NEWSLETTER

Show Time!

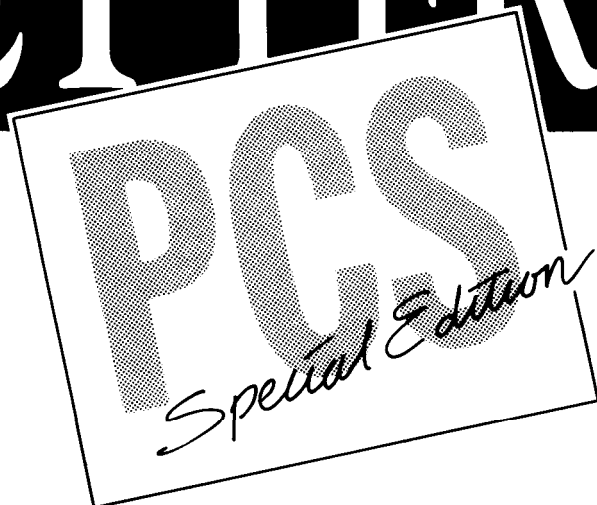**PCS** *Special Edition*

The Archimedes
The product, its applications, its potential

One of the highlights of this years PC Show will undoubtedly be the Acorn Theatre where a wide range of new and powerful productivity tools and applications will be launched for the world's fastest micro — the Archimedes. These include RISC OS the enhanced multitasking Acorn operating system, Acorn Desktop Publisher, and Professional Artisan to name but a few. The lectures are all free — but come early to ensure your seat as it's bound to be standing room only for late comers!

The schedule is given below for each day of the Show: Don't miss out pencil them in your diary now!

Time	Lecture	By
1000	Professional Artisan	Clares
1030	RISC Operating System	Acorn
1100	Sound, Graphics and Music	EMR
1130	Acorn Desktop Publisher	Acorn
1200	Productivity Tools	Minerva
1230	Professional Artisan	Clares
1300	Presenter and 1st Word Plus	Lingenuity
1330	Sound, Graphics & Music	EMR
1400	RISC Operating System	Acorn
1430	Eeckhorn Image Pres'tion System	AIM
1500	Acorn Desktop Publisher	Acorn
1530	Flying Start II	Mitre
1600	Sound, Graphics & Music	EMR
1630	PipeDream	Colton
1730 [1]	Acorn Desktop Publisher	Acorn

[1] Not Sunday 18th September

Don't Miss Out

This years Acorn PC Show stand is the biggest and most informative it has ever been as an astounding range of software is now beginning to be released which utilises captures and utilises the full potential of the Archimedes. In addition to an expert team of Acorn staff ready to answer all your questions the stand is absolutely brimming over with new innovative software from the ever increasing range of software houses entering a new and exciting market.

Integrated wordprocessors, spreadsheets and databases, 3D graphic modelling, desktop publishing, sound and vision, productivity tools, books and compilers are just some of the new applications being shown, many for the very first time.

No only that you'll be able to see the new enhanced multitasking Archimedes operating system - RISC OS - for the very first time. And that's simply not to be missed.

So whether you are an existing user, a potential user, or just interested in staying up to date with the very latest in micro computing - you'll find a very warm welcome on the Acorn stand. We'll see you there!

Acorn
The choice of experience.

No RISC to Arthur!

Press speculation has abounded about the enhancements to theArchimedes operating system - called simply RISC OS - and a superset of the Arthur 1.2 operating system. It can now be seen in its full glory for the very first time on the Acorn stand and there are two theatre demonstrations each day.

Certain to be one of the major show attractions its features just make the mouth water not least the collaborative multi-tasking environment that allows co-operative applications to be run side-by side.

RISC OS has significant enhancements over Arthur 1.2 while retaining a significant compatibility. Its friendly user interface is ideal for writing, developing and using application software.

An extended WIMP environment utilises an intuitive menu structure and files may be trans-ferred between applications simply by dragging icons between them.

The Advanced Disc Filing System (ADFS) has been improved significantly to include an additional disc format that requires no compacting and allows management of multiple discs by using disc names. In addition a RAM Filing System may be used.

The already renowned graphics capabilities of the Archimedes has been further enhanced to include Bezier curves, sprite scaling and colour transformations.

Other enhancements include: an extended BASIC V now runs even faster, upgraded Econet interface offering greater performance with an improved user interface, Font Manager extensions and an improved 6502 emulator. In addition three important applications - Draw, Paint and Edit - are included in addition to a host of utilities.

Alpha Delta Tango

Minerva may be Greek to most but to Archimedes users it is the name for some outstanding applications and productivity tools.

SigmaSheet and GammaPlot - spreadsheet and desktop presentation packages - use the Archimedes windows and fonts to best effect without losing ease of use and processing power. GammaPlot could well be the ultimate in presentation and business graphics with its full feature 256 colour art creation capability. Up to 20 charts, from a basic range of six, may be displayed on screen.

For those of you who wish to calculate a 1159 year cash flow analysis then SigmaSheet is just the ticket. This was just one example of the power on offer to software running on an Archimedes. Despite winning the South West heat of the Career Person of the Year award there's probably no truth in the rumour that these figures where compiled by MD Nova Fisher in mapping out the company's future.

For the more financially astute then Personal Accountant will keep checks on your cash flow .

Full, demonstrations daily at the stroke of noon.

More Dreams in the Pipeline

Colton Software MD Rob ' Super' Macmillan is one of the industries nice guys. However he will be hard pressed demonstrating PipeDream and PipeDream SpellCheck on the Acorn stand. Not least because programmer and co-director Mark Colton will be sunning himself in the warmer climes of southern France!

Interfacing seamlessly with PipeDream, SpellCheck works either interactively or on completed text files at a checking rate of 40,000 words per minute. Options include the ability to edit an erroneous word, replace it from a list of suggestions or aid a correctly spelt word to a user-dictionary. All of these features are accessible through a typical PipeDream menu which appears when the new software is installed.

So do pay Rob a visit and spare him a word or two (he'll look to see if they are in the SpellCheck

dictionary) and if he appears browned off it isn't because of the sun - he insists he got the better end of deal.

Don't miss out on the daily demonstrations in the lecture theatre at 1630 hours.

That Added Dimension

For users with a need to compare more than two sets of information Matrix-3 could be the solution avoiding the need to create and manually compare several sets of spreadsheet information.

Using the full memory capabilities of a minimal 310 Archimedes system, Matrix-3 can process spreadsheets of 10, 000 rows by 10,000 columns organised as 100 pages. Into these text, numeric or user defined formats may be placed and then displayed graphically in a variety of styles including histograms and line and point graphs. In addition compos-ite graphs can be created and overlaid on top of one another.

The screen may be divided into windows which may be split either horizontally or vertically showing different areas of the spreadsheet. Full, context sensitive help is also available from any point to ensure ease of use.

Look out for Neil Johnson on the Acorn stand for a full demonstration of Matrix-3. Why not bring your own facts and figures to see what the Cambridge Microsystems software can do with them!

Extra! Extra!
Acorn Desktop Publisher — Read All About It!

You're living in another world if you haven't heard of Desktop Publishing - DTP. With its large amounts of memory and incredibly fast speed the Archimedes system is the ideal micro for home, education and business publishing. Acorn Desktop Publisher is the very first application that will take full advantage of RISC OS.

Acorn DTP provides all of the commonly used facilities available on DTP packages costing times as much and excels in providing an excellent user interface which makes it easy and simple to use with a 150% improvement in peed over competitive products.

With a full 'What You See Is What You Get' (WYSIWYG) environment Acorn DTP is ideal for producing publications ranging from single page newsletters to

999 page books. Frame based it includes style-sheets and master-pages which may be saved thereby allowing consistent document formats across a range of publications which may range from business cards to full length books.

A variety of fonts are included in various styles. Graphics are fully catered for and an extensive range of graphics entry/ editing tools are available. In addition graphics can be scaled and / or cropped or imported from dedicated packages including Artisan and the Draw and Paint applications supplied with RISC OS.

Automatic text flow between linked frames is fully implemented and text may be imported from a variety of packages including ASCII files, Edit, and 1st Word Plus. Text may also be entered directly into Acorn Desktop Publisher and a range of text editing options, including search and replace are available for use.

Whether you have a 9-pin, 24-pin, GQ3500, LaserJet 2 or Post-Script printer quality, professional results are just an Archimedes system away.

Full demonstrations every day at 1130, 1500 and 1730.

A Delft Touch on the Moon

The Dutch are as active and as enthusiastic as any Archimedes users in the world. Taking computing very seriously they invariably come up with some exciting and innovative software. The PC Show proves this once again as Dutch distributor Eeckhorn are showing AIM - Another Image Manager - a public domain image processing package written and developed by the University of Delft.

Digitised pictures can be processed after being 'grabbed' with the Watford Electronic Digitiser. The application is already being used to produce low contrast images of the moon's surface.

This may sound all double dutch, but don't be put off - attend the 1430 lecture. They may even be a clog dance.

Two Dimensional Designer Lines

Fast computers are always going to be used extensively in the world of Computer Aided Design and what better micro to implement such an application upon than the world's fastest microcomputer. PDT - that's Parametric Design Tool - is the very first fully interactive two-dimensional parametric computer aided software package bringing the world of wire-frame excellence to the Archimedes with some state-of-the-art software.

Using a rather unique approach to the storage of files it ensures that linked components stay together even when moved or enlarged which makes spreadsheet type 'What if' investigations simple to carry out.

PDT also includes a full range of editing facilities which include a copy option thus allowing complex but symmetrical designs to be constructed effectively and almost instantly and animation is also possible. Attention to detail is the key and with a no-limit zoom facility even the smallest of details can be attended to.

Education, business and home users alike will find that PDT is a professional tool with which accomplished results are obtainable for a relatively low price.

With screen menu support and on-line help even the novice will find PDT is simplicity itself in operation.

Don't leave yourself wondering 'what if I had attended the PDT demonstration turn up at the Acorn stand for the low-down and examples of just what parametric design tools are - you'll be quite amazed!

All Up Front!

The dynamic graphics duo of Warmisham and Dart have come up with an even more powerful version of Artisan, which itself seems to have become the tool with which just about every Archimedes software front end is drawn. In fact just about everyone in the industry knew about ProArtisan before Dave Clare's who publishes it! The programmers pledged silence from everyone because they wanted to finish it before Dave Clare's started gearing up his marketing campaign!

The new software runs in Mode 15 and makes full use of the screen's 256 colours. In addition to the familiar Artisan facilities the Professional version incudes extension to sprites, fills, drawing and distortion to name but a few.

Several new paint options are also incorporated such as airbrush, colour cycling brushes, magic brush and anti-aliasing. The curvaceous Bezier curves are also included which make illustrations of amazing fluidity very simple.

In addition ProArtisan includes a full-feature font designer so that new and exciting typefaces can be created for inclusion in your creations. While working in full colour and supporting a range of colour printers, black and white output is equally as stunning as the demonstrations will show.

The graphical gourmet should reserve a lecture theatre seat any day at 1000 and 1230 hours.

Ace in the Hole

Whether it's for fun, education or business 3D modelling and animation always catches the eye. Euclid is a fully programmable 3D product which provides both of these features. Coupled with the power of the Archimedes full screen drawing times are typically around one-fifth of a second - almost instant to the eye.

Once created, objects can be viewed from any angle with TV studio like camera control. Orthogonal or perspective projections are available with full hidden surface removal in any graphics mode.

With full use made of windows, menus and mouse Euclid is amazingly easy to use and will produce high quality print-outs (including colour) as the illustration shows.

There's no formal lecture theatre presentations but friendly informal hands-on demonstrations are available at any time during the Show.

Mitred Edges

At 3.30 every afternoon Mitre will be presenting presentations on their range of Archimedes software including Flying Start II and Desktop Enhancer. Flying Start II is a user-definable database creation system. A range of database types and formats can be designed using simple and easy to use pull-down menus - thus no commands or languages have to be learnt.

Desktop Enhancer provides a number of extensions to the existing Archimedes Desktop which both complement and extend it.

So if you want to do it yourself, do it by getting off to a flying start with a 1530 appointment.

Pure Ingenuity

After desktop publishing the fastest area of growth for computer applications is desktop presentation - yes another DTP! Presenter from Archimedes newcomers Lingenuity is an easy-to-use graph creation program .

Making full and colourful use of the WIMP environment, high-resolution, 3D results are all possible . The data for graphs can be entered manually into a simple spreadsheet which forms the very heart of Presenter or imported from the likes of PipeDream.

Line, bar and pie charts can then be displayed and these may be annotated in a variety of ways and superimposed onto a variety of grids. Other features include auto-scaling axis, user definable layouts and composite graphs.

Presenter will be on display everyday in the theatre at 1300.

Basic Compiler

Creating fast and instant machine code is as easy as ABC. The Arcimedes Basic Compiler converts BASIC V programs into ARM code with no fuss. Dabs Press stand 2132.