

APRIL 1989

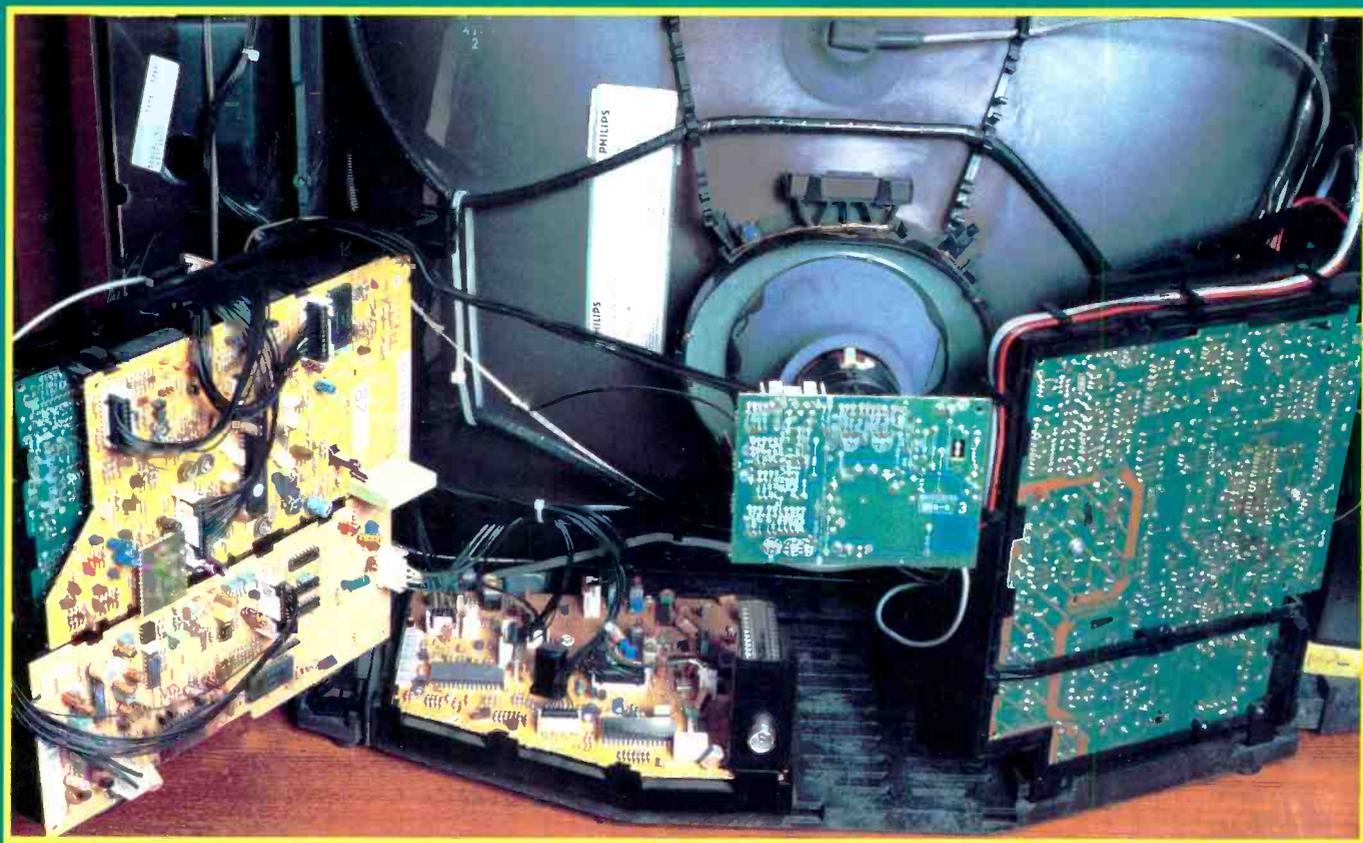
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# TELEVISION

SERVICING·PROJECTS·VIDEO·DEVELOPMENTS

**FREE inside**  
**TV/VCR Spares Guide**



**The B&O L/LX2500/2800 Chassis**  
**CD Laser Assemblies • DX-TV**  
**Test Report • The Trinitron Tube**  
**TV Fault Finding • VCR Clinic**  
**Characteristics of Op Amps**



# For the Best Deal in Spares....



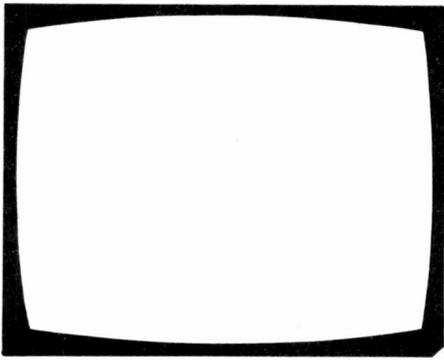
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# TELEVISION

April  
1989

Vol. 39, No. 6  
Issue 462

On sale March 15th

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All correspondence regarding advertisements should be addressed to the Advertisement Manager, "Television", King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS. Editorial correspondence should be addressed to "Television", IPC Magazines Ltd., King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS.

## INDEXES

Indexes to Vols. 36 and 37 are available at 80p each from the Editorial Office (address above).

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## QUERIES

We regret that we cannot answer technical queries over the telephone nor supply service sheets. We will endeavour to assist readers who have queries relating to articles published in *Television*, but we cannot offer advice on modifications to our published designs nor comment on alternative ways of using them. Correspondents should enclose a stamped addressed envelope. Requests for advice on dealing with servicing problems should be directed to our Queries Service. For details see our regular feature "Service Bureau". Send to the address given above (see "correspondence").

## this month

- 405 Leader**
- 406 The Sony Trinitron Tube** *Nick Beer*  
How the unique Sony Trinitron tube works, with an account of some of the improvements that have been introduced in recent years and detailed guidance on setting up.
- 408 Servicing Compact Disc Players, Part 2** *Joe Cieszynski*  
This time a look at the various types of laser optical units in use, with an account of what the various items in each assembly do.
- 413 Long-distance Television** *Roger Bunney*  
Reports on DX conditions and reception and news from abroad. Some excellent tropospheric openings provided a fine start to the year.
- 414 Next Month in Television**
- 416 TV Fault Finding**  
Reports from Roger Burchett, Alfred Damp, Bob McClenning, Ian Bowden, Nick Beer, J. Olijnyk and John L. Howard.
- 418 Teletopics**  
News, comment and developments.
- 420 Camcorder Servicing, Part 3** *Steve Beeching, T. Eng.*  
How a colour camera tube provides a composite luminance plus R/B carrier output and the way in which these signals are processed. Particular attention is paid to the various controls found in a colour tube camera and the effects they have on the display.
- 424 The B and O L/LX2500/2800 Chassis** *Nick Beer*  
These sophisticated sets employ microcomputer control via three bus lines and have an unusual chopper power supply circuit. Once these features of the receiver are understood fault finding should not present many problems. How to tackle a set stuck in standby and a summary of faults found to date.
- 428 Letters**
- 430 Strange Things** *Les Lawry-Johns*  
Some unusual faults have cropped up recently.
- 431 The Philips VR6470 and Related Models** *Barry Loughran*  
A guide to the usual fault conditions found in these popular VCRs.
- 434 Test Report: The Crotech 3133 Scope** *Eugene Trundle*  
A thorough bench test of this 25MHz dual-trace oscilloscope shows that it's well suited to TV/VCR servicing.
- 436 VCR Clinic**  
Fault reports from Philip Blundell, Eng. Tech., Alan Shaw, Paul Hardy, Eugene Trundle, Nick Beer, Ian Bowden and B. Ross.
- 438 A Look at Operational Amplifiers, Part 1** *Keith Cummins*  
How these versatile devices work and the characteristics that determine circuit design.
- 440 Service Bureau**
- 441 Test Case 316**

OUR NEXT ISSUE DATED MAY WILL  
BE PUBLISHED ON APRIL 19



# REMOTE HAND SETS

<b>AMSTRAD</b>	
TV/Video - TVR-1-MD1511910	15.00
CTV 1409 - MD1409221	15.00
VCR 5200 - MD151175	17.00
VCR 7000 - MD150583	10.00
VCR 9000 - MD150878	10.00

<b>DECCA</b>	
80/100 Non-Txt US8511	19.50
101 Series Non-Txt US 8513	23.50
Tatung 145/150	17.50

<b>FIDELITY</b>	
CTV 20R/22R/140R	
4 Button IR8876	13.75
IS 500 12 Button FD09820	13.81
F14R 12 Button FD09156	13.81
AVS 14 Button FD09111	13.75
Txt 32 Button IR8983	15.90

<b>G.E.C.</b>	
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GC56520831/C1404H-C1658H-IR8314	31.80
GCA 512220/C1653	22.00
GCA 512230/C2086H-C2087H	
GCA 514620/C2089H-C2090H-IR8823	23.50
C2290H, C2889	
GCA 510710/C2067H-IR8456	23.50
GCA 510870/C2069-C2269H-IR8877	27.50

<b>GRUNDIG</b>	
RTP05/VRC/IR138 - TP8-120-120E	13.50
RTP06/IR107N - TP160-160E	13.50
RTP07/IR380N - TP200-300-390	13.50
RTP20/VRC112 - TP16-21-21VHR	13.50
RTP400/401 IR401 - TP400VT-500VT	13.50
VRC 204 U.S. - TP12	13.50
IR 8613 TXT. - TP400TT	13.50

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<b>I.T.T.</b>	
CVC 32 - RG15-US8573	25.00
CVC 45 - RG5-US8262	25.00
RG 305 - With Mute IR8649	29.04
RG 306 - With Fine Tune IR8650	22.65

<b>J.V.C.</b>	
TP 843/Txt IR170	13.50

<b>PHILIPS</b>	
G11 Txt IR8435/IR170/843	13.50
G11 Txt US 31 Button	
691-17181	29.42
G11 Non Txt US 8263	21.50
G11 2 Function US 8518	18.75
KT3/K30 Non Txt IR8331	15.85
KT3/K30 Txt IR8420	17.90
KT3/K30/K35/K40 Txt/Non Txt (Replaces RC5 Series)	13.95

<b>SONY</b>	
SLC5 - RM 75T	29.04
SLC6 - RM 72	22.62
SLC7 - RMT 200	49.87
SLC9 - RMT 213	45.00

**THORN/FERGUSON TV REMOTES**  
The following TV remotes are exact replacements for Thom sets and cover a wide range of chassis inc. TX9/10/90/100. Please state model number of set or original hand set number.

Type	Order Type	All One Price
T651	M739	
T652	M738	
T653	M737	
T716	M737	13.00
T717	M737	
T718	US8517	
T719	M737	
T720	M739	
T721	M737	
T723	M737	
T724	M739	
T725	M750	
T731	M738	
T732	M739	
T733	M738	
T734	M734	
T736	M737	
T737	M737	
T738	M738	
T739	M739	
T740	M740	
T742	M742	
T748	M748	
T750	M750	
T769	M739	
T770	M739	
T772	M742	
T773	M740	
T775	M739	
T778	M738	

<b>THORN VIDEO REMOTES</b>	
3V231.R. 8817	14.95
3V311.R. 8945	14.95
3V351.R. 8946	14.95
3V431.R. 8947	19.12

**P.R.C. 6000**  
Programmable remote control unit will operate most infra-red equipment. 60.62

<b>REMOTE REPAIR KITS</b>	
Includes Foil/Buttons/Inst.	
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KT3/K30 With Txt	8.95
RC 5352 Rar.ge	9.25

<b>REMOTE CONTROL TESTER</b>	
	29.24

<b>MAGIC MIRRORS</b>	
a new device which tests infra red equipment	8.00

# AERIAL EQUIPMENT

<b>GENERAL LASHING KITS/ACCESSORIES</b>	
6" Pressed Bracket	0.86
6" Bracket with Kit (lashing kit)	2.18
9" Welded Bracket Chimney	2.53
9" Bracket with Kit	2.90
Double Brackets	2.77
Double Brackets with Kit	5.29
13, 5" Cradle Bracket	2.25
13, 5" Cradle Bracket with Kit	4.25
Standard Repair Pack	1.27
Double Repair Pack (2)	2.56
Corner Plates	0.08
Lashing Wire	0.85
Lead Wall Nails (100)	6.17
Rawbolts	0.60
Cable Clips (Pk. 100)	0.91
Coax Plugs	0.18
Coax Plug Female	0.75
Line Connectors	0.16
Attenuators	1.80
Tape Sm 0.32 Lg	0.60
Wood Screws	0.08

<b>WALL BRACKETS</b>	
6" Welded	1.30
12" T&K	3.74
9" Welded	2.41
Gutter Brackets	1.00
18" T&K	4.65
24" T&K	5.35

<b>CLAMPS</b>	
1" x 1"	0.85
2" x 2"	1.33
1" U Bolts	0.20
J Bolts	0.20
1.25 U Bolts	0.20
2" U Bolts	0.28

<b>UHF TV AERIALS</b>	
10 Element State Group A, B, CD, WB	2.14
18 Element	4.12
DIY Aerial Pack	
10 Ele. 3ft Mast, Coax Fittings	9.50

<b>VHF/FM AERIALS</b>	
3 Element	6.70
4 Element	8.03
Omni Directional (Round)	8.93

<b>MASTS</b>	
3 R Crank L or S Shape	1.20
6 R 1"	1.79
10 ft 1.5"	7.00
12 ft 1.5"	8.50
16 ft 2"	14.41

<b>BACK BOXES</b>	
Plastic Single	0.68
Plastic Double	1.09
Metal Single	0.45
Metal Double	0.88

<b>OUTLET BOXES</b>	
Surface Single	0.80
Surface Twin	1.10
Y Splitter	0.85
Flush Single	0.95
Flush Twin	1.20

<b>LEADS</b>	
2M Fly M/M	0.60
2M Fly M/F	0.60
4M Fly M/M	1.20
10M Fly	1.90
FIG. 8 Mains Leads	0.82
Computer to TV	1.10
5 Pin Din to 5 Pin Din	0.98
TAB1 Car Battery Thorn 1691	4.47
TAS1 Car Battery Thorn 1615	4.35
Car Battery Philips	3.95
Scart Leads 2M (Open End)	2.50
Scart Plugs	1.95
Scart Sockets	0.85
Scart to Scart Lead	4.95
Scart Lead Kit	6.44
Test Lead Kit	3.75

<b>CABLES</b>	
Antiference Coax 100m S540	33.70
75R Coax Cable (100m) Low Loss	13.50
75R Coax Cable (250m) Low Loss	32.75
4 Core Security Cable (100m)	5.55
6 Core Security Cable (100m)	7.94
8 Core Security Cable (100m)	10.31
4 Core Telephone Cable (100m)	9.99
6 Core Telephone Cable (100m)	13.28
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3162 2 Core Round 3amp (100m)	15.75
2242 2 Core Round 6amp (100m)	15.47
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Twin Core Cable Screened (100m)	11.50
6491X Earth Cable Green/Yellow 1sq mm (100m)	7.00
46199 Single Screened Microphone (100m)	5.35
F041 2mm Loudspeaker Cable (100m)	5.53
CCPU2 Twin Pick Up 100m	9.95
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3183Y 3 Core 10amp upto 2kw Flexible 1.0sq mm	36.40
6491X Earth Green/Yellow 6mm	39.60
6181Y Lighting Red/Grey 1mm	14.50
6242Y Grey Lighting Twin/Earth 1mm	21.00
6242Y Grey Ring Main 2.5 Mil	38.20

<b>CABLE TIES</b>	
Up to 25mm Diam. (100)	0.84
Up to 55mm Diam. (100)	2.11

<b>TV WALL BRACKETS</b>	
PS245 Teletwist (12"-20")	24.16
PG045 Designer Twister	27.00
PG041 Little Twister	14.08
PS218 Swivel and Tilt Bracket	24.67

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CM7262 P.U.	13.50
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CM7066 UHF/W.D.	14.74
CM7260 VHF H. Gain A/B/CD	17.57
CM7253 Behind Set (Mains)	15.81
CM7243 Second Set Amp	14.73
CM7093 Three Set Amp	18.55
CM7083 Dist. Amp VHF/UHF	25.77
CM7108/7298 8 + 1 Dist. Amp	41.96
CM9700 27MHz CB Suppressor	4.90
CM6011 Outdoor Splitter	8.63
CM9003/00 Flush Sing. Outlet	1.95
CM9003/01 Flush Sing. Out. Isolat.	2.36
CM9010 Flush Twin Outlet	2.47
CM9034 UHF/FM A/B/CD	8.89
CM7042 6 Way Pass Split	11.72
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CM7294 Dist. Amp. UHF/VHF	24.96
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NEC 252mm	1.88
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JVC 195mm	1.67
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Sony 160mm	1.55
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Hitachi 300mm	1.67
Aiwa 65mm	1.26
Aiwa 135mm	1.26
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Sharp AANTR00030CEZ	1.62

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TDK D90	0.90

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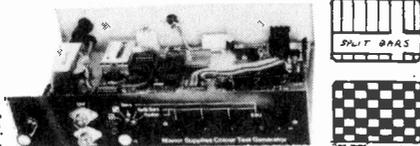
<b>CASSETTE HEADS</b>	
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Stereo/Record/Playback	6.99
Stereo/Record/Playback/Dolby	4.90
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FOR DOMESTIC TV & VCR.

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DEMONSTRATIONS  
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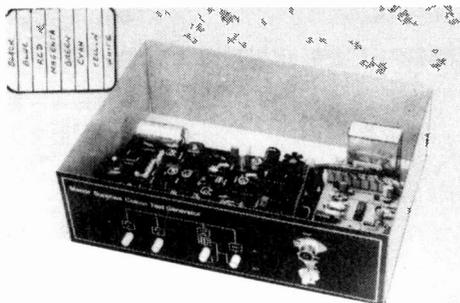
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- ★ All kits fully guaranteed with back-up service.
- ★ Also available with VHF Modulator.

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- ★ Simple design, only five i.c.s on colour bar P.C.B.
- ★ Backup service available.

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EASILY ADAPTED FOR VIDEO OUTPUT & C.C.T.V.

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		SA41251	4.95	TBA225S	1.95	TD42668	4.95	PHILIPS G11	18.95	BD135	50	TIP42C	45	
		SA43027	3.95	TDA1020	2.75	TD42669	4.95	PHILIPS G11	18.95	BD135	50	TIP42C	45	
		SA45000A	3.95	TDA1035T	2.40	TD42670	4.95	PHILIPS G11	18.95	BD135	50	TIP42C	45	
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		SA45012	4.95	TDA1044	2.95	TD42672	4.95	PHILIPS G11	18.95	BD135	50	TIP42C	45	
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		SA45050	6.95	TDA1170S	1.80	TD42674	4.95	PHILIPS G11	18.95	BD135	50	TIP42C	45	
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		SL470/1DP	2.95	TDA1190Z	2.95	TD42676	4.95	PHILIPS G11	18.95	BD135	50	TIP42C	45	
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		SL490	2.90	TDA1506	4.35	TD42678	4.95	PHILIPS G11	18.95	BD135	50	TIP42C	45	
		SL1430	1.95	TDA1510	3.80	TD42679	4.95	PHILIPS G11	18.95	BD135	50	TIP42C	45	
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		TA471C	6.95	TDA1770A	3.70	TD42683	4.95	PHILIPS G11	18.95	BD135	50	TIP42C	45	
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		TK435	5.95	TDA2003	1.55	TD42688	4.95	PHILIPS G11	18.95	BD135	50	TIP42C	45	
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		TK439	7.50	TDA2005	2.55	TD42690	4.95	PHILIPS G11	18.95	BD135	50	TIP42C	45	
		TK459	8.55	TDA2020	3.20	TD42691	4.95	PHILIPS G11	18.95	BD135	50	TIP42C	45	
		TK461	9.95	TDA2030	3.20	TD42692	4.95	PHILIPS G11	18.95	BD135	50	TIP42C	45	
		TK463	9.95	TDA2170	2.95	TD42693	4.95	PHILIPS G11	18.95	BD135	50	TIP42C	45	
		TK465	11.95	TDA2270	2.95	TD42694	4.95	PHILIPS G11	18.95	BD135	50	TIP42C	45	
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24 Pin DII-DII	25
28 Pin DII-DII	30
40 Pin DII-DII	40

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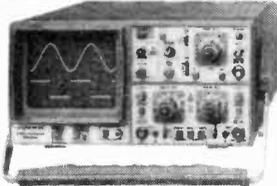
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Loading Roller	8.50
Pinch Roller	8.50
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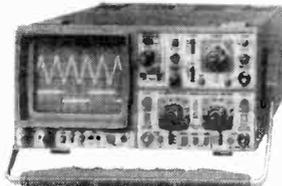
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- \* Trnggering: DC-40MHz
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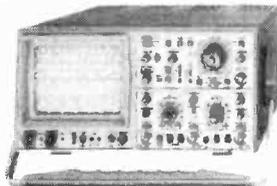
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- \* Bandwidth: DC-60MHz
- \* Sens: Ch1., Ch2., 1mV/cm
- \* Timebase: 2.5s-5ns/cm
- \* Trnggering: DC-80MHz
- \* Active TV-Sync-Separator
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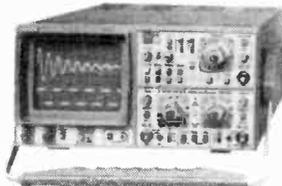
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- \* Timebase A: 2.5s-5ns/cm
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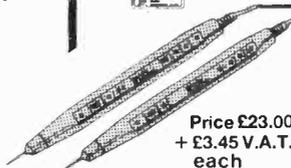
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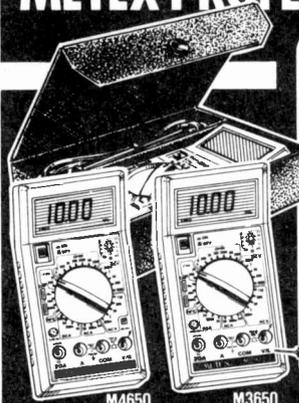
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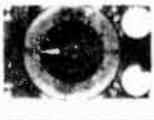
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**110 DECIBEL HORN.** For use with the ultra sonic intruder detector. Ideal for external positioning to attract the attention of neighbours should you have an intruder. This unit has its own mounting bracket and comes complete with good length of lead. Price £7. Our ref 7P9. Incidentally, this could also be used as a loud speaker.



### ATARI 65XE COMPUTER

At 64k this is most powerful and suitable for home and business. Brand new, complete with PSU, TV lead, owner's manual and six games. Can save yours for only £45 plus £3 insured delivery.

**DATA RECORDERS.** ACORN for Acorn Electron, etc., reference number ALF03, with TV lead, manual and PSU. Brand new. Price £10 plus £1.50 post. Order ref 10P44.  
ATARI XC12 for all their home computers. With leads and handbook. Brand new. Price £15 plus £2 post. Order ref 15P20.

**JOYSTICK FOR ATARI OR COMMODORE** for all all Atari and Commodore 64 and Vic20. New Price £5. Order ref 5P126.

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These are not second-hand but are slightly reject and may need some attention. All are complete with stereo headphones and are famous makes. Sanyo, Panasonic, Sony, etc. Stereo cassette type, no radio, £5 each. Our ref 5P132.

**SPECIAL OFFER** is ten of the cassette only version, our ref 5P132, for £40. This offer is our ref 40P3.

**PANEL METERS.** Beautifully made moving coil instruments in heavy duty casings, much superior to those coming from the Far East. Meter face size is 72mm x 86mm, fixing hole size is 70mm. Price is £5 each. The following models are in stock: 0-5amp. Our ref 5P133/5A. 0-10amp. Our ref 5P133/10A. 0-40volt DC. Our ref 5P133/40V. 0-50volt DC. Our ref 5P133/50V. 0-80volt DC. Our ref 5P133/80V. 0-160volt DC. Our ref 5P133/160V. 0-200volts DC. Our ref 5P133/200V.



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is a three octave musical keyboard. It is beautifully made, has gold plated contacts and is complete with ribbon cable and edge connector. Brand new, only £12 plus £3 postage. Order ref 12P5.

**MUSIC FROM YOUR SPECTRUM 128.** We offer the Organ Master three octave keyboard, complete with leads and the interface which plugs into your 128. You can then compose, play, record, store, etc. your own music. Price £19 plus £3 special packing and postage. Order ref 19P1.

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**HAND-HELD VIDEO LAMP.** Mains operated and will enable you to take professional standard videos. Made by the famous Ferguson Company, this uses a 1000w halogen lamp in a fan cooled, hand-held and hand-switched metal housing. Comes complete with optional beam-door assembly and camera bar. Obviously intended to retail at over £50, we offer these at £30 each plus £3 insured delivery. Our ref 30P3.

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This is helium-neon and has a power rating of 1.6mW. Completely safe so long as you do not look directly into the beam when eye damage could result. Brand new, full spec. £30 plus £3 insured delivery. Mains operated power supply for this tube gives 8kv striking and 1.25kv at 5mA running. Complete kit with case £15. No extra for post if ordered with tube. Battery PSU also available £15.

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**OUR ALADDIN'S CAVE.** You may be a new reader and not know that we have a shop at 12 Boundary Road, Hove, where you can go and have a browse around at our assortment of 'goodies'. Unfortunately, because of staff shortages, we cannot be open on Saturdays yet, so the hours are 9.30am to 5.00pm, Monday to Friday. We of course still serve callers at 250 but request that you bring a completed order form as 250 is really the mail order depot.

Generous discounts for quantities

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MAIL ORDER TERMS: Cash, P.O. or cheque with order. Orders under £20 add £1.50 service charge. Monthly accounts accepted from schools and public companies. Access & B cards orders accepted - minimum £5. Brighton (0273) 734648 or 203500.

## BARGAINS STILL AVAILABLE

### DOUBLE MICRODRIVES.

We are pleased to advise you that the Double Microdrives which we were offering at about this time last year as being suitable for the 'QL', 'DPD' and several other computers are again available, same price as before namely £5. Our ref 5P113.

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**SUB-MIN TOGGLE SWITCH.** Body size 8mm x 4mm x 7mm SBDT with chrome dolly fixing nuts. 4 for £1.00. Order ref BD649.

**VERY POWERFUL MAGNETS.** Although only less than 1in long and not much thicker than a pencil these are very difficult to pull apart. Could be used to operate embedded reed switches, etc. Price 50p each, 2 for £1.00. Our ref BD642.

**CLEAR LACQUER.** Quick drying for the protection of transistors, markings, maps, etc. Also protects wood and metal. Exceptionally clear. Large can for £1.00. Our ref BD660.

**PAPST AXIAL FAN, MANUFACTURERS REF NO TYP4580N.** This is mains operated 15watt rating and in a metal frame with metal blades so OK in high temperatures. Body size approximately 4 3/4in square x 1 3/8in thick. £6.00 each, plus £1.00 postage. Our ref 6P6.

**SOFTWARE FOR REMAKING.** Just arrived. Large quantity of maily games. All are on normal tape spool in cassette holders and should be suitable for wiping out and re-making into games or programmes of your own design. We offer 5 different for £2 or 100 assorted for £20. Important note. We do not say which titles you will get nor accept orders for specified titles or 'so many, all different', etc., so only order if you can take them as they come. Order ref 5 for £5 is 2P224, 100 assorted is 20P10.

**VERY USEFUL MAGNETS.** Flat, about 1in long, 1 1/2in wide and 1/4in thick. These are polarised on their faces which makes them ideal to operate reed switches in doors and windows or to hold papers or labels, etc., to metal cabinets, or even to keep cupboard doors firmly closed. Very powerful. 6 for £1. Our ref BD274(a).

**3 CORE FLEX BARGAIN No. 1** - Core size 5mm so ideal for long extension leads carrying up to 5 amps or short leads up to 10 amps. 15mm for £2. Order ref 2P189.

**3 CORE FLEX BARGAIN No. 2** - Core size 1.25mm so suitable for long extension leads carrying up to 13 amps - or short leads up to 25A, 10m for £2. Order ref 2P190.

**ALPHA-NUMERIC KEYBOARD** - this keyboard has 73 keys with contactless capacitance switches giving long trouble free life and no contact bounce. The keys are arranged in two groups, the main area field is a QWERTY array and on the right is a 15 key number pad, board size is approx. 13" x 4" - brand new but offered at only a fraction of its cost namely £3, plus £1 post. Ref 3P27.

**TELEPHONES** - We have just received a consignment of desk telephones, rotary dial type, in good working order and in a new condition. We offer these at £5 each plus £2 special packing and postage. This model would have the connecting lead with four tags for going into the old type junction box. Our ref 5P134. Or for £6 you can have the same telephone but with the new flat BT type plug fitted. Our ref 6P10.

**WIRE BARGAIN** - 500 metres 0.7mm solid copper tinned and p.v.c. covered. Only £3 + £1 post. Ref 3P31 - that's well under 1p per metre, and this wire is ideal for push on connections.

**CAPACITOR BARGAIN** - axial ended - 4700uf @ 25v Jap made. Normally 50p each, but you will get 4 for £1. Ref. 613.

**SPRING LOADED TEST PRODS** - heavy duty made by the famous Bulgin company. Very good quality. Price 10p each. Ref. BD659.

**SOLAR POWERED NI-CAD CHARGER** 4 NI-CAD batteries AA (HP7) charged in eight hours or two in only 4 hours. It is complete, boxed ready to use unit. Price £5. Our Ref. 6P3.

**FREE POWER!** Can be yours if you use our solar cells - sturdily made modules with new system bubble magnifiers to concentrate the light and so eliminate the need for actual sunshine - they work just as well in bright light. Voltage input is .45 - you join in series to get desired voltage - and in parallel for more amps. Module A gives 100mA Price £1. Our Ref. BD653. Module C gives 400mA Price £2. Our Ref 2P199. Module D gives 200mA Price £3. Our Ref 3P42.

**SWITCH AC LOADS WITH YOUR COMPUTER.** This is easy and reliable if you use our solid state relay. This has no moving parts, has high input resistance and acts as a noise barrier and provides 4kW isolation between logic terminals. The turn-on voltage is not critical, anything between 3 and 30V, internal resistance is about 1K ohm. AC loads up to 10A can be switched. Price is £2 each. Ref 2P183.

**METAL PROJECT BOX.** Ideal size for battery charger, power supply etc. Sprayed grey, size 8" x 4 1/4" x 4" high, leads are lowered for ventilation other sides are flat and undrilled. Our Ref. 2P191. Price £2.

**BIG SMOOTHING CAPACITOR.** Sprague powertyc 39,000uf at 50V. £3. Our Ref. 3P41.

**4-CORE FLEX CABLE.** Cores separately insulated and grey PVC covered overall. Each copper core sized 7/0 2mm. Ideal for long telephone runs or similar applications even at mains voltage. 20 metres £2. Our Ref. 2P196 or 100 metres coil £8. Our Ref 8P19.

**13A PLUGS.** Good British make complete with fuse, parcel of 5 for £2. Order Ref 2P186.

**13A ADAPTERS** - Takes 2 13A plugs, packet of 3 for £2. Order Ref. 2P187.

**20v - 0 - 20v** - Mains transformers 2 1/2 amp (100 watt) loading, tapped primary 200-245 upright mountings £4. Order Ref. 4P24.

**POWERFUL 12V MOTOR** was intended for Sinclair Electric Car, rating approx. 1 1/2 HP. Price £15 plus £2 post.

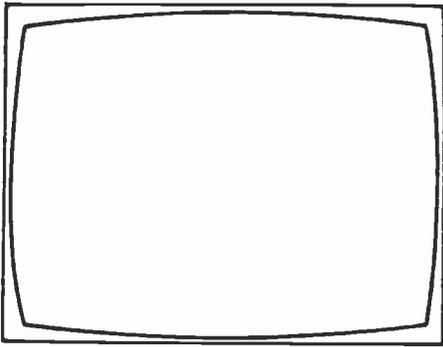
**RE-CHARGEABLE NICADS 'D' SIZE** these are tagged for easy joining together but bags can easily be removed, virtually unused, tested and gntd. £2.00 each. Ref. 2P141. 6 for £10. Ref. 10P47.

**BT HANDSET** with curly lead terminating at BT plug. Colour cream. Price £5.00. Our reference 5P123.

**SINGLE SCREENED FLEX** 7/02 copper conductors, pvc insulated then with copper screen. Ideally used in flex. In fact quite normal screened flex. 10m for £1. Our ref BD668. 60m, but solid conductor. 10m for £1. Our ref BD668A.

**WHITE CELLING SWITCH** 5 amp 2 way surface mounting with cord and tassel. Made by the famous Crabtree Company. Price £1 each. Our ref BD528.





# TELEVISION

## The Spares Business

The TV/VCR Spares Guide that comes with this issue is the fourth we've produced. When we compiled the first one in 1986 we thought that most of the spadework had been done. Just a matter, we felt, of a bit of checking and a few revisions next time. How wrong we were! We continue to be surprised at the extent of the changes in this section of the industry year by year. Each year we have had to reset the Guide completely - there just hasn't been enough of the old one left unaltered to make it worthwhile to preserve anything. It makes us wonder for how long the Guide continues to be useful once published? Maybe we should update it at six monthly intervals? Many of the important changes are included in the Teletopics column as they occur of course, and provided a listing of this sort doesn't get too out of date - yearly publication ensures that - it at any rate serves as a starting point: directory enquiries or someone at the other end will tell you about any changes that have taken place, though it's all very time consuming.

There have been deeper influences at work behind the mere changes of address, telephone number and franchises. For a start the role of the specialist component distributor has increased considerably in recent years. As far as manufacturers are concerned, spares have become an increasing headache. For a forward looking management concerned with the chassis after next and the way in which the market is evolving, the idea of having to devote time to the problems of yesterday's sets, many ten or twenty years old, is not looked upon favourably. Of far greater concern than management time however is the money locked up in stocks, the cost of storage and the expense of handling orders for lots of small items and lots of small (relatively) payments. Simpler by far to sell TVs and videos by the lorryload. There is too the hassle factor. Why isn't this item available and so on? Really the supply of spares is probably not logically a part of running a modern mass production operation - which is not to say that many firms don't continue to make a very good job of it.

The pressure on costs and profits in a highly competitive industry is probably the main factor that has led to so many major manufacturers deciding to contract out their spares operations. In-guarantee commitments to appointed dealers have to be serviced of course - and those dealers get a better service when the manufacturer isn't struggling under a mountain of orders for bits and pieces for items of every sort produced over an ever extending time span. For many, perhaps most, in the servicing industry today the first call for spares will be to a distributor rather than to a manufacturer's service department. It helps in many ways. Orders for a wide variety of items for different brands can be obtained from a single source, and the distributor knows perfectly well which bits are common to a number of manufacturers' models and can stock, supply and advise accordingly. Such firms are well placed to judge the needs of the servicing industry and to cater for a wide range of different equipment.

So CHG, CPC, HRS, SEME, Willow Vale and one or two others are playing an increasing role in the spares supply industry - and in the supply of accessories, service equipment and other items. It's a logical development, since separating the provision of spares from the manufacture and marketing of products for the mass consumer electronics market is a natural step. We have long wondered why a similar split hasn't occurred at the retail end, with the public buying from one type of outlet and getting its repairs done at another. This was common in the States at one time, though we don't know the exact position today. The disadvantage is that the service shop can miss out on a potential sale when an item obviously at the end of its life is brought in. But a nice little line in reconditioned sets can take care of that.

When the specialist distributors first started to take a larger share of the spares trade we wondered how they could make a go of something the manufacturers found so unprofitable? There seem to be several answers to this. First by buying in quantity at good prices, secondly in making use of modern order handling techniques, i.e. computerisation, and thirdly in aiming to provide a first rate, same day service to a large number of known customers with accounts.

All this leaves the dabbler and the individual customer increasingly out in the cold. Most distributors will not accept individual orders and few manufacturers will supply anything other than say a few cosmetic items to keep individual customers happy. You won't find that many shops are willing to go to the trouble of obtaining the odd spare part, especially for a make or item that's the least bit obscure. Maybe there's an opening for a small orders service of some sort?

A further major factor that has led to many manufacturers reducing their after sales service to the public is consumer legislation and the threat of litigation. Modern consumer electronics products are inherently safe, especially if manufactured to BEAB approved standards. This safety can however easily be nullified by the inexperienced operator. What then if an accident occurs? Could a manufacturer who has supplied parts in good faith be held partly responsible when a bodged repair results in an accident? This possibility has concentrated the minds of more than a few manufacturers and has led to a clamp down on the supply of parts by many of them, though it must be said that many others continue to take a very relaxed attitude - if you know exactly what you want and its part number and supply payment with order you will get your spare part. It's difficult to decide on the balance of public benefit in this respect.

The spares industry is a complex one that has been changing rapidly in recent times. Bona fide repairers have benefitted from this, but there are still possibly some unsatisfied areas of demand.

### EDITOR

John A. Reddihough

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See note on page 419.

### COVER PHOTO

This month's cover photograph shows the panel layout in the B and O L/LX2500/2800 chassis. See article on page 424.

# The Sony Trinitron Tube

Nick Beer

The Trinitron colour tube, designed by and used exclusively by Sony in all its colour receivers, was the first to have an in-line gun arrangement. It has a single gun assembly with three cathodes mounted in line horizontally, a striped-phosphor screen, an aperture grill with vertical slots instead of the traditional type of shadowmask, and a faceplate with cylindrical rather than parabolic curvature. The Trinitron tube produces a very good display – some people, including the author, would say the best. There are sound technical reasons for making this claim, for example the design of the large electron lens which provides excellent resolution. An advantage of the cylindrical in comparison with the traditional parabolic faceplate is the fact that most of the external light that falls on it is reflected away from instead of towards the viewer, thus improving the contrast and reducing eye strain. The Black Trinitron introduced a couple of years ago gives a further improvement in this respect (the faceplate has been darkened to a black colour).

Since the first Trinitron tubes appeared in the UK in the late sixties there has not been a great deal of change in the design, though a number of improvements have been introduced. More recently we have had the Black Trinitron mentioned above and the Pan-focus gun which gives uniform focusing over the entire screen area, eliminating any need for dynamic focusing.

## The Trinitron Gun

Fig. 1 shows the basic Trinitron gun arrangement. Note that the beams cross over during their passage through the electron lens system. We have used the traditional UK A1, 2, 3 etc. system of electrode identification though Sony prefers G1, G2 (A1) etc. which is really more logical. Conventional tubes generally employ what is

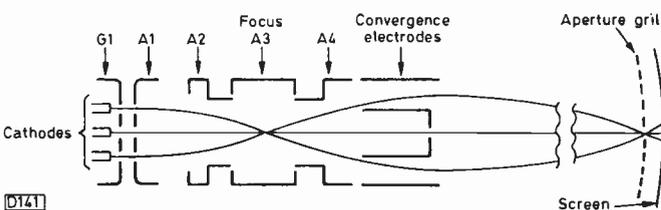


Fig. 1: The Trinitron's internal arrangements.

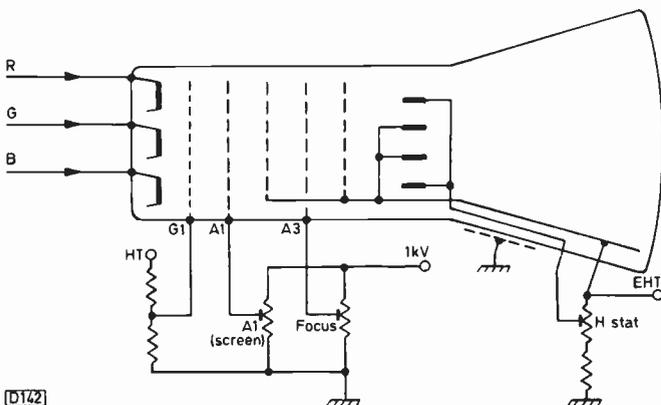


Fig. 2: Inputs to the various electrodes.

referred to as bipotential focusing, i.e. the first anode (A1, G2) is at about 800V while the focus electrode is at around 20 per cent of the final anode voltage (e.h.t.). With the Trinitron the A1 (G2) voltage is about 200-800V, the focus electrode (A3, G4) is at around 350-800V while A2 and A4 are internally connected to the e.h.t. voltage. The convergence electrodes act as an electron prism, deflecting the beams after their cross-over in the electron lens to ensure convergence at the aperture grill. This is where the horizontal static convergence voltage is applied. Most of you will have seen the large H stat controls in Sony TV sets. By adjusting this control well away from its correct setting you can see the effects of incorrect RGB beam convergence.

In the earliest Trinitron tubes the convergence voltage was applied via a connection on the tube's neck – you may recall the rubber boots on the neck of the tube in the KV1300! Subsequently connection was made by means of a two connection e.h.t. cap. In the latest tubes an external connection is not required at this end. Instead the arrangement is as follows. A high resistance (IBR) is incorporated in the neck of the tube, between the final anode and the convergence electrode. The potentiometer to control the horizontal static convergence voltage is connected to the earthy end of the IBR, enabling the connection to be made through a pin at the tube's base.

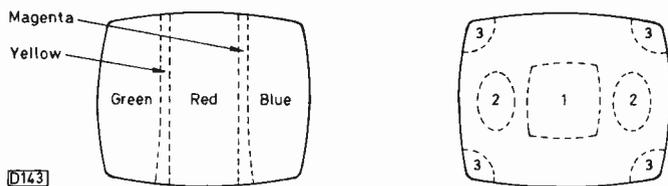
To improve corner focusing a "double astigmatic" lens is now used. What this means is that the holes in the G1 plate, which provides pre-focusing, are now oval instead of circular. To improve the focus from the centre to the edge with large-screen tubes the Pan-focus system has been introduced. This involves a change in the position and angles of the cathodes and makes it unnecessary to apply a parabolic dynamic focus waveform to the focus electrode.

Tube flashovers can destroy costly devices in the associated circuitry, though they don't usually damage the tube itself. They tend to occur during only the first 100 hours or so of tube use. A flashover consists of a discharge from one of the high-voltage electrodes to one at a lower potential. To protect the external circuits the latest tubes employ Peak Current Elements (PCEs), which are basically high-impedance resistors, within the tube. There are two of these, one from A4 to A2 and the other in series with A3. In the event of a flashover a very high voltage will be developed across these PCEs, as a result of which the charge cannot reach the c.r.t. connections and external circuitry.

As with other types of tube the degaussing shield is now incorporated within the tube. It's made of low-carbon steel which has low permeability and a thickness of only 0.15mm. This reduces the size and weight of the receiver and also greatly simplifies tube replacement.

## Setting up a Trinitron

Many readers will probably be more interested in the alignment of Trinitron tubes. In common with the conventional shadowmask tube in its modern form, i.e. with FS screen etc., the corner convergence and focusing are not



**Fig. 3 (left):** Display produced with the yoke pushed forward for purity adjustment. Complementary colours will be present between the primary colour areas. Adjust the purity rings to centralise the red area.

**Fig. 4 (right):** Areas affected by the methods of adjusting the purity. (1) Affected by the rings, (2) affected by yoke positioning, (3) corrected by using disc magnets.

perfect. This is probably a side effect of the struggle to produce lower cost receivers, with more extras piled in for the same price. With the Trinitron tube however quite a lot of twiddling is possible to try to make the picture as good as possible. We've had our fair share of faulty (usually not worn out) Trinitron tubes in recent months. Reliability doesn't seem to be as good as with earlier versions. Some seem to set up quickly and accurately while others can take hours to get right. The following notes are based on Sony's recommendations plus our practical experience.

The usual reason for alignment is tube replacement. The deflection yoke will have been removed from the old glass, as will the three rubber bungs that stabilize the yoke.

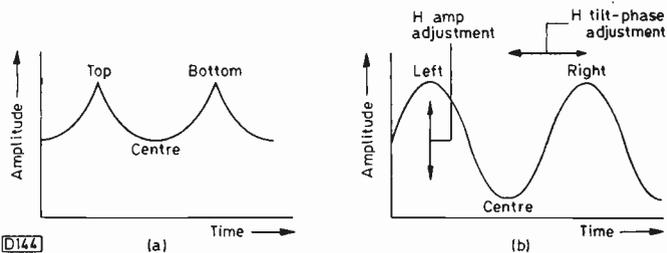
While you are about this it's a good idea to dust out and clean the cabinet after removing the old glass. The chassis should also be cleaned – this is much easier when it's out of the set. Also clean the e.h.t. cap and lead thoroughly. Standard precautions when handling c.r.t.s should be observed: wear goggles at all times; discharge the tube before removal; do not lift the tube by the neck etc.

Transfer the degaussing coils, Aquadag braid etc. to the new tube, ensuring correct routing and securing of these items. Then fit the yoke, after first ensuring that the strip of adhesive fabric under the yoke's securing clamp has been fitted to the new tube – the new c.r.t. usually comes without this.

Once the receiver has been restored to operation, display a red raster from a pattern generator and degauss the tube. To be sure about this you may prefer to place the receiver looking west so that there is minimal interference from the Earth's magnetic field. Another point worth making here for the uninitiated is to make sure that no extraneous sources of magnetism are present near the set. Sources can include a loudspeaker, a screwdriver or an isolation transformer under the bench. Another factor that can cause problems is a metal-framed bench that has become magnetised – this is quite often the case. The effect produced by these sources of magnetism is a purity error that cannot be shifted.

### Purity Adjustment

The next factor to deal with is beam landing. With the red raster still displayed, square up the display as far as you can then push the yoke as far forward as possible to produce the display shown in Fig. 3 – red in the middle with green and blue on either side. This effect is present because the deflection angle is incorrect. The red section of the display should be at the centre of the screen. If it isn't, use the purity magnets to move it to the correct position. Move the two purity rings together in a scissor



**Fig. 5:** Waveforms present at the dynamic convergence coils, (a) for vertical axis correction (field rate parabola), (b) for horizontal axis correction (line rate sinewave).

action. Once the red area has been centred, move the yoke backwards until a full red raster is obtained. In practice small purity errors will still be present. Position the yoke for optimum purity then correct these small purity errors by using disc magnets that stick on the back of the c.r.t. – these magnets are available from Sony under part number 1-452-032-00. They are self-adhesive. Also available are disc magnets that can be rotated with a screwdriver to give fine adjustment – part number 1-452-094-00. Fig. 4 shows the effects produced by these three methods of purity correction. Secure the yoke in position with the three rubber wedges.

### Convergence Adjustment

Finally we come to convergence. Display a crosshatch pattern from a pattern generator to show the convergence errors present. The aim of convergence is to superimpose the red, green and blue rasters correctly. Thus errors show up as red, blue and green edges to the crosshatch pattern. As with purity adjustment there are three stages.

First comes static convergence. Horizontal static convergence is carried out by adjusting the voltage applied to the convergence electrodes in the c.r.t. This affects the outer blue and red beams, not the centre green beam. Adjust the H stat control so that the vertical crosshatch lines are correctly converged at the centre of the screen – red and blue on green to give white lines with no colour separation. Two ring magnets are provided on the tube neck for vertical static convergence. Adjust the rings simultaneously for optimum convergence of the horizontal crosshatch lines at the centre of the raster.

You may find that in addition to the ring magnets there is an extra magnet, or maybe two extra magnets, at the base end of the neck. These are known as BMC magnets. The usual one is mounted horizontally to give a wider range of H stat adjustment. Move it in or out. In older sets a second BMC magnet may be mounted vertically to assist with V stat adjustment. You may find it necessary to add a BMC magnet when a new c.r.t. has been fitted. If you do, recheck the purity as a BMC magnet can have quite an effect on this. Part numbers for BMC magnets are quoted in the Sony service manuals.

Dynamic convergence corrects errors at the edges of the screen. With modern flat, square screens corner convergence is particularly difficult. Dynamic convergence correction coils are mounted on the yoke, behind the deflection coils. By altering the amplitude and phase of the waveforms fed to these coils (see Fig. 5) the beam deflection angles in these difficult areas can be altered. Vertical and horizontal correction waveforms are fed to the coils.

For vertical correction at the top and bottom of the screen an inverse parabola is used. Its amplitude is

adjusted by means of the Y bow control. When this control is incorrectly set there will be separation of the red and blue horizontal lines to one side at the top and bottom of the screen.

Horizontal axis correction affects the vertical lines at the left and right of the screen. The drive waveform is this time sinusoidal, produced by an LC circuit from a line frequency pulse. The H tilt control balances the effect of the correction between the right- and left-hand sides of the screen by phase shifting the sinewave. The H amp control adjusts the amount of correction at both sides by altering the amplitude of the sinewave. The effects are fairly obvious. Misadjustment of the H amp control shows

up as separation of the RGB lines vertically, at each side. If the effect is different at each side of the screen the H tilt control is incorrectly adjusted.

Corner errors, which can be stubborn and particularly annoying with teletext, can be corrected to some degree by using Permalloy stick-on magnets (part number X-4308-815-0). These are self-adhesive magnets on long strips of plastic. They are slid under the scan coils and stuck to the back of the tube. If after fine movement of these magnets you still have minute errors you will have to resign yourself to the fact that that's it. Don't waste hours trying with no evident improvement. Some tubes give perfect results, others don't – that's modern tubes.

# *Servicing Compact Disc Players*

## *Part 2: Laser Assemblies*

*Joe Cieszynski*

The optical assembly in a CD player incorporates a gallium arsenide laser diode, a laser power control circuit, a complex lens assembly and the photodetectors that provide output voltages corresponding to the recorded digital information and any focus and tracking errors. From the servicing point of view it's probably only necessary to be aware of the safety precautions required when handling the laser, to know how to set the laser power (this is not adjustable in later machines) and to know how to diagnose a faulty laser. A more thorough understanding of the optical assembly does however help you to understand the functions of the focus and tracking servos, helps you to interpret the waveforms in these servos and to decide where the fault lies when these waveforms are incorrect.

As CD players have evolved, several types of laser assembly have been developed and come into use. They can be divided into two basic categories however: three-beam and single-beam arrangements. There is not a lot of difference between them, but the single-beam type uses a unique method of obtaining a tracking error signal.

### *Three-beam Optical Units*

Fig. 1 shows the basic elements contained in a three-beam optical unit. The various components are as follows.

The laser diode can be considered as a LED that operates in the infra-red region, at a wavelength of around 790nm. Unlike a LED however a laser diode is very sensitive to temperature and current changes. If the current increases fractionally as a result of a change of temperature the light output will rise very sharply. Because of the laser action this increased light output will produce a further current increase leading to additional light output and so on. The cycle of events can be likened to thermal runaway in a transistor. Because of this the laser's light output must be carefully controlled. An automatic photo output control (APC) circuit is used for this purpose. An example is shown in Fig. 2. Its operation is as follows.

The light output is monitored by a photosensitive device mounted next to the laser diode. This device's output voltage is then used to control a simple current regulator. In the Mitsubishi circuit shown VR991 sets the laser's power output at approximately 400 $\mu$ W, measured using a laser power meter. The output depends on the manufac-

turer and varies over a range of 250-400 $\mu$ W. Regulation is carried out by Q993 which is in series with the laser. The feedback from the monitoring device is applied to the base of Q991 which, via Q992, controls the current flowing through Q993. Once set the circuit will continuously correct variations caused by temperature changes and, in the long term, will compensate for the reduced output as the laser diode ages.

Intermittent jumping, failure to play certain discs or failure to play any disc can be caused by the laser's output having fallen to such an extent that the APC circuit can no longer provide compensation. Readjustment of the laser's output is sometimes all that's required, but with a well used machine it's unlikely that this cure will be long lived. A word of warning here. When resetting the power output take care to ensure that it's not turned up too high – this would greatly reduce the laser's life (rather like operating a colour tube for a long period of time with the first anode voltages set too high – the tube ages more rapidly). In fact in some machines it's possible to blow the laser instantly if the control is turned too far. We'll discuss the various ways of carrying out this adjustment later on.

In all later machines the APC circuit is capable of compensating for diode ageing right up to the point where the diode has virtually failed. This does away with the need for power output adjustment.

The next item is the diffraction grating. This consists of a plate with a number of slits. As the single beam from the diode passes through these slits it's split (by diffraction) into three, the power in each side beam being about 25 per cent of that in the main beam.

The polarising prism is used to separate the emitted and reflected beams. As shown in Fig. 1, the polarising plate allows the emitted beam to pass straight through the prism. By the time the beam has travelled through the prism and the quarter-wave plate, been reflected off the disc and then travelled back through the quarter-wave plate it will have been subjected to a 90° phase shift. When it reaches the polarising plate once more it will be reflected (bent) towards the pickup detectors.

By the time the laser's beam reaches the collimator lens it's elliptical in shape and is diverging. The collimator lens is used to correct the divergence, adjust the beam diameter and shape it into a circle. The principle of the collimator lens is shown in Fig. 3.

The quarter-wave plate is a crystal which has been cut

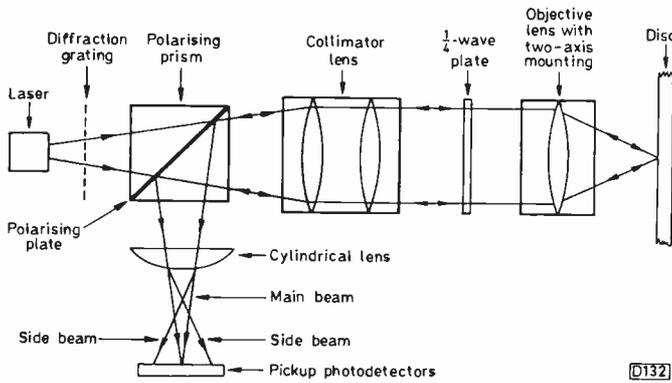


Fig. 1: Arrangement of the various items that comprise the T-type three-beam laser optical unit.

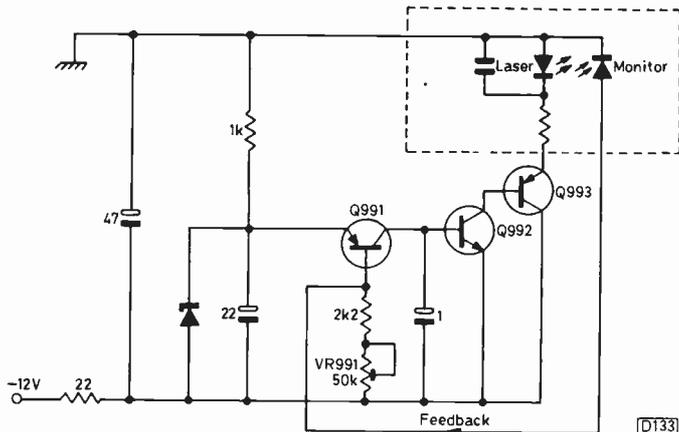


Fig. 2: Laser current stabilising circuit used in an early Mitsubishi CD player.

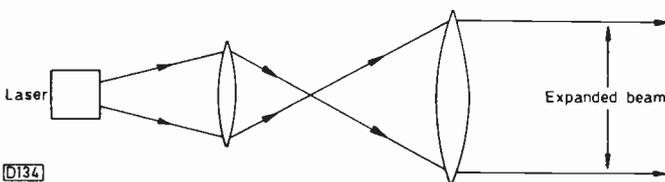


Fig. 3: Principle of the collimator lens.

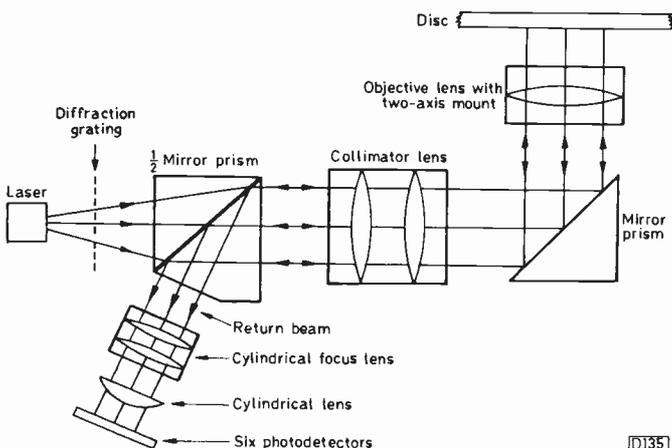


Fig. 4: Arrangement of the flat optical pickup (FOP).

so that light passing through it will be subjected to a 45° phase shift. Because the reflected beam in a CD player laser assembly passes through the quarter-wave plate twice it's subjected to a total phase shift of 90°.

The objective lens focuses the beam so that the spot diameter at the disc's reflective surface (not the outer surface of the disc) is 1.7µm. The diameter is set by

moving the lens towards the disc until the pickup detectors give a reading corresponding to a 1.7µm circle. This lens is also used to focus the reflected beam.

Like the objective lens the cylindrical lens is an ordinary ground lens. It's used to focus the reflected beam on to the pickup detector diodes.

The T-type laser optical assembly shown in Fig. 1 was the first type to be used. With this type the laser beam is split into three, a main beam which is picked up by the four main photodetectors to give data and focus error outputs and two side beams which fall on two further photodetectors at either side to produce the tracking error signal.

The main problem with the T-type assembly is its comparatively large size. To reduce the deck size, and make possible the introduction of personal CD systems, a smaller laser assembly was required. For this reason Sony developed the single-beam assembly. It still left player manufacturers with some design problems which we'll go into later. A better solution was found in what is called the flat optical pickup (FOP). This is illustrated in Fig. 4: you will see that the polarising prism and quarter-wavelength plate have been replaced by a half mirror prism.

When light meets a half mirror prism fifty per cent of it passes straight through and the other fifty per cent is reflected. In the arrangement shown in Fig. 4 fifty per cent of the light emitted by the laser is reflected back and lost, the other fifty per cent passing through to the disc. Although the light reaching the photodetectors is only 25 per cent of the original beam it's still sufficient for accurate detection.

The advantage of this assembly lies not only in its small size. In the event of a disc having a minute mirror impurity the phase of the reflected light may alter slightly. With the T-type assembly this means that the phase of the light in the return beam is not at 90° to that of the emitted beam, resulting in incorrect reflection at the polarising prism and thus a dropout. With the FOP assembly the phase of the light is irrelevant. This type of assembly is thus not affected by such mirror impurities.

### Single-beam Optical Units

We'll now take a more detailed look at the single-beam assembly, which was introduced a few years ago by Sony and Philips in an attempt to reduce the size of CD players. We've seen that the two additional beams in a three-beam assembly are used to produce a tracking error signal. The single-beam assembly has only four photodetectors which have to produce the data signal, the focus error signal and the tracking error signal. Although the Philips and Sony assemblies differ in the way in which they achieve this multiple use of a single reflected beam, in both cases the three signals must be separated from each other and this

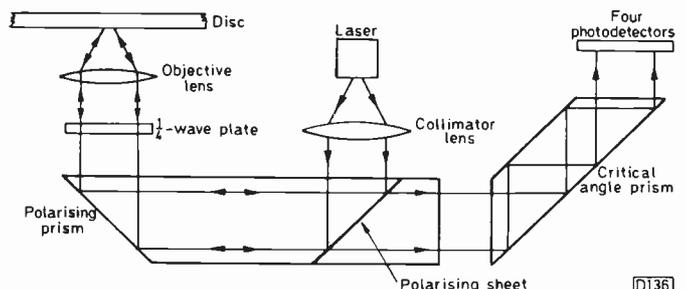


Fig. 5: Arrangement of the single-beam laser assembly used in some Sony CD players.

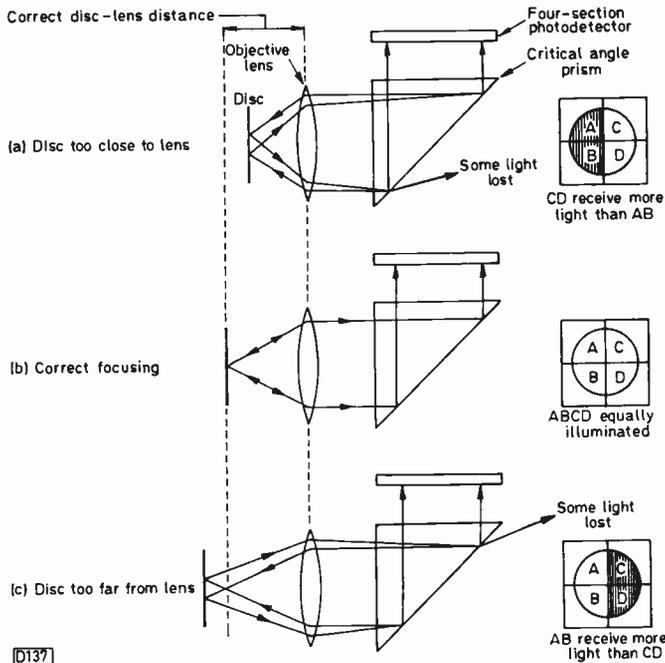


Fig. 6: Use of a critical-angle prism to obtain a focus error signal with a single-beam assembly.

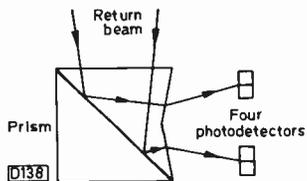


Fig. 7 (left): The Philips single-beam assembly uses a prism with a V cut at one side instead of a critical-angle prism.

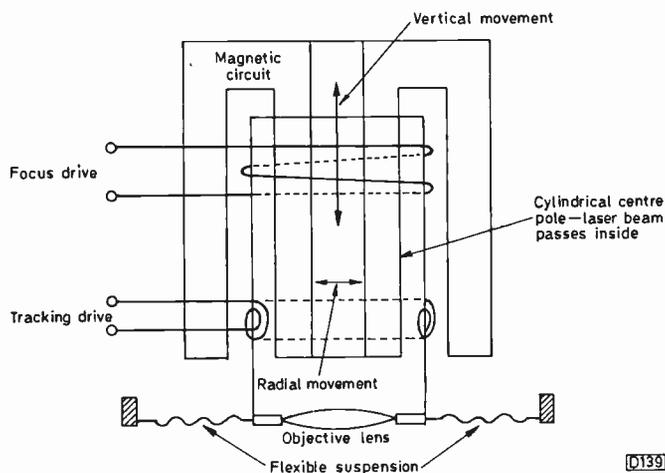


Fig. 8: Basic arrangement of the two-axis mounting for the objective lens, giving focus and fine tracking adjustment.

requires more complex circuitry in the laser preamplifier. This, coupled with the fact that the single-beam assembly still uses a polarising prism and is thus susceptible to mirror impurity effects, caused other manufacturers to opt instead for the three-beam FOP assembly. This trend has continued ever since. Whether or not an improved single-beam device will come to replace three-beam arrangements remains to be seen.

Fig. 5 shows the arrangement of the Sony single-beam assembly. If you compare this with the arrangement shown in Fig. 1 you will see that they are in many respects the same. The main differences consist of the omission of the diffraction grating, the changed position of the collimator lens and the inclusion of the critical angle prism.

The critical angle prism does far more than bend the

beam through  $90^\circ$  and focus it on to the photodetectors. A brief description of its effect is called for. The prism is cut at a critical angle,  $42^\circ$ . Only when light enters at this angle will maximum output be obtained at the other end. Light entering at any angle other than  $42^\circ$  will not achieve a  $90^\circ$  turn, so the output will be reduced. In the Sony assembly – see Fig. 6 – the reflected beam strikes the prism at the critical angle only when it's a parallel beam, and this occurs only when the disc focus is correct. When the objective lens is too close to or too far from the disc the return beam will be either convergent or divergent. In either case part of the beam will be lost at the prism so that the light falling on two of the four pickup photodetectors will be reduced. From this the focus servo can determine the position of the object lens with respect to the disc. Fig. 6 illustrates the principle.

The Philips single-beam assembly differs from the Sony version in not using a critical-angle prism. Instead the prism is cut to a V shape at the side where the light emerges – see Fig. 7. As a result the beam is split in two. The four photodetectors are mounted in two pairs and are arranged so that the three signals (data, focus error and tracking error) can be separated. We will discuss this in greater detail when we come to servo systems.

### The Two-axis Lens Mounting

To achieve correct focusing and tracking the objective lens is mounted on a two-axis arrangement with rubber supports, as a result of which it's free to move both vertically (for focusing) and radially (for tracking). Two sets of coils are wound on a former at the centre of which the lens is mounted. There are four permanent magnets in close proximity to these coils. The coil/lens assembly is suspended between the magnets, on rubber suspension mounts. See Fig. 8.

When a focus error is detected the servo alters the current in the focus drive coils, moving the lens towards or away from the disc until correct focus has been re-established. When the machine is in the stop mode, i.e. there's no current in the coils, the lens will be centrally positioned. When a disc is inserted the focus servo initially pulls the lens fully inwards (away from the disc) then moves the lens progressively outwards until correct focus is achieved.

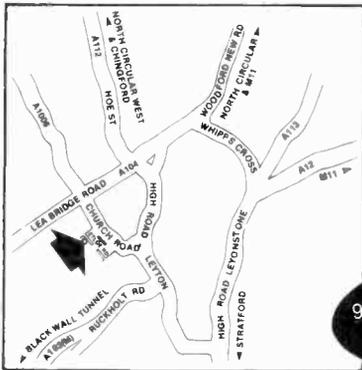
The tracking servo keeps the beam on the correct track section – as shown in Fig. 3 last month, the track pitch is only  $1.6\mu\text{m}$ . Those familiar with CD players will be aware that in most cases the laser assembly is carried across the disc on a motor-driven sled. This arrangement is sufficient for coarse tracking, but the motor and gear assembly cannot possibly work to a precision of  $1.6\mu\text{m}$ . In addition the disc may be slightly eccentric on its axis, making the track "wobble" as the disc rotates. The tracking servo therefore controls not only the sled motor but also the current in the tracking coils. The current flowing in these coils produces radial movement of the lens assembly. Radial lens movement of typically  $\pm 70\mu\text{m}$  is achieved by the coils: once this movement is at its extreme the sled motor operates briefly, restoring the lens to its central position. This joint action of the sled motor and the radial drive can be likened to the operation of a linear tracking tone arm on a conventional audio disc player.

Having taken a detailed look at the different types of laser assemblies in use, next month we'll deal with more practical matters – laser handling, adjustment and fault diagnosis.

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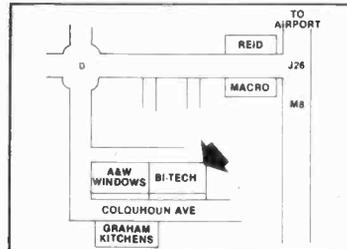
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# Long-distance Television

Roger Bunney

1989 certainly got off to an encouraging start, with January providing four weeks of good reception conditions. Tropospheric propagation was present almost throughout the period, thanks to a stationary high-pressure system that loitered over Western Europe. The frequent tropospheric openings provided excellent signals, ducting, reception of numerous u.h.f. Danish TV2 transmitters, even Austrian Band III/u.h.f. signals in the Midlands. There were also F2 and SpE signals – a fine start to the year.

The first F2 reception was on the 5th, when a distant Russian ch. R1 signal was present at around 0830 for an hour. The 13th produced Arabic text and programming on ch. E2, at 0805-0903. The 15th was perhaps the most interesting day for F2 reception however: a ch. E2 signal that almost certainly came from Malaysia was received by both Tim Anderson (St. Leonards) and Garry Smith (Derby) between 0850-0920. Tim thinks it was a programme about knitting, with a multiburst test pattern as a floater. Garry logged Arabic captions and a programme about aircraft. He noted a clock at 1715, which strongly suggests Malaysia since this country is at +8 hours with respect to GMT. On the same afternoon Chris Howells (Lichfield) noted weak ch. A2 (525-line) signals for about two hours. At 0830 a Russian ch. R1 signal was seen. A further Russian signal was received at 1230, which is unusual since this is rather late – it's likely to have been a minimum hop distance signal, possibly from the Moscow region. The maximum sunspot count (273) occurred on the 13th.

With such a high level of sunspot activity it was not unexpected that auroral openings occurred. The dates here were the 11th, 13th, 15th, 16th and 17th, with a major event on the 20th and 22nd and the promise of a repeat performance on the 27th day of the solar cycle, during February.

SpE produced several minor openings and reception of isolated signals from time to time. The log is as follows.

5/1/89 YLE (Finland) ch. E3; NRK (Norway) ch. E2.  
7/1/89 TVE (Spain) E2.

8/1/89 TVE E2, 3.  
9/1/89 SVT (Sweden) E2; NRK E2; DR (Denmark) E3; RUV (Iceland) E4.  
10/1/89 TVE E2, 3; ORF (Austria) E2a; ARD (W. Germany) E2; TSS (USSR) R1.  
11/1/89 RAI (Italy) IA.  
13/1/89 TVE E2.  
14/1/89 TVE E2.  
20/1/89 TVE E3.  
21/1/89 YLE E3, 4; TVE E2, 3; TSS R1.  
22/1/89 NRK E3.  
27/1/89 TVE E2, 3.  
29/1/89 TVE E2; SVT-1 E2 via auroral reflection.

The spectacular tropospheric conditions are still present as I write this at the beginning of February. Here in my valley location at Romsey, Hants RTL (Luxembourg) ch. E7 has been a fairly strong signal for much of the month. Following excellent signals during the first week the first major spell of activity was between the 15th-25th. Propagation was both conventional and via ducting. Highlights were ORF chs. E7, 8 and 24 (under Sandy Heath!), numerous W/E German signals, Denmark including the new TV2 stations, plus NRK and SVT in Band III and at u.h.f. There was classic ducting on the evening of the 18th with very strong W. German Band III signals here at Romsey along with signals from nearer co-channel transmitters. On the 20th Cyril Willis received TVP (Poland) chs. R7 and 8.

The excellent conditions continued up to the 25th. The mass of logs received detailing reception at particular locations make it very difficult to give an overall picture. Sufficient to say that on the 24th Simon Hamer in North Wales received Luxembourg ch. E7, Belgium chs. E3, 8, 10, 11, 28, 43, 44, 46, 49, 55, 62 and 63, Holland chs. E4, 5, 6, 7, 27, 29, 30, 31, 32, 34, 35, 39, 42, 45, 47, 50, 53 and 54, all the French Band III channels plus L22, 25, 28, 34, 35, 37, 40, 48, 52, 56 and 63, East Germany ch. E12, AFN (Holland) ch. A80, all the W. German Band III channels plus chs. E21, 27, 30, 34, 35, 37, 40, 48, 53 and 57, Denmark chs. E5, 8, 10 and 30, and NRK ch. E5. Tim Anderson's log at St. Leonards on the south coast tells much the same story but with more W. German signals (most channels in fact), more Danish signals plus Swiss Band III/u.h.f. signals and Austria ch. E8. On the 25th Mark Baldwin logged NRK Gausta ch. E8 at 3kW!

Reception opened up again on the 30/31st and on into February, with much the same story. Several DXers have reported reception of the Luxembourg ch. E36 transmitter. This is the Dusseldorf/ Burscheid outlet at only 20kW. It has been causing problems for VCR owners in that



Reception of a Saudi Arabian identification card by Ian Waller in Lincoln, via the 4GHz Arabsat satellite at 26°E.

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## ● GRUNDIG'S SATELLITE TV RECEIVER

For the coming of Astra Steve Beeching obtained a Grundig offset dish and STR20 tuner, one of the most widely available TVRO combinations, to see how they performed. He compared them with an earlier tuner and some larger dishes and found that they gave just as good results – except when the chicken got in the way . . .

## ● OPERATIONAL AMPLIFIERS

In Part 2 of his article on the subject Keith Cummins describes the basic practical uses for operational amplifiers, goes through a typical circuit design problem and also mentions some fault-finding pitfalls.

## ● SOLID-STATE IMAGE SENSORS

The next item to be covered in Camcorder Servicing is the solid-state CCD image sensor used in the latest generation of cameras and camcorders. How it works and the symptoms that arise under fault conditions.

## ● TEST REPORT: LASER POWER METER

Now that CD players regularly appear in the workshop a means of measuring the output from laser optical units is required. Nick Beer reports on the Leader LPM8000.

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area. We also have a report of the new NDR "Nordtext" being seen.

A letter from Ryn Muntjewerff reports similar reception conditions in Holland, but with signals from transmitters farther to the east – Czechoslovakia, Austria, Poland, "many" E. German stations, a Russian ch. R45 relay and signals from Grunten in the deep south of Germany on chs. 43/46. Ryn also reports seeing a new Czechoslovakian test pattern based on the PM5544 but with the identification "1 SR-P". On the 3rd Dutch DXers received Satander, Spain, chs. 40 and 56, a very good catch. On that day Tim Anderson logged the Basque ETB-1 ch. 35 and ETB-2 ch. 38 outlets.

Anthony Mann (Perth, Western Australia) comments on the excellent F2 conditions in his part of the world during late December. On the 23rd the Australian amateur VK3OT had two-way contact at 50MHz with OH2BA in Finland. On the same day Anthony received various ch. E2/R1/C1 Malaysian and Chinese stations via SpE/F2. On the previous day he received 50MHz amateur signals via double-hop SpE from New Caledonia, a distance of over 3,000 miles. Incidentally the Australian ch. 0 TV transmitter DDQ-0 now has a negative 80kHz offset, vision being 46.172MHz and sound 51.67MHz – ABMN-0 remains at 46.24/51.74MHz. Useful should you hear them on a scanner if F2 is that good!

R. Bengal in Bangalore, India, reports that he's been receiving many F2/TE and SpE signals, particularly from the Gulf area, using a 13-element ch. E5 aerial. We've suggested a wideband Band I aerial to improve his reception.

My thanks to the following for sending in comments and reception reports: Tim Anderson (St. Leonards), Garry Smith (Derby), Peter Schubert (Rainham), Cyril Willis (King's Lynn), Roger Fussell (Torpoint), Iain Menzies (Aberdeen), Simon Hamer (Powys), David Oliver (Birmingham), Mark Baldwin (Northants) and Ryn Muntjewerff (Holland).

Perhaps the main event of the period was the coming on air of Astra at 19.2°E. Over the space of a few days an increasing number of channels became available, doubling the choice of signals for suitably equipped viewers. Interesting that from the start of TV transmissions after the end of World War Two it took over thirty years for four channels to become available in most parts of the UK. Within perhaps two years from planning to transmissions via the Astra satellite we now have over eight channels and by the year's end there should be nearly twelve. I recall the lines "never mind the quality, look at the width" . . .

## News Items

**Finland:** Relays transmitting the Swedish SVT-1 service are now operational in Helsinki. Further relays covering the greater part of the south/south west of the country will be opened during the next two years.

**Spain:** Regional broadcaster RTV Madrid is due to start test transmissions in April, with programmes from May 2nd. Another regional broadcaster due to come on air is Canal Sur, in Andalusia, based in Seville.

**Italy:** The mystery ch. E2 transmissions of the US originated CNN have been identified as coming from Telemarket. The UK Super Channel was also transmitted at times. These two offerings were transmitted during periods when Telemarket was not producing its own material.

**Uganda:** TV coverage is to be extended to nearly seventy

per cent of the country via transmitters that are being commissioned by NEC at Lira, Mbarara, Masaka and Mbale. The equipment had been delivered some years previously but due to the turbulent political situation had never been brought into operation.

**Nigeria:** The broadcasting authority NTA has requested funds to update its radio/TV broadcasting equipment, much of which is now over twenty years old.

**Poland:** The Italian RAI-1 service is now being transmitted from Krakow on ch. R50, covering a radius of 70km.

**Norway:** NRK Rogaland (Stavanger) regional broadcasts are now being transmitted by Bjerkreim on ch. E6 and Bokn on ch. E8.

**Shetlands:** It's rumoured that the Shetlands Islands Broadcasting Company is transmitting Sky Television. Reception is apparently from a dish atop the studio building at Lerwick. Can anyone confirm this and provide further details?

### Satellite TV Book

A second edition has been published of John Breeds' "Satellite Television - Installation Guide". I'd thoroughly recommend it for engineers, aerial installers and satellite enthusiasts. It's well produced with high-quality paper and clear text and layout and covers the essentials of signal propagation, satellite position (elevation/azimuth) with maps for various craft, dishes, mounts, electronic equipment, how to erect and align aerials, how to fit LNBS/polarotors, cabling, footprints, plugs - even how to calculate wall bolts/plugs for a mounting bracket. It clears up many of the questions a newcomer always asks. I wish the book had been available when I started with my first 90cm patio mount - even this humble system is dealt with. If you're in the trade or, like me, a satellite receiving enthusiast, this is the book you need! It's available at £11.95, including post and packing, from Swift Television Publications, 17 Pittsfield, Cricklade, Swindon, Wilts SN6 6AN.

### Test Card Video

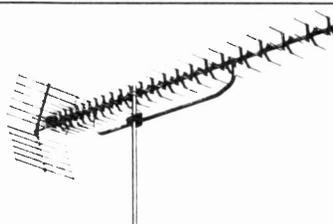
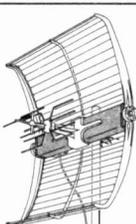
If you're into test cards, the new British Amateur Television Club video "The Development of the TV Test Card" will be essential viewing. In this one-hour video George Hersee, designer of BBC test cards, talks on the development of and different types of test cards that have been used, going back as far as Test Card A. He's interviewed by Andy Emmerson. The video is recorded on a three-hour VHS tape and costs £5 from Andy at 71 Falcutt Way, Northampton NN2 8PH - postage paid in the UK, add accordingly for overseas despatch. I've viewed the tape and can recommend it as being extremely interesting. Incidentally does anyone have a photograph or illustration of the old BBC Test Card B?

### Amateur TV Activities - 1989 Contests

The British Amateur Television Club has supplied the following list of contest periods for 1989. These are periods when ATV operation will be very active, giving the TV-DXer the opportunity to receive signals with greater predictability than the usual random occurrences. If possible, listen to the ATV calling frequency - 144.75MHz.

The Spring Vision contest was from March 11th at 1800 GMT to March 12th at 1200. Sorry we didn't get that in before.

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The Summer Fun contest is from June 10th at 1800 GMT to June 11th at 1200.

The IARU (international) ATV contest is from September 9th at 1800 GMT to September 10th at 1200.

The Autumn Vision contest is on November 12th from 0001 to 2359 GMT.

The Winter ATV contest (joint European) is from December 9th at 1800 GMT to December 10th at 1200.

### Soviet TV

Bernd Trutenau of the Benelux DX Club has supplied details of the Estonian TV network and the channel allocations. The following list includes only those transmitters likely to be seen in the UK via SpE.

Region	Channel	Region	Channel
Tallinn	R2 E, R3 L	Voru	R3 E
Tartu	R4 K1	Polva	R5 K1
Kohtla-Jarve	R1 K2, R5 L	Ruhnu	R5 E
Parnu	R4 E	Kallaste	R3 E
Haapsalu	R3 K1	Narva	R4 K1, R2 L
Rakvere	R3 E	Poltsamaa	R1 K1
Kunda	R1 K1	Sillamae	R3 K1
Jogeava	R5 K1		

E = Eesti TV, L = Leningrad TV, K1 = CT-1 (Russian first programme), K2 = CT-2 (Russian second programme, networked).

Test transmissions using the UK teletext standard are at present being carried by Eesti TV on weekdays from 1450-1500.

# TV Fault Finding

Reports from Roger Burchett, Alfred Damp, Bob McClenning, Ian Bowden, Nick Beer, J. Olijnyk and John L. Howard

## Rediffusion Mk 3 Chassis

The very large number of these sets in my area are beginning to suffer from tuning problems. This particularly affects the six-button Rodé-Stucky selector unit. It can be stripped and cleaned, clearing the problem, provided care is taken.

To remove the unit from the set take out two self-tapping screws in the front panel. Next remove the buttons by inserting a small screwdriver in the holes on the underside of the surrounding moulding and prising them off. The cover over the switches and lamp is removed by prising off with a screwdriver in the four slots. You will find that the circuit board is attached to the plastic carriage by four screws, two of which are not immediately obvious as they are covered by plastic plugs. Remove these and the board is free. The selector unit can be unsoldered after which the tracks, on a subpanel riveted at one end of the main panel, are exposed. Cleaning is then a simple job, with no fear of damaging the plastic. Reassembly is also simple. **R.B.**

## Jackson Mk 2 Chassis

The models I've seen fitted with this chassis have come in the guise of the Triumph 8209. The soldering is not of the best and it pays to resolder the heavy wound components (chopper and line output transformers) and to check carefully with an eyeglass for dry-joints. The main one to date has been on R29 (27k $\Omega$ ) which is mounted under the board. It tends to be held to the print at one end, with a "blob" of solder at the other end. Depending on how well this "blob" makes contact with the print the fault shows up as a curious slowness for the line to lock, intermittent line slip with colour drop out, or unlocked lines if you so much as breathe on the set. If the set is left too long like this the BU508D line output transistor TR15 will go short-circuit and soon after R125 (4.7 $\Omega$ , 2W safety resistor) will go open-circuit. So if you come across a case of a dead BU508D in one of these sets, soak test it very carefully after checking the above points.

Intermittent colour on its own is generally due to a dry-joint on one leg of the crystal.

Spares for these sets are available (trade only) from Jackson Products Ltd. For the address and telephone number see under Harwood in the TV/VCR Spares Guide. **R.B.**

## Thorn 9600 Chassis

After a very few occurrences of "flickering" – presumably due to h.t. variations, seeing what happened next – the mains fuse F1 blew violently. W533 was found to be short-circuit. This device is a BY299-1000 which is no longer available. The MR818 is a suitable replacement. Safety resistor R518 (1 $\Omega$ ) also went open-circuit. **R.B.**

## Rank T22 Chassis

This one had received amateur attention and was non-operative. Once the 200V supply had been restored a check was made on 4R16 (910 $\Omega$ ) in the 12V regulator circuit. It was found to be still within tolerance, but 4D5 (BZY88C5V6), 4D6 (BZY88C6V2) and 4D7 (1N4148)

were short-circuit, with scorch marks on the panel, and 4R58 (56 $\Omega$ , safety) was open-circuit. When these were replaced the set started up but there was no raster. The TDA2532 RGB matrixing chip IC6 on the signals panel proved to be faulty. **R.B.**

## GEC C2110 Series

For intermittent no colour, sometimes coming and going if you tap the board, clean the pins of the TBA560 chroma/luminance processing chip and its holder. A clue is that the luminance varies as well. **R.B.**

## Philips CTX-S Chassis

In recent months we've had a number of these sets in with faulty chroma delay lines (type DL701). Symptoms range from intermittent loss of colour to permanent no colour or alternatively severe Hanover blinds. The latter fault can be tracked down to the delay line by tapping its case.

As in the later KT3 chassis it pays to clean the pins of the chrominance chip. These can also be responsible for the no colour symptom when dirty. **R.B.**

## Philips 2A Chassis

This is becoming a stock fault with these sets. The reported fault is a dead set and you will normally find that the BU508 line output transistor is short-circuit. If so examine C2609 carefully for bulges and arcing around its legs – this will destroy the BU508. At the same time check whether R3601 (5.6 $\Omega$  safety resistor) is open-circuit. It supplies the EW modulator. If it is you will usually find that C2616 has gone open-circuit. **A.D.**

## Salora 16J20

The problem with this set was no picture, sound o.k. An article on the TDA3562 colour decoder chip, in the October 1987 issue, was the key to discovering the cause of the fault. A scope check on the sandcastle pulse input at pin 7 of this chip showed that the field component of the pulse was incorrect. Moving back through the circuit brought us to transistor TB400 (BC237B) which proved to be defective. Replacing this brought everything back perfectly. When scoping the field component of the sandcastle pulse it helps to remove the other components by isolating pin 7 of the TDA2594 chip – clearing the decks so to speak. **B.McC.**

## Ferguson TX85 Chassis

This set was dead. The mains input fuse had blown, the TIPL791A chopper transistor had gone short-circuit collector to emitter and the TEA2018A chopper control/driver chip had an internal short from its 11V supply input (pin 6) to its non-isolated chassis connection (pin 2). The fuse, transistor and chip were replaced and the set was switched on. It appeared to be working normally, apart from a scream from the power supply. So the set was quickly switched off.

A meter was connected to the h.t. output (97.5V) from the chopper power supply to check that the regulation was

correct and the set was switched on. The h.t. was correct, but after about fifteen seconds the fuse blew. We found that the transistor and the chip had once more failed. A thorough check was then made on the components in the power supply. This revealed that R101 (1.2k $\Omega$ , 5W) in the snubber network across the chopper transistor had gone open-circuit. When all these items had been replaced the set was o.k. **I.B.**

### Ferguson TX90 Chassis

The customer had complained of intermittent lack of height which was of course due to dry-joints on the field output transistors, but when setting up the contrast etc. I noticed that there was a dark band down the left-hand side of the picture and severe ringing on low-contrast scenes. I decided to bridge the electrolytics in the video circuits and while looking for C132 saw a capacitor with electrolyte leaking from its top – C132 (10 $\mu$ F, 50V) in fact. It had a small hole in the underside, visible only after it was lifted upright. C132 decouples pin 4 (brightness control) of the  $\mu$ PC1365C colour decoder chip IC103. **N.B.**

### Decca/Tatung 130 Chassis

This set had been in several times for intermittently going into the standby mode. Several things had been tried – the tripler, the BU426A chopper transistor, the TDA4600 chopper control chip, etc. As the fault was of such an intermittent nature I decided to change the line output transformer, suspecting an internal arc. This put matters right. **N.B.**

### Decca 80 Chassis

We've had a spate of these recently with no sound and field collapse due to the relevant supply being absent. Rectifier diode D400 on the line output panel tends to go short-circuit. **N.B.**

### Panasonic TX-C21 (U4 Chassis)

The customer complained that when he turned the sound up the picture went green! Now these sets have a fair audio output, but somehow this seemed unlikely. I was able to instigate the fault however by tapping around – particularly on the text panel. There were several suspect joints in the RGB interface section but the actual cause of the trouble was a peach of a joint at one end of jumper lead JF which connects pin 23 of the TROM chip IC5013 to R5063, running from top to bottom of the panel. **N.B.**

### Salora 1G5

No picture with the c.r.t.'s cathode voltages high and the e.h.t. low was traced to a faulty IPSALO transformer (FM214). It had not broken down in the usual way, i.e. wires broken away from the transformer's pins, so a replacement was required. **N.B.**

### Salora 24L67

The complaint with this set was of intermittent picture disturbance. A field engineer didn't see the fault and couldn't provoke it, so thinking that the aerial could be at fault he left the customer with a set-top aerial as a check. The next day another field engineer discovered that the fault was very sensitive to tapping in the middle of the single-board chassis. On the bench this proved to be so

but no dry-joints or breaks could be found. Very precise tapping narrowed the source of the fault to the area left of the tuner, where even slight application of heat and freezer would instigate it. After a lot more prodding the cause of the trouble was found to be a break within R179 (100k $\Omega$ ). No visible damage could be seen – maybe a poor connection to one end cap? **N.B.**

### Tatung 130 Chassis with System 30 RC

This set was stuck on standby. Overriding the momentary-make contact on the mains switch produced the expected screaming from the line output stage, so the tripler's input lead was disconnected. When switched on again the set remained in standby but overriding the momentary-make contact this time got the set going, without a raster of course. After fitting a new tripler the set worked but only with the momentary-make contact overridden. So attention was turned to the microcomputer control system, which had probably been dealt a deathly blow by the offending tripler. Latch-on of the MAB8021 chip didn't operate but a new MAB8021 didn't improve matters. Replacing the 74LS293N flip-flop chip IR08 did however restore normal operation. The other clue was that the channel LEDs were corrupt. **N.B.**

### Triumph CTV8210

This colour portable suffered from field collapse and the customer said he'd seen smoke coming from it. Both R930 (100 $\Omega$ ) and L905 (4.7mH) were open-circuit. The cause of the burn up was not far away. C914 (100 $\mu$ F) had a leak that measured about 2k $\Omega$ . **J.O.**

### Philips KT3 Chassis

Not a fault but a point to bear in mind if a twiddler has been at work. With this chassis you get a white line that looks like field collapse if the height control has been turned right down. **J.O.**

### Rediffusion 365138 (Mk 5 Chassis)

This colour portable was dead. As I'd no manual and didn't recognise the chassis I was on the point of giving up before I started. I noticed some high-value resistors in the power supply however, so I thought I'd check them. Bingo! R718 (120k $\Omega$ ) was open-circuit. But this was not the end of the story. I switched on and the set was still dead. Cries of "oh dear!" – well I think that's what I said . . . Further investigation led me to R628 (1k $\Omega$ ) which was open-circuit and the 2SD868 line output transistor which was short-circuit. Don't ask me what blew first. **J.O.**

### Salora 22J21

There was no raster though the sound was o.k. A check at the c.r.t. base showed that there was no first anode (G2) voltage. The 2.2k $\Omega$  feed resistor had burnt out. As cold checks didn't show any leakage I examined the base panel and found evidence of tracking between the 1kV input and the BCL connection – surprisingly this lead didn't connect to any component on the c.r.t. base panel. After replacing the 2.2k $\Omega$  resistor and disconnecting the BCL lead the first anode voltage and hence the brightness were restored. Rather than risk a future call-back the damaged c.r.t. base panel was replaced. **J.L.H.**

# Teletopics

## SATELLITE TV

BSB's intention to apply for the franchise for the two other official UK satellite TV channels in the 12GHz band could result in some technical changes. There is a trade off between the number of channels and the output power. BSB's first satellite has five transponders but two were intended to act as a back-up: using all five would mean reduced signal strength, at any rate until BSB's second satellite is put into orbit in mid-1990. Reduced transmission power would affect the design of BSB's "squarial", which might have to be larger – 30cm instead of 25cm – and of wider bandwidth. BSB proposes to use adaptive pre-emphasis to improve the signal-to-noise ratio.

Sky Television's descrambler is to be activated by a smart card. A new card with a modified chip will probably be sent to subscribers every three months, when a change is made to the encryption control coding. In this way lapsed subscribers can be cut off. The cards are to be manufactured in the UK by a joint venture being set up by Sky's parent company News International. Production is to start in the autumn and the aim is to manufacture two million cards during the first year. The operation will employ around 400 people.

The separate £10 licence to operate a satellite TVRO installation has been abolished. Some 7,000 licences were issued, the cost barely covering the paper work involved. Abolishing the satellite TV licence does not affect the legal requirement to have a normal TV receiving licence.

The "to be announced" channel in our Astra list on page 357 last month is being used by MTV, the pop music channel.

Philips has joined the group of companies under contract to produce set-top units for the BSB services. The other companies under contract are Ferguson, Nokia and Tatung – BSB has said it will appoint up to five manufacturers who will have access to BSB's encryption/access control technology. Philips intends to establish production capacity to turn out 50,000 units a month and is strongly backing the use of MAC for satellite TV transmissions.

Ferguson has announced a range of equipment for reception of the Astra and BSB transmissions. Model SAP1 at £300 is for Astra, with a 32-channel tuner and 60cm dish. Model SAP2 at £330 has the same electronics with an 80cm dish. These models can be upgraded to provide unscrambling. Due in September is the SBP1 for BSB, with a 10-channel tuner, Eurocypher decoding and a Squarial. Two further models, the SAP3 (60cm dish) at £400 and the SAP4 (80cm dish) at £430, are due in December. These are for Astra reception and will incorporate Palcrypt decoding. So completely separate systems will be required for Astra and BSB.

## SATELLITE TV INSTALLATION KIT

Connexions (UK) plc, Unit 3, South Mimms Distribution Centre, Huggins Lane, Welham Green, Herts AL9 7LE (0707 272 091) has introduced a professional satellite TV installation kit. It comes in a durable polypropylene case at an inclusive trade price of £129.95 plus VAT. The kit comprises a CX9102F aerial setting meter, CX9201 inclinometer, CX9202 compass, CX9200 crimp tool,

CX9057 multimeter, CX9018 in-line amplifier, CX9056 insertion tool, CX9002 two-way splitter, CX9053 F-type coupler, CX9054 F-to-N adaptor, CX9055 N-to-F adaptor, 100 CX9051 F-type connectors and ten CX9052 protective weather "boots". The CX9056 insertion tool provides quick and easy application of F-type connectors to RG6 coaxial cable and is exclusive to Connexions. All items are available separately and can be obtained from Connexions distributors.

## SUPER VIDEO

Sony has released details of the first equipment to use the Hi-Band Video 8 system. Basic details of this system, which brings Video 8 picture quality to a par with S-VHS, were given in the May 1988 Teletopics column. There are two models, the CCD-V900 camcorder at the equivalent of about £1,070 and the EVS-900 VCR at some £1,090. These are being released in Japan this April and no European launch dates have so far been announced. Sony is also releasing the first metal evaporated tape cassettes. There are three, the 60-minute version costing £9. Also being launched are five high-grade MP tapes, with the 60-minute version priced at £6. These new tapes can also be used with standard Video 8 equipment.

Meanwhile two more S-VHS camcorders have been announced in the UK. The JVC GR-S77E is a compact S-VHS-C model with 420,000 pixel CCD image sensor, 10-lux sensitivity, an eight-head system for SP/LP, two-speed ×8 zoom, a variable speed (1/50th, 1/250th, 1/500th and 1/1,000th sec) fast shutter, three-page digital superimpose and date/time recorder. The weight is 1.2kg and the suggested price £1,300. The full-sized Hitachi S-VHS camcorder Model VM-S7200 is being released in May. Features include ×8 zoom, four-speed fast shutter, VISS index system, self timer and edit search. The weight is 2.7kg and the suggested price £1,500.

## BATC RALLY/CONVENTION

This year's British Amateur Television Club convention/rally is being held on April 30th at a new location, the Founder's Suite at the Coventry Crest Hotel. This is conveniently located on the A46, 500 yards south of junction two on the M6. There will be demonstrations covering all aspects of amateur and satellite TV equipment and a wide range of trading stalls. The hotel's training centre will be used in the afternoon for technical lectures. There is ample parking and the rally opens at 10 a.m. Admission is free to BATC members on production of a ticket from CQ-TV, 50p to non-members. Trade enquiries to G8CJS or G8OZP who are QTHR.

## BROADCASTING NEWS

The Home Office has appointed the accountancy/consultancy group Price Waterhouse to study ways of privatising the BBC and IBA radio and television transmitter network. Price Waterhouse has been given just ten weeks to prepare a report. Privatisation of the transmission system was suggested in the recent government white paper on the future of radio and TV broadcasting in the UK.

In Japan NHK has now started daily trial HD-TV transmissions – a full service is to begin next year when two new satellites have been launched. The first transmissions were made during the Seoul Olympics, when NHK installed over two hundred HD-TV sets in public locations. These sets were hand built by several manufacturers

and are reputed to have cost around £42,000 each. Sets on sale will not come cheap, in particular due to the large amount of digital storage required. The MUSE technique, which is used to provide bandwidth compression with NHK's HD-TV system, requires field stores and interpolation for motion detection correction.

The BBC has been taking out patents on an improved version of PAL. The idea is to monitor reception at the transmitter, assess impairments and produce a digitally coded correction signal which is transmitted in teletext form. Sets able to take advantage of the system would include circuitry to decode the error signal and provide correction. Other sets would simply ignore the extra signal.

## PUBLICATIONS

The 1989 RETRA Year Book and Directory has now been published. Copies can be obtained from the Association's headquarters at £20 each – for the address see "RETRA on the move" elsewhere on this page. Contents of this impressive 256-page book include a points-to-remember section on useful legal and business information, a glossary of satellite TV terms, a section listing brand names and their manufacturers, an international TV systems/mains voltages list and addresses of leading manufacturers.

A new expanded and revised second edition of John Breeds' book "Satellite Television Installation Guide" has now been published. It's available at £11.95 inclusive of post (in the UK) and packing from Swift Television Publications, 17 Pittsfield, Cricklade, Swindon, Wilts SN6 6AN. It's certainly a very useful and practical work.

## WILLOW VALE'S COPS

Willow Vale has introduced a computer ordering parts system (COPS) for the radio and television servicing trade. Dealers holding an account with Willow Vale can obtain a password which will give them on-line access via a PC with telephone modem to Willow Vale's mainframe computer for information on availability, prices, etc. for over 50,000 stock items. Advantages include access and ordering without manufacturers' part numbers, access and ordering with part numbers, actual on-line stock availability, part number information, prices and discounts, technical pages and hints, back order display/amendment/deletion, etc. COPS differs from other Viewdata type systems in being user-friendly and not requiring mandatory use of part numbers – all you need is the model number for which a list of parts is displayed in alphabetical order. Dealers not already so equipped can obtain from Willow Vale a terminal complete with modem for £350 plus VAT.

## EXPANSION AT SONY BRIDGEND

Sony is to invest £36 million to increase production of colour TV receivers and Trinitron colour tubes at its Bridgend plant in South Wales. Bridgend is Sony's main European centre for colour TV receiver and tube production. Tubes and components made there are also used at plants in West Germany and Spain. It's anticipated that the expansion will create three hundred new jobs, many for people highly qualified in state-of-the-art automated manufacturing and surface coating technology. The initial announcement of Sony's intentions was made last Autumn and the new extension is due to be completed in

## APOLLO LANCASHIRE

<p><b>NATIONWIDE MAIL ORDER 3-4 DAYS LOCAL DELIVERY - 2 YR GUARANTEE</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>A47 342/343X - 470 BCB22/CTB22/BGB22</td><td style="text-align: right;">£39</td></tr> <tr><td>470-ESB22/EFB22/ERB22/FTB22</td><td style="text-align: right;">£53</td></tr> <tr><td>A51-220X/192X</td><td style="text-align: right;">£39</td></tr> <tr><td>A51-161X/162/163/168</td><td style="text-align: right;">£53</td></tr> <tr><td>510-JKB22/IEB22/IDB22/JGB22/ALB22/GLB22</td><td style="text-align: right;">£53</td></tr> <tr><td>510-VLB22(£55) DTB22/001/RFB22/RCB22/SFB22</td><td style="text-align: right;">£53</td></tr> <tr><td>A51-590</td><td style="text-align: right;">£55</td></tr> <tr><td>A51-570X/580/001/210/241</td><td style="text-align: right;">£53</td></tr> <tr><td>A56-120X/123/140/410</td><td style="text-align: right;">£39</td></tr> <tr><td>560-DZB22/HB22/AKB22/TB22/AWB22</td><td style="text-align: right;">£56</td></tr> <tr><td>560-ETB22/DTB22/CSB22/DMB22/DNB22</td><td style="text-align: right;">£53</td></tr> <tr><td>A56-611X/615X</td><td style="text-align: right;">£53</td></tr> <tr><td>A66-120X/A67-120X/140/150/200/410</td><td style="text-align: right;">£39</td></tr> <tr><td>20AX - A56-500X/510X - A66-500X/510X</td><td style="text-align: right;">£53</td></tr> <tr><td>30AX - A56-540X - A66-540X</td><td style="text-align: right;">£56</td></tr> </table>	A47 342/343X - 470 BCB22/CTB22/BGB22	£39	470-ESB22/EFB22/ERB22/FTB22	£53	A51-220X/192X	£39	A51-161X/162/163/168	£53	510-JKB22/IEB22/IDB22/JGB22/ALB22/GLB22	£53	510-VLB22(£55) DTB22/001/RFB22/RCB22/SFB22	£53	A51-590	£55	A51-570X/580/001/210/241	£53	A56-120X/123/140/410	£39	560-DZB22/HB22/AKB22/TB22/AWB22	£56	560-ETB22/DTB22/CSB22/DMB22/DNB22	£53	A56-611X/615X	£53	A66-120X/A67-120X/140/150/200/410	£39	20AX - A56-500X/510X - A66-500X/510X	£53	30AX - A56-540X - A66-540X	£56	<p><b>PHONE FOR QUOTE SONY TYPES £69</b></p> <p>470DLB22/FWB/KHB/KTB KLB-520SB22/NB/RB/XB A49JHT00X-570DB22/EB/HB GB/JB-A53JBW01X/JCG00X JB00X-(680CB22/DB/EB £79)</p> <p><b>14" PORTABLES £59</b> 3708UB-AXT3001- 37-550/2/3/4-A37-570 580/590</p>
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May 1990. Sony already employs a workforce of 1,500 at Bridgend.

Matsushita (Panasonic) has announced that it intends to increase production in Europe over the next three years. It's likely that new manufacturing facilities will be located in South Wales where the company already has a major plant.

## RETRA ON THE MOVE

After ten years at its Newington Causeway headquarters RETRA has moved to Bedford. The purpose of the move is to reduce overheads and improve the services offered to RETRA's 1,500 members. Council meetings will continue to be held in London. The new address is RETRA House, St. John's Terrace, 1 Amptill Street, Bedford MK42 9EY, telephone number 0234 269 110. RETRA's new headquarters is a 3,000 sq. ft building near the town centre, close to the A1 and M1.

## CORRECTIONS

Several errors in recent issues have come to our attention. First the computer program for satellite dish alignment, see page 354 last month. The colons in line 90 should have been the string escape character – this is available below and to the right of the break key. The program will not run properly with colons in line 90. There are also a few spacing errors which affect the displays obtained.

On page 351 last month (VCR Clinic) Panasonic NV-100/NV-10B should have been NV100/NV-V10B. Under the Ferguson FV11 on the same page the symptom intermittent failure to eject should have read tapes ejected when inserted. Nick Beer comments that dry-joints have started to appear on the take-up photosensor with this machine, making it go to stop. There was also an error in the article on S-VHS, page 334. VHS recordings can be made on S-VHS tape but not the other way round. When a non-S-VHS cassette is inserted the machine goes into the VHS mode irrespective of the selection made by the user.

In a letter on page 750 of the August 1988 issue the part number of the flywheel holder used in the GEC V4004/Hitachi VT33 was given incorrectly. The GEC part number is V7376323. The recommendation is to use this in the later GEC V4005/Hitachi VT63/64 to cure noisy operation.

A note on errors in the article on j notation (February 1989) is being prepared.

# Camcorder Servicing

## Part 3

Steve Beeching, T.Eng.

So that it can display a full range of colours the screen of a colour TV tube is backed by phosphor stripes in the primary colours red, green and blue. In a similar though different way the faceplate of a colour camera tube is covered with colour stripes so that it can distinguish between colours. Although the tube's target covers most of the faceplate the area actually used consists of a  $7.2 \times 5.6$ mm rectangle – see Fig. 1. Within this area the purity of the target material and its sensitivity are kept within fine limits. The image from the lens is focused on this rectangle and to suppress signals outside this area the rest of the faceplate is covered with a black mask. The back-focus adjustment ensures that the distance between the lens and the tube's faceplate is correct. It's done with the lens set at infinity and the iris fully open.

### The Colour Stripe Filter

For colour recognition the image area is covered with a precise fine-stripe filter. The main output from the tube consists of a wideband luminance signal (Y), or rather green. Stripes are used to obtain a red and blue carrier signal. By adding red, green and blue you get white. As the light transmission of red and blue filters is fairly low the filter instead uses the complementary colours yellow and cyan, thus obtaining improved low-light sensitivity. Cyan is  $-R$  and yellow  $-B$  of course. Feed the signals through inverting amplifiers and you get red and blue. It really is that simple!

The stripes are laid down diagonally as shown in Fig. 2, at an angle of  $25^\circ 40'$  to the vertical plane. Their width is  $13.95\mu\text{m}$ , there's a gap of  $13.95\mu\text{m}$  between the stripes and the pitch is  $30.89\mu\text{m}$ . The cyan stripes slope from left to right, giving a scanning sequence cyan, gap, cyan, gap etc. The yellow stripes slope from right to left, giving yellow, gap, yellow, gap etc. The colour pixels are the diamond crossovers, identified in Fig. 2 as lines  $n - 1$ ,  $n$ ,  $n + 1$ ,  $n + 2$  etc.

The filter stripes act not only as a colour filter. Their physical dimensions and spacing are arranged so that a signal with specific parameters is generated. As the electron beam scans the area behind the stripes it generates a complex signal determined by the stripe structure. Since the number of stripes along each line is fixed, a carrier signal is generated – think of a child running along some railings with a stick, generating a tone. With the VHS-C system the carrier generated in this way is  $4.3\text{MHz}$ . Note that this is not the  $4.43\text{MHz}$  PAL subcarrier: it's the camera's R/B carrier signal. Note also that the scanning width is critical: if you alter the tube's scanning width the carrier frequency will alter.

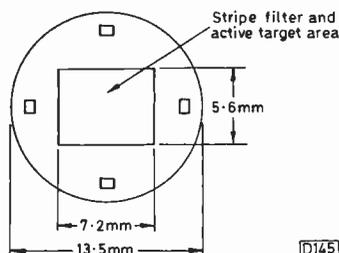


Fig. 1 (left): The camera tube faceplate.

Green is present over the whole filter area since white is  $R + B + G$ , cyan is  $B + G$  and yellow is  $R + G$ . The output from a Saticon tube thus consists of two superimposed signals, wideband luminance which you can call green if you prefer and a  $4.3\text{MHz}$  carrier which contains the red and blue colour information. The carrier is amplitude modulated by the red and blue signal components which have a phase difference of  $180^\circ$ .

A little thought given to Fig. 2 will show how this phase difference occurs. Assuming that the line scan is from left to right, progressing down the target in the sequence  $n -$

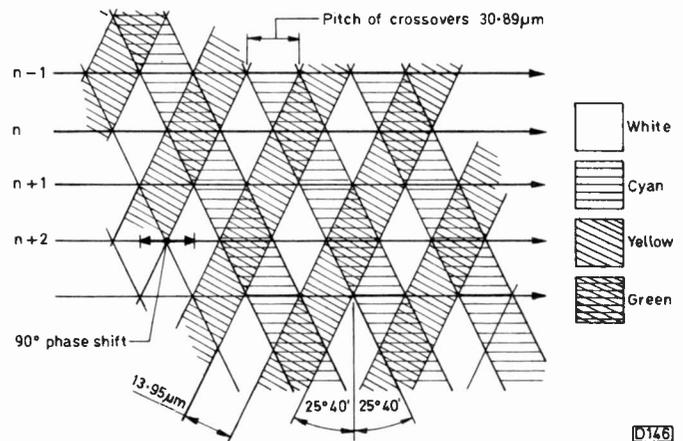


Fig. 2: The colour stripe filter arrangement.

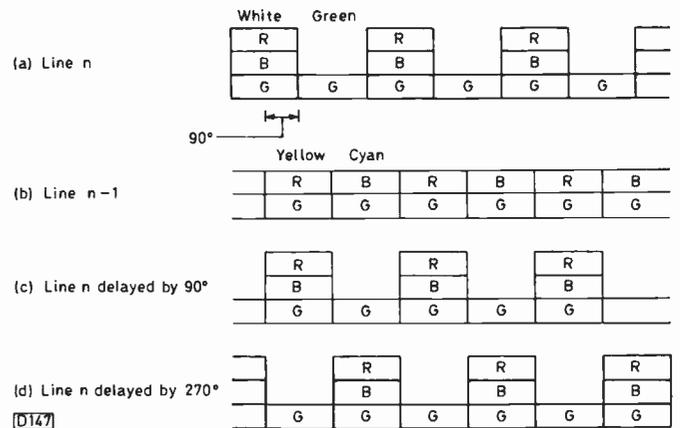


Fig. 3: Separating the R and B components of the R/B carrier signal obtained from the tube.

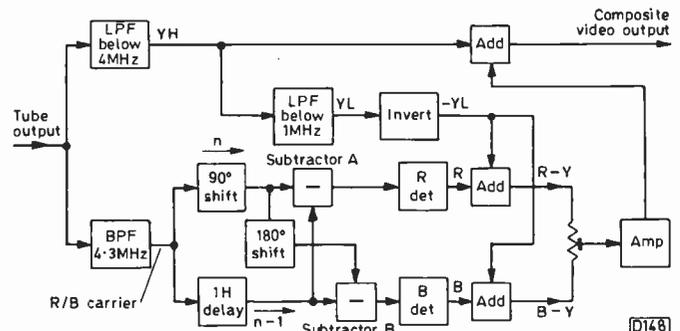


Fig. 4: Block diagram of the R/B signal separation system.

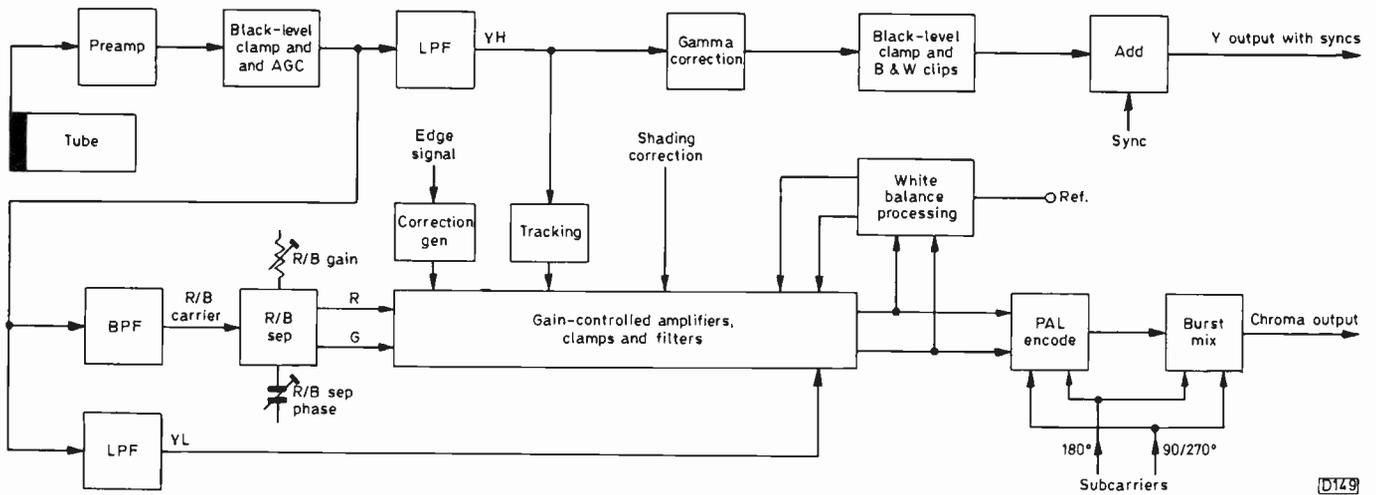


Fig. 5: Block diagram of a typical colour video camera using a pick-up tube.

1,  $n$ ,  $n + 1$ , you can see that with the cyan stripes from left to right the cyan signal gets later and later on successive line scans. With the yellow stripes from right to left however the yellow signal occurs earlier and earlier on successive line scans. Now for the clever bit. The accurate  $30.89\mu\text{m}$  stripe pitch means that the cyan signal is retarded by  $90^\circ$  per line while the yellow signal advances by  $90^\circ$  per line. A  $180^\circ$  phase difference is thus maintained between the two components of the colour signal on a line by line basis, enabling them to be separated in a similar manner to what happens in the decoder of a colour TV receiver.

### Separating the R and B Signals

The outputs obtained from the arrangement shown in Fig. 2 are illustrated in Fig. 3. Use of a one-line delay line enables us to mix the signal from line  $n$  with that from line  $n - 1$ . Line  $n$  consists of white, green, white etc. As white is equivalent to  $R + B + G$  this is RGB, G, RGB, G etc. as shown in Fig. 3(a). The previous line  $n - 1$  consists of yellow, cyan, yellow, cyan, which is  $R + G$ ,  $B + G$ ,  $R + G$ ,  $B + G$  etc. as shown in Fig. 3(b). Note the  $90^\circ$  phase shift between lines  $n$  and  $n - 1$ .

The way in which the red and blue components of the signal are separated is shown in Fig. 4. The tube's output is fed through a low-pass filter to separate the luminance component and a 4.3MHz bandpass filter to separate the colour carrier. Line  $n$ 's signal passes through a  $90^\circ$  phase shift network to compensate for the phase shift between lines, then to subtractor A and via a further  $180^\circ$  phase shift network to subtractor B. The signal from line  $n - 1$  is present at the output from the 1H (one line) delay line and is fed to both subtractors. Thus  $n$ 's signal has been delayed by  $90^\circ$  at subtractor A and  $270^\circ$  at subtractor B. These conditions are shown at (c) and (d) in Fig. 3. Subtracting  $n - 1$ , i.e. (b) in Fig. 3, from (c) and (d) gives

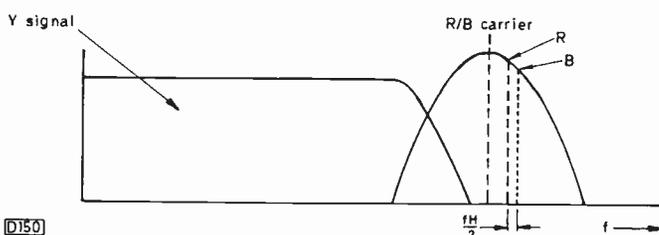


Fig. 6: Frequency spectrum of the tube's output.

B, B, B, B and R, R, R, R respectively. After detection we get baseband R and B signals which, when added to  $-Y$ , provide the conventional  $R - Y$  and  $B - Y$  colour-difference signals. These are added to  $Y$  to give a standard composite luminance-chrominance signal. In practice things are a bit more complicated. The colour signal is clamped, tidied up and vertical edge correction is added.

### Camera Block Diagram

Before looking at the rest of the processing we'll consider the overall camera arrangements. Fig. 5 shows a block diagram. The tube's output is first amplified by a high-gain, high-impedance preamplifier whose output is shown in Fig. 6. A.G.C. and black-level clamping are then applied after which the signal paths split, the full bandwidth luminance signal passing to the gamma correction circuit while a bandpass filter separates the R/B carrier and another low-pass filter (cut off above 1MHz) separates a Y signal component that's used to produce the colour-difference signals. The R/B signal is subject to the processing described above, a variable resistor (R/B separation gain) and capacitor (R/B separation phase) being used to ensure accurate separation of the R and B signals. Vertical edge correction is applied at this point to remove any discolouration in black and white horizontal edges in the vertical scan. After separation the R and B signals pass along parallel paths via voltage-controlled amplifiers, where correction waveforms are added for grey-scale tracking and colour shading. Two amplifiers are driven by the white balance circuits. These can give fixed white balance, set white balance or auto white balance. After clamping and filtering  $-Y$  is added. The following sections provide PAL encoding and addition of the burst signal.

### Gamma Correction

As the tube's output is not a linear voltage change for a linear light input change compensation is required. This is called gamma correction. The problem is made more complicated by the fact that the levels of Y signal and R/B carrier obtained from the tube do not remain constant with respect to each other throughout the range of input light. At low light levels the R/B carrier amplitude is lower in proportion to the Y signal level. This cannot be allowed in a high-sensitivity colour camera as there would

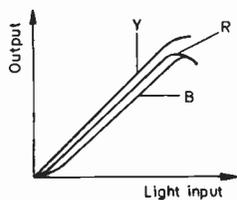


Fig. 7 (left): Camera tube light input/output voltage characteristic.

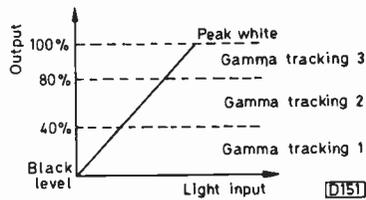


Fig. 8 (right): Triple-level tracking correction.

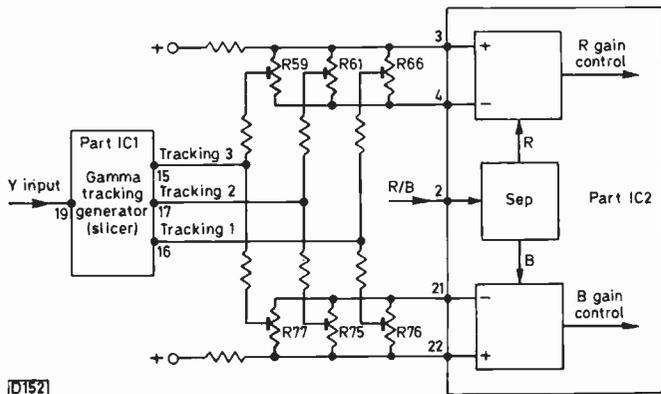


Fig. 9: Basic triple-level tracking circuit.

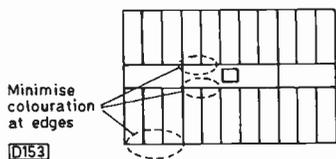


Fig. 10: Vertical edge correction adjustment.

be a tendency towards dark green pictures at low light levels when the R/B output falls off. It can be seen from Fig. 7 that the tube's sensitivity to blue is lowest, the red sensitivity falling between this and the higher Y sensitivity.

At mid-range light levels the sensitivity differences remain constant and can be equalised by gain adjustment so that the signals track together. At the extremes of low and high light however the red and blue signal levels fall off first. To prevent different tints at different light levels a triple-level tracking correction system is used. Fig. 8 shows the effect of this. Tracking (1) works at output levels up to 40 per cent, tracking (2) at between 40 and 80 per cent and tracking (3) at above 80 per cent. Tracking is

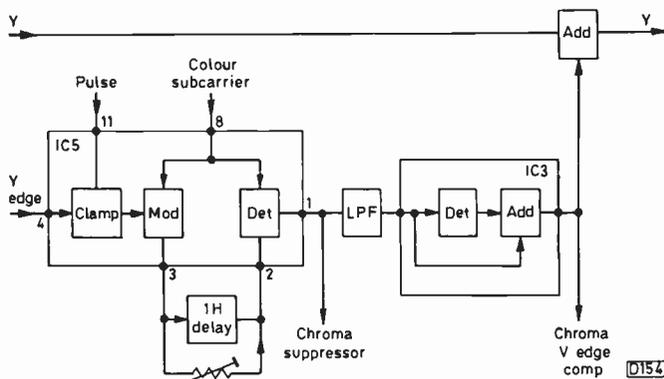


Fig. 11: Block diagram of the edge compensation system.

corrected by adjusting the gains of the red and blue control amplifiers against a Y reference signal.

A similar system is used in most camcorders, based on two chips – see Fig. 9. IC1 is referred to as the gamma tracking generator. It provides three outputs which are derived from the luminance input.

The output at pin 16 is clipped at 40 per cent. Thus luminance signals up to 40 per cent are supplied to tracking controls R66 and R76 to provide white balancing up to this level.

Pin 17 produces an output when the luminance level is between 40 and 80 per cent, white balancing then being via R61 and R75.

Pin 15 produces an output at high light levels, to R59 and R77.

It's not easy to adjust these controls without the correct lighting (3,200°K) and a grey-scale chart. The controls are interactive at the crossover levels of 40 and 80 per cent, and considerable interadjustment is required to get the whole grey-scale tracking correct. Usually a compromise is found. Peak white levels can be adjusted only if control over the automatic iris is possible or a small white area within a black background is illuminated to fool the iris control and open up the iris to provide peak white conditions.

### Edge Correction

Better quality broadcast cameras have an aperture correction circuit to crisp the pictures by correcting transition edges in both the horizontal and vertical directions. VHS camcorders have a vertical edge enhancement circuit which works by mixing signals from direct and delayed TV lines – it's often referred to as contour

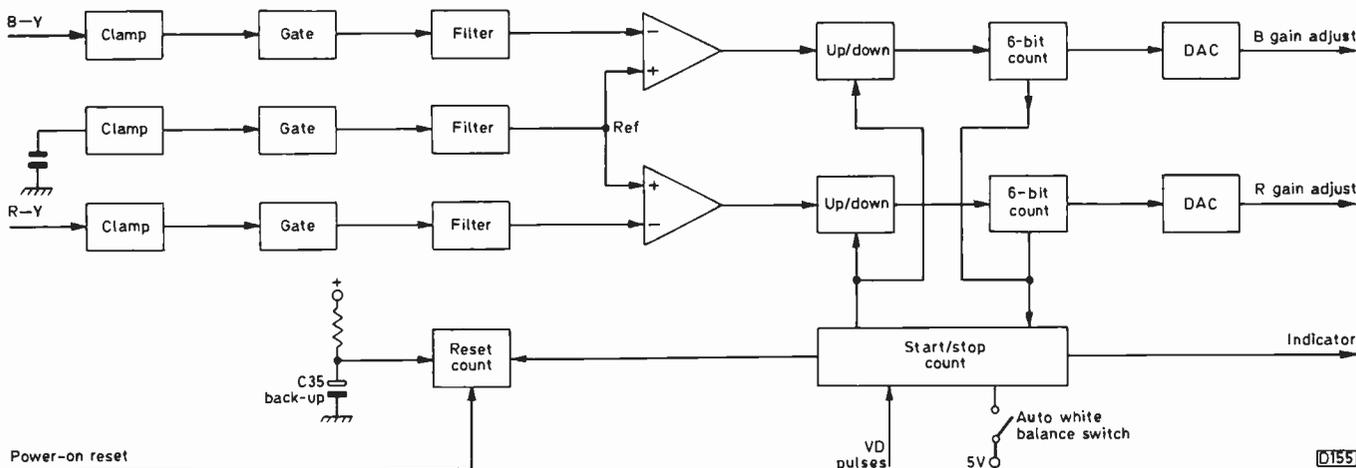


Fig. 12: The white balance system.

correction. This is tied up with the vertical edge correction previously mentioned in the colour separation circuit. If a picture has a dark grey area at the top of the screen and a white area below it the first white horizontal line would, without correction, be discoloured. This is because of the fact that the R/B separator circuit operates over two lines of signal, and since the line above is dark no previous colour exists!

Fig. 10 shows vertical edge correction adjustment. A grey-scale is used. When tilted at an angle of about 20° any edge colouration can be seen and removed or minimised.

The edge compensation system is shown in Fig. 11 – its output is used for vertical edge enhancement and is also used for discolouration correction at horizontal edges. A Y edge input signal enters IC5 at pin 4. After clamping, the signal is amplitude modulated, using the colour subcarrier. The reason for modulation is to get the signal through the one-line delay line, after which it's detected (demodulated). A subtraction process occurs in the detector circuit as a result of which the output at pin 1 consists of only signals that occur on one line and not the next, i.e. a difference component. If the two lines concerned are as previously described, i.e. a change from dark to white, a single line output will be produced. This has to be seen at field rate and shows up as a single spike pulse. The output goes to the colour suppressor to kill colouration of very dark or black areas following a transition from white to black during the field scan. It also goes via a low-pass filter to a second detector in IC3 where low-level spikes and noise are removed leaving only clean, healthy spikes. These are added to the luminance signal to beef up the vertical resolution and are also applied to the vertical edge correction system in the R/B channels.

### White Balance

The purpose of the white balance circuit is to reduce the colour-difference signals to zero when the camera is pointed at a white surface – despite the colouring effect of the lighting. Once this is achieved, in theory all other colours will be correct.

While the circuit may look complicated – see Fig. 12 – the operation is fairly simple. It's based on the two six-bit binary counters whose outputs are DA converted to obtain variable d.c. levels which are used to adjust the gain in the red and blue channels. The R–Y and B–Y inputs are clamped and gated and fed to two operational amplifiers whose other input is a reference level – you can think of this as a fixed green reference level. The circuit relates the red and blue signal levels to green so that  $R = B = G$ , which is white. When the auto white balance switch is closed the counters are enabled. Count up or down is determined by either a high or low output from the comparator amplifier in each channel, the latter output in turn being dependent on the difference signal being lower or higher than the reference level. As six-bit counters are used a total count of 64 is available. At power-on reset the count is 32, giving equal possibilities up or down. Counting is controlled by the VD pulses which occur once per field. When a balance is obtained, by a change of state at either comparator, each counter stops and produces the appropriate d.c. output. C35 can hold the count during power off for a few hours. If the counters reach either 111111 or 000000 without any change a warning is produced – the indicator gives a flashing signal: it produces a permanent signal to indicate

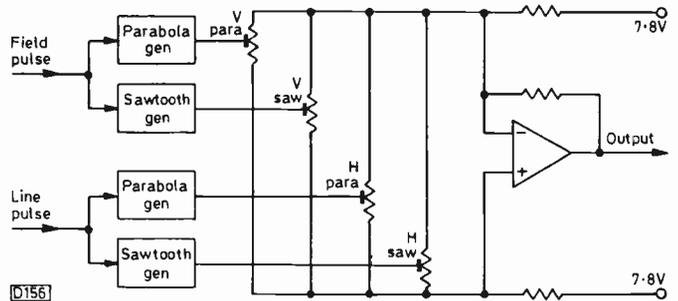


Fig. 13: Method of producing the dynamic focusing and the shading correction waveforms.

the balanced condition.

If the white balance is in the fixed condition the d.c. levels are set to a 1.8V reference. Camera adjustments are made in this condition.

### Setting up and Fault Symptoms

So much then for an overall view of the camera section as used in JVC and Ferguson camcorders – Panasonic ones are similar. Adjustments should not be attempted without at least a good oscilloscope, e.g. one of the Grundig ones previously reviewed, and preferably a vectorscope. What about fault symptoms and areas to look at?

Any problem that reduces or eliminates the R/B carrier will turn the picture green – not necessarily all over. The scanning linearity over the target area must be uniform: any defocusing or nonlinearity will turn the picture green, i.e. areas of the picture will shift towards green.

Green in the corners or any part of the perimeter of the picture will be due to incorrect dynamic focus correction and/or poor focusing as the tube ages.

Red or blue shading can be corrected by means of the static shading (four) and red/blue dynamic shading (four each) controls.

The dynamic shading controls are set using a white card with an oscilloscope connected to the R–Y and B–Y test points. Adjust for flat lines at line and field rate.

The same test points can be used for horizontal linearity and dynamic focusing (four controls) adjustment but an R/B carrier test point (after the bandpass filter) is much better. This will give you a typical carrier waveform with a ghostline across the centre. Use a white card. Scanning and dynamic focus adjustments should aim for a flat-topped symmetrical rectangle, nice and straight with no falling off at the start and end and with the ghostline in the middle. This takes practice. The first time anyone sets up a camera it can take days rather than hours – with the option of cocking it up completely and sending the camera along to me with a blank cheque!

Parabolic and sawtooth waveforms at line and field rate are used for dynamic focusing, for R/B dynamic shading correction and for static shading. Fig. 13 shows the basic circuit arrangement.

Static shading adjustment is carried out with the lens cap on, monitoring the YH (full bandwidth luminance) signal, to get flat lines at line and field rate.

Static focus is adjusted on a white card while monitoring the R/B carrier.

When carrying out dynamic focus adjustment be careful that the correct setting isn't masked by incorrect shading adjustment.

The control arrangements differ somewhat with dif-

ferent cameras/camcorders. For precise setting up instructions for a particular model refer to the relevant manual.

Before making any of these adjustments the correction waveforms must be reduced to zero (flat) irrespective of the picture. It all takes a long time to do and may not produce better results if the tube's emission is low. Beware – an aged tube will have inconsistent sensitivity over the target area, producing shading and a poor grey scale. You cannot get rid of this by using the adjustments, particularly if the tube has a poor lag characteristic or a tendency to green at low light levels.

Failure of the R–Y signal will produce a picture that's mostly green and yellow, with no reds at all. Failure of the B–Y signal will produce a picture that's all reds and

purples with no green. It's also possible to get just chroma, i.e. a dark picture with only red and blue highlights. This indicates a failure in the luminance signal (YH) path.

If the vertical scanning is incorrect the Y signal circuits can clamp on video, reducing the Y signal and turning the picture magenta. This can often be verified by aiming the camera below a window or other bright light source and then tilting it upwards. If the picture turns magenta when the bright light hits the top of the picture, adjust the vertical centring and/or height until the picture is linear without the effect being present.

In the next part we'll deal with the CCD (solid-state) image sensor.

## The B & O L/LX2500/2800 Chassis

Nick Beer

The Beovision L2500, L2800, LX2500 and LX2800 chassis are used in models with type numbers in a series 37XX, e.g. 3701, 3702, 3712, 3720, 3741, 3752, 3760 and many others. As the chassis numbers suggest, there are 25 and 28in. models. LX sets come complete with teletext while the L sets can have a teletext panel fitted if required. The cabinets are teak, rosewood or "White Line". Fig. 1 shows the panel layout.

The sets are typically B and O, with high-quality finish, an excellent picture and superb sound, also flexibility of use/presentation. For example, a set can be used as the central item in the B and O Link System, in which compatible hi-fi, TV or video equipment can be controlled and operated via a remote control unit and a Beolink terminal or Master Control Panel. So you could say watch TV or video then select a track on your compact disc player and listen to its output via the stereo speakers of an LX type set. There's an LX-sat satellite TV decoder which, installed in the main receiver, can provide the display on a remote set in another room while the main set continues to provide terrestrial TV reception or VCR playback. We shall have more to say about the Link System in a later article.

As you might expect, with provision for so many features and B and O's reputation for fitting twenty per cent more components than are basically necessary, the circuit is rather daunting. Once you understand the workings of the set however you should have little difficulty in

tackling faults. The few troubles we've experienced to date have been fairly simple ones.

The most common fault so far has been failure of the mains switch. It's one of only two controls on the set, the other being a channel-step button. The mains switch brings the set into operation in the standby mode. Full operation is obtained when channel selection (or step) is used. What often happens is that the mains switch fails to latch. Fitting a replacement can be tricky. In view of this when we instal a set we usually advise against frequent use of the mains switch, suggesting instead operation via the remote control unit.

### The Microcomputer Control System

To understand these sets it's important to know a bit about the microcomputer control and data bus system, which is outlined in Fig. 2. Operation of the set is controlled by three microcomputer chips which act via three bus lines. These buses are of the I2C type, i.e. each has two lines, one for serial data and the other for the clock signal. Arbitration is used to sequence/organise communication between the various devices in the control circuitry, to ensure that the correct overriding etc. takes place.

Two of the microcomputer control chips, 11C6 (type MAB8461) and 11C5 (MAB8441), are on panel 1 along with the tuner and i.f. circuitry. The set's main control line is Bus 1 which is controlled by 11C6. Its serial data output is at pin 2 and its clock output at pin 3. This bus provides the control link to the tuning interface and memory, to 11C5 which controls Bus 2 and to 24IC10 (on panel 24) which controls Bus 3. Bus 1 also controls the brightness, contrast and colour, via the SAB3037 DA converter/decoder chip 21IC3 on panel 21. 11C6 receives data from the remote control receiver at pin 12, which also receives Link System information from the Aux 1 socket. Remote control information from the VCR is fed into and out of the set via pin 8 of the scart socket, entering 11C6 at pin 27. The AV remote control information from the Aux 3 socket enters at pin 26.

Power failure detection is also carried out by 11C6, sensing being at pin 1. Fig. 3 shows the arrangement. The two transistors 1TR22 and 1TR15 provide a high input at pin 1 in the event of a fault being sensed on one of the lines they monitor. 1TR15 senses a number of supplies in

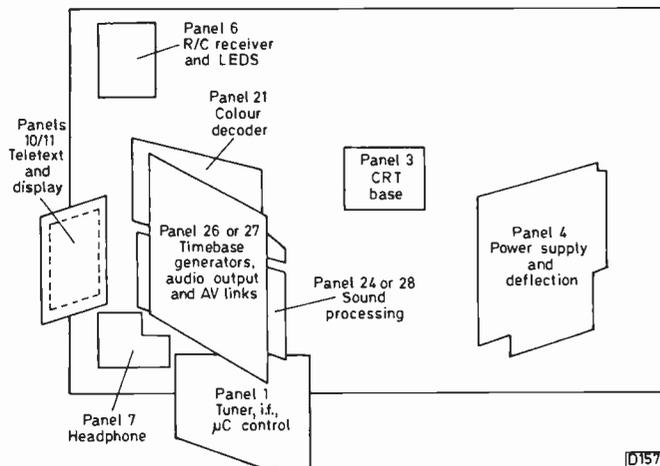


Fig. 1: L/LX2500/2800 chassis panel layout.

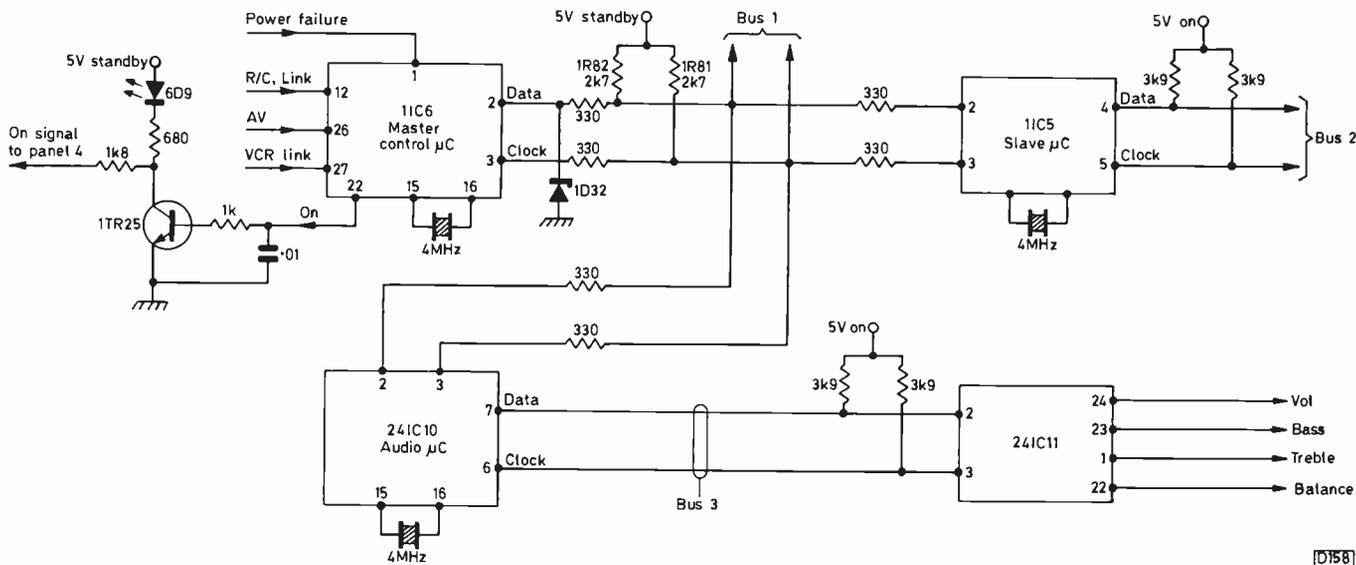


Fig. 2: Outline of the microcomputer control system.

the set, also the beam current, via a diode gate arrangement. 1TR22 monitors the supplies derived from the 17V line. When pin 1 of 11C6 goes high the set goes into the standby mode.

The slave microcomputer 11C5 controls the display panel (11) in L models and the teletext panel (10) in LX models, via Bus 2. Its serial data and clock pins for this bus are 4 and 5 respectively.

The third microcomputer chip 24IC10 (MAB8410) on panel 24 controls the SAB3037 chip 24IC11 via Bus 3. 24IC10 receives Bus 1 information on pins 2 (data) and 3 (clock), its outputs to Bus 3 being at pins 6 and 7. The SAB3037 acts in the same way as 211C3 but this time provides d.c. outputs to control the volume, bass, treble and stereo balance.

For the serial data and clock signals to be transmitted along the relevant lines a d.c. level is required. The Bus 1 lines are pulled up to the 5V standby potential via 1R82 (data) and 1R81 (clock). In addition the data line is protected by the 5.6V zener diode 1D32. These items are suspect if there's no pull-up voltage and thus no data transmission along Bus 1. 11C5's Bus 2 lines are pulled up to the 5V on rail as this chip does not need to be active in the standby mode. The Bus 3 lines are likewise pulled up to 5V on.

### Circuit Features

We will now take a brief look at some of the main circuitry used in these sets, starting with the chopper power supply – see Fig. 4.

When going from standby to on the voltage at pin 22 of 11C6 (see Fig. 2) goes low. Thus transistor 1TR25 switches off and pin 3 of the operational amplifier chip 41C1 (Fig. 4) is positively biased from the 5V standby supply. The other input, pin 2, of this section of 41C1 is held at 2.5V by a zener diode stabilised feed. The output voltage at pin 1 of this chip therefore rises to 15V. As a result, 4C23 charges via 4D26 and 4R32, producing a positive-going ramp which is fed via 4R31 to the emitter of 4TR4. This transistor with 4TR5 form a regenerative switch. When 4TR4's emitter becomes positive with respect to its base it switches on, in turn switching 4TR5 on. 4C23 is then discharged via 4R34 and 4D23. The low voltage at the collector of 4TR5 when it switches on is fed back to

the base of 4TR4 via 4C21 and 4R23. Thus 4TR4/5 are held on. As 4C21 discharges via 4R30 4TR4/5 unlatch. The sawtooth voltage thus developed drives 4TR6, the chopper driver transistor, which in turn drives the BU508 chopper transistor 4TR1 via 4T3. Note that 4T1/2/3 provide mains isolation. For timing and regulation, a negative-going pulse derived from winding 17-18 of the chopper transformer 4T1 is fed to the base of 4TR5 to control its switch-off time. The pulse obtained from 4T1 is an exact replica of 4TR1's collector waveform. It's clipped by 4R36, 4D28 and 4TR16 to produce a squarewave which is then differentiated by 4C22 and 4R27 to obtain the negative-going pulse that switches 4TR5 off. With 4TR4/5 off, 4C23 can once more begin to charge. The circuit is thus self-oscillating.

In the TV mode, regulation is based on monitoring the 150V h.t. supply produced by 4D6/4C10. A tap on the potential divider 4R8/37/90/38 feeds pin 6 of 41C1. The other input pin of this section of 41C1 is held at 5.1V by the action of zener diode 4D24. The error output at pin 7 of 41C1 sets the bias at the base of 4TR4 and in consequence the point at which this transistor switches on. This regulation loop is kept stable by the action of 4C19 and 4R28.

In the audio only mode the 150V rail is not loaded and cannot be used as the basis for regulation. In this mode the 17V supply is used as the basis for regulation, via 4D47 and 4D48.

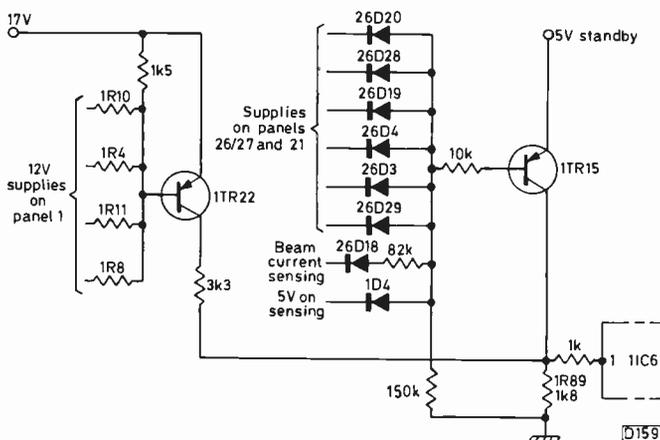


Fig. 3: The power failure detection circuit.

During start-up 4C23 charges via 4D26 from the 17V standby supply. When running 4C23 charges via 4D25 from winding 17-18 of 4T1. Since the voltage here depends on the mains input, the charging of 4C23 will vary as the mains supply varies, thus providing stabilisation against changes in the mains input.

The regulation provided by this circuit is certainly impressive. The set will run on 60V (and that's with a 28in. c.r.t.!) and will start up with a 150V input.

The line output stage is conventional, using a BU508 (4TR11) line output transistor, a diode-split line output transformer, and a diode modulator for EW correction. The line output transformer provides the e.h.t., first anode, focus and c.r.t. heater voltages and also the +12V and -12V supplies used by the TDA2170 field output chip. The line drive signal is generated by a TDA1940 chip on panel 26/27 and is fed via 26/27TR3 to panel 4 where four transistors (4TR8/9/10/15) are used in the driver stage (no driver transformer). The purpose of 26/27TR3 is to act as a switch to remove the line drive in the audio only mode - this prevents e.h.t. generation.

The field sync pulse output from the TDA1940 chip on panel 26/27 is passed to the colour decoder panel 21 and then back to 26/27TR21. This transistor's output is used to control the field oscillator, which consists of an LF353 dual operational amplifier chip (26/27IC6). Half of another dual operational amplifier chip, 26/27IC7 (LF358), acts as the field preamplifier which drives the TDA2170 on panel 4. The other half of 26/27IC7 provides EW drive. The TDA2170 drives the field scan coils directly - this is made possible by the energy efficient c.r.t. deflection system.

The field oscillator runs at 47Hz to allow for graphics injection (e.g. tuning information) with no signal and thus no sync. The sync provides the extra three for 50Hz.

Two TDA2040 chips on panel 26/27 provide 15W of audio output per channel at 8Ω. Each channel has a 4in. woofer and 2in. tweeter, with external speaker options.

**Table 1: Tuning Display Frequencies**

Channel	On-screen display-MHz	Channel	On-screen display-MHz
21	471	46	671
22	479	47	679
23	487	48	687
24	495	49	695
25	503	50	703
26	511	51	711
27	519	52	719
28	527	53	727
29	535	54	735
30	543	55	743
31	551	56	751
32	559	57	759
33	567	58	767
34	575	59	775
35	583	60	783
36	591	61	791
37	599	62	799
38	607	63	807
39	615	64	815
40	623	65	823
41	631	66	831
42	639	67	839
43	647	68	847
44	655	69	855
45	663		

The output from the audio detector is mono of course. It's split and fed via switching i.c.s 28IC1/2 then through 28IC7 to the dual volume/tone control circuits in 28IC8.

Teletext subtitles can be recorded on these sets and also printed by a suitable printer (LX versions of course). As mentioned earlier, the L models are teletext adaptable. This calls for removal of the display board - but hang on to this for diagnosis (it can prove a Bus 2 fault or teletext decoder fault). Note also that because of the power fail circuit these sets will not operate unless one or other of these boards is fitted. The on-screen display with text sets is provided by the text panel.

Tuning is not by the well-known channel numbers (21-68) but by frequency. Table 1 shows the equivalents.

Despite the fact that the retail price of the LX2800 was over £1,000 these sets sold well in our area. They have since been replaced by the LX2502/2802 series (38XX type numbers) which have only two buses and built-in Link processing.

### Stuck in Standby

Our experience has been that faults are usually supply related or in the Bus 1 system. In either case the set will go into standby, as previously described. If you have a set that's stuck in standby and you don't know where to start, proceed as follows.

(1) Try to start the set in the audio only mode. If the set comes on you can rule out faults in the secondary supplies as these will all be up and running. It's likely that there's a Bus 1 fault. The best policy is to switch off, short out the test link connected to pin 11 of 11C6 and try the set in the TV mode again. This overrides bus error detection. The set will now more than likely start. If so check for data and clock signals on the appropriate lines. If absent check for d.c. pull-up. As previously mentioned absence of pull-up can be caused by open-circuit pull-up resistors or the protection zener diode being short-circuit. Another possibility is excessive loading due to a faulty i.c. The bus lines should give a resistance reading to chassis of 3-5kΩ. A quick check is to remove the 330Ω series resistors (see Fig. 2) to see if this resistance returns. Also look for tuning. If there's none, suspect a fult in the tuning interface or memory.

(2) If the set won't start in the audio only mode look for loading on the power supply, i.e. 4T1's secondaries, for example a short-circuit line output transistor. Such secondary loading is indicated by a noise in the chopper transformer. If there's no noise, suspect a mains input or control circuit fault. 4R3 could be open-circuit or 4TR1 may have failed. For repeated failure of 4TR1 check whether 4C15 (1μF) is open-circuit.

(3) Check for power failure detection at pin 1 of 11C6. A high here indicates an overload on one of the l.t. supplies.

Once you've understood the basic operation of the chopper power supply and the bus control arrangements you should have no difficulty in repairing faults in these sets. Develop the correct technique for these areas and the rest is much the same as with anyone else's sets!

### Fault Report

Here's a list of some of the faults we've had.

(1) A completely dead set (no standby light) is usually due to a burnt up mains switch. If the subpanel is damaged, as it usually is, the complete assembly (part number 8003605) should be replaced - this is done through the

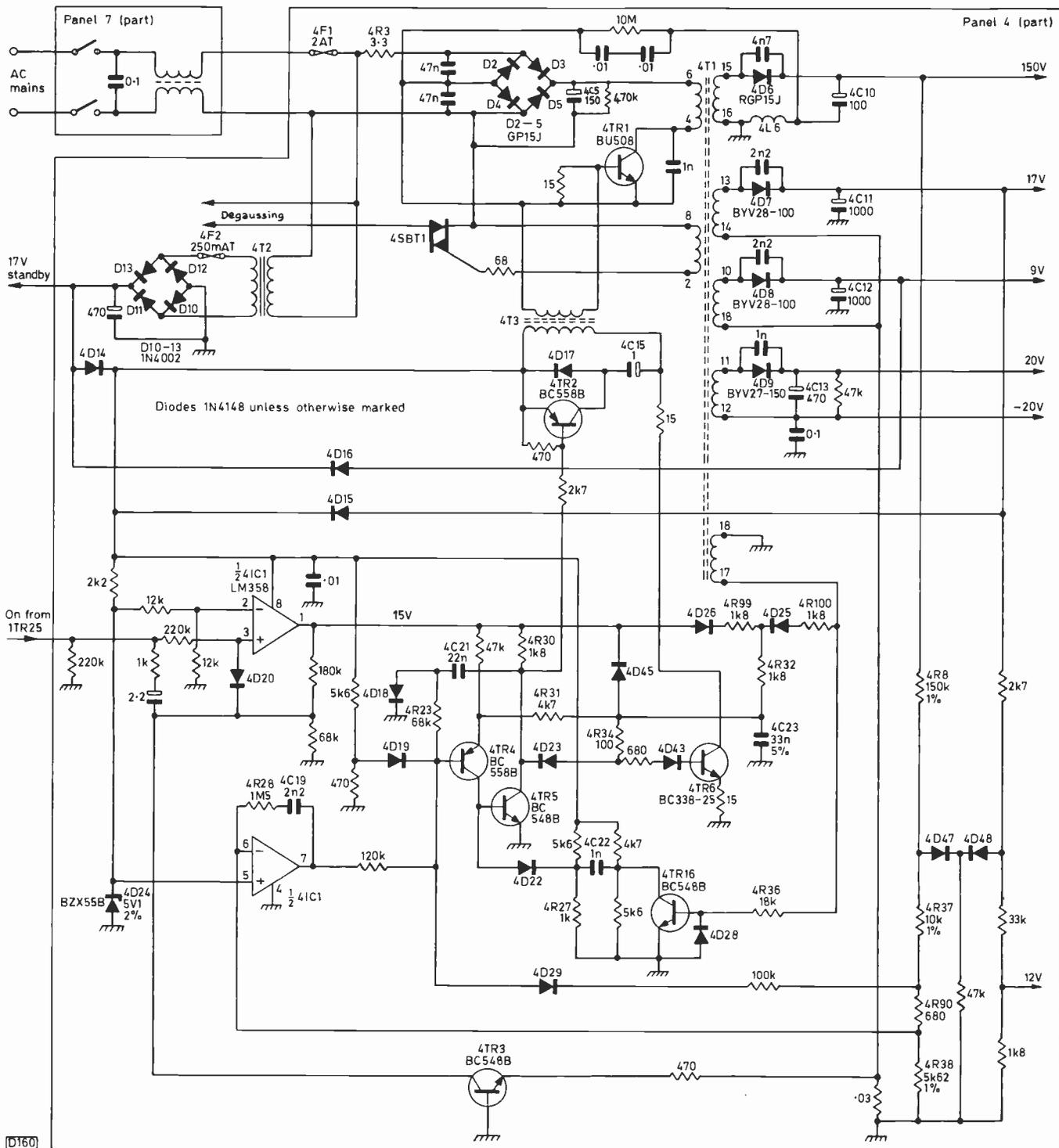


Fig. 4: The chopper power supply circuit. In earlier versions 4R32 was 3.9k $\Omega$  with 4R99 and 4R100 omitted. There have been other minor modifications to the circuit.

flap in the bottom of the cabinet.

(2) The most common cause of a set being stuck in standby, again usually preceded by smoke, is an open-circuit surge limiter resistor (4R3, 3.3 $\Omega$ ). A type with improved construction is now supplied.

(3) Reduced width and height has on a number of occasions been traced to the line flyback tuning capacitor 4C32 (1.5nF) being open-circuit.

(4) Stuck on standby, not a Bus 1 fault. The line output transistor 4TR11 short-circuit.

(5) A few lines of field foldover on the picture. Check the 0.1 $\Omega$  resistors 4R74 and 4R75 in series with the supplies to the TDA2170 field output chip.

(6) No control of a VCR via the Aux 2 socket when used

in conjunction with a Beomaster 5500 and Master Control Panel 5500. Data reaching IIC6 (MAB8461) but no output to the scart socket. Programming of options (datalink) correct but IIC6 faulty.

(7) No picture when brought on from standby via the MCP 5500 with the above system. 21IC3 (SAB3037) faulty.

(8) No line or field sync after a few seconds. IC5 (TDA1940) on panel 26/27 faulty.

(9) Teletext not running, top line only displayed. Horizontal phase control 26/27R65 slightly off.

As a final note, when removing the back cover it's not necessary to remove the screws completely – this saves losing them.

# Letters

## REBUILT 30AX TUBES

Having read the article on servicing the Ferguson TX10 chassis (January) I feel I must comment on the final section under the heading "the tube". The author says that retubing a TX10 is a good proposition but goes on to say that sadly very few rebuilt tubes perform to the original standard. I've been in charge of our small rebuilding business for thirty years and can assure you that our 30AX tubes perform to the original standards - many of our customers tell us this. We are an associate of CHS Ltd., Barmby Road, Pocklington, Yorkshire (phone 0759 303 068) who distribute our tubes to the servicing trade.

*J.R. Leigh, Retube Ltd.,  
North Somercotes, Louth, Lincs.*

## EHT ARCING

In reply to G.R. Darby, my article on e.h.t. arcing (January) was written in "strong terms" following a spate of faults that came into our workshop following misguided attempts to deal with problem. A large Japanese manufacturer does indeed smear silicone grease under the anode cap - but the points here for those who pour it over a dirty cap are *smear* and *under*. To keep matters brief I didn't originally mention the problems caused by gas heaters. The point to note is that the whole treatment hinges on the area being thoroughly cleaned.

*Nick Beer,  
Bideford, Devon.*

I feel I really must comment on Les Lawry-Johns' article in the February issue. There have been many letters in the magazine over the past few months on the subject of cowboys and amateurs attacking equipment and getting the trade a bad name. An article on servicing to BEAB standards appeared recently and in the January issue there was an article on dealing with e.h.t. arcing. In view of all this how can someone of Les's standing report fixing two e.h.t. discharge problems by bodging with tape? I'm pleased that the customers were happy when they left the shop. Perhaps they won't be when their sets burst into flames as a result of smouldering PVC tape. We should all be working to stamp out such bad practices.

*G.R. Darby, Proprietor Monitech,  
Earls Barton, Northampton.*

I'd like to support the views expressed by G.R. Darby (Letters, March) on the subject of e.h.t. arcing. So much in servicing is a matter of common sense. Manufacturers and service organisations alike, no matter what their size, are aware that the products they handle go into people's homes. Thus safety is the first consideration and price, though important, is secondary.

As Mr. Darby says, e.h.t. arcing is common with TV sets installed in homes where the occupants smoke heavily, run a bottled-gas heater, dry cloths in front of the fire and so on. No service engineer in his right mind would patch up a final anode connector which has failed under these conditions, but when a new cap has been installed it would be sensible to add some sealant to attempt to delay the date of the next replacement. Not good for business may be, but life's a gamble anyway! Many workshops

salvage undamaged e.h.t. caps from defective triplers and diode-split line output transformers, saving expensive repairs whilst keeping the job wholesome. Common sense and good judgement are again necessary here.

TV manufacturers generally don't seal final anode connectors because it involves additional expense and another operation on the production line, for something that's of benefit to only a small minority of the end users.

All of us in this industry have a duty towards the general public in making sure that the repaired equipment we return to their homes is as safe as it was when new, if not safer.

*K. Rutherford,  
Nottingham.*

## AMSTRAD AND RANK PARTS

Since I last wrote (Letters March) I've been told by CPC that they can now order R814 (27Ω, 20W) for the Amstrad CTV2200/2210 under the revised part number 1422031.

With reference to D.R. Isham's interesting letter, if any reader would rather buy the selector cams/nuts for the four-button mechanical tuner used in many Rank sets I have a stock and can supply 16 for an s.a.e. plus £1 (coin or P.O.).

*Dave Mackrill, 32 Southwater Road,  
St. Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex TN37 6JS.*

## ORACLE PUZZLE SOLVED

In reply to C. Russell's letter (February), the information on the Oracle lines mentioned is ITV's own data broadcast system used by a chain of chemist shops, the city, betting shops, some libraries, etc., etc. To receive the pages you require a special decoder and to be enabled by ITV - unless enabled for a fee the decoder will not reveal any more than a standard TV set with teletext does. But you would be amazed by what can be done with a second-hand computer, a few chips and a few hundred hours.

*A.J. Goloshof,  
Tewkesbury, Glos.*

In reply to C. Russell, I managed to get this on page 799 (ITV):

```
P799 AIR CALL TELETEXT STOP
VALID AT 19-JAN-89 — 3:25 PM
ATTACHED TO SYSTEM — SYSC-SYS16
HP TX — 9 LP TX — 0
SC Q5 — 0 CA Q5 — 0
FRO — 572612 FR1 — 0
```

TURN TO PAGE 700

Although I've tried page 700 nothing happens, but if you turn to page 188 more details are available. I suspect that pages 701-3, 713-5 and 719 are part of this system for which a decoder would be required. Incidentally "P799" is very difficult to stop because it scrolls down the screen in a fraction of a second every sixty seconds.

*D.R. Hindley,  
Bradford, West Yorkshire.*

I think I can shed some light on the latest Oracle puzzle (letters, February). With the aid of the wildcard facility on the time-page entry to my computer's teletext card I was soon able to determine that the time code to hold page 799 is 1312. Despite the reveal button exposing more information, the key words on this page are "air call teletext". This name is mentioned (as Televox is) on page

270, regional advertising. I was then led to page 188 and from there to the telephone. In reply to my call I was told that the company is providing an ASCII data transmission service that can be an economical alternative to a modem link.

The data is encrypted and appears as garbage on pages 715 etc. on the TV screen. For subscribers with a black-box adaptor however the data can be decoded and fed to an RS232 port. Companies that use this service include High Street stores, travel agents, etc. The information on page 799 is for the benefit of the providers of the system, some of the details of which may I suspect have changed slightly since the page was composed. I could find no sign of activity on page 700.

Tim Bolt.  
Cambridge.

### CURE FOR FIELD JUDDER

I was recently given an old Betamax machine that was otherwise going to the tip – I wanted it in order to see a Donohue tape on cryonic suspension recorded by a friend who has a Betamax VCR. In view of the resale value of working Betamax machines professional repair is no longer economic. So it was not unreasonable to try something unconventional.

Unfortunately the machine, a Toshiba V5470B, suffered from drum wear and tape alignment problems. This meant that although a picture could be obtained it was not up to the usual standard. Although the dots and lines on the screen could be cleared the f.m. envelope was still poor, causing an infuriating field judder.

Despite not having a service manual I was able to find the playback video level control and a test point where the head switching squarewave was present. Examination of the video at this control showed that the sync pulses are positive going. I therefore made up a circuit (Fig. 1) that provides a pulse slightly in advance of each field sync pulse. The positive edge of the head switching squarewave is inverted by Tr1 and then passed through a differentiator to Tr2. A second differentiator feeds the input to Tr3. An output pulse is thus obtained from both edges of the squarewave. If the manual had been available a better take-off point from an electrical point of view could probably have been found, but the test point is in a very convenient position. The output, a series of narrow pulses at field frequency, is fed via a 1kΩ resistor to the video level control where it's mixed in with the video signal. As the pulses are derived from the head rotation servo they are effectively a "flywheel field sync" and are therefore immune to all but the most serious interference. Since they come slightly in advance of the real field sync pulses it doesn't matter what mess interferes with these.

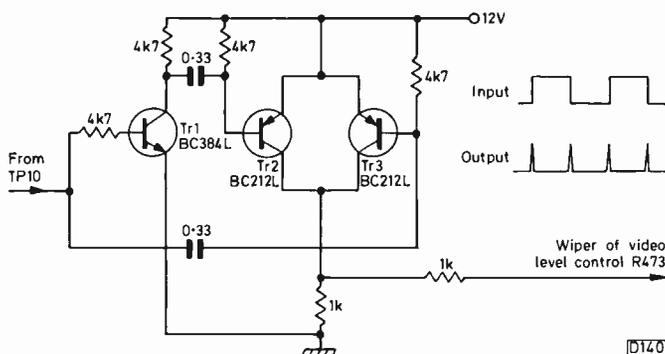


Fig. 1: Pulse generator circuit to cure field judder.

The circuit was built on a small piece of tagstrip and held in place by stiff wires to TP10, which is at the top side of the machine on the panel next to the top left-hand corner of the tuner setting panel. The earth connection was taken to a chassis point near this while the 12V supply required was taken via a wire connected to the large electrolytic at the top right-hand corner of the mechanical section. The machine was then turned over to make the connection to the playback level control. With the machine upside down and the bottom cover removed this control is at the bottom left-hand corner of the big panel. The 1kΩ resistor was soldered to the wiper of this control, the connecting lead being taken through the machine back to the new circuit.

It would seem to me that this is a good way of generating the field sync signal in all VCRs. It will improve reliability and the playback of poor tapes. The cost of the circuitry at the manufacturing stage would be negligible.

John de Rivaz, B.Sc. (Eng.),  
Porthowan, Cornwall.

### HELP WANTED

Can anyone supply a service manual/circuit diagram for the Sona 12in. monochrome portable Model S1286? The set was made in Rumania and distributed by Reay Electrical Distributors Ltd. who are unable to help.

K. Pockock, 500 Ripponden Road,  
Oldham, Lancs OL4 2LL.

Does anyone know of a source of the CA3023 i.c.? It's a 16MHz wideband amplifier. Grandata had listed it but no longer has stock. Another problem is the scarcity of 8501 chips for Commodore 16s and Plus 4s. A container load from the States wouldn't dent the requirement for these i.c.s!

A. Gall, 2 Commerce Street,  
Arbroath, Angus DD11 1NB.

Can anyone suggest a source of the TBA641A12 i.c. which no longer seems to be in stock anywhere?

F. Dawson, 32 Perry Street,  
Darwen, Lancs BB3 3DG.

Is there an ex-Rediffusion engineer or anyone out there who can help me make an old lady happy? The problem is teletext interference with a Mk. 13A monochrome receiver. I've tried several things but can't get rid of the lines. I'll gladly accept a reverse charge call on 0773 810 522 (daytime) or 0602 384 176 (evenings).

C. Newman, 58 Portland Road,  
Selston, Notts.

Can anyone supply a line output transformer for the Plustron Model CTV14? Several firms have been tried without success.

Len Sutton, Kildare Bungalow, Baghill Lane,  
Pontefract, West Yorkshire WF8 2HE.  
Telephone 0977 797 063.

### TDA1004A AVAILABLE

Your correspondents who asked about the TDA1004A i.c. (February) might like to know that it's available from Greenweld Electronics Ltd., 443 Millbrook Road, Southampton SO1 0HX (phone 0703 772 501).

David Hills,  
Newport, Gwent.

# Strange Things

Les Lawry-Johns

Some odd things have been happening to sets around here. Take the two Ferguson TX9s that came in recently.

## A Couple of TX9s

The first was brought in by a chap from just over the road. He said the colours were wrong – blue faces etc. I told him to call back later and started on it. The faces were certainly blue, as was the colour of the snooker table. I checked everything thoroughly, first the resistors etc. on the tube base panel then back to the output transistors on the main panel. There was nothing amiss so, feeling a bit of a fool, I removed the RGB drive leads from the tube's base panel. Red at the bottom, blue in the middle and green at the top. I put the red lead at the top and the green one at the bottom. The faces then looked all right but the fields were blue. So I changed over the green and blue leads, which produced green fields and a green snooker table. We now had the blue lead at the bottom, the green lead in the middle and the red one at the top. I didn't like doing this and it worried me. The set was left working all day and when the chap came back I told him what I'd done. He looked at the picture and said it was perfect. I asked him whether anyone had worked on the set and he said no.

So what had gone wrong to make it necessary to swap over the drive leads? The manual says that the green lead should be at the bottom, the red one in the middle and the blue one at the top. Surely the cathodes can't change their colours in this way? The leads looked to be undisturbed, correctly wrapped round – now they are soldered on. The set continues to work well. Strange.

The second TX9 came in with intermittent field collapse. I fitted a new TDA1170S field timebase chip and the set worked for several hours. Then suddenly the field collapsed again and when I pulled the chassis out the field scan was restored. I tapped around and it collapsed again. Next I found that there was no voltage at D94, the rectifier that provides the 24V supply for the field timebase. After a lot of mucking about I discovered that the field collapse came and went when pin 12 of the line output transformer was tapped – it connects the earthy side of the winding that feeds D94 to chassis. I cursed myself for not thinking of this earlier and remade the joint. No amount of tapping had any effect after that. Another easy job made difficult by my bungling.

## Fidelity Problems

Fidelity CTV14Rs (ZX2000 chassis) never used to give me any trouble. One came in the other week and seemed to work fine after I'd fitted a new line output transformer. Shortly afterwards it came back. This time I found that the BU208 line output transistor was shorting intermittently. On the last time it had done so it had blown the BUW84 chopper transistor. So I replaced both transistors and the set worked fine. Until next morning, that is. When I switched it on there was a loud bang. This time the BUW84 had shorted, blowing the mains fuse. I checked everything and fitted a new line output trans-

former, a new BU208 (just in case), two new bridge rectifier diodes, another BUW84 and a mains fuse. The set then worked normally but next morning there was another loud bang at switch on and I was back at square one. Why should a set that works perfectly when repaired go bang next morning? To cut a long story short, apart from two line output transformers, three BU208s, several BUW84s and of course fuses I must have fitted at least a dozen mains rectifier diodes before the set would work reliably.

When the owner came back I told him what had been happening to the set, and to me. He took it away and gave me back an aerial amplifier he'd purchased a week before, refusing to take any money for it. There are some nice people about – I'd begun to think that they were getting to be a bit thin on the ground.

Incidentally I'd like to thank those nice TV boys in Plymouth who repaired my daughter's Fidelity set – the one I'd given her some time ago. I hope it didn't give them as much trouble as the set just mentioned. I also wish they'd come and fix this CTV14 (ZX3000 chassis) that came in with a blank white screen. The lady who brought it in said there wasn't much wrong with it and I'd be able to do it in no time.

I thanked her and started on it. The screen was bright with white lines across it. So I turned down the first anode knob on the line output transformer and changed the TDA3562A colour decoder chip. With the new chip installed a picture appeared. I'd turned the brightness down, and when the controls were readjusted there was a good monochrome picture. But when the colour control was turned up the picture remained in black and white. She said the set required only minor treatment so I gave it up and returned it. I feel ashamed of myself, but there it is – I'm getting old and don't want to do things for nothing.

## The Pye G11

A Pye G11 came in recently with no sound or vision. I did my usual checks before switching on – the mains and h.t. fuses all seemed to be intact. So I switched on and heard the e.h.t. rustle up. But there was no l.t. supply at the lower left side i.f. panel. When the line output panel was swung out I found that the lower, 1A l.t. fuse was open-circuit. After switching off I checked from the fuseholder to chassis. There was a dead short which disappeared when the long socket was unplugged. So I turned my attention to the lower left side i.f./tuner panel, having refitted the socket on the line output panel.

As the short was still present I suspected the 12V regulator. When I removed the power input socket however the short disappeared. I started to frown at this and went back to the line output panel. Removing the socket here once more cleared the short. So what was I up against? A short in the wiring? I checked for this but there were no shorts.

It appeared that the short was present only when the socket was connected. I then did what I should have done in the first place. I again removed the socket, then checked from the fuseholder to the panel's true earth (not the frame). This time the short showed. A look at the circuit suggested that the LT1 supply's reservoir capacitor C1350 was the culprit, and when this was removed all was well. A new 150 $\mu$ V, 50V electrolytic restored the sound and vision and after a final check it was time to write out the bill. Another example of making life difficult for myself . . .

# Philips VR6470 and Related Models

**Barry Loughran**

The machines covered by these notes include the Tatung VRH8495TK, the Philips VR6470 and VR6670 and the Pye DV468, DV562 and DV761. They all use Philips mechanisms and electronics and there are probably other clones. We've serviced a hundred or so of them, and as a result have been able to note a few common faults. These are listed below.

**13V line missing:** Replace transistor 7001 (BD436) and IC7051 (LM393). Always replace them both before switching on.

**Loud crackling noise while loading:** This is usually caused by a broken tooth on the rack slider. Replacement is the only cure.

**Noisy playback, rewind, fast forward or no rewind or fast forward picture search:** This has always been found to be due to coupling 214. Repairing this will restore normal operation.

**Tape jams in deck:** Can be tape stop broken in cassette deck, spring 215 bent or cam 217, 206 broken.

**Poor Picture:** Usually caused by poor video heads. The type of head used often seems to last for only about one

year. On a few occasions the cause of the trouble has been the spring coming off back-tension lever 204.

**Switches off when fully loaded:** Check whether the capstan motor is trying to go in reverse. If so replace IC7251 (L293B).

**Tape loads then unloads:** If this is not caused by a badly positioned cassette deck try replacing the tape-end sensors.

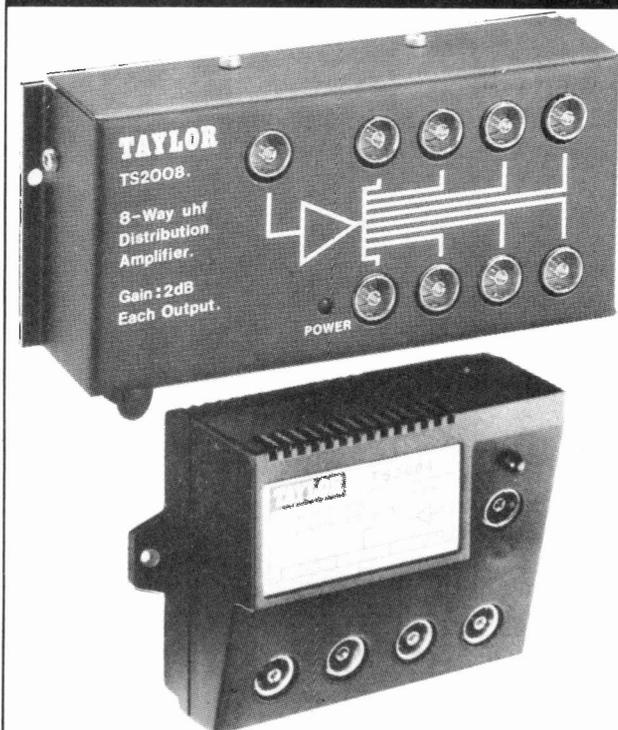
**Tape loads only half way when play is pressed:** The threading motor can have a tight spot.

This has covered most of the main problems we've had with these machines. On one or two occasions however we've had a very weird problem. The complaint has been that at times the machine won't accept a tape. On each occasion when the machine has been put on the bench the fault has been present and no initial measures would cure it. The tape was then loaded half way using a battery connected to the threading motor. After connecting the mains the machine unloaded and after this the machine accepted a tape on all occasions. We could instigate the fault only by unloading the tape, switching off at the mains then reconnecting the machine. The cause of the problem was eventually traced to the fact that when IC7551 was being reset it held the threading motor on for six seconds longer than it should have done. Replacing IC7551 puts matters right.

As a final point, when replacing the top plate make sure that the pressure roller assembly is located properly. Otherwise the teeth on the rack slider can be broken at the first attempt to load a tape.

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15R001	2.72	25C1826	0.57	AN206	2.58	BC207	0.14	BOX548	0.31	BU205	1.15	HA1196	7.43	MC1351P	1.32	SAS560T	5.42	STR440	5.37	TBA940	1.87	TDA4431	2.27
15R001	2.72	25C1829	2.25	AN208	3.55	BC212B	0.26	BOX62A	1.96	BU206	1.27	HA1301	1.73	MC1352P	1.10	SAS570T	5.42	STR453	5.47	TBA950	1.96	TDA4440	3.26
15R001	2.72	25C1835	4.50	AN210	2.28	BC213A	0.20	BOX63A	1.96	BU207	1.65	HA1306	2.26	MC1367P	2.15	SAS570S	2.61	STR453	4.16	TBA970	3.06	TDA4442	4.75
17053	3.65	25C1837	3.02	AN211	3.25	BC214	0.10	BOX64A	1.96	BU208	1.12	HA1340Z	7.87	MC1401	2.41	SAS6000	1.33	STR620	5.85	TBA9900	1.88	TDA4600-2	2.10
17074	9.30	25C1906	0.98	AN214Q	2.40	BC225	0.40	BOX69	1.96	BU209	1.12	HA1352	4.02	MC1403	0.40	SAS660	1.33	STR620V	5.85	TBA2700	1.71	TDA4610	6.88
17089	3.45	25C1921	1.27	AN216	3.33	BC228	0.10	BOX71	1.12	BU210	0.66	HA1366WR	3.88	MC1493P	4.20	SAS6700	1.33	TR603V	0.73	TCA2700	2.15	TDA4620	7.43
17127	1.58	25C1929	2.25	AN219	0.99	BC238B	0.08	BOX72	0.08	BU211	0.66	HA1367	2.75	MC1494P	2.15	SAS6700	1.33	TR603V	0.73	TCA2700	2.15	TDA4620	7.43
17376	1.58	25C1942	1.98	AN241	1.91	BC239B	0.25	BOX73	0.25	BU212	0.25	HA1368	2.45	MC1495P	3.46	SAS6710	2.21	TR603T	1.01	TCA280A	2.35	TDA4630	6.75
17401	0.00	25C1956	0.26	AN245	4.70	BC251A	0.50	BOX74	0.50	BU213	0.13	HA1368A	2.07	MC1495HBCP	3.71	SBA700	1.51	TR604V	0.87	TCA280A	2.16	TDA4640	1.88
17403	0.06	25C1957	0.95	AN252	1.80	BC294	0.50	BOX75	0.50	BU214	0.28	HA1374	1.80	MC14528BCP	2.15	SC564P	1.95	TR604V	1.05	TCA530	2.24	TDA9300	2.92
17403	0.06	25C1962	1.93	AN270	1.92	BC300	0.25	BOX76	0.25	BU215	0.28	HA1377	1.93	MC1712	3.88	SDA2006	17.95	TR605Z	0.47	TCA530	2.24	TDA9300	2.92
17403	0.06	25C1969	1.77	AN295	5.52	BC302	0.53	BOX77	0.53	BU216	0.23	HA1377	1.75	MC1912	19.50	SDA212Z	10.28	TR605Z	0.30	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17403	0.06	25C1983	3.28	AN300	2.45	BC303	0.30	BOX78	0.30	BU217	0.30	HA1389	2.05	MC1724CP	3.49	SDA224	5.26	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17418	0.03	25C1985	1.55	AN302	3.09	BC307A	0.06	BOX79	0.06	BU218	0.18	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2009	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC308A	0.17	BOX80	0.17	BU219	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2010	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC308B	0.17	BOX81	0.17	BU220	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2011	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC308C	0.17	BOX82	0.17	BU221	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2012	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC308D	0.17	BOX83	0.17	BU222	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2013	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC308E	0.17	BOX84	0.17	BU223	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2014	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC308F	0.17	BOX85	0.17	BU224	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2015	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC308G	0.17	BOX86	0.17	BU225	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2016	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC308H	0.17	BOX87	0.17	BU226	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2017	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC308I	0.17	BOX88	0.17	BU227	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2018	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC308J	0.17	BOX89	0.17	BU228	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2019	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC308K	0.17	BOX90	0.17	BU229	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2020	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC308L	0.17	BOX91	0.17	BU230	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2021	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC308M	0.17	BOX92	0.17	BU231	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2022	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC308N	0.17	BOX93	0.17	BU232	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2023	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC308O	0.17	BOX94	0.17	BU233	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2024	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC308P	0.17	BOX95	0.17	BU234	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2025	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC308Q	0.17	BOX96	0.17	BU235	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2026	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC308R	0.17	BOX97	0.17	BU236	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2027	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC308S	0.17	BOX98	0.17	BU237	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2028	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC308T	0.17	BOX99	0.17	BU238	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2029	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC308U	0.17	BOX100	0.17	BU239	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2030	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC308V	0.17	BOX101	0.17	BU240	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2031	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC308W	0.17	BOX102	0.17	BU241	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2032	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC308X	0.17	BOX103	0.17	BU242	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2033	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC308Y	0.17	BOX104	0.17	BU243	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2034	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC308Z	0.17	BOX105	0.17	BU244	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2035	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC309A	0.17	BOX106	0.17	BU245	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2036	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC309B	0.17	BOX107	0.17	BU246	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2037	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC309C	0.17	BOX108	0.17	BU247	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2038	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC309D	0.17	BOX109	0.17	BU248	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2039	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC309E	0.17	BOX110	0.17	BU249	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2040	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC309F	0.17	BOX111	0.17	BU250	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2041	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC309G	0.17	BOX112	0.17	BU251	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2042	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC309H	0.17	BOX113	0.17	BU252	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2043	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC309I	0.17	BOX114	0.17	BU253	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2044	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC309J	0.17	BOX115	0.17	BU254	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2045	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC309K	0.17	BOX116	0.17	BU255	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2046	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC309L	0.17	BOX117	0.17	BU256	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00	TR605Z	2.77	TCA530	2.24	TDA9313	3.15
17448	0.03	25C2047	0.34	AN305	0.88	BC309M	0.17	BOX118	0.17	BU257	0.17	HA1389	2.29	MC1818S	2.18	SG13	9.00						



## INTERCONNECTING LEADS

To link two VCRs for signal exchange, find the intersection of their group columns and rows in the matrix then refer to the list for source and part number of the link required.

A	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	A
B	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	B	
C	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	C		
D	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	D			
E	35	36	37	38	39	40	E				
F	41	42	43	44	45	F					
G	46	47	48	49	G						
H	50	51	52	H							
J	53	54	J								
K	55	K									

**Note:** Most manufacturers and wholesalers can supply a universal copy-lead set to cater for any combination of BNC/Phono/PL259 (video lead) and 5-DIN/Phono/3.5mm jack (audio lead) by means of terminal adaptors.

51	Pa VRA151	45	Pa VRA151	51	Pa VRA151
52	Ph 321-20485	46	Ph 321-20485	52	Ph 321-20485
53	Pa VRA134	47	Pa VRA134	53	Pa VRA134
54	Pa VRA136	48	Pa VRA136	54	Pa VRA136
55	Pa VRA137	49	Pa VRA137	55	Pa VRA137
	Ph 321-20486	50	Ph 321-20486		Ph 321-20486
	HRS CL92		HRS CL92		HRS CL92
	Pa VRA144		Pa VRA144		Pa VRA144
	Ph 321-20487		Ph 321-20487		Ph 321-20487

Pa = Pinnacle  
Ph = Panda  
Ph = Philips

## VCR-TV LINKS

### Socket combinations

1	Pa VRA173	10	Pa VRA173	17	Pa VRA173
2	Pa VRA180	11	Pa VRA180	18	Pa VRA180
3	Pa VRA181	12	Pa VRA181	19	Pa VRA181
4	Pa VRA182	13	Pa VRA182	20	Pa VRA182
5	Pa VRA183	14	Pa VRA183	21	Pa VRA183
6	Pa VRA184	15	Pa VRA184	22	Pa VRA184
7	Pa VRA185	16	Pa VRA185	23	Pa VRA185
8	Pa VRA186	17	Pa VRA186	24	Pa VRA186
9	Pa VRA187	18	Pa VRA187	25	Pa VRA187
10	Pa VRA188	19	Pa VRA188	26	Pa VRA188
11	Pa VRA189	20	Pa VRA189	27	Pa VRA189
12	Pa VRA190	21	Pa VRA190	28	Pa VRA190
13	Pa VRA191	22	Pa VRA191	29	Pa VRA191
14	Pa VRA192	23	Pa VRA192	30	Pa VRA192
15	Pa VRA193	24	Pa VRA193		

**Notes:** TV/VCR manufacturers can supply link-leads to couple any two of their own products. Special leads can be made up by Lektropacs, 17 Turnham Green Terrace, London W4 (01-994 2784): quote length required and equipment model numbers or socket types.

\* The Pinnacle SCART-Universal lead consists of a SCART plug and lead with terminal adaptors for groups A-K inclusive.

† Available from Tape Recorder Spares Ltd., 206 Ilderton Road, London SE15 (01-639 7844).

**Etron.** Brand name used by Nikkai Imports Ltd.

**Expert.** Spares from Tatung, GEC or Luxor depending on chassis.

**Ferguson Ltd., Service Division,** PO Box 121, Lea Valley Trading Estate, Angel Road, Edmonton, London N18 3BP. 01-807 3060. Move due to Box 1594 Crown Road, Enfield, Middx EN1 1DY. 01-804 7979. Trade only. See also CPC, HRS, Chas Hyde, Wizard.

**Fidelity.** Spares available from SEME, CPC, McLelland, Wizard and Willow Vale.

**Finlux:** Lohja UK Ltd., Valley Farm Way, Stourton, Leeds LS10 1SE. 0532714521. Trade only.

**Fisher Sales (UK) Ltd.,** PO Box 294, Watford, Herts WD2 8JF. 0923 222 244.

**Fujitsu General.** See Teleton Electro (UK) Co. Ltd.

**Galaxy** monochrome portables. See Iskra Ltd.

**GEC.** Spares available from Hotpoint Ltd., Celta Road, Peterborough PE2 9JB. 073 368 989. See also CPC, Chas Hyde, McLelland, SEME, Wizard.

**General.** See Teleton Electro (UK) Co. Ltd.

**GoldStar UK Sales Ltd.,** Goldstar House, 264 Bath Road, Slough SL1 4DT. 0753 691 888. Spares for Model GHV12321 available from Cathay Electronics.

**Goodmans Loudspeakers.** Tees Building, Unit 2-3, Mitchell Way, Portsmouth PO3 5PR. 0705 673 734.

**Grundig International Ltd.,** Mill Road, Rugby, Warwickshire CV21 1PR. 0788 565 128. Account holders only supplied. See also Willow Vale. Spares for VCR4000 and SVR4004 ranges available only from Willow Vale.

**HMV.** Sets use Ferguson or Fidelity chassis.

**Harwood.** Spares available (trade only) from Jackson Products Ltd., 18th Floor, Station House, Harrow Road, Stonebridge Park, Wembley, Middx HA9 6DE. 01-900 0433.

**Hinari:** Consumer Products Ltd., Unit 6-10, Badenheath Place, Westfield, Cumbernauld, Glasgow G68 9HX. 0236 722 505. Account holders only supplied. See also CPC, Chas Hyde, SEME.

**Hitachi Sales (UK) Ltd.,** Hitachi House, Station Road, Hayes, Middx UB3 4DR. 01-848 8787. Account holders can use 01-569 1843 (known part no.) or 01-569 1975 (part no. not known). See also Chas Hyde, McLelland, Wizard.

**HRS Electronics plc.,** 11 Garretts Green Lane, Garretts Green, Birmingham B33 0UE. 021 789 7575. Wide range of spares including Ferguson, Philips, Rank etc. Trade only.

**Huanan.** Spares available from Audio Visual Technical Support Ltd., 67A Shelton Avenue, Feltham, Middx TW13 4QS. 01-890 3004 or 3010.

**Chas Hyde & Son Ltd.,** Prospect House, Barmby Road, Pocklington, York YO4 2DP. 0759 303 068. Official spares distributors for Ferguson, Philips, Pye and Sharp, Spares stocked for Amstrad, GEC, Hinari, Hitachi, Matsui, Saisho, Samsung, Sanyo, Sony, Toshiba etc. Trade only.

**Indesit.** Spares no longer available from manufacturers/agents.

**Ingersoll.** Spares available from Plustringer.

**Iskra Ltd.,** Redlands, Coulsdon, Surrey CR3 2HT. 01-668 7141.

**ITC(bv),** P.J.E. Marketing Ltd., Sporhams Farm House, Sporhams Lane, Danbury, Chelmsford, Essex CM3 4AJ. 0245 414 292.

**ITT and ITT Nokia.** Spares available from Hoopwell Ltd., Unit B9, Larkfield Trading Estate, Larkfield, Maidstone, Kent ME20 6SW, 0622 882 285. See also Wizard.

**JVC (UK) Ltd.,** JVC House, Eldonwall Trading Estate, Priestley Way, Staples Corner, London NW2 7BA. 01-450 3282. Trade only.

**Konica,** Plane Tree Crescent, Feltham, Middx TW13 7HD. 01-751 6121.

**Körting.** Spares available from Telefaulds, St. Michael's Road, Pitts Hill, Turnstall, Stoke-on-Trent ST6 6LS. 0782 813 757.

**Lincoln.** Spares for Model 35C available from Nikkai Imports Ltd.

**Lloytron Electronics Ltd.,** Service Dept., Kingsonic House, Derby Street, Cheetham, Manchester MM8 9HB. 0618 328 320.

**Loewe Opta UK Ltd.,** Sherwood House, 33-35 Wellfield Road, Hatfield, Herts AL10 0BS. 0707 262 020/5.

**Logik.** Brand name used by Dixons. See Mastercare Components, CPC.

**Luxor.** Spares available from NCS.

**Marconiphone.** See Ferguson Ltd.

**Marantz Audio UK Ltd.,** Unit 15-16, Saxon Way Industrial Estate, Moor Lane, Harmonds-worth, Middx UB7 0LW. 01-897 6633.

**Mastercare Components Division,** Maylands Court, Maylands Avenue, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP2 7DE. 0442 232 000.

**Matsui.** Brand name used by Currys. Spares available from Mastercare Components, CPC, Chas Hyde.

**McLelland-Datatext Ltd.,** Unit 3A, Bankfield Industrial Estate, Kitson Road, Leeds LS10 1NT. 0532 455 169. Wide range of spares including Fidelity, GEC, Hitachi, Philips, Sanyo, Sharp and Sony. Trade only.

**Metz.** Spares available from Visionair Rentals, 5 Crown Point Parade, Crown Dale, London SE19 3NG. 01-670 2555. Trade only.

**Mitsubishi Electric (UK) Ltd.,** Traveller's Lane, Hatfield, Herts AL10 8XB. 0707 276 100.

**Morphy Richards Technical Services Ltd.,** 6 Albany Parade, Brentford, Middx. 01-560 5331.

**Murphy.** More recent sets fitted with Fidelity chassis. Many sets fitted with Rediffusion chassis. Model CTV3500 refer to Cathay Electronics. Older sets fitted with Rank chassis (see HRS Electronics plc.).

**National, National Panasonic.** See Panasonic.

**NCS,** Bridgemoor Close, Westmead Industrial Estate, Westmead, Swindon, Wilts SN5 7YG. 0793 511 636. Trade only.

**NEC Home Electronics Division,** NEC House, 1 Victoria Road, Acton, London W3 6UL. 01-993 8111. Trade only. See also SEME.

**NEI, Network.** Spares available from HRS Electronics plc.

**Neptune.** Spares available from Ampmace Ltd., Falkland Close, Coventry CV4 8HQ. 0203 471 241. Trade only.

**Nikkai Imports Ltd.,** Regents Park House, 45 Byron Street, Leeds LS2 7QJ. 0532 441 640.

**NordMende.** Spares available from Ferguson Ltd. Agents in Ireland: Reynolds Electronics Ltd.

**Olympus Optical Co. (UK) Ltd.,** 2-8 Honduras Street, London EC1Y 0TX. 01-253 2772. Trade only.

**Orion.** Spares for some models available from Hinari Consumer Products Ltd. or Hinari stockists.

**Osaki.** Brand name used by Rumbelows. Spares for Models P50G, P60G, T22P, VCR31, VCR32, VCR33 available from Cathay Electronics.

**Panasonic (UK) Ltd.,** 300-318 Bath Road, Slough, Berks SL1 6JB. 075 382 1111. Move to Southern Industrial Estate, Bracknell due in early May. Orders can be sent via depots as follows: Bristol 0454 201 263, Hinceley 0455 632 777, Livingston 0506 419 719, Normanton 0924 895 681.

**Philips Service,** 604 Purley Way, Croydon CR9 4DR. 01-686 5414. Account holders only supplied. See also CPC, HRS, Chas Hyde, McLelland, SEME, Willow Vale, Wizard.

**Pioneer High Fidelity (GB) Ltd.,** 1-6 Field Way, Greenford, Middx UB6 8UN. 01-575 7199.

**Plustringer (Electronics) Ltd.,** No. 26 The Craft Centre, West Wilts Trading Estate, Westbury, Wilts. 0373 826 739.

**Plustron.** Spares available from Ross Microwave Ovens, 17-23 Waterloo Road, Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent ST6 2EH. 0782 838 462.

**Prinz.** Brand name used by Dixons. See Mastercare Components.

**Proline.** Brand name used by Comet Radiovision.

**Pye.** See Philips Service.

**Radionette.** See Tandberg.

**Rediffusion Business Electronics Ltd.,** TV Spares Dept., Unit 9, Mole Business Park, Randall's Road, Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 7BA. 0372 386 732.

**Reynolds Electronics Ltd.,** Unit 20, Chestnut Road, Western Industrial Estate, Naaf Road, Dublin 12. 01-500 144.

**Rigonda.** Technical and Optical Equipment (London) Ltd., Zenith House, 69 Lawrence Road, Tottenham, London N15 4TG. 01-800 8088.

**Roberts Dynatron Co. Ltd.,** Molesey Avenue, West Molesey, Surrey KT8 0RL. 01-979 7474.

**Rumbelows.** See telephone directory for local service centre.

**Saba.** Spares only available from Saba GmbH, 7210 Rottweil, Königsberger Str. 12, W. Germany.

**Saisho.** Brand name used by Dixons. See Mastercare Components, CPC, Chas Hyde.

**Salora.** Spares available from NCS.

**Samsung Electronics (UK) Ltd.,** Industrial Unit A, Stafford Park 12, Telford, Shropshire TF3 3BJ. 0952 292 262. See also Chas Hyde. Agents in Ireland: Reynolds Electronics Ltd.

**Sanyo Marubeni (UK) Ltd.,** PO Box 294, Watford, Herts WD2 8JF. 0923 222 244. See also Chas Hyde, McLelland.

# TELEVISION

## TV/VCR SPARES GUIDE 1989

The following list gives spares department addresses and telephone numbers or, where these are the same, service department or head office addresses and telephone numbers. Also included are details of major spares distributors.

- Aiwa UK Ltd.**, Unit 5, Heathrow Summit Centre, Skyport-Drive, West Drayton, Middx UB7 0LY. 01-897 7000.
- Akai (UK) Ltd.**, Haslemere Heathrow Estate, 12 Silver Jubilee Way, Parkway, Hounslow, Middx TW4 6NF. 01-897 6388.
- Alba Radio Ltd.**, Unit 1A, Ripplside Commercial Estate, Ripple Road, Barking, Essex. 01-594 5533. Early large-screen CTVs use Philips or Thorn Chassis. Trade only.
- Ambassador.** Brand name used by Sentra Consumer Products.
- Amstrad.** Spares available from CPC Ltd. and Chas Hyde & Son Ltd. Reynolds Electronics Ltd. handle computers in Ireland.
- Aro.** Spares available from HRS Electronics plc.
- ASA.** Spares can be ordered from Finlux. Agents in Ireland: Bagenalstown TV Centre, Market Square, Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow. 01-503 21581. Trade only.
- Autovox.** See Comet Radiovision Services Ltd.
- Benkson.** B. Benkert Ltd., Benkson House, 26 Thames Road, Barking, Essex IG11 0JA. 01-594 7532. Trade only.
- Beovision/Beocord.** Bang and Olufsen UK Ltd., Eastbrook Road, Gloucester GL4 7DE. 0452 307 377. Trade only.
- Binatone International Ltd.**, Binatone House, 1 Beresford Avenue, Wembley, Middx HA0 1YX. 01-903 5211. Trade only.
- Blaupunkt.** Robert Bosch Ltd., PO Box 98, Broadwater Park, North Orbital Road, Denham, Uxbridge, Middx UB9 5HJ. 0895 838 383. Trade only.
- Bush Radio plc.**, Wharf Road, Enfield, Middx EN3 4TE. 01-805 2065. Trade only. Spares for Rank produced CTVs (up to T24/T26 chassis) available from HRS Electronics plc.
- Canon (UK) Ltd.**, Unit 4, Brent Trading Centre, North Circular Road, London NW10. 01-459 1266.
- Cathay Electronics**, 7 Blacklands Way, Abingdon Business Park, Abingdon, Oxfordshire OX14 1SU. 0235 325 555.
- Cihon.** Spares available from HRS Electronics plc.
- Classic** monochrome portables. See Iskra Ltd.
- Commodore.** Spares for Commodore computers available from HRS Electronics plc.
- Comet Radiovision Services Ltd.**, Service Dept., Marshgate Industrial Estate, Marshgate, Doncaster DN5 8AF. 0302 340 486.
- Contec.** CTVs sold by Dixons. Spares available from Mastercare Components.
- CPC Ltd.**, 186-200 North Road, Preston, Lancs PR1 1YP. 0772 555 034. Official spares stockists for Amstrad, Ferguson, Fidelity, GEC, Hinari, Logik, Matsui, Philips, Pye, Saisho, Sinclair, Sony and Triumph.
- Crown.** Spares available from HRS Electronics plc.
- Decca.** See Tatung (UK) Ltd. and Wizard Distributors. Spares for chassis up to and including the 110/115 series available from D & S Electronic Services, Building 15, Unit 4, Stanmore Industrial Estate, Bridgnorth, Salop WV15 5HR. 0746 766 641.
- Doric.** Rediffusion brand name. See Rediffusion Business Electronics Ltd.
- Dwektron** colour sets. See Iskra Ltd.
- Dynatron.** Pre-1981 sets see Philips Service. Post-1981 sets see Roberts Radio Ltd.
- Ekco.** See Philips Service.
- Eftone Electronics Ltd.**, 4 Beresford Avenue, Wembley, Middx HA0 1YZ. 01-902 6222.
- Schneider (UK) Ltd.**, Schneider House, 5 Harrowden Road, Brackmills, Northampton NN4 0BE. 0604 769 255.
- Seleco (UK) Ltd.**, Orchard House, Amersham Road, Chesham, Bucks HP5 1NE. 0494 774 366.
- SEME Ltd.**, Units 2E and 2F, Saxby Road Industrial Estate, Melton Mowbray, Leics LE13 1BS. 066 465 392. Wide range of spares including Ferguson, GEC, Hinari, Philips, Pye, Sharp. Full range stocked for Fidelity and NEC. Trade only except for Fidelity and NEC cabinet parts.
- Sentra** Consumer Products, Locksley Road, Brighouse, W. Yorks HD6 1QF. 0484 714 355.
- Sharp.** Spares available from Willow Vale Electronics Ltd., 11 Arkwright Road, Reading, Berks. 0734 876 444. See also Chas Hyde, McLelland, SEME.
- Siemens.** Spares for Model numbers beginning FF available from Mastercare Components (see above). Spares for Model numbers beginning FC available from John Langman Ltd., 5 Bryants Close, Frenchay, Bristol BS16 1PA - 0272 567 184. Spares available in the Republic of Ireland from Siemens Ltd., Domestic Appliances Division, Dublin Industrial Estate, Finglas, Dublin 11 - telephone no. 302 855.
- Sinclair.** Spares available from CPC Ltd.
- Skantic.** See Salora.
- Solvax.** Brand name used by Comet Radiovision Services Ltd.
- Sonatel.** Brand name used by Morphy Richards Consumer Electronics Ltd.
- Sony (UK) Ltd.**, Spares Division, PO Box 58, Newbury, Berks RG13 4LX. 0635 60000. Account holders only supplied. Spares obtainable from SES at Oldbury 021 544 8818, Dulwich 01-693 9622, Glasgow 041 554 2751, Leeds 0532 527 387, Staines 078 466 111. See also CPC, Chas Hyde, McLelland.
- Steepletone** Products Ltd., Park End Works, Croughton, Nr. Brackley, Northants NN13 5RD. 0869 810 081.
- Sunkyoung Europe Ltd.**, Sunkyoung House, Springfield Road, Hayes, Middx UB4 0TY. 01-561 1200. Trade only.
- Tandberg.** R.D.E. Tandberg, Holly Tree House, The Green, Full Sutton, York YO4 1HW. 075 972 795.
- Tashiko.** Brand name used by Granada. Spares available from UK Rental & Retail Ltd., Unit 37, Roman Way Industrial Estate, Preston, Lancs PR2 5BD. 0772 651 551. Trade only.
- Tatung (UK) Ltd.**, Service Division, Stafford Park 10, Telford, Shropshire TF3 3AB. 0952 613 111. Trade only.
- Telefunken.** Paul Spring Electronics, 6 Oasthouse Way, St. Mary Cray, Orpington, Kent BR5 3PT. 068 931 341. Trade only. Spares for 712/712A and earlier chassis no longer available.
- Teleton Electro (UK) Co. Ltd.**, 154 Great North Road, Birchwood Industrial Estate, Hatfield, Herts AL9 5JN. 070 727 2841.
- Tensai.** UK agents John Walker Ltd., 55 North Street, Thame, Oxfordshire OX9 3BN. 0844 213 277.
- Texet.** The Hiro Co., Ltd., Elizabeth House, Elizabeth Street, Manchester M8 8JJ. 0618 347 432.
- Thomson.** TV and VCR spares available from K.M. Services Ltd., 19 Market Place, Brackley, Northants NN13 5AB. 0280 701 650. Trade only. For camera and microwave spares see Plusmaster (Electronics) Ltd.
- Toshiba Technical Centre, Units 6/7, Admiralty Way, Southern Trading Centre, Camberley, Blackwater, Surrey GU15 3DT. 0276 694 000. Trade only. See also Chas Hyde.**
- Triumph.** Brand name used by Hinari Consumer Products Ltd.
- Triumph.** Brand name used by Currys. See Mastercare Components, CPC.
- Ultra.** See Ferguson Ltd.
- Vega.** Technical and Optical Equipment (London) Ltd., Zenith House, 69 Lawrence Road, Tottenham, London N15 4TG. 01-800 8088.
- Willow Vale Electronics Ltd.**, 11 Arkwright Road, Reading, Berks RG2 0LU. 0734 876 444. Official spares stockists for Ferguson, Fidelity, GEC, Grundig, Philips, Pye, Sharp. Other spares available.
- Winthronics.** Spares available from Lloytron Electronics Ltd.
- Wizard Distributors,** Empress Street Works, Empress Street, Manchester M16 9EN. 0618 725 438 or 0618 480 060. Spares stocked include Decca, Ferguson, Fidelity, GEC, Hinari, Hitachi, ITT, Philips, Pye, Rank, Sharp, Sony. Trade only.
- York.** Spares available from Plusmaster (Electronics) Ltd.
- Zanussi.** Spares available from Seleco (UK) Ltd. See above.

# ★ NEW LOWEST PRICES ★

**AKAI**  
Machine Nos.: VP77 VP88 VP7100 VP7200 VS1 VS2 VS3 VS5 VS10 VS9300 VS9500 VS9700 VS-P1 VS-P5

**AMSTRAD**  
Machine Nos.: VCR4500 VCR5200  
Machine Nos.: VCR7000  
VCR4600 VCR9000

**FERGUSON/JVC**  
Machine Nos.: 3292 8903 3V00 3V01 3V06 3V16 3V22 3V23 3V24 3V29 3V30 3V31 3V35 3V36 3V38 3V39 3V49

**FISHER**  
Machine Nos.: FVH — D520 D530 D620 D720 P420 P510 P520 P530 P615 P620 P622 P710 P720 P721 P722

**GEC**  
Head Part Nos.: 5458161 5458165  
Machine Nos.: 4000H 4001H 4002H  
Head Part Nos.: 5458282 5458413 5458415 5458992  
Machine Nos.: 4001H 4004H

**HITACHI**  
Machine Nos.: VT3000  
Head Part Nos.: 5458104  
Machine Nos.: VT4000 VT4200 VT5000 VT5500  
Head Part Nos.: 5458161 5458165  
Machine Nos.: VT6500 VT7000 VT8000 VT8040 VT8100 VT8500 VT8700 VT9000 VT9300 VT9500 VT9700 VT9900

Head Part Nos.: 5458282 5458413 5458415 5458992  
Machine Nos.: VT11 V14 VT33 VT34 VT330 VT340 VT5030 VTP10 VTP30

**ITT**  
Machine Nos.: VR3605 VR3033 VR3905 VR3913 VR3914 VR3935 VR3943 VR3963 VR3993 VR3975 VR3985 VR3986 VR3983

**JVC (see also Ferguson)**  
Machine Nos.: HP4000 HR2200 HR3300 HR3320 HR3330 HR3350 HR3360 HR3660 HR3750 HR3860 HR4100 HR7200 HR7600 HR7610 HRD110 HRD111 HRD120 HRD121 HRD140 HRD150 HRD220 HRD225

**MITSUBISHI**  
Machine No.: HS200  
HS7008

**NATIONAL PANASONIC**  
Head Part Nos.: VEHO099 0103 0115 0121 0131  
Machine Nos.: NV300 NV322 NV332 NV333 NV340 NV390 NV2000 NV3000 NV7000 NV7200 NV7500 NV7800 NV8610 NV8170 NV8200 NV8400 NV8600 NV8610 NV8620

Head Part Nos.: VEHO171 VEHO218  
Machine No.: NV370 NV3708  
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Head Part Nos.: VEHO286  
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Head Part Nos.: VEHO174  
Machine No.: NV366

**SHARP**  
Head Part Nos.: DDRMU 0002 HE17/21/27  
Machine No.: VC581/2/3 651 681/2/3/5 659 699  
Head Part Nos.: DDRMU 0001 HE00 0002 HE02 04 05 06  
Machine No.: 2C9 VC110 VC200 VC220 VC300 VC381 VC384 VC386 VC387 VC388 VC477 VC481 VC482 VC930 VC970 VC3300 VC9100 VC9300 VC9400 VC9500 VC9600 VC9700

Head Part Nos.: DDRMU 0001 HE09  
Machine No.: VC7300 VC7700 VC7750  
Head Part Nos.: DDRMU 0001 HE10  
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Head Part Nos.: DDRMU 0001 HE12  
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Machine No.: VTC5000 VTC5150 VTC5300 VTC5400  
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Head Part Nos.: 1430762 T02000  
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Machine No.: VTC9300PS VTC9350

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Machine No.: SL3000, 8000, 8080, SLT 6Me, 7, 7E, 7ME  
Head Part Nos.: A6762 012A, 038A, 055A, 129A  
Machine No.: SL5W, 5000 5100 SLC5, C6, C7  
Head Part Nos.: A6762 072A, 122A, 136A, 139A, 213A  
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SLF1, F30, HF72, HF100, T20, T30

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# Test Report: The Crotech 3133 Scope

Eugene Trundle

An oscilloscope is an essential tool for servicing TV, video and similar consumer electronic equipment. Modern general-purpose scopes offer many advantages over the vintage types still in use in many workshops — higher sensitivity, greater bandwidth, improved triggering facilities and better display tubes, all at very reasonable prices. The Crotech model reviewed here is representative of modern design.

## Basic Features

Crotech has a range of oscilloscopes. I picked the 3133 as being best suited, in terms of price and specification, for use by the “brown goods GP” on the bench and in the field. It’s manufactured in India and is a dual trace type with a bandwidth of 25MHz and a maximum sensitivity of 2mV/division. It offers Y add, invert and subtract modes as well as X-Y operation and a facility for Z (brightness) modulation.

The rectangular display tube runs at 2kV and has 8 × 10 screen divisions of 1cm. The timebase range is from 200msec/div to 500nsec/div, extendable with ×5 expansion and vernier control to about 40nsec/div. Comprehensive triggering facilities are provided, including a TV sync separator, a low-pass filter and hold-off control.

Extra features include a *dual* component tester and auxiliary d.c. outputs of 5V at 1A and ±12V at 200mA. These can be used to power the equipment under test or other bench test equipment such as a DMM or a function or signal generator,

Further details are given in the accompanying specification — see Table 1.

## On Test

The scope was put to work on the bench and used for fault diagnosis, testing and setting up TV sets, VCRs and audio equipment over a long period. It proved to be easy to drive and is straightforward in operation. The control panel layout is logical, with all the controls for each section grouped together. The only slight disadvantage is the positioning of the Y1 input socket half way up the left-hand side of the fascia where its plug and lead tend to obscure the controls — I’d rather have had it at the bottom of the control panel or even on the side of the instrument. All the controls have a positive and solid feel.

Starting with the Y amplifiers, I found that these were free of drift and that the bandwidth was in excess of the specification. The lowest gain setting offers 10V/div, so that a maximum 800V peak-to-peak signal can be displayed via a 10:1 probe. This is not enough to be able to examine the waveform at the collector of a line output transistor, but then most 10:1 probes are rated at only 600V or 800V peak input anyway.

My first action was to set up the probes using the convenient front panel calibrated output. I found that no single probe-trimmer setting would give “square corners” at all settings of the Y1 gain switch. Slight variations in the factory setting of the attenuator trimmers probably accounts for this — the Y2 channel was much better in this respect. The absence of a vernier gain control is no real

disadvantage with a 1-2-5 switch sequence, and certainly avoids mistakes due to misadjustment.

The Y invert and add facilities permit rejection of common-mode signals in the Y1 and Y2 channels or, if required, a full-bandwidth “piggy-back” display at 1mV/div sensitivity by connecting both probes to the test point and adding the waveforms. A more serious use for the Y-add mode is when investigating glitches and gate operation in logic circuits.

The range of timebase sweep speeds is well matched to the instrument’s Y amplifier and display sections. A continuously variable control bridges the eighteen preset steps and a ×5 horizontal magnification switch is provided. Where the required “segment” display can be achieved by careful triggering this is preferable to horizontal expansion since it involves no brightness penalty.

The triggering facilities are comprehensive: inputs from the mains, Y1 or Y2 channels or a BNC socket on the front panel can be used, with a.c. or d.c. coupling, processing via a low-pass filter or a TV sync separator from which either the field or line rate can be selected, a negative or positive flank at variable level can be used, and there’s an auto-trigger facility which ensures that you don’t lose the trace with no signal input. These arrangements work well provided you take the trouble to study the instruction manual and get to know just what you are doing with the trigger controls — so many operators poke and twiddle at random until some sort of jittery stationary display comes up on the screen! Personally I prefer external triggering. It’s easily done with this scope via a third probe or clip-lead connected to the BNC front-panel mounted external trigger socket — for most TV work merely hanging the probe near the line output transformer suffices.

The X-Y facility has a 1MHz horizontal amplifier bandwidth with access via the Y2 channel. It would be useful for servicing CD players, though the opportunity to try this out didn’t arise during our test period. A form of X-Y display is used in the component tester feature.

The component tester works at 50Hz, applying a voltage of 8-6V r.m.s. to the device being tested and measuring the resulting current (maximum 28mA). Voltage is indicated on the screen as horizontal deflection and current as vertical deflection, so that each type of component gives a unique signature — diagonals for resistors, circles and ellipses for capacitors, knees and crank-handles for semiconductor devices and so on. Fine for quick checks, but its usefulness depends on the operator getting into the habit.

An incentive to use this mode of testing is the provision of two identical component testers, one for each trace. This permits comparison — overlay if required — of the characteristics of two devices for test, selection or matching purposes. Using this feature in two identical items of equipment or channels could provide a quick and easy way of tracking down faults, perhaps in situations where inductors are involved or where applying the operating power leads to damage. . .

The heart of an oscilloscope is its c.r.t., which virtually dictates the design of all the other sections and also determines the price and usefulness of the instrument. In

**Table 1: Abridged specification.**

**Operating modes:** Channel 1; dual trace alternate or chopped (at 100kHz); Ch. 1 + Ch. 2; Ch. 1 - Ch. 2; X-Y operation.

**Y amplifiers:** A.C. or d.c. coupled. Bandwidth d.c. to 25MHz (-3dB point). 2mV to 10mV/division in 12 steps, 1-2-5 sequence. Rise time <14nsec. Accuracy  $\pm 3\%$ . Input impedance 1M $\Omega$ /25pF.

**Timebase:** 0.5 $\mu$ sec/division to 0.2sec/division in 18 steps. Vernier control and  $\times 5$  magnifier. Accuracy  $\pm 5\%$ .

**Trigger:** Auto/normal; internal/mains/external; TV line or field; a.c./d.c./low-pass filter; positive- or negative-going slope; 5:1 hold-off. Sensitivity 1 div in most modes.

**X amplifier:** Input via Y2; bandwidth d.c. to 1MHz (-3dB point); other details as for Y amplifier (see above).

**Probe test:** 200mV peak-peak squarewave at 1kHz.

**Auxiliary outputs:** +5V (negative ground) at 1A maximum; 12-0-12V (floating) at 200mA.

**Component tester:** Dual capability. 50Hz, 8.6V r.m.s. maximum. Maximum current 28mA.

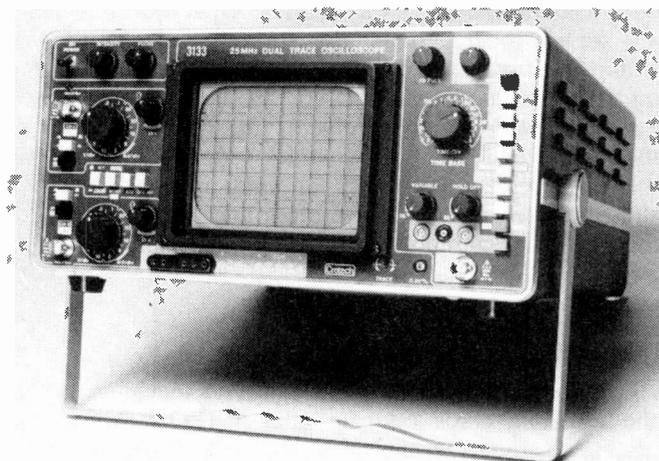
**Display:** 130mm flat-face mono-accelerator c.r.t., 2kV e.h.t., P31 phosphor, ruled 8  $\times$  10cm divisions.

**Power:** 115/220/230/240V a.c. at 48-62Hz. Consumption 40VA without auxiliary outputs loaded.

**General:** Weight 8.5kg, size 165 high  $\times$  330 wide  $\times$  395 deep mm. Instruction manual, component tester/power supply leads and two input leads with BNC plugs supplied with scope. Optional extras: switched probes  $\times 1/\times 10$ ; light hood; front panel transit cover with probe pouch; top cover, probe pocket.

this price range you get a mono-accelerator tube working at 2kV e.h.t. Its display is adequate for most TV, audio and VCR work, but the limited brightness available can make it difficult to see short duty-cycle events like a magnified portion of a video head sweep, a field sync pulse train or a horizontal segment of a picture such as the multiburst or colour-bar features of a test pattern. Loss of brightness in these and similar situations can be minimised by (a) using a light hood, (b) operating in the single-beam mode, and (c) avoiding X-expansion by careful use of the trigger and hold-off controls. For better performance in this respect you have to buy a more expensive scope with a higher e.h.t.

The tube fitted in the review model didn't defocus at any setting of the brightness control, which is a better



*The Crotech 3133 25MHz dual-trace oscilloscope.*

performance than with many scopes we've tried out. The brightness reserve is not very high though, and I found that the brightness control was fully advanced throughout my tests of the instrument.

The graticule is not integral with the tube's faceplate. You thus get a degree of parallax error when taking readings. Maintaining a large waveform display keeps this to a minimum. The 0/10/90/100 per cent markers on the graticule are useful in experimental, testing and design work for measuring time-constants and rise times.

The 5V/1A and 12-0-12V/200mA supplies are available at miniature sockets at the bottom of the front panel. Handy connecting leads, terminated with colour-coded mini-croc-clips, are supplied. I found that both voltage sources were accurate and well stabilised, and capable of withstanding a sustained dead short cruelly put on to test the machine's defences. These auxiliary supplies are a useful and convenient source of power. Well worth having.

The 3133 is a big oscilloscope, well made and attractive in appearance. There's very little plastic in its construction, which is unusual these days. Inside the aluminium case I found the circuit beautifully laid out on four main glassfibre PCBs, with two smaller sub-boards. The e.h.t. generator sector is in a separate screened compartment. The switches and potentiometers appear to be sturdy and of good quality — this fact along with the beefy, cool-running mains transformer and the generally sturdy construction of the instrument suggest that if bought now it will carry on well into the twenty first century. The component reference numbers (and in some cases the values) are clearly marked on the PCBs — more than can be said for many TV sets and audio equipment.

### **User's Manual**

The user's manual provides full circuit diagrams and descriptions, board layouts, parts lists and alignment instructions. Most of the parts used are readily available so that service and repair, should it ever be required, should present little difficulty. Also supplied with the instrument is a little book entitled "Getting the best from your scope". This supplements the operating instructions in the user's manual. Very good.

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion this is a good oscilloscope, well made and with a performance which I would describe as being competitive rather than spectacular. It's main competition comes from the almost identically priced Hameg HM203-6. Buying the Crotech model gives you an extra 5MHz of bandwidth in each channel, the dual component test facility and the auxiliary d.c. outputs. You lose the vernier Y controls and the internal c.r.t. graticule. Certainly I feel that the Crotech 3133 is good value for money, and I would confidently recommend it to anyone looking for a good general-purpose oscilloscope. For use in the field I feel that the front panel transit cover (an optional accessory) is essential to protect the knobs and tube bezel. For viewing short duty-cycle traces the light hood, also an optional accessory, is really a necessity.

### **Availability and Price**

The scope is available from Crotech Instruments Ltd., 2 Stephenson Road, St. Ives, Huntingdon, Cambs PE17 4WJ (0480 301 818) at £319 plus VAT.

# VCR Clinic

*Reports from Philip Blundell, Eng. Tech., Alan Shaw, Paul Hardy, Eugene Trundle, Ian Bowden, Nick Beer and B. Ross*

## Philips VR6468

At switch on the cassette carriage moved in and out as usual but the clock display was out and none of the keyboard controls worked. The +13a supply was missing at the keyboard panel as R3509 (15Ω) on panel P607 was open-circuit. P.B.

## Grundig VS400

The customer complained that when a cassette was ejected a loop of tape was sometimes left hanging out of it. The only way in which I could make the fault occur was to press stop with the machine in rewind search. The tape then wasn't drawn back into the cassette. Slight readjustment of the mecha state switch was required. P.B.

## Ferguson 3V31

The trouble with this machine was field bounce in the still frame mode, the vertical pulse control on the front panel having no effect. A dry-joint was eventually found at C75 on the servo board. P.B.

## Philips VR6462

If play is selected without a cassette inserted these machines usually provide the test pattern. This one produced the test pattern even with a cassette in! The test signal is enabled by the TPI signal on Bus C: it was high all the time because transistor 7508 was open-circuit. P.B.

## Grundig VS220

For intermittent faults such as the display goes haywire or the mechanism does odd things check the ripple on the +12Vd supply. If it's excessive either C437 or C436 has probably dried up. P.B.

## Ferguson 3V65

Playback of a test tape was good but there was a smeary E-E picture. Replacing the luminance module IC101 put this right. A.S.

## Orion VHL3

There was no sound muting in the search mode. The DTC124F digital transistor Q1025 was faulty. A.S.

## Hinari VXL5

This machine would operate for about twenty seconds in play or record then shut down. The take-up reel sensor was faulty. Here's a tip: switch to counter, press play and observe the erratic and irregular number changes. A.S.

## Amstrad TVR3

Here's an interesting one we've had with several of these new combi-units (TV plus VCR). The remote control handset operates the VCR functions but not the TV ones. The fault lies within the VCR section, associated with the remote control receiver. Ribbon cable CL8 to the front of the tuned circuit can should have six leads but a five-wire

cable is fitted, leaving a vacant hole at either end of the ribbon. Fitting a short length of wire cures the problem. So much for quality control . . . A.S.

## Hitachi VT17

The heads had worn out and were replaced. After doing this I was left with a problem: the top half of the picture was fine but the lower half was noisy and there was a definite division between the two. The cause of the fault was traced to the relay on the video drum PCB. It shorts out the trick mode heads during normal playback but was not doing its job properly. A replacement provided an effective cure. P.H.

## Philips VR6542

The problem with this machine was that recordings had intermittent colour. It was to some extent signal-dependent – a weaker signal was more prone to cause the symptom. Changing IC501 on the Y/C panel made no difference and we eventually found that the 627kHz signal was off frequency by about 70kHz. Resetting this produced reliable operation.

We've had several of these machines that don't seem to like E240 cassettes – the tape commits suicide on the mechanism though there doesn't seem to be any mechanical fault. Does anyone have any ideas about this? P.H.

## JVC HRD320

The problem with this brand new machine, straight out of the box, was that three of its buttons were inoperative – set-, set+ and Ch. set. On investigation we found that D11 on the timer/display board had been fitted back-to-front. It's part of the key-scan matrix. The diode was undamaged and fitting it the correct way round restored normal operation of all the buttons. The same symptoms would arise with other makes and models fitted with this type of timer/display board. E.T.

## Sony CCD-V30

The viewfinder tube in this camcorder displayed a picture locked to a multiple of the line rate. This occurred with both camera and playback pictures. Operation through a TV set via the r.f. modulator showed that all was well within the basic camcorder circuitry, so we concentrated on the electronic viewfinder. The line hold control RV952 was responsible for the problem, due to poor contact at the riveted end of its carbon track – flexing and twisting this little preset could restore a normal picture display. It's strange to recall that the symptom and the root cause of the fault were common with the TV sets of the sixties! E.T.

## JVC HRD110/120/Ferguson 3V35 etc

A common problem with this range of machines is that the retaining studs on cam gear 1 (PQ30028) of the cassette loading mechanism break. This allows the associated slide gears to escape, producing symptoms such as no front loading, no eject, loading system jammed etc.

The only long-term cure is to replace gear 1, but a temporary cure (while awaiting spares?) can be achieved by refitting the stud using a small self-tapping screw through the back of gear 1. The sort that RS Components used to call an "8BA binder" will work. This assumes of course that you can find the broken stump of the plastic stud! E.T.

### **Panasonic NV370**

The user's description of the fault with this machine was "no functions". At switch-on an eerie "heartbeat" noise came from within and continued until the machine switched itself off a few moments later: it was caused by the capstan motor shunting back and forth. Meanwhile eject wouldn't work.

This effect is usually due to a missing 5V rail, Q501 on the head drum assembly being open-circuit. The 5V line was intact this time, but the 12V line was missing. We quickly traced the cause of this to an open-circuit safety resistor (R1101) in the unregulated 12V supply. It appeared to have failed for its own internal reasons. E.T.

### **Panasonic NV-G45**

This machine was faulty when taken from the box. The playback picture would come and go, due to drum speed variations that could also be heard. When we turned the machine on its side to remove the bottom cover the fault cleared. While looking for a loose plug/socket connection we removed the drum cylinder and found a crack almost half way across the double-sided stator panel, between the socket and where the panel enters the drum unit. I.B.

### **Panasonic NV-M5**

This camcorder was stuck in the camera mode. Normally when the clear cover over the VTR controls is slid up to uncover them a small microswitch (SW6313) operates. It closes for camera, opens for the VTR mode, but something was wrong with the switching. When closed (camera mode) SW6313 connects the base of QR6009, a UN2113 pnp transistor with internal bias resistors, to chassis. As a result positive key-scan pulses pass to the control chip IC6001. SW6313 should be open and QR6009 off in the VTR mode. Even with QR6009's base disconnected however the pulses were getting through as the transistor had an emitter-to-collector leak. I.B.

### **Panasonic NV788**

The complaint was of a poor picture. On test however the picture was all right except in the still mode, when almost half the picture was lost in noise. Having seen this problem with other machines I checked the playback tension, suspecting that this was low (10g-cm instead of 30g-cm). The cassette carriage assembly was removed, a cassette was put in it and another one was held in the machine. A check on the back tension then proved that it was correct. I tried again with the cassette carriage refitted and spotted the cause of the problem – the back-tension post arm, which runs against the tape, moved too far to the left and rested against part of the carriage assembly. With the assembly removed the arm moved far enough to give the correct tension. The cure was to move the fixed end of the brake band to pull the arm further to the right when running then adjust the tension spring for correct back tension. This problem could very easily arise if the

brake band is replaced and the position of the back tension arm, when playing a tape, isn't checked before refitting the carriage. I.B.

### **Panasonic NV-G40**

We've had several of these machines with faulty video heads when new, but the complaint with this one was very grainy r.f. loop-through. A check on the unswitched 12V supply to the r.f. amplifier showed that this was low at about 5.2V. Further checks indicated that the rail was not being loaded excessively so attention was directed to the power supply, which is usually very reliable. Regulator transistor Q1004 (2SD1330) was soon found to be open-circuit. N.B.

### **Sony SL-F1**

The complaint with this portable machine was that it wouldn't play. We found that the pinch press lever had become disengaged from the pinch solenoid lever. When a new press lever had been fitted – the original one had a worn plastic arm – the machine played for about two-three seconds then cut out. We then found that the take-up torque was low. Since fast forward operation was perfect it seemed that the cause of the fault was servo rather than motor trouble. While checking the waveforms in the reel servo I found the rather unlikely cause of the fault – a speck of solder was bridging two contacts on adjacent print lands. At first sight it looked like a single length of track, but the short effectively joined pin 1 of IC201 (supply FG) to pin 29 of IC601 (syscon-2). Fortunately no lasting damage had been done. The short must have been present from new and it's remarkable that it had only now showed up. Our customer accepted the estimate but refused a second one for the drum surfaces causing the usual rewind trouble – apparently he rewinds his tapes in another machine! N.B.

### **Grundig 2 x 4 Super**

The customer brought this machine along in a great hurry as he wanted to record a programme. He said it wouldn't load a cassette. The cause was quickly found – the cassette-in switch CL wasn't making. As a temporary measure to enable the customer to make his recording we shorted the switch out by linking pins L1-6 and 7 on the switch board. This restored normal operations including unloading. To load it was necessary to insert a cassette then press "tape", after which the machine would load. Note that if the CL-closed signal is not present no functions are available (play, wind, etc.) even with a loaded tape. B.R.

### **Philips VR2021**

This machine would thread up and then unthread about two seconds later. The head and reels turned during this period, as they should, but the head speed was slow. A check on the voltages around the servo and motor drive amplifier circuits showed that they were incorrect, the cause being lack of signals from the head pulse optocoupler circuit on board P61. This was in turn due to the LED on the winding spool optocoupler unit P60 being open-circuit. The LEDs for P64 (tape tension optocoupler), P60 and P61 are connected in series via a limiting resistor from the 12V line. So there were no pulses to the head servo circuit. B.R.

# A Look at Operational Amplifiers

## Part 1

Keith Cummins

The operational amplifier has been with us for many years but until recently had generally not figured significantly in the TV/video field. The audio and servo sections of VCRs and CD players lend themselves to the use of operational amplifiers however so perhaps it's time we gave them a closer look.

The first use of operational amplifiers was in analogue computers – a long time ago! They were used to perform arithmetical operations, for example the addition and subtraction of voltages representing numerical values. While this original need for the operational amplifier has largely disappeared, the basic concept nevertheless provides an extremely useful building block for circuit design in a multitude of applications.

### Basic Op Amp Features

Fig. 1 shows the circuit symbol for an operational amplifier. In its simplest form it consists of an amplifier with two inputs and one output. The inputs are referred to as inverting and non-inverting: the inverting one is identified by the minus symbol and the non-inverting one by the plus symbol – these are not power supply connections! A positive voltage applied to the non-inverting input causes the output to move positively while a positive voltage applied to the inverting input moves the output in the negative-going direction. In addition to its inputs and outputs the operational amplifier needs a power supply. Very often this consists of both positive and negative voltages, balanced about earth (0V).

The d.c. gain of a typical operational amplifier chip is generally enormous. A voltage gain of half a million is common today, and it's this fact that enables us to use the amplifier to carry out neat and clever functions, with just a few peripheral components. Because the gain is so large it's generally expressed in dBs. This is known as the "open-loop gain". Normally the loop is closed, using passive components, and we shall soon see that the performance of such a circuit is defined almost entirely by the passive components. Consequently the design can be made totally predictable and repeatable. Ideal, for example, for use in mass-produced servo systems.

Let's get down to business then and take a further look at the operational amplifier shown in Fig. 1. Say it's open-loop gain is 500,000, i.e. 114dB. Thus a change of  $+2\mu\text{V}$  at the non-inverting input, relative to the inverting input, will produce a  $+1\text{V}$  change at the output. Conversely a change of  $+2\mu\text{V}$  at the inverting input, relative to the non-inverting input, will produce a  $-1\text{V}$  change at the output. Having made this basic point, we must consider two further points.

First, if both inputs move by the same amount in the same direction the changes subtract from one another. Thus the output doesn't change. Putting this another way we can state that the output changes only when there's a difference change between the two input voltages. This ability of the operational amplifier to ignore changes in the same direction is called common-mode rejection. It's important and we'll return to it later.

Secondly if the inputs move in opposite directions the output moves by an amount that's proportional to the sum

of the changes of the input voltages, i.e. the total potential difference between the two input terminals. We'll elaborate on this later.

### Basic Circuits

We'll next consider some basic operational amplifier uses.

The inverting amplifier is shown in Fig. 2. In addition to the operational amplifier there are two resistors, R1 and R2. Remember that the typical operational amplifier requires a difference of only  $2\mu\text{V}$  between the two inputs to produce a 1V change at the output. This is the key to what happens. Let's take a simple, practical example. Say R1 is  $1\text{k}\Omega$  and R2 is  $5\text{k}\Omega$ . Positive and negative 10V supplies are connected to the chip.

Say we connect  $+1\text{V}$  to the input. The immediate effect of this is that the inverting input tries to move away from 0V (the non-inverting input) via the potential divider R1-R2. The output moves negatively, applying sufficient negative-going voltage to R2 to move the inverting input back towards 0V (within a few microvolts!).

The situation is thus as follows. The inverting and non-inverting inputs are very close together in terms of voltage, so close in fact that since the non-inverting input is at 0V the inverting input is at virtually 0V – we call it a virtual earth. This means that R1 has 1V at one end and 0V at the other. As its value is  $1\text{k}\Omega$ , the current flowing through it is 1mA. No current is flowing into the operational amplifier's inverting input, so the current flowing through R1 also flows through R2. Since R2 is  $5\text{k}\Omega$ , with 1mA flowing through it the voltage developed across R2 is 5V. The sense of current flow means that the operational amplifier's output stands at  $-5\text{V}$ . It can't do anything else!

What do we know from this? Simply that the gain of the circuit with the closed-loop feedback as specified is  $-R2/R1$ . We put  $+1\text{V}$  in and  $-5\text{V}$  comes out. The gain is  $-5$  ( $-5,000/1,000 = -5$ ). This gain is defined entirely by the values of R1 and R2: the more precise their values, the more precisely the gain of the circuit is defined.

Since the input resistor R1 "sees" a virtual earth, the circuit's input impedance is simply R1. The output imped-

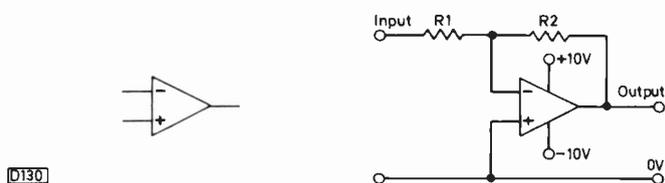


Fig. 1 (left): The operational amplifier circuit symbol.  
Fig. 2 (right): The basic inverting amplifier circuit.

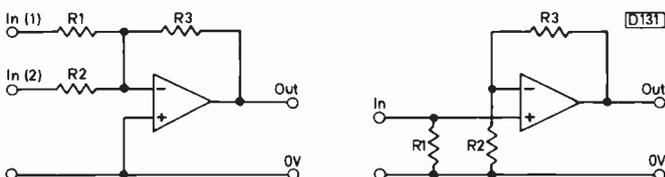


Fig. 3 (left): The summing and inverting amplifier.  
Fig. 4 (right): The non-inverting amplifier circuit.

ance is low: a few ohms is typical, but the amplifier won't have the capability of high-current drive (more on this later).

The second circuit, Fig. 3, is a summing and inverting amplifier. There are two input resistors  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  and this time the feedback resistor is  $R_3$ . The junction of the three resistors is the virtual earth point, and the arithmetical sum of the currents here is zero. Seen from input one the gain is  $-R_3/R_1$  while from input two it's  $-R_3/R_2$ . Note that since each input resistor is connected to virtual earth, the input resistors are "unaware" of each other and there's no cross-coupling between the inputs.

If we call the current through  $R_1$   $I_1$ , that through  $R_2$   $I_2$  and that through  $R_3$   $I_3$ , then  $I_1 + I_2 = I_3$ . That is,

$$(V_{1in}/R_1) + (V_{2in}/R_2) = (-V_{out}/R_3).$$

If we make  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$  and  $R_3$  equal, then  $V_{1in} + V_{2in} = -V_{out}$ , i.e. the output is the sum of the input voltages with the sign reversed.

By manipulating the values of the resistors we get different input to gain ratios and overall amplification as required. Use of a ladder of input resistors provides the basis of a digital-to-analogue converter.

Having dealt with the basic inverting operational amplifier configuration I hope you'll feel more at home with the principles involved. We can summarise the action of a feedback-controlled operational amplifier by stating two important rules:

Rule 1: The output of a feedback-controlled operational amplifier always moves to try to reduce the voltage between its two inputs to zero.

Rule 2: For most practical purposes we can say that the inputs draw no current.

Fig. 4 shows the basic non-inverting operational amplifier circuit. The input is applied to the non-inverting input, which has a high impedance - determined by the value of  $R_1$ . The gain is determined by the amount of feedback, and is inversely proportional to the feedback attenuator network  $R_3$ ,  $R_2$ . The amount of potting down is  $R_2/(R_2 + R_3)$ . Thus the gain is  $(R_2 + R_3)/R_2$ .

In the special case where  $R_3$  is zero and  $R_2$  is not fitted we have a voltage-follower with a gain of one. It's like an up-market emitter-follower: it can drive well in both directions and has no offset of 0.6V between the input and output - a very useful configuration which we'll come across again later.

### Quoted Characteristics

From what we've said so far you'll see that the basic design of operational-amplifier circuits can be carried out by means of very simple calculations. There are pitfalls to watch out for however. Having covered the fundamentals we can move on to consider the operational-amplifier characteristics that have to be taken into account when the device is used in more demanding applications. We shall also see why, although operational amplifiers are great for use in servo, audio and power supply applications, you won't find them used much in video circuits. We must next define some of the basic characteristics.

(1) Open-loop gain. This has already been mentioned: it's the d.c. gain with no feedback applied.

(2) Input offset voltage. However hard the manufacturer pursues this ideal, the input circuits within an operational-amplifier chip are never identical. The input offset voltage

is the difference in input voltages (at the inverting and non-inverting inputs) required to bring the output to zero. Some operational amplifiers have the facility to trim the input offset voltage to zero externally, using a potentiometer connected to pins set aside for this purpose. With a good operational amplifier the input offset voltage can be of the order of microvolts: for the old 741 type it can be up to 6mV.

(3) Gain-bandwidth product. Operational amplifier data sheets quote a gain-bandwidth product figure. Up to now I've quoted the open-loop d.c. gain. The gain falls as the frequency rises however. The gain-bandwidth product refers to the closed- as well as the open-loop gain. In other words it applies whatever gain we intend. It works like this. If we use an operational amplifier whose gain-bandwidth product is 1MHz and design the circuit for a gain of 100, the gain will fall off significantly as the frequency approaches 10kHz. That is, gain (100)  $\times$  bandwidth (10kHz) = the gain-bandwidth product (100  $\times$  10,000 = 1MHz).

If you are restricted to the use of this particular operational amplifier with its 1MHz gain-bandwidth product and need to maintain the gain right up to 10kHz you can use two amplifiers in cascade, each providing a gain of ten. This will give you a useful bandwidth up to 100kHz while still maintaining the overall gain of 100.

(4) Slew rate. This is the rate at which an operational amplifier's output can change. It's usually quoted in volts/microsecond. What it means is that as the frequency rises so the maximum attainable peak-to-peak output voltage drops off. From the point where the slew rate limiting starts to "bite", the maximum amplitude falls as the reciprocal of frequency.

(5) Phase margin. This is a more difficult characteristic, but it's as well to be aware of it. A typical operational amplifier circuit's open-loop gain rolls off in the same manner as the response provided by a simple RC filter, i.e. it follows a 6dB/octave curve. This means that every time the frequency is doubled the gain is halved. It results in a 90° lagging phase shift to begin with, increasing up to 160° as the frequency approaches the gain-bandwidth figure (that is, the gain is approaching one). The phase margin is the difference between this phase shift and 180°, where the feedback becomes positive. Generally speaking this does not cause problems at low frequencies, but it can be a real pain at higher (e.g. video) frequencies, when the operational amplifier can "hoot", i.e. produce parasitic oscillations.

I recall designing a 2MHz active low-pass filter using operational amplifiers. It produced the desired 18dB/octave roll-off, but also produced a low-amplitude hoot at 20MHz. All attempts to manipulate the operational amplifier circuit to get rid of the hoot mucked up the frequency response. In desperation I finally used a pi-section passive filter to give an 18dB/octave roll-off above 5MHz. This wiped out the hoot as far as the outside world was concerned, but of course I knew what was still going on inside the unit! Not one of my proudest moments - I don't talk about it much any more, despite the fact that the unit has continued to provide sterling service for many years.

So much then for the basic characteristics of operational amplifiers. Next month we'll look at some more classic operational-amplifier circuits.

# Service Bureau

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## **SHARP C2002**

This set is reluctant to start up from standby. It's more willing to start in the evening when the room temperature is higher. Once running the set will continue to operate unless switched off by remote control then on again.

We suggest you check the following components for being high-resistance or open-circuit and replace as necessary: R616 1.5M $\Omega$ , R717 390k $\Omega$ , R709 and R710 both 68k $\Omega$  and C715 10 $\mu$ F, 100V. Before you do this check thoroughly for dry-joints around IC701, T701 and T602.

## **FIDELITY CTV1404R**

There are two problems with this set. First, when one channel has been tuned to a particular station all the other channels are tuned to the same station, and the channel isn't stored. The M491B and TDA4500 chips have been replaced but the fault remains. When the channel is changed via the handset the same picture is displayed though the channel indicator will run through numbers 1-8. Secondly there's cramping at the bottom of the picture. All capacitors in the vicinity of the TDA3651 field output chip have been replaced.

For the first problem we suggest that you check, preferably by substitution, the 500kHz resonator connected to pins 7 and 8 of the control chip IC201. Also make sure that the 5V supply (pin 9) is present, correct and free from ripple and hash. The TDA3651 chip could well be responsible for the second problem, but before condemning it check the 25V supply at pin 9. It's important that this line is well decoupled.

## **HITACHI CPT2228**

The remote control system suffers from reduced range and intermittent reception. A check with another receiver has proved that the handset is in order and the  $\mu$ PC1373H IR preamplifier chip has been changed.

First check that the infra-red receiving window/filter is clean and hasn't become obscured with age - try operation "naked" to prove this. If necessary check C1802 and C1804, then the SFH205 photodiode - the latter by substitution. If the remote-control a.g.c. is operating correctly there should be little change in the pulse amplitude at SC1803 with the handset at a distance of up to 15 feet or so.

## **PANASONIC NV2000**

Forward and reverse rewind are all right but when the play switch is pressed the cassette begins to load then after a few seconds the machine stops loading. The belts have been changed but the problem persists.

It's almost certain that the mechacon section is not receiving an afterload signal from the deck. This may be because loading is not being completed for some mechanical reason (though the belts you have changed are the most common cause of this) or because the mode selector switch S6551 is faulty or incorrectly positioned. Close examination should reveal which of these is causing the trouble. Instructions for mode selector switch adjustment are given in the full manual.

## **FERGUSON TX10 CHASSIS**

There's a very faint vertical white line with a kink in the lower half - the kink tends to move up and down - seven inches from the left-hand side of the screen. It can hardly be seen except on darker scenes, but annoys the customer. I've tried moving the cables etc.

Ensure that the triple RGB lead to the c.r.t. base panel is correctly folded and dressed and not dangling near the timebase or chopper sections. If this is o.k., suspect that one of the semiconductor devices, a diode or transistor, in the chopper circuit is faulty and radiating. Check this by substitution, starting with the chopper transistor TR701 then D703.

## **SHARP VC378**

Failure of the Digitron display led us to check the power supply which appears to be in order apart from the fact that the a.c. output, which is specified as 7.5V, reads only 2.2V when measured with an Avo meter. A scope check shows a good trace with about 6.2V p-p at a frequency of around 200kHz. Are these readings normal and how would 7.5V a.c. have been measured? The negative component fed to the Digitron circuit is 16.5V d.c., which appears to be about right with the main negative line at 22V.

The 7.5V figure is probably the r.m.s. a.c. voltage across terminals ER9 and ER10: it feeds the display tube's heater. Since the -22V supply is about correct, the oscillator is clearly running all right. Check that the display segments are being pulsed by the display driver chip. If so the fluorescent panel itself is suspect - it may have lost its vacuum.

## **SONY KV2022UB**

This set is working well apart from the fact that there are four teletext lines across the top of the screen and also four faint white lines across the centre of the screen. None of these lines are present at switch on. They appear after about five minutes then remain.

The problem is probably due to ageing electrolytic capacitors. Check, preferably by substitution, those associated with the field output stage - C563, C566, C587 etc. Also if necessary check D575.

## **SANYO VTC9300**

This machine will not run. When switched on, only the eject and stop switch levers will go the full length of travel. When moved to the right with a small screwdriver the bar inside the machine to the front of the video heads will allow the rewind, fast forward and play buttons to be depressed to maximum. The electronics appear to be in order.

First ensure that the stabilised 12V line is exactly correct. If not, replace the regulator transistor Q702 with a TIP41 type and adjust VR701 for 12V at C709. If the machine appears to work normally when the latching bar is overridden it's likely that the afterload switch (the large microswitch on the upper deck surface) has failed or that the end-sensor oscillator has stopped - check with a scope,

then for power to the CX141 chip on the syscon panel. A further possibility is that the machine thinks it has dew (low at collector of Q807). Check if necessary that the solenoid switching transistors Q801/2 are not leaky.

# TEST CASE

## 316

*Each month we provide an interesting case of TV/video servicing to exercise your ingenuity. These are not trick questions but are based on actual practical faults.*

TV and video servicing can be a complex business these days. Various levels of skill and expertise are required, depending on the nature of the fault and the age and design of the equipment. At busy times – which is most of the time recently! – the simpler jobs are passed on to those who are less experienced and whose normal job is not full-time bench servicing, but who can achieve much under the guidance of a senior engineer.

An early Ferguson TX9 colour receiver (PC1001 main panel) looked a likely candidate for this treatment. The fault was described as “set dead”, and we assumed that the internal mains fuse had blown. So John took off the back cover and checked FS1. It was intact, and so was the fuse in the mains plug. The set was next plugged into a safety-isolated socket and switched on. There was a slight buzz from the degaussing system followed by silence and no picture. John settled down with his meter and the set’s circuit diagram.

He found that the output from the mains bridge rectifier W62-W65 measured above 200V – there’s no reservoir capacitor here as the bridge supplies a regulating thyristor. This voltage was also present at the thyristor’s anode. Switching to the meter’s d.c. range John found, rather to his surprise, that some 130V was present at the cathode of the thyristor and that over 120V was present at R197, on the other side of the reservoir inductor. In short, the power supply was working correctly.

Further meter checks quickly established that the 115V h.t. potential was present at the collectors of the line driver transistor VT67 and the line output transistor VT68. There was no voltage at their bases however, so John concluded that the basic problem was lack of line drive. Sure enough a borrowed oscilloscope showed a complete absence of line drive pulses at the base of VT68, at the line driver transformer T2 and at the base of VT67. This led him back through the coupling capacitor C173 to pin 3 of the TDA9503 sync/line generator chip IC54. He found zero voltage at this pin and very soon found that there was a total absence of voltage at all the other pins as well.

The circuit diagram for the PC1001 version of the TX9 chassis is very helpful in using brightly coloured lines and symbols to indicate the source and routing of the various

supply lines. From this John saw that the operating power for the TDA9503 chip is provided by the 12V regulator IC56. This receives an input of 15V from rectifier diode W95, which is fed from a winding on the line output transformer. Of the various possibilities here, W95 and IC56 were picked out for the initial checks. An ohmmeter test proved that the diode was in order and the regulator was checked by substituting a known good one from the stores.

A commendable effort, but fruitless since the set still didn’t work. The h.t. was present, but there were no 15V and 12V supplies. As a further step John checked the continuity of the winding that feeds W95, and also checked its reservoir capacitor C193. He then consulted the others in the workshop. Having poured out his troubles, explaining matters with the aid of the circuit diagram, he was given a short description of the operation of the circuit in the line timebase area. As a result he soon found the cause of the trouble. What had he overlooked? See next month for the solution.

### ANSWER TO TEST CASE 315 – page 360 last month –

Before the problem was finally solved, three engineers had given their attention to the faulty Toshiba V66 VCR described last month! The sort of picture jitter it produced is symptomatic of very short-term changes in the head scanning velocity, but the fact that it was more severe towards the bottom of picture suggested that the tape’s movement became progressively rougher towards the exit side of the drum at the right.

This was the clue that led Sage to examine the exit guide. It consists of a nylon sleeve which spins freely on a highly machined shaft. When Sage went in with his little screwdriver he “stuck” this rotating sleeve, completely altering the jitter effect on the picture. When he removed the guide he found that the nylon sleeve didn’t run smoothly on its shaft. As an experiment, one tiny drop of oil was introduced into the guide. After cleaning the outer surface of the sleeve the guide was then replaced in the machine. When a scrap tape was run the picture was seen to have rigid, straight verticals.

While this proved the point, there was the possibility of tape pollution if the treated guide was left in the machine. A new guide assembly was ordered and fitted before the machine went home to Crowfield.

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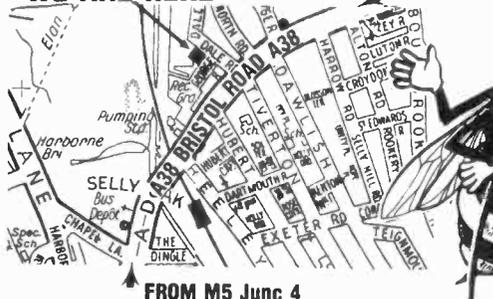
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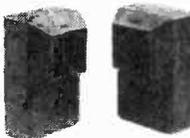
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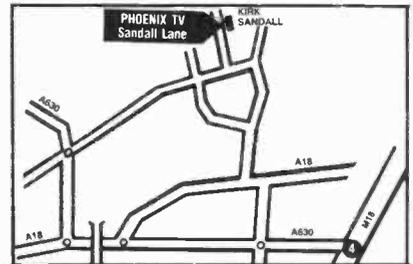
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Fits model number: NV366	
3HSS(4NB).....	£54.60
Fits model number: NV730	
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Fits model numbers: 3V00, 3V16, 3V22, 3V29, 3V30, 3V31, 3V35, 3V36, 3V38, 3V39, HR2200, HR3300, HR3360, HR3360, HR7200, HR7300, HRD120, HRD130.	
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<b>Sharp</b> 3HSS(SP).....	£29.90
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<b>Toshiba</b> PS3B(T).....	£31.90
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<b>Hitachi</b> 3HSS(H).....	£26.50
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NV366.....	£64.50
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NV730.....	£67.50
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<b>Ferguson</b> 3V00, 3V16, 3V22.....	£59.90
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3V35, 3V36, 3V38, 3V39.....	£59.90
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VC482.....	£62.00
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<b>Toshiba</b> V9600.....	£59.90
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<b>Hitachi</b> VT5000, VT5500.....	£49.50
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<b>Sanyo</b> VTC5000, VTC5150.....	£1.99
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<b>Sony</b> SLC5, SLC7.....	£6.50
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VC8300.....	£6.50
VC9100, VC9300, VC9500.....	£6.50
VC381, VC383, VC386.....	£6.50
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VT9300, VT9500, VT9700.....	£3.30
VT11E, VT14E, VT17E, VT19.....	£6.50
VT33E.....	£6.50
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Ferguson/JVC 3V00, 3V16, 3V22.....	£29.90
Ferguson/JVC 3V29, 3V30.....	£34.50
Ferguson/JVC 3V35, 3V36, etc.....	£25.80
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Hitachi VT8000, 8500, etc.....	£34.50
Hitachi VT9300, 9500, etc.....	£34.50
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<b>Sanyo</b> VTC9100, VTC9300.....	£4.95
VTC5000, VTC5150, VTC5300, VTC5400.....	£4.95
<b>Sony</b> SLC5, SLC7.....	£5.95
SLC6.....	£5.95
SL8000, SL8080.....	£5.95
<b>Sharp</b> VC7300, VC7700, VC7750.....	£4.95
VC8300.....	£4.95
VC9100, VC9300, VC9500.....	£4.95
VC381, VC383, VC386.....	£4.95
VC651 etc.....	£4.95
<b>Hitachi</b> VT5000, VT5500.....	£5.95
VT8000, VT8300, VT8500.....	£4.95
VT9300, VT9500, VT9700.....	£4.95
VT11E, VT14E, VT17E, VT19.....	£4.95
VT33E.....	£5.95
<b>Akai</b> VS9700.....	£6.95
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AN103	£1.95	AN6610	£1.95	BA1320	£1.25	HA11749	£4.75	LA4440	£2.75	STR082	£7.75	STR6020	£6.75	TD3540	£3.80
AN1270	£2.20	AN6677	£6.30	BA1330	£1.75	HA11750	£5.00	LA4460	£2.75	STR084	£7.50	TA7063P	£1.50	TD3541	£3.60
AN203	£2.20	AN6780	£2.30	BA1350	£1.80	HA11753	£3.50	LA4461	£1.80	STR430	£5.50	TA7066P	£1.50	TD3560	£4.50
AN210	£1.75	AN6870	£2.50	BA5102A	£2.75	HA11758	£3.50	LA4462	£1.80	STR431	£5.95	TA7073AP	£2.75	TD3561A	£4.95
AN211A	£2.30	AN6871	£1.60	BA5204	£2.75	HA11768	£4.50	LA4500	£2.50	STR433	£5.25	TA7074P	£1.95	TD3562A	£6.00
AN217B	£2.20	AN6873	£4.50	BA5402A	£2.75	HA11788	£4.50	LA4505	£2.80	STR435	£5.50	TA7122AP	£0.90	TD3651	£2.70
AN228W	£2.90	AN6875	£3.50	BA5406	£3.20	HA11816	£6.50	LA4507	£2.25	STR436	£5.25	TA7136P	£1.00	TD3652	£3.30
AN236	£2.50	AN6884	£2.75	BA5408	£2.75	HA11828	£9.50	LA4508	£2.85	STR437	£6.50	TA7140P	£1.75	TD4420	£3.75
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AN284	£2.50	AN7114E	£2.75	BX342	£3.00	HA12402	£2.95	LA6358S	£1.20	STR461	£7.50	TA7217AP	£1.60	UPC575C	£1.00
AN271A	£2.50	AN7115E	£1.60	HA1124A	£2.75	HA12413	£2.75	LA6458D	£1.20	STR463	£8.40	TA7220P	£2.50	UPC1001H	£1.95
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AN295	£3.60	AN7131	£2.75	HA1137W	£1.75	HA13402	£4.95	LA7032	£4.50	STR0025	£4.95	TA7225P	£3.20	UPC1031H	£2.30
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AN302	£3.30	AN7143	£2.95	HA1151	£2.50	LA1111	£2.50	LA7224	£2.95	STR0039	£4.75	TA7229P	£3.25	UPC1032H	£0.60
AN303	£2.75	AN7143M	£2.50	HA1156W	£1.20	LA1130	£2.75	LA7505	£2.95	STR0040	£6.25	TA7230P	£1.95	UPC1158H	£0.95
AN303	£2.75	AN7146M	£2.80	HA1167	£3.75	LA1140	£2.20	LA7507	£2.95	STR0049	£6.50	TA7232P	£2.95	UPC1181H	£1.10
AN305	£3.50	AN7149N	£2.95	HA1196	£1.75	LA1222	£1.00	LA7520	£3.25	STR0059	£7.00	TA7233P	£2.95	UPC1182H	£1.10
AN313U	£2.95	AN7156N	£2.50	HA1197	£3.70	LA1230	£1.50	LA7521	£4.50	STR0060H	£9.50	TA7240AP	£2.95	UPC1185H	£2.50
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AN5620X	£3.50	BA318	£1.50	HA11223W	£3.80	LA4032P	£2.80	M51515BL	£1.90	STR4833	£9.50	TA7658P	£4.95		
AN5701	£1.80	BA328	£2.50	HA11225	£1.95	LA4100	£1.25	M51518BL	£2.80	STR4843	£8.95	TD62105P	£3.50	BU208A	£1.20
AN5722	£1.60	BA333	£1.50	HA11226	£4.50	LA4101	£1.00	M51517L	£2.80	STR5211	£6.75	TD1010A	£2.25	BU208D	£1.80
AN5730	£1.85	BA335	£3.60	HA11235	£2.30	LA4102	£1.40	M51518L	£2.20	STR5315	£6.75	TD1011A	£2.25	BU326A	£1.95
AN5732	£1.85	BA340	£2.50	HA11251	£2.75	LA4110	£1.75	M51521L	£1.90	STR5324	£5.75	TD1074A	£2.75	BU500	£1.80
AN5753	£1.95	BA342	£2.75	HA11401	£2.80	LA4112	£2.75	M83705	£1.95	STR5325	£6.75	TD1151	£1.20	BU508A	£0.95
AN6250	£2.30	BA403	£1.95	HA11423	£4.75	LA4120	£2.40	M83712	£2.95	STR5326	£6.50	TD1170N	£1.50	2N3055	£0.50
AN6326N	£3.70	BA511A	£1.85	HA11440	£3.95	LA4125	£2.20	M83713	£1.60	STR5451	£6.75	TD1170S	£1.50	2N3773	£1.50
AN6327	£4.75	BA514	£1.90	HA11703	£4.50	LA4126	£2.60	M83714	£2.95	STR5471	£6.50	TD1A1510	£4.50	2SA733	£0.40
AN6328	£4.20	BA516	£1.90	HA11704	£5.20	LA4130	£1.90	M83722	£3.50	STR5476	£6.75	TD1A1515	£4.50	2SA1104	£2.75
AN6330	£2.95	BA521	£1.80	HA11705	£6.95	LA4145	£1.70	M83731	£1.50	STR5720	£4.25	TD1A198A	£1.75	2SC1166	£0.95
AN6340	£7.85	BA524	£2.20	HA11706	£4.95	LA4160	£2.40	M83756	£2.60	STR7216	£6.75	TD2A002	£0.90	2SB46A	£1.00
AN6341N	£4.00	BA526	£3.50	HA11710	£3.75	LA4170	£3.50	M83759	£3.80	STR7308	£6.95	TD2A003	£0.90	2SC166	£1.00
AN6342N	£2.50	BA527	£1.75	HA11711	£3.50	LA4178	£2.50	M88719	£3.85	STR7404	£6.95	TD2A004	£0.90	2SC192	£0.95
AN6344	£4.75	BA532	£1.60	HA11713	£6.50	LA4182	£2.20	STK011	£3.95	STR8250	£8.95	TD2A005	£2.20	2SC1942	£2.50
AN6350	£7.50	BA536	£2.50	HA11714	£5.95	LA4183	£2.95	STK014	£7.25	STR8250H	£10.75	TD2A006	£1.50	2SC1969	£1.75
AN6356N	£3.85	BA546	£2.20	HA11716	£4.75	LA4192	£1.95	STK016	£6.25	STR840	£5.80	TD2A007	£1.50	2SC2156	£1.00
AN6357N	£4.95	BA547	£2.50	HA11717	£5.75	LA4201	£1.60	STK016	£6.25	STR840	£5.80	TD2A008	£1.50	2SC2580	£2.75
AN6360	£4.50	BA612	£1.80	HA11718	£4.75	LA4220	£1.50	STK025	£7.50	STR441	£5.80	TD2A010	£2.75	2SC2581	£2.95
AN6362	£5.50	BA631A	£5.75	HA11724	£9.25	LA4230	£2.25	STK043	£10.50	STR451	£5.80	TD2A581	£2.50	2SC3156	£3.50
AN6363	£8.50	BA656	£4.50	HA11727	£9.50	LA4420	£1.75	STK077	£6.50	STR2012	£6.75	TD2611A	£1.35	2SD401A	£1.50
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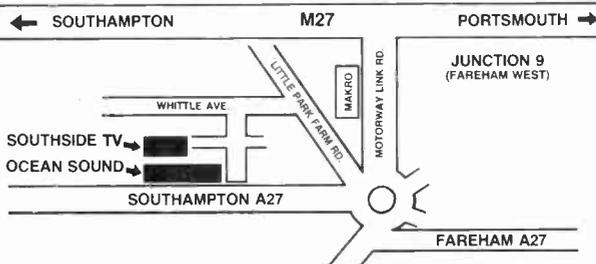
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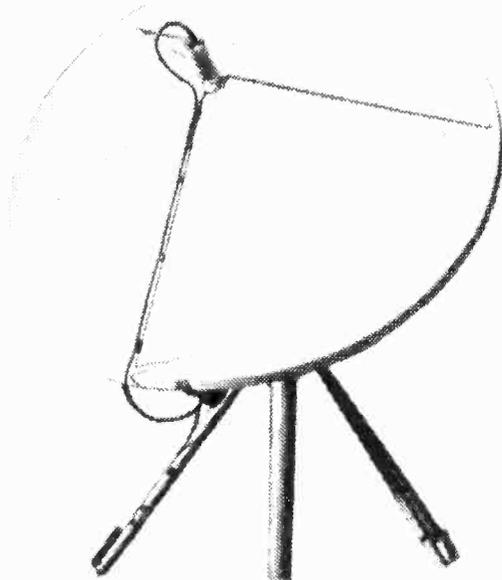
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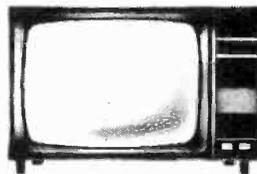
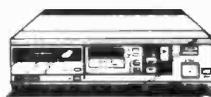
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JVC 7200	£75	£60
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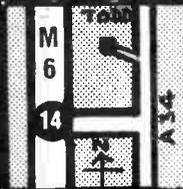
Ferguson Non Text, Text and Stereo, Text & New F.S.T. B Grade. Ferguson, JVC, Sharp, Hitachi, Sony, etc., etc. V.C.R.s working: Ferguson 3V29/30 V.C.R.s ready for retail in fives £75 + VAT. Ferguson Compact Disc Units, A Grade and B Grade, from £40 + VAT. Sony C9 Beta in top condition, back to spec, plenty in stock. Ferguson V.C.R.s for spares: 3V16/3V22/3V23/3V24/3V29/3V31/3V35/3V43/3V45/3V55.

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CVC30 CVC32 series colour 8.50		<b>VISUAL DISPLAY UNITS</b>
CVC45 8.50	<b>E. PAPWORTH</b>	We can Rewind the L.O.P.T.s
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For further information please contact:

**Terry Tudor (Project Manager),**  
**Bolton Metropolitan College, Manchester Road, Bolton BL2 1ER.**  
**Tel: (0204) 31411 Ext. 3371/3395**

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CCD Camera Power Supply	£25.66	8 Camera Auto Switcher	£89.00		
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240V Outdoor Unit with Cont/Box	£406.25	Long Camera Bracket	£8.61	<b>AUTO IRIS &amp; PINHOLE LENSES</b>	
As above but 24V AC	£437.50	90 Degree Camera Bracket	£8.61	8.5mm F1.3 Auto Iris	£137.50
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As above but 24V AC	£218.75	Camera Scanner U-Hinge Mount	£15.33	9.0mm F3.5 Pinhole with Iris	£207.50
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3HSS4VC - Ferguson 3V48/HRD565	£46.00

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3HSSU1N - Panasonic NV370/380/100	£20.00
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<b>Sanyo</b>	
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<b>Other Models</b>	
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<b>Reel Motors</b>	
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Sharp VC9300/9500 etc.	£15.90
Panasonic NV333/366	£13.20
Ferguson 3V29/30 JVC HR200/7300	£22.70

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BC328-40	£0.05
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BC549	£0.07
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<b>Sanyo</b>	
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VTC5000/5150/6500 Reel Drive Pulley Unit	£5.00

<b>Panasonic</b>	
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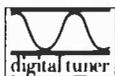
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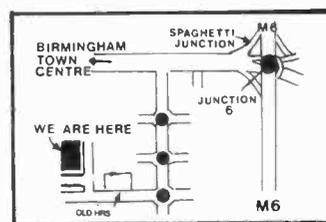
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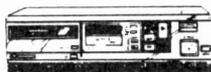
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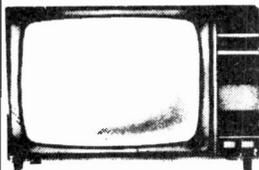
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# Sonic TV Distributors

Unit 4a, Abberley St., Smethwick Birmingham B66 2QU Tel: 021-565 1727

**WORKING SETS**  
FROM £8

**FULL R-C**  
FROM £25

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**TOSHIBA – HITACHI – PANASONIC – J.V.C.  
SONY – ALL OTHER JAP ARE IN  
STOCK NOW**

FROM £45

**STEREO TEXT ..... P.O.A.  
COLOUR PORTABLE P.O.A.**

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\* **DIRECT LOADS AVAILABLE** \*  
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**WORKING VIDEOS**  
FROM £40

**VIDEOS FOR SPARES**  
FROM £10

## AUDIO

**MIDI SYSTEM – MUSIC CENTER – TWIN DECK STEREO – STEREO RADIO  
CASSETTE – MONO RADIO/C – CLOCK RADIO – CAR STEREO – CAR ALARM  
– AND MANY OTHER AUDIO ITEMS ARE IN STOCK NOW.  
PHONE FOR PRICE LIST**

# EXPORT ENQUIRIES WELCOME

*All prices are subject of 15% VAT and based on quantity*

# NORTH WEST ELECTRONICS

## HUGE STOCKS NOW IN FOR '89

GOOD SELECTION OF THORN TV'S & VIDEOS FROM STANDARD TO STEREO TEXT AT KEEN PRICES!

### WORKING TV's

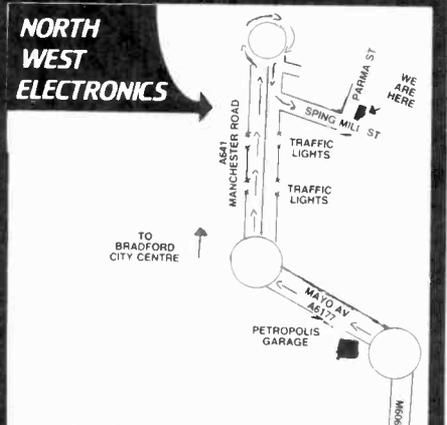
Bush T20/22, T24/6 .....	£25
Pye G11 .....	£25
Pye KT3 .....	£35
Pye K30 .....	£40
Ferguson TX 9/10 .....	£40
Grundig .....	£20
Hitachi 226 etc. ....	£55

### WORKING VIDEO's TRY BEFORE YOU BUY!

Sharp Electronic 7300 ...	£65
Ferguson 3V29 .....	£75
Sharps 8300 .....	£75
National Panasonic .....	£75
Ferguson 3V30 .....	£80
Sharp 9300 .....	£85

## BRADFORD

SPRING MILL STREET,  
MANCHESTER ROAD,  
BRADFORD 5  
5 MINS FROM MOTORWAY



**QUANTITY OF  
BRAND NEW  
TOWER SYSTEMS,  
MIDI SYSTEMS,  
PERSONAL  
RADIOS ETC**

### IN STOCK NOW

K35/K30 TEXT  
TX10 & HITACHI TEXT

### TELETEXT BARGAINS

**FROM  
£35**  
(G11)

### WORKING EX-EQUIPMENT PANELS

IF	Con- verger	De- coder	Line scan	Power	Frame
T20/22 X	5	14	18	17	14
T26 X	5	16	20	17	X
718 7.50	5	14	20	3	14.00
Philips					
G11 14.50	5	12	20	20	11.50

All prices include Postage & Packing.  
But + VAT

### TRADE SHOWROOM

LARGE QUANTITY OF READY TO  
SELL VIDEO's & TV's

CALL IN, YOU WILL BE  
DELIGHTED!

### LATER VIDEO's NOW IN STOCK

3V35/44/65, Hitachi VT33  
Philips 6660/64, UR 60,  
AND MANY MORE

100's PX  
HOOVER JUNIOR  
VACS

All models in stock

### UNTESTED TV's

Bush T20/22 .....	£10
Pye G11 .....	£15
Pye KT3 .....	£25
Pye K30 .....	£25
Ferguson TX9/10 .....	£30
Grundig .....	£10
Hitachi 226 etc. ....	£35
Thorn 9000 .....	£10

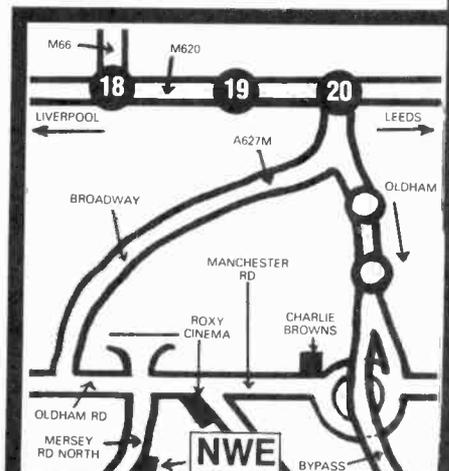
Plus many more; GEC, ITT,  
etc from £5

### UNTESTED VIDEO's

Sharp 7300 .....	£35
Ferguson 3V29 .....	£50
Sharp 8300 .....	£50
National Panasonic .....	£45
Ferguson 3V30 .....	£55
Sharp 9300 .....	£55
Betamax all makes from	£10

## MANCHESTER

UNIT 3,  
MERSEY ROAD NORTH  
INDUSTRIAL ESTATE,  
FAILSWORTH



Tel (0274)

308186

ALL PRICES ARE PLUS VAT & BASED ON QUANTITY

CHEQUES  
ACCEPTED WITH  
BANKERS CARD

VISA  
WELCOME

OPEN  
6 DAYS  
SAT 9-5.30

Tel  
(061-683)  
4612



# MIDLAND TELEVISION



QUALITY SETS SINGLES OR QUANTITY SUPPLIED AT THE BEST PRICES

## C.T.V.

Phillips	Non Working	Working
KT3 Basic	£15.00	£25.00
K30 Basic	£20.00	£30.00
KT3 Text	£50.00	£68.00
KT30 Text	£55.00	£75.00

## BUSH

T20	} £10.00	£20.00
T22		
T24		
T26		

## THORN

8800	£5.00	£9.00
9000 R/C	£12.00	£18.00
9600 R/C	£14.00	£20.00
TX9-TX10 Basic	£25.00	£35.00
TX9-TX10 Text	£55.00	£70.00
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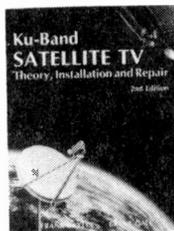
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120/20/20/48/117	£1.00		
270/106 for Thorn 4000	£1.00		
18320/70/39	£1.10		
Thorn 50-40R-1K5	50p		
Ae Socket & Lead	£1		
GEC, ITT, Philips, Pye	25p		
7x334 Thorn	£1		
Thorn 1600/1700	£1.50		
Rank Toshiba Tube Bases	30p		
20,000 Per Volt			
HT420 Hills Meter			
10 AMP AC/DC			
1,000 and ohms range £10			
4 ohms ranges 0-1000 volt AC/DC			
AEG KT2000/641-005			
<b>Hand Sets</b>			
Fidelity All Types	£15 to £35		
<b>KT3-K30</b>			
OF-425			
OF-550			
OF-513			
OF-557			
E.W. correction	10p		
<b>DIODES</b>			
BY 126	10p		
BY 127	10p		
BY 133	10p		
BY 134	10p		
BY 176	10p		
BY 179	10p		
BY 184	10p		
BY 187	10p		
BY 190	10p		
BY 196	10p		
BY 198	10p		
BY 204/4	10p		
BY 206-8/ BY 407 Eqv.	8p		
BY 208/800	8p		
BY 210/400	5p		
BY 210/800	5p		
BY 223	60p		
BY 224/600: 4.8A/600v bridge	50p		
BY 226	15p		
BY 227	15p		
BY 228 1500v	20p		
Flat BY229 black	15p		
BY 299 Red	20p		
BY 229/400	30p		
BY 299/60p Tag	30p		
BY 237	5p		
BY 254	10p		
BY 255	30p		
BY 298	10p		
BY 299	10p		
BY 406	8p		
BY 527	8p		
BY 407a	10p		
BY 448	10p		
BY 527	10p		
BY 602	10p		
BYV 26C	10p		
F 247	5p		
GP20G	5p		
GRP80G (TX10)	50p		
XK 3102	30p		
BYV 28/200	20p		
Bridge TX10 800/3 amps	30p		
KBPC35-02 Bridge	£1.50		
Bridge Rec. D35B10	40p		
International Rectifier EHT Diodes G770/1V34 6KV	20p		
6A/600V Stud Diodes	20p		
6A/1000V Stud Diodes	20p		

G8 LOPT Panel			
Rank T20 Z136 Panel			
NEW GEC 20AX Power Supply Switch Mode			
Field + Jungle panel for GEC 313/3135			
GEC 2110 line panel with transformer			
GEC 2110 tuner unit + IF Panel			
Pye/Chelsea Line op panel			
Pye 205 Tuner			
Pye 713 IF panel and tuner			
Pye 713 Chroma			
Pye/Chelsea Timebase panel with 1 OPT1			
Pye 731 Frame Panel			
Pye 731 Convergence Panel			
Pye 731 Chroma			
Pye 731 IF panel + tuner			
GEC portable chassis + LOPT1 2114 New			
G9 Power Panel			
Mono RANK Chassis 127A NEW			
NEW G9 Frame Panel			
NEW G11 IF Panel			
G8 Tuner Unit + Panel	£4.00		
G8 IF & Chroma	£6.00		
G8 Chroma	£3.00		
G11 IF Detector	£3.00		
G11 Selector gang module	£3		
Complete CVC 825 Chassis	£15		
AEC V/Cap Resistor Unit (UHF with IC SA5560/SA5670)	£3.00		
Z714 RANK IF Panels 6MHz I I C.			
SL437F	£3.00		
Z900B RANK IF Panels			
Export 5.5MHz 2 I.C.'s			
TBA1205B TCA2705Q	£2.50		
K35 IF	£6.00		
Z743 RANK IF Panel			
Export 5.5MHz 3 I.C.'s			
TBA750+SC9504P+SC9503P	£1.50		
Pye G11 Front panel with transducer, pots, tuner pots, 6 pb switch + lead	£5.00		
Pye 6 button switch portable	£1.00		
GEC V/Cap VHF/UHF tuner and IF			
sound O/P PC 706B3 (Export)	£12.00		
GEC Line O/P PC 659B3	£6.00		
2110 GEC Power Panel	£8.00		
CVC 20 Front panel with sliders + mains input panel	£4		
CVC 40 PUSH BUTTON ASSY with sliders: complete with lamp assy + pots	£9.00		
8 button units	£9.00		
CVC9 slider pots panel	50p		
Universal Focus. Fits Pye, Thorn and Decca Units			
T147 Rank tube base on panel	£1.00		
Z718 Focus Unit	£1.50		
T20 Focus Unit	£1.00		
Large Type	75p		
Decca Small	75p		
KT3 Focus Unit	75p		
K30 Focus Pot	75p		
K30 Tube base on panel	£1.00		
TX10 Focus Units	£8.50		
CVC 32 Focus Unit	75p		
Fidelity Focus Unit 14R-14S	30p		
3580 Thorn Focus Unit	£1.00		
ITT Small for use with Split	8/400		
Z718 Bush Focus	£2.00		
Diode	50p		
Remo TV125P	50p		
1600 Thorn EHT Rec and Lead	50p		
TV14	50p		
TV20	£1.00		
TV45	50p		
Thorn 14/1500 rec stick	5p		
TX10 8 Button Unit	£10.00		
TX10/TX100 16 Button	£10.00		
G11 drawer ASS 3 pots Mains switch and lead	£2.00		
K30 Drawer Ass with pots cable forms	£1.00		
TX10 Drawer with 8 way pots ass.	£2.50		
TX44 Ex. port with band switch (drawer)	£2.50		
<b>PHILIPS BATTERIES (Special Types) HAND SETS</b>			
SR41	25p		
SR43	25p		
SR44	25p		
SR54	25p		
LR43	25p		
L.R.44	25p		
LR54	25p		
CR2032	25p		
10.500PF 2KV	20p		
22/100K	20p		
TAA7750	£1.00		
HA411485	£1.00		
UPCL1373	50p		
M50143	£1.00		
M491BB1	£1.00		
M58657P	50p		
M50041/550	3p		
M58658P	£1.00		
Delay Line TDK Small Gray	10p		
TDK Blue Type	50p		
CVC 20-25-30 Mains Switches			
Infra Red and Ultrasonic G11 Teletext Decoder Panel			
RANK & ITT Mains Remote On-Off Switch (720R)			
RANK & ITT Remote Switch 2800 ohm			
G11 Mains Switch			
4 amp Mains Switch			
GEC Mains Switch 4 amp			
KT3 Mains switch			
G8 Mains switch			
G11 Preh Red LED P/Button for C.H. Change			
RANK TOSHIBA Transducers TPC-2011			
Mains Switch ITT Long Type Print			
Mains Switch Philips Long Type TAG			
Mains Switch GEC Long Type TAG			
2000 Chassis Fidelity Mains Switch (4 TAG)			
250V/4A White Lorlin Mains Switch			
KT3-K30-K35 Full Remote Mains Switch (6 TAG)			
Teletext Adaptor Kit TY-500 Panasonic			
Philips Battery Tester All Types and charger vis			

220 MFD Sprague 385V	50p	<b>Multi-Caps</b>	
350V 300M + 300M	£1.00		
400V 400M	60p		
350V 400M	60p		
Thorn 3500			
175/100/100/350v	£1.00		
KT3 200/200/250/385v	50p		
KT3-K30 220 + 40 + 40	75p		
200 + 200 + 75 + 25M 325V	£1.00		
300 + 300 + 150 + 100 + 50MFD	£1.00		
350V	£2.00		
G11 CAP 470/250	£2.50		
472/20/350v	60p		
150/150/100/100/100/320v	£2.00		
2500/250/0/60v	50p		
150/200/200/300v	70p		
300/100/100/16/275v	£1.50		
100/200/325v	40p		
150/150/100/375v	£1.50		
200/200/75/25M 375V	£1.00		
Thorn TX9 Caps 500+500M 175V	£1.00		
300/300/100/32/32/300v	2.00		
1500/200/30v	50p		
150/150/100/100/320v	£2.00		
100/350 + 300/200/100/16/275v	£2.00		
225 + 25/380 GFC	70p		
200/100/100/350v	£1.50		
500/500/25v	50p		
150/150/100/300v	75p		
200/150/150/300v	1.00		
420M 400V	£1.00		
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220/400V	£1.00		
1200PF 15KV	10p		
.01 2KV	10p		
1 + 1 MFD Mains Filter ITT 3 Pin	15p		
1/100 x 10	30p		
22/100	10p		
4.7M/100	5p		
700/250	20p		
4700/100	20p		
47/160	75p		
300 300/300V	80p		
800/160	50p		
.1250 Pulse	5p		
2.2 250v	10p		
7N5 1500V	15p		
30/3250 A.C.	20p		
.39/250V	15p		
46/250 tested 5KV	25p		
22/250	15p		
47/250	10p		
100/250	20p		
G11 470/250V	£1.75		
GEC 600/250	60p		
700/250	10p		
300 + 300 MFD 350v	£1.00		
800/250	40p		
32/300	40p		
4/350	5p		
8/350	5p		
4.7M/350v	20p		
33/350	20p		
220/350	20p		
300/350	30p		
400/350	30p		
22/375	50p		
220/385 (ITT)	75p</		

# SENDZ COMPONENTS

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Thorn TX Tuner V/Cap eqv. to EL71043	£4.50
Min. UHF Tuner 40dB gain	£6.00
7x1/2x7/2	£1.50
VHF-UHF with Data Tuner MFCT	£3
F51	£3
F400 Family with Data Mosfet	
Thorn TX10 Export V/Cap UHF, VHF	£6
V/Cap Rank UHF Z7761A/Unit	£6
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NEW G8 Tuner V/Cap	£3.50
T20 6 Push Button Unit	£7
ELC2000 on Panel	£2.50
GEC 2110 V/Cap	£6.00
FE6180	£20.00
ELC1042 N/W	£6.00
ELC1043 (Ex Panel)	£3.75
ELC2001	NEW £4.00
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1970 FTS48, ETS47, ETS41B	£8.00
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FT598P UHF/Very Small	£5.00
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ASTEC UML183	£5.00
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U321	£6.00
U322	£8.00
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U344C	£10.00
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U410	£8.00
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U410 V. 412	£7.00
U410 V. 415	£7.00
U410 V. 417	£10.00
U410 V. 418	£10.00
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U410 V. 618	£12.00
U410 V. 619	£7.00
Fidelity and Amstrad 2000 V/Cap	£5.00
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UHF	£5.00
NSF-UHF/VHF Vancap (old type)	£8.00
Mosfet UHF/VHF (new type)	£2.00
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HITACHI 20 Turn Pot	£6.00
U321 on panel	£6.00
Tuner unit VHS Sylvania GTR Video	£2.50
MTS 900	£2.50
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VHF Tuner GTR Sylvania F3720B	£2
Sylvania UHF F4720B	£6.00
Sylvania VHF 900	£6.00
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THORN 3500 4P B. Mech. Tuner	
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B12765	50p
B12761	30p
B12769	30p
B12788	20p
B12819A	30p
B12822A	30p
B12869	30p
B12871	30p
B12872	7p
B12881	15p
B12884	10p
B12885	20p
B12886	20p
B12887	20p
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B12889	20p
B12890	20p
B12891	20p
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B12996	20p
B12997	20p
B12998	20p
B12999	20p
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B13001	20p
B13002	20p
B13003	20p
B13004	20p
B13005	20p
B13006	20p
B13007	20p
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B13095	20p
B13096	20p
B13097	20p
B13098	20p
B13099	20p
B13100	20p

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SAAG1124	£2.50
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SAAG1176	£2.00
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SAAG1274	£3.00
SAAG1276	£3.00
SAAG1277	£3.00
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