Teletext test generator

PM 5538

Code no. PM 5538:
9449 055 38005 (British teletext system)

Complete one-page teletext generator

In conformity with the British teletext system

Variable eye-height/eye-width of the teletext data signal

Fits into the Philips extensive range of TV setmaker test equipment

Produced under licence of the Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA), one of the originators of teletext

Built-in full field test signal generator

Plug-in facility for VHF or UHF modulator

Only instrument for elaborate testing of teletext decoders and receivers

The PM 5538 teletext test generator, DELPHI, is a precision instrument designed for testing teletext decoders and receivers, as well as any equipment in the teletext transmission path.

The PM 5538 contains:
- memory capacity for one teletext page (caption), which can be repeated in a 1, 10 or 100 pages magazine.
- teletext data generator which generates two data lines in the vertical blanking interval.
- full field test generator producing a 1.44 T pulse-and-bar signal.
- standard sync pulse generator (SPG).

A very unique feature of the PM 5538 is the variable eye-height facility which allows the generated teletext data signal to be "pre-distorted" to any eye-height level from the almost undistorted 95% down to 0%. By means of a multi-turn potentiometer with digital read-out, any desired eye-height can easily be set. Furthermore the PM 5538 delivers the signals needed for eye-height display on a normal oscilloscope. Both are features that make the PM 5538 the most sophisticated teletext measuring tool available.

Some teletext background

Teletext is the British system for a new television service that transmits digital information in the vertical blanking interval, information which is displayed on the TV screen in form of printed pages and graphic symbols. The content of one page is transmitted by two data lines per field in 12 successive fields (one data line equals one line on the screen).

The digital signals forming the data lines consist of sine-squared pulses 144 ns wide (1.44 T), positive for logic "0" levels. If a number of "1"s or "0"s follow each other, the pulses "melt" together and form blocks of bars instead of discrete pulses (see the oscillogram). The characters and the graphic symbols are sent as ASCII coded digital information. In addition