New Applications

Tiffany-Inspired Lampshades

A small computer has joined the artists and craftsmen at Michael Machet Associates to help meet the growing demand for Tiffany-inspired stained glass lampshades and panels. "Our sales jumped 40 percent last year," said Michael W. Machet, company president. "By installing the IBM System/3 Model 10, we have been able to meet the increased demand for our products by processing orders faster and planning production better."

The computer has also been programmed to specify the most economical method of shipment to the customer, based upon an order's weight and the distance it is to travel. Invoices and discounts are also produced quickly, since the basic information needed had already been stored in the system when the order information was entered.

Old shades, new computer

Computer System for Nuclear Medicine

A computer-based system, designed to provide high-speed and accurate acquisition, processing, storage and display from a gamma camera, has been introduced by Digital Equipment Corporation.

Gamma-11 is a complete turnkey package of modular design and featuring extremely simple operation. No additional hardware is required other than the camera. The software is modular to allow maximum flexibility and to provide for easy expansion from the basic system. The system was also designed to be operated by personnel with little or no previous computer experience or knowledge after only a brief period of familiarization.

Photo taken from storage scope screen.

For additional information on Gamma-11, contact John Silber, Digital Equipment Corporation, 146 Main Street, Maynard, Massachusetts 01754. (617) 897-5111 Ext. 3164.

Gun Accounting

Marlin Firearms Company has designed and implemented a computerized system for checking and recording the serial numbers on all its firearms. Developed by Marlin's Director of Data Processing, Miles Roth, the new system was devised to prevent errors in mechanical numbering such as transposition of serial numbers, duplicate numbers and illegible record entries.

Marlin uses an IBM 360-22 computer system with 2311 disc drives.

Computerized serial number recording system

Two operators read every gun's serial number as it is projected by TV camera onto their individual monitors. They then enter the gun's number into the keyboard displays. The computer first indicates whether the numbers the men entered are identical and, if they are, determines if the number has been used before. Should the computer's disc scan indicate a duplication, it then tells the operator to place a suffix letter of "A," "B" or "C" after the number to make it valid.

Thus far, Mr. Roth asserts, the system has prevented numbering and recording errors and, equally important, provided Marlin with rapid access to all needed records.

Cycle Parts

Like shoppers in a supermarket, warehouse employees at Rocky Cycle Co., Inc., push metal carts up and down aisles taking merchandise from shelves to fill orders for motorcycle parts. But unlike the food market

Computerized parts shopping list
customers, employees use a special "shopping list" produced by a small IBM computer so they will travel the least distance to get the parts needed to fill each order.

"We're now handling 250 orders a day from our 6,500 dealers across the country, and the computer-based order processing system helps us achieve same-day service on nearly every one," said Gene Rocchi, president of the firm.

As orders are received, information from each one is entered into an IBM System/3 Model 10. The system also can provide records showing how many of the 6,000 different parts are in stock and where they are located on warehouse shelves.

**Police Information System**

The City of Pasadena has announced a police system aimed at preventing crime rather than reacting to it. The police information reporting system is part of a total management information system announced today by the city.

Police chief Robert H. McGowan said his department's computer-based system is unique in that information is entered on-line as calls for service from citizens are received. From this data, detailed profiles of crime patterns are produced and analyzed to help officers take preventive action through helicopter and car patrols.

The new police information reporting system provides the ability to record, process, and rapidly retrieve information about criminal offenses, arrests, and all other types of calls for service.

A key feature of the system is the capability to aggregate on-line several geographic areas of the city with variable time-of-day parameters in order to determine the crime pattern in the combined area. For example, a detailed profile of crime patterns around certain schools in the city at a particular time of day could be produced in minutes.

Information on over 40,000 police incidents has been entered into the system since it was implemented in February 1972. Reports generated from this data base were the foundation for establishing a new concept of overlapping shifts and beat assignments. Also, from current system reports, helicopter and car surveillance patrol effectiveness can be evaluated and redeployed as necessary.

**Toll Road**

The first in a network of computers to monitor and administer Kentucky's parkway system is now saving the Commonwealth dollars and others promise to save even more in the future. While attendants still handle toll booth collections and other activities, a computer in the background will insure accurate counts of vehicles and money, fast billing of credit card customers and constant surveillance of plaza equipment.

The computer monitors the flow of traffic and money. Daily it reports to the Highway Department's large-scale System/370 Model 165 computer in Frankfort headquarters the numbers and kinds of vehicles passing through the plaza, as well as collections.

Heavy-volume users of the toll system "charge" their tolls using a Toll Facilities-developed credit card system. In the computerized system, users receive specially designed credit cards which attendants slip into readers attached to the computer.

The computer can monitor weight-and-length-sensing devices in and alongside the roadway as such information is required. It can compile appropriate engineering and maintenance reports to insure equipment is kept operational. It allows parkway design and expansion planning to rely on actual use data.

**Feature New Product**

IBM Adds Virtual Storage Technology and Two New Computers to System/370

A major redirection of IBM System/370 technology, designed to make it easier and more economical for computer users to develop new applications, has been announced by International Business Machines Corporation.

The company introduced System/370 virtual storage, an advanced technique that can significantly speed and simplify the development of many computer applications, including remote computing networks and on-line inquiry systems - the key applications of the Seventies.

Virtual storage can increase the productivity of programmers by freeing them from much time-consuming and routine work. In addition, it enables a System/370 to process more jobs concurrently, adding new flexibility for user operations.

To provide virtual storage for System/370, IBM announced new system control programming and circuitry, and two new computers - System/370 Models 158 and 168 - that introduce the most compact storage circuits ever used in IBM computers. The company also announced