

THE LONDON OB COAXIAL NETWORK "LOCO"

1. General

The network is formed from permanently rented BT coaxial cables between regularly used OB sites. Most of the LOCO is 0.375" (9.5mm) coaxial pair except for some of the newer sections which are 0.174" (4.4mm).

2. Intermediate Points

BT Cabinets

Queens Gate *
Apsley House *
Westminster Abbey
Buckingham Palace (Garden)
Marlborough House
Stable Yard Gate
Horse Guards Parade *
Canada Gate *

Other Terminations

Wellington Arch
Lancaster House
New Palace Yard (Westminster Hall)
Buckingham Palace (Pool)
Olympia
Earls Court
Royal Albert Hall
10 Downing Street *
New Scotland Yard
Norman Shaw BBC Studio *
College Mews (Abingdon Green
old BBC News studio)*
Palace of Westminster
(Black Rod's Garden)

* ENG Injection Facilities

3. BT Cabinets

The BT LOCO cabinets are fitted with a modified key (available from CPO). BT terminations are behind a locked panel on the left and BBC facilities, consisting of an insulated panel which includes the switching relays and F & E cross connections, are on the right. There is also a BT17 for connecting to interstice pairs. At some terminations an extra ENG relay is fitted and external ENG connections - F & E video and XLR (F) control line to Switching Centre.

4. Video Terminal Equipment

London Switching Centre have special variable equalisers for up to 5.5 Miles of LOCO and fixed equalisers for LOCO from Norman Shaw Studio (known as NSN - LOCO) Studio and a circuit Lime Grove to BH.

At Television Centre CAR there is a send amp and pre-equaliser for the circuit to BH and a fixed equaliser for a circuit from The Royal Albert Hall.

All O.B.s on the LOCO should be sent at high level ("+6" or "+12") unless otherwise directed by Switching Centre.

5. Location and Access to the Terminations

NB:- It is recommended that a BBC pass be carried at all times.

The LOCO and the terminations are BT property. Faults should be reported through CAR/Switching Centre maintenance.

a) Apsley House

Standard LOCO cabinet outside wall.

b) Black Rod's Garden (Palace of Westminster)

This is not strictly a LOCO point! There exist between a box by the 'Bird Cage' and the New Palace Yard LOCO termination 2 x BBC Tel OB run Coax cables for extension of LOCO.

Also there exists a Coax to Norman Shaw TV News Studio, this is the joint property of BBC and ITN. There are also tielines to BBC Millbank.

c) Buckingham Palace

All visitors must be accompanied by a BT engineer on site. Contact him by ringing C and asking for him.

Garden term is a BT cabinet, Pump room is under swimming pool.

d) Canada Gate (opposite Buckingham Palace)

LOCO cabinet behind Canada Gate inside Green Park. **NOTE** this cabinet has a Police padlock. Key and parking permission from Parks Police - see Downing Street for Police information

e) College Mews BBC TV News Studio

The Studio door is down a few steps in the West Wall of Abingdon Green. The LOCO appears in a metal cabinet outside extended into the studio. Internal PBX extensions exist in the studio.

f) 10 Downing Street

Termination in cupboard behind large black door in the garden wall off the 'L' shaped road.

BEFORE going contact Press Office on 071-9 Also Parks police on 071-93 tell them and they can give parking permission for Horseguards Parade parking area (and Canada Gate). Collect pass from Parks Police corner of Birdcage Walk/Horseguards Road

On arrival get key from the front door of Number 10 and talk to the Duty Policeman on Horseguard's Parade **BEFORE** doing ANYTHING to the door. This is a very HIGH SECURITY area.

The LOCO and the lines appear in the cabinet and a permanent DEL also exists (071- The ENG termination/relay is on the inside RHand.

5. Location and Access to the Terminations

CONTACT SWITCHING CENTRE B.H. Ext. 4133 (D.D.I. 071-927 4133)
BEFORE BREAKING ANY LOCO CONNECTIONS.

NB:- It is recommended that a BBC pass be carried at all times.

The LOCO and the terminations are BT property. Faults should be reported through Switching Centre.

a) Apsley House

Standard LOCO cabinet outside wall.

b) Black Rod's Garden (Palace of Westminster)

This is not strictly a LOCO point! There exist between the 'Bird Cage' and the New Palace Yard LOCO termination 2 x BBC Tel OB run Coax cables for extension of LOCO.

Also there exists a Coax to Norman Shaw TV News Studio. This is the joint property of BBC and ITN and is used for the output of the House of Lords and is therefore not usually available for other use.

c) Buckingham Palace

All visitors must be accompanied by a BT engineer on site. Contact him by ringing 071- asking for him. The garden termination is a BT cabinet and the Pump Room is underneath the Swimming pool.

d) Canada Gate (opposite Buckingham Palace)

LOCO cabinet behind Canada Gate inside Green Park.
Parking permission from Parks Police - see Downing Street

e) College Mews BBC TV News Studio

The Studio door is down a few steps in the West Wall of Abingdon Green. The LOCO appears in a metal cabinet outside the door in sunken area. Internal PBX extensions exist in the studio.

f) 10 Downing Street

Termination in cupboard behind large black door in the garden wall off the 'L' shaped road.
BEFORE going contact Head of Security - Charles Fountain on 071- , Parks police on 071- tell them and they can give parking permission for Horseguards Parade parking area (and Canada Gate)

On arrival get key from the front door. Talk to the Duty Policeman on Horseguard's Parade BEFORE doing ANYTHING to the door. This is a very HIGH SECURITY area.

The LOCO and the lines appear in this cabinet and a permanent DEL also exists (071- the ENG termination is on the outside of the door frame.

g) Earls Court

Termination inside wooden cabinet on wall beside the ramp at Entrance K (Old Brompton Road side of building). Main LOCO cable ends in the BT frame room in the basement and is extended on 0.174" tie cable. (BT room phone 071-

A permanent DEL exists at the termination.(071-

h) Horseguards Parade

The LOCO cabinet is by the steps up into the Citadel on the North side of Horseguards Parade. Permission as Downing Street

i) Lancaster House

Termination in BT Frame in basement extended to BBC studio. Ring 07 71 BEFORE going there to talk to doorkeeper. Ask him for key to BBC Studio (probably key B2). He might just possibly also know how to find it! An exchange line may exist in the studio. There are also BT rented audio and video ties to The Press Centre in the Bath Club, Pall Mall.

j) Television Centre CAR

Equipment is installed to equalise the LOCO from Royal Albert Hall and there is a send amp for 0 or + 12 sending, either flat or pre-equalised.

CAR TC Ext 3393 or DDI (

k) Marlborough House

Ask Gate Security for the key to Garden Gate. LOCO cabinet in the Garden beside the gate leading to Marlborough Road.

l) New Palace Yard

The termination is just inside the door leading off from the North West corner of Westminster hall. Go in via the main gates to New Palace Yard and the entrance to the Hall is through the large doors to the left of the entrance to the staff canteen. The key to the door off the hall may be obtained from the Duty Engineers in the House of Commons Control Room, ask Police for directions. Pass required to Palace of Westminster. Arrange through the Pass office BEFORE going. 071-2:

NB:- Two BBC coaxial cables exist from this point to Black Rods Garden - termination in BBC box inside the "birdcage" and there is also one BBC/ITN cable from the "Birdcage" direct to Norman Shaw Studio.

m) New Scotland Yard

Termination is on the BBC Bay in the Press Conference/Reporters Room together with Music and Controls to BH/TC and BH PABX Extension 7151 (instrument kept inside rear of bay). Keys kept in back hall Inspector's office and Traffic Broadcast Office (071-230 0000)

n) Norman Shaw Studio

Termination in BBC studio. For access arrange 'Day pass' through Palace of Westminster Pass office 071-219 6882. Once in, keys are kept at the at South West reception. LOCO terminates at rear of right hand side bays in studio control area and is extended via an insulated jackfield to the LOCO relay. Studio 071-930 56 30 or internal (071-930 56 30)

o) Olympia

Termination in metal box on wall of BT Frame Room. (BT No. 071-230 0000)

p) Queens Gate

LOCO cabinet inside gate to Kensington Gardens opposite Queens Gate. (Note the actual cablehead for the LOCO in the Apsley House direction is in an adjacent BT cabinet extended through a steel interconnecting tube.)

q) Royal Albert Hall

Termination is on bay in BBC room down stairs by entrance 11. All lines also terminate there and a DEL is available.(071-230 0000)
Contact Technical Director Ed Cottrill 071-56 56 56

r) St. James' Palace

Contact for access through The Lord Chamberlains Office, St James' Palace, S.W.1. 07
Get key from Duty Police Officer at the Tradesman's entrance in Stableyard Road. LOCO cabinet beside Cottage in the Garden on the Mall side.

s) Stable Yard Gate

As for Lancaster House and ask doorkeeper if you can go through the house or around the garden. LOCO cabinet is amongst the bushes inside the wall at the junction of Stable Yard Road and The Mall.

t) Wellington Arch

Termination on wall in basement of the Police Station.
Entry to Police Station in Constitution Hill side of the Arch.
Police contact for entry via Cannon Row Police Station Ops
room 071-83 .92.

u) Westminster Abbey

LOCO cabinet in "Stonemasons" yard at N.E. corner of Abbey

6. ENG Access

At several points on the network provision has been made for ENG access without opening cabinets or requiring entry to BT premises. At these points an extra relay has been installed to direct the LOCO and a box fitted with the video termination and a control line to BH Switching Centre.

These points are as follows:-

- Queens Gate
- Apsley House
- Horse Guards
- 10 Downing Street
- College Mews (Relay at Westminster Abbey)
- Canada Gate
- Norman Shaw Studio (known as Westminster Inject point (WIP)
and actually a source on the studio matrix)

25/4/90

