

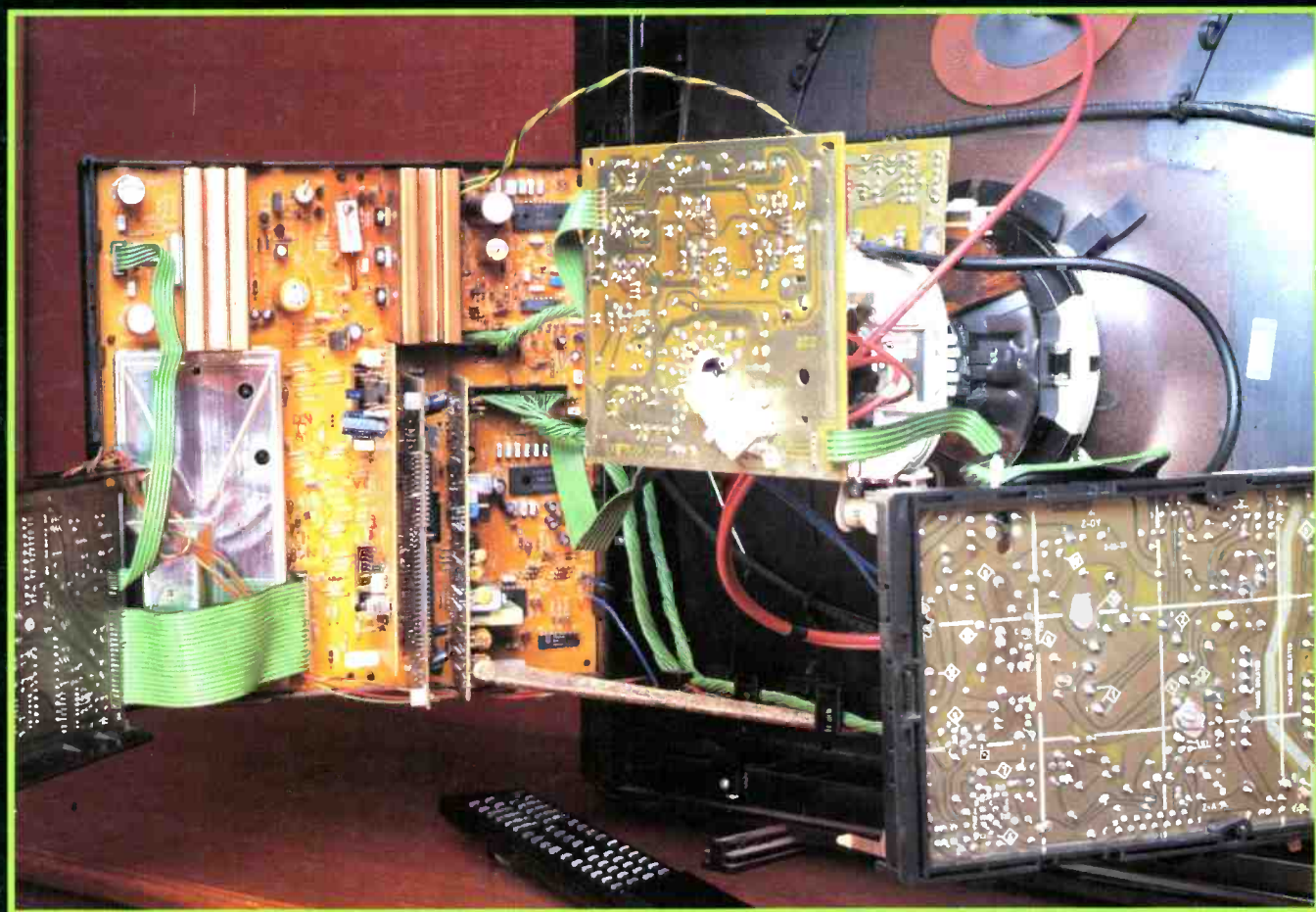
AUGUST 1992

£1.95

TELEVISION

SERVICING · VIDEO · SATELLITE · DEVELOPMENTS

FREE CATALOGUE INSIDE



**Servicing the Finlux 3000 Chassis
AD Converters for DMMs • DX-TV
Servicing the Microvitec Cub
CD-I Update • Logic Probe Test
TV Fault Finding • VCR Clinic**

A REED BUSINESS PUBLICATION



WE'RE ALMOST TELEPATHIC

SHARP GRUNDIG
PHILIPS   **FERGUSON**

 **SANSUI**  **MATSUI**  **SAISHO** **NIKKAI**

*"We've got what
you want before
you want it"*

0734 876444



WVE

Willow Vale Electronics Ltd
11 Arkwright Road, Reading
Berks RG2 0LU

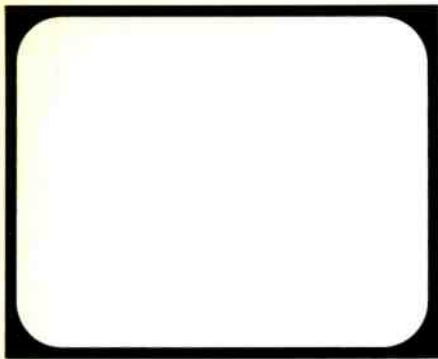
Tel: 0734 876444 Fax: 0734 867188

Manchester

Tel: 061-682-1415 Fax: 061-682-9031 COPS: 061-683-4411

Nottingham

Tel: 0602-870789 Fax: 0602-878772



TELEVISION

August
1992

Vol. 42, No.10
Issue 502

On sale July 15th

COPYRIGHT

© Reed Business Publishing Ltd., 1992. Copyright in all drawings, photographs and articles published in *Television* is fully protected and reproduction or imitation in whole or in part is expressly forbidden. All reasonable precautions are taken by *Television* to ensure that the advice and data given to readers are reliable. We cannot however guarantee it and we cannot accept legal responsibility for it.

CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence regarding advertisements should be addressed to the Advertisement Manager, "Television", Quadrant House, The Quadrant, Sutton, Surrey SM2 5AS. Editorial correspondence should be addressed to "Television" Editorial Department, Reed Business Publishing, Quadrant House, The Quadrant, Sutton, Surrey SM2 5AS.

INDEXES AND BINDERS

Indexes to Vol. 39 are available at £2.00 from the Editorial office (address above). Indexes to Vols. 37 and 38 are available at £1.50 each. Photostats of the indexes to Vols. 31 - 36 can be supplied at £1.00 each. Make cheques etc. payable to Reed Business Publishing Ltd.

Binders that hold twelve issues of *Television* are available for £5 each from Television Binders, 78 Whalley Road, Wilpshire, Blackburn BB1 9LF. Make cheques payable to "Television Binders".

SUBSCRIPTIONS

An annual subscription costs £23 in the UK, £28 overseas (by surface mail - airmail quote on request). Send orders with payment to Quadrant Subscription Services Ltd., Oakfield House, Perry Mount Road, Haywards Heath, Sussex, RH16 3DH.

Subscription hotline for 24-hour ordering with Credit Card number 0789 200 255.

BACK NUMBERS

Some back issues are available at £2.50 each from Television Back Issues, Room L333, Quadrant House, The Quadrant, Sutton, Surrey SM2 5AS. Make cheques/postal orders payable to Reed Business Publishing Ltd. Telephone Kathy Lambart on 081 652 8116 for details of issues available.

this month

705 Leader

706 TV Fault Finding

Reports from Eugene Trundle, John Hepworth, Brian Storm, J. Armagh, Michael Dranfield, Mike Leach, Joe Cieszynski, John Edwards and Roger Burchett.

710 Teletopics

712 Next Month in Television

713 Letters

718 Servicing the Microvitec Cub Series 3

Arthur Rumbelow

The Cub was a popular computer monitor catering for linear/TTL RGB or composite video inputs. A look at its circuitry and notes on common faults.

721 Test Report: TestLab TL07 Probe

Eugene Trundle

722 CD-I Update

George Cole

724 What a Life!

Donald Bullock

725 Satellite Notebook

Nick Beer

726 Long-distance Television

Roger Bunney

DX conditions and reception. Review of the HS Publications D400 DX tuner.

728 Photostat Service

729 Servicing the Finlux 3000 Chassis

Steve Cannon

Servicing notes on this all-singing, all-dancing chassis with its digital control system via an I2C bus, with details of the service mode and advice on bus fault finding.

734 VCR Clinic

Reports from Philip Blundell, AMIEE, Brian Storm, Stephen Leatherbarrow, Bob McClenning, Ronnie Boag, Nick Beer, Mick Dutton and Ed Rowland.

736 The Operation of AD Converter Circuits

David Botto

Mainly on the ADC techniques used in digital multimeters.

739 New Publications

739 CD Player Casebook

Reports from Mike Leach, P.J. Roberts and Philip Blundell, AMIEE.

740 Test Case 356

OUR NEXT ISSUE DATED SEPTEMBER WILL
BE PUBLISHED ON AUGUST 19th

Main table listing various electronic components such as VCR Pinchrollers, Grundig, TOSHIBA, Orion, ITT, Sanyo, Philips, Sanyo, and National. Each item includes a part number, description, and price.

TELEVISION AUGUST 1992

GRANDDA K.P. HOUSE, UNIT 15, POP IN COMMERCIAL CENTRE, SOUTHWAY, WEMBLEY, MIDDLESEX, ENGLAND. Tel: 081-900 2329 Fax: 081-903 6126

MATCHLINE D2MAC/PAL SATELLITE RECEIVER

STU 901

£399 inc VAT
 TRADE DISCOUNT AVAILABLE
 ADD £10 FOR POST & PACKING
LIMITED QUANTITY OFFER
 THIS OFFER IS ONLY AVAILABLE THROUGH A
 SATELLITE SOLUTIONS AUTHORISED RETAILER
 ALSO OPERATES AS D2 MAC DECODER FOR USE WITH
ECHOSTAR, CHAPARRAL, DRAKE, PALCOM Etc



- RC
- D2-MAC
- EURO-CRYPT
- 16:9
- PAL
- STEREO
- NOISE REDUCT
- 2 DISH INPUTS
- POLAR CONTROL
- DUAL BAND
- PARENT LOCK
- AUDIO CINCH
- A/V CON
- S-VHS

PRODUCT PROFILE

- D2-MAC/PAL satellite receiver.
- 98 preselections.
- Menu control for user-friendly operation.
- Full remote control.
- Parental lock.
- Eurocrypt scrambling/conditional access system.
- Internal Smart Card reader for conditional access.
- Headphone Connection.
- Dual-band LNC Switching.
- D2-MAC processing includes :
 - Digital Hifi sound processing
 - Automatic language selection
 - Digital video processing compatible with future High Definition TV broadcasts (HD-MAC)
 - Wide Screen picture processing
 - TXT reception.
- PAL processing includes :
 - 6 mono sound channels (main and multilingual)
 - 3 stereo sound channels
 - PAL encoding.
- Various connection possibilities :
 - 2 Euroconnectors for TV and Video.
 - S-VHS output.
 - 2 Dish antenna inputs.
 - Magnetic polarizer control.
 - Audio outputs CINCH.
 - Terrestrial antenna loop through.
 - PAL Baseband output.

Philips Consumer Electronics



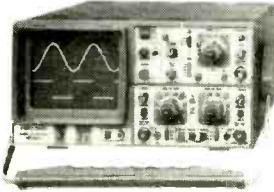
PHILIPS

HOW TO INCREASE YOUR PROFITS, IMPROVE YOUR SERVICE, WITH COST EFFECTIVE TEST EQUIPMENT.

HAMEG OSCILLOSCOPES

HAMEG are Europe's top selling DUAL TRACE OSCILLOSCOPES. Select from four superb models. All, with the exception of the HM 1005, incorporate a useful COMPONENT TESTER. Size - all models - 285mm x 145mm x 380mm. Clear display 8cm x 10cm. Mains supply: 110/220.240V AC 50/60Hz. All supplied with 2 PROBES, a COMPREHENSIVE MANUAL and a 2 YEAR WARRANTY.

HM203-7 20MHz STANDARD



SPECIFICATION

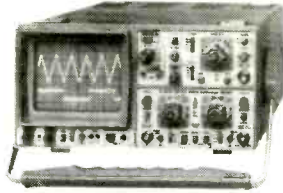
- * 2 Channels
- * Bandwidth: DC - 20MHz
- * Sens: Ch.1, Ch.2, 1mV/cm
- * Timebase: 0.1s - 20ns/cm
- * Triggering: DC - 40MHz
- * Active TV - Sync - Separator
- * Variable hold-off
- * Trigger LED indicator
- * Calibrator: 1KHz Square wave
- * Component tester
- * Plus many features

Price £338.00 + £59.15 V.A.T. FREE Specialist Carrier Delivery

SPECIFICATIONS

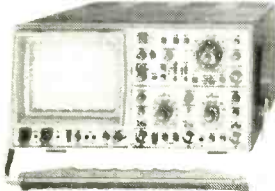
- * 2 Channels
- * Bandwidth: DC - 60 MHz
- * Sens: Ch.1, Ch.2, 1mV/cm
- * Timebase: 2.5s - 5ns/cm
- * Triggering: DC - 80MHz
- * Active TV - Sync - Separator
- * After delay trigger
- * Sweep delay
- * Delay line
- * Trigger LED indicator
- * Calibrator: 1KHz & 1MHz Sq. Wave
- * Component tester

HM604 60MHz UNIVERSAL



Price £610.00 + £106.75 V.A.T. FREE Specialist Carrier Delivery

HM1005 100MHz UNIVERSAL 3 CHANNELS - UP TO 6 TRACES



SPECIFICATION

- * 3 Channels
- * Bandwidth: DC - 100MHz
- * Sens: Ch.1, Ch.2, Ch.3, 1mV/cm
- * Timebase A: 2.5s - 5ns/cm
- * Timebase B: 0.2s - 5ns/cm
- * Triggering DC - 130MHz
- * After delay trigger
- * Delay line
- * Trigger LED Indicator
- * Overscan LED indicator
- * Active TV - Sync - Separator
- * Calibrator: 1KHz & 1MHz Sq. Wave

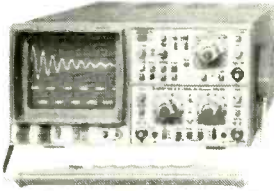
Price £792.00 + £138.60 V.A.T. FREE Specialist Carrier Delivery

HM205-3 20MHz DIGITAL STORAGE

SPECIFICATION

- * Digital Storage
- * Analogue real time (Same as 203-7)
- * Bandwidth: DC - 20MHz
- * Sens: Ch.1, Ch.2, 1mV/cm
- * Timebase Digital: 5s - 1µs/cm
- * Triggering DC - 40MHz
- * Active TV - Sync - Sampling
- * Max sampling rate: 2 x 20MHz
- * Memory: 2 x 2048 x 8 Bit
- * Dot joiner
- * Printer/plotter output

Price £610.00 + £106.75 V.A.T. FREE Specialist Carrier Delivery



B.K.'s CRT TESTER REJUVENATOR

Tests and rejuvenates blue, green and red guns separately. Fitted with delta and P.I.L. sockets. Compact size 120 x 65 x 60mm. Supply 240V AC

Price £34.00 + £5.95 V.A.T.

DIGITAL CAPACITANCE METER

- * High accuracy.
- * 0.1pF-2,000µF.
- * LCD display.
- * 8 ranges.
- * Accuracy ± 1-0.5%.
- * Full scale ± 1 digit.
- * Inc. protective case.



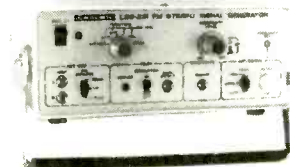
Price £39.99 + £6.99 V.A.T.

LEADER FM STEREO SIGNAL GENERATOR

At last! A generator specifically designed for testing and fault finding on FM stereo and monaural VHF receivers including stereo multiplex circuits.

FEATURES

- * Carrier frequency 100 ± 1MHz (adjustable).
- * Output level 0.1mV - 10mV.
- * Pilot signal 19KHz ± 1-2Hz.
- * L & R separation over 50dB.
- * External Modulation 50Hz - 15KHz.
- * Pre-emphasis 50µs, 75µs & off.
- * Comprehensive test lead set included.
- * Mains powered.
- * Size: 80 x 200 x 250mm.



Price £299.00 + £52.33 V.A.T.

LEADER HIGH VOLTAGE METERED EHT PROBE

Light weight, easy-to-grip high-impact plastic handle with arc-over protection and no need of extra equipment. An indispensable item in your TV service kit. Measures up to 40kV DC with safety and the greatest of ease. Entirely self-contained. Connect the lead clip to chassis and probe tip to the check point, read the meter for voltage.

A must for the Health and Safety at Work Acts. Price £66.00 + £11.55 V.A.T.



B & K PRECISION CRT ANALYSER-RESTORER

The number one CRT Test Instrument. Over 5000 U.K. Television engineers wouldn't be without it.



* All CRT's checked identically, including all in-line and one gun types * Tests all three guns of colour CRT's simultaneously under actual operating conditions (model 490) * Exclusive multiplex technique (model 490) * Measure true dynamic beam current that actually passes through G1 aperture to screen * Measures all shorts and leaks - preserving more CRT's * Tests focus electrodes lead continuity finding faults that other testers miss * Uses most powerful restoration method known with minimum danger to CRT * Rejuvenated CRT's guaranteed as new for two years * Obsolescence proof - perpetual set up chart updated and new adaptors developed * Tests and rejuvenates VDU's and oscilloscope tubes * A range of over 40 CRT base adaptors available * Increase profit * Pays for itself in months.

Price	
Model 490 Tri-dynamic three meter instrument inc. 6 common adaptors	£509.00 + £89.08 V.A.T.
Without adaptors	£446.00 + £78.05 V.A.T.
Model 480 Single meter instrument inc. 6 common adaptors	£375.00 + £62.63 V.A.T.
Without adaptors	£310.00 + £54.25 V.A.T.

SADELTA SIGNAL STRENGTH METERS

The Sadelta Field Strength Meters have been designed to facilitate the dish alignment of satellite TV systems and aerial alignment of VHF/UHF television and radio systems. Signal levels can be accurately measured on the TC402-C and the TC90, allowing the evaluation of signal conditions for satisfactory operation. Both models have a clear LCD direct frequency readout, coupled to a multiturn tuning control enabling precise channel identification.

TC402-C VHF & UHF

FEATURES

- * Three bands:
- Low VHF: 45-110MHz
- High VHF: 110-300MHz
- UHF: 470-862MHz
- * Digital display for direct frequency readout.
- * Built-in monitor loudspeaker AM/FM.
- * Signal measurement from 20µV to 100mV.
- * Powered by eight 1.5 AA batteries.
- * Fully portable with sturdy carrying case.

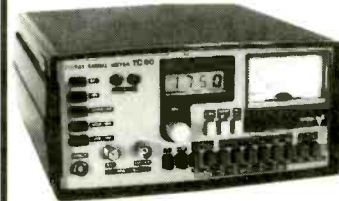


Price £259.00 + £45.33 V.A.T.

TC90 VHF-UHF-SAT.

FEATURES

- * Five bands:
- Low VHF: 45-110MHz
- High VHF: 110-300MHz
- Hyper VHF: 300-470MHz
- VHF: 470-862MHz
- Satellite: 950-1750MHz.
- * Digital display for direct frequency readout.
- * Signal measurement VHF/UHF 20µV to 3V.
- * Signal measurement satellite -70dBm to -10dBm.
- * Audible indication of satellite signal level.
- * Built-in monitor loudspeaker AM/FM (not satellite).
- * Powered by rechargeable battery (complete with charger 220/240V AC).
- * Fully portable with sturdy carry case.



Price £499.80 + £87.47 V.A.T.

BLACK STAR COLOUR PATTERN GENERATOR

THE 'ORION' THREE-IN-ONE PAL VHF/UHF - PAL VIDEO COMPOSITE - R.G.B.

The Orion is a compact, bench instrument offering a wide range of patterns and facilities at a truly low cost.

In addition to a switchable sound carrier facility which allows use with the majority of PAL TV systems, the Orion provides highly flexible RGB outputs, ensuring compatibility with most video monitors.

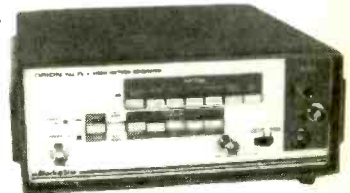
More than 50 pattern combinations can be selected, including those for testing static and dynamic divergence, video amplifier linearity, colour purity, general colour performance, focus etc.

A separate video input to modulate camera signals; fully variable RF and video output levels facilitating AGC testing; trigger output allowing easy triggering of difficult oscilloscope waveforms; external sound modulation input via DIN connector for frequency response testing of TV sound systems; adjustable wide frequency coverage of VHF and UHF TV bands.

Just some of the features making the Orion Pattern Generator an indispensable tool in the manufacture, test, and servicing of televisions, and computer and video monitors.

FEATURES

- * Colour bars, purity, greyscale, crosshatch, dots, focus, etc.
- * VHF/UHF Channels.
- * 5.5MHz, 6.0MHz, 6.5MHz Sound Carriers.
- * Internal/External Sound.
- * External Video Output.
- * Trigger Output.
- * PAL B,D,G,H,I,K.
- * Separate R, G, B and sync. O/P's.
- * RGB @ TTL & 1V.
- * Green ± 0.3V Sync.
- * Composite Video Output.
- * Variable RF/Video Output.
- * Switchable Video Polarity.
- * Mains powered 220/240V AC 50/60Hz.
- * Size: 98 x 219 x 240mm.



Price £229.00 + £40.08 V.A.T.



U.K. POST PAID, export enquiries welcome. Visa/Access or cheque with order, payable B. K. Electronics. Official Orders welcome from Govt. Depts., colleges, P.L.C.s etc. Large (A5) S.A.E. for technical leaflets of complete range. Credit card orders are accepted by 'phone, fax or post. Delivery normally within seven days.



B.K. ELECTRONICS
UNITS 1 & 5 COMET WAY, SOUTHEND-ON-SEA
ESSEX SS2 6TR
Tel.: 0702 - 527572 Fax: 0702 - 420243

AMSTRAD SRD 600 MAC



* 99 CHANNEL * INBUILT VIDEOCRYPT * INBUILT EUROCRYPT * DUAL LNB * PAL * MAC * MESH DISH



* The JSR3300 is a multi-satellite receiver which comes with a dish drive unit

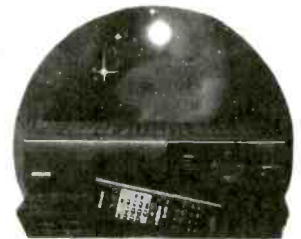


AMSTRAD SRD500



PHILIPS

PHILIPS STU909



Specially imported by EEC

THIS MACHINE IS PAL/D2MAC, FULLY UPGRADEABLE, 120 PROGRAMMES OVER 32 SATELLITE POSITIONS, COMES FACTORY PRE-TUNED, EUROCRYPT CARD HOLDER, 4:3 & 16:9 FORMAT, VCR TIMER, S-VHS IN & OUT, TWIN SCART SOCKETS, TWO LNB INPUTS, EARPHONE SOCKET FOR PRIVACY, POLAROTOR, POLARISER OR 14/18V CONTROL, AUDIO OUT, MATCHING POSITIONER AVAILABLE, DECODER INTERFACE FOR SKY, ULTRA HIGH STYLING

E.E.C.



MONTEREY 40

PACE SS 9200 IRD



90 CHANNEL * INBUILT VIDEOCRYPT * WEGENER STEREO * VCR TIMER * ON SCREEN GRAPHICS * 3 X SCART * COMPACT LNB * MESH DISH

D² MAC DECODERS

* BARCOM 301 PAL D/2 MAC RECEIVER * 2 SCAN SOCKETS * EUROCRYPT CARD READER * SHVS SOCKET * EXTRA DECODER LOOP THROUGH * 2x PHONO/AUDIO SOCKETS



THE NEW POWERMID



USE YOUR EXISTING REMOTE CONTROLS TO OPERATE YOUR

TV, VIDEO, HI-FI OR SATELLITE FROM ANYWHERE IN YOUR HOME

**FREE VIDEOCRYPT WITH ALL MOTORISED SYSTEMS
FREE INSTALL KIT WITH ALL FIXED SYSTEMS**



"ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW IS US"

E.E.C. SATELLITE SERVICES



0702-471321 SALES HOTLINES 0702-480169
1426 LONDON ROAD, LEIGH-ON-SEA, ESSEX SS9 2UL



ACCESSORIES

POWERMID + PACE VIDEOCRYPT + SCART LEADS + PHONO LEADS + GLOBAL SWITCHES + DIPLEXERS + FACE PLATES + BT21 SCART SWITCH BOXES + INSTALLATION KITS + DISHES + RE-FURBISHED AMSTRAD RECEIVERS + REFURBISHED DECODERS + UNIVERSAL REMOTES + SINGLE BAND/DUAL BAND/TRIPLE BAND LNB'S + SWEDISH MICROWAVE LNB'S + HEMPT

SKY CARDS IN STOCK

STOP PRESS PHILIPS STU909 NOW IN STOCK

TRADE ENQUIRIES WELCOME



OMEGA SATELLITE LTD.

INSTALLATION THROUGHOUT UK MAINLAND

SHOWROOM NOW OPEN

VIDEO PLUS
(VIDEING MADE
EASY)
INTRODUCTORY OFFER
£49.99

PACE SS9200 IRD
COMPLETE SATELLITE
SYSTEM (inc receiver
+ Dish)
£249.00

FIVE SKY CHANNELS
VIA THE MARCO POLO
SATELLITE
only
£35.00

FERGUSON INTEGRATED
DECODER COMPLETE
SATELLITE SYSTEM
(inc receiver + Dish)
£229.00

ASTRA
SYSTEMS
FROM
£99.99

NIMBUS IRD
COMPLETE SATELLITE
SYSTEM (inc receiver
+ Dish)
£299.00

SEE WHAT YOU'RE MISSING FROM SKY T.V.

INSTALLATION KIT – inc. Cable,
Clips, F. Connectors, Plugs, Fixing
Bolts, etc.

£11.99



SKY MOVIE CARDS
AVAILABLE

L.N.B.s from **£49.99**

Full range of accessories available

GRUNDIG IRD
COMPLETE
SYSTEM
£249.00

PHONE
NOW:
0273 845066

DISH & LNB
PACKS
AVAILABLE FROM
£40.00

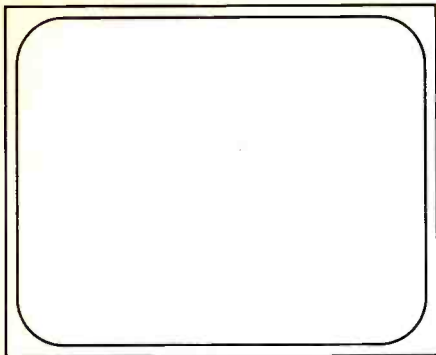


44 KEYMER RD, HASSOCKS, WEST SUSSEX

Trade Enquiries: 0273 842924

FAX: 0273 843140





TELEVISION

A Digital Future

EDITOR

John A. Reddihough

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

Tessa Winford

Please note that the telephone numbers below are for contact with the advertisement departments. Editorial enquiries should be sent to the editor at the address given on page 693 or faxed to 081 652 8956.

ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER

Jan Thorpe
081 652 8114

SALES MANAGER

Shona Finnie
081 652 8115

CLASSIFIED SALES EXECUTIVE

Pat Bunce
081 652 8339
Fax 081 652 8931

ADVERTISING ADMINISTRATION

Kathy Lambert
081 652 8116

ADVERTISING PRODUCTION

Brian Chapman
081 652 8681
Fax 081 652 8917

PUBLISHER

Robert Marcus
081 652 3930

READER HELPLINE

For help if you have difficulty obtaining
Television phone 081 652 8620

SUBSCRIPTION ENQUIRIES

0444 440 421

SUBSCRIPTION HOTLINE

24-hour subscription ordering with credit
card number phone 0789 200 255

COVER PHOTO

This month's cover photograph shows the
Finlux 3000 chassis: see servicing article
on pages 729-731.

While the European Commission continues with the sorry saga of trying to get agreement over the use of MAC for satellite TV broadcasting in Europe the industry itself seems to be looking and working towards the next generation of TV systems and equipment. The EC effort doesn't seem to be able to make any convincing progress. Apparently some forty major European companies, broadcasters and satellite operators have at last agreed in principle to the wording of a memorandum of understanding. They've got that far after months and months of haggling and discussion. The agreement – to adopt D2-MAC and go on to HDMAC – might be implemented if the Commission is able to provide some £590m of funds to help pay for the cost of installing MAC equipment. Its ability to do so depends on achieving the unanimous approval of the EC governments to this expenditure. This seems unlikely to occur. A majority of finance ministers have attacked the proposal while the UK's technology minister Edward Leigh has commented that the figure is "totally unacceptable". One wonders why the EC persists. The industry is half-hearted, and governments are unwilling to agree to the expenditure. But the EC is one of those lumbering, monolithic entities that once set in motion is hard to control let alone stop.

Meanwhile increasing research effort is being put into digital TV systems. Both the BBC and the ITC are progressing along this path. They are two of twenty five partners in the European digital terrestrial television broadcasting (dTtb) consortium. The BBC recently demonstrated compressed digital HDTV transmission via satellite and is playing a leading role in the development of digital communications technology under the RACE programme. Writing in the latest issue of the ITC's quarterly magazine *Spectrum* Gary Tonge, the ITC's Controller of Engineering, describes the progress being made with the SPECTRE (Special Purpose Extra Channels for Terrestrial Radiocommunications Enhancements) programme. This project is being carried out by National Transcommunications Ltd. under contract to the ITC. It was started by the IBA in 1988 as an investigation into the possibility of using modern modulation methods to increase the usefulness of the u.h.f. TV spectrum. More recently the objective has changed to proving the feasibility of a digital terrestrial TV broadcasting system.

As always, one major problem is how to move from the present broadcasting standard to a future one in a manner that causes the minimum disruption to viewers. The proposal here is to use simulcasting. The four existing TV channels plus Channel 5 if appropriate would be broadcast simultaneously with current transmissions but using a high-quality, widescreen format. Some frequency planning studies already carried out indicate that the u.h.f. frequencies required for the purpose would be available in most, but not all, parts of the UK. Because the average power levels required for the digital transmissions are significantly lower, while such transmissions can have a high immunity to interference, they can be squeezed in where extra PAL transmissions would be impossible. Viewers would be encouraged to buy a digital receiver or a dual-standard one when they renew their sets. It's estimated that the simulcast period would last for about fifteen years, at the end of which time few PAL sets would remain in use. It worked with the 405/625 changeover, it could work with digital TV.

In addition to the use of a more efficient technology for terrestrial HDTV transmissions the digital approach offers other advantages. Depending on the resolution required, a u.h.f. frequency slot could be used to carry several channels, while the digital standard could be made compatible with developments in digital VCR and disc technology.

All this remains in the experimental stage at present, but NTL has built and demonstrated modulators and demodulators (this work was completed at the end of last year) and is carrying out field tests of the system at the Stockland Hill and Beacon Hill transmitters. At a conference held in Mexico this April broadcasters from Europe, the USA, Japan and other regions agreed to co-ordinate their studies on digital terrestrial TV with a view to achieving optimum standardisation. The target timescale is for CCIR approval of a standard for the USA in 1995 (the FCC is due to approve a US HDTV standard, which will almost certainly be digital, in 1993 for implementation in 1998) and for Europe in 1998. As Dr. Tong points out, it usually takes five-ten years from the agreement of a standard to its application. Thus European terrestrial digital TV is not likely to be available for a decade or so.

The EC's MAC efforts relate to satellite TV of course, and satellite MAC could coexist with terrestrial digital TV. But since the future obviously lies with digital TV there seems to be little point in investing in MAC. MAC was of course the IBA/ITC's baby: the ITC is now leading the way into the post-MAC era.



REED
BUSINESS
PUBLISHING

TV Fault Finding

Reports from Eugene Trundle, J. Armagh, John Edwards, John Hepworth, Brian Storm, Mike Leach, Roger Burchett, Joe Cieszynski and Michael Dranfield

Hitachi C14P216 and C14P218

The following two faults have cropped up several times now. For failure to start up (stuck in the standby mode) check R902 and R903 (both 82k Ω) in the power supply. For loss of on-screen displays check whether R008 (470k Ω) is open-circuit or dry-jointed. **E.T.**

Hitachi G6P Chassis

The on-board controls worked all right but there was no response at all to remote control commands. The handset emitted the right control pulses, and a very convincing pulse train was present at pin 15 of the control microcomputer chip. It took us some time to discover that L1201 in the IR preamplifier circuit was open-circuit. Normal operation was restored when L1201 had been replaced – but there was no discernible difference in the data bursts at pin 15 of the micro! **E.T.**

Sanyo CBP2145

For the first ten minutes there were no signals and only channels 3 and 4 could be selected. During the period of the fault there was ripple on the 5V line. Replacing C395 (100 μ F, 16V) restored the signals but they were noisy with slight lack of height. The fault again cleared after ten minutes. This time replacement of C397 (100 μ F, 16V) provided a cure. These sets seem to be becoming noted for the failure of 100 μ F, 16V capacitors to work from cold. **J.H.**

Hitachi NP8CQ Chassis

As there was no sound I replaced the HA1124A intercarrier sound/audio amplifier chip IC401. But I'd jumped to an over-hasty conclusion – there was still no sound. The cause of the fault was dry-joints at pins 7 and 8 of the chopper transformer T901. Note that this is the chassis fitted in the **Osaki P60G** that E.T. mentioned in the May issue. **J.H.**

Murphy CTV3500 etc

In the May issue M.Dr. mentioned coming across a faulty standby transformer in one of these sets. This is in fact one of the model's most notorious faults. It's actually a **Cathay** chassis, which is also used in the **Osaki** Model P22G, the **Phase** Model PH20567 and the **Susumu** Models FX14S and FX1400R. Spares can be obtained from Headland Electronics, Water Lane, Eggborough, Goole, North Humberside DN14 0PN (0977 661 223). **J.H.**

Bush 2020

The TDA3562A colour decoder chip used in this set has been mentioned in these pages several times recently. It's the Telefunken version. You can fit other makes such as Philips if R513 is changed from 180k Ω to 68k Ω and R515 from 120k Ω to 150k Ω . If you fit a TFK chip later the values of these resistors must be restored to the original ones.

An interesting fault occurs when R419 (470k Ω , 0.5W) goes open-circuit: you get a vertical black line on the screen, two inches from the right-hand side. This resistor is in the

line flyback pulse feedback path to the TDA2579 timebase generator chip.

If the set jumps into and out of standby when a channel change or adjustment is being made change the MDA2061 EEPROM chip IC2. **J.H.**

Panasonic TX24A1 (Alpha 2 Chassis)

The allegations against this set were of intermittent flashing and going off. Naturally it worked perfectly until it was returned to the customer's house, whereupon it displayed "speckled" white bands like mains interference, the colour flashed on and off and it finally lapsed into standby. Back at the workshop I removed Q802 to prevent the set switching off. The fault was clearly evident and because of the apparent arcing I changed the line output transformer. This failed to improve matters. Scopes were then hooked up to h.t. lines, l.t. lines and data lines but nothing untoward was detected.

Despair was fast setting in when my workshop colleague came up. Intrigued by the fault he thoughtfully tapped the screen. This cleared the fault. Could the tube be faulty? When the fault next returned I crept up carefully, tapped the screen – and again it cleared! I then had a bit of inspiration. Could one of the tube's fixing bolts be loose? Sure enough the one bolt that held the earthing springs for the tube's Aquadag coating was loose. There were no further problems once it had been tightened. **B.S.**

Salora J Chassis (Ipsalo 2)

We've had several cases where the h.t. supply to the Ipsalo circuit has been present and line frequency pulses have been present at the collector of the "lower" switching transistor TB701 but the set has otherwise been dead. In each case there was a dry-joint or open-circuit between pins 13/14 of the Ipsalo transformer MB500 and the collector of the BU208 line output transistor TB501.

This chassis is also used in the **Hitachi CPT2050/2060**.

J.A.

Hitachi CPT1476

The problem with this set was teletext lines over the top third of the raster. I decided to check at the field flyback blanking pulse source, which is pin 7 of the field output chip IC601. Sure enough there was a dry-joint here. Pins 6 and 5 also looked as though they could do with attention. Resoldering put matters right.

Field bounce and similar trouble with these sets has been traced to dry-joints around this chip. It appears that the pins push up through the print due to heat expansion. It's best to melt and resolder all seven pins whilst about it. **J.A.**

Hitachi CPT2658

There was a very intermittent fault with this set, loss of the TV picture with the screen going very dark. No amount of kicking, tapping, freezing or frying would bring it on. Luckily it eventually put in an appearance for a decent length of time and I was able to pounce while it wasn't expecting me.

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING IN SATELLITE INSTALLATION

Demand for Satellite Television both in the UK and Europe is increasing at an astonishing rate. In just two years over a million dishes have been installed in the UK alone. By 1996 over six million homes are expected to have a satellite system. **THIS MEANS OVER THE NEXT THREE YEARS SOME FIVE MILLION SATELLITE TV INSTALLATIONS ARE EXPECTED IN THE UK.**

These installations are now likely to come sooner, rather than later, given the recent coup by BSkyB in obtaining exclusive rights to broadcast live football coverage.

If you have a technical background and are interested in becoming a part of the satellite revolution then why not become a qualified satellite television engineer?

NETWORK TRAINING has trained over 200 engineers to date and can offer the following courses:

- Two day fixed and motorised systems installation and maintenance programme. Practical hands on training and useful business advice to enable you to set up as an independent operator. Recognised qualification on completion.
- Four day City & Guilds approved training programme covering installation of communal satellite systems for blocks of flats and hotels, known as SMATV. There are close to four million of these installations in the UK. City & Guilds qualification awarded to successful candidates.

All courses held at the University of London.

**For further information
and a free information pack
please contact us on
071 837 3388.**

**NETWORK
TRAINING**



SONY TUBES RE PROCESSED WITH ORIGINAL SONY GUNS

HIGH TEMPERATURE RE-PROCESSING of Sony, Mullard 45AX, 30AX, In-line, PiL, Mini (22.5) Neck and FST Tubes.

3702B22 £48.00	A51-231X ITT £46.00	A51EAL00X Philips .. £58.00
370KR22 Toshiba £48.00	A51-570X Mullard .. £46.00	A51EBS00X £58.00
370LH22 Hitachi £48.00	A51-580X Mullard .. £46.00	A51JAR00X Toshiba £64.00
400EFB22 Sony £58.00	A51-590X Mullard .. £46.00	A51JK00X Sony £74.00
510YB22 £58.00	A56-540X Mullard .. £48.00	A51JU10X Sony £74.00
520SB22 Sony £64.00	A56-701X ITT £48.00	A53JBW00X Sony £64.00
560EB22 Hitachi .. £54.00	A66-540X Mullard .. £56.00	A59EAK00X Philips .. £64.00
560DY22 £54.00	A67-701X ITT £56.00	A64JK10X Sony £95.00
570HB22 Sony £64.00	A34EAC00X Philips .. £48.00	A68JMT10X Sony £95.00
680DB22 Sony £85.00	A34JBU10X Sony £64.00	A68JYK10X Sony £95.00
680EB22 Sony £85.00	A44JEX10X Sony £78.00	AXM37-001 £48.00
	A44JF210X Sony £78.00	AXT37-001 £44.00
	A49JHT00X Sony £64.00	AXM51-001 £46.00
	A49JLV10X Sony £74.00	AXT56-001 £52.00

For tube types not listed please enquire.
All Tubes Guaranteed 12 Months

All prices quoted are excluding VAT.
Exchange CRT is required.

Callers welcome.
Please phone first.
Nationwide Delivery Available.

Very low Delivery Charge for Deliveries within M25 Area

BRAND NEW TUBES AT COMPETITIVE PRICES WHILE STOCKS LAST

AXM37-001 A34EAC00X 3702B22 510SKB22 510UB22 510XC22 510YB22 510ZC22 370LH22 370KR22 510BV22 510SLB22 510VH22 510XT22 510YU22 A56-540X

D.I.Y. Television Tube Polishing Kit

Contains everything you need to Polish scratches and small chips on your CRT screens All you require is an electric drill. Written instructions are provided. Guaranteed to work. Worldwide Delivery Total Price £63.00 includes P&P and VAT Available from Luton only

Your local stockist are:

WEST ONE
Distributors Ltd.
Chesham, Bucks.
Tel. 0494 778197

WELL VIEW
114-134 Midland Road,
Luton, Beds, U.K. LU2 0BL.
Tel. 0582 402499

WELL VIEW
Southampton, Hants.
Tel. 0703 449783

EURAS SYSTEM

The largest Database of CD, TV and Video Repair Tips information in Europe Available On-Line or in Books and now...

NEW STAND-ALONE PC VERSION

- Purchase the whole system or just one manufacturer
- It's fast and easy to use
- There are no hidden costs
- Updates available
- Suitable for any IBM compatible PC
- You can even enter all your own repair tips

"No more bits of paper"

STILL AVAILABLE:
The Books
or
The On-Line System

- 73,000 Repair Tips
- 5,300 Models
- 180 Manufacturers

Tel:
0272 724475
Fax:
0272 723374

Euras International Limited
Heston House, 79 Emery Rd,
Brislington, Bristol BS4 5PF,
England

AIWA
AKAI
ALBA
AMSTRAD
ARISTON
ARISTONA
B & O
BAUER
BOSCH
BRANDT
BLAUPUNKT
BUSH
CANON
CHINON
DECCA
DUAL
FERGUSON
FIDELITY
FISHER
FUNAI
GEC
GRAFTZ
GRUNDIG
HANSEATIC
HITACHI
INTERFUNK
ITT
JVC
KENDO
KENWOOD
LOEWE
MARANTZ
MATSUI
METZ
MITSUBISHI
NEC
NECKERMAN
NOVA
NORDMENDE
ORION
PANASONIC
PHILIPS
PIONEER
PYE
QUELLA
QUELLE
SABA
SAMSUNG
SANYO
SCHNEIDER
SHARP
SIEMENS
SONY
TATUNG
TELEFUNKEN
THOMSON
THORN
TENSAI
TOSHIBA
TELERENT
UHER
UNIVERSUM

The cause seemed to lie right at the beginning, in the control system, not on the main panel. In the text mode there should be a steady 4V at pin 9 of IC13. In the mixed mode this voltage should pulse and it should be zero in the TV mode. When the TV picture vanished the 4V was present. As the 5V supply was present I suspected the chip and consulted our helpful Hitachi distributor. He pointed out that the chip is expensive and that they'd had a few odd video faults that a new chip didn't cure. He suggested replacing the 17.73MHz crystal XTG2 – and proved to be dead right! **J.A.**

Toshiba 285T8BZ

This Nicam set produced a loud screeching noise from the loudspeakers at switch on. It lasted for about a second then disappeared. We scratched our heads a bit and decided to replace the TDA4601 chopper control chip. This seemed to improve matters but the fault persisted. We isolated various supply lines and used the workshop power supply but were unable to trace the cause of the fault to any particular stage. A check with the circuit then showed that there's a 1,000µF capacitor connected to the Audio B+ rail. It's mounted close to the audio output chip. Fitting a replacement provided a complete cure. The circuit reference is C638 (1,000µF, 25V) **M.L.**

Hitachi CPT2658

The ticket said "stuck in the video mode". Sure enough there was a blank raster and no sound. The set wasn't actually stuck in the video mode however because a video signal fed in via the scart socket produced a good picture on channel 0 only, proving that the video switching stages were working correctly. A quick check on the tuning voltage line suggested that the SAA1293 remote control chip was also probably doing its job correctly. As all the voltages around the CD4053 switching chip ICB102 were in order in the video and TV modes we made our way to the TDA4505 chip which contains the i.f. circuitry. A replacement restored good pictures in the TV and video modes but a new problem was present. There was grossly excessive height and the operation of the height control had become very one-ended.

I consulted Hitachi technical who told me of a modification to carry out when this chip is replaced. It can take a good half hour as it involves fourteen components. The changes are as follows: change RB117 to 1.2MΩ; RB155 to 18kΩ; CB149 to 2.2nF; CB126 to 33nF; RB129 to 1.8kΩ; CB127 to 4.7µF; RB134 to 2.2kΩ; RB135 to 470kΩ; RB122 and RB123 to 220kΩ; RB110 to 1.5MΩ; CB130 to 33pF; and RB128 and RB587 to 3.3kΩ. When this had been done I switched on and found that the field scanning was now o.k. and well within tolerance.

But yet another problem was present. There was no colour and the line timebase was twitching. Very slight adjustment of the line hold control produced colour, but it kept dropping out and was very unstable. I stared at the circuit and noticed that two of the above modifications were in the line hold circuit. The original values for CB126 and RB129 were 68nF and 1kΩ respectively. When these were fitted the set finally performed correctly, with good pictures, colour and field scanning. Has anyone else had trouble when replacing this chip? **M.L.**

Toshiba 217D9B

Recent storms have produced some real problems. This Nicam set had taken a blast and suffered damage to its audio department. There was no sound at all, but the fact that the

Nicam indicator was lit suggested that maybe the damage wasn't so bad after all. While carrying out various d.c. voltage checks we found that the mute line at pin 17 of the TA8720AN audio switching chip QV01 was high at 6V. When the mute line was earthed the sound came up loud and clear. Following the line back to source we came to Q609 (BC557A) which was short-circuit base-to-emitter, thus applying some 5V to the mute line and turning QV01 off. Replacing this transistor restored normal sound. **M.L.**

Ferguson TX98 Chassis

This set was dead with the mains fuse FS1 blown. It was no surprise to find that the chopper transistor TR3 was short-circuit. I replaced it along with the TDA4600-2 control chip and all the usual things that can cause this type of chopper circuit to fail. As there didn't seem to be anything else amiss I switched on. The 115V line was now present but there were no 12V and 5V supplies. Circuit protector ICP1 had gone open-circuit.

I applied 17V to the TBA8138 l.t. regulator chip IC11 from the bench power supply, with its outputs disconnected. This proved that the regulator was faulty as the 2A bench supply overloaded. Fitting a new TBA8138 restored the supplies but the set was still dead. Scope checks around the TDA4505E-N1 chip IC2 showed that the line oscillator was working, but there was no line drive output at pin 26 even with the line driver transistor TR7 disconnected. At this point I discovered that TR7 was short-circuit. Replacing IC2 and TR7 restored a stable picture, but the sound didn't appear until the TDA2611A audio output chip IC4 had been replaced. So much for all the overload protection that manufacturers boast about in modern power supplies! **J.C.**

Rank Z718 Chassis

This set was dead although its fuses were intact and the 275V h.t. supply was present – at 300V because it was unloaded. I checked all the usual causes of this symptom – dry-joints on the timebase and line output panels, the start-up capacitor C18 being open-circuit and burn-ups around the 12V regulator transistor VT20 – but they were all o.k. So attention was turned to the trip circuit. The main items here are VT4 and VT5 which are connected between the base of the line driver transistor and chassis to remove the line drive in the event of an overload. Both transistors were o.k., as was the zener diode D7. The cause of the fault was C22 (220µF) which is at the input to the trip and was open-circuit. Even when tested after removal this capacitor didn't appear to be in any way defective. **J.C.**

Philips CTX-E Chassis

The job card said "went bang then dead". Sure enough the mains fuse had blown apart – only the end caps remained in the fuseholder. The bridge rectifier had gone short-circuit, but when this had been replaced and a new fuse had been fitted the set remained lifeless. There was h.t. at the collector of the chopper transistor 7355 but it wasn't being switched on. By chance I noticed that resistor 3317 (100kΩ) was discoloured and when tested it turned out to be open-circuit. It provides the BC548 transistor 7322 in the chopper control circuit with base bias. I decided to check this transistor which also proved to be open-circuit. When these two items had been replaced the set at last came to life. Sound blurted out, the e.h.t. rustled up and the tube's heaters glowed, but there was no picture. Turning up the setting of the first anode control on the tube's base panel showed that the cause

of this was field collapse. As the TDA3651A field output chip's 26V supply was present a replacement i.c. was fitted. At last all was well. **J.E.**

JVC 7731R (Ferguson TX9 Chassis)

The complaint was of a very grainy picture on all channels. We eventually found that the cause was the SAW filter on the small plug-in i.f. board. The symptom was very much like that produced by a low-gain tuner. **J.E.**

Goodmans CTV2R

This set was dead. The power supply fuses were intact but the 5.6Ω, 5W surge limiter resistor R81 was open-circuit while the STR5412 power supply regulator IC102 and the R2M protection avalanche diode D141 were short-circuit. No other shorts could be measured with these components out of circuit. Normal operation was restored after replacing them. **J.E.**

Hitachi CPT2658

When this set was switched on it remained dead with no channel indicators alight. There was 300V across C707 but nothing at the collector of the S2000AF line output transistor T701 because R707 (22Ω, 5W) was open-circuit. A check then showed that T701 was short-circuit collector-to-emitter. Replacing R707 and T701 brought the set back to life: check the orientation of T701 when fitting it on the PCB as it's very easy to insert it the wrong way round, with disastrous results. **J.E.**

Ferguson TX10 Chassis

This set would trip every half hour or so. There were two causes: dry-joints on the chopper transformer and internal arcing in the degaussing posistor. **J.E.**

Decca 130 Chassis

There was field collapse because the TDA1670A field time-base chip IC301 was short-circuit while R438 (1.2Ω) which provides its 23V feed was open-circuit. Replacing these items restored normal operation. **J.E.**

Sony KV1400

There was no colour and the picture was very washed out with little contrast. With any set of this age dried out electrolytic capacitors on the various power supply lines are prime suspects, so our first check was on the 12V rail. Bingo! The line was low at 8V. But checks on the relevant capacitors showed that they were all o.k. When the voltages around the 2SD471 12V regulator transistor Q811 were checked we found that its base and collector were at the same voltage while its emitter was low at 8V. Q811 was short-circuit between its base and collector of course. As we didn't have a 2SD471 we fitted the better rated 2SD774. When we switched on we got a picture that would put any modern £150 cheapo CTV to shame. **M.Dr.**

Sharp C2072

This set was suffering from lack of height – about two inches were missing at the top and bottom of the screen. I've had this problem before, so I knew exactly where to look. The 15V line that supplies the height control and the timebase

generator chip comes from regulator transistor Q209 on the tuner/i.f. panel. As the 28V input to this transistor is derived from the line output stage a start-up supply is required for the line oscillator. This is provided by R606 (12kΩ). What was happening was that the set was running off the start-up supply, with the result that the 15V rail was low at 11V – given away by the fact that Q209 was cold (it normally runs very hot). Checks in the regulator circuit showed that R237 (15kΩ) was open-circuit. This resistor provides Q209's driver transistor Q210 with base bias.

On a previous occasion one of these sets came in because of poor sync, more noticeable on scene changes as pulling to one side. This set was brought in by another dealer who omitted to tell me that he'd turned the height control to maximum to fill the screen. The basic cause was the same, a low 15V rail, with pin 3 (12V supply) of I501 low at 8V. This time the trouble was due to a dry-joint on Q209.

Another of these sets had no sound. A finger applied to pin 1 of I302 produced a healthy buzz from the speaker, so attention was turned to the intercarrier sound chip I301. Its 12V supply at pin 5 was missing because R319 (270Ω) was open-circuit. **M.Dr.**

Ferguson 20E2 (TX90 Chassis)

This set worked perfectly except that it wouldn't respond to remote control commands. My tester showed that the handset was transmitting all right so attention was turned to the set. As pin 7 of the T9005N remote control decoder chip IC901 was receiving an input at around 8V peak-to-peak the IR receiver and buffer stages were assumed to be o.k. This seemed to suggest that IC901 was responsible for the problem, but chips of this sort rarely fail. So the handset was investigated further. The manual gives setting-up instructions for a preset labelled "factory set freq adj" inside the handset. When this adjustment had been carried out everything worked fine. The handset had probably been dropped, causing the potentiometer to shift slightly. **M.Dr.**

ITT CVC40 Chassis

No results or intermittent no results with this chassis is usually caused by dry-joints on the line output transformer. Pin 14 is the worst offender but resolder them all. This is now a very common fault. **R.B.**

Hitachi NP6 Chassis

There was no sound after the set had received DIY attention. We found that the 12V supply to the intercarrier sound chip was missing. "Butchers" are often defeated by the main PCB where it slides into moulded runners: the left-hand edge, with its narrow 12V track, is easily damaged. In this case a chunk had been taken out. The blue phase control had also been damaged. It seems that the original fault had been a dirty blue background control. **R.B.**

Some Quickies

Philips CTX-S chassis: There was normal operation when the main board was flexed upwards. Otherwise the set was dead because there was no h.t. The chopper transistor's collector leg had sheared off the body.

Rank T22 chassis: There was h.t. but no line scan as the 36V supply didn't reach the timebase panel because of a burnt contact in the socket. With no 36V supply there's no 12V supply and as a result the line oscillator doesn't start up. **R.B.**

Teletopics

MULTIMEDIA DEVICES

As mentioned in last month's leader (page 629) the first of a new generation of multimedia devices that combine computer with other technologies such as video and communications was demonstrated at this year's Chicago Consumer Electronics Show: it's the Apple Newton, which is described as a "digital personal assistant" and has been developed in conjunction with Sharp. Apple has since announced that it's developing a CD-ROM based device in conjunction with Toshiba. The small, portable device will have a display capable of text, graphics and moving video images to interface with the user. Sound will probably also be included. The companies are holding talks with Time Warner, in which Toshiba has a 6.25 per cent stake, about possible CD-ROM programmes. Although the likely market for such a device is far from clear, the companies are talking about annual sales of around five million in three years' time.

Meanwhile further information has been released on the UK-developed microprocessor adopted for use in the Apple Newton. It's a low-power, 32-bit RISC device that Advanced Risc Machines of Cambridge hope to sell to other manufacturers in the consumer electronics, computer games and telecommunications fields. GEC Plessey Semiconductors in the UK and VLSI Technology Incorporated in the USA are at present licensed to manufacture it.

THE MINI DISC

Sony has recently been demonstrating its Mini Disc system worldwide. The European demonstration was held at Salzburg. Of particular interest is the fact that the system's recording capability has now been demonstrated. On previous occasions only the system's playback capability was demonstrated, although it has always been described as a record/playback system. Sony expects to sell a million players worldwide in the first year, a quarter of a million of them in Europe. A catalogue of around 500 titles is promised for the launch towards the end of the year.

According to Sony the MD system now has the support of over 22 consumer electronics companies including Aiwa, GoldStar, Hitachi, JVC, Mitsubishi, Philips, Pioneer, Samsung, Sanyo and Sharp. Ten blank disc manufacturers will include Maxell, Philips, SKC and TDK. Software providers will include Sony Music, JVC and Toshiba EMI. Blank discs are likely to cost about £5 each.

DISPLAY TECHNOLOGY

JVC and the Hughes Aircraft Company have formed a joint venture to design, manufacture and market a new generation of liquid-crystal light valve (LCLV) projection TV systems capable of providing HDTV displays. Use of an LCLV enables a bright, high-resolution image to be projected on to a screen up to 30ft wide in normally lit surroundings. The LCLV technology was invented by Hughes and is currently used by US government agencies such as NASA. Both companies will pool patents and technology. The venture, known as Hughes-JVC Technology, plans to launch its first professional system this autumn. Further models will be introduced next year, when sales are expected to reach 5,000, increasing to 20,000 annually within a few years. The first consumer model will be introduced in 1994.

Thomson is to start producing high-resolution 12in. flat panel displays using gas plasma technology next year. They will conform to the industry-standard VGA specification. Current development work aims at reducing the pixel size from typically 0.8mm to 0.3mm. Matsushita recently demonstrated a 26in. plasma display while Photonics Imaging in the USA has a 19in. display in production.

Toshiba has developed a new type of colour LCD screen with a much faster response than current LC displays – the image can change in about 17msec compared to as long as 60msec with current types. It uses what Toshiba calls level-adjusted operation, and also provides a sharper image. The new display is still in prototype form and development to the production stage is expected to take a further three years.

CD-I

Philips and JVC are to produce a karaoke version of the CD-I system – karaoke CDs should be available by the end of the year. When connected to a TV set words and pictures will be shown on the screen.

The first single-chip decoder for full-motion video decompression to the MPEG standard used by the CD-I system has been introduced by the US firm C-Cube Microsystems. The CL450 processor decodes SIF resolution (352 x 288 pixels at 25Hz) bit streams at input rates between 1.2-3Mbits/sec, providing decoded video outputs in either RGB or YUV form.

SATELLITE TV

Europe's largest satellite TV receiver manufacturer Pace Micro Technology has seen its share of the UK market rise sharply over the past three months. This increase, now heading towards a fifty per cent share of the market, is due mainly to supply agreements signed with Comet, Colourvision, Clydesdale, Granada, Visionhire, Tandy and selected John Lewis stores. Further agreements are being negotiated.

The latest *Financial Times* satellite monitor figures indicate that some 68,000 dish installations were carried out in May. This is the second monthly decline since a peak of 94,000 was reached in March.

In a recent issue of *Electrical and Radio Trading* Graham Knight mentioned a new use for BSB receivers. A different EPROM can be fitted, replacing the soon to be obsolete BSB D-MAC software with D2-MAC software. This simple modification makes it possible to receive quite a number of European satellite TV channels once the aerial has been realigned.

BUSINESS NEWS

BREMA's final figures for 1991 show that camcorders, CD players and Nicam-equipped goods provided what growth there was in the UK consumer electronics market during this flat year. Trade delivery figures were as follows:

Product	1990	1991
Large-screen CTVs	1,787,000	1,719,000
Small-screen CTVs	1,780,000	1,791,000
VCRs	2,210,000	2,110,000
Camcorders	372,000	555,000
CD systems	1,876,000	2,075,000

Camcorder deliveries rose 49 per cent year on year, with household penetration approaching ten per cent. Deliveries of Nicam-equipped large-screen CTV sets increased by 46 per cent. Overall, some 33 per cent of CTV sets were Nicam-

next month in

TELEVISION

FREE COVER-MOUNTED GIFT

Watch out for next month's issue of *Television* which has a cover-mounted gift.

● SERVICING THE FERGUSON TX90 CHASSIS

The TX90 chassis started as a small-screen set driving a 14in. tube and was developed to include remote control versions with various tuning systems and models with screen sizes up to 20in. Large numbers of these sets were produced. The design is clever, with a unique power supply regulation system. Nick Beer reports on the set and its fault history.

● SATELLITE TV POLARISATION SYSTEMS

Using vertical/horizontal linear or right-/left-hand circular polarisation enables each satellite channel at a particular location to be used twice. Thus a vital part of the head unit is the polariser that enables differently polarised signals to be selected. Various polarisation techniques are in use. Derek Stephenson describes the theory and the different types of polariser, concluding with some quick and simple filed servicing checks on the polariser circuit.

● DEALING WITH SURFACE-MOUNTED ICs

A major problem in servicing the latest generation of consumer electronic products is surface-mounted chip replacement without board damage. Various techniques have been advocated. P.J. Roberts reviews them and describes his preferred method. With hints on learning how to use a hot-air soldering iron.

● ELECTRICAL SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

Legislation introduced in recent years has laid down various requirements on electrical safety in the workshop and the condition of electrical products when they are handed over to the customer. We have been asked for clarification on these requirements, which can difficult to interpret. Nick Beer provides guidance on the current situation. A workshop update led to a thorough investigation of the subject.

PLUS ALL THE REGULAR FEATURES

ORDER YOUR COPY ON THE FORM BELOW

TO

(Name of Newsagent)

Please reserve/deliver the September issue of TELEVISION (£1.95), on sale August 19th, and continue every month until further notice.

NAME

ADDRESS

.....

.....

equipped, an increase from 28 per cent in 1990. Some 15 per cent of VCRs were fitted with Nicam, an increase from 10 per cent.

Samsung is to start CTV manufacture in the UK at the company's Billingham, Cleveland plant. An investment of £9m is being made.

Following a highly successful test during 1991 EMI UK Rental is to offer Sony brand products in its Radio Rentals and Focus branches.

SPARES INFO

We have to apologise for a misleading entry in our 1992 Spares Guide. Zanussi spares are available from METS, 37 Padgetts Lane, South Moons Moat, Redditch, Worcs B98 0RB (0527 510 785). This firm is listed under Dansai who do not deal with Zanussi products.

HRS Electronics, Garretts Green Lane, Birmingham B33 0UE has been appointed exclusive UK distributor for Vogels' comprehensive range of video and audio mounting brackets. This Dutch company's wide variety of ceiling- and wall-mounted brackets enable TV/video screens to be turned to any position. HRS has added genuine Akai video spares to its range and now offers free carriage on all orders and free fax ordering (freefax order line 0800 212 179).

NEW PRODUCTS

Toshiba's latest CTV launch in the UK. Model 2927DB, a 29in. receiver with a recommended price tag of £850, is the first set to feature a built-in digital sound processor (DSP) as well as Nicam stereo and Dolby Surround sound. The DSP unit introduces digital delay and reverberation in its hall, stadium, disco and theatre modes to create the right acoustic "feel". There is also a pseudo-surround mode. On the vision side the set has a dynamic scan modulation unit for finer picture detail and contrast, dynamic colour accutance improvement circuitry for better colour quality and an Invar-coated shadowmask. The dynamic scene control unit has three preset picture settings for different room conditions. Similar sound arrangements will be used in a 25in. model and a 33in. model to be added to the range: the video specification will vary with tube size.

SAI Technologies, Unit 2, P & O Centre, PO Box 14, Rockware Avenue, Greenford, Middx UB6 0AD has introduced a teletext tuner/decoder module for adding to PCs to enable teletext to be displayed in various forms.

Vision 21, 12 Thorkhill Road, Thames Ditton, Surrey KT7 0UE (081 398 3404) has introduced two remote control AV selectors. The VSW42R at £199 is an infra-red unit with four video inputs and two outputs; the VSW41 at £116.50 has a single video output.

TRANSMISSION TECHNOLOGY

British Telecom engineers have demonstrated that it's technically feasible to transmit a single TV channel via an ordinary telephone cable. Though the system has only single-channel transmission capability it's likely that customers could be given a choice of channels through the use of computer-controlled switching. The commercial aspects of offering such a service are being assessed by BT.

On June 13th the Austrian broadcasting organisation ORF recorded a performance by the Vienna State Opera in the HD-MAC 1,250-line format then down-converted it to 625-line PAL. It was the first time that an HDTV production had been used for PAL transmission. The performance was transmitted live by satellite in HD-MAC form and seventy-five

minutes later was broadcast in PAL form throughout Austria and other European countries.

At an exhibition last month the BBC demonstrated the transmission of compressed digital HDTV pictures encoded at 140Mbits/sec via a satellite TV link.

The USA's first national two-way TV system, pioneered by TV Answer Inc., is expected to become operational in early 1993. It will enable viewers to turn their TV sets into interactive communications tools. The heart of the system will be a Sequoia Series 400 UNIX fault-tolerant computer

system which is to be installed at TV Answer's National Switching Centre. It will register viewer responses as they pass through the Answer System, recording data such as length, point of origin and destination. The system will also enable viewers to carry out operations such as banking, teleshopping and organising TV programming information. Viewers' TV Answer home units, which are to be made and distributed nationally by Hewlett-Packard, will transmit requests, data etc. to local sites. These will be linked to TV Answer's hub site via satellite.

Letters

PICTURE GENERATION AND ASPECT RATIOS

I would like to comment on the letters from Geoff Darby and John Dagg in the June issue.

I have a lot of sympathy with what Geoff Darby says. Electronically generated pictures do have an "artificial look" that can detract from the viewing experience. I remember in particular "A Perfect Hero", shown on ITV about a year ago. It would have looked so much better had it been shot on film. Many people in the TV production industry, particularly in the USA, also feel this way, which is why a lot of TV drama is still shot on 35mm film. It would be a mistake however to assume that a digital section in an otherwise analogue transmission path will lead to the picture having a "digital look". The broadcast chain already has large numbers of digital boxes, such as timebase correctors and synchronisers, in addition to the well-known digital effects units. It's a rare TV programme that hasn't been through at least one digital process.

When (if?) we get HDTV I suspect that the visual difference between 35mm film and electronically originated pictures will be even more pronounced. It will make no difference however whether the transmission medium is analogue or digital. Digital signal processing is in any case a fundamental part of all HDTV proposals. It seems somewhat pointless to link the digital signal processor in the studio with that in the receiver via an analogue link. The advantages of digital transmission will be greater robustness in the face of noise and interference, and the ability to cram more channels into a given bandwidth.

I like John Dagg's idea that films should always be transmitted in their original aspect ratio, with the viewer given the choice of whether to view in a letterbox or pan-and-scan mode. Digital transmission will facilitate this without waste of bandwidth. This idea does however require the hang-on-the-wall screen: 16:9 c.r.t.s are bad enough, 2.35:1 or even 2:1 c.r.t.s would be horrendous. I'm well aware of state-of-the-art LCD screens, but in my view they have a long way to go before they can match the "photographic quality" available from a well set-up c.r.t.

The choice of a new TV standard is a major opportunity that doesn't happen very often. We should not be stampeded into making a premature decision for the sake of short-term commercial interest.

John Dagg's cinema experience seems to be somewhat out-of-date, which is probably why he's unaware that use of the 2.35:1 Cinemascope format has declined significantly since the Sixties. According to the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers' study group on aspect ratios, by 1985 only 12 per cent of cinema feature films were made using the 2.35:1 aspect ratio. In that year 70 per cent were shot and released in 1.85:1. The study group also noted that

use of the 2.35:1 ratio was continuing to decline, that virtually all releases to continental Europe were in the 1.67:1 ratio and that most cinematographers shoot and protect to permit both 1.85:1 and 1.67:1 theatrical release and 1.33:1 TV and video release. This last point means that most films are actually shot in the 1.33:1 (4:3) ratio, with the action confined to a 1.85:1 slice across the centre. During cinema projection the top and bottom of the film are masked off to produce a 1.85:1 or 1.67:1 picture. It's in this masked-off area that extraneous objects such as microphones and lighting cables sometimes appear - "Dirty Dancing" even included the sound recordist in one shot! He wouldn't have been seen on the cinema screen of course provided the picture was correctly framed.

I still feel that Cinemascope films look right only on really large screens. I've been involved with the running of the "Electric Palace" cinema in Harwich for the last ten years. We have a 20 x 12ft (1.67:1) screen and we show most modern films with this ratio, filling the entire screen. We used to show Cinemascope films in the 2.35:1 ratio, using the full screen width but only 71 per cent of its height. The resulting letterbox picture looked so bad that we now crop the 2.35:1 down to 2:1. We still use the full screen width but can now use 84 per cent of its height. This looks a lot better, but the visual impact of Cinemascope films is still poor compared to that of other films.

Very wide aspect ratios have always had their enthusiastic supporters, but the general public has not been won over. It's interesting to note that the current "super cinema" system, IMAX, uses a 1.67:1 aspect ratio.

*David Looser,
Ipswich.*

THE GOLDEN RATIO

Geoff Darby (letters, June) mentions a pleasing and natural way of looking at things. The most pleasing and natural aspect ratio known to mankind is based on a series of numbers known as the Fibonacci series, which runs as follows: 1 + 2 = 3; 2 + 3 = 5; 3 + 5 = 8; 5 + 8 = 13; 8 + 13 = 21; 13 + 21 = 34; 21 + 34 = 55 etc., i.e. the number produced by each addition equals the sum of the numbers produced by the two previous additions. Now if one divides any number by the previous one, e.g. 21 divided by 13, the answer is 1.61538. It is this number, expressed as a ratio to one, that offers the most rewarding vista to the human eye.

This is no coincidence - it occurs throughout nature. Here are just a couple of examples. First the daisy. Its golden pin-cushion consists of two sets of curved lines that spiral out from the centre: 21 of them spiral in a clockwise direction, the other 34 in an anticlockwise direction. 21 into 34 = 1.619. Secondly pine cones. Five scales run clockwise, eight anticlockwise. 5 into 8 = 1.6. And so it goes on.

In architecture, the Parthenon's facade fits into a "golden rectangle" whose sides have a ratio of approximately 1.6:1. The same proportions are found in 13th century Cistercian abbeys.

Obviously the higher you go with the sequence the nearer

you get to the golden ratio. But it's always approximately 1.6:1.

So why isn't the TV aspect ratio 3:4.8? Am I correct in thinking that it's 3:4 to fit in with the film industry and is historical? If so, why weren't films originally shot on frames that have an aspect ratio that complies with the golden ratio of 1.6:1? Nature had the answer all the time!

*Russell W. Barnes,
Penrith, Cumbria.*

PATTERN SPARES

A recent letter referred to the use of pattern spares. In my experience pattern parts seem to be o.k. with some makes but not with others. In particular Sharp idlers must be genuine: pattern ones are usually so bad that they won't run from the moment they are fitted, and if you do get one that runs the machine will soon be back for either the idler not running or runningly lumpily. I feel that the same applies to Panasonic types.

I recently fitted some heads, obtained for only a few pounds, in a Ferguson 3V35. To cut a long story short, three sets of heads failed in only a few hours' use. After paying more for Konig heads the machine didn't come back.

My business also services domestic appliances. Our experience here is that most pattern parts for washing machines are pure rubbish, though some are perfectly all right and in a couple of cases are preferable to the genuine originals. The pattern spares supplied by one maker don't even fit the appliances for which they are intended.

For TV and VCR servicing genuine spares are usually the only things to use – the exception in our experience being Konig branded parts – if you want your work to stay at the owner's house rather than coming back to the workshop to roost. You should adopt the same policy with your vehicles. Non-genuine spares can vary from poor to dangerous. Poor points give bad starting while poor brake and steering parts could kill you.

*John Hepworth,
Peterlee, C. Durham.*

COST OF SPARES

Whether to use genuine spare parts or pattern spares is a subject that's been discussed in these pages on several occasions. As the cost of replacement parts constantly rises I've been looking at the prices of some of the more run-of-the-mill items that we use daily, such as resistors, capacitors and semiconductor devices. I estimate that the sums we spend could be cut by half if we spent just a few hours going through the plethora of advertisements in this magazine.

Here are a couple of examples. We recently had an Hitachi set fitted with the Salora J chassis in for repair. It required two BUW41B chopper transistors. These were ordered, at £5.20 each, along with some other items to make the order of sufficient value not to incur post and packing charges. When they arrived two days later we found that MJE13005s had been supplied. No matter, we assumed that they were equivalents and fitted them. The set then worked perfectly and the job was finished. Quite my chance when I was ordering some semiconductor devices from another firm a few days later I noticed that they listed the MJE13005 – at 49p! I was so surprised that I rang the supplier to check and yes the price was correct. So for my £10.40 (first order) I could have had twenty one of the transistors and still got some change. The second example is the HEF4053 switch chip. In one glossy catalogue the price is shown as £6. Amongst the advertisers in this magazine I've seen 19p and 30p quoted.

Another point is that whereas the larger supply companies insist on minimum orders, anything from £15 to £30, otherwise levying a small order charge of up to £3, most of the small-ad companies charge about £1 whatever the order, from single items to large orders. I'm sure that the components they supply are in no way sub-standard as we've used many of them for quite some time.

I don't mind paying a little extra for fast service, but twenty times as much seems to be pushing it a bit too far and the service provided by the small firms is usually just as good if you use a credit card or simply write your card number on the back of the cheque.

*Chris Watton,
Boston. Lincs.*

TANDY SATELLITE TV RECEIVER

Nick Beer mentioned the Tandy satellite TV receiver in his July issue Notebook. It's actually a rebadged AB Wolsey Starlet which can easily be hooked up to a VideoCrypt decoder. The inputs and outputs are all present at an 8-pin DIN socket, marked Baseband, at the rear. For stand-alone use a linking socket joins the audio and video connections. Feed the baseband output to the decoder and connect the latter's output to the receiver's video input. The audio output and input are linked at the plug as this signal isn't encoded. Connection details are shown below – they may be of help to readers as they are not shown in the receiver's manual. My thanks to AB Wolsey's technical department which kindly supplied them.

- Pin 1: Video output.
- Pin 2: Common earth.
- Pin 3: Audio input (link to pin 7).
- Pin 4: Video output.
- Pin 5: Baseband output to a VideoCrypt decoder.
- Pin 6: Video input (VideoCrypt decoder's output).
- Pin 7: Audio output.
- Pin 8: Remote control.

*Paul D. Robertson,
Pontardawe, West Glamorgan.*

THE TDA3562 PAL DECODER CHIP

With regard to the Philips and Telefunken versions of this chip, the Philips one can be used to replace the Telefunken version if the 4.7µF capacitor connected to pin 19 is changed to 1µF and the 120kΩ resistor connected to pin 18 is changed to 82kΩ. This applies to the Matsui Model 1580, the Saisho CM159 and GoldStar colour TV sets or any sets that use this particular circuit. We've been carrying out this modification for a number of years.

*A.M. Archer,
Lincoln.*

COMMENTS

Thank you for Steve Cannon's interesting article on field faults (June). It reminded me of when I was temporarily teaching at a local college earlier this year. A young member of the staff asked me to look at a hybrid monochrome set (Thorn 1500 chassis) that was suffering from "lack of height". After making the usual quick checks I scoped the h.t. line where a 50Hz ripple was present. The result was incorrect field frequency and a small picture. These young high-flyers can talk about satellite TV, Nicam etc. but when it comes down to the basics they ask us old codgers to sort

terminal linear regulators for auxiliary rails. Many of the smaller units are tightly designed with low-impedance windings and tight inductive coupling: the turns ratios are cleverly arranged so that when the 5V supply is correct so are all the other rails. Many TV sets provide an example of this – those that use a TDA4600 series chopper control chip and an off-the-shelf Siemens chopper transformer. Use of a three-terminal regulator in such a system gives the designer some extra latitude: the windings needn't be so tightly coupled or so accurately wound. Within specified limits this makes relative loading per rail a less important consideration. I've no objection to the use of three-terminal regulators in this type of circuit: when they go short-circuit (which in this application is rare) they generally activate foldback limiting.

The point about h.f. noise with an incorrectly loaded SMPSU is noted. But I've used a wide range of such units in a wide range of systems and have not had a problem so far. Fortunately the higher the frequency of the supply ripple the more easily it's filtered.

Television is no kiddies comic, so one would expect readers of my original comments to be able to select a suitable SMPSU and carry out the modification in a safe and responsible manner. I described how I overcame a particular problem. So far the score is: manufacturers two potentially dangerous burnouts, my SMPSU modification nil. I rest my case.

I. Field,
Leichworth, Herts.

VALVE RADIO RECEIVERS

I have been following with interest recent correspondence on servicing valve radio receivers. There's an ever-increasing number of valve radio devotees whose interests are catered for by my own magazine, *The Radiophile*. In addition to providing our subscribers with lively and informative articles we maintain a very large library of technical information and can supply service data for thousands of receivers from the Twenties to the Sixties at sensible prices. We sell radio books too, among them the *Newnes' Radio and Television Servicing* volumes referred to by Eric Kempshall (May). We also organise regular meetings of valve radio enthusiasts throughout the year.

I wonder how long ago were the "old days" when Eric Kempshall practised the empirical trimming techniques he described? I started professional radio servicing in 1948 but even in those far-off days the various workshops in which I was employed all had a signal generator of sorts! But I agree that unless there was unmistakable evidence to the contrary we tended to assume that the i.f.s would be pretty well on tune, while using actual stations for the r.f. alignment was likely to result in far more accurate dial readings than the use of a not-too-clever generator. Athlone provided the test frequency for the low end of the MW band and the local Third Programme relays for the top end. Bandpass tuning systems were brought into line with the aid of the 261m Light Programme transmitter. On the LW band we used Paris International at the low end and either Luxembourg (1,293m) or Airmet (800m) at the top end. Incidentally only last week I repaired a war-time Utility set made by Cossor. It needed replacement of the smoothing and several other capacitors. When this had been done it performed extraordinarily well, so much so that it easily beat the opposition at a competition for best electrical performance at our recent Shifnal, Shropshire meeting. Yet the trimmers had never been altered from the day the set had been made back in 1944, as shown by the original paint seals remaining undisturbed. Not bad for 48 years!

The Radiophile magazine also holds "workshops" at which enthusiasts at all levels from absolute beginners are given practical help in repairing receivers they bring along. Anyone wanting further details of our magazine and activities should write to me at the address below. A subscription currently costs £15 for six issues (UK), or £21 abroad (surface mail). Specimen copies are available at £2.50 and £3.50 respectively.

Chas E. Miller, Editor, *The Radiophile*,
Larkhill, Newport Road, Woodseaves,
Stafford ST20 0NP.

POLARISER MODIFICATION

I decided to purchase from Sendz Components one of their professional satellite TV receivers plus a dish and an LNB with feedhorn. A Luxor 9570 with remote control and hand-book duly arrived and with the help of articles in past magazines I mounted the dish and LNB without any difficulty.

No doubt others who have purchased this unit will have encountered the following problem. It will happily receive all the even, vertical channels but the feedhorn requires 5V, 80mA supply to switch to the odd, horizontal channels. Now although there are many outputs at the rear of the unit there isn't a switched 5V output. There is however a 5V output that will power the feedhorn to enable the odd channels to be received, so I decided to fit a switch that would operate via the remote control.

On removing the cover I found that the polar switch (yellow feed wire from the junction of RA182 and the collector of TA12) switches between 0-5V when the odd/even button on the remote control unit is operated. But it won't pass the required 80mA, so a simple transistor switch was required, see Fig. 1 used a BC441 transistor connected as fol-

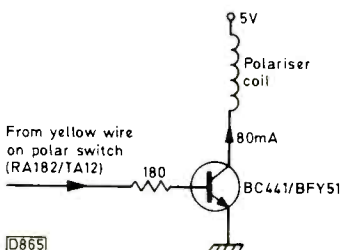


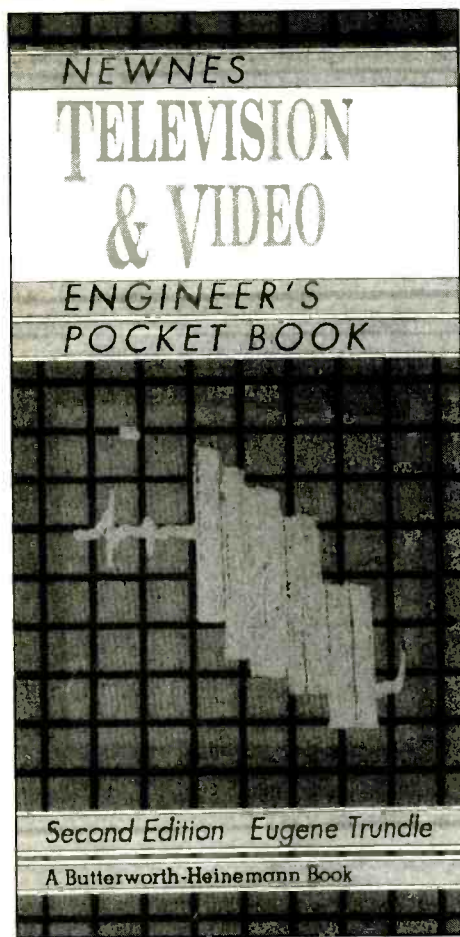
Fig. 1: Adding a transistor polariser supply switch to the Luxor 9570 satellite TV receiver.

lows. Remove the wire from the screw terminal that has a positive-going pulsed output marking. Connect the transistor's collector to this terminal, its emitter to chassis and its base via a 180Ω resistor to the yellow wire on the polar switch. The feedhorn is now connected between 5V and the old positive-going pulse terminal. The circuit works well and has been used for several weeks with no problems.

K.D. Bunting,
Hartford, Cambs.

SERVICING VINTAGE RADIOS

Stanley Jackson's article on servicing vintage radios (March) was very welcome. I'd like to add a few points. First I can't recall ever coming across an open-circuit mains transformer of the drop-through 6.3V, 250-0-250V variety. Was this luck or is it bad memory on my part, or were they really that reliable? Secondly I'm finding that distortion is often caused by a loudspeaker cone's fixing collar having come unstuck from the frame when a radio receiver has been stored in a cold or damp place. If you're lucky the collar can, with extreme care, be reglued. Sometimes however the speech-coil former will have become distorted. The loudspeaker is then usually a



SAVE £2

**ON PUBLISHER'S
PRICE FOR A
LIMITED PERIOD
— OFFER MUST END
31 JULY 1992**

Due for publication this month by Heinemann Newnes at £12.95 is the second edition of Television and Video Engineer's Pocket Book by Eugene Trundle. Now in slim pocket form, it has been revised and updated throughout, and includes new in-depth chapters on Nicam sound and satellite receivers, as well as a greatly expanded 'look-up' database.

This comprehensive reference book describes every aspect of TV and video technology and hardware for the practising service engineer, with comprehensive and up-to-date coverage of theory and practice: frequency-synthesis tuning; satellite reception; camcorders; Video-8 and high-band tape formats; depth-multiplex and PCM sound; and digital servo and control systems. A long chapter describes and specifies test-equipment, fault-tracing and diagnosis, complete with off-screen photographs. 21 chapters, 350 packed pages!

Reviews of 1st edition:

"Up-to-date... admirably fulfils aims... astonishing range... handy... practical" *Television*

"A gem of a book... can be used by service engineers throughout the world" *Elektronika*

ORDER TODAY! £10.95 + £1 P&P (total UK £11.95). PRICE AFTER JULY 31 £12.95

ALSO AVAILABLE — POST-FREE IN UK!

AIRMAIL EUROPE ADD 20%
BEYOND EUROPE ADD 60%

SERVICING TV AND VIDEO EQUIPMENT Eugene Trundle 210 page hardback **£25.00**

"Provided you can read a circuit diagram this book takes you in one jump into the field of expert servicing" *Television*

SERVICING AUDIO AND HI-FI EQUIPMENT Nick Beer 210 page hardback **£25.00**

NEWNES GUIDE TO TV AND VIDEO TECHNOLOGY Eugene Trundle 430 pages **£14.95**

NEWNES GUIDE TO SATELLITE TV D.J. Stephenson 285 page hardback **£16.95**

DIGITAL AUDIO & COMPACT DISC TECHNOLOGY Sony Staff 250 pages **£15.95**

SERVICING PERSONAL COMPUTERS Michael Tooley 240 page hardback **£25.00**

PAUL RICHARDS BOOKS



28 BOSCOBEL ROAD NORTH
ST. LEONARDS ON SEA
EAST SUSSEX TN38 0NZ

CREDIT CARD HOTLINE
0424 434874



write-off. I've been known to hide a miniature modern speaker inside the original one but this isn't really satisfactory.

Changing a valve base when the correct valve isn't available tends to destroy the equipment's historical value and will need to be changed back should the correct valve come along or the diagnosis prove to be incorrect. Valves are extremely adaptable creatures. Humble audio output bottles for example would often be found used as r.f. output devices! It would seem to be far better to make up an adaptor from old valve bases etc. to enable other valves to be used. This was common practice, by me anyway, due to shortages, obsolescence or the sheer price of some valves.

Finally anyone who puts resin or varnish on Bakelite will have an almighty mess after a while when it starts to flake off. I read once in *Television* that T-cut is the thing to use and, along with some elbow grease, have found that there's nothing better to bring the shine back to Bakelite, leaving no residue whatsoever.

David C.J. Tilley,
Ashthomas, Devon.

HELP WANTED

I'm trying to obtain a down-converter, from u.h.f. to v.h.f. Several companies I've tried say that they are no longer available. Can anyone help? J.E. West, 302 Drumbeg North, Craigmavon, Co. Armagh BT65 5AF.

Can anyone supply a circuit diagram for a Saba C67 S77 colour set and/or the PC layout in the vicinity of the line scan coil socket near the LOPT — about two square inches of the PCB around this socket are totally burnt out? D.A. Ferriday,

Rowlands Radio, 56 Redhill Road, Rowlands Castle, Hants PO9 6DF (0705 412 464).

Can anyone supply, new or secondhand, an MC1305 stereo decoder chip? An equivalent would do (LM1305, SN76105, ULM2122). Paul Hardy, 43 Sheridan Avenue, Caversham, Reading, Berks RG4 7QB (0734 475 869).

Can anyone tell me what the DIN sockets on the back of a Granada Finlandia TV rental receiver are for? I presume they're for AV but I need pin details. I've no model number but the set is a 21in. (approximately) model with teletext and stereo sound. A free bag of mixed components to all replies! Also can anyone explain how to use the timer record function on the Osume VCR3000 without employing the remote control system? Same incentive. S. Yousaf, 137 The Crescent, Slough, Berks SL1 2LF.

Wanted — workshop manual covering the early Ferguson/Akai/JVC VCRs in the 3V22/9800/3V16 etc. series — the piano-key models with the small clutch. These models have extra idlers, one driving the take-up reel (part no. PU49281) and the other the rewind reel (part no. PU49283). Good price paid. David H. Syddall, Set Gate Farm, 1070 Bury Road, Brightmet, Bolton, Lancs BL2 6QA (061 234 4036).

I'm anxious to borrow for copying the circuit and any other data for the following amplifiers: Armstrong 401; Trio KA2000; Rotel RA350; Leak Stereo 30 Plus. As a retired technician I still have quite a lot of valve information and some valves. On receipt of an s.a.e. I'll be pleased to pass on information or my regrets as the case may be. J. Gibson, 4 Cotswold Drive, Garforth, Leeds, W. Yorkshire LS25 2DA.

Servicing the Microvitec Cub Series 3

Arthur Rumbelow, G3KKC

The Microvitec Cub, Model 1431, is a popular UK-manufactured linear/TTL RGB compatible computer monitor. Its RGB inputs are link selectable for either positive- or negative-going video at 1.5k Ω . The following notes are also applicable to Models 1432, 1441, 1442, 2031 and 2032. There's a good circuit description in the service manual, which is still available from Microvitec at the address given later, and also a general fault-finding guide. The present article, which is based on the author's workshop experience, lists specific faults and their cures.

Circuit Notes

The circuitry is straightforward. A Siemens discrete-component chopper power supply (see Fig. 1) provides a 200V line for the RGB output stages, a 124V line which is used mainly by the line output stage and an 18V output which feeds a 78M12 voltage regulator. There's also a 78L05 regulator which takes its feed from the 12V line. The RGB output stages are of the class AB type using BF787 (later BF869)/BF392 pairs of transistors, with a common chassis return via the 7.5V zener diode D907 and transistor TR907 (2N4123) which is used for flyback blanking. The field timebase consists of a TDA1170S chip (IC301) while sync processing and the line generator are within a TDA1180P chip (IC201). There are conventional line driver (TR201, BF460) and line output (TR202, BU500) stages, with an e.h.t. tripler. The line output transformer provides the 24V supply for the field timebase. A transducer (T202) is used for EW correction: it's driven by TR301 (BC337), see Fig. 2.

Many readers may be unfamiliar with the Siemens self-oscillating chopper circuit. Its basic operation, see Fig. 1, is as follows. The mains bridge rectifier D1-4 produces about 340V across its reservoir capacitor C11. D5, R8 and C10 provide a start-up drive for the BUW81A chopper transistor TR2. Once the circuit is brought into operation, feedback from winding 3-4 on the transformer switches the chopper transistor on. It's switched off when thyristor TY1 switches on, placing a short across TR2's base-emitter circuit. The gate of TY1 is biased by the circuit consisting of TR1, D18 and the associated components which receive the feedback supply generated by D6 and C12 from winding 2-3 on the transformer. This is the regulating action, set by VR4. TY1 is triggered on when the sawtooth waveform at its gate reaches sufficient amplitude. This sawtooth waveform is produced across R15, which is in series with the chopper transistor and transformer. The link to TY1's gate is via D12-14 and R14. Over-voltage protection is provided by D20 and TY2. Should the voltage developed across C23 by D21 rise sufficiently zener diode D20 will conduct, firing TY2. This removes the drive to TR2. The chopper transformer also provides mains isolation. Later versions of these sets used a different chopper transistor and this calls for certain modifications. Most of these monitors have probably been updated in this respect by now.

Access

When installed in the casing the underside of the main PCB is not accessible. Workshops use a wire-frame jig which consists of a c.r.t. assembly and user controls to which a faulty panel can be taken for testing. An alternative approach

is to cut a large hatch in the underside of the casing and use an aluminium plate held in position with self-tapping screws to cover the hatch.

Power Supply Modification

The chopper transistor in early versions of these monitors was a BUW81A, which is a Darlingtion device. Because supplies became scarce, a TIPL753A or R3213 was adopted as a replacement. This calls for the use of a different chopper transformer, type PC5287 or PC5307, and the following component value changes: R8 3.3k Ω , 1W; R11 22 Ω ; R16 470 Ω , 11W; C10 56nF, 400V; L2 10 μ H.

Fault Finding

A useful cold check on the power supply is to take resistance readings from the cathodes of the output supply rectifiers D22, D23 and D24 to chassis. You should get a reading of approximately 1k Ω in each case.

It's worth noting that when a monitor is operating normally the emitter and base of the R3213 chopper transistor sit at between approximately -125V and -130V d.c. High peak voltages which are not measurable are present at its collector. If the emitter and base voltages are about right but the collector voltage is low, say around 200V, suspect a fault on the secondary side of T2. D22 going short-circuit is the most likely event.

If the 1A d.c. fuse F3 has blown check the chopper transistor, also TY1 and TY2, for shorts. Note that R15 goes open-circuit when the chopper transistor fails. It's also worth checking C18 (1 μ F, 25V), especially in older monitors. If this capacitor is faulty the power supply can become unstable. The result is ripple on the outputs and destruction of the chopper transistor. Whilst carrying out tests in this area the 3.3k Ω wirewound resistor R16 should be checked for dry-joints as these can lead to other component failures. This is the tall resistor which is easily disturbed when the PCB is removed or replaced - it catches the c.r.t.

If the d.c. outputs tend to creep up, turn the set-h.t. potentiometer VR4 to minimum and monitor them. If the voltages still creep up check D18, TR1 and D20: also check C12 and C23. If the fault persists the chopper transformer T2 could be faulty.

Manufacturers of BR103 thyristors have been making them switch faster. This can result in the over-voltage protection circuit being too sensitive. The symptom is a display that shrinks in size: switching the monitor off and on again can clear the problem for hours. One's suspicion is that the symptoms are being produced by mains-borne spikes. Where a fast version of the BR103 has been fitted in the TY2 position ensure that R23 has been changed from 10k Ω to 4.7k Ω .

Failure of the mains fuses should lead to a check on D1-4, also the 470pF protection capacitors C5 and C7. The dual-pole Th1 in the degaussing circuit can also be responsible however - disconnect the degaussing coils to prove the point.

The following symptoms are caused by power supply faults:

F3 blows intermittently - can take several hours. T2 has a faulty primary winding.

No raster, very low e.h.t., the 124V rail low at 60V: D7 short-circuit.

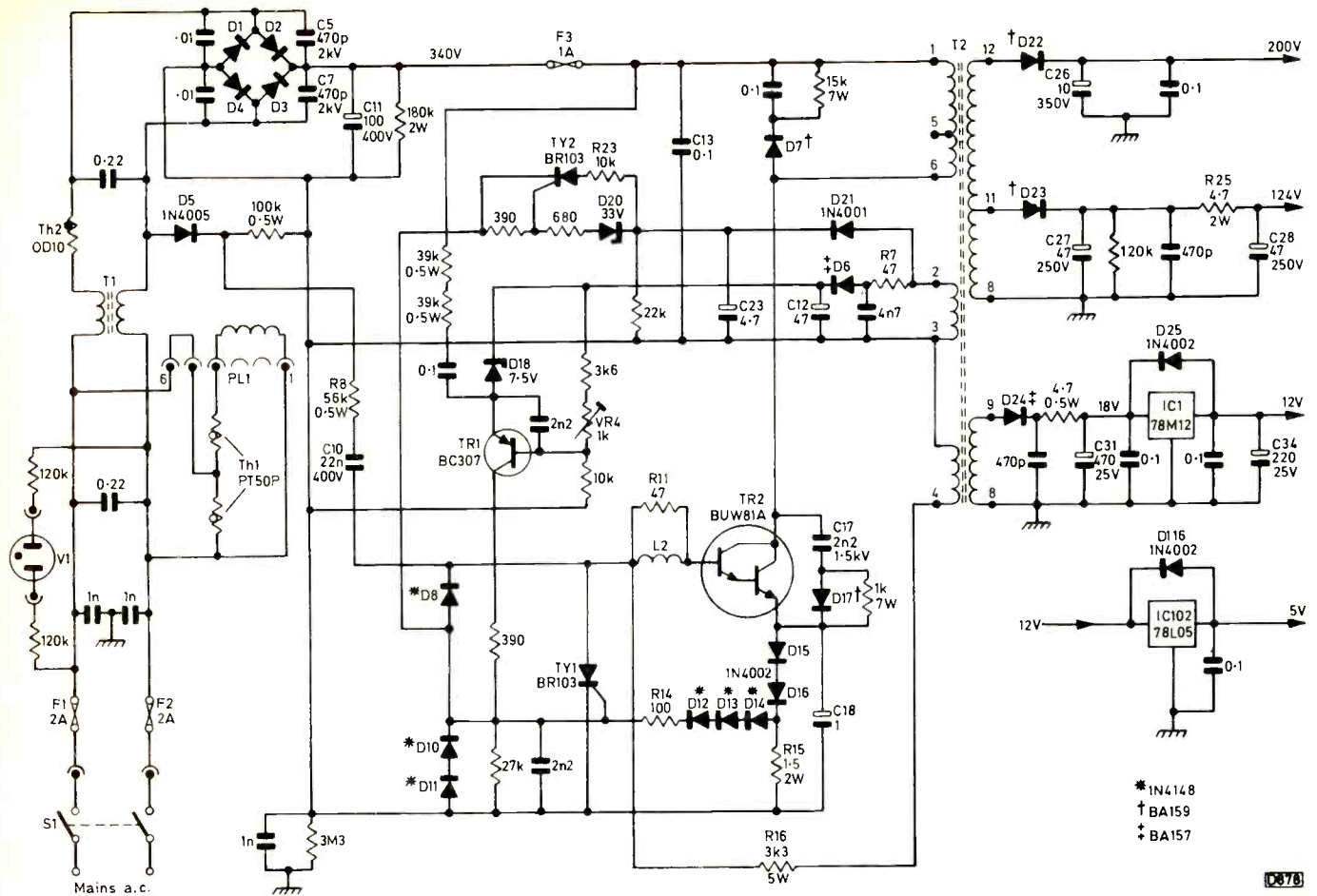


Fig. 1: The self-oscillating switch-mode power supply circuit

Non-linear field scan with the 124V line sitting at 100V: D6 short-circuit with R7 burnt up. This can also cause line instability.

A fault that looked just like line instability, with some field bounce present, was caused by the 78L05 5V regulator IC102 being leaky. Switching the monitor off then on would clear the fault for some time. With the set in the fault condition we found that there was a high ripple, about 5V peak-to-peak, at pin 14 of the sync chip IC201.

Brightness/Contrast Faults

Several brightness and contrast faults have been experienced with these sets.

For uncontrollable brightness, first disconnect link TL901 on the c.r.t. panel to remove the c.r.t.'s heater supply then

measure the c.r.t.'s cathode voltages (pin 6 green, pin 8 red, pin 11 blue). A low voltage reading at one of these pins indicates that the relevant gun is hard on. Check the output transistors as appropriate.

The cause of the brightness pulsing when the monitor had warmed up was traced to the 7.5V zener diode D907. Several cases of varying brightness levels have been caused by poor soldering on the c.r.t. base socket: remove the old solder and clean the pins before resoldering. Monitors that have a c.r.t. base socket marked with a black paint blob are prone to corrosion – later types are marked with a red paint blob. Varying brightness faults can be caused by the following resistors which tend to increase in value: R933 (150kΩ, 1W), R934 (180k) and R236 (150kΩ, 1W). They are all in the first anode supply network.

No raster was traced to the blanking transistor TR907 being short-circuit. Intermittent loss of green was traced to a dry-joint on TR104 (2N4125) in the green input circuit.

The cause of varying contrast was traced to the 12V zener diode D117 in the beam-limiter circuit (see Fig. 3) being leaky. With this fault present the beam limiter comes into action via the emitter of TR106, biasing back the RGB input transistors TR103, TR104 and TR105. If the voltage at the junction of D117-8 is negative the beam limiter is in operation.

The signals at the RGB inputs on the c.r.t. base panel should be at 4V peak-to-peak, sitting on a 6.2V d.c. level, when the contrast control is set to maximum.

Fault Miscellany

For no field scan check the 24V supply rectifier diode D201 (BA157) which goes short-circuit. The associated surge

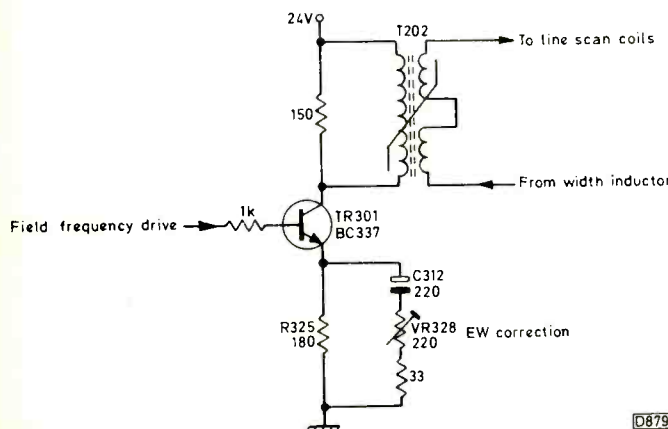
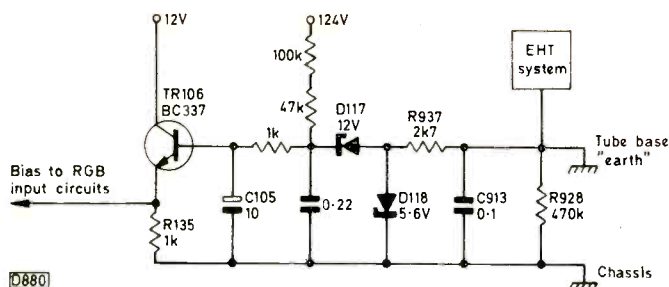


Fig. 2: The transductor EW correction circuit.



D880

Fig. 3: The beam limiter circuit. TR106 is normally forward biased from the 124V line, producing across its emitter resistor R135 a 12V supply that's applied to the video input circuitry (see fig. 4). Beam current is sensed across C913/R928. With excessive beam current the voltage at the junction of R937 and R928 swings negatively. This negative voltage is applied to the base of TR106 via D117, cutting it off and thus removing the 12V supply to the video input circuitry.

limiter resistor R235 (10Ω, 0.5W) fails at the same time. If the fault persists, the TDA1170S i.c. is faulty.

Poor line lock – looks like line instability – occurs when C204 (220nF) goes open-circuit. If the TDA1180P sync/line generator chip IC201 keeps failing replace C210 (4.7nF).

Intermittent pincushioning – the sides of the raster coming in half an inch or so – has been experienced on occasion. The

fault tends to clear after a time – in one case this took an hour. The cure is to replace the EW transductor driver transistor TR301 (BC337). Also check C312 (220μF, 25V) and R325 (180Ω, 1W) in its emitter circuit.

Line Noise

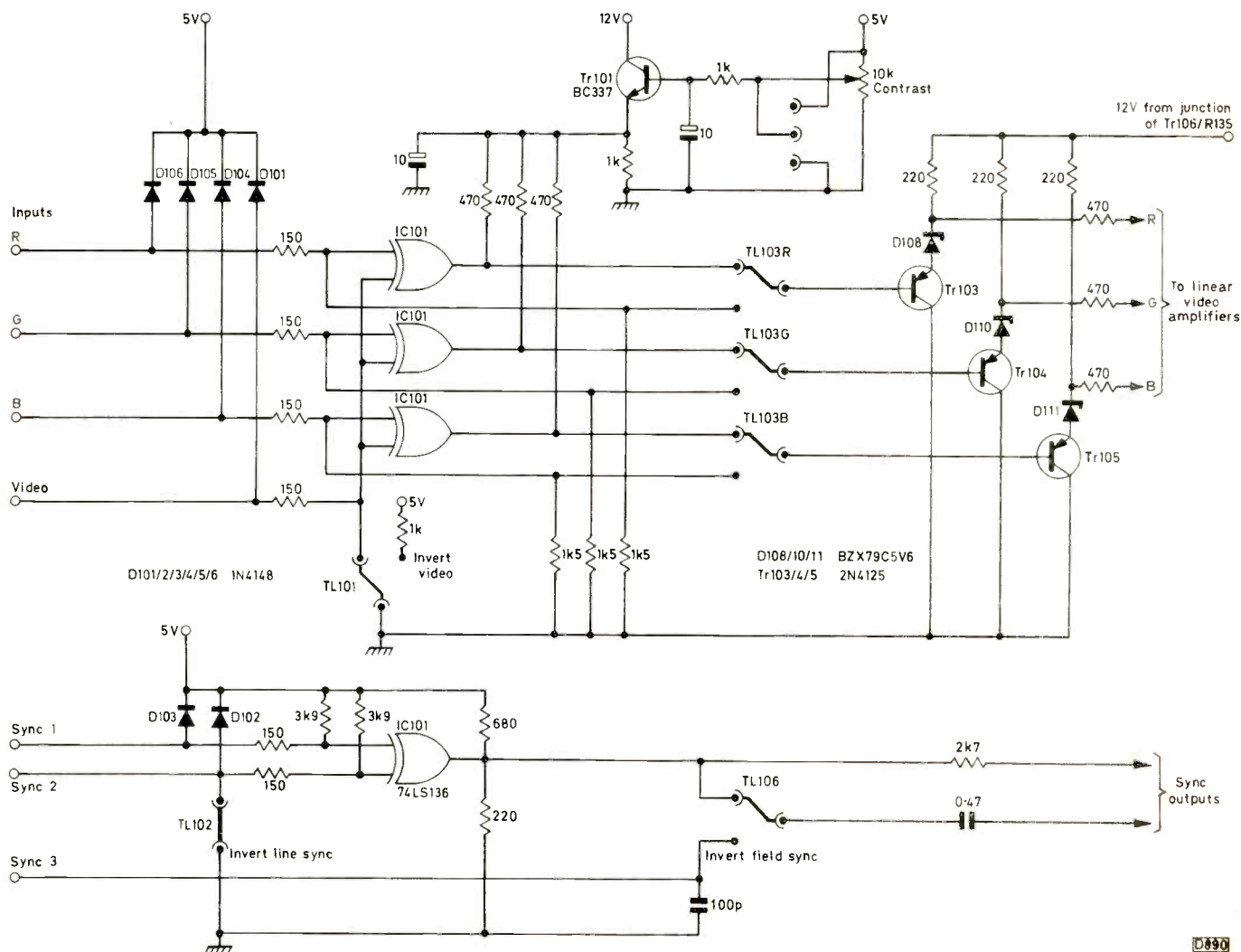
There are often complaints of excessive “line” noise with these monitors. It can be most annoying to users and can be intermittent – moving the cabinet will quite often stop it. The cause is that the width (L202) and line linearity (L203) coils tend to take off at a sub-harmonic of the line frequency because of inadequate tension. The cure is to remove the coils and coat the windings with quick-set Araldite (epoxy adhesive).

The Tripler

The e.h.t. tripler is reliable but the focus potentiometer mounted on it is prone to failure – the track burns up.

Spares

Spares can be obtained from Microvitec PLC, Service Department, Futures Way, Bolling Road, Bradford, West Yorkshire B04 7TU (0274 390 011).



D890

Fig. 4: The video/sync input circuitry. Links TL103R/G/B, shown in the TTL position, provide selection for either linear or TTL RGB inputs. Link TL101 provides inversion to cater for either positive- or negative-going TTL inputs. The contrast control operates in the TTL mode. TL102 and TL106 provide sync pulse inversion. Tr103/4/5 and zener diodes D108/10/11 provide level-shifting and temperature compensation. Their 12V supply is controlled by the beam limiter circuit – see Fig. 3.

Test Report: TestLab TL07 Probe

Eugene Trundle

A logic probe is the digital equivalent of the old-style signal tracer. Touched on any point in a circuit it indicates, by light and sound, the status there: high, low, intermediate/open or pulse train present. It thus provides a quick and simple method of digital circuit trouble-shooting in computers, the control systems of domestic audio/video/TV equipment, and items such as CD players and Nicam decoders where there are high-speed data streams.

Description

The TestLab Model TL07 that's the subject of this report is a typical modern logic probe. It's about the size of the very largest cigar – and not necessarily more expensive! There's a 3cm probe at the front for contact with the point, usually an i.c. pin, where the test is being carried out while three LEDs mounted on the body provide visual indication of the conditions at the test point: red means high, green low, yellow indicates pulse activity and is brought into operation by means of a push-button. Fig. 1 shows the threshold points for these indications. Each one is accompanied by its own characteristic sound output – a squeal for high, a squawk for low and a warble for pulsed data.

The probe is powered from the equipment under test via a flying lead with red- and black-sleeved crocodile clips. It will work with supplies between 4V and 16V, which takes in all systems in current use. All logic families – TTL, LS, CMOS, etc. – can be tested without the need for any switching. The probe draws 7mA from a 5V supply in the quiescent state and 21mA when it's flashing and squawking. Operation is up to 20MHz and pulses down to 25nsec width can be detected. The input impedance is 1M Ω and there's overload protection up to +250V. Inside I found a long, thin SRBP board that had over fifty components, including eleven transistors, mounted on it.

On Test

I started off by carrying out tests in various types of VCRs, old and new. One of the first things that I discovered – I don't need to use a logic probe every day – is the convenience of being able to use the instrument to trace the continuity to earth and the supply lines, and its readiness to show such things as a microcontroller chip's reset pulse at the moment of switch on and the presence of the clock oscillator signal at the connections to a crystal or a ceramic resonator.

The fact that the probe is powered from the gear under test is a mixed blessing. It usually involves finding a 5V, 12V line or whatever then soldering little connection stubs to the PCB. Having done this you're ready to go hunting amongst the pulses, ports and processors. The instrument showed me clearly what was going on in the system control section of all the VCRs I tried, also in the servo section of modern VCRs that use digital techniques here. The best sound-and-light

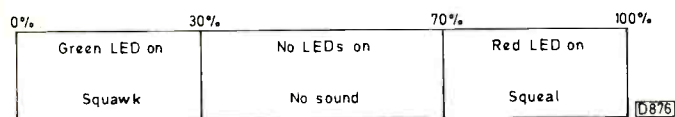


Fig. 1: Threshold levels for the LED and sound indicators of the TestLab TL07 probe. Supply voltage range is 4-16V d.c.

show was obtained at pin 38 of the syscon chip in a JVC HR7300/Ferguson 3V30 where there are pulses from the PWM reel sensor!

The relative brightness of the red and green LEDs gives an idea of the duty-cycle (pulse width) of the waveform under investigation. With a 50:50 pulse train such as a head flip-flop or a CD player L/R word select pulse waveform both LEDs give the same brightness output. With very short duty-cycles ("needle pulses") it's best to switch to the pulse mode which gives reliable indication of 25nsec pulses one second apart. I found that the address and data lines to and from port-expansion chips and in operation-keyscan systems could all be easily checked with the TL07, though care is sometimes called for in interpreting the results. It was whilst playing with VCRs that I made some accidental then intentional reverse-polarity tests at up to 15V. These did the instrument no harm.

I next tried a CD player, probing amongst its decoder and DA converter chips. Here I found that, especially with a sixty-pin, surface-mounted flatpack decoder chip, the rather large probe tip can too easily short between adjacent pins: if the probe was mine I'd file the tip to a sharp point and sleeve it. Apart from this the instrument performed well, showing EFM data, memory address data, input/output data, syscon pulses and fluorescent tube drive pulses with equal ease.

Several TV chassis were next investigated. One had a Nicam decoder whose busy little chip produced results as good as those obtained from the CD player's decoder. I found most satisfactory 1.5sec bursts of data on the SDA and SCL bus lines of a computer-controlled set when a remote command was keyed, and even traced line and field drive pulses, though it wouldn't do to get too close to the line output stage for fear of damaging the probe – this is not its purpose, after all.

With TV sets however this particular design of probe has what I feel is a considerable disadvantage: whenever it's within a few inches of the line output stage it picks up pulse radiation. As a result it squawks, squeals and flashes at random. This limits its usefulness in TV servicing, to say the least. Another make of logic probe was hastily tried and proved to be quite immune to the radiation fields around line output and chopper transformers.

Conclusion

Apart from the TV radiation problem I was impressed with the performance of this inexpensive test instrument. The at-a-glance or eyes-off (tone) status indication is much more convenient than the use of a scope, and though the latter can show much more – hash, jitter, stuck-together data lines and poor pulse shape for example – for most diagnostic work the probe is far quicker and more convenient. Particularly convenient when you're working in a jungle of data lines is the pulse setting, which ignores static levels and perks up only if pulse activity is present.

If your work doesn't include TV sets buy this probe without hesitation. If you want to go probing in TV sets however you'd do better to audition another type that has less sensitivity to line pulse radiation.

The TestLab TL07 costs £10.50 plus £2.25 post and packing from Marco Trading, The Maltings, High Street, Wem, Shropshire SY4 5EN (0939 232 763).

CD-I Update

George Cole

The third Compact Disc Interactive (CD-I) conference was held in London at the end of April. Now that the system has been launched in the USA and the UK the slogan for this year's meeting was "CD-I, a market reality".

UK Launch

The official UK launch of CD-I was on April 27th, the day before the conference. CD-I's co-developer Philips showed its CDI205 player and explained that CD-I was going on sale at 25 retail outlets across London, including Harrods, Selfridges, Covent Garden Records and selected Dixons and Comet branches. The aim is to introduce CD-I at around a hundred new outlets a month with the players in 500 shops across Britain by the autumn. The CDI205 has a recommended price of £599 and there were 32 CD-I titles at the launch, including childrens' programmes, games, music and special interest discs, at prices ranging from £14.95 to £39.95. Philips is also selling a roller controller for children at £50.

The CDI205 Player

The CDI205 player is the same model that was introduced in the USA in October 1991. It plays CD-I, audio CD, Photo CD and CD plus graphics discs. The front panel has a headphone socket and an 8-pin DIN-type input socket for a pointing device such as a mouse, a joystick or a tracker ball. Rear connections include another 8-pin socket for a pointing device, CD-I keyboard or other RS232 standard (computer) connection. Other sockets include an aerial input, r.f. output, phono video (CVBS) output, scart video and RGB, phono audio output and a jack for a wired remote control unit. There's also a large space for an extension socket known as the 22ER9141 digital audio/video module.

The first CD-I machines can display partial motion video (also referred to as base case video). Later this year CD-I will be upgraded to full-motion video (FMV). Existing player owners will be able to buy an upgrade cartridge for around £10.

CD-I Chip Technology

Fig. 1 shows a block diagram of the initial CD-I player. A brief description of the chip set was given in the August 1991 issue of Television. The CD-I chips have been developed by Philips and Motorola. Ray Burgess, Motorola's business segment director, gave news of the latest developments.

The two companies have produced two CMOS VLSI chips to provide the CD-I base case video and full-motion video. A video decoder/system controller (VDSC) chip will replace three chips previously used, saving board space and power and reducing the cost. It provides a 24-bit digital RGB output with sync and control pulses. It's also capable of providing four times the current CD-I screen resolution and will thus be suitable for HDTV software when this finally appears. The VDSC chip also generates 50Hz and 60Hz scan rates for PAL and NTSC displays and has two independent video channels for displaying various video files such as delta YUV (used for high-quality photographic images) or Colour Look-up Table (CLUT - a highly compressed graphics file).

The FMV chip will expand "MPEG" video. MPEG stands for the Moving Pictures Expert Group of the International Standards Organisation (ISO), which has established a world standard for compressing and expanding digital video. It uses a system called discrete cosine transform (DCT). The compression ratio is 30:1: two types of compression are used to achieve this. Intra-frame compression reduces spatial redundancy within the frames: there's no need for example to encode all the information denoting a large expanse of blue sky. Motion compensation uses inter-frame compression and is concerned with temporal redundancy between frames - in many cases there are only small differences between a series of frames, thus only these differences need to be encoded.

MPEG-1 video generates 1.5Mbits/sec and gives VHS picture quality. At the conference Philips showed a short video clip taken from a CD-I disc. The sound and picture quality were good. Up to 72 minutes of FMV with stereo sound can be stored on a CD-I disc. The MPEG committee is working on an upgraded system called, naturally, MPEG-2 which will have a bit rate of 6Mbits/sec, giving much enhanced picture quality. The first CD-I FMV software is expected in late 1992/early 1993.

Philips points out that it's five times cheaper to press a CD

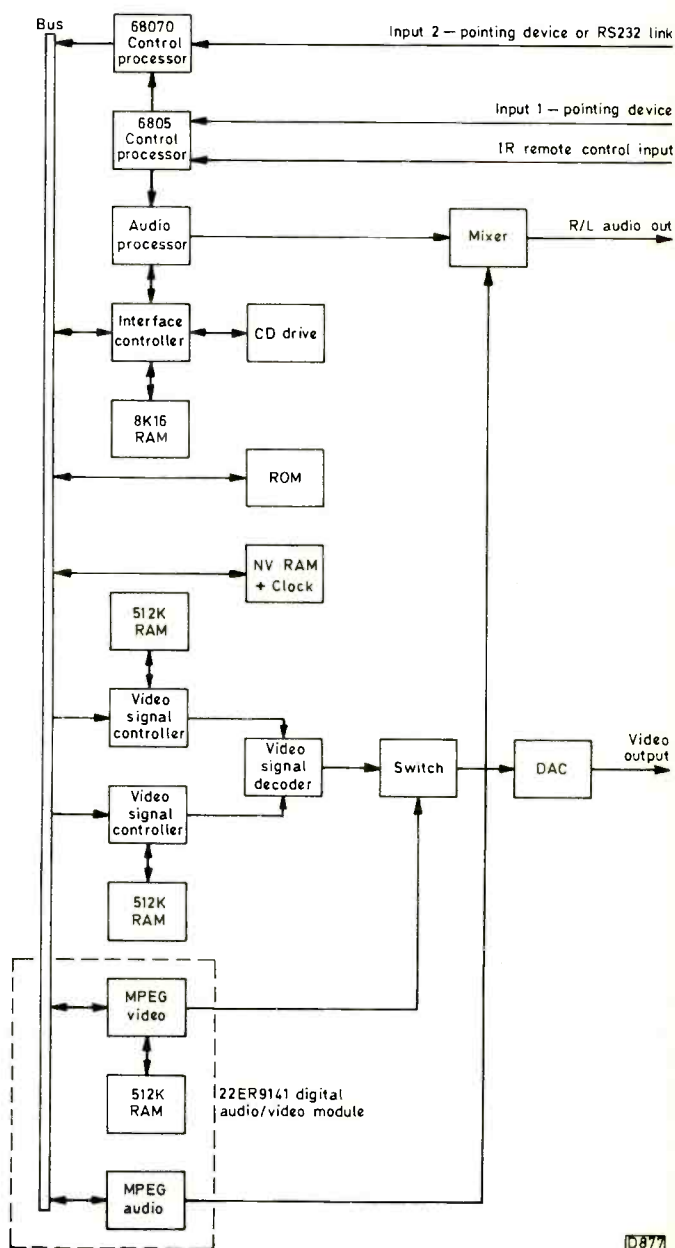


Fig. 1: CD-I player block diagram, early version.

than to duplicate a VHS tape – the company clearly sees CD-I movies as a potentially large market. The sticking point at present is CD-I's short video playing time (you'd need two or three discs for a full-length movie). Playing time could be increased by the use of better compression techniques or a new generation of blue lasers that would have a shorter light wavelength and thus be able to read smaller pits on the disc.

Motorola has produced the CD-I Development System, a board-based system that allows developers to produce CD-I systems in a modular form. This means that boards can be developed for specific CD-I functions, such as base case video, MPEG video or the central control system. During his talk Ray Burgess revealed some possible future CD-I developments, including a microphone input for Karaoke software and a video input for recording pictures from a camcorder. There's no doubt that Philips' long-term plan is to attack the VCR market with CD-I discs that will play FMV video software and record video signals.

Interactive TV

Philips and GTE ImagiTrek revealed another future CD-I development, Interactive TV. This is an "intelligent teletext" system that includes a CD-I player. A demonstration tape showed how the system might work in practice. Someone watching a live baseball match could at any time call up the latest score on their TV screen or pull information off a CD-I disc. The disc might be able to provide information such as the players' biographical details or the team's score record. Users could also play games or quizzes while the match was being shown in a small portion of the screen.

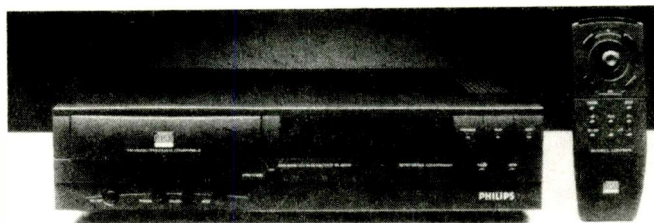
Neither company gave much technical information, but it seems that data is inserted into the video signal. The data bits trigger parts of the CD-I disc and the information from the disc is displayed on the screen. A trial of the system is to be undertaken later this year in the USA, involving around 50-100 homes. Philips and GTE ImagiTrek say that Interactive TV can be used with terrestrial, satellite or cable TV systems. In addition both companies are working on a system that uses telephone lines.

The Japanese Connection

It's easy to overlook that fact that Sony and Matsushita are co-developers of CD-I since both companies have maintained a low CD-I profile in Europe. But both companies have been busy in Japan, as Koji Yada of the Japanese CD-I Consortium revealed. CD-I was launched in Japan in April. Sony, Matsushita (Panasonic/Technics), Kyocera, JVC, Yamaha and Pioneer are all producing players. The consortium has developed a CD-I test disc and agreed on a standardised disc packaging that uses the familiar CD jewel case.

Mr. Yada revealed some future CD-I software including Artificial Intelligence Karaoke which works by converting the digital music into a MIDI (musical instrument digital interface) signal, enabling over 3,000 pieces of music to be stored on a CD-I disc. The disc is also designed to help users who can't sing, adjusting the pitch of the music to suit the user's voice. Another system generates applause when you sing well – Mr. Yada didn't reveal what happens if you sing badly.

A number of CD-I players were present in the "Japan Corner" of the exhibition. Several of these were portable units. Kyocera's prototype portable weighed 1kg and had composite video, Y/C and RS232 interfacing sockets. The unit is controlled by a wired handset. Sanyo's CDX1 looked like a small lap-top computer, with a 4in. colour LCD screen. Yamaha showed a table-top unit while Matsushita displayed



Philips' CDI205 compact disc interactive system.

a midi-sized player.

Sony showed its Intelligent Discman, which looks like the company's portable CD player. The intelligent Discman has a 4in. LCD screen, weighs 1.2kg and has a continuous playing time of around 90 minutes with battery operation. A video output socket enables its pictures to be displayed on a large screen. Sony's deputy president Nobuo Kanoi surprised many people by saying that Sony plans to launch CD-I in the business market – this is because Sony already sells its Data Discman, a portable player that uses 8cm CD-ROM discs, in this market. Some people wondered how two similar products could survive in the same market, but Sony is already making plans to integrate Data Discman with CD-I. At present the software required to search for information on a Data Discman disc is stored in the player – CD-I's search software is stored on the disc. To overcome the problem Sony is developing a bridge disc that will contain Data Discman data and CD-I software and can thus be used with both types of player.

Summary

The final conference speech was given by Gaston Bastiaens, director of Philips Consumer Electronics Interactive Media. It was upbeat, and Philips is clearly convinced that the system will be a success.

During the question and answer session Mr. Bastiaens was asked how CD-I titles could be protected from piracy, a timely point now that recordable CD (CD-R) systems are appearing in professional markets. It appears that the standards manual for recordable discs and players (the Orange Book) has provision for an anti-copy flag to be inserted in the TOC. A CD-R player would see this flag and refuse to record. This sounds like a sensible move until you realise that the audio CD system has a similar provision, though few if any disc manufacturers bother to insert the flag during production. It would be interesting to know if anyone from Philips can confirm that existing CD-I titles have this anti-copy flag.

Finally Mr. Bastiaens revealed that interactive movies – films that allow you to control how the plot develops – will be available in the USA towards the end of the year. He also hinted that there were many more CD-I developments in the pipeline.



Philips' CD-I roller controller for the young at heart.

What a Life!

Donald Bullock

Quiet Norman Glutton hauled himself in the other day with a JVC video (an HRD230E) and an Amstrad TVR3 TV-VCR combination.

"The recorder's from Clarence, governor of The Horsefly" he said. "Do you know that he charges nearly a pound for his home-made pasties?" Out came a pastie and a pocket knife and the demolition began.

"And who's the Amstrad from, Norman?" I asked.

"Ah, that's mine" he said. "The colour goes, but not for hours and hours. Expensive these pasties, but good."

Initial Checks

I plugged the Amstrad in and threw a blanket over it before getting on with the recorder, which was dead. After perusing the manual and checking around I eventually found that the M50965-628 microcomputer control chip was at fault. Meanwhile all that remained of the pastie was a few crumbs. Fitting a replacement chip restored the HRD230E to normal operation and, glancing at the price of it, I thought of the pies that Clarence would have to sell to pay for the repair. Quiet Norman would help him there.

The Amstrad TVR3

The Amstrad was temperamental, but after some hours the colour faded away. So I took it from under its blanket and opened it up. When I switched it on again the colour was all right. The obvious thing to do was to reach for the hairdryer and direct the heat on the area of the 48-pin UPC1420CA colour processor chip IC10. After a while the colour faded away, so I gave it a blast of freezer. The colour returned at once. The chances were that the chip was the cause of the trouble, but to make certain I masked off everything else with a thick duster and tried again. This proved the point. A new chip put matters right and after cruelly twisting its legs I consigned the old one to the bin.

How did we cope with such faults before the advent of freezer? Not so badly, I suppose, because we didn't have i.c.s for all that long before before freezer came on to the scene. A case of necessity being the mother of invention no doubt.

More HRD230E Problems

I pulled the HRD230E on to the bench again. Its clock was alright but there were no channel numbers on nor was there any sign of a beacon light. I moved over to the power supply circuit and found that there were no 5V and 12V outputs from the STK5481 chip. Replacing this restored the voltages, but there were still no results – and the M50965-628 micro was running hot. As its voltages were wrong I took it out and made some comparison tests with a new one. It was dud all right, but another replacement made no difference. So I pulled the machine towards me and settled down to it.

Before removing the chip I examined each of its pins through my giant magnifier. When I got to pins 27 and 28 I thought I saw the finest imaginable silver strand between them. By moving the light around and examining the chip from different angles I was able to confirm that the pins were indeed shorted. Use of a small, fine iron enabled me to isolate

the strand: it was almost too tiny to see. Once it had been removed the machine burst into life. I was never more relieved to get a job off the bench.

Shortly after, Quiet Norman called in again. This time he was tackling a pickled egg.

"Glad they were both quick and easy" he said. "Easy means cheap, and there are other calls on my money."

"You'll have to uncurl a few browns, Norman. Pay up. They'll do me more good than they will you."

The Sony KV1442

The next set was a 14in. Sony colour portable, Model KV1442, with excellent sound but no brightness. I'd had one in with the same symptoms a few months back and sure enough this one was suffering from the same trouble – the 800V first anode supply was missing. The rectifier for this supply is D852. It takes its feed from the collector of the line output transistor via a 1k Ω , 1W resistor (R852). As in the previous set it seemed that the diode had tracked along its length on the underside, close to the panel. The result was that R852 had blown open. It's wise to fit the replacement diode well clear of the panel. After carrying out the repair I was rewarded with a really excellent picture.

Walter's Ferguson TX90

Then nervous Walter called in with his 20in. Ferguson set (TX90 chassis). After the usual trying interview he departed. I plugged the set into the mains and switched it on. Everything seemed to be all right but after a few minutes the set started to whine loudly and the picture frilled. Turning up the brightness made matters worse. I checked the h.t. and found that it was at 115V instead of 120V. In addition the set-h.t. potentiometer RV224 would only reduce the voltage, and it would do this by only about 2V. The voltages around the BD839 transistor TR107 in the regulator circuit were haywire, but the transistor tested o.k. I then found that its driver TR108 (BC338C) was open-circuit. A replacement failed to restore normal conditions and after making a few more tests I found that R267 (12k Ω , 1W) had gone very high in value. A new one enabled the circuit to be set up correctly, clearing the fault symptoms.

An Odd Visitor

My next visitor was a decidedly odd, wild-looking character.

"I'm speaking to you with the name of O'Sharp" he announced, "and I'm asking you to look at my Akai."

"Certainly" I said, wishing he'd called at Snoddies, "if you'd care to bring it in." I didn't like the look of him at all.

"You get it out of the car" he continued, "I've got a bad back."

He looked to me to be in the prime of life. The people that pull this one on me! Anyway I struggled in with it and picked up a pen.

"It's the on-off switch" he barked. "This will be the third time it's failed. I want you to take it out, examine it and write me a report on it, saying why it failed. Then I want you to examine the set and say what you think of the servicing so far, what damage it suffered at the hands of the last engineer and how much its value has fallen as a result. I'll pay you well for your trouble."

"No can do" I replied, wishing the set would run back into his car. "I can check the on-off switch and if necessary replace it. That would cost you £25."

"Twenty five pounds!" he screamed. "You're no better

than the others." Then, bad back or not, he seized the set and flew.

Mr Blunt's Panasonic

The last set of the day was brought in by a real rustic. It was a Panasonic TC2061. The problem was sound but no brightness. I removed the back and turned up the first anode preset on the line output transformer. This produced chroma but no luminance. Looking around I saw a TDA3562A colour decoder chip. It seemed sensible to change it, but I didn't have any stock left.

I looked around the workshop which was getting full.

People don't seem to collect their sets so quickly these days. If I could get this one done quickly, I thought, he'd probably take it away. These country people like to get their sets back. So I popped into town and bought a chip retail. The price frightened me, but once it was fitted I had a good picture. I gave Mr. Blunt a ring.

"Is it better now?" he asked.

"Sure is" I replied, "now when would you like to collect it?"

"Oh, anytimes like. I comes your way twice a year, sometimes three times. The year before last I came to town four times in all. But that was when I wanted another horse. I'll be along, don't you worry."

Satellite Notebook

Nick Beer

An impending visit to Pace at its Shipley, West Yorkshire headquarters should be interesting: the company is reputed to be the largest manufacturer of satellite receivers in Europe. The invitation came from Service Manager Bill Marshall who was able, during a recent telephone conversation, to answer several questions I had about Ferguson badged equipment – questions about which I'd not been able to get a satisfactory answer from Ferguson.

VideoCrypt Connector

One question related to the VideoCrypt connector used in the SRV1/SS9000 and the problems with this. Bill explained that a metallurgic reaction between the connector and the pins could result in poor contact. To get to the bottom of the problem Pace consulted independent metallurgists. The outcome of this is the use of a different socket, grey/white in colour instead of red/brown, in the latest Model 9200. Pace retrofitted this socket in any receivers that come into their workshop suffering from the problem.

The success of this change is evident. We've sold and rented out many 9200 IRDs and have not had the trouble with this model. In the past we've tried cleaning faulty connectors but the problem has returned. We now remove the old type of connector and link over.

We informed Ferguson of the problem many months ago and have submitted many guarantee claims for cleaning. Initially this type of failure was disputed. Subsequently the only solution that has been offered is cleaning. It seems that Ferguson is unaware of the modified connector.

Pace Spares

I encountered a bit of a problem recently when I attempted to order Pace spares from HRS. Many of you will no doubt recall having seen in the trade press some months ago that HRS Electronics of Birmingham had been appointed trade distributor of spares for Pace MicroTechnology Ltd. We required a remote control handset for a 9200 IRD – during a burglary at a customer's home the TV set, VCR and satellite receiver handsets had been stolen but not the actual equipment! A look in the HRS catalogue showed Pace models detailed up to the SS9000 but not the 9200. This didn't surprise me as the 9200 is the current model and the catalogue was a few months old. What did surprise me was the out-

come when I phoned HRS for details of the handset's price and availability.

The lady who answered the phone first suggested that there was no such make as Pace then, on being assured that there was, came back with the reply that they didn't do it. I contacted Pace direct and was immediately told by the gentleman in the spares department what the price and availability were. I took the opportunity to check whether HRS was still the spares distributor and was assured that this was so. Back to HRS to see what was going on. The lady I spoke to this time seemed unsure as to whether they were Pace distributors but eventually confirmed that they were. Ordering the required handset seemed to be a bit of a problem however – 10-14 days I was told. I decided to order direct.

Correction

Well, we all make mistakes, don't we? Wouldn't be human otherwise. Right at the end of the April 1992 Satellite Notebook I referred to the Pace SS9000/Ferguson SRA1. The Ferguson equivalent should have been given as the SRV1 – the SRA1 is not an IRD.

Communal Distribution

You may recall my mention in the June issue of a local hotel which has an industrial satellite TV system I tentatively agreed to look after – the one where the orthomode transducer sprang a leak. They've recently had a VideoCrypt decoder (Thomson SVA1) installed but the decoded channel, Sky Movies +, was not too hot. This is where I came in once more.

The scenes were fine if they were dark, but anything approaching a highlight just whited out the screen. It seemed that the video level for the unnamed receiver, one of four in a rack, was too high for the decoder's input. I attenuated it by adding a 100Ω, 0.25W resistor in the scart plug. This seems to have cured the problem.

New Channels

I note that CNN has made a low-key launch on Astra 1B. It doesn't seem to be the same service as that via the Intelsat craft at 27.5° W and was initially on the amateurish side – crash edits etc. Many customers still don't know that it's there – most of those who do discover it by flicking through the spare, pretuned channels on their receivers.

One recent discovery of mine, as yet unexplained, is the duplication of MTV via an Astra 1B vertical transponder. It's still at 11.421GHz via 1A, but maybe a change is being considered for single-polarisation Sky SMATV systems. The offset with this transponder is much wider than the very narrow angle at 11.421GHz, which is traditionally used along with Screensport for i.f. offset adjustment.

Long-distance Television

Roger Bunney

May is traditionally the start of the Sporadic E season. This year has proved to be no exception, with many openings logged and reported by our readers. Spice was added by enhanced tropospheric conditions during the middle of the month. One unusual logging occurred on May 6th when Roger Fussell (Torpoint) received a ch. E21/R21 TVP (Poland) test card for nearly five seconds. It's likely that the transmitter was Katowice at 400kW e.r.p. while the propagation mode was probably aircraft scatter. It was an extremely unusual catch.

An extensive aurora during the afternoon of the 10th produced the usual garbled and distorted pictures. Signals were present in Band I through to Band III but no definite identifications were possible.

The weather in the UK during much of May was excellent, with long hot days and clear skies. These are the classic signs of good tropospheric propagation and there were openings from the 13th through to the 21st and from the 25th to the 28th. The earlier opening produced the usual Band III/u.h.f. signals from Germany, France and the Benelux countries during the evenings/early mornings. A peak was reached on the 16/17th when signals were received across an arc extending from France in the south to Denmark, Norway and Sweden in the north. The 17th was perhaps the best day when AFRTS ch. E70 and several 435MHz amateur TV operators including G4YTU and PE1HXD (Holland) were received. For those in good positions Band III and the u.h.f. channels were jammed with signals while evidence of Scandinavian Band I stations provided a bonus. Further inland, Band III/u.h.f. signals from RTE (Ireland) were received. Spanish Band III/u.h.f. signals predominated on the 19th-22nd (check on ch. E35 if conditions seem to be favourable). The opening on the 25-28th was less significant, featuring the usual Band III/u.h.f. German/Danish/Benelux transmitters.

But in May young men's thoughts turn to SpE. There was some reception on most days, though few exotic signals put in an appearance. We shall have to keep our fingers crossed. Anyway, this is the SpE log for the month:

- 5/5/92 SVT (Sweden) chs. E2, 3; NRK (Norway) E2; RAI (Italy) IA; TVE (Spain) E2, 3, 4; RTP (Portugal) E2, 3, 4 (the latter is from Madeira); C+ (France) L3; DR (Denmark) E2, 3; ARD (Germany) E4.
- 6/5/92 RAI IA; TVE E2, 3; JRT/HTV (Yugoslavia) E3; NRK E2; YLE (Finland) E3.
- 7/5/92 TVE E2, 3; RTP E2, 3; RAI IA; TVA (Italy) IA; ORF (Austria) E2a.
- 9/5/92 SVT E2, 3, 4; NRK E2, 3; CIS (formerly the USSR) R1-4 including Estonia R2 and Latvia R3; CST (Czechoslovakia) R1, 2, 3; HTV E4; YLE E3.
- 10/5/92 RAI IA; RTP E2; CIS R1, 2; NRK E3; DR E3; RTB (Belgium) E3.
- 11/5/92 ORF E2a; CST R1, 2; TVR (Romania) R2; HTV E3.
- 12/5/92 CIS R1-4; CST R1; RAI IA, B; TVE E3; C+ L4.
- 14/5/92 RAI IA, B; TVE E3, 4.
- 15/5/92 RAI IA; TVA IA; HTV E3; TVR R2; DR E3; C+ L2; MTV-1 (Hungary) R1.
- 16/5/92 +PTT (Switzerland) E2, 3; DR E3.

- 18/5/92 YLE E3, 4; NRK E2-4; SVT E2-4; DR E3, 4; CIS R1, 2; RTP E2; TVE E2-4; RAI IA, B; RUV (Iceland) E4.
- 19/5/92 TVE E3.
- 20/5/92 TVE E3, 4.
- 21/5/92 RAI IA, B; HTV E3; TVE E2-4.
- 22/5/92 RAI IA; TVE E2, 3.
- 23/5/92 TVE E2-4; RTP E2; RAI IA, B; ARD E2; +PTT E2, 3; C+ L2-4; DR E3; NRK E2-4; SVT E2, 3; CIS R1, 2; ORF E2a, CST R1; HTV E3.
- 24/5/92 NRK E2, 3; SVT E2, 3; DR E3, 4; TVP (Poland) R2; +PTT E2, 3; MTV-1 R1; RAI IB; C+ L3; TVE E3.
- 25/5/92 CIS R1, 2, 4; CST R2; TVP R2; ARD E2, TVE E2-4; RTP E2, 3; DR E3; MTV-1 R1; RAI IA, B; ARD E2.
- 26/5/92 SVT E2-4; NRK E2, 4; TVR R2; CST R1; TVE E2, 3.
- 27/5/92 TVE E3; SVT E3.
- 29/5/92 RTT (Tunisia) E4; RAI IA, B; TVA IA; C+ L2-4; TVE E2-4; RTP E3.
- 30/5/92 RUV E4; RAI IA, B; TVA IA; RTP E2, 3; TVE E2-4; HTV E3.
- 31/5/92 TVE E2-4; RAI IA, B; C+ L2-4; +PTT E2,3; CIS R1, 2; ARD E2, 4; HTV E3.
- 1/6/92 HTV E3, 4; RAI IA; C+ L3; unidentified Arabic E3 signal.
- 2/6/92 RAI IA; TVE E2-4.
- 3/6/92 TVE E2-4; C+ L3, 4.

On the 29th at 1850 Cyril Willis logged a suspected late-season TE (transequatorial skip) signal on ch. E2, a smeary test card that faded and returned at 2005 with programme material and large white letters or a logo at the lower left corner. The signal is unidentified to date.

Tim Anderson reports that the sea air at St. Leonards is now full of 49MHz baby alarms and other radio devices, making reception of ch. R1 impossible despite the use of various filtering devices. He's constructing a new five-element Band I array based on a Tonna design and hopes that its very sharp polar response will combat the 49MHz menace. Unfortunately phase-cancelling systems just don't work when there are several sources of 49MHz interference in the vicinity.

More information has come to hand on identification of signals received from Equatorial Guinea: the station uses Spanish and has a carrier at 48.245/48.250MHz, with VITS, closing down at around 2250 GMT. There's a problem with the main RTP Lisbon ch. E6 transmitter, a ghost on the output caused by feeder/aerial problems at the site. All local relays that take the signal suffer from the problem. Teletext is not used.

My thanks to the following for sending in reception reports and logs: Tim Anderson (St. Leonards), Roger Fussell (Torpoint), David Oliver (Birmingham), David Gleday (Arbroath), Simon Hamer (Powys), Peter Schubert (Rainham), Brian Williams (Penarth) and Cyril Willis (King's Lynn).

News Items

USSR/CIS: DXers will be familiar with the Tablica 0249 monochrome test card used for many years and still seen occasionally. A new card, Tablica 0286, was introduced in 1986. We've been sent a photocopy of the design, which has not been seen via SpE - yet!

Sri Lanka: The independent company MTV has started broadcasting on ch. E25, covering the country's Western Province. Transmissions are mainly in English and the PM5544 test pattern is used.

India: Russia has leased to PTI-TV a transponder on the

Ekran satellite at 99°E for u.h.f. TV broadcasting to India and the surrounding countries. It's understood that the service, scheduled to start in August, will be on ch. 54 (754MHz).

Iceland: A new station, "SYN", is operating at Reykjavik on ch. E6. Transmissions are at present restricted to the weekends.

USA: At last autumn's Las Vegas COMDEX computer trade fair the FCC issued over a hundred summonses to firms offering computer equipment that wasn't suppressed to statutory emission levels. The FCC has a policy of dealing firmly with those who don't comply with its suppression standards.

Tunisia: Canal Plus is to start a terrestrial service later this year called Canal Horizon.

In brief: Zuid Holland TV (ZHTV) is to start broadcasting shortly in the Rotterdam area, probably on ch. E37... MDR-Germany has started a teletext service of its own. The BFBS is slowly closing down its radio/TV network: final closure is expected in 1995... The Petrin Hill Prague City TV transmitter that used chs. R7/24 has been replaced by a new transmitter at Zizkov. The R10 company that runs the R10 f.m. radio service on 87.8MHz hopes to be allocated the vacated ch. R24.

Obituary

It is with deep regret that we heard of Chandra de Silva's death from a heart condition. He was a true enthusiast and despite the shortage of components and equipment in Sri Lanka enjoyed TV-DXing to the full. Chandra designed and built a 714MHz helical aerial, featured in the *TV-DXer's Handbook*, for reception of the 714MHz transmissions from the Ekran satellite. The news came from a colleague, Bandula Gunasekera, who is continuing with DX work and experimentation at Colombo.

Satellite TV

Intelsat VI F3, saved by the shuttle Endeavour, has been moved to its correct orbital position at 34.5° W in time for the summer Olympics traffic. Transponders on the Intelsat craft at 27.5° W, 18° W, 57° E, 63° E and 66° E have been leased for the games. Launch of Intelsat K, an all Ku band satellite which will cover North and South America and Europe from 21.5° W, has been delayed.

A new earth station, Malmoe International Teleport, has just opened in south Sweden. In an attempt to reduce communication costs and the problems of high-speed data flow in non-X25 terrestrial networks the EBU is installing a series of VSATs (very small aperture terminals) for its members across Europe. Data will be passed to broadcasting members via a leased facility using Eutelsat I F4 at 7° E.

Mercury Paging has launched a new satellite paging service. The uplink is from Mercury's London station to a Eutelsat satellite, the downlink being received at over 200 VSAT terminals around the UK adjacent to the company's v.h.f. paging bases.

The Indonesian government is to provide up to four small satellites in a series called Indostar. Each will have two analogue and eight digitally compressed TV channels in the S band (2.5-2.6GHz) and up to eight broadcast digital audio (DAB) channels in the L band (1.45-1.49GHz). Indostar-1's orbital position will be at 105-115° E: it should be operational by the spring of 1995. The analogue TV services are intended for inexpensive receiving systems throughout Indonesia. Two types of receiver are being developed, a low-cost one for the analogue transmissions and a second to resolve the digitally compressed TV transmissions. It's thought that such Broadcast Satellite Services (BSS) will revolutionise international

What you've all been waiting for...!

It's now available!

Write in for your copy today!

Building on our success story over the past decade, we are proud to present our latest catalogue, now regarded as a reference work in its own right for both the trade and enthusiast markets.

We've got it all listed, from satellite equipment to TV-DXing, from SECAM/PAL transcoders to Canal Plus decoders, from an F-plug to a multi-standard video recorder, from a VHF/UHF signal strength meter to an NTSC/PAL/SECAM teletext TV.

We've even developed a full facility manually tuned enthusiasts satellite DXing receiver to find those weak transponders. And we've stocked all those little bits and pieces that no-one else keeps.

Send £1 for our glossy brand new 34 page catalogue, which you will receive back by return of post.



11 Kent Road, Parkstone, Poole Dorset BH12 2EH
Tel: 0202 738232 Fax: 0202 716951

Aerial Techniques

broadcasting and could result in a dramatic decrease in short-wave broadcasting within the next decade.

RTP (Portugal) has started transmitting via Eutelsat II F3 at 16° E, on 11.56GHz.

The French "Satellite TV Club" has invited membership from French-speaking UK enthusiasts. The cost is 120 francs a year. For further details write to the Satellite TV Club, Place de Mons, 33360 Cenac, France.

Book Note

A third, updated edition of John Breeds' *Satellite Television Installation Guide* (ISBN 1 872567 03 7) has just been published at £12 plus £1 post in the UK, £2 in Europe or £8 by air to the rest of the world. This very popular book provides a clear guide to installation work from fixed to tracking systems. It's all there, from satellite orbital theory, footprints, how each component part of the receiving system works (with large clear drawings and photographs) to elevations, sighting lines and site surveys, polar mounts, planning permission, the radio/TV transmissions from each satellite, the scart connector and much more. The CAI has adopted the book as the approved study guide for City and Guilds satellite courses. It's available from Swift Television Publications, 17 Pittsfield, Cricklade, Swindon SN6 6AN (telephone/fax 0793 750 620).

Test Report: HS D400 DX Tuner

The use of an outboard tuning system for DX-TV reception has several advantages. As well as flexibility and

improved signal working, the tuner used in an outboard system is likely to have better performance and coverage than one fitted in a standard TV set. For DX-TV purposes we need to cover Bands I, II, III and the u.h.f. spectrum, while reduced i.f. bandwidth working is a considerable advantage with weak signals or where there's a high level of interference. An outboard system consists of a wideband tuner, i.f. processing and an upconverter which provides an output for feeding to a conventional receiver.

Some years ago HS Publications introduced the D100 DX-TV tuning system which is still extremely popular. It has switched selectivity, down to 2MHz in three steps, and facilities for tuning in the audio subcarrier despite reduced bandwidth video working. Building on this success, Keith Hamer and Garry Smith have introduced the HS D400 budget TV tuning system. One of the units was supplied to us for testing

PHOTOSTATS SERVICE

Newer readers may have missed important servicing features that have appeared in *Television* over the past few years. We have therefore in operation a photostat service to make this information readily available. Photostats of the following servicing features, listed in alphabetical order, can be supplied at the prices shown. Please send requests to: Television Editorial Department, Room L323, Quadrant House, The Quadrant, Sutton, Surrey SM2 5AS. Cheques/POs should be made payable to Reed Business Publishing Ltd. There are two standard prices, see below.

Feature	Price
B and O L/LX2500/2800 chassis	A
Decca 80/100 chassis	A
Decca 120/130 chassis	A
Ferguson FV31R VCR	A
Ferguson TX10 chassis	A
Ferguson TX100 chassis	A
Finlux 1000 series chassis	A
Fisher FVH-P520 VCR	A
Mitsubishi CT2227	A
Mitsubishi Euro-4 chassis	A
Mitsubishi HS304 VCR	A
Panasonic D1 VCR deck	A
Panasonic G VCR deck	B
Panasonic NV333/366 VCRs	A
Panasonic NV370/830/850 VCRs	A
Panasonic NV730 VCR	A
Panasonic NV777/780 VCRs	A
Panasonic NV2000/2010/3000 VCRs	A
Panasonic U3 chassis	A
Panasonic U4 chassis	A
Panasonic U5 chassis	A
Salora F chassis	A
Salora G and H chassis	B
Salora J chassis	A
Salora K and L chassis	B
Sanyo CTP7130/1/2	A
Sony KV2252/2256/2752/2762	B

Prices, A = £2.50, B = £3.50
Please allow 14 days for delivery

and its performance has proved to be very interesting.

The D400 package in fact consists of two units, the tuner proper and a 13V power supply. The latter is a modified Sinclair ZX computer unit with a 20m fuse, a mains lead and a 1.7m d.c. lead for connection to the tuner via a 3.5mm mono plug. Unlike so many Taiwanese offerings that run hot with even minimal loading this one runs cold.

The tuner is housed in a gloss black ABS box measuring 120 x 100 x 45mm excluding knob projections. There are three controls, a Band I/III/u.h.f. selector at the top left, a large tuning knob marked 1-10 to the right and, at bottom centre, the variable bandwidth/gain control. Two large dots, blue and yellow, are stuck at the top around the perimeter of the tuning knob. These are channel calibration markers, blue for Band I and yellow for Band III. They correspond with the numbers around the edge of the knob as CCIR channels. A small chart in the instruction leaflet indicates the Band I/II calibration reference points (coverage extends to ch. R4).

The clever adjustment is the variable bandwidth/gain control. When this is turned clockwise the i.f. bandwidth is progressively reduced while anticlockwise rotation increases the bandwidth. The range is from 3MHz narrow to 6MHz wide. When the bandwidth is increased the gain falls: this is a feature of the tuner.

A bright red LED indicates that the tuner is powered. The 3.5mm supply socket, a standard (recessed) Belling-Lee aerial input socket and a 90cm u.h.f. output lead with coaxial plug termination are all located at the back of the unit.

Band I coverage is 45-87MHz. Band III 170-230MHz. The u.h.f. coverage is less than the full TV spectrum at 455-710MHz (chs. E21-51). I suspect that the tuner was designed primarily for v.h.f. The output is on ch. E35, though this can be varied over chs. E30-40 (there's an access hole for this adjustment).

Setting up is simple. Connect the unit to your u.h.f. receiver, switch it on and select the reduced bandwidth. Tune the receiver upwards progressively from ch. 30. There will be several peaks of noise and blanked screens. Look for the lowest noise peak and tune the receiver to this peak, probably around ch. 35/6. Now switch the D400 to u.h.f. Tune around for evidence of local signals. If nothing is seen you're on the wrong peak. Try again! Once the correct peak has been found DX hunting can commence.

On Test

On test I found that weak Band III signals (Belgium chs. E8/10) could be located in the reduced bandwidth mode. Tests at u.h.f. with non-local signals proved that the performance was satisfactory. Band I SpE signals romped in. It's when your receiver is confronted with several strong adjacent-channel SpE signals, e.g. chs. E3/1A, that the value of the i.f. bandwidth selectivity can be seen. This is also the case with weak tropospheric signals in Band III. No more floating E3/1A pictures: each channel can be tuned in separately.

The overall performance is impressive, particularly the action of the continuously variable bandwidth control. In a fast-moving SpE opening you'd leave the control set for reduced bandwidth to save repeated adjustment. My only negative comments are that I'd have preferred to see legends relating to each knob and perhaps smaller channel calibration marker dots – they are one channel wide!

This is an interesting and practical unit for the DX-TV enthusiast. It costs £49.95 including UK postage and is available from HS Publications, 7 Epping Close, Mackworth Estate, Derby DE3 4FS (0332 38 169). If you write for information or a leaflet, please include a stamped, addressed envelope.

Servicing the Finlux 3000 Chassis

Steve Cannon

The innards of TV sets are becoming quite different as the technology advances. Some things such as the c.r.t. and the line output transformer are unlikely to change much in the immediate future, but signal processing has altered dramatically over the last ten years. Some modern chassis use digital processing, with digital techniques employed for everything from remote control to field deflection. Many adjustments can nowadays be carried out using the remote-control handset rather than having to remove the back and turn the relevant preset. Now I know that there's nothing like a good twiddle, but it does look as though this will become a thing of the past. As electronic integration has increased and more and more custom-made chips are being used, it's as easy and cheap to have each stage controlled as a slave under the overall control of a master microcomputer chip. One thing is for sure: noisy presets will and in fact are becoming extinct.

Which brings us to Finlux's all-singing, all-dancing 3000 series chassis that has, as you may have guessed by now, a digital data bus (I2C bus) as its central nervous system. It controls programme memory, tuning, signal processing and deflection waveform processing. The set is also a multistandard one, with automatic selection between NTSC, PAL or SECAM colour decoding, 50 or 60Hz field scanning and 525 or 625 lines. There are two tuners, one for u.h.f. and one for v.h.f. The set will work almost anywhere, probably everywhere in Europe.

Internal Layout

After removing the back cover you are greeted by two side panels rather than the flat panel for the power supply and deflection circuits as in the 1000 series chassis. The left-hand panel houses the signal processing and field deflection departments while the right-hand panel is for the power stages. In between the two there's the connector board, which differs depending on whether the set has one or two scart sockets.

The Power Panel

The right-hand panel contains the power supply and the line output stage, which are not all that different from those in the 1000 series chassis. The chopper circuit is controlled by the ever-popular TDA4601 chip. On the output side the rectifier diodes, mostly BY299s, suffer from the same affliction as in the previous chassis – they go short-circuit, usually shutting down the power supply. The chopper transformer is quite hefty and the connections to its pins can suffer, so it's worth checking these.

There's an official modification for the line output stage relating, as in the 1000/2000 chassis, to the scan coil connections. It involves soldering two rivets to the copper side of the line scan coil PCB connections to prevent the solder from cracking and arcing. A detailed modification sheet is available from Finlux.

Four supplies are produced on the secondary side of the chopper transformer as follows: 138V for the line output stage; 25V for the audio output stages; a 17V feed that goes to the 12V regulators whose outputs supply the l.t. circuitry; and a 7V feed for the 5V regulator that supplies the microcomputer control chip and the teletext department. Secondary

windings on the line output transformer provide the following supplies: the usual 200V for the RGB output stages; 26V for the field output stage; and various supplies for the c.r.t.

The Signal Panel

The signal panel has a few plug-in boards, some of which are options. The sound and colour decoder boards are obviously standard: the optional ones are for Nicam and teletext.

There are different audio panels that depend on the country for which the set is intended: the DD311 panel is the one for UK use. A TBA120U chip, ICd6, demodulates the f.m. sound, which leaves the panel via the buffer transistor Td1. When it reaches the motherboard it's fed to identical left and right channels. There are a couple of links that have to be cut when a Nicam panel is fitted. The mono "left" and "right" signals then return to the audio board, going to the TDA8420 chip ICd1 and the connector board. ICd1 controls the scart audio switching, the pseudo stereo sound switching (panorama effect), balance, volume, bass and treble. It also has separate volume and balance controls for headphones. These functions are all controlled by the microcomputer chip via the I2C bus.

The audio signals for the headphones go to the headphone audio output amplifier chip ICd3. The other audio signal feeds go to the TDA4935 speaker audio output chip ICp1 on the motherboard. This delivers about 15W per channel into a 4Ω load.

Adding Nicam is easy. The panel is inserted into the sockets (usually fitted) on the signals panel then a couple of links on the analogue audio board are snipped, also the previously mentioned links.

Colour Signal Processing

The colour decoder panel has been tried and tested in the 1000 and 2000 series CTI chassis. CTI stands for colour transient improvement: what it does basically is to reduce the time taken to get from one colour-difference voltage to another, e.g. from green to magenta on colour bars – colour smearing is most noticeable between these two colours. The transition time is reduced from about 800nsec to about 150nsec.

The actual colour decoder chip is ICb1, type TDA4555, which can process PAL, SECAM or NTSC 4.43/3.58MHz colour signals. Composite video is fed to the colour decoder panel where the PAL chroma signal is selected by the acceptor circuit Lb6/Cb28. It's then fed via the BC557B emitter-follower Tb1 to pin 15 of ICb1 which processes the information and determines which colour standard is being used. The crystal reference oscillator runs at 8.86MHz. It can be adjusted by earthing pin 17 of IC1b. The reference oscillator will then free-run and its frequency can be set by adjusting Cb36. Demodulated colour-difference signals leave ICb1 at pins 1 and 3, passing to pins 1 and 2 of the TDA4565 CTI chip ICb2 which also delays the luminance signal so that it coincides with the sharpened colour-difference signals. The luminance and colour-difference signals then leave the colour decoder panel and pass to the TDA8443A chip ICe1 on the motherboard.

Now this is a curious chip. It switches, under the control of

the I2C bus, between the Y/B – Y/R – Y signals and RGB inputs coming via the scart socket. Passage of the Y/B – Y/R – Y signals is straightforward: they enter at pins 11, 12 and 10 respectively and leave at pins 20, 19 and 21. The chip has a clamp pulse generator which is used to clamp the inputs to the black level: timing information for this operation is obtained from the sandcastle pulses which enter the chip at pin 24. Things are rather more complicated when it comes to the RGB signals which enter at pins 4, 5 and 6. These are clamped then matrixed to obtain Y, B – Y and R – Y signals. Colour-difference and luminance signals can be fed in via the scart socket and when this is done the matrixing within ICe1 can be bypassed. If this is required, external Y is connected via pin 11 (green) of the scart socket, external B – Y via pin 7 (blue) and external R – Y via pin 15 (red).

ICe1's Y, B – Y and R – Y outputs pass to pins 15, 18 and 17 respectively of the TDA3505 chip ICe3. This is the RGB processor: it carries out matrixing, colour etc. control, beam limiting, black-level stabilisation and switches between the inputs just mentioned and teletext RGB inputs at pins 14, 13 and 12 respectively, with pin 4 for blanking/switching. The text signals are switched through when the voltage at this pin rises above 0.9V: below 0.4V the inputs from ICe1 are selected. As ICe3 doesn't incorporate an I2C bus interface a TDA8444 digital-to-analogue converter chip ICe2 has to be used to enable it to receive the control potentials for hue (not applicable with UK sets), contrast, saturation, brightness and, lastly, red and green gain. ICe2 also provides a switching output to control the 4053 chip ICa1 that switches between internal and external (scart) composite video and sync inputs. ICe3's control pins are 19 for contrast, 16 for saturation, 20 for brightness and beam limiting, 22 for green gain and 23 for red gain. Its RGB outputs appear at pins 1, 3 and 5 respectively and are then fed to the c.r.t. base board.

Timebase Circuitry

The left-hand signals panel also houses some of the timebase circuitry. A TDA2579 chip, ICh1, contains the sync circuitry and the timebase generators while a TDA3654 chip, ICK1, provides the field output. Between these two chips there's a TDA8432 chip, ICh2, which contains the field drive and EW correction circuitry. It's connected to the I2C bus and as a result there's a distinct lack of potentiometers in the EW correction and field output stages. The adjustments are all carried out via the remote control system.

The Microcomputer Control System

The set's brain is the 40-pin SDA2080 microcomputer chip ICf2. The I2C bus lines are connected to pins 21 (SDA – serial data) and 22 (SCL – serial clock). These provide links to a number of slave devices, one of which is the SDA2526 non-volatile memory chip ICf1. This stores channel information, customer control settings and the I2C bus programming parameter values – more on the latter shortly. Up to 39 channels can be preset and there's the facility for connecting up to three external devices via scart connectors. On two-scart socket sets the scart-1 socket has just a composite video input while the scart-2 socket accepts RGB and composite video inputs. There's also a copy facility that enables the scart-2 composite video input to be looped through to the scart-1 composite video output. Stereo audio signals are looped through in the same way. This facility does away with the need for the usual snake pit of wires when copying tapes. You can monitor on the screen if you want to, but this isn't compulsory.

The SDA and SCL lines from the control panel go to

many slave devices, as follows:

- IC11 on the one-scart connector panel
- IC11 and IC12 on the two-scart connector panel
- ICi1 the tuner PLL/prescaler chip
- ICd1 the audio control chip
- ICe1 the RGB switching chip
- ICe2 the DAC for brightness, contrast etc. control
- ICh2 for deflection control

In addition the I2C bus controls the Nicam and teletext panels. Thus via these two lines the microcomputer control chip monitors and controls much of the processing carried out in the set.

I2C stands for inter integrated circuit: it's a two-lead (data and clock lines) system that enables the slave devices connected to the lines to be controlled by the master device, in this case ICf2. In addition to controlling the slave devices the microcomputer chip can give the user, or service engineer, an indication as to which if any of the items connected to the bus has developed a fault. What a good do!

The service mode has to be entered to gain access to these facilities. To do this you press one of the normal buttons (N1, N2 or N3) on the set. The service switch, which is located in the hole next to button N3, then has to be pressed within eight seconds. A strong piece of wire will usually do to operate this switch. Once the service mode has been entered the LED display will be blank apart from one dot which will be lit. Press the service switch again to get back to the TV mode.

Keying 04 on the remote control handset when in the service mode will result in ICf2 checking all the chips connected to the I2C bus. The operation is as follows. ICf2 sends out address data that corresponds with one of the slave chips. The latter responds by acknowledging its presence, and an appropriate hexadecimal number is then displayed by the LEDs. Each slave chip/section of the receiver has a separate number, as follows (the display codes are listed in the order in which ICf2 carries out its checks):

06	satellite processor
04	teletext processor (high feature)
22	CCT basic teletext (ICt2)
d2	RGB switch (ICe1)
94	extra video switch (in monitor only)
92	copy switch (IC12)
90	scart switch (IC11)
80	audio adjustment (ICd1)
84	stereo identification (ICd2)
48	colour decoder DAC (ICe2)
8C	geometry control (ICh2)
C2	tuning PLL (ICi1)
A2	teletext NVM (ICt5)
A0	control NVM (ICf1)
Pn	picture memory n Kbyte
An	Antiope (French teletext).

Thus if a set has CCT text and a single-scart panel and no obvious fault is apparent the following sequence of numbers will appear: 22, d2, 90, 80, 48, 8C, C2, A2, A0. If a code that was expected is missing, e.g. the CCT text code 22, this means that ICf2 didn't get a reply from the device concerned. In this particular example if the teletext panel is fitted correctly there is obviously either a fault on it or a break in the links back to ICf2. Use this procedure when adding satellite TV, removing or changing the teletext panel or changing the scart panel. This will reconfigure the system and the codes will be modified depending on what's been added or removed. The set's configuration is stored in the NVM by

pressing -/- on the handset. Then switch the set off at the mains to reset ICf2.

Adjustment Codes

Many adjustments are carried out by entering the service mode then using the relevant two-digit code with the handset. These codes are as follows:

25	line frequency
30	vertical shift at 50Hz
38	vertical shift at 60Hz
27	height
31	vertical compensation
28	vertical linearity
26	horizontal phase shift
32	width
36	horizontal compensation
35	trapezium correction
29	S-correction
34	EW corner correction
33	EW raster correction
22	red gain
23	green gain.

After entering the required code you carry out adjustment by pressing STEP + or STEP - on the handset. The LED display number will alter, either incrementing or decrementing depending on which button is pressed. The range of each function is 00-31 for the vertical and horizontal adjustments, 00-63 for the rest. If a new value is to be stored, press the -/- button as before. Each adjusted value must be stored before another code is selected for adjustment. No dramatic value changes should be necessary, but as a set ages and component tolerances drift it's a real boon to be able to leave the set in place and do the tweaking via the handset. But beware: there's no normalisation setting for the service mode adjustments. Once a value has been stored there's no way of getting back to the previous setting unless you can remember its displayed value.

Bus System Fault Finding

It can be difficult to pin down the exact location of a suspected fault on the I2C bus: the data changes so quickly that checks can't be made with normal servicing equipment to see whether the data is correct and that the microcomputer chip and its slaves are talking to each other. As a general rule of thumb if data can be seen on a scope on both the data and clock lines and can be seen to be altering things are o.k. Check the amplitude of the pulse trains, which must be 5V peak-to-peak.

If no clock or data information is apparent check the d.c. voltage on the relevant line(s). Because of the presence of pull-up resistors the lines should be at 5V d.c. when no data is being transmitted. Thus if one or both of the lines is at 5V no information is present. This usually means that there's a fault at the microcomputer end of the bus. If no pulse train is present and the d.c. voltage is at 0V or very low, there's a short or low resistance on the line. In this event the cause of the fault could be literally anywhere on the bus. The only thing to do is to check the SDA and SCK lines and see which of the two, at which chip, reads low-resistance to chassis. If no shorts can be found, disconnect the line in turn at each chip until the d.c. voltage returns to the correct level and the data and clock information are restored. If you are still in trouble the microcomputer chip is probably defective. Remember however that for the I2C bus to operate the micro-

computer chip must be working correctly. Carry out the usual checks - supply, presence of the 8.8MHz clock signal, reset pulse etc. - before replacing any chips.

Remote Control

The RC3010 remote control system used with these sets will operate a VCR. What some people don't seem to know is that the handset can be programmed for use with many different kinds of VCRs. It can be in any of nine modes. The following list shows which mode corresponds with which model/manufacturer:

Mode	Model/manufacturer
0	Finlux VR2008, Schneider 266.
1	Finlux VR1010/1012/1030/2010/2030/2040; Asa VR2019, VR6000; Philips VR6443/6543/6462/6467/6660/6760/6862.
2	Sharp VC100/102/501/781/783/785/801/851.
3	Sharp VC682/683/684/685/693/6F3.
4	JVC HRD120/170/180/210/230/300/310/530EH/470/755.
5	DER models.
6	Finlux VR3400, Hitachi models.
7	Blaupunkt RTV320, Panasonic models.
8	Asa VR2017.

If you can't find a particular model select the most suitable mode and try. For example a Sharp model not listed above will probably work in mode 2 or 3.

To programme the handset, use the point of a pencil to press the programming switch at the bottom back then key in the number of the required mode. Note that the VCR setting will have to be re-entered when the batteries are replaced.

Fault List

(1) If the set is dead check the four rectifiers Du16/18/21 (BY299) and Du17 (BY399) connected to the chopper transformer's secondary winding. No doubt one or other will be short-circuit. If Du18 or DU21 is faulty its associated feed resistor Ru38 or Ru39 will have popped. Replace it with a 2A PCB fuse as recommended by Finlux.

(2) No picture with no e.h.t. This is usually caused by the resistor in the h.t. feed to the line output stage, Rz28 (1.5Ω), having burnt out. Fit a 1Ω 0.5W replacement. Also replace the associated 470nF, 250V capacitors Cz14 and Cz16.

(3) Horizontal black lines and line pairing across the picture. Replace Ck8 (100nF, 63V) in the field output stage.

(4) Blank picture and no sound, may be intermittent. If the text button is pressed only the text page number appears but the sound comes back. Suspect the BC557 composite video buffer transistor Ta3.

(5) Snowy picture. Remove the v.h.f. tuner as it develops a fault. Pin 11 where the tuner was must now be shorted to chassis.

(6) A 750Hz tone is audible during Nicam reception. Remove the screening can from ICr9. Connect pin 2 of this chip to the chassis print at the top of the Nicam module. Refit the can and connect the negative side of Cr54 on the Nicam board to the same chassis point.

VCR Clinic

Reports from Philip Blundell, AMIEE, Brian Storm, Stephen Leatherbarrow, Bob McClenning, Ronnie Boag, Nick Beer, Mick Dutton and Ed. Rowland.

Toshiba V110B

There was no E-to-E output, just a blank raster in play and the clock display showed wrong characters. An initial check around the power supplies revealed that the U8 (5V) line was high at 8.8V. We found that the ZPD2.7V zener diode DT53 was open-circuit. When a replacement was fitted the U8 supply was back at 5V (check it at the collector of TT53) and the faults had cleared. **P.B.**

ITT VR3918

I expected this machine to be a JVC clone but as soon as I removed the covers I saw that I was wrong (I found out later that it's of Sanyo manufacture). There was a cassette lift fault – the machine was reluctant to accept a cassette. It could take four attempts before a cassette would be taken in, and would only partly eject the cassette once it had been taken down. The cassette lift is operated by a gear off the capstan fly-wheel, so I wound a cassette in manually and pressed play. The machine threaded up but the capstan didn't turn. Luckily I was able to obtain a manual: then battle commenced!

The capstan motor wasn't being turned on in the play mode, and on the rare occasions when the capstan did turn to operate the lift the syscon didn't seem to be able to read the lift's position, even though the limit switches were all o.k. and the signals were reaching the syscon chip. A study of the block diagram showed that a signal should go to the syscon chip from the capstan FG. It was missing. A new LC7412-8017 chip brought it back and restored normal operation. **P.B.**

Philips VR203

This machine had unlocked servos in play – the symptom was a noise bar running across the screen. The audio/control/erase head was clean but there was no control signal at pin 16 of IC7040. The supplies and control signals to this chip were all found to be o.k. A new SAA1310 chip put matters right. **P.B.**

Panasonic NVL25

A sullen refusal to power up and the legend "write erase" displayed above the flashing timer display were new symptoms to me. The machine would accept a cassette but wouldn't return it. In fact the only control that operated was the timer on/off button. This persuaded me that the systems and servo chip IC2001 and the operation and timer chip IC7501 were working. Checks on the serial data line showed that the amplitude of the serial data was low at about 1V. Even with all the serial data ports disconnected and only a pull-up resistor and a 270pF decoupling capacitor left in circuit the data line sat at about 1.5V. Sure enough the capacitor (C6012) which is a surface-mounted type was leaky, a replacement providing a complete cure. **B.S.**

Panasonic NVG21

This machine buzzed and hummed alarmingly when it played back a good tape. The dealer concerned had replaced the audio/control head and the audio chip (IC4001). Nothing was revealed by carrying out careful voltage checks, but the audio input to IC4001 seemed to be abnormally sensitive.

There's a fairly severe input filter between the audio head and IC4001. Resistor R4021, which is a 47Ω surface-mounted device, is part of this filter and was open-circuit. An ordinary 0.25W 47Ω resistor fitted neatly on the board and cured the trouble. **B.S.**

Panasonic NVMS95

We've had a few of these top-of-the-range camcorders in with no titling or ability to set the clock. In every case the surface-mounted connector P6502 on the operations PCB was dry-jointed. In later versions the plug is glued in place, presumably to stop this happening! **B.S.**

Panasonic NV850

There were no signals in the E-E mode. The 30V tuning supply is derived from Q7507/8, feeding pin 4 of the AN5033 chip IC7505. The voltage at this point was very low due to leakage: the cause was C7524 (0.01μF disc) which read 8kΩ. **S.L.**

Fisher FVHP710

Although rewind and fast forward were normal, when play was tried the loading arms began to move forwards then stopped, returning almost at once to rest. A check on the supply lines showed that the 5V rail to the micro/syscon departments was high at 8V. This supply comes from the STK5431ST multiregulator chip in the PSU. As the other sections of the chip were clearly all right I decided to carry out a modification. Pin 1 of the chip was disconnected from the print and taken to the input of a standard three-pin 5V regulator whose output was connected to pin 1 of PV904, the 5V line. The regulator was then screwed to the flat pad at the top of the power supply heatsink. This course was adopted because the customer required the machine in a hurry. I recall being told in my training days that "a bodge is only a bodge if it can be considered unreliable and/or unsafe – otherwise it becomes a modification"! **S.L.**

Philips VR6460

This machine came in dead and we found that the 10.2V supply was missing. It comes from the L4811 regulator 7110. As this device had no 12V input we moved back to the LM317 regulator 7105 which proved to be open-circuit. Do others find these Philips manuals almost impossible to follow or is it just me?! **S.L.**

Samsung VI710

No rewind or fast forward was found to be due to absence of the 15V supply at pin 8 of IC206. R244 (3.3Ω, 1W) which feeds this supply to the BA6209 capstan drive chip was open-circuit. After replacing this resistor the machine went into permanent search when play was selected. An open-circuit between the print and pin 3 of CN204 was the cause. This is the "cap drive" input and the fault could conceivably have occurred during the earlier replacement. A final check showed that normal deck operation had been restored but the

E-E signal suffered from a.g.c. overload. The cause of this final fault was a defective tuner. **S.L.**

Akai VS5

This machine was in good condition despite its age. But on switching from channel to channel a popping on sound, bars over the picture and loss of colour indicated that the a.f.c. was hopping about. When the sweep tuning was tried we found that it wouldn't rest on located programmes but swept on. The cause of the fault was tracked down to the AN6362 chip IC8, whose output is evidence to the tuning microcomputer chip that a legitimate signal has been found. **B.McC.**

Sharp VCA105HM

If you find that the back-tension arm has jammed the mechanism it's probably because the arm has missed the tape when loading, due to slackness. There's no underlying problem. But remember that if you load a transparent service cassette without tape you'll jam the machine as it depends on the tape to control the position of the back-tension arm. **B.McC.**

Fisher FVHP5000/5100

There was no playback picture with the machine's own recordings, E-E and playback of prerecorded tapes being o.k. Replacing IC201 cured the fault. **R.B.**

Philips VR6462/Finlux VR1010

No functions and no clock were cured by replacing the MAB8420 chip IC7091 on the back panel. **R.B.**

Salora SV6800

This machine is a Sanyo clone that uses the P90 mechanism. The original complaint was of intermittent operation and poor compatibility with prerecorded tapes. We removed the cassette lift to examine the brakes and the back-tension assembly, but when we'd reassembled the machine it wouldn't accept a cassette. After a lot of mechanical hassle we discovered that it's necessary to pull the toothed slide bar that operates the cassette lift until the last tooth engages in the white nylon cog. If this isn't done the mechanism goes out of sequence. Unfortunately the explanation in the manual is not at all clear. Back to the original fault. We found that the brakes didn't always release correctly because the "act brake lever" tended to stick. A modified part is supplied. **M.D.**

Philips VR6520/Panasonic NV370

This machine came in because of no functions or clock display. On many occasions we've had problems with the small safety resistors on the power supply panel going open-circuit for no apparent reason, but this time the power supply was working normally. A look at the circuit showed that there's a further regulator on the main panel. Checks here revealed that the fusible resistor R1001 was open-circuit, hence no regulated 5V supply. **M.D.**

NEC N9033K

This machine came in because it chewed tapes. Rewind was very poor, and on investigation we found that the idler rubber was well worn. The idler and the clutch assembly were both replaced but both wind and rewind were still weak. Closer

inspection revealed that the brakes were not being released properly because the brake solenoid didn't operate fully. Its driver transistor TR102 had been overheating badly, the board was scorched and the solenoid's coil had become distorted through overheating. We ordered a new solenoid and fitted it along with three new transistors, TR101/2/3, in the driver circuit. A note came with the solenoid recommending a modification to prevent a recurrence of the problem: this consists of fitting a 1SS133 diode between pins 12 and 55 of IC101, with its anode to pin 55. **M.D.**

NordMende V1021

This machine wouldn't accept a tape, the reason for this being the absence of the 17V unregulated supply. The cause was immediately apparent when we removed the power supply panel. At some time the machine had suffered from liquid spillage, as a result of which wire links B30 and B31 had rotted through. Fortunately there was no other damage. **M.D.**

Sanyo VHR1300

We'd only recently fitted a new set of heads in this machine, so we were somewhat put out to receive a call from the customer who said that the machine was still not right. When he made recordings the pictures were very poor. What in fact was happening was that the tuner was drifting. As we had a tuner in stock we fitted it. But the problem persisted. The cause was eventually traced to the LA7913 tuner control chip IC3, a replacement restoring normal quality recordings. The repair was not quite as difficult as trying to extract more money from the customer, who was under the impression that having had new heads fitted entitled him to a life-time guarantee of everything! **E.R.**

Ferguson FV43/4/5/6

A noise best described as a squeal in rewind is caused by incorrect meshing of the drive gears. This can be cured by adding spacer PQX45716. The idler can also jam, causing no drive. I've also experienced this problem in the later FV51. **N.B.**

Panasonic G Mechanism

A problem that's becoming very common with earlier versions of this mechanism is noisy rewind/fast forward and a tape loop being left when ejecting from the half-lace, stop-1 position. The cause is wear of the VXL1490 play gear's teeth. It's beneath the centre pulley. Removing the latter and undoing the screw that secures the kick/limit arm assembly allows the arm/gear to be replaced. **N.B.**

Akai VS427

This VCR was dead. Checks in the power supply revealed that the safety fusible resistor FR1 was open-circuit while the associated 1N4007 rectifier diode was short-circuit. Replacing these components, using a new resistor obtained from Akai, completed the repair. This power supply circuit looks a lot more friendly than that in the VS22 series. **N.B.**

Samsung SI7220

Calls to a completely dead machine – no clock or anything – are becoming common with this model. The cause is a locked-up microcomputer chip. Remove the mains supply for a few seconds then reconnect it and all will be well. **N.B.**

The Operation of AD Converter Circuits

David Botto

The function of an analogue-to-digital converter (ADC) circuit is to produce from an analogue input waveform a corresponding digital pulse output. This has to be done continuously of course: as the analogue signal waveform changes, so the digital signal changes. ADC circuits are nowadays widely used in TV sets, video equipment, computers and test gear. The long-suffering service engineer is expected to understand and be able to repair them – usually without the benefit of any extra pay! This article is intended as an introduction to the basics for those who are not too sure how an ADC circuit works.

A typical application is the use of ADCs in digital multimeters. From an analogue d.c. input voltage the ADC produces a pulse output that can be counted to give a readout on the display. The ADC circuitry replaces the moving-coil meter movement used in the older analogue type of multimeter. Almost all modern DMMs use a dual-slope ADC. Earlier relatively low-cost meters often used a single-slope ADC however. So to make things easy we'll start by analysing the working principles of single-slope ADCs, from which the dual-slope type was developed.

The Single-slope ADC

The basic principle of the single-slope DMM ADC is simplicity itself. If the unknown input voltage is converted into a ramp, the time taken for the ramp to reach its maximum amplitude will be proportional to the input voltage. A clock oscillator and a digital counter can be used to check the time taken, the count being used to produce a digital readout.

Converting voltage to time is not difficult. The unknown voltage can be used to charge a capacitor via a resistor. Fig. 1(a) shows capacitor C1 being charged via resistor R1 from an accurately regulated d.c. voltage source. Fig. 1(b) shows the curve produced when a precision voltage source is used in this way. The voltage across the capacitor increases with time until its charge is equal to the applied charging voltage. Unfortunately this charging rate is exponential rather than linear. To overcome this problem the capacitor can be charged by a constant-current source, see Fig. 2. The voltage then rises linearly and time is proportional to the input.

Fig. 3, which has been greatly simplified for ease of explanation, shows the basic elements of a single-slope ADC DMM system. Charging capacitor C1 is connected between the inverting input of an operational amplifier and chassis. The voltage to be measured is applied to the operational amplifier's non-inverting (+) input. The operational amplifier is being used as a comparator, i.e. its output depends on the difference between the two inputs. An advantage of using an operational amplifier here is its high input impedance, which is usually in excess of $1M\Omega$ (its output impedance is quite low, perhaps 100Ω or less). C1 must be discharged and the counter circuit set to zero before a measurement is made.

When a voltage measurement is made, C1 starts to charge. Thus a positive-going ramp is present at the operational amplifier's inverting input. When the ramp voltage exceeds the voltage at the operational amplifier's non-inverting input, i.e. the voltage being measured, the operational amplifier's output changes state – it falls to zero since the variable (ramp) input is applied to the inverting input. Thus the amplifier's output starts high and falls to zero after a period of time depending on the voltage being measured. Voltage has been

converted to time in a linear manner.

Fig. 4 shows the relevant waveforms. At time t_1 C1 starts to charge. At time t_2 , which depends on the voltage being measured, the output from the operational amplifier falls to zero. The duration of the squarewave output from the operational amplifier depends on the voltage being measured: the higher the unknown voltage, the longer the duration of the positive-going squarewave output.

The following and gate receives positive-going clock pulses at one input and the operational amplifier's output at the other. When the operational amplifier's output is high, at the beginning of the voltage measurement, the clock pulses pass through the and gate to the counter. When the operational amplifier's output falls to zero the and gate can no longer pass on clock pulses. Thus the number of clock pulses received by the counter depends on the voltage being measured. This simple arrangement has converted a d.c. input to a series of pulses whose total is directly proportional to the measured input. The clock oscillator has to be a close-tolerance device of course: its frequency is in the kilohertz range.

To keep the reading updated, the count is reset at the completion of each measurement cycle. At the same time a reset pulse is applied to Tr1, switching it on to discharge C1. The measurement process is then repeated. If the input voltage has changed, the display will show a different figure.

This simple circuit might be used to measure voltages in the range 0-200mV. By adding buffer amplifiers, series resistors, switches, shunts and additional circuitry it's possible to use the arrangement for a wide range of a.c./d.c. voltage, current, resistance and other measurements. How this can be accomplished was shown in my earlier article on choosing a digital multimeter (October 1991). There are of course many variations on this type of circuit, but the basic principle remains the same.

Unfortunately the single-slope ADC has a number of drawbacks. It is badly affected by clock oscillator frequency drift and noise at its input. The long-term stability of C1 is critical to accuracy. And the slightest leakage in the DMM's PCB will upset its performance – for this reason an expensive glass-epoxy PCB is generally used in a DMM that employs a single-slope ADC.

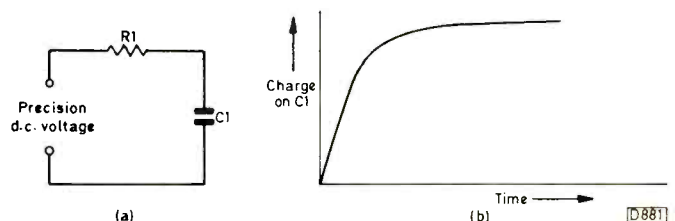


Fig. 1: Charging a capacitor via a resistor (a) produces an exponential ramp (b)

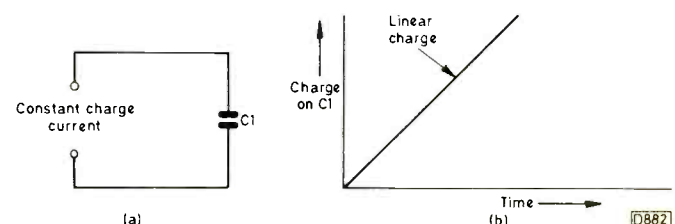


Fig. 2: Charging a capacitor from a constant-current source (a) produces a linear ramp (b).

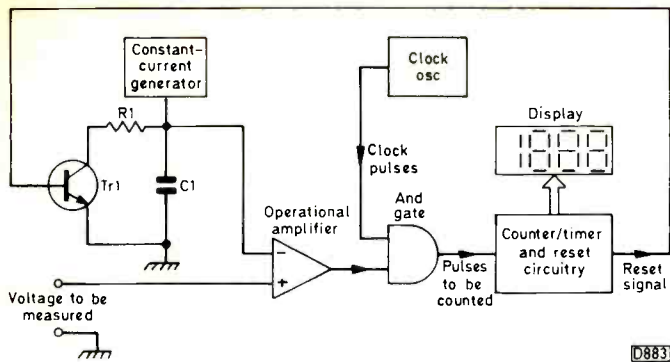


Fig. 3: Digital multimeter arrangement using a single-slope analogue-to-digital converter.

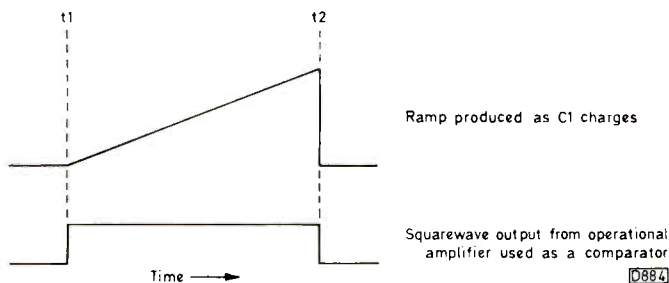


Fig. 4: Waveforms relating to Fig. 3.

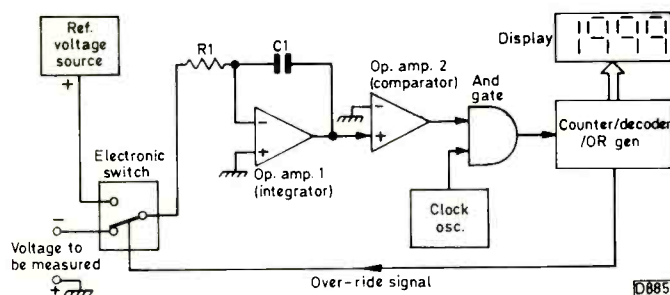


Fig. 5: Simple digital multimeter arrangement using a dual-slope analogue-to-digital converter.

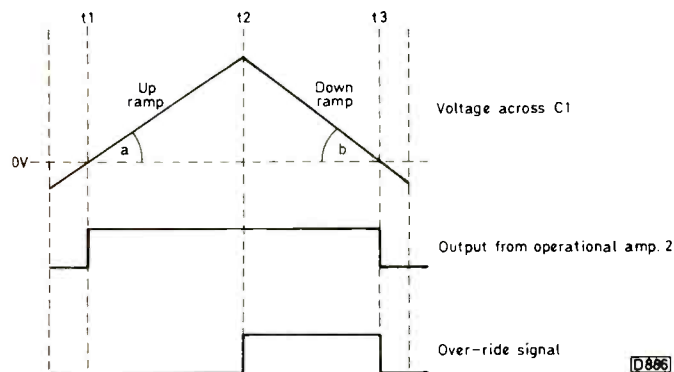


Fig. 6: Waveforms relating to Fig. 5.

Nevertheless a number of earlier DMMs used this arrangement. An example is my Heathkit Model IM-1202 which still works well. The simplicity of the single-slope system made it ideal for use with the two and a half and three digit readouts found in earlier DMMs.

Dual-slope ADC DMMs

The need for greater accuracy led to the development of the dual-slope converter. As with the single-slope system, it's based on a capacitor being linearly charged by a constant-current source. The improved dual-slope design provides an

accuracy of 0.05-0.1 per cent or better however.

Dual-slope ADCs do not call for the same critical accuracy and stability of components and parts as in a single-slope design because such circuits are, to a certain degree, self-compensating. Nevertheless good-quality components remain a prime requirement.

Fig. 5 shows the basic dual-slope system. It's called a dual-slope arrangement because the capacitor (C1) first charges (the up ramp) and then gradually discharges (the down ramp) at a controlled rate during the course of each measurement cycle. It largely eliminates the problem of accuracy deterioration due to tiny changes in the electrical characteristics of components over a period of time. Fig. 6 shows relevant waveforms.

The voltage to be measured is fed to the first operational amplifier which is connected as an integrator. The values of C1 and R1 must be carefully selected. At the beginning of each measurement cycle the first operational amplifier's output is negative with respect to chassis. This is the non-inverting input to the second operational amplifier, which is connected as a comparator. Thus at this point in the cycle its output is at zero.

A negative input voltage applied to the first operational amplifier's inverting input means that C1 will have a negative voltage at one terminal with respect to its other terminal. It begins to charge. This circuit arrangement, with the charging capacitor connected in a negative-feedback loop, acts as a linear integrator and thus functions as a constant-current charging source for C1. At the beginning of the measurement the comparator's non-inverting input moves positively. Its output switches to the positive state and the and gate allows clock pulses through to the counter.

When C1 has charged, all the flip-flops in the counter will have been set or reset. The counter is said to be full. At this point the counter produces an over-range signal which is used to operate the electronic switch. This applies a positive reference voltage to the integrating circuit's inverting input. The reference voltage is usually obtained from a temperature-compensated zener diode of a type that will not easily change its characteristics over a long period of time. C1 now begins to discharge, producing the down ramp at the integrating circuit's output. At the end of the discharge period the circuit

SOME ADC TERMS

Accuracy: A figure stating the percentage accuracy with which the ADC's digital output relates to its analogue input.

ADC conversion time: Length of time needed to convert the analogue input value to a digital word or value.

Autopolarity: DMM ADC arrangement that can handle plus and minus d.c. voltage inputs.

Counter/decoder/display circuitry: Circuit which counts the number of digital bits fed to it, decodes them and supplies the result to a readout that displays a decimal number.

Least significant bit (LSB): The digital bit with the least binary significance in a digital word.

Most significant bit (MSB): The digital bit with the greatest binary significance in a digital word.

Quantising error: A quantising error that may cause a small loss of accuracy occurs if the analogue input changes during the AD conversion cycle. Usually expressed as a percentage.

Resolution: The greater the number of digital bits used the higher the resolution.

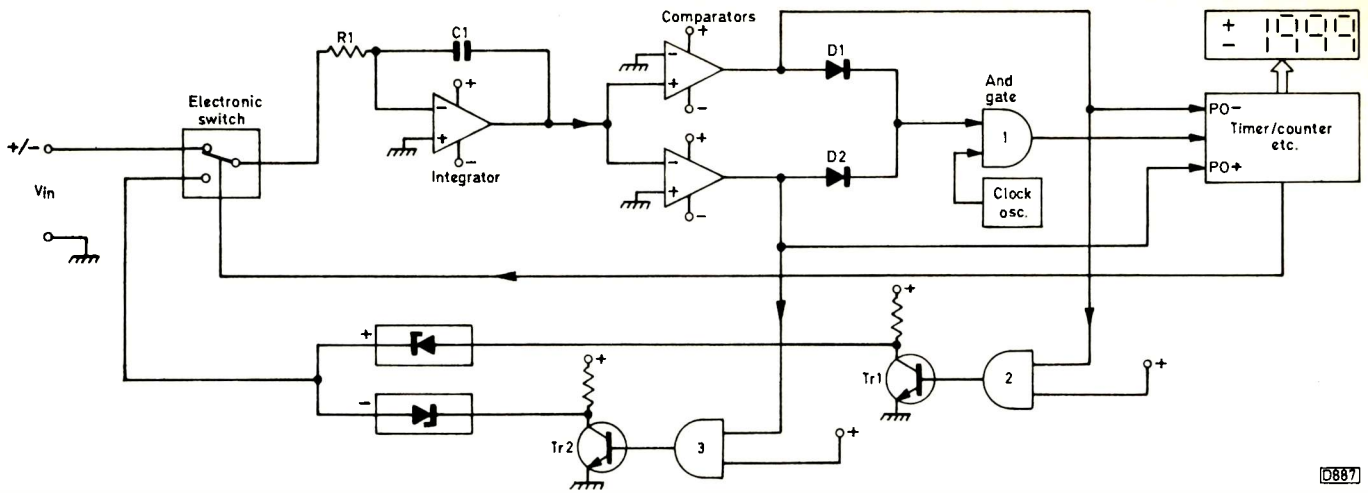


Fig. 7: Dual-slope ADC DMM catering for positive and negative d.c. voltage inputs, with autopolarity selection.

reverts to its initial state. The higher the voltage to be measured, the greater the angles α and β in Fig. 6 and the longer the length of the up and down ramp waveforms.

Dual-polarity Version

The circuit we've been considering is hardly practical since it responds to only negative d.c. voltages. What we require is autopolarity, that is the measurement of both positive and negative d.c. voltages with the display readout of the DMM indicating both the amplitude and the polarity of the measured voltage.

Fig. 7 shows a much simplified dual-slope ADC circuit that does this. It requires positive and negative 9V supplies with respect to chassis. The integrator circuit is identical to that shown in Fig. 5 but its output is fed to the non-inverting input of one comparator operational amplifier and the inverting input of the other one. Diodes D1 and D2 provide isolation between the outputs of the two comparators. And gates two and three along with transistors Tr1 and Tr2 control the switching of the discharge supplies. The outputs from the two comparators also go to the PO- and PO+ inputs of the timer/counter section where they trigger as appropriate a latch flip-flop to switch the minus/plus voltage indicator on.

When there's zero input voltage the outputs from the two comparators are at zero and the counter readout consists of zeros. In practice preset balance adjustments may be provided for the comparator operational amplifiers, also offset voltages to provide greater accuracy with very low input voltages.

Most of the circuitry in a modern DMM, including the counter/decoder/over-range circuits, reference voltage generators and electronic switching, is usually contained within one or two i.c.s.

The dual-slope ADC DMM has the advantage of excellent conversion stability, but this is at the expense of conversion speed due to the time taken to charge/discharge C1 and i.c. propagation delay. This is hardly a problem however since by the time the engineer's test prod has been connected to a test point and he turns to look at the readout the measured value will already be displayed.

Other ADC Techniques

For the sake of completeness a couple of other ADC methods are worth mentioning. They are not commonly used in DMMs but are employed in TV/VCR/computer circuitry.

The sample-and-hold converter samples the analogue input signal at regular intervals then converts the samples to digital form. The higher the sampling frequency the greater the accuracy of the conversion. This is the technique used with CD discs etc.

The parallel converter, also known as the flash converter, uses simple circuitry and has the advantages of reliability and high-speed operation (measured in microseconds). Its main disadvantage is the number of operational amplifiers required to achieve a high degree of resolution. Fig. 8 shows a simple flash converter circuit in which seven operational amplifiers are connected as parallel comparators. Each operational amplifier compares the input to a separate, fixed reference level. When the input to one of the operational amplifiers exceeds its fixed input its output changes state. These changes are fed to a matrix network that produces a binary word output.

Summary

The ADC circuitry we've been looking at in this article is in practice contained in just a few chips. This could be the reason why so little detailed information on its operation is available, at least so far as I've been able to find. Some of the circuitry described had to be breadboarded in order to check and analyse its mode of operation.

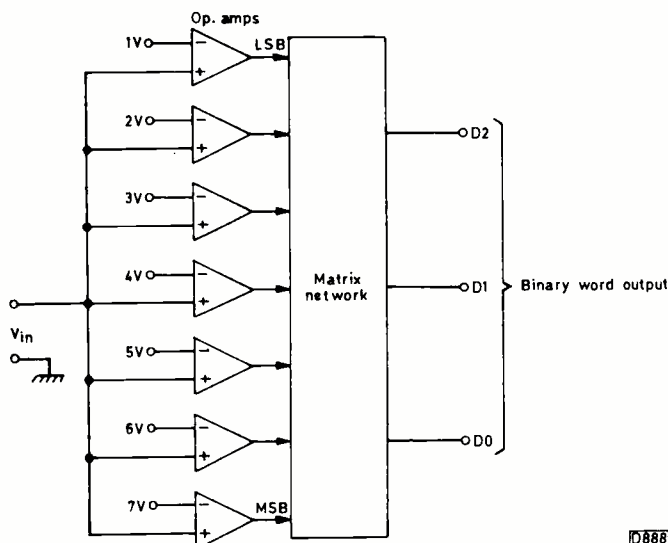


Fig. 8: Simple parallel ADC that detects seven different input voltage states and converts these into a three-bit word (000, 001 etc. to 111). The lowest input voltage produces the least significant bit (LSB), the highest input voltage the most significant bit (MSB).

New Publications

How TV/video technology advances. The first edition of *Newnes Television and Video Engineer's Pocket Book*, which superseded the *Television Engineer's Pocket Book*, appeared in 1987. The new second edition, which is to be published on July 31st, has called for substantial revision and addition. Separate chapters have had to be added on satellite television and Nicam stereo sound. There's also a new chapter on components and assemblies. All the other sections have been updated.

This is a helpful reference book that's designed to cater for the needs of practising service engineers. There's much that one wants to be able to refer to or look up on occasion when dealing with something that takes one just a little away from routine matters. It's unlikely that you'll find this book wanting as a reference guide. In addition to much data there are helpful descriptions of the basic systems and circuits used in

the domestic TV/video field.

The latest edition is in a slightly different format, bringing it into line with other Newnes Pocket Books (Computer, Electronics, Radio and Electronics). Paul Richards Books has a special pre-publication offer of £2 off the official published price of £12.95: it applies to orders received before July 31st – see advertisement elsewhere in this issue. Recommended as a useful, practical handbook for the service department.

Steve Beeching is to introduce a series of "Technical Information Modules" which will cover various aspects of video recording and playback. The idea is that each one will provide a technical explanation that can be kept as a reference source. As Steve points out, early VCR manuals used to contain technical descriptions of the circuitry and systems used. Modern ones don't, so where do you go? You get a Beeching Module! Each will consist of 30 or so A4 sheets, printed on both sides, with diagrams included in the text. The first one, covering colour recording and playback systems (VHS, Betamax and 8mm), is now available at £6.95 including post and packing in the UK from Newark Video Services, Grove Farm, Long Lane, Barnby in the Willows, Newark, Notts NG24 2SG.

CD Player Casebook

Reports from Mike Leach, P.J. Roberts and Philip Blundell, AMIEE

Crown CDK2300

Should you come across one of these midi systems that's suffering from possible laser trouble it's worth carrying out a few initial checks. The cause could be a poor printed circuit or dry-joints on the main board. I've had cases recently where the cause of skipping or failure to read a disc has been due to dry-joints around the two regulator transistors. A good solder up and some print tidying cured the problem. **M.L.**

Sharp WQCD15

Failure to read the TOC was the symptom with this player. The disc would spin backwards very fast and not shut down – we had to disconnect the power supply to remove the disc without damaging it. After stripping the player down (the usual pain – leads not long enough etc.) I found that the safety resistors R835 and R836 in the plus and minus 9V supplies to the focus and tracking driver transistors were open-circuit. I replaced them and carried out a good solder up in the power supply. The player then performed normally. When it was tried the following day however nothing happened – there was no display and no TOC reading. Checks in the power supply produced some rather abnormal results then, suddenly, the machine sprang to life and worked all right. The d.c.-d.c. converter in the power supply was suspected and after further checks replaced. There were no further problems after doing this. **M.L.**

Pioneer PDM70

This player wouldn't read discs, not even the TOC. As you probably know the spindle motor is a common cause of this problem, but not with the type used in this machine. After checking the power supplies and finding everything in order I engaged the test mode and ran through the test sequence. When track forward was pressed disc one was loaded but focus wasn't found. After removing the pick-up I found that the objective lens was badly soiled – to the extent that I couldn't see any laser light when I pressed the track forward

key, though the lens moved up and down (note that the pick-up must be held lens down).

I cleaned the lens and refitted the pickup. When track forward was pressed disc one loaded, focus was found, the tracking servo closed and sound was present at the phono sockets. But the machine wouldn't play tracks 8 and 15 of the test disc without skipping and jumping. A full mechanical and electronic alignment failed to cure the problem so the pick-up (PWY006) was replaced and alignment was carried out. The machine now played tracks 8 and 15 without difficulty. **P.J.R.**

Pioneer CLD1080

A customer brought this CDV player into the shop, placed it on the counter and explained that he had broken off the modulator's output sockets. Thus a new modulator would be required. Whilst I was taking down the repair details I noticed that it was a US model, for NTSC video, and that the modulator was a v.h.f. type. As we didn't have the manual I gave Pioneer spares a ring, in particular to see if a modulator could be supplied. It could, but would take about a month because it had to come from the states. The customer needed his unit in three days' time, not a month! So I had to devise a way of setting up his equipment so that he could carry on using it while we waited for the spares to arrive.

Use of a Sharp VC681 VCR enabled this to be achieved. We fed the CDV player's video output (CVBS) into the VCR's video input. With the VCR switched to the aux input the NTSC signal was modulated on to a u.h.f. carrier. This was fed to the customer's TV sets. When all three sets had been retuned to u.h.f. (they are multistandard models) each one displayed a crisp (for NTSC) clear picture. Being satisfied with this I gave the customer a call. He took his equipment away and said he'd bring it back when the spares came in.

Subsequently the modulator arrived (well done, Pioneer!). It was fitted and the unit was given a short test before being returned to the customer. A few days later he came back and

complained that only two of his TV sets would work at one time. He wanted to use all three.

The customer brought in all his equipment and we set it up in the workshop. As the customer had said, only two sets would work at one time. The other one would tune up the band, find the v.h.f. signal then instead of memorising the frequency would carry on tuning. It worked all right at u.h.f., but apparently not on v.h.f. channel 4. I was about to give up for the day but thought that I would try one more thing – retune the output from the modulator and retune the TV sets. It worked. I reset the modulator's output to v.h.f. channel 3 and, once they had been retuned, all three TV receivers then worked perfectly. Could the problem have been caused by standing waves in the coax? After a short test during which it worked without difficulty the customer's equipment was sent back. **P.J.R.**

Binatone 01/7270

The compact disc player in this midi hi-fi system was faulty. It would read the TOC but wouldn't play. When play was tried the radial arm skated across the track then ERR was displayed. As the player read the TOC it seemed unlikely that the CDM unit was faulty – the dealer had already tried fitting another one. Substitution proved that the MAB8441P-T107 microcontroller chip was the culprit. **P.B.**

Test Case 356

"It's got like curtains down the side of the picture" puffed the man who staggered into the workshop with a 25in. TV set in his arms. Our receptionist Pam thought, but didn't say, that judging by his purple face it would be curtains for him if he went on like that. She made out the job card, relieved the gasping man of our £15 initial charge, and suggested to him that we would deliver the set when it had been repaired – a bargain at £6 extra.

The set was a Tatung Model TYV9821M, which uses the 180 chassis. It was soon on the bench in the charge of Roger, a temporary stand-in who helps us out when we're busy. His name has a certain unfortunate rhyming connotation, which is not wholly true of him... Anyway he hooked up the set, tuned a spare button to the local transmitter and looked for the curtains. There weren't any. He next tried the set on the raw mains supply. Still no curtains. So he rang the customer for clarification as he couldn't see them. "Ah no, you won't" the man told our bemused locum. It emerged that the curtains were visible only on low-key scenes, night shots and when the screen was momentarily blank between programmes. They were also confined to the left-hand side of the screen.

Roger fed a plain grey raster from a pattern generator to the set. He then saw the symptom. There were striations down the left-hand side of the display, alternate light and dark stripes. They faded out about a third of the way across the screen. Use of the brightness and contrast controls enabled the curtains to be seen quite clearly and, hopefully, their cause diagnosed.

The symptom was common in the sets of yesteryear. In fact two decades or more ago it was a feature of some of the

cheaper models. Design of the line output stage has remained basically the same over all these years and in earlier times a common cause of vertical striations at the left-hand side was poor damping of the line linearity coil. Not all modern sets use this time-honoured arrangement, but the Tatung 180 chassis does. The line linearity coil is L408: it's damped by two series-connected 470Ω resistors, R434 and R439. Roger confidently disconnected their junction point and measured their resistances. Each read 430Ω, a change that was likely to increase the damping rather than reduce it.

Our valiant temp, seeing no other obvious possible causes for the symptom when he studied the circuit diagram, next went hunting with his oscilloscope to ascertain whether the striations were being produced by velocity- or intensity-modulation of the electron beam. He examined the waveforms at the tube's cathodes and grid, using a.c. coupling and a high-gain scope setting, but could detect no significant oscillation at the beginning of each line. Whatever there might have been was lost in the noise, minimal though this was. His conclusion was that the electron beam was not being intensity-modulated. So it was back to the line deflection circuit.

Things went steadily downhill after this sensible and scientific start. All sorts of components in the line output/scanning department were checked by substitution in an increasingly disparate and irrational attempt to get to the bottom of the problem – the efficiency and EW modulator diodes, the scan-correction and yoke-coupling network components, the line flyback tuning capacitor and goodness knows what else. All this while the real culprit, up on the tube base panel, remained unsuspected and inviolable. On the tube base panel? That's where it was as Television Ted, brought in for consultation, found. So what was it? For the solution and another item in the test case series, see next month's issue.

ANSWER TO TEST CASE 355 – page 664 last month –

Last month we related the sorry tale of Easthurst School's Hitachi VT410. It had come in for attention because of physical problems in the cassette loading department, then stayed in because of a strange recording fault – only one head was operational in the record mode. During playback of its own recordings only alternate fields appeared. Between them were noisy 20msec gaps. As a result the playback picture flickered badly and was overlaid with white spots and interference.

The cause of the problem lay in the head switching. There are two sorts of head switching in a two-head VCR. During playback each head is selected in turn. This switching is controlled by the drum flip-flop waveform. In the record mode the outer ends of the head windings are earthed alternately while the inner ends receive the record current. Each head has its own earthing switch which consists of a transistor, in either discrete component or i.c. form. If one of these switches fails to close there's no earth return path for the recording current, so a magnetic field isn't generated.

In the VT410 the switching is done by Q1 and Q3 which are on the preamplifier PCB. Investigation here showed that Q1 had an open-circuit collector. There was no effect in the playback mode because the transistor is then off anyway. The repair was carried out by using Q4 as a replacement for Q1. Q4 is present on the PCB but isn't used in the two-head version of these machines.

WHO ELSE WANTS TO WIN WITH HRS?

During the last few weeks, HRS has sent two customers on Luxury Weekends for two at Euro Disney.

And we've also sent highly acceptable SURPRISE GIFTS to hundreds of all correct entrants in our

BOOK HERE FOR DISNEY WORLD COMPETITIONS.

Need a catalogue? phone our SALES DESK on 021 789 7575 (recognised trade only)

There are two more competitions before the end of August. So your

HRS catalogue can still book you into...

DISNEY WORLD, FLORIDA

A fabulous family holiday for four at *DISNEY WORLD, FLORIDA*.



Plus

2 EURO DISNEY WEEKENDS

One of two *EURO DISNEY WEEKENDS* for two

Plus

MYSTERY PRIZES

Lots of

MYSTERY PRIZES

and there are hundreds still to be won!



FOR ALL YOUR SPARES-AND MOST OF YOUR OVER THE COUNTER LINES INTO THE BARGAIN! OVER 25,000 LINES!

WHEN YOU CAN GET SO MUCH FROM HRS, WHY GO ANYWHERE ELSE?

GET INTO THE HRS CATALOGUE-AND BOOK YOURSELF A BONANZA!

SALES DESK
☎ 021 789 7575

FREE FAX
0800 212179
ORDER NOW!

ACT NOW AND WIN!

1. Make sure your next order to



is for

£50

OR MORE.

2. Answer the four skilful fun questions on the

FREE ENTRY FORM

which will come with your invoice.

(Hint: many of the answers are already in your HRS catalogue).

3. Send your entry back

FREEPOST

NO STAMP NEEDED

BY THE CLOSING DATE.



LAST DATES FOR RECEIPT OF ENTRIES : Competition 3 : August 10th. Competition 4 : August 29th.

EURO DISNEY WEEKEND for the first correct solution opened on each of the four closing dates.

MYSTERY PRIZE *Plus* FOR EVERY *Plus* CORRECT ENTRY

FABULOUS FAMILY HOLIDAY AT **DISNEY WORLD FLORIDA***

* (or if preferred, 1-YEAR HIRE of a new 7cwt diesel van)

To the first all correct entry drawn from all four competitions.

FREE, SAME DAY DESPATCH ON ALL ORDERS, LARGE OR SMALL

HRS ELECTRONICS A Division of Ring Lamp Co. Ltd., Garrets Green Lane, Birmingham B33 0UE

18 BROOKWOOD ROAD, SOUTHFIELDS, LONDON SW18 5BP.

TEL: 081-877 3492/877 3518 FAX: 081-877 3518

TRANSISTORS Cont.

Table of Transistors with columns for model number, price, and manufacturer. Includes models like 2SD1391, 2SD1397, etc.

TDA8180 ORIGINAL

Table of TDA8180 components including Transistors and Diodes/Thyristors with prices and manufacturers.

DIODES AND THYRISTORS

Table of Diodes and Thyristors listing various models and their prices.

ASK FOR SEMICONDUCTORS NOT LISTED

VIDEO HEADS

Table of Video Heads for brands like Amstrad, Ferguson, Hitachi, and Panasonic, listing model numbers and prices.

VIDEO HEADS Continued

Table of Video Heads continued, including Sharp, Sanyo, and other makes, with prices and descriptions.

ASK FOR VIDEO HEADS NOT LISTED

The above heads are new.

BELT KITS

A range of belt kits in stock from 60p to £2.40. Makes for most models available including: Alba, Akai, Amstrad, Ferguson/JVC, Fisher, Funai, GEC, Goldstar, Granada, Grundig, Hinari, Hitachi, Mitsubishi, NEC, Orion, Panasonic, Philips, Saisho, Samsung, Sanyo, Schneider, Sharp, Sony, Tensai, etc - Please state model and make.



LINE OUTPUT TRANSFORMERS

Table of Line Output Transformers listing models like Hitachi CPT1476, Matsui 1440, etc., with prices.

Other ITT transformers available

Table of ITT transformers listing models like Fidelity all models up to 20" ZX3000, etc., with prices.

Hitachi and Matsui LOPTS in stock

VIDEO MOTORS

A range of Reel Motors made by Ferguson, Hitachi, Sanyo, Sharp & Panasonic are available, please state model and make. We stock japonic motors, makes include Ferguson/JVC, Hitachi and Sharp.

Sharp Reel Motor Pulley only

Replacement of plastic pulley on a number of Sharp Reel Motors with the above metal pulley gives better rewind/FF performance.



IDLER ASSEMBLIES

Table of Idler Assemblies for various models like Ferguson, Fisher, etc., listing prices.

FISHER

Table of Fisher components like FVHP615, FVHP905, etc., listing prices.

HITACHI

Table of Hitachi components like VT11.33, VT9300, etc., listing prices.

PHILIPS

Table of Philips components like VR6460, DV464, etc., listing prices.

PANASONIC (All Original)

Table of Panasonic components like NV370, NV8600, etc., listing prices.

QUOTE PANASONIC PART No

FOR PARTS NOT LISTED

SANYO

Table of Sanyo components like Idler VHR1100, etc., listing prices.

SHARP

Table of Sharp components like Idler VC9300, etc., listing prices.

AMSTRAD

Table of Amstrad components like 4500.4600 MOD KIT, etc., listing prices.

Limitier Post Assembly

Table of Limitier Post Assembly components like Makes & Models: Hinari VXL4, etc., listing prices.



IDLERS FOR AKAI, SAMSUNG, MITSUBISHI, NEC, ETC. IN STOCK

REMOTE CONTROLS

Bush, Ferguson, Grundig, ITT, Philips, Pye, Sony, Hitachi, Matsui, Logik, Panasonic, Saisho, Salora, Samsung, Tashiko, Tatung, Toshiba. Various models TV & Video From £10.00

MANY HITACHI TV REMOTE CONTROLS NOW IN STOCK.

SONY REMOTE CONTROL RUBBER PADS.

STATE MODEL FOR PRICE.

New Additions

Table of New Additions including Universal Remote Control, Sony type RC670, etc., listing prices.

TV ON/OFF SWITCHES

ITT, Philips, Decca, Thorn, Fidelity, Grundig, Sony and Hitachi. State model for price.

PINCH ROLLERS

A range of Pinch Rollers is in stock, most of them @ £2.80. Makes include Akai, Amstrad, Ferguson, Fisher, Funai, GEC, Goldstar, Grundig, Hinari, Hitachi, JVC, Marantz, Mitsubishi, NEC, Nordmende, Orion, Panasonic, Philips, Samsung, Sanyo, Schneider, Sharp, Sony, Tensai, Thomson, Toshiba etc. Please state model and make.

BACK-UP BATTERIES

Table of Back-up Batteries listing Philips 1.2V, 2.4V, etc., listing prices.

Wider Range Available

OTHER SPARES

Table of Other Spares including Universal Video Copying Kit, Video Cassette Lamps, etc., listing prices.

MODE SELECT SWITCHES

MANY OTHER VIDEO AND TV SPARES IN STOCK

Back Tension Bands in Stock for Akai, Fisher, Hitachi, Ferguson, JVC, Mitsubishi, Panasonic, Sanyo and Sharp. Maintenance Kits available for Alba, Amstrad, Ferguson, Fisher, Goldstar, Goodmans, Granada, Hinari, Hitachi, JVC, Matsui, Mitsubishi, Nikkar, Panasonic, Philips, Saisho, Salora, Schneider, Sentra, Sharp, Sony, Tashiko, Toshiba.

SEND FOR PRICE LIST.

Trade Counter now open Monday-Friday 9.00-5.30. Saturday 9.00-1.00. Nearest Underground Station - Southfields District Line.



A Z E L L E C T R I C S

**AVAILABLE
FROM ALL
GOOD NEWSAGENTS**

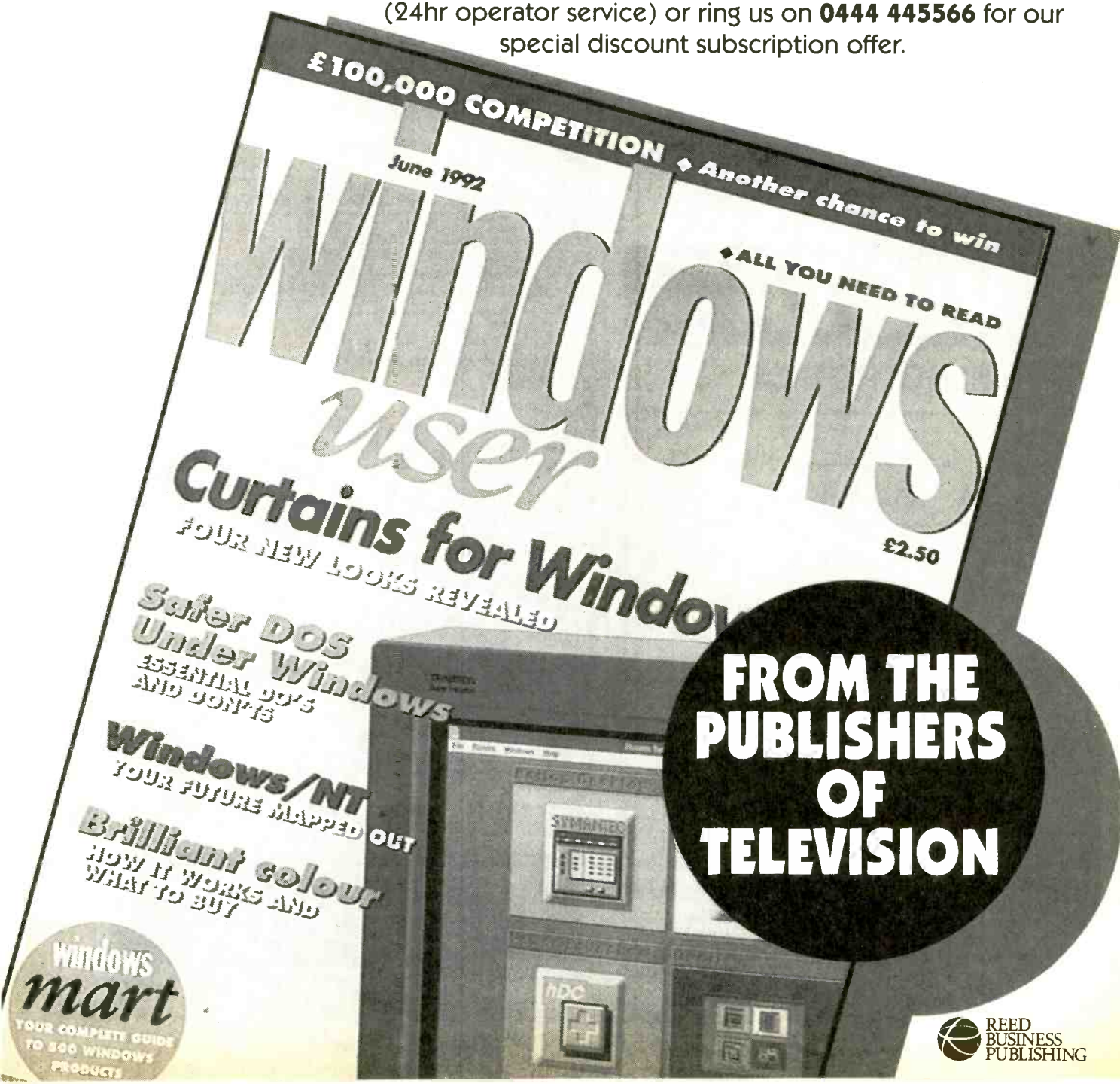
A new menu for Windows Users

Windows User is the new practical magazine to help you get the most out of your Windows environment.

Every month you'll enjoy a varied menu of news updates, features and reviews, making Windows User the essential reference for the computing environment of the 90's.

Make sure of your copy by ordering from your local newsagent **NOW**.
To subscribe call our **Credit Card Hotline** on **0789 200 255**

(24hr operator service) or ring us on **0444 445566** for our special discount subscription offer.



**FROM THE
PUBLISHERS
OF
TELEVISION**

**windows
mart**
YOUR COMPLETE GUIDE
TO 500 WINDOWS
PRODUCTS

**REED
BUSINESS
PUBLISHING**



VINASONIC DISTRIBUTORS

SONIC HOUSE
UNIT 4A ABBERLEY STREET
SMETHWICK
BIRMINGHAM
B66 2QU ENGLAND
Tel: 021-565 1727
Fax: 021-555 5367

THIS MONTH'S SPECIAL OFFERS

**REDIFFUSION
MK IV £25**

**JAP BASIC
£25**

**TOP LOADERS
£35**

W
O
R
K
I
N
G

S
T
O
C
K

**TRIMLINE
BASIC £25**

**TX TEXT
£35**

**FRONT LOADERS
£50**

EXPORT ENQUIRIES WELCOMED

MAKE YOUR INTERESTS PAY!

Train at home for one of these Career Opportunities

Over the past 100 years more than 10 million students throughout the world have found it worth their while! An ICS home-study course can help you get a better job, make more money and have more fun out of life! ICS has over 100 years experience in home-study courses and is the largest correspondence school in the world. You learn at your own pace, when and where you want under the guidance of expert 'personal' tutors. Find out how we can help YOU. Post or phone today for **FREE INFORMATION** on the course of your choice. (Tick one box only!)

Electronics <input type="checkbox"/>	TV, Video & Hi-Fi Servicing <input type="checkbox"/>
Basic Electronic Engineering (City & Guilds) <input type="checkbox"/>	Refrigeration & Air Conditioning <input type="checkbox"/>
Electrical Engineering <input type="checkbox"/>	Car Mechanics <input type="checkbox"/>
Elec. Contracting/Installation <input type="checkbox"/>	Computer Programming <input type="checkbox"/>
GCSE/GCE/SCE over 40 examination subjects to choose from <input type="checkbox"/>	

Name: _____

Address: _____

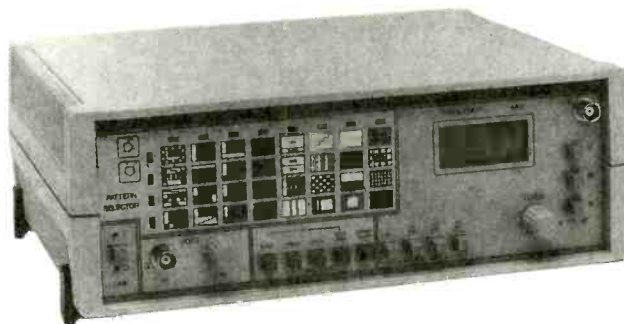
P. Code _____

ICS International Correspondence Schools, Dept. EGS82
312/314 High Street, Sutton, Surrey SM1 1PR. or
041-221 7373 (24 hours).



**ELECTRONIC
TEST EQUIPMENT**

TV PATTERN GENERATORS GV-310 / GV-498



- Up to 32 selectable patterns
- Video and RF output. Tunable from 37 to 860 MHz
- 3 1/2 digits frequency counter
- Text and logotypes (only GV-498)
- SCART connector

For television signal engineers

ALBAN ELECTRONICS LIMITED

4U St Albans Enterprise Centre, Long Spring
Porters Wood, St Albans, Herts., AL3 6EN
Tel: 0727 832266 - Fax: 0727 810546

FILL IN THE GAPS...

Due to the huge demand from readers for back issues of TELEVISION magazine we have run out! To overcome this we will shortly be publishing a hardback book of the first three issues of TELEVISION from 1991 (January - March).

The book will contain 92 pages of pure editorial from these three issues, so all the TV Fault Finding and VCR clinics will be complete and uninterrupted.

The availability of the books is strictly limited and they are only available on a first come first serve basis so if you want to fill any gaps in your back issues or if you would simply prefer to keep concise hardback copies of Television for reference please register now for a priority copy.

You do not need to send any money yet you are simply registering to avoid disappointment.

Please return the form below to: Kathy Lambert, TELEVISION (Back Issues), Room L332, Quadrant House, The Quadrant, Sutton, Surrey SM2 5AS.

ONLY £19.95

Please register me for priority copy of the TELEVISION Back Issue Book January-March 1991

Name: _____

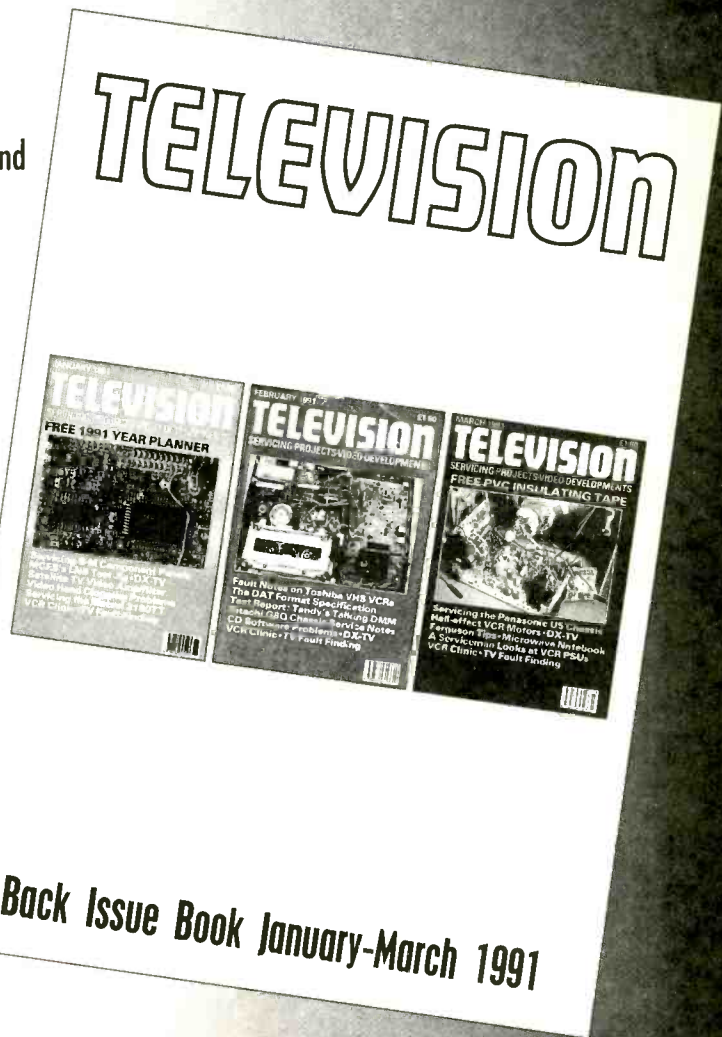
Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Telephone No: _____

Please return this form to: Kathy Lambert, TELEVISION (Back Issues), Room L332, Quadrant House, The Quadrant, Sutton, Surrey SM2 5AS.

 REED
BUSINESS
PUBLISHING



TELEVISION



MAIL ORDER BARGAIN PACKS

No.	Qty	per pack		
M020	1	30W dome tweeter made by Eagle Jap made size 90 x 66mm	£1	£1
M021	1	60W HiFi tweeter made for Jama UK size 90mm sq	£1	£1
M022	2	30 watt 8 ohm hiFi chassis speakers made for Hitachi UK midi systems size 125mm sq with large 70mm magnet	£9	£2 p&p
M023	2	Pod car speakers moulded in black plastic with 15 watt 10cm Goodmans unit fitted	£4.95	£2.50 p&p
M023A	1pr	40 Watt Car Speakers made for Roadstar of Switzerland. Fitted with dual polypropylene cone and foam rubber surround. Big 70mm magnet for good bass response. Supplied with grills fixing screws and cable. Size 13cm. weight 1.5kg	£11.70 pair	£3.65 p&p
M024	2	Avdax JBL 40-100 watt dome tweeters high performance 10mm Ferrofluid cooled horn loaded unit for distortion and high output supplied with 1st order crossover. spec 40 Watts at 3KHz 100 Watt at 8KHz size 51 x 51 x 16.5mm. Ideal for car use	£7.50	£1 p&p
M025	2	33000 uf 10v dc can type computer grade quality electrolytic. UK made	£1	£1
M025A	1	47u 385V dc can type electrolytic. Size 350mm x 250mm. UK made by Philips	£1	£1.75
M026	2	680 uf 100v dc can type electrolytic size 45 x 25mm	£1	£1
M027	3	2200 uf 25v dc can type electrolytic size 45 x 25mm	£1	£1
M028	1	15000 uf 40v dc can type 23 amp electrolytic size 113 x 50mm	£1	£1
M029	1	33000 uf 160v 27 amp can type electrolytic size 113 x 50mm	£1	£1
M030	20	Assorted Variable trimmers	£1	£1
M031	4	Tuning capacitors 2 gang dielectric type	£1	£1
M032	2	10K + 10K wire wound precision potentiometer	£1	£1
M033	8	Rotary potentiometers	£1	£1
M034	5	100K multiturn varicap type tuning potentiometer with knob size 45 x 5mm	£1	£1
M035	200	Carbon resistors	£1	£1
M036	2	Large VU meters Jap made	£1	£1
M037	1	Large Tuning meter 125uA-0.125uA size 55 x 47mm	£1	£1.75
M038	1	Dual VU meter 280 uA FSD size 80 x 42 x 15mm	£1	£1.50
M039	5	Coaxial Aerial Plugs all metal type	£1	£1
M040	6	Fuse Holders chassis mounting for 20mm size fuses	£1	£1
M041	4	Fuse Holders in line type for 20mm size fuses	£1	£1
M042	20	5 Pin din 180° chassis mount sockets	£1	£1
M043	6	Double pinno sockets	£1	£1
M044	5	6.35mm (1/4") stereo Jack sockets	£1	£1
M045	4	6.35mm (1/4") mono Jack plugs	£1	£1
M046	12	Coax Sockets chassis mount	£1	£1
M047	2	Case Handles plated shape size 97 x 50mm	£1	£1
M048	30	Mixed control knobs	£1	£1
M049	1	Cassette tape transport mechanism belt drive top loading 6 piano key operation with knobs stereo record replay cross. Load's heavy fly-wheel	£5.50	£2.65 p&p
M050	1	HiFi stereo pre amp module input for CD Tuner record player with diagram made by Mullard	£1	£1
M051	2	AM FM tuner head modules made by Mullard	£1	£1
M052	3	AM IF modules made by Mullard	£1	£1
M053	1	FM stereo decoder module with dia. made by Mullard	£1	£1
M054	3	UHF Varicap tuned tuner heads unboxed, untested but complete made by Mullard	£1	£1
M055	1	25V DC 150 mA Mains adapter in neat plastic box size 80 x 55 x 47mm	£1	£1
M055A	1	80mm Cooling Fan. Five bladed AC impedance corrected motor on a cast aluminium chassis. Size 80mm x 40mm Voltage 115V a.c. working 130mA. Japanese made	£5.95	£1.40 p&p
M056	2	6-0-6 4VA pcb mount mains transformer 240V input. Size 42 x 33 x 35mm UK made	£1	£1.40 p&p
M057	25	4 Volt miniature wire ended bulbs	£1	£1
M057A	1	SRBP Copper Clad Printed Circuit Board. Size 410mm x 360mm x 2mm	£3.65	75p p&p
M058	2	Mono cassette tape heads Jap made	£1	£1
M059	2	Sonotone stereo cartridges with 78 and LP styl. Japan made	£1	£1
M060	8	Bridge rectifiers 1 Amp 24Volt	£1	£1
M061	10	OC 44 transistors remove paint from top and it becomes a photo electric cell (ORP 12)	£1	£1
M062	30	Low signal transistors NPN and PNP type	£1	£1
M063	6	14 Watt Output transistors 3 Complementary pairs in TO18 case (replacement for A0161 + 162)	£1	£1
M064	5	5 Watt Audio IC No TBA800	£1	£1
M065	5	Motor Speed Control IC	£1	£1
M066	1	Digital DVM Meter IC made by Plessey with diagram	£1	£1
M067	4	7 Segment 0.3 LED display (red)	£1	£1
M068	1	Tape Deck IC with record replay switching No LM1818 with diagram	£1	£1
M069	2	Ferrite rod high grade with LW SW MW coils size 140 x 10mm	£1	£1
M070	1	Moving coil dynamic hand held microphone	£1	£1
M071	1	Ross Electronics customers returns (no warranty) LCD digital multimeter Ross Electronics customers returns (no warranty)	£3.90	90p p&p
M072	1	WWII Ex WD headphones A BIT OF NOSTALGIA (Low imp)	£3.50	£1.20 p&p
M073	1	Koss Stereo Headphones on EAR. Lightweight beamforming ear-cups with contour cushions. 36 inches cord. 3 5mm Jack plug adaptor	£3.50	£1 p&p
M074	2	Tone dialing keypad use services that require DTMF tone signals for a rotary dial pulse phone. Size 90 x 55 x 12mm	£11	70p p&p
M075	1	100 yard roll of single screened quick splice cable. good quality British made	£4.50	£2 p&p
M076	1	100 yard 3 core 3 Amp cable coded brown blue and green yellow	£4.20	£2 p&p
M078	1	TV Aerial Amplifier housed in a neat plastic box with coax & output sockets. Mains separated. Double the output signal of your aerial	£6.50	£1.50 p&p
M079	1	Rechargeable fluorescent lantern. twin 9W switchable tubes. flashing beacon & search lamp. Built in lead acid battery & mains charger. Gives equivalent light output of 60watt lamp. size 24 x 8 x 17 cm weight 1.6 kg	£22.95	£2.65 p&p
M080	2	Solar powered wooden kits easy to build aeroplane with revolving propeller & an old time gramophone with musical chip. Supplied with glue. solar cells, electronic & pre-cut panels. One of each for	£12.00	£1.50 p&p
M081	1	Bump & Go Space Ship Kit with motor, wheels, PCB, wire & diagram. An ideal introduction for youngsters into the world of electronics & mechanics; goes all the way to the moon on two AA batteries	£8.95	£1 p&p
M082	1	Flotax personal organiser radio calculator this neat little unit simply fits inside your flotax so you can listen to AM radio with earphone or use it as a solar powered 8 digit calculator punched with 6 holes to fit all personal organisers. UK made under 1/2 price	£8.95	£1 p&p
M083	1	Video sender with this handy unit you can transmit the output of your home video, video camcorders or satellite equipment over the air to a receiving television within a range of 100 ft simply connect the video and audio output of your equipment into this unit and a 10-13.8 V dc power supply - extra £3.75	£11.75	£2 p&p
M084	1	Multiband radio. Listen to air traffic control, aircraft, radio, public utilities VHF 54.178MHz + CB 1-80 with built in squelch control	£17.95	£2 p&p
M085	2	AM, FM, LW Ross Push button radio with this neat unit you can easily tune in to 5 pre-set stations of your choice without fiddling or fuss runs off C cell batteries or 240V mains. Output 400mW volume and tone control for size 230 x 150 x 65 mm	£23.00	£3.65 p&p
M086	1	(As above)	£15.00	£2.80 p&p
M087	1	Amplifier Kit 30 + 30 watt an easy to build amplifier with a good specification. All components mount on single PCB punched and back-printed forease, case ready drilled finished in black vinyl with matching scale and knobs inputs for CD/AUX tape I, tape II, tuner & MC phono. Controls bass, treble Vol, balance, made & power switch. Featured project in Everday Electronics, April 1989 issue. reprint with kit	£40.00	£3.65 p&p

All items prefixed with MO number MAIL ORDER only or can only be collected by prior appointment from address below. Where p&p not stated please add £3.65 per order for postage and carton charge.

★ VHF RADIO TRANSMITTERS

★ 2 Watt transmitter kit, supplied with fibre glass pcb, all components, diagrams, ready for you to build 12-24V d.c. £8.50 + 70p p&p

★ Transmitters listed on this page are not licensable in the UK, users are liable for heavy fines by the DTI.

RADIO AND TV COMPONENTS ACTON LTD.

376 EDGWARE ROAD LONDON W2 1BN

MAIL ORDER TERMS, POSTAL ORDERS and/or CHEQUES with orders. Nett monthly accounts to Schools, Colleges and PLC only. ACCESS-VISA Phone orders between 9.30-12pm please. Overseas readers write for quote on delivery.

Phone: 071-723 3462 Fax: 071-723 3467

RADIO CODE READER/RE-PROGRAMMER

Here is an opportunity to turn your IBM or compatible PC into a highly profitable tool. Our code-reader, connected to your PC, will read the security codes on leading makes of car stereo's. You can also re-program new codes or restore corrupted data. There is no need to spend thousands of pounds on a decoder that will decode everything. With our system, you only pay for ONE decoder and whatever software modules you require, currently PHILIPS, FORD, GRUNDIG, BLAUPUNKT, with more on the way. You will have access to our lifetime telephone support service and we will keep you fully informed of all developments.

The cost of the code-reader is £200.00 + vat and the software is £195.00 per module + vat, with discounts available if you purchase more than one module.

All enquires to:

ELECTRONIC SOUND SYSTEMS

62 High Northgate, Darlington, Co. Durham.

Tel: 0325 484089 or Fax: 0325 465921

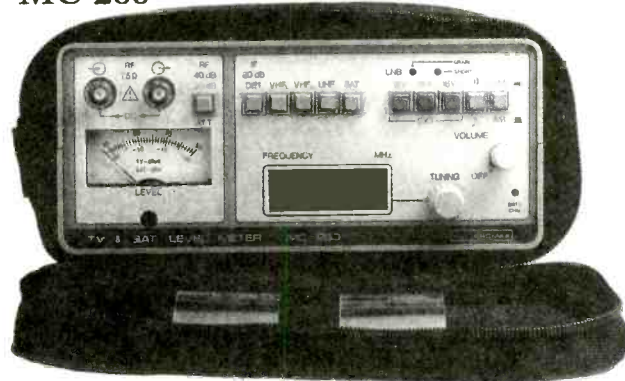
Mobile: 0860 221099.



PROMAX

ELECTRONIC TEST EQUIPMENT

TV & SATELLITE LEVEL METER MC-260



- ★ FM radio, TV and satellite all in one instrument
- ★ Frequency counter for setting satellite channel
- ★ Autocorrected level reading across all bands
- ★ High accuracy without the use of correction charts
- ★ Stable 12,15 & 18 volt LNB supply
- ★ Many system fault finding functions

For TV/FM, SAT TV, SMATV and Cable TV installers

ALBAN ELECTRONICS LIMITED

4U St Albans Enterprise Centre, Long Spring
Porters Wood, St Albans, Herts., AL3 6EN
Tel: 0727 832266 - Fax: 0727 810546

TUBES TUBES TUBES

14" Portable Tubes from only £19
 20" GEC/Hitachi only £29
 22" 20AX only £25
 20" KT3 only £39
 14" narrow-neck portable tubes only £39

12", 14", 20" mono only £5
 18", 19", 20" Delta only £5
 20", 22", 26" Redif. Mk III only £5
 22", 26" Thorn 9.6 only £5
 26" Finlandia (670ALB22) £5

Offers on quantities

Carriage and VAT extra

**Ring Irene or Jane,
 giving tube number,
 for price and availability**

**TRADE TV and VIDEO
 SERVICE AVAILABLE
 IN THE
 MIDLANDS
 AREA**



EXPRESS TV
 The Mill, Mill Lane,
 RUGELEY, Staffs WS15 2JW
Tel: 0889-577600
Fax: 0889-575600

YOU'VE SEEN SCART SPLITTER BOXES

They add the signals together putting one on top of the other, alter input and output signal levels and result in very poor quality.

YOU'VE SEEN MECHANICAL PUSH BUTTON SCART BOXES

You have to walk to them every time to use them (not so good if all your other equipment is remote controlled!), they don't allow you to view and record the same signal (if they claim to, the signals are added together like the SCART splitters) and mechanical switches become 'noisy' when the contacts start to tarnish, resulting in poor quality.

**NOW SEE THE ONLY
 REAL SOLUTION!**

periswitch

automatic audio/visual switching system

A fully automatic, electronic switching, active video and audio central SCART connector system requiring NO remote control and NO mechanical switches. Fit it, forget it and stay seated! all signals perfectly preserved and routed according to your choice.

DON'T WASTE YOUR MONEY ON 'SCART BOXES' WHICH CAN'T DO THE JOB

FORGET THE REST - FIT THE BEST

HOOPWELL LTD.

**UNIT B9, LARKFIELD TRADING ESTATE,
 LARKFIELD, MAIDSTONE, KENT. ME20 6SW**

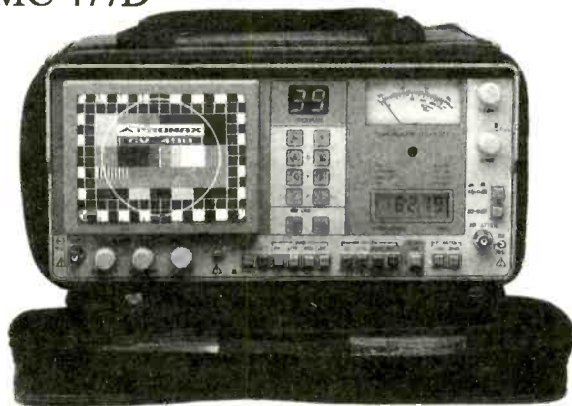
0622 - 882285



PROMAX

**ELECTRONIC
 TEST EQUIPMENT**

**TV/FM LEVEL METER
 MC-477D**



- Frequency range: 47 - 860 MHz
- Functions: TV, spectrum, analysis, synchronism
- Simultaneous display of picture and measured level
- 39 memory channels, set by user
- Autocorrected meter reading for higher accuracy

For TV/FM, SAT TV, SMATV and Cable TV installers

ALBAN ELECTRONICS LIMITED

4U St Albans Enterprise Centre, Long Spring
 Porters Wood, St Albans, Herts., AL3 6EN
 Tel: 0727 832266 - Fax: 0727 810546

PHONE TODAY

RENTAL FINANCE

TVs, VCRs, Satellite

**0903
821020**

STOCKING FINANCE

TVs, VCRs, Satellite

**0903
821020**

*Written Quotations Available
On Request*



Broughfame Limited
39A South Street
Tarring
WORTHING
West Sussex BN14 7LG
Fax: 0903 821194

Design your own satellite system!



You can with the help of this brilliant new program by DJ Stephenson

SATMASTER Version 4 Only £35 (plus post)

- Allows you to design a system and test its performance *before* you install it!
- Provides essential dish setup angles: polar and apex elevation for motorised systems, elevation, azimuth, polarisation offset, from *any* location in the World for *any* geo-satellite - now and in the future!
- Includes magnetic map and footprints for all popular satellites across Europe.
- Easy-to-use pop-up menu interface makes tedious tasks simple for everyone!
- Complete with User Instruction Manual!

requires IBM PC compatible with MS DOS 3.0 or higher, and 1 MB hard disk.

- Contains 20,000 word on-screen technical context-sensitive helpline, with fault-finding, cable specs and site survey guide.
- Calculates full link budget including dish size optimisation to ensure the best quality picture!

- Plots beamwidths and lobe patterns so you can judge potential interference from neighbouring satellites!
- Results and graphs can be output to file, screen or printer!

SATMASTER PRO Only £69 (plus post)

- Contains additional country/town files!
- Supports laser printers!
- Displays CCIR rain-climatic zone map!
- Takes account of circular or linear polarisation in link budget analysis!
- Lists polar and apex angles per town!
- Calculates rain fade margin automatically!

Avoid guesswork... order SATMASTER V4 or SATMASTER PRO today!
Swift Television Publications

17 Pittsfield, Cricklade, Swindon SN6 6AN Tel or Fax 0793 750620

Please send me program (3.5" disk).

SATMASTER V4 @ £35 tick choice (✓)

SATMASTER PRO @ £69

Postage £1 in UK, Europe add £2, Other add £4.

I enclose cheque/PO for £ _____ made payable to Swift Television Publications, or please debit my Access/Visa credit card,

No. _____

Expires: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____



W. TREE TRADE TVs

**Suppliers of ex-rental
TVs & Satellite systems.
New & B stock available.
Please ring us for details.**

**Portable colour TV's
working, good tubes £45 plus VAT
FST's from £40 plus VAT (not working)**

UNIT ONE, SUNSHINE MILLS, WORTLEY ROAD, LEEDS 12.

Telephone: 0532 638804 Fax: 0532 310275

ELECTRICAL ITEMS

**1000's of lines to be
Cleared**

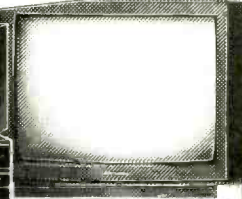
Bankrupt Stock

'B' Grade Specials

**Massive Far Eastern
Shipments**

**FREE DELIVERY
on Large Orders**

**TV's - VIDEO's -
PHONE's - FAX's -
Hi-Fi - ALL KITCHEN
APPLIANCES**



M. S. Products (UK)

Telephone: 061-773 0085

Fax: 061-773 0084

Stella House, Infant Street, Prestwich, Manchester. (5 mins from M62/M66)

ANGLIAN T.V. WHOLESALE

**EX-RENTAL TVs & VCRs
THORN AND GRANADA**

**NEW 'B' GRADE —
MAJOR BRANDS
STOCK CHANGING DAILY**

**Secondhand Guaranteed
TV, Video
Spares now available
BEST POSSIBLE PRICES
RING FOR DETAILS**

**NOW IN LARGER
PREMISES AT:
20 RASH'S GREEN
IND ESTATE
DEREHAM, NORFOLK
TELEPHONE
(0362) 691611**

CREWE WHOLESALE TV LTD.

WE HAVE SLASHED OUR PRICES.

WORKING TV'S FROM £15.00.
WORKING TEXT TV'S FROM £45.00
TAKE 5 £45.00 — TEXT ONLY £200.00.

LARGE SELECTION OF WORKING
AND UNTESTED STOCK.

WORKING TOP LOADING VIDEOS
FROM £40.00.

WORKING FRONT LOADING VIDEOS
FROM £50.00

WORKING LONG PLAYING STEREO
VIDEOS ONLY £70.00

AT LEAST 1 DELIVERY, TO EACH
UNIT, PER WEEK.

CALL NOW FOR NEW PRICE LIST.

CREWE — OPEN 9.30 TO 5.30
MONDAY-FRIDAY

TEL: 0270 582924.

★ UNTESTED STOCK ONLY ★

BLACKBURN — OPEN 10.00 TO 4.00

WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY

TEL: 0254 264489

CAMPION WHOLESALE LTD.

**QUALITY USED T.V.
& VIDEO**

COMPLETE RANGE OF
T.V.'s AND VIDEOS
MOST MAKES AND
MODELS AVAILABLE

STOCK ARRIVING DAILY

T.V.'s from £3.00
Videos from £30.00

Prices Ex-VAT

Free Delivery Service
to most areas of the U.K.

UNIT 80, BARRACKS ROAD,
SANDY LANE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE,
STOURPORT-ON-SEVERN,
WORCESTERSHIRE DY13 9QB

Just 10 Mins from
M5 Junct. 6 Worc's North

For your export
requirements contact us.

**0299-879642 or 879643
FAX: 0299 827984**

CENTRAL TV



EX-RENTAL

● SUPERB RANGE OF TV'S & VCR'S
● THORN & GRANADA

● DIRECT LOADS
AVAILABLE FROM SOURCE

EXPORT ENQUIRIES WELCOME

'B' GRADE

SWITCH ON TO TOP
QUALITY
BRANDS
OF

PHONE
TODAY

FOR BEST
RESULTS

ALL SIZES OF SCREEN TV AVAILABLE,

BOTH IN FAST TEXT &
DIGITAL NICAM STEREO

VIDEOS: CURRENT MODEL

Single, Twin Speed, Nicam S-VHS

CAMCORDER

C FORMAT, FULL SIZE, 8mm

MICROWAVES ● PORTABLE ● HIFI

● SATELLITE ● VIDEOCRYPT ●

PORTABLE £90

FULL REMOTE, BOXED

CTV LONDON

Eley Estate, Nobel Road

Edmonton N18

TEL: 081-807 4090

FAX: 081-884 1314

CENTRAL TV WHOLESALE

DISTRIBUTION LTD

369 Stratford Road, Sparkhill

Birmingham B11

TEL: 021-772 1591

FAX: 021-766 6383



TVS FROM ONLY £15

VCR FROM ONLY £25

JMG
ELECTRONICS
T.V.
AND
VIDEO
WHOLESALE

UNIT 13A, GORTRUSH IND. ESTATE
DERRY ROAD, OMAGH,
CO. TYRONE.
PHONE
(0662) 247911

N. Ireland
T.V.trade

BITEL SOUTH WALES

NEW DELIVERIES EVERY WEEK

COLOUR TV

PIL.....FROM £15 WORKING
R/C.....FROM £28 WORKING
TEXT.....FROM £40 WORKING
PORTABLE.....FROM £50 WORKING

VIDEO'S
FROM £45 UNTESTED
JVC HEADS £15
RANGE OF NEW HANDSETS

ALL PRICES INCLUSIVE OF VAT

Units 11 & 12,
Taverner Estate,
Caerleon, Newport,
Gwent.
(3 miles from M4, Junction 25)

Ring BOB on
0633 430040

AERIALS

FOR TV & FM RADIO, PLUS
1000's OF MASTS,
BRACKETS, LASHING KITS,
CLAMPS, PLUGS, CABLES,
OUTLETS, DIPLEXERS ETC.

AMPLIFIERS

FOR DISTRIBUTION
SYSTEMS AND DOMESTIC,
MAST HEAD OR SET BACK.
WE HAVE ONE OF THE
LARGEST RANGES,
AVAILABLE FROM STOCK

MAIN DISTRIBUTORS

FOR ANTIFERENCE,
LABGEAR, WOLSEY
FRINGE, TRIAX, TELEVES,
VOLEX-RAYDEX, KUBLER
+ MANY MORE

COASTAL AERIAL SUPPLIES

UNIT X2 Rudford Industrial Estate
Ford, Arundel

0903 723726

NO MINIMUM ORDER VALUE
NEXT DAY DELIVERY ACROSS UK
CARRIAGE FREE ON ORDERS £100+ 

PAYS-UT.V.

SUPPLIERS OF WORKING
NEW + USED
TV'S, VIDEOS,
MICROWAVES +
FRIDGE FREEZERS.

TEL: NOTTINGHAM 0602-500002
LONDON 081-568 8182

WE DELIVER ALL AREAS!



PHONE
FOR DETAILS



WESTERN TRADE SERVICES

TV & VIDEO WHOLESALE FOR DEVON & CORNWALL

EST 14 YEARS

SUPPLIERS OF EX-RENTAL TV & VIDEO'S
THORN & NON THORN
REMOTE TEXT & VIDEO HAND UNITS
SUPPLIED WHERE NECESSARY
ALL PRICES SUBJECT TO VAT

DELIVERIES THROUGHOUT DEVON
CORNWALL TWICE WEEKLY

GIVE US A RING OR CALL IN
2A BARTON HILL ROAD,
TORQUAY, DEVON
TEL: 0803 312222 FAX: 326767

BRITAIN'S LARGEST INDEPENDENT

PRESTON

439 Oakshott Place,
Walton Summit Ind. Estate
Preston (M6 Junc. 29)
Tel: 0772-312101



BIRMINGHAM

208 BROMFORD LANE
ERDINGTON,
BIRMINGHAM B24 8DL
Tel: 021-327 3273
Fax: 021-322 2011

TV & VIDEO WHOLESALERS

CARDIFF

Unit J7,
Colchester Trading Estate
Colchester Avenue
Cardiff CF3 7AP
Tel: 0222-471485

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
STOCK CLEARANCE
SALE AT OUR LONDON BRANCH ONLY

For details contact our manager on
081-961 5005

LONDON

The Royal London Estate,
Unit 2, 29-35 North Acton Rd
London NW10
Tel: 081-961 5005



**'B' GRADE
AVAILABLE
(BOXED)**



TELEVISIONS

A51F
59M5
68M5
78M5

VIDEOS

FV42L
FV41R
FV32L
FV31R



**CALL IN AT YOUR LOCAL BRANCH TODAY AND SEE OUR RANGE
OF EX-RENTAL AND B GRADE STOCK**

EXPORT ENQUIRIES WELCOME

FAX: 0274
722229

BESCO LTD
EX-RENTAL TV'S
& VIDEOS

NEW 'B' GRADE
MAJOR BRANDS
TV - VIDEO - HI-FI

PORTABLES ● FST's ● NICAM ● FASTEXT
SONY ● HITACHI ● PANASONIC ● ETC

Huge selections. Complete range.

All makes and models available.

★ New Stocks Every Day ★

VHS Video from £30
Television from £3

PICK YOUR OWN VHS VIDEOS
Lots of 10 £20.00 each

Working Ex-Equipment Panels

IF	Converger	Decoder	Line Scan	Power	Frame
T20/22X	5	14	18	17	14
T26 X	5	16	20	17	X
Philips G11 14.50	5	12	20	20	11.50

All prices include Postage & Packing. But + VAT

★ IF THE PANEL YOU REQUIRE IS NOT LISTED PLEASE ASK ★

BRADFORD

Springmill St
Manchester Rd, BD5 7RL
Ring Tony (0274) 308186

MANCHESTER

Unit 3, Mersey Rd.
North Ind Est., Failsworth
Ring David (061) 683 4612

Visa/Access welcome
Prices are Plus VAT & Based on Quantity
OPEN 6 DAYS 9-5

Special Summer Package Deals
on Returned TV & Videos

10 × Panasonic 21-24" FST	£425
17 × Ferguson 21-24" FST	£725
10 × ITT 25-28" FST	£595
6 × ITT 21" FST	£305
30 × Toshiba 21-28" FST	£1275
13 × Sanyo 21-28" FST	£555
27 × Mitsubishi 21-28" FST	£1150
14 × Goodmans 21" FST	£475
11 × Mitsubishi VHS Videos	£625
18 × Hitachi VHS Videos	£1000
20 × Akai VHS Videos	£1190

PLUS MANY MORE BARGAINS
TOO MANY TO MENTION

B GRADE STOCK RETURNED GOODS

14" Portables from	£70	14" Portables from	£25
20" Remote CTV from ..	£105	Front load VHS from	£50
20" Fastext from	£140	Midi Hi-Fi's from	£20
L/P VHS from	£120	21" CTVs from	£40
10" Mains/bat from	£90	Radio Cassettes from	£15

GOGGLEBOX TEL: LEEDS
DISCOUNT ELECTRICAL WAREHOUSE **0532-310359**
ASK FOR ROBERT

ALL ABOVE PRICES PLUS VAT AT 17.5%

TOP CLASS PANASONIC
WORKING TV & VIDEO

+
GOOD CHEAP STOCK
"OFF THE VAN"

Good Selection of Makes

Tom Poole or Brian Ricketts

061-273 2854/274 3409

Fax: 061-273 4486

REPO

DAISY WORKS,
345 STOCKPORT ROAD,
LONGSIGHT,
MANCHESTER

(A6 Between Stockport & Manchester almost opposite
police headquarters 3/4 mile from Apollo Theatre)

NIKKAI MULTISYSTEM TV IN STOCK

20", 21" FST (VHF/UHF) PAL, SECAM, NTSC



NEW (B) GRADED

PORTABLES ★ LATE FST
TOP BRANDS ALL BOXED

IN STOCK - TOO MANY TO LIST



EXCELLENT RANGE OF
EX-RENTAL TVs & VCRs THORN

REPAIR TAKEN ON SATELLITE RECEIVERS -
ANY MAKE - TRADE OR RETAIL WELCOME

WHY TRAVEL THE WHOLE COUNTRY?

RING OFF OR AMIN NOW ON DIRECT LINE TO
TV WAREHOUSE

LEEDS (0532) 444200 FAX: (0532) 425777

MOBILE PHONE - 0850 326866 - 24HRS

EXPORT ENQUIRIES WELCOME

SUPERVISION

UNIT 16, TOWER WORKS, 2 GLOBE ROAD, LEEDS LS11 5QG
OFF WATER LANE, NEAR HILTON HOTEL. EASY ACCESS FROM M1 & M62 (2 Mins)

COLOUR TRADE

ESTABLISHED 1973 - WHOLESALE ONLY

NEW 'B' GRADE

ONLY

MAJOR BRANDS
TV - VIDEO - HIFI
SATELLITE

LATEST
NICAM
FASTEXT
F.S.T.

COMPLETE BOXED - WITH STAND
- HANDSET - BOOK - ETC - MINT

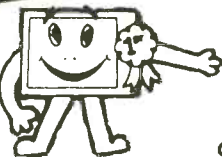
Phone 021-359 7020



FAX 021-359 6344



221-222 BRIDGE ST WEST, HOCKLEY,
BIRMINGHAM B19 2HU



CentreVision



Suppliers of Surplus TVs & Videos to the Trade

CENTREVISION HOUSE · SLOPER ROAD · LECKWITH · CARDIFF · CF1 8AB

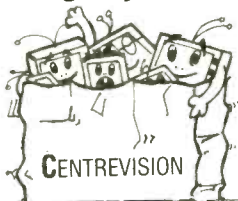
CentreVision is shining through this summer with unbeatable deals, we will endeavour to make your visit as pleasant as possible.

All wallet emptying will be performed with great precision with caffeine at hand and should be pain free.

We have excellent bench facilities so you may test all working stock before you buy, and if you have any problems ask our engineers who have a limited number of FREE fix it magic wands (only just past the sell-buy date).

Why waste your profits on new spares when we have plenty of second-hand spares available, Thrifty spares our mail order company can always save you money (that's if they get it right!).

If you're a professional then deal with the professionals with over 20 years experience of taking all your money in style.



Call in today and make a shining example

PHONE OUR WARMLINE NUMBER 0222 344754

PRICE LIST AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

LARGE AMOUNTS OF FST JUST ARRIVED

FRONT LOADER HITACHI VIDEO £35.00 + VAT

**THE LARGEST
WHOLESALE
IN WALES**

EXPORT ENQUIRIES WELCOME - ALL PRICES + VAT



C.T.V.

UNIT 5, THE PHOENIX BUILDING, RUSHOCK TRADING ESTATE,
DROITWICH ROAD, NEAR KIDDERMINSTER

TELEPHONE: 0299-251522 0836-585829/0860-809673 (24 HR)

**SUPPLIERS OF HIGH QUALITY EX-RENTAL
TELEVISIONS AND VIDEOS**

LARGE STOCKS ALWAYS AVAILABLE

ALL AT COMPETITIVE PRICES

**Also available: 'B' Grade Products, Audio, Microwaves
and Complete Range of Televisions and Videos**

OPEN: MON-FRI - 9.30-5.30

TEL: 0299-251522
0836-585829 / 0860-809673 (24 HR)

Fax: 0299-251543

EXPORT ENQUIRIES WELCOME



*Specialists in
Stock Liquidation*

*17 Princes Row
Birmingham B4 7QU*

*Tel: 021 333 4023
Fax: 021 333 4071*

TV WHOLESALE

★ QUALITY EX RENTAL TV's & VIDEOS ★

REGULAR SUPPLIES OF BRANDED NAMES OF
VIDEO'S & COLOUR TV'S AT VERY COMPETITIVE
PRICES

WORKING VIDEO'S TOP LOADERS FROM **£35.00**
FRONT LOADERS FROM **£45.00**
WORKING TV'S FROM **£20.00**
PORTABLES FROM **£40.00**

UNTESTED/NON WORKING
PRICES ON REQUEST

QTY DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE
EXPORT ENQUIRIES WELCOME

DIRECT LOADS CAN BE ARRANGED

5 minutes from Spaghetti Junction
2 minutes from City Centre

ALL PRICES + V.A.T.

ELECTRONICS WORLD

+ WIRELESS WORLD

**SIX PAGES
OF ELECTRONIC
CIRCUIT DESIGN
EVERY MONTH**

Subscribe today and save £10

Simply phone our credit card
hotline on 0789 200 255 for a
special subscription price of £20
for 12 issues*.

TELEPRICE

LIMITED

STOP PRESS
FARNBOROUGH
 moving end of JULY
 - phone for details
0252 540814

SWITCH ON!
TO QUALITY
EX-RENTAL TV
& VCR. PLEASE
RING FOR DETAILS

AINTREE

UNIT 2, RACECOURSE IND. EST.
 ORMSKIRK ROAD, AINTREE
 LIVERPOOL L9 5AL. TEL:
 051 530 1285 IAN MAC

LEEDS

UNIT F2, COPLEY HILL
 TRADING EST., WHITEHALL
 RD, LEEDS LS12 1HS. TEL:
 0532 422774 LES CORKE

AVONMOUTH

5 PORTVIEW ROAD
 AVONMOUTH, BRISTOL
 BS11 7LQ. TEL:
 0272 235093 KARLA REALE

GLASGOW

9 COLQUHOUN AVENUE
 HILLINGTON IND. EST.
 GLASGOW G52 4BN. TEL:
 041 883 2610 IAN DORAN

NOTTINGHAM

UNIT 8, ASCOT PARK
 INDUSTRIAL ESTATE
 SANDIACRE, NOTTINGHAM. TEL:
 0602 491385 JOHN JEYS

SUNDERLAND

9A/B, 94 CARRMERE RD
 LEECHMERE IND. EST.
 SUNDERLAND SR2 9TE. TEL:
 091 523 5554 BRIAN CADE

SOUTH LONDON

22 FRANTHORNE WAY,
 OFF RANDELSDOWN ROAD, BELLINGHAM,
 LONDON SE6 3BS. TEL:
 081-695 0877 JAMES MAYE

FARNBOROUGH

40 INVINCIBLE ROAD
 FARNBOROUGH
 HANTS GU14 7QU. TEL:
 0252 540814 COLIN GORDON

CLASSIFIED CLASSIFIED CLASSIFIED CLASSIFIED CLASSIFIED

WIZARD DISTRIBUTORS

MANCHESTER

TV VIDEO & SATELLITE SPARES

**LOEWE, SCHNEIDER,
FERGUSON, HITACHI**

and many other always in stock—

Video Heads for over 500 models
Service Manuals for over 200 models
Handsets for over 200 models
Spares for over 20 manufacturers

Plus huge range of IC's, Semiconductors
and Service Aids, etc.

WIZARD OFFER A GREAT DEAL

Counter open Monday-Friday 9am-4.45pm
Mail Order-Access/Visa
TRADE ONLY

**EMPRESS STREET WORKS,
EMPRESS STREET,
MANCHESTER M16 9EN.
Tel: 061-872 5438; 061-848 0060.**

ADMIN TELEVISION

PHILIPS KT3/K30, ITT, MK4, GEC,
TX 9/10, TOSHIBA, HITACHI,
PANASONIC BASICS £15 + VAT
(IN TENS)

MK3, GEC 21/10, DECCA 80/100
BASICS £10 + VAT
(IN TENS)

GII BASIC £12 TEXT £20 + VAT

ALL REMOTES £25 + VAT

ALL TEXT £35 + VAT

VIDEOS £20 AND £25 + VAT

ALL REMOTES WORKING £35
ALL TEXT WORKING £45
ALL BASICS WORKING £25

**PHONE: 051-548 4414
UNIT 'J', ADMIN BUILDINGS,
KIRKBY, LIVERPOOL L33 7JX**

FOR SALE

MICRO-LAB

PORTABLE INSTRUMENTS

Don't waste time hunting down shorts. Our SHORT LOCATOR will lead you right to it in seconds! Easy to use with meter display and tone to guide you. Send just £99.95 + £3 p&p + VAT: Total £120.96 each, quoting P28, to

COLEBOURN ELECTRONICS
Dept TV, 20 Folly Lane, Telephone
St Albans, AL3 5JT 0727 44785

**VIDEO RECORDERS
LOWEST PRICES EVER
Phone for Details
Bill Eades
081-543-5437**

SERVICE DATA

E.C.S. INDEXES!

THOUSANDS SOLD WORLDWIDE

Edition 8 of the complete indexes now published containing approx 7,500 Faults listed in 12 Years of Television magazine.

Indexes are alphabetically listed by Make, Model, Fault, Ref and are now available for just:

**£8.00 For Television & Satellite Faults
£8.00 For Video, Camcorder & CD Faults**

Or **£15.00** for both sets complete with chassis & similar model guides. *Please add £1.50 (UK), £3.00 (Overseas) to total order to cover post & packing.*

A LOW COST UPDATE SERVICE IS ALSO AVAILABLE. FULL DETAILS DESPATCHED WITH ORDER.

To secure your copy/s please make
Cheques/Postal Orders payable to:

E.C.S.

**31 Prenton Road West,
Prenton, Birkenhead,
Merseyside L42 9PY**

GERMAN SERVICE SHEET SPECIALISTS

Our connections are world-wide. We furnish any kind of German, European and Japanese service sheet or manual. Thousands of different sheets and manuals in stock. For any enquiries:

DÖNBERG ELECTRONICS
Schoolmasters House, Rannafast,
Co. Donegal, Republic of Ireland.
Phone: 075 48275

SATELLITE TV RECEPTION



DRAKE Receiver/Positioners from £299
Wideband Magnetic Polarizers from £29
60cm to 3m Antennas, polar mounts
11/12/24Ghz LNBs - feeds, accessories
SAE for Leaflets

KESH ELECTRICS LTD
Main Street, Kesh, Co Fermanagh BT93 1TF
Tel. 03656 31449 Fax. 39250 Tlx 747412

MISC

CAR RADIO CASSETTES

Do you turn away work on car radio cassettes because they have security codes.

Most radio cassettes can be decoded just by replacing the eeprom (memory IC) with that of a known code, or sending the original for re-coding.

All popular makes including Philips, Ford, Pioneer, Clarion, Grundig, Blaupunkt, Fisher, JVC, Alpine, Volvo, etc.

Send now for introductory offer, one of each of most popular eeproms + comprehensive eeprom/radio decoding list. Offer includes Philips X2402P; Ford MN010; Blaupunkt Boston CC20 9346: **£17.63**

Original eeprom re-coding service **£10.00**

Radio's sent for decoding from **£20.00**

Inc. of VAT and p&p
25% Discount to all account holders (conditional)

RADIO DECODING EQUIPMENT

We will beat any genuine written quotation for supplying a computer or software to decode radio cassettes, ring us first.

For technical or general information phone
0543 572 523 or 0831 806 574.

C.D.H. ELECTRONICS
3 Common Walk, Huntington,
Cannock, Staffs WS12 4NB
C.D.H. ELECTRONICS

WANTED

WANTED

Regular Supply of Ex-Rental
Colour TVs and Videos
Cash on Collection - Quick Service

Tel. 0742 312832



INFOTECH

76 CHURCH STREET, LARK HALL, LANARKSHIRE, ML9 1HE

Tel. (0698) 884585 Mon-Fri 8.30am-5.00pm

Tel. (0698) 883334 Outwith business hours

FAX available all day, Mon-Sat, on either line

Send a large SAE for your FREE catalogue of our other publications

Please add £1.50 on all orders under £25.00. Post FREE on all orders over 25.00

Now the sole MO distributors for the complete PCP range of inexpensive books, **GUARANTEED** - More than Value for Money

ELECTRONIC TEST EQUIPMENT HANDBOOK

by Steve Money £8.95

Inc. analog/digital meters, bridges, scopes, sig'gen's, counters, timers, freq meas.

ELECTRONIC POWER SUPPLY HANDBOOK

by Ian R Sinclair £7.95

Very modern, covers switch mode, DC-DC and all invert/convert

INTRODUCING DIGITAL AUDIO, 2nd edition

by Ian R Sinclair £6.95

Fabulous cover, with DCC, Mini-Disc, CD, DAT, Bistream, oversampling, etc.

PRACTICAL DIGITAL ELECTRONICS HANDBOOK

by Mike Tooley £6.95

Over 200pp of ref data and pract instruction - Brilliant on chips, logic gates, etc.

DIGITAL ELECTRONIC PROJECTS FOR BEGINNERS

by O Bishop £5.95

12 battery, 1 power, plus variations: from instrumentation to home security

DIGITAL LOGIC GATES AND FLIP-FLOPS

by Ian R Sinclair £8.95

What they do, How they work, Simplified Troubleshooting, Full theory and practice

ELECTRONIC PROJECTS FOR HOME SECURITY

by O Bishop £6.95

Full instructions - 25 projects; simple alarm to various multi-channel systems

ELECTRONICS BUILD AND LEARN, 2nd edition

by R A Penfold £5.95

Essential practical construction for oscillators, multivibrators, bistables, logic circuits

PC MUSIC HANDBOOK

by Heywood & Evan £8.95

IBM & Compatibles; From basics through sequencing, sampling and notation

ADVANCED MIDI - USER'S GUIDE

by R A Penfold £9.95

Explains messages, timecodes, non-MIDI sync. Signal routing, Troubleshooting

NEW EDITION OF TELEVISION SERVICING 1991-92

ISBN 0 951 3897 7 7

£85.00 3.5Kg Book

Akai CT 2569 CT 2579N CT 2869 CT 2870N CT 2879N CT 2158 CT 2160	Boots CTV1414 1414R 1010	Bush 2921T 3014 3114 3114T 3214S 4414	Fidelity CTV 920 Finlandia C51HZE D59HZ5 D66HZ5 Finlux 3815	Grundig CUC 4400 CUC 4401 CUC 4410 CUC 4500 CUC 4511 CUC 5300 CUC 5820 CUC 5835 CUC 5836 CUC 5860 CUC 5880 CUC 5891	Hitachi C 14 P218 C 1709 C 2118R C 2118T C 2519TG CPT 2196 CPT 2198 CPT 2578 CPT 2596 CPT 2598A Indiana 100MKJ & MKJI ITT/Nokia 219R 219T 29 2560 2860 3570 5551 5581 5581 UK 6351 6361 6387	ITT/Nokia 6856 2180 14AT 14VR 2185 2899N JVC AV 21F1EK AV 25F1EK AV N280EKT Logic 4698 Luxor 6392 Matsui 219R 219T 1420 1435 1435B 1435C 1440 1440B 1445 1455 1480B 1481	Matsui 1481B 2180 2180T 2185 2899N NEI 1451TX 1451TX 2131R 2131TX TX 21V1 TX 21V1 TX 25W2 TX 28A1 NT 20 TX 28W2 TX 28A1 TX 33A1G TX 1100G TX 1485 TX 1785 TX 1786 Orion P1408 P2004 P2005	Orion 14ARXG 14AT 14VR Osaki 3214S Osume 2070 2080 1021 1220 2331 2341 2554 2752 5560 5668 5668 5772 8840 8841 9666 9762 9763 9765 9768	Perdio P2101 P2102 STX 400 Philips 2070 2080 1021 1220 2331 2341 2554 2752 5560 5668 5668 5772 8840 8841 9666 9762 9763 9765 9768	Philips 9637 9763 9765 9768 2070 2080 1021 1220 2331 2341 2554 2752 5560 5668 5668 5772 8840 8841 9666 9762 9763 9765 9768	Saisho CT 146TX CT 148TXA FST 212TA Samsung C 1210R C 1212R C 1331Z C 15012Z C 15013T C 15332T C 15322Z 1240 1242 1528 2425 2525 2529 Saisho CM 215TS CM 2080T CT 141 CT 141B CT 143 CT 144B CT 144R	Sharp C 1430H C 1431H C 3720 DV 51083H DV 59083H DV 56083H SV 2588H Sony KV D2512 KV D2912 KV X2132 KV X2532 KV X2932 KV A2112 KV A2112U KV A2512 KV 2522 KV 2922 KV D3412U Ssang 0014 Yong 2805 DBT	Tatung A Series Toshiba 216 R9B 216 R9B2 216 T8B 216 T9B2 217 D9B 217 D9B2 219 R9B 219 T9B 258 T9B 329 T7B 1400 RBT 1400 RBW 1400 TBT 1400 TBW 2100 RBT 2100 TBT 2500 TBT 2501 TBZ 2505 DBT
---	--	--	---	--	---	--	--	---	--	--	--	---	--

VIDEO SERVICING 1989-90

Improved Layout, Larger Circuits & Colour Index

TWO 336 Page Volumes. ISBN 0 951 3897 2 6

£138.00

Aiwa VR900 HVG-55	Fidelity VR900 Finlux VR 3300 VR 3400 Goldstar GHV 12901 GHV 12961 GHSE 12961 VCP 43001	Hinari VXL-10 VXL-12 VXL-90 VCR-34H VTV-100 VTV-200 VTV-300	Logik VR945 VR950 VR955 VR960 VR960A	Nordmende VR-6182 V1005MI V1405U V1805K V1805U V1905K V4000 UNIC	Philips VR-6182 VR-6185 VR-6285 VR-6470 VR-6490 VR-6548 VR-6648 VR-6670 VR-6870	Saisho VRS 4400 VRS 5000 VRS 5000X VRS 5500 Salora SV-6800 SV-6900 SV-6910 SV-9900	Sharp VC-A131 VC-A140 VC-A170 VC-T310 VC-A510 VC-A501 VC-A502 VC-T510 VC-793 VC-D801 VC-A5011 D 805 Sony SLV 201 SLV 301 SLV 401 Tatung TVP1311 Telefunken VR-4935 VR-4945 Thompson V-610 V-630 Toshiba V-109B V-209B V-300B V-309B V-500B V-509B V-700H
Akai VS-422 VS-425 VS-427 VS-467 VS-485 VS-785 VS-767	Goodmans VTV 300 VCP 500 VCP 550 TX 1101 PX 1101 PX 2201 PX 2201	Hitachi F70 VT-S80E VT-522E VT-530E VT-580 VT-M622 VT-M630 VT-M640E	Matsui VCP 100 VX 730 VX 735 VX 735A VX 750 VX 755 VX 765 VX 770 VX 850 VX 866 VX 877	Orion VCR-LA1 VCR-L1 VR-MDT1 VCR-X1 VCR-M2 VCR-L2 VR-MDTT2 VCR-LAD2 VR-LD2 VR-LD3 VCR-M3 VCR-LD3 VCR-MD3	Pioneer VR-525 VR-727 Pye DV186 DV190 DV 286 DC 571	Samsung VI-710 VI-711 VI-730 VI-750 VI-770 VI-790 VI-970	Sanyo VHR-4150 VHR-4350 VHR-D4410 VHR-D4610 VHR-5200 VHR-5240 VHR-5350 VHR-D5450
Alba VCR-4000 x1 VCR-7000 VCR-8000	Amstrad VCR 8600 VCR 8700	Ingersol VR965 VR995	Mitsubishi HS-B11 HS-B21	Osaki VCR-34H	Saba VR-6420 VR-6640	Saisho VXL 12 VXL 12X VP 3000 VRS 3200 VR 3300X VR 3400 VR 3500 VR 3650 VR 3700 VR 3800 VR 3800 VRS 4000 VRS 4200	Sentra VX 8500LP VX 8600LP Sharp VC-A100 VC-A105 VC-A111
Baird VC141L	Bush VCR 3401 VCR 3451	ITT VR3619 VR-3719 VR-3749 VR-3769 VR-3908 VR-3929	Murphy VCR-7101	Osaki NV-L20 NV-L28 NV-J30 NV-J34	Saisho VRS 4200	Sanyo VHR-4150 VHR-4350 VHR-D4410 VHR-D4610 VHR-5200 VHR-5240 VHR-5350 VHR-D5450	Telefunken VR-4935 VR-4945 Thompson V-610 V-630 Toshiba V-109B V-209B V-300B V-309B V-500B V-509B V-700H
De Graaf WHS-FS4 WHS-FS4	Ferguson FV 20B FV 21R FV 22L FV 26D FV 30R FV 31R FV 32L FV 33H FV 37H VC 141L	Granada VHS-FY1 VHS-GY2 VHS-GY4 VHS-FS4	Grundig VS-500 VS-520 VS-540 VS-550 TVR-4500 TVR-4510 TVR-5510	Nikkai J1	Nordmende V1005M		Sentra VX 8500LP VX 8600LP Sharp VC-A100 VC-A105 VC-A111

£20.00 off

Video Servicing 1989-90

With this Voucher

While Stocks Last

or

Satellite Servicing

at HALF PRICE

When ordered with Video Servicing
1989-90

Save £27.50

Cut out and return coupon with order.

One voucher per set.

TV0792



VIDEO SERVICING 1987-88

* Only 25 left *

£65.00

TELEVISION SERVICING 1989-90

Covers 749 Models

£65.00

SATELLITE SERVICING 1987-90

Covers 127 Models. ISBN 0 9513897 6 9

£55.00

All Books Contain:

CIRCUIT DIAGRAMS. SCOPE
READINGS. VOLTAGE TABLES.
ESSENTIAL PART NUMBERS.
ALIGNMENTS & ADJUST-
MENTS. TROUBLE SHOOTING
GUIDES

If ordering several
books please ring
for credit details

POST, PACKING &
INSURANCE

1 Book £4.00

2 or more Books £7.00

Note: Video Servicing
1989-90 is a TWO volume
set and is therefore
£7.00 delivery.

Television Servicing 1987-88
If you would like a copy of this
edition please contact us as
we are considering a reprint.

Professionally Produced with the Manufacturers Full Co-operation

U-VIEW

29 Warmsworth Road, Doncaster,
South Yorkshire, England. DN4 0RP
Tel: 0302 855017 Fax: 0302 855267

Technical Information Services



76 CHURCH STREET, LARKHALL, LANARKSHIRE, ML9 1HE
 Tel. (0698) 884585 Mon-Fri 8.30am - 5.00pm or (0698) 883334 Outwith business hours
 FAX facility available all day on both lines



Write now with an SAE for your **FREE QUOTE, FREE CATALOGUE & FREE NEWSLETTERS**

ALL TRADE ADDRESSES GIVEN !FREE! JUST PHONE TO FIND THE NUMBER/ADDRESS YOU NEED

All orders under £25.00 please add £1.50 p&p.

All orders over £25.00 post free.

Some selected titles (Taken from over 150)

Practical TV Repairs 2nd Ed.	£16.95	S. Beeching's VCR Servicing	£30.00	Refrigeration Pocket Book	£14.95
CTV Servicing by G.King	£16.95	Servicing Mono TVs	£17.95	Spectrum Repair Guide	£5.00
The PAL System	£8.50	VHS Common Faults	£3.50	Spectrum Complete (+, 128k, etc)	£35.00
TV & Video Technology	£14.95	Microwave Servicing	£9.95	European Scrambling Sys's *New Sections	£29.00
TV & Video Engineers P/Book	£14.95	Hi-Fi Servicing Guide	£9.95	Data Reference Manual	£5.95
Practical Radio Service & Repair	£12.95	Servicing Audio & Hi-Fi	£25.00	Set of 6 Thorn's own Guides	£9.50

Order by phone
with Access/Visa

NOW, not only do we have EVERY service sheet ever produced, and

Fast
Delivery



THE WORLD'S LARGEST COLLECTION OF SERVICE MANUALS



but, we will supply circuits for any VCR we have for only £8.50 inc. p&p
 & WE ARE SOLE SUPPLIERS OF VARIOUS FAULT-FINDING GUIDES, REPAIR MANUALS & TECHNICAL MANUALS

INTEGRATED SYSTEMS from TIS

10 Giant binders of CTV Circuits, Schematics, PCB's, Waveforms, etc.	£265.00
7 Giant binders of VCR Circuits, Schematics, PCB's, Waveforms, etc. (Vol. 7 New)	£190.00
All 7 VCR binders PLUS 35 Fault-Finding Guides for ALL models covered (5 New F.F. Guides)	£230.00
The 10 CTV Binders PLUS over 20 CTV Repair Guides & lots, lots more	£399.00
All the CTV & Repair Guides PLUS VCR binders PLUS fault-finding, etc.	£599.00
TVAR complete, Two books & two binders of Giant diagrams (up to A2)	£89.45

SERVICE MANUALS



Available for most equipment, TV, Video, Audio, Test, Amateur Radio, Kitchen, Computers etc etc.
 We have probably the largest range of Service information available anywhere. If you need a manual give us a call.
 Originals or photostats supplied as available.



MAURITRON SERVICES (TV)

8 Cherry Tree Road, Chinnor, Oxfordshire, OX9 4QY.

Tel:- (0844) 351694. Fax:- (0844) 352554.

TV & VIDEO TRADE REFERENCE MANUALS

VIDEO RECORDER EQUIVALENTS.

Lists all known models & their alternatives.
 Fully Cross referenced for fast and easy use. Order MP143.

TELEVISION CHASSIS GUIDE

Listing thousands of Models (Colour & Mono) & their Chassis Designations.
 Enables you to identify any chassis for any TV from the model number. Order MP18.



The above 2 books contain the most **COMPREHENSIVE REFERENCE DATA** available anywhere for the TV & Video Trade. Order yours today.

Hundreds of other Technical and Repair books available. Send A5 size SAE for your **FREE** catalogue today.
 All orders please add £3.25 post & packing.

All prices shown now are
RETAIL including V.A.T.
**Pick & Match - and
deduct 10% Discount**

Choose a complete system of receiver, dish and LNB from the list below - add together and deduct your 10% discount.

STEREO SATELLITE RECEIVERS	
PACE SS 9200 IRD 90 chnl's. Videocrypt, 1 input, tunable sound.	£175.00 + pp
PACE SS 9210 90 chnl's. Videocrypt, 2 inputs, tunable sound	£216.00 + pp
PACE MRD 920 90 chnl's. Eurocrypt, 02 Mac, tunable sound	£352.00 + pp
PACE PRD 900 99 chnl's. Videocrypt, full band UHF synthesized modulator.	P.O.A.
PACE PRD 900 199 chnl's. Videocrypt, full band UHF synthesised modulator.	P.O.A.
PALCOM SL 650 IRD 189 chnl's. Videocrypt, 2 inputs, tunable sound	£365.00 + pp
AMSTRAD SRD 500 48 chnl's. Videocrypt, 1 input, tunable sound	£125.00 + pp
AMSTRAD SRD 600 99 chnl's. Videocrypt, 02 Mac, Eurocrypt, tunable sound	£399.00 + pp
ALLOY DISHES (Offset) - High quality aluminium dish packs with manufacturers' 10 Year anti-corrosion warranty	
55cm square mesh, black	£34.00 + pp
60cm oval mesh, black	£34.00 + pp
60cm solid black or light grey	£56.80 + pp
80cm oval mesh, black	£56.80 + pp
80cm solid black or light grey	£56.80 + pp
Pole adaptor for above	£9.40 + pp
100cm solid light grey 2" pole mount.	£95.00 + pp
NOTE: The above dishes can be motorised using the components at the end of this list	
SMC DISHES (Offset)	
120cm including pole mount - requires 3" pole	£180.00 + pp
Universal Wall/Floor Stand for above	£45.00 + pp
LNBs	
CONTINENTAL MICROWAVE 1.2dB LNB, 40mm collar, 10 GHz L.O.	£52.00 + pp
CONTINENTAL MICROWAVE 1.0dB LNB, 40mm collar, 10 GHz L.O.	£70.00 + pp
CONTINENTAL MICROWAVE TELECOM (KS) LNB, 23mm collar, 11.45 GHz L.O.	£70.00 + pp
CONTINENTAL MICROWAVE TWIN LNB, 40mm collar, 10.00 GHz L.O.	£80.00 + pp
CONTINENTAL MICROWAVE DUAL LNB, 40mm collar, 10.00 GHz L.O.	£80.00 + pp
4-Way Switch for Twin or Dual LNB.	£50.00 + pp
4-Way Switch (as above) with Terrestrial Aerial Input.	£58.00 + pp
POSITIONERS	
PACE MSP 990 - Fully integrates with above Pace receivers, operating under one remote control	£115.00 + pp
PALCOM POSITIONER	£180.00 + pp
(Both of the above positioners can also be used independently with receivers of other makes)	
MOTORISING YOUR DISH	
For our 80-100cm dish - the H to H Pole Mount and Motor	£95.00 + pp
For our 1.2m dish - 12" Jack	£65.00 + pp
or 18" Jack	£75.00 + pp

EST. **COMETO THE EXPERT** 1977

TRADE STOCK ALWAYS AVAILABLE
Trade Price List available on request to
Bona Fide TV Aerial & Satellite Dealers
J.W.HARDY
8-WAY AMPLIFIER

FOR TV DISTRIBUTION
Embodies all the features of a professional TV distribution network in a mini distribution box.
£34.95 | £2.50



J.W. HARDY

FOR SATELLITE + ACCESSORIES

SKY DECODERS
FROM £75.00
Choice of Thompsons or Pace
New and secondhand as available

PALCOM RECEIVERS
Have greatest ease of operation from one selector. Maximum features yet simple for adjustment!
SL 650 £289.00 + £6.50 pp
SL 650 IRD £379.00 + £6.50 pp
SL 4000 MK II £599.00 + £6.50 pp
GS 4 £630.00 + £6.50 pp

X-10 POWERMID
Uses your existing remote controls to control your TV, VCR, stereo, CD, Satellite or Cable Converter from anywhere in your house. Just plug in - no wires.
£58.00 - £2.50 pp DTI Approved

LITTLE EXTRA
Astra Euteisat and Astra Telecom from one fixed dish
Dish Adaptor Kits - from £18.00
(Note: second LNB required)

XTRA LINK
With a simple cable attachment, lets you control and view your Cable TV, VCR and Satellite reception from any room in the house.
£50.00 (incl. power supply)

REPLACEMENT REMOTE CONTROL
The intelligent range of universal remotes:
Fox 400E £34.95
Fox 600E £49.95
Fox 800E P.O.A.

THE SATELLITE BOOK EDITION No.2
by John Breeds
A complete guide to Satellite TV theory and practice £27.95

HIRSCHMANN YOUR PRESTIGE DEALER
Details on Application

TECHNICAL ADVICE AND CONSULTATION
● We provide full technical assistance and service back-up
● Dish Sharing
● Design Consultant
● Systems built around Telest, Wolsey and Global products
● Market Leaders in commercial grade products

Prices correct at time of going to press
021-784 8478
J.W. Hardy
231 Station Road, Stechford,
Birmingham B33 8BB

BARCLAYCARD VISA INFOTECH Access

76 CHURCH STREET, LARKHALL, LANARKSHIRE, ML9 1HE
Tel. (0698) 884585 Mon-Fri 8.30am-5.00pm
Tel. (0698) 883334 Outwith business hours
FAX available all day, Mon-Sat, on either line
Send a large SAE for your FREE catalogue of our other publications

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO GET ANY SERVICE MANUAL YOU WANTED FOR ONLY £7.50? WELL, NOW YOU CAN!

We are running a very special offer of any 20 manuals for only £150. No catches! Order as you need them (no time limit), or as one lot of all those expensive manuals you couldn't previously afford. No hidden expenses like post & packing (that's included in the price).
And if that isn't enough!
We are giving away our Data Reference Manual FREE with every subscription to this 20 manuals for £150 offer!

PRACTICAL GUIDE TO BUYING, SELLING, REPAIRING & SERVICING USED VCRs

Everything from choosing good ex-rentals to containing more stock faults for common ex-rentals than elsewhere at many times the cost.
Brilliant practical repair and service system.

PRACTICAL GUIDE TO BUYING, SELLING, REPAIRING & SERVICING USED TVs

More stock faults and servicing advice on TVs. Again containing more data than books at twice the price.

Only £9.95 each or £16.95 for both

SERVICE MANUALS

For most U.K. European, Far East & USA types of CTV - MTV - VCR - CAM - SAT - M/WAVE - AUDIO including "Unusuals" - and all at reasonable prices.

VCR circuits also available separately for most models
Some examples from thousands of VCR manuals available.
These are all complete at £10 each
PANASONIC NV-FS100, L20, NV-MC10, MC20, MC30, MS50,
ORION D500, D1000/1100, D1200, D1500, D2000,
FERGUSON FV11R, FV12L, FV13H, FV14T, FV20B, FV30B.
+ MANY OTHER BARGAINS

Write or telephone with your requirements.
All U.K. orders subject to £1 P&P. No VAT

D-TEC
PO BOX 1171, FERNDOWN, DORSET BH22 9YG.
Telephone: 0202 870656

SERVICING DOMESTIC VIDEO CASSETTE RECORDERS

A TEACHING PROGRAMME ON 7 SEPARATE VIDEOS WITH ILLUSTRATED BOOKLETS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR THE REPAIR OF VCR'S FOR INFO PACKAGE SEND COUPON TO:
TELSAT COMMUNICATIONS LTD
16 PARK ROAD, ST ANNES,
LANCS FY8 1QX.
0253 712011

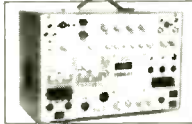


PLEASE SEND ME INFO PACK ON
SERVICING DOMESTIC VCR'S
NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
POST CODE _____

SOFTWARE

User Friendly
SOFTWARE
 FOR IBM COMPATIBLE PC'S RUNNING ON MSDOS
FOR THE BUSY TV/VCR SHOP/SERVICE DEPT
 RECEIPT/INVOICE PROGRAM £89 + VAT + P&P
**OUR TV/VCR RENTAL PROGRAMME
 IS NOW AVAILABLE**
 Phone or write for details:
TBR Software 369 Chepstow Road
 Newport, Gwent. NP9 8HJ
 Tel. 0633 282556

RELAY
 OMAGH LTD COMPUTER SOFTWARE
**DO YOU RENT TELEVISIONS?
 DO YOU STILL USE A CARD SYSTEM?
 DO YOU FIND IT DIFFICULT TO KNOW YOUR ARREARS TOTAL AT ANY GIVEN TIME?**
 If you do then we recommend our computer TV and Video Rental package. This package includes
 * automatic updating of each customer's record
 * alphabetical print-out of each customer's arrears and payments missed
 * total arrears immediately available
 * easy to use and operate.
NEW HIRE PURCHASE PROGRAMME NOW AVAILABLE AS WELL.
 These programmes operate on all IBM compatibles running under MS-DOS. Free demonstration discs available.
CONTACT WILLIAM J THOMPSON
 Donaghie Post Office
 Beragh Co. Tyrone
 Telephone Beragh 58214 (0662 7)

TEST EQUIPMENT

MÜTER · AT2 · BMR 95 · BMR 700
 AT 2, Audi-Multi-Tester, 16 test-circuits for loudspeakers, tuners, amplifiers, headphones, tape recorders, mikes, boosters.

 car radios, CD-players; measurement of millivolt, drift, watt, performance: with generator, radio, signal tracer/injector, 13 volt supply etc.

 BMR 95

 BMR 700
Regenerating Computers & Measurers for CRT's with cathode protection, gas clean-up aid, short repair; exhausted CRT's becomes bright and sharp again even if all other machines do not succeed.
 United Kingdom: P & E Services, Llandudno, Tel. (0492) 549246, Fax 547880.
 Ireland: Dönberg Electronics, Ranafast, Co. Donegal, Tel./Fax (0 75) 4 82 75
 New Zealand: TDON Ltd., Onehunga, Auckland, Tel. 6 68-9 07, Fax 6 68-4 99.
 Germany: Ulrich Müter, Oer-Erkenschwick, Fax (0 23 68) 5 70 17.

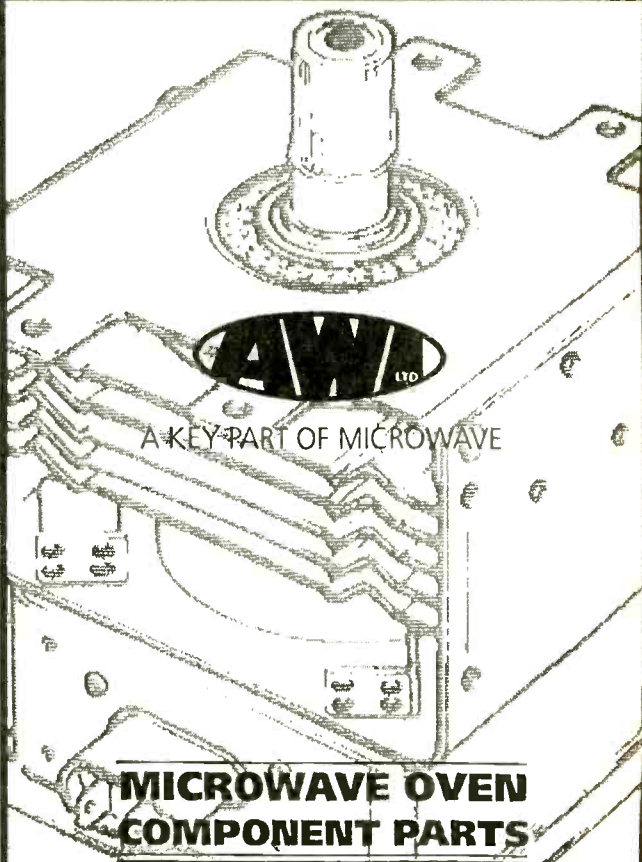
P & E SERVICES
**SUPPLIERS OF ALL MÜTER
 REPAIR AND TEST EQUIPMENT.**
 BMR 95 TUBE REGENERATOR
 £446 + VAT
 (INC SIX ADAPTORS)
 BMR 700 TUBE REGENERATOR
 £367 + VAT
 (INC SIX ADAPTORS)
 AT2 AUDIO SERVICING UNIT
 £447 + VAT
ASK FOR FREE BROCHURE
 34 GLAN-Y-MOR ROAD, PENRHYN BAY,
 LLANDUDNO, GWYNEDD LL30 3PF.
 TEL: 0492 549246 FAX: 0492 547880

TRAINING
 Looking for a home study course, in the fundamentals of electronics? Whether you are a beginner, or an old hand requiring a refresher, the
**DIRECT PERSONAL
 LEARNING**
 course, could be right for you. Contact:
 K. Sparrow etc... 11 Claydon Green
 Whitchurch BRISTOL Avon BS14 0NG
 Telephone: (0275) 835669

TUBES

REBUILT CRTs
VDU - MONITOR - TV
Image Burn-In Removed From Screen Phosphors
B.S.I. Certification
N.G.T. ELECTRONICS LTD.
 120, Selhurst Road, London SE25 6LL
PHONE: 081-771 3535
Britain's Oldest Established Tube Rebuilder

MISCELLANEOUS



A KEY PART OF MICROWAVE
**MICROWAVE OVEN
 COMPONENT PARTS**
 AWI Ltd., Samuel Whites Estate, Medina Road,
 Cowes, Isle of Wight PO31 7LP
 Tel: (0983) 296121. Telex: 86736 Sotex G. Fax: (0983) 296122.

**WHY BUY
 SECONDHAND GOODS**
 Double your profits with brand new goods.
 Please state your requirements. Bulk buyer only
 Write to:
**M.E., PO Box 2739
 West Bromwich,
 West Midlands B70 6EU**

AERIAL WORK
 Competent firm of Aerial/Satellite Engineers. Require further work for expansion, good rates of commission paid and fair charges to customers, will cover 20 miles from Romford.
Phone John 0708 348086.

CLASSIFIED CLASSIFIED CLASSIFIED CLASSIFIED CLASSIFIED

LINEAGE

ASSORTED VACUUM pumps for sale. 4 leybold 56P type 2 Gen evcc rotary piston, 1 speedvac mercury diffusion, 3 oil diffusion. Ring 081 800 3226, weekends.

AVO MULTIMETER Model 8, £45.00. 500 volt megers £30.00. Prices plus VAT and p & p. Send SAE for lists of Surplus Instruments & Scopes etc. A. C. Electronics, 17 Apleton Grove, Leeds LS9 9EN Tel: 0532 496048.

BUSINESS FOR sale Merseyside established 7 yrs. showroom, large workshop, 2 storerooms, fully modernised, living accom, freehold £75,000 + S.A.V. enquires to Television Ad P.O. Box 11, Liverpool L17 9RL.

EX-EQUIPMENT television and video spares available. Panels, lopt, tuners, handsets etc. J.H. Services. 0243 820311.

EX DEMONSTRATION testgear. C.E.C. 7a CRT tester/reactivators £140 Semaht Satellite Meters rechargeable type reviewed in Television June 1991. £195. UHF/band 2 meters £120. Satellite receivers from £30. Capener Electronics. 0296 682030 anytime.

WANTED: B & K tube rejuvenator. Pref model 490. Also quantity VHF varicap tuners, single sweep thru B1, B3, plus S Band. Also quantity old Grundig tuning pot units for B7100 (CUC 120). Simon: 010 353-1-973751. 9-6pm.

HITACHI MULTISYSTEM (CMT 2091) and Japanese basic Televisions wanted working or "complete" large or small quantities. Telephone Simon (0922) 694759 (evenings) or Mr Khalifa, Dubai (0109714) 369848.

BUSINESS FOR sale. Established, profitable, TV, video and audio sales and service business in beautiful Harrogate, North Yorkshire. In busy area. Immaculate shop with excellent modern workshop facilities. Three year renewable lease. Very low rent. £22,000 plus stock at valuation. Telephone (0423) 521689.

BUSINESS KENT coast. Electronics components, accessories. TV/video repairs good earner. Genuine reason for sale. Accommodation. Leasehold £20,000 + S.A.V. 0304 202056.

C.R.T. FOR oscilloscopes, monitors etc. Regret no domestic TV types. Possibly biggest stock of scope types in England! Big stocks of DG7-5/6/32, M31-184W etc. Billington Export, Unit F2, Oakdene Industrial Estate, West Sussex, RH13 8AZ. Callers strictly by appointment only. Phone 0403 865105. Fax 0403 856106. Telex 923492 TRAG.

ILLNESS FORCES sale, television, video sales, rentals, repairs business, Derbyshire. Well established. Leasehold premises, low rental. £15,000 o.n.o. S.A.V. optional Telephone 0773 811124.

UCHRE MILL Technical Services. Grundig TV spares for most models to 1985, fast, friendly, helpful, sensible prices. Gt Lype Farm, Charlton, Nr Malmesbury, Wilts SN16 9DR. Tel. 0785 814643.

SKY VIDEOCRYPT decoder service sheets with colour decoding tracks £15. Amstrad satellite tuncable audio £18. E.M.O. Ramsbottom, Lancashire. BL0 9AG 0706 823036.

SONY CONDUCTORS 100 assorted Japanese transmitter chips diodes £5.50 per bag incl. Morris. 0782 212695.

STUDY ELECTRONICS on the BBC Micro. An interactive approach to learning. Four program titles available. 'Introduction to Electronics Principles', 'Electronics Mathematics', 'Digital Techniques' and now programming for Electronics'. Programs include theory, examples, self test questions, formulae, charts and circuit diagrams. User inputs calculated outputs. £29.05 each + £2.00 p & p. Cheque or postal order to E.P.T. Educational Software, Pump House, Lockram Lane Witham, Essex CM8 2BJ. Please state BBC 'B' or Master series and disc size.

WANTED: KT66, KT88, PX4 PX25 transmitters etc. If possible send a written list. Prompt reply and payment Billington Export, Unit F2, Oakdene Industrial Estate, Near Horsham, West Sussex RH13 8AZ. Callers strictly by appointment only. Phone: 0403 865105. Fax 0403 856106. Telex 923492 TRAG.

VALVES HUGE stocks, credit cards accepted. Full 45 page value catalogue now available. £2.00 post paid VVC, 20a Cosham Street, Mangotsfield, Bristol BS17 3EN. Telephone 0282 56472 (24hrs) Fax 0272 575442 (24hrs).

TELEVISION BUSINESS & property with 1 acre land on Orkney Mainland. Details from G & M Grieve, Makerhouse, Dounby, Orkney, KW17 2HS. Tel 085 677 245 evenings.

USED BLUE cap Marconi 1.8db LNB but in working order £14 plus p & p. Phone 081 902 5447.

PRIVATE RETAILER has excellent part exchange colour televisions and videos to clear. Tel 0494 814317.

METERS RECONDITIONED. £1.00 slot meters for TV rental £6.95. 50p slot £2.95 Audiotech Tel 0790 3245.

TRANSFORMERS

TV LINE OUTPUT TRANSFORMERS

PHONE 081-948 3702 FAX: 081-332 0583

ALBA . AMSTRAD . BUSH . DECCA . DORIC . BLAUPUNKT . FERGUSON . FIDELITY . GEC . GRUNDIG . GRANADA . HITACHI . HINARI . INDESIT . ITT . KIMARA . NIKKAI . MATSUI . MURPHY . OSAKI . NORDMENDE . LOEWE-OPTA . REDIFFUSION PYE . PHILIPS . SANYO . SAISHO . SHARP . SONY . SOLOVOX . SUSUMU . TANDBURG . TELEFUNKEN . THORN . TRIUMPH . HUANYU . GOLDSTAR . BINATONE .

FULL RANGE OF KONIG: VIDEO HEADS, BELT KITS, IDLERS, PINCH ROLLERS, TENSION BANDS. LARGE RANGE OF REMOTE CONTROLS IN STOCK

TIDMAN MAIL ORDER LTD. 236 SANDYCOMBE ROAD. RICHMOND . SURREY . TW9 2EQ. Mon-Fri 9 am to 12.30 pm & 1.30-4.30 pm Sat 10 am to 12 noon

Approx. 1 mile from Kew Bridge.

AERIALS

HIGH GAIN TV AERIALS

Superb 10 element 'X' antenna. Very rugged construction, 16dB gain, 6 bar reflector, PCB connector & heavy duty clamp. £37.95 incl. postage.

Send for spec sheet to: TVM, 52 St Andrews Street, Northampton NN1 2HY. Tel: (0604) 37769

ACCESS + VISA WELCOME

REPAIRS

LOEWE OPTA TV REPAIRS FAST EFFICIENT SERVICE

Factory Trained Engineers Competitive Rates

MARWETECH, Unit A7B, Aladdin Workshop, 426 Longdrive, Greenford, Middlesex UB6 8UH.

Tel: 081-575 0434 Fax: 081-575 0468

INDEX TO ADVERTISERS

Aerial Techniques	729	ICS-Interext Group Ltd	747
Anglian TV Wholesale	753	JJ Components	735
AZ Electric	742 & 743	JMG	754
8K Electronics	708	K.C.	758
Besco Ltd	756	Manor Supplies	711
Bitel	754	Marapel	742
Broughlame Ltd	752	MS Products	752
Bull Electrical	744	Network Training	707
Campion	753	Omega	704
Central TV Wholesale Distribution Ltd	753	Paul Richards Books	727
Centrevision	757	Paws-UTV	754
Coastal TV	754	Promax Instruments	745, 747, 749, 751
Colourtrade of Birmingham	757	PV Tubes	703
Crews TV Wholesale	753	Radio & TV Comp	719
CTV	758	Repo TV	756
Display Electronics Ltd	750	PV Tubes	703
East Cornwall Components	777	Satellite Solutions (UK) Ltd	699
East London Components	703	Serdz Components	768, IBC & OBC
Economic Devices	732-733	Stewart of Reading	742
EIC Satellite Services	701	Supervision	757
Electronic Consultant Services	703	Swift Television Publications	752
Electronic Sound Systems	749	T Powell	745
Electronics World	758	Teleprice Ltd	759
Euras International Ltd	707	Vino Sonic Electronics	747
Express TV Supplies	751	Vista Electronics	745
GGL Components	702	W Tree Trade Warehouse	752
Gogginbox	756	Wellview	707
Grandia Ltd	694 & 698	Western Trade Services	754
Hoopwell Ltd	751	Willow Vale Electronics	IFC
HRS Electronics plc	741	Windows User	746
Hussam Central TV Ltd	755		

TELEVISION CLASSIFIED LINEAGE

advertisements can be submitted on this coupon with a cheque made payable to Reed Business Publishing. Television Classified Room L327, Quadrant House, The Quadrant, Sutton, Surrey SM2 5AS. The charge is £12.00 per line plus 17½% (minimum £24.00 + VAT.)

For Issue Dated or next available. Total insertions Total of Cheque £.....
 Name Address
 Post Code Tel Num Signature



Debit my Access/
Visa Card (delete)



--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Expiry Date VAT Reg. No. 238 8937 10

TX90 REMOTE PANEL IC TMS1000 AND M293 £12 LNB's WITH FEED HORN AND POLARIZER 10GHz to 12.75GHz 1.5 db s.n. £35. SEND FOR DATA.		SATELLITE RECEIVERS 19 C.H. with Hand Set £40 32 C.H. Postage £5.00		SEND FOR DATA D2 MAC SATELLITE RECEIVER. LNB AND DISH. £50 (£10 Post)	
SATELLITE RECEIVERS — New Ferguson BSB Chassis with Tuner, Modulator etc £10 Hand Set £1.50 £4 Post		60cm SATELLITE DISH £35 Postage £5.00		Replaces 90% of Philips Handsets Philips Video RTV Handset with LCD display AV5661 AV5659 £6	
SMALL SATELLITE TUNERS (950 to 1750 MHz, L.F. frequency 400MHz)..... £9.00 each VHF/UHF S.BAND TUNER..... £3.00 NEW PLASTIC CASE 32 C.H. SAT. RECEIVER (no hand set)..... £35 (Post £5) NEW METAL CASE SAT. RECEIVER 32 C.H. WITH DOLBY B & CHANNEL C (no hand set)..... £40 DAM MAINS CHASSIS AMSTRAD MONITOR C..... £4.00 UNIVERSAL TRIPLER NEW TYPE..... £4.00 VIDEO LEADS..... 80p AMSTRAD Line O.P. Transistors with Diode 2SD453..... £1.00 BU208A..... £1.00 VIDEO LAMPS, Long Lead..... 24p HITACHI & GEC FRAME, Thick Film..... £6.00 FIDELITY SPLIT DIODE..... £20 ICC2015BE..... £10 FCC2215BE..... £10 K30 FRONT PANEL (H.L. TEXT TYPE)..... £5.00 NEW G11 LINE OF PANEL..... £8.00 PHILIPS YEARS AHEAD THE CREDIT CARD CALCULATOR Solar Powered..... £3.75 NEW PHILIPS SBC 1833 Solar & Battery Powered Calculator..... £8.00 THORN PANEL TX9 REC & REMOTE PANELS with Mains Trans..... £5.00 TX9 REC & REMOTE PANELS with Mains Trans..... £5.00 TX100 FRONT PANEL..... £3.00 TX100 RE BASE ON PANEL..... £2.00 TX9IF..... £2.00 THORN PANEL NoS15-35A, 548.02, 564.01, 509/102, 515/173, 508/161..... £5.00 THORN TX STEREO SOUND O.P. PANEL (I.C. TX7227P)..... £1.00 THORN VIDEO AERIAL AMP (M4957401)..... £6.00 ULTRASONIC TRANSDUCER..... 15p IN LINE 12-35 VOLT SUPPLY FOR 4.000 MRD..... 20p		CAMCORDER SANYO NP22 6v 1300mah Rechargeable Battery Pack £6.00		SATELLITE UNIT Video Out/Audio Out, L and R Polariser ± 35MVA and Decoder Socket £15 in case	
FERGUSON BSB SATELLITE RECEIVERS We can convert all Ferguson BSB 1 Satellite Receivers to the ASTRA system for £50. Or can supply module, size 2" by 1 1/2" which will easily mount inside receiver. Also can convert BSB to 2D MAC. Only Ferguson receiver.		Philips Stereo Headphones No. SBC 3140 £4.00 144MHz Changed Over Relay Aerial 50p		PHILIPS Desk Calculator £7.00 PHILIPS UNIVERSAL BATTERY TESTER SBC 1695 £5.00 GEC 20AX POWER SUPPLY Mark 1 and 2 £10.00 ONE L.C. K35 Decoder £10.00 REGULATED PWR. SUP. 500MA 1.5V-12V DC switched + & - £5.00 ITT Tuner & IF. Can HI-module 2 UK £20.10 K3-K30 IF £5.00 STR5481 £5.00 TX100 Push Button Unit 16 CH £10.00 WIRE PIPE stud detector £4.00 MICROWAVE leak detector £4.00 WIRE & PIPE detector £4.00	
NICAM UNIT — Ferguson made for ICCS Chassis — home market and export — has circuit diagram and can be converted to most sets — £20.		TX9-TX100 FRONT PANEL £5 WITH REMOTE £10 NON REMOTE 8 push button £10		STEREO HEADPHONES £1.00 THORN RECEIVER PANEL TX100 £6.00 STEREO K40 SOUND O.P. PANELS £2.50 STEREO SOLAR RADIO VHF AND MW £13.00 COST £25 PHILIPS METERS £11	
LARGE Foas Pots. Fits Pye, GEC, ITT, Decca 75p		PHILIPS NEW TYPE U/V HANDSET £10		CAR ADAPTOR fused 3 Amp Long Lead with plug for TV etc 25p 500 off. 15p Each	
BSB SAT/REC HALF COMPLETED. CHASSIS, TUNER AND MOD £5 + Post £3		GLASS BE ADS Diodes 20K/1.2A 50 for £1.00		TELEPHONE EXT. LEAD 3 Metre 30p LEAD SCART TO D PLUG 50p BRIDGES RECTIFIER Mixed BR.31 to 34 2 Amp to 5 Amp 8 for £1.00 TX90 MOD 3744B The Sweep Tuning System TX9139/001 £12.00 T6070V TX9 Transistor £1.00 1 METRE SCART LEAD £1.00 VIDEO SCART TO SCART ALL PIN. LONG LEAD £3.00 ALL PINS TX90 TX925 TX100 Mains Switch with Stand-by and Lead 50p each UNIVERSAL VIDEO-RECORD KIT STEREO This kit may also be used to connect a mono to stereo. £10.	
MIXED TOSHIBA HANDSETS FIVE FOR £12		SECURITY FLASHING LIGHT WITH RED & AMBER LENSES & MAGNETIC FACILITIES £1.00 EACH		DECODER C-CAM PHILIP MADE FOR K40 CHASSIS IC No. TDA 3590 £5.00 FIDELITY NON TEXT HAND SET for 3000 chassis, 8 button £5.00 56420A 20A/600V THYRISTOR £1.75 LCD VIDEO AMSTRAD HANDSET for models 1990 £8 each ITT BG2032-642A TRIPLER £5.00 ITT/NOKIA RF IF MODULE £20 COAX PLUG TO PHONO LEADS £1 SCART TO SCART LEAD £1 TV GAMES AERIAL VIDEO COMBINER SWITCH £1.50 MIXED 20 BRIDGE RECTIFIERS (1Amp to 5 Amp) £1.50	
Have you got Acid Rain in your garden? PH METER Video Power Supply for Amstrad. Last year model. Mains Transformer for Amstrad Video £5.00 £1.50 25p (£1 post)		DAMAGED AMSTRAD 1640 Colour Monitor Chassis £6 + post £3		PHILIPS YEARS AHEAD THE CREDIT CARD CALCULATOR Solar Powered £3.75 NEW PHILIPS SBC 1833 Solar & Battery Powered Calculator £8.00 THORN PANEL TX9 REC & REMOTE PANELS with Mains Trans £5.00 TX9 REC & REMOTE PANELS with Mains Trans £5.00 TX100 FRONT PANEL £3.00 TX100 RE BASE ON PANEL £2.00 TX9IF £2.00 THORN PANEL NoS15-35A, 548.02, 564.01, 509/102, 515/173, 508/161 £5.00 THORN TX STEREO SOUND O.P. PANEL (I.C. TX7227P) £1.00 THORN VIDEO AERIAL AMP (M4957401) £6.00 ULTRASONIC TRANSDUCER 15p IN LINE 12-35 VOLT SUPPLY FOR 4.000 MRD 20p	
LATEST VIDEO For Latest Philips, GEC, Pye and Hitachi. Front panel with memory chip and bush button and pots and LEDs £6.00 NEW		TX100 FRONT PANEL £5 8 Button		FIT MOST SETS New Thorm Hand Set Type u/v (£10)	
FERGUSON CHASSIS ICC5 TX98 TX99 £20 £20 £20		100 Off 20p Each S.W. Filters 1 Off 50p Each		TRANSFORMERS 2435701 £10 2435012 £10 FERGUSON 4700/3481 £10	
MAINS TRANSFORMER 240v in 20v/5v £1.00 GREEN FLAT. NEC. LEDs 3p each 100 for 12		SW 153 SW 154 SW 514 SW 505C SX 153 SW 270 SW 301 SW 503 SW 203 SW 185A SW 505 SW 146 SW 453 SW 174A SW 334 SW 179 SW 514 SY 179 SY 153 SY 178 SY 701 SY 177 SY 453 SY 630 SY 1453 SY 260 SY 2153		BRIDGE RECTIFIERS 10 FOR £1.00 4 Amp for Video Power Supply	
VIDEO MOTORS 5 Mixed AMSTRAD £2.50 SATELLITE TUNER UNIT 2427611 with Base Band, Video Out £15.00 TX100 8 push button unit THORN TX90 Remote chassis 11" Complete £8.00 £12.00 MSHIFC 899 £7.72		TX90 TO TX100 8 BUTTON UNIT £4.00		SHARP MSHIFC 899 £10 EACH FIT MOST SETS New Thorm Hand Set Type u/v (£10) VIDEO MOTOR for VHS type VCR/DODS £8.00 AMP TUNER IF for VHS Hitachi & GEC £9.00	
243752 £20 243984 2432071 2432001 2435016 2433852 2434393 2432311 FM28A DS1858/243 IF B3069D K41 (O.P.T.) K35 L.O.P.T. K40 243452 2432984		SPLIT-DIODE DSF 18IN243 IF B303AD £10.00 MSH11FBW27 £12.00 DSF186N243 £10.00 TOSHIBA DSF186N243 £10 IFB3-4023AD £10 CP90 Philips Split Diode £10.00		2692129/01 37051 CTK Loop 36212 36672 36362 36482 36761 36831 36832 36833 3692129 3692279	
SATELLITE TUNER 950MHz-1750MHz £5.00 TTT PANEL CMC 301 CMC 113 CMC 302 CMC 115 CMC 303 CMC 904 £5.00 VIDEO LEADS 4 for £1 SEL ITT HB254P/2 Front Panel £15.00 DECCA — GEC — ITT 6 push button £5.00		BURGLAR ALARM £2.00 with siren 9 VOLT RELAYS 35p 5V-12V-24V-48V Large and Small 25 Way Plug and Socket with Case £1.50		KIKUSYI 20 MHz OSCILLOSCOPE (5020) £200 40 MHz OSCILLOSCOPE (5042) £250 60 MHz OSCILLOSCOPE (7060A) £1000 DELAY PROGRAMMABLE 12V1 AMP POWER SUPPLY WITH MAINS PLUG £4 PHILIPS HALOGEN LIGHT. NEW. NO ON OFF SWITCH. NO HANDLE WITH CORD. BLACK IN COLOUR £5 PHILIPS HAND SET G11 TEXT IN RED G11 HAND SET ULTRASONIC £10 G11 TEXT IN RED HAND SET £12.50 G11 HAND SET ULTRASONIC £10 PHILIPS RC5 EASY CONTROL £10 TRV3 Amstrad Cassette Mechanisms. New with 2 motors and sound head. £15 TVR3 Power Supply. £5. Amstrad Television Tuner UHF. Small. Fits most Amstrads. £6.	
SENDZ SEE BACK PAGE		PHILIPS SBC 522 RGB1 GENERATOR £90 PHILIPS SBC 850 ANALOG MULTIMETER £11.50 PHILIPS SBC 520 L.F. FUNCTION £75.00		FERGUSON ICC5 STEREO O.P. PANEL IC3 TDA8405 TDA8421 TBA1204 £10	
Burglar Alarm Has time delay to set £2 Mains Transformer 240v In 110v to 120v out 1 amp post £3		NEW 12" 90% MONO TUBES £10 4600 TO 8600 AMSTRAD VIDEO HANDSET WITH LCD £10		NICAM MKII KIT MODULE £20.00 with data	

