

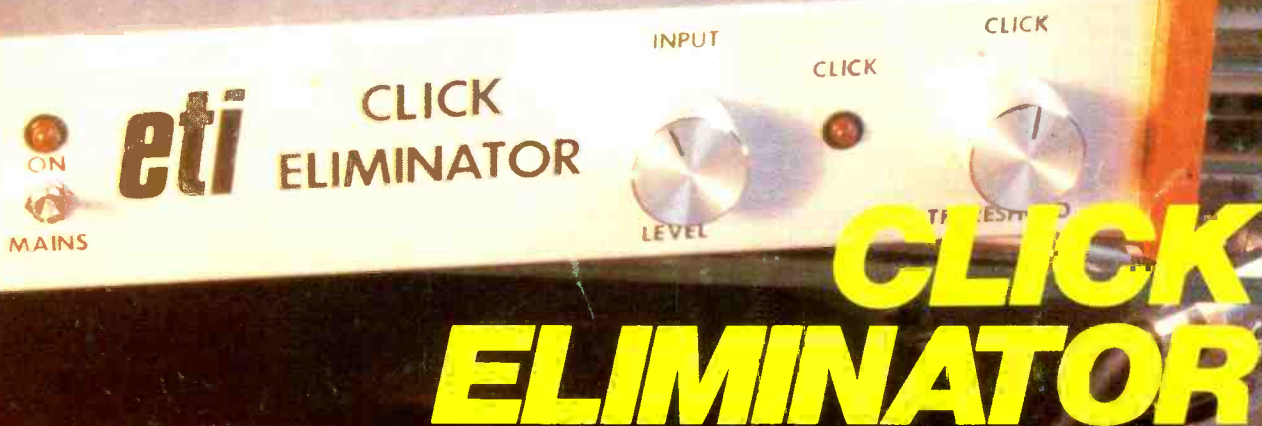
electronics today

JANUARY 1979

INTERNATIONAL

50p

Take out the scratches with our



CLICK ELIMINATOR

Digital Tacho
Battery Check
Power Supplies
Loudspeaker Principles

Inside:
computing
today no3

NEWS . . . PROJECTS . . . MICROPROCESSORS . . . AUDIO . . .

TRANSCENDENT 2000 SINGLE BOARD SYNTHESIZER

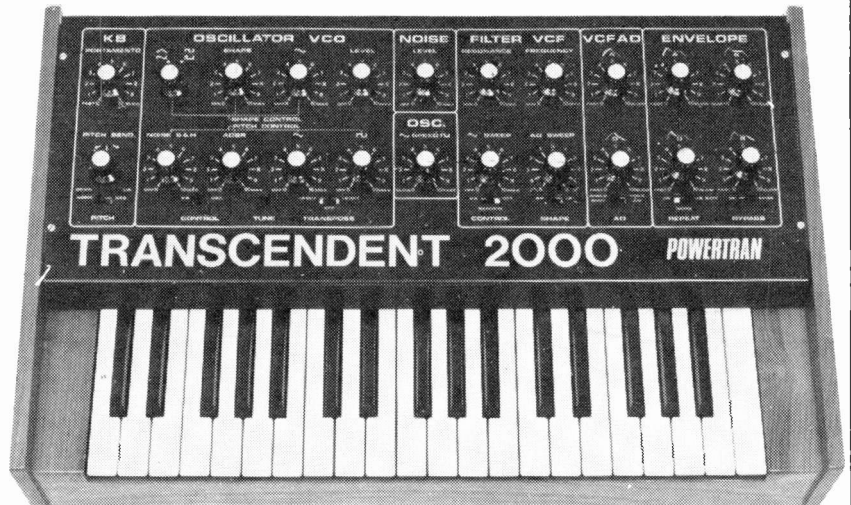
LIVE PERFORMANCE SYNTHESIZER DESIGNED BY CONSULTANT TIM ORR (FORMERLY SYNTHESIZER DESIGNER FOR EMS LIMITED) AND FEATURED AS A CONSTRUCTIONAL ARTICLE IN ELECTRONICS TODAY INTERNATIONAL.

The TRANSCENDENT 2000 is a 3 octave instrument transposable 2 octaves up or down giving an effective 7 octave range. There is portamento, pitch bending, a VCO with shape and pitch modulation, a VCF with both low and high pass outputs and a separate dynamic sweep control, a noise generator and an ADSR envelope shaper. There is also a slow oscillator, a new pitch detector, ADSR repeat, sample and hold, and special circuitry with precision components to ensure tuning stability amongst its many features.

The kit includes fully finished metalwork, fully assembled solid teak cabinet, filter sweep pedal, professional quality components (all resistors either 2% metal oxide or 1/2% metal film!) and it really is complete — right down to the last nut and bolt and last piece of wire! There is even a 13A plug in the kit — you need buy absolutely no more parts before plugging in and making great music! Virtually all the components are on the one professional quality fibre glass PCB printed with component locations. All the controls mount directly on the main board, all connections to the board are made with connector plugs and construction is so simple it can be built easily in a few evenings by almost anyone capable of neat soldering! When finished you will possess a synthesizer comparable in performance and quality with ready built units selling for between £500 and £700!

**COMPLETE KIT
ONLY
£172.00 + VAT!**

Comprehensive handbook supplied with all complete kits! This fully describes construction and tells you how to set up your synthesizer with nothing more elaborate than a multi-meter and a pair of ears!



Cabinet size 24.6" x 15.7" x 4.8" (rear) 3.4" (front)

LAST MONTH'S FRONT COVER FEATURE!



**COMPLETE KIT
ONLY**

£49.50 + VAT!

PSI 4002 STUDIO MODEL



cabinet size 17.2" x 17.2" x 6.7"

COMPLETE KIT ONLY £196.90 + VAT

The kits shown on this page are also available as separate packs (e.g. P.C.B. component sets, hardware sets etc). Prices are given in our FREE CATALOGUE.

PRICE STABILITY: Order with confidence irrespective of any price changes. We will honour all prices in this advertisement until February 28th, 1979, if ETI January, 1979 issue is mentioned with your order. Errors and VAT rate changes excluded.

EXPORT ORDERS: No VAT. Postage charged at actual cost plus 50p handling and documentation.

U.K. ORDERS: Subject to 12% surcharge for VAT* (i.e. add 1/6 to the price). No charge is made for carriage, for at current rate if changed.

SECURICOR DELIVERY: For this optional service (U.K. mainland only) add £2.50 (VAT inclusive) per kit.

SALES COUNTER: If you prefer to collect your kit from the factory, call at Sales Counter (at rear of factory). Open 9 a.m.-4.30 p.m. Monday-Thursday.

200 + 200 watt AMPLIFIER

As featured in Electronics Today International

400W rms continuous — 800W peak!

0.03% THD at FULL power!

PLUS all the following features too!

- * Each channel totally independent with its own stabilised power supply driven by custom designed TOROIDAL transformers!
- * Inherent reliability — monster heat sinks for cool running at the hottest venues — electronic open and short circuit protection!
- * Ultra low feedback (an incredible low 14dB overall!), super high slewing rate (20V/μs), 200W rms continuous to 4 ohm from EACH channel, input sensitivity 0.775V (0dB)
- * Professional quality components, sturdy 19" rack mounting chassis complete with sleeve and feet for free standing work too
- * Easy to build — plenty of working space with ready access to all components, minimal wiring, extensive instruction suitable for both experience constructors and newcomers to electronics.
- * Value for money — quality and performance comparable with ready-built amplifiers costing over £600!

OUR CATALOGUE IS FREE! WRITE OR PHONE NOW!

POWERTRAN ELECTRONICS

PORTWAY INDUSTRIAL ESTATE
ANDOVER, HANTS SP10 3NM

ANDOVER
(STD 0264) 64455

electronics today

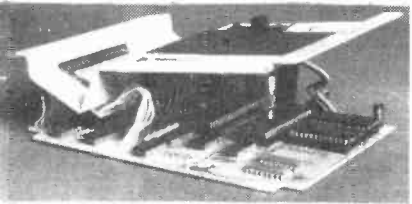
JANUARY 1979 VOL 8 NO 1 **INTERNATIONAL**

FEATURES

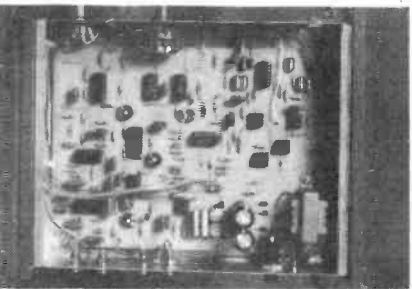
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High quality audio modules for Stereo and Mono

S450

STEREO FM TUNER
Fitted with phase lock-loop
£22.30
+ 40p p&p
+ 12½% VAT



FREQUENCY RANGE	88 — 108 Mhz.
SENSITIVITY	3.0µV
BANDWIDTH	250 kHz
SPURIOUS REJECTION	50 dB
SELECTIVITY ± 400 kHz	55 dB
AUDIO OUTPUT (22.5 kHz deviation)	100 mV
STEREO SEPARATION	30 dB
SUPPLY REQUIREMENTS	20 to 30V (90mA max)
AERIAL IMPEDANCE	75 ohms
DIMENSIONS	240mm x 110mm x 32mm

The S450 Tuner provides instant programme selection at the touch of a button ensuring accurate tuning of 4 pre-selected stations, any of which may be altered as often as you choose, simply by changing the settings of the pre-set controls. Features include FET input stage, Vari-Cap diode tuning, Switched AFC LED Stereo Indicator.

Stereo 30

COMPLETE AUDIO CHASSIS
£18.95
+ 40p p&p
+ 12½% VAT



7 + 7w R.M.S.

OUTPUT POWER	7 Watts RMS
LOAD IMPEDANCE	8 ohms
TOTAL HARMONIC DISTORTION	Less than 5% (Typically .3%)
FREQUENCY RESPONSE	50 Hz to 20 kHz ± 3dBs
tone CONTROL RANGE	± 12dBs at 100 Hz and 10kHz
SENSITIVITY	190 mV for full output
INPUT IMPEDANCE	1 M ohms
TRANSFORMER REQUIREMENTS	22 V. A.C. rated at 1A
DIMENSIONS (Less controls and PARTS)	200mm x 130mm x 33mm

The Stereo 30 comprises a complete stereo pre-amplifier, power amplifiers and power supply. This, with only the addition of a transformer or overwind will produce a high quality audio unit suitable for use with a wide range of inputs i.e. high quality ceramic pick-up, stereo tuner, stereo tape deck, etc. Simple to install, capable of producing really first-class results, this unit is supplied with full instructions, black front panel knobs, main switch, fuse and fuse holder and universal mounting brackets.

AL60

AUDIO AMPLIFIER MODULE
25 Watts RMS
£4.55 + 25p p&p
+ 12½% VAT



25w R.M.S.

OUTPUT POWER	25 Watts RMS
SUPPLY	30-50 V
LOAD IMPEDANCE	8-16 ohms
TOTAL HARMONIC DISTORTION	Less than 1% (Typically .06%)
FREQUENCY RESPONSE	20 Hz to 30 kHz x 2 dBs
SENSITIVITY	280 mV for full output
MAX. HEAT SINK TEMPERATURE	90°C
DIMENSIONS	103mm x 64mm x 15mm

This high quality audio amplifier module is for use in audio equipment and stereo amplifiers and provides output powers up to 25 RMS with distortion levels below 0.1%.

AL80

AUDIO AMPLIFIER MODULE
35 Watts RMS
£7.15* + 25p p&p
+ 8% VAT



35w R.M.S.

OUTPUT POWER	35 Watts RMS
SUPPLY	40-60 V
LOAD IMPEDANCE	8-16 ohms
TOTAL HARMONIC DISTORTION	Less than 1% (Typically .06%)
FREQUENCY RESPONSE	20 Hz to 30 kHz x 2 dBs
SENSITIVITY	280 mV for full output
MAX. HEAT SINK TEMPERATURE	90°C
DIMENSIONS	103mm x 64mm x 15mm

The AL80 is similar in design to the AL60 above and is of the same high quality but provides output powers up to 35W with distortion levels below 0.1%.

AL250

POWER AMPLIFIER
125w R.M.S.
£17.25* + 40p p&p
+ 8% VAT



125w R.M.S.

OUTPUT POWER	125 Watts RMS continuous
OPERATING VOLTAGE	50-80V
LOADS	4-16 ohms
FREQUENCY RESPONSE	25 Hz-20 kHz measured at 100 Watts
SENSITIVITY FOR 100 WATTS	
O/P AT 1 kHz	450mV
INPUT IMPEDANCE	33K ohms
TOTAL HARMONIC 50 Watts	
DISTORTION into 4 ohms	D. 1%
50 WATTS into 8 ohms	0.06%

This unit, designated AL250, is a power amplifier providing an output of up to 125W RMS, into a 4 ohm load.

AL30A

AUDIO AMPLIFIER MODULES
10w R.M.S.
£3.75 + 25p p&p
12½% VAT



10w R.M.S.

MAXIMUM SUPPLY VOLTAGE	30V
POWER OUTPUT for 2% THD	10 Watts RMS
TOTAL HARMONIC DISTORTION	Less than .25%
LOAD IMPEDANCE	8 — 16 ohms
INPUT IMPEDANCE	100 K ohms
FREQUENCY RESPONSE	50 Hz kHz ± 3 dBs
SENSITIVITY	75 mV for full output
DIMENSIONS	74mm x 63mm x 28mm

These low cost 5 and 10 watt modules offer the utmost in reliability and performance, whilst being compact in size.

SPM80

STABILISED POWER SUPPLY
£4.25 + 25p p&p
+ 12½% VAT



INPUT A.C. VOLTAGE	33-40V
OUTPUT D.C. VOLTAGE	33 V nominal
OUTPUT CURRENT	10 mA-1.5 amps
OVERLOAD CURRENT	1.7 amps approx.
DIMENSIONS	105mm x 63mm x 30mm

Designed to power two AL60's at 15 Watts per channel simultaneously. Circuit Techniques include full short protection.

PA100

STEREO PRE-AMPLIFIER
£15.80
+ 40p p&p
+ 12½% VAT

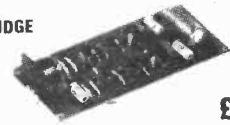


FREQUENCY RESPONSE	20Hz to 20 kHz x 1dB
TOTAL HARMONIC DISTORTION	Less than 1% (Typically .07%)
SENSITIVITY 1 TAPE	100 mV / 100 K ohms) For an
INPUTS 1 RADIO TUNER	100 mV / 100K ohms) output
3 MAGNETIC P.U.	3.5 mV / 50 K ohms) 250mV
EQUALISATION	Within ± 1 dB from 20 Hz to 20 kHz ± 15 dBs at 75 Hz ± 10-20 dBs at 15 kHz
BASS CONTROL RANGE	Better than 65 dBs (All inputs)
TREBLE CONTROL RANGE	Better than 26 dBs (All inputs)
SIGNAL/NOISE RATIO	20 to 40 V
INPUT OVERLOAD	
SUPPLY	
DIMENSIONS	300x90x33mm (less controls)

A top quality stereo pre-amplifier and tone control unit, the PA100 provides a comprehensive solution for the front end requirements of stereo amplifiers or audio units. The six push-button selector switch gives a choice of inputs together with two filters for high and low frequencies.

MPA30

MAGNETIC CARTRIDGE PRE-AMPLIFIER
£2.95
25p p&p
+ 12½% VAT

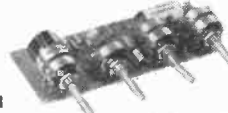


Enjoy the quality of a magnetic cartridge with your existing ceramic equipment using the MPA 30 which is a high quality preamplifier/enabling magnetic cartridges to be used where facilities exist for the use of ceramic cartridges only.

SENSITIVITY	3.5 mV for 100 mV output
EQUALISATION	Within ± 1 dB from 20 Hz to 20 kHz
INPUT IMPEDANCE	50 K ohms
SUPPLY	18 to 30 V—re earth
DIMENSIONS	110x50x25mm (inc DIN socket)

PA12

STEREO PRE-AMPLIFIER
£7.10
30p p&p
+ 12½% VAT



The PA12 Stereo Pre-Amplifier chassis is designed and recommended for use with the AL 20/30 Audio Amplifier Modules, the PS12 power supply and the T538 Transformer. Features include on/off volume, Balance, Bass and Treble controls. Complete with tape output.

FREQUENCY RESPONSE	20 Hz—20 kHz (—3dB)
BASS CONTROL	± 12 dB at 60 Mhz
TREBLE CONTROL	± 14 dB at 10 kHz
INPUT IMPEDANCE	1 Meg. ohm
INPUT SENSITIVITY	300 mV
CROSSTALK	— 60 dB
SIGNAL/NOISE RATIO	— 65 dB
OVERLOAD FACTOR	± 20 dB
TAPE OUTPUT IMPEDANCE	25 K ohms
DIMENSIONS	152mm x 84mm x 35mm

PS12 POWER SUPPLY MODULE

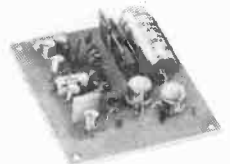
Power supply for AL20A-30A, PA12, S450 etc. Transformer T538
INPUT A.C. VOLTAGE, 15-20V. OUTPUT D.C. VOLTAGE 22-30V approx (dependent upon input). OUTPUT CURRENT 800mA maximum. DIMENSIONS: 60x43x26 mm.



£1.30
+ 12½% VAT P&P 25p

BP124 SIREN ALARM MODULE

American Police siren powered from any 12 volt supply into 4 or 8ohm speaker. Ideal for car burglar alarm, freezer breakdown, and other security purposes.



ONLY £3.00
+ 8% VAT P&P 25p

MA60 HI-FI AMPLIFIER KIT

Build your own reliable top quality amplifier and save yourself pounds. The MA60 kit comprises the following BI-KITS modules: 2x AL60 amps, 1x PA100 pre-amp, 1x SPM80 stabilised power supply, 1x BMT80 transformer, thus giving 17 watts RMS per channel STEREO. All modules are covered by the usual BI-PAK satisfaction or money back guarantee. Further details of all the above modules are in this advert.

PRICE £32.00 + 12½% + 62p p&p

TC60 KIT

A beautiful designed genuine TEAK WOOD veneered cabinet to put the professional touches to your home built amplifier. Full set of parts incl. front and back panels, knobs, chassis, fuses, sockets, Noen, etc. Ideal for the MA60. Size: 425mm x 290mm x 95mm.

PRICE £19.95 + 12½% VAT + 86p p&p

TRANSFORMERS

T538 For use with S.450 AL30A MPA30	Order No 2036	Price £3.20 + 55p p&p + 12½% VAT
T205D For use with Stereo 30	Order No 2050	Price £3.25 + 55p p&p + 12½% VAT
BMT80 For use with AL60 SPM80	Order No 2034	Price £5.40 + 86p p&p + 12½% VAT
BMT250 For use with AL250	Order No 2035	Price £8.35 + £1 10 p&p + 12½% VAT

BI-PAK

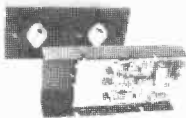
DEPT. ET16, P.O. Box 6, Ware, Herts

High quality audio accessories

AL120

**50W
R.M.S.**

**AUDIO
AMPLIFIER**
(With integral
heat sink and
short-circuit
protection)



£11.95
+8% VAT P&P 25p

Introduced to fulfill the demand for a fully protected power amp. capable of driving high quality speaker systems at up to 50W, with distortion levels below 0.5% ideal for domestic use, discos, p.a. systems, electronic organs, etc. The generously rated components ensure continuous operation at high output levels.

OUTPUT POWER 50 Watts R.M.S.
SUPPLY 70 Watts
LOAD IMPEDANCE 8-16 Ohms
TOTAL HARMONIC DISTORTION 0.5% Max. (typically 0.2%)
FREQUENCY RESPONSE ±1dB
SENSITIVITY 500mV
MAX HEAT SINK TEMP. 45 deg. C
DIMENSIONS 192 x 89 x 49mm

SPM120

**STABILISED
POWER SUPPLIES**

SPM120/45
SPM120/55
SPM120/65



£5.50
+12½% VAT P&P 25p

NEW

SPM120 is a fixed voltage stabiliser available with an output voltage of either 45V, 55V or 65V. Designed primarily for use in audio applications, the stabiliser which provides output currents up to 2.5A, operates direct from a mains transformer requiring only the addition of 2 electrolytic capacitors to complete the s/c protection.

A.C. INPUTS

SPM120/45
SPM120/55
SPM120/65
OUTPUT CURRENT
RIPPLE

40-48V
50-55V
60-65V
2.5A
1A 100mV
2A 150mV

GE100 Mk. 2

10 Channel monographic equaliser



£20
+12½% VAT
P&P 35p

NEW

Only 155mm x 65mm x 50mm including the 10X 10K lin slider potentiometers and knobs which are mounted on a board positioned above the circuitry. In the frequency range of 31Hz to 20kHz you can cut and boost ±12dB with the 10 sliders, each of which has its frequency marked on the circuit board. The GE100 has numerous uses including mixers, p.a. systems and discos. It will also greatly improve the sound reproduction of your existing audio equipment. Power supply for GE100, o/d SG30 £3.80.

CONTROL RANGE ±12dB
DYNAMIC RANGE 110dB
MAXIMUM OUTPUT +15dB
FREQUENCY RESPONSE 30Hz-20kHz (±1dB)
POWER SUPPLY 15.0-15V
VOLTAGE HANDLING INPUT 3V R.M.S.
T.H.D. 0.05%

VPS30

Regulated variable
stabilised power supply



£7.60
+8% VAT P&P 35p

This NEW versatile Regulated Variable Stabilised Power Supply with short circuit protection and current limiting, is a must for all electronics enthusiasts. It incorporates adjustable voltage from 2V-30V, with a current limiting range of 0-2A. With this module there is no need to build a separate power supply for each of your projects, with the simple addition of a transformer (o/d 2033), 0-1mA (o/d 1310 or 1305), plus a suitable shunt, a voltmeter (o/d 1311 or 1306), a 470ohm pot (o/d 1898), a 4K7 pot (o/d 1899), it can be used again and again as a self-contained bench, power supply, eliminating the use of batteries and thus saving ££'s!

A.C. INPUT MAXIMUM 25V
VOLTAGE REGULATION 2-30V
REGULATED CURRENT 0-2A
Incorporating short circuit protection

PA200

STEREO
PRE-AMPLIFIER



£16.55
+12½% VAT
P&P 40p

The PA200 is basically our popular PA100. Modifications have been made to make it compatible with the higher output AL120 and AL250 amplifiers.

FREQUENCY RESPONSE 20 Hz to 20 kHz x 1 dB
TOTAL HARMONIC DISTORTION Less than .1% (typically .07%)
SENSITIVITY 1, 2, 3 100mV/100K ohms For an
INPUTS 2 RADIO TUNER 100mV/100K ohms output
3 MAGNETIC P U — 3.5mV/50K
ohms 500mV

EQUALISATION Within ±1dB from 20Hz to
20kHz
BASS CONTROL RANGE ±15dB at 75Hz
TREBLE CONTROL RANGE +10-20dB at 15kHz
SIGNAL/NOISE RATIO Better than 65dBs (all inputs)
INPUT OVERLOAD Better than 26dBs (all inputs)
SUPPLY 35 to 75V
DIMENSIONS 300 x 90 x 33mm (less
controls)

HEADPHONES

A top quality headphone with cushioned earpads and headband. Separate balance, volume controls. Stereo or mono switch. Impedance 80ohms. Frequency 30-18,000Hz o/n 884 **£8.70** +12½% VAT P&P 70p
A brilliant compromise between price and performance. Superb stereo reproduction for the newcomer to Hi-Fi. Impedance 80ohms. Frequency 30-15,000Hz o/n 885 **£4.40** +12½% VAT P&P 50p

BIB

HI-FI ACCESSORIES

Parallel Tracking GROOV KLEEN
The very latest in automatic record cleaning. Designed to suit all modern single play decks. Simple to fit, it is extremely efficient. Complete with two types of base and three height extensions o/n 8101 **£3.68** +8% VAT P&P 35p
Cassette Tape Editing Kit
Enables cassette tapes to be edited and joined easily, quickly and accurately. Kit comprises Tape Splicer 'x' (3.2mm) 2 Precision Tape Cutters, Tape Piercer, 9 Self-adhesive Labels, Reel of Splicing Tape, 3 Winders and removers and instructions, all in a handy wallet o/n 811 **£2.40** +8% VAT P&P 35p

GROOV-STAT
The Bib Groov-Stat static reducer neutralises the static charge on records and other plastic surfaces. o/n 8103 **£5.45** +8% VAT P&P 35p
Cassette Head Cleaner
Essential for cleaning of tape heads, capstans and rollers. Pack contains Tape Head Applicator and tape head polisher tools. Plus bottle of special formula cleaning fluid and full instructions o/n 832 **£0.56** +12½% VAT P&P 35p

ADAPTORS

AC-DC enables a large range of battery powered radios, recorders, calculators to be run off the mains (220-240V A.C.). Switchable for 6, 7.5 or 9 volts. Current rating 2.500mA. Polarity reversing switch. Universal plug incorporated. o/n 137 **£3.95** +12½% VAT P&P 35p

DC-DC for use in all cars, boats, etc., with pos. or neg. earth for a regulated output of 6, 2.5 or 9 volts D.C. at 1A max. For radios, recorders, etc. o/n 138 **£2.80** +12½% VAT P&P 32p.

CROSSOVER NETWORKS

2-WAY channels for high and low frequencies to correct speakers — high to tweeters, low to woofers. Complete with instructions. Frequency 3,000Hz o/d 1904 **£1.10** +12½% VAT P&P 35p

2-WAY for 8ohm speakers up to 30 watts. Frequency 3kHz o/n 1905 **£1.65** +12½% VAT P&P 35p

3-WAY for 8ohm speakers up to 30 watts. Frequency 800Hz and 4.5kHz o/n 1906 **£2.95** +12½% VAT P&P 35p

CASES

TEAK 30 designed mainly for use with our stereo 30 Audio System but has proved very helpful to home constructors. Fitted with solid uncut front and back o/n 139 **£5.45** +12½% VAT P&P 70p

TEAK 60 for use with AL60/MK60 Audio Kit. Useful for the home constructor requiring an amplifier sleeve — has no front or back panel o/n 140 **£7.00** +12½% VAT P&P 85p

METERS

Miniature Balance & Tuning Meter
Miniature moving-coil meter for stereo balance indicator, tuning indicator for FM or similar application. Pointer at centre indicates zero or null position. Robust construction. Sensitivity: 100-0-100mA. Dimensions: 23x22x26mm o/n 1318. **£1.95** +8% VAT P&P 35p.



Balance and Tuning Meter
Clear view edgewise meter. Centre zero application. Sensitivity: 100-0-100uA. Dimensions: 45x22x34mm o/n 1319. **£2.00** +8% VAT P&P 35p.



Miniature Level Meter
Moving coil, for accurate level indication for tape recorders, amplifiers, etc. Neat design, rugged construction — will withstand five times rated value. Sensitivity: FSD: 200uA, 0dB: 130uA. Dimensions: 23x22x26mm o/n 1320. **£2.80** +8% VAT P&P 35p.



VU Meter
Calibrated — 20 to +3 and 0-100%, making it suitable for use as a recording level meter or as a power output indicator. Sensitivity: 130uA. Dimensions: 40x40x29mm. o/n 1321. **£2.00** +8% VAT P&P 35p.



MICROPHONES

DYNAMIC CASSETTE

For equipment requiring a high quality microphone. Sturdy, solid moulded body in black with neat chrome surround. Pick-up pattern is omnidirectional. On/off switch, 1 metre of tough lead with floating 2.5 and 3.5mm plugs. Matching moulded strut. Impedance 200ohms. Sensitivity: 90dB. Frequency: 90-10,000Hz. Size: 20mm dia. x 120mm. o/n 1326 **£1.50** +12½% VAT P&P 35p.

DYNAMIC MICROPHONE

Superior quality portable cassette recorder mike with built-in remote control switch and lead fitted with 5-pin 240° DIN plug (remote switch) and 3-pin DIN plug (microphone). Provides a direct replacement for those supplied with recorders. With detachable stand. Omnidirectional. Impedance 200ohms. Freq. response: 100 to 10,000Hz. Sensitivity: 79dB at 1,000Hz. o/n 1327. **£2.85** +12½% VAT P&P 35p.

RE-317: DYNAMIC MICROPHONE

Highly sensitive, high-grade desk or hand mike suitable for use with many popular cassette decks. Incorporates on/off switch and 1 metre lead with moulded standard jack plug. Complete with desk stand. Omnidirectional. Impedance: 5,000ohms. Freq. response: 100 at 12,000Hz. Sensitivity (—70dB at 1,000Hz) o/n 1336. **£4.10** +12½% VAT P&P 35p.

OMNIDIRECTIONAL CARDIOID

Powered by a 1½ volt battery located within the aluminium body. Satin silver finish with front disk protection to the diaphragm housing. On/off switch. Also with 'Busby' type windshield, 'U' bracket and stem and extremely supple cable. Consumption: 0.2mA from 1.5V battery providing approx. 8-10,000 hours continuous life. Impedance: 600ohms. Sensitivity: 70dB. Frequency: 30-16,000Hz. Size: 23mm dia. x 267mm. o/n 1329. **£12.80** +12½% VAT P&P 35p.

UNI-DIRECTIONAL CARDIOID

Qual. imp. 600 and 50,000ohms. Response 50 to 14,000Hz. Sensitivity: 54dB at 50K/ohms. Size: 1½" dia. x 6½" long. Weight approx. 190gms. o/n 1328. **£10.95** +12½% VAT P&P 35p.

STANDS

GOOSENECK CHROME FLEXIBLE HOLDERS

Length 320mm o/n 1333. **£2.40** +12½% VAT P&P 30p.
Length 515mm o/n 1334. **£3.40** +12½% VAT P&P 30p.
FLOOR STAND. Heavy chrome. Stay-away feet with rubber ends for maximum stability. Draws to a height of 5' maximum. o/n 1335 **£9.00** +12½% VAT P&P 85p.

BOOM ARM for use with the above stand. Heavy chrome metal, it gives 30" reach from the stand. o/n 1337. **£8.00** +12½% VAT P&P 70p.

WINDSHIELD COVERS

O/n 1531. Medium per pair **£1.20** +12½% VAT P&P 35p. o/n 1332. Large per pair **£1.80** +12½% VAT P&P 35p.

AUDIO LEADS

- 107 FM Indoor Ribbon Aerial **£0.60***
- 113 3.5mm Jack plug to 3.5mm jack plug. Length 1.5m **£0.75***
- 114 5 pin DIN plug to 3.5mm Jack connected to pins 3 & 5 Length 1.5m **£0.85***
- 115 5 pin DIN plug to 3.5mm Jack connected to pins 1 & 4 Length 1.5m **£0.85***
- 116 Car aerial extension. Screened insulated lead. Fitted plug & skt **£1.10***
- 117 AC mains connecting lead for cassette recorders & radios. 2 metres **£0.68***
- 118 5 pin DIN phone plug to stereo headphone jack socket **£1.05***
- 119 2+2 pin DIN plugs to stereo jack socket with attenuation network for stereo headphones. Length 0.2m **£0.90***
- 120 Car stereo connector. Variable geometry plug to fit most car cassette. 8 track cartridge & combination units. Supplied with in-line fused power lead and instructions **£0.60***
- 123 6.5m Coiled Guitar Lead Mono Jack Plug to Mono Jack Plug **£1.50***
- 124 3 pin DIN plug to 3 pin DIN plug. Length 1.5m **£0.75***
- 125 5 pin DIN plug to 5 pin DIN plug. Length 1.5m **£0.75***
- 126 5 pin DIN plug to Tinned open end. Length 1.5m **£0.75***
- 127 5 pin DIN plug to 4 Phono Plugs. All colour coded. Length 1.5m **£1.30***
- 128 5 pin DIN plug to 5 pin DIN socket. Length 1.5m **£0.80***
- 129 5 pin DIN plug to 5 pin DIN plug mirror image. Length 1.5m **£1.05***
- 130 2 pin DIN plug to 2 pin DIN in-line socket. Length 5m **£0.68***
- 131 5 pin DIN plug to 3 pin DIN plug 1 & 4 and 3 & 5 Length 1.5m **£0.83***
- 132 2 pin DIN plug to 2 pin DIN socket. Length 10m **£0.98***
- 133 5 pin DIN plug to 2 phono plugs. Connected pins 3 & 5 Length 1.5m **£0.75***
- 134 5 pin DIN plug to 2 phono sockets. Connected pins 3 & 5 Length 23cm **£0.68***
- 135 5 pin DIN socket to 2 phono plugs. Connected pins 3 & 5 Length 23cm **£0.68***
- 136 Coiled stereo headphone extension lead. Black. 3m **£1.75***
- 178 A.C. mains lead for calculators, etc. **£0.45***

BI-PAK

DEPT. ET11, P.O. Box 6, Ware, Herts.

AUDIO KITS OF DISTINCTION FROM **POWERTRAN**



cabinet size 18.3" x 12.7" x 3.1".

DE LUXE EASY TO BUILD LINSLEY-HOOD 75W AMPLIFIER £99.30 + VAT

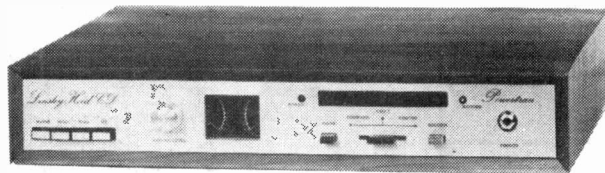
This easy to build version of our world-wide acclaimed 75W amplifier kit based upon circuit boards interconnected with gold plated contacts resulting in minimal wiring and construction delightfully straightforward. The design was published in Hi-Fi News and Record Review and features include rumble filter, variable scratch filter, versatile tone controls and tape monitoring whilst distortion is less than 0.01%

WIRELESS WORLD FM TUNER £70.20 + VAT

A pre-aligned front-end module makes this Wireless World published design very simple to construct and adjust without special instruments. Features include an excellent a.m. rejection, push-button station selection as well as infinitely variable tuning and a phase locked loop stereo decoder incorporating active filters for "birdy" suppression.



cabinet size 18.3" x 12.7" x 3.1".



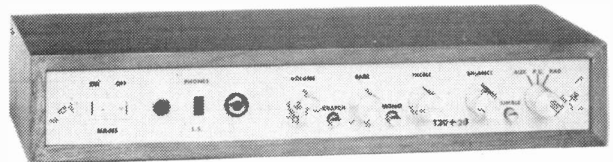
cabinet size 18.3" x 12.7" x 3.1".

LINSLEY-HOOD CASSETTE DECK £79.60 + VAT

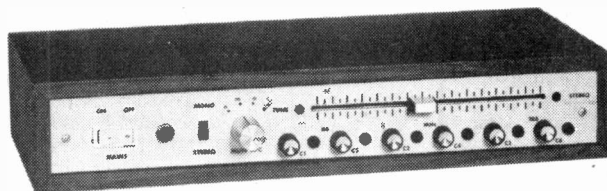
This design, published in Wireless World, although straightforward and relatively low cost provides a very high standard of performance. There are separate record and replay amplifiers and switchable equalisation together with a choice of bias levels are also provided. The mechanism is the Goldring-Lenco CRV with electronic speed control.

T20 + 20 AMPLIFIER £33.10 + VAT

This kit, based upon a design published in Practical Wireless, uses a single printed circuit board and offers at a very low cost, ease of construction and all the normal facilities found on quality amplifiers. A 30 watt version of this kit (T30 + 30) is also available for £38.40 + VAT.



cabinet size 15.5" x 6.7" x 2.8".



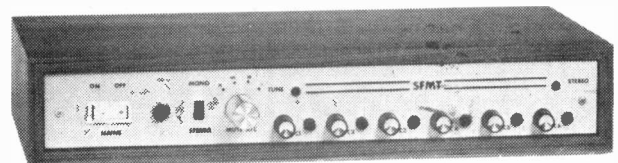
cabinet size 15.5" x 6.7" x 2.8".

WWII TUNER £47.70 + VAT

This cost reduced model of our highly successful Wireless World FM Tuner kit was designed to complement the T20 + 20 and T30 + 30 amplifiers and the cabinet size, front panel format and electrical characteristics make this tuner compatible with either. Facilities included are pre-aligned front-end module, switchable afc, adjustable switchable muting, LED tuning indication and both continuous and push-button channel selection (adjustable by controls on the front panel).

POWERTRAN SFMT TUNER £35.90 + VAT

This is a simple low cost design which can be constructed easily without special alignment equipment but which still gives a first-class output suitable for feeding any of our very popular amplifiers or any other high quality audio equipment. A phase-locked-loop is used for stereo decoding and controls include switchable afc, switchable muting and push-button channel selection (adjustable by controls on the front panel). This unit matches well with the T20 + 20 and T30 + 30 amplifiers.



cabinet size 15.5" x 6.7" x 2.8".

COMPLETE KITS: Our complete kits really are complete. All of the projects shown on this page are supplied with fully finished metalwork ready assembled high quality teak veneer cabinet, cables, nuts, bolts, etc. and full instructions — in fact everything!

All of the kits shown on this page are available as separate packs (except the Powertran SFMT Tuner) for those customers who wish to spread their purchase or perhaps make their own cabinets or metalwork. Prices are given in our FREE CATALOGUE.

PRICE STABILITY: Order with confidence! Irrespective of any price changes. We will honour all prices in this advertisement until February 28th, 1979. If ETI January, 1979 issue is mentioned with your order. Errors and VAT rate changes excluded.

EXPORT ORDERS: No VAT. Postage charged at actual cost plus 50p handling and documentation.

U.K. ORDERS: Subject to 12½% surcharge for VAT (i.e. add ½ to the price). No charge is made for carrier, or at current rate if changed.

SECURICOR DELIVERY: For this optional service (U.K. mainland only) add £2.50 (VAT inclusive) per kit.

SALES COUNTER: If you prefer to collect your kit from the factory, Call at Sales Counter (at rear of factory) Open 9 a.m.-4.30 p.m. Monday-Thursday.

OUR CATALOGUE IS FREE! WRITE OR PHONE NOW!

POWERTRAN ELECTRONICS

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news digest.....

FLEET OF FOOT?



For all us kiddies (anyone who isn't — please leave now) this is a good idea. Those nasty sneaky MPUs have invaded our nice little game of Battleships. Based on a TMS 1000 the unit contains enough

RAM to hold the board as seen by both players, and make appropriate noises at time of defeat or victory or whatever. Nice explosion sound effects etc too. And what's more it's British designed — which

is a distinct recommendation and selling well in America — which isn't. Price £29 or thereabouts. AID, 10 RATHBONE PLACE, LONDON W1P 2DN.

PEDIGREE CATS

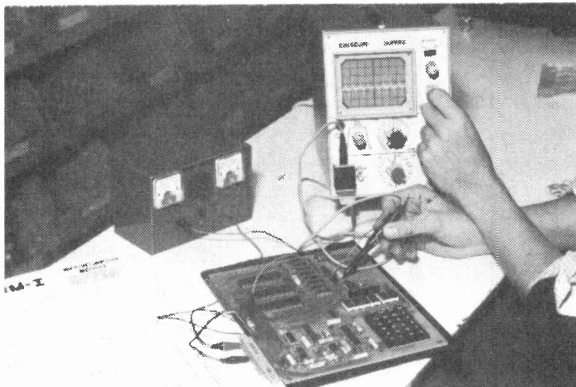
Electronic Brokers — superb range of second hand hardware that should interest most small firms and not a few individuals. Much new equipment is also included, and although the cost is high at £1 to private individuals companies can get it free!

Electronic Brokers Ltd

	The largest Second User Company in Europe
	The Computer People
11 Years of service to Industry	The Test Equipment People
	Equipment by every leading manufacturer

Not fair this world is it? ELECTRONIC BROKERS, 4a PANCRAS ROAD, LONDON NW1 2GB.

Ace Electronics — good range of components. Poorly produced catalogue but it is free, and adequate, and contains some nice little kits amongst other things worth sending for ACE MAILTRONIX TOOTAL STREET, WAKEFIELD, W. YORKS.



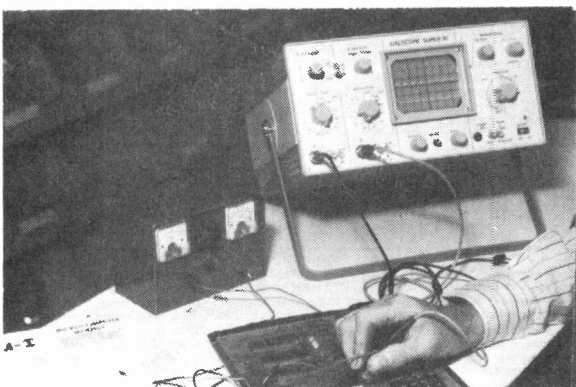
NOT A TRACE OF GREED

Two new oscilloscopes for the home constructor, from the Scopex stable. Called the Calscope 6 and Calscope 10 they are probably indicative of the fact the home market is of growing importance to manufacturers. Specs. below.

Calscope 6: — single trace: sensitivity range 50mV to 50V per cm/in 12 ranges: Bandwidth 6MHz: time base range 1 and to 100 ms per cm. Time base triggering is claimed to be particularly good. Price £162.

Calscope 10: — dual trace: 10mV sensitivity: bandwidth 10MHz (displayable across full screen size): time base range 200ns to 100 ms: accuracy 3% all ranges. Price £219.

Both available from Maplin and Marshall both of whom you should know already.



PUT THESE TO GOOD USE

Some new PUTs (at last), and in different packages too. The MEU21 and 2N6028 are intended for use in long internal timers and such and have low leakage (100nA max).

The MEU22 (and 2N6027) are general purpose types. All have specs of: 150nA peak point current (2N6028), low forward voltage (1V5 for 50mA I_{FWD}) and high pulse output voltage (6V minimum) MICRO ELECTRONICS LTD, YORK HOUSE, EMPIRE WAY, WEMBLEY, MIDDX.

ambit international [®]

Production of the new catalogue has been held up for a few weeks - since we have just been appointed as distributors for two of the most exciting ranges of radio components products yet: The Micrometals range of iron dust torroids cores and formers, and the OKI range of VLSI for digital frequency displays for receivers.

We apologize for any inconvenience, but these two ranges are really worth the wait, and include some products you will find hard to believe, like the MSM5523 IC, an IC with less than ten external components that gives AM frequency readout to 1kHz from LW to 39.999MHz, FM frequency readout in 100kHz steps - (all usual IF offsets programmable by diodes), a 24 hour format clock with 12 hour display, independent on and off timers, time signals on the hours, stopwatch facility and a sleep timer. This costs £14 with its timebase crystal, and makes all that gone before an expensive and time wasting exercise. Rather like the way the Intersil ICM7216 has revolutionized the instrument counter market. (See the OSTs ad.) And those of you familiar with Amidon and IG dust torroids, favoured in many new RF designs, will be pleased to know Ambit will be stocking a broad range of the Micrometals types for applications from EMI filters to RF PA stages.

DKI frequency counter ICs: details in cat2
MSM5523 for CA LEDs with RHDP such as FND507 £14 inc xtal
MSM5525 for 3 1/2 digit LCD AM/FM with direct segment drive, no clock or timers £11 inc xtal
Other types for fluorescent displays etc OA

Other new semiconductor additions:
KB4437 pilot cancel mpd decoder 4.35
KB4438 muting stereo preamp 2.22
HA1370 supercedes TDA2020 2.99
TDA1090 HiFi AM/FM 3.35
TDA1220 low cost AM/FM 1.45

PRICES DOWN ON VMOS: as expected, this new technology in power transistors is getting cheaper. 120v comp pairs /100W for £10.00
Price reduction on CA3189Enow £2.20
New varicaps: to add to the biggest range.....

KV1211 2:9v bias to tune MW, like the KV1210, but a double diode £1.75
New pilot tone filters from TOKO.....

208BLR series, individual per channel with a 26/38kHz version for pilot cancel decoder applications. Flat to 15kHz £0.90
New crystal filter for amateur NBFM.....
TOYO 10M4B1 with over 90dB adjacent ch. rejection for 2m NBFM, 10.7MHz £14

New ceramic IF filters for 455kHz ICs
CFM455H 6kHz/6dB, 15kHz max /60dB ideal for MC3357 etc. £10

A brief summary of some of our range of ICs:
TA1062/1.95; TDA1083/1.95; HA1197/£1.40
CA3123E/£1.40; TB4651/£1.81; CA3089/1.94
HA1137/£2.20; MC1310/£2.20; HA1196/£3.95
KB4424/£2.75; KB4423/£2.53; SD6000/£3.75
KB4412/£2.55; KB4413/£2.75; KB4417/£2.55
MC1495L/£6.86; MC1496P/£1.25
LM381N/£1.81; LM1303/£0.99; ULN2283B/£1.00; LM380N/£1; TB4810AS/£1.09
TCA940E/£1.80; TDA2002/£1.95;
ICL8038CC/£4.50; NE566/£2.50; NE567/£2.50; NE568B/£3.50; NE5618B/£3.50;
NE562B/£3.50; NE568A/£2.50

SEE THE OSTs ADVERT FOR CMOS/TTL REGULATORS, OPTO DISPLAYS, and other types of linear devices.
Some transistors for RF specifically:
BF256L8/0.34; 40822/0.43; 40823/0.51 *
40673/0.55 *; BF900/961/0.80; BF960/1.60 *
BF224/0.22; BF274/0.18; BF195/0.18;
BF240/0.22; BF241/0.22; BF362/0.70;
BF479/0.86; BF679S/0.70; BFY90/0.90 *
PIN and other Varicap diodes:
BA102/0.30; BA121/0.30; ITT210/0.30
BB104B/0.40; MVAM23/£1.48; MVAM115/£1.05; MVAM125/1.05; KV1210/£2.75
BA479/0.35; TDA1061/0.95; BA182/0.21

METER MADE low cost panel meters:
3 x 930 series with blanks and dry transfer sheet of scales and legends for £12.5 *

At last, DIY HiFi which looks as if it isn't.

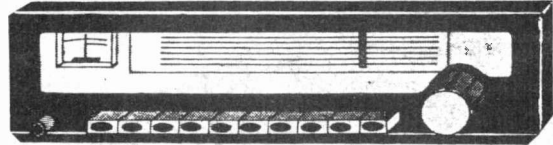
That's not to say it doesn't look like HiFi - just that it doesn't look like the usual sort of thing you have come to associate with DIY HiFi. The Mk3 outstrips and outperforms all British made HiFi tuners, and most imported ones too. Certainly at the price, there isn't one near it. But more than that, it looks superb. A small pic here would be an insult, so send an SAE for details on the kit that looks as if it isn't. It's something else.....

- * Exceptionally high performance - exceptionally straightforward assembly
- * Baseboard and plug-in construction. Future circuit developments will readily plug in, to keep the MkIII at the forefront of technical achievement
- * Various options and module line-ups possible to enable an installation approach to the system

and now previewing the matching 60W/channel VMOS amplifier:

- * Matching both the style and design concepts of the MkIII HiFi FM tuner
- * Hitachi VMOS power fets - characterized especially for HiFi applications
- * Power output readily multiplied by the addition of further MOSFETs
- * VU meters on the preamp - not simply dancing according to vol level
- * Backed with the usual Ambit expertise and technical capacity in audio

The PW Dorchester-LW, MW, SW, & FM stereo tuner



In much the same way as we have swept away the 'old technology' in frequency/timer counters - with the OKI and Intersil single IC counters, we now offer a single IC "All Band" radio tuner. Don't confuse this one chip radio with things like the ZN414 - for this is a genuine superhet receiver with a mechanical AM IF filter, and ceramic IF filters for FM. The AM section employs a balanced input mixer section, covering all broadcast bands - plus a BFO and MOSFET product detector for SSB/CW - though at this price, the tuner is not intended as a "communications receiver" - although we know of many lesser designs that make that claim. The AM sensitivity is nevertheless better than 5uV, and FM sensitivity is 1.2uV for 30dB S/N. As a multiband broadcast superhet receiver, it is a unique constructor project that fulfills the requests we very frequently get for a general coverage circuit that isn't over complicated. The set has CA3089E FM performance, with mute etc., and a PLL stereo decoder with full pilot tone filtering. The tuner board - with "on board" PCB mounted switching, all components etc : £33.00
The case/cabinet with PSU, meter and mechanics etc £25.00
An SAE for full details please. See the feature article in Practical Wireless (Dec'Jan)

TERMS etc: CWD please, VAT on Ambit items is generally 12%, except where marked (*). Catalogue part 1:45p, part 2 50p all inclusive. Postage 25p per order, carriage on tuner kits £3. Phone Brentwood (0277) 216029/227050 9am-7pm. Callers welcome inc. Saturdays.

2 Gresham Road, Brentwood, Essex.

Since AMBIT introduced the "One Stop Technology Shop" to our service, we have been pleased to see just how many users of electronic components appreciate our guarantee to supply goods only from BS9000 approved sources. More than ever, professional and amateur electronics engineers cannot afford to waste time on anything less than perfect pedigree products.

OSTS CD4000 CMOS Micromarket PRICES SLASHED TTL: Standard AND LP Schottky

CD4000		CMOS		Micromarket		PRICES SLASHED		TTL: Standard AND LP Schottky											
4000	17p	4059	563p	4522	149p	6800 series	8216 1.95	2114	£10										
4001	17p	4060	115p	4527	157p	6800P	6.50	2708	£10.55										
4002	17p	4063	109p	4528	102p	6820P	£6	Development											
4006	109p	4066	53p	4529	141p	6850P	2.75	MEK6800 £220											
4007	18p	4067	400p	4530	90p	6810P	£4	TK80 £306											
4008	80p	4068	25p	4531	141p	6852	2.65	AMI, Signetics											
4009	58p	4069	20p	4532	125p	MEMORIES		TI, Intersil,											
4010	58p	4070	20p	4534	614p	8080 series	2102 £1.70	Marris etc. OA											
4011	17p	4071	20p	4536	380p	8080	6.30	2112 £1.40											
4012	17p	4072	20p	4538	150p	8212	2.30	4027 £5.78											
4013	55p	4073	20p	4539	110p	Voltage Regs NEW LOW PRICES 7800 series UC TO220 package 1A all 95p 7900 series UC TO220 package 1A all £1 78MUC series TO220 package 1/2A all 90p 78LCP series TO92 100mA all 35p L200 up to 3A/adjustable V&A 195p 78MGT2C 1/2amp adjustable volts 175p 79MGT2C 1/2amp adjustable volts 175p 723C precision controller 65p MAINS FILTERS FOR NOISE/RFI etc 1 amp in IEC connector £4.83 5 amp in 'wire in' case £3.87 NE550A 73p													
4016	52p	4075	20p	4541	141p														
4017	80p	4076	90p	4543	174p	LINEARS non-consumer OPTO 7 seg displays BIMOS 4042 85p 4507 55p CA3130E 84p LM339N 66p 0.43" High Efficiency HP: 4043 85p 4508 248p CA3130T 90p LM348N 186p 5082: 7650 red CA 4044 80p 4510 99p CA3140E 35p LM3900N 60p 5082: 7653 red CC 4045 150p 4511 149p CA3140T 72p 709HC to5 64p 5082: 7660 yellow CA 4046 130p 4512 98p CA3160E 90p 709PC di 36p 5082: 7663 yellow CC 4047 99p 4513 206p CA3160T 99p 710HC to5 65p 5082: 7670 green CA 4048 60p 4514 260p CA3160T 99p 710PC di 59p 5082: 7673 green CC 4049 55p 4515 300p Op amps 723CN 65p 0.3" Standard HP 4050 55p 4516 125p LM301AH 67p 741CN to5 66p 5082: 7730 red CA 4051 65p 4517 382p LM301AN 30p 741CN 8di 27p 5082: 7740 red CC 4052 65p 4518 103p LM308H 121p 747CN 30p 4053 65p 4519 57p LM308N 97p 748CN 36p 0.5" Fairchild 4054 120p 4520 109p LM318H 279p NE531T 120p FND500 red CC 150p 4055 135p 4521 236p LM318N 224p FND507 red CC 150p													
4018	80p	4077	20p	4549	399p					7400	13	20	7455	35	24	74126	57	44	74185
4019	60p	4078	20p	4553	440p	7401	13	20	7460	17	74128	74	74188	275	74378	93			
4020	80p	4081	20p	4554	153p	7402	14	20	7463	28	74132	73	74190	115	92	74379	130		
4021	82p	4082	20p	4556	77p	7403	14	20	7470	28	74133	29	74191	105	180	74386	37		
4022	90p	4085	82p	4557	386p	7404	14	24	7472	28	74136	40	74192	105	180	74390	140		
4023	17p	4086	82p	4558	117p	7405	18	26	7473	32	74138	60	74193	105	180	74395	139		
4024	76p	4089	150p	4559	388p	7406	38	7474	27	38	74139	60	74194	105	187	74396	133		
4025	17p	4093	50p	4560	218p	7407	38	7475	38	40	74141	56	74195	95	137	74398	180		
4026	180p	4094	190p	4561	65p	7408	17	24	7476	37	74142	265	74196	99	110	74399	150		
4027	55p	4096	105p	4562	530p	7409	17	24	7478	48	74143	312	74197	85	110	74445	92		
4028	72p	4097	372p	4566	159p	7410	15	24	7480	38	74144	312	74198	150	140	74447	90		
4029	100p	4098	110p	4568	281p	7411	20	24	7481	86	74145	65	74199	160	140	74490	140		
4030	58p	4099	122p	4569	303p	7412	17	24	7482	69	74147	175	74248	90	74468	110			
4031	250p	4160	90p	4572	25p	7413	30	52	7483A	74	74148	109	74249	93	74670	249			
4032	100p	4161	90p	4580	600p	7414	51	120	7484	97	74150	99	74251	90	MISCELLANY				
4033	145p	4162	90p	4581	319p	7415	30	7485	104	99	74151	64	74253	105	NE555	30p			
4034	200p	4163	90p	4582	164p	7416	30	7486	40	40	74153	64	74257	108	NE556	78p			
4035	120p	4174	104p	4583	84p	7417	30	7489	205	99	74154	96	74258	153	NE558	180p			
4036	250p	4175	95p	4584	63p	7420	16	24	7490	33	99	74155	54	74259	420	NE558	80p		
4037	100p	4184	95p	4585	100p	7421	29	24	7491	76	110	74156	80	74260	153	ICM7217	950p		
4038	105p	4501	23p					7422	24	24	7492	38	78	74157	67	55	74261	353	
4039	250p	4502	91p					7423	27	27	7493	32	99	74158	60	74266	40		
4040	83p	4503	69p					7424	27	29	7494	78	78	74159	210	74273	124		
4041	90p	4506	51p					7425	36	27	7495A	65	99	74160	82	130	74275	312	
4042	85p	4507	55p					7426	37	29	7496	58	120	74161	92	78	74279	52	
4043	85p	4508	248p					7427	27	32	7497	185	74162	92	130	74283	120		
4044	80p	4510	99p					7428	35	32	7497	185	74162	92	130	74283	120		
4045	150p	4511	149p					7430	17	24	74100	119	74163	92	78	74290	90		
4046	130p	4512	98p					7432	25	24	74104	63	74164	104	74293	95			
4047	99p	4513	206p					7433	40	32	74105	62	74165	105	74295	120			
4048	60p	4514	260p					7437	40	24	74107	32	38	74166	100				
4049	55p	4515	300p					7438	33	24	74109	63	38	74167	20				
4050	55p	4516	125p					7440	17	24	74110	54	74168	105	157	ICM7216	8 digit		
4051	65p	4517	382p					7441	74	24	74111	68	74169	230	200	74326	247		
4052	65p	4518	103p					7442	70	99	74112	88	74170	230	200	74327	237		
4053	65p	4519	57p					7443	115	74113	88	38	74172	625	74352	100			
4054	120p	4520	109p					7444	112	74114	38	38	74173	170	74353	100			
4055	135p	4521	236p					7445	94	74116	198	74174	87	120	74362	715			
										7446	94	74118	63	74175	87	110	74365	49	
										7447	82	74119	119	74176	75	74366	49		
										7448	56	99	74120	115	74177	78	74368	49	
										7449	59	99	74121	25	74180	85	74369	49	
										7450	17	24	74122	46	74181	165	350	74373	77
										7451	17	24	74123	48	74182	160	74374	77	
										7453	17	24	74124	38	74183	60	74375	60	
										7454	17	24	74125	38	44	74184	135	450p	

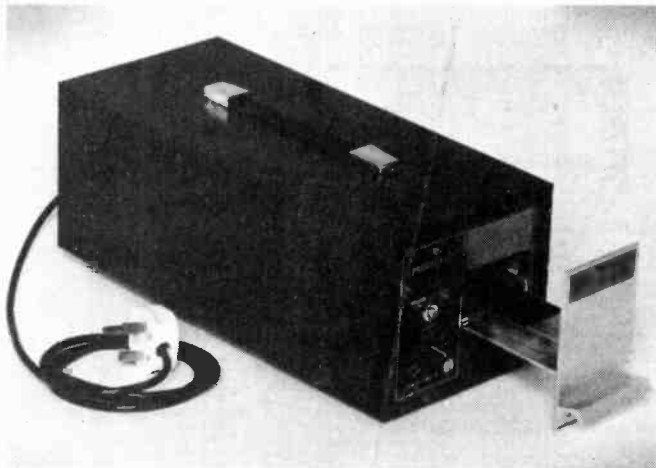
TERMS: CWO pmt., VAT to be added at 8% (inland), pp 25p per order. When ordering from the OSTs and Ambit - a single combined remittance and pp charge is sufficient. Account details OA.

2 Gresham Road, Brentwood, Essex.

The ICL7216BPI is still the cheapest way

..... news digest.....

PROM-IN-AID TIME



Micro-men take note. The Prombix 12 can wipe out twelve PROMs at once with variable erase time with safety interlock. Priced at £59.00 all inc. Should be of interest to

small firms and rich enthusiasts.
GP INDUSTRIAL ELECTRONICS, SKARDON WORKS, SKARDON PLACE, NORTH HILL, PLYMOUTH PL4 8EZ.

GETTING INTO PRINT



A low cost printer is announced by Kimberley Business Records giving A low cost printer is announced by Kimberley Business Records giving good quality output. This will allow the expansion of many home systems into the extensive field of word processing, and God help you then! A standard lever operated typewriter mechanism has been used, driven by 240V solenoids.

Designed for parallel data input with handshake control. ASCII coding is

accepted for the 88 characters available operating at a speed of 8 CAPS from a standard peripheral interface. It is supplied fully built and cased at £200 (including carriage and VAT). Alternatively as a print mechanism only, requiring all power other than 240V, case, and TTL logic to be added, the cost is £160.

KIMBERLEY BUSINESS RECORDS, 2, HARTINGTON ROAD, GOSPORT, HANTS. PO12 3AG.

Catronics for

SOLID STATE R.T.T.Y.

We can supply Printed Circuit Boards and components for the RTTY Video Display published by G3PLX in "Radio Communication".

This video display unit is designed to be an all-electronic replacement for a Teleprinter, and therefore does not suffer its disadvantages — bulk, unreliability and noise. The basic function is to take Murray Code — either from a Terminal Unit (on receive) or from a Keyboard — and produce a complete TV signal. This signal may be fed into a monitor or modulated and fed into the aerial of an ordinary domestic TV set. The resulting display is a page of 24 lines of up to 40 characters. It may also be used (with its keyboard) to send fully encoded Murray Code signals for transmit purposes.

Hundreds of these units have been built, with very little trouble, and the pleasures and fascination of RTTY operation are now being experienced by more and more amateurs. Listeners, too, find it very interesting to be able to read international news and other transmissions without the inconvenience of the mechanical teleprinter.

Kit price from £83.55 — send SAE for details.

Introducing the most comprehensive R.T.T.Y. TERMINAL UNIT you can, or indeed, need ever buy —

THE CATRONICS CT100 R.T.T.Y. TERMINAL UNIT

INPUTS for:

Audio FSK signal in
Data in from V.D.U. (e.g. G3PLX)
TTY Keyboard or Tape Reader

OUTPUTS for:

V.D.U. or other TTL compatible equipment
TTY Magnet — single or double current
AFSK to drive Transmitter

Featuring a unique digitally controlled "Autoprint" circuit which is a superior replacement for the "Antispace" and "Autostart" facilities found on some other terminal units. The terminal will ignore most CW and phone signals but will respond to a correct RTTY signal. Tuning correctly into an RTTY signal is made simple with a single "correctly tuned" LED plus an additional "Mark frequency" indicator.

The FSK demodulator circuit utilises a special "state-of-the-art" system to give excellent performance and stability at low cost.

The teleprinter interface unit incorporates electronic "de-bounce" circuitry to eliminate spurious switching from the Keyboard.

UNITS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

CT100. Receive only RTTY Terminal Unit housed in attractively styled metal cabinet approx. 9 by 7 by 2 1/2 in., with integral mains power supply.	£71.00
CT101. Receive Unit + Hi-stability AFSK oscillator for transmission purposes.	£79.00
CT102. Receive Unit + Teleprinter interface unit.	£80.00
CT103. Complete terminal unit for reception and transmission with facilities for connection to Teleprinter	£88.00

ADD £3 for Securicor delivery

Catronics NEW KEYBOARD KIT

Catronics Ltd. are proud to announce the introduction of the world's first modular Keyboard Kit available to the home constructor!

The printed circuit board is designed to take a maximum of 70 keys but may be assembled with a smaller number of keys for a simpler keyboard.

The board is not dedicated to any specific coding, allowing it to be used for any project whether it requires ASCII, Baudot or any other code. This makes it suitable for many projects including

E.T.I. — System 68 MPU (54 keys)
Auto morse sender, etc.

The Keyswitches themselves are single pole push-to-make type and require no extra mechanical mounting arrangements.

A legend sheet is provided with each kit enabling the constructor to label the keys to suit individual requirements.

Catronics price: Kit for 70 station Keyboard: £29.00

Please add 50p for post and packing

All prices INCLUDE VAT at current rates
Send SAE for FREE PRICE LIST or 45p and large (A4) 18 1/2 p
SAE for copy of our Data Catalogue.

CATRONICS LTD.
COMMUNICATIONS HOUSE
20 WALLINGTON SQUARE
WALLINGTON, SURREY SM6 8RG

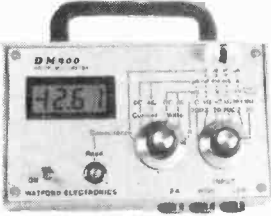
(DEPT.
951)

Tel. 01-669 6700. Open Mon.-Fri. Also Sat. a.m.

WATFORD ELECTRONICS

Introducing DM900 - The DIGITAL MULTIMETER with "Hidden Capacity" - It measures Capacitance too!

(as published in E.T.I. August 1978)
 Away with analogue meters for with some of these you may often as not use a crystal ball to make circuit measurements instead gaze into our crystal - not a ball but the 3 1/2 0.5 LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY - on our amazingly accurate DMM incorporating



- 5 AC & DC Voltage ranges; 6 resistance ranges
- 5 AC & DC Current ranges; 4 Capacitance ranges
- The prototype accuracy is better than 1%

This is a unique design using the latest MOS ICs and due to the minimal current drain, is powered by only one PP3 battery. There is also a battery check facility.

The DM900 is an attractive hand-held, light weight device, built into a high impact case with carrying handle and has been ingeniously designed to simplify assembly.

Never before have all these features been offered to the electronics enthusiast in a single unit.

Complete Kit Only **£54.50*** (p&p Insured add 80p)

Optional Extras Probes **£1.50*** Carrying Case **£1.50***

Calibration service charge for working Units only **£5.75.**

Ready-built and tested units only **£78.50*** incl. Case & probes p&p 80p

Demonstration on at our Shop

JACK PLUGS		SOCKETS			SWITCHES*		SLIDE 250V	
Screened chrome	Plastic body	open metal	moulded with break contacts	in line couplers	TOGGLE 2A 250V	1A DPDT	14p	
2.5mm 12p	8p	8p	11p	SPST	28p	1A DPDT c/over	15p	
3.5mm 15p	10p	8p	12p	DPST	34p	1/2A DPDT	13p	
MONO 23p	15p	13p	18p	DPDT	38p	4 pole 2-way	24p	
STEREO 31p	18p	15p	24p	4 pole on/off	54p	PUSH BUTTON		
						Spring loaded		
						SPST on/off	60p	
						SPST c/over	65p	
						DPDT 6 tag	85p	
						MINIATURE		
						Non Locking		
						Push to Make	15p	
						Push Break	25p	
						ROTARY Make your own multiway Switch.		
						Adjustable Stop Shunting Assembly Accom-		
						modate up to 6 Waters.	69p	
						Mains Switch DPST to fit	34p	
						Break Before Make Waters. 1 pole/12 way		
						2p/6 way. 3p/4 way 4p/3 way 6p/2 way		
						Spacer and Screen	47p	
						ROTARY (Adjustable Stop)	5p	
						1 pole/2 to 12 way. 2p/2 to 6 way. 3		
						pole/2 to 4 way. 4 pole/2 to 3 way	41p	
						ROTARY Mains 250V AC 4 Amp	45p	

VOLTAGE REGULATORS

TO3 Can Type p

1A +ve 5V. 12V. 15V. 18V. 145

MVRS or 12 150

1A -ve 5V. 12V. 15V. 18V. 24V. 85

Plastic (TO92)

+ve 0.1A 5V. 6V. 8V. 12V. 15V. 30

+ve 1A (TO220)

5V. 12V. 15V. 18V. 24V. 85

-ve 0.5A 5V. 6V. 8V. 12V. 15V. 86

-ve 1A 5V. 12V. 15V. 110

-ve 0.1A (TO92)

5V. 12V. 15V. 60

TRANSFORMERS* (Mains Prim. 220-240V)

6.0-6V 100mA. 9.0-9V 75mA. 12.0-12V 100mA

8VA: 6V-5A 6V-5A. 9V-4A 9V-4A. 12V-3A

12V-3A. 15V-2.5A 15V-2.5A

195p

12V-5A 12V-5A. 4.5V-1.3A. 6V-1.2A 6V-1.2A.

12V-5A 12V-5A. 15V-4A 15V-4A. 20V-3A

20V-3A 220p (20p p&p)

24VA: 6V-1.5A 6V-1.5A. 9V-1.3A 9V-1.3A.

12V-1A 12V-1A. 15V-8A 15V-8A. 20V-6A

20V-6A 290p (45p p&p).

50VA: 6V-4A 6V-4A. 9V-2.5A 9V-2.5A. 12V-2A

12V-2A 15V-1.5A 15V-1.5A. 20V-1.2A 20V-1.2A.

1.2A. 25V-1A 25V-1A. 30V-8A 30V-8A 350p

(50p p&p).

100VA: 12V-4A 12V-4A. 15V-3A 15V-3A.

20V-2.5A 20V-2.5A. 30V-1.5A 30V-1.5A.

40V-1.25A 40V-1.25A. 50V-1A 50V-1A 650p

(60p p&p).

ALUM. BOXES WITH LID*

3x2x1 45

2 1/2x5 1 1/2 68

4x4 1 1/2 68

4x2 1/2x1 1/2 70

4x5 1/2x1 1/2 68

4x2 1/2x2 64

5x4x2 82

6x4x2 88

7x5x2 114

8x6x3 148

10x7x3 172

10x4 1/2x3 142

12x5x3 165

12x8x3 210

PANEL METERS*

FSD

60x46x8

35mm

D 50uA

D 100uA

D 500uA

0.1mA

0.5mA

0.10mA

0.50mA

0.100mA

0.1A

0.2A

0.25V

0.50V AC

0.300V AC

S

VU

475p each

4 1/2x3 1/2x1 1/2

595p each

EARPHONES

Magnetic

2.5mm 18p

3.5mm 18p

Crystal 33p

ULTRASONIC TRANS-DUCERS

£3.95* per pair

KNOBBS* to fit 1/4 shaft

K1 Black Pointer type 9p

K1A White Pointer type 11p

K2 Slim Silvered Aluminium 12p

K3 Satin Black Ribbed 22mm diam. 12p

K4 Black Serrated Metal top with Indicator 35mm diam. 22p

K4a As K4 but 25mm diam. 20p

K5 Black Fluted, metal top & skirt. calibrated 0.9. 37mm diam. 28p

K6 As K5 but with pointer on skirt 28p

K7 Black Knurled tapered, metal top & skirt. Calibrated 0.9. 30mm 26p

K7a As above but pointer on skirt 26p

K8 Black or Silvered for Slider Pot 10p

K12 Aluminium plastic with line indicator. 16p

K19 Soid Aluminium Amplifier Knob. Eich line indicator, skirted 22mm 30p

COMPUTER HARDWARE*

2101 99

2102 100

2111 175

2114 650

2516 2516

2532 TBA

2708 650

27L08 995

2716 1650

3064 TBA

4027 180

4047 750

74S188 165

74S262 875

74S287 325

74S470 325

74S475 325

81LS95 70

81LS96 70

9900 £35

9980 £35

TMS6011 325

280 TBA

HEAT SINKS*

T092 8p

T05 9p

T018 8p

T0220

T03 24p

T066 24p

393 230 4018 89 4046 128 4085 74 4450 295

395 218 4019 48 4047 87 4086 73 4451 295

396 215 4020 99 4048 58 4089 150 4452

398 276 4021 91 4049 48 4093 85 4490 695

399 230 4022 88 4050 48 4094 190 4490V 525

445 150 4023 20 4051 72 4096 105 4501 17

447 144 4024 66 4052 72 4097 372 4502 120

490 180 4025 19 4053 72 4098 110 4503 69

668 182 4026 180 4054 110 4099 145 4506 51

669 182 4027 45 4055 128 4160 109 4507 55

670 248 4028 81 4057 2570 4161 109 4508 298

4029 99 4059 480 4162 109 4510 99

4030 58 4060 115 4163 109 4511 150

4031 205 4063 110 4174 110 4512 98

4001 17 4032 100 4066 58 1175 99 4513 206

4002 17 4033 145 4067 380 4194 108 4514 265

4006 105 4034 198 4068 22 4408 720 4515 299

4007 18 4035 111 4069 20 4409 720 4516 125

4008 87 4036 325 4070 32 4410 720 4517 382

4009 50 4037 100 4071 21 4412F 1650 4518 102

4010 50 4038 108 4072 21 4412V 1380 4519 55

4011 18 4039 320 4073 21 4415F 795 4520 108

4012 18 4040 105 4075 23 4415V 795 4521 188

4014 46 4041 80 4076 85 4419 280 4522 199

4013 42 4042 75 4077 40 4422 545 4523 152

4014 86 4043 94 4078 21 4433 1099 4528 99

4016 45 4044 88 4081 20 4435 825 4529 165

4017 89 4045 145 4082 21 4440 1275 4530 85

VDU Chip and MODULE for TV

Convert your TV into a VDU by using the new Thompson-CSF TV-CRT controller chip SF195364. 16 line by 64 characters text refreshment. Cursor management. Cursor management on screen. Line erasing. Compatible with any computing system.

SF F96364E £11.75*

AY 3 1015 £5.60*

AY-5-1013UARI £4.50*

71301 ROM £8.20*

SF80102 RAM £2.05*

74LS162 £11.18*

SN75450 £1.20*

SN75451 70p*

SN75452 70p*

SN75454 £2.25*

UHF Modulator £2.50*

Complete Module £136.50*

(Send 30p stamps for full technical data)

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SN75454 £2.25*

UHF Modulator £2.50*

Complete Module £136.50*

(Send 30p stamps for full technical data)

.....news digest.....



POCKET ADVANTAGE

A wallet type machine with hold-on memory. The new TI 50 has two memories, some scientific features, some statistical features and will turn itself off after 15 minutes if you aren't using it. Up to 15 levels of parenthesis are allowed. There is even a 'battery low' indicator.

Available now, it will cost under £30 and be in most shops that sell this sort of thing.

SCREEN TEST

The UK is now Hong Kong's largest market for TV games. We absorbed 26% of their export in the field, some 523,506 items if you please, in the first eight months of this year. Germany finished second

on 22% and the USA came third with 13%.

Somewhat of a surprise, and a shame that we take more than the States of these items. I always thought we had more taste.

SHORTS

- Every Ready - now called Berec - have released four rechargeable consumer batteries, in the HP2, HP11, HP7 and PP3 varieties. Chargers are also available. An undoubted reaction to the phenomenal loss of dry cell power these days.
- Direct drive turntables yes. But direct drive MPUs? Also yes - now. The S2000 is a new release from AMI which can drive fluorescent displays directly, with HT drive and 7-segment decoding on chip. Also on board 64 x 4 RAM and 1K ROM. Intended for low lost applications.
- Ingersoll - the tick tick people - are into electronics. They have released three TV games, three clock radios, two Door Chimes, and a portable micro cassette player. Photo shows one of their new TV games. It must be Christmas.



TTLs by TEXAS 7400 13p 74190 100p 4000 SERIES 7401 14p 74192 100p 4001 15p 7402 14p 74193 100p 4002 17p 7403 14p 74194 100p 4006 95p 7404 17p 74194 100p 4007 18p 7404S 90p 74195 95p 4008 80p 7405 18p 74196 95p 4009 40p 7406 32p 74197 80p 4010 17p 7407 32p 74198 150p 4011 17p 7408 19p 74199 150p 4012 18p 7409 19p 74200 110p 4013 50p 7410 15p 74221 160p 4014 84p 7411 24p 74251 140p 4015 84p 7412 20p 74259 250p 4016 80p 7413 30p 74262 90p 4017 80p 7414 60p 74278 280p 4018 80p 7416 27p 74279 140p 4019 45p 7417 27p 74283 190p 4020 100p 7420 17p 74284 400p 4021 110p 7421 40p 74285 400p 4022 100p 7422 22p 74294 150p 4023 22p 7423 34p 74293 150p 4024 50p 7425 30p 74294 200p 4025 20p 7426 40p 74298 200p 4026 130p 7427 34p 74365 150p 4027 50p 7428 36p 74366 150p 4028 84p 7430 17p 74367 120p 4029 100p 7432 30p 74368 150p 4030 55p 7433 40p 74390 200p 4031 200p 7437 35p 74393 200p 4033 180p 7438 35p 74490 225p 4034 200p 7440 17p 4035 110p 7441 70p 4040 100p 7442A 60p 4041 60p 7443 112p 4042 80p 7444 112p 4043 90p 7445 100p 4044 90p 7446A 93p 74LS00 18p 4046 110p 7447A 60p 74LS02 18p 4047 100p 7448 80p 74LS04 20p 4048 100p 7450 17p 74LS05 25p 4049 32p 7451 17p 74LS08 25p 4050 49p 7452 17p 74LS10 20p 4051 80p 7454 17p 74LS11 40p 4052 80p 7456 17p 74LS13 45p 4053 80p 7470 30p 74LS14 150p 4054 110p 7472 30p 74LS20 22p 4055 125p 7473 34p 74LS21 40p 4056 135p 7474 30p 74LS22 28p 4059 600p 7475 36p 74LS27 38p 4060 115p 7476 35p 74LS30 22p 4063 120p 7480 50p 74LS32 72p 4064 150p 7481 100p 74LS42 95p 4067 450p 7482 84p 74LS47 90p 4068 22p 7483A 90p 74LS55 30p 4069 20p 7484 100p 74LS72 40p 4070 30p 7485 110p 74LS73 50p 4071 22p 7486 34p 74LS74 40p 4072 22p 7489 210p 74LS75 50p 4073 22p 7490A 33p 74LS83 110p 4075 22p 7491 80p 74LS85 100p 4076 107p 7492A 46p 74LS86 40p 4081 22p 7493A 33p 74LS90 90p 4082 22p 7494 84p 74LS92 72p 4083 22p 7495A 70p 74LS93 90p 4094 175p 7496 65p 74LS107 45p 4098 107p 7497 180p 74LS112 100p 4411 11p 74100 130p 74LS123 75p 4502 120p 74104 65p 74LS124 180p 4503 70p 74105 85p 74LS125 80p 4507 55p 74107 34p 74LS132 120p 4510 90p 74109 55p 74LS133 60p 4511 150p 74110 55p 74LS138 60p 4514 250p 74111 70p 74LS139 60p 4516 110p 74116 200p 74LS148 140p 4518 100p 74118 130p 74LS151 100p 4520 90p 74119 210p 74LS153 80p 4518 100p 74120 110p 74LS154 140p 4543 180p 74121 28p 74LS157 60p 4553 450p 74122 48p 74LS158 120p 4560 250p 74123 65p 74LS160 130p 4583 90p 74125 65p 74LS161 100p 4584 90p 74126 60p 74LS162 140p 4001 4 74128 75p 74LS163 110p 4008 5 74132 75p 74LS164 120p 4009 9 74136 75p 74LS165 180p 14411 11 74141 70p 74LS166 180p 14412V 11 74142 200p 74LS173 110p 14433 11 74145 90p 74LS174 100p 74147 190p 74LS175 110p 74148 150p 74LS181 320p 74510 100p 74LS190 100p 74151A 70p 74LS191 100p 74153 70p 74LS192 140p 74154 100p 74LS193 140p 74155 90p 74LS194 140p 74156 90p 74LS196 120p 74157 70p 74LS221 140p 74159 190p 74LS240 175p 74160 100p 74LS241 175p 74161 100p 74LS242 170p 74162 100p 74LS243 170p 74163 100p 74LS244 170p 74164 120p 74LS245 170p 74165 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10p BC184 11p BC187 30p BC212/3 11p BC214 12p BC461 36p BC477 8 30p BC516 7 50p BC547B 16p BC548C 16p BC557B 16p BC558B 16p BC591 18p BCY70 18p BCY71 2 22p BCY72 2 22p BD135 6 54p BD139 56p BD140 60p BD242 70p BF256 200p BF200 32p BF248 35p BF256B 70p BF257 8 32p BF259 36p BF339 30p BF400 30p BF4R1 30p BF4R7 30p BF4R8 30p BF4R9 30p BF4R10 30p BF4R11 30p BF4R12 30p BF4R13 30p BF4R14 30p BF4R15 30p BF4R16 30p BF4R17 30p BF4R18 30p BF4R19 30p BF4R20 30p BF4R21 30p BF4R22 30p BF4R23 30p BF4R24 30p BF4R25 30p BF4R26 30p BF4R27 30p BF4R28 30p BF4R29 30p BF4R30 30p BF4R31 30p BF4R32 30p BF4R33 30p BF4R34 30p BF4R35 30p BF4R36 30p BF4R37 30p BF4R38 30p BF4R39 30p BF4R40 30p BF4R41 30p BF4R42 30p BF4R43 30p BF4R44 30p BF4R45 30p BF4R46 30p BF4R47 30p BF4R48 30p BF4R49 30p BF4R50 30p BF4R51 30p BF4R52 30p BF4R53 30p BF4R54 30p BF4R55 30p BF4R56 30p BF4R57 30p BF4R58 30p BF4R59 30p BF4R60 30p BF4R61 30p BF4R62 30p BF4R63 30p BF4R64 30p BF4R65 30p BF4R66 30p BF4R67 30p BF4R68 30p BF4R69 30p BF4R70 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news digest.....

WHEN THE COMPUTING and Control department of Imperial College decided that they needed a logic hardware teaching lab, they were faced with several alternatives. One was to teach all the students in each year to solder and then let them loose on a handful of TTL and CMOS chips each. This would have meant a plethora of supply problems, technicians and even minor burns.

What they opted for instead was to use — you guessed it — a computer.

The setup works roughly like this: A computer terminal is situated in the centre of the 'lab' and is surrounded by 16 benches, each provided with an oscilloscope, a signal generator and other relevant test equipment and peripherals. Each bench also has a perspex case with several dozen sockets and LEDs in it. The student goes to the central console, tells the machine which bench he wishes to use and which logic elements he requires. He then goes to the bench and sticks labels on the perspex case. Each label is printed with the relevant logic symbol. By connecting patchcords between the sockets on the 'breadboard,' the student can build up a logic network. The LEDs indicate the state of the various outputs. Each of the boards also has various 'utilities' — several clocks, a random logic output and handswitches to provide inputs.

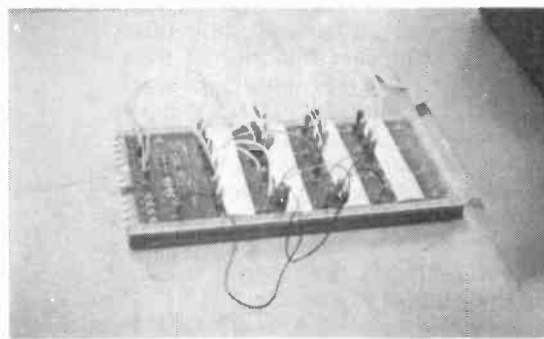
All of these functions are provided by the computer — the sockets all lead into it's bus and it is the computer which drives the LEDs. This means that not only is there no possibility of the students damaging ICs which would then have to be replaced, but also that any component can be 'synthesised' — the department has even designed an imaginary CPU for use with the system.

The computer also calculates propagation delays — the students learn the pitfalls of race hazards in digital systems. It is even possible to simulate faulty components — as a fault-finding exercise. Another system (experimental as yet) can pretend to be linear components as well. Clearly the teaching possibilities offered by such a system are tremendous — what price blobboards now?

— Phil Cohen



Martin Cripps telling the machine what it's supposed to be!



What the students see. The wires disappear into the table — some conjuring trick!

Our thanks to Roy Francis and Martin Cripps of Imperial College for their time and trouble.

Clearly-Precision within your grasp for only

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LCD Multimeter Kit — Measures Voltage (AC/DC), Current, Resistance, Temperature*.

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- Current AC/DC: 200 μ A, 2mA, 20mA, 200mA, 2A
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LOUDSPEAKER PRINCIPLES

ON PAPER most loudspeakers look to be terrible pieces of design. Distortion averaging 1%-2% — and what's worse varying with frequency. Efficiency only rarely exceeding 1% — so that the vast majority of those carefully nurtured, 0.002% THD amplifier watts pumped in down those non-inductive £10 a metre cables turn into nice, safe, un-musical heat!

The purpose of any loudspeaker is to convert an incoming complex electrical signal into compressions and rarefactions in the air—sound waves — which can be perceived as being as close to the original signal as possible. The different methods now being used to realise this end form the basis of this article.

What Is Left Undone

You will find references throughout this article to frequency divider — crossover — networks. Unfortunately there is too much to be said on that subject to allow a full and proper treatment of it within this article, and we shall return to it in a companion article later.

Forgive us our evasion.

Loudspeakers of whatever variety interact crucially with the surroundings they are used in — the living room, studio or whatever. When judging performance it is vital to remember this, and even moving a speaker around in a room can significantly alter performance. Some manufacturers are becoming sensitive to this themselves — notably AR — and are producing designs specially tailored to a particular location, or allowing adjustment of output to suit varied positioning (AR 10 π , AR9).

Such adjustments are generally carried out within the crossover network, and alter the electrical inputs to the units to compensate for specific emphasis placed on certain frequencies — usually the bass — by the loudspeakers position.

And What Is Not

We have concentrated on the major fundamentally different systems in commercial use today, and tried to explain how they operate what their advantages are, and what are their drawbacks. Many minor variations have been left out simply through lack of space.

Forgive us our omissions.

The types covered are:

1. Moving coil — and methods of loading
2. Electrostatic
3. Isodynamic
4. Ribbon
5. Piezo-electric
6. Motional Feedback Control

Every hi-fi must have not one but two. Loudspeakers are perhaps the weakest link in the precarious hi-fi chain. Many methods of improving the sound we hear have been tried. Few have succeeded well enough to reach production. Ron Harris explains the innermost secrets of those that made it!

MOVING COIL

This system dominates the field at present, and is certain to do so for the foreseeable future. The principle is an exact reverse of the microphone principle, and takes its being from the fact that a wire carrying a current I in a magnetic field of flux density B will experience a force, F , where

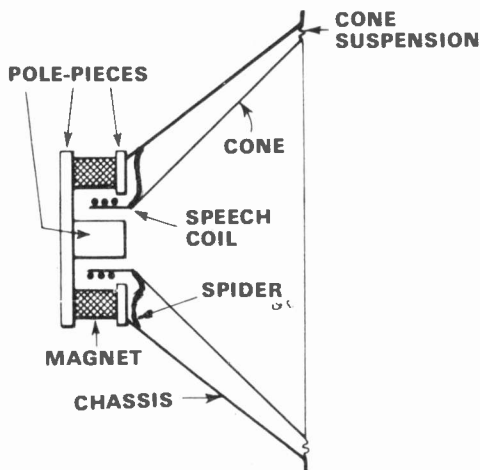
$$F = B.I.l.k \quad k = a \text{ const.}$$

A coil of wire carrying the audio is sited within an intense magnetic field, and is attached to a 'cone' as shown in the diagram. The cone is held in position by the edge suspension and 'spider'.

When a signal passes through the coil the force produced tries to push it out of the field in one direction or another, and this movement is transferred to the air by the movement of the cone. The suspension system provides a 'return-to-rest' force. This movement is related more or less linearly to the input as long as the coil remains within a constant field.

If it moves out, then the relationship will change, introducing non-linearity or distortion. For this reason large and powerful magnets are employed, which have as great a depth of field as possible.

Another solution is to use very long coils so that the number of turns of wire within the gap between the pole pieces remains relatively constant.

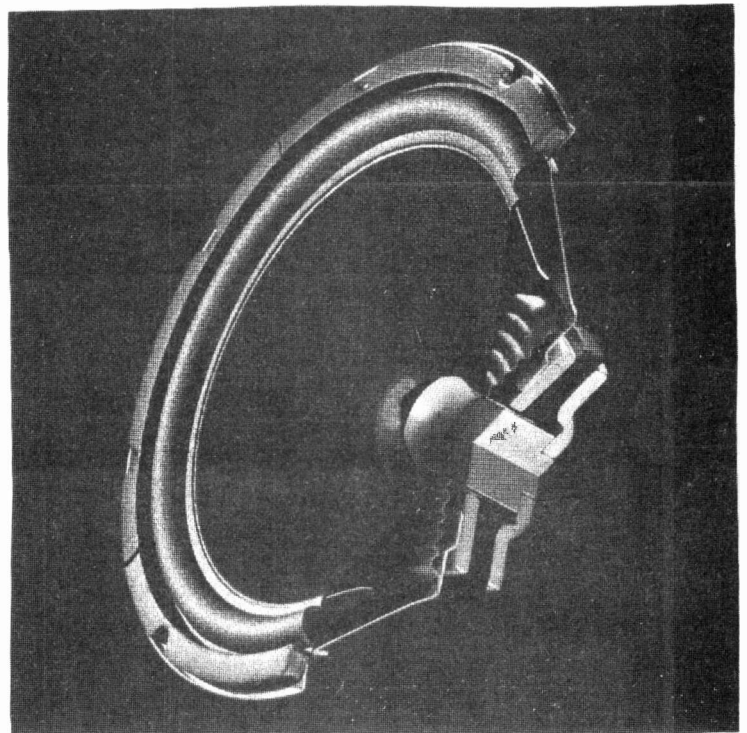


Basic schematic of moving coil loudspeaker. In practice the coil winding would be longer relative to the magnets, so that it did not move out of the field.

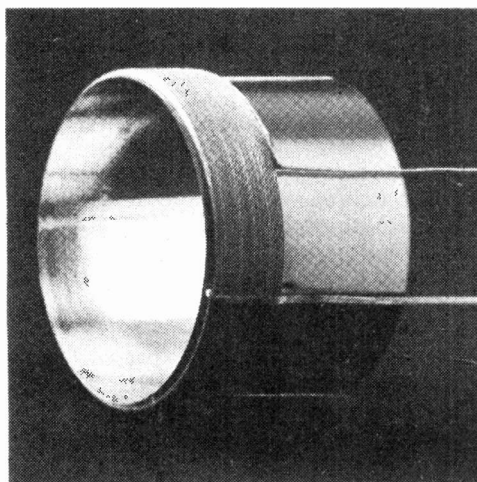
Heated Exchange

Heat is generated in the coil and must be conducted away, usually by the magnet assemblies and chassis. AR speakers now incorporate a heat conducting fluid which is present in the gap and the coil is immersed in this. Heat conduction is thus improved and power handling raised. The fluid also acts as a damper to aid movement control.

The speaker chassis must be as rigid as possible, since the only reason the coil and cone move and it doesn't is that it weighs more! Any resonances present in the structure will act to transfer energy from the coil movement and hence distort the output.



Cutaway photo of a moving coil unit — in this case a Bose driver. If you look carefully you should be able to identify the voice coil, magnet assembly, spider and cone assembly.



Close-up of a voice coil. This is a machine wound unit belonging to a Bose driver. Note the winding is butted very close to the edge of the paper former, and the precise nature of the winding necessary for linearity.

Cone-ventional?

The greatest drawback of this system is the cone itself. This is usually either doped paper or Bextrene — an erstwhile packing material someone fell over once! It should act as a piston to the air, with the entire surface moving together to produce the required air movement.

However, since it is driven only at the centre, unless the material is possessed of infinite rigidity(!) flexing or

rippling will take place — once again deviating from the input signal. The larger the cone the worse the effect as the frequency rises, since the centre driven portion may well be oscillating with a period smaller than the time taken for the energy to be transmitted through the cone material to the outside edge.

Hence the centre of the cone leads the outside by a number of cycles, all of which appear as ripples in the cone. This is the reason for dividing up the incoming electrical signal, and for employing smaller coned drive units for higher, less energetic, frequencies.

To handle the high end of the audio spectrum, dome units have almost entirely replaced the coned variety, as they spread the sound more evenly, giving a better dispersion across the listening area. Also domes can be produced smaller, and a hemispherical dome, edge driven, will tend to act more as an integral surface than a centre driven cone.

Getting A Hangover

Since the cone has mass, and therefore inertia (Dr. Who excepted) it cannot respond instantaneously to changes in direction called for by changes in polarity of the electrical signal. This inability to get back in time is called 'overhang' and is another problem facing designers. To minimise it driver mass has to be as small as possible, while rigidity has to be as high as possible.

This has led over the years to many experiments with metal cones, mylar cones, polyester et etc etc. Anywhere other than bass units most of these have proved successful. ▶

An integral part of a moving coil loudspeaker design is the method of housing the units, and thus putting an acoustic-loading upon the actual units. A brief discussion of the various methods is thus required at this point.

Housing Shortages

There are basically six methods of providing a home for drive units and at the same time augmenting its performance. These are:

- (i) Finite Baffle
- (ii) Acoustic Suspension (sometimes called Infinite Baffle)
- (iii) Bass Reflex
- (iv) Auxiliary Bass Radiator
- (v) Transmission Line
- (vi) Horn Loading

All of these apply primarily to moving coil units with the exception of horn loading which can be used to enhance efficiency of several types. In order then:—

Finite Baffle

Since the vibrating cone is emitting sound waves in both directions, unless prevented the two waves will interact causing cancellation and reduction in acoustic output. The effect is reduced by placing the speaker in the centre of a large solid board to make it difficult for a compression produced in front to cancel the rarefaction produced behind the speaker.

Obviously an infinitely large piece of wood prevents this entirely, but such things don't grow on (ANY) trees(!?) and so the finite baffle is an attempt to do the best that can be done.

Once the sound wavelength approaches the baffle size destructive interference takes place and response rolls off.

This method is responsible for those hardened enthusiasts mounting their bass units flush into walls and sides of houses!

Sinclair marketed a finite baffle speaker some years ago but this seems to have ceased to be.

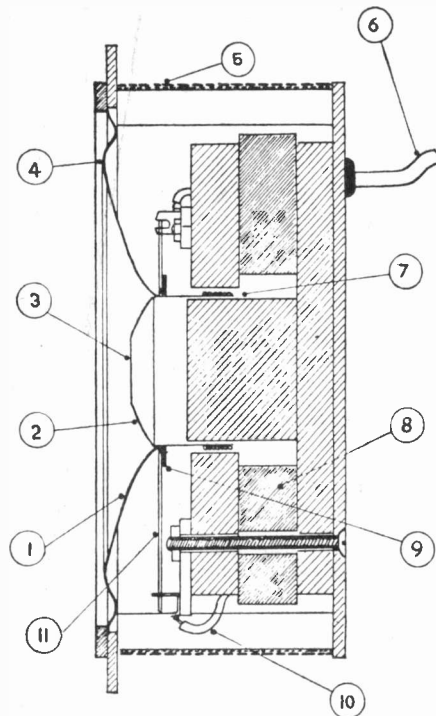
Acoustic Suspension

Here the rear radiation from the units is (hopefully) entirely suppressed by totally enclosing the unit in a box, and radiating through a hole in that box (sounds odd when phrased like that eh?).



The AR9. Coming from one of the 'founder' manufacturers it represents Acoustic Researches state of the art. The cabinet is treated around the baffle with absorption material to prevent diffraction and re-radiation effects that lesser enclosures suffer from. It also stands an endearing 53in high!

Schematic of a Jordan Watts driver module. Numbers refer to: 1. Metal cone contoured to hyperbolic law. 2. Phase correcting dome. 3. Resistive termination to dome centre. 4. Resistive termination to cone edge. 5. Acoustic damping. 6. Direct input signal cable. 7. Coil completely immersed in magnetic field. 8. High efficiency "Feroba" magnet. 9. Resistive termination at junction of cone, coil and suspension. 10. Connections to coil via suspension. 11. Silvered beryllium copper suspension cantilevers.



Damping of the cone movement occurs due to the compliance of the trapped air, and the suspension system now consists of both the actual cone suspension plus the air load.

In order to preserve bass response the enclosure should be fairly large and hence present a good air load allowing high levels of energy to be applied. Bass units designed for this type of loading have a high cone mass and high compliance. In addition they are generally of the long voice coil variety. The air load then applies most of the restoring force required by the design. Efficiency is reduced since the cone mass is increased and compliance (total) is low.

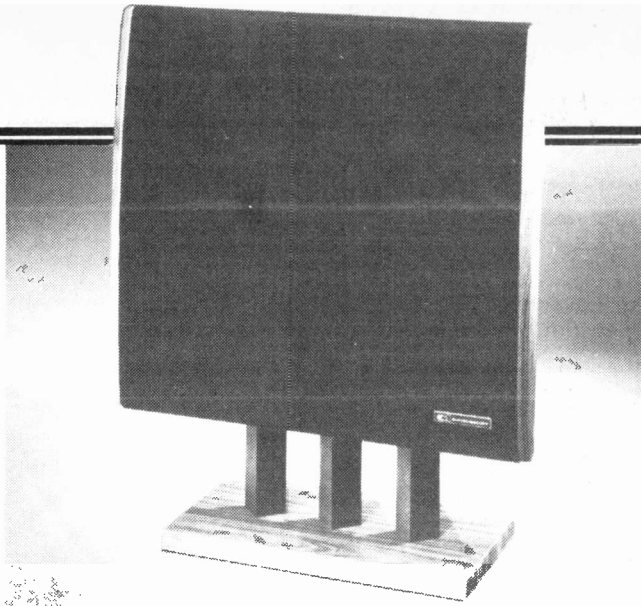
Bass Reflex

The aim of this method is to raise efficiency at low frequencies and thus decrease the required enclosure size for a given bass output. This is accomplished by addition of a vent, or port, in the front panel of the enclosure. This allows a controlled movement of air between cabinet and room. The effect of careful design of vent dimensions and placement is to produce an effective addition to bass response below a certain frequency, such that the air moving out of the vent aids the air movement produced by the bass driver.

Above the operating frequency the vent has no effect on performance (they hope).

Auxiliary Bass Radiator

Basically a variation on the above principle, but with the vent 'plugged' with a driverless unit or suspended mass. This is tuned to provide antiphase radiation in the required frequency band. Above this band the unit acts like part of the enclosure wall. Perfected and practised by Celestion, and perhaps epitomised by the Ditton 66 design.



The DQ10. This design makes use of what the makers term a 'phased array'. This means that the driver units are staggered so that their effective radiator 'points' are equi-distant from the listener which eliminates the time delay distortion (phase linear?) flat baffle designs are prone to. In addition each driver is mounted on its own optimum sized baffle to minimise diffraction problems.

Transmission Lines

This is another method of 'losing' the rear radiation of a drive unit, or making it think it is working into an infinitely long column. This is achieved by having a maze of woodwork inside the enclosure which is filled with graduated damping material. In this way total column length can be far greater than enclosure dimensions.

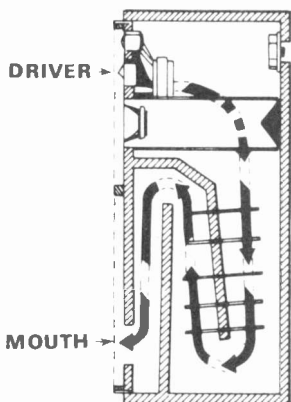
If the far end of the column is open then help is afforded to the bass performance in much the same way as bass reflex cabinets.

The design is usually for almost total absorption of the rear wave — and this leads to a gradual and smooth fall off in bass response due to the almost constant velocity working conditions for the cone.

Conversely to both acoustic suspension and basis reflex loading methods, transmission line methods lower the bass resonance of the drive units and hence enhance LF performance.

IMF have championed this technique for long time passing now, and as exemplified in their products transmission line bass possesses a 'solid' quantity totally different to that from the other methods. It is more extended and more realistic. Used in a large enough room there is no better way to replay the lower registers.

Oh for a successful combination of transmission line bass and electrostatic HF!



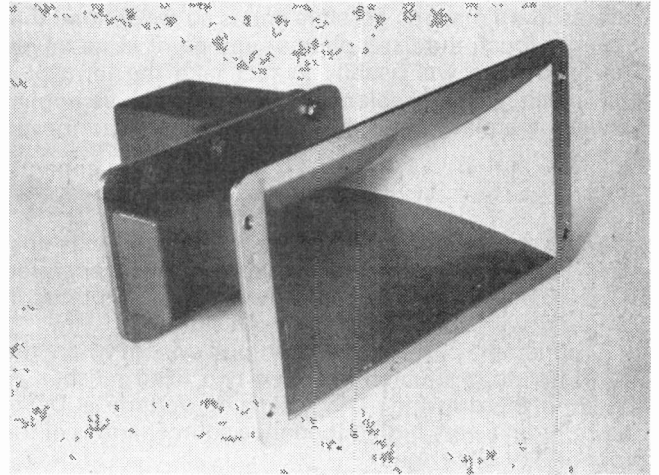
The basic principle behind the transmission line speaker enclosure. The air from the rear of the cone gets 'lost' down the line.

KEFs 105 linear phase design. The upper two enclosures are rotatable to aid stereo imagery. Note the rounded edges to prevent re-radiation and the staggered drivers with respect to the listener.

Horn Loading

A method of designing to considerably reduce required driver excursion for a given acoustic output. The driving element is coupled to its air load by a gradually 'flaring' throat — usually exponential in cross section.

The horn converts the high pressure, low velocity sound energy present in the region of the driver into low pressure high velocity waves for propagation. The advantages of this type of loading are good damping of the driver, low distortion but a limited frequency response.



The Decca London ribbon unit, loaded by a catenoidal horn. The flare can be clearly seen in this photo leading down to the ribbon itself somewhere in that block at the back!

To design a single horn to cover the entire audio spectrum is a confused exercise, and one yielding impractical results for domestic use, since an exponential horn to reproduce 30 Hz has a mouth of 1.5m diameter and is some 4m long! Folding the horn back and forth within an enclosure can reduce dimensions, and the American firm Klipsch market units which employ the room walls as extensions of the horn to reach lower frequencies. Usually though, the system is used to load MF and HF units within a system.

Advantages of this principle are phenomenal efficiency $\approx 10\%$ compared with 1% for bass reflex and 0.1% for transmission lines, and an attack unmatched by any other cone driver recipies. ▶



ELECTROSTATIC

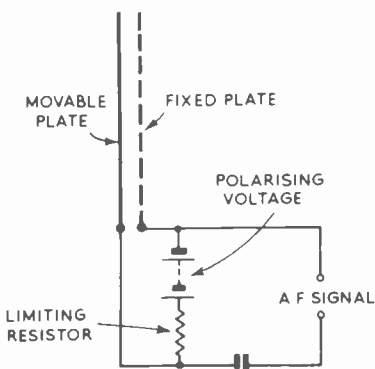
As we have seen the moving coil design suffers because the cone area is unevenly driven by the electrical music signal. The electrostatic principle, developed by both David Tombs and Peter Walker (of the Acoustical Manufacturing Company) is an attempt to produce a unit in which the entire surface of the unit is driven by the input signal.

At its most basic the design consists of two plates as shown in the diagram. The moveable plate is made to have as low a mass as possible and is so suspended that it cannot touch the fixed plate at any point in its travel. The fixed plate will usually in fact take the form of a etal 'mesh'. A high polarising voltage $\approx 5\text{kV}$ is applied between the plates, and the audio signal superimposed on this.

An electrostatic force—such as that which holds dust on to LPs and LPs onto turntables—is thus generated between the plates and the moveable one vibrates in sympathy with variation in the input signal.

A refinement of this is the push-pull system where the moving plate is situated between two fixed meshes as shown in the drawing. The polarising voltage is DC in nature, from a very high impedance source, and is of the order of 5kV once again.

The outer plates (meshes) are fed from a step-up transformer connected to load the incoming signal. This applies a high voltage electrical AC signal to these plates (the music signal) and causes the center plate to move in sympathy with this. Distortion is greatly reduced using this push-pull arrangement and can equal 0.5% in a good design.



Scheme of operation for electrostatic loudspeakers. On the top we have the basic single ended design, and below that the commercially employed, much-improved push-pull scheme as employed by Quad and Koss amongst others.

This system first appeared on the market many many years ago in the form of the Quad electrostatic system—which remains largely unsurpassed for lack of colouration and mid-range clarity.

The advantage of driving the plate evenly over its whole area show up as a linear frequency response—no rippling or 'break-up'—very low distortion and a good transient performance due to low driver mass.

However this system does have inherent drawbacks. Consider the Quad system as an example. It is noted for its mid-range clarity and its high frequency accuracy—but also for its lack of extreme bass and its beaming of top end signals—poor vertical dispersion.

The reason for this is its physical size. Since the push-pull radiator is by nature a dipole radiator—sound emitted both front and back, some cancellation at frequencies whose wavelength exceeds the plate dimension is inevitable.

The Quad is also very room sensitive for this same reason. Rear radiation can be dumped, but not without acoustically loading the plate—an undesirable excursion into non-linearity. At high frequencies there is low energy in the wave to absorb, and so this is easier to affect without adverse consequences on the drive plate.

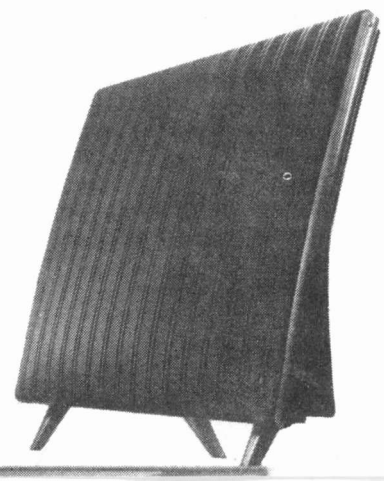
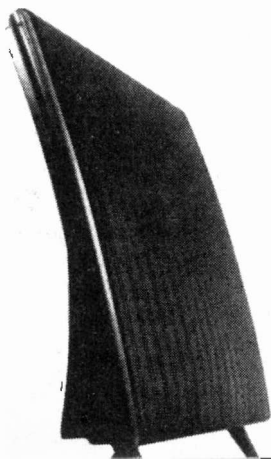
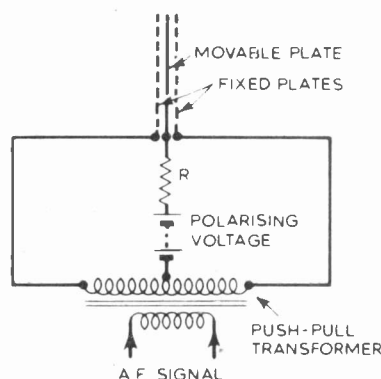
KLH made a brave attempt to reach the theoretical size of plate for good bass response with their superb KLH9 full range units. These are almost exactly door sized—and you need **two** per channel! And they cost £2000 a pair. And they are probably unbeatable by any speaker on the market for sheer accuracy and delicacy. Their size endows them with a hefty bass punch too. Units to sell your soul for. (Anyone listening down there?)

Loading Problems

Another less serious drawback is that transformer into which the electrical signal is fed. This presents an awkward load to the amplifier, and can produce some nasty effects from transistor amps.

Modern designs however—Lecson, Quad and the rest, can cope perfectly and experience no traumas when presented with the wickedly reactive termination characteristic of electrostatic speakers.

Many attempts have been made to marry together electrostatic mid-high drivers with cone bass units. B&W DM70 was perhaps the first (and the best!) but not have been entirely successful. Perhaps its simply that the superior distortion and colouration properties of the electrostatics will always show up the bass units!



ISODYNAMIC

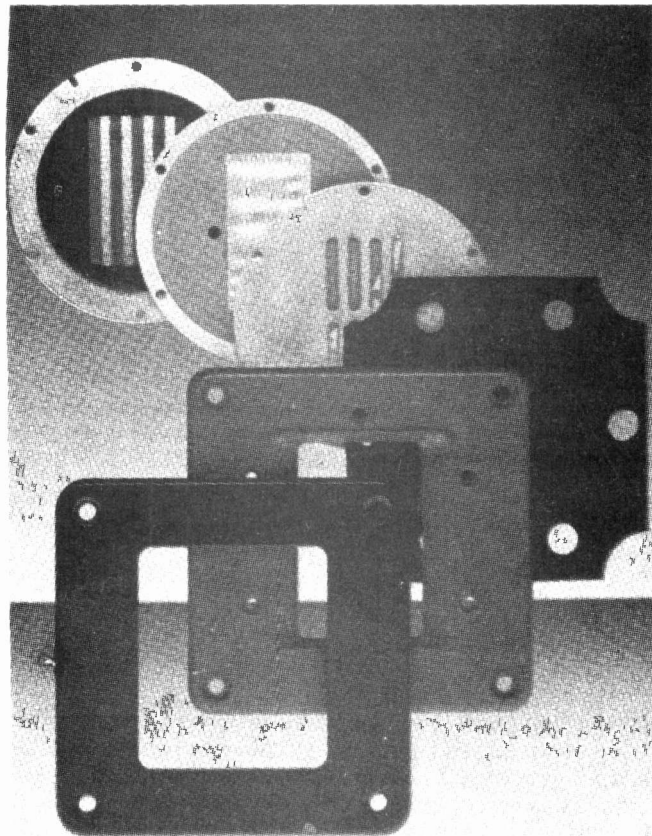
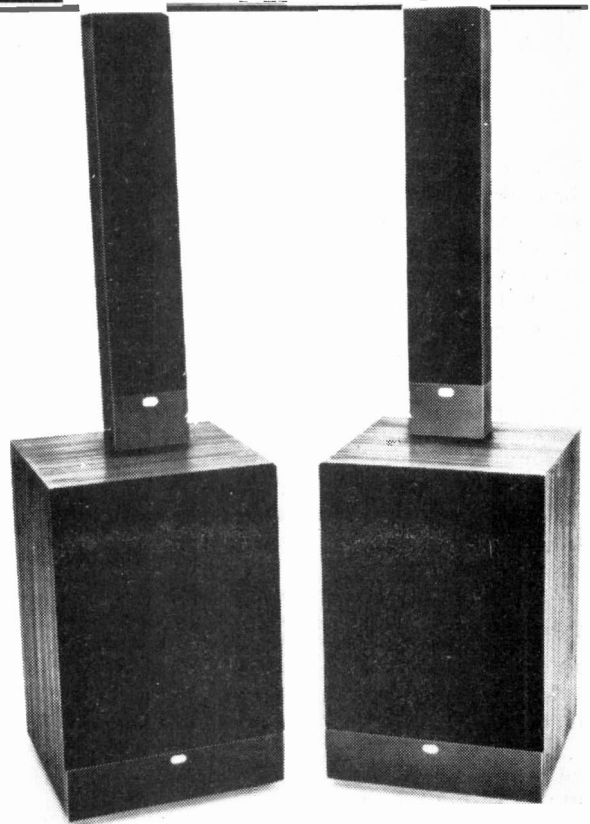
With the release of the Stathearn 21000 speakers, and the new Wharfedale series incorporating Isodynamic tweeters, this approach is gaining ground. It certainly has a lot of promise, which we shall undoubtedly see exploited as time goes on.

The principle was pioneered by Wharfedale with their Isodynamic headphones some six years ago or so. It is really an attempt to gain the advantages of the electrostatic system, without the need for high voltages and attendant drawbacks.

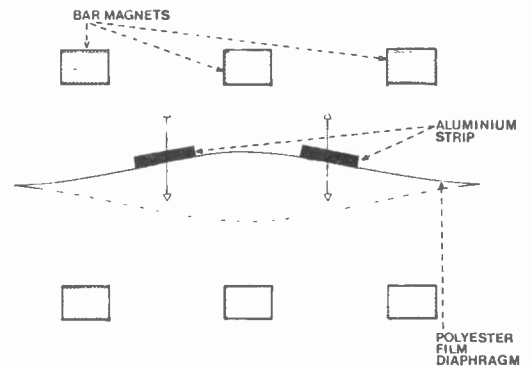
A drive unit built to this principle consists of a thin sheet of mylar, or some such material, with a conductive track bonded onto it in a pattern which covers the surface in as symmetrical manner as possible. This conductor acts as the voice coil of the speaker, and when an electrical signal is passed through it it responds to nearby magnets by moving the diaphragm in sympathy.

Once again colouration is low, and driver mass small—but also once again to obtain bass means large areas, and conductors capable of handling large currents. Stathearns units are above 500Hz operators only and are transformer coupled to the input. Wharfedale employ their invention in high frequency units only.

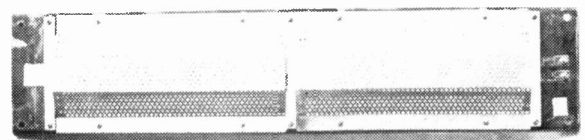
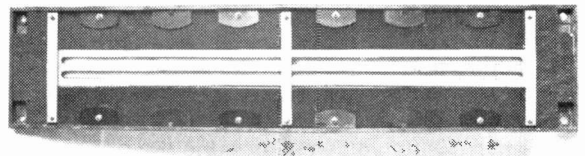
A pity—but one we might see rectified sometime in the future.



Exploded view of the Wharfedale Isodynamic tweeter. The driver plane — second from the rear — uses a material 25 microns thick with an etched aluminium circuit.



The 21000 from all angles. At the top we have the full system. Below the diagram shows the operating principle of the SLC1. The polyester diaphragm acts as the speaker cone. Below this caption two internal views of the unit. The radiating areas can be seen in the top diagram, and the lower rear view illustrates the damping material to control rear radiation.



RIBBON

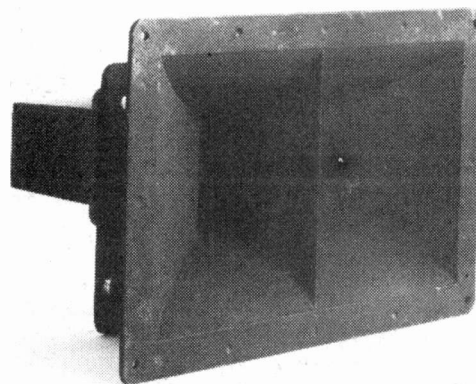
If we take the voice coil of moving coil speakers, and make this the active element, instead of the cone, we would do away with a lot of the causes of colouration in the process. Mass would be much smaller, break-up or rippling would be greatly reduced, if not eliminated and thus transient handling improved.

The ribbon loudspeaker does exactly this. A very thin metal 'ribbon' is suspended between the magnet pole faces and the signal passed through it. It will vibrate with the signal, and thus produce the sound output.

Acoustic output is low, and horn loading is usually employed to alleviate this problem.

Once again obtaining bass is a major problem, and moving coil units will take over from the ribbon as the frequency decreases.

Decca market an excellent example of this principle, which operates above 2.5kHz.



Decca's ribbon loudspeaker. This features a ribbon element one tenth the thickness of human hair, and is horn loaded to increase efficiency. An 'acoustic lens' can also be fitted to aid sound dispersion.

PIEZO-ELECTRIC

In the July 1976 edition of ETI we reviewed the Motorola KN 6006A, the first piezo-electric unit to be released commercially. Since that time many commercial loudspeaker enclosures have employed piezo-electric tweeters for their total insensitivity to crossover networks, phenomenal transient response and clean subjective sound quality.

Piezo-electrics have been around in hi-fi for a long time now in the guise of crystal/ceramic cartridges. The principle of operation is based upon the fact that stress a piezo-electric crystal and a voltage proportional to the applied force is produced across its ends.

Conversely therefore if we apply a varying voltage across the ends of the crystal, mechanical deformation occurs, sympathetic to that voltage. No magnets are required, and no coil is used.

In the Motorola design two thin slices of ceramic material—lead zirconite-lead titanate in case it makes your life the fuller for knowing are epoxied onto a brass separator, and nickel electrodes deposited on to a facilitate connection. In order that the discs respond correctly to the input, they are polarised in opposite senses, so that on application of a common signal one disc expands and the other contracts—acting in the same direction therefore on the air load.

Pros

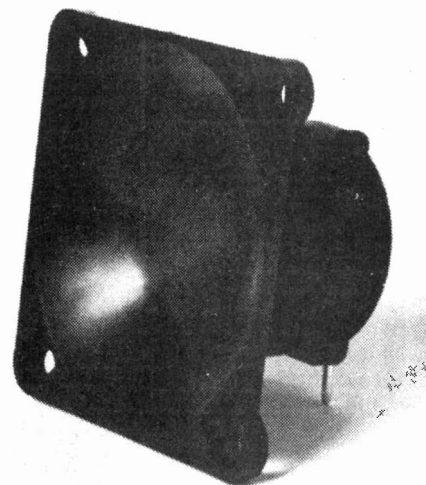
Since the impedance curve for the unit shows a steep rise in value with falling frequency, the unit does not need a crossover to reject low frequencies.

A perfect tweeter.

Since there is no voice coil or cone the driver mass is significantly lower than an equivalent conventional speaker.

Being composed of a ceramic material heat dissipation is less of a problem also, and the Motorola can stand 35V RMS for protracted periods with no signs of distress.

Due to the nature of its impedance, it is difficult to compare efficiency with normal units, suffice it to say that 4V RMS produces 105dB at 18ins distance, and that this can be considered efficient!



Motorola's KN 6006 piezo-electric high frequency driver. The actual driver is the small section at the rear, and the horn is to increase acoustic efficiency.

. And Cons.

Some amplifiers may not like the load any more than electrostatic units, but since these things are normally used with a good deal of attenuation and response shaping circuitry between them and the valued output stages this should not be too great a problem.

Subjectively these units have always sounded a little 'hard' to me, and never as smooth as a good dome unit like the Isophon or Celestion 2000 designs. Still personal taste and all that

Once again acoustic efficiency is low, and horn loading is employed.

MOTIONAL FEEDBACK

Although this perhaps only a modification of earlier systems, the performance gains at LF are such that it warrants a closer look.

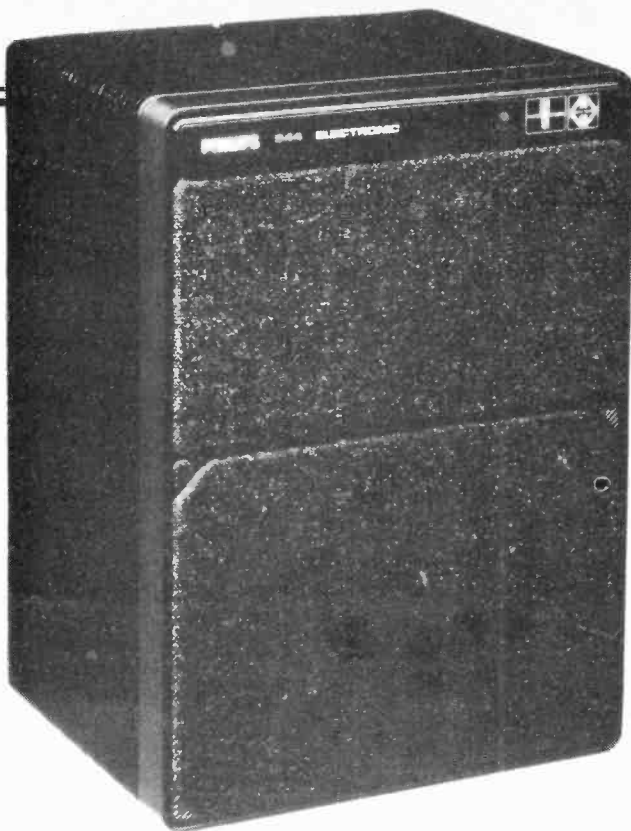
Motional feedback is a form of feedback control of the driver cone in moving coil systems. The power amplifier are mounted within the enclosure, a separate amp for each drive unit, and so signal feed is from a preamplifier. The system is marketed by Philips.

The main advantage of this extra complication lies at the bottom end of the range where the output for given enclosure volume is considerably enhanced. The complication lies in the sensor fitted onto the driver.

This is mounted on a small PCB and is a ceramic acceleration sensor. This generates a signal proportional to the actual driver output, and this is compared electronically to the incoming audio. Correction is applied to remove any errors present. Cross over is carried out at small signal level, and active filters with all their inherent superiority are applied.

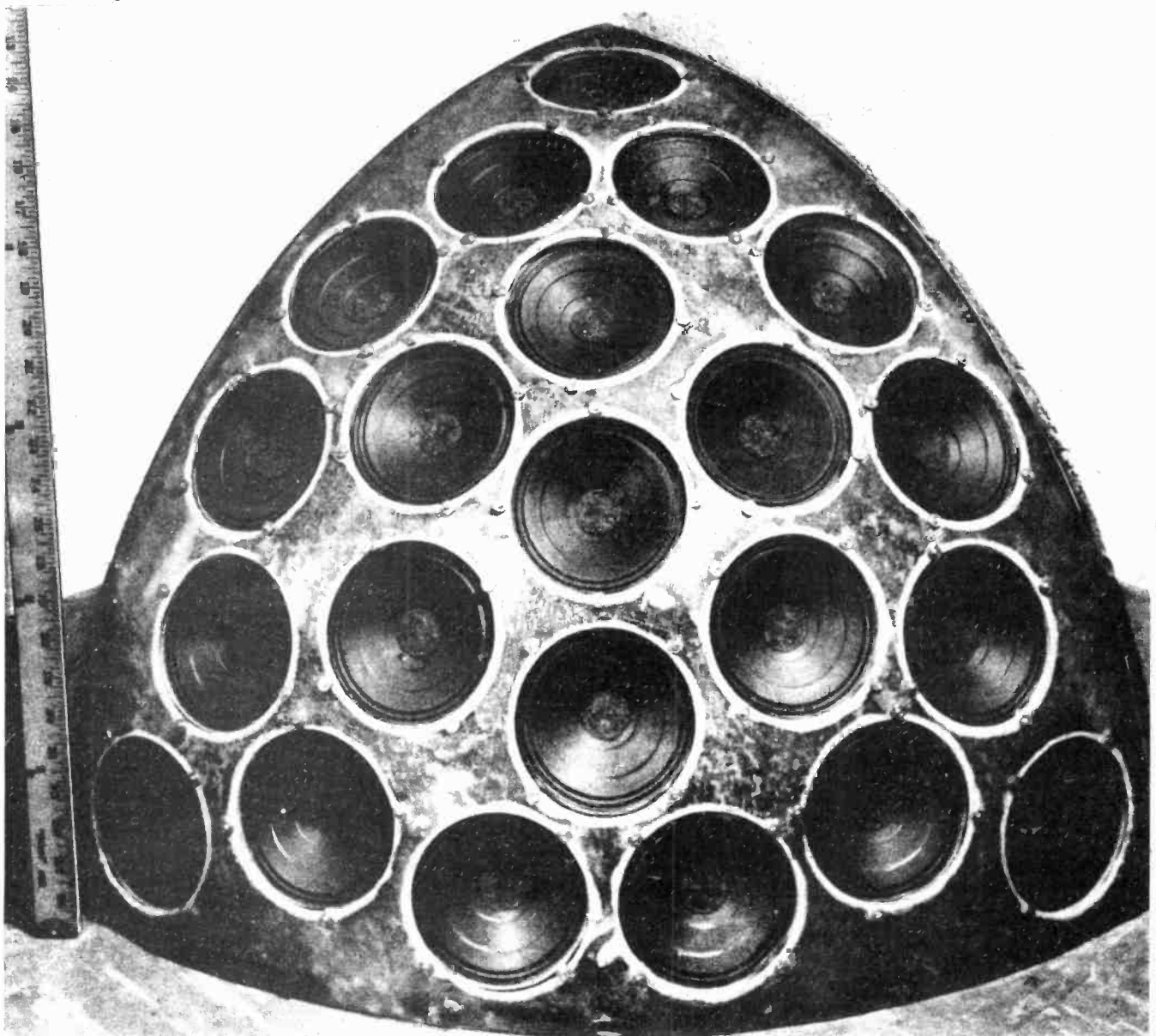
There is a 'slave' output which allows the enclosures to be stacked up to increase power handling and effective output.

ETI



Philips loudspeaker RH 544 Motional Feedback design. This unit incorporates a separate bass power amplifier, and a lower power amplifier for mid-high frequencies. Bass performance is exceptional for the tiny enclosure size, but other areas of output are undistinguished.

This is one-eighth of the perfect speaker! Many experts consider that elusive device to consist of a pulsating sphere operating in free field conditions. Bose built this approximation to test pulse waveform response. From here sprung the excellent Base 901 series III loudspeaker.



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TRANSISTORS		2K3933 0.17		2N4007 0.60		2N5192 0.80		2N6124 0.45		8C108A 0.16		8C1789 0.35		8C337 0.20		8D240A 0.49		8F160 0.33		8FR79 0.30		8M4001 0.16		8T30C 0.70				
2N696	0.39	2N2218	0.35	2K3934	0.17	2N4058	0.22	2N5193	0.75	2N6125	0.47	8C108B	0.16	8C179	0.25	8C213A	0.17	8C338	0.23	8D240C	0.59	8F161	0.65	8FR80	0.30	8M4002	0.16	8T31A 0.54
2N697	0.31	2N2218A	0.38	2K3935	0.19	2N4059	0.27	2N5194	0.80	40361	0.55	8C108C	0.17	8C179A	0.25	8C213B	0.17	8C339	0.13	8D241A	0.49	8F162	0.37	8FR81	0.30	8M4003	0.16	8T32A 0.52
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2N708	0.30	2N2221A	0.25	2K3440	0.75	2N4064	1.35	2N5247	0.44	40410	0.82	8C141	0.30	8C182B	0.13	8C214B	0.17	8C349C	0.14	8D243A	0.65	8F179	0.33	8FR86	0.30	8M4105	0.11	8T342A 0.86
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2N722	0.45	2N2380A	0.27	2K3702	0.14	2N4124	0.19	2N5298	0.44	40673	0.80	8C148B	0.13	8C183	0.12	8C237B	0.15	8C559	0.15	8D245A	0.85	8F184	0.41	8FR91	0.37	8M5104	0.22	8T343C 1.05
2N727	0.50	2N2646	0.80	2K3703	0.14	2N4125	0.19	2N5447	0.16	40699	1.30	8C148C	0.13	8C183A	0.12	8C238A	0.13	8C570	0.21	8D246A	0.72	8F185	0.37	8FR91	0.27	8M5104	0.22	8T343C 1.05
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2N916	0.33	2N2903	1.60	2K3705	0.14	2N4128	0.38	2N5449	0.20	40727	0.48	8C149C	0.15	8C183C	0.13	8C238C	0.13	8C572	0.18	8D433	0.44	8F195	0.16	8FR92	1.35	8M521	0.70	8T343C 1.05
2N917	0.38	2N2904	0.31	2K3706	0.14	2N4128	0.22	2N5457	0.38	40738	0.48	8C157A	0.15	8C183L	0.15	8C238B	0.16	8D115	0.88	8D434	0.46	8F196	0.18	8FR93	0.55	8M525	1.65	8T343C 1.05
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2N929	0.37	2N2905	0.31	2K3708	0.12	2N4129	0.22	2N5459	0.32	40740	0.54	8C158B	0.13	8C183LB	0.15	8C239C	0.17	8D131	0.55	8D435	0.46	8F197	0.18	8FR93	0.55	8M525	1.65	8T343C 1.05
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2N1171	0.30	2N2907	0.25	2K3713	3.15	2N4118	0.65	2N5486	0.40	40744	0.54	8C161	0.38	8C184C	0.13	8C301	0.43	8D138	0.41	8D530	0.55	8F201	0.22	8FR94	0.27	8M525	1.65	8T343C 1.05
2N1189	0.30	2N2907A	0.25	2K3819	0.36	2N4119	0.70	2N5490	0.64	40745	0.54	8C167	0.59	8C184L	0.15	8C302	0.37	8D139	0.43	8D535	0.70	8F201	0.22	8FR94	0.27	8M525	1.65	8T343C 1.05
2N1190	0.30	2N2923	0.17	2K3820	0.39	2N4120	0.83	2N5492	0.64	40746	0.54	8C167B	0.13	8C184L	0.15	8C303	0.54	8D140	0.43	8D536	0.70	8F201	0.22	8FR94	0.27	8M525	1.65	8T343C 1.05
2N1193	0.30	2N2924	0.17	2K3821	0.36	2N4121	0.83	2N5494	0.65	40747	0.54	8C168	0.13	8C184L	0.15	8C307	0.16	8D141	0.90	8D537	0.74	8F201	0.22	8FR94	0.27	8M525	1.65	8T343C 1.05
2N1202	0.50	2N2925	0.19	2K3820	0.28	2N4122	0.60	2N5496	0.67	40748	0.54	8C168B	0.13	8C212	0.15	8C307A	0.16	8D142	2.20	8D538	0.77	8F201	0.22	8FR94	0.27	8M525	1.65	8T343C 1.05
2N1202A	0.50	2N2925A	0.19	2K3821	0.28	2N4123	0.75	2N5497	0.64	40749	0.54	8C169	0.10	8C212A	0.15	8C307B	0.16	8D143	2.35	8D539	0.60	8F201	0.22	8FR94	0.27	8M525	1.65	8T343C 1.05
2N1219	0.52	2N2926	0.17	2K3901	0.30	2N4123	1.15	2N5607	0.45	40750	0.60	8C169C	0.13	8C212L	0.18	8C308B	0.16	8D145	0.82	8D540	0.60	8F201	0.22	8FR94	0.27	8M525	1.65	8T343C 1.05
2N1219A	0.52	2N2926A	0.17	2K3902	0.30	2N4124	1.15	2N5607	0.45	40751	0.60	8C169C	0.13	8C212L	0.18	8C308B	0.16	8D145	0.82	8D540	0.60	8F201	0.22	8FR94	0.27	8M525	1.65	8T343C 1.05
2N1219B	0.52	2N2926B	0.17	2K3903	0.30	2N4125	1.15	2N5607	0.45	40752	0.60	8C169C	0.13	8C212L	0.18	8C308B	0.16	8D145	0.82	8D540	0.60	8F201	0.22	8FR94	0.27	8M525	1.65	8T343C 1.05
2N1219C	0.52	2N2926C	0.17	2K3904	0.30	2N4126	1.15	2N5607	0.45	40753	0.60	8C169C	0.13	8C212L	0.18	8C308B	0.16	8D145	0.82	8D540	0.60	8F201	0.22	8FR94	0.27	8M525	1.65	8T343C 1.05
2N1219D	0.52	2N2926D	0.17	2K3905	0.30	2N4127	1.15	2N5607	0.45	40754	0.60	8C169C	0.13	8C212L	0.18	8C308B	0.16	8D145	0.82	8D540	0.60	8F201	0.22	8FR94	0.27	8M525	1.65	8T343C 1.05
2N1219E	0.52	2N2926E	0.17	2K3906	0.30	2N4128	1.15	2N5607	0.45	40755	0.60	8C169C	0.13	8C212L	0.18	8C308B	0.16	8D145	0.82	8D540	0.60	8F201	0.22	8FR94	0.27	8M525	1.65	8T343C 1.05
2N1219F	0.52	2N2926F	0.17	2K3907	0.30	2N4129	1.15	2N5607	0.45	40756	0.60	8C169C	0.13	8C212L	0.18	8C308B	0.16	8D145	0.82	8D540	0.60	8F201	0.22	8FR94	0.27	8M525	1.65	8T343C 1.05
2N1219G	0.52	2N2926G	0.17	2K3908	0.30	2N4130	1.15	2N5607	0.45	40757	0.60	8C169C	0.13	8C212L	0.18	8C308B	0.16	8D145	0.82	8D540	0.60	8F201	0.22	8FR94	0.27	8M525	1.65	8T343C 1.05
2N1219H	0.52	2N2926H	0.17	2K3909	0.30	2N4131	1.15	2N5607	0.45	40758	0.60	8C169C	0.13	8C212L	0.18	8C308B	0.16	8D145	0.82	8D540	0.60	8F201	0.22	8FR94	0.27	8M525	1.65	8T343C 1.05
2N1219I	0.52	2N2926I	0.17	2K3910	0.30	2N4132	1.15	2N5607	0.45	40759	0.60	8C169C	0.13	8C212L	0.18	8C308B	0.16	8D145	0.82	8D540	0.60	8F201	0.22	8FR94	0.27	8M525	1.65	8T343C 1.05
2N1219J	0.52	2N2926J	0.17	2K3911	0.30	2N4133	1.15	2N5607	0.45	40760	0.60	8C169C	0.13	8C212L	0.18	8C308B	0.16	8D145	0.82	8D540	0.60	8F201	0.22	8FR94	0.27	8M525	1.65	8T343C 1.05
2N1219K	0.52	2N2926K	0.17	2K3912	0.30	2N4134	1.15	2N5607	0.45	40761	0.60	8C169C	0.13	8C212L	0.18	8C308B	0.16	8D145	0.82	8D540	0.60	8F201	0.22	8FR94	0.27	8M525	1.65	8T343C 1.05
2N1219L	0.52	2N2926L	0.17	2K3913	0.30	2N4135	1.15	2N5607	0.45	40762	0.60	8C169C																

CAR TACHOMETER

We've been contemplating a digital car tacho, but have been put off by resolution and response speed problems. However this Phase Locked Loop design overcomes these quite neatly — so here it is!

WE HAD OFTEN considered the design of a digital tacho for automobile use, but had rejected several schemes as we were unable to get both good resolution and response time — the two seemed to provide a very good demonstration of Heisenberg's Uncertainty Principle.

Consequently, we were rather pleased when Mike Pratt of SM Electronics came to us with his phase-locked loop based design which got round the problem. Would we like to do it as a project, he asked? Obviously, we said yes, and here it is.

This tacho features a fast response time, coupled with 10 Hz resolution, through the use of a phase locked loop frequency multiplier. It can be set up, by means of a single link, to work on 4, 6 or 8 cylinder motors.

Design Features

To measure the revolutions per minute of a motor is simply a matter of counting the number of ignition pulses over a given time. With a four-cylinder, four-stroke motor there is such a pulse twice per revolution. Therefore if we count these pulses for 30 seconds we will have revs/min with a one cycle resolution. Obviously this is much too long a sample period for practical use in a motor car and some compromise has to be made.

The usual solution is to use a 100 rev resolution and a sample time of 0.3 seconds (on 4 cylinders). We considered this inadequate which is why we have not published a design until now.



In this design an oscillator is used which is phase locked to the ignition pulses except at a higher frequency (x8 for 4 cylinder) allowing a short sample time (0.375sec) with a 10 rev resolution. By using a different multiplication factor compensation for different numbers of cylinders can be made. Unfortunately with the multiplication factors used (x8, x6, x4) the sample time for 6 cylinders is not exactly the same as that used for 4 and 8 cylinder motors. Altering the ratios to x12, x8 and x6 would enable a 0.25 sample time to be used for all ranges, but this is not possible with the divider IC utilised in this design.

Construction

Assemble the PCB with the aid of the overlay ensuring the components are

orientated correctly. The tantalum capacitors normally have a + mark indicating the positive lead, or a dot on the side. When soldering the CMOS ICs (4, 6, 7) earth the tip of the soldering iron.

Note that there is one feedthrough or link between the two sides of the board near C10

Calibration

Initially place a link between the point 'C' and the terminal corresponding to the number of cylinders. Now with the power supply connected feed a 50 Hz signal of between 12 and 30 V into the points input using the 0 V as common. Now adjust RV1 until the display reads 1500 RPM for 4 cylinders, 1000 for 6 or 750 for an eight cylinder car.

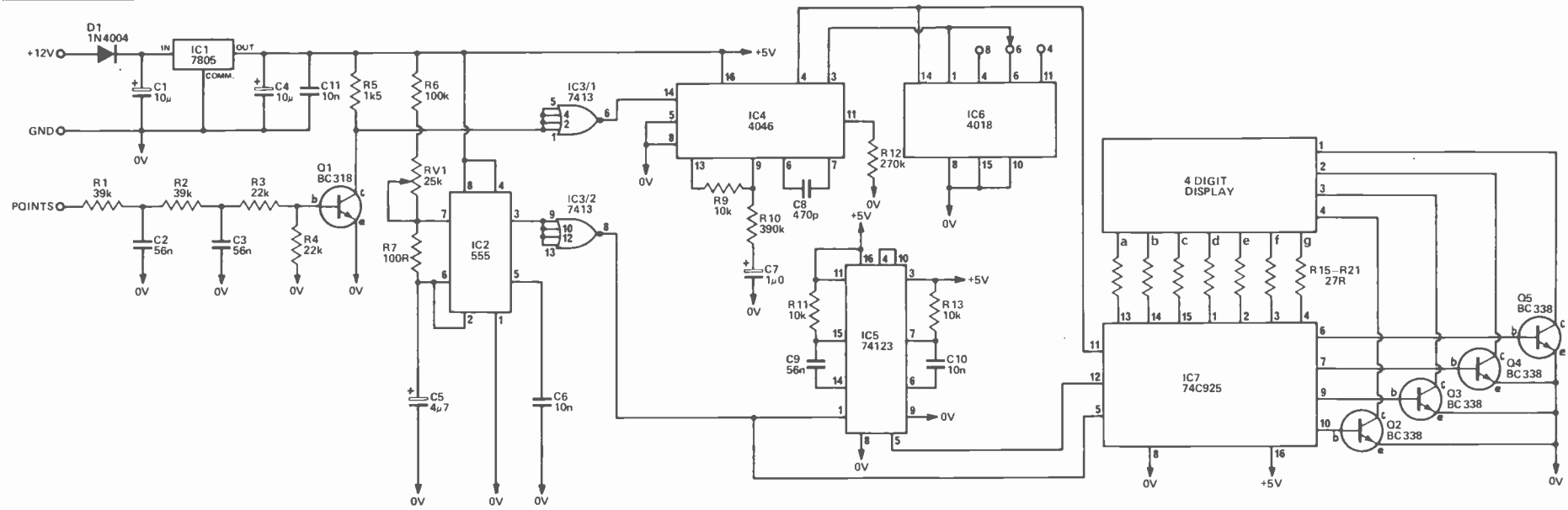


Fig. 2. Full circuit diagram for the digital car tacho unit.

HOW IT WORKS

The output from the points of the distributor is basically a 0 to 12V square wave with a 200 volt pulse on the rising edge. A filter network, R1-R4, C2, 3 is used to remove the high voltage pulse (and points bounce) and Q1 buffers it giving a +5 to 0V output on its collector. As the filter network removes the sharp edge of the input a schmitt trigger is needed on the output of Q1 to give fast edges. IC3/1 is used for this.

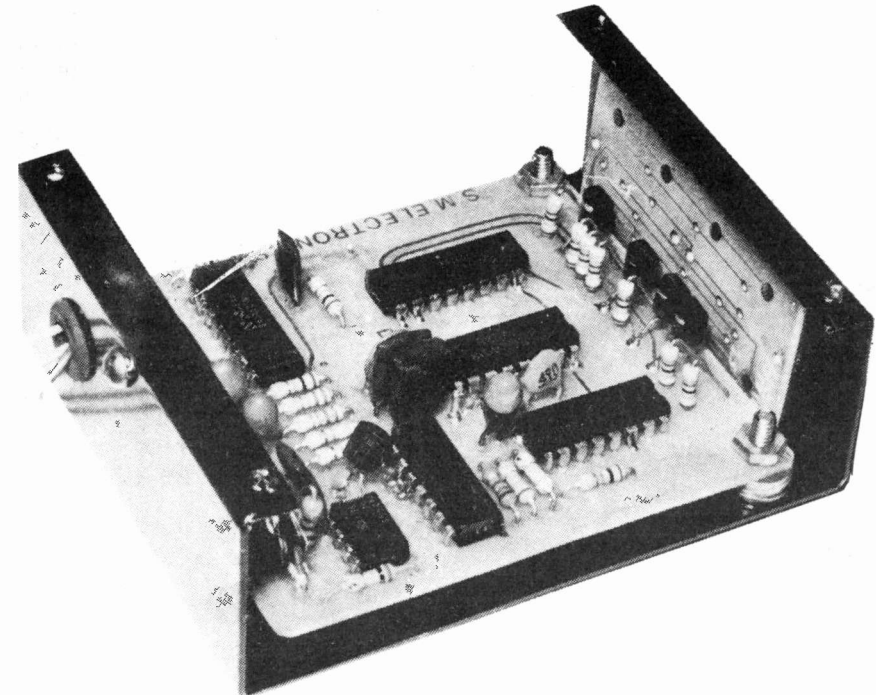
The output of IC3/1 is connected to the input of the phase-locked loop IC (4046). This IC has an internal voltage controlled oscillator and its output is divided by 4, 6 or 8 by IC6 and this lower frequency is fed back to the phase-locked loop IC. The IC then compares this frequency to that at its input and adjusts the internal oscillator until it is the same. The result is a frequency which is an exact multiple of the input.

The time base is generated by IC2 (555) which has a negative output pulse, about 300 μ s wide every 375 ms (or 333 ms for 6

cylinder). This is inverted by IC3/2 and is used as the strobe pulse for the 4 digit counter IC7. This pulse also triggers the first of the monostables in IC5 which gives a 200 μ s delay before triggering the second half of IC5; this gives a 40 μ s pulse to reset IC7 back to zero.

IC7 is a 4 digit counter with a latch (store) and seven segment decoder driver. It needs four external transistors to drive the digits but the segment drivers are internal. As we need only a three digit counter, i.e. for good resolution, with the right hand permanently zero the least significant digit is connected to the second right digit, etc, with the most significant digit connected to the right hand digit. Provided one does not exceed 9990 RPM this digit will remain on 0 as intended!

The 555 timer, the TTL and the 74C925 needs a regulated +5V and IC1 provides this with D1 preventing damage due to reverse polarity inputs.



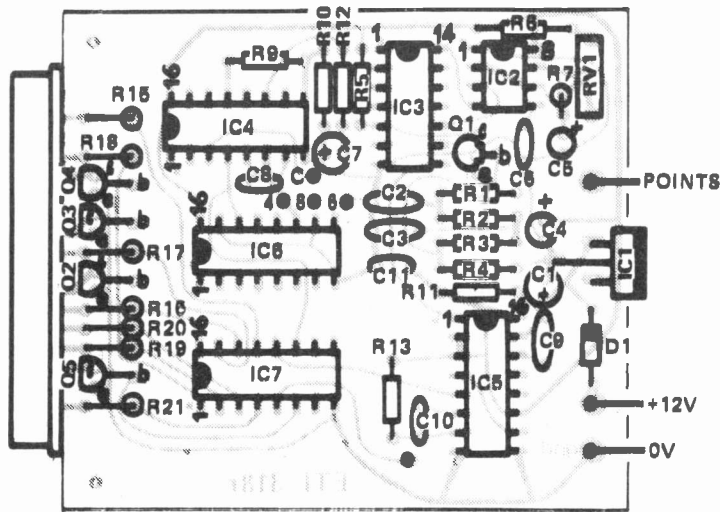


Fig. 1. The component overlay for the board. The board is double sided although only the lower surface is shown here. Note the link between the two surfaces of the board near C10.

SPECIFICATION

Range	100 to 9990 RPM
Resolution	10 RPM
Reading rate	2.66 per second
4 or 8 cylinders	3 per second
6 cylinders	CDI
Power supply	7 to 15V @ 400mA
Suitable ignition systems	standard transistor assisted
	'it will not operate on 'pointless' systems

BUYLINES

The components employed here are all readily available from any of the major mail order companies advertising in this issue. Note that the counter is a CMOS chip, and not a standard bi-polar TTC chip. The standard component will not operate on this mode.

PARTS LIST

RESISTORS	all ¼ W, 5%
R1,2	39k
R3,4	22k
R5	1k5
R6	100k
R7	100R
R8	not used
R9	10k
R10	390k
R11	10k
R12	270k
R13	10k
R14	not used
R15-R21	27R

POTENTIOMETER	
RV1	25k trim

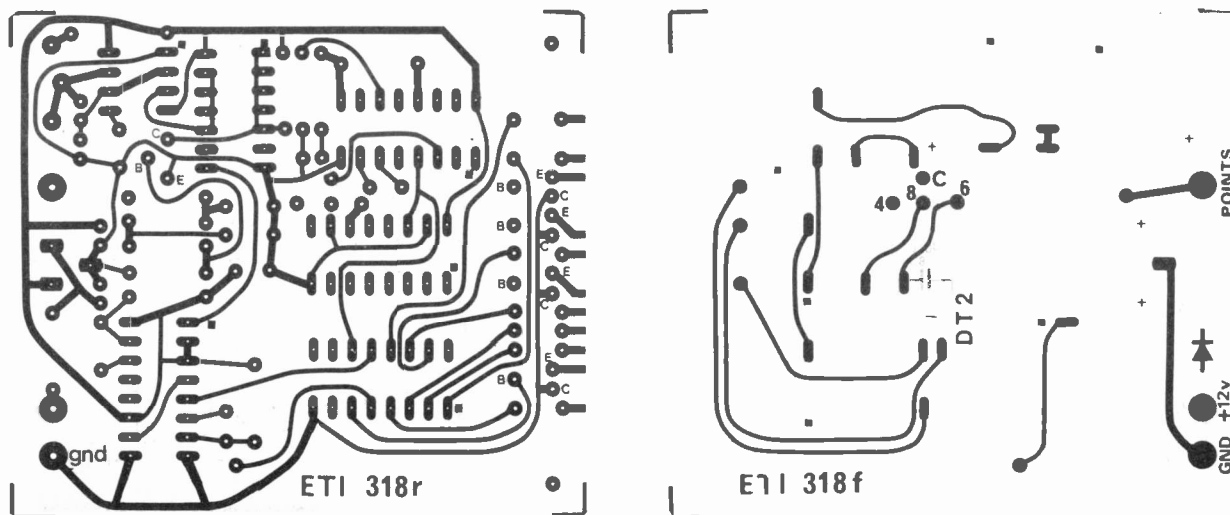
CAPACITORS	
C1	10u 25V tantalum
C2,3	56n polyester
C4	10u 25V tantalum
C5	4µ 7 25V tantalum
C6	10n polyester
C7	10u 25V tantalum
C8	470p ceramic
C9	56n polyester
C10	10n polyester
C11	10n ceramic

SEMICONDUCTORS	
IC1	7805 regulator
IC2	555 timer
IC3	7413 dual schmitt
IC4	4046 PLL
IC5	74123 dual mono
IC6	4018 divide by n
IC7	74C925 4 digit counter

Q1	BC318
Q2-Q5	BC338
D1	1N4004
Display	NSB5881

MISCELLANEOUS	
PCB	
Case to suit	

Fig. 3. PCB foil patterns shown full-size.



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TOP	Graphic Equaliser	601	1.60	14.23	4.30	—	20.13	
	Graphic Equaliser PSU	602	55	1.29	—	—	1.84	
	R.F. Attenuator	603	—	26	1.54	1.35	3.15	
	Watchdog	604	85	4.69	7.68	5.53	18.75	
PROJECTS	Watchdog PSU	605	65	1.49	3.95	—	6.09	
	Sweep Oscillator	606	2.60	21.07	8.16	4.28	36.11	
	Stereo Simulator	607	60	2.30	5.3	2.24	5.67	
	Freezer Alarm	608	55	.92	3.95	1.65	6.97	
NO	General Purpose Pre-Amp	609	65	3.13	—	—	3.78	
	G.S.R. Monitor	612	70	4.70	7.10	3.95	16.45	
	Burglar Alarm	613	60	2.15	6.15	—	8.90	
	Headlight Reminder	614	—	.55	1.65	—	2.20	
6	Bench Amplifier	615	.70	3.40	2.95	3.95	11.00	
	Audio Visual Metronome	616	—	1.31	1.62	—	2.93	
	Componder	617	1.60	10.10	8.30	3.15	23.15	
	50 watt High Power Amp	618	1.30	6.46	—	—	7.76	
	100 watt High Power Amp	619	1.30	9.16	—	—	10.46	
	High Power Amp PSU	620	1.10	5.66	7.89	—	14.65	
	LED Dice	624	50	2.92	.66	1.65	5.73	
	Marker Generator	626	80	3.68	1.49	.90	6.87	
	Skeet	627	1.60	11.12	.97	4.53	18.22	
	Flash Trigger	628	65	3.48	.84	1.65	6.62	
	Disco Lightshow	629	3.05	12.79	5.85	—	21.89	
	Pink Noise Generator	630	60	1.00	—	1.65	3.25	
	Nov 76	541 Train Controller	T001	75	5.27	5.84	3.95	15.81
	Jan 77	444 5-watt Stereo	T002	2.00	14.03	6.84	3.45	26.32
	Feb 77	448 Stereo Disco Mixer	T003	1.60	13.74	.87	—	16.21
	Dec 77	Clock B	T004	2.10	11.31	—	—	13.41
Jan 78	House Alarm A	T005	2.00	10.93	3.05	9.50	29.37	
Jan 78	House Alarm B	T006	.85	3.04	—	—	—	
Feb 78	Metal Locator Mk. II	T007	.92	5.91	8.76	3.38	18.97	
Mar 78	Frequencer Shifter PSU	T008	.65	4.14	—	—	4.79	
Mar 78	Frequencer Shifter	T009	1.50	16.99	—	2.40	20.89	
Mar 78	LCD Meter	T010	1.00	24.62	—	—	25.62	
Mar 78	Light Dimmer	T011	.55	3.40	3.12	—	7.07	
Apr 78	Gas Monitor	T012	.80	10.11	1.10	1.35	13.36	
May 78	Star Trek Radio	T013	.84	6.19	.83	—	7.86	
Jun 78	Stars & Dots	T014	1.83	5.33	11.49	3.46	22.11	
Jun 78	Spectrum Analyser	T015	8.32	35.76	16.02	5.00	65.10	
Jul 78	Wein Oscillator	T016	.89	6.36	4.80	2.40	14.45	
Jul 78	UFO Detector	T017	1.45	10.80	.80	—	13.05	
Jul 78	Torch Finder	T018	.45	1.27	—	—	1.72	
Jul 78	Temperature Meter	T019	1.00	24.44	—	—	25.41	
Aug 78	Etiwet	T020	.90	2.87	1.16	—	4.93	
Sep 78	Cross Hatch Generator	T021	1.40	5.93	3.66	1.65	12.64	
Sep 78	Stac Timer	T022	2.30	14.27	11.04	1.65	29.26	
Sep 78	Wheel of Fortune	T023	1.35	4.34	4.3	2.24	8.36	
Oct 78	Complex Sound Generator	T024	2.95	10.15	8.78	—	21.88	
Oct 78	R.F. Power Meter	T025	1.10	2.24	7.12	2.38	12.84	
Oct 78	Power Bulge	T026	.60	.71	.78	.79	2.88	
Oct 78	Telephone Bell Extension	T027	.95	3.48	3.02	2.15	9.60	
Oct 78	Proximity Switch	T028	1.95	7.91	3.25	—	13.11	
Feb 78	Ultra Sonic Receiver	T029	.80	3.38	4.95	—	8.93	
Feb 78	Ultra Sonic Transmitter	T030	.45	.82	3.20	—	4.47	
Nov 78	Cuts Cassette Interface	T031	2.80	26.12	.87	3.95	12.66	
Nov 78	Audio Oscillator	T032	2.25	10.13	.38	—	33.74	
Dec 78	Car Alarm	T033	1.80	2.80	.92	—	5.52	
Dec 78	Wine Temp Meter	T034	1.10	1.31	1.31	.45	5.79	
Dec 78	Curve Tracer	T035	1.00	3.04	2.60	2.67	9.31	
Dec 78	Eprom Prog main board	T036	2.25	17.76	.21	—	20.21	
Dec 78	Eprom Prog PSU	T037	1.30	3.78	—	—	5.09	

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560 A, B, C (set 3)	4.60
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POWER SUPPLIES

One more from Tim Orr. This time he takes us through a series of different methods for powering up circuits. On the way he explains the theory behind each.

THE JOB OF producing stable regulated power rails has been much simplified by the introduction (about seven years ago), of three terminal fixed voltage regulators. These devices can make the power supply design problem relatively simple, but even so the designer must be fully aware of a lot of other important details that can cause poor results. Firstly, consider a simple unregulated power supply, fig. 1.

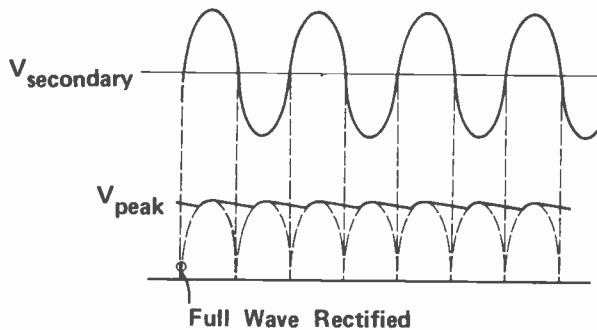
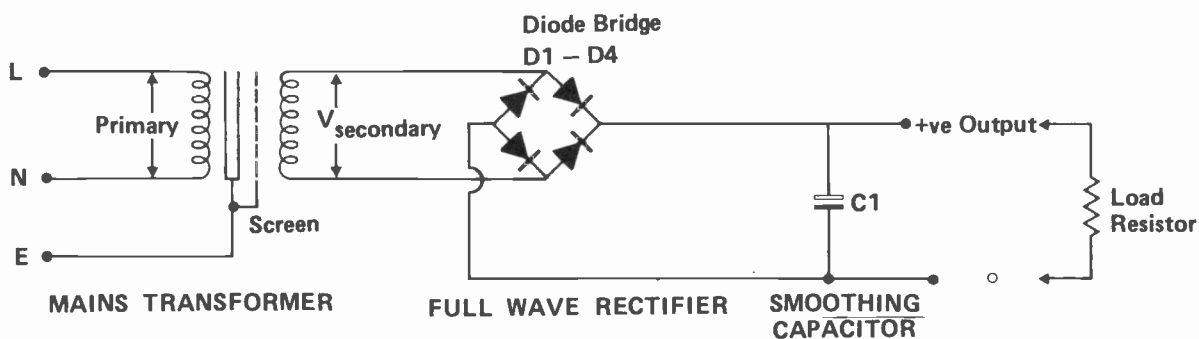


Figure 1. Below: an unregulated power supply. Above: The output (with a load resistor).



This piece of hardware has three sections, a step down, isolating transformer, a diode bridge and a smoothing capacitor. The transformer is driven from the mains, the voltage of which varies depending on where you live (it's 250V/RMS in Fulham). Some transformers have got a copper screen which isolates the primary winding from the secondary windings. For the purpose of safety, this should be connected to earth.

Also, for maximum safety, connect the 220/240/250 tapping to mains LIVE. Another type of mains transformer uses what is known as a split bobbin, the primary is wound on one bobbin, the secondary on another. Thus the two windings are inherently physically isolated, and so no safety screen is included. These two transformer types are generally constructed on what is known as an 'E' core; take one to bits and you will find that it is

The function of a mains isolating transformer is to physically separate the user end of a piece of equipment from the 'potentially'(!) lethal mains voltage. The transformer also provides a suitable voltage which can be rectified and smoothed and connected to a voltage regulator. This is the secondary voltage of a transformer and it is measured in VRMS at a particular loading.

That is, if the transformer is rated at 15V at 10VA, then the output voltage will be 15V when the load upon the transformer secondary is 10VA (10 watts).

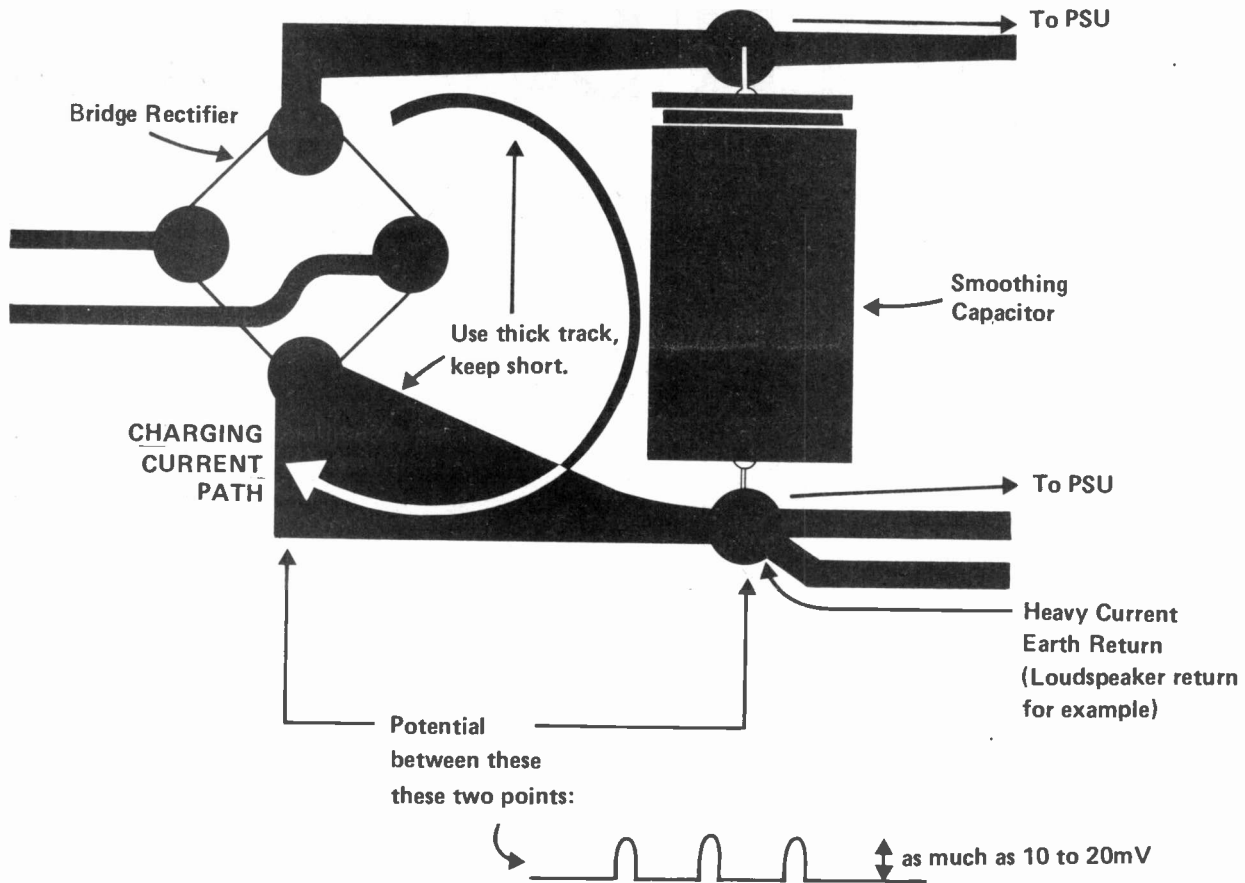
If the load is removed the output voltage will rise. The percentage change from load to no load is known as the TRANSFORMER REGULATION and is typically of the order of 20%.

To convert the V_{RMS} voltage to a DC voltage it must be multiplied by 1.4142. Thus a 15VRMS (loaded) transformer secondary will generate 21V2 DC when full wave rectified and smoothed, which will rise to 25V45 DC when the load is removed (assuming 20% regulation see Fig. 1).

Thus care has to be taken when selecting a transformer such that the smoothing capacitor working voltage is not exceeded. Also, make certain that the polarity on this capacitor is correct, they can LITERALLY explode if wired up backwards! ▶

constructed out of lots of 'E' shaped laminations. These 'E' laminations are butted into 'I' laminations, and clamped together. This butting together of the laminations can cause magnetic field problems. The wider the gap between the 'E' and 'I' laminations, the larger the magnetic field around the transformer.

The magnetic field generates a significant amount of induced hum in nearby electronics, this can be overcome by using a low leakage toroidal transformer which is constructed from circular laminations. The primary and secondary windings are wound through the centre of the toroid (see if you can imagine how). The toroidal transformer, by virtue of its 'continuous' laminations results in a low stray field and a low profile design, making it ideally suited for audio amplifier applications.



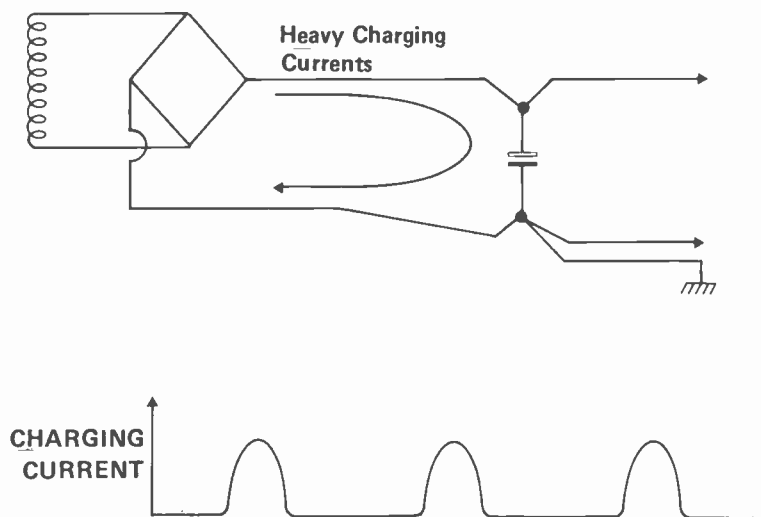
When a load is placed upon the power supply shown above, the output voltage appears as a DC voltage on top of which is a ripple voltage. This can be thought of as two separate periods, a charge period where the capacitor is charged up by the power supply and a discharge period where the load discharges the capacitor.

This charging and discharging generates a ripple voltage which has a period of 10 ms (100 Hz). A load current of 100 mA, and a 100µ capacitor will result in a ripple voltage (Vpp) of about 0.7V.

As a rule of thumb I usually allow 1 to 1V5 maximum ripple if a voltage regulator is being used. This will generally result in an output ripple of less than 1 mV. If this ripple were to be obtained by just using a larger capacitor, then a 700,000µ-capacitor would be required!

Generally the discharge period is much longer than the charge period. This means that the transformer is only supplying power for short periods, in fact during the charge period. During these periods the smoothing capacitor is rapidly charged, and it is quite common for these current surges to exceed several amps. This can cause mains BUZZ problems when laying out printed circuit board designs for power supplies.

The correct layout is shown below the circuit. If the current surge is 1 A and the track resistance is 20 milliohms then the voltage developed will be 20 mVpp.



Voltage regulators

A voltage regulator takes a varying unregulated input voltage and produces a fixed regulated output voltage. There is a wide range of fixed voltage three terminal regulators to choose from, with a choice of maximum current handling, output voltage and positive or negative operation. The data sheets for these devices contain lots of seemingly complex pieces of information and so a glossary of terms is now included.

Ripple Rejection

The ratio of the ripple voltage at the regulator input to that at the output, generally expressed in dB. Typically of the order of 60 dB (1000 to 1), that is 1 Vpp of ripple at the input ends up as 1 mVpp at the output.

Temperature Coefficient

The output voltage change for a change in regulator temperature, expressed in mV/°C.

FEATURE: Power Supplies

Input Voltage range

The range of voltages over which the regulator will function normally. For example, a 12V regulator may work from 14V5 to 30V. At 14V5 the regulator will 'drop out' and lose its regulation. Regulators generally need 2 to 2V5 in excess of their output voltage. At 30V the regulator will go 'pop' (time to buy a new one).

Output voltage

The voltage at the output terminal with respect to ground. Generally within $\pm 5\%$ of stated value.

Line Regulation

The ratio of the change in the output voltage caused by a change in the input voltage, typically of the order of 0.2%.

Load Regulation

The output voltage change for a specific change in output load current.

Short Circuit Current

The output current when the output is shorted to ground.

Output Noise Voltage

The RMS noise voltage measured at the regulators output, not including any ripple.

Power Dissipation

The maximum power that the regulator can safely generate on a particular heatsink.

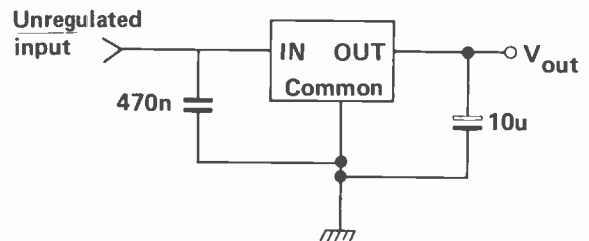
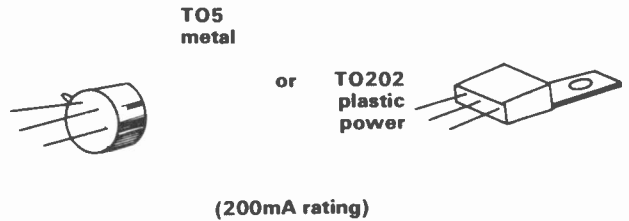
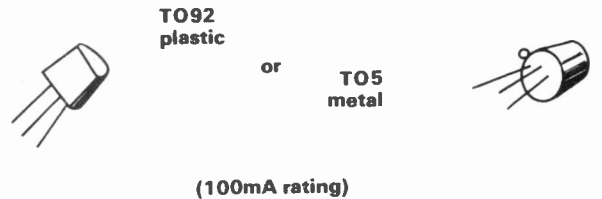
As a rule of thumb the regulator case should not exceed about 80°C (which is hot to touch). However, always run the device at as low a temperature as possible. It is thermal ageing that eventually kills electronic devices and for higher temperatures the ageing process is disproportionately faster.

Some applications of voltage regulators are given below.

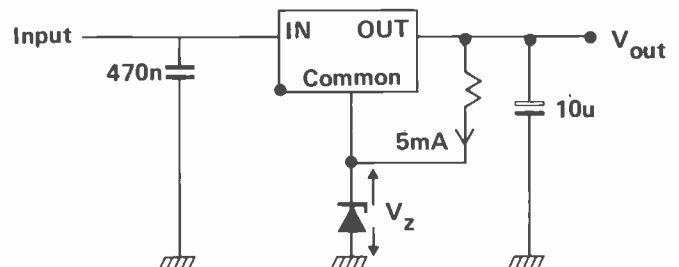
The table below relates the secondary voltage of a transformer to the peak voltage at rated load and the off load voltage, which will be considerably higher.

TABLE ONE

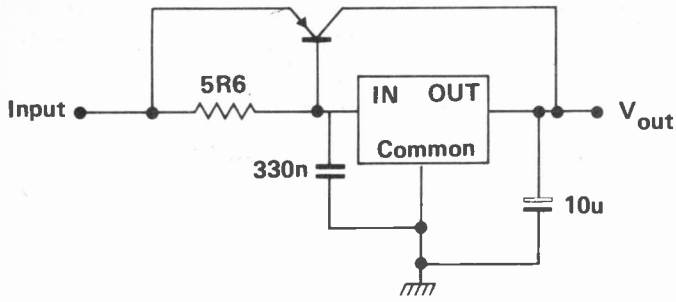
V secondary at rated load	V peak at rated load	V peak off load transformer regulation 20%
5 VRMS	7V07	8V48
6 VRMS	8V48	10V18
9 VRMS	12V72	15V26
10 VRMS	14V14	16V97
12 VRMS	16V97	20V36
15 VRMS	21V21	25V45
20 VRMS	28V28	33V93
25 VRMS	35V35	42V42
30 VRMS	42V43	50V92
35 VRMS	49V50	59V40
40 VRMS	56V57	67V88



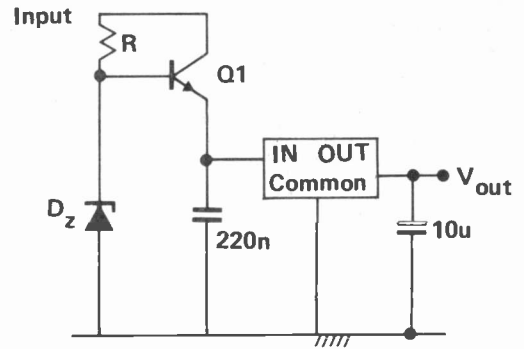
A) This circuit shows a conventional arrangement of a three terminal device. It is advisable to use a decoupling capacitor connected close to the input terminals. This prevents high frequency instability. If this capacitor is left out then regulation can sometimes be greatly reduced. The decoupling capacitor on the output helps reduce the impedance at high frequencies, where the regulator loses its performance. For best results use a tantalum capacitor.



B) The output voltage of a regulator can be increased by applying a voltage to the common terminal. This can be done by using a zener diode.



C)
The output current can be increased by using a bypass transistor. When the current flowing through the voltage regulator exceeds 100 mA (the voltage across the 5R6 being 560 mV), the bypass transistor begins to turn on. This transistor takes all currents in excess of 100 mA and yet the output still remains regulated. However a few extra components are needed to get current limiting in the transistor path.

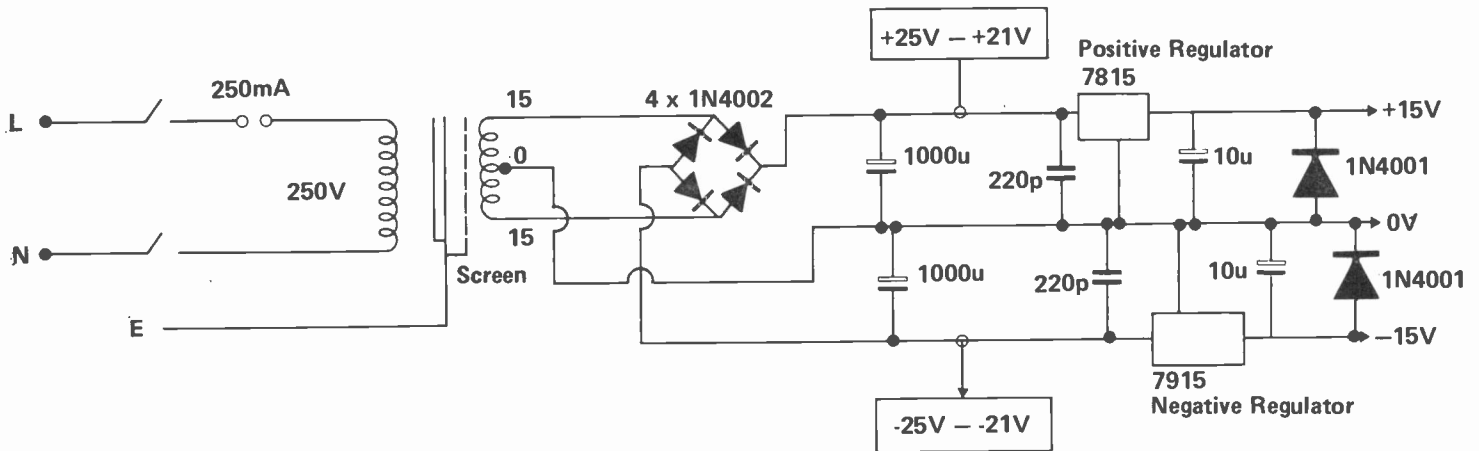


D)
A high voltage unregulated supply can cause problems when using regulators. It may at times exceed the maximum voltage rating of the regulator. A simple voltage regulator D_z and $Q1$ can be used to overcome this problem. D_z should be chosen so that it is about 6V greater than the regulator output voltage. This technique has the added advantage that the power dissipated in the regulator is less (the rest being dissipated in $Q1$), and the regulator is presented with a semiregulated voltage, so the output will have less ripple.

Dual Power Supply

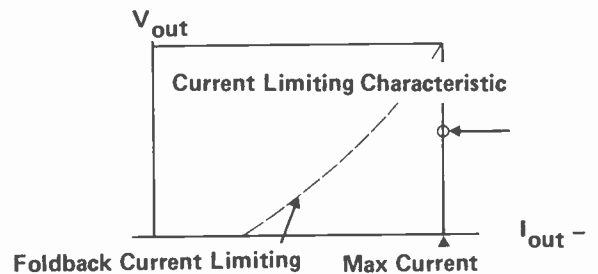
The circuit shows a complete regulated dual power supply. The unregulated rails are obtained from a split secondary transformer, a bridge rectifier and two smoothing capacitors. A positive and a negative regulator have been used to generate the + and - rails. These regulators should be mounted on heat sinks

and they should be insulated. The pin out of the negative regulator is different to that of the positive regulator. The two diodes at the output prevent latching up situations (on load) whereby one side starts up faster than the other and forcibly reverse biases it, preventing it from operating.



Tracking Regulator

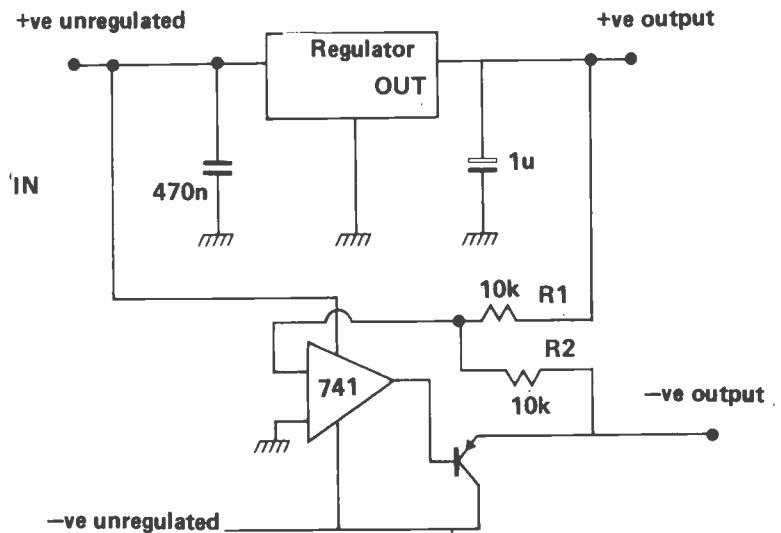
Instead of using a negative voltage regulator to obtain the negative rail, an op amp and a power transistor can be used. The resistor ratio, $R1$, $R2$ determines the negative rail voltage. The negative rail is not, however, current limited. The internal current limiting of the regulator is shown. When the load current exceeds the current limit, the output voltage drops to almost 0V. This makes the regulator short circuit protected. Another type of current protection is known as 'FOLD BACK' current limiting (shown dotted). This serves to reduce the short circuit current. These devices protect the power supply from abuse. Another type of protection device is the overvoltage clamp, which



protects the 'non-power supply electronics' from an increase in the power supply voltage. These are two terminal heavy current devices which are placed across the power supply. When the supply voltage exceeds a certain level a thyristor is triggered on and clamps the rail to ground. This is intended to pop a fuse and so disconnect the faulty power supply (which is better than replacing a £1,000 worth of IC's).

$$\text{-ve output} = -(\text{+ve output} \times R2/R1)$$

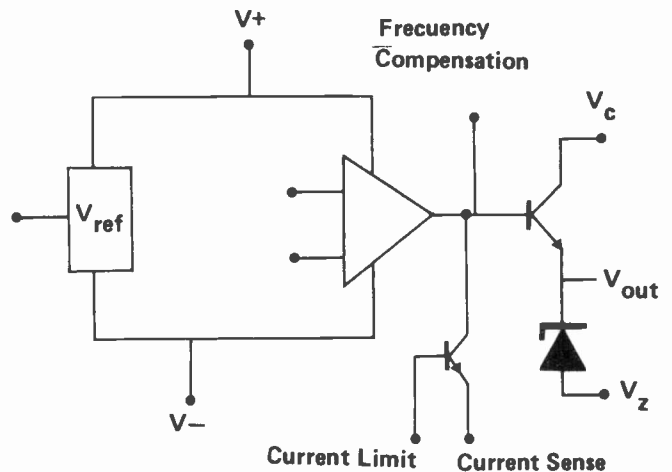
With foldback the short circuit power dissipated in the regulator is less than that with current limiting.



723 Voltage Regulator

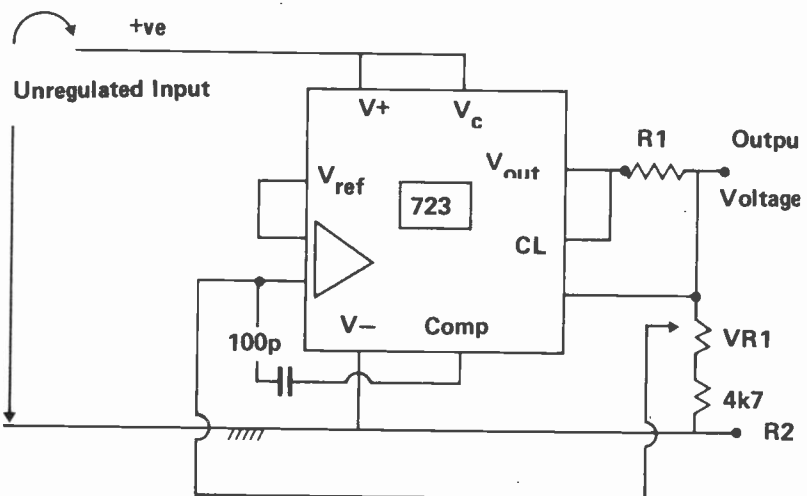
The 723 is an industry 'standard' device. Many manufacturers produce it and the device itself is versatile. It comes in a 10 pin TO5 can or a 14 DIL pack. The device contains a precision voltage reference, with a temperature coefficient of 50ppm/°C, an error amplifier, an internal transistor capable of handling 100 mA and a current limiting mechanism. By using a few external resistors, a capacitor and maybe an external power transistor, a wide variety of regulator designs can be realised.

Left is shown the block diagram of the 723 regulator. As pinouts vary depending upon package, no pin numbers are shown.



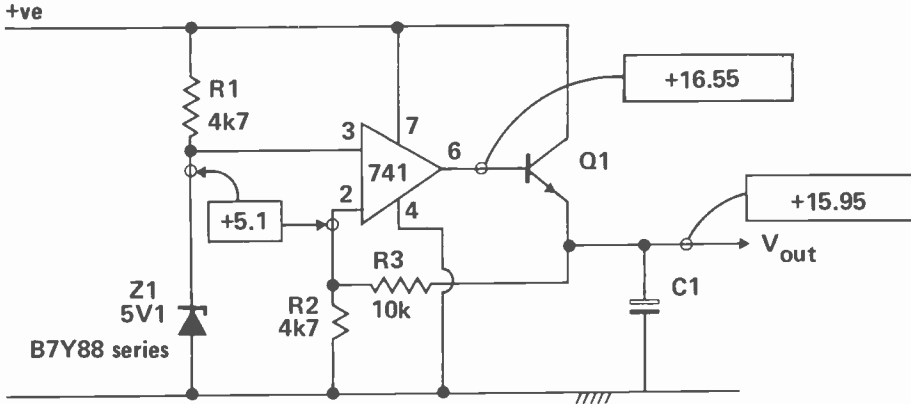
Adjustable Positive Voltage Regulator

By using a variable feedback path (RVI), a variable regulated output voltage can be generated. The voltage reference is connected to the non-inverting input of the error amplifier and the output voltage (via RVI), to the inverting input. The error amplifier drives the output transistor and hence the output voltage is controlled by the feedback voltage from VR1. A 100pF capacitor is used to stabilise the device. R1 is used as a current limit control. When the current through R1 (the load current), exceeds 100 mA a voltage of 560 mV is set up across it. This is just about sufficient to turn on the current limiting transistor which in turn shorts out the regulating transistor, causing the output voltage to collapse towards 0V.



Regulated Power Supply

Sometimes it is necessary to make a simple power supply using discrete components when a non-standard voltage is required.



Left: Circuit diagram of discrete component PSU. Voltage measurements are taken with high impedance voltmeter.

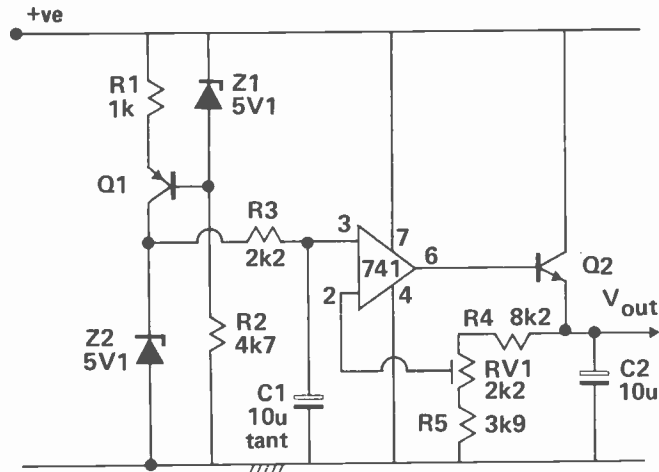
The circuit shown uses all the basic elements of a voltage regulator, that is, a reference voltage Z1, an error amplifier and a series control Transistor Q1. The zener diode, Z1 sets up a reference voltage of 5V1. This diode has a temperature coefficient of $-1.2\text{mV}/^\circ\text{C}$ (a 5V6 zener is best at $-0.2\text{mV}/^\circ\text{C}$). The resistor ratio of R3 and R2 sets the output voltage and the op amp provides the error correction (the regulation).

C1 is used to reduce the output impedance at high frequencies. The zener diode has a slope resistance of 76Ω , and so any fluctuations in the unregulated rail will be attenuated by the ratio of $76:7:0.016$

R1 4700
Therefore a 1 Vpp ripple will end up as 16 mVpp, but will be multiplied by the gain of the R3, R2 network to nearly 50mV.

Improved Regulated power supply

This power supply has various improvements over that shown. The reference zener Z2 is run at almost constant current by the R12, Q1 Z1 network. This makes Z2 much less sensitive to ripple and unregulated supply fluctuations. The filter R3 C1 (7 HZ low pass), further reduces any ripple voltage and noise from the zener diode. The preset VR1 allows the output voltage to be varied.



If a precision power supply is required then a precision voltage reference should be used. These can be obtained with temperature coefficients as low as $10\text{ppm}/^\circ\text{C}$. When using this level of stability, high stability resistors ($\text{TC} = 10\text{ppm}/^\circ\text{C}$), and a low drift op amp should be used. Also, to reduce mains carried interference (mainly sharp clicks due to electric motors and thyristors turning on), a mains filter should be used. This is a passive inductor capacitor low pass filter network which attenuates high frequency spikes and clicks.

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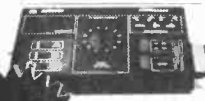
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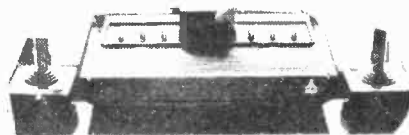
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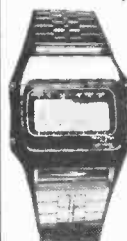
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0.9, 0.9	500 500	235	1.95	.40
0.8-9, 0.8-9	1A 1A	207	2.35	.55
0.15, 0.15	1A 1A	208	3.50	.55
0.20, 0.20	200 200	236	1.95	.40
0.20, 0.20	300 300	214	2.35	.70
20-12.0-12.20	700(DC)	221	3.10	.70
0.15-20, 0.15-20	1A 1A	206	4.20	.85
0.15-27, 0.15-27	500 500	203	3.65	.70
0.15-27, 0.15-27	1A 1A	204	4.75	.35

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Amps	24V Ref.	Price £	P&P
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4	2 18	3.75	.70
8	4 108	6.25	1.00
10	5 72	6.95	1.00
12	6 116	7.85	1.00
16	8 17	9.25	1.10
20	10 115	12.75	1.30
30	15 187	16.60	1.30
60	30 226	22.90	1.60

30 VOLT (Pri: 220-240V)

Sec: 0.12-15.20-24-30V

Amps	Ref. No.	Price £	P&P
0.5	112	2.45	.70
1.0	79	3.05	.70
2.0	3	4.80	.85
3.0	20	5.80	1.00
4.0	21	6.85	1.00
5.0	51	7.75	1.00
6.0	117	9.50	1.00
8.00	88	11.35	1.30
10.0	89	12.00	1.30

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50 VOLT (Pri: 220-240V)

(Sec: 0.19-25-33-40-50V)

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0.5	102	3.20	.70
1.0	103	4.20	.85
2.0	104	6.10	1.00
3.0	105	7.85	1.00
4.0	106	9.80	1.10
6.0	107	14.95	1.30
8.0	118	15.75	1.50
10.0	119	20.50	2.00

60 VOLT (Pri: 220-240V)

Sec: 0.24-30-40-48-60V

Amps	Ref. No.	Price £	P&P
0.5	124	3.40	.70
1.0	126	4.65	.85
2.0	127	6.50	1.00
3.0	125	9.15	1.10
4.0	123	11.25	1.30
5.0	40	11.80	1.30
6.0	120	14.75	1.40

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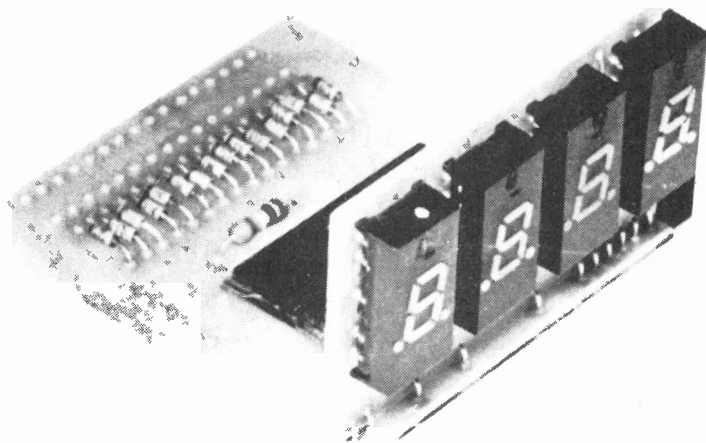
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SPECIFICATION

Number of digits	4
Readout	LED
Maximum frequency	2MHz
Input impedance	100k
Output drive	1 TTL load
Supply voltage	4.5 – 5.5V
Supply current	
low power mode	500 μ A
all eights	100mA

THE THREE DIGIT display we previously published has proved to be one of our most popular projects. We have used it in a number of projects and we know of several commercial companies using it in their own equipment.

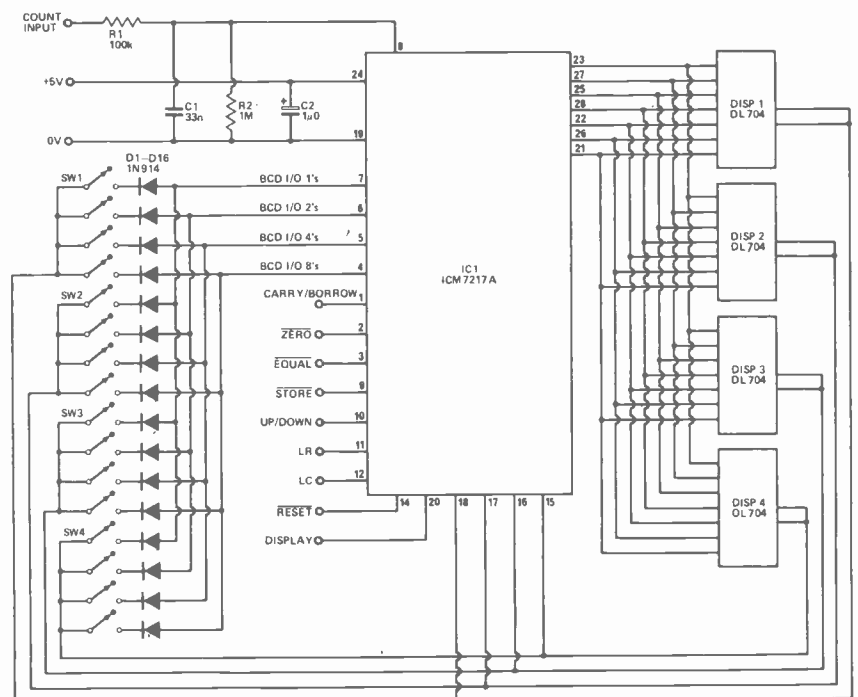
Many people have asked us for a 4 digit version and we have been looking round at ICs available. We have chosen this Intersil device because we believe it offers the best versatility at the moment. Apart from being a 4-digit counter-latch-decoder driver needing no external components except the displays, it also is an up-down counter and can be preset to any number. In addition, it has a separate register which also can be set to any number and comparators which give outputs when the counter is equal to the register and when it is zero — all in one IC!

Mod Build

The unit is built on two small PCBs which are connected together with short links of tinned copper wire. Be careful to orientate the IC correctly as it is expensive!

The preset system is designed to use a 4 digit BCD thumbwheel switch

Fig 1. Full circuit diagram of the counter module. The How It Works section for this is given overleaf — but as this is really a "How To Use It" section it don't matter — does it?



HOW IT WORKS

Count Input – Pin 8

The counter is incremented or decremented on the leading edge of this input. A schmitt trigger is provided with a 500 mV hysteresis on a 2 V trigger point. For high speed operation, or operation from a digital output, delete R2 and C1 and short out R1. Maximum frequency of operation is about 2 MHz.

Up-Down – Pin 10

If this pin is left open or taken to +5 V the counter will be incremented by the count input. If it is taken to 0 V the counter will be decremented by the count input.

Reset – Pin 14

If this pin is left open or taken to +5 V the counter is free to be incremented or decremented. If it is taken to 0 V the counters will be reset to zero and held there until reset is taken high again.

Store – Pin 9

If this input is left open or taken to +5 V the latches are "closed" and the information which was in the counters at the time the store input went high will be remembered, decoded and displayed. The counters can be reset, incremented or decremented without affecting the display.

If it is taken to 0 V the counter contents will continuously be displayed for as long as this input is at 0 V. Any change in the counter contents will be shown on the display.

Load Counter – Pin 12

This is a 3 level input. If it is left open the counter works normally. If it is taken to +5 V the counter is loaded with the BCD data which is set on the thumbwheel switches. If the latch is open, this number will also be displayed. If this input is taken to 0 V the BCD I/O pins become high impedance. If a 3 level input is to be controlled by other logic outputs they must be tristate devices.

Load Register – Pin 11

This is also a 3 level input. If it is left open the counter works normally. If it is taken to +5 V the register is loaded with the BCD data. If taken to 0 V the circuit goes to a low power state with the multiplexing oscillator stopped, the display off and the BCD I/O pins in a high impedance state. The operation of the counter is unaffected except that there is no display.

BUYLINES

Since this project is based entirely upon the one chip—ICM 7217A — this is all there is to cause problems! Since it appears in most peoples catalogues we cannot foresee any trouble here. Displays can be any type really — but for outdoor work use high brightness types.

(closed = '1') but individual switches can be used if required. Input is in BCD, therefore the switches will have the weighted values 8, 4, 2 and 1. If the preset is not needed then the diodes can be left out. If a preset is needed, but always to a fixed number, links can be inserted to replace the "on" switches and the other diodes left out.

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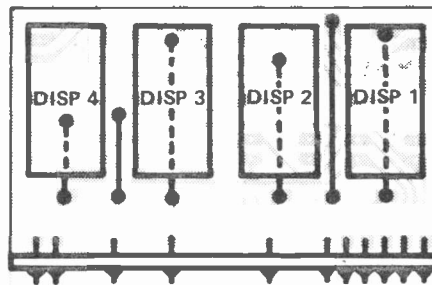


Fig. 2. The positioning of the displays and the links which must be installed before the displays.

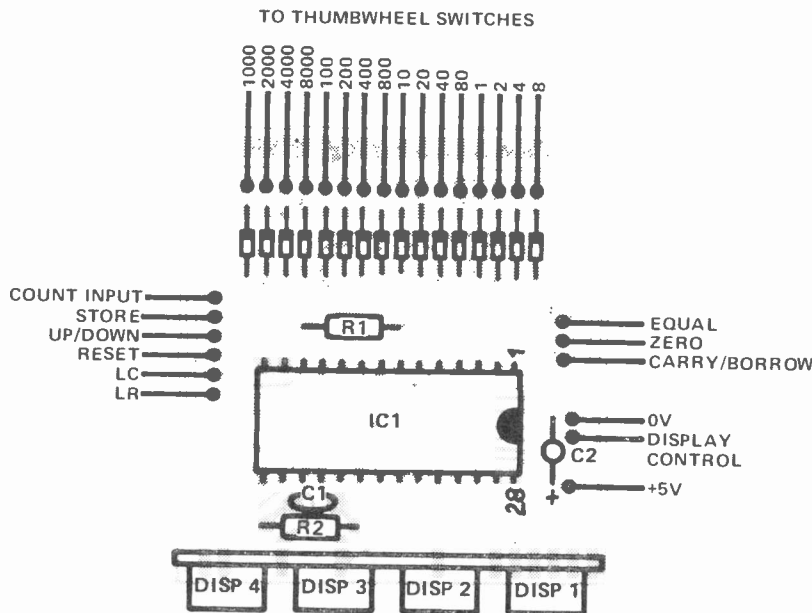
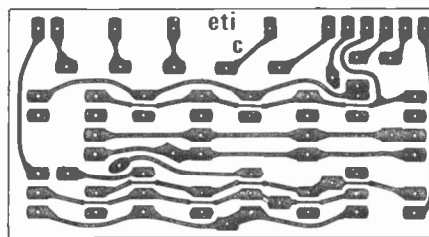
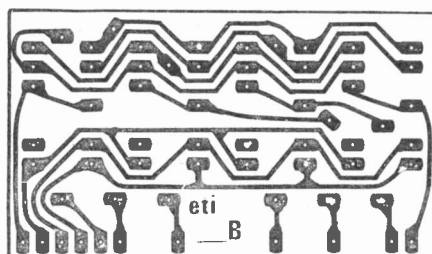
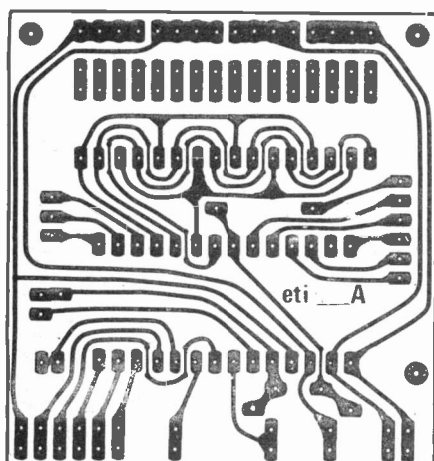


Fig. 3. The component overlay for the main board. The common connection from each of the thumbwheel switches goes to the track next to the other connections.



Full patterns for the digital module project. Shown full size. Board C — above — is to fit high brightness displays such as employed in our digital dial project.



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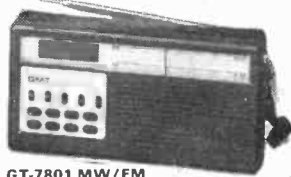
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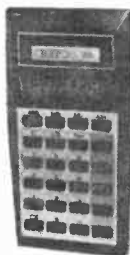
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A HISTORY OF ELECTRONICS IN MEDICINE

THE USE OF ELECTRICITY FOR medical purposes dates back to the Ancient Greeks who used the electric eel to treat various maladies. In 1759 Wesley collected case histories of the use of electricity. The first recorded use of electricity for treatment in a hospital in London was in 1767.

Not quite 200 years ago, in 1786 to be precise, Professor Luigi Galvani — an anatomist at the University of Bologna, Italy — discovered by chance that the muscles of a dead frog contracted under the influence of an electrical quantity.

He wrongly assumed that animal electricity stored within the muscle caused this to happen. It was, in fact, the result of dissimilar metals forming a primary electric cell which energised the nerves of the muscle. Volta of the University of Paris proved it and subsequently gave the world the voltaic battery, in 1800.

The contribution of these two men provided, in the simple primary cell, a workable basis for using electricity in practical ways not previously possible with the electro-static form of electricity. Galvani's work on "animal fluid" was amongst the earliest electro-medical studies. The apparatus he used was crude by today's standards — see Fig. 1.



Fig. 1. Artist's idea of Galvani experimenting with frogs' legs on the left and the Leyden jar on the right (Funk and Wagnells).

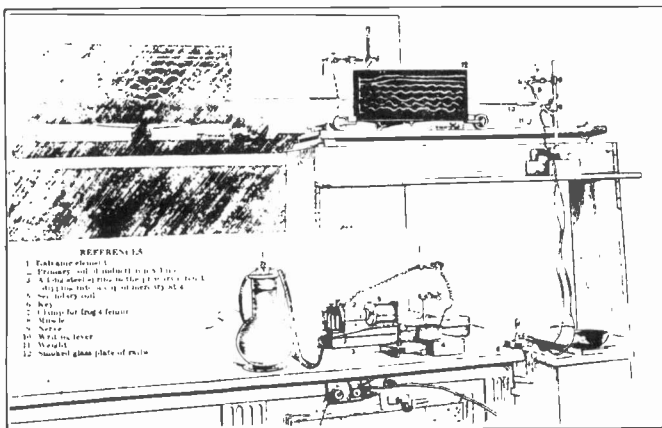


Fig. 2. Apparatus used by McKendrick to give lectures on life in motion to Royal Institution, London, audiences around 1890.

Body Electric?

Research into physiological electric quantities gradually became more sophisticated as the 19th century passed. This development, however, had to wait for suitable experimental inventions such as the electromagnetic galvanometer which became available in its crudest form around 1830. A typical laboratory electro-medical instrumentation set-up of the 1890s is shown in Fig 2. A smoked glass plate moved steadily across the end of a mechanical pen secured to the end of a frog's leg muscle. The muscle was energised by high-voltage generated from a vibration induction coil which was energised by a chromate primary single cell of the Grenet kind. Smoked screen recorders are still in use today in some medical research measurements, blood flow parameters being one example.

The sphygmometrograph (as a pulse measuring instrument was known in that time) was originated by Marey in 1860. A later design by Verdin is shown in Fig 3. Electronic method was little used in medicine in early times, as powerful electric signal amplification was not obtainable until the beginning of the 20th century —

Electricity has long been used for medical purposes, here's the story of the past and a look into the future. By Peter Sydenham.

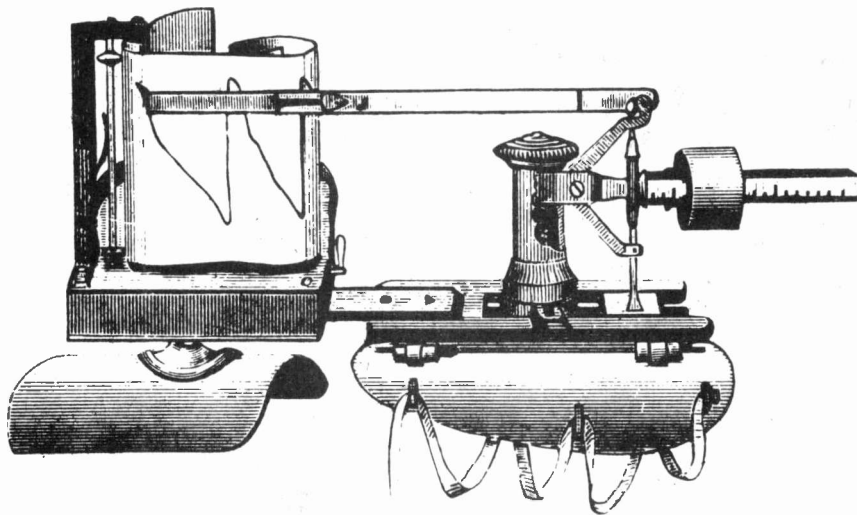


Fig. 3. Verdin's apparatus of the 1890s for recording action of the pulse.

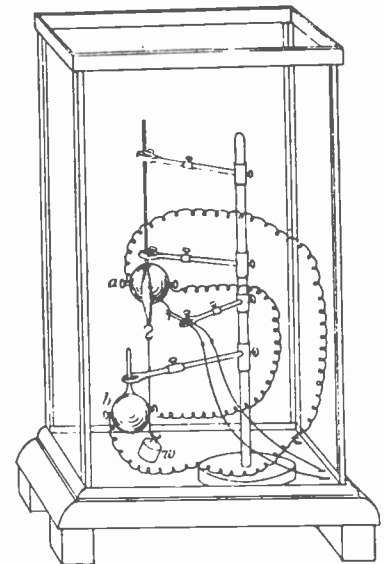


Fig. 4. Schematic of McKendrick's 1891 method for measuring heat generation in muscle.

when the thermionic valve was invented by Fleming (in 1904).

Figure 4 shows experimental equipment for measuring heat production of muscular contraction around 1880. Thermocouples, forming a thermopile, drive the crude galvanometer.

Ion Therapy

Another aspect of medicine where electricity is used is for therapeutic treatment. Since the very early 1800s output of the various kinds of electric current generator, namely the Faraday induction coil, the galvanic chemical battery, the sinewave rotating generator and the friction statcal generator have been applied to appropriate parts of the body to provide a cure for all sorts of ailments.

X-ray equipment was born in 1895 when Roentgen discovered X-rays in a chance situation using photographic plates. There is probably no case in instrument history where application was more rapid. Edison, and others, had equipment in use in hospitals within months. Figure 5 shows contemporary American X-ray plant of 1899.

Measurement and recording of heart performance also began around 1900. Professor Einthoven of Holland devised a rapid response, high sensitivity detection instrument in 1903 — the string galvanometer. Soon after this was coupled to a photographic recording system, by the Cambridge Instrument Co., to produce an electrocardiograph. The first installation of this was made in 1909. By 1945 cardiographs were available in portable form. Figure 6 shows the interior of a 1930s. Both Brothers portable electro-cardiograph invented and made in Adelaide, South Australia — possibly one of the first portable units devised anywhere. It used a loud speaker drive unit (right) to mark a rotating smoked disk.

The record was viewed by the physician using an optical magnifier. Amplification to drive the stylus from skin electrode signals was obtained by thermionic tubes.

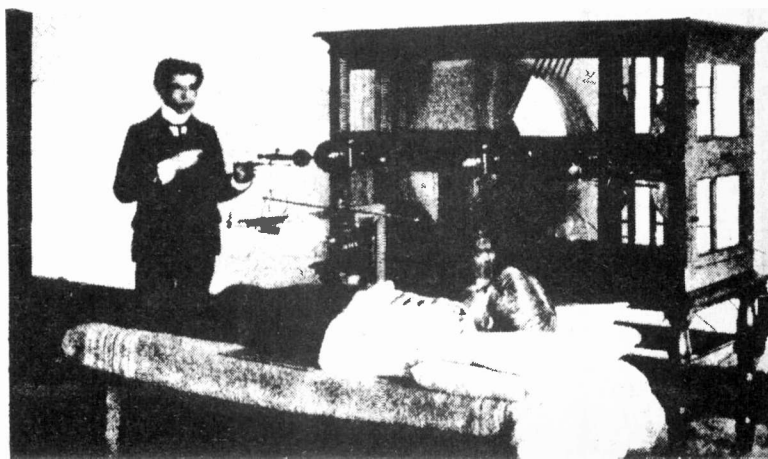
As with all disciplines, electronic method opened the door to new accomplishments. In medical electronics it happened from the 1920s onward. Equipment for researching physiology at Oxford University, in 1949 is shown in Fig 7. The unit, advanced for its time, incorporated amplifiers, a temperature control unit, stimulators to induce responses, a time base and a cathode ray tube display unit.

Electronic equipment used in medicine has come a long way during the past 50 years. This can be seen by comparing the apparatus pictured above, which covers the 1800s to 1930s period, with modern equipment such as that used in pathological testing and nuclear medicine.

Future

Against this background let me now suggest developments we can expect to experience over the next quarter century.

Fig. 5. Complete X-ray apparatus in use in America around 1900. Note the lack of safety devices and precautions.



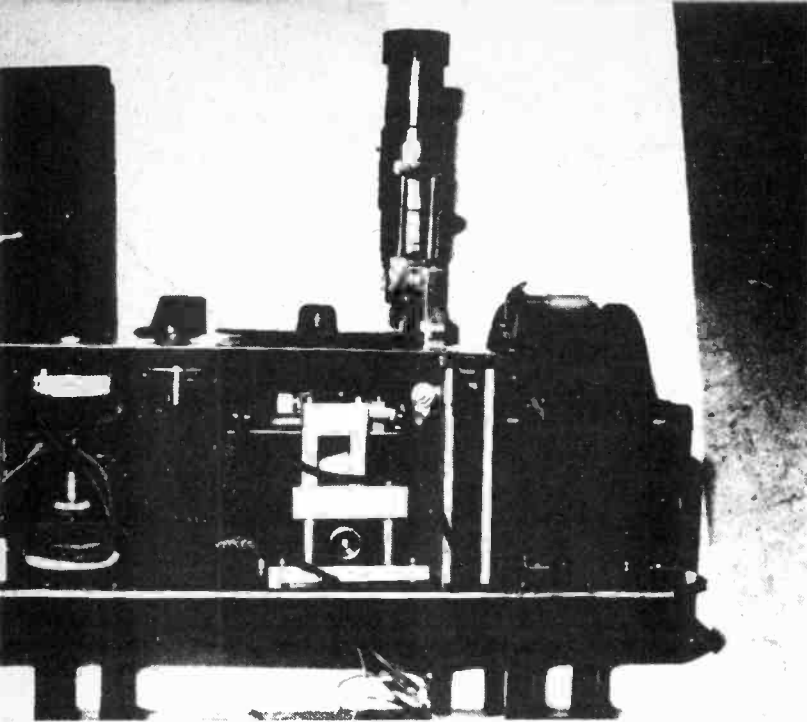


Fig. 6. Interior view of a Both portable electro-cardiograph machine made in Adelaide around 1930.

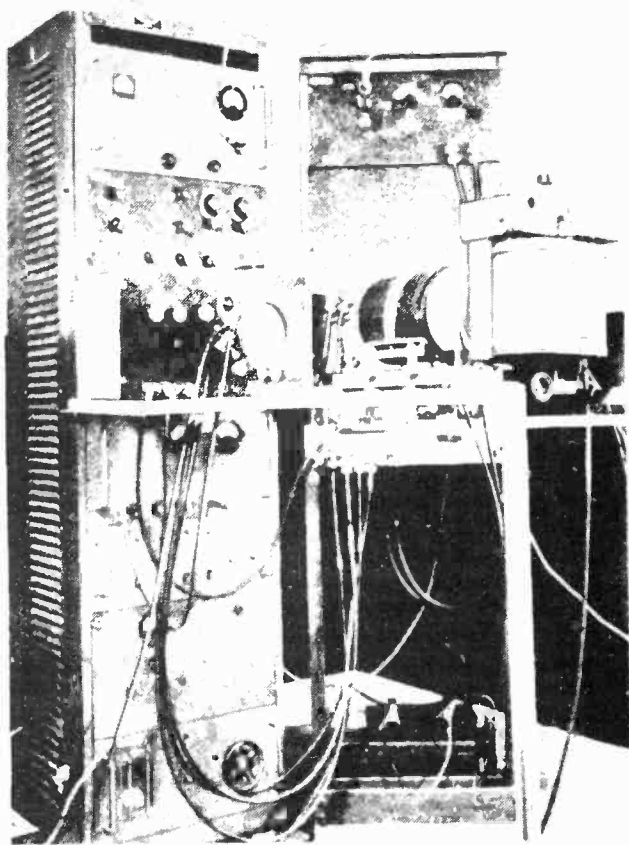


Fig. 7. E Electro-physiological research equipment used by Dickinson at Oxford University in 1949.

Monitoring

The largest proportion of electro-medical equipment is concerned with measurement; for detection of abnormal states. At present comparatively few of the incredibly great range of medical measurements needed can be made in situ on the body and without disturbing its functions. Samples of tissue, blood, urine, etc. are removed for analysis in the pathological laboratory. This process, although performed faster today than ever before, can still take several hours before a diagnosis is available to the physician in order that he or she can decide corrective action. Analysers now exist that handle many measurements of a sample entirely automatically once the sample is loaded into the analyser. But the sample must first be extracted from the body and then be transported to the machine, processes which consume time and in some circumstances alter the sample from its original state.

It is realistic to expect the transport step to be eliminated in the future with most local clinics having their own units for analysis of samples. The next stage in progress will come about by the invention of units that measure parameters such as blood count, albumin, etc., by contact externally to a suitable vein or artery. Direct measurement like this would also provide more accurate measurement as the blood would be in its normal working state. Furthermore, it would then be possible rapidly to optimize drug dosage and to investigate changes in parameters as they happen. The concept of in-situ measurement will apply to numerous other tests.

In special cases some people have already been equipped with sensors of critical body parameters. The outputs are telemetered to a remote observer. Examples of this are in space-medicine, in fitness studies and in a few heart disease cases.

Microbody

Considering the low-cost data processing power already available, and coupling this with inexpensive micro-miniature sensors we can expect to see developed in the future, it is possible that individuals will one day be able to obtain self-monitors that provide warning when body parameters exceed allowable limits.

Better measurements always leads to better control. As an example, respiratory tract problems, such as hay fever and asthma, are hard to combat effectively because of the lack of detailed data about each individual's characteristics in the various circumstances encountered. Not all people are allergic to the same pollens — we could benefit greatly if an easy way existed that determined the allergic pollens involved.

At present, a pollen count is usually taken by drawing the ambient air over a sticky surface for many minutes — hours sometimes. The surface is then observed with a microscope, the technician counting all pollen grains together to obtain the total pollen count. This process is now sometimes carried out using computer-controlled video TV camera systems, but the systems are still barely able to group the various kinds of pollen grain. (They are typically a micrometre in diameter or smaller — counts of a few grains per cubic metre can cause unwanted symptoms.)

A development that could help is a sensor that provides a virtually instant count of the individual kinds of pollen grain present — a real-time sampling analyser.

With such a device the sufferer could test for the hostile situation *before* symptoms arise and take remedial action in time. Technologically such an instrument appears feasible. It is, however, cost and physical size that holds up its development and its practical everyday use at present.

A likely parallel already existing is the Coulter counter that analyses the size and number of cells in a blood sample. Blood-cell counting of several years ago required the blood to be smeared on a microscope slide and the cells counted by eye under a microscope. Today the machine makes the measurements in a few seconds by counting particles as they pass a small orifice — but it is neither portable nor inexpensive. Figure 8 shows a Coulter counter installation as used in the larger pathological laboratories.

Development of personal monitors will almost certainly pass first through a telemetry method in which a central computer processes the data, perhaps with the help of the trained physician to begin with. A direct self-contained method will then be developed in which the specific data processing requirements that have emerged from experience, are integrated into the unit.

Sensors

The human body is a vastly complicated chemical process plant. It has sensors feeding information to the brain for central processing. In turn, the brain sends signals to actuators — the muscles which cause the body to function and to do work. Nerves are the hardwired data channels for receiving and sending control information.

Slight deficiencies in the senses of sight and hearing have been aided using instruments — spectacles and hearing aids. The latter began as acoustic horns which provided sound pressure gain without active amplification. The advent of the telephone led to amplifierless hearing aids in the 1900's which used several mouth-pieces coupled to the ear pieces (Fig 9). Then came electronic units which provided active signal gain from miniature thermionic tubes. Today we have integrated semi-conductor circuitry. We have still a way to go, however, before we are able to compensate for a failed action of the inner ear mechanism.

Vision, until very recently, was aided only by optical lens compensation. But this applies only where the eye is still largely operative as an optical-to-electrical transducer. Quite recently experiments have been reported in which a miniature video camera provides electronic signals that drive cells in the brain to provide illusion of sight. The method is still crude compared with the performance of natural process. Given time for research it seems reasonable to assume that quite compact and useful artificial eyes will soon be available for blind people. Bionic man is not so fantastic! Interestingly, once the bionic eye is developed it is an easy matter to provide greater than natural visual acuity and to offer sensitivity to other than the visible light band — infra-red for instance.

Providing electronic replacements for the sense of smell will most likely be a much later development. We know too little about the olfactory senses and have no really compact and cheap smell sensors at this time to expect great progress to occur in the near future.

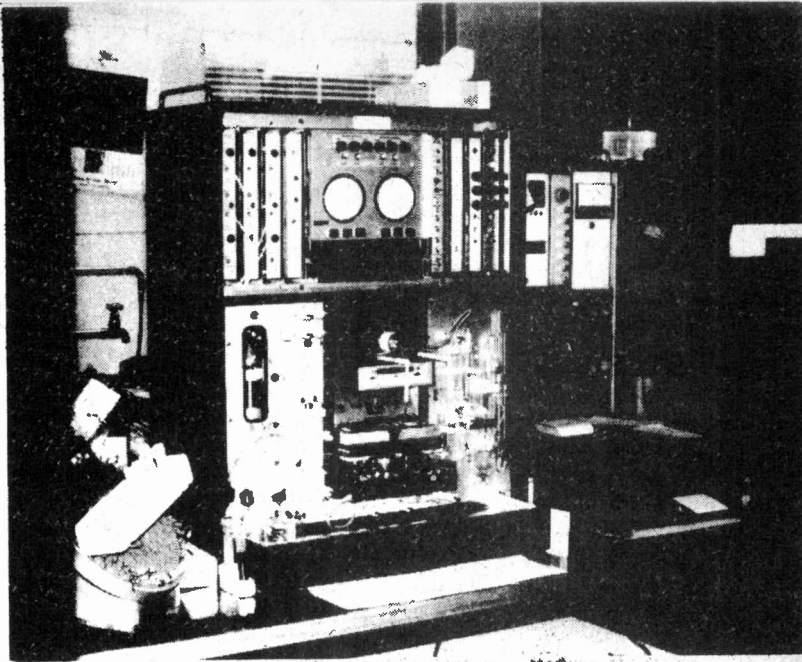


Fig. 8. Coulter counter unit of today that analyses blood sample particles providing a printout (IMUS, Adelaide).

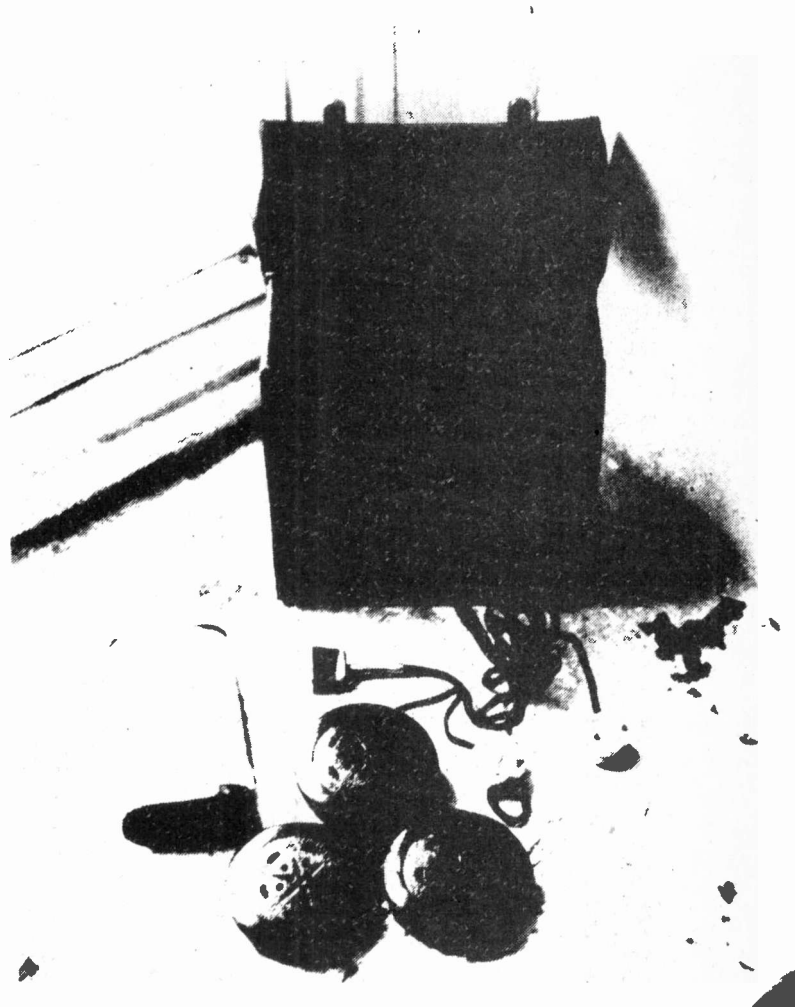


Fig. 9. 1900's hearing aid. The three receivers, which fit into the case, provide signal to the two earpieces. No active amplifier was involved. (Birdwood Mill Museum, S.A)

FEATURE: Electronics in Medicine

Animals, such as dogs, possess a sense of smell vastly much more sensitive than humans. Ants track each other by a scent trail! Yet man has not yet produced small and inexpensive chemical analysers (smell is a largely chemical process) that can meet the complex sensing requirements of smell detection.

Scanners

X-ray and nucleonic diagnostic methods have the valuable feature that certain internal structures of the body can be seen. But all such methods lack the spatial resolution we obtain by visual examination with the unaided eye or through a microscope. A nuclear radiation source set-up within the body provides a rather diffuse output picture. Resolution is improved by increasing the number of individual elements at the sensing stage. The gamma camera, for example, provides two-dimensional pictures using over thirty scintillometers connected in such a way as to provide many more picture elements. The latest development senses the body area by scanning multiple sensors thereby collecting yet more data in a given time. Sophisticated processing is then used to provide video screen outputs which contain much more useful information than ever before. Similar techniques apply to X-ray, nucleonic and ultrasonic signal transmission. Now that vastly more powerful data processing capability exists the future development will be to incorporate many more sensors of the same kind and make more effective use of three-dimensional data. Other variables, such as, say, thermal emission will also be incorporated along with systematic experience gained into the processing, all this to improve data conversion for a more meaningful measurement process.

Surgery

Electrocal methods in surgery traditionally include endoscopes with which to see into inaccessible places and cauterizing probes for sealing blood flow, cutting and destroying cells where need be. The recent introduction of the laser as a cutting tool has most valuable properties. Selection of the appropriate wavelength decides which kind of body tissue will be cut. For example, it is possible to weld the retina of the eye through the pupil without need for surgery. The radiation is only absorbed by retinal material, the pupil and fluid of the eye ball being transparent to the wavelength used.

The selective property of narrow-band radiation will enable some highly precise surgical operations in the future. An operation might go as follows: a rigid framework holds the patient fixed with respect to an x-y-z translating pulsed laser operating head. Wired to the control unit of the translator are electrodes fixed to the body. These sense when low-power sensing pulses are energising the specific part of the body required to be operated upon. The unit scans until sensing signals (operated by a non-cutting wavelength source) verify the location of the beam. Once at such a point the laser is switched to full cutting power continuing to cut as the time-multiplexed sensing signals indicate position is satisfactory.

Looking back, electro-medical apparatus has only been with us for a mere 50 years. In the last 10 years of that time we developed inexpensive and very powerful data processing methods. The next 25 years are likely to unfold undreamed of aids to medicine many of which we would regard as miraculous if we heard about them today.

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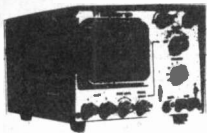
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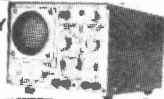
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BC107 .02 .085 .080	BC108 .02 .085 .080	2N3904 .21 .19 .16	4024b .93 .836 .704	7493 .20 .178 .15	BAX13 .02 .016 .014	003 .019 .169 .142
BC107A/B .10 .095 .075	BC107C .02 .085 .080	2N3905 .18 .158 .134	4025A .19 .171 .144	7494 .40 .355 .299	BA4001 .045 .04 .034	.01 .22 .235 .198
BC108A/B/C .10 .095 .075	BC108B .02 .085 .080	2N3907 .21 .19 .16	4027B .45 .399 .336	7495 .23 .205 .173	BA4002 .05 .04 .036	.15 .34 .307 .259
BC109 .09 .085 .080	BC109A/B .12 .104 .080	2N3908 .25 .222 .187	4028B .94 .76 .64	7496 .35 .317 .258	BA4003 .05 .043 .037	.22 .43 .389 .328
BC159B/C .10 .095 .075	BC157A/B .12 .104 .080	2N3909 .90 .811 .683	4030A .45 .399 .336	74118 .89 .803 .677	BA4004 .055 .046 .039	
BC147A/B .12 .104 .080	BC157B/C .12 .104 .080	2N3910 1.09 .079 .067	4040B .118 .106 .896	74122 .44 .393 .331	BA4005 .055 .048 .04	
BC157A/B .12 .104 .080	BC158 .02 .085 .080	2N3916/7/9 .10 .083 .07	4042B .86 .776 .656	74123 .42 .38 .32	BA4006 .06 .051 .044	
BC159 .02 .085 .080	BC159A/B .12 .104 .080	2N3917 .09 .171 .144	4043B .80 .722 .608	74130 .105 .95 .75	BA4007 .06 .055 .047	
BC172B .02 .085 .080	BC172C .02 .085 .080	2N3920 .59 .526 .443	4044B .80 .722 .608	74135 .45 .399 .315	BA4008 .06 .055 .044	
BC177A .14 .125 .106	BC177B .14 .125 .106	2N3923 .66 .594 .501	4050B .44 .389 .336	74137 .25 .225 .187	BA4009 .06 .055 .044	
BC178 .16 .137 .115	BC178A .16 .137 .115	2N3924 .66 .594 .501	4051B .124 .112 .944	74145 .36 .321 .27	BA4010 .06 .055 .044	
BC187 .24 .217 .182	BC187A .24 .217 .182	2N3925 .66 .594 .501	4058B .124 .112 .944	74150 .45 .40 .338	BA4011 .06 .055 .044	
BC213/B .08 .081 .069	BC213/C .08 .081 .069	2N3926 .66 .594 .501	4071B .19 .171 .144	74151/3 .28 .258 .218	BA4012 .06 .055 .044	
BC227 .12 .104 .080	BC227A .12 .104 .080	2N3927 .66 .594 .501	4098B .167 .151 .1272	74152 .36 .321 .27	BA4013 .06 .055 .044	
BC228A/B .10 .081 .069	BC228C .10 .081 .069	2N3928 .66 .594 .501	4098B .167 .151 .1272	74157 .29 .258 .218	BA4014 .06 .055 .044	
BC230C .12 .104 .080	BC230D .12 .104 .080	2N3929 .66 .594 .501	4507A .44 .399 .336	74161/3/4 .126 .114 .083	BA4015 .06 .055 .044	
BC337 .11 .091 .077	BC337A .11 .091 .077	2N3930 .66 .594 .501	4507A .44 .399 .336	74174 .54 .488 .411	BA4016 .06 .055 .044	
BC338 .11 .091 .077	BC338A .11 .091 .077	2N3931 .66 .594 .501	4507A .44 .399 .336	74180 .40 .355 .298	BA4017 .06 .055 .044	
BC516/7 .23 .205 .173	BC516/8 .23 .205 .173	2N3932 .66 .594 .501	4507A .44 .399 .336	74181 .99 .893 .752	BA4018 .06 .055 .044	
BC547A/B .10 .081 .069	BC547C .10 .081 .069	2N3933 .66 .594 .501	4507A .44 .399 .336	74182 .40 .355 .298	BA4019 .06 .055 .044	
BC556 .14 .119 .101	BC556A .14 .119 .101	2N3934 .66 .594 .501	4507A .44 .399 .336	74191 .31 .279 .235	BA4020 .06 .055 .044	
BC557A/B .11 .091 .077	BC557C .11 .091 .077	2N3935 .66 .594 .501	4507A .44 .399 .336		BA4021 .06 .055 .044	
BC559B/C .11 .091 .077	BC559D .11 .091 .077	2N3936 .66 .594 .501	4507A .44 .399 .336		BA4022 .06 .055 .044	
BC570 .17 .148 .125	BC570A .17 .148 .125	2N3937 .66 .594 .501	4507A .44 .399 .336		BA4023 .06 .055 .044	
BC571/2 .19 .171 .144	BC571/3 .19 .171 .144	2N3938 .66 .594 .501	4507A .44 .399 .336		BA4024 .06 .055 .044	
BC578 .15 .133 .105	BC578A .15 .133 .105	2N3939 .66 .594 .501	4507A .44 .399 .336		BA4025 .06 .055 .044	
BC623A .57 .509 .429	BC623B .57 .509 .429	2N3940 .66 .594 .501	4507A .44 .399 .336		BA4026 .06 .055 .044	
BF224 .16 .14 .118	BF224A .16 .14 .118	2N3941 .66 .594 .501	4507A .44 .399 .336		BA4027 .06 .055 .044	
BF244B .21 .188 .159	BF244C .21 .188 .159	2N3942 .66 .594 .501	4507A .44 .399 .336		BA4028 .06 .055 .044	
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BF381 .16 .146 .123	BF381A .16 .146 .123	2N3951 .66 .594 .501	4507A .44 .399 .336		BA4037 .06 .055 .044	
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BU205 .133 .121 .101	BU205A .133 .121 .101	2N3957 .66 .594 .501	4507A .44 .399 .336		BA4043 .06 .055 .044	
BU208 .180 .144 .121	BU208A .180 .144 .121	2N3958 .66 .594 .501	4507A .44 .399 .336		BA4044 .06 .055 .044	
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Bandwidth (between 3 dB points) — DC-50kHz
Input Attenuator — (calibrated) — 9 step 0.1, 0.2, 0.5, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 50V/div
Input Impedance — 1 M Ω /40 pF in shunt
Input Voltage — Max — 500V P.P.

HORIZONTAL AXIS (X)

Deflection Sensitivity — 0-400mV/division
Bandwidth (between 3dB points) — 1Hz-350kHz
Gain Control — Continuous, when time base in EXT position
Input Impedance — 1 M Ω
Input Voltage — Max — 500V P.P.

TIME BASE

Sweep Range (calibrated) — 100msec/div to 1 μ sec/div in 5 steps
FINE Control — Variable between steps — includes timebase calibration position
Blanking — Internal — on all ranges

SYNCHRONIZATION

Selection — Internal, external
Synchronization Level — Continuous from positive to negative input Voltage

POWER SUPPLY

— 115/220V AC — 10% at 50/60Hz
Power Dissipation 18 watt

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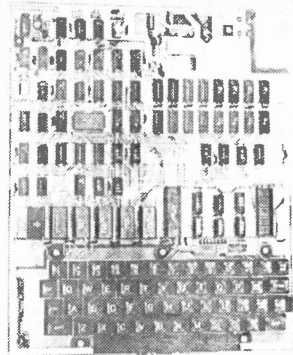
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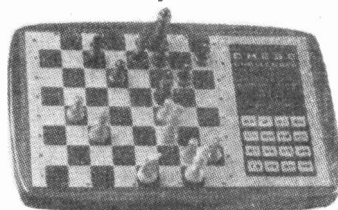
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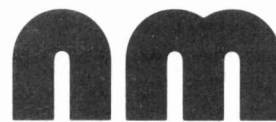
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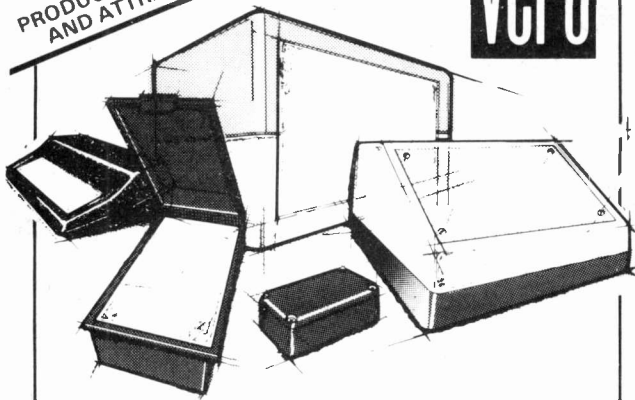
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Cap. Decade Box:	
10pf - 111 110pf in steps of 10pf	33.00

GENERATORS

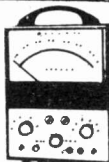
TG152 Series RC Oscillators	
Sine/Square output 3Hz-300KHz	
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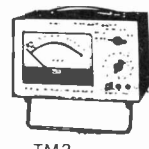
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DIGITAL DIAL

Most AM radio dials are pretty hopeless — especially portables and car radios. This application of our counter module can be a decided improvement.

WITH MODERN RADIOS which are designed to be operated anywhere in the world, the local station call signs are no longer marked on the dial. Instead the dial is marked with frequencies making it more universal. Unfortunately the scaling on many receivers leaves a little to be desired, with many car radios lucky to have 3 or 4 markings. The use of pushbutton selection helps but when a cassette is fitted or you are out of your local area there is still the problem of knowing to what station you are tuned.

This project gives a direct readout of the station being received allowing for easy identification and selection. The display is remote from the receiver allowing it to be mounted on the dashboard for easy viewing.



Design Features

This project is the first to employ our four digit module presented elsewhere in this issue. We will be using the module again over the next few months so don't lose track of it!

If this device is to be used outdoors i.e. in the car, it is recommended that high brightness displays, such as the Hewlett Packard HDSP 4133, be used. As these have a different pin-out a new display board is presented in this article.

The theory of operation is that we actually measure the frequency of the local oscillator in the radio and subtract the IF frequency. While we could have subtracted this using digital logic we chose to do it by resetting the display not to zero but to 9545 (10 000-455). The first 455 pulses in the timing period are then used getting to zero and in effect, only pulses after this are counted and displayed. This number can be loaded into the counter by

selecting the appropriate diodes and using the "load counter" input instead of the reset line. The only difference is that as the data is entered into the counter serially the pulse used must be longer than 4 times the internal oscillator period. Also as the LC input is a three state input it cannot be driven by conventional two-state.

Out of Tune

We initially tried capacitive coupling onto the tuning capacitor of our portable radio (oscillator section!) but the loading detuned the set too much. We then tried a pickup coil and found enough signal with it in the correct place not to require any electrical connection to the set. With

SPECIFICATION

Frequency range	500-1700kHz
Accuracy	± 5kHz
Sensor	pickup coil or direct connection
Power supply	7-20VDC @ 80mA or 240VAC
Display	4 digit LED

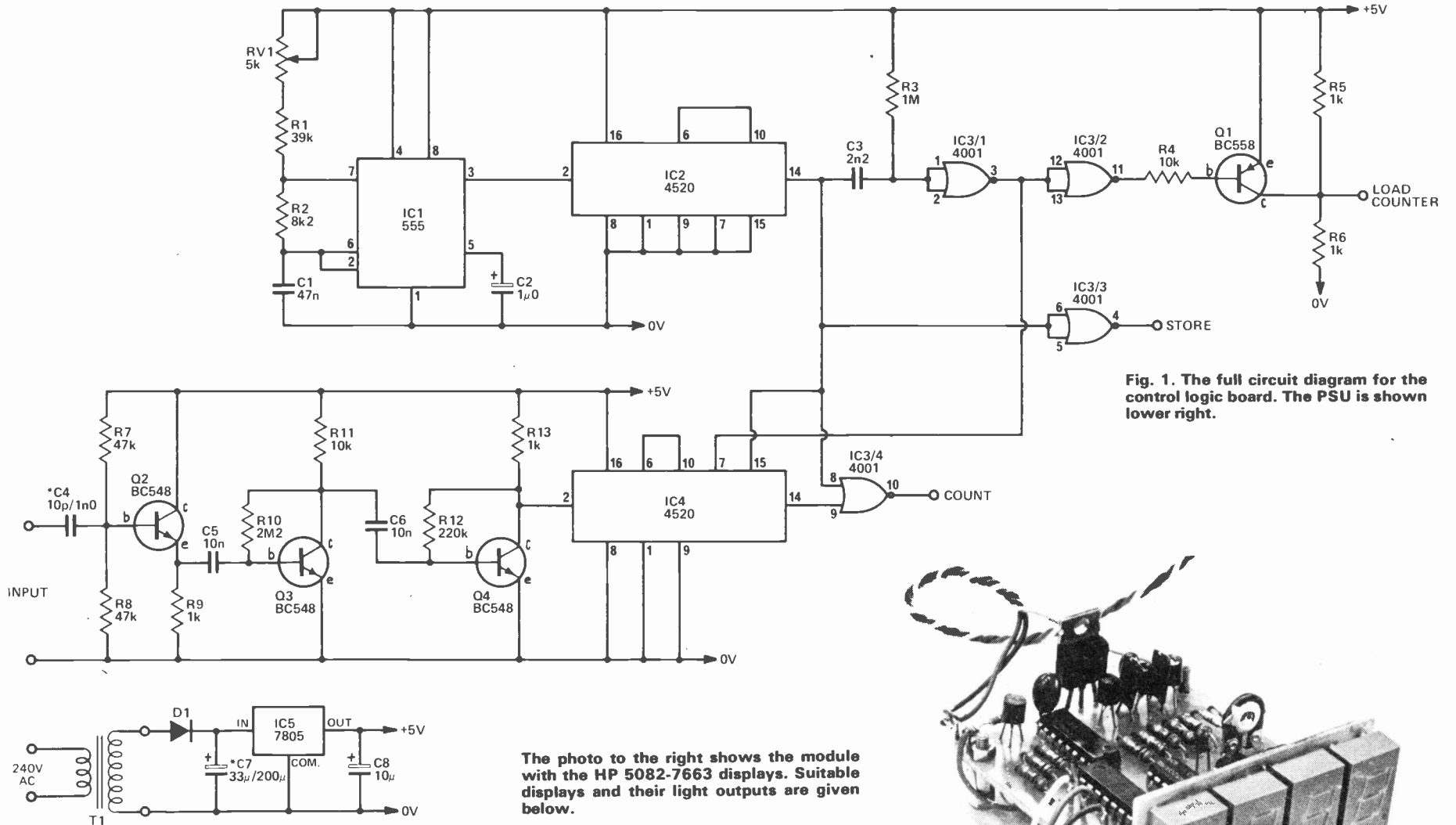
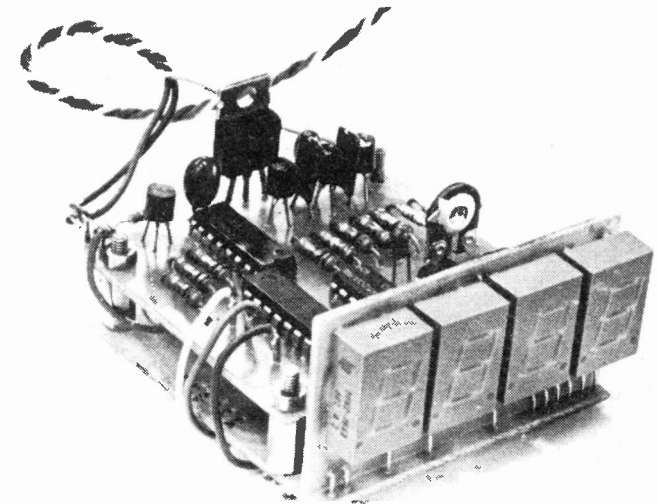


Fig. 1. The full circuit diagram for the control logic board. The PSU is shown lower right.

The photo to the right shows the module with the HP 5082-7663 displays. Suitable displays and their light outputs are given below.



Type	Colour	Size	Light output
HDSP 4133	yellow	10.9 mm	2100 μ Cd @ 20mA
HDSP 3733	red	10.9 mm	1800 μ Cd @ 20mA
5082-7663	yellow	10.9 mm	1500 μ Cd @ 20mA
5082-7653	red	10.9 mm	1720 μ Cd @ 20mA
DL704	red	7.6 mm	320 μ Cd @ 25mA

HOW IT WORKS

A signal from the local oscillator in the tuner is picked up either by a pickup coil or by direct connection to the set. It is then amplified by Q2-Q4 to give a square wave on the collector of Q4. The gain of this amplifier is about 250 (48 dB). The frequency of this signal will vary from around 1 MHz to about 2 MHz and this signal is then frequency divided by 256 (2⁸) in IC4. This is used to clock the display module.

To measure the frequency we have to count the number of these pulses for 256/1000 seconds (256 because we divided the input by 256 and 1000 as we want a 1 kHz resolution). We used a 555 oscillator for the time base and its output is also divided by 256 (by IC2). This improves the stability of the time base by averaging out any short term variations in the 555 frequency.

The output of IC2 is a symmetrical square wave and when the output goes low a 1.5 ms wide pulse is generated by R3, C3 and IC3/1. This is inverted by IC3/2 which turns Q1 on for the 1.5 ms period. Two resistors are used to bias the output of Q1 to 2.5V to ensure that the three level input will work.

This pulse "loads" 9545 into the counters (in the display module). Counting now starts from this number and after 455 pulses it is passing through zero. 256 ms after the load pulse ended the output of IC2 goes high. This resets IC4 back to zero, inhibits any further clocking via IC3/4 and opens the latches via the strobe line allowing the total in the counter to be displayed. 257.5 ms later when the output of IC2 goes low again, the store is closed, the counter is once again preset to 9545 with the process starting again.

Right: full site foil patterns for the Digidial control board. Refer to the module article for details of those PCBs. Not shown here i.e. the two display boards and the third for high brightness seven segment types.

the car radio however the coils are shielded so well that reliable operation was not possible. However it was found that we could tap onto one side of the oscillator coil without affecting the operation.

We use a NE55 as the time base with its output being divided by 128 to improve stability. However if an accuracy of ± 5 kHz is to be maintained its frequency has to be better than 1/4% and a polystyrene capacitor for C1 and 2% resistors for R1 and R2 are recommended.

Construction

The display board should be built according to the overlay in Fig. 4 which shows which diodes are required. Note that R1, 2 and C1 are not used in the display module and a link is used in place of R1.

The control card can now be assembled and wired to the display module. The two boards are

mounted one above the other using 9.6 mm spacers. Check that these screws do not touch any tracks and insulate them if too close.

Depending on whether the unit is going to be used with a car radio or portable the values of C4 and C7 will vary. The pickup coil is made by winding about 80 turns of 0.25 mm enamelled wire onto a 25 mm long piece of 10 mm ferrite rod with the end terminated onto a twisted pair of plastic covered wires long enough to go between the radio and the position of the display. Do not use coaxial cable for this as the capacitance is too high.

The case chosen has been left to the individual with our own being from a discarded digital clock. If you use the 240 V powered version be careful with the high voltage wiring. For the 12 V version the power can come from the radio via a twisted lead (3 wires).

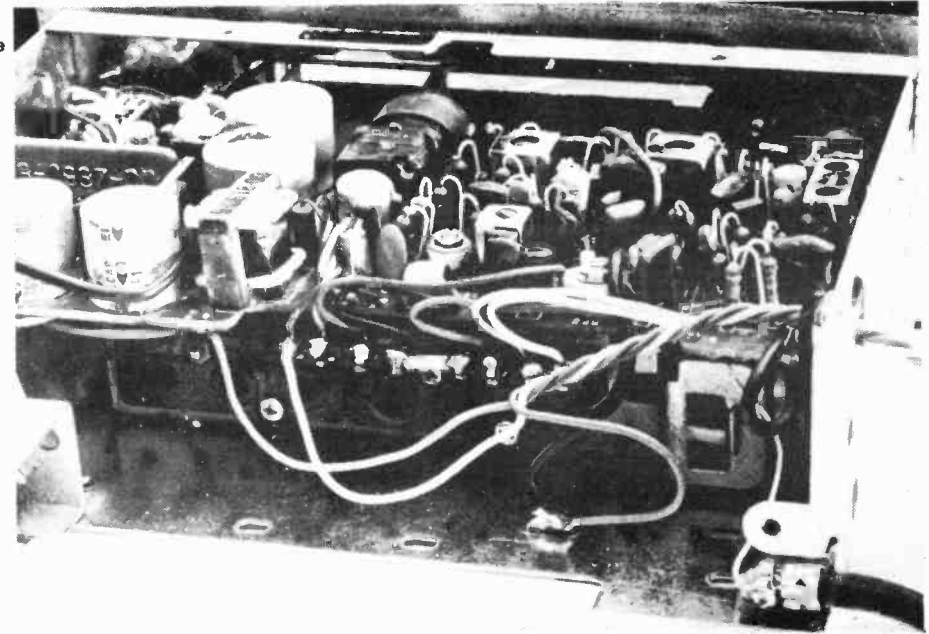
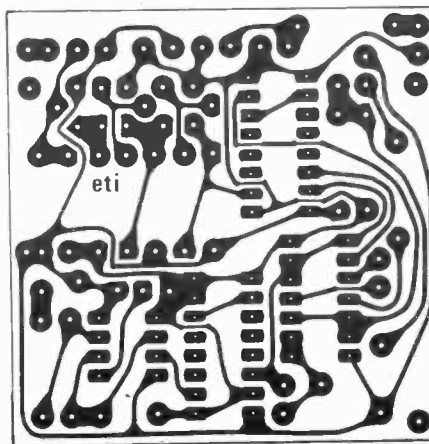
When connecting into a car radio, tune the set to a local station and try the pickup wire on the terminals of the tuning coils in turn until one is found which will give a reading without moving it off station. Permanently connect to this point. With a portable radio try moving the pickup coil around the set, probably in line with the aerial coil, until the best results are obtained.

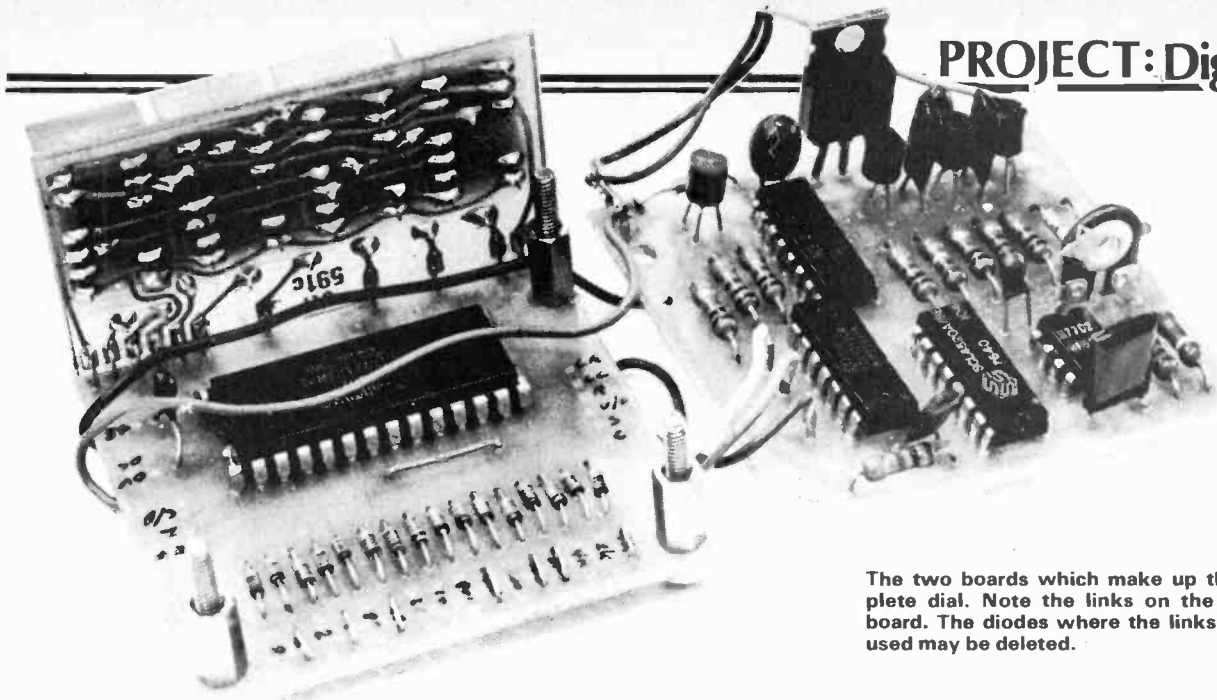
Calibration

Place the pickup coil in position such that reliable operation is obtained and tune to a known station (preferably near the top end of the dial). Now adjust RV1 until the digital dial agrees with that station. Check then with other stations.

Alternatively feed a known signal of between 1 and 2 MHz from an oscillator into the input and adjust RV1 until it reads 455 less than that frequency.

Photo showing where we tapped into the car radio.





The two boards which make up the complete dial. Note the links on the display board. The diodes where the links are not used may be deleted.

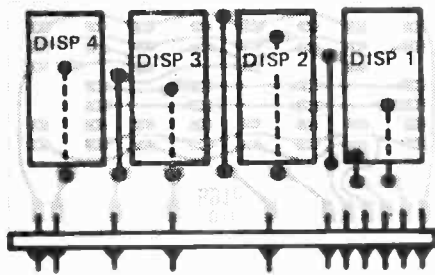


Fig 3(a) The overlay for the display board employing the high brightness displays. (b) Below that (left) the control board overlay.

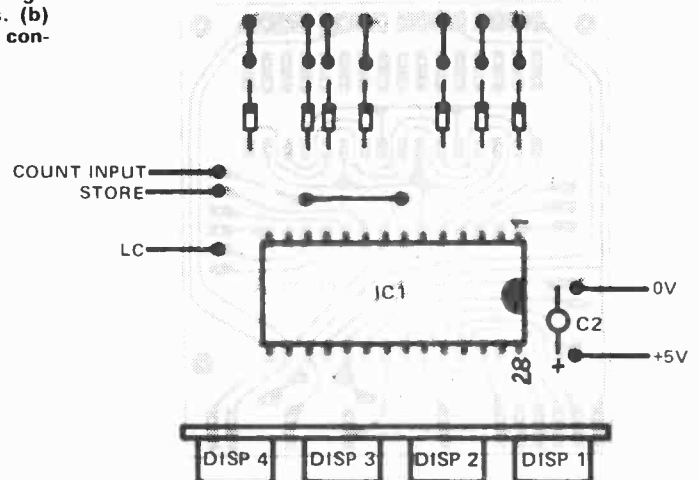
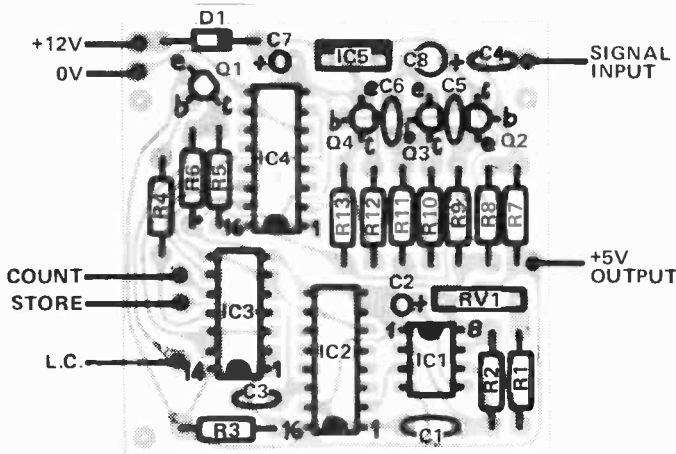


Fig. 4. The component overlay of the display module showing the diodes and links required.

PARTS LIST

RESISTORS	all 1/2W, 5%	*C7	33u tantalum
R1	39k	C8	10u 25V electrolytic
R2	8k2	SEMICONDUCTORS	
R3	1M	IC1	555
R4, 11	10k	IC2	4520
R5, 6, 9, 13	1k	IC3	4001
R7, 8	47k	IC4	4520
R10	2M2	IC5	7805
R12	220k	Q1	BC558
POTENTIOMETER		Q2-Q4	BC548
RV1	5k trimmer	D1	1N4004
CAPACITORS		MISCELLANEOUS	
C1	47n polystyrene	*Transformer 240V-12V6, 150 mA	
C2	1u0 tantalum	*For 12 V operation delete transformer.	
C3	2n2 polyester	For 240 V version C7 should be 220u	
*C4	10p ceramic	25 V. For use with pickup coil increase	
C5, 6	10n polyester	C4 to 1n0.	

BUYLINES

Any displays mentioned here are of course suitable and should be easily obtainable. The semiconductors are all available from Technomatic, or indeed from most other mail-order suppliers.

Power Supply

The unit can be powered by an AC or DC voltage of between 7 and 20 volts. If an AC voltage is used the capacitor C7 should be increased to 220 u. A 240 V to 12V6, 150 mA transformer is recommended. **ETI**

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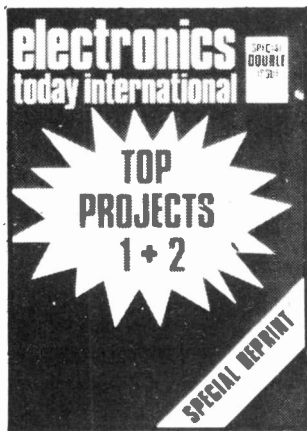
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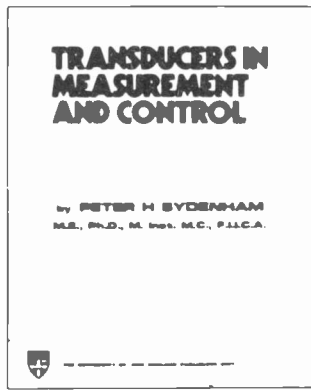
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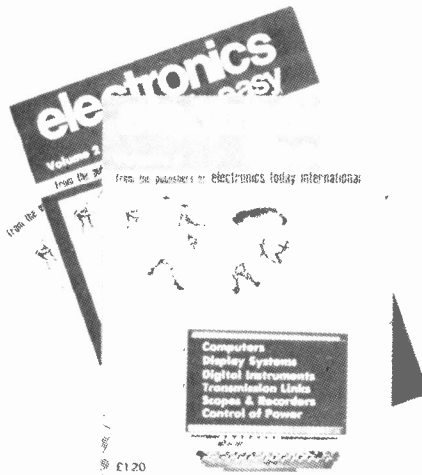
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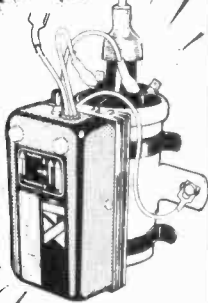
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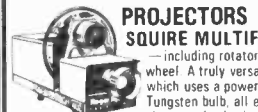


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DATA SHEETS EXPLAINED

The data sheets which we publish regularly are very popular, but from time to time we receive requests for a fairly simple explanation of the terms and abbreviations which one finds in semiconductor device data sheets, and so here it is!

THE INFORMATION contained in semiconductor device data sheets is often grossly misunderstood. Great care must be taken to ensure that the exact meaning of a term or abbreviation is clear. As an example, we can quote the following conversation which actually occurred between two people who should both have known better.

A representative of a semiconductor distributor was showing data on a new power device to a lecturer. The lecturer said that the device data was wrong, since the maximum collector current was quoted as 12A and the maximum collector-emitter voltage (V_{CE0}) as 80V; this is a power level of $12 \times 80 = 960W$, but the maximum permissible dissipation quoted in the data sheet is only 90W. The representative could provide no answer!

The data was, of course, perfectly correct. The problem arose because neither of the people concerned had appreciated the exact meaning of V_{CE0} which signifies the collector-emitter voltage *with the base open circuited*. Under these conditions (with zero base current) the collector current will be very small and the power dissipation in the transistor will also be quite small. Thus there is a great deal of difference between V_{CE} (the collector-emitter voltage under any conditions) and V_{CE0} (the collector-emitter voltage with the base open circuited). If still more information is required, one must look into the SOAR (Safe Operating Area) graph to ascertain the regions of the collector voltage/collector current curve where the device can be safely operated for limited or unlimited times.

This is a very simple example of the pitfalls one can encounter if one does not really understand the *exact* meanings of the terms and abbreviations used in data sheets. Such misunderstandings are very common, but not (we hope!) amongst the devices covered in our data sheets, since it is equally important that our readers understand the exact meanings of abbreviations used in data sheets on relatively simple devices such as ordinary diodes and transistors.

Letter Symbols

Three of the most important symbols used in semi-conductor device data sheets are V, I and P for voltage, current and power respectively. Various subscripts are added to these three letters to indicate the electrode(s) to which the symbol is being applied and possibly certain circuit conditions. Some of the most commonly used subscripts are listed below.

A	anode
AV	average
B	base
BO	breakover
BR	breakdown
C	collector
D	drain or delay
E	emitter
F	forward
G	gate
H	holding
I	input
J	junction
K	cathode
M	peak value of a quantity
O	open circuit or output

R	reverse or repetitive
S	source, short circuit, series or shield
T	in the on state (that is, triggered)
W	working
X	specified circuit
Z	impedance

Order of subscripts

In most cases more than one subscript is needed; the subscripts are usually placed in a definite order governed by the following rules:

The first subscript indicates the electrode at which the current or voltage is measured.

The second subscript denotes the reference terminal or circuit mode. (This subscript is often omitted if it is felt no ambiguity will arise.)

The letter O may be used as a third subscript to show that the electrode not indicated by any previous subscript is open circuited. Similarly the letter S can be used as a third subscript to show the third electrode is shorted to the reference electrode of the second subscript, whilst the letter R as a third subscript indicates that a specified resistance is connected between the third electrode and the reference electrode.

The supply voltage to a collector is indicated as V_{CC} , the second suffix being a repetition of the first in the case of supply voltages. Similarly, one often meets the symbol V_{DD} for the positive supply to a CMOS (or COS/MOS) device, this being the supply to the drain. The negative supply to CMOS devices is normally represented by the symbol V_{SS} .

It should now be clear why V_{CE0} is the steady collector emitter voltage with the base open circuited. Similarly I_{CER} is the collector cut off current with a specified resistance between the base and emitter. It is current with the base and emitter joined, since either the base or emitter can be used as the reference electrode without any change when they are joined.

The parameters of individual devices vary from one device to another of the same type number. The typical value of a parameter such as transistor current gain is often quoted in data sheets by the abbreviation 'typ' after the quantity, but minimum and maximum values are also often quoted. In economical devices no maximum and minimum values may be quoted. In the case of breakdown voltages the minimum value applicable to any device of that type number is usually quoted so that the circuit designer knows that he can apply that value of voltage without danger of the device junction breaking down.

The above discussion gives the general principles of the way in which the symbols for various parameters are chosen. It is not complete, since we have not yet covered such items as current gain of a transistor or thermal characteristics of a device. However, these and other quantities will be covered in the following tables.

Thermal characteristics

The symbols used for the following thermal quantities apply to all types of semiconductor device.

P_{tot}	total power dissipated within the device
T_{amb}	ambient temperature
T_c	temperature of the case of the device
T_j	temperature of the junction in the semiconductor material
T_{mb}	temperature of the mounting base of the device ($=T_c$)

T_{stg}	storage temperature
θ_h	thermal resistance of heat sink. (Units: °C/W)
θ_i	contact thermal resistance between the case of the device and the heat sink
θ_{j-amb}	junction to ambient thermal resistance
θ_{j-c}	junction to case thermal resistance

Symbols used mainly with diodes

C_d	diode capacitance with reverse bias
C_f	diode capacitance with forward bias
C_j	capacitance of the junction itself
C_{min}	minimum capacitance (which occurs at the rated breakdown voltage)
C_o	diode capacitance at zero bias
f_{co}	cut off frequency of a varactor diode
I_F	total dc forward current
i_F	instantaneous forward current
$I_{F(AV)}$	average forward current
I_{FM}	peak forward current
I_{FRM}	repetitive peak forward current
I_{FSM}	non-repetitive peak forward current occurring under surge conditions
I_R	continuous reverse leakage current
i_R	instantaneous reverse leakage current
I_{RRM}	repetitive peak reverse current
I_{RSM}	non-repetitive peak reverse current
I_Z	zener diode continuous operating current
I_{ZM}	zener diode peak current
t_{on}	turn on time
t_{off}	turn off time
t_r	rise time
t_{rr}	reverse recovery time
t_s	storage time
V_F	steady forward voltage
v_F	instantaneous forward voltage
V_R	steady reverse voltage
v_R	instantaneous value of the reverse voltage
V_{RRM}	peak reverse voltage
V_{RRM}	repetitive peak reverse voltage
V_{RSM}	non-repetitive peak reverse voltage (on surges)
V_Z	zener diode working voltage

Symbols used mainly with transistors

C_{ob}	transistor output capacitance in the grounded base circuit
C_{oe}	transistor output capacitance in the grounded emitter circuit
f_T	transition frequency or gain-bandwidth product in common emitter circuit
h_{FE}	current gain in the grounded emitter circuit (or in the grounded base or grounded collector circuit).
(h_{FB}, h_{FC})	
h_{fe}	the increase in collector current divided by the small increase in the base current which produces it. (Small signal current gain.)
I_B, I_C or I_E	the steady base, collector or emitter current.
$I_{B(AV)}, I_{C(AV)}$ or $I_{E(AV)}$	the average value of the base, collector or emitter current.
I_{CEX} or I_{CM} or I_{EM}	collector cut-off current in a specified circuit peak value of collector, base or emitter current
I_b, i_c or I_o	rms value of the alternating component of the current
I_{bm}, i_{cm} or I_{om}	peak value of the alternating component of the current
i_c, i_b or i_e	instantaneous value of the total current
i_c, i_b or i_o	instantaneous value of the alternating component of the current
I_{ceo}	collector cut off current with the emitter open circuited

I_{CBS} or I_{CES}	collector cut off current with emitter shorted to the base
I_{CEO}	collector cut off current with the base open circuited
I_{CER}	collector cut off current with a specified value of resistance between the base and the emitter
I_{EBO}	emitter cut off current with the collector open circuited
$V_{BE(SAT)}$	base-emitter saturation voltage
$V_{(BR)}$	breakdown voltage
$V_{(BR)CBO}$	collector to base breakdown voltage with emitter open circuited
$V_{(BR)CEO}$	collector to emitter breakdown voltage with base open circuited
V_{CB}	collector-base voltage
V_{CBO}	collector to base voltage with emitter open circuited
V_{CC}	collector supply voltage
V_{CE}	collector to emitter voltage
V_{CEO}	collector to emitter voltage with base open circuited
V_{ce}	collector to emitter rms voltage
$V_{CE(SAT)}$	collector to emitter saturation voltage
V_{EB}	emitter-base voltage
V_{EBO}	emitter-base voltage with collector open circuited
V_{eb}	emitter-base rms voltage

Symbols used mainly with FETS

I_D	steady value of the drain current
I_{DSS}	steady value of the drain current with the gate connected to the source
I_m	peak drain current
I_G	steady gate current
I_S	steady source current
r_{DS}	drain to source (or channel) resistance
V_{DS}	steady drain to source voltage
V_{GS}	steady gate to source voltage

Symbols used mainly with thyristors

I_{FRM}	repetitive peak forward current.
I_{FSM}	non-repetitive peak (surge) current
I_{GD}	gate current which does not trigger the device
I_{GT}	gate trigger current
I_{GO}	gate turn off current
I_H	holding current required to maintain conduction
I_R	steady reverse leakage current
I_{RG}	reverse gate current
I_{RRM}	repetitive peak reverse current
I_{RSM}	non-repetitive peak reverse current (in surge conditions)
I_T	steady anode-cathode 'ON' state current
P_G	gate power
t_{GT}	gate controlled turn-on time
t_{GT}	gate controlled turn-off time
$V_{(BO)}$	breakover voltage
V_D	continuous off state voltage
V_{FG}	forward gate voltage
V_{GT}	gate trigger voltage
V_R	steady reverse voltage

Operational amplifier terms

Bandwidth, Δf . The frequency at which the gain falls by a factor of 0.7 relative to the gain at low frequencies.

Common mode rejection ratio, CMMR. The gain when a signal is applied to one of the inputs of the amplifier divided by the gain when the signal is applied to both the inverting and non-inverting inputs. It is usually expressed in dB.

Frequency compensation. An operational amplifier requires a capacitor to enable it to be used in circuits which are stable over a wide frequency range. Internally compensated operational amplifiers have this capacitor fabricated on the silicon chip, but an external capacitor must be used with other types of operational amplifier which do not contain an internal capacitor.

Input bias current, I_{BIAS} . The mean value of the currents at the two inputs of an operational amplifier.

Input offset current, I_{OS} . The difference in the two currents to the inputs of an operational amplifier. Normally much smaller than the input bias current.

Input offset voltage, V_{OS} . The voltage which must be applied between the two input terminals to obtain zero voltage at the output.

Open loop voltage gain, A_{VOL} . The amplifier gain with no feedback applied.

Output resistance, R_o . The small signal resistance seen at the output when the output voltage is near zero.

Voltage regulator terms

Dropout voltage, V_{DO} . When the difference between the input and output voltages falls down below the dropout voltage, the device ceases to provide regulation.

Foldback current limiting. In regulators with foldback current limiting, the current will 'fold back' to a fairly small value when the output is shorted.

Line regulation. The change in the output voltage for a specified change in the input voltage.

Load regulation. The change in output voltage for a change in the load current at a constant chip temperature.

Quiescent current, I_Q . The current taken by the regulator device when it is not delivering any output current.

Ripple rejection. The ratio of the peak-to-peak ripple at the input of the regulator to that at the output. Normally expressed in dB.

Monolithic timer terms

Comparator input current. The mean current flowing in the comparator input connection during a timing cycle.

Timing capacitor, C_t . This capacitor is normally connected between the comparator input and ground. The time taken for it to charge controls the delay time.

Timing resistor, R_t . This is the resistor through which the timing capacitor charges.

Trigger current. The current flowing in the trigger input connection, at the specified trigger voltage.

Trigger voltage. The voltage required at the trigger pin to initiate a timing cycle.

Conclusions

Data sheets must be used intelligently and with much thought. Information on the conditions under which an entry in the data sheet is applicable is often stated in small print, but is of great importance. Data should always be thoroughly studied before a device is used for the first time, only then will you be able to fully understand the potential applications of the device.

Thus i_E is the instantaneous value of the total emitter current, i_e the instantaneous value of the alternating component of the emitter current, and $I_{E(AV)}$ the average (DC) value of the total emitter current. Other subscripts can be used in a similar way, I_F being the forward DC current with no signal, i_F the instantaneous forward current and I_{FM} the peak forward current.

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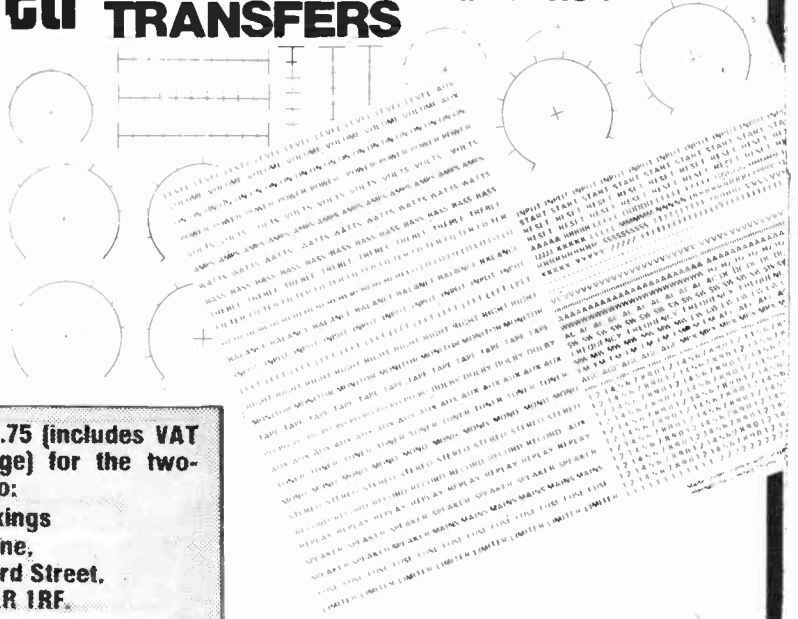
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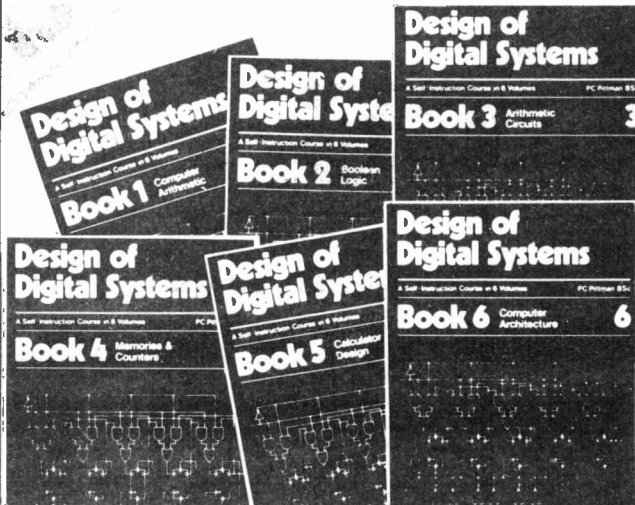
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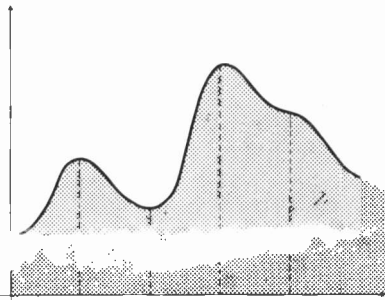
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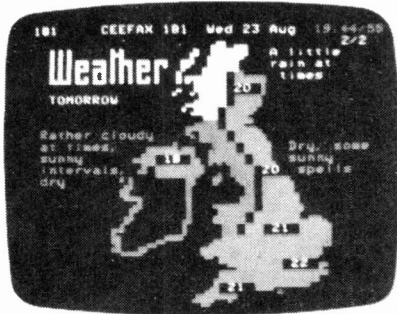
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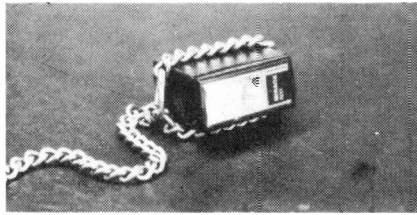
A fully-fledged graphic equaliser with four bands, allowing you to adjust the response of your Hi-Fi to suit the room it's in! Alternatively, this unit can be used as a really sophisticated tone control. This project was designed by a professional audio consultant especially for HE. We think it'll be a winner!

Viewdata



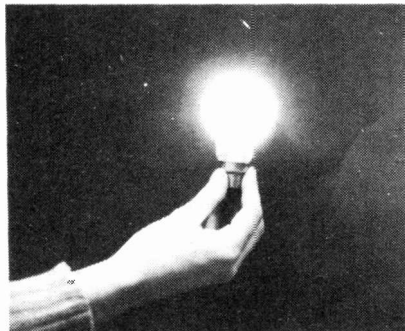
One of the most exciting developments in modern TV technology is the advent of data transmission and display. Viewdata is Britain's answer to advances which could mean shopping from the home, a computer terminal in every room or even the abolition of commuting!

Slave Flash



Using one flash gun is fairly straightforward — but how do you use two or more simultaneously?

Touch Switch



A switch with no moving parts! Just touch it and turn on the lights, motors or whatever turns you on. By the way, the above photo is not an illustration of the switch in action, but one of our staff having a bright idea.

Holograms

Following on from the LASER article in this issue, we look into (!) holograms — what are they, how are they made and what use are they. This is a fascinating topic and one which is sure to make a big impact on all our lives in the future.

Project Daedalus



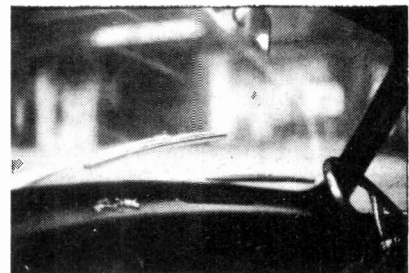
Fig. 7 Magnetic field external to the region of the reactor

The British Interplanetary Society has just published a report which shows that interstellar flight by an un-manned vehicle is possible with modern technology. The report is nearly 200 pages of detailed drawings, calculations and specifications. We examine it clearly in detail.

BASIC Programming

If you've ever wondered exactly what's involved in programming a computer, then this is for you. We look at BASIC — one of the most popular computer languages — and see what it's all about. This article will require no previous knowledge and will be much more than an introduction to the subject.

Variwiper



Ever been driving in one of those horrible drizzles which is too fine for the wipers to work properly? This circuit makes them repeat one sweep at pre-set time intervals — ideal for those conditions.

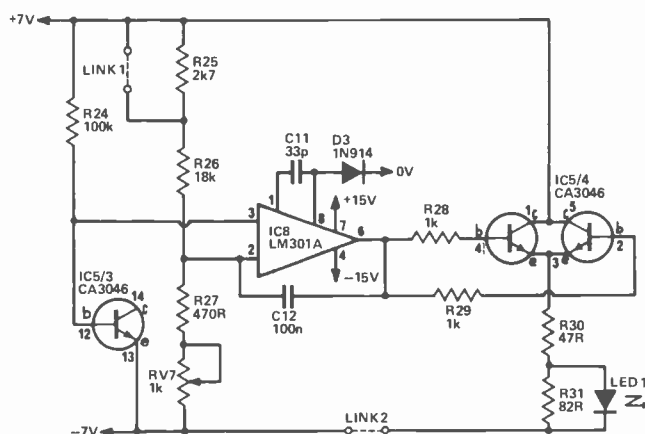
January issue will be on sale on December 8th

The items mentioned here are those planned for the next issue but circumstances may affect the actual content.

TEMP STABILISED LOG CONVERTER

This design can be set up for either logarithmic or exponential operation and incorporates a neat heater circuit for temperature stability.

IN THE CONVENTIONAL musical scale, consecutive notes are not separated by the same frequency, but by the same ratio — the twelfth root of two. This is quite acceptable for most musical instrument manufacturers, except that in electronic music equipment it is easier to make oscillators which have an accurately linear frequency/control voltage characteristic. The keyboards of most music synthesizers give an output voltage of 1 V for each octave on the keyboard. This can easily be generated by a set of equal resistors between the contacts on each key and a voltage applied to each end (normally 5 V). However this means the oscillator is required to have an exponential frequency/control voltage response.



Below: the circuit diagram of the converter section. One channel only is shown here, the second — identical — uses the even components numbers. Above: the oven circuitry.

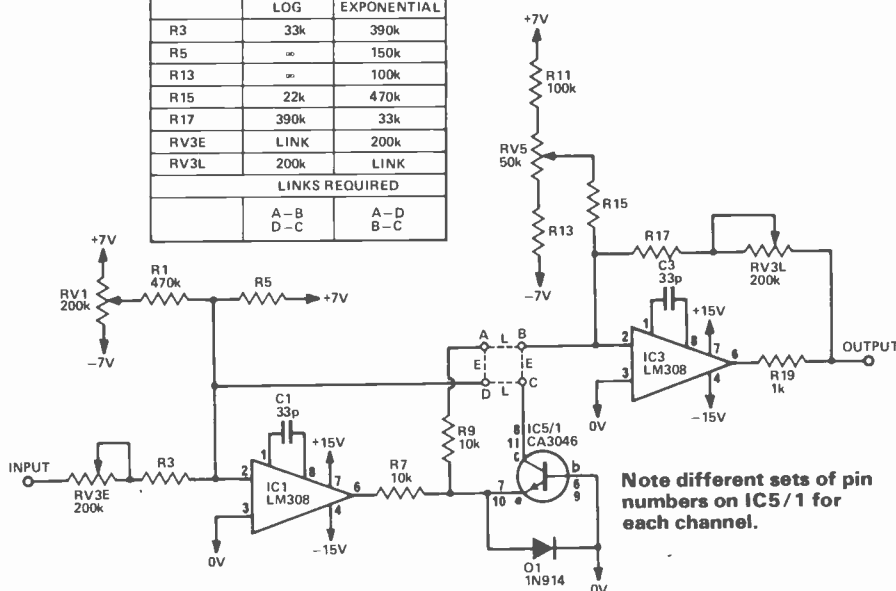
Trouble

This is where the trouble usually starts. An exponential converter is normally used which relies for its operation on the relationship between current and voltage in a silicon diode or transistor. However, unless temperature stabilisation is used the oscillator will not stay in tune for very long. With this unit the transistor used is heated to around 55° C and stabilised at this temperature, eliminating the problem of thermal drift.

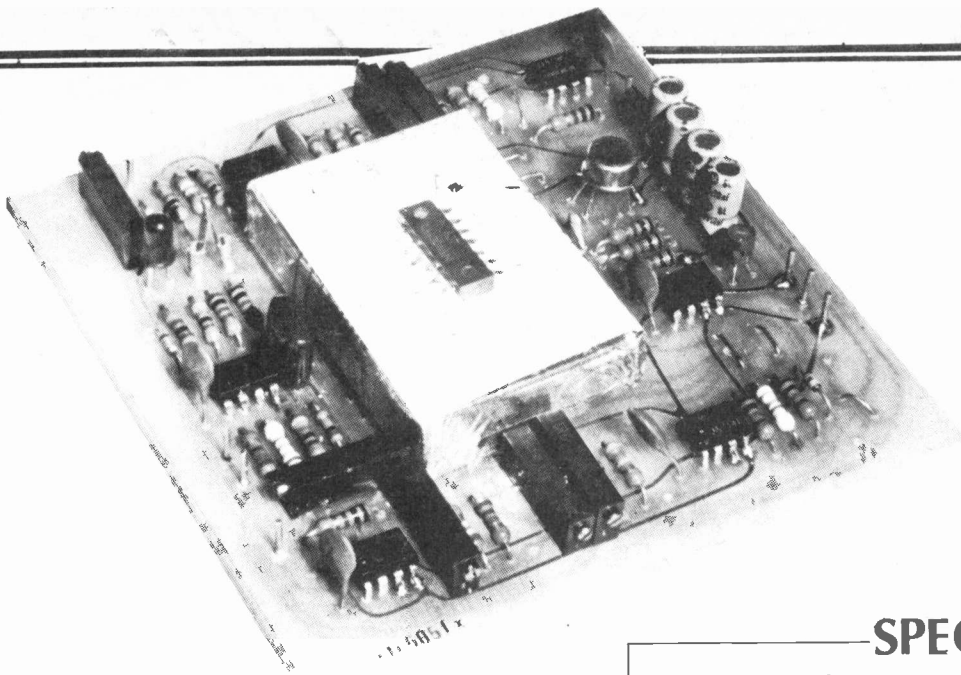
In the instrumentation field a lot of functions are displayed in dBs which are a logarithmic measurement. As this unit can be connected in either exp or log modes it is useful for this purpose also.

As the unit will normally be used with some other equipment, we have not described any mechanical housing.

VALUES OF UNMARKED COMPONENTS		
	LOG	EXPONENTIAL
R3	33k	390k
R5	∞	150k
R13	∞	100k
R15	22k	470k
R17	390k	33k
RV3E	LINK	200k
RV3L	200k	LINK
LINKS REQUIRED		
	A-B D-C	A-D B-C



Note different sets of pin numbers on IC5/1 for each channel.



The photo on the left shows the complete unit with the oven top removed to show IC5. Link 1 is made from a couple of valve socket pins in this prototype.

SPECIFICATION

Transfer functions exponential log.	$V_{out} = 0.15625 \times 2V_{in}$ $V_{out} = \ln(V_{in}/0.15625)/\ln 2$
Useful dynamic range	50dB or 8 octaves
Oven temperature	approx. 55°C
Warm up time	about 2 minutes
Power supply	± 10 to ± 15 volts

HOW IT WORKS

This unit relies on the fact that the collector current of a transistor is exponentially related to the base voltage.

In the log mode the collector of the transistor is linked back to the input of IC1. In this way the collector current is proportional to the input voltage and therefore the voltage on its emitter is logarithmically related to the input voltage. This voltage is then amplified and level shifted by IC3 to give the desired output.

In the exponential mode the 10k resistor R9 is linked back to the input of IC1 and the voltage on the emitter of the transistor is proportional to the input voltage; the collector current is exponentially related to the input voltage. This current is converted to a voltage by IC3.

All this works well provided the transistor is at a constant temperature. Compensation can be made by using other junctions and thermistors, however even the self-heating effect of the transistors can affect linearity. The transistors we have used are part of a transistor array IC which has three individual NPN transistors and a differential pair. We heat the chip up by dissipating heat in the differential pair while measuring the base-emitter voltage of one of the individual transistors. IC8 is used to compare this voltage to one set by the divider R25, 26, 27 and RV7. The base-emitter voltage is normally about 0.67 V at 20°C and drops about 2.2 mV per degree above this temperature. IC8 then stabilises the chip temperature to about 35°C above the temperature at which it was initially calibrated. As it warms up the current in the transistors will fall and when hot the voltage drop across R31 will be low enough that the LED will extinguish. The transistor array is housed in a polystyrene housing to conserve heat.

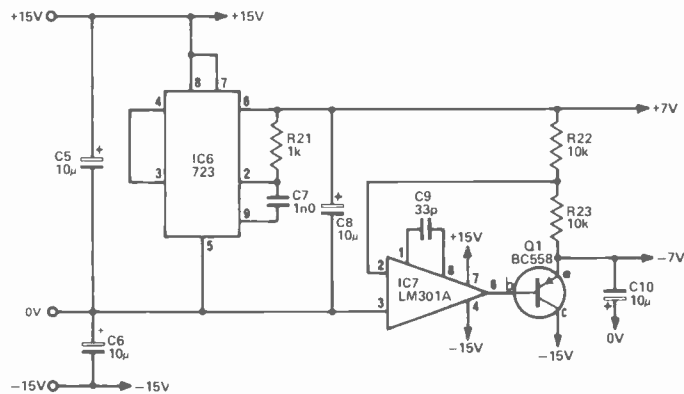
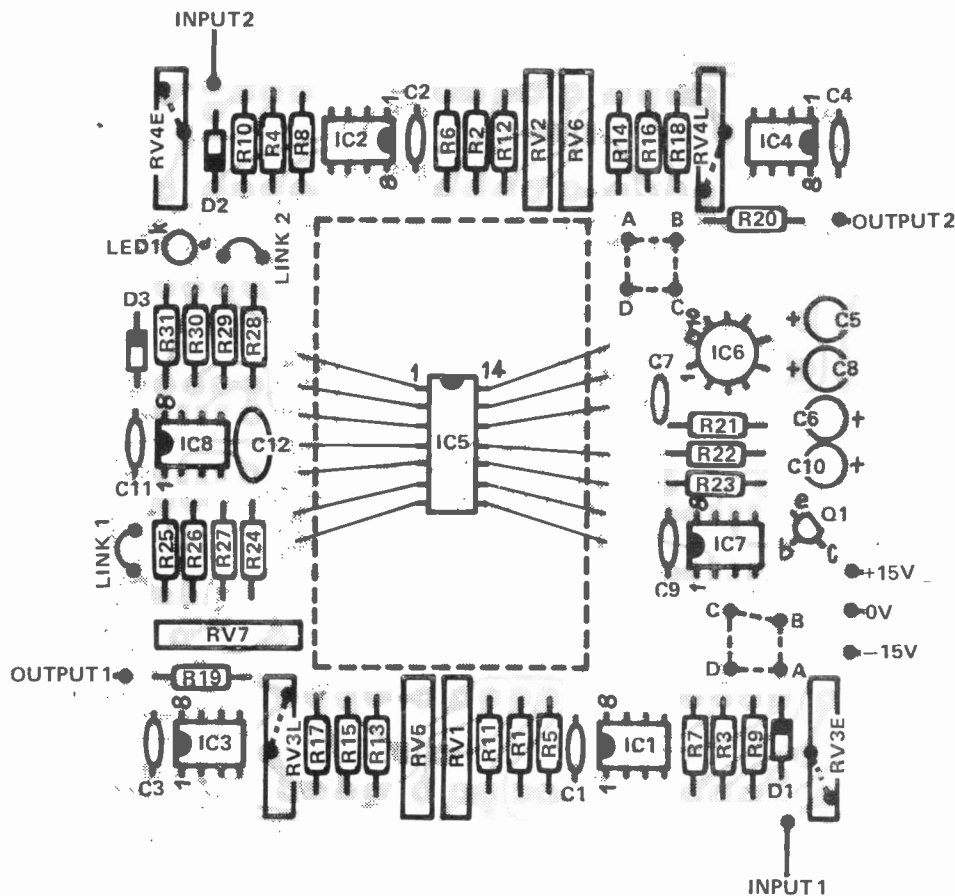


Fig. 1b. The power supply section which supplies the stable ± 7 V needed for the bias and adjustment controls.

The only difference between the assembly of this board and any other is the oven and the connections to the transistor array package. The oven is made out of two pieces of polystyrene about 55 x 35 x 12mm. The outside of the oven should be covered with aluminium foil to help reduce heat loss. The aluminium itself should be covered with a layer of adhesive tape where the leads can touch. A piece of thick paper should be used between the oven and the pcb to insulate the tracks.

Half Baked

The centre of the oven should be hollowed slightly to hold the IC (bend the leads out straight as shown in the photo; a hot soldering iron is the easiest method). Do not remove more than necessary. Now solder a 40 mm length of thin copper wire (a single strand of multistrand cable is best) to each pin, then with the base of the oven in position, sit the IC in the oven and connect the leads to the appropriate holes. If a small amount



Component overlay for the complete log converter project.

PARTS LIST

RESISTORS	all 2%, 5W
R1, 2	470k
R3—R6	see table 1
R7—R10, 22, 23	10k
R11, 12, 24	100k
R13—R18	see text
R19—R21, 28, 29	1k
R25	2k7
R26	18k
R27	470R
R30	47R
R31	82R

POTENTIOMETERS

RV1—RV4	200k multturn trimmer
RV5, 6	50k multturn trimmer
RV7	1k multturn trimmer

CAPACITORS

C1—C4	33p ceramic
C5, 6	10u 25 V electrolytic
C7	1n0 polyester
C8	10u 25 V electrolytic
C9	33p ceramic
C10	10u 25 V electrolytic
C11	33p ceramic
C12	100n polyester

SEMICONDUCTORS

IC1—IC4	LM308
IC5	CA3046
IC6	723
IC7, 8	LM301A
Q1	BC558
D1—D3	1N914
LED	T1L 209

MISCELLANEOUS

PCB	
Polystyrene foam for oven	

BUYLINES

The project depends upon the CA 3046 device — near equivalents will probably **not** function. The CA 3046 itself is readily available — we

found it in both the Marshalls and Stevenson catalogues when we looked for it! Initial reaction here had been that it would be difficult to obtain.

of epoxy cement is placed under the oven it will stay in position. Now fit the top of the oven and secure with a piece of adhesive tape until it has been checked out. It finally can be cemented with epoxy adhesive.

The potentiometer values chosen are a compromise between ease of adjustment and the ability to compensate different transistors. If the potentiometer does not have enough range then the series resistor will have to be varied. We have

specified 2% resistors throughout to obtain a better temperature coefficient than is possible with conventional 5% resistors. It will not help to select out of normal 5% types.

Calibration

The equipment needed comprises an accurate digital voltmeter and a variable power supply with a fine voltage control. The + 7 V rail can be used for this with a multi-turn potentiometer.

CALIBRATION TABLE

A	B
-3.00 V	19.5 mV
-2.00 V	39 mV
-1.00 V	78 mV
0.00 V	156 mV
+1.00 V	312 mV
+2.00 V	625 mV
+3.00 V	1.25 V
+4.00 V	2.50 V
+5.00 V	5.00 V
+6.00 V	10.00 V

This table shows the relationship between the input and output. In the exponential model A is the input with B the output while in the log mode B is the input and A the output.

Oven Control

1. Before switching on, remove link 2 and fit link 1.
2. Switch on and monitor the voltage on the output of IC8 (pin 6).
3. Adjust RV7 until the voltage is about -5 V. The potentiometer is sensitive in this area but the actual voltage is not critical.
4. Remove link 1 and fit link 2. The LED should now come on for about two minutes before slowly going out. This indicates that the oven is stable.

Calibration of Log Mode

1. Set 0 V on the input.
2. Monitor the voltage on the junction of R7 and R9.
3. Adjust RV1 to give a negative voltage on this point. Now adjust RV1 slowly until the voltage just switches positive.
4. Set 0.15625 V in the input.
5. Adjust RV5 to give 0 V output.
6. Set 5.00 V on the input.
7. Adjust RV3 to give 5.00 V output.
8. Set 1.25 V on the input and check the output voltage. It should be 3.00 V. If it is higher go back to step 4 except adjust RV5 to give -0.010 V and use RV1 to bring it back to zero. Continue with step 6, 7 and 8. If the output voltage at 1.25 V input is less than 3.00 V adjust RV5 to give $+0.010$ V instead of -0.010 V.

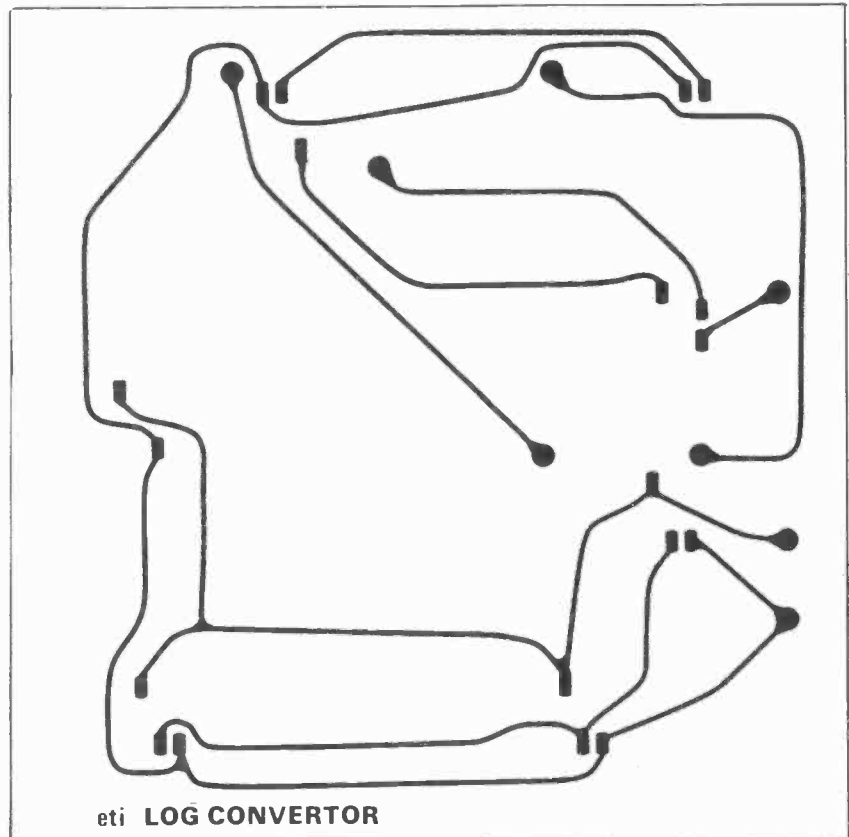
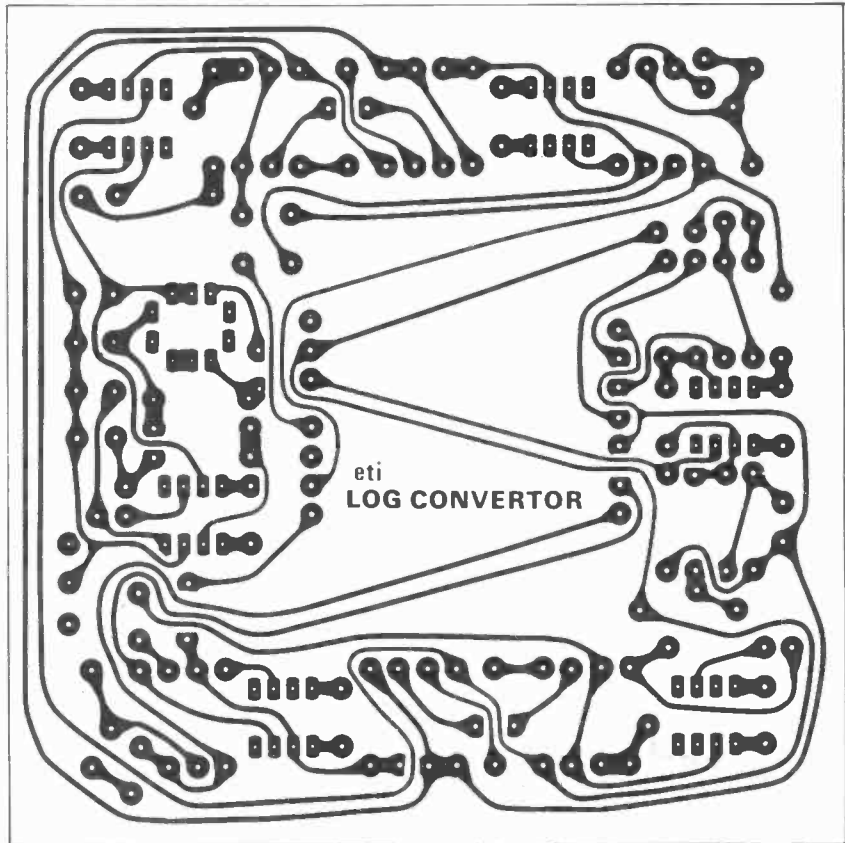
Continue until all three points are correct.

Calibration of Exponential Mode

1. Place a link between the junction of R7 and R9, and 0V.
2. Adjust RV5 to give 0.00 V output. Remove the link.
3. With 0.00 V input, adjust RV1 to give 0.15625 V output.
4. With 5.00 V input, adjust RV3E to give +5.00 volts output.
5. Check output voltage with 3.00 V input. It should be 1.25 V.
6. If high repeat steps 1-5 except output. If low, repeat steps 1-5 except adjust RV5 to give about 10mV output.

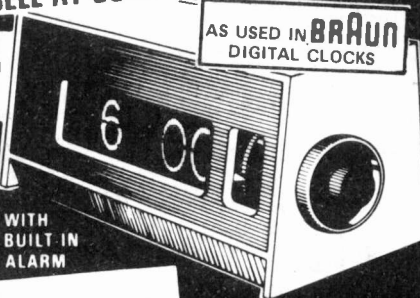
ETI

Both sides of the PCB shown full size. On the top is the underside and the pattern beneath that is for the top side of the board.



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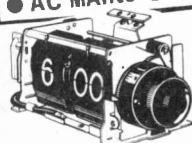


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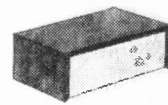
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BC148	8p	BF137	24p	LM741C	17p
BC149C	9p	BF194	10p	TBA120A	75p
BC154	9p	BF195	10p	SN76013N	120p
BC171B	9p	BF198	21p	SN76033N	120p
BC172B	9p	BF200	21p	SN76110N	75p
BC183A	10p	BF255	23p	SN76131N	150p
BC30B	15p	BF256 FET	33p	SN76660N	75p

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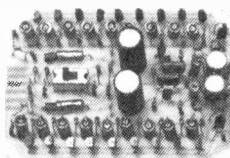
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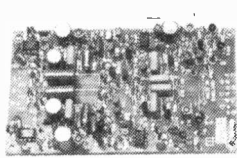
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POWER AMPLIFIERS

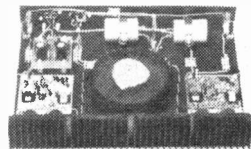
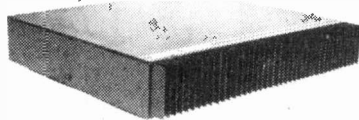
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microfile.....

This month dynamic Gary (mines a pint) Evans goes random, ROMs the seas as a pirate and plays strange games with a T.V., but still finds time to visit North London.

BEING CAUGHT PIRATING software could lead to all sorts of unpleasantness—boys in blue or more likely the boys in black (the legal eagles) looking for a large fee in some test case. At any rate copying, or rather being caught copying, software that someone, somewhere is willing to protect is something to avoid. It's for this reason that the guys at Transam — they who supply kits for the Triton — suffered a few nervous twitches when they heard that someone called Dobbs on the phone and he wanted to have a few words with them.

Now the BASIC that was used in the Triton has been around for some time. When development of the computer started we realised we could not undertake to write an 8080 interpreter from scratch and we looked around for something that was "in the public domain". The listing of an interpreter that appeared in Dr. Dobbs journal seemed to us to be just the thing we wanted — had we made a dreadful mistake.

Well gentle reader (I'm an Asimov fan) as it turned out we need not have worried at all. On picking up the phone, instead of some irate, distant American voice a softspoken northerner (north of England that is) greeted the ear.

This Dobbs had nothing to do with publishing a software journal working — as it turned out — for British Rail. He wanted to order a Triton.

Relief all round — is there a Mr. Byte in the house. What the manufacturers produce today, industry uses the next day and we, the amateurs, use the day after that and what the manufacturers are producing now are 16 bit MPUs. Intel, Motorola, Zilog Texas — everybody seems to have caught the 16 bit bug.

The first small system for the Home Office to use a 16 bit beast is almost certain to be the long awaited, and much talked about, Texas machine. Just what overnight "quantum jump" in performance these 16 bit based systems are going to provide, remains to be seen — but at least we should have something with a bit more to offer in terms of throughput and facilities than the current crop of 8 bitters. At what cost penalty will become evident over the next year or so.

Dynamic RAMs are very cheap, are they not? A couple of systems in use in this country feature such devices — the TRS-80, although here any cost savings do not seem to be passed on to the end user, and the NASCOM.

The more extensive use of dynamic RAM in small systems is probably a hang over from the days when it was all anybody could do to get a dynamic memory card up and running. There is no doubt that a dynamic card

can be a real pig to fault find. So many things have to happen at exactly the right time for the system to work at all. Unless some very sophisticated diagnostic equipment is available, it could prove almost impossible to decide what is wrong.

With the current crop of dynamic RAM controllers, however, hopefully there will be so little margin for error that we shall start to see nice cheap 4K and 16K memory expansion systems.

One example of a RAM controller that seems to do it all is the Intel 8202 — I have not yet managed to get a data sheet for this device but when I do I'll let you know just what it can do. In the meantime, if any of you have played around with dynamic devices, perhaps you'll let me know how you got on.

The North London Hobby Computer Club seems to be going from strength to strength. I was at their second meeting a while back and there was standing room only in the two rooms occupied by the club for demonstrating on the PET and the Triton. A continuing program of interesting talks and demonstrations is planned and if you live in North London, is recommended that you go along to the North London Poly in the Holloway Road and see what is going on for yourself.

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A fresh attitude, as I can think of at least one outfit which must be making a mint from a number of exclusive titles sold at a high mark up. Some increase in cost from a straight \$70 £ conversion is acceptable — to quote Mol again — "It means extra hassle and expense to bring books to Britain" — but not as much expense and hassle as some would have us believe.

I wish Mol luck in their campaign and if you would like their lists send an SAE to

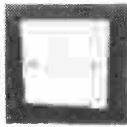
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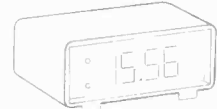


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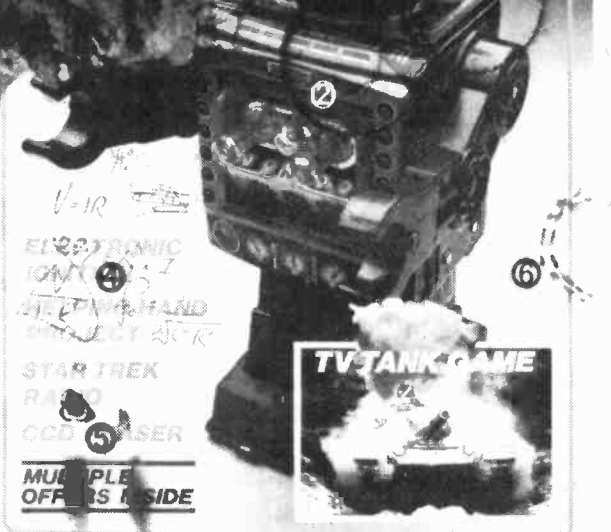
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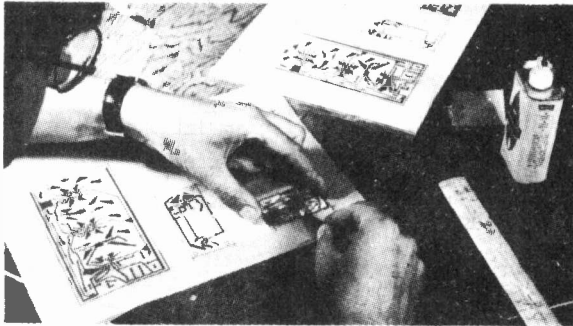
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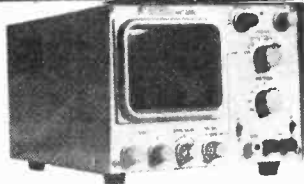
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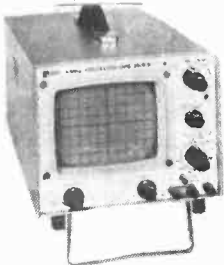
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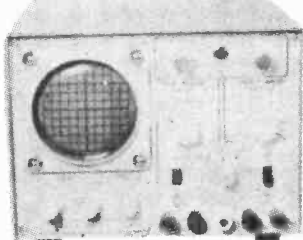
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CLICK ELIMINATOR

The Cat Sat On The Mat: or was there one of your favourite records on the mat? Never mind — ETI steps in to rescue your valuable vinyl from those evil clicks and pops.

EVEN THE MOST fastidious of record collectors must have some records in his collection which during their career have picked up the odd scratch or two. Perhaps your record collection dates back to the time before you obtained that second mortgage, sold the wife or whatever, to get the latest in laser controlled fluid damped, tangential tracking phonograms, sorry record deck, and the previous system has left it's mark on these early platters.

In The Click Of Time

However the scratches got there, they are bound to be obtrusive on any reasonably Hi-Fi set up and even if you do not qualify for the title Hi-Fi purist — someone who listens, not to the music, but to the defects, real or imagined, in the Hi-Fi chain — the clicks will detract from your enjoyment.

Enter ETI — we can help. The click suppressor described here will remove or greatly reduce the audible transient sounds — nice phrase — resulting from scratches on a record's surface.

Design Decisions

When designing a click suppressor it is fairly obvious that we have to be able to tell the click from the cacophony as it were. Fortunately a click has several unique characteristics which set it apart from a music signal. For instance it will have very fast attack and delay times — even high frequency percussive sounds will delay slowly, although attack will be fast. A click will also be of a very short duration — again musical sounds are in general of a longer duration.

Once we have spotted our click, it is necessary to remove it. In our case we substitute a short period of silence

— subjectively unnoticeable — in place of the click.

As our click detection circuit requires a finite time in which to operate, we will also have to provide some sort of delay for the music signal within the system. Our circuit, and all the commercially available units, use a CCD delay line to provide this delay. It is the recent availability of this device that has made the click suppressor possible, or rather brought it within the financial reach of the constructor. ▶

Next month we will be giving the full details for building and setting up the Click Eliminator



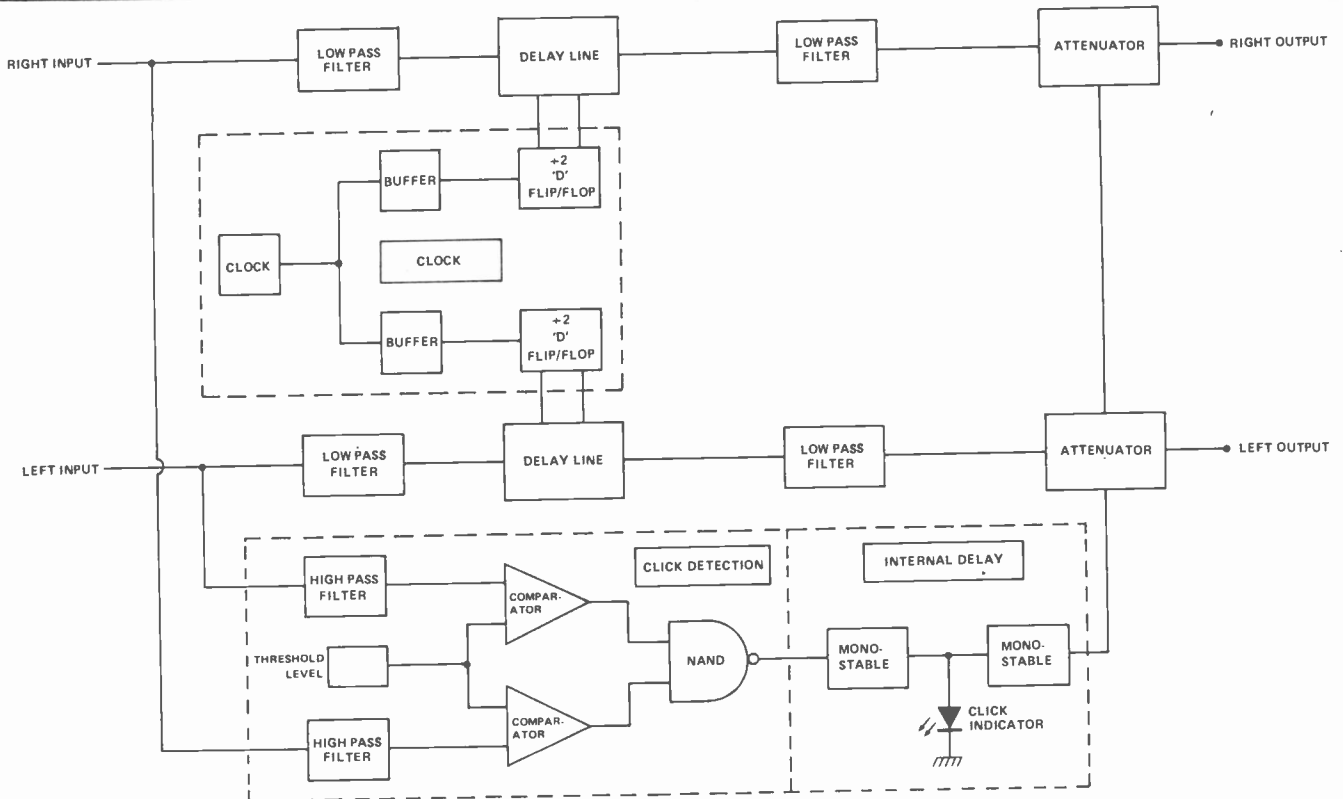


Fig. 1. Block diagram of the ET1 click eliminator.

HOW IT WORKS

Overall operation of the circuit can best be understood by reference to the block diagram shown in fig 1. The signal from each of the inputs is fed both to a delay line, with associated low pass filters, and to the "Click Detection" block. This provides a negative going signal at its output coincident with a click appearing on either input channel.

With the click identified, the next step is to remove it without affecting the subjective quality of the program material. The circuit operates by dramatically attenuating the signal passing through the unit for a brief period of time "Either Side" of the click.

If the attenuation is large enough and it's period accurately synchronised to the occurrence of the click, the effectiveness of the unit is dramatic. The loss of program material during this blanking period which might be thought to be as objectionable as the click itself, seems to produce little subjective disturbance.

It has been shown that periods of attenuation of this nature, up to 10ms, do not unduly disturb the signal, and the 2ms or so necessary to "straddle" a click goes entirely unnoticed.

It is necessary to incorporate a delay line within the circuit as a finite time is necessary for the click detection circuits to operate. The chain of events is shown in fig 2. The click is fed to the input of the delay line and at some time later will emerge from this device where it is passed to the attenuator. Meanwhile the click has been detected and activates two 555 timers acting as monostables. The first provides a click detection indicator for the front panel. As this returns to its stable state, it triggers the second 555. It is this IC that causes the 570 IC to suppress the signal.

By careful selection of the timing components associated with the 555's, the signal is blanked during the time when the click is emerging from the delay line.

A detailed description of the various circuit blocks now follows.

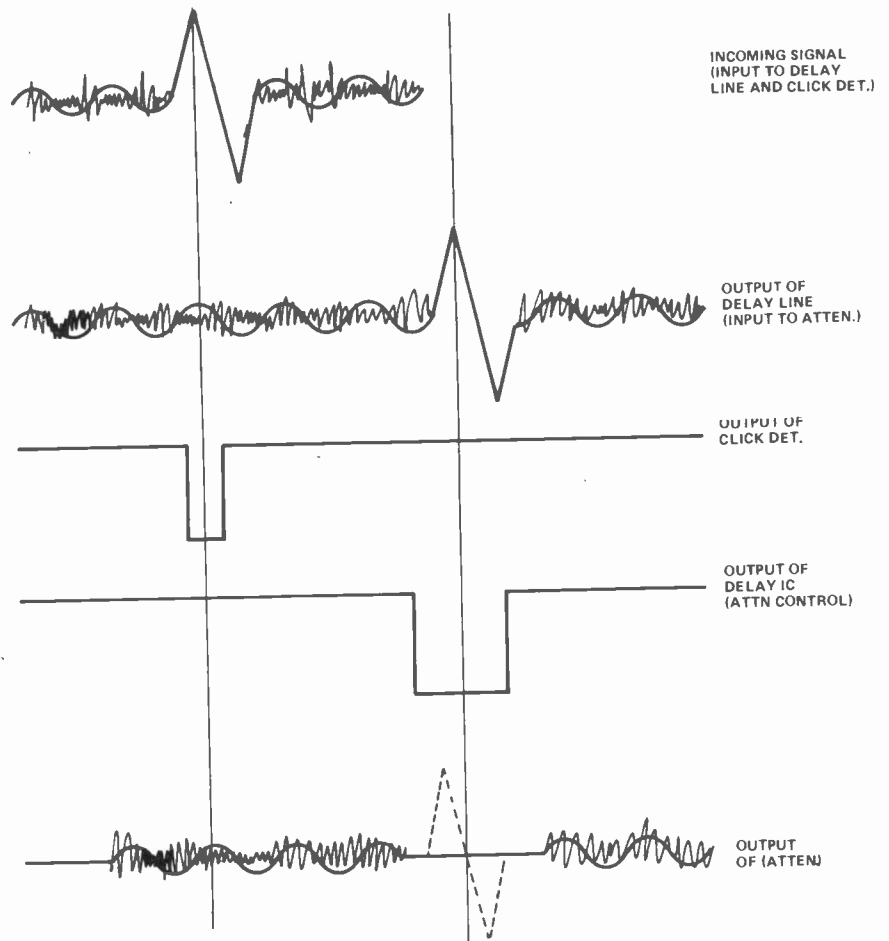
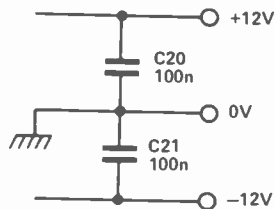
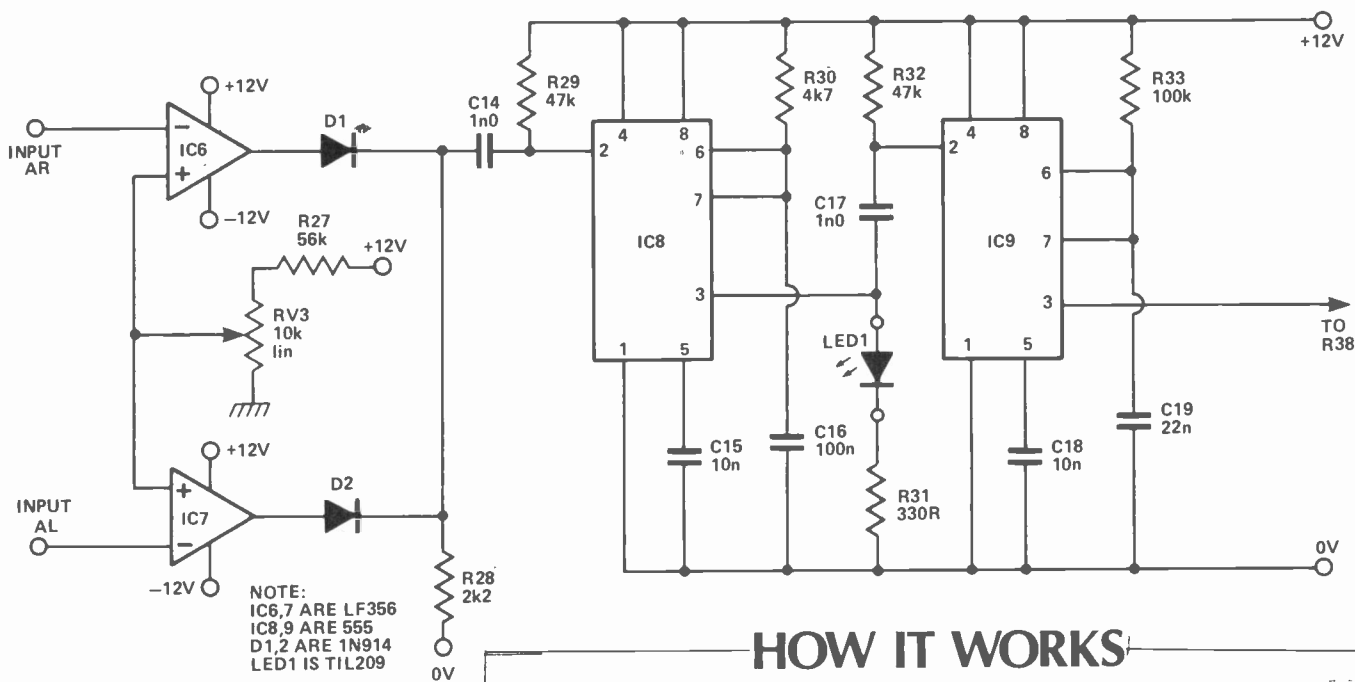


Fig. 2. Above are shown the waveforms that illustrate the action of the circuit when a click has been identified and is to be suppressed.

PROJECT: Click Eliminator



Second stage of the "click detection" circuitry.

HOW IT WORKS

CLICK DETECTOR AND ATTENUATOR CONTROL

Outputs from the low pass filters described above are passed to comparators IC6 and 7. The outputs of these IC's are usually high, but if the level at their inputs exceeds a level (set by RV3) they will go low. This control is set such that a high amplitude click will operate only when a high amplitude click is passed to IC6 and IC7, the click being of greater amplitude than the program material.

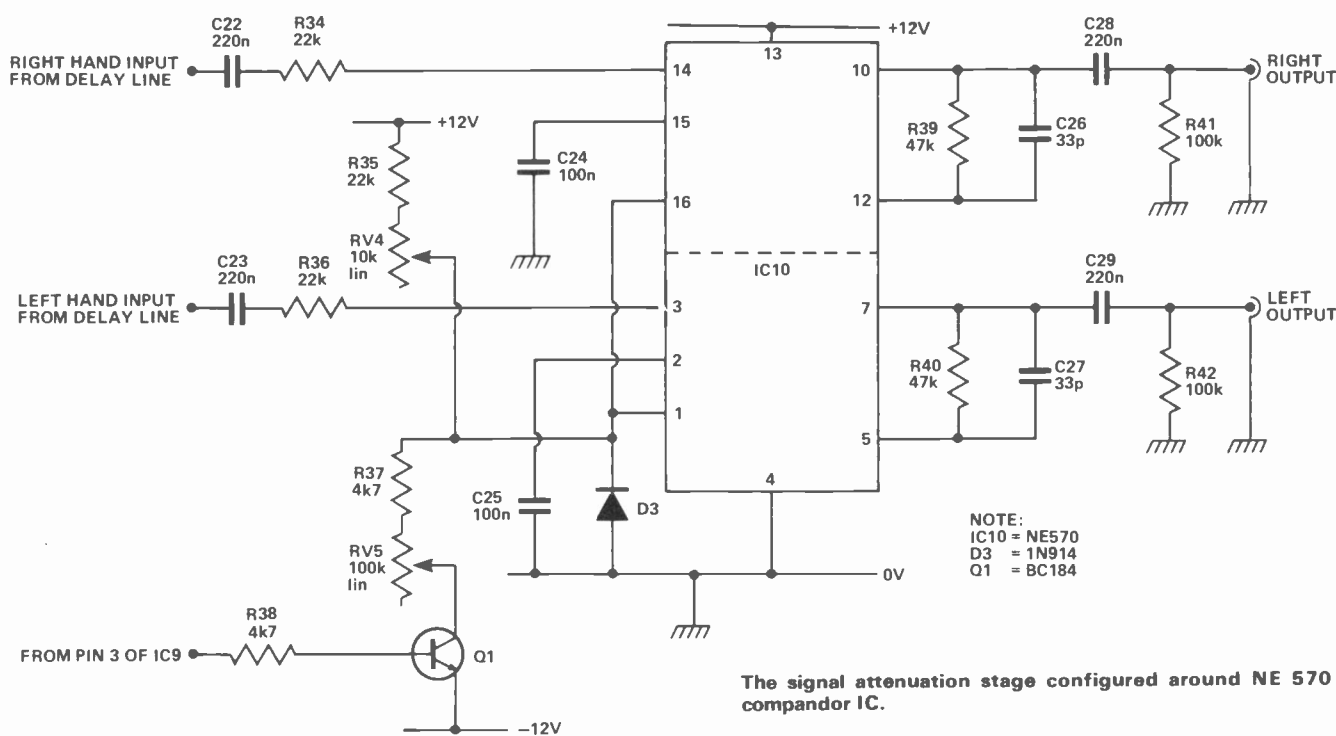
Another unique characteristic of a click is that it will appear on both channels simultaneously. We therefore pass the outputs of the comparator IC's to the NAND gate formed by D1, D2, and R28. The junction of these components and C14 will be high unless both the comparator outputs are low. A negative going signal applied to IC8 via

C14 will trigger this IC and illuminate LED1 the click indicator LED. After X mS the IC's output will return to its stable state and in so doing will trigger IC9. This IC controls the attenuator and will suppress the program material during its astable state.

ATTENUATOR STAGE

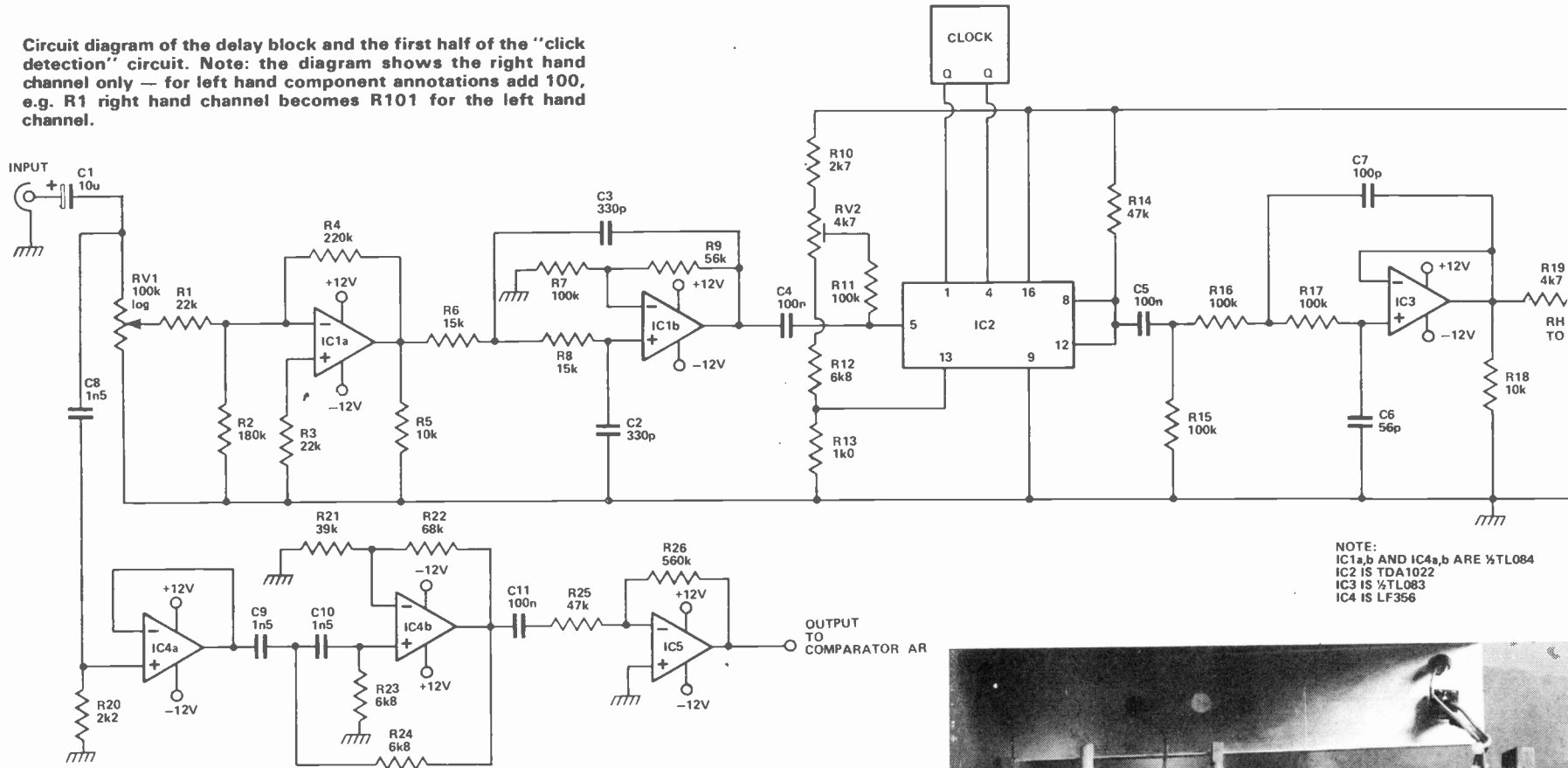
The attenuator is built around an NE570 dual compandor IC (see data sheet Oct 77 p.59). The inputs to the IC are at pins 14 and pin 3, the outputs — with suitable filters — are taken from pins 10 and 7. Gain control is achieved by robbing current from the NE570.

As the input to Q1 is taken high, the device will start to conduct and thus rob the NE570 of current, thus reducing the gain of the amplifier within the device. The control action is set up by RV4.



The signal attenuation stage configured around NE 570 dual compandor IC.

Circuit diagram of the delay block and the first half of the "click detection" circuit. Note: the diagram shows the right hand channel only — for left hand component annotations add 100, e.g. R1 right hand channel becomes R101 for the left hand channel.



NOTE:
 IC1a,b AND IC4a,b ARE 1/2 TL084
 IC2 IS TDA1022
 IC3 IS 1/2 TL083
 IC4 IS LF356

HOW IT WORKS

DELAY LINE AND FIRST STAGE OF CLICK DETECTOR

The circuit block shown above forms one channel of the delay line and click detector circuitry (the other channel is identical).

The input signal is first passed to IC1a, which is configured as an inverting amplifier. The output from this stage is fed to IC1b and associated components. This stage forms a second order Butterworth filter with an upper 3dB point of about 18kHz. The stage also has a small amount of gain in its pass band.

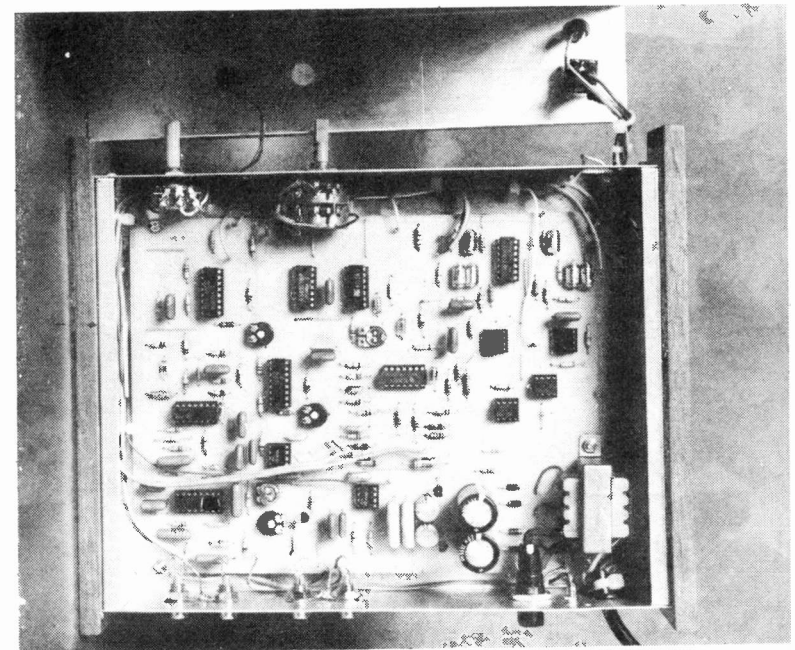
This configuration ideally meets the drive requirements of the delay line, which suffers from an insertion loss, made up for by the passband gain and must have the maximum frequency applied to it limited to, in this case, the audio spectrum of frequencies. The reason for the frequency limit is that the maximum frequency fed to a delay line must not be greater than half the frequency of the

clock signal superimposed on the output that might cause HF overload in subsequent stages.

The input of the delay line is pin 5, the filter section that forms the first stage of the click detector.

A click has a number of unique characteristics, one of which being that it is rich in HF energy — a result of its fast attack and delay time. The effect of passing the music signal through a low pass filter will be to highlight the high energy click amongst the generally low high frequency content of normal program material.

The low pass filter is once again built around a second order Butterworth stage. The signal is passed to this stage after a simple HF filter and buffer (IC4a). The output from the filter is amplified by inverting amplifier IC5 and fed to the second half of the



clock signal used in controlling the device. If this precaution is not observed, the result is severe distortion.

The clock drive circuitry is described below.

The input of the delay line is pin 5, the resistor chain R10, R11, R12, R13 and RV2 is to hold pin 13 at 1V0 above ground, this ensures maximum dynamic range in the delay line, and to bias pin 5 for class A operation which minimises distortion.

The output from the delay line is taken, via C5, to another Butterworth filter, this stage being used to remove any high frequency

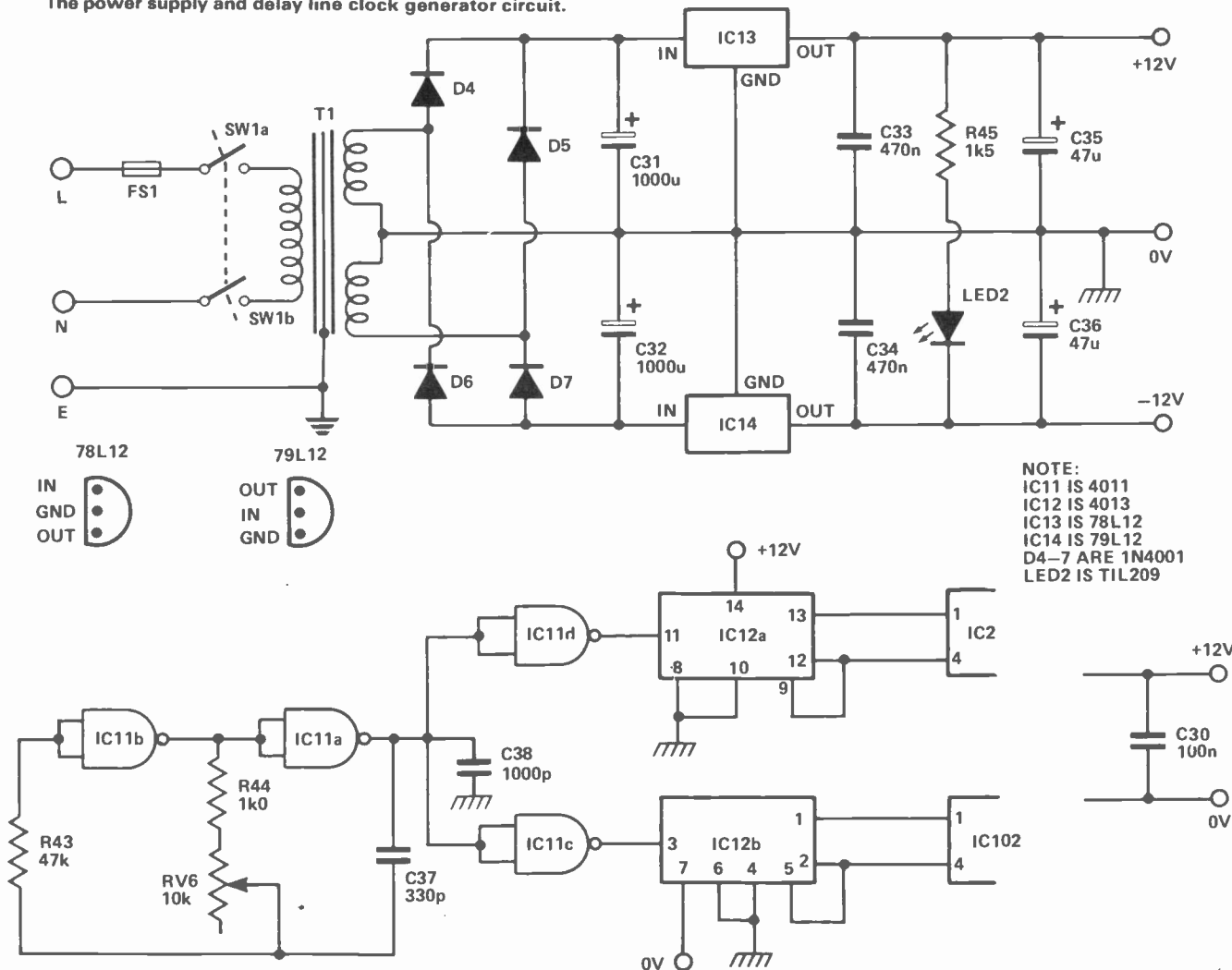
click detector described below.

CLOCK AND POWER SUPPLY

Pins 1 and 4 of the delay line must be presented with 180° out of phase wave forms. The clock signal is generated by the CMOS oscillator based around IC11a and b, which after buffering is fed to the two D type flip-flops contained within IC12. The Q and Q-bar outputs of this device provide the required 180° out of phase drive signals.

The power supply is a straightforward design based on two three-terminal regulators.

The power supply and delay line clock generator circuit.



PARTS LIST

RESISTORS

- R1, 3, 34, 35, 36, 101, 103 22k
- R2, 102 180k
- R4, 104 220k
- R5, 18, 105, 118 10k
- R6, 8, 106, 108 15k
- R7, 11, 15, 16, 17, 33, 38, 41, 42, 107, 111, 115, 116, 117 100k
- R9, 27, 109 56k
- R10, 110 2k7

- R12, 23, 24, 112, 123, 124 6k8
- R13, 44, 113 1k0
- R14, 19, 25, 29, 32, 39, 40, 43, 114, 119, 125 47k
- R20, 28, 120 2k2
- R21, 121 39k
- R22, 122 68k
- R26, 126 560k
- R30, 37 4k7
- R31 330R

POTENTIOMETERS

- RV1 + 101 100k log gang
- RV2, 102 4k7 min. preset
- RV3 10k
- RV4, 6 10k min. preset
- RV5 100k min. preset

CAPACITORS

- C1, 101 10u 16V tantalum
- C2, 3, 37, 102, 103 330p polystyrene
- C4, 5, 11, 16, 20, 21, 24, 25, 30, 104, 105, 111 100n polyester
- C6, 106 56p polystyrene
- C7, 107 100p polystyrene
- C8, 9, 10, 108, 109, 110 1n5 polystyrene
- C12, 13, 35, 36 47u 16V electrolytic
- C14, 17 1n0 polystyrene
- C15, 18 10n polyester
- C19 22n polyester
- C22, 23, 28, 29 220n polyester
- C26, 27 33p polystyrene
- C31, 32 1000u 25V electrolytic
- C33, 34 470n polyester

SEMICONDUCTORS

- IC1, 4 TL084
- IC2 TDA1022
- IC3 TL083
- IC5, 6, 7, 105 LF356
- IC8, 9 555
- IC10 NE570
- IC11 4001
- IC12 4013
- IC13 78L12
- IC14 79L12
- Q1 BC108
- D1, 2, 3 1N914
- D4, 5, 6, 7 1N4001
- LED1, 2 T1L209

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IC TEST CLIPS, clip over IC while still soldered to pcb or in socket. Gold-plated pins, ideal for experimenters or service engineers. 28 pin DIL £1.75. 40 pin DIL £2.00. Or save by buying one of each for £3.50.

MAINS TRANSFORMERS, TYPE 157300 240V input. 15V at 300mA output. £1.50 each.

MAINS TRANSFORMERS, TYPE 48700, 240/220/110/20. 0V input. 45V at 100mA output. £1.50 each.

SLOW-MOTION MOTORS, 120V 50Hz TRPM. Size approx. 2 dia. 1 1/2 deep, with 1/4 spindle. 60p each, or 2 for £1.00.

1 1/2 V DC MOTORS (Ideal for model makers, quite powerful). 50p each.

SUB-MINIATURE ROTARY SWITCHES, 4 x 5 way make contacts. Size approx. 3/4 dia. 1 1/2 deep. 3/16 spindle. 50p each.

30pf BEEHIVE TRIMMERS, Brand new, 4 for 50p. **Min. 5pf AIR SPACE TRIMMERS**, approx. 1/2 size. 3 for 50p.

Min. 5pf COMPRESSION TRIMMERS, 1/2 x 5/16. 4 for 50p.

LARGE ELECTROLYTIC PACKS, Contain range of large electrolytic capacitors, low and high voltage types, over 40 pieces, £3.00 per pack (+ 12 1/2% VAT).

ALL BELOW - ADD 8% VAT

MIXED COMPONENT PACKS, Containing resistors, capacitors, switches, pots, etc. All new, and hundreds of items. £2.00 per pack, while stocks last.

IC AUDIO AMP PCB, Output 2 watts into 3 ohm speaker. 12V DC supply, size approx. 5 1/2" x 1 1/2" x 1" high, with integral heatsink, complete with circuits. £2.00 each.

NICAD CHARGER CONVERTER PCB, (Low power inverter) Size approx. 4" x 1 1/4" x 1" high, 12V DC supply, 60V DC output, through pot on pcb, for charging Nicads, etc. (Ideal for charging portable batteries from mobile supply). Only needs one BFY50/51/52 or similar transistor, which can be mounted direct on the pcb pins on board, fitted with a star-type heatsink (not supplied). £2.00 each.

THE NEW EAGLE INTERNATIONAL CATALOGUE IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST containing Audio, In-car, and test equipment, etc.

DECIMAL KEYBOARDS, pressure sensitive type, when pressed contacts go from 0V to approx. 25 ohms. Switches only, no encoders. Size approx. 3 x 3, with large square touch plates. 0-9 + Clear, A, B, Dual Watch, and spare. Few only. £2.00 while stocks last.

TRANSISTORS

BFY51 Transistors, 4 for 60p.
BCY72 Transistors, 4 for 50p.
8SX20 (VHF osc/mult.), 3 for 50p.
BC107 (metal can) 4 for 50p.
BC108 (metal can) 4 for 50p.
PBC108 (plastic BC108), 5 for £1.00.
BF152 (JHF amp/mixed), 3 for 50p.
2N3819 Fet., 3 for 60p.
BC148 NPN SILICON, 4 for 50p.
BC158 PNP SILICON, 4 for 50p.
BAV31 Signal Diodes, 10 for 35p.
741CG RCA OP Amps 4 for £1.00.
SCRS400V at 3A, stud type, 2 for £1.00.
TIP2955 Silicon PNP power transistor, 60V at 15A. 90 watts. Flat pack type, 2 for £1.50.
GERMANIUM DIODES, approx 30 for 30p.
1N4148 (1N914) diodes 10 for 25p.

VALVES

6QV03/20A (ex. equipment), £3.00.
6QV03/10 (ex. equipment), 75p or 2 for £1.20.
6BH6 (ex. equipment), 2 for 50p.
All the above valves are untested, except for heaters, and no guarantee of percentage of emission is given.
Sorry, no returns.
MULLARD 85A2 85V STABILISER VALVES (brand new), 70p each or 2 for £1.20.

ALL BELOW - ADD 8% VAT

RED LEDs (Min. type), 5 for 70p.
VIDEO/SCAN COILS (Transistor type, but no data) complete with vidicon base. £6.50 each. Brand new.
AEI CS10B/R MICROWAVE DIODES, up to X-Band max. noise figure 8.5dB at 9.375GHz, 80p each.

DI-ECAST BOXES	SIZE APPROX.	
4.3 x 2.3 x 1.2	(111 x 60 x 30mm)	£1.25
4.8 x 2.3 x 1.5	(121 x 60 x 38mm)	£1.75
4.8 x 3.8 x 1	(121 x 95 x 25mm)	£2.10
4.8 x 3.8 x 2	(121 x 95 x 51mm)	£2.45
6.8 x 4.8 x 2	(171 x 121 x 51mm)	£3.10
4.8 x 3.8 x 3	(121 x 95 x 76mm)	£3.50
6.8 x 4.8 x 4	(171 x 121 x 101mm)	£3.47
8.6 x 5.8 x 2	(222 x 146 x 51mm)	£4.25
10.6 x 6.8 x 2	(273 x 171 x 51mm)	£5.30

SPIRALUX Tools for Electronics enthusiast... SAE for list.

4MHZ XTAL PACKS (10 assorted xtal between 4MHZ and 5MHZ), Our selection only £1.00 pack.

SOLDER SUCKERS (Plunger type)
Standard Model, £5.50
Skirted Model, £6.00

Spare Nozzles, 65p each.

WELLER WP60D Mains operated temperature control, soldering iron, £15.00 each.

SPARE TIPS (for WP60D). Two types available. **TYPE CC7 (W60D)** Standard, **TYPE AA7 (W60D)** Finer tip. £1.60 each.

WELLER TCP2 temperature controlled soldering iron, and PU2D power unit (replaces Weller TCP1), Iron + PSU £30.00. Spare tips CC7 (standard), or K7 (finer tip) £1.50 each.

Slider Switches, 2 pole make and break (or can be used as 1 pole change-over by linking the two centre pins). 4 for 50p.

PLASTIC PROJECT BOXES, with screws on lids (in black ABS) with brass inserts.

Type NB1 approx. 3 x 2 1/4 x 1 1/2 45p each.
Type NB2 approx 3 1/4 x 2 1/4 x 1 1/2 55p.
Type NB3 approx 4 1/2 x 3 1/4 x 1 1/2 65p each.
Type NB4 approx 8 1/2 x 5 1/4 x 3 1/4 £1.10 each.
Slider Switches 2 pole make and break (or can be used as 1 pole change-over by linking the two centre pins). 4 for 50p.

OSMOR 10V REED RELAY COILS (1k ohm coil) to fit 1/4 reeds (not supplied), 2 for 50p.
H F CHOKES wound on 1/4" x 1" long ferrites, 4 for 50p.
VHF CHOKES wound on 6-hole tubular ferrites, 5 for 40p.

ALL BELOW - ADD 8% VAT

DUAL TO 18 HEATSINKS 1 x 1/2 x 1/2 with screw-in clamps, 3 for 50p.
GLASS BEAD FEEDTHROUGH INSULATORS solder-in type, overall dia. 6mm, pack of approx. 50 for 50p.

LARGE GLASS BEAD FEEDTHROUGH INSULATORS, as above but 8mm dia. pack of approx. 50 for 70p.

20V RELAYS, PCB mounting type, single pole change-over, 35p each.

10.7MHZ SSB XTAL FILTERS (2.4kHz Bandwidth) Low imp. type, Carrier and unwanted sideband rejection min. -40dB (need 10.69835 & 10.70165 parts for USB/LSB, NOT SUPPLIED). Size approx. 2 x 1 x 1. £10.00 each.

LOW PASS FILTERS (low imp. type), 2.9MHz, small metal encapsulation, size approx. 1 1/2 x 1/4 x 1/4 75p each.

ALL BELOW - ADD 12 1/2 % VAT

CELESTION 8 x 5 ELLIPTICAL SPEAKERS, 20 ohm 3 watts rated. £1.50 each + 12 1/2% VAT.

VARIAC TUNERS, Mullard type, ELC1043/05, £5.00.

BSR AUTOCHANGE RECORD PLAYER DECKS with cue device, 33-45-78 rpm. for 7.10.12 records. Fitted with SC12M Stereo Ceramic cartridge and stylus. Brand new, £14.00 + 12 1/2% VAT.

GARRARD AUTOCHANGE RECORD PLAYER DECKS, Model 6 300, with cue device, 33-45-78 rpm. for 7.10.12 records. Fitted with KS41B Stereo Ceramic cartridge and stylus. Brand new, £16.00 + 12 1/2% VAT.

TV LINE LINEARITY COILS, Special offer 10 for £1.00.
TV SCAN COILS, 8" W, to fit 110 degree tubes, £1.00. TV Pins (metal type), 4 for 50p.

3-pin Din Plugs, 4 for 50p.
Din 3-pin Line sockets, 15p each.
Din Speaker Sks., 2-pin, 4 for 30p.

Dubilier Electronics, 500µF 450V, 2 for 50p.
Dubilier Electronics, 100µF 275V, 2 for 50p.
Plessey Electronics, 470µF 63V, 3 for 50p.
TCC Electronics, 1000µF F30V, 3 for 60p.

Dubilier Electronics, 5000µF F35V, 50p each.
Dubilier Electronics, 5000µF F50V, 60p each.
ITT Electronics, 6800µF 25V, high grade, screw terminals, with mounting clips, 50p each.
Resistor PKs approx 300 pieces 1/2 to 2 watt types, mixed values, our selection, £1.00 each.

A RANGE OF CAPACITORS AVAILABLE AT BARGAIN PRICES. SAE FOR LIST.

ALUMINIUM BOXES AND VINYL COVERED EQUIPMENT CASES WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

Aluminium Boxes with Lids		
AL1 3 x 2 x 1		60p
AL2 4 x 3 x 1 1/2		70p
AL3 4 x 3 x 2		80p
AL4 6 x 4 x 2		90p
AL5 6 x 4 x 3	£1.25	
AL6 8 x 6 x 2	£1.50	
AL7 8 x 6 x 3	£1.75	

Vinyl Equipment Cases (Blue Vinyl covered steel tops with plain aluminium lower sections)		
BC0 5 x 2 1/2 x 2 1/4		£1.00
BC1 6 x 4 1/2 x 2		£2.00
BC2 6 x 4 x 3 1/2		£2.25
BC3 8 x 5 1/2 x 2 1/2		£2.50
BC4 10 x 6 1/2 x 3		£3.00
BC7 12" x 6 1/2" x 5"		£3.25

electronics today

international

What to look for in the February issue: On sale Jan 5th

TODAYS 100 WATT AMPLIFIER AT YESTERDAYS PRICES

ETI, Britain's most ingenious magazine has come up with a 100W mixer amplifier, with distortion below 0.1% at all signal levels, S/N ratio greater than 80dB, inputs for four sources, including one or two disc inputs as you wish. Somehow or other the design, by Richard Bekker, cost less than £50 to build

complete with metalwork.

A complete kit of parts will be made available and full constructional details will be given next month. The unit is finished to match the five channel light show presented in the December issue of ETI.

Crowds are expected to throng shops early next month — newsagents are preparing.

BUILD YOUR OWN VCT AND FIND OUT WHAT VCT MEANS

The revolutionary device that will replace the op-amp.

We got fed up waiting for it to be released.
We did something about it.
We show you how to construct your very own VCT next month!
Astound your friends!
Confuse your budgie!
Amuse your boss!
No home dare be without its VCT!
ETI brings home the bacon next month!

VOICE SYNTHESIS CRISIS— MACHINES SPEAK OUT!

Panic in the streets! Women and children unsafe! Machines can speak! Prime Minister to go on steam radio tonight! From our undercover agent — Tim Orr — comes full details of the invention that could cause a bigger stir than the

double breasted jacket! Several methods are in use, and a new unit is soon to be available which promises to confound us all.

Speech synthesis is here to stay, and Special Agent Orr is right

there in the forefront reporting back for ETI readers exclusively next month. If you value your sanity you cannot afford to miss this! Thinking people everywhere will be talking about this — don't be left out at the dinner table!

SLIDING INTO SYNCH?

OK you guys youse asked for this and now youse gonna get it, see? Youse bin ringing and hassle us boys down at ETI to do youse a slide synchroniser so long now dat the broad on de phone is going bananas see? So we gotta give it to youse see? Nuffin personal see? OK?

Articles mentioned here are in an advanced state of preparation but circumstances may affect the final contents.

SCILLY SCOPE

Make more use of your tele folks! Here is a unit to make the room pulsate with colour in time to your hi-fi! Hooks into music signals to give an oscilloscope type display on a television screen, in full glorious colour! What will they think of next? Pocket calculating machines?

NEXT MONTH: COMPUTING TODAY GOES TO 48 PAGES! CAN MANKIND SURVIVE? WILL YOU BYTE OFF MORE THAN WE CAN CHEW? FIND OUT IN COMPUTING TODAY NEXT MONTH!

Composer goes SCAMP

An amazing revelation came to the attention of the British electronics public today. ETI have plans for an MPU composer! Bach and Handel have been heard to revolve in their graves at 2000 RPM at this stunning news! This audacious machine employs a SC/MP processor and an amazingly low component count. All will be finally revealed in the next issue of ETI, and anyone remotely interested in music, synthesizers or electronics is urged not to miss it! A machine that thinks up and plays its own tunes has to be seen to be believed.

7400N AND 74LS00N SERIES TTL			Memory			7400N			74LS00N			7400N			74LS00N			Micro-Processor			Electronics																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
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7416	36	36	7417	60	60	7418	1.00	1.00	7419	1.20	1.20	7420	1.50	1.50	7421	1.80	1.80	7422	2.30	2.30	7423	3.00	3.00	7424	4.00	4.00	7425	5.00	5.00	7426	6.00	6.00	7427	7.00	7.00	7428	8.00	8.00	7429	9.00	9.00	7430	10.00	10.00	7431	11.00	11.00	7432	12.00	12.00	7433	13.00	13.00	7434	14.00	14.00	7435	15.00	15.00	7436	16.00	16.00	7437	17.00	17.00	7438	18.00	18.00	7439	19.00	19.00	7440	20.00	20.00	7441	21.00	21.00	7442	22.00	22.00	7443	23.00	23.00	7444	24.00	24.00	7445	25.00	25.00	7446	26.00	26.00	7447	27.00	27.00	7448	28.00	28.00	7449	29.00	29.00	7450	30.00	30.00	7451	31.00	31.00	7452	32.00	32.00	7453	33.00	33.00	7454	34.00	34.00	7455	35.00	35.00	7456	36.00	36.00	7457	37.00	37.00	7458	38.00	38.00	7459	39.00	39.00	7460	40.00	40.00	7461	41.00	41.00	7462	42.00	42.00	7463	43.00	43.00	7464	44.00	44.00	7465	45.00	45.00	7466	46.00	46.00	7467	47.00	47.00	7468	48.00	48.00	7469	49.00	49.00	7470	50.00	50.00	7471	51.00	51.00	7472	52.00	52.00	7473	53.00	53.00	7474	54.00	54.00	7475	55.00	55.00	7476	56.00	56.00	7477	57.00	57.00	7478	58.00	58.00	7479	59.00	59.00	7480	60.00	60.00	7481	61.00	61.00	7482	62.00	62.00	7483	63.00	63.00	7484	64.00	64.00	7485	65.00	65.00	7486	66.00	66.00	7487	67.00	67.00	7488	68.00	68.00	7489	69.00	69.00	7490	70.00	70.00	7491	71.00	71.00	7492	72.00	72.00	7493	73.00	73.00	7494	74.00	74.00	7495	75.00	75.00	7496	76.00	76.00	7497	77.00	77.00	7498	78.00	78.00	7499	79.00	79.00	7500	80.00	80.00	7501	81.00	81.00	7502	82.00	82.00	7503	83.00	83.00	7504	84.00	84.00	7505	85.00	85.00	7506	86.00	86.00	7507	87.00	87.00	7508	88.00	88.00	7509	89.00	89.00	7510	90.00	90.00	7511	91.00	91.00	7512	92.00	92.00	7513	93.00	93.00	7514	94.00	94.00	7515	95.00	95.00	7516	96.00	96.00	7517	97.00	97.00	7518	98.00	98.00	7519	99.00	99.00	7520	100.00	100.00	7521	101.00	101.00	7522	102.00	102.00	7523	103.00	103.00	7524	104.00	104.00	7525	105.00	105.00	7526	106.00	106.00	7527	107.00	107.00	7528	108.00	108.00	7529	109.00	109.00	7530	110.00	110.00	7531	111.00	111.00	7532	112.00	112.00	7533	113.00	113.00	7534	114.00	114.00	7535	115.00	115.00	7536	116.00	116.00	7537	117.00	117.00	7538	118.00	118.00	7539	119.00	119.00	7540	120.00	120.00	7541	121.00	121.00	7542	122.00	122.00	7543	123.00	123.00	7544	124.00	124.00	7545	125.00	125.00	7546	126.00	126.00	7547	127.00	127.00	7548	128.00	128.00	7549	129.00	129.00	7550	130.00	130.00	7551	131.00	131.00	7552	132.00	132.00	7553	133.00	133.00	7554	134.00	134.00	7555	135.00	135.00	7556	136.00	136.00	7557	137.00	137.00	7558	138.00	138.00	7559	139.00	139.00	7560	140.00	140.00	7561	141.00	141.00	7562	142.00	142.00	7563	143.00	143.00	7564	144.00	144.00	7565	145.00	145.00	7566	146.00	146.00	7567	147.00	147.00	7568	148.00	148.00	7569	149.00	149.00	7570	150.00	150.00	7571	151.00	151.00	7572	152.00	152																																																																																																																																																															

BORIS IN CHECK

There are quite a few chess machines lying around the shops these days, and this one has a reputation for being one of the best. Armed with his "Best of Spassky Volume 2" Ron Harris went to check it out.

BORIS is a multi-level chess machine with the disconcerting ability to comment on its opponent's (your) moves. The level of its analysis is set by the user who determines how long BORIS may consider its reply. Thus a tyro may set the machine to minimum time to begin with, and steadily advance the machine as he improves.

Present Arms

The presentation of the machine is excellent. The electronics consist of an F8 based system accessed by a 16 (multi-function) key array and interfaced to the outside world by a display consisting of eight alpha numeric devices. These are packed into a very smart wooden case which also holds the mains adaptor and chess pieces. A board is also provided, but is of a standard which suggests it is included out of duty rather than devotion. Alas, the chess pieces fall into this lamentable category also, but improvements are now being made by the importers, and the quality of replacements is much higher.

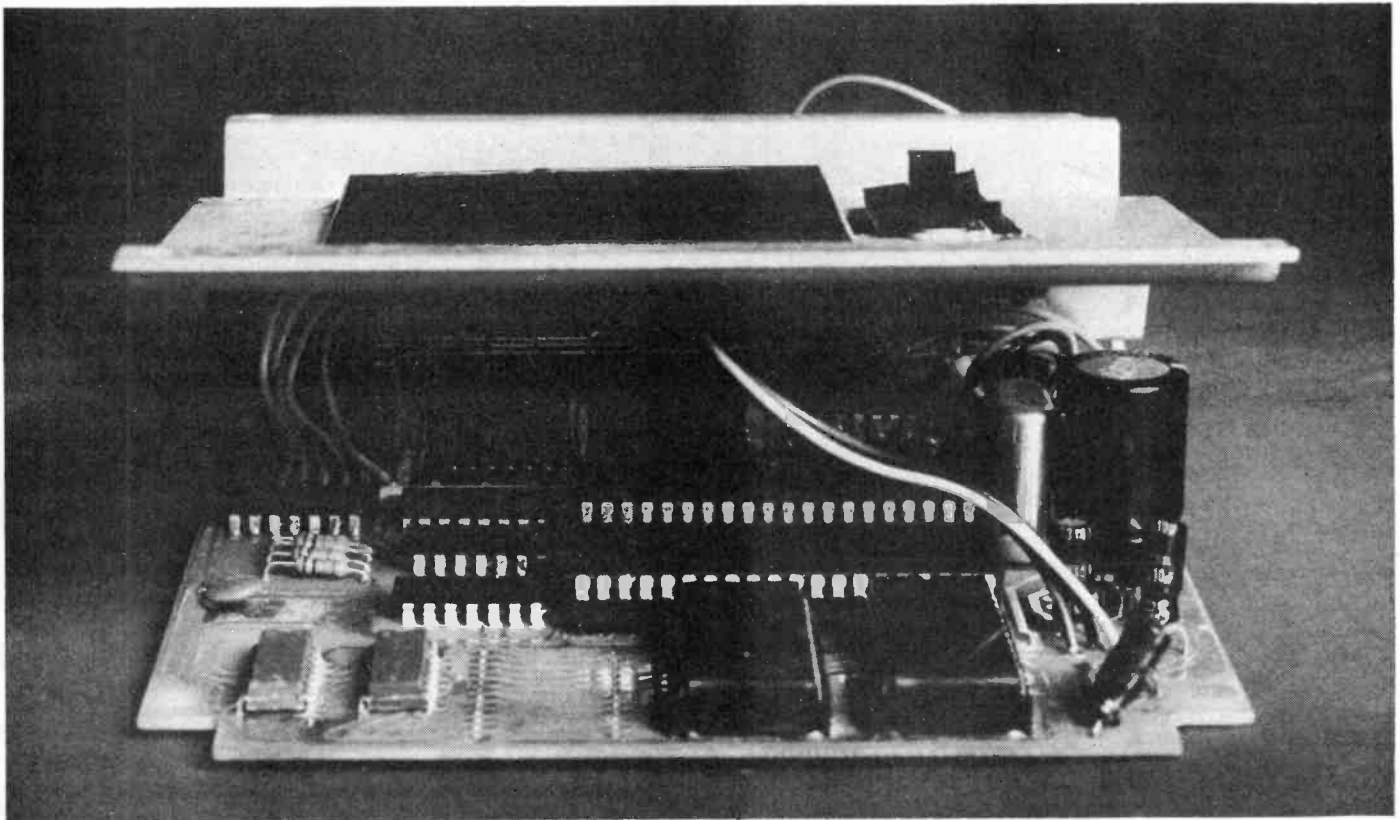
On the two units we were able to examine the mains adaptor terminates in a two pin American 'hi-fi' type of plug — which now fails BS of course. This is moulded into the adaptor body and makes life very awkward for the buyer. At first glance there is no way of getting mains into BORIS aside from wrapping wires around them. DANGEROUS. The importers *must* look into this very quickly. We are assured they are doing so — let us hope.

In the meanwhile I would advise purchasers to take a trip down to good ole Woolies and make off with one of their shaving adaptor plugs, into which BORIS's adaptor will neatly plug. 240V AC is a poor opening gambit in any game.

Getting Rooked . . . and Pawned And . . .

Using this machine is both simple and interesting. The keyboard sets up your move on the display — which is also showing elapsed time — and the ENTRY key presents it to BORIS for reply. ▶





BORIS exposed to the world!

Once he's thinking about, the display flashes at 1 Hz, the timer counts down the time allotted to BORIS and the various moves he's cogitating appear on the display, settling finally at time 00 seconds. The display then counts down *your* time — but there's no penalty for not playing inside the time limits you've imposed on BORIS.

If for some reason (like cheating) you wish to alter the board at any time during a game, pressing RANK displays the contents of each row of the board using a very ingenious symbols set. The keyboard now creates or destroys pieces as required. Korchnoi could have done with *that* in his armoury. This makes correcting errors very easy.

Use of the RANK key while BORIS is having a think lets you watch the pieces moving around in his head(!?). Hypnotic.

Alpha-numeric Big Mouth

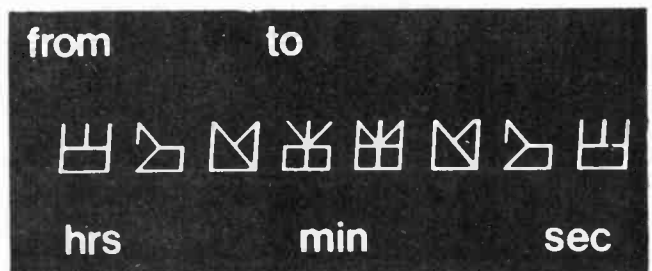
Undoubtedly the first thing to impress about BORIS has nothing to do with his chess abilities. It's his big mouth. Exactly how many comments his PROMs contains is anyone's guess — the importers Optimisation aren't saying — but we counted 47 in two evenings of chess, and I don't think we got them all!

The comments appear in the eight displays and are clocked along right to left at about 2Hz. At any position on the board the program limits BORIS to a shortlist of appropriate comments, and a 'random' choice is made amongst them — or indeed not to comment at all. Saying nothing is the most likely choice of all, which means that the sayings do not always appear and so do not become boring with repetition.

Play It Again BORIS

Once in play BORIS is a fair match for most people. On its basic level the machine plays a good beginner's game, and will find most things you leave lying around the board. Responses differ sufficiently even at this level to make 'psyching out' difficult. The biggest drawback of BORIS's chess is his passion for exchanging pieces.

Being cowards we started at this level to see what he could do. The first comment we got was 'AWFUL' to our opening move. Frightening! From here we kept increasing the time BORIS had to think about his answers. At five minutes he was winning consistently, and at two it's a long, long struggle to get him to lie down and die!



The symbols BORIS uses to identify the chess pieces. Shown here is the back rank of the white men. The black appear upside down so you can tell which men are which. Pawns appear as triangles.

FEATURE: Boris

Below: BORIS in play at the computer chess championship recently. He finished second to a private program.



We're only average chess players ourselves and so passed the infernal pawn-pusher onto a club standard player to get his comments.

On the longer response times, five minutes upwards, he considered BORIS a good opponent — and of course wouldn't admit how often he'd lost! Certainly everyone who had a game against him considered BORIS entertaining — the comments really do seem appropriate at times.

For example, in the middle of a game with BORIS hard pressed and the telephone ringing — I NEED LESS NOISE appears! Coincidence but fun all the same. One move away from being checkmated and he asks READY TO RESIGN? The classic must be after losing a queen to a knight fork — WHOOPS!

Conclusions

All in all then BORIS can be confidently recommended to anyone interested in the game of chess. It can play a good game, and entertain while doing so. It is very difficult indeed *not* to think of the machine containing an (evil) little elf — a grand master type elf — plotting against your every manoeuvre, and unleashing sarcastic comments where possible. A definite winner. **ETI**

Our thanks to Kramer and Co for their assistance in the preparation of this article — they lent us a BORIS! (They also supply to the public!)

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CD4006	1.04	CD4030	0.50	CD4054	1.04	CD4094	1.69	CD40194	1.19
CD4007	0.18	CD4031	2.00	CD4055	1.18	CD4095	0.94	CD40257	1.48
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CD4011	0.18	CD4035	1.08	CD4063	0.98	CD4099	1.65	CD4514	2.47
CD4012	0.20	CD4036	2.86	CD4066	0.55	CD40100	2.50	CD4515	2.82
CD4013	0.43	CD4037	0.85	CD4067	3.35	CD40101	1.61	CD4516	1.01
CD4014	0.83	CD4038	0.96	CD4068	0.20	CD40102	2.13	CD4518	0.97
CD4015	0.83	CD4039	2.78	CD4069	0.20	CD40103	2.13	CD4520	1.04
CD4016	0.48	CD4040	0.97	CD4070	0.46	CD40104	1.10	CD4527	1.43
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CD4018	0.83	CD4042	0.69	CD4072	0.20	CD40106	0.62	CD4555	0.78
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CD4020	1.11	CD4044	0.84	CD4075	0.20	CD40108	5.38	MC14528	0.93
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7401	.13	.19	.7476	.30	.29	.74170	1.85	1.65	.4000	.15	.4077	.21	2102A (350ns)	1.05	.95	.88	LM326N	2.60		
7402	.15	.19	.7482	.73	.29	.74173	1.41	.88	.4001	.18	.4081	.21	2102A-2 (650ns)	1.29	1.15	1.08	LM345K	8.10		
7403	.15	.18	.7483	.73	.75	.74175	1.01	1.05	.4002	.16	.4082	.21	2111A-1 (500ns)	2.46	2.19	2.05	L129/30/31	.85		
7404	.16	.21	.7485	1.18	.88	.74176	.81	1.05	.4006	.92	.4085	.92	2112A-2 (250ns)	2.14	1.90	1.78	CA3080	.75		
7405	.16	.21	.7486	.25	.29	.74177	1.01	.88	.4007	.18	.4086	.92	21102 (350ns)	1.07	.96	.86	CA3130E	.90		
7406	.26	.40	.7489	2.60	.29	.74180	1.01	.88	.4008	.92	.4093	.81	MM5257 (TMS4044)	8.10	7.19	6.75	CA3140E	.37		
7407	.26	.40	.7490	.34	.62	.74181	2.21	2.99	.4009	.54	.4099	1.81	*2114 (450ns)	8.10	7.19	6.75	LM301AN	.30		
7408	.17	.19	.7491	.73	1.05	.74182	.81	.88	.4010	.54	.4502	.92	6810	3.50	2.97	2.52	LM324N	.73		
7409	.17	.19	.7492	.46	.75	.74184	1.81	.88	.4011	.18	.4508	2.46	8080			5.97	LM348N	.99		
7410	.15	.19	.7493	.34	.65	.74185	1.82	.88	.4012	.18	.4510	1.07	6800			8.10	LM380N	.97		
7411	.25	.19	.7495	.54	.88	.74188	2.97	.88	.4013	.48	.4511	.95	9900			5.51	LM381N	1.73		
7412	.18	.19	.7496	.67	1.85	.74189	3.17	2.25	.4014	.92	.4514	2.70					LM382N	1.33		
7413	.27	.40	.74107	.27	.35	.74190	1.21	.75	.4015	.92	.4515	2.70					LM3900N	.65		
7414	.71	.79	.74109	.44	.35	.74191	1.21	.75	.4016	.43	.4516	1.07					SN76001N	1.02		
7415	.19	.19	.74112	.73	.35	.74192	1.21	1.85	.4017	.81	.4517	4.10					SN76003N	2.32		
7416	.25	.19	.74113	.73	.35	.74193	1.21	1.85	.4018	.92	.4518	.95					SN76013N	1.55		
7417	.34	.19	.74114	.73	.35	.74194	1.21	.75	.4019	.56	.4521	2.54					SN76023N	1.85		
7420	.16	.19	.74121	.27	.27	.74195	1.01	1.05	.4020	.92	.4522	1.89					TBA810AS	.90		
7421	.19	.19	.74122	.50	.75	.74196	1.18	1.05	.4021	.92	.4526	1.89					TC9440	1.75		
7422	.19	.19	.74123	.60	.78	.74197	1.18	1.05	.4022	.92	.4528	.92					ZN414	.90		
7423	.25	.19	.74124	.60	.78	.74198	1.81	1.05	.4023	.18	.4534	7.12					ZN424E	1.35		
7425	.25	.19	.74125	.51	.39	.74199	1.81	.88	.4024	.65	.4536	3.74					ZN425E	3.78		
7426	.25	.19	.74126	.51	.39	.74221	.88	.88	.4025	.18	.4543	1.62					ZN459CT	3.54		
7427	.39	.19	.74132	.78	.65	.74240	.88	.88	.4026	1.84	.4553	4.53					ZN1034E	2.03		
7428	.38	.21	.74133	.78	.65	.74241	.88	.88	.4027	.51	.4566	1.51					ZN1040E	8.43		
7430	.16	.19	.74136	.60	.78	.74242	.88	.88	.4028	.70	.4583	1.02					ZNA116E	6.75		
7432	.25	.25	.74138	.60	.78	.74243	.88	.88	.4029	1.18	.4585	1.07								
7433	.25	.25	.74139	.60	.78	.74244	.88	.88	.4030	.56										
7437	.25	.25	.74141	.78	.65	.74248	.88	.88	.4031	1.08										
7438	.25	.25	.74145	.78	.65	.74249	.88	.88	.4032	1.08										
7440	.17	.19	.74147	1.59	.88	.74251	.88	.88	.4033	1.89										
7441	.70	.19	.74149	1.38	.88	.74253	.88	.88	.4034	1.89										
7443	.50	.55	.74150	1.08	.88	.74257	.88	.88	.4035	1.06										
7445	.60	.19	.74151	.67	.88	.74258	.88	.88	.4036	.81										
7446	.60	.19	.74153	.67	.88	.74259	.88	.88	.4037	1.08										
7447	.60	.87	.74154	1.31	1.35	.74266	.88	.88	.4038	1.08										
7448	.16	.87	.74155	.67	.78	.74273	.88	.88	.4039	.43										
7449	.16	.87	.74156	.67	.78	.74279	.88	.88	.4040	.92										
7450	.16	.19	.74157	.67	.55	.74283	.88	.88	.4041	.70										
7451	.16	.19	.74158	.67	.55	.74290	.88	.88	.4042	.70										
7453	.16	.19	.74160	1.21	.99	.74293	.88	.88	.4043	.81										
7454	.19	.19	.74161	1.21	.65	.74395	.88	.88	.4044	1.29										
7455	.19	.19	.74162	1.21	.65	.74298	.88	.88	.4045	1.29										
7460	.16	.19	.74164	1.21	.65	.74365	.88	.88	.4046	1.46										
7470	.27	.27	.74166	1.08	1.15	.74366	.88	.88	.4047	1.18										
7472	.23	.23	.74165	.78	.78	.74367	.88	.88	.4048	1.18										
7473	.23	.23	.74166	1.02	.78	.74368	.88	.88	.4049	.43										
7474	.28	.29	.74168	.88	.88	.74368	.88	.88	.4050	.43										
7475	.44	.43	.74169	.88	1.85	.74386	.88	.88	.4051	.81										
						.74670	.88	.88	.4052	.81										
							.88	.88	.4053	.81										
							.88	.88	.4054	1.29										
							.88	.88	.4056	1.46										
							.88	.88	.4059	5.18										
							.88	.88	.4080	1.24										
							.88	.88	.4066	.48										
							.88	.88	.4068	.21										
							.88	.88	.4069	.21										
							.88	.88	.4070	.21										
							.88	.88	.4071	.21										
							.88	.88	.4072	.21										

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audiophile.....

What would you say if we told you about a cartridge which has a totally new stylus shape, a new improved magnet structure and revolutionary two part cantilever system — and a new radically different method of controlling operating conditions? It is all true, and its been around a few months too! Ron Harris took his time getting to the V15 Mk.4 — but found it worth the wait!

IT HAS BEEN some time now since the launch of the V15 IV from Shure, and by now I hope all the fuss has died down. Never has a product been rumoured to appear for so long, and met with such polarised comment when it did. In the meanwhile since the release the cartridge has slowly gained ground, and now would appear to be highly regarded in all but the most partisan anti-moving-magnet circles.

Changes By Design

There is a lot in this design to interest the engineer, so let's consider that aspect first. The criteria to be met were to produce a cartridge which performed as close to perfection as possible under ideal conditions, and which went some way to creating those conditions.

The ambition I applaud!

Naturally these days computer analysis of just about anything numerically expressible was undertaken — and quite right too! Everything down to body size and mass were considered, and then more models set up to attempt to blend the whole design successfully. (I don't think it would be an outrageous suggestion to make that the SME Series III was used as the optimum arm in all these cavortings.

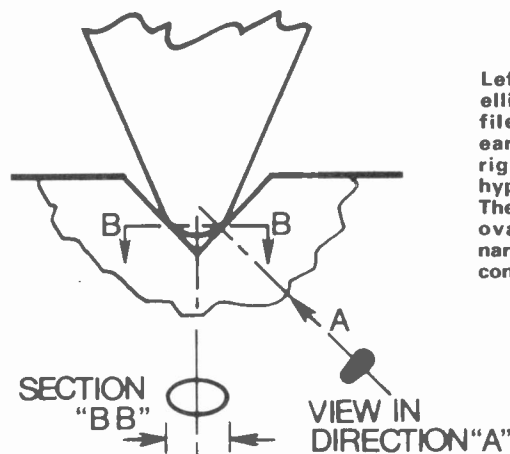
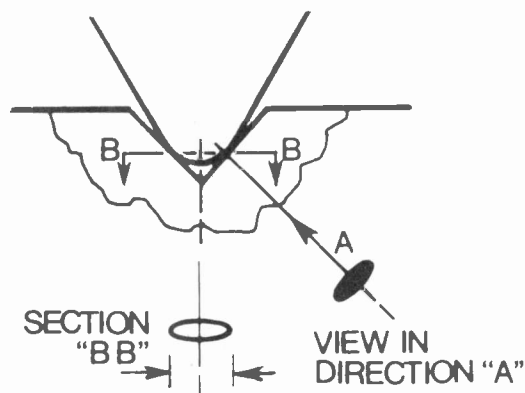
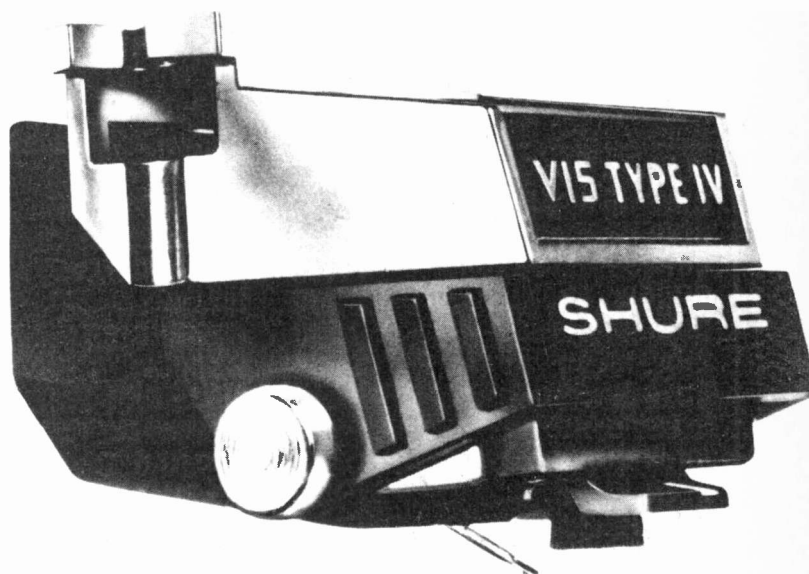
The new features to come out of all this are a dynamic stabiliser — and it's *not* just a brush, a new cantilever assembly, a new stylus shape, and a static reduction system. In addition the effective mass of the dynamic system has been lowered significantly.

Tipped For Shape

Shure have decided, somewhat bravely, to go it alone and produce a new stylus profile. The reason is they wanted lower distortion but without sacrifice of low wear and trackability in the process.

Any design for a stylus *must* include consideration of such factors as the actual groove itself, tip mass, manufacturing cost, record wear etc etc.

As you can see from the diagram the end result of Shures endeavours is a long contact profile, basically a hyperbola from the front, termed a hyperelliptical design. Its actual contact radius is around 38 microns, while its tracing radius (parallel to groove tangent) is smaller than other types. The compromise does appear to offer advantage over other types, right enough.



Left: a conventional elliptical stylus profile, as used in the earlier V15/III, and right, the new hyperelliptical profile. The "footprint" (black oval) is longer and narrower than in the conventional profile.

Magnetic Heart

The cantilever assembly is always the first section to come under scrutiny whenever a cartridge is to be improved. (Just shows what improvements *could* be made if you ask me!) and it has not escaped this time.

After much playing with computers and trading off advantages against system requirements, Shure put themselves some prototypes together and carted them off for listening tests. Measurements, mathematical models and ears later a telescopic two element design emerged as the overall best solution, and was duly adopted.

Part of the reason for this is vibration control — presumably to suppress resonances excited by dynamic stresses — and this is assisted by an elastomer damping device. The earlier M24 featured something like this, but not so sophisticated apparently.

The magnet itself is of a new type, of lower mass but higher strength than its predecessors, allowing the cantilever unit mass as a whole to be lower. Taken together the improvements to the system are claimed to provide better high frequency tracking ability, and the shifting of the HF resonance to beyond 20 kHz.

Brush Up On Damping

Now down to the obvious bit — which I had to do last just to keep you reading. Static on records can be blamed for most of the ills besetting disc reproduction as it now stands. It attracts dust — and holds it — leading to quicker wear of both disc and stylus and higher replay noise.

There are umpteen devices on the market for clearing static charge, most of which resemble gas lighters. But Shure make the valid point that unless you know what polarity the charge is you're trying to clear, you've a 50-50 chance of making it worse by pumping ions at it.

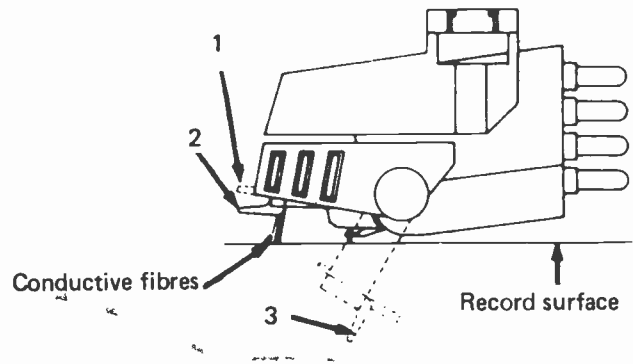
Another nasty well-known to LPs of all age groups is the warp. Warps come free with most records these days and provide such delights as variation in tracking angle, mis-tracking due to effective reduction of applied tracing force and overall disruption of the ideal conditions in which cartridges like to operate.

Damping applied at the arm pivots can help with this, but represent a compromise at best. It is better to have the control as close to the tip as possible. The dynamic stabiliser is designed to do exactly that. The carbon fibre brush is mounted to ride just ahead of the stylus, and is equipped with viscous damped pivots. These are designed to absorb the shock produced by a warp, be it gradual or sudden. The optimum distance between cartridge body and record is thus preserved.

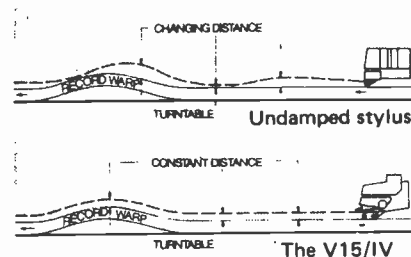
Bristling With Pride

That brush is made up of about 10,000 carbon fibre bristles, ten of which would fit nicely into a record groove. Since it is carbon fibre it is conductive and can leak static charges to system earth since it is connected to one channel earth. Shure's research has indicated too that local static charges can increase tracking force by attracting the cartridge to the LP!

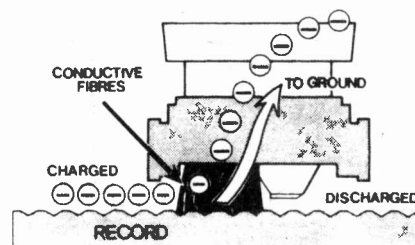
Sounds logical once someone tells you doesn't it? The brush does a good job shifting dust and muck out of the way too!



The outrigger carbon-fibre brush may be set in any one of three positions: 1) in the "Up" position. 2) the dynamic stabiliser in its operating position 3) set down as a guard.



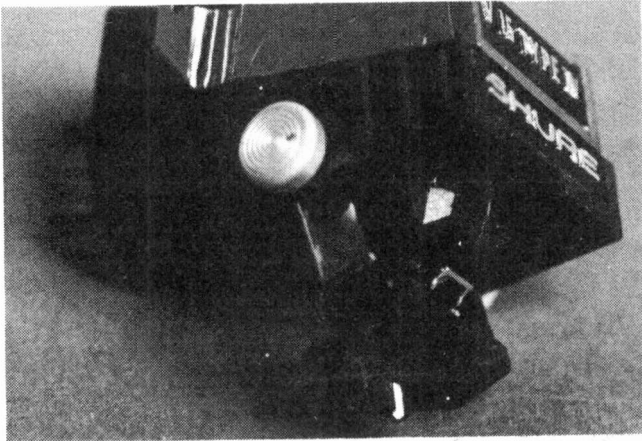
The V15 Type IV's brush with damped pivot is said to aid the tracking of warped discs by matching stylus movement more closely to the motion of the arm



The carbon-fibre brush is in continuous contact with one of the earth pins and leaks static charges to earth.

Having A Fit

Setting up the V15 was very simple indeed. It's a shame to have to take it out of the box at all unfortunately, the packaging is superb indeed! Holding the body into the arm is done by screwing into a small metal block tapped for the bolts. Simpler than using fiddly nuts — if you'll pardon the expression — but probably more massive.



A close-up view of the stabiliser fitted to the V15 Mk-4, reposing in its guard position. The white line tells you where to line up the stylus when at play!

Because of the stabiliser, the stylus sees 0.5g less than is applied to the arm as a whole. This means that to get 1g tracking force, you set 1.5g. It can look confusing at first, and don't forget later and clip up the stabiliser, else the cantilever gets the lot!

Tracing Class

After brief experiments, all our tests were conducted with 1g applied to the stylus, as the V15 tracked anything at this weight, regardless of how torturous we made our torture tracks. I failed to catch it out even once. Foiled again. One to Shure.

In contrast to the Mk3 the new model is sensibly specified for capacitive loading, and is apparently as insensitive to these things as it can be. Using a Sony TA-88 preamp enabled me to vary the loading while the cartridge was playing — a reviewers delight! No adverse effects can be expected in normal use. Noise seems to be reduced too.

The stabiliser does offer real benefits as it definitely aids tracking and makes the system as a whole very tolerant of record 'flatness'. I tried the cartridge with and without pivot damping on the SME and would suggest it be used *with* damping — it somehow gains confidence that way!

Sound Stuff?

This is the bit where I lose some 'musical' friends no doubt, because whatever anyone may have said amid the initial rash of reviews you will not find a cartridge better at information retrieval than the V15 IV. Its sound is incredibly detailed, and free from audible vices. It has a nice confidence about it altogether, and did not mis tracks — or mis-anything — even once.

The sound has an overall smoothness that is perhaps its most 'nameable' feature. The bass quality is good, although I have heard better. In the mid-range and treble the sound stands forward towards the listener presenting a good stable image with all the detail you could wish for, with no trace of hardness or brightness whatsoever.

Conclusions

So there it is — interesting and worth the wait for its appearance. Whether you like the sound of the V15 or not only you can tell, but if you're considering spending around £70 on a cartridge you'd be ill-advised to miss listening to it.

Main Trouble

One of the most oft repeated queries to Audiophile concerns the problem of mains borne clicks and pops appearing out of loudspeakers.

Unfortunately there is no immediate overall solution. The first thing to try is to move either the hi-fi or the appliance — usually a fridge — causing the clicks to another outlet.

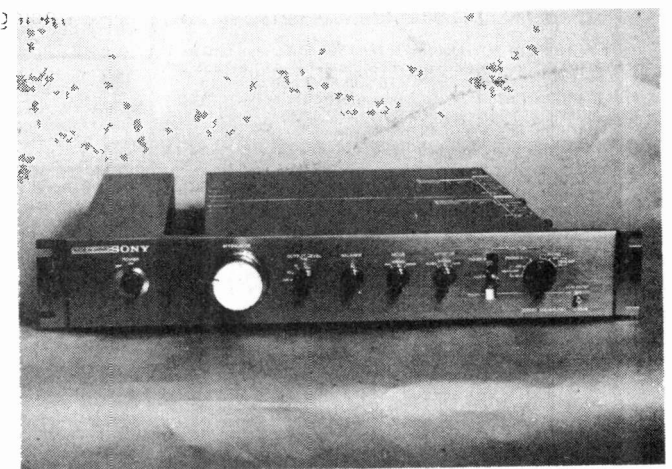
If this doesn't work then there are several suppressors on the market, at varying prices, to deal with the trouble. The most expensive is the QED unit at about £10. It does work in most cases, but no more so than some others.

The cheapest such unit available is probably the RS mains suppressor. Your local component stockist should be able to order this for you, and fitting it is pretty simple. Its input comes from the mains, and its output feeds the hi-fi in question.

Otherwise

If none of this works then pretty obviously your problem is not mains borne. For radiated problems there's not much you can do except move things around. This is pretty rare though.

Change Of Load



Above is the Sony TA88E preamp I mentioned a couple of months ago. Next month I'll be going through the circuits of this device in detail, as it represents a job done very very properly. At £699 so it should. The effect of all this engineering on the sound proved to be interesting too.

ETI

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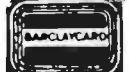
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A TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

By Simian

DURING THE LAST FEW weeks some valuable research work has been incorporated into BSI and MIL standards, and this will greatly ease the specification of equipment. These standards help to combat a hitherto neglected environmental hazard; the users of equipment. A range of Standard Idiots (SIDs) has been defined, and these will be useful additions to any development laboratory.

Using Standard Idiots

Standard Idiots are useful both for acceptance testing of incoming equipment, and for developing foolproof electronics. The latter is of particular value to manufacturers producing consumer goods. In general the technique of using SIDs is very simple: it consists merely of letting them come into contact with the equipment to be tested. Any flaws will be quickly shown up.

SIDs locate ergonomic faults very rapidly. It is instructive to watch them at work sometimes. If something is weak, they will break it; if no-one in their *right* minds would dry-off a poodle in a microwave oven, they will do just that.

Almost all old-style quality-control testing can be abolished. If SIDs are allowed to get at all products before they leave the factory, it will be found that only the perfect get through. This reduces the number of complaints received from users, but the cost of disposing of the rejects (in bulk) can be rather high.

Types of Standard Idiot

Several specialist schools have been set up to train SIDs since these students are not well received at normal colleges. The coursework is intensive, and there are rigorous examinations to maintain standards. Over 600 people have received a Diploma in Idiocy (Dip. I) to date.

Many people have been found to have a natural aptitude for this work.

There are various grades of SID, ranging from the merely incompetent to those capable of sinking the Titanic, and there are many specialist fields:

(1) The 'non-technical' person (BS 91000-FOOL). This type normally panics when faced with more than two control knobs simultaneously. She (sometimes he) always mis-tunes radios, and would be hard put to it to recognise the difference between a watch and an oil refinery.

(2) Fiddler, or fidgeter (MIL-ID-99436/010). This

type is rapidly becoming an industry standard; the real world is full of them. If, for example, there is a switch controlling a lamp, the fiddler will flick it on and off for hours until either it breaks, or he spots something more exciting to play with. He will also use calculators to divide numbers by zero or to find $\arcsin(-10)$.

(3) The Ph.D (MIL-ID-12345/678) never reads instruction manuals. 'Of course, it's obvious that this piece of equipment works like so . . .' It is only when clouds of blue smoke issue from a new £2,000 oscilloscope that he scuttles back to his desk to read in the unused handbook that this model is for 110V, not 240V.

Ph.Ds are often quite intelligent.

(4) Dismantler. A member of this species is guaranteed to dismember any piece of equipment which he owns or uses. However, it is very rare for the article ever to be re-assembled. (They are usually foxed by the new child-proof pill boxes).

There are a few other specialist categories: for example, the 'jonah', whose mere presence in a room is enough to make clocks stop and television sets neurotic; or the Standard Irishman with fourteen fingers.

Disadvantages

One major problem with SIDs is that of storage when they are not in use. Obviously they cannot be left to roam freely around the lab.! Normal work under these conditions is difficult. Even when they are stored in cupboards the voluble and plaintive cries of 'let me out' are disruptive.

There is another hazard which should not be overlooked: there have been a few unfortunate cases where standard idiots have been mistaken for engineers. Most of the companies where this has happened have now ceased trading.

Conclusions

Standard idiots, in their present form, can be useful development tools, but there are associated hazards; on no account should they be left alone to amuse themselves. The new specifications are a major advance in a naturally chaotic field and standard idiots are adding a new dimension to destructive testing. This technological advance is helping to provide jobs for those people whose natural talents previously made them unemployable.

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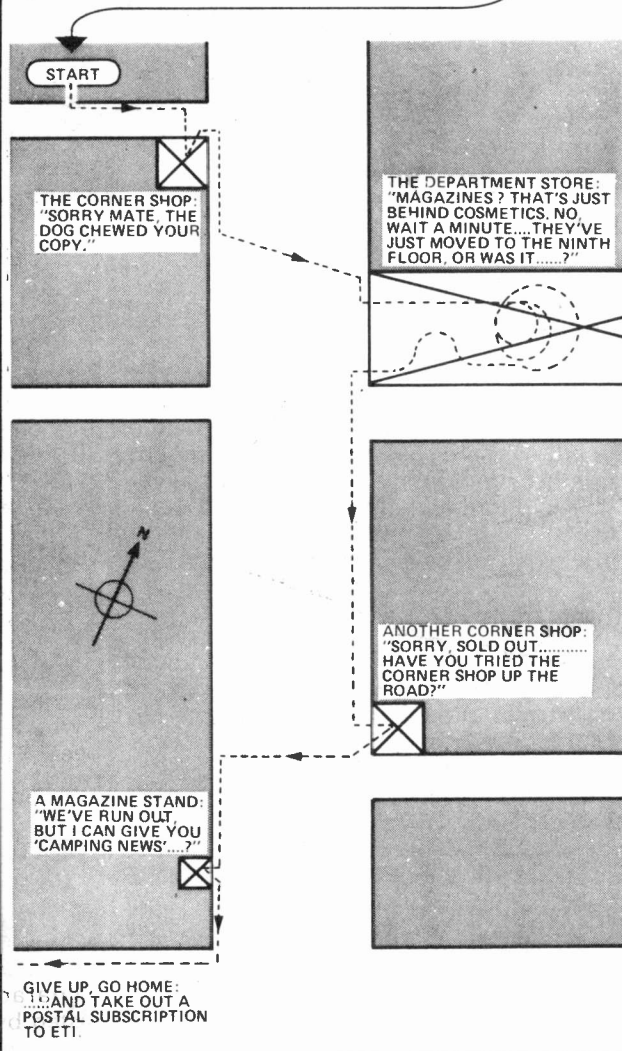
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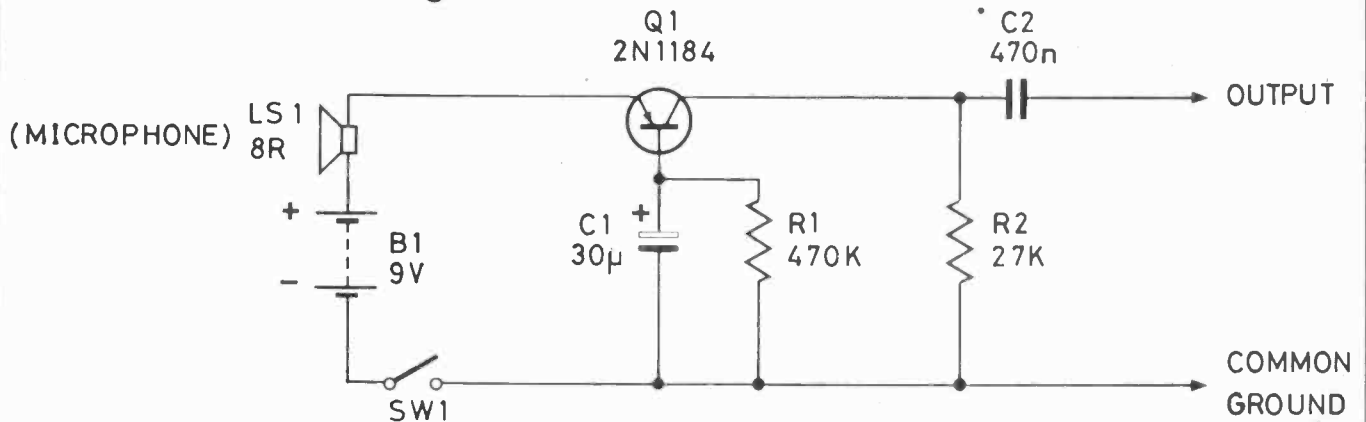
It can be a nuisance can't it, going from newsagent to newsagent? "Sorry squire, don't have it — next one should be out soon."

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Microphone Speaker

J. Smith

What do you do if you need a microphone in a hurry — the shops are closed and your friends are on holiday? Or you are just a little short of money? The answer is to build the following circuit from your odds and ends box. This circuit uses a small speaker as a microphone, one transistor and only four other parts, draws only about 2 mA of current from a 9 volt battery so an on/off switch is not really necessary.

The transistor shown is 2N1184 and is a PNP germanium medium power type but is not critical — try the ones you have first before buying this new type. The components too are not critical and the prototype was found to work OK with 20% variation in values. The output is high impedance and is fed into the mic input of a tape recorder or pick-up input of an amplifier.

Speed Alarm

D. Ian

It is all too easy, during a long journey on a motorway, to allow one's speed to gradually creep beyond that point which the boys in blue take an unwelcome interest; this alarm gives an audible nudge whenever you drift over a pre-set speed.

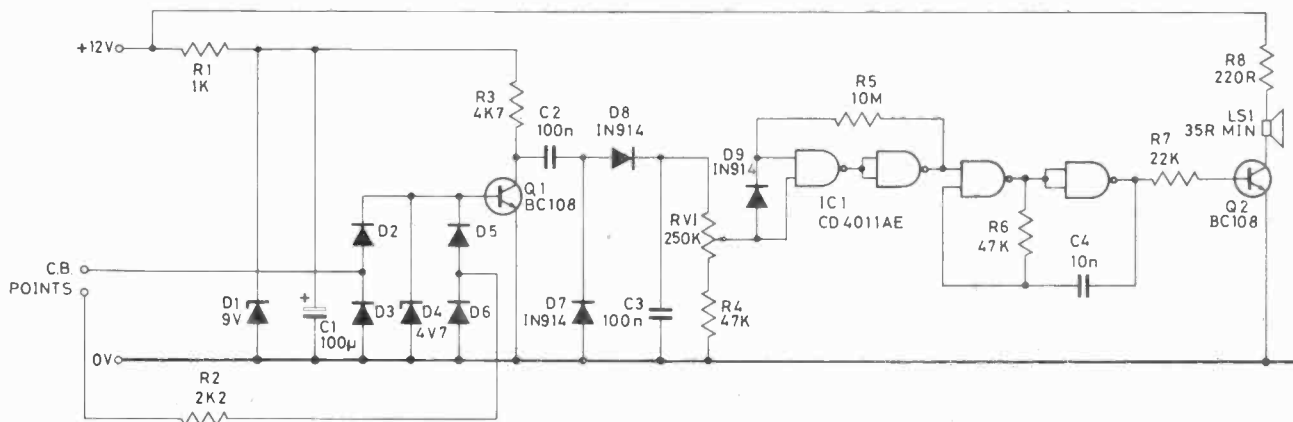
Pulses from the distributor points (due to the ignition coil up to 400V may be developed as the points open) are passed through a current limiting resistor, rectified and clipped at 4V7. Via Q1 and the diode pump a DC voltage, which is proportional to engine revs, is presented to RV1; the sharp transfer characteristic of a CMOS gate, assisted by feedback, is used to enable the oscillator formed by the remaining half of the 4011.

At the pre-set 'speed' (revs) a non-

ignorable tone emits from the speaker, and disappears as soon as the speed drops by three or four mph.

Calibration of Ca may be conducted with an accurate pulse generator remembering that, for a four stroke engine, frequency = revs per minute times the number of cylinders divided by 120; for a car with a specification of 17½ MPH per 1000 revs, in top gear, $f = 133\text{Hz}$ at 70 MPH, 124Hz at 65 MPH (4000 RPM and 3714 RPM). The necessary frequency should be fed to Q1 and VR1 set so that the alarm is just off. Reliable switching occurs on the prototypes with a change of only 5Hz (150 RPM), ie less than 3 MPH for the above example.

Direct calibration 'on the road', while covering discrepancies due to tyre size, etc, will only be as good as the speedometer and obviously should be carried out by a passenger rather than the driver.



Tech-Tips is an ideas forum and is not aimed at the beginner. We regret we cannot answer queries on these items.

ETI is prepared to consider circuits or ideas submitted by readers for this page. All items used will be paid for. Drawings should be as clear as possible and the text should preferably be typed. Circuits must not be subject to copyright. Items for consideration should be sent to ETI TECH-TIPS, Electronics Today International, 25-27 Oxford St., London W1R 1RF.

7400	10p	7460	12p	74137	90p	74195	50p	4055	130p	CA 3140	60p	LM 3909 N	65p	TBA 480 Q	200p
7401	10p	7470	25p	74138	100p	74196	50p	4056	120p	LF 356	80p	MC 1310 P	140p	TBA 520 Q	200p
7402	10p	7472	20p	74141	50p	74197	50p	4060	100p	LF 357	80p	MC 1312 P	150p	TBA 530 Q	200p
7403	10p	7473	25p	74142	180p	74198	100p	4066	35p	LM 211 H	250p	MC 1314 P	190p	TBA 540	200p
7404	12p	7474	25p	74143	270p	74199	100p	4069	12p	LM 300 TR5	170p	MC 1315 P	230p	TBA 550 Q	250p
7405	12p	7475	25p	74144	270p	74293	90p	4070	12p	LM 301 AN	30p	MK 50398	650p	TBA 560 C	250p
7406	25p	7476	25p	74145	55p	74L500	18p	4071	12p	LM 304	200p	MM 5314	380p	TBA 641 A12	250p
7407	25p	7480	40p	74147	100p	745112	80p	4072	12p	LM 307N	65p	MM 5316	480p	TBA 700	180p
7408	12p	7481	85p	74148	90p			4081	12p	LM 308 TO5	100p	NE 529 K	150p	TBA 720 Q	225p
7409	12p	7482	75p	74150	65p			4082	12p	LM 308 DIL	100p	NE 555	25p	TBA 750 Q	200p
7410	12p	7483	75p	74151	45p	4000	12p	4093	70p	LM 309 K	100p	NE 556	90p	TBA 800	80p
7411	15p	7484	70p	74153	45p	4001	12p	4510	60p	LM 310 TO5	150p	NE 562 B	400p	TBA 810	100p
7412	15p	7485	60p	74154	70p	4002	12p	4511	70p	LM 311 TO5	150p	SAD 1024	1500p	TBA 820	100p
7413	25p	7486	25p	74155	45p	4006	80p	4516	65p	LM 317 K	325p	SL 917 B	650p	TBA 920 Q	280p
7414	45p	7489	130p	74156	45p	4007	14p	4518	65p	LM 324	70p	SN 76003 N	150p	TCA 270 Q	220p
7416	25p	7490	25p	74157	45p	4009	30p	4520	65p	LM 339	60p	SN 76013 N	110p	TCA 270 S	220p
7417	25p	7491	40p	74160	55p	4011	12p	4528	80p	LM 348 N	90p	SN 76013 ND	125p	TCA 760	300p
7420	12p	7492	35p	74161	55p	4012	12p	4583	70p	LM 380	60p	SN 76023 N	110p	TCA 4500 A	450p
7421	20p	7493	30p	74162	55p	4013	30p			LM 381 N	90p	SN 76023 ND	125p	TDA 1008	350p
7422	15p	7494	70p	74163	55p	4015	50p			LM 382	90p	SN 76033 N	150p	TDA 1034	450p
7423	20p	7495	45p	74164	60p	4016	30p			LM 391	180p	SN 7627 N	160p	TDA 2002	300p
7425	20p	7496	45p	74165	60p	4017	50p			LM 555	25p	SN 76228 N	180p	TDA 2020	300p
7426	22p	7497	120p	74166	75p	4018	55p			LM 709 C	40p	SN 76660 N	75p	TL 084	120p
7427	22p	74100	80p	74167	160p	4019	40p			LM 710 TO5	60p	TAA 300	100p	XR 320	250p
7428	25p	74104	40p	74170	100p	4020	50p			LM 710 DIL	65p	TAA 350	190p	XR 2206	450p
7430	12p	74105	40p	74173	80p	4022	50p			LM 723 TO5	40p	TAA 550	35p	XR 2207	450p
7432	20p	74107	25p	74174	60p	4023	12p			LM 723 DIL	40p	TAA 570	220p	XR 2208	600p
7433	28p	74108	100p	74175	60p	4024	40p			LM 733	120p	TAA 661B	140p	XR 2216	650p
7437	20p	74166	75p	74176	50p	4025	12p			LM 741	20p	TAA 700	350p	XR 2567	250p
7438	20p	74109	25p	74177	50p	4026	80p			LM 748	40p	TAA 790	350p	XR 4136	150p
7440	12p	74118	75p	74178	75p	4027	30p			LM 1303 N	100p	TAD 100	150p	XR 4202	150p
7441	45p	74120	80p	74179	120p	4028	45p			LM 1458	100p	TAD 110	130p	XR 4212	150p
7442	40p	74121	25p	74180	90p	4029	50p			LM 3080	75p	TBA 120 S	60p	XR 4739	150p
7443	60p	74122	35p	74181	130p	4030	30p			LM 3900	55p	TBA 120 T	85p	ZN 414	100p
7444	60p	74123	40p	74182	50p	4032	80p								
7445	65p	74125	35p	74184	120p	4033	100p								
7446	50p	74126	35p	74185	100p	4040	60p								
7447	50p	74128	60p	74188	320p	4043	60p								
7448	50p	74130	120p	74190	70p	4046	90p								
7450	12p	74131	90p	74191	70p	4047	80p								
7451	12p	74132	45p	74192	60p	4048	50p								
7453	12p	74135	90p	74193	60p	4049	25p								
7454	12p	74136	80p	74194	55p	4050	25p								
						4054	100p								

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7408	13p	74153	36p	4016	28p	12V 7812	55p
7410	11p	74154	60p	4017	48p	15V 7815	55p
7413	22p	74157	36p	4024	40p	100mA-T092 (+ve) 5V, 12V, 15V	25p
7414	36p	74160	45p	4046	85p	100mA-T092 (-ve) 5V, 15V	50p
7420	11p	74164	45p	4049	27p	78H05KC 5Amp/5Volts TO-3	550p
7430	11p	74190	45p	4510	59p		
7441	45p	74192	45p	4518	58p		
7442	32p	74193	45p	4528	52p		
7447	40p	74196	48p				
7474	22p						
7475	25p						
7486	20p						
7490	24p						
7493	24p						
7496	36p						
74121	24p						

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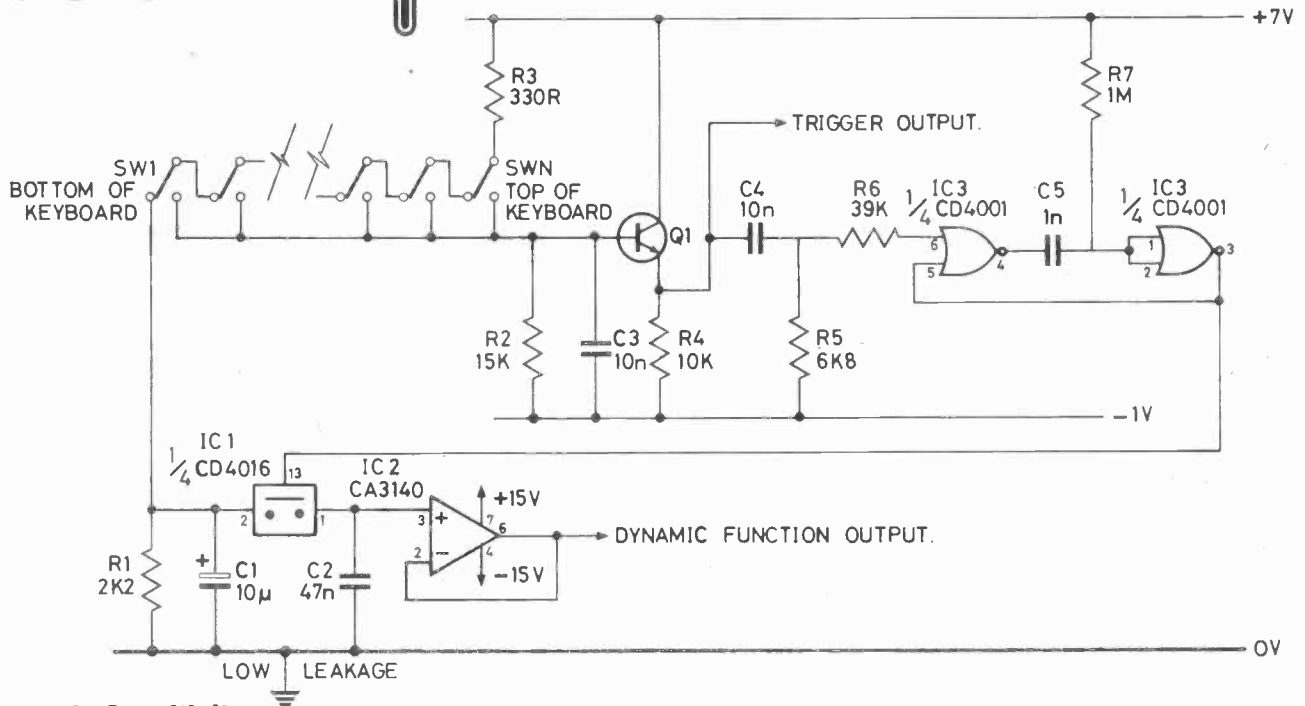
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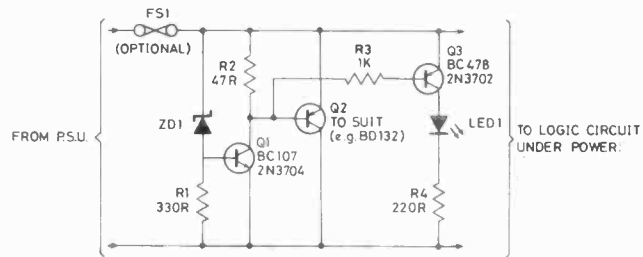
Dynamic Sensitivity

W. Stride

A dynamic function (touch sensitivity) greatly increases the flexibility of expression available to the player of a music synthesizer. This circuit achieves the dynamic function by measuring the change over time of the keyboard switches, and hence the velocity of the key depressed.

The circuit is basically composed of three parts; firstly an RC time-constant network (R_1, C_1) controlled by the keyboard switches, a buffer amplifier and monostable (Q_1, IC_3) and a sample/hold circuit (IC_1, C_2, IC_2).

Normally C_1 is kept charged up to +7 volts through the 'chain' of closed keyboard switches. When a key is depressed, the 'chain' is broken and C_1 discharges through R_1 . As the key is further depressed, contact is made with the trigger busbar, TR_1 is turned on, and the monostable triggered. The monostable gives out a 1 millisecond pulse, which causes the analog switch (IC_1) to close allowing C_2 to charge up to the voltage on C_1 at that time. After this, the voltage is stored on C_2 , the output being buffered by IC_2 . Since the input impedance of IC_2 is $\sim 1.5 \times 10^{12}$ ohms the delay time of C_2 is very long. An output is available from the emitter of TR_1 to trigger envelope shapers etc. To make sure the response is the same all over the keyboard, the distance between the gold wires on all the contact assemblies should be made the same.



Overvoltage Protection for 10 TTL chips

E. Parr

With the introduction of integrated circuit voltage regulators it is very easy to make power supplies for logic circuits. Unfortunately it is only easy to blast a board of TTL by letting the voltage rise above 7V as could happen if the common line came off a regulator IC or the sense lines came off a commercial power supply.

The described circuit was designed by the author as a "last ditch" defence after a disconnected sense line allowed a commercial 5V supply to rise to 9V and blast 50 TTL chips. The circuit is simple to add onto any power supply, and it is the author's intention to build it "on board" with any future system containing more than about

Zener diode ZD_1 senses the supply, and should the supply rise above 6V Q_1 will turn on. In turn Q_2 conducts clamping the rail.

Subsequent events depend on the source supply. It will either shut down, go into current limit or blow its supply fuse. None of these will damage the TTL chips.

The rating Q_2 depends on the source supply, and whether it will be required to operate continuously in the event of failure. Its current rating obviously has to be in excess of the source supply. If the source supply is likely to sit down, LED_1 should be added to indicate the circuit has operated.

The circuit will operate in approximately 500 nS space, so it will also protect the logic from transient spikes which a normal regulator would not block.

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ALARM/
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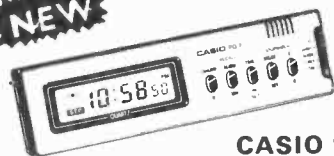
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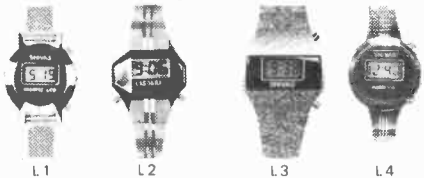
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31QR-20B Left, 4 digit (£35.95)

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51QR-19B. 6 digit (£44.95)

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54QS-16B
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6 digit (£54.95)

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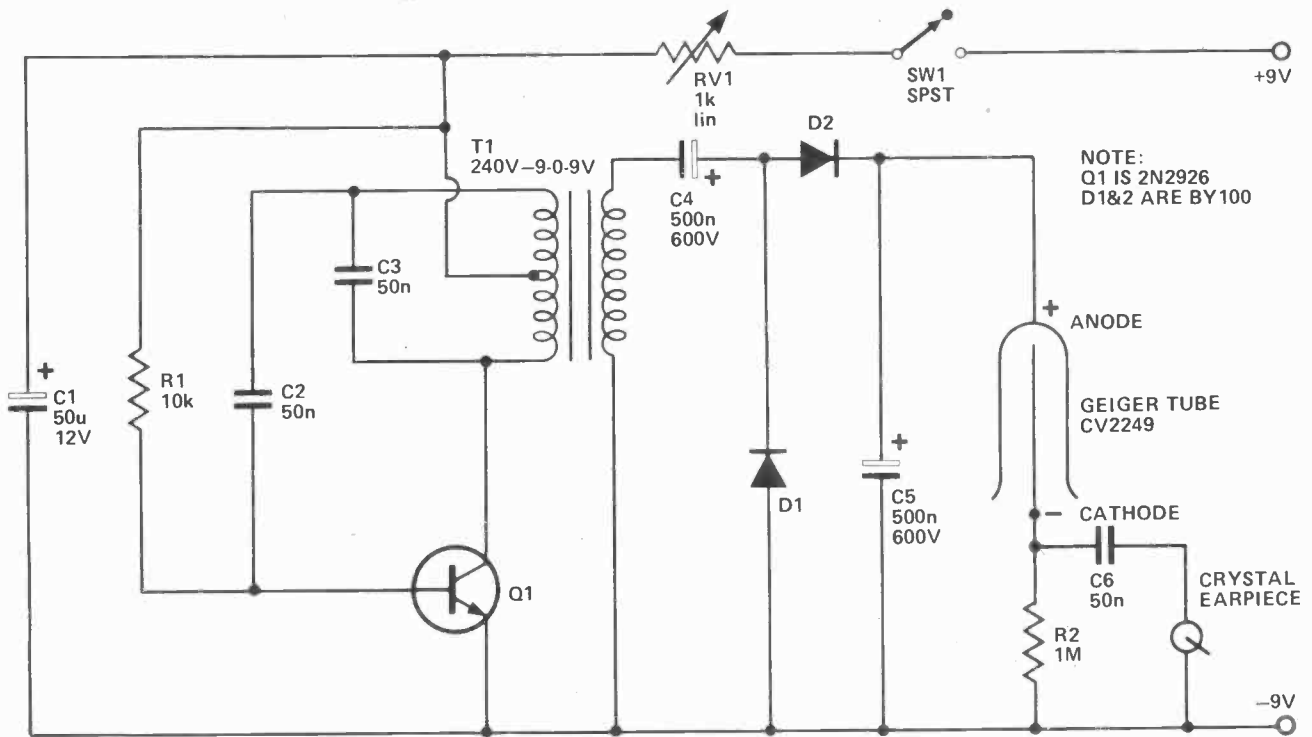
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Not illustrated 53CS-19B, 4 digit barrel shaped, **£64.95.** 49CS-24B, 6 digit (£79.95) **£64.95.** 53CGS-17L Gold plated, on strap (£84.95) **£69.95.**

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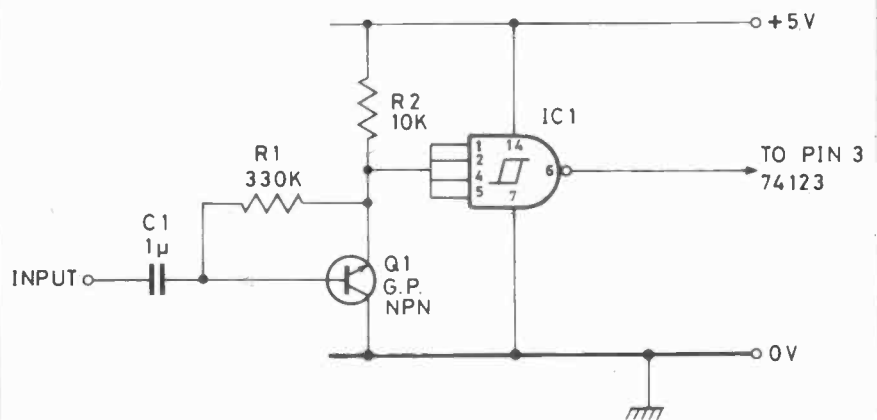


NOTE:
Q1 IS 2N2926
D1&2 ARE BY100

Geiger Counter

A. Wheatley

Although the circuit is inexpensive and simple it is just as sensitive as many commercial devices. The important part is the geiger tube and this will probably cost about £1.90. It needs a high voltage supply which, in this case consists of Q1 and its associated components. The transformer is a low current 250V 9.0-9 and is connected in reverse. The secondary is connected into a Hartley oscillator, the base bias being provided by R1. RV1 is connected to control the voltage to the Geiger tube. A device to double the voltage is included because otherwise the voltage would still be insufficient to drive the tube. This comprises D1, D2, C4 and C5. This also rectifies it and smooths it. It is very important that C4 and especially C5 are of good quality and have low leakage. RV1 should be set so that each click heard is a nice clean one because over a certain voltage all that will be heard is a continuous buzz. The high voltage section is perfectly safe although if touched it will give a slight shock. This is unpleasant but quite harmless.



Cuts Above

B. Houseley

The circuit here is an improved version of the original cuts encoder. If Q1 is preceded by a high impedance buffer, quite low signal levels can be accommodated successfully — and still trigger the 74123. A 74C02 or a 7402 was found to trigger only unreliably in this circuit.

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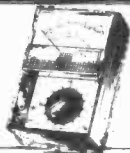
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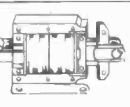
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Type 5D18 240V AC reversible 30 rpm 50lbs inch
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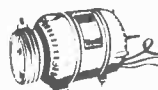
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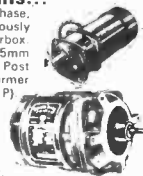
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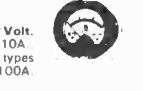
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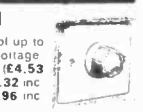
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7400	74154	1.00	74537	38	2X353	20	
7401	74156	60	74551	28	2X354	57	
7402	74157	54	74564	20	2X355	57	
7403	74160	1.04	74574	38	2X3702	12	
7404	74162	1.18	745112	66	2X3704	12	
7406	74163	80	745124	3.25	2X3819	29	
7408	74164	87	MICRO'S				
7409	74165	93	MEMORIES				
7410	74175	67	745188	3.95	1M148	05	
7411	74176	84	1782A	7.96	1M148	05	
7412	74180	86	2708	1.22	1M151	04	
7413	74180	1.04	2102-1	1.22	1M401	06	
7414	74192	98	2114	10.53	1M402	06	
7416	74193	98	8080A	7.02	1M403	08	
7417	74194	86	825	7.06	1M404	10	
7420	74196	86	LINEAR				
7426	74197	86	LM380-14	8.00	1M405	11	
7427	74198	1.41	LM3900	4R	1M407	12	
7430	74198	1.41	LM741-8	21	1M408	16	
7432	74LS00	18	NE555	29	1M404	21	
7433	74LS01	18	NE565	71	ELECTROLYTICS		
7437	74LS02	18	NE565	1.43	47/100	08	
7438	74LS04	19	NE567	1.62	100/50	08	
7440	74LS05	21	REGULATORS		33/35	08	
7441	74LS08	21	7805	80	47/35	08	
7442	74LS09	21	7812	80	47/35	08	
7443	74LS10	21	7912	1.39	10/16	08	
7445	74LS11	21	7912	1.39	10/16	08	
7446	74LS14	1.10	LM309	86	10/25	08	
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7448	74LS21	21	LM723	38	22/16	08	
7450	74LS32	24	LM723	38	22/16	08	
7451	74LS37	26	TRANSISTORS				
7453	74LS38	29	AC128	23	22/63	12	
7454	74LS40	25	AC176	23	33/16	08	
7460	74LS42	54	BC107	10	33/35	11	
7470	74LS51	29	BC108	10	47/16	13	
7472	74LS74	32	BC109	10	47/35	12	
7473	74LS86	33	BC177	18	47/35	15	
7474	74LS90	86	BC178	18	100/16	11	
7475	74LS93	86	BC179	18	100/35	13	
7476	31	74LS107	34	BC184	15	220/16	12
7483	68	74LS112	100	BC187	32	220/25	17
7485	84	74LS123	85	BC477	24	300/16	18
7486	25	74LS124	2.20	BC478	24	300/35	31
7489	1.95	74LS151	95	BC479	24	470/16	18
7490	38	74LS153	64	BD131	54	470/35	38
7491	52	74LS157	64	RD132	54	1000/16	30
7492	42	74LS164	1.14	BFY50	23		
7493	29	74LS175	1.05	BFY51	23		
7495	51	74LS193	1.33	BFY52	23		
7496	67	74LS194	2.06	BSY95A	17		
74104	48	74S TTL		DC1	20		
74105	48	74S TTL		DC2	35		
74107	27	74S04	28	CC200	45		
74109	45	74S05	38	TP 2955	85		
74121	29	74S08	38	TP 3055	68		
74122	47	74S10	38	TS43	33		
74123	38	74S10	38	TS4300	17		
74141	21	74S11	38	TS4300	17		

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TRANSISTORS

AC107	0.23	BC117	0.15	BC206	0.10	BC550B	0.11	BF184	0.20	BU205	1.30	2N1513	0.18
AC125	0.17	BC118	0.12	BC206B	0.11	BC1542	0.55	BF185	0.20	BU208	1.50	2N1671	1.10
AC126	0.17	BC119	0.25	BC207	0.10	BC1548	0.06	BF194	0.06	BU208-02	1.75	2N1718	2.20
AC127	0.16	BC125	0.15	BC209B	0.09	BC171	0.13	BF194A	0.07	BU406	3.00	2N1711	0.20
AC127K	0.23	BC125B	0.15	BC212A	0.10	BC172	0.13	BF195	0.06	BU196A	6.75	2N1893	0.25
AC128	0.14	BC126	0.15	BC214L	0.10	BC181	0.30	BF195B	0.07	BU199C	2.00	2N1905	0.25
AC128K	0.25	BC136	0.15	BC214L	0.10	BC181B	0.30	BF196	0.06	BU199C	7.00	2N1990	0.25
AC128K/176	0.42	BC137	0.15	BC227	0.15	BC181B	0.30	BF196	0.06	BU199C	1.00	2N1990	1.00
AC142	0.18	BC138	0.30	BC237A	0.16	BC182	1.02	BF197	0.06	BU171	4.50	2N2188	0.20
AC153	0.55	BC140	0.27	BC237C	0.21	BC183	0.35	BF198	0.06	MPS6517	0.68	2N2188A	0.22
AC158	0.50	BC141	0.28	BC238	0.15	BC183	0.48	BF224	0.18	MPS6523	0.27	2N2222	0.10
AC176	0.50	BC142	0.28	BC238B	0.15	BC183	0.30	BF253	0.18	MPS686	0.90	2N2222A	0.20
AC187	0.50	BC147	0.06	BC239C	0.18	BC183	0.30	BF254	0.18	MPS653	0.72	2N2270	0.30
AC187K	0.55	BC147B	0.07	BC251A	0.15	BC183	0.30	BF257	0.18	MK1224	0.25	2N2484	0.16
AC188K	0.55	BC148	0.06	BC252A	0.15	BC183	0.30	BF259	0.28	OC22	1.40	2N2904	0.18
AC190	1.02	BC148A	0.07	BC252B	0.15	BC183	0.30	BF259	0.28	OC26	1.40	2N2906	0.18
AC192	1.02	BC148B	0.07	BC252C	0.20	BC184	0.30	BF324	0.20	OC29	0.85	2N3053	0.15
AD143	0.87	BC157	0.06	BC258	0.20	BC184	0.30	BF335	0.25	OC36	1.00	2N3117	1.00
AD149	0.65	BC157A	0.07	BC281A	0.10	BC178	0.72	BF338	0.45	OC44	0.12	2N3400	0.70
AD161	0.35	BC158	0.07	BC282	0.20	BC181	1.32	BF457	0.60	OC45	0.12	2N3634	0.15
AD161/162	0.70	BC158A	0.08	BC282A	0.21	BC183	0.50	BF523	0.22	OC71	0.09	2N3638A	0.18
AD162	0.35	BC158B	0.09	BC282B	0.22	BC232	0.60	BF594	0.10	OC74	0.10	2N3643	0.24
AD252	0.36	BC159	0.06	BC286	0.21	BC233	0.60	BF991	5.00	OC75	0.10	2N3692	0.24
AD263	0.36	BC159A	0.07	BC286A	0.22	BC234	0.60	BF143	0.54	OC82	0.48	2N3705	0.06
AD276	4.74	BC159B	0.07	BC307	0.15	BC235	0.40	BF149	0.20	OC89	0.50	2N3706	0.06
AD271	4.05	BC161	0.25	BC307A	0.15	BC236	0.40	BF134	0.70	OC23	2.50	2N3707	0.06
AF106	0.45	BC167	0.06	BC307B	0.15	BC237	0.40	BF184	0.20	OC27	2.70	2N3711	0.06
AF109B	0.36	BC168	0.06	BC308	0.15	BC238	0.40	BFX85	0.20	OC1072	2.50	2N3819	0.20
AF124	0.25	BC169	0.06	BC309A	0.15	BC344	0.50	BFX86	0.20	OC1074	2.50	2N3899	0.30
AF125	0.25	BC170C	0.07	BC317B	0.15	BC377	0.15	BFY19	0.50	R2008B	2.10	2N3984	0.06
AF126	0.25	BC170C	0.07	BC317B	0.15	BC377	0.15	BFY19	0.50	TP30	0.35	2N3985	0.06
AF127	0.25	BC171	0.06	BC327	0.18	BC318	0.50	BFY33	0.50	TP31	0.35	2N3985	0.06
AF139	0.32	BC171A	0.07	BC328	0.18	BC327	1.02	BFY34	0.50	TP31A	0.45	2N4037	0.25
AF178	0.30	BC171B	0.07	BC337	0.16	BC387	1.40	BFY46	0.50	TP32	0.45	2N4058	0.10
AF179	0.30	BC172	0.06	BC338	0.16	BC132	1.90	BFY51	0.12	TP33	0.60	2N4222A	0.85
AF200	0.30	BC172A	0.07	BC348A	0.15	BC132	1.90	BFY51	0.12	TP42	0.60	2N4348	2.00
AF201	0.30	BC172C	0.07	BC441	0.20	BF115	0.35	BFY81	4.00	TP2255	0.85	2N4448	1.50
AS173	0.30	BC172C	0.07	BC441	0.20	BF115	0.35	BFY81	4.00	TP2255	0.85	2N4448	1.50
AS215	0.60	BC173	0.06	BC461	0.24	BF121	0.20	BS120	0.18	2K3448	0.30	2N5172	0.25
AS216	0.60	BC173B	0.07	BC546	0.10	BF123	0.20	BS122	0.33	2N404	0.45	2N5245	0.30
AS217	0.60	BC174B	0.07	BC547	0.11	BF125	0.20	BSY20	0.21	2N524	0.48	2N5296	0.40
AU103	0.36	BC177A	0.12	BC547A	0.11	BF127	0.20	BSY25	0.30	2N526	0.48	2N5458	0.25
AU107	0.10	BC178	0.07	BC547B	0.11	BF128	0.21	BSY26	0.30	2N527	0.48	2N5496	0.25
AU110	0.90	BC178B	0.12	BC547C	0.11	BF152	0.15	BSY27	0.30	2N565	3.50	2N5670	0.85
AU210	0.90	BC179	0.12	BC548A	0.11	BF154	0.15	BSY29	0.54	2N706	0.10	2N5676	0.85
BC107	0.06	BC182A	0.09	BC548B	0.11	BF157	0.37	BSY39	0.15	2N706	0.10	2N6123	0.85
BC107A	0.07	BC182B	0.09	BC548C	0.11	BF158	0.15	BSY52	0.33	2N706A	0.11	2S003	0.75
BC107B	0.07	BC182C	0.09	BC549A	0.11	BF167	0.25	BSY54	0.38	2N708	0.12	2S303	0.90
BC108	0.06	BC183A	0.09	BC549B	0.11	BF175	0.20	BSY56	0.36	2N1039	0.15	2S304	0.90
BC108A	0.07	BC183B	0.10	BC550	0.11	BF174	0.25	BSY60	0.36	2N1059	0.15	2S305	0.90
BC108B	0.07	BC184	0.08	BC557	0.11	BF177	0.25	BSY84	0.30	2N1101	0.10	2S323	1.00
BC109	0.06	BC184L	0.09	BC557A	0.11	BF178	0.25	BSY105	0.08	2N1102	0.15	2S372	1.00
BC109B	0.07	BC184B	0.10	BC557B	0.11	BF179	0.25	BSY105-04	1.08	2N1132	0.20		
BC109C	0.07	BC187	0.10	BC557C	0.11	BF180	0.20	BSY108	1.80	2N1304	0.50		
BC112	0.12	BC187	0.10	BC558A	0.11	BF181	0.20	BSY126	1.00	2N1305	0.50		
BC114	0.15	BC204	0.08	BC558B	0.11	BF182	0.20	BSY133	1.75	2N1307	0.50		
BC116	0.13	BC204B	0.09	BC558B	0.11	BF183	0.20	BSY204	1.30	2N1309	0.50		

DIODES

AA119	0.17	BA243	0.85	BY142	0.45	BY204-B	0.65	ITT227	2.35	0A86	0.20	1N5403	0.15
AA121	0.11	BA13	0.06	BY164	0.50	BY204-L	0.75	ITT221	0.20	0A90	0.07	1N5404	0.15
AA129	0.08	BA16	0.07	BY176	0.45	BY206	0.30	ITT223	0.35	0A91	0.06	1N5405	0.25
AA143	0.15	BA17	0.10	BY179	0.90	BY210-400	0.45	ITT1075	0.25	0A95	0.06	1N5406	0.20
AA144	0.09	BA105B	0.35	BY182	1.85	BY210-600	0.50	ITT2001	0.25	0A202	0.07	1N5407	0.19
BA102	0.30	BA106	0.45	BY184	0.70	BY210-800	0.55	ITT2002	0.20	ST2	0.14	1N5408	0.20
BA111	0.36	BA107	0.45	BY187	1.30	BY210	0.50	MNS32	0.30	1N4814	0.04	1N5450A	6.75
BA115	0.25	BA142	1.25	BY198	0.75	BY255-350	0.45	MNS13	0.90	1N4802	0.05	1N5781	0.80
BA145	0.15	BR100	0.20	BY199	0.55	BY255-600	0.55	MNS54	1.80	1N4803	0.05		
BA148	0.12	BR101	0.30	BY201-2	0.40	BY271-350	0.90	MNS66	2.10	1N4804	0.06		
BA154	0.10	BY100	0.20	BY201-3	0.40	BY271-600	1.15	MNS92A	1.55	1N4805	0.06		
BA155	0.12	BY103	0.35	BY201-4	0.45	BZ161 series		MV203	1.60	1N4806	0.07		
BA156	0.12	BY118	1.45	BY201-5	0.55	BY201-5	0.55	MV5480	0.65	1N4807	0.08		
BA157	0.45	BY126	0.15	BY201-6	0.55	BZ188 series		0A47	0.07	1N4148	0.04		
BA158	0.65	BY127	0.10	BY203-12	0.60			0A70	0.07	1N4150	0.45		
BA159	0.75	BY130	0.15	BY203-16	0.65	1K13	0.45	0A71	0.35	1N4448	0.25		
BA182	0.45	BY133	0.10	BY203-20	1.00	TT44	0.10	0A81	0.12	1N5401	0.12		
BA201	0.15	BY134	0.45	BY204-4	0.45	ITT210	1.35	0A85	0.12	1N5402	0.15		

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CA3020	1.75	MC1358P	3.85	SN76023M	2.15	TA570	2.85	TBA400	2.25	TBA700	3.95	TCA270	3.00
CA3046	0.80	SAAS70	4.20	SN76033M	2.48	TA621	6.95	TBA510	2.40	TBA7000	2.25	TCA270B	3.60
CA3048	2.90	SA4700B	10.15	SN76110M	1.50	TA630	0.55	TBA5100	2.50	TBA720	5.10	TCA270C	3.60
CA3055	1.50	SA550	2.75	SN76131M	2.00	TA630S	5.10	TBA520	2.50	TBA720A	5.10	TCA270S	2.25
CA3090	4.50	SA5750M	7.75	SN76229M	3.15	TA661B	1.70	TBA5200	2.50	TBA720BQ	2.10	TCA270SQ	3.40
ET76016	4.95	SC5020P	2.00	SN76227M	2.50	TA700	3.50	TBA530	2.50	TBA750	2.40	TCA800	12.40
ET76016	4.95	SC5044P	2.00	SN76532M	2.15	TA840	4.50	TBA540	2.25	TBA800	0.90	TCA830	3.10
MC1303L	1.50	SL141A	6.75	SN76533M	2.70	TA100	1.35	TBA5400	2.25	TBA8000	2.85	TDA444	4.85
MC1304P	2.00	SL142A	6.30	SN76544M	1.80	TBA120A	3.05	TBA550	3.50	TBA810A	1.40	TDA1327	2.85
MC1305	1.5	SL910	6.30	SN76550M	1.90	TBA120AS	3.10	TBA5500	3.80	TBA810S	1.10	TDA1327S	2.85
MC1307P	2.65	SL118	10.70	SN76560M	0.80	TBA120S	2.70	TBA560	6.45	TBA820	0.80	TDA1530	1.80
MC1310P	1.00	SL130	5.65	SN76666M	1.60	TBA120S8	1.60	TBA560C	4.50	TBA815	7.35	741	0.25
MC1327P	2.75	TA300	3.75	TA1285Q	1.60	TBA250Q	7.35	TBA560Q	7.35	TBA820	3.50		
MC1327P	2.90	TA308	2.60	TA310	3.15	TBA281	4.70	TBA560CQ	3.00	TBA820Q	3.50		
MC1330P													

15 — 240 Watts!

HY5 Preamplifier

The HY5 is a mono hybrid amplifier ideally suited for all applications. All common input functions (mag Cartridge, tuner, etc.), are catered for internally, the desired function is achieved either by a multi-way switch or direct connection to the appropriate pins. The internal volume and tone circuits merely require connecting to external potentiometers (not included). The HY5 is compatible with all I.L.P. power amplifiers and power supplies. To ease construction and mounting a P.C. connector is supplied with each pre-amplifier.

FEATURES: Complete pre-amplifier in single pack — Multi-function equalization — Low noise — Low distortion — High overload — two simply combined for stereo

APPLICATIONS: Hi-Fi — Mixers — Disco — Guitar and Organ — Public address

SPECIFICATIONS:

INPUTS: Magnetic Pick-up 3mV, Ceramic Pick-up 30mV, Tuner 100mV, Microphone 10mV, Auxiliary 3-100mV, input impedance 47k Ω at 1kHz

OUTPUTS: Tape 100mV, Main output 500mV R.M.S.

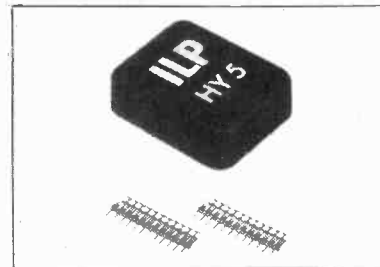
ACTIVE TONE CONTROLS: Treble \pm 12dB at 10kHz, Bass \pm at 100Hz

DISTORTION: 0.1% at 1kHz, Signal/Noise Ratio 68dB

OVERLOAD: 38dB on Magnetic Pick-up, **SUPPLY VOLTAGE:** \pm 16-50V

Price £6.27 + 78p VAT, P&P free.

HY5 mounting board B1 48p + 6p VAT P&P free.



HY30 15 Watts into 8 Ω

The HY30 is an exciting New kit from I.L.P. it features a virtually indestructible I.C. with short circuit and thermal protection. The kit consists of I.C. heatsink, P.C. board, 4 resistors, 6 capacitors, mounting kit, together with easy to follow construction and operating instructions. This amplifier is ideally suited to the beginner in audio who wishes to use the most up-to-date technology available.

FEATURES: Complete kit — Low Distortion — Short Open and Thermal Protection — Easy to Build

APPLICATIONS: Updating audio equipment — Guitar practice amplifier — Test amplifier — Audio oscillator

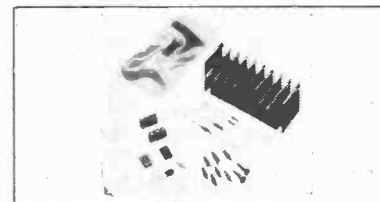
SPECIFICATIONS:

OUTPUT POWER: 15W R.M.S. into 8 Ω , **DISTORTION:** 0.1% at 15W

INPUT SENSITIVITY: 500mV, **FREQUENCY RESPONSE:** 10Hz-16kHz \pm 3dB

SUPPLY VOLTAGE: \pm 18V

Price £6.27 + 78p VAT, P&P free.



HY50 25 Watts into 8 Ω

The HY50 leads I.L.P.'s total integration approach to power amplifier design. The amplifier features an integral heatsink together with the simplicity of no external components. During the past three years the amplifier has been refined to the extent that it must be one of the most reliable and robust High Fidelity modules in the World.

FEATURES: Low Distortion — Integral Heatsink — Only five connections — 7 Amp output transistors — No external components.

APPLICATIONS: Medium Power Hi-Fi systems — Low power disco — Guitar amplifier

SPECIFICATIONS: **INPUT SENSITIVITY:** 500mV

OUTPUT POWER: 25W RMS into 8 Ω , **LOAD IMPEDANCE:** 4-16 Ω , **DISTORTION:** 0.04% at 25W at 1kHz

SIGNAL/NOISE RATIO: 75dB, **FREQUENCY RESPONSE:** 10Hz-45kHz \pm 3dB

SUPPLY VOLTAGE: \pm 25V, **SIZE:** 105 50, 25mm

Price £8.18 + £1.02 VAT, P&P free.



HY120 60 Watts into 8 Ω

The HY120 is the baby of I.L.P.'s new high power range designed to meet the most exacting requirements including load line and thermal protection, this amplifier sets a new standard in modular design.

FEATURES: Very low distortion — Integral Heatsink — Load line protection — Thermal protection — Five connections — No external components

APPLICATIONS: Hi-Fi — High quality disco — Public address — Monitor amplifier — Guitar and organ

SPECIFICATIONS:

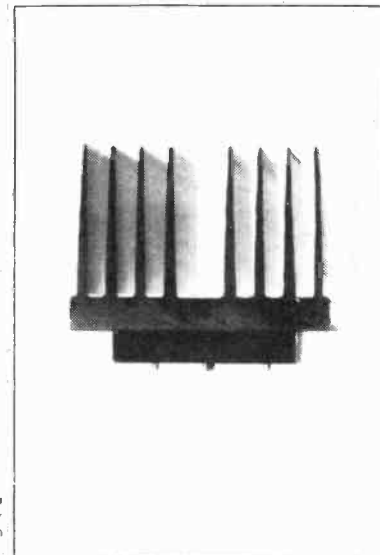
INPUT SENSITIVITY: 500mV

OUTPUT POWER: 60W RMS into 8 Ω , **LOAD IMPEDANCE:** 4-16 Ω , **DISTORTION:** 0.04% at 60W at 1kHz

SIGNAL/NOISE RATIO: 90dB, **FREQUENCY RESPONSE:** 10Hz-45kHz \pm 3dB, **SUPPLY VOLTAGE:** \pm 35V

Size: 114 x 50 x 85mm

Price £19.01 + £1.52 VAT, P&P free.



HY200 120 Watts into 8 Ω

The HY200, now improved to give an output of 120 Watts, has been designed to stand the most rugged conditions, such as disco or group while still retaining true Hi-Fi performance.

FEATURES: Thermal shutdown — Very low distortion — Load line protection — Integral Heatsink — No external components

APPLICATIONS: Hi-Fi — Disco — Monitor — Power Slave — Industrial — Public address

SPECIFICATIONS:

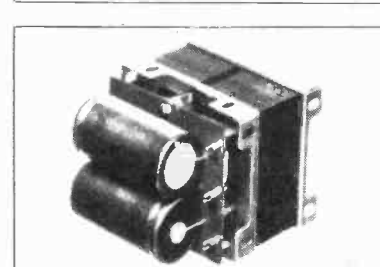
INPUT SENSITIVITY: 500mV

OUTPUT POWER: 120W RMS into 8 Ω , **LOAD IMPEDANCE:** 4-16 Ω , **DISTORTION:** 0.05% at 100W at 1kHz

SIGNAL/NOISE RATIO: 96dB, **FREQUENCY RESPONSE:** 10Hz-45kHz \pm 3dB, **SUPPLY VOLTAGE:** \pm 45V

Size: 114 x 100 x 85mm.

Price £27.99 + £2.24 VAT, P&P free.



HY400 240 Watts into 4 Ω

The HY400 is I.L.P.'s 'Big Daddy' of the range producing 240W into 4 Ω ! It has been designed for high power disco or public address applications. If the amplifier is to be used at continuous high power levels a cooling fan is recommended. The amplifier includes all the qualities of the rest of the family to lead the market as a true high power hi-fidelity power module.

FEATURES: Thermal shutdown — Very low distortion — Load line protection — No external components

APPLICATIONS: Public address — Disco — Power slave — Industrial

SPECIFICATIONS:

OUTPUT POWER: 240W RMS into 4 Ω , **LOAD IMPEDANCE:** 4-16 Ω , **DISTORTION:** 0.1% at 240W at 1kHz

SIGNAL/NOISE RATIO: 94dB, **FREQUENCY RESPONSE:** 10Hz-45kHz \pm 3dB, **SUPPLY VOLTAGE:** \pm 45V

INPUT SENSITIVITY: 500mV, **SIZE:** 114 x 100 x 85mm

Price £38.61 + £3.09 VAT, P&P free.

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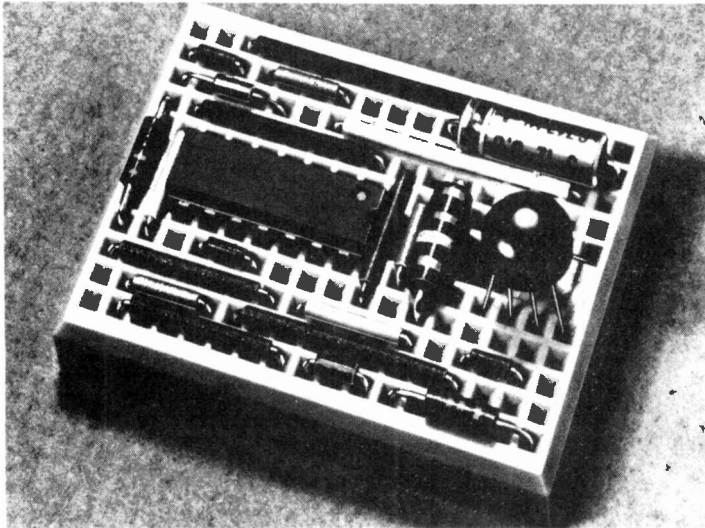
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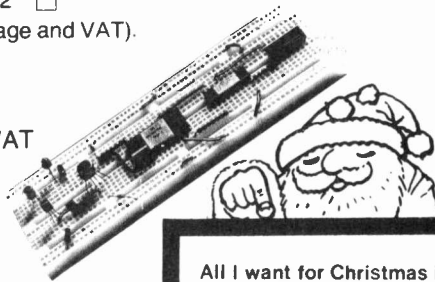
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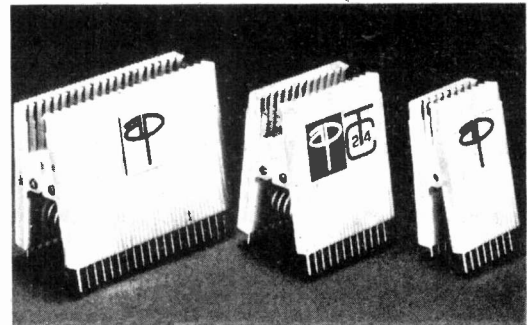
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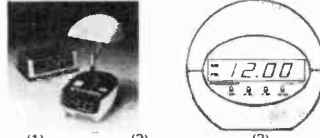
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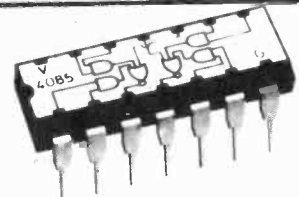
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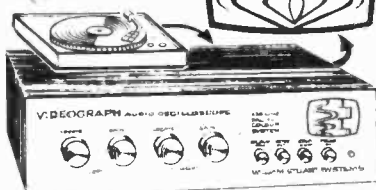
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I WANTED
TO SPEND LESS
THAN £1,000
MY SORCERER
COST ME
£950



Introducing the personal computer you've waited for. The Exidy Sorcerer.

I didn't buy my personal computer until I found the one that had all the features I was looking for.

The Exidy Sorcerer does everything I wanted to do and a few things I never dreamed of.

It isn't magic. Exidy started with the best features of other computers, added some tricks of their own, and put it all together with more flexibility than ever before available. Presto! My reasons for waiting just disappeared.

I wanted pre-packed programs.

Software on inexpensive cassette tapes for the Sorcerer is available from Exidy and many other software makers.

I wanted user programmability

The Sorcerer's unique plug-in ROM PAC™ Cartridges contain programming languages such as Standard (Altair 8k*) BASIC, Assembler and Editor (so I can develop system software), operating systems such as DOS (so I can also use FORTRAN and COBOL) and applications packages such as Word Processor.

*Altair is a trademark of Pertec Computer Corp.

I wanted Graphics, and the Sorcerer is super. Its 256 character set — more than any other personal computer — includes 128 graphic symbols that I can define.

I wanted high resolution video.

With 122,880 points in a 512 x 240 format, I get the most detailed illustrations.

I wanted to display more information.

The Sorcerer displays 1920 characters in 30 lines of 64 characters — equal to a double-spaced typed page.

I wanted a full, professional keyboard.

The Sorcerer's 79-key data processing keyboard provides designated graphics, the complete ASCII character set in upper and lower case, and a 16-key numeric pad.

I wanted memory. The 12k of ROM holds a Power-On Monitor and Standard BASIC; 32k of RAM is supplied on board.

I wanted expandability. Serial and parallel I/Os are built in, and the op-

tional 6-slot S-100 expansion unit lets my system grow.

I wanted a computer that's easy enough for children to use.

I just connect my Sorcerer to a video display and a cassette tape recorder, and if I have any questions the easy-to-understand Operation and BASIC Programming manuals have the answers.

I wanted to buy from an experienced Manufacturer.

In five years Exidy has become the third largest producer of microprocessor-based video arcade games.

I wanted to spend less than £1,000.

(This is where COMP. does a little magic). My Sorcerer cost me £950!

Now, what are you waiting for?

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