EIMAC

A Division of Varian Associates

SAN CARLOS, CALIFORNIA

8161
3CX2500A3

MEDIUM MU TRIODE

The EIMAC 3CX2500A3 is an all ceramic and metal, medium-mu, forced-air cooled, external anode transmitting triode with a maximum plate dissipation rating of 2500 watts. Relatively high power output as an amplifier, oscillator, or modulator may be obtained from this tube at low plate voltages. The 3CX2500A3 is an exact replacement for the EIMAC 3X2500A3 and is suggested for use where higher ambient temperatures are to be expected or greater reliability is required. The all ceramic and metal construction allows a greater margin of safety with respect to tube operating temperatures while permitting higher processing temperatures to insure longer life.

The tube has a rugged, low-inductance cylindrical filament-stem structure, which readily becomes part of a linear filament tank circuit for VHF operation. The grid provides thorough shielding between the input and output circuits for grounded-grid applications and is conveniently terminated in a ring between the plate and filament terminals. The 3CX2500A3 may be installed or removed without the aid of tools.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

ELECTRICAL

	Min.	Nom.	Max.	
Filament: Thoriated Tungsten				
Voltage		7.5		volts
Current	49		53	amperes
Amplification Factor	19		26	
Direct Interelectrode Capacitances				
Grid-Plate	16.8		23.2	pF
Grid-Filament	29.2		40.2	pF
Plate-Filament	0.6		1.2	pF
Tranconductance (Ib=830 ma., Eb=3000 v.)		20,000		umhos
Highest Frequency for Maximum Ratings			75	MHz

MECHANICAL

Base	See drawing
Mounting	Vertical, base down or up
Cooling	Forced Air
Maximum Anode Core and Seal Temperatures	250°C
Maximum Over-all Dimensions:	
Length	8.6 inches
Diameter	4.16 inches
Net Weight	6.25 pounds
Shipping Weight (Average)	17 pounds

RADIO-FREQUENCY POWER AMPLIFIER OR OSCILLATOR

Conventional Neutralized Amplifier, (Frequencies below 75 MHz.)

Class-C FM or Telegraphy (Key-down conditions, per tube)

MAXIMUM RATINGS

DC PLATE VOLTAGE	6000	VOLTS
DC PLATE CURRENT	2.5	AMPS
PLATE DISSIPATION	2500	WATTS
GRID DISSIPATION	150	WATTS

TYPICAL OPERATION (Frequencies below 75 MHz per tube)

DC Plate Voltage	4000	5000	6000	volts
DC Plate Current	2.5	2.5	2.08	amps
DC Grid Voltage	—300	—450	—500	volts
DC Grid Current*	245	265	180	ma
Peak RF Grid Input Voltage*	580	750	765	volts
Driving Power*	142	197	136	watts
Grid Dissipation*	68	78	46	watts
Plate Power Input	10,000	12,500	12,500	watts
Plate Dissipation	2500	2500	2500	watts
Plate Power Output	7500	10,000	10,000	watts

*Approximate values.

Printed in U.S.A.

PLATE-MODULATED RADIO-FREQUENCY AMPLIFIER

Conventional Neutralized Amplifier, (Frequencies below 75 MHz.)

Class-C Telephony (Carrier conditions, per tube)

MAXIMUM RATINGS

DC PLATE VOLTAGE	5000 VOLTS
DC PLATE CURRENT	2.0 AMPS
PLATE DISSIPATION	1670 VOLTS
GRID DISSIPATION	150 WATTS

TYPICAL OPERATION (Frequencies below 75 MHz per tube)

DC Plate Voltage	4000	4500	5000	volts
DC Plate Current	1.67	1.47	1.25	amps
DC Grid Voltage	—450	—500	—550	volts
DC Grid Current*	180	140	150	ma
Peak RF Grid Input Voltage*	685	715	760	volts
Driving Power*	125	100	115	watts
Grid Dissipation*	43	30	32	watts
Plate Power Input	6670	6615	6250	watts
Plate Dissipation	1670	1315	950	watts
Plate Power Output	5000	5300	5300	watts

*Approximate values.

AUDIO-FREQUENCY POWER AMPLIFIER OR MODULATOR

Class-AB or B

MAXIMUM RATINGS

DC PLATE VOLTAGE	6000 VOLTS
DC PLATE CURRENT	2.5 AMPS
PLATE DISSIPATION	2500 WATTS
GRID DISSIPATION	150 WATTS

TYPICAL OPERATION (Sinusoidal wave, two tubes unless noted)

DC Plate Voltage	4000	5000	6000	volts
DC Grid Voltage[1]	—150	—190	—240	volts
Zero-Signal DC Plate Current	0.6	0.5	0.4	amps
Max-Signal DC Plate Current	4.0	3.2	3.0	amps
Effective Load, Plate to Plate	2200	3600	4650	ohms
Peak AF Grid Input Voltage (per tube)*	340	360	390	volts
Max-Signal Peak Driving Power*	340	230	225	watts
Max-Signal Nominal Driving Power*	170	115	113	watts
Max-Signal Plate Output Power	11,000	11,000	13,000	watts

*Approximate values.

[1]Adjust to give listed zero-signal plate current.

IF IT IS DESIRED TO OPERATE THIS TUBE UNDER CONDITIONS WIDELY DIFFERENT FROM THOSE GIVEN UNDER "TYPICAL OPERATION," POSSIBLY EXCEEDNG THE MAXIMUM RATINGS GIVEN FOR CW SERVICE, WRITE EIMAC DIVISION OF VARIAN, FOR INFORMATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

APPLICATION

Cooling—Forced-air cooling must be provided to hold the ceramic-to-metal seals and anode core temperature below the maximum rating of 250°C. At ambient temperatures above 50°C, at higher altitudes and at operating temperatures above 30 MHz, additional air flow must be provided. Sea level and 10,000 foot altitude air-flow requirements to maintain seal temperatures below 200°C in 50°C ambient air are tabulated below (for operation below 30 MHz).

Anode-to-Base Air Flow[1]

	Sea Level		10,000 Feet	
Anode Dissipation Watts	Air Flow CFM	Pressure Drop Inches Water	Air Flow CFM	Pressure Drop Inches Water
1500	33	.6	48	.9
2500	66	1.25	96	1.82

Base-to-Anode Air Flow

	Sea Level		10,000 Feet	
Anode Dissipation Watts	Air Flow CFM	Pressure Drop Inches Water	Air Flow CFM	Pressure Drop Inches Water
1500	32	.6	47	.9
2500	57	1.0	83	1.5

*Since the power dissipated by the filament represents about 400 watts and since grid dissipation can, under some conditions represent another 150 watts, allowance has been made in preparing this tabulation for an additional 550 watts.

[1]When air is supplied in the anode-to-base direction, a minimum of 3 cfm must be directed into the filament-stem structure between the inner and outer filament terminals to maintain the base seals below 250°C. No separate air is required with base-to-anode airflow.

Simultaneous removal of all power and air (as in the case of a power failure) will not ordinarily injure the tube, but it is recommended that cooling airflow continue for at least three minutes after filament power has been removed.

Filament Voltage — The filament voltage, as measured directly at the tube, should be 7.5 volts with maximum allowable variations due to line fluctuation of from 7.12 to 7.87 volts.

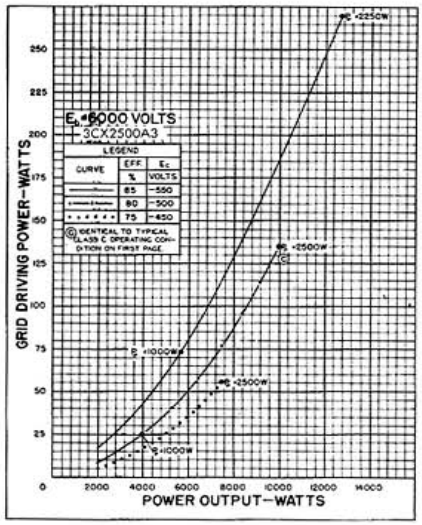
Bias Voltage — There is little advantage in using bias voltages in excess of those given under "TYPICAL OPERATION" except in certain very specialized applications. Where bias is obtained from a grid resistor, suitable protective means must be provided to prevent excessive plate dissipation in the event of loss of excitation.

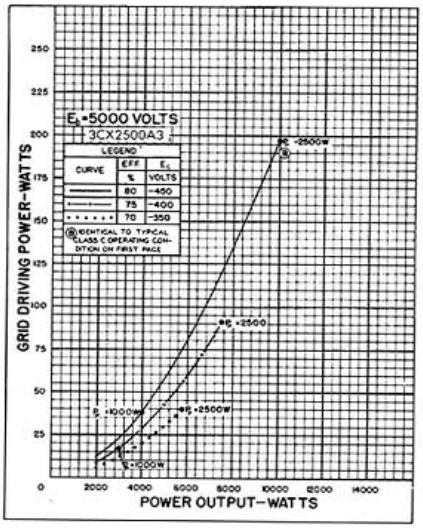
Plate Voltage — The plate-supply voltage for the 3CX2500A3 should not exceed 6000 volts. In most cases there is little advantage in using plate-supply voltages higher than those given under "TYPICAL OPERATION" for the power output desired.

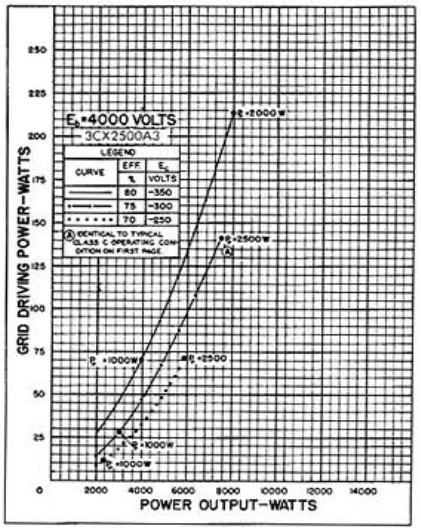
Grid Dissipation — The power dissipated by the grid of the 3CX2500A3 must never exceed 150 watts. Grid dissipation is the product of dc current and peak positive grid voltage.

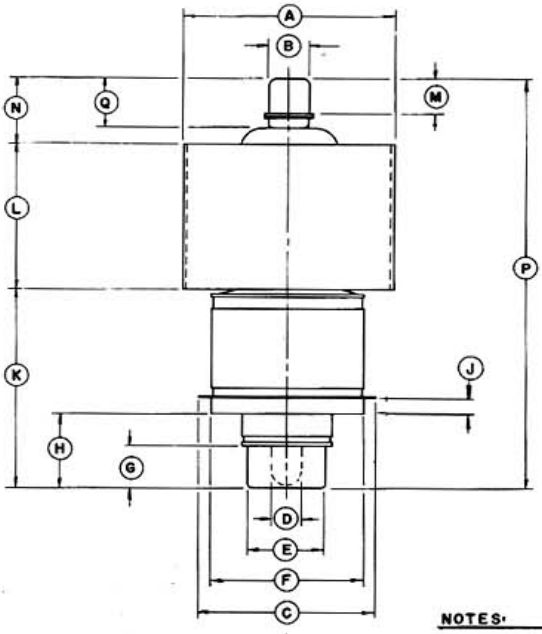
In equipment in which the plate loading varies widely, such as oscillators used for radio-frequency heating, care should be taken to make certain that the grid dissipation does not exceed the maximum rating under any condition of loading.

InVHF operation, particularly above 75 MHz the dc grid current must not exceed 200 ma under any conditions of plate loading. With lightly loaded conditions the grid driving power should be reduced so that the grid current does not exceed one-tenth of the plate current.

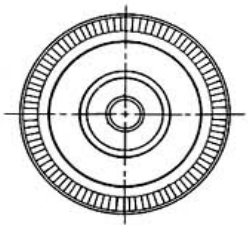








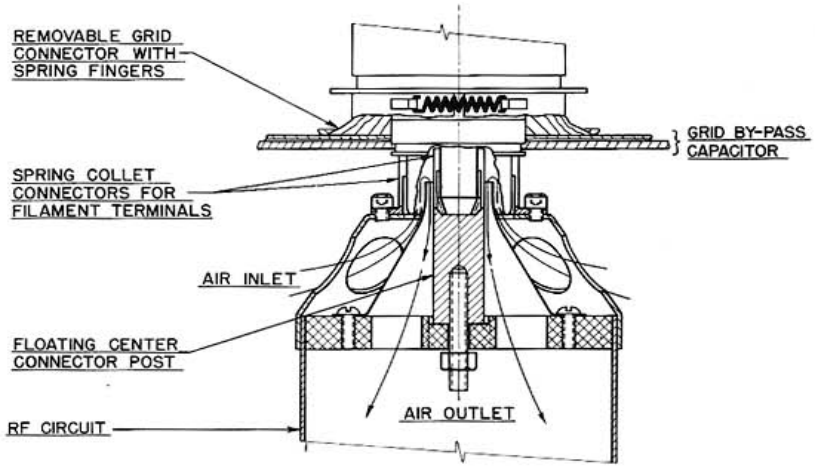
DIMENSIONAL DATA			
REF.	MIN.	MAX.	NOM.
A	4 3/32	4 5/32	
B	25/32	27/32	
C		3 5/8	
D	.615	.635	
E	1.490	1.510	
F	2.990	3.010	
G	13/16	15/16	
H	1 3/8	1 5/8	
J	3/8	7/16	
K	3 7/8	4 1/4	
L	2 15/16	3 1/16	
M	11/16	13/16	
N	1 3/16	1 11/16	
P	8	9	
Q	1	1 1/8	



BOTTOM VIEW

NOTES:

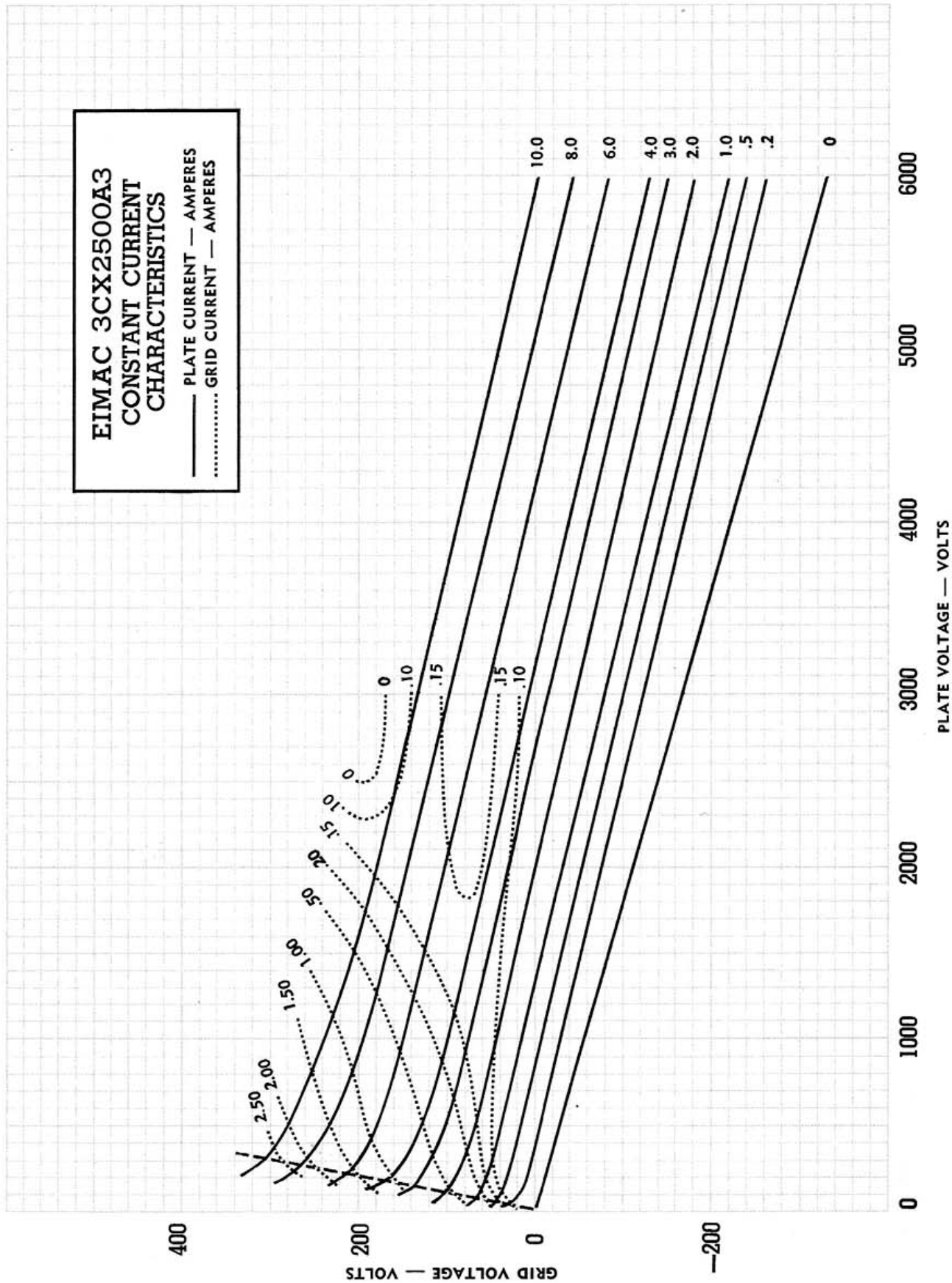
1. .040 MAXIUM RUNOUT OF GRID CONTACT SURFACE WITH RESPECT TO AXIS DETERMINED BY ANODE AND OUTER FILAMENT CONTACT SURFACE.
2. .025 MAXIUM RUNOUT OF INNER FILAMENT CONTACT SURFACE WITH RESPECT TO OUTER FILAMENT CONTACT SURFACE.
3. DIMENSIONS IN INCHES.



TYPICAL TUBE CONNECTORS AND STEM COOLING

DRIVING POWER vs. POWER OUTPUT

The three charts on this page show the relationship of plate efficiency, power output and approximate grid driving power at plate voltages of 4000, 5000 and 6000 volts. These charts show combined grid and bias losses only. The driving-power and power-output figures do not include circuit losses. The plate dissipation in watts is indicated by Pp. Points A, B, and C are identical to the typical Class C operating conditions shown on the first page under 4000, 5000 and 6000 volts respectively.


EIMAC 3CX2500A3
CONSTANT CURRENT
CHARACTERISTICS
PLATE CURRENT — AMPERES
GRID CURRENT — AMPERES
10.0
8.0
6.0
4.0
3.0
2.0
1.0
.5
.2
0
2.50
2.00
1.50
1.00
.50
.20
.15
.10
.05
0
400
200
0
—200
GRID VOLTAGE — VOLTS
0
1000
2000
3000
4000
5000
6000
PLATE VOLTAGE — VOLTS