

transferred to computer memory by the "screen grabber". A colour head-and-shoulders image can be compressed to approximately 20K bytes of memory without losing image quality.

Video cameras and screen grabbers are only slightly more expensive than scanners: \$5,000.00 to \$8,000.00.

B.2 Communications

B.2.1 Local area Network (LAN) equipment

B.2.1.1 Workstations, Servers

These devices have a great range of capability and price, from a small PC in the \$2,500.00 to \$5,000.00 range; to high power workstations from companies like Sun Microsystems, Appollo, IBM, etc costing \$10,000.00 to \$100,000.00; and "super minis" or midrange machines such as DEC VAXs, Wang VS8000s, IBM AS/400, etc. costing \$50,000.00 to several hundred thousand dollars.

The smaller PC based units are usually limited in function to supporting local processing for single users (e.g. displaying documents, editing text), while midrange or higher power workstations may act as multi-user systems or various types of server (e.g. an OCR scanning function could be run on this type of device). Larger "super minis" or midrange machines are usually limited to acting as file servers for large data bases.

The cost of connecting any of these workstations or servers to a LAN is usually minimal compared to the cost of the computers themselves. A typical interface card will cost \$1,000.00 to \$2,000.00 to connect to a token ring or Ethernet LAN. FDDI costs are somewhat higher: \$5,000.00 to \$10,000.00 per connection.