

## Troubleshooting Ideas and Suggestions

These ideas and suggestions are merely that. There are numerous ways of approaching troubleshooting of complex systems. These ideas, however, are well tested and provide a good starting point.

- 1) Be logical, methodical and consistent – pick one strategy and use it.
- 2) Always have spare components on-hand when setting up a system.
- 3) Start at the beginning (input) and work your way to the end (output).
- 4) Verify operation at each step in the system chain.
- 5) When you identify a component suspected of being faulty, replace it with a spare.
- 6) Only swap out/replace one component at a time in order to isolate the problem(s).
- 7) Be aware of the fact that there may be more than one problem, i.e. more than one faulty component.
- 8) Be aware that the component you swap in to replace another suspect one may also be faulty.
- 9) When a problem component is isolated, mark it for repair, put it aside, and notify the appropriate personnel.
- 10) If a faulty component cannot be replaced, identify other 'work-around' strategies for getting the desired results.