PHILIPS VARIABLE TRANSFORMER

Technical Data Sheet & Operational Guide

Model / Type: 84536 (RT84536)

Product Class: Variable Autotransformer

Era / Origin: Circa 1950s / Germany

1. General Description

The Philips Type 84536 is a heavy-duty, industrial-grade variable autotransformer (commonly known as a "Variac"). Encased in a robust, grey-painted metal housing with ventilation louvers, the unit is designed for continuous, reliable voltage adjustment in laboratory, industrial, and service environments.

Based on the visual scale and historical data, this unit is rated for a maximum load of **8 Amperes** and roughly **2 kVA**.



Pictured: Philips Type 84536 Variable Autotransformer. (Coin shown for scale reference).

2. Technical Specifications

Input Voltage	Nominal 220V AC (50/60 Hz)
Output Voltage	0V to 260V AC (Adjustable)
Maximum Current	8 Amperes (8A)
Power Rating	Approx. 2 kVA (2000 VA)
Transformer Type	Autotransformer (Non-isolated)
Dial Scale	0 to 260 (Direct voltage readout)

3. Physical Features

- **Rotary Dial:** Large, black, multi-lobed knob for precise manual voltage adjustment.
- **Scale Plate:** Black faceplate with white numerals indicating output voltage (0-260V).
- **Output Terminals:** Two sturdy black screw-type binding posts located on the top deck.
- **Power Cable:** Permanently attached mains cable with a vintage European Schuko-style plug. *(Note: Adapter or replacement required for modern outlets).*
- **Cooling:** Vertical ventilation slots on all four sides to dissipate heat.
- **Mounting:** Integrated rubber feet for stable benchtop use.

4. Operation

- **Setup:** Ensure the rotary dial is turned fully

counter-clockwise to the **0** position before connecting power.

- **Connection:** Connect the mains plug to an appropriate AC power source. Connect the device to be powered to the two top binding posts.
- **Adjustment:** Slowly rotate the dial clockwise to increase voltage progressively to the desired level.
- **Shutdown:** Always rotate the dial back to **0** before turning off or disconnecting the mains power.

⚠️ 5. CRITICAL SAFETY WARNINGS

DANGER: NON-ISOLATED OUTPUT
This device is an **AUTOTRANSFORMER**. It does **NOT** provide electrical isolation from the mains supply. The neutral wire is tied directly to the output.

- **Do not** use this device for servicing equipment where a person might come into contact with live circuitry.
- **Do not** use to power medical equipment or devices requiring galvanic isolation.
- **High Voltage Hazard:** Output can reach 260V. Ensure connected equipment is rated for the applied voltage.
- **Thermal Hazard:** Do not block ventilation slots. Do not exceed the 8A / 2kVA rating to prevent overheating.
- **Vintage Equipment Notice:** Internal wiring and insulation may have degraded. It is highly recommended that this unit be inspected by a qualified electrician (PAT tested) before active service.

Data Sheet compiled based on visual evidence and historical Philips product data.