# The **Acorn** Business Computer

The Acorn Business Computer comprises a range of office computers and workstations from the company that has achieved total dominance of the educational computer market. The practical and compact two-box design conceals an elegant and cost effective electronic design philosophy which enables Acorn to provide an extremely wide range of variants. This makes the ABC the single solution to almost all modern business problems. Common to all models in the range is the keyboard and main case which may contain a variety of options.
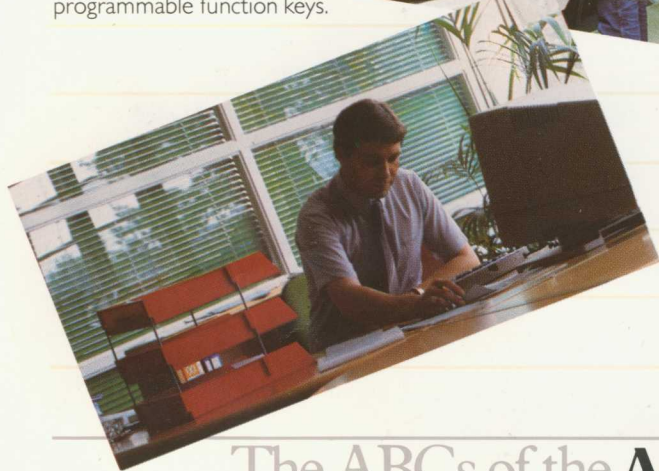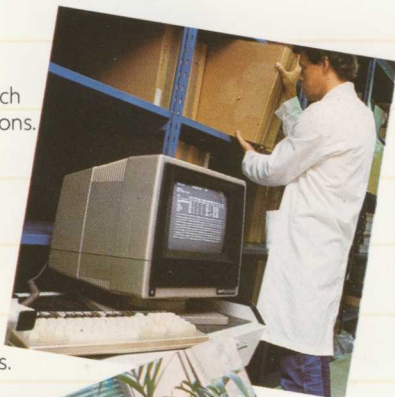
The built-in 12 inch monitor screen tilts and swivels with the main box to provide a comfortable viewing angle and the keyboard, which is attached by flexible cable, has a numeric pad and ten programmable function keys.

Even in its simplest form, the ABC Personal Assistant, this new range provides the user with text and data processing instantly. No need to load from disc – a single keyword runs one of the two programs installed in permanent memory. The programs are VIEW, the award winning word processor, and its companion program, ViewSheet, a sophisticated financial analysis and data processing program using the well proven 'spreadsheet' simulation technique.

The ABC Personal Assistant is a single processor computer with one floppy disc drive providing 640 Kilobytes of storage. Interfaces suitable for almost all currently available printers are standard and space is provided within the case for further communications options, to allow ABC users to take advantage of the very latest long distance information transmission techniques. For short distance communication the ABC Personal Assistant is equipped with Acorn's own, well proven, local area network, Econet. This provides a well structured communications environment enabling ABC users to share storage devices, such as hard disc drives, output devices, printers and plotters and communications devices, providing links to the outside world and to other Econet systems. With over 2,000 network installations already operational, Acorn's Econet is an ideal solution to interoffice data transfer.

The addition of one circuit card, containing a second microprocessor and its associated memory, plus a second high capacity floppy disc drive provides the basis of the next level of the ABC range – the ABC 100. The fast, powerful and well proven Z80 Second Processor runs the CP/M operating system, for many years an industry standard, with a wealth of applications programs available on floppy disc. The main ABC circuit board continues to deal with the keyboard, screen and communications options, so the programs running on the main processor are executed at speeds normally associated with more expensive 16 bit processor systems.

The software provided with the ABC 100 is designed to make full use of the disc storage system. For instance, the word processor, MemoPlan, automatically keeps the disc file up to date without interrupting the flow of work, so in the event of power failure virtually no data will be lost. Also provided is FilePlan, a flexible database program for information storage and retrieval, which allows the user to tailor the system to fit precise needs. FilePlan data may be accessed by MemoPlan for automatic addressing of bulk mailshots and similar tasks.
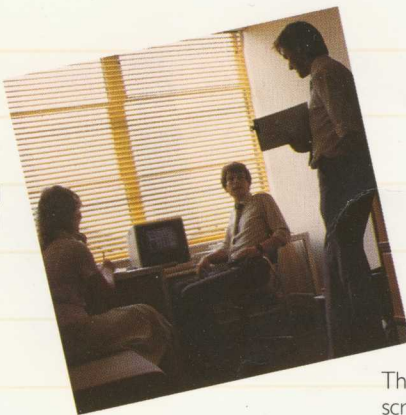
# The ABCs of the **Acorn** Business Computer

**B** The ABC 110 adds to the system a colour screen and high speed bulk storage on a 10 Megabyte hard disc. The colour screen allows full use to be made of GraphPlan, showing full colour graphical representations of the results of financial and statistical models made using GraphPlan itself or the more sophisticated MicroPlan. The hard disc may be used for the storage of both CP/M and Acorn files, and as the disc unit is fitted in place of one of the floppy discs, the computer remains self contained.

The ABC 200 uses the National Semiconductor 32016 processor and is essentially a data processing tool designed to provide applications software and programming languages of the type normally associated with mainframe computers. It works as a self contained package on the user's desk or laboratory bench. The programming languages provided are: C, LISP, ISO-Pascal, Fortran 77, FORTH, BBC BASIC and an assembler.

The ABC 210 provides a colour screen, up to 1 Megabyte of memory and a 10 Megabyte hard disc. The extra memory and hard disc allow the ABC 210 to use XENIX, an advanced operating system with many applications packages already available. A full hardware based virtual memory system is incorporated.

The flagship of the ABC range is a desk top microcomputer which provides the user with truly impressive computing power but structured in a uniquely user friendly fashion. The ABC 300 is based on the 80286 processor running the Digital Research Concurrent operating system but with the addition of a Desk Top Manager which will provide the user with access to applications programs in a fashion that is as easy as picking up a fresh sheet of paper on which to start writing. The applications programs can be written for CP/M, PC DOS, MS DOS or Concurrent OS – the Desk Top Manager makes no distinction, they will all be integrated into the ABC 300's own desk top representation on screen.

The ABC 310 extends the system by the addition of colour screen, up to 1 Megabyte of memory and 10 Megabyte hard disc, all integrated into the Desk Top Manager. This gives even the novice user access to a level of computing power which was once the exclusive province of dedicated data processing departments.

A supplement to the system is the ABC Terminal, designed not to be a stand alone computer, but to provide low cost emulation of intelligent terminals or access to Econet, with no local disc storage capabilities.

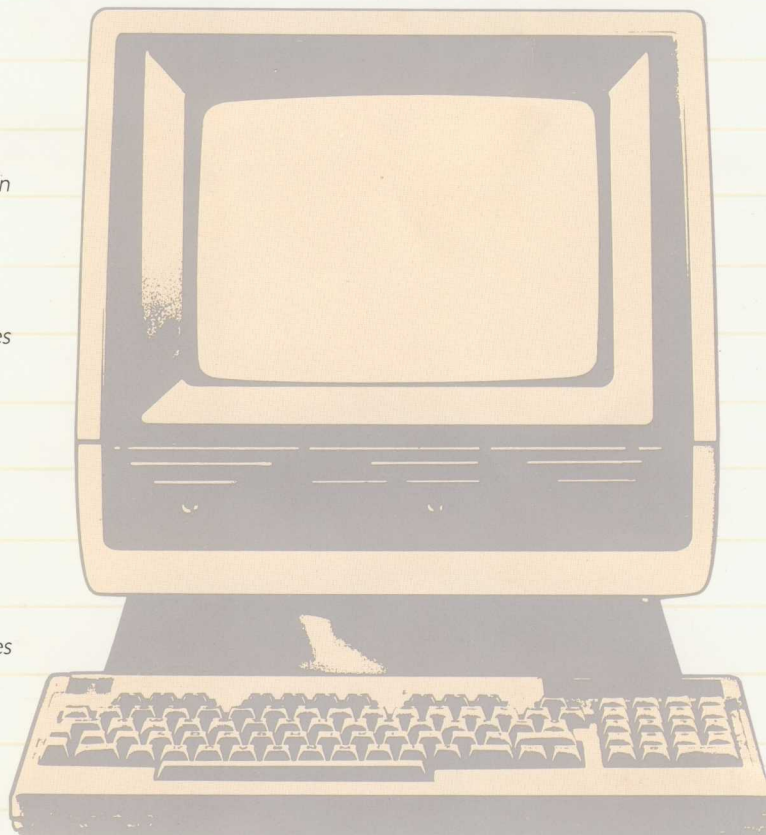## The ABCs of the **Acorn** Business Computer

The Acorn Business Computer range is a family of computers designed to provide an entry level to suit every application, and with such a high degree of compatibility that any future expansion or diversification can be accommodated within the ABC family. To allow the user to tailor his system to accommodate his changing needs, a full range of supporting products will be available: 'mouse' interface, internally fitted communications modems, stand alone hard disc drives in a variety of capacities, and all necessary hardware for the implementation of Econet systems, either independent or multiple interlinked networks.

ABC Personal Assistant
6502 processor
640 Kilobyte floppy disc
Econet
VIEW word processor
ViewSheet data processor
High resolution green screen

ABC Terminal
6502 processor
Econet
VT100 terminal emulation
High resolution green screen

ABC 100
Z80 main processor
Twin 720 Kilobyte disc drives
Econet
CP/M operating system
MemoPlan
FilePlan
MicroPlan
GraphPlan

ABC 110
10 Megabyte hard disc
Colour screen
High resolution
High contrast
Low reflection

ABC 200
32016 main processor
Twin 720 Kilobyte disc drives
Econet
Comprehensive range of
programming languages

ABC 210
10 Megabyte hard disc
Colour screen
Up to 1 Megabyte memory
XENIX operating system
Virtual memory management

ABC 300
80286 main processor
Twin 720 Kilobyte disc drives
Concurrent operating system
Desk Top Manager

ABC 310
10 Megabyte hard disc
Colour screen
Up to 1 Megabyte memory

# The ABCs of the **Acorn** Business Computer

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For further details ask your nearest dealer or write to:
Customer Services, Acorn Computers Limited
Cambridge Technopark, 645 Newmarket Road
Cambridge CB5 8PD

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