

Chapter 1 : Microcomputer Database Management Using Paradox by Philip J. Pratt | eBay

Selection of data base management software is the most important step in setting up a computer-based information management system. Nonetheless, hardware must also be selected, and it is worthwhile to review some of the fundamentals of microcomputer hardware.

Origins[edit] The term microcomputer came into popular use after the introduction of the minicomputer , although Isaac Asimov used the term in his short story " The Dying Night " as early as published in The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction in July that year. The French developers of the Micral N filed their patents with the term "Micro-ordinateur", a literal equivalent of "Microcomputer", to designate a solid state machine designed with a microprocessor. Increasingly inexpensive logic chips such as the series allowed cheap dedicated circuitry for improved user interfaces such as keyboard input, instead of simply a row of switches to toggle bits one at a time. Use of audio cassettes for inexpensive data storage replaced manual re-entry of a program every time the device was powered on. Large cheap arrays of silicon logic gates in the form of read-only memory and EPROMs allowed utility programs and self- booting kernels to be stored within microcomputers. These stored programs could automatically load further more complex software from external storage devices without user intervention, to form an inexpensive turnkey system that does not require a computer expert to understand or to use the device. Random access memory became cheap enough to afford dedicating approximately kilobytes of memory to a video display controller frame buffer , for a 40x25 or 80x25 text display or blocky color graphics on a common household television. This replaced the slow, complex, and expensive teletypewriter that was previously common as an interface to minicomputers and mainframes. All these improvements in cost and usability resulted in an explosion in their popularity during the late s and early s. A large number of computer makers packaged microcomputers for use in small business applications. By , many companies such as Cromemco , Processor Technology , IMSAI , North Star Computers , Southwest Technical Products Corporation , Ohio Scientific , Altos Computer Systems , Morrow Designs and others produced systems designed either for a resourceful end user or consulting firm to deliver business systems such as accounting, database management, and word processing to small businesses. This allowed businesses unable to afford leasing of a minicomputer or time-sharing service the opportunity to automate business functions, without usually hiring a full-time staff to operate the computers. The increasing availability and power of desktop computers for personal use attracted the attention of more software developers. Modern desktop computers, video game consoles , laptops , tablet PCs , and many types of handheld devices , including mobile phones , pocket calculators , and industrial embedded systems , may all be considered examples of microcomputers according to the definition given above. Colloquial use of the term[edit] Everyday use of the expression "microcomputer" and in particular the "micro" abbreviation has declined significantly from the mids and has declined in commonplace usage since Although, or perhaps because, an increasingly diverse range of modern microprocessor-based devices fit the definition of "microcomputer", they are no longer referred to as such in everyday speech. In common usage, "microcomputer" has been largely supplanted by the term " personal computer " or "PC", which specifies a computer that has been designed to be used by one individual at a time, a term first coined in IBM PC compatible "clones" became commonplace, and the terms "personal computer", and especially "PC", stuck with the general public, often specifically for a DOS or nowadays Windows-compatible computer. Since the advent of microcontrollers monolithic integrated circuits containing RAM, ROM and CPU all onboard , the term "micro" is more commonly used to refer to that meaning. Please help improve this section by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. July Learn how and when to remove this template message Monitors, keyboards and other devices for input and output may be integrated or separate. Computer memory in the form of RAM , and at least one other less volatile, memory storage device are usually combined with the CPU on a system bus in one unit. Microcomputers are designed to serve only one user at a time, although they can often be modified with software or hardware to concurrently serve more than one user. Microcomputers fit well on or under desks or tables, so that they are within easy access of

users. Bigger computers like minicomputers, mainframes, and supercomputers take up large cabinets or even dedicated rooms. A microcomputer comes equipped with at least one type of data storage, usually RAM. Although some microcomputers particularly early 8-bit home micros perform tasks using RAM alone, some form of secondary storage is normally desirable. In the early days of home micros, this was often a data cassette deck in many cases as an external unit. Later, secondary storage particularly in the form of floppy disk and hard disk drives were built into the microcomputer case.

TTL precursors[edit] Although they did not contain any microprocessors, but were built around transistor-transistor logic TTL, Hewlett-Packard calculators as far back as had various levels of programmability comparable to microcomputers. The HP B had rudimentary conditional if statements, statement line numbers, jump statements go to, registers that could be used as variables, and primitive subroutines. The programming language resembled assembly language in many ways. Some models had tape storage and small printers. However, displays were limited to one line at a time. Additionally, at that time, people were more likely to buy calculators than computers, and, purchasing agents also preferred the term "calculator" because purchasing a "computer" required additional layers of purchasing authority approvals. While it contains no microprocessor, the instruction set of its custom TTL processor was the basis of the instruction set for the Intel, and for practical purposes the system behaves approximately as if it contains an Like the Datapoint, it used discrete transistor-transistor logic instead of a microprocessor, but it functioned like a microcomputer in some ways. It was marketed as an educational and hobbyist tool, but it was not a commercial success; production ceased shortly after introduction. This Micral-N was marketed in early as a "Micro-ordinateur" or microcomputer, mainly for scientific and process-control applications. About a hundred Micral-N were installed in the next two years, followed by a new version based on the Intel. Meanwhile, another French team developed the Alvan, a small computer for office automation which found clients in banks and other sectors. The first version was based on LSI chips with an Intel as peripheral controller keyboard, monitor and printer, before adopting the Zilog Z80 as main processor. The Sac State was designed with the Intel. It had a full set of hardware and software components: Of the early "box of switches"-type microcomputers, the MITS Altair was arguably the most famous. Most of these simple, early microcomputers were sold as electronic kits -bags full of loose components which the buyer had to solder together before the system could be used. Many companies such as DEC, [18] National Semiconductor, [19] Texas Instruments [20] offered their microcomputers for use in terminal control, peripheral device interface control and industrial machine control. There were also machines for engineering development and hobbyist personal use. The MITS Altair just mentioned played an instrumental role in sparking significant hobbyist interest, which itself eventually led to the founding and success of many well-known personal computer hardware and software companies, such as Microsoft and Apple Computer. Although the Altair itself was only a mild commercial success, it helped spark a huge industry. The ability to connect to a monitor screen or TV set allowed visual manipulation of text and numbers. The BASIC language, which was easier to learn and use than raw machine language, became a standard feature. These features were already common in minicomputers, with which many hobbyists and early produces were familiar. In, the launch of the VisiCalc spreadsheet initially for the Apple II first turned the microcomputer from a hobby for computer enthusiasts into a business tool.

Chapter 2 : Microcomputer Database Management Software | Open Library

The MICRO Relational Database Management System was the first large-scale set-theoretic database management system to be used in production. Though MICRO was initially considered to be an "Information Management System", it was eventually recognized to provide all the capabilities of an RDBMS.

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Chapter 4 : MICROCOMPUTER COURSES

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Chapter 5 : Micro Quality Calibration | Database Management

Microcomputers and database management systems are two of the most rapidly expanding technologies in computer science. Because of the rapid advancements in both areas, one would expect a proliferation of microcomputer-based database systems.

Chapter 6 : Database Connectors | Micro Focus

The combination of a relational data base management program, a state of the, art integrated spreadsheet, and dedicated graphics software have been used to develop a liver transplant registry on an IBM compatible microcomputer system.

Chapter 7 : MICROCOMPUTER DATA-BASE MANAGEMENT

The microcomputer is an attractive, affordable, and powerful alternative to traditional paper-based record keeping. This article reviews fundamentals of data base management and microcomputer.

Chapter 8 : MICRO Relational Database Management System - Wikipedia

Relatively little microcomputer software has been designed specifically for the storage and retrieval of bibliographic data. Information retrieval packages for mainframes and minicomputers have been scaled down to run on microcomputers, however, these programs are expensive, unwieldy, and inflexible.

Chapter 9 : Microcomputer - Wikipedia

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