

two tubes draw about 50 mA resting current. This may be reduced to near zero by the placement of a zener diode at point A in the filament return circuit. A 3.9-volt zener device (HEP-Z3500 or equivalent) may be used with the positive terminal connected to the center tap of the filament transformer.

Shielding is accomplished in the negative filament leads and the negative circuit of the filament voltage supply is raised above ground by a 100-ohm 10-watt resistor placed across the filament circuitry. The potential difference between B-minus and ground is less than a volt and the negative circuit of the power supply must not be grounded, otherwise the filament circuitry will be shorted out.

When the amplifier is wired and checked, the cathode circuit (L_1-C_1) should be tuned to midband frequency with the aid of a dip meter. Plate circuit resonance should be roughly established in this fashion

when loading capacitor C_3 remains set at maximum capacitance.

Initial tuneup should be done at reduced plate voltage, say, 1500 volts. Drive is applied and tuning capacitor C_2 is adjusted for maximum power output as indicated by an external wattmeter or SWR meter. Capacitor C_3 (load) is then adjusted for maximum output.

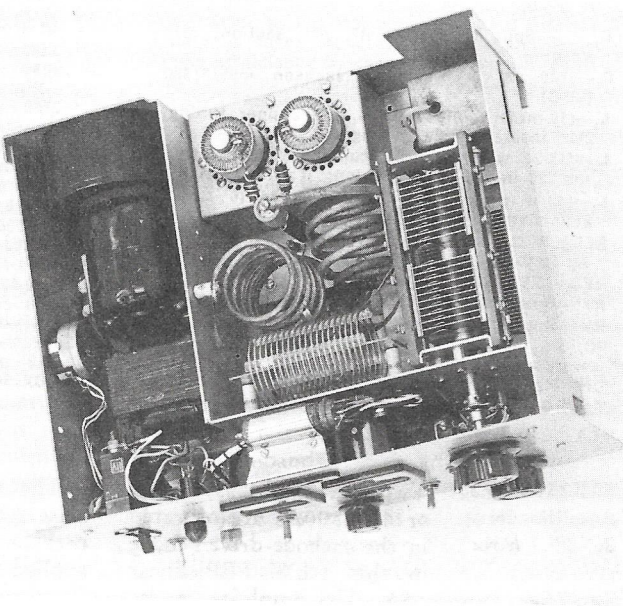
Plate voltage is now raised to the operating value and drive power advanced until plate current is near 400 mA. The tuning and loading capacitors are adjusted for maximum power output and minimum plate current, which should be about 400 mA. Tuning adjustments should be limited to periods of less than 30 seconds in order to allow the tubes to cool. During normal operation, the anodes of the tubes will approach a dull red color on voice peaks.

It is important that proper ventilation be maintained about the tubes. The small axial fan is positioned to blow across the glass envelopes and the warm air is exhausted out the top of the amplifier cabinet.

Because these tubes are running at near maximum allowable input, the use of speech compression or clipping is not recommended.

Figure 5
VIEW OF 4CX250B
POWER AMPLIFIER

The rear compartment contains the main r-f components. At the rear are the two 4CX300A tubes mounted on a small chassis adjacent to the blower. To the right of the tubes is the shielded aluminum case containing the output reflector. Plate loading and tuning capacitors are mounted at the right of the compartment on the front subpanel. Central in the compartment are the three plate-circuit inductors and the band-pass filter. Low- and medium-frequency inductors are mounted on the sides of the compartment with small ceramic stand-off insulators, and the high-frequency coil is supported by a switch and tuning capacitor. The plate r-f choke is mounted vertically at the rear of the compartment with the blocking capacitor atop it. The blower, filament transformer, and auxiliary components are mounted to the left of the r-f compartment. The circuit breaker overload potentiometer (R_2) is mounted to the outer wall of the inclosure. The tuning tube is mounted to the front panel by a bracket which encircles the tube.



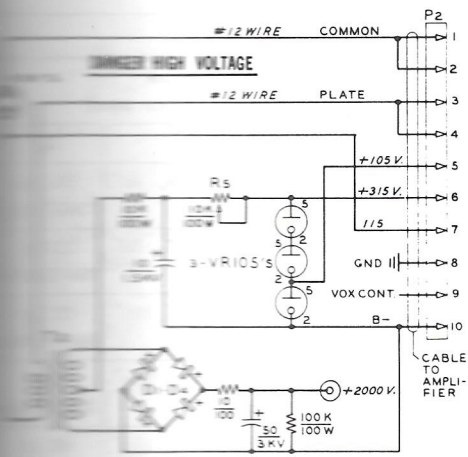


Figure 7

4CX25B PLATE AND SCREEN POWER SUPPLY

Transformer—300-volt center tap, 500-mA secondary. Center tap insulated for 3KV. 117-volt primary windings. Diode bridge. Each leg requires six 1N34A silicon diodes, 500-volt PIV at 1 ampere in series. Each diode is shunted by a 0.01- μ F ceramic capacitor and a 470K, 1-watt resistor.

Main-line bias supply provides -225 volts and the VOX relay permits plate current cutoff in the receive mode.

The electron-ray peak indicator (figure 8) is incorporated in the amplifier which samples the instantaneous r-f plate voltage, a portion of which is used for ALC voltage.

The electron-ray tuning tube is used to maintain proper plate loading. With no drive signal, the pattern of the tube is open, gradually closing with increased signal voltage until at the optimum plate load condition the pattern is closed, showing a solid green line in the viewing portion of the tube.

In the standby mode, the linear amplifier is biased to cutoff by relay RY₂, permitting the use of an intermittent voice service-rated power supply (see Power Supply chapter).

The amplifier is built on a chassis measuring 16" X 10" X 3" and fits within a metal enclosure. The main bandswitch and power-network loading capacitor are contained in a center area in the chassis. The tubes are mounted in a small box at the chassis rear which measures about 5 1/4" X 3 1/4" X 2" high. Sockets and auxiliary components are located in the box, one end of which has a cutout in it to match the opening of the

blower. Cooling air is exhausted through the sockets and chimneys. The three sections of the plate tank coil are placed in the center area of the chassis behind the bandswitch. The electron-ray tube is mounted horizontally at the rear of the panel behind a thin cutout.

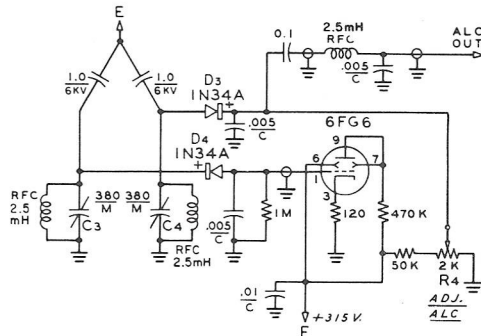


Figure 8

ELECTRON-EYE PEAK INDICATOR AND ALC CIRCUITRY

The 6FG6/EM-84 tuning indicator is used for an r-f peak-level indicator in the linear amplifier. R-f voltage is sampled, rectified, and applied to the gate (pin 1) of the indicator. The pattern is formed between the deflection elements (pins 6 and 7) and appears as a horizontal line. Amplitude of indication is adjustable by means of mica compression capacitor C₁. ALC control voltage is taken from plate circuit and magnitude established by capacitor C₄. Control point may be set by adjusting diode bias voltage with "Adjust ALC" potentiometer R₁.

Filament voltage is checked at 6.0 volts. The amplifier inclosure is closed and high voltages are applied. One tube at a time is run with no drive signal and the bias adjusted for a resting plate current of 100 mA. Carrier is now inserted and the amplifier loaded and tuned for a maximum peak plate current of 500 mA. Screen current will be 20 to 30 mA, which includes the bleeder current flowing through the 30K screen resistor. Power output will run about 650 watts on all bands.

Once the amplifier is operating properly, the electron-ray tube is adjusted to completely close at maximum PEP power input by adjustment of capacitor C₇. Once set, voice peaks will just cause the eye to close. The magnitude of the ALC voltage is set by adjustment of capacitor C₁ and potentiometer R₁ (which controls the threshold volt-

age). For c-w operation, the amplifier is loaded to a current of 500 mA.

A 4-1000A Grounded-grid Amplifier The 4-1000A tetrode makes an excellent grounded-grid triode when the grid and screen are strapped together (figure 9). At a plate potential of 3.5 kV to 4 kV the 4-1000A will operate at 2 kW PEP input with a driving power of only 110 watts, PEP.

An L-network is used to match the input impedance of the tube (about 100 ohms) to a 50-ohm drive source. Data for the network is given in Table 3. Heavy duty, transmitting-type mica capacitors are suggested for cathode capacitor C_3 .

Grid and plate current metering is done in the ground return circuits. If cutoff bias is desired during standby periods, a 25 K, 50-watt resistor may be placed in the filament return circuit at X. The resistor is then shorted out by contacts on the VOX relay during transmissions.

A pi-L plate circuit is used for maximum harmonic attenuation. The plate load impedance of the 4-1000A is 3000 ohms at a plate potential of 3.5 kV and 3500 ohms for a potential of 4 kV. Data to design the plate circuit is given in chapter 11 of this Handbook. Typical operating values for the amplifier are given in Table 3.

22-3 The KW-1 Mark III Linear Amplifier Using the 8875

This compact desktop linear amplifier, is a third generation descendant of the popular 1000-watt PEP amplifier featured in various forms in the last three editions of this Handbook. This new version operates on all amateur bands between 3.5 MHz and 29.7 MHz with good efficiency. The KW-1 amplifier features a single 8875 ceramic high- μ power triode with a 300-watt anode dissipation rating operating in a class-B, cathode-driven configuration. Peak power input is 1000 watts for SSB voice operation, 800 watts for intermittent c-w operation, and 500 watts for continuous RTTY service.

The 8875 anode has a transverse cooler requiring forced-air cooling directed cross-

Cathode Network (Dip to center of amateur band)	
Band	L_3
80	(2.3 μ H) 20 turns #14, 3/16" diam. 2 1/4" long
40	(1.2 μ H) 12 turns #10, 3/16" diam. 1 1/2" long
20	(0.6 μ H) 5 turns #10, 3/16" diam. 1 1/2" long
15	(0.4 μ H) 4 turns #10, 3/16" diam. 1 1/4" long
10	(0.3 μ H) 4 turns #10, 3/16" diam. 1 1/2" long
Typical Operating Characteristics	
Plate Voltage	3.0
Resting Plate Current	100
Single Tone Plate Current	700
Single Tone $G_1 + G_2$ Current	275
Single Tone Drive Power	120

ways. Maximum dissipation is reduced by ducted air to the cooler from a noise blower mounted near the tube.

The 8875 is rated for 250 mA continuous anode current. In intermittent service or keyed c-w operation, the term duty does not exceed 50%. Anode current may be 500 mA "on" time. During very short "on" time the tube may be operated at the full value but care must be taken to keep "on" time as short as possible, with "off" time to allow for tube cooling.

The KW-1, Mark III linear amplifier is small enough to be placed on the table next to an SSB transceiver (figure 10). At 2500 volts anode dissipation, third-order products are better than 30 decibels below one tone of a transmitted signal.

The Amplifier Circuit The schematic of the amplifier is shown in figure 11. The 8875 is operated in a cathode-driven mode using