TECHNICAL NOTE

A PROCEDURE FOR CONSTANT MONITOR OF PRINTOUT COUNTER RESET FUNCTION

When any piece of apparatus is in constant usage, it is most desirable to build in all possible checks on its reliability. The printout counter (POC) is one piece of apparatus that sees this type of constant use, and because its function is to record output of data, it is of critical importance that it be functioning properly at all times. One way in which the POC can malfunction and result in the printing of incorrect data is by improper functioning of the reset following the printing of data. If the device does not properly reset, numbers can be carried over and mixed into the incoming data. The following procedure allows for a constant check on the reset function each time a datum is printed.

The signal to print is fed to pulse former #1 which puts out a long pulse due to the large timing capacitor (1650 MF, 50 v dc). The common and normally open (C & NO) contacts of the pulse former relay are used to start the Hunter timer. Upon its start, the C & NO contacts of the timer's "start" relay signal pulse former #2, and when the cycle is complete, the C & NO poles of the timer's "finish" relay signal pulse former #3. Pulse former #2 and #3 provide switch closures that operate the print function of the POC which should be set up for automatic reset. The result is two prints for each original print command, the time between which is determined by the setting of the Hunter timer. The data input to the POC is fed through the C & NC poles of the "finish" relay in the Hunter timer and are therefore locked out during the short period of time between prints. The time period set in the Hunter Timer should be just slightly larger than the minimum reset time of the POC, thus allowing it adequate time to reset between the two printings. The effective outcome of the procedure is that every second printing should be all zeros, thus indicating an accurate reset. The simple pulse former circuits shown below should be adequate for any functions that do not require printing of data more often than every 10 to 15 sec. For more frequent printing of data, a more sophisticated pulse former circuit would be required (*i.e.*, Grason Stadler type).

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