CLEVELAND AREA TI-994/A
USER GROUPS NEWSLETTER
MARCH, 1991

I TOLD YOU THAT YOU NEED A NEW NEWSLETTER EDITOR! I APOLOGIZE FOR THE MIXUP IN PAGES IN LAW MONTH'S EDITION, ESPECIALLY TO LES KEE, WHOM I HAVE BEGGED FOR ARTICLES, AND THEN WHEN HE DOES DO ONE, I MESS IT UP ROYALLY!

WE WERE RATHER DISAPPOINTED IN THE TURNOUT FOR THE NORTHCOAST SWAPMEET. MUST HAVE BEEN A BAD DAY FOR WEATHER AND/OR ILLNESS AS I NOTED THAT CHIPS ATTENDANCE WAS FAR UNDER WHAT THEY NORMALLY HAVE ALSO.

I GOT THE LIMA NEWSLETTER TODAY WITH A LIST OF MOTELS AVAILABLE IN THE AREA. THAT MEANS THAT THE LIMA CONFERENCE IS NOT FAR AWAY...MAY 17 AND 18 TO BE EXACT. IT WILL INTERFERE WITH OUR REGULAR MEETING DATES, SO WE WILL NEED TO MAKE PLANS. IF YOU ARE CONFUSED BY THE 2-DAY LISTING, IT HAS BECOME A POPULAR HAPPENING FOR THE PEOPLE WHO COME IN FRIDAY NIGHT TO GET TOGETHER ON AN INFORMAL BASIS, SO IF YOU PLAN TO STAY OVERNIGHT ON FRIDAY, THERE WILL BE ACTIVITIES TO HELP YOU GET YOUR FILL OF TIERS.

GLENN BERNASEK SENT OVER A COPY OF HIS LATEST LOTTO DISK. HAD HOPED TO TO A PRINTOUT FOR YOU, BUT RAN OUT OF SPACE. YOU CAN PLAY SUPER LOTTO, DAILY NUMBER, AND PICK FOUR ON THIS DISK. EVIDENTLY THERE IS A HISTORY-TYPE DATA FILE FOR THOSE WHO ARE REGISTERED. (I HARDLY ONE TO UNDERSTAND HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS, AS I HAVE NEVER PLAYED THE LOTTERY). GLENN ASKS $2.00 FOR HIS PROGRAM. ORDER FROM GEE*BEE BASICS, 13246 HARPER ROAD, STRONGSVILLE, OH 44136.

I WAS NOT ABLE TO INCLUDE ALL OF THE DELPHI CONFERENCE WITH CHRIS PRATT CONCERNING HIS NEW HARD DISK CONTROLLER. SEVERAL OTHER ITEMS WERE MENTIONED THAT I THOUGHT WOULD BE OF INTEREST AND HATED TO CUT ANY OUT. WILL COMPLETE THE REST OF THE CONFERENCE IN NEXT MONTH'S NEWSLETTER.

ALSO, I WAS NOT ABLE TO DO A REGULAR REVIEW OF TIPS 1.8 BECAUSE OF TIME. THAT IS WHY I JUST PRINTED OUT THE DOCS AND HIGHLITED THE NEW ITEMS WITH SOME EDITORIAL COMMENTS. MANY THANKS TO RON WOLCOTT FOR SENDING THE DISK AND MENTIONING US. AS I TOLD RON SOME TIME AGO, THE IDEA FOR 'PRINTING TO DISK' DID NOT COME FROM ME. I FOUND IT SEVERAL YEARS AGO IN A NEWSLETTER IN AN ARTICLE BY TOM WYNNE OF THE TACOMA GROUP. IN EFFECT, YOU CAN PRINT ALMOST ANY FILE TO DISK AND THE PRINT IT WITH A SIMPLE EXTENDED BASIC LINPUT PROGRAM. ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS CHECK THE FILE AND SEE IF IT IS A DV/80, DV180, DV250, ETC. AND CHANGE YOUR INPUT TO MATCH. BOTH CLUB LIBRARIANS HAVE COPIES OF TIPS 1.8.

CONTENTS

ETI-CHIPS (16 FEB 1991)
MINUTES

THE FEBRUARY CHIPS MEETING GOT TO A SLOW START, UNLIKE THE WEATHER. PRESIDENT MATT ANDEL CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER SOMETIME AROUND 10:45AM. THERE WERE 12 MEMBERS ON HAND TO HEAR THE READING OF LAST MEETINGS MINUTES, WHICH WERE APPROVED.

MEMBERSHIPS: JOHN REPORTED THAT CABIN FEVER MUST BE SETTING IN. HE SENT OUT QUITE A FEW MEMBERSHIP FORMS THAT HAD BEEN REQUESTED. MAYBE SOME OF OUR TI FAMILY IS EMBARKING ON A JOURNEY OF BECOMING A TICHIPS MEMBER. WHEN YOU THINK OF THE ADVANTAGES OF BEING WITH A GROUP OF PEOPLE WHO SHARE THE SAME INTERESTS, ALL SORTS OF GOOD THINGS CAN HAPPEN. IF I HAD NOT BEEN A MEMBER, I WOULD HAVE HAD LOTS OF TROUBLE GETTING MY MODEM UP AND RUNNING. THANKS MARK. JOHN WANTED TO REMIND ALL THAT JUST ABOUT ALL HARDWARE THAT WORKS ON THE IBM SYSTEM SUCH AS DRIVES, PRINTERS AND OTHER EQUIPMENT IS COMPATIBLE WITH THE 99. SO WHEN YOUR LOOKING FOR A NEW DRIVE OR PRINTER, CABLES ETC, THOSE CAN BE PROCURRED FROM LOCAL OR MAIL ORDER SOURCES. JOHN OBTAINED VERSION 1.8 OF TIPS. IT NOW HAS A MENU TO RUN OFF FROM. LOOK FOR A DEMONSTRATION SOON. CLEVELAND'S VERY OWN, DEANNA SHERIDAN IS MENTIONED IN THE DOCS.

LIBRARY: HARRY REPORTS THAT TIPS v1.8 IS NOW IN THE CLUBS LIBRARY. HARRY HAS BEEN BRINGING A SYSTEM LOG FOR MEMBERS TO SIGN AND LOG DOWN THE TYPE OF SYSTEM THEY HAVE SO WHEN YOU CALL HARRY FOR DISKS, HE WILL KNOW IF YOUR DOUBLE SIDED/DOUBLE DENSITY OR SOMETHING ELSE. DON'T FORGET, HARRY HAS AN ANSWERING MACHINE SO WHEN YOU CALL TO PLACE YOUR ORDER, BE SURE TO HAVE THE DISKS CATALOG NUMBER READY TO GO. IT'S A LOT SIMPLER TO HAVE THEM ALL IN ORDER TOO.

DEMO'S: MATT DEMO'D "ARCHIE" v1.0. THIS IS A SOFTWARE COMPANION TO ARCHIVER. JIM REISS WROTE ARCHIE TO ASSIST THOSE ARCHIVER USERS BE ABLE TO RUN UNCOMPRESSED ARC'D FILES. THIS SAVES YOU FROM UNARC'NG FILES TO RUN. THE KEY WORD HERE IS "UNCOMPRESSED". SO WHEN YOU ARC YOUR FILES, IF YOU SELECT COMPRESSED, ARCHIE WONT WORK, AT LEAST NOT YET. A FEATURE I WOULD LIKE TO SEE IS A GLOBAL CATALOG FEATURE THAT WILL READ MULTI-ARCHIVED FILES AND CATALOG THEM (SOMETHING LIKE CATLIB) OR IF CATLIB COULD DO THIS, IT WOULD BE NICE TOO.

XB: LES KEE SHOWED US SOME XB PROGRAMMING THAT DISPLAYED A TIMER ON THE SCREEN AND KEPT IT THERE (RUNNING) EVEN AFTER THE PROGRAM WAS STOPPED (FCTN 4). THIS PROGRAM SHOWED US THE USE OF ALOT OF "SUB" PROGRAM AND THIS PROGRAM COULD BE "MERGED" INTO OTHER PROGRAMS THAT NEED TO BE TIMED. THIS NIFTY LITTLE SET OF PROGRAMS ALSO FLASHED DIFFERENT COLORS ON THE SCREEN TO SHOW HOW THE GOSUB LINK IS USED.

TALK SHOP: GLENN REPORTED SEEING THE TICHIPS USER GROUP LISTED IN COMPUTER SHOPPER. FOR SOME STRANGE REASON, NORTHCOAST WAS OMITTED. WE ALL KNOW THEY ARE ALIVE AND WELL, MAYBE SNOWED IN LAST WEEK, BUT STILL KICKING. TICHIPS WAS LISTED TO SUPPORT THE 99/4A (WHICH WE ALL KNOW THAT IS A FACT).

WELL, THATS IT FOR NOW FOLKS, SEE YOU AT THE MARCH 15 MEETING. DON'T FORGET, CHECK THOSE NEWSLETTERS FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP EXPIRATION DATE. WE JUST ADDED TWO NEW MEMBERS, WHO BRAVED THE ICE AND SNOW TO MAKE THE 16 FEB MEETING, SO THERE ARE PLENTY OF SEATS AT THE NORTH ROYALTON LIBRARY SO RENEW AND COME ON DOWN.

BY JOHN PARKEN TI CHIPS

IF YOUR HOUSE IS LIKE OURS, YOU HAVE THAT TRUSTY OLD TELEPHONE LIST. OURS HAPPENS TO BE ON THE INSIDE OF A KITCHEN CABINET BY THE PHONE. SOME TIME AGO WITH A PERSONAL RECORDKEEPING MODULE I MADE A WELL ORGANIZED LIST. BUT PRK IS SO SLOW IT WAS TERRIBLE TO UPDATE.

I DECIDED TO UPDATE THE LIST WITH PR BASE BUT BEING THE NEVER GET AROUND TO IT PERSON I AM, I ONLY GOT AROUND TO TAKING THE LIST DOWN. I NEVER KNEW THAT LIST WAS SUCH AN ESSENTIAL PART OF OUR LIFE. WITHOUT IT WE COULDN'T ORDER PIZZA OR CALL FRIENDS WHOSE NUMBERS WE HAD WRITTEN NO WHERE ELSE,(THIS WAS SERIOUS). A FEW MONTHS PREVIOUS I HAD DONE A DEMO OF PR BASE AND TYPED IN THE PERSONAL FILE IN THE DOC'S. READY MADE FOR MY USE AND AN EASY WAY TO SEE HOW FAST AND EASY PR BASE IS TO USE. WE ARE NOW BACK TO A NEAT LIST (FOR A WHILE) BUT A LIST WHICH CAN BE EASILY UPDATED AND REPRINTED. NOT AN EARTH SHATTERING USE BUT IT SURE IS PRACTICAL.

EXECUTIVE NOTES - NORTHCOAST
BY STEVE BAGSTAD

THE FEBRUARY MEETING WAS OUR "2ND (?) ANNUAL" SWAP MEET. MOST IN ATTENDANCE COMMENTED THAT IT WAS NOTABLY SMALLER THAN LAST YEAR'S. I DIDN'T TAKE A FIRM COUNT, BUT WE SEEMED TO HAVE ABOUT A DOZEN PEOPLE SELLING THINGS AND PERHAPS ANOTHER 30 OR SO LOOKING/BUYING. ATHOUGH I WAS PRETTY BUSY TALKING AND SELLING A FEW THINGS MYSELF, I DID NOTE THAT SOME AVAILABLE ITEMS INCLUDED ONE PRETTY COMPLETE SYSTEM, A VARIETY OF HARD AND FLOPPY DRIVES, A PRINTER OR TWO, DISK/CASSETTE/MODULE SOFTWARE, LITERATURE, DISKS, AND A PRETTY GOOD VARIETY OF MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS FROM JOYSTICKS TO VIDEO TAPES. SOME COMMENTED THAT THE SHOW WE'D HAD THE DAY BEFORE MIGHT HAVE CUT ATTENDANCE SOMEWHAT; OVERALL, I WOULD RATE IT AS "OK" (SOMEWHERE BETWEEN FANTASTIC AND FLOP?). THOSE WHO BOUGHT LITTLE SEEMED TO ENJOY THE CHANCE FOR A LEISURELY CHAT. UNFORTUNATELY, RON WAS NOT THERE WITH HIS USUAL WIDE ASSORTMENT; WE DEFINITELY MISSED HIM.

LIMITED NEWS TO REPORT FOR THIS TIME, AS I HAVEN'T HAD ANY BIG UPDATES IN A WHILE. DID RECEIVE A NEW CATALOG FROM ASGARD ON 2/22 CALLED "1990-91", WHICH LISTS THE FOLLOWING AS NEW: GAMES - ROCK RUNNER, TOURNAMENT SOLITAIRE, WATERWORKS, CASTLE DARKHOLM, RATTLESNAKE BEND; GRAPHICS - ARTIST FONT MAKER, SPORTS PICS, YET ANOTHER PAINT PROGRAM, AND 9 DIFFERENT "ADDERS" FOR PAGE PRO 99; PRODUCTIVITY - SPELL IT!, SCREEN PREVIEW; UTILITIES - THE ANIMATOR, LINK, BATCH IT! 2.0; AND FINALLY, PERIPHERALS - ASGARD MOUSE AND MIDI MASTER. PRICES HAVE BEEN CUT ON MANY OLDER ITEMS AS WELL. ONE OTHER ITEM THAT I SAW WAS THE FEB. '91 COLUMN IN COMPUTER MONTHLY MAINLY REPORTING ON THE NOVEMBER CHICAGO TI FAIRE, WHICH DID HAVE QUITE A BIT OF NEWS OF NEW PRODUCTS, ALTHOUGH BY NOW I THINK OUR GROUP HAS HEARD OF MOST OF THESE. I'LL TRY TO HAVE THESE AT THE NEXT MEETING, OR SEE RON AS HE NORMALLY CARRIES THIS ASGARD STUFF.

FOR NEXT MONTH'S MEETING, BOB AND I THOUGHT WE COULD

...AY SOMETHING A LITTLE DIFFERENT, TO PERHAPS INVOLVE A FEW MORE PEOPLE DIRECTLY IN THE MEETINGS. WE'D LIKE TO HAVE PEOPLE BRING TO THE MEETING WORKING COPIES OF PERHAPS 1-3 OF THEIR ALL-TIME FAVORITE PROGRAMS TO SHOW THE REST OF THE GROUP SOME OF THE THINGS THEY PERSONALLY LIKE TO DO ON THEIR TI'S. WE HAD IN MIND NO MORE THAN 5-10 MINUTES PER PERSON TOTAL, AND WOULD LIKE TO START, IF NO OTHER WAY, ALPHABETICALLY. SINCE WE USUALLY HAVE ABOUT 25 AT A MEETING, AND WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ABOUT 6 PRESENTERS AT 10 MINUTES EACH, IF YOU'RE IN THE FIRST ALPHABETICAL 1/4 (THAT'S ABOUT A-G, LAST NAMES) OF THE GROUP WE'D LIKE YOU TO BE READY TO GIVE THE GROUP A REAL QUICK PRESENTATION. NO HANDOUTS NEEDED, AND PLEASE- NOTHING 'EVERYONE' WOULD HAVE LIKE FUNNELWEB, COMMON MODULES, ETC.; ANY CATEGORY IS FINE, WHETHER GAME, UTILITY, EDUCATION, GRAPHICS, FINANCE... PERHAPS IF NOT TOO MUCH, WE COULD PROVIDE COPIES OF ANY NONCOMMERCIAL STUFF SHOWN AFTER THE PRESENTATIONS CONCLUDE. BOB AND I THINK THIS COULD PROVIDE AN INTERESTING VARIATION TO OUR "STANDARD" MEETING, SO PLEASE GIVE ALL OF US A HAND AND PARTICIPATE. SEE YOU ON MARCH 16TH!!

TUTORIAL 4.0 BY STEPHEN S. BAGSTAD
NORTHCOAST 99'ERS - FEBRUARY 24, 1991
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AS WITH MARTY SMOLEY'S TI-BASE ARTICLES, I AM RESERVING COPYRIGHT ON THIS MATERIAL. I WILL ALLOW THE COPYING OF IT BY ANYONE UNDER THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS: (1) IT MUST BE COPIED IN ITS ENTIRETY WITH NO CHANGES, (2) IF RETYPED, CREDIT MUST BE GIVEN TO MYSELF AND THE NORTHCOAST 99'ERS, AS ABOVE, AND (3) THE LAST MAJOR CONDITION IS THAT THERE MAY NOT BE ANY PROFIT DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THE COPYING OR TRANSFER OF THIS MATERIAL. IN OTHER WORDS, CLUBS CAN USE IT IN THEIR NEWLETTERS AND YOU CAN GIVE A COPY TO YOUR FRIENDS AS LONG AS IT'S FREE.

LATEST MULTIPLAN (MP) NEWS

AT OUR SWAP MEET, AS PROMISED DEANNA HAD BOTH THE MP 4.0 RAG UPDATE (COLLECTING THE $10 SHAREWARE FEE) AND PRINTER CONTROL DISKS AVAILABLE. I FOUND ONE ARTICLE IN AN ABOUT 6-MONTH OLD NEWSLETTER COMPARING SPEED OF VARIOUS MP TASKS WITH TI MP (ON A RAMDISK FOR THE PROGRAM), MP 4.0, GENEVE, ALL CONTRASTED WITH IBM MP (AN XT? WITH HARD DRIVE). SPEED WINNERS WERE LOADING PROGRAM-TI MP; LOADING BIG DATAFILE-IBM; %MEMORY LEFT-IBM; RECALC TIME-IBM; AND SAVING DATAFILE-IBM. SOME OF THE WRITERS' COMMENTS INCLUDED THAT HIS WORKSHEET OF 63 SECTORS (80 ROWS BY 17 COLUMNS) USED ALMOST ALL TI MEMORY, WHILE THE GENEVE STILL HAD ABOUT 2/3 OF ITS MEMORY AVAILABLE. FILE SAVING WAS TERRIBLY SLOW ON THE GENEVE, BUT THAT WAS COMPENSATED WITH OTHER ADVANTAGES. IN SUMMARY, THE CONCLUSION WAS THAT THE SPEED GAINS ON THE IBM MACHINE REALLY DIDN'T DO THAT MUCH FOR THIS AUTHOR, WHO REMAINS QUITE SATISFIED WITH TI (GENEVE) MP.

SECOND EXAMPLE

SINCE MP'S MAIN FORTE IS NUMBER 'CRUNCHING', I THOUGHT FOR A SECOND EXAMPLE WE COULD HEAD THROUGH A PERSONAL NET WORTH STATEMENT THAT ON ONE SHEET CAN HELP YOU SEE YOUR FINANCIAL CONDITION. I MODELED IT AFTER LAYOUTS I'VE SEEN IN A NUMBER OF GUIDES, AND IF YOU LOOK AROUND, YOU WILL NO DOUBT SEE OTHERS. NATUALLY, IF YOU PREFER ANOTHER FORMAT, THAT'S UP TO YOU.

WE CAN FIRST LAY OUT THE INFORMATION WE WANT TO SEE, AND THEN RETURN TO ADD A PAGE TITLE LATER. BRING UP A BLANK WORKSHEET. IN R1C1, ENTER "ASSETS", AND R1C2 "AMOUNTS". I ADDED IN R2C1 "(WHAT WE OWN)" JUST FOR CLARIFICATION, SO LET'S DO THAT TOO. NOW WE WANT TO LIST JUST WHAT ARE OUR ASSETS, SO SKIP ONE LINE TO R4C1, AND ENTER "CASH CASH EQUIVALENTS". WE SEE THAT THIS MUCH TEXT WILL NOT ALL APPEAR DUE TO THE DEFAULT WIDTH OF ONLY 10 CHARACTERS, SO WIDEN COLUMN 1 TO 25 CHARACTERS, AND COLUMN 2 TO 12. CONTINUING DOWN C1, SKIP R5, AND IN R6C1 ENTER ' CASH ON HAND'. I PUT ONE SPACE BEFORE BEGINNING TO TYPE SIMPLY TO OFFSET THE SUBCATEGORIES FOR BETTER READABILITY. STILL MOVING DOWN C1, ENTER 'CASH IN CHECKING ACCOUNTS', 'CASH IN SAVINGS ACCOUNTS', 'CASH IN MONEY MARKETS', AND 'LIFE INSURANCE CASH VALUE', WITH THE LATTER FALLING INTO R10C1.

THE REMAINING MAJOR ASSET CATEGORIES ARE 'PERSONAL PROPERTY' IN R12C1, 'REAL ESTATE' IN R19C1, AND 'INVESTMENTS' IN R24C1. SUBHEADINGS FOR EACH OF THESE ARE ' HOUSEHOLD FURNISHINGS', ' AUTOMOBILE(S)', ' SPECIFIC(JEWELRY,ETC.)', AND ' CLOTHING/OTHER' FOR PP; ' OUR HOUSE' AND ' OTHER REAL ESTATE' FOR RE; AND ' STOCKS, BONDS, CDS', ' MUTUAL FUNDS', ' OTHER INVESTMENTS', ' CO PLANS(PENSION,ETC.', AND KEOGH/IRA PLANS, WITH THE LATTER FALLING INTO R30C1. FINALLY, CONCLUDE THE C1 ACTIVITY WITH 'TOTAL ASSETS' ENTERED INTO R32C1.

TO BEGIN TO GET SOMETHING USEFUL OUT OF THIS, ENTER SOME DOLLAR AMOUNTS INTO C2 OPPOSITE EACH OF THE SUBHEADINGS IN C1. ENTER THE AMOUNTS AS SHOWN BELOW, SO WE CAN STAY TOGETHER; LATER, OF COURSE, YOU MAY ENTER YOUR ACTUAL FIGURES, OR SPECULATE WITH 'WHAT-IF' FIGURES TO SEE WHAT MAY HAPPEN.

	1	2
1	ASSETS	AMOUNTS
2	(WHAT WE OWN)	
3		
4	CASH CASH EQUIVALENTS	
5		
6	CASH ON HAND	300
7	CASH IN CHECKING ACCTS	400
8	CASH IN SAVINGS ACCTS	200
9	CASH IN MONEY MKTS	3700
10	LIFE INSUR CASH VALUE	900
11		
12	PERSONAL PROPERTY	
13		
14	HOUSEHOLD FURNISHINGS	9000
15	AUTOMOBILE(S)	14000
16	SPECIFIC(JEWELRY,ETC.)	2800
17	CLOTHING/OTHER	3000
18		
19	REAL ESTATE	
20		
21	OUR HOUSE	88000
22	OTHER REAL ESTATE	1500

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11
24 INVESTMENTS
25
26 STOCKS, BONDS, CDS      1500
27 MUTUAL FUNDS            8000
28 OTHER INVESTMENTS          0
29 CO PLANS(PENSION,ETC.)  7200
30 KEOGH/IRA PLANS         2500
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USE THE NAMES COMMAND TO HAVE CASH REFER TO CELLS R6:R10C2, PROP TO R14:R17C2, RE TO R21:R22C2, AND FINALLY INVEST TO R26:R30C2. THEN INTO C2, OPPOSITE EACH C1 MAJOR CATEGORY, USE THE '=' OR VALUE COMMAND TO PUT THE SUM OF THE THE MATCHING DEFINED NAME (SUM CASH IN R4C2, ETC.).

FINALLY, COMPLETE THE ASSET SIDE BY GOING TO R3C2 (OPPOSITE TOTAL ASSETS), AND ENTER THE SUM OF CASH+PROP+RE+ INVEST, AND YOU HAD BETTER SEE 143000 IN THAT SPOT. BEFORE WE FINISH FOR NOW, FORMAT C2 TO $, AND R32C1 TO CENTERED. SAVE THE FILE AS NETWORTH ON YOUR DATA DISK, AND PRINT, IF DESIRED. PLAY WITH YOUR OWN NUMBERS IF YOU WANT, BUT LEAVE THESE INTACT ON YOUR DISK. WE'LL FINISH THIS ONE NEXT TIME WITH LIABILITIES AND CALCULATION OF NET WORTH.

TIPS VER 1.8
DEANNA SHERIDAN - NORTHCOAST 99ERS - CLEVELAND, OHIO

JUST A COUPLE OF DAYS BEFORE THE FEBRUARY UG MEETING I RECEIVED FROM RON WOLCOTT A COPY OF HIS TIPS 1.8. IT IS REALLY HARD TO KEEP UP WITH THIS GUY! AS PROMISED BY RON AT THE CHICAGO FAIRE, TIPS 1.8'S ENHANCEMENTS ARE TO MAKE THE PROGRAM EASIER TO USE. PROBABLY THE BEST WAY IS TO PRINT PART OF THE DOCS WHICH DETAIL THE NEW ENHANCEMENTS AS FOLLOWS:

1) SPOOLING OF PRINT OUTPUT AND INPUT OF SPOOLED OUTPUT FOR PRINTING MULTIPLE TIMES. (THANKS TO DEANNA SHERIDAN - NORTH COAST 99'ERS - CLEVELAND OH). ALSO PRINT COMMAND FILES CAN BE CREATED AND INPUTTED TO CONTROL NORMAL PRINT FUNCTIONS (IE PRINT ITALICS ETC) THESE FILES MUST BE A DV 250 TYPE. A SEPARATE PROGRAM TIPSCMND HAS BEEN INCLUDED AS A MODEL TO MAKE PRINTER COMMAND FILES. ALSO SPOOLED OUTPUT OF OTHER PROGRAMS (IF MADE DV 250) CAN BE PROCESSED. ***NOTE*** SPOOLING CREATES VERY LARGE FILES AND SETTING DARKNESS TO OTHER THAN 1 MULTIPLIES THIS. ALSO THE DISK BEING SPOOLED TO MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM THE DRIVE UNTIL PRINTING IS REDIRECTED TO ANOTHER FILE OR THE PRINTER.

2) VERTICAL MENUS WITH HOT KEYS FOR MENU CHOICES (THANKS TO EARL RAGUSE ORANGE COUNTY UG - HUNTINGTON BEACH CA.)

THE FORMAT OF THE SCREEN WILL BE
  TOP LINE SHOWS WHICH MENU YOU ARE ON
  3RD DOWN SHOWS THE VARIOUS OPTIONS AVAILABLE
  20TH LINE SHOWS <CTRL #> CHOICES
  21ST LINE ONLY DISPLAYS ON FRONT-INSIDE OF CARD AND
    SHOWS UP TO 6 FUNCTIONS ENTERED
  22ND SHOWS D=DARKNESS
  THEN ?? FOR IMAGE FILE PREFIX
  THEN IMAGE NAME IF AVAILABLE
  23RD SHOWS F=FONT FILE LOADED. THEN FROM LOWEST
IMAGE NAME ON CURRENT FILES
  24TH SHOWS TO HIGHEST IMAGE NAME ON CURRENT FILES
(MANY OF YOU SEEM TO HAVE HAD PROBLEMS FOLLOWING THE LOGIC

OF THE TIPS PROGRAM WITH THE 'CHOICES' RUNNING ACROSS THE BOTTOM OF THE SCREEN. THIS VERTICAL MENU SHOULD GIVE YOU A MUCH CLEARER IDEA OF THE STRUCTION OF THE PROGRAM AND THE PROCEDURES TO FOLLOW TO GET THE OUTPUT YOU DESIRE).

3) THE ABILITY TO MIRROR IMAGE (THANKS TO ED MACHONIS - QB 99'ERS - BAYSIDE NY) . ALSO BY REVERSING AN IMAGE THE HEAT TRANSFER 2IMAGE FUNCTION CAN BE USED TO PRINT 2 NORMAL IMAGES.

CTRL HOT KEYS ARE <CTRL #> WHERE # IS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING

  S TO SPECIFY A NEW IMAGE FILE AND IMAGE
  I TO SPECIFY A NEW IMAGE
  V TO VIEW THE CURRENT IMAGE
  *R TO DO A LISTING OF FILE NAMES ON A DISK
  *N TO INVOKE NEG/REV SUB-MENU FOR MIRROR IMAGES ETC
  *D TO SELECT PRINT OR SPOOLING
  *U TO USE SPOOLED OUTPUT AS INPUT
  O TO INVOKE THE OPTION MENU WHICH WILL ALLOW THE
FOLLOWING:
    FONT LOADING
    COLOR SPECIFICATIONS
    CONFIGURATION (DRIVES) FOR FONT, VERSE, ART(INSTANCE)
AND SPOOL FILES. LINE 130 CONTAINS 1,1,1,1 AT THE END THESE ARE THE DEFAULT DRIVE NOS. FOR ART, FONT, VERSE, AND SPOOL. THESE CAN BE CHANGED AND THE PROGRAM SAVED IF OTHER START-UP DEFAULTS ARE DESIRED.

    DARKNESS (MULTIPLE PASSES) OF PRINTING
    CENTERING ADJUSTMENT OF BANNERS USING FT##/FN##
      IMAGES

    0 TO CHANGE THE PRIMARY COLOR TO 0 CODE
    1-2-3-4-5-6 SAME AS 0 BUT TO THEIR VALUE.
(WHENEVER YOU CHOOSE A FUNCTION FROM THE MENU, YOU ARE PROMPTED WITH THE CTRL # THAT YOU COULD USE TO GET THERE QUICKER. THUS, IN A SHORT TIME, YOU SHOULD HAVE THE HOT KEYS MEMORIZED AND WHIZ THROUGH THE PROGRAM.)

THE NEW OR CHANGED FUNCTIONS MARKED WITH AN * ARE AS FOLLOWS:

  *LIST   THIS WILL PRINT THE NAMES OF THE IMAGES ON THE CURRENT IMAGE
  *READ   THIS ALLOWS A LISTING OF FILE NAMES ON A DRIVE TO THE SCREEN, I.E., (CATALOG YOUR DISK)
  *DIRECT   TO SELECT PRINT OR DISK SPOOLING
  NOTE THIS DOES NOT WORK USING THE MYARC MPES 50 WITH 128K. A PROBLEM OF HAVING 2 DISK FILES OPEN AT THE SAME TIME. I HAVE DETERMINED THAT A EPROM FIX WILL HAVE TO BE NECESSARY TO CORRECT THIS PROBLEM.
  *USESPOOL TO INPUT A SPOOLED FILE OR PRINT COMMAND FILE

  *NEG/REV THIS OPTION WILL INVOKE THE NEG-REV SUB-MENU ALLOWING CONTROL OF IMAGES TO BE NEGATIVE/POSITIVE OR FORWARD/REVERSE.
  *FORWARD THIS WILL CAUSE THE IMAGE TO BE PRINTED AS IT IS STORED
  *REVERSE THIS WILL CAUSE A MIRROR IMAGE TO BE PRINTED
  *EXIT   THIS WILL LEAVE THE NEG/REV SUB MENU
  *CONFIG WILL ALLOW SPECIFYING DRIVE NUMBER FOR ART, FONT, VERSE, SPOOL FILES. ANY ERRORS OCCURING ON OPENING

...Y OF THE FILES WILL CAUSE THE DRIVE NUMBER TO BE SET TO 1, THE SCREEN WILL TURN BLACK AND WAIT FOR A RESPONE TO CONTINUE. THIS WILL ALLOW YOU TO PLACE THE CORRECT DISK IN DRIVE 1, PRESS <ENTER> AND CONTINUE PROCESSING.

*LABEL   THIS SELECTS THE MAILING LABEL SUBFUNCTION MENU. AN ADDITIONAL OPTION TO PRINT THE IMAGE ONLY 1 TIME IS INCLUDED. PRIOR TO THIS IMAGES WERE PRINTED TWICE. NOTE THIS PROCESSING HAS BEEN CHANGED TO ALLOW OFFSETTING THE LABEL 0 TO 45 BYTES.(YOU CAN PLACE THE LABEL FROM COLUMN 0 TO 45 ON THE PAPER. THUS, YOU COULD CENTER THE LABEL ON PAPER AND MAKE BOTH LETTERHEADS AND ENVELOPES WITH THE SAME GRAPHIC.)

*FONTTIPS7 THIS IS A NEW FONT UPPER AND LOWER CASE
*FONTTIPS8 THIS IS A NEW FONT UPPER AND LOWER CASE
*TIPSDV250 THIS IS A DUMMY FILE FOR SPOOL INPUT IF AN ERROR OCCURS DURING USESPOOL PROCESSING (CAUSES A FORM FEED)
*CSGD2TIPS A CONVERSION PROGRAM TO CONVERT CSGD GRAPHICS TO TIPS FORMAT (SMALL SIZE GRAPHICS ONLY) THIS PROGRAM WAS WRITTEN TO BRING TI RELATED GRAPHICS INTO THE TIPS FILES. THE PROGRAM REQUIRES TWO DRIVES AND CREATES /?AZ(TXT/XXX) FILES. THE IMAGE NAMES ARE THE FILE NAMES INCLUDING /GR AT THE END. BECAUSE THE NAMES ARE UNIQUE WITHOUT THE /GR YOU NEED NOT SPECIFY /GR WHEN ENTERING THE IMAGE NAME IN TIPS. (ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS HAVE A DISK FULL OF CSGD GRAPHIC IMAGES AND YOU WILL THEN HAVE A DISK OF TIPS GRAPHICS. VERY EASY)

FROM DV/80 TO PROGRAM
BY-BRUCE RODENKIRCH, NORTHCOAST UG

I RECENTLY FOUND A HANDY PROGRAM BY JOHN HAMILTON, OF THE CENTRAL IOWA 99 4/A UG, WHICH WILL CONVERT A BASIC OR XB PROGRAM WRITTEN ON AN EDITOR TO A A RUNNABLE PROGRAM. IT IS MUCH SIMPLER THAN I WOULD HAVE IMAGINED IT WOULD BE. IT READS THE DV/80 FILE AND WRITES IT TO DISK AS A DV163 FILE (MERGE FORMAT) WHICH CAN THEN BE MERGED TO PROGRAM FORMAT. SO WHAT, YOU ASK, IS THE VALUE OF THAT?

SOME PEOPLE MIGHT LIKE TO BE ABLE TO WRITE THEIR BASIC OR XB PROGRAMS USING AN EDITOR SUCH AS THE ONE IN EDITOR ASSEMBLER OR FUNNELWEB (TI WRITER). IT IS MUCH EASIER TO EDIT A PROGRAM IN THAT MODE. THE FIND STRING, REPLACE STRING OR MOVE LINE COMMANDS ARE QUITE USEFUL. IT IS ALSO EASIER TO READ WITH A 40 CHARACTER SCREEN WIDTH OR MORE IF YOU HAVE 80 COLUMNS.

ANOTHER USE IS FOR TUTORIAL DISKS WHICH HAVE PROGRAMS TO BE TYPED IN. THESE PROGRAMS CAN BE LOADED INTO AN EDITOR. THE TEXT CAN BE STRIPPED OUT LEAVING ONLY THE PROGRAM, AND THEN CONVERTED TO A RUNNABLE PROGRAM. JIM PERTERSON OF TIGER CUB AND SOME OF THE OTHER AUTHORS HAVE PROGRAMS WRITTEN INTO A DV/80 FILE AND IF YOU WANT TO TRY OUT THE PROGRAM YOU COULD SAVE YOURSELF SOME TYPING (AND CORRECTING) BY USING THE HANDY DANDY LITTLE CONVERTER PROGRAM SHOWN BELOW.

RECENTLY I FOUND ANOTHER USE FOR IT WHEN I WAS TRYING TO RUN A PROGRAM FROM THE LIBRARY. IT WAS AN EXTENDED BASIC PROGRAM AND IT WOULD CRASH UNEXPECTEDLY. LISTING THE PROGRAM REVEALED SEVERAL PROGRAM LINES THAT WERE MESSED UP. WHEN I TRIED TO EDIT THEM OTHER LINES DISAPPEARED OR WERE REWRITTEN BY THE COMPUTER. THIS IS USUALLY A SIGN OF A PROGRAM THAT HAS BEEN REVISED TOO OFTEN. WHEN A PROGRAM IS FIRST WRITTEN THE LINES OF COMMANDS ARE PUT INTO A "STACK", SIMILAR TO AN "IN BASKET" WITH THE LAST ENTRY ON TOP. IF A LINE IS REVISED, THE ORIGINAL LINE IS DELETED AND THE NEW ONE GOES ON TOP OF THE STACK. IF THERE IS TOO MUCH EDITING THE PROGRAM LINES ARE STACKED IN A HELTER SKELTER ORDER. THE COMPUTER WILL FIND ALL THE LINES AND USE THEM IN THE PROPER ORDER BUT IF THE ORDER IS TOO EXTREME ERRORS WILL OCCUR. ONE WAY TO TAKE CARE OF THIS KIND OF PROBLEM IS TO SAVE THE PROGRAM IN MERGE FORMAT (DV 163 FILE) AND THEN MERGE THE PROGRAM BACK TO THE COMPUTER WHICH PUTS THE PROGRAM LINES BACK IN ORDER. THE PROGRAM WILL THEN RUN FASTER AND WILL BE LESS PRONE TO ERRORS.

THIS PROCEDURE WOULD NOT WORK WITH THE PROGRAM I WAS TRYING TO FIX SO I DECIDED TO TRY CONVERTER ON IT. IT WORKED LIKE A CHAMP AND THE RESULT WAS A PROGRAM THAT WORKED AS THE AUTHOR INTENDED. THE NAME OF THE PROGRAM WAS MOONVASION JUST IN CASE YOU MIGHT HAVE WRESTLED WITH IT.

I ADDED A FEW EMBELLISHMENTS TO JOHN'S PROGRAM, SUCH AS INSTRUCTIONS AS TO HOW TO USE IT. LINE 200 PRINTS THE PROGRAM LINE TO SCREEN SO YOU CAN FOLLOW THE READ/WRITE ROUTINE. AFTER THE PROGRAM HAS BEEN LISTED TO DISK AS A DV/80 FILE BE SURE TO HAVE A LINE NUMBER AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH PROGRAM LINE. SOME XB PROGRAMS HAVE LINES LONGER THAN 80 CHARACTERS AND THE WORD WRAP FEATURE WILL CREATE A LINE WITH NO LINE NUMBER. ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS PUT THE NEXT LINE NUMBER IN SEQUENCE AT THE HEAD OF THE LINE. BE CAREFUL NOT TO CHANGE THE NUMBER OF A LINE USED IN A GOSUB OR GOTO STATEMENT. THIS IS NOT HARD TO DO BUT A WARNING MIGHT SAVE YOU SOME GRIEF.

```
100 ! CONVERTER WILL READ A
PROGRAM WRITTEN AS A DV 80
FILE AND REWRITE IT AS A
DV 163 FILE WHICH CAN BE
MERGED AS A RUNNING PROGRAM

101 CALL CLEAR :: CALL SCREE
N(4)

110 PRINT "TO REVISE AN EXIS  (NOTE-TO LIST A
TING PROG  LIST IT TO DISK A  PROGRAM TO DISK
S A DV80   FILE. (LIST DSKx.  USE LIST "DSKx.TXT")
TXT)"

120 PRINT "LOAD INTO TIW OR
AN EDITOR. DELETE THE FIRST
LINE WHICH IS BLANK. MAKE S
URE THERE  IS A LINE NUMBER
AT THE '

130 PRINT "BEGINNING OF EACH
LINE. RE- FORMAT IF NEED BE
TO CREATE SHORTER PROGRAM L
INES. USE A TEMPORARY CR AT
THE END OF'

140 PRINT "OF THE LINE BEFOR
E USING   THE REFORMAT KEY.
```

```
        TAKE CARE NOT TO CHANGE EXI
STING LINE NUMBERS IF THEY A
RE USED IN'

150 PRINT 'GOTO OR GOSUBS. T
HEN RUN    THIS PROGRAM AND
AFTER IT   HAS RUN MERGE THE
.DV163 FILEWITH NO PROGRAM I
N MEMORY.'

160 PRINT 'THEN DELETE ONE O
F  THE     BLANK SPACES AFTE
R THE LINE NUMBER BEFORE RUN
NING THE   PROGRAM. PRESS AN
Y KEY'

170 CALL KEY(3,K,S):: IF S=0
 THEN 170

180 CALL CLEAR :: OPEN #1:"D
SK3.PGM1",INPUT

190 OPEN #2:"DSK3.PGM",OUTPU
T,VARIABLE 163 :: ON ERROR 2
60

200 LINPUT #1:L$ :: S=POS(L$
,' ',1):: PRINT L$ :: IF S=0
 THEN 240

210 N=VAL(SEG$(L$,1,S)):: A=
INT(N/256)

220 B=N-A6 :: PRINT #2:CH
R$(A)&CHR$(B)&SEG$(L$,S,80)&
CHR$(0)

230 IF EOF(1)=0 THEN 200

240 PRINT #2:CHR$(255);CHR$(
255)

250 CLOSE #1 :: CLOSE #2 ::
END

260 DISPLAY "'TXT' FILE BAD
- TAKE A LOOK' :: RETURN 240
```

    IN CASE YOU HADN'T NOTICED, THE PROGRAM LISTINGS ABOVE
AND BELOW ARE IN 28 CHARACTER WIDE FORMAT. THIS MEANS THAT
WHEN YOU TYPE THESE THE PROGRAM AS LISTED WILL LOOK JUST
LIKE WHAT YOU SEE ON YOUR SCREEN. THIS MAKES IT MUCH EASIER
TO CHECK FOR MISTAKES. IF YOU DON'T MAKE MISTAKES THIS WILL
BE OF NO HELP. I USED THE COLISTER PROGRAM ON LIBRARY DISK
AAA-20 IN CASE YOU DON'T FEEL LIKE TYPING IT IN. THIS DISK
HAS SOME OTHER NEAT UTILITIES YOU WILL SURELY FIND USEFUL.

```
100 !   *** COLISTER ***
    A TINYGRAM BY ED MACHONIS
      QB-99ERS, BAYSIDE, NY
```

```
110 CALL SCREEN(4)

120 PRINT :'1ST LIST YOUR PR
OGRM TO DISKTHEN RUN COLISTE
R'

130 PRINT :;:'INPUT FILENAME
? EX:DSKN.LIST' :: INPUT F$

140 INPUT 'OUTPUT FILENAME?
EX: PIO OR DSKN.LIST28 :':P$

150 OPEN #1:F$,INPUT :: OPEN
 #3:P$,OUTPUT :: ON ERROR 23
0

160 C=28 :: LINPUT #1:A$ ::
IF LEN(A$)<80 THEN 200

170 LINPUT #1:B$

180 IF VAL(SEG$(A$,1,POS(A$,
' ',2)))<VAL(SEG$(B$,1,POS(B
$,' ',2)))THEN F=1 :: GOTO 2
00

190 A$=A$&B$ :: IF LEN(B$)>=
80 THEN 170

200 A=LEN(A$):: L=A/C+.99 ::
 FOR I=0 TO L

210 PRINT #3:TAB(6);SEG$(A$,
1+I*C,C):: NEXT I :: IF EOF(
1)AND F=0 THEN CLOSE #1 :: C
LOSE #3 :: END

220 IF F=1 THEN F=0 :: A$=''
 :: GOTO 190 ELSE 160

230 ON ERROR 230 :: RETURN 1
90
```

CHRIS PRATT AND ESD HFDC DELPHI CONFERENCE OF JANUARY
6, 1991 (EDITED TRANSCRIPT)
    <CHRIS> FIRST, I WOULD LIKE TO INTRODUCE MYSELF AS THE
PERSON WHO WROTE THE DSR AND DISKMANAGER FOR ESD'S H/F
CONTROLLER CARD. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO GIVE ESD'S ADDRESS
FOR TI-RELATED PRODUCTS:

        ESD
        P.O. BOX 23805
        WASHINGTON, DC 20026-3805

ABOUT THE SHIPPING SCHEDULE AND WHY IT HAS BEEN DELAYED
FROM THE ORIGINAL NOVEMBER 20TH DATE...

I HAVE BEEN ON VACATION FOR TWO WEEKS AND I JUST GOT BACK LAST NIGHT. I SPOKE WITH SHANE TRUFFER, THE PRESIDENT OF ESD AND DESIGNER OF THE CARD. HE SAID THAT THE DELAY WAS DUE TO A PROBLEM IN ACQUIRING THE HARD DRIVE CONTROLLER CHIP WD1010A.

EICHER> CHRIS, IN SOME OF THE LITERATURE I RECEIVED IT MENTIONED THE BOARD WAS BEING MADE WITH SMT. THIS WORRIES ME, BECAUSE OF THE DIFFICULTY IN REPAIR. ANY CHANCE OF NORMAL CHIPS, SOCKETS AND SCHEMATICS?

<CHRIS> BEFORE I LEFT ON VACATION, SHANE HAD PURCHASED A NEW CONTROLLER CHIP, THE WD2010. THIS CHIP IS COMPATABLE WITH THE WD1010 AND WILL NOT MEAN ANY EXTRA WORK FOR ME. AS FAR AS A SHIPPING SCHEDULE, SHANE WAS NOT VERY DEFINITE, BUT I WOULD ESTIMATE IT TO BE ANOTHER 6-8 WEEKS BEFORE EVERYONE HAS THEIR HANDS ON ONE. ESD IS GOING TO SEND OUT SEVERAL BOARDS BEFORE THEN THOUGH. REGARDING THE SMT, I AGREE THAT IT IS GOING TO BE DIFFICULT IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE AVERAGE USER TO REPAIR HIMSELF, BUT WON'T YOU AGREE THAT THE RELIABILITY OF THE BOARD WILL BE GREATER?

[EDITOR NOTES THAT SMT STANDS FOR SURFACE-MOUNT TECHNOLOGY.]

<BEERY> CHRIS, I KNOW FROM FRIENDS THAT I CAN TRUST, THAT YOU ARE TRUE TO YOUR WORD, BUT READING MESSAGES IN THE PAST MONTH, I HAVE SEEN SOME MISCONCEPTIONS. PRIMARILY, I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHAT KIND OF ENTITY ESD CORP IS? IS THIS THEIR FIRST PROJECT? OR WHAT ELSE (NON-TI PERHAPS) DO THEY HAVE TO THEIR RANKS?

<CHRIS> BEERY, THIS IS ESD'S FIRST TI PROJECT. I CONVINCED THE PRESIDENT TO DO THIS ONE BECAUSE OF MY DEDICATION TO THE TI COMPUTER. ESD HAD BEEN AROUND FOR FIVE YEARS BEFORE I EVEN MET SHANE.

<BERRY> I THINK THE ESD HFDC IS FANTASTIC FOR 4A PEOPLE, AND IT CONTINUES TO OPEN DOORS FOR THE TI COMMUNITY, SO I DON'T WANT TO APPEAR AS A HAGGLER, BUT AT THE SAME TIME, ESD POPPED UP WHEN MYARC WAS FALLING ON THEIR FACES. WHAT OTHER HARDWARE (NON-TI) DO THEY HAVE TO THEIR CREDIT?

<CHRIS> ESD HAS PRIMARILY BEEN INVOLVED IN DESIGN WORK FOR PC CLONES, SUCH AS MEMORY BOARDS, NETWORKING, AND CONSULTING. THEY ALSO DID WORK WITH ORPHANED COMPUTERS IN THE PAST. ESD HAS AT LEAST ONE PATENT ON AN ELECTRONICS RELAY WHICH IS A SPRAY THAT ONE SPRAYS ON CIRCUIT BOARDS, AND IT CHANGES COLOR WITH THE AMOUNT OF HEAT.

<BEERY> OKAY, CHRIS. I JUST WANTED TO ESTABLISH THAT ESD WAS CAPABLE, AND I THINK YOU HAVE DONE THAT.

GREGRPH> CHRIS, WILL THE NEW HDC BE COMPATIBLE WITH THE GENEVE? IF NOT, WILL ONE BE DESIGNED? I'VE HEARD IT BOTH WAYS.

<CHRIS> YES, THE NEW CARD WILL SUPPORT THE GENEVE. LET ME EXPLAIN PERHAPS WHY YOU HAVE HEARD TWO DIFFERENT VERSIONS. THE GENEVE IS NOT 100% TI-COMPATIBLE WHEN IT COMES DOWN TO THINGS LIKE CONTROLLING DRIVES, AND THERE ARE SO MANY VERSIONS OF MDOS OUT THAT WE WOULD HAVE TO LOCK DOWN ONE THAT WOULD WORK WITH ESD'S CARD. TO KEEP IT SHORT, OUR CARD WILL WORK WITH BOTH COMPUTERS AND DO SO IN THE SAME DSR WHICH IS HOUSED IN THE CARD'S EEPROM.

EICHER> CHRIS, WILL THIS CONTROLLER INCORPORATE ANY CACHING TO IMPROVE THROUGH- PUT ON THE FLOPPY OR THE HARD DRIVE SIDE? WILL THE FLOPPIES CREATED BE INTERCHANGEABLE WITH THOSE CREATED ON THE MYARC HFDC IN BOTH FORMAT AND SUBDIRECTORIES FOR DISKS WITH 80 TRACKS?

<CHRIS> THE CARD HAS A BUFFER ON BOARD, AND THAT DOES ENHANCE ITS PERFORMANCE, BUT I WOULD NOT CALL IT A CACHE. AS FAR AS THE FLOPPY DISKS BEING INTERCHANGEABLE WITH MYARC'S SUBDIRECTORIES, YES THEY WILL BE READABLE. AS FAR AS THE HARD DRIVE, NO. I WOULD HOPE YOU REFORMAT IT WITH ESD'S RECOMMENDED FORMAT OF 512 BYTES/SECTOR, BUT THAT'S ANOTHER TOPIC/QUESTION.

EICHER> WILL THIS BE LIKE A HORIZON PRODUCT WHERE YOU RECEIVE SOURCE TO THE DSR AND MANAGER?

MIKEMCG> CHRIS, WILL DSK1 ON HD EMULATE A DRIVE 1 IN MOST RESPECTS--ARCHIVING FILES TO AND FROM?

<CHRIS> SOURCE CODE FOR THE DSR AND DISKMANAGER, NO. UPDATES TO THE DSR DO HAVE THE ADVANTAGE OF BEING DIRECTLY READ INTO THE EEPROM FROM FLOPPY. DSK1 (I ASSUME SUBDIRECTORY) CAN EMULATE DRIVE 1. IN FACT, ALL SUBDIRECTORIES CAN EMULATE DSK1. SIMPLY BY ASSIGNING THE PATH. THIS WAS ONE FEATURE THAT I LIKED MOST.

MIKEMCG> WILL THERE BE THE SAME FILE MAX IN HD AS 80-TRACK DISK?

[EDITOR THINKS "HD" ABOVE MEANS HIGH-DENSITY, AND NOT HARD DISK. HOST WAS UNABLE TO CATCH IT DURING THE CONFERENCE.]

<CHRIS> DON, I HAVE NOT FORGOTTEN YOUR ORIGINAL QUESTION: WILL PC TRANSFER WORK WITH IT? NO, I AM SORRY THAT PROGRAM WILL NOT RUN, BUT ANOTHER PROGRAM WILL BE WRITTEN TO DO TRANSFERING FROM PC TO TI.

<DON O'NEIL> SINCE ESD IS A RELATIVELY SECURE COMPANY, WILL THEY BE EMBARKING ON ANY OTHER TI PROJECTS, OR PERHAPS PRODUCE OTHERS PRODUCTS FOR THE TI MARKET?

<CHRIS> THE REASON ESD RECOMMENDS THAT YOU FORMAT THE HD TO 512 BYTES/SECTOR IS SO THAT ONE CAN PUT MORE FILES/SUBDIRECTORIES ON THE HD.

<DON O'NEIL> WILL THE HFDC WORK LIKE MYARC'S: NAME A DIR DSK1 OR DSK AND IT SEARCHES HERE FIRST FOR LOAD AND PROGRAMS BEFORE GOING TO THE PHYSICAL DRIVE. ALSO, WHAT ABOUT CABLING? IS IT THE SAME AS THE MYARC HFDC?

DONMCC> WHAT ABOUT THE "INTERLACE" QUESTION? THAT HAS ALWAYS BEEN A SORE SPOT WITH ME.

<CHRIS> DON, YES. IF THE H/F CONTROLLER TAKES OFF THE WAY I KNOW IT WILL, ESD WILL BE EMBARKING ON MANY NEW TI PRODUCTS: E.G., SCSI CARDS -- THAT HAS MANY OPENINGS, INCLUDING A TAPE BACK-UP.

<DON O'NEIL> THANKS FOR THE RESPONSE TO MY PC TRANSFER QUESTION. WHAT WILL IT DO THAT PC TRANSFER DOESN'T? WILL IT SUPPORT 1.44 AND 1.2 MEG PC FORMATS?

<CHRIS> I ALREADY MADE A GUESS THAT ESD WILL START SHIPPING IN 6 WEEKS. ALL USERS SHOULD HAVE THEM BY THEN. THE INTERLACE ON THE CARD WILL BE DONE AUTOMATICALLY BY THE DISKMANAGER BY THE INFORMATION YOU SUPPLY WHEN YOU RUN THE SETUP PROGRAM. IT IS A VERY USER FRIENDLY PROGRAM. I MEAN OF COURCE THE INTERLACE FOR FORMATTING THE HD. I WILL DEFINITELY SUPPORT THE 1.44MB PC FORMATS, AND YOU CAN ACTUALLY PORT THE FILES OVER TO 1.44MB TI FORMAT. THAT'S RIGHT. THE ESD CARD SUPPORTS 1.44MB 3-1/2" DISKS.

<DON O'NEIL> WHAT ABOUT THE DSK1 AND DSK ISSUE?

<CHRIS> THE DSK1 EMULATION IS HANDLED BY THE PATH COMMAND.

<DON O'NEIL> WHAT I MEAN IS NOT EMULATION,...

<CHRIS> YOU CAN CALL IT FROM BASIC, SET IT IN THE DISKMANAGER, OR, I HOPE SOON, A MENU PROGRAM. YES, I

UNDERSTAND, POOR CHOICE OF WORDS ON MY PART.   <DON
O'NEIL> BUT LIKE THE MYARC HFDC DOES. WILL IT SEARCH A
DIRECTORY NAMED DSK1 OR DSK FOR THE PROGRAMS, AND IF THE
FILES ARE NOT THERE IT WILL GO TO THE PHYSICAL DSK1?

    <CHRIS> IT WILL SEARCH ANY SUBDIRECTORY NAME THAT IS
THE CURRENT PATH, THEN GO TO THE PHYSICAL DSK1.
    <BEERY> HOW DOES ESD PLAN TO MAKE THEIR HFDC
GENEVE-COMPATIBLE? HAVE THEY RECEIVED FROM MYARC OR CHARLTON
THE NECESSARY INFORMATION TO INTERFACE? OR HAS THE SOFTWARE
TO SUPORT IT ALREAD BEEN WRITTEN? I ASK THIS AS MYARC HAS
PROBLEMS (WRITING SOFTWARE FOR THE GENEVE TO SUPPORT THEIR
HFDC, SO HOW CAN WE EXPECT ESD TO DO IT?

    <CHRIS> WHAT WE WILL DO TO MAKE THE CARD WORK WITH THE
GENEVE IS USE AN OS THAT USES ESD'S DSR--THAT BEING M-DOS
1.14. ESD ALSO PLANS ON CONTRACTING ANOTHER PROGRAMMER
BESIDES MYSELF TO HELP ON THAT PROJECT.

    <BEERY> CHRIS, IF YOU GO WITH M-DOS 1.14, YOU WILL MOST
LIKELY MAKE IT WORK, BUT YOU WILL NOT BE USING THE LATEST
SOFTWARE, AND IT WON'T WORK WITH ABASIC, ETC. HOWEVER, 1.14
IS A FAIRLY GOOD DOS. ALID POINTS. THE BEST SOLUTION IN MY
MIND IS TO REWRITE THE ENTIRE OS. UNFORTUNATELY, UNLIKELY.
<BEERY> CHRIS, AS A THOUGHT, PAUL CHARLTON IS NEGOTIABLE
($$$) IF YOU NEED TO INTERFACE IT, BUT TO WORK ONLY WITH
1.14 IS A MISTAKE IN MY OPINION.

    [EDITOR NOTES THAT GETTING THE ESD H/F CONTROLLER TO
WORK WITH THE GENEVE IS NOT SIMPLY A MATTER OF USING M-DOS
1.14. AT MINIMUM, THE ESD EEPROM WILL HAVE TO BE ABLE TO
LOAD SYSTEM/SYS OR A LOADER (LIKE LOAD/SYS) TO DO IT. THE
GENEVE WILL ALSO NEED TO KNOW TO USE THE ESD EEPROM UPON
POWER-UP, WHICH MAY REQUIRE SPECIAL HEADER BYTES IN THE ESD
EEPROM OR A NEW GENEVE BOOT EPROM.] NPC> WHAT IS THE COST?

    <CHRIS> THE COST IS $225 DELIVERED TO THE CONTINENTAL
U.S. MARYLAND RESIDENTS, PLEASE DON'T FORGET SALES TAX.

    EICHER> CHRIS, APPROXIMATELY HOW MANY MAN-HOURS GO
INTO THE DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OF A PRODUCT LIKE THIS? I AM
ASSUMING IT USES MFM DRIVES. WHY WASN'T THE CONTROLLER
DESIGNED WITH A BUILT IN SCSI PORT? I MEAN IT LOOKS LIKE IT
WOULDN'T HAVE ADDED THAT MUCH MORE DIFFICULTY TO THE
PROJECT. IS ESD THE SOLE MARKETER?

    <CHRIS> ESD IS THE SOLE MARKETER (AT LEAST FOR
AWHILE).

    LMCCLURE> WHAT CHANCES FOR A SCSI VERSION OF THE HFDC
IN THE FUTURE?

    <CHRIS> MANY, MANY MAN-HOURS WENT INTO THE ESD H/F
CONTOLLER PROJECT. IT ALL STARTED OVER A YEAR AGO. THERE
WILL NOT BE A SCSI VERSION OF THE H/F CONTROLLER, BUT THERE
WILL (MAYBE) BE A SEPERATE SCSI CARD.

    MIKEMCG> SCSI?
    EICHER> AS A THOUGHT, I THINK TI NOW MAKES A SCSI
CONTROLLER ON A CHIP.
    <DON O'NEIL> SMALL COMPUTER SYSTEM INTERFACE VONRICKY>
"SCUZY"

    <CHRIS> YES, IT STANDS FOR SMALL COMPUTER SYSTEM
INTERFACE. MANY DEVICES CAN BE ATTACHED AND EVEN CHAINED
TOGETHER. HARD DRIVES, CD ROMS, TAPE BACKUP, ETC.

    DONMCC> JEEZ, CHRIS, I DIDN'T KNOW THIS WAS GOING TO
BE A PSEUDO-GRILLING. I WAS JUST CHECKING IN TO SEE IF ANY
NEW STATS OR INTERFACES WERE GOING TO BE INTRODUCED. I WAS,
HOWEVER, VERY INTERESTED IN SEEING IF ANY MORE BUGS WERE
ANTICIPATED. I WAS WONDERING HOW THE NEW CARD WOULD HANDLE

THE INTERLEAVE (INTERLACE) FACTOR WHICH MYARC SETUP,
WHETHER IT WOULD HANDLE IT AUTOMATICALLY. <CHRIS> THE
INTERLEAVE WHICH MYARC SETUP?

    <CHRIS> YOU MEAN USE YOUR CURRENT MYARC FORMATTED HARD
DISK? NO.

    DONMCC> I HAVE HAD A LOT OF TROUBLE WITH MYARC'S
INTERLEAVE SETUP, AND I WONDERED HOW YOU WOULD FORMAT
FLOPPIES, AND WHAT SPEED ETC. YOU WOULD USE WITH THEM.

    <CHRIS> THE DISKMANAGER WILL AUTOMATICALLY CHOOSE THE
BEST INTERLEAVE SETTINGS WHEN YOU FORMAT EITHER A FLOPPY OR
HARD DRIVE. YOU, OF COURSE, CAN OVERRIDE.

    DONMCC> I UNDERSTAND YOU WOULD HAVE TO REFORMAT YOUR
MYARC FORMATTED HD, AND HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH IT. BUT WHAT
IS THE ACTUAL PROCEDURE FOR FORMATTING THE FLOPPIES?
EXCELLENT, I AM MUCH HAPPIER WITH THAT THAN GUESSWORK.

    <CHRIS> WHEN USING A FLOPPY YOU MAY SPECIFY A HEAD
STEP-RATE IN THE SETUP PROGRAM FOR ANY OF THE FOUR FLOPPIES.

    DONMCC> COOL. YOU SAY 6 WEEKS TO DELIVERY? ANY OTHER
PROBLEMS ANTICIPATED IN THE DELIVERY SCHEDULE?

    <CHRIS> OH, THE SETUP PROGRAM THEN STORES THE
INFORMATION IN THE EEPROM, AND THE DISKMANAGER THEN USES THE
INFORMATION FOR FORMATTING AND SUCH. I ESTIMATED 6 WEEKS.
SHANE WOULD NOT GIVE ME AN EXACT DATE (I AM SORRY TO SAY).
BUT UNDERSTAND THAT IT IS IN ESD'S BEST INTERESTS TO SHIP
ASAP. DELAYING HURTS EVERYONE. BUT IT IS BETTER TO TAKE
THE TIME TO DO IT RIGHT THAN MAKE THE TIME TO DO IT TWICE
(AS SHANE SAYS).

    MIKEMCG> CHRIS, WHAT ABOUT CABLES?
<CHRIS> YES, CABLES...
    MIKEMCG> I PLAN ON RUNNING TWO EXTERNAL 40 MEGS AND
WONDER ABOUT WHAT ELSE I WILL NEED.

    <CHRIS> THE FIRST DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TWO
CONTROLLERS IS THAT ESD'S HAS TWO SEPARATE FLOPPY
CONNECTORS. ONE FOR INSIDE FLOPPIES AND ONE FOR EXTERNAL
FLOPPIES.

    MIKEMCG> I ALREADY GOT THE DRIVES BUT NO EXTERNAL
CABLES.

    <CHRIS> THE HARD DRIVE CONNECTOR IS SETUP FOR
EXTERNAL DRIVES. YOU WILL NEED ONE 34-PIN DOUBLE ROW
CONNECTOR FOR THE HARD DRIVE(S) WITH UP TO AS MANY AS 4 EDGE
CONNECTORS CRIMPED ON TO IT.

    MIKEMCG> WILL I NEED A SPLIT CABLE AS IN MY P-BOX
FLOPPIES?

    <CHRIS> YOU WILL ALSO NEED ONE 20-PIN CABLE FOR EACH
HARD DRIVE.

    MIKEMCG> ALSO, MY HD HAS 2 EDGE CARDS ON EACH DRIVE?
    <CHRIS> NO SPLIT CABLE IS NEEDED. THE SECOND EDGE
CARD IS FOR THE 20-PIN CABLE. YOU HAVE ONE 34 AND ONE 2",
YES?

    MIKEMCG> IS ALL THIS IN PROVIDED DOCS?
    [CHRIS> YES, THIS IS ALL PROVIDED IN THE DOCS. I
WROTE THEM, BUT BELIEVE ME I DESCRIBE IT BETTER IN THE DOCS
THAN I JUST DID. OK?

    MIKEMCG> GREAT! AT THIS TIME, ANY KNOWN PROGRAM FOR
THE TI THAT WON'T WORK WITH HD?

    <CHRIS> ONE MORE THING REGARDING CABLES. THEY AR
STRAIGHT-THROUGH CABLES, NO TWISTS LIKE IN THE IBM CABLES,
BUT LIKE THE WAY MYARC AND TI USES THEM.

    MIKEMCG> MY EXTERNAL POWER SUPPLY HAS AN EXTERNAL PIN
CONNECTOR--CAN I USE IT TO CONNECT BOTH DRIVES?

<CHRIS> I WOULD SAY THAT THE ONLY PROGRAM I THINK YOU WILL HAVE TROUBLE WITH IS THE PLATO DISKS BECAUSE OF THEIR STRANGE SS/SD FORMATTING, BUT YOU COULD STILL USE THEM FROM FLOPPY. ALSO, ONE COULD MODIFY THEM USING A SECTOR EDITOR (OR SOMEONE WRITE A PROGRAM TO PORT THEM OVER). I AM SORRY I DID NOT UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU MEANT BY AN EXTERNAL PIN CONNECTOR.

MIKEMCG> THERE IS ALREADY A CABLE SET UP INSIDE THE POWER SUPPLY AND THAT CABLE RUNS TO AN EXTERNAL PIN CONNECTOR.

<CHRIS> I AM STILL NOT SURE WHAT YOU MEAN. DO YOU WISH TO USE A Y-CONNECTOR TO CONNECT BOTH DRIVES? OF COURSE, IT ALL RELIES ON THE SPECIFICATIONS OF THE POWER SUPPLY AND WHAT KIND OF DRIVES (HOW MUCH POWER THEY DRAW).

MIKEMCG> I THINK THE Y-CABLE IS ALREADY IN THE POWER SUPPLY, BUT I'M NOT SURE. (THIS IS MY 1ST HD.)

<JEFFW> I THINK HE IS SAYING HIS EXTERNAL DRIVE BOX HAS A SINGLE CARD-EDGE CONNECTOR FOR BOTH DRIVES.

<CHRIS> CARD-EDGE CONNECTOR?

MIKEMCG> I'LL READ THE DOCS AND THEN ASK MY QUESTIONS.

<CHRIS> I WOULD SAY IF THEY ARE STANDARD MFM DRIVES, THEY WILL RUN FINE.

<JEFFW> LIKE THE EXTERNAL CONNECTOR ON THE TI CONTROLLER CARD.

<CHRIS> THE SET-UP (AS JERRY REMINDED ME) IS THE SAME AS THE EXISTING MYARC CARD.

VONRICKY> AND I'D LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR DOING THIS. NOW, TWO QUICK QUESTIONS. FIRST, WILL YOUR DISK MANAGER HAVE PROVISIONS FOR DOING FAST FLOPPY TO FLOPPY COPYING, ALA RAPID COPY ETC. IF NOT, WILL ANY EXISTING COPIERS WORK?

<CHRIS> I CAN SAY THAT THE DSR WILL SUPPORT TI SOFTWARE THAT IS 100% TI COMPATIBLE--MEANING PROGRAMS THAT DO NOT BY-PASS THE DSR WILL RUN.

VONRICKY> SO TURBO COPY SHOULD RUN.

<CHRIS> PROGRAMS LIKE PC TRANSFER AND THE NEW HARD DRIVE BACKUP PROGRAM WILL NOT, BUT ESD OR OTHERS WILL HOPEFULLY FILL THE GAP WITH NEW PROGRAMS. YES, TURBO COPY SHOULD RUN.

VONRICKY> SECOND, WHAT WILL BE YOUR UPGRADE POLICY ON THE OS? I MEAN THE ONE IN THE EEPROM?

<CHRIS> THE UPGRADE POLICY THAT ESD WILL USE (REMEMBER THAT I AM NOT ESD) IS THAT THEY WILL SHIP ALL REGISTERED USERS A FLOPPY DISK WITH THE NEW DSR (IF ONE SHOULD BECOME NECESSARY), AND IT WILL AUTO-UPGRADE. ALSO, I WOULD IMAGINE THAT IT COULD BE PASSED AROUND ON BBS': AND THE LIKE, TOO, WITHOUT ANY PROBLEM.

<DON O'NEIL> IF YOU ATTEMPT A SCSI CARD, WILL YOU PLAN IT TO BE COMPATIBLE WITH PC CD ROMS? ALSO, DOES YOUR HFDC HAVE THE SAME FLOPPY PROBLEMS ON THE TI AS MYARC'S, OR ARE ALL THE PROBLEMS SOLVED? ALSO, WHERE CAN WE GET ALL THE INFORMATION YOU HAVE ON IT, JUST SEND TO YOUR ADDRESS?

<CHRIS> PLEASE SEND TO THE PO BOX THAT ESD USES FOR TI CORRESPONDENCE: P.O. BOX 23805, WASHINGTON, DC 20026-3805. THEY WILL PROMPTLY ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS. THE SCSI PROJECT IS ONLY IN THE WORKS NOW. I MAY NOT EVEN GET THE BID TO DO THE DSR. BUT I WOULD THINK THAT THE DSR WOULD BE MADE IN AN EEPROM SO YOU COULD LOAD A NEW DSR FOR A NEW DEVICE. ALSO, YOU COULD HAVE MORE THAN ONE SCSI CARD IN YOU PBOX. AS FAR AS MAKING USE OF CD ROMS, TEXT-BASED AND PERHAPS SOME SIMPLE GRAPHICS-BASED ONES COULD BE USED, BUT SOME CDS ARE LICENSED WITH SPECIFIC SOFTWARE THAT WILL RUN ONLY ON PC, MAC, ETC. I WOULD LOVE TO SEE ASGARD SOFTWARE OR MS-EXPRESS DO A TI ADVENTURE ON A CD ROM!

<DON O'NEIL> THERE ARE SOME CD ROM'S THAT ARE THINGS LIKE THE DICTIONARY AND ENCYCLOPEDIA, THOSE ARE THE ONES I WAS REFERRING TO.

<CHRIS> YES, I WOULD IMAGINE THOSE WOULD BE THE FIRST ONES YOU WOULD BE ABLE TO USE.

<DON O'NEIL> DOES YOUR HFDC SHIP WITH THE SUPPORT FOR 1.44 AND 1.2 MEG FLOPPIES RIGHT OUT OF THE BOX AT ANY DRIVE NUMBER?

<CHRIS> THE ESD CARD HAS SUPPORT FOR 80 TRACK FLOPPIES RIGHT OUT OF THE BOX AND AT ANY DRIVE NUMBER.

<DON O'NEIL> WHAT ABOUT HIGH DENSITY?

<CHRIS> AND AS I HAVE MENTIONED BEFORE (NOT TONIGHT) TO OTHERS, I WOULD RECOMMEND ALL TI'ERS LOOK AT GOING 3 1/2" FLOPPIES. YES, 1.44MB 3 1/2" DRIVES ARE SUPPORTED!

<DON O'NEIL> I HAVE ONE 3 1/2" ON MY HFDC, BUT IT HAS PROBLEMS WRITING TO IT. IT SOMETIMES OVERWRITES USED SECTORS.

<CHRIS> 3 1/2" 1.44MB SONY DRIVES CAN BE PURCHASED FOR AS LITTLE AS $60. I WAS USING TWO 3 1/2" DRIVES WITH MY MYARC HFDC AND THEY NEVER WORKED RIGHT. HENCE MY SEEKING OUT ESD TO DO ONE. MPC> RAVE SAYS ESD HAS INTEREST IN THEIR... <CHRIS> YES!!!!!! I LOVE THE NEW RAVE 16-BIT BUS IN THEIR PE/2 BOX. MPC> NEW EXPANSION BOX. DO YOU WANT TO COMMENT? <CHRIS> I WOULD LOVE TO SEE ESD MAKE A 16-BIT AUTOSENSING CARD TO GO IN EITHER THE RAVE OR THE TI P-BOX. IT WOULD ENHANCE PERFORMANCE GREATLY. ONE THING I WANT TO MENTION BEFORE I LOSE TOO MANY MORE PEOPLE. I SHOULD HAVE STATED THIS EARLIER. CHARLES GOOD CALLED MY ANSWERING MACHINE WHILE I WAS ON VACATION. HE SAID THAT THE PEOPLE BEHIND FUNNELWEB (SORRY, IT'S GETTING LATE AND MY MIND IS NOT WORKING AT FULL SPEED. I CAN'T REMEMBER NAMES.) WANT TO ADD ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR THE ESD CARD! THAT SHOCKED ME, SINCE I THOUGHT 4.31 WOULD BE IT. I AM GOING TO CONTACT CHARLES TOMORROW.

<CHRIS> FUNNELWEB COULD ENHANCE PERFORMANCE MANY WAYS. ONE BEING SELECTING THE PATH FROM THE MENU. YES, TONY AND WILL McGOVERN. THANKS, JEFF. I WILL DO EVERYTHING I CAN TO ASSIST TONY IN SUPPORTING THE ESD H/F CONTROLLER.

DONMCC> I HEARD THAT TONY AND WILL ARE GOING AMIGA AND THAT 4.31 IS PROBABLY THE LAST THING WE WILL SEE IN THE FUNNELWEB VEIN. ANY COMMENTS?

<CHRIS> THAT IS WHAT I HEARD. BUT CHARLES JUST CALLED ME STATING HE GOT TWO LETTERS FROM TONY STATING HE WANTED TO ADD SUPPORT!

<JEFFW> I'VE HEARD ONLY WILL HAS GONE AMIGA. WILL THE ESD HFDC DOCS CONTAIN COMPLETE TECHNICAL DOCS SIMILAR TO MYARC'S?

<CHRIS> NO, COMPLETE TECHNICAL DOCS WILL NOT COME STANDARD TO THE NORMAL USER. BUT, ESD WILL PROVIDE THEM UPON REQUEST <AS FAR AS I UNDERSTAND>. VERY COMPLETE DOCS DO COME STANDARD FOR USING ALL SOFTWARE THAT COMES WITH THE CARD, AND SETTING UP THE NEW HARD DRIVE SYSTEM AND USING 1.44MB DRIVES.

<JEFFW> DID THE INFORMATION I LEFT YOU REGARDING POSSIBLE GENEVE-COMPATIBILITY ON THE FLOPPY SIDE SHED ANY LIGHT?

<CHRIS> THE CRU ADDRESSES? YES.

<JEFFW> DID IT LOOK GOOD AS FAR AS SIMILAR MAPPINGS?

DONMCC> ANY PROBLEMS WITH RAMDISKS, ETC.--ESPECIALLY MYARC?

<JEFFW> DID CRU-MAP OF CORCOMP AND ESD LOOK THE SAME ON FLOPPY SIDE?

<CHRIS> SIMILAR MAPPINGS AS FAR AS WITH THE GENEVE? NO. WITH FLOPPY DISKS IN GENERAL? YES. THERE WOULD NOT BE ANY PROBLEM WITH HORIZON RAMDISKS. SORRY I AM NOT FAMILIAR ENOUGH WITH THE OTHER TYPES OF RAMDISKS FOR THE TI. NOT IDENTICAL!

<JEFFW> ARE THE OLD OR THE NEW CHIPS GOING TO BE USED? ADDED CAPABILITIES FROM ORIGINAL DESIGN?

<CHRIS> OLD OR NEW? LET ME LIST WHAT WESTERN DIGITAL CHIPS WILL BE USED. THE WD2010 WILL BE THE HARD DRIVE CONTROLLER CHIP. THE WD2793AJM-02 WILL BE THE FLOPPY CONTROLLER CHIP. AND A WD10C22 OR WD10C23 WILL BE USED AS DATA SEPERATOR.

<JEFFW> THEN THE NEW CHIPS ARE BEING USED. ORIGINALLY, YOU HAD SAID WD1010A FOR HARD DRIVES.

<CHRIS> THE ONLY CHIP THAT HAS CHANGED IS THE WD2010 FROM THE WD1010A (THESE ARE PIN-FOR-PIN COMPATIBLE)-- IN FACT IT IS A BIT BETTER, AND OF COURSE MORE EXPENSIVE.

<JEFFW> THIS SCSI CARD THAT IS BEING CONTEMPLATED: WILL IT BE THE NEWER SCSI-II BUS (16-BIT DATA) OR 8-BIT SCSI?

<CHRIS> IT WILL NOT EFFECT ANYONE WHICH CHIP IS FINALLY USED. MY DSR WILL WORK WITH EITHER! I AM SORRY, JEFF. AS I SAID EARLIER, IT IS IN THE VERY EARLY STAGES NOW, AND ESD MAY NOT EVEN DO IT. BUT I WOULD GUESS 8-BIT SCSI.

<JEFFW> IS THE ESD HFDC DSR YOUR FIRST MAJOR PROGRAMMING ACCOMPLISHMENT? I HAVE NOT HEARD OF YOU BEFORE ESD. IS YOUR BACKGROUND IN COMPUTERS?

<CHRIS> JEFF, MY BACKGROUND IS IN COMPUTERS, TI COMPUTERS IN FACT. BUT NOW I WORK WITH IBM CLONES AND ACS.

<CHRIS> CURRENTLY, I WORK FULL-TIME AT THE OFFICE OF COMPUTER SERVICES, NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM, SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION. I HAVE A TI AND PROGRAM WITH IT IN MY SPARE TIME, WHICH IS HARD TO FIND SINCE I AM ALSO CONTINUING MY EDUCATION AT THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY.

<JEFFW> DOES ESD HFDC USE THE EXTERNAL INTERRUPT OF THE P-BOX?

<CHRIS> I ALSO AM THE NEW EDITOR OF THE WEST PENN 99'ERS NEWSLETTER AND HAVE BEEN USING A TI SINCE 1982. I AM A DIEHARD TIer AND WILL NEVER GET RID OF MY 18 CONSOLES, 5 P-BOXES, AND OTHER TI COLLECTABLE I STORE IN MY ATTIC. IF MEMORY SERVES, YES IT DOES USE THE EXTERNAL INTERRUPT OF THE P-BOX.

<JEFFW> OKAY, JUST NOT SURE WHO CHRIS PRATT WAS UNTIL ESD ENTERED THE HFDC PICTURE.

<CHRIS> YOU MAY ALSO REMEMBER I CONVERTED OVER 150 DOUBLE-SIDED DISKS OF MacPAINT FILES FROM THE MAC TO THE TI ABOUT 2 YEARS AGO. I DONATED THEM TO MANY CLUB LIBRARIES. ESD IS VERY INTERESTED IN GETTING TI'ERS USING 3 1/2" DRIVES. IN CHICAGO THEY HAD A 3 1/2" 1.44MB DRIVE GIVEAWAY AND POSSIBLY WILL HAVE 3 1/2" DRIVE PROMOS LATER.

DONMCC> I HAVE A PAIR RUNNING OFF MY MYARC HFDC WITHOUT PROBLEM, BUT I DON'T KNOW IF THEY WILL DO 1.44MB OR NOT--WILL HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE
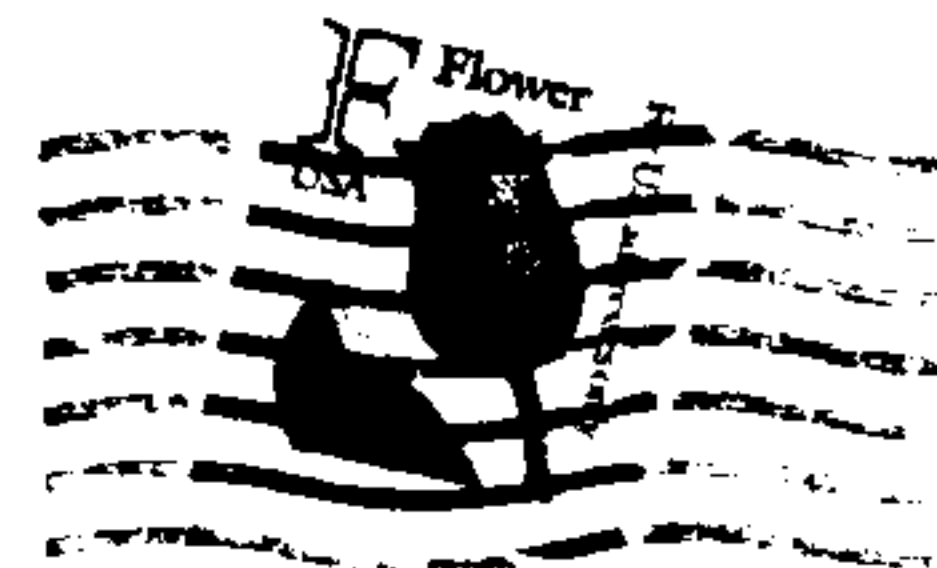
<JEFFW> CHRIS, PERHAPS YOU COULD SUM UP HOW THE ESD HFDC COMPARES AND IS SUPERIOR TO THE MYARC HFDC? WHY SHOULD ANYONE CHOOSE THE ESD OVER THE MYARC CARD?

<CHRIS> ONE VERY SIMPLE REASON TO CHOOSE ESD OVER MYARC IS CUSTOMER SUPPORT. ESD, ALTHOUGH NOT PROVEN, YET, AND A DELAY IN THE FIRST SHIPMENT DOES NOT PROVE OTHERWISE, WILL PROVIDE SUPPORT SUCH AS:
- DSR UPGRADES IN EEPROM -- NEW TECHNOLOGY
  SURFACE MOUNT CHIPS -- NEW TECHNOLOGY

NEW TECHNOLOGY IN THE TI WORLD, NOT IN GENERAL. LET ME SUM UP BY SAYING THAT THE ESD H/F CONTROLLER IS HOW I ENVISION A HARD DRIVE CONTROLLER SHOULD WORK FOR THE TI. IT WAS DONE SO BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF SUPPORT FROM MYARC, AND I WAS SIMPLY NOT SATISFIED WITH THE MYARC CARD AFTER WAITING 4 MONTHS AFTER JIM RECIEVED MY CHECK (THIS WAS ABOUT TWO YEARS