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Knowledge and skill requirements of consumer electronics service technicians with implications for curriculum development

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1971

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL REQUIREMENTS OF CONSUMER ELECTRONICS
SERVICE TECHNICIANS WITH IMPLICATIONS FOR
CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

by

Claude Irby Seigler

A Dissertation Submitted to the
Graduate Faculty in Partial Fulfillment of
The Requirements for the Degree of
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

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Dean of Graduate College

Iowa State University
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Ames, Iowa

1970

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | Page |
|--|------|
| INTRODUCTION | 1 |
| Consumer Electronics Industry | 1 |
| Need for Consumer Electronics Service Technicians | 2 |
| Implications for Education | 3 |
| Need for This Study | 4 |
| Purpose of This Study | 5 |
| Delimitations | 6 |
| Assumptions of the Study | 6 |
| Definitions | 7 |
| REVIEW OF LITERATURE | 9 |
| METHOD OF PROCEDURE | 23 |
| Introduction | 23 |
| Population | 23 |
| Instrument | 24 |
| Conducting the Interviews | 26 |
| Selecting Advisory Committee | 27 |
| Advisory Committee Members | 27 |
| Analysis of the Data | 28 |
| FINDINGS | 30 |
| General Findings Concerning Service Technicians | 31 |
| Information Related to Knowledge and Skill Requirement Needs of Service Technicians | 47 |
| Service Information | 88 |
| DISCUSSION | 104 |

| | Page |
|---|------|
| SUMMARY | 110 |
| General Findings Concerning Service Technicians | 111 |
| Knowledge and Skill Requirements of Service Technicians | 113 |
| Service Information | 116 |
| BIBLIOGRAPHY | 118 |
| APPENDIX A: LETTERS | 122 |
| APPENDIX B: INVENTORY FORM | 125 |

LIST OF TABLES

| | Page |
|--|------|
| Table 1. Ages of service technicians | 31 |
| Table 2. Years of full-time work experience of service technicians | 32 |
| Table 3. Educational level attained by service technicians | 33 |
| Table 4. Source of training of service technicians | 35 |
| Table 5. License or certificates held by service technicians | 36 |
| Table 6. Hours worked per day by service technicians | 37 |
| Table 7. Hours worked per week by service technicians | 37 |
| Table 8. Percentage of time service technicians spend working in the service shop and in the customer's homes | 38 |
| Table 9. Salary received by service technicians | 39 |
| Table 10. Distribution of service technicians that received a commission plus regular salary | 40 |
| Table 11. Number of service technicians servicing consumer electronic products by type (N = 132) | 41 |
| Table 12. Percentage of all consumer electronic products serviced involving B&W television (N = 132) | 42 |
| Table 13. Percentage of all consumer electronic products serviced involving color television (N = 132) | 44 |
| Table 14. Percentage of all consumer electronic products serviced involving tape recorders, tape players, phonographs, audio amplifier systems (N = 132) | 45 |
| Table 15. Percentage of all consumer electronic products serviced involving radio (AM, FM, FM multiplex) (N = 132) | 46 |
| Table 16. Percentage of all consumer electronic products serviced involving antenna installation (N = 132) | 48 |
| Table 17. Degree of competency needed in ability to use mathematics, as reported by bench service technicians (N = 84) | 50 |

| | Page |
|---|------|
| Table 18. Degree of competency needed in ability to use mathematics, as reported by home service technicians (N = 48) | 51 |
| Table 19. Degree of competency needed in ability to use mathematics, as reported by total number of service technicians | 52 |
| Table 20. Degree of competency needed in ability to organize and administer, as reported by bench service technicians (N = 84) | 53 |
| Table 21. Degree of competency needed in ability to organize and administer, as reported by home service technicians (N = 48) | 54 |
| Table 22. Degree of competency needed in ability to organize and administer, as reported by total number of service technicians | 55 |
| Table 23. Degree of competency needed in understanding of legal responsibilities, as reported by service technicians | 57 |
| Table 24. Degree of competency needed in understanding of electricity, as reported by bench service technicians (N = 84) | 58 |
| Table 25. Degree of competency needed in understanding of electricity, as reported by home service technicians (N = 48) | 59 |
| Table 26. Degree of competency needed in understanding of electricity, as reported by total number of service technicians | 60 |
| Table 27. Degree of competency needed in understanding of color fundamentals, principles of color mixing, and colorimetry, as reported by service technicians | 62 |
| Table 28. Degree of competency needed in familiarization of consumer electronic products, as reported by bench service technicians (N = 84) | 63 |
| Table 29. Degree of competency needed in familiarization of consumer electronic products, as reported by home service technicians (N = 48) | 64 |

| | Page |
|--|------|
| Table 30. Degree of competency needed in familiarization of consumer electronic products, as reported by total number of service technicians | 65 |
| Table 31. Degree of competency needed in understanding of electronic stages, as reported by bench service technicians (N = 84) | 66 |
| Table 32. Degree of competency needed in understanding of electronic stages, as reported by home service technicians (N = 48) | 67 |
| Table 33. Degree of competency needed in understanding of electronic stages, as reported by total number of service technicians | 68 |
| Table 34. Degree of competency needed in understanding of circuit operation, as reported by total number of service technicians | 69 |
| Table 35. Degree of competency needed in understanding of component characteristics and applications, as reported by bench service technicians (N = 84) | 70 |
| Table 36. Degree of competency needed in understanding of component characteristics and applications, as reported by home service technicians (N = 48) | 71 |
| Table 37. Degree of competency needed in understanding of component characteristics and applications, as reported by total number of service technicians | 72 |
| Table 38. Frequency of performance and degree of competency needed, as reported by bench service technicians (N = 84) | 74 |
| Table 39. Frequency of performance and degree of competency needed, as reported by home service technicians (N = 48) | 78 |
| Table 40. Frequency of performance and degree of competency needed (mean ratings), as reported by total number of service technicians | 82 |
| Table 41. Frequency distribution of last three consumer electronic products serviced by each service technician | 90 |

| | Page |
|---|------|
| Table 42. Electronic test equipment used in servicing each of last three consumer electronic products, as reported by service technicians | 92 |
| Table 43. Distribution of electronic test equipment used by service technicians based upon the last three consumer electronic products serviced | 94 |
| Table 44. Distribution of defective stages and special circuits repaired based on the last three consumer electronic products serviced by each service technician | 97 |
| Table 45. Distribution of defective electronic components replaced in the last three consumer electronic products serviced by each service technician | 99 |
| Table 46. Distribution of adjustments performed on the last three consumer electronic products serviced by each service technician | 102 |

INTRODUCTION

Consumer Electronics Industry

Consumer electronics is classified as both the oldest and the newest of the complex of industries known as "electronics". It is as old as the crystal radio and as new as the color video recorder-player and the cassette tape recorder. The industry has advanced from what was known as the "radio industry" through the "home entertainment industry" to what is presently known as the "consumer electronics industry". The development of the portable, carry-with-you consumer electronic products such as automobile radio, transistor radio, cassette tape recorder, and the phonograph have freed these products from the home electrical outlet and the category of "home entertainment products" (6, p. 8).

The Electronic Industries Association (6) has stated that the term "entertainment" does not completely describe the industry, although entertainment may be the primary use of consumer electronic products. One of the recent surveys showed that television has become America's primary source of news, replacing the newspaper. The expanding new generation of consumer electronic products has broadened the nonentertainment area by branching into other areas such as two-way communications, consumer medical electronics, and electrical safety devices.

Consumer electronics (9) entertains and educates us through the media of radio, television, and recordings. In the last two decades, Americans have purchased over 315 million radios, 140 million television receivers, 83 million phonographs, and 33 million tape recorders. In 1969 (6), consumer electronic products accounted for 19.5 percent of the complete elec-

tronic industry's total sales while government products accounted for 49.1 percent, industrial products were 29 percent, and replacement components made up 2.8 percent.

Need for Consumer Electronics Service Technicians

One of the major problems facing the consumer electronics industry is providing enough competent consumer electronic service technicians to install new consumer electronic products and service those products presently in existence.

According to the revision to be made in the 1970-71 Occupational Outlook Handbook published by the United States Department of Labor (44), there were 126,000 consumer electronics service technicians employed in the United States in early 1969. About one-third of those service technicians were self-employed. Almost three-fourths of all consumer electronics service technicians worked in service shops or in stores that sold and serviced consumer electronic products. Most of the remaining consumer electronics service technicians were employed by the government agencies and manufacturing firms that operate their own service branches.

The Electronic Industries Association has stated in a career guidance brochure that there is a critical shortage of consumer electronics service technicians (9, p. 2):

Current estimates indicate that there is an immediate need for 30,000 additional service technicians. The United States Department of Labor estimates that the number of service technicians is increasing by two percent per year, while the number of consumer electronic products is increasing at an average rate of 25 percent per year. A service technician shortage becomes immediately apparent from these figures, and where there is a shortage, there is opportunity.

Dukes' (7) study of the needs for radio-television service technicians indicated that there was an immediate shortage of service technicians in Iowa. His data revealed a need for 115 service technicians to fill existing vacancies in 1969 and predicted a need for 197 more consumer electronics service technicians for replacement purpose over the years 1970-1973.

Implications for Education

The sophistication and technological developments taking place in consumer electronic products have brought on a demand for constant updating of curriculum content in vocational-technical programs for training consumer electronics service technicians. Change appears to be the key word in the interpretation of the needs of the consumer electronic service industry. Vocational-technical educators must work hand in hand with the consumer electronic service industry to establish adequate educational programs geared to the changing technological scene.

Rapid strides in technology have created definite needs in training and retraining of consumer electronics service technicians. In 1946, the servicing of frequency modulated receivers (FM) presented a real challenge to the competent service technician. Soon an even greater challenge appeared -- television. Most service technicians, even those who were old timers in the service trade, had to participate in some type of television training program, whether this training was obtained in a vocational school, through self-study, or through home study courses.

In recent years, developments in transistors have made it possible to eliminate from electronic products the electronic component known as the

vacuum tube. Again the consumer electronics service technician was required to go back to school and reeducate himself.

Next came the color television receiver, the most complicated of all electronic products found in the home. This brought on even a greater demand for highly skilled service technicians.

Consumer electronics is an industry of innovation and constant change. New principles and devices constantly create new products and revolutionize older ones. According to the Electronic Industries Association, the outline of the future in consumer electronics is becoming clear. The Association made the following statement (6, p. 12):

The integrated circuit -- which can combine the functions of many individual components on an almost microscopic chip of semiconductor material -- is showing up in consumer electronic products. Among its advantages are extremely small size, low power drain, ultra-reliability, and, eventually, very low cost in mass-production.

New devices and technologies, such as the integrated circuit, will continue to make possible new versions of existing products and pave the way for entire new generations of devices to become part of the everchanging consumer electronics industry...

Need for This Study

As a result of technological changes and public demand for consumer electronic products, the consumer electronics industry has emerged as one of the most rapidly growing industries in the nation. The industry has growing faster than competent consumer electronics service technicians can be trained to install new consumer electronic products and service those presently in existence. It was incredible to discover that very little research has been conducted in the vocational-technical education field to assist in meeting the increasing demands of an industry of this nature.

The nature of this industry indicated employment needs will continue to increase.

Purpose of This Study

The purpose of this study was to gather data that would be of assistance in developing a program, in Iowa, for training consumer electronics service technicians and to gather data that could be used for guidance purposes. The technical data collected could also be used for developing a program for training consumer electronics service technicians who want to specialize in "in-home servicing" or "bench servicing" in the service shop.

The specific objectives of this study were to:

1. Gather background information concerning the Iowa consumer electronics service technicians such as: age, number of years of experience in servicing consumer electronic products, salary, hours worked, educational background, types of consumer electronic products serviced, and as to whether he worked in the service shop or the customer's home the majority of the time.
2. Gather technical data that would be of assistance in developing a program for training consumer electronics service technicians by determining:
 - A. Essential knowledge required of the consumer electronics service technician in order to competently do his job.
 - B. Essential skills required of the consumer electronics service technician in doing a competent job in home servicing.
 - C. Essential skills required of the consumer electronics service technician in doing a competent job in bench servicing.

- D. Test equipment used by consumer electronics service technicians in servicing consumer electronic products in the home or service shop.

Delimitations

The data for this study were collected by the personal interview method. Consumer electronics service technicians within 40 consumer electronic service firms located in the State of Iowa were interviewed. Therefore, it was limited to the service technicians employed within 40 consumer electronic service firms random sampled from the entire population of all consumer electronic service firms employing three or more full-time consumer electronics service technicians. The study was further limited to only service technicians who service consumer electronic products such as television receivers, radios, phonographs, tape recorders and players, audio components, and similar products. No attempt was made to include service firms that service industrial communication products.

Assumptions of the Study

The researcher assumed that the curriculum content in vocational-technical programs in Iowa needs to be constantly updated to meet the needs of modern day consumer electronics service technicians. Also, more programs need to be installed in the Iowa area vocational-technical schools. It was further assumed that these consumer electronics service technicians would be the best source for providing data that could be used in developing a program for training competent consumer electronics service technicians.

Definitions

The following definitions are made to clarify the meanings of various terms used and to make possible a more complete understanding of the material within this study.

Consumer electronic products -- Those electronic products used in the home for entertainment or education. These electronic products include television receivers, radios, phonographs, tape recorders and players, audio components, and similar products.

Consumer electronic service firms -- Those firms employing consumer electronic service technicians for maintenance and repair of consumer electronic products defined above.

Electronic technician -- A person working on an electronic technical level between the skilled tradesman and the professional scientist or electrical engineer.

Consumer electronics service technician -- A person who has the technical knowledge and skill necessary to repair and service the modern day consumer electronic products. This term will be shortened to "service technician" throughout the rest of this study.

Home service technician -- A consumer electronic service technician who spends the majority of his time servicing consumer electronic products in the customer's home.

Bench service technician -- A consumer electronic service technician who spends the majority of his time servicing consumer electronic products in the service shop.

Advisory committee -- A group of persons selected from the consumer electronic service occupation and the educational profession for the purpose of offering advice and counsel to the researcher conducting this research project.

Electronic Industries Association (EIA) -- The national trade association of the United States electronic manufacturers.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

One of the major concerns today in vocational-technical education is revising and updating the occupational curriculums as the need arises. This is especially true in the consumer electronics service technician training curriculum. The content in these programs should be based upon sound and up-to-date research.

In reviewing the literature, the author found several studies conducted dealing with the needs of electronic technicians, appliance technicians, electricians, and radio-television service technicians. However, studies that could actually be used in developing curriculums in the electronic servicing occupations are very limited. The author has attempted to review several studies at different levels of relatedness to this study and also to reveal different types of methodology used.

Turner (40) conducted a study concerning the duties and requirements of personnel who work with electronic devices in manufacturing industries. The personal interview technique was used to gather data from 81 manufacturing firms in the St. Louis metropolitan area. The firms contacted used electronic devices and employed personnel to work with these devices.

In the 81 forms contacted, there were 1269 employees who worked in one or more of the following electronic categories: diagnosing trouble, adjusting, servicing, assembling, making repairs, installing, and maintenance of electronic devices. Professional workers, as defined in the Dictionary of Occupational Titles, were not included.

The data revealed that the most often used test equipment consisted of the multimeter, tube tester, oscilloscope, watt meter, RF signal generator, audio signal generator, field-strength meter, and function generator.

All of the employees whose major responsibility was in the area of electronics were required to possess knowledge of basic electrical circuits and basic electronic circuits. At least 86 percent of the employees were expected to know something pertaining to each of the following electronic circuits: high voltage power supply, regulation, control circuit oscillators, voltage discrimination, modulation and demodulation, impedance and network matching, triggering circuits, wide band amplifiers, linear and log amplifiers, and function generators. Eighty percent indicated it was essential to have an understanding of electronic units of measurement, dry disc rectifiers, solenoids and relays, cathode ray tubes, input and output devices, transistors, synchros and control transformers, and crystal diodes. A good understanding of principles of operation of AC and DC motors and generators, rate generators, and servomotors was considered necessary by 90 percent of the employees.

Turner's data also revealed that use of electrical measuring equipment, use of basic hand tools, and basic sheet metal techniques were necessary by 90 percent or more of the employees.

Jelden (18) conducted a study to compare the basic informational content of textbooks and other instructional materials used in electrical courses offered in teacher-education institutions with the basic electrical knowledge required of persons who work with electronic devices in industry. His study attempted to answer the following questions (18, p. 1):

1. What units or topics of basic electrical knowledge are contained in textbooks and other instructional materials used in providing electrical instruction for industrial education majors in teacher-education institutions?
2. What units or topics of basic electrical knowledge are required of persons who work with electronic devices in industry?
3. What similarities and differences exist between the basic units or topics of electrical knowledge contained in textbooks and instructional materials used in electrical instruction provided by teacher-education institutions for industrial education majors and those required by personnel who work with electronic devices in industry?
4. What are the implications of the findings of this study for programs of industrial teacher-education?

Jelden sent information forms to 163 teacher-education institutions to determine what courses were taught in electricity-electronics and the names of the textbooks used in the courses. A questionnaire was developed by listing 628 electrical topics taken from the various textbooks used in teacher-education classes. The questionnaires were then sent to 22 selected electronic manufacturing industries to be rated as "required knowledge", "preferred knowledge", and "necessary knowledge" as they pertained to electronic technicians.

Electronic topics rated as "required knowledge" for electronic technicians in which all industries were in unanimous agreement were: Lenz's Law for opposing fields; electromagnets; voltage, current, and resistance in series, parallel, and series-parallel circuits; Ohm's Law for AC and DC circuits; voltmeter and ohmmeter operation; characteristics and use of transformers; what capacitance is and what it does; operating theory of vacuum tubes; function of plate in vacuum tube; diode as a rectifier; and common tubes in power supplies. Four hundred four of the 628 topics were

marked "required knowledge" by the industries, 126 were marked "preferred knowledge", and 26 were marked "unnecessary knowledge". Topics such as semiconductors and transistor circuits, FM receivers and transmitters, discriminators, and thermistors were rarely included in instructional material used in teacher-education but were rated as "required knowledge" by the industries.

Mills (29) conducted a study to identify specific knowledges and clusters of knowledges most widely used in major types of work done by electronic technicians. His sample was a stratified sample of 222 electronic technicians in 64 establishments. They were asked to respond to a check list of 643 knowledges, selected from course of study and curriculum guides and textbooks, indicating which were essential for doing their job. Each person was asked to identify one of eight major task descriptions that most nearly described his job. These task descriptions were selected from publications discussing work done by electronic technicians and from discussions with the technicians employed in industry. The major tasks for electronic technicians used in this study were (1) diagnosing trouble in systems, (2) adjusting and/or operating, (3) servicing, (4) assembling, (5) installing, (6) designing and computing, (7) application, distribution, and electronic sales, and (8) quality control and testing.

Usable results were obtained from 154 out of 222 electronic technicians included in the sample. The data were reported by relating specified knowledges to major tasks. Knowledge items were defined as necessary for performance of a major task if 60 percent of the respondents indicated them to be needed in their job. Eighty-four of the 643 knowledges were found to be associated with the performance of six or more of the eight tasks. One

hundred fifty-four knowledges were found to be associated with three to five tasks.

Mills indicated that introductory courses in electronics should be designed to help students acquire the 84 important knowledges. The advanced courses should be designed to enable the student to acquire the additional useful knowledges considered in the study.

In 1966, Hoerner (17) studied the competencies in electricity needed by Iowa farmers. The purposes of his study were: (1) to determine the electrical competencies needed by farmers, (2) to determine the degree of competencies needed and possessed by members of average and outstanding Iowa farmer groups, (3) to determine the relationship of certain factors (such as years in farming, educational attainment, and use of electricity) to the degree of competency needed and possessed by farmers, and (4) to provide information which will assist in planning future educational needs for farmers.

He selected a 12-member panel of specialists in farm machinery electricity to select 44 farm electrical competencies needed by farmers. These 44 competencies were listed on a questionnaire and mailed to a randomly selected group of farmers considered to be average and to a group of farmers considered to be outstanding. The farmers were asked to rate the competencies in terms of both degree of competence needed and degree of competence possessed by use of a five-point scale. Of the 44 competencies selected by the panel, 18 were understandings and 26 were abilities.

He had a return of 102 usable questionnaires from farmers in each group. The understandings which rated highest by both groups for competency needed were: (1) how pressure, time, and limit switches; thermostat

controls; and magnetic relays operate in controlling mechanized feeding equipment, (2) install all electrical wiring and fixtures in a building such as a farrowing house or milking parlor, (3) determine correct pulley size for motor and equipment based upon motor speed and required equipment speed, and (4) install the wiring to a silo unloader or other major large size piece of equipment on the farm.

In three cases, some farmers indicated that they possessed more competencies than needed in individual competencies. The three competencies were: (1) understanding of why one should not operate light switches or any other electrical device while in the bathtub, (2) ability to replace fuses, and (3) ability to replace the attachment plug on the end of an appliance cord.

Hoerner's data showed the following differences between the two groups of farmers: (1) average farmers had greater differences between competence needed and competence possessed scores, (2) competence possessed scores decreased as years in farming increased with both groups, (3) outstanding farmers used almost four times as much KWH of electricity in one selected month than the average group, and (4) outstanding farmers had twice as many electrical appliances on their farm as did the average farmer.

Perkins (33) conducted a study of the training of electricians in the Tennessee Valley region in 1967. Data were gathered by utilizing an instrument which contained 122 items of possible course content and was constructed in a checklist type of format with four categories of importance for each item. The four groups of participants, consultant engineers, electrical contractors, electrical inspectors, and electrical workers, were instructed to rate each item as to its importance. A weighted mean proce-

ture was used to rank the items in order of importance. The Friedman's two-way analysis of variance by rank was used to test the relationship among recommendations made by the four groups.

Perkins' data showed that only 17 of the 122 selected items listed on the information form were designated as "essential" content in a training program for electricians by at least one of the participating groups. Five items were designated as "essential" content by all four groups. Two content items relating to requirements of National Electrical Code were among those items receiving highest ratings. Two items relating to safety instruction also received high ratings. The topics sketching, drawing, reading wiring diagrams, and building prints received high ratings.

Seventy-five items were designated by all four groups as "important" content which should be included in training programs for electricians. Activity type items which received high ratings were items relating to conduit installations and items relating to connections and splices.

Perkins drew the following conclusions from his study (33 abstract, p. 4):

1. Practicing and promoting safety habits, planning wiring installations, and making neat, reliable, non-hazardous installations should receive the highest priority as content in training programs for electricians.
2. Sketching, drawing, and reading wiring diagrams and building prints, principles of single phase current circuits and general requirements of the National Electric Code for single and multi-family dwellings and commercial buildings should receive high priority in training programs for electricians.
3. Content relating to common installations, finishing installations, conduit installations, operations with hand and power tools, splices, and connections should be included in training programs for electricians.

4. General requirements of the National Electric Code for installations in industries and hazardous locations should be included in training programs for electricians.
5. Content relating to direct current circuit principles, alternating current power distribution systems, principles and sources of electrical space heatings, and principles and applications of electric lighting should be included in training programs for electricians.
6. Content relating to special installations, working with metals, filling out information forms and assembling with fastening devices should be included in training programs for electricians only if time permits.
7. Content relating to mechanical and electronic control devices and utilization of electrical energy should be included in training programs for electricians only if time permits.

Barlow and Schill (2) conducted a study concerning the role of physical sciences in electrical-electronic technology for the State of California. In this study, 93 technicians, 65 instructors of electronics, a jury of experts consisting of 11 persons with a background of electronic work above the technician level were used to indicate the importance of 240 physical science topics in an electrical-electronic technology curriculum. The opinions of the three groups were compared, and a rank order of the importance of physical science topics was derived. The topics most closely related to electricity and electronics were considered the most important, as might be expected.

Belt's study (3) revealed that there was an acute shortage of competent consumer electronics service technicians for servicing transistorized electronic equipment such as the radio receiver, hi-fi, and television receiver. He also indicated that color television receivers have grown in numbers faster than men can be hired to install them and keep them in working order.

His study revealed that "home service technicians" had at least two years of training and two to five years of experience. Consumer electronics service technicians with more than five years of experience were in the "bench service" category.

Weede (46) conducted a study to determine personnel and training needs for electronic technicians in Iowa industries. He gathered data to fulfill the following objectives (46, p. 9):

1. To determine the number of industries in Iowa which employ electronic technicians or may do so in the future
2. To determine the skills and knowledge which the industries desired these electronic technicians to possess
3. To determine the number of electronic technicians needed to meet the present and future needs of Iowa industries
4. To determine the present source of electronic technicians being hired by Iowa industries.

There were 115 industries which employed 99,045 people and required electronically trained personnel. These industries, which provided data for the study, reported that 205 electronic technicians would be needed by 1968 and 544 more would be needed by 1972. The engineering supervisors or plant managers, who completed the majority of the questionnaires, were hesitant about projecting employment needs in the future.

The data gathered by the questionnaire technique showed that the main source of electronic technicians was from in-company training programs and from technical schools. In determining training needs for electronic technicians, Weede's questionnaire listed training needs in nine basic categories. The categories are: mathematics, basic principles of physics, shop operations and related information, technical drawing, AC and DC circuits and machines, electronic components and circuits, use and repair of test

equipment, TV circuits, and data processing. There were from two to 26 topics listed under the major categories. Each topic was rated as to importance on a five-point scale.

The highest rated topics were: soldering, blueprint reading, electronic symbols, series and parallel circuits, combination circuits, circuit laws, AC and DC power supplies, power supply regulation, algebra, and trigonometry. Television circuits and data processing categories were rated very low. The most important test equipment used by the electronic technicians was: AC and DC voltmeter, AC and DC ammeter, ohmmeter, wattmeter, vacuum tube voltmeter, and oscilloscope.

Weede drew the following conclusions (46, p. 99):

1. The manufacturing industries of Iowa have a definite need for well trained persons in the field of electronics
2. The training needs vary with the size of the industry, product manufactures, and geographical location
3. It is very difficult for industries to predict the number of additional employees needed beyond one year
4. The main source of technically trained electrical personnel is in-company training programs
5. There is a lack of agreement as to terminology used to describe technically trained electrical personnel in manufacturing industries.

Stephens (39) conducted a study of major household appliance service technician training needs in the State of Iowa in 1969. His population consisted of 181 appliance servicing firms located in Iowa cities with a population of 2,500 or more people. At the time the study was conducted, there were 85 positions open for appliance service technicians. It was anticipated there would be a need for 128 replacements for the years 1969 through 1971.

The median wage paid to major household appliance service technicians was \$3.16 per hour with a range of \$2.89 to \$3.52 per hour. The most common source for training for these technicians through factory schools and experience on the job.

In the area of knowledge and skill requirements, the study shows that ability to talk to customer, show interest in customer, ability to estimate repair costs prior to work, and ability to handle service policies and warranties were rated highly desirable. In the categories, electrical information, electrical safety, and reading wiring diagrams were rated most important.

In the categories of instruments and skills, leak detectors and ohmmeters were considered most important while the psychrometric slide rule was regarded as the least important instrument. Soldering was thought to be the most important skill needed by these service technicians.

Stephens drew the following conclusions about his study (39, p. 111):

1. There is a shortage of appliance service technicians in the state of Iowa. However, the shortage is not critical enough to warrant a crash program to train major household appliance service technicians.
2. There is need in the state of Iowa for one or two full-time training programs for appliance service technicians.
3. There is a need for part-time, up-dating programs in the area of appliance service. These programs should be so located within the state as to make them available to the largest number of appliance service technicians.
4. If a training program is to be established to prepare technicians more specifically trained on a particular appliance group, this appliance group should be "refrigeration."

In 1969, Dukes (7) conducted a study of radio and television service technicians to determine the need for radio and television service techni-

cians in Iowa. Two questionnaires were used. The first questionnaire was mailed to 575 radio and television service firms in cities with a population of 2,500 people or more to determine the present employment needs. Three hundred fifty-five firms returned usable questionnaires. The firms represented in the study employed 807 radio-television service technicians. Forty-seven percent of these firms were categorized as the owner-operator size of firm.

The study showed that 115 radio-television service technicians were needed to fill existing vacancies, and there was a predictive need for 197 service technicians for replacement over the next three years.

The owner or service manager of the firms estimated that 54 percent of the 807 radio-television technicians had need for some type of in-service up-grading classes. The firms in Area X reported the largest number (51) of radio-television service technicians that were expected to attend these classes if available.

A second questionnaire was mailed to 275 firms that consented to supply additional information if contacted by means of another questionnaire. The 213 returned usable questionnaires were designed to determine the technical knowledge and skills felt important for radio-television service technicians as rated by the firm owner or business manager. The rating was based on a five-point scale with (1) being very little importance, (2) background knowledge only, (3) desirable, (4) highly desirable, and (5) essential.

In the category of business practices, the items ability to talk to customers and ability to make house calls were rated as "essential". Knowl-

edge of accounting procedures and knowledge of marketing procedures were rated as "desirable".

All items under English skills were rated as "desirable" while arithmetic and algebra were the only two mathematics skills with an average rating of "desirable" or higher.

AC and DC power supplies, oscillator circuits, audio frequency amplifiers, radio frequency amplifiers, and transistor analysis were the items that received the "most essential" rating.

The majority of the items listed under AC and DC circuits and machines were listed as "desirable" or higher. Series and parallel circuits, combination circuits, Ohm's Law, and inductive reactance, capacity reactance, resonance, etc. were rated as "highly desirable".

The oscilloscope, multimeter, color bar generator, tube testers, transistor testers, RF signal generator, sweep/marker generator, audio generator, and television analyst were rated as "highly desirable". Soldering skills were rated as "essential" while printed circuit techniques and desoldering skills were rated above "highly desirable".

Dukes proposed that new training programs for service technicians:

. . . be highly practical. The initial training courses should basically consist of electronics theory and components and emphasis should be placed on the direct application to the different electronic devices. These curriculums should include some core courses, such as a certain degree of communication skills and mathematics. . . . business skills should have greater emphasis than presently being presented (7, p. 109).

In summary it can be said that research that would be beneficial in developing curriculum content in the electronic servicing occupations is very limited. The majority of the studies reviewed dealt primarily with number of service technicians needed at the present time as well as in the

future. Dukes' study showed that there was a definite need for more radio-television service technicians in Iowa. His study indicated there was a present need for 115 technicians to fill present vacancies, and there was a predictive need for 197 more technicians over the next three years.

The lack of research, that could be used for developing curriculum content in the electronic service occupations on the national, state, and local level, points out the need for future study.

METHOD OF PROCEDURE

Introduction

The primary purpose of this research project was to gather data that would be of assistance in developing a program for training consumer electronics service technicians by determining essential knowledge and skills required of the service technician in doing a competent job. The data would also be useful for developing a special program for training service technicians who would like to specialize in "home servicing" or "bench servicing" in the service shop. A secondary goal was to gather data on service technicians such as age, number of years of experience in servicing consumer electronic products, salary, hours worked, educational background, types of consumer electronic products serviced, and as to whether they worked in the service shop or in the customer's home the majority of the time. These data could be used for guidance purposes.

This chapter describes the procedures used in the collection and analysis of the data necessary to fulfill the objectives of the study.

Population.

The sample for this study consisted of service technicians who were employed in 40 consumer electronic service firms in the State of Iowa. The 40 consumer electronic service firms were selected by random sample from entire population of all consumer electronic service firms, in the State of Iowa, that employed three or more full-time consumer electronic service technicians.

The list of consumer electronic service firms was compiled by using the telephone directories of cities that had a population of 10,000 or more

people. These telephone directories also listed the consumer electronic service firms in the surrounding communities. Electronic distributors that serve the various communities were asked to indicate the number of full-time consumer electronic service technicians employed by each firm. During this process, some firms not listed in the telephone directory were added to the list. In an effort to insure that all firms with three or more full-time consumer electronic service technicians were included in the population, officers of the Television Service Association of Iowa (TSA Iowa) and National Alliance of Television and Electronic Service Associations (NATESA) were asked to check the list of firms.

By limiting the study to those firms which employed three or more full-time service technicians, the one-man, owner-operator type of firm would be eliminated. By using larger firms, service technicians that are more specialized in servicing specific consumer electronic products, or work in the customer's home, or in the service shop the majority of the time could be studied.

Instrument

The use of an inventory form was determined to be the most economical method of recording data during personal interviews. The inventory form was designed so that all data could be recorded on one form. It consisted of three major divisions. The divisions were: (1) general findings concerning service technicians, (2) knowledge and skill requirements of service technicians, and (3) service information.

The service technicians were asked to furnish general information concerning their age, number of years of experience in consumer electronic

servicing, types of electronic training programs attended, hourly salary rate, hours worked, types of certificates or license obtained, and types of consumer products they service. It was hoped that the answers to the foregoing questions would provide occupational information that would be beneficial in recruiting more people to enter the consumer electronics field as an occupation.

In an attempt to define the competencies needed by service technicians, technicians were asked to respond on a five-point scale to 139 items related to knowledge and skill. The major groupings of items were ability to use mathematics, ability to organize and administer, understanding of legal responsibilities, understanding of electricity, understanding of electronic theory, ability to repair and/or install consumer electronics products, and ability to use electronic test equipment. Understanding of electronic theory was subdivided into five subdivisions listing from one to 15 specific items. Ability to repair and/or install consumer electronic products was subdivided into four subdivisions with specific items listed under each heading. The technicians were asked to indicate the frequency of performance and degree of competency needed on a five-point scale. Ability to use shop techniques and ability to use test equipment categories were subdivided into from seven to 31 specific items respectively. The service technicians were also asked to indicate the frequency of performance and degree of competency needed on a five-point scale.

In an attempt to determine the types of consumer electronic products serviced and the service required, the service technicians were asked to list the last three items serviced explaining test equipment used, defective stage and components and adjustments required for completing the task.

It was felt that this information would show an indication of the types of problems encountered in servicing consumer electronic products.

Since service technicians working for firms selected in this population can specialize in working in the shop or in the home the majority of the time, they were asked to answer the responses as they apply to the position in which they work the majority of the time. Knowledge and skill requirements can be determined for the home service technician as well as the bench service technician.

The inventory form was designed from information obtained from various consumer electronics service training programs and their courses of study. It was then examined by the advisory committee selected for this study and then tested by interviewing technicians within two consumer electronic service firms in Ames.

A copy of the inventory form is included in Appendix B.

Conducting the Interviews

Before the interviews, letters written by the executive secretary of the Television Service Association of Iowa (Appendix A) and the author explaining the purpose of the study were mailed to consumer electronics service firms selected to participate.

The interviews lasted from one to two and one-half hours each. The service technicians were asked to complete the inventory form answering each item as it specifically applied to the type of work in which he was involved. Assistance was given in clarifying any items of misunderstanding or lack of clarity.

Some of the inventory forms were requested to be completed and mailed at a later date because of technicians being sick, on vacation, on home service call, or time was not to be used during work hours completing the form.

One hundred thirty-two service technicians within 38 of the initial 40 consumer electronic service firms participated in the study. One firm did not desire to participate. The other firm promised to cooperate by having their service technicians complete the inventory form and mail to researchers, but forms were never returned after two telephone calls were made to encourage their response. The number of service technicians per service firm that participated ranged from one to 12 service technicians.

Of the 132 service technicians who participated, 48 indicated they worked in the customer's home the majority of the time, while 84 indicated they worked in the service shop.

Selecting Advisory Committee

An advisory committee, consisting of four members, was selected for the purpose of offering advice and counsel to the researcher conducting this study. Two members were chosen from the educational profession while two members were chosen from the consumer electronic service trade. These committee members were asked to offer recommendations for determining the data to be collected on the inventory form and also to help to evaluate the data that were collected.

Advisory Committee Members

Mr. Ronald Crow is currently Instructor-Supervisor in the Electronics and Technical Education section of Engineering Extension Service at Iowa

State University. He is the holder of a Certified Electronics Technician Certificate and is serving on the national committee for Apprenticeship Training of consumer electronics service technicians.

Mr. Tom Dunsmore is in charge of electronic technology at Des Moines Area Community College, Ankeny, Iowa. He has considerable experience in servicing various types of electronic equipment.

Mr. Clark Pohl is a co-owner of Don's Television in Perry, Iowa. He served as president of the Television Service Association of Iowa during the year 1969.

Mr. William Gulliver is the owner of Gulliver's Television in Ames, Iowa. He is the holder of a Certified Electronics Technician Certificate and has served as president of the Television Service Association of Iowa during the year 1970.

Analysis of the Data

When the interviews were completed, the data obtained from the inventory forms were reviewed, coded, and recorded on 80-column coding forms. The data were then key punched on 80-column IBM business machine cards.

Frequency counts and totals were tabulated for all of the possible responses concerned with the age of consumer electronics service technicians, years of consumer electronic service experience, salary, consumer electronics products serviced, etc.

Frequency counts, totals, and means were calculated for each item answered by a response on the rating scale for the degree of competency needed. The means were calculated by assigning to the rating scale a value of four for the category "very much competency needed", three for the cate-

gory "much competency needed", two for the category "some competency needed", one for the category "little competency needed", and zero for the category "no competency needed". The means are represented by a number from zero to four indicating the relative importance of each item as it was viewed by the service technician.

Frequency counts, totals, and means were calculated for each item answered by a response on the rating scale for the frequency of performance. The means were calculated by assigning to the rating scale a value of four for the category "daily", three for the category "weekly", two for the category "monthly", one for the category "sometimes", and zero for the category "not used or performed". The means are represented by a number from zero to four indicating the frequency of performance or use as it was viewed by the service technician.

FINDINGS

The purpose of this study was to gather data that would be of assistance in developing a program in Iowa for training consumer electronics service technicians and to gather data that could be used for guidance purposes.

The findings were presented in three major divisions to fulfill the objectives of the study. The divisions were: (1) general findings concerning service technicians, (2) knowledge and skill requirements of service technicians, and (3) service information. The findings were also presented by the area in which the service technicians worked the majority of the time, "bench servicing" or "home servicing".

The data for this study were collected from 132 service technicians employed within 38 consumer electronic service firms in Iowa.

Forty consumer electronic service firms were selected by random sampling from the entire population of all consumer electronic service firms in the State of Iowa that employed three or more full-time service technicians. Two of the firms did not wish to participate in the study.

The number of Iowa service technicians per service firm that participated in the study ranged from one to 12 service technicians. Of the 132 service technicians that participated, 48 indicated they worked in the customer's home the majority of the time, while 84 indicated they worked in the service shop the majority of the time.

General Findings Concerning Service Technicians

Information concerning ages of service technicians

The median age of the bench service technicians reported in Table 1 was 37.9 years. Twenty-four bench service technicians were reported to be from 20 to 29 years of age. Twenty-six were in the category of 40 to 49 years of age.

Table 1. Ages of service technicians

| Age (years) | Service Technicians | | | | | |
|----------------|---------------------|-------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| | Bench | | Home | | Total | |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % |
| Under 20 | 2 | 2.4 | | | 2 | 1.5 |
| 20-29 | 24 | 28.6 | 25 | 52.1 | 49 | 37.1 |
| 30-39 | 19 | 22.6 | 7 | 14.6 | 26 | 19.7 |
| 40-49 | 26 | 30.9 | 12 | 25.0 | 38 | 28.7 |
| 50-59 | 11 | 13.1 | 4 | 8.3 | 15 | 11.4 |
| 60-65 | 1 | 1.2 | | | 1 | .8 |
| Over 65 | 1 | 1.2 | | | 1 | .8 |
| Total | 84 | 100.0 | 48 | 100.0 | 132 | 100.0 |
| Median age | 37.9 | | 29.1 | | 35.2 | |

The median age of home service technicians was 29.1 years. Twenty-five home service technicians were in the age category of 20 to 29 years. Twelve were in the category of 40 to 49 years of age.

The median age of both groups of service technicians was 35.2 years. Forty-nine service technicians reported to be between 20 and 29 years of age. Twenty-six were in the 30 to 39 years of age category. Thirty-eight were in the category 40 to 49, and two were listed as being over 64.

Information concerning years of work experience as service technicians

Of the 84 bench service technicians reported in Table 2, ten had less than one year of work experience in servicing consumer electronic products. Seventeen were in the one to three years of experience category. In the 16 to 20 years of experience category, there were 19 bench service technicians.

Table 2. Years of full-time work experience of service technicians

| Experience (years) | Service Technicians | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|-------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| | Bench | | Home | | Total | |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % |
| Less than one year | 10 | 12.0 | 4 | 8.3 | 14 | 10.6 |
| 1-3 | 17 | 20.4 | 10 | 20.9 | 27 | 20.5 |
| 4-6 | 4 | 4.7 | 8 | 16.6 | 12 | 9.1 |
| 7-9 | 7 | 8.3 | 4 | 8.3 | 11 | 8.3 |
| 10-12 | 4 | 4.7 | 3 | 6.4 | 7 | 5.3 |
| 13-15 | 4 | 4.7 | 4 | 8.3 | 8 | 6.1 |
| 16-20 | 19 | 22.6 | 9 | 18.8 | 28 | 21.2 |
| 21-25 | 11 | 13.1 | 4 | 8.3 | 15 | 11.4 |
| 26 or more | 8 | 9.5 | 2 | 4.1 | 10 | 7.5 |
| Total | 84 | 100.0 | 48 | 100.0 | 132 | 100.0 |

Ten home service technicians had one to three years of experience. Nine were in the 16 to 20 years of experience category.

According to Table 2, 31 percent of the total number of service technicians had three or fewer years of consumer electronic service experience. Approximately 40 percent of the service technicians had over 15 years of experience.

Educational background of service technicians

Table 3 lists the highest educational level attained by service technicians. Fifty-five bench service technicians had completed the highest grade level of the 12th grade. Eight had not completed high school. Six bench service technicians had completed one year of college. Eleven had completed two years of college while one had completed four years of college.

Table 3. Educational level attained by service technicians

| Highest grade completed | Service Technicians | | | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|-------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| | Bench | | Home | | Total | |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % |
| 7 | 1 | 1.2 | 1 | 2.1 | 2 | 1.5 |
| 8 | 4 | 4.7 | 1 | 2.1 | 5 | 3.7 |
| 9 | 1 | 1.2 | | | 1 | .8 |
| 10 | | | 1 | 2.1 | 1 | .8 |
| 11 | 2 | 2.4 | | | 2 | 1.5 |
| 12 | 55 | 65.5 | 34 | 70.9 | 89 | 67.3 |
| 13 | 6 | 7.1 | 8 | 16.6 | 14 | 10.6 |
| 14 | 11 | 13.1 | 2 | 4.1 | 13 | 9.7 |
| 15 | 3 | 3.6 | 1 | 2.1 | 4 | 3.3 |
| 16 | 1 | 1.2 | | | 1 | .8 |
| Total | 84 | 100.0 | 48 | 100.0 | 132 | 100.0 |

The highest grade level completed by 34 home service technicians was the 12th grade. Eight had completed one year of college while two had completed two years of college.

The highest grade level completed by 89 service technicians was the 12th grade. Fourteen of the total number of service technicians had completed one year of college. Thirteen had completed two years of college.

Four had completed three years of college while one technician had completed four years of college.

Source of training of service technicians

In order to determine how the service technicians acquired their consumer electronic servicing background, they were asked to check the program or programs in which they had participated. The programs listed were:

(1) cooperative high school programs, (2) other high school programs, (3) trade school programs, (4) area vocational-technical schools, (5) colleges, (6) home study, (7) military schools, (8) factory schools, and (9) apprenticeships. Many service technicians checked more than one program. These data were recorded in Table 4.

Of the 132 service technicians interviewed in the study, 51 participated in a home study program. Forty-two service technicians attended trade schools. Forty-one attended military schools. Thirty-one had attended factory schools. Twenty-two had attended area vocational-technical schools while 18 had attended an apprenticeship program.

License or certificate obtained by service technicians

With the emphasis in the direction of certification or licensing of service technicians, the author wanted to find out how many service technicians had obtained consumer electronic license or certificates of some type. Table 5 summarized the license or certificates obtained by service technicians. Some service technicians obtained more than one license or certificate.

Eighteen of the 132 service technicians interviewed had obtained the Certified Electronic Technician Certificate (CET). Eight had attained the

Table 4. Source of training of service technicians

| | Cooperative high school programs | Other high school programs | Trade schools | Area vocational- technical schools | Col- leges | Home study | Military schools | Factory schools | Appren- tice- ships |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|------------------|---|---------------|---------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Bench service technicians | 2 | 5 | 26 | 11 | 8 | 33 | 24 | 21 | 13 |
| Home service technicians | 4 | 3 | 16 | 11 | 4 | 18 | 17 | 10 | 5 |
| Total number of service technicians | 6 | 8 | 42 | 22 | 12 | 51 | 41 | 31 | 18 |

Table 5. License or certificates held by service technicians

| Topic item | Service Technicians | | Total |
|---|---------------------|------|-------|
| | Bench | Home | |
| Certified Electronic Technician Certificate (CET) | 11 | 7 | 18 |
| First Class Commercial Radio Telephone License | 8 | | 8 |
| Second Class Commercial Radio Telephone License | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| Amateur Radio License | 2 | | 2 |
| Electronic Technician Union | 2 | | 2 |
| Total | 27 | 10 | 37 |

First Class Commercial Radio Telephone License while seven had obtained the Second Class Commercial Radio Telephone License.

Hours worked by service technicians

Table 6 summarized the number of hours worked per day, and Table 7 summarized the number of hours worked per week by service technicians. According to Table 6, 79 service technicians worked eight hours per day. Forty-six of the service technicians were bench service technicians, and 33 were home service technicians. Thirty-one service technicians worked nine hours per day, and ten worked ten hours per day. Only eight worked over ten hours per day.

According to Table 7, 43 service technicians worked 40 hours per week. Forty service technicians were in the 41 to 45 hours per week category. In the 46 to 50 hours per week category there were 17. Sixteen indicated they

Table 6. Hours worked per day by service technicians

| Hours | Service Technicians | | | | | |
|---------|---------------------|-------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| | Bench | | Home | | Total | |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % |
| Under 8 | 4 | 4.7 | | | 4 | 3.3 |
| 8 | 46 | 54.9 | 33 | 68.9 | 79 | 59.6 |
| 9 | 22 | 26.2 | 9 | 18.7 | 31 | 23.4 |
| 10 | 6 | 7.1 | 4 | 8.3 | 10 | 7.6 |
| Over 10 | 6 | 7.1 | 2 | 4.1 | 8 | 6.1 |
| Total | 84 | 100.0 | 48 | 100.0 | 132 | 100.0 |

Table 7. Hours worked per week by service technicians

| Hours | Service Technicians | | | | | |
|----------|---------------------|-------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| | Bench | | Home | | Total | |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % |
| Under 40 | 4 | 4.7 | | | 4 | 3.3 |
| 40 | 24 | 28.6 | 19 | 39.6 | 43 | 32.6 |
| 41-45 | 25 | 29.7 | 15 | 31.3 | 40 | 30.3 |
| 46-50 | 13 | 15.6 | 4 | 8.3 | 17 | 12.6 |
| 51-55 | 9 | 10.7 | 7 | 14.6 | 16 | 12.1 |
| Over 55 | 9 | 10.7 | 3 | 6.2 | 12 | 9.1 |
| Total | 84 | 100.0 | 48 | 100.0 | 132 | 100.0 |

worked between 51 and 55 hours per week. Twelve indicated they worked over 55 hours per week.

The data in Table 8 summarized the percentage of time service technicians spend in working in the service shop and in the customers' homes. Ten service technicians reported they did not work in the capacity of bench servicing, while 46 indicated they did not do home servicing. Thirty-eight worked in the capacity of bench servicing 100 percent of the time, and 10 worked as home service technicians 100 percent of the time. Forty-eight reported they worked the majority of the time in home servicing, and 84 indicated they worked the majority of the time in bench servicing. Fifteen indicated they had a responsibility other than servicing consumer electronic products. Some of the other responsibilities were: selling consumer electronic products, management, inventory, and requisitioning of parts.

Table 8. Percentage of time service technicians spend working in the service shop and in the customers' homes

| Time (percent) | <u>Bench servicing</u> | | <u>Home servicing</u> | | <u>Other</u> | |
|-------------------|------------------------|-------|-----------------------|-------|--------------|-------|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % |
| None | 10 | 7.6 | 46 | 34.7 | 117 | 88.6 |
| 1-10 | 14 | 10.6 | 22 | 16.6 | 2 | 1.5 |
| 11-20 | 5 | 3.8 | 5 | 3.8 | 2 | 1.5 |
| 21-30 | 10 | 7.6 | 6 | 4.5 | 3 | 2.4 |
| 31-40 | 6 | 4.5 | 2 | 1.5 | 2 | 1.5 |
| 41-50 | 14 | 10.6 | 10 | 7.6 | 6 | 4.5 |
| 51-60 | 5 | 3.8 | 3 | 2.4 | | |
| 61-70 | 2 | 1.5 | 3 | 2.4 | | |
| 71-80 | 7 | 5.3 | 10 | 7.6 | | |
| 81-90 | 16 | 12.1 | 7 | 5.3 | | |
| 91-99 | 5 | 3.8 | 8 | 6.0 | | |
| 100 | 38 | 28.8 | 10 | 7.6 | | |
| Total | 132 | 100.0 | 132 | 100.0 | 132 | 100.0 |

Salary received by service technicians

Table 9 indicated that the median salary of the total number of service technicians was \$3.33 per hour. The median salary for bench service technicians was \$3.25 per hour, and the home service technicians median salary was \$3.44. There were 33 service technicians in the \$3.00 to \$3.49 per hour category and 24 in each of the categories of \$2.00 to \$2.49 and \$3.50 to \$3.99 per hour. Eleven service technicians reported earnings of \$5.00 or more per hour. Three service technicians did not report their salary. Five service technicians reported earnings of \$5.00 or more per hour and were owners or co-owners of the service firm. They were not represented in Table 9.

Table 10 presented data indicating the number of service technicians earning a commission plus the regular hourly salary. There was a total of

Table 9. Salary received by service technicians

| Hourly rate (dollars) | Service Technicians | | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| | Bench | | Home | | Total | |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % |
| 2.00-2.49 | 18 | 23.3 | 6 | 13.0 | 24 | 19.4 |
| 2.50-2.99 | 11 | 14.3 | 5 | 10.6 | 16 | 12.9 |
| 3.00-3.49 | 19 | 24.7 | 14 | 29.7 | 33 | 26.6 |
| 3.50-3.99 | 12 | 15.6 | 12 | 25.5 | 24 | 19.4 |
| 4.00-4.49 | 1 | 1.3 | 2 | 4.2 | 3 | 2.4 |
| 4.50-4.99 | 9 | 11.7 | 4 | 8.5 | 13 | 10.5 |
| 5.00 or more | 7 | 9.1 | 4 | 8.5 | 11 | 8.8 |
| Total | 77 | 100.0 | 47 | 100.0 | 124 | 100.0 |
| Median salary | \$3.25 | | \$3.44 | | \$3.33 | |

Table 10. Distribution of service technicians that received a commission plus regular salary

| | Service Technicians | | |
|-------|---------------------|------|-------|
| | Bench | Home | Total |
| Yes | 5 | 7 | 12 |
| No | 79 | 41 | 120 |
| Total | 84 | 48 | 132 |

12 service technicians earning a commission. Seven of the 12 were home service technicians, and five were bench service technicians.

Consumer electronic products serviced by service technicians

The service technicians that were involved in this research project were asked to indicate the percentage of consumer electronic products serviced in each category. The researcher discovered that the majority of the service technicians serviced more than one type of consumer electronic product.

The data in Table 11 summarized the various consumer electronic products serviced by the 132 service technicians that participated in the research project. One hundred fifteen service technicians serviced B&W televisions, 71 were bench service technicians and 44 were home service technicians. The color television receiver was serviced by 108 service technicians, 65 being bench service technicians and 43 were home service technicians. Tape recorders, tape players, phonographs, and audio amplifier systems were serviced by 92 service technicians. Fifty-eight were bench service technicians, and 34 were home service technicians. Radio

Table 11. Number of service technicians servicing consumer electronic products by type (N = 132)

| Topic item | Service Technicians | | |
|--|---------------------|------|-------|
| | Bench | Home | Total |
| B&W television | 71 | 44 | 115 |
| Color television | 65 | 43 | 108 |
| Tape recorders, tape players, phonographs, audio amplifier systems | 58 | 34 | 92 |
| Radio (AM, FM, FM multiplex) | 61 | 28 | 89 |
| Antenna installation | 15 | 26 | 41 |
| Other | 4 | 2 | 6 |

(AM, FM, and FM multiplex) was serviced by 89 service technicians. Forty-one service technicians did some type of antenna installation. Fifteen of the service technicians were bench service technicians, and 26 were home service technicians. Other electronic products serviced by six service technicians not listed in Table 11 were: video TV cameras, video tape recorders, overhead projectors, and movie projectors.

The data in Tables 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16 summarized the percentage of consumer electronic products serviced involving all consumer electronic products. In Table 12, it was found that 17 service technicians did not service B&W television. Two bench service technicians serviced only B&W televisions. The B&W television made up one to ten percent of all consumer electronic products serviced by 45 service technicians.

Table 12. Percentage of all consumer electronic products serviced involving B&W television (N = 132)

| Service technicians | Percentage | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| | 0 | 1-10 | 11-20 | 21-30 | 31-40 | 41-50 | 51-60 | 61-70 | 71-80 | 81-90 | 90-99 | 100 |
| Bench | 13 | 21 | 17 | 10 | 4 | 9 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Percentage | 15.4 | 25.0 | 20.2 | 11.9 | 4.8 | 10.7 | 1.2 | 2.4 | 3.6 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 2.4 |
| Home | 4 | 24 | 9 | 7 | 2 | | | 1 | | 1 | | |
| Percentage | 8.3 | 50.0 | 18.7 | 14.6 | 4.2 | | | 2.1 | | 2.1 | | |
| Total number | 17 | 45 | 26 | 17 | 6 | 9 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Percentage of total number | 12.9 | 34.1 | 19.7 | 12.9 | 4.4 | 6.8 | .8 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 1.5 | .8 | 1.5 |

According to Table 13, 25 service technicians did not service color televisions. Nineteen of those technicians were bench service technicians, and five were home service technicians. One bench service technician serviced only color televisions. For 22 service technicians (15 home service technicians and 7 bench service technicians), the color television made up 71 to 80 percent of the products serviced. Fifteen service technicians indicated the color television made up 81 to 90 percent of the products they serviced. Three service technicians indicated 90 to 99 percent of the products they serviced were color televisions.

The data in Table 14 summarized the percentage of consumer electronic products serviced by service technicians involving tape recorders, tape players, phonographs, and audio systems. Forty of the service technicians interviewed designated that they did not service any of the products listed above. Two service technicians indicated tape recorders, tape players, phonographs, and audio systems were the only items they serviced. Fifty-seven service technicians (29 bench service technicians and 28 home service technicians) indicated tape recorders, tape players, phonographs, and audio systems make up one to ten percent of the consumer electronic products they serviced.

Table 15 presented the percentage of radios (AM, FM, and FM multiplex) serviced by the 132 service technicians. Forty-two indicated they did not service radios. Radios made up one to ten percent of the consumer electronic products serviced by 53 service technicians. Thirty of those service technicians were bench service technicians, and 23 were home service technicians. Radios made up 11 to 20 percent of the products serviced by 15 service technicians.

Table 13. Percentage of all consumer electronic products serviced involving color television
(N = 132)

| Service technicians | Percentage | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| | 0 | 1-10 | 11-20 | 21-30 | 31-40 | 41-50 | 51-60 | 61-70 | 71-80 | 81-90 | 90-99 | 100 |
| Bench | 19 | 9 | 4 | 6 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 6 | 7 | 7 | 1 | 1 |
| Percentage | 22.7 | 10.7 | 4.8 | 7.1 | 10.7 | 8.3 | 9.6 | 7.1 | 8.3 | 8.3 | 1.2 | 1.2 |
| Home | 5 | 1 | | 4 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 15 | 8 | 2 | |
| Percentage | 10.4 | 2.1 | | 8.3 | 4.2 | 6.3 | 6.3 | 10.4 | 31.2 | 16.6 | 4.2 | |
| Total number | 24 | 10 | 4 | 10 | 11 | 10 | 11 | 11 | 22 | 15 | 3 | 1 |
| Percentage of total number | 18.2 | 8.0 | 3.0 | 8.0 | 8.3 | 8.0 | 8.3 | 8.3 | 15.2 | 11.6 | 2.3 | .8 |

Table 14. Percentage of all consumer electronic products serviced involving tape recorders, tape players, phonographs, audio amplifier systems (N = 132)

| Service technicians | Percentage | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| | 0 | 1-10 | 11-20 | 21-30 | 31-40 | 41-50 | 51-60 | 61-70 | 71-80 | 81-90 | 90-99 | 100 |
| Bench | 26 | 29 | 7 | 6 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | | 2 |
| Percentage | 31.0 | 34.5 | 8.3 | 7.1 | 8.3 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 2.4 | 1.2 | 2.4 | | 2.4 |
| Home | 14 | 28 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| Percentage | 29.1 | 58.3 | 2.1 | 2.1 | 2.1 | 2.1 | 2.1 | | | 2.1 | | |
| Total number | 40 | 57 | 8 | 7 | 8 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | | 2 |
| Percentage of total Number | 30.0 | 43.1 | 6.0 | 5.8 | 6.0 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | .8 | 2.3 | | 1.5 |

Table 15. Percentage of all consumer electronic products serviced involving radio (AM, FM, FM multiplex) (N = 132)

| Service technicians | Percentage | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| | 0 | 1-10 | 11-20 | 21-30 | 31-40 | 41-50 | 51-60 | 61-70 | 71-80 | 81-90 | 91-99 | 100 |
| Bench | 23 | 30 | 13 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 2 | | | | |
| Percentage | 27.4 | 35.7 | 15.5 | 7.1 | 5.9 | 3.6 | 2.4 | 2.4 | | | | |
| Home | 19 | 23 | 2 | 2 | | | | | | 1 | 1 | |
| Percentage | 39.5 | 47.9 | 4.2 | 4.2 | | | | | | 2.1 | 2.1 | |
| Total number | 42 | 53 | 15 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 2 | | 1 | 1 | |
| Percentage of total number | 31.7 | 40.0 | 11.6 | 6.0 | 3.8 | 2.3 | 1.5 | 1.5 | | .8 | .8 | |

According to the data presented in Table 16, 69 bench service technicians were not involved in antenna installation of any type. Thirty-three service technicians (21 home service technicians and 12 bench service technicians) indicated antennas made up one to ten percent of the products they serviced or installed. Two service technicians indicated antenna servicing or installation made up 41 to 50 percent of the products they were involved with. Antennas did not make up more than 50 percent of the consumer electronic products in which service technicians were involved.

Information Related to Knowledge and Skill Requirement Needs of Service Technicians

This section described the findings concerning various items of knowledge and skill and the degree of competency needed by consumer electronics service technicians. The items were divided into six major categories. They were: (1) ability to use mathematics, (2) ability to organize and administer, (3) understanding of legal responsibilities, (4) understanding of electricity, (5) understanding of electronic theory, and (6) frequency of performance and degree of competency needed by service technicians in servicing consumer products, using shop techniques and using electronic test equipment.

The data presented in Tables 17 through 37 reported the ratings assigned to each item by the 132 service technicians that participated in the research project. The number of service technicians that assigned ratings were presented along with the mean rating for each item. The ratings were based on a five-point scale. The scale was as follows: (0) no competency needed, (1) little competency needed, (2) some competency needed, (3) much competency needed, and (4) very much competency needed.

Table 16. Percentage of all consumer electronic products serviced involving antenna installation
(N = 132)

| Service technicians | Percentage | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| | 0 | 1-10 | 11-20 | 21-30 | 31-40 | 41-50 | 51-60 | 61-70 | 71-80 | 81-90 | 91-99 | 100 |
| Bench | 69 | 12 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | | | | | | |
| Percentage | 82.0 | 14.4 | 1.2 | | 1.2 | 1.2 | | | | | | |
| Home | 22 | 21 | 3 | | 1 | 1 | | | | | | |
| Percentage | 45.8 | 43.7 | 6.3 | | 2.1 | 2.1 | | | | | | |
| Total number | 91 | 33 | 4 | | 2 | 2 | | | | | | |
| Percentage of total number | 69.0 | 25.0 | 3.0 | | 1.5 | 1.5 | | | | | | |

The items in each table were presented in order of descending importance as determined by the mean rating.

Ability to use mathematics

Tables 17, 18, and 19 provided data concerning the degree of competency needed in ability to use mathematics, as reported by service technicians. "Arithmetic--addition, subtraction, and division of decimals and common fractions" rated the highest with a mean rating 2.77 for bench service technicians (Table 17) and 2.90 for home service technicians (Table 18). The overall mean rating was 2.82. "Use of the slide rule" received the lowest rating with a mean of .76 for the bench service technician and .63 for home service technician.

Ability to organize and administer

Tables 20, 21, and 22 provided data concerning the degree of competency needed in ability to organize and administer as reported by service technicians. Table 20 reported the topics "follow instructions, policies, and procedures accurately", "accept responsibilities", "communicate effectively--verbally and in writing", "public relations--handling of customers, proper wearing apparel, and proper manners", and being able to "explain bills and work done on customer items" had average ratings of "much competency needed" by bench service technicians. Ability to "use general accounting procedures" had the lowest rating by bench service technicians.

In Table 21, the topics "public relations--handling of customers, proper wearing apparel, and proper manners", "communicate effectively--verbally and in writing", "accept responsibility", "follow instructions, policies, practices, and procedures accurately", "explain bills and work done on cus-

Table 17. Degree of competency needed in ability to use mathematics, as reported by bench service technicians (N = 84)

| Topic item | Rating | | | | | Mean |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----|------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| Arithmetic--addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of decimals and common fractions | 1 | 8 | 24 | <u>27</u> | 24 | 2.77 |
| Algebra--addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of algebraic functions. Formula manipulation such as $E=IR$, $I=?$ | 5 | 11 | <u>31</u> | 27 | 10 | 2.31 |
| Trigonometry--function of angles (sin, Cos, and Tan) | <u>30</u> | <u>30</u> | 14 | 4 | 4 | 1.07 |
| Use of slide rule | <u>43</u> | 25 | 11 | 3 | 2 | .76 |

Rating scale:

- 0 - No competency needed
- 1 - Little competency needed
- 2 - Some competency needed
- 3 - Much competency needed
- 4 - Very much competency needed

Rating most often listed is underscored.

tomers items", "estimate repair costs", "stocking of service truck and tube caddy", and "plan work and travel effectively" had average ratings of "much competency needed" by home service technicians. "Use of general accounting procedures" had the lowest average rating of 2.29.

Understanding of legal responsibilities

The data in Table 23 summarized the degree of competency needed in understanding of legal responsibilities by service technicians. The two topics "insurance and liability responsibilities" and "State and Federal

Table 18. Degree of competency needed in ability to use mathematics, as reported by home service technicians (N = 48)

| Topic item | Rating | | | | | Mean |
|--|-----------|----|-----------|----|-----------|------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| Arithmetic--addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of decimals and common fractions | 1 | 4 | 12 | 13 | <u>18</u> | 2.90 |
| Algebra--addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of algebraic functions. Formula manipulation such as $E=IR$, $I=?$ | 4 | 5 | <u>17</u> | 15 | 7 | 2.33 |
| Trigonometry--function of angles (Sin, Cos, and Tan) | <u>23</u> | 14 | 9 | 1 | 1 | .81 |
| Use of slide rule | <u>27</u> | 15 | 3 | 3 | | .63 |

Rating scale:

- 0 - No competency needed
- 1 - Little competency needed
- 2 - Some competency needed
- 3 - Much competency needed
- 4 - Very much competency needed

Rating most often listed is underscored.

laws related to business" rated approximately the same for both groups of service technicians. They both had average ratings of "some competency needed".

Understanding of electricity

All topic items listed in the category of understanding of electricity had average ratings of "some competency needed" by both groups of service technicians except for the topic "DC and AC circuit analysis using Thevenin's Law". The bench service technicians rated that topic "little

Table 19. Degree of competency needed in ability to use mathematics, as reported by total number of service technicians

| Topic item | Rating | | | | | Service Technicians | | |
|--|-----------|----|-----------|----|-----------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Grand mean | Bench (mean) | Home (mean) |
| Arithmetic--addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of decimals and common fractions | 2 | 12 | 36 | 40 | <u>42</u> | 2.82 | 2.77 | 2.90 |
| Algebra--addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of algebraic functions. Formula manipulation such as $E=IR$, $I=?$ | 9 | 16 | <u>48</u> | 42 | 17 | 2.32 | 2.31 | 2.33 |
| Trigonometry--function of angles (Sin, Cos, and Tan) | <u>53</u> | 44 | 25 | 5 | 5 | .98 | 1.07 | .81 |
| Use of slide rule | <u>70</u> | 40 | 14 | 6 | 2 | .71 | .76 | .63 |
| Rating scale: | | | | | | N = 132 | N = 84 | N = 48 |
| 0 - No competency needed | | | | | | | | |
| 1 - Little competency needed | | | | | | | | |
| 2 - Some competency needed | | | | | | | | |
| 3 - Much competency needed | | | | | | | | |
| 4 - Very much competency needed | | | | | | | | |
| Rating most often listed is underscored | | | | | | | | |

Table 20. Degree of competency needed in ability to organize and administer, as reported by bench service technicians (N = 84)

| Topic item | Rating | | | | | Mean |
|---|--------|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| Follow instructions, policies, and procedures accurately | | 3 | 7 | 27 | <u>47</u> | 3.40 |
| Accept responsibility | 2 | 3 | 6 | 33 | <u>40</u> | 3.26 |
| Communicate effectively--verbally and in writing | 2 | 1 | 11 | 34 | <u>36</u> | 3.20 |
| Public relations--handling of customers, proper wearing apparel, and proper manners | 7 | | 9 | 23 | <u>45</u> | 3.18 |
| Explain bills and work done on customer items | 3 | 3 | 12 | 32 | <u>34</u> | 3.08 |
| Estimate repair costs | 1 | 3 | 24 | 27 | <u>29</u> | 2.95 |
| Handle warranties | | 5 | 29 | 24 | <u>26</u> | 2.84 |
| Order parts | 1 | 10 | 23 | <u>26</u> | <u>24</u> | 2.74 |
| Prepare trouble reports or work order | | 9 | 26 | <u>30</u> | 19 | 2.70 |
| Keep inventory of parts | 1 | 4 | <u>32</u> | <u>29</u> | 18 | 2.70 |
| Help train others | 3 | 5 | <u>28</u> | 26 | 22 | 2.70 |
| Plan work and travel efficiently | 3 | 9 | 24 | <u>29</u> | 19 | 2.62 |
| Sell consumer electronic products | 4 | 14 | 24 | <u>26</u> | 16 | 2.43 |
| Stocking of service trucks and tube caddy | 6 | 10 | 26 | <u>30</u> | 12 | 2.38 |
| Interpret and analyze financial and operational statements | 5 | 14 | <u>28</u> | 21 | 16 | 2.34 |
| Use general accounting procedures | 7 | 21 | <u>27</u> | 17 | 12 | 2.07 |

Rating scale:

- 0 - No competency needed
- 1 - Little competency needed
- 2 - Some competency needed
- 3 - Much competency needed
- 4 - Very much competency needed

Rating most often listed is underscored.

Table 21. Degree of competency needed in ability to organize and administer, as reported by home service technicians (N = 48)

| Topic item | Rating | | | | | Mean |
|---|--------|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| Public relations--handling of customers, proper wearing apparel, and proper manners | | 1 | | 10 | <u>37</u> | 3.73 |
| Communicate effectively--verbally and in writing | | 1 | 1 | 18 | <u>28</u> | 3.52 |
| Accept responsibility | 2 | 1 | | 16 | <u>29</u> | 3.44 |
| Follow instructions, policies, and procedures accurately | 1 | 3 | 2 | 12 | <u>30</u> | 3.40 |
| Explain bills and work done on customer items | | 2 | 4 | 17 | <u>25</u> | 3.35 |
| Estimate repair costs | | 1 | 8 | 15 | <u>24</u> | 3.29 |
| Stocking of service trucks and tube caddy | 1 | 1 | 10 | 10 | <u>26</u> | 3.23 |
| Plan work and travel efficiently | | 4 | 5 | 15 | <u>24</u> | 3.23 |
| Sell consumer electronic products | 2 | 2 | 9 | <u>18</u> | 17 | 2.96 |
| Prepare trouble reports or work order | | 8 | 11 | 11 | <u>18</u> | 2.81 |
| Order parts | 2 | 4 | 12 | 14 | <u>16</u> | 2.79 |
| Help train others | | 2 | 17 | <u>18</u> | <u>11</u> | 2.79 |
| Keep inventory of parts | 1 | 3 | <u>18</u> | 9 | 17 | 2.79 |
| Interpret and analyze financial and operational statements | 1 | 6 | 13 | <u>17</u> | 11 | 2.65 |
| Handle warranties | 2 | 7 | 10 | <u>16</u> | 13 | 2.65 |
| Use general accounting procedures | | 11 | <u>20</u> | 9 | 8 | 2.29 |

Rating scale:

- 0 - No competency needed
- 1 - Little competency needed
- 2 - Some competency needed
- 3 - Much competency needed
- 4 - Very much competency needed

Rating most often listed is underscored.

Table 22. Degree of competency needed in ability to organize and administer, as reported by total number of service technicians

| Topic item | Rating | | | | | Service Technicians | | |
|---|--------|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Grand mean | Bench (mean) | Home (mean) |
| Follow instructions, policies, and procedures accurately | 1 | 6 | 9 | 39 | <u>77</u> | 3.40 | 3.40 | 3.40 |
| Public relations--handling of customers, proper wearing apparel, and proper manners | 7 | 1 | 9 | 33 | <u>82</u> | 3.38 | 3.18 | 3.73 |
| Accept responsibility | 4 | 4 | 6 | 49 | <u>69</u> | 3.33 | 3.26 | 3.44 |
| Communicate effectively--verbally and in writing | 2 | 2 | 12 | 52 | <u>64</u> | 3.32 | 3.20 | 3.52 |
| Explain bill and work done on customer items | 3 | 5 | 16 | 49 | <u>59</u> | 3.18 | 3.08 | 3.35 |
| Estimate repair costs | 1 | 4 | 32 | 42 | <u>53</u> | 3.08 | 2.95 | 3.29 |
| Plan work and travel efficiently | 3 | 13 | 29 | 44 | <u>43</u> | 2.84 | 2.62 | 3.23 |
| Handle warranties | 2 | 12 | 39 | <u>40</u> | <u>39</u> | 2.77 | 2.84 | 2.65 |
| Order parts | 3 | 14 | 35 | <u>40</u> | <u>40</u> | 2.76 | 2.74 | 2.79 |
| Prepare trouble reports or work order | | 17 | 37 | <u>41</u> | <u>37</u> | 2.74 | 2.70 | 2.81 |
| Help train others | 3 | 7 | <u>45</u> | <u>44</u> | 33 | 2.73 | 2.70 | 2.79 |
| Keep inventory of parts | 2 | 7 | <u>50</u> | 38 | 35 | 2.73 | 2.70 | 2.79 |
| Stocking of service trucks and tube caddy | 7 | 11 | 36 | <u>40</u> | 38 | 2.69 | 2.38 | 3.23 |
| Sell consumer electronic products | 6 | 16 | 33 | <u>44</u> | 33 | 2.62 | 2.43 | 2.96 |
| Interpret and analyze financial and operational statements | 6 | 20 | <u>41</u> | 38 | 27 | 2.45 | 2.34 | 2.65 |
| Use general accounting procedures | 7 | 32 | <u>47</u> | 26 | 20 | 2.15 | 2.07 | 2.29 |

N = 132 N = 84 N = 48

Table 22. (Continued)

| Topic item | Rating | | | | | Service Technicians | | |
|---|--------|---|---|---|---|---------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Grand mean | Bench (mean) | Home (mean) |
| Rating scale: | | | | | | | | |
| 0 - No competency needed | | | | | | | | |
| 1 - Little competency needed | | | | | | | | |
| 2 - Some competency needed | | | | | | | | |
| 3 - Much competency needed | | | | | | | | |
| 4 - Very much competency needed | | | | | | | | |
| Rating most often listed is underscored | | | | | | | | |

Table 23. Degree of competency needed in understanding of legal responsibilities, as reported by service technicians

| Topic item | Rating | | | | | Mean | Total |
|--|--------|----|-----------|----|----|------|-------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | |
| Bench service technicians | | | | | | | |
| State and Federal laws related to business | 3 | 14 | <u>38</u> | 18 | 11 | 2.24 | 84 |
| Insurance and liability responsibilities | 5 | 14 | <u>36</u> | 20 | 9 | 2.17 | 84 |
| Home service technicians | | | | | | | |
| Insurance and liability responsibilities | 2 | 5 | <u>22</u> | 11 | 8 | 2.38 | 48 |
| State and Federal laws related to business | | 10 | <u>21</u> | 10 | 7 | 2.29 | 48 |
| Total number of technicians | | | | | | | |
| State and Federal laws related to business | 3 | 24 | <u>59</u> | 28 | 18 | 2.26 | 132 |
| Insurance and liability responsibilities | 7 | 19 | <u>58</u> | 31 | 17 | 2.24 | 132 |

Rating scale:

- 0 - No competency needed
- 1 - Little competency needed
- 2 - Some competency needed
- 3 - Much competency needed
- 4 - Very much competency needed

Rating most often listed is underscored.

competency needed". "Unit of measurement of voltage, current, and resistance", "color code of electronic components", and "DC and AC series, parallel and complex circuit analysis using Ohm's Law" received average ratings of "much competency needed" by both groups of service technicians. Inductance and capacitance in DC and AC circuits also received average ratings of "much competency needed" by the home service technicians. See Tables 24, 25, and 26.

Table 24. Degree of competency needed in understanding of electricity, as reported by bench service technicians (N = 84)

| Topic item | Rating | | | | | Mean |
|--|--------|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| Unit of measurement of voltage, current, and resistance | 2 | 3 | 3 | 14 | <u>62</u> | 3.56 |
| Color code of electronic components | 4 | 5 | 5 | 23 | <u>47</u> | 3.24 |
| DC and AC series, parallel and complex circuit analysis using Ohm's Law | 2 | 3 | 13 | 21 | <u>45</u> | 3.24 |
| Inductance and capacitance in DC and AC circuits | 4 | 6 | 18 | <u>29</u> | 27 | 2.82 |
| Transformer operation | 2 | 5 | 24 | <u>30</u> | 23 | 2.80 |
| Amplitude, frequency, and phase relationship of current and voltage in an AC circuit | 2 | 9 | 18 | <u>30</u> | 25 | 2.80 |
| Series and parallel resonance, Q and bandwidth | 1 | 9 | <u>26</u> | 25 | 23 | 2.71 |
| Peak, effective, and average values of the AC sine-wave | 3 | 7 | 25 | <u>32</u> | 17 | 2.63 |
| Resistivity and conductivity of conductors and insulators | 2 | 16 | 20 | <u>23</u> | <u>23</u> | 2.58 |
| Time constants | 2 | 14 | <u>28</u> | 24 | <u>16</u> | 2.45 |
| Motors and controls used in consumer electronic products | 3 | 12 | <u>36</u> | 18 | 15 | 2.36 |
| Magnetic laws and properties | 2 | 17 | <u>32</u> | 19 | 14 | 2.31 |
| DC and AC circuit analysis using Kirchhoff's Law | 9 | 10 | <u>27</u> | 23 | 15 | 2.30 |
| Wire sizes in regard to current carrying capabilities | 2 | 18 | <u>31</u> | 21 | 12 | 2.27 |
| Characteristics and applications of dry cells, mercury cells, nickel-cadmium cells, and alkaline cells | 5 | 20 | <u>30</u> | 23 | 6 | 2.06 |
| DC and AC circuit analysis using Thevenin's Law | 15 | 12 | <u>28</u> | 18 | 11 | 1.98 |

Rating scale:

0 - No competency needed

1 - Little competency needed

2 - Some competency needed

3 - Much competency needed

4 - Very much competency needed

Rating most often listed is underscored.

Table 25. Degree of competency needed in understanding of electricity, as reported by home service technicians (N = 48)

| Topic item | Rating | | | | | Mean |
|--|--------|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| Unit of measurement of voltage, current, and resistance | 1 | | 2 | 9 | <u>36</u> | 3.65 |
| Color code of electronic components | 1 | 1 | 3 | 6 | <u>37</u> | 3.60 |
| DC and AC series, parallel and complex circuit analysis using Ohm's Law | | 1 | 13 | 6 | <u>28</u> | 3.27 |
| Inductance and capacitance in DC and AC circuits | 1 | 2 | 11 | 10 | <u>24</u> | 3.13 |
| Transformer operation | 2 | 3 | 7 | 13 | <u>23</u> | 3.08 |
| Resistivity and conductivity of conductors and insulators | 1 | 4 | 11 | <u>17</u> | 15 | 2.85 |
| Series and parallel resonance, Q and bandwidth | 2 | 3 | 15 | 9 | <u>19</u> | 2.83 |
| Amplitude, frequency, and phase relationship of current and voltage in an AC circuit | 1 | 4 | 15 | 13 | <u>15</u> | 2.77 |
| Motors and controls used in consumer electronic products | | 6 | 13 | <u>19</u> | 10 | 2.69 |
| Peak, effective, and average values of the AC sine-wave | 2 | 4 | <u>15</u> | 14 | 13 | 2.67 |
| Magnetic laws and properties | 1 | 7 | <u>15</u> | 11 | 14 | 2.63 |
| DC and AC circuit analysis using Kirchhoff's Law | 3 | 3 | 20 | 8 | 14 | 2.56 |
| Wire sizes in regard to current carrying capabilities | 2 | 4 | 16 | <u>17</u> | 9 | 2.56 |
| Characteristics and applications of dry cells, mercury cells, nickel-cadmium cells, and alkaline cells | 2 | 8 | <u>19</u> | 10 | 9 | 2.33 |
| Time constants | 2 | 12 | <u>14</u> | 11 | 9 | 2.27 |
| DC and AC circuit analysis using Thevenin's Law | 9 | 4 | <u>20</u> | 7 | 8 | 2.02 |

Rating scale:

0 - No competency needed

1 - Little competency needed

2 - Some competency needed

3 - Much competency needed

4 - Very much competency needed

Rating most often listed is underscored.

Table 26. Degree of competency needed in understanding of electricity, as reported by total number of service technicians

| Topic item | Rating | | | | | Service Technicians | | |
|--|--------|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Grand mean | Bench (mean) | Home (mean) |
| Unit of measurement of voltage, current, and resistance | 3 | 3 | 5 | 23 | <u>98</u> | 3.59 | 3.56 | 3.65 |
| Color code of electronic components | 5 | 6 | 8 | 29 | <u>84</u> | 3.37 | 3.24 | 3.60 |
| DC and AC series, parallel and complex circuit analysis using Ohm's Law | 2 | 4 | 26 | 27 | <u>73</u> | 3.25 | 3.24 | 3.27 |
| Inductance and capacitance in DC and AC circuits | 5 | 8 | 29 | 39 | <u>51</u> | 2.93 | 2.82 | 3.13 |
| Transformer operation | 4 | 8 | 31 | 43 | <u>46</u> | 2.90 | 2.80 | 3.08 |
| Amplitude, frequency, and phase relationship of current and voltage in an AC circuit | 3 | 13 | 33 | <u>43</u> | <u>40</u> | 2.79 | 2.80 | 2.77 |
| Series and parallel resonance, Q and bandwidth | 3 | 12 | 41 | 34 | <u>42</u> | 2.76 | 2.71 | 2.83 |
| Resistivity and conductivity of conductors and insulators | 3 | 20 | 31 | <u>40</u> | 38 | 2.68 | 2.58 | 2.85 |
| Peak, effective, and average values of the AC sine-wave | 5 | 11 | 40 | <u>46</u> | 30 | 2.64 | 2.63 | 2.67 |
| Motors and controls used in consumer electronic products | 3 | 18 | <u>49</u> | 37 | 25 | 2.48 | 2.36 | 2.69 |
| Magnetic laws and properties | 3 | 24 | <u>47</u> | 30 | 28 | 2.42 | 2.31 | 2.63 |
| Time constants | 4 | 26 | <u>42</u> | 35 | 25 | 2.39 | 2.45 | 2.27 |
| DC and AC circuit analysis using Kirchhoff's Law | 12 | 13 | <u>47</u> | 31 | 29 | 2.39 | 2.30 | 2.56 |
| Wire sizes in regard to current carrying capabilities | 4 | 22 | <u>47</u> | 38 | 21 | 2.38 | 2.27 | 2.56 |
| Characteristics and applications of dry cells, mercury cells, nickel-cadmium cells, and alkaline cells | 7 | 28 | <u>49</u> | 33 | 15 | 2.16 | 2.06 | 2.33 |

Table 26. (Continued)

| Topic item | Rating | | | | | Service Technicians | | |
|---|--------|----|-----------|----|----|---------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Grand mean | Bench (mean) | Home (mean) |
| DC and AC circuit analysis using Thevenin's Law | 24 | 16 | <u>48</u> | 25 | 19 | 1.99 | 1.98 | 2.02 |
| Rating scale: | | | | | | N = 132 | N = 84 | N = 48 |
| 0 - No competency needed | | | | | | | | |
| 1 - Little competency needed | | | | | | | | |
| 2 - Some competency needed | | | | | | | | |
| 3 - Much competency needed | | | | | | | | |
| 4 - Very much competency needed | | | | | | | | |
| Rating most often used is underscored | | | | | | | | |

Understanding of electronic theory

Principles of color mixing and colorimetry The service technicians were asked to indicate the degree of competency needed in understanding of color fundamentals, principles of color mixing, and colorimetry. That data was summarized in Table 27. The mean ratings were 2.88 and 2.98 by the bench service technicians and home service technicians, respectively.

Table 27. Degree of competency needed in understanding of color fundamentals, principles of color mixing, and colorimetry, as reported by service technicians

| Service technicians | Rating | | | | | Mean | Total |
|---------------------|--------|----|----|----|-----------|------|-------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | |
| Bench | 5 | 9 | 12 | 23 | <u>35</u> | 2.88 | 84 |
| Home | 2 | 5 | 7 | 12 | <u>22</u> | 2.98 | 48 |
| Total number | 7 | 14 | 19 | 35 | <u>57</u> | 2.92 | 132 |

Rating scale:

- 0 - No competency needed
- 1 - Little competency needed
- 2 - Some competency needed
- 3 - Much competency needed
- 4 - Very much competency needed

Rating most often listed is underscored.

Consumer electronic product The items that rated the highest by both groups of service technicians were familiarization of "color television", "B&W television", and "AM, FM radios, stereo, and hi fi", "various types of record players and record players and changes" rated high by the home service technicians. "Garage door opener units, headlight dimmers,

automatic mirror control, and signal seeker units" were rated the lowest by both groups of service technicians (see Tables 28, 29, and 30).

Table 28. Degree of competency needed in familiarization of consumer electronic products, as reported by bench service technicians (N = 84)

| Topic item | Rating | | | | | Mean |
|--|--------|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| Color television | 2 | 4 | 7 | 36 | <u>45</u> | 3.29 |
| B&W television | 3 | 5 | 7 | 31 | <u>38</u> | 3.14 |
| AM, FM radios, stereo, and hi fi | 3 | 4 | 12 | <u>47</u> | 24 | 2.94 |
| Various types of record players and record changers | 3 | 6 | 17 | <u>38</u> | 20 | 2.79 |
| Antennas and antenna systems | 1 | 11 | 18 | <u>32</u> | 22 | 2.75 |
| Various types of tape recorders | 3 | 5 | <u>30</u> | 28 | 18 | 2.63 |
| Various types of speakers and speaker systems | 1 | 10 | <u>30</u> | 23 | 20 | 2.61 |
| Various types of multi-track tape units used in home and automobile | 2 | 10 | <u>30</u> | 23 | <u>19</u> | 2.56 |
| Garage door opener units, headlight dimmers, automatic mirror control, and signal seeker units | 10 | 21 | 24 | <u>30</u> | 9 | 1.96 |

Rating scale:

- 0 - No competency needed
- 1 - Little competency needed
- 2 - Some competency needed
- 3 - Much competency needed
- 4 - Very much competency needed

Rating most often listed is underscored.

Electronic stages Tables 31, 32, and 33 summarized the degree of competency needed in understanding of electronic stages, as reported by service technicians. All eight items listed required approximately the same degree of competency by both groups of service technicians. All items

Table 29. Degree of competency needed in familiarization of consumer electronic products, as reported by home service technicians (N = 48)

| Topic item | Rating | | | | | Mean |
|--|--------|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| Color television | 1 | | 3 | 11 | <u>33</u> | 3.56 |
| B&W television | 1 | | 7 | 11 | <u>29</u> | 3.40 |
| Antennas and antenna systems | 1 | | 7 | 18 | <u>22</u> | 3.25 |
| AM, FM radios, stereo, and hi fi | 1 | | 5 | <u>23</u> | <u>19</u> | 3.23 |
| Various types of record players and record changers | | 3 | 9 | <u>19</u> | 17 | 3.04 |
| Various types of speakers and speaker systems | 2 | 4 | 12 | 14 | <u>16</u> | 2.79 |
| Various types of tape recorders | | 5 | 15 | <u>16</u> | <u>12</u> | 2.73 |
| Various types of multi-track tape units used in home and automobile | 1 | 6 | 12 | <u>15</u> | 14 | 2.73 |
| Garage door opener units, headlight dimmers, automatic mirror control, and signal seeker units | 5 | 9 | <u>13</u> | 11 | 10 | 2.25 |

Rating scale:

- 0 - No competency needed
- 1 - Little competency needed
- 2 - Some competency needed
- 3 - Much competency needed
- 4 - Very much competency needed

Rating most often listed is underscored.

had a mean rating between 3.21 and 3.44. The "oscillator stages" and "RF amplifier stages" were rated the highest by home service technicians and "demodulator stages" and "oscillator stages" were rated the highest by bench service technicians. "Multivibrator stages" were rated the lowest by both groups of technicians.

Circuit operation Table 34 provides data concerning degree of competency needed, by service technicians, in understanding of three classes

Table 30. Degree of competency needed in familiarization of consumer electronic products, as reported by total number of service technicians

| Topic item | Rating | | | | | Service Technicians | | |
|--|--------|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Grand mean | Bench (mean) | Home (mean) |
| Color television | 3 | 4 | 10 | 37 | <u>78</u> | 3.39 | 3.29 | 3.56 |
| B&W television | 4 | 5 | 14 | 42 | <u>67</u> | 3.23 | 3.14 | 3.40 |
| AM, FM radios, stereo, and hi fi | 4 | 4 | 17 | <u>64</u> | <u>43</u> | 3.04 | 2.94 | 3.23 |
| Antennas and antenna systems | 2 | 11 | 25 | <u>50</u> | 44 | 2.93 | 2.75 | 3.25 |
| Various types of record players and record changers | 3 | 9 | 26 | <u>57</u> | 37 | 2.88 | 2.79 | 3.04 |
| Various types of tape recorders | 3 | 10 | <u>45</u> | <u>44</u> | 30 | 2.67 | 2.63 | 2.73 |
| Various types of speakers and speaker systems | 3 | 14 | <u>42</u> | 37 | 36 | 2.67 | 2.61 | 2.79 |
| Various types of multi-track tape units used in home and automobile | 3 | 16 | <u>42</u> | 38 | 33 | 2.62 | 2.56 | 2.73 |
| Garage door opener units, headlight dimmers, automatic mirror control, and signal seeker units | 15 | 30 | <u>37</u> | 31 | 19 | 2.07 | 1.96 | 2.25 |

Rating scale:

- 0 - No competency needed
- 1 - Little competency needed
- 2 - Some competency needed
- 3 - Much competency needed
- 4 - Very much competency needed

N = 132 N = 84 N = 48

Rating most often listed is underscored.

Table 31. Degree of competency needed in understanding of electronic stages, as reported by bench service technicians (N = 84)

| Topic item | Rating | | | | | Mean |
|----------------------|--------|---|----|----|-----------|------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| Demodulator stages | | 3 | 11 | 23 | <u>47</u> | 3.36 |
| Oscillator stages | 2 | 3 | 6 | 26 | <u>47</u> | 3.34 |
| IF amplifier stages | 1 | 4 | 9 | 23 | <u>47</u> | 3.32 |
| RF amplifier stages | 1 | 4 | 8 | 26 | <u>45</u> | 3.31 |
| Amplifier stages | 2 | 3 | 9 | 23 | <u>47</u> | 3.31 |
| Convertor stages | | 5 | 10 | 25 | <u>44</u> | 3.29 |
| Detector stages | 1 | 4 | 11 | 22 | <u>46</u> | 3.29 |
| Power supplies | 2 | 5 | 7 | 23 | <u>47</u> | 3.29 |
| Deflection stages | | 6 | 10 | 22 | <u>46</u> | 3.29 |
| Multivibrator stages | 1 | 4 | 12 | 22 | <u>45</u> | 3.26 |

Rating scale:

- 0 - No competency needed
- 1 - Little competency needed
- 2 - Some competency needed
- 3 - Much competency needed
- 4 - Very much competency needed

Rating most often listed is underscored.

of circuit operation. All three items were rated rather close together.

"Class A operation" was rated highest by bench service technicians, and

"Class B operation" was rated highest by home service technicians. "Class

C operation" was rated lowest by both groups.

Component characteristics and applications The data in Table 35 reported that "transistors", "semiconductor diodes", "FET transistors", "integrated circuits", "unijunction transistors", "zener diodes", "diode and triode vacuum tubes", and "thermistors" rated the highest, by bench service technicians, with an average rating of "much competency needed". "Transistors", "integrated circuits", "diode and triode vacuum tubes",

Table 32. Degree of competency needed in understanding of electronic stages, as reported by home service technicians (N = 48)

| Topic item | Rating | | | | | Mean |
|----------------------|--------|---|----|----|-----------|------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| Oscillator stages | | | 7 | 13 | <u>28</u> | 3.44 |
| RF amplifier stages | | 1 | 7 | 13 | <u>27</u> | 3.38 |
| IF amplifier stages | | 2 | 6 | 14 | <u>26</u> | 3.33 |
| Demodulator stages | | 1 | 6 | 17 | <u>24</u> | 3.33 |
| Convertor stages | | 3 | 5 | 15 | <u>25</u> | 3.29 |
| Power supplies | | 2 | 8 | 12 | <u>26</u> | 3.29 |
| Deflection stages | | 2 | 8 | 12 | <u>26</u> | 3.29 |
| Detector stages | | 2 | 9 | 12 | <u>25</u> | 3.25 |
| Amplifier stages | | 2 | 10 | 11 | <u>25</u> | 3.23 |
| Multivibrator stages | 1 | 1 | 9 | 13 | <u>24</u> | 3.21 |

Rating scale:

- 0 - No competency needed
- 1 - Little competency needed
- 2 - Some competency needed
- 3 - Much competency needed
- 4 - Very much competency needed

Rating most often listed is underscored.

"semiconductor diodes", "FET transistors", and "unijunction transistors" were rated the highest, by home service technicians, with an average rating of "much competency needed" (see Table 36). The items "photoconductive devices (photocells)" and "photovoltaic devices (solar cells)" were rated the lowest by both groups of service technicians with an average rating of "some competency needed" (see Table 37).

Frequency of performance and degree of competency needed by service technicians in servicing consumer products, using shop techniques and using electronic test equipment

The researcher felt that in order to gather data that would be helpful in developing a program for training consumer electronics service techni-

Table 33. Degree of competency needed in understanding of electronic stages, as reported by total number of service technicians

| Topic item | Rating | | | | | Service Technicians | | |
|----------------------|--------|---|----|----|-----------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Grand mean | Bench (mean) | Home (mean) |
| Oscillator stages | 2 | 3 | 13 | 39 | <u>75</u> | 3.38 | 3.34 | 3.44 |
| Demodulator stages | | 4 | 17 | 40 | <u>71</u> | 3.35 | 3.36 | 3.33 |
| RF amplifier stages | 1 | 5 | 15 | 39 | <u>72</u> | 3.33 | 3.31 | 3.38 |
| IF amplifier stages | 1 | 6 | 15 | 37 | <u>73</u> | 3.33 | 3.32 | 3.33 |
| Convertor stages | | 8 | 15 | 40 | <u>69</u> | 3.29 | 3.29 | 3.29 |
| Power supplies | 2 | 7 | 15 | 35 | <u>73</u> | 3.29 | 3.29 | 3.29 |
| Deflection stages | | 8 | 18 | 34 | <u>72</u> | 3.29 | 3.29 | 3.29 |
| Amplifier stages | 2 | 5 | 19 | 34 | <u>72</u> | 3.28 | 3.31 | 3.23 |
| Detector stages | 1 | 6 | 20 | 34 | <u>71</u> | 3.27 | 3.29 | 3.25 |
| Multivibrator stages | 2 | 5 | 21 | 35 | <u>69</u> | 3.24 | 3.26 | 3.21 |

Rating scale:

- 0 - No competency needed
- 1 - Little competency needed
- 2 - Some competency needed
- 3 - Much competency needed
- 4 - Very much competency needed

Rating most often listed is underscored.

N = 132

N = 84

N = 48

Table 34. Degree of competency needed in understanding of circuit operation, as reported by total number of service technicians

| Topic item | Rating | | | | | Mean | Total |
|-------------------------------------|--------|---|-----------|-----------|----|------|-------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | |
| Bench service technicians | | | | | | | |
| Class A operation | | 6 | 19 | <u>32</u> | 27 | 2.95 | 84 |
| Class B operation | | 7 | 22 | <u>31</u> | 24 | 2.86 | 84 |
| Class C operation | | 8 | 21 | <u>31</u> | 24 | 2.84 | 84 |
| Home service technicians | | | | | | | |
| Class B operation | 3 | 1 | 14 | <u>16</u> | 14 | 2.77 | 48 |
| Class A operation | 3 | 1 | <u>16</u> | <u>14</u> | 14 | 2.73 | 48 |
| Class C operation | 3 | 1 | <u>17</u> | 13 | 14 | 2.71 | 48 |
| Total number of service technicians | | | | | | | |
| Class A operation | 3 | 7 | 35 | <u>46</u> | 41 | 2.87 | 132 |
| Class B operation | 3 | 8 | 36 | <u>47</u> | 38 | 2.83 | 132 |
| Class C operation | 3 | 9 | 38 | <u>44</u> | 38 | 2.79 | 132 |

Rating scale:

- 0 - No competency needed
- 1 - Little competency needed
- 2 - Some competency needed
- 3 - Much competency needed
- 4 - Very much competency needed

Rating most often listed is underscored.

cians, data concerning the frequency of performance of tasks or jobs performed by the service technician should be undertaken. The frequency of performance would report what the service technicians do and how often the tasks or jobs are performed. By using the data, the consumer electronics servicing training program could be developed around what the service technicians actually do.

This section of the study consisted of six major topics with several items listed under each topic. The major topics were: (1) ability to

Table 35. Degree of competency needed in understanding of component characteristics and applications, as reported by bench service technicians (N = 84)

| Topic item | Rating | | | | | Mean |
|---|--------|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| Transistor | | 3 | 10 | 21 | <u>50</u> | 3.40 |
| Semiconductor diode | | 4 | 11 | 30 | <u>39</u> | 3.24 |
| FET transistor | | 7 | 10 | 28 | <u>39</u> | 3.18 |
| Integrated circuit | | 5 | 14 | 27 | <u>38</u> | 3.17 |
| Unijunction transistor | 1 | 4 | 16 | 25 | <u>38</u> | 3.13 |
| Zener diode | 1 | 3 | 15 | 31 | <u>34</u> | 3.12 |
| Diode and triode vacuum tubes | | 9 | 11 | 29 | <u>35</u> | 3.07 |
| Thermistor | | 4 | 23 | 26 | <u>31</u> | 3.00 |
| Silicon controlled rectifier (SCR) | 1 | 7 | 15 | 30 | <u>31</u> | 2.99 |
| (VDR) voltage dependent resistor | 2 | 4 | 19 | 28 | <u>31</u> | 2.98 |
| Varactor | 2 | 6 | 19 | <u>32</u> | <u>25</u> | 2.86 |
| Tunnel diode | 1 | 5 | 24 | <u>35</u> | 19 | 2.79 |
| Photoemissive devices (photomultiplier tubes) | 7 | 19 | <u>31</u> | 18 | 9 | 2.04 |
| Photoconductive devices (photo-cells) | 7 | 18 | <u>33</u> | 18 | 8 | 2.02 |
| Photovoltaic devices (solar cells) | 9 | 20 | <u>30</u> | 20 | 5 | 1.90 |

Rating scale:

- 0 - No competency needed
- 1 - Little competency needed
- 2 - Some competency needed
- 3 - Much competency needed
- 4 - Very much competency needed

Rating most often listed is underscored.

repair televisions, radios, and stereos, (2) ability to repair tape recorders and players and record changers and players, (3) ability to repair automotive radio, automotive stereo units, and automotive reverberation units, (4) installation of indoor and outdoor antennas, (5) ability to use shop techniques, and (6) ability to use electronic test equipment.

Table 36. Degree of competency needed in understanding of component characteristics and applications, as reported by home service technicians (N = 48)

| Topic item | Rating | | | | | Mean |
|---|--------|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| Transistor | 3 | | 7 | 13 | <u>25</u> | 3.19 |
| Integrated circuit | 3 | 2 | 6 | 17 | <u>20</u> | 3.02 |
| Diode and triode vacuum tubes | 3 | 1 | 11 | 10 | <u>23</u> | 3.02 |
| Semiconductor diode | 3 | 4 | 5 | 14 | <u>22</u> | 3.00 |
| FET transistor | 2 | 3 | 6 | <u>19</u> | <u>18</u> | 3.00 |
| Unijunction transistor | 2 | 2 | 8 | <u>18</u> | <u>18</u> | 3.00 |
| Silicon controlled rectifier (SCR) | 3 | 1 | 13 | 12 | <u>19</u> | 2.90 |
| Thermistor | 3 | 1 | 12 | 15 | <u>17</u> | 2.88 |
| (VDR) voltage dependent resistor | 3 | 1 | 11 | <u>18</u> | <u>15</u> | 2.85 |
| Zener diode | 3 | 1 | 13 | <u>17</u> | 14 | 2.79 |
| Varactor | 2 | 4 | <u>15</u> | 13 | 14 | 2.69 |
| Tunnel diode | 2 | 5 | 14 | 12 | <u>15</u> | 2.69 |
| Photoemissive devices (photomultiplier tubes) | 4 | 10 | <u>19</u> | 6 | 9 | 2.13 |
| Photoconductive devices (photo-cells) | 4 | 10 | <u>22</u> | 6 | 6 | 2.00 |
| Photovoltaic devices (solar cells) | 4 | 14 | <u>17</u> | 7 | 6 | 1.94 |

Rating scale:

- 0 - No competency needed
- 1 - Little competency needed
- 2 - Some competency needed
- 3 - Much competency needed
- 4 - Very much competency needed

Rating most often listed is underscored.

The service technicians were asked to rate each item as to the frequency he performed each item listed on a five-point scale. He was also asked to rate each item as to the degree of competency needed in performing each item listed on a five-point scale. The rating scale for frequency of performance was: (0) not used or performed, (1) sometimes, (2) monthly,

Table 37. Degree of competency needed in understanding of component characteristics and applications, as reported by total number of service technicians

| Topic item | Rating | | | | | Service Technicians | | |
|---|--------|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Grand mean | Bench (mean) | Home (mean) |
| Transistor | 3 | 3 | 17 | 34 | <u>75</u> | 3.33 | 3.40 | 3.19 |
| Semiconductor diodes | 3 | 8 | 16 | 44 | <u>61</u> | 3.15 | 3.24 | 3.00 |
| FET transistor | 2 | 10 | 16 | 47 | <u>57</u> | 3.11 | 3.18 | 3.00 |
| Integrated circuit | 3 | 7 | 20 | 44 | <u>58</u> | 3.11 | 3.17 | 3.02 |
| Unijunction transistor | 3 | 6 | 24 | 43 | <u>56</u> | 3.08 | 3.13 | 3.00 |
| Diode and triode vacuum tubes | 3 | 10 | 22 | 39 | <u>59</u> | 3.05 | 3.07 | 3.02 |
| Zener diodes | 4 | 4 | 28 | <u>48</u> | <u>48</u> | 3.00 | 3.12 | 2.79 |
| Thermistor | 3 | 5 | 35 | <u>41</u> | <u>48</u> | 2.95 | 3.00 | 2.88 |
| Silicon controlled rectifier (SCR) | 4 | 8 | 28 | 42 | <u>50</u> | 2.95 | 2.99 | 2.90 |
| (VDR) voltage dependent resistor | 5 | 5 | 30 | <u>46</u> | <u>46</u> | 2.93 | 2.98 | 2.85 |
| Varactor | 4 | 10 | 34 | <u>45</u> | <u>39</u> | 2.79 | 2.86 | 2.69 |
| Tunnel diodes | 3 | 10 | 38 | <u>47</u> | 34 | 2.75 | 2.79 | 2.69 |
| Photoemissive devices (photomultiplier tubes) | 11 | 29 | <u>50</u> | 24 | 18 | 2.07 | 2.04 | 2.13 |
| Photoconductive devices (photocells) | 11 | 28 | <u>55</u> | 24 | 14 | 2.01 | 2.02 | 2.00 |
| Photovoltaic devices (solar cells) | 13 | 34 | <u>47</u> | 27 | 11 | 1.92 | 1.90 | 1.94 |

Rating scale:

- 0 - No competency needed
- 1 - Little competency needed
- 2 - Some competency needed
- 3 - Much competency needed
- 4 - Very much competency needed

N = 132 N = 84 N = 48

Rating most often listed is underscored.

(3) weekly, and (4) daily. The rating scale for degree of competency needed was: (0) no competency needed, (1) little competency needed, (2) some competency needed, (3) much competency needed, and (4) very much competency needed.

Tables 38, 39, and 40 summarized the data concerning the frequency of performance and degree of competency needed by service technicians in performing tasks or jobs. Tables 38 and 39 reported frequency of performance ratings assigned to each item by the bench and home service technician, respectively. The frequency of performance and degree of competency needed (mean ratings) were also presented with each item. Table 40 combined the data in Tables 38 and 39 to form the total number of service technicians. Only frequency of performance and degree of competency needed (mean ratings) were presented in Table 40.

According to the data presented, four tasks were rated as performed "weekly", by the bench service technicians, in servicing radios, televisions, and stereos. The tasks were: "removal and reassembly of radio, television, and stereo chassis of various sets", "replacement of defective components", "lubrication of various controls", and "adjustment of purity, static convergence, and dynamic convergence of color televisions". The task "replacement of various defective components" was performed more frequently by bench service technicians than by home service technicians.

The task that required the highest degree of competency by bench service technicians was "alignment of B&W and color televisions". "Adjustment of purity, static convergence, and dynamic convergence of color televisions" required the highest degree of competency by home service technicians.

Table 38. Frequency of performance and degree of competency needed, as reported by bench service technicians (N = 84)

| Topic item | Frequency of performance Rating | | | | | Mean | Degree of competency needed Mean |
|---|------------------------------------|-----------|----|-----------|-----------|------|---|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | |
| Ability to repair televisions, radios, and stereos | | | | | | | |
| Removal and reassembly of radio, television, and stereo chassis of various sets | 1 | 1 | | 1 | <u>81</u> | 3.90 | 3.05 |
| Replacement of various defec- tive components in radios, televisions, and stereos | 1 | 2 | 2 | 5 | <u>74</u> | 3.77 | 3.34 |
| Lubrication and adjustment of various controls | | 4 | 3 | 7 | <u>70</u> | 3.70 | 2.94 |
| Cleaning of safety glass, cabinets, and chassis | 1 | 3 | 7 | 19 | <u>54</u> | 3.45 | 2.54 |
| Adjustment of purity, static convergence, and dynamic convergence of color television sets | 9 | 4 | 3 | 13 | <u>55</u> | 3.20 | 3.33 |
| Replacement and adjustment of color CRT | 12 | 9 | 11 | <u>33</u> | 19 | 2.45 | 3.27 |
| Replacement and adjustment of B&W CRT | 6 | 18 | 17 | <u>27</u> | 16 | 2.34 | 2.95 |
| Servicing and adjustment of remote control systems in television sets | 10 | <u>24</u> | 16 | 22 | 12 | 2.02 | 3.19 |
| Alignment of B&W and color TV IF stages | 12 | <u>34</u> | 11 | 17 | 10 | 1.75 | 3.46 |
| Alignment of B&W and color TV tuners | 22 | <u>33</u> | 9 | 10 | 10 | 1.44 | 3.15 |
| Ability to repair tape players, recorders, record players, and changers | | | | | | | |
| Diagnosis, repairing, and replacement of defective parts in tape recorder and record changer units | 4 | 14 | 8 | 27 | <u>31</u> | 2.80 | 3.14 |
| Cleaning, lubrication, and adjustment of tape recorder units and record changer units | 4 | 17 | 6 | 30 | 27 | 2.70 | 2.98 |

Table 38. (Continued)

| Topic item | Frequency of performance Rating | | | | | Mean | Degree of competency needed Mean |
|---|------------------------------------|-----------|----|-----------|-----------|------|---|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | |
| Removal and reinstallation from cabinet or case of tape recorder units and record changer units | 3 | 23 | 7 | 25 | <u>26</u> | 2.57 | 2.81 |
| Use of strob-o-scope to check proper speed on record player and changer units | 6 | 17 | 9 | <u>30</u> | 22 | 2.54 | 2.33 |
| Use of test tape to check head alignment and fre- quency response on tape players and recorders | 13 | <u>26</u> | 11 | 16 | 18 | 2.00 | 2.45 |
| Repair of automotive radio, auto stereo units, and auto reverbera- tion units | | | | | | | |
| Diagnosis and replacement of defective parts in auto radio, stereo, and reverb units | <u>22</u> | <u>22</u> | 9 | 13 | 18 | 1.80 | 2.54 |
| Diagnosis and repair of auto tape players | <u>28</u> | 25 | 9 | 11 | 11 | 1.43 | 2.48 |
| Removal, reinstallation, and adjustment of various makes of auto radios, auto ste- reos, and reverberation | <u>34</u> | 23 | 6 | 12 | 9 | 1.27 | 1.99 |
| Auto antenna repair, replace- ment, and new installation | <u>42</u> | 22 | 5 | 11 | 4 | 0.96 | 1.61 |
| Diagnosis and repair of garage door control units, headlight dimmers, and signal seeking units | <u>48</u> | 16 | 7 | 7 | 6 | 0.89 | 1.75 |
| Diagnosis, repair, and align- ment of auto multiplex units | <u>46</u> | 22 | 4 | 9 | 3 | 0.82 | 2.08 |
| Installation of indoor and out- door antennas | | | | | | | |
| Installation of television and FM outdoor antennas | <u>37</u> | 17 | 4 | 18 | 8 | 1.32 | 2.05 |

Table 38. (Continued)

| Topic item | Frequency of performance Rating | | | | | Mean | Degree of competency needed Mean |
|--|------------------------------------|-----------|----|-----------|-----------|------|---|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | |
| Installation of television and FM antennas in attic and other indoor locations | <u>38</u> | 22 | 8 | 11 | 5 | 1.08 | 1.92 |
| Installation and maintenance of multiple antenna and multiple outlet systems | <u>42</u> | 23 | 8 | 8 | 3 | 0.89 | 2.24 |
| Ability to use shop techniques | | | | | | | |
| Read block and schematic dia- grams | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | <u>79</u> | 3.87 | 3.35 |
| Using small hand tools | | 1 | 2 | 5 | <u>76</u> | 3.86 | 2.84 |
| Testing of tubes and transis- tors | 1 | 2 | | 3 | <u>78</u> | 3.84 | 3.12 |
| Unsoldering and soldering of components in the circuit | 3 | | 1 | 2 | <u>78</u> | 3.81 | 3.09 |
| Apply first aid procedures | 28 | <u>36</u> | 5 | 6 | 9 | 1.19 | 2.17 |
| Sheet metal fabrication | <u>41</u> | 26 | 12 | 2 | 3 | 0.81 | 1.18 |
| Layout and etching of printed circuit boards | <u>57</u> | 12 | 4 | 3 | 8 | 0.73 | 1.13 |
| Ability to use electronic test equipment | | | | | | | |
| Vacuum tube voltmeter (VTVM) | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | <u>77</u> | 3.79 | 3.37 |
| Vacuum tube tester | 2 | 6 | 1 | 7 | <u>68</u> | 3.58 | 2.96 |
| Volt-ohm-milliamperere meter (VOM) | 3 | 7 | | 4 | <u>70</u> | 3.56 | 3.37 |
| Transistor tester | 1 | 5 | 4 | 14 | <u>60</u> | 3.51 | 3.21 |
| Cathode ray tube tester | 4 | 8 | 9 | 19 | <u>44</u> | 3.08 | 3.07 |
| Transistor voltmeter (TRVM) | 17 | 4 | 1 | 12 | <u>50</u> | 2.88 | 3.08 |
| Color bar/dot/cross hatch generator | 11 | 9 | 5 | 13 | <u>46</u> | 2.88 | 3.01 |
| Signal tracer | 4 | 14 | 6 | 26 | <u>34</u> | 2.86 | 2.82 |
| Signal injector | 6 | 13 | 9 | 26 | <u>30</u> | 2.73 | 2.83 |
| Color CRT test jig | 12 | 17 | 5 | 16 | <u>34</u> | 2.51 | 2.75 |
| AF signal generator | 6 | 18 | 13 | 23 | <u>24</u> | 2.49 | 2.90 |
| RF signal generator | 5 | 20 | 14 | <u>23</u> | 22 | 2.44 | 2.94 |
| B&W CRT test jig | 16 | 15 | 12 | 17 | <u>24</u> | 2.21 | 2.62 |
| Bias power supply | 7 | <u>30</u> | 12 | 20 | 15 | 2.07 | 2.73 |
| Capacitor tester | 18 | <u>22</u> | 6 | 16 | 22 | 2.02 | 2.31 |
| Capacitor substitution box | <u>22</u> | 18 | 6 | 16 | <u>22</u> | 1.98 | 2.19 |

Table 38. (Continued)

| Topic item | Frequency of performance | | | | | Mean | Degree of |
|--|--------------------------|-----------|----|----|-----------|------|---------------------------------|
| | Rating | | | | | | competency |
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Mean | needed |
| | | | | | | | Mean |
| Resistor substitution box | <u>25</u> | 21 | 4 | 12 | 22 | 1.82 | 2.15 |
| Sweep and marker generator | <u>13</u> | <u>28</u> | 19 | 15 | 9 | 1.75 | 3.14 |
| TV analyst (B&K) | <u>31</u> | <u>11</u> | 8 | 17 | 17 | 1.74 | 2.52 |
| Field strength meter | <u>30</u> | 19 | 11 | 9 | 15 | 1.52 | 2.24 |
| Transistor radio analyst | <u>33</u> | 18 | 9 | 5 | 19 | 1.51 | 2.27 |
| Multiplex generator | <u>31</u> | 27 | 11 | 6 | 9 | 1.23 | 2.49 |
| Impedance bridge | <u>43</u> | 19 | 7 | 4 | 11 | 1.06 | 1.96 |
| Grind dip oscillator | <u>53</u> | 17 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 0.67 | 1.81 |
| Oscilloscopes | | | | | | | |
| AC coupled | 8 | 17 | 7 | 15 | <u>37</u> | 2.67 | 2.94 |
| Direct coupled | 12 | 20 | 5 | 15 | <u>32</u> | 2.42 | 2.87 |
| Vector | <u>26</u> | 19 | 10 | 15 | 14 | 1.67 | 2.76 |
| Triggered sweep | <u>33</u> | 21 | 5 | 13 | 12 | 1.40 | 2.37 |
| Oscilloscope probes | | | | | | | |
| Direct | 5 | 22 | 6 | 14 | <u>37</u> | 2.67 | 2.93 |
| X10 (low capacitance) | 8 | 21 | 6 | 14 | <u>35</u> | 2.56 | 2.90 |
| Crystal demodulation | 19 | <u>22</u> | 9 | 18 | 16 | 1.88 | 2.73 |
| Isolation | 27 | <u>22</u> | 6 | 18 | 11 | 1.57 | 2.29 |
| Frequency of performance | | | | | | | Degree of competency needed |
| rating scale: | | | | | | | rating scale: |
| 0 - Not used or performed | | | | | | | 0 - No competency needed |
| 1 - Sometimes | | | | | | | 1 - Little competency needed |
| 2 - Monthly | | | | | | | 2 - Some competency needed |
| 3 - Weekly | | | | | | | 3 - Much competency needed |
| 4 - Daily | | | | | | | 4 - Very much competency needed |
| Rating most often listed is underscored. | | | | | | | |

All tasks listed in the category of "ability to repair tape players, recorders, record players, and changers", were performed on the average of "monthly" by bench service technicians and were given lower frequency ratings by the home service technicians. The task given the highest competency needed rating by both groups of service technicians was "diagnosis,

Table 39. Frequency of performance and degree of competency needed, as reported by home service technicians (N = 48)

| Topic item | Frequency of performance Rating | | | | | Mean | Degree of competency needed |
|--|------------------------------------|-----------|----|-----------|-----------|------|-----------------------------------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | Mean |
| Ability to repair televisions, radios, and stereos | | | | | | | |
| Removal and reassembly of radio, television, and stereo chassis of various sets | | 2 | | 1 | <u>45</u> | 3.85 | 3.40 |
| Lubrication and adjustment of various controls | 1 | | | 6 | <u>41</u> | 3.79 | 3.08 |
| Replacement of various defec- tive components in radios, televisions, and stereos | | 3 | 1 | 5 | <u>39</u> | 3.67 | 3.52 |
| Adjustment of purity, static convergence, and dynamic convergence of color tele- vision sets | 2 | 1 | | 11 | <u>34</u> | 3.54 | 3.56 |
| Cleaning of safety glass, cabinets, and chassis | | 9 | 2 | 14 | <u>23</u> | 3.06 | 2.75 |
| Replacement and adjustment of color CRT | 2 | 13 | 10 | <u>18</u> | 5 | 2.23 | 3.54 |
| Servicing and adjustment of remote control systems in television sets | 2 | 15 | 11 | <u>18</u> | 2 | 2.06 | 3.33 |
| Replacement and adjustment of B&W CRT | 3 | 14 | 10 | <u>20</u> | 1 | 2.04 | 3.13 |
| Alignment of B&W and color TV tuners | <u>20</u> | 15 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 1.10 | 2.73 |
| Alignment of B&W and color TV IF stages | 14 | <u>24</u> | 6 | 2 | 2 | 1.04 | 3.13 |
| Ability to repair tape players, recorders, record players, and changers | | | | | | | |
| Removal and reinstallation from cabinet or case of tape recorder units and record changer units | 3 | 7 | 14 | <u>16</u> | 8 | 2.40 | 3.04 |
| Cleaning, lubrication, and adjustment of tape recorder units and record changer units | 3 | 10 | 12 | <u>18</u> | 5 | 2.25 | 2.98 |

Table 39. (Continued)

| Topic item | Frequency of performance | | | | | Mean | Degree of competency needed Mean |
|--|--------------------------|-----------|----|-----------|---|------|---|
| | Rating | | | | | | |
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | |
| Diagnosis, repairing, and replacement of defective parts in tape recorder and record changer units | 4 | 10 | 13 | <u>16</u> | 5 | 2.17 | 3.08 |
| Use of strob-o-scope to check proper speed on record player and changer units | 9 | 15 | 4 | <u>17</u> | 3 | 1.79 | 2.58 |
| Use of test tape to check head alignment and frequency response on tape players and recorders | <u>17</u> | 16 | 7 | 8 | | 1.13 | 2.38 |
| Repair of automotive radio, auto stereo units, and auto reverberation units | | | | | | | |
| Diagnosis and replacement of defective parts in auto radio, stereo, and reverb units | <u>17</u> | <u>17</u> | 4 | 5 | 5 | 1.25 | 2.29 |
| Removal, reinstallation, and adjustment of various makes of auto radios, auto stereos, and reverberation units | <u>22</u> | 14 | 3 | 6 | 3 | 1.04 | 2.08 |
| Diagnosis and repair of garage door control units, headlight dimmers, and signal seeking units | <u>18</u> | 17 | 8 | 5 | | 1.00 | 2.02 |
| Diagnosis and repair of auto tape players | <u>21</u> | 15 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 0.98 | 2.21 |
| Auto antenna repair, replacement, and new installation | <u>28</u> | 11 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 0.73 | 1.52 |
| Diagnosis, repair, and alignment of auto multiplex units | <u>28</u> | 15 | 2 | 3 | | 0.58 | 1.81 |
| Installation of indoor and outdoor antennas | | | | | | | |
| Installation of television and FM outdoor antennas | 11 | <u>14</u> | 7 | 13 | 3 | 1.65 | 2.58 |

Table 39. (Continued)

| Topic item | Frequency of performance Rating | | | | | Mean | Degree of competency needed Mean |
|--|------------------------------------|-----------|---|-----------|-----------|------|---|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | |
| Installation and maintenance of multiple antenna and multiple outlet systems | 11 | <u>15</u> | 9 | 9 | 4 | 1.58 | 2.96 |
| Installation of television and FM antennas in attic and other indoor locations | 14 | <u>19</u> | 9 | 5 | 1 | 1.17 | 2.40 |
| Ability to use shop techniques | | | | | | | |
| Using small hand tools | 1 | 2 | | 3 | <u>42</u> | 3.73 | 3.10 |
| Unsoldering and soldering of components in the circuit | 3 | | 1 | 2 | <u>78</u> | 3.54 | 3.19 |
| Testing of tubes and transis- tors | 2 | 1 | 4 | 6 | <u>35</u> | 3.48 | 3.10 |
| Read block and schematic dia- grams | 6 | 3 | 1 | 4 | <u>35</u> | 3.27 | 3.35 |
| Apply first aid procedures | 11 | <u>26</u> | 2 | 4 | 5 | 1.29 | 2.31 |
| Layout and etching of printed circuit boards | <u>33</u> | 7 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 0.75 | 1.46 |
| Sheet metal fabrication | <u>24</u> | 19 | 3 | | 2 | 0.69 | 1.46 |
| Ability to use electronic test equipment | | | | | | | |
| Vacuum tube tester | 1 | 3 | 2 | 6 | <u>36</u> | 3.52 | 3.10 |
| Volt-ohm-milliamperemeter (VOM) | 5 | 2 | 1 | 4 | <u>36</u> | 3.50 | 3.23 |
| Vacuum tube voltmeter (VTVM) | 5 | 3 | 2 | 3 | <u>35</u> | 3.25 | 3.17 |
| Color bar/dot/cross hatch generator | 10 | | 1 | 11 | <u>26</u> | 2.90 | 3.17 |
| Cathode ray tube tester | 7 | 8 | 4 | <u>16</u> | <u>13</u> | 2.42 | 2.94 |
| Transistor voltmeter (TRVM) | 11 | 8 | 5 | <u>3</u> | <u>21</u> | 2.31 | 3.02 |
| Transistor tester | 7 | 13 | 4 | 10 | <u>14</u> | 2.23 | 2.94 |
| Field strength meter | 12 | 12 | 4 | <u>13</u> | <u>7</u> | 1.81 | 2.60 |
| Signal injector | 13 | <u>16</u> | 4 | <u>7</u> | 8 | 1.60 | 2.48 |
| Capacitor substitution box | <u>16</u> | <u>11</u> | 6 | 7 | 8 | 1.58 | 2.29 |
| Signal tracer | <u>15</u> | <u>15</u> | 2 | 10 | 6 | 1.52 | 2.50 |
| Capacitor tester | <u>15</u> | <u>13</u> | 7 | 7 | 6 | 1.50 | 2.42 |
| Resistor substitution box | <u>17</u> | 11 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 1.50 | 2.29 |
| RF signal generator | 15 | <u>20</u> | 4 | 4 | 5 | 1.25 | 2.48 |
| AF signal generator | 17 | <u>18</u> | 3 | 6 | 4 | 1.21 | 2.44 |
| Bias power supply | 15 | <u>20</u> | 5 | 7 | 1 | 1.15 | 2.60 |
| Color CRT test jig | <u>34</u> | <u>6</u> | | 4 | 4 | .71 | 2.58 |

Table 39. (Continued)

| Topic item | Frequency of performance Rating | | | | | Mean | Degree of competency needed |
|---|--|----|---|---|---|------|-----------------------------------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | Mean |
| Impedance bridge | <u>27</u> | 14 | 2 | 4 | 1 | .71 | 2.13 |
| B&W CRT test jig | <u>32</u> | 10 | 1 | 4 | 1 | .58 | 2.31 |
| Multiplex generator | <u>33</u> | 9 | 2 | 4 | | .52 | 2.46 |
| TV analyst (B&K) | <u>33</u> | 9 | 3 | 3 | | .50 | 2.25 |
| Sweep and marker generator | <u>31</u> | 12 | 4 | 1 | | .48 | 2.79 |
| Transistor radio analyst (B&K) | <u>36</u> | 9 | | 2 | 1 | .40 | 1.90 |
| Grid dip oscillator | <u>35</u> | 11 | | 2 | | .35 | 1.50 |
| Oscilloscopes | | | | | | | |
| AC coupled | <u>32</u> | 11 | 2 | 1 | 2 | .54 | 2.46 |
| Direct coupled | <u>34</u> | 9 | 1 | 2 | 2 | .52 | 2.56 |
| Vector | <u>37</u> | 6 | 4 | 1 | | .35 | 2.33 |
| Triggered sweep | <u>39</u> | 6 | 1 | 2 | | .29 | 2.35 |
| Oscilloscope probes | | | | | | | |
| X10 (low capacitance) | <u>32</u> | 6 | 4 | 4 | 2 | .71 | 2.48 |
| Direct probe | <u>34</u> | 7 | 3 | 1 | 3 | .58 | 2.35 |
| Isolation | <u>37</u> | 7 | 1 | 2 | 1 | .40 | 2.04 |
| Crystal demodulation | <u>35</u> | 10 | 2 | | 1 | .38 | 2.10 |
| Frequency of performance rating scale: | Degree of competency needed rating scale: | | | | | | |
| 0 - Not used or performed | 0 - No competency needed | | | | | | |
| 1 - Sometimes | 1 - Little competency needed | | | | | | |
| 2 - Monthly | 2 - Some competency needed | | | | | | |
| 3 - Weekly | 3 - Much competency needed | | | | | | |
| 4 - Daily | 4 - Very much competency needed | | | | | | |
| Rating most often listed is underscored. | | | | | | | |

repairing, and replacement of defective components in tape recorder and record changer units".

The three items listed under "installation of indoor and outdoor antennas" were performed on the average of "sometimes" and required a degree of competency level of "some competency needed".

Table 40. Frequency of performance and degree of competency needed (mean ratings), as reported by total number of service technicians

| Topic item | <u>Bench service technicians</u> | | <u>Home service technicians</u> | | <u>Total number of service technicians</u> | |
|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| | Frequency of performance | Degree of competency needed | Frequency of performance | Degree of competency needed | Frequency of performance | Degree of competency needed |
| Ability to repair televisions, radios, and stereos | | | | | | |
| Removal and reassembly of radio, television, and stereo chassis of various sets | 3.90 | 3.05 | 3.85 | 3.40 | 3.89 | 3.17 |
| Replacement of various defective components in radios, televisions, and stereos | 3.37 | 3.34 | 3.67 | 3.52 | 3.73 | 3.41 |
| Lubrication and adjustment of various controls | 3.70 | 2.94 | 3.79 | 3.08 | 3.73 | 2.99 |
| Adjustment of purity, static convergence, and dynamic convergence of color television sets | 3.20 | 3.33 | 3.54 | 3.56 | 3.33 | 3.42 |
| Replacement and adjustment of color CRT | 2.45 | 3.27 | 2.23 | 3.54 | 2.37 | 3.37 |
| Replacement and adjustment of B&W CRT | 2.34 | 2.95 | 2.04 | 3.13 | 2.23 | 3.01 |
| Servicing and adjustment of remote control systems in television sets | 2.02 | 3.19 | 2.06 | 3.33 | 2.04 | 3.24 |
| Alignment of B&W and color TV IF stages | 1.75 | 3.46 | 1.04 | 3.13 | 1.49 | 3.34 |

Table 40. (Continued)

| Topic item | Bench service technicians | | Home service technicians | | Total number of service technicians | |
|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | Frequency of performance | Degree of competency needed | Frequency of performance | Degree of competency needed | Frequency of performance | Degree of competency needed |
| Alignment of B&W and color TV tuners | 1.44 | 3.15 | 1.10 | 2.73 | 1.32 | 3.00 |
| Ability to repair tape players, recorders, record players, and changers | | | | | | |
| Diagnosis, repairing, and replacement of defective parts in tape recorder and record changer units | 2.80 | 3.14 | 2.17 | 3.08 | 2.57 | 3.12 |
| Cleaning, lubrication, and adjustment of tape recorder units and record changer units | 2.70 | 2.98 | 2.25 | 2.98 | 2.54 | 2.98 |
| Removal and reinstallation from cabinet or case of tape recorder units and record changer units | 2.57 | 2.81 | 2.40 | 3.04 | 2.51 | 2.89 |
| Use of strob-o-scope to check proper speed on record player and changer units | 2.54 | 2.33 | 1.79 | 2.58 | 2.26 | 2.42 |
| Use of test tape to check head alignment and frequency response on tape players and recorders | 2.00 | 2.45 | 1.13 | 2.38 | 1.68 | 2.42 |

Table 40. (Continued)

| Topic item | Bench service technicians | | Home service technicians | | Total number of service technicians | |
|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | Frequency of performance | Degree of competency needed | Frequency of performance | Degree of competency needed | Frequency of performance | Degree of competency needed |
| Repair of automotive radio, auto stereo units, and auto reverberation units | | | | | | |
| Diagnosis and replacement of defective parts in auto radio, stereo, and reverb units | 1.80 | 2.54 | 1.25 | 2.29 | 1.60 | 2.45 |
| Diagnosis and repair of auto tape players | 1.43 | 2.48 | .98 | 2.21 | 1.26 | 2.38 |
| Removal, reinstallation, and adjustment of various makes of auto radios, auto stereos, and reverberation units | 1.27 | 1.99 | 1.04 | 2.08 | 1.19 | 2.02 |
| Diagnosis and repair of garage door control units, headlight dimmers, and signal seeking units | .89 | 1.75 | 1.00 | 2.02 | .93 | 1.85 |
| Auto antenna repair, replacement, and new installation | .96 | 1.61 | .73 | 1.52 | .88 | 1.58 |
| Diagnosis, repair, and alignment of auto multiplex units | .82 | 2.08 | .58 | 1.81 | .73 | 1.98 |

Table 40. (Continued)

| Topic item | Bench service technicians | | Home service technicians | | Total number of service technicians | |
|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | Frequency of performance | Degree of competency needed | Frequency of performance | Degree of competency needed | Frequency of performance | Degree of competency needed |
| Installation of indoor and outdoor antennas | | | | | | |
| Installation of television and FM outdoor antennas | 1.32 | 2.05 | 1.65 | 2.58 | 1.44 | 2.24 |
| Installation and maintenance of multiple antenna and multiple outlet systems | .89 | 2.24 | 1.58 | 2.96 | 1.14 | 2.50 |
| Installation of television and FM antennas in attic and other indoor locations | 1.08 | 1.92 | 1.17 | 2.40 | 1.11 | 2.09 |
| Ability to use shop techniques | | | | | | |
| Using small hand tools | 3.86 | 2.84 | 3.73 | 3.10 | 3.81 | 2.94 |
| Testing of tubes and transistors | 3.84 | 3.12 | 3.48 | 3.10 | 3.71 | 3.11 |
| Unsoldering and soldering of components in the circuit | 3.81 | 3.09 | 3.54 | 3.19 | 3.71 | 3.13 |
| Read block and schematic diagrams | 3.87 | 3.35 | 3.27 | 3.35 | 3.65 | 3.35 |
| Apply first aid procedures | 1.19 | 2.17 | 1.29 | 2.31 | 1.23 | 2.22 |
| Sheet metal fabrication | .81 | 1.18 | .69 | 1.46 | .76 | 1.28 |
| Layout and etching of printed circuit boards | .73 | 1.13 | .75 | 1.46 | .73 | 1.25 |

Table 40. (Continued)

| Topic item | Bench service technicians | | Home service technicians | | Total number of service technicians | |
|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | Frequency of performance | Degree of competency needed | Frequency of performance | Degree of competency needed | Frequency of performance | Degree of competency needed |
| Ability to use electronic test equipment | | | | | | |
| Vacuum tube voltmeter (VTVM) | 3.79 | 3.37 | 3.25 | 3.17 | 3.59 | 3.29 |
| Vacuum tube tester | 3.58 | 2.96 | 3.52 | 3.10 | 3.54 | 3.01 |
| Volt-ohm-milliamperemeter (VOM) | 3.56 | 3.37 | 3.50 | 3.23 | 3.54 | 3.32 |
| Transistor tester | 3.51 | 3.21 | 2.23 | 2.94 | 3.04 | 3.11 |
| Color bar/dot/cross hatch generator | 2.88 | 3.01 | 2.90 | 3.17 | 2.89 | 3.07 |
| Cathode ray tube tester | 3.08 | 3.07 | 2.42 | 2.94 | 2.84 | 3.02 |
| Transistor voltmeter (TRVM) | 2.88 | 3.08 | 2.31 | 3.02 | 2.67 | 3.06 |
| Signal tracer | 2.86 | 2.82 | 1.52 | 2.50 | 2.37 | 2.70 |
| Signal injector | 2.73 | 2.83 | 1.60 | 2.48 | 2.32 | 2.70 |
| AF signal generator | 2.49 | 2.90 | 1.21 | 2.44 | 2.02 | 2.73 |
| RF signal generator | 2.44 | 2.94 | 1.25 | 2.48 | 2.01 | 2.77 |
| Color CRT test jig | 2.51 | 2.75 | .71 | 2.58 | 1.86 | 2.69 |
| Capacitor tester | 2.02 | 2.31 | 1.50 | 2.42 | 1.83 | 2.35 |
| Capacitor substitution box | 1.98 | 2.19 | 1.58 | 2.29 | 1.83 | 2.23 |
| Bias power supply | 2.07 | 2.73 | 1.15 | 2.60 | 1.73 | 2.68 |
| Resistor substitution box | 1.82 | 2.15 | 1.50 | 2.29 | 1.70 | 2.20 |
| Field strength meter | 1.52 | 2.24 | 1.81 | 2.60 | 1.63 | 2.37 |
| B&W CRT test jig | 2.21 | 2.62 | .58 | 2.31 | 1.62 | 2.51 |
| Sweep and marker generator | 1.75 | 3.14 | .48 | 2.79 | 1.29 | 3.01 |
| TV analyst | 1.74 | 2.52 | .50 | 2.25 | 1.29 | 2.42 |
| Transistor radio analyst | 1.51 | 2.27 | .40 | 1.90 | 1.11 | 2.14 |

Table 40. (Continued)

| Topic item | Bench service technicians | | Home service technicians | | Total number of service technicians | | |
|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| | Frequency of performance | Degree of competency needed | Frequency of performance | Degree of competency needed | Frequency of performance | Degree of competency needed | |
| Multiplex generator | 1.23 | 2.49 | .52 | 2.46 | .97 | 2.48 | |
| Impedance bridge | 1.06 | 1.96 | .71 | 2.13 | .93 | 2.02 | |
| Grid dip oscillator | .67 | 1.81 | .35 | 1.50 | .55 | 1.70 | |
| Oscilloscopes | | | | | | | |
| AC coupled | 2.67 | 2.94 | .54 | 2.46 | 1.89 | 2.76 | |
| Direct coupled | 2.42 | 2.87 | .52 | 2.56 | 1.73 | 2.76 | |
| Vector | 1.67 | 2.76 | .35 | 2.33 | 1.19 | 2.61 | |
| Triggered sweep | 1.40 | 2.37 | .29 | 2.35 | 1.00 | 2.36 | |
| Oscilloscope probes | | | | | | | |
| Direct probe | 2.67 | 2.93 | .58 | 2.35 | 1.91 | 2.72 | |
| X10 (low capacitance) | 2.56 | 2.90 | .71 | 2.48 | 1.89 | 2.75 | |
| Crystal demodulation | 1.88 | 2.73 | .38 | 2.10 | 1.33 | 2.50 | |
| Isolation | 1.57 | 2.29 | .40 | 2.04 | 1.14 | 2.20 | |
| Frequency of performance rating scale: | | | | | | Degree of competency needed rating scale: | |
| 0 - Not used or performed | | | | | | 0 - No competency needed | |
| 1 - Sometimes | | | | | | 1 - Little competency needed | |
| 2 - Monthly | | | | | | 2 - Some competency needed | |
| 3 - Weekly | | | | | | 3 - Much competency needed | |
| 4 - Daily | | | | | | 4 - Very much competency needed | |

In the category of "ability to use shop techniques", the items "using small hand tools", "testing of tubes and transistors", "unsoldering and soldering of components in the circuit", and "read block and schematic diagrams" were performed on the average of "weekly" by the service technicians. "Sheet metal fabrication" and "layout and etching of printed circuit boards" had the lowest frequency of performance ratings. "Read block and schematic diagrams" had the highest degree of competency needed mean rating which was 3.35.

The "vacuum tube voltmeter (VTVM)", "vacuum tube tester", "volt-ohm-milliamper meter (VOM)", and "transistor tester" were the test equipment items indicated as used "weekly". The "multiplex generator", "impedance bridge", and "grid dip oscillator" were indicated as the least frequently used test equipment items. The "vacuum tube voltmeter (VTVM)", "vacuum tube tester", "volt-ohm-milliamper meter (VOM)", "transistor tester", "color bar/dot/cross hatch generator", "cathode ray tube tester", "transistor voltmeter (TRVM)", and "sweep and marker generator" required a degree of competency level of "much competency needed".

Service Information

This section described the findings concerning the last three consumer electronic products serviced by the service technicians just before the interview. The service technicians were asked to list the last three consumer electronic products serviced, test equipment used in servicing each item, defective stage or stages, defective component or components, and adjustments performed to complete the service.

Last three consumer electronic products serviced by each service technician

The data in Table 41 summarized the consumer electronic products serviced by the service technicians when they were asked to list the last three items serviced. According to the data presented, a total of 355 consumer electronic products were listed. Of the 355 items listed, 173 were color televisions, 65 were B&W televisions, 59 were radios, 18 were tape recorders or tape players, 17 were record players or changers, 17 were in the category of audio systems, and six in the category of miscellaneous consumer electronic products. Ninety of the color televisions were serviced by bench service technicians, and 83 were serviced by home service technicians. Fifty-one of the B&W televisions were serviced by bench service technicians, and 14 were serviced by home service technicians. Only four of the radios were serviced by home service technicians. All of the tape recorders and tape players were serviced by bench service technicians. Two of the record players or changers were serviced by home service technicians. All of the items listed in the audio systems category were serviced by bench service technicians. All six items listed in the miscellaneous category were serviced by home service technicians.

Electronic test equipment

The distribution of electronic test equipment used in servicing the various consumer electronic products were presented in Table 42. The "vacuum tube voltmeter (VTVM)" was the most frequently used test equipment item. It was used in servicing 141 of the 355 consumer electronic products serviced. The "oscilloscope" was ranked second and was used in servicing 71 products.

Table 41. Frequency distribution of last three consumer electronic products serviced by each service technician

| Consumer electronic products | Serviced by bench service technicians | Serviced by home service technicians | Total products serviced |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Color television | 90 | 83 | 173 |
| B&W television | 51 | 14 | 65 |
| Radio | | | |
| AM radio | 16 | | 16 |
| AM-FM tuner/amplifier | 14 | 2 | 16 |
| FM receiver or tuner | 6 | 2 | 8 |
| Automotive radio | 12 | | 12 |
| Transceiver | 3 | | 3 |
| Garage door opener | 2 | | 2 |
| FM communication receiver | 1 | | 1 |
| FM transmitter | 1 | | 1 |
| Sub total | 55 | 4 | 59 |
| Tape recorder and player | | | |
| Tape recorder | 7 | | 7 |
| Automotive tape player | 5 | | 5 |
| Tape deck | 3 | | 3 |
| Stereo recorder | 1 | | 1 |
| Stereo tape player | 1 | | 1 |
| Video tape recorder | 1 | | 1 |
| Sub total | 18 | | 18 |
| Record player and changer | | | |
| Record player | 7 | | 7 |
| Stereo record player | 5 | | 5 |
| Record changer | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| Sub total | 16 | 1 | 17 |
| Audio systems | | | |
| Stereo amplifier | 5 | | 5 |
| Stereo console | 4 | | 4 |
| Audio amplifier | 4 | | 4 |
| Intercom unit | 2 | | 2 |
| PA system | 1 | | 1 |
| Telephone and paging system | 1 | | 1 |
| Sub total | 17 | | 17 |

Table 41. (Continued)

| Consumer electronic products | Serviced by bench service technicians | Serviced by home service technicians | Total products serviced |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|-------------------------------|
| Miscellaneous | | | |
| Multi-antenna distribution system | | 2 | 2 |
| Antenna installation | | 1 | 1 |
| Antenna rotor installation | | 1 | 1 |
| Vidicon TV camera | | 1 | 1 |
| Dollar bill changer | | 1 | 1 |
| Sub total | | 6 | 6 |
| Total | 244 | 108 | 355 |

According to the data presented in Table 43, the "vacuum tube volt-meter (VTVM)" was the test equipment item most frequently used by both bench and home service technicians in servicing the following consumer electronic products: color television, B&W television, radio, tape recorders and tape players, and audio systems. No test equipment was required in servicing the majority of the record players and changers.

Defective stages and special circuits

The data in Table 44 summarized the defective stages and special circuits in the consumer electronic products serviced by service technicians. Some of the products had more than one defective stage, but this was not categorized in Table 44. According to the data presented, the horizontal output stage was found defective in 22 of the 173 color televisions serviced. The tuner was defective in 19 of the color televisions. In the B&W television, there were two stages that caused the majority of the problems.

Table 42. Electronic test equipment used in servicing each of last three consumer electronic products, as reported by service technicians

| Electronic test equipment used | Consumer Electronic Products Serviced | | | | | | Misc. | Total |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|-------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|-------|-------|
| | Color tele- vision | B&W tele- vision | Radio | Tape recorder/ player | Record player/ changer | Audio systems | | |
| Vacuum tube voltmeter (VTVM) | 61 | 32 | 22 | 12 | 2 | 12 | | 141 |
| Oscilloscope | 37 | 14 | 12 | 3 | | 5 | | 71 |
| Volt-ohm-milliamperemeter (VOM) | 24 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 49 |
| Color bar/dot/cross hatch generator | 35 | | | | | | | 35 |
| No test equipment used | 24 | | 2 | 1 | 5 | 1 | | 33 |
| Vacuum tube tester | 19 | 8 | 1 | | 1 | 2 | | 31 |
| Degaussing coil | 30 | | | | | | | 30 |
| HV probe or HV tester | 27 | | | | | | | 27 |
| Transistor tester | 3 | | 8 | 1 | 3 | 4 | | 19 |
| Sweep and marker generator | 14 | | | | | | | 14 |
| CRT tester | 7 | 7 | | | | | | 14 |
| Signal tracer | 1 | | 4 | 2 | 2 | 1 | | 10 |
| RF signal generator | | | 10 | | | | | 10 |
| TV analyst | 4 | 4 | | | | | | 8 |
| Color or B&W CRT test jig | 4 | 3 | | | | | | 7 |
| Signal injector | | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | | | 7 |
| Capacitor checker | 3 | 2 | 1 | | | | | 6 |
| FM multiplex generator | | | 6 | | | | | 6 |

Table 42. (Continued)

| Electronic test equipment used | Consumer Electronic Products Serviced | | | | | | | Total |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|-------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|-------|-------|
| | Color tele- vision | B&W tele- vision | Radio | Tape recorder/ player | Record player/ changer | Audio systems | Misc. | |
| AF signal generator | | | 5 | | 1 | | | 6 |
| Capacitor substitution box | 2 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 4 |
| Strob-o-scope | | | | | 3 | | | 3 |
| Frequency counter | | | 3 | | | | | 3 |
| Head alignment cartridge | | | | 3 | | | | 3 |
| Field strength meter | | | | | | | 3 | 3 |
| Demagnetizer | | | | 2 | | | | 2 |
| Watt meter | | | 2 | | | | | 2 |
| Resistor substitution box | | 2 | | | | | | 2 |
| Flyback transformer tester | 1 | | | | | | | 1 |
| FM sweep generator | | | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Transistor radio analyst | | | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| Grid dip meter | 1 | | | | | | | 1 |
| Q meter | 1 | | | | | | | 1 |

Table 43. Distribution of electronic test equipment used by service technicians based upon the last three consumer electronic products serviced

| Topic item | Used by bench service technicians | Used by home service technicians | Used by total number of service technicians |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| Color television | | | |
| Vacuum tube voltmeter | 42 | 19 | 61 |
| Oscilloscope | 37 | 2 | 39 |
| Color bar/dot/cross hatch generator | 20 | 15 | 35 |
| Degaussing coil | 12 | 18 | 30 |
| HV probe or tester | 12 | 15 | 27 |
| No test equipment used | 9 | 15 | 24 |
| Volt-ohm-milliampere meter | 8 | 16 | 24 |
| Vacuum tube tester | 9 | 10 | 19 |
| Sweep and marker generator | 14 | | 14 |
| CRT tester | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| Color test jig | 4 | | 4 |
| TV analyst | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Capacitor checker | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Transistor tester | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Capacitor substitution box | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Signal tracer | | 1 | 1 |
| Flyback transformer tester | 1 | | 1 |
| Q meter | 1 | | 1 |
| Grid dip oscillator | 1 | | 1 |
| B&W television | | | |
| Vacuum tube voltmeter | 24 | 8 | 32 |
| Oscilloscope | 14 | | 14 |
| Vacuum tube tester | 5 | 3 | 8 |
| Volt-ohm-milliampere meter | 8 | | 8 |
| CRT tester | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| Sweep and marker generator | 5 | | 5 |
| TV analyst | 4 | | 4 |
| B&W test jig | 3 | | 3 |
| Capacitor checker | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Resistor substitution box | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Signal injector | 1 | | 1 |
| Capacitor substitution box | 1 | | 1 |
| Radio | | | |
| Vacuum tube voltmeter | 21 | 1 | 22 |
| Oscilloscope | 12 | | 12 |

Table 43. (Continued)

| Topic item | Used by bench service technicians | Used by home service technicians | Used by total number of service technicians |
|-------------------------------|--|---|--|
| RF signal generator | 10 | | 10 |
| Transistor tester | 7 | 1 | 8 |
| Volt-ohm-milliampere meter | 6 | | 6 |
| Multiplex generator | 6 | | 6 |
| AF signal generator | 5 | | 5 |
| Signal tracer | 4 | | 4 |
| Signal injector | 3 | | 3 |
| Frequency counter | 3 | | 3 |
| Watt meter | 2 | | 2 |
| Test speaker | 2 | | 2 |
| Battery eliminator | 2 | | 2 |
| No test equipment used | 2 | | 2 |
| Vacuum tube tester | 1 | | 1 |
| Capacitor substitution box | 1 | | 1 |
| FM sweep generator | 1 | | 1 |
| Capacitor checker | 1 | | 1 |
| Tape recorder and player | | | |
| Vacuum tube volt meter | 11 | 1 | 12 |
| Tape head alignment cartridge | 3 | | 3 |
| Oscilloscope | 3 | | 3 |
| Signal injector | 2 | | 2 |
| Signal tracer | 2 | | 2 |
| Demagnetizer | 2 | | 2 |
| Volt-ohm-milliampere meter | 1 | | 1 |
| Transistor tester | 1 | | 1 |
| No test equipment used | 1 | | 1 |
| Record player and changer | | | |
| No test equipment used | 5 | | 5 |
| Volt-ohm-milliampere meter | 4 | | 4 |
| Strob-o-scope | 3 | | 3 |
| Transistor tester | 3 | | 3 |
| Signal tracer | 2 | | 2 |
| Vacuum tube voltmeter | 2 | | 2 |
| Signal injector | 1 | | 1 |
| AF signal generator | 1 | | 1 |
| Vacuum tube tester | 1 | | 1 |

Table 43. (Continued)

| Topic item | Used by bench service technicians | Used by home service technicians | Used by total number of service technicians |
|--|--|---|--|
| Audio systems | | | |
| Vacuum tube voltmeter | 12 | | 12 |
| Oscilloscope | 5 | | 5 |
| Transistor tester | 4 | | 4 |
| Volt-ohm-milliamperere meter | 3 | | 3 |
| Vacuum tube tester | 2 | | 2 |
| Transistor radio analyst | 1 | | 1 |
| Signal tracer | 1 | | 1 |
| No test equipment used | 1 | | 1 |
| Miscellaneous consumer products | | | |
| Field strength meter | 3 | | 3 |
| Volt-ohm-milliamperere meter | 3 | | 3 |

The stages were low voltage power supply and vertical deflection circuit.

The IF amplifier was defective in 15 of the 59 radios serviced. The audio amplifier was defective in 5 tape recorders or tape players. The main problems occurring in the record players and changers were cartridge and drive mechanism.

Defective electronic components

Table 45 contained data concerning the frequency of electronic components found defective in consumer electronic products. Many of the products required replacement of more than one component of the same type or of different types. Data concerning more than one item of the same type replaced in each product was not included in the table. According to the data presented, the vacuum tube was the component found defective most frequently

Table 44. Distribution of defective stages and special circuits repaired based on the last three consumer electronic products serviced by each service technician

| Topic item | By bench service technicians | By home service technicians | Total stages repaired |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Color television | | | |
| Horizontal output | 9 | 13 | 22 |
| Tuner | 12 | 7 | 19 |
| Low voltage power supply | 10 | 7 | 17 |
| Video IF amplifier | 14 | | 14 |
| Cathode ray tube | 9 | 4 | 13 |
| Vertical deflection | 8 | 5 | 13 |
| High voltage power supply | 5 | 7 | 12 |
| Horizontal deflection | 5 | 4 | 9 |
| Color oscillator | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| Video detector | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| Demodulator | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| Automatic gain control | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| Audio amplifier | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| Video amplifier | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Damper | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Color burst amplifier | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Focus | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Bandpass amplifier | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Sync | 2 | | 2 |
| Regulator | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Sound IF amplifier | 2 | | 2 |
| Sound detector | 1 | | 1 |
| Limiter | 1 | | 1 |
| Color phase detector | 1 | | 1 |
| B&W television | | | |
| Low voltage power supply | 12 | 3 | 15 |
| Vertical deflection | 14 | 1 | 15 |
| Tuner | 9 | 3 | 12 |
| Video IF amplifier | 5 | 3 | 8 |
| Horizontal deflection | 7 | 1 | 8 |
| Audio amplifier | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| Cathode ray tube | 5 | | 5 |
| High voltage power supply | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| Video amplifier | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| Automatic gain control | 3 | | 3 |
| Horizontal output | | 2 | 2 |
| Damper | 1 | 1 | 2 |

Table 44. (Continued)

| Topic item | By bench service technicians | By home service technicians | Total stages repaired |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Sound IF amplifier | 1 | | 1 |
| Remote control unit | 1 | | 1 |
| Radio | | | |
| IF amplifier | 15 | | 15 |
| Audio power amplifier | 10 | | 10 |
| RF amplifier | 9 | | 9 |
| Oscillator | 7 | | 7 |
| Power supply | 6 | | 6 |
| Audio amplifier | 4 | | 4 |
| Automatic gain control | 3 | | 3 |
| Converter | 3 | | 3 |
| Multiplex | 2 | | 2 |
| Squelch | 1 | | 1 |
| Tape recorder and player | | | |
| Audio amplifier | 5 | | 5 |
| Tape head | 4 | | 4 |
| Drive mechanism | 3 | | 3 |
| Power supply | 3 | | 3 |
| Audio power amplifier | 2 | | 2 |
| Photoelectric shutoff | | 1 | 1 |
| Record player and changer | | | |
| Cartridge | 6 | | 6 |
| Drive mechanism | 6 | | 6 |
| Audio amplifier | 4 | | 4 |
| Power supply | 2 | | 2 |
| Tone arm | 1 | | 1 |
| Audio systems | | | |
| Audio amplifier | 9 | | 9 |
| Power supply | 5 | | 5 |
| Audio power amplifier | 4 | | 4 |
| RF amplifier | 1 | | 1 |
| Miscellaneous | | | |
| RF amplifier | | 3 | 3 |
| Converter | | 1 | 1 |
| Vidicon TV camera tube | | 1 | 1 |

Table 45. Distribution of defective electronic components replaced in the last three consumer electronic products serviced by each service technician

| Topic item | Defective Electronic Components | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| | Replaced by bench service technicians | Replaced by home service technicians | Replaced by total number of service technicians |
| Color television | | | |
| Tube | 27 | 24 | 51 |
| Capacitor | 16 | 2 | 18 |
| Transistor | 9 | 4 | 13 |
| Cathode ray tube | 10 | 3 | 13 |
| Resistor | 8 | 4 | 12 |
| Diode | 7 | 2 | 9 |
| Solder connection | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| Filter capacitor | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| Flyback transformer | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Tuner replacement | 3 | | 3 |
| Switch | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Fuse | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Volume control leads | 2 | | 2 |
| Color burst coil | 2 | | 2 |
| Circuit breaker | | 2 | 2 |
| Power transformer | 1 | | 1 |
| Filter choke | 1 | | 1 |
| IF transformer | 1 | | 1 |
| Trap coil | 1 | | 1 |
| Quad coil | | 1 | 1 |
| Control shaft | | 1 | 1 |
| Focus coil | 1 | | 1 |
| Thermistor | 1 | | 1 |
| Bandpass amplifier coil | 1 | | 1 |
| IF pannel | | 1 | 1 |
| Delay coil | | 1 | 1 |
| Dynamic convergence board | | 1 | 1 |
| B&W television | | | |
| Tube | 11 | 7 | 18 |
| Capacitor | 7 | 2 | 9 |
| Resistor | 7 | 1 | 8 |
| Diode | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Filter capacitor | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Circuit breaker | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Quad coil | 3 | | 3 |
| Transistor | 2 | 1 | 3 |

Table 45. (Continued)

| Topic item | Defective Electronic Components | | |
|---------------------------------|--|---|--|
| | Replaced by bench service technicians | Replaced by home service technicians | Replaced by total number of service technicians |
| Solder connection | 3 | | 3 |
| Filter choke | 2 | | 2 |
| Flyback transformer | 2 | | 2 |
| Tuner replacement | 2 | | 2 |
| Volume control leads | 2 | | 2 |
| Yoke | 2 | | 2 |
| Speaker | 1 | | 1 |
| Audio output transformer | 1 | | 1 |
| Audio driver transformer | 1 | | 1 |
| Fuse | 1 | | 1 |
| Radio | | | |
| Transistor | 23 | 1 | 24 |
| Tubes | 8 | 1 | 9 |
| Resistor | 5 | | 5 |
| Capacitor | 3 | | 3 |
| Fuse | 2 | | 2 |
| Solder connections | 2 | | 2 |
| IF transformer | 2 | | 2 |
| Lamp | 1 | | 1 |
| Antenna coil | 1 | | 1 |
| Oscillator assembly | 1 | | 1 |
| Diode | 1 | | 1 |
| Audio interstage transformer | 1 | | 1 |
| Audio output transformer | 1 | | 1 |
| Filter capacitor | 1 | | 1 |
| Printed circuit board | 1 | | 1 |
| Coil | 1 | | 1 |
| Tape recorder and player | | | |
| Transistor | 3 | | 3 |
| Capacitor | 3 | | 3 |
| Printed circuit board | 2 | | 2 |
| Resistor | 1 | | 1 |
| Belt | 1 | | 1 |
| Track change mechanism | 1 | | 1 |
| Solder connection | | 1 | 1 |
| Switch | 1 | | 1 |
| Diode | 1 | | 1 |
| Wiring | 1 | | 1 |

Table 45. (Continued)

| Topic item | Defective Electronic Components | | |
|---------------------------|--|---|--|
| | Replaced by bench service technicians | Replaced by home service technicians | Replaced by total number of service technicians |
| Record player and changer | | | |
| Cartridge | 6 | | 6 |
| Drive wheel | 3 | | 3 |
| Motor | 2 | | 2 |
| Integrated circuit | 2 | | 2 |
| Needle | 2 | | 2 |
| Tube | 2 | | 2 |
| Capacitor | 1 | | 1 |
| Diode | 1 | | 1 |
| Cycling cam and trip link | 1 | | 1 |
| Tone arm | 1 | | 1 |
| Audio systems | | | |
| Transistor | 5 | | 5 |
| Tube | 4 | | 4 |
| Capacitor | 3 | | 3 |
| Solder connection | 1 | | 1 |
| Speaker cable | 1 | | 1 |
| Ground | 1 | | 1 |
| Audio output transformer | 1 | | 1 |
| Switch | 1 | | 1 |
| Filter capacitor | 1 | | 1 |
| Shielding | 1 | | 1 |
| Miscellaneous | | | |
| Tube | | 2 | 2 |
| Resistor | | 2 | 2 |
| Capacitor | | 1 | 1 |
| Vidicon TV camera tube | | 1 | 1 |
| Switch | | 1 | 1 |

in color and B&W televisions. The transistor was the component found defective most frequently in radios, tape recorders and tape players, and products included in audio systems category. The cartridge was defective in six of the record players and changers serviced.

Adjustments performed on consumer electronic products

Some of the consumer electronic products required adjustments of some type. The data in Table 46 indicated that the complete color setup adjustments were performed on 56 of the 173 color televisions serviced. The high voltage adjustment was also performed on 32 color televisions. Thirteen of the color televisions were completely aligned. The height and vertical linearity controls were adjusted on 19 of the B&W televisions. The most frequent adjustments performed on radios was in the IF amplifier tuned circuits. The majority of the adjustments performed on tape recorders, tape players, record players, and changers were mechanical adjustments.

Table 46. Distribution of adjustments performed on the last three consumer electronic products serviced by each service technician

| Topic item | Adjustments performed by bench service technicians | Adjustments performed by home service technicians | Total adjustments performed |
|-------------------------------|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| Color television | | | |
| Complete color setup | 41 | 15 | 56 |
| High voltage | 14 | 18 | 32 |
| Fine tune | 6 | 11 | 17 |
| Black and white tracking | 5 | 12 | 17 |
| Convergence | 8 | 8 | 16 |
| Alignment (complete) | 13 | | 13 |
| AGC | 3 | 9 | 12 |
| Efficiency coil | 4 | 7 | 11 |
| Height and vertical linearity | 3 | 7 | 10 |
| Focus | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| Horizontal oscillator | 5 | 2 | 7 |
| AFPC | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| Color oscillator | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| Trap coil | 5 | | 5 |
| Color killer | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| Sound discriminator | 2 | 1 | 3 |

Table 46. (Continued)

| Topic item | Adjustments performed by bench service technicians | Adjustments performed by home service technicians | Total adjustments performed |
|----------------------------------|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| B&W television | | | |
| Height and vertical linearity | 17 | 2 | 19 |
| AGC | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| Fine tune | 3 | | 3 |
| Sound discriminator | 3 | | 3 |
| Horizontal oscillator | 3 | | 3 |
| Tuner oscillator | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| High voltage | 2 | | 2 |
| Radio | | | |
| IF amplifier | 17 | | 17 |
| RF amplifier | 16 | | 16 |
| Oscillator | 11 | | 11 |
| FM multiplex | 5 | | 5 |
| Bias | 3 | | 3 |
| Antenna | 3 | | 3 |
| Squelch | 1 | | 1 |
| Stereo indicator | 1 | | 1 |
| Tape recorder and player | | | |
| Tape head | 5 | | 5 |
| Stereo balance | 2 | | 2 |
| Tone compensation | 2 | | 2 |
| Speed | 1 | | 1 |
| Bias | 1 | | 1 |
| Record player and changer | | | |
| Tone arm | 7 | | 7 |
| Speed | 6 | | 6 |
| Stabilization arm | 4 | | 4 |
| Pivot size select | 3 | | 3 |
| Audio systems | | | |
| Bias | 2 | | 2 |
| Input level control | 1 | | 1 |
| Miscellaneous | | | |
| Gain | | 2 | 2 |
| Balance | | 2 | 2 |
| Height and vertical linearity | | 1 | 1 |

DISCUSSION

It was the purpose of this study to investigate data that were gathered for assistance in developing a program for training consumer electronics service technicians and to gather data that could be used for guidance purposes. The technical data could also be used for developing a program for training consumer electronics service technicians who want to specialize in "in-home servicing" or "bench servicing" in the service shop.

In the author's opinion, the mathematical topics were not given high ratings by the service technicians because a very limited amount of mathematics was actually used in diagnosing, troubleshooting, and replacing of defective components in the products serviced. If the service technicians were designing the stages in the consumer electronic products, a higher level of mathematics would be required.

The author felt the reason arithmetic was rated higher by the home service technicians was because home service technicians used arithmetic in figuring the bill in the customer's home. In the service shop, the service manager often figured the bill for the bench service technicians. The level of algebra used by the service technicians was primarily manipulation of Ohm's Law.

Some of the items pertaining to public relations and business practices were rated, by the service technicians, as requiring a higher degree of competency than many of the technical topics. The item, "public relations-- handling of customers, proper wearing apparel, and proper manners", was given a mean rating 3.18 by the bench service technicians. The same topic was given a mean rating of 3.73 by the home service technicians. Therefore,

public relations was very important for the home service technicians because of being involved directly with the public. In many cases, the bench service technicians worked in the back of the service shop and were not involved with the customer. Being competent in public relations could make up for some incompetencies in the technical areas.

The investigation revealed that the majority of the service technicians were grouped into two categories of both age and years of experience. Over one-third of the service technicians were under 30 years of age and had less than four years of experience servicing consumer electronic products. Approximately another one-third were between 40 and 49 years of age and had 16 to 25 years of experience. The relative young age of the service technicians and limited number of years of experience should indicate need for future up-date courses. Also, a service technician cannot possibly learn all there is to know about servicing in four years.

In the author's opinion, the older group of service technicians probably started in the service trade servicing radios and B&W televisions. The older group went through the transition from B&W television to color television and from vacuum tubes to semiconductor devices. Many older service technicians were forced out of the service trade because of not being able to make the transition. The rapid advancing technology requires the service technicians to read service literature and attend up-date classes in order to keep up-to-date. Many of the modern diagnosing and troubleshooting techniques could be obtained better by attending classes and watching demonstrations.

The Iowa Area Vocational-Technical Schools would be the ideal location for offering up-date courses. The location of the schools would be conven-

ient for the technicians living in each area. The courses could be taught by the Iowa Area Vocational-Technical School electronic instructors, Iowa State University Engineering Extension electronic instructors, or factory field service personnel. The courses could be offered in the evening or during the day. One criticism of the evening classes was that technicians did not like to attend class at night after working in the service shop all day. The service shop would benefit by sending one or two technicians to up-date classes held during the day. The technicians would have more desire to learn knowing he was being paid to attend class.

The balance of knowledge and skill included in a training program has always been a problem to educators. The consumer electronic service technician program has been no exception. One comment often heard in regard to the graduates of the Iowa Area Vocational-Technical School service technician program was the technicians were overtrained in the theoretical aspect and undertrained in practical day-to-day money making activities. In other words, the graduates were better prepared to design circuits that diagnose and troubleshoot defective consumer electronic products. In the author's opinion, the service training programs should place more emphasis in teaching the understanding of the function of the electronic stages that make up the product and less emphasis on designing the stages. The students should spend a considerable amount of time in class diagnosing and troubleshooting defective modern day consumer electronic products. The single concept films and teaching aids developed for teaching diagnosing and servicing of consumer electronic products should be used to supplement the instructor. The single concept films could be viewed by the students while the instructor installed another group of troubles in the products of diagnosing. The

students should also get experience in using test equipment and reading block and schematic diagrams.

The author felt that the reason test equipment was not used in servicing 24 of the last three consumer electronic products serviced by each technician was because the service technicians had a good understanding of the function of the various electronic stages and could identify the stages not functioning properly by observation.

The service shops would like to employ technicians who possessed as much knowledge and skill as possible but were not always willing to offer salaries, fringe benefits, and working conditions comparable to those received in other similar types of occupations. The service trades has not been able to attract or hold the best qualified service technicians.

The starting salary for beginning service technicians discouraged many graduates from entering the service trade. Many of the graduates of the two-year service technician programs expected to start at the same salary as graduates of the two-year engineering technician program. The low starting salary caused difficulties in recruiting students into the two-year service technician programs. In the author's opinion, the length of the program should be shortened to be in line with the salary the graduates could expect to receive. The students should be in school long enough to acquire enough knowledge and skill to enter the service trade and not be expected to be an expert by the service shop owner. Up-date courses should be provided so the graduate could attend to gain more knowledge while working on the job.

In the author's opinion, the section of the study pertaining to service information provided very valuable information for up-dating service

technician training programs. The technicians were asked to list the last three products serviced prior to the interview, test equipment used in servicing each item, defective stage, defective components, and adjustment performed in completing the service.

The list of defective stages and defective components found in the products serviced would identify many of the service problems encountered in the service trade. The common problems could be emphasized in the training programs to help produce better technicians.

The service information would have been more valuable if service data had been gathered over several months instead of on the last three items serviced prior to the interview. The majority of the items serviced were color televisions, and very few other types of consumer products were listed. A greater number of problems would have occurred in a larger sample.

On the basis of the study, the following recommendations were made:

1. A committee consisting of guidance personnel, consumer electronics servicing instructors, and service technicians meet for the purpose of interpreting the data in the study that could be used for guidance purposes.
2. The Iowa Area Vocational-Technical School electronic instructors meet with the advisory committee to interpret data in the study that could be used to up-date the service technician training program.
3. The Iowa Area Vocational-Technical Schools should call on business managers of successful consumer electronic service firms to teach

the public relations and business practices in the service technician training program.

4. More emphasis be placed on reading of block and schematic diagrams and service literature provided by consumer electronic product manufacturers.
5. More emphasis should be placed on using modern day consumer electronic products in service technician training programs.
6. More emphasis be placed on career education in the secondary schools to make students aware of opportunities, working conditions, and responsibilities of the consumer electronics service technician occupation.

The following recommendations were made for future study:

1. Conduct a study of the antenna installers occupation to see if there is a need for development of a training program.
2. Collect data concerning service information over a long period of time by having service technicians record products serviced, test equipment used in servicing each product, defective functional stage, defective component, and adjustments performed. This type of information would be helpful in up-dating service technician training programs.

SUMMARY

The purpose of this study was to gather data that would be of assistance in developing a program in Iowa for training consumer electronics service technicians and to gather data that could be used for guidance purposes.

The specific objectives of this study were:

1. Gather background information concerning the consumer electronics service technicians such as: age, number of years of experience in servicing consumer electronic products, salary, hours worked, educational background, types of consumer electronic products serviced, and as to whether he worked in the service shop or the customer's home the majority of the time.
2. Gather technical data that would be of assistance in developing a program in Iowa for training consumer electronics service technicians by determining:
 - A. Essential knowledge required of the consumer electronics service technician in order to competently do his job
 - B. Essential skills required of the consumer electronics service technician in doing a competent job in home servicing
 - C. Essential skills required of the consumer electronics service technician in doing a competent job in bench servicing
 - D. Test equipment used by consumer electronics service technicians in servicing consumer electronic products in the home and in the service shop.

The study was limited to the service technicians employed within 40 consumer electronic service firms in Iowa selected by random sampling from the entire population of all consumer electronic service firms employing three or more full-time consumer electronics service technicians. The study was further limited to only service technicians who service consumer electronic products such as television receivers, radios, phonographs, tape recorders and players, audio components, and similar products.

General Findings Concerning Service Technicians

One hundred thirty-two service technicians within 38 consumer electronic service firms provided data for the study. Of the 132 service technicians that participated, 48 indicated they worked in the customer's home the majority of the time, while 84 indicated they worked in the service shop the majority of the time.

According to the data supplied by the Iowa service technicians, they were a relative young group. The median age for bench service technicians was 37.9 years, and the median age for home service technicians was 29.1 years. Eighty-seven percent of the technicians were under 50 years of age.

Thirty-one percent of the service technicians had three or fewer years of experience servicing consumer electronic products. Approximately 40 percent had over 15 years of experience.

Sixty-seven percent of the service technicians indicated that the 12th grade was the highest grade level completed in school. Nine percent indicated that they had completed two years of school above the 12th grade.

Home study programs were the most popular source of training of service technicians. Fifty-one service technicians indicated that they had

participated in home study programs. Forty-two service technicians indicated they had attended trade schools, and 41 indicated they had attended military schools in electronics.

The service technicians were asked to indicate the consumer electronic licenses or certificates attained. Thirty-seven service technicians indicated they held some type of license or certificate. Eighteen service technicians had attained the Certified Electronic Technician Certificate (CET). Eight held the First Class Commercial Radio Telephone License while seven held the Second Class Commercial Radio Telephone License.

Fifty-nine percent of the service technicians indicated they worked eight hours per day. Twenty-three percent indicated they worked nine hours per day. Thirty-two percent indicated they worked 40 hours per week, and 30.3 percent worked 41 to 45 hours per week.

The median salary for bench service technicians was \$3.25 per hour, and the median salary for home service technicians was \$3.44. The median salary for the total number of service technicians was \$3.33 per hour. There were 33 service technicians in the \$3.00 to \$3.49 category and 24 in each of the categories of \$2.00 to \$2.49 and \$3.50 to \$3.99 per hour.

The B&W television was serviced by the largest number of service technicians. One hundred fifteen service technicians indicated they serviced B&W television, 108 serviced color television, 92 serviced tape recorders and players, phonographs, and audio systems. The majority of the service technicians serviced more than one type of consumer electronic product. Ten of the 132 service technicians did not service color television while one technician serviced only color television. Seventeen service technicians did not service B&W television, and two serviced B&W television 100

percent of the time. Forty service technicians indicated they did not service radios. Antenna installation did not contribute to more than 50 percent of the consumer electronic products installed or serviced by the service technicians.

Knowledge and Skill Requirements of Service Technicians

In determining knowledge and skill requirements of service technicians in doing their job, the service technicians were asked to rate various items of understanding and ability on a five-point scale. The scale was: (0) no competency needed, (1) little competency needed, (2) some competency needed, (3) much competency needed, and (4) very much competency needed.

In the category of "ability to use mathematics", "arithmetic" was given a rating, by the service technicians, of 2.82, and "algebra" had a mean rating of 2.32. Both "trigonometry" and "use of the slide rule" had overall mean ratings of less than 1.00.

Sixteen items were listed in the category of "ability to organize and administer". The overall mean ratings of the items ranged from 2.15 to 3.38. The topic "public relations--handling of customers, proper wearing apparel, and proper manners" was rated the highest by the service technicians.

"Insurance and liability responsibilities" and "State and Federal laws related to business" had ratings of "some competency needed".

Items concerning understanding of electricity had overall mean ratings ranging from 1.99 to 3.59. The item with the highest rating was "unit of measurement of voltage, current, and resistance". "DC and AC circuit analysis using Thevenin's Law" had the lowest rating.

The consumer electronic product that required the highest degree of competency in familiarization, by the service technicians, was the color television. B&W television was ranked second, and radio was third. All three items had mean ratings of "much competency needed".

There was no great differentiation noted between the ten items listed in the category of "understanding of electronic stages". All items had mean ratings of "much competency needed". "Oscillator stages" had the highest rating.

There were four items listed under the topic "understanding of component characteristics and applications" that had average ratings of "much competency needed" as indicated by the service technicians. The items were: "transistor", "semiconductor diode", "uni- junction transistor", and "diode and triode tubes".

The service technicians were asked to indicate the frequency at which they performed various tasks or jobs on a five-point scale. The scale was: (0) not used or performed, (1) sometimes, (2) monthly, (3) weekly, and (4) daily. The degree of competency needed to perform the tasks or jobs were rated on the same five-point scale used previously.

In the category of "ability to repair televisions, radios, and stereos", the most frequently performed item listed was "removal and reassembly of radio, television, and stereo chassis of various sets". Next in order was "replacement of defective components in radios, televisions, and stereos". All nine items listed required a competency level of "much competency needed".

Four of the five items listed in the category of "ability to repair tape players, recorders, record players, and changers" were performed on

the average of "monthly" by the service technicians. The degree of competency needed ranged from "some competency needed" to "much competency needed".

The items in the category of "repair of automotive radio, auto stereo units, and auto reverberation units" had frequency of performance mean ratings ranging from .73 to 1.60 and degree of competency needed mean ratings ranging from 1.89 to 2.45, as indicated by total number of service technicians.

The service technicians installed indoor and outdoor antennas on the average of "sometimes". The degree of competency needed was "some competency needed".

Shop techniques performed "weekly" by the service technicians were: "using small hand tools", "testing of tubes and transistors", "unsoldering and soldering of components in the circuit", and "read block and schematic diagram". The items also had an average competency level of "much competency needed".

Test equipment items used most frequently by bench service technicians were: "vacuum tube voltmeter (VTVM)", "vacuum tube tester", "volt-ohm-milliampere meter (VOM)", and "transistor tester". Test equipment items used most frequently by home service technicians were: "vacuum tube tester", "volt-ohm-milliampere meter (VOM)", "vacuum tube voltmeter (VTVM)", and "color bar/dot/cross hatch generator". The items were listed in order of descending frequency of use.

Service Information

The service technicians were asked to list the last three consumer electronic products serviced before the interview. They were to indicate the test equipment used, defective stage, defective component, and adjustments performed in servicing each product. Data were gathered on 355 consumer electronic products serviced. Two hundred forty-four of the products were serviced by bench service technicians, and 108 were serviced by home service technicians.

One hundred seventy-three of the products serviced were color televisions. Ninety of the color televisions were serviced by bench service technicians, and 83 were serviced by home service technicians. The home service technicians serviced a very limited number of the other types of consumer electronic products.

The test equipment items used most frequently by service technicians in servicing their last three items were: "vacuum tube voltmeter (VTVM)", "oscilloscope", "volt-ohm-milliamperemeter (VOM)", and "color/bar/dot/cross hatch generator". The items were listed in descending order of frequency of use. The "oscilloscope" was used primarily by bench service technicians.

The electronic stage defective most frequently in the color television was the "horizontal output stage". The "low voltage power supply" and "vertical deflection circuit" were defective most frequently in the B&W televisions. In radios, the "IF amplifier stage" was defective most frequently.

The electronic component defective most frequently in the color and B&W television was the "vacuum tube". "Transistors" were found defective most frequently in radios, tape recorders and tape players, and items in the audio systems category.

The color setup controls were adjusted in 56 of the color televisions serviced. The height and vertical linearity controls were adjusted in 19 of the B&W televisions serviced. The adjustments performed most frequently on the radios were the tuned circuits in the RF and IF amplifier stages. The majority of the adjustments performed on record players, changers, tape recorders, and tape players serviced were mechanical adjustments.

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APPENDIX A: LETTERS

Television Service Association of Iowa

P. O. BOX 215 - WATERLOO, IOWA 50704

PHONE: 319-232-6675



March 1970

To the Television Service Shop Owner:

This letter will introduce Mr. Claude Siegler of Iowa State University who is doing a research study, "Knowledge and Skill Requirements of Consumer Electronic Technicians." In order to accumulate the necessary data Mr. Siegler will be calling on various shops throughout Iowa during the next few weeks. The Television Service Association of Iowa has endorsed this program and we sincerely hope you will cooperate with Mr. Siegler when he calls at your shop.

The Association feels the results of this study will be extremely useful in establishing guidelines for apprenticeship training programs, technical school curriculum, and other facets of our business.

Again urging you to fully cooperate with Mr. Siegler when he calls I remain,

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Les Buchan'.

Les Buchan
Executive Secretary

LB:rh

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
Ames, Iowa 50010

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION

March, 1970

To Radio-Television Shop Owner:

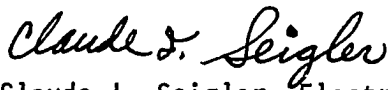
An important research study is presently being conducted in the state of Iowa to determine the "Knowledge and Skill Requirements of Consumer Electronics Service Technicians." Your shop has been selected as one of the forty larger leading shops in the state to participate in this study.

The need for this research study has been brought about by the need for updating and improving the Consumer Electronics courses in the Area Technical and Vocational schools. This information will also be helpful in improving the apprenticeship program in Iowa.

This study is endorsed by TSA of Iowa and conducted under the supervision of the Industrial Education curriculum at Iowa State University. Your time, effort, and cooperation will be greatly appreciated and a summary of this study will be sent to you upon completion of the study.

Your cooperation is requested when you are contacted in the next few weeks. This information will be strictly confidential and will be used for group statistical treatment only.

Very truly yours,



Claude I. Seigler, Electronics Instructor
Industrial Education Building
Iowa State University
Ames, Iowa 50010

APPENDIX B: INVENTORY FORM

AN INVENTORY
of

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL REQUIREMENTS OF CONSUMER ELECTRONICS SERVICE TECHNICIANS
WITH IMPLICATIONS FOR CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

NOTE: All answers will be strictly confidential and used for group statistical purposes only.

PART 1. GENERAL INFORMATION (Please complete as indicated).

1. Name of Company _____
2. Location _____

| | |
|--------|------|
| Street | City |
|--------|------|
3. Name of Technician _____
4. Please check number of years of full time experience that you have in radio-television servicing.

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A. Less than one year | <input type="checkbox"/> D. 7-9 years | <input type="checkbox"/> G. 16-20 years |
| <input type="checkbox"/> B. 1-3 years | <input type="checkbox"/> E. 10-12 years | <input type="checkbox"/> H. 21-25 years |
| <input type="checkbox"/> C. 4-6 years | <input type="checkbox"/> F. 13-15 years | <input type="checkbox"/> I. 26 or more years |
5. Please check your approximate age.

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A. Under 20 | <input type="checkbox"/> D. 40 to 49 | <input type="checkbox"/> G. Over 65 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> B. 20 to 29 | <input type="checkbox"/> E. 50 to 59 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> C. 30 to 39 | <input type="checkbox"/> F. 60 to 65 | |
6. Please circle highest grade in school completed.
Grades 7 8 9 10 11 12 College 1 2 3 4
7. What training specifically related to radio-television servicing have you had? Please list "months" completed in each program.

| | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A. Cooperative Program (High School) | <input type="checkbox"/> F. Home Study School |
| <input type="checkbox"/> B. High School (Other) | <input type="checkbox"/> G. Military School |
| <input type="checkbox"/> C. Trade School | <input type="checkbox"/> H. Factory School |
| <input type="checkbox"/> D. Area Vocational-Technical School | <input type="checkbox"/> I. Apprenticeship Program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> E. College | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
8. Please indicate percent of time that you spend in each area:

| |
|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A. Bench servicing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> B. Home servicing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> C. Other _____ |
9. Please indicate your approximate hourly salary rate.

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A. \$2.00 to \$2.49 | <input type="checkbox"/> D. \$3.50 to \$3.99 | <input type="checkbox"/> G. \$5.00 or over |
| <input type="checkbox"/> B. \$2.50 to \$2.99 | <input type="checkbox"/> E. \$4.00 to \$4.49 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> C. \$3.00 to \$3.49 | <input type="checkbox"/> F. \$4.50 to \$4.99 | |
10. Indicate the number of hours you work per day, per week.

| |
|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A. Hours worked per day. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> B. Hours worked per week. |
11. Do you work on a commission plus a regular hourly rate?

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A. Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> B. No |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
12. Are you a holder of any of the following certificates or license?

| |
|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A. Certified Electronic Technician Certificate (CET) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> B. First Class Commercial Radiotelephone License |
| <input type="checkbox"/> C. Second Class Commercial Radiotelephone License |
| <input type="checkbox"/> D. Other _____ |
13. Indicate the percentage that each item makes up of all items you service.

| |
|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> % A. Antenna installation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> % B. B & W Television |
| <input type="checkbox"/> % C. Color Television |
| <input type="checkbox"/> % D. Radio (AM, FM, FM Multiplex) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> % E. Tape Recorders, Tape Players, Phonographs, Audio Amplifier Systems |
| <input type="checkbox"/> % Other _____ |

100%

PART 2. KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL REQUIREMENTS. (Please complete as indicated.)

NOTE: Please answer all items as they apply to the position you work at the majority of the time, either home servicing or bench servicing.

Please circle your major position: (Bench servicing, Home servicing)

"Degree of Competency Needed" Column

Evaluate the degree of competency needed by an efficient consumer electronic service technician in performing his responsibilities. Use the following scale when making your analysis.

- 4 - Very much competency needed
- 3 - Much competency needed
- 2 - Some competency needed
- 1 - Little competency needed
- 0 - No competency needed

Place an X in the box which most accurately expresses your feelings.

| | Degree of Competency Needed | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| <u>COMPETENCY: Ability to Use Mathematics</u> | | | | | |
| 1. Arithmetic -- addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of decimals and fractions | | | | | |
| 2. Algebra -- Addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of algebraic numbers. Formula manipulation such as $E = IR$, $I = ?$ | | | | | |
| Other: | | | | | |
| 3. Trigonometry -- function of angles (sin, Cos, and Tan) | | | | | |
| Other: | | | | | |
| 4. Use of slide rule | | | | | |
| <u>COMPETENCY: Ability to Organize and Administer</u> | | | | | |
| 5. Public relations -- handling of customers, proper wearing apparel, and proper manners. | | | | | |
| 6. Communicate effectively -- verbally and in writing | | | | | |
| 7. Help train others | | | | | |
| 8. Accept responsibility | | | | | |
| 9. Follow instructions, policies, and procedures accurately | | | | | |
| 10. Interpret and analyze financial and operational statements | | | | | |
| 11. Use general accounting procedures | | | | | |
| 12. Explain bill and work done on item to customer | | | | | |
| 13. Prepare trouble reports or work order. | | | | | |
| 14. Estimate repair costs | | | | | |
| 15. Keep inventory of parts | | | | | |
| 16. Order parts | | | | | |
| 17. Handle warranties | | | | | |
| 18. Stocking of service trucks and tube caddy | | | | | |
| 19. Plan work and travel efficiently | | | | | |
| 20. Sell consumer electronic products | | | | | |
| Other: | | | | | |
| <u>COMPETENCY: Understanding of Legal Responsibilities</u> | | | | | |
| 21. State and Federal laws related to business | | | | | |
| 22. Insurance and liability responsibility | | | | | |
| Other: | | | | | |

| | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| COMPETENCY: Understanding of Electricity | | | | | |
| 23. Unit of measurement of voltage, current, and resistance | | | | | |
| 24. DC and AC series, parallel and complex circuit analysis using Ohm's Law. | | | | | |
| 25. DC and AC circuit analysis using Kirchhoff's Law | | | | | |
| 26. DC and AC circuit analysis using Thevenin's Law | | | | | |
| 27. Resistivity and conductivity of conductors and insulators | | | | | |
| 28. Wire sizes in regard to current carrying capabilities | | | | | |
| 29. Characteristics and applications of dry cells, mercury cells, nickel-cadmium cells, and alkaline cells | | | | | |
| 30. Inductance and capacitance in DC and AC circuits | | | | | |
| 31. Motors and controls used in consumer electronic products | | | | | |
| 32. Magnetic laws and properties | | | | | |
| 33. Amplitude, frequency, and phase relationship of current, and voltage in an AC circuit | | | | | |
| 34. Peak, effective, and average values of the AC sine-wave | | | | | |
| 35. Series and parallel resonance, Q and bandwidth | | | | | |
| 36. Time constants | | | | | |
| 37. Transformer operation | | | | | |
| 38. Color code of electronic components | | | | | |
| Other: | | | | | |
| COMPETENCY: Understanding of Electronic Theory | | | | | |
| 39. Understanding of color fundamentals, principles of color mixing, colorimetry | | | | | |
| Familiarization of consumer electronic products | | | | | |
| 40. Color television | | | | | |
| 41. B & W television | | | | | |
| 42. Antennas and antenna systems | | | | | |
| 43. AM, FM radios, Stereo and hi fi | | | | | |
| 44. Various types of record players and record changers | | | | | |
| 45. Various types of tape recorders | | | | | |
| 46. Various types of multi-track tape units used in home and automobile. | | | | | |
| 47. Garage door opener units, headlight dimmers, automatic mirror control and signal seeker units | | | | | |
| 48. Various types of speakers and speaker systems | | | | | |
| Understanding of electronic stages | | | | | |
| 49. Convertor stages | | | | | |
| 50. Detector stages | | | | | |
| 51. Amplifier stages | | | | | |
| 52. RF amplifier stages | | | | | |
| 53. IF amplifier stages | | | | | |
| 54. Demodulator stages | | | | | |
| 55. Oscillator stages | | | | | |
| 56. Multivibrator stages | | | | | |
| 57. Power supplies | | | | | |
| 58. Deflection stages | | | | | |
| Understanding of circuit operation | | | | | |
| 59. Class A operation | | | | | |
| 60. Class B operation | | | | | |
| 61. Class C operation | | | | | |

131

| | Frequency of Performance | | | | | Degree of Competency Needed | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|---|---|---|---|-----------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| | D | W | M | S | N | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| 124. Sweep and marker generator | | | | | | | | | | |
| 125. Bias power supply | | | | | | | | | | |
| 126. Color bar/dot/cross hatch generator | | | | | | | | | | |
| 127. Multiplex generator | | | | | | | | | | |
| 128. Resistor substitution box | | | | | | | | | | |
| 129. Capacitor substitution box | | | | | | | | | | |
| 130. Color CRT jig | | | | | | | | | | |
| 131. B&W CRT jig | | | | | | | | | | |
| Oscilloscope | | | | | | | | | | |
| 132. AC coupled | | | | | | | | | | |
| 133. Direct coupled | | | | | | | | | | |
| 134. Triggered sweep | | | | | | | | | | |
| 135. Vector oscilloscope | | | | | | | | | | |
| Oscilloscope probes | | | | | | | | | | |
| 136. Direct probe | | | | | | | | | | |
| 137. X10 (low capacitance) probe | | | | | | | | | | |
| 138. Crystal demodulation probe | | | | | | | | | | |
| 139. Isolation probe | | | | | | | | | | |
| Other equipment: | | | | | | | | | | |

PART 3. SERVICING INFORMATION

Please list the last three items that you have serviced indicating test equipment used and service required to complete the job.

1. Name of item _____
 Test equipment used:----
 Service required:
 Defective stage:----
 Defective components:----
 Adjustments:----

2. Name of item _____
 Test equipment used:----
 Service required:
 Defective stage:----
 Defective components:----
 Adjustments:----

3. Name of item _____
 Test equipment used:----
 Service required:
 Defective stage:----
 Defective components:----
 Adjustments:----