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RF DEPT.

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SERVICE MEMO

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SUBJECT: Reverse Power Limit for 618B, 620A and 624C Output
Attenuators

Since some customers are using 618B, 620A and/or 624C
Signal Generators in applications where external power is fed
back into the signal generator's output attenuator, we've run
some tests to see how much reverse power can be handled safely.

It looks like 80 to 100 mw average power is a typical, yet
conservative, figure. For pulsed signals, approximately 5 volts
peak appears permissible as long as the average power figure
isn't exceeded. Please bear in mind that these are not specs;
the only valid specification is that the attenuator be able to
withstand the maximum power developed within the signal
generator.

If your customer suspects that his application is feeding
higher power into the attenuator, he should be advised to in-
sert additional isolation, such as a directional coupler, pads,
or a ferrite isolation.

Dean Abramson/fd