Service Manual

THE FISHER

175-T™

CHASSIS SERIAL NUMBERS
BEGINNING 10001

PRICE $1.00
CAUTION: This is a FISHER precision high-fidelity instrument. It should be serviced only by qualified personnel trained in the repair of transistor equipment and printed circuitry.

TEST EQUIPMENT REQUIRED

The following are needed to completely test and align modern high-fidelity instruments such as amplifiers, tuners and receivers.

- Vacuum-Tube Voltmeter (100-mV DC scale)
- Audio Vacuum-Tube Voltmeter (10-mV AC scale)
- Oscilloscope (Flat to 100 kHz Minimum)
- Audio (Sine-Wave) Generator
- Intermodulation Distortion Analyzer
- Harmonic Distortion Analyzer
- AM/FM Signal Generator
- Multiplex Generator (preferably with RF output — FISHER Model 300 or equal)
- 10.7-MHz Sweep Generator
- 455-kHz Sweep Generator
- Line Voltage Autotransformer or Voltage Regulator
- 2 — Load Resistors, 4 or 8 Ohm, 50 Watt
- 2 — Full Range Speakers for Listening Tests
- Stereo Source — Turntable or Tape Recorder for Listening Tests
- Soldering Iron with Small Tip
- Fully Insulated from Power Line
- Suction Desoldering Tool

PRECAUTIONS

Many of these items are included just as a reminder — they are normal procedures for experienced technicians. Shortcuts can be taken but often they cause additional damage — to transistors, circuit components or the printed-circuit board.

Soldering — A well-tinned, hot, clean soldering iron tip will make it easier to solder without damage to the printed-circuit board or the many circuit components mounted on it. It is not the wattage of the iron that counts — it is the heat available at the tip. Some 50-watt irons reach temperatures of 1,000°F — others will hardly melt solder. Small-diameter tips should be used for single solder connections — larger pyramid and chisel tips are needed for larger areas.

- When removing defective resistors, capacitors, etc., the leads should be cut as close to the body of the circuit component as possible. (If the part is not being returned for in-warranty factory replacement it may be cut in half — with diagonal-cutting pliers — to make removal easier.)
- Special de-soldering tips are made for unsoldering multiple-terminal units like IF transformers and electrolytic capacitors. By unsoldering all terminals at the same time the part can be removed with little chance of breaking the printed-circuit board.
- Always disconnect the chassis from the power line when soldering. Turning the power switch OFF is not enough. Power-line leakage paths, through the heating element, can destroy transistors.

Transistors — Never attempt to do any work on the transistor amplifiers without first disconnecting the AC linecord and waiting until the power supply filter-capacitors have discharged.

- Guard against shorts — it takes only an instant for a base-to-collector short to destroy that transistor and possibly others direct-coupled to it. [In the time it takes for a dropped machine screw, washer or even the screwdriver, to glance off a pair of socket terminals (or between a terminal and the chassis) a transistor can be ruined.]
- DO NOT bias the base of any transistor to, or near, the same voltage applied to its collector.
- DO NOT use an ohmmeter for testing transistors. The voltage applied through the test probes may be higher than the base-emitter breakdown voltage of the transistor.

Output Stage and Driver — Replacements for output and driver transistors, if necessary, must be made from the same beta group as the original type. The beta group is indicated by a colored dot on the mounting flange of the transistor. Be sure to include this information, when ordering replacement transistors.

- If one output transistor burns out (open or shorts), always remove ALL output transistors in that channel and check the bias adjustment, the control and other parts in the network with an ohmmeter before inserting a new transistor. All output transistors in one channel will be destroyed if the base-biasing circuit is open on the emitter end.

- When mounting a replacement power transistor be sure the bottom of the flange, the mica insulator and the surface of the heat sink are free of foreign matter. Dust and grit can prevent perfect contact reducing heat transfer to the heat sink. Metallic particles can puncture the insulator and cause shorts — ruining the transistor.

- Silicone grease must be used between the transistor and the mica insulator and between the mica and the heat sink for best heat conduction. (Use Dow-Corning DC-3 or C20194 or equivalent compounds made for power transistor heat conduction.)

- Use care when making connections to speakers and output terminals. Any frayed wire ends can cause shorts that may burn out the output transistors — they are direct-coupled to the speakers. To reduce the possibility of shorts at the speakers, lugs should be used on the exposed ends or at least the ends of the stranded wires should be tinmed to prevent frayed wire ends. The current in the speakers and output circuitry is quite high. Poor contacts or small size wire can cause power losses in the speaker system. Use 14 or 16 AWG for long runs of speaker wiring.

Voltage Measurements — Voltage measurements are made with the line voltage adjusted to 117 volts and all readings are ±10%. All voltages are DC, measured with a VTVM to ground, with no signal input unless otherwise noted. 1-kHz indicates 1-kHz audio voltages, measured with an audio AC VTVM to ground at various points from the phono input to the power amplifier output.

Alignment Procedures — Replacement of transistors and components in the front end, IF amplifier and multiplex decoder will normally not require realignment of these circuits. Realignment of these circuits, unless absolutely necessary, is not recommended. Do not attempt a realignment unless the required test equipment is available and the alignment procedure is thoroughly understood.

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DIAL STRINGING

(1) Disconnect AC power cord.
(2) Remove the screws which hold the top cover to the chassis and heat sink and lift off the cover.
(3) Gently pull all knobs off the front panel control shafts. Remove the hex nuts from the shafts and remove panel by pulling forward over the shafts.
(4) Remove the dial pointer from the dial cord.
(5) Gently pull the four leads from the terminal pins on the top rear of the meter and label each wire with its associated pin location for easy replacement later.
(6) Gently pull the two pairs of dial lamp leads from the terminal pins on the chassis and label each lead.
(7) Gently pull the pair of meter leads from the terminal pins on the chassis and label.

NOTE: These ten push-on terminal leads which connect the dial glass panel to the chassis must be disconnected in order to remove the dial glass panel.
(8) Remove the screws holding the dial glass panel and remove the panel with the dial glass, pilot lamps, and meter attached.
(9) Rotate the tuning capacitor drive-drum to its maximum CCW position. Loosen the machine screw in the center of the drive-drum.
(10) Tie end of dial cord to one end of START spring. Fasten spring to bottom right ear inside drive-drum. See Figure 1.
(11) Run the dial cord through the slot in the rim of the drive-drum and set in the underside of groove 3.
(12) Pull dial cord taut and wrap 2 turns CCW around tuning shaft. See Figure 2.
(13) Guide the dial cord under and around pulley “A”, across to the left side, down and around pulleys “B” and “C”. Keep the dial cord taut during this procedure.
(14) Rotate the drive-drum to its maximum CW position, allowing the cord to wind onto the drive-drum. Keep the dial cord taut during this procedure.
(15) Guide the dial cord under the drive-drum and into groove 5. Bring the dial cord around groove 5 and into the slot in the drive-drum. See Figure 3.
(16) With the machine screw loosened, place the cord under the beveled washer, pull the dial cord taut, and tighten the screw.
(17) Turn the tuning shaft to rotate the drive-drum fully CW and fully CCW to distribute the tensioning along the dial cord. Repeat steps (16) and (17) until the START spring is tensioned.
(18) Replace the dial glass panel assembly using the four mounting screws removed previously.
(19) Reconnect the ten leads (removed previously) to their respective terminal pins.
(20) Place the dial cord over and under the tabs on the rear of the dial pointer, (see detail) and place the pointer on the top of the dial glass panel.
(21) Turn the tuning shaft fully CCW. Slide dial pointer to zero (0) calibration mark on the logging scale while holding tuning shaft fully CCW. Cement dial pointer to dial cord to prevent slippage. Allow cement to thoroughly dry.
(22) Replace the top cover and secure with the screws removed previously.
(23) Replace the front panel and secure with the hex nuts removed previously. Replace the knobs on the control shafts.
SERVICE PROCEDURES

REPLACING DIAL LAMPS

(1) Disconnect AC power cord.
(2) Gently pull all knobs off the front panel control shafts. Remove the hex nuts from the shafts and remove panel by pulling forward over the shafts.
(3) Snap out the defective lamp from the spring slip. Place the new lamp in the socket making sure that the unpainted side of the lamp faces the edge of the dial glass.
(4) Replace the front panel and secure with the hex nuts removed previously. Replace the knobs on the control shafts.

REPLACING METER

(1) Disconnect AC power cord.
(2) Remove the screws which hold the top cover to the chassis and heat sink and lift off the cover.
(3) Gently pull all knobs off the front panel control shafts. Remove the hex nuts from the shafts and remove panel by pulling forward over the shafts.
(4) Gently pull the four leads from the terminal pins on the top rear of the meter and label each wire with its associated pin location for easy replacement later.
(5) Gently pull the two pairs of dial lamp leads from the terminal pins on the chassis and label each lead.
(6) Gently pull the pair of meter leads from the terminal pins on the chassis and label.

NOTE: These ten push-on terminal leads which connect the dial glass panel to the chassis must be disconnected in order to remove the dial glass panel.
(7) Remove the four screws holding the dial glass panel. Remove the panel by tilting out the bottom of the panel and sliding downward. Be careful to avoid deforming the dial pointer.
(8) Gently pry the meter off the dial glass panel, and scrape the residual adhesive off the panel.
(9) Peel the backing from one side of the replacement adhesive mounting pad (FRC Part No. E5A219), and affix it to the replacement meter. Peel the backing from the remaining side of the adhesive, align the meter face over the dial panel cutout, and firmly press the meter to the back of the dial glass panel.
(10) Remount the dial glass panel by carefully sliding upward, allowing the dial pointer to seat on the rail. Secure with the four screws removed previously.
(11) Reconnect the ten terminal leads removed previously.
(12) Replace the front panel and secure with the hex nuts removed previously. Replace the knobs on the control shafts.
(13) Replace the top cover and secure with the screws removed previously.

REPLACING STEREO BEACON AND METER LAMPS

NOTE: The compartmented lamp assembly, mounted on the rear of the meter, contains the meter lamp and the STEREO BEACON lamp, and must be replaced as a complete unit.

CLEANING FRONT PANEL

WARNING: Use only plain lukewarm water for moistening a freshly laundered, soft lint-free cloth to clean the front control panel.

REMOVING P.C. BOARDS

To remove a board from its nylon mounts, squeeze the loop of each mounting clip (using pliers), and lift each corner of the board. To remount the board, align the mounting holes over the clips, and press firmly.

SERVICING INTEGRATED CIRCUITS

Integrated Circuits are used in this unit to approach the theoretical maximum of AM suppression and noise limiting. These IC's contain the equivalent of many circuit parts, including transistors, diodes, resistors, and capacitors. These integrated circuits are high-reliability devices, requiring minimum servicing. In the unlikely event that an IC requires servicing, it should be serviced in the same way as a transistor. The preferred troubleshooting procedure is to first isolate the trouble to one stage using AC signal tracing methods. Once the suspected stage is located, the integrated circuit can be checked by measuring the DC voltages at the input and output leads of the IC using a DC V T VM. These DC voltages are the most accurate indicators of the operating conditions of the integrated circuit.

WARNING: Do not use an ohmmeter to check continuity with the IC mounted on the printed circuit board. Forward biasing the internal junctions within the IC may burn out the transistors. When replacing an integrated circuit, the following precautions should be observed:
(1) Do not replace a defective IC until the cause of the trouble is found. All external resistors, capacitors, and transformers should be checked first to prevent the replacement integrated circuit from failing immediately due to a trouble in the connecting components.
(2) Solder and unsolder each lead separately using a pliers or other heat sink on the lead to prevent damage from excessive heat.
(3) Check that the leads of the replacement IC are connected to the correct locations on the printed circuit board before turning the set on.
SERVICE PROCEDURES

POWER AMPLIFIER CENTER VOLTAGE TEST

Turn VOLUME control to minimum. Turn MAIN SPEAKERS switch to ON.
(1) Connect an 8-ohm load resistor across the LEFT SPKRS MAIN terminals and an 8-ohm load resistor across the RIGHT SPKRS MAIN terminals.
(2) Connect two 10 k ±1% resistors in series across capacitor C6 (2000uF). Connect the common lead of a DC VTVM to the junction of the two resistors.
(3) Connect the probe of the DC VTVM to Test Point 85 (junction of R835 and R837) on left channel of dual-channel power amplifier module. Meter should read 0 volt (±1.5 volts).
(4) Connect the probe of the DC VTVM to Test Point 88 (junction of R836 and R838) on right channel of dual-channel power amplifier module. Meter should read 0 volt (±1.5 volts).
(5) Disconnect the two 10k resistors.

HARMONIC DISTORTION TEST

Set BALANCE, BASS, and TREBLE controls to their center positions. Set SELECTOR switch to AUX, LOUDNESS contour switch to OFF, and MAIN SPEAKERS switch to ON. Unplug AC power cord.
(1) Connect an 8-ohm, 50-watt resistor across the LEFT SPKRS MAIN terminals. In parallel with the load resistor, connect the input leads of an HD analyzer and the input leads of an accurately calibrated AC VTVM.
(2) Connect a low-distortion audio sine-wave generator, set for 1,000 Hz, to the Left channel of AUX input.
(3) Connect AC power cord and rotate VOLUME control to maximum.
(4) Increase audio generator level for 20 watts output (12.6 V RMS across 8-ohm load). HD meter should read 0.5% or less.
(5) Repeat preceding steps for right channel.

INTERMODULATION DISTORTION TEST

NOTE: Bypass C7 and C8 with direct connections for IM test on 23R console chassis.

Set BALANCE, BASS and TREBLE controls to their center positions. Set SELECTOR switch to AUX, LOUDNESS contour switch to OFF, and MAIN SPEAKERS switch to ON. Unplug AC power cord.
(1) Connect an 8-ohm, 50-watt resistor across the LEFT SPKRS MAIN terminals. In parallel with the load resistor, connect the input leads of an IM distortion analyzer and the input leads of an accurately calibrated AC VTVM.
(2) Connect IM-analyzer generator output to the Left channel AUX input. Set level of IM-analyzer generator for 600 mV output.
(3) Connect AC power cord and adjust VOLUME control for 20 watts output (10.3 V RMS across 8-ohm load).
AFTER ONE FULL MINUTE OF WARM-UP, PROCEED TO NEXT STEP.
(4) IM meter reading should be 1.0% or less.
(5) Repeat preceding steps for right channel.
NOTE: If any of the preceding instructions differ from those in the IM-analyzer instruction manual, it is best to follow those in the manual. If a load resistor of 50-watt rating is built into the IM analyzer, a separate load resistor is not required.

POWER AMPLIFIER IDLING CURRENT ADJUSTMENT

NOTE: Power amplifier center voltage test should be performed before starting the following procedure.

Turn VOLUME control to minimum.
(1) Connect DC VTVM across resistor R835 (0.47-ohm) on left channel of dual-channel power amplifier module. Meter should read between 15 mV and 35 mV.
(2) If necessary, adjust R825 (OUTPUT BIAS ADJUST) pot on predriver/driver board for reading between 15 mV and 35 mV on DC VTVM. Optimum amplifier performance will be achieved with 15 mV setting.
(3) Connect DC VTVM across resistor R836 on right channel of dual-channel power amplifier module. Meter should read between 15 mV and 35 mV.
(4) If necessary, adjust R826 pot. on predriver/driver board for reading between 15 mV and 35 mV on DC VTVM.

POWER OUTPUT MEASUREMENT

The output amplifier of this unit is designed to deliver its full-rated power with program material (voice or music) into 8-ohm loads for an indefinite period of time. When a constant audio tone is used as a signal to measure the continuous RMS power output, the following precautions must be taken:
(1) Measure the power output of one channel at a time.
(2) Limit the measurement period to 10 minutes with a load resistance of 8 ohms.
(3) A load resistor with at least a 50-watt rating must be used.
WARNING: If the power output of both channels is measured simultaneously, use a load of 8 ohms per channel and limit measurements to a period not longer than 5 minutes.

FM IF AND DETECTOR ALIGNMENT

Set SELECTOR switch to FM. Turn VOLUME control to minimum.
(1) Disconnect the jumper lead from FM Test Point 301 (pin 3N on AM/FM IF, MPX board) and connect vertical input of scope to Test Point 301. Connect ground lead of scope to pin 3G.
(2) Connect an 82k resistor across scope input and set scope vertical sensitivity to approximately 100mV/cm.
(3) Connect 10.7 MHz sweep generator to Test Point 501 (pin 5F on FM RF board). Connect ground lead of generator to pin 5G. Adjust generator level and sweep to observe IF response curve.

(4) Adjust top and bottom cores of Z305, Z304, and Z302 (on AM/FM IF, MPX board) for symmetry and maximum gain.

(5) Adjust top and bottom cores of L506 (on FM RF board) for maximum gain and symmetry. Repeat alignment until maximum gain and symmetry are obtained (see Figure 4).

(6) Increase generator level to full output (approximately 100,000 uV). If necessary, slightly readjust top core of Z305 to center 10.7 MHz marker (see Figure 5).

(7) Reconnect the jumper lead to FM Test Point 301 (pin 3N on AM/FM IF, MPX board) removed previously. Disconnect the 82k resistor across scope input connected previously.

(8) Reduce generator sweep to zero (sweep off). Adjust FM METER ADJ. pot. R328 (on AM/FM IF, MPX board) for front panel tuning meter reading of 4.5.

(9) Connect vertical input of scope to Test Point 3M (on AM/FM IF, MPX board). Use same scope sensitivity setting (100mV/cm).

(10) Adjust generator level and sweep to observe detector "S" curve. Adjust bottom core of Z306 first, then top core for maximum gain and symmetry (see Figure 6).

(11) Connect DC VTVM to Test Point 3M. Use 1.5 volts DC meter scale or lower.

(12) Readjust top core of Z306 for zero (0) reading (within ±0.2 volt) on DC VTVM.

(2) Connect an FM generator to the FM ANTenna terminals. Use a 120-ohm composition resistor in series with each lead from the generator (see Figure 7).

(3) Connect a scope and an AC VTVM to either Left or Right RCDR OUT jack.

(4) Set FM generator frequency and TUNING dial pointer to 90 MHz. Modulate generator with 400 Hz, ±75 kHz deviation. Set generator level as low as possible.

NOTE: Use the tuning meter during alignment and adjust the generator level to keep the meter reading between 2 and 3.

(5) Align (oscillator coil) L504 first, then (mixer coil) L503 and (RF coil) L502 for maximum reading on AC VTVM and tuning meter, and maximum waveform amplitude and symmetry.

(6) Set generator frequency and TUNING dial pointer to 106 MHz.

(7) Align (oscillator trimmer) C512 first, then (mixer trimmer) C511 and (RF trimmer) C503 for maximum reading on AC VTVM and tuning meter, and maximum waveform amplitude and symmetry.

(8) Repeat alignment several times until accurate dial calibration and maximum gain are obtained. Keep the generator output as low as possible during all adjustments.

**FM FRONT END ALIGNMENT**

NOTE: FM IF alignment must be performed before starting this procedure.

Set SELECTOR switch to FM, and MODE switch to MONO. Turn VOLUME control to minimum.

(1) Set TUNING dial pointer to zero (0) calibration mark on the logging scale. If the dial pointer is not centered on the 0 at the extreme end of the knob rotation, reposition the pointer assembly on the dial cord and cement the pointer in place to prevent slippage. Allow cement to thoroughly dry.

NOTE: Repositioning the dial pointer may require realignment of AM RF board for correct AM station calibration.