

European and American Television Cameras

 <p style="text-align: center;">Mk2 with mk1 viewfinder (1)</p>	Make :	Marconi
	Model :	Mk 2 BD624 BD677
	Country	UK
	Camera Type : Studio Image Orthicon	
	Camera Description : Tall narrow camera with viewfinder on top, controls at rear behind doors	

Data

Tube details 1 x 3" Image Orthicon, EEV
Len details 4 position turret, 2" to 25" focal lengths. Turret used clip mounting
Sig. to Noise dB.
Sensitivity
Resolution
Viewfinder 5" BD625 with magnifying lens
Camera cable BICC Mk2 1000ft.
Power supply 100-125 & 200-250v 50-60Hz. 1Kw.

Data

Line standards 405/50 625/50 525/60
Colour standards Monochrome
Drives or locking Four Mono Pulses
Weight * 107lbs inc. viewfinder
Colours Gray Rivel finish
Dimensions * 570H x 266W x 635L mm.
Date designed Drawings dated 21.9.1950
Dates used advert WW Dec. 1952 P83

*Excluding Lens

Associated equipment

The CCU, BD626 the PSU, BD629, and picture & waveform monitor, BD627 were available in Studio consoles or Mobile cases and there was a range of matching studio equipment available.

Developments

Developed from Mk1 camera, it used the BD626 CCU and BD627 picture and waveform monitor. These were later used with the MK3 camera. I believe there some overlap with early Mk2's using Mk1 CCUs.

General Description

Similar appearance to Mk1 camera but with feet and later models had fan cowl on side. The top lens was the active taking lens. The viewfinder, a BD625, had a magnifying lens, like the later Mk3, in the hood. There was also a periscope option for the viewfinder hood.

References

The Mk3 style CCU and PWM were in use by Dec. 1951 see WW page 501. WW advert May 1953

Notes

An early order was placed by the UN for use in their headquarters building. The BBC ordered 6 for use in the Lime Grove studios these were operational in August 1953 (from "A history of the Marconi Company"). Tom Mayer states in IEE Colloquium that 110 Mk2's were sold.

(1) The Mk2 Viewfinder, BD625, was interchangeable with the Mk1 version. Photographs of the camera in use often show the earlier Mk1 viewfinder on a Mk2 body.

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Used by

BBC & World Export. Used on BBC "Roving Eye" OB unit. Still in use for 1962 Boat Race, Photo in 1963 BBC Handbook. Also Photo in 1964 Handbook.

A Mk2 CCU, BD626D with a KT81 valve dated 1950 was seen at the Gothenburg Radio Museum.

A Mk2 was used at the Coronation over the east door. It had a Zoom lens a Watson I think. WW July 1953 Page 318.

Surviving cameras

The Marconi collection held by the Museum of History of Science, Oxford has a nice one, www.mhs.ox.ac.uk/marconi/collection/catalogue.php?invnum=47261 with some good pictures. The Chelmsford and Essex museum has a poor one with the turret missing, the NMFPTV has at least one and I know of one in private hands.