



Fig. 8 A versatile 10-channel bridge chassis to which resistance thermometers can be connected. The plug-in double bridge modules convert the resistance change of the sensor to a d.c. output signal suitable for most types of data-loggers and computers

The modern platinum resistance thermometer has overcome virtually all the obstacles that have hitherto prevented its widespread use and now provides the most accurate and versatile method of precise industrial temperature measurement and control over the greater part of the normal spectrum of process temperatures. Temperatures from

-200°C to $+500^{\circ}\text{C}$ are a matter of routine. Above this range to $+750^{\circ}\text{C}$ some extra precautions are needed, while special units are being introduced to cover temperatures up to approximately 1000°C .

Reference

1 B.P. 959,368; 959,369; U.S.P. 3,114,125

Petrochemicals by Platinum Reforming

WORLD'S LARGEST AROMATICS PLANT

The world's largest aromatics petrochemical plant recently began production in Puerto Rico. Operated by Commonwealth Petrochemicals Inc., a subsidiary of Commonwealth Oil Refining Company, the plant receives raw naphtha feedstock both from the parent company's refinery and by tanker from Venezuela. The naphtha is fed to a Unifining process unit where it is catalytically desulphurised, and thence to a Platforming unit where it is reformed over a platinum catalyst to produce a high yield of aromatics. These are separated in a Sulfolane unit and finally produced as high purity benzene, toluene, ortho-xylene and mixed xylenes. The total annual capacity of the plant is 172 million gallons of aromatics. Five of the plant's major units were designed by Universal Oil Products Company.

The aromatics complex at the new Puerto Rico plant of Commonwealth Petrochemicals Inc.

