

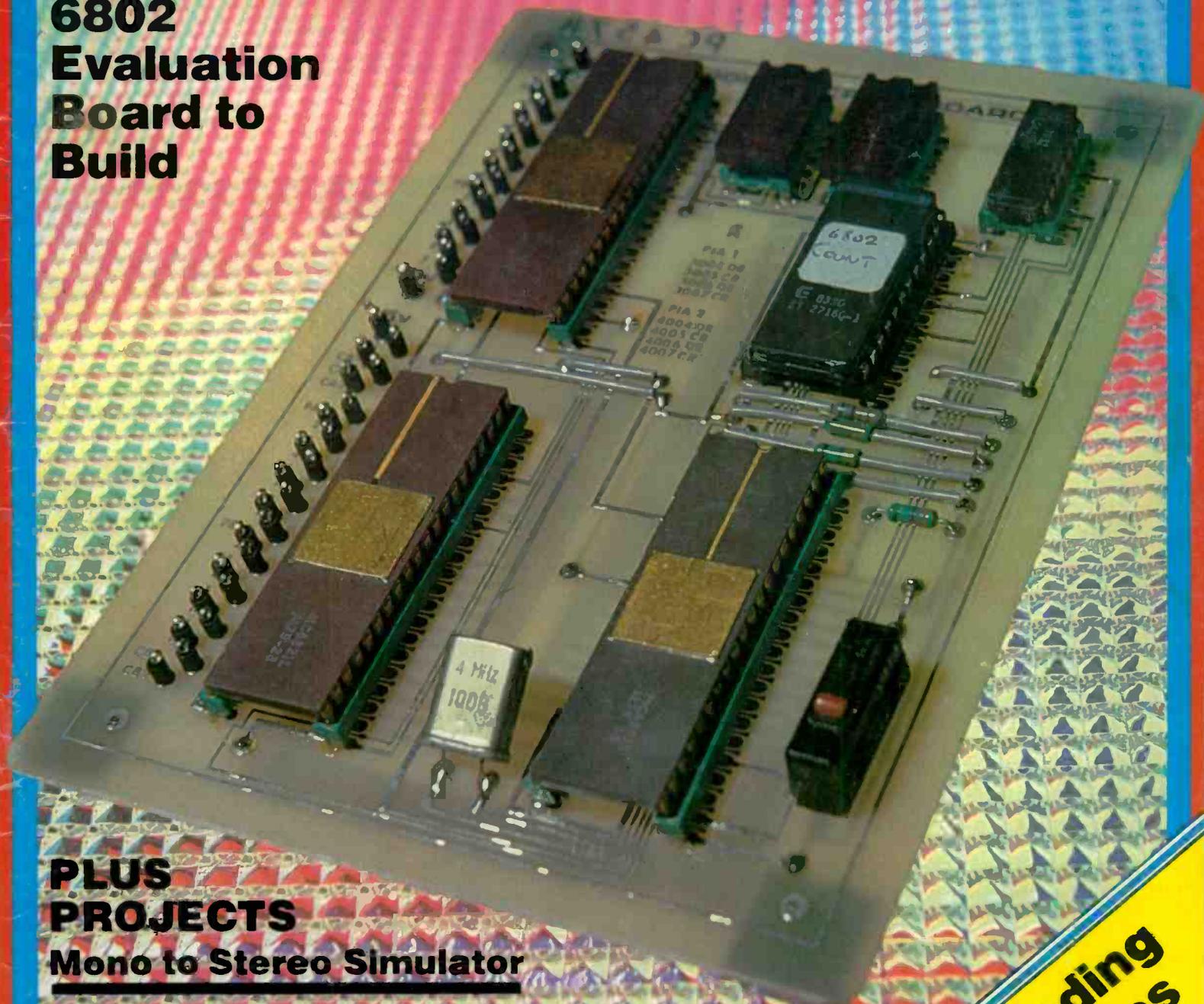
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PROJECTS**

Mono to Stereo Simulator

Numerical Scoreboard Display

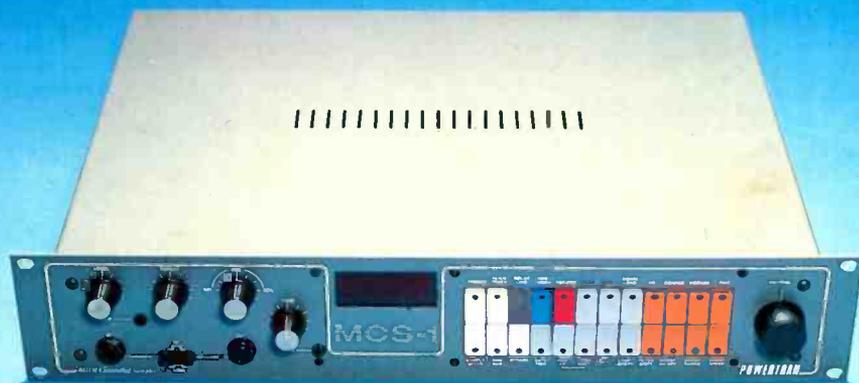
Universal EPROM Programmer MkII

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MCS-1

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Once again, Powertran and E&MM combine to bring you versatility and top quality from a product out of the realms of fantasy and within the reach of the active musician.

The MCS-1 will take any sound, store it and play it back from a keyboard (either MIDI or v/octave). Pitch bend or vibrato can be added and infinite sustain is possible thanks to a sophisticated looping system.

All the usual delay line features (Vibrato, Phasing, Flanging, ADT, Echo) are available with delays of up to 32 secs. A special interface enables sampled sounds to be stored digitally on a floppy disc via a BBC microcomputer.



The MCS-1 gives you many of the effects created by top professional units such as the Fairlight or Emulator. But the MCS-1 doesn't come with a 5-figure price tag. And, if you're prepared to invest your time,

it's almost cheap!
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Save even more with the MCS-1 kit:
only £599 + VAT
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Powertran kits are complete down to the last nut and bolt, with easy-to-follow assembly instructions.

Specification

Memory Size: Variable from 8 bytes to 64K bytes.
Storage time at 32 KHz sampling rate: 2 seconds.
Storage time at 8 KHz sampling rate: 8 seconds.
Longest replay time (for special effects): 32 seconds.
Converters: ADC & DAC: 8-bit companding.
Dynamic range: 72 dB.
Audio Bandwidth: Variable from 12 KHz to 300 Hz.
Internal 4 pole tracking filters for anti-aliasing and recovery.
Programmable wide range sinewave sweep generator.
MIDI control range: 5 octaves.
+1 V/octave control range: 2 octave with optional transpose of a further 5 octaves.

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100, 1200, 1800, 2200 30p each
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OA8	10	10A/600V	296
OA85	10	25A/200V	240
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1S921 9
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6A/400V 50
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3A400V 58
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3A800V 90
3A1000V 115
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AF239	95	BD121	95	BFY64	40	TIP29C	35	2N699	48	2N5138	25	40361/2	70
BC107	12	BD131	118	BFY101	112	TIP30A	35	2N708	25	2N5172	25	40374	100
BC107B	14	BD131/32	65	BFY90	80	TIP30C	37	2N708	25	2N5179	45	40411	285
BC108	12	BD133	70	BRY39	50	TIP31A	38	2N918	40	2N5180	45	40412	90
BC108B	14	BD135	45	BSX20	30	TIP31B	39	2N918	40	2N5190/1	75	40467A	130
BC108C	14	BD136/37	40	BSX26/29	45	TIP31C	45	2N1302	45	2N5194	80	40468	85
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BC147B	18	BD645	80	MJE170	150	TIP36B	140	2N2463/4	27	25C495	85		
BC147C	18	BD645	80	MJE170	150	TIP36C	140	2N2464	27	25C496	85		
BC148B	15	BD898A	150	MJE340	54	TIP4B	52	2N2904/5	28	25C191	250		
BC149	12	BF115	45	MJE370	100	TIP4E	55	2N2906/7	28	25C192	85		
BC149C	15	BF154/8	30	MJE371	100	TIP4E	55	2N2907A	28	25C196	45		
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BC182L	10	BF187	35	MJE520	85	TIP212/2	70	2N3053	25	25C1306	106		
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BC307	15	BF257/8	32	MPSA67	40	VN66AF	110	2N3772	195	25C2081	85		
BC308	18	BF259	40	MPSU02	58	VN88AF	120	2N3773	210	25C2114	88		
BC318	80	BF275	55	MPSU05	88	VN89AF	120	2N3819	35	25C2166	105		

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250V
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CA3081

SWITCHES TOGGLE: 2A, 250V SPST 36p DPDP 88p SUB-MINI TOGGLE SPST on/off 58p SPDT c/over 84p SPDT centre off 85p SPDT biased both ways 105p DPDT 6 tags 80p DPDT centre off 88p DPDT biased both ways 145p DPDT 3 positions on/on/off 185p 4-pole 2 way 220p SLIDE 280V: DPDT 1A 14p DPDT 1A c/off 15p DPDT 1/2A 13p PUSHBUTTON 6A with 10mm Button SPDT latching 180p SPDT moment 180p DPDT moment 200p Mini Non Locking Push to Make 15p Push to Break 25p DIGITAL Switch Assorted Colours 75p each  GAS/SMOKE DETECTORS TGS812 or TGS813 £6 each	DIP SWITCHES (SPST) 4 way 88p; 6 way 80p; 8 way 88p; (10 way 125p) (SPDT) 4 way 180p ROTARY SWITCHES (Adjustable Stop type) 1 pole/2 to 12 way; 2 pole/2 to 6 way; 3 pole/2 to 4 way; 4 pole/2 to 3 way 48p ROTARY: Mains DP 250V 4 Amp on/off 88p ROTARY: (Make-a-switch) Make a multiway switch. Shifting assembly has adjustable stop. Accommodates up to 6 wafers (max. 6 pole/12 way + DP switch). Mechanism only 80p WAFERS: (make before break) to fit the above switch mechanism. 1 pole/12 way; 2 pole/6 way; 3 pole/4 way; 4 pole/3 way. 8p/2 Way 88p Mains DP 4A. Switch to fit Spacers 4p. Screen 8p.	VEROBOARD 0.1in 2 1/2 x 3 1/2 88p 2 1/2 x 5 110p 3 1/2 x 3 1/2 110p 3 1/2 x 5 125p 3 1/2 x 7 420p 4 1/2 x 7 590p Pkt of 100 pins 55p Spot face cutter 1 50p Pin insertion tool 185p VERO WIRING PEN + spool 380p Spare spool 75p Combs 8p FERRIC CHLORIDE 1 lb bag Anhydrous 198p + 50p p&p	VQ Board 195p DIP Board 385p Vero Strip 88p PROTO DECA Veroblock 480p S-Dec 385p Eurobreadboard 580p Bimboard 1 875p Superstrip 852 1350p DALO ETCH RESIST PEN Plus spare tip 100p	IDC CONNECTORS PCB Plugs Female Female with Header Card Pins Pins Plug Edge Strt Angle Concl 10 way 90p 99p 85p 120p 16 way 130p 150p 110p 20 way 140p 160p 125p 185p 26 way 175p 200p 150p 240p 34 way 205p 238p 180p 320p 40 way 230p 280p 180p 340p 50 way 238p 270p 200p 385p 60 way - - 230p 465p	PANEL METERS FSD 60 x 48 x 35mm 0-50uA 0-100uA 0-1mA 0-5mA 0-10mA 0-50mA 0-100mA 0-500mA 0.2A 0.5A 0.25V 0.300V AC "S" "U" 480p each RELAYS Miniature, enclosed, PCB mount SINGLE POLE Changeover RL-91 208R Coil, 12V DC, (10V to 19.5V), 10A at 30V DC or 250V AC 188p DOUBLE POLE Changeover, 6A 30V DC or 250V AC RL-100 53R Coil, 6V DC (5V to 8V) 180p RL-111 208R Coil, 12V DC (10V to 19.5V) 188p RL-114 740R Coil, 24V DC (22V to 37V) 200p ASTEC UNF MODULATORS Standard 8MHz 375p Wideband 8MHz 580p BUZZERS miniature, solid-state 6V, 9V & 12V 70p PIEZO TRANSDUCERS PB270 70p	
PUSHBUTTON 6A with 10mm Button SPDT latching 180p SPDT moment 180p DPDT moment 200p Mini Non Locking Push to Make 15p Push to Break 25p DIGITAL Switch Assorted Colours 75p each  GAS/SMOKE DETECTORS TGS812 or TGS813 £6 each	ROCKER SWITCHES 28p ROCKER: 10A/250V SPDT 38p ROCKER: 10A/250V DPDT c/off 88p ROCKER: 10A/250V DPST with neon 85p THUMBWHEEL Mini front mounting switches Decade Switch Module 275p B.C.D. Switch Module 288p Mounting Cheeks (per pair) 75p JUMPER LEADS (Ribbon Cable Assembly) Length 14pin 18 pin 24pin 40 pin Single ended DIP (Header Plug) Jumper 24 inches 148p 18 inches 148p 380p Double ended DIP (Header Plug) Jumper 6 inches 18p 20p 30p 48p 6 inches 18p 20p 30p 48p 12 inches 198p 215p 315p 24 inches 48p 210p 328p 348p 540p 36 inches 280p 370p 480p 525p JUMPER LEADS (Ribbon Cable Assembly) IDC Female Header Socket Jumper Leads 38 20pin 28 pin 34 pin 40 pin Single ended 180p 200p 280 300p Double ended 280p 370p 480 525p	COPPER CLAD BOARDS Fibre Single- Double C18W Prof Wrsp glass sided 28p 6" x 6" 100p 125p 6" x 12" 175p 225p	ULTRASONIC TRANSDUCER 40KHz 475 pr	EURO CONNECTORS Gold Plated Contacts Female Socket Male Plug Strt Angle Strt Angle DIN41617 170p - - 178p DIN41612 2 x 32 A + B 275p - 220p 285p DIN41612 2 x 32 A + C 285p - 240p 300p DIN41612 3 x 32 A + B + C 380p 385p 280p 365p	CRYSTALS 32.768KHz 100 100KHz 545 200KHz 370 455KHz 370 1MHz 285 1.008M 275 1.28MHz 450 1.8MHz 240 1.8432M 230 2.0MHz 225 2.4578M 300 3.0MHz 240 3.276M 190 3.5794M 98 3.684M 300 4.0MHz 180 4.55MHz 290 4.19439M 100 4.43361M 100 4.808MHz 200 4.808MHz 200 5.0MHz 180 5.185MHz 300 5.2428M 380 6.0MHz 140 6.144MHz 140 8.0MHz 180 7.0MHz 180 7.328MHz 250 7.328MHz 250 8.0MHz 180 8.089333M 386 8.8723M 220 9.00MHz 200 9.00MHz 200 10.0MHz 175 10.24MHz 200 10.5MHz 280 10.7MHz 180 12.0MHz 180 12.58MHz 200 14.31814M 170 15.0MHz 200 16.0MHz 220 16.0MHz 220 18.432MHz 180 19.968MHz 180 20.0MHz 200 20.0MHz 170 24.300MHz 328 25.0MHz 180 27.548M 170 27.145M 180 36.8667M 240 46.0MHz 340 100.0MHz 295 116.0MHz 310	ASTEC UNF MODULATORS Standard 8MHz 375p Wideband 8MHz 580p BUZZERS miniature, solid-state 6V, 9V & 12V 70p PIEZO TRANSDUCERS PB270 70p
TRANSFORMERS 3-0-3V, 6-0-6V, 9-0-9V, 12-0-12V, 15-0-15V @ 100mA pcb mounting, Miniature, Split Bobbin 3VA: 2x8V-0.25A; 2x9V-0.15A; 2x12V-0.12A; 2x15V-0.1A 6VA: 2x8V-0.5A; 2x9V-0.3A; 2x12V-0.25A; 2x15V-0.2A 280p Standard Split Bobbin type: 8VA: 2x8V-0.5A; 2x9V-0.4A; 2x12V-0.3A; 2x15V-0.25A 280p 12VA: 2x4.5V-1.3A; 2x5V-1A; 2x6V-0.8A; 2x8V-0.6A; 0.5A; 2x15V-0.4A; 2x20V-0.3A 348p (35p p&p) 24VA: 2x8V-1.5A; 2x9V-1.2A; 2x12V-1A; 2x15V-0.8A; 2x20V-0.6A 385p (80p p&p) 80VA: 2x8V-4A; 2x9V-3.5A; 2x12V-2.5A; 2x15V-1.8A; 2x20V-1.2A; 2x25V-1A; 2x30V-0.8A 880p (80p p&p) Specialty wound for Multirail computer 80VA: Outputs +6V/5A, +12V, +25V, -5V, -12V at 1A 630p (80p p&p) 100VA: 2x12V-4A; 2x15V-3A; 2x20V-2.5A; 2x25V-2A; 2x30V-1.5A; 2x50V-1A 985p (75p)	VOLTAGE REGULATORS 1A TO220 Plastic Casing +ve -ve 5V 7805 80p 7905 80p 12V 7812 80p 7908 80p 15V 7815 48p 7912 50p 18V 7818 48p 7915 50p 24V 7824 80p 7918 50p 7824 80p 7924 80p 100mA TO92 Plastic package 5V 78L05 80p 79L05 80p 8V 78L08 30p - - 8V 78L08 30p - - 12V 78L12 30p 79L12 80p 15V 78L15 80p 79L15 80p ICL7680 248p TAA509 80p RC4194 378p TDA114 180p RC4195 180p 78H05 + 5V/5V 850p LM309K 135p 78H12 + 12V/6A 840p LM317K 280p 78HG + 6V to + 25V LM317KP 480p 5A 885p LM323K 450p 79HG - 2.25V to LM331 175p -24V, 5A 885p LM723 Var 30p 78S40 228p	DIL SOCKETS Low Wrsp Prof Wrsp 8 pin 8p 28p 2x2 way - 111p 14 pin 10p 38p 2x12 way - 180p 18 pin 10p 42p 2x18 way 210p 178p 18 pin 18p 82p 2x22 way 218p 280p 20 pin 20p 80p 2x23 way 178p 200p 22 pin 22p 85p 2x26 way 385p 278p 24 pin 28p 70p 2x28 way 180p - 28 pin 28p 80p 2x30 way 310p - 40 pin 30p 80p 2x36 way 380p - 2x40 way 380p -	EDGE CONNECTORS 2x8 way - 111p 2x12 way - 180p 2x18 way 210p 178p 2x22 way 218p 280p 2x23 way 178p 200p 2x26 way 385p 278p 2x28 way 180p - 2x30 way 310p - 2x36 way 380p - 2x40 way 380p -	DIL PLUG (Header) Solder IDC 14 pin 48p 80p 18 pin 48p 108p 24 pin 88p 178p 28 pin 280p 285p 40 pin 280p 285p RIBBON CABLE price per foot Grey Colour 10 way 15p 28p 16 way 28p 40p 20 way 30p 50p 24 way 40p 85p 28 way 65p 80p 34 way 80p 88p 40 way 70p 80p 60 way 100p 138p 84 way 120p 180p	AMPHENOL PLUGS 24 way IEEE IDC Solder 36 way Centronic 48p 478p 36 way Female 48p 480p	'D' CONNECTORS Male 8p 80p 120p 180p 110p 178p 228p 300p 100p 100p 180p 280p Female 180p 200p 260p 360p 100p 125p 185p 365p Covers 78p 70p 70p 88p IDC 25 way 'D' Plug 385p, Socket 450p 25 way 'D' CONNECTOR (RS232) Jumper Lead Cable Assembly 18" long, Single end, Male 478p 18" long, Single end, Female 510p 36" long, Double Ended, M/M 88p 36" long, Double Ended, F/F 810 36" long, Double Ended, M/F 88p
CMOS 4000 20 4072 25 4536 275 4000 20 4073 25 4538 80 4001 25 4075 25 4539 80 4001 25 4076 88 4541 98 4002 25 4077 25 4543 70 4006 70 4078 25 4548 40 4007 28 4081 25 4549 400 4008 80 4082 25 4553 248 4009 48 4085 80 4564 180 4010 48 80 4565 80 4011 28 4089 125 4566 88 4012 28 4093 37 4567 280 4013 38 4094 70 4568 120 4014 80 4095 80 4569 388 4015 80 4096 100 4570 115p 4016 40 4097 278 4581 104 4017 80 4098 80 4582 380 4018 80 4099 110 4586 188 4019 58 4588 80 4020 48 4181 88 4589 178 4022 58 4182 88 4572 48 4021 58 4183 88 4580 288 4022 67 4174 98 4581 128 4023 30 4175 108 4582 69 4024 80 4194 106 4583 100 4025 22 4408 850 4584 80 4026 80 4409 850 4585 70 4027 80 4410 725 4587 330 4028 50 4411 750 4589 185 4029 78 4412 805 4008S 80 4030 38 4415 880 4009T 48 4031 130 4419 280 4009E 42 4032 70 4420 770 40100 218 4033 130 4435 850 40101 130 4034 146 4440 900 40102 140 4035 70 4450 380 40103 412 4036 278 4451 350 40104 120 4037 115 4480 480 40105 220 4038 78 4500 385 40106 80 4039 280 4501 38 40107 88 4040 80 4502 60 40108 325 4041 87 4503 40 40109 100 4042 80 4504 88 40110 378 4043 82 4505 385 40114 240 4044 50 4508 100 40118 184 4045 110 4507 48 40183 75 4046 80 4508 130 40174 75 4047 80 4510 55 40175 75 4048 58 4511 55 40181 220 4049 38 4512 58 40182 80 4050 38 4513 180 40192 75 4051 70 4514 115 40193 86 4052 80 4515 115 40194 70 4053 80 4516 88 40195 75 4054 86 4517 275 40244 198 4055 88 4518 48 40245 198 4056 88 4519 32 40257 198 4057 88 4520 53 40373 220 4058 435 4521 115 40374 220 4060 86 4522 125 45106 588 4061 500 4528 80 4062 988 1227 85 4063 88 4528 68 4064 45 4529 158 4067 245 4530 90 4068 25 4531 130 4069 28 4532 88 4070 25 4534 400 4071 25	OPTO ELECTRONICS LEDs with clips TIL209 10 TIL211 GRN 14 TIL212 Yel 14 TIL220 2" Red 12 2" Green, Yellow or Amber 14 0.2" Bi colour Red/Green 100p Green/Yellow 115p 0.2" Tri colour Red/Green/Yellow 85 Hi-Brightness Red 58 High-Bi Green or Flashing red 68 0.2" red 86 Square LEDs, Red, Green, Yellow 90 Rectangular Stackable LEDs Red, Green or Yellow 18 Triangular LEDs Red 18 Green or yellow 32 LD271 Infra Red 48 SFH205 Detector 118 TIL32 Infra Red 82 TIL78 Detector 85 TIL38 50 TIL100 78 BARGRAPH, Red 10 segments 275 ISOLATORS IL74 145 ILD74 145 40110 378 TIL111/2/4 70 ILC76 Darlington 135 TIL117 125 4N33 Photo Darlington 138 7 Segment Displays TIL312 3" CA 120 TIL313 3" CC 120 40111 3" CA 140 TIL322 5" CC 140 TIL728/730 140 DL704 3" CC 125 DL707 3" CA 125 FND357 Red 120 FND500 130 3" Green CA 150 3" Red CA 218 3" x 1" Red CA 180 3" x 1" Green CA 150 LCD 3 1/2 Digits 496 LCD 4 Digits 520 LCD 5 Digits 835 Reflective Switch 225 SLOTTED Optical Switch similar to RS Comp. 295	COMPUTER CORNER ● QL RGB MONITOR, Medium resolution £239 ● EPSON RX80 Printer £209 ● EPSON RX80 FT Printer £219 ● EPSON FX80 Printer 1 1/2" £319 ● EPSON FX100 Printer £249 ● KAGA/TAXAN KP810 Printer £249 ● KAGA/TAXAN KP910 Printer £339 ● SEIKOSHA GP100A Printer £122 ● BROTHER HR15 Daisywheel £329 Cable for above printers to interface with BBC Micro £7 ● TEX EPROM ERASER - Erases up to 25 Eproms. Has a built-in safety switch. £30 ● SPARE 'UV' Lamp Bulb £8 ● C12 Computer CASSETTES in Library cases 38p ● 8 1/2" x 9" Fan Fold paper (1000 sheets) £7 (Carr. 180p) (Securitor Carriage charge on printers is £7) CALL IN AT OUR SHOP FOR A DEMONSTRATION ON ANY OF THE ABOVE ITEMS. BE SATISFIED BEFORE YOU BUY OR WRITE IN FOR OUR DESCRIPTIVE MICRO PERIPHERALS LEAFLET.	SPECTRUM 32K UPGRADE Upgrade your 16K Spectrum to full 48K with our RAM Upgrade Kit. Very simple to fit. Fitting instructions supplied. £22	BBC MICRO WORDPROCESSING PACKAGE A complete wordprocessing package (which can be heavily modified to your requirements, maintaining large discount). We supply everything you need to get a BBC Micro running as a word-processor. Please call in for a demonstration. Example Package: BBC Micro, with DFS interface, Wordwise, Twin 400K Text Disc Drives, 12" High-res green monitor, Brother HR15 Daisywheel printer, Beebcalc & Database software on Disc, 10 3M Discs, 500 sheets of paper, 4 way mains trailing socket, manuals and all cables. Only: £1,069		
CMOS 4000 20 4072 25 4536 275 4000 20 4073 25 4538 80 4001 25 4075 25 4539 80 4001 25 4076 88 4541 98 4002 25 4077 25 4543 70 4006 70 4078 25 4548 40 4007 28 4081 25 4549 400 4008 80 4082 25 4553 248 4009 48 4085 80 4564 180 4010 48 80 4565 80 4011 28 4089 125 4566 88 4012 28 4093 37 4567 280 4013 38 4094 70 4568 120 4014 80 4095 80 4569 388 4015 80 4096 100 4570 115p 4016 40 4097 278 4581 104 4017 80 4098 80 4582 380 4018 80 4099 110 4586 188 4019 58 4588 80 4020 48 4181 88 4589 178 4022 58 4182 88 4572 48 4021 58 4183 88 4580 288 4022 67 4174 98 4581 128 4023 30 4175 108 4582 69 4024 80 4194 106 4583 100 4025 22 4408 850 4584 80 4026 80 4409 850 4585 70 4027 80 4410 725 4587 330 4028 50 4411 750 4589 185 4029 78 4412 805 4008S 80 4030 38 4415 880 4009T 48 4031 130 4419 280 4009E 42 4032 70 4420 770 40100 218 4033 130 4435 850 40101 130 4034 146 4440 900 40102 140 4035 70 4450 380 40103 412 4036 278 4451 350 40104 120 4037 115 4480 480 40105 220 4038 78 4500 385 40106 80 4039 280 4501 38 40107 88 4040 80 4502 60 40108 325 4041 87 4503 40 40109 100 4042 80 4504 88 40110 378 4043 82 4505 385 40114 240 4044 50 4508 100 40118 184 4045 110 4507 48 40183 75 4046 80 4508 130 40174 75 4047 80 4510 55 40175 75 4048 58 4511 55 40181 220 4049 38 4512 58 40182 80 4050 38 4513 180 40192 75 4051 70 4514 115 40193 86 4052 80 4515 115 40194 70 4053 80 4516 88 40195 75 4054 86 4517 275 40244 198 4055 88 4518 48 40245 198 4056 88 4519 32 40257 198 4057 88 4520 53 40373 220 4058 435 4521 115 40374 220 4060 86 4522 125 45106 588 4061 500 4528 80 4062 988 1227 85 4063 88 4528 68 4064 45 4529 158 4067 245 4530 90 4068 25 4531 130 4069 28 4532 88 4070 25 4534 400 4071 25	DISC DRIVES (CUMANA) DRIVES CASED WITH PSU & CABLES ● CS100 - Single Cased with PSU, 40 track, 5 1/4" B/S 100K £119 ● CD200 - Twin Cased with PSU, 40 Track, 5 1/4" B/S 200K £236 ● CS200 - Epon Single Cased with own PSU D/S, 40 Track, 5 1/4" 200K £149 ● CD400 - Epon Twin Cased with own PSU D/S, 40 track, 5 1/4" 400K £280 ● MITSUBISHI 5 1/4" 8MM LINE DISC DRIVES Double Sided, Double Density, Track Density 96 TPI, Track to track access time 3msec. ● CS400 MITSUBISHI Single Slimline, 5 1/4" Cased with PSU, DSDD, 1 Megerbyte (400 K with BBC) £185 ● CD800 MITSUBISHI Twin Slimline, 5 1/4" Cased with PSU, DSDD, 2 Megerbyte, (800 K with BBC) £339 5 1/4" DISKETTES (Lifetime Warranty) ● 16 3M Diskettes Single side Double density £14 ● 10 3M Diskettes Double side Double density £23 N.B Carriage on Drives £7 securitor	BBC & MICROCOMPUTER & ACCESSORIES BBC Model B Only £315 We stock the full range of BBC Micro peripherals, Hardware & Software like, Disc Dr				

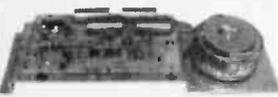
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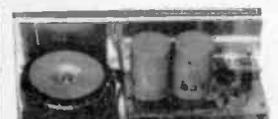
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OMP/MF200 Mos-Fet Output power 200 watts R.M.S. into 4 ohms, Frequency Response 1Hz - 100KHz -3dB, Damping Factor 250, Slew Rate 50V/uS, T.H.D. Typical 0.001%, Input Sensitivity 500mV, S.N.R. -130dB, Size 300 x 150 x 100mm. PRICE £62.99 + £3.50 P&P.



OMP/MF300 Mos-Fet Output power 300 watts R.M.S. into 4 ohms, Frequency Response 1Hz - 100KHz -3dB, Damping Factor 350, Slew Rate 60V/uS, T.H.D. Typical 0.0008%, Input Sensitivity 500mV, S.N.R. -130dB, Size 330 x 147 x 102mm. PRICE £79.99 + £4.50 P&P.



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1" voice coil. Res. Freq. 56Hz. Freq. Resp. to 20KHz. Sens. 89dB. PRICE £10.99 - £1.50 P&P ea.
8" 60 WATT R.M.S. Hi-Fi/Multiple Array Disco etc.
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STEREO CASSETTE DECK

Ideal for installing into Disco and Hi-Fi cabinet/Consoles. Surface mounting (Horizontal). Supplied as one unit with all electronics including mains power supply.

- * Metal top panel Black finish
- * Piano type keys including pause
- * Normal/Chrome tape switch
- * Twin Vu Meters
- * 3 Digit counter
- * Slider Record Level control

Size 171 x 317 mm Depth 110 mm

PRICE £35.99 + £3.00 P&P

1 K-WATT SLIDE DIMMER



- * Control loads up to 1Kw
- * Compact Size 4 3/4" x 1" x 2 1/2"
- * Easy snap in fitting through panel/cabinet cut out
- * Insulated plastic case
- * Full wave control using 8 amp triac
- * Conforms to BS800

* Suitable for both resistance and inductive loads. Innumerable applications in industry, the home, and disco's, theatres etc. PRICE £12.99 + 75p P&P (Any quantity)

BSR P295 ELECTRONIC TURNTABLE

- * Electronic speed control 45 & 33 1/3 r.p.m.
- * Plus/Minus variable pitch control
- * Belt driven
- * Aluminium platter with strobed rim
- * Cue lever
- * Anti-skate (bias device)
- * Adjustable counter balance
- * Manual arm
- * Standard 1/2" cartridge fixings
- * Supplied complete with cut out template
- * D.C. Operation 9.14v D.C. 65mA

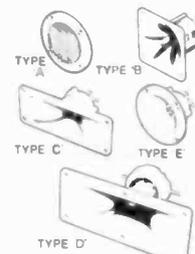
Price £36.99 - £3.00 P&P



ADC Q4 mag. cartridge for above. Price £4.99 ea. P&P 50p.

PIEZO ELECTRIC TWEETERS MOTOROLA

Join the Piezo revolution. The low dynamic mass (no voice coil) of a Piezo tweeter produces an improved transient response with a lower distortion level than ordinary dynamic tweeters. As a crossover is not required these units can be added to existing speaker systems of up to 100 watts (more if 2 put in series). FREE EXPLANATORY LEAFLETS SUPPLIED WITH EACH TWEETER.



TYPE 'A' (KSN2036A) 3" round with protective wire mesh, ideal for bookshelf and medium sized Hi-Fi speakers. Price £5.39 each + 40p P&P

TYPE 'B' (KSN1005A) 3 1/2" super horn. For general purpose speakers, disco and P.A. systems etc. Price £5.99 each + 40p P&P

TYPE 'C' (KSN6016A) 2" x 5" wide dispersion horn. For quality Hi-Fi systems and quality discos etc. Price £6.99 each + 40p P&P

TYPE 'D' (KSN1025A) 2" x 6" wide dispersion horn. Upper frequency response retained extending down to mid range (2KHz). Suitable for high quality Hi-Fi systems and quality discos. Price £9.99 each + 40p P&P

TYPE 'E' (KSN1038A) 3 3/4" horn tweeter with attractive silver finish trim. Suitable for Hi-Fi monitor systems etc. Price £5.99 each + 40p P&P

LEVEL CONTROL Combines on a recessed mounting plate, level control and cabinet input jack socket. 85 x 85 mm Price £3.99 + 40p P&P

STEREO DISCO MIXER

STEREO DISCO MIXER with 2 x 5 band L & R graphic equalisers and twin 10 segment L.E.D. Vu Meters. Many outstanding features 5 inputs with individual faders providing a useful combination of the following:—

- 3 Turntables (Mag), 3 Mics, 4 Line plus Mic with talk over switch
- Headphone Monitor
- Pan Pot L & R Master Output controls
- Output 775mV. Size 360 x 280 x 90mm.

Price £134.99 - £3.00 P&P



B. K. ELECTRONICS

UNIT 5, COMET WAY, SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, ESSEX, SS2 6TR TEL: 0702-527572



POSTAL CHARGES PER ORDER £1.00 minimum. OFFICIAL ORDERS WELCOME. SCHOOLS, COLLEGES, GOVERNMENT BODIES, ETC. PRICES INCLUSIVE OF V.A.T. SALES COUNTER VISA/ACCESS/C.O.D. ACCEPTED.



DIGEST

Call For Science Minister

Science needs a minister, say the Alliance for Science, a campaign set up by three trade unions who represent 100,000 scientists and technologists. They are also calling for a National Economic Develop-

ment Council (NEDC) to cover research and development, pinpointing crucial research areas to permit the most effective use of funds.

In a pamphlet entitled *The case for a research and develop-*

ment strategy, the group call on the government to co-ordinate such a strategy as suggested by the House of Lords Select Committee on science and technology. They argue that a science minister should head a cabinet committee to look at science funding and plot long term research and development objectives.

They call for more government funds to be pumped into research and development, particularly in areas such as information technology where we are said to be falling behind our competitors, and they believe that an NEDC is the best way of

ensuring that the money goes to where it is needed most.

The pamphlet is the second publication from the Alliance, which was launched in December of last year. The three unions involved are the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs (ASTMS), the Association of University Teachers (AUT) and the Institution of Professional Civil Servants.

For further information about the Alliance for Science contact Bill Brett of IPCS on 01-928 9951, Paul Cotterell of AUT on 01-221 4370, or Stan Davison of ASTMS on 01-267 4422.

Handheld Logic Analyser

An ultra-compact logic analyser, which provides a full range of measurement facilities in a handheld, battery-operated format, has been introduced to the UK by House of Instruments.

The SOAR 1300 Series, available in 10MHz or 20MHz versions, use a high-contrast liquid-crystal dot-matrix display to provide comprehensive logic-timing, state and signature analysis on up to 16 channels, with features such as trigger position, trigger pass count and trigger delay included as standard. The 1"x3" display is mounted on the top and shows eight channels at a time.

The instrument measures 253 x 140 x 38mm and weighs only 1kg, making it ideal for field-service use. Power is provided by

four AA batteries or an optional AC mains adaptor, while key set-up parameters and acquisition data are retained for up to one year by an internal battery-backup memory function.

The 1300 Series may be used in single, repeat or compare acquisition modes, and data display, compare and search facilities are provided. Other display features include a x4 magnification, a window facility for examining part of a larger display, and a histogram display to compare the numbers of high- and low-level bits.

The instrument has built-in self-checking facilities, including battery-low indication, and an automatic power-off function to conserve battery life between readings.

The price of the 10MHz model



(1310) was not available when we went to press, but the 20MHz version (1320) costs £1987.00 plus VAT. The instrument is also available in a form better suited to bench use, with the display on the front panel and a tilt stand. These models are designated

1410 (10MHz) and 1420 (20 MHz), and the 1420 costs £2146.00 plus VAT.

House of Instruments, Raynham Road, Bishops Stortford, Hertfordshire CM23 5PF, tel 0279-55155.



Watford Moves

Watford Electronics, a company which started with one man working from his home, has just moved into new, purpose-built premises in Watford's High Street.

The company was founded twelve years ago by Nazir Jessa, an optician who spent his evenings and weekends selling components from a stock kept in the corner of his bedroom. Although he

advertised 'mail order only', Nazir spent his weekends serving the people who insisted on calling in person, and the queues often filled his lounge and hall and extended to the front gate and beyond.

Assisted by his younger Brother Raza, he build the company up until, after three years, he was able to buy the shop next door. Within a year the extra stock needed to serve the fast-expanding business filled even this space, and the problem has only been remedied with the move to the new building.

Called Jessa House, the premises house over 7000 different components and micro peripherals and cost £700,000 to build. Nowadays they actually welcome personal callers, and although they now have a staff of thirty Nazir and Raza still take their turn behind the counter.

Watford Electronics, 250 High Street, Watford, Hertfordshire WD1 2AN, tel 0923-37774.

● Electrovalue's spring '85 catalogue is now available and its 44 A5 pages list a wide range of components, tools, computer equipment, test gear and technical books. The catalogue can be obtained free of charge from Electrovalue Ltd, 28 St Judes Road, Englefield Green, Egham, Surrey TW20 0HB, tel 0784-33603.

● Cirkkit, the re-incarnation of component suppliers Ambit International, will be launching their spring catalogue on April 11th. It will be available from leading newsgagents throughout the country for £1.15 and lists over 4000 components along with kits, tools and microcomputer peripherals. Cirkkit Holdings PLC, Park Lane, Broxbourne, Hertfordshire EN10 7NQ.

● We ran out of space this month, but we'll make sure we give the results of the Reader Survey Free Subscription offer next month.

Rapid Electronics

MAIL ORDERS:
 Unit 1, Hill Farm Industrial Estate,
 Bexted, Colchester, Essex CO4 5RD.
 Tel. Orders: Colchester (0206) 36412.
 Telex: 987756.

ACCESS AND BARCLAYCARD WELCOME

MIN. D CONNECTORS

9 way	15 way	25 way	37 way
Plugs solder lugs	55p	65p	90p
Sockets	90p	135p	200p
Right angle	100p	135p	200p
Covers	100p	90p	100p

SOLDERING IRONS

Antex CS 17W Soldering iron	430
2.3 and 4.7mm bits to suit	85
Antex XS 25W soldering iron	430
3.3 and 4.7mm bits to suit	85
Solder pump desoldering tool	480
Spare nozzle for above	70
10 metres 22 swg solder	100
0.5kg 22 swg solder	750

CONNECTORS

DIN Plug	3p	5p	9p	15p	25p	37p
Jack	3p	5p	9p	15p	25p	37p
Plug Skt	3p	5p	9p	15p	25p	37p
Jack Skt	3p	5p	9p	15p	25p	37p
Phono 10p	12p	15p	24p	25p		
1mm 12p	13p	4mm	18p	17p		

27128-250 £7.50

Brand new Mitachi product. Ideal for use with the BBC Micro. Please note this price is not a misprint!!!

TRANSFORMERS

3VA PCB Mounting	
2x6V@0.25A, 2x9V@0.15A	
2x12V@0.12A, 2x15V@0.1A 180p	
PCB Mounting	
2x6V@0.5A, 2x9V@0.4A	
2x12V@0.3A, 2x15V@0.25A 270p	
Standard Chassis Mounting	
6VA: 2x6V@0.5A, 2x9V@0.4A	
12VA: 2x6V@1A, 2x9V@0.6A	
2x15V@0.4A, 2x20V@0.3A 350p	

VERO

Verobloc	395
Veroboard Size 0.1 in matrix	
2.5 x 1	26
2.5 x 3.75	150
3.75 x 5	120
3.75 x 17	350
4.75 x 17	465
VO board	190
Veropins per 100:	
Single sided	55
Double sided	65
Spot face cutter	145
Pin Insertion tool	185
Wiring pen	375
Spare spool 75p	6

MICRO

2716	310	17128-250	750	6800	200	6522	330
2532	380	6116P3	390	6802	280	6532	520
2732	430	6264P15	2250	6806	600	6551	540
2764	250	4116P4	70	6810	140	80B5A	320
2764 BBC 430		41256-15	480	6821	140	8156	380
		280A CPU	290	6850	165	8253	370
		280A P10	320	6852	240	8255	320
		280A CTC	320	6875	500	8259	400
		280A S10	880	6880	100	MC1488	70
		280A DMA	880	6502	370	MC1489	70

SWITCHES

Submini toggle:	
SPST 55p, SPDT 60p, DPDT 65p.	
Miniature toggle:	
SPDT 80p, SPDT centre off 90p,	
DPDT 90p, DPDT centre off 100p.	
Standard toggle:	
SPST 35p, DPDT 48p	
Miniature DPDT slide 14p.	
Push to make 15p.	
Push to break 22p.	
Rotary type adjustable stop	
1P12V, 2P5W, 3P4W all 55p each.	
DIL switches:	
4SPST 80p, 6SPST 80p, 8SPST 100p,	
Min. DPDT slide 14p. Push-make 15p.	

SOCKETS

Profile	Wire wrap
8 pin	45p
14 pin	45p
16 pin	55p
18 pin	60p
20 pin	68p
22 pin	75p
24 pin	82p
28 pin	95p
40 pin	135p

COMPONENT KITS

0.25W Resistor Kit. Contains 1000 0.25W 5% resistors from 4.7 ohms thru to 10M. Quantities depend upon popularity (i.e. 10x10R, 30x470R, 30x10K, 25x470K. Just £7.90

Ceramic capacitor Kit. Total of 250 miniature ceramic capacitors from 22p to 0.1u. Just £6.90

Polystyrene capacitor Kit. Total of 110 miniature polystyrene capacitors from 0.01u to 0.47u. Just £6.90

Preset Kit. Total of 110 miniature preset resistors from 100R to 1M. Horizontal mounting type. Just £6.90

Radial Electrolytic Capacitor Kit. A pack containing a total of 93 miniature caps from 1u to 2200u. Just £7.50

Nut and Bolt Kit. Contains 800 assorted items. 100 each 6BA, 4in, 1/2in, nuts and washers, 4BA 1/2in, 3in, nuts and washers. Just £3.20

LINEAR

IC7611	98	LM358	50	NE567	130	TL0A1024	115
IC7622	200	LM377	210	LM1360C	110	NE570	370
IC7622	190	LM380	80	LM1310	150	TL062	65
IC8038	295	LM390	150	MC1496	70	TL064	95
IC8211A	220	LM392	130	MC1302	75	TL064	38
IC7724	785	LM384	140	MC3400	130	RC4136	65
IC7555	80	LM386	90	MF10CN	330	RC4558	40
IC7555	150	LM387	120	ML922	390	SL486	195
IC7555	150	LM393	60	ML924	290	SL490	220
IC7555	150	LM710	48	ML925	290	SN76018	150
IC7555	150	LM711	60	ML926	210	SN7647	130
IC7555	150	LM725	70	ML927	210	SP8629	250
IC7555	150	LM733	70	ML928	210	SP0256AL	3425
IC7555	150	LM741	16	ML929	210	Speech data	50
IC7555	150	LM741	60	NE529	225	TB8000	70
IC7555	150	LM741	60	NE531	135	TB8010	90
IC7555	150	LM741	60	NE534	170	TB820M	65
IC7555	150	LM741	60	NE558	210	TB9850	220
IC7555	150	LM741	60	NE566	45	TC9040	165
IC7555	150	LM741	60	NE565	115	TDA108R	320
IC7555	150	LM741	60	NE566	140	TDA1022	490

TRANSISTORS

AC125	35	BC158	11	BC558	10	BF400	25	2N1613	30	2N3908	10
AC126	30	BC158	10	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2118A	45	2N4037	45
AC127	30	BC159	10	BC558	10	BF400	25	2N2119A	28	2N4058	10
AC128	30	BC160	40	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2212A	25	2N4060	10
AC176	25	BC168C	10	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
AC187	25	BC169C	10	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
AC188	25	BC170	8	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
AD142	120	BC171	10	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
AD181	42	BC172	8	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
AD162	42	BC177	16	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
AF124	60	BC178	16	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
AF126	50	BC179	18	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
AF139	40	BC182	10	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
AF186	70	BC182L	10	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
AF239	55	BC183	10	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
BC107	10	BC183L	10	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
BC107B	12	BC184	10	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
BC108	10	BC184L	10	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
BC108B	12	BC212	10	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
BC108C	12	BC212L	10	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
BC109	10	BC213	10	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
BC109C	12	BC213L	10	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
BC114	22	BC214	10	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
BC115	22	BC214L	10	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
BC117	22	BC217	7	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
BC119	35	BC238	7	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
BC137	40	BC308	10	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
BC139	38	BC327	8	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
BC140	29	BC328	8	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
BC141	30	BC337	8	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
BC142	28	BC338	12	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
BC143	30	BC477	2	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
BC147	10	BC478	2	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
BC148	10	BC479	2	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
BC149	10	BC517	30	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10
BC157	11	BC547	5	BC557	10	BF400	25	2N2222A	20	2N4081	10

CABLES

20 metre pack single core connecting cable ten different colours.	75p
Speaker cable	10p/m
Standard screened	16p/m
Twin screened	24p/m
2.5A 3 core mains	23p/m
10 way rainbow ribbon	26p/ft
20 way rainbow ribbon	47p/ft
10 way grey ribbon	14p/ft
20 way grey ribbon	28p/ft

HARDWARE

PP3 battery clips	6
Red or black crocodile clips	6
Black pointer control knob	15
Pr Ultrasonic transducers	390
▶6V Electronic buzzer	65
▶12V Electronic buzzer	70
▶PB270 Piezo transducer	75
▶64mm 64 ohm speaker	70
▶44mm 64 ohm speaker	70
▶44mm B ohm speaker	70
20mm panel fuseholder	25
Red or black probe clip	35
4mm terminals	33
12 way 'chocolate' block	21
ultra-min. 6 or 12 rel. SPDT	130
ditto, but DPDT	190

CAPACITORS

Polyester, radial leads. 250v. C280 type: 0.01, 0.015, 0.022, 0.033 - 6p; 0.047, 0.068, 0.1 - 7p; 0.15, 0.22, 0.33, 0.47, 1 - 13p; 0.68 - 20p; 1u - 23p.	
Electrolytic, radial or axial leads: 0.47/63V, 1/63V, 2.2/63V, 4.7/63V, 10/25V - 7p; 22/25V, 47/25V - 8p; 100/25V - 9p; 220/25V - 14p; 470/25V - 22p; 1000/25V - 30p; 2200/25V - 50p.	
Tan and power supply electrolytics: 2200/40V - 110p; 4700/40V - 160p; 2200/63V - 140p; 4700/63V - 230p.	
Polyester, miniature Siemens PCB: 1n, 2n, 3n, 4n, 7.6n, 10n, 15n, 22n, 33n, 47n, 68n, 80p; 100n, 90p; 150n, 11p; 220n, 13p; 330n, 20p; 470n, 26p; 680n, 29p; 1u, 33p.	
Tantalum bead: 0.1, 0.22, 0.33, 0.47, 1.0 @ 35V - 12p; 2.2, 4.7, 10 @ 25V - 20p; 15/16V - 30p; 22/16V - 27p; 33/16V - 45p; 47/16V -	

Events Diary

Amateur Radio & Computer Fair - April 8th

Bretton Hall College, Wakefield, from 11.00am. Organised by North Wakefield Radio Club. Free Admission, various stalls, film shows, amateur radio talkin on 145.550MHz, beer and refreshments available. Contact S. Thompson, G4RCH, 2 Alden Close, Morley, Leeds LS27 0SG, tel 0532 - 536633.

The Limits of Digital Audio - April 9th

The IEE, Savoy Place, London WC2 at 7.00pm with tea from 6.45pm. Lecture by Dr. Lagadec of Willi Studer AG organised by the Audio Engineering Society. Non AES members welcome to join-up on the evening.

Motorola Power Design Seminar - April 15th

Sheraton Hotel, Heathrow. Programme includes SIDAC technology, switchmode 1,11 & 111, switchmode rectifiers and power MOSFETs and cost is £28.75. Contact Betty Fogg, IEL Travel Ltd, 9 Argyll Street, London W1V 2HA, tel 01- 734 8200.

Innovation '85 - April 16-19th

Cranfield Institute of Technology, Cranfield, Bedford, from 10.00am to 5.30pm daily. IT exhibition sponsored by Rank Xerox and intended to provide a clear overview of the technology for those considering installations and for students and others planning careers. Innovation '85, Bridge House, Oxford Road, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB8 1HS, tel 0895 - 51133.

Northern Computer Show - April 16-18th

Belle Vue, Manchester. Business and professional computer exhibition aimed at both established and first time users. Contact the Exhibition Manager, The Northern Computer Show, Reed Exhibitions, Surrey House, 1 Throwley way, Sutton, Surrey SM1 4QQ, tel 01-643 8040.

Computer Aided Design & Engineering in the Aircraft Manufacturing Industry - April 17th

Institution of Mechanical Engineers at 6.00pm. Lecture by H. Hitch of British Aerospace Aircraft Group. Contact Peter J. Pugh. Engineering Manufacturing Forum, I. Mech. E., 1 Birdcage Walk, London SW1H 9JJ, tel 01- 222 7899.

Hospital Broadcasting Conference - April 19-21st

Newport, Gwent. Residential weekend including training sessions, equipment exhibitions, seminars and debates organised by the National Association of Hospital Broadcasting Organisations. Non-members are welcome and the cost is £51.00 including full board. Contact Alf Partridge, Conference Chairman, NAHBO, c/o 56 Fleet Road, Benfleet, Essex SS7 5JN.

Scottish Design Engineering Show - April 23-25th

Anderston Exhibition Centre, Albany Hotel & Holiday Inn, Glasgow. Exhibition of new design engineering ideas aimed at engineers and managers. Contact Cahners Exhibitions Ltd, Chatsworth House, 59 London Road, Twickenham, Middlesex TW1 3SZ, tel 01-891 5051.

Portable Computing Conference - April 25/26th

Fulcrum Centre, Slough. Conference and exhibition aimed at enabling management staff to assess the value and implications of portable computing techniques and including products from fifty or more leading suppliers. Costs from £109.25 for a half-day to £281.75 for two days. Contact the National Computing Centre, Oxford Road, Manchester M1 7ED, tel 061- 228 668962

The British Electronics Week - April 30th to May 2nd

Olympia, London, 10.00am to 6.00pm daily. The exhibition brings together the All Electronics/ECIF Show, Fibre Optics and Electronic Product Design, and the organisers claim that virtually every electronics company will be represented. Free entry by ticket obtained in advance from Evan Steadman Services Ltd, The Hub, Emson Close, Saffron Walden, Essex, CB10 1HL, tel 0799 26699.

Electronic Production Efficiency Exposition - April 30th to May 2nd

NEC, Birmingham. See February issue for details or phone 0280 - 815226.

Framestores Make The World Go Round

Those of you who manage to stay awake in front of the television may have noticed a change recently in the style of the BBC 1 rotating globe symbol. The old mechanical model with its electric motor and fixed camera has gone, to be replaced by an all-electronic system using framestores.

The BBC's graphic designers came up with a new image of the world, with improved accuracy and detail. The symbol achieves a full three-dimensional effect using solid continents and islands mapped onto a transparent sphere, which is enhanced by colour shading and highlighting. The hardware for displaying the symbol was developed by Engineering Designs and the animation was produced by the staff of the BBC Computer Graphics Workshop. The original map database of 20,000 points was provided by Glasgow University.

The full rotation of the world takes 12 seconds which is equivalent to 600 television fields. To store this digitally would normally take some 250 Mbytes of memory, but a data-saving technique has been invented (patent applied for) which stores a single field of the world

in only 8 Kbytes. Each map is imprinted upon the foreground (the highlighted gold) and the background (the shaded blue). For each TV field a map is read from memory in sequence so that the world appears to rotate.

The hardware uses two 800 Kbyte full-resolution framestores to reproduce the blue and gold areas of the symbol and the captions. This data is stored as eight-bit samples in accordance with the internationally agreed coding standard (CCIR Rec. 601). The compressed map data is stored in a separate memory of more than 4.5 Mbytes. Erasable 28 Kbyte memories are used for all data storage, and high-speed digital techniques are employed throughout.

Fourteen such equipments have been installed in the BBC's main and Regional centres, each with their own caption identification. The London equipment optionally displays a caption indicating the page number for programmes subtitled on Ceefax.

Engineering Information Department, BBC, Broadcasting House, London W1A 1AA, tel: 01-927 5432.

ETI Takes Allsorts

One of the advantages of working on a magazine is that you get some very interesting things through the post. Advertising agencies keen to catch your eye send out all manner of promotional novelties, and there is scarcely a desk in the company which does not groan under the weight of pens, ashtrays, diaries and 'executive' toys, each emblazoned with the name of some electronics company or other.

Occasionally some go a little further, and not a few desks still bear the lens-less spectacles, sparklers and mounted lump of coal which mark some of the more notable recent advertising campaigns.

But no-one ever bothered to send us anything to eat. Presumably, writers on food magazines spend their entire working lives chomping through the edible offerings from each morning's post bag, but not so

electronics writers.

Until now, that is. Possibly labouring under the impression that ETI stood for Eating Today International, Only Natural Products Ltd, part of the Bassett foods company, recently sent us a packet of their new Traditional Recipe Liqueur.

The accompanying press release waxed lyrical about mixtures of liquorice and aniseed and the marriage of traditional techniques with modern production methods which went into producing this fine product, and indeed, the liquorice does taste pretty good as the Assistant Editor can well testify. But none of this explains why they sent a sample to us.

Still, who's complaining. The Assistant Editor is now considering the idea of starting a regular food column in the hope of attracting more such samples, and wishes it to be known that, if Bassetts are planning any further promotional activity, he'd prefer it if they sent him some Liqueur Allsorts next. Please?

(P.S. Or some Fudge? Ed.) **ETI**

BBC Micro Computer System

ACORN COMPUTER SYSTEMS

BBC Model B Special offer.....	£300 (a)
BBC Model B+Econet.....	£335 (a)
BBC Model B+DFS.....	£346 (a)
BBC Model B+DFS +Econet.....	£399 (a)

UPGRADE KITS

A to B Upgrade Kit.....	£65 (d)
DFS Kit.....	£95 (d)
Econet Kit.....	£55 (d)
Speech Kit.....	£47 (d)

ACORN ADD-ON PRODUCTS

Z80 2nd Processor.....	£348 (a)
6502 2nd Processor.....	£175 (a)
Teltext Adaptor.....	£190 (b)
IEEE Interface £282.....	£282 (b)
Prestel Adaptor.....	£99 (b)
RH Light pen.....	£39.50 (c)

BBC FIRMWARE

1.2 Operating System.....	£7.50 (d)
Basic II ROM.....	£22.50 (d)
View Word Processor ROM.....	£48.00 (c)
Wordwise Word Processor ROM.....	£34.00 (d)

BCPL ROM/Disc.....	£86.00 (b)
Disc Doctor/Gremlin Debug ROM.....	£28 (d)
EXMON/TOOL KIT ROM.....	£28 ea (d)
Printmaster (FX80)/Graphics ROM.....	£28 ea (d)
ULTRACALC spreadsheet ROM.....	£69 ea (c)

COMMUNICATION ROM

Termi Emulator.....	£28 (d)
Communicator.....	£59 (d)
Commstar.....	£229 (d)

TORCH UNICON products including the IBM Computible GRADUATE in stock
For detailed specification on any of the BBC Firmware/Peripherals listed here
or information on our complete range please write to us.

PRINTERS

EPSON

RX80FT £225(a) RX80T £215(a) FX80 £315(a) FX100 £435(a)

KAGA TAXAN

KP 810 (80col) £265 (a) KP910 (156col) £359 (a)
JUKI 6100 £325 (a) BROTHER HR15 £325 (a)

ACCESSORIES

32K Internal Buffer Parallel £99 (b)

EPSON

Serial Interface: 8143 £28 (c); 8148 with 2K £59 (c)
Paper Roll Holder £17 (d); FX80 Tractor Attachment £37 (c)
Ribbons: FX/RX/MX80 £5 (d) FX/RX/MX100 £10 (d)
RX/FX80 Dust Cover £4.50 (d)

KAGA TAXAN

RS232 with 2K Buffer £85 (c) KP810/910 Ribbon £6.00 (d)

JUKI 6100

RS232 with 2K Buffer £65 (c) Ribbon £2.50 (d)
Tractor Attachment £129 (a) Sheet Feeder £199 (a)
BBC Parallel Lead £7 (d) Serial Lead £7 (d)
2000 Sheets Fanfold Paper with extra fine perforation
9.5" x 11" £13.50 (b) 14.5" x 11" £17.50 (b)
Labels per 1000's; single row 3 1/2" x 17 1/16" £5.25(d)
Triple Row 27 1/16" x 17 1/16" £5 (d)

MODEMS

— All modems listed below are BT approved

MIRACLE WS2000:

The ultimate world standard modem cover all common BELL and CCITT standards up to 1200 Baud. Allows communication with virtually any computer system in the world. The optional AUTO DIAL and AUTO ANSWER boards enhance the considerable facilities already provided on the modem. Mains powered £129(b). Auto Dial Board/Auto Answer Board £30(c) each. (awaiting BT approval) Software lead £4.50.

TELEMOD 2:

Complies with CCITT V233 1200/75 Duplex and 1200/1200 Half Duplex standards that allow communications with VIEWDATA services like PRESTEL, MICRONET etc. as well as user to user communications. Mains powered £64(b).

BUZZ BOX:

This pocket sized modem complies with V21 300/300 Baud and provides an ideal solution for communications between users, with main frame computers and bulletin boards at a very economic cost. Battery or mains operated, £52(c). Mains adaptor £8(d).

BBC to Modem data lead £7.

DISC DRIVES

These are fully cases and wired drives with slim line mechanisms of high quality, Shuggart A400 standard interface. Drives supplied with cables manuals and formatting disc suitable for the BBC computer. TEAC 80 track drives are supplied with 40/80 track switching as standard. All drives can operate in single or dual density format.

1 x 100K 40T SS:TS55A.....	£89(b)	2 x 400K 40/80T DS: TD55MP with psu.....	£365(a)
1 x 400K 40/80TDS:TS55F.....	£125(a)	2 x 400K 40/80TDS:TD55M Matsubishi with psu.....	£350(a)
2 x 100K 40T SS:TD55A with psu.....	£250(a)	CS55A with psu.....	£125(b)
		CS55F with psu.....	£169(b)

3M 5 1/4" FLOPPY DISCS

High quality discs that offer a reliable error free performance for life. Each disc is individually tested and guaranteed for life. Ten discs are supplied in a sturdy cardboard box.

40T SS DD £15 (c)	40T DS DD £18 (c)
80T SS DD £22 (c)	80T DS DD £24 (c)

DRIVE ACCESSORIES

FLOPPICLENE Disc Head Cleaning Kit with 20 disposable cleaning discs ensures continued optimum performance of the drives.....	£14.50 (c)	
Single Disc Cable.....	£6 (d)	
Case.....	£1.80(c)	
30/40 Disc Lockable Box.....	£14 (c)	
10 Disc Library.....	Dual Disc Cable.....	£8.50 (d)
30 Disc Case.....	70/80 Disc Lockable Box.....	£19 (c)

MONITORS

MICROVITEC 14" RGB:

1431 Standard Resolution.....	£165 (a)
1451 Medium Resolution.....	£240 (a)
1441 Hi Resolution.....	£399 (a)
1431 AP Std Res PAL/AUDIO.....	£210 (a)
1451 AP Med Res PAL/AUDIO.....	£280 (a)
1451 DQ3 Med Res for QL.....	£239 (a)

Above monitors are now available in plastic or metal cases, please specify your requirement.

KAGA Super Hi Res Vision III RGB..... £340 (a)
Hi Res Vision II..... £235 (a)

MONOCHROME MONITORS 12":

Kaga Green KX1201 G Hi Res.....	£99 (a)
Kaga Amber KX1201 A Hi Res.....	£105 (a)
Sanyo Green DM8112CX Hi Res.....	£90 (a)
Swivel Stand for Kaga Monochrome.....	£21 (c)

All monitors are supplied with leads suitable for the BBC Computer. Spare leads available.

ATTENTION

All prices in this double page advertisement are subject to change without notice
ALL PRICES EXCLUDE VAT
Please add carriage 50p unless indicated as follows:
(a) £8 (b) £2.50 (c) £1.50 (d) £1.00

SPECIAL OFFER

2764-25.....	£4.40
27128-25.....	£9.50
6264LP-15.....	£12

GANG OF EIGHT INTELLIGENT FAST EPROM COPIER

Copies up to eight eproms at a time and accepts all single rail eproms up to 27256. Can reduce programming time by 80% by using manufacturer's suggested algorithms. Fixed Vpp of 21 & 25 volts and variable Vpp factory set at 12.5 volts. LCD display with alpha moving message. £395(b).

SOFTY II

This low cost intelligent eprom programmer can program 2716, 2516, 2532, 2732, and with an adaptor, 2564 and 2764. Displays 512 byte page on TV — has a serial and parallel I/O routines. Can be used as an emulator, cassette interface. Softy II..... £195(b)
Adaptor for 2764/2564. £25.00(c)

UV ERASERS

All erasers with built in safety switch and mains indicator.
UV1B erases up to 6 eproms at a time... £47(c)
UV1T as above but with a timer..... £59(c)
UV140 erases up to 14 eproms at a time. £88 (b)
UV141 as above but with a timer..... £71 (b)

I.D. CONNECTORS

(Speedlock Type)			
No of ways	Header	Recep- tacle	Edge Conn.
10	90p	85p	120p
20	145p	125p	195p
26	175p	150p	240p
34	200p	160p	320p
40	220p	190p	340p
50	235p	200p	390p

D CONNECTORS

No of Ways				
	9	15	25	37
MALE:				
Ang Pins	120	180	230	350
Solder	60	85	125	170
IDC	175	275	325	-
FEMALE:				
St Pin	100	140	210	380
Ang pins	160	210	275	440
Solder	90	130	195	290
IDC	195	325	375	-
St Hood	90	95	100	120
Screw	130	150	175	-
Lock	-	-	-	-

TEXTPOOL ZIF

SOCKETS	24-pin £5.75
	28-pin £8.00
	40-pin £9.75

EDGE CONNECTORS

	0.1"	0.156"
2 x 6-way (commodore)	150p	300p
2 x 10-way	—	—
2 x 12-way (vic 20)	150p	350p
2 x 18-way	—	140p
2 x 23-way (ZX81)	175p	220p
2 x 25-way	225p	220p
2 x 28-way (Spectrum)	200p	—
2 x 36-way	250p	—
1 x 43-way	260p	—
2 x 22-way	190p	—
2 x 43-way	395p	—
1 x 77-way	400p	500p
2 x 50-way (S100conn)	600p	—

EURO CONNECTORS

DIN 41612		
2 x 32 way St Pin	230p	275p
2 x 32 way Ang Pin	275p	320p
3 x 32 way St Pin	260p	300p
3 x 32 way Ang Pin	375p	400p
IDC Skt A + B	275p	—
IDC Skt A + C	350p	—

For 2 x 32 way please specify spacing (A + B, A + C).

CONNECTOR SYSTEMS

AMPHENOL CONNECTORS

36 way plug Centronics (solder) 500p (IDC) 475p
36 way skt Centronics (solder) 550p (IDC) 500p
24 way plug IEEE (solder) 475p (IDC) 475p
24 way skt IEEE (solder) 500p (IDC) 500p
PCB Mtg Skt Ang Pin
24 way 700p 36 way 750p

GENDER CHANGERS

25 way D type	
Male to Male.....	£10
Male to Female.....	£10
Female to Female.....	£10

RS 232 JUMPERS

(25 way D)	
24" Single end Male.....	£5.00
24" Single end Female.....	£5.25
24" Female Female.....	£10.00
24" Male Male.....	£9.50
24" Male Female.....	£9.50

DIL SWITCHES

4-way 90p	6-way 105p
8-way 120p	10-way 150p

TELEPHONE CONNECTORS

4 way plug	110p
6 way plug	180p
6 way rt ang skt	180p
Flexible cable	
4 way	50p/m
6 way	72p/m

RIBBON CABLE

(grey/metre)			
10-way	40p	34-way	160p
16-way	60p	40-way	180p
20-way	85p	50-way	200p
28-way	120p	64-way	280p

DIL HEADERS

Solder IDC		
14 pin	40p	100p
16 pin	50p	110p
18 pin	60p	-
20 pin	75p	-
24 pin	100p	150p
28 pin	200p	-
40 pin	200p	225p

MISC CONNS

21 pin Scart Connector	200p
8 pin Video Connector	200p

COMPUTER WAREHOUSE

1000's OF BARGAINS FOR CALLERS

THE 'ALADDIN'S' CAVE OF COMPUTER AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT

RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES

Dry Fit Maintenance FREE by Sonnenschein. A300 07191315 12v 3 AH same as RS 591-770 NEW £13.95. A300 07191202 6-0-6 1.8 AH same as RS 591-382 EX EQUIP £4.99. Miniature PCB mount 3.6v 100 Mah as RS 591-477 NEW £1.00. SAFT VR2C 1.2v "C" size NICADS in 18 cell ex equipment pack. Good condition - easily split to single cells £10.50 + pp £1.90.

EX-STOCK INTEGRATED CIRCUITS

2732 ex equip £3.25. 27128 - 250ns NEW £12.00. 6116-200 £4.50. 6116-250 £3.95. 6264LP-150 £22.00. 4164-200 £3.50. 4864-150 £4.00. 4116-300 £1.20. 2114 £1.75. 6800 £2.50. 6821 £1.00. 68A09 £8.00. 68B09 £10.00. 68B09E £14.50. DB085AH-2 £12.00. DB086 £20.00. Z80A £2.99.

COOLING FANS

Keep your hot parts COOL and RELIABLE with our range of BRAND NEW professional cooling fans. ETRI 99XUOI Dim 92 x 92 x 25 mm. Miniature 240 v equipment fan complete with finger guard £9.95. GOULD JB-3AR Dim 3" x 3" x 2.5" compact very quiet running 240 v operation. NEW £6.95. BUHLER 69.11.22. 8-16 v DC micro miniature reversible fan. Uses a brushless servo motor for extremely high air flow, almost silent running and guaranteed 10,000 hr life. Measures only 62 x 62 x 22 mm. Current cost £32.00. OUR PRICE ONLY £12.95 complete with data. MUFFIN-CENTAUR standard 4" x 4" x 1.25" fan supplied tested EX EQUIPMENT 240 v at £6.25 or 110 v at £4.95 or BRAND NEW 240 v at £10.50. 1000's of other fans Ex Stock. Call for Details. Post & Packing on all fans £1.60.

BUDGET RANGE VIDEO MONITORS

At a price YOU can afford, our range of EX EQUIPMENT video monitors defy competition! All are for 240v working with standard composite video input. Units are pre tested and set for up to 80 col use on BBC micro. Even where MINOR screen burns MAY exist - normal data displays are unaffected. 1000's SOLD TO DATE 12" KGM 320-321. high bandwidth input. will display up to 132 columns x 25 lines. Housed in attractive fully enclosed brushed alloy case. B/W only £32.95 24" KGM large screen black & white monitor fully enclosed in light alloy case. Ideal schools, shops, clubs etc. ONLY £55.00 Carriage £10.00

DATA MODEMS

Join the communications revolution with our super range of DATA MODEMS with prices and types to suit all applications and budgets! Most modems are EX BRITISH TELECOM and are made to the highest standard for continuous use and reliability. RS232C interfaces are standard to all our modems, so will connect to ANY micro etc with an RS232C serial interface.

DATTEL 2B see SPECIAL OFFER centre of this ad. MODEM 13A. 300 baud. Compact unit only 2" high and same size as telephone base. Standard CCITT tones. CALL mode only. Tested with data. ONLY £45.00 + PP £4.50. MODEM 20-1. 75-1200 baud. Compact unit for use as subscriber end to PRESTEL. MICRONET or TELECOM GOLD. Tested with data. £39.95 + PP £4.50. MODEM 20-2. same as 20-1 but 1200-75 baud £99.00. TRANSDATA 307A. 300 baud acoustic coupler. Brand new with RS232C interface. ONLY £49.95. DACOM DSL2123 Multi Standard Modem. switchable CCITT or USA BELL 103 standard. V21 300-300. V23 75-1200. V23 1200-75 or 1200-1200 half duplex. Auto answer via MODEM or CPU. CALL or ANSWER modes plus LED status indication. Dim 2.5 x 8.5 x 3. BRAND NEW fully guaranteed ONLY £268.00 + PP £4.50. DATTEL 2412 Made by SE LABS for BT this two part unit is for synchronous data links at 1200 or 2400 baud using 2780/3780 protocol. Many features include Auto answer. 2 or 4 wire working etc. etc. COST OVER £800. OUR PRICE £185.00. DATTEL 4800. RACAL MPS4800 high speed good condition £285.00 CARR £10.00

HOT LINE DATA BASE

DISTEL ©

THE ORIGINAL FREE OF CHARGE dial up data base 1000's of stock items and one off bargains. ON LINE NOW - 300 baud, full duplex CCITT tones. 8 bit word, no parity. 01-679 1888

MAINS FILTERS

Cure those unerring hang ups and data glitches caused by mains interference. SD5A As recommended by ZX81 news letter. matchbox size up to 1000 watt load £5.95. L2127 compact completely cased unit with 3 pin fitted socket. Up to 750 watts £9.99

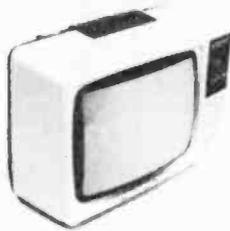
Anderson Jacobson AJ510 VIDEO DISPLAY TERMINAL



Made by one of the USA's largest peripheral manufacturers the AJ510 Professional VDU terminal has too many features to include in space available - just a few are: internal Z80 cpu control, very readable 15" non glare green screen, 24 lines by 80 characters, 128 ASCII character set with lower case and graphics, standard RS232C interface, Cursor addressing, numeric key pad etc. Supplied in good TESTED second hand condition with full manual £225.00 + carr £10.00. Data sheet on request.

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'SYSTEM ALPHA' 14" Multi Input Monitor.

Made in the UK by the famous REDIFFUSION Co. for their own professional computer system this monitor has all the features to suit your immediate and future monitor requirements. Two types of video input, RGB and PAL Composite Video, allow direct connection to most makes of micro computers and VCR's. An internal speaker and audio amplifier may be connected to your system's output or direct to a VCR machine, giving superior colour and sound quality. Many other features include PIL tube, Matching BBC case colour, Major controls on front panel, Separate Contrast and Brightness - even in RGB mode, Two types of audio input, Separate Colour and audio controls for Composite Video input, BNC plug for composite input, 15 way 'D' plug for RGB input, modular construction etc. etc.

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DECCA RGB 80-100 Monitor.

Little or hardly used manufacturer's surplus enables us to offer this special converted DECCA RGB Colour Video TV Monitor at a super low price of only £99.00, a price for a colour monitor as yet unheard of! Our own interface, safety modification and special 16" high definition PIL tube, combine with the tried and tested DECCA 80/100 series chassis to give 80 column definition and picture quality found only on monitors costing 3 TIMES OUR PRICE. In fact, WE GUARANTEE you will be delighted with this product, the quality for the price has to be seen to be believed. Supplied complete and ready to plug direct to a BBC MICRO computer or any other system with a TTL RGB output. Other features include internal audio amp and speaker, Modular construction, auto degaussing 34 H x 24 D, 90 day guarantee. Supplied in EXCELLENT condition, ONLY £99.00 + Carr. Also available UN-MODIFIED but complete with MOD DATA. Only £75.00. Carriage and Insurance on monitors £10.00

SPECIAL 300 BAUD MODEM OFFER

Another GIGANTIC purchase of these EX BRITISH TELECOM, BRAND NEW or little used 2B data modems allows US to make the FINAL REDUCTION, and for YOU to join the exciting world of data communications at an UNHEARD OF PRICE OF ONLY £29.95. Made to the highest POST OFFICE APPROVED spec at a cost of hundreds of pounds each, the 2B has all the standard requirements for data base, business or hobby communications. All this and more!!

- 300 baud full duplex
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- CCITT tone standards
- Supplied with full data
- Modular construction
- Direct isolated connection
- CALL, ANSWER and AUTO modes
- Standard RS232C serial interface
- Built in test switching
- 240v Mains operation
- 1 year full guarantee
- Just 2 wires to comms line

NOW ONLY £29.95

Order now - while stocks last. Carriage and Ins. £10.00

SAVE £250 SUPER PRINTER SCOOP



BRAND NEW CENTRONICS 739-2

ONLY £199

The "Do Everything Printer" at a price that will NEVER be repeated. Standard CENTRONICS parallel interface for direct connection to BBC, ORIC, DRAGON etc. Superb print quality with full pin addressable graphics and 4 type fonts plus HIGH DEFINITION internal PROPORTIONAL SPACED MODE for WORD PROCESSOR applications. 80-132 columns, single sheet, sprocket or roll paper handling plus much more. Available ONLY from DISPLAY ELECTRONICS at the ridiculous price of ONLY £199.00 + VAT Complete with full manual etc. Limited quantity - Hurry while stocks last. Options: Interface cable (specify) for BBC, ORIC, DRAGON or CENTRONICS 36 way plug £12.50. Spare ribbon £3.50 each. BBC graphics screen dump utility program £8.60. Carriage and Ins. £10.00 + VAT

HUNDREDS OF PRINTERS EX STOCK FROM £49.00. Call Sales Office for Details.

1 only large CALCOMP 1036 AO 3 pen drum plotter and offline 915 magtape controller. Good working order. ADD VAT TO ALL PRICES £2500.00.

EX STOCK

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- PDP 1140 System comprising of CPU. 124K memory + MMU 16 line RS232C interface. RP02 40 MB hard disk drive. TU10 9 track 800 BPI Mag tape drive. dual rack system. VT52 VDU etc. etc. Tested and running £3750.00
- BA11-MB 3.5" Box, PSU, LTC £385.00
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- DLVII-E Serial. Modem support £200.00
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- DQ200 Dialog - multi RK controller £495.00
- DZ11-B 8 line RS232C mux board £650.00
- KDF11-B M8189 PDP 1123+ £1100.00
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- LAX34-AL LA34 tractor feed £85.00
- MS11-JP Unibus 32 kb Ram £80.00
- MS11-LB Unibus 128 kb Ram £450.00
- MS11-LD Unibus 256 kb Ram £850.00
- MSC4804 Qbus (Esque MSV11-L) 256 kb £499.00
- PDP11/05 Cpu, Ram, i/o, etc £450.00
- PDP11/40 Cpu, 124K MMU £1850.00
- RT11 ver. 3B documentation kit £70.00
- RK05-J 2.5 Mb disk drives £650.00
- KLBJA PDP 8 async i/o £175.00
- MIB PDP 8 Bootstrapping option £75.00
- VT50 VDU and Keyboard - current loop £175.00
- VT52 VDU with RS232C interface £250.00

1000's of EX STOCK spares for DEC PDP8, PDP8A, PDP11 systems & peripherals. Call for details. All types of Computer equipment and spares wanted for PROMPT CASH PAYMENT.

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DISPLAY ELECTRONICS

READ/WRITE

To Boldly Go...

Dear Sir,

The article about *Electronics for Peace* in the April Issue of *ETI* shows clearly how *Electronics Technicians* can get themselves a bad name for political naivete. The organisers of this movement should know that including the word "Peace" in the title of any organisation means that it will be regarded as a front for Communist activity. If one then goes on to publish secret information on weapons systems, suspicions are heightened whatever the organisers may say. You may rest assured that anyone foolish enough to join such a movement will be certain to have their phone tapped! In due course they may also be invited to a Worker's Congress in Prague, the bourne whence no worthwhile technician ever returns.

This is not to say that a truly independent political organisation for technicians is not needed, indeed it is vitally necessary. But it should be organised under the banner of *FREEDOM*, something which is anaethema(sic) alike to Communist and Capitalist systems. (*Electronics for Freedom -EfF*)?

In every society of the world the Technician suffers exploitation by immature and often incompetent megalomaniacs. Technicians as a class are rather meek, but if we are to inherit the earth we have to find a better way to make the concensus (sic) of our views publicly known. We have to assist in creating a just society, make communication between peoples easier and use our skills to expand the capabilities of the mind. *Electronics* is vital in all this, so the objectives of the organisation would be as follows:

1. Making possible secret mass referenda on all important political issues by electronic means using TV, radio or telephone.

2. Development of Computer Systems, Languages and Programmes to formulate just and unambiguous legislation, regulations and codes of practice.

3. Development of personalised communication systems with miniaturised privacy devices (scramblers), and computerised translation facilities.

4. Development of bioelectronic devices and biofeedback methods for mind control and expansion. Also to enable the assessment and evaluation of personality types.

The last objective is the final frontier of electronics - understanding the nature of the mind and discovering who are fit persons to be trusted with power. These activities are far more worthwhile than merely ferreting out details of obsolescent weapons systems for the benefit of the RIS.

Anyone who feels they would like to form an organisation on these lines can get in touch with me at the University of Surrey where I work.

Yours faithfully,
Keith Wakeham
Church Crookham
Hampshire

Nice try, Mr. Wakeham, but you can't fool us. 'The final frontier', all that stuff about 'Computer Systems', 'personalised communication systems' and expanding 'the capabilities of the mind'. Beam us up Scottie, if you're not Mr. Spock. By the way, we gather Captain Kirk's been looking for you.

Bass From The Wood

Dear Sir,

I have scanned 'The Final Link' by Vivian Capel (*ETI* April 1985) with interest. It was surprising for me that no mention was made of studio and concert hall acoustics. There were two programmes recently on Radio 3, concerning concert hall 'design' and the reactions of performers and listeners. Even in these programmes, I felt that the experts have somehow got several matters wrong.

It is well known that the Festival Hall and the Barbican are unsatisfactory - due, it is said, to the air-conditioning ducts under the seats absorbing most of the deep bass.

No mention was made of Bayreuth or Covent Garden, and it was implied that hard walls (brick or stone) were good. My experience is that the bass from Bayreuth is very good, the walls being, I believe, of wood.

A visit to Covent Garden immediately exposes the good bass, but on my equipment the bass from there is rather weak. I wonder if this is because suspended microphones tend to 'blow away' from the deep bass?

A recent broadcast from a cathedral in Wales sounded very bad indeed (stone wall etc). It was a Mozart string orchestra, and even a moderate volume setting was too high. The only solution was to turn the volume very low.

If the bass of the hall is good, volume can be turned surprisingly high, with every pleasure, to my ears. Some Wagner records come through very well.

A particularly irritating habit of the BBC is to broadcast a concert at reasonable volume level; then on return to the studio the voice is often too loud, even painful, so the volume has to be turned down. This could be due to a combination of poor studio acoustics, poor monitor speakers and insensitive control engineers.

I also find that only tape at 7 1/2 ips gives really good HiFi. Discs are not bad with the Goldring Epic cartridge (only £15) but here again volume has to be kept fairly low, to avoid listener fatigue and discomfort. Here again I suggest it is the deep bass which goes wonky. Of course, commercial discs do not give much in the way of really deep bass. I find that some popular discs have quite good bass almost regardless of the size and make of the speakers. I'd guess these attractive results are given by microphones on rigid heavy stands set close to the bass instruments.

I use a Quad 303 amplifier and my speakers are approximately 10 cubic feet each made of brick and stone. Upper register is via Treleax and Olidax horns (sic), attenuated



TARGET ELECTRONICS LTD.

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53440-1	13p
55026-2	7p
85979-3	17p
87631-5	73p
88423-2	2.43p
207896-1	77p
1-480459-0	52p
1-480460-0	55p
1-480608-9	14p
1-480609-9	14p
552224-1	3.51p
1-552299-1	28p
2-552076-1	90p
2-640387-0	63p
745014-1	43p
G06D64P03BDBL	2.39p
G08D16A3BLAA	94p
029-8503-000	28p
G08D40A8BBGA	2.60p
G08D40A8BEBEA	2.60p
MS 3102E-18-11P	3.56p
MS 3106E-24-11S	20.23p
025-0480-000	12p
025-0500-000	8p
121-7326-113	1.08p
121-7326-127	1.52p
17-10150	2.16p
252-22-30-160 (50-44B-10)	2.78p
31-208	2.87p
314AG-39D	13p
324AG-39D	52p
340AG-90D	98p
520AG-11D	98p
3324-0000	4.77p
3329-0000	3.74p
3553-0000	5.10p
57-10140	1.59p
57-10240	2.35p
57-30500	3.90p
801-079	1.20p
801-084	83p
801-085	90p
8128-17P2	8p
82-312	2.16p
B409U025	1.73p
CH6170-16	33p
DA155-564	2.13p
DA110963-2	1.44p
DB25P	77p
DD505F179A	14.36p
DE 51218-1	1.30p
DE 51224-1	1.30p

INTEGRATED CIRCUITS	PRICE
CA 555 G	20p
CA 741 G	20p
CD 40114 BE	18p
C 106 D1	13p
D80C35C	6.07p
DM 54125J-883B	1.81p
DM 7401N	37p
DM 7414N	33p
DM 74LS00J	64p
DS 0025CH	2.16p
F4528BCP	65p
FD111	1.72p
ICM 7555 IPA	94p
LM 101AF-883B	13p
LM117K (STEEL)	13p
LM 309H	1.30p
LM 340K-12	65p
LM 140 AK5	10.27p
MC 1489L	71p
MC 1489P-MIL 883B	2.61p
MC 1741CG	44p
MC 1741 CP1	61p
MC 3423 P1D	79p
MC 6854P	13.88p
MC 14001 UBPC	33p
MC 14001 BCP	11p
MC 14011 ABCBS	1.12p
MC 14043 BAL	1.50p
MC 14049 UBPC	22p
MC 14075 BCP	13p
MC 14518 BCL	56p
MC 14077 BBCBS	1.00p
MC 14557 BCL	13p

PRICE	MD 7002A	PRICE	Plug-In Bases
6.38p	MH 0009CG	16.84p	LED Holders
13p	MJ 2955	66p	Transistor Mounting Pads
7p	MJE 711	72p	Prices on application
17p	MJE 13007	3.81p	
73p	N8T38NS2B	1.02p	
2.43p	N8T32-005NS2B	3.60p	
77p	N8X330NS2B	37.18p	
52p	OP 20 GJ	9.91p	
55p	NE555N	18p	
14p	SNJ 54LS293J	98p	
14p	SN 7432N3	38p	
3.51p	SN 7450J	13p	
28p	SN 75159	3.73p	
90p	SN 74156NP3	52p	
63p	SN 74LS32NP3	52p	
43p	SN 74LS92PC	21p	
2.39p	SN 74LS112ANTA	43p	
94p	SN 74LS86N	52p	
28p	SN 74LS123N	49p	
2.60p	SN 74LS173 AN3	62p	
2.60p	SN 74LS191N	1.30p	
3.56p	SN 74LS273N3	1.30p	
20.23p	SN 74S240N	2.15p	
12p	SN 75450N	1.12p	
8p	T2300D	1.30p	
1.08p	TIP 30	34p	
1.52p	UA 741 TC	13p	
2.16p	UA 759 UIC	1.57p	
2.78p	UA 78S40DC	2.30p	
2.87p	UAA 170	1.90p	
13p	ULN 2003AN	55p	
52p	ULN 2083N	65p	
98p	UPD 8251 AC	4.85p	
98p	96L02PC	85p	
4.77p	TC 4528BP	48p	

SEMICONDUCTORS	PRICE
JAN 1N 645	13p
JAN 1N 4944	55p
JAN 2N 2905	33p
AF 125	13p
BC 108	10p
BC 182L	6p
BC 214L	7p
BCY 70	11p
BFY 50	7p
BFY 51	7p
BSX 20	53p
BY 127	11p
BYV 27-100	30p
BZV 85 C15	6p
BZX 88 C5V1	8p
BZX 88 C3V3	5p
BZX 88 C3V9	6p
BZX 88 C4V7	5p
BZX 88 C6V2	5p
BZX 88 C9V1	6p
BZY 88 C11	5p
BZY 88 C12	3p
BZX 61 C15	9p
BZX 61 C16	9p
BZX 79 C5V6	10p
BZX 79 C6V8	10p
BZX 79 C13	10p
BZX 79 C20	10p
DTS 425	7p
MCR 106-1	27p
ME 1120	7p
MPS 3640	13p
OA 91	5p
PIC 637	15.26p
PN 3640	7p
RGP 10M	14p
ZTX 303	6p
ZTX 341	10p
IKAB40	34p
LED CQY 85NA	8p
LED DL 340M	5.07p
LED TIL 31	98p
LED TIL 81	55p
4N35	60p

SOCKETS	PRICE
DIP sockets	
Contact Strips	
High Rel. Sockets	
P.C.B. Socket Strips	
P.C.B. Pin Strips	
Power Transistor Sockets	

Plug-In Bases
LED Holders
Transistor Mounting Pads
Prices on application

STATIC RAMS	PRICE
M58725P 16k static ram 200nS.	
5MSM2128RS-15 16k static ram 150nS.	
TMM2016P 16k static ram 150nS.	
TMM2016P-1 16k static ram 100nS.	
TC5516AP 16k cmos ram 250nS 2716.	
TC5517AP 16k cmos ram 250nS 2716.	
TC5518BPL-20 16k cmos ram 250nS 2716.	
uPD446C-1 16k cmos ram 250nS 2716.	
uPD446C 16k cmos ram 250nS 2716.	
uPD449C-2 16k cmos ram 200nS 2716.	
HM6116P-2 16k cmos ram 120nS 2716.	
HM6116P-3 16k cmos ram 150nS 2716.	
HM6116LP-2 16k cmos ram 120nS 2716.	
HM6116I-2 16k cmos ram 120nS ceramic.	
TC5514AP-21 16k x 1 static ram 300nS.	
TC5501P 1k cmos ram 5v 450nS.	
2114LC 1k x 4 static ram 450nS.	
2114LC-1 1k x 4 static ram 300nS.	
2114LC-2 1k x 4 static ram 200nS.	
HM6147P 4k x 1 static ram 70nS.	
2147EC 4k x 1 static ram 70nS.	
uPD2167-3 16k x 1 static ram 55nS.	
HM6167P 16k x 1 static ram 70nS.	
HM6167LP-8 16k x 1 static ram 100nS.	
TC5565PL-15 8k x 8 cmos static ram.	
HM6264LP-12 8k x 8 cmos static ram.	
HM6264P-15 8k x 8 cmos static ram.	
HM6264P-12 8k x 8 cmos static ram.	
Prices on application	

DYNAMIC RAMS	PRICE
HM50256G-15 256k dynamic ram 5v 150nS.	
HM50256G-20 256k dynamic ram 5v 200nS.	
MH50257G-2/15 256k dynamic ram 5v 4614-20 64k dynamic ram 200nS.	
4164-15 64k dynamic ram 150nS.	
4164-12 64k dynamic ram 120nS.	
M5K4164P-20 64k dram pin 1 refresh.	
M5K4164P-15 64k dram pin 1 refresh.	
MSM3732LRS-15 32k dynamic ram 150nS.	
4116P-3 16k dynamic ram 200nS.	
4116P-2 16k dynamic ram 150nS.	
ET4116N-3 16k dynamic ram 200nS.	
HM4816AP-3 16k dram single rail 5V.	
Prices on application	

EPROMS	PRICE
27256-30 256k 5v eeprom 300nS.	
27256-25 256k 5v eeprom 250nS.	
27128-30 128k 5v eeprom 300nS.	
27128-25 128k 5v eeprom 250nS.	
2764-45 64k 5v eeprom 450nS.	
2764-30 64k 5v eeprom 300nS.	
2764-25 64k 5v eeprom 250nS.	
2764-20 64k 5v eeprom 200nS.	
2532 32k 5v eeprom 450nS.	
2732 32k 5v eeprom 450nS.	
uPD27232C 32k eeprom 450nS	
1 prog only.	
2732-30 32k 5v eeprom 300nS.	
2732-25 32k 5v eeprom 250nS.	
2716 16k 5v eeprom 450nS.	
HM48016P 16k 5v eeprom 350nS.	
27C64-30 64k cmos eeprom 300nS.	
27C64-25 64k cmos eeprom 250nS.	
Prices on application	

MICROPROCESSORS	PRICE
HD6800 Microprocessor.	
HD6802 Microprocessor.	
HD6809 Microprocessor.	
HD68A09P Microprocessor.	
HD6301 Microprocessor cmos 6801.	
HD6303 Microprocessor cmos 6801/3.	
HD6800L-8 Microprocessor 16-bit 8MHz.	
80C35 Microprocessor cmos 8035.	
80C39 Microprocessor cmos 8039.	
MSM80C85ARS Microprocessor cmos 8085.	
TMP8035 Microprocessor 8-bit.	
MSL8039P-6/8 Microprocessor 8-bit.	
8085A Microprocessor 8-bit.	

uPD8086D Microprocessor 8-bit.
uPD8088 Microprocessor 16-bit.
uPD8741A Microprocessor + eprom.
uPD8748 Microprocessor 8035 + eprom.
uPD7801-1 Microprocessor Z80A 4MHz.
Z80A-CPU Microprocessor Sharp 4MHz.
Prices on application

PERIPHERALS	PRICE
Z80A-CTC Z80A peripheral.	
Z80A-PIO Z80A peripheral.	
Z80A-SIO Z80A peripheral.	
Z80A-DMA Z80A peripheral.	
8155 Ram + I/O.	
uPD8155H Ram + I/O.	
MSM81C55RS Ram + I/O cmos.	
uPD8156 Ram + I/O.	
uPD8212 I/O port.	
uPB8214 Priority Interrupt Controller.	
uPB8216 Bus Driver.	
uPB8228 System Control/Bus Driver.	
uPD8237A-5 DMA Controller.	
uPD8243C I/O expander.	
uPD8243C I/O expander cmos.	
8251A USART.	
MSM82C512ARS USART cmos.	
8253-5 Programmable Interval Timer.	
MSM82C53-5RS Programmable cmos interface.	
uPD8257-C Programmable DMA Controller.	
uPD8259AC Programmable Interrupt Cont.	
uPD8259C-5 Programmable Interrupt Cont.	

MISCELLANEOUS IC'S	PRICE
8279-5 Keyboard/Display Interface.	
uPD8282 Octal Latch.	
uPD8283 Octal Latch.	
uPD8284A Clock Generator/Driver.	
uPD8286 8-bit bus transceiver.	
uPD8287 8-bit bus transceiver.	
uPD8288 Bus Controller.	
uPD8289 Bus Arbitr.	
*8755A 2k x 8 eprom + I/O.	
HD46503 Floppy Disk Controller.	
HD46505SP 6845 equivalent.	
HD46810 MC6810 equivalent.	
F6821P Fairchild MC6821 equivalent.	
HD68A40 Programmer Timer Module.	
HD4650 MC6850 equivalent.	
HD46850 ACIA.	
HD46852 SSDA.	
HD146818P Hitachi clock peripheral.	
Prices on application	

MISCELLANEOUS IC'S	PRICE
uPD765AC Floppy Disk Controller.	
MB8876 Fujitsu FDC FD1791-1/2.	
MB8877 Fujitsu FDC FD1793.	
MSM5832RS OKI Real Time Clock micro.	
uPD7001 8-bit cmos a-d converter.	
uPD7002 12-bit cmos a-d converter.	
uPD7201 Peripheral Controller.	
uPD7225 LCD Driver.	
uPD3301D-2 Programmable CRT Controller.	
uPD7210 GPIB Interface Controller.	
uPD7220D Graphics Controller.	
Prices on application	

EGL RAMS	PRICE
HM10414 256 x 1 eci ram 10nS.	
HM10422 256 x 4 eci ram 10nS.	
MBM10422 256 x 4 eci ram 10nS.	
MB7072EC 256 x 4 eci ram 12nS.	
Prices on application	

MISCELLANEOUS	PRICE
SWITCH AM2-A3-10-3	26.70p
HOLDER FE1-031-1431	78p
TERMINAL GT 1265	61p
KNOB LK25 (0-10/270 DEG)	1.30p
SWITCH MBS 4991	59p
COIL MS 14049-5	1.05p
SWITCH 55022CD03-0	29p
ARRESTER TG1742-23	1.00p
BALANCER TFM-2	9.65p
PAD TO18-013D	13p
RELAY 20601-L28-231	13p
FILTER 30K6	23.40p

to suit 12" woofers set in the enclosures.

There are some listening room effects - it is a longish room with plastic/concrete floor.

I hope these remarks could lead to further work along the lines of Mr. Capel's article.

Yours sincerely,
John Elliott MSc
Farnborough
Hants.

Personally, we listen to most of our music in the bath and we sometimes wonder if the lack of fidelity isn't due to the water in our ears.

Film Facts

Dear Sir,

I read with interest Mr. Armstrong's feature on 'telecine' and whilst agreeing with almost all within there are several points of accuracy that I would contest.

1. The aspect ratio between the cinema and television is not necessarily different. The 1.33 to 1 (4 to 3) aspect ratio used by most TV stations throughout the world is in fact Motion Picture Academy Ratio. Almost all films pre-1950, many films of the 50's and 60's and all film series made for television are to this ratio. In the early years of television round display tubes were used and 5:4 would have been displayed with better efficiency; despite this 4:3 for television was chosen so as to be compatible with the cinema.

2. The frame of Cinemascope film is not the same size as an ordinary 35mm film. A standard Academy frame is .625" high, there are quite broad 'rack lines' between frames. The frame height of Cinemascope is .715" and the rack lines are very narrow (35 thou.)

3. A true Cinemascope, that is 20th Century Fox, film will have 4 track magnetic sound; to accommodate this and not encroach on the picture area the sprocket holes on the film are smaller, the pitch is the same, however.

4. In the sequence of operations for a projection system at step

two it is said that a claw engaging with the holes in the film moves the frame into position. Although 35mm cameras may use claws, 35mm projectors do not. The usual practise is to use an intermittent sprocket driven by a Maltese Cross mechanism.

5. Although it is common practice to refer to all anamorphic formats as Cinemascope this is rather akin to calling all vacuum cleaners Hoovers. Cinemascope was in fact a trade name of an anamorphic system used by 20th Century Fox. This system has now not been used for some years; most anamorphic films now are shot to the Panavision standard on their equipment.

Yours faithfully,
Nick Lyons
Normanton
West Yorkshire

Help-line

Dear Sir,

I have been a contented and successful project builder, reader of your magazine for quite a while now. With such outstanding comprehensive coverage and useful up to date information, not to mention those marvellous projects, that unanimously puts your magazine aside from the rest.

You must now be wondering why I am writing to you. It is because I am in need of some information. Being an electronic enthusiast for quite some years now, I was happily employed and able to carry out projects, now due to unexpected redundancy, I am now turning those projects into my profession.

I am now in the process of setting up a design and production workshop, specialising in the designing and manufacturing of: Disco, Group, P A, HiFi and Studio Equipment. As these units will have a robust rugged but classic look! Further to this the units will have high specifications, useful tailor-made units to suit.

With such a marvellous ornate new venture, I can not possibly let down the appearance of my units. By using the readily available commercial standard size and shapes slider potentiometers, plus the unavailability of stepped

rotary controls (pots), not to mention the control knobs. If you could be so kind as to enlighten me as to who or where I could obtain the following:

1. Slider potentiometers, with travel less than 40mm both single and stereo.
2. Stepped rotary potentiometers.
3. Stepped slider potentiometers.
4. A manufacturer who would make any of the above to my specifications and finally control knobs not available to retail outlets.

Your help will be greatly appreciated from a happy and grateful reader.

Yours faithfully,
R. Leslie
Wolverhampton

From one 'electronic enthusiast' to another - whirr, click, pyangg! No, but seriously, we've printed Mr. Leslie's letter because we can't really help him, although his predicament must be shared by many. ETI would like to see itself helping those in need of technical information of the sort Mr. Leslie seeks - hobbyists and, especially, people seeking to make the best of enforced redundancy with the help of their hobby. Since we are already overstretched producing the magazine and answering specific queries about the projects we have published, there is room for a 'reader-to-reader' enquiry service, through which ETI readers could help each other.

If anyone can offer Mr. Leslie some assistance we would be pleased to forward any details. If anyone seeks help from other readers, not necessarily on matters dealing with ETI projects or features, we would be happy to publish their request in what we hope will become a special 'help line' section of the magazine.

The one thing we'd ask is that you keep your letters short, preferably sticking to the meat of the query. We will, in any case, edit them if necessary.

Please send letters for this page to: Read/Write, c/o the Editor, ETI, ASP Ltd, 1 Golden Square, London W1R 3AB. Send Help Line queries to Help Line, c/o the Editor, ETI at the same address. Please note that any letter we receive is liable to be published unless clearly marked 'Not for publication'. We reserve the right to edit letters for space reasons.

ETI

DIGIVISION INSIDE OUT

A digital Dallas? Computerized Coronation Street? Vivian Capel takes a look at the future of television and finds it's much the same.

During the early days of post-war television when I worked with a television service company, engineers would often append the comment 'digital interference' to their job sheets. No, they weren't blaming interference from a nearby computer, they were few and far between in those days, and most, in any case, were analogue. Otherwise expressed, they were reporting 'finger trouble', faults brought on by the television viewer fiddling with the array of presets that adorned the rear panels and sides of the TV receivers of the day.

Digital techniques were then known only to a small coterie — in the computer industry, mainly. Such things could never be applied to audio or television. Why, how could they accommodate the vast number of valves that would be needed, to say nothing of powering them?

The coming of semiconductors changed all that, but there seemed little to be gained from abandoning the simplicity of analogue signal processing. So, domestic sound and vision reproducers have remained firmly analogue - until recently. With its narrower bandwidth, audio was the obvious candidate for digitization. The compact disc has certainly shown what advantages can be obtained by digital signal storing and processing, with its low distortion and absence of noise.

But what about television? Professional studio equipment has employed digital techniques for many years. Independent television has had a digital standards converter in use since 1972, and the numerous weird effects increasingly seen on our TV screens demonstrate the growing use of digital video effects generators in broadcast studios.

Since 1977, ITT Semiconductors has been developing methods of applying digital techniques to domestic TV receivers. Seven years later, and at a cost of some £20 million, what is claimed to be the world's first digital domestic TV receiver went on sale — the Digivision D1000.

Reception

How does it work and what does it do? The principal source of signal degradation in any system is the transmission process - whether that be broadcasting or some form of analogue recording. The compact audio disc overcomes most signal degradation by recording

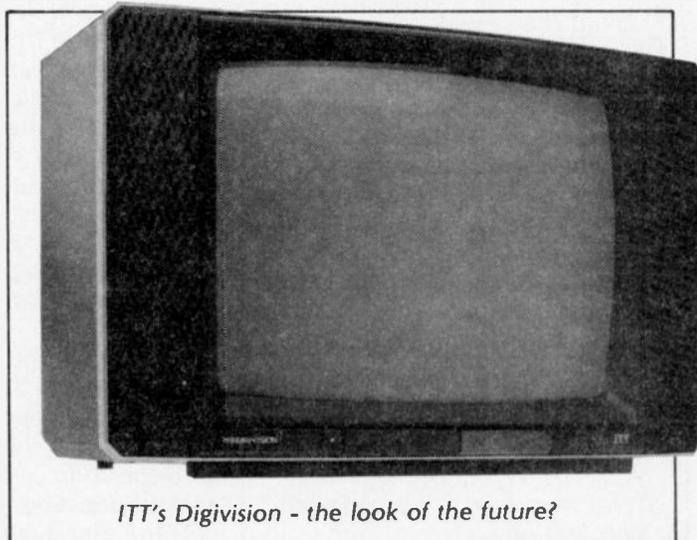
and replaying digital signals but this advantage is not obtainable with digital TV at present, because the television signal itself is not digital. The set can only do its best with whatever is presented to it in the way of a normal analogue transmission via the aerial.

Because of this, the tuner and the IF stages of the Digivision receiver are conventional, as is the vision demodulator. From that point on the digital circuits take over.

The vision signal is converted to a 7-bit digital data stream. By employing a system of averaging on alternate lines, 8-bit resolution is achieved giving 255 sampling levels. As with a conventional TV, the colour or chroma signal is processed separately from this luminance or black-and-white portion.

The eye is less sensitive to colour definition than light and shade detail, which is why the chroma signal has a much smaller bandwidth than the luminance. Furthermore, the eye is less aware of small hue differences than shade gradations. Hence, the chroma signal is represented here by 63 sampling levels, obtained by a 6-bit data stream.

Ironically, it is the sound signal that gets the best treatment digitally; a 14-bit sampling system gives 16,383 levels. This is of course as it should be, because the ear is very sensitive to the distortion produced by an inadequate number of sampling levels, whereas the eye is less critical of gradation differences.



ITT's Digivision - the look of the future?

Processing

After conversion to digital signals the luminance information is filtered, the contrast is set, and black-level clamping and white balancing are carried out. A single chip is used for the video processing, and this includes the colour decoding. For PAL decoding a delay line is used in the normal analogue receiver. The function of this is to delay the signal for 64 μ s, or one complete line, in order to obtain the averaging on alternate lines to cancel phase aberrations. However, in place of the conventional glass delay line and ultrasonic transducers at each end, the delay is obtained by blocks of RAM with capability for storing the required one line. This occupies far less space than a glass delay line - only three square millimetres of chip area. The store is accommodated in the video processor chip along with the filters and other decoding functions.

The chip permits the decoding of NTSC colour signals as transmitted in America, and in this mode the delay circuit can be used as a comb filter for separation of the chrominance and luminance signals.

After processing and decoding, the digital signal is converted back to analogue. This task is performed on the same chip that carried out the A/D conversion. From there the three colour outputs are taken to conventional output stages to drive the display tube.

Deflection signals are generated digitally in a further chip in which division and count-down circuits provide both line and field scanning pulses which drive their respective output stages. These are synchronised from the digital video input.

A master clock generator provides the pulses for all the conversion and processing functions, and a microcomputer chip controls the whole operation. It scans the control keyboard which can have up to 32 keys covering brilliance, colour, and volume, among other things. Included is a phase-locked loop which provides tuning for VHF and UHF, plus a memory to store data for receiving up to 30 channels. The chip also incorporates a memory to store factory-programmed data for tube drive and timebase control. The clock generator runs at 17.73 MHz, four times the colour sub-carrier frequency.

In the sound circuit, one chip converts to digital and back again to analogue to feed the sound output stages and speakers, just as with the video signal. It seems as

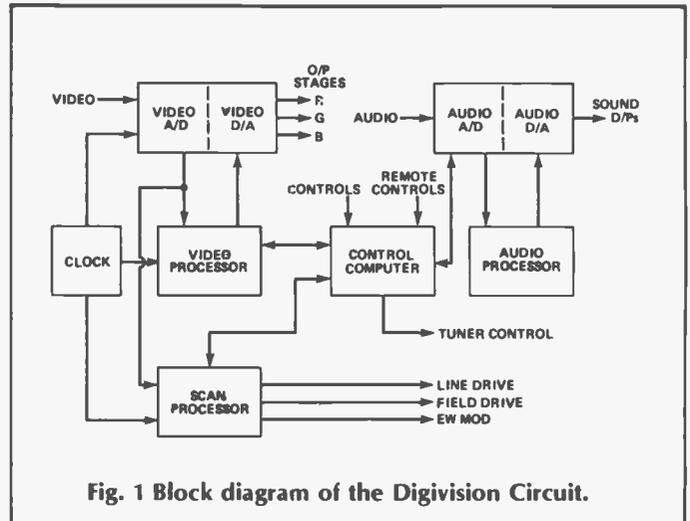


Fig. 1 Block diagram of the Digivision Circuit.

though the designers missed a trick here. If they had employed PWM (pulse width modulation) to drive the speakers there would have been no need of an analogue output stage which generates considerable distortion. In between the A/D and D/A conversions, another chip takes care of the sound signal processing. It includes the ability to deal with two-carrier TV stereo signals.

Sound reproduction is usually the lowest priority with most TV sets and the results are pretty 'lo-fi'. Here though, some attention has been given to this side of matters. The twin output stages deliver 15 watts each to two, three-driver speakers having bass-reflex loading.

Servicing

One thing that Digivision service engineers will not be able to report is 'digital interference' — in spite of it being a digital device. There are no viewer-accessible presets, only the normal controls. One internal preset sets the HT voltage, which is common practice with conventional TV's. All other adjustments such as picture height and width, tube-drive and timebases are made by re-programming the control computer. This can only be done by using a service computer that plugs into a socket provided for the purpose. ITT has dubbed this device an 'electronic screwdriver'. Maybe, but a conventional screwdriver costs a lot less! Dealers purchasing five Digivisions get one service computer

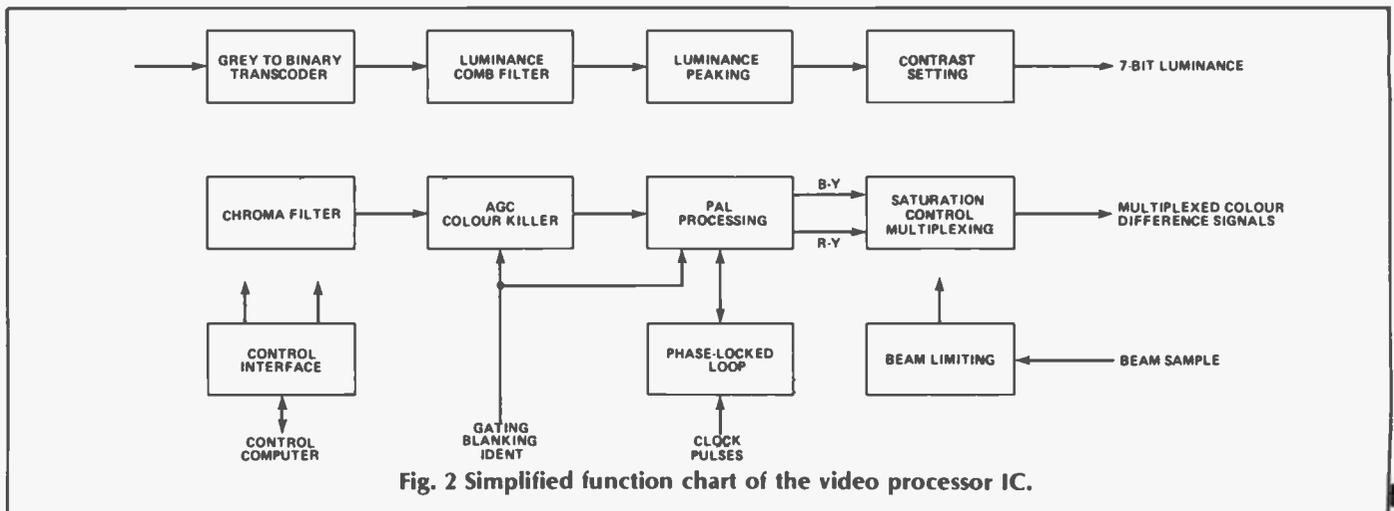


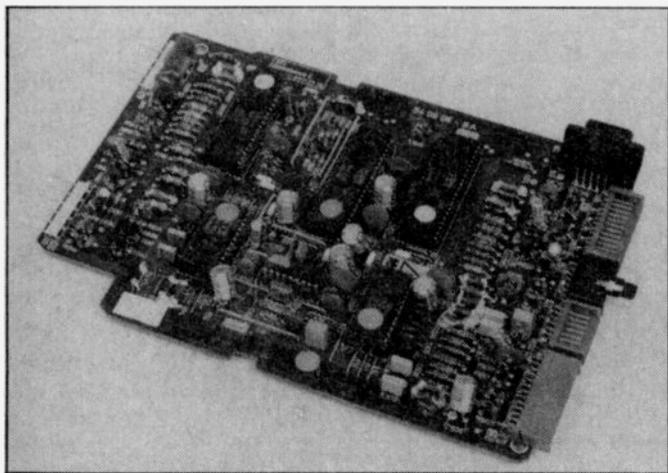
Fig. 2 Simplified function chart of the video processor IC.

free from the makers. The snag is that owners who are qualified and prefer to do their own servicing, especially after the guarantee has expired, will be without the means to do so.

Apart from the clock generator and tuner interface IC's there are six VLSI chips. If you didn't know, that stands for Very Large Scale Integration, and just how large can be gathered from the fact that one chip can contain up to 200,000 transistors.

Possible Enhancement

That brings us to the obvious question, is it all worth it? Are there dramatic improvements comparable to those obtained with digital audio recording? Given a good signal from the aerial and good programme material, a conventional analogue TV which is properly adjusted is capable of excellent results. What limitations there are arise from the transmission system. These are: horizontal definition, line structure — which is easily noticeable on very large screens — and mutual interference between colour and luminance signals due to the way the colour sub-carrier is interleaved into the video spectrum to save bandwidth.



The main processor board of the Digivision.

These, and degradation due to transmission and reception conditions, will be suffered by the digital set just as much as the analogue. Real improvement could only be expected when the transmissions themselves become digital — which is likely to be a long way ahead. What then about reliability?

The makers claim that peak performance is held longer than with conventional sets because the onboard computer monitors performance continually and makes the necessary adjustments to maintain it. However, to put things in perspective, modern TV sets need far less adjustment than did their predecessors. Most faults occur in the display tube and deflection circuits which are conventional with the Digivision. Most sets these days contain a number of chips, and all can and do break down. Statistically, the more semi-conductor elements a chip has, the greater the chance of failure. On this basis the VLSI IC's offer less prospect of longevity than the far simpler units employed in analogue receivers. All the same, there are many complex chips in daily use that have a good record of reliability and only time will tell with the Digivision.

In the absence of any major benefits to the viewer, it seems that digital television at present is an exploratory step.

The number of scanning lines could be increased. Plans are already afoot to double the line number by using 2.2 kbyte of RAM for line storage to enable each line to be traced twice. This would not increase the actual vertical definition, but the doubling of the lines would make them virtually indistinguishable, even on very large screens.

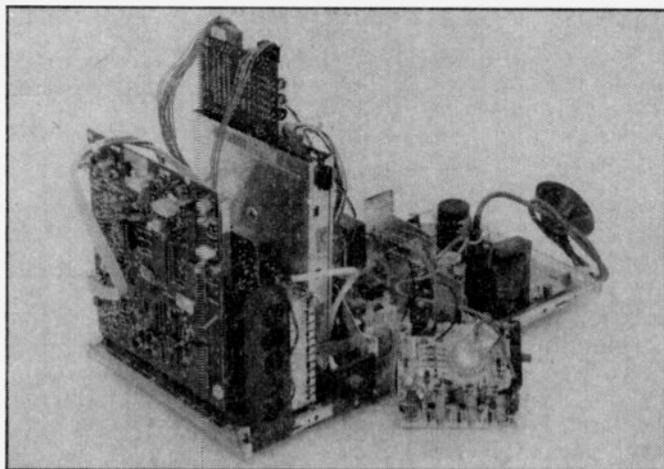
Another possibility is to use a field store that will hold a complete field of picture. By use of this the TV could be given a still-frame capability just like a video recorder. The only snag is that you could not continue viewing from where you left off, or inch to the next frame, since material transmitted while you were viewing the still frame would have passed. But some studio trick effects would be possible.

Two pictures could be displayed at the same time. With TV programmes as boring as they are, this could be a boon, as viewers could then transfer their attention to whichever seemed the most interesting! Zoom facilities could also be incorporated enabling a portion of the picture to be enlarged at will. Another possibility is the enhancement of the received signal by identifying and eliminating ghosts caused by multipath reception. With the problems caused in some areas by high rise buildings, this would give a positive advantage over analogue sets.

Other Makers

ITT have proved to be the first in the field but others are following. The Finnish firm Salora have produced a digital receiver which is now on sale and uses the same chips as Digivision. They are the first with the smaller 20 and 22-inch screen sizes, the ITT being 26-inch. Salora call their offering the Digicomputer, which could be a little misleading. Optional extras include a satellite tuner and PAL/SECAM/NTSC converter.

We may be seeing many other makers producing digital TV's, because the ITT subsidiary Intermetall — which makes the chips at Freidberg — are supplying packages of the complete line-up of chips to such firms as Matsushita, Toshiba, Sharp and Zenith. Some 21 companies have signed up to buy the package from Intermetall. Knowing the cut-throat competition exist-



The sound and picture goes in here and it comes out...

FEATURE : Digivision

ing among these giants, it is almost certain that their research teams are busily finding ways to produce their own, with sufficient differences and perhaps improvements to circumvent the patent laws.

A further chip is being added to the package from Freidberg and that is one that will process any of the existing European teletext systems (except the French Antiope). To assemble all that on one chip is quite an achievement, especially as it includes automatic switching between the systems.

There are also plans to produce a digital VHS video recorder. This could be a major step forward, as the reproduction from domestic video recorders leaves much room for improvement. It all depends on whether they can digitize the main noise and distortion producing areas. Principally, these are in the recording process itself and with present technology digital video recording using the VHS format seems very unlikely.

As for those future gimmicks, the frame store and such, these are well in the future and present sets will not be adaptable. It requires about 4 megabits for a high quality frame store, and at present 1 megabit seems the maximum for a single chip.

It appears that digital TV — along with about practically everything else — is the set prospect for the future. (I wonder if we will ever get crisp, clear, digital hi-fi telephone conversations with no clicks, crackles and noise?). Present purchasers of digital sets will have the satisfaction of being in at the start of a new technology, but at present there are few other compensations for the extra cost.

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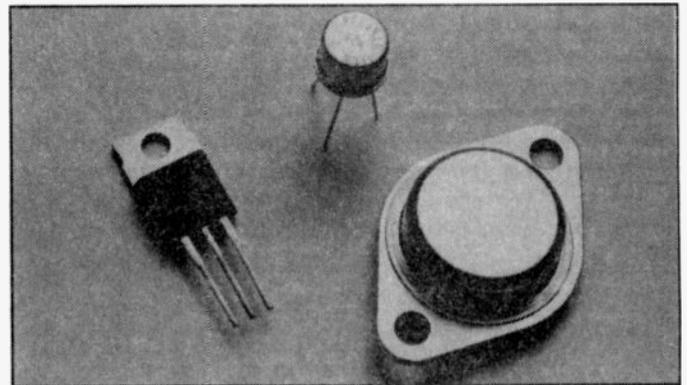
We may be biased, but we think the majority of you will get quite carried away by John Linsley Hood's article on transistors.

I looked last month at the way in which transistors were developed and how they had evolved into their present form. I now propose to look at some of the various contemporary types.

As a working electronics engineer I tend to look unsympathetically at the propaganda of the 'back to valves' brigade. The enormous scope for circuit design now available to the electronics fraternity is due entirely to the wealth of devices at our disposal. Of course, one has to know what devices are available and how to use them properly so that they give of their best, and it is also necessary to know their individual strengths and weaknesses so that one always uses the most appropriate device for the job in hand. There are a lot of them to choose from, so let us take a look.

Small Signal Junction Transistors

These exist as small metal cans or blobs of moulded plastic with three (or sometimes four) wires, as shown in Fig. 1. There isn't much difference nowadays between the longevity and reliability of plastic and metal can encapsulations, especially since the can is often just a receptacle into which epoxy resin has been poured to hold the silicon chip in place. Metal can types, especially those which are hermetically sealed, tend to be a good bit dearer than plastic moulded types.



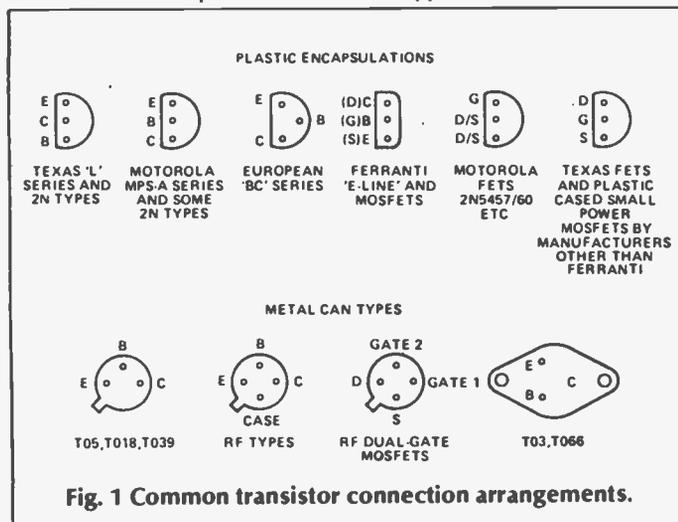
The chip inside the encapsulation will normally be of either the planar or the epitaxial planar type, both of which are shown in Fig. 2. Epitaxial (or epitaxial base) types have an additional thin layer of a different type of silicon grown on the chip by vapour phase techniques before the other diffusions have been made. They are cheaper and generally work better than other types and are therefore the most commonly used.

Typical power dissipations for small signal plastic transistors range from about 250 to 650 milliwatts. Metal can ones will typically handle from 300-1000 milliwatts dissipation. It is good practice to keep dissipations down to about half of the rated maximum.

Small signal NPN and PNP transistors can generally be regarded as 'maids of all work' in the small circuit field. They are easy to use, inexpensive, reasonably difficult to damage, and will work well when used within their limits. Certain types are particularly suited for use in very low-noise, low impedance applications. Because they can be used in complementary symmetry arrangements, some very crafty circuit layouts are possible. The circuit symbols for these devices are shown in Fig. 3a.

Darlington Transistors

These consist of a pair of small signal transistors coupled together in one case. They are available in NPN and PNP types and the circuit symbol for the NPN type is shown in Fig. 3b, with my own preferred symbol shown in Fig. 3c. They are similar to other junction transistors except that they have current gains of between 20 000 and 50 000 and relatively high input impedance. Typical input impedances would be from 100k to 250k for output currents of between 2 and 10mA, which is the range



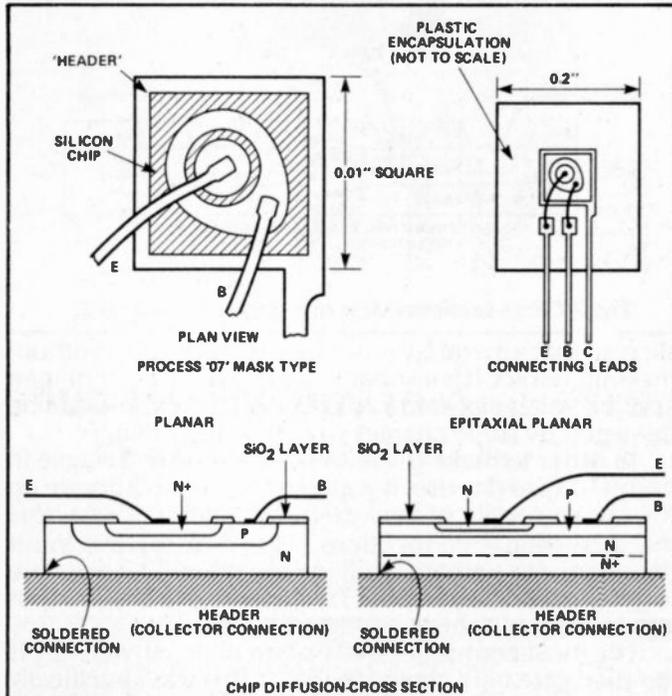


Fig. 2 The construction of a typical small-signal, plastic-encapsulated transistor.

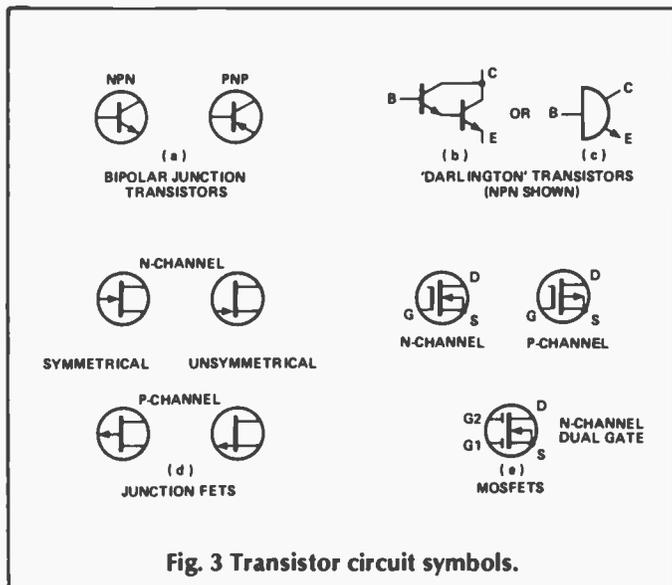


Fig. 3 Transistor circuit symbols.

over which they work best. The Motorola MPSA-12/14 (NPN) and the MPSA-62/64 (PNP) are good examples. Inevitably they are a bit dearer than standard single transistors.

Junction Field Effect Devices

These were the original high impedance transistor types and are represented in circuit diagrams by the symbols shown in Fig. 3d. Their physical construction is shown in Fig. 4.

They differ from junction bipolar transistors in that their input terminal, the gate, is normally non-conducting. In fact, it is a reverse biased junction diode, and the only current which will flow is the normal reverse leakage current of such a diode. Typical input impedances for good quality devices of this type range from ten thousand to a million megohms.

Contrary to popular legend, these devices will not

normally be damaged by static charges any more than any other small signal diode would be, so they don't need especial care in use. They come into their own where very high input impedances are needed, and where the extra cost of using a junction FET is justified — they are about five times the cost of an equivalent bipolar device. The better examples are also less noisy in high impedance circuitry than bipolar devices but one needs to choose carefully because some of the cheap and cheerful junction FETs are not very good in this respect.

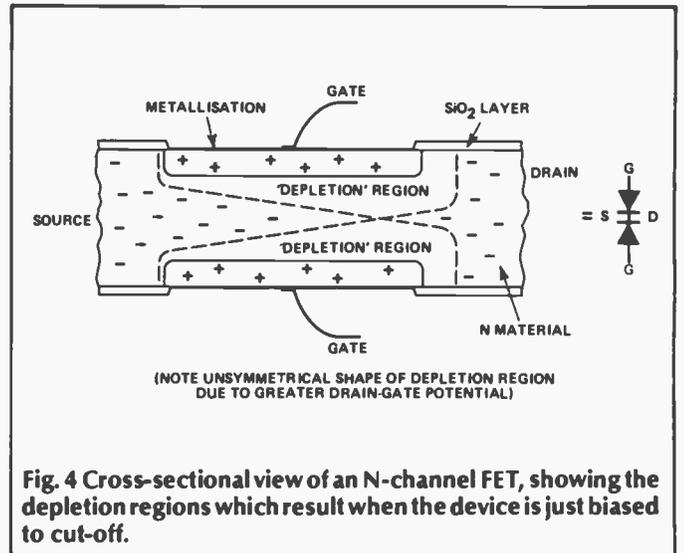


Fig. 4 Cross-sectional view of an N-channel FET, showing the depletion regions which result when the device is just biased to cut-off.

Junction FETs also make good RF amplifier devices at frequencies up to about 300MHz, and can offer very low noise in this application. In circuitry, they will tend to have a lower stage gain than bipolar devices, unless a very high impedance output load is employed which usually means an active load of some kind. They have a very flat drain current/drain voltage characteristic which makes them good at rejecting HT line ripple effects, and also allows them to be used as nearly ideal constant current sources.

The chip construction of a junction FET is shown in Fig. 5. The chip acts as a thin conducting layer of P-type or N-type silicon (germanium is almost never used, though it is still used sometimes in bipolar devices), into which a depletion layer will expand, narrowing and finally cutting off the undepleted layer through which current may flow as the reverse bias potential applied to the gate is increased. Junction FETs are usually, though not always, symmetrical, so source and drain may be interchanged.

Small Signal MOSFETs

These devices, sometimes also known as insulated gate field effect transistors or IGFETs (MOSFET stands for Metal Oxide Silicon FET), have the general construc-

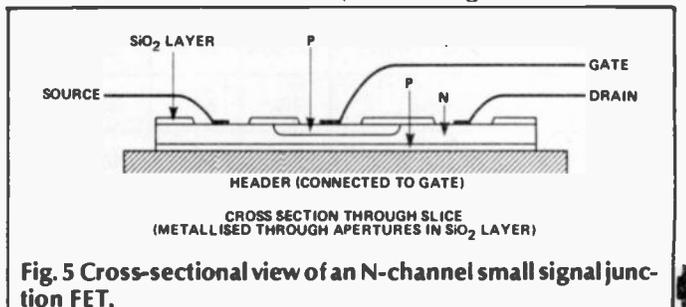


Fig. 5 Cross-sectional view of an N-channel small signal junction FET.

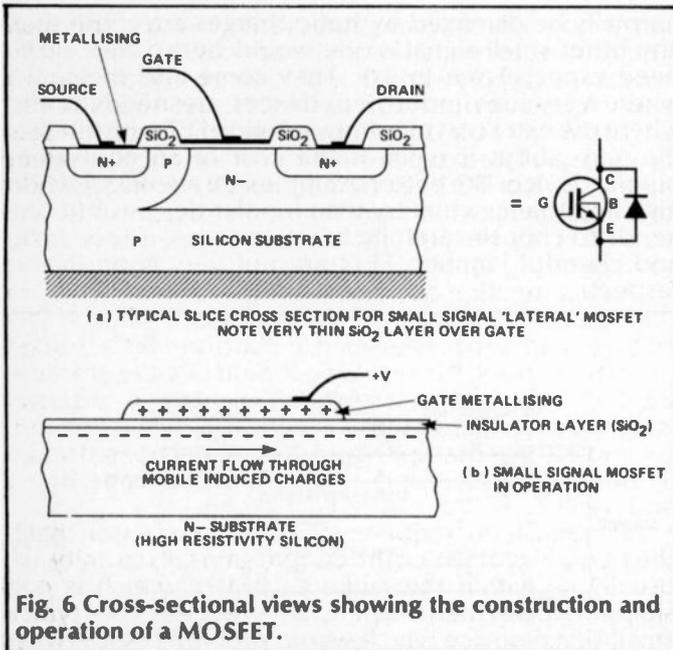


Fig. 6 Cross-sectional views showing the construction and operation of a MOSFET.

tion shown, for the wafer, in Fig. 6a. They work on the principle that if a charge (i.e., a voltage) is applied to an insulating layer, a charge of the opposite type will be attracted to the other face, as shown in Fig. 6b.

If that other face happens to lie in the body of a slice of high impedance (low impurity, or intrinsic) silicon, then current will flow in that charge layer. If the insulating layer is very thin, only a few volts need be applied to the gate in order to make current flow through the charge layer. The layer, which can be less than a micron thick, is usually made by oxidising the outer face of the silicon

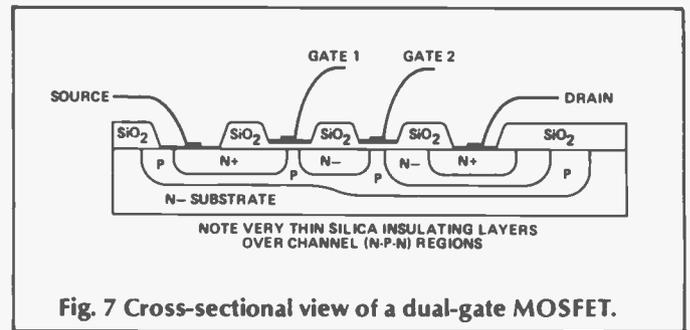


Fig. 7 Cross-sectional view of a dual-gate MOSFET.

slice, so that a metal layer can be deposited on it without making contact. It is normally capable of withstanding an applied voltage of some 20 or 30 volts only, and can be damaged by static charges or careless handling.

In order to make these devices a little less fragile in normal day to day use, it is customary to incorporate on the chip a couple of back-to-back zener diodes across the gate-source connections. This reduces the input impedance to perhaps a million megohms. It is possible to get unprotected MOSFETs which have a higher input impedance, but these need careful handling.

The most common variety of small signal MOSFET is the dual gate type shown in Fig. 7. This was specifically designed as a device for RF amplification and mixing in radio and TV tuners, and is usable up to a few hundred megahertz. The second gate can be used to screen the input signal gate from the output signal on the drain, permitting stable RF amplification. In this application, it acts in a similar way to the screened-grid or RF pentode type of valve. I have shown the circuit symbol for these transistors in Fig. 3c.

All of these MOSFETs require a forward voltage applied to the gate electrode to cause them to conduct.

	TYPICAL INPUT IMPEDANCE	TYPICAL STAGE GAIN	OUTPUT IMPEDANCE (COMMON EMITTER)	TYPICAL MAXIMUM WORKING FREQUENCY	NOISE FIGURE (dB) (MINIMUM)	TYPICAL (MAX) WORKING VOLTAGE	TYPICAL (MAX) WORKING CURRENT	COMMENTS
SMALL SIGNAL JUNCTION TRANSISTORS	0.5-20k	40-200	200k +	300MHz	1dB	150V	500mA	NOT VERY LINEAR WITHOUT NFB
SMALL SIGNAL DARLINGTON TRANSISTORS	250k	100-500	200k	100MHz	6dB	40V	1A	TEMPERATURE SENSITIVE
JUNCTION FETS	10 ¹¹ R	10-30	10M	400MHz	2.5dB	30V	15mA	LINEAR
DUAL-GATE MOSFETS	10 ¹² R	50-100	500k	500MHz	2dB	20V	20mA	CAN BE DAMAGED BY STATIC CHARGES
SMALL POWER MOSFETS	10 ¹² R	50-200	250k	500MHz	6dB	100V	1A	CAN BE DAMAGED BY STATIC CHARGES- VERY LINEAR
POWER TRANSISTORS (NPN)	10-200R	10-30	5k	40MHz	N/A	400V	25A	CAN SUFFER FROM 'HOLE' STORAGE EFFECTS
POWER TRANSISTORS (PNP)	10-200R	10-30	5k	10MHz	N/A	100V	15A	SOMEWHAT SLUGGISH & SUFFER FROM 'HOLE' STORAGE
POWER DARLINGTONS	20k	50 +	5k	4MHz	N/A	120V	15A	SLUGGISH AND SUFFER FROM 'HOLE' STORAGE
POWER MOSFETS	100M +	50 +	10k	500MHz	POOR	750V	10A	HIGH INPUT CAPACITANCE-PRONE TO OSCILLATE IF NOT PREVENTED
POWER FETS	10M +	10 +	5k	100MHz	N/A	?	?	HIGH OPERATING CURRENT REQUIRED

Table 1 A comparison of the characteristics of different transistor types.

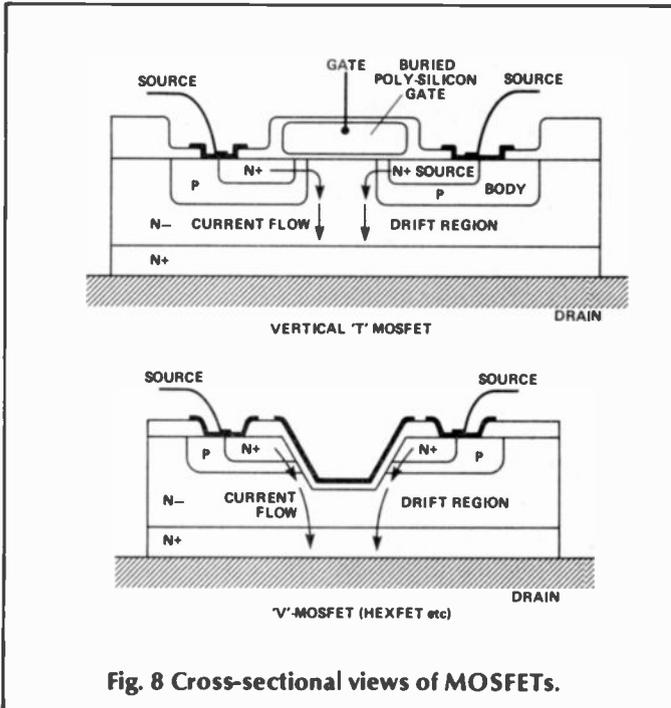


Fig. 8 Cross-sectional views of MOSFETs.

This will be positive in the case of an N-channel MOSFET (operating on a positive DC supply line) and negative in the case of the less common P-channel types. Small signal devices of this type will typically have a mutual conductance or G_m of a few milliamps per volt. This allows a simple calculation of stage gain from

$$\text{Gain} = G_m \times R_L$$

where R_L is the effective load impedance.

Recently, and to my great delight, small signal versions of the T-MOS type of power MOSFET have been introduced. These have a slightly different type of chip construction to the normal small-signal MOSFET, and I have shown this in Fig. 8. Their big advantage is that they can withstand drain voltages of up to about 100V, whereas the average dual-gate device or small signal junction FET can only cope with some 20-30V.

By comparison with bipolar transistors, MOSFETs are much more linear in their characteristics and do not suffer from operational problems such as thermal runaway and hole storage. The absence of this latter defect makes small signal TMOS devices considerably better than bipolar junction devices when used in the class A stages of audio amplifiers, as in the case of the Audio Design power amplifier shown in ETI last summer.

The circuit symbol used for the TMOS device is the same as that used for other MOSFETs except that they are only available in single gate versions.

I have shown the normal operating characteristics of the various small signal transistors in Table 1, and a group of curves showing their input voltage/output current characteristics in Fig. 9.

Bipolar Junction Power Transistors

These are heavier duty versions of the small signal transistors we have already come across, and range in current handling capacity from an ampere or so for some of the small plastic encapsulated types with a metal cooling tag to 400 amperes in the case of some of the big industrial devices.

Permitted dissipations, with adequate heat-sinking,

range from one to many hundreds of watts, and maximum collector voltages can be up to 500-1000 volts in specialised types, with 60-150V being more common in easily found devices such as the 2N3055 or 2N3442.

There isn't a big difference in price between the plastic encapsulated types and the hermetically sealed metal TO66 or TO3 versions, so, for DIY projects where one isn't buying a lot of power transistors, the metal can versions may be preferable. They are certainly easier to cool.

Power junction transistors are available in NPN and PNP types, just like small signal devices, but the PNP ones tend to be a bit slower in action and a bit less burst-proof than the NPN ones. One should beware of assuming that because they are complementary in characteristics they can be treated as identical. A nice comment I once heard was that 'NPN and PNP power transistors are as similar as a man and a woman of the same height and weight'.

The transition frequency of a power transistor, that is, the frequency at which the current gain falls to unity, will usually lie within the range 4-20MHz, which is considerably lower than the transition frequency of a typical small signal device which would probably be between 100 and 400MHz. In addition to being more sluggish than small signal types, power transistors also have lower current gains. Whereas a small signal junction transistor has a typical current gain of 100-500, a power device might have a current gain of only 15-80, with the lower

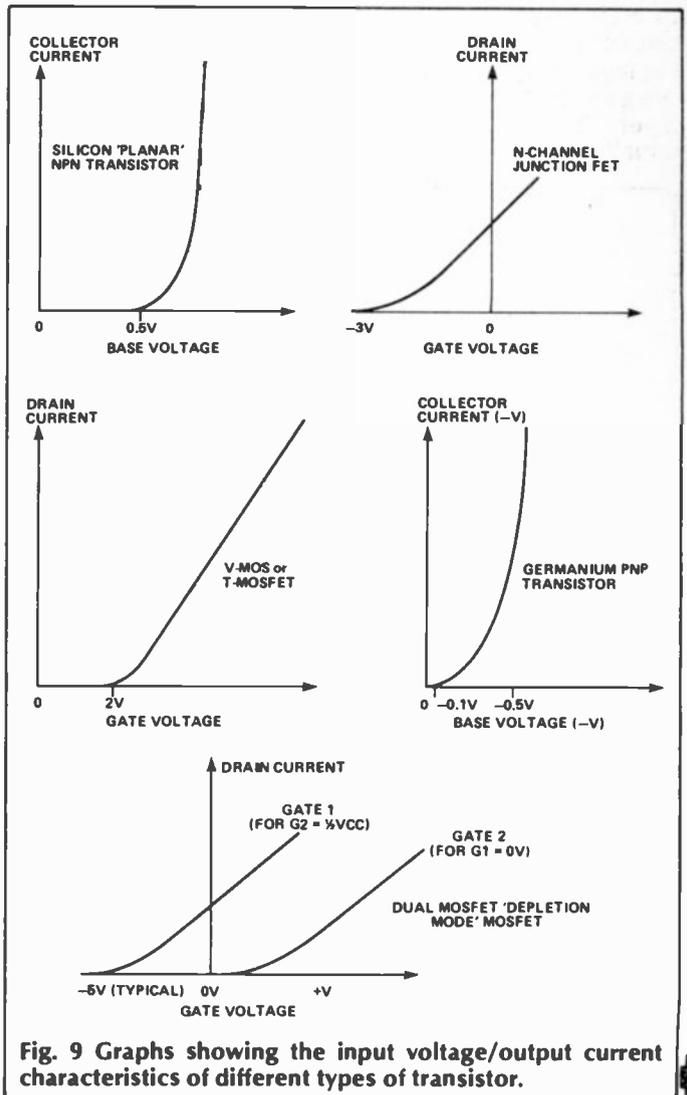


Fig. 9 Graphs showing the input voltage/output current characteristics of different types of transistor.

values usually being found at higher collector currents.

Since this can occasionally be a nuisance where high output currents are required (remember that the required drive current is the output current divided by the current gain), compound Darlington power transistors are available which have current gains in the range 1000-10,000. These are very useful, especially since they are not a lot dearer than single power transistors. However, they do have snags, of which the chief are that their output current for a given forward voltage is very temperature dependent and that they are, if anything, even more sluggish than ordinary power output devices.

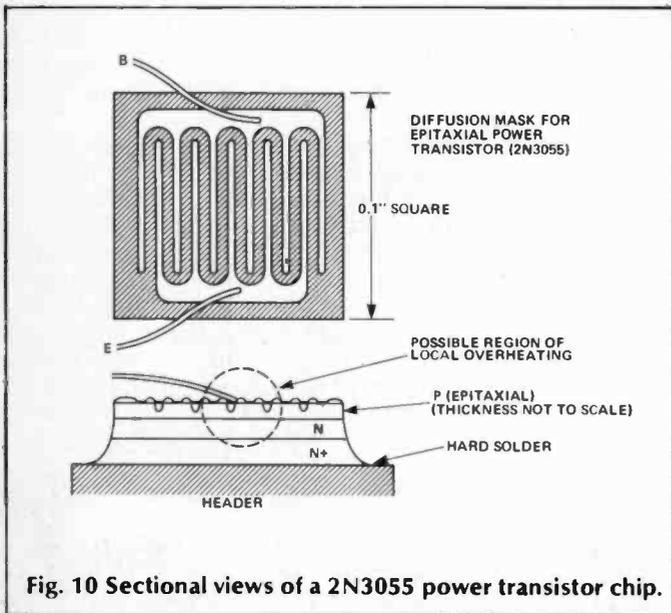


Fig. 10 Sectional views of a 2N3055 power transistor chip.

The major problem with bipolar junction power transistors is that of secondary breakdown. This arises because the forward voltage of a conducting semiconductor junction — such as the base emitter junction in a transistor — drops as the temperature of the junction rises. So, in a power transistor, which has a typical chip cross-section as shown in Fig. 10, if the current flow through the transistor makes the chip get hot, it is likely that some parts of its area will get hotter than others. The base-emitter junction forward voltage in these regions will then drop, and more current will flow through this region. This will cause the collector current opposite these areas to increase, which will make the areas concerned still hotter . . . and so on, until the device goes phut.

The only way to avoid this is to make sure that such transistors are always operated well within the 'safe operating area' specified by the manufacturers. Ensuring that this condition is always met can be tricky in equipments designed to drive dynamic loads such as loudspeakers or motors. Nevertheless, it is practicable.

Power MOSFETs

Small signal dual-gate devices have a lateral current flow, that is, in a direction parallel to the surface of the wafer, and consequently have a fairly high channel resistance. In order to use the MOSFET principle in power devices, a means had to be found of lowering the conducting resistance. The chip construction employed is shown in Fig. 8.

In this arrangement, the current flows in a vertical direction (ie., at right angles to the surface of the wafer). This means that the channel length is defined not so

much by the accuracy of the wafer masking during successive diffusions as by the actual thickness of the diffused layer, which can be very narrow indeed and quite accurately controlled.

Power MOSFETs are very fast devices by comparison with the relatively sluggish bipolar power devices. They are also very much more linear, although they don't have such a high gain. Apart from the fact that they require a forward bias of 2-3V to force them into conduction, they are similar in characteristics to output 'Beam-tetrode' valves, but, of course, much more compact and free from the need for a cathode heater supply.

Their main drawback is that they are inclined to see wires connected to their pins as small inductances, whereupon they will happily oscillate at a few hundred megahertz until they burn out either themselves or some other, weaker link. This can be avoided simply by the use of a suitable 'gate stopper' resistor, in the range 250R-2k Ω . They also have an absolute limit on the voltage which can be applied to their gates in either a forward or a reverse direction. This usually requires both attention to the circuit design, and some form of zener diode protection.

Cost considerations apart, I think that they have overtaken bipolar junction transistors as power amplifier output devices provided that they are correctly employed. Moreover, they are quite immune to 'secondary breakdown', and whilst they do have other problems, there is nothing that cannot fairly easily be avoided.

Power MOSFETs are currently available in working voltages up to 500V, and current ratings up to 50 amperes — although not both in the same package. Maximum power ratings are now up to the 150 watt mark, and rising.

Combination devices are beginning to appear, consisting of small power MOSFETs driving large power bipolar transistors, all on the same chip and in the same package. They combine the easy drive characteristics of power MOSFETs with the very high current capabilities of power transistors, mainly for uses like motor driving. Also appearing are power MOSFETs with built-in logic elements, to give muscle to low-power logic circuitry.

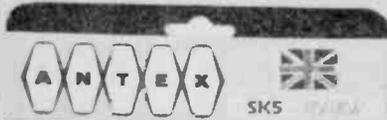
Power Junction FETs

These were introduced by Sony, in Japan, just before the general acceptance and widespread manufacture of power MOSFETs. They are, in effect, just bigger versions of the small signal devices described above, with higher voltage, current, and dissipation ratings. The few audio amplifiers built by Sony using these had a good reputation.

I am not sure whether the success of the 'vertical' power MOSFET will mean that power junction FETs (which behave in a manner very similar to that of valve triodes) have now become obsolete, or whether in the fullness of time they will be made by other manufacturers and become widely available.

I propose to look next month at the topic of transistor parameters, y , z and h , and the techniques of performance calculations using these. I will also look a bit more closely at the way in which transistors are employed, with particular reference to some of the hidden snags, since the quality of the designs which we make for ourselves will depend a lot on our ability to avoid unforeseen problems and to choose the most appropriate device and the best way of using it. After all, it often costs no more to make up a good design than a less satisfactory one, and the same components may serve for both.

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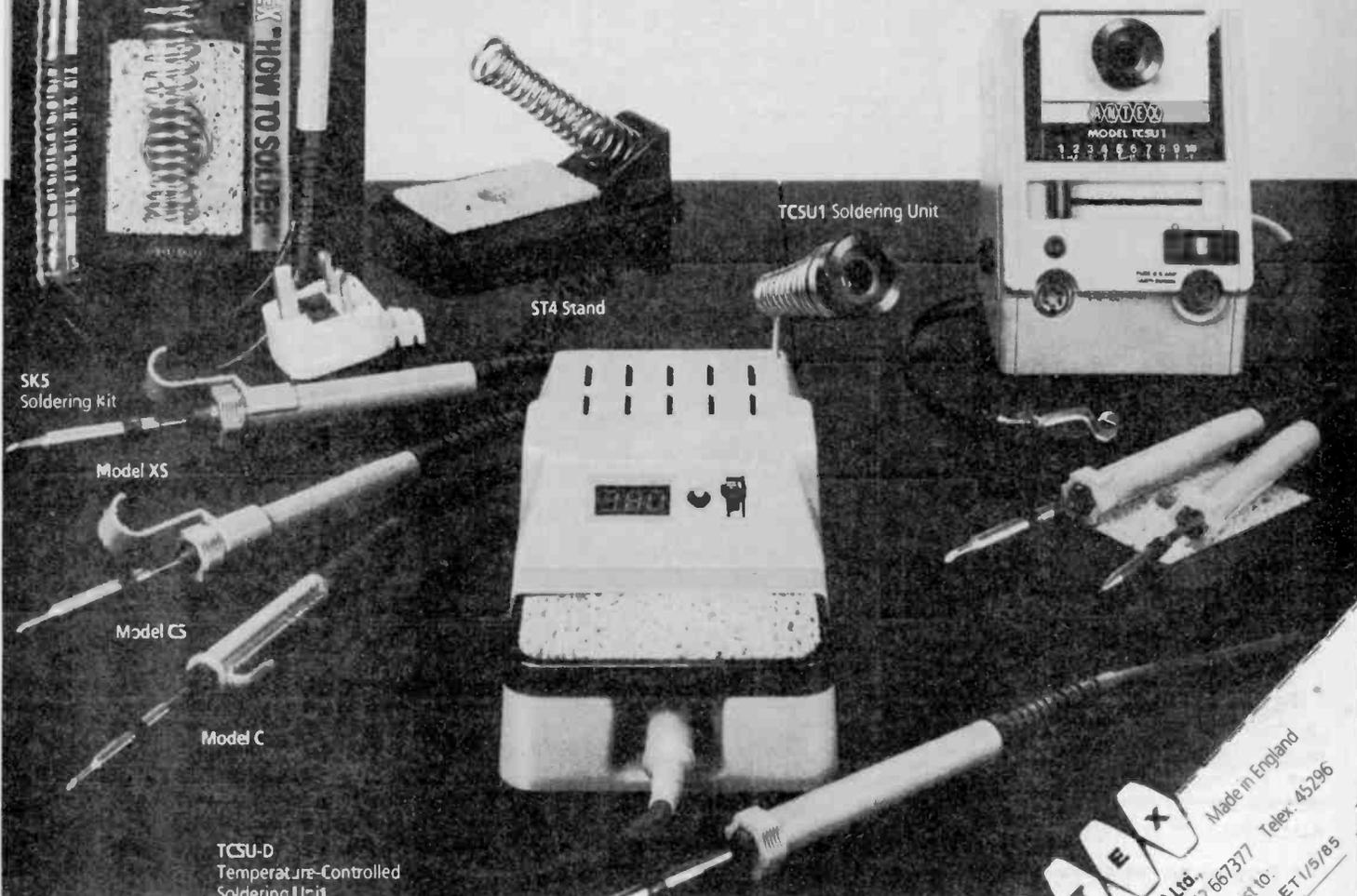
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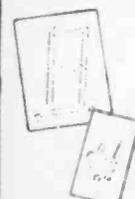
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6802 EVALUATION BOARD

The 6802 is not a microprocessor we have paid a lot of attention to in the past. C.P. Atkins has come up with this straightforward design for those who would like to get to know it a little better.

This project was designed for people who wish to break into the world of microprocessors. Many such systems have been designed in the past but most are still too complicated for the hobbyist to understand. Other people buy expensive computer systems and find they still know very little about the micro and how it works, quite often because of a monitor program which controls every move.

The project described is very simple and of basic design yet forms a powerful base upon which to design complex systems. It was primarily designed to allow people to teach themselves microprocessor hardware design and machine-code, allowing the user not only to program the circuit but also to program the vectors. Hex displays are added so that the programmer can actually see the result. In time the user should find it unnecessary to keep designing new circuits and just reprogram the board for each requirement instead.

The draw back with this project is that every time you wish to change or modify the program you will have to reprogram an EPROM, unless you are lucky enough to have access to an EPROM emulator. Because most of the people likely to construct this project will own or have access to a computer, I have also designed an EPROM emulator which will run the board, and this will be described in a future article. Simply by loading an area of RAM with micro-code and then isolating the RAM from the computer, the 6802 board can be made to think it is addressing EPROM. In this way machine code can be

changed with care and can also be stored on tape or disk when a program is completed or modified. By building up in this way a powerful system can be put together quite cheaply.

The 6802 Microprocessor

The 6802 microprocessor was used because it has the familiar 6800 instruction set, but it also includes some additional features. The 6802 is an eight bit microprocessors which contains all the registers and accumulators of the present 6800 plus an internal clock oscillator and drives. It also has 128 bytes of RAM at hex address 0000 to 007F. The first 32 bytes at hex address 0000 to 001F may be retained in a low power mode by using Vcc standby, thus retaining memory on powerdown, but this feature is not incorporated on the evaluation board.

The processor has three sixteen bit registers and three eight bit registers. These are the Program Counter, Stack Pointer, Index Register, A and B accumulators and a condition code register or status register. The program counter is a two byte (16 bit) register that points to the current program address. The stack pointer is also a two byte register and contains the address of the next available location in an external push down, pop up stack. This stack is normally the part of the RAM which can be put anywhere in your memory map.

The index register is a very useful register because it is also two bytes wide and can be used as a general purpose register or, more importantly, for the indexed mode of memory addressing. Two eight bit accumulators are used to store

results from the arithmetic logic unit (ALU). The last register mentioned is the status register or condition code register which holds the condition flags of the ALU. Only the first six bits are used, the last two being held at one. The flags are Negative (N), zero (Z), overflow (V), carry from bit 7 (C), and half carry from bit 3 (H). These bits of the condition code register are used to test conditions for the conditional branch instructions. Bit 4 is the interrupt mask bit (I).

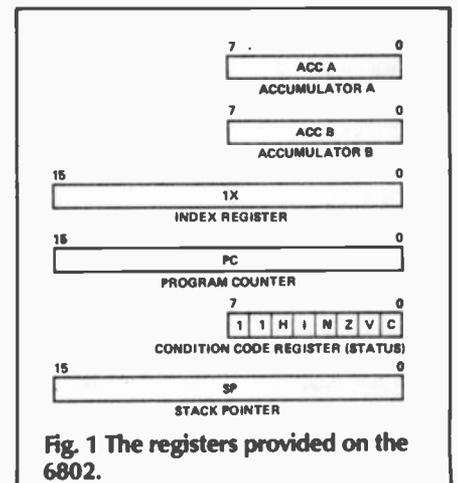


Fig. 1 The registers provided on the 6802.

The control and timing signals for the 6802 are identical to those of the 6800 except that TSC, DBE, 01, 02 and two unused pins have been eliminated and some signal and timing lines have been added. These are RAM enable (RE), crystal connections Extal and Xtal, memory ready (MR), Vcc standby, and enable 02 output (E).

The internal oscillator is crystal controlled, but other clocks may be used if desired. The connections are for a series resonant crystal. A divide-by-four circuit is

included, so a 4MHz crystal is used and the board effectively runs at 1MHz.

The 6802 has a set of 72 different instructions which are exactly the same as those of the 6800. The instruction set is very elegant (unlike, for example, the instruction sets of the Intel 8080 and 3085 micros) and for this reason is ideal for learning with. The full instruction set is given in a book called "6800 microprocessor applications manual," which any constructor who is serious about learning micro-programming should purchase.

The 6802 uses the $\overline{\text{RESET}}$ signal for its start and restart procedures. A low on the RESET input causes it to go to address FFFE H and fetch the most significant byte of the restart address stored there. The 6802 then increments its program counter to FFFF H and fetches the least significant byte of the restart address stored there. While this signal is low all the registers are cleared and the interrupt mask bit is set. This is bit 4 in the condition code register.

The restart address is loaded into the program counter and fetches its next instruction from that address. Since the 6802 always goes to FFFE H and FFFF H to get the RESET vector address, the user must ensure that the starting address of the EPROM is stored there. This is 8000H on the 6802 evaluation board (H means hex).

Interrupts

There are three different types of interrupts: non-maskable interrupt (NMI), interrupt request (IRQ) and a software interrupt. The non-maskable interrupt is, as the name suggests, not maskable. A low on this pin causes the processor to finish its current instruction and push the return address, index register, accumulators, and condition code register on the stack. The 6802 then goes to address FFFC H to get the most significant byte. After that it goes to FFFD H to get the least significant byte. These two bytes are then loaded into the program counter and the interrupt subroutine is started somewhere in memory.

The interrupt request works a little differently because it is maskable. A low on the IRQ pin will have no effect unless the interrupt mask has been cleared. If

The board contains just seven chips. These are one 6802 microprocessor, one 2716 EPROM, one 7400, two 6821 PIA's (peripheral interface adaptors) and two TIL 311 hex displays. The microprocessor is connected up in a minimum configuration, which is to say that there are no fancy extras.

The data bus is 8 bits wide and is connected to both PIA's and the EPROM. The address bus is 16 bits wide. A0 to A10 are fed into the EPROM giving a memory area of 2K. A15 is taken off the bus, inverted through a two input NAND gate, and used to enable the EPROM via pins 18 and 20. The 2K memory starts at hex address 8000H. This figure is arrived at in the manner shown in Fig. 3.

A15	A14	A13	A12	A11	A10	A9	A8	A7	A6	A5	A4	A3	A2	A1	A0	BINARY HEX
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
8				0				0				0				

Fig. 3 Derivation of the memory start address.

The end of the EPROM is $8000 + 2K$ which is 87FF. When the reset switch is pushed for a restart the micro thinks it is looking at address FFFE but in this case it is 87FE. So our reset or restart vectors are stored in 87FE and 87FF. Since the EPROM starts at address 8000H, 80H will be stored in address 87FE and 00H will be stored in 87FF. Obviously if the EPROM was being programmed in an external programmer the 8000H would be the same as 0000H.

Decoding of the PIA's is made simple by the number of chip enables the 6821 has to its credit. RS0, RS1, and CS1 are connected to A0, A1, and A2 respectively, and this is the same on both PIA1 and PIA2 (IC3, IC4). On PIA1 (IC3) the four register addresses were decoded for 5004H to 5007H, so A14 was connected to $\overline{\text{CS2}}$ and A12 is NANDed with the valid memory address line and connected to CS0. PIA2 is decoded for 4004H to 4007, so A14 is connected to CS0 and A15 is connected to $\overline{\text{CS2}}$. The R/W, Reset, and E(02 clock) signals are straightforward connections to similar pins on the micro.

That leaves the $\overline{\text{IRQA}}$ and $\overline{\text{IRQB}}$

it has been cleared an $\overline{\text{IRQ}}$ input will cause the 6802 processor to push the return address, index register, accumulators, and condition code register on the stack after it has finished its current instruction.

It then goes to address FFF8H to get the most significant byte and to FFF9H to get the least significant byte. The processor then sets the interrupt mask so that no other IRQ interrupt routine can start, after which the program counter is loaded with the contents of FFFH and FFFG H and the interrupt routine starts.

Note that NMI has a higher priority than that of IRQ. On the

signals. These have all been linked together and connected to the $\overline{\text{IRQ}}$ and NMI signal on the micro, just to keep things simple. The remaining 20 pins on each chip, namely PA0-PA7, PB0-PB7, and the four control lines CA1, CA2, CB1 and CB2, are all connections to the outside world. It is from here that you will see the results of the program you have written.

To help you to see this, two TIL311 hex displays have been linked to the PA0-PA7 lines of PIA 1. These displays take one four bit word and decode and drive the seven segment display. So, using your PIA data register as a memory location, you can display your answer or the result of a program. These displays

are also latched so a result will stay until changed. Including these eight lines, there are thirty two input/output lines and eight control lines, which is more than you would get in a home computer.

The 6802 has an oscillator and a driver circuit, so the clock is produced simply by putting a 4MHz crystal between the XTAL and EXTERNAL pins of the micro (pins 38 and 39). Because the circuit is so small, pull up resistors are fitted to some of the signals. In a bigger system with more chips these signals would automatically be dragged up.

For our use some signals are held high. These are RAM enable (RE), memory ready (MR) and Halt. Other signals that are in operation but are pulled-up are the interrupt lines, (pins 4 and 6), the VMA (valid memory address) signal which should be gated to the peripheral chips in some way, and the Reset signal which is also connected to a micro switch for use with restart procedures. This leaves the BA (Bus Available) signal which we are not really interested in. This is left disconnected.

evaluation board NMI and IRQ are linked together and connected to the interrupt pins on the 6821 PIA's, so that all the interrupts are controlled via the PIA (peripheral interface adaptors) handshake lines. These are CA1, CA2, CB1 and CB2, and these will be explained later.

The software interrupt request

MS VECTOR	LS	DESCRIPTION
FFFE	FFFF	RESET
FFFC	FFFD	NON-MASKABLE INTERRUPT
FFFA	FFFB	SOFTWARE INTERRUPT
FFF8	FFF9	INTERRUPT REQUEST

Fig. 2 The interrupt vector byte locations.

HOW IT WORKS

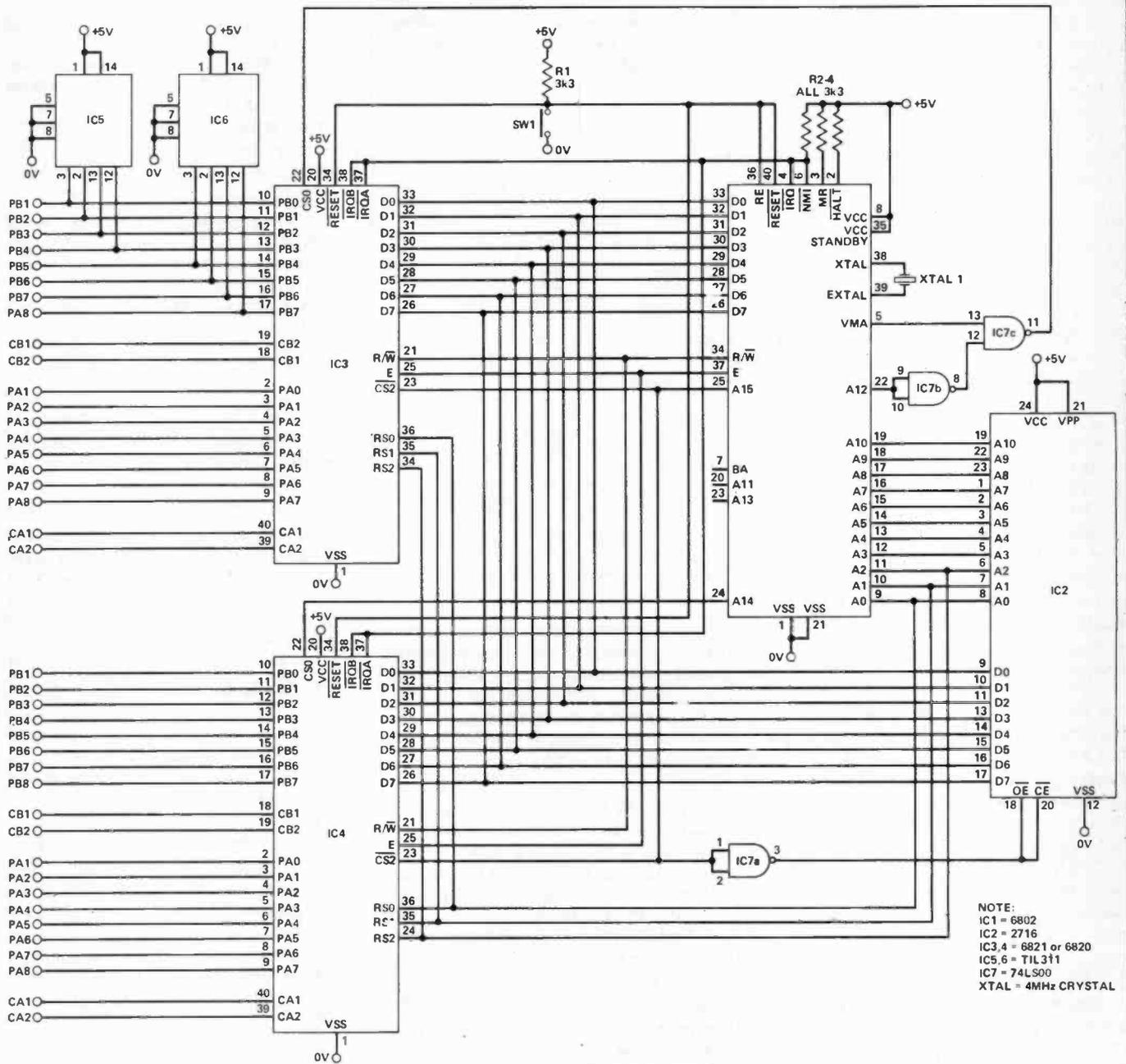


Fig. 4 Circuit diagram of the evaluation board.

is controlled by micro-code, and registers are stored on the stack. The program counter is loaded with the contents of FFFAH and FFFBH and then jumps to the interrupt routine in memory. It can also be used as a break function.

Address Modes

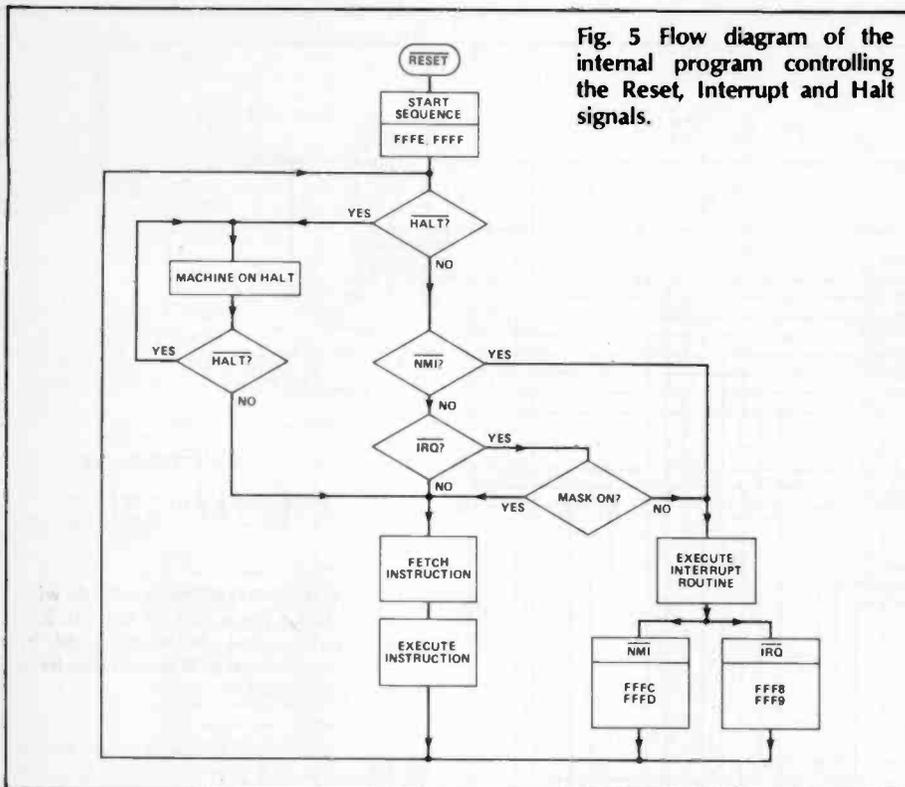
There are seven address modes that can be used by the programmer. They are:- Accumulator addressing, immediate, direct, extended, indexed, implied, and relative addressing.

In direct addressing, the 8 bit address of the operand must be stored in the lowest 256 memory locations, from 0000 to 00FF,

Direct addressing is sometimes called base page addressing because the operand must be in the first 256-byte page of memory. The 6802 uses address locations FFF8 to FFFF to store reset and interrupt addresses so as to keep the lowest 256 addresses free for direct addressing.

An example of this mode is the ADD \$09 instruction, which adds the contents of memory location 09H to the contents of the A accumulator and leaves the result in accumulator A. The advantage of this mode of addressing is that it is quicker than extended addressing because it uses two instructions instead of three.

Extended addressing uses the second and third bytes of the instruction to store the address of the operand, a rather different approach to that used in the Intel and Zilog processors. The second byte contains the high order address byte and the third byte contains the low order address byte. For example ADDA \$073A would be written in three memory bytes as BB 073A. This instruction adds the contents of memory location 073A to Accumulator A. Extended addressing is used for all memory beyond \$FF, but can be used for memory below that point. Note that \$ also denotes Hexadecimal in 6802 assembler. As an



example, compare these two instructions:

Direct LDAA FF ➔ 96FF
 Extended LDAA 00FF ➔ B6 00FF

They both have the same effect.

With indexed addressing, the operand is obtained from an effective address. The address is calculated by adding the offset number in the second byte of the instruction to the contents of the 16 bit index register. For example, suppose the index register contains a base address of 4321H. The instruction Add A \$30 in index addressing first calculates the effective address from which it will get its operand by adding the displacement of 30 H to the base address of 4321H. This gives an effective address of 4351. The 6802 then fetches the byte from memory at the effective address of 4351H, adds the contents to Accumulator A, and then leaves the result in Accumulator A.

In the implied addressing mode the operand address is contained in the instruction opcode. For example the command 'DEX' is simply written as 09. Only one byte is used in implied addressing.

In relative addressing a displacement contained in the second byte of the instruction is added to the program counter. The next instruction is fetched from the address. The displacement

is stored in the second byte, and the most significant bit of this second byte is the sign bit which allows the displacement to be positive or negative. A number from -128 to +127 can be derived.

Because the program counter automatically increments after each fetch, the displacement is added to the address after that in which the displacement byte was stored. Therefore, when measured from the instruction address, the relative addressing range is -126 to +129 addresses. When jumping to a location you actually state the address you wish to jump to. The easy way to remember relative addressing is to bear in mind that you always branch or jump relative to a memory location. For example:

	0050	
Branch	0051	20 FE ⬆
	0053	
Jump	0050	
	0051	6E 0050 ⬆
	0054	

The above two examples have the same effect, which is to go back one address space.

Accumulator addressing is a special case of implied addressing. The operand is one of the accumulators and this is indicated in the op code for the instruction. An example of this would be CLR A which is a one-byte code.

Little has been said so far about the Peripheral Interface Adaptors, of which there are two on the evaluation board. In effect, it will be these chips which the operator will program, so an insight into their operation will be useful.

An input/output port must provide a versatile programmable interface between the micro-processor and the external system devices (peripherals). These devices or peripherals can be simple lamps, switches or keyboards or more complex devices such as tape recorders, visual displays or other circuits. There are no special instructions for the PIA because, as far as the 6802 is concerned, it appears as a block of four memory addresses which can be read from or written into like any other RAM.

The addresses chosen must be consecutive and in the case of the evaluation board these addresses are 5004H, 5005, 5006 and 5007 for PIA1 (IC3). For PIA 2 (IC4) the addresses 4004, 4005, 4006 and 4007 are used. The eight data lines of the PIA are simply connected to the MPU data bus as normal and it will be noticed that several control lines are also connected between the two as discussed earlier.

Small differences aside, the PIA can be considered as two identical halves, side A and side B each having eight data (I/O) input/output lines and two special lines used for control or handshake purposes. To avoid repetition the A side only will be described.

PA0 to PA7 are data I/O lines which can be used as either inputs or outputs dependent upon how the programmer writes the initialisation routine. You could, for example, programme three lines as inputs and five as outputs. CA1 and CA2 are peripheral control lines; CA1 is always an input but CA2 can be initialised as an input or output.

There are three registers for each half of the PIA but one register serves two purposes. The Control register may cause some problems as it contains all the control flags. At this stage we are only concerned with bit 2, because it is this bit which decides which register has this memory address. When bit 2 is 0, the address 5004 (4004 for PIA 2) belongs to the direction register. When bit 2 is 1 the address 5004 belongs to the data register. The remaining bits are all connected with the behaviour of the control

PARTS LIST

RESISTORS

R1-R5 3k3

SEMICONDUCTORS

IC1 6802
 IC2 2716
 IC3,4 6821 OR 6820
 IC5,6 TIL 311
 IC7 74LS00

MISCELLANEOUS

SW1 SPDT micro switch
 XTAL1 4MHz crystal
 PCB; IC sockets — 3 off 40 pin, 1 off 24 pin and 3 off 14 pin; 42 off PC terminal pins.

BUYLINES

Everything here is widely available with the possible exception of the TIL 311 display ICs, and these are sold by Technomatic. The PCB is available from our PCB Service.

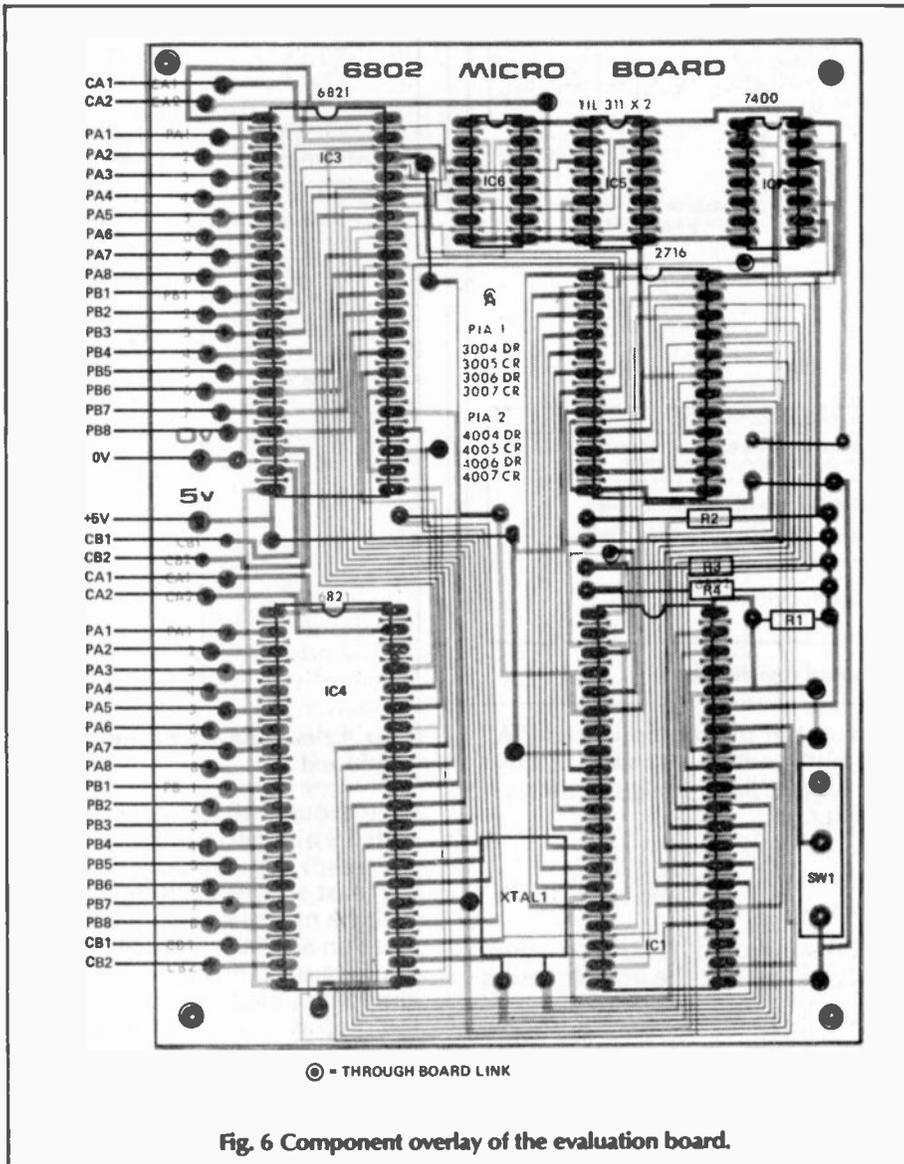


Fig. 6 Component overlay of the evaluation board.

lines CA1 and CA2 (CB1 and CB2 for the other side of PIA 1).

The addresses are well thought out in that, when the reset switch is operated, all the registers in the PIA are reset to zeros. This includes bit 2 in the control register. So the first time address 5004H is used, it will address the direction register. After this the programmer will ensure that bit 2 is set to 1, so that any further references to 5004H will address the data register. It is most unlikely that you will have to change the direction register contents in the same program but if so, it would be necessary to clear bit 2 first and reset it again afterwards.

As discussed earlier, I/O lines can be programmed as input or output in any configuration. For example if the direction register was initialised with 0000 1111, PA0-PA3 would be inputs and PA4-PA7 would be outputs. The register is available to the

programmer as address 5004H.

Once initialised, the data register is the one most used by the programmer and therefore has priority over the direction register which also shares memory address 5004H.

Unfortunately more has to be said about the control register flags. The main differences between sides A and B of the PIA are here and this is best shown in Fig. 8. Bit 2 has already been discussed, but every other bit in this register also has some effect upon the behaviour of the peri-

PIA 1 (IC3)		PIA 2 (IC4)	
SIDE A		SIDE A	
CONTROL	5005	CONTROL	4005
DIRECTION	5004	DIRECTION	4004
DATA	5004	DATA	4004
SIDE B		SIDE B	
CONTROL	5007	CONTROL	4007
DIRECTION	5006	DIRECTION	4006
DATA	5006	DATA	4006

Fig. 7 Register addresses on the evaluation board.

pheral control lines CA1, CA2, CB1 and CB2. A detailed explanation can be found on a Motorola 6821 applications sheet.

CA1 and CA2 only are shown in Fig. 8, but side B is the same (CB1 and CB2). The illustration may be a bit confusing, and for this reason some examples will be given later. For simple programming little knowledge is needed of the control register, but as you progress an understanding will become essential.

Construction and Testing

The complete project is contained on one, small, double-sided PCB. The tracks are necessarily very close together so great care must be taken during soldering to ensure that adjacent tracks are not accidentally bridged. Terminal pins are used for the external connections and these should be pushed through the board before any other components are installed. IC sockets are recommended and these should be soldered into place next, followed by the switch, the resistors and the crystal. Finally solder the display onto the board and then insert the ICs into their sockets, taking care that they are the right way around.

When the board has been assembled, check it carefully and then connect up the 0 and 5V rails. The TIL 311 displays should illuminate and show the letters FF. If all is well, the next stage is to try a test program.

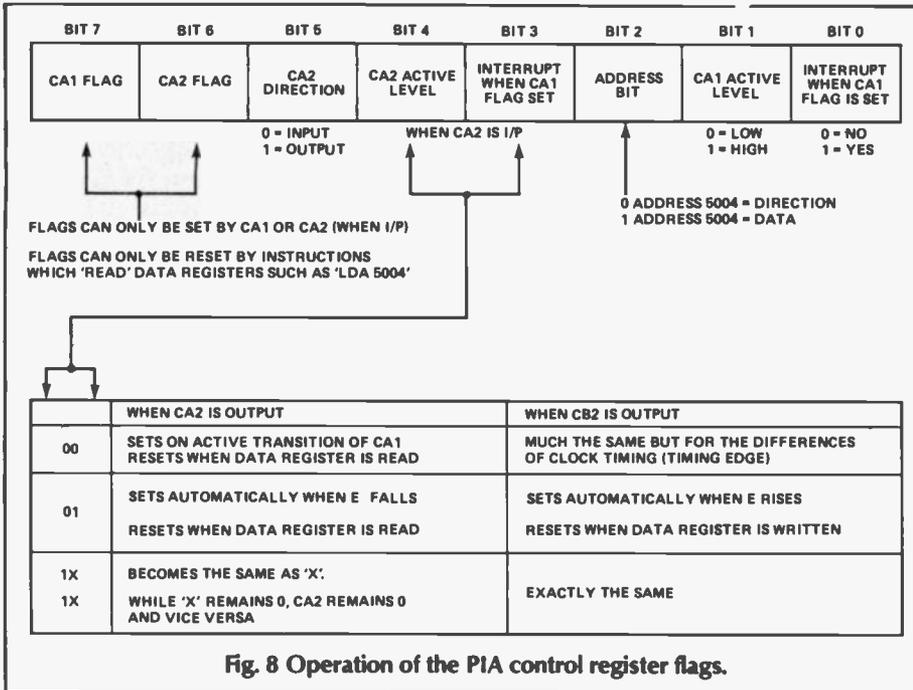


Fig. 8 Operation of the PIA control register flags.

To do this you will need either a programmed EPROM or an EPROM emulator. For those who do not already have one, an EPROM emulator design will be described in a follow-on article, but other emulators such as the one described in our July and August issues last year should be suitable. Constructors who do not have an emulator but do have access to an EPROM programmer and a UV eraser can simply load the test program onto a 2716 EPROM.

ADDRESS	PROGRAM
0000	8E 000F
0003	CD FF04
0006	FF 5006
0009	86 55
000B	B7 5006
000E	3F
07FE	80 RESET VECTOR
07FF	00 RESET VECTOR

Program 1

Program 1 is very simple and should cause the displays to show 5S when the reset switch is pushed. If this fails to work check the program. If it still does not work, check the signals described earlier with an oscilloscope. You need not worry about the complicated waveforms, just check that a switching signal is present or, in some cases, that the signal is held high.

Once this works you are ready to start writing your own programs.

Remember that complicated PIA, and note that it was initialised by two simple lines using the index register.

CE FF04
FF 5006

In full this would be written quite differently using the accumulators

86 FF LDA #FF
B7 5006 STA 5006
86 04 LDA #04
B7 5007 STA 5007

You can see how the 16 bit index register can simplify things. Overall program speed can be increased using this method, although it would be no advantage in the initialisation routine. It comes into its own in the subroutines.

In the example, the contents of the index register are said to be stored in location 5006H. You may

ADDRESS	PROGRAM	PROGRAM	PROGRAM	
0000	8E	000F	LDS	000F
0003	CE	FF04	LDX	FF04
0006	FF	5006	STX	5006
0009	86	00	LDA#	00
000B	C6	01	LDAB#	01
000D	B7	5006	STA	5006
0010	CE	0000	LDX	0000
0013	09		DEX	
0014	26	FD	BRE	
0016	C6	01	LDAB#	01
0018	1B		ABA	
0019	20	FO	BRA	
07FE	80	00		

Program 2

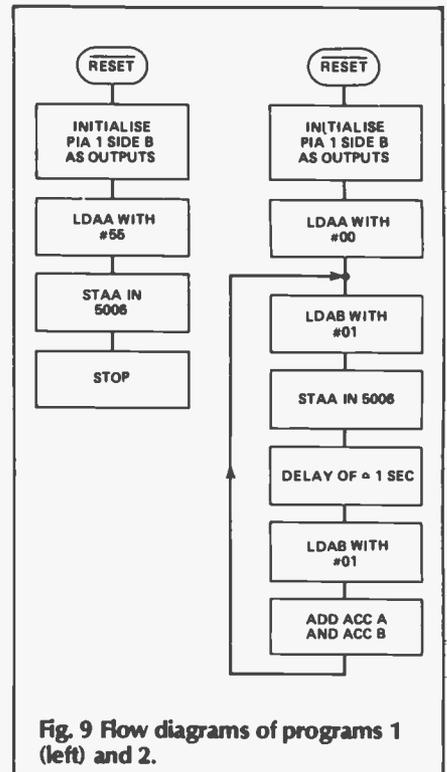


Fig. 9 Flow diagrams of programs 1 (left) and 2.

have thought this strange, trying to stuff 16 bits into 8. What the processor actually does is to store the least significant byte in 5007H and the most significant byte in location 5006H.

Because the programmer may like to be able to see a change on the displays, delays are a widely used subroutine. Again the 16 bit index register comes into use. An example of this is shown, giving a delay of around a second.

CE0000 LDX 0000
09 ↑ DEX
26FD BRE

This can be used in a program such as Program 2, which is a count sequence. This will cause the display to count up to FF before resetting to 00.

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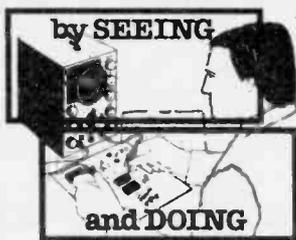
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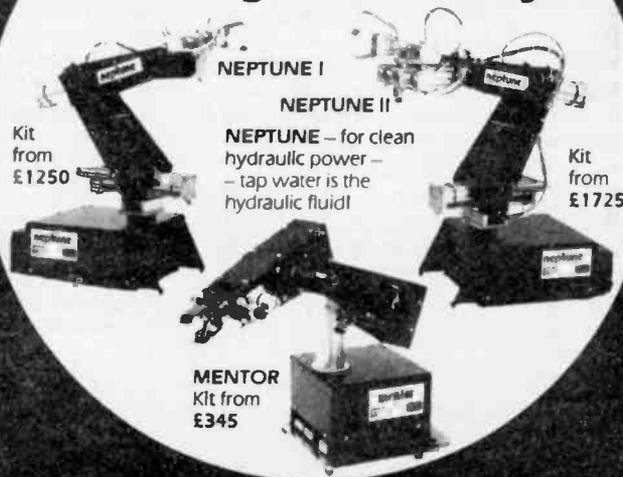
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As far as the world of microelectronics is concerned, a lot of water can pass under the bridge in 18 months. In August 1983, a design for a universal EPROM programmer was published in ETI and, as its name suggests, this piece of equipment allowed virtually all the common single supply EPROMs to be programmed. At this time the largest device available was the 27128, only preliminary data being available for the 27256. In the intervening period the 27256, 27512 and 27513 have become available and since they use a different programming voltage to the previous devices may not be programmed by the original programmer. The 2764A and 27128A have also made an appearance, these being lower programming voltage versions of the 2764 and 27128 respectively. This being the case, it seemed appropriate to introduce a MkII version of the EPROM programmer to support these new devices and at the same time make some other improvements. We have produced an upgrade board to allow existing users of the MkI board to enhance it and also a single MkII board for those without the earlier board.

The MkII Universal EPROM Programmer is capable of pro-

gramming a comprehensive range of single supply EPROMs varying in size from the 2758 to the 27512 and 27513 and including the 27-series, 25-series and the Motorola 68-series as well as a number of EEPROMs. In addition it allows the 2764 and larger devices to be programmed by the intelligent programming method hence reducing programming times drastically. All supply voltages have been made switchable under program controls so there is no need for a switch on the programming console. Two LEDs have been provided to indicate the current status of the programmer — in particular whether or not it is safe to remove the device. A modification to speed up EPROM reading has been made and, as a final enhancement, it is easier to set up since the adjustment of the programming voltages has been made much finer and the potentiometers are now more accessible when the board is rack-mounted.

In both versions, the programmer is fully programmable and everything is controlled by software. It is designed around the Tanbus specification which means that it should be an easy task to interface it to any 6502 or 6809 based system and users of a

Tangerine computer will be able to plug the programmer directly into the system rack.

New Devices

Before describing the new programmer it is helpful to outline the advances in the realm of EPROMs which have made this upgrade necessary. Table 1 shows the pin-outs of all the devices which are supported. A similar illustration was included with the original article showing how standard pin-outs made designing a universal programmer relatively easy. The new devices conform to the same standard and also have JEDEC pin-outs.

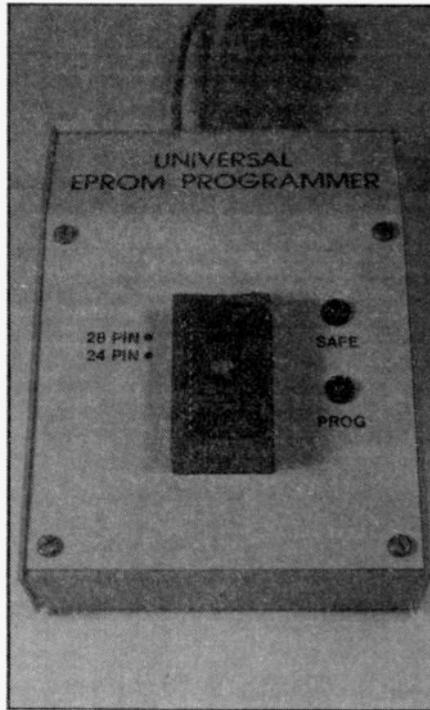
This family of devices must now include the largest single page EPROMs which will be used with 8-bit processors, as the capacity of a 27512 is 64K bytes — in other words, it occupies the entire memory map of an 8-bit system. The 27513 has the same capacity as the 27512 but the memory is organised differently having 4 pages of 16K bytes each and therefore representing the first of a new class of devices — paged EPROMs. To specify the page to be accessed a write operation is performed. The least significant 2 bits of the following data word

then specify the page number.

The major fact about the 27256 and 27512/2513 which makes them incompatible with the original EPROM programmer is that the programming voltage is 12.5V. This follows the trend of decreasing programming voltages as the capacity increases and the silicon die size decreases, the devices up to and including the 2732 using 25V and the 2764 and 27128 using 21V. In addition, versions of the 2764 and 27128 which also use the new 12.5V Vpp have been released. These are known as the M2764A and 27128A.

Intelligent programming is possible on all devices from the 2764 upwards. In this case, 1ms programming pulses are applied to the EPROM until it verifies, at which point a further pulse is applied. This contrasts with the standard programming method in which a 50ms programming pulse is always used. As the larger EPROMs are introduced, intelligent programming becomes increasingly desirable. It can reduce programming times from almost one hour to about eight minutes for the 27512.

Intelligent programming requires the supply voltage to be raised from the normal 5V to 6V during the programming cycle, a facility not available on the Mk1 board. A different programming time reduction method has been introduced on the latest version of the Texas 25 series devices and on some manufacturers' recent 2732s and 2764s. These devices use a fixed length programming pulse of 10ms rather than the



The console of the programmer.

standard 50ms pulse.

Another facility introduced on some of the newer devices is referred to as 'intelligent identifier' or 'auto select mode'. After applying +12V to A9, where this facility is available, one of two bytes may be read out depending on the logic level of A0. These two bytes contain codes identifying both the device type and the manufacturer. It was decided not to implement this mode for two reasons. Firstly, the facility was designed for industrial production programming where the process is often carried out by those with a minimal knowledge of electronics. By contrast, the home user will probably

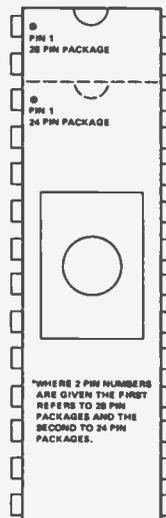
be clear about what device type is being used. Secondly, not all devices include the facility, and it is reasonable to assume that applying +12V to A9 of EPROMs without intelligent identifier will be detrimental. In an environment in which all devices from the 2758 upwards are to be programmed, the provision of the feature will increase the likelihood of destroying EPROMs.

The price of EPROMs has been influenced by the fact that quartz windows could only be fitted in ceramic packages. Recent advances now allow a seal to be made between quartz and plastic and, as a result, some manufacturers are releasing EPROMs in plastic packages at a significant cost reduction. Over the past few years, the price of EPROMs has already reduced to the point where they are comparable to the price of ROMs. Since a large proportion of the remaining cost is due to the quartz window, manufacturers have also started producing EPROMs without the quartz window at an even lower price.

The lack of quartz window means that these devices cannot be exposed to ultra violet and erased. They are referred to as production EPROMs or OTP EPROMs (One Time Programmable). Since these EPROMs are electrically identical to standard EPROMs, they are programmed in exactly the same way.

Some EPROMs are now available not only in the standard 24 or 28 pin DIL (dual-in-line) packages but also in the newer, smaller, LCC (leadless-chip-carrier) packages which have pins spaced at

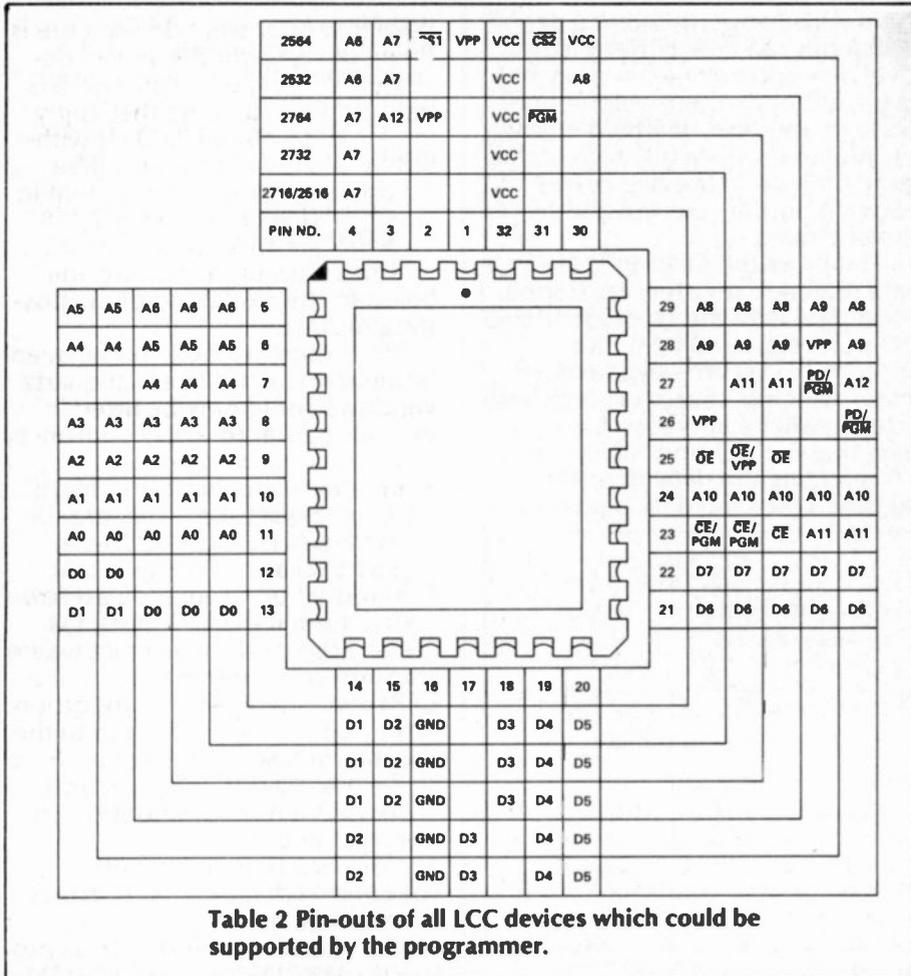
27513	27512	27256	27128	2564	2764	2764A	27128A	2532	2732	2732A	2732	2716	2768	*PIN NO.
N/C	A15	VPP	VPP	VPP	VPP									1
A12	A12	A12	A12	CS1	A12									2
A7	A7	A7	A7	A7	A7	A7	A7	A7	A7	A7	A7	A7	A7	3/1
A6	A6	A6	A6	A6	A6	A6	A6	A6	A6	A6	A6	A6	A6	4/2
A5	A5	A5	A5	A5	A5	A5	A5	A5	A5	A5	A5	A5	A5	5/3
A4	A4	A4	A4	A4	A4	A4	A4	A4	A4	A4	A4	A4	A4	6/4
A3	A3	A3	A3	A3	A3	A3	A3	A3	A3	A3	A3	A3	A3	7/5
A2	A2	A2	A2	A2	A2	A2	A2	A2	A2	A2	A2	A2	A2	8/6
A1	A1	A1	A1	A1	A1	A1	A1	A1	A1	A1	A1	A1	A1	9/7
A0	A0	A0	A0	A0	A0	A0	A0	A0	A0	A0	A0	A0	A0	10/8
D0	D0	D0	D0	D0	D0	D0	D0	D0	D0	D0	D0	D0	D0	11/9
D1	D1	D1	D1	D1	D1	D1	D1	D1	D1	D1	D1	D1	D1	12/10
D2	D2	D2	D2	D2	D2	D2	D2	D2	D2	D2	D2	D2	D2	13/11
GND	GND	GND	GND	GND	GND	GND	GND	GND	GND	GND	GND	GND	GND	14/12



*PIN NO.	2768	2716	2816	2732	2732A	2532	2764	2764A	2564	27128	27128A	27256	27512	27513
28							VCC	VCC	VCC	VCC	VCC	VCC	VCC	VCC
27							PGM	CS2	PGM	A14	A14	WE		
26/24	VCC	VCC	VCC	VCC	VCC	VCC	N/C	N/C	A13	A13	A13	A13		
25/23	A8	A8	A8	A8	A8	A8	A8	A8	A8	A8	A8	A8	A8	A8
24/22	A9	A9	A9	A9	A9	A9	A9	A9	A9	A9	A9	A9	A9	A9
23/21	VPP	VPP	AR	A11	VPP	A12	A11	A12	A11	A11	A11	A11	A11	A11
22/20	OE	OE	E/VPP	OE/VPP	PD/PGM	E/VPP	OE	PD/PGM	OE	OE	OE	OE	OE	OE
21/19	AR	A10	A10	A10	A10	A10	A10	A10	A10	A10	A10	A10	A10	A10
20/18	CE/PGM	CE/PGM	A11	CE/PGM	A11	A11	CE	A11	CE	CE	CE	CE	CE	CE
19/17	D7	D7	D7	D7	D7	D7	D7	D7	D7	D7	D7	D7	D7	D7
18/16	D6	D6	D6	D6	D6	D6	D6	D6	D6	D6	D6	D6	D6	D6
17/15	D5	D5	D5	D5	D5	D5	D5	D5	D5	D5	D5	D5	D5	D5
16/14	D4	D4	D4	D4	D4	D4	D4	D4	D4	D4	D4	D4	D4	D4
15/13	D3	D3	D3	D3	D3	D3	D3	D3	D3	D3	D3	D3	D3	D3

Table 1 Pin-outs of all devices supported by the programmer.

PROJECT: EPROM Programmer MkII



0.05" on 4 sides of a rectangle and so allow a much greater PCB packing density. Internally these devices are identical to conventionally packaged EPROMs and as a result the programming requirements are the same. To handle them, the EPROM programmer only needs to be provided with a different socket on the console. Table 2 shows the pin-out of those devices currently available in this package. It should be noted that the 25 series devices differ from each other and the 27 series devices in this configuration more than in the standard DIL package. Accordingly, it would be advisable to consider programming only the 27 series EPROMs in LCC configuration or to provide a number of different sockets.

Similar Devices

The term EPROM is usually taken to mean UV erasable PROM, but there is a closely related family of devices — electrically erasable programmable read-only memories, known as EEPROMs or E²PROMs. At the time of designing the original programmer, the extra complexity involved in supporting EEPROMs

was not considered justifiable in view of their high cost. The price of EEPROMs has not dropped drastically and they are, therefore, still quite rare among home computer users. But numerous enhancements to these devices have been made which simplify the programming and accordingly they may be supported by the MkII programmer.

The fact which complicated the programming of the original Intel 2816 (2K x 8 EEPROM) was the fact that it used a 21V programming voltage which had to be shaped by an RC circuit to give an exponential rise. The next development still used 21V for programming but the waveform shaping requirement was relaxed, the only restriction then being on the fall time of the Vpp pulse. The latest EEPROMs don't even require a high programming voltage, internal circuitry generating this from the +5V supply. In addition, there are now some devices which support these very latest programming techniques but are compatible with earlier devices, accepting either 21V or TTL programming levels.

EEPROMs have also developed in the method of programming.

On the first devices, a byte could only be programmed if it were first erased, either by writing an FF(HEX) to that byte or by using the complete chip erase facility. On the more recent devices, bytes may be directly re-programmed without the need for erasing first. Programming times and the number of programming cycles have also seen improvements. The first 2816 required 10mS programming pulses whereas some of the newer versions will programme in 2mS per byte. The technology used in EEPROMs, HMOS-E FLOTEX cell design, has an inherent limitation on the number of programming cycles. The original EEPROMs had a lifetime of 10,000 cycles but 1 million cycles is now not uncommonly quoted.

Unfortunately, there isn't the same degree of standardisation among EEPROMs as with UV EPROMs. Although a 2816 is always a 2K x 8 EEPROM, different manufacturers' devices with this number may represent a number of different points within the progression outlined above. In addition 2816A, 2817, 2817A and 5213 are variations on the same theme by various manufacturers. Because of these complications, we won't give a list of EEPROM type numbers which are supported by the MkII Universal EPROM programmer. It will, in fact, handle all those 2K x 8 devices which feature TTL level programming. Some 8K x 8 EEPROMs are also becoming available — for example, the 2864 and 52B33. Where these are programmed by TTL levels, they may also be supported by the MkII programmer.

Mark II Board — Hardware

This section refers to either the MkII EPROM programmer or the MkI with the addition of the upgrade board, the hardware of these two configurations being identical with one exception. The MkI board has 4 x 6821 PIAs, of which 2 are used by the programmer for control functions leaving 2 free for general use. The MkII board utilises 3 PIAs for controlling the programmer, the 4th having been omitted in order to fit the extra circuitry onto the PCB. The upgrade board makes use of the 3rd PIA on the MkI board but does not, however, affect the 4th one which means that this configuration gives a spare PIA, the true MkII board not having this facility. (See 'How It Works' for part

numbering.)

Table 3 is a memory map of the MkII Universal EPROM Programmer in which the function of each bit is outlined. Some bits control certain functions such as Vcc and Vpp voltage levels, the majority, however, control the signal levels on various pins of SK3, the EPROM socket. For all bits connected to SK3, except those marked Vcc or Vpp, writing a 1 will set the pin to a logic high, whereas writing a 0 will set it to a logic low. For the Vcc and Vpp bits, a 1 sets the pin to the currently selected Vcc or Vpp voltage and a 0 sets the pin to 0V. It will be noticed that some pins have more than one bit controlling

them. This happens where a particular pin can take either a logic level or a Vpp voltage. In such cases, although this wouldn't normally be required, it would not be harmful to set both bits high at the same time since the two corresponding outputs are isolated by use of diodes.

Finally, in the 6821 PIA, the data direction registers are double addressed with the corresponding I/O port register. Bit 2 in the appropriate control register determines which of these two registers actually will be addressed, a 1 selecting the I/O port register and a 0 selecting the data direction register. Once the data direction

register is selected, setting a 1 to a bit in this register selects the corresponding bit in the I/O port to be an output whereas a 0 selects the I/O port bit to be an input.

The Upgrade Board — Construction

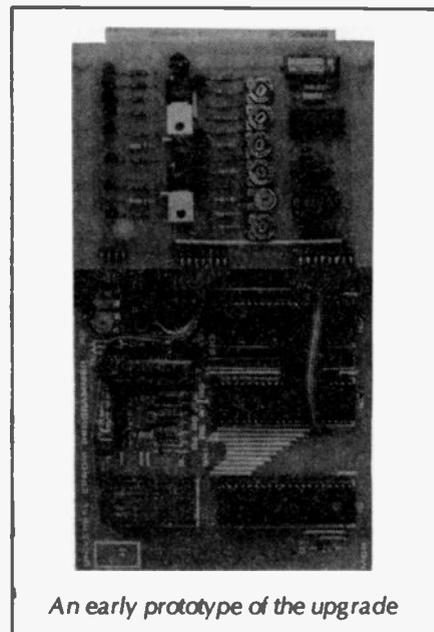
Construction of the upgrade board for the MkI programmer is straightforward and no special comments need to be made. Interfacing to the main board and setting up do require explanation. The procedure is as follows:

- A. Remove the regulator IC10 from the main board. This may be re-used as IC12 or IC13 on the upgrade board.
- B. Remove R4, R5 and C1 from the main board. RV1, RV2, RV3, Q3, Q4 and R6 may also be removed if required.
- C. Remove SW1 if fitted to the main PCB or if not fitted remove the two wire links in its place.
- D. Remove D1 on the main board.
- E. Add D3 to the main board, connecting the cathode to SK3 pin 1 and the anode to IC9 pin 9.
- F. Replace C5 (10n) by 100n on the main board.
- G. Physically fix the upgrade board to the main board by use of three plastic bolts. If the fixing holes marked on the upgrade board are used they will align with 'track-free' areas of the main board. The photographs with this article illustrate the means of interconnection.
- H. make the connections between the two boards as shown in Table 4.

IC NUMBER	REGISTER	ADDRESS OF PORT	DATA DIRECTION	BIT DESIGNATIONS									
				7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0		
IC9	PORT A / DATA DIRECTION REGISTER A	0	OUTPUT	1	UNUSED	UNUSED	2	23	21	24	25		
				A15		A12 or CS1	A11 or A12	A10	A9	A8			
IC9	CONTROL REGISTER A	1	—	CA2 UNUSED				SELECT REGISTER AT ADDRESS 0 0-DATA DIRN A 1-PORT A		CA1 UNUSED			
IC9	PORT B / DATA DIRECTION REGISTER B	2	OUTPUT	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
				A7	A6	A5	A4	A3	A2	A1	A0		
IC9	CONTROL REGISTER B	3	OUTPUT (CB2)	SET TO 1 TO MAKE CB2 OUTPUT		SET TO 1 TO MAKE CB2 OUTPUT		26	SELECT REGISTER AT ADDRESS 2 0-DATA DIRN B 1-PORT B		CB1 UNUSED		
								A13 or VCC					
IC8	PORT A / DATA DIRECTION REGISTER A	4	OUTPUT/INPUT	19	18	17	16	15	13	12	11		
				D7	D6	D6	D4	D3	D2	D1	D0		
IC8	CONTROL REGISTER A	5	—	CA2 UNUSED				SELECT REGISTER AT ADDRESS 4 0-DATA DIRN A 1-PORT A		CA1 UNUSED			
IC8	PORT B / DATA DIRECTION REGISTER B	6	OUTPUT	VCC +6V SELECT NOT (VCC+6V) +VCC +6V SELECT		VPP +12V SELECT VPP +21V SELECT		VPP +6V SELECT		23	22	27	20
				NOT (VPP+6V AND NOT (VPP+12V) AND NOT (VPP+21V) = VPP+25V SELECT				VPP		VPP		POS. CB2, A14	A11 or CE
IC8	CONTROL REGISTER B	7	—	CB2 UNUSED				SELECT REGISTER AT ADDRESS 6 0-DATA DIRN B 1-PORT B		CB1 UNUSED			
IC7	PORT A / DATA DIRECTION REGISTER A	8	—	UNUSED BY EPROM PROGRAMMER AVAILABLE FOR GENERAL USE VIA SK2 (ON MK1 BOARD)									
IC7	CONTROL REGISTER A	9	—	UNUSED BY EPROM PROGRAMMER AVAILABLE FOR GENERAL USE VIA SK2 (ON MK1 BOARD)									
IC7	PORT B / DATA DIRECTION REGISTER B	A	OUTPUT	UNUSED	UNUSED	UNUSED	22	RED LED ON	GREEN LED ON	28	1		
							OE			VCC	VPP		
IC7	CONTROL REGISTER B	B	—	CB2 UNUSED				SELECT REGISTER AT ADDRESS 8 0-DATA DIRN B 1-PORT B		CB1 UNUSED			

NOTE: IN CASES WHERE MORE THAN 1 FUNCTION IS GIVEN FOR A PARTICULAR BIT THE ACTUAL FUNCTION DEPENDS ON WHICH DEVICE TYPE IS BEING USED. DETAILS MAY BE FOUND IN FIGURE 1.

Table 3 Memory map of the programmer.



An early prototype of the upgrade

PROJECT: EPROM Programmer MkII

J. If using a programming console remove the switch, connecting the two wires which this interrupted directly to the appropriate ZIF socket pins and add 1 green and 1 red LED which are wired to connector A on the upgrade board via a 4-way cable as follows:

- A/1 Green LED anode
- A/2 Green LED cathode
- A/3 Red LED anode
- A/4 Red LED cathode

K. Installation is now complete and Vcc and Vpp voltages need to be set up as follows after first temporarily removing the wires to connector C:

1. Apply +5V to C7 only and adjust RV4 to give +5V on B4.
2. Apply +5V to C6 only and adjust RV5 to give +12.5V on B4.
3. Apply +5V to C5 only and adjust RV6 to give +21V on B4.
4. Remove +5V from C5 and adjust RV7 to give +25V on B4.
3. Apply +5V to C4 only and adjust RV8 to give +5V on B2.
4. Remove +5V from C4 and adjust RV9 to give +26V on B2.

UPGRADE BOARD CONNECTOR

- C/ 1
- C/ 2
- C/ 3
- C/ 4
- C/ 5
- C/ 6
- C/ 7
- C/ 8
- C/ 9
- C/10
- B/ 1
- B/ 2
- B/ 3
- B/ 4
- B/ 5
- B/ 6
- B/ 7
- B/ 8

MAIN BOARD DESTINATION

- IC7 PIN 14
- IC7 PIN 13
- IC7 PIN 12
- IC8 PIN 17
- IC8 PIN 15
- IC8 PIN 16
- IC8 PIN 14
- IC7 PIN 11
- IC7 PIN 10
- IC8 PIN 12
- IC11 PIN 1
- NO CONNECTION
- SK3 PIN 28
- O/P (CENTRE) OF IC10
- SK3 PIN 1
- OV (IC11 PIN 11)
- SK3 PIN 22
- +5V (IC11 PIN 13)

Table 4 Connections between the upgrade board and the original programmer.

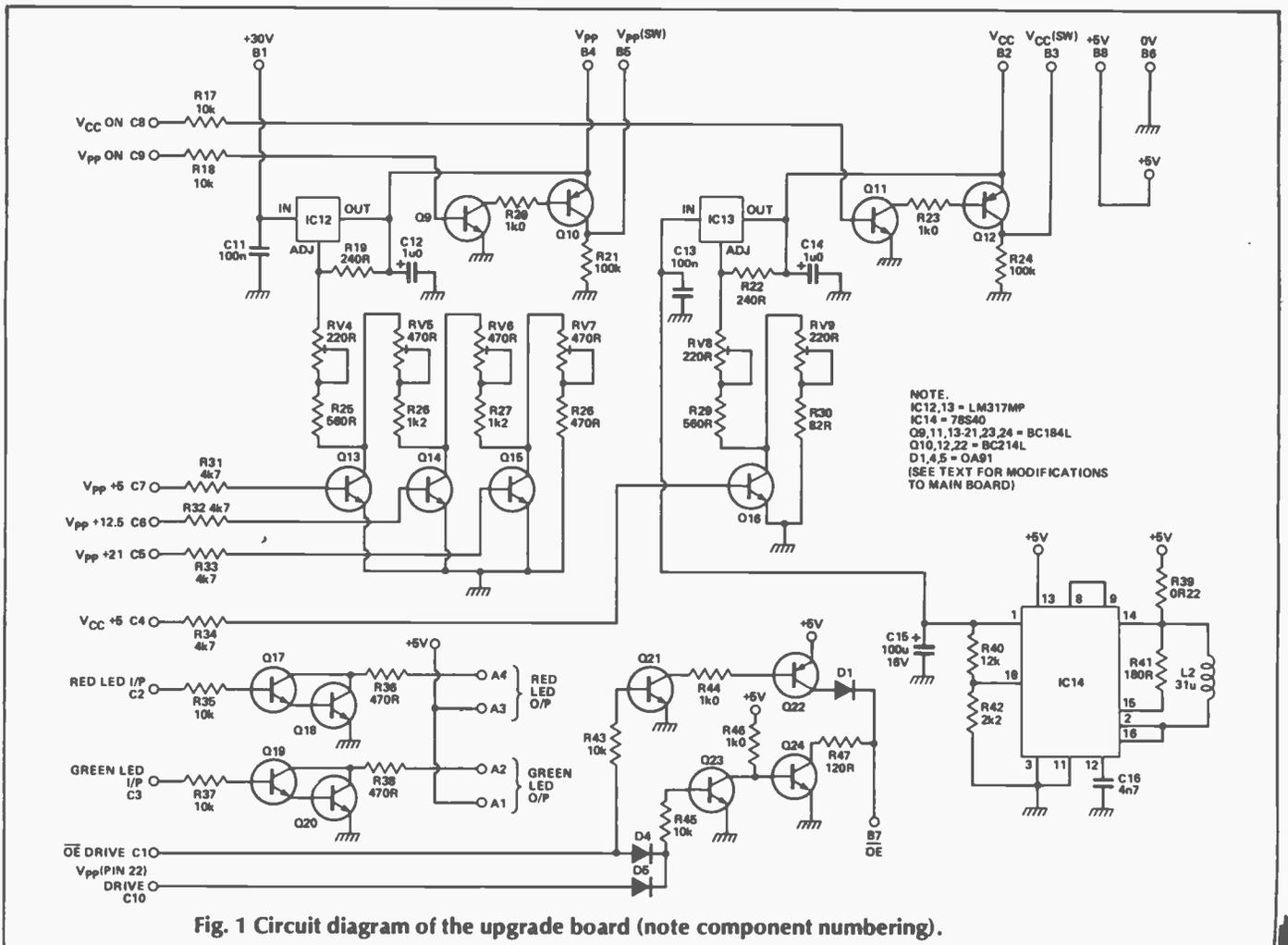


Fig. 1 Circuit diagram of the upgrade board (note component numbering).

PROJECT: EPROM Programmer MkII

HOW IT WORKS

Readers should note that the component numbers on Fig. 1 — the upgrade board circuit diagram — do not start at 1. Instead they follow on from the component numbers on the main MkI board. The following description assumes a knowledge of the workings of the MkI board to which the upgrade board is connected and a description of which may be found in ETI August 1983.

The upgrade board supplies Vpp (selectable to +5V, +12.5V, +21V or +25V), Vcc (selectable to +5V or +6V), a replacement driver for OE (the active low output enable line) and drivers for two LEDs. The old part of the Vpp circuitry which generates an unregulated +30V by use of a 78S40 has been retained. However, the regulator consisting of a LM317MP and a resistor chain, in which portions of the chain could be switched out by transistors, has been replaced. The new regulator is similar to the one on the MkI board but differs in two respects. Firstly each variable resistor in the chain has a fixed resistor in series with it, hence giving a more accurate means of setting up the voltages. Secondly an extra resistor portion and transistor have been added to allow the +12.5V programming voltage to be selected. This regulation circuit comprises IC12, Q13, Q14, Q15 and the associated passive components. An unswitched Vpp is passed to various Vpp switches on the main board. Transistors Q9 and Q10 provide a switched Vpp which replaces the supply to EPROM pin 1, previously switched manually. IC14 and its associated components form a second step-up circuit providing a +8V supply which is regulated to either +5V or +6V for Vcc. This regulator circuit is built around IC13 and is a similar configuration to the Vpp regulator. Transis-

tors Q11 and Q12 provide a switched Vcc supply which replaces the original, manually switched supply to EPROM pin 28.

It should be noted that the Vcc supply to pin 24 on the EPROM need not come from this circuitry as no 24pin devices feature intelligent programming, so +5V will always be used.

On the original board a 10nF capacitor, C5, was connected between OE/Vpp on pin 22 of the EPROM socket and 0V. This was a compromise between the 100nF suppression capacitor actually specified in the 2732 data sheet and a value which wouldn't slow down logic edges too much. On the new circuit the recommended 100nF capacitor is used but logic signals are not significantly slowed down as a result of the Q21/Q22 combination which provides a high current OE signal capable of charging the capacitor rapidly and Q24 which provides a logic low signal bypassing the suppression capacitor. Capacitor C5 should be changed on the original board.

Transistor Q23 provides a NOR function, turning Q24 on when neither of the signals driving EPROM pin 22 are present.

Transistors Q17, Q18, Q19 and Q20 simply form two darlington drivers with built-in current limiting resistors to drive two LEDs indicating programmer status. In addition to the extra circuitry on the upgrade board an extra diode, D3, is added to the main board. This is to provide the extra address line A15 to pin 1 of the EPROM socket, the diode being required to isolate it from the Vpp supply which can also be present on this pin. This diode — an OA91 — should be fitted between SK3 pin 1 (cathode) and IC9 pin 9 (anode).

PARTS LIST

RESISTORS (all 1/4W, 5% unless stated)

R17, 18, 35, 37, 43, 45	10k
R19, 22	240R
R20, 23, 44, 46	1k0
R21, 24	100k
R25, 29	560R
R26, 27	1k2
R28, 36, 38	470R
R30	82R
R31, 32, 33, 34	4k7
R39	OR22 W/W
R40	12k
R42	2k2
R47	120R 1/2W
RV4, 8, 9	220R vertical min preset
RV5, 6, 7	470R vertical min preset

CAPACITORS

C5 (replace on main board)	100n ceramic
C11, 13	100n ceramic
C12, 14	1u tantalum
C15	100u 16V axial electrolytic
C16	4n7 polyester

SEMICONDUCTORS

IC12, 13	LM317 MP
IC14	78S40
Q9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 23, 24	BC184L
Q10, 12, 22	BC214L
D1, D4, D5	OA91
D3 (fit on main board)	OA91

MISCELLANEOUS

L2	31uH, 13 turns 22 SWG on RM6 pot core (AL=250)
Connectors A, B, C	0.1" pitch right angled molex connectors. 4, 9 and 8 ways respectively.
PCB	three plastic bolts and nuts for attaching to main PCB.

BUY LINES

All components are standard. The biggest problem may be in finding a 28-pin ZIF socket. These are supplied by Watford Electronics and Technomatic. Electrovalue and Maplin will supply a OR22 wirewound resistor and Electrovalue will also supply the RM6 pot cores. The Molex connectors are standard inter-PCB connectors and the Euro connector for the MkII board likewise. The version of the LM317 you should look for is one in a TO 202 or TO 220 case - a 317 M or 317 T will do if you can't find a 317 MP. All semiconductors should be available from any supplier with a good stock - Technomatic, Rapid and TK advertise the LM317 T, Watford advertises all the other ICs.

Over the next two months, we'll be dealing with an entirely self-contained version of the MkII and with the software to drive the upgrade.

ETI

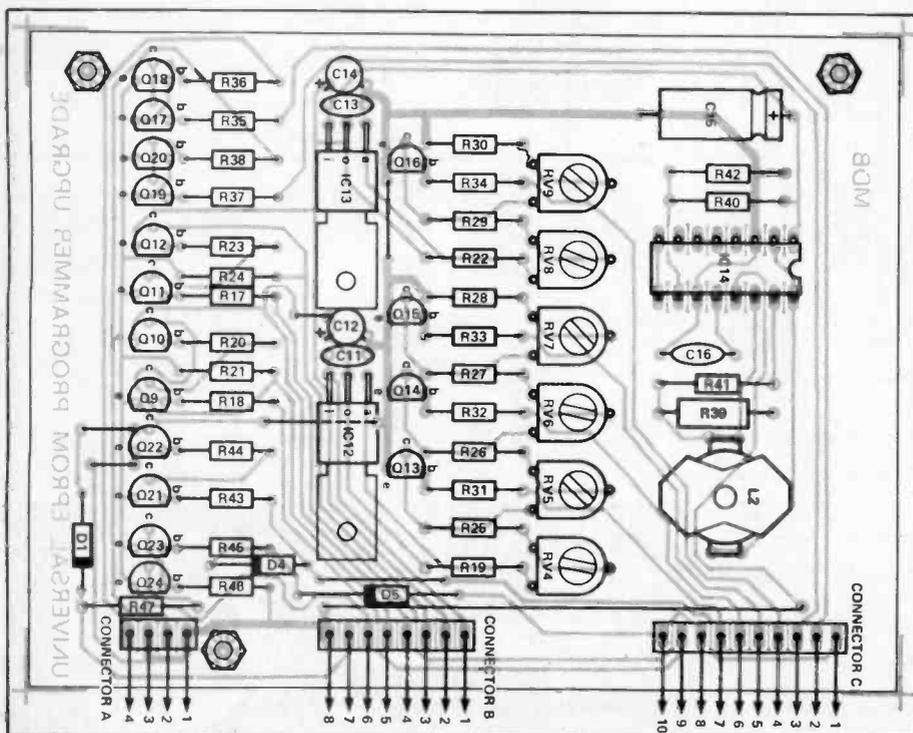


Fig. 2 Overlay diagram of the upgrade board.

NEXT MONTH

Next month's ETI leads off with a major feature on **TIME DOMAIN ANALYSIS**, an invaluable technique for circuit design and analysis brought within the reach of everyone with a home micro. Our comprehensive feature, complete with program listings in standard BASIC, explains the technique and how to use it.

A major constructional project is the **SECOND PROCESSOR FOR THE ACORN ELECTRON**. Second processors are among the most exciting add-ons for computers and this feature explains the whys and wherefores in general terms before leaping into the particular circuit. Of course, the board can be adapted to suit any 6502/6510 computer.

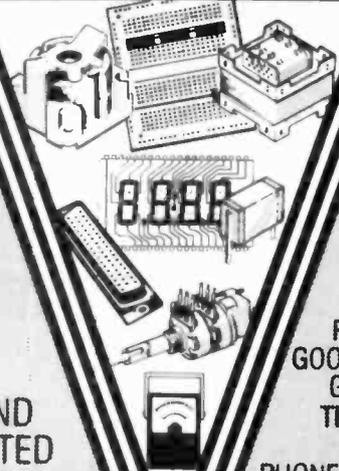
Meanwhile, on the analogue front, John Linsley Hood continues his series on **THE REAL COMPONENTS**, explaining the y, z and h characteristics of transistors and how to handle them in designing circuits. Linsley Hood also unveils a **LOW-COST AUDIO MIXER** which will bring near-professional facilities to the humblest of PA, broadcast, domestic and studio systems.

In addition, we include the second part of the **EPROM PROGRAMMER UPGRADE** - the completely self-contained board -; an **EPROM EMULATOR** designed for use with the 6802 board featured in this issue, but adaptable to any system; a **HEAT PEN** add-on for digital voltmeters, which will convert almost any DVM into a multi-purpose thermometer; **TECH TIPS**; **READ/WRITE** and the new **ETC** section, featuring **COLUMNS**, **REVIEWS** and **SCRATCH-PAD**, the **ETI** diary.

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This scoreboard has been designed for use in a gymnasium or other large space and uses mains light bulbs to provide a display which is large enough to be seen from a distance and bright enough to be read easily in daylight. The scores or other numerical information are normally entered via thumbwheel switches but the system could also be adapted to accept data from a microcomputer. The basic model has a four digit display which could be used, for example, to show a two-digit score for each of two teams, but the number of digits can easily be increased to suit other applications.

The Circuit

The heart of the project is a digit driver module. This uses a 7447A (BCD to seven segment decoder) to drive a digit composed of mains lamps via seven triacs. The BCD information is fed serially through a shift register, and picked off the drive the display.

One module is used per digit in the display, and they are chained together so that they form a long shift register of four bits per digit. The control logic is isolated from the mains by an opto-isolator module at the start of the chain, and only one of these is needed for the display.

The third module is a power supply. This provides two separate 5V supplies, one for the circuitry in the display drivers and the other for circuitry isolated from the mains by the opto-isolator module. The supplies shown only offer up to 100mA, so for displays with a lot of digits a different regulator may be needed.

Finally, there is a controller module. This takes data from up to

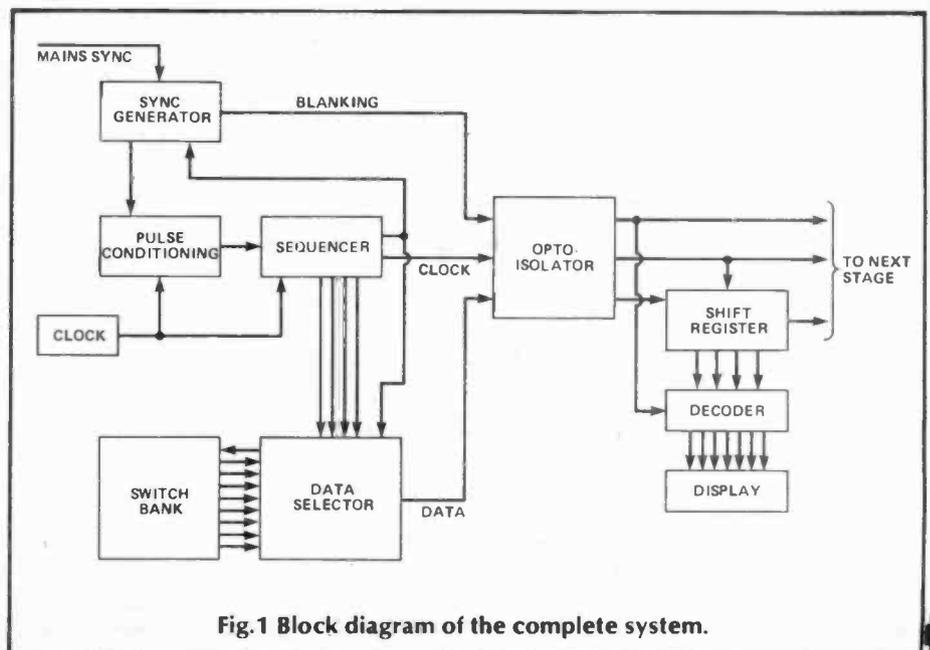


Fig.1 Block diagram of the complete system.

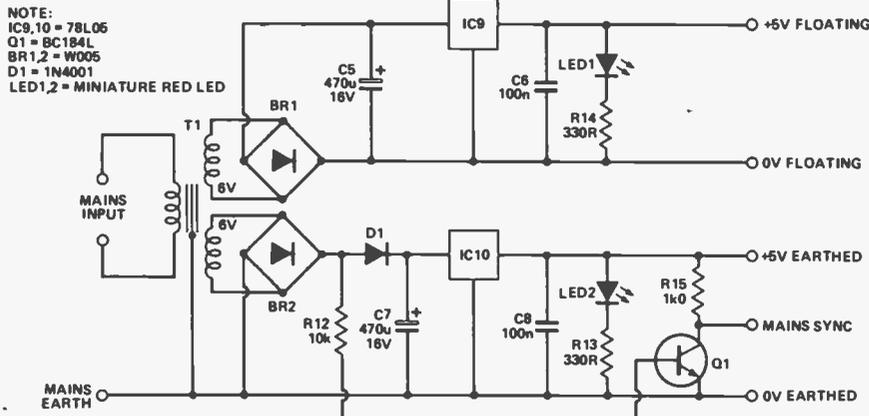
HOW IT WORKS

to TR1, which is driven hard on for all but the brief interval when the waveform is at less than 0.7V, 100 times a second.

The mains sync pulses are not necessarily at the zero crossing point of the mains because of the phase shifts that can occur through the transformer. To overcome this, they are fed into a monostable IC1a which is trimmed so that its output is truly at the mains zero crossing point. This is fed into a second monostable whose output is gated with the controller blanking output to hold the triacs off for a period into the mains half cycle. This achieves the dimming function.

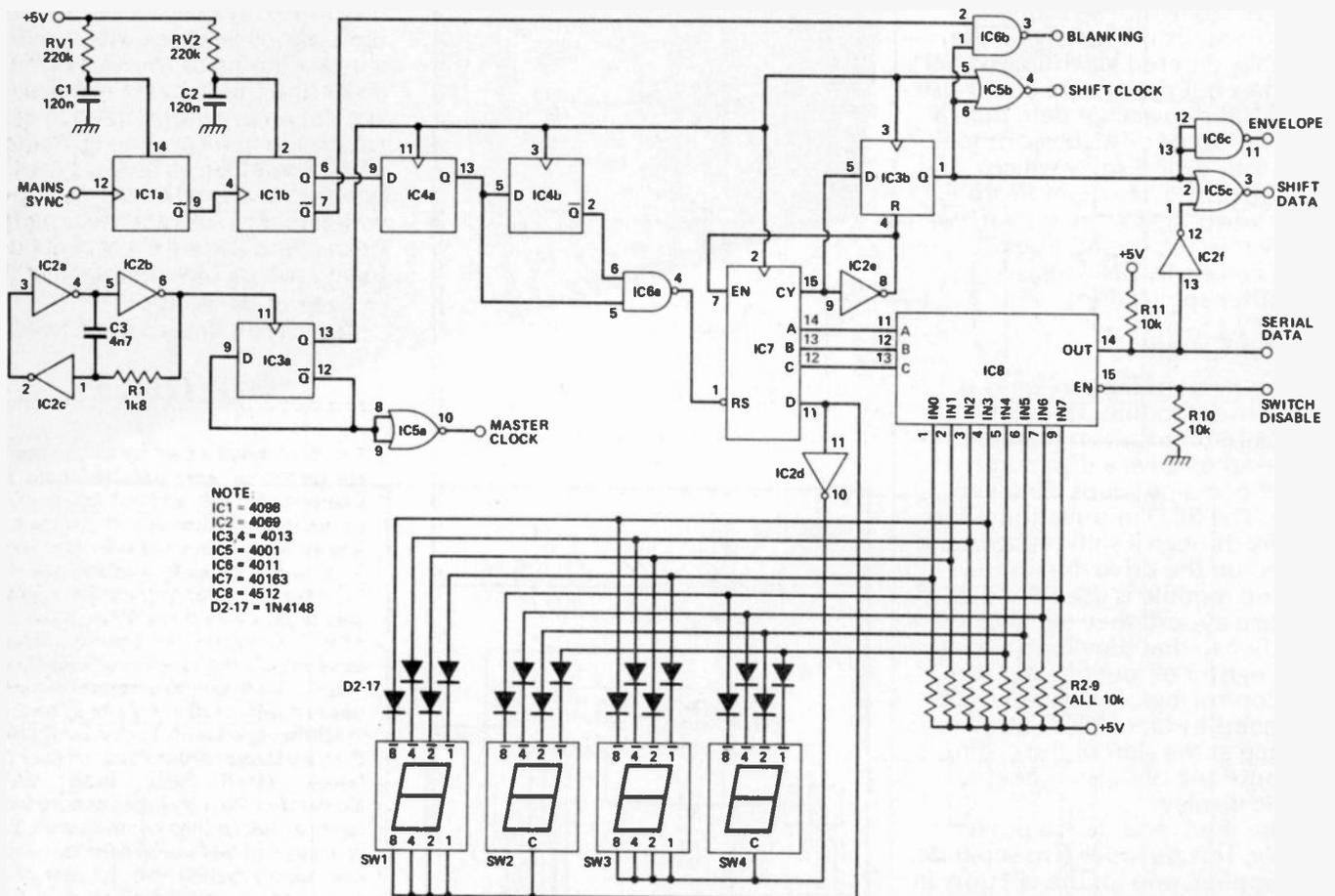
IC2a, 2b, 2c, and 3a produce a square wave clock at about 50kHz. It is also used to control the operation of the remainder of the module.

IC4a, 4b, and 6a produce a pulse lasting for exactly one clock period at each mains crossing. This is used to reset IC7, a four bit counter. The counter controls IC8, an eight input multiplexer, to sequence through the bit inputs from the thumbwheel switches. Output D from the counter selects one switch bank or the other via IC2d.



The power supply is in two sections, each of which has a bridge rectifier and a smoothing capacitor followed by a voltage regulator (ICs 9 & 10). C6 and C8 cut out any high frequency spikes and protect the regulators from oscillation. Each section is also fitted with a LED and current limiting resistor as a visual check of operation.

The section that supplies power to the control electronics has its 0V connected to earth as a safety precaution, and also provides mains sync pulses to the controller module. The bridge rectifier BR2 is isolated from the smoothing capacitor with a diode D1, so a full wave rectified AC waveform appears at the junction between D1 and R12. This is fed



Figures 2, 3, 4 and 5. Circuit diagrams of the power supply (top left), the controller (above), the optoisolators (above right) and the digit driver board. Note the use of separate earthed and floating +5V supplies, the controller being operated from the earthed supply, and bear in mind that one digit driver board is required for each digit of the display.

PROJECT : Scoreboard

When the counter reaches 15 the carry output goes high and the counter is inhibited via IC2e. This means that, after each mains zero crossing, the data bits from the thumbwheel switches appear in turn at the serial data output and via IC2f and 5c at the shift data output to the digit drivers.

The beginning and end of this sequence is detected by IC3b which produces an envelope signal while data is coming out of the controller. The signal is made available to an external controller via IC6, and also gates the shift data and shift clock outputs to the digit drivers. It is also fed into the blanking signal so that, even with a very short period set for the monostable IC1b, the triacs cannot come on while data is being transmitted.

The three control signals connected to the digit drivers are fed through an optoisolator circuit to prevent any mains potentials reaching the control circuits, hence making the unit completely safe for connection to, for example, a home

computer.

Each of the three channels is identical, so reference will be made to one channel only. An emitter follower transistor Q2 drives the LED in the optoisolator IC11. The optoisolator transistor, biased by R19 to improve its high frequency response, is buffered by a Schmitt trigger (IC14a & R25), and a final output buffer IC14b drives the output.

IC15 is a four bit shift register, which converts the serial data to parallel at its outputs. The fourth output passes serial data on to the next driver module in the chain, thus with four digit drivers each gets its new data after sixteen clocks. The parallel BCD data is decoded by IC16 to form the segment drive to each of seven triacs.

The blanking signal drives Q5 which switches off the outputs of IC16, preventing the possibility of a digit being displayed while the shifting process goes on and allowing the display to be dimmed.

four BCD thumbwheel switches and turns it into a serial stream to send to the display drivers. It also takes mains zero crossing pulses from the power supply and uses them to time the serial transmission. This allows the display data to be updated while the displays are off at the zero crossing point of the AC mains cycle.

The controller also provides connections so that the display can be driven by a special purpose external controller, or by a simple I/O port on a home computer. In the case of a display with more than four digits, this is probably the easiest way to enter data and the circuitry for the thumbwheel switches can be omitted.

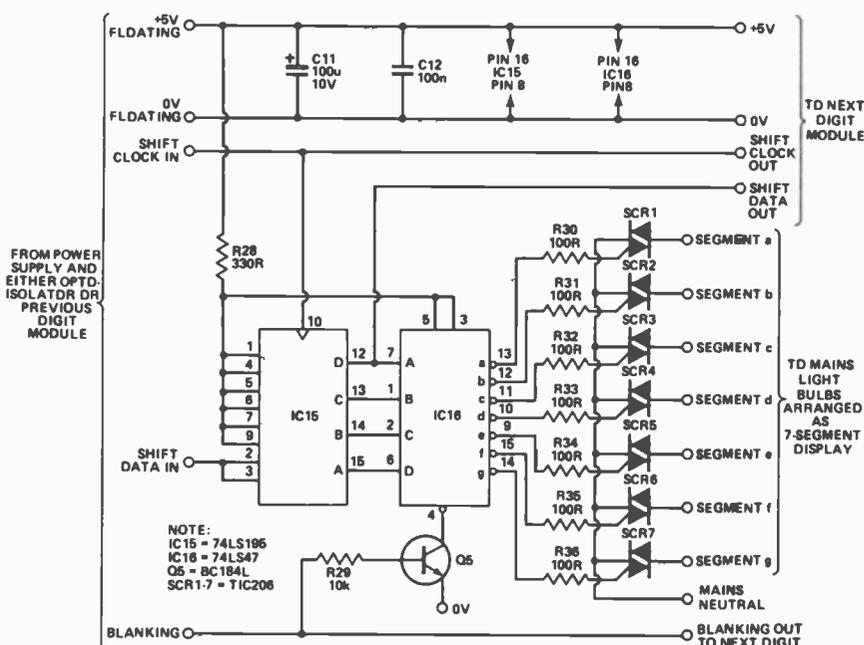
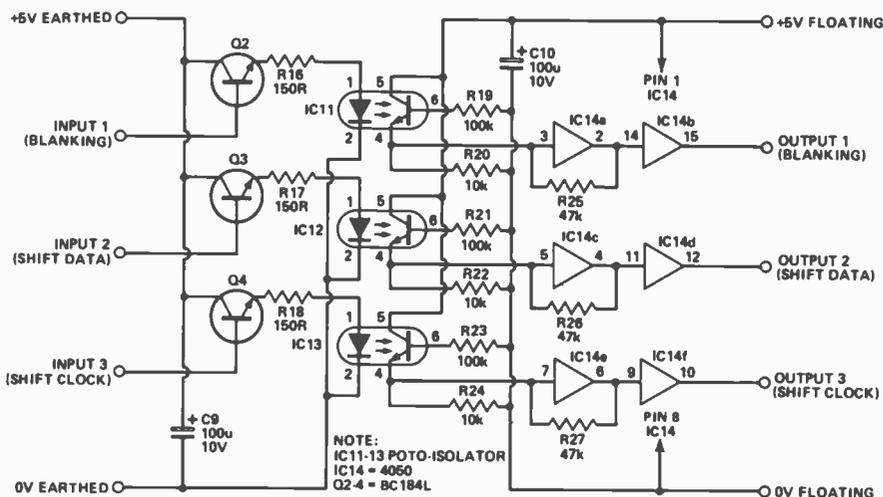
Construction

The box should be built first, and this is probably the most difficult part of the construction for those who are not naturally good at carpentry. It is not possible to give exact details and dimensions because these will vary according to the size of the digits and the number required, but the arrangement used in the prototype is shown in Fig. 6 and may be useful as a guide. Note the downward tilt of the display area which makes for easy viewing from below, and the steel brackets used to support a coloured plastic filter in front of the lamps.

The circuit boards are all single

BUYLINES

The BCD thumbwheel switches used in the prototype were obtained from RS Components, who will not supply parts to non-trade customers. If you cannot find another source you will either have to persuade a friendly local radio dealer to order them for you or, for a small surcharge, order them through Crewe-Allan & Company, 51 Scrutton Street, London EC2. The transformer came from Maplin, who can also supply suitable opto-couplers. Other suppliers may also stock these parts but check carefully that the transformer dimensions suit the PCB layout. Maplin also stock sheet aluminium which could be cut up to form the heatsink and the control panel, but you may find that a local hardware shop can supply panels cut to size. The semiconductors are all readily available, with the exception of the 4098 and possibly the 40163. Cricklewood and Maplin stock the 4098 and Watford stock all of the semiconductors. The PCBs are available from our PCB service, and don't forget that you will need one digit driver board for each digit of your display.



PARTS LIST CASE AND CONTROL PANEL

D2-17	1N4148
FS1	panel-mounting fuse holder and 3A fuselink
LP1	panel-mounting mains neon
SK1	7-pin DIN socket or other multipole connector to choice
SW1-4	BCD ten position thumbwheel switch with true and inverse outputs
SW5	DPST toggle or other mains on-off switch

mains lights bulbs and batten lampholders as required; wood, brackets, etc. for enclosure; coloured filter for front of display; small aluminium panel for the controls and nuts and bolts to mount; cable ties or spiral wrap or similar; stand-off pillars, nuts and bolts for mounting PCBs; ribbon cable, writing, etc.

sided except for the controller which is double sided. The legs of the components on the controller board are used to bridge between tracks on each side of the board, so in places the components must be soldered on the top side of the board as well as underneath. This rules out the use of sockets for the ICs.

Printed circuit board pins are used for the flying lead connections to the power supply (except the mains into the transformer), the isolator module, and the

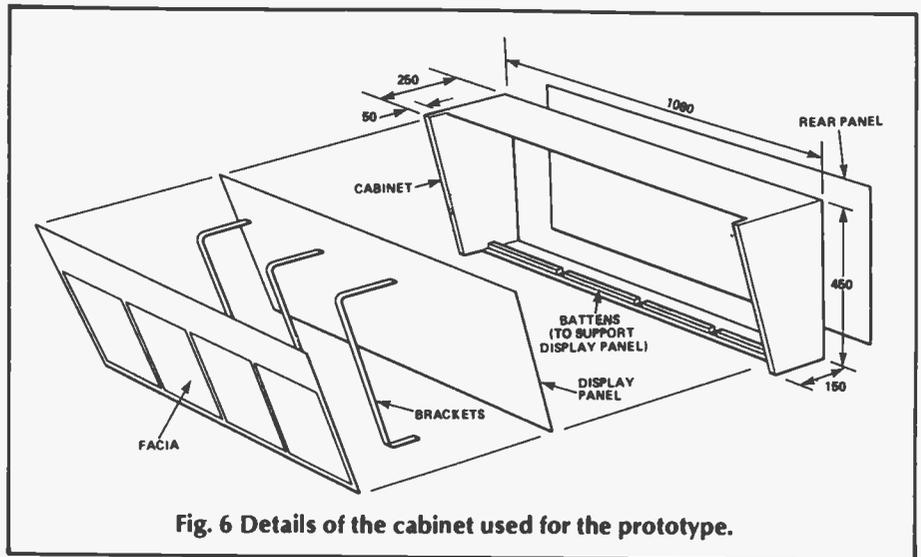


Fig. 6 Details of the cabinet used for the prototype.

display drivers (except for the triac-to-lamp connections). The pins should be installed first, followed by the wire links, the resistors, the capacitors, and the semiconductors. Be careful with the ICs as some of them are CMOS. Leave the power supply transformer until last and do not fit the triacs for the time being.

The triacs on the digit driver modules are mounted with a small heatsink sandwiched between them and the board. This is a length of aluminium strip, details of which are shown in Fig. 9. The heatsink also provides the extra two mounting points for the board. Each triac is bolted to the board through the heatsink with a mica washer and bush to insulate the tab. Silicone grease should be used between the tab and the aluminium to improve heatflow.

Two of the pins on each triac are

PARTS LIST POWER SUPPLY

RESISTORS (all 1/4W 5%)

R12	10k
R13,14	330R
R15	1k

CAPACITORS

C5,7	470u 16V radial electrolytic
C6,8	100n 5% poly-carbonate

SEMICONDUCTORS

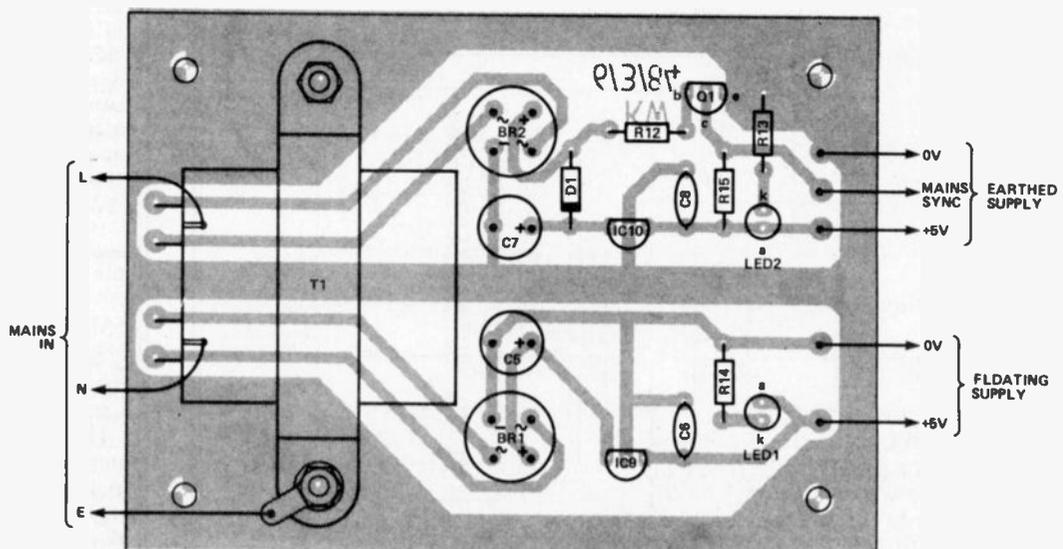
IC9,10	78L05
Q1	BC184L
D1	1N4001
BR1,2	W005
LED1,2	miniature red LED

MISCELLANEOUS

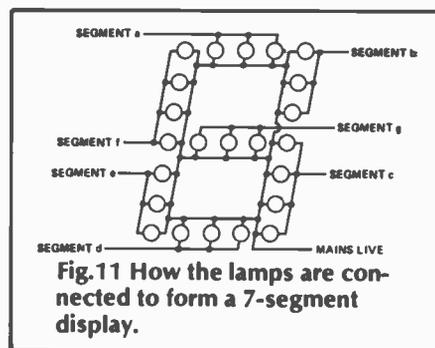
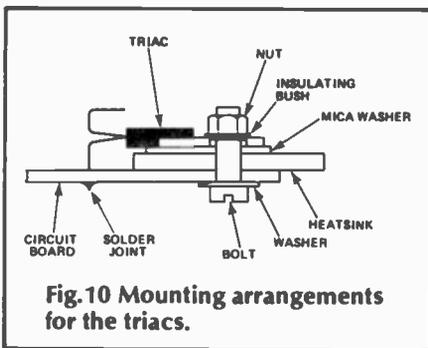
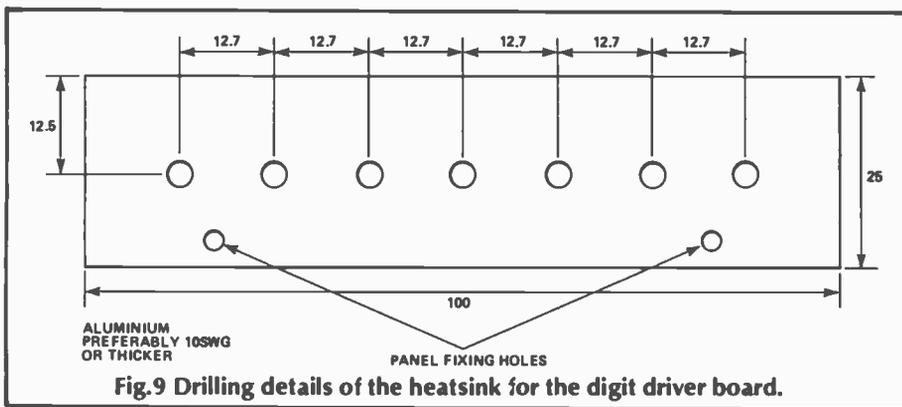
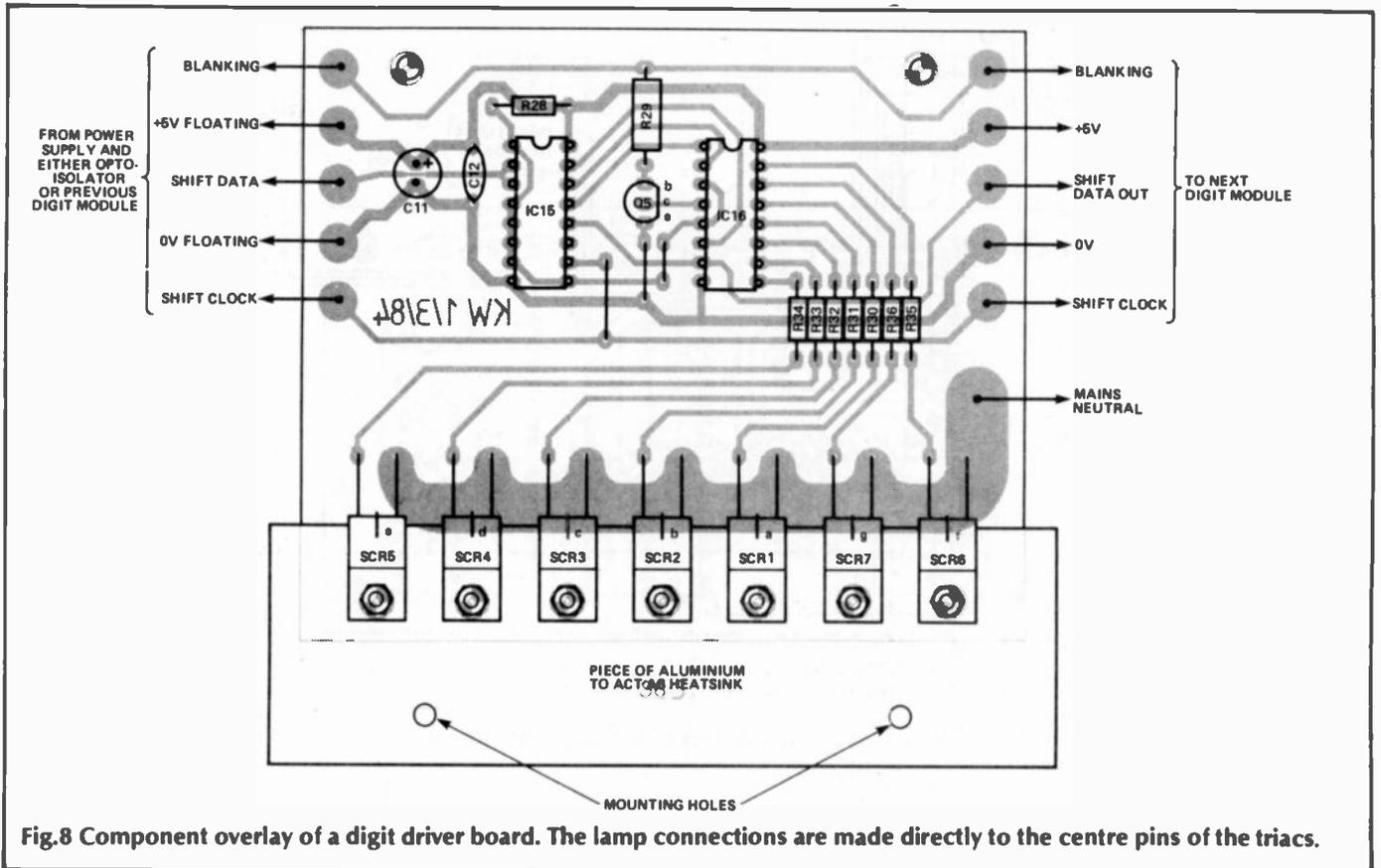
T1	6-0-6V, 500mA mains transformer, chassis mounting
----	---

PCB; 1mm terminal pins; earth tag; nuts and bolts for mounting transformer.

Fig. 7 Component overlay of the power supply board. Note the earth connection to the frame of the transformer and the mains connections taken directly to the transformer, not to the PCB.



PROJECT : Scoreboard



bent down to pass through the board, while the centre pin is bent up for a flying lead connection to the lamps. Only after the triac-heatsink assembly has been completed should the triacs be soldered to the board.

The displays themselves are pygmy bulbs in bulb holders, mounted on a wooden panel. 15W bulbs should give sufficient light for most applications. Three bulbs are used for each segment as shown in figure 11, but for larger

PARTS LIST DIGIT DRIVER MODULE

RESISTORS (all 1/4W 5%)

R28 330R
R29 10k
R30-36 100R

CAPACITORS

C11 100u 10V radial electrolytic
C12 100n poly-carbonate

SEMICONDUCTORS

Q5 BC184L
IC15 74LS195
IC16 74LS47
SCR1-7 TIC206

MISCELLANEOUS

PCB; 1mm terminal pins; nuts and bolts, mica washers and insulating bushes for triacs; heatsink (see text and Buylines); IC sockets if desired — 2 off 16 pin DIL.

displays it might be better to use the small incandescent strip lamps commonly found in bedside lights for each segment.

The reverse of the lamp panel is used as a chassis, and the various circuit boards are screwed onto it through standoff pillars. Interwiring is kept neat by using spiral wrap around the cable

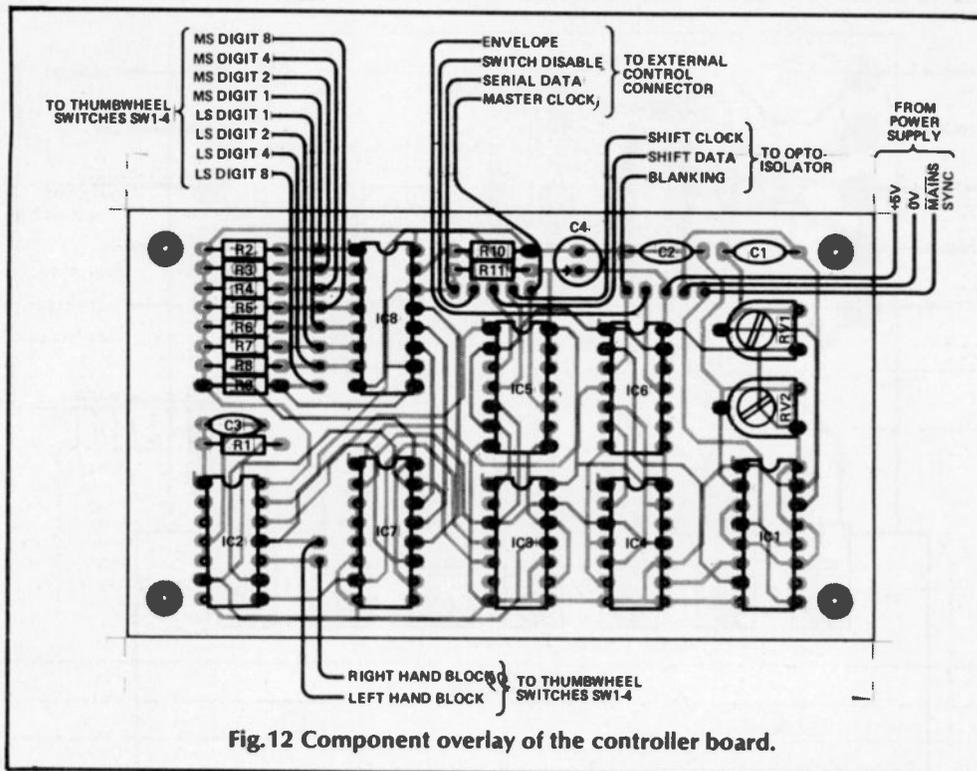


Fig.12 Component overlay of the controller board.

PARTS LIST — CONTROLLER MODULE

RESISTORS (all 1/4W 5%)					
R1	1k8	C3	4n7 5% poly-carbonate	IC5	4001
R2-11	10k	C4	22u 25V radial electrolytic	IC6	4011
RV1,2	220k miniature horizontal preset			IC7	40163
ACITORS		SEMICONDUCTORS		IC8	4512
C1,2	120n 5% poly-carbonate	IC1	4098	MISCELLANEOUS	
		IC2	4069	PCB	
		IC3,4	4013		

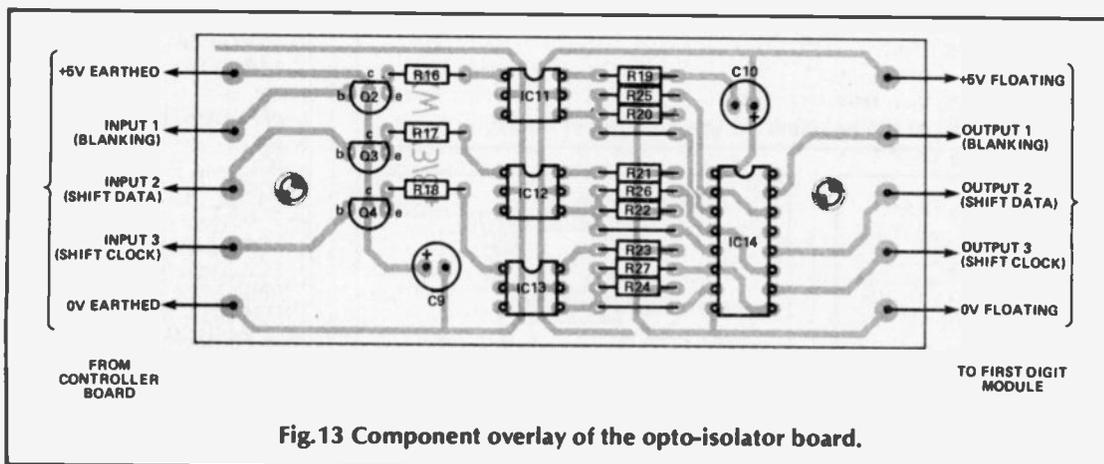


Fig.13 Component overlay of the opto-isolator board.

PARTS LIST — ISOLATOR MODULE

RESISTORS (all 1/4W 5%)		CAPACITORS			
R16-18	150R	C9,10	100u 10V radial electrolytic	IC14	4050
R19,21,23	100k	SEMICONDUCTORS		MISCELLANEOUS	
R20,22,24	10k	Q2-4	BC184L	PCB; 1mm terminal pins; IC socket if desired — 1 off 16 pin DIL.	
R25-27	47k	IC11-13	Opto-isolator (see Buylines)		

PROJECT : Scoreboard

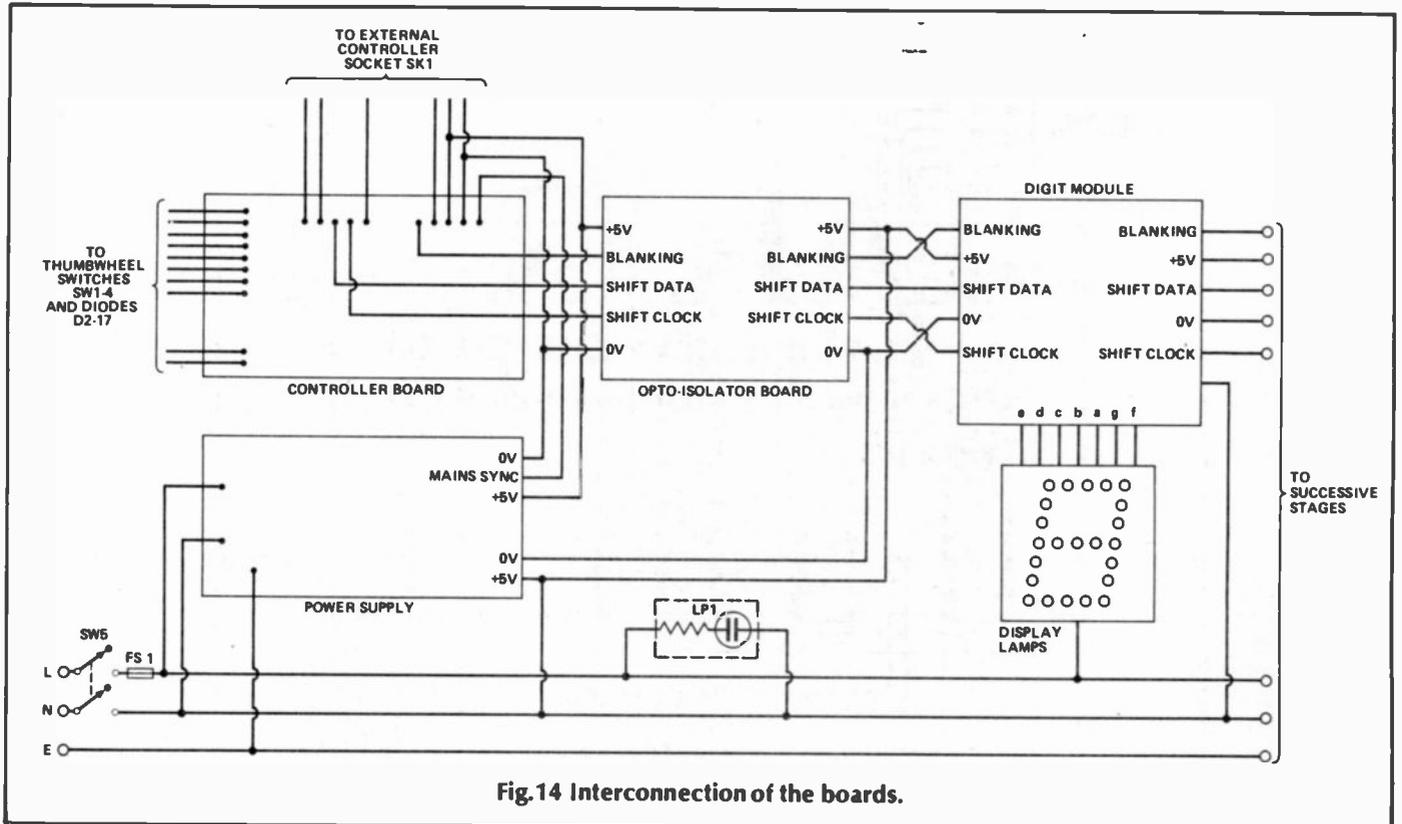


Fig. 14 Interconnection of the boards.

looms, or ribbon cable as appropriate. Make sure that suitable cable is used for the mains supply to the lamps, between the lamps and the triacs, and the returns from the digit driver boards.

The supply, return, and earth wires have been taken individually to a central supply point, rather than chaining them from one point to the next. This includes the power supply module as well as each display. Remember that much of the wiring carries mains voltages and currents, and must be of a high standard to avoid the risk of accidents.

The diodes associated with the thumbwheel switches are mounted on the switches themselves, and the arrangement shown uses the inverse data outputs. If the switches used do not have inverse outputs, turn all the diodes round, swap the common connections for the two pairs of digits and alter the pull-up resistors on the controller module so that they pull down to 0V. If a display of less than four digits is required, simply omit switches and diodes starting with SW1, then SW2, etc.

Any convenient connector can be used for the outlet to the external controller. A seven pin DIN socket has been used in the prototype. The external controller can interrogate the thumbwheel

switches by intercepting the serial data and control signals. It can inject data in place of the switch data by driving the switch disable input to a logic "1" (anything over 3.7V), at which point the output of IC8 goes high impedance and can be driven externally.

If the switch inputs are never going to be used, the controller module may be dedicated to external control by omitting IC4, 7, and 8, and R2-R9. The copper track on the component side of the board leading to IC3 pin 1 should be cut (close to the IC as it also goes to other places) and a wire link soldered between the pad of IC8 pin 15 and IC5 pin 2. This allows the external controller to generate the envelope signal. IC6 pins 5 and 6, and IC3 pins 4 and 5 must be wired to 0V to protect their CMOS inputs.

Setting Up and Use

It is a good confidence booster if the power supply works when you switch it on. Try it with its outputs disconnected, and the LEDs should light to show that something is getting through. If you have a meter, check that both outputs are producing 5V.

Unfortunately, very little intermediate checking can be performed on the rest of the circuit. Be careful when poking around the digit driver areas as these are

live when the mains is connected.

Make the set up adjustments with a single bulb plugged in somewhere, and arrange for the display to show all "8"s. Set RV1 on the controller module fully anticlockwise and RV2 fully clockwise. Switch on, and the lamp should be at full brightness. Using an insulated screwdriver so that mains hum pickup does not affect adjustments, slowly turn RV1 clockwise until the lamp suddenly goes dim, and stop there. Now turn RV2 anticlockwise, and the lamp should increase in brightness. The lamp may be set to the desired operating brightness, remembering that the cooler a lamp is run, the longer it will last.

If the display is to be run at full brightness, either because you need that much light or because you wish to keep RF interferences to a minimum, continue to turn RV2 anticlockwise until the lamp suddenly goes out then turn it back to the point where the lamp comes on again.

The display is now ready for use, so switch off and install all the lamps. It would be as well to have a few spare triacs in stock, because when bulbs blow they tend to take their triacs with them. Running the display at reduced brightness should help a little.

STEREO SIMULATOR

Liven up your mono recordings, give breadth to your stereo with this unit developed by the indefatigable Dave Bradshaw from an idea by B. Webb.

There are many occasions when you're stuck with a mono signal, but it seems a waste. Mono is particularly irritating when you're using stereo headphones - it feels as if everything is coming just from the exact centre of your head. Here's a little unit that can remove that irritation.

Let's get one point perfectly straight, though. When you're presented with a mono signal, there's no way that you can get a true stereo signal back again. There are complex processes available to synthesise an apparent stereo signal, but these are very costly and time consuming and are primarily of use in the recording studio.

So, what the circuit does here is a bit of sleight of hand. By introducing phase and amplitude differences between the two channels, a semblance of

ambience can be generated, and this can remove the more objectionable effects of listening to mono through a stereo medium. However, the unit described here does not restore the stereo information.

As a bonus, the unit can also be used to generate spatial stereo. In this, each channel is intermixed with the other channel out of phase. In theory, this expands the stereo image. In practice, the degree of success depends very strongly on the material being listened to. The effect can make the results from headphones rather more comfortable, so you might like to try out the spatial stereo as well as the pseudo variety.

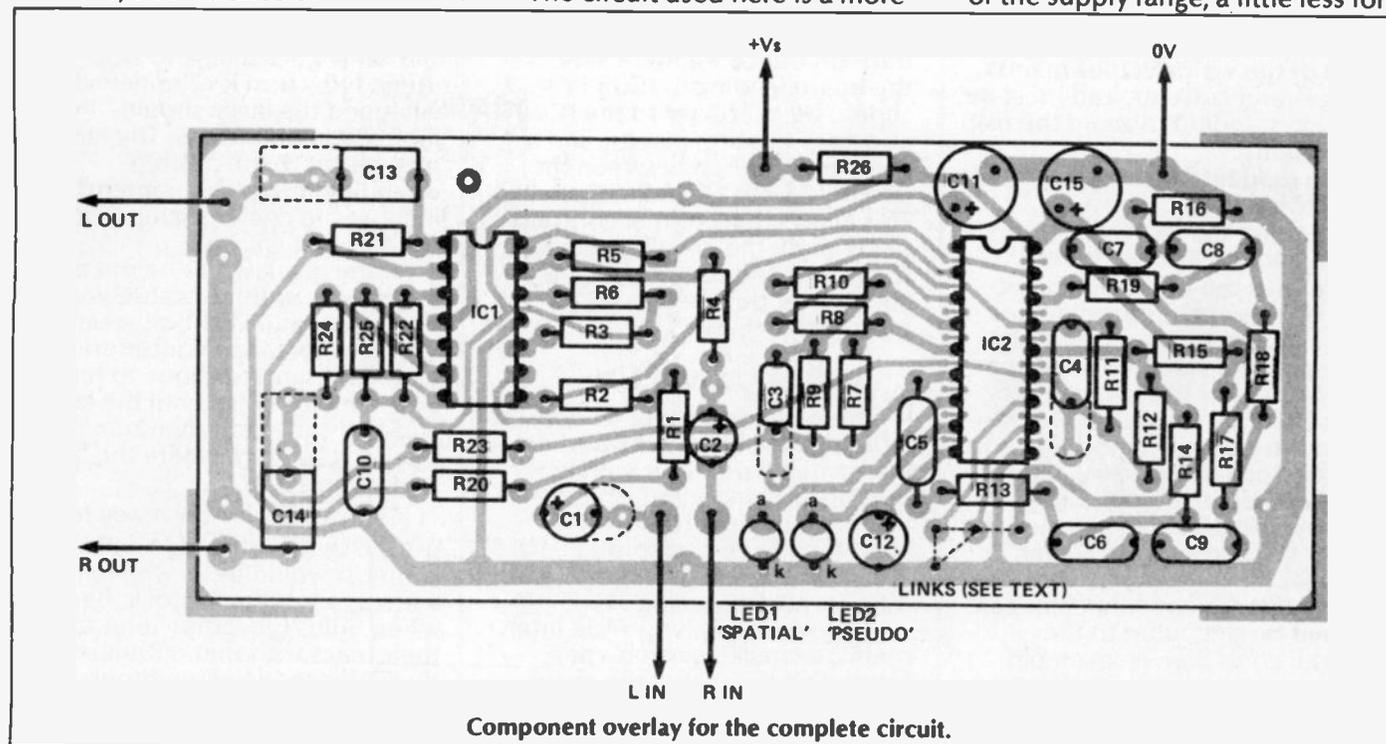
The Circuit

The circuit used here is a more-

or-less direct 'lift' of the circuit in Mullard's application notes. The TDA3810 is a purpose-made device for pseudo and super stereo, so why reinvent the wheel?

To the special IC has been added a quad op-amp, to boost the signal to the level required for optimum noise performance, and to reduce and buffer the signal after the TDA3810. In the parts list, we specify a TL094, but any quad op-amp can be used provided there is sufficient supply voltage for it - it so happens that the TL094 can operate down to 4.5 V, which is the minimum supply voltage for the TDA3810. Maximum supply voltage for the 3810 is 16.5V, which is below the maximum for the TL094.

Supply current will be in the region of 10 mA (without the LEDs), a little more to the top end of the supply range, a little less for



Component overlay for the complete circuit.

PROJECT: Stereo Simulator

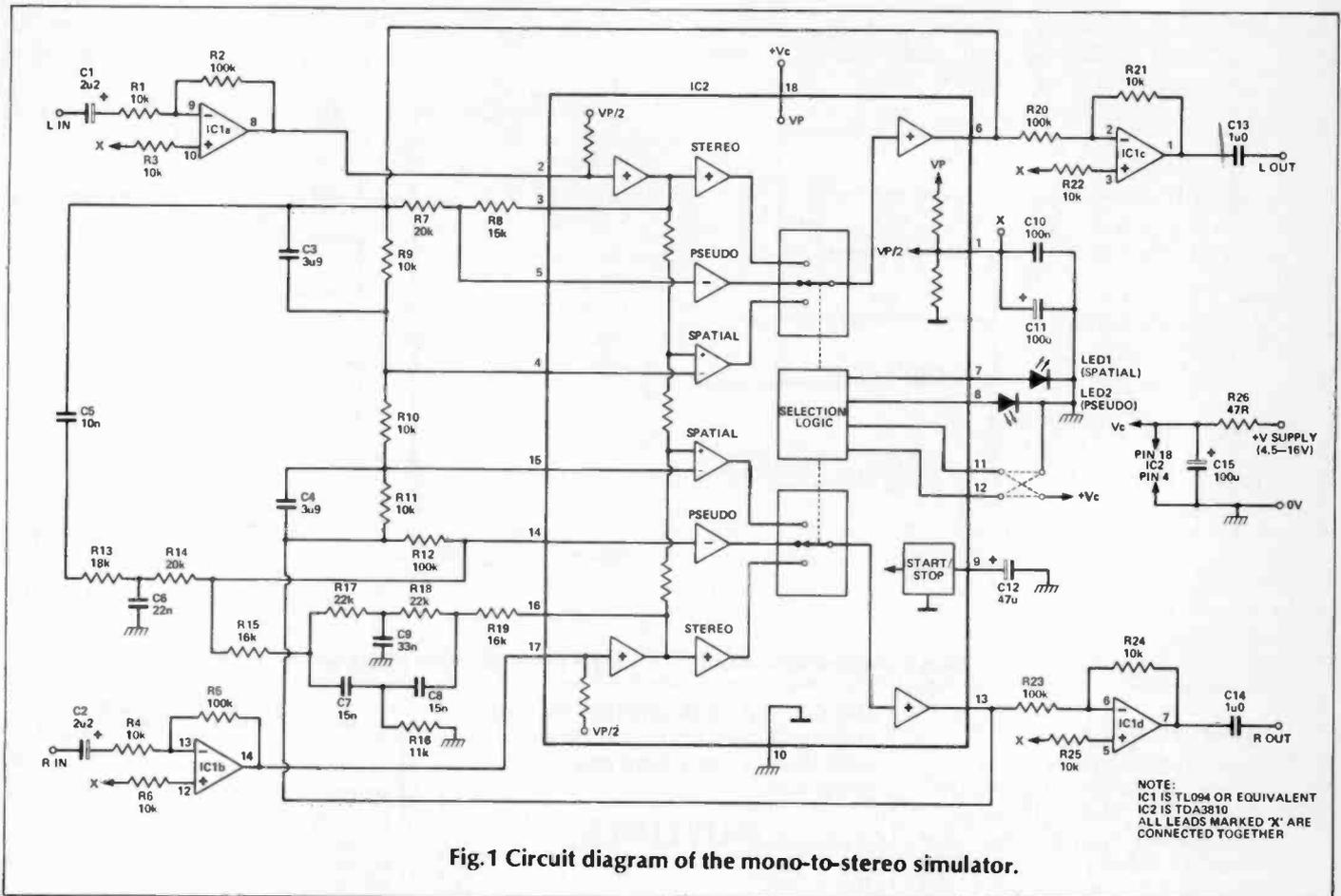


Fig.1 Circuit diagram of the mono-to-stereo simulator.

a low supply voltage (around 7 mA for 5V). Obviously, supply current with the LEDs depends on what LEDs you use.

If a relatively 'clean' supply is available, R26 and C17 may be omitted. This may be particularly of value when lower supply voltages are used, as the voltage drop across R26 may be significant.

The actual mode that the circuit is in is selected by the voltages applied to pins 11 and 12 of IC2 according to Table 1. Pins 11 and 12 could either be permanently connected to the appropriate voltages, or could be attached via a two pole, three way mode selection switch - one vital point, the switch must be break before make, otherwise it will momentarily short the positive supply to ground when it is moved.

Sensible values of capacitors C13 and C14 depend on the input impedance of the circuit being fed by the unit. The outputs of IC1c and d will be at around half the supply voltage, so if you have to use electrolytic capacitors check the voltage at the input point to see which way round the capacitors should go. Also, check the input DC voltage, as it may be necessary to reverse the input capacitors.

HOW IT WORKS

In the stereo mode, operation is quite straightforward, as all the TDA3810 does is act as a buffer. The op amps IC1a and b are configured as x10 amplifiers, for reasons that will be discussed later, and IC1c and d are +10 amplifiers. So the net result is no change.

In the pseudo-stereo mode, IC1a - d act as before. However, IC2 is configured somewhat differently by its internal switches. The two filters, F1 and F2 are brought into circuit. Basically, the signal applied to the L input goes through to the L output with a small amplification and inversion. However, some of the inverted L input is passed to the input of the inverting amplifier in the R chain, via low-pass filter F1. This is combined with some of the non-inverted input fed via the R terminal, which is passed through notch filter F2. Analysing what's going on in either F1 or F2 is difficult (particularly, in F2), and after several pages of algebra, we were little the wiser, so we cheated and used the values given in the manufacturer's data sheet! Let it suffice to say that the R channel has a different phase to the L channel as well

as a different frequency response, and that response varies with frequency.

Finally, in spatial stereo mode, the configuration is as shown in Fig. 3. The input signals are buffered then slightly intermixed by the resistors connected between the +1 buffers' outputs. The signals are passed to the op-amps which invert them. These op-amps are configured so as to produce anti-phase cross-talk, ie the right output contains 50% of the left input, but inverted. At higher frequencies, capacitors C3 and C4 reduce the cross-talk.

Op-amps IC1a and b increase the input signal level to 2V RMS, which assumes a 200mV RMS input signal to the whole unit - probably more common than 2V! 2V is the recommended minimum input voltage to the TDA3810 with a 12V supply; obviously, if the supply voltage is significantly lower than this, then the input signal level to IC2 should be decreased to allow sufficient operating headroom for it and for IC1a and b. This will be detrimental to the noise performance. Obviously, the gains of IC1a and b will have to be adjusted accordingly, as will the gains of IC1c and d.

PROJECT: Stereo Simulator

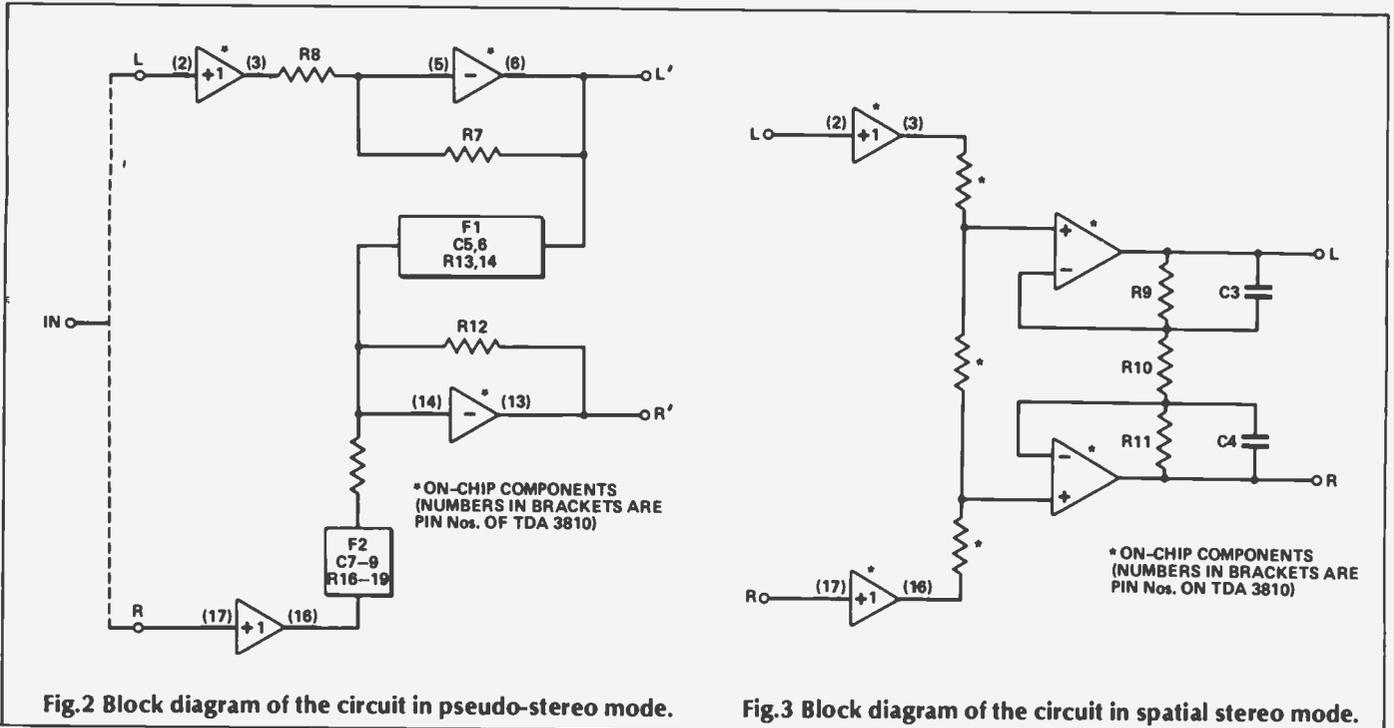


Fig. 2 Block diagram of the circuit in pseudo-stereo mode.

Fig. 3 Block diagram of the circuit in spatial stereo mode.

Construction

The first move should be to insert the IC sockets, making sure that you get them the right way round. This makes it easier to locate the positions of all the other components. Next insert and solder the resistors, followed by the capacitors, and then the LEDs. Finally, before inserting the ICs, check your work carefully and, in particular, look for solder bridges.

Now pick your insertion point in the main system that you're adding the unit to. The best point would be before the volume control, if the signal here is of a suitable level. In this way, the unit receives a more-or-less constant input signal level which makes for optimum signal-to-noise ratio.

The supply requirements of the circuit have already been mentioned. With a standard split supply circuit, it will probably be sufficient to feed the circuit from just the +ve supply and the 0V-

the current consumption requirements of the circuit are modest and should not cause any problems.

BUYLINES

No special problems should occur here. The TDA3810 (as well as the more common TL094) can be purchased from Technomatic. Of the other components, the only trouble you may have is with the 3n9 capacitors for C3 and 4. Not many capacitor types are made with E12 series values nowadays, the E6 series being much more prevalent. However, polystyrene still seem to be available in E12 values, and this can be used here. The main problem with polystyrene capacitors is their size, but this has been allowed for on the PCB (in the main, polycarbonates have been specified for their relatively small size, not for any other reason; so long as the tolerance is 10% or better, any type should do, as this circuit does not have super-fi pretensions!).

PARTS LIST

RESISTORS (all 1/4W 5%)

R1,3,4,6,9-11,21, 22,24,25	10k (11 off)
R2,5,12,20,23	100k (5 off)
R7,14	20k
R8	15k
R13	18k
R15,19	16k (15k+ 1k)
R16	11k (22k//22k)
R17,18	22k

CAPACITORS (polycarbonate unless stated)

C1,2	2μ2 16V electrolytic
C3,4	3n9
C5	10n
C6	22n
C7,8	15n
C9	33n
C10	100n ceramic
C11	100μ10V electrolytic
C12	47μ 16V electrolytic
C13,14	1μ
C15	100μ 16V electrolytic

SEMICONDUCTORS

IC1	TL094
IC2	TDA3810
LED1,2	LEDs to choice

MISCELLANEOUS

PCB, wire, pins for off-board connections, switch if required (2-pole, 3-way, break before make).

MODE	CONTROL INPUT STATE		LED SPATIAL PIN 7	LED PSEUDO PIN 8
	PIN 11	PIN 12		
MONO PSEUDO-STEREO	HIGH	LOW	off	on
SPATIAL STEREO	HIGH	HIGH	on	off
STEREO	LOW	X	off	off

LOW = 0 to 0.8V (the less positive voltage)
 HIGH = 2V to Vp (the more positive voltage)
 X = don't care

Table 1 Mode-switching logic.

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Note that these are all the boards that are available — if it isn't listed, we don't have it.

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1985

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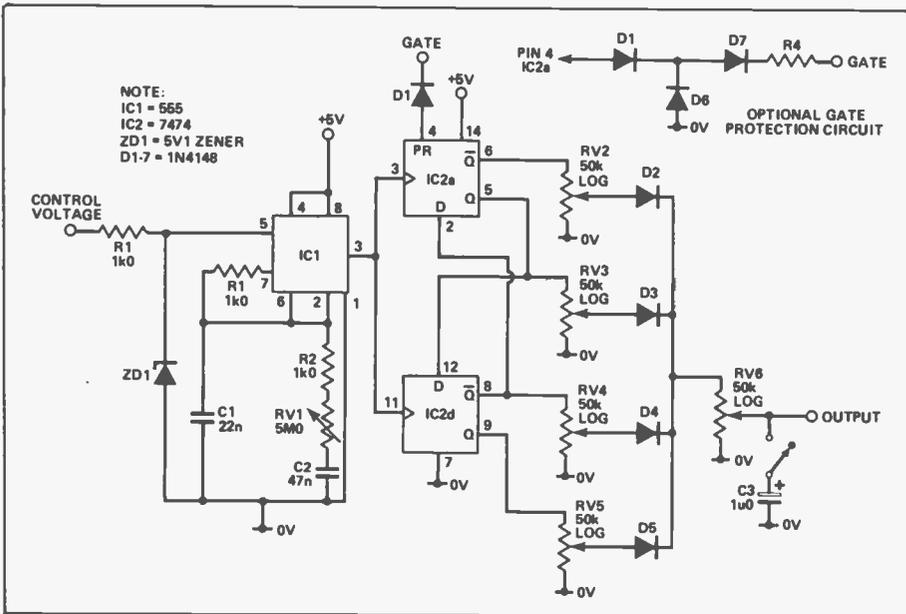
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TECH TIPS

Walking-ring Sequencer

S. P. Giles
London



This simple circuit is quite useful for generating a number of functions. It can be used for trilling, vibrato or higher frequency modulation. It will also provide voltages for note sequences, gating, controlling filters, VCA's or any voltage controlled module.

A 555 timer is used as a simple voltage controlled clock with the five megohm potentiometer determining sequence speed along with the voltage at the control voltage input. This input will vary the speed with a positive voltage applied. This function is non-linear, has a 3:1 range and increases speed as the voltage decreases. With the component values shown (5M and 22n) the range is 2Hz to 7KHz. Larger values of CR will result in slower rates, and small values, faster ones.

A 7474 flip-flop is wired as a walking ring counter. The outputs overlap, so the final output is apparent as four steps. Moving one

FET Grid-dip Oscillator

G. G. Mellor
Macclesfield

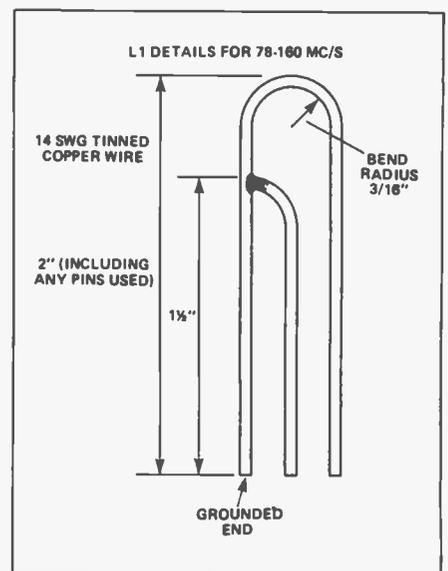
A relatively up to date version of the well known triode valve grid-dip oscillator can be constructed very simply and cheaply by replacing the RF triode by a FET such as the 2N3819, the BF245A or preferably, MPF106 in the trusty Hartley circuit. Although the physics of a triode and a FET are obviously different, they seem to operate in a similar fashion.

A non-mathematical explanation of the oscillation assumes an alternating RF potential on the source of Q1 which, due to the auto-transformer action of L1, gets amplified without any phase change (to make good any circuit losses). This voltage is fed to the gate of Q1. Since we are using Q1 in source follower mode, FET action maintains the amplitude of the alternating RF we first assumed. The tank circuit, L1 and C1, will provide the initial RF we require for this explanation on power-up.

The GDO must be calibrated and this can be done in one of (at least) two ways:

- i) Listen for the GDO frequency on a good communications receiver and, using spot frequencies, calibrate the C1 scale.
- ii) Measure the GDO frequency with meter using a high impedance probe on the source of Q1.

Using the GDO is simple, the appropriate coil for L1 is plugged in and the GDO switched on. L1 (which is mounted on a 3 pin DIN plug external to the circuit) is brought in the vicinity of the tuned circuit under test (TCUT). C1 is adjusted for a local minimum in the



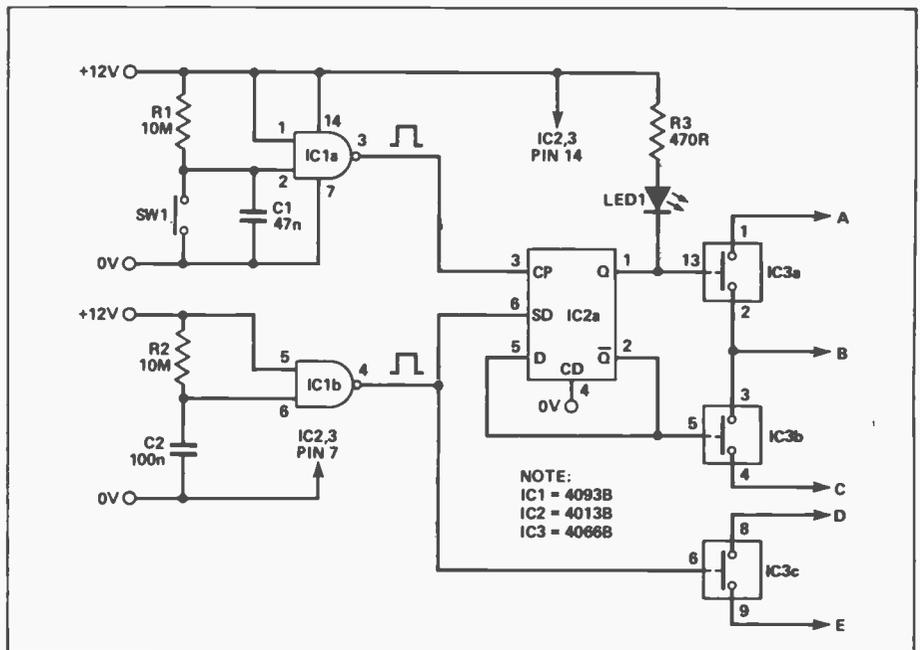
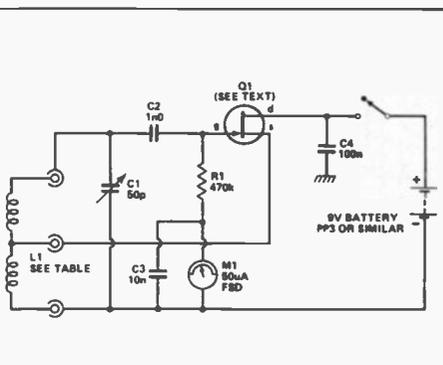
Coil	Frequency Range (MHz)	Number Of Turns	Tap	Wire Gauge (SWG)	Number of Turns Per Inch	Coil Diameter	
A	1.6-3.5	139	32	36ENA	Close Wound	3/4"	
B	3.45-7.8	40	12	36ENA	Close Wound	3/4"	
C	7.6-17.5	40	14	24Tinned	32	1/2"	
D	17.2-40	15	5	20Tinned	16	1/2"	
E	37-85	4	1 1/2	20Tinned	16	1/2"	
F	78-160	See Diagram					

of the four level controls moves the whole sequence. These should be adjusted for preferred operation. The primary disadvantage here is that individual notes are difficult to tune accurately so the sequence should be run fairly fast in order to minimise note inaccuracies when controlling a VCO.

The sequencer can be turned off at the gate input with a ground. No connection, or a positive voltage will allow the circuit to operate. This input is protected from normal synthesiser positive voltages, but negative voltages should not be applied unless you use the optional gate protection circuit. The 50K pot on the output controls the level from 0 to 3.5 volts. The 1 μ 0 capacitor and switch are used to provide a slide function.

Note the power supply is 5 volts and must be regulated. Higher voltages may destroy the 7474 IC. If 5 volts is not available, use any 5 volt voltage regulator to step down a higher voltage.

meter reading and the frequency read off the scale. This "dip" in the reading occurs because some of the RF feedback in the GDO is absorbed by the TCUT consequently making the natural potential on the gate of Q1 less negative. It should be noted that loose coupling to the TCUT is essential to avoid the GDO frequency being "pulled" away from the value indicated on the scale. A dip can also occur when the GDO frequency is an integral sub-multiple of the TCUT frequency. However, practice in using the GDO will soon remedy this, and in any case there is no excuse for being a factor of 2, 3 or 4 out of the waveband you are supposed to be working in!



Push-button Operated Change-over

D. Wells
Newport Pagnell

The circuit shown was developed during the design of a DC controlled pre-amplifier. Using momentary contact switches allowed standardisation of all front panel switches. As well as giving a single or double pole change over switch the circuit ensures that the power up state of the switches is always the same. In the author's application only DC control voltages were being switched so the limitations of the 4066 switches at audio frequencies were unimportant; other applications may need to take account of these.

IC1a goes high when SW1 is pressed, R1 and C1 provide a debounce function. The outputs of IC2a change state on the positive edge of IC1a output. As the two outputs of IC2a are complementary and are connected to the control inputs of two switches in IC3, a change over switch is achieved by commoning the outputs of the two switches. R3 and LED1 are optional and form a visual indication of switch status.

IC1b provides a short high pulse at its output immediately after power up. The values of R2 and C2 ensure that this pulse is longer than

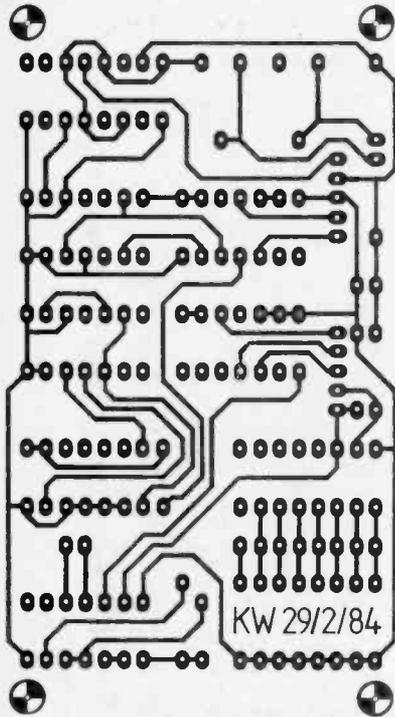
the pulse from IC1a. The high from IC1b is connected to the set input of IC2a and causes the power up state to always be:

point A connected to point B and point B to C open circuit.

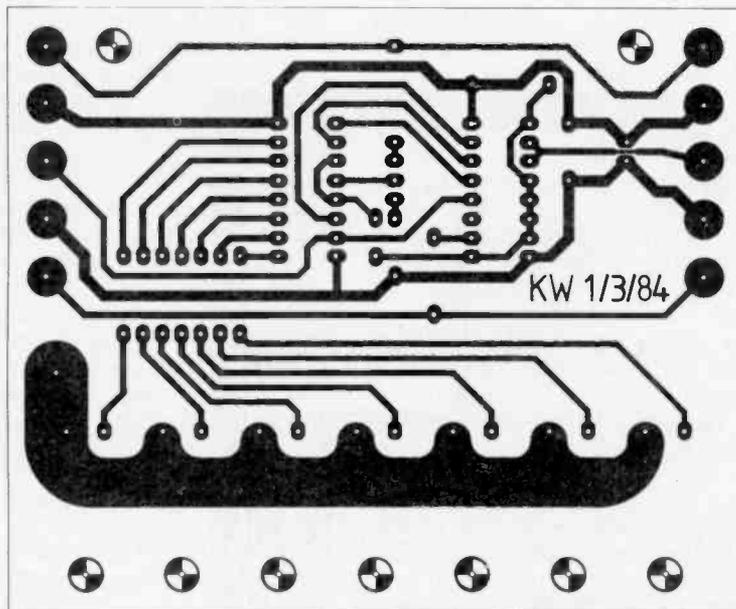
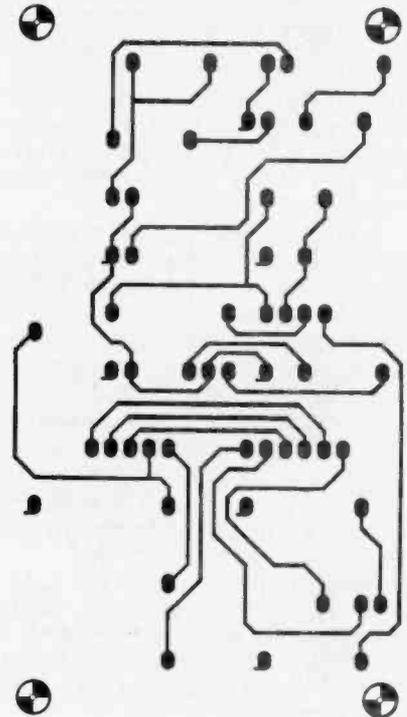
As it stands the circuit only uses half the gates in all three IC's. One possible use for these spare gates is shown in the diagram. The positive pulse from IC1b is fed to one of the spare switches in IC3. This switch was connected in parallel with one of the source select inputs thus ensuring that the same source was always selected at power up (the source switches were latched by the audio switching IC used). Other functions that could be implemented include: two single pole single throw switches; another single pole change over switch; a double pole single throw switch.

Could G. M. Heath get in touch with us over his contribution to Tech Tips and would all future contributors help us by marking their name and address on each sheet of their submission. Thanks.

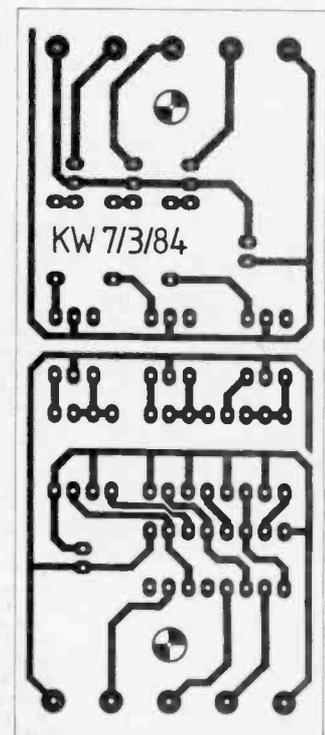
PCB FOIL PATTERNS



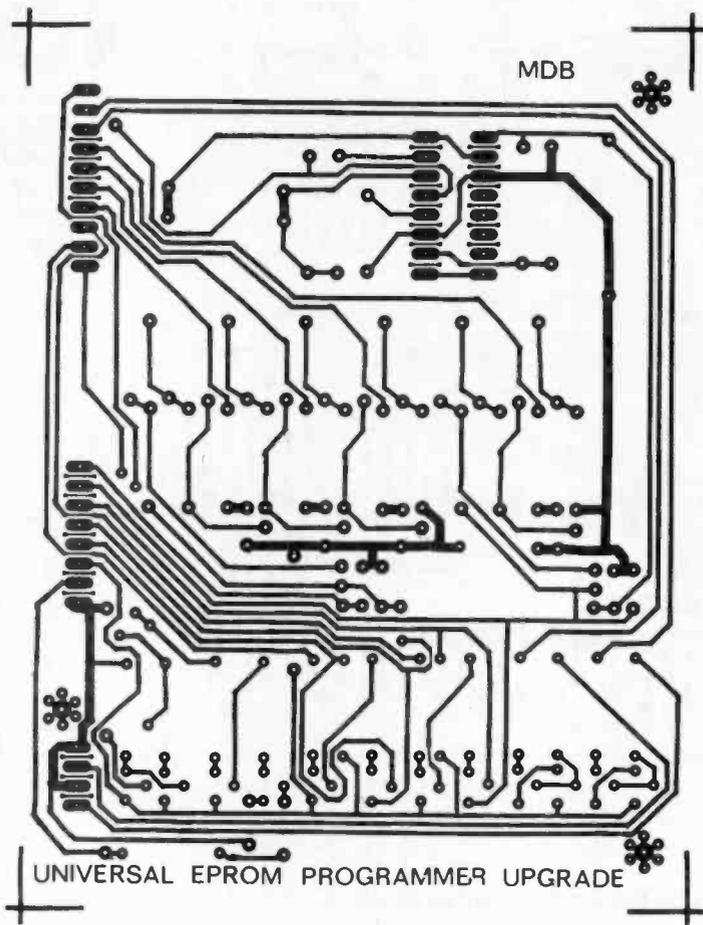
The top and bottom patterns for the scoreboard controller module.



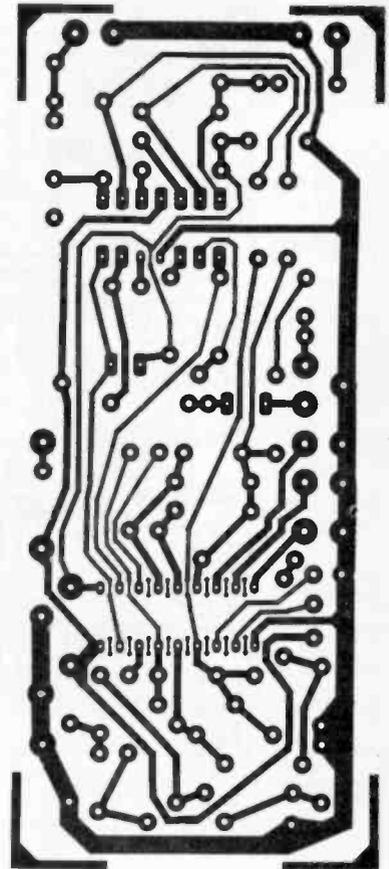
The digit driver board pattern for the scoreboard.



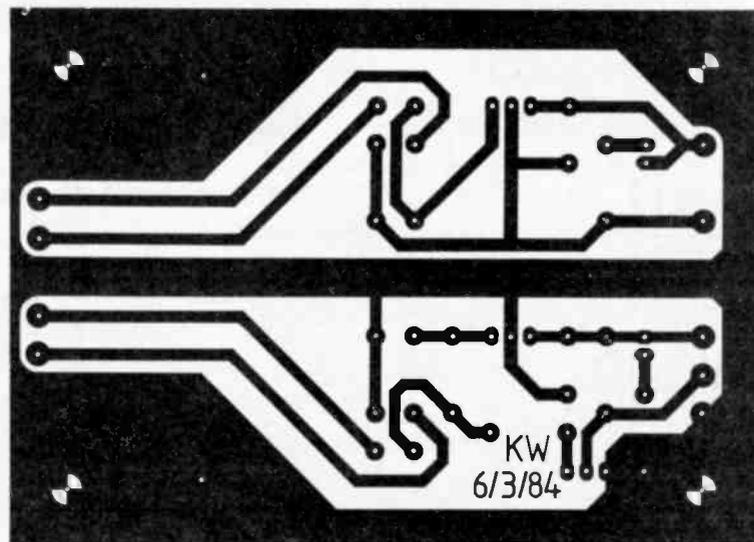
The pattern for the scoreboard opto-isolator module.



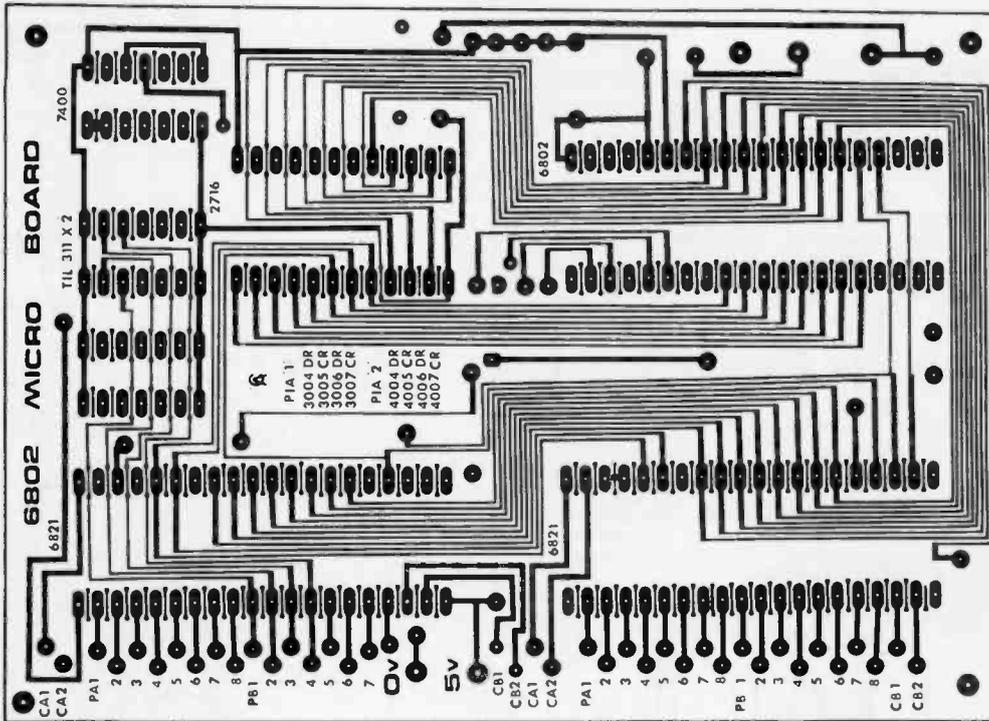
The EPROM Programmer upgrade board foil pattern.



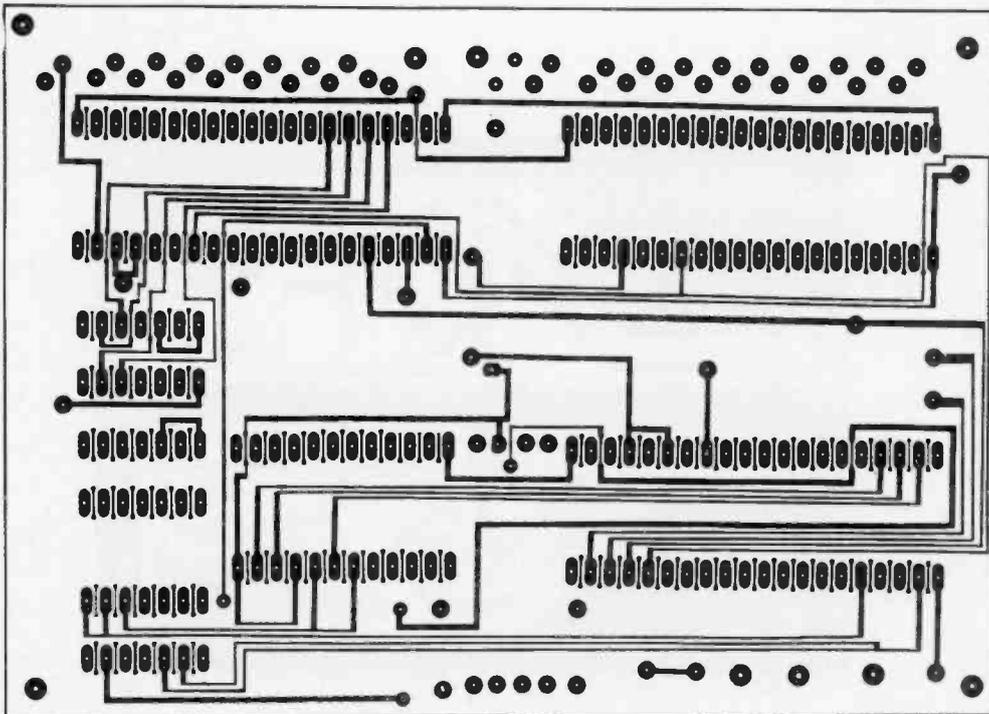
The mono-to-stereo simulator foil pattern.



The power supply board pattern for the scoreboard.



The top and bottom patterns for the 6802 Evaluation Board.



OPEN CHANNEL

Keep it human

When electronic communications systems were in their infancy, it seemed that the existing news communicators - newspapers - were in for a hard time. Pundits (then, and some even now) predicted the rise of the electronic newspaper and demise of the real McCoy. Well, the technology of the electronic newspaper is now with us, but it's being given a run for its money - after all, who on earth wants to sit in front of a computer display: CRT, LCD or other, to read the news when you could have a real, live newspaper folded on your lap.

The Financial Times will be the first UK publication to make use of SatStream North America and it obviously hopes to eliminate freighting costs, as well as being able to produce the paper in North America, hours earlier than previously possible.

A single satellite link is to be

used between the FT's head office at Bracken House in the City of London and the printer in New Jersey State, USA. Facsimile pages will be digitally transmitted from Bracken House to the printer at data rates upto 128 Kbits per second, via BTI's earth terminal, sited at Ealing. Confirmation of page reception will be provided by a low-data rate return path using BTI's KiloStream service.

The point I'm making is that, yes, electronic services can be super fast, super efficient, and just plain super, but they can also de-humanise a customer service, so much so that the customer will choose not to use it. The example I've used here shows that electronic services can be used to great advantage in the planning, preparation and production of a newspaper, but in the end the human consumer must be catered for. Paper newspapers do this, electronic newspapers don't. The principle is not restricted to newspapers, and planners of electronic services shouldn't forget it. It's for yoo-hoo

This month sees the planned start of British Rail's new service for commuting business - people : telephone links on-board

trains. The first stage will cover the London/Manchester and London/Liverpool lines, and goes into service with a single telephone in each first class executive Pullman carriage. BR plans to expand this rapidly (hopefully to second class, too - some of us fee-paying, ordinary-mortal commuters know what a 'phone is, you know!) and foresees a high usage of electronic mail via portable terminals. In effect, commuters can use the train as a mobile office. Presumably, BR feels that its

commuters should get some more work done and stop wasting time reading humanised newspapers.

Keith Brindley

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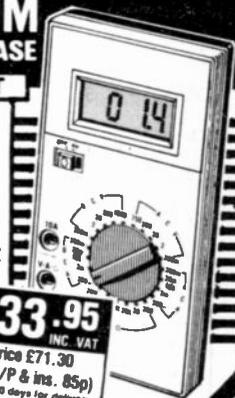
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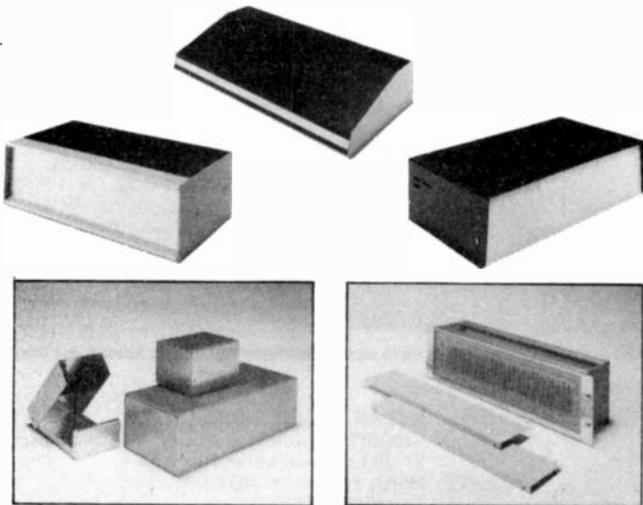
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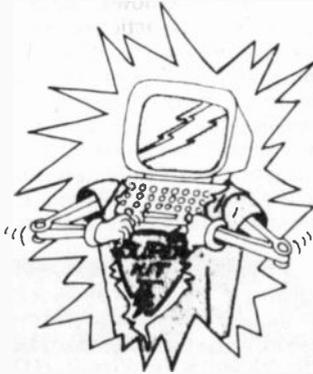
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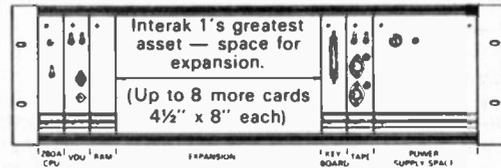
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SCRATCH PAD

by Flea-Byte

Steve Wozniak is one of the legends of the electronics world. While still hardly more than a teenager, he and his friend Steven Jobs built a smallish, microprocessor-based device in a garage in California. This was in the mid-seventies and, when they started to sell similar devices through their local electronic parts supplier, they caused quite a stir. They began manufacturing the device on uncased PCBs and gave it a name - the Apple computer. By the early eighties, Jobs and Wozniak were reckoned to have personal fortunes well in excess of \$10m each. But, while Jobs went on to lead the Apple Computer Co. to greater and greater things, Wozniak quit in 1983, taking his money with him. He went into rock promotion, lost a couple of million, and signed up for a degree course in computer engineering - as a student. A couple of years later, the mercurial Wozniak applied for a job... as an engineer working at Apple Computer. Despite his millions, he was accepted on the 'shop floor' and helped develop products for the Apple IIe and IIc. Then,

early this year, he quit again saying he was fed-up with working on computers. Instead, says Wozniak, he is starting a company called MBF Corporation - which stands for 'My Best Friend'. MBF's first product will be a controller for home video systems. 'It is not,' says Wozniak defiantly, 'a computer or a peripheral'.

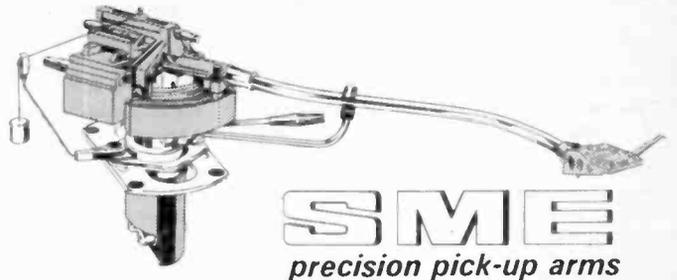
Interesting to note the results of the latest poll in 'New Scientist'. Asked - among other things - to name three famous scientists, members of the Great British Public plumped overwhelmingly for 'Don't Know'. Don't Know is, of course, dead-like most of the other scientists who appeared in the poll results. He or she is, however, thought to be responsible for inventing the wheel, viruses, sexual reproduction and the Third Law of Thermodynamics. Readers will be pleased to learn that, according to the poll results, the world's greatest living scientist (in fact, the world's only living scientist) is Sir Clive Sinclair, inventor of the tricycle.

The latest news from Silicon Valley suggests that maybe it should be renamed, Cocaine Valley, perhaps? Or Amphetamine Alley? Evidently, the use of 'uppers' like cocaine and amphetamines has become so widespread among the elec-

tronics community that many companies have had to consider screening prospective employees for signs of drug use. IBM has actually introduced a screening policy. (Perhaps the company should now be known as Big Blues!) Practically every other big name in the Valley has fought shy of such a move. They are doubtless aware of the fact that hardly anybody could stand the pace of developing breakthrough technologies every other day without recourse to stimulants. Also Intel, Nat Semi, Apple and the rest must know that there are more jobs around in their part of the world than qualified people to fill them. Indeed, with an average salary of \$28,000 which is already 75% higher than the US average, perhaps it's time for the high technology companies of Silicon Valley to start offering inducements in non-financial forms to

woo new talent. Could the sunrise industries become the snowfall industries?

While the robot population of Britain rose by 33% last year to a total of 2,623 (not including the occupants of the House of Commons or the cast of 'Crossroads'), the country is still only sixth in the league behind France, Italy, West Germany (with 6,600 robots), the US (13,000) and Japan (64,600). Of course, it's common knowledge that the Japanese have a different system for counting robots. For example, they claim to have developed a device controlled by 67 16 and 8-bit micros which can read music, listen to instructions, talk and play keyboards. In Britain, this would be known as Richard Clayderman.



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OOPS!

Corrections to projects are listed below and normally appear for several months. Large corrections are published just once, after which a note will be inserted to say that a correction exists and that copies can be obtained by sending in an SAE.

EPROM Card (June 1984)

On the circuit diagram, Q2 base is shown connected to +25V, but should be connected to +5V. Q3 should not be connected to 0V, but only to point a. The capacitor connected between +25V and 0V is C5 and should be 2µF 35V tantalum bead. Switch connected across C4 is SW1 on overlay. Increase R8 to 2k7 if using suggested PSU. (R8 OK for 24V).

Spectrum Joystick Interface (June 1984)

The PCB and the circuit diagram do not agree; the circuit diagram is correct, and all PCBs sent out by the PCB service should have been amended. IC3 is 74LS241, as correctly stated in the parts list but incorrectly given in the footnote to the circuit diagram.

CMOS Tester (August 1984)

C3 and C2 are reversed on the overlay; C3 is the electrolytic and C2 the polyester. R33 is 100k, not 1M as given in the parts list, and RV1 is a 1M horizontal skeleton preset. R1-16 are two, eight-resistor S1L packages, the component labelled C14 on the overlay is SK1, and the connections to D2 shown in Fig. 3 are reversed. On the circuit diagram, the eight lines connecting SW9-16 to the inverters are shown in reverse sequence. Some of the inverters have been given the wrong designations; the correct sequence, reading down from the top, is: IC1f, IC2a, IC2b, IC1e, IC1d, IC1c, IC1b, IC1a, IC2c, IC2d, IC2e, IC3d, IC3a, IC3b, IC3c, IC2f. Finally, the pin numbers are missing from ICs 3e and f; the input of IC3e is pin 11 and its output pin 12, and the input of IC3f is pin 14 and its output is pin 15. The PCB is correct in all respects.

Sharp Joystick Interface (August 1984)

Some of the inverter pins are incorrectly labelled on the circuit diagram. Pins 11 and 10 are shown reversed on IC1b, pins 9 and 8 are shown reversed on IC1c, and the output of IC4d is pin 10, not pin 20. Note that a number of the inverters have been incorrectly shown as non-inverting buffers.

AM/FM Radio (November 1984)

In Fig. 2, the oscillator and IF sections should be shown connected to ground; the PCB is correct. In Fig. 4, C31 should be 10n to give the 75µs deemphasis shown in Fig. 3, but 4n7 has been found to give a brighter midrange. R38 in Fig. 5 should, of course, be 820k rather than 280k and it and the bottom end of C38, C44 etc should be shown connected to ground. In the construction section on page 25, four pieces of 8mm plywood are mentioned but in fact only three are needed — the fourth side is the front panel. See also the note in December News Digest regarding availability of the inductors.

Digital Control Port (November 1984)

The second sentence in the "Testing" section on page 30 should include the words 'without any ICs in place'. In the second paragraph of that section, the check for +5V should be made on pin 3 of IC101, not IC1. At the bottom of the first column on page 31, the last sentence should finish with B3 = 0.

Video Vandal (November 1984)

In Fig. 8 on page 54, R16 and R17 should be shown connected to the base of Q4, and C12 and SW2 should be in the D output line rather than the OV line. It may also be beneficial to add a diode across R3 with its anode connected to the slider of RV1. In Fig. 10, R52 and LED2 are shown connected across the +12V supply but it is better to place them across the -12V supply so as to even-up the dissipation in the ICs.

VCDO (March 1985)

RV2 should be 10k (right in parts list, wrong on circuit diagram).

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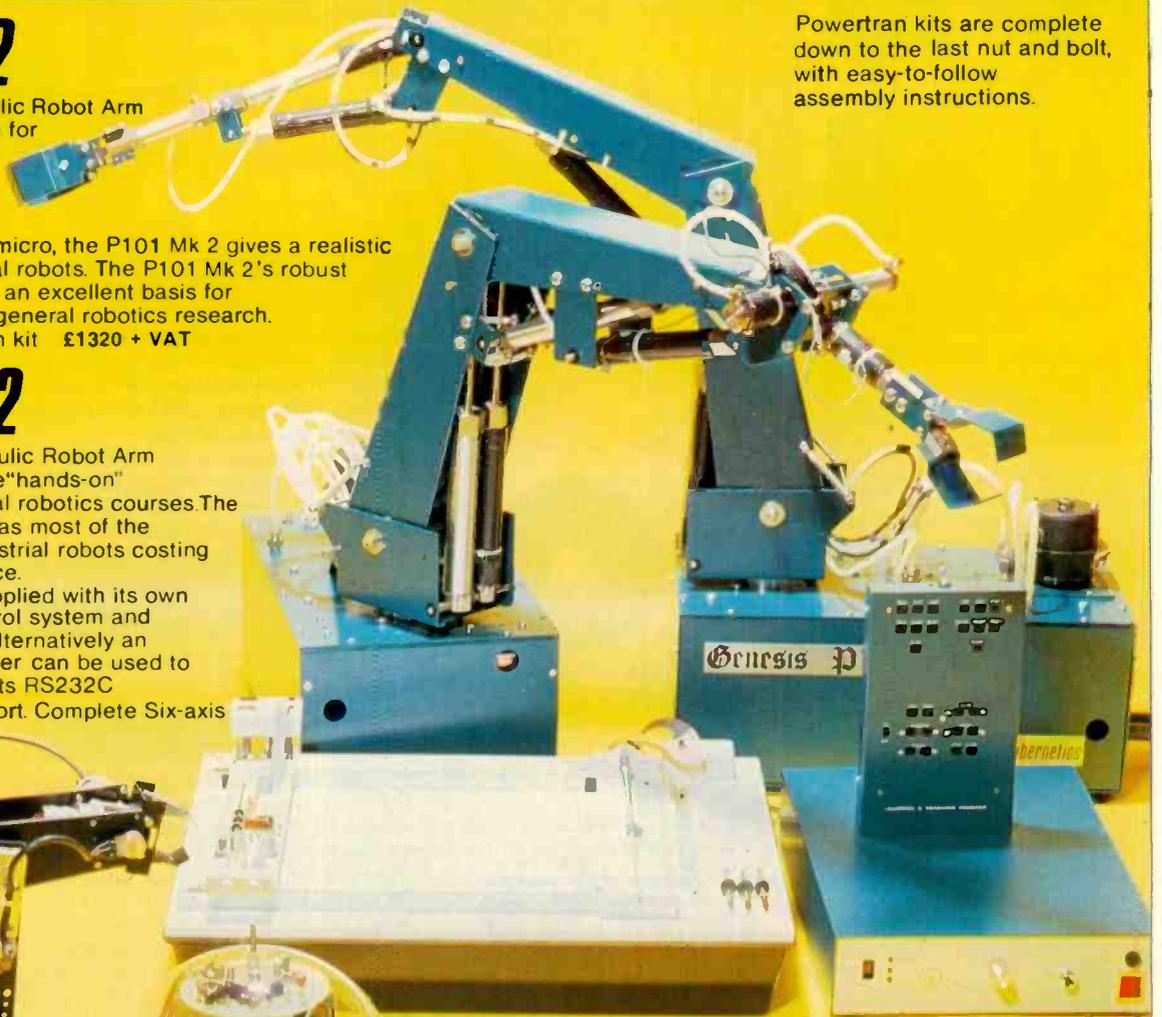
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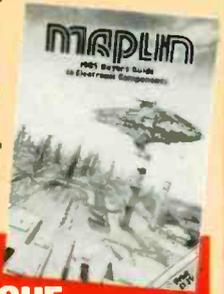
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