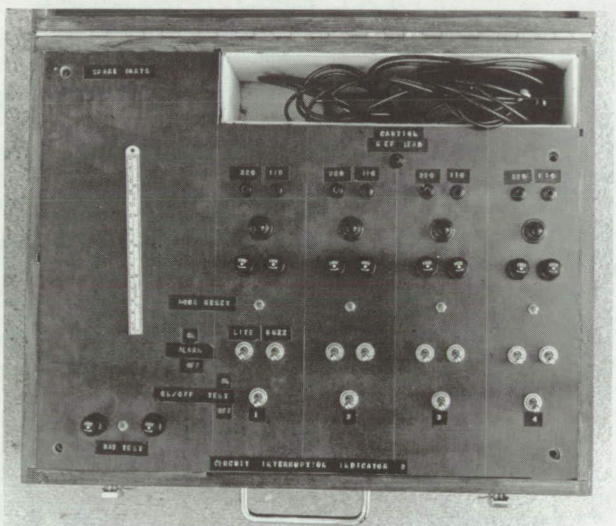
NASA TECH BRIEF

Kennedy Space Center

Portable Circuit-Interruption Indicator

The portable circuit-interruption indicator shown in the figure can be used to locate transient power interruptions occurring in electrical equipment such as air conditioning units, heating and ventilation sys-



tems, compressors and generators. The prime advantage of this device is the portability achieved by the compact design, and its simple operation gives it universal appeal for a wide variety of circuit trouble-shooting problems.

The circuit interruption indicator operates on the principle that a circuit in normal use will retain a residual current in the line prior to an interruption. At the moment an interruption occurs (within a period of 8 to 10 msec), a quick-response holding relay coil is de-energized, permitting the completion of an alarm circuit which provides a visual and audio signal. The resumption of normal current flow does not affect the warning signal, and the source of trouble creating the interruption can be quickly identified, even if no actual system fault exists.

Note:

Requests for further information may be directed to:

Technology Utilization Officer
Code AD-PAT
Kennedy Space Center, Florida 32899
Reference: B71-10246

Patent status:

No patent action is contemplated by NASA.

Source: K. R. Bezant of
Trans World Airlines
under contract to
Kennedy Space Center
(KSC-10546)

Category 01,02