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Robert H. Berger, National Trans-Video

Analysis: FCC Rules
Grover C. Cooper

News In Your Own Backyard
Leonard Gregory, American Cable Television

Home VTR
New Concept In Television Recording

CATV History & Scope
Conclusion: L'Heureux

CATV = Differential
J. E. Davidson, Davco

CATV TECHNICIAN SECTION

Envelope Delay In CATV Systems
G. Rogeness, Ameco, Inc.

Automatic Gain Control
Irving Kuzminsky, Entron, Inc.

SPECIAL ITEMS

CATV Directory Questionnaire
Statement Of Ownership, Management & Circulation

DEPARTMENTS

In This Issue 5 Letters To The Editor 22
Editorial 8 New Product Review 51
News Spectrum 10 Subscription Card 52
Calendar of Events 12 Index To Advertisers 54
Focus On Progress 16 Classified Advertising 54

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

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WHO'S ON FIRST? We at AMECO think we're first in CATV. Some of our friends in the East claim they're first. Other CATV manufacturers assure the industry that they are first in something or other. We really don't care who says they're first in CATV. We do care about our customers. We do care about building the best CATV equipment. We do care about constructing reliable CATV systems that will produce the greatest profits for our customers.

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Technician Shortage

A group system operator recently told us that "the drive that caused the CATV technician to surmount the early operating problems seems to be gone today." In his systems, the operator indicated, the opportunities are becoming more plentiful while the supply of qualified technicians seems to be dwindling. His consternation is understandable.

Is the technician a vanishing specie? We don't think so. The fact is that for the past two years CATV has been mushrooming much faster than the labor supply available. There are undoubtedly hundreds of highly skilled and experienced technical men building and maintaining the nation's cable systems. The problem, one might say, is the number of systems rather than the number of technicians!

An article appearing in the "CATV Technician" section of our August issue presented an analysis of the technician's role in cable television. Author Bob Cowart noted that the "idea of CATV was fostered by and generated from technically oriented people in the radio and television servicing field...who forged ahead and created their own solutions to the problems..." But when "investment people began to enter the field" the technician was "relegated to a minor role".

One of the reasons for the technical manpower squeeze has been the rapid entry of big investors and broadcasters into community antenna television. The many new large-scale operations have siphoned off valuable men from scores of established systems. In fact, one of the most-heard phrases at every state and regional CATV meeting, is "where can I find a good chief technician?"

CATV, as an industry, needs a definite, clear-cut program for attracting young men of technical inclination to our business. We need to extend an invitation to qualified people in related communications fields to share the challenge of a vital, expanding cable television technology. Specifically, we advocate recruiting engineers and technicians from radio and television broadcasting companies. The two-way communications fields, both wired and radio, represent another source of talented technicians. An industry sponsored program, reaching young men across the country, could advise of the opportunities in wired television. Publicizing the employment opportunities in CATV would step up the inflow of new talent into our industry and, consequently, improve the quality of CATV, speed the expansion of systems, and enhance profits through better cable service.

The only question remaining is, who is to undertake the CATV recruiting project? NCTA seems the logical entity—but perhaps regional associations could effectively participate. One way or another, for the good of the industry, something should be done soon to "beef up" our technical manpower supply.

ALL-CATV DIRECTORY

While there are many television "yearbooks", there has never been one devoted exclusively to cable television. This magazine and Cable Television Review are now in the process of compiling information for such a publication.

Our 1966 Annual CATV Directory is a reference manual of all CATV systems, owners, managers and statistics available. It will also contain a comprehensive listing of applicable CATV equipment on the market including both new and old products.

In order to make this book complete and all-encompassing, we need your help. On page 41 of this issue we have included a "CATV System Directory Questionnaire". We urge you to complete the questionnaire as quickly as possible and return it to this magazine (P. O. Box 63992, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma).
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NEW YORK CATV ASSOCIATION DISCUSS LEGISLATION

L'HEUREUX GUEST SPEAKER

NCTA counsel Robert L'Heureux speaking at the New York association's annual banquet followed his extensive repertoire of anecdotes with a serious appraisal of the industry's future with respect to copyrights, Federal regulation and phone company tariffs and pole line policy. Mr. L'Heureux predicted moderate Federal regulation through a CATV bill which will be passed next year. He encouraged operators with his opinion that Representative Oren Harris (Democrat, Arkansas) will continue in Congress well into the next session, and perhaps longer. This would assure adequate support for the Harris CATV bill presented this year.

Speaking of efforts to bring about immediate Federal Communication Commission regulation of CATV, L'Heureux stated, "There is no adverse economic impact." Broadcasters have even quit charging economic impact in their pleadings he continued, claiming to claim potential detriment to UHF broadcast operations instead. Of the Federal Communications Commission itself, he declared, "they do not have proof of (economic impact) but they want to regulate," the basis for presumed adverse effects of CATV upon broadcasting.

"Some very fine agreements with AT&T," L'Heureux said, have been reached through discussions between telephone company officials and the NCTA staff. AT&T policy, he told operators, will apparently be to allow at least one pole attachment contact in every town...The phone company in every case will refer prospective cable operators to the city government where franchise authority is claimed by the city. In closing, Mr. L'Heureux told his audience that the CATV business will "win the fight" because "you're a small industry with guts...made up of young people, that is people who are young at heart."

New York State Senator James Hastings, (Republican, Olean) speaking to the legal and legislative session of the convention urged operators to work toward improving the CATV industry's image with the state legislature. He cited TAME, as having done an excellent job lobbying with its use of an ex-assemblyman. He stated that the majority of the Public Service Committee, of which he had been a member knew and cared very little about CATV. Legislators could be interested he continued, because sooner or later CATV would affect most New York citizens. He predicted that another bill placing CATV under Public Utility Commission regulation would be offered during the next session of the legislature. Senators Hastings next session of the legislature. Senator Hastings is an executive of radio WHDL, Times-Herald & Cablevision, Inc. of Olean New York.

BAGNARDI NEW PRESIDENT

Officers elected by the Association were: President, Al Bagnardi of Oneonta; Vice President, Harry Levin of Antennavision, Inc. in Illion; Secretary, Mrs. Dawn Frisby, Corning Community TV; Treasurer, Arthur Heiny, Empire State Cable Co., Inc., Binghampton. Les Reed of Elmira Video, Elmira, and Philip Kenler of Long Island Cablevision, Riverhead, L. I. were elected to the Board of Directors. Continuing as members of the board will be Larry Flinn, Robert Warner, and Sterling Higley, Immediate Past President.

A special liaison committee to work out problems of mutual concern to the Association and the New York Telephone Co. was set up by the Board of Directors with John McElhenny and Gordon Ray of the telephone company. The Association will be represented by Bill Calsam. Jack Pryor, and Lewis Cohen, association counsel, all of whom are members of the Pole Line Committee. The liaison committee has scheduled its first meeting for next month.

MANUFACTURERS EXHIBIT

Among the associate members with displays at the Convention, Ameco's hospitality display featured famous caricaturist, Tal Lazar, who drew caricatures of association members and families. Other companies with displays included American Pancom; Craftman Electronics Products; Entron, Inc.; Jerrold Electronics Corp; Plastoid Corp; Rome Wire & Cable; Spencer-Kennedy Labs; Superior Cable Corp.; Telelation, Inc.; TeleSystems Corp; Times Wire & Cable; TV Digest and Viking Industries. Cable Television Review and TV & Communications were represented by Stan Searle and Phil Cook. Ameco, Inc., Rome/Alcoa and Jerrold also sponsored social hours during the Convention.

REPLY BRIEFS FILED ON CATV RULES

AMST, International Telemeter, Westinghouse, ABC, and cable operator Fred J. Stevenson were among those filing briefs at deadline time for replies to the FCC's Part I and Paragraph 50, of proposed CATV regulation.

The Association for Maximum Service Telecasters denied network suggestions that AMST proposals for regulating CATV are too rigorous. The Association told the Commission that CBS was in error in indicating that audience extension realized through CATV somewhat counters "audience fragmentation" for specific stations. AMST contended that "it thus can scarcely be considered fair competition for CATV to enter the market of a television station and by duplicating that station's own programming, divert its audiences and impair its revenues..."

AMST gave both barrels to NBC's suggestion that CATV's gaining permission from program originators or stations would solve the problems. AMST charged that such a solution would allow large metropolitan stations, program distributors and networks to decide whether small market TV stations' audiences would be fragmented.

International Telemeter, Inc. a subsidiary of Paramount Pictures and operator for five years of Pay-TV system in Etobicoke, Canada blasted the FCC's proposals to regulate wired television distribution systems. The firm stated flatly that the FCC has no legitimate basis for assuming authority over CATV or Pay-TV by cable. NAB and the networks, said the firm, assume that the all-important consideration is "the protection of the status quo." Tele-meter contended that there is nothing sacrosanct about the existing system of television distribution, but that the public interest requires utilization of all technical capabilities, including CATV, Pay-TV, and even space satellites relaying programs directly from program producers to viewers.

Westinghouse testified that the FCC proposals are satisfactory as they stand, and contended that AMST proposals are too extreme. One exception to
Westinghouse's approval of proposed rules was non-duplication section of which the firm said, "non-duplication creates a heavy burden on any CATV system, and, therefore, should never be imposed absent a finding that it is both necessary and beneficial to the particular station." Switching facilities would be an unnecessary financial burden on CATV, Westinghouse testified, adding CATV public interest would not be served by the freeze on new CATV systems, as proposed by AMST.

ABC agreed with Westinghouse that cable distribution should be prohibited only where it would adversely affect the public interest, and should definitely be permitted elsewhere, "where there may well be a substantial public need for CATV services."

The network testified that the AMST proposals for regulating CATV are "unnecessarily harassing...without producing significant public benefits." It said that a freeze on CATV would be "both unnecessary and inconsistent with the overall public interest."

Fred J. Stevenson, president of Rogers (Arkansas) TV Cable, Inc., testified, "I would respectfully urge the Commission to carefully consider the impact of such across-the-board application of its proposed rules on many small limited capacity systems. Such systems, he said, have many years of public service to their credit, and yet they would be "circuitously trapped" in rules intended for larger, more sophisticated systems. He asked the FCC to consider waivers for such systems.

UHF operator Bill Putnam testified on behalf of his ACT group (Association for Competitive Television), a group with little known support other than his own. The New England broadcaster stated, "Despite all the horrendous mass of claims, statistics and counterclamors, interspersed with double-talk and fallaciousness, CATV has a terribly harmful effect on local television station operation," and the bad effects continue, he contended, despite "vicious protestations of their good intent."

NCTA, NAB, and TAME did not file briefs on these sections of the proposed regulations, preferring to rest on their original filings.

**TAME COURT CASE DEVELOPS**

The NCTA and Rollins Broadcasting have filed for intervention in the TAME, Inc., Philadelphia Broadcasting and JFD Electronics court action declaring CATV a common carrier service. The case is based on proposed Rollins Broadcasting cable system in Willington, Delaware, and was taken to the U.S. Appeals Court following FCC ruling that CATV is not a common carrier. No opposition to the petitions for intervention was apparent.

The FCC asked the court for extension of deadline for answering the TAME charges, requesting additional time on behalf of the NCTA and Rollins Broadcasting as well as for the Commission itself. TAME counsel Ben Colton did not oppose the delay.

In petitioning for right to intervene in the court action, NCTA General Counsel Robert D. L'Heurteux stated "Apparently the petitioners (TAME, et al) intend to seek to invoke the jurisdiction of the Federal Communications Commission over Rollins' CATV system under the guise of common regulation in order to limit, curtail or even destroy that system or prevent it from coming into being in order to protect petitioners from a fancied, economic detriment to petitioners, although no such detriment is alleged in their petition for review."

He added that "if petitioners were successful in this litigation, adverse pecuniary effects upon the CATV industry and NCTA members are likely to follow, because CATV systems are not common carriers or of a public utility nature."

**STROMBERG-CARLSON ENTERS CATV**

Stromberg-Carlson Corporation has announced its entry into the community antenna television field in association with Entron, Inc., Silver Spring, Maryland. Using Entron-developed equipment Stromberg-Carlson will finance, engineer, and furnish and install complete CATV systems for telephone operating companies.

Entron, Inc., founded in the early 1950's, is regarded as a pioneer in the CATV field. Entron equipment that Stromberg-Carlson will use in the CATV systems include high power tubes and solid-state all-band amplifiers. Stromberg-Carlson, producer of telephone, data processing and communication systems, has provided a variety of communication systems to the independent telephone industry since 1894, and has a national and field sales engineering organization with transmission experience.

**TRAINING SEMINAR HELD BY VUMORE**

A technical training school for the employees of Vumore Co. of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma was held at Lake Texoma Lodge near Kingston, Oklahoma on September 12. Eight of Vumore's systems were represented along with four other systems. In all, 38 people attended the seminar classes while their families enjoyed the recreational facilities of Lake Texoma State Park.

Instructors at the seminar were Jim Monroe of Idaho, Don Turley of Hugo, Wilbur Hamack of Altus (all of Oklahoma), Ernest Meredith of Sherman, Texas, and Jack Sanders of Wellington, Texas. Hamack began the sessions with a description of the problems encountered in building emergency warning systems into CATV systems. Monroe discussed the problems of proper system maintenance and the necessity of an active safety program. Meredith demonstrated amplifier alignment and Sanders lectured on mathematics and basic electronics for technicians. Larry Whitehead,
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**ILLINOIS-INDIANA CATV ASSOCIATION TO BE FORMED**

A two-day organizational meeting is scheduled for mid-November by CATV operators in Illinois and Indiana. They will meet at the Holiday Inn in Danville, Illinois on Monday and Tuesday, November 15 and 16. Following registration at 9:00 a.m. Monday, there will be sessions for both technical and management personnel throughout the meeting.

**CALENDAR**

**October 17-19:**
The West Virginia and Mid-Atlantic Community Television Association will hold its annual fall meeting at the Greenbrier Hotel in White Sulfur Springs, West Virginia. CATV system personnel from Kentucky, Maryland, Ohio, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia are invited as well as suppliers of CATV equipment and services. However, the meeting will not have manufacturers’ displays. For further information, contact association president, Buford Saville, Potomac Valley TV Co., 100 S. Liberty, Cumberland, Maryland, telephone 301-722-6540.

**October 28-30:**
The California CATV Association will meet in San Diego at the Vacation Village Hotel. Exhibitor participation is being emphasized at the convention, with ample time allowed for meeting with equipment suppliers scheduled on all days of the meet. All interested parties in California and surrounding states are invited, and top NCTA and other industry officials are expected to be on the program. For details, contact Walter Kaitz, Suite 1506, Latham Square Building, Oakland, California 94612, telephone 415-824-5300.

**November 5:**
The Oklahoma-Kansas CATV Association will meet for its annual fall convention at the Holiday Inn, Oklahoma City. The OK-CATV group will hear NCTA President Frederick W. Ford speak at the meeting, which will also feature manufacturers’ displays. For further details, contact Holland Meacham, Box 580, Elk City, Oklahoma, telephone 225-2220.

**November 8:**
The North Central CATV Association will meet for a one-day session in Minneapolis. Meetings will be featured for both technical and management personnel, and NCTA President Frederick W. Ford will speak. Interested parties contact H. C. Kroon, 2201 S. Front Street, Mankato, Minnesota, 56001, telephone 507-345-3995.

**November 15-16:**
The Illinois-Indiana CATV Association will hold an organizational meeting at the Holiday Inn in Danville, Illinois. Both technical and management-oriented sessions are scheduled along with well-known industry speakers including Stanley M. Searle, editor of TV & Communications. All cable operators in those states are urged to attend and become charter members, and all interested parties, including equipment suppliers, are invited. For further information, contact Phil Hays, General Manager, Effingham TV Cable Company, P.O. Box 416, Effingham, Ill., telephone 217-342-3979.
day. Tuesday will be devoted to management-oriented meetings with organization matters for the association scheduled for the latter part of the afternoon. See the "Calendar" section for additional details.

TEXAS CAPITAL COMMITS ADDITIONAL $1 MILLION TO ABLINE CATV

By providing an additional $1 Million to its previous commitment, Texas Capital Corporation brought its total commitment to TV Cable Service of Abilene to $1,882,000. Texas Capital's commitment provides financing for the system's construction. Three signals from Ft. Worth and Dallas, Texas are delivered via microwave and the system also carries the two local Abilene channels to its 3,000 subscribers.

Texas Capital has also committed $300,000 for construction of a system in Sweetwater, Texas, which will operate under the same management as Abilene. Texas Capital has a 34 per cent equity ownership in the Abilene system.

REGULATION DISCUSSED AT BROADCASTER MEETINGS

The Louisiana Association of Broadcasters and the Mississippi Broadcasters' Association held a joint series of meetings in New Orleans September 19, 20, and 21. Speaking at the meeting were Bill Carlisle of the NAB, Bill Clancy of TAME, Inc., Dwight Martin of station WDSU, FCC Commissioner Kenneth Cox and Bruce Merrill, system-owner and president of Ameco, Inc.

The problem of CATV regulation was the key topic at the meet. Bruce Merrill presented the CATV position to the broadcasters.

SPENCER NEW CHAIRMAN OF SKL

Donald Spencer, president of Spencer-Kennedy Laboratories, Inc. since 1955, was elected Chairman and Chief Executive Officer at the annual meeting in September. Charles H. Wright will succeed him as president as well as acting as Treasurer of the firm. Added to the Board of Directors was J. B. Richmond of Putnam, Coffin and Burr. John A. Lunn, B. A. G. Thordike and George W. W. Brewster were re-elected to the board with.

Following the meeting a report was issued stating that as a result of factors incident to the introduction of a new line of equipment, manufacturing earnings before Federal income taxes were down to 79 cents per share from $1.22 in the prior year. Start-up losses in new CATV systems brought into operation during the year reportedly absorbed manufacturing profits and produced a consolidated deficit after all adjustments of $.22 per share.

SKL management, in discussing the prospects for the fiscal year ending June 1966, stated that the present backlog of unfilled orders is at the highest level in the company's history and predicted that sales and earnings for the year would be at record levels. CATV operations will produce relatively small losses this year, management stated, and within a year thereafter will begin to contribute significantly to consolidated earnings.

REGO GIVES SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

Rego Industries, Inc., in its semi-annual message to shareholders, announced that its sales for the six months ending June 1965 were $5,685,351 as opposed to last year's $4,114,491—a decrease of 38% over 1964. Net profits, according to the report, were $206,313 as against $137,776 in 1964, an increase of 92%. The report interpreted this as $.32 per share based on 818,067 shares outstanding on June 30, 1965. Shipments for the second quarter averaged slightly above $1,000,000 per month.

NAB MEETINGS TO FEATURE CATV THIS FALL

Community Antenna Television will be a major topic at each of the eight regional fall conferences scheduled by the National Association of Broadcasters. The Association announced that it will have one Federal Communications Commissioner at each of the meetings. Commissioner Rosed Hyde will be out of the country at that time, so Commissioners Kenneth Cox and Robert E. Lee will each make two appearances. On the subject of CATV, the program is to be similar at all of the meetings. NAB vice president for station services William Carlisle will outline the NAB stand on current CATV issues.

CBC DECLARES DIVIDEND

The directors of Cox Broadcasting Corporation have announced a regular quarterly cash dividend of 10 cents per share of the firm's common stock. The dividend is payable to stockholders on record as of September 22, 1965.

TV-BOXING MEASURE GIVEN FULL SUPPORT IN HOUSE

The House of Representatives voted 346 to 4 in favor of setting up a Federal Boxing Commission which could prevent television distribution of prize fights in which illegal activities were suspected. The measure, if put into law, would allow the proposed commission to regulate distribution of such matches by radio, television, theatre TV, and community antenna systems. Early action on the bill in the Senate is seen as unlikely.

COPYRIGHT HEARINGS SLOWING, CATV STILL HOT TOPIC

CATV copyright position came up in testimony from three different sides in House copyright hearings last month, and all agreed that cable operators should be subjected to copyright payments. Newest, and very vocal interest group to back CATV sections of bill was professional sports squad consisting of American Football League commissioner Joe Foss, National Football League commissioner Pete Rozelle, and Washington attorney Paul Porter, representing all organized professional baseball.

Main theme was alleged drop in profits realized from telecast of sports events, when CATV carriage of same could not be controlled. Cable system should not be allowed to 'pirate sports programs' according to Rozelle. Subcommittee chairman Robert W. Kastenmeier (D.-Wis.) asked the sports representatives if the CATV audience might not actually enlarge the audience for the TV sponsor of such sports events, and might not also popularize the sport among new fans. He found little agreement from the sports moguls.

CANADIAN CATV EQUIPMENT FIRM FORMED

Cascade Electronics, Ltd. is the name of a new firm formed in western Canada to design and market CATV equipment. The Distribution will include the U.S. as well as Canada. Three Phoenix, Arizona CATV engineers have relocated in Vancouver, B.C. to help form the new firm. All former Ameco, Inc. employees, they are: Ferrell Anderson, former director of education; Don Nelson, former chief of special products; and Victor Tarbuck, former chief technician of special products.

ILLINOIS LEASEBACK TARIFFS IN EFFECT

The Illinois Commerce Commission has lifted suspension of CATV lease-
back tariffs filed by Illinois Bell Telephone Co. The commission made it clear that its action in approving the tariffs did in no way affect the authority of cities to grant permission to operate cable systems within their boundaries.

**BELL TARIFFS APPROVED IN MAINE**

The Public Utility Commission of Maine has approved the CATV lease-back tariffs filed there by the New England Telephone & Telegraph Co. The PUC decision came after objections by the New England CATV Association which insisted that the tariffs should include provisions requiring that lease-back system operators obtain local franchises for such systems. The PUC indicated that it could not include such provisions with regard to the CATV operation itself, since the cable television business is not considered a public utility in that state.

**AMECO GOES PUBLIC STOCK**

Bruce Merrill's Ameco, Inc. of Phoenix, Arizona has filed for registration of 400,000 shares of common stock with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The $1 par value shares are expected to sell for about $21 per share. Net proceeds from half of the new issue will be added to working capital of the corporation, while the other half are registered to Mr. Merrill who holds all of the current 1,000,000 shares outstanding.

**TIME-LIFE AND FETZER FORM WOLVERINE CABLEVISION**

Time-Life Broadcasting and Fetzer Broadcasting Co. have joined forces to form Wolverine Cablevision for system operations in the Michigan area. Present plans call for systems in Battle Creek, Albion and Marshall, but will not affect the operations of Fetzer in Kalamazoo or Time-Life in Jackson.

Directors of the new firm are John E. Fetzer and Carl E. Lee of Fetzer Broadcasting, and Willard Schroeder and Leonard Bridge of Time-Life. One additional director will be named. Gordon Anderson of Fetzer will be administrator of the new firm.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN NAMED BY NCTA**

Irving Kahn and Frank Thompson were appointed by NCTA national chairman Ben Controy, to serve on the Association's Executive Committee. The seven-man committee, which acts for the board of directors between quarterly board meetings, also includes the NCTA elected officers (including Bruce Merrill — immediate past national chairman).

Chairman for NCTA standing committees have been named, and the following have accepted to date: Franklin R. Valentine, Jr., Unicom Inc. budgeting and audits committee; Robert Regan, Minnesota TV Signal Distributing Company, by-laws committee; George Barco, Meadville Master Antenna Inc., educational television committee; Frank H. Nowacek, TeleSystems, membership committee; James Palmer, Centre Video, rural services committee; James Duratz, Meadville Master Antenna Inc., safety committee; At Stern, TV & Communications Corp., industry planning committee (new committee); and Frank Thompson, Rochester, Minnesota, international relations committee. Two other chairmanships were announced but acceptance has not been given. They are, Jack Crosby, utility relations committee (formerly pole line committee), and Hubert Schlafly, technical standards committee.

**COMMUNITY CABLECASTING GETS $1.5 BACKING**

Community Cablecasting Corporation, CATV development firm organized earlier this year by Leon Papernow has received agreement from Electronic Capital Corporation of San Diego for that firm to provide $1.5 million in equity and long-term financing. This is the second investment in CATV by ECC within 30 days. The firm recently agreed to provide Harriscope Cable Corporation with $1.7 million.

**TELEPROMPTER ACQUIRES MATVS**

TelePrompTer Corporation is reported to have become the nation's largest provider of cable television reception services by acquiring three New York City master antenna TV companies which serve approximately 200,000 outlets in the metropolitan area.

Irving B. Kahn, chairman and president of TelePrompTer, said the three companies install and maintain cable TV on a contract basis in apartment houses, schools, hotels, hospitals and commercial buildings and also provide reception service to individual apartment tenants for a monthly fee.

The latter, combined with services provided by TelePrompTer subsidiaries in 16 community antenna systems throughout the United States, gives the company approximately 90,000 monthly subscribers an industry high — Mr. Kahn said.

The new acquisitions, for cash and TelePrompTer common stock, are Electronic Installation Corporation; Retma Electronics, Inc.; and AmpliTel Incorporated.

Mr. Kahn said that their cost plus other initial investments that TelePrompTer plans to make in them will total in excess of $82 million.

He said that the three companies, which have been in operation for periods of up to 15 years, are all operating profitably and should add substantially to TelePrompTer's earnings.

TelePrompTer Corporation reported earnings for 1964 of $401,070, or 54 cents a share, and for the first quarter of this year $70,917, or 10 cents per share. It is listed on the American Stock Exchange.

All three companies had been part of a joint venture seeking a New York CATV franchise, for which TelePrompTer also is an applicant, and Mr. Kahn said their qualifications are now being incorporated with TelePrompTer's in its application pending before the Board of Estimate.

**MEREDITH REPORTS EARNINGS UP**

Meredith Publishing Company, parent of Meredith Broadcasting and half owner of Meredith-Ayo Inc. has reported an increase of 67.4% in net earnings for the fiscal year ended June 30. Earnings per share for 1965 were $3.55 as compared with $2.14 in 1964. The firm has filed an application with the New York Stock Exchange for listing of the firm's common stock.

**“ANTI-CATV” BROADCASTER JOINS THE RANKS**

Outspoken broadcaster Bill Grove (KFBC-TV, Cheyenne, Wyoming) has announced the acquisition by his firm, Frontier Broadcasting Company, of a cable television franchise in Cheyenne. Grove has advocated FCC control of wired TV for several years, and has indicated that his firm's entry into the industry is based upon the Commissions intended regulation of same. The system will be developed by Wyneco Co., wholly-owned by Frontier Broadcasting.
Unique dead-end design assures your customers uninterrupted television reception; fast hook-up

Check these benefits:

✓ Economical to buy and apply.
✓ Wraps on in seconds without tools.
✓ One piece — easy to handle; easy to stock.
✓ Made of stainless steel to resist abrasion and corrosion.
✓ Only flexible CATV dead-end commercially available.
✓ Holds full rated strength of RG-59/U coaxial cable.
✓ Won't crush cable or affect its dielectric properties.
✓ Holds cable in straight-line suspension; prevents kinking.
✓ Twist at end of leg prevents spin-out of cable.
✓ Performance proven by extensive laboratory and field testing.

Use TELEGRIP on all three connections — pole, tap, and house

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AMECO APPOINTS NEW EXECUTIVES

Bill Johnson, Frank Jackson, Robert Malonek and Loyd Littlepage have been named to new positions in Ameco, Inc. in announcements by Bruce Merrill. Johnson has been made district construction manager with responsibility for the direct supervision of the construction of all systems Ameco is building for Kentucky Cable TV, Tennessee Cable TV, and Indiana Cablevision. Jackson, who had previously been working with Motorola, Inc. as a national account executive, has joined the contracting department of Ameco, Inc. as a systems engineer and assistant to Lewis Coggins, director of contracting. Malonek who has been appointed director of personnel was with Palmer Manufacturing Corp. and Kennecott Copper prior to joining Ameco. Littlepage has been named art director at Ameco, Inc. He had previously worked for Audiotone.

LIPP IS HONORED BY VIKING INDUSTRIES

Viking Industries paid tribute to Allen Lipp, Marketing Director of Sales, at a testimonial dinner held on September 22nd at the American Hotel in New York City.

Arthur Baum (l) presents a plaque to Allen Lipp.

Arthur Baum, President of the Company, presented Allen with a plaque commemorating his 18th anniversary of association with Viking Industries. Prior to his promotion to director of marketing sales, Allen served as Administrative Assistant to the President.

PAST PRESIDENTS HONORED

The past presidents of the New York CATV Association were honored at the annual banquet. Receiving the first plaque was W. J. “Bill” Calsam who headed the association for its first two years, 1956 - 1958. Engraved plaques were also presented to Jack Pryor, Warren Fribble, Hugh Sutphen, Harold Spriggs, Tony Cerruche, and Sterling Higley. Harry Levin, association Vice President, made the presentations to the former officers with president Al Bagnardi presiding at the banquet which was attended by 150 New York operators and suppliers.

GREGORY PROMOTED TO REGIONAL MANAGER

Leonard C. Gregory, former general manager of Kentucky Cable TV, has been promoted to regional manager of American Cable Television’s Decatur, Alabama, and Panama City, Florida systems. The promotion was revealed by Donald R. Atwell, President of the Company. Atwell also revealed that Gregory’s vacated position will be filled by Douglas Shank, former manager of American Cable Television’s Glasgow Cablevision.

Gregory was also, at one time, manager of the Glasgow system and later was made general manager of the company’s systems in Kentucky, Indiana and Tennessee.

WESTERN MICROWAVE ANNOUNCES NEW AREA MANAGER

Bob Magnus. President of Western Microwave has announced that Ian A. Elliot will be regional manager in charge of Western’s Montana and Idaho operations. Mr. Elliot was one of the founders of Micro-TV, the cable system serving Miles City. He will continue as president of this firm but has resigned his positions as manager of radio KATL and Star Printing Co. in Miles City.

FRANKLIN FILLS NEW ENTRON POST

J. Phil Franklin has filled the newly created position of director of systems operations for Entron, Inc. according to Robert J. McGeehan, president.

In this position, Franklin will be responsible for the operation of all Entron’s present, partially and wholly owned CATV systems. He will also act as an advisor and consultant to new system operators.

Prior to joining Entron, Franklin was the vice president-general manager of the South Jersey Television Cable Co. of Ocean City, Ventnor and Wildwood, N.J. and is president of the New Jersey Community Antenna Television Association. Previously he was a vice president and general manager of the Desert Cable Television Co. of Palm Desert, California.

WALTERS TO BE NEW VICE-PRESIDENT

H. Les Walters has been appointed vice president in charge of field assignments for American Cable Television, Inc. according to Donald R. Atwell, President. Walters has been vice president of Kentucky Cable TV.

Mr. Walters

Tennessee; Cablevision, Indiana; Tri-Town Video, New York and Valley Telecasting, California. American Cable Television, Inc. has absorbed all of these systems. Atwell says, “The company’s addition of 21 franchises in 2 years is due to Walters’ efforts.”

STREET TO DIRECT AMECO ADVERTISING

The appointment of Samuel S. Street, Jr. to the position of director of public relations and advertising has

Mr. Street

been announced by Bruce Merrill, president of Ameco Inc.

Before joining Ameco, Mr. Street was a partner in the consultant firm.
Adler, Street & Associates, with offices in Washington, D.C. and Southhamp- ton, Pennsylvania. At one time, he was also consultant and general man-ager of New Jersey Cable TV Corporation. Prior to joining New Jersey CATV he worked with TeleSystems Corporation. At TeleSystems, Street was responsible for the coordination of engineering, construction, management and promotion of community antenna television systems. He is a well-known authority on cable television promotion and has developed many advertising campaigns that are now being utilized throughout the United States. He is also a contributing editor to TV & Communications.

SERVICE CENTER IS ESTABLISHED BY TELEPROMPTER
A Cable TV Engineering and Service Center has been established by TelePrompTer Corp. to house its newly formed master antenna television division according to chairman and president, Irving B. Kahn.

Joseph Silverman, formerly president of Retma Electronics, Inc. will be the general manager of the division which designs, installs and maintains master antenna TV systems in apartment houses, schools and commercial buildings.

Kahn said the MATV division is carrying out TelePrompTer's $500,-000 contract for installation of television distribution facilities in 210 Roman Catholic parochial schools in Brooklyn and Queens.

GARDNER JOINS JACK PRUZAN
The Jack Pruzan Company has announced the addition of Lyonel “L.J.” Gardner as an inside sales representative.

A native of Battle Creek, Michigan, Gardner has been engaged in sales and sales administration work primari-
ly in the communications equipment field since 1950. He was formerly with Oliver Electrical Manufacturing Company.

According to Herbert Prazan the addition of Gardner "is a continuation of the company policy of providing knowledgeable, experienced people to handle office sales contacts. Rapid growth in the company has necessitated added personnel."

MERIDITH-AVCO APPOINTS NEW VICE PRESIDENT

The board of directors of Meredith-Avco, Inc. has announced the appointment of Thomas J. Michel of Cincinnati as executive Vice President. Mr. Michel has been Director of Field Engineering in the Avco Electronics Division at Cincinnati. He will assume his new position September 15, at the company headquarters in New York City. Michel will replace Raymond V. Schneider, Vice President and General Manager, who has announced his resignation. Michel has been with AVCO since 1933.

Meredith-Avco was formed a year ago as a joint CATV venture by Meredith Publishing Co. and AVCO Corp., New York.

STAN SOCIA CORP. APPOINTS WILLIAMS

Stan Socia Corporation of Tyler, Texas announces the association of Norman A. "Chick" Williams. Named Management & Sales Executive, Williams has been in CATV for 12 years as systems manager and was awarded the National Community Television Association's Halo Award.

Mr. Williams has been with Television Cable Service Co., Inc., Tyler, Texas Video, Inc., Palestine, Texas and has worked for Systems Management and Daniels & Associates. Named to the Founding Executive Committee in the Louisiana Association of Cable TV Operators, Mr. Williams is also regional manager of the Houma, Leesville and DeRidder, Louisiana CATV systems.

The executive will specialize in CATV equipment and sales turn-key construction.

NEW VICE-PRESIDENTS ELECTED

Douglas L. Bibby, president of Stromberg-Carlson Corp., has announced the election of two new vice presidents by the Board of Directors of that corporation.

O. D. Center, who has been controller, was named vice president of finance, and Howard G. Strassner was named vice president manufacturing coordinator.

William A. Rockwood, former vice president-marketing and administration, will become vice president of the Telecommunications Group.

SHARP APPOINTED AS TEXAS REGIONAL MANAGER

Donald Atwell, president of American Cable Television, Inc., has announced the appointment of Erwin Sharp as regional manager of the company's Texas systems. He will be operating out of Waco, Texas. Sharp began his career in CATV in 1937 as chief engineer and manager of the Tex-Mex, New Mexico Television Company.

Sharp's CATV activities include the building of the Mule Shoe, Texas Cable System, the cable system in Portales, New Mexico, three microwave systems in Texas and New Mexico and the setting up and organization of the Tex-Mex Communications Company. Sharp was transferred by H & B Corporation from Tucumcari, New Mexico to Dothan, Alabama as general manager, where he remained until taking his present position with American Cable Television, Inc.

BRANDT TO HEAD JERROLD'S INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS

Sidney Brandt has been named General Manager of Jerrold International, a division of The Jerrold Corporation, according to Robert H. Beisswenger,

Mr. Williams

Mr. Sharp

CATV FINANCING... gives you room to grow and the POWER to expand

• FOR PURCHASING SYSTEMS
• FOR NEW EQUIPMENT
• FOR EXPANSION
• FOR TURN-KEYS

ECONOMY FINANCE CORPORATION
108 East Washington St., Indianapolis 4, Indiana

Phone us collect — Area Code 317, MElrose 8-1331. Ask for: Harold Ewen, Gail Oldfather, or Jim Ackerman.

October 1965
We'd like to urge you to buy our 76TV microwave relay system next time you are in the market for monochrome or color video transmission equipment. Not for the obvious reasons, though, like its outstanding performance, low price, and easy maintenance.

No, we think you ought to buy our 76TV because of its demonstrated heroism and valor. And long-suffering patience in the face of overwhelming odds.

How do you think it feels when, year after year, hundreds of tons of explosives are fired off inside you? When, in a typical week—besides three glorious concerts and five exciting football games—about 30 murders, 24 auto accidents, twelve divorces and four or five extortion schemes are perpetrated through your unflinching innards? When headaches, backaches, congested nasal passages all get their appropriate fast relief through you?

To do this day-in and day-out takes solid-state guts. Such devotion ought to be rewarded. Buy a 76TV microwave relay system from Lenkurt Electric Co., Inc., San Carlos, California, now! That's the spirit.

The spirit of 76 (tv)

LENKURT ELECTRIC
SUBSIDIARY OF
GENERAL TELEPHONE & ELECTRONICS GT&E
Executive Vice President of the corporation.

Jerrold International is engaged in the marketing, distribution and licensing of all Jerrold products for sale in the international markets. These include community antenna television equipment; television antennas and reception aids, and microwave communications gear.

BLONDER-TONGUE ANNOUNCES PROMOTIONS

Richard B. Helhoski, marketing director of Blonder-Tongue, has announced the promotions of Walter Ullrich and Nick Young at Blonder-Tongue Laboratories, Inc.

Mr. Ullrich will fill the position of manager of the closed-circuit and master antenna television, and Young has been named national sales training manager.

In this position, Young will assume responsibility for the development and administration of all Blonder-Tongue training programs.

Ullrich's new position will give him responsibility for CCTV and MATV systems on a national level, including developmental marketing and sales program coordination.

GRAY RESIGNS POSITION

Gordon Gray has resigned his position as president-director of the Mid-New York Broadcasting Corp., Utica, N.Y. to become more involved in CATV. Mid-New York operates the cable TV system in Utica.

FUTURE EXECUTIVE IS BORN

Robert Baum, Vice President of Viking Industries, became the proud father of a son on September 15th. This is the first child born to Bob and his beautiful wife, Patricia. This indicates, Bob claims, that there will not be a future shortage of executive personnel at Viking Industries.

NEW MANAGER OF MONTEVIDEO

Ralph Demgen, president of Montevideo Cable Inc., announced that Robert Zellmer has been appointed general manager of the systems in Montevideo and Marshall, Minnesota. Zellmer has an option to purchase an interest in the two systems.

CATV FIRM CHANGES NAME

Philip A. Farr, Jr. has announced a name change for McGehee Video Company. The new name is Southern Video Company, McGehee, Arkansas. Farr indicates the ownership and management will remain unchanged.

The name change will be "to operate our expanded Community Antenna Facilities under a satisfactory corporate title" according to Farr.
Kaiser's complete solid-state all-silicon transistorized line — CATV's new standard for performance and capability under ALL operating conditions.

...in aerial or buried cable systems.

Whatever the system application, whatever the performance demands — KAISER CATV quality has been fully demonstrated in actual use — as well as in the research laboratory. These and other quality-engineered CATV products are now in full production in KAISER'S Phoenix Electronic Plant. Write or phone us today. We'll be glad to prove KAISER quality and value to your satisfaction in your system!

NEW CATV "TECH-WAGON"

Davco Electronics Corp. of Batesville, Arkansas has developed an "electronic laboratory on wheels" for CATV according to Jim Davidson, President. The "Tech-Wagon" is a Chevrolet station wagon that boasts a total value of more than $10,000 and includes such sophisticated equipment as the Telonic Sweep/Marker.

Davidson reports the "Tech-Wagon" carries test equipment for doing a complete alignment of head-end and systems. It will be used for installation of the Davco functional design head-end equipment and for alignment of existing head-ends. It will also be available for emergency calls to assist system operators in need of service according to Davidson.

The Telonic Sweep/Marker is an instrument that sweeps 400mc bandwidth at one time and contains both crystal and variable markers of extreme accuracy. It covers all VHF and UHF channels.

CAREY TO MANAGE NEW CATV

W. C. "Chris" Carey has been named area resident manager of Southwest CATV Inc.'s proposed systems in Edinburg, McAllen, Mission, and Pharr. according to Lester Kamin, President of Southwest CATV.

KOSCHMANN JOINS SKAGIT TV CABLE

W. O. Phillips announced that Marty Koschmann has joined the staff of Skagit TV Cable Co., Sedro Woolley, Washington. Koschmann was previously with KAPS radio station in Mount Vernon, Washington.

WESTERN CATV NAMES MANAGER

Western CATV Inc., Saugus, California has named Ed Cooper as its new manager. Cooper was with National Consumer Services (Reuben H. Donnelley Corp.) prior to joining Western CATV.

NEW CATV CORPORATION

The state of Pennsylvania has granted a corporate charter to Chris J. Mitsos, Kathryn E. Reid and Betty M. Zbegan for CATV activities in that state. Charter was granted under the name Lawrence Cablevision Inc., of New Castle, Pa.
Copyright Infringement

Dear Sirs:

We received by registered mail . . . a communication from the firm of Phillips, Nizer, Benjamin, Krim & Ballen Attorneys stating that they have pending in the southern district of New York a case against the CATV cable systems in Clarksburg and Fairmont, West Virginia for violation of their client's (United Artists) copyrights.

They note that this company is contemplating the operation of community antenna and cable systems and ask us to please note that they intend to protect their client's copyrights against any infringement thereof.

We would like to know if several system owners have received such a letter.

Our own attorney . . . said it is very unethical for any attorney or group of attorneys to bring any note of liability or possible violation of a right of one's copyright until such violation or liability has been proven in court . . . and that anyone so doing could be called before the bar association for unethical practices.

If you have received any other comments we would appreciate your letting us know what, if any, actions are contemplated to stop such threats before one has even commenced to operate a CATV system.

John N. Thompson
Thompson Theatres Co.
Atoka, Oklahoma

We invite any reader who has received such a letter to forward a copy of it to us. We also suggest such correspondence be directed to Robert L'Heureux at NCTA headquarters.

A Needed Service
Dear Stan:

It has been a real pleasure to sit on the sidelines and watch TV & Communications improve each month . . . Your latest innovation, a special monthly section for cable technicians, is indeed indicative of what I am talking about. Congratulations on scooping the publication field with this much needed service.

Robert H. Huston
Cox Broadcasting Corp.
Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Stan:

. . . I personally take a particular interest in your coverage in TV & COMMUNICATIONS with "News Spectrum" and "Focus on Progress". Seems there are so many people in the CATV Business that have changed jobs recently that this is the only practical means of keeping up with some of my friends.

. . . Keep up the good work on your constantly improving coverage of the entire CATV industry.

Norman A. "Chick" Williams
Houma TV Cable Co., Inc.
Houma, Louisiana

CATV Paper

Gentlemen:

I am preparing a historical-descriptive seminar paper on Community Antenna Television. James F. Morton of the TV Cable Supply Company suggested I write you for information regarding the typical components and cost of a CATV system. Also, if you happen to have any historical data available, I would appreciate receiving it.

Phillip O. Keirstead
WSUI News
State University of Iowa
Iowa City, Iowa

The information you request is in the mails. For more specific details we suggest you get a copy of National Community Television Associations "The Facts About Community Antenna Television.

THE FIELD STRENGTH METER CALIBRATOR

DELTA MODEL FSM-C

WILL CALIBRATE ANY FREQUENCY
WILL CALIBRATE ANY METER
USE AS A REFERENCE FOR ALL METERS
USE FOR GAIN MEASUREMENTS
USE AS SWEEP – MARKER GENERATOR

$140.00

WRITE FOR DETAILS TO:
DELTA ELECTRONICS LTD.
70 RONSON DRIVE • REXDALE,ONTARIO
You’d Better Sell It Today!

By Robert H. Berger
National Trans-Video

Not too many years ago, there was
the idea that Community Television
Antenna Systems were “public utili-
ties” and should conduct themselves as
such. An operator was expected to
invest a quarter of a million dollars,
or more, in a system, then sit and wait.
Selling was “undignified.”

I’ll never forget our first reaction
to that approach, “Fella, it may be
undignified, but it’s darn sure more
profitable!” . . .

I must confess that it did, and still
does, seem totally unreal for an Ameri-
can businessman to think that he can
operate successfully, and by that I
mean profitably, without selling. If
there was ever an economy in the
world whose success was due largely to
selling, it’s ours . . . and the CATV
business is no exception.

We entered the field selling. We’ve
sold successfully, and profitably. And,
we plan to keep on selling just as hard
as we know how.

In due course, we developed a firm
sales philosophy which today is only
slightly modified from our original
concept. Actually, our concept of sell-
ing CATV is simple.

You’d better sell it today!

It’s so easy to identify your pros-
tects. You’ve either got the area
cabled, or you don’t. The cable is
either energized or it isn’t. If you can’t
serve them, you can’t sell them. If you
can serve them, you’d better sell them
now, because every day that cable runs
past a house that isn’t connected to
your system, it is costing you money!

You’re selling a perishable, a ser-
tice that exists and can be sold at any
given moment, but a service that can-
not be put back into stock, or held
over until tomorrow, or next week, or
next month. If you don’t draw revenue
from today’s service, you’ll never be
to able to draw a dime from it!

Think about it!

We did. Our answer was consistent,
day in, and day out selling. Work
these prospects as fast and as often as
necessary to make as many sales as
possible . . . as soon as possible.

Our selling has taken many forms,
varying from system to system and
varying with the status of an indi-
vidual system at a given point in that
system’s maturity.

We reckon with Napoleon that plans
are made to be changed, to suit the
situation. So, first we made a “stan-
ard” sales plan. We swapped an idea,
a successful one. We modeled our ideal
sales force after the Fuller Brush men,
or, to be more exact, our own insur-
ance companies.

We installed a sales manager . . . a
salesman whose job it was to organize,
train and direct a crew of part-time
salesmen. Then, we staffed our crew
and we gave the sales manager an
incentive tied directly to his salesman’s
performance.

We found the most effective selling
time to be in the late afternoon, let’s
say from 6 p.m., to early evening,
perhaps 8:30 or 9 p.m. . . . moon-
lighter’s paradise. An ideal set-up to
let good, regularly employed salesmen
pick up extra money.

Obviously, the number of salesmen
in each system will vary. You must
have enough men to work your pros-
tspects as fast, and as often as necessary,
but, at the same time, there must be
enough potential for the individual
salesman to make enough money to
make the job worthwhile.

We had a sales staff, we had some-
thing to sell, and we had one more
step to take before our total sales
promotion package was ready to go.
We had some softening up to do for
our salesmen, we had advertising and
sales aids to prepare.

Now, certainly a salesman can make
sales on cold calls, but the odds are
against him. Remember the ad the
McGraw-Hill Business Press published
some years ago? The ad was directed
to industrial consumers, but the
thought is as valid today as it was then,
and just as applicable to our
situation.

The illustration was of typical,
hard-nosed purchasing agent, arms
on the edge of his chair, glaring out of
the ad at our cold-call salesman. Here’s
what that particular “consumer” was
saying:

“I don’t know who you are . . . I
don’t know your company . . .
I don’t know your company’s
product . . . I don’t know what
your company stands for . . . I
don’t know your company’s cus-
tomers . . . I don’t know your
company’s reputation! . . . Now, what was it you
wanted to sell me?”

Any of you who have ever sold any-
things . . . from newspaper subscrip-
tions to cable systems . . . know
exactly how the salesman, who faced
that guy, felt. And, you know, too, the
odds against his making a sale on that
first call. Why put our hand-picked
salesmen in that position? It’s just not
smart.

We prepared first of all, a simple
folder that answered the question,
“What is Cable TV?”, the story of our
product . . . the written back-up of
the sales talk our men would give. We
prepared it in two sizes, one that could
be mailed, and in a larger version the
salesman could use as he sat with the
prospect making his pitch.

We prepared newspaper ads, direct
mail pieces . . . and for several reasons
we dreamed up and polished several
Periodic Promotions. Why the promo-
tions? Simple. We knew from experi-
ence that any sales force . . . and any
set of prospects . . . needs an occasional
shot in the arm, a little excitement, an
extra special reason to buy . . . AND
TO SELL. They are valuable, but not
intended to ever replace the day-after
day sales effort. You need both.

But, in all our plans, all our pro-
grams, there was one common factor,
the two-week free trial. We found out
very early in the game that, if we
could get a prospect hooked up, we
had him hooked. Over the years, we’ve
had no reason to change our minds.
Our salesmen know that if they can
get the trial offer accepted, we’ve got
a customer 90% of the time. So, we
have made the two-week trial a perma-
nent feature.
Now, let's see how our ideas worked, how the basic plan was altered to fit various types of systems, various situations.

We've found out the hard way that there seems to be a saturation point in some systems. We don't like it. We don't plan to live with it forever, but we had to face the fact that, when we reached this level, sales peaked, flattened out and no reasonable expenditure of time or money seemed to change it appreciably. All right. For the time being, then, a system with this saturation had to be considered "mature." This was our first exception to our rule.

It followed, then, that a sales force of any size was waste, even a sales manager might be, so we did our best to perform a miracle. We took the system manager, a technical man, and we gave him the darndest brainwashing you've ever seen. We split his personality and made a part-time sales manager out of him. It worked. In our mature systems, we have maintained the percentage of saturation at its so-called peak level despite the natural turn of customers from move-outs, move-ins, deaths, new families, the changes that slowly occur in a mature system in a static population area.

At the other end of the spectrum, is the brand new system in the community that is literally crying for cable TV service. We've just wound up opening a system like this. Here's how we did it.

The local newspaper was most cooperative. It carried, almost without our asking for it, full coverage of the granting of the franchise. Part of the story was a description of exactly what cable TV is. Almost as soon as the franchise was granted, we started feeding them releases. Believe me, we fed it to them.

We supplied continuing series of construction-progress stories, and it became pretty evident, early in the game, that we were going to make sales whether we had salesmen on the street, in the office, or anywhere. When people approach the crew asking how to subscribe, you can be pretty sure you've got a live one.

We altered our basic sales plan to take this into account. We made it easy, and attractive, for the eager prospects to subscribe.

We began an intensive advertising campaign at almost the same time we began construction. We took large space ads in the paper extolling the virtues of cable TV and telling our prospects to watch the mail for a valuable certificate.

Then, as we were about ready to start building a segment, we mailed a direct-mail piece consisting of a letter, a "gift certificate" for a free trial, along with a reprint of some of the very nice stories the local newspaper had printed about us.

We dated the "gift certificate" to expire one month after we figured the area would be energized, giving ourselves a little leeway in the event construction or technical problems slowed us down, but still clearing the way for the sales force to begin making regular sales right after we "allowed" the eager ones to buy.

It worked beautifully.

We gained substantial monthly revenue as soon as we energized each area. We left plenty of potential sales for the sales force, and, as a matter of fact, we found that one of the best sales clinicians we've got is the next door neighbor who has the service and talks about it!

Of course, most of our systems, and I imagine, most of yours, are somewhere in between the mature and brand new systems. Certainly, the systems we have acquired, rather than built, are that way, and, as the ones we've built grow, we'll find ourselves on middle ground.

I'd describe a "middle system" as one in a growing community that is pretty well cabled, but that is constantly growing with the addition of new areas to cable. It will have areas of town which are pretty static. It will have areas that are constantly changing. And it will have new areas coming up.

This system needs an alert sales manager, an aggressive sales force and every tool in the business. The sales manager needs to keep peak saturation in static areas, in the older parts of town. He needs to keep pushing for more sales in the changing areas. And, he needs to crack the new areas wide open the moment they're ripe.

He's got a balancing problem with his salesmen and their income. He must carefully balance assigned calls so that the call-to-sale ratio can even out among the men. There's not a faster way to wreck your sales crew than to favor one man, or one group of men.


But, this sure doesn't mean that you just send your men out aimlessly. You plan.

You make sure they're on the job every day, knocking on doors, making sales, but you help them squeeze every opportunity out of every day you can.

Let's face it. There are some times in the year when people are just more interested in buying. Perhaps. The ratings tell us that television audiences are greater in the winter than they are in the summer. Sometimes, they need a little boost.

We had an interesting experience with one system in the heat of the summer. We'd been selling with the rates that were in existence in this system when we bought it. Remember the $125.00 connect fees? They were brutal. This system had been like that, with an alternate arrangement of $50.00 for a connect and the difference spread out on the monthly charge.

We wanted to get out from under that rate structure and, at the same time, boost sales. So, one July, we came out with a package changing the connect fee to $25.00, raising the monthly charge a $1.00, lowering the salesmen's commission, and told them they could have this rate until Labor Day.

Sales went from approximately 25 a week to 150 a week. We tripled the size of that system that year. Oh, by the way, you're probably not surprised, but we kept that rate in effect past Labor Day. In fact, it still is in effect.

Television sets, and nowadays color television, are popular family Christmas gifts. A marvelous sales opportunity. Get the dealer on your side.

You look again. Fall and winter sports, particularly pro-football, are gaining in popularity. Another sales opportunity. You watch for local, one-time sales opportunities, perhaps the local high school or college gets to the state finals, and it's going to be telecast. You look for sales opportunities like this, and you sell with them.

Let me give you a few examples of the sort of thing we did. Fall shows, for instance. This is a good selling period. We wanted to make the most of it. We wanted the call-sale ratio as high as possible.

To help pre-sell for the salesmen, we
FOR EASIER, FASTER INSTALLATION

SUPERIOR COAXIAL TRUNK CABLE

SEQUENTIALLY FOOT-MARKED

Guaranteed accurate to the critical tolerance of ± 1%

Know the lengths of cable between amplifiers...to the foot...and assure positive checks of cable attenuation measurements and amplifier performance.

Know the exact cable footage installed...without time-consuming physical measurement.

Know the cable footage received...and easily verify the footage in stock.

The numerical markings are permanently printed in white at two-foot intervals on the cable jacket...and one-foot increments are designated by a white horizontal line midway between each numerical marking.

To simplify installation, handling and inventory procedures, order SUPERIOR Sequentially Foot-Marked Coaxial Trunk Cable...at no extra cost! Every reel is 100% sweep-tested.

AVAILABLE FROM STOCK...AT NO EXTRA COST!

For detailed information and prices, write

SUPERIOR CABLE

SUPERIOR CABLE CORPORATION - HICKORY, NORTH CAROLINA
designed a five-piece mailing to proceed the salesman. The series consisted of five colorful postcards. One on sports... one on comedy... one on drama... one on westerns... and one on news. We mailed one each working day. On the sixth day, our salesman knocked on the door. Sure, it took a little planning, a little scheduling, but you'd be surprised how little time it took for him to complete the sale... even to prospects who had turned us down time and time again.

Let's take another common situation. You have your drop in a house. Your customer moves out. You've got a disconnect on your hands... and you don't want it. It would be pretty hard to know exactly when a new family is going to move in. You have a man who works the neighborhood regularly, but not every day, by any means. Here's what we did. We had the man who did the disconnect leave a door-knob hanger. All it says is, "This house is wired for cable TV. For more information, please phone... ." You'd be surprised how well it works.

Now, don't misunderstand. No door-knob hanger, mail piece, newspaper ad, or anything else, will work as well as an eyeball-to-eyeball call. What I'm talking about is a stop-gap designed to cover you until your salesman can get there and tackle his real live prospect.

But, it all adds up. You search for every possible natural sales opportunity you make every call as productive as possible, and you sell, sell, sell, every day.

Gee, this sounds great, but, ah, are you sure there's a natural sales opportunity every day?

Of course not. That's when you start making them up.

Know what we do when we carry a heavyweight fight? If you can call that last one a fight!

First, we let the present subscriber know that we're giving them the fight as a free bonus. This is to take advantage of all the good will we can build up. Then we advertise the fight to the public for free. We tell them we'll give them a free two-week trial in their homes so that they can see the fight. We get business this way. We keep it, too. Same 90% retention of two-week trials.

And, still, sometimes that isn't quite enough, so we swiped again. We took a page from the retailer's book.

And, if you really want to see what I mean, study the grocery and department store advertising in your hometown. These people have reduced the practice of taking advantages of real and created sales opportunities to a real science. They've got a "big deal" to talk about, to sell with, at least once a week. Notice how they do it.

We did, and we came up with the best promotion we've ever had. It was a little over seven months ago, and we're just now getting things back to normal.

We started worrying this thing around one day when we were discussing the loss of revenue we were suffering because our cable was running past houses that were not connected to the system.

Our first impulse was to just say, "Hey! Anybody who wants our service can get hooked up FREE!" But, cooler heads prevailed.

FREE is a dangerous word. Most adult Americans are suspicious of it, and for good cause, I suspect. The average person values something that's FREE... at just that. BUT, SALE is a grand old retailing staple that works, and works, and works.

We did it. We put connections on sale. . . . We borrowed from the retailer again. . . . We put them on sale for the magic figure of 99c.

To convey a sense of urgency, we made our 99c special good for one week only! And, we used all the regular means of retail sale advertising to sell our prospects about it: newspaper ads, handbills, radio, the whole works!

Boy! The results literally staggered the whole operation! We made more sales in that week than we had the whole year to date. Our service crews went on overtime on top of overtime!

We ran out of drop cable and hardware and our home office engineering people spent hours on long distance begging for air shipments.

It was a nightmare! It was the nicest nightmare I have ever had! You know why?

Today, seven months later, we still have as permanent customers 88% of the people who bought our 99c special.

We've had pretty good luck selling extra connections to present subscribers. We've had so much luck giving trading stamps on special deals.

Well, the list could go on and on. We intend for it to. We intend to keep looking for new sales opportunities.

You see, we don't know all the answers.

But, we are firmly convinced of one guiding principle: a system that is in operation is losing money, no matter what the books say, as long as there is a single house in a cabled area whose resident is not a subscriber.

That's why we say, "You'd better sell it today and keep selling it every day."

ARMSLOF FIBERGLASS BUILDINGS
ARE IDEAL FOR MICROWAVE REPEATERS

• Custom design to any size
• Factory equipment installation
• Economically priced

Stationary buildings — Mobile Units — Pole mounted units
Armadillo Mfg. Co. • 847 E. Colfax Ave. • Denver, Colo.
CRAFTSMAN COMPLETE TAP-OFF Package...

$3.75 IN LOTS OF 100
$3.95 IN LOTS OF 25

YOUR PACKAGE INCLUDES:
1. TAP BLOCKS (refer to Table B)
2. HEAT SHRINK BOOT
3. 2 POSI-GRIPS
4. T-15 TRANSFORMER (Epoxy-filled and Full-Shielding)
4a. PLASTIC CLIP, MALE CONNECTOR and FERRULE
5. BACK-MATCHED TRANSFORMER TAP (refer to Table A)

EVERYTHING YOU NEED for SINGLE HOUSE-DROP in ONE PACKAGE

WE SHIP WITHIN 24 HOURS!

TABLE A

BACK-MATCHED TRANSFORMER TAPS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Craftsmen Order Number</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Insertion Loss</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>304-12</td>
<td>12 db</td>
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</tr>
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<td>304-30</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>304-36</td>
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<tr>
<td>304-40</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>304-50</td>
<td>50 db</td>
<td>0.10 db</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BE SURE TO STATE BOTH ORDER NUMBERS AS SHOWN ON CHARTS
(For ex: Order #201/304-20)

THE PIONEER CATV ACCESSORY MANUFACTURER

WRITE TODAY for complete catalog and price lists . . .

CRAFTSMAN ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS, INC.
133 WEST SENECA ST.
MANLIUS, N.Y. 13104
Area Code 315
Phone Overbrook 3-9105

Table B

PRESSURE TAP BLOCKS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type Cable</th>
<th>Construction</th>
<th>O.D. of Cable</th>
<th>Order No.</th>
</tr>
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<td>.407</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DSSJ</td>
<td>.465</td>
<td>201</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strip-Braid</td>
<td>SSSJ</td>
<td>.465</td>
<td>201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>308/408</td>
<td>DSSJ</td>
<td>.465</td>
<td>201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aluminum</td>
<td>Unjacketed</td>
<td>.412</td>
<td>202</td>
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<tr>
<td>.412 O. D.</td>
<td>Jacketed</td>
<td>.480</td>
<td>203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corrugated CF180 Cables</td>
<td>Jacketed</td>
<td>.480</td>
<td>203</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PLASTIC CLIP, MALE CONNECTOR and FERRULE SUPPLIED

www.americanradiohistory.com
WE COULD CUT COST

But...if We Did...You Wouldn't Have SKL Q

The SKL Model 263 Line Extension Amplifier is a new high output, transistorized amplifier with full 12-channel bandwidth. It is designed for use as a line extension amplifier in any wide-band distribution system. The nominal gain is 22 db at 216 mc, with a 7 db slope across the 54 to 216 mc band. Manual gain and tilt controls complete the compensation for the average cable losses encountered in feeder lines. Low noise and cross-modulation allow the Model 263 to be used even at the most remote ends of a distribution system. AC cable powering provides flexibility in designing new and in extending or updating existing distribution systems. The unit is housed in a rugged, waterproof, cast aluminum box with a captive cover, and may be mounted on the messenger or on a pole.
SKL MODEL 263
TRANSISTOR
WIDE-BAND
LINE EXTENSION
AMPLIFIER

R N E R S...  
Quality and Reliability

SKL 263 TRANSISTOR WIDE-BAND LINE EXTENSION AMPLIFIER

FEATURES:
- 12-Channel Bandwidth
- Built-In Cable Compensation
- Gain and Tilt Controls
- High Output Capability
- High Return Loss
- AC Cable Powering

Call or write for SKL Model 263 Product Data Sheet containing complete specifications and the SKL Short Form Catalog describing all SKL Cable Television System Equipment and Services.

SPENCER-KENNEDY LABORATORIES, INC.
1320 SOLDIERS FIELD ROAD • BOSTON, MASS. 02135 • TEL. 617-254-5400

www.americanradiohistory.com
ANALYSIS: New FCC Rules

By Grover C. Cooper

I. CARRIAGE OF THE LOCAL SIGNAL

Generally speaking, a microwave supplied CATV must carry the signals of all stations within whose Grade A or B contour the CATV is located. However, the Commission recognizes that this requirement could result in a CATV carrying several substantially duplicating signals from networks in nearby markets, with the consequent exclusion of signals from more distant independent and educational stations. This is particularly true in the case of narrow band CATVs—CATVs capable of carrying only about five signals.

Therefore, recognizing the limited channel capacity of many CATV systems, the new rules provide that a microwave-fed CATV need not carry a particular television station's signal if (1) that signal "substantially duplicates" the network programming of a signal of a higher grade; and (2) carriage of that signal would—because of the limited channel capacity of the CATV—prevent the CATV from carrying a non-network signal which would contribute to the CATV's diversity of service.

II. NON-DUPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Stations which are carried on a microwave supplied CATV system (by virtue of the carriage requirements above), which CATV system is located within the station's or station's Grade A or B contour are entitled to non-duplication program protection as follows:

1. As to its network programming, a station is entitled to non-duplication protection on the CATV unless one or more other stations which "substantially duplicate" its network programming place an equal or higher grade signal over the CATV.

The purpose of this non-duplication protection is to preserve a station's exclusivity of network programming, but only where the station actually has exclusivity; if the station already receives duplication of its network signal from another source (with an equal or better signal), then it does not have this exclusivity, and therefore is not entitled to network program protection from the CATV.

2. As to its non-network programming, a station is entitled to non-duplication protection so long as no other station, located in another market, places an equal or higher grade signal over the CATV. In other words, if any station, operating in another market, places an equal or higher grade signal over the CATV, then the CATV will be entitled to carry programs which duplicate the first station's signals—irrespective of where the duplicating signals are obtained.

An example may make this clear: Assume two cities, A and B, are located in separate markets some 80 miles apart and that each city has one operating television station. Assume that there is some overlap of the Grade B signals of these two stations. Assuming no other stations anywhere in the area, the stations in both cities are entitled to non-duplication protection of their non-network programming within their service contours, except in the area enclosed within the overlap of their Grade B contours. Within this overlap area, neither the City A nor City B television station has exclusivity vis-a-vis one another, hence they are not entitled to duplication protection from the CATV. A CATV located in this overlap area will be permitted to duplicate the non-network programming carried by either station through its carriage of some distant city's TV signal.

The apparent rationale here is to offer minimum disturbance to a CATV's operation "between markets" and to only offer complete non-duplication protection where a particular station enjoys present exclusivity versus other television stations in other markets. The tendency is to protect the isolated TV station in a sparsely populated area, which stations claim to need protection within their entire service areas. It also tends to protect CATV's in areas such as Central New York where the CATV's are covered by a great number of Grade B signals from various different markets, the cumulative effect of which would, without the duplication exemption, substantially deprive the CATV of the opportunity of carrying independent non-network programs.

III. EXCEPTIONS

The non-duplication protection will be provided to stations for a period of 15 days before and after such stations carry the particular programs entitled to protection. However

1. A CATV need not delete reception of a network program if in so doing it would leave available for subscribers less than two network programs including those stations whose signals are being carried and whose exclusivity is being protected by the CATV.

2. A CATV need not delete reception of a network program which is broadcast by the network between the hours of 6:00 and 11:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, but is broadcast by the station requesting deletion, in whole or in part, outside the period which would be considered prime time for network programming for the zone involved.

1 "Substantially duplicates" here means that the lower grade signal duplicates the network programming of the higher grade signal a total of 14 hours or more in the 6:00 to 11:00 p.m. period of a normal broadcast week.

2 Grade A is higher than Grade B and a city grade signal is higher than Grade A.

3 See Footnote 1.

4 For example, if the area where the CATV is located is covered by two Grade A NBC signals, then the CATV does not have to offer non-duplication protection to the NBC programs of either station; the CATV is entitled to bring in NBC programming from any distant location it wishes.

5 Thus, for example, "Shindig" is an ABC program scheduled for 8:30 p.m. EST. This program could not be delayed until 11:30 p.m. (prime-time) or until the next afternoon (prime-time) and still be entitled to protection from duplication. If it were broadcast the next night at prime-time it would be entitled to protection. Indeed, in the central time zone, "Shindig" (a one hour show) could not even be delayed until 9:30 CST and demand protection since it would extend beyond 10:00 CST and this would be partially outside of central time zone time.

(Caveat: The question of what is prime time in a given area is subject to some debate.)
If you’re buying a “turn-key” CATV system, make them prove you’re getting Plastoid welded aluminum sheath co-ax; it’s stronger than seamless!

It's the same whether you buy or build. If something should go wrong later, recourse can be difficult indeed. So you want to start with the very best.

With Plastoid welded aluminum sheath co-ax, you get the ultimate in strength and lasting performance. We're years ahead in cable-making. Plastoid bends precision rolled aluminum strip into a uniformly concentric sheath, then welds it together by means of UHF-radio frequencies. This way we avoid crystalizing the metal grain structure, avoid the pushing and pulling that goes with making seamless cable and that makes for thin spots, thick spots—points of potential breakage.

Plastoid's UHF weld is actually stronger than the metal in the rest of the sheath; yet the seam is the same thickness as the wall.

Further, the exclusive Plastoid manufacturing process permits unequalled lengths—up to a mile for our TA-5 half-inch trunks and TA-4 .412-inch feeders, 2,000 feet for TA-8 three-quarter inch head-end cable. Less need for splicing where moisture can penetrate, radiation leak out.

As color TV comes in, you owe it to yourself to know that your CATV system is built for technical stability. Whether you are buying a “turn-key" system, or building your own, we will be glad to provide you with complete information about the finest aluminum sheath cable made today. It's UHF-welded. It's by Plastoid. Exclusively. Write, wire or call us today.
3. The CATV need not delete reception of a program or event as to which the time of presentation is of special significance (e.g. speech of the President), except where the program is being simultaneously broadcast by a station entitled to protection. In other words, if a station, otherwise entitled to protection chooses not to carry a rocket launch or a presidential address "live" — preferring to present it later in prime time — then the CATV can carry the event.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Of considerable practical importance is the fact that the broadcaster, the television station, has the burden of providing notice to the CATV about the programs not to be duplicated. This notice must specify the "program to be protected and the program against which he desires protection." (First Report and Order at pp. 66-67)

The station requesting protection must set forth "the date and time of its broadcast of the program and the date and time of the broadcast to be deleted as soon as possible and in any event no later than 48 hours prior to the broadcast to be deleted." (Rules 21.712(f)) In view of the complex priorities and exemptions, this notice will be quite difficult to figure out.

2. All applications subject to Section 21.712 of the rules (applications for initial grants, modifications, assignments and transfers and renewals of microwave systems) shall contain a statement that each CATV to be served, notified all television station licensees and permittees within whose Grade A or B contour the CATV will operate that (1) the application was filed and (2) the CATV will abide by the rules adopted in this proceeding.

The television stations to be notified may be determined based on their predicted contours (on file with the FCC). For other purposes, however, e.g. determining what stations are to be carried, any party is free to make a showing that because of terrain or other factors the actual contours lie elsewhere. Indeed, it is even suggested that notwithstanding the presence of equal designated contours over a CATV area, for example, two Grade As, that one station may be able to show it has a "materially" better Grade A signal, hence entitled that station to a carriage or non-duplication priority over the other station. This concept of gradations of signal strengths within a TV station's service area will probably be determined on an ad hoc basis, after hearing, and promises to be a fertile area for confusion and misunderstanding.

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News in Your Own Backyard

By Leonard Gregory

Cable operators — like most businessmen — are missing a real promotion opportunity by failing to develop a good working relationship with their hometown newspaper.

After the initial splurge of advertising that accompanies the opening of a new system, many cable operators settle down to a rather monotonous advertising program and completely ignore the many opportunities to get releases into the news columns of the paper.

"Sure, the paper ran some stuff when we opened up," the average manager may say, "but that publisher is not going to keep on giving us a lot of space free."

That depends on what you offer him. If it's NEWS, and it's handled right, the newspaper is more than eager to give it good coverage. But make sure it is NEWS, not just a lot of advertising with the words, News Release, underlined up in the top left corner of the sheet. Nothing infuriates a publisher more than a lot of not-so-subtle advertising passed on to him as news. He considers it an insult to his intelligence — which it is.

You can find good news stories regularly right in your own operation. What about the technician who goes to a special school, the employee you promote, the new employee hired, the addition of new equipment or service, the expansion into an area previously not served, your election to a post in your state association? Think about it a little, and you can add a dozen possibilities to this list.

A good feature story will get the editor on your side in a hurry. One small-town system manager in Kentucky did a feature on his office receptionist's visit to the antenna tower which overlooked the town. The road to the tower was a quagmire and hardly anyone in the community had ever been near it. The readers followed her every step from the base of the hill to inside the tower shack. For days, people in the community were still mentioning the story to her.

Okay, so you now have the ideas. You get the stories written, and maybe you even have some pictures. What now?

First, get your copy in good shape for the editor. Give it at least an inch and a half of margin on the left side of the sheet and roughly the same on the right side. Leave approximately three to four inches of space at the top of the first page. This leaves the editor plenty of room for writing the headline and for any "blue-penciling" on the margins. Of course, your copy should always be double-spaced.

When you turn in your release to the editor, simply mention that you have a news item you hope he can use. Don't tell him how to use it or where. If you flip it on his desk with the order to put it on the front page, you can be sure that it will be buried on page nine — if it even makes the paper at all. And please don't tell him to run it exactly as you have written it. Tell him this and he'll chop the heck out of it just to remind you that he has that right and privilege. It is his newspaper, remember.

One more thing. News releases should be in addition to your regular advertising, not a replacement for it. No newspaperman is going to look favorably on your releases if it means a cutback in his share of your advertising budget. Instead, it would be a good idea to increase your advertising expenditures — and reap the rewards of a better advertising and promotional relationship with your newspaper.
It will take you 117 seconds to read this booklet. It took us 8 years to write it.

We started writing this booklet when we started operating our first cable system back in 1957.

Even then, we knew a sound CATV system depended on more than just the equipment. So, instead of basing our outlook on just nuts, bolts and wires, we took the broader approach. We delved into franchise procurement, feasibility research, engineering, construction, financing, sales promotion, as well as personnel training and management. These are areas in which TeleSystems serves CATV operators. And you'll find all of our services outlined in this brief little booklet, called "Scope."

Today, when someone wants the broad picture on CATV, he comes to TeleSystems. Or, he fills out this coupon, and we come to him.
NEW CONCEPT: HOME VTR

A new concept in home entertainment has been developed by Ampex Corporation. The concept is a home video tape recorder that will record televised programs or originate taped programs.

Application of this new concept for community antenna television systems is practically unlimited. It can be used to record network or local programs for showing at a later time (a procedure very common in the television broadcast field). With an inexpensive television camera, the recorder can be used to record city council meetings, style shows, local talent shows, editorials, etc.

The VTR will have two-speed configuration. At higher tape speed (9.6 inches per second) the recorder will produce high quality pictures that are compatible with future color recorders. At the slower speed (4.8 inches per second) it produces high quality black and white pictures.

The one-inch tape on a 9½ inch reel will record up to two hours of programming at the slower speed. Tapes can be retained as a permanent record or erased and re-used.

Ampex's home table-top model video tape recorder is approximately the size of a conventional audio recorder. It can be connected to any home television receiver with special connection components. The components will cost approximately $25 installed.

Four furniture console models are available. These include the recorder, a television camera, a television receiver and related accessories. The basic table-top unit will sell for $1,095 in a single-speed model. Two-speed model will cost $1,295.

Furniture console systems with necessary equipment to record in the home start at $1,795. They range up to $2,495. Tape for recording costs $64.95 for a 9½ inch reel.

William E. Roberts, Ampex President, claims the Ampex home recording concept "will be the leader in a broad new field of home entertainment."
THE CATV INDUSTRY
Its History, Nature and Scope

By Robert D. L'Heureux
NCTA Legal Counsel

PART VI: CONCLUSION

Attempts at Compromise on Legislation

The CATV industry has frankly stated to the Commission in its Further Comments in Opposition to Proposed Rule Making in Dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233 that it is not opposed in the case of applications for microwave to serve CATV systems to the Commission proceeding to determine whether there is a serious adverse economic impact on a truly local television station on a case by case basis. In fact the National Community Television Association, which is the spokesman for 640 CATV systems serving about 90 percent of the homes which receive television signals via CATV systems, concluded its "Further Comments" as follows:

"It is obvious from the data presented above that there is no crying need for the protection of local broadcast stations. History has shown that CATV systems have not had a discernible, adverse economic impact upon local television stations. Because only a small number of CATV systems which are served by microwave will be significantly affected by the proposed rules, the purposes of the Commission will be thwarted.

"There were very few conflicts between local broadcasters and CATV operators in the past, and there have been no claims that a CATV system has caused the demise of a television station in the past five years. The solution of these problems should be generally left to the arm's-length negotiations between broadcasters and CATV operators. Should a local television broadcaster feel that he is aggrieved by the presence of a CATV system, which is served by microwave or applying for microwave service, the Commission should allow the broadcaster to present evidence on a case-by-case basis in an attempt to prove that the CATV system is having a substantial, adverse economic impact upon his TV station, to the extent that there is injury to the public interest present. If a strong prima facie case to that effect is presented to the Commission, the Commission should allow interim relief with periodic reviews of the effect which this relief is having upon the financial position of the broadcaster and the CATV operator. When relief is given on a case-by-case basis, even in a case not involving interim relief, this type of periodic review should be afforded to the parties involved. In any event, the Commission should proceed with its remedy, making use of a scalpel, rather than an axe. It should attempt reception of the complaining station on the CATV system and simultaneous non-duplication only, until it is assured through a reasonable trial period, that a more drastic remedy is required.

"A remedy should never be given in a final judgment, except upon clear, convincing and strong evidence that the alleged economic impact has taken place, and that the public is injured thereby. Any other disposition by the Commission will result in tampering with the public's jealously guarded and highly prized right to select the television channels of its choice. If the Commission deals lightly with this right, the public response will be overwhelming and will make enforcement of the rules impossible. Finally, the Commission will involve itself in a veritable maze of hearings and court actions if it attempts to enforce rules which are not strictly patterned to the demands of the particular situations involved.

"A case-by-case approach is the only reasonable answer to the problem. Accordingly NCTA exhorts the Commission to terminate the proposed rulemaking in the above-captioned dockets, and to refrain from issuing rules restricting the right of applicants for microwave service designed to serve CATV systems. Instead, the Commission is respectfully requested to announce that when a protest to such an application is made, and a strong prima facie case is presented which tends to prove that a CATV system which is receiving or requesting microwave service is having a substantial adverse economic impact upon a broadcaster, and that the public will suffer from the grant of the microwave license, then the Commission will order a hearing and determine the facts."

Although the CATV industry is satisfied that the case-by-case approach is all, if anything, that is required under existing circumstances, it has shown its willingness to cooperate fully with the Federal Communications Commission and the National Association of Broadcasters to arrive at a mutually satisfactory agreement to lodge additional authority in the Commission through legislation. For a period of about 18 months representatives of the National Community Television Association met with staff members and Commissioners of the Federal Communications Commission to discuss such legislative proposals.

The NAB Television Board on January 25, 1965, in Palm Springs, California, rejected the basic principles worked out by its special panel with the panel appointed by the NCTA with respect to provisions which should be included in Federal legislation for the regulation of CATV systems. This is the second time that the tentative agreements on basic understandings reached by the NAB panel and the NCTA panel failed to come to fruition.77

A summary of the latest basic understandings rejected by the NAB is as follows:

"I. DEFINITIONS

"(h) 'Common carrier' or 'car-

---

77 An earlier version was disapproved in December 1964 by the Future of Television in America Committee, a committee of the NAB to which the NAB panel had to report.

TV & COMMUNICATIONS 35
"III. LOCAL STATION — For the Purpose of Protection

(a) The CATV will not duplicate the programming of any co-located station.

(b) If there are co-located stations and Grade A signals, the CATV need not protect against the Grade A signals.

(c) Where there are no co-located stations, Grade A signals are protected against incoming Grade B but not against each other.

(d) Where there are no co-located stations or Grade A signals and only one Grade B signal, the CATV will not duplicate the programming of that station. Multiple Grade B signals, however, are not entitled to any protection from duplication.

IV. EXTENT OF PROTECTION

The statute will provide that those television stations entitled to protection under III shall:

(1) Upon request by the station to the CATV be entitled to protection against simultaneous duplication of its programs by means of the CATV.

(2) The Commission shall have authority after hearings on a case-by-case basis to provide for additional protection to the station as the Commission may find to be required in the public interest. The burden of showing the need for such additional protections shall be on the broadcaster except in those cases where CATV proposes to bring in distant stations when the burden of proceeding with the evidence of public need shall be on the community antenna proposing to receive the distant station.

(3) In those cases where CATV desires to receive independent stations it must receive those closest to it in the order of their geographical proximity to the CATV. For the purpose of this requirement an independent station is defined as a non-network station in a market containing four or more stations. The CATV may request permission from the Commission to adopt some other order of selection of independent stations and the Commission may, with due regard to local and regional stations grant such request if it finds the public interest would be served.

V. PROGRAM ORIGINATIONS

A CATV system is limited to the receipt and simultaneous distribution of broadcast signals with the exception of automatic time and weather service. Any other type of program distribution would require a license from the Commission on a finding of public interest, convenience and necessity.

VI. ENGINEERING STANDARDS

The Commission would have the power to establish standards of good engineering practice for CATV systems. These would encompass questions of degradation standards of color, adjacent channel reception, etc.

VII. ENFORCEMENT PROVISIONS

The legislation shall contain appropriate provisions for enforcement.

There was inadvertently omitted from the memorandum on the basic understandings a definition of a distant station. A distant station would be defined as one which could not be picked up and distributed directly off the air (at the CATV head-end) or within its Grade B contour. Additionally, under Extent of Protection, the statute would also provide that local agreements shall control. This was omitted from the summary because it was believed to be unnecessary. This for the reason that if there is a local agreement, there would be no objection on the part of the broadcaster and, hence, nothing to submit to the Commission for resolution. However, for the sake of clarity, there would be no objection to it being specifically set forth.

Also, there was an agreement between the NAB and NCTA panels that CATV systems with 5-channel capacity or less would be grandfathered in with respect to their present reception practices provided these remained unchanged.

Conversely, the NCTA Board on January 25, 1965, approved reluctantly in Dallas, Texas, the basic understandings worked out by the NAB and NCTA panels in the following unanimous resolution:

"Whereas it is the sense of the Board of Directors of the National Community Television Association that its legislative negotiating Committee which met with the subcommittee of the Future of Television in America Committee of the National Association of Broadcasters has performed an outstanding service to the television industry in reaching an understanding on CATV legislative proposals with the NAB subcommittee and has presented such understanding with a full

78 The NCTA stated: "These reflect the understandings arrived at between the NCTA and NAB subcommittees. It should be pointed out that the language used is designed to reflect understandings only and should be read from that point of view."
and detailed oral explanation of the compromises to which it reluctantly agreed.

"Now, therefore, be it resolved that in the event the Board of Directors of the NAB agrees to such understanding in accordance with the NCTA committee's explanation of intent, the NCTA negotiating committee is authorized to work with the FCC and others in the drafting of legislation implementing the understanding in the public interest — upon the completion of which the draft legislation should be resubmitted to the NCTA Board for its concurrence.

"In the event the Board of Directors of the NAB will not agree to the above understanding the committee is authorized to inform the FCC and to resume discussions with it looking toward, at this session of Congress, legislation on CATV designed to best serve the public interest."

The NAB Television Board has stated its disagreement with the understanding upon simultaneous nonduplication by rule making.

Commenting upon these actions of the respective Association Boards, the President of NCTA, Mr. Frederick W. Ford79 on January 27, 1965, stated that the NAB Television Board had introduced "major changes" in the legislative understandings previously agreed to by NCTA and NAB Committees, which "in effect vitiate the understandings."

"The changes," Mr. Ford said, "unnecessarily and injuriously penalize community antenna television (CATV) systems with no corresponding benefit to local television stations.

"In approving its basic principles for CATV legislation, NAB's TV Board made a basic change in the committee's understandings. The committees had agreed to give protection to local television stations against simultaneous duplication of their programs by other stations received on CATV systems. The TV Board changed this to give protection against duplication for 15 days before and after a program appeared on a local station.

"We consider this action by the TV Board a rejection of the understandings so long and laboriously worked out by the subcommittees," Mr Ford said. "NCTA agreement to the legislative proposals was predicated on the simultaneous duplication protection as written in the understandings approved by the NCTA and NAB committees.

79 Mr. Ford, former Chairman and member of the FCC, resigned from the Commission on December 31, 1964. He assumed office as President of NCTA on January 1, 1965.
provisions for the Federal regulation of CATV systems.

The broadcaster cannot fail to pay heed to the sound advice of the legislator who spearheaded the drive to prevent the Commission from enacting rules with respect to the length or content of commercial Radio-Television Daily of June 16, 1964, carried the following news item:

"Broadcasters who seek Congressional help against the inroads of Community Antenna TV, are flouting with 'complete governmental control,' Georgia broadcasters attending their 29th annual convention were told yesterday, by Congressman Walter Rogers (D., Texas), chairman of the House Communications Sub. Committee.

"There are great changes ahead in broadcasting but your biggest problem with dealing with community antenna systems won't be solved through Congressional protection. On the contrary if Congress starts to protect it, complete control of your business will follow. Better work out your own problems with antenna operators without seeking government intercession," he said.

CATV operators have taken to heart the wise advice contained in the Georgetown Law Journal in the Fall of 1963, as follows:

"Another alternative would be additional congressional enactment, modifying the Federal Communications Act. Such a modification could well provide the most desirable solution to the CATV problem. It could, in the first place, avoid the necessity of resorting to a liberal (and questionable) construction of the existing act. Secondly, it could provide the first clear set of detailed guidelines for governing CATV activity.

A properly drafted enactment would avoid giving the FCC blanket control over CATV. The FCC should be empowered to intervene only when a local station has met the burden of proof in showing that irreparable harm will be done to the public interest unless a CATV system is limited in its operation. Irreparable harm to the public interest might be shown if a CATV caused undue interference with reception of the signal of a local station. In any event, where irreparable harm to the public interest is found, the Commission should be empowered to issue cease-and-desist orders, in the first instance, and if necessary, through court action.

"Any congressional enactment should state specifically that the 'end-use' test, as applied in Carter Mountain, is not a valid means of determining whether or not an applicant should receive a common carrier microwave license. There is no more reason to hold a common carrier employing microwave responsible for the end-use of what it carries than there is to hold American Telephone and Telegraph Company or Western Union (also common carriers) responsible for the use made of information they carry.

"Finally, any legislation on CATV should be made pre-emptive. A carefully drafted bill ought to indicate this clearly, in order to end the present confusion. Unless such pre-emption is established, there is a danger that friction will develop between the FCC and the state utility commissions over authority to control CATV."

"Considering the fate of recent legislative proposals, it is questionable whether enough interest can be generated in Congress in the near future to pass a bill which would be satisfactory to all interested parties. Nevertheless, legislation on CATV stands as the most promising of the solutions discussed here. CATV operators would do well to consider the dangers inherent in allowing the present regulatory vacuum to be filled without their consultation and advice."

82 A serious attempt to control CATV systems was made by the Public Utility Commission of Wyoming in the Matter of Coequile Radio & Elec. Co., Wyoming Public Serv. Comm's decision of Feb. 19, 1954, 11 P. & F. Radio Reg. 2121, which affirmed the prior holding since CATV systems were not engaged in 'broadcasting.' In overruling this decision the court found that CATV was not a public utility, and that CATV systems were engaged in interstate commerce. The Wyoming Commission decided it had jurisdiction and that the Federal government had not pre-empted the field. The issue was raised again in the Matter of Community TV Sys. of Wyoming, Wyoming Public Serv. Comm's decision of May 28, 1956, 17 P. & F. Radio Reg. 2121, which affirmed the prior holding since CATV systems were not engaged in 'broadcasting.' In overruling this decision the court found that CATV was not a public utility, and that CATV systems were engaged in interstate commerce.

83 Note -- Community Antenna Television: Survey of a Regulatory Problem by John C. Palmer, Jr., James R. Smith and Edwin L. Wade, the Georgetown Law Journal, Vol. 22, No. 1, Fall, 1963, pps. 175 and 176. While the author of this article is not in 100% agreement with all the conclusions of this 49-page Note, the reader is urged to read it. It is the best and most complete treatment up to this time of the legal considerations applicable to the industry.
A major slice of your total investment in a cable system goes into the tower, antenna hardware and installation. This is understandable, since a community antenna system is only as good as its antennas and supporting structure. Consequently, you cannot afford to take any chances with the dependability of your receiving antennas.

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CATV = QUANTITY + QUALITY DIFFERENTIAL

By Jim E. Davidson

In CATV, we are selling a differential! By this we mean the difference between what the viewer can receive on his home antenna and what we are able to deliver on the cable.

We are talking primarily in terms of both quality and quantity, however there are other plus features that make CATV attractive to the viewer, such as (1) ease of tuning, (2) multiple outlet feature, (3) elimination of lightning hazards, (4) elimination of unsightly roof top installation and (5) elimination of antenna maintenance.

We have learned that the viewer demands multiple channel television, music and FM services. Let's take a hypothetical situation. Suppose we are in a metropolitan market that has four television stations, three network and one educational. If we bring in two additional channels from outside the city we would no doubt be duplicating much of the existing programming and it is doubtful that this differential of two would be sufficient to make this system economically feasible. On the other hand if we would bring in two independent stations, a weather channel, two stereo FM channels, a music service channel and background music in addition to the four local channels our differential would then be seven.

In another situation a differential of two was quite feasible and result in 100% saturation of hookups. The big difference was that the people in this community received no television at all! Thus, when we delivered them two channels, our service was the difference between absolutely nothing and two good channels. The more off-air television available on home antennas, the larger our differential number must be.

The one big advantage of CATV that is seldom discussed is the ease of tuning for the viewer, without a complex array of UHF and VHF antennas, rotors, etc. This was graphically proven to us when we did a feasibility analysis for one of our customers in a city with seven good off-air signals. Within the homes that had elaborate UHF-VHF antenna installations with rotor, etc., these seven channels came in good. The more modest installations were happy with two or three channels. When interrogated, they stated that it was either too much trouble or too expensive to try to receive all of the U's and V's. When we installed our system we made it easy for them to tune all seven channels, and the system has been quite successful.

Here is an area that was in the A/B coverage of three UHF stations, plus the V's and only about 10% of the families watched UHF prior to the CATV installation.

In view of all of these facts, it is our contention that (a) CATV is feasible in large metropolitan areas and (b) that UHF stations will be enhanced by the existence of CATV.

There are many other aspects that need to be considered when planning a system in either a small town or a large city. But, the key to the success or failure of a CATV system will be determined primarily by the differential.
FREE LISTING FOR ALL U.S. AND CANADIAN SYSTEMS

All U.S. and Canadian community antenna systems will be listed without charge in the TV & Communications 1966 Annual CATV Directory. System owners and managers are requested to fill out the form on this page and return it to TV & Communications. This will assure complete and accurate listings for your operations. Complete a separate questionnaire form for each cable operation—additional forms are available from the address shown below. Co-operation in obtaining completely accurate and up-to-date information for the Systems section of the CATV Directory will be appreciated. This publication will be the only all-CATV directory . . . prepared by the staff of the only all-CATV magazines. With your assistance, the 1966 Annual CATV Directory will be the most comprehensive and useful CATV reference book available.

CATV SYSTEM DIRECTORY QUESTIONNAIRE

Firm name

Mailing address

Phone number

City & state

Area served by system if other than city shown above

System owners and/or officers

System manager System chief engineer

Affiliated systems and/or parent company (for multiple ownership cross-reference)

Present number of subscribers: Potential subscribers (estimated): Total number of homes in area served: Month and year system began operation: 19___

Total number of TV channels carried: Educational channels included: Number of radio signals carried (FM) (AM) Is weather/time service carried?

Other locally originated services presently offered

Channel capability of plant Number of miles of plant at present Additional miles planned Brands of equipment used

Number of signals via microwave

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CATV TECHNICIAN

- Envelope Delay in CATV Systems
- Automatic Gain Control Requirements
- Newest CATV Equipment
ENVELOPE DELAY IN CATV SYSTEMS

G. Rogeness, Ameco, Inc.

Black and white TV pictures produced by signals at the output of long CATV system cascades have a loss of crispness or sharpness compared to "off the air" reception pictures. Low band channels appear to be more affected than high band channels. This picture quality exists even though the cascade amplitude response is adjusted for optimum, the signal to noise ratio is high enough for good quality pictures, and cross modulation products are below the required values. There must therefore exist properties of the CATV transmission which affect picture quality other than those mentioned above. One of these properties is the envelope delay or group delay characteristic of the transmission system. As longer cascades are built, and as CATV systems are required to compete with off the air reception the effects of envelope delay between CATV antenna and home receiver must be considered.

DEFINITION OF ENVELOPE DELAY

Envelope Delay is defined as the rate of change of phase shift with respect to frequency. Another way of saying the same thing is that envelope delay is the incremental slope of the phase shift versus frequency curve of the transmission system. Envelope delay is also synonymous with group delay.

Consider the characteristics of an ideal transmission system (Figure 1). The amplitude response is flat over the frequency range of interest or passband of the system, and the phase response varies linearly with respect to frequency in the passband. In the discussion that follows, the system response is always referring to transmission characteristics of a single TV channel.

![Diagram](https://via.placeholder.com/150)

**FIGURE 1**

**AMPLITUDE AND PHASE RESPONSE OF IDEAL SYSTEM**

![Diagram](https://via.placeholder.com/150)

**FIGURE 2**

**PHASE AND DELAY CHARACTERISTIC OF IDEAL SYSTEM**

**FIGURE 3**

Envelope delay of an ideal system will be constant with frequency since the slope of the phase characteristic is constant with frequency. This is shown in Figure 2. When applied to the input of an ideal transmission system, a pulse or any other signal whose frequency spectrum is within the bandwidth of the system, will appear at the output as an exact replica of the input delayed in time. This is shown in Figure 3. In terms of a TV picture signal, this means that the identical picture viewed on a TV set at the transmission system input would be viewed at the output but at a later point in time. The difference in time being equal to the delay of the transmission system.

Deviations from the ideal characteristics represent distortion, or in other words, the signal out of the system will not be an exact reproduction of the signal into the system. By specifying the system envelope delay, the phase characteristic of the system is defined. Envelope delay is a sensitive indicator of phase distortion since it measures the rate of change of phase shift with respect to frequency.

The quantities time delay and envelope delay are often confused. The difference between envelope delay and time delay is shown in Figure 4. Time delay is defined as phase shift divided by frequency whereas envelope delay is the rate of change of phase shift with respect to frequency.

Deviations of phase response from the ideal characteristic can usually be
described by two types of distortion. One is a slow or gradual deviation from linearity over the passband, and the second is rapid variations of small amplitude over a narrow band of frequencies. Envelope delay characterizes both types of phase non-linearities. The slow deviation from linearity is shown in Figure 5 as the dotted line.

EFFECTS OF ENVELOPE DELAY DISTORTION

As a first example of delay distortion consider a pulse applied to a system whose delay characteristic is shown in Figure 6a. The information contained in the input pulse has been distorted and appears as the waveform in Figure 6c. This effect in itself is serious enough. Consider next what happens if two pulses are applied to the same system as shown in Figure 7a. Note that the information to be transmitted in the form of the smaller pulse is masked out by the distortion of the larger amplitude pulse (Figure 7b). Comparison of the input and output composite waveform sketches shows this.

It is difficult to mathematically describe the phase response of a practical system, since phase distortion will many times not be a simple function. The effects of sinusoidal deviations from linear phase have been considered elsewhere. The amplitude and frequency of the sinusoidal deviations both affect high fidelity pulse transmission by introducing echoes of the pulse being transmitted. The amplitude and time relationship of the echoes with respect to the main pulse depend upon the amplitude and frequency of the sinusoidal phase deviation. In addition to the pulse distortion shown in Figure 7, the echoes due to the steady-state phase transmission characteristic produce picture distortion similar to that produced by impedance mismatch reflections. A detailed discussion of the paired echo theory, which explains the generation of echoes due to response irregularities, is referred to in the references cited.

A third example of delay distortion is now described by expanding the description given in reference 6. Assume that three sinusoidal signals of equal amplitude and frequencies f, 2f, and 3f are applied to a TV picture tube in the time relation shown in Figure 8. The resulting pattern due to the sum of the three signals is shown in Figure 8c.
Now assume that each of the three signals does not reach the picture tube at the same time. The pattern on the tube will then be that shown in Figure 9c for the assumed delay distortion. A comparison of the desired test pattern and the test pattern affected by delay distortion is shown in Figure 10. Note the differences.

The envelope delay response of the CATV transmission system is extremely important for the transmission of color TV signals. The color TV signal is composed of the luminance signal which contains brightness information and the chrominance signal, which contains the color information. The luminance and chrominance signals are transmitted in different portions of the single channel frequency spectrum. Both signals must arrive at the color tube at the same time to produce the desired color picture. If the chrominance signal is delayed with respect to the luminance signal, picture distortion known as the "funny paper effect" occurs. That is, color of the image is displaced to the right or left of the image and does not appear on the tube coincident in time with the brightness information.

Delay distortion will affect the transmission of both black and white and color TV pictures. To perfect the CATV transmission system, the sources of delay distortion must be determined and then altered to provide highest fidelity TV picture transmission.

**SOURCES OF ENVELOPE DISTORTION IN THE TV TRANSMISSION SYSTEM**

Sources of delay distortion are shown in Figure 11. For the American compatible color system, the FCC requires that the color signal transmitted have the envelope delay characteristic shown in Figure 12. The transmitter envelope delay characteristic is shaped such that when combined with the delay response of the home receiver, the overall delay characteristic required to produce a good color picture results. The transmitter envelope delay response is specified to allow the manufacturers of home receivers to set tolerances on the delay networks required in the luminance and chrominance channels.

**HEAD END EQUIPMENT**

Since the tolerances mentioned above were determined before the days of CATV, the CATV transmission system must have near perfect characteristics if it is to provide off the air type reception. Delay characteristics of cascaded systems are additive, so the delay response of the head-end equipment and amplifier cascade can be considered separately. The sum of the two are then equal to the overall CATV transmission system delay characteristic.

A demodulator-modulator head-end arrangement results in an overall delay characteristic equal to the sum of a receiver and transmitter delay response. Therefore, rules similar to those which govern the station transmitter-home receiver delay characteristic can be applied to the design of the demodulator-modulator delay characteristic.

Head-end equipment utilizing the converter technique should incorporate phase equalizers to insure that the correct delay response can be attained. A phase equalizer is required since the phase response of the selective circuits will cause some delay distortion.

**AMPLIFIER CASCADE**

Assuming that the head-end equipment has the desired envelope delay response, the delay response of the amplifier cascade remains to be considered. The amplifier cascade consists of low loss coaxial cable and equalized repeater amplifiers.

**DELAY CHARACTERISTIC OF LOW LOSS COAXIAL CABLE**

Delay distortion due to low loss coaxial cable is negligible for a single TV channel. This is shown by first
The complex propagation constant of a transmission line is given by:
\[ \gamma = (R + jwL) (G + jwC) \] (1)

The quantity \((R + jwL)\) is the equivalent series impedance per unit length and \((G + jwC)\) is the equivalent shunt admittance per unit length. The real part of \(\gamma\) is the attenuation constant per unit length and the imaginary part is the phase constant per unit length.

For a low loss line, \(R \ll wL\) and \(G \ll wC\). Using the binomial expansion for the imaginary part of \(\gamma\) (1) becomes:

\[ B = \sqrt{wL} \frac{c}{R} \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{wL}{wR} \right) \right] \] (2)

Equation 2 is the phase shift constant of a low loss line. By taking the derivative of \(B\) with respect to \(w\), the envelope delay of the low loss cable becomes:

\[ T_d = \frac{dB}{dw} = \sqrt{wL} \frac{1}{R} \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{wL}{wR} \right)^2 \right] \] (3)

Note that this term is not independent of frequency and therefore all frequencies are not delayed by the same amount. However, the variation in delay over a 4.5 mc bandwidth is so small that the effects of delay distortion due to the cable can be ignored. As a numerical example, equation (3) is evaluated at 54 mc and 60 mc for cable constants taken from a cable manufacturers data sheet for \(1/2^\text{"}\) aluminum sheathed 75 ohm cable.

Typical values are:
- Capacity per foot \(C = 16.5\) pf/ft
- Velocity of Propagation \(V_0 = \frac{0.82 V_0}{\sqrt{LC}} = 7.87 \times 10^6\) ft/sec
- \(V_0\) is the velocity of propagation for free space. Attenuation at 54 mc, \(\sigma = 0.006\) db/ft; at 60 mc, \(\sigma = 0.0065\) db/ft.

Using these numbers, the difference in delay at 54 mc and 60 mc becomes:

\[ T = 90.6 \times 10^{-18} \text{ seconds/foot} \]

For thirty (30) amplifier cascade of 45000 feet,

\[ T = 4.08 \times 10^{-12} \text{ seconds or } 0.08 \text{ micro-micro seconds} \]

The difference in envelope delay across the 6 mc band is so small that its effect on picture distortion is negligible.

**ENVELOPE DELAY OF REPEATER AMPLIFIER**

Envelop delay for an arbitrary equalized amplifier response is calculated and then plotted. An equalizer with a rising 6 db/octave response is used and matches the attenuation response within a db over the frequency range of 54 mc to 220 mc. The upper and lower cut-off rates of the amplifier are assumed maximally flat. The overall response of the equalizer amplifier through 18 db cable is flat within 1 db over the band from 54 to 220 mc.

The transfer function for the equalized amplifier is written as the ratio of amplifier output voltage to amplifier input voltage and is, in general form,

\[ \frac{V_{out}}{V_{in}} = \frac{1 + \frac{jw}{w_1}}{1 + \frac{jw}{w_2}} \]

For \(m = 2\) and \(w_1 = 2.34 \times 10^6\) volts per volt.

To calculate the envelope delay of this transfer function the phase response is first derived, and is:

\[ \text{Phase} = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{w_{w_1}}{w} \right) \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{w_{w_2}}{w} \right) + 90^\circ - \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{w_{w_1}}{w} \right)^m \] (5)

Taking the derivative of the phase response (equation 5) with respect to \(w\), the envelope delay is:

\[ T_d = \frac{dB}{dw} = \sqrt{wL} \frac{1}{R} \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{wL}{wR} \right)^2 \right] \]

Phase, time delay, and envelope delay were calculated as a function of frequency and plotted as shown in Figure 13. The following values were used in the calculations:

- \(w = 2 \pi f\)
- \(n = 2\)
- \(w_1 = 2 \times 49.5\) mc
- \(w_2 = 2 \times 334\) mc
- \(w_3 = 2 \times 40\) mc
- \(w_4 = 2 \times 250\) mc
- \(m = 4\)

The value of \(m\) is chosen to be greater than \(n\) because of the high frequency roll off of the amplitude response is generally faster than the low frequency roll off.

Since channel two occupies a higher percentage bandwidth than channel thirteen, it is more susceptible to delay irregularities over its passband. However, this does not necessarily mean that low band channels will be more affected by residual irregularities. Percentage bandwidth is defined as the ratio of modulation bandwidth to center frequency times 100.

![ENVELOPE DELAY TESTER](figure 14)

Referring to Figure 13, the difference in envelope delay across a 4.2 mc band in Channel 2 is 1.5 x 10^-9 seconds as in Channel 13 is 0.3 x 10^-9 seconds respectively. These magnitudes of delay difference are of little consequence for a single amplifier, but consider a thirty amplifier cascade. Envelope delay of cascaded systems is additive. Assuming an identical delay response for each amplifier as an example, the delay difference at the end of a 30 amplifier cascade at Channel 2 is 0.015 sec. This number is a large fraction of the tolerance allowed the transmitter envelope delay characteristic (refer to Figure 12) and could produce TV picture distortions.

This numerical example of delay distortion in an equalized repeater amplifier does not refer to any specific unit in use today. It is purpose to show that delay distortion can be generated in a cascade of broadband repeater amplifiers. With the knowledge that delay distortion exists in a CATV transmission system, the next step is to measure this distortion and then either remove or compensate for the distortion.

**MEASUREMENT OF ENVELOPE DELAY**

After understanding what envelope delay is and how it affects the transmission of TV pictures, the next step is to develop measurement techniques with which to evaluate the CATV
transmission system delay characteristic. When the delay distortion function has been determined by measurement, then the appropriate corrective networks can be designed and incorporated in the system. The transmission path of the CATV system begins at the CATV antenna and ends at the input to the home receiver.

A test set that will measure envelope delay is shown in Figure 14. This system is described in detail in reference 8. By interchanging balanced modulators, this test set can be used on either video circuits or RF circuits. The output of the phase detector is a measure of the incremental slope of the phase response of the system under test and this is by definition, envelope delay. By applying a sweep generator to the balanced modulator, a display on the scope of envelope delays versus frequency results. A test set designed and built at Ameco, Inc. to make laboratory measurements of envelope delay on amplifier cascades is shown in Figure 15.

The preceding test set is effective for making measurements on simulated cascades in the laboratory. However, it is not practical in the field since the input and output of the cascade are separated by great distances. One technique for field measurement could involve sending a pulse down the cascade and correlating this pulse's waveform at the end of the system to a reference wave shape. Refer to Figure 16.

Comparison of the input and output pulse will determine if delay distortion is present. A template could be made for evaluating the output pulse. This template would encompass pulse distortions caused by acceptable amounts of delay distortion. If pulse distortions were not encompassed by the template, then the system under test would be assumed to have excessive envelope delay distortion.

SUMMARY

Envelope delay has been defined and is the rate of change of the transmission system phase response with respect to frequency. An ideal transmission system requires the same envelope delay at each frequency. Deviations from the ideal envelope delay characteristic affect the transmission of TV pictures. Effects of delay distortion on black and white TV pictures are: loss of picture crispness, ringing, and ghosts. One of the most disturbing effects of delay distortion on color TV pictures is the "funny paper" effect.

Delay distortion is related to the bandpass characteristics of the transmission system. This means that both CATV head-end equipment and amplifier cascade can produce delay distortion. Only careful design of this equipment will minimize the delay distortion to an acceptable level. The use of special test equipment is required to accurately evaluate the envelope delay of the transmission system. Envelope delay characteristics of the CATV transmission system must be considered if CATV systems are to compete with off-the-air reception.

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OCTOBER 1965
AUTOMATIC GAIN CONTROL IN CATV SYSTEMS

By Irving Kuzmynsky
Entron, Incorporated

In a CATV system, two types of situations arise which necessitate the use of gain control. One is a narrow-band single-channel problem caused by signal variations at the antenna. The other is a wide-band variation in the transmission system caused by changes in either the cable or the amplifiers.

In order for a community antenna television system to function properly, it is necessary to first eliminate the variations in signal level which are normally encountered at receiving sites. Let us consider what might happen at the customer's receiver if this were not done.

ADJACENT-CHANNEL SYSTEMS

Most present day CATV systems utilize adjacent-channel transmission as a means of most efficiently carrying the maximum number of channels at a minimum cost. However, as far as the receivers are concerned, the adjacent channels are potential sources of interference. This was the reason that, in the early days of CATV, some people thought that adjacent-channel systems would not work. In order for these systems to work properly, it is necessary to accurately control the levels of the signals with respect to each other so that the receiver is able to pick out the selected signal without objectionable interference from other signals.

Once the single-channel signals are combined onto a common line, random variations of these signals would be impossible to handle. This is because the gain of the trunk amplifiers is controlled on a wide-band basis. That is, the gain is varied in a coherent manner to all channels in the amplifier passband simultaneously. With random variation of each channel's signal, cross modulation and noise problems would be encountered in the trunkline system. With some signals going up, some going down, and others remaining constant, gain control would be impossible, and the problems generated are obvious. Thus, stabilization of the antenna signals is mandatory before the signals are inserted into the trunk system.

The variation in antenna signal level is usually handled by the method shown in Figure 1. The signal is amplified in a single-channel RF amplifier. The output signal is detected and provides a DC control signal which is indicative of the output signal level. This control signal is used to vary the operating point of the intermediate stages and, by this means, the gain of the amplifier so as to maintain the output at a nearly constant predetermined level.

DELAYED AGC

Figure 2 is a plot of the output level vs. input level of a typical single-channel AGC amplifier. The amplifier being considered has a gain of 60 db. Curve A indicates that, with no AGC, there is a linear relation between input and output except for high levels where the amplifier overloads. Curves B, C, and D show that, for small signals, the output follows the input. However, once the AGC threshold is exceeded, the output remains almost constant. Thus, for proper AGC operation, a minimum signal level is required, depending on the setting of an output level control.

This is called "delayed AGC" because gain control is delayed until the threshold signal is reached. Curves B, C, and D represent different delays. The maximum allowable input level is determined by the overload characteristics of the amplifier.

Normally, the input and output stages are not varied, since varying the input stage affects noise figure and input match, and varying the output stage affects the overload level of this stage. Because of these noise and overload limitations, some other method should be used where large signal level variations exist.

Consider the block diagram shown in Figure 3. The RF input signal is amplified and detected. When the detected signal exceeds a predetermined amplitude, a relay is activated and an attenuator is inserted between the antenna and the head end equipment. When the signal decreases sufficiently, the attenuator is removed. A cascade of four such switchable attenuator sections — each section having 10 db attenuation — effectively reduces a 60 db signal swing to 20 db. This smaller swing can then be handled by the AGC arrangement previously considered.

INPUT VS. OUTPUT

Figure 4 is a typical plot of output level vs. input level for a four-section controller. "A" is a plot of output level vs. input level with no compensation and, of course, the changes in input level follow the changes in input level. The output level vs. input level is shown by "B" for increasing, and "C" for decreasing signal. At any given level, the input can vary over a 20 db range with no switching occurring. For example, at Point 1, with an input of 18 dbm, two attenuators have been switched in so that the output is 18 — 20 or —2

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As long as the input signal level remains between +10 and +30 dbmv, no switching will occur, and operation will be along the joining Points 2 and 3.

**TEMPERATURE EFFECTS**

Once the signal levels at the head end are stabilized, the signals are ready to be inserted into the transmission system. Since the signals are stabilized, why is AGC necessary in the trunkline amplifiers? To answer this question, it is necessary to look at the entire trunkline system. While the signals may be stabilized at the input to the trunkline, they will still vary in the trunkline because of changes in cable attenuation with temperature variation and because of changes in amplifier gain. While the latter factor is a matter of conjecture, the change in cable attenuation is a well-known fact and can be predicted.

If the last amplifier at the end of the longest trunk is capable of handling the largest signal swing expected, then AGC is not required. Figure 5 shows the correction factor which must be applied to the 68°F value of cable attenuation to obtain the attenuation at some other temperature.

We can see that at the extreme temperature to which the cable may be subjected, attenuation correction factors are obtained of 1.06 at +120°F and 0.90 at -20°F. This means that for each 100 db of cable attenuation, there results an increase of 6 db at 120°F and a decrease of 10 db at -20°F.

A trunkline consisting of 1/2 inch foam dielectric aluminum jacketed cable may typically have an attenuation of 1.3 db per 100 feet at Channel 13 at 68°F. In a five mile line, this would amount to 340 db attenuation. However, at 120°F this would increase by 20.4 db, and at -20°F, it would decrease by 34 db. No presently existing amplifier can take this signal swing. Therefore, AGC would be a necessity in this system.

**SPLIT-BAND/BROADBAND**

Other problems, of course, also arise because of this characteristic of cable. Such a problem is the difference in the attenuation change at different frequencies. One way of dealing with this problem is by using automatic tilt control derived from two pilot carriers. Another way of dealing with the problem is to use thermal equalizers. A third way is to split the band so that the accumulated difference in cable attenuation within each band is within tolerable limits. This leads to two different types of transmission systems, the so-called "Split-Band" transmission system, and the broadband transmission system. The advantage of a split-band system is the reduction of change of tilt effects to the point where they may be neglected, while the broadband system must use some method of automatic tilt control.

Regardless of whether a split-band or a broadband system is used, there are still many methods in use today by which the gain of the transmission system is controlled. There are also many names by which these systems are known. Be it AGC, AOC, ALC, AVC, or A—you name it—C, all of the methods in use have one common objective, and that is to vary the gain or loss (in some cases) of an amplifier or an attenuator in an attempt to maintain a constant signal level. Why do we all strive towards this goal?

**AGC SYSTEM TYPES**

As we have seen, signal swings of 20 or 30 db are to be expected in a relatively short system as the temperature varies over the day and through the year, if no AGC is used. The use of AGC reduces maintenance problems by eliminating the need for periodic resetting of levels. Too, compensation for cable and equipment aging is provided to some extent. Let us look at some of the different methods that are used to achieve these goals.

Whether the transmission system is broadband or split-band, operation of the AGC circuits in either of these systems may be controlled by either TV signals or by pilot carrier signals. Also, either a single signal or a multiplicity of signals may be used for AGC purposes. Thus, many possible types of AGC systems exist. However, all of these methods are very similar in actual operation. Figure 6 is a block diagram which illustrates two methods which might be used with either TV signal or pilot carrier AGC systems.

In the first case, the amplifier is operated below its maximum gain capability so as to be able to compensate for anticipated changes in input signal in either direction. Usually, only the gain of the intermediate stages are varied so as to maintain good noise figure and overload characteristics while the input and output stages are at a fixed optimum operating point. The detector is tuned either to a single frequency or is broadband, depending on the type of AGC system used on the type of AGC system used.
In the second system, the entire amplifier is maintained at its optimum operating point as far as noise figure and overload characteristics are concerned. The attenuator ahead of the amplifier is varied to change the overall gain at the amplifier station. The nominal operating point of the attenuator must provide an insertion loss of at least the magnitude of the anticipated downward change in input signal level. The loss of the attenuator is then varied up or down to correct for changes in input level. This arrangement, while allowing optimum operation of each stage of the amplifier, effectively increases the noise figure of the amplifier by the amount of the attenuator's nominal insertion loss. The best solution may be a combination of the two methods. That is, place the attenuator at an intermediate point in the amplifier. This would allow optimum operation of the active elements in the amplifier and, at the same time, provide a good noise figure.

As stated previously, the AGC may be derived from either TV signals or from pilot carrier signals. A single TV signal cannot be used alone to activate the AGC because if that channel went off for any reason, all amplifiers would run wide open. Excessive gain would be accumulated, and overload would soon occur on the remaining channels. Therefore, if this method is used, a standby oscillator is required which is switched into the system if the primary source goes off.

Another method is to sense the composite signals in the passband of the amplifier and adjust the gain to the composite level. With this method, if a station goes off, the AGC is still operative. No standby oscillator is required since the AGC circuit operates from the remaining carriers.

Still another method utilizes only pilot carriers to drive the AGC circuits. This system is independent of the TV signal levels and has the advantage of providing a fixed standard signal to which the entire system may be referenced.

To summarize, the main advantages of AGC are:

1. Stabilization of individual channel signals permits adjacent channel operation and maximum utilization of the transmission system.
2. Proper signal levels may be maintained in the trunk, thereby avoiding problems of noise and cross modulation.
3. Maintenance problems are reduced by eliminating the necessity to reset levels with changes in temperature.

NEW SKL TRANSISTOR TRUNK AMPLIFIER

SKL's Model 265 Trunk Amplifier is an all new wide-band transistorized trunk amplifier with full 12-channel response. It has built-in SKL Temperature (Patent Pending), gain and tilt controls. AC cable-powering and power regulation is said to adapt it to both new system design and modernization of existing systems.

SKL reports the 265 compensates for all losses in 20 db of cable over the band of 54 to 216 mc from -20°F to +120°F. Low noise output and low cross-modulation permit high cascadability. In long line applications, more than 50 Model 265 amplifiers may be cascaded.

Model 265 is housed in a rugged, waterproof, cast aluminum box with a captive cover; it may be mounted on the messenger or on a pole, with a bracket. The unit is equipped with special sealed waterproof Type N connectors.

For more details on the 265 write Robert G. McLaughlin, Spencer-Kennedy Laboratories, Inc., 1320 Soldiers Field Road, Boston, Mass. 02135.

VIKING INTRODUCES BROADBAND AND FM AMPLIFIER

The Viking #955 Broadband Amplifier has been designed for black and white, color TV and stereo FM reception by Viking, 830 Monroe Street, Hoboken, New Jersey. Manufacturer says the 955 is excellent for feeder line and stereo distribution, small motels and garden apartments.

Viking's new amplifier features 75 or 300 ohm connectors for both input and output (no matching transformers necessary). Other advantages include separate low and high band gain controls for signal balancing; framgrid tubes used throughout; low noise circuit, and matched input to eliminate ghosts and smears from antenna lead.

Contact Robert Baum, Viking, for more details and price.

C-COR SOLID STATE AMPLIFIERS

C-Cor Electronics, Inc., has announced a new series of high output, solid state low pass amplifiers. Covering the frequency band of 5 cps to 70 mc, the three models available in this series are Models 3329, 3368 and 3388. These units provide 20 db, 40 db, and 60 db of gain respectively.

According to C-Cor, each model is capable of providing as high as 15 volts peak to peak at 10 mc into a 50 ohm load. Each also provides two output impedances, one a matched 50 ohm output and the other a low impedance (approximately 15 ohms) which will provide a higher output if an output match is not required. Prices range from $450 for the Model 3329 to $1,000 for the Model 3388.

Contact James F. Lastra at C-Cor, P.O. Box 824, State College, Pennsylvania for complete specifications.

NEW VIKING POWER SUPPLIES

Immediate delivery is now available for two new power supply units from Viking. The units, Models #580 and #561 are designed to be used with transistorized line amplifiers.

Model #580 Remote Power Supply
provides 6 amperes of regulated 30 volt AC. It has built-in automatic reset circuit breaker plus a meter to permit constant monitoring of output current.

TRUNK LINE SPLITTERS
Viking also has two new trunk line splitters available. Designed for CATV, CCTV or sub-channel applications, the splitters are in Viking's "Super Matched Series" for direct coaxial cable attachment. Die-cast housings permit messenger or pole mounting.

Model #580
Priced at $77, Model #580 can be rack, wall or cabinet mounted.

Model #561
Model #561 Remote Power Supply will duplex 24 or 30 vac onto cable systems. It also incorporates automatic re-set.

In weather-proof housing, the 561 can be mounted indoors or outdoors on pole or cabinet. It is priced at $33. Write Robert Baum, Viking, 830 Monroe Street, Hoboken, New Jersey, for more details.

Model #525
Features a "T" design and offers VSWR of 1.15:1 with 75 ohm input and output. Frequency response is 18-220 mc at ± 0.25 db maximum. Through loss, ± 0.25 db, is 3.25 db.

Model #528
Offers same specifications as Model #525. 528 has one fitting on one side with two on the opposite side.

For further information including prices, contact Mr. Baum.

ALLIED ELECTRONICS ANNOUNCES KNIGHT CABLE
Allied Electronics Corp., industrial subsidiary of Allied Radio Corp., has announced the availability of a line of Knight wire and cable for electronics, electrical and related applications.

Coaxial cable includes Mil-C-17C Polyethylene, Teflon and CATV Low-Loss Foam types. There is also a complete line of microphone cable, shielded and unshielded intercom cable, rubber-sheathed service cord, speaker cable, and many others.

Knight cable and wire is stocked in depth in 25, 50, 100, 250, 500 and 1000 ft. spools. It is also available in bulk spool lengths.

Specifications and prices can be obtained from Allied Electronics Corp., 100 N. Western, Chicago, Ill., 60680, or from Allied locations in Pasadena (Allied Radio of Calif.); Los Altos, Calif.; Seattle; Denver; Dallas; Milwaukee; Detroit; Cleveland and Dayton, Ohio; Washington, D.C.; Rochester, N.Y.; and Tampa, Fla.

SKL MODEL 263 LINE EXTENSION AMPLIFIER
The SKL Model 263 Line Extension Amplifier is a new high output, transistorized amplifier with full 12-channel bandwidth. It is designed for use as a line extension amplifier in wide-band distribution systems.

The nominal gain is 22 db at 216 mc, with a 7 db slope across the 54 to 216 mc band. Manual gain and tilt controls complete the compensation for the average cable losses encountered in feeder lines. Low noise and cross-modulation allow the Model 263 to be used even at the most remote ends of a distribution system.
AC cable powering provides flexibility in designing and in extending or updating existing distribution systems. The unit is housed in a rugged, waterproof, cast aluminum box with a captive cover, and may be mounted on the messenger or on a pole.

Contact Robert G. MacLaughlin, Spencer-Kennedy Laboratories, Inc., 1320 Soldiers Field Road, Boston, Mass. for additional information on the SKL Model 263.

COLLINS CATV/MICROWAVE BROCHURE

A new 22-page brochure, "Microwave-Applied to CATV/CCTV/ETV Operations," has been published by Collins Radio Company. It deals extensively with CATV and covers both general and technical aspects, CATV economics, establishing a CATV system, composition of a microwave system, typical microwave system specifications and microwave licensing information. Copies are available from: George Runge, Collins Radio Company, Public Relations Department, Dallas, Texas 75207.

VIDEO ANALYSER MODEL 301

Colorado Video, Incorporated reports that two breakthroughs in television waveform display are incorporated in the Colorado Video Model 301 Video Analyser. First; the equivalent of "Line Selection" is provided at field rates, thus allowing a new dimension in picture analysis with a resultant clear, bright, single trace oscilloscope pattern.

The second unique feature of the Model 301 is the ability to actually display video waveforms on the screen of a normally operating TV picture monitor, providing a large, highly visible, trace, and direct correlation between picture content and video waveform.

The model 301 includes both vertical and horizontal marking signals for convenience in making point-by-point scene brightness analysis. Other features include remote control, internal calibration, and a reference grating generator.

Price of the Model 301 is $875.

COAXIAL CABLE DELAY LINES

Andrew Corporation of Chicago has introduced a series of delay lines for use in pulse or CW applications from 60 cycles to 20 Gc. The units cover power ratings up to several kilowatts and in impedances of 50, 75 and 100 ohms.

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For additional information request Bulletin 8547 from Andrew Corporation, P.O. Box 807, Chicago, Illinois 60642.
ADVERTISER INDEX

- Ameco, Inc. ........................................ 7
- Armadillo Mfg. Co. ......................... 26
- CAS Mfg. Co. ................................... 9
- Craftsman Electronics ....................... 27
- Davco Electronics ................................ 4, 5
- Delta Electronics ................................. 22
- Economy Finance ................................. 18
- Entron ............................................. C-3
- Ft. Worth Tower ................................. 40
- Jerrold Electronics ............................ C-2
- Kaiser CATV ..................................... 20, 21
- Lenkurt Electric .................................. 19
- Microfect .......................................... 53

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