7200/A FAQ

Q) Will you send me the software for ��.

A) It's now available on this site thanks to LeCroy!!! If you are unable to download the software contact me at the supplied address and I will mail you a copy.

Q) Where can I find parts for ��.

A) EBay is a good dumping ground. I checked them every few days when I was searching. I have now sold off all of my spare parts on EBay so I am unable to help. You could try LeCroy service.

Q) Can you help me fix my ��.

A) Sorry. I do not perform any repair services. I can only offer what little advice I have.

Q) My 7200A seems to reset or lock-up. Any ideas what coud cause this?

A) Try installing a different ISA video card in the system. Unplug the LeCroy interface board and boot the system under DOS. You can now run what ever diagnostic software you have access to. My guess is the problem is in the motherboard. You could shotgun the system by replacing the cache, CPU and RAM. Check the power supply for noise. In my case, the motherboard had to be replaced. These are near impossible to locate now. Keep in mind that the 7200A requires a specific motherboard.

Q) In my 7200A, I notice that one of my 7242B plug-ins seem to shut down now that the room temperature is a bit warmer (95F). All of the LEDs on the panel turn off and the software locks up. If I restart the unit, the software can not find the plug-in. It appears that after I allow the unit to cool it will fire back up. I am guessing that the thermal button on the back of the unit is tripping. I also notice that the 7242A's do not appear to have a problem with the heat. Is this normal? Can I damage the 7242Bs by operating in higher ambient temperature like this?

A) 95F is about the limit that those plugins will run at before the thermal switch opens. The 7242A will probably shut down within a few degrees. You may want to check if one slot is hotter than then other (the fan may be less efficient in one slot than the other). You may also be able to gain a few degrees of margin by removing the rear panel on the 7200A (there are slots cut in the rear metalwork which impede air flow slightly and reduce the efficiency of the fans. As far as damage goes, I would not expect this to damage them (during mfg we used to run them hot during burn in) sometimes up to two weeks in duration. We have run them longer hot like that, but if you can run them cooler, that would be a good thing.

Q) When a production calibration is performed, is the calibration data stored into the scope? Maybe a better way to ask this is are all of the adjustments done in hardware, or does the software store the calibration information into EEPROM or other NV assuming that the hardware is close enough to the setpoint? (so normally you would not take the unit apart to calibrate it) Is there a difference between the dongled version and the open version of the software? A) The "dongled" test software is test software not performance

verification software. The "dongle" allows programs to be run so that you can set registers, ramp DAC's, test memory, etc, for troubleshooting. The open software is all you need for doing PV. There is no EEPROM stored coefficents in this scope, the cal signal is injected right at the input to the amplifier during the software calibration and it is capable of performing all adjustments. As far as the four offset pots by each HMS, their purpose is to get the offset within the range that the software can then take over to perform the final adjustment. I do not believe that minor adjustments will have any effect.

Q) I finally got the operators manual for the 7200A. In it it talks about support for the AHA1540B SCSI adapter for high speed data transfers. Do you happen to have a copy of the software to support this feature? The manual says that the source code for the PC was available on the same disk. I would like this also if you have it. Also, do you know if this feature, from the 7200A software side of things, will support the 1540CP in place of the 1540B?

A) I don't have any information about SCSI with the 7200A. It had only ever been used with a specific customer and you needed to have an INTFB board in the plugin. (it would only work with 7242B's, not 7242 or 7242A).

Q) I noticed when I was running the LeCroy diagnostics that the software says that options 1,2 and 3 are enabled, but option 5 is not. I set the serial number to what was on the back of the unit but get the same results. The unit now passes all of the diagnostics so I am guessing that I need to set something up to enable this. Any ideas?

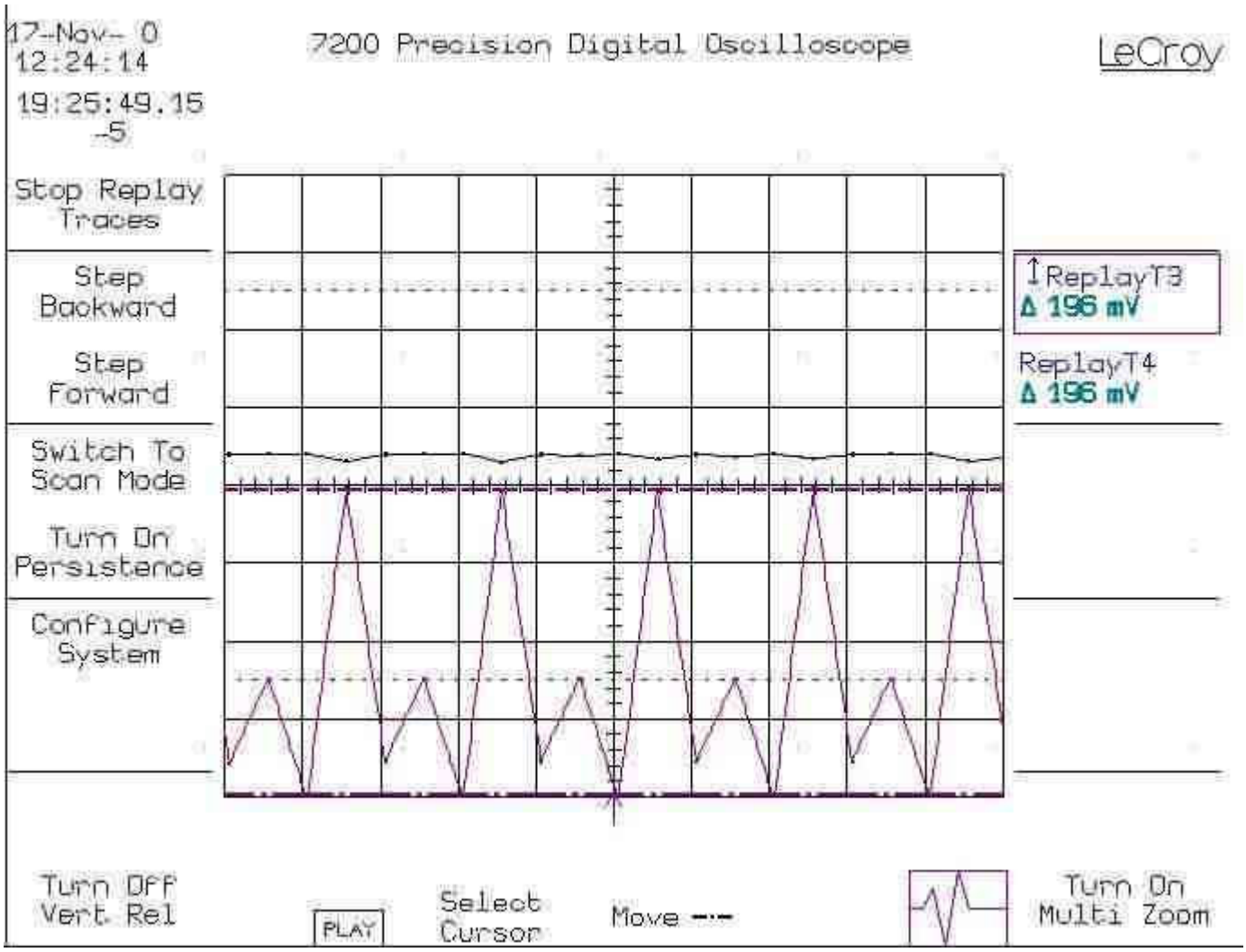
A) The software option SW5 is enabled by the front panel controller on the AMDIO board in the 7200A. SW5 was only for some parameters used by the hard disk manufacturing industry.

Q) Are the pp005 and pp006 probes ok to use with the 7200?

A) The PP005 would be right at the limit or just past the adjustability for probe compensation. We would recommend the PP002. Q) It looks like my MB has a problem on the 7200A. It crashes at random. I have changed out the CPU, cache and memory with no luck. I was able to get the disk formatted and the basic software installed. I have gone back to testing under DOS. Do you have any of the old 486 boards still in stock? If not, is it possible to use a board that has the OPTI devices in place of the Symphony devices. Both companies made the 82C461 / 465. If you do have boards in stock, could you quote me a price.

A) We have none of these of motherboards in stock and cannot locate any new ones (the company that made them, Young Microsystems, went out of business). I do not believe that you will be able to get this to work with another motherboard but quite frankly I have not tried it. He was right on this one!!! Symphony only.

Q) My 7242 has a strange waveform when I forst power it on. I have attached a bmp file of the screen showing the waveforms of both channels in the 50mV scale. I ran the scope for several hours once this error clears out and have not seen the problem reoccur. It sure seems like a bad joint.



A) I do not think this is a solder problem, nor do I think it is a loose connection in the hybrid (at least not yet). I would not recommend removing the cover of the hybrid, these hybrids are very expensive (~$950, you would probably be better buying another plugin for parts) and in extremely short supply and I would not be able to sell you one. We have additional tools for troubleshooting here which you can't get to work in a 7200 mainframe without special software keys but which I can explain if you have a 7200A mainframe. Do you have a 7200A mainframe working? I will have to make some guesses based on what I see. One of the calibrations that the software dose is to correct the offsets in the HMS. There are some pots which set the gross offset and then the software calibrates it finely. The software is able to move this offset considerably. I cannot tell which of the 4 ADC's is offset so we will have to experiment. If you look at the HMS's on the ADC board, the one closest to the front is channel 2. Next to each hybrid are four pots. Physically, the wipers should be in approxiamtely the same relative position. If one is out, perhaps it is for the ADC you are having problems with. If not, note where they are and see if adjusting them will bring the traces closer to the center. Don't go crazy with this adjustment because the software has tremendous effect and after making any adjustment you will need to perform an automatic recal so the software can try to straighten it out.