Telex Service Standard Installation

The telex service is a 24-hour teleprinter automatic switching system which provides a fast and reliable method of printed communication between subscribers in the United Kingdom and with subscribers in any other country which operates a telex service.

The standard telex equipment installed at a subscriber's premises consists of a teleprinter and dialling unit, mounted on a teleprinter table which also houses the power unit. The installation is connected to an automatic telex exchange.

The teleprinter is very similar to an electric typewriter in operation, but when one subscriber makes a telex call to another, whatever is typed on either machine is repeated simultaneously on the other.

THE TELEPRINTER – arrangement and function of keys

The teleprinter keyboard is simpler than that of the typewriter. Although the layout is esentially the same, the machine prints only in capitals, and certain of the teleprinter keys have a different function.

LTRS

When this key has been pressed, the machine prints only 'letters' when subsequent keys are operated.

FIGS

When this key has been pressed, the machine prints only the figures and symbols shown on the upper half of keys subsequently operated. Two special functions are indicated by WHO ARE YOU and BELL.

WHO ARE YOU

When either of the subscribers engaged in a telex call presses this key, the 'answer-back' code, which identifies the other machine, is printed on both teleprinters.

BELL

When either of the subscribers presses this key during a call, an alarm bell sounds at each installation.
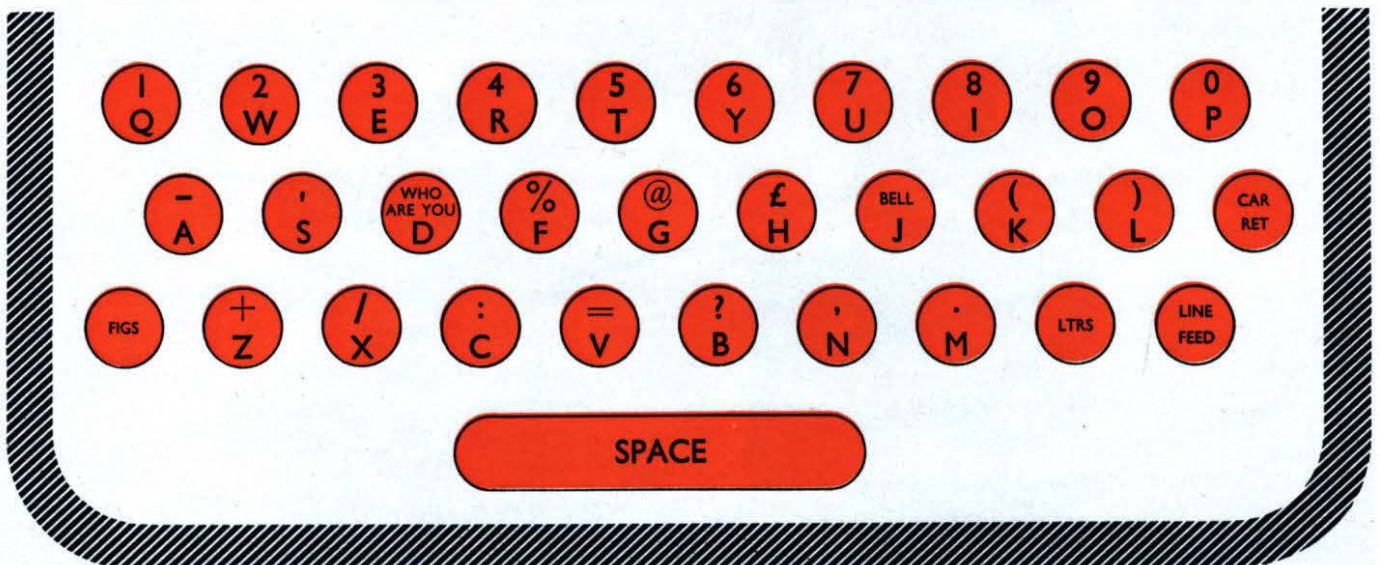
CAR RET

When this key is pressed, the paper carriage returns to the start of a line.

LINE FEED

When this key is pressed, the paper moves up for the next line of type.

SPACE BAR

Each time this bar is pressed, the paper carriage moves along one space.

FACILITIES

The installation is simple to use and with little practice a typist can achieve 35 to 40 words a minute. The maximum speed at which the teleprinter can be used is about 70 words a minute.

All operations of the teleprinter are power-assisted as with the electric typewriter.

Calls are set up easily and quickly, by pressing a button on the dialling unit and dialling a number. A green light on the dialling unit shines while the installation is in use.

The identity of the called subscriber is confirmed by the automatic printing of his 'answer-back' code, which verifies that a call has been established between the two installations.

Identical messages are produced simultaneously on both machines as the call progresses.

At the end of a call the connexion can again be confirmed by pressing the WHO ARE YOU key, which prints the 'answer-back' code of the other teleprinter on both machines.

During a call either subscriber can draw the other's attention to the message with the BELL key. This sounds an alarm bell and causes a red light to shine at both installations. The bell stops and the light goes out when the SPACE BAR is pressed.

A call can be ended by either subscriber pressing a button on the dialling unit.

Messages can be received by the teleprinter when unattended, or even when the office is closed, provided that the power supply is left connected. An incoming call automatically starts the motor. The motor stops when the call ends.

A bell to indicate the arrival of incoming calls can be brought into use by operating a switch. An extension alarm can also be provided to a nearby room, if required.

The teleprinter can be used for local practice or to copy messages, if required, without preventing an incoming call from being received. If a call is received while the machine is being used for such purposes the alarm bell rings and the red light shines to indicate that the installation should be restored to normal use.

Single-ply paper, or multi-ply giving up to five under-copies, can be used in the teleprinter. The paper can be easily changed by the subscriber. A loaded type-hammer will be fitted to the machine, free of charge, if multi-ply paper producing more than two under-copies is to be used.

It is possible to have up to 69 characters or spaces on each line. A warning bell sounds when 55 characters have been typed.

The line feed mechanism can be pre-set to give either single or double spacing with each operation of the key.

When the teleprinter is not in use the carriage can be returned manually to the start of a line by pressing a key inside the cover, and the paper can be fed forwards by turning a knob on the side of the cover.

The ink ribbon in the teleprinter can be easily changed by the subscriber.

The teleprinter is fitted with a sound-reducing cover incorporating a window through which messages can be read. The rear part of the cover is hinged so that fresh supplies of paper can be put into the machine without removing the entire cover. A transparent lectern, fitted with a spring-clip for holding messages, is fixed to the front of the cover. The table on which the teleprinter and dial unit are mounted contains two drawers for filing and storage purposes.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The teleprinter is approximately 2′ 0″ by 2′ 0″, and 1′ 0″ high. The dialling unit is 1′ 4″ by 9½″, and 6″ high. The teleprinter and unit are hammer-finish grey and the matching table on which they stand measures 3′ 3″ by 2′ 3″, and is 2′ 3″ high.

The dialling unit and table house all the necessary power and auxiliary apparatus. The installation works from AC or DC mains, 200/250 volts, supplied from a 3-pin socket outlet, of at least 5-amp rating, provided by the customer. Allowing adequate room for the operator's chair and for maintenance purposes, the total floor space required is not more than 4′ by 5′. The total weight of equipment is 250 lb.

The rental is £40 a quarter and there is no connexion charge.

THE TELEPHONE MANAGER
WILL GLADLY SUPPLY
ANY FURTHER INFORMATION