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NEWS

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DATA GENERAL INTRODUCES PORTABLE PERSONAL SYSTEM COMPATIBLE WITH IBM PC

NEW YORK CITY, Sept. 20 -- Data General Corporation today introduced a 10-pound portable computer system that is smaller than a briefcase, yet performs all the functions of larger, heavier desktop personal computers. The system runs industry standard operating systems such as MS-DOS, CPM-86 and Venix (an AT&T licensed implementation of Unix), and it is fully compatible with the IBM PC.

Called the DATA GENERAL/One Personal System, the new model is the industry's first portable personal computer to incorporate a "full-size" liquid crystal display (LCD) capable of displaying text and graphics with the resolution and character proportions of a conventional computer terminal screen.

Price of the basic system with 128KB of memory and a single disk drive is \$2,895 (\$US).

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Data General said its portable has all the features of a powerful, standard desktop personal computer built in:

- o A 25 line by 80 column flat display screen which allows a user to view the same amount of text or graphics as a standard desktop display terminal;
- o Bit-mapped display with 640 x 256 pixel resolution allowing use of graphics applications
- o Up to 512 kilobytes of user memory and up to two 3.5 inch micro-floppy disk drives of 737 kilobytes each;
- o A full-size, full-function keyboard with 79 keys.

In addition to the extensive functionality offered within the system itself, an external 5.25-inch IBM compatible floppy disk drive makes available to users thousands of application programs.

Data General will also offer an IBM PC-compatible expansion chassis for its new portable. The chassis will accept up to five full-size expansion cards, providing users with additional system features such as color and monochrome terminal support and memory expansion. The chassis can be configured with an integrated 5.25-inch floppy disk drive, and space is provided for a 5.25-inch Winchester-technology hard disk. (The expansion chassis is available 90 days, ARO.)

The DATA GENERAL/One system also offers two optional built-in features not commonly available in conventional desktop computers: a 300 baud modem enabling a user to plug it into a standard telephone jack for communications to other computers or public data bases, and a rechargeable, nickel-cadmium battery pack, that can run the computer for up to 10 hours of constant use.

Data General said that by using a special software link called the CEO CONNECTION the computer is able to translate documents and files from popular software programs such as Wordstar and Multiplan and transfer them to larger computers in a Data General CEO Comprehensive Electronic Office office automation network.

"Surrendering the full functionality of a desktop in order to have computer mobility is a thing of the past," said Edson D. de Castro, Data General president. "The DATA GENERAL/One is a fully-functional personal system, as well as a true portable. There is no other personal computer manufacturer that offers this uncompromised solution.

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Because the new system will have applications in many diverse customer groups with varying levels of computer experience, Data General will distribute it through a variety of channels. These will include sophisticated computer retail outlets, Data General's established network of OEMs, and the company's direct sales force.

Data General said the new portable was designed and developed jointly by a team of engineers from its Japanese subsidiary, Nippon Data General, and from U.S. development groups in North Carolina and Massachusetts. It is manufactured on a specially-designed automated assembly line at the Nippon Data General manufacturing complex near Tokyo.

Data General said the portable computer segment is expected to be the fastest growing part of the personal computer industry over the next several years. It is growing on the strength of new technologies such as low-power semiconductors and display screens; and on the strength of an increasingly information-based, mobile workforce.

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Future Computing, a research firm, estimates that U.S. sales of battery-powered portable computers for office and business use will exceed \$3.5 billion in 1989, a seven-fold increase from 1984.

Data General Corporation designs, manufactures and markets computers and software for business, research and education. The company employs 17,000 people worldwide. It said revenues will exceed \$1 billion in its 1984 fiscal year which ends Sept. 29.

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