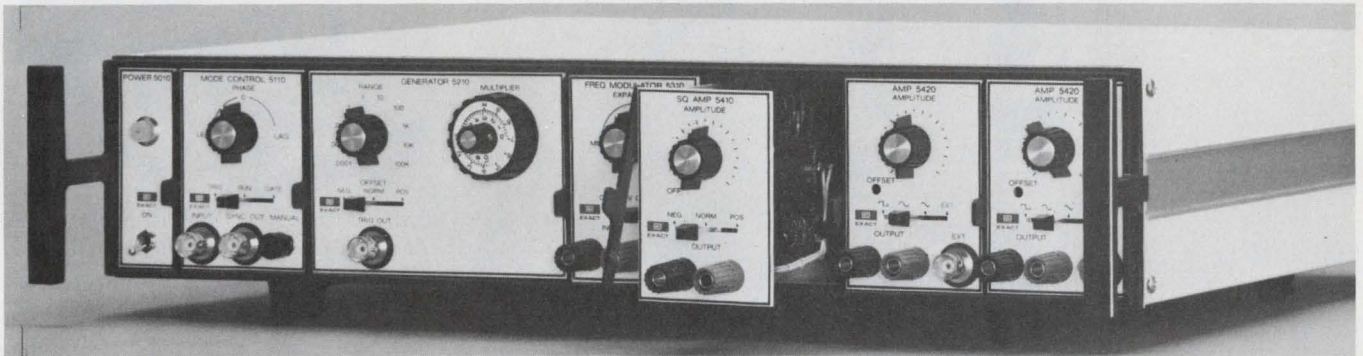
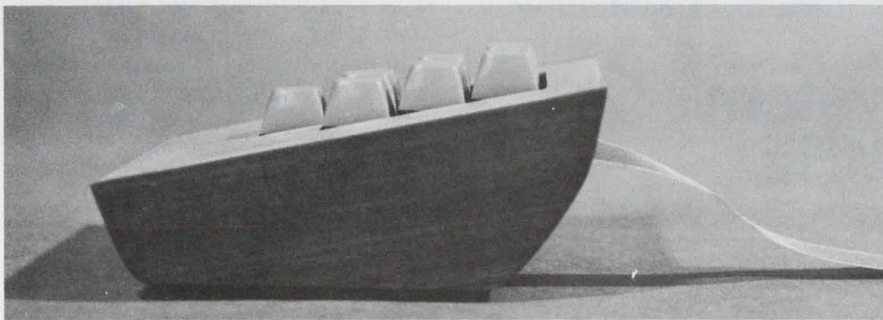


# Products

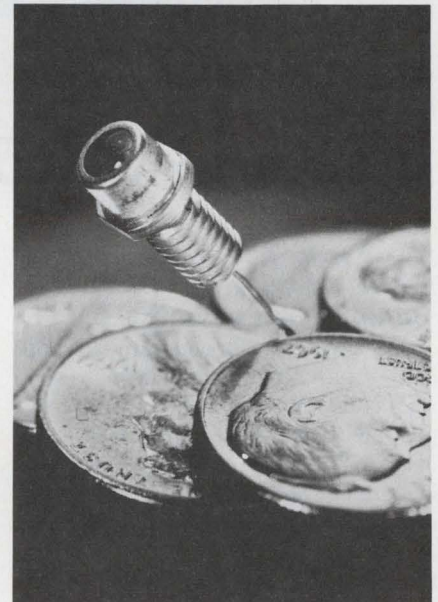


A complete waveform generating system, this new instrument can produce a number

of waveshapes and operating modes via combinations of its plug-in modules, p. 126.



Two new modular economy keyboards offer a novel type of switching action. The mechanical unit (top) uses snap-in mercury-element keys, p. 122. The solid-state unit (bottom) features magnetic-core switching elements, p. 120.



Tiny pulsed laser diodes radiate in near-IR region with power output of 15 W at 75 A, p. 136.

## Also in this section:

**Magnetic tape system** can record and reproduce at 15-MHz rates, p. 118.

**Universal dc power supply** supplants five conventional lab sources, p. 130.

**Three-stage IC operational amplifier** needs only 90- $\mu$ W standby power, p. 132.

**Evaluation Samples**, p. 150 . . . **Design Aids**, p. 152 . . . **Annual Reports**, p. 154

**Application Notes**, p. 156 . . . **New Literature**, p. 158.



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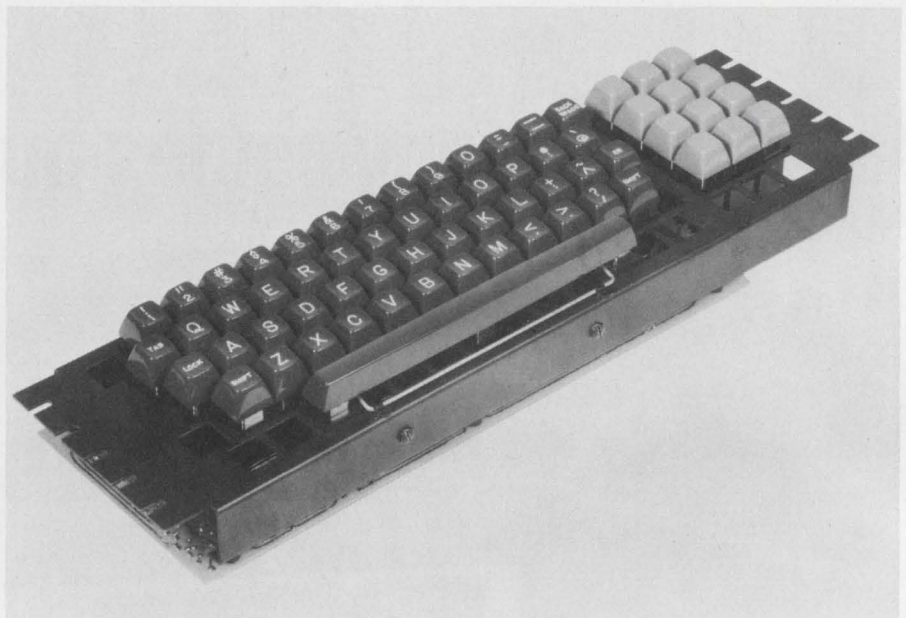
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## All-solid-state keyboards switch with magnetic cores

Licon Div., Illinois Tool Works Inc., 6615 W. Irving Park Rd., Chicago, Ill. Phone: (312) 282-4040. P&A: \$150 to \$395; 6 to 8 wks.

Built around a very reliable switching element, a new family of completely solid-state electronic keyboards uses magnetic-core switching to eliminate mechanical linkage, contact bounce and delicate IC chips. In addition, series 550 units offer a flexibility that is said to be previously unattainable in electronic keyboards.

These new keyboards have a unique method of encoding at the key station that enables the user to specify his own custom scheme. Available standard encoding formats include ASCII (American Standard Code for Information Interchange), BCD (Binary Coded Decimal), and EBCDIC (Extended Binary Coded Decimal Interchange Code).

The 550 units are compatible with 5-V IC logic, and can accept either negative or positive logic outputs. Minimum power consumption is 1.5 W.

Each key station provides a minimum life of ten million operations. The keybutton is remove-

able, and the operating plunger and return spring are replaceable.

All keyboards are modular in design. The housing incorporates integral plastic mounting clips for easy insertion into the mounting plate for the keyboard array.

The mounting plate, in turn, may take virtually any configuration desired. There is no predetermined fixed arrangement. Most plates use a standard typewriter offset of 3/8 to 3/16 to 3/8 in.

A number of keyboard options give the series 550 its broad flexibility. These include a parity bit for detecting transmission errors, and an output strobe signal for synchronizing the keyboard with external equipment. A delayed strobe signal is not required since keyboard switching action is free of contact bounce.

An optional multi-key interlock permits recognition of only one key at a time. There is also a two-key-rollover feature that allows a second key to be depressed very quickly after the first, while still transmitting both code signals to the output.

Another option permits a repeat of coding when the release of a depressed key is delayed.

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