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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR: BULOVA WATCH COMPANY, INC.

INDUSTRIAL TIMER

MARKET EXPANDS,

BULOVA REPORTS

NEW YORK -- High-reliability timers originally designed for space and defense applications are now being widely used as industrial timers, according to Harry Gewertz, general manager of Bulova Watch Company's Systems & Instruments Division.

The Division, which five years ago established its Timer Laboratory to serve the space program, now produces more than 200 models and combinations of high-precision electronic, electro-mechanical and mechanical timers, ranging in price from several dollars to \$1,400 per unit. Of these more than 90 per cent are industrial timers, and most of the remainder are modifications of industrial models.

The Lab's latest timer, the Model TE-16 Series Accutron Digital Output Timer, is self-powered by a 1.3-volt battery that lasts a year, is guaranteed to maintain an in-use accuracy of plus or minus two seconds a day, and can be programmed to provide contact closures for any four or combination of four increments of time (seconds, minutes, hours, days) by using four corresponding printed circuit boards.

The basic model of the TE-16 weighs three ounces, is priced at \$455 and comes with one printed circuit board and an unnumbered dial with sweep second hand. Additional modules are available at \$115 each. A 24-hour-dial with hands (hour, minute and second) may also be ordered for an additional \$110.

(more)

Accutron timers and clocks have served on members of all families of America's communications satellites (Explorer, TIROS, Relay, Telstar, Syncom, and LES) and on the two-man Gemini series of spacecraft.

Among the mechanical timers produced by the Laboratory are those contracted for by Sandia Corporation for the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission.

Industrial applications for industrial models include: programming plant and production line photo-recording systems; clocking oscilloscope displays and presentations; scheduling contact closures or openings to actuate relays, solenoids or other devices or circuits from one second up to five years. Cyclical models, for cycles ranging from less than one second to up to 60 days, are used to program repetitive contact closures at specific intervals throughout the operating life of the battery system used.

Cyclical timers have also been used with lip-sync equipment, on photographic equipment, on submerged buoys and on other underwater equipment.

"We know that our timers have been used for more than 500 different applications," Gewertz noted, "but the actual total is far higher than that, because very frequently we are not informed of the projected use for units ordered."

Bulova's first high-precision timer for space was used on the Explorer VI in 1959. A subsequent unit was aboard the Explorer XI, successfully lofted April 27, 1961, just two weeks after the establishment of the Timer Lab; the timer worked perfectly 760 hours later, when it switched off a broadcast function.

"To date, only 30 timers and clocks have been used in space missions," Gewertz said, "but our Lab's business has grown rapidly over the years, as industrial engineers have become aware of our high-precision industrial timers originally developed for space and defense applications."