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Subject: Replacing Selenium

Posted by [AstroSonic](#) on Sun, 15 Mar 2009 20:44:10 GMT

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Hi,I am restoring a Zenith AM-FM table radio that uses a selenium stack as a half-wave rectifier it has no power transformer). I would like to replace the selenium diode with a modern silicon diode. My question is - what was the voltage drop across the selenium diode (when it was new). I figure I'll need to add a dropping resistor in series with the (replacement) silicon diode in order to get the design voltages to the tubes. Otherwise, the tubes will see higher (possibly excessive/damaging) voltages. A search (selenium) of this forum did not turn up anything. Surely others have run into this same problem, as these devices were used extensively in the 40s and 50s. TIA,Bob

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