1.2 Introduction

The T858 and T859 are FM base station power amplifiers designed for single or multichannel operation in the 400 to 520MHz frequency range. The output power capabilities are as follows:

T858 - 10 to 60W T859 - 20 to 110W.

The older design T858/859 PAs (without RF power modules) comprise a broad band, three stage drive amplifier whose output is split to drive two separate output stages. The outputs from these final stages are then recombined and filtered before being fed to the output socket. This type of balanced output stage offers two advantages over single ended types:

- improved intermodulation performance in the presence of high signal levels from adjacent transmitters;
- enhanced reliability: if one of the two output stages fails, the transmitter can still produce one quarter of its rated power.

The newer design T858 PA (with RF power module) comprises a broad band, two stage drive amplifier whose output is filtered before being fed to the output connector.

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VSWR and thermal protection are incorporated into the basic design of all T858/859 PAs, while monitoring and alarm signals are available for both forward and reverse power. The output power is adjustable from the front panel.

The main PCB is mounted directly on a die-cast chassis/heatsink. Extensive use is made of the latest surface mount technology. Effective RF isolation between the PA control circuitry and RF stages in the newer design T858/859 PAs is achieved by internal metal shields.

Forced air cooling for the heatsink is provided on the T859 by a fan, which is activated whenever the transmitter is keyed. Thermal sensors will also activate the fan automatically if the internal temperature reaches an unacceptable level.

The T858 has a width of 60mm and occupies a single space in a Tait rack frame, which has the ability to accommodate up to seven standard modules. The T859 has a width of 120mm and occupies a double space.

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