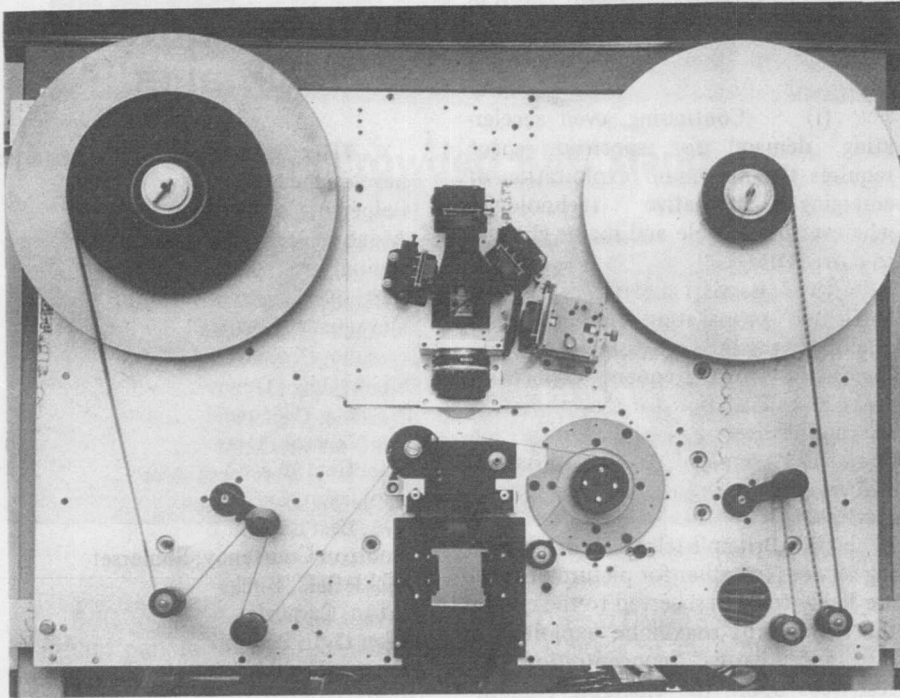


ENG INF

The Quarterly For BBC Engineering Staff



BBC helps Rank Cintel



View of the prototype line-array telecine.

On the eve of the International Broadcasting Convention in Brighton came the announcement of two important agreements between the BBC and Rank Cintel. The first was the result of a collaborative agreement for Research Department to conduct research into improvements into film transmission techniques as applied to telecine machines. This has resulted in some novel features that will be incorporated into Rank Cintel machines. The second agreement allows for the manufacture under licence of the studio stills store (described in Eng Inf No. 8) and now to be marketed under the name of "Slide File".

Line-Array Telecine

Engineers at Kingswood Warren have been conducting research into the use of solid-state image sensors in broadcasting since the end of 1972. Although solid-state sensors have still not found a place in broadcast-quality

television cameras, domestic television cameras based on their use are now obtainable. However, it was recognised from the outset that they could find an earlier application in the telecining of films. This is because the motion of the film as it runs through the telecine can be used to provide one of the two television scans; thus a simpler solid-state sensor, consisting only of a single line of around 1000 picture elements can be used, as compared with a two-dimensional array of nearer 0.5 million elements which would be required for television camera applications.

Although the flying-spot scanning method using a CRT and photomultipliers is preferred for post-production work, the latest line-array sensors are capable of producing broadcast quality pictures and offer several advantages over camera-type and flying-spot systems:

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