

European and American Television Cameras

	Make	EMI
	Model	201
	Country	UK
	Camera Type : Studio, Monochrome	
	Camera Description : Small compact bodied budget studio camera. Front and rear castings with aluminium side panels. Matches EMI 203 style	

Data		Data	
Tube details	25mm. Vidicon type 10667S	Line standards	405/50 625/50 525/60
Lens details	4 lens turret or Zoom option.	Drives or locking	4 x Drive pulses at 2or 4v
Sig. to Noise	39db 405L, 36dB 625L.	Weight *	18.9Kg.
Sensitivity	100ft candles @ f1.9	Colours	Green & Light green.
Resolution	over 600 lines limiting	Dimensions *	254H x 304W x 482L mm.
Viewfinder	7-inch integral fixed.	Date designed	WW advert August 1959
Camera cable	BICC Mk4b 500ft. Maximum length.	Used by	Educational & Broadcast
Power supply	90-140 or 205-255V. 50/60Hz. 490VA.		*Excluding Lens & Viewfinder

Associated equipment

Combined CCU & PSU type 211, Remote control panel type 216/890. A full range of matching studio equipment was available from EMI. Various developments and options of the 201 camera led to suffixes /1 to /8 being added. The CCU also had suffixes. Matching picture and waveform monitors types 301 & 302.

General description

In appearance, the 201 is a small version of the well known EMI 203 Image Orthicon camera camera. It had some compatible parts. Models were available with a Zoom mount instead of the turret. In some ways the 201 was "Educational" however it was widely used in news studios, regional and continuity studios. It had stable electronics and gave good pictures from a vidicon tube provided a lot of light was available. A total of 40 valves were used in the 201 channel, mostly E88CC's (24). Standards change over was by moving small connectors inside the equipment.

References

The EMI 201 Handbook. "The Voice of a Nation" by Rowland Lucas, Gomer Press 1981 page 190. WW August 1960 page 84. There is a nice picture of the BBC remote controlled 201 camera at Alexandra Palace in "BBC Engineering Monograph" No. 39 October 1961.

Versions

201/2 With zoom mounting plate for TTH studio Varotal lens.
 201/3 Improved amplifier version for 525/625 line operation.
 201/4 525/625 version of 201/2 for zoom lenses
 201/5 405/525/625 version for turret mounted lenses, CCU type 211/4.
 201/6 405/525/625 version for zoom lenses, CCU type 211/4.
 201/7 525/625 version for turret mounted lenses, CCU type 211/5.
 201/8 525/625 version for zoom lenses, CCU type 211/5.
 The 201/3, /4, /7 & /8 versions had a wide bandwidth video amplifier (8MHz.)



The CCU & PSU

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History

John Douglas G4DVG writes;-

On the EMI 201 vidicon camera, I worked at BBC Glasgow from 1966 to 1975 and the 201 was in use there in the 3-camera Studio B, used for news. Two of the cameras were fitted with 4-lens turrets and the third had a manually operated zoom, probably Taylor Hobson.

I believe that the 201 was the standard camera for regional news studios. There were at least two in the Edinburgh and Aberdeen studios and I found them in the BBC Birmingham Broad Street studios when I was there for a couple of months assisting in the move to the Pebble Mill studios. The 201 seemed to be a very reliable camera although much time was wasted trying to improve definition by tweaking the Percival coils. I think the tube was an EMI 6097 separate-mesh device. The 201s were eventually replaced on colourisation by drive-in scanner (outside broadcast van) with PC 60s during the week, and by EMI 2001s borrowed from Studio A at the weekends when the MCR was out doing football. The Friday-evening changeover was a pain since autocues had to be swapped over and pedestals rebalanced!

Notes

Evershed Power Optics Ltd. modified the 201 for remote control operation on a robotic pedestal. This was a glass fiber case containing the 201 head components, an integral zoom lens but no viewfinder. Four of these modified cameras were brought into operation at the Alexandra Palace Television News Center on June 10 1961. (BBC handbook 1962 page 119) They were also used in the Queen Street newsroom in Edinburgh. They were exhibited at the 1960 Radio Show at Earls Court (Practical TV Nov. 1960 page 66). One can be seen at the Museum of Communication 22 Kinglass Ave. Bo'ness, West Lothian. 01506 824507 (405 alive No. 23).

Used By

Practical Television Feb 1963 reports that 4 more EMI 201s have been ordered by the BBC bringing the total to 23 channels.

Three EMI 201 cameras are in use by Telefis Eireann (1963).

RTE also had the EMI 201 cameras. The EMI 201 was also used in the type 404 telecine equipments.

Lenses

T.T.H. (Taylor, Taylor, Hobson) Vidital lenses were recommended in the following focal lengths:-

2.0cm. 3.0cm. 5cm. & 8cm. The camera was also suitable for use with the TTH Varotal zoom lens.

Lenses were also available from Dallmeyer, the Vidiac range being recommended.