

DigiOmmel & Co. tunes up several EIAJ open-reel video recorders for optimum audio and video playback signal quality

DigiOmmel & Co. has started a restoration project of a half-inch EIAJ VTRs dating back to 1969. For this project, we have acquired several working units of Sony AV-3620.

Instead of putting these 'veteran' VTRs up for exhibition, our aim is to improve the performance of their essential electrical and mechanical sections to extract best possible video and audio signals from half-inch open reel video tapes — some of which were recorded as long as 45 years ago.

We have come up with critical circuit modifications and adopted a modern VCR circuitry in order to provide the highest possible image resolution, lowest noise and best stability.

We will also apply our real-time detection of the video tapes suffering from 'sticky-shed syndrome'. The SSS is caused by gradual tape binder hydrolysis which renders aged video tapes practically unplayable and un-transferable by conventional methods.

We will be reporting about the progress and outcome of our EIAJ VTR restoration project in early next year.