

*Quality  
Performance  
Accuracy*



*Fine instruments*

MICROMHO DYNAMIC  
MUTUAL CONDUCTANCE  
TUBE TESTER  
MODEL 8-77

STARK ELECTRONIC INSTRUMENTS LTD. AJAX, ONT.

PART NO. 119-9-26

1000-877-258

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

FOR



DYNAMIC MUTUAL CONDUCTANCE TUBE TESTER

MODEL 8-77

STARK ELECTRONIC INSTRUMENTS LIMITED

STARK BUILDING

AJAX, ONTARIO

### FUSE IN BIAS CIRCUIT

This tube tester is equipped with a fuse in the Grid Bias Circuit as a protection for the Bias potentiometer in case an attempt is made to test a shorted tube.

NOTE: ALWAYS MAKE SHORT CHECK BEFORE MAKING QUALITY TEST.

The fuse is mounted in the main control panel where it is readily visible.

A burned out bias fuse lamp will result in the failure of the mutual conductance meter to read when the TEST button is pressed. If the fuse lamp burns out, replace only with a No. 49 panel lamp.

## STANDARD RETMA GUARANTEE

The Stark Electronic Instrument Limited warrants instruments manufactured by it to be free from defective material or factory workmanship and agrees to repair such instruments which under normal use and service, discloses the defect to be the fault of our manufacturing. Our obligation under this warranty is limited to repairing any instrument or test equipment which proves to be defective, when returned to us, transportation prepaid, within ninety (90) days from the date of original purchase and provided the serial number has been made known to us promptly for our records.

This warranty does not apply to any of our products which have been repaired or altered by unauthorized persons or service stations in any way so as, in our judgment, to injure their stability or reliability or which have been subject to misuse, negligence, or accident, or which have had the serial number altered, effaced, or removed. Neither does this warranty apply to any of our products which have been connected, installed, or adjusted other-wise than in accordance with the instructions furnished by us. Accessories including all vacuum tubes not of our manufacture used with this product are not covered by this warranty.

This warranty is in lieu of all other warranties expressed or implied and no representatives or person is authorized to assume for us any other liability in connection with the sale of our products.

## RETURNING EQUIPMENT FOR REPAIR

Before returning any equipment for service, under warranty or otherwise, the factory must first be contacted giving the nature of the trouble. Instructions will then be given for either correcting the trouble or returning the equipment. Upon authorization, this equipment should be forwarded directly to the Stark factory located at Stark Building, Ajax, Ontario, or to a designated service station in your locality. All correspondence pertaining to repairs should be directed to Starks Electronic Instrument Limited, Starks Building, Ajax, Ontario, or to the authorized service station designated.

## REGISTRATION CARD

The above guarantee is contingent upon the attached registration card being returned to the factory immediately upon receipt of the equipment.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS  
FOR  
DYNAMIC MUTUAL CONDUCTANCE TUBE TESTER  
MODEL 8-77

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS THROUGH BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO  
OPERATE THE TESTER

1. PURPOSE

- A. The Model 8-77 Tube Tester is used to test and measure mutual conductance values of vacuum tubes used in television and radio receivers and transmitting tubes delivering less than 25 watts of power.
- B. The Model 8-77 Tester is fundamentally of the Dynamic Mutual Conductance type designed to provide either REPLACE -GOOD readings or mutual conductance values in micromhos.
- C. This instrument is designed to operate on 60 cycles, 105-125 volt power source.

2. There are two rectifier tubes, an 83 and a 5Y3GT, necessary to operate this tester. They are included. The fuse lamp is a standard #81 auto lamp.

There is a BIAS FUSE located near the BIAS dial. This serves as a protection for the bias potentiometer in case it is attempted to test a shorted tube. Replace only with a No. 49 panel lamp. Always check tubes for shorts before making mutual conductance test.

3. POWER LINE ADJUST

This control, when turned clockwise from the OFF position, will turn the power ON and cause the meter pointer to move up scale. Adjust the control until the meter pointer rests exactly over the mark, LINE TEST, at the center of the meter scale. This establishes standard voltages on the tube to be tested. Make final adjustment after tube to be tested is placed in socket.

4. ROLL CHART COLUMNS

- A. Tube Type (First column)  
The roll chart has been printed so that the numbers run consecutively from top to bottom on the left hand side and from bottom to top on the right hand side.
- B. Fil (Second column)  
The switch marked FILAMENT in the upper left corner of panel sets the proper voltage for the filament of tube to be tested.
- C. Selectors (Third column)  
This row of seven switches across the panel just above the roll chart is for the purpose of conducting voltages to the base pins of the tube. This column consists of letters and numbers. EXAMPLE: JR-6237-5. Starting at left the first knob is turned until it points to the letter J, the second knob turned to R, the third knob to 6, the fourth to 2, the fifth to 3, the sixth to 7, and

the seventh to 5. These switches are electrically interlocked so that it is impossible to connect two different voltages to the same tube pin. Thus accidental shorts are avoided.

- D. Bias (fourth column)  
This dial located to the left of socket panel, adjusts the voltage to the grid of the tube under test.
- E. Shunt (fifth column)  
This dial located on the right of socket panel controls the sensitivity of the indicating meter.
- F. Function and Mutual Conductance (sixth column)  
This switch, located at lower left of indication meter, selects the proper plate and screen voltages for the tube under test.
- G. Notations (seventh column)  
Special notes pertaining to the testing of the tube under test will appear in this column.

## 5. SHORTS

Located at the lower right corner of the panel, are five glow lamps, these lamps will glow when tester is turned on and adjusted to line test.

If any elements of the tube under test are shorted, the glow in one or more of the lamps will disappear. Shorted tubes should be discarded without further testing.

## 6. QUALITY CHECK

If the tube passes the shorts test, the red button marked TEST is pressed and the meter should indicate the condition of the tube.

## LOCATING SHORTED ELEMENTS

SHORTS

X - DENOTES LAMPS DARK

	P	Sc	Su	K	G	F
FIL.-CATH.					X	X
FIL.-GRID						X
FIL.-SCRN.		X	X	X	X	X
FIL.-PLT.	X	X	X	X	X	X
FIL.-SUP.			X	X	X	X
CATH.-GRID					X	
CATH.-SCRN.		X	X			
CATH.-PLT.	X	X	X			
CATH.-SUP.			X			
GRID.-SCRN.		X	X	X		
GRID.-PLT.	X	X	X	X	X	
GRID.-SUP.			X	X		
SCRN.-PLT.	X					
SCRN.-SUP.		X				
PLT.-SUP.	X	X				

## MUTUAL CONDUCTANCE

The SHUNT setting is used if it is desired to read the value of the tube on the RED-GREEN scale of the meter. When using the Red-Green scale the micromho readings are disregarded; however, it is the micromho characteristic of an amplifier tube that causes the meter deflection.

NOTE: Tubes having less than 500 Micromhos cannot be made to read in the GREEN sector of the meter scale. (Such tubes list micromho readings only and are good if the reading is above a specified minimum).

Micromhos are indicated in three ranges: 0-3000, 0-6000, 0-15,000.

- a. On the shunt dial are three dots, stamped into the metal and filled with red lacquer. These dots are the points used in setting the micromho ranges.
- b. The dot near 73 on the dial is the setting point for the 3000 micromho scale.
- c. The dot near 86 is the point for the 6000 micromho scale.
- d. The dot near 93 is the point for the 15,000 micromho scale.
- e. When reading micromhos the RED and GREEN sectors of the meter scale are disregarded.
- f. Tubes having more than one section such as the 6J6, require different switch settings for each section.

## 8. RECTIFIER TUBE TEST

- a. Rectifier tubes, including diode tubes and diode sections of multiple element tubes, having no mutual conductance are tested for emission only. Good diodes will cause the pointer of meter to move above the point marked DIODES OK.

In checking thyratrons, such as the 884 and the 885, the BIAS DIAL should be set initially at its highest negative value (100). The test button is held down while the bias dial is gradually turned counter clockwise until the tube "strikes" that is, begins to conduct which is indicated by a sudden deflection of the meter. The chart indicates the approximate point at which the tube strikes. There may be a small variation above or below this point. After it strikes, a good tube should produce a steady meter reading in the green sector of the scale.

## 9. GRID CURRENT (gas) TEST

Amplifier tubes can be tested for grid current by pressing button marked GAS while holding red TEST button down. Some tubes develop gas after being heated for a period of time. If a tube is suspected allow it to heat for several minutes. During gas test, the meter reads grid current up to 100 microamps.

Each small division represents  $1\frac{2}{3}$  microamps, and a cross reference to Army and Navy standards indicates most tubes with grid currents in excess of 2 microamps are considered undesirable. Therefore, reject a tube which shows a grid current in excess of about 2 small divisions.

#### 10. FILAMENT CONTINUITY

After the filament voltage and the filament selectors are set the tube can be inserted in its socket and the continuity of its filament checked by pressing the button marked FILAMENT CONTINUITY. If the filament is open the meter will drop back to zero, if it is not open the meter will remain at line test and you can continue to set up the remaining switches and controls without removing the tube from socket.

#### 11. SOCKETS

Elaborate field study has established that the majority of failures in field after years of use occur due to the socket. Thus an adapter containing all standard sockets is supplied with this equipment. However, to accommodate the testing of older tubes, foreign tubes, special purpose tubes, etc., low cost adapters are available to quickly plug in place, in eleven pin socket mounted beneath the panel. This new Stark feature of replaceable socket adapter plates greatly facilitates replacement of these sockets when they become worn from excessive use.

To change socket adapter plates remove the two large head screws at the left and right edge of socket panel and lift adapter from panel.

#### SOCKET NUMBERING

Sockets are wired in agreement with the R. E. T. M. A. system of numbering. The No. 1 contact of the inline socket is indicated by a small red dot. With exception of the 4 and 5 pin bases.

#### 12. SPECIAL NOTES

Power line voltage varies with different localities. It may also vary with different hours of the day.

While a national survey indicated that the average voltage for Canada is about 117 volts, it does not mean that every locality maintains a constant voltage at that level.

Occasionally we have had the complaint that a used tube will test GOOD, but will not work in the radio receiver; but a NEW tube is substituted and the receiver will operate correctly. The answer is this: Tubes are built to specifications. Our tube testers are designed to test tubes in conformity with these specifications.

The used tube that would not perform in a certain receiver was not receiving its specified filament voltage. The new tube performed because of its initial reserve capacity. The used tube would have performed if it had received its specified filament voltage.

Tube failure frequently occurs in A. C.-D.C. sets where several tubes are connected with their heaters or filaments in series. Sometimes, even though the power line voltage is normal filament voltage, the robbed tube apparently fails but when tested under specified conditions, the tube will test GOOD.

13. The versatility of the STARK Dynamic Mutual Conductance Tube Tester makes possible a special test that will reveal a tube's ability to perform under adverse conditions as mentioned above. This is possible because the tester measures mutual conductance instead of emission.



## THE TEST

- A. Measure the mutual conductance in the ordinary way.
- B. Press test and adjust the shunt dial until the tube reads in the GREEN (good) sector at 2000 on the 0-3000 scale.
- C. While holding everything else constant, reduce the FILAMENT voltage and note new reading.
- D. If the meter still reads in the GREEN (good) sector, the tube has a large life reserve and will perform satisfactorily.
- E. The filament voltage reductions to be made are shown in the following table:

<u>NORMAL FIL VOLTS</u>	<u>REDUCED TO</u>
1.5	1.1
2.0	1.5
2.5	2.0
3.0	2.5
5.0	4.3
6.3	5.0
10.0	7.5
12.6	10.0
35.0	25.0
50.0	35.0

## AUTOMOBILE RADIO TUBES

It often happens that automobiles operated at night with radio, light, fans, etc., all turned on at the same time, put such a severe load on the auto battery that the battery is unable to deliver full voltage, especially in slow moving traffic or when waiting for traffic lights. If auto radio trouble is experienced much time can be saved by first checking the tubes at 6.3 volts, then switching the filament voltage to 5 volts. If tube reading drops markedly at 5 volts the tube should be replaced.

If the automobile has 12 volts radio system, first check the tubes at 12.6 then drop to 10 volts for recheck.

### IMPORTANT

For accurate Mutual Conductance readings, always set the micromhos range on the Shunt Control by approaching red dot from low end of dial. Do not set to red dot by approaching from high end of dial.

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# PARTS LIST FOR MODEL 8-77 TUBE TESTER

NOTE: There is a minimum charge of \$1.50 for any parts order.

<u>STARK CODE NO.</u>	<u>NAME AND DESCRIPTION</u>
112-3-7	CAPACITOR, Mica 2700 mmf, 10% 500V
112-9-32	CAPACITOR, .5mfd, 200 v, paper
112-9-74	CAPACITOR, 50 mfd, 6 v, DC, electrolytic
112-9-75	CAPACITOR, Ceramic .005 mfd, disc type
119-9-26	BOOKLET, Instructions
120-3-6	CHART, roll, tube data
121-3-7	BUTTON, Push, black
121-3-8	BUTTON, Push, red
121-4-15	KNOB
125-9-1	LAMP, Fuse line, #81 auto
125-9-2	LAMP, Fuse, bias #49, .06 amp., 2 v, bayonet
125-9-3	LAMP, NE-2 neon lamp, 65 ACV, 90 DCV, 1/25 W
134-2-5	POTENTIOMETER, Bias, 3000 ohms
134-2-7	POTENTIOMETER, shunt, 150-150 ohms
134-5-22	POTENTIOMETER, 250K, Snap-in type
134-5-23	RHEOSTAT, 150 ohms, Ohmite "D" with #352 OFF positio
140-5-50	SOCKET, Octal wafer, Cinch #11961
140-5-51	SOCKET, 4 pin, wafer, Cinch #X154
144-9-27	SWITCH, push button, gang, OAK
144-9-28	SWITCH, Function, 3 section, 7 position
144-9-29	SWITCH, Selectors, Filament, Grid, Plate & Screen 1 section, 12 position
144-9-30	SWITCH, Selectors, Cathode and suppressor, 1 section, 12 position
144-9-31	SWITCH, Filament, 1 section, 20 position
148-9-13	TRANSFORMER, power
152-1-10	KNOB, with pointer
152-1-17	ADAPTER, standard sockets
161-1-4	METER, 606, 0-100 microamps
163-1-9	TUBE, 5Y3GT/G
163-1-10	TUBE, #83
	RESISTOR, 1200 ohms, 1W, 10%
	RESISTOR, 15,000 ohms, 1W, 5%
	RESISTOR, 500 ohms, $\frac{1}{2}$ W, 1%
	RESISTOR, 12 ohms, $\frac{1}{2}$ W, 1%
	RESISTOR, 291 ohms, $\frac{1}{2}$ W, 1%
	RESISTOR, 200 ohms, 2W, 1%
	RESISTOR, 1800 ohms, 10W, 10%
	RESISTOR, 100 ohms, center tapped, 10W, 10%
	RESISTOR, 8500 ohms, 10W, adjustable
	RESISTOR, 100K, $\frac{1}{2}$ W, 10%
	RESISTOR, 470K, $\frac{1}{2}$ W, 10%
	RESISTOR, 5.6 Megohms, $\frac{1}{2}$ W
	RESISTOR, 3300 ohms, $\frac{1}{2}$ W

