



Custom-built Television Equipment

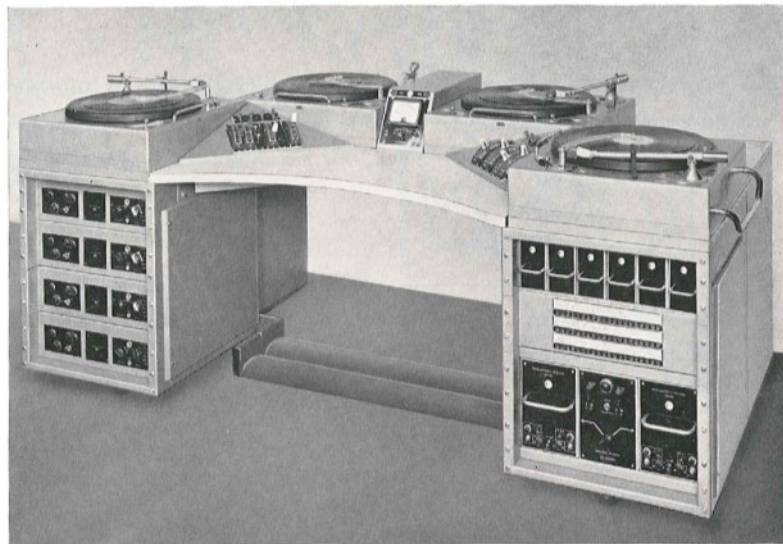
TELEVISION has developed so rapidly that it is inevitable that there are many different approaches to the problems of production and operation. While the main units of equipment have become relatively standardized, there remain many parts of the system which are unique to a particular installation, and Marconi's, in realizing this, have made provision for considerable flexibility in their designs.

However, practically every installation requires at least a special control panel, and every effort is made to see that the customer's requirements are fully met. A wide range of custom-built equipment is produced every year for both sound and vision broadcasting and the craftsmanship and experience are a tradition of the Company.

The studio console gives wide scope for the mounting of standard and special panels, but where this is not suitable, special wooden or metal control desks can be designed. These can be manufactured locally with the control panels mounted in sub-frames, or supplied complete in any desired finish. Hardwood carcasses with Melamine-surfaced tops are very popular; they give hard-wearing service and are attractive in appearance.

Vision mixers and communication circuits are the most commonly made 'specials' and the modular form of the standard units makes for relatively simple variations for particular requirements.

Marconi's have great experience in the production of custom-built equipment and very complex projects are regularly undertaken. In the field of industrial and scientific closed-circuit television some highly ingenious devices have been produced for special applications. Outside-broadcast units are also frequently built for particular customers' requirements. Long experience of the problems of mobile units enables very satisfactory designs to be made with the minimum of delay. For dependable operation the weight distribution, power/weight ratio, cooling and operational convenience



An unusual sound effects console, produced for Ankara Studios, Turkey.

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must all be carefully examined and there is considerably more design experience in the production of a mobile unit than appears from the outside.

For studios and transmitter control rooms the widest variety of special units has been made. On innumerable occasions the Marconi Company has supplied every part of a complex installation - vision and sound switching equipment, remote control systems, communications networks, power distribution schemes and cueing systems. Generally these projects involve linking together basically standard designs of equipment with specially made additions to produce a unified whole. The recent innovation of exchanging programmes internationally by means of magnetic tape recordings, which are recorded waveforms rather than pictures, has brought about the need for switching equipment capable of quickly switching from one standard to another (405, 525 or 625 lines).

All new equipment (Mk. IV) designs, therefore, have provision for plug-in shorting links, or plug-in relay units which can be switched centrally. By this means all the equipment in a particular studio can be switched from one standard to another

from a single control point. Switching information is normally routed to camera channels *via* the Communication Unit Type BD 887, described on page 100, and passed from the picture and waveform monitors to other monitors. Where a communication unit is not used, a converter unit is required for camera channels. The switching unit incorporates spare contacts for the operation of indicator lamps.

Marconi's are always pleased to investigate any special requirements and make proposals which involve if necessary the design and manufacture of custom-built equipment. If customers prefer to do their own layouts, the Company will gladly manufacture equipment to fit their designs. On these pages are shown some recent examples of custom-built television equipment.

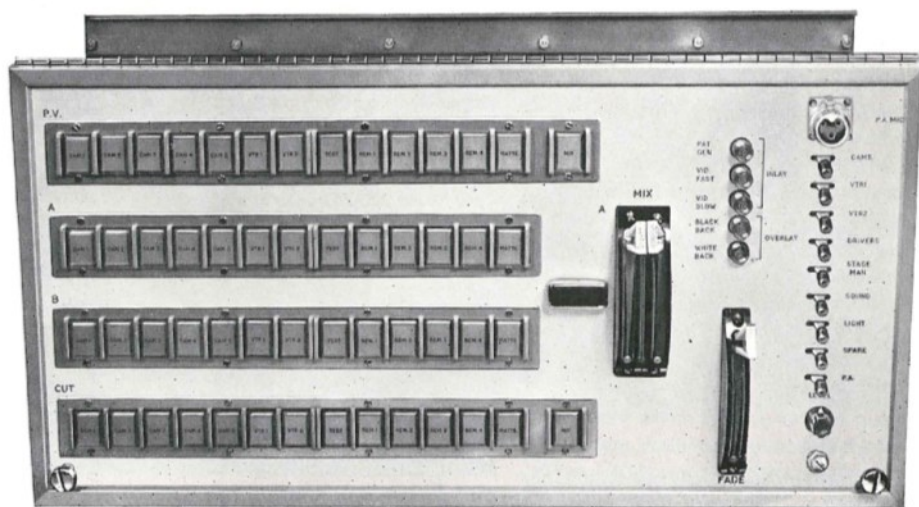
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A novel control panel for four Mark IV vidicon camera channels (see page 76) as supplied to Tele-orient, Lebanon.



9020

A comprehensive vision mixer panel produced for Intertel GMBH for use in their outside broadcasting unit.