COMPANY OVERVIEW

Microtaure Inc. is a microcomputer software house incorporated in Ottawa in 1981. Shortly after its inception, Microtaure narrowed the scope of its work from graphics software in general to strictly NAPLPS applications. At the same time, the policy was adopted to concentrate on both speed and portability of code, thus allowing for efficient implementation on a growing number of 16-bit personal computers.

In bringing videotex capabilities to the microcomputer user, Microtaure has eliminated the need for yet another machine in the home or office. Further, Microtaure's software approach slashes the price of both NAPLPS decoding and page creation.

EXPERIENCE

The speed and flexibility of *TELIgraph* as a page creation tool has resulted in the widespread interest of professional page creators. The variety of input and output modes provided by the microcomputer-based system has proven to be of particular interest to professional graphic artists both within and outside the videotex industry.

The speed and low price of TELIgraph's on-line decoder has generated interest in a number of database developers who recognize the importance of providing their services to microcomputer owners. This possibility may often mean the difference between the viability and non-viability of a proposed database, simply due to the increasingly large number of installed microcomputers in the geographical areas to be served.

PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

The TELIgraph software allows for full use of the NAPLPS standard while maintaining high levels of user-friendliness. This, again, follows Microtaure's philosophy of bringing videotex to all who desire it.

The TELIgraph package combines four menu-driven programs which together cover all aspects of NAPLPS:
- TELIcomm is an on-line decoder which allows the microcomputer user to access external NAPLPS databases. Included in the menu are the capacities to upload pages, save downloaded pages to disk, or output the textual information from any page to a printer while on-line.
- Page Creator is a fully equipped page-creating or editing tool which can be used for in-house work or for the enhancement/adaptation of pages of information downloaded using TELIcomm. Two screens are used simultaneously for ease of operation.
- TELIscribe allows the user to create dynamically redefinable character sets, which are special character fonts or symbol sets custom-designed for particular purposes as defined by the user. The same program is used for the design of redefinable textures. Both of these functions can be uploaded to other NAPLPS terminals.
- TELIrama is a slide-show generator which allows the user to assemble sequences of slides of either fixed or variable duration, and output these slides to a variety of printers and plotters. This can be extremely useful for demonstrations or as an explanatory aid.

Other Microtaure NAPLPS software products include:
- An industrial-grade database system which allows for the transmission, storage and retrieval of NAPLPS pages with full database administration built in. This system makes small local databases possible rather than financially unrealistic.
- A business graph generation package which provides the user with a variety of options in terms of the style of graphs generated. Data may be either directly input or retrieved from files created by any one of a number of popular spreadsheet and database software programs available on the market.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS/ TARGET MARKETS

As videotex takes its place beside the telephone and automobile as a mainstay of our day-to-day lifestyle, Microtaure will remain present as a driving force behind progressive research.

The business, educational and entertainment domains are all being addressed by combined teams of specialists and programmers with qualifications in their respective disciplines. The link between all Microtaure products will be the NAPLPS input accepted and output generated.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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