

R-390A History of Teledyne, Amelco and Imperial
Larry Haney, 4-25-2022

I went through the 'History' file in Wei Li's Pearls on our website and extracted all the pertinent entries for this subject and listed them below.

At the end of this file, you will find information about the ASBCA (Armed Services Board of Contract Appeals) decision about Teledyne, Amelco and Imperial.

Date: Sun, 22 Jul 2001 10:44:17 -0700 (PDT)
From: "Tom M." <courir26 at yahoo.com>
Subject: [R-390] Imperial/Teledyne Business Connection?

Does anyone know (I mean like really know) the business connection between Teledyne Systems Corp and Imperial Electronics? These two marques shared the contract 37856-PC-63. The rigs were marked Imperial up to at least # 3022. Above #3976 they were marked Teledyne Systems Corp. Anyone know the answer?

From: Llgpt at aol.com
Date: Sun, 20 Oct 2002 10:54:43 EDT
Subject: Re: [R-390] Teledyne, Amelco tags

Teledyne acquired Amelco during the 5,000 production run. Not at all uncommon.

From: Aidehua at aol.com
Date: Sun, 20 Oct 2002 10:57:56 EDT
Subject: Re: [R-390] Teledyne, Amelco tags

I have both a Teledyne and an Amelco. They were indeed combined under the same contract. The Contract # was 35064-PC-62. They were produced in 1962. If you have a combination of components, then you have the original run. The PTO should be either Progresitron(sp?) or Dubrow...Hopethat helps.

Subject: [R-390] Teledyne, Amelco, Imperial Story
From: Tom M. courir26 at yahoo.com
Date: Sun, 20 Oct 2002 08:51:02 -0700 (PDT)

Gentlemen?

Here is the story on the Amelco/Teledyne connection.

The Amelco story starts with Teledyne. In the fall of 1960 Dr. Henry Singleton and Dr. George Kozmetsky left Litton Industries and formed Teledyne Inc. Teledyne's first acquisition was to purchase a small electronic "build to print" manufacturing company in Los Angeles named Amelco, which was located on Panama Street in Culver City. Amelco was the first operating company of Teledyne. They bid and won contract 35064-PC-62 for the manufacture of R-390A's in late in early 1962. The first units were manufactured and shipped with the name Amelco on the name tags. Before all units on this contract were shipped, the name of the company was changed to Teledyne Systems Corporation and the remaining units under this contract were shipped under that name.

In the meantime, another Los Angles area company named Imperial won contract 37856-PC-63 to make R-390As. Teledyne acquired Imperial shortly

thereafter, and all units shipped under the names Amelco, Teledyne Systems Corporation and Imperial were manufactured and shipped from the plant on Panama Street in Culver City. According to my research, about 7600 radios were built by Teledyne under the three company names and two orders.

In summary, the Teledyne production of R-390As looked something like this (hope the tabs don't mess it up):

Badge Name	Order No.	High s.n. noted
Amelco	35064-PC-62	2540
Teledyne Systems Corp	35064-PC-62	3642
Imperial	37856-PC-63	3022
Teledyne Systems Corp	37856-PC-63	3976

Total Production, at least 7619 sets.

Hope this helps.

73 Tom N50FF

Subject: [R-390] Odd Contracts, Was Capehart Audio Deck
From: Tom M. courir26 at yahoo.com
Date: Mon, 28 Oct 2002 03:59:11 -0800 (PST)

Looks like a spare parts contract.

Here are some others. There are no whole sets associated with these (contracts).

Electronic Assistance Corp	DAAB05-68-C-0039
Electronic Assistance Corp	N00126-70-C-0359
Stewart-Warner	42428-PC-59-A1-51
Stewart-Warner	DA-36-039-SC-81549
Communications System	FR-11-022-C-4-26418(E)
Clavier Corp.	DAAG05-67-C-0016
Clavier Corp.	DAAG05-67-C-0136
Motorola RF Deck	14385-PC-58-51
Teledyne IF Deck	37856-PC-63
Hacking Labs, Menlo Park, PS Deck	DLA400-80-C-2948

Subject: [R-390] # of fuses
From: R390rcvr at aol.com
Date: Sat, 26 Oct 2002 21:01:12 EDT

The 1st four R-390A contracts were all single fuse rigs. The 0014-PH-56 Motorola contract switched to 3 fuses at #2683.

Note added: See the 'contracts' list by clicking on the link in the top of the 'Manufacturers' page on our website, or this link: <https://www.r-390a.net/R390a%20R390%20R391%20Production%20Notes.pdf>

Randy

Date: Thu, 16 Mar 2006 15:03:51 -0600
From: "Les Locklear" <leslocklear at cableone.net>
Subject: Re: [R-390]much to Pay? Amelco/ Capehart

Amelco started the 35064-PC-62 contract for 5,000 receivers, they were purchased/acquired by Teledyne who built the remainder of the R-390A's under the same contract number.

Date: Thu, 16 Mar 2006 17:51:40 -0800
From: Dan Arney <hankarn at pacbell.net>
Subject: Re: [R-390]much to Pay? Amelco/ Capehart

My understanding is that Capehart was taken over by Amelco and the end producer was Teledyne.

End of info from our Pearls History.

Tom Marcotte found an interesting Appeal's document for an ASBCA (Armed Services Board of Contract Appeals) decision about Teledyne Corporation versus the Government (Army), some time in 1966. He passed it on to me on 2-22-2022. The ASBCA was created by a joint directive of the Secretaries of the Army, Navy and Air Force. It is the authorized representative of the Secretaries in hearing and determining contractor appeals. Thus the Board, with its three contract appeals panels, has a key role in settling disputes for defense procurement.

The appeal was for extra compensation and an extension of time on Contract No. DA-11-022-AMC-723(E) dated 29 June 1963 (Order No. 37856-PC-63 originally awarded to Imperial Electronics Inc.). It was for the alleged disruption of their production schedule because of the government requirement that approval of a quality assurance program be obtained, and other problems. The final ASBCA decision was given on 20 February 1967 and the Government prevailed, hence this Appeal on August 27, 1968 by Teledyne. It is quite revealing about the many problems Teledyne had manufacturing the R-390A's and involves Imperial Electronics Inc. and Amelco Inc.

I've written a summary version of the document because the original is long and hard to read. You can see it here: <https://www.r-390a.net/R-390A%20Teledyne%20Imperial%20vs%20Gov%20review.pdf>
It is very informative, entertaining and revealing.

Here's a few bits of information to take away:

1. Teledyne Inc. became a company in Late 1960.
2. Amelco Inc. won the contract DA 36-039-SC-79620 for order 35064-PC-62 for 5,000 R-390A's in early 1962. They were located on Panama Street in Culver City (by Los Angeles).
3. Imperial Electronics Inc. won the contract DA 11-22-AMC-723(E) for order 37856-PC-63 for 3,090 R-390A's in early 1963.
4. Teledyne acquired Amelco around April 1963 (after Amelco started production of about 2,500 R-390A's).
5. Teledyne acquired Imperial in the fall of 1963. Even so, about 3,000 R-390A's were made under Imperial's name before changing it in the rest of the contract to Teledyne. These units were all made at the Panama Street location that Amelco started.