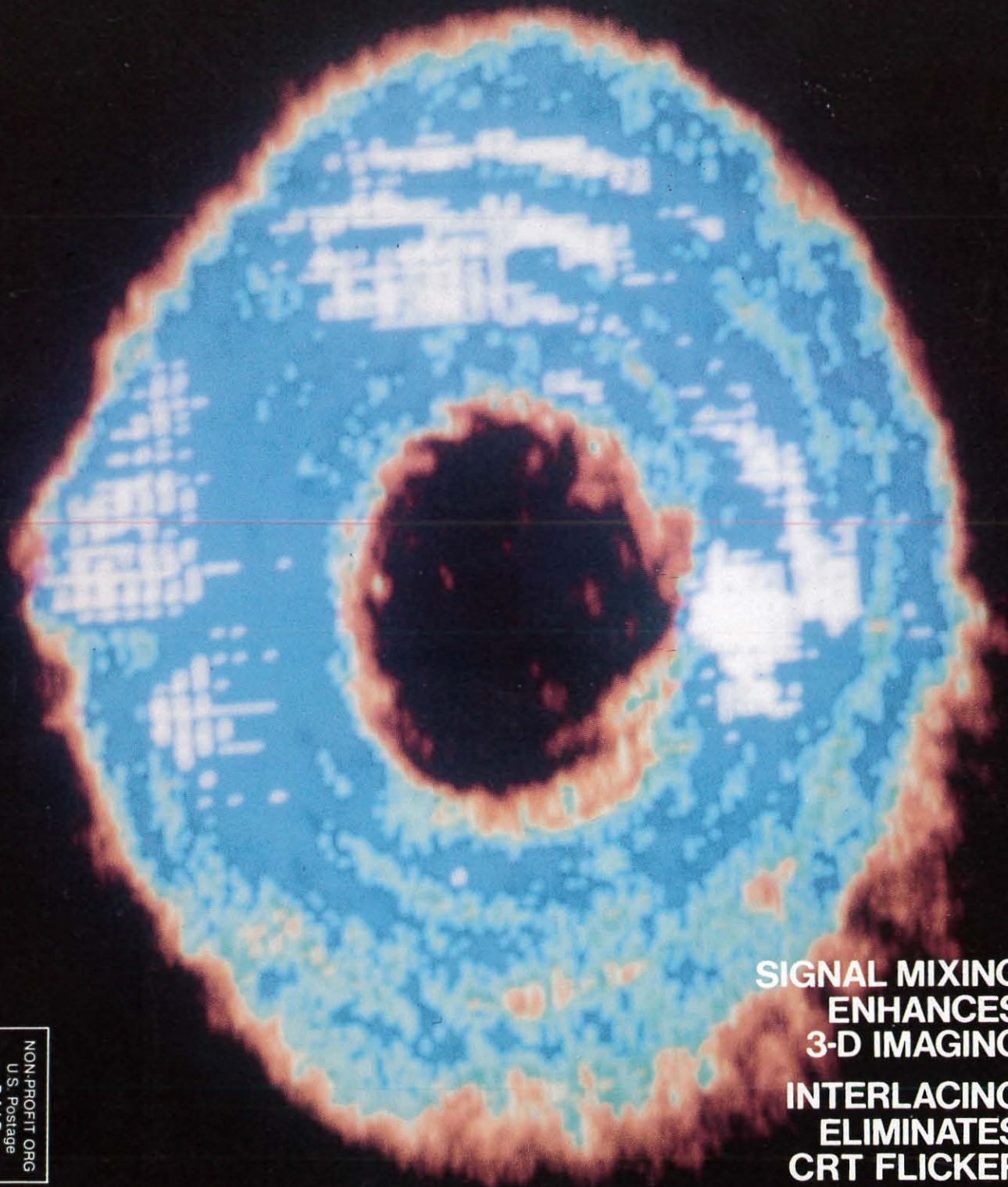


THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE SOCIETY FOR INFORMATION DISPLAY

INFORMATION DISPLAY

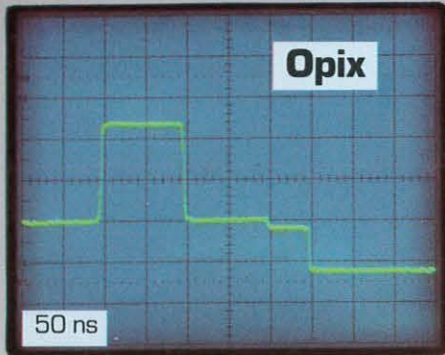
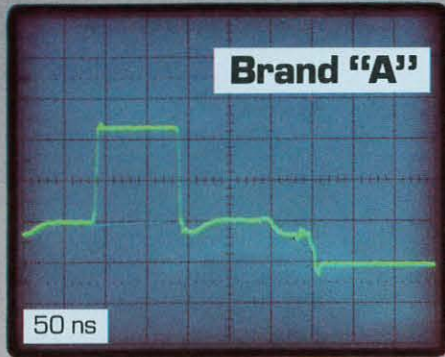
AUGUST 1986



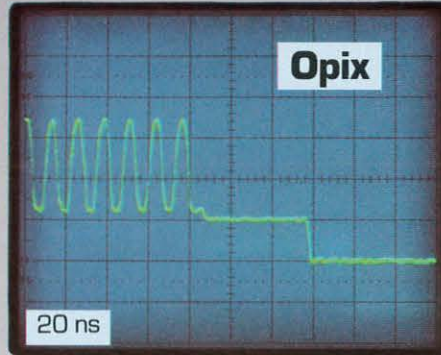
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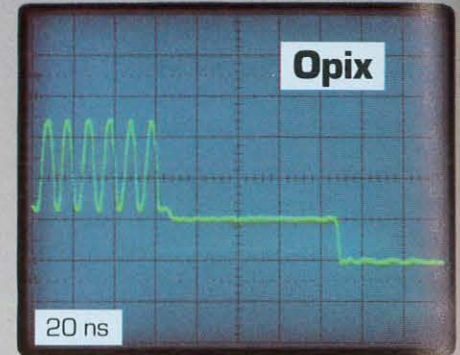
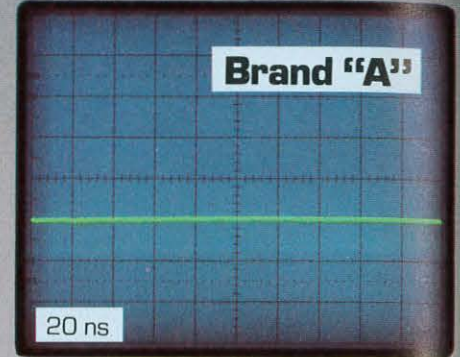
10 MHz



160 MHz



200 MHz



All illustrations are unretouched photographs taken from a Tektronix Oscilloscope screen (Model 7854)

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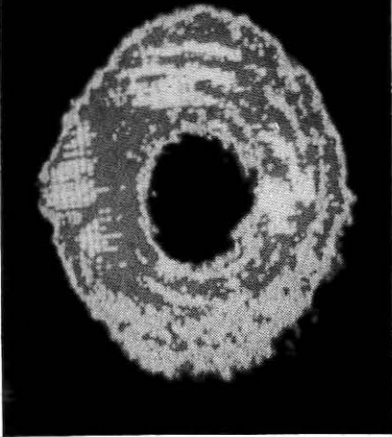
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Cover picture: Pseudocolor representation of the energy intensity distribution for a pulsed laser beam was generated by a commercial video graphics processing system coupled with a minicomputer and displayed on a color monitor in real time. The computer performs analytical measurements in 2-D on the beam shape and size, as well as on the pulse timing properties of the laser.—F.Martin and J.G. Willman, Western Div., GTE Government Systems, Mountain View, CA.

FEATURES

Signal mixing enhances 3-D imaging procedure 8

By combining parallax information from two vertically displaced cameras into a single video signal, researchers recently successfully produced 3-D presentations of video images and computer-generated graphics that can be scaled accurately in all three dimensions and can be viewed directly without use of special glasses or monitors.—A.F. McLaurin, E.R. Jones, and LeConte Cathey, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC.

Interlacing eliminates CRT perceptible flicker 14

Recent experiments by researchers have shown that perceptible flicker in advanced video displays—especially those employing black-on-white images—can be completely eliminated by applying conventional frame interlacing.—Christopher W. Tyler, Smith-Kettlewell Institute for Visual Sciences, San Francisco, CA.

Network links PCs to wide range of systems, devices 20

Small to moderate-sized PC clusters can now be economically integrated with minicomputers and mainframes into a comprehensive information network using a newly developed virtual network system.



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DEPARTMENTS

INFORMATION DISPLAY (The Official Journal of the Society for Information Display) is edited for corporate research and development management; and engineers, designers, scientists, and ergonomists responsible for design and development of input and output display systems used in various applications such as: computers and peripherals, instruments and controls, communications, transportation, navigation and guidance, commercial signage, and consumer electronics.

Editorial covers emerging technologies and state-of-the-art developments in electronic, electromechanical, and hardcopy display devices and equipment; memory; storage media and systems; materials and accessories.

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Events

NATIONAL

AUGUST 17-22: 30th Annual International Technical Symposium on Optical and Optoelectronic Engineering, Town and Country Hotel, San Diego, CA. Sponsored by The International Society for Optical Engineering (SPIE). Contact: SPIE, PO Box 10, Bellingham, WA 98227-0010 (206/676-3290)

AUGUST 18-22: ACM SIGGRAPH '86, Dallas, TX. Sponsored by Association for Computing Machinery/Special Interest Group Graphics (ACM SIGGRAPH). Contact: ACM, 11 West 42nd Street, New York, NY 10036 (212/869-7440)

AUGUST 24-28: 3rd International Congress on Advances in Non-Impact Printing Technologies, The Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco, CA. Sponsored by Society of Photographic Scientists and Engineers and the Society for Imaging Science and Technology. Contact: Executive Director, SPSE, 7003 Kilworth Lane, Springfield, VA 22151 (703/642-9090)

SEPTEMBER 8-10: NCC Telecommunications, Philadelphia, PA. Contact: AFIPS, 1899 Preston

White Drive, Reston, VA 22091 (703/620-8900)

SEPTEMBER 14-20: FIBER LASE '86—Technical Conference on Fiber Optics, Optoelectronics, and Laser Applications in Science and Engineering, Hyatt Regency Cambridge, Cambridge, MA. Contact: SPIE International Society for Optical Engineering, PO Box 10, Bellingham, WA 98227-0010 (206/676-3290)

SEPTEMBER 15-19: IEEE Computer Society Tutorial Week, Boston '86. Contact: Tutorial Week Boston '86, IEEE Computer Society, 1730 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20036-1903 (202/371-0101)

SEPTEMBER 15-19: Laser Safety—Inspection & Control, Cincinnati, OH. Short-course: Laser Institute of America. Fee: \$900. Contact: Education Director, LIA, 5151 Monroe St.—Ste102W, Toledo, OH 43623. (419/882-8706)

SEPTEMBER 16-18: IEEE International Symposium on Electromagnetic Compatibility, Town and Country Hotel, San Diego, CA.

Contact: H.K. Mertel, EMACO Inc., 7562 Trade Street, San Diego, CA 92121 (619/578-1480)

SEPTEMBER 23-24: Electronics and Aerospace Systems Conference—EASCON '86, Shoreham Hotel, Washington, DC. Contact: Dr. Arvid G. Larson, Vice President, Analytic Disciplines Inc., Suite 400, 2070 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna, VA 22180 (703/893-6140)

SEPTEMBER 23-24: NEPCON Southwest, Dallas, TX. Contact: Janet Schafer, Show Mgr., Cahners Exposition Group, Cahners Plaza, 1350 E. Touhy Avenue, PO Box 5060, Des Plaines, IL 60017-5060 (312/299-9311)

SEPTEMBER 28 - OCTOBER 2: ASIS '86, Chicago, IL. Contact: American Society for Information Science, 1010 Sixteenth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036 (202/659-3644)

SEPTEMBER 28 - OCTOBER 2: 49th Annual Meeting of the American Society for Information Science, Chicago Hilton Hotel, Chicago, IL. Contact: ASIS, 1424 16th St. NW, Washington, DC 20036. (202/462-1000)

SEPTEMBER 28 - OCTOBER 3: International Industrial Electronics Conference—IECON '86, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Milwaukee, WI. Contact: Dr. Richard C. Born, Rexnord Inc., 5101 West Beloit Road, Milwaukee, WI 53214 (414/543-2704)

SEPTEMBER 28 - OCTOBER 3: 1986 Applied Superconductivity Conference, Hyatt Regency—On the Harbor, Baltimore, MD. Contact: Lahni N. Blohm, Executive Administrator, ASC86, Code 6630C, Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, DC 20375 (202/767-3246)

SEPTEMBER 29 - OCTOBER 3: The 30th Annual Meeting of the Human Factors Society, Dayton Convention Center, Dayton, OH. Contact: HFS-86, PO Box 31190, Dayton, OH 45431-0190.

SEPTEMBER 29 - OCTOBER 3: Fundamentals & Applications of Lasers, Hilton Head, SC. Short-course: Laser Institute of America. Fee: \$900. Contact: See above, LIA SEPTEMBER 15-19.

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"When a thing ceases to be a subject of controversy, it ceases to be a subject of interest . . ."

—William Hazlitt

Live displays of the three-day-long extravaganza celebrating July 4 and the centennial of the Statue of Liberty on television screens around the world attested to this country's technological prowess in electronic imaging, communications and display.

What was not so evident in the viewing of the stately "tall ships" and spectacular fireworks displays, however, was the substantial worldwide market share lost by US manufacturers of electronic devices over the past five years or so—from 64% in 1980 to under 53% in 1985.

According to the recently released National Research Council Report*—Advanced Processing of Electronic Materials in the United States and Japan—"although the semiconductor market will continue to grow toward \$50 billion by 1990, the downward trend in the US share is unlikely to be reversed any time soon."

While the report goes on to identify and describe seven key technologies in which the US already lags behind Japan, its main competitor, the principal message of the report is that the US electronics industry needs a new R&D philosophy. The traditional American R&D strategy that relies on the combined efforts of industrial laboratories to provide short-term product development, government laboratories to concentrate on mission-oriented projects, and university laboratories to examine phenomena that may have no immediate applications in either sphere is no longer practical for competitive survival.

Analyzing a series of successful multi-year R&D programs undertaken by Japanese companies guided by their government's Ministry of International Trade and Industry, the report urges the establishment of mechanisms to encourage the US electronics industry to make a long-term commitment to research and development; and to be intimately involved with the government laboratories.

The message is only too clear.

Industry, government, and academia must work together and find a way to fill the gap between short-term development and long-range research—if the current trend is ever to be reversed.

Joseph A. MacDonald
Editorial Director

*Available from The National Materials Advisory Board, 2101 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20418

Events

SEPTEMBER 30 - OCTOBER 3: WESCON—Western Electronic Show & Convention, Los Angeles, CA. Contact: Dale Litherland, Electronics Conventions Inc., 8110 Airport Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90045 (213/772-2965)

INTERNATIONAL

AUGUST 20-22: 1986 International Conference on Solid State Devices and Materials, Tokyo Prince Hotel, Tokyo, Japan. Contact: Prof. Takuo Sugano, Dept. of Electrical Engineering, University of Tokyo, Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo, 113 Japan. (03/812-2111)

AUGUST 22-23: Human Factors in Motion Expo '86—XIX Annual Meeting of the Human Factors Association of Canada, Vancouver, Canada. Contact: Ulrika Wallersteiner, Ergo Systems Canada, 535 Robin Hood Drive, West Vancouver, BC, Canada V7S-1T1 (604/926-0166)

AUGUST 25-29: 11th International Conference on Computational Linguistics: COLING '86. Sponsored by Association for Com-

putational Linguistics (ACL). Contact: Prof. Makoto Naga, Dept. of Electrical Engineering, Kyoto University, Sakyo-ko, Kyoto, 606, Japan.

AUGUST 27-29: 1986 IEEE Workshop on Language for Automation, National University of Singapore, Singapore. Contact: Dr. S.E. Chang, Illinois Institute of Technology, Armour College of Engineering, Dept. of Electrical Engineering, Chicago, IL 60616.

SEPTEMBER 1-5: IFIP '86—10th World Computer Congress, Dublin, Ireland. Sponsored by International Federation of Information Processing. Contact: IFIP Congress '86, c/o AFIPS, 1899 Preston White Drive, Reston, VA 22091 (703/620-8900)

SEPTEMBER 7-10: 4th International Conference on Molecular Beam Epitaxy, University of York, England. Contact: B.A. Joyce, Philips Research Laboratories, Redhill, Surrey, England (0283/785544)

SEPTEMBER 8-10: 1986 ACM Conference on Research and Development in Information Retrieval

Systems, Pisa, Italy. Sponsored by Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche. Contact: L. Rossi Bernardi, C.N.R. Piazza A. Moro 7, Roma, Italy.

SEPTEMBER 9-12: Second European Simulation Conference, Antwerp, Belgium. Sponsor: Dutch Benelux Simulation Society. Contact: Society for Computer Simulation, % Ghislain C. Vansteenkiste, Prof. of Engineering, University of Ghent, Coupure Links 653, B-9000 Ghent, Belgium. (91-236961 - ext. 400)

SEPTEMBER 10-16: International Congress of Photographic Science 1986 (ICPS), University of Cologne, Cologne, West Germany. Co-sponsored by SPSE and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Photographie (DGPh). Contact: Executive Director, SPSE, 7003 Kilworth Lane, Springfield, VA 22151

SEPTEMBER 14-18: 43rd Conference and Congress of the International Federation for Documentation, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Sponsored by the Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information of the National Research Council of Canada. Contact:

43rd FID Conference and Congress, C.P. 1144, Succursale Place Desjardins, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H5B 1B3.

SEPTEMBER 15-18: EURO MICRO '86—Twelfth Symposium on Microprocessing and Microprogramming, Venice, Italy. Contact: Fausto Distanto, Deputy Conference Organizing Chairman, Politecnico di Milano, Istituto di Elettronica, 1-20133 Milano, Italy (39/2-236-7241)

SEPTEMBER 15-20: INTERCOMM '86—The International Communications Exposition & Conference for Science and Technology, Beijing Exposition Center, Beijing, China. Sponsored by the Chinese Association of Science and Technology (CAST) and the China Computer Society (CCS). Contact: INTERCOMM, Cahners Exposition Group, 7315 Wisconsin Avenue, PO Box 70007, Washington, DC 20088 (301/657-3090)

SEPTEMBER 22-25: XII International Symposium on Discharges and Electrical Insulation in Vacuum, Hotel Shores, Shores, Israel. Contact: Prof. S.

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SEPTEMBER 23-26: HCI '86
—People and Computers: Designing for Usability, York, England. Sponsored by the British Computer Society. Contact: HCI '86, Conference Dept., The British Computer Society, 13 Mansfield St., London W1M 0BP, UK.

SEPTEMBER 23-25: AI EUROPA—
Artificial Intelligence and Advanced Computer Technology Conference/Exhibition, Rhein-Main Halle, Wiesbaden, West Germany. Sponsor: Computer Magazin, Expert System User, DM Data, International Directory of AI companies, Applied Artificial Intelligence Report and Society of Computer Simulation. Contact: Tower Conference Management Co., 331 W. Wesley St., Wheaton, IL 60187. (312/668-8100)

SEPTEMBER 30 - OCTOBER 2: Japan Display '86 - 6th International Display Research Conference, Keidanren Kaikan Hotel, Otemachi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan. Contact: Prof. Shunsuke Kobayashi, Dept. of Electronic Engineering, Faculty of Technology, Tokyo University of Agriculture & Technology, 24-16 Nakamachi 2 chome, Koganei City, Tokyo 184, Japan. (0423-81-4221)

OCTOBER 28-30: Electronic Displays, Kensington Exhibition Centre, London, UK. Contact: Tom Webb, British Trade Development Office, 845 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10022 (212/593-2258)

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PAPERS ON DISPLAY

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Notes for contributing authors and specifications for submitting manuscripts can be obtained from the Editor of ID. Address all inquiries and submit contributed articles to: The Editor, Information Display, 310 East 44th Street, #1124, New York, NY 10017.

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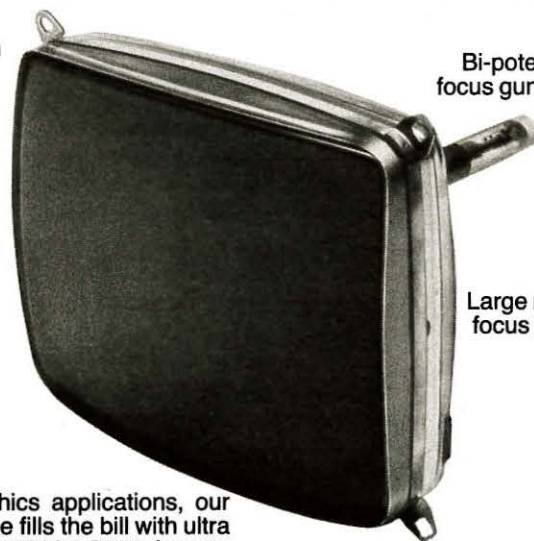
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INFORMATION MARKETING INTERNATIONAL, Oak Park, MI 48237 (800/821-8612)

Circle Reader Service #32

Standards permit moving information between systems

A recently approved Dept. of Commerce standard for the federal government promises to make it easier to interchange video-

text and teletext information. The standard describes how to encode alphanumeric text and pictorial information for moving information between different processing and communications systems.

The National Bureau of Standards helped develop the voluntary industry standard used in both the US and Canada (American National Standard X3.110-1985/Canadian Standard T500-1983), and has also developed test methods that the industry can use to ensure the standard is being implemented correctly.

To order a copy of the standard, refer to Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) 121: Videotext/Teletext Presentation Level Protocol Syntax (North America PLPS). Contact: Jan Kosko (301/921-3181). NATIONAL TECHNICAL INFORMATION SERVICE, Springfield, VA 22161.

Non-impact printer advances updated in quarterly report

A quarterly update on non-impact printer technologies covers advances in the field as reported in significant conference papers, technical articles, new patent issues, and

new product introductions for various printers: ink-jet/ink-drop, thermal/thermal transfer, electrographic, electrophotographic, and magnetic.

A European supplement to the Quarterly Update provides abstracts of New Patent Applications Published and New Patents Granted in the field of non-impact printers by the European Patent Office. *First Quarter 1986 Update on Non-Impact Printing*. Price: \$650.

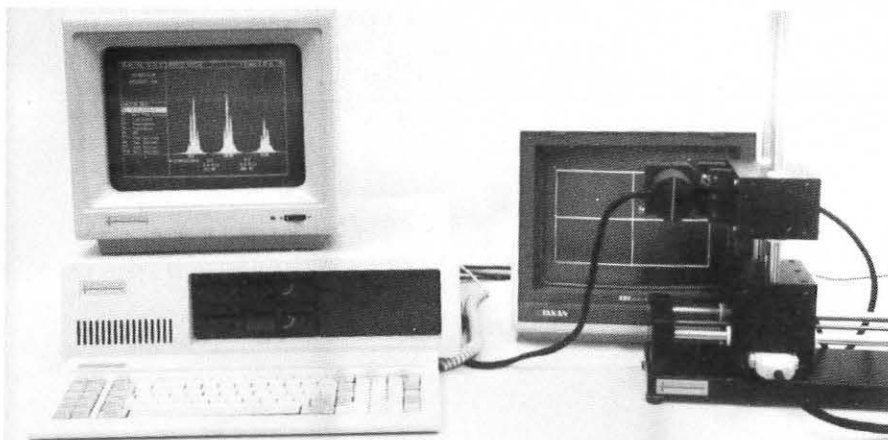
ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES CORP., El Dorado, CA (916/626-4104)

Research center established for fiber/electro-optics

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University received a \$200,000 award from the Center of Innovative Technology (CIT) towards the establishment of a research "center for excellence" in fiber and electro optics.

The CIT award, which will be used to create an optical fiber fabrication facility on the campus, has led to some \$2 million in total initial support pledged to the new center by the CIT, Virginia Tech, and industry firms with a stake in optical technology, according

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to *Optical Engineering Reports*. Industry support in future years, says the report, will be matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis up to \$500,000 each year by the CIT.

According to Dr. Richard O. Claus, Virginia Tech professor of electrical engineering, the program will support "research development and instructional needs of fiber and electro-optics industries in a region from Roanoke to northern North Carolina." This region has been dubbed "Silica Valley," in reference to the material silica, used to manufacture glass, which is the main component of optical fibers.

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE,
Blacksburg, VA (703/961-7203)

Fiber-optics, lasers topics of multi-conferences

Five multi-conference programs on fiber-optics, optoelectronics, and laser applications in science and engineering are scheduled for September 14-26, 1986, at the Hyatt Regency, in Cambridge, MA.

Sponsored by SPIE (The International Society for Optical Engineering), Fiber/LASE '86 is a two-week program that includes, in addition to the technical conference sessions, tutorial educational program, engineering update courses, and technical instrument exhibit. Twenty-five conferences are scheduled in the five programs:

- Sept. 14-20
 - Fibers and Lasers in Medicine (3)
 - Photonics and Optoelectronics (5)
 - Optoelectronics for Computers (3)
 - Lasers (3)
- Sept. 21-26
 - Fiber Optics (11)

SID member Elliott Schlam (US Army Electronics Research & Development Command) is chairman of the Computer Display Technology Conference.

SPIE, PO Box 10, Bellingham, WA 98227-0010 (206/676-3290)

VDT bibliography is international in scope

Visual Display Terminals: A Bibliography (Bildschirmarbeitsplaetze: Eine Bibliographie) by Siegfried Grune
Saur, Munich, New York — 1985
456 pages, \$30.00

A comprehensive bibliography on visual display terminals presents over 3,000 references (from 25 countries), including articles, monographs, and bibliographies listed alphabetically under the following subject headings:

- Basic ergonomic aspects with special reference to human-machine interaction

- Studies of the relationship between humans and computers
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- Microfiche and microfilm readers
- Ergonomic design of furniture and environments
- Medical and physiological aspects of work with VDTs
- Social aspects of work with VDTs, organization and content of VDT workstations
- Legal aspects of work with VDTs
- Norms, rules, and regulations for VDT workstations.

An 80-page author and title index, plus an eight-page code register on the report literature, is included.

F.G. SAUR, 175 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10010 (212/982-1302)

Enhanced LCDs to lead flat panel market growth

Spurred by the use of enhanced LCDs in new products and applications, the worldwide

market for flat panel devices is expected to grow from \$126 million in 1986 to \$3.758 billion by 1992, according to a recent report by Stanford Resources Inc.

Enhanced LCDs use a thin-film semiconductor device at each element (pixel) in the display to overcome a number of current shortcomings with multiplexed LCDs. Major improvements have been demonstrated in readability and appearance, viewing angle, contrast ratio, display response time, and color capabilities. *Flat Panel Displays: The Impact of Enhanced-LCDs on the Market for High Information Content Displays*. Price: \$2,450.

INTERNATIONAL PLANNING INFORMATION INC., Menlo Park, CA (415/364-9060)

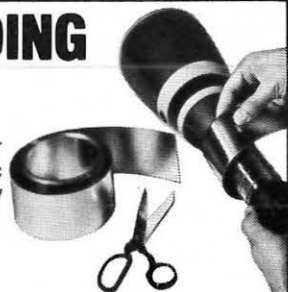
Silicon Compilers Inc., San Jose, CA, has established its first authorized engineering center in Japan to design complete, custom, very large-scale integrated (VLSI) circuits using Silicon Compiler's Genesil silicon development system. Under the agreement, Soliton Systems K.K., Tokyo, will offer design-center services and user training.

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Signal mixing enhances 3-D imaging procedure

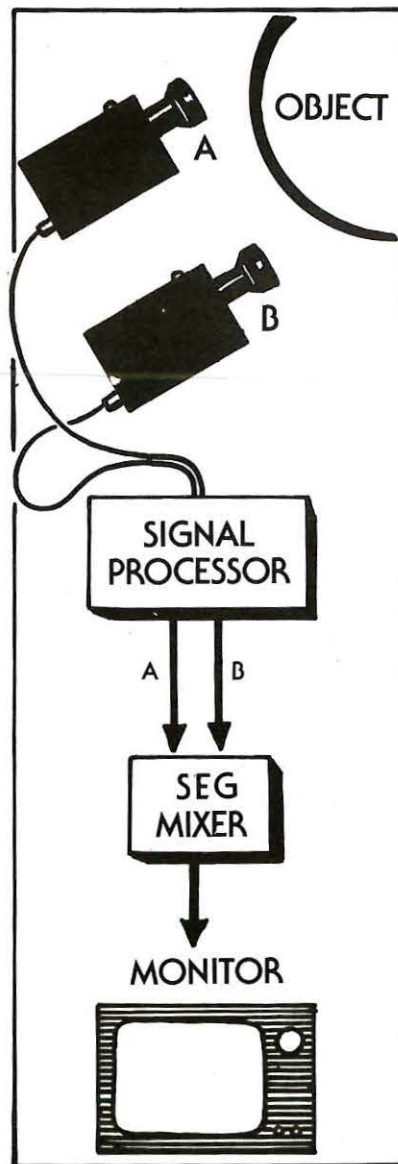
By combining parallax information from two vertically displaced cameras into a single video signal, researchers at the University of South Carolina (Columbia, SC) recently successfully produced 3-D presentations of video images and computer-generated graphics having enhanced depth. The images can be scaled accurately in all three dimensions and can be viewed directly without the use of special glasses or monitors.

The sequential, or time-displaced, views that result in the true 3-D quality of graphics produced by this method, however, create a slight rocking motion in the image that can be distracting to the viewer. The greater the angle between the perspective pairs, the more disturbing the rocking motion is to the viewer. But, by applying certain factors to the time-displaced procedure, the researchers found that it was possible to reduce the rocking motion significantly.

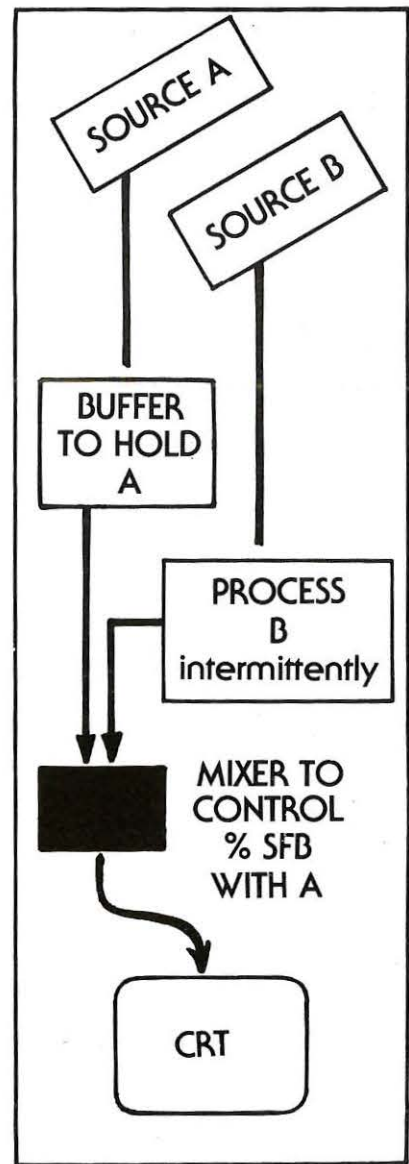
Basically, this image enhancement procedure consists of allowing the image from one source (signal A) to serve as a continuous reference, and to allow the second source (signal B) to be mixed with signal A at a constant rate. Thus, a portion of signal A is always present and signal B becomes intermittently added to A. The percentage of mix will determine the depth and the rocking of the resulting image. This effect works with both standard video imaging and computer-generated graphic displays.

Applying these factors may require software or hardware additions to a computer graphics system, depending upon the complexity and capability of the system in use.

For video, the problem is easily dealt

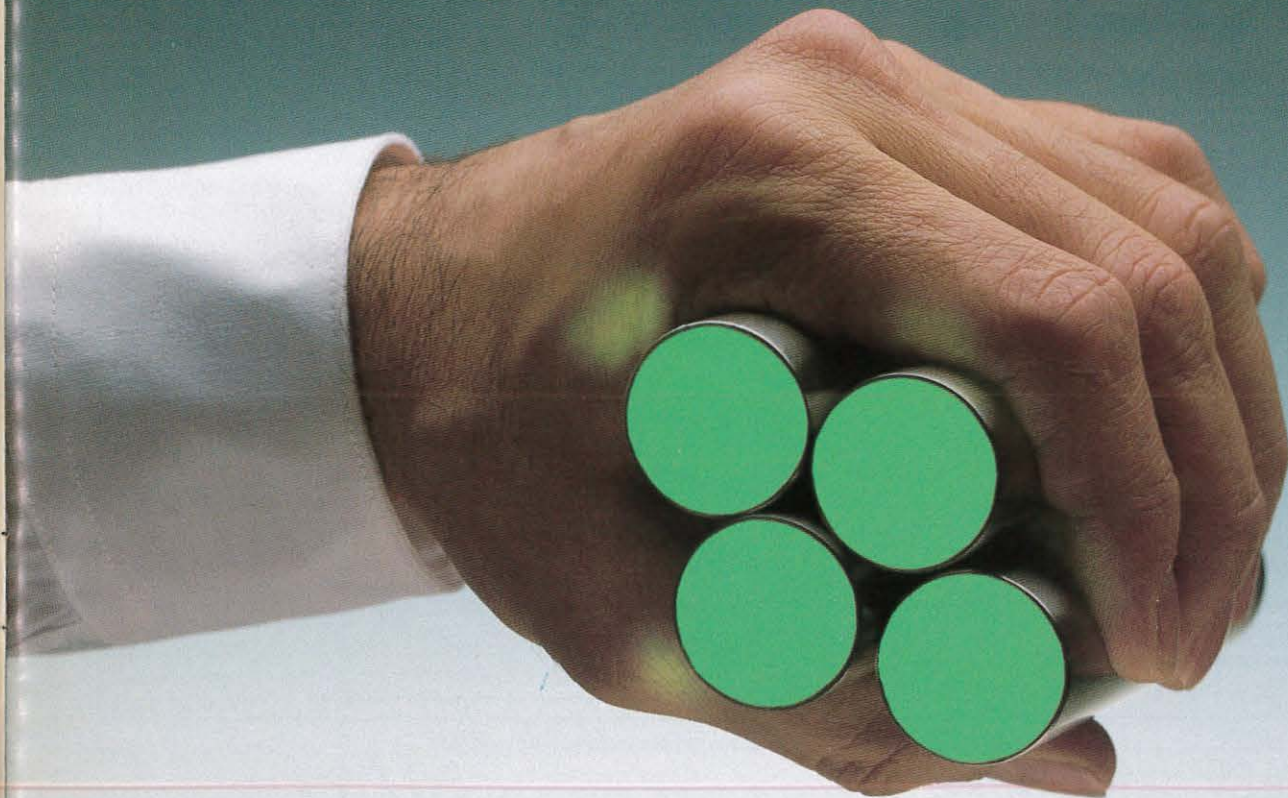


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with through the use of standard SEG and the two required sources. The signals can be mixed electronically to achieve a readily controllable depth illusion and reduction in rocking. In this instance, the operator has the ability to control the amount of depth and rocking, making the system user adjustable for both acceptability and personal desire. (Fig. 1)

Applying these techniques to computers should not add dramatically to the cost of hardware or software. The primary requirement is to develop a system that allows image A to be maintained on the screen while image B is mixed with A at either a pre-set proportion or an adjustable proportion at a rate of about ten times per second, with the on and off times being roughly equal. Much of this can be done outside the computer with peripheral hardware. (Fig. 2)

The peripherals required include a unit to hold image A constant and a mix-

Parallax Induction displays 3-D images

Visual Image Depth Enhancement by Parallax Induction (VISIDEP) is a procedure that sequentially displays on a two-dimensional screen alternating pairs of stereoscopic views of a scene or object.

The VISIDEP system creates images having enhanced depth by time-displacing binocularly related images and then displaying them in their proper time sequence. The rate at which these images must alternate depends on the time required for their synthesis in the viewer's temporary intermediate memory.

If the rate is too slow, the 3-D effect disappears and the perception becomes that of a sequence of flat images. If the rate is too fast, images appear to flatten out and the depth perception disappears.

The process generates a visual image that is immediately perceived with depth, whether viewed with two eyes or only

one. Furthermore, if the head is tilted to one side or the other, the perception of depth remains undiminished. As long as parallax information is present in the image, the human brain can process the parallax information without regard to the direction of parallax—whether horizontal, vertical, diagonal, or anywhere in between.

Vertical parallax, however, tends to produce a more satisfactory perception than does horizontal parallax.

Depth sensation occurs at rates from about 4 to 30 frames per second (with best effects to date obtained at frequencies between 7 and 15 frames per second.)

The enhanced depth is immediately perceived using this procedure and requires no conscious effort on the part of the viewer.

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er that allows user control of the amount of signal B to be entered into the terminal display. Such hardware may not be necessary for some machines; each specific machine will require variations. The necessary elements are simple, and the amount of user control is arbitrary and left to the specific requirements in any given situation. What is required is the ability to generate in real-time images A and B and to achieve the proper mix.

Related to the rocking motion is depth of field, which also depends on the perspectives separation angle. Using videotape technology, the researchers determined that a perspective separation of 2 cm between dual video cameras produces a depth of field of approximately 20 ft.

For computer-generated (stationary) scenes, a perspective rotation of 1 to 2 deg produces acceptable depth in the image. Although increasing the rotational angle achieves greater depth of field, it also increases the image rocking motion.

Because the rocking motion of alternative-pair display is barely discernible to viewers of moving images (inherent in video scenes), methods to generate arbitrary or user-specified rotations of the alternating object at regular intervals can be used to introduce motion artificially into otherwise stationary scenes.

Beyond displaying the resulting 3-D image on a CRT monitor or video screen, the images may also be projected through any video-projection system and still retain the apparent depth illusion for the viewer. Once produced, the images can be recorded, edited, and replayed on standard equipment. Images can be viewed in full color or in black-and-white.

(Developed from Improvements in Alternating-Pair Technology for Three-Dimensional Imaging, by A.P. McLaurin, E.R. Jones, and LeConte Cathey, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC.)

Circle Reader Service #102

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DEADLINE: August 18, 1986

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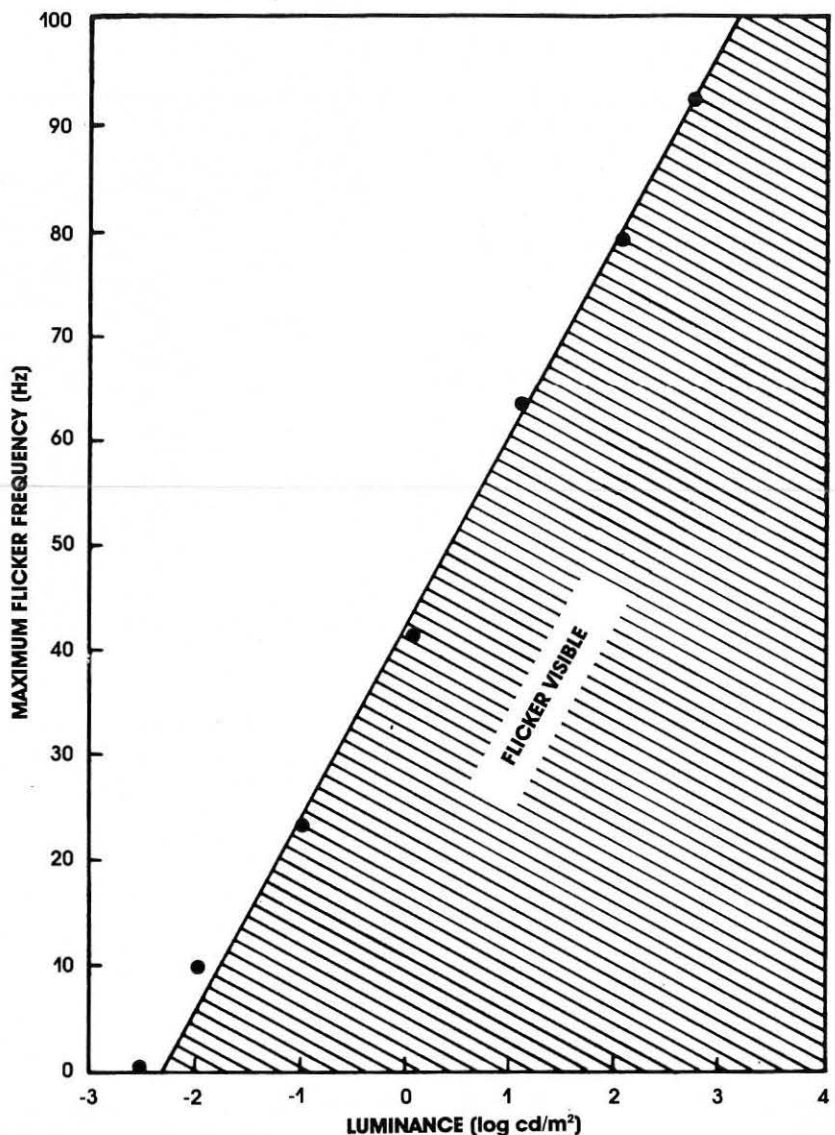
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Interlacing eliminates CRT perceptible flicker

Recent experiments by researchers at Smith-Kettlewell Institute for Visual Sciences (San Francisco, CA) have shown that perceptible flicker in advanced video displays—especially those employing black-on-white images—can be completely eliminated by applying conventional frame interlacing. By splitting the standard 60 Hz video frame rate first into odd and even lines, then presenting all the odd lines in one frame and all the even in the next, the researchers effectively increased the frame rate immediately to 120 Hz—while the total number of lines remained at the 60 Hz rate.

Because the information rate remains at 60 Hz, this approach to solving the flicker problem provides ready compatibility with current video and television technology. Since some experimental systems already have 120 Hz interlace, it also provides full compatibility with probable future video frame rates. Additionally, implementation of the interlacing method in the display technology is simple, since the bandwidth of the video amplifier only has to be increased by a factor of 2.

Tests to date indicate, however, that a 120 Hz frame rate may be susceptible to frequency beating with the 120 Hz flicker rate of fluorescent illumination. According to the researchers, this can be minimized by adopting either a true 120 Hz synchronized to the electrical line frequency, or by doubling the present video frame rate of 59.94 Hz. This would result in 119.88 Hz, which would beat at only 0.12 Hz with the fluorescent illumination. Such a low beat frequency should be scarcely perceptible unless the incident illumination were a large proportion of the display illuminant. Further empirical studies are



needed, say the researchers, to choose between these options.

Visual sensitivity

Perceptible flicker and eye-movement distortions in video displays are significant problems when displays are used

for intensive information processing work. Both conditions are known to give rise to headaches and muscle tension in susceptible operators—thus reducing operator efficiency and willingness to work with the machine.

(Continued on page 18...)

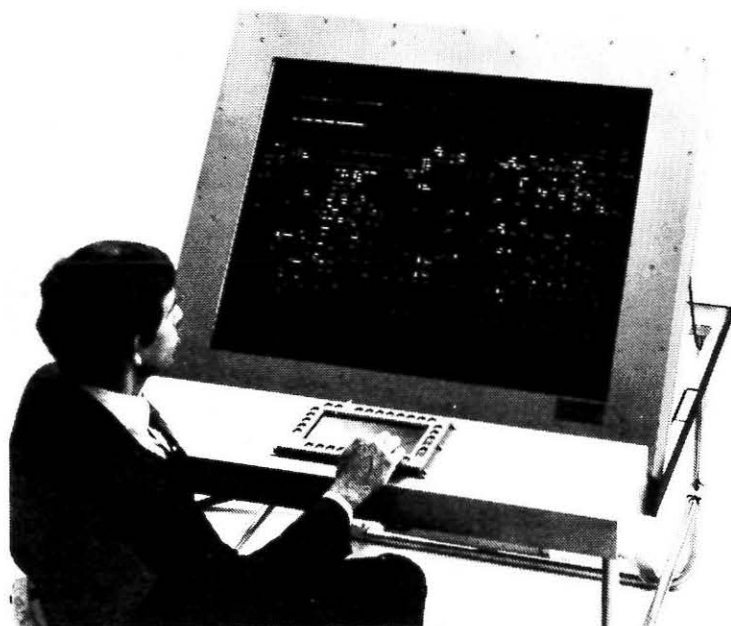
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FLICKER-FREE CRT DISPLAY

(...continued from page 14)

The Smith-Kettlewell studies indicate that by using short, unadapted flicker presentations that approximate everyday viewing conditions the human flicker frequency limit approaches 100 Hz for a typical display condition of a 30-deg viewing field with a luminance of 400 cd/m². (Earlier studies by D.H. Kelly indicated the maximum frequency was about 70 Hz for display conditions of 100 cd/m²—using a prolonged psychological adjustment method to obtain the limit, which allows the visual system to adapt to the flicker while setting the threshold, and thus results in a lower reading).

In any peripheral region (beyond about 5 deg eccentricity from central fixation), the newer studies show that the maximum detectable frequency increases with a linear function of log luminance with a slope of close to 20 Hz per log unit of luminance. For a large field, this gives flicker limits from about 20 Hz at 0.1 cd/m² to about 100 Hz at 1000 cd/m². (Fig.)

These data show that for a large, high luminance display to be completely free of perceptible flicker it should have a frame rate of at least 100 Hz. The slope of the sensitivity curve is very steep near the flicker limit, such that if the display flicker rate is 20 Hz below the limiting frequency the flicker must be reduced to 10% modulation to be below threshold and 100% modulation would appear as pronounced flicker.

Eye movements

Typical eye movements of a person examining a display screen are rapid jerks of fixation known as saccades. For medium-sized eye movements up to 10 deg across the field, the duration of these saccadic jerks is only 20-30 msec, reaching a maximum velocity of about 500 deg/sec. If during this time the visual image is moving in space, it will produce a distorted image on the moving retina. Because the scan line of a video display is effectively moving at a rate of a full frame every 17 msec, or a velocity

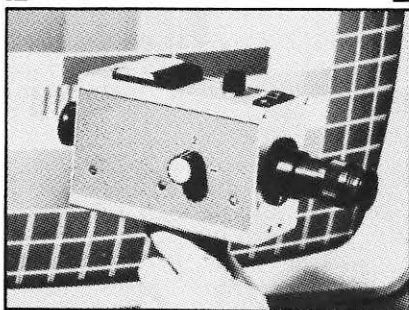
of 127 deg/sec for a 20-deg display, the retinal image of the display is substantially distorted during normal saccadic eye movements.

Even though there is some neural suppression of the shifted retinal image when a saccadic fixation shift is made, most video displays still show pronounced perceptible image distortion when the eyes are moved across them. This is particularly evident for fast phosphor displays designed for the rapid replacement of information on the screen. Although the limiting frame rate for elimination of the saccadic distortion effects are not known at present, it is evident that the faster the frame rate, the smaller the effect, according to the researchers.

(Developed from *The 120 Hz Interlace Option: A Flicker-Free Future for Video Displays*, by Christopher W. Tyler, Ph.D., Smith-Kettlewell Institute for Visual Sciences, San Francisco, CA)

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INFORMATION

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Network links PCs to wide range of systems, devices

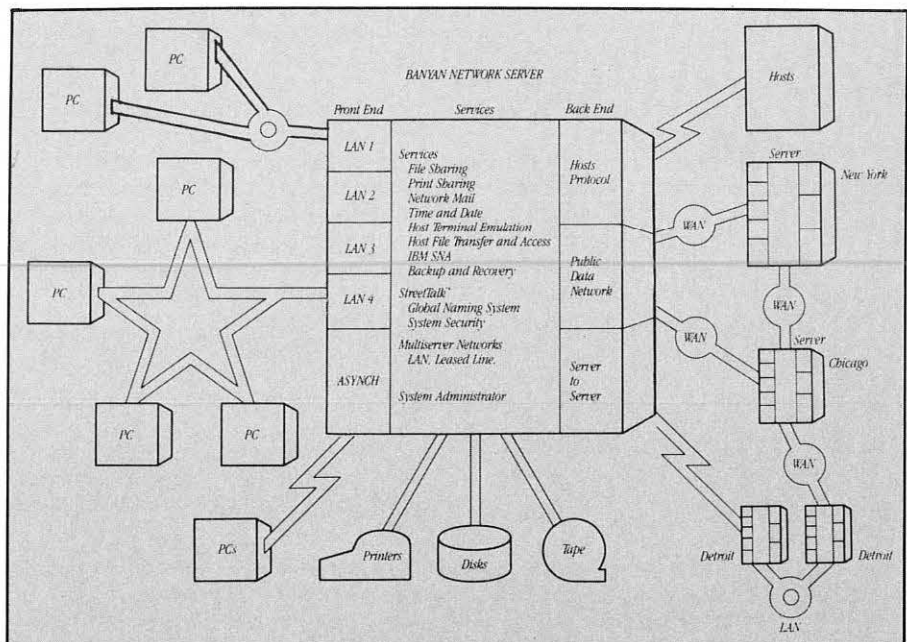
Small to moderate-sized PC clusters can now be economically integrated with minicomputers and mainframes into a comprehensive information network using a newly released virtual network system called VINES/286. For LAN-based PC clusters, VINES permits low-cost sharing of disks, printers, files, modems, back-up tapes, information and services (such as electronic mail, mainframe links, and network management.)

The six-disk software package converts a conventional IBM/AT (or compatible) into a multi-function file server that provides: file- and peripheral-sharing; protocols for communicating with minis, mainframes, and larger networks having additional servers; gateways between two similar/dissimilar LANs; a global naming mechanism for tracking all network resources; and diagnostics for all system hardware, network media, and serial communications.

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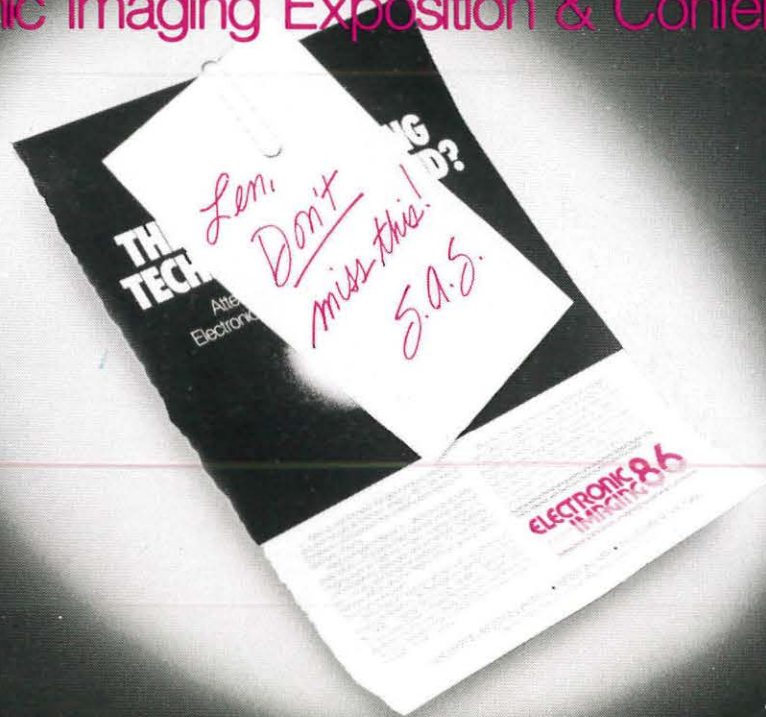
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(Continued on page 25 ...)

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(... continued from page 20)

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meet specific needs and interface with existing computers and peripherals. Images may be stored on a hard disk, CD-ROM, videodisc or videotape. Pictures can be digitized from any video source: video camera, videodisc player, or videotape player.

ROYAL RECOVERY SYSTEMS INC., Plainfield, NJ(201/753-2835)

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Model 4000 high performance computer system for processing remotely sensed, large-scale geographic images is a bundled, total-solution system designed to meet the needs of high computation requirements and large data-base manipulation. System functions include image enhancement, multiple image correlation, image overlay, geometric correction, classification, video digitizing, and hardcopy capability. The system is compatible with LANDSAT and SPOT tape inputs. Price: \$110,000.

GOULD IMAGING & GRAPHICS DIV.,
Fremont, CA (415/498-3284)

Circle Reader Service #50

Image processing

Family of display and image processing hardware and software, designed for processing and displaying high resolution large format images, comprises four LSI-11 Q-bus boards that are used to acquire, store, process, and display images ranging from 64 x 64 to 4096 x 4096 with either 8 or 16 bits per pixel.

IMAGE ANALYTICS CORP., Montchanin,
DE (302/652-3386)

Circle Reader Service #51

Multibus memory board

The DS-541M, memory-mapped Multibus memory board, holds four 512 x 512 images and contains a memory array of 1024 x 1024 pixels, each with 9 bits of depth or resolution. On-board pan and scroll hardware allows any 512 x 512 window to be active for video input or output at any one time. The 512 squared image size is compatible with most machine vision systems. Model DS-542 is a registered-accessed version of the DS-541. Price: \$3,495.

RECOGNITION TECHNOLOGY, Holliston,
MA (617/429-7804)

Circle Reader Service #52

Gate arrays

Line of high-speed 1.5-micron gate arrays, with typical gate delays of 1.2 nanoseconds and clock rates up to 100 MHz, are used in next-generation supermini and mainframe computers. Designated MSM70V000 series, the gate arrays range in size from 700 to 10,008 gates. The number of I/Os range from 66 to 172, and are CMOS and TTL compatible. All arrays are offered in dual-inline, plastic leaded chip carrier, pin grid array, and flatpack packages. Number of pins available on packages ranges from 24 to 208. The devices feature a cell library that consists of 38 macro blocks and 110 functional logic blocks.

OKI SEMICONDUCTOR, Sunnyvale, CA
(408/720-1900)

Circle Reader Service #54

Image processing database

Picture Database Management System (PICDMS) operates on two or more dimensions on digitized photographs, maps, and drawings for image processing and model-building. As a fourth generation language, the system gives the user a flexible, easy-to-use way to define a wide variety of operations on picture data: detecting objects or edges in pictures, recognizing and classifying patterns, determining minimum and maximum values, calculating distances, and creating histograms and statistical analyses. Price: \$5,000 for microcomputer; \$8,000 for minicomputer (one-time license fee).

MIB CHOCK, Santa Monica, CA (213/
828-4788)

Circle Reader Service #55

Digital imaging scanner

Menu-driven software interface enables AutoCAD drafting software to receive original drawings (up to 36" x 46") from EIKONIX automatic scanners. The menus include SET-UP, SCAN, and EDIT, all of which may be controlled by a keyboard or optional mouse. SET-UP allows the operator to specify drawing size and select exposure time. SCAN is used to initialize a scan and allows the user to specify a region of the drawing to be scanned. EDIT displays image directories and enables user to crop and zoom the image, and contains a raster editing function that permits the user to "clean up" undesired image data at the pixel level.

EIKONIX Corp., Bedford, MA (617/
275-5070)

Circle Reader Service #56

Dedicated line modems

Three 9600 bits-per-second modems for dedicated line applications include the CLX96 (point-to-point), CLX96FP (multi-drop), and the CLX96M (multiport). Each complies with International Telegraph and Telephone Consultative Committee (CCITT) V.29 requirements for domestic and international 9600 bps synchronous data transmission and meets Federal Standard 1007 for government applications. Each model provides automatic adaptive equalization through a micro-processor-based equalizer that continually compensates for varied line conditions. The CLX Series also offers built-in diagnostics for fault isolation. Local analog and remote digital testing provides unattended loopbacks to isolate error conditions at key points within a network. Prices: \$1,445 (CLX96), \$1,995 (CLX96FP); \$2,195 (CLX96M).

OKIDATA, Mt. Laurel, NJ (609/235-2600)

Circle Reader Service #57

Serial communications controllers

ProtoCol 1000, a multibus-based commu-

nications protocol controller, processes up to 16 channels of data communications at 64Kb/second and provides interfaces between a wide variety of protocols with an extensive protocol library. The controller has dual processor architecture and up to 512 Kbytes of triple-ported memory. V/SIO 3208, a serial communications controller with eight independent, full-duplex RS-232 channels on a single VMEbus board, provides four software programmable interrupts for each of its eight channels, for a total of 32 interrupts. The V/SIO 3208 offers programmable baud rates from 50 to 19.2K, modem control, asynchronous, synchronous, and SDLC bit-synchronous modes, local loop-back, and auto echo modes. It also offers the flexibility of 32-bit or 24-bit addressing. Prices: \$2,750 (ProtoCol 1000); \$795 (V/SIO 3208). INTERPHASE CORP., Dallas, TX (214/350-9000)

Circle Reader Service #58

Fiber optic supertrunk

System 1301 is a supertrunk that uses advanced fiber optic technology to deliver high quality video, audio, and data signals. The system accepts baseband video and audio input of the originating equipment and FM modulates them in a frequency band ranging from 40 to 540 MHz. Modulator outputs are combined and used to drive the T1301 transmitter. RF signals are converted in the transmitter to an intensity modulated light signal at 1300 nm wavelength that is carried on one single mode fiber to the R1301 receiver. At the receiver, the light signal is converted back to an RF signal, demodulated and presented as baseband video and audio output.

PIRELLI, Meriden, CT (203/238-9665)

Circle Reader Service #59

Personal computer network

The Knowledge Network, software-based network for IBM PCs and compatibles (with DOS 2.1, 3.1, or higher), allows the sharing of changing data and costly peripherals without regard to distance, technical communications obscurities, re-buying software, or learning new commands. The network consists of memory-resident PC-DOS/MS-DOS software and simple modular telephone cables to interconnect up to six computers through their RS-232C serial ports. Groups of computers can also be connected through modems or additional serial cards. The system has no prescribed network topology — users can connect in a bus, star, tree, ring or other configuration with no effect on the network operation.

KNOWLEDGE NETWORK GROUPS INC., Mountain View, CA (415/965-1300)

Circle Reader Service #60

Color plotter

Full color, 8-page brochure provides background on Versatec Spectrum, an 11-inch electrostatic color plotter/printer. The brochure is divided into three sections: printing, plotting and CRT hard copy. Spectrum's features such as mirror image, line enhancement, and raster data translator are explained, as is the multi-pass color process.

VERSATEC, Santa Clara, CA (408/988-2800)

Circle Reader Service #81

Circuit board indicator

Eight-page LED Circuit Board Indicator catalog lists extensive line of LEDs in various configurations. Red, yellow, and green LEDs in T-1 $\frac{3}{4}$, T-1 and T- $\frac{3}{8}$ sizes are offered in a variety of package styles. This short form catalog includes dimensional drawings and specifications for the selection of an LED Circuit Board Indicator.

DIALIGHT, Brooklyn, NY (718/497-7600)

Circle Reader Service #82

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Circle Reader Service #16

August 1986 27

President's Message

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A distinct drawback with this means of communicating with members of SID and other readers of *INFORMATION DISPLAY* is the time lag between my writing of this column and your opportunity to read it. In these days of instant electronic communications and information display, it seems incongruous to accept a six-week delay for production and printing and post office. The day will surely come when all the contents of the Journal, including this column, will be transmitted via optical fibers, or satellites, or . . . or . . . , directly to all subscribers for instantaneous viewing on high-resolution, color, flat-panel displays in office or at home.

One of the exciting events here on the East Coast of the USA was the recent July 4th celebration and the reopening to the public of the restored Statue of Liberty. The organization and scheduling of all the events presented a mind-boggling logistical problem (even for an electronics display engineer), with the news media using the latest in information gathering and display technologies to cover all the festivities, the speeches, the entertainment, the parade of tall ships, and the "best fireworks ever." One cannot help but be impressed by the international participation and cooperation in this celebration, even down to the restoration work on the Statue itself.

By the time this column appears in print, another international gathering—the International Display Research Conference, Japan Display '86—will be just two months away (Tokyo: September 30 - October 2). The program for Japan Display '86 is presently being finalized and will be mailed to all SID members within a few weeks. (Non SID members: circle #106 on the Reader-Service card).

The program includes: Keynote Address by T. Sasaki of Sharp on "Information Displays for the Age of New Media Technologies;" invited addresses by former SID President I.F. Chang of IBM, and C.J. Gerritsma of Philips Research Labs; and a number of invited talks on EL, color, plasma display technologies, ferroelectric liquid crystals and others.

Judging by the last IDRC held in Japan—Japan Display '83—this conference will again be a huge success. The organization and planning have been outstanding. This conference provides all attendees with an opportunity to meet a large number of display scientists who have not attended previous symposia and IDRCs. And, we anticipate hearing about some of the most recent information display work in Japan.

A number of other display-related conferences that may be of interest to IDRC attendees will also be held about the same time . . . Japan Electronics Show, Korea Electronics Show, Taiwan Electronics Show, Hong Kong Electronics Fair, and Canton Trade Fair. Various travel packages from the US and Canada, combining some of these events, are being offered by Commerce Tours International Inc., 870 Market Street, San Francisco CA 94102. (415/433-3072)

I urge all of you to make a special effort to attend Japan Display '86. See you in Tokyo.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "J. Raalte". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

1986 Frances Rice Darne Memorial Award

For pioneering and continuing contributions to liquid crystal display technology.



James L. Ferguson
Consultant to Taliq Corp.
Mountain View, CA

Ferguson began working on liquid crystals with Westinghouse in 1957. He founded International Liquid Crystal in 1970, where he invented the twisted nematic display, which accounts for 99% of all display systems using liquid crystals sold in the world.

To carry out custom development in liquid crystal applications, he then established American Liquid Xtal, where he developed several liquid crystal compositions for thermography, principally for use in non-destructive testing; a new method for controlling the recovery time of cholesteric temperature indicators; and new products for using liquid crystal as an electric-mechanical transducer. In 1981, Ferguson invented the NCAP liquid crystal display system.

1986 Fellow Award For contributions to the theory and application of ac gas discharge display technology.



Dr. Roger L. Johnson
Vice President, R & D and Director, Advanced Concept Group, SAID Technology Div., Science Application Intl Corp. (SAIC), San Diego, CA.

Dr. Johnson performed graduate research at the University of Illinois (1970s) in the early development of ac gas discharge devices and associated electronic drive circuitry. At the time, he was also a member of the design team involved in the development of the PLATO computer-based education system at the University of Illinois.

His work in this area resulted in the development of advanced computer workstation architecture and a patented IR touch input system for use with computer displays.

From 1970 - 1977 he was a member of the Electrical Engineering Staff at the University, and also consulted with various US and Japanese corporations involved in the development of ac gas discharge display products. He left the University in 1977 to join SAIC.

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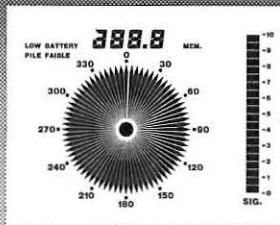
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SID '86 Awards

1986 Fellow Award
For leadership in the commercialization of liquid crystal displays.



Dr. Tomio Wada

Division General Manager of Display Div., Electronic Component Group, Sharp Corp.

Dr. Wada joined Central Research Laboratories of Sharp Corp. in 1960 and initially worked on thick-film electroluminescent displays. In 1969, he was named manager of Sharp's Non-Emissive Display Research Group, where he was engaged mainly in research and development on liquid crystal displays. In 1973, Wada developed the epoch-making LCD mounted on COS (Calculator on Substrate) Systems Electronic calculator. He also developed the double-layered LCD and the TFT-LCD.

1986 Fellow Award
For pioneering studies on the addressing of liquid crystal and electro-luminescent displays.



Dr. Paul M. Alt

Manager of the Display Systems Group, IBM, T.J. Watson Research Center, Yorktown Heights, NY

Dr. Alt has been pursuing the study and characterization of various display devices since 1970, when he joined the IBM Research Center. His present work includes very high content CRT displays and new flat panel display systems and applications. In 1980, Dr. Alt received a special recognition award from the SID for his contributions in the area of multiplexed liquid crystal displays. He was appointed, in 1984, to the position of Associate Editor, IEEE Transactions on Electron Devices.

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Tokyo, Japan

Sponsored by S.I.D., and ITE of Japan

Advance registration forms and hotel reservation forms are now available from Palisades Institute, 201 Varick Street, New York, NY 10014, and must be sent directly to the Japan Travel Bureau in Tokyo.

Plan to maximize your trip by attending one or more of the following exhibitions and conferences during the same period:

- Japan Software Oct 1-3
- Japan Electronics Oct 2-7
- Japan Audio Fair Oct 2-7
- Japan Optoelectronics Oct 6-9
- Intl Optical Fiber Sensor Oct 7-9
- Intl Semiconductor Laser Oct 14-17

Though hotel bookings must be made directly through the Japan Travel Bureau, Commerce Tours (San Francisco), the official travel agent for S.I.D., can arrange transportation and tours to help you coordinate and simplify your travel arrangements. Phone (415) 433-3072.

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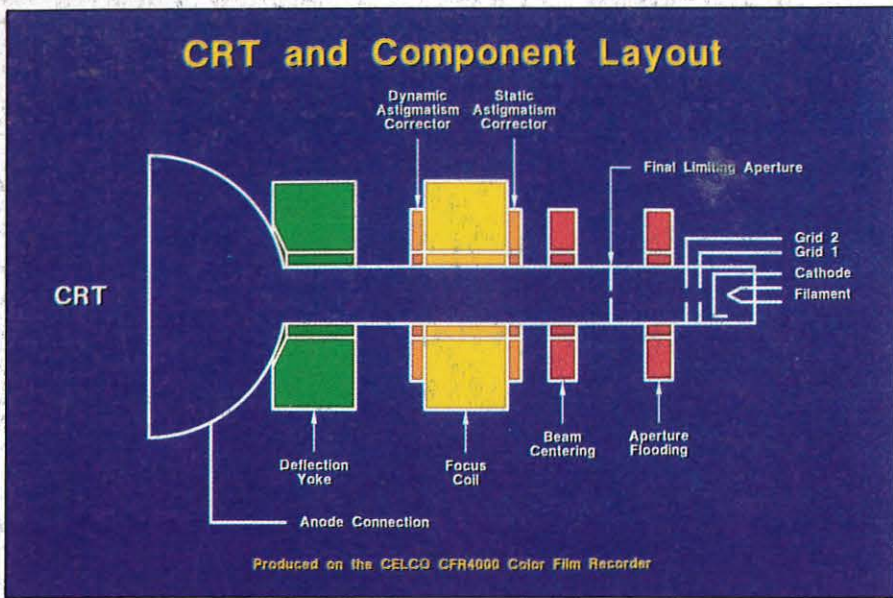


Figure 1 All graphics shown here are produced on The CELCO Machine (CFR4000 CRT Color Film Recording System) at CELCO in Mahwah, NJ.

CELCO's Electron-optical techniques produce ultra- high-resolution CRT displays.

Absolute control over the size, shape and position of the scanning electron beam spot is necessary to produce an ultra-high-resolution CRT display. For example, the CELCO CFR4000 CRT Color Film Recording System yields over 7500 resolvable points across the CRT face with resulting image content in excess of 31 million picture elements per field. This system is presently providing theatre-quality imagery to the rapidly growing computer graphics industry for computer animation and other computer image generation techniques of recent development. Other applications include imagery for oil exploration and analysis and other geological interpretations and LANDSAT.

Proper selection and use of cathode-ray tube, deflection yoke, magnetic focus lens, astigmatism correction, centering and aperture flooding coils is the foundation of your high resolution CRT display.

Figure 1 indicates the proper position of the magnetic components on the CRT neck.

Figures 2-8 depict uniform aperture flooding, focusing of the divergent beam, astigmatism correction and deflection from center to the 63 million other positions of addressability (on the CELCO Machine) without distorting spot shape or size. Figure 9 illustrates the difference between resolution and addressability.

For a more detailed discussion, please circle reader service number below to reserve your free copy of "Electron-optical techniques for an ultra-high resolution color film recorder", (delivered before SPIE, January 1984) by John Constantine, Jr., CELCO Vice-President and Yoke Designer. Or call CELCO today with your display requirements: 201-327-1123. Ask for Doc Christaldi, Engineering Sales Manager.

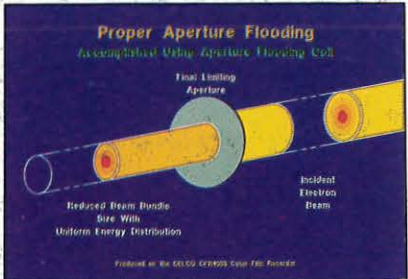


Figure 2

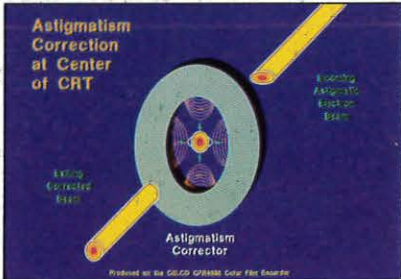


Figure 3

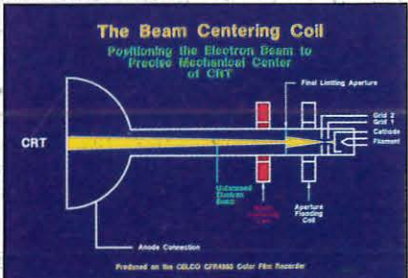


Figure 4

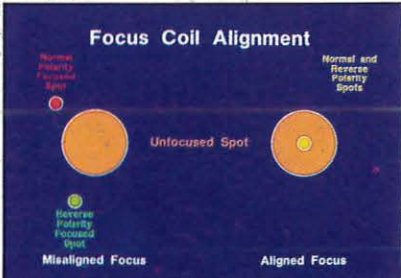


Figure 5

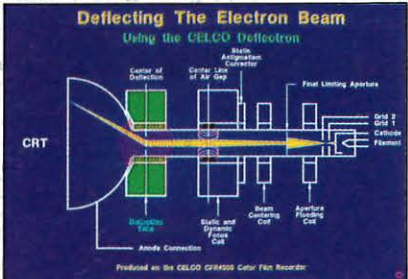


Figure 6

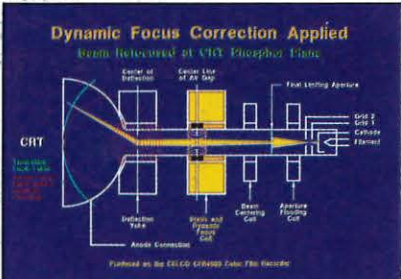


Figure 7

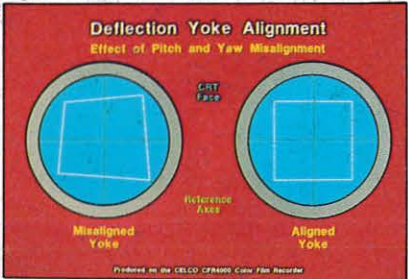


Figure 8

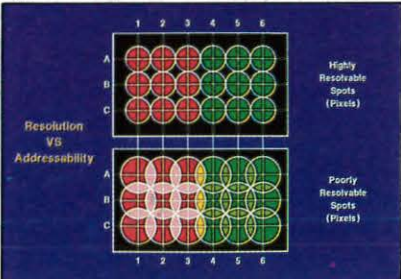


Figure 9

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