ABOUT THE COVER

Slidemaking tools

The bicycle on the cover was produced on the Management Graphics Table Top Slidemaking System at Crimson Camera Technical Sales in Boston. A bicycle enthusiast created the image using the tablet menu and cursor tracker. The bicycle is made up of 99 vectors, 20 circles, and 5 ellipses. This simple graphic was created to illustrate to customers what 4000-line resolution looks like.

When designing slides to support a speaker—those classified as primarily text slides, charts, and graphs—it is essential for the slidemaking system operator to have the right tools to complete the job as quickly as possible. These tools include a fast computer, efficient software, and a friendly user interface. The slides shown here represent an assortment of speaker-support slides created using systems by Management Graphics.

Figure 1 shows a special effects graph that took just two minutes to complete using the menu-driven QUICKCHART feature. A Los Angeles user called a QM-1 QUICKCHART Concentrator located at Data Slide in Atlanta, Georgia. The Los Angeles caller used an ASCII terminal and modem to answer simple questions with such information as title, data values, and axis labels. The 3-D bar graph was automatically created on the system in Atlanta. This slidemaking system allows the actual presenter or an assistant, completely untrained in slide production, to create slides using predesigned formats.
Many businesses require complicated organizational charts and flowcharts. Figure 2 is a typical example of this type of chart. The easy-to-use Layout program simplifies positioning of any object or group of objects. Automatic vertical and horizontal alignment and spacing features make the design of complicated charts easy. The tablet and cursor are used to put commands into the system.

Another important tool is automatic, data-driven graphing. In many businesses this can be essential for timely and accurate creation of charts and graphs. In addition, the ability to have more than one graph per slide or to add free-form drawings to a graph turns standard slides into powerful presentation graphics (see Figures 3 and 4).

The logos shown in Figure 5 were created by a variety of people using the TTS/Plus System. Most of these logos have a high-resolution file, which allows them to be enlarged or reduced to any size. They can then be positioned anywhere on the slide. These logos become permanent files, which can then be used again and again. Corporate colors can be matched from any of 16 million colors available. These images were contributed by Ron Greisback of General Motors in Detroit, Steve Rose of DataSlide in Atlanta, Avid Lerner of Fannon/Osmond in New York, and Bill Gillooly, Roseanne Brown, and Tom Peterson of Management Graphics Inc. These 4096-line-resolution slides were recorded on the TTS/Plus System.