

tions back to the conventional earths physically buried in the ground, but the actual siting of the earth electrode system is critical in many cases to avoid mutual interference between equipments installed in the same location.

By contrast, the use of Marconite to provide an earth plane in the form of a floor screen provides simple universal earthing and screening which can be continuously extended as work progresses. Its laying requires no skills other than those already present in the civil engineering and building industries.

The uncompacted bulk density of Marconite is in the order of 800 kg/m<sup>3</sup> (501 lb ft<sup>3</sup>) or about half the weight of conventional aggregates. Marconite is chemically inert at normal temperatures; in particular, the sulphate and chloride contents are low, permitting it to be used with all conventional types of cement, proprietary resin-based cements, gypsum plasters and adhesives.

**Video Craftsmen**, 6311 Romaine, Hollywood, CA 90038, is a new firm founded by Henry Ball, formerly Director of Program Operations, RCA SelectaVision. Ball has taken over the plant formerly used in the production of mastering tapes for videodisc. The new company offers VIR equipped film to tape transfers and CMX editing and color correction services.

**RCA American Communications, Inc.**, has announced plans to shift cable television traffic to its RCA Satcom I (F-1) satellite which will be reserved principally for cable television program transmissions. This move will provide the potential of doubling the numbers of channels which can be received by a single cable system earth station, the announcement stated.

**RCA Corp.** has introduced its first fiber optics data link designed for use in digital-data computer links, digital telephony, secure communications, process control and high-voltage optically isolated data systems. Optical fibers promise to supplement both wires and radio waves in many cases, the announcement stated. The new system consists of a transmitter containing an RCA gallium-aluminum-arsenide LED and a receiver equipped with an RCA silicon photodiode. The two units may be connected to fiber optics cables. The transmitter and receiver are housed in compact modules each measuring about two inches square by one inch thick.

**Ampex Corp.** has announced a \$5 million expansion of its Opelika, Ala., magnetic tape manufacturing facility. The expansion will add 40,000 ft<sup>2</sup> of new space to the 317,000 ft<sup>2</sup> currently being utilized and will make it possible to increase the number of production lines from five to seven, the announcement stated. Ampex headquarters are at 401 Broadway, Redwood City, CA 94063.

**Philips Audio Video Systems Corp.**, 91 McKee Dr., Mahwah, NJ 07430, has announced the opening of a new West Coast regional office at 3940 Higuera St., Culver City, CA 90230. As an adjunct to the firm's main warehousing and service facilities in Norwalk, Conn., the new West Coast Center will warehouse, ship and service all products for each of the firm's product groups — AKG Acoustics, Philips Video Products, Audiocom Products and Neutrik Products.

**Capron Lighting and Sound** has opened a new office at 991 State Road 7, Plantation, FL

33317. The newest Southeast Office maintains an inventory of theater, television and film equipment and supplies in addition to rental equipment. Head of the new office is Howard Packer.

**Teletronics International, Inc.**, has officially changed its name to Video Corporation of America, it was announced by George K. Gould, Chairman. The change was made to reflect the firm's broadening base of activities in the television, corporate and home video markets, Gould said. Headquarters are at 231 E. 55 St., New York, NY 10022.

**Videocopy**, a company formed to provide total videocassette duplication services, has been established at 6464 Sunset Blvd., Suite 900, Hollywood, CA 90028, according to a recent announcement. The new company offers duplication on all videocassette formats including U-Matic, Betamax and VHS. Videocopy also provides videotape editing services, air checks and film-to-tape transfers from super 8, 16mm and 35mm formats as well as recycling programs, master storage facilities and drop shipping for national mailings of videocassettes.

**A&G Concepts**, 1660 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA 92108, has been acquired by Vidtronics, a Hollywood-based videotape post-production facility. Phil Arenson, President of A&G Concepts, has been named to the post of Director of Production for Vidtronics and will head the company's new division, which will offer full stage and remote production facilities.

### Books, Booklets, Brochures

**Digital Signal Computers and Processors**, a Book of Selected Reprints, edited by Andres C. Salazar of Bell Laboratories, is available from the IEEE Service Center, 445 Hoes Lane, Piscataway, NJ 08854, at a price of \$25.95 (with discounts for IEEE members). The book is an up-to-date compilation of carefully selected papers dealing with the hardware aspects of digital signal processing. The emphasis is on the architecture and applications of high-speed computers and processors that implement digital signal algorithms. The 44 reprinted papers are organized into the following subject categories: Economics, Comparisons, Trends; Architecture; Elements of a Digital Signal Processor; Applications. The papers on architecture are subdivided into four sections — Computing Units for Digital Filters; FFT Computing; Multiple Configurations; and D/D and D/A Conversion.

A handheld monocular type light meter for measuring motion-picture screen brightness is described in Bulletin FL available upon request from Fotomatic Corp., 4030 W. 10 St., Indianapolis, IN 46222. The device, designated Model FL Foto-Meter, is designed to provide reflected light readings of any type screen from any angle with readings appearing directly in footlamberts. The Foto-Meter can read an area of 2° within the total 20° view making it possible to check small areas of the screen for either light balance or reflectivity. The device is powered by mercury batteries.

The Verbatim™ cassette series is described in a 6-page illustrated brochure available upon re-

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quest from Information Terminals Corp., 323 Soquel Way, Sunnyvale, CA 94086. The brochure provides detailed descriptions, features and photographs of the six cassettes in the series. It also provides technical data, physical characteristics, magnetic properties, environment requirements, dimensions, operating characteristics and performance for each cassette.

**The Photo-Sonics 16mm-1PDL** and the **Actionmaster/500** high-speed cameras are described in an 8-page profusely illustrated brochure available upon request from Instrumentation Marketing Corp., 820 S. Mariposa St., Burbank, CA 91506. Both cameras are handheld magazine-loading intermittent pin registered documentation cameras with continuous reflex viewing. They have crystal-controlled speeds from 24 frames/s to 500 frames/s.

**Video Yearbook 1978** is available from the publishers, Blandford Press, Ltd., Link House, West St., Poole, Dorset BH15 1LL, England, at a price of £8.45 (including postage and packing). Products and services of over 700 companies are analyzed in some 1400 separate entries in the 440-page hardcover book. The book also contains more than 330 photographs, plus addresses and phone numbers for more than 1800 video, audiovisual and audio companies. Other features of *Video Yearbook 1978* include extensive indexing, allowing full cross referencing, names and addresses for importers and distributors for most video equipment throughout Europe, television standards in 179 countries fully analyzed, and details of more than 150 video sales and services companies in the United Kingdom.

**Electromagnetic Waves and Curved Structures**, a 224-page book dealing with the propagating and radiating properties of dielectric guides and surfaces, both straight and curved, is available from the publisher, Peter Peregrinus Ltd., P.O. Box 8, Southgate House, Stevenage, Herts, SG1 1HQ, England, at a price of £11. The announcement notes that recent advances in the theory have emphasized the novel features associated with these dielectric structures and also those aspects related to the familiar metallic guides. The book brings together many of the methods and results that have been developed in this area. A number of special features are discussed in ten appendixes, one of which is devoted to the tuned window in rectangular waveguide.

**Six Experiments in Ascertainment Methodology**, a 68-page book designed to provide assistance to public broadcasting stations in conducting ascertainment, has been published by the Office of Communication Research, Corporation for Public Broadcasting, 1111 Sixteenth St., N.W., Washington, DC 20036. The six studies contained in the book are: "Issues in Ascertaining the Different Needs of Urban and Rural Community Leaders" by Robert K. Avery (with Research Assistants, Paige Bridesall and Antonio Rey); "Volunteer Ascertainment Panels" by Alfred G. Smith (with Research Associates Patrick A. Nester and D. Lynn Pulford); "Ascertainment Collection Methods for the Rural Public Station" by James A. Anderson; "Method Dependent Leadership: Implication for Ascertainment of Black Community Needs for Public Television Stations" by Thomas A. McCain, C. Richard Hofstetter, Navita Cummings James and James Hawkins; "Progress

Report on Continuing Ascertainments: Jacksonville and Tallahassee, Florida" by David J. LeRoy and Bernadette McGuire; and "How to Conduct a Cooperative Market-Wide Community Leaders Survey" by Thomas M. Turner.

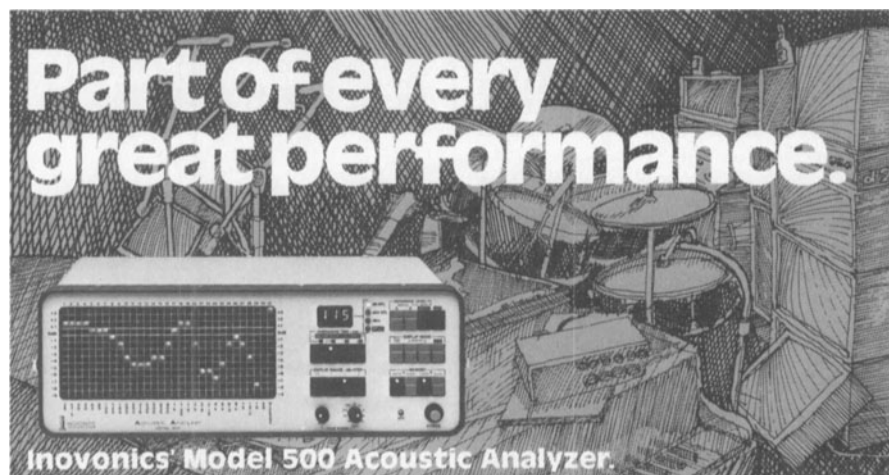
Six new titles have been added to the American Film Institute's *Factfile*, a continuing series of reference publications about film and television. The new titles are: *Movie and TV Nostalgia*; *Film Music*; *Animation*; *Third World Cinema*; *Film/Television: A Research Guide*; and *Film/Television: Grants, Scholarships, Special Programs*. Each title represents a listing of publications, organizations, events, training programs, and sources of information. The first six titles of the series — *Film and Television Periodicals in English*; *Careers in Film and Television*; *Student Film Festivals and Awards*; *Guide to Classroom Use of Film*; *Women and Film/Television*; and *Children and Film/Television* — are still available. Price of each *Factfile* title is \$3 (\$2 for AFI members) available from AFI National Education Services, Kennedy Center, Washington, DC 20566.

**The Logical Force Sourcebook**, which describes a series of inexpensive digital troubleshooting hardware called The Logical Force™, is available upon request from Continental Specialties Corp., 44 Kendall St., New Haven, CT 06509. The *Sourcebook* also discusses the philosophy of modern digital circuit troubleshooting and compares the oscilloscope, voltmeters and other traditional service instruments to modern probes.

**100 dB Dynamic Range Measurements Using the HP 8755 Frequency Response Test Set** (Application Note 155-2), a 4-page illustrated leaflet, is available upon request from Hewlett-Packard, 1501 Page Mill Rd., Palo Alto, CA 94304. The leaflet describes how to achieve what, in essence, is "automatic RF substitution," permitting detection/display equipment with 60 dB range to measure to 100 dB without having to physically perform RF substitution. Key to the technique is use of the sweep oscillator's leveling/modulation element (typically a PIN diode modulator) as the RF substitution device by configuring it within the system's power leveling loop. More range can be obtained by using sweepers that deliver more than 10 mW output. When an RF amplifier is installed after the device under test but within the loop, 100 dB or more range is realizable. The application note describes the factors that determine and limit measurement dynamic range. Also discussed are measurement accuracy considerations.

**The Photo-Sonics 35mm-4ML** pin-registered magazine-loading camera is described and illustrated in a 4-page spec/data sheet available upon request from Instrumentation Marketing Corp., 820 S. Mariposa St., Burbank, CA 91506. The camera is capable of normal speed and up to 200 frames/s with interchangeable magazines of 200, 400 and 1000 ft. Features include a synchronous phase lock and remote speed selection options.

**The Filmatic ultrasonic film cleaner** for 16 mm, 35mm and 16/35mm combination is described in an illustrated bulletin available upon request from Instrumentation Marketing Corp., 820 S. Mariposa St., Burbank, ca 91506. Nine models of the film cleaner are available. The machine is compact and automatic.



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