Color terminal uses Tektronix 4027 protocol

Psitech has introduced the GTC314 color graphics terminal, which includes a bit-mapped display, a 4K color palette, polygon fill-in color or pattern, and programmable character sets. Utilizing Tektronix 4027-compatible protocol, the GTC314 can display arcs, circles, pies, vectors, bars, and polygons. In addition, a Tektronix 4010 emulation mode permits use of existing software such as the Tektronix Plot 10, Issco's Disspla and Tell-A-Graf, and Precision Visuals' D-3000. The dual-processor architecture dedicates one microprocessor to the graphics display in order to provide a high rate of graphics throughput.

Three character sets are available; one is fixed and yields a display of 85 characters per line with 48 lines, and two are programmable. The programmable sets permit the user to define sizes of fonts and cells up to 256×128 pixels. Text can be displayed with individually selected background and foreground colors or in an overstrike mode. Superscripts and subscripts can be displayed by use of the dot-addressable features.

An optional tilt-swivel stand is available for the 14-inch, 512×480 monitor. The 12×12-inch, 0.31mm-pitch monitor is factory preset and locked to eliminate field adjustments. The terminal features a detached keyboard with the VT-100 layout designed to DIN ergonomics standards, and a built-in, solid-state, microprocessor-controlled keyboard uses noncontact keys. Four cursor-control keys manipulate both the text and graphics cursors. The GTC314 has two RS-232-C ports, which operate at speeds up to 19.2K baud, and an auxiliary port that can be used to support graphics input devices such as a mouse, trackball, joystick, or digitizer tablet, and a color printer for output.

Psitech's GTC314 graphics terminal sells for $2895; quantity discounts are available.

Reader Service Number 33

Graphics board offers Version 2.0 software

The Electro-Screen BT-1 is a plug-in SS-50 and SS-64 bus graphics board from Privac, Inc., with an on-board 6809 microprocessor. The BT-1 provides a bit-mapped 512×480-resolution graphics display and 84×48-line text display with flexible text and graphics integration, composite and TTL-level video output, and an eight-channel, eight-bit A/D converter.

The board is supported by Version 2.0 software, which provides 19.2K-baud-equivalent character throughput and includes a 2-D graphics package with scaling, rotation in one-degree increments, translation, and a graphics primitive drawing set. The graphics set includes circles, arbitrarily bounded object flood, outlined rectangles, solid rectangles, and variable-size auto-clipping viewports to relieve the host computer of the software burden. Other software features include TV-950 graphic character emulation, TV-912 terminal emulation, and text qualities such as overstrike, underline, line wrap, and reverse video.

BT-1 Version 2.0 software has double-height and/or double-width character options as well as the ability to upload multiple character fonts and switch among them while accepting a line of characters.

Pricing for the BT-1 graphics board with the enhanced Version 2.0 software is $795. A Version 2.0 upgrade EPROM set is $195.

Reader Service Number 35

Desktop CADD system is compatible with IBM PCs

Protean from CAD Counsel is a drafting and design computer graphics system that enables users to create and edit electro-mechanical drawings, logic symbols, and printed circuit components by using either a digitizing tablet or a keyboard.

Fully compatible with the IBM PC and PC-XT, Protean includes a 16-bit 8088 microprocessor, 8087 numerical processor, a 12-inch color monitor with 630-line resolution, and expandable 256K RAM. Its CPU features a ROM-resident basic I/O system compatible with the MS-DOS. The CP-88 CPU board is mounted separately from the motherboard for ease in servicing. Twelve expansion slots and two 360K-byte disk drives are provided, as is an RS-232 serial port, a parallel printer interface, a keyboard, and a Hitachi Tiger tablet.

Protean costs $7500.

Reader Service Number 34