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TV Servicing In 1980-
The Findings \& Projections Of An MIT Study
NEWCOM'76: Big Show In A Big Place


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# ELECTRONIC <br> TECHNICIAN/DEALER 

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THE COVER: In 1980, according to the forecasts of an MIT study reported on in this issue, the bench TV technician shown on this issue's cover, like most other bench technicians, probably will be handling a significantly larger percentage of his shop's total TV service business than he presently does.

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A HARCOURT BRACE JOVANOVICH PUBLICATION


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## EDITOR'S MEMO

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## NEWCOM '76-A Really Big Show In A Really Big Place For A Bigger-ThanEver Industry

- NEWCOM '76, this year's edition of the annual trade show at which electronics manufacturers and marketers introduce their newest electronics products to distributors, promises to be as big as its site-the $\$ 163$ million Louisiana Superdome, near New Orleans.
At press time-almost two months before the May 4th starting date of the three-day show-over 300 manufacturers and marketers already have laid down their money for a record total of 543 individual exhibit areas at NEWCOM '76. (Las! year's NEWCOM Show, in Las Vegas, had a total of 281 exhibitors, who occupied 422 booths.)

Commenting on the reasons for the increase in NEWCOM exhibitors, David L. Fisher, Executive Vice President, Electronic Industry Show Corporation, said: "The phenomenal market performance of the Citizens Band radio sector undoubtedly has played a part in the vigor and vitality being shown by the NEWCOM '76 Show; however, other industry segments--including industrial and consumer electronics and professional sound and video-also are playing a significant
part in the boom, right along with general-line and service dealer products, the Show's traditional backbone."
If the response of electronics manufacturers and marketers to NEWCOM '76 is any indicationand historically it has been-it seems that you, our readers-who as a group are the biggest users and/retailers of most of the products which will be exhibited at NEW-COM-will have a wider-than-ever variety of products and product lines from which to choose-whether it be replacement parts, service aids, tools, test instruments, CB-related equipment, or antenna system components and accessories.
To help familiarize you with the broad range of new products which will be available at your local electronics distributors in the weeks following NEWCOM '76, the entire staff of $\mathrm{ET} / \mathrm{D}$ will attend the show and, in a special NEWCOM '76 Wrapup Report in the July issue, we'll give you an overview of what we saw and heard.
J.W. Phipps


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## NEWS DF THE INDUSTRY

## BRH Says Recali' Of Zenith Color TV Not Necessary

The Bureau of Radiological Health (BRH) on January 26 advised Zenith Radio Corporation that it is satisfied that Zenith color TV receivers equipped with hold-down capacitor 22-7233 do not "create a significant risk of injury, including genetic injury, to any person" and therefore Zenith does not have to recall and repair these receivers.
Zenith was informed on October 20, 1975, that BRH had concluded that Zenith color television receivers using the capacitor 22-7233 were in non-compliance with the Performance Standard for Television Receivers. (See related News Of The Industry item in the Dec. 1975 issue of ET/D.)
Subsequently, Zenith submitted an application for exemption from notification and repair as provided in the Radiation Control for Health and Safety Act. To support this application, Zenith submitted results of "an extensive program of testing conducted by Zenith engineers and scientists and evaluation by independent consultants which pro vided the basis for Zenith's request for an exemption."
The January 26 BRH letter notifying Zenith that the exemption had been granted stated: "The Zenith submittal included a substantial amount of TV receiver testing data which has satisfied the Bureau that the failure to comply does not create a significant risk of injury, including genetic injury to any person."
The 22-7233 capacitor was not used in Zenith color TV receivers sold before January 1, 1974, and is not used in Zenith current model color TV receivers.

## RCA Closes Down Its Only Domestic Receiving Tube Plant

RCA Corporation has announced that the manufacturing of receiving tubes at its plant in Harrison, N.J., will be phased out by July 30.
RCA's departure will leave only two remaining domestic receiving tube producersGeneral Electric and GTE Sylvania.
The Harrison facility is RCA's only domestic receiving tube manufacturing operation. (RCA will continue to operate its receiving tube manufacturing facilities in Mexico and Brazil, but, according to RCA, the output of these two facilities will not be marketed in the U.S.)
Paul B. Garver, Division Vice President and General Manager, RCA Distributor and Special Products Division, said the plant closing is attributable to the sharp decline in the demand for receiving tubes as a result of the continuing shift to solid-state devices in consumer, industrial and defense electronic systems.
"Since 1966, industry sales of receiving tubes have declined by almost 80 percent, with replacement usage in older electronic equipment accounting for the bulk of today's volume," Garver said.
RCA, which presently is the sole source for approximately 110 types of receiving tubes, said it plans "to meet all outstanding receiving tube commitments" and, "to the maximum extent possible, all future requirements for these types."

According to Garver, RCA will continue to merchandise and sell replacement receiving tubes, which they now will purchase from other sources.

## Breaker Buys Hallicratters

Breaker Corporation, an Arlington, Texas-based manufacturer of CB antennas and accessories, has acquired the Hallicrafters Communications Equipment Division of Wilcox Electric Co., Kansas City, Missouri.
Now a wholly owned subsidiary of Breaker, Hallicrafters will continue to manufacture and market amateur radio equipment, industrial two-way radio and para-military communications equipment for domestic and international markets.

## Videotape Series On Digital Electronics Available from H-P

Hewlett-Packard recently announced that it has prepared a videotape course designed to acquaint electronic technicians with digital electronics.

The course is contained on a series of fourteen videotapes of less than 30 minutes duration and is available in either a $1 / 2$-inch open reel (No. 90500 C ) or $3 / 4$-inch videocassette (No. 90500D) format. A 180-page textbook titled "Digital Troubleshooting" accompanies the videotapes.
For more information about the course and its cost, write: Dick Gasperini, Editor, H-P Bench Briefs, H-P, 1820 Embarcadero Rd., Palo Alto, California 94303.

## \$2.30 Minimum Hourly Wage Now In Effect For Some Retail \& Service Employees

The minimum hourly wage for employees of retail or service firms with anfual gross sales of at least $\$ 1$ million and a $\$ 250,000$ annual inflow of interstate goods was
automatically increased to $\$ 2.30$ on January 1 , the effective date of some provisions of the 1974 amendments to the Fair Labor Standards Act. (FLSA).
Employers who are in doubt about whether or not the new minimum hourly wage rate applies to their employees should contact their nearest Employment Standards Administration Wage and Hour Office, which in most phone directories is listed under "U.S Department of Labor."

## NESDA Figures Show Big Jump in Number of Technicians

The National Electronic Service Dealers Association (NESDA) says that there's been an increase of $6.5 \%$ in the number of service technicians around the country, or an additional 12,781 workers. This increase is based on new figures submitted to NESDA by the ten major state or city licensing boards in the U.S.

Dick Glass, CET, Executive Vice President of NESDA, attributes the increase to the recession. "I think the recession has cut overtime for many technicians working at jobs in other industries and has caused others to lose their jobs or be laid off, and therefore, many have obtained licenses in order to supplement their income," he says.

Fortunately, according to Glass, the electronic service industry can easily absorb a $6.5 \%$ increase.

## NEWCOM CB Keynoter Is Former FCC Member

The $\mathrm{CB} / \mathrm{Communications} \mathrm{program} \mathrm{to} \mathrm{be} \mathrm{held} \mathrm{in} \mathrm{conjunction} \mathrm{with}$, day, the NEWCOM ' 76 trade show in New Orleans, will have as the keynote speaker former FCC Commissioner Nicholas Johnson. Mr. Johnson's talk, "Why You Can't Second-Guess the FCC," will be followed by seminar sessions geared to the successful marketing of CB equipment. The seminar will be held, Monday, May 3, in New Orleans, with NEWCOM ' 76 starting the next day.

## New System Stores Sound-Color Lessons At Home

The inventor of the long-playing phonograph record, Dr. Peter C. Goldmark, now has a patent for a new system that can transmit picture and sound recording by air or cable to home recording equipment. It can then be stored for later display on the home TV screen. The system is known as Rapid Transmission and Storage, or RTS.

According to a story in The New York Times, an early form of RTS will be introduced next fall in six community colleges. The RTS system also will be used in churches, libraries, and schools.

## FCC Plans To Simplify CB Licensing

The FCC, in September, will make an attempt to reduce the mounting backlog of CB license applications. A self-mailer licensing system will be used, with the hope of reducing processing time to 15 days.

With the new system, manufacturers would include in CB radio packages, a two-part form-one part filled out by the applicant and mailed to the FCC and the other half retained by the purchaser as a temporary license, which would be valid for 60 days.

Currently, processing time for licenses ranges from 6 weeks to 2 months.

## Nationwide Emergency Channel Designated by FCC

According to a report in Communications News, the FCC has designated 155.475 MHz as a nationwide emergency channel, for use in police emergency communications networks operated under statewide law-enforcement plans. Operations now authorized on that channel that are not limited to police emergency communications, however, may continue until January 1, 1985.

## Survey Shows Increased Consumer Confidence

A Conference Board survey of 10,000 families in the U.S. shows that $32.7 \%$ plan to buy TV sets, air conditioners, \& vacuum cleaners by the end of this summer-up $1.7 \%$ from a December, 1975 survey. Color TV will be bought by $6.9 \%$ and b/w TV by $1.6 \%$.

## Color TV Saturation of U.S. Homes Up From Last Year

A TV census by Arbitron last November showed 73\% of U.S. households with color TV-up 3\% from the year before. It is estimated that 53.1 million homes now have a color TV set.

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MODEL 1403A-3", 5 MHz Recurrent Sweep Óscilloscope Checks CB modulation and provides viewing of 27 MHz CB waveform when used with the Model 1040. Small, compact and inexpensive, it frees other scopes for more effective use
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Model $2040 \$ 475$

# TECHNICAL LITERATURE 


#### Abstract

Semiconductor Replacement Catalog Supplement is an update to the 1975 ECG guide and catalog from GTE Sylvania. The supplement adds 8,000 industry part numbers crossreferenced to the company's line of solid state devices. The basic guide cross-references 114,000 domestic and imported devices. Supplement is available for 35 cents and the basic guide is available for $\$ 2.95$ at GTESylvania distributors, or from GTESylvania Advertising Services Center,


70 Empire Dr., West Seneca, N.Y 14224.

Communications Antennas offered by the Antenna Specialist Company for mobile and base-station applications in CB and marine services are described in Catalog No. SD 315C along with monitor antennas and antenna replacement parts. Available free from the Antenna Specialists Co., P.O. Box 5431, Cleveland, Ohio 44101.

Communications Test Instruments offered by Leader for troubleshooting, adjusting and monitoring CB , amateur and land-mobile two-way equipment are described in a 6 -page brochure available free from Leader

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- Teardrop screw holes (C) on lower brackel provide means of allaching screws to rool eave prior to mounting ol bracket. Eliminates awhward, clumsy procedure of having to hold brackel with one hand and lastening screws with the other
- Double set of serrated teeth (D) prevents mast from lurning in high winds.
- Riveted channel lype construction (E) of lower bracket provites maximum rigidity and strength.
- Carriage bolts and clamps (F) permits one hand "Spintite" tightening of mast

Lower bracket made of square cornered angle for additional strength and maximum rigidity



BOUTH RIVER METAL PAODYGTE EOMRANY, INE. SOUTH RIVER, NEW JERSEY 08882

Instruments Corp., Communications Div., 151 Dupont St., Plainview, N.Y. 11803.

CB Connectors and Accessories Handbook is a new booklet providing tips for optimizing overall CB antenna system installations. Information is included to correctly select, assemble and terminate both coaxial and microphone connectors and which RG-type cable is best for any given CB installation. The handbook al so lists CB connectors and accessories available from Amphenol along with a guide to the national CB 10 -code. Available free from Amphenol distributors.

VHF/UHF/FM Tuner Replacement Guide \& Parts Catalog lists the new and rebuilt exact replacement tuner and tuner parts available from PTS Electronics, Inc. The catalog is available for $\$ 2.00$ from PTS Electronics, Inc., P.O. Box 272, 5233 Highway 37 South, Bloomington, Ind. 47401.

Tape \& Phone Exact Replacement Drives \& Belts Catalog is a crossreference guide to exact replacement drive system parts and belts for over 200 brands of cassette and cartridge recorder/players and phonographs. Catalog No. WA-00CG-0290 is available free from G.C. Electronics, 400 S . Wyman St., Rockford, IIl. 61101.

Signal Tracing and Injection test procedures using LEL's Model E-C Serviset hand-held test instrument are outlined in a booklet titled "A New Approach To An Old Problem." Available free from LEL Inc., Box $572, \mathrm{~W}$. Acton, Mass. 01720.

TV Antenna Rod Replacement Guide \& Cross Reference is a 28 page guide to selecting the correct replacement rod for all popular TV models. Available free at distributors of GC Electronics products, or from $G C$ Electronics, 400 South Wyman, Rockford, Illinois, 61101.

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## TV Servicing - Past Present \& Future

By J.W. Phipps and Don Mason

## A synopsis of a MIT study of where TV service has been and where it is heading



Fig. 1-TV receivers shipped to distributors and dealers during 1960-1972, with projections of shipments through 1980.
$\square$ There is probably nothing in the 200 years of American industrial and cultural history that matches the phenomenonal growth of television. In the 29 years since that first regularly scheduled TV broadcast, Americans have bought 236 million TV receivers, of which over 67 million were color sets. Over ninety-six percent of the nation's homes now have television. Three-fourths of them have more than one set and nearly half of the TV sets ever sold are still in use.

When you add the fact of a rapidly changing technology from black-and-white pictures and vacuum tubes to color TV, solid-state, modular construction, and integrated circuits, it's no wonder that it's been hard to "get a handle" on where TV servicing is and where it's going.

This need for an accurate, definitive picture of the TV service industry was part of the impetus for the beginning in 1972 of a comprehensive study by the Center for Policy Alternatives at the Mas-
sachusetts Institute of Technology, through a grant from the Na tional Science Foundation.

The MIT study actually had as its overall research objectives to "evaluate alternatives for increasing productivity of servicing consumer durable products and/or reducing the need for service." Although the study concentrated on the servicing aspects of both refrigerators and TV, we are highlighting for ET/D readers only the major points on the past, present and future of TV servicing. The results of the study should provide today's TV servicemen with valuable direction in planning future efforts.

## THE RESEARCHERS' METHODOLOGY

To assess the volume and the nature of TV servicing which will be required through 1980 and the number of TV technicians which will be needed to meet this requirement, the MIT researchers first had to resurrect the past.

Beginning with the supposition that "the amount of service re-


Fig. 2-First-year service-incidence rates of televisions introduced into use during model years 1965 through 1972, plotted as a function of total cumulative production.
quired at any time in the TV service industry is principally a function of the number of TV sets in use at that time and their associated service-incidence rates," the researchers gathered, developed and analyzed data from a number of sources to establish the state and trends of each of the following three principal factors at the time of their study (19721973):

1) The number and types of TV receivers in use
2) The service-incidence rate (reliability) of TV receivers in use
3) The productivity of the TV service industry.

Following is a brief synopsis of their findings regarding the state and trends of these and other related factors as of 1973, along with their projections of TV servicing through 1980.

## NUMBERS AND TYPES OF SETS

Shown in Fig. 1 is a graphical presentation of the numbers and types of TV receivers shipped by manufacturers to distributors and


Fig. 3-Typical lifetime failure rates of all-tube, hybrid and early all-solid-state receivers, and later-generation all-solid-state receivers.
dealers during the period 1960 to 1972 and the MIT researchers' projections of TV receiver shipments from 1973 through 1980. This data was supplied to the researchers by the Electronics Industries Association (EIA).

According to the study findings, in 1972 the manufacture of TV sets in the U.S. was concentrated among a relatively few companies, with the four largest companies controlling about $64 \%$ of the market, the eight largest firms $86 \%$ of the market, and the 20 largest firms $99 \%$ of the market.

A total of 45 million color TV sets were in use in 1972, according to the MIT study, plus 68 million black-and-white sets. The percentage of U.S. households with TV had risen to $96 \%$ in 1972, compared to $87 \%$ in 1960 and $9 \%$ in 1950.

As revealed in Fig. I, the MIT researchers found that during the period 1960 to 1972 there was a shift in the mix of console and combination sets and portable models, with "portable TV sets becoming a significant fraction of the set population." The MIT researchers projected that this shift in the product mix would cause carry-in service to become increasingly more important as portable TV sets became the predominant type.

The MIT researchers also predicted that "the crossover point at which the number of all-solidstate sets produced will exceed $50 \%$ of total production would probably occur around 1975."

## SERVICE INCIDENCE RATES AND TRENDS

In their assessment of the
amount of service which TV receivers require, the MIT researchers call each request for ser-vice-whether for in-home, inshop or carry-in service-a service incident, and they call the rate at which requests for service occur the service incidence rate, which, expressed in percentage form, is the ratio of service incidents per 100 TV sets per year.

To assess the rates at which requests for TV service have occurred in the past and will occur in the future, the MIT researchers gathered and weighed serviceincidence data from three principal sources: 1) manufacturers' warranty programs, 2 ) consumer polls, and 3) captive populations of TV receivers in hotels and motels.

The MIT researchers found that the average service-incidence rate for both color and $\mathrm{b} / \mathrm{w}$ TV receivers during the first year of use by the consumer had declined significantly over the period 1965-1972. For example, while 1965 color TV receivers generated an average of two service incidents during the first year, 1972 color TV receivers generated an average of only one. B/w TV receivers exhibited a similar service-incidence decline, with $1965 \mathrm{~b} / \mathrm{w}$ TVs generating an average of 1 service incident during the first year, while $1972 \mathrm{~b} / \mathrm{w}$ receivers generated only 5 incidents.

The trend of declining first-year TV service incident rates found by the MIT researchers for the 8 -year period ending in 1972 is graphically illustrated in Fig. 2.
The MIT researchers were unable to come up with the detailed data which they needed to develop individual breakouts of the specific service-incidence rates of
all-tube, hybrid and all-solid-state TV receivers; however, they were able to develop a general comparison of the lifetime failure rates of these three types of receiver design. This comparison is graphically illustrated in Fig. 3.

All three curves in Fig. 3 reveal a high incidence of failure at the beginning of receiver use, followed by a constant failure rate for the next part of life, and then an increasing incidence of failure near the end of the receivers' functional life.
"According to the MIT researchers, the high failure rates at the beginning of life are attributable principally to "manufacturing defects," "production errors" and the need for "consumer education" in the use of the product.

The constant portion of the curve, says the MIT Researchers, reflects the failures attributable to "random part failures" and timeor stress-dependent mechanisms.

Curve 1 in Fig. 3 is what the researchers found to be a typical failure-rate curve for an all-tube receiver. Curve 2 represents the researchers assessment of the failure-rate of an all-solid-state receiver, which, because of the greater reliability of semiconductors, exhibits a longer lifetime and a smaller failure rate in the constant portion of the curve.
Curve 3 is described by the researchers as being representative of the failure rates of both hybrids and the state-of-the-art all-solidstate receivers in use at the time of their study. The differences between curves 2 and 3 , say the researchers, are attributable to the fact that all-solid-state TV technology was relatively new at the time of the study and there was still a learning process going on in the testing, handling, specifying and assembling of solid-state components.

Using all of the data which they had gathered about the trends in TV service-incidence rates up to and including the period of the study (1972-73), the MIT researchers developed two com-puter-derived "models" which, according to the researchers, represent the average lifetime ser-vice-incidence rates of 1967 and 1972 color and b/w TV receivers and the projected average lifetime service-incidence rates of 1980

## A NEW DIMENSION



## COLOR-PATTERN GENERATOR

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Fig. 4-Models of annual service-incidence rates of 1967, 1972, and 1980 model-year color TV receivers.


Fig. 5—Models of annual service-incidence rates of 1967, 1972 and 1980 model-year b/w TV receivers.
color and $\mathrm{b} / \mathrm{w}$ receivers. The resultant lifetime service-incidencerate curves are presented in Figs. 4 and 5.

The reason that there are two projections of all the model-year curves in Figs. 4 and 5 is that conclusive industry data on the service-incidence rate of TV receivers beyond the first two years of life was not available and, consequently, the researchers decided to use two "educated estimates" as a basis for the service-incidence rates beyond two years. One, called "Model 1," is based on an estimated $5 \%$ annual service-incidence rate increase after the second year of receiver use and the other, "Model 2," is based on an estimated $10 \%$ increase. (The researchers concluded that the actual service-incidence rate after 2 years probably lies somewhere between these two projections.)

## THE PRODUCTIVITY OF TV SERVICERS

In their assessment of the productivity of the TV service business, the MIT researchers used the number of completed service incidents per technician-day as the basis of their measurement.

According to the report of their study, the researchers found that five to seven completed service calls per technician-day was the "typical" level of productivity in the TV service business in 1973, and this level had not changed much over "the preceding several years."


Fig. 6-Annual plots of A) TV and radio service dollar volume, B) TV labor cost per service incident and C ) comparisons of service incidents and TV technician employment, for the years 19661972, indexed to 1967. In A) the data for the curve labeled "CBP" is from County Business Pattern volumes and the data for the curve labeled "PCE" is from Personal Consumption Expenditure figures.
To assess the trend in the overall productivity of the TV service business, the MIT researchers computed the annual number of
service incidents over the period 1966-1973 and weighed these against the number of TV service technicians employed in each year during the period. This comparison is graphically illustrated in Fig. 6. The solid line in Fig. 6C is an index of service incidents derived by dividing the average dollar volume of radio and TV servicing in each year (Fig. 6A) by an index of TV service labor cost for each year (Fig. 6B).

The dotted line labeled " M " in Fig. 6C is a service-incidents index obtained from the computerderived service-incidents "lifetime model" described previously. (Note that both of these curves indicate that the service-incident rate did not change significantly over the seven-year period.) The broken line labeled " $E$ " in Fig. 6C is a plot of the TV service technician labor force.

A comparison of the two service-incidence index curves and the TV technician employment index curve indicates that the service labor force, during the seven-year period, increased slightly faster than did the total number of service incidents. Although this implies that the number of service incidents per technician-day decreased during the seven-year period, the researchers stated in their report that "the data probably only warrants a conclusion to the effect that the numbers of TV service incidents per technician-day has not been changing very much over the


Fig. 7—Annual levels of service incidents generated by color and b/w TV receivers during the period 1960-1980.
past seven years, and that productivity growth by this measure has been small."

## FUTURE TV SERVICE AND TECHNICIAN REQUIREMENTS

The preceding paragraphs have summarized the researcher's findings with regard to the state and trends in the TV set population, service-incidence rates, and the population and productivity of the TV service business at the time of their study (1972-73).

This and other related data was applied by the researchers to a computer program designed to translate the existing trends into a projection of annual TV service requirements through 1980, along with a projection of the number of TV technicians needed to meet these requirements.
The resultant projections, presented in Figs. 7, 8 and 9, are based on a TV receiver mean lifetime of 10 years. (This means that $50 \%$ of the sets sold in any year will have been discarded within 10 years and $97 \%$ will have been discarded after 17 years.)
(The curves and data labeled "Model 1" in Figs. 7, 8 and 9 are based on a $5 \%$ annual increase in the service-incidence rate after the second year of receiver use, and the curves and data labeled "Model 2" are based on a $10 \%$ increase after the second year.)

Fig. 7 shows the researchers' computer-derived estimates of the total number of color and $\mathrm{b} / \mathrm{w}$ TV service incidents which occurred annually during the period 1960 1975 and their projections of the service incidents which will occur annually through 1980 .

Fig. 8 is a graphical comparison

*In $196080 \%$ of television technicians warked in the consumer sector, in 1970 this had dropped to $70 \%$ and it was assumed that this figure would also apply to 1980.
Fig. 9-Tabular presentations of 1) the total annual service calls, 2) total number of technicians employed in 1960 and 1970 and the number required in 1980, and 3) estimated levels of technician productivity, for the years 1960, 1970 and 1980.
of the researchers' computerderived estimates of the annual number of in-home and carry-in service incidents for the period 1960-1980.

Shown in the top half of Fig. 9 is a tabular presentation of the MIT researchers' computer-derived estimates of the total number of TV service calls which occurred in the years 1960 and 1970, along with the number of technicians employed during these years and their estimated productivity in terms of service-calls per day per technician based on the two different after-second-year service-incidence rate increases described previously.

Shown in the bottom half of Fig. 9 is a tabular presentation of the researchers computer-derived projections of the total number of service calls which will occur in 1980 and the number of TV technicians which will be needed to meet these service requirements. As described previously, two different percentages of service-incidence
rate increases after the second year of TV life (Models 1 and 2) were used. This resulted in two different estimates of the total number of service calls in 1980125 million and 148 millionwhich, when weighed against two different estimates of technician productivity ( 6 and 7 calls per day per technician), produced four different estimates of the total number of technicians needed in 1980, ranging from a "low" estimate of 106 thousand to a "high" estimate of 146 thousand. The MIT researchers selected the mean of this range- 126,000 -as their estimate of the total number of technicians which probably will be needed in 1980.

## CONCLUSIONS

The principal conclusions which the MIT researchers drew from the findings of the TV-service-requirements portion of their study are:

1) "In 1970, a total of 137,000 continued on page 57

## TVservice technicians give their opinion about Zentith:

## I. Bext Picture.

in a recent nationwide survey of the opinions sf insependent TV service technictans, Zenilh was salected, more tha 1 any other brand, as Ine color TV with the best picture.

| Qucstion: $n$ general, of the color TV brards you a-e familiar with. which one wauld you say has tre lestoverall picture? |
| :---: |
| Answars: |
| zenlth. .........38\% |
| Brand A. . . . . . . . 20\% |
| Brand 3........ . 10\% |
| Brand C......... . .7\% |
| Brand J..........6\% |
| Branc ミ.......... 3\% |
| Branc $=$..... . . . . $2 \%$ |
| Branc 3.... ..... .2\% |
| Branc H. ... . . . . . $2 \%$ |
| Branc ..... . . . . . $1 \%$ |
| Other Branzs . . . . $3 \%$ |
| About ミquel. ... . $11 \%$ |
| Don't Know. . . . . . 4\% |

Nota: A 7 swars lotal over t $\mathbf{0 0 \%}$ due to multiple responses

## II. Fewest Repairs.

In the same opinion survey, the service rechnicians selected Zenith as the color TV needing the fewest repa rs. By moze than 2-to-1 (38\% vs. $15 \%$ ) ore- the next brand.

We re proud of car record on vildirs dapendzble quality products. But if it झhould ever the en thata Rea th product doesn'1 Ive up to your expec-ations or if you want details cf the service tech ricians' survez-W i e to the $V$ ce President, Consumar Atfairs Zenith Racio Borperaticn, 1550 N. Austin Avenue, Chicago, MInois 60639.

The Puno ama II. Sopr laticates $25^{\text {t }}$ diagonal con ${ }^{\circ}$ (a. A reh blend of sofi Silve coloring andilimuleted Mosowood cabitiry. Medel SG2564X. SIrruated TV picture
QuastionsIr general of the colo- WV brands you are tamiliar with which one would you say requires the fow est repairs?
Answers:
Zoniab. ......... . 38\%
Brand A. . ....... 15\%
Brand C. . . . . . . . .8\%
Brand D........ . . . 4\%
Brand B......... . . $3 \%$
Brand I. . . . . . . . . . 2\%
Brand F. . . . . . . . . 2\%
Brany E. ........... 2\%
Brant G........... 1\%
Brans H........... 1\%
Olher Brancs. . . . . 4\%
Abolt Equal. . . . . 14\%
Don': Know........9\%

The qual ty goes in betore the name goes on.


## Techniques For Simple Home Antenna Installations

By Bert Wolf*

# Procedures that make installing residential TV antenna systems both easy and profitable 

- Many of your customers with black-and-white TV and mono FM will get by somehow with built-in antennas, indoor "rabbit ears", and cheap outdoor antennas. But when it comes to color TV, FM stereo and quadraphonic sound, it's time to suggest the installation of a quality outdoor antenna system.


## CHOOSING ANTENNAS

Because there is no one antenna
that is best for all reception conditions, your choice depends on what channels your customer wants to receive, how far he is from the transmitter, and local reception conditions.

Antennas are classified by the channels they receive. A VHF antenna picks up Channels 2 thru 13. A UHF antenna picks up Channels 14 thru 83. An FM antenna picks up 88 to 108 MHz . Many TV antennas are broadband: picking
up VHF and FM or UHF, or VHF and FM.

Two specifications, 'gain' and 'directivity', are especially important in choosing antennas. Gain tells you how much signal the antenna will pull in, and directivity tells you how effective the antenna is in eliminating ghosts, reflections and other reception problems caused by unwanted signals. In most cases, high gain and high directivity are very desirable. Since it usually takes bigger antennas with more elements to provide more gain and directivity, such antennas generally cost more.

However, element count is not the only thing that is important. For color and stereo, a uniform, flat response is essential. Periodic type antennas do a good job of combining flat response with gain and directivity.

Rugged construction is also vital. You don't want to put up an antenna and have the elements start to bend, fall off or rattle in the wind after the first year or two. Therefore, your customer is better off to pay extra for an antenna that is solid and rugged, using rein-
forced elements and heavy duty insulators.

Both TV and FM channels can easily be pulled in with the same antenna, provided it is an allchannel type. However, some allchannel and VHF antennas deliberately reject the FM band to prevent interference from a local FM station on Channel 6.

Fig. 1 shows the type of breakaway element currently being used by some antenna manufacturers. The intact element is long enough to reject FM stations. Broken off, on the other hand, the element acts as a director to FM signals, providing excellent FM reception.

For really top quality FM reception, your best bet is a very high gain quadraphonic type FM antenna (such as that shown in Fig. 2). The FM antenna can be mounted on the same mast as the TV antenna and the signal can be combined into a single downlead using a yagi coupler tuned to FM, as shown in Fig. 3

## ANTENNA MOUNTING

Once you've chosen a good outdoor antenna, your next step is to decide how to mount it. There are many types of antenna mounts. Those most popular are shown in Fig. 4.

Chimney mounts (4A) are easiest and most convenientprovided your customer has a good, strong chimney. If the chimney is not solid and is at least 3 feet higher than the rooftop, use some other type of mount.

Trimounts (4B) are also very easy to use. They consist of three legs with a 5 -foot mast attached. Fig. 4B shows a trimount on the peak of a roof. This mounting arrangement is convenient and works well on almost any roof surface.

Roof mounts (4C) are inexpensive. They do a good job, but you must use guy wires with roof mounts, as shown.

Wall mounts (4D) are handy for peaked roofs. Eave mounts (4E) are used in place of wall mounts where there are overhanging eaves.

If the mast is 10 -feet or higher, you should use guy wires. Some technicians use four guy wires, but three usually do just as good a job. Using a guy ring clamp, space the guy wires equally about 120 de-


Fig. 1-An FM breakaway element used on some antennas. When intact, element rejects FM. Broken off, element accepts FM signals.


Fig. 2-An example of a high-gain, quadraphon-ic-type FM antenna.


$$
2
$$


Fig. 4-Four types of mounts for outdoor antennas. A) Chimney mount. B) Trimount. C) Roof mount. D) Wall mount. E) Eve mount.

Fig. 3-An examplé of how a Yagi coupler is used to combine FM antenna with a broad-band TV antenna.

cause they are sturdy and cause no damage to the chimney or roof.

## LIGHTNING PROTECTION

There are two schools of thought on lightning protection. Some installers feel that ground wire is not really heavy enough to handle a lightning strike, while others feel that some protection is better
grees apart, as shown in Fig. 5. Each guy wire should be taken to an eyebolt which bites into solid wood in the roof. To balance the tension, at least two of the three guy wires should be equipped with turnbuckles.

For areas where a lot of height is required, many people prefer towers to other types of mounts be-


Fig. 5-The method of spacing three guy wires around an antenna mast. Wires should be spaced equally about 120 degrees apart.


Fig. 6-Lightning protection as provided by lightning arrestor, ground wire and ground rod for twinlead transmission line.


Fig. 7-A matching transformer installed at the antenna when using coaxial cable for transmission line.
than none. In any case, local electrical codes call for lightning protection.

If you're using twinlead as transmission line, use a lightning arrestor, ground wire and a ground rod as shown in Fig. 6.

Grounding wires must be made of corrosion-resistant metal such as copper or aluminum. It must be run as straight as possible from


Fig. 8-A combination matching transformer/U-V signal splitter mounted at back of TV set.


Fig. 9-A drip loop installed where antenna enters house prevents rain from entering house via antenna lead-in.


Fig. 10-An example of a passive two-set coupler, designed to serve two TV sets from single antenna.
the antenna mast to the lightning arrestor and then to the ground rod. The ground rod must be driven at least 4 feet into the ground. (A cold water pipe also makes an excellent ground.)

If you're using coaxial cable, no lightning arrestor is necessary. Simply attach the ground wire to the mast and to the shield of the coaxial cable, using a grounding
block. If the antenna is grounded to the mast, no connection is required to the coax shield and you don't need a lightning arrestor even for a 300 -ohm installation.

## LEAD-IN WIRE

Because some home TV antennas have an output impedance of 300 ohms, some installers still use $300-\mathrm{ohm}$ twinlead as the downlead. However, shielded coaxial cable offers a number of advantages: 1) it does not pick up direct signals; 2) it does not pick up auto ignition or other types of interference; and 3) it can safely be run anywhere, even close to metal. Twinlead must be run through standoff insulators to keep it away from the house and especially any metal objects. Otherwise you are likely to wind up with interference and color smears.

Coaxial cable requires matching transformers at the antenna (see Fig. 7) and at the TV set. Fig. 8 shows a combination matching transformer/U-V signal splitter mounted to the back of a TV set.

One of your most difficult jobs is to get the lead-in into the house. If there is an attic louvre, this may be an easy solution because you can then go through air shafts and closets to reach the room or rooms with TV sets. Otherwise, you can go through the basement or the wall under a window convenient to the TV set.
Here's an important point: Always leave a drip loop where the lead-in enters the house (see Fig. 9). The drip loop prevents rain from following the lead-in into the house.

Once inside the house, run the lead-in along the baseboard to the TV set, as unobtrusively as possible. This is not as easy as it sounds, particularly if you are using twinlead. The question is, how do you attach twinlead to the baseboard? Many installers use staples, but staples are metal and therefore cause discontinuities in twinlead. Double sticky-back tape or pads don't cause problems, but don't always stick on all wall surfaces. Use foam pads if they'll work on the walls. Otherwise, staples are the only answer, but use them as sparingly as possible.
Of course, coaxial cable is no problem at all. You can staple it to


Fig. 11-An amplified coupler that is used when more than two sets are to be served by one antenna.


Fig. 12-An example of how an amplified coupler can be used to drive a home MATV system.
the baseboard with no ill effects, provided you are careful not to crush the cable or pierce it with a staple. Coax can also be coiled up behind the set so there will be a little slack to move the set out for cleaning. (But don't try this with twinlead. A coil of twinlead causes standing waves, which can destroy picture quality.)

## MULTI SET INSTALLATIONS

Chances are your customer has more than one TV set in his home. About half of American TV households do. There is no reason why you shouldn't use one outdoor antenna for all of his TV sets, as well as the FM receivers. In fact, you might want to sell your customers on a TV outlet in every room. A home master antenna TV (MATV) system enables the customer to carry a portable from room to room or out on the patio and to enjoy good signals wherever he goes.

Fig. 10 shows a passive 2 -set coupler used to serve two sets from a single antenna. Passive couplers work well in very strong signal areas, but you might not have enough signal for more outlets. In that case, you will need an amplified coupler, as shown in Fig. 11. Fig. 12 shows how you can use an amplified coupler to drive a home MATV system.

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Fig. 1-The tape scan action of a typical helical videotape player/recorder equipped with two heads. As the tape is pulled across the head drum by the capstan, the two rotating heads inside the drum swipe across the tape in a slanted (helical) path. One TV field (262-1/2 horizontal lines) is recorded on (or played back from) the tape as each head swipes across the tape. (Courtesy of Howard W. Sams Co.)


Fig. 2-Illustration of head switching in a two-head helical videotape unit.

## Curing VTR-Caused TV Jitters

## Examination of the most prevalent causes of sync time-base errors in helical-scan videotape player/recorders and how the horizontal sync AFC systems of some TV receivers can be slightly modified to cope with them

As shown in Fig. 1, all helicalscan player/recorders use a rotary scanner with one or two video heads which record tracks that slant across the width of the tape. In both single- and two-head machines, the length of time that the head is in contact with the tape is a little over $1 / 60$ th of a second. A complete field of video is recorded (or played back) for each swipe of a rotating video head across the tape. The length of each swipe contains a little more than one field, or in excess of $262-1 / 2$ horizontal lines of video.

If the relative speed between head and tape is absolutely uniform, the sync pulses are equally


Fig. 3-Displacement of performer's sleeve just above the vertical blanking bar is indicative of back-tension error in the videotape unit-an error which causes the switch from head B to head $A$ to occur too early.


Fig. 4-Diagram of typical anti-hunt filter in a horizontal AFC system. Principal function of filter is to slow down changes in AFC control voltage so that horizontal sync is not affected by random noise impulses.
spaced on the tape and will be played back equidistant in time. Any variations in speed translate into variations in sync pulse spacing, which, in turn, produce synctiming errors.

Longitudinal vibrations in the tape, set up by friction as the tape runs past stationary guides, produces random timing errors which appear as slight displacements or wiggles in the vertical lines in the picture.

A more severe timing error occurs if the back tension applied to the tape at the input to the scanner is different in the playback machine than it was on the machine that made the recording. In this case, the actual length of the recorded swipe might be different. For example, if the back tension is too high, the tape is drawn more tightly around the scanner, and the length of the swipe is a little shorter. The resultant timing error appears most noticeably at the transition between the end of one swipe (recorded field) and the beginning of the next.

In most VTRs which use two video heads, slightly more than a complete field is recorded for each swipe of the head past the tape, as


A


B


C
Fig.5-Comparison of horizontal sync recovery times of two color TV receivers. A) Late-model Sony 19 -inch receiver. 8) Three-year-old Zenith. C) Same Zenith receiver with horizontal AFC iilter modified to speed up response time.
shown in Fig. 2. That is, because the length of each recording is greater than $1 / 60$ th of a second, there is a small time interval when both heads are in contact with the tape. This time interval is cailled overlap and refers to the time when one head is just leaving the tape path and the other head is entering it.

To provide a continuous playback signal, an electronic switch turns off the head leaving the tape and turns on the head that is just entering. In most twohead machines, the time chosen to make this transition is just before vertical blanking.

The reason that head switching is performed in the VTR ahead of vertical blanking is to give the horizontal AFC and oscillator in the receiver as much time as possible to catch up (the entire vertical blanking period), so that the oscillator is synchronized before the start (top) of the next field in the picture.

In $3 / 4$-inch videocassette machines, the switching point is just six lines before vertical sync, or three lines before (above) vertical blanking. This is where you see the results of back-tension error at its worst. If you roll down the picture on the TV set or reduce the vertical size, you can spot this switching point, which is the "signature" of most two-head VTRs. An example is shown in Fig. 3. Look at the performer's sleeve on the right just above vertical blanking. Note how the vertical line formed by the sleeve is torn off to the right in two places. This trouble symptom was simulated by readjusting the VTR so that the switch from head A to head B was correct but the switch from head $B$ to head A was three lines too early. Incorrect tape back tension causes the same sync-time displacement. The actual timing error is the lateral displacement at the switching point. After that point, the receiver's AFC system is trying to catch up. Recovery time differs from set to set.

Not all TV sets react the same way to sync timing errors. Some show severe "flagging," or horizontal displacement at the top of the picture, while other sets show little picture movement when fed from the same VTR. Japanese color sets, Sony in particular, appear to be immune to the types of jitter introduced by helical-scan VTRs. This doesn't mean that the Japanese sets are any better in terms of overall performance. It just means that they have been designed to follow timing errors better because the manufacturer is also in the business of selling helical-scan videotape recorders. The change in design represents a compromise between 1) the ability of the horizontal AFC system to follow timing errors and 2) the immunity of that system to

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Between the covers of these two Sche 5 matic/Servicing Manuals you'll find literally everything you need for the profitable service and repair of the newest Airline and Sears color receivers gathered together in two handy, easy-to-use volumes. Includes full-size schematic dia grams, setup and alignment instructions, adjustment, field modification changes, trouble call histories, PLUS waveform photos and parts lists. The collection of photos and parts lists. The and causes and service notes, symptoms, and causes and
cures compiled by factory techniques will save you much valuable time in taming those "tough dogs." The circuit descriptions, liberally illustrated, will help you to understand the theory behind the circuits included.

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Includes those models produced and distributed between 1971 and 1974: 11 Ultra 1 and 3 Ultra II solid-state chassis 17 Medalist models, 13 hybrid medium models, and 28 hybrid modular models. Contains all the service data you'll ever need, from setup and initial adjustments need, from setup and initial adjustments
(convergence, gray-scale tracking, pin(convergence, gray-scale tracking, pin-
cushion, $A G C$ and voltage, etc.) to full shop alignment procedures. Troubleshooting data is included for Ultra and Medal ist chassis. A conmplete Chapter is devoted to Sears TOUCH TUNE varactor
tuning system, which includes details on the ultrasonic remote control technique employed by Sears receivers. VHF and UHF tuners are thoroughly covered in a separate Chapter. A 36-page foldout section contains full-size schematic diafams for representative sets. Includes prams for lists and model/component change notices.

Airline Color TV Manual for Montgomery Ward/Airline Models
Covers 5 different chassis groups-in all, 18 individual chassis describing 98 all, 18 individual chassis describing 98 and 1974. Complete setup, alignment, convergence, and adjustment routines are presented, along with parts lists, service notes and comprehensive troubleshooting notes and cubetype hybrid, solid-state, nfo for tube-type, hybrid, solid-state, and modular sets. A 36-page foldout section contains full-size, easy-to-read schematic diagrams for chassis covered: modular chassis $3 \mathrm{M} 20,20 \mathrm{M} 20$, and M25; K19 hybrid series models; K17 and K18; hybrid model K10; GEN-12743 and GEN12973. A special section on test waveforms simplifies servicing and alignment by showing what response curves and waveforms are to be expected at which test points (including peak-to-peak voltages).


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Fig. 6-Connecting additional capacitor in series with C2 reduces total capacitance, thereby speeding up AFC response time.
impulse-type noise interference. (Examples of the latter types of interference are those caused by car ignition or electric shaver motors, particularly if the antenna signal is weak.) It follows that there will be many cases where great immunity to impulse noise is not needed and better response to timing error is more important to the viewer.
Just how fast a receiver can recover from a sync timing error depends on the components in the filter which couples the horizontal phase detector to the voltagecontrolled horizontal oscillator. Fig. 4 shows a typical arrangement. This filter is usually a double time-constant RC network referred to as a "lag network," or an "anti-hunt network." Its function is to slow down abrupt changes in error voltage so that the system ignores the effects of random noise pulses. The filter also reduces the loop gain of the system at correction frequencies where feedback becomes regenerative. You have probably seen the effects of an open in the larger of the two capacitors in the network: The system oscillates, producing the so-called "Christmas-tree" or "pie crust" effect.

A rough idea of how quickly a receiver recovers from a timing error can be illustrated with the aid of a special signal generator put together for the purpose of receiver evaluation. The generator provides a very simple picture: a single vertical line near the middle of the screen (Fig. 5A). An artificial timing error is introduced by alternately retarding and advancing horizontal sync about five microseconds on alternate fields.


Fig. 7-AFC filter modification illustrated here increased horizontal AFC response time of three-year-old Zenith color receiver from that shown in Fig. 5B to that shown in Fig. 5C.

This simulates a form of timing error produced by two-head V'TRs when the heads are not precisely 180 degrees apart-a fault known to VTR techs as "dihedral error."

Fig. 5 shows the results when the test signal is applied to a one-year-old Sony 19 incher (Fig. 5A) and a Zenith 25 -inch color set of about three years vintage (Fig. $5 B$ ). The difference in the time taken for recovery is indicated by the percentage of the field taken for the two vertical lines to come together. This doesn't mean that Sony or other Japanese receivers have superior horizontal AFC action. It just means that they recover faster and display less jitter from VTR causes than does the Zenith. (The Zenith, on the other hand, displays less horizontal displacement or picture break up from the effects of impulse noise.) Reducing the time constant on the horizontal AFC filter allows the error voltage generated by the AFC system to change more rapidly and, as a result, the horizontal oscillator is brought into sync quicker.

Capacitor C2 in Fig. 4, the larger of the two capacitors in the filter network, has the most effect on AFC response time. At the frequency at which the reactance of C2 is extremely small, the loop gain of the system is reduced by the voltage-divider action of R1 and R2. A reduction in the value of C2 usually speeds up recovery time sufficiently to eliminate the usual forms of jitter caused by VTRs.

It is difficult to give a "general cure" that applies to all sets, but a trial-and-error aproach will give useful results if you're careful not
to overdo it. For example, try reducing the capacitance of C2 by one half. After any change, check the set during reception of a normal broadcast signal to make sure there is no tendency for the AFC system to oscillate, as evidenced by pie-crust effects, or line-to-line lateral displacement of the vertical lines in the picture. Continue making the value of C 2 smaller in half-size increments until the desired stability is achieved.

Recovery time can also be affected by altering the values of $R 1$ and R2 in Fig. 4. The value of R1 must be reduced and that of $R 2$ increased to increase loop gain.

However, sufficient improvement can be achieved in most cases by merely reducing the value of C2. One approach is to put a capacitor in series with C 2 to reduce its total capacitance, as shown in Fig. 6. A switch placed across this added capacitance can be used to restore the original action of the filter during reception of over-the-air broadcast signals.

As an example of what might be expected, the picture in Fig. 5C shows horizontal AFC recovery of the Zenith receiver after the modification in Fig. 7 was added. (The original sync recovery time of the receiver was shown in Fig. 5B.)

While a recent FCC advisory committee reported on cablesystem specifications has recommended the use of electronic time-base correctors to get CATV and VTR signals back into line with over-the-air broadcast signals in terms of time-base error, there will be considerable time before time-base correctors are in common use throughout the country. In addition to CATV and closed-circuit (hotel/motel) operations, home videotape recorders are now making their appearance in the market place, with disc systems (they have similar synctiming errors) just over the horizon.

TV manufacturers are taking steps to alter horizontal AFC systems to cope with the types of timing errors that home VTRs or disc systems might introduce. For example, current Magnavox color


Fig. 8-The three-pin socket labeted "VTR Not Used" in this simplified schematic of the horizontal AFC system of a late-model Sears color chassis seems to be indicative of this and other TV manufacturers' increasing awareness and response to the need for quicker-responding horizontal AFC systems.
sets I have checked seem to have very fast recovery times. Another example of industry awareness is found on the schematics of recent Sears color sets: The 3-pin socket labeled "VTR Not Used" in the schematic in Fig. 8 seems to make possible future alterations to the horizontal AFC filter network of these chassis. Another major TV manufacturer replaces the module that contains the horizontal AFC network with one having a different part number when complaints of horizontal instability during CATV reception are reported.
The need for the minor modifications suggested in this article eventually should be eliminated by the horizontal AFC design changes which these and other TV manufacturers are beginning to incorporate in their newer TV chassis.

In the meantime, the suggested minor modifications should help service technicians eliminate or lessen the effects that such timebase errors have on the quality of pictures displayed by existing TV chassis equipped with slowresponding horizontal AFC systems.
(IMPORTANT: When a technician performs the modifications suggested in this article, he should attach to the back of the receiver cabinet a notification which conspiciously and clearly explains precisely why, how and by whom the original horizontal AFC filter circuit has been modified.)

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# Sizing Up TV Antenna Gain 

By James E. Kluge*

- For all of us, the name of the game is clear, snow-free pictures on the customer's picture tube. Unless you can get adequate signal levels off the antenna, you'll have snowy pictures at the set There is no way to improve them. You may be able to trap out the unwanted signals that creep in, but you can never improve the main signal that the antenna supplies. If you can't get sufficient signal for a snow-free picture at

TABLE 1
Voltage Ratios $V s$ Approximate Equivalent Gain Expressed In Decibels

| RATIO | dB | RATIO | dB |
| :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| $1 / 1$ | 0 | $100 / 1$ | 40 |
| $2 / 1$ | 6 | $2000 / 1$ | 46 |
| $3 / 1$ | 10 | $1000 / 1$ | 60 |
| $10 / 1$ | 20 | $10,000 / 1$ | 80 |
| $30 / 1$ | 30 | $100,000 / 1$ | 100 |

TABLE 2
Signal Level In dBmV Compared To Signal Level In $\mu \mathrm{V}$

| $\mu V$ | $-d B m V$ | $+d B m V$ | $\mu V$ |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | ---: |
| 1000 | -0 | 0 | 1000 |
| 900 | -1 | 1 | 1100 |
| 800 | -2 | 2 | 1300 |
| 700 | -3 | 3 | 1400 |
| 630 | -4 | 4 | 1600 |
| 560 | -5 | 5 | 1800 |
| 500 | -6 | 6 | 2000 |
| 450 | -7 | 7 | 2200 |
| 400 | -8 | 8 | 2500 |
| 360 | -9 | 9 | 2800 |
| 320 | -10 | 10 | 3200 |
| 200 | -14 | 14 | 5000 |
| 100 | -20 | 20 | 10,000 |
| 50 | -26 | 26 | 20,000 |
| 25 | -32 | 32 | 40,000 |
| 20 | -34 | 34 | 50,000 |
| 10 | -40 | 40 | 100,000 |
| 5 | -46 | 46 | 200,000 |
| 2.5 | -52 | 52 | 400,000 |
| 1 | -60 | 60 | $1,000,000$ |
|  |  |  | $(1.0$ volt) |

the antenna, then you must use a bigger antenna (higher gain) or a multiple-antenna stack.

## MINIMUM SIGNAL REQUIREMENTS

The minimum level of signal which an antenna must supply at its output terminals is dictated principally by 1 ) the signal losses between the antenna output terminals and the receiver input and 2) by the level of noise voltage present in the signal-distribution system.

Whether or not the noise voltage of the system produces snow in the displayed picture is dependent on how much stronger the received signal is than the noise. The level of the received signal voltage in relation to the existing system noise voltage is called the signal-to-noise ratio $(\mathrm{S} / \mathrm{N})$.

This ratio usually is expressed as a decibel equivalent. For example, if an antenna supplies a $200-\mu \mathrm{V}$ (. 000200 volt) signal and 1 $\mu \mathrm{V}(.000001$ volt) of noise is present in the system, the signal-tonoise ratio is 200/1, or, expressed in the decibel equivalent, 46 dB . (See the dB -vs-equivalent ratio chart in Table 1.)
Most TV receivers in use today will produce a snow-free picture when supplied with an input signal having a signal-to-noise ratio of $200 / 1$, or about 46 dB . Because the theoretical minimum noise level in a 75 -ohm TV antenna sys-

TABLE 3
Antenna Gain (In dB)
Over That Of Folded Dipole
Translated To
Corresponding Voltage Gain Factor At Antenna Terminals

| GAIN OVER FOLDED | SIGNAL VOLTAGE |
| :---: | :---: |
| DIPOLE (In dBS) | INCREASE (X) |
|  |  |
| 3 | 1.4 |
| 6 | 2.0 |
| 10 | 3.2 |
| 12 | 4.0 |
| 18 | 8.0 |
| 20 | 10.0 |
| 30 | 31.6 |
| 40 | 100.0 |
| 46 | 200.0 |
| 60 | 1000.0 |

[^2]tem is about $1 \mu \mathrm{~V}$, snow-free TV reception requires a receiver minimum input signal level of about $200 \mu \mathrm{~V}$.

However, because of inevitable flucuations in the strength of the signal received by the antenna and because more noise is added when the signal is amplified, it is best to shoot for a minimum of $1000 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ on each channel at the antenna.

The receiver minimum input level of $1000 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ is referred to in some TV antenna literature as "O dBmV ," which is merely a variant of the decibel system of expressing the ratio of two electrical quantities (voltage, current or power). Instead of referencing all ratios to 1 , as is done in the "pure" dB system, in the dBmV system all ratios are referenced to $1000 \mu \mathrm{~V}$, which is 1 mV . (See the simplified $\mathrm{dBmV}-\mathrm{vs}-\mu \mathrm{V}$ chart is Table 2.)

## ANTENNA GAIN

The antenna-gain spec, usually expressed in dB , is little more than a relative indicator of how one an-
tenna compares with another under identical reception conditions. Specifically, gain specs usually tell you how much more signal voltage an antenna will generate compared to a simple folded dipole resonant at the same frequency and under identical conditions. (See Table 2.)
"Identical" is a key word here because, unless you have a calibrated outdoor antenna range operated under controlled conditions, you might measure from the same antenna 7 dB of gain at noon and 10 dB in the evening.

Furthermore, some manufacturers specify antenna gain referenced to an isotropic radiator. Such a radiator exists only in theory and theoretically radiates (or receives) signals equally in all directions. According to antenna theory, a standard reference dipole has a gain of +2.2 dB over that of an isotropic radiator. Therefore, specifying antenna gain referenced to an isotropic radiator (which does not exist in practice) provides gain specs that
are 2.2 dB (or about 1.29 times) higher than most published specs, thus, making the antenna gain look larger than it actually is.

Antenna gain can be, and frequently is, vastly different at one channel compared to another. So, to specify antenna gain, some manufacturers choose the channel having the highest gain, some average all channels, and some take a "typically ideal" figure. Others, instead of specifying gain, provide a "figure of merit" which takes into consideration several performance factors to help select antennas on the basis of overall performance.

Because of these variances in the method used to measure and state the gains of antennas, whenever you need to know precisely how much comparative gain a particular antenna offers and the published gain spec does not state to what it is referenced, you should consult the manufacturer to determine exactly how the published gain figure was derived and what it really means.


## TECH BOOK DIGEST

Material in this department is condensed from a single
chapter of a recently introduced TAB book, by permission of TAB BOOKS, Blue Ridge Summit, Pa. 17214

# Safety \& Special Service Communications <br> By Clayton L. Hallmark 

## An overview of how the FCC categorizes two-way radio activities, and general descriptions of the types of services in each category

All over-the-air communications activities within the U.S.-whether one-way such as commercial radio and TV broadcast stations, or two-way such as citizens band radio-are regulated by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

Consequently, it is imperative that anyone who operates, sells andlor services over-the-air communications equipment be familiar with the manner in which the FCC categorizes such equipment for regulatory purposes and which volume(s) and part(s) of the FCC

TABLE 1A

as fire department vehicles, ambulances, public utility emergency units, lifeguard emergency units, and school buses.

Radio facilities authorized for public safety services must not be used to carry program material of any kind for use in connection with radio broadcasting, and must not be used to render a communications common carrier service except for stations in the special emergency radio service while being used to bridge gaps in common carrier wirelines.

Coordinated service may be rendered without cost to subscribers, or contributions to capital and operating expenses may be accepted by the licensee. Such contributions must be on a costsharing basis and prorated on an equitable basis among all persons who are parties to the cooperative arrangement. Records that reflect the cost of the service and its nonprofit, cost-sharing nature shall be maintained by the base station licensee and held available for inspection.

Arrangements may be made between two or more persons for the cooperative use of radio station facilities provided all persons are eligible to hold licenses to operate the type of station shared.

A zone station is a fixed station that communicates with similar stations in the same area by means of AM continuous-wave (unmodulated) telegraphy (A1). An interzone station uses AM telegraphy to communicate with interzone stations in other zones.

The frequency bands used by the police and the types of stations used in each band are listed in Table 2.
'There are a couple of points to be made regarding the frequency assignments given in this chapter. For one, the bands listed are discontinuous; there are rather wide gaps in some cases. For another, the type of modulation employed may be either AM or FM, under FCC rules; but AM is generally used below 25 MHz , and FM above.'

Fire Radio Service. Fire department base stations are authorized to intercommunicate with mobile units on fire apparatus, with other stations in the public safety services, and with receivers at fixed locations. Relay
stations will be authorized only where a showing is made that a fire radio system cannot function satisfactorily over necessary distances, or where, in an integrated system comprising two or more fire licensees, the number of necessary frequencies can be reduced.

Frequencies used in the Fire Radio Service are listed in Table 3.

Forestry-Conservation Radio Service. Forestry-conservation base stations are authorized to intercommunicate with mobile units in the same service, with other stations in the public safety services, and with receivers at fixed locations. Relay stations will be authorized only where a showing is made that a forestry-conservation radio system cannot function satisfactorily over necessary distances, or where, in an integrated system comprising two or more

## TABLE 1B

FCC Rules and Regulations* Safety \& Special Services

TYPE OF SERVICE VOLUME PART

| Marine (on land) | IV | 81 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Marine (Shipboard) | IV | 83 |
| Aviation | V | 87 |
| Public Safety | V | 89 |
| Industrial | V | 91 |
| Land Transportation | VI | 93 |
| Citizens | VI | 99 |
| Amateur <br> Private Operational- <br> $\quad$ Fixed Microwave ** | V | 94 |

*FCC Rules and Regulations are grouped and sold in volume units by the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C 20402.
**A new radio service classification which covers not-for-hire operational-fixed radio facilities licensed for and operated in the microwave spectrum above 952 MHZ . Stations authorized in this service may communicate with associated operational-fixed stations and fixed receivers and with units of associated stations in the mobile service licensed under Safety and Special Radio Service rules.

## TABLE 2

Police Radio Service Frequency Allocations

| $1.610-7.935 \mathrm{mhz}$ | Base, mobile, zone, <br> and interzone |
| :---: | :--- |
| $37.02-46.02 \mathrm{MHz}$ | Base and mobile |
| $72.02-75.98 \mathrm{MHz}$ | Operational fixed |
| $154.65-159.210 \mathrm{MHz}$ | Base and mobile |
| $453.050-458.950 \mathrm{MHz}$ | Base and mobile |
| $952-960 \mathrm{MHz}$ | Operational fixed |

forestry-conservation licensees, the number of necessary frequencies can be reduced.

The frequencies available to this service are listed in Table 4.

Highway Maintenance Radio Service. Highway maintenance base stations are authorized to intercommunicate with other fixed and mobile stations in the same service, with other stations in the public safety services, and with receivers at fixed locations. Relay stations will be authorized only where a showing is made that a highway maintenance radio system cannot function satisfactorily over necessary distances, or where, in an integrated system comprising two or more highway maintenance licensees, the number of necessary frequencies can be reduced.

Authorized frequencies for the Highway Maintenance Radio Service are listed in Table 5.

Special Emergency Radio Service. Special emergency stations are intended for use by persons having establishments in remote locations where other communications facilities are not available, relief agencies that have a disaster

## TABLE 3

Fire Radio Service Frequency Allocations

1.63 MHz Base and mobile<br>$33.42-46.5 \mathrm{MHz}$ Base, mobile, and fixed<br>$72.02-75.98 \mathrm{MHz}$ Operational fixed $153.77-170.150 \mathrm{MHz}$ Base, mobile, and fixed<br>453.050-465.625 MHz Mobile and base $952-960 \mathrm{MHz}$ Operational fixed

TABLE 4
Forestry-Conservation Radio Service Frequency Allocations
$\begin{aligned} 2.212-2.244 \mathrm{MHz} & \text { Base and mobile } \\ 30.86-45.04 \mathrm{MHz} & \text { Base and mobile } \\ 72.02-75.98 \mathrm{MHz} & \text { Operational fixed } \\ 51.145-172.375 \mathrm{MHz} & \text { Base and mobile } \\ 453.050-458.950 \mathrm{MHz} & \text { Base and mobile } \\ 952-960 \mathrm{MHz} & \text { Operational fixed }\end{aligned}$
TABLE 5
Highway Maintenance Radio Service Frequency Allocations
$33.02-47.4 \mathrm{MHz}$ Base and mobile $72.02-75.98 \mathrm{MHz}$ Operational fixed $150.995-159.195 \mathrm{MHz}$ Base and mobile $453.05-458.95 \mathrm{MHz}$ Base and mobile $952-960 \mathrm{MHz}$ Operational fixed

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## S\&S COMM CONTINUED...

communications plan, physicians normally practicing in remote areas, ambulance services, beach patrols responsible for lifesaving, rural school buses, and communications common carriers. Special emergency base stations are authorized to intercommunicate with other fixed and mobile stations in the same service, with other stations in the public safety services, and with receivers at fixed locations. Transmission of nonemergency communications is strictly prohibited, except that common carriers may use communications for restoring temporarily a normal communications service disrupted as a result of an emergency
Operation of mobile systems in the special emergency service is limited to use of one frequency per system. The allocations are listed in Table 6.
Local Government Radio Service. Official activities of cities and other municipalities, other than fire and police protection, may be aided by stations in this service, which are authorized in the fre-

## quencies listed in Table 7.

## Industrial Radio Services

The industrial radio services are used by certain enterprises that require radio communications to function safely or efficiently.

Power Radio Service. Individuals or companies eligible to operate power radio systems are: (1) those engaged in generating,

## TABLE 6

Special Emergency Radio Service Frequency Allocations

| $2-3 \mathrm{MHz}$ | Fixed |
| ---: | :--- |
| 2.726 MHz | Base and mobile |
| 3.201 MHz | Base and mobile |
| $33.02-47.66 \mathrm{MHz}$ | Base and mobile |
| $72.02-75.98 \mathrm{MHz}$ | Operational fixed |
| $155.16-155.4 \mathrm{MHz}$ | Base and mobile |
| $952-960 \mathrm{MHz}$ | Operational fixed |

## TABLE 7

Local Government Radio Service Frequency Allocations
> $37.10-46.58 \mathrm{MHz}$ Base and mobile 72.02-75.98 MHz Operational fixed $153.755-158.955 \mathrm{MHz}$ Base and mobile 453.025-458.975 MHz Base and mobile $952-960 \mathrm{MHz}$ Operational fixed
transmitting, collecting, purifying, storing, or distributing-by means of wire or pipelineelectrical energy, artificial or natural gas, water, or steam for use by the public or use by the members of a corporation or organization; or (2) a nonprofit organization formed for the purpose of furnishing a radio communication service solely to persons who are actually engaged in one or more of those activities. Applicants and licensees must cooperate in the selection and use of assigned frequencies authorized. Each frequency or band is available on a shared basis only, and will not be assigned for the exclu-

## TABLE 8

Power Radio Service Frequency Allocations

$$
\begin{aligned}
2.292-4.6375 \mathrm{MHz} & \text { Base and mobile } \\
27.235-27.275 \mathrm{MHz} & \text { Base, mobile, and } \\
& \text { operational fixed } \\
37.46-48.54 \mathrm{MHz} & \text { Base and mobile } \\
72.02-75.98 \mathrm{MHz} & \text { Operational fixed } \\
153.41-173.4 \mathrm{MHz} & \text { Base, mobile, and } \\
406.025-467.525 \mathrm{MHz} & \text { operational fixed } \\
& \text { special relay and } \\
952 .-960 \mathrm{MHz} & \text { Operational fixed }
\end{aligned}
$$



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sive use of any one applicant. Such use may be restricted as to geographical area.

Mobile system frequencies have been made available on the basis of single-frequency, simplex operation. Not more than one frequency or band of frequencies is assigned to a single applicant normally. Available frequencies are listed in Table 8.

Petroleum Radio Service. Those eligible to operate stations in the petroleum radio service are persons engaged in prospecting for, producing, collecting, refining, or transporting (by means of pipelines) petroleum or petroleum products, including natural gas; or a nonprofit organization formed for the purpose of furnishing a

## TABLE 9

Fetroleum Radio Service Frequency Allocations

[^3]radio communications service solely to persons who are actually engaged in one or more of those activities.

Frequencies for this service are allocated in the bands listed in Table 9.

Forest Products Radio Service. Those eligible to operate stations in the forest products radio service are persons engaged in tree logging, tree farming, or related woods operations; or a nonprofit

## TABLE 10

## Forest Products Radio Service Frequency Allocations

> $27.235-49.58 \mathrm{MHz}$ Base and mobile $72.02-75.98 \mathrm{MHz}$
> $153.05-173.4 \mathrm{MHz}$ $406.025-467.525 \mathrm{MHz}$ rational fixed Base and mobile Base, mobile, and operational fixed

## TABLE 11

Motion Picture Radio Service Frequency Allocations

$$
\begin{aligned}
27.235-27.275 \mathrm{MHz} & \begin{array}{ll}
\text { Base, mobile, and } \\
\text { operational fixed }
\end{array} \\
72.02-75.98 \mathrm{MHz} & \text { Operational fixed } \\
152.87-173.375 \mathrm{MHz} & \text { Base and mobile } \\
952-960 \mathrm{MHz} & \text { Operational fixed }
\end{aligned}
$$

organization formed for the purpose of furnishing a radio communication service solely to persons who are actually engaged in one or more of those activities.

Frequencies available to this service are listed in Table 10.
Motion Picture Radio Service. Eligible to operate stations in the motion picture radio service are persons engaged in the production or filming of motion pictures, or a nonprofit organization formed for the purpose of furnishing a radio communication service solely to persons engaged in one of these activities. The available frequencies are listed in Table 11.
Relay-Press Radio Service. Those eligible to operate stations in the relay-press radio service are persons engaged in the publication of a newspaper or in the operation of an established press association; or, a nonprofit organization formed for the purpose of furnishing a radio communication service solely to persons who are actually engaged in one or more of these press-related activities.

Frequencies assigned to this service are listed in Table 12.
Special Industrial Radio Ser-

## S\&S COMM CONTINUED...

vice. Eligibility for special industrial radio service is limited to those engaged in plowing, soil conditioning, seeding, fertilizing, or harvesting for agricultural or forestry activities; spraying or dusting insecticides, herbicides, or fungicides in areas other than enclosed structures; livestock breeding; maintaining, patrolling, and repairing gas or liquid-transmission pipelines, tank cars, water or waste-disposal wells, industrial storage tanks, or distribution systems of public utilities; acidizing, cementing, logging, perforating, or shooting activities, and similar services incidental to the drilling of new oil or gas wells, or the maintenance of production from established ones; supplying of chemicals, mud, tools, pipe, and other unique materials or equipment to the petroleum production industry as the primary activity of the applicant; delivering ice or fuel to the consumer in solid, liquid, or gaseous form for heating, lighting, refrigerating, or power-generation purposes by means other than pipelines or railroads; or delivering and pouring of ready-mixed concrete or hot asphalt mix.
Frequency assignments are listed in Table 13.
Business Radio Service. The business radio service is something of a catchall for activities not otherwise encompassed by the industrial radio service, nor included in the public safety or transportation categories. Users of this service are: businesses, schools, charitable organizations, churches, hospitals, clinics, and medical associations; or anyone providing a nonprofit radiocommunications service for any of the above.
Bands in which the business radio authorizations are made by the FCC are listed in Table 14.
Industrial Radiolocation Radio Service. Allocations in this service are made to concerns that must establish a position, distance, or direction by means of radio for purposes besides navigation. Examples of such concerns are those engaged in geographical,

TABLE 12
Relay-Press Radio Service Frequency Allocations
27.235-27.275 MHz Base, mobile, and operational fixed 72.02-75.98 MHz Operational fixed 173.225-173.375 MHz Base and mobile $452.975-458 \mathrm{MHz}$ Base and mobile $952-960 \mathrm{MHz}$ Operational fixed

TABLE 13
Special Industrial Radio Service Frequency Allocations

| $2.292-4.6375 \mathrm{MHz}$ | Base and mobile |
| ---: | :--- |
| $27.235-49.58 \mathrm{MHz}$ | Base, mobile, and <br> fixed or opera- <br> tional fixed |
| $72.02-75.98 \mathrm{MHz}$ | Operational fixed |
| $151.505-173.4 \mathrm{MHz}$ | Base, mobile, and |
|  | operational fixed |
| $406.05-465.625 \mathrm{MHz}$ | Base and mobile |
| $952-960 \mathrm{MHz}$ | Operational fixed |

TABLE 14
Business Radio Service Frequency Allocations
$27.235-43.0 \mathrm{MHz}$ Base, mobile, and operational fixed
72.02-75.98 MHz Operational fixed
$150.815-173.4 \mathrm{MHz}$ Base, mobile, and operational fixed
406.05-465.975 MHz Base, mobile, and operational fixed $952-960 \mathrm{MHz}$ Operational fixed

TABLE 15

## Manufacturers Radio Service Frequency Allocations

| $27.235-27.275 \mathrm{MHz}$ | Base, mobile, |
| :---: | :--- |
|  | or fixed |
| $153.05-158.43 \mathrm{MHz}$ | Base and mobile |
| $451.175-467.525 \mathrm{MHz}$ | Base and mobile |

TABLE 16
Telephone Maintenance Radio Service Frequency Allocations

| $27.235-43.16 \mathrm{MHz}$ | Base, mobile, <br> and fixed |
| ---: | :--- |
| $151.985-158.34 \mathrm{MHz}$ | Base and mobile |
| $451.175-467.525 \mathrm{MHz}$ | Base and mobile |

## TABLE 17 <br> Motor-Carrier Radio Service Frequency Allocations

27.235-27.275 MHz Base, mobile, and operational fixed
30.66-44.6 MHz Base and mobile
72.02-75.98 MHz Operational fixed
159.495-160.2 MHz Base and mobile $452.325-457.875 \mathrm{MHz}$ Base and mobile 952.960 MHz Operational fixed
geological, or geophysical activities. Frequency allocations for this service are in the LF, MF, and VHF and high bands. Specific bands used are 1.605 to 1.8 MHz , and 3.23 to 3.4 MHz .

Manufacturers Radio Service. This is a service for factories, shipyards, or mills employing powerdriven machinery and materialhandling equipment to manufacture or merely assemble some product. Concerns that are primarily wholesalers, retailers, or providers of services are not eligible for licenses in this service, but are eligible for licenses in the business radio service.

Frequencies employed in the manufacturers radio service are in the ranges listed in Table 15.
Telephone Maintenance Radio Service. Assignments in this service are made to telephone companies and others providing wireline or radio communications services to the public for hire.

The telephone maintenance bands are given in Table 16.

## Land Transportation Radio Services

The various modes of land transportation-railroads, trucks, buses, and automobiles-are served by land transportation stations. Also, organizations such as the American Automobile Association are eligible for licensing in this service.
Motor-Carrier Radio Service. This service is used by truckers, bus lines, moving and storage companies, or by a nonprofit organization furnishing radio communications to any of these on a shared-cost basis.
The frequencies used in the motor-carrier radio service are in the bands listed in Table 17.
Railroad Radio Service, Railroads were among the earliest industrial users of two-way radio.
Frequency allocations for the Railroad Radio Service are listed in Table 18.
Taxicab Radio Service. Those eligible to operate stations in the taxicab radio service are persons regularly engaged in furnishing to the public a nonscheduled passenger land transportation service not operated over a regular route or between established terminals.

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## 단

## S\&S COMM CONTINUED...

The frequencies used in the taxicab radio service are given in Table 19.

Automobile Emergency Radio Service. Those eligible to operate stations in this service are associations of owners or private automobiles that provide emergency road service, and public garages operating vehicles used in emergency road service. The frequencies of the automobile emergency road service are listed in Table 20.

## AVIATION RADIO SERVICES

The aviation radio services cover 17 classifications of aircraft and ground stations-some used for communications, some for navigation, and some for both.

Almost all stations licensed in the aviation radio services use amplitude modulation. There are some FM hand-held, vehicular and base units, but they are licensed in the business radio service.

Pilots of departing aircraft communicate with the control tower on the appropriate ground control frequency for taxi and clearance information, and remain on that frequency until they are ready to request takeoff clearance. At that time, the pilot switches to the control tower frequency.
The airport ground control frequencies of 121.7 and 121.9 MHz are normally provided to eliminate frequency congestion on the tower frequency.
In general, control towers operate on different frequencies. The frequency at which a specific control tower operates may be obtained from aeronautical charts published by the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, or from the Airman's Information Manual, published by the Federal Aviation Administration. There is, however, an additional "standard" frequency for transmission from control towers: 122.5 MHz .
A Flight Service Station (FSS) is a facility operated by the FAA to provide flight assistance to aircraft. Common FSS transmitting frequencies are 122.1, 122.2,
$122.3,122.6$, and 123.6 MHz .
Unicom stations are privately owned stations used for communicating with private aircraft. These stations are frequently operated by aircraft sales and service organizations. Unicom stations do not issue clearances to aircraft, but at airports with no FAA control tower they provide an advisory service concerning air traffic, wind, altimeter setting, and so forth. At stations with a control tower, a Unicom station provides communications not related to safety of flight. A pilot might use such a station to order a taxicab before landing, for example. Unicoms operate at 122.8 MHz at airports with no control tower, and at 123.0 MHz at airports that have a control tower.

## MARITIME RADIO SERVICE

One of the earliest practical applications of radio was summoning aid for ships in distress. This is, of course, still the most important application of the maritime radio service. Other important applications include: (1)1 obtaining navigational and weather information, (2) arranging for passage through locks, bridges, and waterways, (3) arranging rendezvous with tug-

TABLE 18
Railroad Radio Service Frequency Allocations
27.235-27.275 MHz Base, mobile, and operational fixed 72.02-75.98 MHz Fixed $160.215-161.565 \mathrm{MHz}$ Base and mobile 452.325-457.95 MHz Base and mobile

TABLE 19 Taxicab Radio Service Frequency Allocations

### 27.235-27.275 MHz Base, mobile, and

 operational fixed $152.27-157.71 \mathrm{MHz}$ Base and mobile $452.05-457.5 \mathrm{MHz}$ Base and mobileTABLE 20
Automobile Emergency Radio Service Frequency Allocations

### 27.235-27.275 MHz Base, mobile, and

 operational fixed150.815-157.5 MHz Base and mobile $452.925-457.6 \mathrm{MHz}$ Base and mobile
boats and other vessels, and (4) making telephone calls to points on land.

Most ocean-going and Great Lakes vessels are required to have two-way radio facilities on board. Also, any vessel that is transporting more than six persons for hire and is operated on the open seas or in any U.S. tidewater adjacent to the open seas must have two-way radio. Ocean-going vessels also have radiotelegraph facilities. Many small boats on inland waterways and lakes have twoway radios, even though they are not required to by the FCC.

Older marine units operate in the so-called 2 to 3 MHz band, which is actually a band of frequencies between 1.6 and 2.85 MHz . Specific frequencies in this band are reserved for specific purposes. For example, there are a number of frequencies for ship-toship communication. On these frequencies, direct communication is allowed between all ships licensed for this band. Other frequencies in the band are reserved for ship-to-shore communication. Communications with shore is restricted to contact with Coast Guard stations, limited private shore stations, and commercial shore stations.

Limited private shore stations may be operated by persons engaged in the operation of commercial vessels, and are used mainly for communicating with the vessels operated by the station owner. However, these stations may also sometimes communicate with the vessels of other licensees.

Commercial shore stations are used to provide telephone service to ships. These stations, concentrated along shorelines and waterways, are linked to the national telephone system. To receive calls, the shipboard receiver is left on, tuned to the frequency of the coastal station from which a call may be expected.

Besides the 2 to 3 MHz band, there are other marine bands in the LF, HF, and VHF spectrums. The trend now is toward the use of the VHF band by stations that operate within about 50 miles of shore. This band includes marine channels between 156.3 and 157.4

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## S\&S COMM CONTINUED...

MHz , and marine telephone channels between 161.9 and 162.0 MHz . Besides the natural advantages of the VHF band, that band has much less congestion.
Stations in the 2 to 3 MHz band have employed double-sideband AM for telephony, but recently the FCC has moved to require these stations to convert to singlesideband operation. Stations in the increasingly important VHF band use FM.

## AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE

Relatively speaking, the amateur radio service is loosely regulated, and it is a tribute to amateurs that the amateur bands tend to be fairly orderly. Frequencies authorized for amateur use range from 1800 kHz to well beyond 40 GHz . Fifteen different types of emissions are authorized, and just about every conceivable type of emission is actually used. Furthermore, the equipment used by amateurs, unlike the equipment used by other services, need not be approved specifically by the FCC. In fact, a great many
amateurs build their own transmitters, antennas, and so on. The equipment used must, however, meet certain technical standards.

Every amateur station must have a fixed transmitter location. Only one fixed transmitter location will be authorized per callsign, but one amateur may have many callsigns. The fixed transmitter location is designated on the license for each amateur station. These are exceptions: When remote control is authorized, the location of the control position as well as the location of the remotely controlled transmitter are considered fixed transmitter locations and are so designated on the station license. Unless remote control of the transmitting apparatus is authorized, such apparatus must be operated only by a duly licensed amateur radio operator present at the location of such apparatus. Besides a fixed transmitter, many amateurs also operate portable (hand-carried) and mobile (vehicular, airborne, or shipboard) transmitters.

An amateur station may be used to communicate only with other amateur stations, except that in
emergencies or for test purposes it may also be used temporarily for communication with other classes of stations licensed by the Commission, and with the United States Government stations. Amateur stations may also be used to communicate with any radio station other than amateur which is authorized by the Commission to communicate with amateur stations. Amateur stations may be used also for transmitting signals or energy to receiving apparatus for the measurement of emissions, temporary observation of transmission phenomena, radio control of remote objects, and for similar experimental purposes.

## CITIZENS RADIO SERVICE

The purpose of CB radio is to provide for private short-distance radio communications service for the business or personal activities of licensees, for radio signaling, for the control of remote objects or devices by means of radio-all to the extent that these uses are not specifically prohibited.
There are three different classes of CB Stations:


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Class A
Class A stations in the citizens radio service are licensed to be operated on an assigned frequency in the $460-470 \mathrm{MHz}$ band and with input power of 60 watts or less.

Class A stations may be authorized as mobile stations, base stations, fixed stations, or as stations to be operated at unspecified or temporary locations.

Class A stations in this service will normally be authorized to transmit AM or FM telephony only. However, the use of tone signals or signaling devices solely to actuate receiver circuits such as tone-operated squelch or selec-tive-calling circuits, the primary function of which is to establish or establish and maintain voice communications, is permitted. The use of tone signals solely to attract attention is prohibited.

## Class C

Class C stations in the citizens radio service are licensed to be operated on an authorized frequency in the 26.96-27.23 MHz band, or on the frequency 27.255 MHz , for the control of remote objects or devices by radio, or for the remote actua-
tion of devices that are used solely as a means of attracting attention, or on an authorized frequency in the $72-76 \mathrm{MHz}$ band for the radio control of models used for hobby purposes only.
Class C stations in this service are authorized to use amplitude tone modulation or on-off unmodulated carrier only, for the control or remote objects or devices by radio or for the remote actuation of devices that are used solely as a means of attracting attention. The transmission of any form of telegraphy, telephony, or record communications by a Class C station is prohibited. Telemetering, except for the transmission of simple, short-duration signals indicating the presence or absence of a condition or the occurrence of an event, is also prohibited.

Class C stations are authorized as mobile stations but may be operated at fixed locations under some circumstances.

## Class D

Class D stations in the citizens radio service are licensed to be operated on an authorized frequency in the $26.96-27.23 \mathrm{MHz}$ band or on
the frequency 27.255 MHz with input power of 5 W or less, and for radiotelephony only.

Class D stations are authorized to use amplitude voice modulation, including single-sideband and reduced or suppressed carrier, for radiotelephone communications only. However, the use of tone signals or signaling devices solely to actuate receiver circuits such as tone-operated squelch or selective-calling circuits, the primary function of which is to establish or establish and maintain voice communications, is permitted. The use of tone signals solely to attract attention or for the control of remote objects or devices is prohibited.

Class D stations are authorized as mobile stations but, as with Class C stations, may be operated at fixed locations under certain prescribed circumstances.

## TECH BOOK REVIEW

Title: The Complete FM 2-Way Radio Handbook (TAB BOOK No. 735)

Author: Clayton L. Hallmark
Price: $\$ 9.95$ hardbound
$\$ 6.95$ paperbound

S\&S COMM CONTINUED...
Published: December 1974
Size: 294 pages, 111 illustrations. Publisher: TAB BOOKS, Blue Ridge Summit, Pa. 17214

This all-in-one guidebook covers both servicing and operation of transmitters and receivers for police and firemen's radio, taxicab and business radio, boaters' radio, amateur radio and citizen's band Starting with explanations of types of systems (simplex, duplex, repeater, remote-controlled), types of stations (fixed, land, base, mobile, land mobile, etc.), FCC technical terms, types of emissions, and technical standards, author Hallmark covers every facet of the field before introducing the technical aspects of radio theory and two-way servicing. This serves as a broad-spectrum refresher course in radio fundamentals (with emphasis, of course, on FM and PM).

This practical handbook will
prove particularly valuable to servicers of VHF radio, who are more and more frequently finding themselves immersed in the sprawling field of FM communications, remote base-station operation, and repeaters. The author, recognizing this, has included much detailed information on transmitter and receiver alignment and adjustment, in addition to descriptions of the requirements for test equipment needed in servicing communications systems. In fact, there's virtually a book within a book on such gear as wavemeters, wattmeters, signal generators (FM and audio), frequency counters, and all-in-one service monitors.
A representative sampling of FM two-way radio equipment is explained and illustrated to give the reader a feel for the systems he'll be servicing. With the information in this book and the appropriate manufacturer's service manual, the reader should be able to service any FM transceiver-

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tube-type or solid-state-with complete confidence. This should enable him to take advantage of the growing opportunities in the field of 2 -way radio service. (This book is intended to take up where the license study guides and radio courses leave off, to give the reader the best possible help short of actual experience).
The author goes into elaborate detail in the actual setup and checkout of repeaters, remotes, base stations, mobile units, hand-held portables, as well as station accessory items such as wireline control terminals and repeater logic elements. This up-todate volume concentrates on solid-state gear throughoutwhich includes the types of equipment found in actual service applications.
Most of the information in this book is applicable to all radio services, since the principles of FM communication are essentially the same whether the user is an amateur, a commercial enterprise, or a yachtsman. Where distinctions are significant, however, they are covered in the final chapters, where amateur radio, citizens band radio (now being considered for FM authorization by the FCC) and marine VHF FM radio are discussed separately.
To make this new text really complete, three Appendices are included: Technical Standards for Amateur Operation, which includes applicable excerpts from FCC rules governing operation in the amateur service; FCC Rule Excerpts Pertaining to Citizens Band; and Recommended Test Equipment, which includes information that applies equally to all radio services.
CONTENTS: Two-Way Radio Fun-damentals-The Mobile Radio Services-Review of FM Funda-mentals-Transmitter Principles and Circuitry-Receiver Principles and Circuitry-Two-Way Radio Equipment-Test Equip-ment-Transmitter Adjustment and Alignment-Servicing Control Systems-Servicing HandHeld Units-Amateur RadioCitizens Band FM-VHF-FM Marine Radio-Appendices. Index.


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## THE ASTATIC CORPORATION

## TECHNICAL DIGEST

The material used in this section is selected from information supplied through the cooperation of the respective manufacturers or their agencies.

CHASSIS: GTE Sylvania E08

TROUBLE SYMPTOM: Picture and sound absent.


CAUSE: Diode SC530 shorted, burning open R532.

CHASSIS: GTE Sylvania E08

TROUBLE SYMPTOM: Vertical sweep absent


CAUSE: Choke L350 open

CHASSIS: Zenith 25FC45

TROUBLE SYMPTOM: Horizontal sync loss; vertical bar moving through raster (windshield wiper effect).


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CAUSE: Capacitor C203 defective

## CHASSIS: Zenith 25FC45

TROUBLE SYMPTOM: Color fidelity poor overall; color smeared on edges of dark objects in picture; G2 voltage reduced; absence of setup line in service position of NORMAL/SERVICE switch.


CAUSE: Leaky C208. About 5 megohms of leakage measured across C208.

CHASSIS: Zenith 25FC45

TROUBLE SYMPTOM: Low brightness; absence of setup line in service position of NORMAL/SERVICE switch.


CAUSE: Leaky or shorted C208, in CRT screen grid circuit. About 100 K ohms of leakage measured across C208.

CHASSIS: General Electric MB-75, MC (no illustration)

TROUBLE SYMPTOM: Adjacent-channel interference (higher channel stronger) evidenced by display of video and/or blanking bar of the adjacent higher channel

CAUSE: Need for slight readjustment of L202, the 39.75MHz trap on the video IF module. Tune the receiver to a weak VHF channel below a strong channel; switch on AFC; rotate the slug of L202 clockwise to a position which eliminates or minimizes the adjacent-channel video and/or blanking bar, but do not turn the slug of L202 more than 180 degrees.

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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 6 ea. | GE 47 | 5 ea. | GE 21 | 3 ea. | GE 86 |
| 2 ea. | GE 210 |  |  |  |  |
| plus Oiana shirt coupon |  |  |  |  |  |



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## GENERAL

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[^4]
## TEST INSTRUMENT REPORT



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## PHILIPS 15-MHz DUAL-TRACE SCOPE

- Philips Test \& Measuring Instruments, Inc., recently announced that it is offering three new service-type test instruments through Magnavox Parts Centers, located in Fort Wayne, Indiana; East Rutherford, N.J.; Greeneville, Tenn.; Atlanta; Cleveland; Chicago; and Los Angeles.

One of the three new service-type test instruments is an all-solid-state, triggered-sweep, dual-trace scope, Model PM 3226 (bottom unit in accompanying photo).

The vertical amplifiers of the PM 3226 have a bandwidth ( -3 dB ) of DC to 15 MHz in the direct-coupled (DC) mode and 2 Hz to 15 MHz in the capacitive-coupled (AC) mode. Maximum permissible input is +400 V (DC + AC peak).

The sensitivity range of the two vertical amplifier channels is $2 \mathrm{mV} / \mathrm{div}$. to $10 \mathrm{~V} / \mathrm{div}$. in twelve calibrated steps, with display on a 3 -inch (apprx.) screen equipped with an external, nonilluminated $8 \times 10$-division graticule. Vertical channel input impedance is 1 megohm shunted by 25 pF of capacitance. Risetime is 23 ns .

The input signal of either vertical channel can be displayed separately (single-trace display) or both can be displayed simultaneously (dual-trace display) in either an alternate or chopped ( 400 KHz ) mode.

Both vertical channels are equipped with a pushbutton-operated provision which opens the input circuit and grounds the input of the amplifier to establish a zero reference trace for DC level measurements.

The horizontal amplifier of the PM 3226 has a bandwidth ( -3 dB ) of DC to 1 MHz and an external input impedance of 1 megohm shunted by 25 pF . The sensitivity of the horizontal amplifier is $5 \mathrm{~V} /$ div. A switch-operated provision increases the horizontal
amplifier ga in by a factor of $5(1 \mathrm{~V} /$ div. sensitivity) to permit magnified display of a portion of the trace. Maximum permissible input to the horizontal amplifier is +400 volts (DC + AC peak).
The time-base generator of PM 3226 operates in either a free-running or triggered mode and provides 18 calibrated sweep speeds over a range of 2 $\mathrm{sec} / \mathrm{div}$. to $.5 \mu \mathrm{sec} / \mathrm{div}$., with manual adjustment possible between calibrated sweep-speed settings. When no trigger signal is applied to the timebase generator, or when the trigger level is not sufficient to inititate sweep, as determined by the setting of the trigger level control, the time base generator operates in the free-running mode and, consequently, a horizontal trace is produced to facilitate scope preliminary setup adjustments.

The time-base generator can be triggered on by an external signal applied to the trigger section via a BNC type connector labeled "TRIG or X EXT" on the front panel of the scope, or it can be triggered on by signals applied internally from either Channel A or B or, for "line triggering", by a $60-\mathrm{Hz}$ signal from the power transformer of the scope. "Level" and " $\pm$ " slope controls establish which portions of the trigger signal will turn on the time-base generator in the triggered mode.

Triggering by either TV line ( 15,750 $\mathrm{Hz})$ or frame $(60 \mathrm{~Hz})$ signals is facilitated by a built-in sync separator and peak detector. When the TV/NORMAL pushbutton is depressed to the "TV" position, the time base is automatically triggered by the vertical sync pulses of the composite TV signal if the TIME/DIV switch is in any one of the positions between $.5 \mathrm{~ms} / \mathrm{div}$. and $200 \mathrm{~ms} /$ div., and by the horizontal sync pulses if the TIME/DIV switch is in any of the positions between $.2 \mathrm{~ms} /$ div. and $.5 \mu \mathrm{~s} / \mathrm{div}$

A pulse for compensation of probes is provided at a "touch contact," labeled "PROBE ADJ," on the front panel.

The Model PM 3226 is 5.4 inches high, 11.9 inches wide, 12.4 inches long and weighs 9 pounds, 10 ounces. The price-including a protective front cover, two BNC-4mm adapters and an operating manual-is $\$ 650$. Optional accessories available include passive low-capacitance probes, passive direct probes, a $2 \mathrm{KV}(100: 1)$ passive probe and a set of miniature probe clips.

A single-trace scope with electrical
specs identical to those of the PM 3226 also is available. This scope, Model 3225 (top unit in the accompanying photo), is priced at $\$ 495$.

## B\&K-PRECISION SEMICONDUCTOR TESTER

B\&K-Precision recently introduced a new battery-operated seminconductor tester, the Model 510, which performs good/bad testing of bipolar transistors, FETs, SCRs, and monolithic and hybrid Darlington transis-tors-both in and out of circuit.
The Model 510 provides two switch-selectable levels of base cur-


For more details circle 167 on Reader Service Card.
rent: In the "LO" position, which is always used first, a $1-\mathrm{mA}(5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \%$ duty cycle) pulse is applied, permitting valid good/bad testing in circuits with shunt resistances as low as 1.5 K ohms and shunt capacitances as high as .3 mfd . In the "HI" position, a $250-\mathrm{mA}(5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \%$ duty cycle) pulse is applied, permitting valid good/bad testing in circuits with shunt resistances as low as 10 ohms and shunt capacitances up to 25 mfd .

Good/bad testing of bipolar transistors either in or out of circuit with the Model 510 is accomplished in the following manner:

1) The three color-coded, clip-type test probes are attached in a random manner to the three element leads of the transistor (or, if out of circuit, the transistor optionally can be plugged into the socket on the front panel).
2) The OFF/LO/HI switch is placed in the "LO" position.
3) The TEST switch is rotated through its six positions. If the transistor is okay, either the NPN/OK or PNP/OK LED-equipped indicator on the front panel will light up. This not only tells you that the transistor is okay, but also identifies the transistor type (NPN or PNP) and, by matching the color coding of the TEST switch position with that of the three test
probes, you can quickly identify which transistor lead is the base, which is the emitter and which is the collector.
4) If the transistor is being tested in-circuit, and neither the NPN/OK nor PNP/OK light is illuminated on any position of the TEST switch, the OFF/LO/HI switch should be moved to the "HI" position and the previously described procedure repeated. If in the "HI" position neither light is illuminated in any position of the TEST switch, the transistor then should be removed and tested out of circuit.

FETs and SCRs are tested in and out of circuit by the Model 510 in the same manner as bipolars, except that FETs are identified either as N - or P - Channel and the gate lead is identified (source and drain are functionally interchangeable).

The Model 510 is powered by four AA batteries. A flashing LEDequipped indicator on the front panel serves as a reminder to turn off the unit when it is not in use, thereby prolonging battery life.

The unit is 3.75 inches wide, 6.63 inches deep, 1.75 inches high, and weighs 1 pound (less batteries, which are not supplied with the unit).

Price of the Model 510-with carrying case and clip-on test leads-is $\$ 90$.

## SIMPSON COLOR GENERATOR

Simpson Electric Company's new battery-powered color TV pattern generator, Model 431, weighs but 13 ounces and is only slightly over 3 inches high by 6 inches wide by 1.4 inches deep, yet produces 28 different color TV patterns-including an ungated rainbow, for color killer adjustment; a ten-bar gated rainbow, for AFPC and color sync lock adjustments; a three-bar gated rainbow (RY, B-Y and-[R-Y] ); a blank raster, for purity adjustments; single dot and single crosshatch, for static convergence and centering; eleven vertical lines, for horizontal linearity; seven horizontal lines, for vertical linearity; and combinations of three-by-three dots and crosshatch, and seven-by-eleven dots and crosshatch, for dynamic convergence.

Pattern selection is accomplished by three slide switches on the front panel, and a fourth slide switch selects one of five possible output channels-VHF Channels 3, 4 or 7 or, by use of harmonics, UHF Channels 23 and 52. The chroma and RF output levels are controlled by two thumbwheels on the side of the unit. The output is applied


For more details circle 168 on Reader Service Card.
to the receiver's antenna terminals via a single shielded cable which plugs into the Model 431.
The price of the Model 431, complete with 9 -volt Alkaline battery (NEDA type 1604 A ) and instruction manual, is $\$ 89$.

## UNIVERSAL COUNTER/TIMER

Ballantine Laboratories' Model 5500B Universal Counter/Timer with automatic microprocessor-controlled circuitry provides 10 modes of operation including frequency measurement capability up to 118 MHz . Automatic resolution and auto-ranging makes the instrument particularly suited to ATE (automatic test equipment) systems use where the ROM


For more detalls circle 169 on Reader Service Card.
used in the instrument's selfprogramming circuitry greatly simplifies and reduces the number of control lines and commands needed from the ATE system controller. Featured on the front panel is a "Resolution" control which guarantees full use of the most significant digit in any measurement; insuring against overflow or loss of data. The display uses new jumbo-sized digits with 0.43 -inch high LEDs. Resolution is selectable in $5,6,7$ or 8 digits.

## AUDIO GENERATOR

Pushbutton operation for easy switching of frequency ranges along with built-in solid state circuitry to hold distortion down to 0.1 percent are among the features of the Model LAG-120 sine/square audio generator from Leader Instruments Corp. The
audio generator generates a wide range of sine and square waves from 10 Hz to 1 MHz . It offers external triggering through the use of the built-in trigger terminals and has a switchable output generator which ranges from 0 to 20 dB continuously variable with frequency accuracy at $\pm 3$ percent $(+1 \mathrm{~Hz})$. Input impedance is 10 K while the synchronization range is $\pm 1$ percent per volt. Compact, portable and lightweight, the instrument measures $5-7 / 8$ inches high by $5-3 / 16$ inches wide by $9-13 / 16$ inches deep and weighs approximately 6.5 lbs . It is priced at $\$ 219.95$.


For more details circle 170 on Reader Service Card.

## DIGITAL MULTIMETER

Systron-Donner introduced a new $31 / 2$-digit multimeter. This unit is the first unit design to include true RMS AC capability and a circuit-breaker current overload protection circuit. The Model 7003 has five complete functions, 26 ranges, 2000 count capacity, large 0.4 -inch sevensegment LED display, and can be ordered with an internally-mounted battery option. Circuit design makes use of latest LSI technology to assure high reliability. Packaging design features an unbreakable case, simple push-button controls, and a pop-up stand that can be mounted to either tilt the unit up or down for convenient bench use. Price is $\$ 295$.


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## NEW PRODUCTS

Descriptions and specifications of the products included in this depantment are provided by the manufacturers. For additional information, circle the corresponding numbers on the Reader Service Card in this issue

## TRANSMITTER MONITOR

A pocket size transmitter monitor called "Radio-Sentry Mini-Meter" which makes rapid transmitter radiation checks, saving money and trouble on maintenance calls is introduced by


Electronic Specialists, Inc. Completed installation performance can be easily demonstrated to the customer. It provides a meter readout and does not require batteries or wires. Available for aviation, marine VHF, municipal and CB bands. Price $\$ 27.95$.

## MOBILE CB TRANSCEIVER

A new economy-priced mobile CB transceiver is being introduced by RCA. The RCA 14 T 100 Co-Pilot is a solid-state, 23 -channel unit with up to 4 watts power output, with all channels frequency synthesized from built-in crystals. The new unit fea-

tures a PA function, and $\mathrm{S} / \mathrm{RF}$ meter, transmit light, squelch control, automatic-level-control circuit, external speaker jack, and will operate from 12 volt DC, positive or negative ground. Suggested list price is \$124.95

## QUICK-DISCONNECT CONNECTOR 146

A new, quick-disconnect connector that connects and disconnects for fast installation and quick removal of CB radios and other mobile gear is avail-

able from Breaker Corp. The new device is designed to prevent equipment theft and make removal for base operations easier. QDC is insulated and polarized with a positive lock between male and female sections and is disen. gaged by pressure on flexible molded clasps on either side of connector. Sells for $\$ 2.95$.

## PENCIL/TYPE IRON

A new pencil-type iron with stainless steel barrel and a heat shield handle for hand comfort and secure grip has been introduced by WellerXcelite Electronics. The WP-25 iron has a selection of eight interchangeable double-coated tips for general

purpose soldering. With a nominal temperature range of 840 degrees $F$., the 25 -watt iron is $77 / 8$ inches long and weighs only $13 / 4$ ounces. An aluminum stand with non-heat-sinking spring and funnel that can be free standing or mounted is available.

## IC EXTRACTOR TOOL

A newly designed IC extractor tool with a thin gripper for use on densely


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populated circuit boards is now available from the Air-Vac Engineering Co. Constructed of hardened spring steel, the tool features gripper jaws that fit between leads on both sides of the IC When lifting force is exerted, pressure is on the IC body, assuring removal without damage to leads. Comes with plastic-coated handles and tension controlled pivot. It is priced at $\$ 9.75$.

## MOBILE CB POWER SUPPLY

A compact, regulated, 12 -volt DC power supply which converts mobile CB transceivers for use as base stations, has been introduced by the


Breaker Corporation. Powerful enough for SSB rigs, the Model 13-110 has a built-in pilot light and off/on switch. The unit will work with any
automotive equipment requiring up to 2.5 amps continuous current and up to 5 amps temporary surge. Output voltage is $12-14$ VDC regulated from a $120 \mathrm{VAC}, 50-60 \mathrm{~Hz}$ line and has a circuit breaker.

## DIP-IT-YOURSELF PLASTIC GRIPS150

A new plastic compound that allows you to make your own plastic grips on all kinds of hand tools is available from the Brookstone Company. With this new compound, you just dip the tool handle and let dry for 24 hours. It's a bright red in color and comes in a 13 fluid ounce can. Priced at $\$ 5.30$.

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## SELF-SERVICE CRYSTAL DISPLAY

Retail customers will be able to locate specific monitor crystals by type and frequency with a new self-service wall display unit now available from the United States Crystal Co. Marking the introduction of the company's new

"Center Frequency" line of monitor crystals, the display has space for 600 crystals in blister-packages. The type and frequency is imprinted on each crystal for permanent, easy identification.

## CB LIGHTNING ARRESTORS

Protection from static lightning charges is available with a new line of CB lightning arrestors being introduced by AVA Electronics Corp. Model LA76 is for use indoors or in a car or truck. Featuring a male and female end, it is installed between CB An. tenna connector and antenna lead.


No. LA 76


No. LA076 OUTDOOR

Model LA076 is for use outdoors and has only female ends. The ground wire is connected from a screw on both models of the arrestor to water pipe or grounding rod. Both are usable also with TV receivers. Price for indoor model is $\$ 3.95$, and for outdoor model, $\$ 3.50$.

## HAND WIRE STRIPPER

A new hand wire stripper that uses plastic blades is introduced by the Alpha Wire Corporation. The cutting edges, of Stilan plastic, are harder than insulation, but softer than copper, to allow them to strip insulation without damage to the conductors. The manufacturer states that the blades cutting edges last up to 50,000 strips on simple hook-up wire. Also strips any size wire from AWG 12 through AWG 28 with almost any type of insulation. It lists for $\$ 39.95$, supplied with three sets of blades.


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A new 23-channel CB base station with a dual-conversion receiver is now introduced by Pathcom, Inc. It features a 3-P; transmitter network; an 'S' meter; PA circuit with front panel

control and speaker jack; ANL control for noise suppression; and transmit and receive mode indicator lights. It operates on 117 VAC or 13.8 V DC, plus or minus ground. Retail price is $\$ 159.95$.

## SEMICONDUCTOR BENCH ASSORTMENT

A new service bench assortment that features 20 types of RF power transistors most commonly used in recent CB transceivers is now available from Workman Electronics. The DS10 assortment comes in a bench top or shelf storage box accompanied by the company's X74 CB Semiconductor Cross Reference Guide. The 2SC semiconductors in the assortment are

all off-shore manufactured and are exact replacements in accordance with original specifications. Priced at $\$ 132.50$.

## COAX SWITCH

A new coax switch for use with multiple antennas or multiple transceivers has been announced by Kris, Inc. The switch has three switched positions plus a 10-watt dummy load in the

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fourth position, for checking transceiver performance and SWR bridge calibration. It is housed in an anodized aluminum extrusion with input and output connectors located on the rear panel to facilitate both base or mobile mounting. Frequency range is up to 50 MHz . Priced at $\$ 12.95$.


## NOISE SUPPRESSION FILTERS

Vehicle-originated noise in CB and other two-way radio can be cleaned up with a new line of noise suppression filters now being introduced by Sprague Products Co. The line includes six filter types, and several installation hardware items. Four filters

are of feed-thru design for mobile applications, with ratings of $20,40,60$ and 100 amperes. The fifth filter is a DC electrolytic power-line filter for mobile use, and the sixth is an AC power-line filter for fixed station 125 / 250 VAC application.

## CAR FM SIGNAL BOOSTER

A new FM signal booster designed to help eliminate signal fade and flutter from weak FM signals is being offered by the Finney Company. Stereo One, for use with auto AM/FM radios, is a two piece unit with an amplifier section that mounts close to the radio and an "on-off" switch that self-mounts on the dash. The switch features an LED

indicator light. All necessary mounting hardware and instructions are included.

## PHONOGRAPH NEEDLE

A new phonograph needle from Astatic Corporation will replace Tetradtype needles. The new Unatet needle

can be installed and ready for use with a single slide adjustment. It is available with both diamond LP and sapphire 78 turnover tips.

## MATV SURFACE MOUNT HOUSING

Designed for adding MATV systems to existing buildings, a new universal surface mount housing is now available fromJerrold Electronics. The new housing accepts virtually any type of


MATV tap-off and is made of highimpact plastic. It accepts cables via convenient break-away plastic sections, with room for both input and output cables. It can be used in the same way as a standard gem box that is used for concealed wiring. It lists for \$1.00.

## Spot circuit faults faster than freezing

Thermal Spot aims $260^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ hot air at individual capacitors and transistors to simulate "warmed up" conditions almost immediately. Locates heat-caused problems without warming up the entire set and freezing components. Also dries epoxies and cleaned components. For details, see your local electronic dealer.

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It's a DOG FIGHTER, TOO!
The Model ATC-10 is much more than a color bar patten menerator. It should be called a portable multi-purpose TV diagnostic and servicing aid, but that's too much of a mouthful. Ne would lave micknamed it the Dog Fighter (instead of the Money Generator), but that might he misinterpreted to mean that it's only useful' in the shop. The versatile A TC-10, a portatule. to mean that it's only useful in the shop. The versatile AFC-10, a portatine.
moderately-priced instrument, combines the most essential features of a moderately-priced instrument. combines the most essential
color bar pattern generator, a TV "analyzer, ${ }^{\text {n }}$ and a sulstitute turer plus color bar patlern generator, a TV "analyzer," and a substitute turer phas
several brand new "dog fighting" and timesaving innovations. With all this extra versatility, however, the ATC-10 is human engineered with only four simple-to-master controls.
Two illustrated brochures descrite the ATC.10. The first brochure describes the many unique and unusual features which make the ATC-10 a "dog fighter" and a time-saver. The second brochure illustrates the timesaving (momey making) potential of the $\mathrm{A}^{\top} \mathrm{C}$ - 10 by comparing its capabilities with 18 competitive instruments. In aht, 33 respective performance features are evatuated. We think the resuts of this evaluation will be a surpnise to many It clearly itlustrates how costly it is for most TV service shops to purchase
or continue to use less versatile equipment and shows how he ATC-10 has the potential of returning its $\$ 299.95$ purchase price in as little as 3 to 4 months.
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## VIDEO CHANNEL MODULATOR

162
A new low-cost video channel modulator, the VCM-4924, for use in CCTV surveillance systems, has been introduced by Blonder-Tongue Laboratories, Inc. Video signals from a


TV camera or other source, monochrome or color-TV, can be applied to an existing MATV system or to a single TV receiver or any unused VHF TV channel. Price is $\$ 99$ with LC control, or $\$ 136$ with crystal control.

## AUTO ANTENNA SIGNAL SPLITTER

A new signal splitter that fulfills antenna requirements for mobile radio reception is introduced by Hustler. Called the Monitor-Match, the new splitter can be used with outside-mounted or windshield antenna for AM/FM radio \& single, dual or all-band monitor radios from 25 to



175 MHz and 300 to 515 MHz . No permanent installation is required. It is priced at $\$ 8.95$.

## HIGH PASS FILTER MATCHING TRANSFORMER

A new high-pass filter/75-to-300 ohm matching transformer that blocks interference from CB, ham radio, two-way radio, X-ray, auto ignition noise, etc. is now offered by $R M S$



Electronics, Inc. The RMS 2600 F transformer has miniaturized printed circuitry, shielded network \& housing, \& heavy duty twisted \& tinned twinlead. Frequency range is 50 to 300 MHz. A wide assortment of MATV hook-up cables in 6 -, $9-, 12$-, $15-\&$ $25-\mathrm{ft}$. lengths is available.

## REPLACEMENT SILICON FOCUS RECTIFIER

A direct silicon replacement for most selenium OEM focus rectifiers is now available from Electronic Devices, Inc. The silicon type is said to exhibit greater resistance to high temperature and heat aging. Specifications are 5 mA and 8,000 peak reverse voltage


## TV SERVICING

Continued from page 18
TV and radio technicians were employed in TV servicing. This total is expected to drop to 126,000 by 1980 . It should be noted, however, that increased service in cable TV, video-tape systems, and audio systems, may lead to an increasing demand for technicians."
2) "In 1970, approximately $40 \%$ of TV set failures were color sets. By 1980 this will have risen to 67\%."
3) "In 1970, approximately $57 \%$ of the TV serivce was carry-in business. By 1980 this will have risen to $74 \%$.
Summarizing their view of TV servicing in 1980, the researchers stated: "The TV service business in 1980, as compared to 1970 , will be smaller and will service predominantly color TV sets and mostly carry-in business. Larger service facilities will be required to accommodate this increased carry-in business. This will entail larger rents and insurance costs."

## ISO:TIP



## Drill PC boards with a soldering iron

Iso-Tip ${ }^{\beta}$ soldering iron with 046 drill attachment drills out old solder, drills new holes. All without heat damage and usually without removing board. Switch to Iso-Tip soldering action and back for easy replacement of components. Cordless convenience and portability. Ask your electronic dealer about it.
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