



in **STRIDE**

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Updates! Updates!

This issue attempts to bring you up-to-date on some of the changes that have occurred to the more and varied products on Tride's machines. Besides letting you know what they are, Tech Notes is making it easy to get the updates via a special order form in the middle of this issue. Most of the updates discussed can be purchased at a small cost (most are \$10) which covers shipping and handling, etc.

Not all of the updates are new, but you may have missed the announcement or felt that you were going to wait awhile before getting updated. Tride has also changed the update policy slightly this year, hopefully we can make changes available to you sooner.

Most computer products, software and hardware, are constantly changing

and growing. Some computer manufacturers release every four to six months which incorporates all the small changes that occur that period. If Tride is a distributor of a product handled this way by its vendor, we can only update you when the vendor updates us. Most vendors also require a new receipt for the new version. This is the case with the p-System IV.25 update from version IV.20.

However, products developed internally by Tride Microsystems, such as the PROS and SE-PROS are handled a bit differently. As time changes its face, an update diskette is created and given to Tech Support. If a user calls in wanting that change, he can get the update diskette immediately for only \$10!

Tride does not automatically update every user, but, through the Tech Notes, we will be letting our registered users know about the changes.

What is a registered user? If you're receiving Tech Notes you're registered. Any Tride/Trage owner can register simply by sending in their name,

address and machine serial number to Tride Microsystems via Exam address. Just buying a machine does not automatically register you since most machines and software are sold through dealers and distributors -- Tride Microsystems does not know who you are. There is a card in the shipping box that our owners are supposed to fill out and return. You would be surprised how many don't!

Updates are announced through in Tride's, and our dealer bulletins. Major announcements also are made over the various electronic mail systems.

Updates to certain products require proof that you purchased the original product. Your Purchase Order number or the Serial number of products (such as CP/86) and the Serial Number of your Tride/Trage machine are necessary in order to purchase the update.

If an item on the order form in the back is not clear to you, look through this issue. Most items are explained with a short paragraph. The p-System update was explained in detail in the last issue of Tech Notes, Volume 4. ☐

CMOS Memory Map

The CMOS Memory Map shows on page 219 of the February Tride Owner's Manual's incomplete (refer to page 140 of the September edition). The CMOS memory map is shown correctly on the right.

Note that there is a 16KB byte area (FFA000 - FFFFFF) reserved for applications programs. In the battery-backed circuit products all CMOS, this area is handy as a small RAM disk for the user for information. CMOS RAM is a lot slower than regular RAM -- but a lot faster than disk.

Other applications are allowed to use this area, so it is best to initialize it at the start of your program. If used to transfer data between programs, make sure that there is no way another program can be called in between that might kill the area. Most operating systems have ways that programs can chain or pipe to each other safely.

These locations are specific to the 486 series, the Sage computers do not have an equivalent CMOS area.

486 (or any CMOS) MEMORY MAP

FFFF00 - FFFFFF	100	Reserved for BIOS expansion. Do not permanently store in it or it'll be 0.
FFFF00 - FFFFFF	00	BIOS, setup & bootstrapping flags.
FFFF00 - FFFFFF	50	Reserved between the 500 and 510K for the BIOS and the 510K and 520K for the PROS and SE-PROS.
FFFF00 - FFFFFF	50	00F - 00F0000
FFFF00 - FFFFFF	00	000 - 00000
FFFF00 - FFFFFF	50	CMOS BIOS setup device data area. Can only be updated once per the user flag. Protected for 500000.
FFFF00 - FFFFFF	0000	Reserved for user applications. 00000000 - 00000000
FFFF00 - FFFFFF	1000	Reserved for BIOS expansion. Do not permanently store in it or it'll be 0. New page 100 can now be updated through TRAGE. Old page never more than 000 000 000 00000000 0000. Do it to 000 000 000 000 0000 or based on whatever on page 100. This area appears to be there in 0, 0, 0 through 000 the available RAM -- for context of range.
FFFF00 - FFFFFF		Start of user memory (RAM)
FFFF00 - FFFFFF		Reserved for BIOS data
FFFF00 - FFFFFF		Reserved for BIOS data

0000 0000 is the battery map and other reserved memory locations.

Running With Both CACHE & RAM Disk

In last month's Tech Notes, we discussed the new CACHE feature of the old Series 8000 (page 8 of that issue). Since then, we've had some feedback on the operation of the feature. One user reported that his application, generating a report, ran 2 times faster under CACHE operation.

While originally intended that CACHE be a substitute for RAM Disk, it is better protected and does not require loading any files. However, during this test it was found that many applications were designed around RAM Disk and needed that area.

Additional changes were made to the BIOS to allow these users. The final release of the BIOS, (8000_0005) will allow both CACHE and RAM Disk areas in the Multi user BIOS. (This will be the single user). This was fairly easy to implement as MULTIBIOS already supported two RAM Disks. The first RAM Disk became the CACHE Disk.

Both CACHE and RAM Disk are memory hogs. It is not recommended that a CACHE be much smaller than 200K bytes. Disk performance may actually depend if too small of an area is assigned.

Installation

Use MULTITE and set RAM Disk #0 address (multite) and enable in cache. Set RAM Disk #1's low address to the high address of RAM Disk #0 (CACHE). Enable installation.

Use MULTITE to define which users get access to the RAM Disk #1. All users get the advantages of CACHE. In the channel map of each user, map #01 to #00 (RAM Disk #1 = device 00).

Save the new Multite configuration and reboot.

Operation

CACHE will be available to the operating system. RAM Disk #0 will appear in the p-System Files as the first RAM Disk, RAMDISK0 [1]

PROGRAM SOURCE

MODE [00 01 02 03 0000 0000] #RAMDisk1.Carrying.in

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APL 68000:

More Than A Language, It's
A Problem Solving Tool

By Sabers Software, Ltd.

APL is considered a THILL (Very High Level Language). It employs a High level of abstraction, isolating the user from machine activities, thus freeing him to concentrate on the problem he wants to solve. In that respect, APL is a human oriented language, not a computer oriented one. APL was a very brave system, representing basic functions by symbols rather than keywords. APL features a unique character set, thus requiring a special APL/ASCII terminal.

The use of special symbols is one of the reasons why the language has been debated whether from experts to dilettos and hard to learn.

Actually, the contrary is true. APL is a language that is easily learned. Its syntax and semantics make it very powerful and flexible and can increase development productivity significantly.

Take a minute and think about how much time you would save if the language you are currently using had these APL features: data types that did not require declaration in advance, operators that maximize error checking and arrays that can be operated on without the need for loops.

IBM internal statistics have shown that by using APL, a 3-10 fold decrease in development time can be achieved.

History of APL

APL was originally conceived as a mathematical notation by Kenneth Iverson at Harvard, an effectively device algorithm to applied mathematics to his students.

APL shows its mathematical roots in the terminology applied to the language (rank for the dimension of an array, scalar, inner and outer product) and also in its heavy use of mathematical symbols and expressions.

After Iverson joined IBM in 1960, a development phase began that was followed by the first actual computer implementation of the language in 1968 on an IBM/360.

```

# LET'S START WITH SIMPLE ARITHMETIC.
# (TIME # INVOKED A COMMENT LEVEL
# 14)
1
1.2345
1.2345
# POSITIVE OPERATORS EXTEND TO VECTORS & ARRAYS
# EXECUTION IS FROM RIGHT TO LEFT, NO EXCEPTIONS
D←TABLE←% 10000 # CREATE A MATRIX (D-D ARRAY)
88 378 280 260 110 24 840 240 688 180
190 410 18 27 288 308 4 192 24 200
648 885 455 404 264 48 827 308 381 488
282 182 24 388 188 877 876 408 188 184
482 282 877 328 27 216 448 187 876 888
D←TABLE # AND MULTIPLY THE ABOVE TABLE BY 3
108 1134 840 804 330 72 1020 1020 1404 576
780 1248 54 81 792 1008 12 876 102 827
1080 885 1368 1272 792 128 984 324 1020 1284
1164 288 72 1187 888 861 1187 1488 548 872
1478 1080 1120 878 112 888 1020 411 887 1500
# AND DISPLAY OF ALL ABOVE BY THE RIGHTMOST COLUMN.
TABLE←J TABLE
88 378 280 260 110 24 240 240 688 180 2448
190 410 18 27 288 308 4 192 24 200 1784
648 885 455 404 264 48 827 308 381 488 3181
282 182 24 388 188 877 876 408 188 184 2571
482 282 877 328 27 216 448 187 876 888 3669
# CREATE A VECTOR OF NUMBERS FROM 1-10 AND ADD 10.
D←LIST←10+98
11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20
←LIST # SHOW IT ALL UP
11
LIST # HOW MANY ELEMENTS IN LIST
10
(+←LIST)←←LIST # AND HERE IS THE RESULT
11.1
# MULTIPLY THE LIST BY 10 EXHAUSTED NUMBERS
LIST←10*←LIST
LIST # JUST DISPLAY THE NEW CONTENTS
11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20
LIST [←←LIST] # SORT OUR LIST IN INCREASING ORDER
11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20
[←←LIST] # AND NOW THE LARGEST NUMBER
100
# WE CAN MANIPULATE CHARACTERS THE SAME WAY
D←←STRING←' '
ASCENDING←ASCENDING↑↑↑↑↑
DESCENDING←DESCENDING↑↑↑↑↑
STRING←48 # SHOW WHAT ELEMENTS IN STRING
18
1 [←←STRING] # REVERSE OUR VECTOR
ASCENDING←ASCENDING↑↑↑↑↑
DESCENDING←DESCENDING↑↑↑↑↑
STRING←48 # ARRAYS CAN INDEX ARRAYS OR VECTORS
480
18 [←←STRING] # PICK ALL ELEMENTS BUT THE FIRST TEN
ASCENDING←ASCENDING↑↑↑↑↑
DESCENDING←DESCENDING↑↑↑↑↑
```

Between 1963 and 1966, the language syntax was simplified and its functions were extended. The definition of the character set was based on the IBM 3600 terminal, which utilized the selective point elements. The limitations of this 48 element character set led to two important syntax definitions to represent both numeric (non argument) or dynamic (two arguments) by the same symbol and to generate computer symbols by means of overwriting basic characters.

Because APL evolved and evolved in an academic environment, its notation and basic design philosophy were not initially restricted by the limitations of real-world computer systems, as is the case with most other programming languages.

This is one reason APL should not be thought of as a language, but as a highly sophisticated set of tools for computer processing.

APL48000 and the STRIDE

APL48000 is a superset of the IBM 360 APL six-years standard implementation. It is available on SAGE and STRIDE computers under the MIRAGE machine, time-sharing operating system.

Unlike many other machines, multi-tasking operating systems, MIRAGE has many features that make it an ideal environment for APL. APL48000 and the MicroAPL utility libraries allow the user to completely control a MIRAGE environment from within APL. There are even functions that allow it to temporarily leave APL, call to MIRAGE, perform certain functions or run a program, and return to the APL workspace.

APL48000 offers a sophisticated machine file system, access to the MIRAGE printer system, and interfaces to 80000 Assembly and other language compilers available under MIRAGE. The computer file system treats files as a collection of records, each one of arbitrary length or type. In addition, a filing utility for keyed record access is available.

APL Calculator Mode

To get a feeling for APL48000, look at the example on the previous page. It shows several operations for operations commonly needed in programming and how to implement them in APL. Array manipulations are easily done in APL with simple one-line commands.

APL FUNCTIONS

THE STANDARD FUNCTION DEFINITIONS

```

SAMPLE          ARRANGE A VECTOR WITH 20 RANDOM NUMBERS
                AND TWO SCALAR ARGUMENTS (1, 10000)
SAMPLE 2        J=1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20
                ARRANGE 20 ELEMENTS
SAMPLE 3        J=1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20
                GREAT FORMS LAST AND GREAT
                ARRANGE WITH LASTS
SAMPLE 4        ALL STRINGS CONTAINED THAT CONTAINS AN ELEMENT
                EQUAL
SAMPLE 5        J=1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20
                J=1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20
                THE ARRANGE FUNCTION WITH
    
```

...

```

[1]APL1000
[2]APL1 10000
[3]R [1] SAMPLE FUNCTION TO CALCULATE A FEW
[4]R [2] STATISTICS ON A VECTOR OF NUMBERS
[5]R =1(2)N * P(N)/NPOWER
[6]R NUMBER OF MEMBERS: JN
[7]R EXPANDED: 'MS' | (J) | (N)
[8]R MEAN: JN / (1 + JN + N)
[9]R VARIANCE: (JN * (1 + JN + N) + N * J)
[10]R STANDARD DEVIATION: (JN * R)
[11]R =END
[12]R ARRANGE: 'ARRANGEMENT MUST HAVE AFFILIATE + MEMBERS' + JN
[13]R AND END OF PROGRAM: DE
    
```

```

[1]APL1000
[2]APL1
[3]R TURN IN ONE METHOD OF GENERATING PRIME NUMBERS
[4]R IN APL, IT USES JOINTING | MEMBERS IN ORDER, BUT
[5]R TAKES NO ADDITIONAL STORAGE FOR COMPUTATION.
[6]R | THERE IS A SIMPLER WAY TO GENERATE PRIME
[7]R NUMBERS WITHOUT JOINTING|
[8]R J=1 + P + (P+1) * J
[9]R 1(1) 1 + P + (1 + (P+1) * P + 1 + P + 1) * J
[10]R N=(J) = 1 + J |
[11]R R=(J) 1 + P | PRIME FOUND
[12]R
    
```

APL Functions

In fact, the statements in the example look much like a sophisticated calculator's statements. Correct? Up to now, we have only used APL in its first calculator mode. The real power of APL is the ability to define functions that behave exactly the same way the built-in functions do.

The same rules that apply to primitive operators, right-to-left order of evaluation, automatic (and optional) or explicit (two arguments), apply also to user-defined functions. In addition, a user-defined function can be called (no arguments) and can explicitly return a result or no result.

The syntax for function definitions is shown in the box on page 7.

The second box shows a few examples of some simple functions using the APL syntax.

User-defined functions cannot be saved on an element-by-element basis. In APL, a program is a collection of independent user-defined functions that can be kept in libraries and copied (COPY command) into a workspace. Many functions have 10 or fewer lines and are easy to write and maintain.

APL SYSTEM Commands

APL is organized around the concept of a **WORKSPACE** (with the similarity to today's popular desktop computers). The interpreter offers a large set of system commands to manage your workspace.

All system commands begin with a left parenthesis "(" which must appear in the first column of a valid APL statement.

To the right, you will see a list of some of the system commands. In addition to **SYSTEM** commands, a variety of **SYSTEM** functions and variables provide the user with built-in utilities.

(Continued on page 8)

APL SYSTEM COMMANDS

[AV	ATOMIC VECTOR
[A	APPARENT ARGUMENTS
[AI	ACCOUNT INFORMATION
[AS	ACCOUNT NUMBER
[C	CPU TIME (REAL)
[C]	CONSTANT TIME
[C]	KEYBOARD UNLOCK TIME
[C]	SEARCHABLE ACCESS UNIT
[C]	CONTROL CHARACTER
[C]	TERMINAL INPUT/OUTPUT
[C]	CONSOLE CONTROL
[C]	OBJECT FORMATTER

APL SYSTEM

WORKSPACE COMMANDS

[CLEAR	CLEAR THE ACTIVE WORKSPACE
[COPY	COPY SELECTED OBJECTS FROM STORED WS INTO THE ACTIVE WORKSPACE
[DPSIZE	SET NUMBER OF SIGNIFICANT DIGITS FOR OUTPUT
[DROP	REMOVE SPECIFIED WORKSPACES FROM DISK LIBRARY
[ERASE	REMOVE GLOBAL OBJECTS FROM ACTIVE WORKSPACE, I.E. FUNCTIONS, VARIABLE GROUPS
[LIST	LIST ALL FUNCTIONS IN ACTIVE WORKSPACE
[LIB	LIST NAMES OF ALL WORKSPACES IN SPECIFIED LIBRARY
[LOAD	REPLACE CURRENT WS WITH A COPY OF A STORED WS
[PAGE	SAVE CURRENT WORKSPACE ON DISK
[PAGESIZE	SET OR DISPLAY CURRENT PAGE SIZE (1 2)
[NAME	LIST NAMES OF GLOBAL OBJECTS (VARIABLES) IN WS

SALE — \$150 Buys A Stride/Sage QVT102 Terminal!

The Stride Sage Factory is clearing out our used QVT102 terminals. These are working terminals, in good condition and fully functional, less than a year old. They were used in—bought by our Stride employees and are being replaced by the newer Stride terminal. A limited supply is available at \$150

each. No warranty is included, all units are on an "as is" basis.

Some have a "SPACE" key as shown in the photo, some have the QVT key. Sorry, but you don't get to choose. See section in "hand" versus "light".

One or two color QVT102's are available, please check with Stride Sage

on order availability.

No discounts apply. To order, see the form on page 11 in this issue or call Allison Brown at (700) 331-3445.

This is a great buy for a good terminal. Offer is open while supply lasts. ☐



Stratix Micro
P.O. Box 809115, Reno, NV 89520-0015

Update Order Form

To be eligible for some updates, you must prove prior purchase (attach a copy of the PO, invoice and/or the software serial number) and the serial number of your machine. No discounts apply. All sales are final. Materials are not included, some items will have release dates.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____
 ADDRESS: _____ TELEPHONE: _____
 _____ Time to call (above number): _____

Part #	Description	Price
080000	CPU Circuit Board Packer.....	\$ 85
080000	Workstation Board Circuit Board Packer.....	\$ 85
080000	Used Spare 977000 Terminal.....	\$ 100
000100	8" Stride Universal Cable adapter kit.....	\$ 80
All the parts needed to make an adapter between a 5000 80000 cable to a Stride "photocopying" cable.		
080100	400 Series BIOS Update.....	\$ 85
	See BIOS, 80,8100, UTIL, 80,UTIL	
080410	Streaming Tape Partition Backup Program.....	\$ 85
	Backs up and restores hard disk partitions.	
	Requires 800000 or p-System IV.20 update.	
SP0100	Stage 12/19 Run-time Update to p-System IV.20.....	\$ 90
SP0100	Stage 12/19 Development Update to p-System IV.20.....	\$ 100
	*** Requires prior Development purchase.	
SP0104	400 Series Run-time Update to p-System IV.20.....	\$ 90
	Includes new BIOS and UTIL files.	
SP0108	400 Series Development Update to p-System IV.20.....	\$ 100
	Includes new BIOS and UTIL files.	
	*** Requires prior Development purchase.	
SP0108	400 Series BIOS Source (B dis/4100).....	\$ 90
	Source to the single user FROM, BIOS, UTIL and boot partitions.	
880141	Stride/Novo 87-88 Timberline Spreadsheet SP8C.....	\$ 35
	*** Requires prior Spreadsheet purchase.	
880140	Graphics Update diskette B1 (880140B1).....	\$ 25
880142	Graphics Update diskette B2 (880142B2).....	\$ 25
	*** Requires prior Graphics purchase.	
(411 Pouch)	880008 Stage CP/8-888 Update Diskette A.....	\$ 75
	880009 Stage CP/8-888 Update Diskette B.....	
	880040 Stage CP/8-888 Update Diskette C.....	
	880041 Stage CP/8-888 Update Diskette UTIL/STY.....	
	*** Requires prior CP/88 purchase / Stage	
(411 Pouch)	880074 400 Series CP/8-888 Update Diskette A.....	\$ 75
	880075 400 Series CP/8-888 Update Diskette B.....	
	880076 400 Series CP/8-888 Update Diskette C.....	
	880077 400 Series CP/8-888 Update Diskette UTIL/STY.....	
	*** Requires prior CP/88 purchase / Stage	
TOTAL \$		_____

PAYMENT: VISA MasterCard Check Enclosed

Serial # (Required)	Main Use of Computer (Optional)
Model # (Stage 11, 12, 400, 440 or 480)	Memory _____ Hard disk _____ Tape _____ Floppy _____ (K bytes) (M bytes) (Yes/No) (1 or 2 drives)

Notes:
 (List new Stride cards used and Vendor)
 Software _____
 (List programs you use regularly)

WORD7 File Extension

WORD7 files end in .JL. This extension distinguishes WORD7 files from other text files on the system. If the file is changed from .JL to a normal .TEXT extension, most other programs can then access the file.

Just naming a file .TEXT does not convert it to a TEXT file, however. You can use the type of a file if you do an extended listing in the file.

WORD7 files created under p-System (1.1) will be seen as TEXT files. If they are moved to version DV.2.1, however, they will appear as DATA files. This may cause no problems as long as you are not trying to move the WORD7 file to another program requiring a true TEXT file. The authors of WORD7 will soon have a fix for this minor problem.

Until then, this program will convert the files. The two utilities used are found on the UTILTY2 disk in the UNITY subdirectory.

UNIX Manual Cards

The Strike Manual cards have changed to work correctly under UNIX. When you 1 to page 80 on the manual end of the cards.

Graphics Update

The Graphics Update is a new release with a few bug fixes and Zetaphotex software.

CPM Update

The CPM Update is 800 new but offered just in case you missed it last time around.

```
PROGRAM (C:\WORD7)
(Cover to 10 WORD7 files by TEXT files or vice versa)
COPY (C:\WORD7\*.JL) (C:\TEXT)
COPY (C:\TEXT\*.TEXT) (C:\WORD7)
END
```

```
USE (C:\WORD7\*.JL)
COPY (C:\TEXT\*.TEXT) (C:\WORD7)
END
COPY (C:\TEXT\*.TEXT)
COPY (C:\WORD7\*.JL)
COPY (C:\TEXT\*.TEXT)
END
```

TEXT

```
TEXT (C:\TEXT\*.TEXT) (C:\WORD7)
TEXT (C:\WORD7\*.JL) (C:\TEXT)
TEXT
```

TEXT

TEXT

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Disk Specs

We get asked this a lot, so here are the specifications of the various disk drives used by Oracle. More, now, and in the past.

In the chart below, the drives shown with an asterisk are those currently offered on the 400 Series.

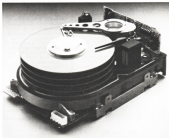
Capacity for both the 18 tracks per track format and for the 14 tracks per track format is given. Remember that UNIX can only operate with the 14 tracks per track format. The p-System and CP/360-800 are capable of operating with either format.

On the 400 Series the system map area required is 1 track x 10 tracks per track. The user area is not shown, but can be calculated with this equation:

$$\text{User Area} = \text{Total Tracks} - \text{Map Area}$$

Page systems use a smaller map area, 1 x 10 tracks per track.

Note that, in general, the bigger the drive the faster it works.



Vendor	Model	Access Avg	Max	Time Ta/Ts	Cyl	Bits	Tracks	Capacity 18 bits/track	14 bits/track	18 bytes/track	14 bytes/track
T&T	300048	88	100	18.0	3008	8	812	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
T&T	301048	88	100	18.0	3008	4	1224	12.00	10.00	12.78	10.78
T&T	301448	88	100	18.0	3008	8	1836	17.00	14.00	18.12	14.12
SEIATE	ST410	82	90	18.0	3008	4	1224	12.00	10.00	12.78	10.78
SEIATE	ST410	82	90	18.0	3008	8	1836	17.00	14.00	18.12	14.12
QANTUM	Q400	42	90	12.0	812	4	2048	18.00	14.78	21.00	16.00
QANTUM	Q400	42	90	12.0	812	8	2072	28.00	20.18	31.00	21.00
QANTUM	Q400	42	90	12.0	812	8	4000	28.00	20.00	42.00	30.00
SEIATE	ST410	82	170	20.0	3008	4	1224	12.00	10.00	12.78	10.78
SEIATE	ST410	82	100	20.0	812	4	2048	20.00	20.18	28.00	28.00
MASTOR	XT-1084	80	88	8.0	818	7	8428	62.00	52.94	68.00	58.00
MASTOR	XT-1184	80	88	8.0	818	11	10088	98.00	82.72	108.00	108.00
MASTOR	XT-1140	80	88	8.0	818	10	12070	100.00	112.80	140.00	140.00

* These are the disks currently offered on the 400 Series.

New Tape Backup Program & Update

Stride has updated the ATMS QIC-80 backup program. A new tape program, which does disk partition backups, is now available as an update for \$11. You will also need to order the BIOS update disk. See order form in this issue. Before installing, contact Stride's Technical Support group, (800) 499-0888, to check the revision level of your board.[]

Work-Around For Timberline SS

Save Option Bug

While testing software under the new IV.1 p-System release, a bug was found in the Timberline Speedloader. The bug is documented in the speedloader manual but is fairly obscure. It occurs under all versions of the p-System.

The problem occurs when a large spreadsheet has been edited and the user tries to save it. If there is not enough room to save the file, it hangs the system. Typing a Ctrl/0 will return to the operating system, but the edit session has been lost.

Even if you have a big open area before editing, hangups can occur.

Work-arounds: To avoid this problem, save your edit under a new name. Change old copies before starting a session or when you need room.

Ways WY-80 Spies

For those buying the new Noble terminal or the Ways WY-80 terminal, a new SPIC file is available as an update disk. (See page 61.) Note that speedloader created under one terminal cannot usually be read or updated under a new SPIC file. []

Yag's California Earth Quake Hot Line

The tragedy of the Mexico City earthquake makes us all wonder what we should do in such a crisis. If you are a resident of California, you can now find out.

Call toll-free 1-800-7-CAL-5000 and get up-to-date information on earthquake safety. Join our Annual 1-500-1-8000, or TV action team.

YAGC works with a SAGE IV computer and voice records to give you a spin on earthquake safety. If you have a touch-tone phone, you answer yes or no by pushing the 1 or 2 key. YAGC lets you know if you answered correctly.

The station is operated by the California Office of Emergency Services.

Circuit Board Poster Available

Some of you liked the cover of the new In Stride Test Notes so well that you asked where we got the drawing. The circuit shown is the 800 Series Winchester board, drawn by Stride's CAD/CAM planner.

Due to the interest, Bob Neelham, Stride Founder and CAD/CAM boss, has made this handy offer: Stride will custom draw (on the poster) a modifying/printout, size 18" x 24", of either the CPU or Winchester board for \$5. The poster has a 1" white border that can be trimmed to needed for mounting and framing. See the order sheet in this issue.

Note the offer is open only as long as Bob has the pictures and time to run the poster! Thanks, Bob! []

ASE File Lookup

The ASE editor has become the programming editor of choice among the p-System users. Although the standard p-System editor is a fast reader of ASE and has many of the same commands, ASE has more powerful features. For example, ASE will handle large text files up to 100,000 bytes long (the limit of the file system), search edit and file lookup.

The file lookup is truly useful, you don't have to leave the editor and go to the files when you're looking for the names. ASE will bring up a list of the files in the volume and let you select the one you want. However, differences exist between ASE 1.8 for the IV.1 p-System release and ASE 1.8 for version IV.2B and IV.21. The file lookup facility of ASE 1.8 under IV.11 does not always use files created by ASE 1.8 and the standard p-System editor (SDE) under IV.21.

If you receive some ASE 1.8 files but are using ASE 1.8 you can make the files visible again. Use the instructions in the file: CChange.wy. This changes all of the files as needed but their original names are kept.[]

People & Products

David G. Bark currently runs the symbolic manipulation program REDUCE 3.8. He's interested in talking to others working with REDUCE and perhaps starting a users' group. If you're interested, you can reach David at: Department of Physics, 940 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01090 (617) 941-7100.

DIRMaster is a database program distributed by Interware. An DIRMaster version the p-System-based directly, a different version of DIRMaster is needed for each p-System version: IV.11, IV.2B and IV.21. Versions are currently available for IV.11 and IV.2B but not for IV.11 in this issue. A new version is in the works by author Jerry Mason and we will let you know when it is available.

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