

# **EDDYSTONE**

# MODEL "870A" RECEIVER

# Introduction

The EDDYSTONE Model 870A is a high performance receiver designed primarily for personal use in situations calling for compactness and wide coverage. The receiver tunes the long, medium and short wave bands, has an internal loudspeaker and may be operated from any standard AC or DC mains supply. Ease of tuning is assured by the gear driven drive mechanism which is provided with a vernier bandspread device for accurate station logging. Troublesome mains borne interference is reduced to a minimum by an extremely efficient internal filter circuit not normally found in receivers of this type.

The receiver may be used in all areas regardless of climatic conditions and this feature together with the small size of the unit makes it particularly suited for cabin use aboard ship.

The five frequency ranges are as follows :-

Range 1 . . 7-5 Mc/s. to 24 Mc/s. (40 to 12-5 metres).
Range 2 . . 3-2 Mc/s. to 7-5 Mc/s. (93-9 to 40 metres).
Range 3 . . 1-3 Mc/s. to 3-5 Mc/s. (230-7 to 85-7 metres).
Range 4 . . 510 kc/s. to 1400 kc/s. (588-2 to 214-3 metres).
Range 5 . . 150 kc/s. to 380 kc/s. (2000 to 789-4 metres).

### INSTALLATION

MAINS VOLTAGE ADJUSTMENT. The Model 870A may be operated equally well from either AC or DC mains supplies, but before making connection to the supply it is important to check that the voltage selector at the rear of the unit is adjusted to suit the

mains voltage.

When despatched from the factory, the selector is placed in the 240 volt position which is correct for operation from AC or DC supplies in the range 230 to 250 volts. If the local mains voltage is in the range 200/230 volts, the selector (which is a captive plug) should be pulled forward and then rotated until the "210" marking is opposite the dot on the backplate. Pushing home the selector will now link the appropriate socket connections. The "110" position is suitable for supplies in the range 100 to 125 volts.

**EARTHING.** The method of earthing the receiver will depend on whether the unit is supplied from a two-pin or a three-pin mains socket. In the case of the latter, the earth is made by means of the green wire connected to the thick pin of the mains plug. If a two-pin connector is used, a good reliable earth must be connected to the earth plug which mates

with the socket "E" at the rear of the receiver.

NOTE: When earthing is via a three-pin plug, the earth plug ("E") must be in position even though there will be no lead connected to it. This is necessary to complete the internal chassis earth.

CONNECTION TO THE MAINS. In order to simplify installation of the Model 870A, the mains input is taken to a small socket at the rear, so that should the lead provided prove too short, a longer length may be fitted without the need for jointing or making connections within the receiver itself. In most cases the normal lead will be of adequate length, its free end being left so that the user may fit a plug of a type suitable for connection to the local mains supply. When it is necessary to fit a two-pin plug in lieu of the more usual three-pin type, the green lead should be cut off short and then pushed back into the sleeving of the cable. With three-pin plugs the green lead should be connected to the thick pin.

Assuming that the wiring of the supply socket is correct, then the red lead should be connected to the plug pin that engages with the right-hand socket of the wall fitting. If the latter is wired incorrectly (as is occasionally the case) it may be necessary to reverse the red and black leads when the receiver is first tested. On DC mains supplies for example, the receiver will not function if these leads are the wrong way round. When an AC supply is used the receiver will function with the leads either way round, but one method of connection may result in a hum appearing in the output. If this is the case, reversal of the

connections will clear the trouble.

THE AERIAL. Although numerous signals can be received with but a short length of wire "draped round the picture rail," far better results will be obtained if some thought

is given to the installation of a more ambitious aerial.

Any length up to some 30 feet or so will be suitable and this should be erected well clear of obstructions taking care to keep the lead-in portion reasonably short. If it is not possible to attain a height exceeding 15 feet, the length may be increased (possibly to 50 feet) to compensate for the lowness of the aerial. Height rather than length however, is the main objective if really good results are to be obtained.

When the installation is on board ship any metalwork will have a marked effect on the performance of the aerial and every endeavour should be made to keep clear of rails,

deckhouses, ventilators, etc.

Single wire aerials are connected to the socket marked "A" by means of the plug provided. The shorting plug must be in position when using unbalanced aerials of this type.

In installations suffering from direct pick-up of local interference, the simplest solution is

to use a dipole aerial which is of "T" formation and has a twin lead-in. The advantages of this type of aerial are that the lead-in does not act as a pick-up source, can be of any length and may be run close to obstructions without affecting the performance of the aerial proper. This means that the aerial itself (the top portion of the "T") can be placed clear of obstructions and noise sources so giving a definite improvement in reception. A disadvantage of the dipole is that its length determines the frequency band over which optimum results will be obtained.

To connect a dipole aerial to the Model 870A, merely remove the shorting plug and connect

the two feeder wires to the two sockets marked "A."

The Model 870A is an extremely sensitive receiver and it is inadvisable to use too long an aerial or trouble may be experienced with overloading especially from strong local medium and long wave stations.

### OPERATION

The receiver is switched on by rotating the volume control (left-hand side of panel) in a clockwise direction. A short period of time will elapse during which the dial lamps will illuminate the scale and then the receiver will become fully operative.

The right-hand knob selects the appropriate waveband as indicated by the figures at the left-hand end of the tuning scales. Tuning is by means of the centre knob. This control has a fine balance and the smoothness of tuning will be found a valuable asset when selecting stations on the short wave bands.

Volume is controlled by the knob at the left-hand side of the panel and adequate volume is available for listening in a normal sized room.

The mechanical bandspread scale in the centre of the main scale is read in conjunction with the lowest straight line scale to provide scale readings of great accuracy for station logging.

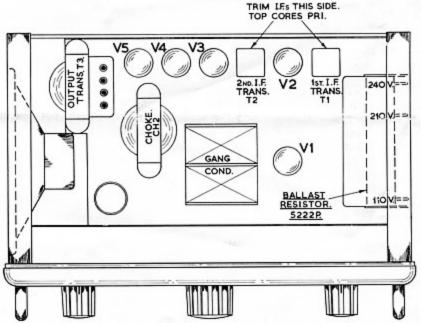


Fig. 1. Plan view of the "870A" receiver showing location of valves and major components.

## SERVICING INSTRUCTIONS

Caution. The Model 870A is a Universal type and great care should be exercised when carrying out tests with the cabinet removed. When running from AC supplies it is advisable to ensure that the chassis is connected to the neutral pole of the supply. Alternatively, an isolation transformer may be used to feed the receiver.

Should the receiver fail in operation, first check that all external connections are correctly made and also that mains voltage is available at the supply point. Next check the fuses. These are fitted internally, but the cabinet is easily removed after taking out the four screws at the rear. Any slight difficulty experienced in freeing the cabinet from the panel can be overcome by applying leverage to the slots on the underside.

The two fuses are located beneath the chassis on a small insulated panel adjacent to the volume control and are standard  $\frac{1}{2}$  Amp. cartridge type. Visual inspection will reveal whether or not they have failed.

Assuming a blown fuse is changed and the replacement burns out immediately, it is an indication that some component has broken down. In this case the receiver should be taken to the nearest EDDYSTONE agent who will rectify the trouble at a reasonable charge.

Should it be necessary to take the receiver to an engineer who is not familiar with EDDYSTONE equipment, take this instruction sheet with the set. It contains information that will be of value to the engineer and may enable him to clear the fault more rapidly than would otherwise be the case.

#### CIRCUIT DESCRIPTION.

The Model 870A is a superhet receiver employing modern miniature type valves. Size has been kept to a minimum by omitting an RF Stage, but the performance is maintained at a high level by means of the carefully designed coil unit associated with the Frequency Changer. The Local Oscillator is of the electron coupled type and the Mixer is followed by a single stage of IF amplification at 465 kc/s. Detection is provided by one diode of V3 while the other diode functions as the AGC Rectifier, this being fed direct from the anode of V2 via the coupling capacitor C38. The triode portion of V3 is fed from the volume control (RV1) and functions as the Audio Amplifier driving the Audio Output Stage V4.

The power supply is quite conventional, thermistors being included to protect the series connected valve heaters from the surge at switch-on and also to maintain the correct heater current in the event of the dial lamps going open-circuit.

# OSCILLATOR TRACKING FREQUENCIES AND ADJUSTMENTS.

Range	Trimming Frequency	Trimmer	Padding Frequency	Core	
1	22 Mc/s.	C22	8 Mc/s.	L6	
2	7.5 Mc/s.	C24	3-3 Mc/s.	L7	
3	3.5 Mc/s.	C25	1-35 Mc/s.	L8	
4	1350 kc/s.	C27	550 kc/s.	L9	
5	350 kc/s.	C29	160 kc/s.	L10	

NOTE: The oscillator tracks on the "high" side of the signal.

On Ranges 1 and 2 it may be possible to find two tuning points with trimmer and core. That occuring with minimum C or L is the correct one.

Once the dial calibration has been checked, it is in order to proceed with alignment of the aerial input circuits.

The signal generator should be connected to the Aerial/Earth sockets via a suitable dummy aerial, or, where this is not available, via a 400 ohm, non-inductive resistor. Isolation capacitors should be connected in series with both generator leads, a 1 Megohm resistor being wired directly across the Aerial/Earth sockets.

Tune to the frequencies given in the Table below and adjust the appropriate trimmers and cores for maximum reading in the output meter.

# AERIAL INPUT ALIGNMENT FREQUENCIES AND ADJUSTMENTS.

Range	Trimming Frequency	Trimmer	Padding Frequency	Core	
1	22 Mc/s.	C5	8 Mc/s.	L1	
2	7.5 Mc/s.	C6	3-3 Mc/s.	L2	
3	3.5 Mc/s.	C8	1-35 Mc/s.	L3	
4	1350 kc/s.	C9	550 kc/s.	L4	
5	350 kc/s.	C11	160 kc/s.	L5	

#### IF REJECTOR CIRCUIT.

An IF Rejector circuit is placed across the input circuit to minimise breakthrough at the intermediate frequency. To check, a modulated signal at 465 kc/s. is applied from the signal generator across the Aerial/Earth sockets and the core in L11 is then adjusted until the output meter reading is at a minimum.

#### RE-ALIGNMENT: GENERAL.

Close tolerance capacitors and precision wound coils are employed in the IF and Oscillator Stages so that the initial factory alignment will hold good for a long period of time. Trimming adjustments should not be tampered with unless the symptoms clearly indicate that re-alignment is in fact required.

The instructions given below are for initial alignment and are given in full for the convenience of the service engineer. In most cases only minor adjustments will be necessary to compensate for ageing of components.

#### RE-ALIGNMENT OF THE IF TRANSFORMERS.

First disable the local oscillator by shorting out the forward section of the tuning gang. Set the range switch to 5, volume at maximum and connect the signal generator output across the rear section of the gang. Adequately rated blocking capacitors (0.01 mfd. capacity) should be connected in series with each lead from the generator. Disconnect the internal speaker and connect an output meter (matched to 2.5 ohms.) to the secondary of the output transformer T3.

After allowing a ten minute warming up period, tune the generator to 465 kc/s. With modulation at a depth of 30% (400 c/s.). Adjust the attenuator for a convenient output reading and then peak the cores of T1 and T2 for maximum reading in the meter. An insulated trimming tool should be used and the EDDYSTONE Cat. No. 122T will be found eminently suitable. Increase the attenuation as the alignment proceeds and ensure that on completion a sensitivity of less than 90 microvolts for a 50 milliwatt output is obtained. If it is not possible to achieve this figure, replacement of V2 may effect some improvement.

Having completed the IF alignment, disconnect the test equipment from the receiver, remove the short from the gang and reconnect the internal speaker.

#### RF ALIGNMENT.

The first step in the alignment of the RF Section of the receiver is a check on the accuracy of the dial calibration to ascertain whether or not any adjustments are required in the oscillator stage. Such a check is best carried out by using a modulated crystal controlled harmonic generator since the calibration accuracy of the average signal generator — being of the order 1%—2% — is inferior to the accuracy required. At least three spot frequencies should be checked on each ringe, the oscillator tracking being corrected if necessary as detailed below.

With the standard signal introduced at the Aerial/Earth sockets and an output meter connected across the speaker to give a visual indication of the correct tuning point, set the receiver dial to the trimming frequency applicable to the range in use (see Table at head of next column). Tune in the standard by means of the appropriate trimmer and then alter the receiver dial to the padding frequency. Tune in the standard by means of the oscillator core and re-check the trimming frequency, making any readjustments that may be necessary due to interaction between the trimmer and core.

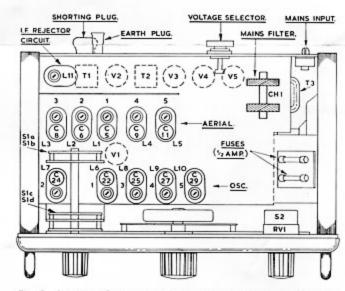


Fig. 2. Location of trimming adjustments and major components on the underside of the 870A receiver.

#### **VALVE TYPES**

V1	 	 	 12BE6
V2	 	 	 12BA6
V3	 	 	 12AT6
V4	 	 	 19AQ
V5	 	 	 35W4

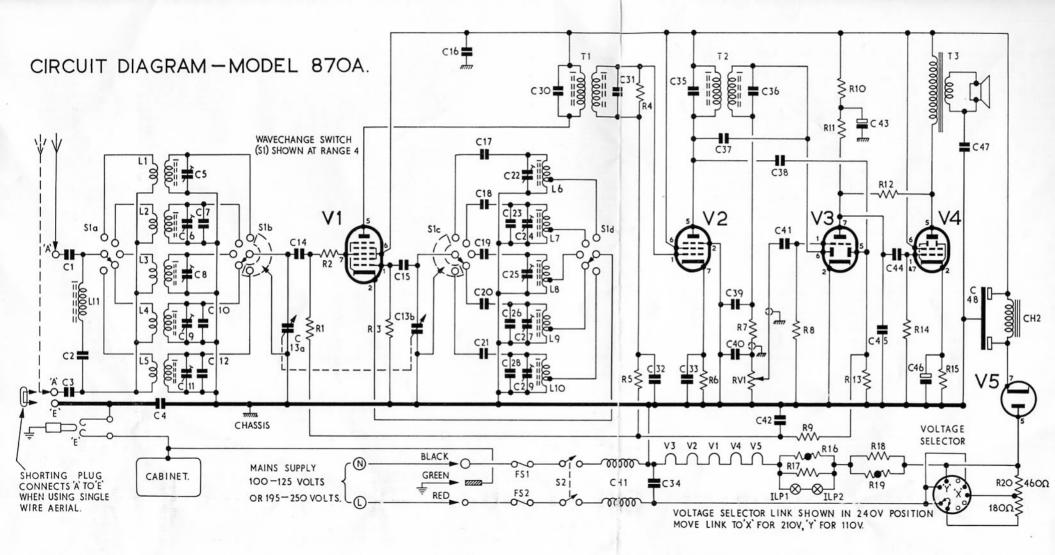
#### TABLE OF VOLTAGE VALUES.

Valve	Anode	Screen	Cathode
V1	100/93	101/94	_
V2	100/93	101/94	0-65/0-5
V3	43/30		1
V4	98/95	101/94	4/3-7
V5	115/110 *	_	105/98

\*AC. All other readings are DC and are taken between the point indicated and chassis. Readings are substantially correct for any applied mains voltage.

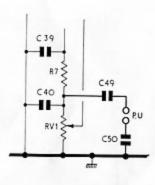
In each case, the first reading is that obtained using a meter of 20,000 ohms, per volt; the second 600 ohms, per volt. A variation of  $\pm 5\%$  should be allowed.

Readings taken on Range 5 with volume at maximum and aerial input earthed, i.e. no signal conditions.



## COMPONENT VALUES

	ACIT			C17			Mica±1% 350V. DC. wkg	C37			Mica±1 pf. 350V. DC wkg.	R6		68 ohms. ±10% ½ watt.
C1	***	1800 pt.	Ceramic+80%-20% 1250V.	C18			Mica±1% 350V. DC wkg.	C38		20 pf.	Mica±10% 350V. DC wkg.	R7		22,000 ohms. ±10% ½ watt.
		200 . 1	Peak wkg.		•••		Mica±1% 350V. DC wkg.	C39		10) pf.	Mica±10% 350V. DC wkg.	R8		8.2 Megohm±10% ± watt.
C2	***		Mica±5% 350V. DC wkg.	C20		440 pf.	Mica±1% 350V. DC wkg.	C40			Mica±10% 350V. DC wkg.	R9		0.47 Megohm ± 10% + watt.
C3			Ceramic+80%-20% 1250V.	C21		200 pf.	Mica±1% 350V. DC wkg.	C41			Paper ± 20% 250V. DC wkg.	R10		22,000 ohms. ±10% + watt.
			Peak wkg.				Air Trimmer.	C42		0.05 nfd.	Paper ± 20% 250V. DC wkg.	R11		0.47 Megohm ± 10% + watt.
	***		Paper±20% 600V. RMS wkg.				Mica±10% 350V. DC wkg.	C43		4 mfd.	Electrolytic 350V. DC wkg.	R12		2.2 Megohm±10% ½ watt.
C5			Air Trimmer.				Air Trimmer.	C44		0.05 mfd.	Paper ± 20% 250V. DC wkg.	R13		0.47 Megohm±10% + watt.
C6			Air Trimmer.	C25		3-33 pf.	Air Trimmer.	C45			Mica±5% 350V. DC wkg.	R14		0.47 Megohm±10% ½ watt.
			Mica±10% 350V. DC wkg.	C26		20 pf.	Mica ± 10% 350V. DC wkg.	C46		30 mfd.	Electrolytic 15V. DC wkg.	R15		270 ohms. ±10% ± watt.
C8		3-33 pf.	Air Trimmer.	C27		3-33 pf.	Air Trimmer.	C47		180) bf.	Ceramic+80%-20% 1250V.	R16		Thermistor Type CZ3. Res. at max. current
C9		3-33 pf.	Air Trimmer.	C28		50 pf.	Mica±10% 350V. DC wkg.				Peak wkg.			(0·2A) 35 ohms.
C10		20 pf.	Mica±10% 350V. DC wkg.	C29			Air Trimmer.	C48		32+32 nfd.	Twin Electrolytic 350V. DC	R17		330 ohms. ±10% 6 watt wirewound.
C11		3-33 pf.	Air Trimmer.	C30		100 bf.	Mica ± 2% 350V. DC wkg.				wkg.	R18		1500 ohms. ±10% 6 watt wirewound.
C12		10 pf.	Mica±10% 350V. DC wkg.	C31			Mica ± 2% 350V. DC wkg.	RES	STO	RS.		R19		Thermistor Type CZ2. Res. at max. current
C13			aced variable.	C32			Paper ± 20% 250V. DC wkg.	R1			Megohm±10% ½ watt.			(0·3A) 38 ohms.
			each section.				Paper ±20% 250V. DC wkg.			47	ohms. ±10% + watt.	R20		Ballast Resistor, 640 ohms, tapped at
C14			Ceramic ± 20% 350V. DC wkg.	C24			Paper ± 20% 500V. DC wkg.			22 000	ohms. ±10% ½ watt.	1120	•••	180 ohms.
C4 F			Ceramic±20% 350V. DC wkg.	C35			Mica ± 2% 350V. DC wkg.			2.18	Megohm±10% ½ watt.	RV1		AF Gain. 0.5 Megohm carbon. (double
C16			Paper ± 20% 350V. DC wkg.	C36			Mica±2% 350V. DC wkg.	R5		1.47	Megohm±10% 1 watt.		•••	pole switch).
				3				113						pole stricely.



This receiver is now provided with "Pick-up" sockets which allow it to be used as an amplifier in conjunction with a standard high impedance gramophone unit.

The diagram shows the circuit addition involved and the values of the extra capacitors are as follows:

C49 0-01 mfd Ceramic ± 25% 500V DC wkg.

C50 0-02 mfd Ceramic ± 25% 500V DC wkg.

External connections should be made with screened cable terminated in suitable plugs. The screening should be connected to the left-hand socket.

### DIAL LAMPS

The dial lamps are 5V M. E. S. types rated at 0-15 Amps. Stratton Part No. is 6484P.

#### TRANSFORMERS.

20 4 4600

nΩ.

1st IF Transformer. 2nd IF Transformer. Output Transformer 5267P. ...

CHOKES. Mains Filter. D2024. Smoothing. 5268P.

### INDUCTANCES.

CH<sub>2</sub>

ES. Aerial coil Range 1. L1 D2453. D2455. ... ... D2457. D2459. ... 4. ... .. .. .. D2264

Oscillator coil Range 1. ... ... L8 D2458 ... \*\*

L9 D2460. ... •• 10 ... L11 ...

IF Rejector coil.

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