

# AMPEX

## CORPORATION

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REDWOOD CITY, CALIFORNIA

MAGNETIC RECORDERS

SERVICE BULLETIN

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1. Reels. It has been found in some isolated cases that when the tape is allowed to run all the way out at the end of a fast wind, a section over a foot long will be broken off the end. Upon investigation, this was found to be due to the sharp edges on the slot opening of the reel hub through which the tape is threaded. The sharp edges apparently provided high friction and did not allow the end of the tape to run out freely. When these sharp edges were filed off, the breakage no longer occurred. This information is being forwarded to the NARTB Sub-Committee for the standardization of reels.

Difficulty has also been experienced with the reels not being properly centered. When inserting the hold-down knob, the knob should be pushed down with one hand, and the reel held with the other hand. As the hold-down comes into contact with the reel, agitate the reel slightly with the other hand to make sure that the hold-down moves into the exact center of the opening, then push the knob down firmly. For use of the new Cat. #534-D and #4402 Hold Down Knobs, see Gen. Service Bulletin #2.

In order for the brakes to work properly, the same size reel must always be placed on both turntables. In using the small RMA 7 inch reels, abnormal hold-back tensions will occur at the end of the reel due to the small hub diameter. This may cause trouble due to slippage at the capstan idler (see item No. 8 below). If the small type reels are to be used exclusively, resistors R401 and R403, in series with the Rewind and Takeup motors respectively, should be increased to the maximum setting. See Service Bulletin #20 to add switch for both 7" and 10-1/2" reels. It is recommended that the smaller 5" reels not be used for recording or playback. (To play the 5" reels, external resistors would have to be added to R401 and R403 for proper tensions.)

2. Threading. In threading the tape, be sure to remove any adhesive that may have been used to seal the end. If this adhesive is not removed, the first layer may stick and cause the end to break off at the end of Rewind.