Civil engineering CAD station uses modular software

A computer-aided design system that automates the entire civil design process has been announced by United Information Services. According to the company, combining hardware with a fully integrated site and civil engineering software application significantly reduces the time required to create plans.

The major hardware components of the system include a Data General S-140 CPU, a CalComp plotter, two Megatek Whizzazz 7250 graphics workstations; the software application consists of more than 30 modules, each of which addresses a specific civil design task. Interacting with C/D II, an engineer can design intricate site plans, view the intermediate results, save a copy, and route the finished drawing to a mechanical plotter for drafting. Data resulting from one module is automatically reformatted so that an engineer can use it when interacting with subsequent modules, and the succession of modules guides an engineer through total creation of a site plan, the company states.

Civil/Designer II can be purchased or rented directly from UIS. Rental terms can be arranged for periods as short as three months. The price of a standard configuration, with twin workstations, is approximately $270,000.

Reader Service Number 14

The Rapidata Division of National Data Corporation has added to its interactive Graphics service an option for producing 35mm slides. Made possible through an agreement with Interchart, the option permits Interchart's Lexidata hardware for slide production to be utilized with Rapidata's Graphics software.

According to Rapidata, users will continue to develop their plots, charts, and graphs at terminals or plotters in their own offices using Graphics' array of formats and design options; then, by issuing a SLIDE command, they will have a high-resolution 35mm slide of any plot, chart, or graph delivered to them by Rapidata within four working days.

Costs for slides produced in this manner are based on Rapidata's standard computer resource usage costs for development, plus an additional $23 per slide for the actual slide production.

Reader Service Number 15