Compactrons . . . G.E.'s all-new 12-pin multi-function devices . . . provide increased reliability and more compact circuitry than tubes or transistors. This is accomplished, partly, by combining several functions into a single, low-profile envelope requiring fewer pins, stems, sockets, welds and handling operations. In a typical AC-DC radio, 3 compactrons do the job of 6 tubes or 8 transistors . . . and do it cheaper and easier. Compactrons use about 35% less power than tubes to perform a given function, yet they deliver more power output. Larger bulb diameter and 12-pin stems decrease bulb temperature about 15%, as compared to similar conventional tube types. The result: increased life expectancy and greater reliability. Servicing will be easier because less wiring and fewer solder connections are necessary with compactrons. The large-diameter pin circle reduces clustering of components, gives more space for wiring and increases the arc-over rating to more than 10,000 volts.

Some of today's newest equipment features compactrons . . . TV sets by 3 major manufacturers, portable halogen leak detectors, electronic street lighting controls, multiplex adapters, and single-sideband communication equipment. Basic specifications of the twenty-four types are shown at the right. Note that up to four circuit functions can be performed by a single compactron.