

Re: Function of component in flash tube trigger circuit?

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- *From:* "James Sweet" <jamesweet@xxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 28 Apr 2008 18:04:20 GMT
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"N_Cook" <diverse@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
[news:fv51pt\\$pv1\\$1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:fv51pt$pv1$1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

James Sweet <jamesweet@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
[news:ArnRj.637\\$PY5.15@xxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:ArnRj.637$PY5.15@xxxxxxxxxxx)

What seems strange is this transformer must be half or third
of the

volume

of the ones in compact camera flashes but the tube is perhaps
100x the
volume of the tube in one of those cameras (1cm diameter,
20cm long).

Don't
know the joules rating of this one, a large studio flash unit,
but 530V
standing voltage. Perhaps 2m of wire wrapped around the
flash tube, as
trigger, all in all seems inadequately tiny in comparison.

I think I'll try 2 camera ones in series with 100 ohms initially
to try
and
localise why not triggering. I may try subbing this tiny
stepup
transformer
with one 3 times the size from a compact camera, as am
wondering if it
could
be internally arcing across turns.

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The size is virtually irrelevant, as Sam says, almost no current is required. I've used a tiny trigger transformer salvaged from a disposable camera to trigger a huge (about 8" long) 1KJ flash tube. Some are bigger, some are smaller, it has more to do with age, manufacturing process, and

the

need for compactness.

Is it possible to have a non-functional tube with no signs of problems, like the black patches on the ends of a fluorescent tube that is on the way out.

This one looks perfect other than the glass is a bit dirty on the outside, because the distributed trigger stops any cleaning. Not been dropped, no cracked glass, no odd looking deposits on the electrodes or on the inside of the glass.

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electronic hints and repair briefs, schematics/manuals list on
<http://home.graffiti.net/diverse:graffiti.net/>

Yes, it's possible, but not terribly likely. You should be able to test it by applying voltage to the tube and using a piezo flame igniter to trigger it.

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