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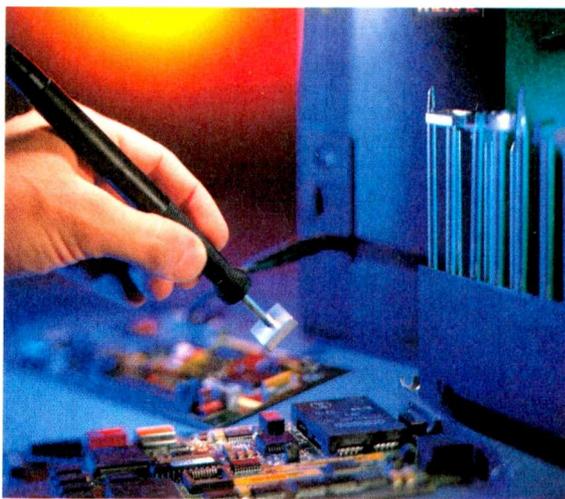
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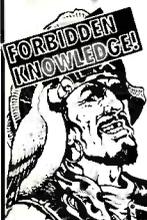
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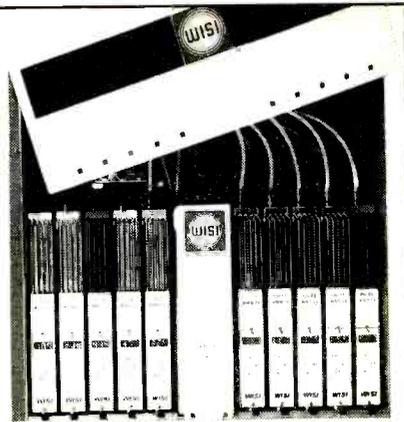
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TIM5 Health & Safety in Consumer Electronics Servicing £9.99

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TIM6 Soldering and Desoldering Techniques £9.99

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Service Manual TV1 (£14.99) - Grundig G1000 chassis GT1401 Matsui 14R1, 20R1, 20T1 and text models GT2001/3, 21T1 & 21N1 (NICAM).

Service Manual TV2 (£18.99) - Onwa chassis. How to run the power supply and test it without blowing up. Plus 50 typical faults! (Uses AN5601K colour IC). Covers JVC, Matsui, Goodmans, Alba/Bush and Akai.

Service Manual TV3 (£12.99) - Grundig Satellite receivers GRD150, GRD200/300, GRD100, JVCTU-C200, Matsui RD600 & Philips STU3301/3501/3601 ... three Grundig chassis in one manual!!

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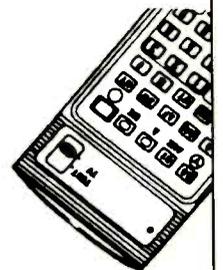
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The R&D Problem

It would be interesting to know how much money and effort goes into research that fails to produce viable commercial products. A certain amount of wastage is inevitable, and is part of a healthy, competitive industrial scene. Yet waste is waste: one of the most difficult management tasks is trying to control R&D budgets, in particular to decide when a programme should be given the chop.

Consider for example display devices for TV pictures. Researchers long sought a flat display to replace the CRT and have, in recent years, been increasingly successful with liquid-crystal and gas-plasma panels. Even within these fields there have been several significantly different approaches. For a time it seemed that the LCD might eventually take over – Japanese manufacturers are reputed to have invested some \$5bn in developing thin-film transistor LCD technology in the Eighties – but plasma panels have since turned out to be more successful for reasonably-sized TV screens. The trouble with plasma displays is their cost and limited life expectancy. They are also rather wasteful when it comes to power consumption. We are not likely to see the demise of the CRT for many a year.

As you would expect with a device that has been around for so long – the CRT actually predates the thermionic amplifying valve – there have been tremendous improvements, many of which have been the result of small but significant technological advances: things like pigment composition, ways of mounting the shadow-mask, improvements in electron lens design and so on. And research continues.

Philips has recently announced a development that could provide a smaller spot at

a higher brightness level, and thus crisper pictures: it's called the avalanche cold cathode (ACC). Instead of the conventional heated cathode, the source of electrons is a buried (less than 1µm beneath the surface) zener diode junction. A bias of 5V produces an adequate electron flow, with enough electrons per square mm – more in fact than with thermionic emission – to provide a beam. And while the electrons emitted by a thermionic cathode are in effect 'boiled' off, producing a space charge, the electrons produced by an avalanche cold cathode emerge with a degree of acceleration. The bias is varied to control the electron flow, and a first-stage electrostatic lens can be formed on the surface of the cathode. As with a conventional tube, three cathodes are required to provide a colour display. It sounds very promising, but will it turn out to be another false trail? Philips is uncertain: lifetime and reliability have yet to be fully assessed. Even if the technique doesn't prove successful initially, some seemingly minor technological improvement could subsequently make all the difference.

Perhaps something similar could be done to provide a flat-panel display, which brings us to the photocathode display (PCD) being developed by a Californian company, New Logic International. It's similar to the field-emission display (FED), another technology that has been quietly evolving. Both, while being flat panels, have the same optical performance as a CRT. New Logic International first showed a laboratory prototype PCD in 1997. Development samples are now being produced: according to NLI, Korean, Japanese and US manufacturers are interested.

What about the FED? The French technology company PixTech, which demonstrated the first monochrome FED panel in 1991, has just announced the development of a 15in. full-colour FED panel. It believes that large screens using high-voltage FED technology will be ideal for monitors and TV sets. We shall see.

Work is being carried out on many other display prospects. In our February issue George Cole reported on Pioneer's development of organic electroluminescent displays. Various organisations have been working on light-emitting plastics.

There seems to be no end to all this effort on alternative technologies, and not only in the display field. Take discs as another example. DVD-Audio is being challenged by the Super Audio CD before either have appeared, and there are now three recordable DVD formats – DVD-RW, DVD+RW and DVD-RAM.

And so it goes on. A lot of effort, and one chance discovery at the right time can make all the difference – as with the transistor effect in 1947!

Correction

Our apologies for various errors in Martin Pickering's Pace PRD series receiver modifications article last month. In Fig. 1, page 239, Q2 and the added transistor were shown as npn instead of pnp devices. There is no need to select vertical polarisation for the LNB supply switch-off modification to work – the receiver does this automatically in standby (this was the original reason for carrying out the modification by replacing D17, so ignore the bit about connecting the added transistor in series with L3). Oh, and the cover should have said PRD not RRD. But the modifications do work!

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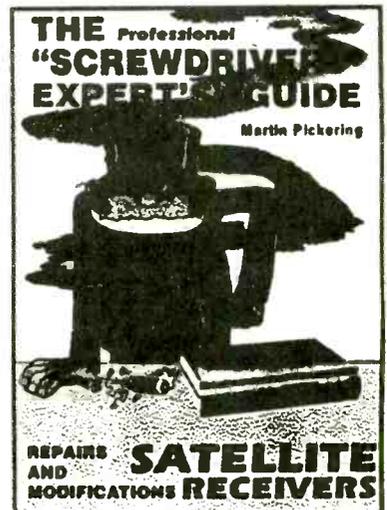
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SATELLITE FAULT FINDING GUIDE

NEW EDITION No. 5

You could say that what Martin Pickering doesn't know about satellite receivers isn't worth knowing. What he does know has become legendary. Having been at it since the start of consumer satellite TV, he has built up a massive database of on satellite TV receivers. Not only on their faults, common and less common but also on modifications and upgrades. Martin brings in-depth expertise to the subject, having previously been involved with equipment reliability testing and component specification. Originally entitled "Satellite Repair Manual", this book has become established as a bible for satellite TV repair.

But the subject doesn't stand still. New models, new faults - there is always something to add. So here we have the fifth edition, which has been completely updated and now has 300 pages and a more attractive cover. In addition to receiver fault notes and general information you'll find many useful button sequences for resetting parental lock codes, resetting installation choices to factory defaults and other less well known operations, practical information on LNBs with typical current drains, a list of manufacturers and suppliers addresses, other useful information and a beginners section. Digital receivers are now available so the manual includes a chapter to deal with these too.



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2N3440	0.72	2SC4517A	3.14	BA3918	6.49	BC850C	0.25	BU506D	1.80	CNY75B	0.52	RG2	0.64	TD41015	1.37	TDA8218	4.62
2N3773	1.52	2SC5129	6.82	BA4558	0.69	BC856B	0.21	BU506DF	2.31	DCVREM	16.95	RG10G	0.26	TD41044	1.43	TDA8350Q	3.56
2N3904	0.32	2SC5149	7.69	BA5406	2.14	BC858	0.21	BU508A	1.29	DCREG	13.95	RG15G	0.33	TD41060	2.65	TDA8380	2.53
2N4401	0.11	2SC536	0.30	BA5412	2.48	BC858B	0.24	BU508AF	1.32	DTA114ES	0.31	RG15J	0.17	TD41085C	2.74	TDA8391	7.69
2SA1012	1.17	2SC945	0.11	BA6209N	1.18	BC858C	0.19	BU508AFI	1.37	DTC124ES	0.77	RG15G	0.30	TD41170	1.85	TDA8950	2.13
2SA1013	0.35	2SD1138	0.94	BA6209N	1.95	BC859A	0.18	BU508APH	1.00	DTC144ES	0.19	S2000A	2.57	TD41170N	2.57	TEA1039	2.11
2SA1015	0.11	2SD1207	0.57	BA6219B	1.77	BC875	0.45	BU508D	1.56	DTC144EF	0.18	S2000A3	3.59	TD41170S	2.05	TEA2018A	2.29
2SA1015Y	0.98	2SD1292	0.64	BA6247	3.42	BCY59	0.26	BU508DF	1.88	FR605	1.90	S2000AF	1.46	TD41175	9.40	TEA2029C	7.04
2SA1016	0.26	2SD1330	0.31	BA632L	0.67	BCY71	0.28	BU508V	2.40	FXT749	0.43	S2000N	3.59	TD41519A	4.87	TEA2029CV	3.54
2SA1020	0.44	2SD1398	2.14	BA743	0.52	BD131	0.26	BU806	1.03	H1000L	5.50	S2055AF	2.24	TD41521A	2.91	TEA2031A	4.26
2SA1020Y	0.53	2SD1426	3.51	BA785	0.96	BD132	0.26	BU807	0.60	HA13119	2.09	SAB3035	3.06	TD41524A	5.25	TEA2164	3.40
2SA1145	0.36	2SD1439	5.86	BAV20	0.26	BD136	0.24	BU908	1.68	HA13150	15.12	SG264A	12.88	TD41554Q	8.12	TEA2164G	4.39
2SA1302	4.45	2SD1441	5.98	BAV21	0.21	BD139	0.31	BUF405A	2.99	HA13151	18.24	SGSIF344	10.70	TD41557Q	4.23	TEA2185A	9.58
2SA562	0.18	2SD1453	3.85	BAX14	0.17	BD140	0.24	BUH515	2.14	HM8251	14.32	SL1431	2.82	TD41558Q	7.69	TEA2260	3.32
2SA673	0.18	2SD1497	4.74	BC107B	0.20	BD234	0.52	BUH515D	2.14	IRFBC40	2.65	SRK2N	1.29	TD41675A	3.85	TEA2261	3.68
2SA683	0.36	2SD1541	4.96	BC108	0.24	BD241A	0.38	BUH517	6.24	JC501	4.86	STA441C	3.86	TD41904	1.63	TEA5101A	6.48
2SA684	0.43	2SD1545	6.84	BC108C	0.15	BD243	0.45	BUK444500B	3.47	KA2206	1.37	STK4132II	6.80	TD42005	1.83	TEA5101B	6.48
2SA733	0.18	2SD1546	7.69	BC109B	0.28	BD243C	0.44	BUL544R	1.67	KB22066	2.40	STK4141II	8.44	TD42006	1.06	TEA5170	2.57
2SA933	0.60	2SD1548	5.95	BC141	0.36	BD244C	0.43	BUT11	0.25	KBU602	2.18	STK4142II	9.40	TD42030H	0.91	TIC106D	0.82
2SA940	0.82	2SD1554	3.25	BC182	0.14	BD317	1.78	BUT11A	0.95	KA6210AH	6.15	STK4152II	10.95	TD42030V	0.00	TIC246D	1.54
2SA950	0.18	2SD1555	2.65	BC182L	0.14	BD433	0.29	BUT11AF	1.18	KSR11004	0.21	STK4192II	15.63	TD42050	4.56	TIP106D	0.72
2SA952	0.18	2SD1556	5.11	BC184L	0.06	BD434	0.31	BUT11A2	1.17	LA4282	5.11	STK5332	2.82	TD42541	1.12	TIP110	0.35
2SA966	0.69	2SD1850	2.48	BC212	0.12	BD435	0.38	BUT12AF	1.37	LA4705	6.41	STK5342	4.07	TD42577A	3.45	TIP111	0.57
2SA970	0.19	2SD1851	2.38	BC212L	0.18	BD436	0.52	BUT16AF	1.37	LA6324	3.25	STK5372H	6.84	TD42578A	3.20	TIP112H	0.77
2SA984	0.38	2SD1761	0.94	BC237	0.12	BD437	0.52	BU756A	1.19	LA7116	1.70	STK5481	8.12	TD42579A	4.91	TIP120	0.40
2SB1010	0.35	2SD1815	0.86	BC237B	0.19	BD438	0.38	BUW11A	1.54	LA7830	1.88	STK7253	10.51	TD42581Q	2.57	TIP2955	0.89
2SB1143	0.77	2SD1858	0.43	BC238	0.11	BD839	0.57	BUW12A	2.99	LA7832	2.40	STK730-060	11.65	TD42593	1.12	TIP29E	0.77
2SB1243	0.69	2SD1877	2.14	BC238B	0.16	BD901	0.52	BUX84	1.03	LA7833	5.98	STK73410II	6.82	TD42611A	0.64	TIP3055	1.08
2SB560	0.43	2SD1878	2.63	BC239	0.04	BD911	0.52	BUZ71A	1.03	LA7835	3.51	STK7348	5.74	TD42653A	1.70	TIP31A	0.41
2SB649A	0.77	2SD1879	2.23	BC258	0.09	BD912	0.63	BUZ77B	4.27	LA7837	8.53	STK73907	10.48	TD42822M	1.37	TIP41C	0.65
2SB668	1.61	2SD1884	3.35	BC307	0.06	BDW94C	0.60	BUZ80	3.52	LA7838	2.65	STR10006	3.94	TD43301B	9.12	TIP42A	0.35
2SB774	0.99	2SD1887	3.56	BC307B	0.15	BF199	0.18	BUZ90A	3.40	LC7132	4.70	STR11006	7.37	TD43505	2.40	TIP42C	0.52
2SB793	1.71	2SD1889	2.14	BC308	0.09	BF240	0.11	BUZ90AF	3.30	LED3G	0.10	STR50020	6.38	TD43560	6.13	TIP42E	0.35
2SB892	0.35	2SD2012	0.86	BC309B	0.10	BF245A	0.19	BY127	0.14	LN1203N	3.25	STR50103	4.48	TD43561A	3.85	TIP42G	1.85
2SC1383	0.32	2SD400	0.34	BC327	0.10	BF258	0.04	BY133	0.08	LM317T	1.29	STR50103A	5.56	TD43562A	6.62	TIP42H	1.03
2SC1740	0.16	2SD400F	1.20	BC328	0.14	BF324	0.18	BY184	0.33	LM328	1.48	STR5142M	13.25	TD43565	2.74	TIP42I	1.04
2SC1740S	0.84	2SD467	0.57	BC337	0.14	BF420	0.21	BY227	0.13	LM339N	0.50	STR54041	5.15	TD43576B	10.31	TIP731	1.95
2SC1815	0.17	2SD669A	0.79	BC338	0.06	BF421	0.24	BY228	0.26	LM358N	0.52	STR5412	4.55	TD43592A	4.60	TMP47C432AP8189	0.59
2SC1815Y	0.12	2SD718	1.90	BC368	0.18	BF422	0.19	BY229	0.14	LM381	4.27	STR58041	3.42	TD43603P	5.62	TMP47C434N3555	21.84
2SC1846	0.52	2SD837B	1.12	BC369	0.18	BF423	0.14	BY235	0.14	LM386N	0.57	STR59041	8.11	TD43650	9.27	TOP204YAI	4.19
2SC2023	3.18	2SD856	0.79	BC372	0.53	BF458	0.31	BY298	0.15	M293B1	21.34	STR6020	6.07	TD43653B	1.54	U2829B	3.40
2SC2120	0.69	2SD965	0.26	BC546A	0.11	BF459	0.43	BY299	0.18	M49481	11.85	STR61001	10.86	TD43653CQ	2.57	U4614B	5.78
2SC2229	0.35	2SD965R	1.05	BC546B	0.12	BF469	0.35	BY399	0.16	M51182L	1.88	STRD4420	11.17	TD43654Q	1.44	UC3842	0.74
2SC2230	0.55	2SK1118	3.40	BC547	0.11	BF448	0.57	BY448	0.30	M54544L	2.48	STRD6008X	8.66	TD43654Q	2.82	UC3844	1.20
2SC2235	0.36	2SK135	11.02	BC547A	0.04	BF494	0.12	BY476	1.00	M58655P	4.96	STRD6202	12.89	TD43654Q	4.66		

What

a Life!

A wonderful start to the day. Then the difficulties start. But at least the technical problems get sorted out, if not the customer ones. Donald Bullock's servicing commentary

I was awakened early by the streaming sun. It was a lovely day. Blue skies, soft breeze, birds singing. I set off for work at peace with the world.

The car purred happily through the sunshafts on the soft-tar road. It had been a good buy. What a morning! Softly bright, quiet, not a cloud in the sky. It was good to be alive.

I reached the shop. Our bit of pavement was wet, and a parked cider flagon rested in front of the window. There was a TV set leaning against the front door. And a scrawled note had been wedged in the door handle.

I smoothed it out. "Still not right" it said, "you'll have to call back." No name, no address.

Letters

I opened the shop door and picked up twenty five letters. Threw twenty rubbish ones in the bin then opened the rest. Tax bill. Can't be right! Electricity bill. What? Never! Gas bill. Heavens! And what's this? Mr Manson's set still has patterning. Call after eight? Oh dear, I'll never get that one right.

And a letter from Mrs Garvil. "Will you come and put a new ECL80 in my TV set?" Field collapse, obviously. Silly old fool. Ever since she saw me fit a new ECL80 in her Ferguson TV back in 1963 she's considered herself to be a technical wizzard . . .

Ah, I know that writing. Mrs Botulos from Rosebud Avenue.

Nice lady. Decent husband too. Friendly and reliable. I like that type. It'll be her cheque for that tube job, just as she promised. Oh, no cheque. A note to say her picture's gone and it must be the tube. Wasn't right after we delivered it. To give us the benefit of the doubt, they'd waited to see if it would settle down. Husband now hopping mad. Couldn't see the wrestling. Has a mind to come and sort us out. And report us. Her Maisey reckons Gumboils would have done it cheaper.

Nasty old fool Mrs Botulos. And that workshy slob of hers, and her sweaty daughter. Should all be birched. Always loathed 'em.

Oh God! The phone. "Oh, good morning Mrs Whelp. Nice to hear fro . . . What do you mean, ruined your set? But we don't make the progr . . . Mrs Whelp! Mrs Whelp!! How dare you! Yes they were! St. Marks, if you must know."

It's going to be another filthy, miserable day, I can see that. Wish I was back on that newspaper. Who are these blundering oafs pushing at the door?

"Oh, er, good morning Reverend Goode. Morning curate Blande. Er, ha ha! Yes, lovely day gentlemen.

"Lovely day indeed Donald" said the Reverend, looking upwards. Restores your faith, doesn't it?

I nodded sagely. He pointed to his ancient car.

"My neighbour Miss Sawnie's set. In the car Donald. Head trouble I believe."

"Head trouble" echoed the curate.

An Aiwa Combi

I brought it in. An Aiwa combined TV/video, Model VXT141K, about four years old.

The symptoms did indeed look like head failure. But there was something wrong with the sound too. A wow that became better as the unit warmed up.

The reverend gentlemen departed, and Paul opened up the unit. He was still working on it an hour later. "TV sound is all right" he commented, "though some of its circuitry is common to the VCR section. Never had this one before."

He eventually discovered that the cause of the trouble was C523 (100µF, 16V), which had fallen in value to about 32µF. A replacement cleared the symptoms. It's in the centre of the chassis.

A Couple of TVs

Our next caller was Towser Watts, who runs a smallholding in the hills. He brought in a dead Bush 1418. There was no standby light. Paul soon discovered that there was voltage across the mains bridge rectifier's reservoir capacitor but none at the other side of the 330kΩ start-up resistor R913, which was open-circuit. A replacement brought the set back to life.

Meanwhile Steven had pulled up the set that had been outside the door. A 25in. Mitsubishi, Model CT25A5STX – Euro 14SF chassis. The fault was field collapse.

We'd had another one in only the other day with the same problem. The AN5521 field output chip IC451 had failed. Probably the same thing.

Sure enough the voltages around it were haywire. So Steven fitted a replacement then switched on again. Still field collapse, and the voltages were still haywire. He took the chip out and rechecked the voltages at the socket. Those that remained were OK. The cause of the trouble turned out to be the fly-back boost capacitor C454 (100µF, 35V). It was low in value at about 30µF.

"All we need to know is whose set it is" said Steven.

Interlude

The Phone rang. "Are you there?" a strange voice rasped.

"Sure am" I replied.

"Can you repair tellys?" the voice continued.

"Certainly can. Name and address please."

"Herr Ellis, with a dubblevoo after the K."

"Ellis with a w after the k?" I said, "look, never mind that, what's the address?"

"300 Crout Street" rasped the voice.

The penny dropped. It was Ribby Ellis the practical joker. So I said a rude word and slammed the phone down.

Mrs Ruff

At that point Mrs Ruff came in.

"Eh? Wassat?!" she bawled.

"Look, Mr Billhook, me other set's gone again an' I wan' 'im put right. Really right this time. Can't pay much, and I don't wanna 'ang about for a week neither. If I did I'd go to Snoddy's. If I could stand that thin, tall fellow. Where's Pukey? 'E's supposed to have the set."

She yanked the door open and Pukey stumbled in with a 24in. Pye set. "I went to the wrong shop" he panted, "they don't mend tellys."

She gave him a sharp look. "If 'e gets wusser I'll 'ave to throw 'im out."

Mrs Ruff's Pye, Model 59KE2706/05R, contained a Philips 2A chassis and was dead. Steven checked the voltage at the collector of the BU508V line out-

put transistor Tr7618. It was correct at 140V. A scope check at the transistor's base then showed that there was no line drive. Steven traced back to the TDA2579/N5 timebase generator chip IC7635, which was producing neither field nor line drive. As its supply was OK he fitted a replacement. We now had a picture, but there was excessive width with EW bowing. A check on the two transistors in the EW drive circuit showed that Tr7598 (BC547) had a base-emitter leak. Once it had been replaced there was an excellent picture.

Video Dept

Our next caller breezed in with a video recorder. "My name's Mudd" he announced.

"Been upsetting the missus?" I asked.

He just laughed.

Paul had a look at the machine, which was a Mitsubishi HSM55. There was a tape jammed in it.

"Bet it's the capstan pulley" he said. "It cracks apart and the drive belt comes off. I've had several of these machines with this problem recently."

He was right, and because of his previous encounter we had a couple of pulleys in stock.

Then a chap rushed in with a Canon E60E camcorder. "I'm Mr Thesp, Mr Thesp" he said, waving the camera in the air. "He's six years old but he's a good un. A good un."

"What's the trouble, what's trouble?" I asked.

"No sound, no sound" he replied.

Steven looked at this one. "Probably the miniature electrolytics on the AV board" he commented, "they give a lot of trouble in these camcorders. The board's under the deck, so we'll have to take all the case sections off to get at it."

There was quite a mess when he got to the board. Some of the electrolytics had leaked very badly, destroying several tracks and through-board links. He shook his head.

"It'll have to be a new board" he announced. "We got one recently from Canon UK for £51 plus postage and VAT." The camcorder worked excellently once the board had been obtained and fitted.

Return Visit

The Reverend was pleased when he returned with his curate. "Ah,



"The symptoms did indeed look like head failure."

this will make her happy again, Donald" he boomed, "she's worth her weight in gold, Miss Sawnie."

"... weight in gold, Miss Sawnie" echoed the curate.

"Really decent old stick" the reverend continued.

"... decent old stick" the curate smiled, timidly.

Then the telephone rang. Steven answered it, but we could all hear the caller.

"Why haven't you come back to put my set right?" it blared.

"What set?" asked Steven, "who is it?"

"Mr McCruddock" the voice continued, "but you know that perfectly well. I left a note on your door this morning."

"There was no name or address" said Steven, "and I don't know what the set is. You didn't say."

"You know what my set is and all about it. My God, you were here only last night."

"I'll call right away" Steven promised.

He was soon back.

"What was the trouble?" I asked.

"Aerial lead pulled out. His dog sleeps across it."

TELETOPICS

CES Las Vegas

A number of interesting developments were revealed at this year's Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas, held in early January. In particular Sony launched a new camcorder format, Digital 8, which records digital video and sound on analogue Hi-8 tape. The system is backward compatible with Video 8 and Hi-8, and will play tapes recorded in these formats.

Digital 8's picture quality is claimed to be equivalent to that offered by the MiniDV format, with a horizontal resolution of about 500 lines. The specification includes video sampling at 13.5MHz with 8-bit quantisation, a digital component recording system, a chroma bandwidth of approximately 1.5MHz and a video transfer rate of 25Mbits/sec. There are two digital PCM audio recording modes: 16-bit/48kHz and 12-bit/32kHz.

Digital 8 uses a new recording pattern. Information for one frame is recorded on six tracks by using a dual-head technique to lay down

two tracks vertically – the MiniDV format records information for one frame on twelve tracks. There's 33 per cent less recording time when Hi-8 tape is used to make a Digital 8 recording – for example a 60-minute Hi-8 tape will store 40 minutes of Digital 8 recording.

The first Digital 8 camcorders are expected to be available in the UK this spring, with entry-level models selling at about £750. All Digital 8 camcorders will incorporate an IEEE1394 FireWire output connector.

According to the US Consumer Electronics Manufacturers Association digital TV has had a good start in the USA, with over 13,000 sets sold just weeks after the launch of services on November 1st. Two types of sets are on sale, high- and standard-definition. Industry observers believe that HDTV will account for two-thirds of TV sales this year. A number of HDTV sets were on display at CES. Models from Samsung, Sony and Toshiba featured a 65in. rear-projection display.

Canal+ announced plans to offer a number of interactive applications based on Sun Microsystems's Java programming language. Canal+ and Sun demonstrated several applications including an EPG and games. The advantage of Java is that it enables broadcasters to provide services that work with many different types of set-top box and operating systems.

DirectTV, the leading digital satellite TV company in the USA, outlined its plans for 1999. These include the launch of Wink-enhanced interactive broadcasts, which give viewers access to background information and statistics relating to the programme being viewed. The service will be free to subscribers – DirectTV has 4.46m at present, 1.5m of whom were added in 1998. Wink-enabled set-top boxes will be launched in the second half of the year, with the

service becoming available in the third quarter. DirectTV is working with Philips and TiVo on a Personal TV system (see below). The company plans to launch a fourth high-powered satellite that will add up to twenty more channels.

Philips plans to launch DirectTV set-top boxes that incorporate TiVo's 'push' TV technology, which 'learns' viewers' watching habits then automatically finds and records programmes of interest. TiVo has been developed by a Californian company of the same name. It uses a hard-disc video recorder that's expected to sell for about £300. The recorder has a hard-disc drive, a real-time MPEG-2 encoder, a microprocessor and a telephone modem. An entry-level model would store up to twenty hours of TV programmes. The system uses on-line TV data services and software, memorises a viewer's preferences then seeks and records programmes. During the night, TiVo downloads programme data for the next fourteen days, enabling the viewer to make manual selections. A subscription to TiVo is expected to cost about £6 a month.

A similar service was demonstrated by another Californian company, Replay Networks. Called ReplayTV, the system uses a hard-disc video recorder that can store between 6-28 hours of MPEG-2 video. The service itself is free, the recorders costing about £600. Their specification includes an MPEG-2 encoder; PowerPC processor; cable-ready tuner; S and composite video inputs; RF, S and two composite video outputs; a telephone socket; and cable-box control. ReplayTV offers a range of compression rates, from 2-6Mbits/sec (the lower figure is the default setting). The 4Mbits/sec rate is said to approach DVD picture quality.

Satellite TV company Echostar is working with Microsoft to offer its subscribers the WebTV service.

Samsung's 65in. rear-projection HDTV receiver, introduced at CES '99.



The system will use a receiver with a built-in 8-6GB hard disc and will enable viewers to mix TV viewing with internet surfing. A new feature will be Video Pause, which enables the viewer to freeze a TV programme for up to thirty minutes for viewing later. Future features will include downloading of MP3 (layer 3) MPEG-1 digital audio at a rate of one full CD every two minutes, with a total capacity of up to 1,000 hours of music. A second upgrade will enable full-length films to be downloaded overnight for future viewing.

Sales of DVD players have passed 1.4m in the USA: a further two million are expected to be sold this year. Over 2,200 DVD titles are now available. Aiwa plans to launch a portable DVD player with a 5.8in. LCD screen. Prototype

DVD players with a record capability were on display. Pioneer demonstrated its DVD-RW player (see page 247 last month) while Philips showed a DVD+RW player. Both companies hope to market machines next year, depending on whether the DVD Forum can resolve remaining copyright problems. The Philips system offers up to four hours of recording time per disc depending on quality level, which varies from VHS to DVD. The discs can be played back by a standard machine. Pioneer's machine records up to one and a half hours of high-resolution video (about 500 lines), but this is to be increased to two hours before launch. Pioneer also expects to overcome the non-compatibility problem with standard DVD players before launch. Both systems

use a 4.7GB disc.

Divx, the DVD system that uses discs which can be played for 48 hours after which the contents become scrambled, is now backed by four hardware companies. Player sales are claimed to have reached some 87,000 units. DVD-Audio was also featured at CES, with Universal Music and Warner supporting the system. The Super Audio CD, an enhanced CD format developed by Sony and Philips, was also being demonstrated. Both systems are expected to be launched in Japan this year. Thomson announced that it is developing an audio system that uses flash memory for storage.

Philips has developed a wireless PC peripheral called Ambi: it enables PC pages to be transmitted to a TV set for display.

News from SEME

SEME is now able to supply customers who do not have a direct Mitsubishi account with original spares for over 500 TV/video/audio models. The company can also supply spares for Beko TV sets and other products. SEME is now stocking original white good spares and accessories for many well known brands including AEG, Electrolux, Tricity Bendix, Zanussi, Parkinson Cowan, Moffat, Hotpoint, Creda, Cannon, Beko, LG/GoldStar, Daewoo and Panasonic. An introductory leaflet, ref LEAF159, is available. Phone the number given in the next paragraph for a copy.

Most SEME staff have now moved to the company's new 17,000 sq. ft. high-tech head office building directly opposite the existing building at Melton Mowbray. There's a new sales hot line telephone number, 01664 484 000. General enquiries is now 01664 484 001. The fax no. is unaltered - 01664 563 976.

New Products from Philex

Philex has introduced a revolutionary flat, amplified indoor TV aerial that can be placed out of sight without affecting performance. It can be used with VHF,

UHF and multi-channel digital systems and comes complete with fittings for fixing to a wall or other surface.

Philex has been appointed sole distributor in the UK and Ireland for the Italian Meliconi range of high-quality stands and brackets for use with TV sets, VCRs, audio systems, speakers, multimedia equipment and microwave ovens. The range also includes storage stands for CDs and CD-ROMs.

For further details of these and other Philex products phone 0181 202 1919, fax 0181 202 0014, send an e-mail to sales@philex.com or check the web site at <http://www.philex.com>

**More Tele-
topics on
page 364**

New Test Equipment

Vann Draper has added to its range the high-performance Grundig 4.5 digit auto-ranging, microprocessor-controlled DM100 bench multimeter. Despite its comprehensive range of features, the meter is extremely user-friendly. Its main functions include AC and DC voltage over five ranges from 200mV to 1kV with a resolution of 10µV and an accuracy of 0.05 per cent; resistance selectable over six ranges from 220Ω-20MΩ with a resolution of 10mΩ and an accuracy of 0.05 per cent, also a continuity test and acoustic signal; six AC and DC ranges from 200µA to 10A with a 10nA resolution. The menu system enables a fast or slow measurement speed to be selected and provides selection of relative and mathematical modes including a decibel readout. There are just four panel controls plus an on/off switch. A standard RS232C interface enables the instrument to be controlled from a PC or, with optional software, the microcontroller can be used with other instruments to provide an automatic test system. Price is £349. For further information phone Vann Draper Electronics Ltd. on 0116 277 1400 or fax 0116 277 3945.

Kenwood Electronics has introduced the PAC/PAC-R range of series-regulated CV/CC power supplies to suit most uses, with models providing up to 60V and 6A. Further details can be obtained from the Kenwood Test and Measurement Instruments Data Book. For a free copy phone Kenwood on 01923 655 291 or fax 01923 655 297. Kenwood has also introduced a new range of three-channel analogue oscilloscopes with bandwidths of either 50 or 100MHz. All four models in the CS5300 range have six-trace capability, 1mV sensitivity and 2 per cent accuracy. For further details see phone details above.



The Kenwood PAC30-3R regulated power supply.



The Grundig DM100 bench multimeter.



REPAIRING CB RADIOS

Something else to keep the service department busy – CB radios. They can be worth repair if rapid fault diagnosis is possible. Chris Watton summarises his experiences in this field

I was asked to repair a number of CB radios recently. They are inexpensive to buy, so the viability of repair depends on whether a quick fault diagnosis is possible. If you have to spend hours on a CB radio, repair will not be worthwhile.

The following notes are based on experience and will, hopefully, help with rapid fault finding. To repair CB radios you will need a 13.8V supply at 3-4A, a scope, a frequency counter, a dummy load for the transmitter and a power meter. A suitable dummy load consists of two parallel-connected 100Ω, 2W resistors, which must not be of the wire-wound type. A signal generator is useful as well.

What's inside?

We'll start with a brief account of what you will find in a CB radio. The circuitry is very similar with most makes and models. Fig. 1 shows a basic block diagram.

The heart of the system is a phase-locked loop (PLL), which maintains the correct frequency and channel spacing. The transmission frequency must be maintained as it's illegal to operate a CB radio outside the allocated frequencies, which are 26.965-27.405MHz and 27.60125-27.99125MHz, with 10kHz channel spacing. Frequency modulation is used.

The PLL chip works in conjunction with two voltage-controlled oscillators (VCOs). Varicap diodes are used to adjust the frequency of the VCOs when the PLL's DC output varies as different channels are selected. There are two frequency dividers within the PLL chip. One is connected to the output of a 10.240MHz crystal oscillator, which provides the reference signal. The other frequency divider operates in conjunction with the programmable input from the channel switch. The VCOs provide feedback to the PLL: when the signals are in phase, the system is said to be locked.

The receiver section uses two-stage frequency conversion, with a first IF of 10.695MHz and a second of 455kHz. This is followed by an IF amplifier/limiter, demodulation and finally an audio amplifier.

The transmitter section is also quite simple. The microphone input is amplified, filtered then used to modulate the transmit VCO. The output from this is frequency-doubled then fed via tuned amplifiers to a power amplifier which provides 4W into the 50Ω aerial. This section can be easily checked with a scope: a 27MHz sinewave, increasing in amplitude stage-by-stage, should be seen. You won't see the modulation, as this is very small – only 1kHz in the 27MHz signal. The tuned amplifiers are usually adjusted for maximum output, but the receiver should be checked at both ends of the band – it may be high at one end and low at the other. The final stages are often not set for maximum gain – check with the service manual.

What goes wrong?

The circuitry is very reliable. An unfortunate problem is that most CB owners are, naturally, experts. They think nothing

of taking the top off and adjusting those screw things as you can get a lot more power out, or so they believe. Most of the time they just detune the harmonic traps, which makes the signal meter go a little higher as it can't tell a 27MHz signal from one at 54MHz.

Other problems include add-ons, such as power-amplifying microphones and echo boxes. These are usually wired or set-up incorrectly.

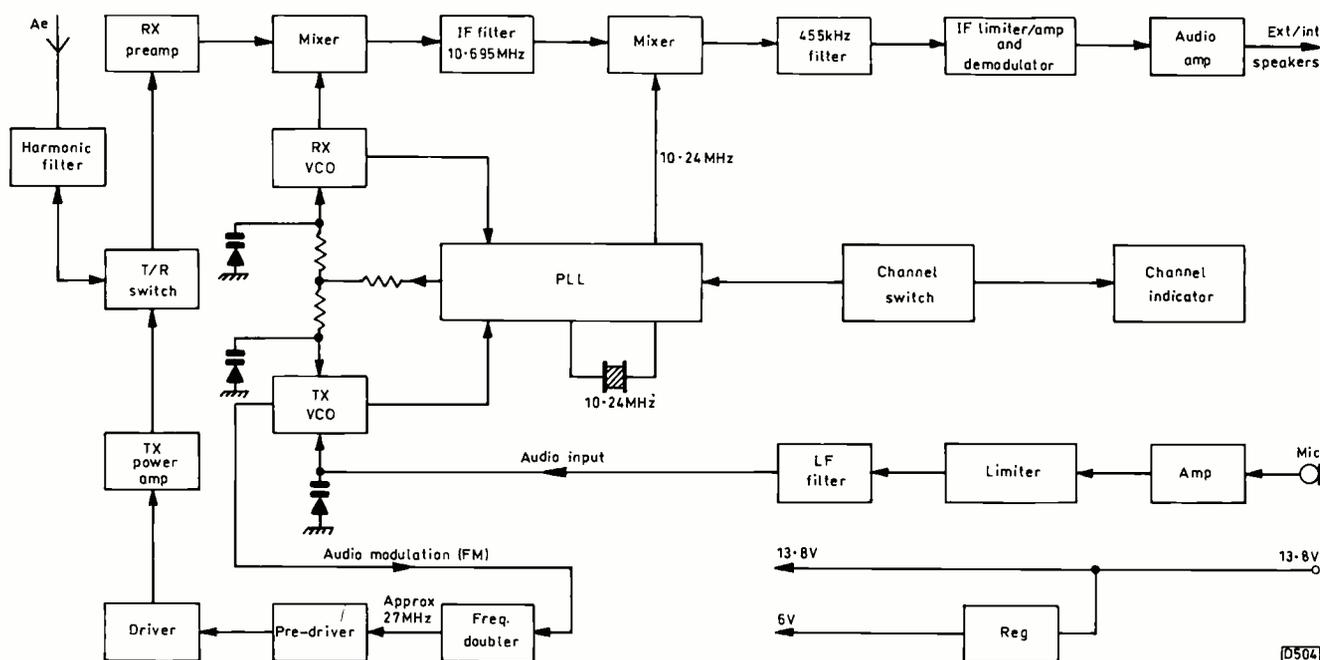
A particular problem arises when a CB radio is used in a car. Power is often connected the wrong way round. If the fuse is present this is usually not disastrous as a protection diode is incorporated. But you often find that the fuse has been replaced with a piece of wire, the diode has melted, and silicon such as the audio amplifier chip has been destroyed. People just don't appreciate the power of a car battery. In this case the unit is usually not worth repair: the cost of the PLL and the audio chip and a bit for labour is more than the cost of an average CB radio. Nevertheless most CB operators don't mind paying a reasonable amount for a repair and will seek help before they go shopping.

Poor leads to the power supply unit can cause the radio to transmit with a buzz. The display lights usually dim as you speak into the microphone. A poor power supply can add AM to the output: at another receiver this sounds like distortion. The on/off switch contacts can be the cause of no transmission. A dirty microphone switch is often the cause of intermittent or broken audio when transmitting. A signal generator is useful for adjusting the IFs and detector, as with an FM radio. A 100μV signal fed to the aerial socket should give a reading of S9 or more on the signal meter with the squelch and RF gain controls at maximum. Adjust the preset squelch control so that the audio mutes when the level at the aerial input is 7μV.

Components and circuit diagrams are available from various sources, including S.J. Tonks, 34 Bradford Street, West Midlands (01922 646 710); Truck King, 320 St. Albans Road, Watford (01923 235 943); and Nevada Communications, 189 London Road, North End, Portsmouth (01705 698 113). Two particularly useful books are *Understanding and Repairing CB Radio* and *CB PLL Data*, both by Lou Franklin (USA). A couple of news letters by Martin Pickering, called *The Midnight Express 1 and 2*, are a must – some very good information here. These publications are available from S.J. Tonks and, possibly, other sources.

Illegal Radios

A number of the radios in use don't meet the legal requirements. They have other modes of operation, such as amplitude modulation and single sideband. These are illegal to operate, and the penalty imposed is confiscation with a heavy fine. But of course some people will use them, won't they? They are certainly better quality radios and are more expensive to buy.



0504

Basic Faults

Faults fall into several categories i.e. dead, no audio, no transmit or no receive. Remember that many radios require a microphone input to produce an audio output. Also that the radio's case is not connected to the negative side of the supply, as with a car radio – it's isolated from the supply rails. So don't try to read voltages from the case: I usually connect to the negative side of my power supply or the frame of the power input choke.

Dead unit: If the input fuse has blown, the protection diode should be the first item checked. It's usually a 1N4002 and is connected across the power supply terminals before the on/off switch. If the diode is OK, suspect the audio output chip or the transmit power output transistor.

Most legal CB radios incorporate a three-pin voltage regulator. The output varies with model but is usually in the 6-8V region. If the fuse is OK, check this item. You often find that it is open-circuit or cracked from the PCB. This is simple enough to deal with.

When screws are used to attach the PCB to the frame you will often find that the board is cracked. The radio is taken from car or tractor to the house and dropped on the way!

Radio appears to work but has no audio: If signals are received, this will show on the signal meter. Almost all CB radios have one – a LED, bar or a normal meter. A quick check on transmit operation can be carried out with either another radio, a scope or a simple RF output tester (see Fig. 2). If the output is working, a visual indication can be seen on the signal meter. Check the microphone wiring, the speaker and the extension socket: faults here are more common than in the audio section.

No transmit or, as they say, "I can't git out": If reception is possible, it's fair to assume that the main oscillator is working. So the cause of the problem could be anywhere between the transmit VCO and the aerial socket. Again the microphone, or the push-to-talk (PTT) switch, could be to blame. The most common cause however is failure of the transmit power amplifier transistor.

This transistor can fail for several reasons, e.g. a poor aerial or coaxial lead, loose connections etc. or incorrect aerial setting where the SWR (see later) is too high. The latter is more often in the user's imagination.

A scope check at the collector of the transmit power amplifier transistor should show a 4V peak-to-peak 27MHz sinewave. Set the scope to 0.2µsec, 0.1V/div. If this waveform is missing, work back through the driver, pre-driver etc. stages. Note that some radios will stop transmitting if the VCO's frequency is slightly off, even though reception is OK. This is because the PLL lock detector prevents an out-of-tolerance transmit frequency.

Fig 1: Basic CB radio block diagram.

No transmit or receive, audio OK, microphone working, all stages have a supply voltage: This will probably mean a PLL or oscillator fault, in most cases the VCO which is encased in wax. The small-value capacitors here can fail. It's not worth testing them as they often read all right with a meter but don't work when in the circuit. If you have to dig the wax out, replace it. It's there to provide temperature stability and prevent microphony. If the components can vibrate, you may get spurious FM. Suitable wax can be obtained from a beekeeper – one sheet from a honey comb will fill fifty or more VCOs. Some people use candle wax, but it doesn't look as nice.

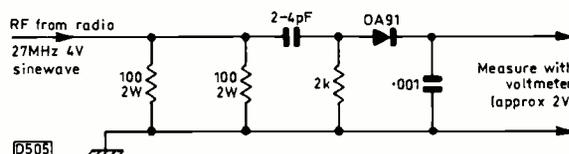
SWR

SWR means standing wave ratio, a term most CB operators think they understand well. The transmitter's output has an impedance of 50Ω. So the aerial and the coaxial cable should also have an impedance of 50Ω, otherwise there will be a mismatch. The result of a mismatch is signal reflection (a standing wave) and thus loss of power.

A small SWR meter can be bought for less than £10 and will provide a good indication. Usually people hope for a 1:1 match. In practice anything below 3:1 is acceptable – most CB radios won't 'blow up' even when the reading is 10:1 or higher.

Most home aerials are preset and require no adjustment. When a mobile aerial requires adjustment there are normally guides for setting, adjustment being by alteration of the physical length of the whip.

Fig 2: Simple RF voltage tester. The two 100Ω, 2W resistors must not be of the wirewound type. Any small-signal germanium diode can be used, e.g. an OA91.



0505



Satellite Notebook

**Reports from
Christopher
Holland and
Hugh Cocks**

Old F Connectors

When carrying out any work on an old dish system, for example using the existing coaxial cable for a new Astra 2 digital installation, I always replace the F connector at the LNB end of the cable. Many early crimp-on types now give poor contact between the coaxial cable braid and the body of the plug. The result can be intermittent signals or reception of the vertically-polarised channels only – the horizontally-polarised channels require 17-18V from the receiver, and poor contact will drop the LNB's supply voltage to the level for vertical polarisation, about 13V.

The problem often starts when the old cable and plug have been disturbed. It may not show up until a few days after the work has been done. **C.H.**

Low Mains Voltage Problem

We supplied and installed a 1m dish for the owner of an early Cambridge receiver. He had only recently moved to this part of the world (Algarve, Portugal). Despite its age the receiver seemed to be in good condition, no doubt in part because of its solid mains transformer and 'traditional' type power supply circuitry – many models of similar age from rival manufacturers have long since overheated and been consigned to the scrap heap, despite offering far more features. The main drawback with this receiver is the limited tuning range for each of the 99 channels, making it impossible for example to tune in all the BBC radio stations on separate channel numbers.

Once the dish had been set up the receiver produced good pictures with unscrambled channels. But, despite displaying the "please insert card" message, when the card was inserted the only response from the decoder was a rapid flashing

"please wait" message. This exonerated the card (some defective early-series Sky cards could produce an effect similar to this).

I was about to take the receiver back to the workshop, with visions of selling the customer a new unit, when I noticed that the "please wait" graphics started to produce a distinct rolling hum-bar effect, indicating power supply problems. The mains transformer had 220V and 240V mains tapings. Since it had been brought from the UK, it was naturally enough set for 240V. The receiver was now being used at a remote rural location where the voltage would at best be about 220V, probably rather less at peak demand periods. There were perfect decoded pictures with the card inserted once the tapping had been changed to 220V. We won't be seeing many more power supplies like this! **H.C.**

Pace MSS100

Despite being connected to a known good LNB one of these receivers produced a blue "no signal" message. At the decoder scart socket there was a baseband video output signal that corresponded with the channel selected by the remote control unit, so at least the tuning circuitry was working correctly. This led me to look at U500, the 56-pin IC that handles virtually all the video processing.

Baseband video from the tuner was present at pin 20, but there was no clamped video output from the chip. The 4MHz reference signal was present at pin 35, and the clock and data signals were present at pins 30 and 31 respectively. While the 5V supplies were present, the 12V supply at pin 45 was missing.

Heading back to the 12V regulator U3, I found that there was no input voltage from diode D18. There was voltage at this diode's

cathode, but the print to which it is soldered had fractured. There was normal operation once the supply to the 12V regulator had been restored. **H.C.**

Digital Reception Problem

After a week or so of trouble-free operation, the on-screen information from this digibox displayed a helpful message to say that no signal was being received. When I connected my in-line satellite signal and LNB voltage/current detector to the back of the receiver it indicated that there was no power supply to the LNB. I disconnected the mains supply to the digibox and the LNB feed, then reapplied power to the digibox. A normal 13V reading was obtained (the digibox's digital default/start-up frequency is on a vertically-polarised channel).

When the cable from the dish was connected to the meter, a period of higher than normal current consumption was shown. Then the digibox shut off the LNB's supply. A replacement LNB was tried but made no difference. The cause of the problem turned out to be water: it had got into a very well hidden joint in the cable, which had previously been used for analogue reception only. It's a pity that the digibox doesn't give some sort of on-screen indication of this problem, like its analogue predecessors, bearing in mind the need to disconnect from the mains before the LNB supply is re-established! **C.H.**

An Unusual SkyDigital Installation

At a SkyDigital installation we carried out recently the owner told us he wanted to keep his existing analogue equipment. The installation was at a large farmhouse, where a cable conduit had been put in by a builder during renovation work some years back. This conduit had

room for only one coaxial feeder, which was already carrying terrestrial FM and UHF signals as well as the analogue satellite ones: combining outside and splitting inside was done by RF/IF diplexers. Installation of a new cable externally was not possible: it would have been visible, and the owner had a great dislike of cables in any shape or form!

Since the SkyDigital transmissions are in the 11.7-12.5GHz band, the digibox always produces a 22kHz tone output. Unfortunately it has no DiSEqC dish-switching facilities. In this case the analogue receiver was a Pace MSS1000, which also has no DiSEqC output.

The solution (see Fig. 1) was to install a tone switch at the dish end of the system, to switch between the existing analogue and a new digital dish. The switch also passes the tone from the digibox to the universal LNB at the digital dish, in the normal way.

Unfortunately the digibox produces the tone when it's in standby - Sky insists that the box is powered at all times. As a result, the tone switch would have made per-

manent connection to the digital dish. The problem was solved by adding an on/off switch adjacent to the digibox. When analogue reception is required, the owner switches the digibox to standby then removes the power. Fortunately the owner had opted for a non-telephone-line installation for his digibox (I leave to your imagination his views about telephone lines being connected to digiboxes along with visible external cables!), so his receiver wouldn't get any over-the-air commands to ring up the subscription centre and constant powering was not essential.

When the digibox was initially powered it took a little time to find all the channel listings. As shown in Fig. 1, the video scart is connected to the MSS1000's auxiliary input, forcing the receiver to route its video and audio output signals to the hi-fi, TV set and VCR.

In view of the possibility of an over-the-air digibox software upgrade at night, the owner understands that mains power to the digibox should normally be left on, being removed only when analogue viewing/listening is required. C.H.

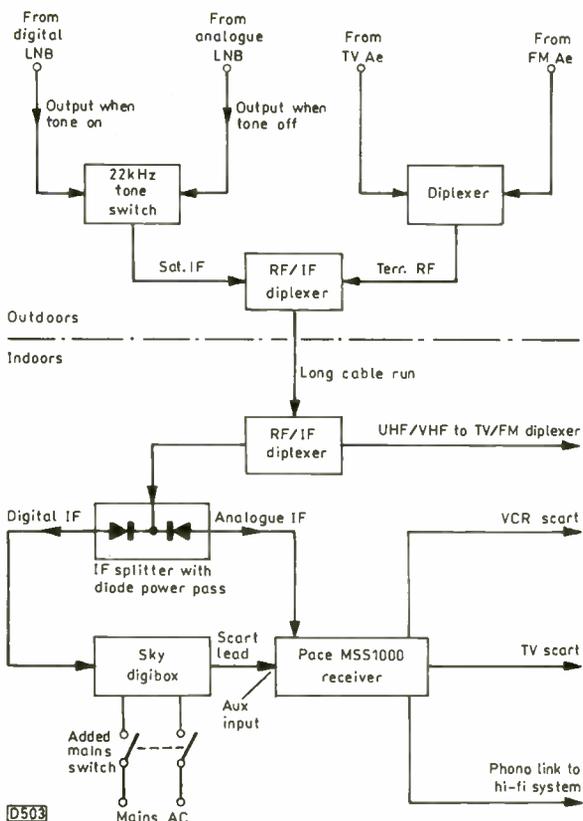


Fig. 1: Digital/analogue receiving system using a single cable between the aerials and the receivers.

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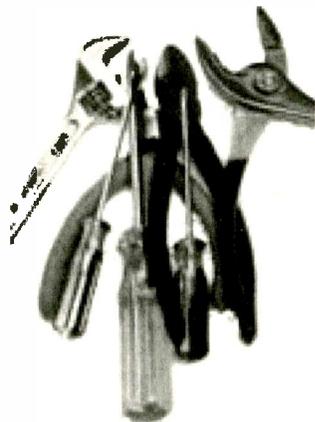
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John Edwards' Casebook

Sony KVM14TU (BE1 chassis)

There was a dark, negative picture with severe line tearing and a loud hiss on the sound. A gurgling-type noise seemed to come from the area of the line output transformer. The symptoms came and went when the PCB was prodded, but a thorough resoldering job made no difference.

A slow, careful prodding exercise then narrowed the source of the problem to the IF module VIF101, which is mounted vertically near the tuner module. To clear the fault I had to remove the IF module and its side screen plate and resolder every joint.

Goodmans 1405R

This portable lived on a swivel wall bracket in the bedroom of a customer's daughter. It had apparently been subjected to a violent push, hitting the wall, after which it had ceased to work. An estimate was required, as the daughter was to pay. The cabinet wasn't damaged in any way.

I removed the back, expecting the innards to fall out on to the bench, but this didn't happen. When the set was switched on it was indeed dead. I unplugged the set and withdrew the large power board that sits in moulded runners, vertically, along the left side of the cabinet. When the board was placed on the bench I saw that a crack ran the entire width of the board and across the chopper transformer's terminals. The two halves were held together by the components soldered to it. It's difficult to guesstimate such a job, and to make matters worse I could see that Q602 (2SC2120) had split in half. So I assumed that a power supply rebuild would be required and hoped that other stages hadn't been damaged.

Because of the convenience of being able to work on the power supply PCB out of the set, I felt that the best policy would be to check every component on it. The whole exercise took a little over a quarter of an hour and provided me with a list of known failed components on which to base my guesstimate. R601 (4.7 Ω) and R612 (0.56 Ω) were open-circuit, Q602 had blown apart and R607 (47 Ω) had broken in half. I assumed that the STR58041 chopper chip would be faulty and added it to the list. If I was lucky there wouldn't be any surprises in store. So I phoned with the price, and was given the go-ahead.

After repairing the PCB, using Superglue and joining the broken tracks with stiff wire, I started to fit the replacement parts. I hadn't a 2SC2120, so I checked its details. The readily available BC639 seemed to be a

suitable replacement, so in one went. The only other item I didn't have was an 0.56 Ω resistor: I used two 1 Ω resistors in parallel instead. After fitting a new STR58041 the variac was brought into service and slowly wound up. To my delight the set burst into life. After a few minutes I switched off and checked the temperature of Q602 and the chopper chip. Both were cool and clearly working well within their limits.

Sony KV1612

This set drifted off tune about four minutes after being switched on. It would then start a channel search, of its own accord, without stopping at any of them. A few seconds later there would be a display of random channel numbers. As the push-switches (S401-413) on the front control panel all felt spongy I decided to replace them. This cured the problem.

Ferguson 3V39/JVC HRD110

The clock and channel displays were normal, also the deck function LEDs when a function was selected. But the mechanism failed to stir from its sleep. CP1 on the bottom PCB was open-circuit. It's in the middle of the machine, towards the rear.

Philips 24CE3588 (CP110 chassis)

There was no E-W correction. Apparently the set had been like this for months, until the owner's son finally insisted on it being fixed and had promised to pay the bill. How anyone could have put up with it for even an hour I'll never know: the sides almost met at the centre of the screen!

While the EW diode modulator circuit is where you would expect it to be, on the main PCB, the drive circuitry is on the tube base panel. Unusual that. Anyway, investigation here showed that the BF819 driver transistor Tr7600 was running far too hot. In fact it had base-emitter leakage. Tr7600 is in turn driven by the pnp transistor Tr7601 (BC558), with direct coupling. This transistor was short-circuit collector-to-emitter. Its emitter is biased by R3588 (15k Ω) and R3587 (1.8k Ω), which were charred. R3599 (47 Ω) was also charred. So was the circuit board beneath these resistors. Which of these items had deteriorated first would be hard to guess. At the input to the circuit, the EW parabola coupling capacitor C2589 (33 μ F) was very leaky.

Scraping the burnt area of the board clean and renewing the defective components cured the trouble. The owner and her son were pleased to see a full screen again.

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The subject of an electrolytic capacitor's ESR has generated a lot of interest in recent issues. Alan Willcox has taken it a stage further in designing a practical ESR meter. This first part deals with the operation of the circuitry used in the meter

Design of an ESR Meter

A lot has appeared in recent issues on the subject of the ESR (equivalent series resistance) of an electrolytic capacitor. The Capacitor Wizard was reviewed by Martin Pickering in June 1998. It's designed to measure a capacitor's ESR in-circuit while ignoring any components that are connected to it. The unit described in this article performs the same task, and a lot of work has been put into achieving the end result. Even if you don't get around to building the meter, this article will give you insight into the design criteria and the way in which the instrument works. But build it if you can: it's effective, very useful and inexpensive.

ESR

In view of Martin's review and also the articles by Ray Porter on a capacitor's ESR (January and April 1993) I won't say a lot about ESR here: it would simply be repetition. To put it in a nutshell, a capacitor's measured ESR (in ohms) is an indication of its 'goodness'. The lower the ohms reading, the better the capacitor. An ESR check can give an early indication of capacitor failure, and is far more useful than a capacitance measurement. Indeed many faulty electrolytics show OK when checked with a conventional capacitance meter.

In recent months I've talked to many people who don't appreciate the importance of ESR and in what sense it differs from capacitance. So I feel it worthwhile including an extract from a technical bulletin on the Capacitor Wizard written by Doug Jones, the President of Independence Electronics Inc. It sums up the question of ESR well.

"ESR is the dynamic pure resistance of a capacitor to an AC signal. High ESR can cause time-constant problems, capacitor heating, circuit loading, total failure etc. A switch-mode power supply may not start reliably – or start at all. Slight hum bars appear in the video of a

VCR or monitor. A TV display may be pulled in from the sides/top/bottom. Diode and transistor failure can occur over a period of time.

These and many other problems are often caused by capacitors with normal capacitance but high ESR, which does not exist as a static quantity and therefore cannot be measured using a conventional capacitance meter or a DC ohmmeter. ESR exists only when alternating current is applied to a capacitor or when a capacitor's dielectric charge is changing state. It can be considered as the total in-phase AC resistance of a capacitor, and includes the DC resistance of the leads, the DC resistance of the connection to the dielectric, the capacitor plate resistance and the in-phase AC resistance of the dielectric material at a *particular frequency* (my italics) and temperature.

The component combination that constitutes ESR can be thought of as a resistor in series with a capacitor: the resistor does not exist as a physical entity, so a direct measurement across the 'ESR resistor' is not possible. If, however, a method of correcting for the effects of capacitive reactance is provided, and considering that all resistances are in phase, the ESR can be calculated and measured using the basic electronics formula $E = I \times R!$ This is the basis of the design of the Capacitor Wizard."

Design Criteria

Capacitor manufacturers quote ESR values measured at 100kHz. So this is the test frequency I chose. The impedance of inductors in the microhenries region can be measured at this frequency, enabling the condition of video heads to be gauged – as they wear and the gap deteriorates, their inductance falls.

The Wizard has a buzzer that sounds when the ESR is below 1Ω or so. A capacitor with an ESR of less than about 1Ω is generally considered to be good, so

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this is a very useful feature in situations where you want to check a number of suspect components – it means that you need refer to the meter only when there's no beep. I've incorporated this facility, but you must bear in mind that a lot of the capacitors in which we are interested have ESR values of less than 0.5Ω when good. More on this later.

I'd like to stress this basic point before going any further: as with the Capacitor Wizard, the meter described in this article doesn't measure a capacitor's microfarads. It simply lets you know if the capacitor is or isn't up to the job. After gaining some practical experience with the meter, you will soon get to know what reading to expect from a good capacitor – taking into account its capacitance and voltage rating. But in any case the reading obtained with a faulty capacitor usually leaves little doubt as to its condition.

The Op-Amp

The circuit uses the basic op-amp as an oscillator, amplifier, detector, voltage-follower and comparator. So it's appropriate to devote some space to a description of the op-amp and its associated circuitry. Incidentally the term 'operational amplifier' relates to its use in analogue computers and appeared in a paper by Ragazzini and others in 1947. The first general-purpose op-amp, with differential inputs and using the familiar triangular symbol for circuit representation, was introduced in 1952 (Model K2-W, by George A. Philbrook Researches Inc.). It's sobering to think that almost forty years ago an early op-amp, the P2, cost \$227 – an eighth of the cost of a VW Beetle at that time: now a superior device can be bought for less than a pound.

The op-amp is a high-gain (x100,000 or so) amplifier that usually has two inputs, one non-inverting (labelled +) and the other inverting (labelled -). For practical purposes the gain can be considered as infinitely high, with no current flow at the inputs. The op-amp is designed primarily to operate stably with heavy negative feedback. In fact from the historical point of view the op-amp and the concept of negative feedback (the invention of H.S. Black, working for Bell Laboratories, in 1927) are synonymous. Black was working on telephones, his objective being to achieve stable gain independent of the characteristics of a valve (a thermionically-activated FET to youngsters!). When he tried to patent his negative-feedback amplifier in 1928 the idea was ridiculed. Over the years however this concept has become one of the most important in the field of electronics. Marconi had much the same problem. It seems that people often dismiss things they don't understand.

Anyway, I digress. To get back to the point, the op-amp usually requires a positive and a negative supply with respect to a common earth. These supplies are often not shown on circuit diagrams, being taken for granted. The common earth (0V line) serves as a reference point for the voltages that are present in the circuit and as a return path to the power supply for any currents generated by the device's operation.

The main point here is that if the voltage at the + input increases with respect to the voltage at the - input, the output voltage will be positive-going. Conversely if the voltage at the + input decreases with respect to the voltage at the - input the output voltage will be negative-going. Thus in normal practice the output corresponds to the *difference* between the inputs.

If the op-amp doesn't have any negative feedback and the + input is at only 0.1mV above the - input, the output voltage will be close to that of the positive supply rail. If the + input is lower than the - input by the same amount, the output voltage will be close to that of the negative supply rail. Thus the gain is equal to the average slope, which is typically 10V/0.1mV = 100,000. This very sensitive property is used in comparator circuits (it's used in the ESR meter's buzzer circuit). But the op-amp is far more useful when the output is restricted to narrower limits.

The Precision Inverting Amplifier

This is one of the most common op-amp applications and is used in the second and third stages of the meter. Circuit operation will hopefully be made clear by the rather unusual representation (due to Tom Hornack) shown in Fig. 1.

At (a) the op-amp is arranged to provide a voltage gain of two. The fact that in this case the output is inverted (the gain is minus two) is not important. The heavy negative feedback via resistor R_f forces the output to be such that the voltage at the - input is equal to that at the + input, which is 0V. Remember that the op-amp responds to the *difference* between its inputs. As point X is at earth potential, there is 1V across R_{in} (1kΩ) and the current flow via R_{in} , calculated by Ohm's Law, is 1mA. There is no current flow at the input of the op-amp, so this 1mA flows via R_f (2kΩ) which thus has 2V across it.

Notice how R_f and R_{in} behave like a seesaw as the input goes from a positive to a negative value, with the pivot at the null point X. This point is referred to as a virtual earth. There is no current path between point X and earth, and point X is always at zero voltage with respect to earth.

The concept of a virtual earth is used as a short-cut

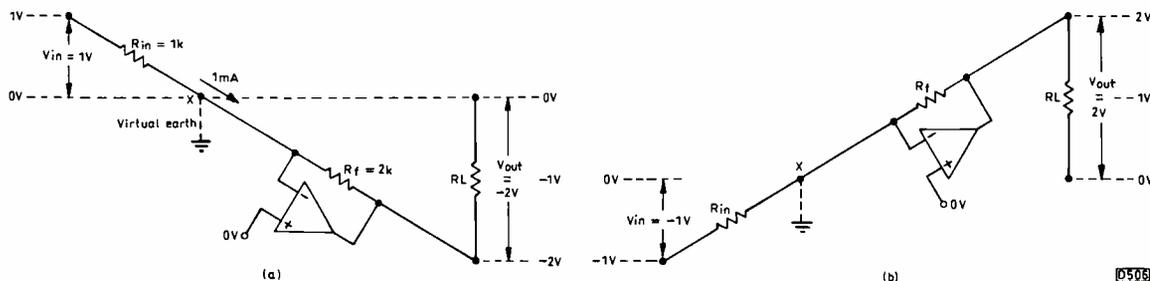


Fig. 1: Precision inverting op-amp circuit, (a) with a positive input, (b) with a negative input. Note how R_f and R_{in} behave like a seesaw as the input goes from positive to negative, with the pivot at the null (virtual earth) point X. The gain of the stage is R_f/R_{in} , so the output is $V_{in} \times R_f/R_{in}$.

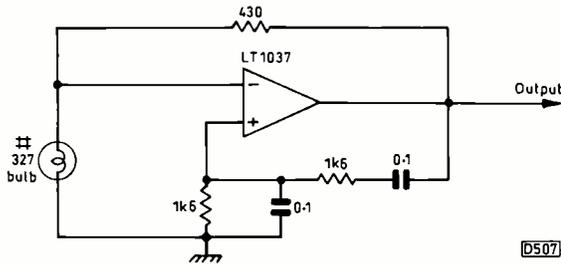


Fig. 2: Jim Williams' original circuit, the first attempt at combining an op-amp with a Wien bridge network to form an oscillator.

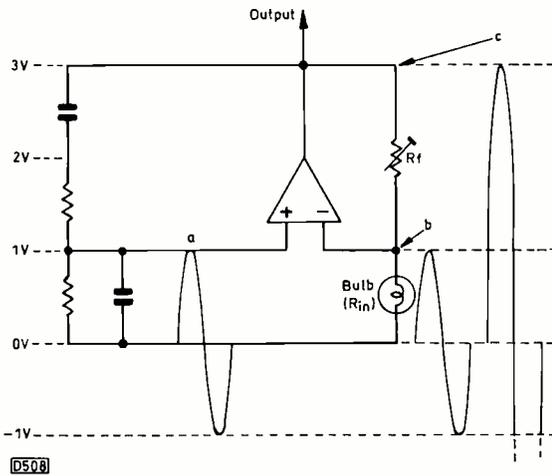


Fig. 3: An op-amp Wien bridge oscillator arrangement with the output set at 6V p-p (positive peak shown). At the resonant frequency points a, b and c are in phase and the waveforms at the op-amp's inputs are a third of that at its output. The ratio $R_f/R_{in} = 2$.

when the operation of a current-to-voltage converter is analysed. From Fig. 1 you can see that, because of the virtual earth, R_f appears to be in parallel with R_L . So the voltage across R_f appears across the load as the output voltage. But although the null point is considered to be at earth potential, at a microvolt level it's very much active.

It can be seen from Fig. 1 that the stage gain, within the limitations of the supply, is determined by the ratio of R_f to R_{in} . Incidentally there's a frequency limit on the gain: with common types of op-amp we are limited to a gain of about $\times 10$ at 100kHz. If the resistors in Fig. 1 are transposed the stage gain will be 0.5 – the circuit acts as an attenuator.

Overview

Before we go further, it would be as well to provide a quick introduction to the meter circuit presented here (see Fig. 5). The first stage consists of a 100kHz oscillator, whose output is fed to the capacitor being tested. Put simply, the current flow through the capacitor is sensed then amplified as a voltage. It's finally detected and measured by the meter movement.

The better the capacitor, the lower its ESR and the higher the meter indication. It's not quite this simple, because the meter must ignore the other components connected to the capacitor being tested. We'll come to the solution to this problem later.

The Oscillator – History

At the heart of the meter there's a Wien bridge network oscillator. This form of oscillator has an interesting history which is worth a few paragraphs.

In 1939 William Redington Hewlett (co-founder of Hewlett-Packard) produced his Stanford thesis *A New Type Resistance Capacity Oscillator*. It made use of a resonant RC network that had been conceived by Max Wien (pronounced Vene) in 1891. The American inventor Lee DeForest (yes, we can blame him) hadn't started the ball rolling yet with the creation, in 1906, of the triode valve. So there had in 1891 been no means of obtaining electronic amplification and Max couldn't have got his network to oscillate. That wouldn't have troubled him, as he was using the network for AC bridge measurement. Amazing what people got up to over 100 years ago, isn't it? I think it was, once again, something to do with telephones.

But Hewlett had the pentode valve at his disposal. He also had Harold S. Black's pioneering work on negative feedback to assist him. In addition there was Nyquist's *Regenerative Theory*, which described the conditions necessary for oscillation.

Hewlett showed that the Wien network could be made to oscillate. A crucial problem had to be resolved however, that of stage gain. With a gain of less than unity there would be no oscillation. With a gain of greater than unity there would be distortion. With unity gain there will be what Hewlett wanted, a sine wave. He had a flash of inspiration: the solution was literally staring him in the face – the electric light bulb.

Hewlett's oscillator was a two-valve affair, with a 6J7 as the oscillator and a 6F6 as the output stage. His solution for gain stability was to wire a tungsten bulb between the cathode of the 6J7 and earth. The negative feedback was applied between the anode of the output valve back to the cathode of the triode oscillator valve. If the output increases for any reason, so does the current flowing through the bulb. As it warms up, its resistance increases. So does the level of negative feedback, thereby stabilising the oscillator's output. Hewlett's idea of employing a light bulb was brilliant in its simplicity. It survived in the HP200 series audio oscillator during a fifty-year production run – into the mid Eighties.

About fifty years after Hewlett built his oscillator Jim Williams, who was working for Linear Technology Corporation, was sitting in his den one rainy Sunday trying to think of something to do. His old HP200 caught his eye. Peering into the back, he saw the light bulb where it had been placed half a century ago, and wondered how Hewlett's oscillator would perform using a modern op-amp. He went on to knock one up – the original circuit is shown in Fig. 2 – and was pleased to find that it had a distortion figure of only 0.0025 per cent.

Perhaps he could improve on it, by eliminating the bulb? Jim was the first to use a JFET in place of the bulb, but with this device the distortion figure rose to a massive 0.15 per cent. Unfortunately there's not space to explain why the use of a JFET gives such inferior results compared to a bulb. In the event Jim discarded the JFET in favour of an optically-driven CdS photocell. This, in conjunction with five op-amps etc., produced an analyser-limited distortion figure of 0.0003 per cent (three parts per million). At one point during his quest Jim writes (*Analogue Circuit Design*, Butterworth-Heinemann) "I could almost hear Hewlett's little light bulb, which worked so well,

laughing at me". So no apologies for the use of a light bulb in this design.

Operation of the Oscillator

Fig. 3 shows the Wien bridge network oscillator as you probably won't have seen it drawn before. It illustrates the situation at the peak of the positive-going half cycle. The positive feedback network consists of the series-parallel RC (lead-lag) network: the negative feedback loop consists of the preset R_f and bulb R_{in} .

We'll consider the RC network first. At very high frequencies the shunt capacitor in the lower arm of the bridge will appear to be a short-circuit and there will be no signal at the op-amp's + input. At very low frequencies the series capacitor will appear to be open-circuit and again there will be no input from the feedback network. At some point in between there will be maximum output from the network. The frequency at which this occurs is equal to $1/(2\pi RC)$, which is called the resonant frequency (f_r) of the bridge network. At this point there is no phase shift across the bridge, and the upper arm of the network has twice the impedance of the lower arm, giving a transmission loss of 1/3. To overcome this loss and achieve the required stage gain of unity, the closed-loop voltage gain (ACL), which is set by the ratio of R_f to R_{in} , must be three. The formula for the closed-loop gain of a non-inverting amplifier is $ACL = R_f/R_{in} + 1$, so R_f/R_{in} must be two in order for ACL to equal three.

At power up the negative feedback is low, because the bulb is at its lowest resistance, and the gain is high. As a result oscillation begins immediately, and the bulb is warmed by the current flow. Within a fraction of a second the resultant increase in its resistance reduces the oscillator's output. It settles at the level at which the bulb's resistance is half that of the feedback resistor R_f . So the value of R_f sets the amplitude of the output. Note that the bulb's thermal delay means that it cannot follow oscillations at relatively high frequencies. It responds to the RMS current only, and thus behaves as an ordinary resistor.

The Bulb

Although the Wien bridge oscillator is the accepted standard at frequencies up to say 1MHz, the use of a bulb for gain control, popular in the USA, has never found favour on this side of the Atlantic. I think I know the reason for this. In most textbooks things begin to get a bit vague when it comes to the actual type of light bulb to use.

It is often said that any low-voltage, low-current bulb can be used. This is not so. I have seen the following flawed reasoning in some books. Take a 12V, 50mA bulb which has a resistance of $12V/50mA = 240\Omega$. The feedback resistor must be twice this, i.e. 480Ω or a $1k\Omega$ preset. There's nothing wrong with this value for the feedback resistor, but it won't work with such a bulb. The point that's been missed is this: the bulb must be operated at a current level that gives a large change of resistance.

This occurs when the current is only a few milliamperes, and nowhere near bulb incandescence. What we require is a bulb that has a resistance of about 200Ω when cold. When the type of bulb normally specified is used, the result is overloading of the op-amp, distortion, heavy current drain and dependence on the supply voltage for regulation rather than correct bulb operation.

I didn't do what Hewlett did, which was to plot the IV characteristics of various bulbs carefully. I simply

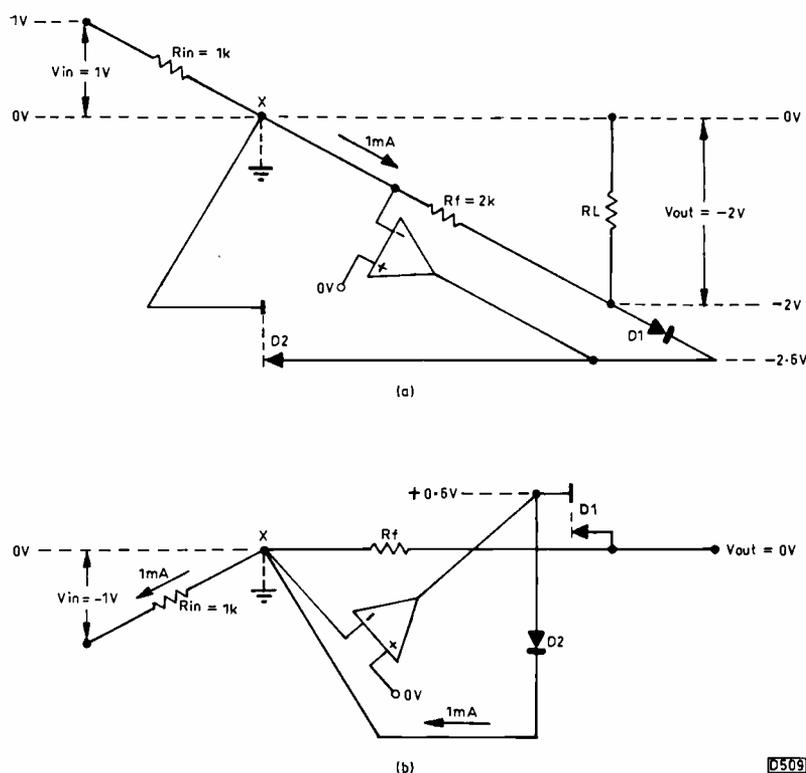


Fig. 4: Precision rectifier circuit, (a) with positive input, (b) with negative input. In (a) the op-amp's output goes as low as required to overcome the forward voltage drop across D_1 and still satisfy Ohm's law as far as R_f and R_{in} are concerned. D_2 is off as the voltage at its anode is $2.6V$ less than that at its cathode. In (b) D_1 is off, its cathode voltage being $0.6V$ higher than its anode voltage. The conduction of D_2 limits the positive output at $0.6V$. This limiting factor speeds up the recovery of the op-amp when the input goes positive again.

measured the resistance of bulbs that I thought might be suitable, and found that the cold resistance of a 28V, 24mA bulb is 170Ω . This seemed to be about right. When I tried it - bingo! So when, in this connection, you see "any low-voltage, 50mA or so bulb" you can in future read "a 28V, 24mA bulb". The oscillator will work a treat.

The Precision Rectifier

The final stage of the basic meter uses an op-amp as a precision rectifier. Keeping to the type of representation we've used before, Fig. 4 shows its method of operation.

With a conventional rectifier there's the drawback that the signal must rise above the diode's forward-voltage drop before conduction begins. This can be overcome by the use of an op-amp in the circuit. At (a) in Fig. 4 the input is positive and the output reduces the voltage at the cathode of D_1 . This enables the input to carry on via R_f to the amplifier's output. As in the case of the inverting amplifier circuit, the output is again $V_{in} \times R_f/R_{in}$. The diode's forward voltage drop, which is $0.6V$ with a silicon diode, is overcome because the op-amp's output goes lower by this amount, satisfying Ohm's law as far as R_f and R_{in} are concerned.

Point X is still held at earth potential by feedback action from the output. D_2 is off at this time, as the voltage at its anode is lower than that at its cathode. When the input goes negative however, as shown at

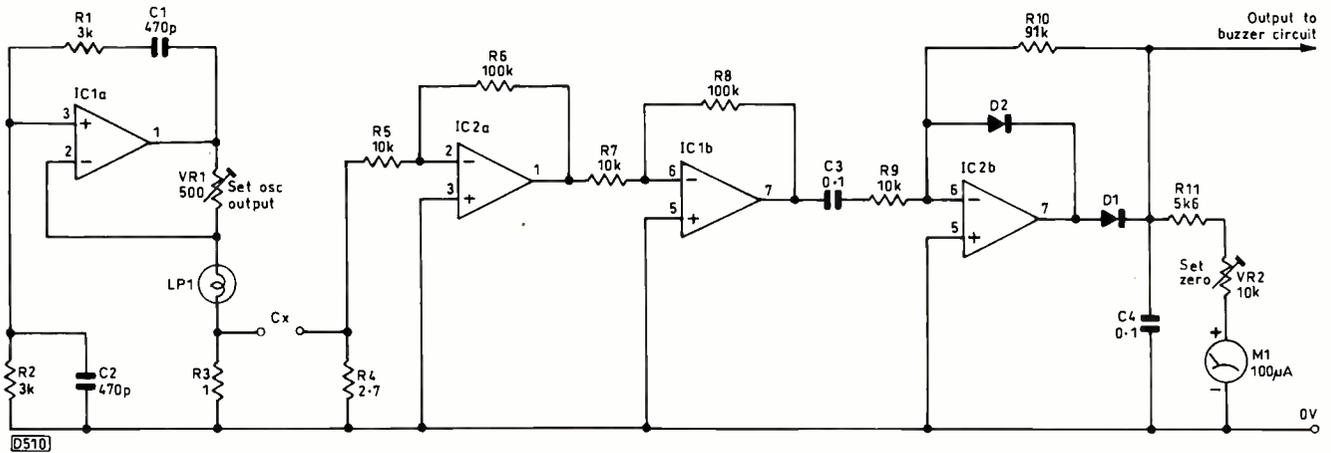


Fig. 5: The basic meter circuit. VR1 sets the oscillator's output level. Pin 8 of IC1 and IC2 is connected to the +ve supply, pin 4 to the -ve supply.

(b), the op-amp's output rises to the point at which D2 conducts. The current then flows via Rin, point X and D2. D1 is now off and the output is zero.

Basic Meter Circuit

The circuit of the meter itself is shown in Fig. 5. The Wien bridge oscillator, redrawn, is the same except for the inclusion of a 1Ω resistor (R3) between the bulb and the 0V line. Depending on VR1's setting, the bulb's current is typically 3.5mA RMS. As a result, in the absence of a capacitor under test about 10mV peak-to-peak at 100kHz is developed across R3.

VR1 sets the amplitude of the oscillator's output. In this case the output is used only for feedback, and is set at 5V peak-to-peak. There is nothing magical about this figure, and with this application no test equipment is required to set it. It's just that to get a higher level output you would have to use a higher supply voltage. In fact however the higher the output voltage the better.

The ESR of the capacitor being tested forms part of a potential divider with the 2.7Ω resistor R4. The voltage waveform across this resistor, as a result of the current in the capacitor, is amplified by the rest of the meter circuit. Bear in mind that with the range of ESR values we are measuring an ideal mid-scale figure would be about 3Ω. With low ESR values (good capacitor) the signal across R4 is high, while with a poor capacitor it will be low – often, in relation to 2.7Ω, there can be an effective open-circuit.

Now if, for example, the ESR is 2.7Ω, half the source voltage across R3 would be passed to the meter and a half-scale reading would be expected. It doesn't quite work out like this however, because the source voltage is not independent of the load, and we will be setting full-scale deflection with R3 and R4 in parallel (test leads shorted).

If the ESR tends to go below the value of R4, it becomes more effective in increasing the voltage across R4. As the ESR rises above the value of R4, it becomes less effective at increasing the voltage across R4. Hence the non-linear scale, which is ideal with this application. R3 and R4 are of necessity low in value, because they compare with the values of ESR in which we are interested. The bonus here is that because of their low values the effect of associated in-circuit components becomes insignificant.

The design of this little network is such that the

waveforms across R3 and R4 are virtually in-phase regardless of the value of the test capacitor. So we are measuring the total in-phase AC resistance to which Doug Jones refers (see quotation earlier).

You might wonder why the test signal amplitude is so small. It isn't because we want to avoid turning on semiconductor devices – we could go up to a couple of hundred millivolts before there would be any worries about that. It's simply a matter of power consumption. Even our little 10mV requires 3.5mA, and in this case I have (dare I claim cleverly?) used a current source that's already there. A 100mV test source would require a hefty 35mA, quite a drain on resources. If anything the value of the 1Ω resistor could be even lower, so that with respect to 2.7Ω it would more closely approximate a constant-voltage source.

You may think that to test an electrolytic capacitor effectively a fair old current should be pumped through it. Not so. A healthy 1,000µF capacitor will still present 0.05Ω or so to a couple of millivolts and thus be produce a reading.

The signal across R4 passes through two stages of amplification each with a gain of ten, and is then detected for the meter movement. There is further amplification in the detector stage. The output is integrated by C4 to produce a DC output of about 1.3V with the test leads shorted – this corresponds to zero ESR.

The basic meter circuit uses two dual op-amps. You will see that the signal path from the oscillator in IC1 passes to IC2 then back again. This is done to prevent the first, sensitive stage of amplification picking up a strong oscillator signal in the same package.

The Power Supply

There is no need for a regulated supply, because the bulb stabilises the oscillator and the amplification factor of the op-amps is fixed by the ratio of the feedback and input resistors.

The power supply arrangement used is shown in Fig. 6. IC3a generates split rails from a single supply line. The voltage at its output pin 7 is at half the supply voltage, because the voltage at its - input (pin 6) is equal to the half-voltage level set by R12 and R13 at its + input (pin 5). This way of using an op-amp is known as the voltage-follower. There is total negative feedback, and the closed-loop gain is unity.

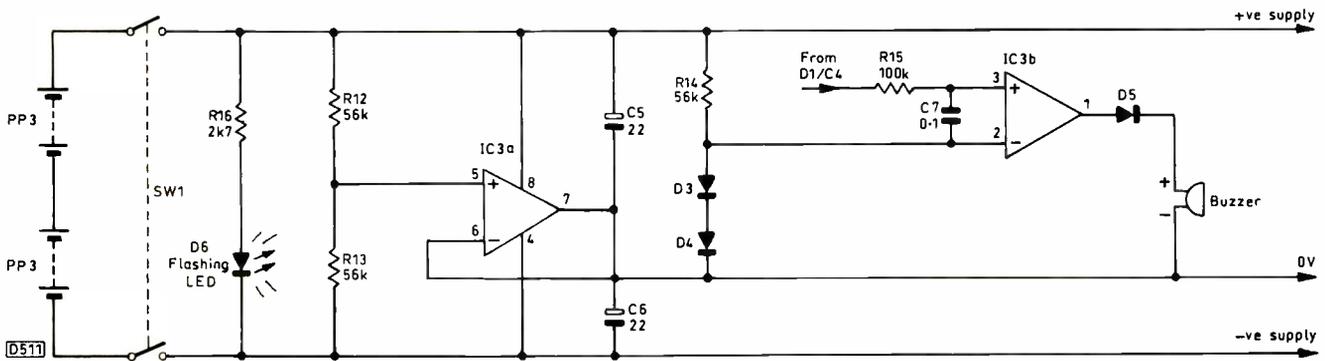


Fig. 6: The split-rail generator and buzzer comparator circuits.

The meter's total current requirement is only some 10mA, plus a couple of mA for the on indicator D6. Two PP3 batteries in series are ideal. Long life is assured – if the oscillator's output is set as described later, the meter's accuracy will be maintained until the supply drops to about 5V per battery.

If the link between the batteries was connected to the 0V rail this split-rail arrangement would be unnecessary. It's included to enable a DC adaptor to be used as an alternative power source. An adaptor with an output from 12V to 30V can be used. A regulated type is best, as ripple on the supply could cause problems.

The Buzzer

IC3b serves as a comparator for buzzer operation. The

output from the meter rectifier circuit, across C4, is applied to the + input (pin 3) for comparison with the voltage at the – input (pin 2). If the voltage at pin 3 exceeds that at pin 2, the output at pin 1 goes high (see comparator circuit description earlier) and the buzzer sounds. About 1V is developed across the series-connected diodes D3 and D4. When the ESR value of the capacitor being tested is about 1Ω or less, the voltage across C4 rises above this 1V reference.

Next Month

In Part 2 next month we will deal with construction, setting up, use and inductance measurement, and in addition provide a bit more information on ESR. A detailed components list will be included.

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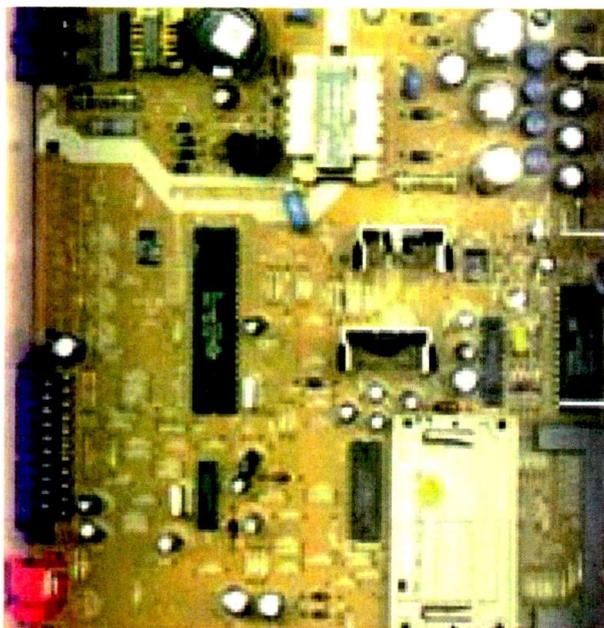
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Satellite WORKSHOP



Jack Armstrong

Interference

I've had numerous calls from professional dish installers who think that I, a bench-bound repair man, should be able to solve their problems. Surprisingly, I often can!

The same symptom has been occurring repeatedly: a noise in the background with Sky Premiere movies or whatever they call it this week. In addition the the complaints include sparkly pictures on channels such as UK Living, MovieMax and Sky Sports.

The cause of the problem is the new Eutelsat W2 satellite at 16°E. It transmits at up to 135W per transponder. At least three channels are being transmitted adjacent to Astra ones. Nile TV affects Sky Sports, ESC affects MovieMax while Egypt TV affects UK Living. The answer is to ensure that the dish is not distorted and is accurately aligned. Adjustment is very critical. In some cases a spectrum analyser may be needed. So you will have to charge the customer lots of money – unless it's a crappy installation that you carried out in the first place.

If adjustment doesn't cure the problem, because the dish is twist-

ed or of poor quality, the only solution is a new dish – possibly a slightly larger one to provide a narrower beam width. Another possibility is to try a different type of receiver, as some seem to be better than others at rejecting this type of interference.

Note that Hot Bird 5 also has higher power, and is likely to cause problems with reception from 10°E.

Another form of interference comes from ONdigital terrestrial transmissions. These can make the satellite pictures very grainy. The answer is to retune the satellite receiver's UHF output to a different channel.

The Pace MSS100

Wosname up Church Street brought me two Pace MSS100 receivers for repair. "No hurry" he said, "just for stock. Won't cost much will it?"

I told him it wouldn't, provided he wrote the actual fault symptoms on a label attached to each unit. He looked a little put out.

"All right then, I'll just fix every fault I can find and charge you accordingly."

He scribbled some notes furiously, then departed!

The label on the first one said "blew screen no signal." I could tell which school he had attended. The receiver came on with a blue screen that displayed the "no signal" message.

There was no LNB output voltage from the tuner, though the voltage was present at the relevant tuner connection beneath the board. I unsoldered the tuner and found that the F socket's centre pin was disconnected inside.

The second label said "chanle names float leftwards and no please insert card message".

I confirmed the symptom and set about trying to find the cause. A few oscilloscope checks indicated that the PTV110 chip was not operating correctly. A replacement cured the fault.

Making a Profit

I'm often told that the satellite market is dying, mainly because of low

high-street prices. But there are many things an independent dealer can do that a large store wouldn't even consider – like installing a motorised 2m dish. You can virtually name your price for this sort of thing. Be sure to check on local council planning requirements, and find out from your wholesaler exactly what's needed.

Here's a simple question: would you rather do twelve jobs a day at £25 each or six at £45 each? You get more income with the former, but do you make as much profit? Think about the amount of travelling per job, and the fact that your parts expenditure is doubled when you do twelve instead of six jobs. While your turnover increases your profit is actually lower and you have to spend more hours to produce it. In addition you may be pushed over the VAT limit.

Instead of concentrating on fast, low-cost jobs, concentrate on providing good value for money. You will get more referrals, work fewer hours for a better type of customer and earn more money.

I often hear the complaint that it's impossible to make a profit selling just receivers. This is true of new ones – the trade warehouses are lucky to make ten per cent profit, and their prices are sometimes higher than those of the high-street stores. If all you customer wants is a receiver, why not supply him with a refurbished second-hand model? Thousands are scrapped when people change over to cable or digital TV. You find them advertised for a tenner, while lots end up at car boot sales. You can get a Pace PRD series receiver for a song, and the Amstrad SRD510 and later models have at least 99 channels. If you can buy them cheaply enough, it's worth paying someone like me £25 a time to refurbish and upgrade them to work with an enhanced LNB. The result is a 99-channel enhanced receiver at little more than £35 and a reasonable sale-on profit.

Pace SS9200

The last occasion this angry farmer's wife visited me was when

her Pace SS9200 receiver had died for the seventh time in as many weeks. The cause of the trouble was traced to surges that occurred on Saturdays, when the milking machine was used. The other day she came back to say that it was "dead again". It wasn't, but there was no picture when I connected the receiver up on the bench.

I checked the video output from each scart socket. There was the normal flickering picture from the decoder socket, but no output at all on any channel when I tried the TV and VCR sockets. I then checked for outputs from the TEA2029C sync separator chip U6 to the decoder board connector and found that they were missing. A new chip cured the fault. This is quite unusual. According to *The Satellite Repair Manual*, edition 5, the usual cause is Q24 or Q29 (BC547).

A Grundig GSRI Mk 2

I groaned when Wosname from up Church Street waddled into the workshop with a Grundig receiver. He always arrives when I'm trying to solve a most frustrating problem.

"Nuffin' wrong wiv it!" he said, "jus locked menus."

Now I haven't come across a GSRI before, so it's not a model

with which I am familiar. I searched through my notes and various *Satellite Repair Manuals*, but couldn't find a reset code anywhere.

"OK!" I said, "let's try the internet."

Wosname looked puzzled. So I told him to put the kettle on while I entered the search words into Sherlock on my new Apple Mac G3 computer, which took about thirty seconds to find the answer at the SatCure web site. Here it is: to unlock menus, enter the lock menu and 'Reset PIN' – this sets the PIN to 1515.

Wosname tiptoed back with a cup of tea in his hand.

"Where's mine?" I asked.

Amstrad SRD650

I don't repair D2-MAC decoders nowadays. The type of person who uses them is often the type that doesn't want to spend any money! That, plus the fact that a pirate smart card was required to test them, forced me to give up.

The lady who brought along an SRD650 didn't look like a typical viewer of questionable films however, so I agreed to take a quick look – at the receiver, I mean! She explained that it would turn itself

Jack Armstrong is willing to try to sort out readers' satellite TV receiver problems via e-mail. You can reach him via the Internet at:

jack@netcentral.co.uk

One model per message – state make/model and fault symptoms. If you have no e-mail facilities you can write to him c/o Television, Room L302, Quadrant House, The Quadrant, Sutton, Surrey SM2 5AS. Please enclose two first-class stamps.

off occasionally. She could turn it on again after a few seconds, with the remote control unit, but it was annoying.

I checked the power plug for poor connections – it's always sensible to start with the obvious. I've had this problem with the SRD510 because of a bad low-voltage connector inside, so I looked at the plug that connects the 5V/12V/27V/13-17V supplies to the main board and cleaned its sockets, using a switch-cleaner aerosol. This seemed to work, so I left the unit on test. It was still on next morning. I reckon my guess was correct.

Test Case 435

Joe Bright used to run a rival TV/video business in this town. Since giving it up he's become a sort of wheeler-dealer, trading in anything that might turn a buck – though he came badly unstuck with those Christmas trees! He bought a job-lot of TV sets and VCRs at auction recently, and here he was in the big JB-reg Mercedes with the only one he couldn't get going himself, a 21in. Hitachi Model C2114TE.

The problem was that it flipped back to the standby mode as soon as it was turned on. The line timebase seemed to be OK, as a rustle of EHT and 'static' was discernible at the moment of switch-on. TechnoCrat checked the HT supply at the over-voltage avalanche diode ZD952, using a DC-coupled scope, and saw that it hit 130V in the moment before the set reverted to standby – in this model the HT should stabilise at 110V. Television Ted had already highlighted in yellow on the circuit diagram in the service manual the two most likely components to be the cause of this problem. TechnoCrat replaced them and adjusted the set-HT control VR951 for 110V at ZD952. This solved the main problem. What were the two components? Not difficult to identify really, even without the benefit of Ted's service manual . . .

But we weren't out of the woods yet! If you made a good guess at the first part of this puzzle, you could maybe solve what turned out to be a bigger problem, at least as far as TechnoCrat was concerned! To his consternation he found that control of the TV set, using the zapper Joe Bright had so thoughtfully brought along, was very limited.

For some reason the set came on from standby on programme 3, though 1, 2, 4 and 5 could be selected thereafter. They were all tuned to the Walmington-on-Sea relay however, while the Test Case workshop's aerials are aligned with the main Heath Hill transmitter. Try as he might, TechnoCrat couldn't get the set into the tuning mode. As his manual contained no user instructions, he got the shop to fax him a copy of the relevant pages in the user's guide. But following the instructions brought him no joy: the set simply didn't want to be tuned!

To permit further investigation, TechnoCrat connected a signal generator to the aerial socket, tuned its output to the Hitachi set's programme 1 vision carrier frequency and modulated it with a Sky News signal. This proved that the set worked correctly from the video point of view. The sound output was very limited however. No matter how long the volume-up key was held down, the sound level soon hit a 'ceiling' and stayed there. Joe Bright had made no mention of this. But he couldn't have been expected to know about it, could he? TechnoCrat had to pursue this fault, if only to be able to provide Joe with a realistic repair estimate.

More tests suggested that the cause of the trouble lay with (or near) the microcontroller chip IC001. Maybe it was faulty, or maybe the EEPROM chip was in trouble. But neither was in stock. Time to phone the excellent Hitachi technical helpline! After a short conversation and receipt of a faxed document the problem was solved.

Any ideas? For the solution, turn to page 362.

Servicing the **Panasonic**

NVSD25/30/40/HD100

Brian Storm describes the changes introduced with these machines, including the K deck, the fault codes and service modes, and some faults you might encounter

Use of the long-serving G mechanism finally came to an end with this range of VCRs, which introduced the K deck. Critics of the G deck had complained about the solenoid's clicking and clunking as the loading motor mechanism engaged with the capstan motor, and by now other VCRs in wide use had quicker response times between modes, with almost instant response to the play and record keys.

The K mechanism was developed to meet these criticisms. It has a conventional loading motor, and stays fully-loaded for all functions. Because of this the mechanism is quieter, while switching between modes is much faster as the mechanism no longer unloads the tape from the drum for fast-forward and rewind. In addition you can go from fast-forward to cue-forward almost instantly, which makes it much easier to find programmes on a tape.

Other changes introduced with these machines include enlarged front illuminated panels with clearer indications, larger main operating controls, and a reduced number of controls on the front panel.

VideoPlus coding is used for the timer operations instead of the bar-code scanner previously employed. There's even an add-on PDC panel that can be fitted internally, part no. VWPDC1E.

Remote Controls

The remote control units are more complex, though they have a simpler external appearance. The main VCR controls are larger and are on top of a flap that conceals the multitude of additional, more complex controls – these include VideoPlus programming, index search, editing features and VCR/TV remote switching. The units can also control basic TV functions: depending on model type, different manufacturers' codes are included as well.

Servicing Features

The servicing facilities were substantially increased, with the machines' internal software able to monitor many processes to assist with fault location.

For access to a stored fault code, you press eject, fast-forward and rewind together (or eject and cue-forward with machines that have a jog-and-shuttle dial). The fault-code information is displayed for a minute. Alternatively you can obtain a permanent display by shorting test points TPSEV and TPGND on the main PCB.

The fault codes are as follows:

- 0 Normal, no problems.
- 1 Drum motor has stopped.
- 2 Tape reel has stopped.
- 3 The mechanism has stopped while loading to the drum.
- 4 The mechanism has stopped while unloading from the drum.
- 5 Faulty capstan rotation.
- 6 The mechanism has stopped during the cassette-in or eject mode.

Service Modes

Once the fault code information is displayed you can, by still holding the other control or controls and pressing eject again, step through six more service modes. These are as follows.

Service mode 1: This checks the tape end-sensor circuits. If the light to both sensors is blocked, 00 will be shown. If the supply sensor only is blocked, the indication will be 01. 02 indicates that the take-up sensor only is blocked, while 03 indicates that neither sensor is blocked.

Service mode 2: Checks the mode-switching circuit by displaying the mechanism positions as they are reached in operation.

Service mode 3: Checks and confirms the mechanism operations. When a mechanism mode change is achieved in the correct sequence and time, 00 is displayed. This confirms that the operation worked correctly within specification.

Service mode 4: Checks the buttons on the front panel by providing a two-digit indication when any button is pressed. By confirming that the microcontroller chip received a command or didn't receive it, this gives a quick check on whether the buttons work. If a button doesn't work, there may be a key-scan circuit fault or a crack in the front PCB.

Service mode 5: Checks the operation of the capstan motor control circuitry. There is a two-digit indication for the various different drive conditions. This indication can be checked with the service manual.

Service mode 6: Similar to mode 5, but checks the drum motor drive circuitry.

An additional service mode is available by shorting across SW7512, which is a PCB marking on the timer panel for a switch that's not fitted, while at the same time accessing the fault-code display (press eject, fast-forward and rewind, or eject and cue-forward). It enables you to control the loading motor by simply holding play to load or stop to unload.

Use of these controls provides manual operation of all the mechanism functions, enabling you to check a mechanism thoroughly without the risk of damage to a good tape.

The Mechanism

The K mechanism is less complex than its predecessors and gave little trouble initially. There are some significant differences.

As there's no longer a mode switch on the cassette carriage, loading is initiated differently. When a tape is inserted, part of the right-side cassette holder is pushed across the tape sensor, blocking it. This tells the loading mechanism to operate.

So one unusual symptom you can get if the centre LED is faulty is the mechanism attempting to load without a tape being inserted, the machine then lapsing into the standby mode.

When a tape is lowered into the mechanism, there is a slight pause before the main loading arms pull the tape around the drum. The capstan motor rotates briefly during this time, to prove to the system-control circuitry that it can be relied upon to wind the tape back into the cassette body when the tape is ejected. If the capstan motor doesn't rotate or, more correctly, doesn't generate FG pulses, the tape will be ejected immediately, before the loading arms pull the tape around the drum, thereby preventing possible tape damage. With no capstan rotation the take-up and supply spools can't be driven, so the tape would be left loose and could snag when the tape is ejected.

Arm P5 which, in the G mechanism, can cause tape damage by bending slightly when the tape is tight, was improved by the addition of a housing into which the P5 post is located. It forces arm P5 to be perpendicular

when fully loaded, even if it's actually slightly bent.

The audio/control head was simplified by mounting it on a base that's supported by three sprung screws. All three screws set the height then the azimuth, the zenith being set last by the relevant screw. Lateral adjustment was changed to a sliding plate instead of the more common conical-nut arrangement.

Common Mechanism Faults

Machine accepts then ejects a tape: Capstan stator (part no. VEK5927) is faulty or arm P5 (part no. VXL2306) is badly bent.

Fault 03-04 or 06 occurs intermittently: Check for dry-joints at the loading motor or a split loading-motor coupling (part no. VDP1434).

Tape path variations, with the picture rolling or jumping: The input guide (part no. VXA4982) is slack.

The drum speed changes in cue and review: Capstan motor top bearing is dry.

Drum speed changes in cue only: Usual cause is a worn drum.

Excessive tape tension across the drum: Brake arm (part no. VXZ0313) is broken.

Electronic Changes

In Models NVSD30 and NVSD40 the system control and servo processor chip IC6001 was upgraded to provide faster wind and rewind times with certain non-standard tapes. The part numbers are MN67434VRSH for Model NVSD30 and MN67434VRSG for Model NVSD40.

The timer and front-panel display driver chip IC7501 was also upgraded, to provide a consistent clock accuracy of ± 15 seconds a month. The new part number is MN187164VZBE.

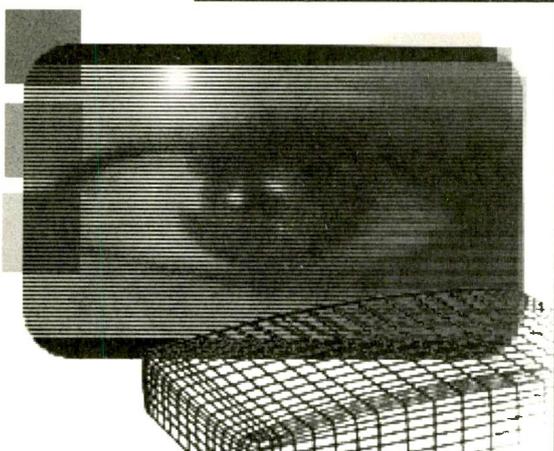
Tuners

The UHF tuner unit used in these machines can sometimes be less than completely reliable, giving various intermittent problems such as tuning drift from cold, losing some channels when warm and being off tune after a timed recording. The part number is ENV87837H3Y.

Model NVHD100

Some owners of this model complain about no remote-control operation. The cause is always switch VCR1/VCR2 being in the wrong position. It's hidden under a flap at the front of the machine.

IC7001 in this model can be responsible for various faults such as no AV or E-E switching, no VU meter operation or no tuning because the UHF tuner is busily trying to scan a VHF band. The part number is M66006FP.



Reports from
Philip Blundell, AMIElec
Giles Pilbrow
Chris Hawkins
Ian Field
Gerry Mumford and
Adrian Spriddell

Mitac AM4050PD

This monitor would work for about ten minutes then go to line collapse followed by off. A check on the HT (+B) voltage at R924 showed that it was high at 175V instead of 145V. Further checks revealed that R921 (68k Ω) had gone high in value. **P.B.**

Eizo

Most of the recent Eizo monitors have the option to lock out the picture geometry controls at the front. Depending on the model, the procedure is either to switch on at the mains while holding the autosize button down, or to switch on at the mains while holding the vertical stat button then, while still holding the stat button down, press the side pincushion button for five seconds.

Spares for Eizo monitors can be obtained from Professional Display Systems, Genesis Business Park, Albert Drive, Sheerwater, Woking, Surrey GU21 5RW. Phone 01483 719 500, fax 01483 719 560. **P.B.**

IBM PS/1 Model 028 002

Frame collapse was the symptom with this monitor. I found that the 3.3 Ω , 1W safety resistor R301 had gone open-circuit. No other components had to be replaced. **G.P.**

Mitac 1450PD

The owner said he was fed up with not being able to see the beginning and end of each line of text. They were hidden out of sight at the sides of the screen. The user con-

Monitors

trols had no effect. While scanning the board with the aid of a magnifier I noticed a tiny out-of-sorts bipolar capacitor, C509 (10 μ F, 50V), which had literally lost all its electrolyte. A replacement cured the fault.

The chroma output chip in this monitor is an MM1203: an LM1203N is a possible replacement. **C.H.**

Philips 14C

The first of two of these monitors presented a display that looked like a case of magic mirrors at the fun-fair. It had not been helped by the pot-twiddling owner. Once the potentiometers had all been restored to their normal positions there was a reasonable display with linearity problems. I decided to replace C2403 (470 μ F, 16V), C2407 (47 μ F, 100V) and C2539 (47 μ F, 25V), using components rated at 105 $^{\circ}$ C instead of 85 $^{\circ}$ C. This did the trick.

The second one produced just a horizontal line. A quick check with the Philips data book showed that the TDA4860 frame output chip has two supplies, one from the power supply and the other from the line output stage. The former supply was missing because D6114 (BYD33M) was short-circuit while the associated fusible resistor R3134 (0.22 Ω) was open-circuit. I replaced the TDA4860 chip and filter capacitor C2123 (1,000 μ F, 35V) as well for good measure. **C.H.**

Royal CX1469

The width had decreased to 2cm. I found that one leg of coil L401 had burnt a hole of about 1cm diameter around it. Odd how customers sometimes soldier on despite everything, sometimes letting a trivial fault become a major one. **C.H.**

Compaq 470

This monitor was dead. The

2SD1878 line output transistor Q502 had been removed and was taped to the front. A quick check showed that it was short-circuit all ways. As I seldom encounter this type of monitor I had no spares. A look at the circuit showed that there were no efficiency diodes, so a transistor with an integral diode was obviously required. In a situation like this a 2SC4742 is one of the first choices. It proved to be suitable here.

If you suspect that the transistor has an inadequate maximum collector current rating, a good check is to view a test card. If the transistor cannot cope, the linear forward scan ramp will begin to level out. This will be evident as cramping at the centre of the screen, increasing towards the right-hand side.

The replacement transistor was fine, but judging by the state of the PCB its predecessor hadn't been. When I traced back from the base pin to the driver transformer I found out why. The 47 μ F, 25V coupling capacitor C512 was very leaky. **I.F.**

Compaq 420

Three of these monitors came in together recently. If there's a red cast on the grey scale, check R441. It's directly above the hot CRT neck and seems to be the only one of the three to be affected.

A 420T in the batch made a sizzling noise though there was no obvious disturbance to the picture. I found that R5 (220 Ω , 5W) in the power supply snubber network was dry-jointed. As usual D1, D15 and R29 were bridged by brown glue. It hadn't produced a power supply blow-up so far, but when it was chipped away I found that the leads affected were significantly corroded.

The final unit was a 420S. I thought that the S might indicate manufacture in Singapore, but the chassis was definitely of European

origin, possibly Nokia. I could neither find nor instigate a fault, though there were some rather dubious-looking connections on the CRT panel. I resoldered these and balanced the grey scale. The result was a happy customer. **I.F.**

Elonex SV14LR

The chopper power supply had blown up. As the mains rectifier was short-circuit, I suspect that failure had occurred during a thunderstorm. I802 (UC3842), R810 (47 Ω), R811 (20k Ω), D806 (18V zener diode), R825 (0.39 Ω , 2W) and the 2SK794 chopper FET all had to be replaced. As a precaution, I always replace the 4N35 optocoupler when one of these power supplies blows up. 1N5398 diodes are suitable for the mains bridge rectifier circuit.

Once the monitor was up and running there was a flooded screen. The tube's first anode voltage is derived from line flyback pulses, not from the LOPT (though the LOPT has an A1 preset, which could be misleading). There's an A1 preset on a separate PCB next to the heatsink. Adjustment of this preset had no effect. Right next to it, alongside the heatsink, there's a 2M Ω resistor which was open-circuit. A replacement enabled the first anode voltage to be set up. **I.F.**

AST LR14/NCR 0261

I've mentioned before that C322 tends to fail, destroying the line output transistor. In the AST model its value is usually 6.2nF, rated at 1.6kV. In the NCR versions the value has always been 5.6nF, with the same voltage rating. This lower value capacitor seems to fail more often. In desperation I've sometimes used a 6.8nF capacitor. This has no obvious effect on performance, and there have been no returns. I upgrade the voltage rating from 1.6kV to 2kV, except when using a 6.8nF capacitor in which case the 1.6kV rating probably has an adequate safety margin.

A very odd case of field bounce/collapse came along recently. Remaking all the dry-joints I found made no difference. I then noticed that when the chassis was reassembled the odd-shaped sub-panel above the row of presets, whose spindles point downwards under the side edge, wasn't seating correctly in the two plastic connectors on the main PCB. The cause was faulty metal brackets, which are clipped to the subpanel with

plastic pop-rivets. They prevented the connectors being pushed fully home. The brackets had to be clamped in a vice and kinked. The monitor worked perfectly once the reshaped brackets enabled the connectors to fit correctly. **I.F.**

Dell 1528LS

This monitor was tripping because the 2SC5129 line output transistor had failed. Its connections were all short-circuit, which is unusual. The 2SC5XX9 series of transistors usually pretend to be diacs for cold checks: this one had failed properly! I then saw that the manufacturer's trade mark differed from the one usually seen. The 2SC4742 is a more reliable replacement, but it needs a separate insulating kit. **I.F.**

Compaq 420S

The European manufactured versions are even more of a pain to dismantle than previous ones. So, if you have an EW fault, try some switch cleaner on preset RT4 before starting on a protracted conflict with the unit. I accidentally picked up the Electrolube DFL200D PTFE spray by mistake this time. In theory it should have made matters worse, because of the insulating properties of PTFE. Instead, all traces of coarseness in the rotation of the preset vanished after a few turns back and forth, and the effect on the raster was just as smooth! As an added bonus, PTFE spray is not as messy as switch cleaner. **I.F.**

AST LR14

My most recent encounters with this chassis suggest that there has been a redesign. The Welltrend chip on the sync panel has been replaced with a number of LS TTL, HC chips and transistors. At first I thought it must be an earlier version, but the date codes on the ICs were 92/93. Some new MOSFETs have appeared in the line output stage. C322 (6.2nF, 1.6kV) remains a common failure. C35 and C40 (100 μ F and 200 μ F respectively, both 100V) often seem to pull from their solder fillets, especially while handling. They should be given a fresh application of solder as a matter of course. **I.F.**

Dan CX1428LR

Because of a power supply blow up this monitor was dead. The BUZ90A chopper transistor Q101 and the TDA4605 control chip

IC101 were short-circuit. This had destroyed the mains bridge rectifier D101 and the surge limiter thermistor TH101. In addition, R117 (150k Ω , 2W) was open-circuit. This had probably been the original cause of the trouble, as it forms part of an RC time-constant network that determines the end time of the FET's drive pulses. **G.M.**

Commodore 1084D

This is a good example of the odd-ball monitors that sometimes come along. It's used with the Amiga computer, and a programmable generator (or an old Amiga of course) is required to drive it. The unit was dead. R106 (1 Ω , 2W fusible) had a large burn mark and was open-circuit.

The power supply is based on the STK73410II switching regulator, which had failed along with R109 (68 Ω , 2W). As a precaution, C110 (10 μ F, 50V) and C111 (1 μ F, 50V) were also replaced – they read a little low. With this type of power supply it's usual for low-value electrolytics to dry up slightly, causing failure of the STK module. **G.M.**

Panasonic C1381

This monitor powered up but failed to produce a picture. Inspection showed that the tube's heaters were out. I then saw that there were massive dry-joints at all the CRT base socket connections. This seems to be a common problem with these monitors. **G.M.**

Tatung TM3401

There was very low width with R465 (4.7 Ω) open-circuit. After replacing various items in the EW circuit to no avail I finally found that C423 (3.3 μ F) had fallen in value – the reading was 330nF. **A.S.**

Opus CM1438T

If there's serious line drift with frame cramping at the top, check for 12V at P405 (next to the data cable entry at the rear of the main PCB). If the reading is low, it's probable that the 12V rail is trying to run the monitor unaided. Check Q001 (2SA966) on the secondary side of the power supply. It should have about 18-19V at each of its pins. If in doubt, replace it. **A.S.**

Western Systems HL4850

This monitor was dead: the power supply was in standby with the amber LED alight. The STR17006 chip U702 had failed. **A.S.**



We welcome letters from our readers and try to publish as many as we can. You can send them typed, handwritten, or on disc. Address them to the Letters Editor, Room L302, Quadrant House, The Quadrant, Sutton, Surrey SM2 5AS.

Digital TV

During my many years as a TV technician (since 1965) I've seen the transition from 405 lines, black and white, with poor recording capabilities, to 625 lines black and white then 625 lines with full colour. Since then there has been a gradual improvement in picture quality, because of technological developments at the studios and in the display. Today we have a 625-line analogue system able to produce full 5.5MHz bandwidth video. My own Panasonic TV set displays detail and picture quality that was never seen prior to the Nineties. Test card F, when it is on rare occasions seen, has the 5.5MHz grating clearly visible.

What we have seen with every advance in the technology until now has been an improvement. It may be early days yet to make a decisive judgement, but from what I have seen so far of digital TV I must say that I am very saddened.

The definition of digitally transmitted pictures, especially with the subscription multiplexes, is reduced and I have even noticed peak-white difficulties with some transmissions. I can only assume that the cause is broadcasters using excessive compression for the sake of quantity, thus reducing quality. But the systems are being sold as having improved quality! While this may be so if someone changes from a set-top aerial in a poor signal area – anything would be an improve-

Letters

ment on that – it doesn't seem to me that someone who has spent a little cash on achieving a decent analogue signal input will see any improvement with digital TV.

We appear to be having a system forced on us by bandwidth greed. Even the 16:9 promotion is a compromise, with only a portion of the transmitted lines being used, wasting about thirty display lines at the top and bottom of the scan.

I hope my disappointment is premature, and that with time the digital age will produce pictures as crisp as our present analogue ones. If not, it seems that any improvement in display technology will be a waste of time for ordinary viewers.

*E.C. Westcott,
Ivybridge, Devon.*

Is digital TV a rip-off? This depends on what the public is being led to believe is on offer. The marketing people are trumpeting several 'benefits', one of which is better picture quality. In some cases however digital TV will give viewers pictures that are subjectively of poorer quality than those they can receive at the moment, in particular those viewers who live close to a high-power analogue transmitter and are used to ghost- and noise-free reception. In other cases there will be a dramatic improvement. It really depends on what the viewer is currently getting. The only thing that can be said with certainty is that with digital TV the quality of the pictures will be pretty much the same for everyone, and can be improved or worsened by broadcasters depending on how they wish to use their allocated bandwidth: the more channels they squeeze in, the higher the compression ratio required and the lower the picture quality.

Another of the supposed 'benefits' is widescreen displays. But, unless you are prepared to buy a new set, widescreen pictures are a distinct disadvantage. Which brings me to the point raised by Chris

Plaice (Letters, January) who says that he has yet to see a widescreen set that shows any more picture than a conventional one. I agree! Widescreen sets are invariably displayed showing either squashed or cropped 4:3 pictures. In the latter case this means that you see less picture than with a conventional set! In my opinion the way to display and sell a widescreen set is to place it beside a 4:3 set with the same picture height, with the widescreen set showing a true widescreen picture and the conventional set showing the same programme. This way the customer can see that there is more picture to be had with a widescreen set. Until recently this was not possible, as there were no sources of widescreen material. This is no longer the case of course, so there is no excuse for retailers not showing off widescreen sets to their full potential.

It seems to me that the move from analogue TV to DTT is simply the next step forward, like the move from 405/VHF to 625/UHF in the Sixties. Then as now there was concern about equipment becoming obsolete, but the eventual shutdown of the 405-line service was inevitable. John Hopkins (Letters, January) makes the point that having to buy a separate £200 digital set-top box for each receiver in a house that has a distribution system would be ludicrously expensive. Well, yes, at current prices. But surely what will happen is that digital tuners will start to appear in sets of all sizes and lower and lower prices, so that by the time analogue TV is switched off even 14in. portables will be equipped with built-in digital front-ends producing perfect pictures just about anywhere with a loop aerial – and probably for less than £100!

*Graeme Steer,
Chessington, Surrey.*

Warning

What started off as a straightforward mechanism removal with a

Sony SLV-E720 VCR became a rush to the local Casualty Dept. to have a badly scalloped piece of flesh on my little finger refitted and dressed. The cause of the accident was the dangerously sharp upper edge of the rear metal case. In grasping and applying upward pressure to the head amplifier daughter board to remove it, and at the same time spring open its sockets, I was unaware how close my fingers were to this plate. When the board sprang out of its socket, well you know the rest.

I had to bandage the wound rapidly, shut down my service unit and then lose an hour's income. Am I the first casualty of this knife-edged plate, and would Sony care to reimburse me?

*Bob Longhurst,
East Grinstead, West Sussex.*

Clanger?

My earlier letter (February issue) on the tuning circuit used in the Hitachi Model 2118 suffered from being edited. I had emphasised that Q003 is a switching and not an integrating transistor. My letter made it clear that the integration in this digital-to-analogue converter is carried out solely by the low-pass filter that follows Q003 in the circuit.

Michael Dranfield originally suggested (Letters, January) that the voltage across the 33V stabiliser ZD002 can never reach 33V unless Q003 is cut off. The fact of the matter is that Q003 is indeed cut off for much of the time, that the voltage across ZD002 *does* reach 33V, and that the tuning *is* stabilised. Michael's additional resistor does nothing to alter the circuit operation, which is based on chopping a 33V supply. The waveform at the collector of Q003 remains a pulse train, and the measured mean DC voltage here is as meaningless as before. The effects of the suggested modification are as follows:

- (1) The stabilised 33V supply can be measured using a conventional meter.
- (2) The power dissipated by the stabiliser is increased. This is significant, as this component does tend to run quite hot.
- (3) The pulses at the collector of Q003 are less accurately defined.
- (4) The current through Q003 is reduced. Power dissipation is not affected, as a switching transistor is either off (no current) or saturated (no voltage).

(5) The power dissipated by the feed resistors is marginally reduced.

On the whole the circuit is better without the presence of the resistor. This brings us to the question of why the resistor is usually included in this type of circuit, when it is clearly not required? I would suggest that it is included to satisfy condition (1) above.

I disagree with the editor when he says the original circuit is "not likely to be able to provide effective stabilisation". Far from it. With or without the resistor in question the tuning arrangement, taken in its entirety, is far more stable and tolerant of component changes (ageing) than the traditional method of simply tapping off a tuning voltage from the regulated 33V supply. In conclusion, there are no shortcomings in the Hitachi circuit, which is fully described in the first-class manual for this model.

My thanks to Colin J. Guy for his reply to my letter regarding the ESR figure expected with a 2,200 μ F capacitor. I did indeed miss the meaning of his remarks. The main point I was trying to make is that one can be fooled by an OK from the Capacitor Wizard's buzzer, and that with this sort of capacitance value it is important to watch the meter and confirm that the ESR is less than 0.1 Ω . Again, the wording of my letter on this subject had been changed.

*Alan Willcox,
Cardiff.*

Test Card Music - and Storage Heaters

In his column a few months back Donald Bullock mentioned the subject of test card music. During the Sixties and Seventies I could whistle whole sequences, an achievement that pales into insignificance when compared with the late Gerard Hoffnung's ability to whistle complete symphonies while walking his dog! I believe that a CD of test card music, entitled "The Girl on the Test Card", was produced but don't know where to buy it or if it's still available. If anyone out there has any information on this, I am sure that many people would like to know. Nostalgia becomes more significant as the years go by: even catching sight of a test card is a rare event these days.

Don also mentioned suffering with old-type storage heaters. Modern ones are much improved.

After a recent house move to an area where there is no mains gas I installed a new storage-heater system, running on the Superdeal tariff. The meter records units at three different rates. Contactors for switching hot-water and storage-heater supplies are contained within the meter, which consequently has three outputs: the unrestricted supply, which is charged at full rate during the day and half rate at night; the restricted supply for water heating; and the restricted supply for the storage heaters.

Although the water-heating and storage-heating units cost the same, about a third of the full rate, the two restricted supplies can be controlled remotely by the electricity authority to switch separately and at different times of the day, depending on the loading. A radio receiver within the meter decodes control and time transmissions, which are provided by phase modulating the 198kHz carrier of long-wave Radio Four. Unlike the Economy Seven tariff, Superdeal provides an afternoon boost period to top-up the heaters ready for the evening.

Modern storage heaters use bricks with improved thermal capacity, which has enabled their size to be reduced. Control is more elegant: a differential thermostat monitors both the core and ambient temperatures, thereby optimising the heat stored. It's claimed that this saves up to 15 per cent on running costs. An output control sets the working point of a shutter that's operated by a bimetallic spring. This simple device regulates the output in response to changing ambient temperature.

The system works well, and has the added advantage that hot water is inexpensive all year round.
*Keith Cummins,
Chale Green, Isle of Wight.*

DTT Frequency Allocations

While back in the UK recently I was able to see some of the ONdigital transmissions in Devon. The digital multiplexes transmitted from Stockland Hill have very much reduced power to the south, presumably to avoid interference with group A analogue transmissions from Caradon Hill and also stations in Northern France. I doubt whether relay transmitters could be provided to get round the problem, which is similar to Channel 5's near the south coast,

because of the lack of frequencies.

What will happen when it's time to switch off the analogue transmissions? The existing high-power analogue frequencies could be used, but won't be available for digital purposes until then. This would free only four UHF channels of course, while six are needed for all the digital channels. People in such locations will have relied on the analogue transmissions and, when the digital changeover is made, could simply get a blank screen.

*Hugh Cocks,
Algarsat Ltd., Portugal.*

Video Resolution

In his report (October 1998 issue) on the video alignment test tape available from SEME, Eugene Trundle said he was puzzled by the fact that his VHS players reproduced the test tape's 3MHz grating though their maximum horizontal resolution is specified as being about 260 lines. This inconsistency has for a long time puzzled me as well.

As stated by Eugene, a 3MHz grating must correspond to a horizontal resolution of 156 line-pairs, i.e. 312 lines. This must be so since at 3MHz there are 156 electrical cycles, taking 52µsecs, across the width of the picture, and each cycle represents one line-pair. We therefore have a correspondence between the horizontal picture spatial domain and the video-frequency domain of 104 lines per picture width per MHz (exactly as Eugene implies). To put it another way, if the 3MHz grating can be resolved and occupies the full width of the screen, one could count the number of vertical black and white bars and there would be 156 black and 156 white ones, making 312 in total. This is surely a 'real-world' resolution of 312 lines, and hence confirms the relationship of 104 lines per picture width per MHz.

But video manufacturers seem to quote horizontal resolutions that equate to about 80 lines per MHz (though, interestingly, they never seem to quote the electrical bandwidth). This applies with S-VHS and Hi-8 as well, where a figure of 400 lines is typically quoted for the horizontal resolution. In fact my Hi-8 and S-VHS machines both easily reproduce the 4.5MHz bars of test card F, which should correspond to a 468-line resolution, and indeed the 5.25MHz bars are visible – corresponding to a 546-line

resolution! (A comb filter is used between the output from the vision demodulator and the VCRs' S-video inputs.)

The real mystery is why manufacturers should deliberately choose to understate this important aspect of the performance of their products – by about 30 per cent. This seems highly uncharacteristic of the commercial world!

In a letter in the November issue Andy Barkley suggested that the answer lay in the Kell factor. But this can't be used to justify modifying the relation between a given bandwidth and the corresponding resolution in lines, e.g. changing 104 lines per MHz to 80 lines per MHz. The Kell factor arises as a result of the scanning line structure, which 'samples' the picture in the vertical direction at the source and display. There is no equivalent in the horizontal direction, which is scanned by a continuous beam.

Another suggestion I've come across, but with no rational justification, is that the horizontal resolution is being expressed as the equivalent number of lines of vertical resolution required to give equal vertical and horizontal resolution. At least that's my interpretation of what was written, but I can't find the original to check. In other words, horizontal resolution is being expressed in lines per picture height! This seems to be a bizarre and highly misleading way of expressing horizontal resolution. It means that two systems with genuinely equal horizontal resolution would be stated as having different horizontal resolutions depending on picture aspect ratio. Most significantly, from the commercial point of view, it will always give a lower horizontal resolution value than the true value, since all domestic TV pictures are wider than they are high.

Does anyone have a logical explanation for the original problem brought up by Eugene, or are manufacturers' specifications and magazine test reports etc. just plain wrong in this matter?

*J. Alan McKeown,
Wester Ross, Scotland.*

I don't recall all these bandwidth problems when we first wanted to display computer-generated characters on a TV broadcast, circa 1965, RCA Divcon. It wasn't long before practical requirements demanded an easy-to-digest explanation. This is how I did it:

(1) A revolving pattern, say a ball with black-and-white lines, will at some distance fit on to the line structure. Unless the video response can match that, the pattern will flicker as it revolves.

(2) There are 52µsecs of forward scan during which the video must be able to switch at $4/3$ (aspect ratio) $\times 575$ (number of active lines) = 767. This can be divided by two, as each cycle can do a black/white pair. So 383.5 iterations in 52µsec will do it. To find the frequency, $10^6/52 \times 383.5 = 7.375\text{MHz}$.

(3) Using a computer/logic source to provide the video chequerboard (worst case), this is indeed the very minimum requirement – and in fact it isn't nearly enough! At the band-pass limit the video is reduced to its fundamental sinewave, and the time spent at peak white is very brief. This reduces the perceived brightness of the peak beam, and the vertical white lines appear very much more dim than the horizontal lines. This makes them look narrow too!

*Berry Greene,
Chichester, West Sussex.*

Digital Quality

When I was in Spain a while back I saw the VHS version of the film Titanic. Despite the impressive opening piece, which declared that the film had been digitally remastered etc., the whole thing was marred by an irritating effect: as long as no one moved, the picture was normal VHS; as soon as some action took place, edges became ragged and the action was jumpy – like a poor NTSC conversion on a bad day. When I saw it at the cinema it was RGB/full definition all the way, so what had been done to it?

Upon my return the digital era had arrived. So far I have seen pictures that appear to be of the same quality as long-play VHS. The captions are great, straight from the chip inside the box, but where has the promise of MAC quality gone? It seems to me that, despite the problems with analogue reception, the choice for the next millennium is a retrograde step.

I can't see a future for something that offers inferior quality to existing technology – just as the rip-off Titanic tape.

*D.J. Long,
Cleckheaton, W. Yorks.*

TRANSISTORS/LINEAR ICs

Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price					
BC107	8p	BD434	30p	BU126	65p	BUV48AF	325p	MJ4502	300p	4N35	50p	LINEAR ICs					AN6340	600p	BA335	55p	BA7004	200p
BC108	8p	BD435	31p	BU128	125p	BUV50	250p	MP2012	300p	RECTIFIER DIODES		AN203	210p	AN6341	200p	BA338	80p	BA7007	200p			
BC109	8p	BD436	30p	BU133	125p	BUV50	425p	MJ11015	250p	BY127	8p	AN210	150p	AN6342	325p	BA340	75p	BA7021	180p			
BC140	20p	BD438	36p	BU180	100p	BUV61	1000p	MJ11016	250p	BY133	8p	AN211	150p	AN6344	440p	BA343	60p	BA7022	350p			
BC142	20p	BD439	40p	BU184	100p	BUV70	200p	MJ11033	800p	BY164	40p	AN214Q	170p	AN6345	400p	BA336	175p	BA7025L	100p			
BC143	20p	BD440	40p	BU204	65p	BUV93	375p	MJ15003	250p	BY179	35p	AN217P	95p	AN6346	350p	BA401	150p	BA7109	475p			
BC147	8p	BD441	40p	BU205	70p	BUW12A	200p	MJ15004	300p	BY184	32p	AN228	280p	AN6350	610p	BA402	50p	BA7212S	200p			
BC159	8p	BD534	38p	BU207	150p	BUW12	125p	MJ15016	350p	BY206	11p	AN252	150p	AN6352	450p	BA511	145p	BA7252S	150p			
BC160	30p	BD535	38p	BU208	70p	BUW12A	150p	MJ15022	400p	BY207	20p	AN258	150p	AN6356	300p	BA514	160p	BA7604N	100p			
BC171	10p	BD536	38p	BU208A	75p	BUW12F	250p	MJ15023	400p	BY222	19p	AN259	250p	AN6359	500p	BA516	150p	BA7751LS	150p			
BC172	10p	BD537	40p	BU208AT	40p	BUW32A	200p	MJ15024	400p	BY228	28p	AN262	140p	AN6360	320p	BA518	150p	BA7752	250p			
BC177	14p	BD538	40p	BU209	100p	BUW32A	200p	MJ15025	700p	BY298	15p	AN277B	400p	AN6362	400p	BA521	100p	BA7755	150p			
BC178	14p	BD643	50p	BU209D	130p	BUW48	550p	MJE340	25p	BY299	18p	AN278	60p	AN6363	375p	BA524	240p	BA7767AS	155p			
BC179	14p	BD645	50p	BU209	90p	BUW49	550p	MJE350	80p	BY329-1200	150p	AN301	230p	AN6367NK	400p	BA526	180p	BA8504	350p			
BC182	7p	BD647	50p	BU225	120p	BUW50	400p	MJE520	30p	BY448	20p	AN316	350p	AN6368	275p	BA527	95p	BA15218	60p			
BC183	7p	BD649	50p	BU226	120p	BUW81A	150p	MJE520	30p	BY448	20p	AN316	350p	AN6371	350p	BA532	100p	CA3140E	30p			
BC184	7p	BD676	40p	BU312	40p	BU312	40p	MJE3055T	65p	BY711	25p	AN316	350p	AN6378	400p	BA534	220p	CX2106A	50p			
BC184L	7p	BD677	38p	BU325A	55p	BUW85	85p	MJE13004	100p	BY113-1000	30p	AN315	210p	AN6379	100p	BA536	150p	CXN82A	80p			
BC212	7p	BD678	40p	BU406	60p	BUX11	350p	MJE13005	60p	BY228	28p	AN315	210p	AN6382	45p	BA546	160p	CXN83A	60p			
BC212L	7p	BD680	40p	BU406D	85p	BUX12	150p	MJE13007	100p	BY228	28p	AN315	210p	AN6384	45p	BA612	120p	CX136	600p			
BC238	14p	BD681	40p	BU407	85p	BUX12	150p	MJE13009	100p	BY448	20p	AN315	210p	AN6385	45p	BA612	120p	CX139A	750p			
BC238L	14p	BD682	45p	BU407D	75p	BUX21	450p	MJE15029	200p	BY711	25p	AN315	210p	AN6386	45p	BA612	120p	CX145	725p			
BC241	7p	BD705	50p	BU408	60p	BUX22	450p	MJE15030	250p	BY113-1000	30p	AN315	210p	AN6387	45p	BA612	120p	CX150B	325p			
BC214L	7p	BD707	50p	BU409	85p	BUX23	220p	MJE15031	400p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6388	45p	BA612	120p	CX175	325p			
BC237	7p	BD709	50p	BU412	30p	BUX42	220p	MJE18004	125p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6389	45p	BA612	120p	CX187	825p			
BC238	7p	BD711	50p	BU413	175p	BUX40	210p	MJF18204	350p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6390	45p	BA612	120p	CX187A	75p			
BC239	7p	BD736	50p	BU414B	250p	BUX41	210p	OC28	350p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6391	45p	BA612	120p	CX187B	575p			
BC300	20p	BD826	50p	BU415A	170p	BUX42	220p	OC29	350p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6392	45p	BA612	120p	CX187C	500p			
BC301	20p	BD828	50p	BU426A	70p	BUX47A	220p	OC35	250p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6393	45p	BA612	120p	CX187D	500p			
BC302	20p	BD839	55p	BU433	120p	BUX48A	150p	OC36	250p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6394	45p	BA612	120p	CX187E	500p			
BC303	20p	BD897	50p	BU500	100p	BUX55	800p	S2000A3	175p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6395	45p	BA612	120p	CX187F	500p			
BC304	25p	BD899	50p	BU500D	225p	BUX80	180p	S2000AF	90p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6396	45p	BA612	120p	CX187G	500p			
BC327	7p	BD977	50p	BU505	90p	BUX81	160p	S2055A	175p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6397	45p	BA612	120p	CX187H	500p			
BC328	7p	BDX33	60p	BU505D	90p	BUX84	50p	S2055AF	175p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6398	45p	BA612	120p	CX187I	500p			
BC337	7p	BDX37	100p	BU505DF	90p	BUX85	50p	S2530A	100p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6399	45p	BA612	120p	CX187J	500p			
BC338	7p	BDX44	100p	BU506	120p	BUX87	50p	S2530B	100p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6400	45p	BA612	120p	CX187K	500p			
BC444	28p	BDX48	100p	BU506D	70p	BUX87	50p	TIP29A	22p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6401	45p	BA612	120p	CX187L	500p			
BC446	8p	BDX54C	75p	BU506F	100p	BUX98A	350p	TIP29C	25p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6402	45p	BA612	120p	CX187M	500p			
BC477	18p	BDX62C	150p	BU508A	60p	BUZ71	75p	TIP29E	25p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6403	45p	BA612	120p	CX187N	500p			
BC516	22p	BDX63C	175p	BU508AF	60p	BUZ71AF	100p	TIP30	25p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6404	45p	BA612	120p	CX187O	500p			
BC537	22p	BDX64C	175p	BU508APH	60p	BUZ72AF	100p	TIP30C	25p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6405	45p	BA612	120p	CX187P	500p			
BC546	8p	BDX65	175p	BU508D	60p	BUZ72AF	100p	TIP30C	25p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6406	45p	BA612	120p	CX187Q	500p			
BC547	8p	BDX66C	175p	BU508DF	85p	BUZ73AF	150p	TIP31A	22p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6407	45p	BA612	120p	CX187R	500p			
BC548	8p	BDX67C	275p	BU508DR	130p	BUZ73AF	150p	TIP31A	22p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6408	45p	BA612	120p	CX187S	500p			
BC549	8p	BDX71	70p	BU508E	110p	BUZ76A	110p	TIP32A	21p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6409	45p	BA612	120p	CX187T	500p			
BC550	8p	BDX77	175p	BU508F	100p	BUZ80	135p	TIP32C	21p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6410	45p	BA612	120p	CX187U	500p			
BC555	8p	BDX87C	175p	BU508G	120p	BUZ80AF	135p	TIP32C	21p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6411	45p	BA612	120p	CX187V	500p			
BC557	8p	BDX88C	150p	BU508H	100p	BUZ83	200p	TIP33C	60p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6412	45p	BA612	120p	CX187W	500p			
BC558	8p	BDW24	55p	BU546	125p	BUZ90A	180p	TIP34	65p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6413	45p	BA612	120p	CX187X	500p			
BC559	8p	BDW93	50p	BU603	125p	BUZ91A	260p	TIP34C	60p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6414	45p	BA612	120p	CX187Y	500p			
BC560	8p	BDW94	50p	BU608D	225p	BY448	20p	TIP35C	60p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6415	45p	BA612	120p	CX187Z	500p			
BC637	20p	BDY29	225p	BY111	120p	IRF120	225p	TIP40	60p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6416	45p	BA612	120p	CX187AA	500p			
BC639	20p	BDY56	225p	BU628	120p	IRF130	475p	TIP41A	20p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6417	45p	BA612	120p	CX187AB	500p			
BC640	20p	BDY58	500p	BU705	130p	IRF120	225p	TIP41A	20p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6418	45p	BA612	120p	CX187AC	500p			
BCY33	200p	BDY90	125p	BU706DF	175p	IRF140	550p	TIP42A	22p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6419	45p	BA612	120p	CX187AD	500p			
BCY34	200p	BDY92	100p	BU706F	150p	IRF230	550p	TIP42C	22p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6420	45p	BA612	120p	CX187AE	500p			
BCY70	16p	BF137	35p	BU724A	100p	IRF247	475p	TIP47	40p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6421	45p	BA612	120p	CX187AF	500p			
BCY71	16p	BF167	35p	BU801	70p	IRF250	375p	TIP48	40p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6422	45p	BA612	120p	CX187AG	500p			
BCY72	16p	BF181	38p	BU806	70p	IRF330	60p	TIP50	40p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6423	45p	BA612	120p	CX187AH	500p			
BD115	30p	BF183	20p	BU807	60p	IRF340	325p	TIP51	40p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6424	45p	BA612	120p	CX187AI	500p			
BD124P	50p	BF195	7p	BU807F	75p	IRF350	75p	TIP52	80p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6425	45p	BA612	120p	CX187AJ	500p			
BD131	25p	BF199	8p	BU808DF	210p	IRF350	75p	TIP54	80p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6426	45p	BA612	120p	CX187AK	500p			
BD132	20p	BF200	16p	BU810	110p	IRF510	110p	TIP102	70p	BYW96E	36p	AN315	210p	AN6427	45p							

PLEASE PHONE US FOR TYPES NOT LISTED AS WE
 HAVE OVER 50,000 ITEMS IN STOCK.
 QUOTATIONS GIVEN FOR LARGE QUANTITIES

LINEAR ICs

Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price		
HA13001	650p	LA2800	350p	LA7096	200p	LF353	48p	MC3302	50p	SAB3029	525p	STK3102 II	530p	STK5478	380p	STR16006	500p	TA7281	200p
HA13002	200p	LA3120	200p	LA7113	275p	LF355	60p	MC3401	45p	SAB3035	275p	STK3106	2500p	STK5479	300p	STR17006	500p	TA7282	160p
HA13006	400p	LA3150	200p	LA7116	125p	LF357	70p	MC3423P	100p	SAB3036	725p	STK3122 III	725p	STK5481	470p	STR20005	450p	TA7283	400p
HA13007	200p	LA3160	120p	LA7123	1300p	LF398	300p	MC3488AP	250p	SAB3037	700p	STK3152 II	900p	STK5482	285p	STR2012	450p	TA7284	200p
HA13108	280p	LA3161	60p	LA7210	60p	LH2426S	600p	MC34063AP	300p	SAB3042	825p	STK3156 I	500p	STK5483	440p	STR20015	450p	TA7285	400p
HA13117	175p	LA3210	65p	LA7212	150p	LM301	26p	MN1220T	600p	SAB3064	130p	STK4017	400p	STK5486	450p	STR30110	330p	TA7288	220p
HA13118	400p	LA3226	65p	LA7214	150p	LM311	35p	MN1226	450p	SAB3209	235p	STK4019	480p	STK5487	525p	STR30115	275p	TA7291P	200p
HA13119	140p	LA3228	70p	LA7220	125p	LM319	165p	MN1228	60p	SAB3221	150p	STK4021	350p	STK5488	480p	STR30123	400p	TA7292P	325p
HA13127	350p	LA3300	110p	LA7222	110p	LM324	30p	MN1276	130p	SAB6456	110p	STK4025	550p	STK5490	450p	STR30125	550p	TA7294P	450p
HA13128	400p	LA3301	140p	LA7224	150p	LM335Z	120p	MN1280	70p	SAB8048	225p	STK4026	480p	STK5720	400p	STR30130	250p	TA7299	200p
HA13130	450p	LA3361	100p	LA7225	250p	LM339	35p	MN3004	600p	SAB8051AP	700p	STK4028	550p	STK5725	450p	STR30132	350p	TA7300P	75p
HA13135	500p	LA3365	70p	LA7292	275p	LM348	50p	MN3005	2000p	SDA2003	450p	STK4032 II	1050p	STK5730	450p	STR30135	450p	TA7301	70p
HA13139	500p	LA3370	70p	LA7294	200p	LM358	45p	MN3011	4000p	SDA2005	700p	STK4034 X	925p	STK6316	300p	STR30137	450p	TA7302	100p
HA13150A	1150p	LA3373	100p	LA7295	150p	LM381	150p	MN3102	110p	SDA2007	300p	STK4036	470p	STK6324B	500p	STR30139	450p	TA7303	100p
HA13151	875p	LA3375	300p	LA7297	120p	LM382	130p	MN3207	375p	SDA2008	400p	STK4038	680p	STK6328A	800p	STR30141	950p	TA7304	120p
HA13403	400p	LA3376	80p	LA7305A	350p	LM386	60p	MN3208	95p	SDA2112	450p	STK4040 II	650p	STK6328A	800p	STR30143	950p	TA7305	70p
HA13406W	400p	LA3380	300p	LA7308	70p	LM386	60p	MN3208	95p	SDA2112	450p	STK4042 II	800p	STK6341	850p	STR50020	350p	TA7310	100p
HA13408	350p	LA3390	250p	LA7311	200p	LM387	100p	MN6030B	350p	SDA2120	200p	STK4044	950p	STK6607	400p	STR50022	350p	TA7314	175p
HA13412	600p	LA3400	250p	LA7320	120p	LM389N	105p	MN6163A	700p	SDA2121	225p	STK4046	950p	STK6722	725p	STR50025	350p	TA7317	200p
HA13426	500p	LA3401	90p	LA7323	325p	LM393	45p	MTA001M	60p	SDA2208	450p	STK4048	1280p	STK6732	1000p	STR50013	260p	TA7318	120p
HA13432	150p	LA3410	270p	LA7330	675p	LM451	50p	NE555	250p	SDA4212	775p	STK4050 II	1600p	STK6822	500p	STR50113	500p	TA7319P	200p
HA13441	450p	LA3430	135p	LA7331	250p	LM451	50p	NE555	250p	SDA4212	775p	STK4050 II	1600p	STK6822	500p	STR50113	500p	TA7320P	200p
HA17524	250p	LA3600	60p	LA7332	225p	LM723	40p	NE555	80p	SDA5243-2	400p	STK4060	510p	STK6822H	510p	STR50115	500p	TA7322	130p
KA2102	100p	LA3605	100p	LA7330	300p	LM741DIL	18p	NE565	110p	SDA5343	1450p	STK4065	650p	STK6932	525p	STR50123	500p	TA7323	80p
KA2130	150p	LA3607	125p	LA7376	150p	LM741MET	45p	NE567	115p	SDA5640	200p	STK4101	500p	STK6962	275p	STR50341	400p	TA7324	75p
KA2131	110p	LA4030	180p	LA7391	550p	LM747	55p	NE571	290p	SDA5642	250p	STK4111	500p	STK6972	490p	STR50401	320p	TA7325	90p
KA2208	250p	LA4032	140p	LA7520	200p	LM1017	200p	NE592	85p	SGSF444	500p	STK4121	500p	STK6981B	600p	STR50541	450p	TA7326	200p
KA2210	230p	LA4034	150p	LA7520	200p	LM1035N	350p	NE592	85p	SGSF445	500p	STK4122	480p	STK6982	600p	STR50601	450p	TA7327	110p
KA2212	65p	LA4100	85p	LA7545	160p	LM1040N	650p	SAA1000	350p	SLA4031	700p	STK4131	480p	STK7217	420p	STR5090	300p	TA7330P	80p
KA2213	130p	LA4101	80p	LA7550	275p	LM1203	225p	SAA1004	65p	SLA7020M	450p	STK4132 II	600p	STK7217	420p	STR50901	250p	TA7331P	80p
KA2214	100p	LA4102	100p	LA7555	150p	LM1875T	330p	SAA1006	300p	STA341M	180p	STK4133 II	750p	STK7225	500p	STR80145	475p	TA7333	100p
KA2224	50p	LA4110	120p	LA7620	500p	LM1881N	375p	SAA1008	450p	STA401A	220p	STK4141 II	420p	STK7226	600p	STR81145	375p	TA7335	85p
KA2244	100p	LA4138	105p	LA7681	500p	LM1886	250p	SAA1010	400p	STA403A	270p	STK4142	450p	STK7251	500p	STR90120	425p	TA7336	180p
KA2263	100p	LA4140	80p	LA7710	250p	LM1894N	300p	SAA1025	250p	STA431A	250p	STK4151	680p	STK7503	450p	STRD1206	500p	TA7337P	175p
KA2264	100p	LA4142	65p	LA7800	90p	LM1895N	275p	SAA1026	400p	STA432A	220p	STK4152	650p	STK7309	400p	STRD1706	360p	TA7341	250p
KA2284	75p	LA4145	85p	LA7801	100p	LM2901N	350p	SAA1027	400p	STA434A	270p	STK4161	650p	STK7310	470p	STRD1806	360p	TA7342P	70p
KA2309	175p	LA4160	110p	LA7802	300p	LM2902N	40p	SAA1029	150p	STA435A	270p	STK4162	550p	STK7348	400p	STRD1816	350p	TA7343	120p
KA2412	225p	LA4178	110p	LA7806	260p	LM2903N	40p	SAA1042	325p	STA441C	220p	STK4164 II	1175p	STK7356	425p	STRD1916	550p	TA7347P	120p
KA2912	125p	LA4180	150p	LA7820	150p	LM3800	40p	SAA1043	675p	STA451C	280p	STK4171	900p	STK7358	440p	STRD3035	300p	TA7348P	175p
KA2913A	175p	LA4182	180p	LA7823	200p	LM3909	100p	SAA1044	400p	STA456C	280p	STK4172 II	850p	STK7408	560p	STRD1406	800p	TA7349P	125p
KA2914A	200p	LA4190	300p	LA7824	130p	LM3911N	200p	SAA1056	300p	STA471	210p	STK4181	680p	STK7408	560p	STRD1552	400p	TA7354P	65p
KA22427	100p	LA4192	140p	LA7830	90p	LM3914	160p	SAA1057	375p	STA901M	280p	STK4182 II	750p	STK7406	650p	STRD5412	475p	TA7355	85p
KA22427	100p	LA4192	140p	LA7830	90p	LM3915	160p	SAA1058	225p	STK0025	420p	STK4191	700p	STK7408	650p	STRD5412	475p	TA7355	85p
KA22427	100p	LA4192	140p	LA7830	90p	LM3916	160p	SAA1058	225p	STK0029	1000p	STK4192	700p	STK7410	1500p	STRD6008	475p	TA7359P	90p
KA22427	100p	LA4192	140p	LA7830	90p	LM3916	160p	SAA1058	225p	STK0039	600p	STK4211 II	1000p	STK7458	1250p	STRD6009E	450p	TA7361	125p
KA22427	100p	LA4192	140p	LA7830	90p	LM3916	160p	SAA1058	225p	STK0049	510p	STK4221 II	1200p	STK7554	600p	STRD6018	800p	TA7362	150p
KA22427	100p	LA4192	140p	LA7830	90p	LM3916	160p	SAA1058	225p	STK0059	440p	STK4231 II	1050p	STK7562	1000p	STRD6602	475p	TA7364P	175p
KA22427	100p	LA4192	140p	LA7830	90p	LM3916	160p	SAA1058	225p	STK0069	620p	STK4241	1050p	STK7563	800p	STRD6601	650p	TA7366P	65p
KA22427	100p	LA4192	140p	LA7830	90p	LM3916	160p	SAA1058	225p	STK0069	620p	STK4241 V	1250p	STK7573	400p	STRM6545	900p	TA7368P	35p
KA22427	100p	LA4192	140p	LA7830	90p	LM3916	160p	SAA1058	225p	STK0070	1100p	STK4272	500p	STK7575	1500p	STRM6546	900p	TA7373F	150p
KA22427	100p	LA4192	140p	LA7830	90p	LM3916	160p	SAA1058	225p	STK0080	175p	STK4273	550p	STK7703	1000p	STRM6549	900p	TA7374	175p
KA22427	100p	LA4192	140p	LA7830	90p	LM3916	160p	SAA1058	225p	STK0111	330p	STK4301	500p	STK7800	1600p	STRS5941	750p	TA7376P	100p
KA22427	100p	LA4192	140p	LA7830	90p	LM3916	160p	SAA1058	225p	STK0116	760p	STK4311	650p	STK8250	500p	STRS5941	750p	TA7378P	100p
KA22427	100p	LA4192	140p	LA7830	90p	LM3916	160p	SAA1058	225p	STK0125	650p	STK4332	365p	STK8260	1200p	STRS6307	600p	TA7401	250p
KA22427	100p	LA4192	140p	LA7830	90p	LM3916	160p	SAA1058	225p	STK0250	1500p	STK4352	500p	STK8280	1850p	STRS6308	600p	TA7402P	200p
KA22427	100p	LA4192	140p	LA7830	90p	LM3916	160p	SAA1058	225p	STK0250	1500p	STK4352	500p	STK8280	1850p	STRS6309	600p	TA7403	325p
KA22427	100p	LA4192	140p	LA7830	90p	LM3916	160p	SAA1058	225p	STK0250	1500p	STK4352	500p	STK8280	1850p	STRS6309	600p	TA7404	150p
KA22427	100p	LA4192	140p	LA7830	90p	LM3916	160p	SAA1058	225p	STK0250	1500p	STK4352	500p	STK8280	1850p	STRS6309	600p	TA7405P	200p
KA22427	100p	LA4192	140p	LA7830	90p	LM3916	160p	SAA1058	225p	STK0250	1500p	STK4352	500p	STK8280	1850p	STRS6309	600p	TA7406	150p
KA22427	100p	LA4192	140p	LA7830	90p	LM3916	160p	SAA1058	225p	STK0250	1500p	STK4352	500p	STK8280	1850p	STRS6309	600p	TA7407	150p
KA22427	100p	LA4192	140p	LA7830	90p	LM3916	160p	SAA1058	225p	STK0250	1500p	STK4352	500p	STK8280					

LINEAR ICs/JAPANESE TRANSISTORS

Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price		
TA8164P	100P	TDA1180	120P	TDA2760	400P	TDA4661	225P	DA8391	675P	UPC1004C	130P	2SA771	90P	2SA1177	25P	2SB561	30P	2SC738	15P
TA8184P	350P	TDA1185A	190P	TDA2780	600P	TDA4670	475P	DA8395	350P	UPC1009	95P	2SA773	50P	2SA1179	20P	2SB562	20P	2SC739	150P
TA8200A	130P	TDA1200B	80P	TDA2795	150P	TDA4684	550P	DA8405	550P	UPC1018	170P	2SA775	35P	2SA1182	20P	2SB564	15P	2SC761	150P
TA8201AK	300P	TDA1220	80P	TDA2822M	60P	TDA4685	275P	DA8415	650P	UPC1020	200P	2SA778	100P	2SA1184	120P	2SB566	90P	2SC762	150P
TA8205	220P	TDA1235	300P	TDA2824	85P	TDA4700A	750P	DA8416	625P	UPC1023	60P	2SA781	150P	2SA1185	200P	2SB566	50P	2SC783	85P
TA8207K	175P	TDA1236	240P	TDA2840	20P	TDA4714C	350P	DA8417	550P	UPC1024H	275P	2SA782	25P	2SA1186	500P	2SB598	30P	2SC790	20P
TA8210	260P	TDA1251	150P	TDA3047	100P	TDA4716C	450P	DA8421	300P	UPC1025	230P	2SA794	50P	2SA1188	20P	2SB600	50P	2SC792	380P
TA8211H	200P	TDA1270	200P	TDA3048	100P	TDA4718A	250P	DA8425	550P	UPC1028	95P	2SA798	30P	2SA1201	40P	2SB601	60P	2SC805	225P
TA8214K	250P	TDA1300	130P	TDA3082	70P	TDA4725	750P	DA8432	550P	UPC1028	90P	2SA812	15P	2SA1202	25P	2SB605	25P	2SC828	20P
TA8215	300P	TDA1405	50P	TDA3083	200P	TDA4800	700P	DA8433	600P	UPC1031H	150P	2SA814	60P	2SA1204	225P	2SB631	40P	2SC829	15P
TA8216H	300P	TDA1410	220P	TDA3190	200P	TDA4810	500P	DA8440	300P	UPC1032	60P	2SA816	70P	2SA1206	60P	2SB632	45P	2SC839	20P
TA8217P	120P	TDA1412	35P	TDA3301B	1600P	TDA4814A	300P	DA8442	200P	UPC1035C	110P	2SA817	20P	2SA1207	25P	2SB633	80P	2SC867	900P
TA8220AH	500P	TDA1506	275P	TDA3310	120P	TDA4850	475P	DA8443	350P	UPC1043C	125P	2SA825	25P	2SA1208	70P	2SB641	10P	2SC870	100P
TA8221AH	600P	TDA1508	175P	TDA3410	150P	TDA4851	325P	DA8444	200P	UPC1558H	70P	2SA836	20P	2SA1209	100P	2SB647	20P	2SC897	175P
TA8225A	475P	TDA1509	170P	TDA3420	200P	TDA4852	200P	DA8451	325P	UPC1167	125P	2SA839	110P	2SA1215	600P	2SB649	35P	2SC930	15P
TA8225L	475P	TDA1512	140P	TDA3501	300P	TDA4860	200P	DA8452	200P	UPC1170	150P	2SA841	20P	2SA1216	550P	2SB673	100P	2SC936	300P
TA8227	250P	TDA1514A	325P	TDA3502	360P	TDA4866	200P	DA8453	350P	UPC1175	200P	2SA844	20P	2SA1217	100P	2SB676	85P	2SC941	15P
TA8229K	200P	TDA1515A	200P	TDA3504	300P	TDA4881	200P	DA8461	950P	UPC1178	200P	2SA847	25P	2SA1220	70P	2SB688	10P	2SC945	100P
TA8400P	200P	TDA15160	350P	TDA3505	275P	TDA4935	300P	DA8490	225P	UPC1178C	120P	2SA847	25P	2SA1222	50P	2SB703	90P	2SC945	100P
TA8410K	200P	TDA1519	200P	TDA3506	260P	TDA4940	200P	DA8540	200P	UPC1180C	200P	2SA861	45P	2SA1222	50P	2SB705	200P	2SC950	40P
TA8416P	200P	TDA1520	200P	TDA3507	200P	TDA4944	175P	DA8542	275P	UPC1182H	250P	2SA872	25P	2SA1226	25P	2SB707	200P	2SC959	225P
TA8432	200P	TDA1519A	200P	TDA3510	200P	TDA4950	100P	DA8708	600P	UPC1185H	400P	2SA872	25P	2SA1227	250P	2SB716	20P	2SC980	40P
TA8605N	350P	TDA1520	275P	TDA3520	200P	TDA5030A	100P	DA8730	225P	UPC1186	150P	2SA879	30P	2SA1232	180P	2SB718	60P	2SC982	20P
TA8606N	350P	TDA1521	210P	TDA3530	250P	TDA5030A	100P	DA8732	300P	UPC1188H	350P	2SA884	35P	2SA1237	150P	2SB727	70P	2SC983	40P
TA8607P	320P	TDA1522	110P	TDA3540	200P	TDA5140A	200P	DA8732	300P	UPC1188H	350P	2SA884	35P	2SA1238	30P	2SB733	75P	2SC1000	20P
TA8611AN	250P	TDA1542	200P	TDA3541	200P	TDA5330T	150P	DA8735	175P	UPC1191	300P	2SA885	35P	2SA1238	30P	2SB734	35P	2SC1001	950P
TA8615N	480P	TDA1526	225P	TDA3560	260P	TDA5332T	150P	DA8741	550P	UPC1192H	200P	2SA887	20P	2SA1240	45P	2SB737	20P	2SC1008	20P
TA8628N	350P	TDA1534	2000P	TDA3561	300P	TDA5500	400P	DA8808T	325P	UPC1210	150P	2SA893	15P	2SA1242	80P	2SB739	22P	2SC1010	225P
TA8631	500P	TDA1540	420P	TDA3561A	100P	TDA5600	450P	DA8809T	350P	UPC1215	125P	2SA896	25P	2SA1244	120P	2SB744	55P	2SC1013	150P
TA8632N	500P	TDA1541	500P	TDA3562	260P	TDA5600P	250P	DA8905	300P	UPC1222	130P	2SA899	40P	2SA1244	120P	2SB744	55P	2SC1014	140P
TA8644N	425P	TDA1542	250P	TDA3562TF	300P	TDA5700	200P	DA9020	400P	UPC1225	130P	2SA900	45P	2SA1245	60P	2SB750	60P	2SC1020	20P
TA8645	350P	TDA1543	200P	TDA3570	200P	TDA7200	200P	DA9020C	250P	UPC1227H	225P	2SA904	20P	2SA1248	35P	2SB754	80P	2SC1030	150P
TA8653N	1500P	TDA1552Q	350P	TDA3564	325P	TDA5708	275P	DA9403	130P	UPC1228A	45P	2SA907	20P	2SA1249	100P	2SB764	30P	2SC1046	250P
TA8659AN	900P	TDA1553Q	325P	TDA3565	220P	TDA5709	375P	DA9500	750P	UPC1230	200P	2SA909	500P	2SA1252	20P	2SB765	70P	2SC1047	20P
TA8690N	700P	TDA1550A	375P	TDA3566	280P	TDA5800	850P	DA9503	550P	UPC1237HA	70P	2SA912	70P	2SA1253	30P	2SB772	25P	2SC1060	200P
TA8691N	450P	TDA15570	300P	TDA3567	350P	TDA5820	370P	DA9513	225P	UPC1239	120P	2SA913	100P	2SA1256	60P	2SB774	250P	2SC1061	85P
TA8701AN	275P	TDA1580	300P	TDA3569	300P	TDA5820	370P	DA9513	225P	UPC1241	120P	2SA913	100P	2SA1256	60P	2SB774	250P	2SC1061	85P
TA8718N	250P	TDA1581	200P	TDA3570	375P	TDA5850	175P	DA9821	200P	UPC1242H	150P	2SA915	30P	2SA1258	70P	2SB776	110P	2SC1069	175P
TA8720	525P	TDA1571	300P	TDA3580	300P	TDA5930	225P	TEA0652	150P	UPC1245V	130P	2SA916	30P	2SA1261	150P	2SB788	35P	2SC1070	65P
TA8739P	450P	TDA1572	175P	TDA3586	700P	TDA6100Q	165P	TEA0653T	80P	UPC1270H	250P	2SA921	40P	2SA1262	110P	2SB791	130P	2SC1079	300P
TA8739P	450P	TDA1574	125P	TDA3590	250P	TDA6101Q	120P	TEA0655	300P	UPC1274	250P	2SA928A	25P	2SA1263	280P	2SB794	40P	2SC1080	225P
TA8739P	450P	TDA1576	170P	TDA3591	260P	TDA6111Q	225P	TEA0655	300P	UPC1277	240P	2SA933	30P	2SA1263	280P	2SB794	40P	2SC1080	225P
TA8739P	450P	TDA1578	210P	TDA3592A	300P	TDA6120	700P	TEA1002	650P	UPC1282H	220P	2SA934	30P	2SA1265	200P	2SB810	15P	2SC1096	140P
TA8739P	450P	TDA1589	275P	TDA3602	225P	TDA6600-2	1100P	TEA1007	120P	UPC1288V	30P	2SA935	40P	2SA1265	200P	2SB810	15P	2SC1096	140P
TA8739P	450P	TDA1591	275P	TDA3611	450P	TDA6610-2	900P	TEA1009	100P	UPC1292	320P	2SA935	40P	2SA1283	50P	2SB816	160P	2SC1106	180P
TA8739P	450P	TDA1596	200P	TDA3640	350P	TDA6612-2	900P	TEA1015P	110P	UPC1298	320P	2SA937	20P	2SA1284	60P	2SB817	175P	2SC1114	415P
TA8739P	450P	TDA1598	160P	TDA3645	400P	TDA7010T	120P	TEA1017	280P	UPC1313H	100P	2SA940	140P	2SA1286	60P	2SB819	60P	2SC1115	280P
TA8739P	450P	TDA1600	200P	TDA3651	200P	TDA7010T	120P	TEA1019	130P	UPC1316C	100P	2SA942	60P	2SA1289	50P	2SB822	40P	2SC1116	290P
TA8739P	450P	TDA1602A	400P	TDA3652	500P	TDA7021T	200P	TEA1024	750P	UPC1318	300P	2SA949	70P	2SA1293	110P	2SB825	45P	2SC1124	200P
TA8739P	450P	TDA1604	500P	TDA3652	500P	TDA7050	100P	TEA1039	150P	UPC1335V	320P	2SA951	60P	2SA1295	500P	2SB827	200P	2SC1164	600P
TA8739P	450P	TDA1604	500P	TDA3652	500P	TDA7052	120P	TEA1045	300P	UPC1350	115P	2SA952	30P	2SA1301	260P	2SB828	200P	2SC1165	750P
TA8739P	450P	TDA1604	500P	TDA3652	500P	TDA7053	200P	TEA1060	225P	UPC1352C	450P	2SA953	60P	2SA1302	300P	2SB829	200P	2SC1166	1000P
TA8739P	450P	TDA1604	500P	TDA3652	500P	TDA7056	200P	TEA1061	175P	UPC1360C	200P	2SA954	30P	2SA1303	400P	2SB835	80P	2SC1172	150P
TA8739P	450P	TDA1604	500P	TDA3652	500P	TDA7057	200P	TEA1062	175P	UPC1363C	190P	2SA958	60P	2SA1306	110P	2SB861	110P	2SC1173	33P
TA8739P	450P	TDA1604	500P	TDA3652	500P	TDA7057	200P	TEA1063	175P	UPC1363C	190P	2SA958	60P	2SA1307	100P	2SB862	220P	2SC1195	210P
TA8739P	450P	TDA1604	500P	TDA3652	500P	TDA7057	200P	TEA1063	175P	UPC1364C	350P	2SA965	30P	2SA1309	50P	2SB885	25P	2SC1212	35P
TA8739P	450P	TDA1604	500P	TDA3652	500P	TDA7057	200P	TEA1063	175P	UPC1364C	350P	2SA965	30P	2SA1315	100P	2SB885	25P	2SC1212	35P
TA8739P	450P	TDA1604	500P	TDA3652	500P	TDA7057	200P	TEA1063	175P	UPC1364C	350P	2SA965	30P	2SA1315	100P	2SB885	25P	2SC1212	35P
TA8739P	450P	TDA1604	500P	TDA3652	500P	TDA7057	200P	TEA1063	175P	UPC1364C	350P	2SA965	30P	2SA1315	100P	2SB885	25P	2SC1212	35P
TA8739P	450P	TDA1604	500P	TDA3652	500P	TDA7057	200P	TEA1063	175P	UPC1364C	350P	2SA965	30P	2SA1315	100P	2SB885	25P	2SC1212	35P
TA8739P	450P	TDA1604	500P	TDA3652	500P	TDA7057	200P	TEA1063	175P	UPC1364C	350P	2SA965	30P	2SA1315	100P	2SB885	25P	2SC1212	35P
TA8739P	450P	TDA1604	500P	TDA3652	500P	TDA7057	200P	TEA1063	175P	UPC1364C	350P	2SA965							

JAPANESE TRANSISTORS

Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price
2SC1675	90p	2SC2261	700p	2SC2719	25p	2SC3263	280p	2SC3798	220p	2SD257	195p	2SD880	40p	2SD1327	150p	2SD1763A	60p	2SK312	750p
2SC1678	80p	2SC2267	90p	2SC2721	120p	2SC3264	390p	2SC3807	120p	2SD287	250p	2SD882	25p	2SD1328	60p	2SD1764	70p	2SK315	70p
2SC1683	100p	2SC2270	60p	2SC2724	15p	2SC3269	50p	2SC3808	50p	2SD291	250p	2SD889	35p	2SD1330	50p	2SD1765	70p	2SK320	120p
2SC1684	30p	2SC2271	25p	2SC2728	200p	2SC3270	50p	2SC3811	80p	2SD313	25p	2SD892A	75p	2SD1347	70p	2SD1769	110p	2SK323	130p
2SC1685	30p	2SC2275	15p	2SC2749	350p	2SC3271	75p	2SC3831	250p	2SD315	75p	2SD894	35p	2SD1348	65p	2SD1773	100p	2SK332	175p
2SC1720	900p	2SC2278	70p	2SC2750	300p	2SC3272	280p	2SC3832	135p	2SD325	30p	2SD895	100p	2SD1350	150p	2SD1776	70p	2SK359	40p
2SC1739	10p	2SC2278	70p	2SC2751	270p	2SC3279	30p	2SC3833	250p	2SD330	65p	2SD896	200p	2SD1376	60p	2SD1783	70p	2SK363	50p
2SC1740	10p	2SC2290	1800p	2SC2752	75p	2SC3280	200p	2SC3851	100p	2SD348	300p	2SD898B	225p	2SD1378	60p	2SD1785	160p	2SK366	40p
2SC1741	35p	2SC2291	40p	2SC2757	300p	2SC3281	200p	2SC3852	80p	2SD350	320p	2SD900	400p	2SD1379	100p	2SD1789	210p	2SK367	40p
2SC1755	90p	2SC2298	35p	2SC2773	70p	2SC3284	600p	2SC3853	220p	2SD357	40p	2SD905	450p	2SD1380	100p	2SD1796	120p	2SK369	30p
2SC1756	35p	2SC2307	300p	2SC2774	500p	2SC3285	85p	2SC3855	220p	2SD358	40p	2SD916	130p	2SD1382	60p	2SD1802	75p	2SK369	30p
2SC1758	30p	2SC2308	10p	2SC2785	40p	2SC3293	50p	2SC3857	500p	2SD359	50p	2SD917	300p	2SD1384	50p	2SD1806	75p	2SK373	40p
2SC1760	70p	2SC2312	300p	2SC2786	20p	2SC3298	120p	2SC3858	550p	2SD361	100p	2SD921	320p	2SD1390	350p	2SD1812	45p	2SK374	45p
2SC1775	10p	2SC2314	70p	2SC2787	10p	2SC3300	400p	2SC3866	275p	2SD362	100p	2SD923	360p	2SD1391	250p	2SD1815	50p	2SK386	600p
2SC1781	20p	2SC2316	150p	2SC2791	500p	2SC3303	100p	2SC3868	100p	2SD371	240p	2SD948	120p	2SD1392	85p	2SD1825	60p	2SK389	115p
2SC1789	100p	2SC2320	10p	2SC2792	220p	2SC3306	130p	2SC3870	200p	2SD372	650p	2SD949	100p	2SD1395	80p	2SD1827	120p	2SK400	700p
2SC1809	40p	2SC2324	120p	2SC2793	700p	2SC3309	150p	2SC3878	21p	2SD381	50p	2SD950	300p	2SD1396	120p	2SD1843	70p	2SK405	450p
2SC1810	250p	2SC2328A	50p	2SC2808	40p	2SC3310	125p	2SC3884A	25p	2SD382	75p	2SD951	200p	2SD1397	100p	2SD1846	350p	2SK450	500p
2SC1815	10p	2SC2310	25p	2SC2810	360p	2SC3316	280p	2SC3885	25p	2SD385	150p	2SD957A	520p	2SD1398	120p	2SD1847	275p	2SK414	550p
2SC1819	70p	2SC2315	175p	2SC2812	40p	2SC3317	350p	2SC3885A	290p	2SD388	150p	2SD965	60p	2SD1399	300p	2SD1849	280p	2SK415	500p
2SC1826	60p	2SC2329	480p	2SC2814	40p	2SC3326	50p	2SC3886A	275p	2SD400	14p	2SD970	35p	2SD1400	280p	2SD1850	325p	2SK423	75p
2SC1827	60p	2SC2320	300p	2SC2824	75p	2SC3327	60p	2SC3890	150p	2SD401	50p	2SD972	40p	2SD1402	120p	2SD1853	40p	2SK427	50p
2SC1829	500p	2SC2331	50p	2SC2825	900p	2SC3328	50p	2SC3892A	250p	2SD402	120p	2SD973	60p	2SD1403	225p	2SD1856	40p	2SK430	200p
2SC1833	27p	2SC2333	200p	2SC2826	200p	2SC3330	20p	2SC3893	225p	2SD414	45p	2SD973A	60p	2SD1405	85p	2SD1857	75p	2SK511	450p
2SC1834	50p	2SC2334	80p	2SC2827	130p	2SC3331	25p	2SC3895	325p	2SD415	55p	2SD982	70p	2SD1406	60p	2SD1858	40p	2SK513	325p
2SC1841	12p	2SC2335	55p	2SC2832	300p	2SC3333	120p	2SC3896	400p	2SD424	350p	2SD985	120p	2SD1408	125p	2SD1863	35p	2SK526	160p
2SC1844	50p	2SC2336A	125p	2SC2834	280p	2SC3335	100p	2SC3897	200p	2SD426	150p	2SD986	120p	2SD1409	170p	2SD1865	85p	2SK531	350p
2SC1845	15p	2SC2344	150p	2SC2837	250p	2SC3346	130p	2SC3907	250p	2SD427	350p	2SD998	70p	2SD1411	85p	2SD1878	160p	2SK534	700p
2SC1846	35p	2SC2347	35p	2SC2839	40p	2SC3352	200p	2SC3927	250p	2SD438	35p	2SD1010	40p	2SD1412	75p	2SD1879	25p	2SK537	900p
2SC1847	45p	2SC2353	120p	2SC2853	70p	2SC3353	280p	2SC3940	40p	2SD467	15p	2SD1012	40p	2SD1413	60p	2SD1880	350p	2SK538	350p
2SC1855	85p	2SC2360	120p	2SC2873	60p	2SC3355	50p	2SC3943	75p	2SD468	15p	2SD1020	40p	2SD1415	190p	2SD1881	350p	2SK539	1100p
2SC1856	25p	2SC2361	150p	2SC2877	120p	2SC3356	120p	2SC3944	80p	2SD471	20p	2SD1021	120p	2SD1417	75p	2SD1884	300p	2SK544	30p
2SC1865	700p	2SC2362	50p	2SC2878	20p	2SC3358	50p	2SC3950	120p	2SD476	100p	2SD1022	250p	2SD1425	260p	2SD1886	300p	2SK545	200p
2SC1870	700p	2SC2365	280p	2SC2879	3200p	2SC3376	300p	2SC3953	50p	2SD525	50p	2SD1024	850p	2SD1426	135p	2SD1887	225p	2SK552	30p
2SC1871	425p	2SC2369	100p	2SC2882	60p	2SC3377	50p	2SC3955	60p	2SD526	70p	2SD1027	850p	2SD1427	160p	2SD1889	300p	2SK553	225p
2SC1875	220p	2SC2371	25p	2SC2883	60p	2SC3378	120p	2SC3964	100p	2SD545	18p	2SD1030	75p	2SD1428	180p	2SD1895	225p	2SK555	325p
2SC1880	70p	2SC2373	210p	2SC2898	200p	2SC3379	1200p	2SC3972	250p	2SD549	120p	2SD1031	70p	2SD1430	280p	2SD1910	175p	2SK556	500p
2SC1891	15p	2SC2383	50p	2SC2899	50p	2SC3381	130p	2SC3973	210p	2SD551	300p	2SD1036	600p	2SD1431	200p	2SD1911	300p	2SK557	400p
2SC1895	500p	2SC2389	45p	2SC2909	60p	2SC3383	80p	2SC3975	210p	2SD554	225p	2SD1046	200p	2SD1432	400p	2SD1913	50p	2SK559	600p
2SC1904	125p	2SC2407	110p	2SC2910	25p	2SC3393	80p	2SC3987	160p	2SD555	500p	2SD1047	180p	2SD1433	300p	2SD1929	50p	2SK560	475p
2SC1906	15p	2SC2408	120p	2SC2911	80p	2SC3397	20p	2SC3996	600p	2SD556	225p	2SD1051	130p	2SD1438	60p	2SD1930	50p	2SK560	70p
2SC1907	20p	2SC2412K	50p	2SC2912	120p	2SC3399	50p	2SC3997	1250p	2SD558	200p	2SD1055	60p	2SD1439	165p	2SD1933	45p	2SK566	580p
2SC1909	250p	2SC2440	200p	2SC2921	650p	2SC3400	35p	2SC4098	800p	2SD560	50p	2SD1060	130p	2SD1441	220p	2SD1939	60p	2SK606	70p
2SC1913	90p	2SC2458	10p	2SC2922	480p	2SC3401	50p	2SC4096	100p	2SD571	20p	2SD1062	150p	2SD1442	80p	2SD1941	350p	2SK612	80p
2SC1914	30p	2SC2459	50p	2SC2923	75p	2SC3402	40p	2SC4200	150p	2SD575	530p	2SD1063	200p	2SD1445	200p	2SD1944	50p	2SK684	950p
2SC1921	15p	2SC2466	55p	2SC2928	550p	2SC3405	130p	2SC4023	325p	2SD582	25p	2SD1064	250p	2SD1446	300p	2SD1958	80p	2SK685	1150p
2SC1922	175p	2SC2486	275p	2SC2929	280p	2SC3409	400p	2SC4029	350p	2SD596	25p	2SD1065	160p	2SD1450	60p	2SD1959	210p	2SK699	100p
2SC1923	10p	2SC2492	50p	2SC2934	75p	2SC3416	30p	2SC4043	45p	2SD600	30p	2SD1069	150p	2SD1451	200p	2SD1978	50p	2SK719	300p
2SC1929	180p	2SC2470	65p	2SC2937	250p	2SC3417	90p	2SC4046	40p	2SD601	40p	2SD1073	350p	2SD1452	275p	2SD1984	60p	2SK724	500p
2SC1940	110p	2SC2481	120p	2SC2939	400p	2SC3419	120p	2SC4056	200p	2SD602	60p	2SD1088	150p	2SD1453	140p	2SD1991	50p	2SK725	450p
2SC1941	27p	2SC2482	20p	2SC2944	300p	2SC3420	80p	2SC4059	400p	2SD612	50p	2SD1094	375p	2SD1455	250p	2SD1994	200p	2SK726	525p
2SC1942	350p	2SC2483	120p	2SC2958	50p	2SC3421	45p	2SC4064	140p	2SD613	70p	2SD1110	225p	2SD1457	165p	2SD1996	45p	2SK727	475p
2SC1944	350p	2SC2484	185p	2SC2962	800p	2SC3422	75p	2SC4105	150p	2SD617	300p	2SD1111	20p	2SD1458	50p	2SD2006	75p	2SK739	400p
2SC1945	350p	2SC2485	400p	2SC2979	160p	2SC3423	60p	2SC4107	175p	2SD633	70p	2SD1113	225p	2SD1459	60p	2SD2010	250p	2SK758	300p
2SC1946	1500p	2SC2491	200p	2SC2987	250p	2SC3425	65p	2SC4123	230p	2SD636	10p	2SD1128	200p	2SD1468	40p	2SD2011	60p	2SK769	500p
2SC1947	450p	2SC2498	50p	2SC2988	150p	2SC3446	150p	2SC4124	200p	2SD637	15p	2SD1133	65p	2SD1487	225p	2SD2012	50p	2SK787	200p
2SC1953	45p	2SC2500	25p	2SC2995	60p	2SC3447	130p	2SC4125	275p	2SD638	15p	2SD1135	75p	2SD1494	150p	2SD2018	65p	2SK786	200p
2SC1957	70p	2SC2502	70p	2SC2999	50p	2SC3456	200p	2SC4137	40p	2SD639	20p	2SD1138	40p	2SD1496	300p	2SD2033	80p	2SK787	800p
2SC1959	10p	2SC2503	600p	2SC3001	1400p	2SC3457	125p	2SC4138	200p	2SD640	350p	2SD1140	40p	2SD1497	230p	2SD2061	100p	2SK791	225p
2SC1962	175p	2SC2512	20p	2SC3019	3200p	2SC3459	180p	2SC4157	400p	2SD655	18p	2SD1142	350p	2SD1497-02	350p	2SD2066	250p	2SK792	300p
2SC1967	1300p	2SC2517	120p	2SC3020	1850p	2SC3460	130p	2SC4159	100p	2SD661	60p	2SD1145	25p	2SD1505	90p	2SD2125	180p	2SK793	300p
2SC1969	150p	2SC2519	60p	2SC3022</															

REPLACEMENT VIDEO HEADS

Model	Price	Model	Price	Model	Price	Model	Price	Model	Price		
AKAI		VHSAN3	800p	HRD750, HRD830, HRD860	1900p	NVFS 100	4500p	TL51100	3100p		
VS105, 112, 115, 116, 120, 125, 126, 201, 202, 205, 202, 204, 244, 245, 247, 248, 250, 301, 303, 304, VSP8,		VHSAY3	1200p	HRD250, HRD257	1800p	NVFS1	4200p	VHR120, 130, 14, 141, 143G, 145P, 151, 15, 16, 17, 171, 220, 23, 244, 274, VHR310, 330, 400, 100, 1200, 4200, 430, 4300, 4400, 4500, 5080, 5100, VHR5200, 5600, 6850, 7100, 7200, 7250, 7300, 8070, 8100, 8101, 8200, VHR7800, 7810, 8000SP, 8801SP, VHRD4400, 4410, 4500, 4800SP,		VHR4610, 6700, 4800	3100p
VS92	850p	VHSB11, VHSCH1	2100p	3V32, 8942, HR7655	1800p	N.E.C.		TL5200	4250p		
VP7100, VSP900, VSP950	650p	VHSBP1	850p	HRD190, 230, 610, 3V59, FV121	1600p	N9011, 9012, 9013E, 9014E, 9014G, 9015, 9016, 901A, 902A, 9033, N9034, 9040, 9053, 9054, 9055, 9056, 9063, 9065, 9066, 906, 9077		VHR5300, VHR6500, VHR7400	4500p		
VSP120, VSP900, VSP950	900p	VHSD52	1600p	FV208, 26, 30, 32, 33, VC141L	1600p	N909E, DX1000, 1600, PX1200	850p	VHR3500EX	2150p		
VS1	900p	VHSEH2, VHSDH2	1600p	HRD370, HRD430, HRD470, 3V58, FV13H	1800p	N911A, 914C, 915A, 916A, 917, 910, 910, 910, 910, 910	2400p	VTC3000	1400p		
VS2	900p	VHSEY1, VHSY2	1400p	HRD530, HRD700, HRD840, HRD870, HRD910, FV147, FV57H	2300p	PVC600, 740, 744, 754, 763E, 764, VZ3000, 2400, 760, 794, 770,	1650p	SHARP	2750p		
VS3	900p	VHSEY1, VHSY2	1400p	GRC1, GRC2, 3 V41	2300p	8261A, N835, N836	550p	VC390, VC393, VC496	4200p		
VS10	1350p	VHSEY1, VHSY2	1400p	860, 860, HRD330, 337, 440, 441, 637, 641, 860, 870, 720, 730, 740, 820	2800p	N838, N835, N836	550p	VC466	1400p		
VS11	900p	VHSEY1, VHSY2	1400p	HRF100, SR3300MS, FV44L	1600p	8261A, N835, N836	550p	VC479	1800p		
VS33, 35, 37, 38, 38E0G MKII, 53, 55, 66, 765, 766, 767, 768, 865, 867,		VHSHV4, VHSWH1, VHSXH1, VHSYH2	700p	HRD950, HRD960, HRD980,	4500p	DX4000, N9610, NS7000	2400p	VC789, VC790	2900p		
VSF30, 33, 4, 400, 410, 420, 430, 440, 441, 450, 455, 480, 490, 497, VXS450, VSG51, 54, 55, VXS450,		VHSWJ1 VHSXJ3	700p	FV46	4500p	N985, N9530, DX2000	3400p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
VXS470	1600p	GRUNDIG		HR55000, HR55500, 5800, 9000,	5550p	D56000	3500p	VC106, 208, 382, 402, 405, 408, 500, 550, 571, 573, 581, 582, 583, VCSW20E, 600, 651, 674, 681, 684, 6V3, 750, 780, 781, 683, 684, 402,	1800p		
VSS12, VSS15, VSS16	2250p	VS410, 415, 435, 450, 456, 460, 500, 505, 510, 520, 521, 530, 546	1600p	FV395 BR5600, SRS368E	1450p	VH900	1100p	VC500, 571, 573, 580, 584, 600, 682, 693, 700, 772, 7810, 782, 7822, VC783, 8481, 8581, VCA10, 100, 102, 103, 1031, 103, 104, 105, 106,	2700p		
V5462, 465, 467, 467E0G2, VSF12, 15EK, 15E0H, 300, 301, 310,		VS5480	1600p	FV22L	2600p	DV1060 (ALL MODELS)	1100p	VCA11, 111, 116, 131, 140, 202, 203, 211, 234, 244, 254, 255, 30, 35, VCA40, VC8311N, 320, VCD801, 802, VCM73, VCT212, 310, 410, VCT510, 72, VCT1314, VCT5313	850p		
VSF320, 330, 340, 350, VSG30, 33, 34, 35,	2300p	VS5100, 6100, 6110, 9100	1600p	VR182LV, VR202LV	1950p	D1000X, D1500X, D4500, VPCCD100, D1200, D2000X, D5000	1600p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
VS11, VS12	1000p	TVR4500, 4510, 5510, VS400, 440, 441, 500, 505, 510, 518, 600, 610,	1600p	FV67HV, FV68TX, FV77	3800p	D56000	3500p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
V58, V58, V59	2400p	VS5180, VS6190, 700, 900, 901, 902, 9091, GV200, 201, 2092,	1400p	R2000 SERIES	4500p	VH900	1100p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
VX31	2250p	VS170	4600p	FV61LV, FV62LV, FV67HV	4000p	VR6711 4 HEAD	2500p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
VX1100, 1110, 650, VFS500, 510, 550, 560, 580, 590, 600, 650,		VS1660G, SE6160, VERONA, VS660,	3500p	VR42L	£101,000	VR6711 4 HEAD	2500p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
VX560, 540	3600p	VS680	1600p	VR120L, VR120S	3300p	VR641, VR654, VR6541, VR6640, VR6642	1300p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
VX155, VS165	2300p	MVS550, 620, VS550, 620, 630, 640, 790, 930, 940	2400p	VR120L, VR120S	3300p	VR641, VR654, VR6541, VR6640, VR6642	1300p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
VX20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 422, 425, 426, 427, 485, VSF10, 11, 180, 190		VS680, GV280	2300p	VR120L, VR120S	3300p	VR641, VR654, VR6541, VR6640, VR6642	1300p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
VX200, 210, 220, 221, 222, 230, 240, 260, 261, 262, 265, 270, 275, 280,		VS160, VS740	4400p	VR120L, VR120S	3300p	VR641, VR654, VR6541, VR6640, VR6642	1300p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
VX290, 510, 550, VSG20, 204, 205, 206, VSG21, 211, 212, 215,		VS170	4600p	VR120L, VR120S	3300p	VR641, VR654, VR6541, VR6640, VR6642	1300p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
VX212, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 211, 212, 215, 217, 225, 23, 24, 25,		VS170	4600p	VR120L, VR120S	3300p	VR641, VR654, VR6541, VR6640, VR6642	1300p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
VX210, 110, 88, VSR100, 110, VXSX400		VS170	4600p	VR120L, VR120S	3300p	VR641, VR654, VR6541, VR6640, VR6642	1300p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
VX415, VSG415EA, VSG425	1300p	VS170	4600p	VR120L, VR120S	3300p	VR641, VR654, VR6541, VR6640, VR6642	1300p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
VX575, VS477	2700p	VS170	4600p	VR120L, VR120S	3300p	VR641, VR654, VR6541, VR6640, VR6642	1300p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
VX5000, VSF1010, VSF1030	5800p	VS170	4600p	VR120L, VR120S	3300p	VR641, VR654, VR6541, VR6640, VR6642	1300p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
ALBA		VS170	4600p	VR120L, VR120S	3300p	VR641, VR654, VR6541, VR6640, VR6642	1300p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
VDR3000, VCR4000, VCR5000, VCR6000	1650p	VS170	4600p	VR120L, VR120S	3300p	VR641, VR654, VR6541, VR6640, VR6642	1300p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
VTV10	1000p	VS170	4600p	VR120L, VR120S	3300p	VR641, VR654, VR6541, VR6640, VR6642	1300p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
VCR7000, 7800, 8000, 8800	1100p	VS170	4600p	VR120L, VR120S	3300p	VR641, VR654, VR6541, VR6640, VR6642	1300p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
AMSTRAD		VS170	4600p	VR120L, VR120S	3300p	VR641, VR654, VR6541, VR6640, VR6642	1300p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
VCR4500, VCR5200, VCR9000,	900p	VS170	4600p	VR120L, VR120S	3300p	VR641, VR654, VR6541, VR6640, VR6642	1300p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
TVR1	1000p	VS170	4600p	VR120L, VR120S	3300p	VR641, VR654, VR6541, VR6640, VR6642	1300p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
VCR7000	1000p	VS170	4600p	VR120L, VR120S	3300p	VR641, VR654, VR6541, VR6640, VR6642	1300p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
VCR1000, 2000, 6000, 61000, 62000,	1350p	VS170	4600p	VR120L, VR120S	3300p	VR641, VR654, VR6541, VR6640, VR6642	1300p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
8600, 8602, 8700, 9005, DD8900, DD8904, TVR4	1100p	VS170	4600p	VR120L, VR120S	3300p	VR641, VR654, VR6541, VR6640, VR6642	1300p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
TVR2, TVR3, VCR4600, VCR4600 MKII,	1100p	VS170	4600p	VR120L, VR120S	3300p	VR641, VR654, VR6541, VR6640, VR6642	1300p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
VCR400	1100p	VS170	4600p	VR120L, VR120S	3300p	VR641, VR654, VR6541, VR6640, VR6642	1300p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
VCR8800, VCR8804, VCR9340	2100p	VS170	4600p	VR120L, VR120S	3300p	VR641, VR654, VR6541, VR6640, VR6642	1300p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
VCR8600, VCR8604, VCR8704, VCR8714	1350p	VS170	4600p	VR120L, VR120S	3300p	VR641, VR654, VR6541, VR6640, VR6642	1300p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
VCR9140, VCR9142	2550p	VS170	4600p	VR120L, VR120S	3300p	VR641, VR654, VR6541, VR6640, VR6642	1300p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 471, 477, 481, 482, VC483, 486, 3300, 8381, 9100, 9300, 9400, 9500, 9600, 9700	850p		
VCR9340	3650p	VS170	4600p	VR120L, VR120S	3300p	VR641, VR654, VR6541, VR6640, VR6642	1300p	VC200, 220, 300, 381, 383, 384,			

MODE SWITCH

NV2000, 2010, 7000, 7200, 7800 (VS50048)	
NV230, 260, 430, 810, 870, 2300, 4300 (VSS0110)	£3.50
NV830 (VSS0091)	£2.10
NV300, 333, 340, 366, 688, 777, 778 (VSS0060)	£3.75
NVG21, 25, NVH65, NVD80 (VSS0175A)	£2.00

AUDIO CONTROL HEADS

AMSTRAD ORIGINAL NO: 150751
 Used on: AMSTRAD TVR1, 2, 3, VCR4600, 4600MKII, 4700, FUNAI VS2, VCR4600, 4800, 5200, 5600, 6600, VIP3000, 5000
 Also fits: FIDELITY, FUNAI, HINARI, PROLINE, SCHNEIDER, TOWADA, UNIVERSUM **ORDER CODE: AH01 PRICE: 1350p**

AMSTRAD ORIGINAL NO: 153134
 Used on: AMSTRAD DD8900, 8904, VCR2000, 6000, 6100, 8600, 8602, 8603, VCR8604, 8700, 8704, 8714, 8900, 9005, 8244
 Also fits: ANTECH, BONDSTEC, CASIO, CROWN, FIDELITY, GOLD-HAND, GRANADA, HINARI, MARQUANT, OMEGA, PROFEX, SCHNEIDER, SEG, SENTRA, SHINTOM, TASHIKO, TATUNG, TOWADA, UNIVERSUM **ORDER CODE: AH02 PRICE: 1450p**

Replacement Audio Control Video Sound Head for National Panasonic

PART NUMBER	MODELS	PRICE
VBR 0091	NV67 etc	875p
VBR0050	NV300, NV340 etc	875p
VBR0061	NV777 etc	875p
VBR0103A	NV250, NV450 etc	625p
VBR0125		625p

VIDEO TOOLS

VIDEO CLEANING STICKS

Price 17p each 15p each pack of 10pcs
 13p each pack of 25pcs
Order Code: SP14

VIDEO MAINTENANCE TOOLS

Set of 8 Allen keys packed in a plastic wallet
Order code: TOOL 9, Price 125p
 Specifically designed for video maintenance

UNIVERSAL HEAD EXTRACTOR

Hand tool designed for extracting hard to remove heads without damage to either the head or the mounting assembly. Adjustable so as to suit various heads.
Order code: TOOL 8, Price 600p

VCR ALIGNMENT KIT

CONTAINS: SET OF 7 HEAD & TAPE PATH ALIGNERS

- RCA TYPE AUDIO & CONTROL HEAD POSITIONING TOOL
- RCA ADJUSTMENT TOOL FOR TAPE GUIDE POSTS
- RCA TYPE BACK TENSION TOOL
- TENSION ADJUSTMENT TOOL FOR VARIOUS USES
- VCR ADJUSTMENT TOOL

SET OF 8 ALLEN KEYS

0.77mm	0.90mm
1.27mm	1.50mm
1.60mm	2.00mm
2.40mm	3.00mm

3 REVERSIBLE SCREWDRIVERS
SPRING HOOK

CIRCLIP PLIERS
MICRO SCREWDRIVER

VCR HEAD EXTRACTOR
Order code: TOOL 10, Price 2900p

TRANSPARENT REPAIR/ADJUSTMENT CASSETTE

This transparent videocassette replaces a normal videotape during measurements, adjustments and inspection. The mechanical parts come into sight and become accessible.
Order code: TOOL 23, Price 500p

BACK UP BATTERIES

PHILIPS

Part Nos: 138 - 101138, 138 - 10313 1.2v 90mAH
 Order Code: BB01
 Part Nos: 138 - 10229, 2.4v 100mAH
 Order Code: BB02

Price: 70p

Price: 135p

FERGUSON

Part No: 00E6 - 067 - 001 1.2V 100mAH
 Order Code: BB03
 Part Nos: 00E6 - 606 - 8001 2.4V 100mAH
 Order Code: BB04

Price: 90p

Price: 150p

SATELLITE PSU REPAIR KITS

MAKE & MODEL	CODE	PRICE
PACE PRD800, PRD900	SATPSU1	600p
PACE SS9000, 9200, 9010, 9210, 9220	SATPSU2	550p
AMSTRAD SRD510, SRD520	SATPSU3	600p
AMSTRAD SRD500	SATPSU4	600p
AMSTRAD SRX340, SRX345, SRX350	SATPSU5	600p
PACE D100/150	SATPSU6	650p
CHURCHILL D2MAC	SATPSU7	650p
PACE MSS100	SATPSU8	1100p

MAKE & MODEL	CODE	PRICE
PACE MSS200/300 APPOLL	SATPSU9	900p
PACE MSS500/1000	SATPSU10	1230p
FERGUSON SRD4	SATPSU11	650p
ECHOSTAR SR5500	SATPSU12	1600p
ECHOSTAR 6500/7700/8700	SATPSU13	2750p
AMSTRAD SRD600	SATPSU14	2600p
MIMTEC (Surenson)	SATPSU15	700p
AMSTRAD SRD700, SR950, SRX100, 301, 501, 502, 1002, 2001, SRD2000 SAT250	SATPSU16	650p

SATELLITE TUNERS

PACE PRD800/MSS200 2Ghz (221-2077062)
 ORDER CODE: TUNER01 PRICE: 1400p + VAT

PACE PRD900/MSS1000 2Ghz (221-21770112)
 ORDER CODE: TUNER02 PRICE: 1400p + VAT

SWITCH MODE TRANSFORMERS

PACE 9000
 ORDER CODE: PACE9000 PRICE: 800p

PRD800/PRD900
 ORDER CODE: PRD800 PRICE: 550p

SATMETER

The Satmeter is a professional portable satellite strength meter designed for the installation and maintenance of satellite TV systems. The Satmeter can be used as stand alone with powering the LNB as well as in loop.

Through operation with satellite RX powering the LNB.

* Acoustical signal: On signal strength *LED indicator: Vert/Hori

* Frequency Range: 900 to 2050 Mhz *Input impedance: 70 Ohm

* Power amplifier: 18db *Detection Range: -60 to -10 DBM

* Max. input signal: -10 DBM

ORDER CODE: TOOL22

PRICE: 8500p

REPLACEMENT TV SWITCHES

GRUNDIG

PART No: 29703, 29102
 USED ON:
 C7500, C8500, C8502, C8712... ETC
 Order Code: SW1 Price: 100p

PHILIPS

USED ON:
 K30, K35, K40, KT3, KT4
 Order Code: SW13 Price: 95p

SONY

USED ON:
 KV1612, KB1612, KV1614, KV2052, V2056
 KV2062, KV2067, KV2212... ETC
 Order Code: SW5 Price: 130p

USED ON:
 KV1400, KV1440, KV2040, KV2060
 (POWER SWITCH 26mm)
 Order Code: SW12 Price: 110p

SONY

USED ON:
 KV2020
 (POWER SWITCH 21mm +Remote)
 Order Code: SW6 Price: 130p

SONY 2 PIN FUNCTION SWITCH

Order Code: SW9

Price: 35p

FUSES

CURRENT RATING	TIME LAG (20mm)		QUICK BLOW (20mm)	
	ORDER CODE	PRICE	ORDER CODE	PRICE
100mA	FUSE36	75p	FUSE37	60p
160mA	FUSE01	75p	FUSE17	60p
250mA	FUSE02	75p	FUSE18	60p
315mA	FUSE03	75p	FUSE19	60p
400mA	FUSE04	75p	FUSE20	60p
500mA	FUSE05	75p	FUSE21	60p
630mA	FUSE06	75p	FUSE22	60p
800mA	FUSE07	60p	FUSE23	60p
1A	FUSE08	60p	FUSE24	60p
1.25A	FUSE09	60p	FUSE25	60p
1.6A	FUSE10	60p	FUSE26	60p
2A	FUSE11	50p	FUSE27	60p
2.5A	FUSE12	50p	FUSE28	60p
3.15A	FUSE13	55p	FUSE29	50p
4A	FUSE14	55p	FUSE30	50p
5A	FUSE15	60p	FUSE31	50p
6.3A	FUSE16	60p	FUSE32	50p

CERAMIC PLUG TOP

CURRENT RATING	ORDER CODE	PRICE
3A	FUSE33	100p
5A	FUSE34	100p
13A	FUSE35	100p

32 mm CERAMIC SLOW BLOW

CURRENT RATING	ORDER CODE	PRICE
8A	FUSE44	185p
10A	FUSE45	185p
15A	FUSE46	185p
20A	FUSE47	210p

NB. All fuses are made in the UK and fully meet BS4265 & BS1362 safety standards and should not be compared with cheap imported types

VOLTAGE TESTER

A terminal screwdriver incorporating continuity & voltage with Eurosolt
ORDER CODE: TOOL11 PRICE: 220p

20mm CERAMIC TIME LAG

CURRENT RATING	ORDER CODE	PRICE
6.3A	FUSE38	100p
8A	FUSE39	100p
10A	FUSE40	100p
3.15A	FUSE41	85p
4A	FUSE42	85p
5A	FUSE43	85p

38mm CERAMIC TIME LAG

CURRENT RATING	ORDER CODE	PRICE
10A	FUSE48	825p

**** ALL THE ABOVE PRICES ARE FOR PACKS OF 10 FUSES ****

SPRING HOOK

Spring Hook, to unlock springs in audio tape recorders & VCRs
ORDER CODE: TOOL20 PRICE: 265p

FAULT FINDING / COMPARISON BOOKS

Satellite Fault Finding Guide Issue 1.
 Listing about 1,000 faults for over a range of 24 different brands.
 Order Code: BOOK05.
Price £8.50 - No VAT.

TELEVISION Edition 7

This new A5 size guide lists more than 9600 faults and to approx. 474 pages in size.
 Price: 1650p only - no VAT (+ £2 Postage)
 Order Code: BOOK02

SEMICONDUCTOR COMPARISONS 1999

With over 650 pages listing more than 34,200 Semiconductors with suitable alternatives complete with descriptions and base information.
 Price: 1900p only - No VAT (+ £2 Postage).
 Order Code: BOOK04

Video Recorders Edition 5 1997
 Over 300 pages packed with more than 5500 faults for different brands
Price £15.00 - No VAT. Order Code: BOOK01

Satellite Repair Manual Edition 4

A comprehensive guide to receiver reviewing, featuring stock faults and installation tips.
 Price £15.00 Only No VAT Postage 100p
 Order Code: BOOK03

SEMICONDUCTOR COMPARISONS 1999

The new 1998 Jaeger Semiconductor comparison with 1100 pages packed with information on over 95,000 semiconductors in much greater detail plus marketing data on SMD devices and a separate generic table of all the type designations.
 Price: £47.00 only - No VAT (+ £5 Postage).
 Order Code: BOOK06

SERVICE AIDS

DESCRIPTION	VOLUME	CODE	PRICE
VIDEO HEAD CLEANER	75ML	SP01	145p
SWITCH CLEANER	176ML	SP02	155p
SILICONE GREASE	200ML	SP03	180p
FREEZE IT	170ML	SP04	295p
FREEZE IT	400ML	SP16	580p
FOAM CLEANER	400ML	SP05	180p
ANTI-STATIC	200ML	SP06	180p
AEROKLEANE	200ML	SP07	200p
AERO DUSTER	200ML	SP08	340p
AERO DUSTER	400ML	SP17	580p
PLASTIC SEAL	200ML	SP09	250p
GLASS CLEANER	200ML	SP10	160p
COLDKLENE	200ML	SP13	220p
EXCEL POLISH 80	200ML	SP18	160p
ADHESIVE 120	500ML	SP19	250p
LABEL REMOVER 130	200ML	SP20	260p
REFURB 140	400ML	SP21	260p
TUBE SILICON GREASE	50 GRAMMES	SP11	225p
TUBE SILICON SEALANT WHITE	75ML	SP22	250p
TUBE SILICON SEALANT CLEAR	75ML	SP23	250p
TUBE HEAT SINK COMPOUND	25 GRAMMES	SP12	150p
DRIVE CLEANER	200ML	SP24	150p
SCREEN CLEANER	200ML	SP25	145p
COMPUTER CARE KIT	-	SP26	2100p

All the above items are manufactured by Servisol
 If you purchase more than one Servisol Product, postage & package will be charged as follows:
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SOLDERING ACCESSORIES

DESCRIPTION	CODE	PRICE
ANTEX SOLDERING IRONS		
25 WATT 240 VAC (XS25W 240V)	S101	900p
15 WATT 240 VAC (XS15W 240V)	S102	900p
25 WATT SPARE ELEMENT	S103	450p
15 WATT SPARE ELEMENT	S104	450p
SOLDERING STAND & SPONGES		
SOLDERING STAND (MADE BY ANTEX)	S108	350p
SPARE SPONGE	S109	55p
SOLDER		
18 SWG 500 GRAMMES	S110	500p
20 SWG 500 GRAMMES	S111	650p
22 SWG 500 GRAMMES	S112	700p
DESOLDERING AIDS		
SOLDER MOP STANDARD GAUGE 1.2MM X 1.5M	S107	100p
SOLDER MOP 1.2MM X 10M	S113	420p
DESOLDERING PUMP	S105	320p
SPARE NOZZLE	S106	60p

I.C. PROTECTORS

ICPF10, ICPF15, ICPF20, ICPF25, ICPF38, ICPF50, ICPF75
 ICPN5, ICPN10, ICPN15, ICPN20, ICPN25, ICPN38, ICPN50, ICPN75

PRICE: 30p EACH ONLY



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CASSETTE DC MOTORS

6V MOTOR	170p
9V MOTOR	170p
12V CW MOTOR	170p
12V CCW MOTOR	170p
13.2V MOTOR	290p

CASSETTE TAPE HEADS

MONO HEAD	90p
STEREO HEAD	110p
MINI HEAD	150p
AUTO REVERSE HEAD	200p

CD PICK UPS

Models & Description	Order Code	Price
AIWA		
KC007	KSS151A	1900p
DX-990A, DX-DIA	KSS152A	1600p
CX160, CX166, CX180, CXN3100, CXN320, CXN3300, CXN360, CXN400, CXN430, CXN540, CXN550G, CXN990, CXN999, CXN920, CXSL70, DXZ9100M, FDN636, FDN6636, FDN939, LCX60, LCX66G, LCX70M, LCX80, M7400, M75, NSX320, NSX360, NSX400, NSX430, NSX990, NSX992, NSX999, NSXD636, NSXD939, NSXV20, SXFN550, SXFN520, XC300, XC550, XC750, XC900, XC950, XCN992, XG320, XG360, XG400, XG990, ZD3000M, ZD3100M	KSS152A	1600p
CXAP1, CXL7, CXL8G, CXLC50P, CXZ58, DXM740, DXM75, DXM76, DXM77, LCX50, LCX7, LCX8G, LCXAP1, XC002, XC004, XC005, XC777	KSS210B	2000p
XP31, XP33, XP55, XP60G	KSS220A	2500p
XP6-XF7	KSS331A	3400p
AKAI		
CD73, DC93	KSS151A	1900p
CD25, CD26, CD27, CD32, CD36, CD37, CD52, CD55, CD57, CD650, CD670, CD69, CD750, CD79, CDM480, CDM600, CDM670, CDEM770, CDM999, MX550, MX570, MX650, MX670, MX750, MX950	KSS210A	1300p
DENON		
DCD1500H, DCD1520, DCD5E320	KSS151A	1900p
DCD1400, DCD600, DCD800	KS152A	1600p
DCD1120, DCD9520, DCD9610, DCD620, DCD660, DCD810, DCD820, DCD860, DCD910, DCD920	KSS210A	1300p
DCD1015, DCD1290, DCD2060, DCD2060G, DCD315, DCD480, DCD580, DCD615, DCD715, DCD825, DCD890, DCD895, DN2000F	KSS240A	2000p
GOLDSTAR		
CD952A, CD952AJ, CD952LJ, CD952SJ, FFH101KL, FFH101WL, FFH224AA, FFH272L, FFH333L, FFH373K, FJ606, FR806L	KSS210A	1300p
CD320AL, CD630SL, FFH212AL, FFH212E	KSS210B	2000p
GRUNDIG		
CD360, CD435	HOPM3	2150p
CCD300, CD101MCD904, MC10, NEW ORLEANS CD	KSS210A	1300p
KRCD100, RR1900CD, RR3100CD, RR4000CD, RR610CD, RR700CD	KSS210B	2000p
CDP60, CDP90	KSS220A	2500p
CDP65	KSS331A	3400p
CD905	OPTIMA5	1600p
HITACHI		
DAW560	HOPM3	2150p
FX-10	KSS210A	1300p
AXC10	KSS210B	2000p
J.V.C.		
1990-1992, LATE 1987-1988 - XLE300BK, XLE31BK, XLE51BK, XLE900BK, XLE91BK, XLV101BK, XLV211BK, XLV222BK, XLV311BK, XLV333BK, XZ1010TN, XZ111BK, XZ444BK, XZ555BK, XZ611BK	OPTIMA3	4000p
CORDADO CASSETTE, MINI SYSTEMS - MODELS 1990-1992	OPTIMA4S	5000p
CA-C33, CA-MX30BK, CA-MX33BK, UX-A5, UX-A6, XL-M309, XL-M403BK, XL-M408, XL-M409, XL-M504BK, XL-M505TN, XL-M508, XL-M509, XL-M705TN, XL-V131BK, XL-V151TN, XL-V221BK, XL-V241TN, XL-V242BK, XL-V251TN, XL-V252BK, XL-Z1050TN, XL-Z551TN, XL-Z552BK	OPTIMA5	1600p
1994 ONWARDS - CAE48BK, CAMCG7, CAMXG9, CAS20BK, CAS30BK, VAS50, CAS60RKB, MXS20, MXS30, MXS60, PCX105, PCX130, PCX95, RCX230, RCX320, RCX520, RCX620, RCX720, UX44, UX45, UX45S, UXC7, UKT1, UKT3, XLF115, XLF116, XLF215, XLF216, XLMC100M4, XLMXG7, XLMXG9, XLV163TN, XLV164BK, XLV174, XLV263TN, XLV264BK, XLV274BK, XLZ631TN, XLZ644BK, XLZ574, XLZ674, XTMXG7, XTMXG9, XTS80	OPTIMA6S	1600p
KENWOOD		
DP47, DP68DSG, DP8020, DP87, L1000D	KSS152A	1600p
DP1030, DP1510, DP2010, DP2030, DP3010, DP3030, DP3050, DP4030, DP491, DP5010, DP5030, DP5040, DP520, DP7030, DP7040, DP7050, DP730, DP920, DP930, DP950, DPM650, DPM6630, DPM7730, DPM850, DPM991, DX6620, M225, M25, M450, M850, PD3030, PDM991, RDZ25, RDXC3, RDXC3L, UD202, UD302	KSS210A	1300p
DP42, DP472, DP477, DPC80, DPC92	KSS220A	2500p
DP1050, DP2050, DP3060, DP501, DP5060, DP722, DP76, DP85, DP89, M77A, P30360, UD502, UD70, UD701, UD90, XE5	KSS240A	2000p
DPC321, DPC521, DPC531, DPC631K, DPC721, DPC731	KSS331A	3400p
DP1060, DP2060. PART No: RCTRHB136AFZ	RH8136A	4500p
PANASONIC		
SLP177A, SLP202A, SLP212A, SLP222A, SLP277A, SLP377A, SLP477AK, SLP477A, SLP6100A, SLP6200A, SLP6400A, SLP6500AK, SLP6500AS, SLPJ24A, SLPJ25A, SLPJ26A, SLPJ27A, SLPJ28A, SLPJ325A, SLPJ325A, SLPJ37A, SLPJ38A, SLPJ46A	691-30209	5500p

Models & Description	Order Code	Price
SAD30, SLCH9, SLP150, SLP170, SLP200, SLP202, SLP222, SLP230, SLP250, SLP333, SLP370G, SLP400C, SLP555, SLP777, SLP999, SLPA10, SLP20, SLP25, SLPJ25, SLPJ26, SLPJ27, SLPJ37, SLPJ45, SLPK25, SLPK26, SLP550, SLP570, SLP570G, SLP5840, SLP5900	SOAAD70A	2350p
PHILIPS		
AZ830A, CD070, CD080, 690, 910, 920. PART NO. 4822-891-20768	4822-891	3100p
CD100, CD130, CD1360, CD1482, CD200, CD204, CD210, CD280, CD303, CD304, CD380, CD480, CD482, CD500, CD502, CD582, CD583, CD584, CD610, CD620, CD630, CD780, CD781, CD782, CD840, CD883, CD960, CD104, CDMA19, FCD185	691-30209	5500p
AS440, AS445, AS540, AS640, AZ8048, AZ8640, CD070, CD080, CD091, CD163, CD165, CD690, CD710, CD720, CD732, CD740, CD750, CD910, CD920, CD935, FW17, FW21, FW26, FW330, FW36, FW380, FW380G, FW40, FW41, FW46, FW56, FW66, FW68	CDM12.1	1800p
CD121040	CDM12.4	2200p
AZ8006	KSS210B	2000p
FW11	OPTIMA6S	1600p
PIONEER		
PDM400, PDM410, PDM500, PDM510, PDM600, PDM610, PDM700, PDM710, PDM730, PDM730B, PDM740, PDM750, PDX940M, PDX950M, PDZ560T, PDZ72T, PDZ73T, PDZ81M, PDZ82M, PDZ83M, PDZ960M, XZ253T, XZ254T	KSS151A	1900p
NZ32, N99M, PD101, PD201, PD32, PD41, PD4500, PD4700, PD52PD5700, PD651, PD6500, PD6700, PD700, PD760, PD790, PDZ40, PDZ520M, PDZ520T, PDZ40T, PDZ50T, PDZ800M, PDZ900M, PDM430, PDM450, PDM450M, PDM630, PDM650, PDM680, PDM801, PDPT70T, PDPT70T, PDPT910M, PDPT920M, PDS050, PDS601, PDS701, PDS701G, PDS901, PDS101, PDS150, PDS250T, PDS274T, PDS284M, PDS290M, PDX1348, S125CDT, S135CDT, S303CDM, S303CDT, S505DM, S505DT, S707DM, S707DM, S909DM, S990T, XCP410M, XCP410T, XZ254T, XZ255T, XZ264M, XZ284T, XRP310, XRP320, PDM400, PDM410, PDM500, PDM510, PDM600, PDM610, PDM700, PDM710, PDM730, PDM730B, PDM740, PDM750, PDX940M, PDX950M, PDZ560T, PDZ72T, PDZ73T, PDZ81M, PDZ82M, PDZ83M, PDZ960M, XZ253T, XZ254T, XZ255T, XZ262, XZ262M, XZ2630, XR282	PEA1030	4400p
SAMSUNG		
CD20	HOPM3	2150p
CD1200, CD1310, SCM-6000, SCM6900	KSS210A	1300p
RCD1200, RCD1300, RCD1350, RCD1600, RCD2600, RCD990, RCD995, SCM6900	SOH90T4N	3600p
SANYO		
DCF53, DCF55, DCX502, DCX701, DCX702, DCX802, DCX891, DCX891M, MCDZ10. PART No. 6142186955	614218	2300p
DCF55, MCD450K, 680K, MCDZ30L, 80F. PART No. 6142205006	614220	5600p
DCX1000MD, DCX1003, DCX990MD, DCX983, DCX915	KSS210A	1300p
DCD10, DCD11U, DCD20, DCD30, DCD30AT, DCD6, DCD8, DCD11, DCD110, DCD120, DCDX10, DCDX20, DCDX99, DCDX99A, MCDMS40L, MCDMS50L, MCDMS660L, MCDZ1L, MCDZ2L, MCDZ3L. PART No. 6142391303	614239	3300p
DCD12. PART No. 6450055966	645005	3700p
MCDZ31L, MCDZ41L, MCDZ61L, MCDZ71L	KSS210B	2000p
SHARP		
CD-111, CD-301, CD-302, CD-304, CD-310, CD-C3, CD-L700, CD-L800, CD-U1, CD-U10, CD-X10, CD-X12, CD-X15, CD-X16, CD-X17, CD-X20, CD-X9, CXL650, CMS95CD, DX-150, DX-160, DX-450, DX-460, DX-461, DX-650, DX-660, DX-999, DX-A3, DX-N45, DX-R564, DX-R7, DX-R75, DX-R750, DX-R77, DX-R770, DX-R820, DX-R840, DX-Z100, DX-Z1000, DX-Z1500, GFCDD55, QT-30CD, QT-33CD, QT-350CD, QT-37CD, QT-38CD, QT-CD20, QT-CD33, RS95, SC-71CD, SC-99CD, SC-R95, SG-A1, SG-H10CD, SG-W2CD, SVS302, ZCD1CD. PART No. RCTRHB122AFZ	RH8122A	5750p
QT-50CD, QT-60CD, QT60CD. PART No. RCTRHB124AFZ	RH8130AF	2900p
DXR-840B. PART No. RCTRHB130AFZ	RH8136AF	4500p
CDS360E, 360H, 370, 450HE, CMS150CDH, CMSR400CDH, CP150, CPM400, CPS360, 370. PART No. RCTRHB136AFZ	RH8136AF	4500p
SONY		
KSS240A	KSS240A	2000p
KSS121A	KSS121A	3500p
KSS151A	KSS151A	1900p
KSS210A	KSS210A	1300p
KSS210B	KSS210B	2000p
KSS220A	KSS220A	2500p
KSS331A	KSS331A	3400p
KSS360A	KSS360A	2600p
TECHNICS		
SLP200, SLP230, SLP250, SLP333, SLP555, SLP777, SLP999, SLP A10, SLP C20, SLP J25, SLP J45, SLP S700, SLP S900	SOAD70A	2350p

REMOTE CONTROLS

Description	Code	Price	Description	Code	Price
AKAI					
RC-V10A	RC876	650p	A512120/230	RC900	650p
RCV 37 B	RC891	650p	A514790	RC901	650p
V25A	RC896	650p	A5088470	RC902	650p
DECCA			A518612	RC903	650p
RC70	RC894	650p	SCL002	RC904	650p
FISHER			C2096	RC905	650p
RC905B	RC879	650p	A511940	RC906	650p
GRANADA			655602H	RC1920	650p
UNIVERSAL TEXT	RC309	650p	ITT		
MK4 TEXT, 70155G, 70115G, 70133G	RC880	650p	IFB13, 14, 15	RC143	650p
95288E	RC882	650p	FS4	RC148	650p
944900	RC884	650p	RG305	RC305	650p
GRUNDIG			RG306	RC306	650p
TP160E	RC107	650p	FS9/1-10/1	RC307	650p
TP200, TP300	RC380	650p	VS5 RUK	RC308	650p
TP400	RC401	600p	VS4-1	RC308	650p
TP590-600	RC600	650p	MULTICONTROL (17C20)	RC311	650p
TP390, TP610	RC610	650p	LDEWE		
TP621	RC612	650p	DC11	RC146	650p
TP630, TP650	RC650	650p	MATSUI		
TP666	RC660	650p	010270601	RC889	650p
TP661	RC661	650p	VX770	RC892	650p
HITACHI			NOKIA		
CLE800-CLE830	RC140	650p	SATELLITE	RC550	650p
A617402/655602	RC1920	650p	ORION		
			RC53	RC892	650p

Description	Code	Price	Description	Code	Price
PANASONIC					
EUR51200	RC200	650p	SONY		
TC2200	RC204	650p	RM604, RM605, RM606	RC140	650p
V5Q0357/NV730	RC202	650p	32 CHANNEL	RC140	650p
TN01621	RC203	650p	RM613	RC141	650p
PHILIPS			RM632, RM636	RC160	600p
RC5002.5154	RC134	650p	TATUNG		
KT3 NON TEXT	RC135	650p	FXA	RC877	650p
69117032	RC178	650p	RC70	RC883	650p
69117194	RC180	650p	FX70 FASTTEXT	RC894	650p
RC5991-UNIV	RC300	550p	TELEFUNKEN		
RC38	RC301	650p	FB632	RC632ST	650p
KT3 TEXT	RC301	650p	FB639	RC639	650p
RC5352	RC5352	650p	THORN/FERGUSON		
RC5375	RC5375	650p	3V35-42	RC342	600p
RC5 STANDARD	RC300	550p	3V31-32	RC344	650p
RC5903	RC5903	650p	3V57-58	RC628	650p
SALORA			TX10 TEXT	RC738	575p
SERIES L	RC190	650p	TX10 STEREO TEXT	RC740	600p
86173	RC882	650p	TC9-90-100	RC783	650p
SANYO			3V55, FV11	RC789	650p
RC218, RC222, RC228, RC238	RC140	650p	TX100 FASTTEXT	RC789	650p
JXGE	RC878	650p	TX100 ST. FASTTEXT	RC789	650p
JXDE	RC884	650p	PROFESSIONAL	RC790	650p
VHR2300	RC890	650p	TOSHIBA		
RC628	RC865	650p	CT937	RC950	650p
SHARP			CT9117	RC951	650p
G0121CESA, 123CESA, 204, 251	RC140	650p			

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0.05A	FUSE54	35p
0.063A	FUSE55	35p
0.08A	FUSE56	35p
0.1A	FUSE57	30p
0.125A	FUSE58	30p
0.16A	FUSE59	30p
0.2A	FUSE60	30p
0.25A	FUSE61	30p
0.315A	FUSE62	30p
0.4A	FUSE63	30p
0.5A	FUSE64	30p
0.63A	FUSE65	30p
0.8A	FUSE66	30p
1A	FUSE67	30p
1.25A	FUSE68	30p
1.6A	FUSE69	30p
2A	FUSE70	30p
2.5A	FUSE71	30p
3.15A	FUSE72	30p
4A	FUSE73	30p



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0.063A	FUSE75	65p
0.08A	FUSE76	65p
0.1A	FUSE77	35p
0.125A	FUSE78	35p
0.16A	FUSE79	35p
0.2A	FUSE80	30p
0.25A	FUSE81	30p
0.315A	FUSE82	30p
0.4A	FUSE83	30p
0.5A	FUSE84	30p
0.63A	FUSE85	30p
0.8A	FUSE86	30p
1A	FUSE87	30p
1.25A	FUSE88	30p
1.6A	FUSE89	30p
2A	FUSE90	30p
2.5A	FUSE91	30p
3.15A	FUSE92	30p
4A	FUSE93	30p
5A	FUSE94	30p

*** PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL WICKMAN FUSE PRICES ARE FOR A QUANTITY OF 1 (ONE) - (EXCEPT FOR KIT) ***

HIGH VOLTAGE CERAMIC CAPACITORS

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220 pF	2000v	CAP01	90p	1200 pF	3000v	CAP08	225p
330 pF	2000v	CAP02	90p	1500 pF	2000v	CAP09	130p
470 pF	2000v	CAP03	90p	1500 pF	3000v	CAP10	225p
680 pF	2000v	CAP04	95p	2200 pF	2000v	CAP11	130p
820 pF	3000v	CAP05	150p	3300 pF	2000v	CAP12	145p
1000 pF	2000v	CAP06	110p	4700 pF	2000v	CAP13	180p
1000 pF	3000v	CAP07	225p				

SMD ELECTROLYTIC 105° CAPACITORS

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22 µF	6.3v	CAP14	110p	100 µF	25v	CAP22	300p
47 µF	6.3v	CAP15	110p	1 µF	50v	CAP23	110p
100 µF	6.3v	CAP16	130p	2.2 µF	50v	CAP24	110p
10 µF	16v	CAP17	110p	4.7 µF	50v	CAP25	110p
22 µF	16v	CAP18	110p	10 µF	50v	CAP26	130p
47 µF	16v	CAP19	130p	22 µF	50v	CAP27	180p
470 µF	16v	CAP20	320p	47 µF	50v	CAP28	300p
33 µF	25v	CAP21	130p				

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To replace the TDA8178S fitted to the following MITSUBISHI 21" & 25" TV's:

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SONY

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CM3900A DIGITAL MULTIMETER

FEATURES:

- * LARGE LCD DISPLAY HEIGHT 18mm
- * MAXIMUM READING 1999 + UNIT
- * SINGLE MANUAL ROTARY SWITCH FOR FUNCTION AND RANGE OPERATION
- * AUTO POWER OFF (APPROX 15 min)
- * DIODE TEST FUNCTION
- * ALL RANGES OVERLOAD PROTECTED
- * SUPPLIED WITH TEST PROBES
- * DC VOLTAGE: 200mV/2V/20V/200V/700V
ACCURACY * 0.5%
- * AC VOLTAGE: 200mV/2V/20V/200V/700V
- * DC CURRENT A: 200µA/20mA/200mA/2A/20A
- * AC CURRENT A: 200µA/20mA/200mA/2A/20A
- * RESISTANCE Ω: 200Ω/2kΩ/200kΩ/2MΩ/20MΩ

ORDER CODE: CM3900A
PRICE: 2900p

DIGITAL MULTIMETERS

CM3230 DIGITAL CAPACITANCE METER

FEATURES:

- * 3.5 LCD DISPLAY HEIGHT 18mm
- * MAXIMUM READING 1999
- * CAPACITANCE 9 RANGES FROM 200pF
20000*F
- * MEASURING FROM 1pF-20000*F
- * SINGLE MANUAL ROTARY SWITCH FOR FUNCTION AND RANGE OPERATION
- * ZERO ADJUST KNOB

ORDER CODE: CM3230
PRICE: 3950p

CM3920 DIGITAL METER WITH TEMPERATURE MEASUREMENT

FEATURES:

- * TEMPERATURE MEASUREMENT
- * DIODE & TRANSISTOR HFE TEST
- * LARGE LCD DISPLAY HEIGHT 18mm
- * MAXIMUM READING 1999 + UNIT
- * SINGLE MANUAL ROTARY SWITCH FOR FUNCTION AND RANGE OPERATION
- * AUTO POWER OFF (APPROX 15 min)
- * DIODE TEST FUNCTION
- * ALL RANGES OVERLOAD PROTECTED
- * SUPPLIED WITH TEST PROBES
- * DC VOLTAGE: 200mV/2V/20V/200V/1000V
ACCURACY * 0.5%
- * AC VOLTAGE: 200mV/2V/20V/200V/700V
- * DC CURRENT A: 2mA/20mA/200mA/20A
- * AC CURRENT A: 200mA/20A
- * RESISTANCE Ω: 200Ω/2kΩ/200kΩ/2MΩ/20MΩ/200MΩ
- * CAPACITANCE: 2nF/20nF/200nF/2*F/20*F

ORDER CODE: CM3920
PRICE: 4100p

*** PLEASE NOTE THAT POSTAGE ON ALL THE ABOVE METERS IS CHARGED AT £3 ***

HELP WANTED

The help wanted column is intended to assist readers who require a part, circuit etc. that's not generally available. Requests are published at the discretion of the editor. Send them to the editorial department - do not write to or phone the advertisement department about this feature

Wanted: Teletext panel for the Beko 19321N TV series (AT-3 Siesta chassis). Need not be working but must be a complete PCB, preferably with plastic caddy and ribbon cable. Julian Salt. Phone 0958 559 970.

Wanted: Audio/control head and circuit diagram for the Fisher FVH-P716 VCR. Reg Oliver, 18B Rostrevor Road, Fulham, London SW6 5AD. 0171 731 5673.

Wanted: Power supply circuit diagram (photocopy OK) for the Panasonic NVJ30B VCR, with IC1102 type STK5392. Also need a power supply (switching unit) for the Ferguson FV33H VCR. Arthur Tomkinson, 10 Lodge Court, Station Grove, Wembley, Middx HA0 4AP. 0181 903 5574.

Wanted: Scan coils for the Philips KT3 chassis. Robert J. Evans, Cemlyn, Nefyn, Pwllheli, Gwynedd LL53 6EG. 01758 720 748.

Wanted: LOPT type TBC70III for the Rigonda Fiesta 5.5in. mono portable. L. Symons, 14 Maidenwell Road, Plymouth, Devon PL7 1RB. 01752 343 074.

For disposal: Free low-band U-matics. Two JVCs with edit controller, one Sony with a few tapes. Probably working. Can deliver within a reasonable distance of Epsom. K.G. Palmer, 127 Ewell Bypass, Ewell, Surrey KT17 2PX. 0181 393 7442.

Wanted: Various parts for the reconstruction of a vandalised B&O 3802 TV set (3500 chassis): signals panels for left-hand 'door', 22in. tube (Mullard A56-510X?) and an ultrasonic RC handset. Also require Y-gain knob for the Tektronix T912 scope. David Barfoot, 65 Nortoft Road, Bournemouth BH8 8QB. 01202 291 698, fax 01202 467 327. E-mail david@einstein.demon.co.uk

Wanted: Service manuals for the Panasonic NV688 and Hitachi VT8300 VCRs, and for the Tatung 165 and Hitachi NP84 II TV chassis.

Would copy and return by recorded delivery, or buy if inexpensive. Also *Television* back issues from 1975-85. Nicholas Arnold, 5 Vidler's Court, The Strand, Rye, E. Sussex TN31 7DB. 01797 225 747.

Wanted: Philips V2000 series VCRs, any model, preferably working but anything considered. Also N1500 or N1700 VCRs, dead or alive. Graham Bisset, 68 Ashwood Crescent, Bridge of Don, Aberdeen AB22 8XF. 01224 703 312.

Wanted: Connector WP01 with attached ribbon cable (on head preamplifier PCB), or complete PCB, for the Akai VS765EK. Also a capstan motor and BAA6871S drive/servo IC for the Panasonic NVHD90 (K mechanism). Kenneth G. Cargill, 1 Stradowen Drive, Strathfoyle, Londonderry BT47 6XN. 01504 861 268.

Wanted: Replacement or working original remote control unit (ultrasonic) for the Philips Model 674 (G11 chassis with teletext). V. Browning, 142 White Dirt Lane, Catherington, Portsmouth, Hants PO8 0TT. 01705 594 952.

Wanted: Scrap Sony SLV315UB VCR for spares, in particular the head motor. B.A. Wheler, BAW Electronic Services, 17 Highbury Terrace, Halstead, Essex CO9 2FB. 01787 474 820.

Wanted: Any service information (photocopy service manual/instruction sheet etc.) for the Orion SP/LP D1100 VCR. D. Lee, 16 Devonshire Place, Claughton, Birkenhead, Merseyside L43 1TU16.

Wanted: Circuit diagram/servicing information for the Philips D2-MAC decoder Model CTU900. A. Edwards, 20 Mulgrave Road, Whitby, N. Yorks YO21 3JS. 01947 603 729.

Wanted: Complete deck for the Amstrad VCR6000. Also instruction book for the Philips VR2020/21 VCR. Ron Bruce, 11 New Zealand

Way, Rainham, Essex RM13 8JP.

Wanted: Complete working power supply for the Akai VS66EK, or would consider purchase of a faulty machine. John Martin, 161 Francis Close, Ewell, Epsom, Surrey KT19 0JT. 0181 224 8401.

Wanted: SD187R CRT, second-hand if possible, for the Sony VPH1031QM video projector, or any information on a possible source. K. Clark, 147 The Queensway, Hall Road, Hull, E. Yorks. 01482 801 822.

For disposal: Promax TA901 CRT rejuvenator with eight adaptors and all books/leads, little use, £200. Ten boxes and bags of TV spares, all very cheap because of close of business workshop clearout. For list phone 01752 670 803 (Plymouth) and leave message or e-mail either of the following:

vinceboo@yahoo.com

vinceboo@freemove.co.uk

For disposal: Coherent call port noise-cancelling full-duplex audio unit (16-bit RISC-based audio unit for videoconferencing). Use with BT VC8000, IBM Screencall, ICL Teamvision, Olivetti PCC etc. Unused/boxed £50. Also National portable TV Model TR505GB, AC/DC, for spares/repair. £5. Julian Bohan, 01522 514 241 or mobile 0958 771 319.

Wanted: Main circuit board and service manual (photocopy will do) for the Hitachi Model C2114T. James Lowrey, 29 Scarborough Court, Byker, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE6 2TG. 0191 265 3314.

Wanted/for disposal: Require late Sony Betamax VCRs and manuals (C9 onwards). Have for disposal the following VHS models: Philips VR6463, Samsung VI710 and Saisho VR3400 for parts/spares. Alan Stubbings, 7 Church Road, Saxilby, Lincoln LN1 2HH. 01522 583 373 (daytime), 01522 702 601 (evenings).



Reports from
Philip Blundell, AMIElec
Stephen Leatherbarrow
Eugene Trundle
Gerald Smith
Ronnie Boag
Brian Storm
Kevin J. Green, TMIIE
David A. Chaplin
Roger Burchett and
Pete Gurney, LCGI

Philips VR6490

This machine was dead. The power supply output voltages at plug J104 should be as follows: pin 4 -21.8V; pin 5 0V (chassis); pin 6 5.5V; pin 9 14.8V; pin 10 33.8V. In this case the voltage at pin 6 was low. C119 and C120 (1,000 μ F, 16V, 105°C) had dried up. **P.B.**

Daewoo V50

Failure to accept tapes was the complaint with this machine. I found that the deck was out of alignment because of a dirty mode switch. The cog that operates on both the supply and take-up loading arms was also damaged.

After attending to this the machine still refused to accept a tape. This time the cause was electronic: the 14V supply was missing because D62 was open-circuit. It provides the supply for the loading drive chip IC602. **S.L.**

Philips VR231

This Turbo-deck machine wouldn't load. The loading arms would cycle back and forth to the half-load position several times, then the tape would be ejected. Unfortunately the on-board diagnostic display only indicated that there was a loading fault - I was already painfully aware of that!

After much searching I discovered that one of the vanes (there are four) on the worm shaft was missing. This deck doesn't have a mode switch: the four vanes interrupt an

VCR Clinic

optical link, which the microcontroller chip detects to get an indication of deck position. With one vane missing the chip was uncertain about the situation. **S.L.**

Sanyo VHR287

Powering down in the record mode only seems to be becoming a common fault with these machines. It happens when the 5V supply momentarily dips below its correct value. The cause is the relevant 'fuse' in the power supply - it goes high-resistance. The device is labelled 1A C/P and that's what we fit.

The same mechanism and power supply is used in many Sony models, with which you get the same fault.

The circuit reference no. is PR512. **S.L.**

Daewoo V435

We've now had this problem with two of these machines: intermittent recording in black-and-white, with E-E and playback of a good recording OK. In both cases the cause was the record chroma-signal coupling capacitor C402 (0.022 μ F). It was going open-circuit intermittently because of a crack at one end. **E.T.**

Akai VS204G

Like all the best ones, this fault was intermittent: on rare occasions there would be a 'hiccup' in record or play, with a momentary change of sound pitch and the picture moving fractionally sideways. The capstan motor was the cause. Presumably this could happen with other Akai models that use the same deck and motor. **E.T.**

Sony SLV6UV

We have now had two of these machines with the same fault. The symptoms are no E-E signals with just a blue screen, possibly intermittent. In both cases the cause was

a dry-joint at the 9V feed choke L2 inside the IF module. **E.T.**

JVC HRJ410

This machine would intermittently return to standby in playback or record. The fault would occur more often the longer the machine had been on. I checked the usual circuit protectors, which were OK, then turned my attention to the reel FG pulses. The supply reel pulses were missing - replacing PS1 cured the fault. **G.S.**

Tatung TVR933

This machine wouldn't eject tapes. If you pressed stop while the machine was in the fast-forward mode tape would spill out as the supply reel continued to run. Checks showed that the reel brakes weren't triggering. A replacement mode switch cured both faults. **G.S.**

Sanyo VHR287

One row of segments in this machine's front display remained lit all the time. A replacement display made no difference. The cure was to replace D3120 in the display drive area. It was leaky. **G.S.**

JVC HRJ610

This machine was dead. The cure was to replace C12 (2.2 μ F, 50V) in the start circuit. **R.B.**

Nikkai J2

The E-E display was marred by a hum bar. This one was cured by replacing C803 (100 μ F, 50V). **R.B.**

Nokia VR3716

This machine left tape out of the spool when it ejected a cassette. A replacement back-tension band cured the problem. **R.B.**

Panasonic NVF590

This machine's playback picture was unusual: there were just black horizontal lines displayed on a white

background. The fault is actually quite common with these machines, the cause being the 1H delay pack on the sub-luminance board. Inside this metal can you will find a CCD delay IC that likes to cook some of the adjacent capacitors slowly. It's usually C3501, C3506 and C3516 that give trouble, but this time the culprit was C3510, a miniature 3.3µF electrolytic capacitor. **B.S.**

Panasonic NVHD410

When a tape was presented to it the machine would revert to standby and display H01. This fault code usually means that the cause of the trouble is failure of the drum to rotate. When I removed the top I found that this was the case.

In many of these types of Panasonic VCR a stator PCB is mounted above the video head. It carries the drive coils for the drum and a magnetic resistor, part no. HW-300A-CF. A replacement resistor usually cures the fault. This item can also be the cause of drum servo instability if the output is slightly lower than normal. **B.S.**

Panasonic NVF5100

This machine's E-E picture was badly distorted. In fact it consisted of ragged verticals and bad smearing. The cause of the fault was traced to the Y-C separation board, where C3807 had gone low in value. **B.S.**

Toshiba V854B

The customer complained that there was no E-E or playback sound. This was confirmed, and we also found that there was no sound recording and the bar-graph on the front wouldn't work. The cause of the trouble was traced to C964 (330µF, 16V) in the audio section of the main PCB. It was leaky. **K.J.G.**

Hinari VXL6

E-E operation was OK but in the playback mode there was just a blank raster. I eventually found that the mute pin (26) of IC303 didn't drop to 0V. The cause of the problem was IC101. Pin 11 was static at 5V: it should produce a 5V vertical dummy pulse output. **K.J.G.**

Hinari VXL4

From the playback picture it looked as if this machine had one dirty video head. I cleaned the heads and obtained a good picture, but a few seconds later it was back to its initial state. This time cleaning made no difference. After a few seconds the picture cleared and was OK again.

The symptom came and went when the preamplifier can, which is mounted just behind the drum assembly, was waggled. When I looked inside the can I saw that there were dry-joints at the bottom plug assembly, which plugs into the main PCB socket. A good clean and resolder cleared the fault. **D.A.C.**

Philips VR6291

There had been a local thunderstorm while this machine was recording. It was then found to be dead. Checks in the power supply failed to reveal any faulty components. When the machine was reconnected to the mains supply it worked normally but a strange, fizzing noise came from the power supply.

All functions worked correctly until a timed recording was attempted. At the preset start time the mechanism began to load then the machine went dead again. I decided to replace the CNX83A optocoupler. After that the machine ran quietly with no other problems. **D.A.C.**

Saisho VR705

There was no take-up as the reel idler was well past its 'sell-by' date. I fitted a new idler and replaced the nylon reel-motor pulley with the brass type, which provides a more positive drive. Then, after replacing the drive belts and cleaning the heads and tape path, I tested the machine.

Take-up was now good, but the capstan servo didn't lock. As the motor itself ran freely, I adjusted the capstan FR. A long soak test proved that everything was now in order. Maybe someone had had a twiddle!

The Amstrad Model VCR7000 is similar. **D.A.C.**

Akai VSF11

This machine usually played all right but if cue or review was selected it would shut down with dashes in the display. It occasionally shut down when fast forward or rewind was selected. The cause of the trouble was C3 (2,200µF, 35V) in the power supply. The microcontroller chip was reacting to spurious power-down commands. **R.Bu.**

NEC N9077

In any mode except pause this machine would shut down almost immediately. So there was obviously a reel-rotation sensing fault. In fact there were no black segments on the reel, just reflective ones – hence a steady DC output from the sensor. As replacement reels are

not available I painted the segments back in. **R.Bu.**

Orion D1094

The customer complained that this VCR had refused to eject the tape. He had then removed it himself. Fortunately the mechanism had not been damaged, and a quick set-up restored correct alignment. But at power up the machine did little: it refused to take a tape, and shut down after ten seconds or so.

A check on the outputs from the power supply showed that they were all OK. I felt that the basic problem was probably a loading fault, and found that the loading motor's supply was missing. The drive chip is mounted on the main PCB: as this is a centre-deck machine, the mechanism had to be removed to gain access. Once this had been done the cause of the fault was obvious. The BA6886 drive chip IC1004 had a small but visible crack in its case, and there was evidence that it had been running hot.

A replacement restored the drive voltage, but before refitting the deck I checked the loading motor's DC resistance. It was low at 8.5Ω – a check with a new one produced a reading of about 14Ω. So the motor had to be replaced as well.

This machine is electrically similar to the Matsui VX1100. **P.G.**

Toshiba V110B

Erratic behaviour was the problem with this machine. It might load a tape, refuse to give it back and shut down. I noticed that whatever deck function was selected it was carried out very slowly.

A check on the switched 12V output from the power supply showed that it was low at 1.5-6V depending on load. There were two causes. The crowbar zener diode DP08 was leaky, pulling down the supply. But the primary cause was the 6.8V zener diode DP07 in the 12V regulator circuit. Although it seemed to be OK when tested, it was the cause of the 12V supply being high at nearer 17V. Hence the failure of DP08.

I've had trouble with DP07 in a number of these machines. Even when this zener diode is working correctly the 12/14V supply tends to be high at about 15V, which is not far from the crowbar voltage (15.6V). The crowbar diode often presents evidence of having run hot. I usually fit a 6.2V zener diode in position DP07, as it produces an output that's closer to the specified 13.5-14V. **P.G.**

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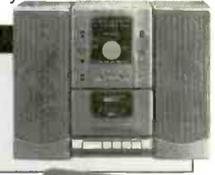
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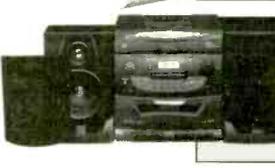
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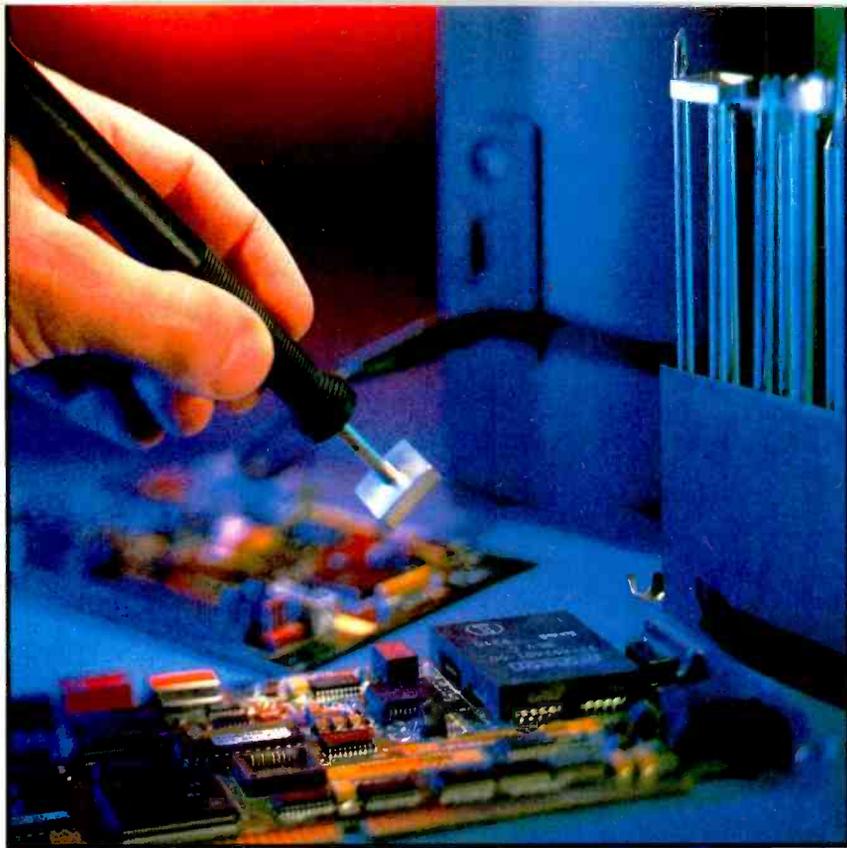
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Test Report



Steve Beeching describes and tries out a novel soldering station that's based on RF heating. It is ideal for use with current electronic assemblies that use surface-mounted technology

The Metcal MX500S Soldering Station

Our heading photograph shows the Metcal MX500 soldering pencil with quad flat-pack tip.

The Metcal MX500S soldering station is made by OK International and is available in the UK from SEME Ltd. It's just one of a wide range of products that OK International manufactures. They include fume extraction, rework and sophisticated production equipment. So the MX500S comes with a good pedigree. Its main feature is an RF heating/temperature control system called SmartHeat.

The soldering cartridge tip is of bimetallic construction. It consists of an inner core that's made of a material which has high thermal conductivity and low elec-

trical resistance, and a ferromagnetic alloy outer layer which at normal temperatures has a high electrical resistance. To appreciate the significance of this, we must consider what is called the skin effect.

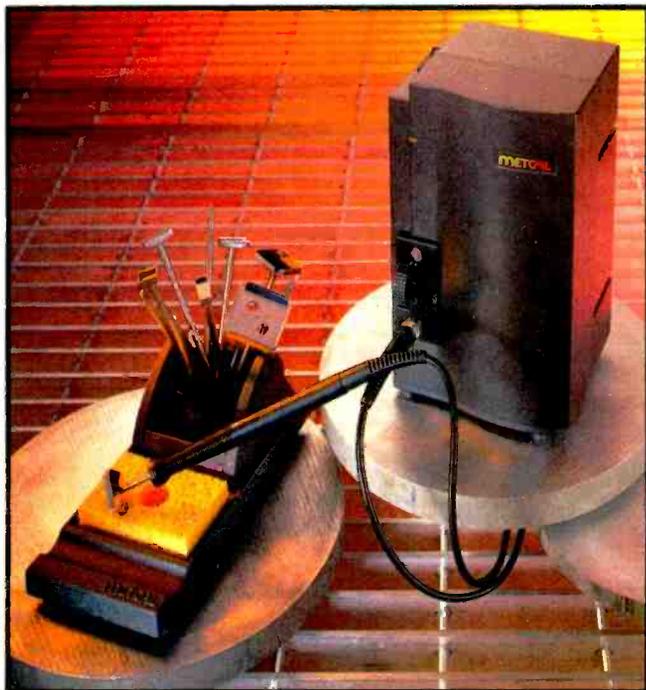
Consider a length of copper wire used as an electrical conductor. When a low-frequency AC voltage is applied, a current that's proportional to the electrical resistance of the wire flows. It passes through the whole cross-section of the wire, with even distribution. When a very high frequency voltage is applied however the current flow is concentrated in the outer layer of the wire. This is the skin effect.

SmartHeat Technology

The Metcal soldering system has a constant-current power supply that operates at a frequency of 13.5MHz. Its output is fed to the soldering pencil via a coaxial waveguide cable. To heat the tip, the current flows through its outer layer of high-resistance magnetic material. You thus get heating by means of the skin effect. Heat reaches the inner core of the tip by thermal conduction.

Once the outer layer of the tip has heated up, the material reaches its Curie Point, which means that the material ceases to be magnetic. At this point the material's resistance to the constant RF current falls, and in addition current starts to flow via the low-resistance inner core. As less power is being dissipated, the heating effect decreases.

As the tip's temperature falls, the outer-layer material returns to the state below its Curie Point. It becomes high-resistance again, and the heating effect increases.



Thus the tip's temperature is set by the Curie Point of the outer-layer material. As the Curie Point is well defined, temperature control is close – within 1°C. This is the Metcal SmartHeat technology.

Its advantages are: constant tip temperature; no need for calibration of temperature setting; high output at lower temperatures; easy to use; dual-port power supply.

In Use

It takes about fifteen-twenty seconds, depending on size, for a tip to heat up from cold. Thereafter the temperature remains stable. The iron is suitable for continuous or occasional use, heating up much more quickly than a conventional soldering iron. This was found to be an advantage in use.

As the reheat time is so quick, it's not necessary to leave the iron on all day. Switching it off doesn't cause any undue delays.

During the twenty-second heating period very high power, almost 40W, is applied to the tip. The power falls rapidly as, in the last few seconds, the Curie Point is reached. This was demonstrated to me by OK Industries, using an in-line power meter.

A small Allan key screw at the right-hand side of the power unit can be tightened to activate an idle timer, which turns the power off after an idle time of 25-30 minutes. This reduces the chance of a microfine tip being overheated and burnt.

Tips

The cartridge tip type sets the soldering temperature. With 500 series tips the temperature is 270°C (20W); with the 600 series it's 330°C (20W); and with the 700 series it's 395°C (30W). Tip types are identified by the first of the last three digits in the code. For example an STTC537 is a 500 series tip. A 0 in this position indicates a 600 series tip, 1 indicates a 700 series tip.

Tips can be changed 'on-the-fly' by using a heat-proof pad that's supplied. Once the cartridge tip has been removed from the pencil its lower stem will be very cool and can be handled. Insert the new tip in the pencil: it's safe to do this as the power supply will have shut off. Simply switch the power supply off and on again and you can continue after the brief heat-up time.

There are many tip shapes and sizes: surface-mounted component removal tips with different-sized slots for different-sized components; twin-sided, tunnel-shaped tips for dual in-line ICs; quad tips for PLCC, SQFP and PQFP surface-mounted ICs – in fact there are some 70-80 different tip sizes in each temperature range.

Standard soldering pencil tips range from 0.2mm to 1.6mm conical and 0.4mm to 5.2mm chisel plus various bevel- and bent-shaped tips, again in each temperature range. In addition there's a blade tip which can be used with DIL ICs or, more readily, to heat desoldering braid when cleaning a PCB up.

The microfine tips worked well, with imperceptible temperature changes, when used to resolder surface-mounted connectors and ICs in positions where leg-by-leg soldering was required because of high component density – in this respect the Metcal is similar to the JBC Advanced soldering iron (see pages 16-17, November 1998). I used slightly larger tips to wipe-solder surface-mounted ICs. Care is required to prevent burning when using microfine tips at 330°C, and as a precaution the unit was switched off between jobs rather than leaving it to the idle timer.

The 600 series is suitable for most surface-mount working with a microfine tip. Series 700 tips would be



better for general TV/VCR work with through-hole components.

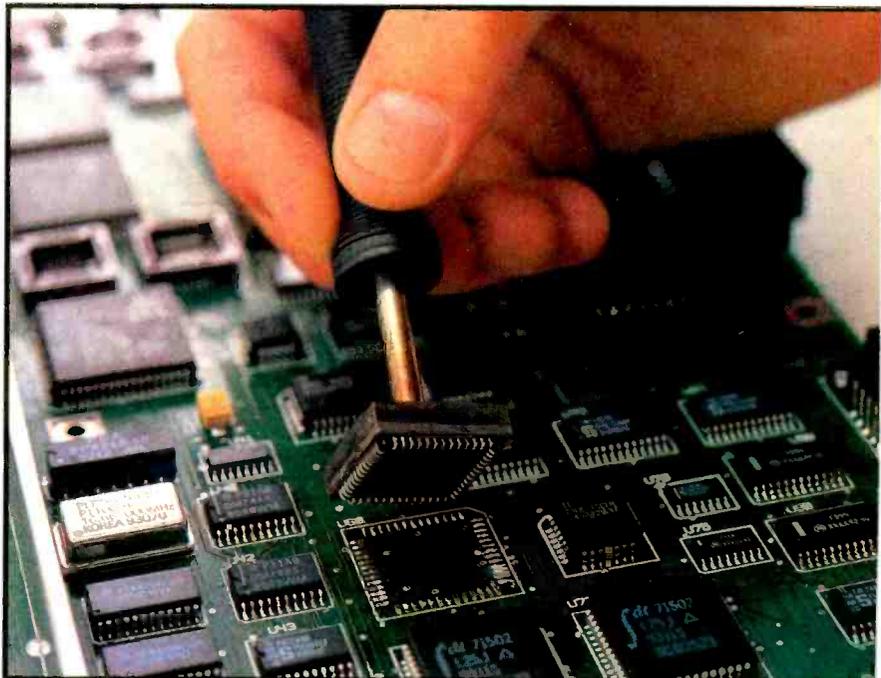
Because of their thermal capacity, larger tips are better for some tasks such as soldering tuner tags: you can change quickly to a smaller tip for the tuner connections, to prevent print damage due to overheating.

The Talon tweezers (left), Metcal soldering pencil (centre) and a selection of cartridge tips.

Talon Tweezers

A considerable benefit is the Talon handpiece that can be used with the system. This is in effect a pair of heated tweezers whose matched tips are controlled by the SmartHeat system. Tip temperature is regulated to within a few degrees in the idle mode, ready for use. As the correct temperature is reached within a few seconds, once again the power doesn't have to be left on.

For test purposes two sample tips came with the Talon handpiece, one 0.4mm wide and the other a 15.8mm width blade with small chamfers at each corner. There are blade tips 6.4mm wide, but not a more usable 10mm wide (I was quoted a vast sum of money to make a 10mm pair). Talon tips can be mounted either way round in the handpiece, giving three ways to grip a component (see Fig. 1).



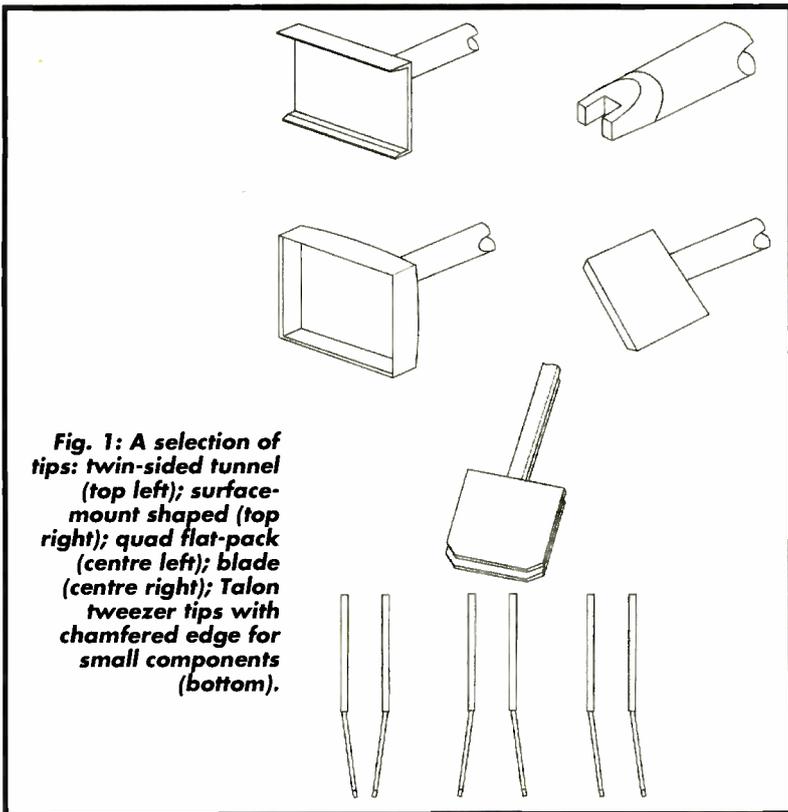


Fig. 1: A selection of tips: twin-sided tunnel (top left); surface-mount shaped (top right); quad flat-pack (centre left); blade (centre right); Talon tweezer tips with chamfered edge for small components (bottom).

I've always found one particular component in a digital camcorder, a small, soft flexible surface-mounted fuse on large PCB lands, to be difficult to remove, even with Pace tweezers. The Talon tweezers made its removal an easy matter, without any component damage, because of the rapid heat regulation.

As with most desoldering equipment, if it's good I have to have it. After using the OK Industries sample Metcal MX500S system for a month or so I found that I couldn't live without it. Nor can you if you are serious about replacing surface-mounted components.

Availability

The Metcal MX500S soldering station is available from SEME Ltd., Unit 2, Saxby Road Industrial Estate, Melton Mowbray, Leics LE13 1BS (phone 01664 481 818, fax 01664 563 976) at £475. Tips cost between £15.95 and £36.25. The Talon tweezers cost £232.50. Talon tips come at £72.60 a pair. These are trade prices, exclusive of VAT. Check them before ordering.

Metcal products have a four-year warranty.

SEME can supply the Metcal brochure and price list to customers who are interested in the range. All you have to do is to phone the new sales hot line on 01664 484 000 and quote order code LEAF116 for a free copy.

SEME is willing to visit a customer's premises and demonstrate the product or, if preferred, a demonstration can be arranged in-house at SEME. To make arrangements, phone 01664 484 000.



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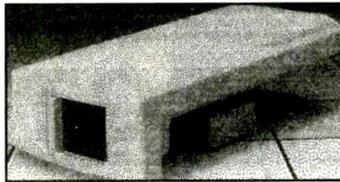
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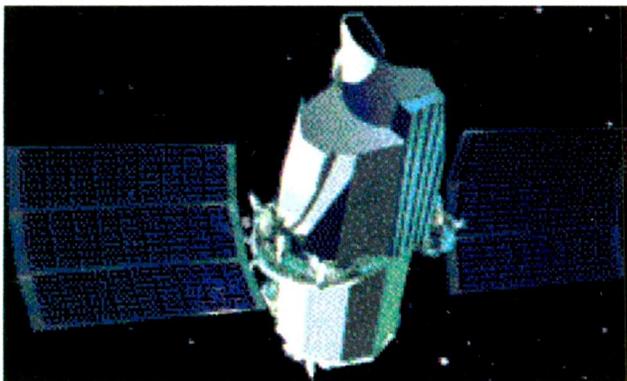
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DX and

Satellite Reception

Terrestrial DX and satellite TV reception. News from abroad and from the satellite belt. Archive material – a remarkable tape of transatlantic TV reception in 1938 has recently been made available. Review of a handy standards converter that provides excellent results. Roger Bunney reports

December produced little by way of terrestrial DX-TV reception, with the Geminids meteor shower early in the month a rather unexciting event. During the 16th/17th there was a minor Tropospheric lift, which provided Band III/UHF reception from the Benelux countries and France across eastern and southern areas of the UK. Here in south Hampshire signals from the Dutch ch. E4 transmitter at Lopik were fluttering about all day above the noise level, and there were also French Band III signals. There have still been no reports of DX reception of the Isle of Wight TV 12 RSL station on ch. 54 (horizontal)!

The ITC has released details of more RSL-TV stations that have been awarded transmitting licenses in areas where there were several applicants. They include Solent

City TV (Southampton), Grimsby/Cleethorpes and Birmingham.

There is also to be an RSL station in Bournemouth, though there is at present no channel/power/polarisation information.

Solar Cycle 23

We are now on the ascending slope towards the next sunspot maximum – in solar cycle 23. Check out the LF end of Band I for signs of any increasing activity, in the hope that something might be seen – or possibly a 50Hz video buzz heard on your scanner. The MUF might rise to the New Zealand channel 1 (45.25MHz video) or the Australian channel 0 (46.25MHz video). In the UK, the best time for Australasian reception via the F2 layer is 0830-1000 GMT.

If you are lucky enough to have ch. E2/R1 clear at your location, check at such times for distant TV from the NE/E (this is quite common at sunspot peaks). You need solar noon half way along the signal path for the MUF to provide long single-/multiple-hop reception. If the signal produces “ghostly” reception, it’s F2!

During the late afternoon through to 1930 GMT check towards the south for TE (tranequatorial) signals from Africa. If you have a scanner or a VHF radio that tunes above 30MHz, check for distant communications signals – taxis, military, police etc. – which can be heard well into the 40MHz region. When the band is open, you will find that there are many inter-

esting signals. It has been open during the past two months.

I might, say at around 0815, tune to ch. R1 (49.75MHz video) and suddenly, over a period of a minute or less, signals would just appear out of the noise, becoming very strong as the en-route MUF lifted to reflect them to the UK. Such reception is very height-conscious: a four-element Band I array at 17m would pick up such signals first, followed a minute or so later by reception using an array at 10m.

During past sunspot peaks I’ve received New Zealand ch. 1 and the Australian ch. 0 (several signals) here at my valley location at Romsey, using just crossed wide-band dipoles mounted only 12m high – next to a main road! So it’s definitely worth a try.

Satellite Sightings

The Operation Desert Fox Iraq bombing campaign started on December 16th. As with the earlier Desert Storm conflict, the satellite waves came alive with news feeds and reports. The difference this time was digital transmission, the majority of Baghdad terminals using MPEG – though in the clear. I ran into difficulties with the primary hop via Eutelsat W2 (16°E). Fortunately several live feeds were carried via New Skies (see later)/Intelsat K at 21.5°W, a secondary hop: on the first night’s bombing there were five simultaneous analogue feeds and three digital ones. Most were scrambled, but the Reuters feed went clear and the full

A recent test pattern received from the Canadian TeleGlobe network via Intelsat K digital.



scale of the bombing could be seen as the signals were fed to the US networks.

Jim Scofield, using his Nokia 9600 for reception via Eutelsat W2, noted eleven different digital frequencies in use between 12.505-12.558GHz, all with horizontal polarisation. Some operated intermittently, but about six were continuously on air. The most consistent feed was the CBS one at 12.558GHz, fronted by Mark Phillips. An Arabic-crew manned uplink for Jazeera Channel at 12.534GHz, in operation on the banks of the River Tigris, was always first on the spot with damage reports – the BBC's pictures were taken an hour later. Jim comments that the digital news feeds usually provide pin-sharp quality pictures – it's either good quality or no signal.

The evening of the 25th brought reports of the end of Richard Branson's balloon flight. Live pictures from KHNL-Hawaii, at the Barbers Point air terminal, were seen from about 2000 hours via the regular Intelsat K 11.566GHz vertical digital feed (5632 SR; FEC 3/4) as helicopters brought the balloon crew back after being snatched from the rough Pacific sea. A CBS reporter at the airstrip eventually obtained an interview with Richard himself. This and other interviews were seen via CNNI.

Christmas has usually produced a varied selection of seasonal graphics via the regular news bureau circuits. Very few displayed the Christmas spirit this year – PanAm 3R/6 at 43°W provided a basic greeting on colour bars and that seemed to be it. The EBU and its members have in the past offered a variety of greetings from 7°E: this year the offerings were in MPEG 4:2:2 digital and were invisible to analogue and most digital operators. A great loss. The Landscape Channel via Orion at 37.5°W (11.622GHz vertical, 18900 SR, FEC 7/8) provided a moving picture of a burning log fire with appropriate music, which was at least soothing.

The BBC UKI-234 SNG truck was seen reporting on the floods and high winds across Scotland: there were live news inserts via Telecom 2C (3°E) at 12.604GHz vertical. This was on December 28th. Three days later UKI-234 was at Edinburgh for the New Year celebrations, with live interviews and spectacular shots of the fireworks. Just up the dial, Reuters provided

video inserts of Paris street celebrations and German financial suits toasting the Euro!

I was surprised to see an Italian OB feed via 2C on New Year's morning – the ITA-57 Napoli truck provided a live analogue insert from the streets of Naples (Italian OB circuits usually come via 18°W).

If you missed the original and repeats of Treasure Hunt, check Saudi Channel-2 via Arabsat 2A (26°E): the programme is being shown on Sundays from 2200 hours GMT with the original English sound track, using the 3.968GHz (C band) RHC-polarised transponder.

Bob French has found many clear MPEG-2 channels in Band C via the new Intelsat 806 bird at 40.5°W, using a Nokia 9600 receiver. They include transmissions from Argentina, Chile, Bolivia, Brazil and Florida. Hugh Cocks has noted a digital channel (6110 SR, FEC 3/4), International MPI, via the 4.187GHz transponder aboard PAS 3R/6 (43°W): it's a private Nigerian-Minaj broadcaster that uses Band C for regional feeds and transmitter links. Other new sightings are Jordan TV via the Arabsat package from Hot Bird (13°E) and Palestine Satellite Channel on test card via Nilesat (7°W) – check the Horas-2 digital frequency at 11.823GHz (vertical).

Though there's not much by way of terrestrial DX-TV at present, there's lots happening in the skies!

Terrestrial News

This time it's all digital TV!
Denmark: A listing of future DTT transmitter allocations has been published. All but one are in the UHF bands. The exception is Thisted ch. E3. I wonder what digital TV via SpE looks like?!
USA: On November 1st 1998 42 TV stations transmitted their first digital TV programming, ahead of the FCC's timetable for a May 1st 1999 start up. US broadcasters seem to be enthusiastic about DTT: several transmitters are operating at the maximum authorised ERP of 1MW. Stations are anxious to be first in their area, to gain early digital viewers and prestige.

Because of lack of mast space, several main stations in New York, Detroit and Chicago were unable to start digital transmissions on November 1st as hoped. They are expected to be on-air by May 1st. Commercial stations have to apply for a digital licence by this date,

and should be on-air dual-casting with digital/analogue transmissions within three years. Non-commercial stations have a one-year extension.

The FCC is to start selling off the present analogue TV spectrum to communications and data servicing groups by mid-2002. By May 1st 2003 all stations should be dual-

A digital feed from the Reuters Washington news bureau. The black bar is caused by incorrect camera shutter speed (1/60th instead of 1/15th sec.).

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The SISLink satellite news gathering (SNG) truck at Poole Quay, Dorset.

casting (analogue/digital). The planned date for the end of analogue NTSC transmissions is May 1st 2005.

Sweden: Terracom AB has been on-air with experimental digital TV for six years. A full DTT service came into operation on January 1st, running in parallel with analogue TV and including various data and interactive services and facilities. Two further networks are to start this spring. Each network will carry four channels. All the main terrestrial TV broadcasters are involved, plus several local stations. A fourth network should be in operation by the end of the year. The long-term plan is for six networks. Analogue services are to be phased out some time around 2010.

Satellite News

A number of satellite launches are due, the most important being W3, the new Eutelsat bird at 7°E. It will replace Eutelsat II F4, and the EBU has confirmed that it will lease four 72MHz transponders for European/African/Middle Eastern coverage. At present the EBU uses twenty channels in a four leased-transponder package at 7°E for digital distribution of TV and radio services.

Arabsat 3A is due to join 2A at 26°E after its February 16th launch, providing coverage from the Middle East through Europe with a total Ku-band payload of some twenty transponders. Using digital compression, it will be possible to downlink eight TV channels via each transponder. 26°E could become another programme hot spot, with the advantage of easy reception using a second LNB on a dish aligned for Astra reception from 28.2°E

AsiaSat-3S is to be launched in

March as a replacement for the ageing AsiaSat-1 at 105.5°E. The new satellite will carry sixteen 54MHz transponders, doubling AsiaSat's Ku-band transponder count.

Because of the financial problems in SE Asia, the launch of AsiaSat-4 has been postponed until 2000 or after. Television Corporation of Singapore is about to open a satellite news service called Channel News Asia.

Several Intelsat craft have been transferred to a new independent company, New Skies Satellites NV, based in Amsterdam. New Skies currently has Intelsat 513 at 177°W, Intelsat 806 at 41.5°W, Intelsat 803 and K at 21.5°W and Intelsat 703 at 57°E. The all Ku-band satellite K-TV, now being built, will go into orbit at 95°E and be added to the New Skies fleet. Intelsat has confirmed its order for a new satellite, 905, to be launched in spring 2002 for location either over the Atlantic or the Indian Ocean.

BT Broadcast Services has installed a new satellite uplink for the BBC at its Moscow site.

Rupert Murdoch has signed up with TF1 (France) to provide a new children's channel, TFX, to be launched in 2001 for digital transmission as part of the Television par Satellite service. This has upset channel M6, which is threatening to pull out of TPS if TFX goes ahead as part of the package.

American EchoStar, which operates the Digital Satellite TV (DST) service, has bought News Corporation/MCI's American Sky Broadcasting (ASKyB), including the programming, two satellites and the Arizona uplink centre. As part of the deal DST will broadcast several Fox Network programme feeds for various local stations, plus the Fox News channel, as part of its DST service until 2002. News Corporation/MCI will receive shares that give them 37 per cent ownership of DST. EchoStar will now offer over 500 channels of programming, also various data/internet services.

There will be more regional feeds in the UK now that ITN has expanded its SNG fleet to collect news for regional TV, Channel 4 and 5. ITN ordered ten new trucks last March. Five became operational in December, two in January and the other three are to go into service in March.

After considerable debate, RAI (Italy) has taken a ten per cent interest in the Canal+ digital service Telepui.

From the Archives

"'Twas the night before Christmas and nothing stirred, not even a mouse." As I opened a jiffy bag the night before Christmas, something fell out. Not a mouse but a VHS tape, with the compliments of Andy Emmerson! Its contents are quite dramatic in TV terms.

Some sixty years ago, in the autumn of 1938, the F2 layer was riding high with the MUF reaching into the low VHF band. Engineers at the RCA research establishment, River Head, Staten Island, New York were excited. They had installed a 405-line system A receiver tuned to the UK's then only TV channel, from Alexandra Palace with the vision carrier at 45MHz, and had calculated that flickering images might appear from across the Atlantic – programmes and test patterns from the only regular TV service then operational in the World, BBC ch. B1.

Images duly appeared, and the pictures taken of them were the first ever of DX-TV with an all-electronic transmission (several years earlier there were reports of Baird mechanically-scanned pictures being received at distant locations, but these were transmitted in the medium-wave band – the late Charles Rafarel, who wrote this column from 1963-1971, received 30-line transmissions at Leeds in 1933, some 300 miles from London).

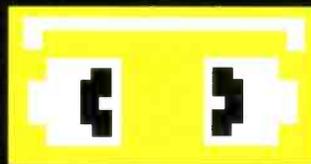
Andy Emmerson's VHS tape shows a copy of the only surviving film of live, pre-war TV. The RCA engineers filmed the TV screen displaying BBC reception over four minutes. Picture quality is naturally poor – typical F2, with smeary, multipath images and deep fading. But those with long memories will recognise announcer Jasmine Bligh and see a Disney cartoon.

A copy of the tape sent to the National Film and Television Archive produced the comment that it is "the most significant find of 'lost' TV yet made". A couple of stills from the video are reproduced nearby, showing the general quality of the 60-year old DX-TV reception. Andy includes some RCA Victor filmed commercials on the tape, showing several post-war domestic receivers – one is a small, bedroom set that's displaying the RETMA test card.

Andrew Emmerson can supply copies of this historical video. Any reader interested should write to him, enclosing an SAE, at 71 Falcutt Way, Northampton NN2

Mark

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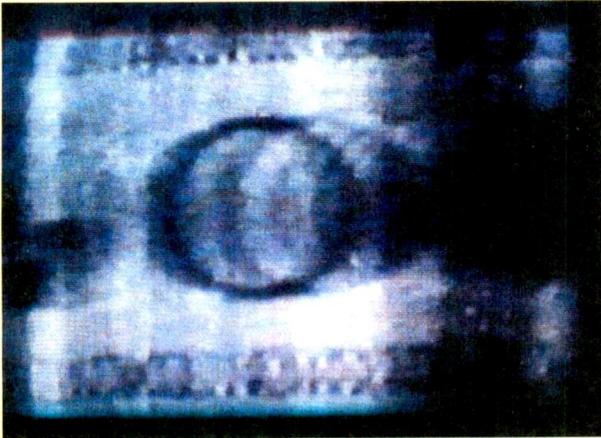
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A BBC TV tuning caption received by RCA in New York in 1938. The smudgy, multiple images are the result of the reception mode – F2 layer reflection.



Another still from the RCA film recorded on Andrew Emerson's VHS tape. The 1/60th bar is the result of my camera setting error.

8PH. Remember that this is a pre-war film of multipath F2 reception, so the quality is poor.

Equipment Review – the Universal Video Format Converter Model CDM630

Back in the Sixties I worked at Southern Television, based at the converted Plaza Cinema, Northam, Southampton. This was in the pre-colour, pre-625-line era. Eventually Southern went out from Rowridge with 625 lines, but all Plaza programming originated with 405 lines and had to be standards-converted to 625 for UHF transmission – the 405-line material continued to be transmitted at VHF (ch. 11) from Chillerton Down. Several 19in. racks of equipment some 6ft high carried out the 405-625 conversion magic. Later, when a colour studio centre was built alongside the Plaza, all programming originated as 625-line PAL – Chillerton then down-converted to 405-lines mono. The studio centre was taken over by TVS in the early Eighties, and is now Meridian.

Two years ago Aerial Techniques lent me a systems converter that would convert from 525 to 625 and vice versa, also converting between PAL, NTSC and SECAM as required. I checked the converter with an incoming 525-line NTSC sports feed for CNN via Intelsat K, converting to 625-line PAL. The results were startling. Apart from a slight 'sticking' with fast-moving objects, e.g. a football, the quality was excellent – both the colour and the frequency response, with no smearing. A display of LEDs indicated the incoming signal standard, the user selecting the output standard. The converter was

housed in a small plastic box that could be held in the palm of your hand, and took about 200mA at 12V. Compare with the massive 19in. racks previously mentioned!

Aerial Techniques has recently taken delivery of a much more up-to-date version that should be of interest to enthusiasts who are into satellite feeds, and also to dealers who get those awkward "aunty brought this VHS back from her holiday in America but it won't play on our video" laments. The new unit, Model CDM630, provides manual or auto selection of the following input standards: NTSC 3-58 or 4-43MHz; PAL B/D/G/I/K; PAL-M and -N; SECAM. The output standards available are similar, except that SECAM is not available.

All input/output standards can be preset, or can be set to auto. A front-panel LED display provides confirmation of the input/output settings. Line conversion 525/625 or 625/525 and field conversion 60/50 or 50/60 is done digitally, a built-in timebase corrector providing correct line and field pulse shaping and syncing. This, coupled with the 4Mbits field memory, ensures a smooth video transition without sticking when fast-moving objects are present.

An AGC system maintains the output at 1V peak-to-peak with inputs varying from 0.5V to 2V peak-to-peak. If there is no signal present or the input signal fails, the converter produces a colour-bar video output.

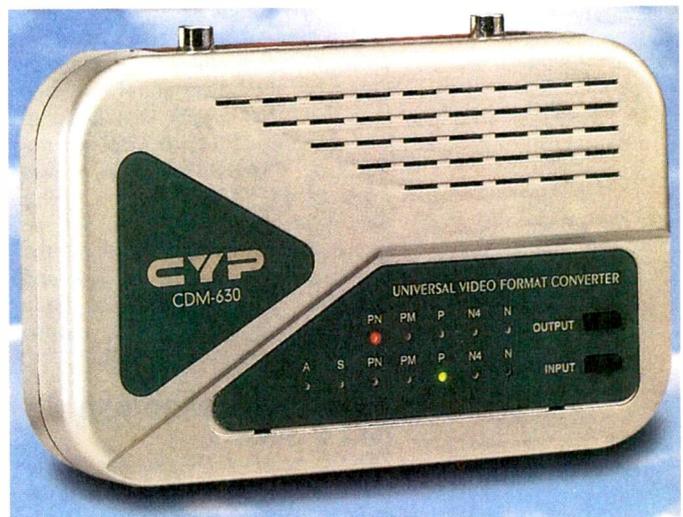
Input standard selection can be either left on auto or manually preset by means of a row of small buttons. The output standard is similarly selected.

The unit draws 450mA at 15V. It uses a sampling frequency of 13.5MHz for the luminance signal and 6.75MHz for the two colour-difference signals B – Y and R – Y. For these parameters the signal is 8-bit coded.

The unit weighs only 1kg and measures 145 x 95 x 34mm. Apart from the video-standard setting buttons there are only input and output video phono sockets and the 15V power input socket. A separate 230V mains unit and various cables are supplied with the converter.

The performance of this unit is very impressive, especially when you consider the amount of technology in such a small plastic box. I'm told that the Universal Video Format Converter is available at £399 including VAT. For more information phone Aerial Techniques on 01202 738 232 or write with an SAE to Aerial Techniques, 11 Kent Road, Parkstone, Poole, Dorset BH12 2EH.

The Universal Video Format Converter Model CDM630, which is available from Aerial Techniques.





Reports from
Philip Blundell, AMIEelec
Pete Gurney, LCGI
Chris Watton
Michael Dranfield
Stephen Corcoran
Denis Foley
Jim Kirkman
Colin J. Guy and
Michael Maurice

**Philips 32PW9631/25
 (5GFL2.30 E AA chassis)**

This widescreen was dead with a whistling noise that came from the power supply. Checks revealed that the line switch FET was short-circuit and that there was a low resistance across the line output transistor – C2433 (510nF in this model) was short-circuit. Normal results were obtained once a new FET and capacitor had been fitted. **P.B.**

Sharp DV5131H (S3B chassis)

The fault report said “dead”. But I had a surprise when I switched the set on. Although there was no picture, a rushing noise came from the speaker! Voltage checks on the outputs from the power supply showed that the 9.5V supply was missing. The cause was R745 (0.33Ω, part no. VRN-V V3ABR33J), which was open-circuit. When a replacement was fitted the set came on but the picture was flickering. This time the 9.5V supply proved to be low and varying. The BY299 rectifier diode for the supply, D713, had developed high forward resistance. **P.B.**

**Philips 28ML8800/05B
 (FL1.6 chassis)**

The FL range of TV sets has an on-board diagnostic mode that can be very helpful when tracing the cause

TV Fault Finding

of some faults but a distraction with others. After half an hour this particular set would shut down and flash its mute, stereo and standby LEDs. This, along with the error code 99 stored in the memory, showed that the protection line was in operation. Other fault codes were logged after 99 but turned out to be distractions.

I used the magnifier to check the large signal panel and found a few suspect solder joints, but after attending to these the fault was still present. On one occasion I happened to be looking at the screen just as the set shut down and saw that the vertical lines in the picture appeared to go ragged just before the switch off. The blue ‘box’ capacitors are suspect if you think that there is arcing in the line output or line scan coil feed circuits. The cause of the trouble was C2523 (8.2nF, 2kV) which was arcing internally. **P.B.**

Grundig CUC7350 Chassis

If the mains fuse Si60001 has blown, check whether the BUZ90 chopper transistor T60020 is short-circuit. If so look for a dry-joint at C60029 (470pF, 1.6kV): this could well be the cause of the transistor’s failure. Before powering the set, check the mains rectifier diodes D60011-14 and D60023-24 which are in series with T60020. **P.B.**

Ferguson 59M5 (ICC5 IMC chassis)

“Smoked then went off” it said on the job card. A dry-joint had damaged CL48 (12.4nF) in the EW diode modulator circuit and the TDA4950 EW correction chip IG01, but when these items had been replaced the set tripped three times then died. Voltage checks around the BC548B protection transistor TL17 produced some very odd readings. All became

clear when the transistor was checked out of circuit – it was open-circuit base-to-emitter. **P.B.**

**Dynatron 256289IR/25R
 (Philips G110-SVHS +
 Black line chassis)**

This set has been the workshop hobby for the past twelve months. First the power supply blew up, so a kit had to be fitted. Then the teletext panel developed dry-joints. After this the line output transformer failed.

We now had a sync fault – the set kept losing line lock and the video input at pin 5 of the TDA2579A timebase generator chip was low. This led us to transistor Tr7364 (BC858), which was open-circuit base-to-emitter. A replacement lasted for only about five minutes. As the output from Tr7364 goes to the teletext panel, which had given trouble before, we fitted another transistor then tried the set with the teletext panel removed. This time the transistor didn’t fail. A few minutes spent with the continuity tester revealed the cause of the trouble. The video input track on the teletext panel runs round the outside and comes very close to the hole where the screening can fits. The track was intermittently shorting to the screening can’s fixing leg. A piece of heatshrink sleeving ensured that they didn’t short again. **P.B.**

Grundig CUC2000/3000 Chassis

With conventional TV sets line collapse when hot is usually a straightforward dry-joint type of fault. With this range of chassis however one possibility is an intermittently open-circuit winding on the combi (Ipsalo) transformer. When the winding between connections N and L of the

transformer is open-circuit the symptom is line collapse with the EHT still present. **P.B.**

Ferguson ICC7 Chassis

The complaint with one of these sets was intermittent black-and-white lines, usually at switch on or when the set was very hot. The fault would sometimes occur daily, then not for weeks. Severe patterning that originated in the IF module was eventually found to be the cause. Most of the soldered connections to the non surface-mounted components showed signs of breakdown. This was particularly the case with CS25 (1 μ F), which had nearly departed from the board. Resoldering cured the problem.

Note that the fault was not sensitive to vibration. Only removal of the unit and close visual inspection revealed the cause. **P.G.**

Grundig GT2103 (G1000 chassis)

I've had several of these sets in which R316 (10 Ω) in the HT supply to the RGB output stages has failed for no apparent reason. The symptoms are a bright raster with the sound OK. In all cases I replaced the associated rectifier diode and reservoir capacitor to be on the safe side. **P.G.**

Matsui 209T

There was severe field foldover at the top of the screen. The chassis uses a fairly conventional discrete transistor field output stage, and in this case the cause of the fault was C303 (3.3 μ F, 160V) which is connected to the collector of the upper transistor Q302.

With this chassis I normally replace the chopper transistor's base drive coupling capacitor C607 and resolder the line driver transformer as a matter of course. **P.G.**

Mitsubishi CT25A5STX (Euro 145F chassis)

The job card said that this set was dead. On test it seemed to function, but after several minutes the HT became unstable. Problems with this power supply are usually caused by the electrolytic capacitors. The chopper transistor's base drive coupling capacitor C914 (47 μ F, 35V) was replaced as a matter of course, using a high-temperature type. The culprit was C905 (470 μ F, 25V) however. It's the reservoir capacitor for the LT supply on the primary side of the circuit. When it had been removed there were signs of electrolyte leakage on the board.

As a precaution I usually replace the electrolytics on the secondary side of the circuit. They too can give troubles because of leakage. **P.G.**

Philips 28ML8770/05 (FL1AB chassis)

This set was dead with a blackened mains fuse and the chopper transistor short-circuit. In cases like this the recommended procedure is to fit the Philips kit 4822 310 31919, which includes all the items required for a reliable repair and a new power supply subpanel.

After fitting the kit components I checked the two line output switching transistors Tr9544/9545 (both type ON4673) before switching on. They were both short-circuit. When this has happened I check the tuning capacitor C2504 (1.5nF, 2kV), which on this occasion was leaky with a crack across its surface. I fitted a replacement rated at 3kV and replaced the ON4673 transistors. At switch on everything worked normally. **P.G.**

Toshiba 2102TB

The field scanning was extremely distorted, with the top half virtually missing. As the condition improved when the set had been running for several minutes I assumed that the cause was dried up electrolytics. Correct scanning was obtained when the 100 μ F, 35V flyback boost capacitor C313 and the 2.2 μ F feedback capacitor C317 had been replaced. **P.G.**

Hitachi C2514T

If the power supply has blown up, with the BUT12AF chopper transistor and ZD952 short-circuit and the optocoupler IC901 faulty, also the line output transistor short-circuit, make sure that you check the value of R951 (82k Ω , 0.5W) in the HT sensing circuit. Otherwise you may have to replace them all again. **C.W.**

Philips G90AE Chassis

This set would start to trip a few minutes after coming on. The tripping would gradually speed up until the set popped about twice a second. The culprit was Tr7652 (BC557C) on the secondary side of the power supply. **C.W.**

Hitachi CPT2158

This set came on with a blank raster and maximum sound that couldn't be turned down. Nor would it go into standby when plugged in and switched on. There was no 5V supply to the microcontroller chip as

D911 in the power supply was dry-jointed. **C.W.**

Finlux 1000 Series

This set would go into standby intermittently. Simple this time: on investigation I found that there was a tiny hole in the line output transformer. **C.W.**

Nikkai Baby 10

If the problem you have is tuning drift when changing channels, don't immediately suspect the tuner. The cause of the trouble is more likely to be the integrator capacitors in the tuning voltage generator circuit – C103, C104 (both 0.22 μ F) and C105 (0.47 μ F). Don't replace them with ordinary capacitors. Only high-stability tantalum ones are suitable. **M.Dr.**

Matsui 1482

This set would intermittently return to standby after about ten minutes. Someone else had resoldered many joints. A few weeks later the set went dead completely, with the standby LED out. This time there was no output from the standby transformer, whose primary winding was open-circuit. An ideal substitute is available from Farnell Electronic Components, part no. 926-280, at less than £4 – the original type costs about £14. **M.Dr.**

Goodmans 2575

The complaint with this set was no results. When I switched it on the 10 Ω , 5W resistor that feeds the line output stage became red hot. The cause of this was the line output transistor, which was leaky. As no obvious dry-joints could be seen in the area I fitted a replacement. At switch on the EHT went sky high and the new transistor failed. The line flyback tuning capacitor C134 had fallen in value from 10nF to 3.3nF. **M.Dr.**

Ferguson D14R (TX805 chassis)

This set had a bright white picture with flyback lines. The obvious thing to check was the 150V supply for the RGB output transistors. I found that the 10 Ω safety resistor was open-circuit while the 22 μ F, 100V reservoir capacitor CP22 had dried up. In case you are wondering about the capacitor's voltage rating, its negative plate is connected to the 103V HT line. **M.Dr.**

Sharp 37AM-23H

The complaint with this newish colour portable was poor picture/

sound and a blue screen. In fact the blue mute was cutting in because the set was slightly off tune. When the set had been retuned I found that the AFC was detuning it. In an older set a slight tweak of the AFC coil would probably have cured the fault, but in this set the AFC is bus-controlled.

The AFC is set by the microcontroller chip, which applies a voltage to the varicap diode at pins 5 and 6 of the IF chip to alter the frequency of the VCO. I cleared the fault by entering the service mode, accessing the non-volatile memory's hex program, going to location OD and changing the data here to 9F. All that remained to be done was to retune the set again. **M.Dr.**

Sony SX Chassis

At switch-on the EHT appeared for about half a second then the power supply gave up. There was no over-current trip indication (flashing standby LED). When the feed to the 2SD1497 line output transistor Q804 was disconnected the power supply worked normally. The line drive was present and correct. So I replaced the 2SD1497 transistor. This proved to be ineffective, and there was nothing else obviously amiss in the line output stage. The transformer passed a simple resistance check, but was nevertheless faulty. A replacement restored normal operation. **S.C.**

Sony KV2052

Another engineer had quoted "about £100" to fit a new tube in this set. When I switched it on I found that the set was dead apart from a squealing power supply. HT was present when the feed to the line output stage was disconnected, so I checked the BU208A line output transistor, which was short-circuit. A replacement restored the set to life with a very high-quality picture. **S.C.**

Mitsubishi EE3 Chassis

This set took a long time to come on: during this time there was a fluttering noise from the speakers and the standby LED showed red. C955, the 2,200µF reservoir capacitor for the 11.5V supply, had fallen in value to about 400µF. I fitted a replacement rated at 105°C. **D.F.**

Sony AE1 Chassis

The set would work normally for about twenty minutes then shut down with the standby light flickering rapidly. The fault could be instigated earlier by channel changing. In

the fault condition there was no remote control.

This suggested that the cause of the trouble was in the microcontroller chip area, where the 5V supply was found to be low at 4.3V. The supply is regulated by transistor Q604, which is type 2SD789-3. When a replacement had been fitted the supply was correct and the problem had been cured. **D.F.**

GoldStar CF25C22F etc (PC33J chassis)

The cause of field collapse was failure of the TDA8350Q field output chip IC301. LG Electronics' helpful technical department told me to obtain a kit of components from CPC, part no. KITPC33J. It contains RU4DS diodes, a TDA8350Q IC, a power transistor and other components, plus full instructions for the factory-approved modification. This was 100 per cent successful. **J.K.**

Sony KVM2120U (BE1 chassis)

There was a faint, greenish picture with flyback lines. No faults could be found on the tube's base panel, so I moved back to the TDA3505 video control chip IC302 on the colour decoder subpanel. A scope check at pins 1, 3 and 5 showed that the RGB outputs were very low. The inputs at pins 12, 13 and 14 were satisfactory. Was it the chip or was it something else? In standby the outputs are taken to chassis via the DTC114ES digital transistor Q308, which was leaky (220Ω) collector-to-emitter. When it was removed the picture reappeared! **J.K.**

B&O LX2802 etc

There was no raster. When the setting of the first anode control was advanced the cause of the problem was seen to be field collapse. The supply and drive to the TDA2170 field output chip were OK, so it seemed that a new IC was needed. Problem: the TDA2170 is no longer available! B&O have a solution however. I was supplied with a TDA8172 chip and an adaptor PCB. Change 4R78 to 3.3kΩ and 4R85 to 0.56Ω (both 0.25W) and all is well. **J.K.**

Philips G110 Chassis

This set had no teletext. The cause was found to be a dry-joint at a surface-mounted link in the 12V supply line on the text panel. Resoldering it restored the teletext, but the top of the display wavered from side to side – just as prerecorded VCR pictures do when played back via a non-VCR

channel. The cause of this was C2829 (47µF) on the text panel. **C.J.G.**

Beko 16328

This set was dead with a shorted line output transformer. The Termal LOPTs used in these sets don't seem to be very reliable. They often arc from the side, destroying the adjacent BY299 video output stage supply rectifier. This produces the same symptoms as a shorted LOPT. The HR7218 transformer available from SEME and others is a cheaper and probably more reliable replacement. **C.J.G.**

Sony KVM2131U (BE1 chassis)

There was no line or field sync. When the teletext panel was removed however there was a normal picture. The 12V and 5V lines on the teletext panel were both low, the cause being an open-circuit track to the collector of the surface-mounted regulator transistor Q02. This whole area was black: it obviously runs very hot. **C.J.G.**

Mitsubishi CT2227BM

These old Blue Diamond tube sets seem to go on for ever. This one had field collapse however, with a smell of burning. The smell came from the 330µF field scan coupling capacitor C412, which was desperately trying to ease itself out of its can – and would have done had I not switched off rapidly. Replacement of this capacitor and its companion C413, which was dead short, restored an excellent picture. C412 and C413 are connected in series. **C.J.G.**

JVC C14ET1K (Onwa chassis)

Words failed me when I removed the back of this set and found one of those awful Onwa chassis. Another 'repairer' had been at it as well. After rebuilding the primary side of the power supply and replacing the 12V zener diode ZD402 and its feed resistor R425 (5.6Ω) I had a picture with reduced height and no colour. The 12V supply was slightly low and varied with picture content. Fusible resistor R434 in this supply had risen in value to about 15Ω instead of 6.8Ω. **C.J.G.**

Toshiba 256T9B

"Loses memory" the report said, but when I tried the set all the local stations were tuned in. So on to the test bench it went, remaining there for most of the afternoon and the next morning. Later, while trying to find

something tolerable to watch amongst the dross of what's called daytime TV, I discovered that with repeated channel changing all the stations would be lost. They would come back if the set was left off for a few minutes. So the set was not actually losing its memory.

Close examination in the area of the microcontroller and EEPROM chips, using a magnifier, revealed a multitude of dry-joints. Thorough resoldering cured the fault. **C.J.G.**

Matsui 1455

The sound was accompanied by a whistle that changed pitch as the volume was adjusted. The cause was traced to the two electrolytic capacitors in the DC volume control circuit, C429 (2.2µF) which is in the microcontroller department and C130 (1µF) which is in the IF section.

Whenever one of these Onwa sets comes in for repair it's prudent to replace the two small electrolytics on the primary side of the chopper power supply circuit. **C.J.G.**

Philips G90B Chassis

There were two faults with this set.

The first was no text and the sound taking a long time to come on from cold. This was cured by replacing C2846 (220µF) on the text panel. The second fault was no text when the set was warm. It was cured by replacing the SAA5243P/E text processing chip. **M.M.**

Ferguson TX98 Chassis

The fault was partial field collapse. I found that the 50V supply to the field output stage was very low at only 12V. The rectifier diode for this supply, D16 (RGP30D), had gone high-resistance. **M.M.**

Philips G110 Chassis

One of these sets suffered from a very intermittent fault - it would just go dead, with no LED indication at the front. I resoldered a number of suspect dry-joints, and of course with the back off and the chassis in the service position the fault would not show up. Finally, on the third visit and after very close inspection, I spotted what appeared to be a poor connection between the rivet and the PCB land at pin 18 of the LOPT. Observation in darkness then revealed some arcing. Resoldering

provided a complete cure - pin 18 is the connection to the line output transistor. **M.M.**

Sony AE1C Chassis

There was sound but no raster. Checks showed that the resistor and rectifier diode in the tube's first anode (G2) supply were OK, and when the control was advanced a raster with green channel information appeared. Scope checks confirmed that video was reaching the TDA4580 colour signal processor chip IC301, so I fitted a replacement. Fortunately this cured the fault - after resetting the A1 control. **M.M.**

Matsui 2050

This old set is a Toshiba clone. The complaint was very poor, distorted sound. Some improvement was obtained by replacing the TDA1015 audio output chip, but the real cause of the trouble was the loudspeaker, which is no longer available. A friend was able to supply a suitable replacement that came from a Bang and Olufsen set. One could even say that the results obtained were better than new! **M.M.**

AN240 = 150	LA4178 = 150	SAS580 = 250	STR50115 = 500	TA8227P = 215	TDA3562A-PHI = 525	TDA4605-3 = 395	TDA8421 = 500
AN316 = 390	LA4200 = 350	SDA3002 = 1115	STR53041 = 400	TA8238K = 200	TDA3565 = 220	TDA4610 = 685	TDA8443 = 295
AN3301K = 150	LA4275 = 200	SDA3206 = 400	STR54041 = 320	TA8403K = 250	TDA3566 = 300	TDA5660 = 250	TDA8540 = 215
AN5015 = 250	LA4280 = 250	SDA4212 = 775	STR56041 = 850	TA8427K = 350	TDA3580 = 499	TDA5820 = 400	TDA8568Q = 695
AN5256 = 150	LA4282 = 350	SL486 = 375	STR58041 = 250	TA8449P = 375	TDA3645 = 385	TDA6101Q = 215	TDA8709 = 600
AN5512 = 100	LA4440 = 200	SL490 = 220	STR81159 = 400	TA8611AN = 025	TDA3653B = 250	TDA7000 = 170	TDA9045 = 1350
AN5515 = 160	LA4445 = 200	SL1454 = 750	STRD1806 = 360	TA8631N = 415	TDA3654 = 080	TDA7056 = 200	TDA9102C = 250
AN5321 = 100	LA4446 = 170	STAA411C = 220	STRD4112 = 400	TA8690AN = 700	TDA3654Q = 080	TDA7225 = 100	TDA9610H = 1185
AN5615 = 300	LA4498 = 275	STA9011M = 310	STRD4420 = 550	TA8631N = 415	TDA3827 = 200	TDA7245 = 350	TDA9860 = 500
AN5701 = 150	LA4557 = 150	STK0040 = 795	STRD5441 = 400	TA8820M = 035	TDA3858 = 500	TDA7250 = 400	TEA1002 = 650
AN5900 = 130	LA4700 = 350	STK011 = 895	STRD6100 = 515	TA8990Q = 200	TDA4050 = 145	TDA7251 = 400	TEA1015 = 300
AN6612 = 080	LA5601 = 110	STK015 = 1440	STRD6108 = 450	TA8990Q = 200	TDA4228T = 360	TDA7255 = 400	TEA1035 = 200
AN7178 = 180	LA5700 = 300	STK078 = 1680	STRD6602 = 400	TA8990Q = 200	TDA4420 = 120	TDA7273 = 080	TEA1061 = 250
AN8377 = 400	LA6510 = 150	STK1049 = 700	STRD6802 = 375	TA8990Q = 200	TDA4439 = 220	TDA7350 = 300	TEA2014 = 080
BA3812 = 080	LA7018 = 130	STK433 = 400	STRD6802 = 375	TA8990Q = 200	TDA4442 = 240	TDA7385 = 900	TEA2018A = 110
BA5115 = 075	LA7223 = 485	STK441 = 650	STRM6546 = 795	TA8990Q = 200	TDA4427 = 899	TDA8138 = 200	TEA2019 = 1550
BA5402 = 180	LA7323 = 325	STK457 = 470	STRM6549 = 725	TA8990Q = 200	TDA4443 = 250	TDA8140 = 200	TEA2026CV = 650
BA5406 = 180	LA7505 = 500	STK463 = 750	STRM6559 = 900	TA8990Q = 200	TDA4480 = 280	TDA8145 = 120	TEA2029CV = 400
BA6222 = 100	LA7696 = 500	STK561 = 450	STRS5701 = 1700	TA8990Q = 200	TDA4500 = 300	TDA8171 = 200	TEA2031A = 125
BA6235 = 050	LA7830 = 090	STK563 = 415	STRS5717 = 500	TA8990Q = 200	TDA4503 = 250	TDA8175 = 450	TEA2164 = 160
BA6247 = 130	LA7832 = 130	STK583 = 500	STRS5741 = 600	TA8990Q = 200	TDA4505A = 300	TDA8177 = 215	TEA2260 = 225
BA6248 = 150	LA7835 = 150	STK583 = 500	STRS5742 = 700	TA8990Q = 200	TDA4505E = 400	TDA8190 = 299	TEA2261 = 345
BA7258 = 300	LA7860 = 350	STK2125 = 575	STRS5942 = 700	TA8990Q = 200	TDA4505K = 450	TDA8226 = 225	TEA2262 = 350
BA7751 = 125	LB1234 = 225	STK2240 = 700	STRS6307 = 450	TA8990Q = 200	TDA4556 = 370	TDA8304 = 400	TEA5170 = 140
BA2751S = 1450	LB1412 = 300	STK3082 = 550	STRS6309 = 550	TA8990Q = 200	TDA4560 = 270	TDA8349 = 350	TEA5581 = 200
CN62A = 080	LC7011 = 500	STK4017 = 400	STRS6525 = 1350	TA8990Q = 200	TDA4568 = 300	TDA8350Q = 399	TEA5701 = 650
CN82A = 080	LM3177 = 150	STK4060 = 1510	STRS6545 = 725	TA8990Q = 200	TDA4600-2 = 160	TDA8351 = 200	TEA6101 = 550
CN83A = 060	LM348 = 050	STK4211/2 = 600	STRS6707 = 800	TA8990Q = 200	TDA4600-2D = 260	TDA8370 = 1125	TEA617 = 600
CNYIT = 225	LM1035N = 350	STK4392 = 500	STRS6708 = 550	TA8990Q = 200	TDA4601 = 120	TDA8376 = 1200	TEA8170 = 240
DPY2540 =	LM1111 = 180	STK4473 = 820	STRS6909 = 550	TA8990Q = 200	TDA4605 = 190	TDA8380 = 200	TFMS1380 = 085
HA1137 = 150	M105BI = 300	STK4773 = 820	STRV2152 = 1000	TA8990Q = 200	TDA4605-2 = 395	TDA8391 = 675	TFMS5300 = 170
HA1199 = 130	M490BBI = 1299	STK4833 = 650	STRV2105 = 685	TA8990Q = 200			TFMS5360 = 170
HA1377 = 140	M5106P = 550	STK5324 = 450	STV9379 = 400	TA8990Q = 200			
HA11215 = 299	M5218L = 285	STK5335 = 750	STV9379F = 415	TA8990Q = 200			
HA11847 = 700	M5130SP = 550	STK5337 = 500	TA7075 = 300	TA8990Q = 200			
HA11351 = 765	M5136S = 350	STK5361 = 375	TA7145P = 400	TA8990Q = 200			
HA111412 = 600	M52307SP = 600	STK5431 = 1250	TA7210P = 200	TA8990Q = 200			
HA111702 = 300	M58658P = 699	STK5441 = 400	TA7248P = 575	TA8990Q = 200			
HA111720 = 650	MB3712 = 600	STK5461 = 500	TA7271P = 220	TA8990Q = 200			
HA111744 = 330	MC1377P = 200	STK5466 = 500	TA7299P = 200	TA8990Q = 200			
HA12005 = 180	MDA2060 = 350	STK5471 = 630	TA7318P = 490	TA8990Q = 200			
HA12411 = 575	MDA2061 = 400	STK5478 = 380	TA7324P = 050	TA8990Q = 200			
HA13002 = 200	MDA2062 = 700	STK5481 = 470	TA7401P = 250	TA8990Q = 200			
HA13118 = 140	NE545B = 225	STK5725 = 450	TA7609AP = 170	TA8990Q = 200			
HA13151 = 800	NE645N = 1225	STK6932 = 725	TA7616P = 300	TA8990Q = 200			
HA13155 = 900	SA11006 = 300	STK730-060 = 645	TA7636P = 400	TA8990Q = 200			
HA17384 = 200	SA11070 = 550	STK730-070 = 599	TA7658P = 100	TA8990Q = 200			
KA2206 = 150	SA11294 = 1000	STR450 = 700	TA7680AP = 275	TA8990Q = 200			
KA9257 = 120	SA11293-3 = 515	STR1195 = 350	TA7698AP = 400	TA8990Q = 200			
KIA6210 = 400	SA11293-3 = 515	STR2105 = 550	TA7719P = 200	TA8990Q = 200			
KIA6281 = 250	SA11293-3 = 515	STR3215 = 275	TA7743P = 600	TA8990Q = 200			
LA1180 = 075	SA11293-3 = 515	STR6020 = 270	TA7772P = 140	TA8990Q = 200			
LA1235 = 130	SA11293-3 = 515	STR10006 = 450	TA8111AP = 210	TA8990Q = 200			
LA1260 = 075	SA11293-3 = 515	STR11006 = 325	TA8200AH = 325	TA8990Q = 200			
LA1369 = 200	SA11293-3 = 515	STR20015 = 450	TA8210AH = 275	TA8990Q = 200			
LA3155 = 175	SA11293-3 = 515	STR40090 = 350	TA8205AH = 220	TA8990Q = 200			
LA3241 = 105	SA11293-3 = 515	STR44115 = 475	TA8210AH = 265	TA8990Q = 200			
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Answer to Test Case 435

- see page 323 -

Two faults for the price of one this month. It's quite a common situation in the service trade these days!

The first fault, no-go, occurred when the HT voltage rose excessively, reaching the breakdown voltage of the 130V avalanche diode ZD952. At this point the set tripped back to standby. The two faulty components were in the error detector circuit: the 1k Ω skeleton potentiometer VR951 (HT preset) and the 6.8V reference zener diode ZD951. Standard stuff. With earlier Hitachi sets that use this circuit the 39k Ω fixed resistor in series with the preset usually causes the trouble, but in this particular version it's the preset itself that causes problems.

The second problem was a quite different kettle of fish, to do with the user software. Perhaps a bit more thought, together with a knowledge of the set's features and its previous location (at a bankrupt bed-and-breakfast in Walmington-on-Sea), might have produced the answer. But it didn't occur to TechnoCrat - nor to Sage, Television Ted, Service Manager or the others. Why would you want to restrict the maximum volume setting and prevent the user messing about with the tuning? In a hotel situation, perhaps?

And that was it: the set was in the hotel mode. The problem was solved once we had the comprehensive service-mode instructions that Hitachi faxed to us.

NEXT MONTH IN TELEVISION

PC Operation and Repair

The hundreds of thousands of PCs in offices, homes and elsewhere represent a substantial source of servicing and repair business. You need to know how a computer's hardware and software operate, what can go wrong, and how to go about testing. K.F. Ibrahim starts a new series that provides practical guidance.

Short Locator

A short locator is particularly useful when dealing with bussed-IC failure. Adrian Spriddell has devised a simple tester circuit that works well.

Setting up as an ASC

As a manufacturer's Authorised Service Centre you will receive a steady work flow. This calls for investment and careful planning. Cliff Martin describes what's involved.

Servicing Hitachi 46TN Series TVs

John Coombes provides a fault-finding guide for the Hitachi Models C2146TN, C2546TN and C2846TN, which first appeared in 1995.

Toshiba Service Briefs

More know-how from Toshiba Technical.

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Version 7 of the computerised Index to TELEVISION magazine covers Volumes 38 to 48 (1988-1998). It has thousands of references to TV, VCR, CD, satellite and monitor fault reports and articles, with synopses. A TV/VCR spares guide, an advertisers list and a directory of trade and professional organisations are included. The software is quick and easy to use, and runs on any PC with Microsoft Windows or MS-DOS. Price is £35 (supplied on a 3.5" HD disc). Those with previous versions can obtain an upgraded version for £15. Please quote the serial number of the original disc. See the CD-ROM offer below.

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Each disc contains the full text for television VCR, monitor, camcorder, satellite TV and CD fault reports published in individual volumes of TELEVISION, giving you easy access to this vital information. Note that the discs cannot be used on their own, only in conjunction with the Index disc: you load the contents of the Fault Report disc on to your computer's hard disc, then access it via the Index disc. Fault Report discs are now available for:

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Vol 40 (Nov 1989 - Oct 1990); Vol 41 (Nov 1990 - Oct 1991);
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Vol 48 (Nov 1997 - Oct 1998).

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TELETOPICS 2

Digital TV

According to GfK Marketing Services 170,000 digital satellite set-top boxes (SkyDigital and ON digital) were sold through retail outlets during the period October 1st-December 26th. Only 14,000 analogue satellite receivers were sold during the period. Pace, which has returned to profitability, has announced that it expects to cease production of analogue receivers very shortly. Pace, Amstrad, Grundig and Panasonic are now producing Sky digiboxes while Pace and Philips have ON digital STBs in production.

There is some confusion over the compatibility status of the IDTV sets launched by Hitachi and Sony. It relates to the smart-card reader that will enable the sets to receive ON digital's subscription service. Philips has launched an IDTV receiver with a built-in ON digital smart-card reader, but the Hitachi and Sony sets were launched without the readers, which are not required for free-to-air reception. Card readers are expected to become available mid-year. ON digital says there is no guarantee that when they arrive they will be compatible. Hitachi says they will be.

ON digital has been warned by the ITC about its lack of teletext services. The problem relates to the software required to deliver teletext and is expected to be resolved shortly. SkyDigital transmits teletext alongside the MPEG video and sound, the STB converting it to conventional vertical blanking interval teletext for decoding in the normal way. ON digital's system will provide much higher-quality graphics, but requires a separate dedicated channel.

Interactive TV

NTL has launched its Internet-TV service, which enables viewers to explore the internet via their TV sets. The new £15 a month service is provided via a rented set-top box manufactured by the Taiwanese computer company Acer. It provides internet access plus e-mail and telephony facilities. The service will subsequently be upgraded to provide digital terrestrial TV channels and interactive operation. Telephone charges are extra. The system is based on the TV Navigator software developed by Network Computer Inc., a Californian company whose investors include Oracle, Netscape Communications, Acer, NEC, Nintendo, Sega and Sony.

Microsoft is to invest some £300m in NTL to accelerate the use of high-speed voice, data and video services in the UK. Microsoft has also bought a stake in United Pan-European Communications (UPC), Europe's largest private cable TV operator.

Front Row, the pay-per-view service established by UK cable companies NTL, Telewest and Diamond Communications, has launched a pay-per-view boxing service as a follow-up to its PPV movie service. Front Row is available to about 1.5m cable subscribers.

Berlin Radio Show

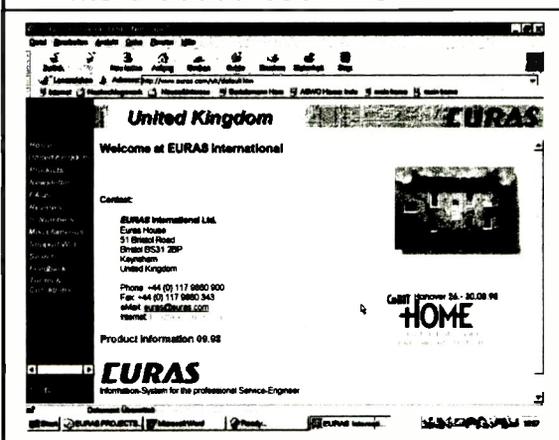
This year's Berlin Radio Show, more correctly known as Internationale Funkausstellung '99, will be held at the Berlin Exhibition Grounds from August 28th to September 5th.

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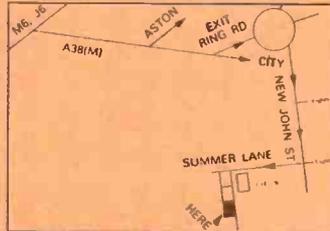
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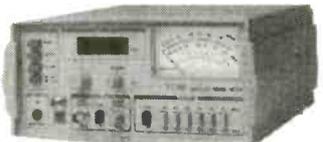
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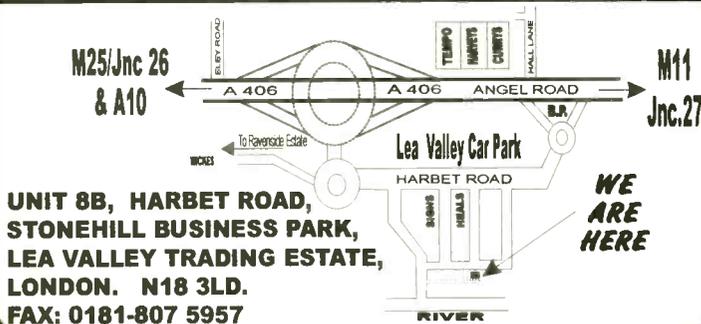
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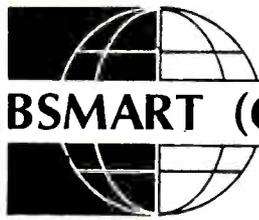


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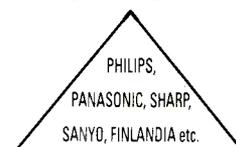
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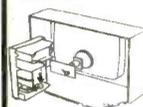
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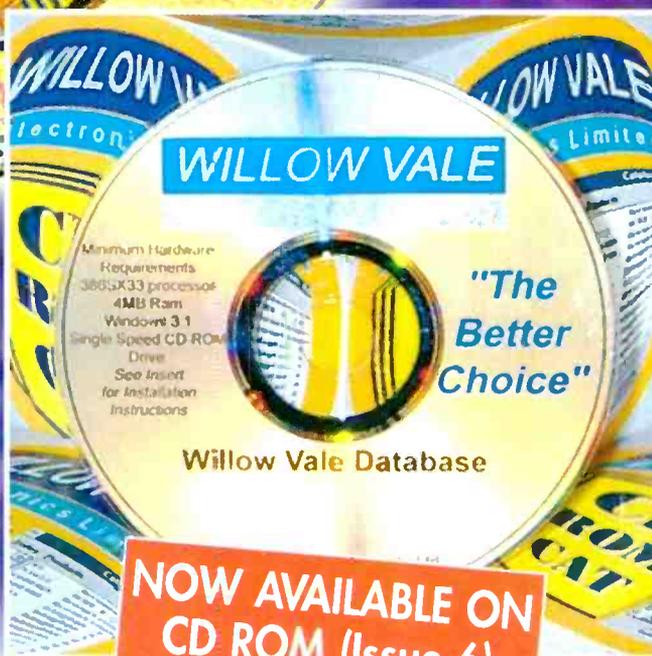
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