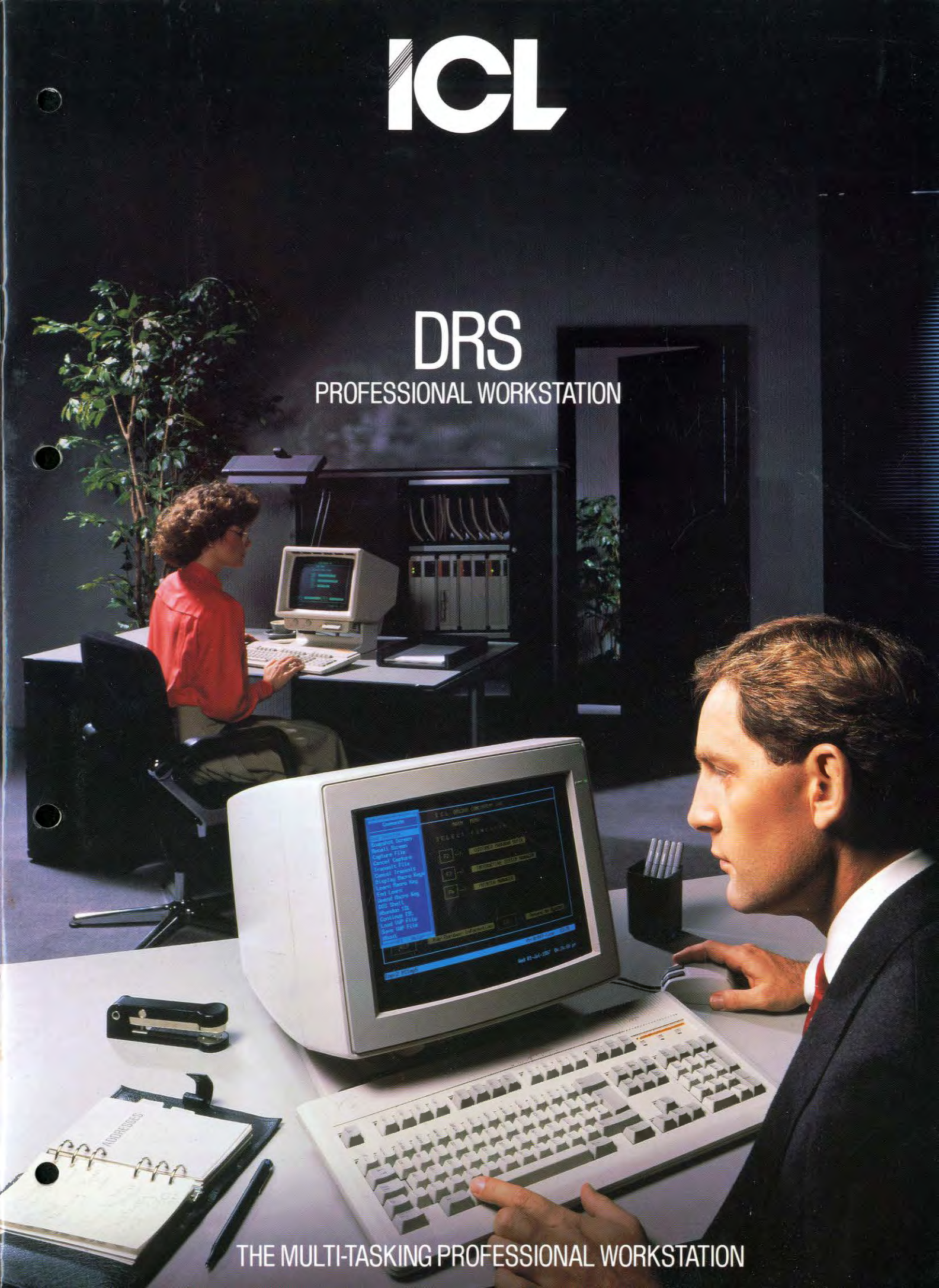
ICL

DRS

PROFESSIONAL WORKSTATION



THE MULTI-TASKING PROFESSIONAL WORKSTATION

INTRODUCTION

DRS PWS – desktop computing for the business professional

We are living in the age of desktop computing. Information technology, once the exclusive resource of the data processing department, has extended to the desktop of the business professional.

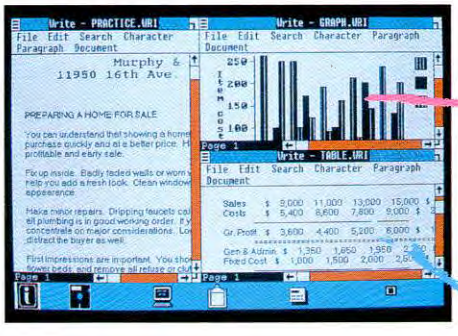
The personal computer which brought about this revolution has continued to develop at a phenomenal rate. Yet these are increasingly competitive times and the pace of business life is accelerating remorselessly.

Today, the personal computing requirements of the business professional are more demanding than ever. There is now an acute need for even greater performance to run more sophisticated software at faster speeds, often at the same time, and for easy access to the corporate mainframe, however remote, and online public information databases.

This is a lot to expect from a PC. Until now such a PC did not exist. With the emergence of the ICL DRS Professional Workstation, however, the waiting is over. A new era of personal computing has commenced.

DRS PWS is ICL's high functionality, single-user, multi-tasking professional workstation. Part of the ICL DRS range of office systems, DRS PWS is inherently flexible – it can be used as a stand-alone workstation running MS-DOS applications. Alternatively, it can be cheaply and easily integrated into information sharing DRS networks.

DRS PWS is an exciting breakthrough in personal computing, bringing more freedom and power to the user.



The multi-tasking DRS PWS is designed to meet the office automation requirements of today's business professional.

Multi-tasking

"Why can my PC only do one job at a time?"

Look no further than the operating system. DRS PWS is one of the fastest personal computers on record. Yet, unlike other single-user PCs, it does not use all its power on just one job. DRS PWS can work on several tasks simultaneously, saving you time and money. While fitting in far better with your busy work pattern.

The DRS PWS runs under a multi-tasking version of the industry standard operating system MS-DOS which enables several jobs to be kept on the go at once – thus dramatically improving your productivity.

Unlike other personal computers, DRS PWS does not restrict you to an inadequate amount of user memory. With the DRS PWS, main memory is expandable in 1 Mbyte steps from 1-4 Mbytes capacity, enabling you to run highly sophisticated programs.

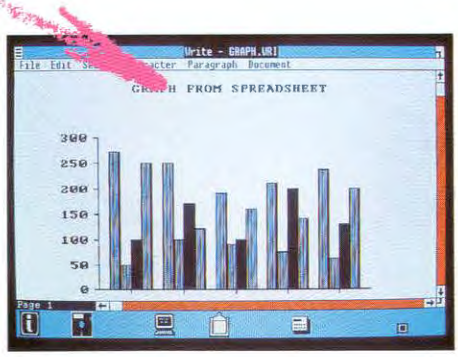
International standards

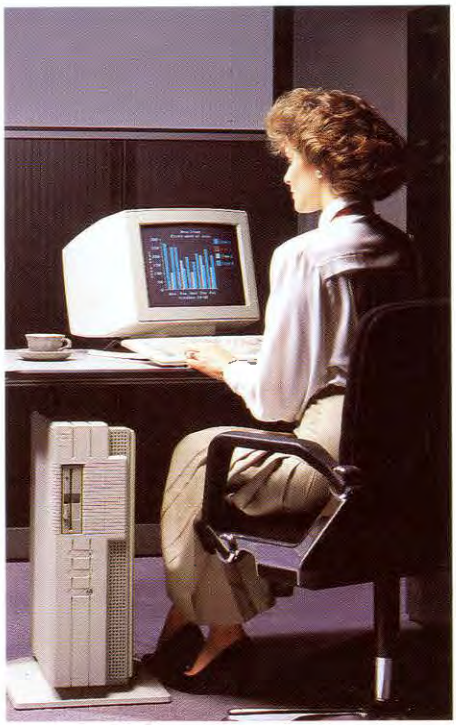
"Why do I have difficulty connecting my PC to other computers unless they are made by the same company?"

Some manufacturers try to hold on to your business by building computers which are incompatible with 'the competition.'

Consequently, when you want to network your PC you are left with no alternative but to buy the manufacturer's networking product and more of its computers, regardless of whether or not they provide the best solution on the market.

Recognising your right to freedom of choice, ICL has built its new DRS PWS to international standards. This means you can link DRS PWS, via a variety of networking products, to the world's leading micros, minis, and mainframes





– not only those manufactured by ICL but by other manufacturers as well. DRS PWS can be integrated into existing DRS networks, obviating the need for expensive hardware and software extras to communicate with other systems.

Added value

DRS PWS also gives you added value. When buying other makes of single-user PC, you can end up with little more than the hardware. With DRS PWS you get a complete system for your money: MS-DOS, MS Windows, a Microsoft mouse and an extended Memory Management System (which allows you to run very large spreadsheets, databases, etc) come as standard.

Of mice and menus

DRS PWS is easier to use than other single-user personal computers.

For a start, you do not have to keep stopping and checking instructions in a manual. Menus, prompts and messages appear on the screen, guiding you through each task. If you are unsure of the next step, just ask for Help and the relevant information will appear on the screen.

With DRS PWS, a hand-held mouse provides a more efficient way of issuing commands.

The pictures produced may be copied into MS Windows Write documents or Cardfile entries;
- Write, a word processing package supporting mixed text and graphics. Write is a What You See Is What You Get (WYSIWYG) word processor which means what you see on screen will reproduce exactly onto paper;
- Spooler, prints files automatically in the background – releasing you for other tasks.
- Clock, an analogue clock with seconds hand.

Data or graphics can be transferred from any standard application to another.

MS Windows has high resolution colour graphics with simultaneous display of up to 4 colours. An optional colour palette is available, providing simultaneous display of up to 16 colours out of a palette of 4096. Display of text and graphics on screen is instantaneous.

User interface

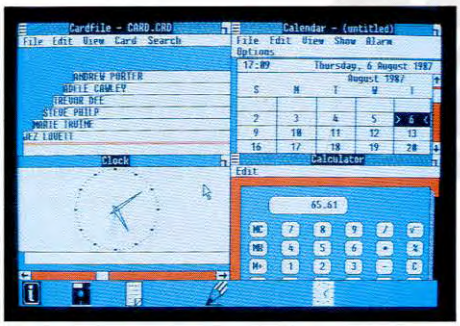
The DRS PWS is different from other personal computers because it allows you to work on several jobs at the same time. MS Windows, the interface between you and the operating system MS-DOS, makes multi-tasking easy. MS Windows allows the screen to be divided into several areas – windows – each occupied by a different application. Using the mouse, it is easy to switch from one application to another, transfer information between applications, and to control the applications simply.

If you need more screen space, an application or several applications, can be transported to the bottom of the screen and parked on the icon bar where they will remain represented by icons, until returned to their windows.

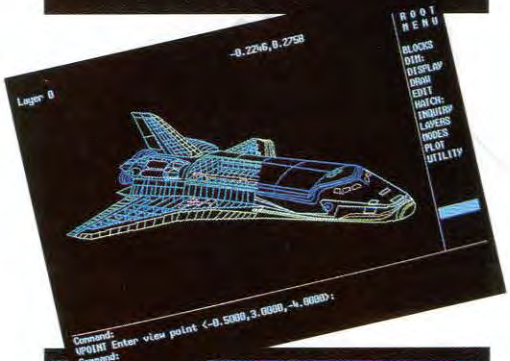
DRS PWS applications

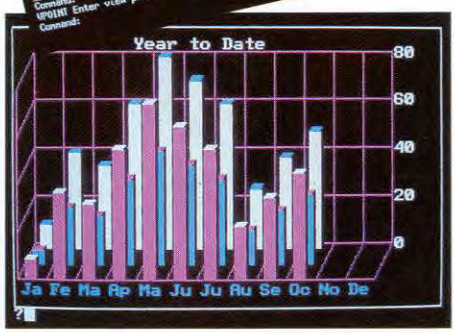
DRS PWS provides, as standard, a range of Windows applications including:

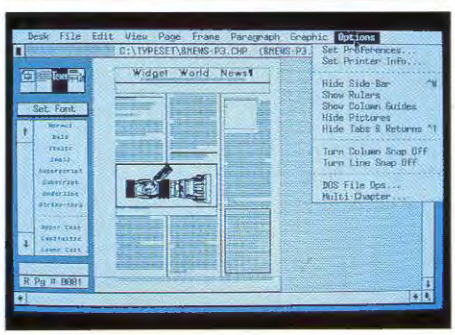
- Notepad, an electronic memo pad for casual jottings and notes;
- Cardfile, a card index system;
- Calendar, including alarm, to keep track of appointments;
- Calculator, with all standard functions and memory;
- Clipboard, for holding information between transferring it from one application to another;
- Paint, a two-colour painting package which allows the user to draw and design pictures.

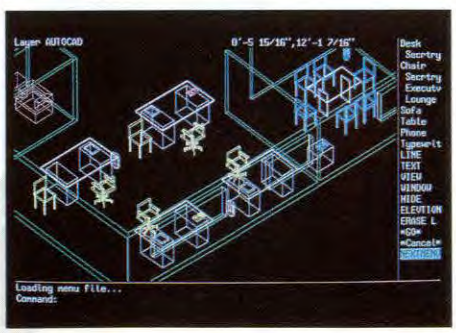


DRS PWS comes with a range of MS Windows programs as standard.







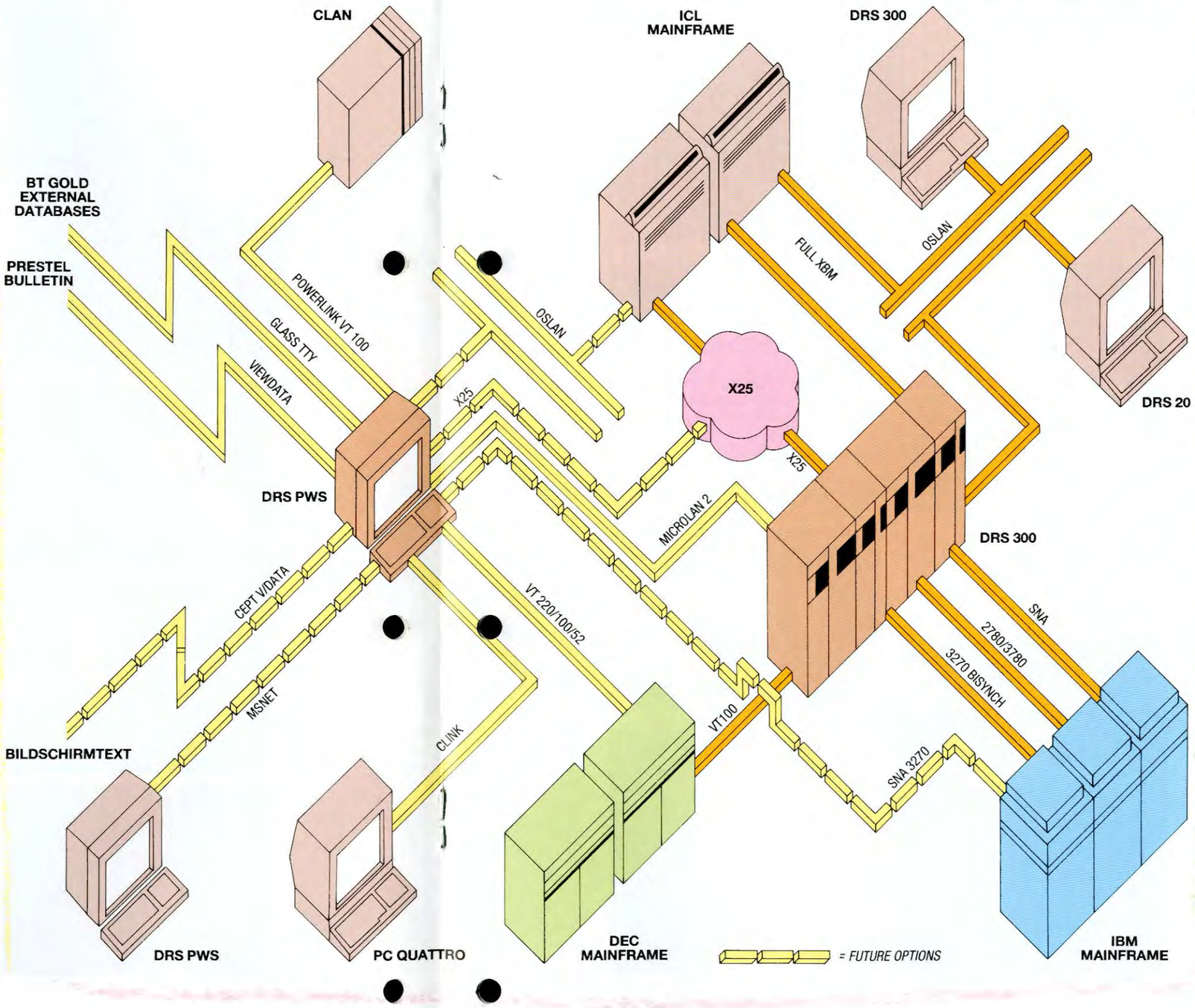


DRS PWS runs a wide variety of sophisticated business software packages. High resolution colour graphics add a new dimension to applications.

Industry standard applications

As DRS PWS runs under the industry standard MS-DOS operating system, you need never have to worry about the availability of software that is right for you. Putting it another way: MS-DOS means more choice and more off-the-shelf applications than for any other operating system. You can take your pick from such popular packages as Lotus 1-2-3, Flight Simulator, Symphony, dBase III, Supercalc, Wordstar, and widely used desktop publishing programs. Many more packages are listed in the DRS PWS software catalogue.

COMMUNICATIONS



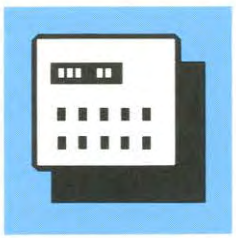
Let's talk

DRS PWS is a very 'sociable' PC, it talks readily with the rest of the DRS range, and other ICL and non-ICL computers. It does not matter how far apart the computers are either. DRS PWS can just as easily communicate with mainframes on the other side of the world as it can with the mini next door and because it is multi-tasking you can send messages to, and receive messages from, other computers while working on something completely different.

Communications tasks can be automated on DRS PWS. For example, all passwords and commands can be entered without your intervention. These 'automated tasks' can be running in the background while you are carrying on with something else.

A noticeboard is provided at the bottom of the screen to allow these background tasks to communicate with you without interrupting what you are doing.

S P E C I F I C A T I O N S



Models

Models in the DRS PWS family include:
Model 12/00 – 1Mb RAM, 1.2 Mb floppy disc drive
Model 12/20 – 1Mb RAM, 1.2 Mb floppy disc drive, 20 Mb fixed disc
Model 12/45 – 1Mb RAM, 1.2 Mb floppy disc drive, 45Mb fixed disc

All models are based on the Intel 80286 8MHz microprocessor. Standard DRS PWS 1Mb zero wait state memory can be upgraded to a maximum 4Mb RAM with plug-in printed circuit boards.

Maths co-processor

Optional 80287 mathematical co-processor for complex calculations and fast graphics displays.

Monitors

12-inch monochrome, 14-inch high resolution (640 x 400 pixels) colour VDUs with non-reflective screens. Tilt and swivel action.

Keyboard

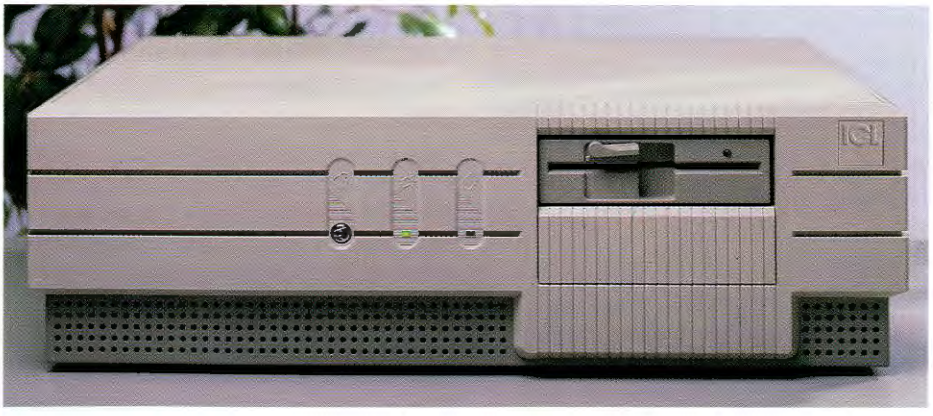
102-key compatible keyboard. 12 function keys allow commands and procedures to be programmed into single keystrokes. Numeric keypads for quick and easy data entry.

Microsoft mouse

Two-button mouse allows movement around screen and procedure implementation without touching the keyboard.

MS Windows

Includes the following applications – Notepad, Cardfile, Calculator, Clipboard, Paint, Write, Spooler, Clock, and Reversi.



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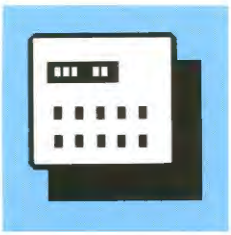


ML 192 Plus and ML 193 Plus dot-matrix printers

Produce draft and correspondence-quality text on single or continuous stationery.
160 characters per second, draft-quality.
33 characters per second, correspondence-quality.
Low noise.

DRS PWS supports a wide variety of peripherals and language variant keyboards.

ML 294 dot-matrix printer

Produces high-speed draft and correspondence-quality text on single sheets or continuous stationery. 400 characters per second – draft-quality. 100 characters per second – correspondence-quality. Low noise. Graphics capability.

4020 Ink jet matrix printer

Produces draft and correspondence-quality colour text and graphics in multiple fonts.
40 characters per second, draft-quality.
20 characters per second, correspondence-quality.

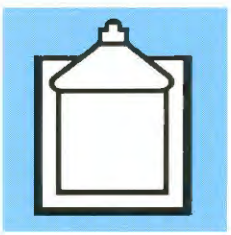
LP4081 laser printer

Near silent desk top laser printer produces correspondence-quality text in multiple fonts at output of eight pages per minute.

Floor stand

Enables DRS PWS system unit to be vertically mounted in a floor-standing position.

ICL SERVICE



Service on your doorstep

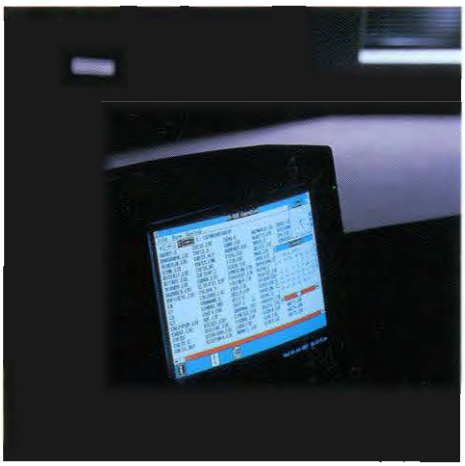
When it's time to buy, we will help you select the system you need. We would be happy to install it for you too. Training is another service we offer. Yet another is the supply of consumables like discs, printer ribbons and paper.

If you have a problem with your system, a telephone call is all that separates you from a visit from one of our highly skilled engineers. In no time at all, an ICL radio-controlled service van will be speeding its way to you, stocked with a full set of spares and replacement machines. So even if repairs cannot be carried out on-site, you will never be without a system that works.

Service around the world

ICL is celebrated throughout the world for its wide range of personal computers, minicomputers and mainframes. Our systems are installed on 85,000 sites in 60 countries. And with 80 Service Centres in Continental Europe alone and more than 20,000 ICL employees worldwide, our support to customers is truly international.

So whether you are based in London or Lyon, Manchester or Melbourne, Newcastle or Nuremberg, you can rely on ICL.



DRS PWS – The way forward in professional computing.

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Supercalc is a trademark of Sorcim
WordStar is a trademark of MircoPro international.

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