

SERVICING.VIDEO.SATELLITE.DEVELOPMENTS

## FREE 32-page CATALOGUE



Servicing the Ferguson ICC5 Chassis CD-i Update and the Video CD Format Simple Transformer Tester - DX-TV
Panasonic's Digital TV Circuitry
Liquid-crystal Display Systems TV Fault Finding - VCR Clinic

## WILLOW VALE ELECTRONICS LIMITED

## WME

 WVE
## the answer to the

 spares puzzleAkai Kamasa<br>Altai Konig<br>Amstrad Labgear<br>Antex Leader<br>Antiferance Ledu<br>A.D.S. Link Hamson<br>Aiphone Microtec<br>Ambersil Mitsubishi<br>Aiwa Nikkai<br>Alba Oryx<br>AWI Pye<br>Baldwin Boxall Philips<br>Bose Portasol<br>BK Precision Ross<br>Blackstar Saisho<br>Celtel Samsung<br>Celtek Sansui<br>DNH Satfinder<br>Electrolube Seaward<br>ERL Servisol<br>Ferguson Sharp<br>Fidelity Shure<br>G.E.C. Sony<br>Goldstar Thander<br>Grundig Thompson<br>Hameg Toshiba<br>Inkel Trantec<br>J.V.C. Weller<br>\section*{'The Better Choice'}

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On sale August 18th

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810 Satellite Notebook
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OUR NEXT ISSUE DATED OCTOBER
WILL BE PUBLISHED ON SEPTEMBER 15






HITACHI

## AMSTRAD

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FERGUSON \& JVC
HRD455/HRD725
Economy Kit Contents
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { BELT SET PINCH ROLLER } & \text { BELT SET PINCH ROLLER } \\ \text { CLUTCH MECHANISM TENSION } & \text { SUPPLYCLUTCH TAKE UP }\end{array}$
Order Code: $\mathbf{S k 3 7} \quad £ 17.50$ Order Code: SK38 $£ 9.5$
$3 V 58 / 59 / 6465$

## HRDI5000

Contents
Order Code: SK44
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OELT SET PINCH ROLLER TENSION BAND IDIER TYRES
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CLUTCH TU IDLER RE
ILER TENSIONBAND
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t/RD250/257/565/566/755
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TCNSION BAND
Order Code: SK57
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730 830/840
Contents Economy kit Contents
IDLER GEAR IDLERUNI
TENSION BAND
BELTSE PINCHROLL
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$\oint 12.50$
Order Code: SKG

## HITACHI

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BELT SET PINCH ROLLER Economy kit Contents

SHARP


## I.C. PROTECTOR

| ICPF10 | ICPN5 |
| :--- | :--- |
| ICPF15 | ICPN10 |
| ICPF20 | ICPN15 |
| ICPF25 | ICPN20 |
| ICPF38 | ICPN25 |
| ICPF50 | ICPN38 |
| ICPF75 | ICPN50 |
|  | ICPN75 |
|  |  |
| PRICE: OMLY 30p EACH |  |

## Order Code: SK45

£15.00 Order Code: Sk46

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## JUST ARRIVED

## VIDEO HEADS

AKAI
VSF600, VSF6
VP7100, VP7200, VP77
VS155, VS165
VS24, VS25
25, VS26, VS27 VS42
VS20, VS22, VS24, VS25, VS26, VS27, VS422
VS425, VS426, VS427, VSF10, VSP8,
VSP9
VS240, VSP82, VS202
$\checkmark$ SR9
AMSTRAD
VCR8800, VCR8804, VCR9340
2400P
DD8900, DD8904, TVR4, VCR6200, VCR8600
VCR8603, VCR8604, VCR8704, VCR8714 1350

## BAIRD

VC14L
VHS82
BLAUPUNKT
CR1000, CR1200, CR1500
CR1800
RTV321, RTV322
RTV330
RTV333
RTV33B
RTV348
RTV404, RTV414
RTV635
RTV640
RTV750, RTV800, RTV900
RTV810
RTV910
JVC
HRD330, HRD337, HRD440, HRD637, HRD64 1 HRD660, HRFC100
JVC AND FERGUSON
8902/8903/8909/8912/8922
8923/8925/8929/8935
8931/8933
FV43H, HRD860
VC141L, HRD190, HRD610
FV44L
BR1600,
0, HR
RD142, HRD156, HRD15
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, HRD217, HRD321, HRD350, HRD521
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HRD522, HRD525, HRD527, HRD550
HRD522, HRD525, HRD527, HRD550 1700P
HRD580, HRD620, HRD650
FIDELITY
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FISHER
FVHD140, FVHD40, FVHP1, FVHP10, FVHP20
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FVHP200, FVHP210, FVHP300, FVHP310
FVHP500, FVHP5100, FVHP730, FVHP830 1200 P
FUNAI
E1100, VIP5000
VCR5840, VCR8007, VIP2500A, VIP3000A
VIP6000, VIP150
2200P
VCR4530, VCR6000, VCR6100
VCR8103, VCR600, VCR6100
VCR8103, VCR8107
VIP300A MKII
GEC
V4005H
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GRUNDIG
VS456

SE6110, SE9100, TVR4510, TVR5510, VS500 VS510, VS5180, VS6190, VS700, VS900 1800P VS790, VS930, VS940
MVS660, SE6160, VERONA, VS660
VS6690
3800 P

MVS710 MVS720 MVS910 SE9120, VS800
VSB10, VS910, VS920, SE7120, VS710
VS720
VS160, VS740
VS170
VS680
MINARI
VCR34H, VTV200, VXL90
HITACHI
VT15, VTP10, VTP30
VT16B VT260 VT498
VT570, VT575, VT576, VT580, VT585
VT588
VT5600
VT60
VT6700 VT6800
VTL30

VT522, VTM620, VTM622, VTM720, VTM722 VTM822 2000P VTM725, VTM726, VTM72B 1600P ITT
VR3520, VR3701, VR3719, VR3720, VR3721
VR3759, VR9720, VR3719, VR3720, VR3721,
VR3759, VR9720 2000P
VR3730, VR3731, VR3749, 2700P
VR3907, VR3908 1600 P
VR3918, VR3919, VR3938 1800 P
VR396B
VR3984
-2300P
VR4913, VRP3833

## LUXOR

9245, 9251, 9254
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9270, 9271,927
9272, 928217
9252
928017, $928077,928097,929107,929117$
9253
9281
9284, 9295, VR3701, VR3721, VR3731,
VR3761
MATSUI
$V \times 600$
$V \times 750$
V $\times 990$
MITSUBISHI
HSE12, HSE22, MX
HS411EZ, HS411GZ
HS273
HSB10, HSB20, HSE 10, HSE20, HSE21
HSE41
HSB11, HSB21
HSB30
HSE31, HSB31, HSE32
HSE50
NATIONAL
NV8050, NV8051
AG1000, AG1050, NV260
AG6010, AG6015
AG6840
NV200
NVD80
NVF65, NVH75
NVF51
NVG19
NVJ33, NVL21, NV 130
NVJ35
NVM1, NVM3, NVM 5
AG2100, AG2200
NVF65
N.E.C.

D $\times 2000$
DS6000
DS6000
DX1000, DX1600, N9040, N9053, N9055
DX4000, N9610, DX3000
N9052, N9530
N9110, N9120, N914C
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PVC2300, PVC240, PVC740, PVC744, PVC700
PVC764 1600P
SAMSUNG
VM1560, VN1561 2200P
SANYO
VHR7900
SHARP
VC585, VC685
VC90ET
VC90ET
VFH815
SONY
SLV373UB
TOSHIBA
$\checkmark 660$
V880MS
V700G
V500G, V509G
$\vee 500 G$
$\vee 9680$
V300G, V301, V305, V309G
V61, V63
$\vee 110, V 120, V 130, V 140, V 210, V 220$

## TELEVISION ON/OFF

MAINS SWITCHES
Baur, Normende, Nova, Pioneer, Quelle, Saba,
Salora, TEC, Thomson \& Vega

## VIDEO MOTORS

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VT11, VT14, VT15, VT16, VT17, VT19, VT35
VT39, VT57, VT88 (capstan motor) 3100 P
BANG \& OLUFSEN
VHS65, VHS90 (capstan motor)

LOADING MOTOR UNITS
ITT
VR3605, VR3905, VR3955, VR3985 1100 P
VP2826, VR3906, V43926, VR3976 1250P
VP3946, VR3906, VR3948, VR3986, VR3995 VR6948

1500 P JVC
HRD110, HRD111, HRD 120, HRD 121
HRD225
1100 P
HRD140, HRD150, HRD157M, HRD158MS,
HRD160, HRD250, HRD257MS, HRD566,
HRP50
1250 P
HRD455, HRD725, N895
1500 P
SABA
VR6005, VR6014, VR7004, VR7011, VR8011.
VR8014 1100P
VR6006, VR6007, VR608, VR6009, VR6018,
VR7007, VR7018, VR9006 1250P
VR6016, VR6038, VR7016 1500P

## TELEFUNKEN

VR1925, VR1930, VR1940, VR1950, VR925
VR930, VR940, VR950
A920, VR2920, VR12970, VR7921, VR7926
VR7931, VR7971, VR975
VR980
THOMSON
V320, V321, V323, V326, V4200, V4300 1100 P
V342, V343, V352, V353, V360, V4210, V4230,
V4260
1250 P
$\vee 364, V 368, V 4400, \vee 6000$
1500 P
$3 V 35,3 V 36,3 V 38,3 V 39,3 V 49,8943,89441100 \mathrm{P}$ $3 \vee 44,3 \vee 45,3 \vee 48,3 \vee 54,3 \vee 55,3 \vee 57,8947$
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1250p
3V43, 9845
TOSHIBA
V55, V57 1100 P
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V61, V63
1500P

## CASSETTE HOUSING

AKAI
VS35, VS53, VS55, VS66, VS75
2600P
FERGUSON
FV31R
4300P
JVC \& FERGUSON
HRD515, HRD520, HRD527, HRD540, HRD550,
HRD580, HRD600, HRD610, HRD620, HRD660,
HRD670, HRD830, HRD840, HRD850, HRD860,
HRD4050, HRD6600 \& FV37H
1350 P

## IC TRANSISTORS

M491BB7
SAA5243PE
TIP1 12H
UPC1488H
STR4090A
50 P
IC AND TRANSISTORS
BU506DF 120
BUZ11
BUZ80
M494B1
SAA5231
SAA1293
S2000A3
S2000AF
S2055A
S2000AF
S2530A
TEA201BA
UC3844
UPC1185H2
200P

## (R) <br> REMOTE CONTROLS

AKAI

| RC-V10A | 1000 P |
| :--- | :--- |
| RCV37B | 1000 P |
| V25A | 1000 P |
| BUSH |  |

$\begin{array}{ll}\text { RCV37B } & 1000 \mathrm{P} \\ \text { V25A } & 1000 \mathrm{P}\end{array}$
BUSH
2020T, 2114T, 2321T, 2514T 1000P
2020,2114, 2321,2514 1000P
DECCA
RC70
FISHER
RC9058 1000P
GRANADA/REDIFFUSION
UNIVERSAL, 79500C, 986700
SATELLITE
MK4 TEXT, 70115G, 70133G, 70357E
MK4A TEXT, 70375C 850P
95288 E
94490 D
1000 P

REMOTE CONTROLS

## GRUND

TP200, TP300
TP400
TP590-600
TP390, TP610
TP621
TP630, TP650
TP660
TP661
HITACHI
CLE800-CLE830
A617402/655602
A512120/230
A514790
A5088470
A518612
CL096
C2096
A511940
655602 H
ITT
1FB13, 14, 15
FS4
RG306
FS9/1-10/1
VS5RUK
VS5RU
MULTICONTROL (17C20)

## KORTING

18279, 18396, 18460, 18521 SE
40540 VTS
LOEWE
MATSUI
010270601
V×770
METZ
JAVA COLOR (6890)
COLOR (7156)
JAVA (7180)
MITSUBISHI
939P/03607, 939P/03609
NOKIA
SATELLITE
NORDMENDE
TC2336
CMC1. TC3519
OCEANIC
390C500
ORION
RC53
PANASONIC
EUR51200
TC2200
VSQ0357/NV730
TNQ1621
PHILCO
CARVEL, CONCORDE MERCURY
TELESTAR
TC10
PHILIPS
RC5002, 5154
KT3 NON TEXT
69117032
RC5991 UNIV
RC3B
KT3 TEXT
RC5352
RC5 STANDARD
RC5 S
RC5901
RC5901
RC5903
SABA
T6772
TC319-320
TC356
TC358
TC365
SALORA
SERIES L
86173

## SANYO

1000 P
1000 P
1050P
1050P
1050P 1050P 1000P 1050 P 1050P

900 P
1000 P
1000P
1000P
1000 P
1000 P
1000 P
1000 P
1000P 1000P

## 900P

850 P
900 P
900 P
900 P
900 P
900 P
900P

1000P
1000P

1000P

1000P
1000P

1000P
1000P

LINE OUTPUT TRANSFORMERS

| Description | Price | Order <br> Code |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| HITACHI 2433752 | 1500 P | LOT01 |
| ORION 3714002 | 1500 P | LOT02 |
| FIDELITY ZX300 | 1500 P | LOT03 |
| FE TX100 90 DEG | 1500 P | LOT04 |
| SABA 490007182 | 1500 P | LOT05 |
| FE TX90 WHITE | 1650 P | LOT06 |
| ITT D307/37EQ EO | 1600 P | LOT07 |
| BLAUPUNKT 210 | 1600 P | LOT08 |
| GRUNDIG 2922C10 | 1600 P | LOT09 |
| ITTCVC800/1/3 | 1500 P | LOT10 |
| ITTD218/37 EQ | 1600 P | LOT11 |
| NORMENDE 5255 | 1600 P | LOT12 |
| SABA 81000200 | 1600 P | LOT13 |
| SALORA T236 EO | 1650 P | LOT14 |
| SABA 811-50-24 | 1600 P | LOT15 |


| SANYO |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| RC218, RC222, RC228, RC238 | 900P |
| JXGE | 1000 P |
| JXDE | 1000P |
| VHR2300 | 1000P |
| RC628 | 1000P |
| SHARP <br> G0121CESA, 123CESA, 204, 251 | 900 P |
| SIEMENS |  |
| FC616 | 1000P |
| FC631 | 1000P |
| FC742 | 1000P |
| SONY |  |
| RM604, RM605, RM606 | 900P |
| 32 CHANNEL | 900P |
| RM613 | 900P |
| RM632, RM636 | 900P |
| TATUNG |  |
| FXA | 1000P |
| RC70 | 900P |
| FX70 FASTTEXT | 850P |
| TELEFUNKEN |  |
| FB632 | 1000P |
| FB639 | 1000P |
| THORN/FERGUSON |  |
| 3V35-42 | 900P |
| 3V31-32 | 900P |
| 3V57-58 | 1050P |
| TX10 TEXT | 850P |
| TX 10 STEREO TEXT | 850P |
| TX9-90-100 | 850 P |
| $3 \mathrm{~V} 55, \mathrm{FV} 11$ | 1050P |
| TX100 FASTTEXT | 900P |
| TX 100 STEREO FASTTEXT | 900P |
| PROFESSIONAL | 850 P |
| TOSHIBA |  |
| CT937 | 1000P |
| CT9117 | 1000P |
| 201R4B | 1000P |

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Controls up to 4 different devices which use infra red remote controls including TV, audio, VCR and satellite. (Need original remote control to program) Order code: IR100R

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Replaces Philips Part No's
138-10138, 138-10313. 1.2V-90mAh 160 P
Replaces Philips Part No's
REPLACEMENT FERGUSON NI-CAD BACKUP BATTERIES
Replaces Ferguson Part No: 00E6-067-001 1.2 V

Used on: TX10 180P
Replaces Ferguson Part No's: 00E6-066-001
2.4 V .
.4V
sed on: 3V35,3V56,3V58,3V65
375P

900 P
900 P
900 P
900P

## 1000P

1050P
1050P
1050P
1000P
1000 P

1000P
1000 P

|  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| SABA 770223500 | 1600 P | LOT16 |
| TELEFUNKEN AT1 | 1450 P | LOT17 |
| TELEFUNKEN EQ | 1400 P | LOT18 |
| SALORA FM0218B | 1600 P | LOT19 |
| NORMENDE 5255 | 1600 P | LOT20 |
| ITTCVC 1150/1 | 1500 P | LOT21 |
| ITTCOMPAET 80 | 1500 P | LOT22 |
| FE TK100 GREEN | 1450 P | LOT23 |
| HINARICT4/55113 | 1500 P | LOT24 |
| SELECO 6320410 | 1600 P | LOT25 |
| BLAUPUNKT8667 | 1600 P | LOT26 |
| ITTCOMPACT B1 | 1450 P | LOT27 |
| ITTCT3326 VUL | 1500 P | LOT28 |
| ITTD066/37EQ | 1600 P | LOT29 |
| ITT 3546EQ | 1500 P | LOT30 |
| LUXOR5810110 | 1600 P | LOT31 |
| SABA 849380920 | 1600 P | LOT32 |
| HITACHI 2434141 CP | 1450 P | LOT33 |
| FE TX100110D | 1700 P | LOT34 |
| HANTAREX28021 | 1600 P | LOT35 |
| SHARPC37ij0EQ | 1600 P | LOT36 |
| HITACHI 2432981 CP | 1500 P | LOT37 |

We stock line output transformers for over 100 different rrodels. Please ring 081-900 2329 for more information.

## CASSETTE HOUSING

## AMSTRAD

VCR6000, VCR6100, VCR8600, VCR8602
VCR8603, VCR8604, VCR8700, VCR8704
VCR8714
AIWA
G900, HVG900, HVZ10
FUNAI
IV89. VCR2100, VCR2800, VCR4530, VCR4540. VCF5653, VCR5800, VCR5840, VCR5843 VCF6000, VCR6100, VCR6800, VCR6803 VCF 7000, VCR8000, VCR8002, VCR8003 VCF8007 VCR8100, VCR8103, VCR8200 VCF8500, VIP150, VR68, VR150
FINLUX
VR3009
GRANADA
VHSF63
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## COVER PHOTO

This month's cover photograph shows a Ferguson ICC5 chassis on the bench. See servicing article on pages 782-5.

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## Who Watches What?

Is the British public beginning to lose interest in television? This is one conclusion that could be drawn from Media Futures, a study recently published by the Henley Centre for Forecasting. It reports that sixty per cent of a sample of viewers surveyed said they would rather be out than at home watching television. Forty two per cent of these viewers characterised TV programmes as "dull and predictable", forty one per cent saying that they had got worse during the past year. The research suggests that as a medium television has a negative image that's unlikely to improve. Sounds pretty devastating, doesn't it? But while the Henley Centre has an excellent reputation it has to be pointed out that the opinion poll on which the above figures are based consisted of only 1,500 viewers. With today's sophisticated sampling techniques even such a small poll can produce generally valid figures for the public at large, though its size does make it hard to be convinced that television is becoming a switch off. More alarming perhaps is the finding that those who are less affluent spend about a third more time watching television than those who are better off, suggesting that TV watching is to an appreciable extent something done when people have nothing better to do or can't afford other possible activities. There is nothing very new about this finding however.

Though there is no likelihood of a mass switch off, it does seem that television viewing as an activity has passed its peak. It was inevitable that this should happen at some stage. There are only so many hours in a day: just how many can be devoted to the box? The interesting point here is that the growth in the number of services, with all those extra cable and satellite channels, has not led to any increase in the amount of time spent viewing. In fact with all those hours of channel time to fill and the increased competition, which means fewer viewers and thus less revenue per channel, there does seem to have been a deterioration in the quality of the TV on offer. It's a case of the old adage "more means worse". If this really is how things are going, one wonders what will happen if continental broadcasters get their hands on UK television - many in the industry seem to want to see larger, multinational groups which would, the theory seems to go, be better able to compete with one another. The prospects here are not very inviting. A few massive organisations seeking the largest audiences is hardly a recipe for quality services and runs totally counter to the traditions of broadcasting in the UK. Yet we are assured by many that this is the way in which things will eventually go.

Cable and satellite have both been seen as ways of increasing the public's viewing and interest in TV. So far they have singularly failed in this respect. The Cable Television Association in its latest report speaks of "consistent, solid growth". Some 2.5 million homes are now passed by cable services. Of these, at June 1st 464,997 had become cable subscribers, a penetration ratio of around 21 per cent. The Henley survey claims that the future lies with cable however, forecastirg 5.5 million subscribers by the year 2000 (with 4.5 million satellite TV installations). It maintains that cable has two major advantages, the ability to provide cheap telephony and local TV services. Maybe.

Satellite viewing seems to be stuck at about five-six per cent of the total. Assessments of the number of satellite TV installations are notoriously unreliable, the figures varying from 2.15 million to around four million at present. It seems clear however that sales have been disappointing in recent months and that earlier estimates - of up to eight million installations by the mid-eighties - are unlikely to be met. BSkyB's decision to encrypt most of the channels it offers from September 1st, while doubling their number to fourteen, is the joker in the pack. Will the public's well-known reluctance to pay extra for TV rebound on BSkyB? However this work. out, it's unlikely to lead to any extra viewing in total.

# A Simple Transformer Tester 

## Ian Rees

Say you've excluded all other possibilities and it's got to be the line output transformer: there can be no other explanation - can there? I recently took a large, gut-busting Grundig colour receiver (CUC720) chassis) under my wing. It had been taken to various dealers in my area and lots of work had been done in the line output stage by engineers who had replaced various diodes and capacitors. I found that the line output transistor was short-circuit collector-toemitter, a new BU508 restoring normal operation. Much too easy! So the set was put on soak test and next morning, at switch on, there was no picture. The BU508 had failed again. After much testing and isolation of various supply lines 1 was left with the conclusion that the cause of the problem had to be the transformer.

A quick signal to Willow Vale via the COPS line brought one by return. I fitted it and phut, another BU508 bit the dust. I began to see why this set had been passed from workshop to workshop. To cut a long story short, the cause of the problem was eventually traced to a fault in the power supply: a small electrolytic capacitor had been fitted the wrong way round, as a result of which there was a supply surge at switch on. I had stuck with investigation of the line output stage because I couldn't see any incorrect supply voltages. Had I been able to check the transformer I wouldn't have been so quick to order a replacement and would have considered other possibilities.

In the same week a big Hitachi set arrived on the bench. It had the same symptoms and some tests brought me rapidly to the same conclusion as with the Grundig set a few days previously. But how could I be sure? - this time the transformer was five times as expensive. I decided to try to make a test circuit to check the transformer in isolation from the set. After some experiments I found that simple transformer ringing provided the best indication of performance.

A check on the Grundig transformer with my tester produced a classic ringing waveform. When the Hitachi transformer was tested it proved to be heavily damped. A replacement proved that the original one was faulty.

Resistance tests are unlikely to be able to detect a shorted


Fig. 1: Circuit diagram of the transformer tester.
turn in a transformer winding, but this tester will. A quick indication of line output transformer loading can be obtained with the transformer in circuit, but more conclusive results are obtained when the transformer is removed for test.

Fig. 1 shows the circuit of the tester, which is simple and can be made up using inexpensive components. The original prototype was built as a probe, but in use I found that it was better to have clip-on test leads, leaving the hand free to adjust the controls and keeping fingers away from the highvoltage overwinding and internal tripler arrangement: these can give you a small shock even with the reduced supply voltage used.

## Circuit Operation

A CD4001 four nand gate CMOS chip acts as a multivibrator that oscillates at around $150-250 \mathrm{~Hz}$ - potentiometer RV sets the frequency. The oscillator's output is capacitively coupled by C3 to the BU508A switching transistor Trl. Any winding connected across the test terminals will be subjected to a switching pulse, with the result that the winding will resonate. The ringing can be observed on a standard scope whose Y input is fed via C7 and R3.

The ability to chose the switching frequency enables a full wavetrain to be seen. Fig. 2 shows a typical example: note the characteristic decay of the waveform. This resonance or ringing is analoguous to a bell being struck, the sound decaying in much the same way. The frequency of the individual cycles within the waveform envelope depend on the inductance and capacitance present in the circuit being tested.

A shorted turn, or external loading of the winding being tested, shortens the characteristic ring dramatically - this can easily be demonstrated. Switch SI enables extra capacitance to be added, enhancing the ring when a winding has little self-capacitance. The smallest amount of external


Fig. 2: Waveforms obtained with a good CUC720 chassis line output transformer. Scope settings $2 \mathrm{msec} / \mathrm{cm}$ and $0.2 \mathrm{~V} / \mathrm{cm}$. (a) Test on the primary winding with no load and C5 in circuit. (b) Same as (a) but with a single-turn shorting loop through the limb.
capacitance compatible with obtaining a satisfactory display should be used.

The supply voltage is limited by the CMOS device. As only a few milliamperes are required, dry cells can be used.

## Testing and Use

Connect the unit to its supply and plug its output into the Y input of an oscilloscope. Set the scope's sweep time to $2 \mathrm{msec} / \mathrm{cm}$, allowing two complete rings to be observed, and its Y input amplitude to $200 \mathrm{mV} / \mathrm{cm}$. Leave switch S1 in the off position. Connect the test clips to the primary winding of a known good line output transformer (use a transformer with open yoke construction). If only a small amplitude ring is seen, alter the setting of S 1 to bring C5 into circuit.

Adjust the scope's triggering and potentiometer RV in step to obtain a stationary display. Feed a piece of wire through the transformer's yoke, then connect the ends together to form a shorted turn. The display will change in the way shown in Fig. 2. If your scope is up to it, increase the sweep time to show a single ring. By speeding up the sweep, individual cycles can be seen and counted.

Chopper transformers give similar results, but C4 may have to be switched into circuit. See Fig. 3.

Mains transformers produce short rings and generally require no extra capacitance.

The transformers used in microwave ovens can be tested at their secondary (high-voltage) side. The presence of a shorted winding will be clearly seen. Only five-six slow cycles will be obtained. When testing a microwave oven transformer be sure to disconnect the magnetron's heater supply first.

Use of the tester is not limited to transformers. Good results are obtained with all types of chokes, linearity coils, scan coils etc. I was even able to detect shorted turns on one section of a motor armature by connecting the tester to the mains input and rotating the motor shaft.

The unit has opened up an interesting new test procedure where, in the past, component substitution was required. I find that a lot of time can be saved by checking a line output transformer before, if necessary, going through the process of isolating various feeds from the transformer.

As with most tools the tester won't reveal all possible failure modes. You have to regard it as part of an arsenal of test methods when tracking down faults. In particular the tester is unlikely to be effective when the insulation within a winding or between windings breaks down only under highvoltage stress. In this case however other symptoms - heat, sound or smell - may be present.

In-circuit use of the tester gives a guide to fault conditions but requires a norm to be established for a particular model/circuit. You do this by gaining experience through use of the tester with working sets, noting the results that should be obtained. With in-circuit tests be sure to observe probe polarity so that components are biased correctly.

## Modifications

If you want to test only line output transformers, the oscillator's frequency range can be increased by reducing the value of C 2 to $0.001 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ (or lower) and R1 to $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$. RV could then be increased to $I \mathrm{M} \Omega$ to widen its coverage.

If a stand-alone unit (no oscilloscope) is required, a neon light with a $\mathrm{IM} \Omega$ series resistor can be connected to the high-voltage transformer overwinding or the tripler/focus outputs. This will give an indication that the transformer is oscillating. In this mode the unit uses a greater current and a small heatsink is required for Trl . C 4 and C 5 could be reduced in value or removed. The pulse voltages at the


Fig. 3: Waveforms obtained with the chopper transformer in the BBC B computer. Scope settings $2 \mathrm{msec} / \mathrm{cm}$ and $0.2 \mathrm{~V} / \mathrm{cm}$. (a) Test on the primary winding with no load and C4 in circuit. (b) Same as (a) but with a shorted secondary winding.


Fig. 4: Waveforms abtained with a 650 W microwave oven transformer. Scope settings $2 \mathrm{msec} / \mathrm{cm}$ and $0.2 \mathrm{~V} / \mathrm{cm}$ for (a) and (b), $2 \mathrm{msec} / \mathrm{cm}$ and $1 \mathrm{~V} / \mathrm{cm}$ for (c) and (d). (a) Test on the primary winding with no load and neither C 4 nor C 5 in circuit. (b) Same as (a) but with the heater supply leads shorted together. (c) Test on the high-voltage secondary winding with no load and neither C4 nor C5 in circuït. (d) Same as (c) but with the heater supply leads shorted together.
collector of Tr will be higher, so scale up the working voltage of the capacitors in this area to at least 1 kV . Increase the value of R 3 to $10 \mathrm{M} \Omega$, and terminate the output with a $1 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ resistor to protect the scope if you do want to use one. Some idea of the transformer's operation can be obtained by looking at the waveform, but because of circuit variables this is less helpful than a ringing test.

Use of a higher switching frequency will remove the ability to ring a transformer.

While D1 is not essential in the ringing version, except as a precaution, it should be retained when driving line output transformers. A BU508D with internal diode could be used instead.

I've not blown up any CMOS chips, but I found that it is possible to lock-up the BU508. This seems to happen when the value of C6 is increased or reduced. A higher than normal standing current is present, with little output from the overwinding. The BU508 oscillates at a very high frequency. Switching the supply off and on again restores more predictable results.

Some line output transformers will self-oscillate when used with this circuit and will continue to do so even with the CD4001 turned off. The cause seems to be feedback to the BU508 transistor via stray capacitance. I considered using this as a test method for a short time, but it's difficult to get predictable results with all forms of line output transformer.

## Component details

| C1 | $220 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 16 \mathrm{~V}$ | R1 | $100 \mathrm{k} \Omega, 0.25 \mathrm{~W}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| C2 | $0.047 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 100 \mathrm{~V}$ | R2 | $33 \Omega 2,0.25 \mathrm{~W}$ |
| C3 | $0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 400 \mathrm{~V}$ | R3 | $2.2 \mathrm{M} \Omega, 0.25 \mathrm{~W}$ |
| C4 | $0.47 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 400 \mathrm{~V}$ | RV | $100 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ linear |
| C5 | $0.047 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 400 \mathrm{~V}$ | D1 | BY127 |
| C6 | $0.001 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 400 \mathrm{~V}$ | IC1 | CD4001 |
| C7 | $0.02 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 400 \mathrm{~V}$ | Tr1 | BU508A/BU508AF |

S1 SPCO, centre off, toggle switch
See text for possible variations

# VCR Clinic 

## Ferguson FV26D

Because the brakes didn't come on in the rewind and fast forward modes there was tape spillage. A check with an identical machine showed that in the faulty machine the windmill, item 54 in the exploded view, turned both ways while in the good machine it turned only one way. The cause of the fault turned out to be a broken clutch spring, item 55 part no. PQ42002. Note that in this machine the capstan motor has to be removed before the loading block assembly can be lifted out.
M.Dr.

## Saisho VR3300X/Matsui VX735

The customer's complaint was that there was no picture. When we carried out checks we found that the video signal entered the modulator but didn't emerge at the r.f. output socket. It was evident, when we took the modulator out, that someone had been having a go. The aerial input socket was held by solder in a manner that resembled bird droppings, and there were solder splashes on the PCB inside. We cleared the shorts, resoldered the socket and refitted the modulator. Everything worked all right - until record was selected. In this mode the E-E sound disappeared.

After spending a lot of time searching and checking along signal paths we eventually found that the fault cleared when the supply to the bias/erase oscillator was disconnected. The cause of the fault was that the bias level potentiometer VR 5002 had been set at maximum. Somehow this excessive level of bias current swamped the audio. We have had this fault since in another machine that had been got at by the customer.
M.Dr.

## Aiwa HVG71K

Should there be no capstan motor rotation, check R266 ( $3 \cdot 3 \Omega$ ) before, if necessary, replacing the motor drive chip IC206.
M.Dr.

## Amstrad VCR4500

This machine wouldn't accept a cassette and the function LED was permanently alight. Voltage checks in the power supply showed that the all-time 12 V line was low at just over 2 V . As application of 12 V d.c. from an external source restored all functions, checks were carried out around the 12 V regulator Q651. Although resistance readings failed to reveal anything amiss, when Q651 and D655 were replaced normal operation was restored.
E.R.

## Panasonic NVJ35B

The problem was no record chroma. Scope checks showed that everything was in order up to the 1.6 MHz LPF section of the multi-filter package FL801 (ELB4Wi02). It was open-circuit.
N.B.

## Amstrad VCR6100

A loop of tape would be left after fast-forward operation. As a result there would be chewed tape if eject was then selected. The cause of the problem was inefficient braking

Reports from Michael Dranfield, Ed Rowland, Nick Beer, Chris Watton Stephen Leatherbarrow, Mike Leach, Michael D. Maurice, Savio Da Costa and John Edwards

of the supply spool - little wonder as the brake pad had been removed! When a replacement had been fitted there was permanent supply spool braking in fast forward and rewind, as the supply brake arm wasn't being released. In these modes it should be released by the take-up arm, which is moved by the brake actuating lever, being released by the lever on its own in the play and record modes. The cause of the problem was that the take-up arm was the wrong shape. A new arm of the type used in the VCR 6000 put matters right. One wonders whether the wrong arm had been fitted during production or whether it was simply incorrectly moulded, also who had removed the pad instead of dealing with the problem properly!
N.B.

## Sharp VC780HM

This machine would intermittently go into play from cold then unlace because the capstan didn't rotate. The fault occurred about once a day. Because of the fault's unpredictable nature, and the fact that the machine would revert to stop whenever the fault occurred, it was virtually impossible to do any fault finding. A new cam switch seemed to provide a cure.
N.B.

## Ferguson FV31R

This machine was dead but the fuse was o.k. and the characteristic squeal was heard as the power supply started up. Failure to operate was due to loss of the 5 V supply to the timer microcontroller chip. Fusible resistor RK44 (1 $\Omega$ ) was open-circuit.
N.B.

## Panasonic NV7000

Apart from the clock this old-stager was dead. Fuse F1002 (4AT) was open-circuit because one half of the full-wave encapsulated rectifier D1006 was short-circuit. Once the machine had been got going it required a bit of mechanical work, which was hardly surprising.
N.B.

## Samsung SI1240/1260

A cassette was stuck in this full-lace machine because there was no loading motor drive. The KA8301 chip IC206 had obviously been getting hot as the solder on its legs had melted and was now crystalline and dry. A replacement chip, type BA 6209 K , got things going again after we'd made sure that there was no excess loading on its output (shorted motor etc.). A long soak test proved that the machine was now all right.
N.B.

## Hitachi VT520

This machine would load. Then the drum would stop - the capstan never started - and the deck would remain still until the mains supply was switched off and on again. The deck would then unload and the machine would switch off. When the voltages at the mode control inputs (pins 11, 12 and 13) of IC901 were checked I found that 3.3 V was present at pin 11 whatever the position of the deck. The cause was a leaky
mode switch. A new switch restored normal operation note its position before you remove it.

## Saisho/Matsui VCRs

A number of these VCRs have a little plastic item to release the limiter post. It tends to break, the usual complaint being that the machine is stuck in pause. Actually the pinch roller is jammed by the limiter post. There are various sources for this item. Unfortunately the pivot hole is sometimes too large, the result being that the limiter post again jams as it doesn't move far enough from the pinch roller.
C.W.

## Ferguson 3V35/JVC HRD120

No playback or record colour is not uncommon with these machines, due to faults around the crystal oscillators. On this one however the cause of the trouble turned out to be the colour/monochrome/test pattern switch at the back. It had become leaky.
C.W.

## Samsung VI710

This machine had no clock display. We found that the 6.8 V zener diode ZD102 in the 30 V regulator circuit on the power supply panel was short-circuit.
C.W.

## Ferguson FV32L

When this machine was first switched on the drum motor hunted, the picture tore and line slip developed. The picture began to stabilise as the machine warmed up, but it never became stationary. Since the fault was worse when the machine was cold I got out the freezer and hairdryer and began my attack. Any heat in the servo area lessened the effect of the fault, but no amount of freezer made it worse. So I removed the bottom cover and applied gentle heat to the drum motor PCB. The fault then disappeared. When a shot of freezer hit C6 $(3 \cdot 3 \mu \mathrm{~F})$ the drum almost span off the deck. After replacing this sub-miniature capacitor perfect control at all temperatures was restored.
C.W.

## Amstrad VCR4600

This machine produced a corrugated picture with both its own recordings and prerecorded tapes. There was obviously something amiss around the head drum. I checked the guides and the tape path for cleanliness. All was well here, so suspicion fell on the lower drum/motor assembly. As we had one in stock it was quickly fitted. This cured the ragged picture, but the head switching point was about two inches from the top of the screen and couldn't be adjusted. Inspection of the motor then revealed that it had a different magnet assembly. So off with the one from the old motor - only a couple of screws. When this was fitted to the new unit and everything was set up the machine worked as it should.
C.W.

## Samsung VI710/Logik VR955

There was no E-E picture and no playback colour. Both symptoms were caused by D102 ( 1 N 4002 ) in the power supply. It's the source of the always 12 V supply, which was low at only about 7.5 V .
C.W.

## Samsung VI710

When the power switch was pressed the channel indicator in the clock display lit up but not the indicator at the
bottom. The deck was dead. The output from the power unit has a PC15 that didn't come on with the power control command, which was present. We found that the 15 V section of the STK5333 power regulator chip was open-circuit.
C.W.

## Hinari VXL8

This machine had virtually no capstan drive, i.e. there was no play, rewind or fast forward. Control of the capstan motor centres around the BA6219 chip IC106. Its supply at pins 7 and 8 was o.k. at about 15 V , but pin 4 was at 0 V . This could have been because Q105 was short-circuit or biased fully on, but what we actually found was that the 9.1 V zener diode D110, which is connected to pin 4 of IC107 (another BA6219), was the cause of the fault. As IC107 is the loading motor drive chip this calls for some further explanation! D110 straddles the print run from pin 4 of IC106. It's glued down, with just the PCB varnish for insulation. Lifting the diode clear and insulating it provided a complete cure. Just to add to the fun, the fault was initially intermittent.
S.L.

## JVC HRD660

The deck functions were normal but there was no front panel display. Absence of the -30 V supply at pin 2 of CN1 was the cause. We found that the safety resistor R2 (47 $\Omega$ ) had gone open-circuit. A long soak test proved that there was no contributory cause for the failure of R2.
S.L.

## Samsung VI730

There was a blank rasteı with no sound though playback was normal. The supply voltages were correct at the tuner and i.f. cans, but no video emerged from the latter. When pin 1 of IC404 (TA7348) was lifted the video returned on the scope's screen. IC404 had a crack down its centre. The video signal was now being weakly displayed but there was still no sound. This was because the TA7348 audio switching chip IC403 was also faulty. The video coupling capacitor $\mathrm{C} 415(10 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 25 \mathrm{~V})$ was short-circuit and the video input socket's terminating resistor R416 (75 ) was opencircuit. We feel that the customer knows more than he is prepared to reveal about the causes!
S.L.

## Ferguson 3V29/JVC HR7200

Two of these machines have been in our workshop recently with audio faults. The first machine would record the sound, albeit almost inaudibly, but failed to erase the previously recorded sound. There was plenty of bias at T1, but it wasn't reaching the erase head. In the record mode the bottom end of RYI wasn't being switched via pin 89 (audio dub line). In fact the voltage here varied between 5 V and 12 V . The cause of the problem was the $\mu \mathrm{PA} 81 \mathrm{C}$ chip IC5 on the mechacon PCB.

The second machine also failed to erase the sound, but for more bread-and-butter reasons - the erase head plug/socket was intermittent. We cut it off and rewired directly.
S.L.

## Hitachi VTF770

This machine would shut down about two or three seconds after being switched on. The display came up, but no tape functions seemed to work. The cause of the problem was no loading motor drive because the BA6209 drive chip had
failed. Unfortunately the failure of this chip had resulted in the mechanics going badly out of sync. The mode switch had to be replaced and the mechanics realigned. M.L.

## Hitachi VTM710

When this machine came in there were no functions and no display. It was kept for about a week before we got around to it. We then found that it worked, though it didn't produce a picture. The display came up, the tape loaded and play could be selected. We assumed that the machine had locked up and that the week's rest had done it a bit of good. The no picture symptom was caused by the fact that the modulator didn't produce an output - the switched 12 V supply was missing. This comes from the power supply, the switching being controlled by the power control line from the main microcontroller chip. The line was high at 2.3 V instead of being at 0 V . When the $\mu$ PD75516-108 microcontroller chip (IC901) had been replaced the switched 12 V line was present and the machine worked perfectly. We checked the mode switch and mechanism as a precaution.
M.L.

## Hitachi VT120/VT220

Intermittent loss of colour has been the fault with several of these machines we've had in for repair. In each case replacement of the HT4539B chip IC301 on the Y/chroma PCB has cured the trouble.
M.D.M.

## Ferguson 3V29/JVC HR7200

We were asked to quote for fitting a new capstan motor and suggested that we should inspect the machine first. When we opened it up the cause of the problem turned out to be a loose capstan belt - it was just about ready to fall off. A set of new belts and a clean up made the customer very happy.
M.D.M.

## Panasonic NV430

The rewind, stop and eject keys worked but the others didn't. All functions worked when the remote control unit was used. The cause of the fault was that $\mathrm{R} 6554(2.7 \mathrm{k} \Omega)$ on the operation PCB was open-circuit.
S.DaC.

## Panasonic NVG30

The clock lit but the VTR switch wouldn't. If a tape was inserted the machine would switch on but wouldn't go off. There were no deck functions, with either manual or remote control. All this was caused by a faulty M50395V4AB clock chip (IC7501).

With another of these machines the squelch characteristic at switch-on was muted and the machine would remain dead. D18 was short-circuit.

A third machine that came in was dead with a blackened fuse. The STRI806E chip was short-circuit all ways. We replaced the $2 \cdot 2 \Omega$ feed resistor R1002 as well as a precaution.
S.DaC.

## Panasonic G Deck

We recently had in a couple of Grundig machines, Models VS500 and VS540, that use this deck. As the tape wouldn't lace up to the capstan the pinch roller touched it with no tape in between. The P5 unit wouldn't come into position fully, failing to sit in position in the pinch cam
rift. The P5 pull-out sector gear which controls this was slightly cracked at the corner. A replacement restored normal operation. We've also had several Panasonic machines with this fault.
S.DaC.

## Panasonic NVL10

This machine would load a tape to just about the stop point, then eject it. The cause of the problem was a faulty take-up sensor.
S.DaC.

## Panasonic NVG12

The symptoms were as follows: there was no rewind, forward wind or play; the capstan motor was shunting; and the drum motor ran at full speed. A quick check showed that the 4.43 MHz clock signal from the video pack was missing. This signal is produced by IC8001 which on inspection was cracked. A replacement restored normal operation.

We find that this fault is now quite a common one with several Panasonic models, in particular the NV830/NV870 series.
S.DaC.

## JVC HRD455

This machine actually wore Saba livery. The complaint was of periodic tracking bars, the tracking knob having no effect. We found that when play was selected the machine seemed to be in fast search for two seconds, then stabilised. Replacement chips in the servo section had no effect. When an off-air recording was tried we noticed that the channel number wouldn't change and the memory couldn't be used. The drum and capstan speeds were erratic and there was slight hum, the picture flicking about. A check on the switched 12 V line produced a reading of 19.5 V . All these problems were being caused by Q2 in the power supply: it was leaky all ways.
S.DaC.

## Samsung VI710

Every couple of days this machine would fail to produce an E-E or playback picture. As there was no r.f. output the monitor just displayed noise. When the fault finally showed up in the workshop I noticed that the deck functions worked but there was no test signal and the channels wouldn't search. As a start I checked the power supply outputs at connector CN104. They were all correct. But something seemed to be amiss in the power supply system. The 15 V line feeds the 12V regulator transistor Q105. A voltage check at Q105's collector produced a reading of 0 V . The cause was a dry-joint at L105. Relief all round: when this coil was prodded the machine came to life. Resoldering L105, also D1 14 and Q105 to be on the safe side, restored reliable operation.
J.E.

## Ferguson 3V36/JVC HRD225

The playback picture and sound were in slow motion, with tracking lines. Occasionally correct pictures and sound would appear, followed by a screeching noise then a return to the fault condition. When the capstan motor was removed I found that its shaft was very tight. A new motor cured the problem.
J.E.

## Toshiba V71

No reel rotation and thus chewed tapes was the complaint with this machine. The cause was the TA7267P reel drive chip IC603.
J.E.

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# CD-i Update and Video CD 

George Cole

The fourth annual CD-i conference was held in London at the end of June. There were many new products, but the biggest news was the announcement of yet another CD format - Video CD.

## Video CD

Video CD stores up to 74 minutes of full-motion MPEGI standard video and digital sound on a compact disc. The format has been established by Philips, Matsushita, Sony and JVC - a formidable line up! In fact it's the new name for Karaoke CD, or the White Book standard announced by JVC and Philips in March. On a Karaoke disc you get music, graphics and video. The karaoke format was launched by JVC in Japan last October: it has sold well - in the first six months JVC claims to have sold 12,000 systems and 2.5 million discs.

Video CD is designed for linear, i.e. non-interactive. video programmes such as movies and music videos. Picture quality is claimed to be "better than VHS". Philips says that it will be possible to produce Video CD discs with Dolby Surround sound and wide-screen pictures, though these features will not appear with the first batch of titles.

Like Photo CD, Video CD uses CD-ROM-XA bridge discs which are compatible with various players such as CD-i decks that have a full-motion video (FMV) cartridge, computers with a CD-ROM drive and MPEG decoder, and modified audio CD players with a digital audio output socket and MPEG decoder. This last point caused some confusion because it wasn't made clear what modifications would be required. Philips now says that Video CD dises will be incompatible with around seventy per cent of ordinary CD players - because when Video CD discs are played via these machines they read the XA header and mute the digital output socket. According to Philips future $C D$ players may be switchable for audio CD or Video CD operation. To maintain compatibility with existing CD players it has been suggested that the White Book standard could be modified, with the XA flag removed during the mastering stage. There's some uncertainty about whether this option is feasible however. Philips hadn't cleared up the issue when we went to press.

Video CD will offer a number of benefits in comparison with VHS tapes, such as fast track access, added durability and an end to PAL/NTSC compatibility problems. CDs are also cheaper than video tapes to produce. The shorter


Fig. 1: Overall block diagram of the FMV system.
playing time however means that most films will have to be on two or more discs: so we are likely to see the launch of multi-disc Video CD players.

Another problem is the confusion that Video CD will bring to a market that's already overcrowded with $C D$ formats. For example, Video CD dises will play on a CD-i deck with an MPEG decoder, but not all CD-i discs will play via a Video CD machine. According to Philips, ordinary CD-i titles and CD-i discs that mix full-motion video (FMV) with interactive programmes (for example CD-i games with video footage) will not play on Video CD machines. Retailers are going to have their work cut out trying to explain all this to their customers.

The Video CD announcement was also controversial because Nimbus Technology and Engineering has developed a system for storing up to 79 minutes of FMV on a CD. What's more, Nimbus calls its system Video CD! Although Nimbus demonstrated the system last January, it was unable to register Video CD as a trade mark because this is a generic title.

Video CD uses an MPEG decoder unit that plugs into a CD player's digital output socket and a domestic TV set: the decoder is expected to sell for under $£ 150$.

Nimbus claims that its system is better because it is compatible with ordinary CD players, so that users won't have to buy a new player to watch CD movies, and plans to press ahead with the system. But it's difficult to be optimistic about the prospects for it when you consider the opposition. What's more, JVC. Sony, Philips and Matsushita have large interests in music, film and video software and are unlikely to release material for the Nimbus system.

Other Video CD supporters include Commodore. GoldStar and Samsung. Commodore is to launch its Amiga CD32 system (see Teletopics), which can also play Video CD discs, this autumn while Samsung will launch a Video CD player in the Far East next spring at under $\$ 650$ ( $\mathfrak{f} 430$ ). When these appear, Video CD players are expected to be available in the UK at around $£ 350$.

## Full-motion Video

This autumn will see the launch of the first CD-i titles with full-motion video (FMV). Philips clearly attaches great importance to this new feature, and lots of FMV clips were shown at the corference. The sound and picture quality are impressive, especially when you consider the degree of signal compression required to fit over an hour of video and sound on to a CD. A data rate of $165 \mathrm{Mbits} / \mathrm{sec}$ is required to handle CCIR 601 standard pictures, but CD`s transfer rate is just $1.4 \mathrm{Mbits} / \mathrm{sec}$. The MPEG-1 standard compresses the video by a factor of around 150 to produce a data rate of $1.2 \mathrm{Mbits} / \mathrm{sec}$ : the audio data rate is $0.2 \mathrm{Mbits} / \mathrm{sec}$.

The MPEG standard makes it possible to display fullscreen video pictures or multiple video windows - in one demonstration the screen was split into four to show different camera angles. It's also possible to decode multiple audio tracks, such as multi-lingual sound tracks. Existing CD-i players will need to use an FMV extension module. Model 22ER9141, which contains an MPEG


Fig. 2: Relationship between FMV software and hardware.
decoder and at least 512 K of RAM - this extra memory capacity can also be used to obtain improved graphics, faster animation and other visual effects. The extension module slots into back of a table-top CD-i player: with a portable machine it sits on top. The CD-i FMV data is passed via the CD interface and the CPU bus to the audio and video processors (see Fig. 1). Fig. 2 shows the relationship between FMV sofiware and hardware. The FMV module automatically sets the correct 50 Hz or 60 Hz field rate for PAL and NTSC players.

CD-i players will offer play, still frame, multiple slowmotion effects and picture search in both directions. Other features include seamless jumps, which enable users to switch instantly to another scene. $360^{\circ}$ panoramic viewing and video loop or repeat play. The FMV extension module is 10 go on sale this autumn at a price of around $£ 150-£ 200$.

## CD-i Hardware

Philips showed a portable player, Model CD-i350, which is designed for the business market. It has a small, flip-up colour LCD screen and weighs 1.8 kg without battery. No price or UK launch details were released.

GoldStar showed its first CD-i player, Model GDI-II. It has a microphone input for karaoke, which is very popular in Korea where CD-i is apparently selling well - parents are buying the machines to help their children to learn languages and to read and count. The player sells for $\$ 830$ ( $£ 530$ ) in Korea: no European launch details were announced.

Sony had on show its IVO-VII CD-i portable, which is on sale in the Japanese business market at around Y178k ( $£ 1.240$ ), and a prototype CD-i reader that plugs into a TV set. The reader is a portable machine without an LCD screen - the latter accounts for 40 per cent of the IVO-VII's price.

Kyocera`s compact CD-i player weighs less than 1 kg and has an RS232 port. Technics showed a prototype (or mockup - it had do not touch' signs plastered all over it) mini CD-i system. Maspro demonstrated its CD-i car navigation system, which uses a geo-positional satellite system and discs to quide drivers around Japan: the discs contain maps and photographs of Japan's major cities and resorts, a voiceguidance system giving directions. There were no price details.

## CD-i and Computers

International Interactive Media (I2M) showed some interesting products that link CD-i with the computer world. Its MediaDesktop playback cards enable IBM-
compatible and Apple Mac computers to use their CDROM drives to play CD-i discs. If the drive is multi-session compatible it will also play Photo CD discs. A computer mouse is used to control the disc, the results being displayed on a TV set connected to the computer - I2M plans to develop a system that will enable the results to be displayed on a computer monitor. The MediaBridge is a CD-i220 consumer market player with the addition of builtin software and an SCSI interface to enable it to play CDROM, CD-i, CD audio and Photo CD discs. I2M said that these products will be launched in the autumn. No price details were available.

## CD-i Software

There were lots of FMV titles, and Philips plans to launch around 35 films and music videos this autumn. Many will come from Paramount films, though at the time of writing this Philips and Paramount are still negotiating on the European distribution rights. Philips says that it will concentrate on four types of titles: games, children's, reference and adult entertainment. The latter includes the Playboy Relaxation Disc and Voyeur, an erotic interactive movie that doesn't have FMV.

Also on show were the New Joy of Sex, which includes half an hour of video, and A Child is Born by Electronic Sound and Pictures, a reference title that looks at conception, birth and development. There were lots of shoot 'em up, arcade titles and educational discs.

The theme of this year's CD-i conference was 'claim your market'. The arrival of full-motion video and a new crop of software titles may help CD-i to do just that.

## CORRECTIONS

## VCR Clinic July

The heading to the item on a Sharp VCR, at the bottom of the left -hand column on page 65I, should have read "Sharp $\mathrm{VC9700H}$ ", not "Sharp VC7300".

## A Serviceman's Guide to PCs

Part 1, August: Cache memory was misspelt as cashe in Fig. 1 and throughout the text. Under the heading "Buying a PC" on page 706 the minimum recommendation for service department use should have read "a PC with a 25 MHz 80386 CPU. . . " not ". . . 25 MHz 80363 CPU. . ."

## Amstrad MP3 article August

The value of the fusible resistor in Fig. I is $10 \Omega$, not $100 \Omega$. Half way down the left-hand column, page 721 , "often signals in channels R1 and R2 simultaneously" should have read "channel's R1 and E2". Narrowing the i.f. to the extent suggested (see below) will remove the ch. R1 colour and sourd as well as ch. E2. The circuit shown in Fig. 7 will reduce the bandwidth to under 2 MHz if all the coils are peaked to the same frequency (this will separate chs. R1 and E2) - the author's rig is aligned for a bandwidth of about 2.8 MHz however, the figure quoted.

As a postscript. Brian Williams adds that Roger Bunney's aerial phaser unit will do much to cancel out hash from baby alarms and similar sources in ch. RI.

# Servicing the Ferguson ICC5 Chassis 

J. LeJeune

More complaints are heard from the benches about servicing the ICC5 than any other Ferguson TV chassis. It certainly came as a culture shock for any service department that was used to the TX10 and TX100 chassis. Being the first Thomson designed chassis to be used in Ferguson sets, it has probably given many engineers the impression of being troublesome.

This is perhaps a little unjust, though the chassis is well-packed with components, is not easily removed from its mountings and there is a lot of spaghetti that hangs off it once you do get it into a position where you can take a look at it. The following notes have been compiled with the help of the Ferguson ICC5 training tape, the various manuals and a lot of experience with the chassis on the bench.

## Tripping

Suppose that a set arrives on your bench with the complaint that it trips. You may get a clue to the nature of the fault from the way in which the trip occurs. But even before you switch on a lot of time can often be saved by carrying out a careful visual inspection. Check around the line output transformer for cracked print and dry-joints, then do the same around the chopper transformer. Also check around transistor TP19 in the chopper driver stage, the line driver and output transistors TL29 and TL31, the flyback
tuning capacitor CL48 and the efficiency diode DL46. Once you are satisfied that there are no physical defects you can go ahead and power the chassis.

If the power supply trips out after only once pulse, the likelihood is that either CL16 ( $3 \cdot 3 \mathrm{nF}$ ) or CL21 ( $1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ ) is faulty. These capacitors are associated with TEA2029C timebase generator/chopper control chip ILI4. Failing these, the chip itself may be no good.

If the receiver trips three times, suspect: (a) the sound system voltage supply VS and the audio output chip; (b) a short across the V2 rail, possibly the line output transistor TL31 or the V2 supply rectifier DP41 or its reservoir capacitor CP4I; (c) the V1 (8V) supply, possibly the rectifier DP37 or its reservoir capacitor CP37 (see Fig. 1).

The sound module can be eliminated by unplugging it. Switch the set off and connect an analogue voltmeter to the cathode of DP37. Switch on again, after more than fifteen seconds, and watch the meter's needle. If there are three pulses that swing the needle to 2 V or more, check the following: (a) TL17, DL18, DL25, DP36 and DP38 - these items are all concerned with safety monitoring: (b) that the field output stage is o.k. and is taking current from the 23 V line; (c) DP06 in the mains bridge rectifier circuit and the winding between pins 8 and 9 of the chopper transformer LP04; (d) LGII in the EW correction circuit (large-screen sets) for inter-winding shorts. RL44 if fitted, DL51, DL55, DL52, TL31, DL46, RV82 (on the c.r.t. base


Fig. 1: The basic chopper circuit. Minor variations may be found, and the h.t. voltage varies with different tubes. TP14/15 form an excess-current trip.
panel) and CL48. Also check the value of RL10 (in series with the set-h.t. potentiometer) as this has a habit of wandering. Correct values for different tubes/models are as follows:

| CRT | RLI 10 | HT (V2) | A1 V |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |  |
| 45 AX | $115 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | 158 V | 130 V |
| MP | $115 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | 158 V | 130 V |
| SP | $100 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | 145 V | 150 V |
| $90^{\circ}$ | $76.8 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | 115 V | 150 V |
| 78 M 5 | $118 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | 164 V | 150 V |
| $59 / 68 \mathrm{M} 5$ | $110 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | 147 V | 200 V |

The line output transformer LL53 is another possible cause.

If the meter shows a very small voltage at the cathode of DP37 it would be fair to suspect DP37 itself or its reservoir capacitor CP37.

Monitor the 23 V rail (V5) as well. If the voltage here is low because of a fault you may find that RP42 has failed as a result of excessive current demand via the line driver transistor TL29 - DP43 and RP42 provide a start-up supply for TL29. With RP42 open-circuit the main h.t. supply (V2) will be present but the line-output stage derived supplies will all be missing. You may also find that the receiver doesn't trip as there's no line output stage current demand, rendering TLI 7 ineffective because the chopper drive markspace ratio is too short (see below).

Once the power supply has tripped, always allow over ten seconds between switching off and switching back on again.

## The Trip Circuit

The trip circuit is shown in Fig. 3. DL38 and CL36 provide the collector supply for TL17 by rectifying the chopper drive waveform at pin 7 of ILI4. TL17 is normally held fully conductive because of the positive base bias via DL25 and RLI8. As a result the voltage at IL14`s trip input, pin 28 , is almost zero. DL25 is fed from the line-output stage derived 13 V supply (V4). Should this supply be missing, TL17 will switch off, the voltage at pin 28 of ILI4 will rise and the receiver will trip. That's the basic idea, hut it doesn't always work like that. If the 13 V supply is missing because the line output stage is not working, the chopper drive waveform at pin 7 of ILI4 will have a very short high period and a much extended low period. Thus TL17 will have insufficient collector voltage to operate.

There are two other inputs to the base of TL17. CL33 is connected to the collector of TP48 (see Fig. 2) which provides the switched 12V supply. As the 13 V supply (V4) rises. CL, 33 charges (via TP48). If a short-circuit occurs in any area supplied from this source CL 33 's positive plate will be earthed and the discharge current will switch TL17 off, producing the trip action at pin 28 of ILI4. This removes the line. field and chopper drives. As there's no output at pin 7 of ILI4, TLI7's collector supply is removed. IL14 then senses that the trip voltage at pin 28 has decayed and the set tries to start up again. If the fault remains there will be no 13 V supply to switch TL17 on and pin 28 of IL14 will go high again. An internal counter within IL. 14 allows the shutdown-restart cycle to occur three times after which the drives are not restored. Thus the line output stage is protected against overloading.

TLI7's other base input comes from the current sensing resistor RP37 on the earthy side of the chopper-circuit


Fig. 2: The standby power supply system.
derived 8 V supply (V1). A short across the 8 V supply will produce a sufficiently high negative voltage across RP37 to switch DP38 and DP36 on and TL17 off, producing the trip action.

Pin 28 of IL14 is also linked to the line-output stage derived 23 V line (V5) via RL20, DL19 and DL18. The 23 V supply is used by the field output and line driver stages. Because of the design of the field deflection circuit (see Fig. 4), absence of drive pulses to the output thyristor DL21 could result in the V5 supply rising to 200 V . DL18 prevents the rise exceeding about 40 V by conducting. as a result of which a positive voltage appears at pin 28 of IL14. producing the trip action. The condition that could cause this type of tripping is discussed later, in the section on the field output stage.

## Change from Tripping to No Operation

If the receiver on which you are working starts out with a tripping fault then, during your prohings, becomes totally inoperative it's likely that the fault condition is in the 2.3 V supply (V5), pulling it low. Under these conditions the line driver transistor TL29 tries to run from its start-up supply with the result that RP42 burns out.

## Other Forms of Tripping

A short-circuit across the line-output stage derived 200 V supply (V7) used by the RGB output stages and the field oscillator will result in the receiver tripping once only. This is called a 'hard' trip as a loud plop is heard from the loudspeaker.


Fig. 3: The trip circuit.

If the set trips only occasionally there could be a problem with the 7.5 V line on the live side of the chopper circuit. This supply is produced by DP26 and CP26 and is used by the chopper driver stage. A good indication of this will be the fact that the main h.t. supply V2 and the 13 V supply V4 will be low. When the 13 V supply falls below 11 V TL17 switches off and shutdown is activated.

## The Ultimate Nightmare

Now to the ultimate nightmare, a short-circuited chopper transistor (TP24). A replacement will almost certainly be destroyed when the set is switched on again unless some further work is carried out in the chopper circuit (Fig. 1). For a start I suggest that the chopper transistor's emitter resistors RP21 and RP25 are replaced, as they will have been stressed by the short-circuit. Fit a new transistor of the same type that was removed, and don't forget the mains fuse FP05 - it's a 1.6 A anti-surge type. Don't switch on yet!

Before you attempt to power the set again, examine the chassis print around the chopper and line output transformers and along the side and rear edges in this area. Look for dry-joints on LP04, TL31, DL46, RP21, RP25, DP23, CP23, TP19, CL48, LL53 and TL29. This done you can get a bit more technical, produce the multimeter to impress the boss, and check for shorts across the V2 and VS supplies. Check whether DP23, DP32, DP41 or TL31 is short-circuit, or CL21 or RP42 is open-circuit. Finally, don't forget RL10 - when in doubt, check it out.

A 9 V battery can be used to supply the chopper driver circuit. To do so, desolder DP06 and DP07 and disable TL1 7 by bridging across its collector and emitter. Hold your breath and switch the set on. Check the voltage at the cathode of the h.t. rectifier DP41. It should be quite low at about 28 V . If there is no voltage here, disconnect the battery and check RP05, DP32, DP37 and DP43 for shorts. If these items are o.k., reconnect the battery and scope the drive waveform at pin 7 of IL14. Trace the drive through to the base of TP24. If all is well, check for a 12 V peak-to-peak signal at the collector of TP24. If this is not present, look at the circuitry around TP24 and suspect the chopper transformer LP04.

When you first connect the battery and switch on, the h.t. line should as mentioned above be at around 28 V . See if you get 7.5 V at the anode of DP23 in the snubber network. If you don't, check DP23 and its associated components RP23, RP28 and CP23. If the 7.5 V is present, go on to check the soft-start circuit. When the set is switched on and off there should be a pulse in excess of 1 V at pin 15 of IL14. Suspect CL21 ( $1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ ) and of course IL14 if the pulse isn't there. If the pulse is present go on to pin 13 of IL14 and look for $1 \cdot 4 \mathrm{~V}$. Check CL16 ( $3 \cdot 3 \mathrm{nF}$ ) and ILI4 if this voltage is absent.

If the voltage at pin 13 of IL14 is o.k., check IL14's regulation system by connecting a $5.6 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ resistor between the cathode of DP41 and pin 9 of IL14. The voltage at the cathode of DP41 should drop to about 8 V . If it doesn't, IL14 is obviously suspect. If all is well, keep the meter connected to DP4I's cathode and remove the bridge from across TL17. The circuit should trip three times then shut down. If it doesn't. either TL17 and its associated components require investigation or IL14 is unwell.

If the trip works, switch off at the mains, disconnect the 9 V battery, remove the $5.6 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ resistor between DP4I and IL14, and remember to check RL10. Disable the line drive by disconnecting RP42, reconnect DP06 and DP(07, then


Fig. 4: The field timebase circuit. Component values not shown vary with tube size.
switch on again at the mains.
If the power supply fails, go back over the checking procedure. You may have missed something. If it works, switch off and reconnect RP42. Before you switch on again, check that the line output transistor TL31 isn't short-circuit and carry out resistance checks on the V4 and V5 supplies and at pin 8 or 10 of the line output transformer. If the conditions seem to be o.k., have faith in your work and switch the set on. If failure now occurs, with the destruction of TP24, suspect the chopper transformer LP04. Its failure is very rare, but in our game anything can happen.

## Field Scan Failure

Two types of field scan failure indicate different fault conditions. Fig. 4 shows the field scan circuitry. If the customary horizontal white line is present across the centre of the screen, there's no current flowing through the scan coils. The most obvious cause is an open-circuit somewhere in the scan current path. Check RL50, the scan coil plug BL55, plug BG36 on sets with NS correction, and the coils themselves.

More commonly the result of field scan failure is a blank screen. Momentarily increase the tube's first anode voltage. You will see a pale illumination of the screen from the top. Restore the correct first anode voltage and use a scope to check for a field-frequency sawtooth waveform at pin 5 of IL14. The most likely culprit if it's absent is RF01 ( $3 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ ), though CF01 ( 470 nF ) could be in trouble.

Other suspects when there's no field scan are the output thyristor DL21 and the parallel diode DL22. Also look for dry-joints at pins 4 and 11 of the line output transformer LL53 (it's also the field output transformer).

If everything appears to be working correctly but there's an offset raster, check the field shift circuitry around PF02.

If the thyristor DL21 isn't being triggered, the 23 V supply can rise to an excessive level. The cause of this is that DL22 continues to rectify the line pulses, charging CL54 to about 200 V . The voltage can, with DL21 off, leak away only via the scan coils, the height control network and RF07, and the line driver stage. Under these conditions

DL1 8 should conduct, raising the voltage at pin 28 of IL14 with the result that the set shuts down.

## Standby Operation

The ICC5 chassis remembers the state it was in when it was switched off at the mains. If you collect a customer's set, disconnecting it while it's in the standby mode, it will power up in this mode when you switch it on again in the workshop. To bring it on without the remote control handset, press channel up for about ten seconds or connect a 9 V battery between chassis (negative) and pin 8 (positive) of the scart socket. The latter will bring the set on in the AV mode.

In the standby mode the standby power supply (Fig. 2) delivers 5 V to pin 27 of the microcontroller chip IR01 and 8.5 V to the emitter of the switching transistor TP48. An on command to IR01 will change the state at pin 5 from high to low, turning on TP48 via TR26. TR26's base is held at 5 V , and this voltage must be present if the receiver is to come on. When TP48 switches on, IL14 is powered and the chopper and line output circuits come into operation. Once the lineoutput stage derived 13 V supply is present, DP47 switches on and the standby power supply regulator transistor TP45 switches off.

## EW Correction

EW correction circuit (not all sets incorporate this) problems seem to relate mainly to transformer LG11, whose insu-
lation is a bit suspect. The TDA4950 chip IG01 usually suffers, and the main PCB in this area can go very dark brown because of the overheating. The board darkening does't seem to have any adverse effects, but if you get a set with this discoloration take a good look at the EW-correction circuitry. A short within the chip can cause severe EW bowing.

## Safety

Remember that with many earlier sets the mains bridge rectifier's reservoir capacitor CP03 can retain its charge for days, even weeks - more recent sets have a discharge path consisting of two $220 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ resistors in series. To avoid any unpleasantness in this respect, connect two $27 \mathrm{k} \Omega$, 1 W resistors in series and encase them in a suitable sleeve. Connect these resistors across CP03 whenever you are working on the power supply.

Remember that the chassis has two separate earth lines, the isolated one and the one on the live side of the chopper circuit. Don't bridge the isolation, always work with an isolation transformer, and remember that dangerous voltages are always present.

Remember that like all other chassis the c.r.t.'s heaters are fed from a winding on the line output transformer. Unless the h.t. supply (V2) is set up accurately the heater supply will be incorrect and the life of the tube will be threatened. Always check with the service information what the h.t. voltage should be.

## HELP WANTED

Wanted: Service information, showing waveforms, for the Sanyo Model VTC5400P VCR, and any information on fault-finding in the teletext section of the Philips Gll chassis. H. Chamberlain, 68 Valley View, St. Keyne, Liskeard, Cornwall PL14 4QJ.

Wanted: Mains transformer for the Morphy Richards Model CT869 portable colour TV/radio/clock. A. Pilditch, Essex 2 BMH, Crowthorne, Berks RGll 7EG.

Wanted: Service sheets for the Philips C670/01 (G11 chassis) and the Pye 42KT3157/05W (KT3 chassis). Photocopies would do. R. Norgan, 24 Hankinson Road, Bournemouth BH9 1HJ (0202 529 181).

Wanted: New or good second-hand LOPT (T502) for the Oriental Mascon Taiwan Inc. Model TE5155 CGA monitor, also a circuit diagram. LOPT delivery would be to a UK address. Stephen Shaw, PO Box 1404, Randfontein, 1760, S. Africa.

Does anyone have details of a modification to replace the BZX61C120 zener diode? - I believe ITT brought one out for the CVC1175 chassis/Solavox 20S09. Circuit diagram also required for this chassis. Also circuit diagram for a Uniden 7007 satellite receiver which is reluctant to come on. R. Baker, 17 Chapel Lane, Upwey, Weymouth, Dorset DT3 5NA (0305 208 815).

Wanted: Service manual or circuit diagram for a 28 in . colour TV set by the name of Best Model 70GTX92. M.

Shafiq, 4 Leighton Road, Old Trafford, Manchester M16 9NX.

Wanted: Service sheet for the Ferguson Model 3T14. John Twamley, Fingal TV and Electric, 68 Main Street, Swords, Co. Dublin, Eire (phone 840 2206).

Wanted: Following back issues of Television. All 19841990 plus January, February and March 1991. A. Baker, 5 Croft Court, Edenbridge, Kent TN8 5BZ (0732 866 990).

Wanted: LOPT for the Network Model NWC1410R and RGB PCB or NW2521S chip for Model NWC1401. Leon Electronics, 11 Woodend Close, Three Bridges, Crawley, West Sussex. 029320536.

Wanted: Circuit/manual for the HMV MCH12 music centre and GEC V4100 VCR (Hitachi VT11). Lynn Miles, 128 Penllyn Estate, Cwmavon, Port Talbot, W. Glamorgan SA12 9NW. 0639885027.

Wanted: Akai VS301 deck or complete VCR, working or not (VS601 has same deck), also remote control unit. Service data for Hitachi VIP201P video disc player and old mono reel-to-reel video recorders. T. Martini, 6 Levant House, Mile End Road, London E1 4RB. 071790 6807. Fax 0717028774.

Wanted: Modules for the ITT Model TX9792 (CVC30/1 chassis). Stan Jesney, 56 Barnacle Lane, Bulkington, Nuneaton CVI2 9RQ (0203 315788 ).

# Long-distance Television 

Roger Bunney

June brought the start of the summer weather, with very hot days, high pressure and clear skies. As a result there was a dramatic improvement in Sporadic E propagation conditions, with openings on most days. Though the quality and duration of the openings didn't match the halcyon days of the late Eighties, it was nevertheless a very busy month. Even Arabic stations have been received. The SpE $\log$ for the month is as follows:

| 5/6/93 | TVE (Spain) ch. E2; ARD (Germany) E2. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 6/6/93 | DR (Denmark) E3: TVE E2.3. |
| 7/6/93 | TVE E2, 3; DR E3; CST (Czechoslovakia) RI: RAI (Italy) IA. |
| 8/6/93 | TVE E2-4: RAI IA, B; DR E3; TDF (France) L2; +PTT (Switzerland) E2; ORF (Ausiria) E2a; ARD E2-4; MTV (Hungary) R1; PTV (Poland) RI; CIS RI: SVT (Sweden) E2-4. |
| 9/6/93 | RAI IA, B: TVE E2-4; TDF L2. CST R1-4; JRT (Yugoslavia) E3. 4: RUV (Iceland) E3. 4: RTSH (Albania) IC: YLE (Finland) E4: JRT (Jordan) E3: suspected NTA (Nigeria) E2; unidentified 525 -line signals on ch. A2. |
| 10/6/93 | CST R1: ARD E3: RAI IA, B; JRT E3; TDF L2, 3: TVE E2-4. |
| 11/6/93 | JRT E3; RAI IA. B: ARD E2-4; ORF E2a, 4; +PTT E2. 3; TVR (Romania) R2; CST R1, 2; TVP (Poland) R2; CIS R1-3: SVT E2; NRK (Norway) E2. 3: TVE E4. |
| 12/6/93 | ARD E2; ORF E4: RAI IA. B: TDF L2: TVP R2; CST R1, 2; +PTT E2, 3; TVE E2-4. |
| 1.3/6/93 | TVE E2, 3: RAI IA; DR E3: CST R1; CIS R1; TVP R2. |
| 14/6/93 | CST R2. |
| 15/6/93 | CST R2; CIS RI: SVT £2, 3; TVE E4; RTP (Portugal) E3. |
| 17/6/93 | RAIIA, B; TVE E2-4: RTP E2, 3. |
| 18/6/93 | TVE E2; RAIIA. |
| 19/6/93 | SVT E2, 3: NRK E2-4; TVE E2. |
| 20/6/93 | ARD E2: RAIIA, B; TVE E2, 3; +PTT E3. |

21/6/93

22/6/93
24/6/93
25/6/93
26/6/9. 3
27/6/93
28/6/93

DR E3; SVT E2-3; NRK E2, 3: CIS R2; YLE E3.
SVT E2, 4; YLE E3; +PTT E2, 4.
TVE E2, 3: RAIIA.
DR E3: TVE E2, 3.
SVTE3; RAJIA, B.
TVE E2-4.
TVE E2-4; RAI IA; ARD E2-3; MTV R2; JRT E3.
With the prolonged hot weather there were marginally improved tropospheric propagation conditions on the 5/6th, with Band III/u.h.f. reception from France and the Benelux countries, and on the $29 / 30$ th when Danish and German u.h.f. signals were received across central and southern England.

Ryn Muntjewerff and Simon Hamer have both received Tirana ch. IC, which was thought to have been closed down as part of the recently notified changes to the Albanian TV network. Can anyone suggest the source of the weak 36.83 MHz tropospheric scatter signal mentioned last month? - Brian Williams receives it from $190^{\circ}$ near Cardiff.

## News Items

Sri Lanka: Bandu Gunasekera (Colombo) reports that TNL-Telshan Network started regular broadcasting on June 21 st. Transmitter details are as follows: Hantane (Colombo area) ch. E3: Nuwara Eliya and Deniyaya ch. E4; Kandy ch. E21. There are only weak ch. E3 and 4 signals in Colombo and the u.h.f. transmissions cannot be received. Highquality f.m. TV stereo sound is available at 101.7 MHz . TNL is the fourth Sri Lankan TV network. East-West TV hopes to start a service broadcasting much of the AsiaSat-1 output (Star TV), including Prime Sports and BBC Asia WS. Channels E31, 32, 33 and 56 would be used.
Australia: Robert Copeman tells us that two new v.h.f. allocations are to be made for Channels 9A and 12. ABC-TV's ch. 2 transmitters in the main cities around the country are to move to Band III (possibly ch. 12) or u.h.f. operation.
New Zealand: Cellular-Vision NZ of Auckland plans to install microwave distribution systems in all the major cities, providing up to 49 channels.
Germany: Because of financial pressure ARD is to postpone the start of DAB (digital audio broadcasting) until 1997 at the earliest - the cost of transferring nearly three hundred ch. E12 relay stations to u.h.f. operation will be over DM30m. The first commercial, regional TV station in Berlin. Scha-moni-TV. is due to start operations in late August. Several channels have been allocated for commercial TV services in the eastern part of the country - RTL and SAT 1 will be two


[^0]of the broadcasters operating in Saxonia.
Iceland: The Stod-2 service intends to bring a microwave network into operation in Reykjavik this autumn, reaying satellite channels including Discovery, MTV, CNNI, UK Gold, Sky News and BBC WS TV. Operations will be set up in other locations later.
Turkey: Because of delays to legislation enfranchising them, nearly a hundred commercial TV stations were closed down on April 1st.
Czech Republic: All ch. R4 transmitters are to move to ch. R55: the programme is to be completed by January 1st 1995. The commercial station FTV Premiera is now broadcasting in Prague on ch. R24. It relays Super Channel with the Premiera logo at the upper right-hand corner of the screen.
Belgium: RTBF is to use the UK instead of the Percival teletext system.

## Satellite TV

Asianet is to provide a four-channel (initially) service covering much of India/Asia from the Ekran satellites at $99^{\circ}$ E. Transmissions will be at u.h.f. with powers from 4656.5 dBW .

Eutelsat plans to offer a new type of service, called Rainbow, for smaller broadcasting organisations unable to lease a transponder full time. It's expected to start when the new Eutelsat II F5 satellite comes into operation.

Intelsat is to increase its operations in the Asia/Pacific zone with satellites at $95,85,69$ and $33^{\circ} E$. The latter is of particular interest since it will be visible from the UK - its service area will cover India, parts of Asia and much of the CIS.

A new-generation large satellite known as Dong-Fang-Hong-3 is due for launch by China this winter or next spring. It will be used for broadcasting/TV and will have 24 C band transponders with a maximum e.i.r.p. of 40.5 dBW .

Filmnet is to start using digital signal compression this autumn: cable operators in Belgium and the Netherlands will be provided with decoders. Both Filmnet services will be transmitted via a single Intelsat transponder. NTL is to supply MPEG encoders while Scientific Atlanta will supply the decoders. Bear this in mind if you are thinking of buying a Filmnet decoder!

BT is to move its telecomms services from Eutelsat Il F1 at $13^{\circ} \mathrm{E}$ to Eutelsat II F3 at $16^{\circ} \mathrm{E}$. This will enable Eutelsat II F1 to be devoted solely to TV use. Late next year Eutelsat II F6 will arrive at $13^{\circ} \mathrm{E}$, offering more TV channels with increased powers - sufficient to enable 90 cm dishes to be used in Moscow.

Finally, CNNI is being transmitted terrestrially in Romania on ch. R31.

## The Way We Were

The July 1956 issue of Practical Television reported a major event - the closure of the BBC's TV transmitter at Alexandra Palace. Ally Pally as it was affectionately known was to close after twenty years" service, punctuated by the war years - though the transmitters were in use for radar experiments during this period. At close down the transmitters were the original Marconi-EMI ones made in 1936. The London area was to be served by new transmitters at Crystal Palace, where parallel units would be used so that a halfpower service could be continued in the event of one transmitter breaking down. The report commented that they would be capable of colour transmissions "when they come".

The same magazine listed the principal exhibitors at the


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National Radio Show, held at Earls Court from August 22nd. The names include Invicta, Pam, Pilot, Regentone and Spencer-West. All big names in their time but today just a dusty listing in an old maqazine.

There was also a report on early TV-DXing efforts attempts in Malta to obtain some sort of service from the newly-established Radio Audizioni Italia (RAI) transmitter at Monte Lauro, some 200 miles from Valetta. The ch. E5 transmitter's location was at $3,000 \mathrm{ft}$ a.s.l. France was still using an obsolete 414-line system - in addition to the 819line system. May 2 nd of that year saw the opening of the first TV transmitter in the Middle East, at Baghdad. Pye of Cambridge supplied the equipment and the opening date was selected to honour the birthday of King Feisel. Pye lost out in its bid to install the first TV station in Lisbon however: the contract went to RCA which bid $£ 398,060$, considerably less than Pye's bid of $£ 556,508$ !

## Multiband DX Array

We now have the answer for those who, because of planning restrictions etc., are allowed only a single DXing array: Triax has introduced a v.h.f./u.h.f. system. It incorporates a three-element array with a peak gain of $4 \cdot 5 \mathrm{dBd}$ for Band I; an array with six directors and a large reflector, giving a peak gain of 9.5 dBd , for Band III; and a high-gain ( 14 dBd peak) X-type widebeam array for u.h.f. The boom is 3.7 m long and the system weighs 6 kg . It's designed for use with $75 \Omega$ unbalance coaxial cable and is intended for the Arabic markets. You can however obtain it from Aerial Techniques (0202 738 232).

# What a Life! 

Donald Bullock

We get some strange coves here. Some of them are harder to puzzle out than the TV and video faults they bring along. Take Mr. and Mrs Bugg for example. They tottered in the other day with something wrapped in a towel in a baker's basket.
"Don't think I'm trying to be funny Mr. Er. . er. ." he said, "but are you any good at fixing transistors?"
"Theré never was such a fellah" I replied.
"Don't think I'm trying to be funny, but this is a telly transistor. My son tried superglue and blue tack but now he thinks it's a condenser, 'cos it stinks rotten. Then the cat suddenly had a fit last night."
"Let's see it" I said, pointing impatiently at his basket.
He untied the towel slowly to reveal a moggie. Something was beginning to build up in my chest.
"Not the bloody cat" I screamed, "the transistor." Then I pulled myself together. "Actually Mr. Bugg I'm a bit on edge. Busy, you know."

He ran out to his car and came back with a Toshiba 175T9B colour set.

I waved them out and opened the set up. An empty superglue tube was stuck to the inside of the cabinet and the line output transformer was covered with a black, gooey mess. There was a crater of ash in the middle and a couple of nearby resistors and a capacitor were charred.

I'd a set with a similar chassis in the workshop, so I borrowed its line output transformer. The charred resistors, R440 and R441, were both $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ while the capacitor (C445) was $0.056 \mu \mathrm{~F}$. These three items are at the earthy end of the e.h.t. system, for current monitoring purposes. I fitted the borrowed transformer, replaced the three charred components and switched on. There was an excellent picture, which pleased me. So I called Mr. Bugg on the phone to tell him of my success.
"I'll have to send for a new transformer of course" I told him. "The cost will be thirty-eight quid altogether. It's a super picture!"
"Ah now Mr. Er. . er. . , don't think I'm trying to be funny but that's a bit steep, ennit? We're old-age pensioners you know. Shall we say twenty quid? Then we'll let you do it."

It turned out to be another wasted effort. Pity.

## Mr Chausible's VCR

Then Mr. Chausible bumbled in, smiling and winking away as though in the know. "Ha, ha, it's good to be alive on such a nice day" he chortled. "The postman just gave me this letter for you." It turned out to be an electricity bill for over three hundred quid.

He'd brought his VCR with him, a Ferguson 3V44 (JVC HRD140). As he sloped off I pulled it on to the bench to try it. When I inserted a tape the carriage descended and the capstan motor, drum and on-off beacon pulsed for twenty seconds. Then the tape was ejected and the machine switched itself off.
"Swine" I thought as I opened it up. It was full of tape debris and dust, so I gave it a good mechanical service. The fault remained of course. Time for a bit of analytical thinking for a change. I decided to start at the beginning of the electromechanical cycle and studied the loading motor.

It was cutting off too early. But why the pulsing? That seemed to indicate an electrical problem. I moved to the power panel to check some voltages and saw that the 2 A fuse F2 in the centre was open. A new one restored normal operation. The current was well within the fuse's rating, even at the peaks, but I soak tested the machine to be sure that everything was o.k.

Eventually Mr. Chausible called to collect it, grinning and winking as ever.
"Twenty-five pounds" 1 said.
Chausible's smile faded and his winking eye stayed shut. "Gosh, you people aren't cheap" he said. "I'd reckoned about a fiver, even a tenner if expensive parts had been required. But twenty-five pounds!" Then he looked up. "Don't think l'm trying to be funny. . . "

## A Call from Ribby Ellis

My next caller was Ribby Ellis, who's a keen practical joker. He's spent enough time in our workshop to know how customers carry on but said that he had a couple of genuine questions for me.
"Tell me Don, which is the best telly?"
I tried to answer this one as I always do, pointing out that most sets are much of a muchness today and that it depends on what facilities are required.

He heard me out then came back with "how long will it be before tellys get cheaper?"
"They're dirt cheap today, Ribby." I went into my usual routine about the cost of a Philips G6 and a Commer 5 cwt van back in 1968 and their respective prices now.

He then wanted to know "when tellys will work without aerials. You know, like radios do?"

So I launched into my answer to that one, as I've done so often over the years. When I'd finished he asked "whether dust in tellys makes 'em fail sooner?"

This brought us to dry dust and damp dust and folks who take the backs off sets and upset them. Time was ticking away, but there were further questions about how long a tube really lasts, does it leave the sound when it fails and how long does a telly last?

I was beginning to feel irritable again. "Tell me, Ribby, how much longer are you going to throw these questions at me?"
"Till you realise I'm taking the Mick, you silly" he grinned. "Lost some of your buttons, haven't you? Name's Ribby you know."
"I know, Ribby, but I'm afraid I'm not up to it today."

## Next the Gas Man

Just then there was a tap at the door. It was Rupert Quelp. the gas man.
"Hi Donald, l've just read your meter. Don't think I'm trying to be funny, but if I were you I'd leave home before the bill comes. Have a look at my portable video, will you? It can't be much because it's o.k. most of the time. It's a Fergy 3 V 47 and it's gone off intermittently since it was new. Snoddies never managed to find out why. Nor Gumboils, or that spotty D'Arcy kid at number 29. So I'm letting you have a go. Let me know when you've found the cause, so that I can decide whether to have it put right. They're so cheaf now you see. Crubbs Foodstore have them at $£ 99.95$ and you get a hamper of goodies and a ticket in their draw for a month at Disneyland!"
"This is Disneyland" I said, "and the name's Donald Duck." I put the machine on the bench and tried it. The picture and sound were o.k. and I couldn't make it fail. So I
put it on soak test. A few hours later the vision went, leaving a snowy raster. After giving the machine a full service I looked around for dry-joints on the power and signals panels but couldn't see any. Because of the intermittent nature of the fault I spent a considerable time before finally removing the drum and discovering that the feed wires had never been soldered. When this had been attended to the machine worked perfectly, producing exceptionally good pictures.

Rupert was pleased when he called back. "Ah, a loose wire! I knew it wasn't anything much! You can't charge of course because you've not really done anything, but I'll remember the good turn. I breed reptiles you know. If you ever want to know anything about snakes or other forms of low life, just ask."

There must have been something in my expression, because he backed away and smiled weakly.
"Don't think I'm trying to be funny, Don. . ."

# CD Player Casebook 

# Reports from Mike Leach and Ronald Aranha 

## Laser Problems

A spate of faulty lasers has given us some problems recently. The first machine was a Samsung RCD995 portable radio/CD/cassette player. When brought into operation it would read a disc, play it for about a minute then stop. After that it would no longer read discs. If you left the machine switched off for a few minutes then switched on again it would once more perform for a minute or so. A new laser assembly cured the problem, but considerable adjustment was required to set it up. This made me wonder whether the original assembly had been faulty from new.

The second machine was a Pioneer PDM601. When the first disc was inserted the laser unit seemed to move towards the outside before slowly returning to the centre: after this it would sometimes but not always read the disc. The first clue we had was the fact that the machine would read only some discs, not others. A new laser assembly restored correct operation.

The third machine was a Goodmans GCD601 which had a tendency to skip and jump with long-play discs. A disc that had a playing time of less than about forty five minutes seemed to be all right. Again a new laser was the answer.
M.L.

## Sony CDPS39

The customer complained that this machine got hot and that after an hour's use the sound was distorted. We ran it on test and found that the heat it generated was, when compared with another machine, normal though it was quite warm. After forty five minutes or so the distortion set in. So we checked the eye pattern waveform at the r.f. test point. There was no clear eye pattern: it was distorted, as though clipping was taking place. We first checked the power supply, whose outputs were normal. Next a few bursts of freezer were applied to the r.f. amplifier chip, which is in the laser assembly. This restored normal sound. Hot air brought back the distortion. A new laser unit, type KSS240A, cured the fault completely.
R.A.

## Sony CDPM43

The complaint with this machine was that the display said "no disc" though there was a disc in the tray. We found that focus search took place and there was laser glow, but the disc didn't spin. So attention was turned to the spindle-motor drive circuit. The drive comes from
pins 26 and 27 of the B A6297 chip. There was a voltage across these pins when the focus o.k. signal was generated, but this voltage didn't appear across the spindle motor's terminals. The player has a double-sided PCB. As none of the tracks were open-circuit or cracked the cause of the fault had to be one of the plated-through holes. When pin 26 of the chip was wired directly to the motor's negative terminal the unit read the TOC and played normally.
R.A.

## Telefunken CD300E

This machine was not able to read the TOC. We played a few discs but there was severe skipping. A check showed that the peak-to-peak amplitude of the eye pattern waveform was just $0 \cdot 5 \mathrm{~V}$. After fitting a new laser unit, type KSS 150 A , and setting if up the machine played normally, the amplitude of the eye pattern waveform being 1.2 V peak-to-peak.
R.A.

## Sony Discman D90

There was no display, no focus search and abrupt shut down. We put the machine in the service mode but the display didn't change. The cause of the trouble was a dryjoint at the emitter of the 2SB1182 transistor Q417. Resoldering restored normal operation. It seems that the dry-joint could have been caused by the heat Q417 generates. R.A.

## Sony CDP17F

The customer complained about skipping. While checking the EF balance we found that the peak-to-peak amplitude of the waveform was just 0.5 V . The manual said it should be $1-2 \mathrm{~V}$. Lens cleaning made no difference, so a new laser unit was fitted and set up. The machine then played perfectly.
R.A.

## Sony Discman DT66

This player wouldn't read the TOC. We noticed that the spindle motor table, which holds the disc by means of three spring-loaded steel balls, was broken. Because of this there was too much wobble when a disc was loaded and rotated, hence no TOC reading. After fitting a new spindle motor, part no. A-3133-413-A, the machine worked normally. We've had this problem with a number of these players.R.A.

## CAMCORNER

## Reports from Savio Da Costa, Brian Storm, Nick Beer and Simon Bodgett

## Panasonic NVM7

The customer's complaint was that this camcorder would fail after twenty minutes or so. In fact the battery was defective. Strange, as the battery low warning didn't show and the current consumption was o.k.
S.DaC.

## Panasonic NVM7

There was no camera picture, just a blank screen. We found that the camera 16 V supply was missing at pin 5 of connector P3003 though it was present at TP1001. Obviously there was a break somewhere but a jumper wire restored a good picture.
S.DaC.

## Telefunken 890 (VHS-C)

This camcorder wouldn't play or record because the drum ran at full speed. When we opened the unit the screw that secures the cassette lid jumped out and we found that the three cassette deck mounting poles had broken away from the main housing - the deck was virtually falling off. We fixed the poles with superglue, securing the deck, and all was well when the unit had been reassembled. Presumably the camcorder had been subjected to shock and that screw had shorted somewhere without causing a massive fault. S.DaC.

## Panasonic NVM1

We recently had three of these camcorders with different faults. The first had no EVF picture in any mode, just a blank screen. Q3004 on the luminance PCB was opencircuit all ways.

The second machine would record but had no playback picture or sound. We found that the except Rec 5 V line was at 0.86 V because Q6004 on the syscon panel was opencircuit base-to-emitter.

The third one had a tape jammed inside. When we powered the machine it switched on then went off after a few seconds. The loading motor didn't operate and its driver chip IC6004 was decidely hot. A replacement i.c. restored motor operation and the tape unloaded but didn't wind back into the cassette. There was no capstan rotation because its driver chip IC2006 was faulty.
S.DaC.

## Panasonic NVMS4B

This machine was totally dead - no lights, action or anything. Voltage checks around the main systems microcontroller chip, which has a frightening number of legs, showed that the systems 5 V supply was missing. The S81350HG-KD 5V regulator IC6010 and the associated 2 SD1328 switching transistor Q6010 were both faulty. B.S.

## Panasonic NVM10B

There was a most surprising fault with this full-size camcorder. The electronic zoom operated slowly at switch on, going to full telephoto. After this the lens would usually work normally. Sometimes on auto-focus however it would move slowly to full telephoto: this occurred only when the picture was out of focus. I
vaguely recalled a feature of this model. If you leave the unit in macro, switched to auto-focus, at switch on it will zoom out of macro before attempting auto-focus. I immediately began to search through my box of used lenses. Digging out an old NVM10 lens, I removed the optical position sensors then fitted them to the faulty camera. Much to my relief this provided a complete cure. The defective sensors measured all right and the reflective strips were cleaned, but new sensors had to be fitted. Since my first experience I've had this fault with another NVM10B, so beware.
B. $S$

## National VWAM7BA

This is the power supply/charger/r.f.-av adaptor for the NVM7 camcorder. It has a switch-mode power supply with an f.e.t. as the chopper device. The unit was dead because there was no chopper drive, though the start-up voltage was present at the control chip. The cause of the fault was lack of feedback from the secondary side of the supply because rectifier D1001 was dry-jointed on all three legs.
N.B.

## Panasonic NVS6B

When this camcorder powered up, the picture from the camera head flashed like mad. The iris was opening and closing at an alarming rate, with no apparent damping. A new iris assembly put matters right.
S.B.

## Panasonic NVM40

In both record and playback a clicking noise could be heard coming from the mechanism. The cure consisted of removing a foreign body from the capstan motor area followed by motor rotor/stator clearance adjustment. S.B.

## Fuji F610/Sony CCDF330

This one came in with a damaged lens. I tried to fix it with sticky-backed tape but this didn't hold very well. After fitting a replacement lens deep depression set it: there was an unreported fault, intermittent loss of playback colour. We traced the cause to the colour a.f.c. filter capacitor C461.
S.B.

## Telefunken 4300

The customer had two complaints with this machine: noise bars on the picture and cassette eject failure. Retiming the loading mechanism restored correct mechanical operation. The noise bars were being caused by a faulty video head preamplifier.
S.B

## JVC GRAX2

The reported faults were no camera operation and the viewfinder blank when recording. This camcorder had suffered from rough handling, as a result of which the camera PCBs had sprung apart. Reassembly was all that was required.
S.B.

## Letters

## TRAINING

I cannot agree with your criticism of "educationalists" in the July leader, particularly the comments on early colour TV training. I remember attending several courses that were run for college lecturers at the time on colour systems. Prior to the decision to adopt the PAL system, NTSC was used in the course structure. Once PAL had been adopted, further lectures were arranged, at various regional centres. to familiarise us with this system - and how to set up the decoder and the shadowmask tube. Since many of us had trade experience, we were able to pass this information on to our students very successfully - quite contrary to your opinion!

In any course, some of the syllabus content is 'dead wood". But many lecturers were able to use the servicing courses as a 'diagnostic tool' with a view to transferring suitable students to higher courses, even up to degrea level. I know of several cases where students ended up as being lecturers themselves and, with their practical background. very good ones.

The biggest disaster in education was the introduction of BTEC in preference to the excellent $C \& G$ technician courses $270,271,272,281$ etc. Now we are about to see the attempted introduction of $N V Q s$, which will not produce anything like the high standards of the C\&G 224 course.

Most of the members of advisory committees are
industry based and are responsible to C\&G etc. for updating courses and introducing new ones. Why not try lobbying and hassling these people rather than college lecturers, who do a very good job considering the various pressures to which they are subjected? With a strong enough lobby and a few constructive comments to those in a position to influence committees, it may be possible to avert another impending disaster before it's too late. Now that really would be something to write an editorial about!
Ron Bravery, I.Eng., FIEEIE.
Brighton, East Susser.

## NIKKAI NT14 AND NT20 CHASSIS

In the July TV Fault Finding pages Chris Watton mentioned failure of R830 in the Nikkai NT20 chassis. Readers might be interested to know that Nikkai has a modification kit to avoid random failure of this safety resistor. It applies to the NT14 and NT20 chassis and consists of a replacement sub power supply transformer, a new chopper transistor (2SC3148), a replacement for R 830 ), a $470 \Omega$ resistor and a $10 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ capacitor. The last two items are connected in series across the diode combination D818/9. You may find that these components are already fitted. I've done only a few sets, but in each one T803 (the sub power supply transformer) had blue insulation while the replacement has white. This might be a guide when deciding whether a modification is required.

The kit is available from Willow Vale (part no. 85146 KT ). I've seen these chassis used in Dansai and Goodmans sets.
Paul Ifards.
Reading, Berks.

## RA100 - DESOLDERING STATION - RA100 <br> UK's most popular desoldering station as featured in "Television" issue February 1993 page 283

The A K Electronics Desoldering Station offers extremely good value when comparing prices of other similar desoldering stations avalable in the market place. The design and development of this equipment was started to provide a low cost high performance machine for our own use, being dissatisfied with the performance and running costs of available (and much more expensive) machines.
The specification was based on experience of various mates and models over a number of years in the television and acrospace industries. A K Electronics have decided to make these benefits available to other users. The cost of this machine can easily be recovered in time saved, reduction of damage to printed circuit boards and the value of components salvaged. It is more cost effective than solder braid.
The desolder iron recommended for use with this machine is a standard temperature controlled item manufactured by Weller. Model number DS 3 102. Spares are readily available from several sources. One of the features of this desolder station is the high powered, vane type vacuum pump, which develops some 15 inches of mercury vacuun, which is a lot of suck and cleanly removes the solder from plated through hoards. Another benefit is the low cost of replacement parts i.e. replacement vacuum pump is eurrenty $\mathbf{6 5} 3.010$.
Also no expensive filters are required.
A range of Surface Mount desoldering attachments are also available for these irons.
Spccificatuons:

Duty cevele $3016^{\prime}$, Iron supply $2+\sqrt{ }$ AC, 45 VA .
Vacuum is $\operatorname{In} \mathrm{Hg}$. Vacuum pump control via low voltage toot switch
Three main reasons why the ure very populur
1 Low cost mamentance
2 Low coss spares
3 Highly efficiont vacuam
Cost of machene without iron $E 195.65+512 p \& p+17.5 \% \mathrm{VAT}=2243.98$
Cost including DS 31112 iron $2259+\$ 12 \mathrm{pdp}+17.5 / 4 \mathrm{VAT}=2318.42$
Outsde England, carriage will be charged accordngly
Credn cards aceepled but please note a $5 \%$ surcharge will be added to tite cost price.
Postage scourdingly outside $1 / 2$
Manufatured by AK Elcaromics. Dorsel. England
Distributed bs
JJ Components, 63 The Chase, Edgware, Middx. HA8 5DN
Fax and Phone 081-9524641
Hotline 081-381 1700


# A Serviceman's Guide to PCs 

## Part 2

## David Botto

In this concluding instalment we'll take a look at software programs that are particularly useful for service department use. Just as the digital multimeter has largely replaced the analogue type, the wordprocessor has virtually superseded the typewriter. A wordprocessor types, edits, copies and deletes text in blocks. It stores standard paragraphs and sentences once typed in, recalling them whenever needed. They can be moved around within your document (the item you're working on) and used again. This all saves brain work and makes life easier.

Thus price lists for example can be produced, and revised whenever necessary, without the need to go to a printing company and the expense that involves. Some wordprocessor programs can place your company's logo, diagrams and/or pictures within your text: this is known as a graphic feature. Finished work can be checked for typing and spelling errors. Grammar and style checking programs such as Grammatik 5, StyleWriter and Wordstar's Correct Grammar enable your text to be improved before you print it out. Personalised letters and bills sent to your customers and suppliers have a professional appearance and create a good impression.

## Shareware Programs

A shareware program is one that can, for the nominal cost of a program disc, be tried out before you buy it. If you find that you like the program and want to continue to use it you pay a registration fee. This will bring you a manual and the full version of the software.

The best shareware DOS wordprocessor programs that I've tested are Galaxy Pro Light and MindReader. Galaxy Pro Light has an excellent 100,000 -word spelling checker. It's simple to use and you have the choice of text and background colours. By dividing the screen into two sections you can display two documents simultaneously: parts of one document can then be moved to the other one.

MindReader is particularly helpful for disabled people and the two-finger hunt-and-peck typist. Only the first letter(s) of a word or phrase need to be keyed in: a pop-up window then appears with a short list of words. A single keystroke selects the wanted one, the computer then automatically typing out the entire word or phrase.

But I believe that it's well worth investing in a commercial wordprocessor program. A good one will contain features and abilities that are not usually available in a shareware program, such as a preview of your finished document so that you can see exactly how it will look when printed.

## Commercial Wordprocessor Programs

The best-selling CLI (DOS-based) wordprocessor program in the world is WordPerfect 5.1 (a new version, 6.0 , has just been announced). WordPerfect is particularly suitable for those who can do a bit of typing because there's no need to use anything other than the keyboard. It needs a minimum of 384 Kbytes of RAM, but more will give you improved performance. The default screen text consists of sharply-focused white letters on a blue background
(assuming that you have a colour monitor, otherwise it's white on black). They are much easier to read than the fuzzy black letters on a white screen produced by some Windows wordprocessor programs. WordPerfect 5.1 comes with a tutor program and a straightforward lesson book, with easy-to-read manuals, making it easy to learn how to use the system.

With WordPerfect it's simple to create tables, print mailing labels, import spreadsheets and even print complex mathematical equations. Its many features are too numerous to list here. They include integration of text and graphics, enabling you to create professional-looking bills, letters, reports and news releases. A keystroke automatically inserts the date in your document. The WordPerfect Corporation has an efficient and friendly telephone help line and the company responds to enquiries by return of post.

The program has a 115,000 -word spell checker, a 10,000 head word thesaurus (to help you find the correct word to use) and a word count. Other features are bold print, underlining, macros, merge and multiple columns. There's a WYSIWYG (what you see is what you get) print-out display that can be read on a Super VGA monitor - some WYSIWYG wordprocessor programs produce what's called a 'greeked' display, with the text layout but only black lines that can't be read.

LetterPerfect is a cut down version of WordPerfect. It's suitable for those who need only the most common and widely used features of WordPerfect. These include the spell checker, thesaurus, pull-down menus and print preview. It has full WordPerfect compatibility.

Another fine DOS wordprocessor program is TopCopy Professional. This has a built-in 115,000 -word Collins dictionary and an 800,000 -word thesaurus. There's an automatic 'behind-the-scenes' copy of your document so that, in the case of a power failure, your work isn't lost. You can see at a glance how your pages of text will look when printed. Five preview sizes range from fingernail, showing a tiny picture of over twenty pages at a time, to a full-sized view of each A4 page. The TopCopy help line is excellent.

If you'd like a program with GUI interface but no need to install Windows 3.1, the European StarWriter 6.0 could be for you. DOS based, it works at high speed. There are spelling-checker and thesaurus modules in English, French and German. Install a fax card/modem board in your PC and StarWriter will automatically compose and send a fax straight to the destination fax number.

The WordPerfect 5.2 Windows version program includes the Grammatik 5 style and grammar checker, also the new WordPerfect QuickFinder, an indexing and text-retrieval feature. It's claimed to be easier to use than other Windows programs.

Word for Windows 2 is a powerful windows wordprocessor program that includes a thesaurus, a spell checker and a grammar checker.

A PC with an 80386 or preferably an 80486 microprocessor chip is required to run a Windows wordprocessor program. The Windows 3.1 program has to be loaded on the hard disc. At least 4Mbytes of RAM are needed, 8 Mbytes
for best results.
Other popular wordprocessor programs are WordStar 7, IBM DisplayWrite 5.0 (both DOS), WordStar 1.5 for Windows and Ami Pro 3 (Windows).

Make sure that the wordprocessor program you buy works with your printer. If it doesn't, the printer may produce gibberish or text with missing words or letters.

## Integrated Packages

An integrated package is a program that combines several facilities. As an inexpensive example, Microsoft Works Version 3 includes a wordprocessor program, a spreadsheet, an automatic telephone dialler, a spell checker, a thesaurus and several other features.

Geoworks Ensemble (DOS) combines a wordprocessor program, a spreadsheet and a graphic drawing program. In addition it has a planner with an appointment book, a card index file with telephone dialler, and a file and disc manager.

WordPerfect Works brings the most popular features into a single, inexpensive package. It includes LetterPerfect, a spreadsheet, a graphic editor, a database and a communication package. A small TV/video service shop should find that this program is well able to cater for its needs.

## Desktop Publishing

Desktop publishing programs enable documents to be laid out in a professional manner without involving the cost and time required when a printing shop is used. Advertisements and hand bills with pictures and drawings can be produced easily. Timeworks Publisher 3 is a reasonably priced program. Two other popular desktop programs are Aldus PageMaker (for Windows) and Express Publisher (DOS or Windows).

A PC version of Quark XPress is to be made available to PC users shortly. This company is a leader in electronic publishing. The program enables brochures, newsletters, books and newspapers to be produced.

## Accounts

Financial planning and proper book keeping are essential if a service department is to succeed. I've seen workshops where hundreds of dusty bills and receipts are impaled on a dangerous-looking spike. They await entry into an accounts book. This is usually done inaccurately and in great haste some weeks after the end of the financial year. A business that produces its accounts in this way won't show much profit and will almost certainly pay more tax than it need.

Delayed payment of employees' PAYE tax to the Inland Revenue means paying interest on the amount owed. Late payment of your VAT returns incurs heavy penalties. Accounts and spreadsheet programs prevent this, because you always know exactly where you stand. With a cashbook/accounts program it's easy to make daily entries. A VAT summary can then be printed out instantly. Yearly accounts can be printed out in the proper format quickly, ready to hand to the tax authorities.

Bank balances and charges can be displayed by your PC instantly. Banks make more mistakes with their charges than they like to admit. Your PC can check your bank's figures and could save you much money.

A spreadsheet program consists of columns of figures that show income and expenditure. Totals and balances are checked automatically, and you can see exactly how much
profit your business is making. Figures can be shown as columns, graphs or Pie charts. A spreadsheet program can calculate the profit you should be making, then compare this figure with the actual business done.

I can recommend WordPerfect Corporation's PlanPerfect spreadsheet. It interfaces with WordPerfect 5.1, is easy to use and comes with an excellent tutorial program.

Tas Books account processor is an ideal accounting program for the service engineer. It has earned good reports, is approved by the Institute of Chartered Accountants and has been inspected by the VAT office. The program is simple to use and comes with comprehensive tutorial and reference material. Tas Books shows the exact financial condition of your business. It pinpoints bad payers and helps you to get them to pay up! The program is available on a thirty-day free trial offer.

Money Manager is a particularly easy to use accounting program. It will keep your accounts and check on up to twenty different bank accounts. Full VAT reports for the week, month or year can be produced, thus keeping the VAT man happy.

## Database Packages

A database program will store customers' names and addresses, details of all rental contracts and sales and service records. When ycu keep this sort of information on your PC you may need to register with the Data Protection Registrar and pay a fee. A computerised stock control system will alert you to the spares position. You can include information on exactly equivalent parts and on those that at first seem to be interchangeable but aren't.

Two programs specially written for the TV, video and computer service departments are PC Support Group's ServiceBase and Microtest's Service Manager.

ServiceBase is a comprehensive new program that includes every function needed by the professional TV/Video service engineer. It covers all aspects of administration, keeps accurate records, issues job cards and automates stock control and parts ordering. A powerful feature is its ability to maintain a comprehensive fault data base.

Search routines enable you to check back on any repair, make, model or fault that has been previously dealt with and entered. A nice feature that's included in the package is a wordprocessor with mailmerge facility. I found it easy to learn and straightforward to use - you can simply press a key and on-screen help is immediately available. In my opinion the price is reasonable at $£ 399$ plus VAT.

Another program aimed at the TV, video and computer engineer is Microtest's Service Manager, a CLI DOS program which provides full repair logging and recall records, automatic job card production, purchase order processing, parts allocation, repair and spares costing and many other useful features.

The Service Manager program ensures that a customer is neither overcharged nor undercharged for a repair. Each user has an individual password and permission level to enter the program. Use of an incorrect password shuts the program down and records the fact that an unauthorised person tried to gain access.

The price of this program is $£ 595$ plus VAT, which is not cheap. It does however include a free training session. A free demonstration disc, containing a working model of the program, is available from Microtest.

The cost of either of these programs should be recovered quicky through more efficient costing and faster collection of outstanding money.

Alpha Four Version 2.1 is another fine database program.

It's a powerful system with all the features required to design a sophisticated custom database application without the need to pay a programmer or learn a programming language. Claims for Alpha Four are that there are over 400,000 users and that it may be the most powerful program ever developed for a PC. You can try it for thirty days on a money-back basis. At the time when this is being written Alpha Four is being offered with a free copy of SuperStor, which is claimed to double or triple the capacity of your hard disc.

## Technical Programs

Technical programs are useful for those involved in design or research. A carefully selected CAD (computeraided design) package will draw circuit diagrams, produce graphics and models and simulate results.

The PADS-EVAL package from Emona Instruments is a surprisingly inexpensive CAD program from Australia. It can draw a circuit diagram of excellent quality - suitable for publishing in a book or magazine. The PADS-EVAL program also produces PCB designs. It will work with a wide range of printers (but not daisy-wheel types).

With a suitable A/D (analogue to digital) PCB, AXSCOPE will turn your PC into an oscilloscope that emulates digital storage. It supports sixteen data acquisition and up to four display channels.

## Buying Software

The software you should buy depends on your needs. Shop around: prices for the same software item vary widely. Establish how much hard disc and how much RAM storage are required. Make sure that the version advertised is the latest one, and that it is in stock. Check the delivery time. Don't forget to post the registration card after you've taken delivery - it entitles you to free technical support. Table 1 lists all the programs mentioned in this article and the best prices that I could locate for them at the time of writing.

## Viruses

Viruses are nasty programs produced by people whose idea of fun is to infect the programs in another person's PC, rendering the PC and the programs stored on its hard disc useless. Once a virus is on your hard disc it can infect every floppy disc that's loaded into the PC. When buying a second-hand PC, take care. It's not something that I would recommend: there is always the chance that it may be infected with a virus.

If you stay with commercial software or virus-tested shareware you are not likely to be troubled. The danger comes when you receive a floppy or microfloppy disc that contains data from an infected machine.

Before I send anyone a disc I check it and my PC with an anti-virus shareware program called F-PROT. There have been no problems to date. This program is free to private users but a business user must pay a nominal fee. I then record the information to be sent on a brand-new, virus-free disc.

The Norton Antivirus version V2.0 is an alternative comprehensive virus defence program for both DOS and Windows programs. It can detect over a thousand different viruses and can repair the infection caused by most known viruses.

Never allow copied games programs that may be infected with a virus to be loaded into your workplace PC. It's a wise precaution not to allow any game program to be loaded service engineers can all too easily succumb to spending hours playing horribly addictive, mind-bending, timewasting games.

## Training

Does a service engineer need formal training to use a PC? It's a matter of opinion, but frankly I believe that the manuals and information provided with most software programs make training unnecessary for a skilled engineer. After all he or she is used to fathoming out deep mysteries whenever a previously unknown TV set, VCR or camcorder is encountered. Training may be advisable for non-technical people who do mainly clerical work.

## Laptops and Notebooks

A laptop or notebook PC is an expensive option unless you intend to take work home. The screen text is harder to read and the price is generally much higher than that of a desk or tower unit.

Before you buy a laptop PC as an additional computer make sure that it's fully compatible with your workshop PC. The hardware in a laptop computer is similar to that in a desktop unit but is extremely compactly arranged and is thus more difficult to service.

## Modems

A modem (modulator-demodulator) enables a computer to be connected to a telephone line. It converts the computer's serial digital data to a form and frequency that can be handled by the telephone system and vice versa. The modem can be in the form of a separate unit or a PCB that plugs into one of the expansion connectors on the PC's mother board. Most PCBs are now fax modem types that turn your computer into a fax machine with modem. A fax modem card can save you a lot of money that would otherwise have to be spent on postage. Your equipment must have BT approval.

## Table 1: Software Programs

The following is a list of sources of the programs mentioned in this article at the best prices that I can find (VAT extra unless otherwise stated). It applies at the time of writing: remember that prices and specifications can and do change, so check with suppliers when making enquiries and before placing any orders.

Action Computers, 5th Floor, Alperton House, Bridgewater Road, Wembley, Middx HAD 1BR (Freefone 0800 333333) list the following programs:

Ami Pro release 3 (Windows) $£ 266$.<br>Aldus PageMaker (Windows) £434.<br>Express Publisher, DOS £99, Windows $£ 116$.<br>TopCopy Professional (DOS) $£ 87$.<br>WordPerfect 6.0 (DOS) £239.<br>LetterPerfect (DOS) $£ 75$.<br>Grammatik 5 (DOS or Windows) £78.95 (make sure that you obtain the latest, November 1992 English version). Norton Antivirus V2.1 (DOS) £109.<br>Microsoft Works Version 3 (DOS) £95.

Timeworks Publisher 3 (DOS or Windows) $£ 98$.
Wordstar 7 (DOS) £256.
Wordstar 1.5 (Windows) $£ 158$.
WordPerfect Works (DOS) $£ 86$.
There's a new release WordPerfect for Windows 5.2 $£ 219$.


#### Abstract

Alpha Software Corporation, Suite 113, The Computer Complex, City Business Park, Soke, Plymouth PL3 4BB (0752 606 881) lists Alpha Four Version 2.1 (DOS) at $£ 99$ (special offer).

Connect Software Ltd., 3 Flanchford Road, London W12 9ND (081 743 9792) lists Money Manager (DOS) at $£ 49.95$ including VAT.


Crown Computer Products Ltd, Plantation Road, Burscough Industrial Estate, Lancs L40 8JT can order PlanPerfect (DOS) £199.

Editor Software, Woodmancote House, 64 Woodmancote, Dursley GL11 4AQ (0453 548 409) lists StyleWriter DOS and Windows at $£ 145$.

Emona Instruments, PO Box K720, Haymarket, NSW 2000, Australia lists PADS-EVAL (DOS) at $\$ 49.95$ plus
postage (Australian dollars).
Megatech Software, 111-113 Wandsworth High Street, London SW18 4HY (081 874 6511) lists Tas Books (DOS) at $\mathbf{£ 9 9}$ (special offer).

Microtest Ltd., Technology House, Normandy Bay, Bodmin PL13 1EX (0208 73171) lists Service Manager * (DOS) at $£ 595$.

## P.C. Support Group, Hamilton House, 66 Palmerston Road, Northampton, NN1 5EX (0604 604677) Fax 0604 602454 supplies ServiceBase at $£ 399$.

Star Division Ltd., 56 Halford Street, Leicester LE1 1TQ (0533 626 999) lists StarWriter 6 (DOS) at $£ 99$ (special offer).

Testware, 46 The Avenue, Harrogate, N. Yorks HG1 4QD ( 0423880 471) can supply the following Shareware: Galaxy Pro Light (registered $£ 49$ ).
Mindreader (registered £59).
Watford Electronics Ltd., Finway, off Dallow Road, Luton LU1 1TR (0582 487 777) lists Correct Grammar (DOS or Windows) at $\mathbf{£ 6 0}$.

# TEST CASE 369 

Ray Rogers, sole proprietor of Wild West Aerials, had fallen on hard times. All the satellite dish installations in the area seemed to be in the hands of large contractors, and the storm-force winds that brought him so much business back in 1987 and 1990 were now but a distant memory. How he longed for some $80 \mathrm{~m} . \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{h}$. gusts to bring him some work! But something had to be done to keep the wolf from the door, and the solution seemed to Ray to lie in setting up in the TV repair trade. His aerial customers had often asked him to recommend a firm, and in the past he had told them to come along to the Test Case workshop. Instead, he would do the repairs himself. He had already gathered together a rather elderly scope and a meter. With the help of a friend in the rental business and some service manuals he should be able to get along all right.

The first set to fall into the clutches of the newly-established Wild West Repairs was a Ferguson 41P3 (IKC2 chassis). Its fault was intermittent but, hopefully, not too obscure: from time to time the size of the picture would fluctuate, both the width and height being affected. The set would sometimes work for hours without any problems, then the picture would balloon and zoom, only to settle back to normal size again. Ray had a go at the PCB and various components with a screwdriver handle, but this had no effect. He could find no sign of a width control in the set or on the circuit diagram, but he did find that twiddling the seth.t. preset control PP52 had the same effect on the picture as the fault. So far so good!

The service sheet told him that the h.t. voltage at test point BP50 should be 107 V . At this level the picture size -
judged by looking at the teletext display! - was correct. Ray left his voltmeter hooked to the test point while he got on with other things. After a while the picture began to jump about and the pointer of the Avo 8 could be seen to jitter in sympathy. At one stage the picture held still in its over-sized form. During this brief interlude the voltage recorded by the meter was seen to rise well above 107 V . The power supply section was responsible then. This TV servicing business is a doddle, thought Ray. Hi-ho Trigger!

He replaced the set-h.t. potentiometer and adjusted it for 107 V . But twenty minutes later the picture was up to its tricks again. Following the advice he obtained from his rental-trade friend on the phone Ray replaced the two high-value resistors associated with the control, RP51 ( $110 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ ) and RP53 ( $1 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ ). You guessed it - this had no effect on the fault. Back to the phone, which was picked up by the rental company's Service Manager. Not realising this, Ray was half way through his plea for more help and components before it dawned on him to whom he was talking. Thus ended the liaison between Wild West Repairs and Rhondda Rentals. Now RR was on his own! It would obviously not be expedient to turn to the Test Case workshop, which still gave him work in the aerial and dish line.

As the bits he'd changed were associated with transistor TP53, a readily available BC558, he tried a replacement. Still the picture jittered when it had a mind to. Since the fault hadn't been cured, Ray reasoned that the BC558 he'd removed must be o.k. So he fitted it in the next position down the line, TP54, the same type of transistor being used here. But the picture still got up to its tricks spasmodically. Ray decided that both of the original BC558 transistors were all right. He had now spent four hours tinkering with this TV set and had got nowhere. Every man to his trade! He booked the repair into the Test Case workshop, where Television Ted, despite an aversion to all things French, found the cause of the fault in a matter of minutes.

## Fergy Faults

Alex Mason

## ICC5 Chassis

No picture: If video signals are present at pins 3, 4 and 5 of connector BV02 on the CRT base PCB, the voltage at pin 1 is 0 V and at pin 6 is 12 V , TV50 (BC558B) on the colour decoder PCB is either leaky or short-circuit.

## IKC2 Chassis

For field foldover check whether DF16 (BY398) is leaky.
If the set is dead with the voltage at the emitter of transistor TP18 in the power supply trip circuit low (should be about 21 V ) check whether DP16 ( 1 N 4148 ) is shortcircuit.

## New TX90 Chassis

This is the chassis used in Models B39/B49F.
For field collapse check RL41 $(0.22 \Omega, 0.5 \mathrm{~W})$ or JL15 (this is not shown on the circuit diagram). Both can go opencircuit.

If there are three or more flyback lines at the top or bottom
of the scan, check whether RL10 is open-circuit then DL01 (open-circuit if the lines are at the top, short-circuit if the lines are at the bottom.)

For no remote control operation check the ST639bl/kv microcontroller chip IR01.

If there's no picture after ten minutes' use check the 27 MHz crystal QT01 on the text PCB.

Note that when RL41 is open-circuit the set will come straight on from power up and won't go into standby using either the handset or the front control.

## TX80 Chassis

In the event of a blow up in the combined power supply/line output stage check whether $\operatorname{RPOl}(27 \mathrm{k} \Omega, 3 \mathrm{~W})$ has gone high in value.

If the set is stuck in standby, check whether RP36 $(75 \mathrm{k} \Omega$, 2 W ) has gone high in value.

## Notes

If you service any Model B59F/N sets note that the microcontroller chip is not the same as that used in Models A59F/N. The B series has PAL/PAL+/SECAM and 16:9 ratio switching and is marked ICC8.

The new Model B51F is fitted with the ICC7 chassis, not the IKC2 chassis.


# VHS VCR Servicing 

## John Coombes

Most of the faults experienced with VHS VCRs are mechanical rather than electrical. If a machine is properly looked after over the years, i.e. regularly cleaned and lubricated and the belts replaced periodically, it will last longer. You can do this sort of servicing in the field and arrange for it to be done during a quiet period of the year.

## Regular Maintenance

Here's a brief schedule of things to do regularly. Clean the upper drum and the audio/control and full erase heacis. Check the pinch roller carefully - if it's badly worn you can get several problems, i.e. wow/flutter on sound, tape crimping or creasing, or vertical/horizontal jittering or tearing.

Check for worn parts in the fast forward/rewind/play idler. The rubber tyre may be shiny and/or cracked after prolonged use. Remember that a badly worn idler can cause intermittent operation which may result in tape damage, for example creasing and/or tangling or complete shredding. A worn idler may prevent rewind and/or fast forward operation, or there may be fast forward/rewind but not to the end of the tape (this can be because of a faulty tape however). There may also be very slow rewind/fast forward operation.

Check that the supply and take-up spools rotate correctly. They may be slow in operation, being in need of cleaning and slight lubrication. Clean or replace the clutch unit.

## Noisy Operation

Noisy operation can be caused by the flywheel spindle: clean and slightly lubricate it. Check for noise in the play idler and/or clutch assembly (be sure it's not coming from the cassette itself). If necessary check the brush on the drum spindle: a slight smear of grease on the brush and spindle will cure noisy operation.

The clutch assemblies and/or the take-up and supply spools can cause squeaking. In either case clean or lightly lubricate as necessary.

Check the belts: if worn or stretched they can cause noise.

## The Heads

One of the most common faults with a well-used VCR is a worn upper drum assembly. If the assembly is hard to remove, apply heat from a hairdryer - don't try to lever the assembly off as this may result in a rough surface and an incorrect tape transport path after reassembly.

If the drum seems to be o.k., check and clean the video head surfaces and clean the upper and lower drum assemblies both inside and outside.

## Worn Head Symptoms

Other things can cause the same symptoms as worn heads. If necessary check the tape path and the playback level and record current setting etc. Ensure that the back tension is correctly set and not too high. High back tension can cause early failure of the video heads. Insufficient tension on the other hand will produce symptoms like a faulty head. If the height of a replacement drum is incorrect the result may be noise bars.

A faulty video head drum usually has most effect in the
record mode. Symptoms can be black streaking or very low output from a known good tape.

## The Audio/control and Erase Heads

Dirt on the audio/control head assembly can result in a rolling picture or intermittent noise bars. If the assembly is clean, check whether a groove has been cut in the head. Another symptom is low playback audio. If the assembly is clean and undamaged, check for incorrect alignment. This can result in a noisy picture and jitter with prerecorded tapes, or you may just get incorrect tracking with prerecorded tapes.

If the sound from a previous recording is left on the tape, suspect a dirty or faulty erase head. Check also for dryjointed leads where a plug/socket is used. Repair by replacing the complete lead or soldering directly to the PCB and the head.

## Front-loading Unit

The front-loading unit can cause all sorts of troubles. The problem may be as simple as stripped cogs on the loading flap. If these are all right check the internal drive cogs and, if used, the belt. Failure to load can also be caused by a duff loading motor. Check whether the cassette in/out and cassette down switches are operating correctly and that the contacts are making good connections

## Electrical Faults

Most electrical faults occur in the power supply. Check the fuses and safety resistors and if necessary for faulty regulators. The next most common cause of troubles is the servo circuitry that controls the drum and capstan motors.

With most electrical faults a service manual and an oscilloscope are required. Thus fault-finding and repairs generally have to be carried out in the workshop.

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# TV Fault Finding 

## Philips CP110 Chassis

This set came from another dealer, the complaint being that it tripped. Once the chassis had been withdrawn it was obvious that someone had had a long and meaningful relationship with the set. The power supply had been rebuilt, with a new i.c., chopper transistor, driver transistor and optocoupler. Most of the rectifier diodes and small electrolytics were also new. But the power supply wouldn't run cleanly: it hiccupped continuously. As the conditions in the primary side of the power supply seemed to be o.k., attention was turned to the secondary side.

Fuse F1653 had blown, but a replacement lasted only a couple of minutes. This fuse protects the 15 V and 12 V supplies. The voltages were correct, but the current increased the longer the set was left in operation. Many components had been replaced in this area, including C2671 $(1,500 \mu \mathrm{~F})$ which had been fitted the wrong way round. It was fitted as the printing shows, but these are positive supplies and the positive side of the capacitor was shown connected to chassis! Fitting a new capacitor solved the problem, but when I tried it the set wouldn't go into standby. This time C2735 was found to be the wrong way round, though the printing here is correct.
P.B.

## Toshiba 2500TB

If you find that the ON4408 chopper transistor Q802 has failed, check whether the $330 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ (1W) resistor R810 is open-circuit before fitting a replacement.
P.B.

## Philips 3A Chassis

This set had no picture. We found that the sandcastle pulses were missing, though they returned when the PAL decoder board was removed. The cause of the trouble was a short from pin 10 of the TDA4580 chip to chassis - a new chip was required.
P.B.

## GoldStar Cl9902F

If you get one of these sets that's stuck in standby, check whether R761 ( $2 \cdot 7 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ ) has gone high in value. It has to change only to $3 \cdot 5 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ for the fault to occur.
P.B.

## Philips GR1-AX (Version 2)

There was a dim picture with Hanover bars visible on the colour. The sandcastle pulses were missing because D6326 ( $\mathrm{B} Z \mathrm{X} 79 \mathrm{Cl} 2$ ) was short-circuit - the type of diode varies with the set's date of production and country of origin. The serial numbers of version two sets start with SV04.
P.B.

## Sony KV2062

There was sound but the screen remained blank although e.h.t. was present. Checks at the cathodes of the c.r.t. showed that it was cut off. We traced back to the CX109 colour decoder chip where the voltages at the colour-difference signal output pins were all low. We next found that the
pulse input at pin 22 was missing. It comes from pin 20 of the $\mu \mathrm{PC} 1377$ line oscillator chip, where the voltage was at almost 0 V instead of 2 V . A new chip brought the picture back.
R.A.

## Sony CKV2760

Other than the power switch, the front panel function switches becoming jammed and failure of the line output transformer we've not previously had any problems with this TV set/monitor. Recently however two came in with other faults.

The first one showed ' 18 ' in the programme window when switched on. It didn't respond when the programme advance/decrease buttons were pressed. There was no sound and the screen was blank, though e.h.t. was present. The function switches - there are thirteen microswitches were jammed, but replacing them made no difference. Power could be turned off by using the remote control unit, but the display window didn't give the standy indication. So attention was turned to board $M$, where the system control circuitry resides. Abnormal voltage readings were found around the CX761A 16-channel memory chip IC6. When a new CX761A was fitted the set worked normally.

The problem with the second set was pincushion distortion. No difficulty about fault finding this time: diodes D816 and D818 in the pincushion correction circuit had burst open. Replacements (type ERD28-06S) restored the correct raster shape.
R.A.

## Sanyo CBP2145 (E2 Chassis)

The following fault is becoming quite common with this model. When the set is first switched on there's no picture, just snow. A normal-quality picture may appear after a while, but when the set is switched off and on again the fault symptoms are repeated. The cause of the problem is the two $10 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 16 \mathrm{~V}$ electrolytics C397 and C364. They are near a stand-off resistor that gets quite warm and dries them out.
J.E.

## Alba CTV55

This set was dead. A check across the line output transistor produced a short-circuit reading. The cause however was the FR155 efficiency diode D404 in the series chopper circuit - it's connected between pin 11 and chassis.

The customer had wired across the mains fuse, which was o.k. I do despair of the blank look one gets when you explain to a customer what bad practice it is to link across fuses.
J.E.

## Sharp C1421H

This set was stuck in standby because relay RY701 had an open-circuit winding. A new relay cured the fault. Don't get caught out like I did, trying to figure out why the set
wouldn't come out of standby with the circuit board removed from the cabinet (even with the new relay fitted). The on/off button is part of the cabinet front moulding: it doesn't just push the on/off switch in and out, it also pushes a separate little leaf switch just to the front and side of the main switch. So remember to short this out when activating the on/off switch.

## Sony KVDX21TU (AE1 Chassis)

The 2SD1548 chopper transistor Q602 was short-circuit because R614 (220』, 10W) in the snubber network had burnt out. After repairing the burnt circuit board where the resistor had once lived and replacing the transistor there was still nothing when the set was switched on. A new TEA2164 chopper control chip (IC601) brought life back to the set. J.E.

## Ferguson ICC5 Chassis

This set was tripping. Raising the PCB to the vertical position to view the underside proved to be worthwhile - a semi-carbonised dry-joint could be seen on one leg of the flyback tuning capacitor CL48. We cleaned the joint and resoldered it, then dealt with the pins of the line output transformer. The line output transistor was then checked and we weren't surprised to find that it was short-circuit all ways. A replacement brought the set back to life. J.E.

## Sony KV21XRTU

This was was dead and a quick check showed that the 135 V h.t. supply was missing. When pin 5 of the line output transformer was disconnected the power supply returned to life. A new transformer cured the fault.
J.E.

## Sharp CV2133H

If the problem is complete loss of line and field sync check transistor Q1603 on the scart panel. A 2SA950 is fitted in this position: we use a 2SA966 for greater reliability. M.Dr.

## Amstrad CTV1401/Matsui 1410/Saisho CT1400

We've had two of these sets recently with buzz on sound and caption buzz. The first one responded to a slight tweak of the i.f. output coil in the tuner. We had to fit a new tuner in the second one.
M.Dr.

## Hitachi C2524T

This set would come on for a few seconds with an excessively bright raster then trip out into standby. Checks at the cathodes of the c.r.t. produced readings of only 40 V , while the load resistors in the RGB output stages got very hot. After consulting the circuit diagram we homed in on the BC558B transistor Q801 which clamps the emitters of the RGB output transistors. It's mounted on the main PCB and was leaky between its collector and emitter. The same fault could be caused by the 9.1 V zener diode ZD804 being defective.
M.Dr.

## Sony KVM14U

Here's a fault that is becoming as common as the defective first anode rectifier in these portable sets. The symptom is intermittently going off tune. A slight tap on the side of the i.f.
can will produce the fault, which is caused by dry-joints on either T01 or T02 - the vision detector and a.f.c. coils. M.Dr.

## Ferguson ICC7 Chassis

To prevent repeated failure of the BUH5 15 chopper transistor TP29, change the value of CP29 from $2 \cdot 2 \mathrm{nF}$ to $3 \cdot 3 \mathrm{nF}$. An alternative chopper transistor, type S2000AF3, can be used if necessary.

If the S2000AF line output transistor TL19 has failed, change the value of RVO1 from $4.7 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ to $5.6 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ and add a $560 \Omega$ resistor (RV03) in series with the anode of DV01. N.B.

## Sharp C1410

There was no line lock. Resoldering various dry-joints and resetting R611 (short TF601/2 to do this) provided a cure but we then found that there was another problem - the picture had shifted to the left by a significant amount. The $300 \Omega$ line shift potentiometer R647 had no effect. Rather unexpectedly, its value had risen to about $4.7 \mathrm{k} \Omega$. A new volume control completed the job.
N.B.

## Ferguson 51P7 (TX98 Chassis)

A problem that's becoming quite common is failure of the line output transformer - usually the grey Philips type. The set pumps and doesn't work. You can usually confirm that the power supply is working all right by disconnecting the feed to the line output transformer's primary winding. When ordering a replacement the correct type must be specified: a number of different types have been used, and a list of modifications/checks comes with the replacement and must be carried out.
N.B.

## Ferguson ICC5 (IMC) Chassis

A thing to note with these sets is that VCR switching is active only with channel numbers that end in zero, i.e. 10 , 20 etc. Use of other numbers may cause problems with prerecorded tapes. Earlier ICC5 chassis sets used channel 9 for VCR operation.
N.B.

## Philips FL1.1 Chassis

This set came from another dealer with the complaint that it was dead. When switched on it went into the protection mode. You override this by shorting pins S24 and S25 together momentarnly so that fault-finding can start. When we did this the h.t. came up and there was line drive. Scope checks showed that the line protection circuit was operating, and after a few minutes we observed line collapse on the screen. A check across the line scan coil plug produced an open-circuit reading. Oh dear! If the scan coils were faulty a new tube would be required as well - the two come as an assembly. There's a PCE with a socket on the scan coils: investigation here with a meter proved that the coils were o.k., and when the PCB was unclipped a hairline fracture was seen. Bridging this with tinned copper wire cured the problem.
R.N.

## ITT TX3326 (Monoprint B Chassis)

The symptom was no teletext though the green 'text on' indicator was alight all the time. If text was selected via the remote control handset the channels wouldn't change. The cause of the trouble was the DPU 2541 chip on the text panel.
C.W.

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| Type | Order Code | $1+$ | $30+$ |
| ---: | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 3 dB | AER／ATT3 | $£ 1.95$ | $£ 1.15$ |
| 6 dB | AER／ATT6 | $£ 2.00$ | $£ 1.20$ |
| 9 dB | AER／ATT9 | $£ 2.10$ | $£ 1.25$ |
| 12 dB | AER／ATT12 | $£ 2.15$ | $£ 1.30$ |

Standard Co－Axial Metal Plug． Order Code：C357
$1+\quad 10+\quad 100+1000+2000+$
25p 22p 20p 17．5p 15p

|  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| Standard Co－Axial Metal Line Socket． |  |  |  |  |
| Order Code：C359 |  |  |  |  |
| $1+$ | $10+$ | $100+$ | $1000+$ |  |
| $44 p$ | $40 p$ | $35 p$ | $28 p$ |  |

Co－Axial Line Socket．To connect two co－axial plugs．Back to back coupler，co－axial socket at each end．Grey plastic．
$\left.\begin{array}{llcc} & & \text { Order Code：} & \text { C360 } \\ & 10+ & 100+ & 1000+ \\ \mathbf{1 +} & 10+ & 18 p & 15 p\end{array}\right) \mathbf{1 2 . 5 p}$


Co－Axial Chassis Mounting Socket．Plastic body．

|  | Order Code：C358 |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| $1+$ | $10+$ | $100+$ | $500+$ | $1000+$ |  |
| 20p | $18 p$ | $15 p$ | $13.5 p$ | $12.5 p$ |  |

## JUST ARRIVED！

## 霖需率

$\qquad$


## 750hm CO－AXIAL CABLE

TV aerial downlead cable， $1 \times 1.0 \mathrm{~mm}$ solid copper conduc－ tor．Copper braided screening．Polythene insulated． Impedance： 750 hms ．Dia： 6.5 mm ．Colour：Black．

Order Code：CBL／1／50
Price：$£ 12.99$ per 100 metre reel！！！

## 750hm CO－AXIAL CABLE

A special double screened cable，suitable for satellite appli－ cation．Copper braiding and extra foil screen．！mpedance： 750 hms ．Dia： 6.65 mm ．Centre conductor 171.0 mm ．Colour： White．

Order Code：CBL／2／50
Price： $\mathbf{£ 1 5 . 5 0}$ per 100 metre reel！！！

## T.V. AERIAL - INDOOR

Low cost sel top aerial suitable for all channels. Complete with 5 ft . cable.

Order Code: AER/1968

## SALE PRICE

£ 3.99


## TELEVERTA U.H.F. TO V.H.F.

Made in U.K., 240 V tow noise frequency changing device which block converts V.H.F input signals to U.H.F. Ideal if taking your U.H.F. TV abroad with you and' need to use it on V.H.F. systems.
Input Band: 40-240 MHz; Output Band: 590770 MHz .

Order Code: AER/CM7122/RA
Price: $\mathbf{1 +} \mathbf{£ 5 9 . 5 0} \mathbf{5 + £ 5 3 . 5 0}$


## ONE-WAY AMPLIFIER

1 in 1 out antenna amplifier for colour and black/white TV. White plastic case with on/off switch. LED indicator and 1 m lead.
Band width 40-890 MHz; Gain $7 \mathrm{~dB} \pm 1 \mathrm{~dB}$ Impedance 75 ; Power 220/240Vac 50 Hz ; Dimensions $125 \times 79 \times 50 \mathrm{~mm}$.

Order Code: AER/AMP/E1
Price: $\mathbf{1}+£ 10.50 \quad 10+£ 9.40$

## TWO-WAY AMPLIFIER

1 in 2 out High gain antenna amplifier for colour and black/white TV. White plastic case with on/off switch. LED indicator and 1 m lead.
Band width $40-890 \mathrm{MHz}$; Gain $14 \mathrm{~dB} \pm 1 \mathrm{~dB}$; Impedance $75 \Omega$; Power $220 / 240 \mathrm{Vac} 50 \mathrm{~Hz}$; Dimensions $125 \times 79 \times 50 \mathrm{~mm}$.

> Order Code: AER/AMP/12HG

Price: $\mathbf{1 + £ 1 2 . 5 0 1 0 + £ 1 1 . 2 0}$

AERIAL EXTENSION LEAD
Compact extension lead on a wind-on reel. Reel contains a built-in TV/Radio splitter. Length: 10 metres.

> Order Code: AER/REEL

Price: $\mathbf{1}+£ 5.9510+£ 3.95$


## Plug-to-Plug

TV aerial downleads with co-ax plug on each end. Available in two lengths.

| Colour: White. |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Length | Order Code | $1+$ | $10+$ |
| 2 m | AER/2TVF | $\mathbf{8 0 p}$ | $\mathbf{7 2 p}$ |
| 10 m | AER/1OTVF | $\mathbf{£ 1 . 9 9}$ | $\mathbf{£ 1 . 8 0}$ |

## Plug to Socket

A TV aerial downlead, available in two lengths. Colour: White.

| Length | Order Code | $1+$ | $10+$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2 m | AER/ETV2 | $\mathbf{8 5 p}$ | $\mathbf{7 5 p}$ |
| 10 m | AER/ETV10 | $\mathbf{£ 2 . 5 0}$ | $\mathbf{£ 2 . 2 5}$ |

## - EIGHTTV

Ideal for small hotels, residential homes, etc. Runs 8 TV sets from one derial. The unit has 9 co-ax sockets, the aerial plugs into one and the TVs into the other eight.
 Specification: Band width $40 \mathrm{MHz}-860 \mathrm{MHz}$; Gain 3 dB per channel - total 21 dB : Impedance 75 ohms ; Max. output $80 \mathrm{mV}(38 \mathrm{dBmV})$ (signal cross moduiation - 46 dB ); Noise $6 d B$; Isolation between cutputs 40 All min , Power 240 V a.c. 50 Hz ; Dimension $250 \times 100 \times 60 \mathrm{~m}$.

Order Code: AER/AMP/E8 Price: $\mathbf{1 + £ 2 7 . 5 0 \quad 4 + £ 3 . 5 0}$

## UHF/VHF/FM AERIAL WITH AMP

The TI43D is a large mesh dish antenna designed ior dual purpose for the home using $220 / 240 \mathrm{Vac}$ or mobile whilst caravanning, picnicking. boating etc. using 12 Vdc . The antenna dish can be rotated leit to right to pick up the best signal, which can then be woosted using the built-in amplifier. The amplifier may also be used to boost the signal from an external (roof top) derial, with integral
 LEDS indicating which derial in use. Gain 2OdBVHF, 30dB UHF; Gain control 0-30dB; Max. oufput level 100 IBu, Power 12 V de or 240 Var ; Dimensions $330 \times 290 \times 1100$.

Order Code: AER/EU673A Price: $\mathbf{1 + £ 1 9 . 9 9 4 + £ 1 7 . 9 9}$
 nology. This remarkable state-of-the-art design incorporates advanced microchip circuitry, an integral sigrial amplifier and a unique multi-function LED indicator. Introduced as "the aerial that thinks for itself', SUPERLOOP requires

no mains supply.

Instead, it is powered by two small batteries (not included) neatly housed in the base. SUPERLOOP sensor circuits detect whether the TV set is 'on' or 'off' and activate the signal booster only when the TV is in use, so extending the long life of the batteries even further.
An override facility is provided for unattended video recording. Designed to BS 5373. EEAB approval pending.

Order Code: ALO/1
ONLY £19.99
(Normally £25.99)

## SCART LEADS



Scart plug to BNC plug and 5 -pin 180 DIN plug. Length: 1.5 m


Scart plug to 4 phono plugs (audio) and 2 phono plugs (video). Length: 1.5 m
Order Code: AER/003 Price $\mathbf{1 +} \mathbf{£ 4 . 7 5} \mathbf{1 0 + £ 4 . 2 5}$


Scart plug to 2 BNC plugs (video) and 4 phono plugs (audio). Length: 1.5 m
Order Code: AER/004 Price 1+£4.75 10+£4.25


Scart plug to scart plug. Video and audio circuits connected. Length: 1.5 m
Order Code: AER/005 Price 1+ £2.75 10+£2.45


Scart plug to 5 -pin DIN plug and two BNC plugs. Length: $2 m$
Order Code: AER/007 Price 1+£3.99 10+£3.65


Scart plug to scart plug. All circuits connected. Length: 1.5 m
Order Code: AER/008 Price $\mathbf{1 + £ 3 . 5 0 1 0 + £ 3 . 0 5}$
Scart plug to scart plug. All circuits connected. Length: 5 m
Order Code: AER/009 Price $\mathbf{1 + £ 5 . 5 0 1 0 + £ 4 . 9 5}$


Scart plug to scart socket. All circuits connected. Length: 1.5 m
.Order Code: AER/011
Price $1+£ 3.5010+£ 3.10$
Scart plug to scart socket. All circuits connected. Length: 5m
Order Code: AER/012
Price $1+\mathbf{E 6 . 5 0} 10+\mathbf{5} .85$

## SCART ADAPTOR

Scart plug to two scart sockets. For coupling iogether three pieces of audio/video equipment with scart sockets.
Order Code: AER/015
Price 1+ £5.99 10+£5.40


## SCART ADAPTOR

Scart plug to 5 scart sockets. For coupling together three or more pieces of audio and video equipment with scart sockets.

Order Code: AER/016
Price $1+£ 13.50 \quad 10+£ 12.25$


## AUDIO BREAK-OUT BOX

A scart adaptor to tap off the audio signal from TV or video system and feed it into hi-fi systems. Scart plug to scart socket adaptor with audio out via $2 \times$ phono sockets with audio/video sound changeover switch.


Order Code: AER/017
Price $1+\mathbf{£ 8 . 2 5} 10+£ 7.35$


THREE-WAY SCART VIDEO CONTROL
Connects up to 3 video recorders (VCRs), 1 satellite +2 VCRs, 1 computer +2 VCRs. Push button switch to select viewing.
Record from satellite or another VCR whilst watching TV.
Phono output sockets for TV sound through your Hi-Fi system. Order Code: AER/BT21 Price $£ 29.99$

FIVE PAGES OF AERIALS AND ACCESSORIES IN THE MAIN CATALOGUE

PIEZO BUZZER (Extra High Sound)
A Piezo Buzzer with extra high sound output for use in alarms, etc. Internal circuitry
Input voltage 12 V DC; Input voltage 20 mA ; Sound output 100dB (A) @ 1 m type; Dimensions 39 mm dia $\times 26 \mathrm{~mm}$; Fixing centres 50 mm .


Order Code: AUD/BUZ/P2
Price: $1+£ 1.65 \quad 10+£ 1.40$

## PIEZO BUZZER (Musical)

A Musical Buzzer that plays a total of seven tunes including 'Yellow Rose of Texas', Land of Dixie' and 'When the Saints Go marching In'.
Frequency 3.5 kHz ; Power 9V DC 50 mA ; Dimensions 27 mm dia $\times 22 \mathrm{~mm}$; Fixing centres 34 mm .

Order Code: AUD/BUZ/MUS
Price: $1+£ 2.7510+£ 2.50$
MINIATURE BUZZERS ( $6 \mathrm{~V}, 9 \mathrm{~V}, 12 \mathrm{~V}$ )
Miniature Solid State Buzzers with long life, low current drain, no moving contacts, no R.F. noise and high reliability, giving a clear, penetrating sound.

rrequency approx. 500 Hz ; Output 82dB (A) @ 1 m typ; Dimensions $22 \mathrm{~mm} \times 16 \mathrm{~mm} \times 15 \mathrm{~mm}$; Fixing centres 26 mm ; Current 25 mA ; Lead length 150 mm ..

Order Codes: AUD/BLZ/6V - AUD/BUZ/9V - AUD/BUZ/12V
Prices All : 1+94p $10+88 p$
PIEZO BUZZER (Standard)
A Miniature Buzzer encased in a durable white plastic casing. This Buzzer comer complete with 90 mm leads.


Frequency approx. 5 kHz ; Output 95dB (A) 1 m typ; Dinensions 30 mm dia. $\times 14 \mathrm{~mm}$; Power 12 V DC ( 24 V DC) 100 mA ; Fixing centres 37 mm ; Lead length 90 mm .

> Order Code: AUD/BUZ/P1

Price: $1+£ 1.20 \quad 10+£ 1.08$
PIEZO BUZZER (Super Thin)
A super thin Piezo Buzzer operating on a broad voltage range from 3 to 24 V DC and incorporating a simple two hole fixing.


Frequency approx. 3.5 kHz ; Output @ $12 \mathrm{vDC}-75 \mathrm{~dB}$ (A) 0.3 m typ; Operating voltage 3-24V dc; Current @ 12 V DC - 5 mA ; Fixing centres 29 mm ; Dimensions 23.4 (dia) $\times 7 \mathrm{~mm}$.

Order Code: AUDWPM
Price: $1+£ 1.40 \quad 10+£ 1.20$
PIEZO ELECTRIC SIREN
A high powered electric Piezo Siren which emits an ear piercing warbling sound. Ideal for Alarms, Annunciators etc. White plastic body with mounting bracket.
Frequency Approx. 2.5 kHz : Output: 100dB (A) @ 1m typ; Power 12V DC 150 mA ; Dimensions $57 \mathrm{~mm} \times 42 \mathrm{~mm} \times$ 37 mm ; Fixing centres 22 mm ; Leads 300 mm


Order Code: AUD/SIR/SP12
Price: $1+£ 6.90 \quad 5+£ 6.75$

## ELECTRONIC SIREN

A gold coloured metal horn with its own circular fixing plate. The siren emits a high powered 160 cycle per minute wailing note.
Output 115dB (A) @ 3m Typ; Power 12v DC 1.5A; Dimensions 130 dia $\times 160 \mathrm{~mm}$; Sonics 160 cycles minute.

Order Code: AUD/SIR/ELT
Price: 1+£9.90 4+£9.50


## HOME ALARM PACKAGE SPECIALS

We have sold hundreds of these Home Alarm Security Packages. They are excellent value for money offering a substantial saving on list prices. OK so what do you get?


- OPTIMA XM ALARM CONTROL PANEL

■ $2 \times$ INTERNAL PIRS

- external red bell box
- 2 SETS OF DOOR CONTACTS
- SIREN FOR BELL BOX
- 100m CABLE AND CLIPS
- full fitting instructions

Order Code: SEC/PACK/OPT

## Price: $£ 130.00$



Simply connect to existing external lighting. Swivel mourited passive infra red sensor for the delection of body hat. The mounting asrrangement allows horizontal and vertical swivel of $180^{\circ}$, allowing difficult to reach areas to be covered by the beams. A built-in adjustable photo detector prevents daylight operation. Adjustable timed on period. Provided with a walk test LED.
Detection range $200^{\circ}$, (fan shaped) 15 m ; Auto reset time 9 secs. to 10 minutes; Lighting load 2 kW incande;icent, 1 kW fluorescent; Power $220 / 240 \mathrm{Vac} 50 \mathrm{~Hz}$.

Order Code; SEC/SN2002
Price: $1+£ 26.50 \quad 4+£ 22.50$

## STEREO HEADPHONES

 AO83F (TV 800)A set of headphones for use with audio or video Complete with left and right hand volume controls adjustable headband and stereo/mono adaptor.
Impedance 320hms: Response $20-18,000 \mathrm{~Hz}$; Power 100 mW ; Sensitivity 104dB @ 1kHz; Lead 2.8m screened; Plug 3.5 mm stereo.

## Audio-Head/Earphones



> Order Code: AUD/AO83F
> Price: $1+£ 4.05 \quad 10+£ 3.60$

## ULTRA MINIATURE STEREO EARPHONES

Uitra miniature stereo earphones (fit inside ear) packed in a cassette library case. Spare ear pads are included.
Impedance 320hms; Response 20

- 20,000 Hz; Power 50 mW ; Lead 1.2 mm screened: Plug 3.5 mm stereo; Weight 13grams.


## TELEPHONE PICK-UP COIL

One end has a 3.5 mm plug which fits into the socket of a tape recorder, the other end attaches by suction to a telephone enabling the conversation to be recorded. This unit does not require wiring. Pick-up coil 3.5 mm ; Dimensions $20 \mathrm{~mm} \times 17 \mathrm{~mm}$.


$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Order Code: AUD/HP/MH8 } \\
& \text { Price: } 1+£ 1.35 \\
& 10+£ 1.05
\end{aligned}
$$

> Order Code: AUD/CP Price: $1+£ 1.15$ $10+£ 1.00$

## MAGNETIC AND CRYSTAL EAR PIECES

A very useful range of magnetic and crystal earpieces. There are two choices of magnetic earpiece, each having a different plug fitting. All come with approx. 1 metre of lead.



Designed for mounting on the rear of the amp. Al;lows two pairs of speakers to be used where the amp only allows one pair. Inputs are via Spring terminals. Parallel resistive protection. Includes double sided adhesive fixing pads. Dimensions $110 \mathrm{~mm} \times 58 \mathrm{~mm} \times 30 \mathrm{~mm}$.

Order Code: LSP/SSW2
Price: $£ 7.75$ each

## STROBE <br> UNIT

This Strobe light unit with circular reflector comes housed in a veNeered wooden cabinet and incorporates a variable speed control.
Power 240 V AC, 50 Hz .
POSTAGE
$£ 3.00$


Order Code: AUD/STROBE
SPECIAL PRICE: $£ 19.99$

## RACAL FREEDOM HEADSET

## TYPE RA130/1005

Highest quality, Racal need no introduction. Complete with headband, earpiece and boom mic. fitted with lead and plug. Brand new, even supplied with neal cloth storage bag. Only one catch, yes, limited quantity. FIRST COME. FIRST SERVED.
 These monaural headsets allow the operator to listen to other people in the office at the same time.

## NORMAL PRICE OVER £130 EACH ORDER CODE: SO/357

MARCO PRICE: £45.00

## AUDIO CASSETTES



Used once and bulk erased. All fully guaranteed. Over the last 12 months we have sold over 50,000 of these tapes and demand is growing. Order now and save money.

## ALL. REPEAT ALL ARE FULLY GUARANTEED!

Maxell UDI 90 (Complete with inlay cards) Length: 90 minutes.

ORDER CODE: SO/MAX
Price: $1+85 p$ 10+ 75p 100+60p

## BASF-C90

Sorry no inlay cards, hence super low price.

## ORDER CODE: SO/BSF

Price: $1+60 p$ 10+50p 100+35p

## 

I A flashing LED built into a car cigar plug to act as a visual I I warningldeterrent that an alarm may be fitted. Simply plug I I the device into your cigar socket. Won't flatten the bAttery I and may stop your vehicle being stolen!

## ALL FOR £1.99

Order Code: Car/B200Z


## VIDEO BELTS

Comprehensive range of replacement video drive belt kits for most popular videos. Each kit contains all the belts required to give a full overhaul. High quality precision formed rubber.

| Diameter | Order | Model | Brand | No. | Prices |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (mm) | Code |  | Name | of Belts | $1+$ | $5+$ |  |
| $40,45,60.5,70.89,95,113$ | VBKOO1 | VT5000E | Hitachi | 7 | £3.00 | £2.20 |  |
| $23,32.5,48,59.5,78.5,95.5,104$ | VBK002 | HR3330 | JVC | 7 | £4.50 | £3.50 |  |
| 47.5. 86 | VBK003 | HR7700 | JVC | 2 | £1.10 | . 35 p |  |
| 28, 45.5, 87 | VBK004 | HR7650 | JVC | 3 | £1.30 | £1.00 |  |
| 32, 47. 57. 75.5, 76.93,97 | VBK005 | HR3360 | JVC | 7 | £4.45 | £3.85 |  |
| 36, 40.5, 50.5. 97. 100, 107 | VBK006 | NV3000 | Nat. Pan. | 6 | £3.15 | £2.60 |  |
| 34, 36. 51, 71.5, 107 | VBK007 | NV7200 | Nat. Pan. | 5 | £1.68 | £ $£ .35$ |  |
| 26, 36, 70.5, 100, 107 | VBK008 | NV2000 | Nat. Pan. | 5 | £2.50 | £2.00 |  |
| 36, 55.5, 60.5, 100, 107 | VBKOO9 | NV300 | Nat. Pan. | 5 | £3.00 | E.48 |  |
| 18, 27 | VBKO10 | VTC5000 | Sanyo | 2 | £5.25 | £4.10 |  |
| 28.5, 30, 41, 56, 68.5, 78, 80, 88, 100, 102, 113 | VBK011 | SHARP11 | Sharp | 11 | £4.65 | £3.85 |  |
| (VC7700). 29, 70.5, 75, 88, 112 | VBK012 | VC7300 | Sharp | 5 | 75p | S0p |  |
| 22, 26, 42, 44, 75 | VBK013 | VC9300 | Sharp | 5 | 65p | 55p |  |
| 50,81.5, 107, 109, 127.151 | VBK014 | SONY8000 | Sony | 6 | £2.99 | £2.75 |  |
| 36, 46, 88, 100, 107 | VBK015 | V7540 | Toshiba | 5 | 75p | 65p |  |

CASSETTE PLAYER DRIVE BELTS - SQUARE SECTION

A range of top quality square-section rubber cassette drive belts.

| Diameter <br> $(\mathrm{mm})$ | Order Code | Price |  |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  | $1+$ | $10+$ |
| 19 | VID/AB19 | $\mathbf{5 0 p}$ | $\mathbf{4 5 p}$ |
| 21 | VID/AB21 | $\mathbf{5 0 p}$ | $\mathbf{4 5 p}$ |
| 25 | VID/AB25 | $\mathbf{5 0 p}$ | $\mathbf{4 5 p}$ |
| 27 | VID/AB27 | $\mathbf{5 0 p}$ | $\mathbf{4 5 p}$ |
| 30 | VID/AB30 | $\mathbf{5 0 p}$ | $\mathbf{4 5 p}$ |
| 32 | VID/AB32 | $\mathbf{5 0 p}$ | $\mathbf{4 5 p}$ |
| 35 | VID/AB35 | $\mathbf{5 0 p}$ | $\mathbf{4 5 p}$ |
| 40 | VID/AB40 | $\mathbf{5 0 p}$ | $\mathbf{4 5 p}$ |
| 43 | VID/AB43 | $\mathbf{5 0 p}$ | $\mathbf{4 5 p}$ |
| 46 | VID/AB46 | $\mathbf{5 0 p}$ | $\mathbf{4 5 p}$ |
| 51 | VID/AB51 | $\mathbf{5 0 p}$ | $\mathbf{4 5 p}$ |
| 54 | VID/AB54 | $50 p$ | $\mathbf{4 5 p}$ |
| 57 | VID/AB57 | $\mathbf{5 0 p}$ | $\mathbf{4 5 p}$ |
| 60 | VID/AB60 | $\mathbf{5 0 p}$ | $\mathbf{4 5 p}$ |
| 63 | VID/AB63 | $\mathbf{5 0 p}$ | $\mathbf{4 5 p}$ |
| 66 | VID/AB66 | $\mathbf{5 0 p}$ | $\mathbf{4 5 p}$ |
| 70 | VID/AB70 | $\mathbf{5 0 p}$ | $\mathbf{4 5 p}$ |
| 75.5 | VID/AB755 | $\mathbf{5 0 p}$ | $\mathbf{4 5 p}$ |
| 78 | VID/AB78 | $\mathbf{5 0 p}$ | $\mathbf{4 5 p}$ |
| 83 | VID/AB83 | $\mathbf{5 0 p}$ | $\mathbf{4 5 p}$ |
| 86 | VID/AB86 | $\mathbf{5 0 p}$ | $\mathbf{4 5 p}$ |
| 90 | VID/AB90 | $\mathbf{5 0 p}$ | $\mathbf{4 5 p}$ |
| 94 | VID/AB94 | $\mathbf{5 0 p}$ | $\mathbf{4 5 p}$ |
| 100 | VID/AB100 | $\mathbf{5 0 p}$ | $\mathbf{4 5 p}$ |
| 110 | VID/AB110 | $\mathbf{5 0 p}$ | $\mathbf{4 5 p}$ |

TURNTABLE DRIVE BELTS

A range of high quality turntable drive belts covering most popular models. All 5 mm wide by 0.7 mm thick.

| Diameter <br> $(\mathrm{mm})$ | Model | Order Code | Price |  |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  | $1+$ | $10+$ |  |
| 121 |  | VID/TTB/121 | $£ 1.75$ | $£ 1.50$ |
| 125 |  | VID/TTB125 | $£ 1.75$ | $£ 1.50$ |
| 138 |  | VID $/ T T B 138$ | $£ 1.75$ | $£ 1.50$ |
| 147 |  | VID/TTB/147 | $£ 1.75$ | $£ 1.50$ |
| 158 |  | VID/TTB/158 | $£ 1.75$ | $£ 1.50$ |
| 166.5 |  | VID/TTB/1665 | $£ 1.75$ | $£ 1.50$ |
| 170 | Phillips, Sanyo | VID/TTB/170 | $£ 1.75$ | $£ 1.50$ |
| 172 | BSF | VID/TTB172 | $£ 1.75$ | $£ 1.50$ |
| 175 | BSR | VID/TTB175 | $£ 1.75$ | $£ 1.50$ |
| 178 | BSF | VID/TTB178 | $£ 1.75$ | $£ 1.50$ |
| 185 | Phillips | VID/TTB185 | $£ 1.75$ | $£ 1.50$ |
| 187 | JVC | VID/TTB187 | $£ 1.75$ | $£ 1.50$ |
| 189 | JVC, sony | VID/TTB189 | $£ 1.75$ | $£ 1.50$ |
| 195 |  | VID/TTB195 | $£ 1.75$ | $£ 1.50$ |
| 201 | Sony | VID/TTB201 | $£ 1.75$ | $£ 1.50$ |
| 205 | Pioneer | VID/TTB205 | $£ 1.75$ | $£ 1.50$ |
| 210 |  | VID/TTB210 | $£ 1.75$ | $£ 1.50$ |

## VIDEO BULBS .

12V 60 MA Extra Long 28 cm leads. Suitable for VH:S Videos and general purposes.
Price: 75p Each - Buy 10 at 60p each

## VIDEO SENDER

A superb video sender that simply transmits your video/audio signals around the home - up to approx 100 ft . So if you want to watch a video on a second of third television in the house and don't want to move your VCR - you need a video sender. Simple to use, simply connect sender to VCR using leads supplied.
(Sender may also be connected to most camcorders for broadcasting live pictures)

Power: 12 Vdc (adaptor supplied)
ILLEGAL FOR USE IN U.K.
Order Code: SO/SENDER
Price: $1+£ 17.50 \quad 4+£ 15.00$

## VIDEO SPARES CLEARANCE

SEND SAE FOR A LIST OF BRAND NEW, MAINLY KONIG VIDEO SPARES

We are clearing our stocks at once only prices. Many at less than original cost
Some items only small quantities.
DON'T BE DISAPPOINTE゙D
FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED!

Batteries and Accessories
POSTAGE
£3.00

## RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES -NI-CADS*

A range of Nickel Cadmium batteries that will replace dry cell batteries. Capable of being recharged some 1000 times they are very economical in all applications.
*When possible Hitachi brand will be supplied
(We offer a suitable charger for
HITANICA these Ni-Cads at the end of this section).

| Type | Volt | Ah | Order Cod | Price |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | 1+ | $10+$ | $100+$ |
| AAA | 1.2 V | 180mAh | BAT/AAA | £1.50 | £1.30 | £1.05 |
| AA | 1.2 V | 500 mAh | BAT/AA | 95p | 85p | 65p |
| AA | 1.2 V | 650 mAh | BAT/A700 | £1.75 | £1.60 |  |
| C | 1.2 V | 1.2Ah | BAT/C | £2.10 | £1.90 | £1.40 |
| C | 1.2 V | 2.0Ah | BAT/C1 | E4.20 | £3.75 | £2.50 |
| D | 1.2 V | 1.2Ah | BAT/D | £2.20 | £1.98 | £1.42 |
| D | 1.2 V | 4.0Ah | BAT/D1 | £5.50 | £4.75 | £3.95 |
| PP3 | 9 V | 110 mAh | BATPP3 | £3.95 | £3.75 | £3.55 |



## CORDLESS TELEPHONE RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES

Two different packs of replacement batteries suitable for cordless telephones.
Pack 'A' contains $3 \times A A$ solder tag batteries ( 3.6 V ). Total @ 500 mAH . Pack 'B' contains $3 \times$ Button cells with connector (3.6V. Total @ 280 mAH .

Order Code (Pack A): 02-3814 H/A
Price $£ 7.50$
Order Code (Pack B): 02-3854 H/B

$$
\text { Price } £ 8.50
$$

## SOLAR POWERED BATTERY CHARGER

Model 2806 charger. Takes up to $4 \times$ AA (HP7) size Ni-cad batteries and will charge two batteries in 4 to 6 hours. Four batteries in 10 to 14 hours, depending on the strength of available sunlight. The solar cell is housed in the hinged lid, which can be angled
 towards the sun for optimum effect.

Order Code: BAT/CHARGE/5OL
PRICE: $£ 8.50$

## SOLAR MODULES

A range of encapsulated solar cell modules mounted in sturdy and attractive black polycarbonate cases. The faceplate consists of tiny bubble magnifiers which maximises performance by enhancing light as it
strikes the cell. Output current ranges from 100 mA to 700 mA . All modules have an output 0.45 V and are fitted with threaded stud terminals. A miniature copper busbar is also fitted to enable simple parallel connection to produce the required voltage or current.

| Order Code <br> 100 | Output <br> Current | Dimensions <br> $(\mathrm{mm})$ | $1+$ | $25+$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: |
| SOLG100 | 100 mA | $45 \times 26 \times 7.5$ | $£ 1.25$ | $95 p$ |
| SOUG200 | 200 mA | $52 \times 36 \times 7.5$ | $£ 1.55$ | $£ 1.20$ |
| SOLG400 | 400 mA | $75 \times 45 \times 7.5$ | $£ 2.15$ | $£ 1.75$ |
| SOLG800 | 800 mA | $95 \times 65 \times 7.5$ | $£ 3.95$ | $£ 3.10$ |
| SOL/G1000 | 1000 mA | $95 \times 65 \times 7.5$ | $£ 4.90$ | $£ 3.95$ |

## 3V SOLAR PANELS



Produces an output of 3 V 100 mA maximum. Can be used as a power source for low current current circiuts or for triple charging AAA or AA ni-cad batteries. Dimensions: $95 \times 65 \times 7.5 \mathrm{~mm}$

|  |  | $1+$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Order Code: SOLA/715 | Price: $£ 4.95$ | 10+ |
|  |  |  |

## AMORPHOUS SILICON PHOTO VOLTAIC PANEL



A high efficiency solar panel. Supplied on an aluminium frame and supplied with tilting brackets. Pre-wiral lead supplied has croc clips, 2.5 and 3.5 mm jack plugs and 2.1 mm and 2.5 mm power plugs.
Output Order Code 6 V 2 Watt (333mA) 12V 2 Watt ( 166 mA )

SOLA720 £28.00 £26.00 SOLA725 £28.00 £26.00

## BATTERY CLIPS

Order Code: BAT/BOX/PP3S
Price: $1+8 \mathrm{p} \quad 10+6 \mathrm{p} \quad 100+4 \mathrm{p}$
P3 CLIP - HEAVY DUTY
Order Code: BAT/CLIP/PP3H


Price: $1+18 \mathrm{p} \quad 10+12 \mathrm{p} \quad 100+8 \mathrm{p}$
PP9 CLIP - STANDARD
Order Code: BAT /CLIP/PP9
Price: $1+15 p \quad 10+12 p \quad 100+8 p$

## THERE ARE <br> 18 DIFFERENT BATTERY HOLDERS IN THE MAIN CATALOGUE <br> Quantitiy prices can be quoted

 Special Offers
## BNC - 75ohm SOCKET

Very high quality bulkhead 750 hm BNC Socket manufactued by Suhner
This socket conforms to MTL, IEVC and DEF Standards. The centre contacts are gold-plated brass or beryllium copper and the body made of brass silver or chrome plated. Working voltage: 500 Vdc or AC peak, Temperature range: $-55^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to $+155^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Socket comes complete with locking washer and fixing nut.
 Mounting nut: 9 mm . Quantity available 120.

ORDER CODE: SO/002
Price: 1+80p 10+ 70p


## TUNGSTEN

 HALOGEN LAMPS EXTRA SPECIAL OFFER!

Choice of 3 wattages: 200W, 300 W and 500 W . LIMITED PERIOD ONLY
(Catalogue Price: $£ 3.75$ )
SALE PRICE: $£ 3.00$
Any four for $\mathbf{£ 1 0 . 0 0}$

## IEC MAINS LEADS - BELDEN

## IEC MAINS LEADS - 10Amp

 IEC LEAD 250V Right Angle.
## Made by Belden

This may be the highest quality lead avilable. FUlly screened cable, moulded IEC socket one end with USA plug on the other. To use in UK, simply cut off the USA plug and wire up to a standard 13A plug.
Makings on cable: 18-3. Type SJT E3462. LL-7874 Shielded GE. Length: 2 metres.

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0
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OVER 10,000 IN STOCK!!!
QUANTITY PRICES AVAILABLE
ORDER CODE: SO/307
Price: 1+ £1.00 10+85p 100+60p

## INSULATED CRIMP PACKS

## SUPER OFFER

Highest quality crimps, random mix of Red, Yellow and Blue. Plugs and sockets. Each pack contains approx. 100 mixed crimps.

ORDER CODE: SO/353
Price: $£ 3.75$


## Hi-RES MONITOR


(MADE IN UK GREEN SCREEN) USED
Very high quality monitor, complete apart from the case. Resolution at centre is 900 lines herefore ideal for computer applications. Simply input 12V @ 1.2A.

## COMPOSITE VIDEO

Supplied complete with full handbook and circuit diagram and full parts list. (Manual available separately $£ 2.00$ each)

Spec: CRT Size 7in. ( 178 mm ), Power 12V/1A, Line Frequency $15-19 \mathrm{KHZ}$, Vertical Frequency $50-60 \mathrm{HZ}$, Resolution at centre 900 lines, Linearity <2\%, EH Typical 12.0 Kv , Line Blanking 12-7.5us, Vertical Blanking 750 us, Video Input unteŕminated 12 K , terminated 75R, Video response 22 MHz , Video Rise/Fall 17nS. Video in for 35 V output 1 Vp -p.

## ORDER CODE: SO/MONITOR

Price: £19.99 Two for $\mathbf{£ 3 5 . 0 0}$


## TOROIDAL TRANSFORMER

Made in UK
Manufactured to a very high standard by St. Ives Windings.
Primary: 0-120 0-120 Secondary: 9ve 4A. 15-0-15ve @0.5A. Dimensions: Dia. 75 mm , Thickness: 38 mm .
Subject to availability we will supply fix ing hardware. (Only while stocks last)

List price in tens; $£ 24.00$ each!


## ORDER COSE: SO/268

Price: $£ 10.00$

## SCHRACK RELAY TYPE:

| $9_{A 2(1)}$ | $e^{11(4)}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\sigma_{A 1}(2)$ | $\delta_{14}$ | $\partial_{12}$ |
|  | $(5)$ | $(3)$ |

Internationally approved heavy duty PCB mounting relay
In industry standard dimensions with 1 form C contact rated at 8 Amps. Mounted on 1-0" grid.
Switching voltage: 380 Vac max. 8 A 250 Vac Dims: $28 \times 25$ $\times 11 \mathrm{~mm}$
Nominal V DC:12V 270 ohms.
ORDER CODE: SO/602
ع1.00
30\%
69
$1000+$
$55 p$

## IEC LEAD - CURLY

6 A 240 Vac Right Angle IEC plug fitted to 3 -core 0.75 mm black curly cable. Stretches to approx. 2.5 metres.

ORDER CODE: SO/604
Price: $1+£ 1.00$ 10+90p


Frequency Range and Output:
Band $A: 3.6 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ to $10 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$, output .23 volts $R M S \pm 1 / 2 \mathrm{~dB}$. Band B: $10 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ to $26 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$, output .22 volts $R M S \pm 1 / 4 \mathrm{~dB}$. Band C: $30 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ to $80 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$, output .11 volts RMS $\pm 1 / 2 \mathrm{~dB}$. BAND D: $80 \mathrm{MC} / \mathrm{S}$ to $220 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$, output . 08 volts $\mathrm{RMS} 3 / 4 \mathrm{~dB}$.

Output Impedance:
$80 \Omega$, terminated at both ends from 0-4 $\mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{S}$ lowest maximum sweep.
Price: £50

## FARNELL SWITCH MODE POWER SUPPLY

G-SERIES SWITCH MODE POWER SUPPLY. 240WATTS. FARNELL TYPE G12 5nj $\therefore \mathrm{Cl}_{1+}$
Mostly still in sealed boxes. Unused and complete with full manual. This unit is still in production. Catalogue price over £400.
Input: 240Vac. Output: 8-12.6V 20Amps.
Dimensions: $88 \times 160 \times 194 \mathrm{~mm}$.


ORDER CODE: SO/431
Price: $\mathbb{1} 60$

## WEIR SWITCH MODE POWER SUPPLY



## 50 WATTS MODEL SMM 50/12 a 24

Again, no promises but all these units seem unused. Still in original packaging. Complete with full spec. sheet and circuit diagram. (Available separately - send $£ 1$ plus SAE).
Input: 98 -132V, 196-264V.Output: OP1: 5V, OP2: +12V, OP3: $12 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{OP} 4:+24 \mathrm{~V}$.
(Fully cased). These units have just arrived and we regret that we have no cistrent ratings yet.
Dimensions: $200 \times 150 \times 60 \mathrm{~mm}$.
ORDER CODE: SO/WEIR/SMM
Price:. £17.50

## ZX SPECTRUM +2A/+3/+3A



## ALL BRAND NEW

Those of you who service/repair Sinclair computers will know what a real baryain these are. However, only limited stocks so hurry! These keyboards are made by Amstrad. Marked as follows: 40060/B ESU2456A

At time of printing, the Trade Price for this keyboard is E26.06 + VAT!!

ORDER CODE: $0 / 668$
Price: $£ 6.50$ Two for $£ 11.50$

## ORIGINAL SPCO MINIATURE RELAY

Contact material. Silver cadmium oxide, Contact Rating 7A120Vdc 5A/240ac, Mam. Switching Voltd 240ac, Max Carry Current 7A. Contact Res $<50 \mathrm{M}$ ohms, Temp Range $-25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to $+55^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Operate Time $<7.0 \mathrm{mS}$, Release Time $<10 \mathrm{mS}$, Electrical Lile > $>1 \times 10^{\circ}$ Mechanical Life. $>1 \times 10^{\prime}$ Approvals UL and CSA, L19,8, $1 \times \mathrm{H} 20.5 \mathrm{~mm}$ Pin dia. 13 mm , Coll Volts, SRUDHSS 112 D 12 V . Coll Res 400 (Vevo Code 25641016) Q/300

$$
\text { Order Code: } R / 7
$$

Price: 1+£1.75 10+£1.50



## ABS MULTI-PURPOSE BOX - STANDARD



A range of professional quality boxes, offering a high quality finish at a very realistic price. Moulded in high impact ABS to give maximum strength, they are easily punched or drilled to produce a professional looking end product. Printed circuit board slots are provided on this range except for MB6. All the lids are retained by four or 6 BA countersunk posidrive screws into brass inserts. Colour: Black.

| Internal Dim. mm |  |  | Order Code | 1+ | $10+$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A | B | C |  |  |  |
| 76 | 58 | 35 | BOXMB1 | £1.38 | £1.24 |
| 95 | 71 | 35 | BOXMB2 | E1.50 | £1.35 |
| 115 | 95 | 37 | BOX/MB3 | £1.70 | £1.53 |
| 145 | 95 | 55 | BOX/MB4 | £2.45 | £2.20 |
| 207 | 122 | 77 | BOXMB5 | £5.25 | £4.75 |
| 213 | 142 | 57 | BOX/MB6 | £4.00 | £3.60 |
| 174 | 117 | 80 | BOX/MB7 | £3.40 | £3.05 |
| 147 | 77 | 47 | BOX/MB8 | £2.20 | £2.00 |

## OUR MAIN CATALOGUE LISTS MANY MORE BOXES AND HOUSINGS - PLEASE ENQUIRE

ABS MULTIPURPOSE BOXES - MINIATURE


5Internal Dim. mm Wall Thickness Order Code 1+ 10+

| A | B | C |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 72 | 46 | 22 | 1.5 | BOX/T3 | $75 p$ | $68 p$ |
| 107 | 53 | 18 | 2.0 | BOX/T4 | $90 p$ | $81 p$ |



Two part housing, ideal for mains to low voltage power supplies. Mains input cable will be securely clamped when fitted through the slot in the base, the latter being held in place by four self-tapping scrtews. An internal divider is provided for transformer electronics isolation. The external appearance is enhanced by ribbing.
Dimensions $117 \times 63 \times 62 \mathrm{~mm}$.
Colour: Black
Order Code: BOX/PSU-2
Price: $1+£ 1.25 \quad 10+£ 1.12$

| ALL PRICES |
| :---: |
| INCLUDE VAT |


$2 \times 200 W$ CLASS A AMPLIFIER


High power class A amplifier capable of delivering $2 \times 200 \mathrm{~W}$ stereo or 400W mono in bridge mode. Inputs are direct from the speaker outputs of the car radio/cassette or low level phono inputs, with left and right level controls. Full thermal and overload protection.
Output power: $2 \times 200 \mathrm{~W}$ stereo $0.08 \%$ THD , 400 W mono $0.2 \%$ THD Signal to noise ratio: $>9 \mathrm{~dB}$, Frequency response: $10-$ 50000 Hz , Input sensitivity: $100 \mathrm{mV}-3 \mathrm{~V}$ adjustable, Input impedance: High level input $100 \Omega$, Low level input $20 \mathrm{k} \Omega$, Output impedance: $4 \Omega$, Damping factor $>180$ into $4 \Omega$, Power: 4.4 Vdc 43A nom, Dims: $240 \times 180 \times 50 \mathrm{~mm}$

## Order Code: CAR/CPA200

Price: $1+$ £107.95 $5+£ 103.75$
$4 \times 120 W$ CLASS A AMPLIFIER


High power 4-channel class A amplifier, capable of delivering 4 $x 120 \mathrm{~W}$ or $2 \times 240 \mathrm{~W}$ in bridge mode. Inputs are direct from the speaker outputs of the car radio cassette. or low level phono inputs with left and right level controls. Full thermal overload protection.
Output power: $4 \times 120 \mathrm{~W}$ or $2 \times 240 \mathrm{~W}$ (bridged), Signal to noise ratio $>90 \mathrm{~dB}$, Frequency response: $100-50000 \mathrm{~Hz}$, Input sensitivity: 100 mV -3V adJustable, Input Impedance: High level input $100 \Omega$, Low level input 20 2 , Power: 14.4 Vdc 60 A , Dims: $400 \times$ $240 \times 50 \mathrm{~mm}$

## Order Code: CAR/CPA504

Price: $£ 149.50 \quad 15+£ 128.50$

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

Class A stereo in-car amplifier capable of delivering 2 x 60W stereo or 120 W mono in bridge mode. Inputs are low level phono, with left or right level controls. Full thermal and over-
 load protection.
Output power $2 \times 60 \mathrm{~W}$ stereo $0.1 \%$ THD; 120 mono $0.1 \%$ THD; Signal to noise ratio $: \geq 80 \mathrm{~dB}$; Frequency response 20 . $20,000 \mathrm{~Hz}$; Input sensitivity $100 \mathrm{mV}-3 \mathrm{~V}$ adjustable, Input impedance - low level input $20 \mathrm{~K} \Omega$; Output impedance $4 \Omega$; Power 14.4 Vdc 15 A ;Dims: $240 \times 120 \times 50 \mathrm{~mm}$.

Order Code: CAR/CPA 100
Price: $1+£ 57.505+£ 47.50$

## CAR EQUALISER/BOOSTER - 6OWATT



Slimline 10 channel in-car graphic equaliser/booster giving 60 W of output power to four speakers. Built in 3.5 mm stereo headphone socket. Front to rear fader control. Tiwin 5-LED power level indicators. Mounting hardware included.
Output Power: 30W per channel, Frequency response: 2020000 Hz , Input Impedance: 230 hm , Control Frequencies: 30 , $60,120,250,500 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1,2,4,8, \& 16 \mathrm{kHz}$, Control Range: 12 dB cut or boost, Output Impedance: $4-80 h m$, Power: $12-14 \mathrm{Vdc} 6 \mathrm{~A}$, Dims: $148 \times 33 \times 27 \mathrm{~mm}$

## Order Code: CAR/EB1 <br> Price: $£ 27.50$

## CAR EQUALISER/BOOSTER



High power stereo equaliser booster. Twin 5-band graphic equaliser. Fader control for front/rear speakers and twin 10LED power indicators. Inputs for high or low level from car stereo. Mounting hardware included.

Output Power: 15W per channel, Frequency response: 3020000 Hz , Input Level: 300 mV (Low) 2.5 v (high), input Impedance: 500 hm . Control Frequencies: $60,250,1 \mathrm{~K}, 3.5 \mathrm{~K}, \mathrm{IO} \mathrm{H} . \mathrm{Hz}$, Output Impedance: $4-80 \mathrm{hm}$, Power :1214 Vdc

## Order Code: CAR/EB2

Price: $£ 42.95$
200W SHELF SPEAKERS


Co-axial 3-way shelf mounting speakers consisting of an $8^{\prime \prime}$ woofer with mid range and iweeter mounted on axis. These speakers ieature a very broad frequency response, ideal for digital system.
Maximum power: 200W, Frequency response: $18-30000 \mathrm{~Hz}$, Speaker size: $8^{\prime \prime}$ woofer, $2.5^{\prime \prime}$ mid range, $1.5^{\prime \prime}$ tweetel,
Impedance: $4 \Omega$, Mounting depth: 82 mm
Oinder Code: CAR/RTS830
Price: $£ 57.95$

> See the main 172 page catalogue for eight pages of in-car entertainment accessories and loudspeakers


## COMPONENT SPEAKER

 SYSTEM$2 \times 3$ way component speaker system comprising: two 6.5 woofers, two 4 mid range, two 2.25 tweeters and, all leads, filters and fixing screws. Finished in black with black mesh grilles.
Max Power: $60 \mathrm{~W} /$ side, Frequency response: $60-20 \mathrm{C} 00 \mathrm{~Hz}$, Speaker Sizes: 6.5 Woofer, 4 midrange, 2.25 Tweeter, Impedance: 4 ohm

Order Code: CAR/BO20
Price: $£ 33.50$ Per se

## IN CAR ADAPTOR

An adaptor to provide two cigar lighter sockets from the single socket provided in the car. Internally fused at 15A.


Order Code: CAR/ADAP

$$
\text { Price: }+£ 2.50 \quad 25+£ 1.75
$$

## CAR FAN - 12Vdc

A 12 Vdc oscillating car fan with a large suction cup for attaching the fan to the dashboard etc. Fully adjustable for tilt and angle. Supplied with a 1.7 m lead fitted with a cigar plug.

## Order Code: CAR/FAN

Price: $£ 5.99$

## DC/DC CONVERTER

A plug in DC/DC converter with 3, 4.5, 6 , $7.5,9 \& 12 \mathrm{~V} @ 800 \mathrm{~mA}$. Plugs directly into a car cigar lighter socket. Output via a polarity reversible lead to a 'spider' plug with $1.3,2.1, \& 2.5 \mathrm{~mm}$ DC power plugs and a 3.5 mm plug
Input Voltage: 12 Vdc nom, Output voltage: as above, Output Current: 800 mA
 max.

> Order Code: CAR/PSU/1
> Price: $£ 2.99 \quad 10$ off $£ 2.50$

AUDIO CONNECTING LEAD


High quality, for connecting in-car systems. Two gold plated phono to two gold plated phono plugs with high quality low capacitance double screened cable.

Order Code: 4.0 m CAR/053
Price: $£ 8.9510$ off $£ 8.50$

## SPEAKER LEADS

1 pair of leads fitted with low profile 2 pin DIN plugs. Length: 0.3 m
Order Code: CAR/SĹ
Price: 95 p 10 off 85 peach

## EXTENSION LEAD



Adaptor lead to project cigar lighter-type socket to a distance of 2 m . Max. current 5A. Fuses (5A) built into plug.

Order Code: CAR/PLE
PRICE: £2.75
IMMERSION HEATER


A handy mobile immersion heater for boiling water, soup, etc. Plugs into cigar lighter socket. Power: 12Vdc, 120W, Lead length 1 m .

## Order Code: 4.0 m CAR/H

Price: $£ 2.99$


## CAR CIGARETTE LIGHTER SOCKET

A 12 V car cigaratte lighter socket connected to $2 \times$ battery crocodile clips.

Order Code: CAR/JL
Price: $£ 2.9910+\mathbf{~} 2.50$

## CAR, MOTORHOME, VAN IMMOBILISER

"Tbe real tbing" as reveiewed by Practical Motorist June 1993!


A brand new design and indeed a very clever device "hich gives $100 \%$ peace of mind to the rehicle owner and causes the mould be car thief $100 \%$ fustration! This unit may also be 1. sed alongside an existing car alarm. So what's so special : bout this device"
Most alans require the owner to activate them when exiting the vehicle, which can be easily overlooked or simply forgotten. The ATl circuit orercomes this by activating the moment the engine is switched on or the vehicle is "Hot Wired", making it impossit le to forget. From the momeat the ignition is switched $w$ the Arl circuit starts timing. When the engine has started the tmit MI.SI BE DE-ACTIVATED othersise (this is the clever bit) the engine will cut out.
The thief is then faced with the problem of not unly the engine cutting out but then failing to re start. The thief will not hang around to 'repair' the vehicle - simple'.
A red LED is supplied with the kit which maly be fited to the dashboard and will remain lit all the time acting as a 1 , wal der errent to any would be thief.
Sutitable for botb Electronic and Von-Electronic Ignition cars full
fitting instructions are supplied with the assembly inst, iltions.

## SUPPLIED READY-BUILT AND HOUSI:D

Order Code: COM/AT1
$1+£ 25.99 \quad 5+£ 24.00$

| ALL PRICES |
| :---: |
| INCLUDE VAT |

Enectrical
POSTAGE £3.00



13A Fused 4 Way Extension Lead 3 metres Order Code: ELEC/MS/4LP Normally $\mathbf{E 6 . 9 9 .}$
SALE PRICE: £5.99 10 OFF £5.50


| 2 $=$  <br> 5 $=$  <br>    <br>    |
| :---: |
| 13A Twin Nylon Trailing Socket <br> White to BS1363/A |
| Orderd Code: ELEC/EXT/2 Price: $1+£ 2.1010+£ 1.89$ |






European Travel Adaptor
Order Code: ELEC/ETA
Price:
$1+£ 1.99 \quad 10+£ 1.75$


Automatic Nightlight
Order Co.te: ELEC/605 Price: $1+£ 4.99$
Spare Bulb for above Order Code: ELEC/765 Price: $£ 1.00$


A full range of Quick Blow and Anti-Surge Fuses meeting all European and British standards


## 20 mm QUICK BLOW

$100 \mathrm{~mA}, 125 \mathrm{Ma}, 160 \mathrm{~mA}, 200 \mathrm{~mA}, 250 \mathrm{~mA}, 315 \mathrm{~mA}, 400 \mathrm{~mA}$, $500 \mathrm{~mA}, 600 \mathrm{~mA}, 630 \mathrm{~mA}, 800 \mathrm{~mA}, 1 \mathrm{~A}, 1,25 \mathrm{~A}, 1,5 \mathrm{~A}, 1,6 \mathrm{~A}, 2 \mathrm{~A}$, $2.5 \mathrm{~A}, 3 \mathrm{~A}, 3.5 \mathrm{~A}, 4 \mathrm{~A} .5 \mathrm{~A}, 6.3 \mathrm{~A}, 7.5 \mathrm{~A}, 10 \mathrm{~A}, 13 \mathrm{~A}, 15 \mathrm{~A}, 20 \mathrm{~A}$.

Order Code: FUSE/QB2/Value
Price: $1+8 p \quad 10+6 p \quad 100+4 p \quad 500+2.7 p$

## ORDER 500 PIECES OF ONE VALUE AND <br> PAY ONLY 2.7P EACH INCLUDING VAT



## 20 mm ANTI SURGE

$100 \mathrm{~mA}, 125 \mathrm{~mA}, 160 \mathrm{~mA}, 200 \mathrm{~mA}, 250 \mathrm{~mA}, 315 \mathrm{~mA}, 400 \mathrm{~mA}$, $500 \mathrm{~mA}, 600 \mathrm{~mA}, 630 \mathrm{~mA}, 800 \mathrm{~mA}, 1 \mathrm{~A}, 1.25 \mathrm{~A}, 1.4 \mathrm{~A}, 1.5 \mathrm{~A}, 1.6 \mathrm{~A}$, $2 \mathrm{~A}, 2.5 \mathrm{~A}, 3 \mathrm{~A}, 3.15 \mathrm{~A}, 4 \mathrm{~A}, 5 \mathrm{~A}, 6.3 \mathrm{~A}, 7.5 \mathrm{~A}, 13 \mathrm{~A}$.

Order Code: FUSE/AS2/Value
Price: $1+18 \mathrm{p} \quad 10+15 p-100+12 p$

## 32 mm QUICK BLOW


$100 \mathrm{~mA}, 150 \mathrm{~mA}, 200 \mathrm{~mA}, 250 \mathrm{~mA}, 350 \mathrm{~mA}, 500 \mathrm{~mA}, 600 \mathrm{~mA}$, $630 \mathrm{~mA}, 750 \mathrm{~mA}, 800 \mathrm{~mA}, 1 \mathrm{~A}, 1.25 \mathrm{~A}, 1.5 \mathrm{~A}, 2 \mathrm{~A}, 2.5 \mathrm{~A}, 3 \mathrm{~A}, 4 \mathrm{~A}$, 5A, 10A, 13A, 15A, 20A

Order Code: FUSE/QB4/Value
Price: $1+9 p \quad 10+7 p \quad 100+4.5 p$

32 mm ANTI-SURGE
$100 \mathrm{~mA}, 150 \mathrm{~mA}, 200 \mathrm{~mA}, 250 \mathrm{~mA}, 350 \mathrm{~mA}, 500 \mathrm{~mA}, 600 \mathrm{~mA}$ $630 \mathrm{~mA}, 750 \mathrm{~mA}, 800 \mathrm{~mA}, 1 \mathrm{~A}, 1.25 \mathrm{~A}, 1.5 \mathrm{~A}, 2 \mathrm{~A}, 2.5 \mathrm{~A}, 3 \mathrm{~A}, 4 \mathrm{~A}$ 5A, 7.5A, 10A, 13A,

Order Code: FUSE/AS4/Value

$$
\text { Price: } 1+26 p \quad 10+24 p \quad 100+18 p
$$

## 20mm PANEL MOUNTING

Finger Release 6.3A 240V.
Order Code: FUSE/PM/20
Price: $1+36$ p $10+33$ p

## 32mm CAR LINE TYPE

Bayonet action.
Order Code: FUSE/ILB
Price: $1+12 p \quad 10+10 p$


In line white plastic fuseholder with heavy guage vire tails fitted.

Order Code: FUSE/LUC
Price: $1+32 p \quad 10+28 p$

## RESISTOR KIT - 0.25 W ( 5 off each value)

A pack containing 305 resistors. Values as listed below. Each value individually packed and each bag marked with the values enclosed. Contents: 5 of each value:
10R, 12R, 15R, 18R, 22R, 27R, 33R, 39R, 47R, 56R, 68R, 82R $100 \mathrm{R}, 120 \mathrm{R}, 150 \mathrm{R}, 180 \mathrm{R}, 220 \mathrm{R}, 270 \mathrm{R}, 330 \mathrm{R}, 390 \mathrm{R}, 470 \mathrm{R}, 560 \mathrm{R}$, 680R, 820R, $1 \mathrm{~K}, 1 \mathrm{~K} 2,1 \mathrm{~K} 5,1 \mathrm{K8}, 2 \mathrm{~K} 2,2 \mathrm{~K} 7,3 \mathrm{~K} 3,3 \mathrm{Kg}, 4 \mathrm{~K} 7,5 \mathrm{~K} 6,6 \mathrm{K8}$, $8 \mathrm{~K} 2,10 \mathrm{~K}, 12 \mathrm{~K}, 15 \mathrm{~K}, 18 \mathrm{~K}, 22 \mathrm{~K}, 27 \mathrm{~K}, 33 \mathrm{~K}, 39 \mathrm{~K}, 47 \mathrm{~K}, 56 \mathrm{~K}, 68 \mathrm{~K}, 82 \mathrm{~K}$ $100 \mathrm{~K}, 120 \mathrm{~K}, 150 \mathrm{~K}, 180 \mathrm{~K}, 220 \mathrm{~K}, 270 \mathrm{~K}, 330 \mathrm{~K}, 390 \mathrm{~K}, 470 \mathrm{~K}, 560 \mathrm{~K}$, 680K, 820K, 1 M .

## Order Code: KIT/RES/25/5

## Catalogue Price: £3.95 SALE PRICE £2.99

## RESISTOR KIT - 0.25W (10 off each value)

A pack containing 610 resistors. Values as listed below. Each value individually packed and each bag marked with the values enclosed. Contents: 10 of each value:
$10 R, 12 R, 15 R, 18 R, 22 R, 27 R, 33 R, 39 R, 47 R, 56 R, 68 R, 82 R$, 100R, $120 \mathrm{R}, 150 \mathrm{R}, 180 \mathrm{R}, 220 \mathrm{R}, 270 \mathrm{R}, 330 \mathrm{R}, 390 \mathrm{R}, 470 \mathrm{R}, 560 \mathrm{R}$, 680R, $820 \mathrm{R}, 1 \mathrm{~K}, 1 \mathrm{~K} 2,1 \mathrm{~K} 5,1 \mathrm{~K} 8,2 \mathrm{~K} 2,2 \mathrm{~K} 7,3 \mathrm{~K} 3,3 \mathrm{~K} 9,4 \mathrm{~K} 7,5 \mathrm{~K} 6,6 \mathrm{~K} 8$, $8 \mathrm{~K} \mathrm{C}, 10 \mathrm{~K}, 12 \mathrm{~K}, 15 \mathrm{~K}, 18 \mathrm{~K}, 22 \mathrm{~K}, 27 \mathrm{~K}, 33 \mathrm{~K}, 39 \mathrm{~K}, 47 \mathrm{~K}, 56 \mathrm{~K}, 68 \mathrm{~K}, 82 \mathrm{~K}$, $100 \mathrm{~K}, 120 \mathrm{~K}, 150 \mathrm{~K}, 180 \mathrm{~K}, 220 \mathrm{~K}, 270 \mathrm{~K}, 330 \mathrm{~K}, 390 \mathrm{~K}, 470 \mathrm{~K}, 560 \mathrm{~K}, 680$, 820, 1 M .

Order Code: KIT/RES/25/10
Catalogue Price: $£ 5.40$ SALE PRICE $£ 4.00$

## RESISTOR KIT - 0.25W Popular

A pack containing a total of $1,0000.25 \mathrm{~W} 5 \%$ carbon film resistors ranging in value from 10 R to 10 M . In this pack we have included larger quantities of more popular values. Each value individually packed. Contents

No. Value $10 \times 10 \mathrm{R}$ $10 \times 12 \mathrm{R}$ $10 \times 18 \mathrm{R}$ $10 \times 22 \mathrm{R}$ $10 \times 33 \mathrm{R}$ $20 \times 47 \mathrm{R}$ $10 \times 56 \mathrm{R}$ $10 \times 68 \mathrm{R}$ $10 \times 82 R$ $20 \times 100 \mathrm{R}$ $10 \times 120 R$ $10 \times 150 R$ $10 \times 180 \mathrm{R}$ $20 \times 220 \mathrm{R}$ $20 \times 270 \mathrm{R}$ $20 \times 330 \mathrm{R}$

| No. Value | No. Value | No. Value |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
| $10 \times 390 R$ | $10 \times 8 \mathrm{~K} 2$ | $15 \times 180 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $30 \times 470 \mathrm{R}$ | $30 \times 10 \mathrm{~K}$ | $20 \times 220 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $20 \times 560 \mathrm{R}$ | $15 \times 12 \mathrm{~K}$ | $15 \times 270 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $20 \times 680 \mathrm{R}$ | $15 \times 15 \mathrm{~K}$ | $15 \times 330 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $10 \times 820 \mathrm{R}$ | $15 \times 18 \mathrm{~K}$ | $10 \times 390 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $40 \times 1 \mathrm{~K}$ | $20 \times 22 \mathrm{~K}$ | $20 \times 470 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $15 \times 1 \mathrm{~K} 2$ | $15 \times 27 \mathrm{~K}$ | $10 \times 560 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $15 \times 1 \mathrm{~K} 5$ | $20 \times 33 \mathrm{~K}$ | $10 \times 680 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $10 \times 1 \mathrm{~K} 8$ | $10 \times 39 \mathrm{~K}$ | $5 \times 820 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $25 \times 2 \mathrm{~K} 2$ | $30 \times 47 \mathrm{~K}$ | $20 \times 1 \mathrm{M}$ |
| $20 \times 2 \mathrm{~K} 7$ | $20 \times 56 \mathrm{~K}$ | $10 \times 2 \mathrm{M} 2$ |
| $20 \times 3 \mathrm{~K} 3$ | $15 \times 68 \mathrm{~K}$ | $5 \times 3 \mathrm{M} 3$ |
| $15 \times 3 \mathrm{~K} 9$ | $10 \times 82 \mathrm{~K}$ | $10 \times 4 \mathrm{M} 7$ |
| $25 \times 4 \mathrm{~K} 7$ | $30 \times 100 \mathrm{~K}$ | $5 \times 6 \mathrm{M} 8$ |
| $20 \times 5 \mathrm{~K} 6$ | $20 \times 120 \mathrm{~K}$ | $20 \times 10 \mathrm{M}$ |
| $15 \times 6 \mathrm{~K} 8$ | $15 \times 150 \mathrm{~K}$ |  |

Order Code: KIT/RES/25/POP
Catalogue Price: $\mathbf{£ 7 . 0 0}$ SALE PRICE $£ 6.00$

## METAL FILM 1\% RESISTOR KIT - MR25

A pack containing a total of $1,0000.25 \mathrm{~W} 1 \%$ Metal Film premium resistors, ranging in value from 10 R to 1 M . We have included larger quantities of the more popular values.

| $10 \times 10 \mathrm{R}$ | $20 \times 220 \mathrm{R}$ | $10 \times 1 \mathrm{~K} 8$ | $15 \times 15 \mathrm{~K}$ | $40 \times 100 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $10 \times 15 \mathrm{R}$ | $20 \times 270 R$ | $10 \times 2 \mathrm{~K}$ | $10 \times 16 \mathrm{~K}$ | $15 \times 120 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $10 \times 22 R$ | $30 \times 330 \mathrm{R}$ | $20 \times 2 \mathrm{~K} 2$ | $10 \times 18 \mathrm{~K}$ | $10 \times 150 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $10 \times 33 \mathrm{R}$ | $10 \times 390 \mathrm{R}$ | $10 \times 2 \mathrm{~K} 7$ | $10 \times 20 \mathrm{~K}$ | $10 \times 180 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $10 \times 39 \mathrm{R}$ | $10 \times 430 \mathrm{R}$ | $15 \times 3 \mathrm{~K} 3$ | $20 \times 22 \mathrm{~K}$ | $15 \times 220 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $15 \times 47 \mathrm{R}$ | $20 \times 470 \mathrm{R}$ | $10 \times 3 \mathrm{~K} 9$ | $15 \times 27 \mathrm{~K}$ | $10 \times 240 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $10 \times 56 \mathrm{R}$ | $10 \times 560 \mathrm{R}$ | $25 \times 4 \mathrm{~K} 7$ | $15 \times 33 \mathrm{~K}$ | $10 \times 270 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $10 \times 68 \mathrm{R}$ | $10 \times 620 \mathrm{R}$ | $10 \times 5 \mathrm{~K} 1$ | $10 \times 39 \mathrm{~K}$ | $20 \times 330 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $10 \times 75 \mathrm{R}$ | $20 \times 680 \mathrm{R}$ | $15 \times 5 \mathrm{~K} 6$ | $10 \times 43 \mathrm{~K}$ | $10 \times 390 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $10 \times 91 \mathrm{R}$ | $10 \times 820 \mathrm{R}$ | $15 \times 6 \mathrm{~K} 8$ | $20 \times 47 \mathrm{~K}$ | $20 \times 470 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $30 \times 100 \mathrm{R}$ | $10 \times 910 \mathrm{R}$ | $10 \times 7 \mathrm{~K} 5$ | $15 \times 56 \mathrm{~K}$ | $10 \times 560 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $10 \times 120 \mathrm{R}$ | $20 \times 1 \mathrm{KO}$ | $10 \times 8 \mathrm{~K} 2$ | $10 \times 68 \mathrm{~K}$ | $15 \times 680 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $15 \times 150 \mathrm{R}$ | $20 \times 1 \mathrm{~K} 2$ | $30 \times 10 \mathrm{~K}$ | $10 \times 75 \mathrm{~K}$ | $10 \times 820 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $10 \times 180 \mathrm{R}$ | $15 \times 1 \mathrm{~K} 5$ | $15 \times 12 \mathrm{~K}$ | $10 \times 82 \mathrm{~K}$ | $30 \times 1 \mathrm{M}$ |
| Order Code: | KITMR/POP |  |  |  |

[^1]
## RESISTOR KIT - 0.5 W Popular

A pack containing a total of 1,000 of 0.5W 5\% carbon film resistors ranging in value from 2R2 to 10 M . In this pack we have included larger quantities of more popular values. Each value individually packed.

| No. Value | No. Value | No. Value | No. Value |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $5 \times 2 \mathrm{R} 2$ | $10 \times 82 \mathrm{R}$ | $20 \times 2 \mathrm{~K} 7$ | $10 \times 68 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $5 \times 2 \mathrm{R} 7$ | $20 \times 100 R$ | $20 \times 3 \mathrm{~K} 3$ | $10 \times 82 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| R5 $\times$ 3R3 | $10 \times 120 \mathrm{R}$ | $10 \times 3 \mathrm{~K} 9$ | $30 \times 100 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $5 \times 3$ R9 | $10 \times 150$ R | $25 \times 4 \mathrm{~K} 7$ | $10 \times 120 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $10 \times 4 \mathrm{R7}$ | $10 \times 180 \mathrm{R}$ | $20 \times 5 \mathrm{~K} 6$ | $10 \times 180 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $10 \times 47 \mathrm{R}$ | $20 \times 220 \mathrm{R}$ | $10 \times 8 \mathrm{~K} 2$ | $20 \times 220 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $5 \times 5 \mathrm{R} 6$ | $20 \times 270 \mathrm{R}$ | $20 \times 22 \mathrm{~K}$ | $15 \times 270 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $5 \times 6 \mathrm{R} 8$ | $20 \times 330 \mathrm{R}$ | $30 \times 10 \mathrm{~K}$ | $5 \times 280 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $5 \times 8 \mathrm{R} 2$ | $10 \times 390 \mathrm{R}$ | $15 \times 12 \mathrm{~K}$ | $15 \times 330 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $10 \times 10 \mathrm{R}$ | $30 \times 470 \mathrm{~F}$ | $15 \times 15 \mathrm{~K}$ | $10 \times 390 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $10 \times 12 R$ | $20 \times 680 \mathrm{~F}$ | $30 \times 18 \mathrm{~K}$ | $20 \times 470 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $10 \times 18 \mathrm{R}$ | $10 \times 820 \mathrm{~F}$ | $20 \times 22 \mathrm{~K}$ | $10 \times 680 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $10 \times 22 R$ | $40 \times 1 \mathrm{KO}$ | $10 \times 27 \mathrm{~K}$ | $20 \times 1 \mathrm{M}$ |
| $10 \times 33 \mathrm{R}$ | $10 \times 1 \mathrm{~K} 2$ | $20 \times 33 \mathrm{~K}$ | $10 \times 2 \mathrm{M} 2$ |
| $10 \times 47 \mathrm{R}$ | $10 \times 1 \mathrm{~K} 5$ | $10 \times 39 \mathrm{~K}$ | $5 \times 3 \mathrm{M} 3$ |
| $10 \times 56 \mathrm{R}$ | $10 \times 1 \mathrm{~K} 8$ | $30 \times 47 \mathrm{~K}$ | $10 \times 4 \mathrm{M} 7$ |
| $10 \times 68 \mathrm{R}$ | $25 \times 2 \mathrm{~K}$ | $20 \times 56 \mathrm{~K}$ | $5 \times 6 \mathrm{M} 8$ |
|  |  |  | $20 \times 10 \mathrm{M}$ |

## Catalogue Price: 1+ £9.75 SALE PRICE E8.00

## RESISTOR KIT - 0.5W (5 off each value)

A pack containing 365 resistors. Values as listed below. Each value individually packed and each bag marked with the value enclosed.

## Contents: 5 of each value

2R2, 2R7, 3R9, 4R7, 5R6, 6R8, 10R, 12R, 15R, 18R, 22R, 27R, 33R, 39R, 47R, 56R, 68R, 82R, 100R, 120R, 150 R , 180R, 220R, 270R, 330R, 390R, 470R, $560 \mathrm{R}, 680 \mathrm{R}, 1 \mathrm{~K}, 1 \mathrm{~K} 2,1 \mathrm{~K} 5 \mathrm{~K}, 1 \mathrm{~K}, 2 \mathrm{~K} 2$ $2 \mathrm{~K} 7,3 \mathrm{~K} 3,3 \mathrm{~K} 9,4 \mathrm{~K} 7,5 \mathrm{~K} 6,6 \mathrm{~K} 8,8 \mathrm{~K} 2,10 \mathrm{~K}, 12 \mathrm{~K}, 15 \mathrm{~K}, 18 \mathrm{~K}, 22 \mathrm{~K}$, $27 \mathrm{~K}, 33 \mathrm{~K}, 39 \mathrm{~K}, 47 \mathrm{~K}, 56 \mathrm{~K}, 68 \mathrm{~K}, 82 \mathrm{~K}, 100 \mathrm{~K}, 120 \mathrm{~K}, 150 \mathrm{~K}, 180 \mathrm{~K}$, $220 \mathrm{~K}, 270 \mathrm{~K}, 330 \mathrm{~K}, 390 \mathrm{~K}, 470 \mathrm{~K}, 560 \mathrm{~K}, 680 \mathrm{~K}, 820 \mathrm{~K}, 1 \mathrm{M}, 1 \mathrm{M} 2$, 1M8, 2 M 2 .

Order Code: KIT/RES/5/5
Catalogue Price: £5.50 SALE PRICE £4.50

## RESISTOR KIT - 0.5W (10 off each value)

A pack containing 730 resistors. Values as listed below. Each value individually packed and each bag marked with the value enclosed.

## Contents: 5 of each value

2R2, 2R7, 3R9, 4R7, 5R6, 6R8, 10R, 12R, 15R, 18R, 22R, 27R, 33R, 39R, 47R, 56R, 68R, 82R, 100R, 120R, $150 \mathrm{R}, 180 \mathrm{R}, \mathrm{2} 20 \mathrm{R}$, 270R, 330R, 390R, 470R, 560R, 680R, $1 \mathrm{~K}, 1 \mathrm{~K} 2,1 \mathrm{~K} 5,1 \mathrm{~K} 8,2 \mathrm{~K} 2$, 2K7, 3K3, 3K9, 4K7, 5K6, 6K8, 8K2, 10K, 12K, 15K, 18K, 22K, $27 \mathrm{~K}, 33 \mathrm{~K}, 39 \mathrm{~K}, 47 \mathrm{~K}, 56 \mathrm{~K}, 68 \mathrm{~K}, 82 \mathrm{~K}, 100 \mathrm{~K}, 120 \mathrm{~K}, 150 \mathrm{~K}, 180 \mathrm{~K}$, $220 \mathrm{~K}, 270 \mathrm{~K}, 330 \mathrm{~K}, 390 \mathrm{~K}, 470 \mathrm{~K}, 560 \mathrm{~K}, 680 \mathrm{~K}, 820 \mathrm{~K}, 1 \mathrm{M}, 1 \mathrm{M} 2$, 1M8, 2 M 2.

Order Code: KIT/RES/5/10

## Catalogue Price: £8.95 SALE PRICE £\%.50

## RESISTOR KIT - 1W (5 off each value)

A pack containing 305 resistors. Values as listed below. Each value individually packed and each bag marked with the values enclosed.

Contents: 5 of each value:
10R, 12R, 15R, 18R, 22R, 33R, 39R, 47R, 56R, 68R, 82R, 100R, 120R, 150R, 180R, $220 \mathrm{R}, 270 \mathrm{R}, 330 \mathrm{R}, 470 \mathrm{R}, 560 \mathrm{R}, 680 \mathrm{R}, 820 \mathrm{R}$, $1 \mathrm{~K}, 1 \mathrm{~K} 2,1 \mathrm{~K} 5,1 \mathrm{~K} 8,2 \mathrm{~K} 2,2 \mathrm{~K} 7,3 \mathrm{~K} 3,3 \mathrm{~K} 9,4 \mathrm{~K} 7,5 \mathrm{~K} 6,6 \mathrm{~K} 8,8 \mathrm{~K} 2,10 \mathrm{~K}$, $12 \mathrm{~K}, 15 \mathrm{~K}, 18 \mathrm{~K}, 22 \mathrm{~K}, 27 \mathrm{~K}, 33 \mathrm{~K}, 39 \mathrm{~K}, 47 \mathrm{~K}, 56 \mathrm{~K}, 68 \mathrm{~K}, 82 \mathrm{~K}, 100 \mathrm{~K}$, $120 \mathrm{~K}, 150 \mathrm{~K}, 180 \mathrm{~K}, 220 \mathrm{~K}, 270 \mathrm{~K}, 330 \mathrm{~K}, 470 \mathrm{~K}, 560 \mathrm{~K}, 680 \mathrm{~K}, 820 \mathrm{~K}$, 1 M .

Order Code: KIT/RES/1/5
Catalogue Price: £15.50 SALE PRICE £1،1.00

## RESISTOR KIT - 2 W ( 5 off each value)

A pack containing 365 resistors. Values as listed below. Each value individually packed and each bag marked with the values enclosed.
Contents: 5 of each value:
10R, $12 \mathrm{R}, 15 \mathrm{R}, 18 \mathrm{R}, 22 \mathrm{R}, 33 \mathrm{R}, 39 \mathrm{R}, 47 \mathrm{R}, 56 \mathrm{R}, 68 \mathrm{R}, 82 \mathrm{R}, 100 \mathrm{R}$, 120R, 150R, 180R, 220R, $270 \mathrm{R}, 330 \mathrm{R}, 470 \mathrm{R}, 560 \mathrm{R}, 680 \mathrm{R}, 820 \mathrm{R}$, $1 \mathrm{~K}, 1 \mathrm{~K} 2,1 \mathrm{~K} 5,1 \mathrm{~K} 8,2 \mathrm{~K} 2,2 \mathrm{~K} 7$, $3 \mathrm{~K} 3,3 \mathrm{~K} 9,4 \mathrm{~K} 7,5 \mathrm{~K} 6,6 \mathrm{~K} 8,8 \mathrm{~K} 2,10 \mathrm{~K}$, $12 \mathrm{~K}, 15 \mathrm{~K}, 18 \mathrm{~K}, 22 \mathrm{~K}, 27 \mathrm{~K}, 33 \mathrm{~K}, 39 \mathrm{~K}, 47 \mathrm{~K}, 56 \mathrm{~K}, 68 \mathrm{~K}, 82 \mathrm{~K}, 100 \mathrm{~K}$, $120 \mathrm{~K}, 150 \mathrm{~K}, 180 \mathrm{~K}, 220 \mathrm{~K}, 270 \mathrm{~K}, 330 \mathrm{~K}, 470 \mathrm{~K}, 560 \mathrm{~K}, 680 \mathrm{~K}, 820 \mathrm{~K}$, 1M, 1M2, 1M5, 1M8, 2M2, 2M7, 3M3, 3M9, 4M7, 5M6, 6M8, 8M2, 10 M .

Order Code: KIT/RES/2
Cat. Price: $\mathbf{£ 2 7 . 5 0 ~ S A L E ~ P R I C E ~ £ 2 5 . 0 0 ~}$

## CERAMIC KIT - 50V

A pack containing 12550 V disc and plate ceramics - ranging in value from 1 pF to 10 nF ( 0.01 mF ). Each value individually packed and each bag marked with the values enclosed.

Contents: 5 of each value.
$1.8 \mathrm{pF}, 2.2 \mathrm{pF}, 3.3 \mathrm{pF}, 4.7 \mathrm{pF}, 6.8 \mathrm{pF}, 8.2 \mathrm{pF}, 10 \mathrm{pF}, 15 \mathrm{pF}, 22 \mathrm{pF}$, $27 \mathrm{pF}, 47 \mathrm{pF}, 56 \mathrm{pF}, 68 \mathrm{pF}, 82 \mathrm{pF}, 100 \mathrm{pF}, 150 \mathrm{pF}, 180 \mathrm{pF}, 270 \mathrm{pF}$, $470 \mathrm{pF}, 560 \mathrm{pF}, 1000 \mathrm{pF}, 2200 \mathrm{pF}, 4700 \mathrm{pF}, 10 \mathrm{nF}$.

## Order Code: KIT/CER/50V

Cat. Price: £3.99 SALE PRICE $£ 3.50$

## PRE-SET VERTICAL KIT

A pack containing a total of 120 miniature vertical mounting preset potentiometers. A total of 13 different values. Each value individually packed.

| No. Value | No. Value | No. Value |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $5 \times 100 \mathrm{R}$ | $5 \times 2 \mathrm{K2}$ | $10 \times 47 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $5 \times 220 \mathrm{R}$ | $15 \times 4 \mathrm{K7}$ | $20 \times 100 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $5 \times 470 \mathrm{R}$ | $20 \times 10 \mathrm{~K}$ | $5 \times 220 \mathrm{~K}$ |
| $15 \times 1 \mathrm{~K}$ | $5 \times 22 \mathrm{~K}$ | $5 \times 470 \mathrm{~K}$ |
|  |  | $5 \times 1 \mathrm{Mo}$ |

Order Code: KIT//POT/VERT
Cat. Price: $\mathbf{£ 8 . 7 5}$
SALE PRICE £7.00

## PRE-SET HORIZONTAL KIT

A pack containing a total of 120 miniature horizontal mounting preset potentiometers. A total of 13 different values. Each value individually packed.

No. Value
No. Value
$5 \times 100 \mathrm{R}$
$5 \times 220 \mathrm{R}$
$5 \times 470 \mathrm{R}$
$15 \times 1 \mathrm{~K}$
$5 \times 2 \mathrm{~K} 2$
$15 \times 4 \mathrm{~K} 7$
$20 \times 10 \mathrm{~K}$
$5 \times 22 K$

No. Value
$10 \times 47 \mathrm{~K}$ $20 \times 100 \mathrm{~K}$ $5 \times 220 \mathrm{~K}$
$5 \times 470 \mathrm{~K}$
$5 \times 1$ MO
Catalogue Price £8.75)
Order Code: KIT//POT/HORIZ

Cat. Price: £8.75
SALE PRICE £7.00

## FUSE KIT - 20mm Quick Blow

A pack containing 80 Quick-Blow 20 mm fuses. Each value individually packed.

No. Value
$5 \times 100 \mathrm{~mA}$
$5 \times 250 \mathrm{~mA}$
$5 \times 315 \mathrm{~mA}$

| No. Value | No. Value |
| :--- | :--- |
| $10 \times 500 \mathrm{~mA}$ | $10 \times 3.15 \mathrm{~A}$ |
| $20 \times 1 \mathrm{~A}$ | $5 \times 5 \mathrm{~A}$ |
| $5 \times 1.6 \mathrm{~A}$ | $5 \times 6.3 \mathrm{~A}$ |
| $10 \times 2 \mathrm{~A}$ |  |

Catalogue Price $£ 4.45$ ) Order Code: KIT/FUS/QB2

Cat. Price: £4.95 SALE PRICE $\mathbf{5 3 . 7 5}$

## FUSE KIT - 20mm Anti-surge

A pack containing 80 Anti-Surge 20mm fuses. Each value individually packed.

No. Value
Contents:
$5 \times 100 \mathrm{~mA}$

| No. Value | No. Value |
| :---: | :--- |
| $5 \times 1.6 \mathrm{~A}$ | $5 \times 5 \mathrm{~A}$ |
| $5 \times 2.5 \mathrm{~A}$ | $5 \times 6.3 \mathrm{~A}$ |
| $10 \times 3.15 \mathrm{~A}$ | $20 \times 1 \mathrm{~A}$ |

Order Code: KIT/FUS/AS2
Cat. Price: $\mathbf{£ 1 2 . 5 0}$
SALE PRICE $\mathbf{£ 1 0 . 7 5}$
ELECTROLYTIC KIT - Radial
A pack containing 100 miniature radial lead electrolytic capacitors. 12 different values. Each value individually packed.

| Contents: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| No. | Value | Voltage | No | Value | Voltage |  |
| 10 | 1 mF | 63 V | 15 | 100 mF | 25 V |  |
| 10 | 2.2 mF | 63 V | 10 | 220 mF | 25 V |  |
| 10 | 4.7 mF | 63 V | 10 | 470 mF | 25 V |  |
| 15 | 10 mF | 16 V | 5 | 1000 mF | 16 V |  |
| 5 | 22 mF | 16 V | 2 | 1000 mF | 25 V |  |
| 5 | 47 mf | 16 V | 3 | 2200 mF | 16 V |  |
|  |  | Order Code: KIT/ELEC/RAD |  |  |  |  |

Cat. Price: $£ 7.95$ SALE PRICE $£ 7.25$

## ZENER DIODE KIT-400MW 5 OFF EACH VOLTAGE

A pack containing 95 zener diodes. 5 off each value from $3 V 0$ up to 33 V . Each value individually packed and the pack marked with the voltages enclosed. Voltages as follows:
$3 \mathrm{~V}, 3 \mathrm{~V} 6,4 \mathrm{~V} 7,5 \mathrm{~V} 1,5 \mathrm{~V} 6,6 \mathrm{~V} 2,7 \mathrm{~V} 5,8 \mathrm{~V} 2,9 \mathrm{~V} 1,10 \mathrm{~V}, 12 \mathrm{~V}, 15 \mathrm{~V}$, $18 \mathrm{~V}, 20 \mathrm{~V}, 22 \mathrm{~V}, 24 \mathrm{~V}, 27 \mathrm{~V}, 30 \mathrm{~V}, 33 \mathrm{~V}$.

## Order Code: KIT/ZEN/1

Cat. Price: £5.99 SALE PRICE £5.00

## ZENER DIODE KIT-1.3 W 5 OFF EACH VOLTAGE

A pack containing $95 \times 1.3 W$ Zener Diodes. Each voltage individually packed and the bag marked with the voltages enclosed. 5 off each value from 4 V 7 , to 39 V as listed below: $4 \mathrm{~V} 7,5 \mathrm{~V} 2,5 \mathrm{~V} 6,6 \mathrm{~V} 2$, $7 \mathrm{~V} 5,8 \mathrm{~V} 2,9 \mathrm{~V} 1.10 \mathrm{~V}, 12 \mathrm{~V}, 15 \mathrm{~V}, 18 \mathrm{~V}, 20 \mathrm{~V}, 22 \mathrm{~V}, 24 \mathrm{~V}, 27 \mathrm{~V}, 30 \mathrm{~V}$, $33 \mathrm{~V}, 36 \mathrm{~V}, 39 \mathrm{~V}$.

> (Catalogue Price: $£ 9.50$ )
> Order Code: KIT/ZEN/2

Cat. Price: 59.50 SALE PRICE £7.00

## LED KIT

A kit containing a good assortment of LED's and mounting clips. Kit contains; $10 \times 3 \mathrm{~mm}$ Red, $10 \times 3 \mathrm{~mm}$ Yellow, $10 \times 3 \mathrm{mn}$, Green, $30 \times$ 3 mm Clips, $10 \times 5 \mathrm{~mm}$ Red, $10 \times 5 \mathrm{~mm}$ Yellow, $10 \times 5 \mathrm{mr}$, Green, $30 \times$ 5 mm Clips.

Order Code: KIT/LED
Cat. Price: $\mathbf{8 7 . 7 5}$ SALE PRICE $\mathbf{£ 7 . 0 0}$

## IC SOCKET KIT - LOW PROFILE

A kit containing a total of 90 in profile IC sockets each kit contains; 20 x 8 pin, $20 \times 14$ pin, $20 \times 16$ pin, $5 \times 18$ pin, $5 \times 20$ pin, $5 \times 24$ pin, $10 \times 28$ pin, $5 \times 40$ pin.

Order Code: KIT/IC/1
Cat. Price: £7.50 SALE PRICE £6.75

## IC SOCKET KIT—TURNED PIN

A kit containing a total of 90 turned pin IC sockets; $20 \times 8$ pin, $20 \times 14$ pin, $20 \times 16$ pin, $5 \times 18$ pin, $5 \times 20$ pin, $5 \times 24$ pin, $10 \times 23$ pin, $5 \times 40$ pin.Order Code: KIT/IC/2


A new kit to our range, but we think you will love it. Based on the ancient practice of acupuncture but;instead of using needles we use electronics! And very effective it is too. This kit operates, as they say, in accordance with the electrical acupuncture method. A fully illustrated leaflet is included for the treatment of many ailments. Come on, give it a go! Operates on between 3 V and 12 V .

Order Code COM/KIT/003
Price: $1+£ 8.95 \quad 4+£ 8.00 \quad 10+\mathbb{E} .75$
CABLE AND METAL DETECTOR
(PCB size $60 \times 40 \mathrm{~mm}$ )


A super kit, using a ferrite antenna. The Detection' range is up to approx. 6 cm . Complete with LED for visual indication. Operates at 3 V using $2 \times \mathrm{AA}$ batteries
Applications include: Detecting cables in walls, under floors, detecting hidden pipes, nails in wood.

Order Code: COM/KIT/005
Price: $1+£ 5.95 \quad 4+£ 5.4510+£ 4.95$

## TWIN ALTERNATING LED FLASHING UNIT

Two types available - either $2 \times$ Red LEDs or $1 \times$ Red 1 $x$ Green which flash alternatively.
( PCB size $45 \times 30 \mathrm{~mm}$ )
Two Red LED's which flash alternatively at a fully adjustable rate operating on a voltage from 3 V up to 15 V , at approx. 25 mA depending on voltage it is run at. Ideal for battery use either AA, C, D or PP3 size battery.

RED ONLY Order Code COM/KIT/001
RED/GREEN Order Code COM/KIT/002
Price: $1+£ 5.99 \quad 4+£ 5.50 \quad 10+£ 5.00$

FM MINI TRANSMITTER
(PCB size $40 \times 25 \mathrm{~mm}$ )


A superb quality, very small mini-bug, idealfor baby alarms etc. Simply runs off $1 \times A A(1.5 \mathrm{~V})$ battery. Using a quality battery unit you should run for up to 1 week continuous. Whilst the range is difficult to quote, but you could achieve up to half a mile in good conditions. A well tried and tested unit, excellent value for money. Illegal for use in the UK>

Order Code COM/KIT/004
Price: $1+£ 7.50 \quad 4+£ 6.8510+£ 5.99$

CAR, MOTORHOME, VAN IMMOBILISER "The real thing" as reveiewed by Practical Motorist


A brand new design and indeed a very clever device which gives $100 \%$ peace of mind to the vehicle owner and causes the would be car thief $100 \%$ frustration! This unit may also be used aiongside an existing car alarm. So what's so, special about this device?
Mast alarms require the owner to activate them when exiting the vehicle, which can be easily overlooked or simply forgotten. The AT1 circuit overcomes this by activating the moment the engine is switched on or the vehicle is 'Hot Wired', making it impossible to forget. From the moment the ignition is switched on the AT1 circuit starts timing. When the engine has started the unit MUST BE DE-ACTIVATED otherwise (this is the clever bit) the engine will cut out.
The thief is then faced with the problem of not only the engine cutting out but then failing to re start. The thief will. not hang around to 'repair' the vehicle - simple!
A red LED is supplied with the kit which may be fitted to the dashboard and will remain lit all the time acting as a visual deterrent to any would be thief.
Suitable for both Electronic and Non-Electronic Ignition cars. Full
fitting instructions are supplied with the assembly instructions.

## SUPPLIED READY-BUILT OR IN KIT FORM KIT FORM Order Code: COM/KIT/AT1 1 - £15.00 5+£12.50 <br> READY ASSEMBLED Order Code: COM/AT1 $1+£ 25.995+24.00$

12 VOLT TO 240 VAC INVERTER KITS


The Comdek Pulse Width Modulated (PWM) Invertet Kits employ the very latest Vmos power technology, making them extremely efficient. Two Inverter Kits are available, 100VA and 250VA. Both inverters require a supply of $11-14$ volts and produce 240 Vac Square Ware Output. The output voltage is continuously adjustable from 240 Vac down to 90 Vac should lower voltage be required ie: 110 Vac equipment etc.

## 12Vdc - 240Vac , 100VA INVERTER <br> Order Code: COM/KIT/006

Price: $1+£ 39.004+£ 37.5010+£ 31.50$

## 12Vdc - 240Vac, 250VA INVERTER

Order Code: COM/KIT/007
Price: $1+$ £59.00 $4+£ 56.50 \quad 10+£ 49.50$
We are also offering these kits 'ready-assembled and tested ready to go. See below for prices.
100VA Assembled and tested (uncased)
Order Code: COM/KIT/AT2
Price: $1+£ 49.004+£ 47.50 \quad 10+£ 41.50$
250VA Assembled and tested (uncased)
Order Code: COM/KIT/AT3
Price: $1+£ 74.00 \quad 4+£ 71.50 \quad 10+£ 64.50$

## PRE-SET PACK

A mixed pack of various pre-sets. Miniature, standard, O.1W 0.25 W , vertical, horizontal. Assorted values from IOOR to 1 Meg.

Total Pack Qty: 100 pcs
ORDER CODE: PACK/001 SALE PRICE: £3-40


## POTENTIOMETER PACK

A mixed pack of pots single, dual, slider, convergence - in fact almost every kind of pot. Assorted values ranging from IOR to 1 Meg . These really are super value.

Total Pack Qty: 100 Assorted
ORDER CODE: PACK/002 SALE PRICE: £4.75
 VOLTAGE DEPENDENT RESISTOR PACK
A good mix of different types of V.D.R.s $50-500 \mathrm{~V}$ Super value Total Pack Qty: 50 Assorted
ORDER CODE: PACK 004
PRICE £3.45

## WIREWOUND RESISTOR KIT

A very mixed pack of assorted wirewound resistors. Mixed wattages and values, many popular values. A really good value pack.

Total PAck Qty: 100 assorted
ORDER CODE: PACK 004
SALE PRICE £2.75

## DIL SOCKET PACK

A good assortment of various IC sockets which may range from 8 pin to 64 pin! Generally low profile. May also include gold plated, turned pin, wirewrap etc.

Total pack Qty: 100 pcs.
ORDER CODE: PACK 009
SALE PRICE: $\mathbf{8 8 . 5 0}$

## SUPADRIV SELF TAPPING PACK - HARDWARE

A super pack of a mixture of No. $4 \times 3 / 8 \mathrm{in}$. and No. $6 \times 1 / 2 \mathrm{in}$. All Panhead hardened steel type $A B$ bright zinc.

Total Pack Qty: 100 assorted
ORDER CODE: PACK 010
SALE PRICE: $\mathbf{£ 1 . 2 5}$
MIXED SELF TAPPING SCREW PACK - HARDWARE
A good mixture of various self-tapping screws of assorted types, lengths etc. All top quality. Length's $5-10 \mathrm{~mm}$.

Total Pack Qty: 200 assorted
ORDER CODE: PACK 011
SALE PRICES: £2.75

## PRE-SET PACK 0.25W

A super selection of 0.25W Pre-sets mainly Piher enclosed. AB etc. Both vertical and horizontal and many popular values. Values may range from 100 R to 10 Meg !
Total Pack Qty: 100 pcs. assorted
ORDER CODE: PACK/016
SALE PRICE: £2.75

## POLYESTER PACK

A good assortment of various polyester capacitors. Both Radial and Axial styles, values ranging from 0.01uF up to 2.2 uF and voltages from 63 V to anything up to 1000 V ! This pack is very good value for money.

Total Pack Qty: 100 Assorted
ORDER CODE: PACK/017 SALE PRICE: £2.75

## TANTALUM BEAD CAPACITOR PACK

A random selection of tantalum bead capacitors of assorted voltages and values. many popular values.

Total Pack Qty: 50 pcs.
ORDER CODE: PACK /005
SALE PRICE: £2.75

TRANSISTOR PACK
A mixed pack of various transistors, many popular types including: $A C 169, B C 107, B C 125, B C 147, B C 148, B C 158$, BC182A, BC237, BC328, BC558, BCY72, 2N2907A, TIP126, TIP141, TIS90, 2N2222A, etc. etc.
Over $£ 17-00$ value at current catalogue prices!!
Total Pack Qty: 100 pcs
ORDER CODE: PACK/006
SALE PRICE: $£ 5.25$


## INTEGRATED CIRCUIT PACK

A super value pack containing all types of I.C's many popular types included. All are new and full spec.

Total Pack Qty: 100 pcs
ORDER CODE: PACK/007
SALE PRICE: £5-75


## CALCULATOR PACK

A mixed pack of calculators! hand held, mains, desk type, printers, non-printers, cased, uncased, damaged cases, bits missing. You name it - this pack has it! Lots of useful bits. Sold by weight.

Total pack weight 10 kg .
ORDER CODE: SO/034
SALE PRICE 85.75

M5 \& M6 Pack
A mixed pack of steel screws, a mixture of Panhead, Supadriv and Allen type. All super quality and a real bargain!

Total Pack Qty: 50 Assorted
ORDER CODE: PACK/012
SALE PRICE: $£ 1.25$

## MIXED HARDWARE JUMBO PACK

A super Jumbo pack containing all types of bo'ts, screws, washers. All mainly small types and high qualit; Also nuts etc. Length's $10-45 \mathrm{~mm}$ This pack is really super value for money.
We are selling this pack by weight: 1 Kg .. This is up to 1000 pcs depending on sizes.

Pack Size: 1 Kg .
ORDER CODE: FACK/014
SALE PRICE: £2.75

FUSE PACK
A super pack containing an assortment of fuses which could include $20 \mathrm{~mm} 32 \mathrm{~mm} \mathrm{1"} ,\mathrm{fast} \mathrm{blow} ,\mathrm{slow} \mathrm{blow}$, of fuse. Many popular sizes and values.

Total Pack Qty: 100 pcs.
ORDER CODE: FACK/015
SALE PRICE: £2-75
YOUR SURPLUS
STOCK WANTED


## THESE PACKS ARE

OUTSTANDINGLY GOOD VALUE FOR MONEY

## TRANSFORMER PACK

A superb pack containing various small transformers, all being 220/240V primary. The secondary outputs will vary anything from 4.5 V up to 12 V . Mainly chassis type but maybe some PCB types included. Current ratings anything from 200 mA to 1 Amp .

Total Pack Qty: 20 pieces
ORDER CODE: PACK/035 SALE PRICE: $£ 15.00$


## WATCH PACK

Another very mixed pack which may include LCD, LED, gents, boys, ladies and girls watches. Watches may or may not have straps, bracelets fitted. Having just seen a bracelet for sale for over $£ 7-00$ this pack is a winner! Sold by weight, but you should get $6-10$ watches.

Total Pack Weight: 0.5 Kg
ORDER CODE: PACK/037
SALÉ PRICE: $£ 5-00$

## MOTOR PACK

A good mixture of mainly 3-12Vdc motors but maybe a couple of 10 V or $220 \mathrm{~V} / 240 \mathrm{~V}$ included for good measure.

## Total Pack Qty: IOpcs

ORDER CODE: PACK/038
SALE PRICE: $£ 5-00$

## SWITCH PACK

An assortment of switches which may include: rocker, illuminated, rotary, toggle, micro, push, slide etc.

Total Pack Qty: 20 pcs.
ORDER CODE: PACK /039
SALE PRICE $£ 2.25$


## POWER SUPPLY PACK

An assortment of mainly $220 / 240 \mathrm{~V} 2$ pin low voltage power supplies useful for running calculators, radio's, walkman's etc. Most fit the standard UK shaver socket.

Total Pack Qty: 1Opcs
ORDER CODE: PACK/040
SALE PRICE: £5-99


## SOLDER PACK

A mixed pack of both 18 swg and 22 swg solder. Each pack contains 10 assorted 12 in lengths of solder.
ORDERCODE:PACK/043
SALE PRICE: $£ 1.50$



Very high quality Mini-Bug, ideal for baby alrms etc. These units are well tried and tested and may I be the best on the market. Range is difficult to quote because it depends on conditions,

Simply remove box cover, insert AA battery (not included) and tune radio to mini-bug and you're ready to go. One batery can last five days continuous!

NOT LICENSABLE IN THE UK
Frequency range $95-110 \mathrm{MHz}$. Power aa 1.5 V Battery. Dimensions: $72 \times 46 \times 22 \mathrm{~mm}$.

Order Code: SEC/FMBI
Price $1+£ 9.99 \quad 10+£ 7.50$

CONNECTOR PACK
A useful pack containing a wide \& varied selection of assorted connectors. Typical types may include: D type, IDC, Edge, Audio, Thassis, Line etc. In fact almost any type including popular ones.

Total Pack Quantity: 25 pcs.
ORDER CODE PACK/044
SALE PRICE: £5.99

## DIN CONNECTOR PACK

An assorted pack of DIN plugs, sockets chassis and line.
Total Pack Qty: 25pcs
ORDER CODE: PACK/045
SALE PRICE: £4-50

## PVC SLEEVING PACK

Assorted diameters \& colours of PVC sleeving. Diameters may range from 2 mm up to 19 mm . These packs are super value.

Total Pack Qty: 10 lengths each approx 12 " long ORDER CODE: PACK/046

SALE PRICE: $£ 1$-25

## TV DROPPER PACK

This pack contains a random selection of very assorted values of TV Replacement Droppers. Pack may include droppers for Philips, Thorn, Pye, Decca etc. etc.

Total Pack Qty: 15 pcs
ORDER CODE: PACK/047
SALE PRICE: $£ 6.50$
\%

## MULTI-SECTION ELECTROLYTIC PACK

A super mixed pack of multi-section electrolytics. Widely used in TV sets etc. fhe original prices of some of these capacitors was over $£ 5-00$ each!! These really are good value.

Total Pack Qty: 10pcs
ORDER CODE: PACK/048
SALE PRICE: $£ 5-50$

### 0.25W RESISTOR PACK

Assorted values, some popular because we are overstocked, others simply values we don't stock. Either way, these really are a bargain. A minimum of 10 different values. All 0.25 W carbon film, $5 \%$ tolerance.

Total Pack Qty: 1000pcs
ORDER CODE: PACK/049
SALE PRICE: $£ 1$-99


## GOODY PACK

This pack contains a random selection of very assorted components including:
Resistors, Capacitors, Connectors, IC's, Diodes,
Potentiometers and much much more. Many of the items are to a much higher spec. than those usually available to the hobby market. These packs really are a bargain. These packs are sold by eight.

Total Pack Weight: 1 Kg
ORDER CODE: PACK/050
SALE PRICE: £2-50


## MAGAZINE PACK

A random selection of Electronic Magazines! Some may be old, some may be new, but whatever you get it will be interesting reading. Ideal for those winter nights?

Total Pack Qty: 10 Magazines
ORDER CODE: PACK/051
SALE PRICE: £4-50

## VALVE PACK

A useful pack of ten assorted valves - all shapes and sizes, some old, some may be new types. All supplied ex-equipment and used. None of the values supplied are guaranteed.

Total pack qty: 10 pieces
Order Code: PACK/VALVE
PRICE £5.99

## NON REGULATED OUTPUT.

Plug in power supply fits directly into 13 Amp socket. Internal fuse overload protection. Polari ty reversing socket. Voltage selector switch. Output via lead with 4 Way 'spider' plug. Input voltage...................... 240 V DC 50 Hz Output voltage.........3/4.5/6/7.5/9/12V DC Output current... /4.5/6/7............... 300 mA Stability. $.40 \%$
Ripple.
Dimensions.
$\qquad$ $74 \times 52 \times 46 . . . . . . .18$ ORDER CODE: POW / POO7.
$\stackrel{1+}{\text { E3.15 }}$
$10+$
$£ 2.83$


## POWER SUPPLY / BATTERY CHARGER.

Plug in 13.8 V DC 100 m A power supply de signed to charge 10 AA nic ad batteries found in mobile CB's etc. Plugs into a 13. A socket. Output via integral lead with 2.5 mm DC power plug. fip positive. Thermal fuse overload protection Input voltage........................ 240 V DC 50 Hz Output voltage..............................13.8V DC Output current....................................100inA
$.40 \%$
Ripple. 1 V
Dimensions......................... $62 \times 51 \times 49$ min
ORDER CODE: POW / POOTC
$\begin{array}{r}1+ \\ £ 3.35 \\ \hline\end{array}$
$10+$
$\mathbf{E 3 . 0 5}$


## REGULATED OUTPUT.

Plug in reguated power supply with 12V DO output. Plugs directly into a standard 13A socke Internal thermal hise for overload protection. Polarity reversing socket. Output via lead with 4 way 'Spider' plug and PP 3 battery clip.

| Input voltage | 240 V AC 50 Hz |
| :---: | :---: |
| Output voltage. | .6/7.5/9/12V DC |
| Output current. | 300 mA |
| Stability. | $2 \%$ |
| Ripple. |  | Ripple..

Dimensions


## UNIVERSAL POWER SUPPLY



Very high specification and superb quality at a very competitive price.

- Seven output selection: 1.5-3-4-5-6-7.5 $12 \mathrm{VDC} ; 1200 \mathrm{~mA}$ Max.
- For use with battery operated appliances
- Short circuit and overload protection

Equipped with universal DC plug.
For use with TV Games, Calculators, Radio Cassette Players Portabie TV, Mini Computers, Personal Stereos, Answering machines, Electric Typewriters

Regulated power supply with voltage selector and polarity reverse switches. LED on indicator. input via 1.9 m wo core mairs lead. Output vid 1.8 m lead to 4 way 'Spider' prug alkd PP3 batery clip. Overall thermal fuse protection.
Input voltage...................... 240 V AC $50 \mathrm{~Hz}^{2}$ Output voltage....................6/7.5/9/12V DC Output current. Ripple.............................................. 10 \% Dimensions...................... $122 \times 67 \times 55 \mathrm{~mm}$ ORDER CODE: POW / POOTN.

| $1+$ | $10+$ |
| :---: | ---: |
| E9.99 | E8.75 |

## REGULATED OUTPUT.

Plug in 650 ma regulated penver supply with 12VDC output. Plugs directly into 13 A socket Internal thermal fuse for overload protection. Polarity reversing sockel. Output via lead with 4 way 'Spider' plug. utput voltage. Output current Stability.
Ripple.........
$\begin{array}{r}\text { CODE: POW / POO7D. } \\ 1+ \\ 10+ \\ \hline\end{array}$

$$
\underset{£ 7.50}{1+}
$$



## REGULATED OUTPUT.

Regulated power supply for use with CB rigs, auto equipment, High stability circuitry with high surge current capability. Overload protection.

Output voltage.............................13.8V DC Output current.........7A continuous, 9A max
Stability................................................. 1 \% Ripple................................................ 25 mV Connect.....4mm banana skt tscrew terinimals) Dimensions.................... $142 \times 92 \times 195 \mathrm{~mm}$ ORDER CODE: POW / POO1F.
E29.50 E26.00


$$
\begin{array}{ll}
1+ \\
£ 88.50 & 182.00
\end{array}
$$ Soldering Equipment

POSTAGE $£ 3.00$

PORTABLE GAS SOLDERING IRON


A lightweight, compact, fully portable gas soldering iron. The iron operates on standard butane gas, available at newsagents, tobacconists, garages, pubs etc. When full, the iron will run for about 1 hour. Heat up time is approx. 20 seconds. Fully adjustable tip temperature from equivalent 10 to 60 W (max temp $400^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ ). Replacement bits available, see below.

Supplied with 2.4 mm bit fitted. Dimensions: $170 \times 19 \mathrm{~mm}$

## Order Code SOLD/GAS

## SPECIAL PRICE $£ 12.99$



PORTASOL
SOLDERING KIT Made in Ireland.

Serves as Gas Soldering Iron, Blow Torch, Hot Blow and Hot Knife.
Normally $£ 38.00$


Örder Code: OLD/PORTA

Special Price: $£ 29.99$
\$"


DESOLDERING TOOL
Very high quality, made in Malta and assembled in UK. Very powerful fitted with Teflon Micro nozzle.

Length: 190 mm . Dia: 20 mm .
Order Code: SOLIJ/DESOL Price: $\mathbf{£ 3 - 5 0}$

REPLACEMENT TIPS
Teilon and micro nozzle.


## SEE THE MAIN CATALOGUE FOR MORE SOLDERING LINES

## SUPER SOLDER SALE

High grade 60/40 tin/lead alloy solder available in both $18 \mathrm{swg} \& 22 \mathrm{swg}$, in a choice of reel sizes from 18 gms to $500 \mathrm{gms}(0.5 \mathrm{Kg})$. Manufactured to BS219. Contains 5 cores of type 362 non-corrosive flux. Melting temperature is 188 C .

NOW JUST LOOK AT OUR AMAZING PRICES
18swg. (1.2mm)

| Reel Size | Approx. Length |
| :--- | :--- |
| 18 gms | 3 Metres |
| 200 gms | 21 Metres |
| $500 \mathrm{gms}(1 / 2 \mathrm{Kg})$ | 52 Metres |

## 22swg (0.71mm)

| 200 gms | 62 Metres | SOLD/22/200 | $£ 2.35$ | $£ 2.10$ | $£ 1.75$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $500 \mathrm{gms}(1 / 2 \mathrm{Kg})$ | 153 Metres | SOLD/22/500 | $£ 4.79$ | $£ 4.30$ | $£ 3.60$ |



## ANTEX SOLDERING IRON - 240V

Fitted with 2.3 mm tlp (Limited offer) Catalogue Price £9.75 SALE PRICE £8.50

Remember: BUY 100 REELS of 18 swg 500gms \& PAY ONLY £2-98 per Reel + VAT

## 12 Volt FLUORESCENT LIGHT (Twin)



A very attractive twin tube fluorescent light complete with two 12 Volt 8 Watt fluorescent standard type \& size tubes. White plastic case with clear plastic ribbed diffuser and ON/OFF switch. The light is fitted with approx. 90 cms . of twin flex for connection to 12 V battery or other 12 V power supply. Cable is colour coded for polarity identification. These lights are ideal for Caravans, Boats, Vans, Camping etc etc.

| Overall dimensions: $370 \times 65 \times 41 \mathrm{~mm}$. | ORDER CODE: OPTO/T12 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $1+$ |  |  |
| $£ 6.50$ | $10_{+}^{+}$ | $50_{+}$ |
| $£ 65.75$ | $£ 5-25$ |  |

Single 12 Volt fluorescent light
Identical to the above unit but SINGLE tube fitting.

> Overall dimensions: $370 \times 65 \times 14 \mathrm{~mm}$. ORDER CODE: OPTO/S 12
> $10+\quad 50+$
$£ 5.50 \quad £ 5.00$
£4.25

## SPARE TUBES

Replacement tube for above Twin and Single Fluorescent lamps Fits most 12V Fluorescent lamps. Philips. etc. Tube length is approx: 300 mm incl. pins.
Colour: White. ORDER CODE: OPTO/TUBE
$1+$
$£ 1.50$
$10+$
£1.25
50+
$£ 1.00$
SPARE TUBES - 'WARM' WHITE
Identical to the above tube but more suited for the caravan/camping application. This tube gives a 'warmer' light.. ORDER CODE: TUBE/WW
$1+$
£1.95
$10+$
£1.75
$50+$ £1-50

## (102)號过 SPEGCRALOFFER

Rechargeable Torch


Limited Quantity: High quality: fully waterproof, rechargeable torch. Complete with in-built charger - simply plug into the mains socket for overnight charge. When charged lasts about one hour constant use. In-built charger is 2 -pin, fitting shaver socket or most 13 A type sockets. Smap fit cover conceals pins when in nomal use. Complete with carrying strap. Ideal for cars. catavans, boats, handbags, fuse boxes etc

Oterall dimensions:
160 mm length $\times 40 \mathrm{~mm}$ diar. Colour: White.

## Price £6.50 Two for $£ 12.00$

QUARTZ HÁLOGEN SPOTLIGHT


Hand held or hanging. Heat resistant polycarbonate housing, highly polished reflector. With on/off switch and 12 ft curly cable terminating in cigar lighter plug. Produces 25.000 candle power - 5 times the intensity of average car headlamps.
Power; 12Vd.c. 4.5A. 55w. Dimensions: $160 \times 85 \times$ 110 mm .
THIS UNIT SUBJECT TO DESIGN CHANGE Order Code: OPTO/QHS.
Price: $1+£ 5.7510+£ 5.25$

## WORLD TIME MULTI-FUNC- <br> TIONAL UNIT

A small, lightweight compact unit which has a digital display clock which shows 13 world time zones and can be switched to calculator mode. Receives the FM band and has an alarm buzzer function and will display day, date and calculator mode. Requires $2 \times$ AAA cells. Tuning range FM: 88 to 108 mHz . World time zones: (Free place), London, Paris, Cairo, Moscow, Bankok, Hong Kong, Tokyo, Sidney, Honolulu, Los Angeles, Chicago, New York.

Order Code: HI
PRICE: £19.99


BROADBAND RADIO RECEIVER

A handheld radio with a range covering: CB, FM, TV, AIR band \& PB band. Built in telescopic aerial. Squelch, volume \& tuning controls \& band selector switch.

Frequency range
Air: $108-145 \mathrm{MHz}$, PB: 145 176 MHz WB: 162.5 MHz TV $54-87 \mathrm{MHz}, F M: 88-108 \mathrm{MHz}$ CB: 1-80 channels,
Power:
$4 \times$ AA (Batteries not included) Dimensions: $93 \times 198 \times 50$

Order Code: B118B
Price: £17.95

## 2 WAY HAND HELD CRYSTAL CONTROL TRANCEIVERS

Built-in Telesçopic Aerial, call button, transmitter receive key, on air indicator Each unit requires PP3 Battery for operation (not supplied.)
Operating Frequency: 49 MHz , Transition Power: 100 MHz , Frequency Tolerance: + or $0.005 \%$, Range: 1-2 Kilo, open field (Depends on cond Oscillation Crystal Conlrol. Power 9V DC (PP3 Battery), 1 pair in Box.

Order Code: B123
Price: £27.50


## CB MICROPHONE

DM 56
Noise cancelling hand held microphone. Rejects unwanted noise. Two built-in capsules work $180^{\circ}$ out of phase. Only one capsule accepts close talk ensuring noise free transmission. Push to talk switch. Black plastic. Coiled lead (3 core plus screen).
Type Omni-directional Dynamic. Impedance: 160 2. Response $400-8000 \mathrm{~Hz}$, Sensitivity -65dB @ 1 kHz , Dims> $94 \times 60 \times 38 \mathrm{~mm}$

Price: $£ 14.99$


CB MICROPHONE G171 MPC46

Basic hand-held microphone. Push to talk switch. Black coiled lead (3 core plus screen)
Type Omni-directional Dynamic. Impeda we: 600s2. Response $300-4500 \mathrm{~Hz}$, Serisitivity -76 : e @ 1 kHz , Dimss $100 \times 54 \times 40 \mathrm{~mm}$

Price: $£ 7.99$

## 12 BAND RECEIVER

A compact 12 band radio receiver covering FM, MW, LW and 9 short wave bands. A built-in ferrite bar antenna receives the MW and LW transmissions and the telescopic rod antenna receives FM and SW transmissions. An additional 20 ft wire antenna is provided to improve SW reception. The tuning. LED lights when a strong signal is present. Wave band selection, tone and volume is by slider controls.
Frequency coverage: FM: 88 to $108 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{MW}: 530$ to $1620 \mathrm{kHz}, \mathrm{LW}: 150$ to $270 \mathrm{kHz}, \mathrm{SWI}: 5.85$ to 6.23MHz SW2: 6.95 to 7.42 MHz SW3: 9.45 to 9.95 MHz , SW4: 11.45 to 12.23 MHz , SW5 13.40 to 14.15 MHz , SW6: 14.85 to 15.70 MHz , SW7: 17.35 to 18.35 MHz , SW8: 20.30 to 22.15 MHz , SW9: 24.95 to 26.50 MHz

Power: $6 \mathrm{Vdc}(4 \times$ AA batteries $)$, Dims: $196 \times 35 \times 123 \mathrm{~mm}$
Order Code: B118D
Price: $£ 22.50$


## 15 BAND RECEIVER

A compact 15 band receiver covering FM, LW, NHW and 12 short wave radio bands. A built in ferrie rod receives the LW band and MW transmissions and a telescopic rod derial receives the FM and SW transmissions. Band selection, volume and tune is by slider control. The tuning L.ED lights when a strong signal is present.
Frequency Coverage: FM: $88-108 \mathrm{MHz}$, MW: $150-270 \mathrm{KHz}$, LW: $530-1620 \mathrm{KHz}, 5 W 1: 3.1-3.3 \mathrm{MHz}(90 \mathrm{~m})$, SW2: 3.7.3.9 MHz (75mm), SW3: 4.5.5.1 $\mathrm{MHz}(60 \mathrm{~m})$, SW4: 5.85-6.23Mhz (49m), SW5: 6.35-7.42MHz (41m), SW6: $9.45-9.95 \mathrm{MHz}(31 \mathrm{~m}), S W 7: 11.55-12.23 \mathrm{MHz}(25 \mathrm{~m}), S W 8: 13.4-14.15 \mathrm{MHz}, 21 \mathrm{~m}), 5 W 9$ : $14.85-15.7 \mathrm{MHz}(19 \mathrm{~m})$, SW10: $17.35-18.35 \mathrm{NHZ}(16 \mathrm{~m})$, SW11: $20.80-22.15 \mathrm{MHz}$ (13m), SW12: 24.95$26.50 \mathrm{MHz}(11 \mathrm{~m})$
Power: $4 \times$ A batteries (not supplied), Dimensions: $200 \times 140 \times 50 \mathrm{~mm}$
Order Code: B118F
Price: $£ 25.00$

## SAFETY IN THE HOME

## Recently highlighted on 'That's Life'

GAS SENSOR
This instrument detects gases like alcohol, acetone, benzol, propańe, carbon monoxide (contained in smoke of fire). Ideal as a gas and fire warning instrument. For 12 V.


Order Code: KIT/B051
Super Price: £32.99


## FOGHORN 5 W

Generates a deep, noisy sound similar to the fog-horns of ships. Operating voltage: 4.5-12 V , wattage: max. 5 W depending on the voltage. For $8 \Omega$-loudspeakers.

Order Code: KIT/B015 Price: $\mathbf{£ 7 . 0 0}$

## FREQUENCY GENERATOR

Adjustable frequency: approx. $1-50$ kHz . Operating voltage: 6-12 V. Short-circuit proof, capacitive output, This multivitrator generates a rectangular signal. Application: as a signal source to test amplifiers, radios, etc. The harmonics reach the VHF range.

Order Code: KIT/B103
Price: $£ 4.50$


## FUSE - ELECTRONIC

An electronic fuse. which is suitable for 5-30 V DC only and rated up to 3 A . It is fitted into the power supply lead an will interrupt the supply voltage if over loaded. The fuse is reset by switching the supply off and on again.
Order Code: KI 「/B061
Price: $\mathbf{8 8 . 2 5}$

## IC RADIO MW-SW-LW

This radio can receive either medium wave, short wave, or long wave stations. Operation mode: single circuit. Modern. variable capacitance diode-tuning. Power output: 220 mW .9 V.

Order Code: KIT/B013


Price: $£ 11.25$

## ION GENERATOR

Regenerates negatively loaded âir particles (air-ions) and helps to produce a healthy climate which can reduce troubled sleep, aggressiveness, headaches and weather related dispositions etc. Input: 6-18 V DC. Output: 2-7 kV. Current limit protection $<200 \mu \mathrm{~A}$.

Light-barrier with invisible infra-red light-beam. Complete kit with transmitter and receiver. Range: over 6 m . Operating voltage: transmitter 9-12 V , receiver 12 V . Relay contact: 3 A switching capacity. Ideal for warning systems.

Order Code: KIT/B062
Price: £23.75

MICRO-WAVE INDICATOR
This module is used as a microwave oven leakage tester, and will light up the LED if any radiation escapes through defective door hinges, rubber seals or shieldings. Requires a 9 V battery.

Order Code: MOD/M058 Price: $£ 8.25$


## MESMERIC INSTRUMENT

This magnetic field instrument operates on the same principle as curative instruments offered on the medical market Alternating currents of magneicfields are said to have a soothing effect on various kinds of sicknesses.

Order Code: KIT/B078
Price: £10.99

## METRONOME

An electronic metronome which has an adjustable time signature between 30 and 300 beats per min. The sound of each beat is clearly indicated by the loudspeaker. Requires 4.5-6 V supply.

Order Code: KIT/B082
Price: $£ 9.99$


## MINI TRAFFIC LIGHTS



Three small LED's are switched on slowly one after another ( $N$ B: not same as traffic light sequence). Can be used to coitrol a complete cross-road set with additional LED's (noi suppiied). Requires 4.5-6 V.

| ALL PRICES Include vat |  | £3.00 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |



MORSE CODE PRACTICE KIT
Sound-generator with loudspeaker and touchswitch as a 'morse key'. Operating voltage: 3-9 V. The tone is adjustable.

Order Code: KIT/B041
Price: £11.75

## MW TESTING TRANSMITTER

A close range test only oscillator which can be used as an unmodulated carrier to test radio receivers in the MW band. This kit must not be used to transmit over any distance.

Order Code: KIT/B144
Price: $£ 6.25$


## PARABOLIC MICROPHONE

Highly sensitive microphone. If mounted into a semi-circular reflector (e.g., half of a plastic ball), noise and voices in a distance of several hundred metres may be recorded. Ideal for animal observance, for detectives, etc. For head-phone-connection $8 \Omega$. Requires 9 V supply.

Order Code: KIT/B085
Price: $\mathbf{£ 1 2} 50$

## ACOUSTIC WATER DETECTOR

Raises a loud alarm signal on contact with water. This instrument signals broken water pipes, overflowing washing machines and bath tubs. etc. The sensor can be connected by a longer cable of up to 100 m . Power sup-
 ply: 9 V battery.

## Order Code: KIT/B070 Price: $£ 7.25$

## ATTENNA AMPLIFIER

Wideband-antenna amplifier. approx. $0.15-350 \mathrm{MHz}$. 9-18 V . Gain approx. 5-20 dB (VHF: approx. 10 dB ). Ideal to improve receiving qualities of radios, TV and radio sets (up to 150 MHz ).


Order Code: KIT/B06 Price: $£ 5.99$


## ATOMIUM

A decorative device which uses six red LEDs as 'molecules' which optically circle around a green LED. Requires a 9 V battery or other supply. Ideal for fun jewellery. brooches, etc.

## Order Code: KIT/B108 Price: £9.50

## CAR ANTENNA AMPLIFIER

This amplifier is connected between the antenna and the radio, using co-axial cable $60-75 \Omega$. Gain max:22dB. Frequency range: 0.5-150 Mhz (approx.)
ORDER CODE:IT/B068
PRICE: $£ 7.25$


## DIODE RECEIVER

## MW AND SW

 'Detector-Receiver' for mid-dle-wave or short-wave, approx. $3-9 \mathrm{MHz}$. This radio operates on the same principle as the very first radio receivers. It does not require an operating voltage. This kit is educational for begmners.Order Code: KIT/B076 Price: $£ 13.35$

## DOG BARKING, ELECTRONIC

Generates a dog barking sound. Suitable for use with an $8 \Omega$ speaker. Operating voltage 9-12 V. The barking is stored on a special speech-synthesizer IC.

Order Code: KIT/B155
Price: £23.35


## POWER SUPPLIES

All power supplies require additional
 itemsः KIT/B008: Requires a mains transformer 12-15 V @ 2 A , and a heatsink size, $50 \times 40 \times 20 \mathrm{~mm}$. KIT/B064: Requires a mains transformer 24-27 V @ 2.2 A, and a heatsink, size $10 \times 10 \times 5 \mathrm{~mm}$. KIT/B102: Requires a mains transformer with two secondary tappings 18 V and 27 V @ 2 A , and a switch DPDT type.

| Item | Order Code | Price |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Power Pack Switchable | KIT/B008 | £8.25 |
| 6 V/9 V/12 V @ 2 A |  |  |
| Power Pack Switchable <br> 0-28 V @ 2.2 A | KIT/B064 | $\mathbf{£ 1 4 . 7 5}$ |
| Power Pack 0-34 V @ 2.2 A | KIT/B102 | $\mathbf{£ 2 6 . 9 9}$ |

## ROBOT VOICE

This kit modulates the human voice with an adjustable frequency to produce robot like sounds. This sound then requires amplification, i.e. by an amplifier or a tape recorder.
 Requires 9-12 V supply.

Price: $£ 11.50$


## SPEED CONTROL 12-24 V

Suitable for the operation of miniature drilling machines which have DC motors. A rectifier is fitted in the kit and only requires a transformer of 12-24 V secondary depending on the required voltage. Suitable for use up to 3 A current input.

Order Code: KIT/B180 Price: $£ 7.50$

## SPY STETHOSCOPE

Using an earpiece the spy stethoscope allows you to listen through thin walls, doors, windows etc. due to a highly sensitive pre-amplifier and microphone. Suitable for monitoring animals etc.

Order Code: KIT/B180 Price: £24.25

## TELEPHONE AMPLIFIER

Suitable to monitor telephone conversations via the pick up coil. This kit requires a loudspeaker of $8 \Omega$ and an operating voltage of 9 V.

Order Code: KIT/B105 Price: £10.99

## U-STROBOSCOPE

Flashlight-stroboscope with U-flash tube and large charging capacitor for bright flashes, Adjustable speed: approx. $1-10 \mathrm{~Hz}$. For 240 V . Ideal as lightshows for discotheques. for special-effect, photography, etc.


## ALIGNMENT KIT Y013CD



Colour alignment kit for TVs, monitors, etc. Contains four good quality double ended plastic tools of assorted sizes in a plastic wallet

Order Code: TOOL/KIT/1 Price: $£ 1.75$


MAINS POWERED SOLDERING IRON With stand. Y061C
Newly designed high quality mains powered soldering iron with long life ceramic element. Fitted with extra flexible cable for ease of use Supplied packed on a blister card with one spare bit. 1.7 m lead.

Order Code: TOOLSOLD/B Price: $\mathbf{£ 4 . 9 9}$


## MAINS POWERED SOLDERING IRON YO61DA

High quality mains powered, lightweight soldering iron. Designed for ease of use. Individually packed on full colour presentation card. 1.7 m lead with cord grip and cable protector
Length: 195 mm ; Power $220 / 240 \mathrm{Vac} 50 \mathrm{~Hz}, 15 \mathrm{~W}$
Order Code: TOOL/SOLA PRICE: $£ 3.99$
Bit for above $\mathbf{£ 1 . 9 9}$
Element for above £2.75
Fine Bits $£ 1.25$

## SIDE CUTTERS



127 mm
Top quality side cutters, capable of cutting wires as fine as hair. Pressed steel construction, hardened and tempered with sprung jaws. Red plastic handles.
Length: 127 mm .
Order Code: TOOL/HT109. Price: $\mathbf{£ 2 . 5 0}$

## PRE-SET TYPE

A versatile insulated trimtool for preset potentiometers. Double ended with protruding steel blade for single turn presets and recessed blade for multiturn preset etc
Length: 130 mm . $\qquad$
Order Code: TOOLTRIM/PT Price: $\mathbf{1 +} \mathbf{E 1 . 1 0} 98 \mathrm{p}$.

## TRIM TOOL Pccket

Good quality instlated plastic double edged trim tool with metal bands and pocket clip

$$
\text { Order Codz: TOCL/TRIM/65A Price: } 1+99 p \quad 10+88 p
$$

## TFIMTOOL KIT

A colour alignment kit for TV/s, monitors etc. Contains five good quality double ended tcols of assorted sizes plus extension tube. Tools are all colour coded: Yellow, Red, Blue, White, Green and are packed in 'see-
 thra' wallet
Order Code: TRIIM/TOOL/KIT
Price: $1+£ 1.5510+£ 1.55$

## MINI-DRILL

Precision PCB minidrill. Ideal for small or delicate work on PCB's or similar hand held operation. Operates from any suitable dc power supply with an output voltage between 5 -14dc. Power input via 3.5 mm jack.
In-put voltage


Nominal Voltage
$5-14 \mathrm{Vdc}$
No-load Current
12 Vdc
Stalled Current
250 mA

No load speed
Dimensions
3.5A

6000rpm

Supplied complete with 3 collets for 0.8 to 2.3 mm drills. 1 mm twist drill, grinding bit engraving bit and tommy bar

Order Code: TOOLORILLAD18
PRICE: $£ 8.85$

## WIRE STRIPPER <br> SELF ADJUSTING

This is a must for any toolbox. Seli-adjustable automatic wire stripper with built-in cable cutter. Will strip wire from 0.2 mm to 6 mm : without damage to inner wire.

Order Code: TOOL/NS/SA

Price: $£ 4.50$


CRIMPING PLIERS - Ratchet, Professional


A powerful vatchett crimping tool for crimping BNC. TNC etc connectors to RG58, RG59/N and RG62N cables and the pin to the centre core. Cushioned plastic grips and ratchet release lever

Order Code: TOOL/YO26C. Price: $£ 20.50$

## 50 SIMPLE LED CIRCUITS-BOOK 2

## R. N. Soar

A further range of uses for the simple LED which complements those shown in book number BP42

Order Code: BP87 Price: $\mathbb{1 1 . 9 5}$<br>$1981 \quad 178 \times 111 \mathrm{~mm} \quad 64$ pages

## 50 PROJECTS USING RELAYS, SCRs AND TRIACs

## Price: £2.95

## F. G. Rayer

Relays, silicon controlled rectifiers (SCR's) and bi-directional triodes (TRIAC's) have a wide range of a applications in electronics. These may extend over the whole field of motor control; dimming and heat control; delayed, timing and light sensitive circuits and include warning devices, various various novelties, light modulators, priority indicators, excess voltage breakers, etc This book gives tried and practical working circuits which should present the minimum of difficulty for the enthusiast In most of the circuits there is a wide latitude in component values and types, allowing easy modification of circuits or ready adaptation of them to individual needs.

Order Code: BP37 Price: £2.95
$1977 \quad 178 \times 111 \mathrm{~mm} \quad 112$ pages

## 50 (FET) FIELD EFFECT TRANSISTOR PROJECTS

 F. G. RayerField effect transistors (FETs) find application ons in a wide variety of circuits. The projects described here include radio frequency amplifiers and converters, test equipment and receiver aids, tuners, receivers, mixers and tone controls, as well as various miscellaneous devices which are useful in the the home.
The actual FET to be used in most cases, is not critical and many suitable types will perform satisfactorily The FET is a low-noise, high gain device with a multitude of uses, the dual gate being of particular use in mixers and other applications

Order Code: BP39 Price: £2.95
$1977 \quad 178 \times 111$ m

## REMOTE CONTROL HANDBOOK

## O. Bishop

Replaces the original book BP73 and is aimed at the electronics enthusiast who wishes to experiment with remote control in its many aspects and forms.
$\begin{array}{lr}\text { Order Code: BP240 } & \text { Price: } \mathbf{\Sigma 3 . 9 5} \\ 1988173 \times 111 \mathrm{~mm} & 240 \text { pages }\end{array}$

## POPULAR ELECTRONIC CIRCUITS BOOK 1 <br> R. A. Penfoid

Contains a wide range of circuits which are accompanied by a short text giving a brief introduction, circuit description and any special instruction and setting-up that may be necessary

## Order Code: BP80 Price: £2.95 <br> $1980178 \times 111 \mathrm{~mm} \quad 160$ pages

## POPULAR ELECTRONIC CIRCUITS BOOK 2 <br> R. A. Penfold

Again provides a wide range of designs for electronic enthusiasts who are capable of producing working projects from just a circuit diagram without the aid of detailed constructional information However, where relevant, any special setting-up procedures are described.

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\text { Order Code: BP98 } & \text { Price: } £ 2.95 \\
1982 \quad 178 \times 111 \mathrm{~mm} & 160 \text { pages }
\end{array}
$$

## HOW TO USE OP-AMPS

Price: £2.95
This book has been written as a designer's guide covering operational amplifiers, serving both as a source book of circuits and a reference book for design calculations. The approach made as non-mathematical as possible and it is hoped, easily understandable by most readers, be they they engineers or hobbyists.

> Order Code: BP88 $\quad$ Price: $£ 2.95$ $1982178 \times 111 \mathrm{~mm} \quad 160$ pages

## IC 555 PROJECTS E. A. Parr

Every so often a device appears that is so useful that one wonders how life went on before without it. The 555 timer is such a device. Included in this book are basic and general circuits, motorcar and model circuits, alarms and noise makers as well as a section on the 556, 558 and 559 timers.

Order Code: BP44 Price: $£ 2.95$
$1982 \quad 178 \times 111 \mathrm{~mm} \quad 176$ pages

## MORE ADVANCED ELECTRONIC SECURITY PROJECTS

R. A. Penfold

Contains a number of more up-to-date and sophisticated projects, complete with PCB or stripboard layout, than our original book number BP56.
Covers:- Opto alarms including pyro sensor, infra-red and fibre-optic toop types A computer based system showing how a home micro fitted with a user port can form the basis of a sophisticated alarm and mon toring system Various alarms using mercury switches, magnetlc dependent resistors, doppler shift and capacity effect on an RF oscillator, etc, are included

## Order Code: BP190 <br> $1988 \quad 178 \times 111 \mathrm{~mm}$ <br> Price: $£ 2.95$ <br> 112 pages

## SHORT WAVE SUPERHET RECEIVER CONSTRUCTION <br> R A Penfold

Gives the reader full constructional details, including coil winding, of a number of advanced design receivers which should have levels of performance at least equal to that of commercially built sets of sinuilar complexity

Order Code: BP276 Price: $£ 2.95$
$1991 \quad 178 \times 111 \mathrm{~mm} \quad 80$ pages

## AN INTRODUCTION TO ANTENNA THEORY <br> H. C. Wright

Deals with the basic concepts relevant to receiving and transmitting antennas in a manner which emphasises the mechanism involved and with strong diagrammatic support minimises the mathematics used. The bibliography provided offers the next stage of reading and understanding while the oulline set ol original papers listed should allow a parlicular interest to be followed up in detail.

Order Code: BP198 Price: $\mathbf{E 2 . 9 5}$
$1987 \quad 178 \times 111 \mathrm{~mm} \quad 96$ pages

## AUDIO PROJECTS

## F. G. Rayer

This book covers in detail the construction of a wide range of audio projects The text has been divided into the following main sections Preamplifiers and Mixers, Power Amplifiers, Tone Controls and Matching, Miscellaneous Projects. All the projects are fairly simple to build and to assist the newcomer to the hobby, the author has included a number of board layouts and wiring diagrams

Order Code: BP90 Price: $£ 2.50$
$\begin{array}{cc}\text { Order Code: } \\ 1981 \quad 178 \times 111 \mathrm{~mm} \quad \text { Price: } & \text { E2.50 } \\ & \text { pages }\end{array}$
Page 28

## INTERNATIONAL TRANSISTOR EQUIVALENTS GUIDE

 A. MichaelsHelps the reader to find possible substitutes for a popular user-orientated selection of European, American and lapanese transistors. Also shows material type, polarity, manufacurer and use.Order Code: BP85 Price: £3.95
$1981178 \times 111 \mathrm{~mm} 320$ Pages

## C 555 PROJECTS E. A. Parr

Every so often a device appears that is so useful that one wonders how life went on before without it. The 555 timer is such a device. Included in this book are basic and general circuits, motorcar and model circuits, alarms and noise makers as well as a section on the 556, 558 and 559 timers.

Order Code: BP44 Price: $£ 2.95$
1982
$178 \times 111 \mathrm{~mm} \quad 176$ pages
50 SIMPLE LED CIRCUITS
R. N. Soar

Contains 50 interesting and usefell circuits and applications, covering many difierent branches of electronics, using one of the most inexpensive and ireely available components the lightemitting dode (LED). Also inclucli's circuits for the 707 common anode display.

> Order Code: BP42 Price: $£ 1.95$
> $1977178 \times 111 \mathrm{~mm} \quad 64$ pages

## ELECTRONIC CIRCUITS FOR

## COMPUTER CONTROL OF ROBOTS

R. A. Penfold

Provides information and circuits on computer control of electric motors (including stepper lypes), plus a range of useful sensors including visible light, infra-red, and ultrasonic types.
Order Code: BP179
Price: $\mathbf{E} 2.95$
$1986178 \times 111 \mathrm{~mm} 96$ pages

## TEST EQUIPMENT CONSTRUCTION <br> \section*{R. A. Penfold}

Shows you how to build a wide range of simple test equipment that will bo: useful in the pursuance of your hobby after you have had the enjoyment of constructing it

Order Code: BP76
Price: $£ 2.50$
$1989 \quad 178 \times 111 \mathrm{~mm} \quad 112$ pages

## MORE ADVANCED TEST EQUIPMENT CON.

 STRUCTION R. A. PenfoldFollows on from book BP248 with constructional details of more advanced projects that will help you with your hobby
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { Order Code: BP249 } & \text { Price: £3.50 } \\ \qquad 1989 \quad 178 \times 111 \mathrm{~mm} & 112 \text { pages }\end{array}$

## AN INTRODUCTION TO SCANNERS

## AND SCANNING

Covers details of VHF/UHF propagatio: and types of transmission, and then leads on to what a scanner is and why it differs from other types of receiver. How to use a scanner is then dealt with and this includes a guide to the various functions most scanners havr. Aerials and the radio spectrum are next coveled including the sorts of thing one is likely 'o be able to hear

| Order Code: BP311 | Pric:: $£ 4.95$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1992 | $178 \times 111 \mathrm{~mm}$ | 144 pages |

## GETTING THE MOST FROM YOUR MULTIMETER

## R. A. Penfold

It is amazing just what you can cieck and test with a simple multimeter if you know what you are doing. This book tells the story, with Chapter 1 covering the basics and relative merits of analogue and digital instrunsents Chapter 2 discussing component checking and Chapter 3 dealing with circuit testing.

Order Code: BP239 Prict: $\mathbf{E 2 . 9 5}$

## AERIAL PROIECTS

R. A. Penfold

Whether you have built a very simple short wave receiver or have purchased a most sophisticated piece of equipment, the periormance you achieve will ultimately depend on the aerial to which your set is connected. The subject of aerials is vast but in this book the author has considered practical aerial designs, including active, loop and ierrite aerials which give good periormances and are relatively simple and inexpensive to build. The complex theory and mathematics of aerial design have been avoided. Also included are constructional details of a number of aetial accessories including a pre-selector, attenuator, filters and tuning unit.

Order Code: BP 105 Price: $£ 2.50$
$1982 \quad 178 \times 111 \mathrm{~mm} \quad 96$ pages

## 25 SIMPLE AMATEUR BAND AERIALS <br> E. M. Noll

This concise book describes how to build 25 amateur band aerials that are simple and inexpensive to construct and periorm well The designs start with the simple dipole and proceed to beam, triangle and even a minirhombic made fiom four TV masts and about 400 feet of wire. Aiter the aerial discussion you will find a complete set of dimension tables that will help you spot an aerial on a particular irequency. Dimensions are given for various style aerials and other data neerded ior spacing and cutting phasing lengths. Also included are dimensions for the new WARC bands.

Order Code: BP125 Price: E1.95
$1983 \quad 178 \times 111 \mathrm{~mm} \quad 80$ pages

## 25 SIMPLE SHORTWAVE BROADCAST BAND AERIALS E. M. Noll

Fortunately good aerials can be erected at low cost, and for a small iractional part of the cost of your receiving equipment. This book tells the story. A series of 25 aerials of many different types are covered, ranging from a simple dipole through helical designs to a multi-band umbrella.

Order Code: BP132 Price: $£ 1.95$
$1984 \quad 178 \times 111 \mathrm{~mm} \quad 80$ pages

## 25 SIMPLE INDOOR AND WINDOW AERIALS <br> E. M. Noll

Written for those people who live in flats or have no gardens, or have other space-limiting restrictions which prevent them from constructing a conventional aerial system. The 25 aerials included in this book have been especially designerl, built and tested by Mr Noll to be sure performers and give surprisingly good results considering their limited dimensions.

Order Code: BP136 Price: $\mathbf{£ 1 . 7 5}$
$1984 \quad 178 \times 111 \mathrm{~mm} 64$ pages
HOW TO EXPAND, MODERNISE AND
REPAIR PC'S AND COMPATIBLES

## R. A. Penfold

All the practical iniormation you are likely to need to upgrade your PC and compatible Also contains useful information to help you with repairs

$$
\begin{array}{cc}
\text { Order Code: BP271 } & \text { Price: } £ 4.95 \\
1990 & 198 \times 130 \mathrm{~mm} \\
176 \text { pages }
\end{array}
$$

## AN INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER COM. MUNICATIONS R. A. Penfold <br> Provides details of the various types of modem

 and their suitability for specific applications, plus details of connecting various computers to modems, and modems to the velephone system. Also includes iniormation on common networking systems and RTTYOrder Code: BP177 Price: $\mathbf{£ 2 . 9 5}$
$1986 \quad 178 \times 111 \mathrm{~mm} \quad 80$ pages

GETTING THE MOST FROM YOUR MULTIMETER R. A. Penfold

It is amazing just what you can check and lest with a simple multimeter if you know what you are doing. This book tells the story, with Chapter 1 covering the basics and relative merits of analogue and digital instruments. Chapter 2 discussing component checking and Chapter 3 dealing with circuit testing.

Order Code: BP239 Price: $\mathbf{E 2 . 9 5}$
$1988 \quad 178 \times 111 \mathrm{~mm} \quad 112$ pages

## HOW TO SET UP A HOME RECORDING STUDIO <br> David Mellor

1990128 pages $.216 \times 138 \mathrm{~mm} .28$ line drawings - 35 photos
Order Code: PC004 Price: $£ 6.95$

- For musicians, recording enthusiasts and students
- Practical details on studio equipment, wiling and acoustics
- Glossary of terms and lists of useful addresses
- Published in conjunction with Sound on Sound
The book describes the setting up of an 8 to 16 track studio with an outhne of the musical and recording gear needed, but concentrating on the techniques of putting that equipment together into an efficient and productive home studio
It contains invaluable and hard to come by advice on patchbay wiring schemes, and describes how to custom build a rack to suit our own particular requirements.
If you already have a studio at home or are thinking about , setting one up, there's samething in this book for you!
Contents: Equipment; Cables; Soldering techniques and wiring looms; Let's build a rack; Patchbay wiring; Patchbay layout; studio acoustics and layout; Bits and pieces: Questions and answers; Advanced interconnection; Directory of manufacturers and distributors; Glossary of terms. Index.


## ELECTRONIC PROJECTS FOR HOME SECURITY Owen Bishop

1991-150 pp $\cdot 216 \times 138 \mathrm{~mm}$. illustrated Order Code: PC014 Price: $\mathbf{£ 6 . 9 5}$

- Projects to help secure your home -

Principles of operation explained.
Contructional details given - Suitable for beginners - Produce useful security devices.
Protects against intruders, fire and flood This book deals with many aspects of home security - intruder, fire, smoke, frost and gas alarms, - with the emphasis on how to make the best use of electronic devices that you can build yourself.
There are 25 constructional projects, ranging in complexity from a single-door protection circuit, that can be built in an hour or two, to a sophisticated multi-channel security system, that most intruders will find and very difficult to beat.
Much use is made of the latest ic technology to combine simplicity of construction witt reliability of operation. Each project is described in detail, with circuit diagrams, full explanations of how it works, complete instructions for building and testing, and often suggestions for adapting it to special requirements.
The projects can readily be undertaken by a beginner. Even the multi-channel system starts at a simple level and is expandable later as the constructor's experience grows.

## MAKE MONEY FROM HOME RECORDING

 Clive Brooks$1989 \cdot 110$ pages $\cdot 216 \times 138 \mathrm{~mm} \cdot 15$ Pics Order Code: PC09 Price: £5.95

- For recording enthusiasts and musicians Cover price recouped as soon as the first ideas is put into practice. All ideas tried and tested by the author - Written in jargon-free style
Now that you've spent a fortune on all that recording gear, MIDI and all, wouldn't it be nice to get some of it back? Well here's the book to show you how.
It's packed with money making ideas, any one of which will recoup the price of the book many times over. Whether you a fully fledged recording studio at home, or just a couple of stereo cassette recorders and a microphone, you'll be able to put the ideas in this book into practice and make money.
Clive Brooks also covers all the other things you'll need to know like advertising and selling your products, keeping track of finances, and insurance. There are also some useful names an addresses at the back of the book to put you in touch with magazines, manufacturers, tape duplicating companies etc.
Keep this book next to you recording machine. It's the best accessory you could have!


## DIGITAL ELECTRONICS PROJECTS FOR BEGINNERS Owen Bishop

$1990 \cdot 128 \mathrm{pp} .216 \times 138 \mathrm{~mm} .56$ line drawings
Order Code: PC016 Price: $\mathbf{£ 5 . 9 5}$

- For newcomers to electronic construction Simple self-build projects - Gives full constructional details - Serious practical uses - Learn about digital electronics as you build This book contains 12 digital electronics projects suitable for the beginner to build with the minimum of equipment. They cover wide range of topics, from instrumentation to home security, a few 'fun' projects as well. With one exception, all the project are battery-powered, so are completely safe for the beginner The introductory chapter and the detailed explanations of the working of each project make this not only a book of practical projects but an introduction to the theory and applications of digital electronics.
Each project has a circuit diagram, a drawing of the stripboard I =layout, and full constructional details with instructions for testing the circuit at each stage. Each description ends with a list of the components required, all of which are readily obtainable. The appendix explains how to solder and how to build circuits on stripboard.


## PRACTICAL DIGITAL ELECTRONICS HANDBOOK <br> Mike Tooley

1988. 208 pages $.216 \times 138 \mathrm{~mm} \cdot 100$ line drawings
Order Code: PC017 Price: £6.95

- Basic introduction to digital electronics - For enthusiasts, technicians and students
- Nine digital test gear projects
- CMOS and TTL pinouts
- Tables of reference data The Practical Digital Electronics Handbook aims to provide readers with a practically based introduction to this subjest. The book vill prove invaluable to anyone involved with the design, manufacture or servicing of digital circuitry, as well as to those wishing to update their knowledge of modern digital devices and techniques
The book introduces digital circuits, logic gates, bistables and timers, as well as microprocessors, memory and input/output devices, before looking at the RS-232C interface and the IEEE 488 and IEEE 1000 microprocessor buses.


## POPULAR ELECTRONIC CIRCUITS BOOK 1

## R. A. Penfold

Contains a wide range of circuits which are accompanied by a short text giving a brief introduction, circuit description and any special instruction and setting-up that may be necessary

> Order Code: BP80 Price: £2.95
> $1980 \quad 178 \times 111 \mathrm{~mm} \quad 160$ pages

## POPULAR ELECTRONIC CIRCUITS BOOK 2

R. A. Penfold

Again provides a wide range of designs for electronic enthusiasts who are capable of producing working projects from just a circuit diagram without the aid of detailed constructional information. However, where relevant, any special setting-up procedures are described.

## Order Code: BP98 Price: £2.95 <br> $1982178 \times 111 \mathrm{~mm} \quad 160$ pages

## HOW TO USE OP-AMPS

Price: $£ 2.95$
This book has been written as a designer's guide covering operational amplifiers, serving both as a source book of circuits and a reference book for design calculations. The approach made as non-mathematical as possible and it is hoped, easily understandable by most readers, be they they engineers or hobbyists.

Order Code: BP88<br>Price: £2.95<br>$1982178 \times 111 \mathrm{~mm} \quad 160$ pages

## ELECTRONIC SECURITY DEVICES

## R. A. Pentold

This book, besides including both simple and more sophisticated burglar alarm circu its using light, infra red and ultra sonics, also includes many other types of circuit as well. such as gas and smoke detectors, flood alarms, doorphone and baby alarms, etc.

$$
\begin{array}{cc}
\text { Order Code: BP56 } & \text { Price: £2.95 } \\
1979 \quad 178 \times 111 \mathrm{~mm} & 112 \text { pages }
\end{array}
$$

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# Panasonic's Digital TV Chassis 

## Part 1

Ray Meadows
An introductory article on the Panasonic Euro 1 digital TV chassis in the July issue briefly described its features and the service modes. As it's a new chassis there is to date little experience of failures in the field. This new series of articles will look at the circuitry used and the construction of the chassis so that those who become involved in repairs will know what to expect, indicating in the process likely routes to tracking down the cause of any faults that may develop. It seems logical to start with the non-digital parts of the set, i.e. those that link it to the outside world. So we'll start with the power supply.

## Power Supply Circuitry

Previous Panasonic chassis used either the Sanken STR54041 chopper control chip or else employed discrete component circuitry. The Euro 1 chassis however is of European design. This is reflected in the choice of the SGSThomson TDA4601 chopper control chip. The power supply circuit is similar to that used in many other models by various manufacturers, being of the self-oscillating
flyback converter type. As some features are not always understood too thoroughly, we'll run over the operation of the circuit.

Fig. 1 shows the non-mains isolated side of the power supply, excluding the mains switch, the fuse, the line filter and the degaussing circuit components. Chopper transformer T639 has three primary windings, P1-2 being the main power winding, Fl the winding that provides a feed so that the supply is self-powering, and F2 the feedback control winding. Pl is connected to the output from the mains bridge rectifier and P2 to the collector of the chopper transistor Q624, regulation being achieved by controlling the width of the drive pulses applied to its base. The pulse width is determined by the chip which samples, at pin 3 , rectified pulses fed back from winding F2.

At switch on a start-up voltage is applied to pin 9 of IC611 via R621 and R622. It's used to provide, internally, a 4 V reference voltage at pin 1 . When the voltage at pin 9 reaches 12 V , the reference voltage appears and the circuit starts up. Once the circuit is oscillating, a 20 V supply becomes available from winding F1 and the associated rectifier circuit consisting of D622 and C622: this takes over the supply to IC611. The timing of the very first drive pulse to Q624 must be calculated by IC611. This is done by measuring the collector current via the network connected to pin 4. The second and subsequent drive pulses are timed by detecting the zero crossover of the feedback pulses from F2 at pin 2 of IC611.

In normal operation the circuit oscillates at frequencies between 20 kHz and 35 kHz depending on the load conditions and the input supply voltage. In these circumstances the conduction period of the chopper transistor remains at an almost constant 33 per cent of the drive waveform's duty cycle. In the standby mode, when the power consumption is reduced to several watts, the oscillation frequency can increase to 70 kHz with the conduction period of Q624 falling to less than ten per cent.

Overload protection is provided by monitoring the


Fig. 1: Primary (non-isolated) side of the power supply circuit.


Fig. 2: Secondary side (mains isolated) of the power supply circuit.
voltage at pin 9 of IC611. Under heavy load conditions the voltage, also that at pin 5, falls. IC611 will then cut off its chopper transistor base drive amplifier, thus stopping Q624. The circuit will next try to start up again, as described above. An additional overload protector and a standby monitor function are connected to pin 3, where feedback pulses from F2 provide a control voltage after rectification by D636 and C634. By using this voltage in conjunction with the collector current sensing at pin 4 , the chip can limit its output drive. P633 enables the sensitivity to be adjusted so that the output voltages can be set up.

The mains-isolated side of the chopper transformer provides several separate supplies: Fig. 2 shows the circuitry used here. These supplies are the main 155 V line, fused $5 \mathrm{~V}, 12 \mathrm{~V}$ and 27 V supplies, a fused 5 V standby supply and split +20 V and -20 V supplies for the audio amplifiers. In the standby mode the main 5 V and 12 V supplies are shut down by removing the gate drive to the field-effect transistors Q663 and Q674. This is done by applying a positive voltage, which comes from the CCU (central control unit) processor chip on the digital board, to the base of Q697. Switching off the 155 V h.t. and 27 V line driver stage supplies is not necessary because, in this mode, the CCU prevents line drive. Thus only the 5 V standby supply is active, powering the infra-red remote control receiver, the CCU (microcontroller) chip and the start-up circuit for the deflection processor chip. When the CCU brings the set out of standby, the main 5 V and 12 V supplies are reinstated and line drive is enabled. As the 5 V line rises, the line output stage is soft-started.

As mentioned in the previous article, field-effect transistors are used to stabilise the main 5 V and 12 V supplies because of their large current capacity and low source-drain voltage. They are used in conjunction with normal TL431 regulator chips to provide the control action, the f.e.t.s being used as series elements to boost the current and provide standby switching. One per cent tolerance resistors are used to set the exact reference levels for both the TL431 devices (IC666 and IC676).

The split supplies for the audio amplifiers are not regulated. They are obtained from a half-wave rectifier arrangement. At first sight the circuit looks strange because the two half-wave rectifier circuits are effectively in parallel. The reason for using this arrangement is to reduce the power consumption in the standby mode. In normal operation Q682 is switched on, its base being at a negative voltage with respect to its emitter. It thus supplies current to the audio circuits. In the standby mode the current demand from the audio circuits is reduced. Because of this, current is shunted via R681/2/3. Q681's base voltage moves negatively with respect to its emitter and it switches on. Q682 is thus switched off, because Q681 shorts its base and emitter. The net result is a reduction in the supply to the audio chips. Audio muting will be described later.

Because of the power supply design, all the secondary voltages are present even when the set is in the standby mode. It's advisable, before repairing the unit, to disconnect the mains supply and carefully discharge the mains bridge rectifier's reservoir capacitor C618. As an aid to fault location in a dead set, the power supply can be isolated by removing the h.t. rectifier diode D651, the 27 V supply rectifier diode D656 and the 5 V and 12 V supply rectifier diodes D671 and D661. The h.t. supply line can then be loaded using a 60 W bulb. You can isolate the line output stage simply by omitting the connection to the DPU (deflection processor unit) chip. When using the extension lead kit this is easily done by omitting the lead that connects W1451 on the digital pack to W511 on the main PCB.

## Line Scanning

Fig. 3 shows in simplified form the line driver, output and EW correction circuitry. The arrangements are similar


Fig. 3: The line driver, output and EW correction arrangements - simplitied circuit.
to those used in other sets, so only a few points will be made. Line drive pulses from the DPU chip are applied to the base of the line driver transistor Q526 which provides the necessary current to operate the line driver transformer T528. This has a winding ratio of seven to one. With no 27 V supply there is of course no drive to the line output transistor Q534, which has a low-impedance base circuit to ensure rapid switching. Note that the line output and chopper transistors are of the same type, S2000AF, with an internal diode (not shown).

D536 and D537 are the EW modulator diodes. The EW


Fig. 4: The field output stage circuitry.
correction circuit is driven by a field-frequency waveform that's derived from the DPU's field output section. It arrives at R583 and is then buffered and amplified by the d.c.coupled circuitry shown.

## Field Scanning

The TDA8175 chip IC561 drives the field scan coils. This chip is basically a power amplifier with a built-in flyback generator to virtually double the available supply voltage. D561 and C563 form part of this arrangement. The circuitry here is again conventional (see Fig. 4). The input from the DPU is a pulse waveform that's integrated by R566 and C567.

There are two separate protection circuits here. To avoid the possibility of c.r.t. screen burn because of loss of field drive, a sample of the pulse waveform present at pin 3 of IC56] is fed back to the DPU. If the pulses are missing, the DPU generates a continuous blanking signal that cuts off the RGB outputs from the VDU (video display unit) chip. Beam current is thus minimised.

The second circuit provides protection in the event of the field output coupling capacitor C574 going short-circuit otherwise the supply to the field output circuit would directly heat the scan coils! Zener diode D567 monitors the field drive. If C574 becomes short-circuit the voltage applied to D567 will fall: this voltage change is fed back to pin 43 of the CCU chip IC1801 (see Fig. 6) which will then initiate the shut-down mode. Other faults will result in the CCU chip shutting the set down with a characteristic fivesecond flash of the standby LED as the system tries to restart. These will be covered in a later instalment.

## RGB Output Circuitry

The RGB output stages are mounted on the c.r.t. base board. They are more complex than those used in previous Panasonic chassis and thus call for some explanation. Fig. 5 shows the blue output stage and the spot-suppression circuit which is common to all three channels.

The RGB drives from the VDU chip come via the scanvelocity modulation board. Each RGB channel has four transistors. In the B channel shown the first transistor Q3371 is an emitter-follower which provides a lowimpedance, d.c. drive at the base of the class A amplifier Q3373. This provides the required voltage gain. For optimum h.f. response a low-impedance output is essential to rapidly charge/discharge the load capacitance present. On a positive-going voltage transition at the collector of Q3373, Q3374 switches on to provide, by emitter-follower action, a low-impedance charging path via D3377. With a negativegoing transition D3377 is cut off and Q3377, again acting as an emitter-follower, provides a low-impedance discharge path. D3374 and Q3373 ensure that Q3377's base current is rapidly dissipated so that the process can be repeated.

Q3377 serves a second purpose, as part of the automatic grey-scale adjustment system. Its collector is earthed via R3379 and the ACVP (active comb filter and video


Fig. 5: One of the RGB output stage circuits (blue) and the spot-suppression and cut-off control circuit.
processor) chip on the digital board. During the course of the field blanking (flyback) period the transistor (and its equivalents in the red and green channels, Q3397 and Q3387 respectively) is used to sample the black and peakwhite levels. There is also a c.r.t. leakage measurement. This is done over a four-field cycle as follows:

Field one: c.r.t. leakage.
Field two: black and peak-white levels, red channel.
Field three: black and peak-white levels, green channel.
Field four: black and peak-white levels, blue channel.
Transistors Q3377/87/97 are connected to the ACVP chip via connector W191 on the scan-velocity modulation
board. During the leakage check there is no drive to Q3377/87/97 and whatever current flows is measured. During the next three fields Q3377/87/97 are switched on in turn to check the black and peak-white currents. The measurements are made by the ACVP chip, which communicates the results to the CCU chip. This compares them with values stored in the associated memory chip. If any differences are detected, the RGB drives are automatically adjusted to compensate.

This is useful during the tube's warm-up period, when uneven emission could cause a colour tint. It is also useful over the long term, enabling the grey-scale tracking to be maintained as the tube ages. It also means that all colour temperature and white-balance adjustments can be carried out via the software during service mode one.

Despite the fact that c.r.t. cut-off automatically tracks the setting of the screen (first anode) control P3362, it may be necessary to carry out realignment when a new tube is fitted. To do so the set is put into service mode 1, as


Fig. 6: Protection circuitry on the digital board, shown simplified.
described in the previous article, and the 'screen' option is selected. P3362 should then be turned to minimum: use a non-conductive trimmer, as a metal screwdriver can bridge the potentiometer's spark gap rather nicely! The set will now display numeric values for the red, green and blue channels. Select the channel with the highest value and connect a high-impedance scope probe directly to the relevant cathode. With the scope set to the field frequency, the blanking interval test signal can be seen as a pair of steps. Adjust the cut-off control P3368 (see Fig. 5) so that the voltage from the top step to earth is 150 V . Remove the scope connection and increase the setting of the screen control P3362 until the highest channel numeric display reads approximately 40 . Alignment is now complete.

This set-up procedure is one of the few physical alignments possible with the set. You can adopt the timehonoured method of using a high-impedance voltmeter to set the cut-off (at approximately 180 V ) but this is not so accurate. Factory software settings for the RGB low- and high-light levels don't need to be adjusted when a new tube has been fitted as the automatic grey-scale tracking will ensure that the tube operates correctly.

## Spot Suppression

The possibility of spot burn at switch on and switch off is prevented by the components around transistor Q3357 and in


Fig. 7: The left-channel audio amplifier circuit.
the cut-off circuit. At switch on C3353 charges slowly via R3352. Thus a voltage appears at the anode of D3353 which conducts. Q3359 switches on and Q3368 switches off. The full 12 V is therefore applied to the emitter of Q3373 and the equivalent transistors in the red and green channels. and all three are cut off. When C3353 has fully charged the voltage at the anode of D3353 falls and the circuit reverts to normal operation.

At switch off the voltage on the 12 V line falls. As C3358 has been charged to 12 V , the voltage at the base of Q3357 falls below that at its emitter and it conducts, switching Q3359 on and Q3368 off. The action at this point is the same as during the switch-on spot suppression period and lasts until C3369 has discharged via R3359.

## Beam Limiting

Beam limiting is carried out within the VDU chip, determined by the voltage at pins 7 and 8, see Fig. 6. This voltage is derived from a sampled line flyback pulse, which is processed by transistor Q1642 and the associated circuitry. With excessive beam current the pulses at the base of Q1642 become negative and it can no longer charge C1648. If the voltage at pins $7 / 8$ of the VDU chip falls below a 4 V threshold, contrast limiting is initiated. If the voltage falls below 3 V brightness limiting is also applied. At 0 V the beam current is reduced to zero.

## The Audio Amplifiers

A pair of TDA2030A chips provide the audio outputs. They are powered by spit supplies, as we have seen. The audio signals from the ACP (audio control processor) chip are buffered on the digital board and are fed to the non-inverting chip inputs. Fig. 7 shows the left-hand audio circuit. It's of conventional design, with the protection diodes D477 and D478 clamping the supply lines to the output. Audiofrequency roll-off is set by the RC networks in the feedback and non-inverting input circuits. A Zobell network (C479, R479) at the output helps to prevent any instability.

In addition to audio signal muting within the ACP chip during the channel change and search operations, switch-on muting is provided by Q498 and the equivalent transistor in the right channel. These transistors are controlled by the CCU chip. When switched on, they short the audio inputs to chassis.

## Part 2

In the next instalment we'll look at the rest of the analogue circuitry, staring with the tuner and the i.f. section.

## Teletopics

## DIGITAL VCR FORMAT

Ten leading manufacturers have reached agreement on a basic specification for a new consumer VCR system that will store the video signal on tape in digital form. The specification is to be submitted to the IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) as a proposed international standard. Brief details are as follows: mechanical system slant-azimuth with rotating heads; tape width 0.25 in. ( 6.25 mm ); type of tape metal evaporated or tape with the same performance; data recording rate $25 \mathrm{Mbits} / \mathrm{sec}$ after signal bit reduction using discrete cosine transformation; playing time 4.5 hours for a standard cassette, one hour for a compact cassette for portable use; sound system PCM digital with stereo and four-channel modes. There is provision for HDTV: in this mode the machine would be switched to double speed with a $50 \mathrm{Mbits} / \mathrm{sec}$ data rate and halved playing time. Machines will be able to record PAL, NTSC and SECAM signals by converting them to digital form, using a system similar to the MPEG of CD-i. The firms involved are Hitachi, JVC, Matsushita, Mitsubishi, Philips, Sanyo, Sharp, Sony, Thomson and Toshiba.

## NEW VIDEO DISPLAY SYSTEM

A new digital video projection system, called DMD (digital micromirror device), has been developed by Texas Instruments. It uses a series of tiny mirrors, each one just 17 microns across, to project the image on to a screen. The basis of the system is a half-inch square section of silicon chip that contains an array of CMOS devices which act as memory cells. The mirrors are highly reflective and are hinged at diagonal corners so that they can be tilted by ten degrees in either direction.

To create an image a bright light is shone on to the chip while an electrical current is passed through the cells. A positive pulse results in a mirror element flipping in one direction to reflect the light while a negative pulse twists the mirror in the opposite direction to block the light: the mirror switching time is around $10 \mu \mathrm{sec}$. This system produces a diplay with a large number of grey-scale steps. For a coloured image light from red, green and blue sources is shone on to the chip in sequence while the switching time of the mirrors is varied to allow the colours to be mixed in the correct proportions. Infra-red radiation from the light source is filtered out to keep the chip cool, and the mass of the mirrors is so small that they absorb very little heat energy. TI says that the mirrors can be switched billions of times with no stress damage to the hinges.

TI has demonstrated a DMD projector that displays 640 x 480 pixel NTSC and VGA pictures: a 1 kW xenon arc lamp was used as the light source. The device would be used for large-screen projection. No price or launch details have been announced.

## CHANNEL 5 AGAIN

The ITC has called for "expressions of interest" from prospective operators of Channel 5 - these must reach the Commission by October 15th. In its just published Consultation Document on the Future of Channel 5 the ITC lists three options for Channel 5 and asks for comment. These
options are: (1) If clear interest is expressed, to re-advertise the licence. An ITC study has looked at ways of using different frequencies to reduce the problem of interference to VCRs and other equipment, and ways of reducing the number of locations where an additional aerial would be required, but the ITC does not feel that such measures would make enough difference for it to be worthwhile changing the original plan. (2) To use the available frequencies for local TV services. (3) Use of the frequencies as part of a move to the introduction of digital TV services.

## AMIGA CD32 LAUNCHED

Commodore has launched Amiga CD32, a 32-bit CD-ROM games system. The games console plugs into a TV set and will play CD audio, CDTV, CD-ROM games and Video CD discs (the latter store up to 74 minutes of video on a CD, see elsewhere in this issue). A 14 MHz Motorola 68020 processor and 2Mbytes of RAM are used, while the AGA (advanced graphics architecture) chipset can display 256,000 colours from a palette of 16.8 million. A proprietary operating system is used.

The console has two joystick/controller ports; r.f., composite video and S-video sockets; and stereo audio and headphone jacks. In addition a keyboard can be plugged in. There's space for an MPEG module, required for Video CD playback. Suggested price of the console is $\mathfrak{£ 3 0 0}$ while the MPEG module is to be made available this autumn at "under $£ 200$ ". Fifty to a hundred games titles are promised by Christmas at $£ 20$ to $£ 30$ each.

## SONY ANNOUNCES MD DATA FORMAT

Sony has announced a new standard, called MD DATA, that enables computer data to be stored on mini discs. Up to 140Mbytes of data can be stored on the 64 m disc, enough for 2,000 colour images or around fifteen minutes of fullmotion video. The data transfer rate is $150 \mathrm{kbits} / \mathrm{sec}$, the same as a CD-ROM disc. Each sector has 2,048 bytes. Three types of MD DATA discs are to be made available: pre-mastered MD-ROMs, which will be used for electronic publishing and prerecorded software; recordable discs using magneto-optical technology - these can be used and reused, like floppy discs; and hybrid discs that contain blank and prerecorded sections. The new discs will be distinguishable from ordinary MDs and will not play in an audio MD deck. The MD file system is designed to work with different computer platforms. Sony expects to launch the system in 1995.

## HARDWARE

JVC has launched both Mini Disc and Digital Compact Cassette machines in Japan. The XMD1 at Y99,800 ( $£ 620$ ) is a portable MD recorder with edit facilities, remote control and a three-way power supply: JVC markets sixty-minute MDs at Y1,400 (£8.75) each. Model ZD-1 is a portable DCC player selling at Y59,800 (£370). No UK launch details have been released.

Aiwa has introduced, at $£ 1,290$, a 'personal home cinema' system. It consists of a VX-S140 televideo and NSX-D909 digital surround sound mini system.

## SATELLITE TV

Eutelsat II F6, to be launched in the autumn of 1994, will provide sixteen 36 MHz TV channels from $13^{\circ} \mathrm{E}$, in co-location with II F1. It will use 70 W transmitting tubes to provide
a 49dBW footprint that extends from Ireland and Potugal in the west to the Ukraine and Turkey in the east. Transmissions will be in the band $11.2-11.55 \mathrm{GHz}$. Eutelsat call II F6 the Hot-Bird and expect it to be used mainly for DTH broadcasting.

Schlumberger Technologies has announced a new encryption system, SmanCrypt, that will free cable and satellite TV broadcasters from the traditional subscriptionbased methods of charging for services. Its unique dual smart card interface enables viewers to receive programmes on a 'pay per view' basis, by paying for entitlements by means of a smart card.

The 1994 Cable and Satellite Exhibition will be held at the Grand Hall, Olympia on April 11-13th.

## PUBLICATIONS

To coincide with the thirtieth anniversay of his collection of BBC archive material Keith Hamer has launched the BBC Test Card Club. Members will receive a quarterly 20-page, A4-size magazine called Test Card which will cover many aspects of BBC engineering including, naturally, trade test transmissions. An annual subscription costs $£ 8.50$ in the UK or $£ 11$ world-wide via air mail. A leaflet can be obtained by sending a stamped, addressed envlope to Keith at 7 Epping Close, Mackworth Estate, Derby DE3 4HR (0332 513 399).

TV aerial and accessory manufacturer Maxview has published a Guide to terrestrial TV and FM Radio Broacasting. This sixteen-page, two-colour booklet is aimed at consumers, providing a guide to the selection and installation of aerial equipment. Copies can be obtained via Maxview's Customer Helpline, 0553811000 , or by writing to Maxview Ltd., CSD, Common Lane, Setchey, King's Lynn, Norfolk PE33 0AT

## ANSWER TO TEST CASE 369

\author{

- see page 795 -
}

Wild West Repairs is still operational on an as-and-when basis - we may well hear more of it in this column in due course. Television Ted doesn't put up aerials, but he's seldom stumped for long by a TV fault. This one was no exception to the rule.

Regulated TV power supplies operate on the closed-loop principle: a rise in the output voltage is fed back to the circuitry that drives the regulating device, in this case the chopper transistor TP29, so that the latter reduces the energy level and the correct voltage conditions are thus restored. This feedback system means that there is automatic compensation for changes in component values and minor faults within the loop. The two crucial factors are the sample voltage being monitored and the voltage that's used as a reference so that, by comparison, an error voltage can be produced. In the IKC2 chassis the sample voltage is provided by the potential-divider network centred on PP52, while the reference voltage is supplied by the 4.7 V zener diode DP55 (plus a 1 N4148 diode in series to provide temperature compensation). If either voltage changes, the h.t. voltage and the picture size will alter with it.

Ray had concentrated on the components associated with the sample voltage, overlooking the reference voltage source. This is where the cause of the trouble lay, the culprit being the zener diode. Ted very soon found this out by using his hairdryer and aerosol freezer. We are not to know the fate of the Rhondda Rentals technician, whose role in the affair can have done him no good at all.

## Next Month in TELEVISION

## TVNCR SPARES GUIDE

Free with the October issue, our latest TV/NCR spares guide listing sources of spares for most brands of TV and video equipment.

SERVICING THE PHILIPS 3A CHASSIS
The 3A was Philips' flagship chassis during the period 1986-8, with many 'extras' including some firsts in the UK. It's not the easiest set to work on however. Richard Newman provides guidance on servicing, including access.

## MODERN TV RECEIVER TECHNIQUES

Next month's instalment looks at timebase generator synchronisation and the techniques used in practice in today's receivers, also the line driver stage.

## CAR RADIO/AUDIO SERVICING

The radio and audio equipment installed in cars present their own problems when it comes to servicing - many technicians baulk at the idea of becoming involved. It's possible to do profitable buiness however. Alan Bouskill provides advice on diagnostic techniques.

## SERVICE BRIEFS FROM TOSHIBA

Official guidance on repairs to CTVs and VCRs in the Toshiba ranges.

## TEST REPORT: WAVETEK DMMs

David Botto reviews the Wavetek series 2000 digital multimeters. These are advanced, handheld instruments that contain an impressive range of newly-developed features.

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# Satellite Notebook 


#### Abstract

Nick Beer Last month I mentioned what appeared to be a problem caused by a Manhattan LNB. How could I have supposed that my favourite LNB had lost its meticulous record? The case I described related to an installation with a Beosat LM receiver built into an Beovision MX3500 TV set, the problem being bars on vision after a period of time. It remained when a second LM unit was tried, but a second LNB seemed to put matters right. Conclusive evidence, you might think. Well, not so! A technical bulletin received from Bang and Olufsen describes the exact fault, which occurs when the LNB voltage is 18 V . There are two causes. First 20IC5 in the LM unit being disturbed by line pulses picked up from the deflection coils - this happens only with MX type (monitor style) TV sets and the AV9000, B and O's Pro-Logic system. Secondly 20IC5 being intermittently unstable, depending on the LNB's power consumption. The solutions are to fit a metal shield plate (part no. 3302519) to the LM unit, see Fig. 1, and to fit a standard diode, e.g. a IN4148, in place of 20R22 with its anode towards 20IC5. These modifications are being implemented in production.


## Satmaster for Windows

Another thing I discussed last month was the Satmaster Pro PC program (page 714) for use when designing satellite TV installations. I can now report on the new version for use with the Microsoft Windows operating system. It has the following extra features: operation with more than one link budget on the screen at a time: mixed displays of maps, charts and data are possible; a notepad editor, with full cut-paste-search and replace facilities: and the possibility of using a scanner to import your own BMP files for graphics. They result from the presentational abilities of the Windows system.

In my opinion the Windows system provides a better presentation of any software program, making it easier to use. Satmaster Pro undoubtedly benefits from the treatment. Mouse or pointer support is standard, unlike the DOS version. On the whole the graphics are much improved use of colour being not the least enhancement. For example in the DOS version the Far East rain climatic zone map is at first sight very unclear with respect to what is a zone


Fig. 1: Shield plate modification for the Beosat LM receiver.
boundary and what is a coastline: in the Windows version colour gives a marked improvement. Standard installation procedures apply, using Windows 3.1 or higher. The program requires 4 Mbytes of RAM and 2Mbytes of space on the hard drive - also a mouse or other pointer.

The Pro Windows 1.0 package costs $£ 99$ and is available from Swift Television Publications, 17 Pittsfield, Cricklade, Wilts SN6 6AN (telephone 0793750 620).

## Pace Releases

In the June issue Ian Martin mentioned recent additions to the Pace range. The Pro-Logic decoder is of particular interest - I find Pro-Logic sound fantastic. Several Astra channels feature it and provide, with VHS tapes and CDs, ideal demonstration material. If you haven't experienced the effect yet, I strongly advise you to find someone with a system and listen to it!

## Fault File

A fault we've had with several Pace SS 9000 receivers (and clones) recently is no output from the tuner. It is not a cheap repair, so it's worth shopping around for a replacement tuner. Pace supply it at around $£ 37$ trade plus VAT. CPC have had it on special offer at as low as $£ 32$, though the official catalogue price is in line with Pace's. The Ferguson part from WVE costs rather more.

One polarity not working has been the fault with a couple of SS9000/Ferguson SRV1-S receivers. No surprise to find that Q3 (FXT749) is the culprit. We've had it go both openand short-circuit.

Another fault we've had with this model is no signals, no test signal etc. due to loss of the switched 12 V supply because Q4 (another FXT749) had gone short-circuit base-to-collector. A BC327 will do for test purposes, but the correct type should be fitted to complete the repair.

John Hepworth adds: Here is a summary of some faults we've encountered recently in the satellite receiver field.

Pace SS3000: These receivers are coming in with various symptoms such as hum bars, incomplete menus, channel numbers staying on the screen and what I call overnight tuning drift. The problem is easy to deal with. Replace the four electrolytic capacitors (three $2,200 \mu \mathrm{~F}$, one $100 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ ) in the power supply, also the bridge rectifiers. Once you have a healthy, smooth supply the receivers work as well as when new.

Amstrad SRX100/200: There was mention in the May issue of C504 causing oscillation on the 5 V line. This usually results in a dead set, but in one case I had the symptom was a 'woodgrain' pattern over the picture, especially with MTV. When tested the capacitor showed no leak or capacitance loss, but a scope confirmed its guilt. In later models its value was increased from $220 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ to $470 \mu \mathrm{~F}$.

SVA1 VideoCrypt decoder: This unit would display 'insert card' at random on any channel. When I examined the mains transformer connections with a magnifying glass I could see that they were becoming dry-jointed. Resoldering them all cured the trouble. These units are also becoming well-known for cracked print in the corner of the PCB nearest the power-on LED. The symptoms range from dead to strange messages such as 'no programmes remaining' and 'no tokens left'. In this condition the unit will often decode UK Gold but no pay channels.

# Modern TV Receiver Techniques 

## Part 9: Liquid-crystal Displays

Eugene Trundle

The shadowmask colour c.r.t. described last month in effect combines three separate picture-producing systems within the same glass envelope so that they share a common deflection system. It's difficult to produce very large sized direct-view tubes, so for picture sizes greater than about one metre (diagonal) the usual solution is a projection system.

## Projection TV

Colour projection TV systems that use tubes require one each for red, green and blue, with three separate lens systems to project and superimpose the images they produce on to a common screen. The tubes are generally 5 in . $(12.7 \mathrm{~cm})$ types run at about 30 kV (e.h.t.), the deflection angle being about $70^{\circ}$. They have a large-diameter electron gun which can thus produce a very small scanning spot, and are set up to produce an underscanned, intensely bright raster.

There are three common projection TV arrangements. The projector may be separate from the screen, projecting the three images, via lenses, on to it from a distance. Alternatively the three tubes and their lenses may be mounted at the bottom of a large console unit, arranged in line facing a mirror at $45^{\circ}$ which reflects the three images on to the front of a concave screen. A reduction in the size of the console unit is obtained when back-projection is used: the three tubes with their lenses are mounted behind the screen, facing upwards, a $45^{\circ}$ mirror reflecting the images on to the rear of the screen. Fig. 1 illustrates these arrangements.

With a projection TV system no energy is wasted in a shadowmask. But there are several drawbacks - apart from the greater cost than a single direct-view tube. Because the

(a)


Three tubes with lenses, mounted in line

Ground glass screen


Tubes and lenses face upwards
(c) 0104

Fig. 1: Three projection TV systems using primary-colour tubes. (a) Separate table-top or overhead projection unit and screen. (b) A console with reflection from a cancave screen. (c) A back-projection system with ground-glass screen.
three tubes are separately scanned, there are image-registration problems to overcome. Since the tubes cannot be on the same projection axis, keystone correction has to be provided for the two outer tuhes. At the high brightness levels used to make good light loss in the system the tubes have a limited life, during which manual grey-scale adjustment must be carried out from time to time. And finally the reflective screens generally used are directional, offering full-brightness pictures only to viewers who face the screen directly.

For these reasons liquid-crystal display (LCD) projectors have in recent times come into favour. They use an electric lamp as the light source, and need a rather complex optical system. But as there's a single projection lens and beam there's no need for image registration adjustments during installation or in day-to-day use. The maximum projected image size is proportional to the distance between the projector and the screen, though there's of course a trade-off between image size and trightness. The user has two simple lens controls, focus and zoom, as with a camera. But before we go into LCD projector technology we need to consider the basic operation of an L.CD panel. The principles here are the same for both direct-view and projection TV systems.

## Liquid-crystal Displays

The basic difference between a picture tube and an LCD panel is that the former generates a point-source light while the LCD controls, at each picture element (pixel), the amount of light that passes through. Liquid-crystal material combines the fluidity of a liquid with the regular moleculal


Fig. 2 (left): In manufacture the nematic crystals are twisted through 90 - by rubbing them.

Fig. 3 (right): Use of a variable electric field to control the twist of the crystal's molecules.
structure of a solid crystal. There are many types of liquid crystal they all have their molecules arranged in the form of thin bars or flat plates. For TV displays the nematic type is used. It has long, thin molecules that are all aligned in the same direction. In production the molecular structure is twisted through $90^{\circ}$ (see Fig. 2) so that the polarisation of light passing through will be similarly twisted. This is known as a twisted-nematic (TN) crystal. The feature that enables these properties to be used is that the degree of twist of the molecules can be controlled by applying an electrical field at right-angles to their axes, see Fig. 3. A practical LCD element has a ten-micron liquid-crystal layer sandwiched between two transparent electrodes: by varying the voltage applied across these electrodes the rotational polarisation of the molecules in the layer can be varied between zero and $90^{\circ}$. How is this property used to control the light transmission of a liquid-crystal display?

Fig. 4 shows the basic action of an LCD. The polarisation of natural light is random - its photons vibrate in all directions. A polarising filter can be used to pass only light that"s polarised in one plane. The LCD element is sandwiched between two polarising filters whose characteristics are opposite, one passing vertically-polarised light and the other horizontally-polarised light. The amount of light that can
pass through this assembly depends on the crystal twist and hence the applied voltage. Vertically-polarised light passes through the first filter. If it's twisted through $90^{\circ}$ by the LCD element (TN cell) it will pass through the second polariser which passes only horizontally-polarised light. This occurs when the applied voltage is zero. As the voltage increases, the LC twist decreases and the light that passes through it becomes steadily less able to pass through the output polariser. Eventually the point is reached where all the light is blocked and the screen is black. With some LCDs the polarisation of the two polarising filters is the same. In this case the screen is black with zero applied voltage and white with the maximum voltage present. The voltage/opacity characteristic of the device is reasonably


Fig. 4: The addition of light polarising filters at the input and output enable the LCD cell to act as a light valve.
linear, and the polarising voltage can be applied in either way - in fact in order to prevent ionisation and consequent deterioration of the liquid-crystal material a.c. drive is used.

The basic arrangement used in a practical LCD display panel is illustrated in Fig. 5. It shows three picture elements - a display panel has typically 100,000 elements (pixels), each one of which is controlled by a thin-film field-effect transistor (TFT). When an a.c. drive signal is applied to the


Fig. 5: Representation of three adjacent LCD panel cells, showing the control transistors and bus drive lines. The sandwich is only a few microns thick.
gate bus line, an off signal is fed to the source bus line for elements one and two and an on signal is fed to the source bus line for element three, light will pass through elements one and two and be blocked by element three. To an observer looking at the screen elements one and two are illuminated and element three is black. By building a matrix of such cells and individually controlling the conduction of the TFTs, a complete pattern of light and shade is built up on the screen - a monochrome TV picture whose definition is governed by the number of elements in the matrix.

This is called active-matrix drive. Fig. 6 shows the equiv-


Fig. 6: Equivalent circuit of two adjacent LCD cells. The individual TFTs in the LCD matrix are addressed simultaneously via the $X$ (source) and $Y$ (gate) lines.
alent circuit of two adjacent elements (cells). Scanning and signal pulses are fed to the Y (gate) and X (source) lines respectively. When a TFT is switched on, the display data is stored as an electric charge in the capacitor formed by the LCD cell. The charge remains, and the cell’s light transmittance remains at the same level, until the pixel is updated when the next frame is scanned. This gives the best possible picture contrast and brightness.

Broadcast TV signals and those from video cameras and camcorders have a luminance signal which has been predistorted in a gamma-correcting stage to compensate for the non-linear light-output characteristic of a picture tube. Thus in a set with an LCD it's necessary to adjust the signal's gamma characteristic to match that of the LCD.

## LCD Drive

There are several ways of driving an LCD panel. One is shown in Fig. 7. In this example there are 384 pixels per horizontal line and 288 lines, making a total of 110,592 pixels in all. Vertical interlaced scanning is used. This is done by having two horizontal scanning circuits, one for the odd lines and one for the even lines of the TV picture. A separate vertical scanning circuit is used to scan down the screen line by line. We'll follow the sequence involved in tracing out a complete picture.

At the start of line one, field one of the picture, the upper scanning circuit is triggered on by the arrival of a start pulse (STH) which opens the upper horizontal shift register. 192 clock pulses (half the number of pixels in the horizontal line) are fed into the register, their total duration corresponding with that of one TV line. The sample-and-hold gates take 192 samples of the analogue video signal. These are then buffered and fed to the source bus lines (S1, S3, S5 etc.) for alternate horizontal pixel TFTs. At the same starting time an STV1 start pulse is applied to the vertical shift register, which loads CKV clock pulses. The first one turns on the gates of all the TFTs in the top row of the display, enabling them to respond to the video signal on the vertical (source) bus lines. Only half the TFTs switch on in sequence, the ones fed with a video signal via the S1, S3, S5 etc. lines.

The next TV line is the second one in the first field. It's clocked, sampled and buffered out of the upper horizontal scanning circuit in exactly the same way as the first line, but this time the vertical shift register has clocked down once to turn on the gates in the second row of TFTs. Again alternate pixels ( $1,3,5$ etc.) respond to the video signal, producing the second line of the picture.

The process continues until the end of field one, which in this case will be the display's line 288 as there are only 288 lines.
We now come to the start of field two, which is vertically interlaced with field one. The lower horizontal scanning


Fig. 7: Operation of an LCD panel. The pulse inputs at the left come from a timing pulse generator.
circuit now comes into action, triggered by the start pulse fed to its shift register. Operation is identical to that of the upper horizontal scanning circuit, but this time the 192 video samples per line, timed by clock pulse train CKH2, are fed to the even-numbered source bus lines ( $\mathrm{S} 2 . \mathrm{S} 4 \mathrm{etc}$.) so that the second set of TFTs comes into operation. displaying field two's video information alongside field one. Thus vertical interlacing has been achieved, to suit the physical structure and line make-up of the LCD panet.

The lack of correlation between the broadcast lines and the lines of the LCD panel during each 20 msec field cycle is overcome by the short-term memory characteristic of the output buffers in the horizontal scanning circuits.

All the circuit sections shown in Fig. 7 are integral with the LCD panel - it would not be practical to have 672 separate leadouts going to external chips. The type of display shown has about sixteen connections to the external circuitry, nine of which go to a timing controller chip which is under the control of the broadcast or video sync pulses.

The number of lines and pixels in the panel depends on its size, application and price, which vary from cheap pocket TV sets to relatively high-definition flat-panel displays and projection systems.

## Colour LCDs

What we ve looked at so far is a monochrome liquidcrystal display. To add colour it's necessary to put colour filters over individual liquid-crystal cells, producing an RGB matrix like that shown in Fig. 8, with the R, G and B video signals routed to the appropriate LCD cells. Because we now have three cells per pixel, the definition capability is reduced. In practice this is overcome by using more.


Fig. 8: RGB colour filters in an offset matrix.
smaller LCD elements. This principle of having individual pixel colour filters is similar to, though on a larger scale, the arrangement used (in reverse) in the CCD imagers of solidstate colour TV cameras.

## Backlighting

In small LCD TV sets the backlighting required is generally provided by a tiny fluorescent tube with a reflector and diffuser to provide bright, even illumination over the whole area of the LCD panel.

## LCD Projection Systems

The brightness produced by a single-colour c.r.t. is limited by the energy that can be impaited to its electron beam and dissipated at the screen. When, as with a theetube projector, the available light has to be spread over a large picture area the results, even with a directional viewing screen, may be barely adequate. Because the LCD panel in an LCD projection system acts as a light valve there are no such constreints: a very bright electric tamp can be used as the light source. its output being intensity modulated by the LCD matrix between the lamp and the screen. The latter can be flat, cinema style.

Some LCD projectors use a single RGB panel that operates in the manner already described, with a strong backlight and a lens system, but it's difficult to achieve sufficient definition in a large picture produced by an LCD panel in which three cells are required for each pixel. Hence the three-panel projection systems from manutacturers like Sharp and Sanyo. These separate the lightinto its R. (a and B components, which cian be individually modulated.

## Three-panel Projectors

A typical three-LCD panel projector offers a horizontal resolution of $3(0)-450$ lines, using three separate $(R, G$ and B) panels each with a diagonal measurement of about three inches $(7.6 \mathrm{~cm})$ and over 100,000 pixels. That's about $300,000)$ transistors in the display alone! A 150 W metalhatide lamp serves as the light source, the contrast ratio being 100: 1. An 14.5 projection lens is used with a $2: 1$ zoom ratio.

Fig. 9 shows the optical system. The light source is surrounded by a parabolic reflector ( 1 ) which absorbs infrared (IR) radiation (heal) while reflecting visible tight. The light is next reflected from a $90^{\circ}$ cold mirror (2) which absorbs IR and ultra-violet (UV) energy, before being passed through an IR/UV cut filter (3). Now 'cold’. with its energy contined to the visible part of the light spectrum. the beam reaches the first, red dichroic lens ( 4 ). This reflects the red light while atlowing the green and blue light to pass through. An ordinary aluminium reflector (5) turns the red light through $90^{\circ}$. passing it to a condenser lens that makes the light rays parallel. The next item in this path is the red LCD, which forms the red component of the picture. A second dichroic lens ( 6 ) separates the green and blue light. the green and blue beams being passed to their own condenser lenses and LCD modulators. Two further dichroi-


Fig. 9: A three LCD-panel projector optical system.
lenses, (7) and (8), are used to recombine the three beams which then pass to the projection lens. This focuses the picture on the separate screen. A forced fan-ventilation system is incorporated to keep the LCD panels at a temperature below $50^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ : it sucks air in at the back of the projector and hlows it out at the top.

Note that the image produced by the R-LCD is not reflected on its way to the projection lens, the image produced by the B-LCD is reflected once while the image from the G-LCD is reflected twice. Without compensation, the blue image would appear on the screen reversed in comparison to the other two images. This problem is overcome by scanning the B-LCD in the opposite direction to the other two LCDs.

## The Light Source

The metal-halide lamp used as the point-light source is very efficient: it's claimed to be four times as powerful as the equivalent halogen lamp. It takes the form of a mercuryarc lamp with a quartz glass 'blob’ in the centre. For it to strike, a $12 k V$ pulse has to be applied to its electrodes.


Fig 10: Lamp- and system-control arrangement for a typical three-panel LCD projector.
which are a millimetre or two apart. The resulting are vapourises a blob of liquid mercury which gives off an intense glow. Once the mercury is vaporised, hot and glowing. the are is maintained through what has become a low-resistance path. So the bulb is fed through a currentlimiting system designed to maintain the energy at 150 W . In
this mode the voltage across the electrodes is about 80 V .
The light-emission spectrum of a mercury-vapour lamp is very uneven, with four well-defined peaks in the visible region and two in the UV area. Its major output is in the blue part of the spectrum. This is of little use for colour TV! The solution is to add various metal halides, e.g. caesium, to the mercury and operate the are in argon gas. This produces a very even distribution of light emission across the spectrum from $380-760 \mathrm{~nm}$. The lamp is not a user plug-in device, nor is it cheap: it costs a three-figure sum to supply and fit a replacement, whose operating life is about 1,000 hours.

## Lamp Drive and System Control

The 12 kV lamp igniter doesn't have to supply much energy: it's a simple circuit with a couple of semiconductor devices and a pulse transformer. A relay powers it for 1.4 sec, after which a light sensor checks whether the lamp is lit. If not, the ignter fires three more times at 25 sec intervals. The projector shuts down if the lamp is still off.

Once the lamp is alight, it's kept on by an a.c. drive circuit that consists of four power f.e.t.s in a bridge configuration (a d.c.-a.c. converter). Fig. 10 shows an outline block diagram of the arrangement, including the control system. The d.c.-a.c. converter is fed from a chopper circuit whose control system monitors the lamp current and voltage, maintaining it at the required 150 W level.

The system control section is concerned mainly with monitoring the lamp and the internal temperature of the projector. Two thermal sensors that govern the fan speed and, if the internal temperature rises to $73^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, shut the projector down ensure the safety of the LCD panels.

The other functions of the control system are the usual TV ones: key scanning, remote control, standby switching and analogue function control. There's also an hour counter that keeps a record, in a non-volatile memory, of the lamp running time, providing an indication of this and a lifeexpiry warning as necessary.

## Next Month

Having followed the course of the signal from the aerial input through to the screen display, we'll next month start on the picture tube control and scanning arrangements.

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