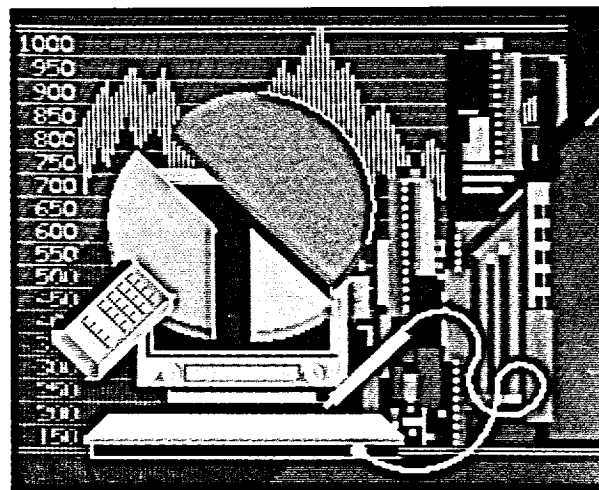




TAKING STOCK

A stock chart service with information on more than 5,000 stocks has been developed using NAPLPS videotex technology.

Called Marketfax, the service covers stocks listed on the New York, American, Toronto and Vancouver exchanges. It enables stock traders to generate moving averages, point and figure charts, trend lines, commodities and price and volume listings, all in full colour.

Marketfax is a product of Faxtel Information Systems Ltd., of Toronto, Canada.

Using an advanced alphageometric coding protocol, Marketfax allows a trader to plot trend lines, on-balance volumes or moving averages after studying the high, low and closing prices of a stock.

The trend line, also known as the Coppock curve, is plotted in yellow. It is calculated using 100 periods of data over the price track of the stock. On-balance volume comes on the screen

in red and plots a 70-period net volume or on-balance volume over the price track. It shows underlying accumulation and distribution of a stock.

The moving average line is plotted in purple and is calculated by using the closing prices over 100 day periods. It can be plotted to any length and a moving average of a different length can be plotted on the same screen for comparison.

Point and figure charts are provided by the Marketfax system. Hard-copy printouts can be obtained using an auxiliary printer.

To use the system, a trader must have access to Datapac in Canada or Telenet in the United States, and a videotex terminal or IBM Personal Computer configured to accept videotex.

Faxtel also offers Telichart which produces bar and line charts in full colour from Statistics Canada's database. This allows economists and others interested in statistical trends to analyse information more quickly than is possible with page upon page of statistical tables.

Combinations of line and bar charts can be shown together, either within the same grid or in split screen fashion. Telichart can also rescale the display and list the actual data values.

Further information is available from Faxtel Information Systems Ltd., Suite 500, 12 Sheppard Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M5H 3A1. Telephone (416) 365-1899.

PC OWNERS ACCESS VIDEOTEX

A number of Canadian companies are active in developing software and hardware to allow standard personal computers to be used with NAPLPS videotex systems.

Microstar Software Ltd., for example, has introduced a software product for IBM PC and compatible microcomputers that acts as a videotex decoder. Stored on a 5¼-inch diskette, the software uses standard hardware available for IBM PC and compatible microcomputers.