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SERVICING·VIDEO·SATELLITE·DEVELOPMENTS

A REED BUSINESS PUBLICATION

*Inside the Ferguson
ICC9 Chassis*

*Servicing
The ITT
Monoprint
B Chassis*

*Satellite
Receiver
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*Fax Principles
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The Las Vegas CES '95



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On Sale

February 15th

Vol. 45, No. 5

Issue 533

320 Satellite Notes

Fault reports and modification notes relating to satellite receivers.

324 Inside the Ferguson ICC9 Chassis, Part 1 *Mark Paul*

This is the most recent Thomson-designed chassis to appear in the UK, in Ferguson models. It incorporates much interesting technology which this series of articles will investigate. We start with an overview of the chassis and the operation of the power supply and the various trips. A feature of the chassis is the complex protection circuitry.

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There's a large element of luck when servicing has to be done with virtually no equipment.

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The main characteristics of this chassis from the servicing point of view.

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The April issue will be published on March 15th

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M53712	140p	STK2151	900p	STK6922	500p	STRD4412	500p	TCR149	225p	TDA2048	600p	TDA4100	225p	TDA8445	200p
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M53714	270p	STK2240	470p	STK6962	275p	TA7054	190p	TCR152	425p	TDA2057	250p	TDA4190	180p	TDA8447	275p
M53715	250p	STK2250	650p	STK6972	490p	TA7061	115p	TCR153	300p	TDA2148	350p	TDA4200	360p	TDA8448	500p
M53722	280p	STK3041	370p	STK6981B	600p	TA7066	120p	TCR156	300p	TDA2151	375p	TDA4280	320p	TDA8449	900p
M53730	160p	STK3042	375p	STK6982	600p	TA7089	300p	TCR163	375p	TDA2170	280p	TDA4282	180p	TDA8450	400p
M53731	140p	STK3043	360p	STK7230	450p	TA7119	150p	TCR164	400p	TDA2220	200p	TDA4290	200p	TDA8451	400p
M53736	160p	STK3062	500p	STK7217	400p	TA7120	55p	TCR172P	400p	TDA2270	250p	TDA4300	175p	TDA8452	400p
M53759	200p	STK3082	550p	STK7225	500p	TA7137	60p	TCR9940	100p	TDA2320	80p	TDA4420	120p	TDA8453	180p
M53761	360p	STK31021I	530p	STK7226	600p	TA7140	600p	TCEP100	100p	TDA2501	400p	TDA4421	300p	TDA8454	150p
M53762	45p	STK3152I	900p	STK7251	500p	TA7157	100p	TDE2308AP	200p	TDA2503	200p	TDA4426	170p	TDA8455	300p
M53763	65p	STK3156	500p	STK7308	350p	TA7193	320p	TDE2382	200p	TDA2504	220p	TDA4427	200p	TDA8456	650p
M53764	45p	STK3041	500p	STK7310	400p	TA7205	200p	TDE2506	250p	TDA2505	220p	TDA4428	200p	TDA8457	200p
M53765	45p	STK4019	380p	STK7310	470p	TA7205	110p	TDE2705	250p	TDA2506	500p	TDA4437	300p	TDA8458	200p
M53766	40p	STK4021	480p	STK7348	400p	TA7207	150p	TDE3004AP	300p	TDA2510	450p	TDA4439	220p	TDA8459	200p
M53767	40p	STK4024II	550p	STK7356	425p	TA7208	125p	TDE3069P	350p	TDA2514A	500p	TDA4440	180p	TDA8460	200p
M53768	110p	STK4025	530p	STK7358	440p	TA7214	220p	TDE3090P	200p	TDA2515	450p	TDA4442	240p	TDA8461	200p
M53769	115p	STK4026	480p	STK7407	560p	TA7217	145p	TDE3599P	300p	TDA2530	450p	TDA4443	250p	TDA8462	200p
M53770	290p	STK4028	580p	STK7409	500p	TA7218	150p	TDA1001	120p	TDA2532	120p	TDA4445	180p	TDA8463	200p
M53771	290p	STK4032II	510p	STK7408	650p	TA7222	90p	TDA1002	200p	TDA2540	85p	TDA4450	225p	TDA8464	200p
M53772	140p	STK4036	470p	STK7408	675p	TA7223	210p	TDA1003A	150p	TDA2541	120p	TDA4452	250p	TDA8465	200p
M53773	140p	STK4038	680p	STK7410	900p	TA7225	300p	TDA1005A	175p	TDA2542	110p	TDA4453	275p	TDA8466	200p
M53774	140p	STK4040II	650p	STK7454	600p	TA7226	290p	TDA1010A	80p	TDA2543	210p	TDA4480	280p	TDA8467	200p
M53775	140p	STK4041	800p	STK7561	650p	TA7227	170p	TDA1011	75p	TDA2545	120p	TDA4482	350p	TDA8468	200p
M53776	140p	STK4042	800p	STK7562	600p	TA7230	190p	TDA1012	130p	TDA2546	100p	TDA4500	350p	TDA8469	200p
M53777	140p	STK4043	800p	STK7563	800p	TA7233	95p	TDA1013	110p	TDA2549	300p	TDA4501	400p	TDA8470	200p
M53778	140p	STK4044	800p	STK7564	800p	TA7235	120p	TDA1015	85p	TDA2555	175p	TDA4502	550p	TDA8471	200p
M53779	140p	STK4045	1280p	STK8050	750p	TA7237	300p	TDA1016	140p	TDA2556	230p	TDA4503	300p	TDA8472	200p
M53780	140p	STK4060	510p	STK8250	500p	TA7237	300p	TDA1020	110p	TDA2557	225p	TDA4505	300p	TDA8473	200p
M53781	140p	STK4065	550p	STK8260	1200p	TA7238	400p	TDA1020	110p	TDA2558	200p	TDA4510	270p	TDA8474	200p
M53782	140p	STK4101	500p	STK8280	1850p	TA7240	160p	TDA1022	330p	TDA2558	500p	TDA4510	270p	TDA8475	200p
M53783	140p	STK4111	500p	STK73410	350p	TA7241	160p	TDA1023	130p	TDA2574	100p	TDA4515	200p	TDA8476	200p
M53784	140p	STK4112	500p	TA7242	160p	TA7242	160p	TDA1024	250p	TDA2577A	200p	TDA4516	200p	TDA8477	200p
M53785	140p	STK4121	480p	TA7243	320p	TA7243	320p	TDA1025	320p	TDA2578A	200p	TDA4517	450p	TDA8478	200p
M53786	140p	STK4122	560p	TA7245	225p	TA7245	225p	TDA1028	175p	TDA2579A	250p	TDA4518	450p	TDA8479	200p
M53787	140p	STK4131	600p	TA7246	220p	TA7246	220p	TDA1029	200p	TDA2582	130p	TDA4560	140p	TDA8480	200p
M53788	140p	STK4132II	600p	TA7269	260p	TA7269	260p	TDA1039	160p	TDA2590	170p	TDA4600II	160p	TDA8481	200p
M53789	140p	STK4141II	420p	TA7270	170p	TA7270	170p	TDA1041E	250p	TDA2592	120p	TDA4601	160p	TDA8482	200p
M53790	140p	STK4142	530p	TA7271	220p	TA7271	220p	TDA1041P	180p	TDA2593	120p	TDA4602	160p	TDA8483	200p
M53791	140p	STK4143	530p	TA7272	260p	TA7272	260p	TDA1044	110p	TDA2594	300p	TDA4605	220p	TDA8484	200p
M53792	140p	STK4151	680p	TA7273	260p	TA7273	260p	TDA1044	110p	TDA2595	200p	TDA4610	370p	TDA8485	200p
M53793	140p	STK4152	650p	TA7274	300p	TA7274	300p	TDA1047	200p	TDA2600	250p	TDA4660	370p	TDA8486	200p
M53794	140p	STK4161	650p	TA7274	210										

JAPANESE TRANSISTORS

Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price		
2SA1371	100p	2SC1008	20p	2SC1730	10p	2SC2270	60p	2SC2750	300p	2SC3277	280p	2SC3893	225p	2SD836A	60p	2SD1279	600p	2SD1815	100p
2SA1380	75p	2SC1010	225p	2SC1735	70p	2SC2271	30p	2SC2751	270p	2SC3280	200p	2SC3895	400p	2SD837	55p	2SD1288	175p	2SD1825	60p
2SA1381	100p	2SC1012	75p	2SC1739	800p	2SC2274	15p	2SC2752	140p	2SC3281	200p	2SC3897	650p	2SD838	300p	2SD1289	250p	2SD1843	100p
2SA1382	120p	2SC1013	170p	2SC1740	10p	2SC2275	50p	2SC2757	300p	2SC3284	600p	2SC3907	250p	2SD841	110p	2SD1291	400p	2SD1846	35p
2SA1385	180p	2SC1014	140p	2SC1741	35p	2SC2278	70p	2SC2760	400p	2SC3293	85p	2SC3927	250p	2SD844	200p	2SD1292	60p	2SD1849	325p
2SA1386	400p	2SC1030	150p	2SC1755	90p	2SC2290	1800p	2SC2773	700p	2SC3298	50p	2SC3950	120p	2SD845	250p	2SD1297	300p	2SD1850	325p
2SA1423	30p	2SC1047	20p	2SC1756	35p	2SC2291	400p	2SC2774	500p	2SC3299	120p	2SC3953	60p	2SD850	170p	2SD1302	200p	2SD1858	40p
2SA1489	30p	2SC1050	280p	2SC1758	30p	2SC2295	60p	2SC2785	60p	2SC3300	400p	2SC3973	210p	2SD856	48p	2SD1308	80p	2SD1877	250p
2SA1491	300p	2SC1060	70p	2SC1775	10p	2SC2298	35p	2SC2786	20p	2SC3303	100p	2SC3987	220p	2SD858	250p	2SD1309	140p	2SD1878	230p
2SA1493	500p	2SC1061	85p	2SC1781	20p	2SC2307	500p	2SC2787	10p	2SC3306	130p	2SC3996	1200p	2SD863	23p	2SD1310	140p	2SD1879	275p
2SA1516	280p	2SC1070	65p	2SC1789	100p	2SC2308	10p	2SC2791	500p	2SC3307	600p	2SC4006	100p	2SD864	200p	2SD1313	1000p	2SD1884	300p
2SA1525	175p	2SC1086	40p	2SC1809	40p	2SC2312	300p	2SC2792	220p	2SC3309	150p	2SC4020	280p	2SD866	120p	2SD1326	200p	2SD1886	450p
2SB324	40p	2SC1098	120p	2SC1810	250p	2SC2314	70p	2SC2793	700p	2SC3316	280p	2SC4023	325p	2SD866A	140p	2SD1328	60p	2SD1887	450p
2SB546	45p	2SC1106	180p	2SC1815	10p	2SC2316	150p	2SC2808	40p	2SC3317	350p	2SC4056	350p	2SD868	260p	2SD1347	70p	2SD1910	280p
2SB560	25p	2SC1114	415p	2SC1819	70p	2SC2320	10p	2SC2810	360p	2SC3323	480p	2SC4106	200p	2SD870	190p	2SD1348	65p	2SD1911	300p
2SB562	50p	2SC1116	290p	2SC1826	60p	2SC2324	120p	2SC2812	40p	2SC3327	60p	2SC4123	450p	2SD871	300p	2SD1350	150p	2SD1913	50p
2SB566	25p	2SC1124	270p	2SC1827	60p	2SC2329	480p	2SC2814	40p	2SC3331	25p	2SC4124	250p	2SD879	60p	2SD1376	125p	2SD1929	60p
2SB595	55p	2SC1161	110p	2SC1829	500p	2SC2331	50p	2SC2824	75p	2SC3333	120p	2SC4169	60p	2SD880	40p	2SD1379	100p	2SD1939	75p
2SB596	30p	2SC1162	30p	2SC1833	40p	2SC2333	200p	2SC2825	900p	2SC3345	100p	2SC4236	550p	2SD882	25p	2SD1380	100p	2SD1941	500p
2SB598	30p	2SC1164	600p	2SC1834	50p	2SC2334	80p	2SC2826	200p	2SC3352	200p	2SC4237	650p	2SD882A	100p	2SD1384	50p	2SD1959	280p
2SB600	500p	2SC1165	750p	2SC1834	15p	2SC2335	75p	2SC2827	200p	2SC3353	280p	2SC4242	170p	2SD884	35p	2SD1390	350p	2SD1961	50p
2SB646	40p	2SC1186	40p	2SC1845	35p	2SC2344	150p	2SC2832	300p	2SC3355	50p	2SC4301	50p	2SD895	200p	2SD1391	250p	2SD1978	50p
2SB648	25p	2SC1170	180p	2SC1847	45p	2SC2347	60p	2SC2834	400p	2SC3356	120p	2SC4742	275p	2SD896	200p	2SD1392	150p	2SD1984	450p
2SB649	35p	2SC1172	150p	2SC1855	85p	2SC2353	120p	2SC2837	250p	2SC3358	250p	2SC4769	300p	2SD900	400p	2SD1395	150p	2SD2012	50p
2SB649	35p	2SC1173	40p	2SC1856	25p	2SC2360	120p	2SC2839	40p	2SC3361	50p	2SD198	140p	2SD905	450p	2SD1396	120p	2SD2125	225p
2SB688	90p	2SC1195	210p	2SC1865	700p	2SC2361	150p	2SC2853	70p	2SC3376	300p	2SD199	195p	2SD916	130p	2SD1397	120p	2SD2333	300p
2SB703	90p	2SC1212	35p	2SC1870	700p	2SC2362	50p	2SC2877	120p	2SC3377	50p	2SD200	180p	2SD917	300p	2SD1398	120p	2SD2333	300p
2SB705	200p	2SC1213	15p	2SC1875	220p	2SC2365	280p	2SC2878	20p	2SC3378	120p	2SD201	250p	2SD921	320p	2SD1399	300p	2SD2333	300p
2SB707	200p	2SC1214	15p	2SC1881	70p	2SC2369	100p	2SC2879	3200p	2SC3383	80p	2SD257	195p	2SD923	360p	2SD1400	280p	2SD2333	300p
2SB716	20p	2SC1215	15p	2SC1890	15p	2SC2371	25p	2SC2883	60p	2SC3387	50p	2SD313	25p	2SD946	120p	2SD1402	150p	2SD2333	300p
2SB718	60p	2SC1216	200p	2SC1904	125p	2SC2373	210p	2SC2898	200p	2SC3393	80p	2SD315	75p	2SD947	100p	2SD1406	60p	2SD2333	300p
2SB727	200p	2SC1222	200p	2SC1906	15p	2SC2383	50p	2SC2909	50p	2SC3399	50p	2SD325	30p	2SD950	300p	2SD1407	60p	2SD2333	300p
2SB754	80p	2SC1226	75p	2SC1907	20p	2SC2389	45p	2SC2909	60p	2SC3400	35p	2SD330	30p	2SD951	290p	2SD1408	125p	2SD2333	300p
2SB755	310p	2SC1252	850p	2SC1909	250p	2SC2407	110p	2SC2911	80p	2SC3401	50p	2SD334	300p	2SD957A	520p	2SD1409	170p	2SD2333	300p
2SB772	25p	2SC1278	110p	2SC1913	90p	2SC2408	120p	2SC2912	120p	2SC3402	40p	2SD357	40p	2SD968	60p	2SD1412	75p	2SD2333	300p
2SB774	50p	2SC1279	30p	2SC1921	15p	2SC2412K	50p	2SC2921	650p	2SC3403	400p	2SD358	40p	2SD965	35p	2SD1413	60p	2SD2333	300p
2SB775	100p	2SC1306	90p	2SC1923	10p	2SC2440	200p	2SC2922	480p	2SC3412	800p	2SD371	240p	2SD970	170p	2SD1415	190p	2SD2333	300p
2SB791	280p	2SC1308K	35p	2SC1929	180p	2SC2458	10p	2SC2928	550p	2SC3416	30p	2SD380	650p	2SD973	60p	2SD1417	125p	2SD2333	300p
2SB796	60p	2SC1312	40p	2SC1940	110p	2SC2459	50p	2SC2928	280p	2SC3417	90p	2SD381	50p	2SD973A	70p	2SD1425	260p	2SD2333	300p
2SB825	135p	2SC1317	15p	2SC1941	27p	2SC2470	65p	2SC2934	75p	2SC3419	120p	2SD388	150p	2SD985	120p	2SD1426	160p	2SD2333	300p
2SB861	110p	2SC1318	10p	2SC1942	350p	2SC2481	120p	2SC2937	250p	2SC3420	80p	2SD389	60p	2SD986	120p	2SD1427	180p	2SD2333	300p
2SB882	180p	2SC1325	40p	2SC1943	350p	2SC2482	20p	2SC2938	235p	2SC3422	75p	2SD400	14p	2SD985	120p	2SD1428	220p	2SD2333	300p
2SB886	90p	2SC1327	20p	2SC1945	350p	2SC2483	120p	2SC2939	400p	2SC3423	60p	2SD401	50p	2SD986	120p	2SD1429	410p	2SD2333	300p
2SB895	180p	2SC1328	15p	2SC1946	1500p	2SC2483	120p	2SC2939	400p	2SC3425	75p	2SD402	120p	2SD986	120p	2SD1429	410p	2SD2333	300p
2SB951	190p	2SC1342	15p	2SC1947	450p	2SC2484	185p	2SC2944	300p	2SC3446	150p	2SD402	120p	2SD986	120p	2SD1430	280p	2SD2333	300p
2SB1009	110p	2SC1345	15p	2SC1957	70p	2SC2491	200p	2SC2958	50p	2SC3447	150p	2SD415	55p	2SD1022	400p	2SD1431	400p	2SD2333	300p
2SB1107	180p	2SC1346	100p	2SC1959	10p	2SC2495	1900p	2SC2962	80p	2SC3456	200p	2SD424	350p	2SD1024	130p	2SD1432	400p	2SD2333	300p
2SB1109	100p	2SC1358	270p	2SC1967	1300p	2SC2498	50p	2SC2979	160p	2SC3456	125p	2SD426	350p	2SD1030	75p	2SD1433	750p	2SD2333	300p
2SC182	75p	2SC1359	15p	2SC1969	160p	2SC2500	25p	2SC2987	250p	2SC3459	180p	2SD427	350p	2SD1031	70p	2SD1434	140p	2SD2333	300p
2SC172	25p	2SC1360	70p	2SC1970	100p	2SC2502	200p	2SC2988	150p	2SC3460	180p	2SD438	35p	2SD1046	200p	2SD1439	165p	2SD2333	300p
2SC380	10p	2SC1364	25p	2SC1971	400p	2SC2519	60p	2SC2995	60p	2SC3461	350p	2SD467	15p	2SD1047	180p	2SD1441	280p	2SD2333	300p
2SC382	50p	2SC1383	25p	2SC1972	600p	2SC2527	300p	2SC2999	50p	2SC3466	225p	2SD468	15p	2SD1051	130p	2SD1445	200p	2SD2333	300p
2SC388A	60p	2SC1384	20p	2SC1973	150p	2SC2534	150p	2SC3001	1400p	2SC3468	70p	2SD471	20p	2SD1060	130p	2SD1450	60p	2SD2333	300p
2SC394	60p	2SC1393	20p	2SC1983	75p	2SC2535	300p	2SC3012	300p	2SC3481	30p	2SD525	50p	2SD1062	150p	2SD1451	260p	2SD2333	300p
2SC403	25p	2SC1394	15p	2SC1984	150p	2SC2538	100p	2SC3019	320p	2SC3482	275p	2SD526	70p	2SD1063	200p	2SD1452	350p	2SD2333	300p
2SC454	15p	2SC1398	55p	2SC1985	100p	2SC2540	1900p	2SC3025	500p	2SC3486	275p	2SD545	18p	2SD1064	250p	2SD1453	140p	2SD2333	300p
2SC458	10p	2SC1400	50p	2SC1986	100p	2SC2542	300p	2SC3026	550p	2SC3487	200p	2SD549	120p	2SD1065	160p	2SD1455	250p	2SD2333	300p
2SC460	10p	2SC1403	50p	2SC2001	15p	2SC2545	55p	2SC3030	300p	2SC3502	100p	2SD551	300p	2SD1069	150p	2SD1457	165p	2SD2333	300p
2SC461	15p	2SC1407	550p	2SC2002	15p	2SC2546	25p	2SC3033	125p	2SC3503	120p	2SD555	500p	2SD1071	450p	2SD1459	120p	2SD2333	300p
2SC495	45p	2SC1413	150p	2SC2003	20p	2SC2547	65p	2SC3038	125p	2SC3505	240p	2SD560	50p	2SD1073	350p	2SD1468	60p	2SD2333	300p
2SC496	25p	2SC1419	50p	2SC2004	20p	2SC2550	50p	2SC3039	80p	2SC3506	250p	2SD571	20p	2SD1088	150p	2SD1479	200p	2SD2333	300p
2SC497	85p																		

VIDEO SERVICE KITS

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VCR700
Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER, REEL IDLER, VIDEO LAMP
Order Code: SK41 £5.50

FERGUSON & JVC
3V42/43
HRD455/HRD725
Contents
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CLUTCH MECHANISM, TENSION BAND
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Economy Kit Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER
SUPPLY CLUTCH, TAKE UP CLUTCH
Order Code: SK38 £9.50

3V58/59/64/65
HRD170/180/210/230/300/320/370/400/430/530/700/750
HR55000
Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER, IDLER ARM, TENSION BAND
Order Code: SK44 £8.50

3V29/3V30
HR7200/7300/7350
Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER, TENSION BAND, IDLER TYRES
Order Code: SK05 £6.00

3V35/36/38/39/49
HRD110/111/120/225
Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER, TENSION BAND, IDLER TYRES
Order Code: SK04 £5.50

3V31/3V42
HR7600/7610/7650/7655
Contents
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TYRE, PINCH ROLLER, REEL
IDLER, T/U CLUTCH, T/U IDLER,
TENSION BAND, VIDEO LAMP
Order Code: SK33 £12.00

Economy Kit Contents
BELT SET, T/U REEL TABLE
TYRE, PINCH ROLLER, REEL
IDLER TYRE, T/U IDLER TYRE,
T/U CLUTCH
Order Code: SK34 £5.50

3V35/36/38/39/49
HRD110/111/120/121/225
Contents
BELT SET, T/U REEL TABLE
TYRE, SUPPLY REEL TABLE
TYRE, PINCH ROLLER, T/U
CLUTCH, T/U IDLER, REEL
IDLER, TENSION BAND
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Economy Kit Contents
BELT SET, T/U REEL TABLE
TYRE, SUPPLY REEL TABLE
TYRE, PINCH ROLLER, T/U
CLUTCH, T/U IDLER TYRE, REEL
IDLER TYRE
Order Code: SK36 £5.80

3V29/3V30
HR7200/7300/7350
Contents
BELT SET, T/U REEL TABLE
TYRE, SUPPLY REEL TABLE
TYRE, PINCH ROLLER, REEL
IDLER, T/U CLUTCH, T/U IDLER,
TENSION BAND, VIDEO LAMP
Order Code: SK31 £11.00

Economy Kit Contents
BELT SET, T/U REEL IDLER
TYRE, SUPPLY REEL TABLE
TYRE, PINCH ROLLER, REEL
IDLER TYRE, T/U IDLER TYRE,
T/U CLUTCH
Order Code: SK32 £5.10

3V44/45/48/53/54/55/57
HRP50/HRD140/150/158/160
HRD250/257/565/566/755
Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER,
CLUTCH MECHANISM, TENSION
BAND
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Economy Kit Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER
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FISHER
FVHP905/906/907/908/910/911/916/918
Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER
IDLER, GEAR IDLER UNIT,
TENSION BAND
Order Code: SK57 £13.00

Economy Kit Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER,
IDLER TYRE
Order Code: SK58 £5.00

FVHP615/618/620/622/710/711/715/716/720/721/722/725/
730/830/840
Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER,
IDLER, GEAR IDLER UNIT,
TENSION BAND
Order Code: SK68 £12.50

Economy Kit Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER,
IDLER TYRE
Order Code: SK69 £3.60

HITACHI
VT11/VT33
Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER, TENSION BAND, IDLER TYRES
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VIDEO SERVICE KITS (Cont.)

VT11/VT33
Contents
BELT SET, T/U REEL TABLE
TYRE, SUPPLY REEL TABLE
TYRE, PINCH ROLLER, FF/REW
IDLER, CLUTCH PLATE,
TENSION BAND
Order Code: SK45 £14.00

Economy Kit Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER,
FF/REW IDLER TYRE, T/U REEL
TABLE TYRE, SUPPLY REEL
TABLE TYRE
Order Code: SK46 £4.50

VT52/61/62/63/64/65/85/86/640
Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER
FF/REW ARM, CLUTCH PLATE,
TENSION BAND
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Economy Kit Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER,
FF/REW IDLER
Order Code: SK50 £3.25

VT400/405:410/13/14/15/18/420/25/26/28/430/31/35/48/450/496/
510/520/25/26/530/35/36/540/545/48/48/570/75/576/580/85/86
Contents
TIMING BELT, PINCH ROLLER, FF/REW ARM, CLUTCH BASE,
TENSION BAND
Order Code: SK52 £11.50

VT100/110/111/113/115/118/120/125/128/130/135/138/145/150/
175/220/225/250/255/258/260/VTL30
Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER, FF/REW ARM, CLUTCH PLATE,
TENSION BAND
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PANASONIC
NV2000/NV2010
Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER,
TENSION BAND, IDLER TYRES
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NV7000/NV7200/NV7800
Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER,
TENSION BAND, IDLER TYRES
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NV300/NV330/NV333/NV340/NV366
Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER, TENSION BAND, IDLER TYRE
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NV2000/NV2010
Contents
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IDLER, PLAY IDLER, TENSION
BAND, VIDEO LAMP
Order Code: SK13 £8.00

Economy Kit Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER,
IDLER TYRE, PULLEY TYRE
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NV7000/NV7200/NV7800
Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER
IDLER UNIT, PLAY IDLER,
TENSION BAND
Order Code: SK11 £8.50

Economy Kit Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER,
IDLER TYRE, CLUTCH TYRE
Order Code: SK12 £4.20

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Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER,
IDLER UNIT, PLAY IDLER,
TENSION BAND
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Economy Kit Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER,
IDLER TYRE, PLAY IDLER
TYRE
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NVG7/NVG9/NVG10/NVG11/NVG12/NVG14/NVG15/NVG16/
NVG18/NVG30/NVG120/NVG130/NVG400/NVH65 (PX/AC)/
AG1810 (PIK)
Contents
LOADING BELT, CAPSTAN
BELT, PINCH ROLLER, IDLER
TENSION BAND
Order Code: SK27 £8.00

Economy Kit Contents
LOADING BELT, CAPSTAN
BELT, PINCH ROLLER, IDLER
TYRE
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NV332
Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER,
PLAY IDLER, FF/REW IDLER,
TENSION BAND, FF/REW TYRE
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Economy Kit Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER,
PLAY IDLER TYRE, FF/REW
IDLER TYRE
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AG1200PK/AG1500PK
Contents
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IDLER, TENSION BAND
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Economy Kit Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER,
IDLER TYRE
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BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER,
PLAY IDLER, FF/REW IDLER,
TENSION BAND
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Economy Kit Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER,
PLAY IDLER TYRE, FF/REW
IDLER TYRE
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NV730/NV770
Contents
SLOT IN BELT, LOADING BELT,
PINCH ROLLER, IDLER UNIT,
TENSION BAND
Order Code: SK19 £6.50

Economy Kit Contents
SLOT IN BELT, LOADING BELT,
PINCH ROLLER, IDLER TYRE
Order Code: SK20 £4.00

NV370/NV380/480/630/780/830/850/AG2100PK/AG2200PK
Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER,
IDLER, TENSION BAND
Order Code: SK21 £6.00

Economy Kit Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER,
IDLER TYRE
Order Code: SK22 £3.00

NV777/NV788
Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER,
IDLER UNIT, TENSION BAND
Order Code: SK17 £7.00

Economy Kit Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER,
IDLER TYRE
Order Code: SK18 £4.00

VIDEO SERVICE KITS (Cont.)

SHARP
VC381
Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER,
REEL IDLER, TENSION BAND,
VIDEO LAMP
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Economy Kit Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER,
REEL IDLER TYRE
Order Code: SK48 £4.75

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Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER
REEL IDLER, TENSION BAND
Order Code: SK60 £9.50

Economy Kit Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER,
REEL IDLER
Order Code: SK61 £6.50

VC781/VC7810/VC7822/VC785/VC786/VC793/VC800/
VCA100/VCA102/VCA104/VCA202
Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER,
REEL DRIVE UNIT, TENSION
BAND
Order Code: SK64 £13.50

Economy Kit Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER,
REEL DRIVE UNIT TYRE
Order Code: SK65 £6.25

VC681/VC682/VC684/VC685/VC693/VC699/VC6F3/VC700
Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER,
REEL DRIVE UNIT, TENSION
BAND
Order Code: SK62 £13.50

Economy Kit Contents
BELT SET, PINCH ROLLER,
REEL DRIVE UNIT TYRE
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Replaces Philips Part No's:
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GRUNDIG 2922010	1600p	LOT09
ITT CVC800/1/3	1600p	LOT10
ITT D218/37 EQ	1600p	LOT11
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SABA 811-50-24	1600p	LOT15
SABA 770223500	1600p	LOT16
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TELEFUNKEN EQ	1400p	LOT18
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ITT COMPACT 80	1500p	LOT22
FE TX100 GREEN	1450p	LOT23
HINARI CT4/5 5113	1500p	LOT24
SELECO 6320410	1600p	LOT25
BLAUPUNKT 8667	1600p	LOT26
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ITT CT3326 MUL	1500p	LOT28
ITT D066/37 EQ	1600p	LOT29
ITT 3546 EQ	1500p	LOT30
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SABA 849380920	1600p	LOT32
HITACHI 2434141 CP	1450p	LOT33
FE TX100 110 D	1700p	LOT34
HANTAREX 28021	1600p	LOT35
SHARP C3700 EQ	1600p	LOT36
HITACHI 2432981 CP	1500p	LOT37
FERGUSON 00D3-508-002	1650p	LOT38
Fits Chassis TX99 41cm + 51cm Used On: 51K2, 51J8, 51J7, 41H3, 41H3, 41H2, 51K3		
PANASONIC TLF14567F	1850p	LOT39
Used On: TC2043, TC2243, TX300		
PANASONIC TLF14568F	1850p	LOT40
Used On: TX2231, TX2244		
PANASONIC TLF14584F	2350p	LOT41
Used On: TC2210, TC2160, TX1752, TX2112		
TX2112, TX2162, TXC22		
PANASONIC TLF14586F	2350p	LOT42
TC1651, TC2051, TC2061, TC2253, TC2263, TX5500		
HINARI	1600p	LOT43
Used On: CT15		
HITACHI 2434274	1400p	LOT44
CPT2174, CPT2176, CPT2178, 2434274		

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VS1-2, VS4, 5, VS15					
VS3, 6, 12, 58, 59	VIDER	BV321979	500p		
V9700	IDLER ASSY	MZ236860J2	900p		
VS125, 126, 155					
VS165, 240, 244, 245, 247, 248, 250, 512, 515, 516					
VS22, 38, 105, 112, 115, 116, 205, 220	T-UP IDLER	PU47752	£4.50		
VP700, VS3300					
VS9500, VS9800	UNLOADING IDLER	PU46381	£4.00		
VP7100, VS9300	REW IDLER	PU46380	£4.00		
VS9500, VS9800					
VP88	IDLER	BV336067	£5.00		
VS1, 3, 4, 9, 12	REEL TABLE	BR347731	450p		
VS15, 58					
VS23, 35, 37, 53, 55	CLUTCH	ML373043	£12.00		
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VS9700	FF IDLER	BR321761	£1.00p		
VS9700	REW IDLER	W321762	£4.25		
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VCH7000	IDLER	150280	£1.50		
VCH7000	CLUTCH	150873	£3.75		
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VTR1, VCR4500	GEAR HOLDER	151284	£3.50		
VCR4600, VCR5200, VCR9000					
VTR1, VCR4600	REF CLUTCH		£3.50		
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VCR6000, VCR6100	CLUTCH	153202	£3.80		
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VCR4500, 4600, 4700			£3.00		
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3V16, 3V22	T-UP IDLER	PU49280	£5.50		
8903, 8909, 8912, 8922					
3V23, 3V29, 3V30	REEL IDLER	PU48967	175p		
3V01, 3V32, 3V35, 8923, 8927, 8929, 8930, 8931, 8940, 8941, 8942					
3V23, 3V31	ROLLER ASSY	PU49042A	350p		
3V29, 3V30, 3V31	T-UP IDLER	1001	300p		
3V32, 3V35, 3V36, 3V38, 3V39, 3V49, 8930, 8931, 8940, 8941, 8942					
3V29, 3V30, 3V31	T-UP CLUTCH	PU51380	200p		
3V32, 8930, 8931, 8940, 8941, 8942					
3V35, 3V36, 3V38	REEL IDLER	PU55374	200p		
3V39, 3V49, 8943, 8944					
3V35, 3V36, 3V38	T-UP CLUTCH	PU55373	150p		
3V39, 3V49, 8943, 8944					
3V58, 3V59, 3V64	IDLER ARM	PU58645	£2.25		
3V65, FV10, FV11, FV12, FV13, FV14, FV20, FV21, FV22, FV26					
FV30, FV32, FV33, 8950, VCI141					
3V42, 3V43	CLUTCH ASSY	PU55822	1200p		
3V43, 3V44, 3V45	CLUTCH ASSY	PU57658	1050p		
3V48, 3V53, 3V54, 3V55, 3V57, 8947, 8948					
3V42, 3V43, 3V44	T-UP CLUTCH	PU56043-1.4	240p		
3V45, 3V48, 3V53, 3V54, 3V55, 3V56, 3V57, 8947, 8948	SUPPORT CLUTCH	PU56044-1.5	160p		
3V00, 3V01, 3V16					
3V22, 3V29, 8900, 8901, 8902, 8903, 8904, 8906, 8909					
8912, 8922					
3V00, 3V01, 3V16	REW IDLER	PU46380	500p		
3Z92, 8900, 8901, 8904, 8906					
3V16, 3V22, 8907	IDLER	PU49281	£1.70		
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FVHP420, 520, 530	FF-REW PULLEY	H1638531	80p		
FVHP615, 618, 620	COMP IDLER ASSY	F11430420400300	£220p		
FVHP622, 710, 711, FVHP720, 721, 722, FVHP725, 730, 830					
FVHP840, 905, 906, FVHP908, 910, 911, FVHP915, 916, 918					
FVHP815, 818, 820	GEAR IDLER ASSY	F11430490400900	380p		
FVHP822, 710, 711, FVHP720, 721, 722					
FVHP725, 730, 830, FVHP840					
FVHP615, 618, 620	REEL T-UP ASSY	F11430410400900	£5.50		
FVHP662, 710, 711, FVHP720, 721, 722					
FVHP725, 730, 830, FVHP840					
FVHP905, 906, 908	GEAR IDLER ASSY	F11430490402400	275p		
FVHP910, 911, 915, FVHP916, 918					
FVHP975, 980, 990	IDLER	F11430420400700	300p		
FVHP995, 5000, 5005					
FVHP995, 5075, 5100					
FVHD40, 55, 140	REEL DRIVE ROLLER		£6.00		
FVHP1, 10, 20					
FVHP375, 980, 990	CLUTCH	F12430510404200	£9.50		
FVHP420, 520, 530	IDLER		£2.00		
FVHP420, 520, 530	TAKE UP IDLER		290p		
FVHP990	LOADING GEAR		90p		
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VBS3500	IDLER		250p		
VBS7000	REW IDLER		90p		
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GHV1221, 1232, 1240	CLUTCH GEAR	435078A	£2.50		
GHV1241, 1242, 1243, GHV1244, 1245, 1246, GHV1247, 1248, 8000,					
GHV8200, 8210, 8215, GHVPS1, VCP4100, 4130					
GHV1221, 1232, 1240	IDLER		110p		
GHV1241, 1242, 1243, GHV1244, 1245, 1246, GHV1247, 1248, 8000,					
GHV8200, 8210, 8215, GHVPS1, VCP4100, 4130					
HINARI					
VXL3, VXL20	REEL IDLER	40000009	110p		
VXL2	IDLER		110p		
VXL4, VXL35	IDLER		£2.75		
VXL4, VXL35	CLUTCH		£6.50		
VXL4, VXL12, VXL25	LIMITER POST		£1.30		
VXL30, VXL35, VTL300	CLUTCH		£3.75		
VXL5, VXL6	GEAR HOLDER		£3.50		
VXL7, VXL8, VXL9	CLUTCH		£3.80		
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VT11-33, VT63-64	CLUTCH ASSY	6879515	£7.50		
VT14, 17, 19, 38, 57, 86, 88, 34, 35, 39, 52, 61					
62, 66, 85, 336, 640, VT165					
VT120, 220, 100, 110	CLUTCH ASSY	6896934	£7.50		
111, 113, 115, 118, 200		6896972			
125, 128, 130, 135, 138, 145, 150, 175, 225, 250,					
255, 258, 260, VTL30					
VT8000 8300 7000	FF-REW IDLER	6413663	£2.80		
VT8500 8700					
VT8000 8300 7000	PLAY IDLER	6414221	290p		
VT8500 8700					
VT8000 8300 7000	FF-REW PULLEY	6383531	80p		
VT8500 8700					
VT9300 9500 8500	FF-REW IDLER	8681471	250p		
VT680 6800 9700 9900					
VT9300 9500 8500	PLAY IDLER	6861482	230p		
VT680 6800 9700					
VT 9900					
VT9300 9500 8700	IDLER	681505	230p		
VT9900 6500 680 6800		687043	£3.80		
VT11 33, VT63-64	FF-REW IDLER	6886371	125p		
VT14, 165, 17, 19, 34, VT35, 38, 39, 52, 61, 62					
VT85, 86, 88, 330, 640					
VT1000, 110, 111, 113	FF-REW ARM	6886792	240p		
VT115, 118, 119, 120, 125, 128, 130, 135, 138, 145, 150,					
VT175, 220, 225, 250, 255, 258, 260, VTL30					
VT400, 405, 410, 413	FF-REW ARM	6887094	£1.30		
VT14, 415, 418, 420, 425, 426, 428, 430, 431, 435					
VT438, 450, 480, 510, 518, 520, 525, 526, 530, 535,					
VT536, 540, 545, 546, 548, 570, 575, 576, 580, 585,					
VT588, VTM625, 626, 630, 635, 636, 640, 645, 646, VTS80, 85					
VT400, 405, 410, 413	CLUTCH BASE	6896951	£3.25		
VT14, 415, 418, 420, 425, 426, 428, 430, 431, 435					
VT438, 450, 480, 510, 518, 520, 525, 526, 530, 535,					
VT536, 540, 545, 546, 548, 570, 575, 576, 580, 585,					
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VT3000	REW IDLER		£6.00		

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OUTPUT MODULE HM 6251		£5.50			
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HR7200, 7300, 7650	T UP CLUTCH	PU53462A	220p		
HR7650, 7300, 7650, 7610					
HR7200, 7300, 7650	REEL IDLER	PU48967	175p		
HR7600, 7610, 7650, 7655, 7700					
HR7600, 7610, 7650	ROLLER ASSY	PU49042A	350p		
HR7655, 7700					
HR3300, 3660, 4100	T UP IDLER LRG	PU47752	£4.50		
HR7200, 7300, 7650	T-UP IDLER	PU51402A	100p		
HR7655, HRD110, HRD111, HR7300, 7350, 7610, HRD120-121, 225					
HRD110, HRD120-121	T-UP CLUTCH	PU55373	150p		
HRD225, HRD111					
HRD110, HRD120-121	IDLER ARM	PU55374-3.8	200p		
HRD225, HRD111					
HRD170, 180, 210, 230	IDLER ARM	PU58465	£2.25		
HRD320, 370, 400, 430, 470, 530, 700, 750, 950, 3000					
HR5500, HR5550	CLUTCH MECH	PU55822	1200p		
HR485, HRD75	CLUTCH MECH	PU57658	1050p		
HRD160, 250, 251, 565, 566, 575, HRP50					
HR3300, HR3330	REW IDLER	PU46380	500p		
HR3660, HR4100					
HRD160, 150, 157, 158	TAKE UP CLUTCH	PU56043-1.4	240p		
HRD160, 250, 251, 455, 565, 566, 725, 755, HRP50					
HRD140, 150, 157, 158	TAKE UP CLUTCH	PU56044-1.5	160p		
HRD160, 250, 251, 455, 565, 566, 725, 755, HRP50					
MATSUI					
VX730, 735, 750, 755	CLUTCH	850A00005	420p		
VX610, 620, 850, 880, 990					
VX730, 735, 750, 755	LIMITED POST LEVER ASSY		£1.30		
VX770, 800, 810, 880					
VX980					
VX800A, VX900	IDLER REEL		£1.50		
VX800A, VX820	REEL UNIT CLUTCH		290p		
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REMOTE CONTROLS

Description	Order Code	Price	Description	Order Code	Price
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TP160E	RC 107	900p	RC38	RC 301	875p
TP200, TP300	RC 380	800p	KT3 TEXT	RC 5301	800p
TP400	RC 401	800p	RC5352	RC 5352	800p
TP590-600	RC 600	850p	RC5375	RC 5375	850p
TP390, TP610	RC 610	850p	RC5 STANDARD	RC 5534	850p
TP621	RC 621	850p	RC5901	RC 5901	850p
TP630, TP650	RC 650	850p	RC5903	RC 5903	800p
TP660	RC 660	850p	SABA		
TP661	RC 661	850p	T6772	RC 149	900p
HITACHI			TC319-320	RC 328	875p
CLE800-CLE830	RC 140M	850p	TC356	RC 356	875p
A617402/655602	RC 192	875p	TC358	RC 358	850p
A512120/230	RC 900	800p	TC360	RC 360	800p
A514790	RC 901	850p	TC365	RC 365	800p
A5088470	RC 902	800p	SALORA		
A518612	RC903	900p	SERIES L	RC 190	875p
SCL002	RC904	850p	86173	RC 882	850p
C2096	RC 905	850p	SANYO		
A511940	RC 906	800p	RC218, RC222, RC228, RC238	RC 140M	850p
655602H	RC 907	850p	JXGE	RC 878	850p
ITT			JXDE	RC 884	850p
IFB13, 14, 15	RC 143	875p	VHR2300	RC 890	850p
FS4	RC 148	850p	RC628	RC 865	900p
RG305	RC 305	825p	SHARP		
RG306	RC 306	825p	G0121CESA, 123CESA, 204, 251	RC 140M	850p
FS9/1-10/1	RC 307	850p	SIEMENS		
VS5 RUK	RC 308	825p	FC616	RC 130	850p
VS4-1	RC 310	850p	FC631	RC 132	850p
MULTICONTROL (17C20)	RC 311	800p	FC742	RC 164	900p
KORTING			SONY		
18279, 18396, 18460, 18521 SE	RC 108	850p	RM604, RM605, RM606	RC 140	850p
40540 VTS	RC 108	900p	32 CHANNEL	RC 140M	850p
LOEWE			RM613	RC 141	850p
DC11	RC 146	850p	RM632, RM636	RC 160	850p
MATSUI			TATUNG		
010270601	RC 889	850p	FXA	RC 877	850p
VX770	RC 892	850p	RC70	RC 883	750p
METZ			FX70 FASTTEXT	RC 894	850p
JAVA COLOR (6890)	RC 166	850p	TELEFUNKEN		
COLOR (7156)	RC 183	850p	FB632	RC 632 ST	850p
JAVA (7180)	RC 184	850p	FB639	RC 639 ST	850p
MITSUBISHI			THORN/FERGUSON		
939P/03607, 939P/03609	RC 140M	850p	3V35-42	RC 342	850p
NOKIA			3V31-32	RC 344	850p
SATELLITE	RC 550	850p	3V57-58	RC 628	900p
NORDMENDE			TX10 TEXT	RC 732	750p
TC2336	RC 351N	850p	TX10 STEREO TEXT	RC 738	750p
CNC1, TC3519	RC 356	875p	TX9-90-100	RC 740	750p
OCEANIC			3V55, FV11	RC 783	900p
390C9500	RC 339	900p	TX100 FASTTEXT	RC 785	800p
ORION			TX100 STEREO FASTTEXT	RC 789	800p
RC53	RC 892	850p	PROFESSIONAL	RC 790	800p
PANASONIC			TOSHIBA		
EUR51200	RC 200	850p	CT937	RC 950	850p
TC2200	RC 201	850p	CT9117	RC 951	850p
VSQ0357/NV730	RC 202	875p	201R4B	RC 952	850p
TNQ1621	RC 203	900p			
PHILCO			UNIVERSAL PROGRAMMABLE REMOTE CONTROL		
CARVEL, CONCORDE,	RC 108	850p	Controls up to 4 different devices which use infra red remote controls including TV, audio, VCR and satellite. (need original remote control TC program)		
MERCURY, TELESTAR			Order code: IR100R Price: 1950p		
TC10	RC 152	900p	We stock Remote Controls for over 5000 different models. Ring for further details on 081-900-2329.		
PHILIPS					
RC5002,5154	RC 134	850p			
KT3 NON TEXT	RC 135	825p			
69117032	RC 178	875p			
69117194	RC 180	875p			
RC5991-UNIV	RC 300	850p			

VCR ALIGNMENT KIT

CONTAINS:

SET OF 7 HEAD & TAPE PATH ALIGNERS	SET OF 8 ALLEN KEYS
* RCA TYPE AUDIO & CONTROL HEAD POSITIONING TOOL	* 0.77mm
* RCA ADJUSTMENT TOOL FOR TAPE GUIDE POSTS	* 0.90mm
* RCA TYPE BACK TENSION TOOL	* 1.27mm
* TENSION ADJUSTMENT TOOL FOR VARIOUS USES	* 1.50mm
* VCR ADJUSTMENT TOOL	* 1.60mm
	* 2.00mm
	* 2.40mm
	* 3.00mm

3 Reversible Screwdrivers
Spring Hook

Circclip Pliers
Micro Screwdriver

VCR Head Extractor

Order Code: TOOL10 Price: 3000p

FUSES

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

FUSES

CURRENT RATING	ORDER CODE	PRICE
CERAMIC PLUG TOP		
3A	FUSE33	100P
5A	FUSE34	100P
13A	FUSE35	100P
20MM CERAMIC TIME LAG		
3.15A	FUSE41	100P
4A	FUSE42	100P
5A	FUSE43	100P
6.3A	FUSE38	100P
8A	FUSE39	100P
10A	FUSE40	100P
32MM CERAMIC SLOW BLOW		
8A	FUSE44	210P
10A	FUSE45	210P
15A	FUSE46	210P
20A	FUSE47	210P
38MM CERAMIC SLOW BLOW		
10A	FUSE48	875P

ALL THE ABOVE PRICES ARE FOR PACKS OF 10 FUSES

I.C. PROTECTOR

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

Price: Only 30p each

AUDIO CONTROL HEAD
Amstrad Original No: 150751
Used on Amstrad TVR1.2.3, VCR4600, 4600MII, 4700
Funai V2S, VCR4600, 4800, 5200, 5600, 6600, VIP3000, 5000
Also fits: Fidelity, Funai, Hinari, Proline, Schneider, Towada, Ultravox

Order Code: AH01 Price: £13.50

Amstrad Original No: 153154
Used on Amstrad 008900, 8904, VCR2000, 6000, 8600, 8602, 8603, VCR8604, 8700, 8704, 8714, 8800, 9005, 9244
Also fits: Antitech, Boadstec, Casio, Crown, Fidelity, Goldhead, Granada, Hinari, Marguant, Omega, Protex, Schneider, SEG, Sentra, Shiplom, Tashiko, Tatung, Towada, Universum

Order Code: AH02 Price: £14.50

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Experience shows that 50% of all receiver power supplies 'bounce' unless the correct precautionary measures are taken when being serviced. A kit of all the recommended parts is supplied for the 4 most popular models, which when fitted should overcome this.

MAKE & MODEL	ORDER CODE	PRICE
PACE PRD900, PRD900	SATPSU1	670p
PACE SS9000, 9200, 9010, 9020, 9220	SATPSU2	670p
AMSTRAD SRD510, SRD520	SATPSU3	670p
AMSTRAD SRD500	SATPSU4	670p

Replacement Video Heads

MAKE	MODELS	PRICE
HITACHI	VT570, VT575, VT576, VT580, VT585, VT588, VT570	3100p
I.T.T.	VR3761	3100p
JVC & FERGUSON	HRD950, HRD960, HRD983, FV46	5000p
LUXOR	VR3761	3100p
mitsubishi	HSE51	3000p
NATIONAL	NVFS200, NVFS90, NVV8300	4600p
PANASONIC	NVHD100, NVHD101, NVHF100	3100p
	NVSD	1400p
	AG7330, AG7350, AG7355, AG7450	5000p
	NVFS100	5000p
N.E.C.	D5600	3500p
SANYO	TLS1000P, TLS1001P, TLS1100	3100p
	VHR7800, VHR7810, VHR8000SP, VHR8801SP, VHRD4800	3100p
SHARP	VCH80, VCH81, VFH815	2800p
	VCA33, VCA36, VCA43, VCA44, VCA46, VCA49	1500p
	VCA55, VCA63	2200p
SONY	SLV856, SLV715, SLV757, SLV777, SLV915, SLV825	4600p
	SLV353UB	3200p
	CCDF340E, CCDF500E, CCDV90E, CCDV95E, CCDSP5E	4800p

Original Video Heads

MAKE	MODELS	PRICE
NATIONAL PANASONIC	NVG20, NVG21, NVG22, NVG25, NVG25, NVG28, NVG200, NVD48 PART NO: VEH 0343	3000p
	NVG33, NVG45, NVG46, NVL23, NVL25, NVL28 PART NO: VEH 0417	2900p
	NVJ30, NVHJ33, NVL20, NVL21, NVG30, NVG31, NVG40, NVG130 PART NO: VEH 0416	2700p

Audio Control Head

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

AMSTRAD ORIGINAL NO: 153134
Used on: AMSTRAD DD8900, 8904, VCR2000, 6000, 6100, 8600, 8602, 8603, VCR8504, 8700, 8704, 8714, 8800, 9005, 8244
Also fits: ANITECH, BONDSPEC, CASIO, CROWN, FIDELITY, GOLDHAND, GRANADA, HINARI, MARQUANT, OMEGA, PROFEX, SCHNEIDER, SEG, SENTRA, SHINTOM, TASHIKO, TATUNG, TOWADA, UNIVERSUM ORDER CODE: AH02 PRICE: 1450p

Replacement Audio Control Video Sound Head for National Panasonic

PART NUMBER	MODELS	PRICE
VBR 0091	NVG7 etc	875p
VBR 0050	NV300, NV340 etc.	875p
VBR 0061	NV777 etc	875p
VBR 0103A	NV250, NV450 etc.	625p
VBR 0125		625p

4 way Preprogrammed Universal Remote Control

A single remote control to operate Televisions, Videos and Satellite Receivers. Plus Auxiliary Options!
* Replaces up to 8 remotes with one * Simple 4 digit setup routine
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* Stylish and easy to operate * Replace broken or lost remotes
* Original Remote not required
Order Code: RCBW8200 Price 1500p + VAT

Replacement Video Cassette Housings

MAKE	MODELS	CODE	PRICE
AKAI	VS35, VS53, VS55, VS56, VS75	CH18	2600p
GRANADA	VHSDP1	CH05	1100p
	VHSYJ2	CH01	2600p
GOLDSTAR	GHV1290P, 1291P, 1295P, 9400, 73401, GSE1295P, GSE1891P, 20001Q, 20051Q, VCP4200, 4300, 4301, 4305, VCP4306, 4311, 4315, 4316, 4320, 4321, 4325	CH25	2000p
	GHV51, 1221, 1232, 1240, 1241, 1242, 1244, 1246, 1248, GHV8000, 8200	CH26	2900p
FERGUSON & J.V.C.	3V38, 3V39, 8943, 8944, 8951, 3V35, 3V36, 3V49, HRD 110, 111, 120, 121, 225	CH01	2600p
	3V42, 3V43, 3V44, 3V45, 3V48, 3V53, 3V54, 3V55, 3V57, 8945, 8947, 8948, HRD140, 141, 150, 157, 158, 180, 250, HRD257, 455, 565, 566, 725, 755	CH02	2600p
	8948, 8950, FV10B, 12L, 13H, 14T, 20B, 21R, 22L, 26, 35S, HRD230, 430, 530	CH03	2600p
	3V58, 3V59, 3V64, 3V65, FV11R, 8950, 8951, HRD170, HRD180, HRD370	CH04	2600p
	FV31R	CH19	4300p
	HRD5, 5, 520, 527, 540, 550, 580, 600, 610, 620, 660, 670, HRD830, 840, 850, 860, 4050, 6600, FV37H	CH20	2400p
	HRD5=0, 580, 830, 860, 910, 960, HRD970, HRDX20, FERGUSON FV57H	CH27	2400p
I.T.T.	VR36G5, VR3905	CH01	2600p
	VR3915, 3926, 3946, 3948, 3976, 3986, 3995, 3997, 6944	CH02	2600p
	VR3915, 3926, 3946, 3948, 3976, 3986, 3995, 3997, 6944	CH02	2600p
NATIONAL PANASONIC	NV73C	CH06	4300p
N.E.C.	N830EG, N831EG, N832, N833EG	CH01	2600p
	N895	CH02	2600p
PHILIPS	CASSETTE LIFT ASSEMBLY (69120366) DV185, 190, 286, 471, 562, 761, VR6180, 6182, 6185, 6285, VR6290, 6291, 6293, 6362, 6367, 6393, 6467, 6468, 6470, VR6561, 6670, 6760, 6761, 6870, 6970	CH05	1100p
	VR6443	CH22	2900p
	VR6448	CH23	2500p
	495BE	CH24	2500p
SHARP	VCA1H0, VCH851, VCH852	CH22	2900p
	VCA1H3, 103GV, 106, 106GVM, 254GVM	CH23	2500p
	VCS211, 244, 5055, 605, VCB230, VCD806G, 810G, VCF212, 310, 410G, 610	CH24	2500p
TELEFUNKEN	VR2970	CH02	2600p
THOMSON	V320, 321, 323, 326, 4200, 4300	CH01	2600p
	V342, 343, 352, 353, 360, 364, 368, 4210, 4230, 4260, 4400, V5500, 6000, 8540	CH02	2600p
TOSHIBA	V65, V67	CH01	2600p
	V65, V66	CH02	2600p

Service Aids

DESCRIPTION	VOLUME	CODE	PRICE
VIDEO HEAD CLEANER	75ML	SP01	140p
SWITCH CLEANER	176ML	SP02	150p
SILICONE GREASE	200ML	SP03	170p
FREEZE IT	170ML	SP04	200p
FREEZE IT	400ML	SP16	350p
FOAM CLEANER	400ML	SP05	170p
ANTI STATIC	150ML	SP06	170p
AEROKLEANE	135ML	SP07	140p
AERO DUSTER	150ML	SP08	200p
AERO DUSTER	400ML	SP17	425p
PLASTIC SEAL	200ML	SP09	200p
GLASS CLEANER	250ML	SP10	160p
COLDKLENE	250ML	SP13	160p
EXCEL POLISH 80	250ML	SP18	150p
ADHESIVE 120	400ML	SP19	190p
LABEL REMOVER 130	200ML	SP20	240p
REFURB 140	400ML	SP21	240p
TUBE SILICON GREASE	50 GRAMMES	SP11	200p
TUBE SILICON SEALANT WHITE	75ML	SP22	280p
TUBE SILICON SEALANT CLEAR	75ML	SP23	280p
TUBE HEAT SINK COMPOUND	25 GRAMMES	SP12	150p
DRIVE CLEANER	200ML	SP24	150p
SCREEN CLEANER	200ML	SP25	150p
COMPUTER CARE KIT	—	SP26	2100p

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PART NO: KSS210A SONY CDPC301M, CDPC 305M 2200p
Fits most Sony, Akai & J.V.C. Portable Hi-Fi and Midi Systems

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USED ON MODELS:
CFD100, 105L, 120, 300, 440, 454, 455, 50, 500, 55, 58, 60
CFD68, 750, 755, 760, 765, 770, 775, 440S, W100, 100S 2200p

Cassette DC Motors

MOTOR TYPE	PRICE
6V MOTOR	170p
9V MOTOR	170p
12V CCW MOTOR	170p
12V CCW MOTOR	170p
13.2 CCW MOTOR	290p

Cassette Tape Heads

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

Soldering Accessories

DESCRIPTION	CODE	PRICE
ANTEX SOLDERING IRONS		
25 WATT 240 VAC (XS25W 240V)	S101	900p
15 WATT 240 VAC (XS15W 240V)	S102	900p
25 WATT SPARE ELEMENT	S103	450p
15 WATT SPARE ELEMENT	S104	450p
SOLDERING STAND & SPONGES		
SOLDERING STAND (MADE BY ANTEX)	S108	350p
SPARE SPONGE	S109	55p
SOLDER		
18 SWG 500 GRAMMES	S110	500p
20 SWG 500 GRAMMES	S111	650p
22 SWG 500 GRAMMES	S112	700p
DESOLDERING AIDS		
SOLDER MOP STANDARD GAUGE 1.2mm x 1.5M	S107	70p
SOLDER MOP 1.2mm x 10M	S113	300p
DESOLDERING PUMP	S105	320p
SPARE NOZZLE	S106	60p

Transistors & ICS

BU 508A (PHIL)	80p	MJE 13009	100p	2SC 3885A	350p
BU 810	110p	MJE 18004	125p	2SD 633	70p
BUZ 90A	180p	STK 6982H	600p	2SD 1680	225p
CXA 1043P	550p	STK 7253	450p	2SK 793	400p
HA 13408	350p	TDK 2030H	100p	2SK 956	1400p
IRFBC40	400p	TEA 2019	200p	2SK 1023	550p
L272	200p	TMP 47C434N	1250p	2SK 1342	750p
L6210	250p	SAA 1300	200p	2SK 1358	600p
MC 3423P	100p	2SA 1540	55p	68000	500p
MJ 15015	250p	2SC 3788	60p	82S147	450p
MJ 15015	350p	2SC 3885	350p		

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TX90	1.99
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GR11	1.99
GR12	1.99
GR13	1.99
GR14	1.99
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GR19	1.99
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GR21	1.99
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GR41	1.99
GR42	1.99
GR43	1.99
GR44	1.99
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GR46	1.99
GR47	1.99
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GR34	1.99	1485AY	1.99
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GR36	1.99	1485BA	1.99
GR37	1.99	1485BB	1.99
GR38	1.99	1485BC	1.99
GR39	1.99	1485BD	1.99
GR40	1.99	1485BE	1.99
GR41	1.99	1485BF	1.99
GR42	1.99	1485BG	1.99
GR43	1.99	1485BH	1.99
GR44	1.99	1485BI	1.99
GR45	1.99	1485BJ	1.99
GR46	1.99	1485BK	1.99
GR47	1.99	1485BL	1.99
GR48	1.99	1485BM	1.99
GR49	1.99	1485BN	1.99
GR50	1.99	1485BO	1.99
GR51	1.99	1485BP	1.99
GR52	1.99	1485BQ	1.99
GR53	1.99	1485BR	1.99
GR54	1.99	1485BS	1.99
GR55	1.99	1485BT	1.99
GR56	1.99	1485BU	1.99
GR57	1.99	1485BV	1.99
GR58	1.99	1485BW	1.99
GR59	1.99	1485BX	1.99
GR60	1.99	1485BY	1.99
GR61	1.99	1485BZ	1.99
GR62	1.99	1485CA	1.99
GR63	1.99	1485CB	1.99
GR64	1.99	1485CC	1.99
GR65	1.99	1485CD	1.99
GR66	1.99	1485CE	1.99
GR67	1.99	1485CF	1.99
GR68	1.99	1485CG	1.99
GR69	1.99	1485CH	1.99
GR70	1.99	1485CI	1.99
GR71	1.99	1485CJ	1.99
GR72	1.99	1485CK	1.99
GR73	1.99	1485CL	1.99
GR74	1.99	1485CM	1.99
GR75	1.99	1485CN	1.99
GR76	1.99	1485CO	1.99
GR77	1.99	1485CP	1.99
GR78	1.99	1485CQ	1.99
GR79	1.99	1485CR	1.99
GR80	1.99	1485CS	1.99
GR81	1.99	1485CT	1.99
GR82	1.99	1485CU	1.99
GR83	1.99	1485CV	1.99
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GR85	1.99	1485CX	1.99
GR86	1.99	1485CY	1.99
GR87	1.99	1485CZ	1.99
GR88	1.99	1485DA	1.99
GR89	1.99	1485DB	1.99
GR90	1.99	1485DC	1.99
GR91	1.99	1485DD	1.99
GR92	1.99	1485DE	1.99
GR93	1.99	1485DF	1.99
GR94	1.99	1485DG	1.99
GR95	1.99	1485DH	1.99
GR96	1.99	1485DI	1.99
GR97	1.99	1485DJ	1.99
GR98	1.99	1485DK	1.99
GR99	1.99	1485DL	1.99
GR00	1.99	1485DM	1.99

AN3822K	7.99	LA7835	1.99	STK5730	6.00	TDA1510	3.50	UPC1378	2.20	ZS8755	3.50
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AN5435	2.50	M4908B1	8.50	STK7216	7.00	TDA1516	4.00	UPC1420	5.25	ZS8861	6.00
AN5515	2.99	M4918B1	8.50	STK7226	8.50	TDA1518	4.00	UPC1470	2.00	ZS8882	0.80
AN5521	2.50	M49481	8.50	STK7238	4.25	TDA1520	4.00	UPC1488	3.50	ZS8931	1.40
AN5900	1.99	M56840A-B4	9.99	STK7348	4.50	TDA1521	3.50	UPC1490	3.50	ZS8982	0.80
M54543L	2.99	M54543L	2.99	STK7356	9.00	TDA1522	3.99	X2402P	4.25	ZS9101	0.75
M54544L	2.99	M54544L	2.99	STK8250	8.00	TDA1670	3.00	SG264A THY	7.00	ZS9238	0.25
M54545L	2.99	M54545L	2.99	STK8258	4.50	TDA1701	4.25	SG613 THY	11.00	ZS9289	0.75
M54548L	2.99	M54548L	2.99	STK7310	6.99	TDA1702	4.00	TRAHISTOR	1.00	ZS9367	0.25
M54549L	2.50	M54549L	2.50	STK7310	5.99	TDA1703	3.50	TRAHISTOR	1.00	ZS9382	0.25
M54544L	3.99	M54544L	3.99	STR5412	4.50	TDA2003	1.00	BC372	0.50	ZS9387	0.25
M54548L	3.99	M54548L	3.99	STR5620	4.50	TDA2005	1.00	BC388	0.30	ZS9391	0.50
M54544L	3.99	M54544L	3.99	STR5620	4.50	TDA2006	1.00	BF869	0.60	ZS9392	0.50
M54548L	3.99	M54548L	3.99	STR5620	4.50	TDA2007	1.00	DT114	0.80	ZS9393	0.50
M54549L	3.99	M54549L	3.99	STR41090	6.00	TDA2170	3.00	BU5000	0.99	ZS9394	0.50
M54549L	2.00	M54549L	2.00	STR44115	7.75	TDA2270	3.25	BU5084	0.99	ZS9395	2.40
M54545L	2.60	M54545L	2.60	M83731	2.99	TDA2578	2.00	BU5084F	1.30	ZS9396	0.40
M54545L	2.99	M54545L	2.99	M83732	2.99	TDA2578	3.00	BU5084F	1.30	ZS9397	1.20
M54545L	2.99	M54545L	2.99	MC1306T3	3.99	TDA2579A	2.50	BU5084F	1.30	ZS9398	0.40
M54545L	2.99	M54545L	2.99	MDA2061	5.99	TDA2582	3.00	BU903	1.60	ZS9399	1.20
M54545L	4.25	M54545L	4.25	MDA2062	4.25	TDA2600	5.75	BU908	1.99	ZS9400	0.65
M54545L	7.00	M54545L	7.00	STK430	7.00	TDA2653A	3.50	BUT113A	0.85	ZS9401	1.95
M54545L	4.99	M54545L	4.99	STK433	4.99	TDA3330	7.00	BUT113A	0.85	ZS9402	1.95
M54545L	6.99	M54545L	6.99	STK457	6.99	TDA3505	4.00	BUT113A	0.85	ZS9403	1.95
M54545L	5.99	M54545L	5.99	STK459	5.99	TDA3560	3.25	BUT113A	0.85	ZS9404	1.95
M54545L	7.99	M54545L	7.99	STK461	7.99	TDA3560	3.25	BUT113A	0.85	ZS9405	1.95
M54545L	10.00	M54545L	10.00	STK463	10.00	TDA3562	3.00	BUT113A	0.85	ZS9406	1.95
M54545L	7.50	M54545L	7.50	STK465	7.50	TDA3565	3.00	BUT113A	0.85	ZS9407	1.95
M54545L	3.99	M54545L	3.99	STK0029	3.99	TDA3576	7.00	BUT113A	0.85	ZS9408	1.95
M54545L	5.99	M54545L	5.99	STK0491	5.99	TDA3580	3.50	BUT113A	0.85	ZS9409	1.95
M54545L	9.99	M54545L	9.99	STK0600	9.99	TDA3600	10.00	BUT113A	0.85	ZS9410	1.95
M54545L	5.99	M54545L	5.99	STK2029	5.99	TDA3651	2.00	BUT113A	0.85	ZS9411	1.95
M54545L	11.00	M54545L	11.00	STK2048	11.00	TDA3653	2.99	BUT113A	0.85	ZS9412	1.95
M54545L	7.99	M545									



Video Discs

High-density CD technology, which uses a shorter-wavelength laser to increase CD storage capacity, making it ideally suited to digital video and data applications, has been with us for only a comparatively short while. Yet we are already witnessing what looks like that bugbear of consumer electronics development, a format war. Philips and Sony have now, at the recent Las Vegas Consumer Electronics Show, given a public demonstration of their system. From all reports it works very well. It has just one minor disadvantage: the playing time is not quite sufficient for some movies. So along comes Toshiba with an alternative digital video disc (DVD) which overcomes the problem by storing information on both sides of the disc. It may also have improved performance in other respects, though a public demonstration has still to be given. However that might be, the fact that it has already been given wide support by other consumer electronics manufacturers and the entertainment industry suggests that it has passed the development stage.

We should not be surprised that Toshiba has come up with a significant video innovation in this field. Though the company was the original developer of the helical-scan VTR, it didn't get involved in the VHS/Betamax/V2000 video tape system wars of the Eighties. Toshiba built its first, experimental (it was hand made!) helical-scan VTR in 1957; a trial machine was produced in

the following year, and given a public demonstration in early 1959. By 1962 Toshiba had perfected a helical-scan VTR with full-colour capability. But the company failed to follow up this initiative and go on to develop products for the consumer electronics market. Nevertheless the Toshiba Central Research Laboratory has been a significant contributor to video technology. And now the company has come up with its own version of the DVD.

The Philips-Sony camp has one advantage. It seems to have completed development of a practical system first, and can go into full production with little delay. It's unlikely to do so without significant support from the rest of the industry however. What seem to be going on at present are high-level negotiations on patent rights and exactly what technology will be used in a final DVD standard.

All this highlights the subject of managing technological innovation. It must be a fiendishly complex business. The historian has difficulty enough establishing who succeeded in producing a practical system or device first. Imagine trying to negotiate with others as parallel development programmes keep coming up with something new. Remember the battle over a colour TV standard for Europe, when PAL Mk 1, 2, 3, Secam Mk 1, 2, 3 and others were appearing by the week? With this in mind it's not surprising that

inferior systems are sometimes adopted as the standard. It probably doesn't matter too much as far as the consumer is concerned: systems can always be tweaked to obtain improved performance, as has happened with VHS.

The history of the video disc to date (from Baird's 78s of the early Thirties!) has not been a happy one. Remember JVC's VHD and RCA's capacitance disc? The latter in particular must have lost its creators a fortune. Neither made any headway against the original LaserDisc, whose performance is excellent though it never caught on. What people wanted was tape, to be able to both play and record. It would be ironic if Toshiba, which failed to take advantage of its early work on helical-scan recording, now seized the initiative with discs. Toshiba has suggested that within a couple of years or so its technology could provide us with discs that can be used for recording as well as playback. The basic idea has been around for some time now – the use of different-power lasers for the two purposes. Getting low-cost disc material that will provide a long-term store could be the problem here. Once someone comes up with a reliable play/record disc, tape could be in for a tough time.

Meanwhile we already have LaserDisc, CDi, the Video CD, Photo CD and other disc-based systems. One wonders how long it will be before they go the way of the capacitance disc.

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COVER PHOTO

This month's cover photograph shows the Ferguson ICC9 chassis. The particular set is a Model D59N. See article on pages 324-328.

Teletopics

DIGITAL VIDEO DISCS

There have been rapid developments in moves to establish a second-generation video CD format. First of all we have to start calling them DVDs instead of HDCDs. But that's the least of it: the big thing is what sort of DVDs will they be? Despite the Sony-Philips disc being demonstrated at the Las Vegas CES and making a very good impression (see page 332), the industry appears to have moved in favour of Toshiba's alternative double-sided disc, with which Time Warner has been collaborating. The thing that seems to have tipped the balance in favour of this format is the announcement that it is now being backed by Matsushita, which is still the world's largest consumer electronics manufacturer. Other firms which are backing it include Hitachi, JVC, Denon, Pioneer, Thomson and several major entertainment groups. The disc was not demonstrated at Las Vegas, but support for it is such that Sony and Philips have started top-level discussions with Toshiba, the aim being to agree on a common approach to the development of DVDs. The Sony-Philips discs have a maximum playing time of about 145 minutes: the Toshiba disc increases the playing time to around 270 minutes.

As far as the consumer is concerned this could postpone the launch of DVDs in the marketplace. Sony had suggested a launch next year, though Philips seemed to be thinking more in terms of five years or so. A disc with industry-wide backing would be to everyone's advantage. At the time of writing it looks as if this will be the Toshiba version, possibly as early as autumn 1996 – Matsushita has suggested that it will have players available then at around £320, with the discs costing £20 or so. The players are complicated by the fact that the laser has to move around after scanning one side of the disc to scan the other side. With the alternative dual-layer system that Philips and Sony have been working on with 3M, the laser has to refocus on to the deeper layer after scanning the layer closer to the surface of the disc.

Time Warner is manufacturing the Toshiba discs at its CD production plant in Pennsylvania, and has demonstrated that they can be mass-produced competitively using existing pressing equipment which has been only slightly modified. EMI, Matsushita and Pioneer have also produced test discs.

SATELLITE TV

SES, owner of the Astra satellites, has signed an agreement with Hughes Space and Communications International to produce Astra 1G. It's due to be launched in the first half of 1997 and will be the third satellite dedicated to digital transmissions at 19.2°E. Astra 1E-1G will operate in the system's high band (11.7-12.75GHz), with a total of 56 transponders. The HS601 body will be used for 1G, with gallium-arsenide solar panels generating 8kW. It will have 32 transponders for the first years of operation, with 28 active transponders at the end of its lifetime – expected lifetime is fifteen years. 100W travelling-wave tube amplifiers will provide the outputs.

While 1E is to be launched by Arianespace at Kourou, French Guiana, 1F is to be launched at the Baikonur Cosmodrome, Kazakhstan, using a Lockheed-Khrunichev-Energia International Proton D1E system. No decision has been made on the launch of 1G. Arianespace has announced the cause of the failure of Flight 70 on December 1st: because of a pres-

sure problem that resulted in insufficient supply to the gas generator, the third stage didn't operate at full thrust.

BSkyB added a net 180,000 direct-to-home subscribers during the fourth quarter of 1994. Seventy per cent subscribe to all the premium channels, paying the top monthly rate of £22.99. During the period Sky's subscriber base increased by seven per cent, from 2.64 to 2.82 million, with the churn rate falling from twelve per cent in the second half of 1993 to ten per cent during the second half of 1994 – despite a price increase in October 1994. According to BARB (Broadcasters' Audience Research Board) figures the total number of homes able to receive Sky programming now exceeds four million.

Philex Plc., Philex House, 110-124 The Broadway, West Hendon, London NW9 7BP (0181 202 1717, fax 0181 202 0014) is now distributing the Taiwanese-manufactured Veccom 40031 LNB in the UK. The impressive noise figure is 0.8dB, while its compact dimensions (129 x 40mm) make installation easy. The glass fibre cap over the horn, instead of the more usual plastic type, should provide improved performance under adverse weather conditions.

Baylin book distributor Swift Television Publications, 17 Pittsfield, Cricklade, Wilts SN6 6AN (01793 750 620, fax 01793 752 399) can now supply, at £59 plus carriage (UK £5, rest of Europe £5, rest of the world £16), the 1995/96 *World Satellite Yearly*. This 786-page, large-format reference book provides up-to-date information on the programming available at sites across the globe as well as on equipment, broadcast methods and standards, an overview of scrambling and encryption techniques and much else. Footprints are included for nearly all of the world's operational broadcast satellites, presented in a standard format.

THE VIDEO MARKET

According to research consultancy BIS Strategic Decisions the video rental market peaked at £578m in 1993, falling back to £545m in 1994. Sales of cassettes increased from £630m to £751m during the same period – they have doubled in value over the past five years, from £340 in 1990. The video market has been changing. While the rental side enjoyed rapid growth in the Eighties, it is now in decline with video sales increasing sharply. There has also been a marked trend away from corner shop video stores to the larger type.

Blockbuster, the largest UK video retailer, is to close 133 of its Ritz rental shops. The Ritz name is to be dropped: 225 Ritz units have already been converted to Blockbuster Express shops and the remaining 350 outlets will be converted to this format. There are now 83 Blockbuster Superstores.

TV SETS

Sony and Philips are to launch PALplus sets later this year. Nokia plans to introduce a PALplus adaptor this spring for existing widescreen TV sets. Channel Four is expected to increase the number of PALplus broadcasts this year. Recent Sharp releases include a projection set, Model XV315P, that can produce pictures measuring up to 100in. diagonally. The display uses a 3.6in. TFT LC panel with over 100,386 pixels and a newly developed metal halide lamp which produces a picture brightness of 330 lux. Suggested price is £1,800.

DON'T FORGET!

The cost of a colour TV licence will be £86.50 from April 1st. A monochrome TV licence will cost £28.50 from the same date.

VCR Clinic

Reports from Brian Storm, Eugene Trundle, Mike Leach, Bob McClenning, Michael Dranfield, Chris Watton, David Belmont, Gerald Smith and Terry Lamoon

Panasonic NVSD40

This machine wouldn't accept a cassette. Replacing the BA6219B loading motor drive chip seemed to cure the fault, but the machine failed again on the soak test bench. Eventually we found that the cause of the problem was a dry-joint at one of the loading motor pins: it sparked intermittently, blowing the drive chip. **B.S.**

Panasonic NVJ30/35 and NVL20/25/28

Intermittent stopping or shutting down, usually with the mechanism remaining fully loaded, is a common fault with all these machines. In nearly every case the cause is dry-joints at P2001, the capstan motor connector. Always resolder this socket and ensure that the plug is properly inserted. **B.S.**

Panasonic NVFS90

There were various complaints with this machine: picture problems, no VHS or S-VHS playback, and the owner mentioned fine lines across the picture when it was there. Lack of playback was soon narrowed down to the sub-luminance pack where we found that C3501 (1 μ F, 50V) which couples the input to the CCD delay line chip IC3504 was open-circuit.

We then found that the restored picture was smeary, with the fine lines complained about in evidence. These faults were cured by replacing C3509 and C3516 (both 3-3 μ F, 16V) which decouple pins 6 and 15 of the CCD delay line chip.

A check on the S-VHS playback produced a badly distorted, mushy picture. When IC303 was treated to a quick squirt of freezer the picture cleared up, proving that a replacement (VEFH05B) was required.

Finally, while the machine was on soak test another fault developed: fine lines across the picture slowly became more distinct. The cause of this fault was traced to yet another electrolytic capacitor, this time C3311 (10 μ F, 16V) which decouples the output buffer for the 1H delay line in the HQ pack.

The machine was then pronounced fit to resume its duties. **B.S.**

Akai VS422/425 etc

The symptom of a dim or extinguished fluorescent display with this range of models is well known: Akai has a modification kit (part no. BX744015J) which provides a cure. On two occasions recently however we've found that the display panel failed to come to life after fitting the kit. In each case the primary winding of the oscillator transformer L404 had gone open-circuit. Don't be fooled by the fact that the circuit continues to oscillate: the coil in parallel with L404's primary winding sustains oscillation. **E.T.**

Panasonic NVF70

If the symptom with one of these machines is no-go (dead) or reluctance to start, the likelihood is that the kick-start capacitor C1109 in the power supply has dried up. It gets very

warm in its little box. Replace C1114 while you are at it. To prevent premature failure of the replacements make sure that you use 105°C rated components in both positions. **E.T.**

JVC HRS5800

If complete failure to operate (no display, no action) is the problem with one of these machines it's likely that the UNSW 12V line is at zero voltage because the 22 Ω fusible resistor R15 in the power supply is open-circuit. The resistor seems to fail for internal reasons – we've never found it to be overloaded. **E.T.**

Sanyo VHR3300

Now that these machines are ageing a total jam up of the tape loading mechanism is becoming common. It's usually instigated by failure of the half-load arm to move clear of the exit guide assembly during the unlacing process. The cause is the fact that the metal pin on the half-load lever assembly has listed to starboard. Replacement is the only cure: it's item 79 in the exploded deck view in the manual. **E.T.**

Samsung VI712

This 7 series Samsung machine wouldn't record. When a new recording was played back nothing had been erased and nothing had been recorded on the tape. The cause was simply dry-joints on the main panel. These machines do suffer from dry-joints which cause various symptoms. **M.L.**

Ferguson 3V57/JVC HRD755

The customer complained of frequent tape damage. We tried everything: idlers, pinch rollers, the capstan motor. On its unhappy return to the workshop yet again it went wrong – this was the first time we'd actually seen the fault! Transistor Q604 in the capstan control line was the cause of the trouble. It's mounted on a large heatsink on the top main PCB and was going open-circuit very intermittently. **B.McC.**

Hitachi VT130

When this machine was switched on and a cassette was inserted none of the functions would work until play had been pressed. Once play had been pressed stop, fast forward and rewind worked all right, but when the cassette had been ejected and the operate button pressed the loading arms would start to come out and the loading motor continued to run, much to the distress of the loading belts.

Extensive checks eventually brought me to pin 6 of the syson chip IC901 – the power control pin. The voltage here was high at around 7V. Since the supply to the chip is 5V, the voltage at pin 6 in the high state should be 5V. Tracing back through R952 I found that the voltage was even higher, about 10V. Checks in the power supply revealed that D865 (1S2473) in the power on/off control system was short-circuit. With a sigh or relief I fitted a 1N4148 as a replacement and then tried the machine again. To my horror the fault was still present, and this time the machine couldn't be turned

off, remaining on all the time. As the power control line was still at 10V I lifted pin 4 of CN852 on the power PCB, but the 10V was still present at R952. The only other component connected to the power control line is D508 (1SS119): when this was removed and checked it was also found to be short-circuit. Another 1N4148 restored normal operation, with the power control line back at 5V in the on state. **M.Dr.**

Matsui VX6600

This machine wouldn't load a cassette. When we checked it we found that the BA6247 loading motor drive chip was getting hot. Was it the motor or the chip? We disconnected one lead to the motor and fed it from an external power supply. As it was in order a new chip was obtained and fitted, restoring normal operation. **M.Dr.**

Ferguson FV52

The dealer who brought this machine along had already changed the mode switch. There were two complaints. First the deck would carry out all sorts of operations without being asked. The cassette housing went up and down of its own accord, and cogs would grind. To make matters more difficult the faults were intermittent, ruling out mechanical alignment problems. Sometimes the machine would function normally. The second complaint was that there was no sound mute in the video search mode. On test we found that there was another problem: no E-E or playback pictures, just a blank screen.

Replacing the end sensors made no difference. We then found that when going through the modes play, rewind and fast forward the mode control motor, once the function had been selected and the machine was running, would twitch back and forwards on its own. A check through the circuit diagram revealed a likely suspect. Feeds from the cam switch, the cassette housing in switch and the end sensors go to a TC4021BP expander chip, IC161, on the capstan drive PCB. Replacing this cured the mechanical faults.

On then to the sound fault. Pin 18 of IS18 should go high in video search to mute the sound. It stayed low. Tracing the source back via diodes DW26 and DW27 brought us to two more expander chips, both type MC14094, on the main PCB. As replacements made no difference we decided to look for the cause of the video fault and come back to the sound one later.

Not much was happening at the video chip because the supply at pin 25 was 2V instead of 5V. After much messing around with no thanks to the manual we found an open-circuit Wickman fuse – it wasn't shown in our circuit diagram. Replacing it cured the remaining faults, as IW18 and IW27 are both fed from the 5V supply. **M.Dr.**

Matsui VX6600

This machine was brought in because there was no record picture. It played back all right, but in the E-E mode there was only a blue screen. On channel change a very ragged and overloaded picture appeared for half a second, then the blue screen returned. Checks in the vision i.f. strip revealed that C17, an 0.1µF, 50V electrolytic, was open-circuit. It decouples pin 4 of the vision/sound i.f. chip IC6001. **C.W.**

JVC HRD520

If the complaint is that the picture rolls or is in forward search all the time, check whether the brass retainer for one of the slant pole guide blocks – usually the supply side one

– has come out. It may have been forced out of the guide block because of tape reclaim failure when unloading: some customers then pull the cassette out so hard that the tape breaks!

The mode switch is well worth checking. It may be that the tape loops around the guides etc. A component tester is great for checking mode switches. Check all combinations of the switch pins: if you see any raggedness, chuck the switch in the bin. The trace will be in either one position or the other, with no in between. Try the tester with a new one for experience. **C.W.**

Amstrad VCR9000

The tape was stuck in and wouldn't eject. When the machine was switched on, the stop symbol and channel indicator lit, the tape laced up about half way then the machine powered down and the cassette symbol flashed. If you pushed the power button the machine would unlatch then release fully, but with no drum rotation. The machine then shut down with only the cassette symbol flashing. Checks in the sub-power supply, on the main PCB, revealed that the power-on 5V was low at only 1V. The cause was transistor Q1505, which had a leaky base-emitter junction. Although a bit hefty, a BD131 proved to be a worthy substitute. **C.W.**

Samsung VI611

There was a loading fault with this machine: the loading motor tried to push the cassette tray out when it was already out with no cassette in it. After a few seconds the motor stopped and the power LED blinked. The cause of all this was switch 'a' on the lift assembly. It's the one beneath the stopper cam that prevents a second tape being inserted when one is already in. It also acts when the tray reaches its extreme unloaded position. As it was open it didn't tell the microcontroller chip to stop. **C.W.**

Akai VS1

This good old VCR had a cassette stuck half way in. The power LED came on as soon as the machine was plugged in, and the cassette lamp was lit, but there was no lift power. After poking about in the motor control system and worrying about the big i.c.s in the system control I spotted it – one of the wires had fallen off the cassette lift motor. Don't you feel a fool? – but relieved. **C.W.**

Philips VR6362

When a tape was inserted the machine powered down. The cause of this was the drum motor, which was very tight. No drum rotation switches the machine off of course. **C.W.**

Saisho VR905S

Intermittent loss of colour was the complaint with this machine. The cure was replacement of the two crystals X3001 and X3002 and realignment of the chroma circuits. **D.B.**

Panasonic NVSD40

This machine wouldn't record. Playback of prerecorded tapes was fine, but playback of one of its own 'recordings' produced just snow. Modulated r.f. reached the head amplifier, so the problem had to be within the head amplifier's screening can. We found that several of IC501's pins were

dry-jointed. Resoldering them provided a complete cure. **D.B.**

Matsui VX2500/VX2700

We've had a couple of these machines in recently because of no-colour faults. Replacing X4301 and IC4001 in the VX2700 restored the colour. With the VX2500 the colour dropped out when the machine warmed up. Use of freezer and a hairdryer brought us to IC4001. A replacement put an end to the trouble. **D.B.**

Ferguson FV68TX

The playback sound would switch from stereo to mono. This is becoming a very common fault with modern VCRs. Because the entry and exit guides had worked loose the playback envelope was very poor. Setting them up and locking them cured the fault. **D.B.**

Mitsubishi HS347

There were no functions and no display. Checks showed that the standby 5V supply was missing. The cause of this was traced to Q9A0, which was short-circuit base to emitter. A replacement restored normal operation. **G.S.**

Sharp VC484HM

There was either no or distorted right-channel sound with Nicam operation. I found that the waveform at pin 22 of IC1701 was distorted – the audio was not being converted properly. Resoldering pins 2, 3, 15 and 16 of IC702 restored full Nicam sound. **G.S.**

Toshiba V212

This machine would sometimes fail to accept or eject a tape, and appeared to load and unload rather slowly. A new loading motor put matters right. **G.S.**

Panasonic NVF70

There was no Nicam stereo. Checks at IC7901 (TA8662N) in the Nicam section showed that there was a digital audio output at pin 29 but no clock waveform at pin 27. X7902 wasn't oscillating and as pin 24 of IC7901 read 10Ω to chassis I decided to replace it. This restored the Nicam sound. **G.S.**

Samsung VIK310

This machine would cut off intermittently during record or playback. I found that the take-up was jerky and would very intermittently stop. The cause of this is a stiff 'idler arm' – the felt pad wears. **G.S.**

Sanyo VHR7250

This machine would play for about five seconds then cut out. I noticed that the loading motor continued to run after loading up. A replacement mode switch cured the fault. **G.S.**

Philips VR6542

This machine's recordings were very poor. The pictures produced were dull and rolled. There was just as bad a picture in the E-E mode. A check showed that the waveform at the video output socket was badly cramped. The video

input to the YC PCB was o.k., but the output was cramped. C201 on the YC board was the cause of the trouble, a replacement putting matters right. **G.S.**

JVC HRD910

This machine failed to play and damaged tapes. On test I found that the drum and capstan motors turned very slowly. Checks on the servo PCB showed that the motor 13V and SWD 5V supplies were o.k. Further checks on this panel revealed that the fsc input at pin 42 of IC1 was missing. It comes from the video area, where there was no signal at crystal X1. I next found that the SWD 5V supply here was missing. Moving back I discovered that CP803 was open-circuit. It's not shown on the circuit diagram, but you'll find it near the corner of the main PCB, in the pinch roller area. **G.S.**

JVC HRC100

This machine is one of those that accepts normal or VHS-C camcorder cassettes. The problem was that it would load but not play. A check on the voltages showed that the 5V switched supply was missing. As usual with JVC VCRs a circuit protector (CP2) in the line had gone open-circuit. A replacement restored normal operation. **T.L.**

Panasonic NVF65

This machine worked perfectly when first switched on. But after an hour or so the channel jumped to the next one. As time went by the jumps got faster and faster. Each time it happened the machine beeped, so I thought I'd better cure it quickly before it drives me mad. Fortunately a squirt of freezer on the MN187125VFM tuning chip IC1 soon proved that it was the culprit. After fitting a replacement the machine never beeped on its own accord again! **T.L.**

Matsui VP9301

There was no playback sound with this machine. Tracing the signal path back I came to C5015 which was dry-jointed. Resoldering it restored the sound. **T.L.**

Akai VS55

If one of these machines is reluctant to come out of standby, or it does but the capstan seems to operate sluggishly, check the capacitors in the power supply, especially C15 (220μF, 25V). These electrolytics cause many problems as they dry out. **T.L.**

Mitsubishi HSB12

There was a strange fault with this machine. It could be tuned in when in the preset tuning mode but in the normal mode channels couldn't be obtained. I suspected the tuning or EAROM chip, but before ordering replacements I decided to check on the supplies. This was a worthwhile move: the -30V supply at pin 2 of the EAROM chip was low at about -10V. Moving back to the power supply I found that the fusible resistor R904 was open-circuit. Its replacement, using the correct type, restored normal operation. **T.L.**

Matsui VX6000A

On test I found that the capstan and drum were both rotating too fast. Replacing IC2001 (OEC9011) restored the correct speeds. **T.L.**

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Satellite Notes

Reports from Andrew Tebbutt,
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Pace PRD800

The cause of a dead unit is commonly failure of the 100k Ω , 2W start-up resistor R2 in the power supply – it goes open-circuit. If the unit remains dead after replacing this item check D5 and D6, both type BYV96D, in the snubber network associated with the chopper transistor. One or both of these diodes may be leaky. They are best checked by replacement. In this event the BUT11A chopper transistor Q1 may also need to be replaced though it reads o.k. when checked with a meter. **A.T.**

Ferguson SRD4

If the 15V supply is missing, replace TP71 (BC369), CP69 (1,000 μ F, 25V), DP69 (BA158) and DP72 (1N4007). **G.W.**

Amstrad SRD500

The power supply started up quickly then went straight into the trip mode. Adjustment of the set voltage potentiometer stopped the tripping and allowed the unit to run, but the regulation was poor and tripping occurred at the next power up. The faulty component was C5, which had dried up. **J.Le.J.**

Echostar SR5500

For a dead unit with no power supply start up, check R1 (330k Ω) and R2 (100k Ω). These resistors go open-circuit or high in value. **C.W.**

Pace SS9200

One of these receivers came in with the mains fuse and the 4.7 Ω resistor open-circuit. Although a short-circuit could be read across the collector and emitter of the chopper transistor both this item and the mains rectifier's reservoir capacitor were o.k. After further tests we found that there was an interwinding short between the primary winding and the close-coupled feedback winding of the chopper transformer – the primary read short to chassis. A new transformer, fuse and resistor restored normal operation. **N.B.**

Thomson SVA1 VideoCrypt Decoder

This one had been dropped and displayed the message "Programme Not Available". Not surprisingly the cause of the fault was broken print. The only breaks were at the rear right-hand corner of the board however, on the tracks to and from the regulators. This odd symptom could have led one to suspect a fault at the chip end of the board. It could equally have been caused by dry-joints around or failure of the i.c. regulators. **N.B.**

Up-market and Steerable Units

While a combined LNB/polariser is generally used nowadays, the more up-market types consist of separate units that are joined together with a circular neoprene washer and a sheet of plastic material. Preventing water from seeping into the joint and ruining both sections has always been a problem. In the past the solution has usually involved liberal application of

insulating tape, self-amalgamating tape or bathroom sealer! There's a much easier solution however. Simply discard the plastic sheet, using a trace of silicone grease instead. Bolt up tightly and leave. I can only assume that the water seepage is caused by capillary action, the plastic being an ideal medium for this. Your call-back rate will drop dramatically when this solution is adopted. **R.P.**

Pace Modifications

MSS500 and MSS1000: With software versions up to and including 105 the audio output from the Surround sound speakers isn't muted when the receiver is operating in the timer mode. Software version 108 amends this. To carry out the modification replace U4 Z8 PCB version 1-5 with version 8, part no. 805-1000108.

MSP995: The software has been upgraded, by reducing the time window for an acceptable feedback pulse from 10 to 5msec, to provide compatibility with photointerrupter-type actuators that produce fourteen pulses per rotation. To carry out the modification replace processor U1 8621 with the later version part no. 809-8621707.

MRD950: The following modification enables J17 de-emphasis to operate with this model:

(1) Remove link 89 on the main PCB.

(2) Fit a wire link (100 x 0.5mm insulated) from the solder pad for link 89 farthest from the edge of the main PCB to pin 3 of PL1 on the underside of the MAC PCB. Secure the wire link with a spot of silicone adhesive at each end.

(3) Change U4 on the Z8 microcontroller board to version 2, part no. 805-0950101.

MSP991 and MSP995: The dish positioners used with these models can be susceptible to mains-borne interference. As a result there may be intermittent, random movement of the dish actuator. The problem can be overcome by carrying out the following modification:

(1) Remove links 21 and 36.

(2) Fit a 330pF, 10 per cent, 100V 5mm ceramic capacitor (part no. 150-3317651) in place of link 36.

(3) Replace R1 with a 100k Ω , 0.25W 5 per cent carbon film resistor (part no. 140-1042501).

(4) Fit a 1N4148 diode (part no. 120-0414801) in parallel with R1, with its anode end towards SK1 (the ring indicates the cathode end).

(5) Fit a 4.7nF, 10 per cent, 100V 5mm ceramic capacitor (part no. 150-4727651) between pins 5 and 11 of U1.

(6) Fit a 100 μ H axial lead inductor (part no. 130-1000611) in place of link 21.

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Not all models are shown for each make. A vast range of other makes & models i.e. Akai, Alba, Aiwa, Fidelity, Fisher, Funai, GEC, Goldstar, Granada, Grundig, Hinar, Orion, Philips, Sanyo, Sentra, Proline, Salaria, Sony, Samsung, Toshiba & Mitsubishi are available

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LETTERS

WORDPERFECT WP6.0 FOR WINDOWS

WordPerfect WP6.0 for Windows (Test Report, January) at £329! Haven't you heard of the street price for items of computer equipment and software (or photographic equipment and lots of other things)? Many suppliers offer WP6.0a at prices in the range £210-£220, some at even less. Or look at the surplus dealers. Borland Office 2, which contains WP6.0, the Paradox 4.5 database and the Quattro Pro 5.0 spreadsheet is good value – but make sure that you get WP6.0a or later (if you don't get WP6.0a insist on a free upgrade from WordPerfect). Evesham Micros have been advertising this at £129, UK Home Computers at £125. There may still be some copies of WP5.2Win at around £50, though I understand that WP has decided to reissue this in slightly updated form, presumably with a street price of £200 plus.

More seriously, we were very unhappy with WP6.0 and, after some arguing and a very long wait, obtained the upgrade to WP6.0a free of charge. This stopped the crashes, but why should we be expected to upgrade the RAM in our system from 4Mbytes to 8Mbytes in order to run it considerably more slowly than we did with WP5.2? WP has now released WP6.1, which runs faster, but they want another £79 from us for the upgrade. Using WP6.0a we still had problems with the graphics, so we are using Word where we need the graphics facilities and staying with WP5.2 for those jobs where the customer insists that we use WP.

WP6.0 has changed the user interface completely. The pull-down menus are all different, the dialogue boxes much more complex, the font menu has disappeared (it requires many more clicks to change from bold to italics – only two clicks are required with WP5.2). The print preview function has also gone, which would have been o.k. if we hadn't had problems with the printed page being different from the display on the screen. You can configure WP6.0 with WP5.2's menus, but only at installation time, not at run time.

I am minded to send our WP6.0 licence back and ask for a refund.

*Peter W. Tomlinson,
Bristol.*

David Botto comments: The price I gave (£329) is the suggested retail price. In discussing software in a previous article (see page 721, August 1994) I pointed out that it is "advisable to shop around for prices before buying software – but check that the program is actually in stock and that it is the latest version". Incidentally this applies to PC hardware as well.

I have used both WP6.0 for Windows and the DOS version WP6.0b. Maybe I've been fortunate, but I have not so far experienced any crashes and am happy with both the Windows and DOS versions.

WP6.0 for Windows is a very powerful program. As such it requires as a minimum a 386 processor, 4Mbytes of RAM and Windows version 3.1 or later, as I pointed out at the beginning of my Test Report.

To view a document before printing, use View Mods – draft, page or two-page mode.

There seem to be two camps amongst wordprocessor users: those who prefer WP6.0 and those who plump for Microsoft Word for Windows. It's a good idea to see and try both before buying.

WP6.1 for Windows has one additional advantage over version 6.0a: it has Grammatik 6 instead of Grammatik 5.

MONITOR CIRCUITS

Philip Blundell asks about a source of monitor circuit diagrams (TV Fault Finding, January). I work for a maintenance company that repairs monitors: we have been able to get quite a number of circuits from Logitron Ltd., 42 Berrymeade Road, London W4 5SD (0181 747 3737).

Incidentally the Lite-On CM1414 that Philip repaired is also the Elonex SV14. This company will supply a circuit diagram, as will quite a lot of others.

*Mike Webster,
Canvey Island.*

ENTER THE TRADE – MAYBE

If I could add my twopennyworth to the saga of whether or not to enter the TV trade, I would say that it all depends. First on the type of person you are, and secondly on the circumstances of your employment.

When I started in the Fifties I had no formal qualifications. But I could repair television sets, and the shortage of engineers then was such that this was often the only qualification you needed. But the technology was laughable in comparison to now. The average power supply for example consisted of a mains transformer, a rectifier valve and a couple of smoothing condensers (sorry, capacitors!) with a series resistor or possibly a choke. Component count: 5. Compare that with a modern switch-mode circuit.

In those days you were regarded as some sort of wizard if you could repair television sets, and were treated like an honoured guest when you visited a customer's house. The money was good too. Not too many seventeen year olds ran cars in the Fifties, but most of the TV engineers I knew did.

New technology started to appear at an increasing rate, and I couldn't wait to get inside the sets to find out how they worked. But at 55 it's a different story. New technology now makes me bury my head in my hands. Whether it's age, lack of interest or just plain laziness I don't know, but I find it much harder to work than I used to do.

An additional problem today is the diversity of makes and types of equipment. It's nowadays a coincidence if I get two sets that are the same in a week: they are sometimes very different beasts. In the early days most sets were basically the same and, with relatively few components, they could usually be serviced without the need to consult a circuit diagram. Now maybe fifty per cent of sets with simple faults can be fixed without a circuit, but for the rest a manual, often at considerable expense, is required. The situation is better when you service a number of similar pieces of equipment, especially if you have all the relevant service data.

So, if you are an electronic whizkid, GO FOR IT! But if your brain is as fogged as mine, forget it.

*Peter Nutkins,
Charmouth.*

THE MATSUI 1580

Donald Bullock made a serious error in dealing with that Matsui 1580 (January, page 176). We've had the fault (dead set) many times with this model and the various equivalents. The basic cause is always C818 (1µF, 50V) in the power supply – it dries out.

The design follows the standard TDA4601 arrangement, with output regulation based on feedback from winding 7-8 on the chopper transformer. A negative voltage produced by

D803/C818 is fed to pin 3 of the chip. This pin also receives, via R803/4, a positive voltage from pin 1. The net result is that the voltage at pin 3 is around 2.5V. As the output load increases, the voltage across C818 falls and the voltage at pin 3 rises, telling the chip to increase the output voltages. Consequently as C818 dries out with age the voltage at pin 3 will be higher and the h.t. voltage will, over a period of time, increase. We usually find that R811 is damaged and that because of the excessive secondary voltages C810 (220µF, 160V), C806 (1,000µF, 16V) and C808 (1,000µF, 25V) will have either burst and leaked electrolyte or, because of the high internal temperature, have suffered a serious loss of capacitance. R409 (2.7kΩ) and C410 (100µF, 16V) are also items to check.

The stability of C818 and the equivalent capacitor in other TDA4600-4601 type power supply circuits is critical. I recommend using only a tantalum capacitor of the same value as a replacement. To see why, disconnect the line output transistor and load the h.t. rail (across C810) with a 100W bulb. Cool C818 with freezer and watch the bulb light up to almost full brightness as the 112V h.t. voltage rises to around 220V!

Don't be surprised if the customer complains that the picture isn't as good as it used to be, as the tube will have been run with a much higher than normal e.h.t. at its final anode.

If Donald replaced only the components he mentioned and reset the h.t. the receiver will have come bouncing back quicker than a rubber ball – especially if it's used in a cold house.

*Michael Dranfield,
Buxton, Derbyshire.*

THOSE MOD KIT CAPACITORS

Further to my complaint about the high cost of Akai modification kits, it is reassuring to know that manufacturers put a lot of time and research into any problems they may have (letter, January). It's a pity that they didn't do that when designing the circuit originally.

The high-temperature capacitors I always fit, from CHS, are the same price as 85° capacitors.

It's interesting that the Salora/Nokia SV9900 has exactly the same circuit and that there is also a modification for this. Yes, you've guessed it, it consists of one capacitor.

On checking my records I find that I have completed seven repairs: none have bounced! I have consulted other repairers in this area and they all agree.

*J. Lunniss,
Swindon.*

THANKS ALBA

There have been numerous complaints about unhelpful manufacturers. Someone asked for good news on this front instead of the usual moans. Well, I found that Alba could not have been more helpful.

I wrote to the firm about an MS4990. The problem was that if you switched the tape deck to record while playing a CD the CD would stop. I was told to replace the series regulator Q101 in the power supply to the tape deck, though it tests o.k. Alba rang me with this information, which I think is excellent technical backup.

Perhaps others will find this bit of information helpful – thanks Alba!

I have had a good response from other firms as well, such as Goodmans (loudspeaker faults with car radios), Sigma Alarms and many more.

*Jim Littler,
Wigan, Lancs.*

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Inside the Ferguson ICC9 Chassis

Part 1

Mark Paul

The ICC9 is the most recent Thomson chassis to appear in the UK, in sets using the Ferguson brand name. As usual the basic design is international, customised by feature adjustment and circuit alteration to suit individual national markets. Although the chassis incorporates many new and novel features, those familiar with Thomson technology will recognise it as part of an evolutionary process. The closest link is the IDC2 chassis, which lost its way in the 16:9 HDTV debacle – it's currently used in the UK in only the Ferguson Pro Logic Model DSF68NX.

The ICC9 makes extensive use of minimef and surface-mounted chip components. As a result there has been a large reduction in the overall component count – about 15 per cent in comparison with the ICC8 chassis. This state-of-the-art approach, with robot production, should mean improved product reliability in both the short and the long term. Two new, highly-integrated Thomson-designed i.c.s have, along with a new, improved scart circuit, enabled the i.c. count to be reduced by a factor of six in comparison with the ICC8. There has also been a massive reduction in the mechanical alignment procedures required since all adjustments, with the exception of a remaining few in the north-south correction module if and when this is fitted, are carried out under I2C bus control. All in all the chassis represents a further step by Thomson in its drive to reduce production costs while maintaining product reliability and quality.

The chassis can drive a range of displays ranging from a 51cm c.r.t. to a 96in. back-projection system currently being sold in the USA. This means that the ICC9 is intended to replace, eventually, the ICC7 and ICC8 chassis. The current range of Ferguson models that are fitted with the ICC9 chassis is as follows:

Mono sound: D59F.

Nicam sound: D51ND, D59N, D68N and D78N.

Nicam plus Phillippe Starck presentation: S59N and S68N.

Features

The following are the main features: a DFS or FST black matrix tube; 69 programmable channels plus two AV channels; Fastext; u.h.f./v.h.f. (cable) capability; 16:9 format switching; PSI (Picture Signal Improvement – produces crisper definition and better colour rendering); two scart sockets, with SVHS/Hi8 compatibility and modified NTSC video playback; 2 x 20W audio output; Surround sound; Nicam; dual remote type RHT10, or F2000 for Starck

models; Navigator menu control (Expanded IMC – Interactive Menu Control); auto tuning – the receiver requires only country identification at installation; a timer for sleep and wake up; child lock. There are three service mode adjustment menus: set-up (TV settings); video adjustments; geometry adjustments

Overview and Block Diagram

Fig. 1 shows a block diagram of the ICC9 chassis.

The chopper power supply is based on the Thomson IDC2 chassis. A TEA2261 chip (IP01) drives the chopper transistor, but this chip is itself under control of the Thomson-designed STV2160 multi-function chip IV01. More on this item later. From the servicing point of view the thing to note is that the h.t. voltage (U_{sys}) is set up via the remote control handset, which in the Service Mode communicates with IV01 via the I2C bus.

The circuitry used in the line and field output stages is again taken from the IDC2 chassis, with certain modifications to beef up the drive currents. A variety of tube types and sizes up to a maximum of 89cm can be driven. Geometry correction is set up in the Service Mode via the I2C bus. The line and field output devices are attached to aluminium heatsinks which are mounted across the rear and left-hand side of the chassis.

The tuner is type MPT2015, the i.f. module being IF2605 for mono sound and IF2145 for Nicam stereo sound. These cans are inherited from earlier Thomson IC series chassis. A development in this area is an alignment-free sound trap circuit, removing the last mechanical alignment procedure here.

A stand-alone satellite tuner can be fitted to the chassis but is not at present an option offered with UK models.

Two completely independent scart sockets are mounted at the rear of the chassis. Both will accept separate YC, composite video (CVBS) and audio signals. The scart-1 socket is wired up in accordance with the full Cenelec standard, while RGB operation is not available with the scart-2 socket. Switching between the AV1 and AV2 sources and the signals from the tuner is carried out using simple CMOS i.c.s which are controlled by the microcontroller chip IR01. Electronic enhancements have been added to improve the performance when external signal sources are used. Audio signal processing depends on the model specification, i.e. mono or Nicam. There are front panel video and audio input sockets which are wired in parallel with the AV1 connector. Use of loop-through facilities and the AV2 connector enables camera dubbing and editing to be carried out.

Colour signal processing is spread over three i.c.s. The newly-designed Thomson STV2151 chip IC01, a multi-standard device, carries out the initial chroma and luminance signal processing, i.e. filtering and chroma demodulation. It enables AV input signals of all standards, i.e. PAL, Secam, NTSC 3.58MHz and NTSC 4.43MHz, to be decoded. The chroma delay line is integrated into this chip. This, along with integrated switchable traps, results in whatever information is being processed appearing at the outputs in YUV form (luminance plus two colour-difference signals).

The second chip in this area, a Philips TDA4671 (IC02), provides Picture Signal Improvement (PSI). This means Colour Transient Improvement (CTI) plus adjustable luminance delay then peaking and coring.

The YUV signals are matrixed in the STV2160 chip IV01 to provide RGB outputs. This chip also accepts and switches in external or text/OSD RGB signals; provides

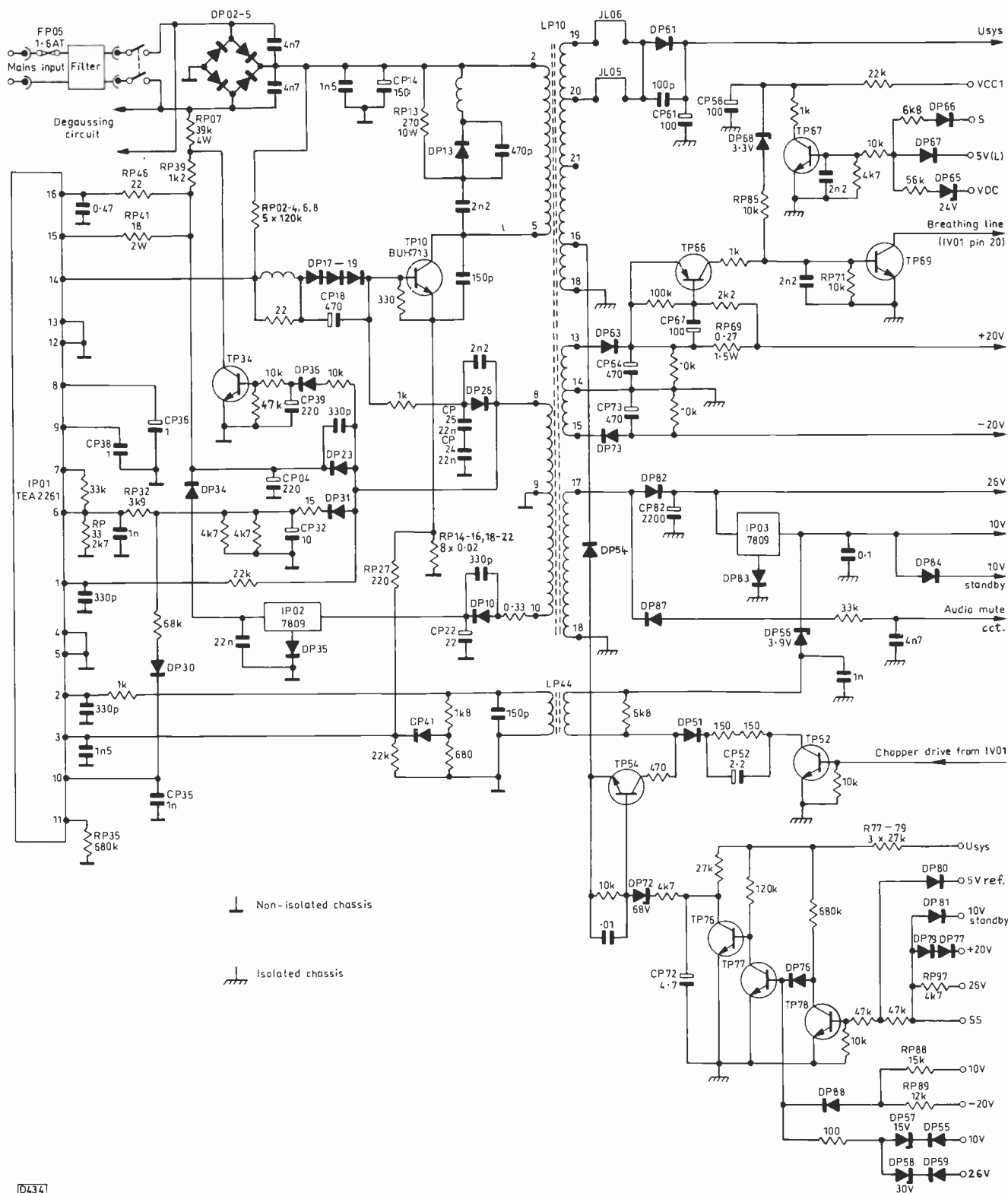


Fig. 2: The chopper power supply and trip arrangements in the Ferguson ICC9 chassis.

designed ST9093 Thomson microcomputer chip IR01. It controls the on-screen display menus, customer adjustments, teletext operation and the production and service adjustments via the I2C bus. It's backed by a 512Kbyte 24C04 EEPROM which is used to store transient customer information.

Additional modules can be fitted to the chassis to increase its capabilities, for example an NS correction module for use with Super Planar and BSP tubes, dynamic focus circuitry for large tubes and a zoom function module for both 4:3 and 16:9 formats.

Service Mode and Alignment

The following procedure gives access to the service mode, which produces the various menus for adjustments. For full information on this and other servicing matters the service manual should be consulted.

- (1) Disconnect all scart cables.
- (2) Switch the set on by pressing the on-board on/off switch. Then switch to standby by operating the remote control unit's standby button. The set is in the standby mode when

the red light is on.

(3) Switch the set off by pressing the on-board on/off switch. Wait for the red light to go off.

(4) Press the blue videotext key on the remote control unit while switching the set on with the on-board on/off switch. The set will come on after a few seconds.

(5) Enter the service mode by pressing the blue key on the remote control unit.

To exit the service mode, switch the set to standby or off by using the on/off key.

Operation of the Chopper Power Supply

The power supply uses a TEA2261 chip (IP01) to control the chopper transistor. This chip is also used in the ICC6, ICC7 and ICC8 chassis and has been described before in these pages, so we don't need to go into details about its internal workings here. A block diagram was shown in the article on the ICC6 chassis last October (see page 863). Unlike the ICC6 chassis, but as with the ICC7 and ICC8, the TEA2261 is for regulation purposes controlled from the secondary side of the circuit – at pin 2. Fig. 2 shows the basic power supply circuit used in the ICC9 chassis.

A start-up feed for IP01 is taken from the mains input via RP07, RP39 and RP46 to pin 16. Once the voltage at this pin, established across CP04, reaches the threshold level of 10.3V IP01's start-up phase is initiated, under the control of the soft-start arrangement within the chip. As a result, drive is applied to the chopper transistor TP10. This drive is obtained from an internal oscillator whose frequency, set by CP35 and RP35 at pins 10 and 11, is approximately 2kHz. The frequency is set by the initial charge established across CP35. Once the voltages obtained from the secondary windings on the chopper transformer start to rise, CP35 charges to a higher voltage and the frequency of the chopper drive increases to about 23kHz.

The soft-start drive is the result of a ramp voltage developed across CP38, which is connected to pin 9. This controlled delay to the development of full drive protects the chopper transistor. The drive comes via an internal pulse-width modulator, a logic circuit and driver stage, appearing at pin 14. It sits on a negative voltage at the base of TP10, ensuring correct switching of the chopper transistor. This bias is provided by DP26 in conjunction with CP25 and CP24. RP41, connected to pin 15, sets the maximum base current drive.

Regulation depends on the receiver's state, i.e. full on or standby. In the standby mode control depends on the feedback voltage at pin 6 of the chip: this is produced by DP31/CP32 then tapped down via the potential divider RP32/33. Pin 6 is connected to one input of an internal error amplifier, the other input being fed from an internal reference voltage.

Once this primary regulation has been established, the supply for IP01 is obtained from winding 9-10 on the chopper transformer LP10 with rectification by DP10/CP22. The feed to pin 16 is via the regulator chip IP02 and DP34. This diode is included to prevent variations in the mains voltage, via the start-up feed, affecting the supply.

To bring the power supply out of the standby mode the microcontroller chip IR01 has to start up IV01, which provides the basic chopper drive for normal running. Two things are required for this to happen. First IR01's 5V supply must be present. This is derived from the chopper

supply derived 10V Standby line via TR80. Secondly IR01 and IV01 must have shaken hands, with IR01 sending data via the I2C bus. Once these conditions have been met, IV01 will start to produce a pulse-width modulated output to drive the chopper circuit. This is fed to TP52 and then coupled via the isolating transformer LP44 to pin 2 of IP01. When these pulses start to arrive at IP01 it automatically switches over to secondary regulation, i.e. it becomes a slave to IV01. IV01 is then in control of the chopper's switching time and thus the secondary voltages produced by the power supply. It does this by sampling, at pin 26, the main h.t. supply (Usys). The power supply is now in full operation.

There are two trip circuits, built into IP01, on the primary side of the circuit. The first is linked to pin 3, which is connected via RP27 to the emitter of TP10 and thus senses the voltage across RP14-22. There are two trip levels here, 0.6V which is called the intermediate trip level and 0.9V which is the shut-down level. The first level is used to prevent nuisance tripping due to a transient condition, e.g. a flashover. The transient level is also monitored by CP36 at pin 8: with each trip the voltage here increases, and at a preset level full shut-down is initiated in the same way as when the voltage at pin 3 reaches 0.9V. This latter condition means that the chopper transistor is passing excessive current due to an overload. Once the power supply has shut down it must undergo a total reset, which can be achieved only by switching the mains supply off, allowing the voltages on the supply lines to fall, then switching on again.

Further protection is provided against flashover. Any serious flashover is controlled by TP34. It operates as follows. At the time of the flashover CP04 will discharge and the supply at pin 16 of IP01 will drop below its threshold level. Thus IP01 ceases to operate and there is no drive to the chopper transistor. The power supply will remain shut down until CP04 recharges, which depends on the discharge time of CP39. While this capacitor is charged, TP34 is held conductive and the start-up feed is shorted to chassis. What we have here is an electronic shock-absorber circuit.

Chopper Outputs

The supplies developed on the secondary side of the circuit are as follows: Usys (h.t.) which depends on the deflection requirements, i.e. the type pf c.r.t.; $\pm 20V$ for the audio output chip; 26V for the field output stage; and two 10V supplies, standard and standby.

Secondary Side Trips

There are two trips on the secondary side of the circuit. The first is referred to as the primary protection circuit (not to be confused with the primary side of the power supply) and consists of TP54, TP76-78 and the associated components. It continuously monitors the supplies to the audio, field and line output stages, also the 10V, 10V standby and the 5V reference supplies. It operates in either the standby or normal running modes.

A short-circuit across the 5V reference supply, the 10V standby supply, the +20V audio supply, the SS line which goes to the line driver stage or the 26V field output stage supply will switch off TP78 (it's normally held on by the feed via RP97 etc.). With TP78 off, TP77 will be on, TP76 off and TP54 on. The base of TP77 also monitors the -20V audio supply, the 10V supply and the 26V supply, the latter two via stand-off zener diodes.

When TP54 switches on, the voltage range for the output

from the PWM driver transistor TP52 is increased: a negative voltage from pin 16 of LP10 via DP54 is added, increasing the amplitude of the drive signal. This, coupled by LP44 to DP41, produces a higher than normal voltage at pin 3 of IP01, breaching the trip level. The idea is to achieve a more rapid response at pin 3 of IP01 in the event of a short on the secondary side of the circuit.

The secondary protection circuit provides additional security monitoring during normal operation. It's based on TP66, TP67 and TP69. This circuit checks voltages related to the deflection circuitry – the line and field output stage operation, the flyback tuning (e.h.t.) and line output stage derived supply lines. In the event of a failure here a signal is sent to pin 20 of IV01 via the 'breathing' line. This shuts down the chopper drive output from IV01. The trip also monitors the audio output chip's current consumption, to provide compensation when this is high.

It is important to take care when checking around pin 20 of IV01. This input has a very high impedance: simply touching the pin could switch the receiver to standby.

Three conditions are monitored at the base of TP67. The 5V supply derived from pins 9-11 of the line output transformer is linked to this point via DP67; the field flyback pulse is rectified (by DF32 and CF32) and monitored via zener diode DP65; and the S line (the source of this is the cold end of the e.h.t. section of the line output transformer) is monitored via DP66. The rectified field flyback pulses usually produce 26V (the VDC line), which holds TP67

conductive. As a result the VCC1 line is held at about 7.8V. In the event of field collapse (no VDC voltage), the LOPT derived 5V supply being low or leaky, or the e.h.t. increasing (this will drive the S line negatively), TP67 will switch off. Thus the VCC1 voltage will rise and zener diode DP68 will conduct. This, via the potential divider RP85/RP71, will switch TP69 on. Pin 20 of IV01 is taken low, removing the chopper drive at pin 31.

This protects the chopper, line and field output devices for the duration of the overload. If the overload is not a transient one, IV01 counts each trip cycle and after three trips shuts down permanently. This puts the chopper supply into the standby mode. To clear this the receiver has to go through a 'hot-switch cycle'.

TP66 monitors the current flowing via the +20V supply and the audio output chip. This is done by sensing the voltage across RP69, with CP67 providing hysteresis damping. The voltage changes at the collector of TP66 modulate the base of TP69, in turn varying the breathing line voltage applied to IV01. The idea here is to provide anti-breathing action via the timebase generator circuits in IV01, so that high audio power drain does not result, via the power supply, in raster modulation.

What Next?

In Part 2 we'll look at the scart interface, the audio processing and the microcontroller chip.

Test Case 387

From time to time the shop staff and the service receptionist get lax and the engineers have a moan: vague symptoms, insufficient details on the job card, wrong phone numbers, accessories not supplied – these problems can sometimes give the man at the bench more hassle than the actual diagnosis and repair.

Here was a case in point. A JVC HRD520 VCR without the remote control unit, with no customer phone number and, by way of the fault symptom, "sometimes picture goes". Goes ***** where? muttered Technician as he bore the machine away to his bench. He connected it to the mains supply, an aerial and a TV monitor and was alarmed to see, in place of the flashing 0:00 clock display he expected, a single horizontal segment of the display glaring unblinkingly at him. The operate key did nothing. He found that the machine would accept a cassette but then staunchly refused to do anything with it. Did the machine have the right job card with it? Yes, they both said JVC HRD520 and there were no other 520s about.

So what did we have? A microcon-

troller fault maybe? Or a data line snag up? TC opened the machine and found the control chip IC601. Its 5V supply was present at pin 52, there was oscillation at pins 24 and 25 (in conjunction with ceramic resonator CF601), and at mains switch on there was a reset pulse at pin 23. The same checks on the tuner/timer/display microcontroller chip IC1 on the front panel produced similarly correct results. Wow! TC wasn't keen to start changing 64-pin processor chips, and didn't know which one might be responsible anyway. He confirmed that the various clock and data lines weren't stuck, then phoned JVC technical department for help.

The conversation with the guru at Staples Corner lasted less than thirty seconds. TC came away from the phone kicking himself. What was the immediate problem? It certainly wasn't anything like a faulty microcontroller chip. More like a faulty technician. . .

Now that the machine was operational, TC was able to start the guessing game about the real symptom: not the fault but the symptom at this stage! He tried playback of his Walt Disney tape. This was o.k.: good sound and a good, stable colour picture. He once again cursed the laxity of the customer and the girl in the shop. All the TV channels were tried in the E-E mode. They came through fine. The machine was then set to record Anne and Nick's morning show while TC went off to brew some

coffee. On his return to the bench he set the machine to rewind and then play. This time a fault did appear on the monitor's screen.

The playback picture was marred by the effects of erratic mistracking. It would roll from time to time, as a wave of noise invaded the played back field sync pulses, then the screen was swamped with noise and dropouts. At other times the picture remained stable for a few seconds at a time. TC also noticed that the real-time counter display on the front panel froze at irregular intervals. What, he wondered, could cause this when playback of tapes recorded by other machines was perfectly all right? He made a new off-air recording, during which the real-time counter clocked up the minutes and seconds accurately and with no hiccups. It played back as badly as before in the JVC machine but, once rewound and slotted into a soak-testing Mitsubishi VCR nearby, the picture it produced was good and stable.

So the machine could play back all right and record, but not do both with the same stretch of tape. The stop-go-stop behaviour of the tape running-time display was also a vital clue in the search for the cause of the fault (though it shouldn't have been such a difficult search!). Where did the problem lie? Would a good look at a certain vital part have revealed it straight away? For the solution, turn to page 350

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A Latvian Experience

David Madgwick

When I accepted an invitation from my brother to visit Latvia for an impromptu holiday I didn't know what I was letting myself in for. Maybe the gifts I was asked to take should have served as a warning. A pop-up toaster and a kettle are not that unusual, but who takes a distributor cap for a Ford Granada on their hols?

News that English people are good at mending things had preceded us. When we arrived we found that several domestic repair jobs had been lined up for our attention. With the appropriate tools they would have caused us little trouble. But our hosts had only a screwdriver, a small hammer and a pair of pliers that didn't quite close.

Our first challenge was an elderly Russian fridge whose motor clacked like a Kalashnikov AK47. After spending a few minutes sandpapering

the contacts and adding a few shirt buttons to the starting device it ran quite smoothly without the machine-gun sound.

This success was followed by a dual-standard colour TV set. There was no sign of a picture and we held out little hope of recovering it. As the aerial had long since disappeared we straightened out a coat hanger and pressed it into service. The sound then hissed quietly and after some twiddling we found a Russian station. So the tuner and sound worked and the omens for the power supply looked good. Next we noticed that some e.h.t. crackle could be heard at switch on.

Access to the mass of low-tech electronics was gained by using some even lower-tech, home-made tools. Without a multimeter we had to assume that everything was live. The e.h.t. produced a decent spark to earth, and those present under forty years of age could hear the line whistle too. The connectors and valves were all wiggled to no effect. There was still no sign of a picture. I then remembered someone once talking about cathodes (or was it anodes?) shorting in the tube neck and the kill or cure way of dealing with

this, a tap on the neck of the c.r.t. with the set in operation. With just our credibility to lose we decided to try it. Tap, tap. Nothing. Try again. Was it my imagination, or did I see something move on the screen? Try once more, this time a bit harder. Yes, a picture! Very dim, blurred and red, but definitely a picture. After a bit more tapping and twiddling the picture was, to our absolute amazement, perfectly viewable.

By now it seemed that we could almost walk on water. A small child appeared clutching a plastic clock that needed fixing. Easier said than done. One of the chunky little gears had been almost stripped, but by bending the bearings over a bit the engagement improved and the clock worked.

After tightening a few nuts on my bed frame I for one was ready for some kip. The gentle ticking of a plastic pendulum nudged me towards sleep. My slumber was disturbed by a sudden noise, then silence. Morning revealed exploded clock parts all over the floor. Oh well, you can't win them all.

What shall we fix today? Sorry, I draw the line at decrepit Ford Granadas and no Swarfega.

What a Life!

Donald Bullock

It's confession time. I have to admit to a keen dislike of watching television. This means that I seldom see any except when I'm working on a set. When I'm thus engaged I try, in the absence of the test cards we used to value so much, to find ways of reducing the aggravation that TV programmes cause me. One thing I do is to avoid ITV altogether, perhaps because the first ITV programme I ever suffered was an outrage called *Lunchbox*. And, unless I'm tackling a sound fault, I work with the sound off. People who know me reckon they understand. "It's because you've spent so many years working on them" they say. But it isn't. Television turned me off years ago. I find it intrusive and much prefer radio.

It was BBC radio that I always missed on our frequent Spanish holidays. One of the first things I did when we bought a house here was to erect a high aerial in an attempt to receive Radio 4. But the signal was awful. Then, just I learnt that it was available via satellite, by daughter Rebecca began to pine for her cartoons. So I purchased a Pace PRD800 receiver and a 90cm dish with a Continental LNB. We soon had it all installed, and I was able to hear BBC Radio 2, 3 and 4. The quality is striking: like locally transmitted v.h.f. radio in the UK.

Television reception was poor however, so I sought out Steve MacDonald. He's an English fellow who owns and runs a satellite TV wholesale company at Calpa nearby. He advised a larger dish and an LNB with a noise figure of 1dB. I obtained a 2m motorised dish and a more sensitive LNB and we now get excellent, noise-free TV as well as the radio programmes.

Like so many others, we enjoy seeing some of the older films on TNT. But I wonder why, very often, TNT's transmissions of perfectly-made, popular films come with the lip sync badly out? Can it be to do with the fact that the films are transmitted with several simultaneous sound tracks to cater for those in different countries?

Incidentally, Steve is a very go-ahead chap. He wants to open a satellite and fax servicing outfit as well and is looking for a technically capable and ambitious British chap to manage it for him. Anyone interested?

Old Abe

Old Abe, our scruffiest customer, looks like an emaciated scarecrow. He lives in a riverside hut with two old portable TV sets, a car battery and a screwdriver. It's the screwdriver that so often leads to his visits. He walks to us from fifteen miles away, carrying one of his sets in a horse blanket that smells so high we get him to unpack the set in the yard. As soon as we've put together the set he's taken to pieces he gets cracking on the other one. The worst time he ever gave us – apart from knocking the neck off a tube and carefully glueing it back on – was the time he changed the tube connections around in his old Ferguson 1590 set. The video output stage didn't like the focus voltage. Every time he brings us a set it costs us a bomb. I don't know why we tolerate him. Perhaps it's because of his deference and courtesy. He called in again last week.

"Mornin' Mr Bullock, sir" he beamed. "This old set 'ave broke hissself again."

We left it out in the open to sweeten a while, then brought

it in. To our surprise it was as clean as new. When we plugged it in and switched on we got an immediate cracker-jack show. So we yanked it from the mains and opened it up. The chassis was soaked with brown water.

We poured it all out, dried everything with dusters then propped it on our heater for a couple of days to dry out. After that we gave it a final blasting with a hairdryer and started it up, nervously, via the variac. The mains switch spluttered and smoked, so we replaced it and started again.

To our astonishment the set worked perfectly. We put it aside and awaited Abe's return. When he came, complete with horse blanket, we relieved him of fifteen quid.

"Thank 'ee very much sir" he cried. "Bin a silly old set 'e 'ave."

"Abe" I said, "how come the set's so clean?"

"Arr, I washed un in a bucket of water from the river. I likes everythin' clean, see."

When he'd gone I stood thinking. Then I tossed the money into the tin and spoke to Steve. "Gets odder" I said, "do you reckon it's simple-mindedness, or perhaps a mental problem?"

"Dunno" he said, "but I hope you'll improve."

A Devilish Toshiba

Our next customer was a woman of about thirty. She sprang in with a water-melon grin and a huge red handbag.

"I'm Mangie" she said, "Melody Mangie. And I want you to take the devil out of my television."

I looked around and behind her. "Where is it?" I asked.

"In my telly" she said brightly.

"I mean where's the set?"

"My hosband has it" she smiled.

I looked towards the shelf where we keep the asprins.

"Right" I said, "where's your hosband – er – your husband?"

Just then an old, bent fellow came in, half dragging the set to us. She patted his head as he passed.

I lifted the set on to the bench and waved them good bye. "There didn't used to be people like that about" I said to Steven. "When I was young you had to buy *Beano* to see them."

The set was a Toshiba 215T8B. We plugged it in and it spluttered and smelled as the e.h.t. came up to reveal line collapse. When we'd dismantled it our noses took us to plug 570, where pin seven sat in a little volcano of soot. Once we'd cleaned it all off and remade the connection there was an excellent picture.

Rupert's Satellite Receiver

Rupert Rudd then brought in his Amstrad SRD500 satellite receiver, which was dead except for a slight flicker in the display area and a clicking from the power board. A check on the 23V line showed that it was pulsing between 12V and 5V in sympathy with the clicking. We worked back to IC1 (UC3842): when this had been removed there was no short and the 23V line had been restored to health. A new chip put matters right.

Gladys's TX10

Gladys Club was our next visitor. She's a heavyweight who works in the foundry. Instead of calling people and things by their names she thinks up a different expletive each time.

She was carrying her Ferguson TX10 set as though it was an empty cardboard box. In her most choice way she

explained that it was bugging about.

In fact it was tripping, and it gave us quite a tough time. Eventually we found a barely visible pinhole in the mica washer that goes with the line output transistor.

A Matsui 2180TT

We'd not seen our next customer before. He walked in with a Matsui 2180TT colour set. I breathed a sigh of relief: he looked absolutely normal.

"It's dead, dead, dead" he announced.

I looked at him, not the set. "Name?" I asked.

"Waugh, Waugh, Waugh" he said.

I waved the back of my hand and off he went, leaving me in peace to pull his set on to the bench. I went straight to the overvoltage protection avalanche diode, which at any rate proves that I read the Letters page! Sure enough it had departed this life. But I couldn't find any reason for its failure. So I started the set up via the variac, watching it like a hawk. It behaved perfectly. After soak testing it for a couple of days we returned it to Mr Waugh. "A tenner" we said.

"Faulty part, part, part?" he asked.

"Yup, yup, yup" I replied.

It was back within an hour. "What's up with it this time?" I asked.

"Dead, dead, dead" he said.

The diode had gone again. This time I replaced the STR58041 chopper chip as well, to be sure. I then soak tested it day and night for three days. Yet again Mr Waugh took it and brought it back almost at once.

Why was it blowing diodes for Mr Waugh but not for us? What was different between Mr Waugh's living room and our workshop? Temperature for one thing we reasoned. Our workshop is cooler than the average living room. So we unboxed the set yet again and checked every possible suspect while warming it with our hairdryer, starting with the line output transistor. It took us some time to get to the BD131 transistor associated with the chopper circuit. When we did we found that it read normally when cool, and even when moderately heated, but when warmed a little more it produced a solid base-collector short-circuit. A replacement finally cured the trouble.

It was another loser for us. We'd charged him a nominal sum in the first place, and could hardly charge him again despite the hours of work his set had cost us.

The Councillor

As Mr Waugh finally departed, Councillor Glorie rushed in with his Goodmans 2185T 20in. set. "It's out of order" he shouted, as though we were a meeting. When he'd finished I called Steven over.

"You do this one, will you? I don't feel up to it."

"They're no trouble" he said.

"It's dead" I commented.

The standby light came on all right at power up, but it went out at switch on and the set remained dead. Half an hour later Steven had the set working a treat. I asked him what the matter had been?

"Same as usual" he breezed. "R104 (270k Ω) in the start-up feed was open-circuit. R105 and R106 often go high in value too, but in this set they're all right."

The door opened slowly and Mr Waugh, Waugh, Waugh peered around it.

"Oh no, no, no!" I shrieked.

"It's all right, all right, all right" he said, picking up his gloves from the counter. "I forgot these, these, these."

Next Month in TELEVISION

FREE TV/VIDEO SPARES GUIDE

Next month's issue contains the latest updated edition of our Spares Guide, an essential reference source for brands, manufacturers' spares departments and spares suppliers.

SERVICING THE ITT DIGI-3 CHASSIS

Chris Watton takes a look at ITT's first UK chassis to use digital signal processing. Most faults are in the high-power circuitry of course, and this is conventional. But it's as well to be familiar with the digital side of the chassis.

THE FERGUSON ICC9 CHASSIS

Next month's instalment on this chassis will look at the scart connector interfacing circuitry, audio signal processing and the way in which the microcontroller chip goes about its business.

SATELLITE SERVICING

Jack Armstrong on Astra 1D upgrades and how to deal with the interference problems they can cause with u.h.f. reception.

WORKSHOP HEALTH

The working conditions in many workshops are a real hazard to health. Pete Roberts offers practical advice on how matters can be improved.

THE SONY CCDF380 CAMCORDER

A fault guide for this camcorder compiled by Keith T. Keeton.

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This year's Consumer Electronics Show at Las Vegas, held in early January, was the largest ever: the exhibition area covered 440,000 sq. ft (equivalent to 28 football fields) and over 40,000 products were on show, including many new digital formats.

High Density CDs

One of the highlights of the show was the new High Density CD (HDCD) developed by Philips and Sony. The system was mentioned in Teletopics, February (page 250). To recap briefly, the system increases the CD data capacity by a factor of five. This is achieved by reducing the pit size and track pitch and using a red laser (wavelength 635nm). In addition a variable bit encoding system, whose

multiple aspect ratios; copy protection; and an electronic lockout system that enables parents to stop children watching specific scenes or discs. This is quite a tall order, but DVD appears to have achieved these aims. Picture quality is superior to that provided by the VHS and LaserDisc systems. Users have a choice of 4:3 pan and scan, 4:3 letterbox or 16:9 widescreen formats. There's digital stereo sound with a data rate of 128 or 192kbits/sec, also 5:1-channel digital Surround sound with a 384kbits/sec data rate, multi-channel sound tracks and English plus local language sound tracks. Copy protection can be provided for the entire disc or specific 'tracks'. And there's a lock-out system.

These DVDs can be pressed in a conventional CD pressing plant, though a modified laser cutter is required and the mastering process is slightly more expensive. Current error-correction technology is used and, despite the



The Sharp QT-V1 portable Video CD Player.

smaller pit size, the discs are in general not affected by dirt, dust, shock and vibration. The DVDs on show were placed inside protective caddies; full production versions will be stored in jewel boxes, like current CDs. DVD decks will be able to play existing audio and Video CDs.

Two DVD titles were demonstrated, *Sleepless in Seattle* and *In the Line of Fire*. These movies were chosen because of their different encoding requirements. The first task is to assess the video content for difficulty rating: more sophisticated encoding is required where there's a lot of fast-moving action, as in *Line of Fire*. The type of sound encoding also has to be selected (stereo and/or 5:1 channels), along with the number of languages and subtitles. This gives the total bit requirement which, in the case of *Line of Fire*, comes to 3.58Gbytes.

rates range from one to 10Mbits/sec, is used. There are also plans to develop, with 3M, a dual-layer version that will hold ten times as much data as today's CDs. HDCD technology will form the basis of a new family of CDs, including high density CD-ROMs and Digital Video Discs (DVDs). The latter are designed for movie storage, and I got a chance to see the system in action. A Philips-Sony DVD holds around 135-145 minutes of MPEG-2 encoded video – exact length depends on the sound encoding. This is sufficient for 97 per cent of movie releases.

DVD was developed to meet a 'wish list' drawn up by the Hollywood studios. They wanted a CD that offered the following features: the disc to store a feature-length movie; superior picture quality; multi-channel sound; multi-language sound tracks;

With *Sleepless*, which is relatively sedate, it comes to 2.92Gbytes. It's then a question of assigning the correct bit rate for each scene – fast-action shots require a much faster bit rate than still sections. These DVDs can store up to 3.7Gbytes of data. A large-screen TV set with a bit-rate meter perched on top was used for the demonstrations. This enabled us to see how the bit rate altered during the course of the movie. *Line of Fire* had an average bit rate of around 3.3Mbits/sec. There were also split-screen demonstrations that compared DVD with VHS, LaserDisc and D1 digital tape. The results were very impressive – DVD outshone them all. In another demonstration a 60-minute HDTV programme stored on a DVD disc was shown: the picture quality was amazing.

There seems to be some disagreement between Sony and Philips over the introduction of the DVD however. Philips feels that DVD players and discs will be very expensive, and that for at least five-eight years after its launch the system will be a speciality product, like LaserDisc. Sony thinks that DVD will be an affordably-priced, mass-market product from the start – it plans to launch DVD machines next year, though no price indications were given.

There's competition for this DVD format in the form of a rival version developed by Toshiba, supported by Time Warner. Smaller pits and a finer laser beam are again used, but the potential advantage is that the discs can be played on both sides. A number of Hollywood studios are reported to be backing the Toshiba system. The disadvantage, according to Sony and Philips, is that the production of two-sided discs is more costly and more time consuming. Toshiba's system was not on show at CES '95.

GoldStar also demonstrated a couple of high density CDs. One was a double-density disc that stores 148 minutes of MPEG-1 video, using a 670nm laser. The other was a quadruple density CD that stores 135 minutes of MPEG-2 video, using a 635nm laser and a variable bit rate of 1.4-5.6Mbits/sec. Its picture quality was far from being up to DVD stan-

dard however. I doubt whether Gold-Star's high density systems will be seen in the shops.

Video CD

Despite all the excitement about DVD there were still plenty of Video CD systems around. Panasonic and Technics showed several players. The SL-VP50 is a portable unit that links up with a TV set or monitor, the SL-VM500 a five-disc CD changer and the SC-V5650 a stereo system. Aiwa's NSX-1000V is a Video CD mini system while Sharp's QT-V1 is a portable Video CD with stereo sound. Marantz demonstrated a double-disc player, Model VCD500.

Multimedia

Philips announced that some 8-900,000 CDi players have now been sold worldwide, with about 60 per cent of sales in Europe and 40 per cent in the USA. The new Philips CDi PC card, which converts a 486 PC into a CDi deck, was being demonstrated. It includes a quadruple-speed CD-ROM drive and is expected to sell for around £500 in the UK.

GoldStar showed the GDI-1000 CDi deck, which has a built-in digital video cartridge, and a prototype portable CDi machine with a 6in. LCD screen.

There were rumours that Philips will be announcing a CDi upgrade this year, using the new PowerPC RISC processor.

Philips and Ardent Records demon-



VCRs equipped with Gemstar's Index Plus system can, at the touch of a button, display on the screen programme-related information such as programme identification, sports statistics during a game and similar items.

strated a new type of compact disc, called AudioVisual CD, which combines audio CD and CD-ROM data on a disc. The CD-ROM data is stored in the disc's lead-in track



The Panasonic REAL 300 Interactive Multiplayer, Model FZ-10.

section and is ignored by music CD players. Apple Mac CD-ROM drives read the data however, producing text, graphics and other information.

Panasonic unveiled the FZ-10 3DO deck, a newly-designed version of the FZ-1. It includes a memory-management system that tells you whether there's enough memory space to store a game or other files. GoldStar unveiled the GPA-101M 3DO deck. Panasonic and GoldStar both showed MPEG decoders for 3DO decks. Panasonic's one was expensive (around £200) and requires its own power source. Creative Labs showed a 3DO PC card priced at around £270.

TV Developments

Thomson and Sun Microsystems announced Open TV, an operating system for interactive TV. It enables cable, telecommunications, satellite and other broadcast network operators to send interactive material via existing networks to set-top decoders. Open TV is platform-independent and could be used for billing and transaction purposes.

3D-TV systems were a feature this year. A system developed by Sanyo doesn't require viewers to wear glasses to see the 3D effects. It was shown using 4, 6 and 10in. displays. The system uses a double-lenticular screen to separate the images from two rear liquid-crystal projectors into right and left components, creating the impression of depth. It works well, though you have to keep your head still to see the effects. The 3DX system converts any rear-projection set to produce a 3D-

TV display. It uses an optical adaptor which fits over the RGB outputs, dividing the image into two. Users wear glasses to see the effects. The price will be around £330.

Many Americans are worried about violence on TV. There's a proposal that future sets should incorporate a V-chip. The idea is that an electronic

warning signal will be transmitted along with any programme that contains very violent scenes. When this signal is detected the V-chip will switch the set off. Intelvision was promoting a system called C-chip. This enables parents to program a TV set so that it switches off at certain times of the day or when a particular programme is being broadcast. According to Intelvision the C-chip would cost around £130.

Also on show were electronic viewing guides that take the place of paper TV guides. One system, StarSight, enables the viewer to display various information on his screen, including a channel schedule. Simply by pressing a button the user can also select programmes for recording: the VCR automatically switches on and tapes the right channel at the appropriate time. It relies on programme data that's transmitted during the vertical blanking interval (VBI) and can be stored in a TV set or VCR. Samsung and Daewoo are to launch StarSight-equipped VCRs. A rival format, Videoguide, works in a similar way though its data is sent to viewers via a radio link and a £70 add-on box is required. Both services cost around £3 a month to use.

Satellite TV

America's first digital satellite system, called DSS (Digital Satellite Service), was launched last summer. It's run by RCA/Thomson, which produces the hardware, with Hughes DirectTV and USSB (US Satellite Broadcasting) who provide the programming. The service has proved to be very popular - over 600,000 receiving systems were shipped last year. DSS uses MPEG-2 video and currently offers 175 channels, including sports, movie and pay-per-view channels. Two satellites are used - a third is expected to be launched later this year. The RCA receiving

system consists of an 18in. dish and a digital receiver, the price being around £470. Subscription costs vary between about £5-£23 a month.

Video Developments

Gemstar showed its Index Plus system, which is due to be launched in the USA and several European countries this autumn. It's designed to make VCRs operate more like CD players, using a chip and proprietary software to store details of programmes that have been recorded. When the user of an Index Plus equipped VCR inserts a tape, an on-screen display lists its contents. The user then selects the programme he wants and the VCR finds it. The system relies on information that's transmitted during the VBI. In cases where this information isn't transmitted during normal broadcast hours, Gemstar has arrangements with local stations to transmit it at night: the data can then be downloaded into VCRs which use it to find out the programmes recorded that day.

Index Plus can number each tape automatically, and can produce a list of the programmes stored on each cassette (there's enough on-board memory for 400 programmes). The system can also be used with video programmes, to enable the user to select say a recipe from a cookery tape or a track from a music tape, or with live TV broadcasts to call up the programme title, channel number and the running time, or to obtain additional information about the programme such as an actor's biography or sports results. ABC plans to transmit such programme data.

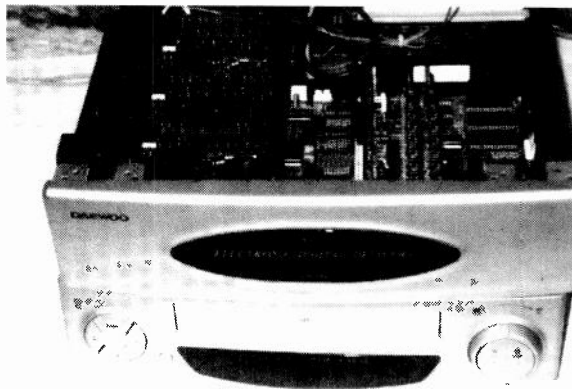
An easy record system enables programmes to be recorded by simply selecting them on screen then pressing a button. Companies planning to launch Index Plus VCRs include RCA/Thomson, Panasonic, JVC, Hitachi, Sanyo, Mitsubishi and Sharp.

Gemstar was also promoting iPlus, which enables viewers to use Video Plus codes to record advertising material broadcast at night.

Arista Technologies showed a system, called Commercial Brake, that can bypass advertisements recorded on tape. A black frame is transmitted at the beginning and end of commercial brakes: Commercial Brake places electronic markers at these points then stores a playback map in memory. When a marker is detected during tape playback the sound is muted, the

screen turns blue and the VCR goes into the fast forward mode: at the end of the brake the VCR returns to normal playback operation. The process takes five to ten seconds. Special algorithms are used to distinguish between a commercial brake and the screen going black during a scene transition. Arista is to launch an add-on unit, priced at around £133, this spring. The technology has been licensed to RCA/Thomson, which expects to launch VCRs with the system built in later this year.

Daewoo showed an electronic delivery system called EMC3 (Entertainment Made Convenient, Controllable, Choice) which is intended to



The Daewoo Electronic Digital Delivery System.

deliver video programmes to viewers' homes at high speed, taking around five minutes to send a 100-minute movie. The EDD-1000 is a modified VHS deck which records the programmes received at the normal standard VHS speed then plays them back at 1/20th speed. It uses a special capstan system that stops and starts the tape during playback to supply packets of digital data. Unfortunately we were unable to see this system in action as some of Daewoo's equipment was damaged in transit.

Other Developments

Sony showed the Digital Video Cassette (DVC), which is designed for both domestic and professional use. There are two tape sizes: the larger holds up to four and a half hours' of video; a smaller one, holding an hour of video, is intended for camcorder users.

Pioneer showed the first LaserDisc title to use Dolby's AC3 digital Surround sound encoding system. It offers 5.1 channels (left front, centre, right front, left surround, right surround and sub-bass). The disc also stores a mono digital track and a

stereo f.m. track.

Casio demonstrated the LT70P, a video phone system designed for use with conventional analogue telephone lines. It sends and receives audio and video signals and works with a TV set or PC. Video images can be in either normal (124 x 112 pixels) or high-resolution (512 x 224 pixels) form. The unit has a built-in video camera and can transmit images from a camcorder, VCR, video printer or PC. Price is around £850.

Casio also showed a digital still video camera, Model QV10, which can hold up to 96 colour images on a PCMCIA card. It has an electronic shutter, a self-timer and a 1.8in. LCD viewfinder. Four AA-size alkaline batteries provide the power and the price is around £466. Chinon's digital camera, the ESC (Electronic Still Camera), has a x3 zoom and stores up to five super high-resolution (640 and 480 pixels) images per Mbyte of RAM. It will be launched this autumn at around £667.

Aiwa's PC-V466 is a combined 486 PC and 14in. TV set. It includes a CD-ROM drive and costs around £1,900. Compaq's Pressario 920 includes a 486 PC and a TV tuner. It can also accept video

signals from a VCR, a camcorder or a LaserDisc player.

Econologic showed Telemate, which offers 'No see TV'. It enables radio listeners to hear live TV broadcasts. The battery-powered unit receives television sound and transmits it on the a.m./f.m. bands to a radio receiver which should be within twelve feet. Price is around £46.

There were many games systems at the Show. Atari had an add-on CD player for its 64-bit Jaguar Games system. The player can be used for audio CDs as well as Jaguar games and costs around £100. Sega demonstrated its Saturn 32-bit CD-ROM system, which also supports MPEG-1. Nintendo's Virtual Boy is a 32-bit virtual reality system that uses twin LCD displays.

Prices

Prices quoted in pounds in this article are approximate equivalents of the dollar prices, to serve as a guide. Unless otherwise indicated, the equipment is not available in the UK. CES is the leading exhibition world wide for the presentation of new consumer electronics systems and products.

Camcorner

Reports from David C Woodnott

Sanyo VMD6P

The customer's method of removing the cassette when his camcorder failed to eject it had damaged the mechanism. We had to straighten the supply reel shaft and realign it.

The supply reel table can sometimes be responsible for poor rewind with this model, causing tape spillage etc. The problem can usually be cured by removing the reel table and gently pressing the plastic assembly on a flat surface. You often find that the parts have separated slightly, with the result that the reel sticks.

This particular machine's loading rings were out of sync. They are made of a plastic material that has a certain amount of 'give'. Realignment can very often be carried out with little dismantling, by releasing the circlip from one of the loading ring timing gears, resetting the timing then replacing the circlip. In this case however the loading gear was damaged and had to be replaced. **D.C.W.**

Sharp VLC7590H

The E-E and playback pictures were fine but there were no recorded pictures (sound o.k.). A quick check showed that the REC 5V supply was missing at the head amplifier. The REC High signal was present at pin 71 of the syscon micro-controller chip IC801 when the trigger button was pressed: it goes direct to pin 5 of Q935 (REC SW buffer/inverter), but the switch remained off. As there should be a direct link between IC801 and Q935, the next step was a continuity check on the print. This revealed a condition that's becoming very common of late, corroded print caused by a leaky capacitor. There were two offending capacitors in this case, C945 and C946 (both 22 μ F, 35V), in the power supply. The damaged print runs directly between the pins of these capacitors. As the print had disappeared, a link had to be fitted between suitable points. This restored the unit to normal working order. **D.C.W.**

Sony CCDTR45E

The customer's complaint was that this camcorder refused to load a tape and that there was a 'knocking' noise from the mechanism when it was last used. Inspection of the mechanism revealed that guide TG9 was disconnected from the take-up coaster assembly, being free to take up any position it wanted to. All that was necessary to restore the unit to normal operation was to fit a new circlip. The noise was caused by a cracked gear that forms the lower part of the take-up reel assembly. **D.C.W.**

Panasonic NVM40B

As received this full-sized VHS machine wouldn't power up or perform any function. There was a cassette stuck in it, in the laced-up position. The failure had apparently occurred when the mains supply was disconnected with the machine in the record pause condition. After that nothing would work.

We started off by using an external source to power the loading motor so that the cassette could be removed. Then,

after a general inspection, we were surprised to find that on powering up everything worked. All the mechanical functions that is, including record and play and all the camera functions, but there was no clock display. The camera's digital modes all worked. So we put the camera into the record pause mode and disconnected the mains input. When we powered up again there was no response. The only way to restore the functions was to power the loading motor until the point was reached where the tape guides were just out of their loaded positions.

So there were two apparent faults. What was the connection? A study of the syscon control chip and its various inputs etc. didn't immediately reveal any connection. So more from desperation than anything else we decided to replace the mode encoder switch. This failed to cure the faults of course. Maybe we'd overlooked something simple? The syscon chip produces key-scan output pulses at pins 1-7, 126 and 127. They are fed to the VCR operation controls, returning to the chip at pins 97-101. The mode switch is similarly scanned via this matrix, not having its own dedicated syscon chip input pins. We noticed that in the stop mode condition the key-scan pulses at pin 98 differed from those at the other input pins (97, 99-101). This was the only oddity that showed up. As various checks in the area of the scan lines failed to reveal anything amiss it increasingly looked as though the syscon chip itself (IC6004) was the cause of the faults. But with only one input line showing a problem and everything else working fine? We were reluctant to replace this 128-pin chip, but doing so cured our odd combination of faults. **D.C.W.**

JVC GRA1E

The complaint was that when a recorded sequence was played back there were gaps in the recording. Also that the machine made a whirring noise when loading a tape or selecting record or pause. What was happening was that during times when the capstan motor is under mechacon instead of servo control, i.e. between stop and play or record and pause, it was being driven at a higher than normal speed. Thus correct joins between sections of the recorded sequence were not possible – many feet of the tape were 'whizzed' though each time.

It took us a long time to find the culprit, which was Q115. This transistor is part of the capstan drive circuit and was leaky between its emitter and base, causing excessive drive to the capstan motor in the mechacon-control mode. Confusion was caused by the fact that once servo control was established there was normal playback until a mode change occurred. **D.C.W.**

Sony CCDTR750E

After being dropped this camcorder wouldn't record or playback in colour. E-E colour was fine, and all the functions worked. Why only loss of colour in these modes? In this model some of the chroma circuitry is on sub-panel PJ-61P, which had become detached from its connecting socket on the main PCB. Normal service was restored after repairs to the chroma PCB connector. **D.C.W.**

Canon E60E

A 'clicking' noise came from the lens unit when going from telephoto to wide angle. We discovered that a tiny plastic clip within the macro button assembly had fractured. Fitting a replacement zoom ring cured the fault. **D.C.W.**

Servicing the ITT Monoprint B Chassis

Chris Watton

The next chassis we'll look at in this series is the Monoprint B. It forms part of a chassis evolution following the Compact 80R (see last month). While the basic concept is the same, there are many differences in the way in which it's implemented. Instead of a discrete component chopper supply, the Monoprint B chassis uses a TEA2162 chip (IC701) to drive the chopper transistor (this time a BU908). As before, a pulse-width modulated drive is obtained from the secondary side of the circuit, this time from the TDA8371 sync/timebase generator chip IC601. The field output chip is a TDA3653A.

A word of warning before we go any further. At about this time (roughly 1986-7) ITT produced quite a number of similar chassis, including the Compact B and Compact D, to drive different tubes. Though the basic concept remains the same, in particular with a chopper circuit that drives the line output transistor from a secondary winding on the transformer, there are many important differences in circuit detail, e.g. the use of different chips. In some, including the Compact B and Monoprint B-FS, the chopper drive chip is a TEA2165.

We'll now return to the Monoprint B chassis to see how the power supply works. A simplified block/circuit diagram to illustrate the principle of operation is shown in Fig. 1.

Power Supply Operation

Two chips are involved, the driver chip IC701 (TEA2162) and the sync/timebase generator chip IC601 (TDA8371). Thus although the drive comes from IC601, IC701 contains an oscillator to provide short-duration pulses as the chopper drive at switch on. A start-up supply is obtained from the mains input circuit: this is fed via R701 and R708 (R655 in some similar chassis such as the Compact B) to D701 which charges C711. When the voltage at pin 16 of IC701 reaches about 10V an internal switch operates, charging C702 to about 1V. At this level, narrow output pulses are produced at pin 14 to start driving the chopper transistor T701. D711 will then rectify the pulses appearing across the primary-side secondary winding on the chopper transformer Tr701, increasing the voltage across C711. The width of the output pulses at pin 14 increases, until the voltage across C702 has risen to 1.8V. At this point pulses from IC601 should be available at pin 6, via the pulse coupling transformer Tr702, to take over the chopper drive action.

If there's no drive from IC601 the start sequence will be repeated. This provides an important fault-finding clue. With repeated start-ups the h.t. voltage will be at only around a quarter of its normal running level of 115V. In normal operation IC601 receives a 12V supply (at pin 19) from the line output stage, via D603. This means that IC601 also requires a start-up supply. This is derived from the 16V output from the chopper transformer via transistor T601, which supplies about 8V at its emitter. When the 12V supply from the line output stage rises above 9V or so T601 switches off, its emitter voltage then exceeding its base voltage. T601 also provides the supply to IC601 when the

set is in the standby condition.

Back to IC701. The oscillator within this chip free runs at about 14.5kHz, providing pulses to drive the chopper transistor only during the start-up period or in the event of loss of the drive from IC601. The latter will occur if there's an overload condition: IC701 then produces a burst-mode output to try to restart the set. When there's a pulse-width modulated drive signal at pin 6 of IC701 the internal oscillator runs in sync with the line oscillator in IC601 and plays no part in the chopper drive. Differentiation is incorporated in the feed to pin 6 of IC701 to provide 1V peak-to-peak positive- and negative-going drive pulses.

If the drive at the base of T701 is open-circuit there will be no supply for IC601. IC701 will then operate in the start-up mode. A squarewave output should be seen at pin 14 but it will be in the burst mode, interrupted periodically at about 100ms.

For test purposes the power supply can be run separately from the line output stage. To do this disconnect the line output transistor's collector and use a 60W bulb as a dummy load, or alternatively connect the bulb to the collector of the line output transistor and short its base to its emitter.

Protection

Over-voltage and excess-current protection are incorporated. The current passed by the chopper transistor is monitored by R721. One side of this resistor is connected to T701's emitter while the other side is linked via R707 to pin 11 of IC701. The excess-current trip operates in two modes. The width of the output pulses at pin 14 of IC701 is reduced when the voltage at pin 11 reaches -1.3V, limiting the output voltages produced by the power supply. This happens with a short-term overload. With a heavy overload, such as a short in the line output stage, the voltage at pin 11 of IC701 will rise to -1.6V and the output at pin 14 will be cut off. A new start-up will then be attempted.

Over-voltage protection is provided by monitoring the voltage at pin e of the chopper transformer. This is linked to pin 11 of IC701 via R714. An excessive negative voltage will remove the output from IC701 in the same way as with an excess-current condition.

Standby Operation

Sets with remote control have standby switching. In the standby mode 5V from the tuner control unit is fed via D611 to the bases of transistors T602 and T603. As a result the output pulse from IC601 is very narrow and the chopper drive is likewise reduced. The power supply produces much reduced outputs in this mode.

Supply Lines

The chopper circuit and the line output stage produce various supplies. These are as follows:

- (1) 115V h.t. produced by the chopper circuit.

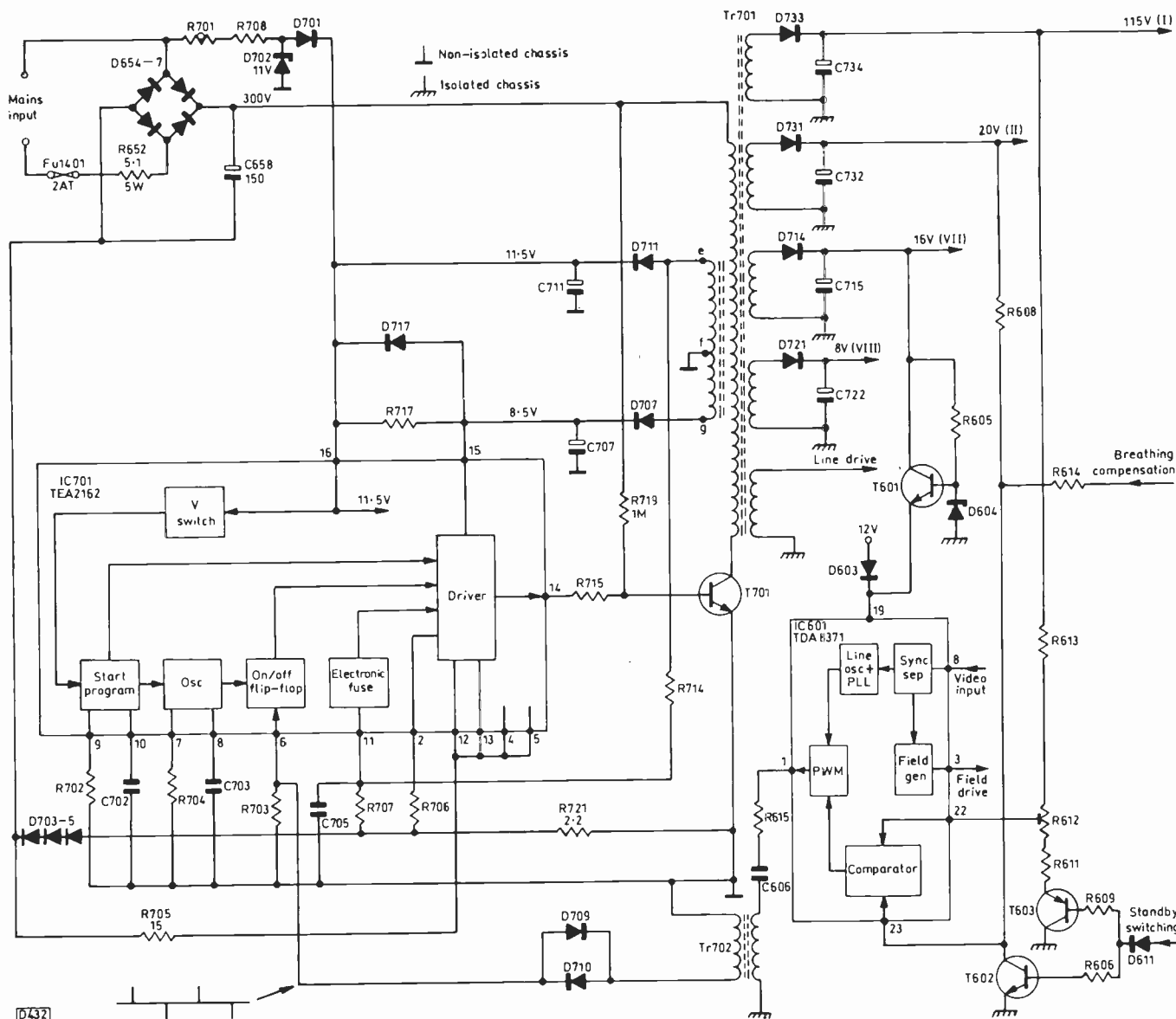


Fig. 1: Simplified block/circuit diagram showing how the chopper power supply and the standby switching system in the ITT Monoprint B chassis operate.

- (II) 20V produced by the chopper circuit.
- (III) 26V produced by the line output stage.
- (V) 12V produced by the line output stage, regulated by IC501 (μ A7812).
- (VI) 150V produced by the line output stage.
- (VII) 16V produced by the chopper circuit.
- (VIII) 8V produced by the chopper circuit.
- (IX) 5V derived from the 16V line via regulator IC1404 (L78M05).
- (X) 5V derived from the 8V line via regulator IC1405 (TDD1605S).

Timebases

The line output stage is a simple affair: as the chassis is designed to drive 90° tubes there's no EW correction. Pin 7 of the line output transformer is the source of the 150V

supply, pin 8 is the source of the 26V supply and pin 9 the source of the 12V supply. Pin 6 provides a 70V pulse output. The transformer also produces the c.r.t. heater, e.h.t. and focus voltages. The first anode supply is tapped from the earthy end of the focus control on the c.r.t base panel.

Supply III, 26V, is used to power the TDA3653A field output chip IC401, at pin 9. This chip's drive waveform comes from pin 3 of the TDA8371 sync/timebase generator chip IC601, being fed to pins 1 and 3. The field output appears at pin 5, the chassis return path for the scan current being via the 1,000 μ F scan coupling capacitor C407 and R407 (1.2 Ω). Most field faults are caused by the chip itself: dry-joints can be responsible for its failure.

Signals Section

A new tuner/i.f. module is used in this chassis, type 5829 0341. It's in a smaller can compared to earlier modules used in the Compact series chassis and has fewer active connections. The audio level is not variable as it can be taken via the scart socket for recording purposes. Volume adjustment is provided at a later stage. After the tuner there's an SL1430 SAWF driver chip (IC161), a TDA4427A i.f. chip (IC201) and a U829B sound detector chip (IC202). The

main pin connections to the module are as follows:

Pin 7: 0-30V for tuning.

Pin 14: 12V input.

Pin 23: 12V input.

Pin 24: Composite video output.

Pin 26: A.F.C. output

Pin 29: A.F.C. on/off.

Pin 31: Audio output.

Pin 32: Audio muting input (from pin 18 of IC601 via D601).

Audio Channel

The audio output from the tuner/i.f. can is taken to buffer transistor T301, then to pins 1 and 3 of the scart socket and pin 4 of the TDA8196 chip IC301, which is responsible for audio input selection and volume control (at pin 6 from the main control chip IC1402). The voltage at pin 3, again from the main control chip, carries out source switching. A TDA1905 chip (IC302) is the audio output device: the signal input is at pin 8, the output at pin 1 and the supply (20V) at pin 2.

Video Channel

The video signal from the tuner/i.f. can is taken via C3601 to pin 3 of the TEA2014 video switching chip IC3601. This receives 12V at pin 7. Pin 2 is the output to the scart socket, pin 6 the output to the colour decoder and sync circuits and pin 8 the input from the scart socket. Pin 5 controls the switching. As with the audio switching the source is pin 32 of IC1402, via transistor T1415. The video input to the sync/timebase generator chip IC601 is at pin 8 while the input to the colour decoder module goes via connector CD3.

Different colour decoder panels are used in these sets, with either a TDA3565 or TDA3561 chip. The connections are the same however: CD1 sandcastle pulse (from pin 20 of IC601); CD3 video input; CD4 12V; CD11 beam current limiting (derived from pin 5 of the LOPT); DC1 brightness control; DC2 contrast control; DC3 colour control. Pins DT1-3 of the other connector are the blue, green and red outputs to the c.r.t. base panel, where the output stages and adjustment presets are mounted. This is quite straightforward, faults usually being confined to transistor failure or presets becoming noisy.

Grey scale/drive adjustment is as follows. First, for decoder 6911 30 31 (TDA3565 chip). Turn all black-level and drive presets to maximum; join together test pins 401/2/3; adjust the brightness for 5V at pin DC4 of the decoder; turn the colour control to minimum; adjust the first anode control until a barely visible line appears. Adjust the black-level presets as required for equal brightness with all three beams, but ensure that at least one of the presets remains at the maximum position. Finally remove the links from the test pins and set the drive controls for neutral white tones. With decoder 6911 30 33 (TDA3561 chip) again set all the controls on the c.r.t. base panel to maximum, then connect pin TP910 to chassis, link TP401 and TP402, adjust the brightness for 6.8V at DC4 on the

decoder. Then carry out the procedure outlined above.

Control System

An SAA1296A chip (IC1402) is used to decode the remote control commands, provide standby switching, carry out the usual customer controls (brightness etc.), drive the LED unit and provide full tuning control with band switching (this latter feature is not used with UK sets of course). The chip is backed by an MDA2061/2062 memory chip.

Checks can be carried out at some of the SAA1296A chip's pins for fault-finding purposes. IR remote control signals are picked up by D1401, amplified by IC1401 (TBA2800) and fed to pin 12 of IC1402. Other pins that can be checked are as follows:

Pin 1: 4MHz clock.

Pin 4: Reset pulse.

Pin 5: Standby control output (high for standby).

Pin 10: Contrast control output.

Pin 11: Brightness control output.

Pin 13: PWM output for tuning voltage control. The feed is to transistor T1420 then T1421.

Pins 14-19, 21-23, 28, 38, 39: Local keypad and display drives.

Pin 24: A.F.C on/off.

Pin 27: 5V input.

Pin 32: AV output (high sets the receiver to scart inputs).

Pin 33: Colour control output.

Pin 34: Volume control output.

Pin 36: Scart switching input (high for the AV condition).

Pin 40: 5V input.

Faults in this area are usually confined to the keypad. Checks can be carried out by connecting a 100Ω resistor across the suspect portion or between the relevant pins of the chip. A resistor connected between pins 15 and 38 for example should produce decreased sound volume, while connecting it between pins 16 and 39 should increase the volume.

The standby control pin (5) is connected to the bases of transistors T602 and T603 (see Fig. 1). When the standby output is high, T602 switches on and the chopper drive pulses at pin 1 of IC601 are only 3.5µs wide. This reduced drive lowers the output voltages produced by the chopper circuit. The high output from IC1402 switches T603 off: the purpose of this arrangement is to reduce the output voltages slowly. In normal operation pin 5 of IC1402 is low, T602 is off and T603 is on.

To Follow

The next article in this series will deal with the Digivision 3 chassis. A faults list for the various chassis will be included.

CD Player Casebook

*Reports from Mike Leach
and Savio DaCosta*

Pioneer XDZ65M

We were told that this midi system had previously taken a long while to read discs. It had then stopped working completely. On test I found that it would load a disc and then do nothing at all. When it had been stripped down I saw that the laser assembly had jammed itself at the end of the worm gear at the centre of the disc. I took the mechanism apart, cleaned and serviced the worm gear, fitted a new belt etc. then put the lot back together again. The machine now worked, but the laser took several seconds to focus on the disc. I then made the mistake of dismissing this as possible laser wear and returned the machine to its owner.

It came back a week later, with the same symptoms and the laser again jammed up. Everything came out again, but this time I checked the continuity of the leaf switch against the worm gear in case there was a problem here. The switch was o.k. I then carried out a check at plug CN202, where the two connections from the switch go into the main board. There was definite continuity on the ohms range. So I switched on and bunged in a disc. Again the laser took several seconds to realise that a disc was present, but while it sat there doing nothing I could hear that the sled motor was still running. How come? The end-stop switch was o.k. – I'd checked it twice! What's going on?

I could see that the main CD board had been out before, as some of the screws that hold it to the chassis were missing. All was revealed when I took it out: in his infinite wisdom someone had seen fit to desolder one of CN202's pins, thereby disconnecting the end-stop switch. Thus although I was getting a continuity reading on the component side of the board, the information from the switch was not getting back to the microcontroller chip. Hence the sled motor continuing to run when the laser was sitting at the start of a disc. After resoldering this pin the laser read the disc immediately and all was well again. **M.L.**

Yamaha CD3

This player's tray wouldn't open. I took the top off and found that the loading motor, after I'd removed the belt, tried to spin very slowly. The cause of the fault was soon traced to two of the loading motor drive transistors, TR20 and TR22. When two new 2SA934 transistors had been fitted the tray opened normally. **M.L.**

Aiwa DXZ7000M

This machine, part of a separates system, wouldn't read discs. The turntable rotated and the laser squeaked nicely but the TOC wasn't read. As cleaning didn't improve matters I dived in, wrongly, and replaced the BA6296

tracking drive chip. This made no difference. The laser still squeaked, and I'm sure that a rude word appeared in the display as I desperately looked for the track information! Fortunately my next hunch was correct: after replacing the CXA1082 servo processor chip the machine read the discs all right.

This was by no means the end of the story however. The machine started to play, but after a few seconds the sound muted briefly then returned. It continued to do this with every disc I tried. All was well when the CXD1167Q signal processor chip had been replaced, but it was a pretty expensive job. I packed it all up, feeling good, then saw the ticket that said "estimate first". . . There must be other ways of putting bread on the table. Ideas anybody?! **M.L.**

Sony HCDH70/1200/1500

These mini compos use the same CD assembly. A common problem you get with them is failure of the tray to close because the belt is weak. **S.DaC.**

Philips CD460

The tray wouldn't open, though it would close. We found that the BC337 transistor on the tray drive PCB at the front was open-circuit. **S.DaC.**

Sony Discman D2/22

This machine wouldn't play. When a disc was inserted there was a scratching noise as the machine attempted to play it. The cause of the problem was clear enough: the plastic MD cover around the turntable holder had warped. All that was required was a new cover. How did this happen? The owner had left the unit out in strong sunlight, though the operating manual tells you clearly not to expose such units to heat. Fortunately the laser wasn't affected. **S.DaC.**

Technics SLXP7

The disc rotated but there was no LCD indication and no sound. The main processor chip IC401 controls both these functions. As lifting the mute control pin 32 brought the sound back we replaced the chip – it took a large magnifier and most of a morning. When we'd done this the LCD and sound returned. **S.DaC.**

Sony CDPH3600

This player was part of an audio system. It would come on but didn't do anything else. We found that IC101 was faulty – the 7V supply was missing. Replacing it didn't make much difference, and the new chip got hot. A resistance check between pin 1 of the chip and chassis produced an unusually low reading of 6Ω. Removing CN101 increased the resistance reading. IC102 turned out to be faulty, a replacement restoring the player to life. **S.DaC.**

Technics SLPJ30

This machine would focus on the disc but the spindle didn't move. I thought that the motor might be faulty, but this possibility was ruled out by the fact that it's a direct-drive type. A visual inspection revealed that the AN8370S optical servo chip looked brown on top. When a replacement was fitted the player worked. The chip must have been cooking away slowly, as the customer said that the player had been operating intermittently. **S.DaC.**

15R0H	3.83	ZSC2314	0.38	ZSD898B	7.78	BC337L	0.22	BF9R1	0.60	CD4060B	0.76	M104B1	5.30	SAB3035	6.35	TA7280P	2.69	TD2030V	1.05	TEA2031A	3.40
1N4001	0.04	ZSC2335	1.56	ZSD965	0.67	BC338	0.06	BF9R1A	0.82	CD4066	0.30	M192B1	1.86	SG264A	13.99	TA7281P	2.98	TD2040H	2.11	TEA2164	2.96
1N4002	0.07	ZSC2458	0.14	ZSD973	0.38	BC368	0.25	BF996A	0.95	CD4070	0.21	M293	20.65	SGSF344	7.28	TA7288P	2.04	TD2170	5.40	TEA2165	4.27
1N4003	0.05	ZSC2482	0.35	ZS1115	6.41	BC369	0.17	BF9Y51	0.39	CD4081	0.15	M491	0.15	SL1430	1.53	TA7299P	2.65	TD2270	3.03	TEA2165A	9.58
1N4004	0.07	ZSC2570A	0.30	ZS1117	3.06	BC372	0.62	BR100	0.27	CD4093	0.32	M494B1	5.65	SL1431	1.70	TA7317P	0.93	TD2540	1.12	TEA5110	3.95
1N4006	0.06	ZSC2581	3.08	ZSK192A	0.36	BC461	0.31	BR103	0.53	CD4093	0.36	M51387P	10.68	SL1432	8.54	TA7609P	4.92	TD2541	1.80	TEA5115	3.25
1N4007	0.06	ZSC2603	0.25	ZSK197A	6.41	BC517	0.14	BR303	1.22	CMK62A	3.83	M51393AP	4.64	SL471	1.70	TA7680AP	4.55	TD2576A	5.95	TC106D	0.82
1N4148	0.02	ZSC2655	0.21	ZSK888	1.54	BC546B	0.07	BRX44	1.02	CMK82A	3.83	M5218L	1.59	SN76705AN	1.70	TA7698AP	5.97	TD2579A	4.25	TC106M	0.75
1N5061	0.39	ZSC2705	0.32	Z41S247	0.62	BC546B	0.09	BRX49	0.40	CMK83A	2.65	M5231L	2.36	ST4341M	3.35	TA7769P	3.01	TD2578A	2.91	TC225M	1.02
1N5401	0.14	ZSC2724	0.19	Z805	0.78	BC547A	0.11	BRX55	1.23	CMK84A	3.16	M54519P	1.37	ST4441C	4.51	TA7784P	2.25	TD2579A	3.06	TC226D	0.68
1N5402	0.12	ZSC2979	2.74	Z806	0.60	BC547A	0.04	BRX56	0.43	DT1144ES	0.24	M54543L	1.97	STK4122II	6.70	TAB201	3.93	TD2581	7.52	TC106G	2.52
1N5404	0.13	ZSC3117	0.60	Z808	0.72	BC547B	0.11	BSR50	0.75	DT124EF	0.13	M54544L	2.41	STK4132II	8.89	TAB205	3.93	TD2581Q	4.96	TL1111	0.64
1N5406	0.12	ZSC3153	2.40	Z809	0.69	BC548A	0.11	BSS38	1.77	DT144EF	0.43	M54548L	4.95	STK4141II	12.46	TAB205AH	4.10	TD2582	2.35	TIP110	0.36
1N5408	0.12	ZSC3156	5.61	Z812	0.30	BC548B	0.18	BT13960D	1.87	DT144ES	0.18	M54648L	6.87	STK4141V	11.03	TAB207	2.74	TD2593	0.26	TIP112H	1.71
1N914	0.04	ZSC3179	0.82	Z815	0.17	BC548C	0.12	BT151-500R	1.44	DT124ES	0.18	M58655P	4.96	STK4142II	9.40	TAB210H	4.79	TD2594	2.21	TIP121	0.42
2N2222	0.22	ZSC3182	2.49	Z810S	0.26	BC549	0.11	BT151800	1.15	DT144ES	0.18	M83730	2.85	STK4152II	10.68	TAB215H	4.79	TD2595	3.19	TIP127	0.47
2N2222A	0.23	ZSC3199	0.43	Z8M05	0.15	BC550	0.15	BU104	1.43	HA11423	2.84	MB3732	14.89	STK4171II	13.20	TAB216H	8.01	TD2600	3.83	TIP132	0.65
2N2369A	0.34	ZSC3225	0.50	Z905	0.35	BC550C	0.05	BU205	1.07	HA132001	1.89	MC13002P	7.69	STK4192II	15.79	TAB220H	7.06	TD2611A	0.64	TIP137	0.48
2N2907	0.20	ZSC3242	0.19	Z915	0.63	BC556A	0.06	BU208A	1.44	HA13108	3.59	MC13110P	0.85	STK4392	6.49	TAB221II	7.01	TD2611AQ	2.57	TIP295	0.83
2N3053	0.38	ZSC3310	2.12	AA119	0.36	BC556B	0.15	BU208AT	1.25	HA13117	2.58	MC1377P	7.51	STK4363	15.69	TAB220H	7.19	TD2653A	3.26	TIP29C	0.31
2N3055	0.86	ZSC3311	0.29	AA13	0.13	BC557	0.09	BU208D	1.61	HA13118	3.32	MC1391P	2.02	STK5211	16.12	TAB410I	4.27	TD2655B	14.61	TIP29E	0.47
2N3440	0.77	ZSC3330	0.60	AA143	0.13	BC557A	0.15	BU208E	1.36	HA13119	2.05	MC14426P	1.71	STK5331	2.87	TAB691N	7.01	TD3190	1.27	TIP305S	0.94
2N3442	1.00	ZSC3355	0.26	AC127	0.13	BC557B	0.06	BU406	0.68	HA13403	5.98	MC3357P	2.14	STK5332	2.99	TAA550B	0.24	TD3301B	9.40	TIP30C	0.17
2N3707	0.12	ZSC3358	0.69	AC153K	0.40	BC558	0.08	BU406D	1.02	HA1377	2.62	MDA2062	3.89	STK5333	10.47	TAA550C	0.30	TD3330	12.29	TIP31A	0.33
2N3773	1.32	ZSC3420	0.55	AC187K	0.34	BC560C	0.19	BU407	0.57	HA51338SP3	7.69	MJ15003	3.91	STK5338	4.99	TBA120	0.53	TD3505	4.87	TIP31C	0.77
2N3819	0.55	ZSC3423	0.60	AC188K	0.40	BC635	0.06	BU407D	0.93	HM6232	10.46	MJ15004	5.08	STK5342	5.00	TBA120C	0.65	TD3541	0.98	TIP32A	0.41
2N3904	0.32	ZSC3502	0.45	AC188K	0.82	BC636	0.15	BU426A	1.03	HM6251	9.57	MJ2955	0.98	STK5372	3.51	TBA120S	0.89	TD3560	2.96	TIP32C	0.40
2N4123	0.30	ZSC3656	0.18	AD149	0.52	BC637	0.14	BU500	0.40	KAZ206	1.32	MJ3001	1.56	STK5372H	6.84	TBA120T	0.51	TD3561A	4.79	TIP36C	???
2N5196	0.69	ZSC3679	3.59	AF124	1.75	BC639	0.18	BU505DF	1.35	KAZ223	0.60	MJ4502	1.84	STK5421	2.62	TBA120U	0.40	TD3562A	5.16	TIP41A	???
2SA1013	0.52	ZSC3788	0.77	AF125	0.57	BC640	0.06	BU506DF	1.68	KAZ263	0.55	MJ802	2.40	STK5466	5.66	TBA800	0.51	TD3562ATF	4.93	TIP41C	???
2SA1015	0.11	ZSC3795	1.97	AF126	1.12	BC679	0.40	BU508A	0.95	KAR301	1.46	MJC13005	0.86	STK5471	4.87	TBA8200	0.69	TD3565	2.95	TIP42A	???
2SA1015GR	0.11	ZSC3795B	3.88	AF127	0.77	BCY71	0.27	BU508B	0.87	KBI.08	1.27	MJC18004	1.80	STK5473	3.51	TBA920	2.75	TD3566	3.40	TIP42C	???
2SA1016	0.26	ZSC3807	0.84	AF139	0.29	BC131	0.34	BU508APH	1.99	KIAG621AH	6.15	MJE2955A	0.68	STK5476	5.03	TBA950	1.68	TD3576B	9.98	TIP671A	???
2SA1020	0.44	ZSC3883	5.92	AN5265	1.76	BD132	0.21	BU508D	1.21	KSR11001	0.14	MJE2955T	0.68	STK5481	8.53	TCA270S	2.75	TD3640	5.92	TIP791A	1.25
2SA1029	0.17	ZSC3892A	4.74	AN5435	1.46	BD177	0.27	BU508DF	1.88	KSR1004	0.14	MJC3055	0.52	STK5482	6.41	TCA800Q	1.65	TD3650	9.91	TL062	0.60
2SA1048	0.26	ZSC3953	0.72	AN5521	1.83	BD196	0.20	BU508F	1.65	KSR2004	0.14	MJC3055T	0.74	STK5490	7.69	TD1004A	4.35	TD3653B	1.86	TL071	0.69
2SA1286	0.55	ZSC4106	2.05	AN5515	2.79	BD137	0.46	BU526	1.61	KSR2004	0.14	MJC340	0.50	STK5492	2.60	TD1011	1.27	TD3657	1.37	TL071CP	0.60
2SA1370	0.43	ZSC4242	2.29	AN5521	2.19	BD139	0.41	BU536	1.65	L200CV	2.19	MJ5600	3.23	STK7226	8.14	TD1013A	1.56	TD3687?	???	TL072	1.03
2SA1409	2.40	ZSC4517	0.70	AN6510	0.94	BD140	0.24	BU608	1.46	LA1230	1.95	MPSA06	0.35	STK7253	5.30	TD1015	1.37	TD3685A	1.89	TL072CP	0.53
2SA1786	0.52	ZSC4517A	2.52	AN7161N	3.85	BD203	0.47	BU801	1.37	LA1503	1.29	MPSA08	0.23	STK7308	5.98	TD1035T	4.14	TD3685A	2.81	TL074	1.15
2SA562	0.17	ZSC4548	0.12	AN7171K	4.68	BD232	0.45	BU806	0.82	LA2461	2.29	MPSA43	0.15	STK73410I	6.41	TD1044	1.43	TD44220	1.29	TL082CP	0.43
2SA564	0.33	ZSC4742	4.70	BA154	0.06	BD233	0.31	BU807	0.51	LA4270	2.73	MPSA55	0.26	STK7348	4.91	TD1060	1.73	TD4427A	3.98	U000000	0.00
2SA568	0.24	ZSC536	0.14	BA157	0.09	BD234	0.34	BU826A	1.47	LA4282	3.59	MPSA56	0.12	STK7356	8.31	TD1082	4.27	TD44500	4.66	TPU2732	10.05
2SA573	0.12	ZSC539	0.56	BA158	0.07	BD237	0.30	BU908	1.17	LA4422	1.36	MPSA92	0.18	STK7358	5.81	TD1085C	2.29	TD44501	5.95	TPU2735-45	12.30
2SA684	0.60	ZSC710	0.12	BA159	0.15	BD238	0.24	BUK444500B	2.40	LA4440	2.40	MR85A	0.65	STR40090	8.71	TD1170	2.14	TD44510H	2.57	UA7141CN	0.28
2SA733	0.17	ZSC828	0.29	BA5406	2.12	BD239	0.29	BUK454600C	3.28	LA4445	2.01	MR856	0.21	STR4211	10.53	TD1170N	2.05	TD44502A	1.67	UA82001	3.81
2SA769	1.29	ZSC867A	7.13	BA5410	2.57	BD243	0.39	BUK454600C	2.54	LA4460	1.49	NE5458	3.20	STR441	15.95	TD1170S	1.35	TD44503	3.40	UC3842	2.05
2SA844	0.26	ZSC945	0.12	BA5412	2.48	BD243C	0.44	BU111	1.20	LA4461	1.49	NE555N	0.37	STR451	29.90	TD1180Z	1.69	TD44505E	4.87	UC3844	4.41
2SA872	0.35	ZSD1071	4.31	BA6109	1.85	BD244A	0.34	BU111A	1.05	LA4475	3.09	NE556	0.43	STR50020	9.02	TD1270	1.79	TD44505M	8.97	UC3844N	1.91
2SA872A	0.35	ZSD1128	1.02	BA6209	1.46	BD244C	0.42	BU111AF	0.86	LA4476	2.79	NE592N	1.91	STR50103	6.92	TD1420	3.04	TD44580	10.05	UC38003AN	1.58
2SA916	1.14	ZSD1191	1.49	BA6209N	1.27	BD245C	0.92	BU121A	1.13	LA4508	2.13	NE646N	4.45	STR54041	5.99	TD1510	3.40	TD4600	2.29	UPA81C	1.12
2SA933	1.00	ZSD1207	0.35	BA6219	2.46	BD246C	0.97	BU12AF	1.39	LA4700	4.27	OZ200	0.22	STR5412	6.15	TD1515A	2.57	TD4600 23	2.72	UPC1181H	5.08
2SA940	0.82	ZSD1246	0.30	BA6219B	1.46	BD433	0.29	BU18AF	1.37	LA6358S	0.62	OZ90	0.64	STR58041	9.30	TD15160	3.59	TD46002D	4.27	UPC1236	2.82
2SA950	0.18	ZSD1265	1.08	BA6222	3.16	BD434	0.34	BU1756A	1.19	LA6510	2.94	OC71	1.03	STR59041	9.68	TD15180	3.35	TD4601	1.80	UPC1238V	1.87
2SA955	0.52	ZSD1266	0.68	BA6247	1.95	BD435	0.38	BU156AT	2.78	LA7520	2.77	P600A	0.33	STR6020	10.25	TD1519	4.23	TD4601D	2.42	UPC1238V	3.95
2SA966	0.54	ZSD1275	1.23	BA718	1.08	BD436	0.32	BUV46A	0.84	LA7800	1.46	PC814	1.27	STR7777	???	TD1519A	2.74	TD4605	3.03	UPC1238V	2.66
2SA970																					

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50,000 of video parts, heads, belt kits, etc.
 of remote controls, etc. etc.
 over 50,000 database records to help find the difficult
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BU208A	X5	£4.50	BUT11AF	X5	£3.25	3V29 etc. Belt kit	X5	£4.50
BU508A	X5	£3.60	BU426A	X5	£3.75	3V35/36 etc. Belt kit	X5	£4.25
BU508AF	X5	£5.00	TDA4601	X2	£2.55	VT11E etc. Belt kit	X5	£5.50
BUT11A	X5	£2.25	TDA3654	X2	£2.50	Standard video sensor lamp	X10	£2.50
Philips type 1.2 volt Back up battery	X5	£4.50	Standard video sensor lamp + plug	X10	£4.00			
Philips type 2.4 volt Back up battery	X5	£8.75	Thorn TX9/10 Re.note control			each	£7.49	
Scart - Scart lead 1.5m Fully wired	X2	£2.90	Thorn TX10 Green spot LOPTX			each	£14.95	

.....and now ask for a full price list.

(please add £1.00 handling all + VAT)

Satellite PSU Repair/Refurb kits

Experience in one of the largest repair centres has shown that all repairs to Power supply units require special treatment with not only the obviously faulty parts being replaced but a number of others also changed to ensure a satisfactory repair. Experience shows that up to 50% of all power supply repairs 'bounce' unless the correct procedure and the correct precautionary changes to certain components are made.

At last 4 repair kits are available to cover the majority of all Amstrad and Pace receivers each with a simple to understand instruction sheet to guide you through the correct way of repairing and refurbishing satellite receiver power supply units.

	MANUFACTURERS	MACHINE NO.		PRICE
SATKIT1	PACE	PRD800	PRD900	£6.95
SATKIT2	PACE	SS9000	SS9200	£6.95
		SS9010	SS9210	
		SS9020	SS9220	
SATKIT3	AMSTRAD	SRD510	SRD520	£6.95
SATKIT4	AMSTRAD	SRD500		£6.95

all + £1.00 handling and + VAT

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

ALL SATELLITE RECEIVERS purchased before MAY 1994

It is almost certain that if you purchased your satellite receiver before May 1994 you will be unable to receive all the projected channels when they become available on ASTRA 1D neither will you be able to receive the lower two channels on ASTRA 1C. The lower two channels on ASTRA 1D are Filmmet Movies (H - 10.921) and RTL-5 (V - 10.934). These are broadcasting now. If you wish to receive these two channels now and the projected possible 16 channels on ASTRA 1D when it is launched later this year, you will need to purchase extra equipment. The SUPER 'D'CONVERTOR is a clever, low cost frequency converter which can be purchased now. Millions of satellite receivers will need converting in Europe so it is good advice to buy now while stocks are readily available.

Can I receive

ASTRA 1D

YES!

Method 1

- 1) Purchase an enhanced satellite receiver with tuning range of 950 - 2050 MHz
- 2) Purchase an LNB with a conversion frequency of 9.75 GHz
- 3) Book an engineer to install the equipment

TOTAL COST AROUND £200

Method 2

- 1) Purchase a SUPER 'D'converter
- 2) Install the SUPER 'D'converter - All by yourself.

TOTAL COST EXACTLY £29.95

What is a SUPER 'D'converter?

The super 'D'converter is a small box (110mm x 60mm x 50mm) which is inserted into the down lead from the satellite dish at the rear of the receiver (no power supply is required). A suitable connecting lead is supplied together with end user simple instructions. At the flick of a switch or in most cases a touch on the remote control, channels on ASTRA 1D can be tuned in when available. The bottom 2 channels on ASTRA 1C which up to now you may not have been able to tune in, will be immediately available.

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Fax Technology

Geoff Lewis, B.A., M.Sc., I.Eng.

The history of image transmission (facsimile) goes back a long time. Although the concept was first described by Alexander Bell in 1843, it didn't become a practical system until the late 1920s, when 'wire photographs' became available via the news agencies. It wasn't until 1972 that the CCITT (International Telegraph and Telephone Consultative Committee) confirmed the first standard, for what became known as Group 1 machines. Four years later the CCITT confirmed the Group 2 standard. But the system remained technology driven and wasn't popular as a means of business communication. In spite of the relatively low demand, the CCITT issued the Group 3 standard in 1980. Then, in line with the development of digital technology for telecommunications purposes and the assumed need for an Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN), the CCITT defined the Group 4 standard in 1984. The idea was to give the system greatly enhanced capabilities.

During the mid-Eighties there was considerable convergence between the telecommunications, broadcasting and computer industries. This coincided with a rapid expansion in the use of VLSI (very large scale integrated) semiconductor technology, the appearance of low-cost microprocessor chips and improvements in the transmission quality provided by the fax carrier medium – analogue telephone lines.

At this stage Group 3 and 4 systems were developing in parallel for different applications. Group 3 machines with new features and faster, better transmission characteristics were developed while the Group 4 standard, which has still to be fully implemented, struggled to find a niche market. Their development has not been helped by the fact that to this day Group 4 terminals are only about fifty per cent faster than the best Group 3 units. Thus Group 3 machines are the market leader at present, using technology that's user/subscriber driven.

While automated Group 3 business machines are now available at around £1,000, machines suitable for domestic and small-business use can be obtained for less than £300 –including VAT and one-year on-site maintenance.

At least three per cent of UK homes with a telephone are now equipped with a fax machine. In the USA and Japan over twelve per cent of such homes have fax. This suggests that there are considerable opportunities in the UK for fax sales and service through radio and TV traders.

Present fax systems can transmit photographic and documentary information over standard telephone lines, local area networks and via radio and satellite links.

How the System Works

The information in a document that's to be transmitted by fax usually consists of dark markings on a white background. It can be analysed for transmission by segmenting the document into areas that are small enough to be able to resolve the finest detail. This is done by using a light beam to scan the document sequentially in a series of very narrow strips. The magnitude of the light reflected from each picture element (pel or pixel) is then converted into an electrical signal. Since fax terminals are transceivers (transmitter-receivers), the signal can produce an accurate

facsimile of the original document either locally or at a distance.

Aspect Ratio

The fax doesn't have to be the same size as the original, and some terminals have the ability to enlarge or reduce a document. To avoid distortion, the aspect ratio of the page should remain constant. Aspect ratio compatibility is referred to as the factor or index of co-operation (FOC or IOC respectively): this is based on the ratio of the scan line length to the vertical scanning density (line depth, i.e. vertical resolution). FOC equals the effective scan length (actual length plus five per cent to accommodate a phasing signal) multiplied by the vertical scan density. Since the IOC ratio was defined in terms of the original drum-scanned systems, $IOC = FOC/\pi$. If terminals that work together have the same ratio, the shape of a document will be retained even though the actual reproduced size may differ.

Fax Transmission and Reception

The drum scanning system used in earlier machines has been superseded by a flat-bed technique: the document is moved over an illuminated window slit, the reflected light being focused on to a CCD array that consists of up to 3,500 cells. This results in a digital grey scale that represents the dark and light areas along a whole line. It's stored temporarily in a semiconductor memory. Since each pixel signal can be generated in about 2µsec, while to change and transmit a complete line signal takes about 140µsec, there's ample time for signal coding and companding.

The signal thus generated is modulated on to a suitable carrier, then filtered to ensure that its bandwidth lies within the spectrum of a telephone channel (300-3,400Hz).

The type of modulation used varies with different Groups. In general, to avoid early obsolescence the operation of each Group is compatible with terminals of a lower Group. A line amplifier is used at the terminal's output to provide the correct signal level and impedance matching with the transmission medium.

A terminal's receiver section is the obverse of the transmission section. The received fax signal is amplified then filtered to remove any line noise. It's then demodulated to restore the baseband signal. This is passed to a marking amplifier which drives the fax printing mechanism.

Microprocessor Control

Use of a microprocessor to control a fax terminal has numerous advantages. These include computer fax, encryption for added security, auto dialling and answering for unattended operation, transmission of the same fax to several receivers simultaneously, and polling – this allows a terminal to call for a fax from a distant terminal after identifying itself.

Fig. 1 shows in block diagram form the arrangement of a modern multi-feature, microprocessor-controlled terminal. The microprocessor is generally part of a VLSI chip that also contains a dual-port RAM to allow simultaneous read

and write (i.e. input and output) operations, serial and parallel interface ports, bus-control logic and monitor circuitry. This item, combined with a few standard CMOS chips and other VLSI application specific integrated circuits (ASIC devices), provides an economical, small-sized terminal.

The use of both serial and parallel ports with integral

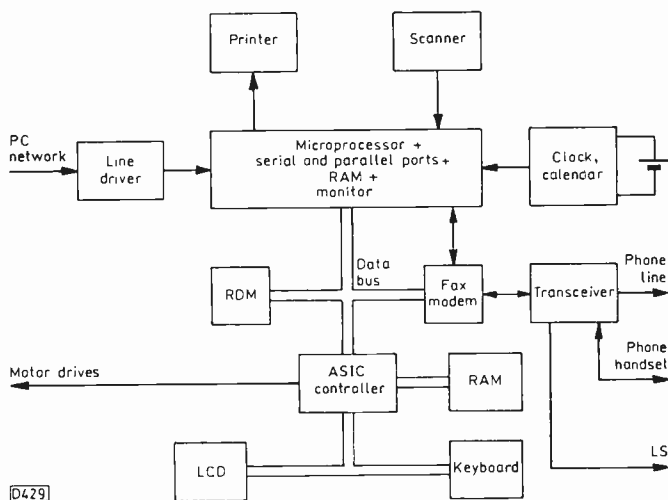


Fig. 1: Block diagram of a modern multi-feature, microprocessor-controlled fax terminal.

control enables the basic system to be expanded to produce a full-feature machine. As you can see from Fig. 1, a line driver coupled to one of the serial ports enables the terminal to form part of a PC-controlled local area network (LAN). The printer, scanner and fax modem are linked to other serial ports. The modem is also coupled to the parallel data bus to enable it to operate from the scanner, the LAN or the memory, giving provision for unattended transmission and reception. The real-time clock circuit provides time and date signals and is supported by a float-charged back-up battery.

The fax modem is designed for Group 3 operation, but is in addition compatible with Group 2 standards. Switching between the standards is controlled by the 'handshaking protocol' during the normal dial-up procedure.

The interface with the telephone network is provided by the transceiver. It also provides analogue filtering, impedance matching and line isolation. In a combined phone/fax machine this section also carries the handset interface and a drive for a small loudspeaker to give an indication to the user that a fax transmission is in progress.

The ROM contains the terminal protocol and control information and the instructions for control of the stepper motors that drive the printer, paper feed and guillotine. The RAM stores the machine identity codes, the database of commonly used numbers and any other user programmable data.

An LCD that can display short messages also shows the time and the called/calling numbers. The keypad is used to enter fax numbers and other database information, also for manual control of the terminal.

The ASIC chip provides the most cost-effective way of controlling the various features that are driven via the parallel data bus.

Printing Techniques

Many different printing techniques are in use. The most popular include an electrostatic method which is similar to

that used by office photocopiers; laser, ink jet or bubble-jet printing; and, in virtually all low-cost machines, thermal printing.

In a typical electrostatic printer styli attached to a flexible belt are driven across plain paper, leaving a pattern of charges on it. The styli voltage varies between 600V for black and -450V for white. The charged paper is passed over a magnetic roller that bristles with magnetised iron particles which hold, in the spaces between the bristles, a black toner powder. Positively charged areas of the paper attract the powder while negatively charged areas repel it. The deposit thus forms a facsimile of the original document. A permanent bond is achieved by passing the paper over a heated roller.

Low-cost machines use a special thermosensitive paper that discolours when its temperature exceeds about 70°C, full black being obtained at around 110°C. The paper is passed over an array of minute resistive heating elements

Table 1: Group 3 standard parameters

Transmission speed:	9 secs* up to one minute
Image signal:	Digital
Modulation:	Differential PSK (DPSK)
Carrier frequency:	1.8kHz
Coding standard:	Modified Huffman
Redundancy reduction:	READ or MMR
Handshake signals:	300bits/sec FSK
Vertical resolution:	Standard 3.85 lines/mm, fine 7.7 lines/mm, super fine 15.4 lines/mm
Horizontal resolution:	Standard 8 pels/mm, fine 1,728 pels/line (A4), super fine 3,456 pels/line (A4)
Modem speeds:	Standard 2.4/4.8/7.2/9.6kbits/sec; high grade 12/14.4kbits/sec; near future 19.2/28.8kbits/sec

*Maximum rate for peer-to-peer communication.

that use thin-film technology. As a result there is little thermal inertia in the element heating and they can respond to a rapidly varying signal. One end of each element is held at just below a critical voltage level, where zero signal voltage produces no mark on the paper. This makes maximum use of the signal voltage, which varies the temperature of the paper between about 60°C and 110°C. A copy is thus produced with varying tonal shades that accord with the grey scale of the original document. As the images produced by this method tend to fade with time, they should not be regarded as a permanent record.

A thermal transfer technique can also be used to copy on to plain paper. This uses a base film that holds a special melttable ink which is transferred to the copy paper by heated thermal heads. Colour printing is also possible with

this technique, by successively transferring coloured inks (yellow, cyan and magenta): the overlay can produce a wide range of colours.

Image Coding

At minimum resolution (see Table 1) a Group 3 terminal produces about 30 pels/sq. mm, an A4 page containing rather more than 1.9 million pixels. If these had all to be transmitted a very efficient coding system would have to be used to minimise the transmission time and/or the bandwidth required. A study of a typical test document however has shown that there is considerable redundancy, which can be eliminated by the use of suitable coding. There are two possibilities here.

First, many sections of each line scan are continuously white, holding no useful information to print. Skipping these white spaces can produce a horizontal economy that's known as one-dimensional coding. This technique provides the least compression but the highest error immunity.

Secondly, each line scan has on average a high correlation with both of its neighbours. This fact can be exploited by transmitting only information on how the current line differs from the previous one, thus producing a vertical economy.

Use of both horizontal and vertical coding (two-dimensional) is called Relevant Element Address Designate (READ) coding. It can reduce the transmission time by a factor of ten or more. Because one error can affect several lines, the error immunity is rather lower than with one-dimensional coding. This is offset by the considerably higher compression ratio achieved.

Run-length and Huffman Coding

Statistical histograms of black and white pixel runs with test pages show that black runs have a peak probability of approximately 0.15 for runs of two to four pixels, the spread extending beyond 100. The corresponding values for white runs have a flatter statistical distribution, peaking at about two to nine pixels with a probability of about 0.05 but with the spread extending beyond 1,000. Run-length coding, which is suitable for handling such redundancy, is based on the Huffman code tree illustrated in Fig. 2. This is derived from the following algorithm:

- (1) Arrange messages in descending order of probability.
- (2) Add two smallest values to produce new combined probability.
- (3) Let higher probability path = 1, lower path = 0.
- (4) Does probability total = 1.0?
- (5) If no, go to 2; if yes go to 6.
- (6) Read code word paths from root to branches.

The example shown in Fig. 2 works out as follows:

Symbol	m1	m2	m3	m4	m5	m6
Probability	0.3	0.2	0.15	0.13	0.12	0.1

With a Huffman coded message m1 = 11, m2 = 00, m3 = 101, m4 = 100, m5 = 011 and m6 = 010.

This procedure results in the most probable message

being allocated the shortest code, with each code word being derived by tracing a path through the tree structure.

Huffman coding lends itself to further modification (modified Huffman), in which the new run-length coding produces a significant data compression.

In practice the code words are held in a ROM look-up table, with access via a run-length input. The bit patterns so obtained provide unique decoding, and because no code word produces a prefix for any other one the start and end of each is easily and accurately determined.

There could be up to 1,728 different run lengths with a standard A4 line of 1,728 pels. This is effectively reduced to 91 white and 91 black by modifications to the Huffman coding. The code words are arranged into groups of 64

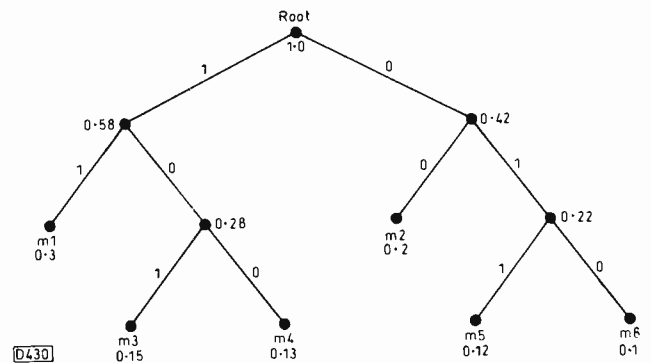


Fig. 2: Huffman code tree.

pels, with a run of 63 or less being represented by a single code word ranging from two to twelve bits. Greater run lengths are split into two code words, one representing the multiple of 64 and the other a terminating code to define the actual run length: this double code word has a maximum length of thirteen bits. Line synchronism is achieved by ending each scan line with a unique End Of Line (EOL) code word that consists of eleven zeros followed by a single one.

Modified READ coding uses modified Huffman run-length coding for the first line of a page, then comparing the following lines on a pixel by pixel basis to determine the difference to be used as the signal for transmission.

Modified Modified READ (MMR) coding, which is a pure two-dimensional coding system, can give a greater degree of data compression by assuming that the first line is all white then deriving the differences by using this as a reference. The test page statistics also show the line-to-line correlation for transitions between black and white and vice versa. About fifty per cent of the transitions on any line fall directly beneath a similar transition on the previous line. Further, twenty five per cent of the transitions occur within one pixel of a similar transition on the previous line. Thus about seventy five per cent of all transitions occur within ± 1 pixel of a similar transition. MMR takes advantage of this vertical and horizontal redundancy by storing the previous line as a reference and continually referring back to it as the system encodes and decodes the next line scan. But because an error created on one line is propagated throughout the rest of the page, MMR is used only with relatively error-free, low-noise transmission networks.

Error Protection

Huffman coding is sensitive to bit errors since a single error can create a false run-length code. The EOL code forms a trap against the propagation of such errors. Because two-dimensional coding is more error prone, with

a Group 3 terminal every fourth line is transmitted with one-dimensional coding. This enables the EOL signals to restrict the error spread.

Some up-market Group 3 terminals employ standard forward error correction (FEC). This enables two-dimensional coding without the EOL signal to be used throughout, improving the data compression.

A form of half duplex selective repeat, called Automatic Repeat Request (ARQ), can be used to provide further error protection. Since the fax image data is transmitted in numbered frames, when the receiver detects a frame with an error it can generate an automatic request for that frame only to be repeated.

Compression Factors

Data compression factors of 20:1 can fairly easily be achieved by using the techniques described above. Documents that contain significant grey scales or colours however can produce a large number of short run-length codes, thus effectively introducing data expansion. This is resolved by introducing an uncompressed mode, in which the image is transmitted in bit format rather than Huffman code. The switch between these modes may be automatic within a document or set up at the start of a transmission.

Operating Protocol

The communication sequence between fax terminals is divided into five stages, as follows:

(1) The calling terminal establishes a link to the called unit by transmitting the appropriate telephone number and then identifying itself by transmitting a single 1.8kHz tone. The called terminal responds, replying with a single 2.1kHz tone. This not only establishes the link via the telephone network but also signals to a combined phone/fax terminal that the system is now in the fax mode.

(2) The called terminal then identifies its operating parameters and Group, using digital signalling at a rate of 300bits/sec with frequency shift keying (FSK) modulation. The calling terminal responds at 300bits/sec, then sends a test signal at its highest bit rate (14.4 or 9.6kbits/sec) to determine the line quality and the signal-to-noise ratio (SNR). If the signal quality is poor, the system reverts to a lower transmission rate. The called terminal accepts these parameters by signalling agreement at 300bits/sec.

(3) Document transmission then takes place at the agreed data rate, using Differential Phase Shift Keying (DPSK) modulation, with end-of-page signalling at 300bits/sec. At this stage any ARQ signals can be transmitted for error correction, again at 300bits/sec.

(4) Both the called and the calling terminals exchange signals at 300bits/sec to arrange for the transmission of any further pages or frame repeats to correct errors.

(5) If no further transmission is required the calling terminal initiates the line disconnect process, again at 300bits/sec.

Duplex Operation

Some multi-feature machines can operate in the full duplex mode, i.e. they can transmit one fax while receiving another. This is achieved by using the lower and upper

halves of the transmission band to signal in opposite directions. The majority of terminals operate in only the half duplex mode however, with signalling restricted to the upper half of the spectrum.

Operating Problems

Problems can arise because the Public Switch Telephone Network (PSTN), which was designed for voice communications, is not always able to cope with digital signals.

Each device designed for connection to the telephone network has a rating that's described as the Ringing Equivalence Number (REN). It represents the loading on the line current. As more devices are added to a single line in parallel, the line current to each is reduced proportionally. A standard telephone generally has a REN = 1, a full-feature Group 3 fax machine a REN = 3. To ensure that the line current isn't overloaded, the maximum REN at any customer termination shouldn't exceed 4. If it does, the system operation can be uncertain.

A wide range of features is incorporated in current Group 3 terminals. Since the operation of the terminals is largely determined by the software used, different manufacturers may implement these features in different ways. This can give rise to apparent intermittent faults with operation between terminals of different manufacture.

The electronic circuitry in fax machines, consisting mainly of ASIC and microprocessor chips, is very reliable. As with VCRs however these machines contain a number of motors and other electromechanical devices that are rather less reliable. The motors are usually of the stepper type, being pulse driven. Protection sensors are incorporated in various sensitive circuits such as motors, the print head and scanner. Under fault conditions these will generate shut-down signals.

A noisy line can cause fax faults. This can be checked readily via the telephone or by using the machine in the local photocopier mode

As an aid to fault finding a defective machine can be operated off-line and back-to-back with a known good unit, preferably of the same type.

BT has developed a FaxTester which is designed around a PC that emulates a fax terminal. Because of its cost however such a unit is unlikely to be a feature of the usual

CORRECTION

Recharging Dry Cells

A couple of corrections are required to the article on this subject published in our September 1994 issue. First the cells in Figs. 1 and 2 are shown connected the wrong way round. Secondly IC2 (ZN1034) requires a 5V supply (maximum) at pins 4 and 5. This could be obtained from a 7805 regulator, but the cheapest solution is to use a zener diode. Fig. 1 shows the circuit changes required to implement this option.

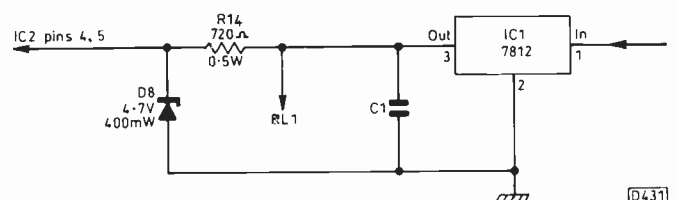


Fig. 1: Circuit changes required, using a zener diode, to obtain the correct supply voltage for IC2. Add R14 and D8.

Satellite Receiver Servicing

Jack Armstrong

The following notes are based on information contained in *Satellite Secrets Revealed!*, a 256-page book which is available at £19.95 (including postage and packing) from Davenham Satellite Systems, 1 Firths Fields, Davenham, Northwich, Cheshire CW9 8JB (telephone 0606 49 085). The book is a clearly presented guide to satellite receiving equipment installation, fault diagnosis and servicing.

The Amstrad SRD510

Many of the problems with this receiver are caused by overheating. For optimum reliability, ensure that the receiver is not installed in a manner that impedes the ventilation.

The power supply connector can cause problems with this receiver, also with the SRD520, 540, 550. It goes high-resistance. Evidence can be seen when an encrypted channel is selected: the message "Please Wait" appears on the screen. Tap the receiver and the message changes through various shades of grey or moves about on the screen. Wiggling the connector will prove the point. My remedy is to solder a wire between the corner of the metal screening box at the front of the power supply and the pin marked '0V' just to the right of the card reader.

This will cure the following symptoms: (1) Will not respond to remote control commands. (2) Red and green LEDs flash when the receiver is warm. (3) The power supply squeals intermittently. (4) The receiver goes off intermittently. (5) The decoder won't work/card invalid indication (intermittent). Probably other symptoms too: the problem is that anything can happen when the supply to the microcontroller chip falls below 5V.

After fitting the wire be sure to adjust RV600 for 5V at the third pin from the front of the power supply connector.

It's well known that R612 or R613 (both 47k Ω) going open-circuit is a common cause of a dead SRD510. The basic cause of the problem is to do with the voltage rather than the wattage rating of these resistors.

Amstrad suggests uprating them from 2W to 3W, which improves matters because the latter can withstand voltage surges better. I find it best to fit 0.75W, 350V resistors, type MFR5-47k, from Farnell. I've never known one of these to fail.

A large mains surge will melt the T1-25A fuse. Such surges can also cause 'remote control lock-out'. The official modification is to reduce the value of the surge suppression capacitor from 1 μ F to 0.22 μ F. This cures the symptom rather than the cause, which is a fault in the domestic wiring or spikes caused by industrial equipment. Don't fit a higher rated fuse.

The power supply won't start up if C612 has failed. Fit a 220 μ F, 25V, 105 $^{\circ}$ replacement.

If any of the fusible resistors R604, R610 (both 2.2 Ω) and R609 (4.7 Ω) has gone open-circuit you will need to replace IC600 (UC3842) and TR600 (BUT11AF or MJF18004).

C611 (1 μ F) should be uprated to a 10 μ F, 50V, 105 $^{\circ}$ low-ESR type. Farnell has a suitable component, order number 108848.

D607 can go short-circuit. Replace it with the higher-rated BZB95B from Farnell.

C54, a 100nF capacitor that sits next to the power supply connector on the main board, can overheat and go open-circuit with consequent loss of the picture. The low video level can create faint, grey pictures or a blank screen. Similar symptoms can be caused by C55 (10 μ F) which is located next to the daughter board: it stands upright.

The Pace SS9000 Series

This receiver also appeared as the Ferguson SRV1, the Grundig GIRD2000, the Bush IRD150 and the Philips STU801/05R. The later, upgraded 90-channel SS9200 appeared as the Nokia SAT1500, the Grundig GIRD3000, the Maspro SRE350S and many others. D2MAC models based on the Pace MRD920 share the chassis layout. A circuit diagram for the SS9200 IRD should serve all your needs with these various models.

Overheating because of poor ventilation is again a problem. The electrolytics dry out, causing a variety of symptoms including a dead receiver.

If one of these receivers comes in for repair, replace C9 (1 μ F, 50V) before you connect it to the mains supply. This electrolytic capacitor is next to the very large C7. Because it sits next to a hot 100k Ω resistor and an equally hot transistor it dries out. If the power supply tries to start up with C9 old and cold several components will often blow. If the fuse has melted, don't just try another as more components are likely to be damaged.

Here's how to tackle a dead power supply. First replace C9 and C11 (1 μ F, 16V). C11 doesn't cause damage but does cause a whistling noise and severe radiated interference. Check the bridge rectifier diodes D1-D4 for shorts and replace as necessary. Check D1 again: if the reading across it is low in both directions remove Q1 and try again. If D1 still measures low both ways remove transformer T2. If this doesn't clear the low readings across D1 remove C7. Replace whichever item caused the low readings.

Replace R1 (4.7 Ω , 2W) if it has gone high in value or looks cracked. Check all diodes (except D7) on the primary side of the power supply for shorts and replace as necessary. Replace R12 (4.7 Ω fusible) and R13 (0.22 fusible) if they have gone high in value. As R13 is in the current

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sensing circuit, it will prevent power supply start-up if high in value.

Use fine copper braid, not a desoldering pump, to remove solder – the pads and tracks are easily damaged. Solder wick from RS or Farnell is excellent for the purpose. Replacements for all components that were originally mounted flat against the board should be mounted in the same way or you will crack the tracks.

It should now be safe to connect the receiver to the mains supply, observing the usual precautions.

If the standby LED lights very dimly, the tuner lugs have probably fractured their earth pads. If the power supply trips, with the LEDs

flashing, check the value of R13. Also check R11 (4.7Ω), D9 and the 100Ω surface-mounted resistor which is underneath (R5).

If the power supply goes bang, you missed something mentioned above. If it fails to do anything there may be cracked tracks: Q1's pads are especially vulnerable and cracks can be invisible, so measure for continuity. If the power supply still doesn't start, replace U23 (TDA8380).

If the standby and timer LEDs light but nothing else happens the microcontroller chip U4 or the EEPROM U3 may be faulty.

Failure of C7 (47μF, 400V) will produce hum from the speaker and

ripple on the picture.

A picture that's obscured by heavy lines which vary in appearance from one channel to the next and may be present only when the receiver is hot or cold is a clear sign that C416 within the tuner is faulty. Replace it with a 2.2μF tantalum bead capacitor. Take care as the tracks and pads are flimsy and easy to destroy.

If you obtain a blank raster after replacing the tuner you may find that one or more tracks near the tuner or near the white, board-mounted pillars is cracked. Check with the decoder in place as 60-channel models don't have automatic video routing through the decoder.

Help Wanted

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

Wanted: Is there an alternative audio/control head that can be used in the Salora SV8600 VCR? The original is no longer available from NCS. Please fax any information on a suitable substitute to Maurice on 01466 794 357 during normal working hours. Any information received will be made available to other readers through the magazine.

Wanted: For restoration of early TV sets, an Emiscope 3/2 7in. tube, 0.1μF e.h.t. capacitors and a LOPT for the Bush TV22 of 1950. P. Atkinson, 27 Lydd Road, Camber, E. Sussex TN31 7RJ. 01797 227 163.

Wanted: £1 coin mechanism/inserts for TV timer meters, e.g. Smiths 4001 series or Coinmechs TV Timer Mk II. E. Longton, HTRV, 47/49 Back Victoria Street, Fleetwood, Lancashire. 01253 778 338.

Wanted: Service manual or circuit diagram for the Telequipment D32 scope. Circuit diagram for the BT Freeway remote phone. P. Martin, 29 Rosemary Gardens, Hereford HR1 1UW. 0432 277 032.

Wanted: Mains transformer for the Telequipment S61 scope. part no. 120-0993-00. R.J. Buckman, 79B Bourne Avenue, Windsor, Berks SL4 3JR. 01753 840 621.

Wanted: Control PCB ref. no. RE630TC, used in Saisho and Samsung microwave ovens, or the control i.c. RE630TC M95153. R. Morris, 24 Wootton Green Lane, Balsall Common, Coventry CV7 7EZ. 0676 533 060.

Wanted: Service manual or circuit diagram (photocopy would do) for the Pioneer CT-F9191 stereo cassette deck. Joe Pierce, Ross, Dromcollogher, Co. Limerick, Ireland.

Wanted: TDA1104SP or later type TDA1106 for the Panasonic U2 chassis. Stan Crook, 42 Cranfield Crescent, Cuffley, Herts EN6 4EA. 0707 874 933.

Wanted: TA127A battery converter for the Ferguson TX90 chassis, ERT service sheets, any information on CCTV cameras and accessories, and PCBs or part completed projects from *Television*. Peter Redpath, 47 Corbett Road, Waterlooville, Hants PO7 5TA. 0705 253 595.

Wanted: Complete deck for an NEC N9014K VCR. Also video camera lead for the JVC GXN5E camera. A. Clifford, Flat 23F, Troutbeck Crescent, Blackpool FY4 4SX.

Wanted: Tuner/i.f. module for a Loeweopta Profi T28 colour set (chassis type 110.C9). W.H. Hough, Teleservice, 225 Fleetwood Road, Little Bispham, Blackpool, Lancs FY5 1RA. 01253 868 736.

Wanted: Manual (or photocopy) for the Telequipment D83 scope. Mark Hubbard, 17 West Way, Luton LU2 8DZ.

Wanted: Teletext adaptor (code OPK-203) for the Sony Model KV2762UB, or parts supplier for this. Peter Hanley, 31 Main Street, Gorebridge EH23 4BX. 0875 820 692.

Wanted: I.F. panel or AN239Q i.c. for the Panasonic Model TC361GM (chassis type PBX-M7A2). B.L. Excell, Excell TV & Video, 354 Nacton Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP3 9NA. 01473 720 943.

Wanted: Timebase panel (part no. 1-581-594-13) for the Sony CVM1330UB (similar to the KV1330UB). Also T503 VBT, part no. 1435 4008-00. Paul Berthey, 43 Breach Road, Marpool, Heanor, Derbyshire DE75 7NL. 0773 765 258 (evenings).

Wanted: Scrap or surplus Toshiba V110B VCR or complete drum assembly. John Taylor, 14 Lastigar, Westray, Orkney KW17 2DJ.

Wanted: Tuner/i.f. section for the Seleo 25.SS369 TV receiver. D. Furness, Reeder TV, 103 Lidget Street, Lindley, Huddersfield HD3 3JR. 0484 650 365.

Wanted: D.C. converter module CD09 for the Sony SLC9 VCR, or a scrap machine. Martin J. Loach, 82 Honey Bottom Lane, Dry Sandford, Abingdon, Oxon OX13 6BX. 01865 735 821.

Wanted: Service manuals or circuit diagrams (photocopies will do) for the Sharp RG950 car cassette tuner and AD-20X car power booster. Also can anyone supply the UK address of Teac Corporation? E.T. Plumb, 44 Railway Road, Downham Market, Norfolk PE38 9EB. 01366 384 099.

Wanted: STK043 stereo amplifier chip for the Sharp SM1122H chassis and an MCA640 chip (made by Tesla) used in the Harwood Model TF2604P. G. Wright, Kimberly Electrics, Ludchurch, Narberth, Pembrokeshire SA67 8JE. 083483 280.

For disposal: Philips N1502 VCR and a Shibaden SV610 reel-to-reel VCR (2in. tape), both with original instruction books, also some Philips cassettes and one reel of 2in. tape. Working condition unknown. Free to anyone who will collect. Write with phone number to Mick Spooner, 6 Morpeth Close, Reading, Berks RG2 7UH.

Long-distance Television

Roger Bunney

A letter from Ryn Muntjewerff best sums up terrestrial DX-TV reception in this part of the globe during December: "... there's nothing to write about, all bands are dead, just some flutters now and then." In sum, a dead month to end a less than productive year. We can but hope for better things in 1995.

Meanwhile however the Sporadic E season in Australia is well under way. Robert Copeman in Melbourne has written to tell us of his unique multi-hop reception of f.m. radio station NBC Panguna, Papua New Guinea, at 100.1MHz. The station transmits at just 100W e.r.p. Reception occurred on December 4th at 2001-2018 hours local time. Robert also mentions that ch. E31 Community TV stations are now in operation at Sydney (CTS-31), Melbourne (MCT-31), Brisbane (BRIZ-31) and Adelaide (ACE-31).

Aidan Murphy (Ireland) mentions another possible record for v.h.f. reception. While tuning through the 144MHz band on May 13th last year Tony Allen (EI4DIB) heard, at 2325 GMT, VO1OR calling CQ on f.m., peaking to S5. Though VO1OR was operating via satellite F020 it appears that Tony received the 144MHz uplink signal direct, at over 2,000 miles. He is trying to establish by which propagation mode the signal arrived in Ireland. SpE has been dismissed, and current thought is that the signal was reflected from a "high-flying object". The report was published in the October/November issue of the *Irish Radio Transmitters Society Newsletter*.

Finally, Andrew Sykes has been trying to identify the Russian caption shown on page 184 in the January issue. He translates the lettering to read "experimental prediction" (top) and "mechanical waveform expected prediction" (around the circle). That's a literal translation: can anyone improve on it?

Satellite Sightings

Orion 1 was seen testing at its 37.5°W slot on December

24th. A subsequent check produced several carriers but no pictures or test pattern. Bear this satellite in mind: it will offer many transatlantic signals in the Ku band.

Fred Hartley (Hayes) reminds us that Intelsat 506 (50°W) and 513 (53°W) both provide Ku-band signals. There's a regular CNBC programme feed to Europe via 506, at 11.635GHz (vertical, with 6.6MHz audio subcarrier). Because of the satellite's inclined orbit the signal level varies. According to Fred the best time to try is around 1300 hours. Operation via 513 is more intermittent, but check at 12.570GHz if you're passing by!

December's two main news events were the Algerian aircraft hijack and the Russian intervention in Chechnya. Coverage of the hijack was deliberately curtailed. Despite a careful check on the Clarke Belt and the most likely source of a live uplink from the airport, nothing was seen until the late afternoon when a 'locked-off' shot of the plane, from a distant camera, was seen via the Reuters transponder at 13°E. This shot appeared several times then, as dusk approached, several flashes and smoke were seen around the aircraft, obviously as the rescue was taking place. The waiting TV media were subsequently offered 'exclusif' TF1 pictures, but the rescue was first seen via Reuters!

Unlike the Gulf War there was no invitation to the media circus to attend the Grozny battle. Most sent reports from Moscow, though several teams remained and there was at least one SNG truck that sent reports to the West via Eutelsat F3 at 16°E (Telecom band). The signals were noisy, in part because the uplink was via a satellite whose footprint was at the fringe there. There were both 625-line PAL and 525-line NTSC transmissions via the link.

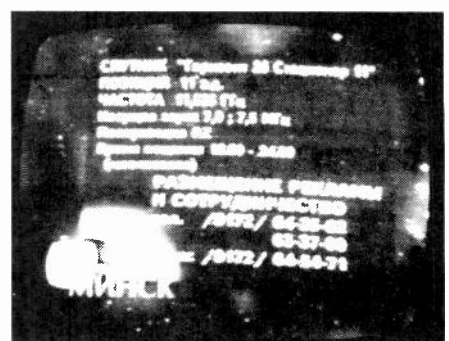
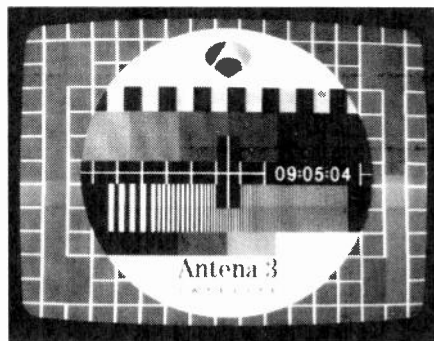
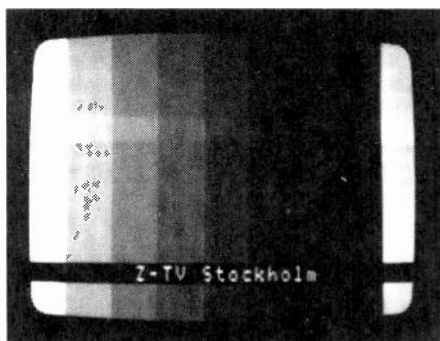
The EBU's Sarajevo link via Intelsat 603 (34.5°W) was again in operation, at the usual 10.996GHz. The signal is generally poor when received with a 1m dish, and seems to appear only when there's something new. On previous occasions a test pattern has been transmitted throughout the day.

News Items

Norway: Sad news has been received via the BDXC. The Norwegian Band I transmitters are to be taken out of service progressively, to be replaced by either Band III or u.h.f. transmitters. No time scale for the exercise has been announced. The Bagn, Hemnes and Gamlesveten ch. E3 transmitters are to be closed initially. All have been old friends during the SpE season.

Denmark: Sydvest-Jylland has changed from ch. E6 to E5; Horsens and Ringkeobing have both changed from ch. E5 to E6.

Switzerland: Niederhorn ch. E12 has closed to allow DAB



Left: Z-TV Stockholm via the Sirius satellite at 5.2°E – the 12.092GHz transponder with RHC polarisation. Centre: Antena 3 test pattern via Hispasat at 30°W. 12.671GHz with horizontal polarisation. Both photographs from Berry Habekotte, The Netherlands. Right: TV Minsk from Gorizont 26 at 11°W. 11.526GHz with RHC polarisation.

tests. The service has been moved to ch. E53 (42kW horizontal). The new S-Plus transmitters are as follows:

Ausserberg	E26 1.1kW	Monte Morello 1	E68 8kW
Bantiger	E43 92kW	Mont Pelerin	E54 12kW
Chamossaire	E64 2.5kW	Neiderhorn	E65 46kW
Gebidem	E60 10kW	Ravoire 1	E62 10kW

Haute Nendaz E66 11kW
Polarisation horizontal in all cases.

Russia: Commercial network TV3 opened in December, offering a third national terrestrial service (in addition to the Ostankino and Russian Channel networks).

Nigeria: Commercial TV has arrived with Desmims TV and Clapperboard TV on-air in Lagos, Minaj TV in Ubusi and Glaxay TV in Ibadung. Several MMD systems are also in operation.

France: La Cinquieme is the channel now using the 0600-1900 time slot in the fifth terrestrial TV network. It has replaced the La Cinq channel, sharing the network with ARTE. The France 2 terrestrial transmitters are gradually being equipped for Nicam sound – the first one was Paris Tour Eiffel. Check out text pages 260 and 261 on TF1 for the latest news on stereo programmes and transmitters.

UK: The Croydon-based company MASE has recently introduced its WaveLan and WavePoint LAN (local area networking) wireless systems which provide radio instead of cable communications links between desks, computers etc. in office complexes. Ranges between work stations and the master transceiver are typically up to 180m, using omnidirectional aerials. MASE is shortly to introduce a directional aerial system to link buildings on different sites at distances up to 4km. Frequencies used are within the 2.4GHz range, just below those used by standard MMDS equipment. Could a dish and a slightly retuned MMDS receiver make hacking into office communications possible?

MMDS

Apart from limited use in Ireland and Moscow, MMDS (Microwave Multipoint Distribution Service) has not so far been exploited in Europe. The technique is used in Ireland to enable those in shielded areas to be provided with good reception. Transmissions are at about 2.5GHz from a local high site. Several companies are offering scrambled TV services via MMD in Moscow, using programmes obtained from European satellite channels.

MMD is extensively used in North America however, particularly in built-up areas. The 2.5GHz band transmissions are picked up via either a compact Yagi array or a small dish, with down-conversion to v.h.f. or u.h.f. at the aerial, the receiver having an addressable decoder and control unit. The equipment is widely available and generally inexpensive.

The authorities in some countries in the Middle East are now pushing MMD as a way of ensuring that only approved services are received. An MMD system has been established in Amman, Jordan, and the Saudi Arabian authorities are considering MMD for the larger towns.

MMD was adopted in Amman because the city is built

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across fifteen hills and cabling would be both expensive and difficult. The Jordanian Radio and TV Corporation service is being provided from four sites initially, as follows: Broadcast Centre eight channels within 2504-25-2684-75MHz, Suweileh eight channels within 2311-25-2491-75MHz, Taj eight channels within 2325-25-2484-75MHz, Amra eight channels within 2574-25-2656-75MHz.

At such high frequencies transmission is via line-of-site paths, usable signals being available at up to 20 miles or more. With the type of mass-produced equipment available in the USA, the aerial provides a gain of around 20dB and the wideband downconverter block a gain of 30dB, its output being at 220-420MHz (above Band III to avoid causing interference). The set-top converter usually incorporates a decoder, providing an output for the main TV receiver on a suitable u.h.f. channel.

Typical costs in Jordan are \$20 for the aerial, \$70 for a block down-converter and \$130 for a set-top decoder/converter with remote control. A subscription for six channels costs \$20 a month.

I'd be interested in hearing from anyone with experience of MMDS operation and reception.

Satellite Receiving Equipment

Echosphere Corporation has just released the updated LT-730 Plus receiver, with 200 channel capability, a 3.5dB threshold, a 950-2,050MHz tuner and 22kHz LNB switching. Weak-signal reception is enhanced by threshold extension and related variable bandwidth settings. I have been using the LT-730 (without the Plus) and can recom-

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mend it for 'DXing' use. The only inconvenience is the lack of decoder looping. As a specialised receiver the LT-730 Plus and its matching AP750 dish positioner has a competitive price and is worth considering if you are into sat-zapping and use a small dish. For further information contact Echostar International, Schuilenburglaan 5a, 7604 BJ Almeo, Holland or alternatively your local friendly satellite distributor or phone 0171 321 0814.

NKM Elektronik GmbH, PO Box 1705, 79507 Lorrach, Germany has introduced the Digitex 'ultra low threshold video demodulator'. It's a digitally assisted extended demodulator that produces clear, saturated colours without

smearing. There are two versions. The basic model at DM1696 takes the threshold down to 2.2dB while the 'extended super feedback' version at DM1948 takes it even lower to 1.4dB. Both prices include VAT. The demodulator has to be installed within the receiver - NKM can advise on this. The units have extruded aluminium cases and the build quality is of a very high order - I have one of the company's sync inserter units and can confirm the attention given to detail.

A UK-made D/D2MAC decoder is available from Satellite Communications, Warrington (09125 262 259) for only £139 plus VAT. It has a single Eurocrypt smart card slot and is totally automatic in operation - the suppliers include a six-station card.

Satellite News

A new Spanish-language channel, Tele Noticias, is now available from Intelsat K (21.5°W) at 11.532GHz V. The signal is in 525-line NTSC form but reappears on the Hispasat (30°W) Antena Tres transponder in 625-line PAL form. TV Erotica may soon be on air via a Eutelsat transponder at 16°E: it's likely to use Eurocrypt.

Increased satellite TV services are planned for India: the expectation is that up to sixty channels will be available within five years, using compression technology.

The European News Exchange (ENEX) is establishing a digital network across Europe to reduce the need for large dishes. Operation will be from Luxembourg via Eutelsat II F4 (7°E).

Orbit Communications has taken four 12MHz bandwidth Ku band transponders aboard the new Intelsat 704 craft at 66°E. So sat-zappers can look forward to 50dBW signal levels throughout the UK and most of Ireland. Unfortunately the channels, up to twenty eight within the bandwidth, will be digitally compressed.

The BBC/Pearson channel offering news and information is now in operation via Eutelsat II F1, in the clear and for 24 hours a day. For those in the Pacific area, Intelsat 703 is now in operation at 177°E, offering TV services (including AFRTS) in the C and Ku bands.

Speculation continues in Australia over the prospects for the new PAY-TV services, which use both MMDS and satellite distribution. Two film channels, *Showtime* and *Encore*, started in January: they are to be joined by a sports channel shortly. The subscription-financed operation should be available to ninety per cent of the population by early spring.

Answer to Test Case 387

- see page 328 -

What a Wally! Technocrat will henceforth be known as Technopratt because of his abysmal lack of JVC product knowledge and his failure to bring more than five brain cells to bear on the JVC HRD520 VCR's tracking problem.

The first problem he encountered,

the lack of a clock display with, instead, a single bar indication and failure to operate, could have been resolved by the shop salesman or a quick look at page 9 of the user's instruction book (repeated in the service manual!) without bothering those busy people at JVC. The machine was in the child-lock mode. You have to dwell for a second or two on the remote control unit's operate key to wake up the machine. System control feature, not fault, TC!

The tracking fault was a very minor one, puzzling though it seemed to TC at the time, and could have been quickly resolved by taking

a close look at the bottom (CTL) section of the audio/control/erase (ACE) head stack. A tiny deposit of dirt or tape debris stuck to it. The deposit was insufficient to block pulse capture from a well-recorded tape completely, or to prevent weak pulses being recorded. These weak pulses were able to trigger the level-detector in a good VCR with a clean ACE head. But when the JVC machine was used to make a recording then play it back, the dirty head couldn't produce sufficient pulse amplitude to operate either the servo PLL or the tape-timing counter reliably.

Ferguson Service Briefs

TELEVISION

ICC6 Chassis – Model C51F

Picture bounce: This effect can occur with some sets in which the value of RV02 differs from the correct 1M Ω . The symptom is linked to picture content, the fault appearing because transistor TP06 on the teletext panel is not biased correctly. To eliminate the problem, ensure that RV02 is a 1M Ω , surface-mounted resistor. Part no. is 902565000. The resistor is a 1W carbon film type with a 5 per cent tolerance rating.

ICC7 Chassis

Field foldover: This problem usually appears after replacement of the TDA8178F field output chip IF01 because of field collapse. The cause is a 4.7 Ω surface-mounted resistor going high in value. This device is marked as Link J238 and is not shown in the circuit diagram. It's in the 65V feed to pin 3 of IF01. Part no. is 41081600.

The fact that this resistor has gone high in value will not noticeably affect the voltage reading obtained at pin 3 of IF01.

Other possible causes of field foldover were mentioned on page 625 of the July 1994 issue of *Television*.

VCRs

R2000 Chassis – Hi-Fi Models

Interference on Hi-Fi playback sound: The interference can best be described as a crackle that results in loss of audio quality. It coincides with audio source toggling between stereo and normal. Carry out the following adjustment to the drop-out detector level to improve the digital tracking system's sensitivity for Hi-Fi sound reproduction: adjust PL26 during playback for a voltage reading of 3.6V \pm 0.1V at pin 5 of BL35. PL26 and BL35 are on the Hi-Fi PCB.

R2000 CAT 1 – Models FV61LV and FV62LV

Intermittent audio erase: The following changes should be made in addition to fitting the bias oscillator update kit (part no. 00X6723001):

(1) Delete RT13 and jumper J137 on the servo PCB.

(2) Connect an insulated soft wire between the collector of TX17 on the main PCB and the junction of J137 and RT102 on the servo PCB.

R3000 Chassis – Models FV70B, FV71LV, FV72LV and FV74LVX

Remote control lock-out: The effectiveness of the remote

control system can be reduced or completely eliminated when these VCRs are used with certain TV receivers and the two units are linked via an r.f. lead. The cure is to fit two 2.2nF, 250V capacitors (CP12 and CP13), connected in series, between the non-fused input side of mains filter choke LP01 and chassis. It's important to note that these capacitors must be safety rated devices: only the specified Ferguson components should be fitted, part no. 10078890.

Cassette flap mechanism failure: The following modifica-

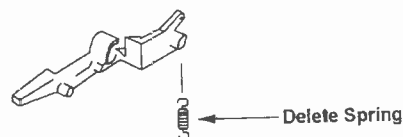


Fig. 1.

tion should be carried out in cases where there is repeated failure of the cassette flap mechanism, resulting in retention of the cassette within the machine. Remove the spring that's attached to the cassette door locking lever. This is on the right-hand side of the cassette housing assembly. See Fig. 1.

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TV Fault Finding

Reports from Philip Blundell, AMIEEIE, Michael Dranfield, Owen Green, David A. Chaplin, Keith Evans, J. LeJeune, Chris Watton, J.R. Lunniss, John Hepworth, J.K. Potts, Gregory C. Foster, John Edwards and David Belmont

Tatung 165 Chassis

This set was stuck in standby. Because QR06 (BF391) had gone short-circuit, the 25V memory supply voltage had increased and the microcontroller chip had died. R007 and R011 (both 3.9k Ω) were also open-circuit. When the 25V supply had been restored and a new microcontroller chip had been fitted everything seemed to be fine – except that programme position one kept losing its memory. A phone call to Tatung Technical was needed. The nice man suggested adding a 10 μ F, 35V capacitor across RR34 (5.6k Ω). This solved the problem.

P.B.

Akura CX10 (Nikkai Baby 10)

If you get the dead set symptom, sometimes intermittent, check D410 (FR604) in the line output stage. We now stock this component but have in the past successfully used two RGP30K diodes in parallel. Makes a change from replacing IC402! Another weakness in these sets is the mains bridge rectifier. If in doubt, replace this item – it can fail intermittently.

M.Dr.

Samsung CI5913W

This set produced an intermittent line-frequency whistle. The fault disappeared when the set's back was removed, but we found that the fault could be made permanent by carefully propping up the chassis. After some careful probing with a plastic trimming tool we came to C406, which is in the EW modulator circuit. It was touching the line output transistor's heatsink, causing an h.f. whistle. Repositioning C406 cured the fault.

M.Dr.

Alba CTV55

This 14in. portable produced a very smeary picture. It looked as if the fault might be in the luminance signal processing chip, but a quick check showed that the voltage at the collectors of the RGB output transistors was only 100V. Tracing the source of the supply back, we came to the small green choke L501 which had 100V at one end and 200V at the other. It was open-circuit, a replacement 330 μ H choke from a scrap set curing the fault. I wonder where the 100V was coming from?

M.Dr.

Osume 1464

If the 2SD1554 line output transistor has failed, always replace both C910 (10 μ F) and C909 (47 μ F) in the power supply. Failure to do so will result in the h.t. voltage rising to about 300V instead of 110V. The arc over from the e.h.t. cavity is frightening!

M.Dr.

Ferguson TX9 Chassis

This set led us a right dance. After replacing the fuse we found that the line output transformer would scream very

loudly then blow the fuse again. We naturally suspected a heavy load in the line output stage, but the fault persisted after replacing just about everything in this area. We eventually found that the set would work when the EW loading coil L77 was disconnected. This proved that the line frequency was miles out. The cause of the fault turned out to be the 1k Ω line hold control RV206, which was open-circuit.

M.Dr.

Sharp C3720H

Because of the comprehensive safety/trip circuitry incorporated in many sets, such as this one, fault finding is impossible without a manual. At switch on the e.h.t. came up then the set tripped back into standby. After checking on many possibilities we found that there was no supply at the field output chip. Both D502 and R521 in the 24V supply were faulty. Thus in the event of field collapse the set is switched back to standby in approximately two seconds.

M.Dr.

Loewe ART S24 (C9000 Chassis)

After checking for short-circuits we resoldered the open-circuit fusible resistor R504, which is in series with the h.t. feed to the line output stage. Resistance checks also revealed an open-circuit 315mA fuse in the line timebase, leading to our discovery that the line output transformer was faulty.

Once the picture and sound had been restored we discovered that there was lack of height, about an inch at the top of the picture. We traced the cause to faults in the 27V supply – there are no height or linearity controls in this set. The 2,200 μ F, 35V reservoir capacitor C656 and the BD139 series regulator transistor T658 had to be replaced.

O.G.

Ferguson TX10 Chassis

Sound o.k. but no picture was the complaint with one of these sets. The voltage readings in the line timebase were all normal, so this one was going to be different. I then noticed that the tube's heaters were not alight. The heater supply was present, and there was heater continuity. You've probably guessed what was wrong by now: there was a crack on the tube PCB, where the tube base heater pin is soldered to it – but the crack was not very obvious.

O.G.

Hitachi CPT2174 (G6P Chassis)

Varying sound level, sometimes up to full volume, was the complaint with this set. It behaved impeccably on the bench for the best part of a week however. Tapping and freezing made no difference, and no dry-joints were revealed by a visual inspection.

A few days later, ten minutes after switching on, the fault was very active. A check on the stabilised 12V supply then showed that it was varying between 12V and 13.4V, the

volume rising and falling in sympathy. Zener diode ZD791 (HZ11LC2) in Q791's base circuit was the cause of the trouble. It was hidden beneath a large blob of glue. After fitting a replacement a soak test confirmed that the set was now o.k. **D.A.C.**

Ferguson TX89 Chassis

When switched on from cold this set produced a pulsating white raster with a hum from the speaker. Within seconds the picture would begin to appear, the pulsations started to abate, the hum died away and normal sound could be heard from the speaker. After thirty seconds or so the set worked normally. The fault would not show up again until the set had been left switched off for at least six hours.

After much testing and component swapping we found that an area on the component side of the PCB, in the vicinity of R100 and C90, was conductive. This allowed current leakage between the isolated and non-isolated sections of the chassis. When warm the resistance reading was 5M Ω , falling to 150k Ω when the set was cold. No spillage could be seen, but the leakage had gone once the board had been cleaned. **D.A.C.**

Harwood CTV14881R

The picture had serrated edges which became slightly less pronounced when the set had warmed up. C611 (220 μ F, 25V) in the power supply had fallen in value to 130 μ F, a replacement producing perfectly smooth contours. **D.A.C.**

Ferguson TX90 Chassis

When this set was switched on the speaker produced a loud buzz; operation of the volume control made no difference, and although the e.h.t. was present there was no raster. The cause of all this was eventually traced to a hairline crack in the print that goes to one of the legs of C181 (2,200 μ F), which is the reservoir capacitor for the 18V supply. **D.A.C.**

Philips CTX-E Chassis

This portable produced no results. Since the line output transistor is driven by a secondary winding on the chopper transformer, the TDA2577 sync/timebase generator chip produces the drive for the chopper circuit. A check at pin 16 showed that the 9V supply was missing. The two 27k Ω , 2.5W resistors in series with the feed, R3394 and R3395, were both open-circuit. As everything else checked out all right (no shorts) a couple of replacements were fitted. The set then worked a treat. **D.A.C.**

Ferguson TX100 Chassis

There was no sound or raster. Checks showed that the power supply was working all right, with the correct 119V and 20V outputs. But the line driver stage didn't receive its regulated 15V supply because IC9 (MC78M15CT) was dry-jointed. A clean up and resolder brought the set back to life. **D.A.C.**

Sharp CV2123H

Although the power relay clicked on and off in sympathy with the standby command this set wouldn't come out of standby. A quick check showed that there was h.t. across the mains rectifier's reservoir capacitor, but the STR41090 switch-mode power chip wasn't performing. After eliminating the possibility of shorts in the line output stage and

across the secondary supplies a new STR41090 was fitted. This restored normal operation. **K.E.**

Philips CP110 Chassis

After replacing the memory back-up battery we found that this set exhibited fault symptoms we've not come across before with the CP110 chassis. When we depressed the mains on/off switch the power supply could be heard firing up, but this was not accompanied by the usual healthy e.h.t. rustle. The display segments were all illuminated, showing 88, and a faint raster with reduced height and width appeared. The lower half of the raster was noticeably darker, which seemed to indicate severe power supply hum. Neither sound nor picture were evident.

Normal operation was restored when the battery was removed. So we came to the conclusion that there must be a faulty component that connected it to the 6V supply and the system microcontroller/memory chip. Isolating diode D6901 proved to be the culprit. **K.E.**

Tashiko 20E912 (Jackson Chassis)

This stranger greeted us with a blank raster and flyback lines; the brightness and contrast controls had no effect. Sound was present however, so we assumed that a video signal was present somewhere. A quick check around the RGB output stages on the tube's base panel indicated that the cause of the fault lay farther back down the signal paths. At this stage the TDA3330 colour decoder chip loomed large as a suspect. A replacement restored the correct picture display. **K.E.**

Ferguson B14R (TX80 Chassis)

A fault you can get with these sets is a blank screen with no on-screen graphics. The cause is leakage in the PCB material around the data and clock lines between the microcontroller chip and other chips under its command. Cleaning with a good aerosol safety solvent followed by a thorough drying out will usually restore normal operation. **J.LeJ.**

Panasonic TX2 (Alpha 1 Chassis)

This set came in because the line output transformer was defective. After replacing it we found that the set worked but the line output stage made a shrieking noise and the picture verticals were ragged. This was our fault: the single-turn white wire around the transformer's limb had been connected to chassis in reverse phase. There's a mark on one of the wires to indicate that it should be connected to a similarly marked solder point on the chassis. But because of component density in the area this is difficult to see. **J.LeJ.**

Ferguson A10R (TX80 Chassis)

This receiver suffered from bad intercarrier buzz. It was intermittent to start with but later became constant. We eventually traced the cause to the 6MHz ceramic filter Q102 which is adjacent to the M52038SP chip IL01 beneath a screening can. **J.LeJ.**

Panasonic TC2213 (U3W Chassis)

The symptom complained about was a dark picture. There was also slight field foldover at the bottom of the screen. Before checking the electrolytics I should have measured

the supply rail voltages, because the 12V line was low at only 9.2V. The 12V regulator transistor Q552 was open-circuit, the regulator's output voltage being provided by the parallel current-sharing resistor R571. **C.W.**

Mitsubishi CT29B2STX

If the line output transistor has gone short-circuit it's likely that the h.t. is too high. In this event replace R961 (150k Ω), C906 (47 μ F, 50V) and IC950. **J.L.**

Sanyo CTP6114

This set wouldn't start. It would sometimes just sit there with the standby light on, while at other times it seemed to be tripping. There was no overload however. A check on the 5V supply showed that it was missing, so the microcontroller chip couldn't control the power supply. We found that T319 had an open-circuit primary winding. Sanyo recommends that the value of R319 is changed from 100 Ω to 680 Ω . **J.H.**

Mitsubishi CT2531BM (Euro 4 Chassis)

Apart from a high-pitched whistle this set was dead. Checks on the line output transistor showed that it was short-circuit all round, and a replacement immediately bit the dust. A new STR59041 chopper chip brought the set to life, but the picture had an odd look to it: I can only describe this by saying that the top half of the screen looked as though it had been scribbled over. After a minute the scribble disappeared, then I realised that I couldn't see the MTV logo in the corner of the screen. The h.t. was found to be at 198V instead of 155V. Further checks in the power supply revealed that C908 (10 μ F, 100V) had fallen in value to around 3 μ F. Replacing this finally restored normal operation. R903, R910 and R917 were all-dry-jointed as well. **J.H.**

Amstrad TVR1

These units can be dead or intermittently dead should C1507 be low in value. Checking this first can save a lot of time. **J.H.**

Matsui 2180TT/Saisho FST212T

This set was dead because the STR58041 chopper chip was faulty. Another repairer had given up and claimed that spares are not available. The STR58041 is available almost anywhere. **J.H.**

Hitachi C14-P218 (G7P Mk 2 Chassis)

This set was stuck in standby. As I didn't have a manual for it I carried out a few quick resistance checks. R902 (82k Ω) was open-circuit, a replacement putting matters right. **J.H.**

Hinari CT16

The first suspect if one of these sets is dead or intermittently dead is the ERD29-06 rectifier diode D552. It's situated behind the line output transformer. **J.K.P.**

NEI 1451TX

This set would start up and work for days or not work at all. We eventually traced the cause to R802, a resistor that had broken internally. The part no. is 28002001. **J.K.P.**

Philips CF1 Chassis

The problem with this set was failure of the BUT11AF line output transistor after a few hours despite resoldering the line output and line driver transformers. It was becoming an expensive one! After much examination of the board we found that R3503 (220 Ω) was dry-jointed. It's connected to the collector of the line driver transistor. **G.C.F.**

Grundig CUC220 Chassis

There was sound and a raster but no luminance or chrominance. The supply to the TDA3560 colour decoder chip was o.k. and the waveforms in this area were all correct. We eventually found that the cause of the fault was D2536 (1N4148) in the beam limiter circuit. Check it out of circuit for low reverse resistance. **G.C.F.**

Triumph CTV8209

This portable wouldn't tune to the lower group A channels: group B and higher channels were not affected. The cause of this unusual fault was eventually traced to R157 (2.2M Ω) which was open-circuit. **G.C.F.**

Nokia FX6332 (Euromono Chassis)

The complaint was of no sound or vision. On test we found that the standby LED didn't light up and that although the e.h.t. started to rise at switch on it ceased after a couple of seconds. The cause of the trouble was eventually traced to OC44 (1,000 μ F, 16V) in the 8V supply. **G.C.F.**

Hitachi CPT2660 (Salora J Chassis)

After about ten minutes the screen's brightness would suddenly increase, with the contrast and brightness controls having no effect. It seemed as though there was no beam limiting, and I found that the slightest movement of the main board above the tube base, with the main board in its normal vertical position, made the fault come and go. The cause was dry-joints where the metal screen adjacent to the RGB output stages is soldered to the board. The screen also provides earth continuity. Scraping the metal clean and resoldering it cured the fault. **J.E.**

Toshiba 2505DB

Field collapse was the complaint with this set. A new TA8739P field ramp generator/EW correction chip (IC371) was required. **J.E.**

Sony KVDX21TU

This set came in dead. It sprang to life when a new 2SD1941 line output transistor had been fitted, but there was field collapse. A new TDA8170 chip (IC502) produced full height, but with severe EW distortion. This time IC1501 (TEA2031A) had to be replaced. It transpired that water had been spilled into the set. **J.E.**

Sony KV2704

The basic complaint with this set was of intermittent operation – intermittent starting, going off and coming back on at random, and brightness and volume variations. Apparently it would sometimes work for weeks with no problems. Luck was on my side (for a change) when I soon found that

pins 1 and 2 of the chopper transformer T602 on panel F2 were badly dry-jointed. I then found that three of the eight front panel function switches (board H1) had seized. This is quite a common fault now, accounting for various function fault symptoms. For reliability all eight switches were renewed – part no. 1-553-363-11. To complete the job I gave the power supply panel a good going over with the soldering iron. **J.E.**

Philips KT3 Chassis

This set would work normally for days. It would then suddenly trip two or three times, followed by line pulling then shut down. It was the line pulling that gave us the clue. A new TDA2571 sync/line generator chip put matters right. **J.E.**

B and O LX2800

The fault description that came with this giant of a set was too weird to contemplate. So after a struggle to get it on to the bench I hesitantly switched on. There was field roll and no line sync. The TDA1940 timebase generator chip 26IC5 was defective and was quite hot to touch. A replacement restored the picture. **J.E.**

Ferguson TX9 Chassis

There was no colour with this set and a note attached to it mentioned that the TDA3560 colour decoder chip had been replaced. There was a chroma output at pin 28, which feeds the delay line circuit, but only noisy, low-amplitude signals were being fed back to pins 21 and 22 of the chip. Slight adjustment of the 470Ω delay line balance preset produced colour, but only for a split second. The preset was open-circuit between its slider and one leg. A replacement restored the colour, with 300mV chroma inputs back to the chip. **J.E.**

Mitsubishi CT2217TX

This set was dead because R700 (2.2Ω) was open-circuit, something that's quite common with this model. As no other obvious faults were present a new resistor was fitted. The set then came to life, the only thing noticeably wrong being missing segments in the channel indicator display. A new SN29764N display decoder chip solved that problem. The set then decided to go in and out of standby at random. I didn't panic, honest, but when I touched the SAA5010 decoder chip on the teletext board it burnt my finger! A replacement from a scrap set put matters right, at last. **J.E.**

Matsui 1455

The usual cause of field collapse (a very bright white line) is loss of the 12V supply to the multi-function chip IC202: zener diode D219 goes short-circuit. **D.B.**

Hitachi C25-P819 (G7P Mk 2 Chassis)

For loss of tuning check whether R138 (10kΩ) is open-circuit. It feeds the 33V regulator ZD101. **D.B.**

Sanyo CBP2180

"Went bang with a puff of smoke" said the customer. We found that the degaussing resistor had burnt out and melted, and that the mains fuse had blown. Replacing these items put matters right. **D.B.**

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The RS CD-ROM Catalogue

David Botto

The printed version of the RS Components catalogue consists of three hefty A4-size books. Recently RS launched a CD-ROM disc on which you will find everything that's in those three books plus the complete RS data library. The disc is packed with 6Gbytes of compressed data, including over 10,000 full colour illustrations.

RS Components distributes over 600,000 copies of its printed catalogue three times a year. At present more than 47,000 different products are listed. In addition a new products magazine is sent out every two months. The catalogue is very well organised, but because of the

forthcoming article will describe how to fit a dual-speed CD-ROM drive and sound card to your PC). There was a considerable drop in CD-ROM drive prices last year, and a drive is rapidly becoming an essential piece of PC hardware.

Requirements

To use the RS Components CD-ROM catalogue you'll need an IBM-compatible PC installed with an operating system such as DOS or DROS. You'll also require Windows 3.1 or Windows for Workgroups, a mouse and a dual-speed CD-ROM drive. For best results the PC should

have a 486 microprocessor and 8Mbytes of RAM. A Super VGA video adaptor and a colour monitor able to display at least 800 x 600 pixels and 256 colours are also required.

The program will work with a 386 processor and 4Mbytes of RAM, but runs more slowly.

You can also use a monochrome monitor with a VGA video

adaptor, but you then lose many of the program's advantages. PCs that use a 286 or earlier microprocessor will not run the program.

Installation

Insert the disc in your CD drive. The instructions say that it can be installed from DOS or Windows, but my copy refused to install from DOS. It loaded easily from Windows however (the RS catalogue uses standard Windows facilities such as scroll bars and window sizing).

Start Windows and select 'File/Run' from the program manager. Type in "d:\setup.exe. (If the drive letter of your CD drive is different, type it in instead of 'd'.) A blue

screen appears and you are then offered three ways of installing the program. If your PC has a 486 processor and plenty of RAM, use the low setting that will take up 1,333Kbytes of your hard disc space. If the program runs slowly, change to the medium setting. This needs 4,701Kbytes of disc space. I found that this second setting worked best with my PC. If you have a slow PC or a slow CD drive, use the high setting that requires 8,748Kbytes of hard disc space.

You then follow a series of simple on-screen instructions to install the program. Restart Windows and you'll find that a new Window headed RS Electronic Catalogue has appeared. It contains four icons which are labelled 'Customise font size', 'RS Electronic Catalogue', 'Tutorial' and 'Set up'.

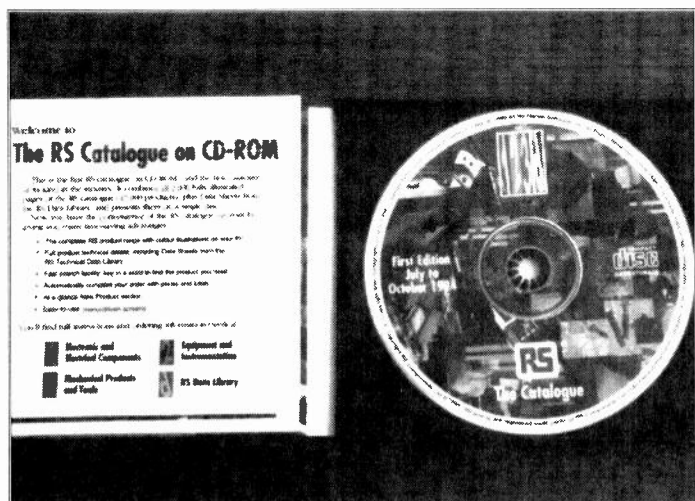
Tutorial

It's a good idea to start by double-clicking on the Tutorial icon. Six headings then appear on the screen. These are Quick Tour, a demonstration that explains how to find, view then order when presented with a choice of three scientific calculators; View new products; Search by product type; Search by stock/part number; Search by word; and How to order. Go through all these headings to make sure that you master the program. Once you have done this you're ready to use the catalogue and all new CD-ROM issues as they appear. Pressing an on-screen exit button takes you back to the RS Electronic Catalogue Window.

Use

Now press the RS Electronic Catalogue icon to start the program. The main menu has four big buttons on the left-hand side marked P (products), S (services), O (order history) and T (tutorial). A smaller exit button also appears. To the right of the screen there are two small buttons labelled 'New products' and 'Presentation'.

Click on the Presentation button and a large clock appears. Music will be heard if you have a sound card. There follows a short audio/visual program that describes RS Compo-



The RS CD-ROM Catalogue

immense range of products included it can still take time to locate the item you need. Hence the CD-ROM catalogue: the fast search facility enables you to key in a word to find what you need, while easy-to-use, menu-driven screens eliminate time-wasting searches.

RS Components had received many requests for a CD-ROM version of its catalogue. A survey of customers then revealed that many had PCs equipped with CD-ROM drives. Appreciating the advantages of fast access to the mass of data and applications, RS set about producing its first CD-ROM based 'electronic catalogue'

Don't worry if your PC isn't equipped with a CD-ROM drive - it's easy to fit one and is not expensive (a

nents and the facilities it offers to the trade. You are taken back to the main menu when the presentation has finished.

When you click on P a new screen display presents several options in the form of buttons at the left of the screen. Select and click on the appropriate one – for example the product type search button. This produces a four-column display, with the left-hand column showing all the catalogue sections. Click on the required section and various subsections will appear in the second column. Select the one you want and the third column displays the product groups. Click on the required group and all the products in the group appear in the fourth column.

Next select one of two buttons at the bottom of the screen. The one that's marked 'View' brings up the full catalogue detail for the selected product – a description, picture and price table for all the stock items to which the picture appears. Double click on the RS stock number or the price and you can order the product.

Up to three buttons may appear at the top left-hand side of the screen. These are for additional information on the product, for associated products and for a technical data sheet if one is available. The data sheet includes drawings and a circuit diagram – it's the same data sheet you'll find in the printed version.

Virtual Page Facility

After you've searched for and located products, select 'Virtual Page'. Full-colour pictures of the products appear. Double click on one picture. This brings up the full catalogue details. You'll also get a description plus a price table for all the stock items to which the picture refers.

Word Search

To use this facility enter a word in the search string box. Select 'New' search and matching product descriptions appear. You may then get a display of a large number of items. Enter a word to narrow the search. Click on the and/or/not buttons that

appear. You can then view the information or display Virtual Page to find out the product type. 'Order' can be selected to insert the item into the on-screen order form automatically.

Search by Number

If you know the RS stock number of the part you want, enter it to go straight to the item. If you don't know the complete number enter part of it to display all the products that match. You can then choose View, Virtual Page or Order.

In a similar way you can order by manufacturer's part number. If you know only part of it, key this in followed by "*". All matching products are then displayed with their RS stock numbers. Order as before.

The user part number search enables you to cross-reference your own part number to the RS stock number. Find the RS stock number first, click on the 'Add-to' button, and key in your own part number. For future orders simply type in your own reference number to order the product.

Order Form

Click on this button and you're taken directly to the order form screen. You will then see any items that you have already ordered and can add others to complete the order. Prices and totals appear automatically. Click on 'New' to start a new order form, or on 'Open' to examine a previous order. Use the 'Edit' buttons to enter your address, delivery address and invoice address on the form. Once these have been entered they remain permanently available on order forms unless you should need to change any of the details. When your order is complete, print it out ready for posting or faxing.

New Products

You can choose from a menu of new products under the headings books and training, cables and connectors, computers and communication, electrical products, electronic components, equipment, mechanical products, semiconductors and

opto-electronics, tools and storage, test and measurement. Click on 'View' and virtual pages, containing comprehensive product information, are displayed. 'Run' gives a continuing display while 'Pause' halts this as required.

Button Icons

Some useful button icons are provided. Press the on-screen question mark 'Help' button and a separate help window appears. Another button enables you to customise the screen displays. Two more buttons enable you to 'Title' or 'Cascade' the windows. Press the title button and the virtual page is displayed on the left-hand side of the screen with two product type selector buttons at the right. Another button closes the current window. Use the 'Pin' button and the pin symbol changes, as if the pin has been pushed in, maintaining the window. Click on the pin button again and the window disappears.

Selecting the 'Customise Font Size' button from the RS Component window display before loading the program enables you to adjust the size of the text display. I couldn't get the Font Size facility to work with my PC however.


Conclusion

The RS CD-ROM is an excellent idea and the company is to be congratulated on producing its electronic catalogue. Components and other items can be found and ordered speedily, greatly reducing the time spent dealing with the dreaded paper work. This means more time devoted to servicing and increased profits per engineer.

By the time that this article appears RS Components' number two CD-ROM catalogue will be available. Account holders can order it in the same way as they order the printed RS catalogue. The RS Technical Helpline is available to answer any questions about the CD-ROM program.

My thanks to Andrew Fisher, RS Components' Electronic Catalogue Manager, for providing a copy of the CD-ROM catalogue and much technical information.

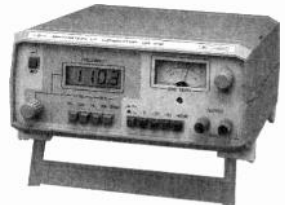
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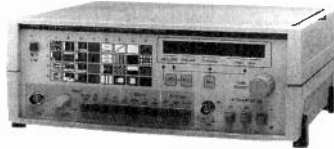
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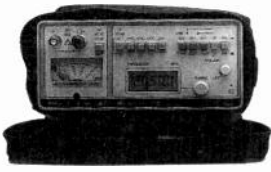
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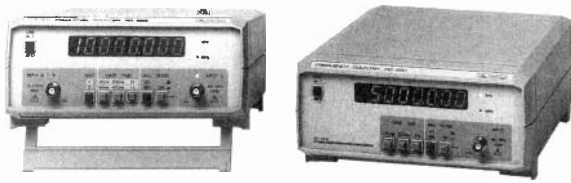


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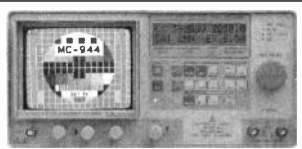
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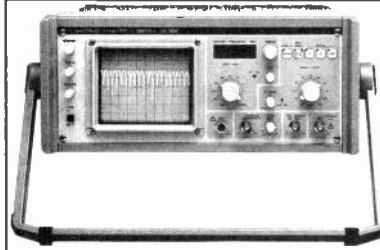
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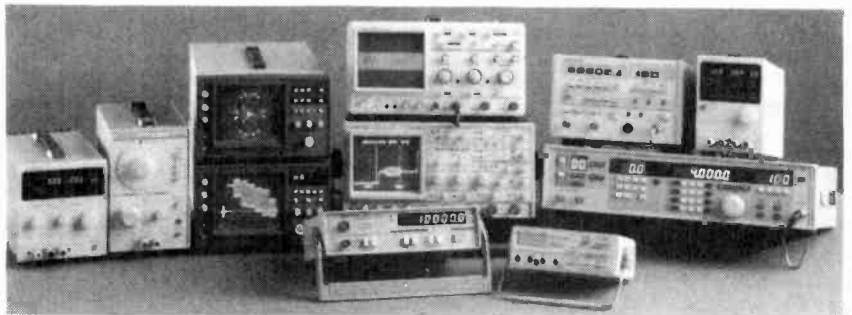
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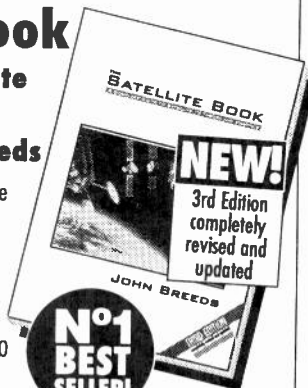
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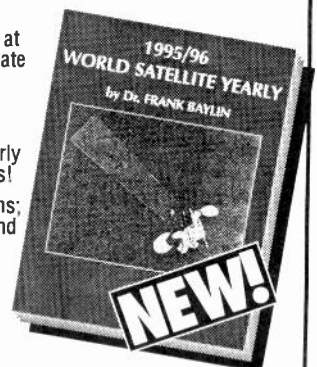
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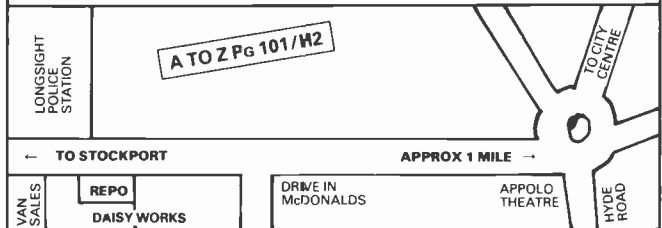
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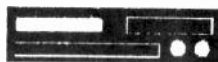


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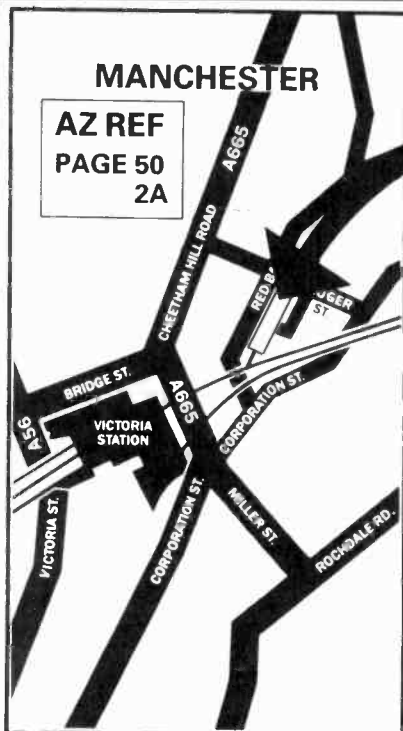
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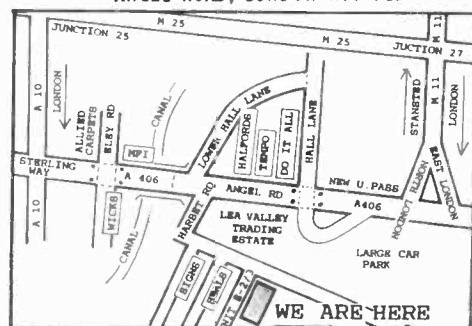
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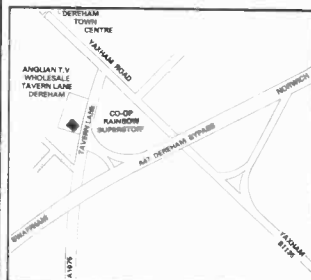
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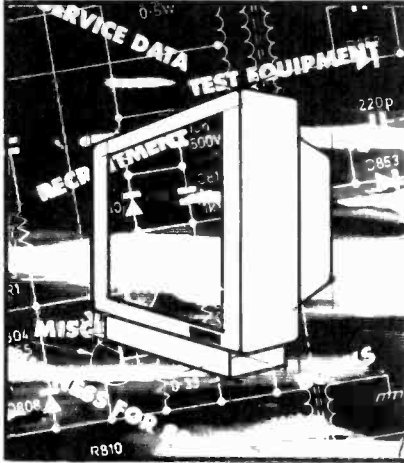
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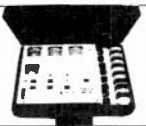
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TX100 REMOTE PANEL No.56413IC M293B/and SAA5012 £10 etc		6251 FRAME O/P THICK FILM HITACHI GEC £9.00 THICK FILM HITACHI HM9205A £4.00		PHILIPS UNIVERSAL BATTERY TESTER SBC 1695 £3.00 VIDEO CONTROL I.C.'s ORION OEC 7005B OEC 9009 OEC 0015C OEC 9005 AMSTRAD 14DN513 14DN728 £2 EACH REGULATED PWR. SUP. 500M/A 1.5V 12V DC switched + & - £5.00 MADE BY PLESSEY — MADE IN ENGLAND New public telephone exchange original price cost £299.00 Network exchange line (at home or in a small business) has two telephones and cables and NS5107 control unit SPECIAL PRICE £40 Send for data RGB SIGNAL CONVERTER VA341 In black metal case and mains power supply built in £20.00 PULSE CAPACITOR 20 for a £1 mixed (1500V to 2KV) 56420A 20A/600V THYRISTOR £1.75 ITT BG2032-642A TRIPLER £5.00 TERE 7-008A — 115-B-2010 ECC-2885PLE TEEF 1-030A UHF, VHF TUNER — SMALL TYPE £4 EACH BRIDGE RECTIFIERS — MIXED 10 FOR £1 TVK 186-5 TRIPLER TVK 76-5 £1.50 EACH		TX100 SWITCH MODE TRANS 5157/48 £5 AND 00D4252001 06D3082001 STEREO SOLAR RADIO VHF AND MW £10.00 TX100 and TX90 (Chassis Type or Print Type) 8 Push Button Unit with Adjustable Pots £2.50 3V33 HANDSET £10 12 Volt Relays 20p with D/P changeover LEAD SCART TO D PLUG 50p BRIDGES RECTIFIER Mixed BR-31 to 34 2 Amp to 5 Amp 8 for £1.00 1 METRE SCART LEAD £1.00 BURGLAR ALARM USE INFRA RED DETECTOR WIDE AND SHORT ANGLE WALL MOUNT £8 WITH RELAY POWER SUPPLY KIT 0.28 volts 1 1/2 amps with 2 meters £12 Printed circuit board and components MODULATOR KIT £5 5v to 12v for all cameras etc			
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TDA3560	£4.00
TDA3561A	£3.00
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TDA3564	£4.00
TDA3565	£3.00
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