COMPANY OVERVIEW

Formic Videotex Systems Inc. is actively involved in the development of videotex software and systems based on a variety of microcomputers. Formic specializes in providing a full spectrum of videotex/teletext products adapted to today's growing microcomputer environment. The aim is to provide customers with a complete and reliable stand-alone videotex/teletext system at an affordable price.

Formic's involvement in many NAPLPS projects in Canada has given it extensive experience in a variety of teletext/videotex software products, with an emphasis on user-friendliness and full functionality.

Formic's unique approach to the design of software systems means that with only one microcomputer you can now create your pages, manage a database for direct or modem access, and control every function of your videotex system in a stand-alone mode. Formic can offer a variety of videotex/teletext/cable TV software systems, or can design a system especially suited to clients' requirements.

EXPERIENCE

Formic Videotex Systems has extensive experience with the Canadian Department of Communications, the Ministry of Education of Quebec, Systemhouse Ltd., the Ontario Federation for the Cerebral Palsied, the University of Montreal and Quebec Hydro.

PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

Formic can supply the package software on read only memory (ROM) cards, or complete turnkey systems based on popular microcomputers (Apple, IBM PC) designed to handle the specific needs of videotex/teletext applications. These units are independent from the decoding or encoding system, and can therefore be used with a variety of encoder systems or as a cable head-end in a cable TV situation. As well, these microsystems can be used for regular business applications.

- **Page Creation System**
  Formic's system provides interactive page creation based on the NAPLPS and NABTS protocols. It can be used with any decoder system, and allows the user to create, edit and recall graphics easily and instantly. This system is compatible with any page creation and database management system. Its two-screen design allows the interactive choice of functions and attributes from one menu screen, and the visualization of pages on the other. It permits easy storage.
- **Stand-alone teletext/cable TV database**
  The storage capacity of this system is not limited by the disc system of the microcomputer. The Formic system allows the user to manage every function of the database easily, as well as create schedules for the presentation of different sets of pages. The database terminal can also be programmed to control from four to eight decoders (with the standard equipment) in a direct or modem access mode. This system works at multiple transmission speeds while still controlling the quality of the information it is sending.
- **BASITEL/NAPLPS programming software**
  BASITEL is a microcomputer-based programming language that allows you to produce fully interactive videotex modules. BASITEL widens the videotex horizons by combining the NAPLPS superb graphic capabilities with the power and ease-of-use of the microcomputer. BASITEL has great potential for anyone interested in the production of automatic page creation modules, as well as many videotex educational and training applications. BASITEL can also be used to run Formic's Business Graphics package that creates bar charts, pie charts, line charts and histograms.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS/ TARGET MARKETS

Formic aims at always producing a more complete videotex system based on cost-effective software packages well adapted to its customers' needs. It intends to design NAPLPS systems fully based on the microcomputer capabilities to eliminate the need for expensive large computer systems dedicated only to videotex. Often a microcomputer equipped with the Formic videotex software could respond reliably to your videotex needs.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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