# INDUSTRIAL ELECTRONICS

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**Communications Automation Instrumentation Control** 

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	T. A. KELLY		An on-line computer alarm-analysis system has recently been supplied to the
Production	D. R. BRAY		monitoring requirements of such a plant, and describes the various operating
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0			In some processes, such as the reduction of coal to smokeless fuel, the pulverization of coal for generating station boilers, or the manufacture of gas, the ash content of the burnt fuel must be continuously known. A method using X-rays for coal-ash determination is described here.
		59	Process Dynamics, Pt. 2 by J. W. Wumack, D.Eng.Sc., M.S., B.Sc.
			In the second part of this article the author describes the technique of model- building for the description of processes requiring automatic control.
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Telephone: Waterloo 3333. Telegrams/Telex: Electronics Iliffepres 25137 London

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### INDUSTRIAL ELECTRONICS

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#### Control Communications Automation Instrumentation



#### OUR COVER

The front-cover picture this month shows the Oldbury nuclear power station which is scheduled to come into operation later this year. When operational, it will be the largest nuclear power station in England, with an electrical output of 600 MW. It will be the most efficient nuclear station and it is the first to use concrete pressure vessels. Many of the design features are unique. The computer alarm analysis system for Oldbury is one of a number of the latest electronic systems which contribute to the operation of the plant. This is described in an article in this issue.

#### INDEX TO PRODUCTS

For the convenience of the reader who requires rapid access to information on specific products, an 'index to products' is provided on the same sheet as the reader enquiry cards.

#### Contents continued

#### 69 Talkabout by Nexus

This new and regular feature is a commentary about the electronics manufacturing and user industries. How to get cracking on an electronics project and a brief and amusing reference to keeping automation in its place are but two of the topics which have attracted the attention of Nexus this month.

#### What's On and Where?

A regular feature which lists forthcoming events. Professional meetings, symposia, conferences and exhibitions are included. For easy reference this item is positioned facing the inside back cover.

#### Features

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#### **Next Month**

Data logging is being used more and more in all industries. Various forms of equipment are available for the collection and presentation of information for process plants, ships' engine rooms, etc. One of the main articles in the March issue deals with data logging and describes a versatile system which can be built up from a number of standard units. Thermoelectricity and the application of some thermoelectric devices is the subject of another article.

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Publication ZB88 Type 906 pneumatic timer Publication ZB56 Oil-tight Limit Switches

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### INDUSTRIAL ELECTRONICS

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### **N.E.R.C.'s First Year**

The National Electronics Research Council (N.E.R.C.) has now been operating for about one year and last month they held their first Annual General Meeting of the Council.

The first annual report reminds one that N.E.R.C. was founded from an idea put forward in 1961 by Admiral of the Fleet the Earl Mountbatten of Burma. At that time, Earl Mountbatten drew attention to the lack of co-ordination in the electronics research carried on by the universities, by government establishments and by industry and he suggested that consideration should be given to the formation of a co-ordinating body, or research council.

Following a number of preparatory meetings and a lot of groundwork, N.E.R.C. was formed and the Council was duly incorporated on 20th July 1964, with Earl Mountbatten as the Chairman and a General Committee comprising 5 representatives from the educational field, 6 representatives from governmental bodies and 12 representatives from industry. The voting power of the industry group is further increased by the fact that the governmental-body representatives have chosen to be representatives without voting rights. This means that the N.E.R.C. tripartite partnership in the field of electronics research between government, industry, and the academic world in Britain favours industry—which most people in industry will agree is as it should be.

Most of the work in the first year of existence of any co-ordinating body is of an organizational nature. N.E.R.C. is no exception in this respect and it has formed links with other bodies and created one or two smaller committees. In addition two major projects have been initiated by the Council. The first deals with the selective dissemination of information (S.D.I.) to electronics research workers. The Department of Education and Science has awarded  $\pounds$ 6,000 for support of the first five months of the S.D.I. project. During this period the work included the preparation of the detailed specification of the S.D.I. system and compilation of tenders from computer bureaux so that a definitive figure for the cost of the whole project is available. The second project, now successfully under way, concerns the publication of *N.E.R.C. Review*, which is produced quarterly and aims to review the progress in electronics research.

In spite of the general approval which has greeted the whole concept of N.E.R.C., the fear has been expressed that the Council will be just another body of laudable intentions and high resolves whose promises outrun its performance. At this early stage one cannot be positive about the future usefulness of N.E.R.C., but one can see that a firm foundation has been laid for what could be a vitally important body.

All agree that Britain cannot afford the money and manpower effort spent and effectively lost in research which is duplicated by the lack of co-ordination. Given the opportunity and co-operation N.E.R.C. can reduce this wastage and thereby bring benefits to all.



By P. C. M. KAY\*

\*A.E.I. Automation Ltd.

An on-line computer alarm-analysis system has recently been supplied to the CEGB Nuclear Power Station at Oldburyon-Severn. This article discusses the monitoring requirements of such a plant, and describes the various operating techniques of the alarm scanning, checking and indicating equipment being used.

NE of the main characteristics of modern industry is the constantly-increasing size of manufacturing plant. Larger plants frequently become highly complex as the economic and technical possibilities of adding refinements to increase their efficiency arise.

From the operators' point of view, however, the great complexity of these plants makes them difficult to control. and their size and cost makes the results of incorrect operation correspondingly expensive.

Power stations are no exception to this trend, and have led to the introduction of large numbers of alarm warning devices (ranging from pressure switches to large limitchecking data loggers) to assist the operators in preventing plant damage.

### **Alarm Scanning Requirements**

All new power stations are operated remotely by a small staff in a central control room, where all warning devices must, therefore, be indicated. The usual method of displaying large numbers of alarm indications uses small glass panels inscribed with messages which are illuminated when the appropriate warning device is operated. The appearance of new alarms usually causes an audible warning to sound and a message to flash until an acceptance button is pressed.

When the number of alarm indications rise into the thousands, however, the necessary banks of alarm panels become very large, increasing the size of the control room and making proper surveillance by one man difficult. Furthermore, in these highly-instrumented and heavily-interconnected plants, one plant fault can trigger off a large number of alarm indications simultaneously, and the operator will then have difficulty in deciding quickly what has happened and what action he should take.

At the 600-MW two-reactor nuclear power station which is at present being constructed at Oldbury-on-Severn by the Nuclear Power Group, 3,000 alarms have to be displayed in the control room and a new type of alarm-handling system is being introduced.

All alarm signals are scanned by an AEI 1040 processcontrol computer, which suppresses unimportant signals and displays the remainder as a set of plain English messages on four c.r.t. display units.

### The Alarm System

The complete alarm system is shown diagrammatically in Fig. 1. In addition to the monitoring of the 3,000 alarm contacts on the plant, two Burst Cartridge Detection (B.C.D.) computers and two temperature scanners are used to feed alarm data to the central computer for transmission to the display screens.

The B.C.D. computers have magnetic drum stores and plug-in wired programmes. They operate in conjunction with 16 precipitators, which measure the radio-activity of gas samples from 450 groups of fuel channels. Radioactivity in the coolant gas emerging from a fuel channel indicates that radio-active fission products are escaping from a leaking or burst fuel cartridge. The B.C.D. computers check the activity levels against high limits, check the rate of change of activity, and calculate averages over a period of time. All readings are transmitted to the computer but



Fig. 1. A block diagram of the computer scanning and display system

only those outside the limits are displayed on the c.r.t. screens.

The temperature scanners are data loggers, each of which scans 150 thermocouples, checking each one against a limit. As with B.C.D. information, all values are transmitted to the computer, those outside the limits being marked for retransmission to the displays.

In addition to passing them to the main computer, the B.C.D. computers and the temperature scanners both record their results on teleprinters. A regular log of all points is produced on one printer, while alarms are recorded on another. These printers are normally kept in a logging area outside the control room, but the alarm printers are mounted on trolleys and can be moved into the control room if either the main computer or the display system should fail.

### The Computer

The main computer performs an average of 50,000 instructions per second, and has a core store of 4,096 44-bit words and 2 drum stores of 8,192 words each. The instructions and data necessary to enable the computer to analyse the alarm patterns and to assemble the appropriate messages are read into the computer on punched paper tape. They are then transferred to the drum stores, whose writing heads may be isolated to prevent accidental destruction of the information by a momentary computer failure.

The computer has a fully-interleaved transfer system, which enables blocks of information to be transferred to or from all the input/output peripheral devices virtually simultaneously and in parallel with the operation of the arithmetic unit.

The alarm computer reads the state of the 3,000 alarm contacts on the plant via the alarm scanner, and all points are scanned four times per second. The contacts are typically oil-pressure switches in the many lubricating Fig. 2. A view of one of the two reactor control desks, showing the display screen on the right



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Fig. 3. A close-up of one of the display screens on the control desks, indicating an alarm message

systems, differential-pressure switches across seals and strainers, travel-limit switches for reactor control rods, and overcurrent relays for motors, circuit breakers and vital nuclear-instrument faults. The alarm scanner is essentially a 40-pole 80-way electronic switch connecting 40 alarm contacts at a time to one of the computer input channels.

### **Alarm Analysis**

The main function of the computer is the analysis (based on the cause-and-effect relationship between many of the alarms) of the alarm patterns. It must: determine the basic cause of the appearance of a group of related alarms; determine which alarm indications are giving unnecessary information and can therefore be suppressed; select the appropriate messages of advice or warning to be transmitted to the operator; and deduce (from the appearance of others) faults such as leaks, bursts, etc., which cannot be instrumented.

One word (44 bits) of data associated with each alarm condition gives information on all the faults that can cause it and all the faults that can arise as a result of it. A second word contains details of the alarm.

This information allows the computer to pick out groups of related alarms and to estabish the basic cause and the latest and most urgent effects in the cause-and-effect chains. (All intermediate alarms are suppressed.)

A typical cause-and-effect chain might be formed by a choked strainer causing a lack of cooling-water flow to an oil cooler. This would result in hot oil flowing to a pump or blower bearing, thus causing the bearing to over-heat and the pump to trip. Under these circumstances the computer would display the choked strainer fault and the pump trip, indicating that the two were related. It might also display advice to the operator to check that the standby pump starts, or alternatively, if a standby pump were not available, a warning of the consequences.



HECT NET MM IN ATION N.T. MENTATION These messages of advice or warning can be associated either with a single alarm or can be caused to appear only when certain combinations of alarm signals occur.

#### **Computer Self-Checking Facilities**

Apart from the analysis procedure, a large number of instructions, taking up a significant proportion of the computer's time, are required simply to assemble the alarm messages from coded data and to organize their transmission to both display screens and the teleprinter.

A further group of instructions is used to check continually that the whole system is operating correctly. Every 4 second, before requesting a transfer of information from the scanner, the computer performs a routine to check its own operational devices. If a fault is found, or if the computer fails completely, no request for information is made and a timing circuit in the scanner immediately indicates a computer failure.

As well as causing messages to be displayed on the c.r.t. screens, the computer records the appearance of all alarms on a teleprinter, together with the time. The log is printed in such a way that it is possible to see which alarms were suppressed and which displayed to the operator.

### Alpha-Numeric C.R.T. Display

In the control room there are four 21-in. c.r.t. screens —one on each of the two reactor control desks and two on the supervisor's desk. How the information is displayed on the reactor desks is shown in Figs. 2 and 3, and it is divided into three parts:

The left-hand side of the screen is reserved for B.C.D. and temperature information, above and below respectively. Three numbers are displayed for each point outside the limits, the first being the point identification code, the second the actual value, and the third the limit which has been exceeded.

On the right-hand side are displayed the alarm messages derived from alarm contacts on each reactor unit. Sets of messages that are derived from the same basic plant fault are grouped together (between rows of hyphens) with the basic fault marked by an asterisk. Thirty-two lines of 39-character messages can be displayed, but if more alarms than this occur at one time, they are simply held in a queue in the computer store. The operator is warned of the existence of a queue of undisplayed alarms by a lamp on the control desk, and he can examine the queue by means of a switch which causes existing messages to be moved up and off the screen while new information from the queue is inserted at the bottom. The queue lamp is extinguished when the end of the queue is reached.

All the information on the reactor-desk screens is repeated on the screens on the supervisor's desk, with the addition of 16 lines of station alarm messages at the bottom righthand corner. The station alarms appear on both these screens so that the failure of a tube does not prevent any messages reaching the operator.

The operator's attention is drawn to the new alarms by an audible warning and a flashing light which indicates which section of the display is affected. He cancels these by pressing buttons on the desk. The appearance of new alarms also freezes the display, to allow the operator to read messages which would otherwise appear for only a short time, and the display is unfrozen by a reset button.

The characters on the c.r.t. screens are produced by causing electron beams to trace out the appropriate shapes rather like a pencil writing on paper—a method quite different from that used to produce a normal television picture. These writing movements naturally take place at very high speed (4,000 characters can be traced out in about 100 msec), thus allowing a complete display of information to be regenerated 10 times per second, which is enough to give a virtually flicker-free display.

The display system at Oldbury has its own core store, although a later version can share a computer's store. Sixbit character codes are read into the display store by instructions from the computer and the appropriate characters are then displayed until they are over-written by further computer instructions.

The display units are mounted on trolleys which roll into the backs of the control desks, spare trolleys being provided so that faulty display units can be quickly replaced.

#### The Oldbury Reactor

This equipment is now being commissioned at Oldbury and will shortly go into service. It is the first of a series of computer-based information-handling systems using c.r.t. displays which is being planned for future power stations.

The gas-cooled reactor, with natural uranium fuel in Magnox cans, is one of the most highy-instrumented plants in the world and there are good reasons for this. The fuel cans are working close to their temperature limits and a few can failures are therefore to be expected. Faulty cans in any of the 3,300 fuel channels will release radioactive fission products into the coolant stream and must therefore be detected and removed; fuel and coolant gas temperatures must also be carefully monitored. Furthermore, in common with all reactors, correct operation of the control rods is vital and large numbers of alarm indications arise from the rod-control equipment and its associated instrumentation. It is not surprising that the problem of handling large numbers of alarm indications has arisen first in these plants, though with the trend to large plants and increasing use of remote control, the problem can be expected to spread to other areas particularly in the chemical-process industries.

### **Purely-Logical Computer Operation**

Another feature of the Oldbury equipment is that the main computer is not required to perform any mathematical functions—it is being used purely for logical operations. Most computers in on-line applications perform many more purely-logical operations than is perhaps generally appreciated. An application with no mathematics at all does,

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Machines which 'read' printed alphanumerical characters by an optical process are often used in data processors and advantages can be gained if data is fed into the processor in a printed form which can be read by human operators, such as on invoices or data sheets, rather than in a coded form on punched tape, punched cards or magnetic tape. Existing optical character-reading machines rely on specially-shaped characters for their recognition of them. They recognize the character by comparing the entire character being read with standard characters programmed into the machine or by inspecting parts of the characters (i.e. the individual strokes) and comparing the combinations of the vertical and horizontal strokes with combinations for standard characters also programmed into the machine. (See Industrial Electronics, Volume 2, numbers 8, 9 and 10, the August, September and October 1964 issues, pages 397, 410 and 475: Developments in Electronic Reading Machines by John B. Rudkin.)

A team at the Mullard Research Laboratories has been devising a system for the recognition of imperfect printed and handwritten block capitals. The system consists of



Fig. 4. The computer at the Oldbury Nuclear Power Station being tested

however, drive home the point that computers can earn their living on logical operations alone. The cost of process computers is still decreasing and it is likely that they will find increasing application in the field of logical decision taking, as they have a number of advantages over large assemblies of relay or solid-state logic circuits.

Their ability to time-share their circuits between a large number of different jobs can reduce the total number of components in a system, with the consequent reduction in cost and improvement in reliability. Even more important is the fact that one hardware design can be used for many different applications and the development cost can therefore be spread. Finally, the hardware can often be ordered and manufactured before the function of the equipment is known exactly.

### g h

defining characters by the relative positions of a set of points corresponding to certain features of the characters. It was found that this method provides the least ambiguity and tests on a computer programme showed it to be adequate. The features chosen are the ends of lines, angles between lines, curves and loops. A point will define the end of a line or an angle between two lines and curves can be specified by the point at the centre of the arc of the curve. Loops cannot be specified by single points and therefore they are combined with ends, angles and curves to form other features such as an angle-on-a-loop. In all there are six defining features.

The features for each character are written down in order and form codewords and these can be entered into a store in the reading machine. Each character may have more than one codeword depending on the different ways in which the character can be written but, as this is a flexible system, the store may be added to as a new codeword for each letter or figure occurs. The machine can then compare the features of the character it is reading with the codewords in the store and thereby identify the read character.



NE of the world's largest computer systems, the GE-645, has been developed by General Electric Company (U.S.A.) and is to be delivered to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology this year. It has been designed specifically for large-scale time-sharing operations, and should not only reduce considerably the costs of computing but also spread more widely its availability and use.

Time-sharing is a term that describes the technique of allowing many people to use, simultaneously, the full services of a computer, and the GE-645 system will enable as many as 300 out of over 1,000 possible subscribers to share the central computer at the same time.

The concept of a number of users sharing the time and services of a computer is not especially new, and arose originally out of the economic necessity for spreading the operating costs of a large powerful installation. The machine still treats its work load in sequence, but moves back and forth between its various jobs in such a way that results are provided to each user to suit his requirements.

A time-sharing computer system, besides processing complete programmes in batches lasting minutes or hours, can also meet the demands of subscribers who need 'conversational' answers (to problems requiring a step-by-step solution) within seconds, or 'real-time' answers (to actual computing problems) within milliseconds.

# **TIME-SHARING**





One of the time-sharing computer systems (the compatibles/600) manufactured by General Electric Company (U.S.A.), whose computers are marketed in the United Kingdom by De La Rue Bull Machines Ltd.

# **COMPUTER SYSTEMS**

It accomplishes all these jobs automatically, without compromising the needs of any of them, and in effect acts for each subscriber as if he were the only one using the system. It will also accommodate a variety of plug-in communications devices (operating at various speeds), such as small-scale digital computers, analogue computers, teletypewriters and visual-display devices.

The first generation of time-sharing systems consisted of research and experimental computing systems, which used existing computer equipment modified to work conversationally on a limited scale; most systems being operated during the past two years fall into this group.

The second generation appears to fall into two classes: (1) limited systems, which are those which represent improvements on and modifications to the first generation; they carry out lower-cost operations and have a capacity limited to 30 or 40 simultaneous users, with up to 100 connected terminals; (2) extensive systems (those of the present day) which employ equipment and software specifically designed to handle simultaneously the problems of hundreds of users from over a thousand subscribers. The GE-645 is an example of such a system.

Several technical developments in recent years have resulted in the production of much cheaper time-sharing systems. The cost per electronic logic function has continued to fall rapidly, while the speed of the logic has increased; this means that large quantities of electronic logic can be devoted to making more efficient use of other portions of the computer system, including electromechanical devices, communications equipment and mass storage. Also, large-volume random-access storage (the type which makes time-sharing systems possible) has recently become commercially available at greatly reduced costs; as the total available volume of storage per device has grown, the cost per bit of storage has decreased. The result is that present-day computers can store economically large volumes of information and provide it to users at random—something which has never been feasible with sequential storage equipment using punched cards or magnetic tapes.

As a result of the experience gained from experimental and limited time-sharing systems, several significant benefits to computer users are apparent. Many new problems have been solved which, in the past, have been too large to be handled by slide rule or desk calculator, yet too small to be submitted to the extensive and time-consuming programming step necessary to gain solutions from traditional computers. As a result, mathematicians, design engineers, business planners and statisticians have turned to timesharing systems in increasing numbers.

An increased accessibility of computers to business and geographic communities is another advantage; through the use of teletypewriter terminals in homes, offices, class-rooms, production plants and laboratories, users have quick and convenient access to a computer which may be located many miles away.

Future development of time-sharing computer systems appears to be moving in two principal directions. First, towards the growth in business and industrial-management information systems, where executives will have direct access to most of the information necessary to run their businesses. And secondly, towards the development of information utilities within individual companies, industries, professions, universities, government institutions and localities. Local time-sharing systems may eventually be interconnected between geographic regions, thus completing a nation-wide network of information systems.

### INDEX TO PRODUCTS

For the convenience of the reader who requires rapid access to information on specific products, an 'index to products' is provided on the same sheet as the reader enquiry cards

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In this picture the X-ray tube can be seen on the left with the servo motor on the right and the photomultiplier above the motor

A typical Cendrex installation at the Bevercotes Colliery

potentiometer are a d.c. power supply acting as a resolver unit, and the output circuit. Current in this circuit varies from zero to 5 mA but this of course can easily be converted to other signal standards if required.

#### **Process Control Features**

A strip-chart recorder and an indicator are normally mounted in the front door of the cabinet. Although these are sufficient to give immediate indication and a permanent record, it is usual to take advantage of the automatic control facility by using the output current to operate currentsensitive relays. In typical systems the relays are used to regulate the coal-washing machinery, or to re-cycle the coal through the washery. Another form of operation uses several bunkers containing coals of different ash contents, the feed from the bunkers being controlled to give a mix of constant quality.

A rather different type of application, found in powerstations that use pulverized coal, entails the adjustment of the boiler controls, such as fan speed etc., to optimize the combustion conditions according to the varying quality of the coal.

#### **Economy and Practical Advantages**

Apart from the fact of having a continuous and accurate sample measurement, a big advantage of the Cendrex apparatus lies in the time saved between analysis and appropriate action—the distance-velocity lag. By pyrolysis, the time taken to read a sample is at least fifteen minutes, and in practice the time taken to act on this in passing on readings and adjusting manual controls can be up to one hour.

The Cendrex method, however, by reducing sample time





and providing automatic control, reduces the lag to the order of 3 to 6 minutes, with the additional advantage of reducing the number of operatives required per shift. Quality consistency is also, of course, vastly improved by the automatic technique.

Economy of operation is another important factor, although not necessarily obvious from an examination of the operating principles. This has been shown in several cases overseas, and again recently in this country following a careful cost analysis, to amount to a saving of the complete cost of the equipment within the first year of operation. The necessary capital cost of elaborate X-ray and electronic equipment is, on this basis, completely justified within a comparatively short period by the reduction of plant running costs alone, and is an example of the service that electronic engineering can perform for industry.

# Automatic Landing by Super VC10

A successful fully-automatic landing has been made at Gatwick airport by a Super VC10 which was fitted with a duplicate monitored autopilot manufactured by Elliott-Automation. The landing was performed as part of the current series of proving trials being carried out on an aircraft made available by the British Aircraft Corporation.

All VC10s and Super VC10s are fitted with the autopilot equipment which is the only system capable of continuous operation at full accuracy and performance after any failure. More than 70,000 airline flying hours have been accumulated and the present trials will extend its use into landing in poor weather conditions.

This is the most advanced equipment in the world to fly in airline service and Britain is now ahead of any other country in the application of new flight safety techniques.

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In the second part of this article, the author describes the technique of model-building for the description of processes requiring automatic control.

In the first part of this article the several experimental methods used for measuring process frequency response functions were reviewed. All these methods require considerable effort to perform, so that the usefulness of the results needs to be well established.

All process plants are (mathematically) non-linear, and thus the principle of superposition does not apply. Neither do the transfer function techniques of servo theory, since these all depend on the property of linearity. In practice the majority of processes can be successfully regarded as linear when small perturbations about a steady state are being considered. Fortunately this is usually the case in control studies, and linear design methods are used. If the process is to operate at steady states covering a wide range of conditions (e.g. from 20% to 100% of full capacity) the frequency response function must be measured at several different levels within the range. If non-linearities are severe

the controller gain settings may need to be varied according to the process operating level.

Non-linearity complicates the design of control systems for fullscale plant which are based on the measured dynamic characteristics of pilot plants. To scale-up process time constants correctly they must be analytically related to physical measurements of the plant.

#### **Multivariable Processes**

All real processes have more than one significant input and output. A transfer function expresses the relationship between one inputoutput pair, and a complete description of a process requires measurement of a matrix of transfer functions relating all the possible input-output pairs. Multivariable processes often show interaction

between variables; that is, one input affects several outputs.

This greatly complicates the control design problem. Suppose that a process is steady with all outputs at their desired values, and then one output is disturbed. If the control scheme alters one input to counteract the change, then several other outputs will alter from their set points because of the process interactions. In general an error in one output requires a simultaneous change in all input variables if the disturbance is to be removed rapidly. As a specific example consider a man taking a showerbath: he demands a constant water flowrate at a particular temperature. If the hot water supply temperature falls he must adjust both the hot and cold taps in order to maintain the desired conditions.

Mesarovic<sup>1</sup> has discussed the extension of linear design methods to multivariable processes. The feedback control matrices required for best control of a strongly-interacting process probably require a computer for their implementation. What is more important is that in most cases, although computer control may not be used, the analysis of proposed control systems becomes very difficult.

When dealing with very non-linear processes, or those in which the variables interact strongly, the empirical approach

\* Electronic Associates Ltd.

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of describing process dynamics by measurement becomes very tedious.

### **Model Building**

If knowledge of the physical nature of the process is such that its transient behaviour can be predicted from the solution of the describing equations, then a different type of solution to complex control design problems is possible.

The major difficulty lies in establishing the relevant equations. In doing this the basic approach is to postulate a mechanistic model of the whole process. Then fundamental physical laws are applied to reach a mathematical description of this mechanism. At this stage experimental evidence, if available, is used to reinforce the assumptions made in proposing the particular mechanism. The physical laws used usually include unsteady-state mass, heat, and momentum balances. Some terms in the equations may be evaluated using empirical steady-state relationships, e.g. for frictional pressure drop.

To illustrate the technique suppose the chemical reaction  $A \rightarrow B$  takes place in an isothermal, bench scale, batch reactor. If the molecular weights of A and B are known, a

reasonable guess at the order of the reaction can be made. A possible describing equation is thus established . . . e.g. dA/dt = $k_1 \cdot A^2 - k_2 \cdot B$ . The experiment is performed and the compositiontime history is recorded. This permits the evaluation of coefficients (chosen to minimize error) in the expected equation. Comparison with results may now show that this equation is incapable of predicting the results. Then the proposed mechanism is altered, and fresh kinetic equations written and fitted to the data, until satisfactory describing equations are found.

It should be noted that this procedure does *not* establish the mechanism of the reaction  $A \rightarrow B$ . It merely proves that the describing equations can predict the future course of the reaction in time.

This is exactly what is needed by the engineer in the dynamic description of a process for the purpose of control system design.

This method has been applied to a wide variety of process plant units by D. Campbell in his book 'Process Dynamics'.<sup>2</sup> The book focuses attention on the formulation of equations rather than their verification, but is required reading for those new to dynamic studies. Most of the published data on process dynamics<sup>3</sup> is concerned with experimentally verifying the describing equations for some small sub-process. This is very useful, since the engineer dealing with a large process has simply to lump together all the 'known' mechanisms of its component parts—being careful to include the effects of interaction between one part of the process and the next part of the process.

### **Continuous Flow Chemical Reactor**

To give a detailed example of the application of this technique we shall consider the description of a chemical reactor.

The reactor, which is shown here in a very much simplified form in Fig. 1, is well stirred, and is cooled by water flowing through a central coil. Reactants A and B are continuously fed to the reactor; they react to form C and then D by exothermic reactions...C is the desired product.



Fig. 1. Schematic diagram of a chemical flow reactor

Equations describing the reaction kinetics have been established by laboratory work, and agree with the 'mechanism'

$$A + B \xrightarrow{k_1} C$$
 Heat of Reaction ...  $H_1$ 

$$B + C \xrightarrow{\kappa_2} D$$
 Heat of Reaction ...  $H_2$ 

The rate constants are both temperature dependent, and can be expressed as

$$k_1 = k_{1,0} \exp(-E_1/RT)$$
 ... (1)

$$k_2 = k_{2,0} \exp(-E_2/RT)$$
 ... (2)

Numerical values have also been established, and  $E_2 > E_1$ .

The steady-state design calculations will size the reactor and fix the reactant flow rates and reactor temperature in order to achieve some economic optimum. An increase in temperature or reduction of feed flow rate would adversely affect the percentage yield of C, so that an efficient control scheme is necessary. We shall regard temperature as the most important variable to be controlled. It has been proposed that control be achieved by varying the flow rate of coolant through the coils. The whole system is highly nonlinear, but can be represented analytically.

The unsteady mass balance equations are just the kinetic equations modified by inflow and outflow of reactants. An equation is needed for each component. Thus:

$$\frac{b}{dt} = -k_1 a b - k_2 b c + (b_0 - b) q / V_t \qquad \dots \qquad (4)$$

$$\frac{dc}{dt} = + k_1 ab - k_2 bc - cq/V_t \qquad \qquad . . . (5)$$

Here lower case letters denote concentrations, subscript 0 indicating inlet conditions and the unsubscripted concentrations pertain to both the reactor and the product stream (it is a well stirred reactor).  $V_t$  is the reactant volume and q the volumetric feed rate.

The temperature of the reactants, T, is found as the solution of the unsteady heat balance equation,

$$\begin{pmatrix} \text{Rate of accumulation} \\ \text{of enthalpy} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \text{Rate of generation} \\ \text{of heat by reaction} \end{pmatrix}$$
$$- \begin{pmatrix} \text{Rate of removal of} \\ \text{heat in cooling coils} \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} \text{Rate of removal of} \\ \text{enthalpy in product} \end{pmatrix}$$

from which,

$$V_t c_p \cdot \frac{dT}{dt} = + k_1 H_1 a b V_t + k_2 H_2 b c V_t$$
$$- U \mathcal{A} (T - \theta) + q c_p (T_0 - T) \qquad \dots \qquad (6)$$

Specific heat,  $c_p$ , is expressed on a volumetric basis: the mean coolant temperature,  $\theta$ , is established by taking an unsteady heat balance on the flowing coolant.

$$V_{c}c_{pc}\frac{d\theta}{dt} = + UA(T-\theta) + Wc_{pc}(\theta_{0}-\theta) \qquad ... (7)$$

 $V_c$  is the coolant volume and  $c_{pc}$  is the coolant specific heat.



Here a simple simulation study can be seen in progress at the Analogue Computing Laboratory of the Central Electricity Generating Board



A simple simulation study being carried out at E.A.L., New Jersey, with the use of a desk-top computer and an oscilloscope display of the results

One further complication is that the heat transfer group, U.4, is dependent on the coolant flowrate, W. Standard chemical engineering heat transfer correlations suggest that

$$UA = k_3 + k_4 W^{0.8} \qquad \dots \qquad (8)$$

and allow evaluation of the coefficients.

The reactor temperature is to be maintained constant, so the control system will act on the error

$$E = T - T_{\text{set point}} \qquad \dots \qquad (9)$$

The proposed control equation,

$$W = K_p E + K_i \cdot \int E dt \qquad \dots \quad (10)$$

completes the mathematical description of the process.

#### Use of the Process Model

The average control engineer might baulk at the idea of solving the set of ten simultaneous equations which have been derived to describe the flow reactor. This set is not particularly complicated, but an analytical solution is clearly impossible. In practise the process description can be used in two ways.

The transfer matrix of frequency-response functions can be derived from the describing equations. First the equations are linearized<sup>2</sup> by rewriting them in terms of perturbations about a steady operating point. The transfer functions are then found directly by taking the Laplace transforms of the linearized equations. This method is far easier than experimentally measuring the frequency-response function, since most of the describing equations can be established without the need for experiments. For very non-linear processes the frequency-response functions can quickly be evaluated at different operating levels.

However in the case of multivariable processes with interaction the limitations of servo control systems design become apparent. In these situations the process describing equations are used in their second way, for process simulation.

Here simulation is taken to mean the solution of the

describing equations (by computer) in such a way that the designer can observe the transient response of any variable in the process to any process input. The essence of good simulation is that the engineer must be in a position to perform 'experiments' on the process in order to test the various possible control schemes. He must, therefore, be able to change coefficients rapidly—and even to change the form of the equations (probably those of the control system).

Control system design via simulation has advantages over the direct experimental approach. Firstly in speed: the simulated experiments will take about twenty seconds each process time constants are often measured in hours. Secondly in safety: if a control system does not work at the simulation stage there is no chance of the physical plant being damaged. A simulation is much more flexible as experiments can be performed over a wider range of variables than can be covered by an operating plant. It is usually very much cneaper: in-plant experiments are often expensive in terms of lost production and wasted raw materials.

Finally, a simulation study produces a very clear understanding of the meaning of a complex set of equations. This results from the very close man/computer information feedback loop which is essential to successful simulation.

### Simulation by Analogue Computer

Over the past decade analogue computers have proved themselves to be uniquely suitable for simulation purposes.

On an analogue computer physical variables such as temperature or flowrate are represented by voltages. That is, voltage is the electrical analogue of the process variables. Specific scale factors relate voltages in the computer to the variables in the problem being solved.

The computer itself contains a number of modules which can perform mathematical operations such as summation, integration (with respect to time), and multiplication on the voltages presented at their inputs. These computing modules are interconnected so that voltages in the computer are related by the same mathematical equations as the original physical variables. The computer circuit is then directly *analogous* to the physical system.

If the input variables on the computer can be made to



change in the same way that the physical input quantities change, then the responses of the computer circuit *simulate* those of the physical system.

The simulation of process dynamics usually requires the solution of sets of ordinary differential equations. Such problems are the strong point of the analogue computer, which finds non-linear equations almost as easy to solve as linear equations.

The analogue circuit required for the simulation of the flow reactor equations derived above is shown in Fig. 2. A medium-sized analogue computer would be needed for their solution. During the simulation changing a coefficient simply requires the resetting of an attenuator, and changes in the control scheme are dealt with by 're-patching' the computer to suit the new equations.

In some cases the analogue computer finds a use in the model-building process during the verification of the equations. One experiment may be performed, and the response recorded . . . the model is then refined until its analogue simulation reproduces the experimental response.

### Conclusion

Simulation has been widely used for studies of process dynamics in the chemical and allied industries in the last five years. It is especially useful for control studies on complex, interacting systems—a distillation column with pump-arounds in which heat economy is achieved by heat exchange between streams is a good example of such a system. Simulated plants have also been used to train process operators to respond correctly to dynamic upsets of their plants.

Getting the original equations is the key step. It is not difficult to formulate equations, as illustrated above, which are likely to respresent the plant well. Of course Parkinson's Law applies...'problems expand to the limit of the available computers'. Its corollary is often true: useful results can be obtained from a simplified model on a smaller computer. In formulating the simplest useful set of equations, engineering judgement plays the critical part.

Experimental methods of measuring the frequency response relationships between input-output pairs are important to the study of process dynamics. Their chief usefulness lies in verifying models suggested to represent small process units. Models of large plants which comprise sets of small units then become more reliable. Of course, the design of many simple one-loop control systems uses the measured frequency response function directly.

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<sup>1</sup> Mesarovic, 'Control of Multivariable Linear Systems', M.I.T. Press (1962).

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- <sup>3</sup> Butcher, K. L. British Chemical Engineering, 7, 28 (1962).

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Neumo Ltd., of Peacehaven in Sussex, have developed a volumetric dispensing system which can be fitted to an existing conveyor belt and, by the addition of standard filling heads and controls, convert it into a fully-automatic filling machine.

The filling system, which incorporates Neumo volumetric dispensing units, is mounted on a frec-standing frame which can be placed in a convenient position alongside the conveyor [see Figs. 1(a) and (b)]. The standard frame will take one, two or three filling heads and these are adjustable as to height and spacing (to allow for different container sizes) and are locked into position by spring-loaded plungers. The frame is so constructed that the dispensers can be situated beneath the conveyor, while the filling heads are immediately above the moving belt.

The adjacent control console, which is also free-standing, contains electric controls, timers, programmers, indicator lights and an air regulator. The only component to be fixed to the conveyor is that incorporating the supporting platform, on which are mounted dispensing-station container guides (which incorporate a clamp and which carry an arresting gate and its operating mechanism) and various electrical capacitance-type sensors. These guides and sensors are also independently adjustable and the supporting platform is bolted to the conveyor frame by twelve bolts; these are the only mechanical connections to be made, for all linkages between components are electrical or pneumatic, as shown in Fig. 2.

The unit shown in Fig. 1(a) is designed to fill containers of capacities from  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint to 1 gallon (though any measuring system can be adopted) and the triple-head unit will fill the containers at rates of 100 to 24 per min respectively. Liquids of greatly varying viscosities can be handled by the dispensers and a change in viscosity during a run will have no effect on the volume filled. Partial blockage of the filling nozzles has no effect on volume filled either, and an accuracy of  $\pm 1\%$  is guaranteed.

The setting-up and operation of the system is extremely simple, and to change from one container size to another takes less than five minutes. Once the system has been set-up, an initial run can be made under manual control before putting the automatic sequence into operation; coloured warning lights are displayed on the control console to ensure that short stroking or any other fault is immediately indicated.

The operating cycle is as follows (referring to Fig. 2): provided the gate is initially closed and in its rest position, when the first container reaches its sensor ( $S_2$ , under the first filling head) this sensor will initiate the filling programme after closing the clamp. It is necessary for containers to be under each of the other two filling heads for these to fill, since each has its own sensor which cannot alone initiate a programme. Thus, if at the end of a run only one or two containers are in position, only the



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Fig. 1 (a). (Left) A view of the Neumo automatic volumetric dispensing equipment fitted to a conveyor belt







Fig. 2. A schematic diagram showing the air and electrical linkages of the automatic volumetric dispensing system. The upper lefthand part of the diagram represents all three motor/pump assemblies, and the lower part of the diagram represents the conveyor belt installation viewed from above

appropriate heads will fill. When the containers have been filled, the gate and clamp open and the three containers pass along the conveyor. The first of these passes the sensor  $S_1$ , which is so placed as to ensure that all three containers will by then be clear of the gate, which is then closed by this sensor; the cycle then recommences.

The system comprises standard units and can be custom

built to precise requirements; Neumo claim that besides developing this economical method of adapting a conveyor system for automatic volumetric dispensing (the basic system costs from as little as £2,500) they are also offering a solution to some of the problems posed by the requirements laid down in the Weights and Measures Act of 1963, concerning dispensing by volume.

### **Fluid Amplification**

Corning Glass Works, of New York, has formed a fluidic products department to develop its research into fluid amplification. The company made its first fluid amplifiers (devices that use the flow of fluids in much the same way that electrical circuits use the flow of electricity) in 1960, and now makes integrated fluid devices and systems to customer specifications, besides manufacturing a range of fifteen standard products.

In fluidics, standard products are used to build up systems much as electrical components are used in electronics to form circuits. Fluid devices utilize the flow of fluids usually air—to recognize and act upon instruction signals, to count and to switch, and their chief uses are in binary logic and industrial control applications. The fluid amplifiers usually have no moving parts and are not affected by temperature, vibration or environment; being simple in form, they are cheap, tough, reliable and stable. Designs using fluid amplifiers range from locomotive controls and drying systems, to missile-guidance units and low-speed computers (low speed because fluids cannot move as fast as electrons).

The amplifiers work on the principle that a low-pressure fluid stream, if controlled correctly, can redirect, start or stop the flow of a much stronger stream. Thus not only can they sense, count and switch, but they can also amplify signals much as do electron tubes and transistors and fluid units can be built up to perform logic functions.

Channels to carry the fluid are made in strong photosensitive glass by imposing an image of the required network on to the glass. When the image is developed, acid is used to etch away the network to the desired depth, thus forming open channels. The network is then sealed by putting one or more additional channelled layers over it and finally a cover layer.

World Radio History

# VELOCITY MEASUREMENT USING DOPPLER RADAR TECHNIQUES

By E. M. WELLS, B.Sc.\*

The theory of doppler radar techniques for velocity measurement is explained in this article and military and industrial applications are described.

THE fact that doppler radar can be used to measure velocity is well-known. What is not so well-known is the variety of problems to which this technique provides a solution, the common feature of all of them being that velocity must be measured without physical contact. It is the object of this article to discuss the main features of radars designed purely to perform this function.

A doppler radar is shown in its simplest form in Fig. 1. The c.w. transmission at frequency  $f_o$  is reflected from the target with a frequency shift which, if measured by a receiver stationary with respect to the transmitter and at the same place, will be given by

where v is the radial velocity of the target and c the velocity of light. For normal terrestrial velocities the ratio 2v/cis very small, being approximately  $3 \times 10^{-9}$  for v = 1m.p.h. However, the frequency shift may be extracted directly by mixing the received signal with a sample of the transmitted wave, as shown in Fig. 1, and amplifying in a selective amplifier. Any instrument which measures this beat frequency, such as an analogue converter from frequency to proportional current or a digital counter, can thus be calibrated directly in velocity. There are two restrictions, namely only the radial component of target velocity is measured and the simple mixing process does not differentiate between approaching and receding targets. Now Equ. (1) may be re-written as

$$d = \frac{v}{\lambda_o/2}$$
 .....(2)

from which we may deduce that the doppler frequency in cycles/second is equal to the velocity of the target in half carrier wavelengths per second. Thus, distance run may be measured by integrating the velocity, which in practice becomes simply counting cycles of the beat-note.

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An equipment which has appeared in two versions for different applications is the Marconi Electronic Velocity Analyser (E.V.A.). In its first version the intention was to monitor the approach velocity of naval aircraft as seen from the deck of an aircraft carrier during the landing

\*The Marconi Co. Ltd.

phase. The equipment is mounted in a fixed position on the deck of the carrier looking along the expected flight path, and is required to present an instantaneous meter indication of velocity and also a permanent record of velocity against time. In order to meet this requirement the equipment has separate transmitting and receiving aerials with beamwidths of  $6^{\circ}$  in elevation and  $20^{\circ}$  in azimuth. (These magnitudes take account of all possible variations in flight path.) The transmitter delivers 100 mW at 10,000 Mc/s, and the receiver develops doppler frequencies at the first mixer as shown in Fig. 1. Amplification at doppler frequency is followed by a frequency-toproportional-current converter which feeds both a meter and a pen recorder.

The main design problems are centred around the difficulty of maintaining adequate receiver sensitivity in the environment of an aircraft carrier. Modern microwave video mixer crystals can give a noise factor of the order of 18 dB for this type of receiver and it is possible greatly to reduce the level of thermal noise in the receiver by a narrowband tracking filter which limits the noise bandwidth of the receiver to about 50 c/s. The alternative is a fixed filter which is wide enough to include all variations of aircraft speed. Such an equipment, if its sensitivity is not degraded by the environment, should be capable of monitoring the speed of an aircraft over the last mile of the approach path.

However, several factors can degrade this sensitivity unless provision is made to remove their effect. If the jump-over of power from the transmitting to the receiving aerial either directly or via fixed objects at short range is too high, the noise factor of the receiver can be degraded. With the transmitter power involved in this equipment and in the comparatively uncluttered environment of a carrier



Fig. 1. Doppler radar in its simplest form

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Fig. 2. Army Electronic Velocity Analyser (E.V.A.) in operation

deck this type of trouble is not experienced. Rain can also provide doppler-shifted signals in the receiver, but these differ from wanted signals in as much as they are of lower velocity and also of the opposite sign if the carrier is steaming into wind. A receiver can, if necessary, be designed to reject the unwanted sign of doppler but in this case it is adequate to reject low velocities with a band-pass filter. Interference effects between the direct signal and indirect signals reflected from part of the ship's structure can lead to signal fading. During such time, doppler signals associated with propeller or turbine blades may become predominant. The tracking filter has a time constant long enough to provide a memory during these fades which would otherwise confuse the visual meter presentation. Such fading does not confuse the velocity/time graph provided by the pen recorder because the short term drop-outs and displacements of the smooth curve can be ignored. The most significant source of receiver degradation is jamming by other radar and radio equipment. In early equipment, which employed CV2154 mixer crystals and was therefore comparatively insensitive, this was not found to be a worry, but the employment of a more sensitive receiver in order to get more range showed the need for re-design to reject impulsive jamming.

Another version of the E.V.A. equipment has been employed to measure the muzzle velocity of artillery shells and the equipment is illustrated in operation in Fig. 2. Apart from the difference in mechanical design, which had to be rugged to withstand use by the Army in the field, the main difference between this Army version of E.V.A. and the Navy version is in the wide range of velocities with which the former equipment must cope. Also, neither the tracking filter nor meter presentation are required or applicable to the short duration of this measurement. The equipment can cater for any muzzle velocity in the range 500 to 5,000 f.p.s. In order to do this and still retain a low enough noise threshold, a ladder of crystal-controlled local oscillator frequencies is provided, from which one may be selected to shift the doppler frequency associated with any type of shell into a narrow band-pass analysing circuit. The bandwidth normally chosen corresponds to a velocity bracket of 100 f.p.s. which is adequate to cover the variation in velocity over the few hundred feet covered by the measurement. This may be replaced by 250 or 500 f.p.s. if warranted by special circumstances. This exercise has been extremely successful, and the technique is now accepted by the British Army as the standard method of calibrating guns. It has useful performance for all calibres from 0.303 upwards.

In these and other applications, such as monitoring the speed, acceleration, and braking performance of motor cars, the radar target is substantially a point. In another class of application the radar target is a surface moving with respect to the radar. The aircraft Doppler Navigator is an example of this in its most sophisticated form, but the description will be given in terms of the more recent Hovercraft installations.

If we examine the situation in which the microwave source obliquely illuminates a patch of a moving surface (see Fig. 3), there will be at any one instant a large number of scattering points each contributing to the total signal received by the radar. If the surface is moving with respect to the radar each of these scattering points will be in the beam only for a restricted time, thus the total signal received is the sum of a train of overlapping bursts. The amplitude and phases of these bursts vary in a random manner so that the sum is amplitude and phase modulated. Also, the conversion factor from frequency to velocity is a function of the angle of incidence, and this angle will vary over the illuminated patch between limits set by the beamwidth of



Fig. 3. Showing how velocity information is derived from a microwave source obliquely aimed at a moving surface (as in the case of a Hovercraft installation)

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Fig. 4. A development model of the Marconi Hovercraft doppler equipment

the aerial. Thus for two reasons the doppler spectrum will not be a single frequency but will be spread over a finite bandwidth, and the detection means must take the mean frequency of the spectrum as the measure of velocity. A tracking filter can be designed to perform this function.

The Hovercraft has unique problems of speed measurement in that contact with the surface over which it is travelling would introduce a large drag effect and attempts to measure air speed by conventional means are foiled by positional errors due to the pressure pattern round the craft. Microwave doppler techniques have so far been the only successful approach to this problem. A radar illuminating any small patch of water surface near the craft will, in principle, meet the requirement, but there appear to be good reasons for using the wake as the radar target, for if the sea is smooth the passage of the craft will provide a rough surface which gives sufficient back-scatter to give adequate signal, and if the sea is rough the passage of the craft will keep the scattering coefficient reasonably constant. since the structure of the wake will be governed more by the passage of the craft than by the general state of the sea surface. The normal mounting position for a simple speed measurement is therefore in the stern with a 45° depression angle in a vertical plane parallel to the fore-andaft axis. Allowance is made for this depression angle, of course, in the calibration of the instrument. The choice is fairly arbitrary, but the angle must not be too steep or the measurement becomes too sensitive to changes in pitch, nor too shallow so that either the signal varies with sea-state or the signal-to-noise ratio is not consistent with accuracy. Measurement shows that the wake behaves as though it were being dragged along at about 5% of the water speed, and allowance must be made for this in calibration.

This equipment is shown in Fig. 4; the aerial is a 1-ft diameter centre-fed paraboloid, and the transmitter is a reflex klystron generating 40 mW at 14,000 Mc/s. A 3-port ferrite circulator is used as a duplexer, the third port of which carries a mixer crystal. A reference signal is reflected into this mixer by a controlled mismatch on the aerial arm. Also mounted on the aerial is an audio amplifier, with a bandwidth adequate to cover all expected speeds, and circuits which provide a remote-monitoring facility since the aerial is mounted inaccessibly at the back of the craft. The two other units are mounted as convenient in the craft and are cable-connected to the aerial unit. The so-called tracking filter is in fact a voltagecontrolled oscillator which is caused to track the incoming doppler signal with a constant displacement frequency, this frequency being the centre frequency of a discriminator in the control loop. The bandwidth of the discriminator is such as to include all components of the spectrum. A signal at doppler frequency is regained by displacing the frequency of the tracking oscillator by the (known) centre frequency of the discriminator. Presentation is on a calibrated meter on the pilot's instrument panel.

A further development of this same exercise involves using two heads, measuring velocity components in two orthogonal directions, and thereby providing information for drift and along-track velocity. Two speedmeters are mounted so that they both illuminate the same patch of the wake and measure the velocity of the components respectively  $45^{\circ}$  to port and  $45^{\circ}$  to starboard of the foreand-aft axis of the craft. Use of the  $45^{\circ}$  components rather than fore-and-aft and thwartships components allows the measurement of drift angles up to  $45^{\circ}$  without the



necessity of tracking through zero doppler. Use of the same part of the sea surface for the two measurements means that any bias effect acts equally on the two heads. The output from the two heads can be combined to provide true velocity and drift angle. We note of course that these will be measured with respect to the surface of the sea and in order to relate them to absolute displacements it may be necessary to apply tidal corrections. It is normal in an aircraft Doppler Navigator to provide three beams at least, thus allowing pitch and roll compensation. In this case, with two beams, pitch compensation is not attempted.

The use of such a doppler drift-cum-speedmeter in a Hovercraft offers two facilities. Firstly, the pilot needs the indication of forward speed and drift on his instrument panel. If the mechanical design of the craft is such that it is possible and desirable to provide an off-centred thrustline in order to off-set excessive drift it can be envisaged that by closing the loop round the drift measurement this could be automatic. Secondly, in combination with compass information, the drift and speed measurements can be used to drive a true-motion navigational radar. A combination of Doppler Navigator and the Marconi 'Argus' display is particularly attractive. The latter provides a true-motion display which could be stabilised with respect to the track made good, thus not only giving a navigational system which is independent of outside aids, but also giving the navigator a display which he can relate to the outside world without having mentally to convert displayed bearings to bearings relative to ship's head,

Another velocity measurement problem has been posed by the steel industry. In rolling processes a knowledge of the speed with which the work-piece goes through the rolling mill is of importance, and is difficult to measure with sufficient accuracy by any means involving physical contact. This interest in velocity is found in both cold-rolling and hot-rolling processes.

It is in the nature of any rolling process that the workpiece will emerge from the mill at a faster velocity than it

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goes in, since the cross section has been reduced. In the so-called temper mill, which is a cold process, sheet steel is reduced in thickness by an amount which affects the temper of the material and, to effect adequate control, there is a need to monitor the difference in speed between the input and the output sides of the mill to an accuracy of 1 part in 2,000. Initial experiments with microwave doppler have shown that the technique is capable of achieving this accuracy. Specially designed means are required to launch the power as a surface wave on the steel sheet, and it is found that there is sufficient back scatter from even nominally polished surfaces to give an adequate signal. It has been shown that there is distinct advantage in using 30,000 Mc/s rather than 14,000 and it is probable that the optimum wavelength would be related to the size of surface irregularities.

In hot-rolling processes less accurate velocity measurement is required, but some automated mills have gone to considerable expense to provide instrumentation based on photo-cells. In assessing the applicability of microwave doppler techniques there was obvious difficulty in allowing the launching means to approach closely to the hot metal. However, a substantial signal can be obtained from workpieces as small as a few inches in diameter by illuminating them with a narrow beam with equipment similar to the Hovercraft speedmeter. Unfortunately, a major disadvantage when using an unconfined beam in this environment is that there is no range discrimination; that is to say, doppler echoes are received from other machinery moving in the field of the radar at other ranges. F.m. or a.m. (pulse) modulation techniques are available which are capable of range discrimination for a few yards, but these have not so far been tried in this environment.

### Acknowledgment

The author wishes to thank the Director of Engineering & Research, The Marconi Company Limited, for permission to publish this article.

### **Range Finding by Laser**

One of the many possible applications of the laser is the measurement of distances, and equipment for this has been developed by R.C.A.

Their laser range finder, available in the U.K. and Europe from Rank Pullin Controls, measures distances by metering the time taken for an emitted pulse of light, the laser beam, to be reflected off a particular object and returned to the unit to be received on a photomultipler receiver. The distance is given directly in metres on a dial. The short-duration laser beam is produced by introducing light into a rod of ruby and the 1-milliradian beam width which results from this allows distances to objects as small as a flag-pole to be measured. On a day of fair visibility, this instrument has been used to measure the distance to a television aerial mast some ten or twelve miles away. Accurate sighting is by means of a telescope with a magnification of seven times. The range of the instrument is 200–9,990 m and a model for 19,990 m can be obtained. The accuracy is  $\pm 10$  m over about 19 m and the resolution is 5 m. Reflections from unwanted objects closer than the one being sighted can be excluded by selection of the minimum distance required and the operator can select any one of four closely-spaced objects.

Each measurement requires a 10-sec warm-up period and the pulsing and metering take a further 0.5 sec. The unit is portable, weighing 25 lb, and is battery powered.

Applications of this and all laser equipment are necessarily limited by visibility, but include military use as well as land-surveying and marine work. Cloud height can be measured for meteorological studies and the system can also provide an aid to aircraft pilots, especially on approach to runways.

For further information circle 45 on Service Card



The picture on the left shows the rear panel and the controls. A fifth digit on the right of the dial indicates which object or target in a group of up to four is being ranged. The target selector switch is above this. On the right an operator is sighting the range finder on to a distant object



We British are fond of recalling that our splendid institutions were not built in a day. That, for example, our democratic form of government has been painlessly developed over a span of 900 years of history.

In comparison, how vulgarly hasty is the mere 350 years it will take our engineering industry to achieve the full manpower-saving benefits made possible by numerical control. It has been estimated that some 250,000 jobs could be saved by the intelligent introduction on a wide scale of this by-no-means-new aid to industry. Yet the 1965 saving in manpower was a modest 700. I quote no less an authority than Sir John Toothill of Ferranti.

Mr. Frank Cousins, Minister of Technology, has asked rhetorically, 'Can we get out of the atmosphere that all we think we have to do about automation and productivity is talk about it'.

I suggest that Sir John and his colleagues in the electronics industry have done much more than talk about it. They have long since made the tools and the techniques available for general engineering itself to do more than talk about it. The trade associations led by BEAMA and EEA have also done much to overcome fear and prejudice. But the engineering industry still drags its heels.

We are all living a little longer these days. We are justly proud of our stately nation and are accustomed to stately progress. But 350 years is a mighty long time and gives the Ministry of Technology enormous scope for a really breathtaking advance this year in giving a lead to the ignorant, the over-cautious and the restrictive practitioners.

How to get cracking on a project was demonstrated by Marconi when they unveiled the Mk VII colour television camera. This product is interesting as an example because it not only had its full complement of electronic problems but also embodies a great deal of precision mechanical engineering and a sophisticated optical system. Yet, despite the technical problems of design and integration of the systems and sub-systems which make up the Mk VII, the development time of the whole project up to demonstration of a fully engineered prototype was only ten months.

During these ten months the sales engineers were not, as might be expected, nervously wondering if the Mk VII

### By NEXUS

would ever get out of the labs. They were too busy booking no less than 76 orders for the new camera, mostly from across the Atlantic.

At the other end of the scale is the five years development time the Engineering Research Department of British Rail is to take on a comparatively simple system to override drivererror on trains. The system will automatically apply the brakes if drivers exceed a pre-set speed over restricted sections of track.

With all its implications of the need for a greater measure of protection of the travelling public against the irresponsibilities of the servants of B.R. I should have thought this project would have enjoyed a much less leisurely approach.

Discussing this with a friend in industry, well experienced in dealing with contracts from similar public bodies, I was told that it was nothing unusual. My friend explained that the most recent meeting at his company involved no less than fifteen experts who arrived in fifteen separate cars. The particular project under consideration had been in being for something over two years and the specification had not yet been agreed. 'You can't really blame them—its the paper work and all the committees they have to contend with' he said, sadly shaking his head.

I'm all for automation in principle, but I occasionally suffer from an overwhelming revulsion against the whole concept. This is largely a cyclic phenomenon which occurs soon after the first day of each month. In fact just as soon as I realize that once again ERNIE has let me down.

I have never been able to fully trust this Electronic Random Number Indicator Equipment with its random noise source and its chattering print-out of numbers which never, even remotely, have correspondence with those on the ageing and fast depreciating Premium Bonds registered in my name. And, believe me, no numbers could be more random than my lot.

It was in such a moment of depression that I attended the Connaught Rooms to witness the ballot for stands for the forthcoming International Instruments, Electronics and Automation Exhibition. Here were gathered the high priests of automation from whom one could reasonably expect an example to be set. Not a bit of it!

Absent indeed were all those random noise generators, flip-flops, ring counters, flashing lights, logic circuits, automatic print-outs and the rest of the paraphernalia we shall be obliged to examine professionally and be encouraged to buy when we visit the exhibition in May.

To my delight, I found the assembled high priests in the ornate Crown Room having no truck whatever with electronics when it came to a serious matter like balloting for stands.

Under the supervision of the Hon. John Geddes, chairman of the Exhibition Committee and chief spokesman of Elliott Automation, the draw took place from a good honest old-fashioned manually-operated revolving drum with good honest human fingers lifting out the seen-to-be-fair results. And I may add that the print-out of the results was achieved by a pretty girl using an oldfashioned pencil at a civilized writing speed on non-continuous stationery.

Did I say something about the IEA Committee not setting an example? Well, I was wrong. The ballot for stands was a perfect example of keeping automation in its proper place. In fact a lesson to us all. Automation should be applied selectively to specific processes where some advantage is to be obtained from speed, accuracy or economy, and preferably from all three. The ballot may have been over more quickly (but not more accurately or

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economically) by applied automation but that may well have spoilt what was something of a social as well as a business occasion.

In a grim world it was with real pleasure that I received, and with even greater pleasure read, 'No Fancy Waistcoats', a collection of 'reminiscences' by Pat Smallman, Manager, Publicity Services, Sperry Gyroscope Company.

Illustrated by Douglas Bisgood, each of the thirteen pieces which make up this little booklet has a Sperry message well embroidered with odd items of information, wry humour, broad comedy and honest horse-sense. The collection is a re-print of a series of advertisements which appeared originally in the Journal of Commerce. Whether they sold any data loggers, inertial navigation systems, or Gyrosyn compasses I don't know. But I'm sure that they did a first-class job of creating goodwill—and will continue to do so in booklet form.

## **Broadband Coaxial-Cable Communications Link**

A new coaxial-cable system for speech and data transmission has been produced that will provide routes thousands of miles long and carry 32,400 channels.

This is the L-4 of the Bell Telephone Laboratories which supersedes the L-1 and L-3 systems at present in use. A major installation is scheduled for completion in 1968 which will link Boston to Florida via Washington D.C. A 114-mile field trial is now under way.

The cable consists of 20 coaxial conductors, each pair carrying 3,600 speech channels. Other conductors in the cable are to carry control and alarm signals and some are for maintenance purposes.

Repeaters, using specially designed, high-frequency silicon transistors, are placed at 2-mile intervals. These have better reliability and longer life than their valve counterparts and, as they are designed as plug-in units, maintenance costs are reduced. They are installed in pre-cast manholes of standard sizes.

In addition regulating networks at about every 14 miles

automatically adjust repeater gain to compensate for changes in cable losses caused by changes in temperatur Equalizing networks at every 50 miles and at the main repeater stations, which are up to 160 miles apart, compensate for changes in gain caused by unpredictable effects occurring in the cables and equipment under normal operating conditions. They can be adjusted by remote control while the system is operating. Without interruption of the service, the performance of each repeater can be checked and a faulty unit detected by a test signal being inserted at the repeater input. The test-signal output level is measured at the receiving terminal or main station.

The large cable, the close spacing of the repeaters and the high frequencies used, which are from 564 kc/s to 17.548 Mc/s, give the system its increased capacity, for the L-4 will carry nearly twice as many channels as any long distance system in use at the present time including microwave radio links.

For further information circle 46 on Service Card



(A) A cross-sectional view of the 3-in diameter cable showing the 20 coaxial conductors



(B) A repeater of the regulating type which compensates for changes in cable losses

This advertisement is for people who think they don't need... can't afford...

🗌 can't operate . . .

haven't the room...

for a computer.

Elliott's new 903 computer proves them wrong by being indispensable...

 $\checkmark$  costing only £12,750...

 $\overrightarrow{\mathbf{V}}$  easy to operate...

 $\checkmark 2' 2'' x 3' 1'' x 3' 7''$ 



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Elliott 903 is a computer priced to fit neatly into the tightest departmental or small-organisation budget, sized right for classroom, laboratory or design office. But unobtrusiveness ends where performance begins... High speed arithmetic store; comprehensive instruction code; full hardware arithmetic facilities - all backed by a library of effective software. A range of peripherals enables the 903 to be tailored to *your* particular requirements. 903 has a great range of applications, yet is so simple to operate that a layman can be trained to write and run programs in just three days. Simple ... and *reliable*: 903 is built on the know-how developed by Elliotts over 15 years in the computer industry. Elliott 903 the new small computer which cuts data processing problems down to size.

**Elliott-Automation Computers Limited** 

Elstree Way, Borehamwood, Hertfordshire. Telephone: ELStree 2040.

A Member of the Elliott-Automation Group.

# First U.K. Manufacturer to offer Ferrite Magnetic Heads

# Consistent performance over greatly extended operational life

### Mullard offers a comprehensive range of professional standard audio heads with consistent high quality performance over a greatly extended operational life.

Using the new range of Mullard low impedance record and replay heads for  $\ddagger$ -inch tape, designers of specialised equipment for professional recording studios will now be able to obtain performance which is virtually unaltered or limited by head wear. Minimal wear and unchanging electrical properties throughout the working life of a ferrite head mean that it can be used on a 'fit-and-forget' basis; amplifier circuits associated with ferrite heads do not need the frequent compensatory adjustments which have to be made throughout the much shorter life of a metal head. Tests showed that after 1000 hours running time at a tape speed of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  in/s, the output of a ferrite head measured at 8 kc/s was only reduced by 1.5dB and that after a further 5000 hours the output was substantially unaltered.

Head noise is reduced to a minimum by the low h.f. core loss and low eddy current loss of the ferrite core material. The signal currents are approximately the same as those associated with metal heads; the bias current required by a ferrite head is much lower. Precise control of the properties of the ceramic material, combined with advanced mechanical techniques, ensures a high order of consistency.

### FREQUENCY RESPONSE

The frequency response of a ferrite head is generally much better than that of a metal head because the effective electrical gap length of the ferrite head is much closer to that of the physical gap. This is due to the stress-free nature of ferrite which allows it to be machined—or polished by tape—without altering its electrical characteristics; an advantage which cannot be claimed for metal heads. The performance of a ferrite head can be improved by using higher bias frequencies. At 100 kc/s, the bias current required is about half that needed by a metal head having a lamination thickness of only 0.2mm—at higher frequencies the bias current reduces to an even smaller fraction of that required by a metal head.

### What's new from **Mullard**



Fixed and adjustable ferrite magnetic heads

### **TYPES AVAILABLE**

Four basic types of record and replay head are available: half, full, twin-track/stereo and quarter-track twin. Bold colour coding allows the type to be checked at a glance. Replay heads have  $3\mu m$  gaps. Record heads are available with  $20\mu m$  (full track only),  $12\mu m$  or  $7\mu m$  gaps.

Audio heads can be supplied as either fixed or adjustable assemblies. In the fixed version, shims can be supplied to adjust the height of the head; adapter plates can also be supplied for alternative mounting arrangements. Single and double Mumetal cans can be provided for screening purposes.

The adjustable version is supplied in a Mumetal screened assembly. Facilities are provided for 'height' and 'tilt' adjustments and for final azimuth adjustment with the Mumetal screen in position. An outer magnetic or non-magnetic screen can also be supplied.

For further details of this range of heads, please use the reader reply card of this journal (see reference number opposite).

### Smaller and Faster Trigger Tube

# ZC1030 reduces the cost per circuit element

Mullard's latest addition to their extensive range of cold cathode devices is a 'smaller than subminiature' cold cathode trigger tube, Type ZC1030. Advanced design with a new electrode geometry enables this tube to be used at much higher frequencies than any tube of this type previously offered. The ZC1030's extreme reliability, small dimensions, wire-ended and sturdy construction make it an obvious choice for use in printed circuits. Immediate applications for this device will be found in electronic desk



Selected Thyristors for Parallel Operation

A new range of thyristors selected for parallel operation is now available from Mullard. These new types can be used to obtain either forward currents greater than those available from the Mullard BTY99 range or, alternatively, for extreme reliability in control systems in which the incorrect functioning of one cell must not be allowed to affect the operation of the controlled equipment. This new range is coded BTX51 followed by an appropriate voltage suffix.

To work effectively without excessive derating, thyristors for parallel operation must have similar forward voltage drop characteristics. This requirement is met by selecting suitable thyristors for a narrow spread of forward voltage drop. Parallel operation is quite straightforward; full details are given in our data sheets.

Another advantage of parallel operation is that it gives a more uniform temperature gradient over the heat sink area.

Substantial price reductions make this range of devices extremely competitive on a cost per volt/amp basis. calculators, small computers and most industrial counting and switching circuits.

New production techniques combined with Mullard's wide experience in cold cathode technology have reduced the cost of the ZC1030, and thus the cost per circuit element in which it is used, to a really economic level. For example, using ZC1030 tubes with a ZM1080 numerical display tube, a decade counter can now be produced at an extremely competitive price.

Accelerated life tests show that the life expectancy of the ZC1030 will be comparable with the many thousands of hours that have already been achieved in the field with its forerunner, type Z700U. Another feature of the ZC1030, which it shares with other Mullard trigger tubes, is that it will operate satisfactorily at temperatures ranging from -55 to +70°C. Visual indication of the 'state' of operation is a built-in facility the ZC1030 has in common with trigger tubes generally -this indication is of particular advantage when scheduled maintenance and testing routines are carried out.



### Inexpensive troublefree cadmium sulphide photoconductive cells

Mullard cadmium sulphide photoconductive cells offer a number of economic advantages in the design of industrial control systems. Their high sensitivity, and consequently simple associated circuitry, enable these devices to operate relays or switch operating mechanisms without the amplifiers normally required in other photoelectric systems.

Used in roles varying from direct relay control to slow speed logic, Mullard cadmium sulphide cells offer unfailing reliability. Twelve types of cell are now available with individual cell dissipations ranging from 70mW to 1W at 25°C. Spectral response extends from 0.3 to 0.95µm.

Applications include light-beam operated burglar alarms, machine 'guards', and counting systems. Flame failure detection, parking light and street lighting control are other common uses. Full data on this range of Mullard cadmium sulphide cells is given in the new Mullard booklet 'Cadmium Sulphide Cells— Their Properties and Applications'.

### FOUR NEW P-N-P SILICON PLANAR EPITAXIAL TRANSISTORS

Four new competitively priced high performance p-n-p transistors have recently been added to the Mullard range of silicon planar epitaxial devices. P-N-P construction enables these transistors to be used with types similar to BSY38 and BSY39 in complementary circuits. This type of circuit simplifies supply problems and allows the number of components to be reduced.

Types BFX12 and BFX13 are

general purpose small signal transistors which, because of their better than normal switching speed, may also be used in some switching applications. The switching speeds of types BSY40 and BSY41 make these devices more suitable for use in digital applications. All transistors mentioned in this article are in TO-18 encapsulation with the collector connected to the can.

# LOW NOISE SUBMINIATURE MICROWAVE

### DIODE

Designers of radar, microwave communication links and associated equipment are showing great interest in Mullard's subminiature microwave germanium mixer diode type AAY39, which has a noisefigure of only 6dBat X-band (7 to 12Gc/s).

With an operating range of 1 to 18Gc/s, the noise figure of the AAY39 at S-hand (2 to 4Gc/s) is 5.5dB and 7dB at J-band (12 to 18Gc/s). All the parameters quoted are tightly controlled within very narrow limits. In addition to these very impressive performance figures, the AAY39 has a low flicker noise content, a feature which makes it an attractive proposition for Doppler radar systems. Another useful feature of this device is its reversibility which, in balanced mixers, simplifies replacement problems.

The AAY39 is a germanium point-contact diode with truly subminiature dimensions—it is only 0-1in (2.5mm) diameter and 0.28in (7mm) long—and rugged construction. Sealed ceramic encapsulation guarantees complete isolation from atmospheric conditions between the temperature limits of  $-65^{\circ}$  and  $+150^{\circ}$ C. Mounting this device in waveguides, coaxial lines or stripline circuits is simplified by its double-ended cartridge construction.

FURTHER DETAILS of the Mullard products described in this advertisement can be obtained from the address below or through the Reader Information Service of In- dustrial Electronics using the appropriate code number shown below.
Ferrite magnetic heads 1E 334
Trigger tube ZC1030 IE 335
Selected thyristors for parallel operation IE 336
Cadmium sulphide photo- conductive cells IE 337
P-n-p silicon planar epitaxial transistors IE 338
Subminiature microwave diode IE 339

Mullard Limited, Mullard House, Torrington Place, London, WC1. Telephone: LANgham 6633

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-that's the Dymar System—a system of plug-in instruments offering flexibility and considerable capital saving. The basis of the system is the Type 70 Meter Unit which will accept any of a series of plug-ins. A change of function occurs with each combination because it produces a different instrument. Just release the retaining rod, withdraw the plugin and insert another. It's as simple as that and 'Pluginability' sums it up in one word.

Full details from :



DYMAR ELECTRONICS LTD. REMBRANDT HOUSE WHIPPENDELL ROAD WATFORD HERTS. Telephone: Watford 21297

Type 70 Meter Unit with Plug-in-A.F. Signal Generator Type 741.

Broadway DY601



This illustrates the size of the underwater camera

# SEARCHING BY TELEVISION

A small snake-like television camera which can negotiate 16-in. radius bends has been developed by Pye for use in the internal inspection of the pipelines of many major industries.

This is an articulated pipe-inspection camera of  $2\frac{1}{8}$ -in. diameter. The entire length of the camera, its amplifier and lighting system is 28 in. It has been designed for small-bore pipe inspection and will save time and cost in industry by allowing the internal inspection without breaking into pipes at every few feet. Oil refineries, chemical plants, power stations, gasworks and shipping companies can each find application for this technique.

Pipe inspection and maintenance has always been a problem in industry because long lengths of pipe have so far had to be physically disconnected for periodic checks and repairs. The construction of this new camera will help overcome these problems by enabling continuous lengths of up to 1,000 ft to be inspected.

The camera itself is articulated so that it can pass easily round bends in piping. It consists of two sections, a tube assembly and amplifier unit joined by a flexible metal coupling. An articulated optical assembly with built-in lighting is fitted to the front end of the tube assembly. The camera is lightweight, completely waterproof, and costs about £1,850 complete with the control unit and monitor.

Another camera in the new Pye range is an aid for quick and thorough inspection of the interiors of pipes with larger diameters from 3 to 42 in. This one is supplied complete with lighting and centring attachments to accommodate pipes within this range. Its applications in the civil engineering field include gas, sewer and oil installations. Overall length of this camera is  $33\frac{1}{2}$  in., diameter  $2\frac{1}{2}$  in. It weighs  $6\frac{1}{4}$  lb.

#### Underwater Inspection

A small, light and rugged underwater television camera has also been produced by Pye. This camera can be used down to a depth of 200 ft, is 25-in. long and  $2\frac{3}{2}$ -in. diameter. The in-water weight is only nine pounds, which makes it suitable for either hand-held or remotely-controlled use. The fact that it can be easily held and manœuvred with one hand will appeal to frogmen carrying out underwater

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inspection of ships' hulls, dock, harbour and port installations. The camera can also inspect bore and drill holes. Because it is radiation resistant it can be used for nuclear applications. A range of attachments, including lighting units and a buoyancy tank, is available for the camera.

This shows an articulated television camera being lowered down the ventilation pipe of a double-bottomed tank on board the liner the 'Reina del Mar' at Southampton



# Applications and Techniques

### Level Control by Gamma Gauges in Paper Mills

Two pulp and paper mills of the Wiggins Teape Group are being fitted with Philips gamma gauges for control of the levels of materials in the digesters and bark chutes.

Each of five digesters (the vessels in which the raw materials are boiled in the first stages of paper making) is fitted with a radiation source which emits gamma rays. A detector unit on the opposite side of the digester picks up the radiation and, as the level in the vessel varies, the absorption of the radiation changes producing a variation in the electrical output from the detector. The gauges, manufactured by the M.E.L. Equipment Co., can be fitted to vessels containing liquids, slurries, pulp or similar substances and the detector output is remotely amplified to provide inputs suitable for indicators, chart recorders and automatic level controllers. A built-in relay circuit is actuated for alarm purposes when the level passes the line between the detector and the radiation source.

In the Wiggins Teape installation, the detector output automatically regulates the pneumatic feed control. Fail-safe facilities are incorporated and a lead shield behind the detectors prevents stray radiation. The position of the radiation source holders can be pneumatically adjusted.

Four additional gauges are fitted to the bark chutes for control of the feed to the burners in the steam-raising plant.

For further information circle 47 on Service Card

### Intruder Alarm System

Intruders attempting to cross a 10-ft wide strip around protected areas can be detected and located by the Periguard, an acoustical device developed by the Westinghouse Research Laboratories. It operates on the earth tremors caused by the intruders and can be used to guard factory areas, private estates, danger areas or similar locations.

A set of sensitive transducers is buried and completely concealed around the perimeter of the area. The pressure waves in the earth are sensed by the transducers and the electrical signals produced are used to actuate a warning system.

Although sensitive enough to detect very slight tremors, the system is balanced to eliminate the effects of traffic noise, the sonic booms of aircraft or earthquake tremors. Power consumption is low and the weatherprotected sensors are adaptable to any terrain.

For further information circle 48 on Service Card

### **High Energy Rate Forming**

A contract worth £192,000 has been placed by the Ministry of Technology for the development of a high energy rate forming (h.e.r.f.) system. £162,000 will go to the mechanical engineering department of Birmingham University, where a team under Professor S. A. Tobias has been developing an entirely new type of h.e.r.f. machine known as Petro-Forge (see picture), and the remainder has been awarded to the Drop Forging Research Association, who will undertake part of the applied process development in association with the University.

High energy rate forming promises considerable advantages over slower, conventional processes (such as drop hammers and mechanical or hydraulic presses), particularly for the forging of modern materials and components having thin webs, and it may offer improved surface finish, closer control of grainflow, repeatability of mechanical properties and reliability of forgings. In addition, h.e.r.f. machines are generally less massive than their conventional counterparts, indicating lower capital and installation costs.

The system devised by Professor Tobias and his colleagues is unique in that the power stroke

The Petro-Forge Mark 1 (7,500 ft/lb) machine, which is engaged on a variety of cold forming processes such as blanking, cropping, cold forming and compaction. On the right is its control cabinct and on the left is a high-speed camera



Industrial Electronics February 1966
# EMI 101 SOLID STATE SCOPE

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EE437 Industrial Elec. Feb. 66

for the forming operation is obtained by the combustion of a petrol and air mixture, thereby largely eliminating auxiliary power plants, such as compressed air and gas cylinders. In the current programme, the team will undertake the design and development of a family of full-scale h.e.r.f. machines using petrol combustion, which should lead to the derivation of a specification for a large, supercharged machine capable of industrial exploitation.

For further information circle 49 on Service Card

# Woven Matrix for Integrated Circuits

Realizing that the high reliability of modern integrated circuits can easily be lost by poor interconnections, Standard Telecommunication Laboratories have developed matrix interconnection systems to improve reliability.

One technique, the principal aim of which is to simplify design and manufacture rather than minimize volume, involves the use of a matrix of woven fibre-glass tapes, 97-thousandths of an inch wide, each tape supporting a conductor 50-thousandths of an inch wide.

Access to the two sets of conductors can be made from one side only, and a join between crossing conductors can be made by soldering a tinned disc at the cross-over. A break in the conductor is obtained by punching or grinding away the conductor-metal at the required point.

The layout pattern is shown on a card, which may be used as a template for the interconnection process, and, since the matrix can be defined by a series of rectangular co-ordinates, the whole process can be automated.

For further information circle 50 on Service Card



The matrix, shown fitted with thin-film circuit elements, has a 0.1-in. vertical and horizontal pitch and is mounted in a suitable frame to ensure good external connections

# **Engine Research**

A fuel flowmetering system is in use at Leyland Motors Ltd. for engine development. The units provide a digital display of the time taken for an engine to consume a given amount of fuel (diesel or petrol) and the number of engine revolutions during that time.

The principle of the meters, which are based on an original design by B.I.C.E.R.A., is the measurement of fuel consumption by weight. 1 lb or  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb of fuel is placed in a tank





This is the balanced-learn mechanism on one of five flowmeters supplied to one of Spain's largest vehicle manufacturers. As the tank, on the left, empties, the bearn moves and the switches, one of which can be seen fixed to the tank, pass through the fields of the magnets attached to the panel

attached to one end of a balanced beam. As the fuel is fed to the engine, the beam moves and dry-reed switches fixed to the beam pass through the magnetic fields of small magnets adjacent to the beam. The switches are actuated and the signals from them are passed to a Racal tachometer type SA520V9 and a Racal totalizer type SA520V8. The time and the number of revolutions are displayed on the digital read-out and after the operation the tank is automatically re-filled and the read-out is returned to zero for the next test run.

This system is accurate to  $\pm 1$  rev. and the fuel consumption accuracy is better than that obtained by normal volumetric methods.

# Control of Bulk-Sugar Dispensing

A Unipulse metering system, manufactured by Parkinson Cowan Measurement, has been installed at Brickwoods Brewery to control the accurate dispensing of the bulk liquid sugar used in the production of some 200,000 gallons of beer per week. Prior to the installation, the task took several man hours but now the time taken has been reduced to a matter of 5 minutes supervision by one man.

The bulk liquid sugar is fed from tankers to storage vessels which are heated to prevent crystallization. The metering system, consisting of a pre-batch selector and a totalizer unit, dispenses amounts of sugar through pipelines to Applications and Techniques the boiling hoppers, the amounts being set on the pre-batch selector. In the hoppers, the unfermented brew is produced by boiling together the sweet wort, sugar and hops.

The system is also used as a weekly check on the amount of sugar used, which is confirmed by the readings of a Pneumercator gauge as required by the Customs and Excise. It can be easily dismantled for cleaning should in-line cleaning be undesirable.

For further information circle 51 on Service Card

# **Electronic Fog Warning**

A photoelectric system, which was initially designed to detect fog and to control foghorns for coastal navigation, has been developed for use on motorways and other major roads.

The equipment, produced by Lancashire Dynamo Electronic Products, consists of a rugged weather-proof light-source transmitter and a remotely-mounted photocell receiver. These will operate over distances up to  $1\frac{1}{4}$  miles. An infra-red beam is projected to the receiver and if this is partially or completely cut off a relay is actuated. The unit can be connected directly to switch on roadside warning signals or a signal can be transmitted, via a roadside telephone network, to a central control room. Here, lights on a control panel indicate the fogbound sections of the roadway so that the operator can switch on warning signs and alert police cars. When the visibility improves the warning system is automatically switched off. A sensitivity control on the receiver allows adjustment of the desired operating level.

A modulated light beam is used to eliminate operation on varying ambient light levels or vehicle headlights. The circuitry is all solidstate and this, together with a 'fail-to-safe' facility, ensures reliability.

For further information circle 52 on Service Card

# Ultrasonic Welding of Metal to Plastic

Ultrasonic welding is now being applied by Dawe Instruments to the welding of metal inserts, such as screws, studs and fixing brackets, to plastic mouldings for electronic components, cartons, cameras and similar items. Formerly the inserts had to be fitted at the moulding stage which took time and increased costs.

With the Dawe process the inserts are welded to ready-moulded articles. The instrument used is the Type 1133 Sonicwelder, the design of which has been based on development work done by Dawe's American associates, Branson Industries.

For a screw a hole is pre-drilled or moulded into the plastic and the screw is held at a pressure of about 20 p.s.i. against the hole by a horn connected to an ultrasonic transducer. A 2-sec burst of 20-kc/s ultrasonic energy is applied and the screw vibrates, the friction between the screw and the plastic causing the plastic to melt. The screw is forced in and the stillexcited plastic flows in and around the thread and resets. Contraction of the plastic on cooling is negligible as only the material in the immediate vicinity of the screw is melted. Once the plastic has reset the screw can only be removed in the normal manner.

The procedure is similar for studs with knurled or barbed ends.

For further information circle 53 on Service Card

# Thyristor Control of Airport Lighting

Five thyristor (s.c.r.) controlled constantcurrent regulators are being supplied by G.E.C. (Engineering) Ltd. to the New Zealand Civil Aviation Administration for control of airport lighting power supplies.



Smoke generators were used to simulate fog for a demonstration of the warning system This shows the current regulators Junder construction. The transformer and the transductor are immersed in oil in a common tank



Each regulator consists of a transformer, the primary winding of which is connected in series with the a.c. winding of a transductor, the two being connected across a 230-V a.c. supply. The d.c. winding of the transductor is fed from the output of a thyristor-bridge comparator. A d.c. reference voltage from a stabilized power supply is fed into the comparator together with a reset voltage. This reset voltage is derived from a current transformer connected in series in the output line carrying the regulated a.c. to the lamps. The current from this transformer is converted to a d.c. signal and fed to the comparator. A variation in the reset voltage, resulting from an error in the output current, will produce a variation in the d.c. voltage to the transductor d.c. winding. This alters the magnetization of the transductor core and, as the a.c. winding of the transductor is in series with the primary winding of the transformer, the effective primary impedance presented to the 230-V input will change. A variation in the secondary voltage of the transformer, which feeds the output to the lighting, will be produced to correct the error.

The units are rated at 10 kVA and provide a constant current to the series-connected lamps. A brightness-selection switch is incorporated which is used to adjust the output current from 2.8 to 6.6 A in five steps. The maximum current is regulated to  $\pm 1\%$  for a  $\pm 10\%$  variation in a single-phase 230-V supply.

For further information circle 54 on Service Card

# Automatic Transmission for Small Motor-Cars

A system of automatic transmission for small motor-cars (not the system fitted to the new B.M.C. Minis) is being developed at the Mullard Research Laboratories.

One of the basic requirements of an auto-

matic system is that constant driving power should be supplied to the wheels immediately before and after a gear change to prevent jerking. Automatic control of fixed ratio gear boxes is needed. The torque converters, which can provide a continuously-variable gear between two fixed gear ratios, are unsuitable for small cars and the Daf belt drives are not widely used.

A conventional gear box was chosen for the basis of the system with servo-controlled hydraulic oil pressure actuating the gear-shifting jacks and the clutch. Gear changing is initiated by the wheel speed and the throttle position and the gear change jacks are fitted with position indicators to ensure the correct sequence of operation.

On starting from rest the clutch position is controlled by a moving-coil servo and a hydraulic force amplifier. It is varied via the servo as a function of the engine speed. When changing to a higher gear, the power is cut from the engine by a second butterfly valve inserted into the carburettor. The clutch is opened, the gears are disengaged and engaged without any drive from the engine, and the clutch is re-engaged at a rate determined by the degree of throttle opening Changing down is effected by the second butterfly opening once the gears have been shifted to a neutral. The engine accelerates and when it reaches the speed at which the minimum jerking would occur, the butterfly is closed and the gear is engaged. The clutch is re-engaged as before.

Electronic control of the manual or the semiautomatic transmission systems which have been introduced by the motor industry is possible, as demonstrated by the Mullard research work, and this would result in a suitable system for the small car. Electronic control is not necessary at the moment for the larger vehicles as the mechanical systems already in use have been shown to be satisfactory.

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# U.S. Exhibition in London

THE latest electronics exhibition held at the United States Trade Center and sponsored by the United States Department of Commerce introduced the analytical and measuring instruments and laboratory apparatus to be imported from America for 1966. The exhibits included both well-established and new equipment, some of which is reviewed here.

Baird-Atomic Inc., whose U.K. agent is Ealing Scientific Ltd., produce several crystal units (55) for the modulation of helium-neon laser beams at frequencies from d.c. to beyond the video region. When a voltage is applied to the crystal the crystal properties change and cause a linearly-polarized input to become eliptically polarized. The beam passing through the crystal is intensity modulated and is then passed for demodulation through an analysing polarizer, a narrow bandpass filter and a photomultiplier. Baird Atomic also showed a tilted-plate interferometer, the Model QD-1 (56), which is used for beam splitting for spectral analysis of the laser output.

The range of continuous-wave gas lasers (57) from Spectra Physics (represented in the U.K. by Claude Lyons Ltd.) are suitable for propagation studies, optical communication, plasma diagnostics and similar purposes. All models emit light at the visible red wavelengths, although some provide other wavelengths, and various power outputs can be obtained. The range includes a completely self-contained portable unit, the Model 130, which requires no external exciter, and the Model 119 which can be supplied with servo control for long-term stability of  $\pm 5$  Mc/s per day. Also featured was the Model 116 which is tunable to 8 visible and 7 infrared wavelengths.

The Claude Lyons stand featured as well the Model 5201A transient amplitude voltmeter (58) manufactured by the Micro Instrument Co. This instrument will read and store the peak values of transient voltages of down to 50 nsec duration. The stored peak value of an input pulse is displayed until the meter is reset or until a pulse of larger amplitude is fed in, the peak value of the larger pulse superseding the original reading. Pulses of smaller amplitude do not affect the reading. D.C. voltages are blocked so that only the transients are measured when the instrument is being used to monitor the transients occurring on d.c. signals or supplies. The five ranges are from 0–10 V to 0–1,000 V and two probes are available to extend the range to 10 kV and 30 kV. An output for a chart recorder is



The Model 110 portable data recorder shown here is produced by Pennco. It records data either directly or as a frequency-modulated carrier signal on 1,  $\frac{1}{2}$  or  $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. tape. Signals in the frequency range 100 c/s to 100 kc/s can be recorded directly. With f.m. carrier recording the response down to 0 c/s makes the unit suitable for recording strain-gauge data, vibration data and other low-frequency data including transients and instantaneous amplitudes (59)

provided and optional features include an output for a digital voltmeter, battery operation and automatic resetting.

Pulse height analysis equipment is produced by The Victoreen Instrument Co. (U.K. agent A.E.P. International Ltd.). Two units were on show, the Scipp 400/1600 (60) and the portable PIP-400 (61). The Scipp 400/1600 (Silicon Computing Instrument, Patch Programmed) incorporates digital circuitry and patch programming and can be converted from a 400-channel to a 1,600-channel system. It is factory-programmed for pulse-height analysis but it can be programmed for other applications and the computing capabilities include integration and digital data differentiation. The PIP-400 is a 400-channel pulse-height analyser containing an independent single-channel analyser. It provides for both analogue and digital readouts suitable for recorders or any of the output accessories which can be obtained.

Versatility of applications is the goal of much modern design work on instrumentation and this was illustrated by the Type 422 oscilloscope (62) exhibited by Tektronix Inc., represented here by Tektronix U.K. Ltd. Weighing only 21 lb and measuring  $6\frac{1}{4} \times 10 \times 17\frac{4}{5}$  in., it can be used in awkward, cramped situations. It is rugged and portable and can be supplied as an a.c./d.c. unit suitable for battery operation. Signals below 15 Mc/s can be accepted on both of the two channels and the waveforms are displayed on a rectangular 4-in. display with a sensitivity of 10 mV to 20 V per division (each division being 0.8 cm). A further trend is wider bandwidths and the Tektronix Type 453 oscilloscope (63) has a bandwidth of 0-50 Mc/s. This also is a portable instrument.

> One of the most recent of the many small-sized computers now on the market is the Mathatron, manufactured by Mathatronics and marketed by Calcul S.A. This combines the advantages of automaticallyprogrammed digital computers with those of desk calculators. A number of mathematical formulae, sequences and constants can be pre-wired into the machine and others can be inserted into the ferritecore programme memory. Accurate results to 8 significant figures are presented on a printed tape or direct connection via the interface to other equipment. Input is via the keyboard, punched tape or the interface. A number of accessories are available, including the paper tape punch and reader and page printer shown on the right (64)



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# **NEW APPARATUS**

ELECTRONICS COMMUNICATIONS INSTRUMENTATION CONTROL

# 1. Mechanism Assessment Computer

In order to provide analysis of readings taken from computer peripheral equipment during tests, I.C.T. have produced a mechanism assessment computer. This consists of a central processor, a card reader and punch, and a typewriter. Information is fed on to the typewriter which also prints the results of the analysed readings. The computer controls the operation of the peripheral and measures the time intervals between successive actions to an accuracy of  $\pm 0.2 \ \mu sec.$  On completion of the test, the computer automatically produces an analysis of the measured and recorded intervals. Equipment that can be tested includes card punches, document readers, random access stores and magnetic tape units. A typical test on a tape transport is the analysis of the speed variations of tape running at a nominally constant speed and automatically stopped and started by the computer at random intervals which would be encountered in practice. — International Computers and Tabulators Ltd., I.C.T. House, Putney, London, S.W.15. For further information circle I on Service Card

# 2. Differential Pressure Cell

Negretti and Zambra have announced the introduction of the n-cel differential pressure transmitter G 884. It consists of two pressure chambers connected by a flexible diaphragm. A lever mechanism attached to the diaphragm assembly regulates the output air pressure from a nozzle so that this output pressure is linearly proportional to the pressure difference between the two chambers. The pneumatic output varies from 3 p.s.i.g. to a maximum of 15 p.s.i.g. and it can be fed to indicators, recorders or controllers as required. Stability is within  $\pm 1\%$  over a pressure difference range of 0–1,000 p.s.i.g.—*Negretti and Zambra Ltd.*, *Stocklake*, *Aylesbury*, *Bucking-hamshire*.

For further information circle 2 on Service Card

# 3. Hydraulic Pumps

A series of air-driven hydraulic pumps has been introduced by Olin Mathieson Ltd. and is known as the Haskel AO Series. They will generate oil or water pressures from 100 to 66,000 p.s.i. from an air drive pressure of 100 p.s.i. A predetermined fluid pressure will be held indefinitely and this means that a maintained static pressure is obtained without the need to by-pass excess fluid through a relief valve as in electrically-driven pumps. This reduces the power consumption and makes the pumps suitable for plastic and rubber presses which operate over long curing cycles. Other applications include the testing of





ELECTRONICS COMMUNICATIONS INSTRUMENTATION CONTROL

high-pressure pipes and vessels, high-pressure lubrication and operation of isostatic presses. The pump can be mounted, together with an oil reservoir, an air-pressure regulator and filters, on a small trolley for mobile applications.—Olin Mathieson Ltd., North Hylton Road, Sunderland, County Durham.

For further information circle 3 on Service Card

# 4. Marking Tapes

Letraset Ltd. have introduced a technique known as Letratapes for applying Letraset Instant Lettering. The letters and numerals are contained on 160-ft long tapes which are held in a dispenser. As the user pulls down the tape, he presses the letter against the surface to be marked and the character is transferred. Good adhesion to any surface is achieved without the need for excessive pressure being applied. Tapes can be obtained which contain single capital letters and numerals, groups of letters for commonly-used codings and commonly used words, and sequences of numerals such as 1-15 and 1-25. They can be applied to drawings (being suitable for dye-line printing), printed-circuit boards, chassis and panels .- Letraset Ltd., St. George's House, 195-203 Waterloo Road, London, S.E.1.

For further information circle 4 on Service Card

# 5. Engine Protection System

A series of engine protection modules, type MPA, have been produced by Teddington Autocontrols Ltd. These modules can be built into a rack to provide a centralized system for indication of fault conditions involving engine speed, temperature, oil pressure, etc. There are four types of module: a mains module containing the mains switch and fuses, a gauge module which can house a thermometer, pressure switch or other type of sensing device, a warning module which gives an audible and visible alarm under hazardous running conditions, and a shutdown module which initiates shutdown of the engine when running conditions exceed preset danger levels. When a fault occurs, the warning sensing switch on the engine closes actuating

a relay so that a lamp is extinguished and a horn is sounded. The horn is silenced by means of a toggle switch and, when the fault has been repaired, the circuit to the horn is automatically remade so that it sounds until the toggle switch is returned to the original position. If the fault is not rectified before dangerous running conditions develop, the shutdown sensing switch closes so that a relay in the shutdown module is energized to actuate a cut-out device on the engine. Once the fault is repaired, the system can be returned to normal by use of a reset button on the shutdown module.-Teddington Autocontrols Ltd., Windmill Road, Sunburyon-Thames, Middlesex.

For further information circle 5 on Service Card

# 6. Decade Counter Modules

A decade counter module (type DCM 501) has been introduced by Quarndon Electronics Ltd. It is a plug-in counter with a numerical indicator-tube readout and is intended for industrial applications. It can be used for counting at frequencies of up to 1 Mc/s and with the frequency-standard, divider and gating units available, complete counters or digital instruments can be built to meet special requirements. The plug-in unit measures 4<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> in, by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. by  $5\frac{1}{2}$  in. and has terminations to fit the standard 32-way printed-circuit board connector. Units are available made with either silicon or germanium semiconductor devices. and the maximum counting speed for the DCM 501 unit is 1 Mc/s, although others are available with counting speeds of 5 Mc/s and 12 Mc/s. For maximum speed, a  $2\frac{1}{2}$ -V input pulse (with a rise time of 500 nanosecs) is required, and the output of the unit is sufficient to drive a further unit so that a multi-digital counter can be built frequency up. Crystal standards, gating units and remote display units are available to complete the range.-Quarndon Electronics Ltd., Slack Lane, Derby. For further information circle 6 on Service Card

# 7. Triode Ion Pumps

Recent work at the A.E.I. laboratories has shown that the continuous handling of gases at pressures of  $10^{-4}$ torr by triode ion pumps is practical. Previously, ion pumps have been used mainly at low pressures of  $10^{-8}$ torr or less. A range of triode ion pumps has been introduced by A.E.I.

and these have a cathode life in excess of 4,000 hr at an air pressure of 10<sup>-5</sup> torr. Pressures less than 10<sup>-12</sup> torr can be achieved so that inherent contamination can be kept below 1 p.p.m. Direct pressure indication is provided on a logarithmic scale. A typical application is the ion pumping of mass spectrometers where the sample gases in the analyser tube are usually 10<sup>-5</sup> to 10<sup>-6</sup> torr and contamination by residual gases must be kept low. The illustration is of the electrodes taken from a pump after 400 hr of operation at an air pressure of 10-4 torr. A relatively small amount of erosion was shown to take place. The pumps have the advantages over alternative oil diffusion pump systems of lower running costs. portability and freedom from noise .--A.E.I. Electronics, Trafford Park, Manchester.

For further information circle 7 on Service Card

# **ELECTRONICS**

# 8. Twin Low-Pass Filters

An l.f. filter, the SA 500, is being produced by Wayne Kerr Laboratories Ltd. This consists of two identical channels which can be used independently, in cascade or in a band-pass arrangement. A single tuning control allows both sections to be set to any frequency within the range of 0.1592 c/s to 1.592 kc/s. With the two filter sections connected in cascade the attenuation rate is 36 dB per octave. In the band-pass condition there is unity gain and zero phase-shift at the centre frequency with an attenuation rate outside the pass band of 18 dB per octave. The input impedance of each channel is 2 M $\Omega$  with an output impedance of less than 60  $\Omega$ . This instrument is available for 19-in. rack mounting or in a 20  $\times$  9  $\times$  9-in. case. It operates from normal a.c. mains supplies consuming 20 W.-The Wayne Kerr Laboratories Ltd., Sycamore Grove, New Malden, Surrey, For further information circle 8 on Service Card

# 9. 24-V Supply

A solid-state d.c. power supply, type PMD 120, has been introduced by Cathodeon Electronic Ltd. This will deliver 0-24 V at 0.5 A, the output being continuously variable over this range. The regulation of the output

is better than 5% with a ripple voltage of less than 5 mV peak-to-peak. The meter can be switched for voltage or current monitoring and it can be switched out to prevent damage once the supply is set. Requiring a 220–240-V, 50 or 60 c/s a.c. input, this unit measures  $7 \times 5 \times 8$  in.— *Cathodeon Electronic Ltd., Bircham Road, Southend-on-Sea, Essex.* For further information circle 9 on Service Card

# 10. Event Recorder

Α solid-state logging device developed under contract to the Building Research Station is now being marketed by the designers, Deakin Phillips Electronics. Using 8-hole punched tape, it records events from up to 127 sources, the logged information identifying the source and denoting its duration, the instant in real time at which it occurs (time signals at intervals of 15 sec being recorded) and its sequence of operation in relation to the other sources. Time signals at other intervals can be arranged and although the system has been designed for recording events in relation to time, any parameters can be recorded with respect to each other allowing correlation records to be made. The output tape is suitable for input to a computer or a tape reader. The equipment supplied to the Building Research Station was designed for the collection of data relating to water usage in a block of flats but it has many other applications .-- Deakin Phillips Electronics Ltd., Tilly's Lane, Staines, Middlesex.

For further information circle 10 on Service Card

# 11. Tape Recorder

The VR4 solid-state tape-recorder produced by Van der Molen Ltd. is a 4-track machine which follows the modern trend in this country by having a vertical deck. Although primarily designed as a domestic unit, its robustness and the positioning of the controls at the rear and at the side of the cabinet make it suitable for educational use. There are three modes of input: a microphone input, a pick-up or tuner input and an input to a mixer circuit for superimposition on to recordings on any track. The three outputs are 2-4 V r.m.s. from 10 k $\Omega$  for an amplifier or a headset, an output for an 8-  $\Omega$  extension speaker and an output from one track while a recording is being made on another. The amplifier output to the internal loudspeaker is 5 W of speech or





music. The three speeds of  $7\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $3\frac{3}{4}$ and 13-in. per sec provide 3-dB frequency responses of 40 c/s-15 kc/s, 40 c/s-10 kc/s and 60 c/s-5 kc/s respectively.-Available from H. O. Thomas Electronics Ltd., 68-69 Avenue Chambers, 4 Vernon Place, London, W.C.1.

For further information circle 11 on Service Card

# 12. Low-Pass Filters

Microwave Systems Ltd. are now marketing a range of miniature lowpass filters manufactured by R.L.C. Electronics of America. These have cut-off frequencies from 100 Mc/s to 5 Gc/s and their sizes have been kept to a minimum, the lengths ranging from 71 in. to 21 in. The v.s.w.r. in the pass band is 1.35 maximum with a maximum insertion loss of 0.5 dB. The rejection rises sharply above the cut-off frequency and has a minimum value of 60 dB. They are furnished with coaxial connectors. - Microwave Systems Ltd., 9-10 River Front, Enfield, Middleser.

For further information circle 12 on Service Card

# 13. D.C. Amplifier

Airmec Ltd. have introduced a d.c. amplifier, type 361, which is fullytransistorized and powered by internal mercury cells having an approximate life of 250 hr. The

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voltage gain is continuously variable from 10 to 100 and signals in the range d.c. to about 200 kc/s can be accepted. A frequency response of less than 1 dB down at 80 kc/s and less than 3 dB down at 150 kc/s is exhibited with a load capacitance not exceeding 120 pF. Zero controls are incorporated which will set the output voltage and the open-circuit input voltage to zero. When correctly set the output zero is not affected by change in the source resistance. At 1 kc/s the input resistance is greater than 400 k $\Omega$ and the output resistance is less than 1 k  $\Omega$ . The maximum output level is at least + 1 V peak at all frequencies into loads greater than 50 k $\Omega$ . Input overloads up to  $\pm$  30 V peakto-peak can be applied without damage.-Airmec Ltd., High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire.

For further information circle 13 on Service Card

# 14. Digital Chronometer

fully-transistorized deci-milli-Α second chronometer with digital read-out is announced by Britec. Designed primarily for measure-ments in the field, it measures  $16 \times 10\frac{1}{2} \times 7\frac{3}{4}$  in. and has an internal nickel-cadmium battery which provides 8 hours of continuous operation. The 'Chronoseis' measures the time interval between two control pulses (within the range of 0.1 to 199.9 msec) with an accuracy of  $\pm$ 0.1 msec in the temperature range -10 °C to +60 °C. It incorporates a high-sensitivity amplifier, with adjustable gain, making it possible to work with pulses ranging in amplitude from a few microvolts to several volts. A built-in time delay, graduated in 10-msec steps, prevents premature triggering of the control circuit by parasitical interference or unwanted signals, and coaxial outlets are provided on the control panel to enable the control pulses and a 10-msec marker to be fed to an oscilloscope.-Britec Ltd., 17 Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.2.

For further information circle 14 on Service Card

# COMMUNICATIONS

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# **15. Monitoring Receiver**

A monitoring receiver, type ESU, operating in both the v.h.f. and the u.h.f. bands of frequencies has been announced in the U.S.A. by Rohde and Schwarz. The frequency range of 25-900 Mc/s is covered by three r.f. plug-in units and the unit can be used for monitoring radio reception, interference and laboratory measurements. The receiver is equipped with an oscillator ganged with the tuning control and this enables calibration of the instrument at any test frequency. An output can be



taken from this oscillator so that the unit can be used as a transmission test set. An i.f. output can also be taken as well as outputs for a recorder, headphones and a loudspeaker. Both a.m. and f.m. operation is possible and two selectable bandwidths, switch-selected a.f.c. and a b.f.o. are featured. Calibrated aerials for field intensity measurements are available.-Rohde and Schwarz, 111 Lexington Avenue, Passaic, New Jersey, U.S.A. For further information circle 15 on Service Card

# 16. Underwater Intercom

Communication equipment for use underwater by skin divers has been produced by the Raytheon Co. and is available in this country from the Cossor Communications Co. Known as the 'Yack Yack', it consists of a microphone and sound diffuser, which fit into a face mask to eliminate bubble sounds, and a non-corrosive plastic case worn on the diver's belt and containing an amplifier, a dry-cell battery and a loudspeaker. No special receiver is required and normal speech sounds are carried through the water for up to 50 ft. The equipment has been successfully used at depths of 350 ft. A bleeper alarm is provided which has a range of more than three times the voice range and can be used to alert a diver or to call him to come into the speech range. Surface-todiver equipment is also available with which conversations can be made over 100 ft from a boat to a submerged diver .--- The Cossor Com-munications Co., The Pinnacles. Elizabeth Way, Harlow, Essex. For further information circle 16 on Service Card

# 17. F.M. Transmitter/Receiver

The sonar Model FM-40 now available from Emec Inc. is an f.m. transmitter which can be supplied as a remotely-controlled unit. It has been designed for business use and, being compact, it can be easily installed in motor vehicles. Noise is minimized in the receiver by a squelch circuit and adequate limiting and audio filtering. 37 W of modulated r.f. power are delivered by the transmitter and the unit is supplied with one pair of crystals for 20-29-999 Mc/s. Three other crystal pairs can be obtained as accessories to extend the frequency range to 50 Mc/s. Other accessories include additional squelch circuits, an external speaker and ignition suppression. The power requirements are 110 V a.c. or 12 V d.c.-Emec Inc., 160 Terminal Drive, Plainview, Long Island, N.Y. 11803, U.S.A.

For further information circle 17 on Service Card

# 18. Mobile U.H.F. Aerial

Associated Aerials Ltd. have introduced a low-cost u.h.f. whip aerial, type MB2/SC 450-470, for use on cars. It is easily fitted to the vehicle roof, there being no need to remove the lining as the feeder cable is brought through by means of a draw-wire. The response is level in the frequency range of 450-470 Mc/s and a good signal will be provided at these frequencies. Tough road and weather conditions will not impair the performance and this ruggedness is ensured by the sturdy construction. The price is 37s. 9d. for single aerials and 32s. 6d. each for ten or more. Each aerial is individually packed and has full installation instructions .--Associated Aerials Ltd., Knight Road, Strood, Kent.

For further information circle 18 on Service Card

# 19. U.H.F. Pocket Radio Telephone

The Pve Telecommunications Pocketfone is a radio-telephone consisting separate transmitters of and receivers measuring approximately  $6\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{8} \times 1\frac{1}{16}$ -in. and operating in the u.h.f. band. With these alone, communication over several hundred yards is possible and wide range coverage of about 5 miles can be achieved if a base station is used. Except for the transmitter output power of 100 mW, the performance of the 5-oz receiver and the 10-oz transmitter is comparable to that of a



ELECTRONICS COMMUNICATIONS INSTRUMENTATION CONTROL

car radio-telephone weighing 10 lb. The power is supplied by miniature re-chargeable or dry-cell batteries and a special circuit enables one battery to be used for 30 hours of continuous receiver operation. The u.h.f. band of frequencies provides an increased number of channels and one particular frequency can be used by several isolated networks without interaction. Also, radio waves at these frequencies can penetrate obstructions and demonstrations have shown no appreciable deterioration of signal levels when links were established between the interior of a building and the inside of a moving vehicle. A further advantage is the short aerial required, the transmitter aerial being only 15-cm long. It is housed inside the transmitter case

and is ejected by a press-to-talk button. The applications of the Pocketfone cover any situation or installation where direct communication among distributed personnel is required.—*Pye Telecommunications Ltd., Newmarket Road, Cambridge.* For further information circle 19 on Service Card

# 20. Miniature Microphone

R.C.A. have announced a miniature microphone, the BK-12A, which weighs 20 gm and measures  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -in. long by  $\frac{3}{4}$ -in. in diameter. It can be inconspicuously held in the hand, worn on a lanyard around the neck or clipped to clothing and is suitable for use in television, film location work and public address systems. The frequency response is 60 c/s-18 kc/s and the microphone is omnidirectional up to 6 kc/s. It has a lowimpedance voice coil which permits its use with input impedances between 30 and 250  $\Omega$ . No output trans-



former is required and this results in a low hum pickup. The effective output level at 1 kc/s is -60 dBm into 150  $\Omega$  referred to a sound pressure of 10 dynes/sq cm. Servicing of the microphone is simple; a complete replacement cartridge can be installed in a few minutes. The cartridge may be roughly handled with little risk of damage and the 30-ft cable, which is made of cadmium copper with a p.v.c. casing, is both flexible and durable,-R.C.A. Great Britain Ltd., Lincoln Way, Windmill Road Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex.

For further information circle 20 on Service Card

# INSTRUMENTATION

# 21. Trace Substance Analysers

A range of automatic trace substance analysers introduced by Electronic Instruments Ltd. enables the efficiency of water treatment processes to be checked entirely automatically and so eliminate the need for frequent manual estimations of the trace substances. The analysers use a colourimetric analysis technique and are sensitive and stable. The Model 58E Silica Analyser is the most sensitive and can be supplied to read 0.06, 0.1 or 0.2 p.p.m. f.s.d. This analyser, in view of its sensitivity, incorporates automatic standardization between each silica determination. The Model 60C Hydrazine Analyser is not so sensitive and does not have the automatic standardization feature. It is designed to measure hydrazine excess and has a range of 0-0.5 p.p.m. Analysers are also available for the estimation of traces of copper and iron.-Electronic Instruments Ltd., Lower Mortlake Road, Richmond, Surrey.

For further information circle 21 on Service Card

# 22. Transistor Test Set

Portability and robustness, coupled with simplicity of operation, are the features of the 74163-B transistor test set recently introduced by Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd. It will measure the dynamic current gain of both silicon and germanium transistors of the p-n-p and n-p-n types. Gains up to 200 may be measured on a dual-range meter, with an emitter current of approximately 1 mA and a collector (continued on page 83)



# This is MEC's 100 Watt TWT

Conduction cooling has brought MEC's line of 100-watt-CW travelling-wave tubes out of the laboratory and into the most severe military environments. These octave-bandwidth L- through TD.-band TWTs have been delivered to more than a dozen customers internationally for ECM, radar, telemetry and communications applications. Your MEC representative has actual test data and engineering information on the entire MEC line of 100-watt laboratory and militarized TWTs.

Key Features – altitudes to 50,000 feet • temperatures from – 40° to 100°C · shock/vibration up to MIL-E-5400 Class 2.

**RF Performance** – 100 watts CW minimum P<sub>o</sub>
30 db saturated gain
20<sup>o</sup><sub>0</sub> efficiency.



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Industrial Electronics February 1966

# It Works Here

Typical X-Band Test Data (M5314 Serial 107)



(Comparable data available in L, S and C Bands)



# STRIPLINE SOCKET CIRCULATORS



Melabs have introduced a range of microwave ferrite 3-port circulators designed for use in standard semirigid striplines where the ground planes are 2 mil, thick copper with no rigid back-up plate. The socket for the circulator is made by cutting two concentric holes at the appropriate location in the stripline package. The circulator is then fitted by inserting it in the socket and tightening the locking nut. Circulators of this type are now available for any frequency from 2 to 12 Gc/s and have an electrical performance comparable to conventional circulators with coaxial connectors.

A similar range of circulators is available suitable for use in rigid striplines having  $\frac{1}{2}$ " thick aluminium ground planes. The standard dielectric used is Rexolite 2,200 but other dielectric materials can be provided.



For further information circle 259 on Service Card



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**ELECTRONICS** 

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SIRVASE ESCRIBIR CON LETRAS MAYUSCULAS

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TOOL MAKERS' MICROSCOPES ABBE METROSCOPES UNIVERSAL HORIZONTAL METROSCOPES ANGLE DIVISION TESTERS UNIVERSAL MEASURING MICROSCOPES SMALL BORE MICROSCOPES



# **PROJECTION TOOL MAKERS' MICROSCOPE**

Embodying a number of essential technical improvements this miscroscope combines maximum operational comfort with high measuring accuracy ensuring higher productivity with less operator fatigue.

Angle Measurements of tools, profile gauges, templets, etc. Thread Measurements pitch, major and minor diameters, lead, thread angle, position of profile with respect to thread axis and thread forms.

Checking contours against contour patterns. Checking surface quality.

Micrometer screws replaced by built-in illuminated precision glass scales.

Rapid manual displacement of the freely floating stage in X and Y- direction, setting of the coarse motion may be rapidly clamped, sensitive positioning by means of fine control. Accuracy of reading in X and Y traverse is  $\cdot 0001^{\prime\prime}$  total capacity. 6" x 3" with magnification from 10x to 50x.

Range of tilt of the upright measuring beam is  $\pm$  15° to the Y-axis. Its vertical position being indicated by a light signal denoting correct positioning within 20" accuracy.

Zeiss Exhibition at the Leipzig Spring Fair, 6-16th March, 1966, Hall 15, Zeiss Pavilion, Leipzig.

For further information and details of the Carl Zeiss Jena range of Mechanical Instruments for length and Screw-Thread Measurements, Opto-Mechanical Instruments for Measuring lengths, Screw-Threads and Contours, please write or telephone:

# C.Z. SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS LTD. Zeiss England House, 93/97 New Cavendish St., London, W.I Tel.: LANgham 0571/5

voltage of approximately 5 V. The meter is calibrated directly in current gain. Push-button switching facilitates setting-up of the appropriate circuit arrangements, and the voltages of the two internal dry cells can be checked on the meter. A 3-pin socket and a set of 3 terminals are provided so that the transistor to be tested can be connected to whichever is the more convenient.— Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd., STC House, 190 Strand, London, W.C.2.

For further information circle 22 on Service Card

# 23. Electronic Multimeter

Currents as low as 5 nA can be measured on the Philips PM2401 transistorized multimeter now available from The M.E.L. Equipment Co. Sixty-one ranges are provided and these include d.c. voltage ranges from 100 mV to 700 V, d.c. current ranges from 100 nA to 10 A, a.c. voltage ranges from 100 mV to 300 V (2 c/s-2 Mc/s), and a.c. current ranges from 1 mA to 10 A (20 c/s-100 kc/s), these being the f.s.d. readings. Also there are 6 resistance ranges from  $0.5 \Omega$  to 50 M $\Omega$ . Polarity of measurements is shown on a small indicator and the unambiguous range selection arrangement consists of coloured inscriptions on the front panel around the rotary switch and push buttons for volts, amps and ohms. Accessories are available for extending d.c. measurements up to 30 kV and the frequency range of a.c. measurements up to 700 Mc/s.-The M.E.L. Equipment Co. Ltd., Manor Royal, Crawley, Sussex.

For further information circle 23 on Service Card

# 24. Radiation Monitor

The PCM3 is a compact solid-state radiation contamination monitor recently introduced by E.M.I. Electronics Ltd. It can be used with a variety of probes for simultaneous monitoring of alpha and beta/gamma radiation. A visual indication of radiation is given on an accurate 5-in. scale and an audible indication is given on an internal loudspeaker with separate tones for alpha and beta/gamma radiation. The instrument can also be fitted to actuate an external relay or alarm system. A 'fail-safe' facility is incorporated so that a warning note is emitted from the loudspeaker if the probe is damaged or subjected to excessive radiation.-E.M.I. Electronics Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex.

For further information circle 24 on Service Card

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# 25. R.F. Current Probe

A current probe for measurement of r.f. and transient currents in the range 20 kc/s to 200 Mc/s is now available from the Atlantic Research Corp. This probe, Model 6676-02. is suitable for use where the minimum of disturbance of circuits is necessary as there is no need for physical contact between the probe and the circuitry. It has a diameter of 1-in. and is only  $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. long so that installation in high-density circuitry and components is possible. While the probe is uniformly responsive to currents in the leads passing through it, it is not influenced by surrounding electric and magnetic fields. This is achieved by the electrostatic screening on the secondary winding of the wound ferrite toroid which acts as the current transformer .--The Atlantic Research Corp., Alexandria, Virginia, U.S.A.

For further information circle 25 on Service Card

# CONTROL

# 26. Photomicrographic Exposure Control

The Model MF automatic exposure regulation unit from C. Z. Scientific Instruments Ltd. has been produced to overcome the problem of determining the exact exposure period in photomicrographic work. It controls the respective exposure periods needed for the varying brightness of images under a microscope when these images are to be photographed. The unit can be fitted to any microscope and includes a 35-mm camera and a switching unit for adjusting the exposure time. The timing value is set on a dial on the timing unit and this value depends on the format of the photograph, the sensitivity of the photo-

# NEW

ELECTRONICS COMMUNICATIONS INSTRUMENTATION CONTROL

graphic material and on the developing conditions. The operator checks that the exposure is correct through the viewing lens. With the microscope focused and the timing set, it is only necessary to press the camera shutter release button to obtain a properly-exposed photomicrograph.—*C.Z. Scientific Instruments Ltd., Zeiss England House, New Cavendish Street, London, W.1.* For further information circle 26 on Service Card

# 27. Photocell Relay Unit

A robust photocell relay unit, which can be connected to initiate many control functions, has been produced by Photain Controls Ltd. Designated the type PTR/SP, it works in conjunction with a cadmium selenide photocell mounted in a separate receiver unit and fitted with a baffle to exclude ambient light. With an appropriate light projector, it will operate over beam lengths of 1 in. to 100 ft. Time delays can be incorporated to delay the operation of the relay on the light beam being broken or made, and several units can be connected together to form a complex system. The plug-in relay has two sets of change-over contacts rated at 5 A, 250 V a.c.—Photain Controls Ltd., Randalls Road, Leatherhead, Surrey. For further information circle 27 on Service Card

# 28. Modular Control Equipment

Versatile control equipment is being produced by William Don Ltd. under the name of Donolec 'Neoset' Mini-Blocks. It consists of a series of circuit modules and transducers which can be built up into complete systems for the control of current, motor speed, temperature, the position of metal parts and many other process variables. The control circuits are actuated by 50-V, 0.3-mA signals and they will initiate alarms or relays for process control. The equipment can be supplied in kit form or in standard instrument cases containing the circuitry for particular applications. It can also be supplied in the form of multi-channel alarm panels .--- William Don Ltd., Kerry Hill Works, Horsforth, Leeds.

For further information circle 28 on Service Card

# 29. Pressure Controller

In order to provide a unit which will hold pressure at a given level over a

period of time for applications in vacuum technology, Vacuum Industrial Applications Ltd. have produced the VIA-VAC servo-operated pressure controller type 1. It has been designed for use with hot-cathode ionization gauges having an operating range of 5  $\times$  10<sup>-3</sup> to 2  $\times$  10<sup>-7</sup> torr, other types of gauge being suitable. The unit can be set to maintain a constant pressure to within  $\pm 10\%$  at pressures below 3 microns of mercury. The required pressure is set, by means of a calibrated potentiometer, as a percentage of the fullscale deflection shown on the ionization gauge. A meter on the controller indicates when the required pressure has been reached. When it has been reached, a servo-operated motor operates a valve in the vacuum chamber. The valve opens and shuts to admit gas, maintaining the pressure at the required level .---Vacuum Industrial Applications Ltd., Netherton Road, Wishaw, Scotland. For further information circle 29 on Service Card

**30. Motor-Speed Control Units** Hawker Siddeley Dynamics have developed a range of inexpensive motor-speed control units suitable for operation with series wound a.c./d.c. electric motors with ratings



up to 10 h.p. The range of units covers speed control over the entire rated speed range of the motor used, and is capable of maintaining any given speed setting within +2% to 20% dependent upon customer requirements. This stability of regulation is maintained independent of torque and load variations throughout the load range of the motor. The units are available in potted form with colour-coded flying lead terminations suitable for operation with remotely-mounted potentiometers, or in a metal can with an integral potentiometer and terminal block terminations.-Hawker Siddelev Dynamics Ltd., Manor Road, Hatfield, Hertfordshire.

For further information circle 30 on Service Card

# 31. Re-cycling and Pulsing Timer

The Cyclo-Set Timer, produced by Solid State Controls, is a re-cycling and pulsing timer which is suitable for many process-control applications. It consists of a transistorized timer module which has no moving parts and is reliable for a life of 100 million operations. It actuates a plug-in relay with a single-pole change-over contact rated at 5 or 10 A at 250 V a.c. The 'on' and 'off' periods are independently adjustable, the standard models providing periods of 0.4-60 sec and 1-4 min for both 'on' and 'off' conditions. Other periods are available for special applications. The unit can be obtained for five operating voltages from 12 to 240 V a.c. or for 12 or 24 V d.c.—Solid State Controls Ltd., 30-40 Dalling Road, London, W.6.

For further information circle 31 on Service Card

# 32. Radio Control

Industrial radio-control equipment has been introduced by the Industrial Electronetics Corp. of America. It has been designed for use where connecting wires between the controller and the process being controlled are inconvenient. The transmitter, model FM-50, is crystal controlled and the r.f. carrier wave produced is modulated by an a.f. signal. Various types of aerial can be used and a standard coaxial plug is incorporated for attachment of the aerial. The model R-102 receiver is also crystal controlled and incorporates an audio filter and a timedelay circuit to reduce the effects of interference. A relay is actuated by the control signals from the transmitter and the relay contacts are rated at 5 A for 115 V a.c. A typical application is the control of a conveyor belt, the output from the receiver being connected to stop the belt and sound an alarm. The range of operation varies from 1,000 ft to 2,500 ft depending on the type of aerial used and transmitters for up to 10 miles can be obtained. Separate carrier frequencies and control tone frequencies are available for multi-channel operation.—*The Industrial Electronetics Corp., P.O. Box* 862, *Melbourne, Florida, U.S.A.* For further information circle 32 on Service Card

# COMPONENTS

# 33. Field-Effect Transistors

S. G. S. Fairchild Ltd. are offering two metal-oxide field-effect transistors designated the FI 100 and the FI 0049. The FI 100 is suitable for electrometer applications because of the high input impedance (greater than  $10^{13}\Omega$ ) and its good drift characteristics. It will also handle chopper and multiplex switching functions. It exhibits a high on-to-off impedance ratio, a zero offset voltage, low capacitances and low leakage currents. Large input signals can be accepted, the breakdown voltage



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being greater than 30 V. Successive amplifier stages can be directly coupled without the need for coupling capacitors, resulting in a good d.c. to high-frequency performance. The FI 0049 consists of two FI 100s on a single chip. They can be connected to form series, shunt or series-shunt choppers. Dual input switches can also be constructed or the two FI 100s can be connected in parallel as one device.— S. G. S. Fairchild Ltd., 23 Stonefield Way, Ruislip, Middlesex.

For further information circle 33 on Service Card

# 34. Fine Wire Coils

Using 49-gauge wire, the smallest gauge that can be wound at present,

Westool Ltd. are producing fine wire coils on specially-designed machines. The coils are wound at high speeds on moulded bobbins and each coil possesses more than 30,000 turns. Copper enamel wire insulated to B.S. 1844M is used, the insulation obviating the need for interleaving and thus reducing the size of the coils. The bobbins have an outside diameter of 0.520 in. with a length of 0.515 in. These components are suitable for timing mechanisms, electric clocks and synchronous motors and they can be custom-built to meet the specialized requirements of particular manufacturers .-- Westool Ltd., Bishop Auckland. Co. Durham.

For further information circle 34 on Service Card

# 35. Multi-Gang Potentiometer Range

Now available from STC/P.X. Fox is a range of precision potentiometers with choices from multi-gang and multi-tap construction. Typical of the range is the S11 international frame size, illustrated, which has a 1 062-in. outside diameter. This unit has a torque value of 1 gm/cm per section and an operating life of 3 million cycles. The S11 range offers a linearity of 0.1% at 5 k $\Omega$  and above. The potentiometers are available with up to 10 gangs per unit and witha maximum of 10 taps per gang. The Fox potentiometer contact, while giving extremely long life and low torque, achieves noise values as low as  $10 \Omega$ .--P.X. Fox General/Controls. Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd., West Road, Harlow, Essex.

For further information circle 35 on Service Card

### **36. Ceramic Disc Capacitors**

Lemco have increased the capacitance of their range of capacitors without a corresponding increase in size. The type 13K ceramic disc capacitor has a  $\frac{9}{16}$ -in. diameter with a thickness of  $\frac{5}{32}$  in. Two ranges are available, 1,500-5,000 pF, with a working voltage of 750 V d.c., and, with a rated voltage of 350 V d.c., 6,000-10,000 pF. The insulation resistance measured at the rated d.c. voltage is 2.5  $\times$  10  $^{4}$  M\Omega and the temperature rating is -40 to +100 °C. Tolerances of -20 to +80% and -25 to +50% are offered or a capacitor with a guaranteed minimum value can be obtained.-London Electrical Manufacturing Co. Ltd., Bridges Place, Parsons Green Lane, London, S.W.6.

For further information circle 36 on Service Card

# **37. Logic Modules**

A range of miniature logic modules is being produced by Intellux Inc. of the U.S.A. and is now available in this country from Sencom Ltd. These have been constructed in a hybrid form with the passive components deposited by a thin film technique on to a glass substrate. A header is cemented to the substrate and this header holds the T018, T046 or epoxy-packaged type transistors, providing an adequate heat sink and a suitable structural form for the modules. The passive components are hermetically sealed with a fused-glass superstrate on the substrate. The entire assembly is coated with polyurethane to provide (continued on page 87)

# WHAT'S THE NEW DELANCO M.F. TUBE GOT THAT OTHERS HAVEN'T?



# (EVERYTHING!)

Developed by our Technical Staff, M.F. (Melamine Impregnated Fibre) was designed to produce a tube with outstandingly improved electrical properties and high non-arcing properties.

The list of properties achieved by the material are compared opposite with similar properties listed by BSS.934 which cover this field.

Average Values obtained on 'Delanco' Impregnated Vulcanized Fibre Tube.	Values as laid down in BSS.934		
Water Absorption (2-3)%	(20-55)%		
Surface Breakdown without pre-drying 18 K.V.	10 K.V. (dry)		
Electric strength without pre-drying 9 K.V.	5 K.V. (dry)		
Cohesion (BSS.1314) between layers.			
A proof list value of 78 lbs., withstood 250 lbs. eas	ily.		
Density 1.35	1.35		
Machineability Excellent			

ANGLO-AMERICAN VULCANIZEO FIBRE CO. LTD · CAYTON WORKS · BATH STREET · LONDON EC1 · CLE 8484



# TheVR-3800

a medium priced instrumentation Recorder/Reproducer with sixspeed, fully electrically switched transport and electronics.

The VR-3800 offers the basic advantages of Consolidated Electrodynamics' top-rated systems at a price to suit the industrial user. This adds up to one important fact. The new VR-3800 is destined to become the work horse of midband recorders. For here is a recorder that is competitive in price with lower class instruments, yet records up to 300 kc at 60 ips with unsurpassed reliability.

# The VR-3800's outstanding features :

- \* Six speeds to 60 ips; both transport and electronics electrically switchable. Speed sensitive plug-ins available for any number of transport speeds required.
- \* Seven or fourteen channels are available for data storage in the d-c to 300 kc frequency range.
- Extended wideband FM offers d-c to 40 kc at 60 ips. Standard FM from d-c to 20 kc at 60 ips.
- \* Longer 'asting recording heads smooth all-metal-frontdesign lasts up to six times longer than conventional heads, and reduces cleaning to a minimum.
- Record and reproduce amplifiers are solid-state, and the direct system is fully amplitude and phase-equalized at all speeds, providing optimum square wave response.
- \* Signal-to-noise ratio is the best available for this class of equipment; distortion is the lowest.
- Tape tension constantly controlled by closed-loop servo control.
- \* Dynamic braking used exclusively. Fail-safe mechanical brakes used only when tape motion is stopped.
- \* Optional extras include:- edge tracks in integral head stack, tape speed control servo, reel revolution counter, monitor meters and attenuator, monitor oscilloscopes, shuttle unit.

# Consolidated Electrodynamics

a division of **BELL & HOWELL LIMITED** 14 Commercial Rd., Woking, Surrey. Tel: Woking 5633



ELECTRONICS COMMUNICATIONS INSTRUMENTATION CONTROL

leakage protection. This type of construction offers improved reliability due to the reduced number of interconnections used. Also a high packing density is possible because of the miniaturization achieved (a typical module size is  $0.375 \times 0.5 \times 0.375$  in.). Standard logic circuits are available but custom-built modules can be readily produced. The modules can be fixed to printed circuits or a ultilaver boards by conventional mar dacturing techniques .- Sencom Lta., 557 Finchley Road, London, N.W.3. For further information circle 37 on Service C ad

# PRODUCTION AIDS

# 38. Flame Cutting Unit

The Binumat numerically-controlled flame cutting machine, developed by Messer Griesheim Ltd., is for use by machine manufacturers and general engineers and is suitable for the economical output of small and large quantity production runs. Cutting instructions are fed in on punched tapes and the tape orders are executed at a maximum speed of about 20 ft per min. The cutting precision is good and likewise or inverted profiles will be cut simultaneously. The tapes can be prepared by semiskilled personnel. Kerf compensation, selected at a control panel, is included. The electronic circuitry is constructed on a plug-in basis and the driving mechanism for the torch heads and carriage is protected by a fluid system against external influences such as oxide dust.-Messer Griesheim Ltd., 43-45 Knight's Hill, West Norwood, London, S.E.27.

For further information circle 38 on Service Card

# 39. Anti-Seize Compound and Lubricant

The Moly-Paul P.T. Composition, available from K. S. Paul Products Ltd., is an anti-seize compound and lubricant which is resistant to most solvents of petrol origin, including petroleum ether. This makes it suitable for use in the stop-cocks of petroleum flow lines and in the bearings of de-greasing plants. The illustration shows a sample of the compound which has been immersed





in petrol for 8 days without being brought into solution or losing its homogeneous mass. The lubricant is resistant to stress conditions and high pressures and it will remain stable up to approximately 126 °C. The stiff consistency is similar to that of a No. 5 grease and the coefficient of friction is 0.06 at 15 °C. It is claimed to be totally abrasive-free. -K. S. Paul Products Ltd., Nobel Road, London, N.18.

For further information circle 39 on Service Card

# 40. Lamina-Flow Benches

The SLEE Lamina-flow benches produced by the South London Electrical Equipment Co. Ltd. have been designed to provide clean working conditions for the micro-engineering and similar industries. The working surface is free from encumbrances such as glass visors. A horizontal air flow is blown from the rear of the

bench and another air stream flows down from the top front to be collected at the bottom front lip of the bench for recirculation through the filtration system. This causes an air curtain to be set up which prevents the entry of almost all heavy particles from the front. The clean air flow also removes dust introduced on the operator's hands or clothing. The circulating air passes first through a roughing filter and then through absolute filters which have been designed to extract particles of sizes 0.01-1.3 micron.-The South London Electrical Equipment Co. Ltd., Lanier Works, Hither Green Lane, London, S.E.13.

For further information circle 40 on Service Card

### 41. Wafering Machine

Norton Abrasives Ltd. are now marketing the model 686 wafering machine produced by the Norton Co.



of the U.S.A. This is suitable for producing thin wafers of materials for semiconductor manufacture, optical purposes, lasers and other uses. The material, which can be applied to the machine in the form of a block measuring  $6 \times 8 \times 6$  in., is sliced by spaced steel blades which move backwards and forwards supplying pressure to an abrasive slurry on the Fragile materials are workpiece. sliced without breakage or chipping and coated materials, such as glass or silicon coated with metal, can be wafered without damage to the coating. The depth of cut is controlled for the cutting of grooves and the blade speed can be set for each job. Production costs are reduced as one man can operate six machines. The control of the size of the wafers produced is such that there is no need for any grinding or lapping operations. The illustration shows a piece of quartz measuring 4.7 imes 5 imes0.8 in. being cut into 0.032 in. thick slices .- Norton Abrasives Ltd., Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire. For further information circle 41 on Service Card

# 42. Sealant Dispenser

A range of air-operated guns, suitable for the application of sealants and adhesives, is available in the U.K. from Bush Beach and Segner Bayley Ltd. and is manufactured by Pyles Industries, Inc., of America. These guns will reduce the time taken for the application of adhesives and sealants and can be used for the potting of electronic components, for sealing all types of joints and similar applications. Each gun is fitted with a cartridge of  $2\frac{1}{2}$ , 6 or 12-oz capacity and this is loaded with the sealant or adhesive to be applied. The rate of flow of the material is regulated by the trigger position and by the air pressure and an exhaust valve prevents any dripping of the material when the trigger is released. The gun can be operated from a portable compressor or a main air system on line pressures of 5-150 p.s.i. Nozzles with orifice diameters from 1/6-1/6 in. are available.—Bush Beach and Segner Bayley Ltd., Marlow House, Lloyds Avenue, London, E.C.3. For further Information circle 42 on Service Card

# 43. Micro Bonding

A hot gas micro bonder, type B400, has been produced by G. V. Planer Ltd. for the bonding and hot-gas soldering of joints in micro-circuit manufacture and similar processes. A stream of gas, electrically heated and thermostatically-controlled at temperatures up to 400 °C, is directed on to the joint to be bonded and the duration of the stream is controlled at pre-set times of up to 15 sec. Interchangeable nozzles provide jet diameters from 0.01 to 0.1-in. and the flow-rate of the gas is controlled by a pre-sure regulator and gauge. The cc..ponents to be bonded are supported on a heated substage and positioned by a micromanipulator. Each component is retained in position by a vacuum arrangement and a vacuum tweezer is provided for the handling of small pieces. -G. V. Planer Ltd., Windmill Road, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex. For further information circle 43 on Service Card

# 44. Variable Programmer

An approach to the problem of programming complex switching operations has been made by Brensal Electronics. They have introduced a variable control programmer (the Mark III) which is completely solidstate throughout and is intended for machine-tool numerical control or process-control applications, where the need for carrying out rapid changes in a complex switching programme frequently arises. Any change may be effected in the programme without interrupting the process being controlled, and switching channels may be effected at much higher speeds than the conventional cam controller or electro-mechanical timer, A complete programme of all channels can be set up on pin board or edge switches in only a few seconds and can be set to last a total time of only a few seconds or, by slowing the master pulse frequency, can be extended to several hours, or even several days. The Mark III has 9,999 increments to which any one or all of its 24 modular switching channels may be set throughout the programme and if more precise resolution is required further module decades may be added to the counter unit to give any required number of pulses in any given time. The number of switching channels can also be increased in modular units up to at least 144 to meet the needs of any application.-Brensal Electronics Ltd., Charles Street, Bristol, 1. For further information circle 44 on Service Card

# **0.005% IS STANDARD...** FOR THE OUTPUT VOLTAGE REGULATION **OF THESE HIGH EFFICIENCY ALL SOLID STATE POWER SUPPLIES**



# **FEATURES INCLUDE :-**

SCR switching-for improved efficiency and reduced dimensions-up to 840 watts/cu.ft.

Constant Voltage Regulation-with continuously adjustable current limiting.

Constant Current Regulation-with continuously adjustable voltage limiting.

Programmable-for both voltage and current.

Remote Sensing-permits voltage regulation to be maintained at a load point remote from the power supply.

Fast Transient Response-50 us.

High Resolution—coarse and fine controls give setting resolutions of 0.01% of max. voltage, 0.05% of max. current.

Voltage and Current Mode Indicator Lights.

Automatic Crossover-from constant voltage to constant current and vice versa without loss of regulation at any point

ELECTRICAL SPECIFICATIONS			Constant Constant		Temperature				
Model Number	Voltage Range (VDC)	Constant Voltage reg. (line and load combined)	Current range (amps)	Constant Current Reg.	Voltage Ripple (RMS)	Current Ripple (RMS)	Transient Response	Ambient (°C)	Coef. MV/°C
QRC20-8	0-20	$\pm$ .005% or $\pm$ 1 mv	0-8	$\pm$ .05% or $\pm$ 4 ma	1 mv	2 ma	50 microsec.	0-50	.01% + .5 mv
QRC40-4	0-40	$\pm$ .005% or $\pm$ 1 mv	0-4	$\pm$ .05% or $\pm$ 2 ma	1 mv	1 ma	50 microsec.	0-50	.01% + .5 mv
QRC20-15	0-20	$\pm$ .005% or $\pm$ 1 mv	0-15	$\pm$ .05% or $\pm$ 7 ma	1 mv	4 ma	50 microsec.	0-50	.01% + .5 mv
QRC40-8	0-40	$\pm$ .005% or $\pm$ 1 mv	0-8	$\pm$ .05% or $\pm$ 4 ma	1 mv	2 ma	50 microsec.	0-50	.01% + .5 mv
QRC20-30	0-20	$\pm$ .005% or $\pm$ 1 mv	0-30	$\pm$ .05% or $\pm$ 15 ma	1 mv	8 ma	50 microsec.	0-50	.01% + .5 mv
QRC40-15	0-40	$\pm$ .005% or $\pm$ 1 mv	0-15	$\pm$ .05% or $\pm$ 7 ma	1 mv	4 ma	50 microsec.	0-50	.01% + .5 mv
QRC40-30	0-40	$\pm$ .005% or $\pm$ 1 mv	0-30	$\pm$ .05% or $\pm$ 15 ma	1 mv	8 ma	50 microsec.	0-50	.01% + .5 mv

	I WOULD LIKE LITERA
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	COMPANY
	ADDRESS

COSSOR INSTRUMENTS LTD. stock complete units, spares and provide comprehensive service facilities.

TURE ON.....RANGE.

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EPRESENTATIVE TO CALL ON ME.

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COMPANY	 
ADDRESS	
POSITION IN COMPANY	 

# **ABBREVIATED SPECIFICATIONS**



# DCR SERIES

### SUPPLIES. HIGH POWER WIDE RANGE D.C.

Extremely compact—up to 1.68 kw/cu. ft. Wattage ratings from 400 W to 2.5 KW. Voltage ranges-from 0-40 V to 0-300 V. Current ratings-from 1.25 A to 60 A. Constant voltage regulation— $\pm$  0.1% (line and load combined). Constant current regulation—as low as  $\pm$  15 mA. Resolution—0.05% of max. voltage, 0.5% of max. current. Remote sensing and programming facilities. Parallel or series operation.



### RANGE D.C. SUPPLIES. WIDE

Wattage ratings—30 W and 80W. Voltage ranges—from 0-15 V to 0-40 V. Current ratings ---from 0.75 A to 4 A Constant voltage regulation— $\pm$  0.01% + 1 MV (line and load combined). Constant current regulation- $\pm$ 0.15% (line and load combined). Resolution-0.01% of max. voltage. Response time-50 us. Output ripple-as low as 150 µv. rms. Output impedance-as low as 20 m ohms. Programmable-remote sensing facility.



Parallel or series operation.

**OB SERIES** 

# LOW VOLTAGE RESTRICTED RANGE D.C. SUPPLIES.

Wattage ratings from 12 to 224 W. Voltage ranges-from 5-9 V to 40-60 V. Current ratings-from 0.5 A to 30 A. Constant voltage regulation-0.01% Constant current regulation-0.01% Response time-25 us. Programmable. Remote sensing. Very low ripple and output impedance (values dependent on model).

Line and load combined

# **ACR SERIES**

# AC REGULATORS EMPLOYING SCR SWITCHING.

VA ratings from 500 to 15000 VA. Efficiency at full output-up to 95% depending upon model. Regulation— $\pm$ 0.1% for  $\pm$  10% line change,  $\pm$ 0.1% for full load change. Stability-0.05% /8 hrs. Distortion-3% Typical. Programmable-remote sensing facility.

### **QMA SERIES REGULATED MODULAR D.C. SUPPLIES.**

Semi-variable output voltages in the range 3 V to 50 V. Power outputs from 3 to 35 watts.

# HIGH VOLTAGE D.C. SUPPLIES.

200 series-portable. 0-30 KV at 6 mA and 0-30 KV in 3 ranges at 3.6 and 12 mA.

1000 series-0-3 KV at 200 mA to 0-150 KV at 5 mA.

2000 series-3 KW output power 0-3 KV at 1000 mA to 0-350 KV at8mA.

5000 series-regulated supplies, self contained or rack mounting. 1 KV-10 KV at 8 mA and 5 KV-30 KV at 4 mA.

9000 series-high voltage modules. 0-5 KV at 5 mA to 0-6 KV at 10 mA.

# **FREQUENCY CHANGERS**

WIDE RANGE MODELS. Adjustable outputs cover the range 45-2000 cps. At power outputs up to 300 VA.

MEDIUM RANGE MODELS (400 cps. nom) have power outputs up to 2 KVA.



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# **Radiation Monitoring for Nuclear Power Station**



Radiation monitors for gamma measurement, developed and produced by the data equipment division of the Plessey Automation Group, are to be installed in the nuclear power station at Oldbury-on-Severn.

Nineteen channels of area gamma-monitoring equipment are required and comprise wall-mounted main units, which indicate radiation levels, and separate detector units consisting of ionization chambers (see picture), each with a logarithmic d.c. amplifier bolted directly to the chamber casing.

The equipment is transistorized except for an electrometer valve input stage, and the main units contain lowvoltage power supplies, an ionization-chamber polarizing voltage supply, alarm circuits, indicator lamps and meters, most of their electronic components being mounted on plug-in printed-circuit boards.

The high-level alarm is adjustable over the complete scale range, while the equipment-failure alarm operates if the output indication falls below an artificial zero, or if the polarizing supply to the ionization chamber fails. The normal polarizing potential is 1,000 V d.c., which is adequate for saturation at dose rates up to 10 roentgens equivalent man/hr, with a maximum permissible voltage for other applications of 3,000 volts.

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One of the ionization chambers, which is of a robust nonmicrophonic design and has a standard filling of an argon/nitrogen mixture, selected to give a substantially flat response over the energy range 100 keV to 3 meV

# **New Airborne Automatic Direction Finder**

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The first airborne automatic direction finder (a.d.f.) in the world which conforms fully with the latest airline specification (ARINC 550) and provides completely automatic, solid-state, crystal-controlled tuning, has been developed by the Marconi Co.

This equipment, type AD370, provides pilots with a speedy and reliable means of finding the bearing of any given radio station. It can be fitted directly into all the latest American aircraft types as well as the BAC 111 and the small size, light weight and ease of operation make it suitable for use in all types of military and civil aircraft, including helicopters and high performance fighters.

The circuitry is completely transistorized and there are no moving parts whatsoever in either the tuning stages or the range selection.

The accuracy and stability of the frequency selection is ensured by only 13 crystals, and the need for fine tuning is completely eliminated. There is, in fact, no provision on the control unit for frequency trimming.

The operating frequency is selected on an easily-read decade dial by means of three selector controls for hundreds, tens, units and halves of kc/s. The frequency scale is continuous from 190-1,799-5 kc/s, in steps of 0.5 kc/s. Once the frequency is selected the tuning is performed automatically.

In normal a.d.f. operation, the bearing of the selected station will be shown immediately on the bearing indicator. Alternatively, direction finding can be accomplished manually with the function switch turned to the 'loop' position. The sense aerial is disconnected and the search

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coil of the goniometer is rotated by means of a switch on the controller, the null position being indicated by the audio output of the receiver. This facility is normally used only in conditions of abnormal static. The loop rotating switch may be used, however, in normal operation to move the bearing indicator from the indicated reading and to check that it returns to the same position when the loop switch is released. This confirms the operation of the automatic direction finder.

A beat frequency oscillator is provided on the AD370, so that the identity of a c.w. station may be checked. For further information circle 66 on Service Card

The receiver unit showing, at the top, the thirteen crystals which control the tuning of the complete equipment







 $\overline{An}$  order for British vibration equipment, valued at £200,000 has been given to Pye-Ling Ltd., of Royston, by the European Space Research Organization for their experimental test centre at Noordwijk in Holland. The test centre, when it is completed this year, will be the

largest and best-equipped space research laboratory outside the United States. The picture shows an engineer checking a part of the equipment, which will be used to test models and full-sized prototypes of rockets and space probes by simulating some of the conditions experienced when in space. The equipment to be tested is firmly secured to the large vibrator on the left, and three systems, which include power amplifiers and control and monitoring facilities, will provide thrust capabilities of 1,000, 8,000 and 15,000 pounds

### For further information circle 67 on Service Card

A highly-accurate steerable aerial, the 150-ft diameter radio telescope at the Algonquin Radio Observatory, Lake Traverse, Ontario, is nearing completion for the National Research Council of Canada. The electronic control system, designed and manufactured by AEI Electronics, is being installed to enable the astronomer to pinpoint radio sources thousands of millions of light years away.



The special properties of laserproduced light, in particular in relation to their use in telecommunications, are under active investigation at the Standard Telecommunication Laboratories, in Harlow.

In theory, the coherence of laser light as an electromagnetic wave should enable it to be propagated in a true waveguide mode along some type of guide or conductor. When this is achieved, the prospect of ultra-wide-band communication will become a reality and it will be possible to convey extremely large amounts of information over one coherent light channel.

The picture shows a scientist at STL making adjustments to a gas laser recently developed for experimental purposes

For further information circle 68 on Service Card



British military manpack radio equipment, which can provide 24-hr communications in deep jungle, has been ordered for the Malaysian army. The contract for the all-transistor transmitter/receiver (known as the A13 and manufactured by the Plesscy Electronics Group) was won in the face of severe competition from Japan and the U.S.A., and followed successful trials by the Malaysian Rangers (see illustration).

Developed by Plessey in conjunction with the British Government's Signals Research and Development Establishment, the equipment employs the latest transistor techniques, all units being of a modular construction and easy to maintain. The set weighs only 16 lb and can be tuned to any of 2,400 discrete channels without netting; it may also be used in light aircraft and as a vehicle or base radio station. The manpack operates from nickel-cadmium secondary cells. For further information circle 70 on Service Card

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The Neutron Division of Elliott Electronic Tubes Ltd. is now producing a range of sealed-off neutron-generating tubes which were originally developed by the Services Electronics Research Laboratory at Baldock. The tubes are normally incorporated in one of several standard housings with driving units, but designs for special applications (such as during the high-temperature stage of the commissioning programme for a nuclear reactor) have been developed.

When not operating, the unit requires no special shielding. Electrical inputs control all the functions, and the tubes, which contain an integral gas supply, ion source and pressure-sensing element, use the deuterium-tritium reaction to produce 14 MeV neutrons from an enclosed target.

The 'L' tube illustrated here produces 10<sup>10</sup> neutrons per sec, continuous or modulated output, and is claimed to be the most powerful sealed-off neutron source commercially available. For further information circle 69 on Service Card



World Radio History



A PAVER control system, designed and developed by Honeywell Controls, has been used for the first time in Britain to produce an even surface smoothness during the laying of concrete on road surfaces. It can also be used for bituminous top surfaces and was fitted to an A.B.G. 'Titan' paver, which laid the sections of the new Sevenoaks by-pass in Kent.

With the A.B.G. paver, the level of the paving material is governed by a screeding-plate and compactor assembly, the ends of which are normally controlled by two men. The electronic system performs this operation entirely automatically, controlling the compactor by hydraulic rams to give an even surface of known grade (longitudinal slope) and crossfall (transverse slope), irrespective of irregularities in the base layer.

As the machine travels over the base layer, its attitude is measured by two sensors, relative to two references. The grade reference is a tightly-stretched string or wire, which is extended along the length of the roadway (a few inches above the required surface) and is sensed by a metal grid attached to the grade sensor; alternatively, an adjacent road surface which is known to be accurate may be used as the reference by using a skid sensor (see Fig. 1). The crossfall reference is an artificial-horizon instrument (comprising a pendulum suspended in a container of oil) which is mounted on a beam assembly joining the two ends of the screeding-plate and compactor assembly; friction effects are negligible and an accuracy of three minutes of arc is possible.

The values of grade and crossfall thus measured are compared with the desired values that have been set by the machine operator on his command panel (see Fig. 2), and suitable corrective action is automatically applied to reduce errors to negligible proportions.

The result of such a system which requires no machine crew other than the driver, is a smooth correctly-graded surface, better than that which could be achieved manually and accomplished much faster.





Fig. 2. (Right) The driver's control panel. The two meters indicate the difference between the actual measured values and the desired set ones



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Industrial News

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### **Personal News**

Sir Nigel Poett has become the director of the British Productivity Council in succession to Sir Charles Norris who has retired. Until this appointment, Sir Nigel was a director of British Overseas Fairs Ltd. and an executive of the Federation of British Industries (now the Confederation of British Industry).

J. R. Bryans has been elected a director of the Seltronic Group Ltd. and is relinquishing the post of chairman and managing director of Bryans Ltd. The chairman of Bryans Ltd. is now Bowman Scott, managing director of the Seltronic Group, and David H. G. Ince is the managing director.

The deputy general manager of Alkaline Batteries Ltd. is now **Dr. Hugh Campbell**. Formerly he was research manager at Chloride Technical Services.

The B.B.C. have announced that **D. M. B. Grubb** has been appointed assistant superintendent engineer, television engineering operations. He is succeeded as projects engineer by **G. Salter** who in turn is succeeded as assistant superintendent engineer, television recording, by **T. B. McCrirrick.** 

The Redifon Communications Division has announced the appointment of **R. F. Champion, A.M.I.E.R.E.,** as assistant manager, directly responsible for Redifon's operations in marine radio communications and electronics. Mr. Champion was chief development engineer of A.E.I.'s marine communications development department before joining Redifon last year as marine projects manager.

**T. S. Rea** is now the commercial editor of *Electrical Review*, an Iliffe publication.

Rear-Admiral I. G. Aylen, C.B., O.B.E., D.S.C., M.I.Mech.E., M.I.Mar.E., has joined the staff of the Council of Engineering Institutions as assistant secretary. His duties will be related to education, professional training and membership.

The election of **B**. **T**. Ness as deputy managing director of R.C.A. Great Britain Ltd. has been announced. He will have a number of responsibilities in this position, including the establishment of a gramophone record coordinating function to handle all aspects of R.C.A.'s record interests and operations in the U.K.

F. C. Wright, C.B.E., F.C.G.I., M.I.E.E., has been appointed deputy chairman of Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd. He has been a vicepresident of I.T.T. Europe since 1961.

H. S. Tollit, F.C.I.S., is now executive vice-chairman of W. Mackie & Co. Ltd. This firm are manufacturers of electrical power supplies for the electronics industry.

The Marconi Co. have appointed **D. F. Bishop** as chief accountant. This is in succession to **K. Brookes** who has become a chief accountant with English Electric.

**J. Routledge** has been elected to the board of the Dukes and Briggs Engineering Co. Ltd. Previously he held the post of general manager.

H. D. Anderson, M.A., B.Sc., C.Eng., M.I.Chem.E., F.R.I.C., D.I.C., of the British American Tobacco Company Ltd., has been appointed a director of George Kent Ltd. This is on the resignation of **B. D. Misselbrook**.

John W. Ray, chief accountant and secretary of Lancashire Dynamo Electronic Products, has joined the board as financial director and secretary. He first joined L.D.E.P. in 1960 as a cost accountant.

M. Vines, J.P., M.I.E.E., has taken up the position of deputy chairman of Evershed and Vignoles Ltd. He relinquishes the post of managing director which has been taken by **R. D.** Gardiner.

John C. Bird has been appointed press officer of E.M.I. Electronics Ltd. He has worked for several British and Canadian newspapers and has served as press officer with the British Oxygen Co.

R. H. Hacker, M.B.E., managing director of Hacker Radio Ltd., has



A TRANSMITTER/RECEIVER AND SIGNALLING UNIT, to operate over radio links to connect some of the remote areas of Northern Ontario into the main telephone network, is being supplied by the Plessey Electronic Group to the Northern Telephone Co. in Canada. The sets are manufactured at Plessey's Bridgnorth factory and are usually shipped to Montreal; the latter part of the journey to the sites is often by sledge, and the final destinations can be up to about 50 miles from the main telephone facilities.

The picture shows a typical scene during the last stages of transporting the equipment, which is eventually housed in small kiosks (situated at various vantage points throughout the area) and will enable direct dialled communication with the outside world For further information circle 71 on Service Card

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been elected chairman of the Radio Trades Examination Board. He succeeds **E. A. W. Spreadbury** (Technical Editor of *Electrical and Electronic Trader*) who is retiring after four years as chairman.

Dawe Instruments have announced that W. V. Richings has been appointed product manager and chief engineer. He now has responsibility for the power ultrasonics, non-destructive testing, instrument and industrial divisions.

# **New Year Honours**

C.B.E.

M. R. Gavin, Principal, Chelsea College of Science and Technology.

### O.B.E.

W. N. Anderson, Head of Telecommunications and Experimental Group, I.T.A.

P. Bowles, Chief Engineer, Rutherford Laboratory.

R. F. Brown, Chairman and Managing Director, Racal Electronics Ltd.

C. W. Earp, Chief Engineer, Radio

Division. Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd.

M. A. Frost, Head of Transcription Service, B.B.C.

L. F. Scantlebury, Staff Engineer, Engineering Dept., G.P.O.

M.B.E.

F. Ahl, lately Communications Officer, Ministry of Aviation Radio Station, Glous.

E. F. Cowley, Chief Telecommunications Superintendent, Lancaster, G.P.O.

F. Fildes, Works Manager, Fire Control Dept., Ferranti Ltd.

W. J. Hatcher, Senior Assistant, Maintenance Co-ordination, Television, B.B.C.

**R.** W. Hobbah, Senior Engineer, Cable and Wireless Ltd.

S. Pitham, Senior Executive Engineer, Engineering Dept., Goonhilly Radio Station, G.P.O.

G. G. Portch, Sales Engineer, Equipments Rectifier Division, Westinghouse Brake and Signal Co. Ltd.

A. G Wilson, Senior Scientific Assistant, Radio and Space Research Station.



**CAPACITORS AND POLYTHENE-INSULATED PULSE CABLES,** manufactured by British Insulated Callender's Cables Ltd., are being used in the Thetatron experiments at the Culham laboratory of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority.

The picture shows a rear view of the equipment used in the experiment, the purpose of which is to study the feasibility of controlling the energy released when the nuclei of light atoms are fused together. The problem is to obtain a sufficiently dense gas at temperatures of around 100 million °C and to isolate it from all other matter long enough for fusion reactions to provide a net release of energy.

The capacitor bank to feed the experiment consists of several hundred capacitors arranged in 448 parallel circuits; it stores a total of 1 megajoule of electrical energy and is discharged in a few microsecs into a single-turn coil. The BICC cables form part of these circuits, which carry a gross peak current of 12 million amps and deliver a maximum power input to the coil of 240,000 MW

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# **I.E.E.** Honours

The Institution of Electrical Engineers has elected Sir Harold Bishop, C.B.E., B.Sc.(Eng.), F.C.G.I., M.I.E.E., to Honorary Membership. This is in recognition of his contributions to sound and television broadcasting, his interest in the training of engineers and his service to the Institution. He was elected President of the Institution in 1953 and, until 1963, was Director of Engineering of the B.B.C.

The 44th award of the Faraday Medal has been made to J. A. Ratcliffe, C.B., C.B.E., M.A., F.R.S., M.I.E.E., for his research on the ionosphere and his studies of lowfrequency propagation. He is the Director of the Radio and Space Research Station of the Science Research Council.

### **Company News**

W. Mackie & Co. Ltd. have moved from their existing premises in Lambeth Road to a new factory in Willow Lane, Mitcham. The company manufacture motor alternators and other power supply units. including static inverters and automatic control gear for all branches of the electronics industry.

U.K. Solenoid Ltd., of Hungerford, Berkshire, manufacturers of rotary switches and contactors, have opened their new London office at 19 Old Queen Street, London, S.W.I. (Phone: Whitehall 5894), which will be equipped to deal with all sales and technical enquiries in the London area.

The I.E.R.C. division of **Dynamco** Systems Ltd. has been appointed sole U.K. distributor of the semiconductor products marketed by the Schauer Manufacturing Corp. of Ohio, U.S.A. The range includes zener diodes and new designs of varistor based on silicon diodes.

Fourteen of the sales and administrative departments of **I.B.M. United Kingdom Ltd.** have been moved to new premises at 40 Basinghall Street. London, E.C.2. These departments, which were formerly situated in different parts of London, include general services and members of the data processing and office products divisions.

M.T.E. Control Gear Ltd. are to manufacture in the U.K. the complete range of 'Loxswitches' under licence from the designers, the **R. B. Denison** Manufacturing Co. of America. These switches are protected against water, dust and oil and lives of more than 45,000,000 operations have been achieved.

The Westinghouse Brake and Signal Co. Ltd. have formed a marine and industrial controls division. This will deal with the industrial and railway control activities, which were formerly directed by the automotive and industrial products division, and will operate from the main works of the company at Chippenham.

**Transitron Electronic Ltd.,** following the acquisition of the **Electronic Fittings Corp.,** are to commence the marketing and manufacture of the acquired company's products in Europe. Stocks of the range of rack and panel and printed-circuit edge connectors have been set up at a distribution centre in Amsterdam.

Peto Scott Electrical Instruments Ltd. have changed their name to Peto Scott Ltd. The activities of this company now include studio and professional television installations, video tape recording, large-screen television projection, language laboratories and similar equipment.

Monroe International (U.K.) Ltd. and Royal McBee (U.K.) Ltd., who are divisions of Litton Industries Inc., have integrated their activities to form one company known as Litton Business Systems Ltd. It will operate from Litton House, Goswell Road, London, E.C.1, and will manufacture data processing systems, calculating machines, typewriters and other equipment.

Livingston Laboratories Ltd. and other companies in the Livingston Group have moved from their headquarters in Camden Road to new premises. The address for all Livingston companies is now Greycaines Estate, Bushey Mill Lane, North Watford, Hertfordshire.

A merger between the Harefield Rubber Co. Ltd. and Withers (Industrial Trucks) Ltd. has been announced. This has resulted in the formation of a new company known as Harefield Power Handling Ltd.

S.G.E. Signals Ltd. have announced the formation of a new company known as S.G.E. Railway Signals Ltd. This will have its registered offices at Signal House, Lyon Road, Harrow, Middlesex.

The formation of a new company in South Africa, Clarke & Smith Industries South Africa (Pty) Ltd., has been announced. The company will distribute British-made electronic, optical and engineering products, and at a later stage will commence local manufacture.



**INTERCONNECTED U-SHAPED GLIDEWHEEL CONVEYORS** are being used in place of roller-track conveyors in the production and assembly plant for domestic cookers at AEI's instrumentation division at Motherwell. The entire layout was built with slotted angle and glidewheels manufactured by Dexion Ltd., the benches being Formica-surfaced frameworks.

Operatives working on straight sections of the U-track are engaged on similar tasks and sit opposite each other with the conveyor passing between them. These sections have two track levels, pallets being received at one level and passed along to the next work station on the other. The new layout was built in stages over a period of five months, thus ensuring a smooth changeover with no loss of production For further information circle 73 on Service Card

Laurence, Scott and Electromotors Ltd. have changed the address of their London and South-East Area Office to Franklin Moore House, 185-187 High Road, Chadwell Heath, Essex.

Flowsheet Instruments Ltd. have been appointed the sole agents in Great Britain, Northern Ireland and Eire for Josef Heinrichs Messgerate of Germany. This German firm manufactures a range of flowmeters.

The sole U.K. agents for Fenwall Electronics Inc. of the U.S.A. are now the Radon Industrial Electronics Co. Ltd. They will be marketing the American company's range of thermistor products.

The Preston branch of British Insulated Callender's Cables Ltd. have moved to new premises at Wellfield Road, Preston, Lancashire. These premises are larger and enable a wider range of cables and accessories to be stocked.

Erie Resistor Ltd. have formed a sales and distribution company known as Erie Continental S.p.A. This is based in Milan and is responsible for the export to Italy of the products of Erie's English plants and of the U.S. and Canadian companies.

S. Smith and Sons (England) Ltd. have altered their name to Smiths Industries

Ltd. The companies within this organization manufacture equipment for the motor, aviation, building and other industries.

The Business Equipment Trade Association have transferred their exhibitions and public relations offices to 109 Kingsway, London, W.C.2 (Phone: Holborn 6233).

Electrosil Ltd. has awarded a research studentship to the Department of Electrical Engineering at the University of Newcastle-on-Tyne. It will be worth £550 per annum to the successful candidate.

**Evershed Power-Optics Ltd.** have formed an American subsidiary company known as **Power Optics Inc.** This company will serve the needs of TV industries in Canada and the U.S.

# "Industrial Electronics" Changes Publication Date

Improved printing schedules now make it possible to publish *Industrial Electronics* earlier each month. The March and subsequent issues are to be published on the last Thursday of the preceding month.



# **Press-Button Dialling in London**

Soon, for the first time in this country, telephone subscribers will be using press-button dialling. G.E.C. (Telecommunications) Ltd. are installing equipment for a press-button system at the Langham exchange in London under order from the G.P.O.

Two hundred subscribers will be issued with telephones containing ten press-buttons instead of the normal rotary dial. Tests have shown that a number can be selected on pressbuttons in half the time it takes to use a dial. Also this method is easier and the chances of errors are less.

The G.E.C. system, known as Multifrequency dialling, consists of tones generated by transistorized oscillators in the telephones. Each digit is represented by two frequencies and the tones are converted by equipment at the exchange into signals suitable for all types of existing exchange equipment.

The general introduction of the system throughout the country will depend on the results of, and the experience gained from, this installation.

# **National Computing Centre**

To stimulate a rapid increase in the use of computers, simplifying and cheapening the necessary preparatory work, the Ministry of Technology has set up a National Computing Centre, to be located in Manchester. The Centre's main aim will be to reduce wasteful duplication of programming effort by providing users with programme information already available in its library or elsewhere, and by developing and sponsoring the writing of programmes designed to serve users having basically similar problems. It will also organize training in systems analysis, programming principles and computer applications, and the services

ZAMBIA'S FIRST RADIO MANUFACTURING

**PLANT,** owned by Supersonic Radio Zambia Ltd. (a subsidiary of Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd.), is being built on the outskirts of Livingstone. It should be completed early this year and covers an area of 39,000 sq ft, standing on a  $4\frac{1}{2}$ -acre site.

The picture shows the foundation stone being laid by the President of the Republic, His Excellency Dr. Kenneth Kaunda.

of the already established Computer Advisory Service will continue to be available.

The Centre will be set up as an independent non-profit-making company, limited by guarantee, and representatives of manufacturers, users and professional and other interested bodies will be invited to become members of the Centre and to be represented on the council which will run it. It should be fully operational in 1967, and its first director will be Professor Gordon Black, at present technical manager (computing) in the reactor group of the Atomic Energy Authority and part-time professor of Automatic Data Processing in the faculty of technology of Manchester University.

# Production Engineering Advisory Service

A Production Engineering Advisory Service is to be set up by the Ministry of Technology to help small and medium-sized firms in the engineering and allied industries to increase their productive efficiency. It will be operated by the Production Engineering Research Association (P.E.R.A.) and is expected to commence at the end of this year.

The service will offer advice, training and assistance on new and improved production methods. All aspects of production engineering and automation will be covered.

Initial visits to factories will be made by Demonstration and Training Units who will give short talks and demonstrations of practical examples of new techniques to production personnel. This part of the service will be offered free.

These visits will be followed, at the request of the firms concerned, by visits from Direct Applications Units who will provide advice and assistance on particular products. Normally the firms will be required to pay a fee to cover part of the costs of these units.

# New Council for S.E.R.T.

At the first Annual General Meeting of the Society of Electronic and Radio Technicians the following officers and members of Council were elected:

Chairman: E. A. W. Spreadbury (Technical Editor, *Electrical and Electronic Trader*).

Treasurer: J. Bearman (Assistant to Group Training and Personnel Officer, British Relay).

Ordinary Members of Council:

- W. J. Black (Lecturer, North London College of Further Education).
- T. J. Burton (Editor, Industrial Electronics).
- D. E. G. Gibbons (Telecommunications Technical Officer, Ministry of Aviation).
- J. W. Grandey (Chief Engineer, Marconi Acronautical Service Depot).
- K. Tempest (Head of Electrical Engineering Department, Carshalton College of Further Education).
- L. H. Washbourn (Lecturer, Brooklands Technical College).

In addition, the following nominated members will serve on the Council:

- E. J. Leicester and J. Redmond both representing the Institution of Electrical Engineers and
- J. L. Thompson, representing the Institution of Electronic and Radio Engineers.

The Chairmen of the nine Local Sections of the Society also serve as ex officio members of Council.

# **One-Button Telephone Dialling**

Atlas—an automatic telephone line address system—has been developed by Shipton Automation in conjunction with the British Post Office.

This is basically a desk-mounting unit which makes it possible to dial any telephone number of up to 16 digits by pressing one button only.

The present desk-unit has 32 buttons and therefore facilities for automatically 'dialling' 32 subscribers' numbers, each of up to 16 digits. More than one unit can be joined to the telephone to provide automatic dialling for more than 32 telephone addresses.

The particular number which is generated by each button can be preset by the subscriber. Atlas does not restrict the normal dialling of a telephone.

For further information circle 74 on Service Card



# **NEW BOOKS**

# Specification for Dimensions of Semiconductor Devices

B.S. 3934. Pp. 87. British Standards Institution. 2 Park Street, London, W.1. Price 90s.

This new British Standard has been prepared to meet the need within the electronics industry for a record of the dimensions of semiconductor devices in general use.

Although international discussion on this subject is currently in progress, the need for this data required the standard to be published as early as possible. As soon as international agreement is reached on preferred dimensions, drawings will be amended where necessary.

The primary object of the drawings of outlines, bases and gauges is to indicate the space to be allowed for semiconductor devices in an item of equipment, together with other dimensional characteristics needed to ensure mechanical interchangeability. Electrical and thermal requirements for full interchangeability are not covered by the standard. Also included in the standard is a section giving guidance on the interpretation and use of the drawings and an index for quick cross reference.

### Interference Reduction Guide (Vols. 1 and 2)

Pp. 221 (Vol. 1) and 364 (Vol. 2). Compiled by U.S. Army Electronics Laboratories. Available from: Clearinghouse, U.S. Department of Commerce, Springfield, Virginia, 22151, U.S.A. Prices \$7 (Vol. 1) and \$7.50 (Vol. 2).

A broad two-volume guide to interference reduction is now available from the U.S. Department of Commerce. Prepared by the U.S. Army Electronics Laboratories, this work provides the engineer with the necessary background and techniques to enable him to minimize the interference generation and interference susceptibility of communication and other electronic equipment that he designs. It is intended for the use of design engineers, qualified technicians, and others familiar with electronic circuitry and modern electronic equipment.

# The Use of SI Units

Pp. 13. British Standards Institution, 2 Park Street, London, W.1. One copy free, additional copies price 1s.

Newly-published as part of B.S.I.'s educational and publicity programme for promoting the metric change is an explanatory booklet on the use of SI units (publication PD5686). It has been prepared on the recommendation of the B.S.I. advisory committee on metric conversion and standards which felt that there was a widespread need for a 'popular' explanation of B.S. 3763 (The International System, SI, units) published in 1964.

The SI is a rationalized selection of units in the metric system which individually are not new. It involves the use of a unit of force (the newton) which in some sectors may be less well-known than the unit of force in the system of metric technical units (the kilogramme-force).

The new booklet outlines the historical background to the international recognition of SI metric units, explains what they are, comments on the use of the newton as the unit of force, and indicates also how the units may best be introduced in industry. The more important British Standards which provide further information on the use of SI units are listed in an appendix.

### **Biomedical Electronic Instrumentation**

Pp. 108. Published by the Noyes Development Corporation, 118 Mill Road, Park Ridge, New Jersey 07656, U.S.A. Price \$10.

This monograph contains the papers given at a Life Science Symposium which was held at the Colgate-Palmolive Research Center in June 1965. Various aspects of medical electronics were featured at the symposium and the papers include such subjects as physiological instrumentation for measurement and recording, the physiological properties of heart muscle, the analysis of bioelectric potentials and other topics of interest both to medical doctors and medical electronic engineers.

# European Miniature Electronic Components and Assemblies Data 1965-66 Part 2

Edited by G. W. A. DUMMER and J. MACKENZIE ROBERTSON. Pp. 1123. Pergamon Press, 4 and 5 Fitzroy Square, London, W.1. Price 250s.

This volume covers the electronic components, miniature assemblies, etc., manufactured in France, the Netherlands, Scandinavia and Switzerland. It includes sixlanguage glossaries of component and microelectronics terms.

# Fundamental Analogue Techniques

By R. J. A. PAUL. Pp. 216 + x. Blackie & Son Ltd., 5 Fitzhardinge Street, Portman Square, London, W.1. Price 35s.

This book describes the basic principles of analogue computing techniques and contains a wide range of references. The differential analyser is discussed, together with programming, scaling and checking procedures, and chapters follow giving a mathematical study of systems by dynamic analogies and the iterative operation of analogue computers.

# **Electromechanical Control Systems and Devices**

By E. B. CANFIELD. Pp. 328 + xiii. John Wiley and Sons Ltd., Glen House, Stag Place, London, S.W.1. Price 105s.

A practical approach to the subject, which emphasizes, through the use of many-dimensioned problems, the application of proven theory to actual, not hypothetical, hardware control systems. A range of electromechanical components is discussed, as well as various drive systems and nonlinearity and feedback problems.

# **Mechanising Laboratories**

By E. A. SMITH, B.SC., M.B.I.M. Pp. 205. Iliffe Books Ltd., Dorset House, Stamford Street, London, S.E.I. Price 63s.

This book surveys the general range of mechanical aids and instruments available to the research or development

scientist or technologist for improving the efficiency of his laboratory, and provides a useful reference for management on what is being achieved in this field.

### **Traffic Control—Theory and Instrumentation**

Edited by THOMAS R. HORTON. Pp. 218 + xii. Plenum Press, 227 W. 17th Street, New York, 10011. Price \$12.50.

A collection of papers which reviews the state of the art of computerized traffic control in the U.S.A. Studies of typical large-scale systems are given and special equipment instrumentation and techniques are described.

# Advances in Electronic Circuit Packaging. Volume 5

Edited by LAWRENCE L. ROSINE. Pp. 297 + vi. Published by the Rogers Publishing Co. Inc. and distributed by the Plenum Press, 227 W. 17th Street, New York, N.Y. 10011. Price \$15.

The 26 contributions which constitute this text are the proceedings of the Fifth International Electronic Circuit Packaging Symposium held in 1964.

The subjects include encapsulation, multilayer-circuit design and interconnection systems.

# **Free-Electron Theory of Conjugated Molecules**

By J. R. PLATT et al. John Wiley and Sons Ltd., Glen House, Stag Place, London, W.C.1. Price 38s. (cloth), 23s. (paper). This book is a collection of reprints of papers most of which appeared in the Journal of Chemical Physics.

### **Electrical Insulation Measurements**

By W. P. BAKER. Pp. 180 + vii. George Newnes Ltd., Tower House, Southampton Street, London, W.C.2. Price 50s.

# Grundlagen der Halbleiterphysik

By DR. O. G. FOLBERTH. Pp. 113. Fachvelag Schiele and Schon GmbH, Markgrafenstrasse 11, 1 Berlin SW 61. Price DM 12,50.

# **Manufacturers' Literature**

**Performance Characteristics of Corning Microcircuit Resistors** and Capacitors. Specification figures and performance curves for the Corning microcircuit capacitors and thin-film resistors are given in this brochure of eight pages, publication no. 0001 and 2. Illustrations of microcircuits using these components are provided.

U.K. Agents: Electrosil Ltd., Pallion, Sunderland, Co. Durham. For further information circle 75 on Service Card

Anemotherm Gas Flow Meter. This illustrated 14-page booklet, general information manual No. 302, is concerned with the gasflow meter which is manufactured by the Anemostat Corp. of America and is available in this country from Dynamco Systems Ltd. Specifications, installation instructions and other details are included.

Dynamco Systems Ltd., Govett Avenue, Shepperton, Middlesex. For further information circle 76 on Service Card

**Projectors and Inspection Enlargers.** In a catalogue of 12 pages. publication No. CT 175, Hilger and Watts describe their range of equipment for inspection purposes. Illustrations are included together with specification figures.

Hilger and Watts Ltd., 98 St. Pancras Way, Camden Road, London, N.W.1.

For further information circle 77 on Service Card

**Power...When the Power Fails.** International Nickel Ltd. describe in this leaflet of six pages, publication No. 6501, the uses and the advantages of nickel-alkaline battery standby power supplies which can be used to enable equipment to continue running in the event of a power failure. A brief survey of the type of equipment available from a number of firms is included.

International Nickel Ltd., Thames House, Millbank, London, S.W.1.

### For further information circle 78 on Service Card

**Remote Control System.** A 4-page illustrated leaflet, bulletin 65-12, from the Theta Instrument Corp. contains details of a remote control system and describes some of its applications. The instrumentation provides a digital display of the parameter being monitored and controlled, and a digital display of the set-point limiting values.

The Theta Instrument Corp., Saddle Brook, New Jersey 07663, U.S.A.

### For further information circle 79 on Service Card

**Philips Radiation Monitoring.** The equipment produced by Philips for monitoring radiation is described and illustrated in this 8-page leaflet. The range of equipment includes pocketsized monitors, hand contamination monitors and large systems for monitoring an area, as well as other units.

Philips Scientific Equipment, The M.E.L. Equipment Company Ltd., Manor Royal, Crawley, Sussex.

For further information circle 80 on Service Card

Thorn Signal Lamps and Lampholders. This 42-page publication provides details of the Thorn lampholders, signal lamps and neon indicators. Dimensional details and both colour and half-tone illustrations are included.

Thorn Special Products Ltd., Great Cambridge Road, Enfield, Middlesex.

For further information circle 81 on Service Card

Incandescent Lamp, Flourescent Tube, Semiconductor, Special Purpose Machinery. The Badalex division of the Sale Tilney Group of Companies have produced this booklet of 16 pages to outline the division's machinery for the production of lamps. flourescent tubes, and semiconductors. These products also include equipment for manufacture of vacuum flasks, valves and other special-purpose machines.

Badar Machinery Co. Ltd., Alexandra Engineering (Southend) Ltd., Weybridge, Surrey.

### For further information circle 82 on Service Card

**Photain Controls Ltd.** This booklet describes in 16 pages the activities of the company. The products include heating and liquid controls, batch counters, semiconductor components and other equipment.

Photain Controls Ltd., Randalls Road, Leatherhead, Surrey.

For further information circle 83 on Service Card

Audio-Visual Techniques Applied to Education, Industry, Commerce. A survey of audio-visual teaching techniques is the content of this 16-page book from The Rank Organization. The subjects discussed include industrial training and time-andmotion study using film and sound. It is concluded with some illustrated examples of the film and television equipment available from Rank.

The Rank Organization, 38 South Street, London, W.1.

For further information circle 84 on Service Card

How Photography Aids Industry and Commerce. The uses of photography in industry are outlined in this 24-page booklet produced by Kodak Ltd. Such applications as microfilming, research and development and others are described. *Kodak Ltd., Industrial Sales Division, Kodak House, Kingsway,* London, W.C.2.

For further information circle 85 on Service Card


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For further information circle 267 on Service Card



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## **Telecommunication Principles**

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World Radio History



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Industrial Electronics February 1966

World Radio History



#### Meetings

## The Institution of Electrical Engineers

Savoy Place, London, W.C.2. (Phone: Covent Garden 1871).

9th Feb., 5.30 p.m. Joint I.E.E./I.E.R.E. Computer Groups. Paper on 'The Manchester Digital Traffic Simulator'.

9th Feb., 5.30 p.m. Discussion on 'Computer Service Training'.

10th Feb. 6 p.m. The 1965-66 Faraday lecture on 'Computers, Control and Automation'. To be held in the Central Hall, Westminster, London, S.W.1. Details and tickets from Miss Sheila Hardy.

15th Feb., 5.30 p.m. Paper on 'A Control Engineering Approach to Magnetohydrodynamic Stability'.

16th Feb., 5.30 p.m. Lecture on 'Post Office Towers and Trunks'.

18th Feb., 5.30 p.m. Discussion on 'The Production and Properties of Epitaxial Films'.

22nd Feb., 5.30 p.m. Joint I.E.E./I.E.R.E. Medical Electronics Group. Paper on 'Muscular Control'.

22nd Feb., 5.30 p.m. Joint I.E.E./I.E.R.E. discussion on 'Research in Electrical and Electronic Engineering'.

#### Society of Electronic and Radio Technicians

33 Bedford Street, London, S.W.2. (Phone: Covent Garden 1152).

7th Feb., 7.30 p.m. at Central Halls, Bath Street, Glasgow. Technical film show.

**9th Feb., 7 p.m.** at London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Keppel Street, Gower Street, W.C.1. Lecture on 'Colour Television Systems'.

22nd Feb., 7.30 p.m. Room 215, Physics Block, College of Technology, Stoke-on-Trent. Lecture on 'Television Studio Equipment'.

23rd Feb., 7.30 p.m. at College of Technology, East Park Terrace, Southampton. Lecture on 'Flight Simulation'.

#### **Society of Environmental Engineers**

Radnor House, London Road, Norbury, London, S.W.16. (Phone: Pollards 0011).

Meetings are held at 6 p.m. at Imperial College (Mechanical Engineering Department), Exhibition Road, London, S W.7.

9th Feb. Paper on 'Transducers for Instrumentation'.

23rd March. Discussion on the 'Specification of an Instrumentation System for Packaging'.

## The Institution of Electronic and Radio Engineers

8-9 Bedford Square, London, W.C.1. (Phone: Museum 1901-3).

All meetings will be held in the Institution's Lecture Room, 9 Bedford Square, unless otherwise stated. Tickets are required for these meetings.

**9th Feb., 6 p.m.** Joint I.E.R.E./I.E.E. Electro Acoustics Group. Lecture on 'Trutrack—A New Approach to Low Side Thrust Transcription Arms'.

23rd Feb., 6 p.m. Joint I.E.R.E./I.E.E. Medical Electronics Group. Discussion on 'Mental Stresses Induced by Audio and Visual Hazards'.

## The Institute of Physics and The Physical Society

47 Belgrave Square, London, S.W.1. (Phone: Belgravia 6111).

14th Feb. Conference on Spin Resonance and Allied Topics. To be held in London.

23rd Feb. Conference on Stress Analysis of Granular Materials. To be held in London.

28th March. 8.15 p.m. The 1965 Guthrie lecture on Nuclear Fusion Research, to be held at the Oxford College of Technology.

**30th March-1st April.** Conference on 'Nuclear Structure and Elementary Particles', to be held at the University of Oxford and organized by the Nuclear Physics Sub-Committee.

4th-7th April. Conference on 'Scattering, Non-Linear Optics and Electromagneto Optics'. Organized by the Optical Group and to be held at the University of York. Advance registration will be necessary.

## The Institution of Electrical and Electronics Technician Engineers

26 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C.1. (Phone: Langham 5927).

The following meetings will be held in the I.E.E. Lecture Theatre, Savoy Place, London, W.C.2, at 6 p.m. Details from the Secretary of the I.E.E.T.E.

7th Feb. Lecture on 'Building a Modern Power Station— Construction and Commissioning Problems'.

7th March. Lecture on 'Control by Computer'.

4th April, Lecture on 'Microelectronics'.



## Conferences, Symposia and Colloquia

15th-16th Feb. Conference on 'Organization for Design', to be held in London and organized by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, 1 Birdcage Walk, London, S.W.1. (Phone: Whitehall 7476-9).

16th Feb. One day conference on ways of preparing for Quality and Reliability Year. Organized by the National Council for Quality and Reliability, Vintry House, Queen Street Place, London, E.C.4. To be held at the Grand Hotel, Bristol.

22nd-23rd Feb. Seminar on 'Numerical Control for Users', organized by the Production Engineering Research Association and to be held in their exhibition hall at Melton Mowbray. Details from P.E.R.A., Melton Mowbray, Leicester. (Phone: Melton Mowbray 4133).

22nd-25th Feb. Conference on 'Industrial Fastening and Assembly. Sponsored by Light Production Engineering and to be held at the Central Hall, Westminster, London. S.W.1. Details from the Conference Secretariat, Fasex 66, Business Publications (Conference and Exhibitions) Ltd., Mercury House, 103-119 Waterloo Road, London, S.E.1.

**2nd-4th March.** Tenth Scintillation and Semiconductor Counter Symposium, to be held at the Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D.C. Organized by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Inc., 345 East 47th Street, New York 10017.

**21st-24th March.** Fourth International Aerospace Instrumentation Symposium, to be held at the College of Aeronautics, Cranfield, Bedford. Details from the Symposium Organizer.

12th-15th April. Symposium on 'Electronics, Measurement and Control in Ships and Shipbuilding', to be held at the University of Strathclyde. Organized jointly by the Electronics and Control Section of the I.E.E. Scottish Centre and the Scottish Section of the I.E.R.E.

19th-21st April. Conference on 'The Performance Assessment of High-Vacuum Pumps', to be held at the University of Sussex and organized by The Institute of Physics and The Physical Society, 47 Belgrave Square, London, S.W.1. (Phone: Belgravia 6111).

19th-21st April. Symposium on 'Environmental Engineering and its Role in Society'. Organized by The Society of Environmental Engineers, Radnor House, London Road, Norbury, London, S.W.16. (Phone: Pollards 0011). To be held at Imperial College, Exhibition Road, London, S.W.7.

19th-22nd April. Colloquium on 'Microwave Communication', to be held in Budapest. Organized by the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and the Scientific Society of Telecommunication. Details from Valkó Péterné, Budapest V. Szabadság Tér 17, Hungary.

**3rd-5th May, 1966.** British Joint Computer Conference, to be held in Eastbourne, Sussex, and sponsored under the aegis of the United Kingdom Automation Council. Details and registration forms from the Conference Secretariat, Institution of Electrical Engineers, Savoy Place, London, W.C.2. (Phone: Covent Garden 1871).

15th-19th May. Annual conference of the Radio and Television Retailers Association and the Electrical Appliance Association, 19-21 Conway Street, London, W.1. (Phone: Euston 6046). To be held at the Metropole Hotel, Brighton.

20th-25th June, 1966. Third Triennial Congress of the International Federation of Automatic Control. To be held in London and organized by the United Kingdom Automation Council, c/o the Institution of Electrical Engineers, Savoy Place, London, W.C.2. (Phone: Covent Garden 1871).

## **Exhibitions**

## 8th-17th Feb. Basel

International Fair on Industrial Mechanical Handling, to be held in the halls of the Swiss Industries Fair. Details from the Exhibition Secretariat, IFM 66, CH-4000 Basel 21, Switzerland.

## 21st-25th March. New York

International Convention and Exhibition on the latest developments in the electrical and electronics field. Organized by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Inc., 345 East 47th Street, New York 10017, and to be held at the New York Hilton Hotel and the Coliseum.

## 22nd-24th March. Melton Mowbray

Exhibition and conference on 'Modern Production Techniques and Equipment'. Organized by the Production Engineering Research Association, Melton Mowbray, Leicester. (Phone: Melton Mowbray 4133).

## 28th-31st March. London

The Physics Exhibition of the latest instruments and apparatus of use and interest to professional physicists. To be held at Alexandra Palace and organized by the Institute of Physics and The Physical Society. Tickets will be required and full details may be obtained from the Exhibitions Officer, 47 Belgrave Square, S.W.1. (Phone: Belgravia 6111).

## 18th-22nd April. London

The Fourth International Industrial Finishes Exhibition, to be held at Earls Court. Organized by Technical Exhibitions Ltd., 3 Clements Inn, London, W.C.2. (Phone: Chancery 1200).

## 30th April-8th May. Hanover

The Hanover Fair, to be held in Hanover-Messegelaende. Details from Schenkers Ltd., Royal London House, 13 Finsbury Square, E.C.2. (Phone: Metropolitan 9711).

## 2nd-11th May. London

The Seventh Gauge and Tool and Power Press Exhibition. To be held at Olympia and organized by the Gauge and Tool Makers' Association of Great Britain, Standbrook House, 2-5 Old Bond Street, London, W.1. (Phone: Hyde Park 3451-2).

Printed in Great Britain for the Publishers, Iliffe Electrical Publications Ltd., Dorset House, Stamford Street, London, S.E.1. by The Chapel River Press Ltd., Andover, Hants. Distributed in U.S.A. by Eastern News Company, 306 West 11th Street, New York, 14



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