorporating fuel cells are a possibility for the more distant future.

A typical $4 \times 2.5$ in monocrystalline solar cell will generate nearly 1 V at $1 / 2 \mathrm{~A}$ in full sunlight. Amorphous silicon solar cells have a lower efficiency, but single cells can be much larger. A typical amorphous cell might measure $12 \times 6$ in and output 12 V at 125 mA . With both types of cell, higher voltages are generated by connecting numbers of cells in series and in parallel.

A typical solar electricity system thus consists of a number of cells wired together on a watertight, weatherproof panel, placed in an open sunny position. In the UK such a panel must be faced towards the south and inclined at an angle so that it faces the sun and receives the maximum solar energy input (a rule of thumb is that the angle of titt should be about the same as the angle of latitude for the site).

## Alternative energy systems.

The actual power generating component, in both wind and solar electrical power generation, form just one part of a larger system. The overall system must be able to generate electricity, store electricity so that it is available when needed and convert the low voltage DC battery output into a 240 V AC mains output, which can be used by domestic and commercial equipment.

In a wind generator system the output
lead-acid batteries due to sulphation. As a result, it is advisable to use only high quality lead-acid lead acid batteries with a depth cycle less than $50 \%$ or vented nickel-cadmium batteries.

Using the above calculations we will need about 5 batteries. Depending on the source and whether they are new or second hand, these will cost at least $£ 120$ and perhaps as much as $£ 300$. This represents a considerable portion of the total investment in an altemative energy system.

Next, we come to the power regulation electronics. This just consists of a rectifier and voltage regulator, $\mathrm{so}_{\text {, }}$ given the fairly low voltages and power ratings involved, can be constructed for just a few pounds.

Finally we come to the actual power generation part of the system. Here, the average power generated per day should balance the average power used per day with suitable allowance for losses during conversion and storage. So if we are using 700 Wh per day, we will need at least 800 Wh per day of generating capacity. Since wind power operates 24 hours per day, we are looking at an average power generation capability of about 36 W . With solar power the practical generation period could be as littie as three hours per day, leading to a requirement for a generating capability of about 200 W .

With commercial solar panels costing in the region of £7 per watt of generating power, this means that our solar power system will cost about $£ 1400$ for the solar panels. Added to this is up to $£ 250$ for batteries, and $£ 60$ for other electronics and we reach a minimum system cost of at least $£ 1710$, not counting the cost of cables, mounting wood/metal work and labour for installation.

Given a workshop and the ability to make things, a suitable wind generator could be produced for about $£ 100$. A vehicle alternator could be used as the generator, the turbine blades can be made from plywood and the gearing can be achieved with the aid of a belt and pulleys. The total cost of a home made wind generator would be between $£ 300$ and $£ 400$.

Now we come to calculating the actual cost of the electricity generated by such alternative energy systems. Both are producing 0.7 kW of power per day, or 0.7 units of electricity. With a single unit of electricity costing about 7.4 pence, this gives a payback period for a solar system of over 62 years, hardly what one would call an economic proposition, more a labour of love or conviction. A wind generating system, on the other hand has a payback period of just over ten years and, as such, is within the bounds of being an economic proposition as well as something one can do to help the environment.
from the generator will be a variable $A C$ current, voltage and frequency, with output changing as wind speed and generator rotational speed changes. Because there will be times when there is no wind, or the amount of electricity being generated is insufficient to meet transitory power requirements, a battery must be used to store surplus power output. Such a battery system is connected across the power lines and in effect trickle charged, but power cannot be taken directly from the electric generator. It first needs to all be converted to DC by passing it through a rectifier and then have the voltage regulated so that there is no danger of applying excessive charging voltage to the batteries.

The batteries will probably store power at either 12 or 24 V and some users of altemative energy systems make do with a low voltage DC power system. However, it is far more convenient to be able to use standard mains voltage equipment and this means converting low voltage $D C$ into high voltage $A C$. Nowadays high efficiency (about 90\%) solid state circuitry is used in inverters, as opposed to the old use of a motor/dynamo couple. An inverter basically just switches the DC input off and
on at 50 Hz and feeds it through a transformer, which converts 12 V into 240 V . Simple inverter circuits output a square wave, as opposed to the sinusoidal wave seen in standard AC mains power.

With solar power there is no need to rectify the voltage input from the solar cells, since it is already DC. Otherwise, there is exactly the same requirements for voltage regulation, battery power storage and, finally, the creation of 240 V $A C$ power by an inverter.

## Is alternative energy practical?

The answer to this question has to be a qualified yes. In remote areas, alternative energy generation systems offer us the best way of bringing electrical power to individuals and communities located in such places. in densely populated cities, altemative energy is less economic and less practical. There is little room for siting large wind turbines or solar cell arrays, and placing them well away from the cities leads to power transmission losses.

But in a country like the UK, with large areas of suburban housing there is probably considerable scope for very small scale altemative energy generation
systems attached to individual houses. If Individuals in Denmark can produce over $2 \%$, and rising, of the national power consumption then individuals in the UK can certainly do the same. It is an area which offers considerable scope for commercial development, and for the ingenuity of the individual.

## Further Information.

To find out more about the practical aspect of alternative energy systems, it is well worthwhile contacting the Centre for Altemative Technology, in Machynileth, Powys.

For more information on the commercial aspect of renewable energy, contact ETSU for the Department of Trade and Industry at Harwell, Didcot, Oxfordshire.

There is a good practical book on solar energy called Solar Electricity by Simon Roberts and published by Prentice Hall. You could also refer to the large number of articles which have appeared over the last decade, in virtually every science and technology related publication.



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## ProgRAM

hen developing code for stand alone micro processors, some form of EPROM emulator makes life a lot easier. Battery backed RAMs can be used in place of EPROMs, but programming them can be a problem.
This is because most programmers first check that the memory is blank and refuse to continue if there are not, but ProgRAM provides a very low cost solution to this problem. It is designed to be plugged into the PC parallel printer port, although it should also operate from most parallel printer ports with the appropriate cable.

## Centronics Parallel Printer Port

Lets first look at the connection betwoen the ProgRAM circuit and the computer. The standard Centronics printer connector is a special 36 way connector. Most PC compatibles, however, use a 25 way Dtype connector. The pin out is shown in Figure 1. This unit connects directly to the 25 way connector.

To restrict the flow of information to slow mechanical printers, handshaking is used. First, assuming Busy is low, the data is placed on the data lines DO to D7. Strobe is then taken low momentarily by the PC. The printer can latch the data on the falling or rising edge of this signal. The printer then takes Busy high until it is ready for more data. At this point
ACKnowlege is pulsed low. This signal is useful for triggering an interrupt.

There are three other important signals. PE is taken high when the printer is out of paper. SEL is pulled high by the printer. ERR is taken low when an error occurs, e.g. out of paper, off line, jammed, etc.

## How It works

To extract data from the printer port all the unit needs to do is assert the correct handshake signals. Figure 2 shows the handshake procedure and Figure 3 shows the circuit. The falling edge of strobe sets an SR flip-flop (IC2a), the output of which Is connected to the Busy line. On the rising edge of strobe, the data is written into the NVRAM. The rising edge also triggers a monostable (IC1a), which produces a $10 \mu \mathrm{~S}$ pulse. The falling edge of this pulse increments the address counters (IC4 and

IC5), and also causes the Busy flip flop to be reset. In turn, the falling edge of the Busy line causes monostable IC1b to generate a $10 \mu \mathrm{~S}$ ACK pulse.

The address counter is formed from IC4 and IC5. These dual 4 bit counters are connected to form a 16 bit counter, the high bit of the previous counter being used to clock the next counter.

ERR, SEL and /PE are tied to the appropriate levels, as described above.

The unit is reset by pressing S1. This toggles the Chip enable line of the RAM and resets the address counters to zero. When D2 is alight, the RAM is enabled.

A Switch is included, so 8 Kb or 32 Kb RAMs can be programmed. Close switch S2a and open S2b for 32 Kb or vice versa for 8 Kb RAMs. Some PCs have printer ports which can be programmed as inputs. If you know how to program them, it is possible to read ROMs with this unit by switching S2d on and S2c off (S2d off, and S2c on, in normal operation).

## Construction

Construction is relatively straight forward if the PCB shown if Figure 4. is used. Insert the components in ascending size order and, when assembled, check the board for shorts caused by excess solder. Make sure the DIL switches are in the position


Fig. 2 Handshake procedure required.

The type of $Z \mathbb{F}$ socket used will depend on how the unit is to be cased, but the unit can be used without a box to keep the price low. In this case take care when purchasing the ZIF socket. The socket used in the first prototype was made by Harwin. The IC is locked by pushing the lever to the right

although some ZIF sockets, such as the one made by Textool, lock using a lever with upward motion. This type may catch on the 25 way socket. If the unit is to be mounted In a case, the ZIF can be elevated, so it protrudes from the front of the case, using a 28 pin wire wrap socket. The Harwin ZIF pushes into these sockets like an IC, the Textool one doesn't. It would require soldering.

## Testing

Connect the unit to a stabilised 5 V power supply. Connect the unit to the parallel port of the PC with a 25 way lead terminated with 25 way male connectors at each end. When the push button is pressed, the LED should toggle between on and off. When the LED is on, check that all of the address lines (A0-A14) are around zero volts. Single bytes can be sent to the port from BASIC using LPRINT chr $\$$ (char), where char is the value between 0 and 255 that will appear on the data lines. Each time an LPRINT is performed, the address should increment by one and the data specified will appear on the data lines.

## Programming RAMs

Several suppliers stock non-volatile SRAMs and most of these are ordinary SRAMs with a lithlum battery and power down circuitry stuck on the top. The lithium batteries have an expected life of approximately 10 years. This should be remembered when you see cheap surplus devices advertised.

If you have a file containing the data you wish to program into the RAM, this can easily be done from MS-DOS. Tum ProgRAM's power off and insert the RAM. Restore power and press the button until the LED comes on. On power on, the unit is often in the correct state, but if the LED was on at power up, press the button twice anyway to make sure. At the DOS prompt type:
$C: \downarrow$ COPY file\#LPT1:Vb


This will program the RAM in three seconds or less, depending on the size of the file. The Vb switch tells DOS to send a binary file. If omitted, only the data up to the first Control Z character will be sent. If CP/M is being used, PIP can perform a similar function to copy. From BASIC, LPRINT can be used to program bytes, as described above.

Note that if the program is larger than the capacity of the RAM, the address counters will loop and overwrite the data at the start. This could be prevented with some additional logic by using the highest bit of IC5 to disable the RAM.

\section*{- CAPACItORS <br> | C1,C2 | 1nF Poly. |
| :--- | :--- |
| C3 | 1uF Flect. | <br> C4,C4,C6 $\quad 0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ (Decoupling) <br> RESISTORS <br> | R1,R2 | $18 k$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| $R 3, R 8, R 14$ | 1 k |
| R4,R5 | $2 k 2$ |
| R6 | $220 R$ |
| R7,R9,R10-12 | 10 k |
| R13 | 180 R | <br> SEMICONDUCTORS <br> TR1 BC548 <br> D1 1 N4148 <br> IC1 74LS123 (dual monostable) <br> IC2 74LS74 (dual d-type) <br> IC3 74LS14 <br> IC4,5 74LS393 (dual 4 bit counter) <br> miscellaneous <br> 28 Pin Zif socket <br> 4 way DIL switch (or solder links can be used). <br> Push button <br> 25-D way socket, PCB mounting}

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# Logic Pulse Generator 

## Build Robert Penfold's latest test project, a handy logic pulser

4logic probe is probably the most useful piece of inexpensive test gear for the logic circuit experimenter, but a logic pulser comes in as a close second.

A logic pulser is the digital equivalent of the audio engineer's sinewave/squarewave generator. In its most simple form, a pulse generator consists of a probe type device which produces a low frequency output signal at TTL logic levels. Some devices of this type also have the ability to produce a single output pulse each time a push-button is operated.

More sophisticated pulsers are in the form of normal bench units which can produce a wide range of output pulse durations and repetition rates. The most refined logic pulse generators have complex digital control circuits and can provide virtually any desired pulse waveform with an extremely high degree of accuracy, obtained by using a crystal reference oscillator to govem the timing of the output signal.

The pulser described in this project is a bench unit of the non-crystal controlled variety. It provides a wide range of output pulse durations and frequencies and although it lacks crystal
virtually any desired mark-space ratio.

## Mark Time

Many pulse generators operate on the basis of having the user set an output pulse direction and a repetition frequency (e.g. a $10 \mu$ s pulse at a frequency of 10 kHz ). This unit uses the altemative method of having the mark and space times individually adjustable. This sometimes requires a little more


Fig. 1 Pulse Generator block diagram
precision, it is adequate for much logic testing and development work. There are separate TIL and 5V CMOS outputs so that the unlt is fully compatibility with a wide range of logic circuits. Anti-phase outputs are available at both TTL and CMOS levels. The unit can therefore provide two-phase clock signals having thought in order to get the required output signal, but with a little practice it becomes second nature.
in the example given above, a $10 \mu$ s pulse rate of 10 kHz is clearly a $10 \mu \mathrm{~s}$ pulse every $100 \mu \mathrm{~s}$. The mark time is therefore $10 \mu \mathrm{~s}$, and the space time is $90 \mu \mathrm{~s}(100 \mu \mathrm{~s}$ minus $10 \mu \mathrm{~s})$. The unit is easier to use if you think directly in terms of mark and space times, but it is not usually too difficult to convert pulse durations and frequencies into mark and space times.

An advantage of having adjustable mark and space durations is that there is no risk of accidentally setting a nonsensical output waveform, such as a 100 ms pulse at a frequency of 1 MHz . Any output waveform that can be set on the controls can actually be generated. The mark and space times are each adjustable from approximately 110 ms to $1 \mu \mathrm{~s}$ in five ranges, as follows.

## Range $1 \quad 1 \mu \mathrm{~s}$ to $11 \mu \mathrm{~s}$

Range $2 \quad 10 \mu \mathrm{~s}$ to $110 \mu \mathrm{~s}$
Range $3 \quad 100 \mu \mathrm{~s}$ to 1.1 ms
Range $4 \quad 1 \mathrm{~ms}$ to 11 ms
Range $5 \quad 10 \mathrm{~ms}$ to 110 ms

This equates to a frequency range of about 4.5 Hz with both times set at maximum, to 500 kHz with them both set at the mimimum value. Clearly a very wide range of mark-space ratios are possible. In fact mark-space ratios as extreme as 100000:1 and 1:100000 can be generated.

## System Operation

The clrcuit is based on two monostables which are used in a form of ring oscillator. The block diagram of Figure 1 helps to explain the way in which the unit functions. Both monostables operate in the negative edge triggered mode. In other words, they are triggered by high to low transitions at the trigger inputs. Once triggered, an output pulse is produced and the length of this pulse is controlled by a C-R timing circuit.

The Q output of the first monostable connects to the trigger input of the second monostable. Similarly, the Q output of the second monostable is coupled to the trigger input of the first one. As the output pulse from the first monostable finishes, it provides a negative edge which triggers the second monostable. When the output pulse from the second monostable ends, it produces a negative edge which triggers the first monostable. The circuit therefore oscillates indefinitely, with the two monostables continuously triggering each other.

There is a small flaw in an oscillator of this type in that it is not guaranteed to start-up at switch-on. In many cases this will happen due to the production of spurious trigger pulses, but initial triggering is dependent on how fast and how cleanly the supply is introduced to the circuit. To ensure correct starting every time, a crude but effective start-up trigger circuit is used to prod the first monostable into action.

Another slight fault with this type of oscillator is that overloads on the output can result in it stalling. In practice this is not likely to be a problem, since removing an overload is almost certain to trigger the oscillator back into action. However, if oscillation should be suppressed, simply switching the unit off and then turning it back on again will spur the circuit back into oscillation again.

A ring oscillator of this type is well suited to pulse generator applications because it gives easy control of the mark and space times. The mark duration (the time during which the Q output is high) is controlled by the timing circuit of the second monostable. The timing circuit of the first monostable controls the space duration. In Figure 1, the mark and space times are shown as being controlled via two variable resistors. In the practical circuit there are also five switched timing capacitors. These provide the unit with its five timing ranges for each output half cycle.

The circuit is based on a TTL dual monostable and this obviously provides outputs that are fully TTL compatible. The Q and not $Q$ are fed to CMOS buffers in order to provide fully CMOS compatible outputs. Note that the unit has a 5 V power supply and that the CMOS outputs are therefore at 5 V logic levels. Consequently they are not compatible with CMOS circuits which operate at a supply potential of other than 5 V .

## The Circuit

The full circuit diagram for the pulse generator appears in Figure 2. IC1 is a 74LS221 dual monostable and this contains two identical monostable circuits which have positive and negative inputs. In this case the positive trigger inputs are not needed and are simply wired to the positive supply rail. Each monostable also has a reset input. Taking the appropriate reset input low results in output pulses being brought to an immediate end Again, these two inputs are not required in the present applica-


Fig. 2 Pulse Generator circuit


S1 and S2 are respectively the space and mark range switches. Each of these switches controls a bank of five timing capacitors. Although it might appear that C 2 and C 7 should have a value of 68 p, a value of 56 p does in fact give much better accuracy. The missing $12 p$ of capacitance is provided by the self-capacitance of IC1. VR1 and R3 are the timing resistance for the first monostable - VR2 and R4 provide the same function in the second monostable. VR1 and VR2 enable the space and mark times to be adjusted over the approximate ranges specified previously.

TR1 is used in a simple timing circuit that briefly short circuits pin 14 of IC1 to earth at switch-on. This ensures that the circuit is spurred into osclllation at switch-on. IC2 provides the CMOS buffers, which are actually pairs of 2 input NOR gates wired to act as non-inverting buffers. The TTL and CMOS output signals are fed to separate pairs of output sockets, making all four output signals available simultaneously.

The circuit requires a well established 5 V supply and this is obtained from a 9 V battery via a small 5 V monolithic voltage regulator (IC3). The supply current is about 15 mA , which is high enough to necessitate the use of a medlum capacity battery. Probably the best choice is six HP7 size cells in a plastic battery holder. There is no need to use any form of high power cells, and any cheap HP7 size cells should be perfectly adequate.

## Construction

The dlagram in Figure 3 shows the component layout for the pulse generator printed circuit board. IC2 is a CMOS device and the usual anti-static handling precautions should be taken when dealing with this component. This includes using a DIL integrated circuit holder for the device. In fact, I would recommend the use of a holder for IC1 as well. Do not overiook the two wires just to the right of IC1. Fit single-sided solder pins to the board at the seventeen points where connections to off-board components will be made.

The prototype is housed in an inexpensive metal instrument case which measures about $200 \times 130 \times 50 \mathrm{~mm}$. On the face of it this is far larger than is really necessary, but the five controls and five sockets need a fair amount of panel space, which precludes the use of a really small case. Even using a medium slze case I found it necessary to relegate the five output sockets to the rear panel. I used 4 mm sockets for SK1 to SK5, but practically any sockets are adequate for this application. The front panel layout is not particularly critical, but use one that avoids the need for a lot of long wires criss-crossing one another.

Mount the printed circuit board at roughly the middle of the base panel using plastic stand-offs, 6BA fixings, or metric M3 fittings. If 6BA or M3 fixings are used, spaces about 6 to 12 mm long must be included, so that the connections on the underside of the circuit board are held well clear of the metal case. The hard wiring is then added. Details of this wiring are provided In Figure 4, which should be used in conjunction with Figure 3 (e.g. point $A$ in Figure 3 connects to point $A$ in Figure 4).

As will be apparent from Figure 4, the range capacitors are mounted on S1 and S2 and not on the printed circuit board. This minimises the amount of wiring from the circuit board to the controls, which in tum minimises stray capacitances.

Fitting the capacitors is easier if axial lead capacitors are used, rather than vertical mounting printed circuit types. It is possible to use printed circuit mounting capacitors, but it will probably be necessary to bend the lead out wires outwards at right angles before soldering them in position. The forming of the lead outs must be done very carefully, since the lead out wires are easily detached from many types of printed circuit mounting capacitor. The tags of the switches and the ends of the capacitors' lead out wires should be well tinned with solder, prior to fitting the capacitors onto the switches. There should then be no difficulty in mounting the capacitors on the switches.

S1 and S2 are 12 way single pole rotary switches having an adjustable end-stop. In this case, the end-stops are set for five way operation. The connections to the battery holder are made via an ordinary PP3 style battery clip.


## Testing And Use

ideally an oscilloscope should be used for testing the unit. It is then just a matter of checking that four main controls provide the correct output times and that all four outputs are providing proper signals. Bear in mind that the quoted times for each range are only approximate, and that the tolerances of the timing components will result in small but significant variations from one unit to another.

There will also be small discrepancies from one range to the next. Using 5\% tolerance components for C2 to C11 keeps discrepancies within reason, but $1 \%$ capacitors must be used if a high degree of consistency is required. Bear in mind that the CMOS and TTL outputs operate at significantly different logic
voltages. The CMOS outputs should provide signals at about 5 V peak-to-peak. Expect the signals on the TTL outputs to be at a much lower level (probably no more than about 3 V peak-to-peak).

If access to an oscilloscope is not available, monitoring the outputs with a crystal earphone will give a good idea of whether or not the unit is functioning correctly. A full range of audio tones should be available, plus low frequency clicks and buzzes with the controls set for mark and (or) space times. Short pulsed waveforms give a thin sound, while a mark-space ratio of about 1:1 gives a much fuller sound.

With short mark and space times the output frequency will be beyond the upper limit of the audio range, and completely inaudible. A multimeter set to a low voltage range can be used to check the output at high frequencies. The multimeter will register to the average output voltage.

With a mark-space ratlo of $1: 1$, the output voltage at the CMOS outputs should be half the supply voltage (2.5V). Higher mark-space ratios give higher voltage readings - lower markspace ratios give lower voltage readings. For example, with a 1:10 mark-space ratio the output is high for only one eleventh of the time, so the average output voltage is only 0.45 V ( 5 divided by $11=0.45$ ). The not Q output is the complement of the Q output, and the mark-space ratio here would be 10:1. With this output high for ten elevenths of the time, this works out at an average potential of $4.54 \mathrm{~V}(5 \mathrm{~V} \times 10=50$ volts, 50 volts divided by $11=4.54$ volts).

Due to a lack of symmetry at the TTL outputs the mathematics are less convenient. However, changes in the markspace ratio should produce clear changes in the average output voltages. If the CMOS output signals are present and correct it is highly unlikely that there will be any problems with the TTL output signals.


If the unit is to be used alongside an oscilloscope, it is not really necessary to bother about calibrated scales around the control knobs of VR1 and VR2. Much better accuracy will be obtained by using the oscilloscope to monitor the output waveform and then setting the controls for the required mark and space durations. If calibrated scales are required, ideally an oscilloscope should be used to aid the location of precise calibration points. The only altemative is to use a guesstimated scale, but it is unlikely that this will give reasonable accuracy.

Note that the output of this unit should not be connected to a logic output in the test circuit. Where necessary, the integrated circuit providing an existing clock signal should be removed before the pulse generator is connected to the test circuit. Do not overlook the usefuiness of the unit's low output frequencies. By operating the test circuit at a low frequency it is often possible to check its operation by using a logic probe or some LED indicators to monitor the logic levels at strategic polnts in the circuit.

If you are used to working in terms of pulse times and repetition frequencies, it is worth remembering that the reciprocal of the frequency in $\mathrm{Hz}, \mathrm{kHz}$, and MHz gives the duration of one cycle In seconds, milliseconds and microseconds respectively. For example, a frequency of 4 kHz works out at 0.25 ms per cycle ( 1 divided by $4 \mathrm{kHz}=0.2 \mathrm{~ms}$ ).

## RESISTORS (All 0.25W 5\%)

R1 10k
R2 47k
R3 22k
R4 22k
RV1 220k lin carbon
RV2 220 k lin carbon

## CAPACITORS

C1 $1 \mu 63 \mathrm{~V}$ radial elect
C2 $\quad 56$ p polystyrene $5 \%$
C3 680p polystyrene $5 \%$
C4 6n8 polystyrene 5\%
C5 68n polyester 5\%
C6 680n polyester 5\%
C7 56 p polystyrene $5 \%$
C8 680p polystyrene 5\%
C9 6 n 8 polyester 5\%
C10 68n polyester 5\%
C11 680n polyester 5\%
C12 100n disc ceramic
C13 100n disc ceramic
SEMICONDUCTORS
TR1 BC549
IC1 74LS221
IC2 4001BE
IC3 uA78L05 ( 5 V 100 mA positive regulator)

## miscellaneous

S1 $\quad 12$ way 1 pole rotary (set for 5 way operation)
S2 $\quad 12$ way 1 pole rotary (set for 5 way operation)
S3 SPST miniature toggle
SK1-SK5 4 mm sockets (5 off)
B1 $\quad 9 \mathrm{~V}$ ( $6 \times \mathrm{HP} 7$ size cells in plastic holder) PCB, instrument case about $200 \times 130 \times 50 \mathrm{~mm}$, battery connector (PP3 type), control knob ( 4 off), 14 pin DIL holder, 16 pin DIL holder, solder pins, wire, solder, etc.


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## 12 Elder way

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he Motor Mate should prove to be a useful device for anyone who works on automotive type electrical systems. In this category we can include not only car owners, but also motorcycle, caravan and boating enthusiasts. The Motor Mate combines three functions - a voltmeter covering the range 9 to 14 V , a low resistance, or continuity tester, which operates a buzzer when resistance is less than 10 ohms, and lastly a no continuity tester which sounds the buzzer when resistance is below 20 K ohms.

The Motor Mate voltmeter gives the user a handy way of checking if battery voltage exists at fuses, switches, lampholders, etc. It can also be used to test for excessive voltage drops due to a wire being too thin, or as a result of loose connections, or corrosion. The low-resistance buzz-test may be used to test lamp filaments, fuses, motor windings, etc. and also to check lengths of wire where there is a suspected break. The high-resistance test is used chiefly for checking ignition leads and certain lamp filaments.

Motor Mate is built in a small plastic box, which houses the
circult panel and a 9 V battery to power the buzz-test section. A pair of short wires on top connects a component for the buzztest and a rotary switch is used to switch the unit off and on, as well as selecting the high or low resistance test. A"pair of sockets on the side connects the voltmeter.

## At the bar

The Motor Mate 'voltmeter' is not really a meter in the traditional sense. It takes the form of a bar graph display, which shows through a hole in the lid of the case. Thus, a row of ten horizontal LED bars light up one by one as the voltage applied to the input sockets increases. In the present circuit, these operate in approximately half-volt steps. Although the resolution and range are not good enough for general electronics use, this arrangement is adequate for most automotive purposes.

This type of meter is much more robust than a pointer-onscale instrument and less expensive than a digital one. Also, the LED bars are easily seen in poor lighting conditions. The voltmeter draws approximately 30 mA at 12 V , so it cannot be


Fig. 1 Motor Mate buzz test section
described as a high resistance instrument by any means. However, for the present purpose, this does not matter and is usually an advantage because it imposes a load on the circuit. Sometimes fuses and corroded wires assume a very high resistance rather than a complete open circuit when they fall. A digital meter having an input resistance of some 10 Mohms could therefore give a reading through such a high resistance which would be confusing.

## My resistance is high

Car ignition leads carry current at a very high voltage from the ignition coil output to the electrodes in the distributor cap. A rotor arm then distributes the current to the appropriate lead, which is connected to the top terminal of the spark plug. Current completes the circuit back to the coil via the vehicle frame or chassis. The ignition leads are made with a high resistance to suppress TV and radio interference. This will have little effect on the current producing the spark, since the voltage supplied by the coil is very high (tens of thousands of volts).

Ignition leads are a common cause of engines misfiring and being difficult to start if their resistance becomes much higher than the nominal value, because this reduces the current. This may happen if they have been handled carelessly - possibly by pulling on them to remove the caps from the spark plugs - or it could be due to corrosion or simply through old age. The high resistance check can be used to identify faulty leads which may then be replaced singly, a much cheaper exercise than replacing them all at the same time.

As well as being suitable for automotive use, the buzz-test can be used around the house for checking fuses, switches, etc. Since the current requirement is only 20 mA on the low resistance test under short-circuit conditions (the worst case), and only 1.6 mA while switched on but not actually in use, the battery will have a long life.

The two sections of the circult - voltmeter and buzz-tests are described separately. To avoid confusion, components are numbered sequentially, beginning in the buzz-test section and continuing in the voltmeter. It is not necessary to understand how Motor Mate works in order to construct it and readers who wish to go on to Construction may simply omit the next section.

## Circuit description

The buzz-test section of Motor Mate is shown in Figure 1. The chief component is IC1, an operational amplifier which is used as a voltage comparator. Thus, If the voltage applied to its inverting input (pin 2) exceeds that at the non-inverting one (pin 3), the output (pin 6) will be low. If the inverting input voltage is less than the non-inverting one, pin 6 will be high and buzzer, BUZ1, will sound.

Pin 3 is maintained at one-half supply voltage by the potential divider, consisting of equal-value resistors R5 and R6. The various other resistors to the left of this form further potential dividers - one set for the low resistance test and another for the high one, as selected by switch S1. The conditions for the op-
amp to switch on and hence the buzzer to sound is met when the resistance of the lower arm is less than that of the upper one.

Switch St is a 4 -pole 3 -position switch. In this circuit, only three of the poles are used, these being referred to in the text and diagrams as $\mathrm{S} 1 \mathrm{a}, \mathrm{b}$ and c . Poles a and b are responsible for the switching between high and low buzz-tests and pole $c$ simply provides an on-off function.

Suppose S1 is set to high. S1 pole b connects IC1 inverting input via R8 to the potential divider, consisting of preset potentiometer RV1 with fixed resistor R1 in series as the upper arm. The component under test is connected via S1 pole a to test points T1 and T2, this forming the lower arm of the potential divider. Suppose RV1 wiping contact is set to approximately mid-track position. The total resistance of the upper arm will be around 25 kW . The buzzer will therefore sound if the test


Fig. 2 Motor Mate voltmeter section


Fig. 3 PCB component layout
0.125 V . Thus, the second bar would light at 0.25 V , the next at 0.375 V and so on. The tenth one would therefore operate at 1.25 V . Since the required range of voltage is from about 9 V to 14 V , this would make IC1 as it stands unsuitable for the purpose.

The behaviour is modified by using ZD1 and associated components. ZD1 is an adjustable Zener diode. Not only is its performance superior to an ordinary Zener diode but its breakdown voltage can be accurately set by connecting two external resistors, R10 and R11, to the reference (r) pin as shown. With the values used here, the breakdown voltage is 7.7 V approximately. For readers wishing to alter the voltage, perhaps to use the voltmeter for some other purpose or to set the low operating point more accurately, the formula giving the output voltage is:-
$V=2.75(1+\mathrm{R} 10 / \mathrm{R} 11)$
This voltage will then exist between ZD1 anode (a) and cathode ( $k$ ) as long as the supply exceeds this. ZD1 operates in conjunction with series resistor, R12. Since there is a constant voltage across the Zener diode, the
balance of the supply voltage will exist across R12 and it is this which is monitored by the rest of the circuit. Taking into account the 0.7 V , approximately, which exists across input diode D1, zero volts will exist across R12 with an applied voltage of about 8.4 V and the first segment of the display will light about 0.5 V higher than this - i.e. at about 9V, which is convenient for the purpose.

It is necessary for the bars to light up in approximately 0.5 V increments. This means that the existing 0.125 V steps must be scaled by a factor of four. This is the purpose of preset potentiometer RV3 and fixed resistor R13. By adjustment to RV3, a certain fraction of the voltage appearing across R12 is applied to IC1 pin 5. R13 limits the range of adjustment.

## Construction

Construction of Motor Mate is based on a single-sided PCB. Figure 3a shows topside details (parts placement diagram) while Figure 3 b shows the underside (copper foil) view. Both sections - voltmeter and buzz-test - are separately formed on the one panel.

Prepare the board by drilling the four mounting holes in the positions shown. Add the soldered components in the following order. Firstly, the IC sockets, then the presets and all resistors and capacitors, taking care over the polarity of C 1 and C 3 . Solder ZD1 into position (see pin diagram) and diode D1, but do not insert the ICs into their sockets yet. Add the buzzer observing the polarity - this is marked on the plastic underside. Solder 15 cm pieces of stranded connecting wire to the labelled pads in the diagram but not to the one marked BATT1. Using different colours of wire will help in avoiding errors which may be difficult to track down later.

Solder the negative wire of the PP3 battery connector to the pad marked BATT1. Adjust all presets to approximately midtrack position. Finally, insert the ICs, observing the orientation. Note that IC1 and IC2 are CMOS devices and possibly liable to damage by static charge which may exist on the body. To avoid problems, do not touch the pins when unpacking them or inserting them into their holders. Altematively, touch something earthed - such as a water tap - just before doing so. IC3 may be handled freely. Unfortunately, its orientation is not obvious and it will not work if connected the wrong way round. In the prototype unit the identifying lettering was on the right-hand side of the body.

The circuit panel is attached to the lid as shown in the photograph. Carefully measure the position of the bar graph display



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## BREAK GLASS DETECTOR

Nifty little device that will detect abnormally strong vibrations by means of a 'trembler' type device encased in a plastic capsule similar in design to a flourescent starter! Two wires protrude which would lead to your alarm circuitry.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Qty : EACH Price: } 22.00 \text { Ref : Y2P1 } \\
& \text { Qty : PKT } 6
\end{aligned} \text { Price: } £ 10.00 \text { Ref: Y10P4 }
$$

## RADAR DETECTOR

REF : J59P1 PRICE : $\mathbf{2 5 9 . 0 0}$ Features:

X and K band Radar Detector with Dual conversion Superheterodyne for detecting radar up to 3 milles away!

Auciole marning buzeer
.. Hirh en /City/Pomer Of

- Varlabie audio volume oontrol
- Cigarette 山ighter power oard
- Vigarette ughter
- Adjustable mounting bracke
-Adjustable mounting brack



ALL-IN-ONE PROFESSIONAL CAR ALARM SYSTEM
REF : A706 PRICE : 2

- Powerful 110 dB stren
- Ultrasonic sensor
- Twin remote controls
- Battery back-up
- $2 \times$ ptn switch sensors
- guick easy installation


## CENTRAL LOCKING

 INTERFACEREF: A200 PRICE: 8

- Enables A706 to be installed in cars with central door locking


## FLASFING LED



REF : F1589 PRICE: 81.99 A flashing LED in a mounting bezel designed to mount in the dashboard to indicate that an alarm is armed (even if no alarm is installed) Fitted with a 1.5 m lead.
Power: 12 Vdc .

## FLASHING LED



REF : B2002 PRICE : 22.49 A flashing LED built into a car cigar lighter plug to give visual warning that an alarm is activated (whether or not an alarm is fitted). Simply plugs tnto the cars ctgar Hghter socket.

HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED THAT YOU MAY HOLD THE KEY TO A BUSINESS WAY OF IMIPROVING OUR ENVIRONMENT BY REGENERATING YOUR SURPLUS STOCK
WHY NOI CONVERT YOUR "WASTE" INTO CASH AND TEAM UP WITH BULL ELECTRICAL TO OPERATE OUR OWN BRAND OF RECYCLING - YOU BEING THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF THE CHAIN THE CONSERVATIONIST

## buLl electrical goes green

We are constantly seeking and buying surplus stock. mainiy electrical but we will consider ANYTHING. Our only requirement is QUANTITY. Before WE BUY any liem we need to know that you have at least 50 minimum of each item.

In essence we are alming to provide schools, colleges small enterprising companies and some home enthuslasts with components and products which can be incorporated into their own Innovative projects at more than realistlic prices thereby recyclling goods which could otherwise have contributed to the unnecessary waste that amasses every day in our environment.

SO..... disguised fiefexf's could be just sitting there in a comer walting to be "recycled" back to you........ Glve us a call with what you have that you wish to dlspose of, or better still, send us a fax 0273 323077 with a comprehensive list of the liems, quantity and descilption you have and we wlli respond and arrange a visit to assess the goods you have available.

## BULL ELECTRICAL

GIVE US A CALL NOW Ask for Ext 004

Tel: 0273203500
Fax: 0273323077

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Thaspmoso

 MOTION DETECTOR

## ALARM

REF : B601 PRICE : 839.95 When the motorcycle ignition is switched off. the alarm chirps and allows 30 seconds before arming itself to detect any movement of the bike. The alarm disarms ttself when the ignition is switched on. If motion is detected a signal is sent to the 115 dB siren which sounds for 35 seconds before resetting.

## MOTION DETECTOR

ALARM WITH PAGER
REF : B602 PRICE : $\mathbf{8 1 1 9 . 9 5}$ When the motorcycle ignition is switched off. the alarm chirps and allows 30 seconds before arming itself to detect any movement of the bike. The alarm disarms itself when the ignition is switched on. If motion is detected a signal is sent to the 115 dB Siren AND pager. which sounds for 35 seconds before resetting.

## CAR ALARM

REF : B204 PRICE : $\mathbf{2 5 5 . 9 5}$
Remote Control self contalned car alarm with stmple two wire connection to the car's wiring harness. Current and shock senstng with additional pantc feature operated from remote control. Alarm will sound for 2 minutes before resetuing, NOTE: This alarm is not triggered by automatic electric radiator fans - \#t knows the difference!

Operation:
Current drain. Current/shoolsenitis Current drain: 20 mAarmedi.1A Reset time: 2 minutes Transmitter battery life: Power:

1 year 12.14 V de

## CAR ALARM

REF: B205 PRICE : 244.95 Remote Control portable car alarm powered rom car's cigarette lighter socket. Triggered by the low frequency sounds produced by attempted break tn. Internal rechargeable batteries sound alarm If a break in is detected or power is removed. Can be free standing on dash board or fixed in place with bracket.
Operation: Low frequency sound Reset time: 2 minutes Power: $\quad 12-14 \mathrm{Vdc}$

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UNDSET
MOBLLE TEIEDHONE MANDSET

55.99

REF: 6P89

BLACK TOUGH RESIN HANDSET WITH LCD DISPLAY \& 9 LEDS (4 COLOURS). 18 KEY FUNCTION PAD 10 NUMERIC 8 SYMBOLS. WOULD MAKE AN EXCEILENT ACCESSORIE IF YOU ARE BUILDING A JEEP OR 12 V CAR FOR A CHILDI!!! ALSO EFFECTIVE AS AN INTRUDER DETERRANT FOR WOMEN TRAVELLING ALONEI WHO WOULD KNOW A REAL 999 CALL WAS NOI BEING MADE. COMES COMPLETE WITH CUP ON BASE
INCORPORATING QUALITY SPEAKER AND SMTR MULTI CORE (10) CABLE. CAN BE WIRED UP TO ILLUMINATE. DETAILS SUPPLIED.




## REMOTE HEADPHONE SYSTEM

REF: A085 PRICE: 289.05 A REMOTE STEREO HEADPHONE SYSTEM COMPRISING A TRANS. MITTER. A BELT CLIP RECEIVER AND A PAIR OF HIGH QUALITY HEADPHONES. WLL ACCEPT IN. PUTS (CD DAT TAPE ETC) FROM 3 SEPARATE SOURCES. A BUTTON INTERCOM SYSTEM ALLOWS CONVERSATION WITH THE HEADPHONE USERANDA CSCIRCUIT IS INCORPORATED TO GIVE A "SUPER BASS" SOUND.
TRANSMITTER:
Power Sup $\quad 12 \mathrm{Vdc} 150 \mathrm{~mA}$ Input Sensiuvity adaptor supplited
Source $1 \& 210 \mathrm{~kW} 100 \mathrm{mV}$
Source $3 \quad 33 \mathrm{ohm} 100 \mathrm{mV}$ Dims $\quad 150 \times 102 \times 56 \mathrm{~mm}$ HEADPHONES/RECEIVER. Power $30 \mathrm{~mW} /$ /channel 160 hm load
Freq reap
$100-8000 \mathrm{~Hz}$ 2XMA Batts not rupplec Source in 2 ity:
Source 1 \& 210 kW 100 mV Source $3 \quad 33 \mathrm{ohm} 100 \mathrm{mV}$ Battery life 8 hours nominal Dims $\quad 104 \times 62 \times 24 \mathrm{~mm}$

## REMOTE HEADPHONE

 SYSTEMREF: A085B PRICE : 238.85 INFRA RED MONO HEADPHONE SYSTEMFOR USE WITH TVSOUND RADIO OR OTHER AUDIO SOURCES. ENABLES YOU TOLIS. TEN IN PRIVATE AT YOUR DE. SIRED VOLUME LEVEL WITHOUT distrubing others. A Mains AC/DC ADAPTOR ATTACHED TO THE ATTRACTIVELY STYLED TRANSMITTER WHICH SITS ON TOP OF YOUR AUDIO SOURCE AND TRANSMITS SIGNALS BY INFRA RED LIGHT. THE HI FI QUALITY CORDLESS HEADPHONES ALLOW YOU TO ENJOY THE MUSIC IN COMFORT WITHOUT BEING TIED TO THE AUDIO SOURCE WITH A CORD
System Infra Red

Power: Transmitter 12 Vdc (AC/DC malns adaptor) Recelver $2 \times 1.2 \mathrm{~V}$ ANA Ni CadBem Battery life 6 hours
Freq Response $\quad 50-12000 \mathrm{~Hz}$ (my mes)

UNDERCHIN HEADPHONES
REF: XIP4 PRICE : 1.00 PKT4 Stet type. $1 / 4$ stereo plug OVEREAR HEADPHONES REF : X2P13 PRICE :2.00 PKT 10 No headband 2.5 mun plug

## Moms MDC Sevoran:

## AUTOMATIC COMPACT <br> DISC CLEANER



REF : A18IC PRICE : 214.98 WET TYPE COMPACT DISC AUTO CLEANER. INSERT A DISC INTO THE COMPARTMENT, PRESS THE START BUTTON AND THE TWIN CLEANING PADS WILL ROTATE AROUND THEIR OWN AXIS, GIVING A RADIAL CLEANING ACTION. INCLUDES 4 CLEANING PADS AND CD CLEANING FLUID.
Power:


## HEADPHONE EXTENSION

 KTTREF: AL20A PRICE : 24.09 6 mCOILED LEAD FTTTED WITH A 3.5 mm STEREO PLUG AND 3.5 mm STEREO SOCKET AND SUPPLIED WITH FOUR ADAPATORS:
6.35 mm STEREO $\operatorname{TUO}-3.5 \mathrm{~mm}$ STERE socket
5 mm MCNO RUG- 3.5 mm STEREO SOCKET
 sоскетт

## INPUT EXTENSION

REF: A097 PRICE: 88.89 A 3 CHANNEL AUDIO INPUTEX PANDER DESIGNED TO EX. TEND THE NUMBER OF INPUTS AVAILABLEAT THE REAR OF A HI FI AMP TO ACCOMMODATE CD. DAT AND VIDEO SOUND INPUTS. MONO/STEREO SWITCH FOR VIDEO INPUT. IN/ OUTPUTS VIA PHONO SOCK. ETS
Dims:
$120 \times 35 \times 72 \mathrm{~mm}$


4 WAY SPEAKER SWITCH REF : A098 PRICE : 815.99 A BEAUTIFULLY FINISHED CONTROL BOX PROVIDES FACILITY FOR USING 4 PAIRS OF SPEAKERS WHERE STEREO AMPL ALLOWS ONLY ONE PARR. 1.2.3 OR 4 PAIRS MAYBE USED IN ANY COMBINATION.
Dtms:
$148 \times 85 \times 50 \mathrm{~mm}$

## AUDIO LEAD

REF : AI 14D PRICE ; 25.99 2 GOLD PLATED PHONOPLUGS TO 2 GOLD PLATED PHONO PLUGS. HIGH QUALITY LOW CAPACITANCE DOUBLE SCREENED CABLE.
Length: 1.8 m


## MICRO CASSETTES

 SOMINREF : A169 PRICE : $\mathbf{8 4 . 9 9}$ 60MIN
REF : A168A PRICE : 25.99 R E P L A C EMENT MICROCASSETTES FOR MOST MICROCASSETTE RECORDERS AND ANSWERPHONES.


MINI VACUUM CLEANER
REF: A150B PRICE: $\mathbf{8 7 . 9 9}$ BATTERY POWERED MINI CLEANER WHICH IS IDEAL FOR REMOVING THE DUST FROM TURNTABLES. CAMERAS VIDEO RECORDERS. ETC, 5 PIECE KIT POWERED BY 4 XAA ALKALINE BATTERIES (not suppled)
Power: $\quad 4 \times \mathrm{AA}$ alkaline batts

## FAX CLEANING KIT

REF: A150Z PRICE: $\$ 10.95$ COMPLETE FAX CLEANING KTT COMPRISING CLEANING PAPERS.SOFTCLOTH. CLEANING SWABS. BAR BRUSH. BLOWER AND CLEANING SOLUTION.
??DO YOU RECEIVE OUR REGULAR NEWSIETTERS AND BULLETINS? ARE YOU ON OTE DMTARAESE.



## CAR AUDIO

## 



## GRAPHIC EQUALIZER

 REF : B003C PRICE : 238.95 11 Band graphtc equalizer with sub woofer output and CD input. Sub woofer output has adjustable cut off frequency and level control. Standard DIN width for in dash or under dash mounting. Low kevel tn/outputs by via phono sockets onlyFreq Response: $\quad 20-25000 \mathrm{~Hz}$ Harmonic Distort: less than 0.05\% S/N ratio: $\quad 85 \mathrm{~dB}$
Separation: 65 dB
Control range: $\quad 12 \mathrm{~dB}$ boost or cus Power: $\quad 12-14 \mathrm{Vdc}$ Dims: - $178 \times 140 \times 25 \mathrm{~mm}$ Control frequencles:


## EgUALIZER/BOOSTER

REF: B004 PRICE : $\mathbf{\Omega 2 5 . 9 5}$
Slimiline 7 band equalizer / booster with 60 W total output power into 4 speakers. Bullt in 3.5 mm headphone socket. Front/rear fader control.
Output Power: 30w per channel max Freq Response: $\quad 20-20000 \mathrm{~Hz}$ Input impedance: 23 ohms
Control Range: $\quad 12 \mathrm{~dB}$ cut or boost Out put Impedance: 4 -8ohms
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { Oower: } & 12.14 \mathrm{Vac} \text { neg earh }\end{array}$ Dims: $\quad 149 \times 133 \times 28 \mathrm{~mm}$
Control Frequencles:
$60.150 .400 .1 \mathrm{k} .2 .4 \mathrm{k} .6 \mathrm{k}, 15 \mathrm{kHz}$

## 12W VEHICLE AMPLIFIER <br> REF : P101 PRICE : $\mathbf{2 3 8 . 9 5}$

The P101 provided low-cost amplification with a microphone mput with level control. 'Auxillary' input with level control and Fog/Siren output. The power output of 12 Watts can be fed into a combined speaker load of between 4 and 160 hm and the unit is supplied with mounting hardware
Power Output: 12 Watts RMS into $40 \mathrm{hm}=1 \mathrm{atz}$ 13.8V
Output Impedance: 4 to 160 hm
Mic input: $\quad 3.5 \mathrm{mV}$ © 20.30 sohm Aux input: $\quad 85 \mathrm{mV}$ @ 10kohm Power req: nominal 12 Vde Dimenstons: $\quad 40 \times 150 \times 140 \mathrm{~mm}$

## $2 \times 200 W$ MOSFET

AMPLIFIER
REF : B0059 PRICE : $£ 210.95$
High power stereo MOSFET ampli-
 fler capable of delivering $2 \times 200 \mathrm{~W}$ rms into a 40 hm load at less than $0.02 \%$ THD (not mono bridgeable) Inputs va phono sockets with galn controls. Outputs via screw clamp terminals.
Output Power: $2 \times 200 \mathrm{w}$ rme mereo Output Power: $\quad 2 \times 400 \mathrm{~W}$ stereo Signal/nolse
Freq Response: $\quad 20.30 \mathrm{kHz}$ input sensitivity: 150 mV .3 V adJ Output impedance: 4 ohms
Damping factor: 180
Power. 14.4 Vde 60 A
Power
$90 \times 43$

## $2 \times 150 \mathrm{~W}$ MOSFET <br> AMPLIFIER

REF : B005P PRICE : 2169.00
High power stereo MOSFET power amplifer capable of delivering $2 x$ 150W rms into a $40 h m$ load at less than $0.02 \%$ THD or 300 W rms in mono bridge mode. Inputs vis phono sockets with gain controls. Outputs-screw clamp terminals. Output Power: $2 \times 150 w$ rens mereo or 300 W brideed $2 \times 300 \mathrm{~W}$ mereo or 600w bridged max 95 db $\begin{array}{ll}\text { Signal/ nolse } & 95 \mathrm{db} \\ \text { Freq Response: } & 20.30 \mathrm{kHz}\end{array}$ Input sensititity: $150 \mathrm{mV}-3 \mathrm{~V}$ adj Output impedance:4 ohms Damping factor: 180
Power: $\quad 14.4 \mathrm{Vde} 50 \mathrm{~A}$ Dims: $\quad 190 \times 350 \times 50 \mathrm{~mm}$

## $2 \times 30 \mathrm{~W}$ CLABS "A" AMPLIFIER

REF: B005LC PRICE : $£ 36.95$
Class " $A$ " stereo in car amplifier capable of delivering $2 \times 30 \mathrm{~W}$ into 40 hms . Overall output level control.
Oulput power: $2 \times 30 \mathrm{~W}$ stereo Stgnal/nolse: Freq Response: requt sensonse Input sensittivity: Input impedance:
High level 1000 hms Low level 20 kohms Power: $\quad 14.4$ Vde 5.5 A Dtms: $240 \times 70 \times 50 \mathrm{~mm}$

## $2 \times 60 W$ CLASS "A" AMPLIFIER

REF : B005LA PRICE : 254.95 Class "A" stereo in car amplifier capable of delivering $2 \times 60 \mathrm{~W}$ or 120W mono in bridge mode. inputs direct from the speaker outputs of the car radio/cassette or low level phono mputs. with left and right level controls.

| Outpue power: | 5 gow neere 0.15 thio |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | 120 W mon |
| Signal/rotse: | >80dB |
| Freq Response: | 20-20000 Hz |
| Input sensitivity: | $100 \mathrm{mV} \cdot 3 \mathrm{~V}$ adj |
| Input impedance: | Low level |
| 20kohms |  |
| Output impedance: 40 hms |  |
| Power: | 14.4 Vdc 15 A nom |
| Dims: | $240 \times 140 \times 50 \mathrm{~mm}$ |

CAR RADIO CASSETTE
REF: W22P1 PRICE: 221.95
An excellent good quality low cost Car system incorporating Cassette Player with FM ST/FM/AM change switch. Volume. Tone and Balance tuning controls. Fast Forward and Eject Buttons and adfustable shafts.
Tape System: Capstan drive Wow and Flutter: <0.35\% Distortion:
Signal to Note: Better 45dB Radio Freq: FM: $88-108 \mathrm{mHz}$ Better 4.20 Loudspkr Imped: 40 hms or 8 ohm Power Reqs: 11-16Volts Dtms: $\quad 178 \times 120.5 \times 43 \mathrm{~mm}$


## $4 \times 120 \mathrm{~W}$ CLASS "A" <br> AMPLIFIER

REF : BOO5N PRICE : 8149.95
High power 4-channel Class "A" stereo in car ampliffer capable of delivering $4 \times 120 \mathrm{~W}$ or $2 \times 240 \mathrm{~W}$ in bridge mode. Inputs direct from the speaker outputs of the car radio/ cassette or low level phono inputs. with front and rear level controls. Additional bass boost (low gain) switch gives an additional 10 dB of boost to the rear speakers when used with the built in $75 \mathrm{~Hz} / 150 \mathrm{~Hz}$ low pass filter.

| Output power: | $4 \times 120$ W or $2 x$ <br> 240 W (bridged) |
| :---: | :---: |
| Signal/nolse: | $>90 \mathrm{~dB}$ |
| Freq Response: | $10-50000 \mathrm{~Hz}$ |
| Input sensitivity: input impedance: | $100 \mathrm{mV}-3 \mathrm{~V}$ |
| High Level input | 1000hms |
| \% | 20kohms |
|  | 14.4Vdc 60 A |

## $2 \times 200 W$ CLASS "A"

 AMPLIFIERREF : B005M PRICE : $\mathbf{8 1 0 9 . 0 5}$ High power Class " $A$ " stereo ampldfler capable of delivering $2 \times 200 \mathrm{~W}$ or 400 W in bridge mode. Inputs direct from the speaker outputs of the car radio/cassette or low level phono toputs. with left and right level controls.
Output power: seoww serco aces nion

|  | 4000 mose 0 |
| :---: | :---: |
| Signal/nolse: | 290 dB |
| Freq Response: | $10-50000 \mathrm{~Hz}^{2}$ |
| Input sensitivity: | $100 \mathrm{mV}-3 \mathrm{~V}$ adj |
| Input mimedance: |  |
| High Level Input | 100ohms |
| Low level | 20kohms |
| Output Impedance | :40hms |
| Damping Factor: | $>180$ into 40 hms |
| Power. | 14.4Vdc 43A nom |
| Dims: | $240 \times 240 \times 50 \mathrm{~mm}$ |


$2 \times$ SOW POWER BOOSTER REF : B005JA PRICE : $\mathbf{8 1 0 . 0 5}$ Compact $2 \times 30 \mathrm{~W}$ power booster taking the usual 7 W two speaker output from the car radio cassette and boosting it to a 30 W per channel four speaker system.
Output Power: sow per channel max Freq Response: $\quad 20-21000 \mathrm{~Hz}$ Signal/nolse ratto: Better than 40 dB Power: $\quad 11.16 \mathrm{Vac} 6 \mathrm{~A}$ Dims: $\quad 100 \times 110 \times 25 \mathrm{~mm}$


CAR STEREO RADIO CASSETTE PLUS TWO SPEAKERS
REF : W24P1 PRICE : 224.95 Yes, thls must be one of the best deals we have ever offered! You get a brand new car stereo radio cassette and two excelient speakers for just $£ 24.95$ !
Thats less than most companies charge for fitting!

## CAT EPMAKERS



## CAR TWEETERS

REF : B009T PRICE : $\mathbf{\Omega} 15.99$
A pair ofhigh quality in car tweeters which can be flush or pod mounted. Buitt in high bass fittering allows direct connection across exdsting car speakers

| Max powes | 40w |
| :---: | :---: |
| Freq Response: | $3 \mathrm{k}-20 \mathrm{kltz}$ |
| Sensitivity IW 1M | 93 dB |
| Impedance: | 40 hms |
| Dims: | $75 \times 60 \times 50 \mathrm{~mm}$ |




All types of goods considered from Amp Meters to Strobes, Computers to Computer Software. Components, Electrical Accessortes.... The list is endless. Only requirement is a minimum quantity of 50 units of each tem. Give us a call TURN YOU MISTAKES INTO CASH - IMMEDLATELY ASK FOR: PURCHASING MANAGER O273 203500

12Vdc TRAVEL KETTLE
REF: B049A PRICE : $\mathbf{2 1 2 . 9 9}$ 12 Vdc kettle complete with mount ing stand. cup. cup holder. Plugs directly into car cigar lighter socket for power.
Capactly: 0.5 pins (0.3itrs) Power: $\quad 12 \mathrm{Vdc} 9 \mathrm{~A}$ 14Vac 11 A Dims: $\quad 143 \times 125 \times 112 \mathrm{~mm}$

## DC-DC CONVERTER

REF : B034BA PRICE : 23.89 A plug in DC-DC Converter with 3.4.5.6.7.5.9.12V outputs at 800 mA . Plugs drrectly into car cigar lighter socket. Output via polarity reversible 2 ptn plug to a spider plug.
Output Voltage: $\quad 3.4 .5 \cdot 6.7 .3 .9 .12 \mathrm{~V}$ Output Current: 800 mA max Input Voltage: 12 Vdc nominal Weight: $\quad 100 \mathrm{~g}$

## GROUND LOOP ISOLATOR <br> REF : B070 PRICE : $\mathbf{8 . 9 9}$

Low level filter designed to isolate the ground between the car radio and the amplifler to prevent noise. Distortion: $>0.001 \%$
Freq response: $\quad 40 \mathrm{~Hz}=92 \mathrm{k} / \mathrm{tz}$ input/output mpedance: 10kohms
Dims: $\quad 60 \times 33 \mathrm{~mm} / \mathrm{dia}$

## BOOSTER ADAPTOR

REF: BO7OA PRICE : $\mathbf{\Omega . 9 9}$


Converts high level output from car radio / cassette to low level input for in car amps. Provides ground loop isolation.
Freq response: $\quad 40 \mathrm{~Hz}-32 \mathrm{kHz}$ lnput impedance: 40 hms Output Impedance: Dims: $\quad 60 \times 33$ (dta)

## OTment 12 YOM

| 12V DC PAPST FAN .................... EACH | 10.00 | $10 P 33$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 12V UNIVERSAL SUPPLY KIT ........ EACH | 25.00 | $25 P 13$ |
| 6 DIGIT COUNTER 12V DC OP ...... EACH | 2.00 | $2 P 342$ |
| IN CAR PSU 12V. CIG PLUG ......... EACH | 5.00 | $5 P 167$ |
| PSU 750MA 3/4 5/6 2V DC .......... EACH | 5.00 | $5 P 197$ |
| PIEZO SIREN $12 V$ DC $150 \mathrm{~mA} . . . . .$. EACH | 7.00 | $7 P 26$ |

## AUTO REVERSE RADIO/

## CASSETTE PLAYER

REF: B002E PRICE : $\mathbf{2 7 4 . 9 9}$ DIN slze auto reverse car radio/ cassette player with electronic PLL tuning and digital clock with back up memory facility. LCD display with 6 channel sof touch preset stations on each of MW/LW/FM bands ( 18 total). Volume. bass. treble and balance controls. Mono/ stereo. frequency/time, radio band and seek switches. Illumination of controls and detatchable control keypad for security. CD input socket.
Output Power: 25 W per channel max.
Frequency Range:
LW: 144-280k H2
MW: 550.1600 kHz
FM: $\mathbf{8 7 . 5 - 1 0 8 M H z}$
Frequency Responses $100 \cdot 10.000 \mathrm{~Hz}$ power: 13.8 Vdc
DO YOU RECEIVE OUR REGULAR NEWBLETTERS AND BULLETINE???
ARE YOU ON OUR DATABASE -
If not, send in a written request and we will gladly add your name and address to our malling list immediately. Be one of the Arat to know what's new in stock - before it gets advertised nationally.
Well balanced 100 w soldering gun. Complete kit containing soldering gun, spare fip. solder paste and liux cored solder.
Rel : YO61N Price: $\$ 9.95$


## Programmable Thermostat

Wicroprocessor controlled complete with manual allows six changes per day דonday to Friday and four per day Saturday and Sunday. Summer and Winfer schedules. temperature and timings are
 user programmable, with manual overide. Changeover confacts rated at $8 \mathrm{amps}-240$ volts.
Rel : F455N Price : $\$ 49.95$

PHILIPS AAA 1.5 V ALKALINE BATIERY PACK
PACKET OF 4

## IDEAL FOR: REMOTES

 WALKMANS CAMERAS ETC, EIC, ETCREF: 80304 PRICE $£ 1.00$

## COMMODORE 64 COMPUTER

Commodore 84 Home Computer System, Excellent low cost computer for all your business, household and leisure computerised activities. YOU CAN EVEN LEARN TO PROGRAM IN BASIC'ON THIS NEAT LITTLE NUMBERII Features:
*** 64K Memor
-0. Lots of Colours (16)
-. Sound
... Music and special effects possible
*.. Complete with Power Supply Unit
REF: 43P99


## C64 DATA RECORDER

The Commodore 1530 Datassette unlt ls a device for storing and recalling computer programs on ordinary cassette tapes. It can be used for maving programe you have writtem and wat to recall for later mee. It oan also be used to read pre-secorded programs that you have purchased.


## BATTERIES, BOXES \& BULBS

 standby applications. Constructed in sealed. rectangular high impact plastuc cases with 5 mm spade connections.$12 \mathrm{~V} 1.2 \mathrm{Ah} 94 \times 41 \times 50 \mathrm{~mm} 0.64 \mathrm{~kg}$ 12 V 6Ah $150 \times 65 \times 83 \mathrm{~mm} 2.69 \mathrm{~kg}$ 12V $1.8 \mathrm{Ah} 177 \times 94 \times 60 \mathrm{~mm} 0.95 \mathrm{~kg}$

REF : PO13A PRICE : 810.95 REF : PO13B PRICE : 817.99 REF: PO13C PRICE : 811.85
BATTERY CHARGER
REF : POIID PRICE : 26.99
 Universal NiCad Battery charger Capable of charging up to $4 \times 1.5 \mathrm{~V}$ cells and $2 \times$ PP3 at one time. Inpute Voltage: $\quad 220 / 240 \mathrm{Vac} 50 \mathrm{~Hz}$ Charge Current: 130 mA max 11.5 V
Charge time: $\quad$ See ination Charges: AAA AMCDPR Charges: AAA.AA.C.D.PP3

## BATTERY CHARGER

REF : POIIM PRICE : $\mathbf{8 1 6 . 9 8}$
A deluxe untversal charger which accepts AAA. AA. C. D. N \& PP3 cells. Batterles can be charged singly or in groups.
Inpute Voltage: $\quad 220 / 240 \mathrm{Vac} 60 \mathrm{~Hz}$ Dums $280 \times 188 \times 68 \mathrm{~mm}$ Werght:
1.5 kg


## FAST CHLARGER with

 DISCHARGERREF : POIIK PRICE : 224.89 A compact robust unit Built in thmer prevents overcharge Discharge faclitty
Power: $\quad 220 / 240 \mathrm{Vac} 50 \mathrm{~Hz}$ Charge Time: 4 hours Charges: AAA.AA.C.D.PP3


## BATTERY CHARGER

REF : POI 1 B PRICE : 26.99 Compact NICad Battery charger. High or low charglug current with LED indicators. Charge time 6.14 hours.
Inpute Voltage: $\quad 220 / 240 \mathrm{Vac} 50 \mathrm{~Hz}$ Charge Current: Charge time: Charges: $\quad 6.14$ hours Charges: $\quad 4 \times A A$ or $4 \times A A A$
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## BOOKS



Below is the full list of books we currently stock. The category list isin alphabetical order for easy reference.

CATEGORY
6502
68000
ACCOUSTIC
AERIALS
AERIALS
AERIALS
RADIO
RADIO
AMI PRO 3
AMPLIFIER
AMPLIFIER
ANTENNA
ANTENNA
ANTENNA
ATARIST
ATOMS
AUDIO
BATIERIES
BBC
BBC
CIRCUIT
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ELECTRICITY

BOOK TITLE
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LIGHT
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LOTUS 1-2-3
LOTUS 1-2-3
LOTUS 1-2-3
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LOUD
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PROJECTS PROJECTS PROJECTS PROJECTS PROJECTS PROJECTS PROJECTS PROJECTS PROJECTS PROJECTS

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BP239 BP88 BP260 BP196 BP126 BP137 B282 BP303 BP197 B27 BP121
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## CABLE TIES, CAPACITORS, CLOCKS, COILS, CRYSTALS, COUNTERS \& CONNECTORS

## Camas Tatis.

| $75 \mathrm{~mm} \times 2.4 \mathrm{~mm}$ NYLON WHITE CABLE TIES | 100 | $£ 1.00$ | BD868 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $75 \mathrm{~mm} \times 2.4 \mathrm{~mm}$ NYON WHITE CABLE TIES | 1000 | $£ 5.00$ | $5 P 181$ |
| $142 \mathrm{~mm} \times 3.2 \mathrm{~mm}$ NYLON WHITE CABLE TIES | 100 | $£ 3.00$ | 3 P104 |
| $142 \mathrm{~mm} \times 3.2 \mathrm{~mm}$ NYLON WIITE CABLE TIES | 1000 | $\$ 14.00$ | $14 P 6$ |
| $385 \mathrm{~mm} \times 5 \mathrm{~mm}$ NYLON WHTE CABLE TIES | 100 | $£ 10.00$ | $10 P 97$ |
| CABLE TIE BASES $21 \times 21 \mathrm{~mm}$ SELF ADHES | 100 | $£ 5.00$ | $5 P 182$ |
| CABLE TIE BASES $28 \times 28 \mathrm{~mm}$ SELF ADHES | 100 | $£ 7.00$ | $7 P 25$ |
| CABLE TIE GUN. TENSIONS THEN CUTS TIE. | 1 | $£ 6.00$ | $6 P 38$ |
| SPIRAL CABLE WRAP FOR $6-50 \mathrm{~mm}$ BUNDLES | 10 M | $£ 2.00$ | $2 P 329$ |
| SPIRAL CABLE WRAP FOR $12-70 \mathrm{~mm}$ BUNDLES | 10 M | $£ 4.00$ | 4 P74 |
| FEET |  |  |  |
| HIFI FEET | 1 | $£ 11.95$ | A181D |
| 2Omm SQUARE SELF ADHESIVE FEET | 8 | $£ 1.00$ | BD891 |
| 12.5 mm SQUARE SELF ADHESIVE FEET | 12 | $£ 1.00$ | BD892 |

## CAPACITOR PACKS

| MIXED PACK ELECTROLYTIC CAPS | 40 | \$2.00 | 2 P 287 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| MIXED PACK NON ELECTROLYTIC CAPS | 100 | \$3.00 | 3 P 412 |
| MIXED PACK CERAMIC CAPACITORS | 100 | ¢4.00 | 4 P 153 |
| CAPACITORS EHT |  |  |  |
| 1000PF 12 KV CERAMIC | 2 | $£ 1.00$ | BD439 |
| 470PF 8KV CERAMIC | 4 | \&1.00 | BD440 |
| 150PF 8KV CERAMIC | 10 | \&1.00 | BD441 |
| 100PF 8KV CERAMIC | 5 | \$1.00 | BD442 |
| G8PF 8KV CERAMIC | 10 | 81.00 | BD443 |
| CAPACITORS AC |  |  |  |
| 8UF $440 \mathrm{~V} 97 \times 45 \mathrm{~mm}$ | 1 | \$1.00 | BD632 |
| 1UF $440 \mathrm{~V} 48 \times 38 \mathrm{~mm}$ | 2 | ¢1.00 | BD633A |
| CAPACITORS ELBCTROLYTIC |  |  | BD633A |
| 4.700UF 25 V AXIAL | 4 | £1.00 | BD613 |
| 1.000 UF 25 V RADIAL | 5 | £1.00 | CD32A |
| 470 UF 25V RADIAL | 6 | ¢1.00 | CD31A |
| 220 UF 25V RADIAL | 10 | 81.00 | CD30A |
| 100UF 25V RADIAL | 12 | 81.00 | CD29A |
| 47UF 25V RADIAL | 15 | 81.00 | CD28A |
| 22UF 25V RADIAL | 20 | 81.00 | CD27A |
| 10UF 25V RADIAL | 20 | ¢1.00 | CD26A |
| 73.000uf 15V ELECTROLYTIC $105 \times 75 \mathrm{~mm}$ | 2 | \$2.00 | X2P7 |
| CAPACITORS VARIABLE |  |  |  |
| AIR SPACED 2 GANG 1/4" SPINDLE 365p | 2 | $\mathbf{8 1 . 0 0}$ | BD36 |
| Solid di-electric AM/FM Sections. 2 Gang | 2 | \$1.00 | BD37 |
| (3) ${ }^{\text {a }}$ - |  |  |  |
| 7 DIGIT 24V COUNTER | 1 | 82.00 | 2P267 |
| 6 DIGIT COUNTER 12V DC OPERATION | 1 | ¢2.00 | 2 P 342 |
| FREQUENCY COUNTER | 1 | \$75.00 | Y134 |
| CRST1过 |  |  |  |
| 1000 KHZ CRYSTAL | 1 | \$1.00 | BD866 |
| QUARTZ XTAL 3.579 MHz | 5 | 81.00 | X1P43 |
| XTAL OSCELATOR MODULE |  |  |  |
| $25.175 \mathrm{MHz} 20 \times 12 \times 5 \mathrm{~mm}$ | 2 | \$1.00 | X1P44 |

## TALKING CLOCK

A travelling LCD alarm clock which incorporates a talking facility to let you know what time it is even in the dark! Has both 24 or 12 hour format, hour report facility, alarm function with a choice of 2 different alarm sounds, either Beep or Cockcrow. REF : 14P200

PRICE : £14.00

\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|}
\hline \multicolumn{4}{|l|}{CWHCLM} <br>
\hline CLOCK RADIO standard untt with LED \& \& \& <br>
\hline display - mains. AM/FM \& EACH \& $£ 10.00$ \& 10P3J <br>
\hline 2 HOUR TTME SWITCH CLOCK \& EACH \& £2.00 \& $2 \mathrm{P89}$ <br>
\hline LED ALARM CLOCK standard unit \& \& \& <br>
\hline with LED display- mains \& EACH \& 55.00 \& B5P3 <br>
\hline ELECTRIC COOKER CLOCK MAINS OP \& EACH \& £1.00 \& BD211 <br>
\hline AMSTRAD CTi clock/radio AM/FM/LW \& EACH \& £6.00 \& T6P1 <br>
\hline \multicolumn{4}{|l|}{CDIts:} <br>
\hline CAR IGNITION COLL \& 1 \& £6.00 \& g6P2 <br>
\hline COLL WINDING MACHINE \& 1 \& ¢5.00 \& T5P4 <br>
\hline $1 / 2^{*} \times 11 / 2^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{HIGH}$ \& 4 \& \$1.00 \& BD40 <br>
\hline \multicolumn{4}{|l|}{Contisely ${ }^{\text {a }}$} <br>
\hline \multirow[t]{2}{*}{SCOTCH LOCK CONNECTORS 12 WAY 5A CONNECTOR STR 12 way 25 A} \& 1 \& £6.00 \& 6 P 55 <br>
\hline \& 4 \& 81.00 \& BD158 <br>
\hline \multirow[t]{2}{*}{CONNECTOR STRIP
4 mm BANANA PLUG RED} \& 2 \& $£ 1.00$ \& BD159 <br>
\hline \& 4 \& 81.00 \& BD953 <br>
\hline 4 mm BANANA PLUG BLACK \& 4 \& \$1.00 \& BD954 <br>
\hline 4 mm BANANA SOCKET RED \& 4 \& \$1.00 \& BD955 <br>
\hline 4 mm BANANA SOCKET BLACK \& 4 \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{\$1.00} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{BD956} <br>
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{CROCODILE CLIPS} \& \& <br>
\hline (10 BLACK 10 RED) \& 1 \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{¢ 2.00

$\mathbf{2} .00$} \& 2P309 <br>
\hline BNC 50 OHM Plug \& 3 \& \& 2P311a <br>
\hline SCART PLUG \& 1 \& $£ 1.00$ \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{BL957} <br>
\hline CO-AX PLUG (TV TYPE) \& 5 \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{¢1.00} \& <br>

\hline CO-AX SOCKEY (TV TYPE) \& 2 \& \& $$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { BD958 } \\
& \text { BD959 }
\end{aligned}
$$ <br>

\hline 2.5 mm JACK PLUG \& 5 \& $\$ 1.00$
81.00 \& BD960 <br>
\hline 3.5 mm JACK PLUG \& 3 \& $\$ 1.00$
$\$ 1.00$ \& BD96 1 <br>

\hline 3.5 mm MONO JACK SOCKETS. \& 8 \& $$
\begin{aligned}
& \$ 1.00 \\
& \$ 1.00
\end{aligned}
$$ \& BD697 <br>

\hline | CHASSIS MOUNT BNC SOCKET. |
| :--- |
| (4 HOLE) | \& 2 \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{\[

£ 1.00
\]} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{BD851} <br>

\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{9 WAY D TYPE MALE SOLDER} \& \& <br>
\hline GOLD PLATED \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{3} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{\$1.00} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{BD941} <br>
\hline 9 WAY D TYPE FEMALE SOLDER GOLD PLATED \& \& \& <br>
\hline SOLDER GOLD PLATED
PLASTIC HOOD FOR \& 3 \& \$1.00 \& BD942 <br>
\hline 9 WAY ADAPTOR \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{3} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{81.00} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{BD943} <br>
\hline 15 WAY D TYPE MALE \& \& \& <br>
\hline SOLDER GOLD PLATED \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{2} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{\$2.00} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{BD944} <br>
\hline 15 WAY D TYPE FEMALE \& \& \& <br>
\hline SOLDER GOLD PLATED \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{2} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{\$2.00} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{BD945} <br>
\hline PLASTIC HOOD \& \& \& <br>
\hline FOR 15 WAY CONNECTOR \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{2} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{81.00} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{BD947} <br>
\hline 25 WAY D TYPE \& \& \& <br>
\hline MALE SOLDER GOLD PLATED \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{3} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{\$2.00} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{2P306} <br>
\hline 25 WAY D TYPE \& \& \& <br>
\hline FEMALE SOLDER. GOLD PLTD \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{3} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{\$2.00} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{2P307} <br>
\hline PLASTIC HOOD \& \& \& <br>
\hline FOR 25 WAY ADAPTOR \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{3} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{¢2.00} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{2P308} <br>
\hline XIR 3 PIN INLINE \& \& \& <br>
\hline METAL PLUG. LATCHING \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{1} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{£2.00} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{2P354} <br>
\hline XIR 3 PIN INLINE METAL \& \& \& <br>

\hline SOCKET. LATCHING \& 1 \& £2.00 \& \multirow[t]{3}{*}{$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { 2P355 } \\
& \text { X1P23 }
\end{aligned}
$$} <br>

\hline BNC CHASSIS PLUG \& 4 \& £1.00 \& <br>
\hline SPIRE CLIPS \& \multirow[b]{2}{*}{40} \& \multirow[b]{2}{*}{£1.00} \& <br>
\hline takes upto 5 mm self tapper \& \& \& X1P38 <br>
\hline
\end{tabular}

## ********DC SOCKETS******** <br> REF: V1P5 PRICE: 1.00 <br> PKT 10 <br> Chassis mount standard DC power socket (switched so as to disconnect battery etc)

|  | $0$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 20) 1 yxysas |  |  |
| COMMODORE 64 COMPUTER - Working units. Ideal for household, business or lelsure. complete withPSU and Manual. $\qquad$ 3865X-33 SYSTEM Complete build yourself 386 Machine. Total System $\qquad$ EACH $486 \mathrm{DX}-33$ SYSTEM Complete bulld yourself 486 Machine. Total System. $\qquad$ EACH See column opposite for more detalls. | $\begin{array}{r} 49.99 \\ 565.54 \\ 927.74 \end{array}$ | W50P1 <br> BPC/386 <br> BPC/486 |
| D)SC DRIVIS |  |  |
|  | $\begin{array}{r} 30.00 \\ 7.00 \\ 9.00 \\ 33.00 \\ 39.00 \\ 7.00 \\ 8.99 \\ 5.00 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 30P20 } \\ & \text { 7P1R } \\ & \text { V9P1 } \\ & \text { BPC/DD5 } \\ & \text { BPC/DD6 } \\ & \text { 7P28R } \\ & \text { X9P1 } \\ & \text { BPC/DD07 } \end{aligned}$ |
|  |  |  |
|  | 25.00 99.00 166.00 215.00 | V25P1 BPC/DD01 BPC/DD02 BPC/DD03 |
| W15 $5 \times 3 \times 14$ |  |  |
| VGA 14" MONITOR $\qquad$ CTM644 COLOUR MONTTOR rob nout rentrasyed $\qquad$ EACl SVGA 14" MONO .28dp EACH <br> SVGA $14^{*}$ COLOUR .39dp $\qquad$ $\qquad$ EACH <br> SVGA $14^{\circ}$ COLOUR . 28 dp <br> PHILIPS $9^{\circ}$ MONO MONITOR - Uncased $\qquad$ COMPOSITE VIDEO KIT Convert Composite ............ EACH Video into separate H sync. V sync | $\begin{array}{r} 49.00 \\ 79.00 \\ 90.00 \\ 178.00 \\ 206.00 \\ 20.00 \\ 8.00 \end{array}$ | 49P1 <br> V79P4 <br> BPC/MO1 <br> BPC/MO2 <br> BPC/MO3 <br> 20P26 <br> 8 P30 |
| FCCASES |  |  |
| DESKTOP CASE - Includes PSU $\qquad$ DELUXE SLIMLINE CASE - includes PSU $\qquad$ MINI TOWER - includes PSU $\qquad$ EACH DELUXE MIDI TOWER - with PSU. Twin Fan $\qquad$ $\mathrm{EACH}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 51.60 \\ & 60.00 \\ & 51.60 \\ & 90.00 \end{aligned}$ | $\mathrm{BPC} / \mathrm{Cl}_{1}$ BPC/C2 BPC/C3 BPC/C4 |
| \#OTH2E |  |  |
| 2 BUTTON SERIAL MOUSE $3.5^{*}$ SOFTWARE .......... EACH 3 BUTTON SERIAL MOUSE $3.5^{*}$ SOFTWARE ......... EACH | $\begin{aligned} & 8.40 \\ & 9.60 \end{aligned}$ | BPC/M6 BPC/M7 |
| VIDROIADD ON CAILDS |  |  |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & 22.20 \\ & 3.20 \\ & 45.00 \\ & 48.00 \\ & 82.80 \\ & 11.00 \\ & 37.00 \\ & 77.00 \end{aligned}$ | BPC/VCl BPC/VC2 BPC/VC3 BPC/VC4 BPC/VC5 BPC/AOCO1 BPC/AOCO2 BPC/AOC03 |
|  |  |  |
|  | $\begin{array}{r} 82.80 \\ 110.00 \\ 191.00 \\ 378.00 \\ 515.00 \end{array}$ | BPC/MB2 BPC/MB3 BPC/MB4 BPC/MB5 BPC/MB6 |
| MODEMS |  |  |
| WESTINGHOUSE PC MODEM - 1200/75 ............... EACH AMSTRAD PPC INTERNAL MODEM CARDS .............. EACH | $\begin{array}{r} 6.00 \\ 10.00 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 6 P 478 \\ & \text { Y } 10 \mathrm{P} \end{aligned}$ |

## EPROMS EPROMS EPROMS EPROMS EPROMS

 All devices are clean pulls.27C64 10 for $£ 5.00$ REF: G5P1 27C128 10 for $£ 8.00$ REF: G8P1 27 C 25610 for $£ 9.00$ REF : G9PI 27 C5 1210 for $£ 10.00$ REF: G10P2
amazing pricrs amazing prices amazing prices amazing prices amazing

## 386SX-33 SYSTEM

| 386SX-33 Motherboard | 82.80 |
| :--- | ---: |
| Case | 51.60 |
| 2MB Ram | 65.00 |
| 42MB Hard Drive | 99.00 |
| 512K SVGA Card | 31.20 |
| 3.5" FDD | 32.34 |
| Mult I/O Card | 11.00 |
| SVGA Colour Monitor | 174.00 |
| lO2 Key Keyboard | 18.60 |
| TOTAL SYSTEM PRICE: | $£ 565.54$ |
| Bulld Fee (If required) | 42.00 |
| BUILT SYSTEM PRICE: | $£ 607.54$ |


| 486DK-33 SYSTEM |  |
| :--- | ---: |
|  |  |
| 486DX-33 Motherboard | 378.00 |
| Case | 51.60 |
| 2MB Ram | 65.00 |
| 89MB Hard Drive | 166.00 |
| 512K SVGA Card | 31.20 |
| 3.5" FDD | 32.34 |
| Multi lo Card | 11.00 |
| SVGA Colour Monitor | 174.00 |
| lO2 Key Keyboard | 18.60 |
| TOTAL SYSTEM PRICE: | 2927.74 |
| Build Fee (If required) | 42.00 |
| BUILT SYSTEM PRICE: | $£ 969.74$ |

Prices include 15 min telephone technical support. Additional support available at $£ 7.50$ per 15 min unit.

Nors: Up to date prioed for all PC stook on application
prioes rubject to ohange vithout prior notification

## QL MODEMS

Made from the Sinclair gL Computer they consist of two plug together units. The first is a Manual dial V23 modem. 1200/75 baud and 1200 / 1200 baud $1 / 2$ duplex. Fully cased with a standard BT socket for a telephone and a standard lead to plug into the phone socket. $\mathrm{BT}^{\top}$ approved. The other unlt is a RS232 control unit designed for the above unit. It provides full two way buffering and flow control from 75-9.600 baud. The Idea being that you plug the two units together and you end up with a reasonable modem. There ls an input on the unit for a power supply (this would have originally come from the gl's supply). You will have to sort out your own PSU. Price: \&12.00 Ref:Y12P2

## PPC ${ }^{\text {Mo }}$

### 210.00 EACH REF : Y10P9

The surtrad PC 2009, Invelligent modem who orthinally destignis 5 to fit theo the leptop tomputers and has a host of redearings
 0 duto answeing spor atitg to $\mathrm{V} / 21,122,122 \mathrm{Bic}$ wnd $V 23$ manslard 5 at $75-240$ ops. Suppilied with a BF fead witutched and an ant 5 bourd BT soctuet. The PCB monsuren $200 \times 120 \mathrm{~mm}$. No techrical por comection detaifo aymillable what this product.

# COMPUTER BARGAINS 

## FROM TIME TO TIME WE ACQUIRE MASS STOCKS OF ASSORTED COMPUTERS, USUALLY AMSTRAD BUT WE HAVE HAD IN THE PAST EVEREX, ZENITH, COMPAQ AND MANY OTHER HIGH QUALITY FAMOUS BRAND NAMES. <br> AT THE TIME OF CATALOGUE PRODUCTION, WE HAVE IN ONE OF OUR WAREHOUSES AN ASSORTED NUMBER OF THE FOLLOWING COMPUTER PRODUCTS:-

## CUSTOMER RETURNED <br> PC BASES from only $\mathbf{£ 1 9 . 0 0}$

All the following "CUSTOMER RETURNED" Units are sold without guarantee, and basically have been returned to a retailer after purchase. These units are not checked by the supplier - there may well be nothing wrong at all - but WE DO NOT GUARANTEE this. Its POT LUCK/enthuslasts dream! A very good cheap way to learn about the insides of a computer, and you may well get a working one into the bargain.

## AMSTRAD 1512SD BASE UNIT

8086 Processor with one 5.25 " disc drive, motherboard with video controller, 512 K memory. No keyboard, mouse or power supply. NON RETURNABLE. No guarantee
REF : AM19P1 PRICE : $£ 19.00$

## AMSTRAD 1512DD BASE UNIT

8086 Processor with two $5.25^{\prime \prime}$ disc drives, motherboard with video controller. 512 k Memory, No Keybord, mauk or powa mppoty. NON RETURNABLE REF : AM25P1 PRICE : $\mathbf{£ 2 5 . 0 0}$

## AMSTRAD 1640SD BASE UNIT

8086 Processor with one 5.25 " disc drive, motherboard with viden controller and 640 k memory. No keybond mause or power apply, NON RETURNABLE REF : AM25P2 PRICE: $\mathbf{£ 2 5 . 0 0}$

AMSTRAD 1640DD BASE UNIT
8086 Processor with two $5.25^{\prime \prime}$ disc drives, motherboard with video controller and 640 k memory. Nokepbond mouse or powa mpply NON returnable REF : AM130P1 PRICE : $£ 30.00$

## REFURBISHED/EX-DEMO PC BASES from only $£ 49.00$

All the following Units have been fully tested and are in working, as new condition. These units carry out standard 30 day guarantee. All units come complete with Keyboard, mouse. 8086 processor, disc drive(s), motherboar with video controller and memory (as stated within product code). No power supply is supplied although a suitable 150W PSU can be purchased from us. (software and manuals not supplied)

## AMSTRAD 1512SD

512 k single drive unit Motherboard, keyboard and mouse. Guaranteed 30 days.
REF :AM49P1 PRICE: ©49.00

## AMSTRAD 1512DD

512 k Double drive unit Motherboard, keyboard and mouse Guaranteed 30 days
REF : AM59P1 PRICE : $£ 59.00$
AMSTRAD 1640SD
640k Single drive unit Motherboard. keyboard and mouse. Guaranteed 30 days.
REF : AM69P1 PRICE : $\mathbf{£ 6 9 . 0 0}$

AMSTRAD 1640DD
604k Double drive unit Motherboard, keyboard and mouse Guaranteed 30 days
REF : AM79P1 PRICE : $£ 79.00$

> We can supply a 150 W power supply unit which when fitted with a 14 pin DIN socket will be suitable for all the above referenced Computer units. REF : AM10P1 PRICE : $\mathbf{\Omega 1 0 . 0 0}$

IBM COMPATIBLE LAPTOP COMPUTERS
From time to time we get a bundle of fabulous laptop computers. At the time of publishing this catalogue
(Dec 93) we have in stock a limited number of such items. Please ring to find out our current stock situation! The specification of these units is as follows:

| ** Compatibility | IBM compatible |
| :---: | :---: |
| **Operating Systern | MS-DOS |
| ** Manufacturer | AMSTRAD |
| ** Memory | 512 or 640K |
| **Screen | Green Supertwist LCD |
| ** Keyboard | Full QWERTY(no stways UK) |
| - Drive | 3.5" 720k |
| - I/O Ports | RS232 |
|  | Video out |
| Powe | Battery DC supply Mains ade |

We also have Amstrad PPC MODEMS suitable for these portable units, so you can add one to the 512 k version yourself.
REF : AM45P1
PRICE : $£ 45.00$

PPC 512SD REF: AM99P1 PRICE: $\mathbf{£ 9 9 . 0 0}$
Single drive 512 k memory
PPC 512DD REF: AM109P1 PRICE: $£ 109.00$ Double drive 512 k memory

PPC 640SD REF: AM129P1 PRICE: $£ 129.00$ Single drive 640k memory \& modem

PPC 640DD REF: AM139P1 PRICE: $£ 139.00$ Double drive 640k memory \& modem


## 12 V 2A PSU

A very useful power supply, not the plug in type, with a handy 13.9 V @ 1.9A. This is a cased PSU measuring $100 \times 70 \times 60 \mathrm{~mm}$. Normal 240 V malns Input via a malns lead, the output is via a DC power plug also on a lead. Originally made for the Amstrad laptop computers, this quallity PSU would suit other machines, carphones, Cs's, Infact any item requifing a 12V 2A supply.

## Our Prlce: 89.99 EACH Ret: Y10P8

PRINTER MECHANISMS
INCLUDING PRINT HEAD
Amstrad DMP4000 Printer Mechanisms. comp;ete with: Print head: 24 pin

Paper roller: $\quad 16.5^{\circ}$ wde
2 stepper motors CPS SPEC: NLO 50 Draft 200
Complete Unit: REF:g12P9 PRICE: $\mathbf{2 1 2 . 0 0}$ Print Head Only: REF: G7P8 PRICE: $\mathbf{2 7 . 0 0}$

## 12" COLOUR MONITOR RGB/TTL EGA/CGA COMPATIBLE £99.00 Each

VERY LIMIED STOCK Made for a famous news gathering service these robustly cased high quality colour monitors are much sought after. The dual input is via a 9 pin din for $T$ L video input and BNC connectors for an RGB input. We have found that these monitors make an ideal companion for the Amstrad 1640. They are fairly compact with an anodised black metal case. Dims: $300 \times 350 \times 275 \mathrm{~mm}$ REF: Y99P1

## AT KEYBOARD AND LCD SCREEN

## BARGAIN BASEMENT PRICES

## Top brand AT 96 CLICK KEY ALPHA

 NUMERIC QWERTY keyboard. Brand new. Boxed. These keyboards were originally destined for the European market and some have slightly different symbols - not alpha characters - markers on the keys i.e. "@" key may show "o" for Germany users. etc, but totally configurable for UK use. Just set keyb UK in dos and away you go.
## C $>$ KEYB UK (RETURN)

or incorporate command in your AUTOEXEC.BAT file!
If you are not overly familier with your UK keyboard layout. just stick a label on the offending key(s) and put the UK symbol on it...

Not much work to save £££\&犬's. Price: 85.99

Ref : Y6P3


#### Abstract

Once again a robustly metal cased green screen monltor made for the BBC. This unit has a composite video Input with the usual controls, horizontal vertical brightness and contrast. The controls are located of the front under a pull down flap. Illuminated on/off swifch. A very monogeable $290 \times 290 \times 290$ box. Can be connected directly to a video camera.


## PC

## MOTHERBOARDS

We have a pile of old motherboards some with chip missing etc. mixed types, no choice.



## 15-BAND RECEIVER

## REF : B118F PRICE : 275.95

A compact 15-band recetver covering FM.LW.MW and 12 short wave radio bands. A built-in ferrite rod recetves the LW band and MW transmissions and telescopic rod aertal recetves the FM and SW transmis ston. Band selection, volume and tune is by slider control. The tunting LED lights when a strong stgnal is present.
Frequency Coverage:
FM: $88-108 \mathrm{MHz}$
MW: 150.270 kHz
LW: $530-1620 \mathrm{kHz}$
SW1: S.1-s.3MHz(90m) SW2: 3.7-s.9MHz(75m SW3: $4.5-5.1 \mathrm{M}+\mathrm{zz}(60 \mathrm{~m})$ SW4: $5.85-6.23 \mathrm{MHz}|49 \mathrm{~m}|$ SW5: $6.96-7.42 \mathrm{MHz}(41 \mathrm{~m})$ SW6: $9.45-9.95 \mathrm{MHz}\{31 \mathrm{~m} \mid$ SW7: $11.55-12.23 \mathrm{MHz} 25 \mathrm{~m} \mid$ SW8: $13.4-14.15 \mathrm{MHz} 21 \mathrm{ml}$ SW9: $14.85-15.7 \mathrm{MH}(\mathrm{z} \mid 9 \mathrm{~m})$ SW10: $17.35-18.35 \mathrm{MHza} 16 \mathrm{ml}$ SW11: 20.80-22.15MHz 13 m SW12: 24.95-26.50MHzal 1 m) Power: $4 \times \mathrm{AA}$ battertes (not supplied) Dtms: 200×140×50mm


## 12-BAND RECEIVER

 REF : B1 18D PRICE : $\mathbf{2 2 5 . 9 5}$ A compact 12 -band radio recetver covering FM. MW. LW and 9 short wave bands. A bullt-in ferrte bar antenna recelves the MW and LW transmissions and the telescople rod antenna recetves FM and SW transmisstons. An additonal $20 f$ wire antenna is provided to improve SW reception. The tuntng LED lights when a srong signal is present. Wave band selection. tone and volume is by slider controls.Frequency Coverage:
FM: $88-108 \mathrm{MHz}$
MW: $530-1620 \mathrm{kHtz}$
LW: $150-270 \mathrm{kHz}$
SW1: $5.85-6.23 \mathrm{MHz}$
SW2: $6.95-7.42 \mathrm{MHt}$
SW3: $9.45-9.95 \mathrm{MHz}$
SW4: $11.45-12.23 \mathrm{MHz}$ SW5: 13.40-14.15MHz sw6: $14.85-15.70 \mathrm{MHz}$ SW7: $17.35-18.35 \mathrm{MHz}$ SW8: $20.80-22.15 \mathrm{MHz}$ SW9: 24.95-26.50MHz Power: 6Vdc I4xAA battertes. not supplied)
Dims: $196 \times 123 \times 35 \mathrm{~mm}$


## SABI 1

REF : SAB11 PRICE : 814.95 An introductory budget priced Airband radio. Recetves Alrband frequencles 108 -135Mhz plus normal FM and MW radio programmes. Rotary controls for on/off. volume and station tuning. Comes with 'rubber duck' aerlal for good signal areas and 5 section telescoptc aertal for more distant stations. Ear plece for listening in public places which cuts out loud speaker. LED indicator shows when set is switched on to aviod battery drain. Takes 3 sixe 6 batteries (not supplled). Black cabinet with alrband graphic $80 \mathrm{mmx} 140 \mathrm{mmx30}$

## MBR7

REF : MBR7 PRICE : 882.95
A deluxe mulu feature muluban radio. Recetves MW.FM.\& FM Ma rine band and SW. AFC for tm proved FM reception. Meter show: battery status and stgnal strength AM direction finder. Can be user for public address. Sockets fo earptece. microphone and aerlal. Freqs: MW: $535-1620 \mathrm{kHz}$ FM: $87.5-108 \mathrm{mHz}$ AIR: $108-136 \mathrm{mHz}$ MARINE: $\mathbf{1 3 6}-176 \mathrm{mHz}$ SW1: 7.29 mHz SW2: $3 \cdot 7.2 \mathrm{mHz}$
Power: $\quad 4 \times \mathrm{D}$ size batterie 240 Va 12 V external $355 \times 270 \times 130 \mathrm{~mm}$
Dims:

## MBR8

REF : MBR8 PRICE : 271.95
Top of the range mult band radio Squelch controls for exchision o unwanted stations. AFC for en hanced FM stablity. Sigaal/bat tery strength meter. Flat coll type AM direction finder. Push buttor dial light. External aertal. micro phone and earplece sockets. Worl tume zone map on back. Protectio bars fitted to front of cabinet.
Freqs: MW: 535.1630 kHz LW: $150-300 \mathrm{kHz}$ FM: $\mathbf{8 7 . 5 - 1 0 8 m H z}$ AIR: $108-136 \mathrm{mHz}$ MARINE: $\mathbf{1 3 6} \cdot \mathbf{1 7 6 m H z}$ SW1: 7.23 mfz SW2: $2.3-7.2 \mathrm{mHz}$ $4 \times 20$ size battertes 240 V ac or 12 V external supply $280 \times 215 \times 140 \mathrm{~mm}$
Dims:

## $\begin{array}{ll}\text { SAB } 9 \text { minti } \\ & \text { REF : SAB9 PRICE : } 222.49\end{array}$ <br> First class Atr and Marine ban radio will also recelve FM, MW an LW stations. Rotary control fo normal tuning plus a fue tunin control on atrband frequency. A section telescopic aerlal ensure good FM atr and marine ban receiption. An earplee is supplie for Hstening in private places whicl cuts ont the loudspeaker. <br> Freqs: Air/Marine 108.176 mHz <br> Power: $4 x 6$ size batterles <br> Dims: $\quad 102 \times 210 \times 45 \mathrm{~mm}$

SAB 9EP
REF : SAB9EP PRICE : 29.95 Gift pack containing SAB9 mkII Radio plus set of headphones an atrband radto guide which give. useful alreband frequencles an atrport information.





## GEIGER COUNTER KIT

Using the SBM 21 geiger Muller Tube this kit is designed with radio engineering in mind, registering hard beta and gamma radiation. Many other uses are possible. Low radiation registers a click about every 30 seconds on the speaker supplied. PCB and components included.


## HELIUM NEON LASER TUBE

## SPECIFICATION:

Dimensions : $260 \times 37 \mathrm{~mm}$ dia
Power : 2mW
Beam dia : 0.75 mm
Divergence : 1.43m Rad
Starting Voltage : 8 kV
Supply Voltage : 1.5 kV
Ballast Resistor : 68Kohm 4W
Operating Current: 5mA
Tube Voltage drop : $1.15 \mathrm{kV}+100 \mathrm{~V}$
Wavelength : 632.9 nm (Red)
Manufacturer : Phillips

This low powered Helium Neon high spec Laser Tube makes an ideal experimental educational tool for use in schools and colleges. Also ideal as a levelling tool for specialist applications, line of sight. special lighting effects, holograms, etc., etc. The low level red light emission generated creates an extremely safe environment in which to demonstrate the applications and effects of laser power in everyday situations. WARNING: Staring directly into the beam may result in eye damage. However this laser is not able to burn. cut or drill. No skin damage will occur.


## PORTABLE DIGITAL RADIATION METER

The Jupiter 5 digital radiation meter is a compact instrument designed to measure high energy Beta, Gamma and X radiation in the energy range 30 keV to over 1.2Mev. Two Geiger-Muller detector tubes are used to enhance the sensitivity of the Instrument. A piezo-electric speaker provides audible tones for count pulses, integration period indication and dose rate alarm. The dose rate alarm level is adjustable by a variable control. Two integration periods may be selected ( 2.5 or 25 secs) to suit the application. The instrument is housed in a compact plastic case with a convenient wrist strap.
FEATURES

| Alarm Range: | 0.6 to $4.0 \mathrm{usv} / \mathrm{h}$ and off |
| :---: | :---: |
| Integration Period: | 2.5 and 25 seconds selectabie |
| Energy Range: | 30 keV to over 1.2 MeV |
| Tube Lite Expectancy: | :2E10 counts min. of $25 \mathrm{deg}, \mathrm{C}$ |
| Temperature Range: | -20 to +50 deg . $C$ |
| Display Type: | 4 digit LCD |
| Battery Type: | $1 \times 9 \mathrm{VPP3}, 6722$, GLR61 or MN1604 |
| Typlcal Battery Life: | 600 hours with alkaline battery |
| Size: | $136 \times 71 \times 33 \mathrm{~mm}$ |
| Weight: | 200g, without battery |



Only 549.99 Each Ref: Y50P1

## KITS

| ACCUPatre | EtECTROMIC ACCUPUNCTURE |
| :---: | :---: |
| ALARM | UNIVERSAL ALARM SYSTEM |
| AMP | ANTENNA AMPLIFIER 2 |
| AMP | ANTENNA AMPLIFIER 1 |
| AMP | 300 WATT MONO AMP |
| AMP | TELEPHONE AMPLFIER |
| AMP | HIFI AMP IFIER I |
| AMP | STEREO PRE-AMP EQUALIZES |
| AMP | $120+120$ WAIT STEREO AMP |
| AMP | 300 WATT SINGIE CHAN AMP |
| AMP | 30 WATT STEREO AMP |
| ATOMIUM | ATOMIUM |
| Avoio | AUDIO SCOPE |
| BELL | VISUAL DOOR aELIL |
| BRIDGE | INDUCTANCE BRIDGE |
| CAR | CAR ANTENNA AMPLIFIER |
| CAR | CAR LIGHTS ON WARNING |
| CHARGER | UNIVERSAL CHARGER |
| CONVERTER | CONVERTER 100MMZ - 100 MHZ |
| DICE | ELECTRONIC DICE |
| DOE | ELECTRONIC DOG BARK |
| DOG | ULIRASONIC DOG WHISTLE |
| ELECTRIFYING | ELECTRIFYING APPARATUS |
| ELECTROTECH | IITIE ELECTROTECHNICLAN |
| FLASHER LAM | P FLASHER |
| FOG | FOG HORN |
| FRE QUENCY | FRE SUENCY GENERATOR |
| FUSE | ELECTRONIC FUSE |
| GAME | GAME OF SKML |
| GAS | GAS SENSOR |
| GEIGER | GEIGER COUNTER |
| INFRA-RED | INFRA-RED LIGHI BARRIER |
| LED | LED MODULATOR/VOLT |
| LIE | LE DEEECTOR |
| LIGHT | LED LIGHT BAND |
| LIGHT | MINI MOVING LIGHT |
| LIGHT | LIGHT SWELING |
| LIGHT | MINI TRAFFIC IIGHT |
| LIGHI | LIGHT BARRIER |
| LIGHT | STROAE LIGHT |
| LIGHT | MOVING ROPE LIGHT |
| IIGMT | MOVING LIGHT |
| LHGHT | 10 CHANNEL MOVING UGHT |
| tock | COMBINATION DIGITAL LOCK |
| MAINS | ELECTRONIC MAINS FILTER |
| MELODES | 12 MELODIES GENERAIOR |
| MESMERIC | MESMERIC WNSTRUMENT |
| METAL | METAL OETECTOR |
| METRONOME | METRONOME |
| MICROPHONE | MICROPHONE PREAMP |
| MORSE | MORSE CODE PRACTISE |
| MW | MW TESTING TRANSMITER |
| POWER | POWER CONTROLLER |
| PADIO | TC RADIO MW.SW LW |
| RADIO | APPLE POWERED RADIO |
| RECENER | IC VHF RECEIVER |
| RECENER | SW CO RECEIVER |
| RECEIVER | DIODE RECENER MW A SW |
| SIREN | WARSHIP SREN |
| SREN | STAR WARS SIREN |
| SIREN | KOSAK SIREN |
| SOLAR | NEW SOLAR ENERGY |
| SOUND | OESEL ENGINE SOUND |
| SOUND/LIGMT | 12 V 3 CHANNEL SOUND-LIGHT |
| SOUND/LIGHT | 1 CHANNEL SOUND TO LIGHI |
| SPEED | SPEED CONTROL |
| STETHOSCOPE | SPY STE THOSCOPE |
| Swirch | TWILIGMT SWITCH |
| SWITCH | TOUCH SWITCH |
| SWITCH | THERMAL SWTCM |
| SWITCH | SOUND OPERATED SWITCH |
| SWICH | INTERVAL SWITCH (UNIVRS) |
| TV TESt | TV TEST CHANNE: |
| VOICE | ROBOT VOICE |
| VOLIAGE I | MPULSE VOLTAGE CONTROL |
| vu | LED VU METER |
| WARNING | ICE WARNING INSTRUMENT |
| WATER | ACCOUSTIC WATER DETECTOR |

A MORE COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO THE CONTENTS OF THE ABOVE KITS FOLLOWS FOR YOUR INFORMATION...

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OP8O
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8P155
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15P60
${ }^{8} 8 P 154$
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9P22 W12P3 11P10 12P57 op84 $17 P 3$
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$7 P 42$
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Electronic Dice Kit
After touching a button the digital dice
dilsplays a number between 1 and $6,4.5 \mathrm{~V}$.
£9.00. REF: 9P13.
Diode Receiver MW \& SW Kit
Good educational kit that dosent require batteries. £8.00. REF: 8P154

Electronic Dog Bark Kit
Generates a dog berking sound. Suttable
for a8R speaker. $9-12 \mathrm{~V}$ operation. $\$ 16.00$.
REF: 16 P 10.


Visual Door Bell Kit
A lamp up to 12V.5A
connectedto this ktt will flash for upto 20
seconds. Ideal for deaf people or nolsey
roams etc.
\&10.00. REF: 10P152.
Elecrifying Apparatus Kit
Generates a weak adjustable high tension of approx $80-300 \mathrm{~V}$ from a 9 V battery. Ideal for catching worms etc. Max current 50 -
250mA. £7.00 REF: 7P30
Stereo Pre-Amp Equalizer Kit
For record players with magnetic pickup.
12.24 V supply required.
£6.00. REF: 6P82.
Electronic Mains Filter Kit
Highly effective antinterference device fits into the mains supply to your computer, TV, video etc. 750 watt max. $110-240 \mathrm{~V}$. AC.
\&10.00. REF: 10 P 153.

## Lamp Flasher Kit

$6-24 \mathrm{~V}$ bulb can be flashed very brightly for adjustable period. Max 1A.
£5.00 REF: 5P214.

## Fog Horn Kit

Generates a deep notsey sound similar to a ships fog horn. $4.5-12 \mathrm{~V} .5$ watt max output. 8 R speaker required.
£6.00 REF: 6P56.

## Frequency Generator Kit

Adjustable frequency approx $1-50 \mathrm{khz} 6$ 12V. Short clrcuit proof capacitive output. Rectangular waveform output. VHF harmonics. $£ 4.00 \mathrm{REF}$ : 4 P 154.

## Electronic Fuse Kit

An electronic fuse suttable for $5 \cdot 30 \mathrm{~V}$ DC only at up to 3A. Cuts off supply when overloaded. Reset by turning supply off and on again. £6.00. REF: 6P83.

## Gas Sensor Rit

Detects alchohol propane, benzine, car-
bon monoxdde, idal for fire and smoke
alarm. $£ 20.00$. REF: 20 P43.


## LED VU Meter Kit

30 LED voltage display fully adjustable. Ideal as meter amp output ete.
£15.00. REF: 15 P 58.

## Lie Detector Kit

Monitors changes of skin resistance which changes during lies, fear etc. 4.5 V .

## \&6.00. REF: 6P57.

## Light Barrier Rit

A light barrier which causes an LDR to operate a relay. Light source required (L.e. torch). 5 A relay contact output. 12 V operation 89.00 REF : 9P20.

## Single Channel Sound to Light Kit.

Illuminates light bulbs to rhythm of music. Ideal for parties etc. Max 240V 1000 watt. £6.00 REF: 6P84.

## Six Channel Sound To Light <br> \section*{Kit}

Each channel is adjustable max 500 watt per channel 240 V AC high sensituity. £17.00. REF: 17P6.

## Light Swelling Rit

240 V light bulbs (max 200 w ) are gradually demmed and tlumenated at regular intervals (approx every two seconds) Ideal displays. discos etc.
£11.00 REF: 11 P11.


Little Electrotechnician Kit
Educational kdt for beginners comprising of 7 different cicults. 4.5 V batt required. \&8.00. REF: 8P156.


## 12 Melodies Generator Kit

Plays 12 different tunes at the touch of a button. $3 V$. 8 R speaker required £11.00. REF: 11 P12.

## Mesmeric Instrument Kit.

Magnetic feld instument is sald to have curing effect on certatn allments!
\$8.00 REF: 8P157.


Metal Detector Kit
Uses mini ferrite aerial to detect metal in walls etc. 6 cm range led output. 9 V . 55.00 REF: 5P199.

## Metronome Kit

An adjustable electronte metronome with a signature between 30 and 300 beats per min. Loud speaker output. $4.5 \cdot 6 \mathrm{~V}$ sup. ply. \$7.00 REF: 7P40.

## 12V 3 Channel Sound To Light Kit

Kit will drive $3 \times 12 \mathrm{~V}$ halogen bulbs (max 100w each). Heatsinks and bulbs required 12V AC operation.
\&12.00. REF: 12 P57.
Microphone Preamp Kit
Impedanceload varable from 4R to 100 kR . Input voltage 2.40 mV . Output $\max 1.8 \mathrm{~V}$ 20.40 khz . $6-20 \mathrm{~V}$ operation.
£6.00. REF: 6P85.

## Mini Moving Light Kit

Moving light with 3 very small bulbs. Adjustable speed 9.12 V ideal for models. brooches etc. $\mathbf{5 5 . 0 0}$. REF: 5P2 18.

Mini Traffic Light Kit
3 small LED's are llluminated one after the other. 4.5 .6 V operation.
£5.00 REF: 5P200.

## Morse Code Practise Kit

Sound generator with touch switch and loud speaker. 3-9V.
88.00. REF: 8P158.

## Moving Rope Light Kit

Complete kit to build a rope light 6.5 m long. Gives running light effect. Requires 12V 2.5A. 225.00 REF: 25P28.

## Moving Light Kit

Adjustable speed uses $6-24 \mathrm{~V}$ bulbs max 3A (3 chan). \$12.00 REF: 12 P54.

10 Channel Moving Light Kit Drives 1050 watt 240 V bulbs. Speed adjustable. $\mathbf{£ 3 0 . 0 0}$. REF: 30 P11.

MW Testing Transmitter Kit
Close range test osclllator. Not to be used for transmitting. 85.00 REF: 5P217.

## Power Controller Kit

Regulates bulbs. drills, stoves. soldering trons etc. Max 1300 watt.
£12.00. REF: 12 P55.

## Spy Stethoscope Kit

Using an carplece allows you to listen through thin walls, doors, whndows etc. £15.00. REF: 15P59

## SW CB Receiver Kit

Short wave recelver for CB etc. $(6.30 \mathrm{mhz}$ ) $4.5-6 \mathrm{~V}$.
£15.00. REF: 15P60.

## Telephone Ampliffer Kit

Suitable for monitoring telephones with ptck up coll (supplied) 8R speaker and 9 V supply required. ©8.00. REF: 8P159.

## Thermal Switch Kit

Turns a device on or off at a pre fixed temperature ideal for tce warning, fire. extractor fan. heating etc. $\cdot 30$ to +150 deg C. 5A relay output.
£9.00 REF: 9P24.

## Ultrasonic Dog Whistle Kit

Emits high powered ultrasonic sound adjustable from $8000-25000 \mathrm{hz}$. Complete with transducer. 9 V battery required. £6.00. REF: 6P86.

## Strobe Light Kit

Stroboscope kit with U shaped tube. Adjustable speed $1-10 \mathrm{hz}$. Ideal for disco or photographic use. 240 V AC.
£16.00. REF: 16 P15.

## Twilight Switch Kit

Turns a light on at twillght and off at day break. Adjustable sensitulty. Max 250 watt 240 V AC. $£ 9.00$ REF: 9 P25.


## TV Test Channel Kit

Screen pattern generator for connection to aerial socket of TV Chotce of different patterns avallable. $4.5 \cdot 6 \mathrm{~V} . £ 10.00$. REP: 10P158.

## Warship Siren Kit

Decks clear for action siren 3.15 watt output $6-12 \mathrm{~V}$ operation. 8 R speaker required. $\mathbf{8 9 . 0 0}$. REF: 9P21.


## Star Wars Siren Kit

3.15 watt output 12 V 1.5 A supply $8-32 \mathrm{R}$ speaker required.89.00. REF: 9P23.

## Robot Voice Kit

Modulates human volce with an adjustable frequency to produce different voice effects. Votce requires amplufication afterwards. te tape recorder etc. $9-12 \mathrm{~V}$ supply. £8.00. REF: 8P56.

## Touch Switch Kit

If the sensors are touched by a finger of nose etc relay will be operated and can operate equipment as requitred. $9-12 \mathrm{~V}$ supply. $\mathbf{£ 7 . 0 0}$. REF: 7P42.

## Kojak Siren Kit

Very loud siren 12V 8-32R speaker required. £9.00. REF: 9P22.


## Game of Skill Kit

Pass the loop over the wire to prevent the alarm and the ught operating. 9.12 V £5.00. REF: 5P215.

## IC VHF Receiver Kit

High quality recelver uses TDA7000. Good selectivty 8 R 1 W speaker required. 9 V . \&10.00 REF: 10 P 122 .

## Ice Warning Instrument Kit

Indicates undestrable temperature changes in fridges, freezers or as frost warning for cars. 9.12 V supply required. \&7.00. REF: 7P39.

## Impulse Voltage Control Kit



Almost loss free regulation of speed for $D C$ motors providing almost full torque at all speeds. Ideal for trains. drills. toys etc. Max 2A 12-16V.
\&10.00. REF: 10 P 154.

## Inductance Bridge Kit

With this kit colls can be eastly measured 2 adjustable scales $1-100 \mathrm{mH} . .1 \cdot 10 \mathrm{H} .9 \mathrm{~V}$ operation. $\$ 12.00$. REF: 12 P52.

## Infra-Red Light Barrier Kit

Light barrier with invisable infra red light beam. Complete wth transmitter and recetver. 6 m range $9-12 \mathrm{~V}$. 3 A relay contact output. £16.00. REF: 16 P9.

Interval Switch (universal) Kit
Interval time 1-140sec Length .2-12sac $7.5 \cdot 12 \mathrm{~V}$ operation 5 A relay contact o/p LED inverval indicator. Ideal for wiper controller. lamps. motors. alarms etc. \&12.00. REF: 12 P53.

## LED Light Band Kit

Decoratuve 1.5 m band of 14 LED's which Hight up alternatively to give a moving display $18 \mathrm{~V} . £ 10.00$. REF: 10P155.

## IC Radio MW-SW-LW Kit

Single circuit radio that recelves medium. short or long wavebands. 220 mW output. 9V. \&8.00. REF: 8P155.

## LED Modulator/Voltage Display Kit

A voltage measuring kit. Displays up to 30 V . Ideal for batt indicator, amp o/p speaker peak meter etc. $12 v$ operation. 210.00. REF: 10 P 156.


## Atomium Kit

A decorative device which uses six red LED's which optically circle around a green LED. Requires a 9 V battery. Ideal for jewellery etc. 87.00. REF: 7P38.

## Audio Scope Kit

Produces black, vertical bars whuch move to the rhythm of the music, stmular to ascilloscope patterns. Simple connection to the aerial socket of TV.
£10.00. REF: 10 P 151.

## Universal Ni-Cad Charger Kit

Automatic charger for cells from 1.2 to 15 V . The charging current will automatscally adjust. to remain constant as the battery charges. Has a selection of seven settings $5-600 \mathrm{~mA}$. A transformer $18-20 \mathrm{~V}$ .6A is required. 88.00. REF: 8P152.

## Car Lights On Warning Kit

Produces a noisey honk" if you turn off the ignition but leave the ughts on. Works off car battery. 88.00. REF: 8P153.


## Combination Digital Lock Kit

After keying in a 4 digit code the relay switches on. The code is Independantly programmable and can be easily modlfled. Relay contact $3 \mathrm{~A} .1 \times \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{o}$. Ideal for keyiess locks for door, video. computer etc. $\mathbf{\$ 1 5 . 0 0}$. REF:15P56.

## Car Antenna Amplifier Kit

This amplifier is connected between the antenna and the radio, using co-ax cable $60-75$ R. Gain max 22db. Frequency range $0.5-150 \mathrm{mhz} . \$ 6.00$. REF: 6P81.

## Converter 100 mhz - 200 mhz Kit

Extends the range of radios to cover amateur bands. ships, TV stations etc. Simply introduced into aertal cable.
£15.00. REF: 15 P57.

## Sound Operated Switch Kit

This accoustic circuit turns on a relay. can be triggered by a clap etc. Another clap turns it off. Adjustable sensor. Ideal for turning on and off lights and equip. ment. 12 V operation.
£14.00 REF: 14P17.

## Diesel Engine Sound Kit

Generates $7-10$ watt sound with adjust able exhaust, valves and running speed! For 4 -8R speakers.
211.00 REF: 11P10.


## Accoustic Water Detector Kit

Rasses a loud alarm on contract with water. Ideal for broken pipes, overflowing washtng machines. bathtubs etc. Sensor can be connected by a longer cable upto 100 m away. Power supply 9 V battery. 55.00. REF: 5P212.

## Electronic Accupuncture Kit

This ktt operates in accordance with the electronic accupuncture method. Complete with instructions. Migrane, poor clculation, backache etc. $3 \cdot 12 \mathrm{~V}$ operation. $\mathbf{8 7 . 0 0}$. REF: 7P36.


Universal Alarm System Kit
Rellable alarm system for $9-12 \mathrm{~V}$ operation. Max 20 alarm contacts may be connected. Adjustable starting and alarm tume delay of a few seconds, alarm tme approx $30-60$ seconds. includes reset button. £14.00. REF: 14 P15.

## Bi Fi Amplifier Kit

Two types avallable. No 1 is a stereo amplifier with a $2 \times 8$ watt output. £14.00 REF: 14P16.
No 2 is a 10 watt mono. 29.00. REF: 9P19

## Antenna Amplifier Kit

Wide band antenna ampliffer approx0.15$350 \mathrm{mhz}, 9-18 \mathrm{~V}$ Gatn approx $5-20 \mathrm{db}$ (VBF approx 10 db ) Ideal for improving reception of radios and TV sets. (Up to 150 mhz ). £5.00. REF: 5P213.

## Antenna Amplifier Kit No 2

Wide band antenna amplifier approx 30 $850 \mathrm{mhz} .12-18 \mathrm{~V}$ operation. In and out impedance 60R. Max gain 20 db . Ideal for use in the UHF and VHF bands.
88.00. REF: 8P54.

## Apple Powered Radio Kit

Small medtum wave radio. The operating voltage is generated by two spectal electrodes inserted in an apple.
87.00. REF: 7P37.

30 Watt Single Channel Amp Kit
30 watt rms into $80 h m$. 20HZ-20KHZ harmonic distortiom $0.1 \%$. sensitility 150 MV . mic sensituity $50 \mathrm{MV}, 36 \mathrm{v} \times 2 \mathrm{psu}$ required. Complete with base. treble and volume controls and heatsink.
88.00. REF: W8P7

120+120 Watt Stereo Amp Kit 240 watts rms into 4 ohm. 10HZ-10KHZ. harmonic distortionless than $0.01 \%$. sensitivty 3MV(phono), 130MV(aux), $2 \times 30 \mathrm{v}$ psu required $£ 30.00$. REF: W30ק3.

## 30 Watt Stereo Amp Kit

30 watt rms into 8 ohm, harmontc distortion $.1 \%$, sensitivity 3 MV (phono). 130 MV (tuner), signal to notse $80 \mathrm{db}, 36 \mathrm{vx}$ 2 psu required. \&16.00 REF: W16P1

## 300 Watt Mono Amp Eit

300 watt rms output. harmonic distortion less than $0.05 \% 10 \mathrm{HZ}-10 \mathrm{KHZ} .2 \times 60 \mathrm{v}$ psu required.
£40.00. REF: W40P3

## New Solar Energy Kit

Kit contains 8 solar cells, motor, tools, fan etc plus educational booklet. Ideal gift for the budding enthuslast!
212.00. REF: W12P3

## Speed Control Kit

Not the orignal but could be used with the Sinclatr C5 Motor using pulse width modulation for overall control at 12 V and upto 30A. Uses rotary pot. for output control PCB and componants included. Requires heatsink.
£17.00. REF: 17P3

ORDER
TODAY



## DO YOU RECEIVE OUR REGULAR NEWSLETTERS AND BULLETINS??? <br> are you on our database .

If not, send in a writien request and we will gladly add your name and address to our malling list immediately. Be one of the first to know what's new in stock before it gets adverilised nationally.



## MAMOD WORKING STEAM MODELS

## 1313 TRACTION ENGINE TEIa

Attractive working model of traditional English traction engine.
Pack: $285 \times 150 \times 185 \mathrm{~mm}$. Gr. Wt. 2900 g
$111 / 4^{\circ} \times 578^{\circ} \times 71 / 4^{\circ}$
Price: $£ 59.95$ each
Ref : TE1a


## 404 FIRE ENGINE FE1

Fine example of an early Edwardian Fire Truck. Finished in typtical bright red with brass and crome trim.
Pack: $490 \times 185 \times 250 \mathrm{~mm}$. Gr. Wt. 2970 g
$191 / 4^{\circ} \times 71 / 4^{\circ} \times 97 / 8^{\circ}$
Ref : FE1
Price: $£ 99.95$


## 1403 FOURSEATER LIMOUSINE SAIL

This unique and realistic working model captures
the realtsm of years gone by.
Pack: $475 \times 195 \times 240 \mathrm{~mm}$. Gr. Wt. 2750 g
$183 / 4^{\circ} \times 75 / 8^{\circ} \times 91 / 2^{\circ}$
Ref : SAIL
Price: £92.95


## 1319 STEAM ROADSTER SA1

A magnificent working model of a motor car which
captures the elegance of the Edwardian era
Pack: $450 \times 150 \times 210 \mathrm{~mm}$. Gr. Wt. 2450 g
$173 / 4^{\prime \prime} \times 51 / 8^{\prime} \times 81 / 4^{\circ}$
Ref: SA1
Price: $£ 79.99$


## 1312 STEAM ROLLER SR1a

A superbly realistuc model of an early road roller.
Pack: $285 \times 150 \times 185 \mathrm{~mm}$. Gr. Wt. 1940 g $111 / 4^{\circ} \times 57 / 8^{\circ} \times 71 / 4^{-}$
Ref: SR1a
Price : £54.95


## 1318 STEAM WAGON SW1

A robust model of a steam wagon.
Pack: $450 \times 180 \times 210 \mathrm{~mm}$ Gr. Wt. 3070 g
$173 / 4^{\circ} \times 7 \times 81 / 4^{\circ}$
Ref: SW1
Price : $£ 79.99$


## MAMOD WORKING STEAM MODELS

1332 STEAM POWERED ENGINE SP2
Powerful. compact engine capable
of driving workshop models. Pack: $210 \times 170 \times$ 198mm. Gr.Wt.1160g $81 / 4^{*} \times 65 / 8^{\circ} \times 73 / 4^{\circ}$ Ref : SP2

Price: $£ 37.95$


## 1336 WORKSHOP MODEL

 WS 1Pack: $260 \times 210 \times 140 \mathrm{~mm}$. Gr. We. $1100 \mathrm{~g} 101 / 4^{\circ} \times 81 / 4^{\circ} \times 51 / 2^{\circ}$ Ref: WS1

Price: $£ 34.95$


1334 STEAM POWER ENGINE SP4 Versitile untt capable of driving larger models. Pack: $260 \times 210 \times 195 \mathrm{~mm}$. Gr. Wt. $1850 \mathrm{~g} 101 / 4^{\circ} \times 81 / 4^{*} \times 75 / 8^{\circ}$ Ref: SP4

Price: $£ 42.49$

## BELOW IS A LIST OF ACCESSORIES AVAILABLE FOR THE MAMOD RANGE.

## REF

MAM/ 12
MAM/16
MAM/19
MAM/20
MAM/35
MAM/37
MAM/42
MAM/43
MAM/46
MAM/ 17
MAM/49
MAM/55
MAM/60
MAM/62
MAM/62a
MAM/63
MAM/64
MAM/72
MAM/74
MAM/74a
MAM/74b
MAM/76
MAM/95
MAM/96
MAM/97
MAM/98
MAM/99
MAM/ 100
MAM/ 101
MAM/ 102
MAM/ 103
MAM/ 104
MAM/ 105
MAM/106
MAM/ 109
MAM/ 110
MAM/ 113
MAM/ 127
MAM/ 128

## DESCRIPTION

STANDARD SAFETY VALVE
STANDARD WHISTLE ASSEMBLY
WATER LEVEL PLUG (non sight glass models)
SELECTION OF WASHERS FOR ALL FITTINGS
STANDARD PISTON/CYLINDER ASSEMBLY
SP4 PISTON/CYLINDER ASSEMBLY
STANDARD FLYWHEEL
SP4 FLYWHEEL
SP2 CRANKSHAFT
SP4 CRANKSHAFT
SRla, TEla, SWI CRANKSHAFT
SA1, SP4, $1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ PULLEY
WS 1 DRIVING BANDS (4)
UNJOINED $12^{\prime \prime}$ DRIVING BANDS (2) for general
SRla. TEla DRIVING BANDS (2)
SW1 DRIVING BANDS (2)
SAI DRIVING BANDS (2) state which side is d
FILLER FUNNEL
SA1, FE1, DV2, LB1, BURNER TRAY
SR1a, TEla, SW1 BURNER TRAY WITH KNOB
SP2, SP4 BURNER TRAY
PACKET OF SOLID FUEL
SR1a FRONT ROLLERS (PER SET)
SRla REAR ROLLERS (PER SET) $\quad \AA 7.99$
TE1a, SW1 FRONT WHEELS (PER SET) $£ 6.99$
TEla REAR WHEELS (PER SET) $\quad \AA 7.99$
SMALL HUB CAPS (2) $\quad \& 0.89$
LARGE HUB CAPS (2) $\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{L}} \mathrm{O} .89$
SRIa FRONT FORK ASSEMBLY $£ 4.25$
TEIa, SW1 FRONT FORK ASSEMBLY $£ 3.45$
SRIa STEERING ROD
TEla, SW 1 STEERING ROD $£ 3.45$
CANOPY ASSEMBLY
SRIa, TEla, SWI SCUTTLE
SR1a, TEla, SW1 REVERSE LEVER \&1.99
SWI REAR WHEELS (PER SET) £8.25
SAI WHEEL COMPLETE WITH TYRE $£ 4.99$
SAI STEERING ROD
STANDARD SIGHT GLASS ASSEMBLY
$£ 3.45$

## PRICE

$\$ 3.99$
84.99
$£ 2.99$
£1.25
85.99
85.99

## $\& 3.50$

$£ 3.75$
$£ 2.99$
£2.99
$\AA 2.99$
$£ 1.25$
$\AA 1.99$
$£ 1.45$
$\AA 1.45$
$£ 1.45$
£1.45
$£ 1.05$
$£ 3.50$
$£ 3.50$
$£ 3.99$
87.99
$\propto 7.99$
6.99
$\AA 8.99$
$£ 3.75$
£2.95

# MEGAPHONES, MICROPHONES, METERS, MOTORS... 



PROFESSIONAL FLOATING DYNAMIC 250 OHM
REF : P855T PRICE : $\mathbf{8 4 6 . 9 5}$

inn quality dynamic microphone wth untdrecuonal characteristic and selectable floating or unbalanced output. Integral on-off switch. strong wire mesh windshelld. transit/storage case. detachable lead. (XLR to jack)
Sensitivity: $\quad 1.0 \mathrm{mV}$ at 94 dB spl impedance: 250 ohm Response: $\quad 60-16000 \mathrm{~Hz}$ Front/back: betrer then 10 bD at 1 kHtz


## DIRECTIONAL RIFLE-TYPE

 MICRPHONE 600 OHMS REF : P655M PRICE : $\mathbf{5} 2.95$ For hand-held or stand-mounted use. The capactor microphone is housed in a shock mount and the barrel can be unscrewed for storage. Supplied with full length foam windsheild. Sensitivity: $\quad 3.1 \mathrm{mV}$ at 9 AdB spl Impedance: anconement mon unme Response: 30 to 16000 Hz Front/back: approx 18dB Power: $\quad 1 \times A$ type battery. Length: $\quad 390 \mathrm{~mm}$ overall


## FM CORDLESS

 MICROPHONEREF: 15P42A PRICE : 215,00 This untt is an FM broadcasting station in minlature. A 3 sllicon transistor FM transmitter with an electric condenser type microphone which is direct coupled to a Field Effect Transistor amplifier resulting in maximum sensituvity and broad frequency response. Freq Range: $\quad 90-105 \mathrm{mHz}$ FM Freq Resp: $\quad 50-15000 \mathrm{~Hz}$
Range: $\quad 500$ feet open neld Power:

PP3 battery

## RANE: THSTME:

## PANEL METERS $80 \times 70 \mathrm{~mm}$

 $0-40 V$ PANEL METER $80 \times 70 \mathrm{~mm}$ $0-50 V$ PANEL METER $80 \times 70 \mathrm{~mm}$ $0-80 \mathrm{~V}$ PANEL METER $80 \times 70 \mathrm{~mm}$ $0-200 V$ PANEL METER $80 \times 70 \mathrm{~mm}$ $0-5 A$ PANEL METER $80 \times 70 \mathrm{~mm}$ $0-10$ A PANEL METER $80 \times 70 \mathrm{~mm}$ PANEL MIETERS $60 \times 45 \mathrm{~mm}$0. 50mA 2K3 INTERNAL RESIST 0-100mA 1 K 2 INTERNAL RESIST

EACH 6.00 6P24
EACH 6.006 6P26 EACH 6.006 627 EACH $6.00 \quad 6 \mathrm{P} 28$ EACH 6.00 6P30 EACH 6.006 6P29

EACH 6.006 P39 EACH $6.00 \quad$ 6P40



10Mohm
REF : Y122H8 PRICE: 289.95 The Y122HS (M4650CR) muthmeter is capable of commumicattng etther the currentLCD readout or upto 5 stored measurement values direct to data acquisition systems. PC's. pen plotter, printer, etc. via tis MT/ RS232C interface cable. Interface cable and program disk inchuded with meter.

- 4.5 digit 17 mm LDC dieplay
- 30 runges inoluding 20A ac/do
- Date hold
- Maz/min value oapture
- 40 potint analog bergraph
- Prequeney counter
- Loglo teat with auto level
- Capaoltance teat
- Continulty tent with buzser
- Tranniator and diode teat
- Built and terted to IBC348
- Pully ahrouded teat leads

Bettery, instruction leaffet and oarrying onse inoluded.
AC volts: $\quad 0.2000-220.200750 \mathrm{Vac}$. 0.00 DC volts: 0.200.2.20-200 rocovoc. Q.80
 DC current: $0.2000 .2 \mathrm{~m}-300 \mathrm{~m}$ - zonse. ose
 Capactlance: 0.2000 pt 2000 200 F . 2.00 Frequency: 0.20 m -20034. 2000 Trans hFE: $\quad 0.100$ NPN/PNP Dims:
$176 \times 90 \times 36 \mathrm{~mm}$

REF : Y122HT PRICE : 88.00 Replacement interface lead and pro. gram disk for Y122HS


## PAR36 SPOT

REF : GOO8U PRICE : 214.99 High quality PAR36 spot lamp with mounting bracket. Contains safety Isolatting transformer and screwdrtver release fuseholder. Bulb supplied separately.
Power: $\quad 220 / 240 \mathrm{Vac} 50 \mathrm{~Hz}$
Wetght: $\quad 1.25 \mathrm{~kg}$

## PARSG BULB

REF: $\mathbf{G 0 0 8}$ PRICE : 88.75 PAR36 bulb. 6V 30w Focused narrow beam.


SOUND TO LIGHT
REF : G005C PRICE : 879.95 3 Channel sound to light powering $6 \times 60 \mathrm{w}$ coloured spot lamps (included). Built in microphone and individual channel sensitivity con trols included.
Power: $\quad 220 / 240 \mathrm{Vac} 50 \mathrm{~Hz}$


LIGFT BOX
REF : G005N PRICE : 899.95 Two 4 lamp black vinyl cases each fitted with 2 Bulgin 8 pin sockets for connection of Hght controller. Uses 60W reflector spot lamps (ES)


COLOUR WHEEL SPOT
REF: G009 PRICE : $\mathbf{8 3 1 . 0 5}$ 5 Colour rotating colour wheel spot light utulising a standard E37 rear reflector spot bulb. Compact rectangular case contatning colour wheel motor. Supplied with 5 col our gels and bulb.

| Power: | $220 / 240 \mathrm{Vac} 50 \mathrm{~Hz}$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Dims: | $210 \times 120 \times 145 \mathrm{~mm}$ |
| Welght: | 1.3 kg | Weight: $\quad 1.3 \mathrm{~kg}$



## ROPE LIGHT

REF: GOORRA PRICE : 229.95 5 m tough flexible plastuc tube rope light. 4 circuits of 20 coloured bulbs. May be connected end to end to make extended lengths.
Length: 5 m


## ROPE LIGHT

REF : G0088 PRICE; 838.95
Self contained 3 colour rope light with built in speed controller. 3 circuits of 20 lamps.
Length: $\quad 6 \mathrm{~m}$
Power: $\quad 220 / 240 \mathrm{Vac} 50 \mathrm{~Hz}$

ROPE LIGHT LEAD
REF : GO06MA PRICE : 27.95 2 m extension lead for connecting rope lights to controllers.


ROPE LIGHT LEAD
REF : GOOBMB PRICE : 26.95 " $Y^{\prime \prime}$ spittter lead for running two rope lights from one controller.

4 CHANNEL CONTROLLER REF : GOOBM PRICE : $£ 49.95$ 4 channel lightting controller with five bullt in sound actritated ef fects: $1 \mathrm{on} / 3$ off, 2 on/ 2 of 3 on/ 1 off 4 on/ 0 off plus random forward reverse on all 4 sequences. Max output: 3000 w total $220 / 240 \mathrm{Vac} 50$ $184 \times 100 \times 55 \mathrm{~mm}$

4 CHANNEL CONTROLLER REF : GOO6P PRICE : 239.95 4 channel lighting controller with buith in mic. sound control and speed control. 4 Red LEDS mimk the lighting display.
Max output: 1000 //channel 600 w
220/240 Vac 50Hz

## 8 WAY SWITCH BOX

REF : G006g PRICE : $\mathbf{8 5 4 . 9 5}$
8 way lighting switch box. Each channel has a SPDT neon switch capable of up to 6A load and a pusb button switch capable of 3 A load.

| input power. | $220 / 240 \mathrm{Vac} 50 \mathrm{~Hz}$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| Outputs: | 1 coow ar foow pry en |
|  | tepreading on swhel wged |
|  |  |

## POWER STROBE

REF : G011B PRICE : 2139.95 Powerful professtonal strobe unit with strobe rate control and factulity for remote triggering from a 3.12 V pulse. Output power of 150W at the maxdmum flash rate of 15 llashes per second.
Last Rate: $\quad 15$ per sec max

| Max Tube Power: | 150 W |
| :--- | :--- |
| Power: | $220 / 240 \mathrm{Vac} 50 \mathrm{~Hz}$ |
| Dims: | $275 \times 290 \times 84 \mathrm{~mm}$ |
|  |  |

tims:
2.5 kg

SURPLUS SURPLUS SURPLUS SURPLUS SURPLUS SURPLUS SURPLUS SURPLUS SURPLUS SUR

## WE BUY SURPLUS STOCE.

All types of goods considered from Amp Meters to Strobes. Computers to Comouter software. Components. Electrical Acceasories.... The list it andloss. Onty equkement is a minimum quantity of 50 units of each iem. Give us a call TURN YOU MISTAKES INTO CASH - IMMEDIATELY ASK FOR: PURCHASING MANAGER O273 203500



PTORE OR FRX YOAR OKDER ROW 0273 203500/323077


BALANCED DYNAMIC MIC B000hms
REF: G147C PRICE : $\mathbf{2} 27.95$


Uni directional balanced dynamic mic with shock proofed insert. Black metal mesh head. Selft contatned ant pop filter. On/Off switch. Complete with carry case and Mic holder. Impedance: 600 ohms Response: $\quad 50-12000 \mathrm{~Hz}$ $\begin{array}{ll}\text { Sensluvity: } & \\ \text { Head dia: } & \\ \text { H4dB@ } @ 1 \mathrm{kHz}\end{array}$ Head dia: $\quad 40 \mathrm{~mm}$ Length: $\quad 170 \mathrm{~mm}$

## DYNAMIC MIC 500ohms

REF : O147A PRICE : 221.85


All gold coloured heavy metal construction. Shockproof cartridge insert. On/Off switch. Complete with carry case and Mic holder.
Impedance: 5000 hm s Response: $\quad 40-17000 \mathrm{~Hz}$ $\begin{array}{ll}\text { Sensluvity: } & -74 \mathrm{~dB} @ 1 \mathrm{kHz} \\ \text { Head dia: } & 51 \mathrm{~mm}\end{array}$ Head dia: $\quad 51 \mathrm{~mm}$ Length: $\quad 167 \mathrm{~mm}$

## DYNAMIC MIC 50Kohm

REF: G148G PRICE: $\mathbf{1 8 . 5 0}$


Good quality microphone bullt of heavy dark grey metal with silver trim. On /off switch. Holder inchuded.

## mpedance

50 k ohms
Response: $\quad 60.12000 \mathrm{~Hz}$
Sensitulty: $\quad .74 \mathrm{~dB} @ 1 \mathrm{kHz}$ Head dia:

51 mm
155 mm

## KARAOKIE MICROPHONE

 REF : G155LA PRICE : 237.99 Echo condenser microphone for vo cal and Hi Fi recording. On/ofi switch. Echolevel controller. Approx 4 m cable attached with 3.5 mm jack plug. Gunmetal. Takes one AA battery.
## DYNAMIC MIC 600ohms

REF : G155M PRICE : $\mathbf{\Sigma 7 . 5 0}$


General purpose low tmpedance mic with a heavy plastic body and gold metal mesh windsheld head. On /off switch in body.
Impedance: 600 ohms Response: $\quad 100 \cdot 100 \mathrm{MOHz}$ Sensituvity: $\quad-74 \mathrm{~dB}$ @ 1 kHz Head dia: $\quad 52 \mathrm{rmm}$ Length: 228 mm

## DUAL IMCPEDANCE MIC

 600ohms

REF : G162 PRICE : $\mathbf{8 1 9 . 9 5}$
Elegant slimine microphone. Bull in FET. High/Off/Low switch. Windshield and holder included. Impedance: 6000hme/ 50kohms Response: $\quad 50.18000 \mathrm{~Hz}$ Senaltuvity: $\quad-68 \mathrm{~dB}(6000 \mathrm{hm})$ $-50 \mathrm{~dB}(50 \mathrm{kohm})$ Dta: $\quad 22 \mathrm{~mm}$ Lengh: 248 mm

## EAGLE MLCROPHONE

PKT 2
REF : V1P4 PRICE : $\mathbf{\Omega 1 . 0 0}$
SORRY NO ILIUSTRATION AVAILABLE ON THIS PRODUCT

## TWO CHANNEL DIGITAL RECEIVER REF: Y5P3 PRICE: $\$ 5.00$

Model ASAP R×2 is a two channel receiver using 9 bit Trinary digital coding. These recelvers can perform a wide varlety of remote switching tasks. The receiving codes can be varled very easily, see the instructions supplied. We again have a limited stock of these 2 channel. (no transmitter)

## RACAL MILGO MULTILINE ADAPTOR MODEL 23 REF : Y10P6 PRICE : $\mathbf{\$ 1 0 . 0 0}$

A very high quality plece of kit. Made to MOD standards, this well made modem add on enables one modem to be shared by up to four lines, we have been informed! This metal cased unit houses a PCB populated with a lot of components consisting of 24 transistors, 9 IC's 8 line transformer, 4 rocker switches and lots of resistors and diodes. A comms enthuslast's dream. All thls at a bargain price. The case alone, measuring $430 \times 315 \times 90 \mathrm{~mm}$ Is worth more. Wonderful spares value.

## RACAL MILGO PACKAGE REF : Y2OP2 PRICE : $£ 20.00$

For just 820 you can have a Milgo package consisting of a Multiline adaptor and a Modem as described below.

## RACAL MILGO MODEM 26LSI <br> REF : Y13P1 PRICE : $£ 13.00$

Once again a quality product up to MOD standards. This modem conststs of 4 plug in pcb's housed in a sturdy plastic case $195 \times 335 \times 130 \mathrm{~mm}$. A mains PSU panel giving $+5 \mathrm{v} /+12 \mathrm{v}$ and $-12 v$ each individually regulated, transmitter panel. receiver and interface panels. Designed to work in conjunction with the Multiline Adaptor, the idea was to cut the cost of phone lines enabling four terminals to use one line. Originally costing hundreds of \&'s we offer this modem at a bargain price.

## 8088 XT BOARD plus $18 \times 41256$ 's REF : Y1OP7 PRICE : $£ 10.00$

Have you ever queued up in a Post offce and been entertalned by the moving message displays, most people have at some time or another. The XT Boards we are offering used to be at the heart of these displays. The board $300 \times 215 \mathrm{~mm}$ contalns an Intel 8088 CPU, $18 \times 41256$ memory chips, a battery board. normal keyboard, 5 pin socket and 12 pin power socket. There is only one expansion slot. Whilst these boards cannot be used for their original purpose, they do make for a bargain in chip value alone.

## SINCLAIR C5 SPARE TYRES 13" $=$ REF : R1P2 PRICE : $£ 1.00$ $16^{\prime \prime}=$ REF : R1P3 PRICE : 81.00

As many of you know we have sold out of most of C5 wheels but we have some tyres left so If you would uke a spare (either $13^{\prime \prime}$ or $16^{\prime \prime}$ dlameter) or if you are stuck for an unusual birthday present treat yourself for just $£ 1.00$.

## WE BUY SURPLUS STOCK

TEL. 0273203500
FAX: 0273323077
BEST PRICES PAID


## SWITCHED MODE PSU

REF : K8P3 PRICE : 8.00
Fully cased unit agatn made by Wolsey. Complete with mains lead. Well made case finished in black with ventilation boles and power on LED
Dims: $\quad 215 \times 145055 \mathrm{~mm}$ Output: $\quad+5 v+12 \mathrm{v}$ and +20 v

## USEFUL POWER SUPPLIES

 REF : K6P1 PRICE : 6.00 Very useful power supplies fully cased in a smart plastic case com. plete with mains input cable plus DC output cable. The supply is regulated to within $5 \%$ and has an 18 V output at up to 900 mA . An excellent general purpose untt brand new stratght from the manufacturers
## SPECTRUM +2 PSU

REF: X4P2 PRICE: 28.99
Input: $220 / 240 \mathrm{Vac} 50 \mathrm{~Hz}$



## USEFUL POWER SUPPLY

EACH 2.99 X3P1
14.5 V DC 400 mA plug in slecved pins.
Input: $\quad 220 / 240 \mathrm{Vac} 50 \mathrm{~Hz}$
Output: $\quad 14.5 \mathrm{Vdc} 400 \mathrm{~mA}$

POWER SUPPLY - NON

## REGULATED

REF : P008D PRICE : 93.98 Plug tn power supply with 6 output voltages. Polarity switch and output is via a 4 way splder plug and 1.3 mm de Walkman plug.

Input Volt: $\quad 220 / 240 \mathrm{Vac} 50 \mathrm{~Hz}$ Output Volt: $\quad$-.4.5.6.7.5.9\& 12 Vcc Output current: 800 miA max Stability:
Ripple:
Dimes: 10
$75 \times 52 \times 54 \mathrm{~mm}$

POWER SUPPLY.
UNREGULATED
REF : P008E PRICE : $\mathbf{2 5 . 4 9}$
Plug in power supply with 6 output voltages. Polarity switch and LED indicator. Output is via 4 way spider plug and 1.3 mm Walkman plug. Thermal Fuse protection. Input Volt: $\quad 220 / 240 \mathrm{Vac} 50 \mathrm{~Hz}$ Output Volt: $\quad$ 3. 4.e. e. 7. . $9 \times 12 \mathrm{Vac}$ Output current: $\quad 750 \mathrm{~mA} \max$ Stabillty: iv $\begin{array}{ll}\text { Ripple: } & \text { IV } \\ \text { Dims: } & 97 \times 67 \times 62 \mathrm{~mm}\end{array}$

POWER SUPPLY.

## UNREGULATED

REF : P006F PRICE : $\mathbf{8 . 5 0}$
Plug in power supply with 6 output voltages. Polarity switch and LED indicator. Output is via 4 way spider plug and 1.3 mm Walkman plug. Thermal Fuse protection. Input Volt: $\quad 2201240 \mathrm{Vac} 50 \mathrm{~Hz}$ Outpul Volt: $\quad$ s.4.8. 6.7.5.9* 12 Vec Output current: 1000 mA max Stability: 40\%
Ripple: IV
Dims: $\quad 97 \times 67 \times 56 \mathrm{~mm}$

## ASTEC SWITCHED MODE

 PSUREF : T12P12 PRICE : 12.00 These are cased switched mode power supplies complete with on/ off switch and IEC inlet.

| Input: | 120 or 240. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Output: | 45 v at 5 A .412 v at |
|  | 2A $0-12 \mathrm{v}$ at .25 A |
| Dims: | $173 \times 135 \times 65$ |

$173 \times 135 \times 65$
model No: BM51049

## ASTEC POWER SUPPLY

REF: T10P14 PRICE : 10.00
These are also cased but have a slightly lower output than the model mentioned earlier.Complete with on/off switch and IEC miet.
Input: $\quad 110$ or 240.
Output: $\quad+5 \mathrm{v}$ at $4 \mathrm{~A} .+12 \mathrm{v}$ at IA. -12 V at .25 A . Dima: $\quad 210 \times 1350665 \mathrm{~mm}$.

## SAN HUA TIEN PSU

REF: T7P12
PRICE : 7.00
Same spec as the above Astec unit but uncased.

## ASTEC PSU

REF : T7P14 PRICE : 7.00
Uncased PSU

| Input | 240 v |
| :--- | :---: |
| Output: | +5 v at $3.75 \mathrm{~A} .+12 \mathrm{v}$ |
|  | 1.5 A .12 v at 0.4 A |
| Dims: | $82 \times 165 \times 45 \mathrm{~mm}$ |

## ?DO YOU RECEIVE OUR REGULAR MEWSLETTERS AMD BULLETIMS? ars you on our database .

If not, send in a written request and we will gladly add your name and address to our malling list immediately. Be one of the first to know what's new in stock - before it gets advertised nationally.


## ADVANCED POWER SUPPLY

## REF : T55P1

PRICE : £55.00
Brand new switched mode power supplies with fan having some very useful outputs. If you were to buy one of these from the manufacturer you would have to part with more than 2500.00 .
Input:
220 or 115 Vac
Output:
+5V @ 60A. +12V @ 7A
-12@7A plus
Dims:
@ 7A rall

## MORE POWER SUPPLIES

| 24V PSU CHANNELS |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| FOR STEREO. MAX 20W .......... EACH | 2.00 | 2P4 |
| 6V 700mA PSU IN CASE .......... EACH | 1.00 | BD899 |
| 6-9V POWER SUPPLY ............... EACH | 1.00 | R1P4 |
| $750 \mathrm{~mA} \mathrm{3/4} \mathrm{5/6/75/9} \mathrm{12Vdc}$ |  |  |
| NON REG PLUG IN .................. EACH | 5.00 | 5P197 |
| IN CAR POWER SUPPLY ........... EACH | 5.00 | 5 P 167 |
| PC POWER SUPPLY-150W |  |  |
| CUSTOMER RETURNS ............. EACH | 5.00 | 5P210 |
| STC POWER 8UPPLY ............... EACH | 6.00 | 6P59 |
| PC POWER 8UPPLY ................. EACH | 4.00 | L4P6 |
| 200W PC POWER SUPPLY ........ EACH | 20.00 | g20P1 |
| POWER SUPPLY KIT ............... EACH | 22.00 | g22P1 |
| POWER 8 UPPLY ...................... EACH | 4.00 | Q4P3 |
| POWER SUPPLY ...................... EACE | 8.00 | 98P3 |
| ADVANCED POWER SUPPLY .... EACH | 55.00 | T55P1 |
| ASTEC POWER SUPPLY .......... EACH | 10.00 | T10P14 |
| POWER SUPPLY CLEARANCE .. EACH | 1.00 | V1P15 |
| AMSTRAD MONITOR PSU ........ EACH | 3.00 | V3P5 |



## PROJECT BOARD

REF : YO35D PRICE : $\mathbf{8 7 . 9 9}$ Solderless breadboard with a total of 840 contacts arranged in two blocks of 64 vertical rows of 5 interconnected sockets and four horizontal rows of 50 interconnected sockets on a standard $0.1^{\circ}$ pltch. Supplied mounted in a baseboard with two 4 mm sockets.
No of contacts: 840 Contact material: suver mer wited wer Dims: $\quad 203 \times 75 \times 17 \mathrm{~mm}$

## PROJECT BOARD

REF : YO35E PRICE : 215.98
Solderless breadboard with a total of 1680 contracts arranged in four clocks of 64 vertical rows of 5 interconnected sockets and 8 rows of 50 interconnected sockets on a standard 0.1' pitch. Supplied mounted in a bascboard with three 4 mm sockets
No of contatce: 1680
Contact material: sulver plesed acher sulver Dims: $224 \times 150 \times 20 \mathrm{~mm}$

## PROJECT BOARD

REF : YO35F PRICE : 217.95
Solderless breadboard with a total of 1580 contacts arranged in four blocks of 64 rows of 5 interconnected sockets and 6 rows of 50 interconnected sockets on a standard 0.1 pitch. Supplied mounted on a base board with three 4 mm sockets and an edge plated for mounting switches. pots etc.
No of contacts: 1580
Contact material: sulver plased ancetel suver Dims: $\quad 190 \times 170 \times 19 \mathrm{~mm}$

## PROJECT BOARD

REF : YO35G PRICE : $£ 19.95$ Solderless breadboard with a total of 2420 contacts arranged in s 1 x blocks of 64 rows of 5 interconnected sockets and ten rows of 50 interconnected sockets on a standard $0.1^{\circ}$ pltch. Supplied mounted on a base board with four 4 mm sockets.
No of contacts: 2420
Contact matertal: sulver pimed niztel ulver Dims: $\quad 243 \times 195 \times 20 \mathrm{~mm}$

SURFACE MOUNT
PRACTICE BOARD Surface mount technology and soldering has really come to the fore in the last couple of years leading to further miniturisation. Most constructors would love the challenge and like to have a go at solder. ing surface mount components. YOUR CHANCE IS HERE. We are offering a small PCB containing loads of components up to 50 capacitors. resistors. transistors inductors and also a sm chip. Practice soldering desoldering and learn how to tdentify surface mount components.

| Price: | £1.00 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Ref: | Y1P4 |
| Gty: | Each |

## VARIAC CONTROLLERS

These units are large variable resistors. probably about 500w each they come as a ganged set of three in a chassis measuring approx $10 \times 6 \times 6$ inches with a $1 / 2$ inch spindle! Each variable resistor is approx 6 inches diameter with a coil depth of about $2^{n}$

REF : V20P1
PRICE : $£ 20.00$

## CERAMIC SHEET

## Pack of 22 sheets of pure ceramic

 measuring $4.5^{\prime \prime} \times 6.5$ "x .32 "thick!! Ideal for: capacitor experiments, high voltages, insulation problems or we believe you can use them for Printed Circui Board construction??
# REF : T10P2 PRICE : 10.00 

## ELECTRONIC AGITATOR

This auper motorised electronic mag. netic agitator was originally designed for wine maktngt....BUT what an excellent gadget for etching PCB's. Place suspended board in contalner of Feric Chloride mxiture and use agitator underneath! Etches PBC in half the tome and no need to keep rockIng container by hand. Probably hundreds of other uses we haven't even thought of yet. BRAND NEW AND ATTRACTIVELY BOXED.
Contains:
1 Motor untt
2 Magnetic Whirlers
1 Whirler Retriever
3 Plasttc supports
Instructions
REF : $2 P 19$ PRICE : 22.00
MICROWAVE CONTROL PANEL

A brand new branded (Toshiba) 4 section control panel consisting of :

- Display Panel - LCD
- Mains transformer ax Relay Panel
- Two part switch panel This versitlle electronic timer unit can be adapted to almost all projects which require a timing device. Performs all the functions you would expect from : Microwave Timer. Control IC is a TMP47C420AF. Connection detalls supplied REF : 6P 18
PRICE: 86.00


## THE SCHOOL BUDGET BUSTER

## A MUST FOR ALL SCHOOL AND COLLEGE LAB TECHINICIANS

WHAT PROJECT NEXT?? Bull Electrical can make that task a liftle easier by offering you the following:-
1 small low voltage $P C B$ containing over 100 components some of which are :

```
** transistors,
** capacitors,
** resistors,
** diodes and
*** }7\mathrm{ IC's.
```

All this contained within an attractive re-usable case measuring $115 \times 145 \times 45 \mathrm{~mm}$. The front and back panels have cut-outs for switches, leads, LED. There are ventilation slots in the top half of this screw together case as well as four rubber feet. This case would quite comfortably house a project. The PCB would be ideal for teaching and practising soldering and desoldering techniques.

## PACK OF 10 UNITS



## SOFTWARE

## A selection of Shareware with over 100 exciting titles for all the family. The disks come either in $3.5^{\prime \prime}$ or $5.25^{\prime \prime}$. IBM compatible.

## HELP AND COMPUTER TOOLS

TUTOR.COM computer and DOS futorial
super course in computer teminology and hearning DOS
LOTUS LEARNING SYSTEM rea 2 floppys or hard drive
disk-based tutorial...Over 500 screens cover lotus 1-2-3 VIRUSCAN/CLEAN UP
mputer viruses and repairs domages finds and removes comp
TUTOR BY ASSOCIATION
outstanding. interactive futorial... perfect for beginners
DOS SUMMARY
hoving trouble undertanding
program for you
AS EASY AS 1-2-3
rea 2 foppyt or hard drive. super full feoture menu
driven program
GALAXY LTE
fast. easy to use word processor with 50.000
word-spethcheckerl
DRAFT CHOICE rea hard drive a colour monitor
CAD progrom creates great drawings a graphics
PC-DRAFT-CAD rea hard dive and colour monitor ..
full CAD program for all your drowing \& drafting needs
PRINT PARTNER req colour monitor
or on dot matrix of Drint signs, col
laser printers
FOREIGN LANGUAGES
SPANISH TEACHER 1
get down to basics... beginner Spanish mode easyl
SPANISH TEACHER?
SPANBH TEACHER 2 ..........................................................
you've graduct
GERMAN TEACHER 1
the wall is down. it's the to leain the language
GERMAN TEACHER 2
the teacher says sit down it's time to learn more
FRENCH TEA CHER
French made easy. book out Park, here I come
TALIAN TEACHER
with your computer leam malion for business \& pleasure

## JAPANESE

great intro to Jopanses Katakana vocabulary.
grammar and culture
ULTIMATE SPANISH
great easy way to use tutorial for learning Spanish
ULTIMATE FRENCH
great easy way to use futortal for learning french WINDOWs
WINCHECK req 640 K RAM. win 3.0 or nigher. HDDD \& HD
highly roted easy to use windows checking
and savings program
COMMAND POST rea win 3.0 or higher a MD
excellent quick and easy windows menu system
IEDI rea VGA mon, win 3.0 or higher. 286 of
better \& mouse
for creating and editing icons
full featured tool PAINT SHOP PRO rea win 3.0 or higher 8 hord dive powertully displays. atters and pints graphic images LEONARD'S SKETCH rea win 3.0 or higher \& hard dive easy to use oriented CAD/desk top publishing program WINEDI rea win 3.0 or higher a hard drive great graphical text editor for any size documents SCREEN PEACE seq windows 3.0 or higher sixteen different scieen savers to ovold screen burn-ins WINPOST rea windows 3.0 or higher $\qquad$ easity argonize and manage your business da THE NEW TESTAMENT VIEWER FOR WINDOWS rea win 3.0 or higher, EGA/VGA mon. HD DD.
Hard Dive \& 286 or bettor
full featured. easy to use electronic boak of
the New Testomentl
GAMES FOR WINDOWS
WINDOWS VEGAS GAME PACK req win 3.0 or higher .................. BS5/475 BS3/475 a HD. try your luck video poker. slot machine. blackjack and roulette
WINDOWS ARCADE GAME PACK req win 3.0 - higher. arcade action with ctien force, bangl bangl and warm war WINDOWS BOARD/CARD GAME PACK rea win 3.0 or higher, hours of fun with concentration. yacht-z tic toc toe and hearts

BS5/001 BS3/001
855/003 B\$3/003 BS5/009 BS3/009 BS5/012 BS3/012 B55/014 B53/014

BS6/103 BS3/103

BS5/110 BS3/110

BS5/902 $\quad 853 / 902$
. $856 / 903 \quad B 53 / 903$
BS5/9090 BS3/909

BSS/2010 BS3/201
BS6/202 BS3/202
BS5/203 8S3/203
BS5/204 BS3/204
BS5/206 BS3/205
B5S/207 BS3/207
BS5/208 BS3/208

BS6/210 BS3/210
856/211 BS3/211
. $856 / 450 \quad 853 / 450$
. $856 / 451 \quad 853 / 451$

BS6/452 BS3/452 BS5/453 BS3/453 BSS/454 BS3/45 BS5/456 $\quad 853 / 456$ . $855 / 450 \quad B 53 / 450$ $B S 6 / 458 \quad B S 3 / 458$ BS5/459 BS3/459

FOOTBALL FOR WINDOWS rea EGAVG A mon, win 3.0
or higher \& hord drive. Computerised footholl ot his best.
lick off \& control the action
WARHEADS FOR WINDOWS rea win 3.0 - higher \& HD . 8 S3/479 spectacular orcode combat action whit you in charge GNU CHESS rea win 3.0 or higher

BS5/480 $\quad 853 / 480$ great 3D full colour chess game whth excethent graphic: WINWHEEL rea VGA mon. win 3.0 or higher $\&$ hard ditve calourful graphics makes this 'wheel of fortune' clone o winner
MAH JONGG FOR WINDOWS seq VGA mon. mouse. win 3.0 or higher a hatd drive. High-tech simulation of the ancient Chinese game
CARDSHARK HEARTS 100 win 3.0 of higher EGAIVGA mon, hard dive a mouse. Addictive \& computerised version of the poputar Game of Heartil EDUCATION FOR KIDS
 teaches alphabet, numbers, shopes \& problam solving SCHOOL MOM ages 4-14. req colour mon learn at home: music. aft, spolling, English and Maths BRANDON'S BIGBOX rea colour monitor EBS5/501 BS3/50 great tuforial for numbers, reading and memory GOOGOL MATH GAMES all ages rea colour mon arcade style maths games designed to make barning maths fun
WORD GALLERY oge 3+, fec colout monitor ......................................BS5/508 $\quad$ BS3/508 assoclate words with objects using fiast cards and
digitised voice response
ABC-TALK ages i-7 rea cobour monitor .............................................. B55/609 8S3/509 furn your computer into a talking teacher with real voice' response
123-TALK ages 1-7, rea colour mon $\qquad$ BS5/510 BS3/510 fum your computer into a falking moths teachet with 'real volce' response
CRAYON BOX rea EGA/VGA mon a mouse $\qquad$ enhonce your childs creatlity with this amozing colouring sketch book a beaming tool
ADVENTURE MATH age 5-10. 1e9 VGA mon. 512K RAM. .............. BS5/612 $\quad$ BS3/512 HD DD \& HD send your kids inio a moths adventure of a lifetime
EOUCATION FOR KIDS 11
ANIMATED SHAPES Ioq EGA/VGA mon \& hard ditive .................... BS6/625 $\quad$ BS3/625 with amimated graphics. teach pre-schoolers shapes and calours
WORDPRX rea EGA/VGA mon \& hard drive ................................... 8S5/626 BS3/526 excellent tetris-like educational game that teaches phonics
CLASSROOM JEOPARDV rea colour mon or hercules ................... 8S6/627 8S3/627 excellent teaching tool patiemed atter the popular
TV game show
WUNDERBOOK oges 3-10. rea EGAVGA mon ............................ 855/628 853/528 innovative tutorial of five fun-while-you-leam eductional games
MOM'S MATH ages 6-11, req colour mon
n ......no.............................. BS8/629 BS3/529 imaginative 3 -in-1 colouftul maths tutoral
DINOSAUR DATABASE Ieq VGA mon \& hard dive ........................ BS5/530 BS3/530 interesting and educational gomes for learning obout dinosaurs
MELISSA'S MUSIC FLASHCARDS req EGAVVGA mon .................... BS6/531 BS3/631 8 mouse easy to use futorial for teaching musical notes KIDS GAMES ages 2-5, req colour monitor ............................. wonderful set of educorional games to stimulate the leorning process
ANIMATED MATH oges t-6 rea EGA/VGA mon \& hard ................. BS5/533 853/533 drive. excelent futorial for oddition, subtrocting a counting
FAMILY AND HOUSEHOLD

## BIBLE-Q

B55/606 8S3/606
heoven help you. this is tough bible trivia qul COMPUTER-CHEF ieq hard dive 856/608 B53/608 menu-diven secloe program and nutrition quide DIET DESK : BS5/609 8S3/609
great program to helo you bose waight a not gain it back FTNESS LOG enables the health conscious to regulaty monito exercise activies

| CUMBERLAND TREE req |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | ful-featured comprehenstive easy to use

genealogy program
$856 / 470 \quad 853 / 470$
$B S 5 / 477 \quad B S 3 / 477$

HANDWRIING ANALYST
see what your signature says about you... unbelevably accuratel
toITO PROPHET rea 2 floppys or a hard dive
complete lottery science statistic al compiler/e valuator
ORGA NISE YOUR COLLECTION rea hard drive
full featured, menu-driven program to catabogue all
kinds of callections 1
PERSONAL GOLF TRACKER $\qquad$ BS5/713 $\quad 853 / 713$
get into the swing and improve your goll game
PERSONAL NUMEROLOGIST
......................................... reveal the most intamate trats and desties of yourself and your friends
GAMES FOR KIDS
PHARAOH'S TOMB req colour mon
arcade/adventure game set in an Egyptian Pyramid
COMMANDER KEEN: EPISODE $N$ TEC EGA/VGA
$\qquad$
mon \& HD DD - hard dive recommended, the adventure continues with ' the secref of the orocle'
SHOOTING GALLERY IEA MCGA or VGA mon \& mouse
best of the best... 7 rounds of colburful ahooting oction
DUKE NUKEM Teq EGA/VGA mon a hard dive
$\qquad$
five-star super arcade-type action adventure game
QUATRIS II rea EGA/VGA monitor.
and action
PAGANIIU: ROMANCING THE ROSE Req colour mon on ......... \& hard drive. within an ancient artec pyramid. survive the adventure of a lifetime
JILL OF THE JUNGLE req colour mon, hard drive, 512 K . RAM $\& 286$ or betfer, spectarular arcade-adventure with great atwork and animation
MATH RESCUE req EGA/VGA mon, HD DD \& hard drive ............. BS5/813 BS3/813 the gruzzes are back to challenge you in this new maths adventure
KILOBLASTER TEa EGA/VGA mon. HD DD, hard drive $\qquad$ Q 286 or better. destroy enemy fieets as you try to sove Earth from impending doomi
GAMES FOR KIOS II
WORD RESCUE rea EGA/VGA mon a hard dive. leain while playing this top-rated arcade game
CAPTAIN COMIC rea EGA/VGA mon
fully animated Hi-Res graphic action adventure game MAD PAINTER Teq EGA/VGA mon
point the streets of your town with your shiny new point trucki
BOLOBAll Eeq EGA/VGA mon
8OLOBALL IEQ EGA/VGA mon
mindbending puzdes and problems guaronteed
GALACTX rea VGA mon, hard drive. 286 or better \& HD DD ..... BS5/829 $853 / 829$ XIDUS have come to conquer the Wontd... only you
stand in the way stand in the way
COSMO'S COSMIC ADVENTUREIEQ EGA/VGA MON, $\qquad$ 8S5/830 $\quad$ BS3/830 286 or better \& HD DD. help the lovable extra terrestrial find his parentsl
SECRET AGENT req EGA/VGA mon
as agent 0061/2. you are to protect the world
CRYSTAL CAVES req EGNVGA mon o hard drive enter an underground world of treasure and traps DARK AGES EGGA/VGA mon \& 286 or better hee the great kingdom from the dark oge of garthl GAMES FOR EVERYBODY

RORS Iea EGA/VGA mon a HUGO'S HOUSE OF HORRORS tea EGA/VGA mon \&
hard dive. animated graphics adventure... the bes on the market
2-BI POKER rea EGA/VGA mon
Las Vegos stive video poker ot tha best... fontasticl HUGO I-WHODUNT? rea EGA/VGA mon \& hard drive HUGO IFWHODUNIT? fea EGA/V GA mon \& hard dive WOLFENSTEIN 3-D ea VGA MOn, HD DD. hard drive a 286 or befter. hugh tech 3-D animated combat action with no equal
STELIAR EXPLORER req EGA/VGA mon, hard ditive \& ................. BS5/806 B53/805 640K RAM. explote the alien vessel and uncover its hideous seciet
KRIS KROSS rea EGA/VGA mon, hard drive \& mouse Impressive combination of crossword puzzles \& scramble WORLD EMPIRE req EGA/VGA mon. 512 K RAM \& hard driveyour mission?? to unite the worid under ane feader-youll drivoyour mission? ? to unite the world under on
BLACK JACK Iea EGA/VGA mon or hercules. outstanding game, tor the beginners to the pros. learnto win big
RACE THE NAGGS IEQ EGA/VGA mon 512 KRAM ................... BS5/B09 BS3/809 an elegantly simple. animated harse racing garne GAMES FOR EVERYBODY II
HUGO IITHE JUNGLE OF DOOM 1eq EGA/VGA mon, .................. BS5/875 BS3/876 HD DD a hard dive. join Hugo in his next and best adventure so tor
THE LASVEGAS EGA CASINO IEG EGA/VGA mon blockjack, video poker and sot machine of their best MILLE BORNES rea EGA/VGA mon
tun and chollenging graphle card game
PIRADA LTHE FEARLESS I8Q EGA/VGA mon a mouse ................ BS5/878 $853 / 878$ uncover cards as you try to maximise scores of 21 EGA TREK Ieq EGA/VGA mon
youf starship command is waithg...save the Golaxyll MONOPOLY reg 512 K RAM EGA/VGA mon phenomenal onimated graphics makes this classic a winne. Ohe 512 K RAM a GAVCA mos the classic a winner outstanding and entertaining solitaire card game Outstanding and entertaining solitare card game
EM PYRAMID rea EGA/VGA mon .................... EM PYRAMID rea EGA/VGA mon...................
crisp.colourful graphics o sleek interface make this pyramid cord game a whnerl

NEW RELEASES
EXPRESSCHECK req 2 floppys of hard drive
BS5/303 B53/303
comprehensive management of uplo $\%$ checking accounts
RESUME SHOP .....................................................................
get the job you always wanted with a professional resume
MEDLIN ACCOUNTING rea 2 floppys or hard drive
ful-charge accounting services for the smal \&
medium businesses
TOUCH TVPE TUTOR
super, typing futonal... 4 skill leves \& speed tests
EGA COLOURING BOOK oges $3+109$ EGA/VGA mon …............ 8S5/802 $\quad$ BS3/802
bring out the artist in your child
CRAPS FOR WINDOWS rea VGA mon, win 3.0 or higher.............. $855 / 484 \quad 853 / 484$ a hard drive. experience the thrill while leaming craps on your home computer
$\begin{array}{lllll}\text { OVERKILL ele colour mon. 640K RAM \& hard drive ..................... BS5/816 } & \text { BS3/816 }\end{array}$ high-class space vovage that puts areade games to the testl BRX 'ea 256 colour VGA mon, 640K RAM \& hard drive .............. E8S5/884 B53/884 tour brain all be founted.teased and twited.
..mindboggling arcode game for all
VIDEO POKER TUTOR req colour mon or hercules ......................... BS5/885 BS3/885 teach yoursalt how to win big while ploying
this great casino video poker gamel
PROTOCAD 3D rea colour mon or hercules \& hard drive ............ BS5/911 BS3/911 complete 3-d CAD/rendering program with a
full complement of 3 -D drawing a edling took
best valug best value best value best value best value best
ORIGNAL LICENCED PRODUCT MICROSOFT CORPORATION

## MS-DOS OPERATING SYSTEMS VERSION 3.3

## $£ 5.00$

Tour chance to acquire a brand new set of MS-DOS Operating System Software, a genuine Licenced Product. The soft ware set comes complete wth:

## Microsof MS-DOS 3.3 Manual

This Manual in complete and gives you a very comprehenstive quide to using DOS on your computer. Learn how to make the operating syatem "wort" for your and enhance the performance of your comput er syst em to its maxdmum. An ideal simple to use explicit manul proves ideal for the introduction of those who are new to Computers and their operating systems.

Software supplied on $5.25^{\prime \prime}$ only.


REF: 5P612

## DOS IN ANOTHER LANGUAGE?

We abso have this package avalloble is other languages. We are curremily able to offer the above specitled product in French, Spanish, German and some ather languoges. Ideal for students sfudying forelgn languages or educational establisiments in the UK or obroad. Quantily dis counts avallable for quantly orden. Give us a call to find out more.

BUL ELECTRICAL: 0273203500

# SERVICE AIDS, SOLAR, SOLENOIDS AND SURVIELLANCE PRODUCTS 


STRIP BOARD

| $5^{n} 4^{\prime \prime} .1$ SRACING COPPER CLAD ........... EACH | 1.00 | BD736 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| PC MOTHERBOARDS (varted specs) ...... EACH | 4.00 | 4 Pr? |
| $17 \times 4^{\prime \prime} .1$ SPACING COPPER CLAAD ........ EACH | 4.00 | $4 P 62$ |

## SOLENOIDS

MAINS SOLENOID.sonsssamm zamm Triver EACH 1.00 BD199

# BARGAIN BONANZA SOLAR POWER 

## SOLAR POWERED OUTDOOR PIR AND AREA LIGHTING

 fROM ONLY £24.99 fREE GARDEN LIGHTING!!! MPRESS YOUR NEIGGBOURS WITH THE LATEST IT SOLAR POWER TECHNOLOGYThese hardy high quality outdoor garden solar Hght untts bringsafety, decoration and security in an instant to your home and garden areas. Each unit is made from high impact weather resistant material. These units couldn't be easter to install and we are offering them at bargain basement prices. There are two styles avallable to choose from. either the Solar Garden Light only or the Solar Garden Light incorporating a PIR motion detector for added security. The units work by capturing sunight. converting it into energy and storing the energy in a built in rechargeable battery. At night the light sensor detects the coming of night and automatically turns the unit on. Its that easy!


OUTDOOR PATH LIGHT: $£ 24.99$ REF: 25P1

OUTDOOR PATH LIGHT
with PIR ALARM:
£29.98 REF: 29P1

## AMORPHOUS GLASS 12V SOLAR PANEL

** 12v 700mA
** TOUGH PVC FRAMED
** HIGH IMPACT
** WEATHER RESISTANT
This Superior quality Solar Panelmeasures $36^{\circ "} \times 12^{\prime \prime}$ having a 12 V 700 mA output. The unlt consists of an AMORPHOUS PANEL WITH POLYCARBONATE FRAME and the glass panelhas been LAMINATED WITH AN EXTRA SHEET OF GLASS FOR STRENGTH. Unbeatable quallty and value at only
£45.00 each

## Ref: 45P1

(Quantity discounts on application)

[^0]
## AND LOTS MORE BARGAIN ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY SOLAR POWER PRODUCTS

## AMORPHOUS PANEL 6"X6" 6V 150mA

3.99 each rel : 4P1<br>1.99 100+ ret: 2P $0.991000+101: 1 P 1$

## AMORPHOUS PANEL 6"X12"12V 300mA

7.25 each REF: 7PI
$4.99100+$ REF: 5P1
$2.991000+$ REF: $3 P 1$

## AMORPHOUS PANEL <br> 3'X1' $\quad 14.5 \mathrm{~V} 700 \mathrm{~mA}$ £33.95 EACH

(Quantity discounts on application)

FLAT BATTERY? NEVER AGAIN WTTH OUR $\%$
AUTO $\leftrightarrows$ SUN $\curvearrowleft$ CHARGER


A SOLAR PRODUCT OF THE HIGHEST QUALTY AND INNOVATION. THIS $12 V$ AMORPHOUS PANEL ISSECURELY MOUNTED IN A STYLISH BLACK TEXTURED PVC FRAME AND COMES COMPLETE WITH 3M OF HEAVY DUTY FLEX TERMINATING IN A STANDARD CIGAR PLUG. THIS PRODUCT HAS BEEN SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED FOR CHARGING BATTERIES IN CARS, CARAVANS AND ON BOATS. THE UNIT COMES COMPLETE WITH POWERFUL SUCIION FEET ENABLING THE UNIT TO BE POSITIONED AGAINST THE INSIDE OF OF A WINDOW FOR MAXIMUM EFFECT.

POWER:
OUTPUI:
MATERLALS:
SOLAR 12 V 2.5 W GIASS AMORPHOUS CEL $180 \times 340 \times 16 \mathrm{~mm}$

## DIMS:

REF: 16P20

## TV, SATELLITE, VIDEO, TRIPODS, TELECOMMUNICATIONS, TIMERS...



## CO-AXIAL CABLE

REF : F047 PRICE : $\mathbf{2 1 8 . 0 0}$ UHF Low loss. Sems alr spaced $750 \mathrm{hm} 1 / 1.0 \mathrm{~mm}(0.78 \mathrm{~mm})$ conductor 6.5 mm OD
Brown

## CO-AXIAL CABLE

REF : F047A PRICE : $\mathbf{\Omega 1 8 . 0 0}$ UHF Low loss, semi alre spaced 75 ohm
$1 / 1.0 \mathrm{~mm}(0.78 \mathrm{~mm})$ conductor 6.5 mm OD

White


IOA HOT CONNECTOR
REF : A144FA PRICE : $\mathbf{2 3 . 0 0}$
3 pin to line moulded on socket for use with hot appliances such as kettles, toasters, etc. Approved to BS4491 and most European standards. White lead and moulded on plus. Length 1 Mtr
Fitted 13A Plug

## TV OUTLET

REF: F355 PRICE ${ }^{1} 80.90$ p Single flush moutning outlet. Whtte. Standard Wall mounting centres.

## TV OUTLET

REF : F35 8 PRICE : 21.10 Double flush mount outlet. White plastic. Standard Wall mount centres.



## CAMEERA TO MONITOR

 CABLEREF: P721 PRICE : 818.00
Cable for connecting a camera to
a monttor 18 m .

## CCTV WITH VIDICON CAMERA

REF: P700 PRICE : 2299.00 A complete ready to use survelllance system. consisting orvidicon
Camera with mounting bracket. $10^{\circ}$ monitor and 18 m of connecting lead. The monitor has 2-way audio faclity and provision for upto four cameras plus video recorgder. A camera weatherproof housing is avallable for outdoor use.

| Camera |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Tube: | S4097 $2 / 3^{-}$ |
| Vidican |  |
| Bandwidth: | 8 mHz |
| Resolution: | 600 lines |
| S/N ratio: | 46 dB FET input |
| DC supply: | 15 V from montor |
| Dims: | $15 \times 53 \times 175 \mathrm{~mm}$ |
| Weight: | 0.66 kg |
| Monitor |  |
| Tube: | 10dia $90^{\circ}$ defection angle |
| Resolution: | More than 800 |
|  | lines |
| VIdeo in/out: | IV P-P neg sync. |
| System: | OCIR standard |
| Channel Switehing:s-15 seconds adj |  |
| Dims: | $220 \times 237 \times 247 \mathrm{~mm}$ |
| Weight: | 6.5 kg |

VIDICON CAMERA
REF: P710 PRICE : 2149.00
Standard camera for use with the VSS70 system. Buft-in
microphone and 16 mm lens.
Supplied with camera stand and
18 m connecting lead.

| Tube: | S4097 $2 / 3^{\circ}$ <br> Vidicon |
| :---: | :---: |
| Bandwidth: | 8 MHz |
| Resolution: | 600 lines mtn |
| Video Out put: | TVp-p 75ohm. sync. negative |
| Lens Mount: | Standard ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ mount |
| Camera Mount: | $1 / 4 \text {-20UNC }$ <br> (bottom) |
| Dims: | $115 \times 58 \times 175$ |



## UFEF/VHE /FM AERIAL



## WITH AMP

REF : T143D PRICE : 219.95 This unit is a large mesh dish antenna designed for dual purpose use. in the home using 220 / 240 Vac or moblle using 12 Vdc . The antenna dish can be rotated left or right to pick up best stgaal which can be boosted usting the built to amp. The amp can also be used to boost the signal from an external aerial with integral LEDS indicating which aerial is in use. Gain: $\quad 20 \mathrm{~dB}$ VHF

36dB UHF
Gain controt: 0.36 dB
Max output level: 100 dBu
Power: $220 / 240 \mathrm{Vac}$
12 Vdc
Dims: $\quad 330 \times 290 \times 110 \mathrm{~mm}$




## SATELLITE FINDER

## (llmitted stock)

A simple to use tone satellite finder enabling accurate pinpotnting of those elusive satellites!! Full Instructions, compass and headphones supplied together with satellite location map. PRICE: 810.99 REF: X11P1

## FERGUSON SRB1 <br> REMOTE CONTROLS

Satellite recelver remote controls. Brand new ideal as a spare or we believe you can adapt them for Philips etc.

REF : Q4P2 PRICE : 54.00 EACH REF: Q15P2 PRICE: $£ 15.00$ PKT5

## SATELLITE CABLE

This cable is probably used for mainly internal work. Printed on the cable is PKI CATVDROP CABLE. It measures approx 4 mm in diameter and is fonished in white. Standard coax construction.
REF: V14PI PRICE: $\mathbf{2} 14.00$

INFRA RED REMOTE CONTROLS
Brand new units made for controlling satellite equipment. Remember these have an Ifra rec LED plus keyboard plus control electronics.Ideal for experiments

$$
\begin{gathered}
\text { REP: R1P1 } \\
\text { PRICE : } 81.00
\end{gathered}
$$

ACTIVE AERIAL COMBINERS We believe that these units were made to plug th the back of your VCR or TV and combtne two incoming signals?? They are fitted with two UHF sockets and one UHF plug. They are tunable inside.
REF: TIPB PRICE : $\mathbf{2 1 . 0 0 ( P K T 2 )}$

|  |  |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | TELEPHONE HANDSET <br> REF : K8P1 PRICE : $\mathbf{2 8 . 0 0}$ <br> Compact one piece push button telephone handset. BT approved and easy to install. <br> Features: <br> - Last Number redial <br> - Push Button keypad <br> - Wall or table mount <br> - Modular plug system <br> - LED ring indication |
| $85$ | EXTENSION KITS <br> REF : P205 PRICE : 25.99 <br> Extension kit containing cable connected to double adaptor, one compact socket and cable clips. Length: 15 m |

## A RANGE OF NOVELTY TELEPHONES

We now have as a standard stock line a range of very high quallty novelty telephones. Ideal as an unusual christmas/ birthday present or just to brighten up your home/omice environment as a talking point! Bright attractive colours, sturdy constructions, the all have the following features:

* Tone/Pulse Switch
* Integral receiver
- Integral microphone
* Push button dialling
* Last number Redial
* Reset button
(Not approved)

FRENCH FRIES
REF: NT1 PRICE: $\$ 17.99$


PIZZA
REF: NT2 PRICE: 817.89


BANNANA
REF: NTB PRICE: $\$ 17.99$


PUPPY PHONE
REF: NT11 PRICE: $\mathbf{2 1 7 . 9 9}$


## AMAZING ANSWERPHONE BARGAIN

FAMOUSE BRAND RESPONSE 200 \& 400 MODELS
Refurbished tested working, guaranteed. Offered at less than half the original retail price.
EACH UNIT IS SUPPLIED WITH: ** Micro Cassette
** Power Supply
** User details

RESPONSE 200
The Response 200 Unit has the following features:
Answering machine with telephone:

- Micro Cassette
-Call screening/call count
- Memo facility
- Remote facility
- Answer only option
- 2 way conversation record
- 13 memories
- Last number re-dial
- Variable ringer volume
- BT Network services
- PABX Compatible
- Mute fecility
- Ren 1.0.


## RESPONSE 400

The Response 400 Unit has the following features:
Answering machine with telephone:

- Micro Cassette
- Call screening/call count
- Memo facility
- Remote facility
- Answer only option
- 2 way conversation record
- 20 memories
- Last number re-dial
- Variable ringer volume
- On hook dialling
- Hands free speech
- BT Network services
- PABX Compatible
- Mute facility
- LCD Display with clock timer
- Ren 1.0.

REF : Y36P1
PRICE : $\{35.99$

REF : Y50P2
PRICE : £49.99

## TONE DIALLER

A remarkably small sized gadget the Touchtone Dialler can provide most pulse dialling photes with a tone facility and all the advantages that go with it. i.e. speede up and eases dialting, remote interrogation of answerphones, in fact almost all computer based services.

REF YSP4
PRICE: $£ 5.00$

## CUSTOMER RETURNED ANSWERPHONES

We also have available Answerphones suitable for the home projects enthusiast. Specification is exactly as described above for the Response 200 and 400 Units, but these units have been "returned" by retail outlets as having faults. Each telephone has two specific known faults, one we tell you how to fix and supply you with the components to do it, including circuit diagram, the other is labelled on the unit. All units are unique in that each fault is different - basically POT LUCK! No power supply, cassette or user details supplied with this purchase.
RESPONSE 200CR REF: Y18P1 PRICE: $£ 18.00$
RESPONSE 400CR REF: Y28P1 PRICE: $£ 28.00$

## TELEPHONE ACCESSORIES

100M REEL WHITE 6 CORE CABLE .......... EACH 14.0014 P11 3M LEADS NEW STYLE PLUG BLACK PKT2 1.00 BD639 3M LEADS NEW STYLE PLUG WHITE ....... EACH 1.00 BD705 5M NEW STYLE EXTENSION LEAD ............ EACH 3.003 3P70 PLASTIC CLEAR CENTRE DIAL DISC (746) PKT10 5.00 5P401 BAKERLITE DIAPHRAM EARPIECES PKT10 5.00 BD484 TELEPHONE HEARING AMPLIFIER EACH 5.00 5P402
amplifics volume on earplece

## PHONE BOX PANEL

BT approved. Made to retail at $\& 79$. You can now be the proud owner of a Talking Coin Box Panel. This panel should enable you to convert your phone into a pay phone, taking $£ 1$ or 50 p coins it also takes the old 10 p so a slight modification is needed here. You will need to make a secure base. Even as a stripper unit this panel will provide loads of useful components including a speech chip, speaker, BT lead, $4 \times \mathrm{C}$ size battery holder, plus many components. We do not offer these units as tested and working but in almost all cases they do function perfectly. Even at this extremely low price we provide a small user manual which would enable programming and using the unit.
Price : $\$ 5.00$





## AgUARIUM

## THERMOMETER

REF : Y137P PRICE : 87.95 A dual sensor dygital thermometer designed for comparatuve measurements between water and room temperature. The external sensor can be attached to the glass within the tank with the sucker provided. The internal sensormeasures room tem perature. The thermometer can be attached to the aquartum with the strips provided.
Temp range: -50 to $\$ 70^{\circ 0 \mathrm{C}}$
Power: $\quad$ POOOH button cell
Resolution: 0.10 C
Dims: $\quad 59 \times 40 \times 14 \mathrm{~mm}$

## DIGITAL THERMOMETER/

 CLOCKREF : Y1379 PRICE : $\mathbf{2 7 . 9 5}$
A dual sensor digital thermometer for comparative temperature meas. urement. for example inside/outstde measurement. The thermometer will display temperature $\operatorname{tn}{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ or ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$. and includes a digital clock. The remote sensor can be mounted up to 3 m away from the unit. The backut LCD display makes it ideal for in-car use. Battery supplied. Temp range: .50 to $+70^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$
Power $\quad 1 \times$ AA battery
Dims: $\quad 107 \times 25 \times 13 \mathrm{~mm}$

## *3.1328



## COUNTDOWN TIMER

REF : Y137S PRICE : $\mathbf{8 4 . 9 9}$ Simple to use clectronic countdown timer with 19 hours. 59 mins countdown capability. The internal alarm sounds when the set period has timed out. Hundreds of applicatuons from process control to the kitchen. Free standing, spring cllp and magnetic mounting.
Timing Period: 19 hours 59 mins Poer: poo9H button cells Dims: $62 \times 50 \times 11 \mathrm{~mm}$

## COUNTDOWN TLMER

REF : Y 187 T PRICE : 85.99
Large digit electronic countdown timer with 19 hours. 59 minutes countdown capablity. The internal alarm sounds when the set period has timed out. 19 mm LCD display. Hundreds of applicattons from process control to the kitchen. Spring clip of magnetic mounting
Timing Period: 19 hours 59 mins ( I at supplited) (not supplied)
$90 \times 60 \times 21 \mathrm{~mm}$
Dims:
$90 \times 60 \times 21 \mathrm{~mm}$


2-CHANNEL DIGITAL

## CLOCK

REF: Y137N PRICE : 29.95 Large LCD digtal alarm clock with two independant alarm functuons. The LCD displays time, day and date and alarm status. Compact and easy to use. Battertes included.
Power: $\quad 2 \times \mathrm{AMA}$ batts
Dtms: $\quad 68 \times 102 \times 27 \mathrm{~mm}$


## digital clock

REF : Y137W PRICE : 89.95 Large LCD digtal alarm clock with snooze control and LCD thuminating Hight. The snooze control stlences the alarm for 7 minutes before resounding it. Compact and easy to use. Batteries included. Power. $2 \times$ AAA batterles Dtms: $\quad 95 \times 65 \times 68 \mathrm{~mm}$


DIGITAL CLOCK/TIMER
REF : Y137U PRICE : 28.98
Free standing digital clock with bult-in timer. The umer functhons intually as a countdown timer, counting down from up to 23 hours 59 minutes and then sounding the alarm. Immediately the alarm sounds the timer switches to count-up mode, indicating the period since the alarm sounded. A seperate count-up timer function is provided for general timing. Battery provided.
power: $1 \times$ AAA battery Dims: $\quad 87 \times 82 \times 45 \mathrm{~mm}$
Dus

## HAND LANTERN

REF : L122H PRICE : $\boldsymbol{2 5} .98$ High powered hand lantern with focused beam. Body moulded in one plece and fitted with seal to make the lantern weatherproof. Dims: $\quad 190 \times 125 \times 120 \mathrm{~mm}$ Power: $\quad 4 \times D$ cells or PJ996 battery

## RUBBER TORCHES

Ramge os all moulded waterproof rubber torches with high tintensty krypton bulbs. All black with bright yellow seal and wrist cord toggle

REF : L122 $2 \times$ AA BATS PRICE : $\mathbf{8 3 . 0 0}$ REF : L122A $2 \times$ D BATS PRICE : 24.00 REF : L122B $3 \times$ D BATS PRICE : 85.00


## ALUMINIUM TORCFES

High quality turned aluminium waterproof torches with adjustable focus beam. from spot to flood light. Finished in satin black anodising. Supplied with high intensitykrypton bulb. spare butb and lanyard ring.

REF : L122F 2xD BATTS PRICE: 216.00 REF : L122G 3XD BATTS PRICE : $\mathbf{2} 20.00$

|  | KRYPTON BULBS |
| :--- | :--- |
|  | High light intensity krypton bulbs. |
|  | Supplied Pkt 2. |

2.4V 700mA REF : F019GL PRICE : 22.00 3.6V 700mA REF : FO18GM PRICE : $\mathbf{2 2 . 0 0}$
4.8 V 750 mA REF : FO18GN PRICE: 22.00


## ALUMINIUM TORCHES

A range of high quality turned alumintum water proof torches in presentation cases. Beam can be focused from wide angle to narrow beam. Batteries included. IXAAA Cell with keychain

IXAAA CELL WITH KEYCHAN
REF: L122D PRICE : 86.00
BULB ...................................... REF : FOIBGX PRICE : $\mathbf{8 1} .0$
1xAMA CELL WITH WHISTLE REF : L122C PRICE : 25.98
BULB.. REF : FO18GY PRICE : $£ 1.00$
2XAA CELL ...................................... REF : L122E PRICE: 87.99
BULB ................................................ REF : FO18GZ PRICE : 21.00

| 174*SForamuke |  | T** |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| MAINS TRANSFORMERS |  | BC108 .................................... PKT6 £ | £1.00 | BD911 |
| 6 V 1 A UPRIGHT MOUNTING ............. PKT2 | $81.00 \text { BD9 }$ | BC109 ....................................................... | 81.00 | BD912 |
| 12-0-12V 4.2V A PCB MOUNTING ...... EACH | 21.00 BD636 | BC182L .................................................... | 81.00 | BD921 |
| 20-0-20V 2.5A UPRIGHT MOUNT ....... EACH | £4.00 4P24 | BC184L ...................................... PKT10 \& | 21.00 | BD923 |
| 50 V 2 A PLUS 6.3 V UPRIGHT MOUNT . EACH | £3.00 3P10 | BC212L .................................... PKT10 \& | 21.00 | BD924 |
| 250-0-250V 60mA PLUS 6.3V @ 5A.... EACH | 24.004 P 41 | BC238B............................................................ | 21.00 | BD927 |
| TORODIAL TRANSFORMERS |  | BC337 .............................................. PK. PKT10 £ | £1.00 | BD928 |
| These transformers are of extremely high quality - type tested to 4 KV . High power density for size, low magnetic Interference. All primary windings rated at $220 / 240 \mathrm{Vac}$. Supplied with fixing kut. |  | BFY51 ...................................... PKT3 £ | £1.00 | BD933 |
|  |  | BU208 ..................................... EACH $£$ | 81.00 | 2P298 |
|  |  | J2955 ..................................... PRT2 £ | 22.00 | 2P299 |
|  |  | MJE3055 ................................... PKT2 £ | 52.00 | 2 P 300 |
| 30VA 0-6,0-6 $70 \times 30 \mathrm{~mm}$................ EACH | 85.99 PO 42 | TIP29A ....................................... PKT6 | 22.00 | 2P301 |
| 30VA 0-12,0-12 70x 30 mm ................ EACH | 25.99 PO42A | TIP30A ................................... PKT6 $£$ | £2.00 | 2 P 302 |
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> ** High Current Smoothing Circuits
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and the mounting holes, and mark them on the lid. Make the holes for these and, using thin nylon bolts, mount the circuit panel temporarily in position. In the prototype unit it was found that no spacers were needed on the bolt shanks because the presets and capacitors on the board provided the right amount of clearance so that the face of the display ended flush with the case. However, use some plastic spacers if necessary. Remove the circuit panel again - this is necessary so that the other holes may be drilled safely and also to enable adjustments to the presets to be made later

Drill the hole in the lid for rotary switch S1 and for the small bolts which will be used for the buzz-test wires - more will be said about this later. Drill two holes in the side of the box for the 4 mm voltmeter sockets. Drill the holes in the side for fuse holder F1 and in the base for the PP3 battery holder.


Fig. 5 PIN Sagram of ZD1 tooking at flat of body Drill a few small holes above BUZ1 position for the sound to pass through. Mount all components but not the circuit panel and, referring to Figure 4, and complete all internal connections shortening any wires as necessary. Note that S 1 is shown disproportionately large for clarity. The numbers and letters are conventional and found inscribed on most switches of this type. On completion, the use of small cable ties will. tidy up the wiring by grouping it into neat bundles.

In the prototype unit, the buzz-test connections were made using two small nuts and bolts, each with a solder tag inside and outside the box. The extemal solder tags are used to connect short test leads. This method has the advantage that the leads can be bent to make contact with a wide variety of lamps, fuses, etc. Also, they are easily replaced when they eventually break. In the prototype, 22 swg tinned copper wire was used, but cut-off pieces of paper clip or resistor ends would probably serve just as well. A length of one inch $(25 \mathrm{~mm})$ will be found convenient. A little heat-shrinkable sleeving used on the soldered ends is cosmetic, but makes the device look more professional.

## Adjustments

The best way to set up the 'voltmeter' is to use a variable voltage power supply unit and a conventional voltmeter. If this equipment is not available, you will have to make do with a 12 V battery - say a 9 V battery connected In series with two 1.5 V cells. In the absence of a voltmeter, you will have to assume that the batteries have their nominal voltage. Make up a pair of leads for the voltmeter terminals. These will have 4 mm plugs on one end and possibly small crocodile clips on the other. It would also be possible to use standard 4 mm test meter probes. To some extent, the design and length will depend on the anticlpated use.

If a variable output mains-operated power supply is being used, connect it to the voltmeter sockets, observing the polarty. Begin at zero and gradually increase the voltage. The first bar of the display should light at about 9 V . Continue to increase the voltage and note that the segments light one by one. Adjust RV3 so that the last one comes on at 14V. Do not exceed 15 V at any time. Note that there is a slight overlap built into IC2 operation so it is possible for two bars to light at the same time.

If you ane using a 12 V battery, connect it to the voltmeter terminais and adjust RV3 so that the 6th or 7th segment lights up. If the true voltage can be checked with a voltmeter so much the better. Note that when RV3 is adjusted for the required high point, this will alter the low point slightly. However, there should
be no problem in adjusting it to a suitable compromise position. At this stage it would be a good idea to make a rough voltage scale. Do not aim for high accuracy here - the prototype covered $9-14 \mathrm{~V}$ in a slightly non-linear way.

## Buzz tests

Connect BATT1 and switch S1 to low. Hold the 10W test resistor onto the test points and adjust RV2 until the buzzer sounds. It could be arranged to operate at any resistance below about 50 W by using the appropriate test resistor.

The high resistance buzz-test is similarly adjusted using, say, a 22 kW resistor in the test position. Set Si to high and adjust RV1 until the buzzer sounds. The resistance of most car ignition leads is around 5 kW per foot $(30 \mathrm{~cm})$ of length and adjustment to $20-30 \mathrm{~kW}$ will be found to work well in practice.

It only remains to fit the circuit panel into position and make permanent labels for the voltmeter scale and switch. Fit the lid, checking carefully for trapped wires. Stick plastic feet on the bottom of the case if necessary. Note that very low-power 12 V buib filaments and most mains lamps have a cold resistance higher than 10W. When checking such lamps use the highresistance buzz-test. Remember, after using the buzz-test, to switch the unit off or the battery will soon be drained.

|  | RESISTORS |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| \% | R1 | 4 k 7 |
| , | R2 | 180R |
| - | R3 | 220R |
| 0 | R4 | 100R |
| r | R5,6 | 47k |
| \% | R7 | 1M |
| - | R8,9 | 100k |
|  | R10 | 18k |
|  | R11 | 10k |
|  | R12 | 470R |
|  | R13 | 22k |
|  | R14 | 1k |
|  | RV1 | 47k |
|  | RV2 | 470R |
|  | RV3 | 22k |

Additional 10 W and 22 kW resistors required for testing purposes - see text.

## CAPACITORS

## C1,3 $220 \mu \mathrm{~F} 16 \mathrm{VW}$

C2 100 n

## SEMICONDUCTORS

D1 1N4001
ZD1 TL430 adjustable Zener diode
IC1 CA3140E
IC2 LM3914 bar graph driver
IC3 10 segment red bar graph display

## MISCELLANEOUS

S1 3-position 4-pole rotary switch break-before-make action.
BUZ1 PCB mounting solid-state buzzer 3-24V operation. 23 mm diameter
F1 $\quad 250 \mathrm{~mA} 20 \mathrm{~mm}$ fuse and chassis fuseholder
BATT1 PP3 battery, connector and holder
Plastic box $118 \times 98 \times 48 \mathrm{~mm}$ external 8 -pin dil socket, 18 -pin dil socket, 20 pin dil śocket. 4 mm sockets
Solder tags - 4 off.
Small nuts and bolts.

Andrew Armstrong helps solve an ETI reader's fishy problem

We had an interesting query recently from an ETI reader in Germany. The reader, Andrew Mathison of EchzellBisses, is interested in angling as well as in electronics, and would like to build a fish-bite detector. He owns one at present, which he thinks is too costly, so instead of buying a second one, he wants to build one for himself.

His present detector uses an idler-wheel with magnets fitted around it close to the rim, as shown in Figure 1. A reed switch is mounted so that the magnets can activate it as they pass. Because a number of magnets are fitted to the wheel, only a small movement of the fishing line is needed to make the reed switch operate. The magnets need to be light and numerous for the best performance.

He goes on to say that his commercial bite detector uses a 4538 chip and that, when a bite is detected, there Is a 0.5 second bleep generated by a Piezo sounder. A light-emitting dlode is switched on for between 10 and 15 seconds, as well, in order to show which detector (if several are in use) has detected a bite.


Fig. 1: Sensor wheel
Not one to leave anything to chance, Andrew wishes to add a further refinement: the ability to choose the frequency of the tone, so as to identify which bite detector has operated audibly, as well as visually.

According to my data book, the 4538 is a dual-precision CMOS monostable, which would seem the obvious chip to use for this kind of job. It can be triggered either by a negative-going clock edge on the B input, or a positive-going edge on the A input. There is no upper limit on the output time duration, except that imposed by practical capacitor and resistor values, so a 10 second time period is easily obtainable.

Figure 2 shows a suitable design employing the 4538. No on-off switch is shown in this design, because the quiescent current consumption is so low that the switch is unnecessary. The circuit is shown as being powered from a 5 V supply, but this type of CMOS chip will work over a voltage range of 3 to 18 V , so in practice a set of four AA-size batteries in series will form a suitable power supply, giving 6 V when the batteries are
new.
When the wheel tums and the reed switch closes, both monostables are triggered. The first monostable has a timeconstant, given by R2 and C2, of 10.34 seconds. One of the design features of the 4538 is that its output time period is equal to the RC time constant.

The LED is driven directly by the output of the first monostable, with a current-limiting resistor to save components. A low-current LED, which gives a good brightness with a current of around 3 mA , should be used. The Hewlett-Packard HLMPK 150 is particularly suitable for this job. If this is not bright enough, or if a low-current LED is not available, then a small mosfet should be used to drive a higher-current LED. One example of a suitable mosfet would be the VN10.

The second monostable has a time-constant of 470 milliseconds and its output drives one of the gate inputs of a conventional CMOS oscillator. The frequency of this oscillator may conveniently be chosen by selecting a suitable value for R6, the approximate output frequency being given by $1 /\left(2.2^{*} R^{*} C\right)$. The output from the oscillator is fed via a capacitor with ableed resistor to OV, to avoid applying DC to the Piezo-electric sounder. Most Piezo-electric sounders have a specific resonant frequency and the oscillator frequency should be chosen to match this. Maplin stocks transducers, resonant at $1.8 \mathrm{kHz}, 2.8$ kHz and 4.2 kHz , as well as stocking one which can operate, though with lower efficiency, over the range 750 Hz to 20 kHz . This particular range of sounders is not encased, and should be mounted on a suitable surface to act as a sounding board.

An altemative sounder output is provided in case a higher volume is required, or for use on lower voltages. This operates symmetrically, so DC blocking is not required. The apparently complicated gating arrangement is used to lock the output to logic 0 rather than logic 1, when the sounder is not activated, to avoid placing a continuous DC voltage across it.

This fish-bite detector will cost a lot less than the $£ 40-£ 100$ which they apparently cost in Germany. It does use high impedances, in order to keep current consumption low and to allow practical-sized timing capacitors, so care must be taken to house it so that water ingress is prevented. Because it is to be used beside a river and could be dropped into the water, it is probably best to encapsulate the circuit board once everything is working. In my experience, some epoxy encapsulants can slowly absorb water, interfering with the operation of high impedance circuitry. I therefore recommend a two-part silicone rubber encapsulant or, if this is not obtainable, a thick layer of spray-on conformal coating.

This is a simple unit which should present few problems and, to my mind, the only difficult part is the mechanical bit. Do remember, however, that in order to obtain good reliability and low current consumption, anti-static handling procedures must be observed with the CMOS chip. As I have dlscovered, CMOS has a static damage mode in which quiescent current consumption is increased, but the chip works, perhaps for months, before failing.

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# Microprocessor Fundamentals Part 2 

Most simple eight bit microprocessors, such as the 6502 and the Z-80, have sixteen address lines and eight data lines, the so called address and data buses. The processor uses the address lines to select memory locations, and with a binary output on sixteen address lines it can select any one of up to 216 or 65,536 unique memory locations. Once a memory location has been selected, data can be read from it, or written to it, using the eight bit wide data bus.

These memory locations could be read only memory, ROM, or read/write memory, RAM, the type of memory depending on whether it is used for the permanent storage of a program or the temporary storage of data or program code. I have used the word memory location, but such a location does not have to be within a memory chip, it could equally well be a register or an input/output port, a register being a memory location that is used to transfer data between the processor and some other circuit, and an I/O port being a means of allowing the processor to communicate with external devices, such as keyboards, etc. To the processor, registers and I/O ports look and behave exactly like ordinary memory locations.

## The memory map

The sixteen address lines of a common 8 bit microprocessor allow us to access 65,536 memory locations. This is referred to as the processor's address space. Some processors, like the 6502 have just a single address space in which all memory and input/output registers are located, while other processors like the Intel 8080 family separate the address space for memory from the address space for V/O, a feature which allows such processors to have speclal I/O instructions.

If we are using a processor in which ordinary memory and I/O reside within the same address space, then we need

> Last month we looked at some of the control circuitry needed to implement a simple microprocessor system. In this issue we are looking at the main data and address buses, and how memory is mapped


Fig. 1 Memory map for simple 6502 based system
to define certain areas of the address space for I/O ports, other areas for ROM memory and other areas for RAM memory. This mapping out of specific areas for specific functions within the overall processor address space is referred to as the memory map and its creation is one of the primary tasks in designing any processor based system. A memory map is equally important in systems where there is a separate memory address space and an I/O address space, it is simply a little more
complex.
Every system will have to have some code resident on ROM, as without such code it, would be virtually impossible to load a program into RAM memory and then run it. This minimal code Is often referred to as the kemel and has the function of initlalising the processor registers and any I/O registers. The kernel program will then either jump to the main program, which is also stored in ROM, or will attempt to get data from an external device, such as a keyboard or a serial port. Data which it will store in RAM and which may constitute the code for the main program.

Whereas all systems will have some ROM memory, it is possible for a system to function with no RAM memory. Indeed, many control applications can get by with simply using the processor's internal registers for data storage. As far as $\mathrm{I} / \mathrm{O}$ is concerned, a system could function perfectly well without data input from, or output to, the external world, but such a system would be somewhat pointless since it would not do anything. All practical systems will, therefore, have some memory locations dedicated to use by I/O registers.

When the processor powers up, or is reset, it automatically sets the program counter to a memory address which is stored in a specific location in memory, called the Reset Vector. This is the starting address of the kemel program. It is one of a number of vectors and others specify starting addresses of routines which handle hardware interrupts, etc. All these vector addresses are stored in ROM memory.

The memory address which is stored in the Reset Vector, is the starting address of the kernel program, also stored in ROM memory, and it thus makes sense to reserve memory locations around the vector addresses (usually the top half a dozen memory locations in the memory map) for ROM memory. A common memory map


Fig. 2 8K Block decode circuit

## Address decoding

Armed with the memory map, a system designer can now tum to the decoding circuitry which will ensure that the address bus will access the correct type of memory at the locations designated on the memory map.

For the simple design outlined above, we have three components which need to be attached to the address and data bus, a ROM chip (probably an EPROM), a RAM chip and the 6522VIA I/O chip. For the ROM chip,
arrangement is to allocate the top 8 or 16 Kb of address space to ROM memory.

As far as RAM memory is concemed, the system may not need any. However, if RAM memory is needed then, it is best located at the bottom of the memory address space. This is because many processors make use of a series of read/write memory locations called a stack and most of them locate this stack in the bottom part of memory. The stack is a special area of memory used to put temporary variables and has its own special processor register, the stack pointer. The stack makes programming a lot easier and allows us to use subroutines.

All we are now left with is the location of the I/O registers. These can be placed anywhere in the unused address space beneath the area allocated to ROM memory and above the area allocated to RAM memory. When choosing the location of I/O registers, it is wise to use memory locations which start at one that is easily decoded, such as location 4000 hex. Many I/O devices will use several registers, but it is only the first register which needs to be decoded.

So, if we are designing a simple microprocessor system, we can now lay out a memory map. The proposed system is based on the 6502 and it has 8 Kb of ROM memory. 2 Kb of RAM memory and a single 6522 VIA chip for I/O. This uses sixteen memory locations starting at location 4000hex, and the memory map for this system is shown in Figure 1. More complex designs will, of course, have more complex memory maps.
we could use a 2764 EPROM which is organised as $8 \mathrm{~K} \times 8$ bit words, and for the RAM memory a 6116 static RAM which is organised as $2 \mathrm{~K} \times 8$ bit words. In simple designs, static RAM is preferable to dynamic RAM, since it requires
three chips would occupy memory locations that overlapped in the address space with that occupied by the other two. The result would be a chaotic system full of erroneous data.

We need to separate the three memory chips so that each occupies its own unique portion of the address space and, to do this, we need an address decoding circuit. For a simple system like this, we can use an address decoding circuit which divides the memory address space into eight 8 K blocks. Then we can put our ROM into the top 8 K block, the RAM into the bottom and the I/O into the third block up from the bottom.

We can do this address decoding by using the top three address lines from the processor, A13-A15, and feeding them into a decoder chip, such as a 74138. The eight outputs from this decoder chip can then be used to generate the appropriate chip select for our three memory and I/O chips. This decoding circuit is shown in Figure 2.

We can see how this circuit allocates blocks of the memory address space, in

Fig. 3 Cascaded decoding to 1 K blocks
no refresh circuitry.
On all three chips, the data lines are connected directly to the data bus and the address lines to the corresponding lines on the address bus. In the case of the ROM chip, AO-A12, for the RAM chip, AO-A9 and for the VIA, AO-A3. If they were left like this, then each of the
the memory map used in Figure 1, to the different components in table A .
The unused chip selects could be used to add extra ROM, RAM or I/O to the system. By and large, decoding the memory space into 8 Kb blocks should be adequate for most applications, but where a lot of I/O is used, it may be

first things to look at are the two control lines from the processor, RW and IRQ(or NMI). The R/W line determines whether the memory location specified on the address bus is being read by the processor, or written to by the processor. For ROM memory, this line is not needed since one can only read it, but for both RAM and I/O it is essential and should be connected to the appropriate line.

The IRQ and NMI lines are used by I/O circuitry to generate processor interrupts. The difference between the two is that software can be used to disable the IRQ interrupt, but an NMI interrupt will take priority over all other operations, including an IRQ interrupt. When either of these interrupt signals is generated, the processor will halt its current operation, and jump to a piece of code, which has a beginning address specified in the appropriate vector at the top of the memory address space. One of these two interrupt control lines should be connected to the appropriate interrupt output from the I/O chip.

We now have all the components connected together for a simple microprocessor system, shown in Figure 4. Larger systems will, of course, be a lot more complex. Thus, for example, if a lot of ICs are connected to the data and address buses, it may well be necessary to incorporate bus drivers in the design to increase the drive capability of the bus lines. Other types of V/O will bring with them their own complexity. However, the fundamental design of any microprocessor system is the same and will vary but little from that in Figure 4.

Alex Stewart
necessary to further decode a single block. This is simply done with the aid of another 74138, as shown in Figure 3, which breaks one of the 8 K address space blocks into eight 1 Kb blocks.

## Putting it all together

Using the memory map in Figure 1, we have now developed a very simple
processor design using the 6502. The system has 8 K of ROM, 2 K of RAM, two 8 bit bi-directional I/O ports, a 16 bit timer and a serial I/O line. A system which is adequate for a wide range of control functions, and as the basis for many projects.

However, we first of all need to bring all the bits of the design together. The

## Next month

We will be looking at the basic control software for this simple system and taking a further look at V/O circuitry. Elsewhere in ETl, we will be including a project to build an ultra small Z-80 processor, ideal for incorporating into a wide range of projects.

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# Bicycle Alarm <br> Don't let your bike be stolen - fit Alan Bradley's compact alarm unit. 



Fig.1: CIrcuit Diagram

Bicycles are an easy target for any thief, and cyclists find thernselves increasingly encumbered with chains and padlocks to try and counter this constant threat. But even chaining your bicycle to a lamppost or some railings may not be enough to deter the skilful thief armed with a few tools. He may not steal the whole bike, but he might steal parts of itl

attempting to break the lock or carry the bike to a van will, after a short delay, cause the sounder to operate for approximately 25 seconds. The alarm will then re-arm, ready to be triggered again. Continuous vibration will operate the alarm continuously.

Immediately after the alarm has been switched on there is a 'turn-on' delay of about 21 seconds, before it will respond to vibration to allow the owner time to remove the key and close the pocket.

A turn-off delay has also been provided. The sounder will not operate for approximately 7 seconds after a detected vibration to allow the owner time to disarm the alarm.

The alarm has a low quiescent current of $135 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ and only uses 15 mA when the sounder is operating. The alkaline PP3 battery should therefore have a very long life.

## How it works

The heart of the circuit is IC1, a TS555CN CMOS low power timer IC configured as a monostable.

When in the armed state, IC1's trigger input is normally held high by resistor R1. When the alarm is knocked, the vibration detector (S2) will close, pulling IC1's trigger input low. The output of IC1 (pin 3) now goes high for a period of 1.1R2C2 ( 32 seconds in this case).

The output of IC1 is followed by the R5C4 delay circuit. This provides approximately a 7 second delay, before the sounder operates. IC2 is an HCF40107BE CMOS dual NAND gate with 'open drain' outputs. It is used as a high input impedance buffer following the tum-on and turn-off CR delays.

## Reset (Turn-on) CR Delay and Buffer

One half of IC2 is used as an inverting buffer between the C3R4 turn-on delay and IC1's Reset pin. The CMOS buffer will change state at approximately $1 / 2 \mathrm{Vcc}$, as opposed to the TS555CN's Reset pin which views 0.7 V and above as High. The use of the buffer therefore requires a smaller C3R4 product and allows the use of a smaller and cheaper capacitor. R3 is a pull up resistor for the buffer's open drain output stage. This
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inverting buffer and C3R4 delay holds IC1's Reset pin (and hence its output pin) low for approximately 21 seconds after the alarm is switched on.

## Sounder (Turn-off) CR delay and buffer

The other half of IC2 is used as a non inverting buffer. Its MOSFET output transistor can sink 32 mA at 5 V and 74 mA at 10 V , so can therefore be used as a follower to drive the sounder.
WD1 is a high output Piezo sounder with built-in drive circuitry. At 9 V it uses approximately 15 mA . C5 is a power supply decoupling capacitor.

## Calculating the buffered CR Delays

Assuming the buffer changes state at approximately $1 / 2 \mathrm{Vcc}$ then

Delay $=0.7 \mathrm{CR}$ (approximately)


Fig.2: Component Overray Diagram

## Reset (Turn-on) Delay

The length of this delay was not critical, so a $+/-20 \%$ tolerance tantalum capacitor was used. Its leakage current will affect the calculated delay length. A $22 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ capacitor and 1.8 M resistor gave a delay of approximately 21 seconds.

## Sounder (Turn-off') Delay

Since this delay is short it needs to be calculated more accurately, so a polyester capacitor was used because of its $+/-5 \%$ tolerance and low leakage. A combination of $1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ capacitor and 8 M 2 resistor gave a 7 second delay. The PCB can accept a tantalum capacitor if a much longer delay is required.

As there may be some variation in the threshold voltage between different 40107BE ICs, several values of R5 may need to be tried. However, I got the same delays from two different 40107 BE ICs.

## Construction

Fit the components as shown in the component overlay diagram, Figure 2. Both ICs are fitted in sockets. IC2 is static sensitive so the usual handling precautions apply.

Vibration detector S 2 is supplied with a single thick pin which is fitted to the PCB pad as shown. Its other connection is made by soldering a link between the PCB pad and S2's case. The case layout is shown in the accompanying photograph. The PCB is mounted on a $1 / 4 \mathrm{in}$ M3 spacer. The sounder is also attached using M3 mounting bolts. A grill is made as shown in the photograph and the key switch is mounted in a 19.9 mm diameter hole drilled in the case. The PP3 battery holder is attached using Quickstick pads.

## Testing

First fit the battery and test that the unit's quiescent current is
approximately $135 \mu \mathrm{~A}$. An initial slow surge to several mA (due to 40107 BE Reset buffer's slowly changing inputs) will occur before slowly falling to a steady $135 \mu \mathrm{~A}$. If all is well the operation of the alarm can now be tested.

Tum the key to switch the alarm circuit on. and shake the alarm until the sounder is operated. The time between switchon and sounding is the Reset (tum-on) delay ( 21 seconds) followed by the sounder (tum-off) delay ( 7 seconds). The sounder should now operate for ((1.1R2C2 seconds - (tum-off delay)) $=25$ seconds.

The sounder (tum-off) delay can be calculated by switching the alarm on, waiting for the Reset (tum-on) delay to elapse, then triggering the alarm by knocking it and measuring the delay before the sounder operates.

The alarm should use approximately 15 mA when the sounder is operated.


## SEMICONDUCTORS

IC1 TS555CN
IC2 HCF40107BE
RESISTORS
R1. 100 K
R2 1M2
R3 100K
R4 1M8
R5 $\quad 8 \mathrm{M} 2$ (may need to be increased/decreased)
All $1 \%$ metal film.

## CAPACITORS

C1 10 nF Ceramic ( 5 mm lead pitch)
C2 $22 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ Tantalum
C3 $\quad 22 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ Tantalum
C4 $\quad 1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ Polyester layer
C5 $22 \mu \mathrm{~F} 25 \mathrm{~V}$ Electrolytic

## MISCELLANEOUS

WD1 Maplin High Power Buzzer (FK84F)
S1 Keyswitch
S2 Maplin Vibration Detector (UK57M)
Maplin Box PB1 ( $114 \times 72 \times 38 \mathrm{~mm}$ )
Maplin Recess Plate (HH23A)
Alkaline PP3 battery
PP3 Clip
Maplin PP3 battery holder (CK65V)
Two 8 pin DIL IC sockets
PCB pins
Quickstick pads
Connecting wire
Three 16 mm M3 bolts
Three M3 nuts
One 1/4in M3 spacer

## BUYLINES

All the components for this project are available from Maplin Electronics Ltd.

# PCB Design 



## Easy PC

- asy-PC was one of the first socalled affordable PCB design programs to be marketed and this is very evident when it is compared with more modern programs of similar cost. Although it is capable of performing all the basic functions
outlined in the introductory section, it has a number of awkward characteristics and lacks the polish of other programs.

The screen has three small squares across the top which provide access to the pull-down menus and a short status line at the bottom. A number of the menu options lead to very confusing text screens for setting such things as track and pad sizes.

Only three colours are available for assigning to a possible ten layers even in EGA mode. The colour selected for the silkscreen layers is also used for objects which occur on all layers, which can be confusing.

Symbols are

## Alan Chadwick looks at some PCB design programs for the hobbyist

As a keen electronics enthusiast I enjoy designing and bread-boarding new circuits, but find the task of producing suitable PCB layouts rather tedious. For many years I have made do with nothing more sophisticated than 0.1 in graph paper and a pencil and rubber. PCB design programs have been around for some time but in my case have remained a pipe-dream, due to the lack of a suitable computer and the necessary cash.

However, I recently splashed out on a second-hand PC-XT clone, which meant that a PCB design program became a real possibility, particularly as software prices have been gradually falling over the years. Since my experience of


## Boardmaker 1

Boardmaker 1 follows very similar lines to Easy-PC but with most of the deficiencles mentioned previously removed. It makes good use of the larger EGA colour palette with a choice of six colours for various layers and types of object. A seven-label menu bar runs across the top of the screen with plenty of status information in a single line at the bottom. The text screens are retained, but options are changed via a series of drop-down menus accessible with the mouse.

A list of symbols in the library can easily be called up and selectlons made directly from it. A graphic preview of the chosen symbol is given before the component is placed on the board, which I found very useful. Editing tracks is far easier with a clearer indication of the segment of track being changed and the proposed modified route. There are also many useful extra facilities. One of these is the ability to automatically increment the number part of a component reference. Another highlights the full length of a selected track, which makes checking connections very simple. Ground planes can be quickly produced with a block fill function.

At £95 Boardmaker 1 is very good value.


[^1]computer technology stemmed from the days of the ZX81 it took me a little while to come to terms with DOS, disk drives and databases, but as soon as I felt that I was 'up to speed' I decided to have a look at what was on the market.

## Spoilt for Choice

It immediately became obvious there was a wide range of software available but limiting my budget to around $£ 100$ soon
of the screen is available for PCB display.

A timer is incorporated that periodically bleeps and asks you if you want to back up your work so far.
This is useful if you are in the habit of falling asleep at the keyboard!

Although the price of Easy PC has fallen from $£ 275$ when originally released to $£ 98$, it is still outperformed by some cheaper alternatives.
Supplier: Number One Systems Ltd, Harding Way, St Ives,
Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire, PE17 4WR.
Tel: 048061778
Hardware requirements: IBM PC or compatible, 512 k RAM,
Hercules, CGA, EGA, VGA graphics. Mouse recommended.
Price (excluding VAT and p\&p):
£98
Upgrade? Yes
narrowed the field down to the so-called entry-level programs.

The main feature I was looking for in a program was the ability to easily edit the PCB layout to achieve a high density and the minimum of links, something that is very time consuming with paper and pencil. Of secondary importance was a schematic drawing facility, although many PCB design programs include this at no extra cost. Similarly, I was not particularly interested in anything more than single-sided boards, although most programs seemed to handle up to eight.

Autorouting of PC8 tracks looked like a nice idea at first but it soon became apparent that autorouters were not usually available at the budget end of the market and in any case were often intended for double-sided boards.

I discovered that my choice of program might also be restricted by hardware requirements. Although many low-cost programs will run on a basic PC with possibly only a CGA or monochrome display, the trend in minimum requirements is towards EGA graphics, a mouse and a hard disk. In the end I decided to upgrade my PC from CGA to EGA graphics and install a hard disk drive and I was very satisfied with the benefits.

## Evaluation

Taking account of all the above considerations, the choice was now between the handful of programs. Most of these have been reviewed individually elsewhere, but without a basic knowledge of PCB
design programs the articles were not easy to follow and the fact that the reviews were written by different people made comparisons difficult. I decided that the only answer was to obtain the demonstration disks which are available for most of the programs and make my own comparison. I hope this article will save readers the trouble of doing the same.

Not surprisingly, I found a similar range of functions included in all the programs and the description of these should serve as a good introduction for those readers unfamiliar with PCB design programs. In the section on each program I have only commented on the method of Implementation of the standard functions and highlighted any differences in the facilities available.

Many of the programs I looked at are entry-level versions of more comprehensive packages, which would be worth investigating if your budget can stand it. Altematively if you think you will have spare cash in the future, check whether the basic program can be easily upgraded.

The system requirements for each program are shown in Table 1. All testing was done on an Amstrad 1640 with EGA graphics, Amstrad mouse, 20 Mb hard disk, and an Epson FX-85 9-pin dotmatrix printer.

## The Results

With ail the programs, I found I spent a lot of time zooming and panning in order to view the right area of the board in

## PCB II

CB II again provides a set of functions very similar to the previous two programs but with a far more modern graphical user interface which in many respects is very similar to a GEM environment. There is still a pull-down menu bar across the top of the screen but most of the common functions are selected by pointing and clicking on icons in a tool-box area to the right of the screen. The contents of the tool-box changes depending on the mode of the program.


At the bottom right of the screen is a small GEM-type selector window which is used for selecting different types of track, pads and components. At the top right is an overview window which permanently displays a miniature view of the layout. By pointing and clicking in this overview area any part of the layout can be displayed on the main screen. Along the bottom of the screen is the layer selector, used to select which board layers are displayed. Only two copper layers are allowed with PCB II.

Placing components on the layout is a two stage process. First of all the components that will be required for the particular circuit are selected from the main library and placed in the selector window at the bottom right of the screen. Each type of component is then selected from this window and placed in position on the board. I found this a very efficient method of working, as on a small layout you may only need half a dozen component types out of a library of several hundred.

Pads and tracks are placed in a similar way, although, as there is a far more limited range of styles. these are immediately available in the selector box without being called up from a library. Text is available in various heights and widths but the thickness is fixed.

The program is very much oriented towards use of a mouse. Once you get the hang of it this is a very speedy method of working but it can be frustrating at first. For instance, once the type of component has been selected each press of the left-hand mouse button lays down another component. This is unnerving when you have been used to selecting the component with the first press, moving it into position and then fixing it with a second press as in the Easy-PC and Boardmaker programs.

Most objects are easily selected by pointing anywhere within their outline and pressing the right mouse button. However a second press of the button immediately deletes the object with no request for confirma-
tion. Sensibly, there is an undelete function.

The track editing function is very powerful allowing sections of track to be modified or deleted at will. The sections do not even have to begin or end on existing nodes. Selecting tracks is no problem if they have been routed with the grid snap option on. If not, any vertical or horizontal track can only be selected by pointing precisely at its centre-line which can be very difficult to find.

Dialogue boxes, another GEM concept, are used for editing such things as text and pad sizes. These consist of an outline containing options that can be selected with the mouse and text fields for keyboard input.

As with Boardmaker 1 there is an auto-increment function for component references, a net highlighter and a block-fill facility. Although PCB II is limited to PCB design, a schematic drawing program called Isis Supersketch, employing a very similar user interface, is now bundled with PCB II, the complete package being known as Cadpak.

At $£ 79$ I thought this was an excellent buy.
Supplier: Labcenter Electronics, 14 Marriner's Drive, Bradford, BD9 4JT.

## Tel: 0274542868

Hardware requirements: IBM PC or compatible, 640 k RAM, DOS 3.3 or later, Hercules, CGA, EGA, VGA graphics, hard disk, mouse.
Price (excluding VAT and p\&p): $£ 79$ Upgrade? Yes

## Quickroute 1.5

Quickroute is a shareware PCB design program of very moderate cost. The initial screen layout looks promising with a menu bar across the top of the screen, a row of icons called a button bar immediately below and status information and co-ordinates along the bottom. In fact the selection of the various functions using the menus and icons is fairly logical, if cumbersome at times, and helpful prompts appear at each stage. There is also an on-llne help facility which, although common elsewhere, seems to be rare in PCB design programs. Most of the usual facilities are available, but for me there are a number of minor irritations and major flaws in the program.

The redraw time is very slow especially if the grid is enabled. A sample layout supplied with the program took 10 seconds to redraw although admittedly this was a fairly
large double-sided design. There is a 'turbo' option, which speeds things up a bit by only drawing the outline of objects but the clarity of the display suffers. A quick zoom option has also been introduced in recent versions, presumably in an attempt to solve this problem.

Panning is achieved by pressing the right mouse button and a handy custom zoom level can be set so that the design just fills the display area. However there is no auto-pan which would be very useful if you wanted to route a track beyond the display area boundary.

Placing of components is frustrating as the first click of the mouse fixes them in position with no opportunity for adjustment. Editing of individual objects is limited to pads and tracks. With the pick mode selected, pointing and clicking causes the nearest pad or track to be marked with a cross. Options then allow it to be deleted, moved or copied. Each segment of a track is treated as a separate object. Similarly, components from the library are

## Ranger 1

Ranger 1 is a complete CAD package, although at $£ 100$ without the autorouter it is still competitive with many PCB design programs. When using the graphic editor to design a schematic or PCB layout there is a row of menu boxes along the bottom and left-hand side of the screen. To select a menu box the cursor is positioned in the box and the mouse button pressed. This selects the function or changes the contents of the menu boxes to another set of options. There are no short-cut keys. The remainder of the functions are selected through a messy and Inconsistent assortment of text screens using function keys, cursor keys and the mouse. However, prompts are provided.

The cursor moves in a series of small jerks which do not correspond with the grid points, even when the grid snap facility is on. This makes it difficult to consistently select or place objects except by using a high zoom level.

To use the package for simple PCB design, components must be selected by code and a netlist produced manually by entering a list of connections. This is a very tedious business and it is far better to use the package as intended and produce a schematic diagram from which the program will automatically generate a component list and a net list.

Whichever route is chosen the next step is to use the graphic editor to place the components on the PCB.

Connections can be shownt as a 'rats nest' whilst positioning the components, which is very helpful when trying to minimise track complexity.

If you can afford the extra $£ 50$ the tracks can now be autorouted. Otherwise, manual routing involves selecting a connection from the rat's nest and converting it into a properly routed track by adding and moving bends to 'rubber-band' the track into the desired position. The manual routing facilities are really intended for tidying up a previously autorouted board and are nowhere near as easy to use as those in a purely manual PCB design program.

As a CAD package, Ranger 1 seems to be very comprehensive. For hobby use, the complexity and poor user interface make it a poor choice.

A version of Ranger 2, Ranger 1's big brother, has recently been released as shareware. This has all the features of the full package but is restricted to 32 parts or 128 component pins.
Suppller: Seetrax CAE, Hinton Daubnay House, Broadway Lane, Lovedean, Hants, PO8 0SG.
Tel: 0705591037
Hardware requirements: IBM PC or compatible, 640k RAM, DOS 2.0 or later, EGA, VGA graphics, 20M hard disk. Mouse recommended.
Price (excluding VAT and p\&p): $£ 100$
Upgrade? Yes
sufficient detail, something that you do automatically when using pencil and paper. It is therefore important that these functions are easy to use and the redraw time is not too long.

Of course, none of the programs solve the problem of producing the
board itself, even though they ease the design of the layout. Reasonable quality artwork can be obtained using a dotmatrix printer, particularly if printed at twice full size with a new ribbon, but this then needs to be reduced to a full size transparency. Various methods were
discussed in ETI (Read/Write September 1991 to January 1992) including photocopying on to film or spraying a
new position. Furthermore, any tracks crossing the block boundaries are not 'rubber-banded' to the new position.

On the positive side, there is a simple autorouter included but its performance is disappointing, leaving you to finish off connecting most of the tracks. Output options are limited to 9 and 24-pin dot matrix, laserjet printers and HPGL plotters but this is adequate for hobby use.

Quickroute does provide a working program at a very competitive price but personally I would rather pay twice as much and avoid the frustration of coping with Quickroute's limitations.
Supplier: Powerware, 14 Ley Lane, Marple Bridge, Stockport, SK6 5DD. Tel: 0614497101
Hardware requlrements: IBM PC or compatible, 512k RAM, Hercules, CGA(mono only), EGA, VGA graphics, mouse.
Price (inclusive): £39
Upgrade? No
paper copy of the layout with transparentiser. More recently (Read/Write May 1993) a reader suggested using carbon paper and draughting film in a dot-matrix printer.

If you can afford it, there are plenty of companies willing to produce either film positives or even complete boards directly from information supplied on disk in an acceptable format.
treated as individual parts once they have been laid down and so can only be moved as a whole by using the block functions.

The block functions are selected from the button bar. Once the block has been defined by pointing at diagonally opposite comers the rectangular outline is immediately attached to the cursor. However, instead of the outline remaining in position and the cursor jumping to its centre, it is the outline that is redrawn round the cursor so that the relationship of objects to the block outline is lost. As the block contents are not continuously redrawn while the outline is moved, it is very difficult to place the block in its

## Layo1

Layo1 is a recent addition to the market originally written as an 'in-house' PCB design program for a Dutch electronics company. Later, a facility for schematic capture from Orcad or similar packages was incorporated. However, the versatility of the program means that suitable component and netlists can be created manually although they are by no means essential to allow the program to be used successfully.

The lowest priced version has ali design facilities but is restricted to 4000 datalines. This should cope with typical hobby-sized circuits as long as you don't use too much text which seems to eat up datalines.

The package comes with a project manager to provide a user-programmable menu system, initially set up to allow selection of the graphics editor program for PCB design, a text editor, a font editor, or an output driver program. Design files are grouped under a project title and each user of the program can have his own set of preferences.

The display area is uncluttered, with a single status line across the top and an optional overview window in the top left-hand comer. However the menu structure leaves a lot to be desired. The main menu bar is called up by pressing return on the keyboard or the right-hand mouse button. This is confusing as the righthand button is elsewhere equivalent to the Esc key which is used to exit from menus and functions. Functions are selected from the menu bar by pressing return or the left-hand mouse button. However, not all functions are available by this method and must be selected instead by various keyboard characters. There are also short-cut key combinations for the main menu furictions. To further complicate things, functions can be activated by pressing combinations of the three mouse buttons, the effect of which vary depending on the current mode. The possible combinations and their effects can be discovered by pressing F1.

On the positive side, the program remembers the last path selected through the menu options. There is aiso a macro facility so that single keys can be programmed to activate frequently used keyboard sequences.

Selecting a zoom level is slow but a useful option magnifies the board to fill the screen.

Designing a PCB involves three basic stages. Layo1 is very versatile as it allows a number of alternative methods to be used for each stage. The first stage is to select the components, which can be done manually from the library in the usual way but is rather a tedlous process as the component libraries are at the ends of the branches of a large directory tree which has to be stepped through each time a new component is required.

Importing a component list from a schematic program, or writing your own by means of Layol's text editor, avoids this problem as the components will be automatically called up and positioned. A print out of all the library components is included in the manual.
cursor has stopped moving.
A nice facility is the ability to rotate a component by pressing both mouse buttons at once.

At the final stage of routing the tracks, Layo1 is even more flexible. The most basic method is to route by hand, defining where each bend is to occur. Any of the other methods requires a netlist and uses the autorouting function in various ways. Before invoking the autorouter, certain parameters have to be set such as whether the board is double or single sided, whether vias are allowed and what type of routing strategy to use. Once this has been done, the auto router can be unleashed either on the whole board or on various restricted parts such as a selected net or a selected trace.

If the autorouter has not been $100 \%$ successful, the unrouted nets can be displayed. These can be


The next stage is to define the routes. This is optional if you intend to lay down the tracks manually but to use the autorouting or rats nest facilities a netlist is required. This can be imported, written using the text editor or produced 'on the fly' by simply pointing at pads that are to be connected together. The resulting connections can be displayed as a 'rats nest' which then allows manual repositioning of components to minimise track complexity.

Moving components is not as elegant as with some programs. If the display is continually updated as the component is moved, the redraw time is fairly slow especially if tracks are connected. To get round this problem the user has the options of redrawing when a mouse button is pressed, or after a set delay once the
manually routed or the program can be asked to reroute certain tracks and nets which will often allow completion of the remainder.

Draft quality output, which is supposed to be satisfactory for prototypes, can be obtained from within the graphics editor. The full range of output is available by using the separate output driver program. Supplier: Pentagram Electronic Designs, 6 Pasture Close, Clayton, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD14 6LY. Tel: 0274882609
Hardware requirements: IBM PC or compatible, 640 k RAM, DOS 3.0 or later, EGA, VGA graphics, hard disk, mouse preferably three button. Price (excluding VAT and p\&p): $£ 99$ for 4000 data lines
Upgrade? Yes, but same facilities



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Rediscover the unique sound of valves with this amplifier project from Dave Bradshaw

(11)
Welcome to the world of valves. In this short series, I am going to describe two guitar amplifiers - the first is a 15 W design, intended as a practice amplifier, the second a 50 W version, with some extra facilities, that is powerful enough to 'gig' with. Firstly, however, I want to describe some valve basics and I'm including some circuits which you can experiment with using a prototyping board.



Fig.1a. On overioad, semlconductor amplifiers tend to square off the output signal, as shown for a purely resistive load.

Fig.1b. With a reactive load such as a typical loudspeaker, there can be quite a lot of ringing at the switch off points and the circuit can act like a class D oscillator, injecting a lot of destructive energy into the loudspeaker.

Fig. 1 c. Valve output stages don't have such a sharp cut-off, so ringing is rare and the overall effect is less destructive and much more pleasing.
they go into overdrive gracefully, producing a pleasing mellow tone, rather than the harsh solid-state nolse that assaults the ear (or even worse, speaker-destroying high frequency ringing). The Paleface allows you to overload either the preamp or the power amp, which produce different characteristics. With varying degrees of success, designers have sought to simulate the distortion of overloaded valves using solid state circuitry. But why simulate when you can have the real thing? There are also some who believe that valve hi-fi amplifiers are the bee's knees. I hope ETI readers will give me the chance to investigate this by building a practical design sometime in the not too distant future.

## If Noise Annoys

You will not get the noiseless performance from a valve amp that you routinely expect from a semiconductor amplifier, at least not this side of several thousand pounds. Both mains hum and high frequency noise (HF noise, or hiss) are inferior with the


Fig.2. Cross-section of a diode.

Fig.3. The symbol for a single valve diode
valve amp.
Supply line ripple is the main culprit in the hum probiem. This is due to the poor availability and high cost of highvoltage electrolytics. The lower charge stored in the capacitors means there is a disproportionately higher ripple voltage on the high voltage supply line.

For example, the largest easily available 400 V capacitor is 4705 and this currently costs nearly $£ 10$, one-off. At maximum voltage, this stores 188 millicoulombs of charge. By comparison, a commonplace $10,000525 \mathrm{~V}$ capacitor can store 250 millicoulombs for around $£ 1.50$ to $£ 3.50$, depending on ripple current capability.

The other contributor to hum performance is the high signal impedances in valve circuits. This is a problem at the input stage, where signal voltages are low. However, intermediate signals tend to be several volts, so the noise they pick up is much less significant. There are lots of sources of hum in the amplifier itself, for example in the power supply and the 6.3 V AC for the heaters and the high voltage secondaries on the power transformer.

A contributing factor is that overall feedback is rarely used in preamplifier stages, and in power amplifiers the level of feedback is relatively low. However, care with layout and some judiclous use of screening can diminish the hum.


Fig. 5 Cross-section of a single triode valve.
As far as high frequency noise (hiss) is concemed, valves are not as good as semiconductors, because they operate at high temperatures, so they heat up all the surrounding components and they use high voltages. Again, the generally higher signal voltages offset this to a large measure.

## Valve Basics

l'd like to be able to recommend a good book on valves, but have been unable to find any that are in print - all mine are 30 year oldl So here goes...

Valves have three types of electrode, sealed together in a high vacuum using a glass envelope. The cathode is a cylindrical pipe made of special metal at the centre. The anode is a cylinder of metal around the cathode. Between these are grids which are also cylinders, but this time of mesh. Valves typically have one or three grids. However, the very simplest valve has no grid at all, just a cathode and an anode.

## Cathode Action

When it is red hot, the cathode emits electrons which form a
small cloud around it. This phenomenon is called thermionic emission. When first switched on, the cathode takes a little while to get hot enough for electrons to be emitted, hence the typical warm-up time of valves.

As readers will know, electrons can move around freely inside metals. How quickly the fastest move depends on


Fig.6. The circuit symbol for the triode valve. Note that the heater is often left out for simplicity, although the valve cannot function without it.
the temperature of the metal. When the metal is heated to a high enough temperature (say, $1000 \propto$ C), some electrons will be moving fast enough to escape altogether from the surface of the metal. This is rather like water molecules evaporating from the surface of a pool of water. Some materials emit electrons very easily, particularly certain oxides, so it is normal to coat the cathode with one or more different such oxides.

To make the cathode hot enough, it needs a heater, i.e. a thin tungsten wire which is made very hot by a current passing through it. The simplest arrangement is to make the heater and cathode the same thing. This type of valve is said to be directly heated. However, this severely constrains the usefulness of the circuit, because we either have to connect all the cathodes together (imagine designing transistor circuitry if all the emitters had to be connected together), or each valve would need a


Fig.7. The circuit symbol for a dual triode. The envelopes are sometimes completely joined, but mostly they are separate. The heaters are not usually shown.
separate heater ${ }^{-}$ supply.

Most valves are indirectly neated. The heater is a winding of tungsten Inside the cathode but insulated from it by a thin layer of aluminium oxide. The heater plays no other part in the circuit unless the insulation breaks
down. Nearly all heaters require 6.3 V (usually AC supplied from a special transformer winding). The current they consume depends on valve type.

## Diodes

The very simplest valves have no grids and are diodes (Figure 10). When the anode is positive with respect to the cathode, electrons are attracted to it and are absorbed into it, i.e. a current flows through the vacuum. If the anode is negative with respect to the cathode, no current can flow, as the anode is not hot and does not emit electrons. This is the rectifying action that characterises a diode, discovered in 1883 by Edison. Figure 2 shows the lay-out of a valve diode and Figure 3 shows the symbol of a valve diode.

As with semiconductor diodes, there are two main types signal diodes, with low current capability but also low capacitance and rectifier diodes, with high current capability. Both types have been completely replaced by semiconductors in all but the most esoteric of applications. However, you may well come across valve rectifiers in older valve amplifiers.

Because of the high voltages at the cathode, valve rectifiers are normally directly heated. The voltage between the cathode would be so high that some diode action would occur between


Fig.8. The basics of a triode cathode-coupled amplifier.
the heaters and the cathode. For this reason, they require a separate heater supply insulated from all the other valves.

Most valve rectifiers are dual diodes. Some of these are two anodes with a common heater/cathode, but others have two separate diodes within the same envelope, with the heater/cathode windings joined - the effect is the same. Figure 4 shows the symbol. Dual diodes were the fore-runners of today's bridge rectifiers. For example, with a $250-0-250 \mathrm{~V}$ transformer, a single rectifier valve produced a full-wave rectified .output.

Valve rectifiers have one advantage over semiconductor dlodes, in that they start to conduct slowly when first turned on as their heaters warm up. The capacitors are therefore charged up more gently than with semiconductor diodes and there's much less of a surge of current at switch-on.


Fig.9. A cathode coupled amplifier that biases itself.

## Triodes

Figure 6 shows the simplest type of valve with a grid, a triode valve. A single triode valve is broadly equivalent to a single transistor, although a valve is a voltage-controlled device, so it is closer to a FET rather than a bipolar transistor. Valves have higher gain and linearity than FETs and a single valve stage is often equivalent to an op-amp stage. I must hastily add that valve circuitry is nothing like op-amp circuitry.

Most modern triodes are dual triodes, i.e. two separate triodes in a single envelope. The ECC83 used throughout the project is of this type. One can think of these as the valve equivalent of a dual op-amp. The heaters are nominally separate, but are joined. Usually, we apply the 6.3 V heater supply between the join and the two other terminals connected together. Again, like the supply rails in op-amp circuits, the heater connections are normally left off but the valve will not work without them.

The grid between the cathode and anode gives us a way to modulate the flow of current between the cathode and the anode. For the valve to work, the anode has to be positive with
respect to the cathode so that electrons are heading from the cathode towards the anode - anode voltages of 100 to 300 V are typical in triode circuits. When the grid is positive, it has little effect and the valve continues to act as a diode with current flowing, the grid just tending to act as a rather poor second anode.

When the grid is a few volts negative with respect to the cathode, the grid chokes off part of the electron flow between the cathode and the anode. The more negative the grid is, the less current flows, up to the cut-off voltage (the voltage which stops all current flowing).

With the grid voltage between zero volts and the cut-off voltage, small changes in the grid's voltage can make very big differences to the current passing through the valve. To take advantage of this, we apply a steady negative voltage, cailed the grid bias voltage and add the signal voitage to this. This voltage sets the operating point of the valve, in the same way that the current flowing into the base can set the operating point of a transistor. Choosing the best grid bias voltage is a bit of a black art, and it is normally recommended in valve data charts.

With the ECC83 triodes used in the Paleface Minor, grid bias voltage of -1.5 V with respect to the cathode will give a current of around 1.2 mA . Other valve types will give different figures, but typically the grid bias is a few volts and the current through the valve is a few milliamps. As long as the grid remains negative with respect to the cathode, no current flows from it.

The signal voltage applied to the grid voltage creates sympathetic fluctuations in the current between the cathode and anode. To tum this back into a voltage signal, we place a resistor (Ra in Figure 12) between the anode and the positive supply.

An important point to note here is that valve supply voltages are often labelled HT, or HT+ (for high tension). HT voltages are usually 200 to 400 V , and sometimes higher. These voltages should always be treated with respect, for obvious reasons.

The anode voltage will vary in sympathy with the current changes, much in the same way as with an emitter-coupled transistor amplifier, and we gain an inverted but large version of the original signal. We need a high-voltage capacitor, Ca , to block off the high standing voltage (typically 200 to 300 V ) at the anode. A few more details are needed to make this into a practical clrcuit.


Fig.10. A basic cathode follower.

In most circuits, it is not convenient to have a special negative voltage source to set the operating point. Since this voltage is effectively the signal earth, any noise on it is added to the signal and amplified. There is an easier way to set the operating point and that is to allow the valve to find lts own operating point. To do this, we insert a resistor ( Rk ) between the cathode and ground and add a high-value resistor ( Rg ) to keep the grid at zero volts, as shown in Figure 9 (ignore the capacitor, Ck, for
the moment). This circuit will settle at a point where the voltage is a volt or two negative, so applying its own negative grid bias (because the grid is at zero volts, i.e. negative with respect to the cathode). The amount of current flowing through the valve will depend almost entirely on the size of the cathode resistor. The anode resistor, Ra , makes very little difference to the current flow, provided it is below a certain value.


Fig.11. A cathode follower with self-biasing arrangements.

The main disadvantage of using a cathode resistor is that it reduces the gain of the valve by adding local negative feedback. Suppose the signal at the grid temporarily increases the grid voltage. This makes more current pass through the valve, which because of the cathode resistor, increases the cathode voltage in line with the grid voltage. This feedback cancels out most of the current increase caused by the increase of the grid voltage. Similarly, when the grid voltage decreases, the current falls and the cathode voltage falls again cancelling out most of the decrease in the grid voltage. As a result, we get some amplification, but much less than we got with a separate grid bias voltage. This circuit is still useful, because it offers good-quality amplification and a medium gain - typically around 10 to 20 for the values shown.

Adding a cathode capacitor, Ck (shown dotted in Figure 9), stops the cathode voltage responding to $A C$ variations in the current through the valve, and so increases the gain of the stage to the maximum that the valve can give. However, Ck does not affect the DC conditions of the valve.

Another complication is that the valve's gain is quite affected by the current flowing. Calculating the gain in advance requires hours poring over valve characteristic charts, and even then it's only an estimate. It's usually much more fun to try it and see if it works. Then, if you're really serious, you try it with old and new valves and see if it still works.


Fig.12. The 'knee' in the response of a tetrode and the correction given by the pentode.

## Cathode Follower Circuits

Suppose we ditch the anode resistor and the cathode capacitor (Figure 10). This gives us a cathode follower which is very similar to a bipolar transistor emitter follower, or a FET source follower. Although it has only unity voltage gain, it can provide a lower output impedance. Due to local feedback, the output impedance is considerably lower than the resistance of Rk, which is normally 47 or 100 k . For maximum voltage swing, the grid must be biased at around half-way between ground and HT+.

Biasing the grid is a problem. The simplest way is to couple the grid directly to the anode of the previous stage, where there is one. An altemative is to use a voltage divider between earth and $H T+$, but this requires a capacitor to suppress supply noise, then another resistor to stop the signal being suppressed by the capacitor.

A more elegant way is the self-biasing arrangement in Figure 11. Rk1 is typically 1 to $2 k$, while Rk2 is 47 or 100 k . This works exactly the same way as the cathode-coupled stage biasing. However, both the cathode and the grid are at a high positive voltage and capacitor Cg is needed to block the grid voltage from the input. This circuit has a bonus in that the grid resistor 'bootstraps' the input, raising the input impedance well above the value of the grid resistor Rg.


Fig.13. A typical pentode circuit. The load could be an anode resistor with an anode capacitor for a small-signal pentode, or the primary of an output transformer for a power valve.

## Triode Limitations

One of the most serious drawbacks of triodes is a result of the small capacitance between the grid and the anode, typically around 10 to 20 pF . This'stray capacitance gives rise to unwanted negative feedback from the anode to the grid. Small though this feedback is, it can be significant at high gains or at high frequencies. Also, triodes generally do not pass enough current for power amplification.

However, triodes are very useful for low frequencies (typically audio), lower gains (up to around 100) and lower powers (perhaps 100 mW ). Other, more complex valves extend these limits.

## More Complex Valves

In tetrode valves, there is a second grid, called the screen, between the first grid (the control grid) and the anode. Provided it is held at any constant voltage, this minimises the negative feedback from the anode to first grid. Applying a high voltage (usually $\mathrm{HT}+$ ) to the screen, maximises the current flow through the valve, so increasing the power output. Even though the mesh of the screen grid is kept very thin so that most electrons speed by it and it intercepts very few, a substantial current


Fig.14. An experimental layout with two cathode-coupled amplifiers, using the prototyping board.
a scaled-down version of the EL34). In the US, common types include the 6L6 (also sold as the KT66 and 5881), and the KT88.

Manufacturer's specs. are actually simpler with more complex valves. Rather like IC specs., they give precise values for the circuit values.

Audio output stages have to use transformers, to match the high output impedance of the valves with the low output impedance of the loudspeaker. Actually, I did once come across a highi-impedance loudspeaker driven directly from a valve anode. I couldn't get the radio it was in to work, so l junked it - 25 years on, I know it would now be worth a fortune! Another reason to use transformers is that without a transformer, push-pull operation isn't possible (there are no tubes using holes). I have not drawn a push-pull output stage you'll see one next month, with a longer explanation of how it works.

## Circults To Experiment With

So that you can experiment yourselves with valves, I have designed a prototyping board to accommodate cathode-coupled and cathodefollower circuits. It makes a neater prototype than the typical rat's nests that infest most valve prototypes. Originally, I planned to mount the valve on the PCB, but this caused
( 10 mA or more) can flow into the screen grid, as it looks like a rather poor second anode.

However, the tetrode still has a serious problem due to a phenomenon called secondary emission, electrons hitting the anode with enough speed to knock other electrons out of the anode itself. These secondary electrons are attracted to the screen and, when current is flowing through the valve, the screen is often at a higher voltage than the anode. Besides current being wasted by flowing through the screen and not the anode, secondary emission also leads to a 'knee' in the response curve of the valve, which is not good news for linearity.

This problem can be overcome by placing a supressor grid between the screen grid and the anode, thus making the valve a pentode. If this grid is kept at a low voltage foften it is internally attached to the cathode) the emitted electrons do not reach the screen so they retum to the anode.

There are two types of pentode, low power and high power. Low power pentodes, such as the EF86, are often used for small-signal amplification, typically as IF amplifiers in valve radios. Two of the most common are the EF80 and the EF86, the latter being designed for audio circuits that demand high gain and low noise.

Besides high power pentodes, constructed as described above, there are also beam tetrodes. In my book these are pentodes, but the supressor grid has become a plate around the anode. Both types are used extensively as audio power output stages, either singly or, more commonly, in pushpull pairs. In Europe, common types are EL34 (capable of 100 W from a pair, using an 800 V power supply) and the EL84 (also called the 6BQ5,
too many mounting and access problems and made rather poor use of the board space.


Fig.15. A layout for two cathode followers, the first a self- biasing type.

To build these circuits, you will also need a high-voltage positive supply of $100-300 \mathrm{~V}$, capable of giving 10 mA and a heater supply of $6.3 \mathrm{~V}, 0.3 \mathrm{~A}$. A power supply will be described next month as part of the main amplifier project.

I do recommend beginners at electronics to build some low voltage circuits first, not least because of the high voltages involved. Personally, the first things I built were with valves, but I gave myself a fair number of shocks. Even the experienced should be careful - just 100 V is enough to kill, given a sufficiently good contact. Remember also that the smoothing capacitor, Cht, can stay charged after the supply has been disconnected.

## The Cathode-Coupled Amplifier

Figure 10 shows the layout for two cathode-coupled amplifier triode circuits, using the prototyping PCB and an ECC83 dual triode valve. There is no necessity to build both if onty one is required. The suggested values are given in the table, but these are only suggestions.

A practical use for this circuit is as a valve distortion unit, especially if a low HT voltage of $50-70 \mathrm{~V}$ is used to give the valves no 'head room'. Rx and Rg2 attenuate the signal between the two stages, to make the clipping more even. These values need some experimentation and Rg2 could be an off-board potentiometer. This circuit will be used in the 50W amplifier.

## Cathode Follower

The first stage can be used as a self-biasing cathode follower, using the layout in Figure 11. It is a self-biasing design, the second stage being a simpler stage that needs a bias voltage applied to it. Again, the component values given are just suggestions.

## Special Note

This is an advanced project. Not only does it involve working with the mains, but it involves circuits using high voltages. We advise inexperienced readers against building this project as their first electronics project.

## PARTS LIST for figure 14

| Rg1, Rg2 | 1M0 Rk1, Rk2 1k2 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Ra1, Ra2 | 100 k 1 W |
| Cg1 | 100 n low-voltage capacitor, or link |
| Ck1, Ck2 | $10 \mu 25 \mathrm{~V}$ (or leave out) |
| Ca1, Ca2 | 100 n 400 V |
| Rht | 22 k |
| Cht | $10 \mu 400 \mathrm{~V}$ |
| Rx | see text |

## PARTS LIST for figure 15

Rk 47k
Rk1 1k2
Rk2 47k
Rg 1M0
Cg 100 n
Ck $10 \mu 100 \mathrm{~V}$ electrolytic
Rht 22k
Cht $10 \mu 400 \mathrm{~V}$

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# Open Forum 

The electronics industry thrives on innovation. Indeed, without constant development of new products to meet new customer demands, it would probably siowly die. Creating new ideas to meet the demands of new markets is the hallmark of the entrepreneur, and the electronics industry shouid be the natural home of such people. People who actively look for new markets and new ideas and, in so doing, create new businesses and new jobs. But in the UK, with a few notable exceptions such as Alan Sugar, electronics is not an industry that is brimming over with entrepreneurial activity.

The markets exist for new products, especially in specialist niche areas, and are very often largely unexploited. The talent exists to create the products that would satisfy the demands of these markets, but hardly anyone is putting them together to create new electronics based businesses.

We, seem to be mesmerised by imports from the far east. We seem to have acquired some kind of complex, that people in this country cannot design, make and profitably sell electronics products. To do that you have to have large research budgets and cheap labour only a big company, a Japanese, Korean, or Talwanese company, can do that.

This attitude is quite frankly rather simple minded. Anything that can be done by producers in the far east can be done here in the UK. You do not need cheap labour, the savings in import costs more than counter balance this. Neither do you need large R\&D budgets, profits can be made from very simple devices.

Look at this issue. The Motor Mate would be bought by a great many motorists at $£ 20$, but in small quantities
could be made on a kitchen table for just a few pounds. The same goes for the fisherman's bite detector and the bike alarm. Admittedly, none would ever sell in large quantities, but they are potentially profitable products in small niche markets.

So, if the electronics entrepreneur can easily design and make an electronics based product, why are they not getting into the shops?

## A Little Learning

Partly, the answer to this is probably a matter of trust. The man in the street is, by and large, completely ignorant about electronics. He cannot tell whether he is making a good buy or throwing his money away. The man in the street relies on a familiar brand name to reassure him that the product is well designed, reliable and value for money. He relies on the fact that it is made in Japan, for that also signals quality and reliability. In other words, the customer is brainwashed by years of advertising, propaganda and his own ignorance.

The other half of the answer is that businessmen find that there is more money to be made, with less trouble, by simply importing products from the far east. All you have to do is sell and take your profit.

So, is there hope? I think there is. We just do not try hard enough, we have lost faith in our own ability to create high quality innovative products at value for money prices. There are probably hundreds of readers of this magazine who have the talent and ability to become electronics entrepreneurs, the founders of a revitalised UK electronics industry.

Come on, lets show the rest of the world what we can do!

## Next month ...

In next month's issue of ETI we look at recycling old computers and using them as the basis for some interesting projects. We continue our two series - building a 12 W valve guitar amplifier and taking a look at microprocessor interfacing. Projects will include a single board Z-80 computer that can be used as the basis for a wide range of projects. We build a frequency meter adapter, another useful piece of equipment for the test bench. For computer users, there is a printer switch that will allow the user to easily switch between two different printers. We will also be showing how to build a novel text display system that works on the eye's latent image.

## Plus...

On the cover of next month's issue we will be giving away a diskette, containing a complete PCB design program to run on your PCl

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