



## New TeleVideo terminal

A new multi-lingual compatible and conversational terminal manufactured by TeleVideo has been released on the Australian market by Anderson Digital Equipment.

The new 910 conversational terminal is compatible with a range of other terminals, and allows the user to speak in English, French, Spanish or German by the use of strappable connections. Quality and legibility are also said to be improved.

ADE has developed a marketing strategy known as the 'Six-Pack Special', whereby purchasers buying lots of six get them for the

price of less than five. The normal single-unit price is \$995, but in lots of six the units are priced at \$850 each — a total saving of \$870 for the six units (this includes duty, but not sales tax).

Anderson Digital Equipment has branches and offices in every state, or may be contacted at P.O. Box 422, Clayton Vic. 3168. (03)544-3444.

## New Fairlight releases

Fairlight's new word processor, the Lightwriter, is not a general microcomputer with a new software package, but a professional word processor designed from scratch. Both software and hardware have been developed especially for the needs of the office environment.

Amongst several innovative features is a lightpen, which provides text marking, movement or command selection on the face of the video screen. The operator points the pen at the desired line, word, paragraph or command word and touches it with the tip of the pen to activate it.

The Lightwriter also has a 15" screen, which gives a 50% larger character area than conventional 12" displays. This is claimed to result in a significant reduction in operator eyestrain and fatigue.

BASIC and various high-level languages are available, and the Lightwriter uses two 8" double-sided floppy disks, each capable of storing 200 pages of text. Two independent printers can be plugged into the Lightwriter, so that either high-quality documents or high-speed drafts can be selected without any switchover.

According to Fairlight, the Lightwriter is the first of a family of Australian-made word processing

products, and pricing starts at \$9000 plus printer. Due to its local construction, duty is not applicable.

Fairlight has also developed its QASAR single-user computer into a multi-user system, called the QASAR/VS, which is described as an entry-level system catering for one to four on-line users.

The new operating system design, commands and utilities are similar to those on the single-user QASAR, so that the latter now has a growth path; considerable effort has been made to maintain a high degree of commonality.

High-level languages include Pascal compiler and BASIC compiler with compatible interpreter, and FORTH is expected to be available by the end of the year.

When production units become available in November, it is expected that the system price will range from \$10 000 to \$16 000 plus terminals and sales tax. Fairlight also offers a two-year warranty, claiming to be the first supplier to do so.



## Dragon to slay foreign competition

A new Australian-designed microcomputer, the Dyad Dragon, was recently launched in Melbourne by Professional Australian Systems, and is said to have been designed to meet the specific needs of Australian schools.

The designer, Mr. Bill Penrose, said that the Dragon should, "compete by price and quality against the best the overseas manufacturers can throw against us."

The Dragon is designed to meet any school's needs for both computer education and school administration, and because of its modular design it can be added to a school's existing hardware without the need for expensive modems, software or interface cards.

The basic system, which retails for under \$2500, includes a CPU, card reader, automatic card hopper feed, 16K of RAM (upgradeable to 48K), video screen, keyboard and cassette interface. A cassette recorder, dual disk drives with 630K of information storage and printers are also available.

The Dyad Dragon is to be distributed in Australia by Zephyr Products, 70 Batesford Rd, Chadstone Vic.

- “.COM”: command files. These files auto-execute when called from disk, e.g. PIP.COM.
- “.CRL”: BDS C — relocatable file, to be converted into a “.COM” file by the BDS C linker-loader.
- “.DAT”: Data files, any type of application.
- “.DIC”: Spellcheck dictionary file.
- “.DOC”: Documentation file; read them when you get new programs.
- “.EZY”: Bob Stafford's EZYFILE data files.
- “.HEP”: Spellbinder Help files, containing operating instructions.
- “.INF”: Information file, same as “.DOC” files.
- “.INS”: Instruction file, containing instructions on program operations.
- “.INT”: C-Basic intermediate file.

- “.LEX”: Microspell lexicon file.
- “.LIB”: Library file, containing standard or customised routines, created with LIB or other programs.
- “.MAC”: Macro-80 Source file, same as “.ASM”.
- “.OVR”: Wordstar overlay file, similar to “.COM” files, but loaded in different locations.
- “.PRN”: Print file, created by assemblers.
- “.REL”: Relocatable file, created by assemblers.
- “.SUB”: Submit file, containing a batch of instructions.
- “.TXT”: Text file, normally for demonstration.
- “.UTL”: SID utility file.

I hope that helps all beginners with disks; that's all for this month.

A.P.F. Fry