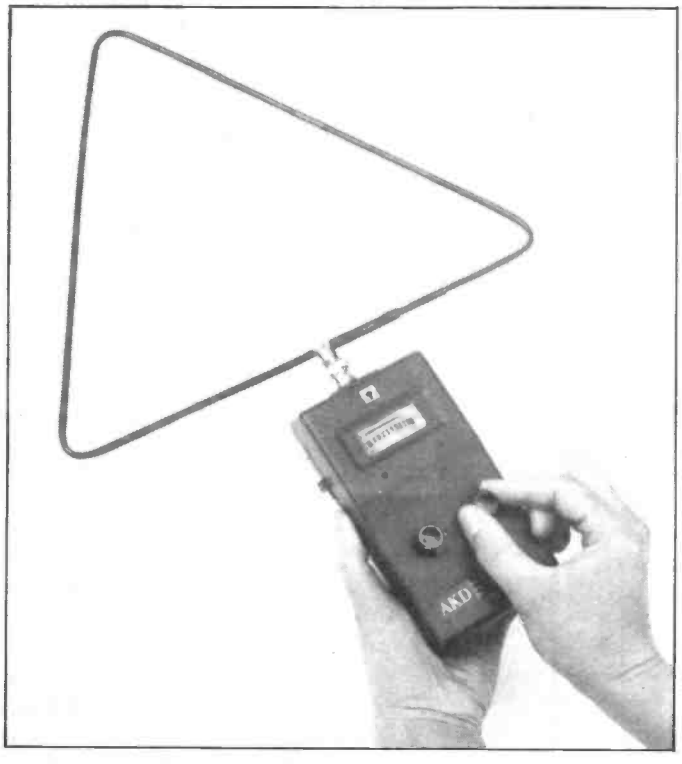
NEW PRODUCTS

CB direction finder

The AKD *PDF-11-M* direction finding unit was originally manufactured for British Telecom as a tool for tracking illegal 27MHz operators. The supplier describes the unit as "extremely accurate at short range on 27MHz. In a block of flats for example it is possible to pinpoint the precise location of the offending transmission — be it FM, AM, SSB or CW".

The aerial supplied is for use at ranges of up to 50 metres (with transmissions of 2 watts ERP) although any standard directional aerial may be used for greater distances.

Later units will be cover other frequencies. The *PDF 11-M* is available at £59.95 from the distributors: Telecomms, 189 London Road, North End, Portsmouth. Tel Porstmouth (0705) 660036/662145



Sidetone/VOX module

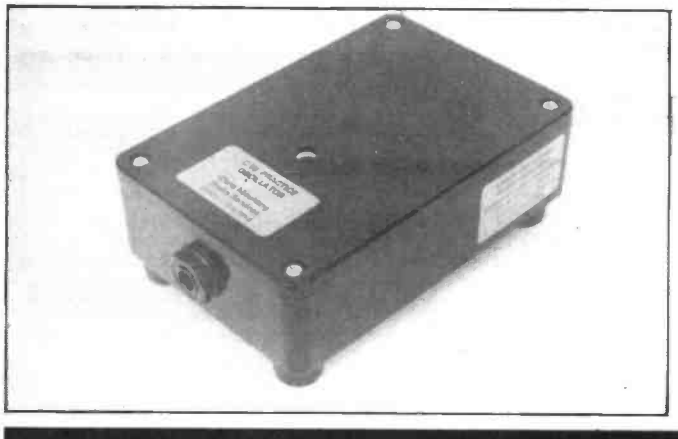
This CW sidetone/VOX module is designed to provide CW or MCW facilities on SSB-only or FM-only rigs. The module produces a tone to modulate the transmitter, and provides a semi-break-in facility. The unit can also be used as a morse practice oscillator.

As soon as the key is pressed the transceiver is switched to transmit, and it stays on until one second after the last morse character.

It is built in a small ABS case with a standard ¼" jack socket for the morse key and a trailing lead to connect to the transceiver's microphone socket. A small piezo-ceramic transducer provides the audible sidetone.

The module is a spin-off from the development of the *CM1000* HF transceiver.

The price of the CW sidetone/VOX module is £7.00, plus 50p postage and packing, from Chris Moulding Radio Services, 276 Hulton Lane, Bolton, Lancs BL3 4LE. Tel Bolton (0204) 651348.



Catalogue: Bi-Pak Semiconductors

This latest components catalogue from Bi-Pak is now available, and costs 75p plus 25p postage. Bi-Pak Semiconductors, The Maltings, 63a High Street, Ware, Herts SG12 9AD.

HF balun

A new HF balun transformer has been introduced by LCS Designs of Maidstone. Properly installed, LCS says it will aid both the transmitting amateur and the short wave listener to achieve peak performance on all balanced antennas, reduce the possibility of causing TV interference and prevent manmade noise being picked up on the coax cable braid.

The manufacturer's specification is: impedance 50 ohms nominal; VSWR better than 1.2:1 into 50 ohms; power capability 30dBW (1kW) into 50 ohms, 26dBW (400W) into 2:1 VSWR; usable frequency range 3-50MHz (1.8-60MHz with reduced performance); balance within 5% across frequency range.

The balun is an encapsulated block with an SO239 socket for the coaxial feed, and brass studding for the aerial connection. The manufacturer recommends that the balun is supported rather than letting it take the strain of the cable.

The price is £8.75 plus 75p postage and packing, from LCS Designs, 29 Pickering Street, Maidstone, Kent.

Cheaper SSTV

A slow-scan TV system, currently undergoing field tests in prototype, will bring slow-scan television within reach of more amateur pockets. Designed by Davtrend Limited, it will be introduced in late summer with the launch of the *SST-1000* slow-scan receiver, which will cost less than £200.

The receiver will be able to accommodate a transmitter PCB to upgrade the transceiver for two-way work. This board will be introduced at a later date to coincide with the launch of the full transceiver system, the *SST-2000*.

The standard specification will be used, ie. 128 by 128 discrete picture elements each encoded into 16 grey shades, producing one frame every 8.5 seconds.