

## LUBRICATION AND CLEANING

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### I INTRODUCTION

1.1 This sub-section is intended as a guide to the general principles of, and materials used in, the cleaning and lubrication of the component parts of telephone instruments.

1.2 The recommended lubricant, and the method of application, for each component part of the various telephone instruments is noted in the appropriate paragraph of the descriptive sub-section for the individual parts.

1.3 The method to be used to clean contaminated instrument parts must depend upon the cause of the contamination. The information given below assumes that the contamination is of the more usual form of dirt or grease. If other forms of contamination are present, care must be taken that the cleaning method used does not harm the parts in any way. Corroded parts should be replaced and not cleaned as it is extremely difficult to clean such parts satisfactorily without specialized equipment.

### 2 LUBRICANTS AND APPLICATION

#### 2.1 ITTK DIAL LUBRICANT 79946

This is the most widely used lubricant for telephone instrument parts. The compound contains a proportion of silicone fluid and has excellent high and low temperature stability. It is non-corrosive to the metals and plastics used in the instruments.

#### 2.2 MOLYKOTE TYPE Z

This is a dry type of graphited lubricant which finds application where a wet type would tend to collect excessive dirt or be objectionable to users of the instrument. Lubrication of the coin chutes of paystation instruments and the cradle switch plungers of desk type instruments are some typical applications.

#### 2.3 ALTERNATIVE TYPES

##### 2.3.1 Mineral Oil Types

High quality mineral oil lubricants are generally satisfactory for most applications where a liquid type is required, such as shaft bearings. Make certain that the compound used

has adequate temperature stability and is non-corrosive to the parts to which it is applied.

##### 2.3.2 Grease Types

Lubriplate is a grease type of lubricant that has excellent stability and is recommended for use on either metals or plastics, especially where parts have a rubbing action (such as key switch slide plates).

##### 2.3.3 Stick Types

These "dry" type lubricants are generally stated as suitable for use on door latches or parts that may come into contact with clothing. They can be used on parts with which the use may, directly or indirectly, come into contact such as coin chutes and cradle switch plungers.

#### 2.4 APPLICATION OF LUBRICANTS

All lubricants must be applied sparingly in order to avoid splash or creep into areas where their presence would cause trouble. Liquid type are best applied with a small camel hair brush or grease or stick types with an orange stick or the tip of the finger.

### 3 CLEANING SOLUTIONS AND USES

3.1 There are many commercially available cleaning preparations for electronic types of equipment. It is recommended that a high quality non-filming type, with a mineral spirits base, is selected. Be certain that the preparation does not contain any additives which may be corrosive to the metal parts or solvent to the plastic parts of the telephone instruments. If in doubt, make a test on a few discarded parts or inquire from the manufacturers. Carbon Tetrachloride preparations are to be avoided as they produce a film which can cause trouble with dirty electrical contacts.

3.2 Exterior plastic parts can be cleaned or polished with many of the regular household type of products. It is, however, suggested that a test be made to check that the product does not react with the plastic, causing etching or discoloring, and not susceptible to marking when handled.

3.3 In locations where exceptional humidity may cause trouble the use of a protective spray, expressly to combat these conditions, can provide almost complete protection. These preparations also contain fungicides and some lubricant.