

NEWS FROM NCR

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NCR INTRODUCES ADVANCED FUNCTIONALLY MODULAR AT-COMPATIBLE PC

Unit Permits Plug-In Processor Upgrade, Two Integrated Flex Disk Formats

NEW YORK, NY, May 27, 1987 -- NCR Corporation today introduced an AT-compatible personal computer that allows unprecedented flexibility in upgrading to more powerful processors and more efficient data storage devices. The system is part of a family of new personal computer products from NCR.

The new NCR PC810 enables users to replace the central processing unit with a more powerful version as customer requirements change. Based on the 80286-10 microprocessor running at six or 10 megahertz, the new product accepts combinations of integrated 5-1/4 inch flex drives and the increasingly popular 3-1/2 inch type.

The PC810 was announced with two other PC's and an array of communications products, including a communications workstation, at a news conference here.

NCR said the PC810 uses a functionally modular or "split-card" architecture that isolates the main processor and primary memory segment on an expansion card-sized board. As a result, users who want a future upgrade to 80386 technology will be able to exchange the board with the 80286 processor for a board with the Intel^R 80386 processor.

The second board in the split-card design is NCR's multifunction Personality CardTM, which provides the video adapter, disk drive controllers, extended memory and serial and parallel ports on a single board. The personality and processor boards are connected by the system's eight-slot system bus.

NCR's split-card architecture is distinctive from conventional PC's, which have one large "motherboard" for the processor, primary memory and system bus. Video, disk controller, extended memory and I/O functions are typically provided on expansion or add-in cards.

"By combining several functions on a single board, the Personality Card frees as many as three slots normally occupied by individual expansion boards. This gives the user added flexibility," said Vernon W. Yates, vice president, NCR Corporation, and general manager of NCR's Personal Computer Division.

Personality Cards are available in three varieties, providing an enhanced graphics adapter (EGA), a color graphics or monochrome adapter (CGMA) or no graphics support. Each board also supports up to two flex drives and up to two fixed drives, one serial and one parallel interface and expanded memory.

The basic PC810 configuration includes a processor board with 640K random access memory (RAM), 80287 math coprocessor socket, a 5-1/4 inch 1.2MB flex drive, a real time clock/timer with battery, and an advanced keyboard with 30 function keys and a separate cursor pad. Six expansion slots are available for memory upgrades or other function boards.

Enhanced PC810 models are available with 20MB, 30MB, 44MB, and 70MB fixed drives. NCR also offers expansion kits for adding half-height 720K or 1.44MB 3-1/2 inch flex drives, a second 20MB fixed drive, full-height 30MB, 44MB or 70MB fixed drives, or a full-height 60MB streaming tape back up unit. The PC810 accommodates a total of five half-height drive positions.

On all models, memory is expandable up to 1MB on the processor board, and up to a 16MB total using the Personality Card and standard memory expansion boards. Cards containing 1MB or 4MB of memory are available from NCR.

PC810 prices range from \$2,950 for the basic model with no graphics adapter to \$5,920 for a PC810 configured with a 70MB fixed drive. Most models are scheduled to be available in September.

Representative models are priced as follows: PC810 basic model with a 20MB fixed drive and no graphics adapter, \$3,325; with a 30MB fixed drive and no graphics, \$4,220; basic model with CGMA graphics on the Personality Card, \$3,200; with CGMA graphics and a 20MB fixed drive, \$3,525; with CGMA graphics and a 30MB fixed drive, \$4,420; basic model with EGA support, \$3,400; EGA support with 44MB fixed drive, \$4,820. A total of 35 models will be available.

All PC810 systems also include the NCR DOS 3.2 operating system, computer-aided instruction and diagnostic software and a one-year warranty.

For value-added resellers or original equipment manufacturers, the PC810's processor board includes a socket for a programmable read-only memory chip that permits copy protection of proprietary software. The PC810 also uses a 220-watt power supply that users can switch from 115 volts AC to 230 volts AC.

NCR Corporation, with headquarters in Dayton, Ohio, develops, manufactures, markets and services business information systems for worldwide markets.

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Intel is a registered trademark of Intel Corporation. Personality Card is a trademark of NCR Corporation.

NOTE: All prices are NCR's suggested list prices. Retail prices may vary.