

The manufacturing and head office facilities of Orcatech Inc. are located at 2680 Queensview Drive in Ottawa; Canada's centre for high technology development.

Under program control, each plane can be turned on or off, or its function reassigned within 400 nanoseconds.

The high-speed graphics processor, with firmware assistance, provides a very fast 15 levels of picture zoom with simultaneous pan.

APPLICATION SYSTEM

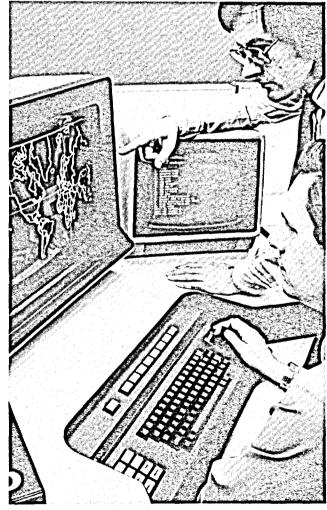
The application processing facilities work independently of and parallel to the graphics processing system. They communicate and synchronize via a separate block of common memory, attached to the 40 bit wide system bus. This bus supports 16 bit data and 24 bit addressing and is designed to handle highly parallel processing.

While the base system has one 16 bit application processor, up to three may be configured. Application processing is performed on a separate local bus. Each local bus has its own 16 bit microprocessor. The architecture allows for up to three of these application processors to work and communicate on the system bus in parallel.

SOFTWARE SYSTEM

Perhaps what makes the Orcatech graphic computer product range truly unique is its full set of system software which is designed to facilitate both application program development and efficient run-time production operation. Both the development and system software operating environments are provided at a graphics terminal price without the cost of host mainframe computing.

The system software includes a real-time operating environment which is highly compact and yet supports multiprocessing and spooling as well as communication between the Orcatech system and other computer configurations. The system also includes file control software for secondary storage management, a command interpreter, full-screen text editor with HELP facility, Fortran IV compiler, an assembler, link editor and librarian. An alternative UNIX operating system is also available with Pascal and C compilers.



Girvan Patterson (top) and Tony Withers (seated) examine the zoom simultaneous pan capabilities of the Orcatech Graphic Computer System; a new Canadian product now being marketed in Canada, the United States and Europe.