What is Telidon?

Telidon is the most sophisticated Videotex system in the world. It was researched and developed in Canada, and has been adopted by many of the world's largest communications companies. Telidon turns a home television set into a powerful information centre and brings electronic shopping and banking right to the user's fingertips.

Designed to be user-friendly, Telidon is easy to operate and requires the minimum equipment.

Videotex is the generic name for a system which integrates computer technology with a television set and allows for two-way communication.

Telidon's pictures are crisper and far more realistic than those of other Videotex systems which were designed before the price of computer components became affordable to home users. Telidon is flexible enough to be used in a whole range of situations including armchair shopping, public displays, sales seminars and the Office of Tomorrow.

Telidon's novel Picture Description Instructions Language is the key to its success. Because it is fully compatible with the electronic systems of the future it will not easily become outdated.

Telidon can be brought into the home or office by a range of carriers;

Telidon equipment and services for every application.

Telidon's uses are endless. From home to office it provides a complete information system with the advantages of talking back to a data bank.

In a typical Telidon system each page is stored electronically in a computer or data bank which holds tens of thousands of individual Telidon images. When requested by the user, these pages are transmitted to the home or office by means of telephone lines, cable TV, broadcast television or optical fibre links.

In a stand-alone system the pages are stored on a disc or tape which can be attached to the Telidon system.

Telidon pages are created on a page creation terminal and fed to the data bank. The page creation terminal typically consists of a microprocessor, keyboard, monitor screens and electronic tools for the artist. Text for each page is typed on a conventional (ASCII) keyboard and stored in the microprocessor which may also act as a text editor. The keyboard is also used to send specific instructions to the microprocessor and data bank computer. These instructions are displayed on a small black and white monitor. The Telidon page itself can be seen on a color television screen.