

minicomputer

New NCR 499 designed to handle information processing tasks in all markets served by NCR



A general-purpose data processing system designed mainly for first-time computer users, has been announced by NCR.

The new NCR 499 is a successor to the widely-used NCR 399 minicomputer. (The 399, with over 11,000 installations, is one of the world's most popular, low-cost data processing systems.)

E.F. Shipman, Senior Vice President, Domestic Marketing, said:

"The 499 was developed to handle a wide variety of information-processing tasks in all markets served by NCR. These include: retail stores, financial institutions, hospitals, schools, government offices, construction firms, manufacturing companies, transportation firms and other commercial operations."

In addition to serving as a stand-alone processor, the 499 also can be used as an intelligent terminal or remote batch processor in a communications environment.

<http://www.thecorememory.com>

A basic 499 system includes a 12K-byte mini-processor, an integrated, bi-directional, 75-character-per-second impact matrix printer, a magnetic-tape-cassette transport, and forms handler. An industry standard keyboard is used for entering alphanumeric data. A standard 10-key numeric keyboard is used for numeric data.

According to Mr. Shipman, the system can be expanded as the user's data processing needs grow.

Optional features include:

- Additional core memory up to a maximum memory capacity of 32K bytes.
- Up to four magnetic tape cassette transports.
- Magnetic ledger, featuring hard-copy records and electronically encoded information on the same document.
- Continuous forms feeder which automatically feeds, holds and spaces such continuous forms as checks, statements, and journals.

The Core-Memory Project



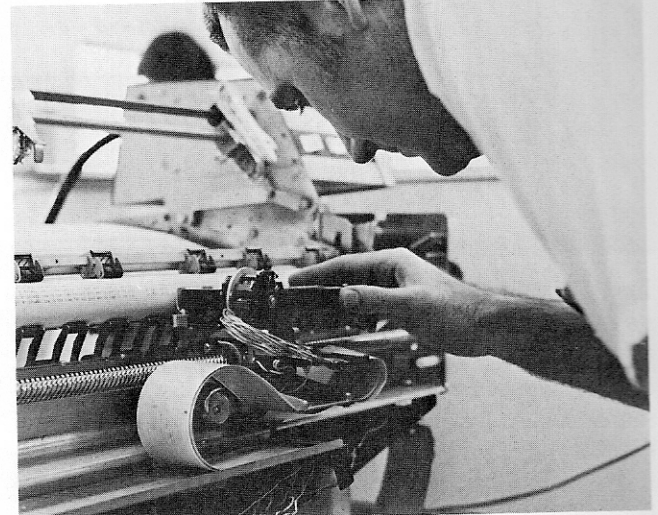
Wichita employee Edna McCall makes final inspection of NCR 499.



Rochelle Love removes solder from printed circuit board.



Overall view of DPD - Wichita 499 production area.



R.C. Curnutt checks newly-designed matrix print head for 499.

- Automatic line find which positions forms to the proper posting time.

- Rear eject, which automatically places completed magnetic ledgers in a receiving tray.

In addition to its optional features, the 499 can accommodate a variety of peripheral devices. These include line printers with speeds up to 300 lines per minute; a card reader which reads 300 cards per minute, and a high-speed magnetic-disk unit, with fixed and removable disk packs providing a combined recording capacity of up to 9.8-million bytes.

The system uses NEAT-AM language, a near-English, business-oriented language. Application programs written for the NCR 399 can be used with the new system. However, to take advantage of the improved features of the 499 - such as the faster bi-directional printer and the four cassette capability - a series of 15 industry-oriented application programs has been developed and is currently available.

Included are application programs for retailers, banks and thrift institutions, hospitals, schools,

government offices, trucking companies, accountants, wholesalers and distributors, and manufacturers.

When used as an intelligent terminal, the 499 can function in an on-line, real-time or remote batch communications environment. It can communicate with other 499 systems, NCR Century computers or non-NCR computers.

As a flexible element of a distributed processing network, the 499 can perform many different roles. Data can be entered from a variety of devices and processed for immediate use at a remote site. As needed, the data can be edited, formatted, validated, and sent in batch form to a central computer.

The system can also access a large data file at the central computer, request transmission of the file, update the file in an off-line mode, and transmit the updated file back to the central computer.

The 499 is being manufactured at the NCR Wichita, Kansas, Data Processing Division, with customer deliveries to begin in March.