**Electric Power Monitor**

This photo shows the control center of SAMAC (System Automatic Monitor and Control), a sophisticated dispatch computer system operated by Philadelphia Electric Company, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. SAMAC monitors and controls the generation and distribution of electric power throughout the Philadelphia Electric network. It enables human operators to isolate and correct power distribution problems more rapidly than was possible with earlier dispatch systems without centralized computer control.

SAMAC incorporates technology developed for NASA's Apollo program by Rockwell International, prime contractor for the Apollo spacecraft. In the 1960s, Rockwell developed a major part of the extremely complex checkout system which analyzed and tested the many Apollo subsystems at each step of their progression from manufacture to launch. Rockwell subsequently established what is now known as the Communication Switching Systems Division (CSSD), Anaheim, California to develop commercial products based on the computer systems expertise and technology the company had acquired in its work for NASA. SAMAC is one such product and CSSD has built a number of similar systems for other utility companies. The SAMAC digital color television display, shown in the photo, is a spinoff from technology separately developed by Philco-Ford Corporation for information displays at Johnson Space Center's Mission Control Center. Rockwell later acquired the display product line from Philco-Ford.