NEW PRODUCTS

FEATURE PRODUCT

System 360 Simulator

The traditional approach to testing IBM compatible peripherals includes the use of a System 360 computer. This procedure requires the expense of a complete computer and I/O channel(s) and often costs the developer between $30 and $100 per hour. There is an economical alternative to this traditional procedure.

Datawest Corporation, of Scottsdale, Arizona, has developed the Model 531107, a programmable IBM System 360 Channel Simulator. The Simulator has the capability to provide responses, timing, and control for bi-directional communication in the same manner as a System 360 Selector or Multiplexer Channel. The Simulator provides the address, command, and data functions in a program controlled sequence as if an IBM System 360 were connected to the unit under test; and at a significant cost savings. It also has the capacity to allow programming of abnormal sequences and responses or device-specific functions as a further diagnostic test.

The Datawest Simulator is comprised of a DEC PDP-11 computer with 4K words of memory, an ASR-33 Teletype, interface, cables, IBM connectors, terminators, software package, and roll-around cabinet. The Simulator may be obtained on either a purchase or lease basis.

Among the other Datawest interface products is a Model 531 Interface Unit which adapts the more popular 16-bit minicomputers to either a System 350 Multiplexer or Selector Channel. This Interface Unit should be of great interest to the system developers who need to put a minicomputer on-line to System 360.

Further information may be obtained by circling the appropriate number on the response card or by calling Datawest at (602) 947-4295.

Circle 60 on Reader Service Card
Capacitance Meter

A precision capacitance meter covering the range from 2 pf to 0.1 uf has been developed by Lateur Engineering Co. for use by design engineers and production personnel who need an easily read yet accurate instrument. Although priced at only $94.50, the Model 101 uses such advanced circuit features as IC op amps, ultrastable precision FET circuits and printed circuit switches. The result is an accuracy that is limited only by the meter movement.

Video Recording Tape Unit

International Video Corporation has announced a new digital data storage system with a capability of storing over 80-billion bits per reel of one-inch magnetic tape. The IVC-1000 is the first data storage system designed to utilize the high packing density characteristics of the helical scan recording technique and offers a packing density of over one-million bits per square inch of tape. It records digital data at rates of eight megabits per second.

A unique feature of the IVC-1000 is a cartridge loaded tape reel that is completely self-threading. Design of the cartridge is simple — consists of a standard reel of one-inch tape housed in an IVC cartridge adapter unit, thus eliminating tape handling problems and reducing error rates.

High packing density is accomplished through the use of phase encoded digital recording techniques coupled with the helical scan recording method. Data scan lines, 12 inches long, can be revised and rewritten without disturbing the data on either of the adjacent data tracks. Heads can be easily replaced in one minute and at a cost of about $300.

The IVC-1000 is available as an OEM product, with delivery in six months. Unit price is $50,000 with lower costs depending on quantities.

Mini-Tape System

Tri-Data Corporation has announced the availability of four-transport and single-drive units with interface and cabling for installation with DEC PDP-11 computers. CartriFile models available with the new interface capability are the Model 4196-11 with four independent tape drive and a total 12 megabits storage capacity, and the Model 1124-11 with one drive and storage of 3 megabits.

The 4196 system enables the computer to perform as a general-purpose data-processing center, carrying out such functions as buffering, intermediate storage, merging, matching, program loading, sorting and data separation.

Model 1124-11, the single-transport unit, fits applications where the flexibility and large storage capacity of a multiple-transport system are not required. It is used for program loading, data acquisition from communications lines or keyboard input devices, and off-line data entry and display.

Large Bipolar ROM

Signetics Memory Systems has announced the largest available Bipolar ROM system. The products are new organizations of the SMS 8228. The 8205 4096 bit ROM is organized 512x8 and the 8204 2048 bit ROM is organized 256x8. Both devices have 35 nanosecond typical access times.

A unique feature of the new ROMs is the integration of the output data register into the memory element. Since most ROM systems have the data register external to the memory, this feature eliminates the need for eight external latches. Also, system performance is improved by approximately 10 nanoseconds because the integrated output data register can be set more quickly than an external one. Should the user desire, the ROM can be made to function as a conventional one merely by holding the output latch strobs high.

Both the 8204 and 8205 are available in a 24 pin package, and both feature extremely low power dissipations. The 8205 dissipates only 165 microwatts per bit. In 100 quantities the 8204 sells for $16.40 and the 8205 for $29.50. In addition, the popular 8228 has been reduced in price to $25.00 in 100 quantities.

Circle 61 on Reader Service Card

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