DRAKE & VMM 600/VMM 860 VIDEO MODULATOR SYSTEM



The R.L. Drake VMM 600/VMM 860 Video Modulator System is a professional quality modular headend system designed to optimize rack space. Up to 12 VMM 600 and/or VMM 860 modulators can be racked alongside a single power supply in the Drake 12 position rack mount or up to 4 modulators can be racked in the 4 position rack mount. Either model is a high quality, fixed channel heterodyne audio/ video modulator.

The VMM 600 provides a modulated visual and RF carrier output on any single VHF channel 2-13; Lowband channel A8; Midband channel A-I and A5-A1; Superband channel J-W; Hyperband channel AA-ZZ and AAA-XXX (CATV 63-86) or UHF channel 14-35. Aeronautical channels are offset positive with a tolerance of ± 5 kHz as required by FCC rules.

The VMM 860 provides a modulated visual and RF carrier output on any single Hyperband channel 87-135 or UHF channel 36-69.

The heterodyne conversion system, in conjunction with the use of a SAW filter, insures optimum vestigial selectivity for adjacent channel headends.

The modulators are designed to accept any standard audio/video source such as NTSC video and audio baseband signals from a satellite receiver, TV camera, videotape recorder, TV demodulator, or similar signal source.

The modulators accept standard (sync negative) polarity video at a 0.7 to 2.5 Vp-p level. All level controls are located on the front panel for ease of operation. Output level of +45 dBmV is typical and is adjustable from +30 to +45 dBmV.

Field-defeatable audio pre-emphasis enables passing of BTSC encoded standard baseband stereo audio signals. The Drake model MMTS20 stereo encoder may be used with the VMM when stereo audio is required.

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FRONT PANEL DESCRIPTION

REAR PANEL DESCRIPTION



The setting of this screwdriver adjustment

determines the peak aural carrier deviation.

Clockwise rotation increases the carrier

The setting of this screwdriver adjustment

determines the video modulation level. Clockwise rotation increases the modulation

Lights when the unit is connected to the

required source of DC power via the rear panel

This screwdriver adjustment varies the level of

the aural carrier over a range from 12 to 19 dB

below the visual carrier. The aural carrier

should be adjusted to approximately 15 dB

below the visual carrier (normal operation).

Clockwise rotation increases the aural carrier

The modulator is factory aligned to the

decreasing the RF output level approximately

12 dB below its specified output level as the

control is rotated counterclockwise. The maximum output level is set with the

level and thus decreases the A/V ratio.

This screwdriver adjustment permits

F1 - AUDIO Level Control

F2 - VIDEO Level Control

F3 - POWER Indicator

DC INPUT connector.

F4 - A/V Ratio Control

F5 - "CH#" (Channel)

F6 - RF Output Level

channel number indicated

adjustment fully clockwise.

deviation.

depth.



Figure 2

R1 - VIDEO INPUT Connector

This is the baseband video input to the IF circuits. This input accepts baseband input thru 4.2 MHz video at levels from 0.7 Vp-p to 1.5 Vp-p.

R2 - AUDIO INPUT Connector

This is an unbalanced audio input to the IF circuits. This "RCA" (phono) connector input accepts baseband thru 15 kHz audio at a nominal level of 250 mV RMS (approximately 0 dBm). NOTE: An externally accessible test point jumper defeats the audio pre-emphasis for stereo capability.

R3 - DC INPUT Connector

This 3-pin connector (Male) accepts the appropriate mating DC power cable. Observe proper orientation and wiring.

R4 - RF OUTPUT Connector

This is the modulator output.



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SPECIFICATIONS

RF Frequency Range: VMM600- 54-600 MHz. Factory set to one of the following channels: Cable Channels 1-86, 95-99 or UHF-TV Channels 14-35. VMM860- 600-864 MHz Factory set to one of the following channels: Cable Channels 87-135 or UHF-TV Channels 36-69. Output Level: +45 dBmV, minimum, Adjustable over a 12 dB range. Output Impedance: 75 Ohms, return loss of 12 dB. A/V Ratio: Audio Carrier -10 to -22 dB referenced to video carrier. adjustable. Frequency Stability: + 5 kHz (Visual Carrier). Intercarrier Frequency: 4.5 MHz, ±50 Hz. FCC Frequency Offsets: All aeronautical channels are offset positive. Spurious Outputs: -65 dBc, measured at -15 dB A/V 54 to 1000 MHz ratio and with modulator output level of +45 dBmV Broadband Noise: -95 dBc, referenced to video carrier (4 MHz BW and ±36 MHz offset).

VIDEO

Input level for 87.5% modulation: 1 Vp-p ±3 dB, manual gain adjust with front panel control. Input Impedance: 75 Ohms, return loss of 18 dB minimum. Frequency Response: 20 Hz to 4.2 MHz, ±1 dB. Video S/N: 65 dB minimum, luminance weighted.

VIDEO (continued)

Differential Gain: <u>+</u>3% (10 to 90% APL). Differential Phase: <u>+</u>3 degrees (10 to 90% APL). C/L Delay: Within 50 nSec. of 0 nSec. (standard), or FCC predistortion, (option).

AUDIO

Input Level for 25 kHz Peak Deviation: 100 mV to 2.5 Vrms; manual gain adjustment with front panel control. Input Impedance: 10 K Ohms, unbalanced. Pre-Emphasis: 75 µS. (Defeatable via jumper setting for BTSC baseband stereo compatibility). Frequency Response: 40 Hz to 15 kHz, +1.0 dB referenced to 75 µS pre-emphasis curve. (40 Hz-100 kHz ±0.5 dB if pre-emphasis is defeated). 4.5 MHz Intercarrier Stability: +50 Hz, frequency synthesized. Total Harmonic Distortion: 0.5% Maximum. Hum and Noise: -65 dB minimum, referenced to 25 kHz peak deviation.

GENERAL

DC Power Input: +12 VDC @ 150 to 220 mA, channel dependent. Operating Temperature: +5 VDC @ 75 to 100 mA, channel dependant. Size: 0°C to +50°C. Weight: 1"W x 3.5" H x 7.5"D. 11 oz.

Specifications subject to change without notice or obligation.

INSTALLATION

CONNECTIONS AND CONTROLS

All connections to and from each modulator are made through the rear panel. Figure 3 illustrates an installation with 12 modulator units combined through a passive signal combiner. Additional channels can be added by using additional VMM 600 or VMM 860 modulators and either multi-port combiners or combinations of two-port combiners.

INSTALLATION NOTES

Level adjustment provides optimum performance in multi-channel installations. The modulator outputs should be checked periodically with a spectrum analyzer to maintain a ± 1 dB variation of adjacent channel carriers.

Aural/Visual (A/V) ratios should be held to -15 dB or less. The output 'RF' and 'A/V (Ratio)' controls are used respectively to make these adjustments.

RACK MOUNTING

Adequate ventilation is very important in multi-channel installations. Units should be spaced apart by at least one panel height wherever possible, and some air movement is advisable in enclosed rack cabinets. Excessive heat will shorten component life and modulator performance will be degraded without proper cooling.



Figure 3



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