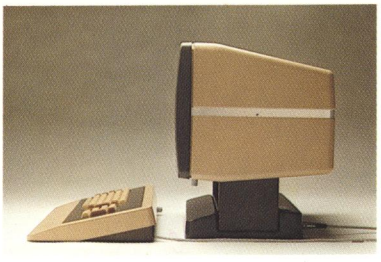
RC850

TERMINAL SYSTEM INTRODUCTION

At RC COMPUTER, people have been designing data-processing systems for more than 30 years. Systems for people. To ease their everyday lives. Today, RC COMPUTER is in effect a unique pool of experience and know-how, which have been combined with the visions of modern, farsighted engineers to produce systems that break with tradition – and blaze new trails through a young industry in which RC COMPUTER is already firmly established.
Computer terminals of tomorrow will be expected to meet the demand for an ever-widening range of functions. In particular the demand for hard-ware tailored to suit the user. The demand for ergonomic design.
RC COMPUTER is now introducing a range of terminal work stations which heralds a new era of com-puter advance:

RC 850 TERMINAL SYSTEM

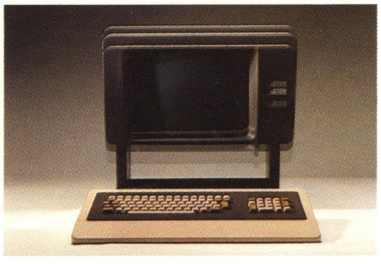
The RC 850 is a series of intelligent display terminals designed specially to accommodate every aspect of the user's requirements. The series can be adapted to solve any problem.
The application of new technology, full modularity, and forward-looking systems architecture means improved economy. A readily accessible dialogue form puts the user in control. The ergonomically correct design ensures a comfortable working situation for the operator.
The most important component in all systems from RC COMPUTER is – the human operator.
This is particularly true of the RC 850 terminal system. To accommodate the specialised needs of different applications, the system offers three separate models, each with its own special features.
From the simple RC 851 to the sophisticated RC 855.

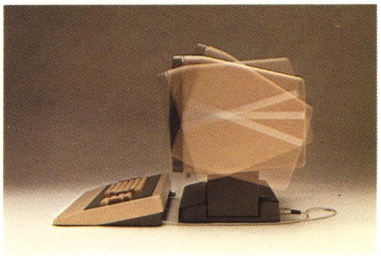


HUMAN ORIENTED

The RC 850 terminal system has been specially designed to work well with its human 'partner'. To bring together the human and the technological worlds – but on human terms. For a machine to work well with its human operator, full advantage must be taken of its range of functions. Its physical design. The dialogue between user and program system. The seating arrangement and lighting conditions.
The RC 850 terminal system is ergonomically correct and modern in its design.
A work station of the highest standard.

The keyboard is grouped logically so that the operator can select its functions quickly and without difficulty. Function and editing keys are specially coloured to help the user identify them quickly and correctly.
The keyboard is a low profile design – and inclined at an ergonometrically correct angle of 12°. And it has also been fitted with a hand-rest to avoid muscle strain and fatigue in the user's wrists and forearms.





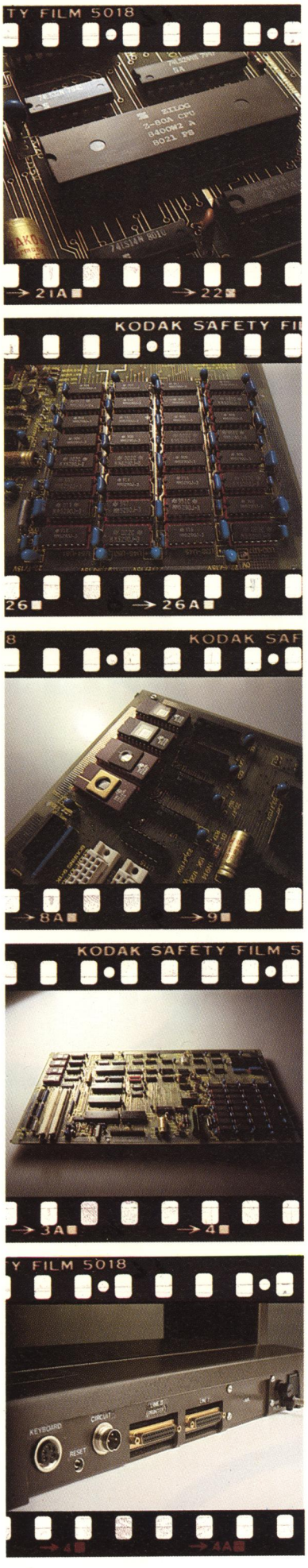
The display screen and keyboard of the RC 850 series are two separate units.
They can be moved independently of each other – and in this way they can be easily fitted into the individual work station.
Individual adjustment of the work station is also eased by the fact that the RC 850 display can be tilted and adjusted in height.

The display screen has been specially coated to prevent irritating reflections.
The first-class display quality also means a completely stable, flicker-free picture.

The characters on the screen have been designed for maximum legibility. And the screen can, of course, be made brighter or darker to suit room lighting.
With many years' experience of electronic data processing, RC COMPUTER is fully aware that precise, efficient operating depends just as much on a simple dialogue between user and machine. They must be able to 'talk' to each other without any misunderstanding.

SOFTWARE

The elementary functions in each of the three models in the series are based on Real-Time Pascal.
A high-level programming language which RC COMPUTER has developed around Sequential Pascal.
Facilities were added to Real-Time Pascal which enables data to be exchanged between program modules which are run in parallel operation. In this way, the basic systems architecture of the RC 850 series permits the direct linking of several processors to form a cohesive, distributed data system in which the individual processors can collaborate – and share such costly devices as communication lines, backing storage and printers.
The user is free to choose whether to employ the RC 850 terminal as an inter-active or as a batch terminal linked to a central host computer – or as a versatile micro-computer system to perform such tasks as administrative data-processing, word processing, data collection, and so on.
All of this is possible because RC COMPUTER has made full use of the potential offered by the latest micro-processor techniques.



TECHNOLOGY

RC 850 is built around a databus which is used to transfer data between the primary components in the terminal system. This arrangement provides a general, flexible structure – with unlimited opportunities for expanding the system.
The heart of the RC 850 is an advanced, sophisticated micro-processor.
The Random Access Memory can be varied to suit user requirements – up to 64 kilo-bytes.
The RC 850 can be equipped with a Programmable Read-Only Memory of nearly unlimited range..
The Non-Volatile Memory is used to store various information such as transmission speeds, cursor presentation, and so on.
Use of a Non-Volatile Memory is an extremely useful facility which eliminates troublesome strapping and mechanical contacts.
For the physical linking of several local processors, RC COMPUTER has developed a fast multi-drop connection called 'the RC Circuit'.
The RC Circuit can also be used for connecting powerful processors and has a transmission rate of 250 kilo-bits per second.
The RC 850 terminal has interfaces for asynchronous communication, synchronous communication or bit-synchronous communication connections to a host computer.
If there is a need for specially high transmission speed, the RC 850 can be linked to a host computer via an RC Circuit or special I/O channels with a transmission rate of 200 kilo-bytes per second.
The RC 850 system can also communicate with a range of external units. The standard version for instance has two V.24 ports, which can serve most serial printers and similar equipment.
There is also the option of expanding the RC 850 system to include a floppy-disc controller and a controller with two I/O channels for connecting parallel devices.
The keyboard of the RC 850 is equipped with its own micro-processor which scans the keyboard and transmits character values to the terminal's central unit.
This avoids occupying time in the central unit.

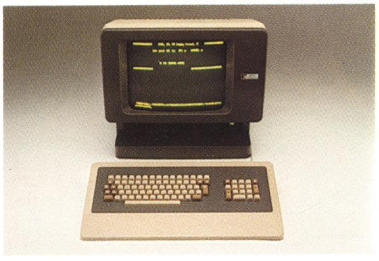
VARIATIONS

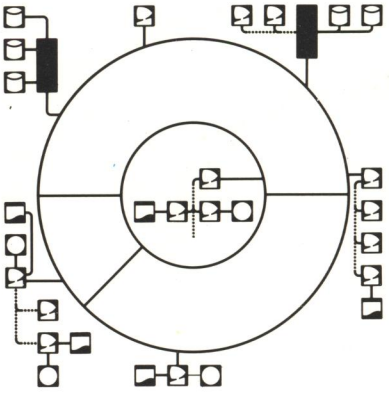
The basic version of the RC 850 system was designed to handle the widest possible range of tasks. But one or two variations of the system have been created for special purposes.

The RC 851 is a general-purpose TTY-compatible scroll-mode display terminal. It is introduced as a replacement for the RC 822 and RC 828 terminals – and offers a number of important improvements in the way of design, ergonomy and user-convenience.

The RC 853 was developed specially for telephone companies for their directory assistance inquiry systems. All of its functional features are programmable and controlled by the terminal's own microprocessor. This means that the customer can be sure that his RC 853 terminal will be fully adapted to his special requirements.

The basic version of the **RC 855** is a terminal which is compatible with the IBM 3270. The advantage of the RC 855 over most of the existing IBM 3270 terminals is that it allows a more flexible, economic terminal configuration. For example, a stand-alone system can be expanded to form a clustered system without the necessity of an expensive cluster-control unit.
The RC 855 terminal system represents a major advance on the market in that it can also be expanded into an intelligent distributed terminal system. As a supplement to IBM communication, it provides the user with an outstanding opportunity to carry out local word-processing and data-processing work.





A CONCEPT FOR THE FUTURE

For many years RC COMPUTER has been studying ways of setting up systems with distributed data processing.
The experience gained from such work was applied in development of the RC 855 terminal system.
In a distributed system with RC 855 terminals, many of the tasks traditionally handled by a host computer can be done directly by the terminal's own processor power.
For example, the RC 855 can be used for data-entry work. Input data is checked and collected in batches in the terminal's local backing storage. The files can then be transmitted later to the host computer via IBM 3780 communication. Reports can be transferred in the opposite direction by the same principle.
The RC 855 terminal system retains for the user the opportunity, via IBM 3270 communication, of making on-line inquiries or directly updating information in a central computer.
But thanks to the terminal's local processor power, files can be kept locally – obtained from the central computer – thus releasing processor power in the host unit.
The RC 855 terminal system will be fully programmable in several application-oriented, high-level languages.
In principle, therefore, there is nothing to prevent the individual, intelligent RC 855 terminal from carrying out real computing tasks.
The extended RC 855 terminal will also take full advantage of the standard soft-ware that is now appearing on the market for use in micro-computer systems.
RC COMPUTER will offer complete program packages for solving a wide range of problems.

The flexible RC 855 system is an attractive and efficient successor to traditional terminal systems in which – as a general rule – the terminals are able to serve only one application or one host computer.
The RC 855 terminal system is a practical realisation of a multi-function work station. It is a system, which caters for all aspects of user requirements. And which has the kind of user-oriented design, functionalism and attractive price that make the terminal system a sound investment. Especially considering its adaptability to future development.

With the RC 850 series, RC COMPUTER has quite simply put the micro-computer into future reality.
– To help people in their everyday lives.

RC COMPUTER
AS REGNECENTRALEN af 1979

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